COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TOOLKIT FOR CLIMATE AND HEALTH RESEARCH

RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT ON ADAPTATION FOR CLIMATE AND HEALTH CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TOOLKIT: PURPOSE AND USE

As climate-sensitive hazards increasingly impact the health and well-being of our communities, equitable and intentional community engagement and community-engaged research are critical to create responsive climate health solutions that are effective and informed by the community's lived experience.

The Community Engagement Toolkit for Climate and Health Research was developed by the Community Engagement Core (CEC) as part of the University of Washington's (UW) Research and Engagement on Adaptation for Climate and Health Center (REACH). It was adapted from a range of existing community engagement resources and guidance to support researchers, communities, and students in integrating engagement into future climate health initiatives.

This toolkit supports researchers and communities to design and implement engagement that builds trust with community members and centers community empowerment in resilience efforts. It includes:
- Guiding principles for community engagement
- An engagement checklist and fillable planning template
- A framework for identifying the appropriate level(s) and method(s) of engagement for unique research contexts and examples of engagement activities

For the purpose of this toolkit, community engagement (CE) is defined as *"the process of working collaboratively with and through groups of people affiliated by geographic proximity, special interest, or similar situations to address issues affecting the well-being of those people"* (CDC, 1997; Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences, n.d.). CE comes in many forms, and there is no single activity or engagement approach that works for every situation. Instead, it should be an iterative process that emphasizes adaptability, mutual respect, and the creation of shared goals. In a research context, the same principles form the foundation of community-engaged research (CEnR), where research is *"a process that incorporates input from people who the research outcomes will impact and involves such people or groups as equal partners throughout the research process"* (Yale School of Medicine, n.d.). Research done by or with communities through CEnR ensures that the work is responsive to community priorities, builds trust, and leads to meaningful impacts.

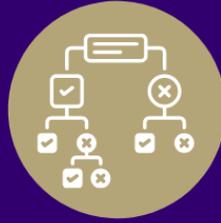More information is available at the UW REACH Center

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GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There is not a one-size-fits-all engagement strategy or approach that will work for every project or with every community. It is important to be flexible with your approach and actively include partners in planning conversations to best tailor engagement strategies to the needs, capacities, and interests of the community and project partners.

➜ **Meaningful Community Engagement is**
- *Collaborative:* Successful CE involves collaboration amongst researchers, community leaders, and community members to address common interests rooted in community values and lived experiences, promoting long-term partnerships (Eisenhauer et al., 2024).
- *Community-Specific:* The best and most impactful form of engagement will vary based on the community characteristics and priorities (Eisenhauer et al., 2024; Washington State Department of Health, n.d.).
- *Reciprocal:* Successful engagement and community partnership is not one-sided. All parties should have the capacity to collaborate and foster a sense of cooperation and trust (Oregon Department of Human Services-Tribal Affairs, n.d.).
- *Strengths-Based:* Successful community-engaged research should focus on the community's assets and strengths, recognizing community expertise and power. An asset-based approach supports community resilience and invites collaboration (Washington State Department of Health, n.d.).
- *Rooted in Sharing Power:* Power sharing helps build long-term relationships and ensures that projects address existing inequities in solutions. Effective and timely engagement requires power sharing to foster more adaptive problem-solving through mentorship opportunities, data sharing and ownership, and shared decision-making (Eisenhauer et al., 2024; Requejo & Schott, 2019).
- *Built on Strong Relationships:* Trust building is key to successful partnership and engagement. Forming long-lasting relationships takes time, transparency, and requires ongoing efforts to maintain connection beyond a designated project. It is important to consider and share the amount of time, resources, and capacity between researchers and community partners to align with and uphold partnership promises (Freeman & Hall, 2024).
- *Actionable:* The engagement process should foster resilience, empower communities to guide solutions, and lead to tangible outcomes that promote meaningful advances in population health and align with community capacity (Requejo & Schott, 2019; Samaddar et al., 2021; Villarreal, 2020; Washington State Department of Health, n.d.).

➜ **Community Engagement is Not**
- *A Performative Activity*: Interacting with communities without any outlined and meaningful goals, intention for follow-up action, or involvement of community leaders is not effective CE (California Air Resources Board, 2024).
- *Only Outreach or Information Sharing:* Information sharing with community and educational outreach activities are often part of the first stage of the engagement process. However, these activities alone do

not foster community trust. Ideally, CE would progress beyond outreach if there is interest and capacity within the community (Requejo & Schott, 2019).

- *Project Marketing and Publicity:* The primary goal of engagement should not solely be to market or advertise the research activities. Raising community awareness and highlighting opportunities for collaboration is worthwhile. These efforts can be the initial foundation for deeper engagement that goes beyond publicity to build trust and support the co-creation of goals and shared research outcomes (California Air Resources Board, 2024).

- *One-Way Communication:* CE should involve ongoing, two-way communication that informs research design, activities, and allows for shared decision-making (Martinez et al., 2024; Metropolitan Area Planning Council, 2016; Requejo & Schott, 2019; Samaddar et al., 2021; Villarreal, 2020).

BEST PRACTICES FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN CLIMATE AND HEALTH RESEARCH

Research and Engagement on Adaptation for Climate and Health Center,
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The checklist provides actionable steps and key recommendations for planning and implementing a community-engaged research project.

Before Engagement

☐ *Form Partnerships*: When grounded in mutual trust, partnerships provide a strong foundation for effective CE. Partnerships can form in various ways and may be initiated by community members, community-based organizations, or researchers, based on funding opportunities, community capacity, and shared goals. Building collaborative partnerships from the outset ensures that research is mutually beneficial and aligned with the community's priorities, knowledge, and expertise. When establishing new partnerships, focus on relationship building before introducing a research project or formal partnership. Consider who the trusted individuals or groups are within the community, what expertise or technical knowledge is needed, and the historical community relationship and experience with researchers and research. Relationships may be built through previously established connections and networks, introductions through colleagues, attending open events/conferences, etc. (ICMA, n.d.; MacPherson-Krutsky et al., n.d.; Requejo & Schott, 2019; Shakesprere et al., 2024; University of Massachusetts, 2025).

  ■ If research is not based on a community-derived question or co-initiated with community, it is important to pause and revisit the project goals, background research, and consider if CE is still the right approach.

Do you have established community partnerships and relationships?

YES → Continue collaborating with established partners to plan and implement CE.

NO → Is it appropriate to pursue CE and form new community partnerships associated with the research?

YES → If there are no previous community relationships or connections, identify any individual or organization that has built trust within the target community and reach out to colleagues for introductions, if possible. If a personal introduction is not possible, initially reach out to community organizations rather than individuals for recommendations on the best contacts and ways to engage with the community.

NO → Pause and re-evaluate research goals, questions, and integration of CE.

