

Public Involvement & Collaboration at USEPA...

Always evolving

C2D2 Conference

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Topics Available

Overview/Introduction 4-9

Open Government 11-16

Collaboration – defined 18-23

**Situation Assessment and other Tools
for Successful Collaborations 25-45**

Collaboration Training @ EPA 47-51

EPA's Internet Tools 52

Overview/Introduction



TOP TEN Reasons for Public Involvement and Collaborative Processes

- 10: Increases compliance
- 9: Perceived as a fairer process [Transparency]
- 8: Reduces litigation and adversarial behavior
- 7: Allows parties to “vent” and address misunderstandings
- 6: Fosters better relationships (Trust)
- 5: More quality information and greater mutual learning
- 4: Practicality check for EPA and others
- 3: Greater public commitment to decisions/actions
- 2: Technically superior options/more creative solutions
- 1: Better environmental outcomes!

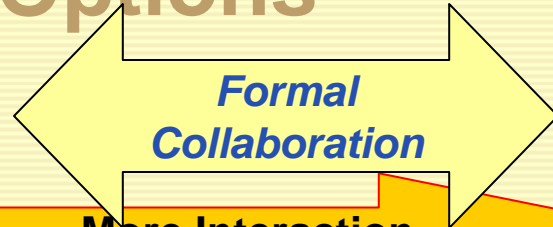
Short History

- EPA established in 1970
- Federal laws set minimum review & comment requirements for public participation [APA – 1946; various media acts 1970s - 80s]]
- Public Participation Policy [PPP] 1981 [expanded from minimum]
- Environmental Justice Executive Order 1994
- Emergency Planning & Right to Know Act [Superfund Amendments 1996
- Began review of PPP - 1998
- Public Involvement Policy [PIP] draft review 2002 [includes 2 – week Internet based dialogue]
- PIP issued May 2003
- PI and Collaboration tools released 2003 – 2009
- Collaboration White Paper and Listening sessions – 2004
- Collaboration Training development, train-the-trainer and workshops 2006 – 2009
- Program-specific engagement activities 1972 - 2009

Policy's Seven Basic Steps for Effective Public Involvement

- Plan and budget for public involvement activities
- Identify the interested and affected public
- Consider providing technical/ financial assistance to facilitate involvement
- Provide information and outreach
- Conduct public consultation and involvement activities
- Review and use input and provide feedback to the public
- Evaluate public involvement activities

EPA's Model of Public Involvement and Collaboration Options



OUTREACH

Purpose: To provide information

PROMISE: We will keep you informed

Types:

- Website
- Fact Sheet
- Phone Hot Line
- Federal Register Notice
- Press Release

INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Purpose: To provide & exchange data, opinions and options

PROMISE: We will listen, acknowledge your concerns & aspirations, & provide feedback on how your input influenced our decision

Types:

- Meetings with individuals
- Public Meeting
- Workshop
- Listening Session
- Availability Session

RECOMMENDATIONS

Purpose: To obtain useful & influential advice or comments

PROMISE: We will take your advise or comments into account when making a decision

Types:

- Advisory Committee
- Scoping Session
- Policy Dialogue
- Task Force
- Joint Fact-Finding

AGREEMENTS

Purpose: To reach workable agreement or settlement

PROMISE: We will work in good faith to reach an understanding that we all can support & we will implement it as agreed

Types:

- Statement of Principles
- Negotiated Rulemaking
- Consensus Permit
- Settlement Agreement
- (consent decree/order)

STAKEHOLDER ACTION

Purpose: To empower Stakeholders to take action

PROMISE: We will support your decision & assist in your implementation of it

Types:

