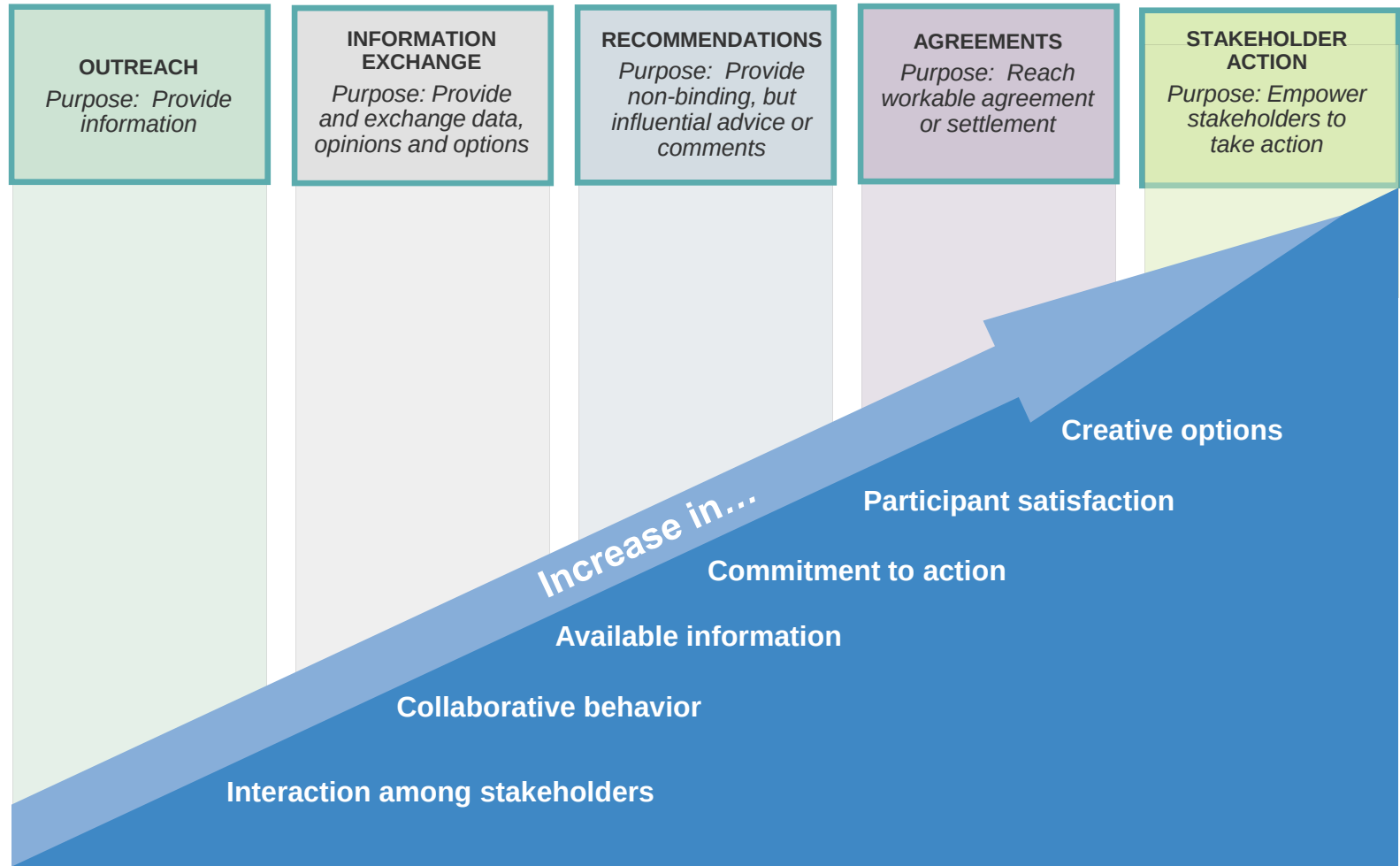


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

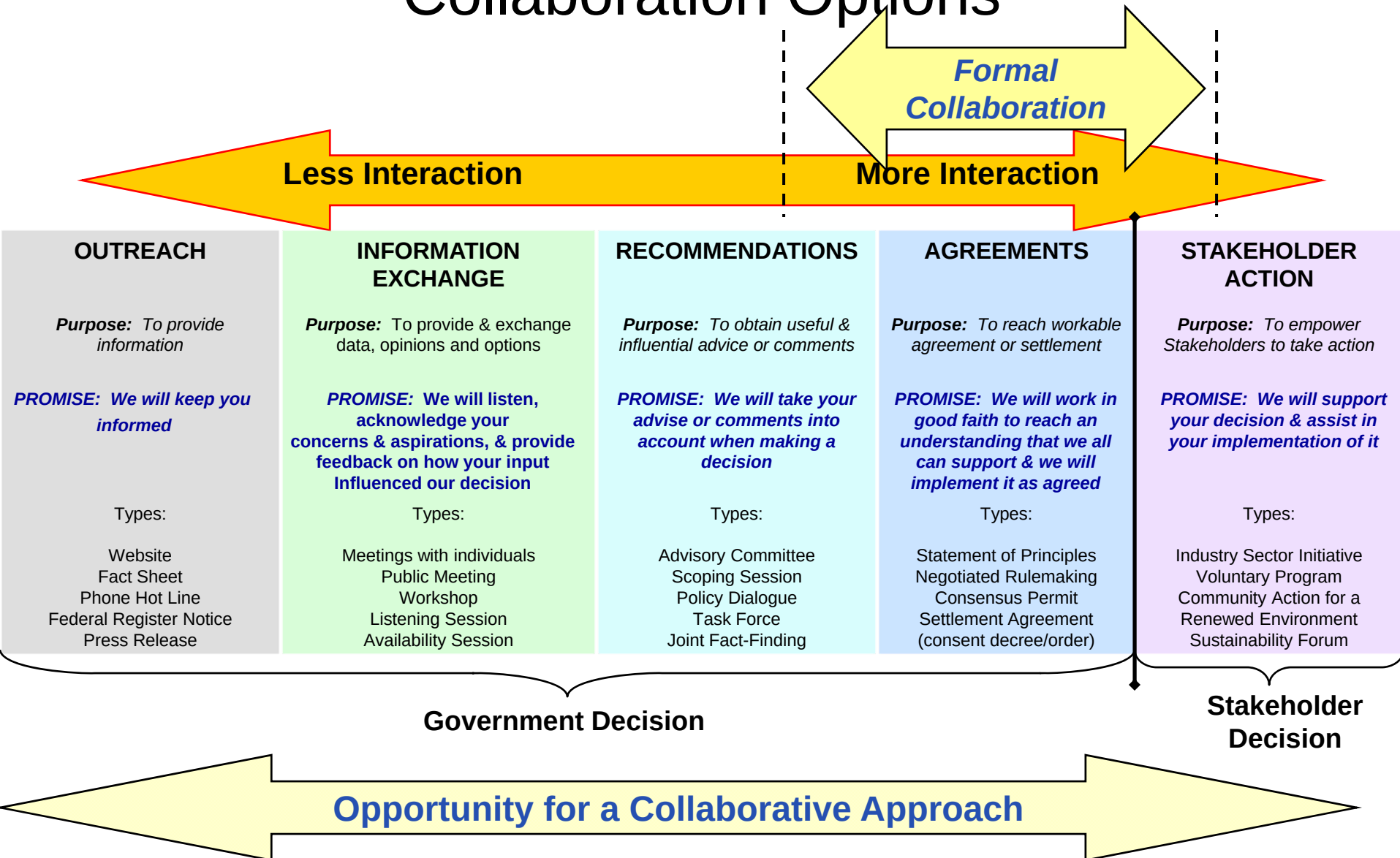
Public Involvement Spectrum:

A Range of Possible Processes





EPA's Model of Public Involvement and Collaboration Options





Outreach

- One-way transfer of information from EPA to the public as a whole
- Provides transparency about data, options, schedules and decisions
- Increases stakeholder knowledge of EPA programs and issues
- Reduces misinformation and misunderstanding
- Complies with legal notice requirements
- Major component of all other public involvement processes
- Can be implemented quickly

OUTREACH

Purpose:

Provide information

Methods:

Website

Fact Sheet

Press Release

Federal Register Notice



Information Exchange

- Two-way transfer of information
- Open invitation to all or focused on particular stakeholders
- Obtain input from a wide range of interested parties
- Stakeholders can educate each other in addition to EPA
- Compile a knowledge base of the public's interests, ideas and needs
- Better understand and consider issues related to a particular decision
- Not intended to build consensus or agreement

INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Purpose:

Provide and exchange data, opinions and options

Methods:

Meetings with individuals
Public meetings
Workshops
Listening sessions
Availability sessions



Recommendations

- EPA interaction with stakeholder groups rather than general public
- Develop individual or group advice for EPA to consider when taking action
- Integrate technical or scientific information for improved decisions
