





## THE ROLE OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT IN CHANGE MANAGEMENT

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- Introducing a new project = CHANGE
- Up to 80% of change efforts FAIL





- Poor stakeholder engagement
- Lack of communication / limited information
- Change is enforced
- No opportunity for stakeholders to influence change
- No compelling case for change
- Biased decision making
- Mismatch between expectations and reality
- Unconvincing change leaders
- Inherent human resistance to change
- Failure to understand that **people are at the heart of change**, and people are emotional more than logical

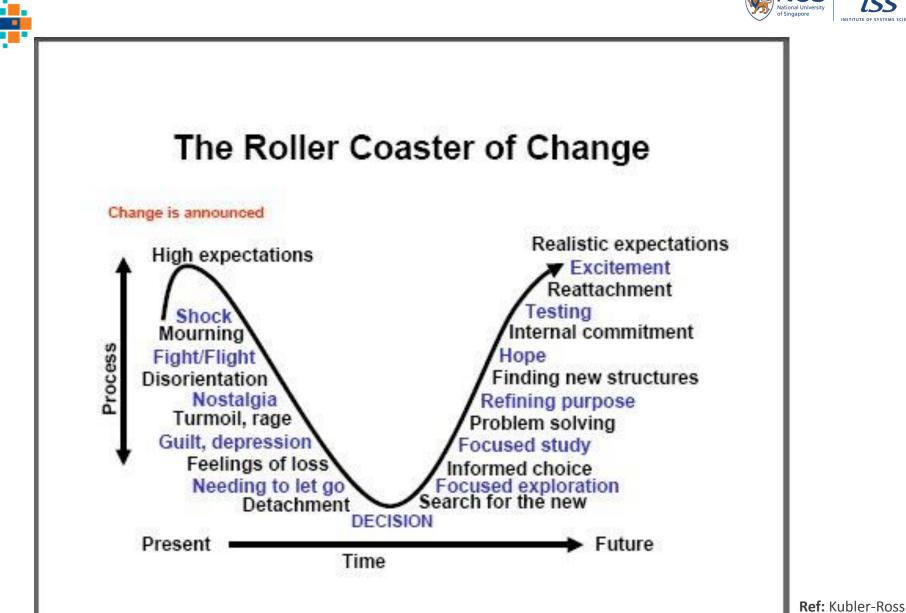
### Why people resist change?



- Personal loss (status, authority, financial)
- Risks & losses appear to outweigh benefits
- Lack of impact equity amongst stakeholders
- Disruption to routine
- Fear of the unknown
- Nostalgia
- Low trust in management competence
- Temporary fad
- Lack of ability to accommodate change
- Misunderstanding re: need for change
- Lack of consultation
- Inadequate communication

leaving us feeling unimportant









- Understanding who your stakeholders are
- Understanding your stakeholders' motivations
- Involving (& empowering!) your stakeholders
- Communicating with your stakeholders

allows you to reduce resistance, improve solutions, generate more successful outcomes





## ESSENTIALS OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

NUS-ISS/stakeholder engagement / SPMI





- Who stands to be affected by your activities
  - Residents, service users
  - Staff, partners and service providers
- Who may be able to influence your activities
  - Decision makers
  - Regulatory agencies
  - Project partners
  - Investors or funders
  - Politicians
- Who may have an interest in your activities
  - Property developers / investors
  - Others using the space
  - Interest groups
  - Media



### Why engage stakeholders?

#### **Strategic Considerations**

- Increased Government move towards engaging with citizens
  & adoption of stakeholder-centric approaches
- Using stakeholder expertise for more sustainable outcomes
- Building stakeholder champions beyond the 'usual suspects' for improved credibility & broader resonance
- Integrated cross-organisational approaches
- Enhanced transparency / open data





#### **Emerging Threats**

- Collective journalism
- An increasingly interested, self-informed, and demanding public growing expectations
- Emergence of the 'stakeholder society'
- Urban expansion brings development to sensitive areas