- If the research scope or region is broad (e.g., the WWAMI region), it is crucial to conduct a thorough partner analysis to identify the individuals, groups, and communities most impacted or interested in the research. Understanding shared characteristics, interests, and community contexts across a broad region can help prioritize types of engagement efforts (California Air Resources Board, 2024; Canadian Institutes of Health Research, 2014). On a larger scale, it is essential to employ a range of communication methods and engagement strategies that are adaptable and can be implemented in hybrid or virtual settings to increase participation (Eisenhauer et al., 2024; Freeman & Hall, 2024; ICMA, n.d.).

☐ *Conduct Background Research:* When researchers take the time to understand a community's history, context, assets, and concerns before beginning a project, it is a respectful approach. It helps ensure that engagement is relevant and responsive to community needs, especially when multiple communities need to be considered. This groundwork can help build trust, reduce harm, and create space for more meaningful collaboration (Metropolitan Area Planning Council, 2016; Villarreal, 2020).

☐ *Outline Purpose & Goals of Engagement:* Based on background research and partner expertise, determine why the involvement, input, and engagement of particular community members and organizations are necessary to your research process and project success. Based on this research, set engagement outcome goals (Metropolitan Area Planning Council, 2016).

Planning Engagement

☐ *Outline Partnership Responsibilities:* Co-develop a plan or agreement with partners to build trust and outline roles and responsibilities. During this process, check in with community partners for guidance on other groups or individuals to consult or include in conversations and planning surrounding CE (International Association for Public Participation, n.d.; Villarreal, 2020).

- When engaging with Indigenous communities and Tribal governments, there are additional considerations and agreements not addressed in this checklist, including formal relationships such as a data sharing agreement and modification of timelines. Refer to existing Tribal engagement resources and toolkits for more information and guidance. Toolkit Examples: Collaborate with Tribes: A Public Health Toolkit, Tribal Engagement Toolkit, Indigenous Evaluation Toolkit

☐ *Identify Target Audience:* Identify individuals or groups who are impacted directly or indirectly by the research. Some issues may require identifying multiple audiences based on the interest and needs of the community. Consider what perspectives may be missing or have been historically excluded, who is already doing work related to the research, and include a variety of audiences based on the goals of engagement (e.g.,

understanding community values, hearing diverse perspectives, informing evaluation, etc.) (Freeman & Hall, 2024; ICMA, n.d.; University of Massachusetts, 2025).

☐ *Choose the Level of Engagement:* Work within partnerships to select the level of engagement along the continuum of CE (see [Community Engagement Decision-Tree](#)). It is important to note that a higher level of engagement, depicted on the right side of the continuum, is not always the "best" option. A higher level of engagement may not align with community capacity, the specific project area, or the community's desire for involvement. The chosen level of engagement should be based on identified community audiences, their interests, and the research goals and desired outcomes (International Association for Public Participation, n.d.; Johnson et al., 2020).

☐ *Budget for Community Engagement:* Allocate funding for community incentives or stipends for collaboration. Community members and organizations provide important lived experience and expertise to research projects that should be compensated (Martinez et al., 2024; Samaddar et al., 2021).

☐ *Choose Engagement Activities:* Identify the engagement activities and materials corresponding to the selected audience and level of engagement. Activities and methods could include community meetings, surveys, focus groups, community advisory groups, presenting findings back to the community, etc. (see [Community Engagement Activities](#)).

☐ *Foster Community Ownership:* Identify ways for the community to take ownership and lead through formal roles within the project based on community capacity and/or interest in leadership (Villarreal, 2020).

☐ *Tailor Engagement Approaches:* Tailor engagement strategies to the community context. Use multi-method engagement approaches (e.g., hosting several community input events in a community center, park, and public library followed by a texting campaign to consult community members through a survey) to reach different populations within the community and form genuine long-term relationships(MacPherson-Krutsky et al., n.d.; Villarreal, 2020; Washington State Department of Health, n.d.).

☐ *Plan for Accessibility:* Design engagement activities that are adaptable to multiple formats, languages, and staff capacity. Be mindful of scheduling activities at times and locations that allow for flexibility and diverse community participation like hosting events outside of traditional work hours. When planning in-person community events, consider how factors like location, transportation, childcare, and food might impact engagement, and build in strategies to address barriers where possible (Metropolitan Area Planning Council, 2016; Washington State Department of Health, n.d.).

☐ *Develop a Project Management Plan:* Create a timeline of activities, partners involved, target audience members, and engagement materials and activities (e.g., surveys, focus groups, videos, reports). Additionally, develop a preliminary plan for the project's

conclusion, outlining community data ownership, knowledge sharing, and the anticipated roles of community organizers, partners, and community members following the formal engagement period (MacPherson-Krutsky et al., n.d.; Requejo & Schott, 2019; Washington State Department of Health, n.d.).

☐ *Co-Create Engagement Evaluation:* Co-develop metrics with community partners to assess project outcomes, ensure broad and representative input, transparency, and the impact of engagement within the community (Eisenhauer et al., 2024; Samaddar et al., 2021).

☐ *Discuss Publication and Dissemination:* Incorporate early conversation with community and partners in the planning process to discuss publication authorship, publishing rights, and data storytelling, ensuring that everyone has clear expectations for disseminating the results (University of Massachusetts, 2025).

During Engagement

☐ *Facilitate Two-Way Communication:* Organize regular meetings, workshops, and open channels for feedback on engagement activities. The communication format may be chosen based on the engagement level identified during the planning process (Requejo & Schott, 2019).

☐ *Adapt Engagement Activities:* Create flexible engagement activities, materials, and approaches based on iterative community feedback. Engagement should prioritize listening spaces for communities to share experiences, with a focus on disproportionately impacted populations. Be prepared to pivot and adapt the timeline, process, roles and approach of the project and engagement based on feedback. Additionally, every community operates differently, and may have a different work approach and pace, so it is important to be adaptable throughout the planning and implementation process (Villarreal, 2020).

☐ *Maintain Transparency:* Be honest and open about the desired outcomes of engagement, the project team's capacity to integrate feedback, and plans to share or implement research findings in the future. Be mindful of the time and effort being asked of community partners with established roles, responsibilities, and regular check-ins (MacPherson-Krutsky et al., n.d.; Villarreal, 2020).

