

Selected techniques for gathering evidence

- Written survey (e.g. handout, telephone, fax, mail, e-mail, or Internet);
- Personal interview (e.g. individual or group; structured, semistructured, or conversational);
- Observation;
- Document analysis;
- Case study;
- Group assessment (e.g. brainstorming, Delphi technique, nominal group [i.e. a structured group process to elicit and rank priorities, set goals, or identify problems]);
- Role play, dramatization;
- Expert or peer review;
- Portfolio review;
- Testimonials;
- Semantic differentials, paired comparisons, similarity or dissimilarity tests;
- Hypothetical scenarios;
- Storytelling;
- Geographical mapping;
- Concept mapping;
- Pile sorting;
- Free-listing (i.e. a technique to elicit a complete list of all items in a cultural domain);
- Social network diagramming
- Simulation, modeling;
- Debriefing sessions;
- Cost accounting;
- Photography, drawing, art, videography;
- Diaries or journals; and
- Logs, activity forms, registries.

Adapted from a) Taylor-Powell E, Rossing B, Geran J. Evaluating collaboratives: reaching the potential. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension, 1998; b) Phillips J.J. Handbook of training evaluation and measurement methods. 3rd ed. Houston, TX: Gulf Publishing Company, 1997; and c) Weller SC. Systematic data collection. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc. 1994.