#### **Project Motivations**

- To minimise **Risks** 
  - Rejection / Objection
  - Wasted Effort, Resources
  - Disillusionment...affects potential success of future initiatives
  - Reputation
- To take advantage of Benefits & Opportunities
  - Prioritise engagement resources
  - Identify strong value proposition
  - Collaborative problem solving and delivery
  - Create sustainable impacts



# Risks of Engaging?

- it will cost more **money**
- it will slow the project down (which will cost more **money**)
- the public will ask for impracticable solutions (which would cost more money)
- it won't make a difference

(which will be a waste of **money**)

 it will open us up to scrutiny, criticism, and reputation damage

(which could result in us losing **money**)

we are the experts – the public needs to trust us

### Hentifying Your Stakeholders



- Who stands to be most impacted by your activities?
- Who makes decisions about your project?
- Who is involved in influencing decisions about your project?
- Who needs to know about your activities?
- Who may have an interest in what you are doing?
- Are there any hidden stakeholders?





interest	impact	influence
How interested is the stakeholder in your project?	How much does the project influence the stakeholder?	How much influence does the stakeholder have over the project?
High / Medium / Low	High / Medium / Low	High / Medium / Low



Keep Satisfied Engage & consult over areas of interest

Keep Involved Involve them in development, decision making, governance

Keep In Mind Let them know what's going on Keep Informed Build on their interest to create project champions

level of interest / degree of impact





interest	impact	influence	importance	opportunities	risks
How interested is the stakeholder in your project?	How much does the project influence the stakeholder?	How much influence does the stakeholder have over the project?	What matters most to the stakeholder?	How could the stakeholder positively contribute to the project?	How might the stakeholder disrupt the project?
High / Medium / Low	High / Medium / Low	High / Medium / Low	e.g. working conditions for staff, preserving wildlife or heritage sites, local employment	e.g. champion the project to other stakeholders, training, expert knowledge	e.g. protest, refuse to participate, reject proposals

## Create your engagement strategy



interest	impact	influence	importance	opportunities	risks	strategy
How interested is the stakeholde r in your project?	How much does the project influence the stakehold er?	How much influence does the stakehold er have over the project?	What matters most to the stakeholder?	How could the stakeholder positively contribute to the project?	How might the stakehol der disrupt the project?	How best to engage the stakeholder?
High / Medium / Low	High / Medium / Low	High / Medium / Low	e.g. providing respite for carers, working conditions for staff	e.g. champion to staff, training	e.g. protest, refuse to participa te	e.g. face-to- face meeting followed by monthly briefings, emails, drop-in session





## COMMUNICATING WITH STAKEHOLDERS

NUS-ISS/stakeholder engagement / SPMI





- We understand that we have a range of stakeholders with different engagement needs
- We have identified the issues that matter to our key stakeholders
- Now we can tailor our communications for best effect





- All people are different...
- And, we are designed to filter out background `noise'
- Every project has different engagement and communications needs
- Every project phase is likely to require a different approach
- Therefore communications must be tailored to stand out to the audience we want to reach



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**Our veterans** 

Mary Dejevsky







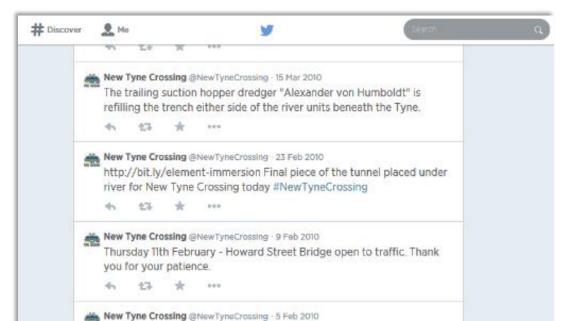








- Notification
  - One-way information flow
  - > **Aim**: to keep people informed
  - > **Benefits**: efficient, avoids stakeholder burnout
  - **Risks**: doesn't encourage people to get involved
  - Forms: Leaflets, letters, email bulletins, social media updates, posters, newsletters, exhibitions







