

# **Depict Your Partnership**

# **Professional Learning Activity**

#### **OVERVIEW**

This group activity provides an opportunity to visualize, reflect on, and share key aspects of public engagement programs and partnerships. Visual elements may include partners, values, goals, outcomes, participants, and activities that are essential to public engagement work. The group activity is intended to help professionals clarify their ideas, communicate them with others, and identify potential ways to strengthen their collaborations.

#### MATERIALS

- Multiple copies of the two drawing templates (tree and watershed)
- Sheets of blank paper
- Markers and/or colored pencils



#### PROMPT

Use a drawing to communicate some of the key elements of your partnerships and public engagement program.

 Choose the template that resonates the most with your work, or create your own drawing using a blank sheet of paper.



- 2. Spend a few minutes sketching out the various elements of your partnership. You may include whatever aspects of your program that are most important to you (these may include partners, goals, outcomes, activities participants, values, etc.).
- Share your drawing with others in your group.
  Take some time to reflect and discuss the various approaches you each took to depict and describe your program partnerships.

### **FACILITATION NOTES**

This activity is intended for professionals who engage in (or are planning) collaborations with other organizations and community partners. You can use this activity in a variety of professional settings. For example, you can use it at an internal project meeting to help your team achieve a common vision and understanding for your work. You could also use it at an event where multiple projects, organizations, or initiatives are sharing what they do and why.

Introduce the activity by explaining that its purpose is to provide a way to reflect on and share some key elements of a project or partnership. Participants are welcome to use one of the two templates (the tree or the watershed) as a starting place, or to create their own drawing on the blank paper. Encourage creativity and emphasize there is no right or wrong way to depict a project or partnership. Individuals working on the same project may choose to explore different aspects of their work, resulting in different perspectives and drawings.

Be sure to allow time for participants to share and discuss their ideas. This will expand and reinforce their understanding of important elements of their project and partnerships. Participants are welcome to modify their drawing and add new things as they share and discuss with others.

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