Evaluation and Feedback

☐ *Track Impact and Gather Feedback:* Plan opportunities for community members and partners to evaluate the research deliverables. Use these meetings to review work based on the co-created research evaluation metrics, provide updates on engagement, and share any changes resulting from feedback and observed community impact. The project structure should continue to align with community needs and capacity and can be

adjusted based on long-term interests (Metropolitan Area Planning Council, 2016; Washington State Department of Health, n.d.).
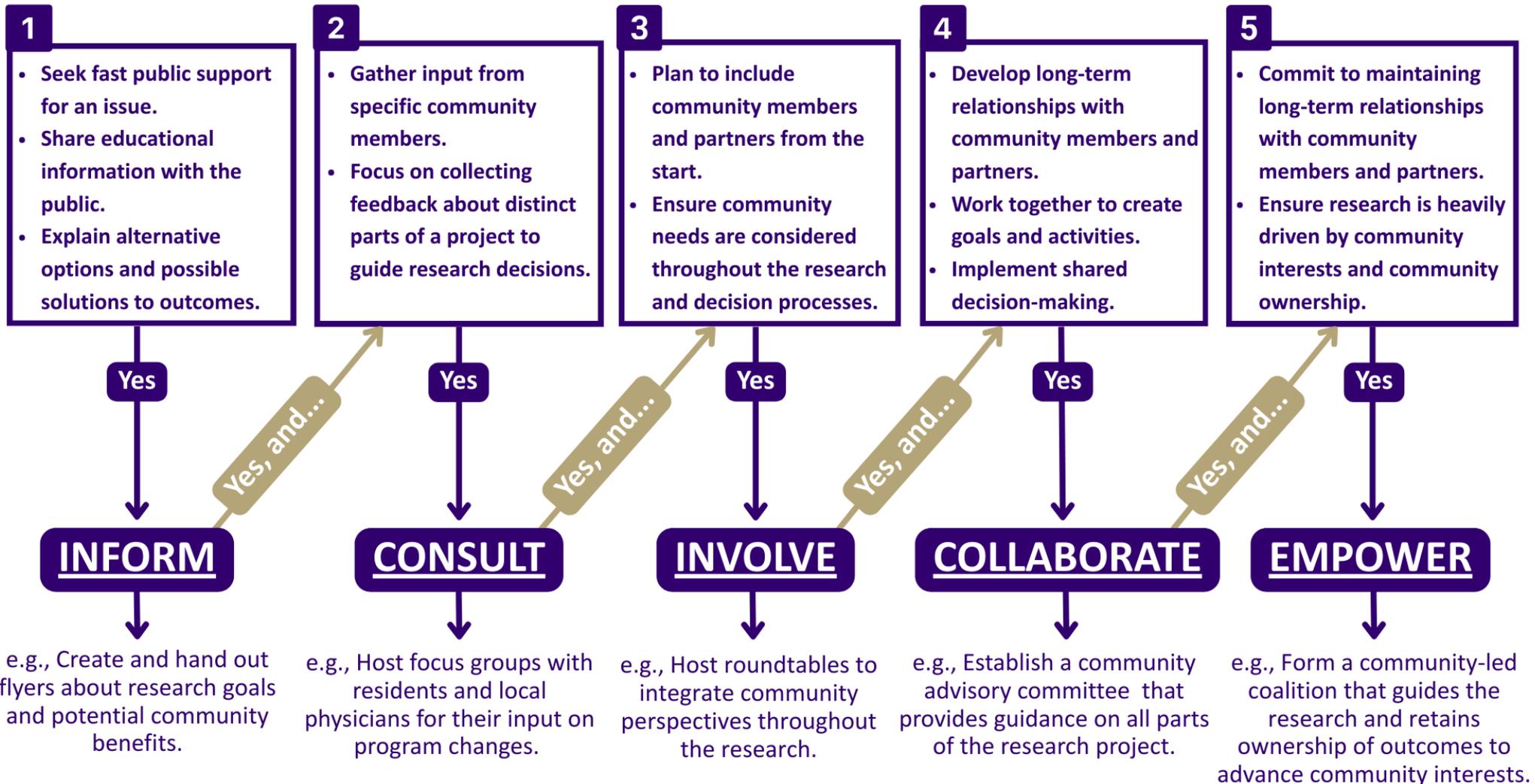
After Engagement

☐ *Share Results:* Share research findings in accessible and public-facing formats with the community to work together to interpret the findings, outline next steps, and identify opportunities for ongoing collaboration (Washington State Department of Health, n.d.).

☐ *Ongoing Project Sustainability:* Review and implement the project's conclusion plan and revisit partnership agreements and ongoing roles and responsibilities. Outline co-created recommendations to ensure findings facilitate ongoing and meaningful change (University of Massachusetts, 2025; Washington State Department of Health, n.d.).

☐ *Sustain Long-term Relationships:* Successful community partnerships require ongoing effort to maintain effective collaboration, shared decision-making, and trusting relationships. Plan ongoing connections with partners with the goals of understanding the research impacts within the community and promoting future collaboration and collective action that is tailored to community needs (Villarreal, 2020; Washington State Department of Health, n.d.).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DECISION-TREE

The following prompts provide a guide to determine the most appropriate level of engagement for the community, project goals, and overall purpose of engagement. Choosing an engagement level and corresponding activities can be an iterative process throughout partnership formation and project development depending on community capacity and desire (WSU, 2024). It is common to integrate multiple levels of engagement and activities throughout the research process to reach different communities (EPA, 2025).

Source: Adapted from (EPA, 2014)

1
- Seek fast public support for an issue.
- Share educational information with the public.
- Explain alternative options and possible solutions to outcomes.

2
- Gather input from specific community members.
- Focus on collecting feedback about distinct parts of a project to guide research decisions.

3
- Plan to include community members and partners from the start.
- Ensure community needs are considered throughout the research and decision processes.

4
- Develop long-term relationships with community members and partners.
- Work together to create goals and activities.
- Implement shared decision-making.

5
- Commit to maintaining long-term relationships with community members and partners.
- Ensure research is heavily driven by community interests and community ownership.

Yes | Yes, and… | Yes | Yes, and… | Yes | Yes, and… | Yes | Yes, and… | Yes

INFORM | **CONSULT** | **INVOLVE** | **COLLABORATE** | **EMPOWER**

e.g., Create and hand out flyers about research goals and potential community benefits.

e.g., Host focus groups with residents and local physicians for their input on program changes.

e.g., Host roundtables to integrate community perspectives throughout the research.

e.g., Establish a community advisory committee that provides guidance on all parts of the research project.

e.g., Form a community-led coalition that guides the research and retains ownership of outcomes to advance community interests.

OUTREACH ◀◀◀ - - - - - - - - - ▶▶▶ **CO-CREATION**

CHOOSING THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Guiding Questions for Planning Community Engagement

Choosing the appropriate level of community engagement is a critical part of the early planning process of a research project. To guide decisions about the level of engagement along the continuum, it is helpful to answer the following questions. Questions were adapted from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research: CE Handbook and the Washington State University: Practical Guide to Community Engagement (Canadian Institutes of Health Research, 2014; Freeman & Hall, 2024).

WHO - Who are the community and partners in this project? Is there a specific population that you want to focus on? What is their interest and level of capacity to participate in this research?

> _Partnership Note:_ Consider the following question: What existing relationships do you have with the community? If none, it is important to do thorough background research and approach partnerships and engagement with open communication, humility, intention, and flexibility.

Define "community" in the context of your research questions and goals.
Community can be defined in a variety of ways, such as a shared region, neighborhood, identity, or a group of people who have similar interests. Community engagement activities are designed to reach these groups. The research questions and goals that inform this definition are not the researchers' alone, but should be informed by community needs and the capacity of community partners.

Identify Community Partners	Partner Name(s)	Organization/Affiliation	Interest/Area of Expertise	Suggested Community Members or Organizations to Engage
Partners are specific entities or individuals that have				

a shared agreement to work on a project with shared goals and responsibilities.				