- Engagement
  - > Two-way information exchange
  - Aim: to keep people informed and respond to their feedback
  - Benefits: gives people a voice, helps people feel valued, helps build trust, reduces misunderstandings
  - **Risks**: requires more effort & resources, failing to respond in a timely & consistent manner can damage trust and credibility
  - Forms: Helpline, emails, meetings, staffed displays, drop-in sessions



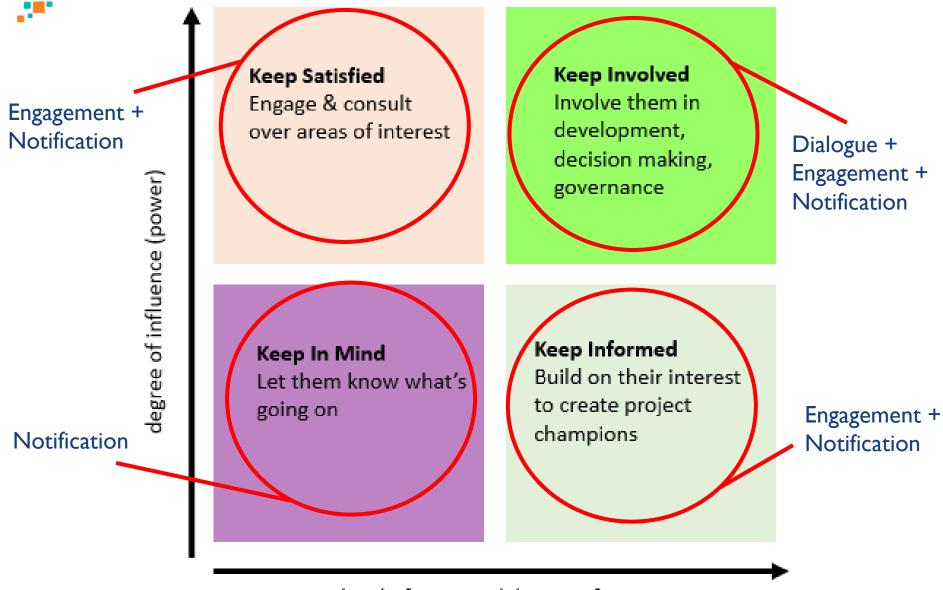




- Dialogue
  - > Multiple exchange of information
  - > **Aim**: use stakeholder inputs to inform decision making
  - Benefits: values stakeholder expertise, builds buy-in, can produce more sustainable successful outcomes
  - **Risks**: requires intensive effort, failing to genuinely consider inputs can destroy trust and credibility, difficult to balance all inputs
  - Forms: idea generation workshops, stakeholder forums, masterplanning events, participatory design







level of interest / degree of impact





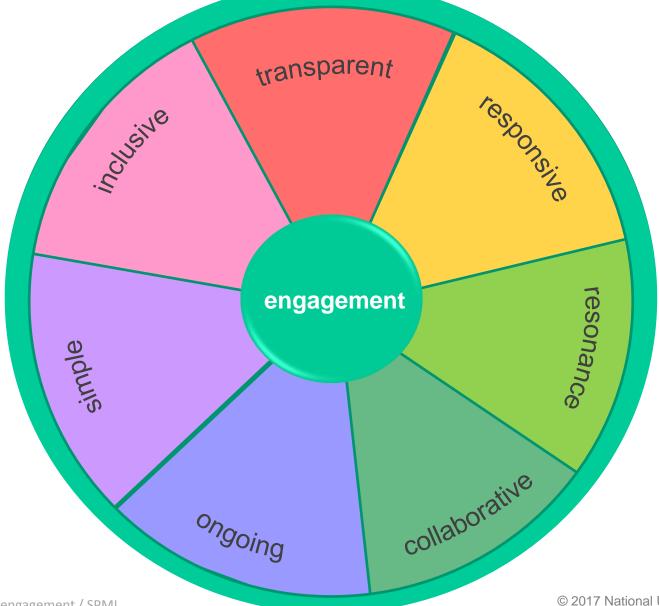
- People assess risks (such as the risks associated with change, or introduction of a new project) according to many variables other than just logical evaluation of facts
- Outrage plays a major role in the way that people perceive risks
- Outrage factors include:
  - Trust
  - Control
  - Voluntariness
  - Dread
  - Familiarity
- Risk communication allows you to communicate with stakeholders in situations of high concern (outrage) and low risk (even where perceptions of risk are high)



