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The **Ideas Workshop** is a brand-new feature of this year's Public Forum. Each workshop - one for each day of the Forum - will give you the opportunity to share your ideas on a number of key trade topics in a relaxed and interactive environment.

The workshops bring together experts from diverse backgrounds to address a topical trade challenge. Unlike the panel sessions, the workshops will deal with a particular problem and focus on coming up with concrete solutions.

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## How it works

Once the topic has been introduced by the keynote speaker, the participants are divided into smaller groups to explore the topic from different perspectives. At the end of the workshop, each group presents its proposals to the other workshop participants.

The aim of the workshops is to allow participants to come up with innovative solutions. Brainstorming among participants from different backgrounds will provide a creative environment in which new ideas can flourish.

Through teamwork and collaboration, participants will work on turning individual good ideas into collective ground-breaking solutions.

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## The Workshop in a nutshell

- **Launch** a topic
- **Identify** the problem and possible answers
- **Explore** in smaller groups the problem from different angles
- **Provide** solutions
- **Report** back to the other participants

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## What makes a good workshop?

A good workshop needs participants who are willing to commit fully to exploring the chosen issue. During the three hours allowed, participants should be willing to fully immerse themselves in the discussions. Put simply, you should be able to answer "yes" to the following questions:

- Are you available for the three hours devoted to the workshop?
- Can you devote yourself entirely to the workshop (i.e. switch off mobile phones, email etc.)
- Are you willing to tackle topics that might be outside your areas of specialism?

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## When?

A workshop will be held **from 14:30 to 17:30 on 24 and 25 September and from 09:30 to 12:30 on 26 September**. Please note that registration is required in advance and that space is limited.

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## Location

WTO Training Room (4<sup>th</sup> floor, Centre William Rappard)