

On behalf of:



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety



European
Climate Initiative
EUKI

of the Federal Republic of Germany

EUKI Training: How can we initiate, design and implement impactful multi-stakeholder dialogues?

Date: 16 March 2020, 12.00 – 18.00 | 17 March 2020, 09.00 -17.00

Location: Privat Roof Club | Mühlenstr. 78-80 | 10243 Berlin (S+U Warschauer Str.)

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

We live in times of increasing complexity. The challenges we face are unprecedented, interdependent and highly dynamic and the public discourse in many countries is polarized – not least in the area of climate change. Many of us have come to understand that we need to reach out to new allies and partners if we're going to make progress on the challenges we face. But effective dialogue and collaboration is often much more difficult than we expect. Maybe these new partners think differently from us. There could be a history of distrust. We suspect there are hidden agendas. There is no visible common ground.

Organisations in various sectors and countries face the challenge of how to initiate meaningful multi-stakeholder dialogues and productive collaborations under these circumstances. Often, organisations eager to start a dialogue for change towards a more sustainable future, feel they do not have sufficient resources and convening power in hand.

In this training we will address these challenges, share the experiences of Reos Partners in this field, and jointly work with participants on some of the challenges they face in their multi-stakeholder projects.

The course is based on 20+ years' experience in creating meaningful multi-stakeholder dialogue. It will build on the concept of **Stretch Collaboration**, described in Adam Kahane's recently published book, "*Collaborating with the Enemy: how to work with people you don't agree with or like or trust*". At the same time, the training will address the practical challenges of initiating and implementing impactful multi-stakeholder processes.

The Stretch Collaboration concept provides a deep dive into the challenges and practices of collaborating with people who think differently from ourselves. We examine common understandings and misunderstandings and look at real life examples of effective cross-sector partnerships and multi-stakeholder alliances.

In this hands-on seminar participants will gain skills and perspectives that help them to successfully...

- recognize when and why it makes sense to enter a "stretch collaboration"
- Identify collaborators towards a specified purpose
- Initiate collaboration with those who see themselves as allies, competitors, or even adversaries
- Set up a collaboration to leverage the strengths of each member when working across sectors, disciplines and worldviews

- Sustain a healthy collaboration through embracing both conflict and connection
- create a productive, safe space for dialogue *and* conflict
- approach different phases of a multi-stakeholder dialogue – from initiating/convening to designing and facilitating
- work with multiple perspectives on problems and solutions
- use experimentation as a strategy to work with complexity
- step fully into the situation as a co-creator with those you don't agree with or like or trust.

HOW LEARNING WILL BE SUPPORTED

- theoretical introductions and inputs: We will offer an introduction to system thinking and working with complexity and uncertainty in multi-stakeholder settings and share some practical examples of convening of multi-stakeholder processes.
- Experiential learning: Applying methods and tools with the participants to enable them to experience the methodologies and approaches and the underlying mindset of a stretch collaboration.
- Peer case work: It will be a hands-on workshop for 15-35 people who are actively engaged in multi-stakeholder dialogue and collaboration projects. The training will allow for sufficient time for participants to apply learnings to their own context and make progress with their individual challenges.
- In order to support the transition of learnings into the home context, two follow-up calls with participants (each 90 minutes) will be offered after the training.

OUTLINE OF THE TRAINING

Monday, 16.03.2020

Time	Session
12 am	Informal Lunch
1 pm	Start, Welcome, Overview
	Block 1: Experiencing a Stretch Collaboration
6 pm	End Day 1

Tuesday, 17.03.2020

Time	Session
9 am	Block 2: How to convene a stretch collaboration? What is the practice behind such processes?
12 am	Lunch break
1 pm	Block 3: Working on cases from participants
5 pm	End