

# Planning of the stakeholder involvment

Zoltán Ferencz

JOINTISZA - Train the Planners Seminar

06.27-28. 2017. | Szolnok, Hungary

Project co-funded by the European Union (ERDF, IPA funds)





### **Stages of the planning process**

There is no such thing as a one-size-fits-all public participation plan. But there is a systematic way of thinking through the issues that will help produce a successful plan that fits the unique requirements of a particular decision or issue.

#### **Decision Analysis**

- · Clarify the decision being made.
- Specify the planning or decision-making steps and schedule.
- Decide whether public participation is needed and for what purpose.

#### Process Planning

- Specify what needs to be accomplished with the public at each step of the decision-making process.
- Identify the stakeholders, internal and external.
- Identify techniques to use at each step in the process.
- Link the techniques in an integrated plan.

#### Implementation Planning

Plan the implementation of individual public participation activities.



## **Context analysis**

#### Context refers to the **existing conditions or circumstances.**

The context can significantly influence public participation in terms of process design, content of discussions and outputs.

#### Important areas of attention:

- 1. Changes in attitude of public authorities to the environment and other stakeholders;
- 2. Political commitment
- 3. Organisational change
- 4. Capacity building and representation of stakeholders
- 5. Reaching beyond stakeholders to individual citizens and enterprises;
- 6. Demonstration projects to build trust and to learn from



# The scope of public participation

# What is the problem and how much of it is up for public debate?

The scope is initially **determined by the initiator**.

After conducting a stakeholder analysis, the initiator **may decide to modify the scope** of the process in order to incorporate other stakeholders' concerns and points of view. The scope may also be determined together with the nongovernmental stakeholders.

Method: group discussion with the important stakeholders.



## The scale issue

# 1. Determine which issues should be addressed at which level.

The competent authorities in each river basin district should, together with the main stakeholders, define and analyse the main issues and their geographical scale.

- 2. Determine what types of publics can make what types of contribution and what type of public participation is most appropriate for the publics and possible contributions concerned.
- 3. Organise public participation as close to the public concerned as possible, given budgetary and staffing constraints;
- 4. Communicate the (first) results as soon as possible across different scales and between relevant units at the same scale.
- Report on follow-up not only in the river basin management plan, but also at the level where public participation was organised.



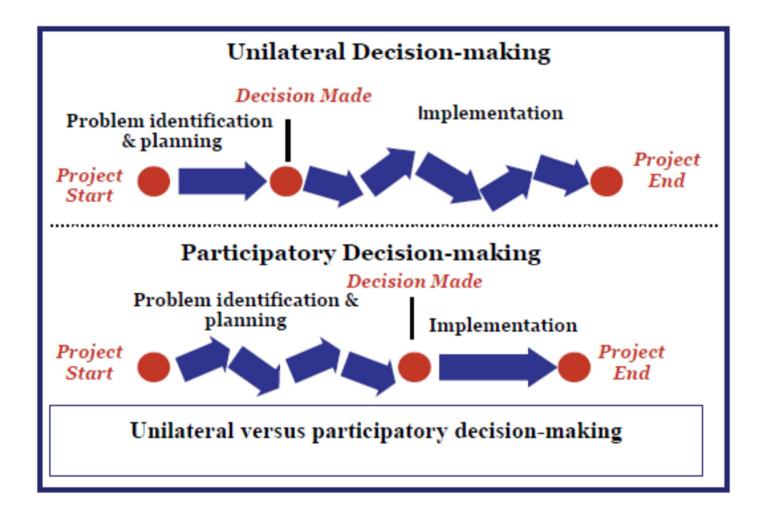
# 4. When should we involve them?

Start public participation as soon as possible. Usually, active involvement at an early stage works best.

- different stakeholders depend on each other to reach their goals
- there is no agreement on the problems at stake
- the issues are important enough for the stakeholders to invest the necessary time and money

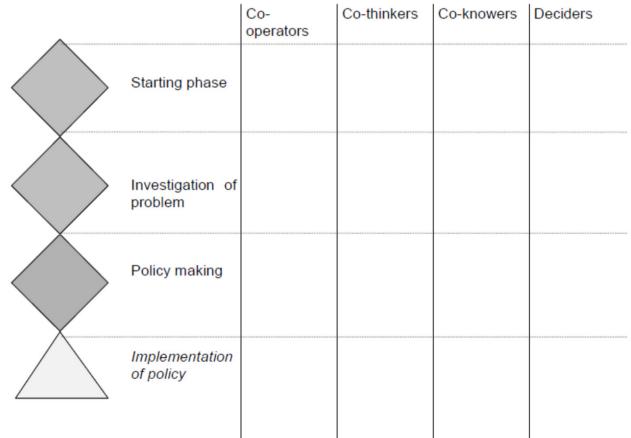


### When should we involve them?





#### Important steps in the policy making process and the involvement of the different categories of actors





#### Thank you for your attention!

Project co-funded by the European Union (ERDF, IPA funds)

Partners: General Directorate of Water Management, Hungary | Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe, Slovakia | International Comission for the Protection of the Danube River, Austria | Ministry of Environment, Water and Forest, Romania | Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary | National Administration "Romanian Waters", Romania | National Institute of Hydrology and Water Management, Romania | Public Water Management Company "Vode Vojvodine", Serbia | Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe, Hungary | The Jaroslav Černi Institute for the Development of Water Resources, Serbia | Water Research Institute, Slovakia | World Wide Fund for Nature Hungary

Associated Partners: Interior Ministry, Hungary | Republic of Serbia Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection – Water Directorate | Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention (SCC), Austria | State Agency of Water Resources of Ukraine | Tisza River Basin Water Resources Directorate, Ukraine