#### Essentials of Risk Communication

- The primary goal of risk communication is to build **trust** and credibility
- Only then can we convey information
- In situations of high concern, people will not accept information from those they do not trust
- Furthermore, when we are upset our ability to absorb information is reduced

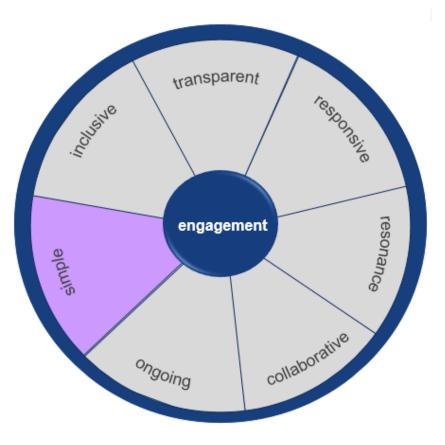




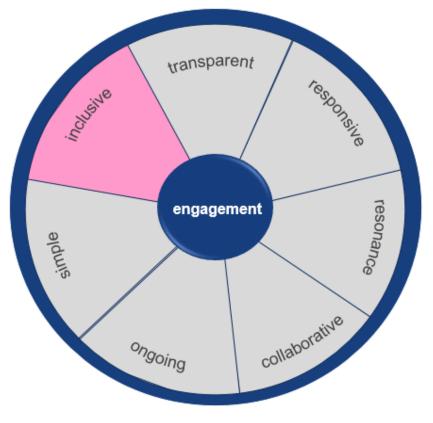
NUS-ISS/stakeholder engagement / SPMI



- Keep it **Simple**:
  - Be clear about how people can be engaged and what they need to know
  - Remove barriers to engagement
  - Make sure your engagement processes are not complicated
  - Use language that is easy to understand



- Be Inclusive:
  - Identify your stakeholders
  - Provide opportunities for all of your stakeholders to be engaged

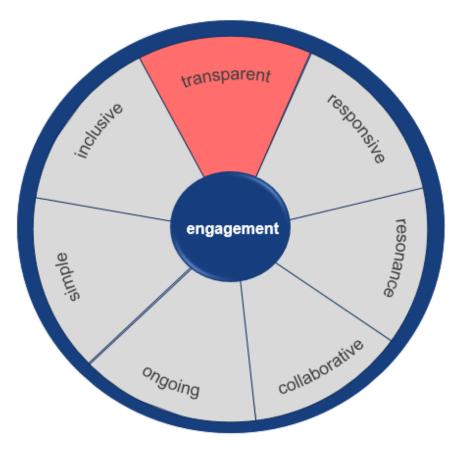








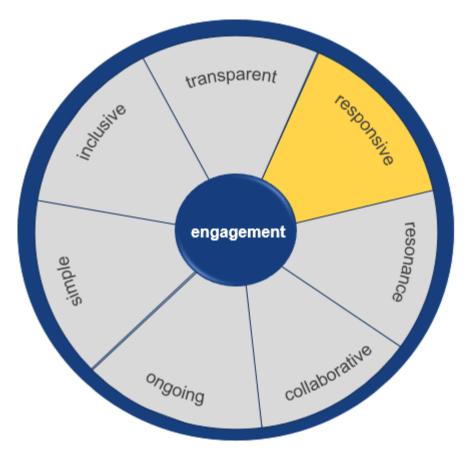
- Be Transparent:
  - Explain the extent to which people can influence decisions
  - Make information available to enable them to participate meaningfully





