



9TH WORLD WATER
FORUM | DAKAR 2021



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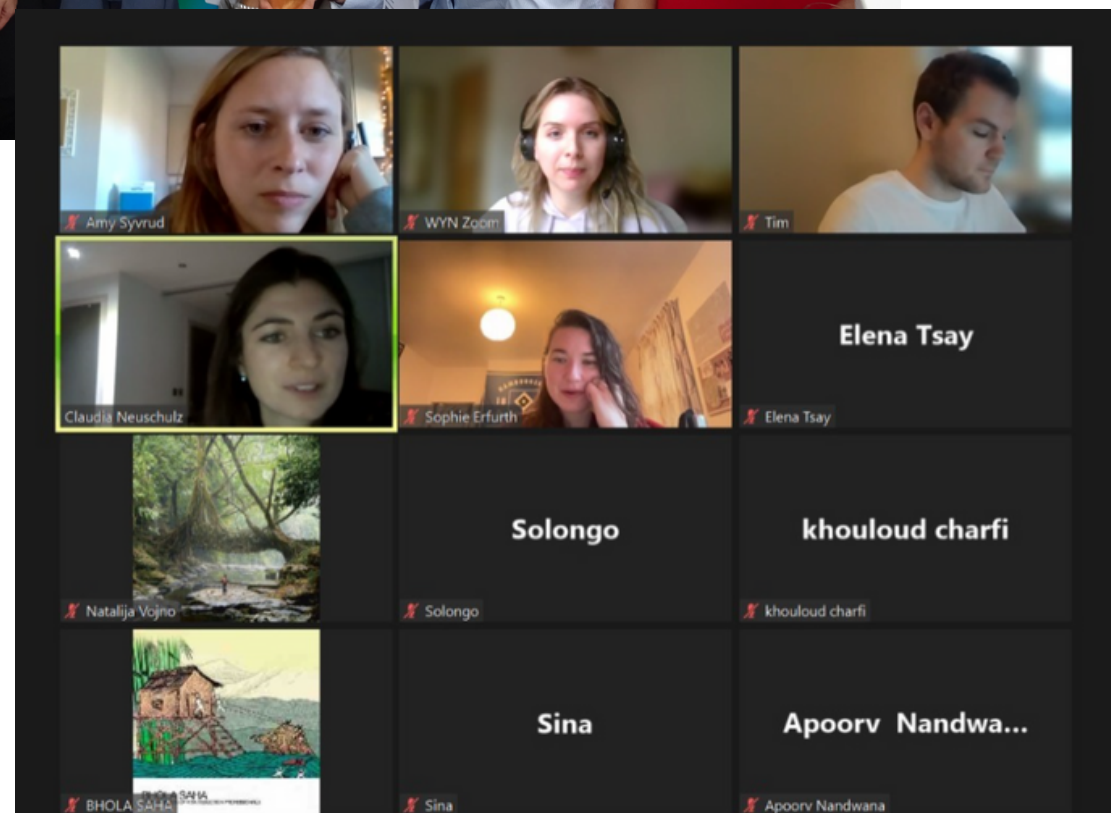
SESSION 3A4 "STRENGTHENING KNOWLEDGE FOR INFORMATION AND DECISION MAKING"

EXPLORING THE CONDITIONS FOR A SUCCESSFUL DSS TOWARDS BETTER INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



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Water Youth Network (WYN)



Established in 2012 as a general network by and for young people to 'Inform, Engage and Empower' young people around the world. The organization helps young people to engage in the local, regional and global management of water. One of the themes is transboundary water cooperation. The organization engages in global platforms, including the UN Major Group of Children and Youth and the UNECE Water Convention.



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Questions that we want to address

- Why do we need complete, accessible, and usable data for DSS;
- Why data sharing and scientific evidence are essential to DSS;
- Why youth participation can be an important tool to improve DSS;



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Decision Support System (DSS)

- Essential tool to manage and govern water resources;
- Integrate different data related to water resources (surface and groundwater);
- Provide relevant data and information to interested parties;
- Potential tool in preventing conflicts and promoting cooperation;
- Its development and implementation are a challenge;
 - Complex;
 - Lack of financial resources and institutional knowledge exchange;
 - Lack technical and institutional capabilities;
 - Asymmetric information;

Challenges X Opportunities

- Development process
- Public participation and engagement of different stakeholders
- Training and cooperation
- Not only a technical and economic model
 - GIS and visualization tools
 - Costs and effects
 - Different policies and management alternatives
- Account for other factors beyond benefit X cost (quantitative analysis)
- 2030 Agenda and SDGs
 - holistic and cross-disciplinary approaches

Youth Engagement in DSS

- Major subset of communities
- New paradigm for decision-making in relation to water resources
 - powerful tool to develop their capacity to shape their environment
 - lack of mechanisms in the law to promote this participation
 - Regressive Normative Framing
 - no formalized approaches to ensure this is done properly
 - frequently considered an added risk rather than an added value.
- Strong youth-led contributions on surveillance, monitoring, planning, research, among others.
 - Meaningful Youth Engagement



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Youth Engagement in DSS

Youth Engagement Continuum of Decision-Making

Young people are engaged in activities that **INFORM** the planning, design, delivery, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of programs and practices designed by youth.

