



International Association  
for Public Participation

# International Association for Public Participation

(IAP2)



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## Who are we?

'IAP2 is an association of members who seek to promote and improve the practice of public participation in relation to individuals, governments, institutions, and other entities that effect the public interest in nations throughout the world'.



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## Where are we?

IAP2 has a growing membership in the following countries:

- Australia
- Canada
- Ghana
- France
- Iceland
- Ireland
- South Africa
- Mexico
- Singapore
- New Zealand
- United Kingdom
- United States



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## What is P2?

- Any process that involves the public (community) in identifying issues or decision-making and uses public input to make better decisions.

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## The IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation

# IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum

Developed by the International Association for Public Participation

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
<b>Public Participation Goal:</b> To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	<b>Public Participation Goal:</b> To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	<b>Public Participation Goal:</b> To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	<b>Public Participation Goal:</b> To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	<b>Public Participation Goal:</b> To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
<b>Promise to the Public:</b> We will keep you informed.	<b>Promise to the Public:</b> We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	<b>Promise to the Public:</b> We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	<b>Promise to the Public:</b> We will look to you for direct advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	<b>Promise to the Public:</b> We will implement what you decide.
<b>Example Techniques to Consider:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fact sheets</li> <li>● Web sites</li> <li>● Open houses</li> </ul>	<b>Example Techniques to Consider:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Public comment</li> <li>● Focus groups</li> <li>● Surveys</li> <li>● Public meetings</li> </ul>	<b>Example Techniques to Consider:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Workshops</li> <li>● Deliberate polling</li> </ul>	<b>Example Techniques to Consider:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Citizen Advisory Committees</li> <li>● Consensus-building</li> <li>● Participatory decision-making</li> </ul>	<b>Example Techniques to Consider:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Citizen juries</li> <li>● Ballots</li> <li>● Delegated decisions</li> </ul>



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# Who is the public?

- The people as a whole
- A group of people sharing a common interest
- Individuals/groups with a perceived stake in the outcome of a decision
- External stakeholders (Govt, NGO's, lobby groups)
- Internal stakeholders....who often have technical knowledge and an impact on decisions
- Decision-makers

*It is helpful to think in terms of the 'community of interest' (COI)*



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# IAP2 Core Values

1. The public should have a say in decisions about actions that could affect their lives.
2. Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.
3. Public participation promotes sustainable decisions by recognizing and communicating the needs and interests of all participants, including decision makers.
4. Public participation seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
5. Public participation seeks input from participants in designing how they participate.
6. Public participation provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
7. Public participation communicates to participants how their input affected the decision.



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## Make it count..

- Public participation (community engagement) is most effective and delivers best value for effort when it is undertaken for a specific purpose: to influence and add value to an issue or an opportunity so that the best quality, or most sustainable decision can be made.

*IAP2*



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# How can IAP2 help?

- Values based
- International
- Training programs
- Good practice guides
- Core Values case studies
- Awards programme
- Research
- Networking
- Virtual communities

*Join the free email list for a regular  
updates at: [www.iap2.org](http://www.iap2.org) or [www.iap2.org.au](http://www.iap2.org.au)*



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## Contact us..

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