

Community Participation in Practice

Community Participation in Practice (CPIP) is an award-winning suite of practical advisory resources designed to assist people or organisations working with communities and staff in planning and design work. The suite draws on the experience of Australian and international specialists who have worked closely with communities and professionals in implementing successful community participation processes. The five publications are designed to assist in planning and conducting creative and effective community participation processes and are published by the [Institute for Sustainability and Technology Policy](#) at Murdoch University.

The suite was developed in response to demand for concise, up-to-date information for practitioners, educators and students. The publications will be invaluable for:

- Design, planning and consultation professionals;
- Any person involved in working with communities;
- Developers, governments and proponents involved in planning and design projects;
- Community groups working in community development, planning and design; and/or
- Students and educators in courses in architecture, planning, design, urban design, community development, social work, social administration and related disciplines.

The publications can be ordered either as a complete package or as separate items by using the link provided below.

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The Suite consists of five books.

- *A Practical Guide*
- *The Workshop Checklist*
- *The Casebook*
- *The Community Participation Handbook*
- *New Directions*

A Practical Guide (1997)

By Wendy Sarkissian, Andrea Cook and Kelvin Walsh

A Practical Guide (1997) gives specific guidance on how to design and implement a wide range of innovative participatory processes. It contains detailed descriptions of processes pioneered in Australia, as well as leading-edge approaches from overseas. Techniques used in the design of the case studies described in the Casebook and illustrated by the Video are explained. Contents of the Guide include: meetings and workshops, search conferences, accountability groups, exhibitions, displays, open houses and SpeakOuts, public information, advertising and letterboxing, specific techniques within meetings and techniques for working with children.

The authors combine their years of experience with an impressive reference list that can assist those readers interested in additional descriptions or analyses. The Guide is most useful when it bridges the gaps between the current assumptions of planning practitioners and the data they need to hold truly effective public participatory sessions. Planning professionals should consider adding the Guide to their libraries as an important reference on community participation.

American Planning Association Journal, 1999.

Workshop Checklist (2nd Edition, 2000)

By Wendy Sarkissian, Andrea Cook and Kelvin Walsh

The Workshop Checklist (Second Edition, 2000) is a systematic 'how-to-do-it' tool for the organisers of a community participation process or project. It is an updated second edition of the highly successful 1994 publication. It has been completely re-designed, with an easy-to-use format, new illustrations, updated bibliography and an Introduction by Wendy Sarkissian. This 'hands-on' manual was developed to assist in the design and facilitation of community participation processes, particularly public meetings, forums and workshops.

A step by step list of things to do when planning a community workshop to discuss and review planning issues. It gives suggestions on how to present the issues to elicit the information with agreement of the community on these matters. The gathering of information and views from all, including children and adults, and the integration of such information into the views of the wider community may be seen to be innovative steps in planning.

Australian Institute of Urban Studies (WA), 1996.

Casebook (1994)

By Wendy Sarkissian and Kelvin Walsh

The Casebook (1994) provides vivid illustrations and analysis of cases of original, community participation projects undertaken in Australia. It is a collection of case studies of award-winning Australian participation projects undertaken in Adelaide, Melbourne and the Northern Territory. In particular, the book examines participatory processes in existing residential neighbourhoods, community development and participation in urban, rural and remote locations, redevelopment in existing town centres and role plays in search conferences.

Contains the theoretical side of planning. It discusses such definitions of 'community' and 'public', 'participation' and 'consultation' and so on. It details 'Eleven Warnings to New Players' so that ugly situations may be avoided by planners. Specific cases are discussed and the methods by which those situations were dealt with, give the

reader some insight as to how to avoid some of the pitfalls encountered in planning.
Australian Institute of Urban Studies (WA), 1996.

The Community Participation Handbook: Resources for Public Involvement in the Planning Process

(2nd Edition, 1994)

Edited by Wendy Sarkissian and Donald Perlgut with Elaine Ballard and Kelvin Walsh

The Handbook (Second Edition, 1994) presents the theory of participatory processes and an analysis of suitable methods and techniques for different situations. It is a revised and updated edition of a collection, originally published in 1986. Authors of the articles include Professor Leonie Sandercock, Dr Tony Gibson (United Kingdom participatory design specialist), Dr Wendy Sarkissian, Don Perlgut, the Centre for Conflict Resolution and the Australian Bureau of Transport Economics. The Handbook contains material by many practitioners in Australia and overseas, as well as theoretical background to participation.

Details techniques and methods that may be used when gathering information in planning. The differences and usefulness of these approaches are discussed. They provide the planner with some insight as to the kind of information that may be gained from their use. Case studies are provided to flesh out the techniques discussed....

Australian Institute of Urban Studies (WA), 1996.

A great deal of helpful and practical information.
Local Government Bulletin, 1988.

New Directions (2002)

By Wendy Sarkissian, Angela Hirst and Beauford Stenberg with Steph Walton

New Directions (2002) outlines a variety of emerging participatory techniques and approaches. It builds on previous publications and seeks to include perspectives of other theorists and practitioners, notably Dr Lyn Carson. It is designed to expand on our direct experience, approaches we have tried, as well as a review of participatory practice in Australia and overseas. It received the 2002 Brannock Award for Excellence in Planning Scholarship from the Planning Institute of Australia, Queensland Division. The current book particularly builds on *A Practical Guide* (1997), which focused on cutting-edge approaches to participatory planning current at the time of writing

Awards

A Practical Guide

- Certificate of Merit, Royal Australian Planning Institute National Awards, 1998; and
- Special Commendation, Royal Australian Planning Institute Awards for Excellence, Western Australian Division, 1997.

The Checklist, Casebook, Handbook and New Directions

- Award for Excellence, Planning Institute Australia Awards for Excellence, Queensland Division, 2002
- Certificate of Merit, Royal Australian Planning Institute National Awards for Excellence, 1996
- Award for Excellence, Royal Australian Planning Institute Awards for Excellence, Western Australian Division, 1995
- Honourable Mention, Royal Australian Planning Institute Awards for Excellence, Victorian Division, 1995.

To order the books

Institute for Sustainability and Technology Policy (ISTP) is the publisher and distributor of the CPIP books.

For information or to order one or more resources from the suite, please contact ISTP at : ISTP, Murdoch University, Murdoch, Western Australia, 6150, Australia

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