WHY - Why are you engaging and partnering with this individual(s) or organization?

Engagement Goals *A broad or high-level outcome.*	Objectives *Specific, measurable actions that are discrete steps toward a goal.*		

Potential engagement benefits	Researchers	Partners	Community
Shared Expectations			

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WHAT - What stage(s) of the research process are researchers, partners, and community members involved with and in what role?

Research Stage (King's Improvement Science, n.d.)	Researchers	Role/Involvement	Partners	Role/Involvement	Community Members	Role/Involvement
Determining research topic - *collaboratively developing a research question(s)*						
Designing research project - *outlining the methods, target community, and community engagement strategies*						
Carrying out research - *implementing engagement activities like surveys, roundtables, participatory mapping, etc.*						
Disseminating findings - *presenting findings, developing deliverables, and sharing results with community*						
Evaluating research project - *collecting feedback and assessing the impact of the project*						
Translating research findings into practice - *using research findings to inform changes to current approaches*						

HOW - How will you most meaningfully engage with partners and community members along the continuum of engagement? What methods or activities will you use?

> *Note:* *You can select multiple levels of engagement depending on the project, research questions, and community of interest (e.g., engagement activities could be different for youth vs. older adults).*

Select Level(s) of Engagement and Methods/Activities			
Community Engagement Level (Reference the Community Engagement Decision-Tree)	**Select Engagement Levels** (Select multiple levels if applicable)	**Community Engagement Activities** (Reference the Community Engagement Activity List)	**Audience Focus**
Inform - *Provide educational or outreach information through one-way communication with the community.*	☐		
Consult - *Solicit feedback and input from the community to inform decision-making and ensure changes are consistent with public concern and desires.*	☐		
Involve - *Include ongoing community member feedback and participation in the research process to ensure community needs*	☐		

and interests are included in findings and final decision-making.			
Collaborate - *Partner with community members in all aspects of research decision-making to address complex issues and reach co-created solutions.*	☐		
Empower - *Place all final decision-making power in the hands of the community.*	☐		

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Community engagement can occur at multiple levels within the research process. Community engagement may involve community members as partners and co-creators on the research team, as participants in the research activities, or both. All forms of engagement bring distinct value to the research. Community member collaboration as a part of the research team encourages shared decision-making and power, while engagement as participants fosters inclusion of authentic community perspectives in research findings and implementation. Early clarification of roles in the research process strengthens methods, expectations, and outcomes for equitable community engagement.

Inform: Provide educational or outreach information through one-way communication with the community.			
Example Activity	**Strengths**	**Challenges**	**Resources**
Public Hearings/Meetings (US EPA, 2014) *An open gathering that brings together a diverse group of community members and partners for the research project team to primarily share information in an in-person or virtual format.*	Introduces the community to an issue or project. Provides an open space for public comment about concerns, questions, and ideas.	Possibility for uneven power structures and may center louder or more represented voices and points of view. May result in more conflict and misunderstanding if not facilitated well. May not reach diverse or broader community audiences. *Possible Solution: Offer multiple attendance options (virtual, in-person, recording). Provide a transparent feedback process and offer facilitated sessions.*	**Guide:** Public Meetings Guidance- Archived Link **Engagement in Practice:** EPA First Public Meeting (Duwamish Valley, Seattle, WA, 2013)
Radio (Joel Odondi, n.d.; Nyirenda et al., 2018) *Audio broadcasting programs that provide a channel for*	Reaches a large population, especially in rural areas that are difficult to physically reach. Provides a relatable platform because programs can be hosted in	Limited opportunities for real time discussion and interaction with community members. Tracking and assessing the impact of outreach is difficult because data on the	**Guide:** Creating Community-Based Health Education Materials for Indigenous Farmworkers (2024) **Engagement in Practice:**

individuals or communities to share stories, and opinions often with a focus on local issues and news.	a variety of languages and present multiple perspectives. May be done utilizing few new or existing resources.	number of listeners may not be available or may not be accurate. Community impact may be limited by the timing of the broadcast. *Possible Solution: Broadcast messages multiple times throughout the day prioritizing times before and after working hours. Consider pairing radio messages with another form of engagement that can collect community input and/or questions.*	[Public Engagement in Malawi Through a Health-Talk Radio Programme 'Umoyo nkukambirana': A Mixed-Methods Evaluation (Malawi, RSA, 2016)](#)-[Archived Link](#) [Conversations on Climate Justice (Proyecto Bienestar, Central Washington / Yakima Valley, 2017)](#)
Television [(Aliyi et al., 2023; International Association for Public Participation, 2006; National Library of Medicine, 2015; Saei et al., 2021)](#) *A visual broadcasting platform to share stories, outreach information, and promote increased community participation using a visual and interactive style.*	Provides visual messages and stories that can break down complex research topics and can broadcast stories or information multiple times. Accessible format for a variety of audiences because messages may be shared or subtitled in multiple languages and can be watched from home or community locations.	May not be an effective strategy for communities with limited or unreliable access to electricity. May not reach audiences who do not regularly watch broadcast TV channels/programming. It may be difficult to assess the community impact or collect community comments or feedback on the research topic. *Possible Solution: Use TV programming as a part of a larger media outreach plan that includes use of social media or other outreach methods appropriate for the selected audiences. Arrange group viewings in community centers, libraries or other commonly used spaces.*	**Guide:** [Extreme Heat: Media Communication](#) [Public Health Assessment Guidance Manual (See "Media Support")](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [Projecting Health Videos (2014)](#)
Social Media Posts (Facebook, X, Instagram, Tiktok) [(US EPA, 2014)](#) *A website or digital application that provides a space for posts,*	Has the ability to reach large and diverse audiences and may be able to use geotargeting. Efficient and low-cost strategy to share information.	May miss certain audiences or communities who do not use social media or more "popular" platforms (e.g., communities that primarily use Whatsapp or Telegram) . Messages could be missed or misunderstood	**Guide:** [Social Media Guidance](#)- [Archived Link](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [How Climate Health Affects Community Health (CDC, n.d.)](#)- [Archived Link](#)

