

Climate Change Leadership Academy

Adaptation Session

Activity 2 Instructions – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

- **Activity Objective:**
 - Gain an understanding of what's important to other stakeholders, and how you might work together to address a climate impact in your community
- **Activity Instructions:**
 - a. You are a group comprised of one member representing each of the five stakeholder groups: Homeowner / Renter; Community Leader / Concerned Citizen; Town Manager / Select Board Member; Farmer / Gardener; Business / Non-Profit Leader
 - b. Define a Discussion Leader, Notetaker, Time Keeper, Reporter
 - i. Note taker: take notes on the paper that is supplied (and will be collected)
 - c. Discussion:
 - i. Discussion Leader: Read the scenario only for your group (see page 2)
 - ii. Share the following prompt and then lead discussion with your group related to the following questions (approx. 10 min per question):
- Your group has formed in your town to study this issue and either take grassroots action or make a recommendation to the town select board / city council for what the town should do to become more resilient...
- **Discuss:**
- **Why is this issue important to you (from your stakeholder perspective)?**
- **How would you go about working towards a solution or recommendation?**
- **Who are the key stakeholders that would need to be involved in this project?**
- **Report Out (3 min / group)**
 - Each Group Reporter shares:
 - **What are key insights that your group is taking away from this discussion?**
- **The Five Scenarios: (read only the scenario that your group is focusing on)**

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Adaptation Session

Activity 2 Instructions – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

- A. Extreme precipitation: Your town has experienced four flooding events over the past year that have impacted the roads and town infrastructure...
- B. Vector-born disease: Your community is experiencing an increasing number of members who have been diagnosed with a tick-born illness ...
- C. Heat Stress: The summer had 15 days where the heat index was very high, and you have heard of citizens in your town who had to visit the emergency room several times...
- D. Agriculture: Citizens of your town and local farmers are reporting a lower yield of their food crops than in past years...
- E. Energy: Your town has lost power for extended periods of time, and is considering a new power solution for the elementary school and town buildings, but not sure what direction to pursue...

Activity 2 Note Sheet – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

• **Scenario Group:**

- **Vector-born disease:** Your community is experiencing an increasing number of members who have been diagnosed with a tick-born illness ...

• **Group Members:**

- Patrick Christie
- Dillon
- Rick Enser
- Caitlin Birch
- Christopher Johnson

• West Nile
• Zika
• Triple E

• Lyme
• Other

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

• **Notes from Discussion:**

• **Why is this issue important to you (from your stakeholder perspective)?**

- ~~Healthcare~~ Health issue (all groups), want to know how to protect ourselves
- Care for others
- Going to see increased number of illness cases
- People calling out sick from work
- Tax-base
- Tourism
- Emergency services/scenarios
- Pets
-

• **How would you go about working towards a solution or recommendation?**

- Limit standing water
- Proper landscaping
- Town Gov issue information (small signs/posters)
- Plant plants that repel/keep deer away
- Have chickens/guinea fowls
- Sell/purchase items that prevent ticks
- wear appropriate clothing (advise others to do so as well)
- Giveaway tick remover cards
- Creating healthcare options
- Making it political
- Offer incentives for proper tick behavior
- Townwide education events
- Education events/ simple conversations (contribute to this)

Activity 2 Note Sheet – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

- Who are the key stakeholders that would need to be involved in this project?

- Every and all
- Move the meter
- Chain reaction (all impacted by tick illnesses)
 - Community member being sick affects business which affects the local government

- Report Out:

- What's one key insight related to what's necessary for your town to adapt to this scenario?

- All stakeholders need to be involved
(~~more~~ interaction at all levels needed)
- Nobody is not involved or not helpful
- Doesn't work if only one group is involved

- What's one key learning related to working as a cross stakeholder group?

- chain reaction (all involved)
- Everybody has a different set of priorities
- Attempt to unite behind common goal/purpose
- Find people's "skin in the game"

Activity 2 Note Sheet – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

• Scenario Group:

- Extreme precipitation: Your town has experienced four flooding events over the past year that have impacted the roads and town infrastructure...

