

Step 4: Integrating Public Participation into Decision Making (Case Study Exercise)

You have just heard the presentation by Thailand on the Tha Chin River Basin. Imagine that you are all government officials of MONRE. The Minister has just asked you to develop an effective public participation plan to engage the stakeholders in the Basin.

1. In your group, please designate:
 - Facilitator- to make sure all views in the group are being heard and the group stays on target
 - Note-taker- to record the conversation on the flip charts
 - Presenter- to present the results of the conversation to the broader group

2. On the first page of your flip chart, please write the title “Step 1- Organizing for Participation.” As a group, discuss and record the answer to these questions:
 - Is public input possible in this situation?
 - Is MONRE committed and able to involve the public?
 - Are the necessary skills for public participation available on your staff? If not, what can you do?
 - What are the resources you will likely need to be able to engage the public effectively?

3. On a new page in your flip chart, please write the title “Step 2- Identify and Get to Know Your Stakeholders.” As a group, discuss and record the answer to these questions:
 - Who are the key known stakeholders in the program?
 - How would you go about identifying other stakeholders? Who could those other stakeholders be?
 - What are a few key questions that you will ask your stakeholders?
 - From what you heard in the presentation, what do you think some of the concerns, issues, and values of the stakeholders might be?
 - What issues or constraints might affect public participation in this process?

4. On a new page in your flip chart, please write the title “Step 3- Select an Appropriate Level of Public Participation.” Using the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation and the flowchart from the Guide, determine the highest level of public participation you will use. A few things to remember:
 - Your public participation program may include multiple levels of public participation, both at different stages of the process and because different stakeholders will choose to engage at different levels.
 - You will be conducting public participation at all of the levels of the spectrum beneath the level you have selected.

Write a clear goal statement and promise statement based on the level of participation you select. Write an outline of your plan on the flipchart based on your discussion.

For “Strengthening Public Participation on Environmental Management in Indonesia” Workshop (July 2012)