

Mural/Padlet/Jamboard - 10 September 2020

Background

In 2020, CSCCE led a series of hour-long drop-in sessions for CSCCE community members to trial a range of online tools to enhance online meetings and events - including working and creating together online. During each “tools trial”, members added notes to this doc to reflect their impressions and ideas about the tool and how it might be useful for community-building.

Disclaimer: Information expressed in this document reflects personal opinions that are not necessarily the views of any organization, including CSCCE. By trialing tools we are not implying endorsement of the tool. As with all online technologies, the tools that we trial may evolve, change, or cease to exist so information in this document may become outdated.

Contributors to this document

Name, organization, role

Lauren Hertel, Global Land Programme (and other clients), Communications Manager (as a consultant), laurenhertel@gmail.com

General information

URL:

Mural:

<https://app.mural.co/t/cscceetrial3946/m/cscceetrial3946/1598388660886/74241ddd3500d83883fc87ebf460e3d3fe56fdd5>

Padlet: https://padlet.com/the_cscce/rw63rhztey66ecx

Jamboard:

<https://jamboard.google.com/d/17DKkdIWzHUf4LTYWf0x1izEPJFboOlyKcVmBG7weklw/viewer>

Cost:

Mural:

Padlet:

Jamboard: Free

Participation limit:

Mural:

Padlet:

Jamboard:

International availability:

Mural:

Padlet:

Jamboard:

Who here has used this for a virtual event:

Mural: Lauren used for 15-person Scientific Steering Committee annual planning retreat, members spanned almost all time zones so small groups works synchronouosly then passed boards off to next time zone “chunk”, at the end of 4-day meeting used all previous boards to build a synthesis board that forms the basis for rest of this year’s priorities

Padlet:

Jamboard:

Platform integration (where applicable):

Mural:

Padlet:

Jamboard:

What are these tools for?

E.g. XXX acts as a networking tool that allows up to 50 participants to move freely around a room and start conversations with others. It can be integrated with A and B to allow follow up conversations.

Mural

Padlet

Jamboard

How easy is this tool to learn to use?

E.g. It took about 5 mins to try out all the various buttons and figure out how to move the tiles around the screen. After that initial learning curve, everything felt very intuitive.

Mural:

It’s a little fiddly to figure out how to type in the sticky notes (or how not to create extra stickies by accident)

Zooming is a little tricky to learn at first

Need to learn difference between templates and layouts

Deciding how to set up the board or boards takes forethought

Padlet

Jamboard

Simpler than Mural but also has fewer features

What did you like about the tool?

E.g. I can see how this would be really useful for organizing large groups into smaller teams without requiring a lot of technical facilitation

Mural

Great for working across timezones

Little to no tech-saviness necessary for users (requires some expertise to set up boards, pre-populate boards with information, etc.)

Good for brainstorming and clustering ideas by topic (yes, good for making conceptual maps thanks to shapes and connections)

Easy to move post-its from one board to another

Padlet

For soliciting ideas on 2 or 3 prompts in an anonymous way, fast

Can export in a variety of formats (.csv, .xls, .pdf, etc)

It's like an open survey where everyone can see all the answers

Both anonymous or not

Possibility to upvote notes

Has different templates depending on need

Helpful for prioritizing ideas, or if you determine the questions to be answered

Makes knowledge gathering super visible...almost like a visual survey where everyone can see the answers

Jamboard

The laser tool is cool!

It has a whiteboard feel thanks to the free drawing tool

Was there anything that wasn't obvious or didn't work so well?

E.g. I couldn't work out how to approach other attendees for about 5 mins and had to ask others for help. I don't think this will be very good for non-technical participants who may get frustrated and leave.

Mural

Difficult to document: get screen shots frequently!

Layout versus templates

Padlet

- If you want to click on the sticky notes that your adding, not so obvious if you click or double click.
- Not immediately clear that you can scroll down to view other sticky notes added below each column (doesn't seem to be a screen size issue for me - Chiara)
- Is there some way to export responses instead of copying and pasting?
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Jamboard

Countries? Presumably blocked in countries that block google products

Smaller board than Mural

How might this tool be useful (for community-building)?

E.g. This would be great for an icebreaker activity involving 20 - 50 people - you could sort people into small groups and rotate them into different configurations very easily.

Mural

Co-working sessions

Reporting back from breakout rooms

Padlet

Solicit feedback in transparent way; everyone can see everyone's points of view

Ice breakers with many many participants when it;s not feasible to ask everyone to speak out loud

Jamboard

Co-working sessions

Live presentations

Suggested improvements

E.g. I'm concerned about accessibility - the colour contrast isn't great between the boards and the backgrounds. A better colour scheme would help.

Mural

Way of archiving screenshots automatically so there is a record of how final boards were developed.

Padlet

Make it clear that you can scroll down to view other sticky notes added below each column (ex.: the visual cue that you can scroll down should be visible at all time, not only when you hover over the notes)

Jamboard

More tools & features would be nice (arrows and other shapes)
The ability to zoom in and out

How do these three tools compare? Which do you like best?
Are there other tools out there that do this job as well or better?

Mural feels like a free-for-all, which works for a group of 15-20, but bigger groups might get chaotic.
Probably the same for Jamboard.

Additional resources

E.g. links to case studies or how to guides for this platform.

Remo has some facets that these tools don't....e.g., tables