

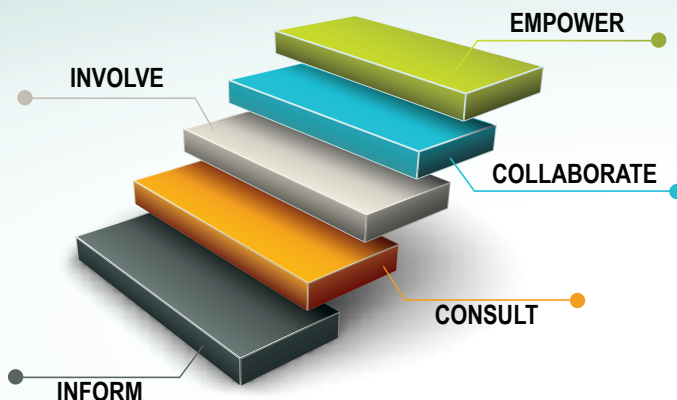


Public participation and collaboration are becoming an integral part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' missions. Effective involvement and collaboration achieves more sustainable project solutions and helps projects stay on schedule.

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?
- Should we or can we use virtual engagement for this work?

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 support
- Natural resource management
- Water supply and allocation
- Plan formulation/SMART planning
- Watershed-informed Budgeting
- ...and more