videos, graphics, or short messages.	Materials can be incorporated into a larger communication strategy.	if the proper communication channel and best practices are not followed. *Possible Solution: Test out content before publishing, if possible. Create content that is adaptable to multiple formats to reach a variety of online audiences.*	
Print Materials [(US EPA, 2014)](#) *Digital or printed materials like fact sheets, brochures, or flyers that can be used at meetings, mailed to community members, or hung up on community bulletin boards.*	Flexible distribution to reach a broad number of community members or a specific subset of the community. Information is easy to hand out and provides opportunity for later review.	Limited space for sharing information and it is difficult to communicate about nuanced topics. Cost could be high in large population areas with no guaranteed impact. Not effective if literacy is a barrier. *Possible Solution: Utilize clear visuals, place materials in varied locations, and lean on existing information networks.*	**Guide:** [Flyers and Print Materials Guidance](#) - [Archived Link](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [Climate Change and Your Health-Extreme Heat](#)- [Archived Link](#)
Expert Panels [(International Association for Public Participation, 2006)](#) *A public meeting or event featuring individuals who have expertise in the subject area, community, or can provide trusted perspectives to attendees.*	Provides an education event/space for the community to learn about an issue from trusted sources. Offers a platform for community discussion about specific issues.	Requires pre-planning, recruitment of panel members, and event logistics. Higher budget needed to cover activity costs. May not reach diverse or broader community audiences. *Possible Solution: Invite diverse individuals to participate on the panel and create a tailored communication plan.*	**Engagement in Practice:** [Climate Action Team Public Health Workgroup Meetings (California, 2025)](#)- [Archived Link](#)
Hotlines [(Canadian Institutes of Health Research, 2014; International Association for Public Participation, 2006)](#)	Provides ongoing communication avenues focused on specific public input and a sense of community involvement.	Requires ongoing staffing and intentional planning to provide accurate and timely responses. Requires widespread advertisement for	**Guide**: [Hotline Guidance](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [EPA Hotlines](#)- [Archived Link](#)

A specific phone line or online chat for community members to ask questions or access information about a project or issue.	Flexible to accessibility needs.	success. *Possible Solution: Offer multiple forms of communication including text, call, online chat, etc.*	
Information Kiosks [(US EPA, 2014)](#) *A temporary or long-term station/s hosted in public spaces that present research or project information through a poster or digital computer screen that allows users to interact with information.*	Can be used at events or in public spaces to reach a large audience as a temporary or permanent station. Can utilize multiple media formats and allow for collection of public feedback.	Information has to be regularly updated as the project progresses. This kind of setup can be expensive if the kiosk is using tech-reliant displays. Hard to staff and answer community questions with a long-term kiosk. *Possible Solution: Create rotating shifts for staff and include accessible contact info if staffing is not possible.*	**Guide:** [Information Kiosks Guidance](#)- [Archived Link](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [Development and Implementation of a Community Health Literacy Hub (Belgian City, 2023)](#)- [Archived Link](#)
Email Listservs [(International Association for Public Participation, 2006)](#) *A digital mailing list that allows community members and partners to register and receive basic information and keep up to date on issues and research progress.*	Inexpensive strategy to reach a broad range of community members and partners. Low-barrier strategy for sign-up and registration to provide a large amount of information and ongoing research updates.	Difficult to maintain accurate email addresses. May miss certain communities who do not have regular internet access or do not use or check email regularly. *Possible Solution: Update listserv emails annually and provide the same information in other formats to reach varied community members.*	**Engagement in Practice:** [Community Outreach for Climate Resiliency (Port Angeles, WA, 2021)](#)
Newspaper Inserts [(International Association for Public Participation, 2006)](#) *A flyer, infographic, or a written message added to a physical newspaper.*	Provides a daily opportunity to distribute information. Especially effective within smaller communities that have a local paper.	Expensive within larger communities and urban areas. May miss community members who do not receive a physical newspaper or do not receive the newspapers used. Consider the role of newspapers that are community or language specific.	**Engagement in Practice:** [How Climate Change Affects Your Health (APHA, n.d.)](#)- [Archived Link](#)

		May not reach younger audiences and many local papers are becoming obsolete. *Possible Solution: Distribute the information through multiple channels (e.g., social media community centers, email).*	
Community Fairs or Events [(International Association for Public Participation, 2006)](#) *A community event or gathering with information booths or exhibits to provide information to attendees.*	Provides an opportunity to share specific information with the public. Flexible design to share different kinds of information with varying levels of community involvement. Provides a venue for casual 1:1 conversations that can be more personalized to individual interests.	Only reaches community members who attend the event or fair. May require additional funding to participate in the event. *Possible Solution: Make sure to start outreach early and budget for event participation.*	**Guide:** [Health Fair Guidance](#)- [Archived Link](#)
Storytelling [(McCall et al., 2019)](#) *Any kind of narrative that shares ideas, events, or experiences through a variety of media including visual, oral, or written platforms.* *Note: This activity could also fall under consult, inform, or collaborate depending on approach.*	May make issues and experiences more relatable by allowing audiences or readers to connect emotionally with content. Provides an opportunity to simplify complex concepts and ideas. Communities have the opportunity to own their own story and present a variety of experiences.	Stories may inadvertently misrepresent or oversimplify broader experiences and introduce bias and result in limited engagement. Requires intentional use of language to avoid perpetuating stereotypes. *Possible Solution: Ensure there is ongoing community consent and involvement throughout the storytelling process and reframe stories to reflect community assets and agency.*	**Guide:** [Climate Storytelling Guide](#)- [Archived Link](#) [Storytelling and Climate Resilience Guide](#)- [Archived Link](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [StoryCorps: People Share how Climate Change is Harming Health (Variety of Locations, 2021)](#)- [Archived Link](#)
Performance Storytelling [(US EPA, 2014)](#) *Any kind of performance including plays, dances, spoken word, or music performances that use storytelling for*	A more creative way of sharing information that appeals to emotions rather than just logic. Flexible to in-person or remote settings.	Time intensive preparation to ensure that information is effectively shared. May not be received well in every community or context because personal stories or experiences represented in a "show" or "performance" could cause	**Engagement in Practice:** [Through the Big Top: An Exploratory Study of Circus-Based Artistic Knowledge Translation (Québec, CA, 2024)](#)- [Archived Link](#)

		offense and deepen any distrust within the community.	
communication. *Note: This activity could also fall under consult, inform, or collaborate depending on approach.*		*Possible Solution: Start planning early and check in with community partners throughout the engagement planning process to ensure appropriate engagement.*	

Note: For all of these activities, it is important to carefully consider and provide language access through translation, interpretation services, and appropriate communication channels to reach all target audiences.

Consult: Solicit feedback and input from the community to inform decision-making and ensure changes are consistent with public concern and desires.

Example Activity	Strengths	Barriers	Resources
Surveys or polls (Canadian Institutes of Health Research, 2014; US EPA, 2014) *A digital or printed form with specific questions to register community comments, collect quantitative and qualitative data, and evaluate issues and/or solutions.*	Reaches a large and representative audience. Easily tailored to fit time constraints and staffing capacity. Easy to collect a variety of quantitative and qualitative data.	Can be time and labor-intensive to collect responses, depending on the community size and response rate. Possibility of low response rate. May not be suitable for sensitive or complex topics that could be better examined through interviews or focus groups. If a survey is digitally circulated, it is possible that individuals and groups outside of the target community may complete it. *Possible Solution: Provide digital and physical forms of the survey/poll to*	**Guide:** Survey Guidance- Archived Link **Engagement in Practice:** Leading with Local Knowledge (Austin, TX, 2023) Adaptation strategies and community participation in government-led mitigation project (Pekalongan, Indonesia, 2022)- Archived Link

