



ONLINE FORUMS GUIDELINES & PRINCIPLES

FOR PUBLIC & GOV. ENTITIES

Developing Dubai's Digital Dialogue: Harnessing the Power of Digital Tools for Collaborative Decision-Making

04 Participating in Online Forums

4.1

Choose relevant topics: Carefully select discussion threads that align with your interests, expertise, or concerns, focusing on areas where you believe you can add value to the conversation. This will help create a more meaningful and productive dialogue.

4.2

Be respectful and constructive: Engage with others in a respectful and courteous manner, focusing on the topic at hand and avoiding personal attacks, offensive language, or derogatory comments. Encourage a positive atmosphere that fosters open communication and collaboration.

4.3

Provide evidence and context: When presenting facts, arguments, or opinions, support your statements with reliable sources, data, or examples. Offer context to help other participants understand your perspective and to facilitate a more informed discussion.

4.4

Contribute consistently and thoughtfully: Regularly participate in discussions, offering your insights, experiences, or suggestions. Aim to be concise, clear, and focused on the topic to ensure the conversation remains productive and engaging.

4.5

Adhere to forum guidelines: Familiarize yourself with the forum's rules, policies, and moderation guidelines. Ensure your participation adheres to these guidelines to maintain a respectful and constructive environment.

4.6

Encourage and appreciate meaningful contributions: Acknowledge and appreciate the efforts of other participants who provide valuable insights, constructive criticism, or helpful suggestions. Encourage a positive atmosphere by expressing gratitude and promoting thoughtful dialogue.

4.7

Report inappropriate content: Notify forum moderators or administrators of any content that violates the forum's guidelines or disrupts the conversation. This helps maintain a respectful and constructive environment for all participants.

4.8

Reflect on your engagement: Periodically assess your contributions to the online forum, considering the quality and relevance of your input. Strive for continuous improvement by learning from your experiences and the feedback of other participants.

04 Principles for Online Forums

4.1

Accessible and User-friendly Platforms: Utilize digital platforms that facilitate easy access, interaction, and exchange of ideas among applicable stakeholders, ensuring compatibility with diverse devices and technologies.

4.2

Clear Guidelines: Establish and communicate clear guidelines for acceptable behavior, discourse, and relevance, promoting a respectful and constructive online environment.

a. **Acceptable Behavior:** Encourage users to maintain a respectful tone, avoid personal attacks, and refrain from using offensive language or engaging in disruptive behavior.

b. **Type of Discourse:** Foster fact-based and solution-oriented discussions, discouraging misinformation, and promoting the sharing of reliable sources to support arguments.

c. **Staying Respectful and Constructive:** Urge participants to remain open to diverse opinions, practice active listening, and seek common ground when disagreements arise.

4.3

Moderation: Employ trained moderators and automated moderation tools to promptly identify and address violations of content guidelines, preserving the integrity of the online forum and fostering a positive user experience.

4.4

Diverse Topics: Encourage discussion on a wide range of topics relevant to stakeholders' lives and interests, fostering a sense of engagement and ownership in the decision-making process.

4.5

Feedback Integration: Monitor and analyze discussions to identify valuable insights and suggestions, incorporating them into relevant policy and project development processes