• Group Members:

- Tom Trunzo
- Mary Gavin
- Cecily Anderson
- Amy Pomeroy
- Leah Marshall

• Notes from Discussion:

• Why is this issue important to you (from your stakeholder perspective)?

- homeowner - frustration w/ select board because they haven't prepared well & you want it taken care of immediately.
- select board - public safety & ability to assess condition of infrastructure
 - select board can take loan from bank assuming you'll eventually be able to pay back
 - ↳ big projects take more reports on hydrology, etc.
- business/non-profit - what will we do to adapt - loss of income, can't pay workers / rent
 - tourism concerns in vulnerable place.
 - maybe limit development in certain areas, but touchy subject.
- concerned citizen - vulnerable populations, look out for one another, know where vulnerable populations are & know what community members need & can contribute.
 - everyone should be involved if possible.
- farmer/gardener - loss of crop, soil, nutrients; loss of income & contributing this into enviro (erosion)
 - erosion concerns & planning (cover crops, riprap, etc)
 - many farms are in the floodplain

• How would you go about working towards a solution or recommendation?

- ~~homeowner~~ - need to get community members together, public info sessions, learn things @ school
- ~~select board~~ - take advantage of recent history (think Irene) → use this to move community forward
- ~~business/non-profit~~ - resilience committee - hand out guides & info
- ~~concerned citizen~~ - have specific town meetings to discuss these issues
 - ↳ use 10th anniversary of Irene as catalyst.
- ~~farmer/gardener~~ - think about rebuilding → differently & adapting (skills)
- ~~homeowner~~ - documentary showing / ~~photos~~ photos & videos
- ~~homeowner~~ - homeowners should know their insurance coverage plans & what they cover

Activity 2 Note Sheet – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

- Who are the key stakeholders that would need to be involved in this project?

- representatives from every group!

↳ also state officials, FEMA, regional planning commissions

- Report Out:

- What's one key insight related to what's necessary for your town to adapt to this scenario?

- get community conversation going (town committee meeting)

- don't even have to talk about climate change → say how do we deal with the next Irene.

↓
July 1st

- What's one key learning related to working as a cross stakeholder group?

- important to listen to each other, all have different experience & knowledge.

- be mindful of trying to do every thing & do best you can.

- people want to feel like they've contributed.

- everyone has common interests.

Activity 2 Note Sheet – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

• **Scenario Group:**

- **Heat Stress:** The summer had 15 days where the heat index was very high, and you have heard of citizens in your town who had to visit the emergency room several times...

• **Group Members:**

- Amy Lappin
- Ben Steele
- ~~Suzanne Hawley~~
- Nancy Serrell
- Jill Dorman *Mark*

• **Notes from Discussion:**

• **Why is this issue important to you (from your stakeholder perspective)?**

Farmer: crops - animals - people working - can't be out for long periods of time.

Homeowner: can I leave my dog at home if I go to a shelter?
I need to make alterations to my home - plant trees

Bus./NProf leader: Elderly and school kids vulnerable - Schools need to be aware of heat stroke.
How do hospitals respond. Need preparation/readiness plan.
Donate water

Town Manager/Selectboard:
Where do we get the money?

• **How would you go about working towards a solution or recommendation?**

Advanced planning
Businesses can develop preparedness plan - have resources to distribute.

Farmer = water stations + shelter

Town manager - apply for grants

Work on advocating w/ the legislature to *provide*
aid our farmers, + communities. *create*

more networks + communities?

call to action for planning groups

Activity 2 Note Sheet – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

Advanced planning is key.
Call to action ahead of time –
citizens + legislature must take
advanced action.

How do you empower communities to take care of
the

- Who are the key stakeholders that would need to be involved in this project?

- Town/city needs to get stakeholders together.
 - Educators
 - Farmers
 - Homeowners
 - Community health - social service agencies.
 - Business leaders
 - Non-profit - senior center
listen center
vulnerable + frail
meals on wheels

- Report Out:

- What's one key insight related to what's necessary for your town to adapt to this scenario?