- Reach understanding on data needs and/or policy options prior to EPA decision making
- Stimulate joint thinking to solve persistent problems
- Work through stakeholder concerns while reserving decision making authority

RECOMMENDATIONS

Purpose:

Provide non-binding but influential advice or comments

Methods:

Advisory committees
Scoping sessions
Policy dialogues
Task force
Joint fact finding



Agreements

- EPA and each stakeholder group commit to a decision on EPA action
- Involve stakeholders in developing creative solutions that they can “live with”
- Coordinate multiple agencies/levels of government in decision making to improve implementation
- Bring closure to decisions on proposals or issues where buy-in is needed from other parties
- Work out a mutually acceptable approach with parties who have the power to block or further implementation
- Achieve high degree of compliance by affected parties

AGREEMENTS

Purpose:

Reach workable agreement or settlement

Methods:

Negotiated rulemaking
Consensus permit
Settlement agreement
Consent Order
Statement of principles



Stakeholder Action

- Regulation might not be the only or most appropriate solution
- Involve stakeholders in developing creative solutions that they will implement
- EPA provides leadership, resources and energy in solving a problem that it alone cannot solve.
- Harness the energies of multiple parties to deal with different parts of the problem
- Achieve voluntary compliance by affected parties

STAKEHOLDER ACTION

Purpose:

Empower stakeholders to take action

Methods:

Industry Sector Initiatives
Voluntary Programs
Watershed Collaboratives