

# Knowledge Sharing Forum

by the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN  
Geneva, 19th November 2015



# NeuroScience and Learning

- In our brain ~ 100 billion neurons
- Experience dependent neuroplasticity: is the continuing process of the creation and organization of neuron connections that occurs as a result of a person's life experiences
- Changes in London taxi drivers' brains driven by acquiring 'the Knowledge' about all the maps and streets of London: their hippocampus is 2x bigger!



>> LEARNING IS PHYSICAL <<

- Our attention and working memory capacity are limited
- Negative bias: we encode negative learning experiences deeper than positive
- We have to reset our learners brain **EVERY 10 MINUTES**

We can remember **4 things**  
for **10-20 seconds** unless  
we do something else.

How to improve information retention?

- Chunking
- Illustrating
- Elaboration
- Asking questions
- Reflection
- Practicing

# Creating Learning Experiences

## 1. Create stories!

- Speak to people, because it engages them!
- **“I could be that”** >> this is how the learner is connected
- When creating a story, subject matter experts can give some concrete examples
- “Hero’s Journey”: to illustrate values with real life scenarios

## 2. Enhance experience!

- Let the learners take part, taste, and see
- [There are some really great commercial examples!](#)

## 3. Develop communities!

- They all have a common goal
- This is the key of motivation
- Check out [Nike Run](#) or [Starbucks blog](#)



## 4. Improve interactions!

- Bring personality
- With a Learning agent: either [avatar](#) or real person
  - Tone of language: informal
- Narration can enhance information retention