		increase response rate. For digital survey protection, consider adding a password or only sharing the link with target populations.	
Key Informant Interviews ([International Association for Public Participation, 2006; US EPA, 2014](#)) *A one-on-one conversation with selected individuals about a specific issue to document personal opinions and experience.*	Provides a more informal and personal opportunity to hear individual input on issues, concerns, and ideas. Useful to gain specific information from experts about a topic or issue.	Takes a lot of time to plan, conduct, clean notes, and analyze data from individual interviews. Requires skilled interviewers who are trained to respond to a variety of responses. *Possible Solution: Dedicate multiple team members to conduct interviews, ask for permission to record interviews for faster transcription, and hold a training before engagement.*	**Guide:** [Key Informant Interview Guidance-Archived Link](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [Rural Physician-Community Engagement](#)
Focus Groups/Focus Workshops ([International Association for Public Participation, 2006; US EPA, 2014](#)) *Facilitated conversations with small groups of selected community members and partners to ask a curated set of questions about a specific issue to inform decision-making.*	Creates an opportunity to speak more in depth with a small group. Works best when seeking input from particular audiences or community groups.	Groups are usually fewer than 15 people and may not be representative of the general community. Time-intensive organization and analysis process. May require additional resources to ensure accessibility: interpreters, food, childcare, etc. Focus group participants may be influenced by other opinions shared in the group and may not be the right engagement format for sensitive topics. *Possible Solution: Hold multiple focus groups with the same community for increased representation, plan for accessibility needs in advance, and check*	**Guide:** [Focus Group Guidance](#)- [Archived Link](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [Initiating Community Engagement in an Ecohealth Research Project in Southern Africa (South Africa, 2017)](#)

		in with partners about questions and format of engagement.	
Walkshops (Futurewise et al., 2014) *An interactive walking tour with community members through selected neighborhoods using a map, phone, or camera to document the facilitators and barriers for specific issues.*	Offers an informal and interactive activity to explore localized needs, values, and stories. May be tailored to specific issues or subjects, but can also be general.	Time-intensive planning and implementation process. Data collected may be very localized, and activities may not be appropriate for more general or widespread issues. *Possible Solution: Start planning for engagement early and explore other engagement options if the research question or focus issue is more widespread.*	**Engagement in Practice:** Seattle Walkshop Examples and Best Practices (Seattle, WA, 2014-Pages 23-24)
Data Walk (Sperling et al., 2025) *An interactive presentation of data through posters or a digital presentation. Facilitators walk small groups through discussions to share and explain research findings. This method of community engagement is often combined with other engagement activities (e.g., surveys, interviews) and the same community members are invited to review and validate the findings through data walks.*	Provides an opportunity for dialogue and collaboration. Promotes data literacy and facilitates community ownership of data.	Time and resource-intensive planning and implementation process. Researchers may be used to presenting to more academic audiences. *Possible Solution: Be mindful of the public audience when designing the posters and presentations to ensure that information is accessible.*	**Guide:** Data Walks: An Innovative Way to Share Data with Communities- Archived Link **Engagement in Practice:** Share Data with Communities (Variety of Locations, 2015)- Archived Link
SpeakOuts (Futurewise et al., 2014) *An interactive exhibit or table*	Provides a public location for the broader community to comment on local issues.	Requires staffing to answer questions and to guide the community through the input process.	**Guide:** SpeakOut Guidance- Archived Link **Engagement in Practice:**

that allows community members to provide quick input on community issues. Input can be collected through sticky notes on a poster or documented via a staff notetaker.	Offers the ability to collect community input on a variety of issues in one place.	May not be appropriate or effective for more sensitive or controversial topics that require more in-depth and nuanced conversations. *Possible Solution: Utilize visuals to demonstrate the question or issues and make it easy and fast to provide feedback through stickers or an open space for written comments.*	Seattle SpeakOut (Seattle, WA, 2014-Pages 25-30)- Archived Link

Involve: Include ongoing community member feedback and participation in the research process to ensure community needs and interests are included in findings and final decision-making.

Example Activity	Strengths	Barriers	Resources
Community Ambassadors (International Association for Public Participation, 2006) *Community members or representatives from community organizations apply or are selected to do training and outreach to involve the broader community in decision-making to inform the research process.*	Allows for trusted community representation throughout the process. Provides an opportunity for a trusted community member to provide education about the research topic. Enhances research credibility by providing multiple touchpoints for collection of community input.	Requires in-depth training and support networks. Hard to control flow of information and consistency. *Possible Solution: Establish regular check-ins with ambassadors to address concerns, share communication strategies, and maintain training consistency.*	**Guide:** Community Ambassador Program Guidance- Archived Link **Engagement in Practice:** Camden Coalition Community Ambassadors (Camden, NJ, 2021)
Roundtables (Canadian Institutes of Health Research, 2014) *A gathering of community members and partners to discuss specific issues. Participants can be broken into smaller groups, but stay with their assigned group for the duration of the conversation.*	Allows in-depth feedback and discussion. All participants are partners in the research which allows for discussion from multiple points of view.	Requires professional or skilled facilitators. Small discussion sizes have the potential to leave out important perspectives. *Possible Solution: Consider holding multiple discussions to provide multiple opportunities for varied community participation.*	**Engagement in Practice:** Community Engagement for Climate Action Planning (Cleveland, OH, 2024) Using Participatory Approaches in Climate and Health Education: A Case Report from Rural India (Bhor Block of Pune, Western India, 2024)
World Café (US EPA, 2014)	Adaptable to the number of participants and a wide variety of community member	Facilitators/table hosts must be trained to foster inclusive and	**Guide:** Café to Go Guide- Archived Link

A meeting, symposium, or gathering where multiple conversations are facilitated at the same time with 3-5 participants per table/group. Participants change tables several times to discuss similar topics and questions with a variety of other participants.	perspectives. This approach offers an open discussion to obtain a high quantity of responses in a short period of time.	meaningful conversations. This strategy requires pre-planning, training, and intentional recruitment of participants. *Possible Solution: Provide training before the event to discuss facilitation and notetaking strategies.*	**Engagement in Practice:** [Building Community Resilience to Extreme Heat (Spokane, WA, 2024](#)) [Building a Smoke-Resilient Spokane (Spokane, WA, 2025)](#)
Online Discussion Board [(Canadian Institutes of Health Research, 2014)](#) *A virtual forum to post project information, allow community members to interact with research topics and ask questions, and provide a space for virtual discussion of relevant community issues.*	Flexible and accessible digital format for participant discussion and input. Participants can add discussion topics easily and this format allows community members to discuss together and receive important information from research teams.	Moderators are needed to make sure that the conversation stays on topic and still maintains a safe and inclusive environment. The format may exclude participants because of the high number of people contributing posts and the amount of information to navigate. Analysis may be difficult due to the quantity and variety of posts. *Possible Solution: Train multiple moderators to share duties and create a plan for analysis and data collection in advance.*	**Engagement in Practice:** [Report on Climate, Health & Well-being Online Discussion Forum (Australia, 2016)](#)- [Archived Link](#)
Charrettes [(Canadian Institutes of Health Research, 2014; US EPA, 2014)](#) *A hands-on workshop that fully involves participants in the planning and visioning process of a project. This process is best used on a concrete project like planning*	Has the potential to facilitate collaboration for high-visibility projects. Useful activity to design actionable solutions to address existing issues.	This is an intensive activity that can span several days. The process can be expensive and requires multiple facilitators, specialists, and experts. *Possible Solution: Be transparent about the time commitment and event format for participants and staff.*	**Guide:** [Charrettes Guidance](#)- [Archived Link](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [ReGenesis Project (Spartanburg, SC, n.d.)](#)