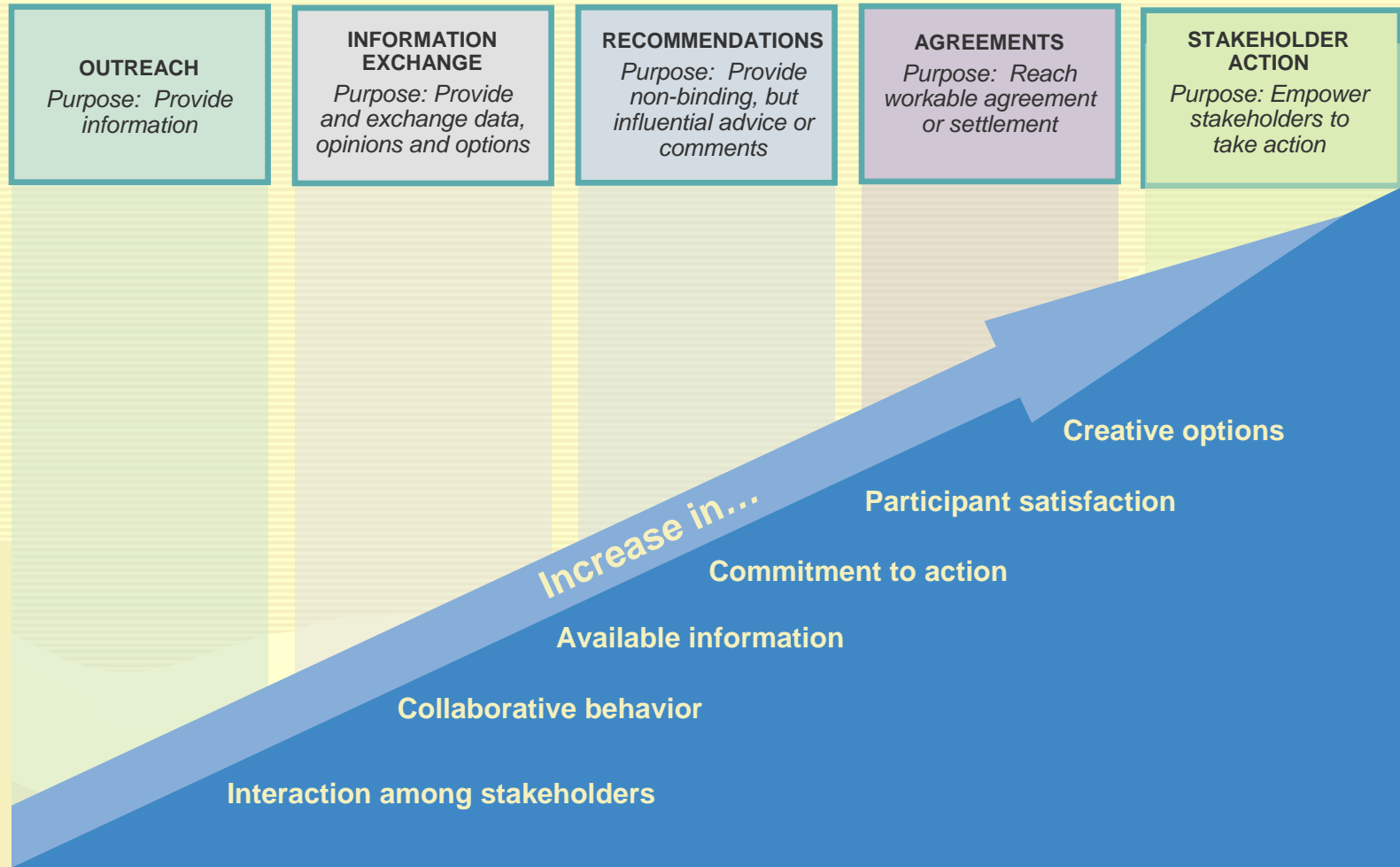
- Industry Sector Initiative
- Voluntary Program
- Community Action for a Renewed Environment
- Sustainability Forum

Government Decision

Stakeholder Decision

Opportunity for a Collaborative Approach

Public Involvement Spectrum: A Range of Possible Processes



Neutral-Assisted Collaborative Problem Solving in Shared or Other Stakeholder-led Activities

- Facilitated partnerships
- Facilitated intra-agency partnerships

Collaborative Problem Solving in Shared or Other Stakeholder-led Activities (unassisted)

- Intra-agency partnerships
- EPA-State co-regulator partnerships
- Federal interagency partnerships
- Public-private partnerships

Collaborative Problem Solving Involving the Public in EPA Decisions (unassisted)

- Federal advisory committees

Neutral-Assisted Dispute Resolution

- EPA facilitated Superfund allocation
- Mediated settlement negotiations
- Workplace mediation

Neutral-Assisted Dispute Resolution Center (CPR)

Neutral-Assisted Collaborative Problem Solving Involving the Public in EPA Decisions

- Facilitated policy dialog
- Facilitated negotiated rulemaking

Neutral-Assisted Public Involvement

- Facilitated public meetings
- Facilitated workshops
- Facilitated listening sessions
- Facilitated conferences

Traditional Public Involvement Activities (unassisted)

- Conferences
- Workshops
- Listening sessions
- Public meetings
- Public notice and comment

