



***Strengthening Public Participation on
Environmental Management in
Indonesia:
Key Messages and Learning Points***

11 July 2012

Jakarta, Indonesia

- The EPA Public Participation Guide can be used to help develop, update, or enhance new or existing public participation plans and processes.
 - Numerous tools and links to relevant resources
 - Need for translation and contextualization
 - Request for case studies and updates



PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION
GUIDE

Engage the public. Preserve the planet.

- There is a need to reach out beyond the environmental ministries to other agencies at the national, state, and local level to ensure effective public engagement.
- There is also a need a to reach out to other sectors (e.g. media, private sector, academia, NGOs) to leverage their strengths in ensuring effective communication and technical assessments.

- At the local level, there is a need to empower and partner with community leaders to increase the reach of public participation programs, particularly with indigenous populations
- Given the growing trend of more robust ICT across Asia, innovative communication methods (e.g. social media) provide a new opportunity to broaden the reach of public participation programs.

- Agencies need to dedicate resources (e.g. funding and staff) to ensure sustained public participation and improved transparency in existing programs.

- Public participation is particularly critical in the EIA process at all stages.
- Public participation for EIAs goes beyond a requirement to an opportunity to listen to the affected population and prevent future conflict and unnecessary costs.

- Given the similarities in public participation challenges in countries across Asia, continuing the dialogue with partners on best practices could strengthen country program and environmental policies.
- Future discussions on effective public participation in other areas of work (e.g. environmental policy making, citizen enforcement) could strengthen environmental governance.