a park, improving a transit system, etc.			
Kitchen Table Meetings [(International Association for Public Participation, 2006; Mosavel et al., 2016)](#) *A casual meeting of community members hosted in a community member's home.*	Provides a more relaxed setting for dialogue and encourages connections between community members. Provides in-depth two-way communication.	Can be expensive, labor-intensive, and places a burden on the hosting community member. Not every community will feel comfortable with this personal format, and it is important to still maintain confidentiality and privacy despite a more informal setting. *Possible Solution: Discuss community norms before starting the meeting to ensure respect and protect privacy. Consider having multiple hosts to reduce the hosting burden.*	**Guide:** [Walpole Master Plan-Kitchen Conversation Guide](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [Health & Wellbeing Networks Project (Ulverstone, Tasmania, 2022)](#)
Open Houses [(International Association for Public Participation, 2006)](#) *An in-person or virtual event with multiple exhibits focusing on different issues. Community members can tour through the exhibits with a guide to collect questions, input, and inform ongoing decision-making.*	This strategy allows for a variety of conversation formats, including one-on-one or small group. Team members can work together to answer complicated questions.	Difficult to record multiple conversations and document important public opinions and input. Requires multiple staff members to foster conversation and answer questions. *Possible Solution: Consider asking participant permission to use voice recorders to capture conversations and plan in advance for staffing needs.*	**Engagement in Practice:** [Mouth of Duwamish-Online Open House (Seattle, WA, 2024)](#) [Multnomah County Climate Justice Open House (Oregon, 2024)](#)
Study Circles [(US EPA, 2014)](#) *A gathering of 8-15 people that meet several times to discuss an issue with the help of a moderator. There can be several groups discussing at*	Allows for a large number of people to be involved in conversations at the same time and place. Creates opportunities for diverse groups to decide on actions or important issues within the community.	This may not lead to concrete actions or clear next steps. Difficult format to reach subcommunities or ensure representative community participation.	**Guide:** [Organizing Study Circles Guidance-Archived Link](#)

the same time, and the discussions typically span two to three hours.		*Possible Solution: Consider hosting gatherings in frequented community spaces or easy-to-access locations via transit. Set goals for the gatherings so conversations share a clear purpose.*	
Deliberative Dialogue [(Canadian Institutes of Health Research, 2014)](#) *An intentionally planned dialogue with 8-20 community member participants, specifically to generate dialogue and make decisions about issues that are controversial. The goal of this dialogue is to establish common goals and interests.*	Effective community dialogue strategy when an issue is complex or there is uncertainty about the most effective solution. Creates a space for community members to identify common goals, issues, or beliefs for ongoing action.	Conflict may be difficult to work through, and participants may not reach any common ground. It may be difficult to recruit community members who represent important varying perspectives. *Possible Solution: Set community norms before dialogue begins, and bring those norms out for every conversation. Check in often during dialogue and take breaks when needed.*	**Guide:** [Deliberative Dialogue Facilitator Guide (Adaptable outside of a classroom)](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [Community Health Deliberative Dialogues (Wisconsin, 2023)](#)- [Archived Link](#)
Participatory Mapping [(Laituri et al., 2023)](#) *Partners come together to create a shared map that integrates multiple perspectives, alternative ways of knowing, and promotes cultural awareness.* *Note: This activity could also fall under "collaborate" depending on approach.*	Invites and captures community and context-specific knowledge that can be missed through other methods like surveys. Provides a visual tool that connects community networks to better understand needs and next steps. Depending on organization, community participants can guide the direction of discussion and integrate their lived experience into the research process.	Through multiple levels of planning, there is a chance that the desires of the researchers may be prioritized over community, causing gaps in collaboration and knowledge sharing. Accurately capturing a variety of language nuances and cultural concepts may be difficult in map form. *Possible Solution: Integrate community involvement in each step of the planning process. Create a space for community feedback and pivot to other methods if necessary.*	**Guide:** [Approaches to Participatory Mapping](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [Questioning the Practice of Participation (Multiple Case Study Locations, 2023)](#) [Using Asset Mapping to Engage Youth in Community-Based Participatory Research (Virginia, 2018)](#)

Photovoice [(Nykiforuk et al., 2011)](#) *Community members are recruited to work individually or in a group to take pictures within their neighborhoods/communities along with writing narratives to create a visual story of community assets, barriers, concerns, and solutions to inform multiple parts of the research process.*	Creative strategy to visualize everyday community member experiences. Flexibility to accommodate participant interests and community issues. Results can be integrated into innovative actions, policies, and decisions.	Time consuming process that requires ongoing participant motivation and attendance for success. Without an integrated plan for follow-up, the momentum and communication during the project may be lost and not result in concrete changes. *Possible Solution: Offer incentives and design regular group check ins and mentorship opportunities. Outline a follow-up plan that is adaptable to project results and recommendations.*	**Guide:** [Photovoice Toolkit (Montana, 2019)-Archived Link](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [C-HEAT Photovoice Project (Chelsea, MA, 2021)](#)

Collaborate: Partner with community members in all aspects of research decision-making to address complex issues and reach co-created solutions.

Example Activity	Strengths	Barriers	Resources
Long-term Advisory Committee (International Association for Public Participation, 2006) *A combined group of community members, partners, and researchers that meet regularly to discuss all aspects of a project and provide ongoing research oversight and decision-making support.*	Provides an opportunity for long-term community input on the research process from a variety of partners representing various interests and concerns. Community members can better understand project goals and issues in-depth and contribute to planning impactful solutions.	Requires careful and intentional recruitment to fairly represent a variety of community views. More structure is required to set clear goals, group agreements, and participation expectations. High time commitment from participants and high cost depending on ongoing meetings and number of participants for stipends or hourly pay. *Possible Solution: Conduct background research and reach out to colleagues for committee member recommendations. Set aside time to discuss and workshop goals and agreements in the first meeting.*	**Guide:** Community Health Advisory Board Guide- Archived Link **Engagement in Practice:** Heat Response Report (Philadelphia, 2022) We Act for Environmental Justice (New York, NY, 2017, Page 17-19)
Community Task Force (International Association for Public Participation, 2006) *A type of committee that brings together community members, partners, and researchers for a shorter period of time to provide guidance on a specific research*	Provides an opportunity for more intensive community involvement in identifying research priorities and direct community actions and solutions resulting from the research process. Allows for ongoing community feedback throughout the research process.	High time commitment from participants and high cost depending on ongoing meetings and number of participants for stipends or hourly pay. The shorter timeline may miss important community perspectives due to time constraints.	**Engagement in Practice:** Development and implementation of a Heat Alert and Response System in rural British Columbia (British Columbia, 2022)

