

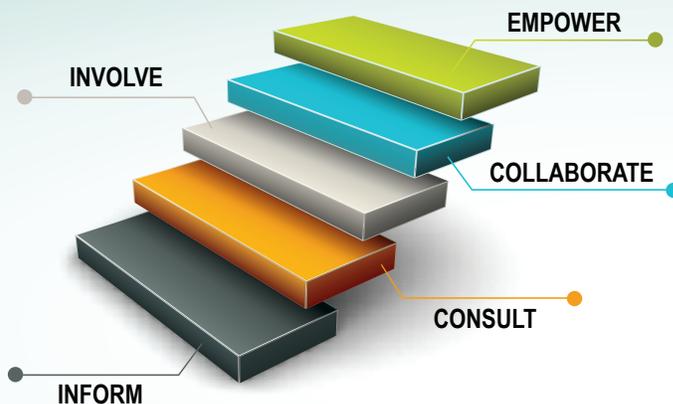


Public participation and collaboration are becoming an integral part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' missions. Effective involvement and collaboration achieves more sustainable project solutions and helps projects stay on schedule.

Experience has proven that open, ongoing and two-way communication between the Corps and the communities we serve reduces project risks and improves internal and external customer satisfaction.

Why Collaboration and Public Participation?

- Increases public understanding and acceptance of solutions
- Reduces controversy and litigation risks
- Builds trust and credibility
- Fosters transparency in the decision-making process
- Supports improved and sustainable decisions



A team may use varying levels of public engagement during different phases of a project, depending on issues, the decision process, the needs of the public and other factors. It's not always "all or nothing."

Ask a few questions early. Consider:

- Is public support or buy-in important, or even necessary, for a proposed action or decision?
- Does the public perceive that it has a lot to win or lose by these decisions or actions?
- What is required by law or Corps guidelines?

Collaboration and public participation support project success, from early planning through construction and maintenance.

- Dam and levee safety
- Flood risk management
- Ecosystem restoration
- Navigation
- Regulatory permitting
- Coastal storm damage
- Infrastructure strategy
- Major rehabilitations
- FUDS and hazardous waste
- Emergency preparedness and response
- NEPA scoping and comment response
- Natural resource management
- Water supply and allocation
- Plan formulation/SMART planning
- Watershed-informed budgeting
- ...and more

Positive results

In surveys of participants in collaborative processes:

- 81% are more likely to work together in the future
- 80% believe the process led or will lead to a more informed public action or decision

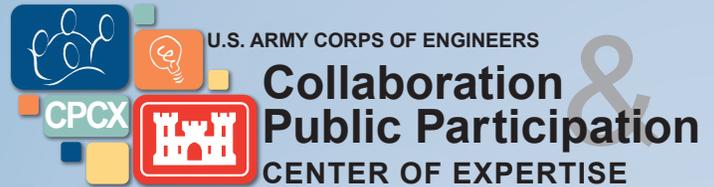
U.S. Institute of Environmental Conflict Resolution, 2008

“What has become apparent to me is that the more open, transparent and early we can bring the various stakeholders into the decision-making process, the more likely we will arrive at better solutions and solutions that are more accepted by those involved.”

Steve Stockton, Director of Civil Works,
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Skills on hand

- Stakeholder and issue assessment
 - Risk communication
 - Outreach program design
 - Collaboration planning
 - Conflict resolution
 - Process and meeting design
 - Facilitation
 - Tribal and cross-cultural coordination
 - NEPA support (and beyond)
 - Consensus building
 - Public Affairs and interagency alignment
 - Effective tools and products
 - Guidance and requirement consultations
- ...and more



Experts from across the nation can help improve the Corps' partner agency collaboration and support public and stakeholder engagement. Contact a practitioner for direct assistance or to find someone local who's the right fit for your project.

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