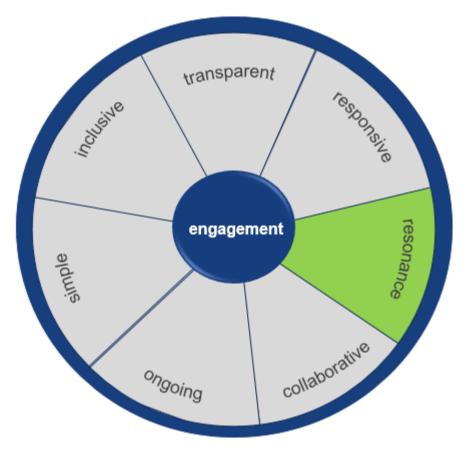


- Be **Responsive** :
  - Acknowledge and address peoples' concerns
  - Respond to peoples' feedback by explaining how you have taken on board their comments



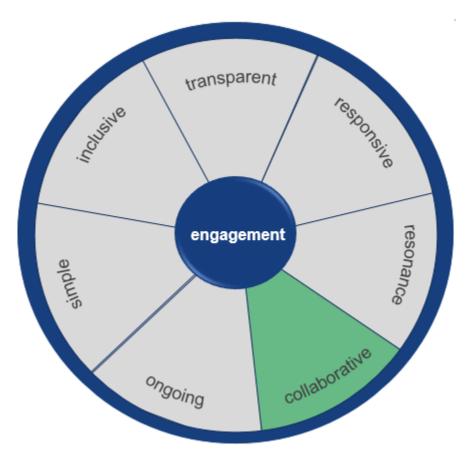


- Create **Resonance**:
  - Find out what matters to your stakeholders
  - Tailor information to strike a chord with them





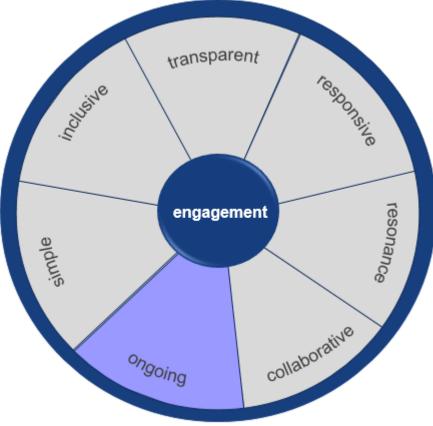
- Be **Collaborative** :
  - Recognise the expert inputs your stakeholders can offer
  - Identify aspects of your project or activities that stakeholders can co-create
    - empowerment
  - Invite them to contribute to your engagement plan







- Ensure it's **Ongoing**:
  - Build trust through ongoing engagement
  - Engagement activity should be sustained for the lifetime of the project / organisation
  - Aim for consistency







- Take time to understand your stakeholders and context don't try to solve everything at the outset
- Recognise that your users are experts at being your users draw upon that expertise
- When you actively involve your stakeholders, they are more likely to share ownership – of successes and challenges
- The earlier you involve people the better the **trust** relationship and the more opportunities to co-create solutions



# Turning concerns into wins

- A stakeholder-centric approach can save your project **money**
- it can keep the project to schedule by minimising protests and resistance

(which will stop you losing **money**)

• it can identify innovative solutions to project challenges by drawing upon diverse inputs and opening up new avenues

(which could save you **money**)

• it can make a tangible difference to project delivery and outcomes, and sustainability

(which will be **money** well spent)

 it can open the project up to scrutiny driving higher standards of delivery, new angles of support, & improved reputation

(which could increase potential to make **money**)

 it can result in far greater **trust**, and enhanced credibility (which will help your next project hit the ground running, saving you **money**!)

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# **THANK YOU!**

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