



Disadvantaged Community Engagement: A Review

Melissa L. Sparks, MPP
California Department of Water Resources
Integrated Regional Water Management
Financial Assistance Branch

1



DAC Engagement in IRWM

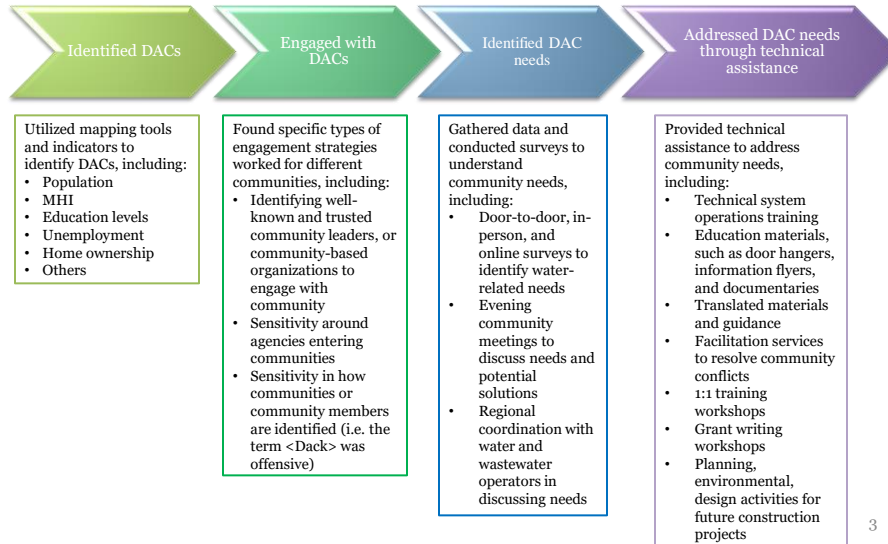
- Prop. 84 interregional funding supported 7 DAC pilot projects
- Program goal: To identify and engage DACs in meaningful participation in the IRWM process and to conduct water-related needs assessment
- Total DAC Pilot Program – \$2.749M

Region	Award Amount
North Coast	\$500,000
Kings Basin	\$500,000
Greater Los Angeles	\$500,000
Coachella	\$500,000
Imperial	\$153,000
Santa Cruz	\$100,000
Inyo-Mono	\$496,000
TOTAL	\$2,749,000



2

DAC Pilot Study Program Activities



DAC Pilot Program Conclusions

- Continued need for DAC engagement and outreach
- Use trusted community leaders, CBOs, or NGOs to engage
- Other DAC indicators or criteria
- Use a wide variety of technical assistance approaches





DAC Pilot Program Conclusions, cont.

- IRWM regions will be stronger through partnerships
- Disadvantaged community challenges are recognized by the State
- The investment of IRWM is to engage all stakeholders and benefit all communities
- Social (human) networks are resilient and are built by collaborations like IRWM



5



DWR IRWM DAC Efforts Timeline

Proposition 84



Proposition 1



6

Looking Ahead – DACI RFP

- Currently draft, final anticipated in June
- Ensure the involvement of disadvantaged communities (DACs), economically distressed areas (EDAs), or underrepresented communities in IRWM planning efforts
- Multiple types of eligible activities
 - Examples – technical assistance, needs assessment, engagement efforts, project development , education
 - Full List of Activities See Table 3 Draft DACI RFP

7



DWR Resources

DAC Involvement Website:

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/p1_dac_involvement.cfm

DRAFT DAC Involvement RFP:

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/docs/p1DACinvolvement/2016Prop1IRWM_DACI_RFP_PublicReviewDraft.pdf

DAC Mapping Tool:

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/resources_dac.cfm

EDA Instructions:

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/docs/Resources/EDA/Final_Proposition%201_Economically%20Distressed%20Area%20Instructions.pdf

EDA Mapping Tool:

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/resources_eda.cfm

DWR Stakeholder Capacity Building Workshop Materials:

<http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/partnership/>

DWR IRWM Catalog of Resources (from the Capacity Building Workshop):

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/partnership/doc/IRWM%20Catalog%20of%20Resource_FIN_AL.pdf

8



Thank you

Contact:

Melissa Sparks

melissa.sparks@water.ca.gov

(916) 651-9221