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<u>Group</u> facilitation <u>Assessment of Competencies Tool (GroupACT) - Remote Group Facilitation Skills for Adults - Remote</u>

1. GROUP GUIDELINES AND/OR GROUND RULES

Check all behaviours that are demonstrated in each category.			
	Unhelpful or potentially harmful behaviours	Basic helping skills	Advanced helping skills
	Violates group guidelines (e.g., answers phone insession, interrupts members) Allows members to violate guidelines without correction or acknowledgement	session guidelines in first session or recaps and explains why were relevant in subsequent sessions Establishes ground rules (e.g., respect, listen, and pay attention to	 □ Completes all Basic Helping Skills (Level 3) □ Asks for agreement from the group on guidelines □ Elicits group feedback, providing interpretations and reflections □ Adjusts rules depending on need or context
Check the level that best applies (only one level should be checked)			
	Level 1 any unhelpful behaviour	Level 2 no basic skills, or some but not all basic skills	Level 4 all basic helping skills plus any advanced skill
No	tes:		

2. GROUP PARTICIPATION

Check all behaviours that are demonstrated in each category.			
	Unhelpful or potentially harmful behaviours	Basic helping skills	Advanced helping skills
	Displays favouritism to specific members Excludes other members (e.g., ignores input) Forces unwilling participant to join discussion Scolds participant(s) for under-or-over sharing	 □ Uses timely techniques (e.g., turn taking; 'gentle prompting') to encourage fair participation □ Clarifies discussion points for members struggling with literacy, numeracy, or tech skills □ Addresses participation barriers (e.g., interruptions) □ None of the above 	 □ Completes all Basic Helping Skills (Level 3) □ Provides reflection on discussion □ Discusses ways members can support one another to participate □ Checks-in on comfort of sharing for all members
Check the level that best applies (only one level should be checked)			
	Level 1 any unhelpful behaviour	Level 2 no basic skills, or some but not all basic skills	Level 4 all basic helping skills plus any advanced skill
Not	es:		

3. FOSTERING EMPATHY AMONGST GROUP MEMBERS

Check all behaviours that are demonstrated in each category.			
Unhelpful or potentially harmful behaviours	Basic helping skills	Advanced helping skills	
 □ Does not intervene when group members are unempathetic, hurtful, or hostile towards one another □ Shares member information from private session as an example of empathy or non-empathy 	 □ Encourages and fosters empathy amongst group members (e.g., points out displays of empathy towards one another) □ Uses prompts (e.g., "How do you feel after you shared with us?") □ None of the above 	 □ Completes all Basic Helping Skills (Level 3) □ Provides summarising statements and interpretations (see example above) □ Demonstrates empathy for others to follow (e.g., nods head, says 'uh-huh') 	
Check the	level that best applies (only one level should be	checked)	
Level 1 any unhelpful behaviour	Level 2 no basic skills, or some but not all basic skills	Level 4 all basic helping skills plus any advanced skill	
Notes:			

4. COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING

Check all behaviours that are demonstrated in each category.			
	Unhelpful or potentially harmful behaviours	Basic helping skills	Advanced helping skills
	Gives direct suggestions without group input Does not intervene or address harmful or unrealistic solutions (e.g., 'Quit job,' 'Avoid husband') Judges solutions created by group Allows judgement from members (e.g., 'That will never work,' 'That's stupid')	 □ Equally encourages all members to share how they addressed similar problems □ Encourages members to praise and support each other for positive and challenging experiences □ Unrealistic and unhelpful solutions are eliminated □ Encourages brainstorming of solutions in the group □ None of the above 	 □ Completes all Basic Helping Skills (Level 3) □ Solicits feedback from group to ensure solutions are attainable, realistic, and timely □ Addresses potential barriers □ Validates challenges (e.g., 'Not all solutions work for everyone') □ Suggests member pairing to support each other (if
	never work, That's stupice)	Twone of the above	applicable to the intervention)
Check the level that best applies (only one level should be checked)			
	Level 1 any unhelpful behaviour	Level 2 no basic skills, or some but not all basic skills	Level 4 all basic helping skills plus any advanced skill
No	tes:		