project.		*Possible Solution: Through task force invitations, clearly outline pay, time commitment, and the timeline for the position.*	
Community Summits [(Futurewise et al., 2014)](#) *A larger event/s hosted over several days that resembles a conference with presentations, workshops, discussions, and community partners and researcher collaboration opportunities. Summits are often used to engage with specific community groups (ex. youth) and share project work, engagement efforts with the broader community, and create space for community research ownership and partnership building.*	Multi-day opportunity for community conversations and workshops with multiple facilitators and a large number of participants. Community partners can be a part of the planning, may act as facilitators, and may be a part of the entire engagement process.	Intensive planning is needed for summit success. The cost will also be high to accommodate facilitators and planning staff. Resource intensive process that may not be possible due to limitations in capacity. *Possible Solution: Consider pooling resources with multiple collaborating organizations to share funding, staffing, and planning needs.*	**Engagement in Practice:** [Extreme Heat Planning Summit: See Appendix B (Arizona, 2024)](#)- [Archived Link](#)
Participatory Consensus Workshop [(US EPA, 2014)](#) *A public meeting that allows community members to act as a deliberative panel about research design, CE, and implementation. The panel and audience may ask pre-prepared questions, and then the community member panel creates a position statement to share with the research team.*	Provides a chance for the community to drive decisions and create a position statement that reflects community ownership. Creates opportunity for researchers and community to form ongoing relationships and build trust in communities where it has historically been lost.	Can be time-intensive and production of deliverables in a short timeframe will require intensive effort from all participants. Multiple workshops may be required to capture broader community views and opinions. *Possible Solution: Consider hosting multiple workshops tailored to different communities and held in varied locations.*	**Guide:** [Consensus Workshop Guidance](#)- [Archived Link](#) **Engagement in Practice:** [Participatory Development and Implementation of a Community Research Workshop (Mississippi, 2009)](#)

Community Juries (US EPA, 2014) *A representative group of community members are randomly selected and invited to sit on a jury where they are presented with all the details of an issue, existing community views, and possible solutions. The jury is then given the opportunity to make decisions about the best next steps through a democratic process similar to a legal jury.* *Note: This activity could also fall under "empower" depending on approach.*	Useful for working through community member conflict to provide needed transparency. Provides a mechanism for public democracy and improves public participation because the decision of the jury is implemented by the agency or research group alongside the community.	Necessary to have a transparent and fair process for juror selection to ensure that selections best represent the community. Selected community members may not represent all community perspectives and there may be conflict when deciding who presents for different community interests. Can be resource and time-intensive to achieve desired outcomes. Decisions may not be enforceable or binding. *Possible Solution: Ensure that outreach to recruit jury participants starts early, is tailored to subcommunities, and be transparent about the time commitment and goals.*	**Guide:** Citizen Jury Guidance- Archived Link Center for New Democratic Processes-Citizen Juries **Engagement in Practice:** Grounded Citizens' Juries: A Tool for Health Activism? (Burnley, UK, 2004)-Archived Link
Group Model Building (Gerritsen et al., 2020; Hassan, 2025) *A method used for engaging a variety of partners in a collaborative process of identifying the drivers of complex issues related to a research question. Participants use mental models to create causal diagrams that depict the cause-effect relationships between different variables.*	Brings together a diverse set of partners with lived and professional experience to work through multiple exercises to address multiple levels of complex issues in an iterative process that can result in systems level solutions. Fosters consensus and improved communication that invites productive disagreement and negotiation.	Success is reliant on including a wide variety of partners and perspectives which may cause recruitment barriers. Can be time and resource intensive, requiring technical knowledge of causal loop diagrams, skilled facilitators, and typically, multiple community workshops. *Possible Solution: Build in training or educational materials into the workshop to provide background and context for participants.*	**Engagement in Practice:** The importance and Challenges of Addressing Non-communicable Diseases in the Setting of Climate Induced Disasters- Archived Link Community Group Model Building (New Zealand, 2020)

Co-Create/Empower: Place all final decision-making power in the hands of the community.

Example Activity	Strengths	Barriers	Resources
Community Coalitions (Rabinowitz, n.d.) *A partnership formed between organizations, community members, and/ or researchers who have a shared interest or goal related to a research question. Coalitions generally work on long-term projects and often result in greater community empowerment and long-lasting change.*	Can bring together a variety of individuals, organizations, and resources into one group to implement community-wide initiatives and address shared issues. Builds capacity and breaks down communication barriers by pooling knowledge, resources, and creating important alliances and working relationships for successful long-term research relationships.	Potential for conflict over sharing work and funding. Convincing individuals and organizations to work together may pose difficulties if there is a history of difficult collaboration. It is important to create an ongoing participatory environment to prevent uneven power structures. (i.e. valuing the opinions of individuals with higher degrees over community members with lived experience). *Possible Solution:* Consider integrating a coordinator position to streamline communication and organization tasks between multiple groups.	**Guide:** Community Coalition Guidance-Archived Link **Engagement in Practice:** Lived Experience Coalition (Seattle, WA) Our Power Richmond (Richmond, CA, 2017, Page 23-25)
Participatory Budgeting (Rezaie, 2024) *A multi-stage process where community members may deliberate and then democratically vote on the allocation and priorities of research funds for use in the local community. Community members also monitor the ongoing budget and participate in each*	Offers an opportunity for community member involvement and empowerment in processes that have been previously exclusive and inequitable. Serves as an activity for mutual learning and a space for conversation between multiple sub-communities. Has the potential to lead to direct local policy changes that favor allocation of	The city or local government must be willing and set up for a high level of community engagement, and government officials must be dedicated to forming relationships and sharing power. Local governments may choose only to allocate a limited amount of funding for participatory budgeting, which may limit community power	**Engagement in Practice:** Participatory Budgeting and Equity in Rhode Island (Rhode Island, 2023) Contributions of Participatory Budgeting to Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Multiple Location Case Studies, 2020)-Archived Link

stage of the research process to ensure activities align with community needs and lived experience.	resources to lower resourced places in the community.	and decision-making. *Possible solution: Allow for participation in person and virtually for discussions and voting. Provide training for government officials and community members to better understand the process and realistic outcomes.*	

Research to Practice Template

[The Research-to-Practice (R2P) Plan Template](), designed by the REACH CEC, facilitates the effective translation of climate and health adaptation research into practice to positively impact the target audience(s). This document does not help teams to plan research projects, but rather, to put the research into action once the project has concluded.

The R2P Template is one piece of a larger Community Engagement Toolkit. The Toolkit supports the broader planning, data collection, and implementation phases of research, ensuring the meaningful and equitable participation of the community throughout all stages of the project. It can be used in tandem with the R2P Template.

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