Need study to identify the vulnerable populations.

Identify grass roots groups who know their populations + neighborhoods.

Identify how to get information to people?

- What's one key learning related to working as a cross stakeholder group?

Identify the available resources.

See others perspectives.

Trust must exist for people to work together,
but it takes time.

Build community ^{trust} in advance.

Advance planning - acknowledging the diversity of your community. Making sure everyone gets info.

Activity 2 Note Sheet – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

• **Scenario Group:**

- **Agriculture:** Citizens of your town and local farmers are reporting a lower yield of their food crops than in past years...

• **Group Members:**

- Cori Hirai
- Jack Hurley
- Karen Ganey
- Elizabeth Ticehurst
- Sarah Wood

• **Notes from Discussion:**

- Why is this issue important to you (from your stakeholder perspective)?

Food Security + Pricing
Neighborhood/Livelihood impact
Farms closing / towns losing population/revenue

- How would you go about working towards a solution or recommendation?

- Town/citizen/community research on viability/impact of subsidies for adding resilient crops or equipment
- Encourage local shopping
- Farmers Markets - add Paid Manager for town run market
- Shared resources w/ other towns
- Community forums for engagement

Activity 2 Note Sheet – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

Whole area/town/school, etc. engagement in helping raise awareness of local food supplies and how to support local farms (and why)
Community work days
Put local food in schools, town official functions

- Who are the key stakeholders that would need to be involved in this project?

- People who eat food
- SNAP recipients
- Farm owners
- Farmers market coordinators
- Non-profits + Churches (to coordinate outreach efforts)
- Community leaders
- Schools/hubs

- Report Out:

- * • What's one key insight related to what's necessary for your town to adapt to this scenario?

Community engagement - the problem is not individual, it affects everyone, so everyone should be involved

- * • What's one key learning related to working as a cross stakeholder group?

Every voice counts, be flexible, diversity of perspective builds resiliency

Activity 2 Note Sheet – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

• Scenario Group:

- **Energy:** Your town has lost power for extended periods of time, and is considering a new power solution for the elementary school and town buildings, but not sure what direction to pursue...

• Group Members:

- Rebecca Bailey
- Reb MacKenzie
- Casey Hess
- Bruce Freeberg
- Catherine Kidder

• Notes from Discussion:

• Why is this issue important to you (from your stakeholder perspective)?

- ~~town/city~~ need uninterrupted school & municipal services
- can be a refuge for vulnerable people in community
- school/community nurses are in some school
- municipalities provide needed emergency services to address ~~these~~

• How would you go about working towards a solution or recommendation?

- Assess which type of system would be independent of the power company (i.e. microgrid)
- ~~Identify~~ least vulnerability to extreme weather
- Make buildings reliant on locally sourced power.
- ~~Create~~ ^{Hold} a "town meeting" type gathering to get various viewpoints. Develop resolution. Put it to vote.
- ~~Assess~~

Activity 2 Note Sheet – Cross Stakeholder Understanding and Problem Solving

- Who are the key stakeholders that would need to be involved in this project?

- Town officers + staff
- Parents of school children
- Road ~~for~~ crew, maintenance, public works
- Community leaders
- Houses of worships
- School children + teachers
- Business owners
- Health care professional
- Council on the elderly
- ~~the~~ Semiclub

- Report Out:

- What's one key insight related to what's necessary for your town to adapt to this scenario?

- Involving all these stakeholders is challenging and really important. How to do this varies from town to town and requires wise leadership and ways of getting broad participation.
- The fact that being prepared will save \$ is good motivation.

- What's one key learning related to working as a cross stakeholder group?

• The fact that this scenario impacted all stakeholders made it easy to draw all of them in. Either someone is a parent of a school child or reliant on town ~~govern~~ services or both. In addition, ~~use~~ locating emergency services in the school & mun. blogs ensures that EVERYONE will care.