5. ADDRESSING BARRIERS TO ATTENDANCE

Check all behaviours that are demonstrated in each category.			
Unhelpful or potentially harmful behaviours	Advanced helping skills		
 □ Actively excludes members' attendance (e.g., does not make schedule adjustments) □ Ignores feedback on barriers to attendance via remote means (e.g., lack of access to internet or computer) □ Rejects/ignores sociodemographic and minority barriers (e.g., religious observances, menstrual practices, disabilities) 	 □ Actively solicits information to address potential barriers to attendance (e.g., work/farming schedule, transportation, etc.) □ Works to reschedule sessions or adjusts schedules accordingly if relevant □ Encourages members to attend even if previous sessions were missed □ None of the above 	 □ Completes all Basic Helping Skills (Level 3) □ Engages group in problemsolving ways that all members can attend sessions □ Encourages group members to support one another in attending group sessions □ Supports access to sessions (e.g., convenient session locations, sharing computers) 	
Check the level that best applies (only one level should be checked)			
· -	rel 2 asic skills, all basic skills ame but not all basic skills	Level 4 all basic helping skills plus any advanced skill	
Notes:			

6. GROUP CONFIDENTIALITY

Check all behaviours that are demonstrated in each category.			
Unhelpful or potentially harmful behaviours	Basic helping skills	Advanced helping skills	
 □ Shares a member's confidential information with the group (e.g., a member's trauma history disclosed in private) □ Threatens to share group information with community or family members □ Targets or blames members when confidentiality is broken □ Does not intervene when others break confidentiality 	 □ Explains rationale for confidentiality, including situations when confidentiality can be broken □ Confidentiality issues are addressed when unexpected/uninvited individuals are seen or heard via remote connections □ None of the above 	 □ Completes all Basic Helping Skills (Level 3) □ Explains issues of respect, valuing others' experiences, and feelings associated with violation of confidentiality □ Appropriately addresses times when confidentiality is broken during group 	
Check the level that best applies (only one level should be checked)			
	evel 2 o basic skills, r some but not all basic skills	Level 4 all basic helping skills plus any advanced skill	
Notes:			

7. TIME MANAGEMENT: APPROPRIATE BREAKS, ENERGISERS & PACING

Check all behaviours that are demonstrated in each category.			
Unhelpful or potentially harmful behaviours	Basic helping skills	Advanced helping skills	
 □ Prevents clients from taking a break □ Forces group to continue when emotionally exhausted or distressed □ Targets or blames participant(s) when requesting breaks or energisers 	 □ Reviews schedule for the day □ Includes and explains timed breaks with instructions for start/stop signals □ Includes time for questions in schedule □ None of the above 	 □ Completes all Basic Helping Skills (Level 3) □ Consolidates participants learning (e.g., has well-spaced summarising □ Elicits feedback and check-ins with learning (e.g., "checking-in" activities) □ Checks-in with group to see when breaks are needed/ preferred □ Appropriately conducts group energisers to encourage participation 	
Check the level that best applies (only one level should be checked)			
any unhelpful behaviour	Level 2 no basic skills, or some but not all basic skills	Level 4 all basic helping skills plus any advanced skill	
Notes:			

Acknowledgement

This scale is informed by research described in: Pedersen, G. A., Sangraula, M., Shrestha, P., Laksmin, P., Schafer, A., Ghimire, R., Luitel, N. P., Jordans, M. J. D. & Kohrt, B. A. Developing the Group facilitation Assessment of Competencies Tool for Group-Based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Interventions in Humanitarian and Low-Resource Settings. *Journal on Education in Emergencies*. 2021. https://doi.org/10.33682/u4t0-acde