Young people are engaged in activities that **INFLUENCE** the development and the implementation policies, programs, and practices that address problems in their community.


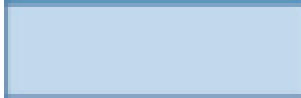
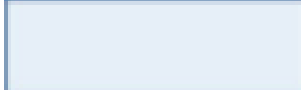
Young people are **MAKING DECISIONS** about policy issues, programs, and practices that affect their lives, their peers, and their communities.

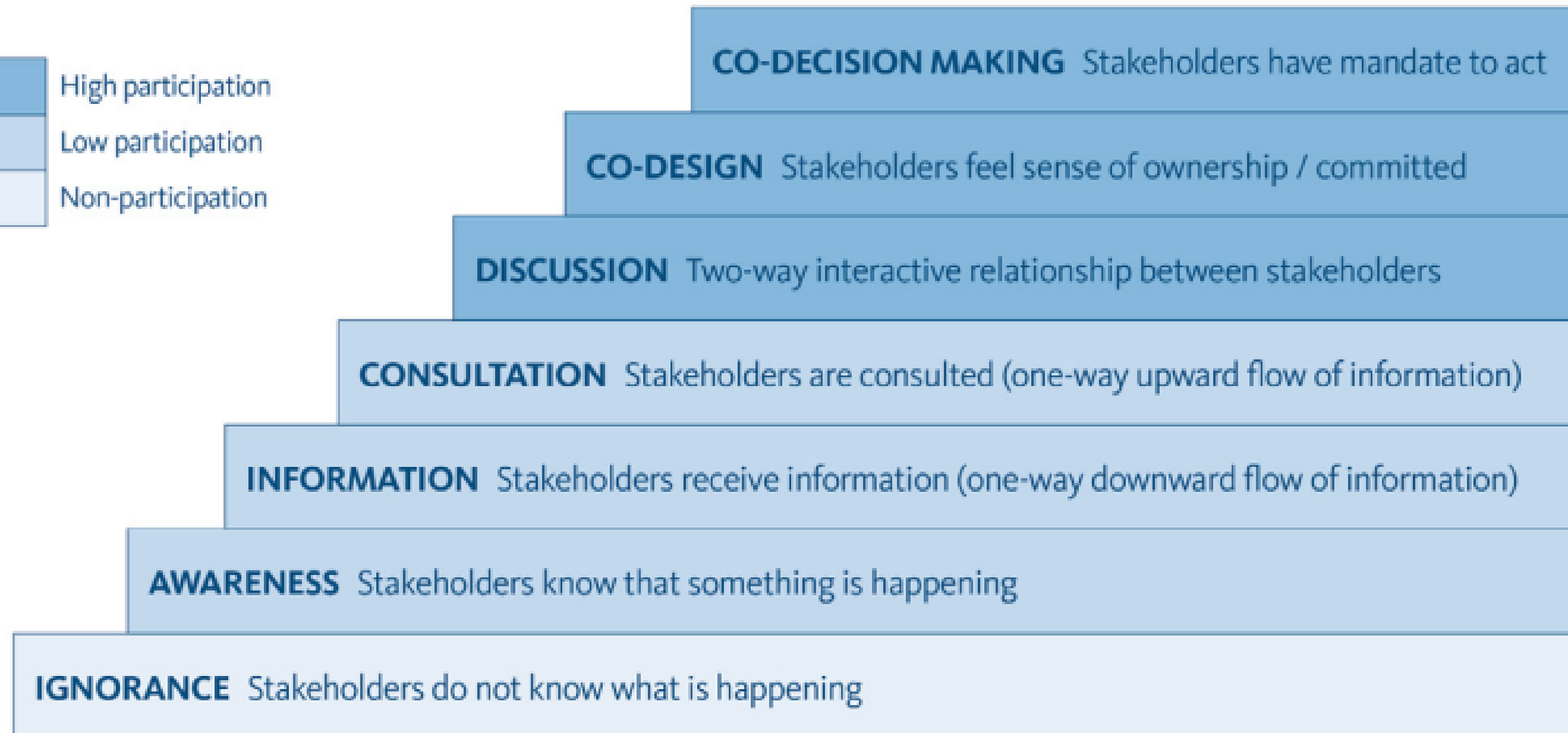
Source: Maryland Governor's Office for Children and the Children's Cabinet



Youth Engagement in DSS

LEGEND

	High participation
	Low participation
	Non-participation





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