



Civil society active engagement in environmental decision-making and enforcement is a key factor in ensuring that governments not only comply with their regulations, but also increase environmental protection, especially for underserved communities. With increased environmental challenges (i.e. climate change), public participation is an essential element in creating sustainable environmental protection.

In an effort to continue to assist our USG trading partners to improve public participation in their countries, EPA is organizing a regional workshop in Santiago, Chile, on March 10-11, 2015, that will provide a platform for USG trading partners in Latin America and the Caribbean, to share successfully applied tools/techniques in engaging civil society, and to discuss how EPA trainings on public participation and the Guide have helped in environmental decision-making processes. This exchange of information will provide an opportunity to discuss challenges and/or creative approaches for community engagement, especially in underserved communities, that will enhance current public participation practices in the region. In addition, participants will spend a day exchanging information on conflict resolution approaches.

Agenda

Tuesday, March 10, 2015 (Day 1)

- 8:30** Introductions: EPA, All
- 9:00** Welcome from US Ambassador Chile
- 9:15** EPA intro of the workshop and background info
- 9:30** **First Panel:** Successful tools used. Think about how others can replicate your tool(s)? What were the pros & cons? What critical role did you play in putting it into action? Challenges and rewards? (10 minutes per speaker; No powerpoint presentations please.)
- Chile
 - Brazil
 - Colombia
 - Peru
- 10:45** Break
- 11:15** **Second Panel:** Successful tools used. Think about how others can replicate your tool(s)? What were the pros & cons? What critical role did you play in putting it

into action? Challenges and rewards? (10 minutes per speaker; No powerpoint presentations please.)

- El Salvador
- Honduras
- Guatemala

12:30 Activity: Activity: What makes public participation successful?

13:15-14:30 Lunch

14:30 Recap of tools from the morning

15:00 **Third Panel:** Successful tools used. Think about how others can replicate your tool(s)? What were the pros & cons? What critical role did you play in putting it into action? Challenges and rewards? (10 minutes per speaker; No powerpoint presentations please.)

- Dominican Republic
- Nicaragua
- Costa Rica
- Chile

16:15 Break

16:30 Recap of all tools and overview of next day's activities

17:15 End

Wednesday, March 11, 2015 (Day 2)

9:00 Welcome back

9:15 Strategies to Prevent and Resolve Conflict: Interpersonal Communication
Strategies to Stop the Escalation of Conflict

11:00 Break

11:30 **Ministry Spotlights:** Experiences with vulnerable and indigenous communities (Describe one challenge you have had with indigenous communities and one strategy to overcome that challenge. (5 minutes per speaker; No powerpoint presentations please.)

- Chile
- Peru
- El Salvador
- Guatemala

- 12:05 **Table Discussions:** Speakers join different tables. **Questions for Tables:** Can you replicate any of the strategies presented by the speakers? Do you have a similar strategy that you have found effective?
- 12:30 -13:45 Lunch
- 13:45 **Ministry Spotlights:** Experiences with vulnerable and indigenous communities (Describe one challenge you have had with indigenous communities and one strategy to overcome that challenge. (5 minutes per speaker; No powerpoint presentations please.)
- Honduras
 - Dominican Republic
 - Nicaragua
 - Costa Rica
- 14:20 **Table Discussions:** Speakers join different tables. **Questions for Tables:** Can you replicate any of the strategies presented by the speakers? Do you have a similar strategy that you have found effective?
- 14:45 Plenary integration of table discussions from both discussions
- 15:15 Break
- 15:30 Next steps and Deliverables/Outcomes
- 16:00 End