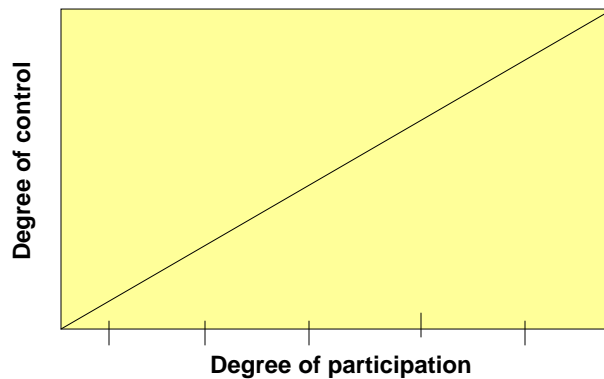


# POLICY DIALOGUE AND STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

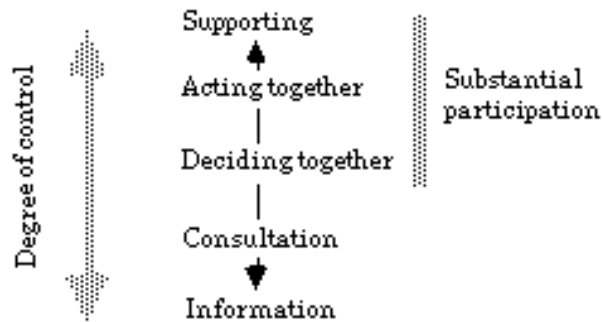
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Peer Reviewers Training Program  
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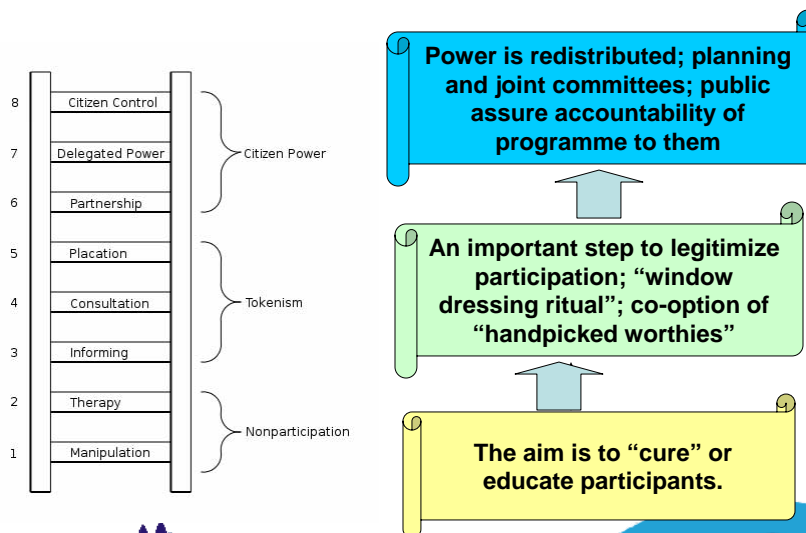
## Levels of Participation



## Wilcox's five levels of participation



## Arnstein model of participation



## When you say civil society, *who is involved?*

- NGOs?
- Foundations?
- Academic Institutions?
- Private sector?
- People's organizations?
- Consumer groups?
- Water utilities?
- Others?

What are their different  
interest and  
motivations?

What benefits do they  
**EXPECT** to get?

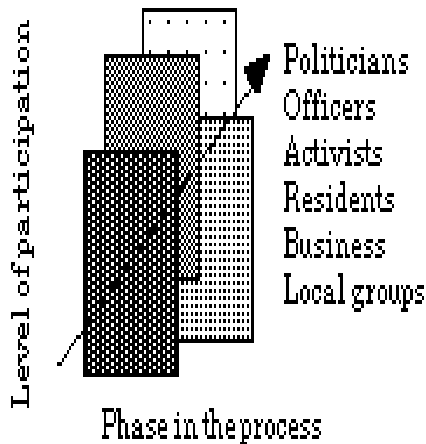
What benefits are the  
**NWSABs** expecting  
from their  
participation?

## Effective participation

- IDENTIFY THESE INTERESTS
- HELP THEM WORK OUT WHAT THEY WANT IN THE PROCESS
- NEGOTIATE A ROUTE FOR THEM TO ACHIEVE IT



## Effective participation



With different interests seeking different levels of participation and being in different phases, effective participation can seem like shooting an arrow through a number of keyholes.

## Initiating participation

- Who is going to champion the process?
- Who pays? Who administers? Who convenes ?
- What are you trying to achieve through participation?
- What are the key interests in the community?
- Who are the key interests within any organisation promoting participation, and what are their attitudes?
- What level of participation is likely to be appropriate and acceptable?
- How will you know when you have succeeded?

## Common goals of CS participation

- Improving the quality of the outcome - the project or programme.
- Developing the capabilities of the participants.
- Building working relationships of benefit for the future.
- Increasing ownership and the acceptability of the outcome.

*For  
NWSABS,  
what do you  
want to  
achieve by  
having CS  
participation?*

*In particular, is there the internal  
commitment within the organization to bring  
them about?*

## Civil society representation in NWSABS

- What are the boundaries of the task? What is fixed, and what is still open?
- What level of participation is appropriate with the different outside interests?
- Can the organization respond to the outcomes of the process or are they intending to manipulate the participants towards pre-determined outcomes?
- What resources are available to organize responses (internal act) ? How much time is there?

## Civil Society in NWSABS: Responsive governance

### Policy Environment:

- A. Genuine representation as member/s in NWSAB
  - how chosen?
  - representative of what interest?
  - accountability to their stakeholder group?
  - level of participation?
- B. Process of decision-making ( feedback, inputs, dialogues)
- C. Capacity Building
- D. Policy Implementation
- E. Holding NWSABs accountable to the public

## Civil Society in NWSABS: Responsive Governance

### Institutional Environment:

- Process of consultations?
- Regularity of these consultations?
- Results/Impacts of these consultations?
- Partnerships established?
- Issues raised and addressed?
- Degree to which these consultations feed into policies/laws?
- Roles in setting standards and monitoring and evaluation?
- NWSAB and NWSAB's Secretariat/ attitudes?

## Civil Society in NWSABS: Responsive Governance

### Socio-Cultural Environment:

- Platforms and processes of consultations?
- How are the poor and marginalized sectors engaged in the process?
- How are representatives chosen? How do they get/give feedback to their sector?
- Do they have resources, skills, desire, authority to work in a participatory way?
- What are the different socio-cultural issues that impact on decision-making and information dissemination?

## Civil society participation in NWSABs

- Gender balance and Equity
  - How is gender concerns mainstreamed in the operations of NWSABs?
  - What are the gender issues?
  - How does the agency address gender issues?
  - What resources are available for gender related concerns?
  - How is it being utilized?

## Gender mainstreaming in NWSABs

- Will institutionalizing gender balance ( % of women in board) in the NWSABs ensure gender balance and equity in the apex body?

## International Linkages and Networking

*External participation in different platforms have strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.*

- Examples of Strengths/value added?
- Examples of Weaknesses/constraints?
- Examples of opportunities generated?
- Examples of threats?

# Conclusions

- Engagement of meaningful participation in NWSABs is a process. It is not just about numbers.
- It will take time, resources and different sets of skills to institutionalize participation in NWSABs.
- NWSABs need to invest in building up, sustaining and institutionalizing an enabling environment for meaningful participation as an essential factor of good governance.