Stakeholder Mapping

Disaster Risk Financing & Insurance Program

SUPPORTED BY WORLD BANK GROUP
Who are your stakeholders?

When you hear the word stakeholder, what comes to your mind? Your colleagues? Your boss? The public? The World Bank Group?

Simply defined, a stakeholder is

"Anyone who has a stake in the project"

or

"Anyone who can make, or break, your project."

For those of us working on Disaster Risk Financing (DRF), this means people or groups with the power to influence and advance the future of DRF in our countries.
What is stakeholder mapping?

Stakeholder mapping is a simple process of listing all the stakeholders of your project and working through a series of steps to build a strategic engagement and communications plan. This process gives you a visual representation of all the people who can influence your project and how they are connected.

Stakeholders can be people who you work with across different levels. This includes people at a higher professional level, such as a minister of finance or a senior member of the cabinet. Such stakeholders are pivotal to the success of a project given their ability to influence the project approval process and allocation of financing. Your peers also are important stakeholders, including key clients, colleagues, managers, and team members, as well as people you may not work with regularly, like members of the public, colleagues within other government departments, the private sector, civil society organizations, and non-governmental organizations. Often the most important stakeholders are the end beneficiaries or project participants.
Why is stakeholder mapping important?

Stakeholder engagement is an important project management and risk management tool, and mapping is a key part of this engagement. By identifying in advance, the individuals, groups, and organizations that will be affected by your project, you can better engage them and help ensure that the project is demand-driven and progresses smoothly.

People who are engaged have a much higher chance of responding positively to the project design and outcomes. When you use your time to positively influence the opinions of your most powerful stakeholders and manage them closely, you will have more control over the direction of the project and will be better equipped for success.

By undertaking a stakeholder mapping exercise ahead of time, you can help the project team to quickly identify the key stakeholders in each area and be strategic about communication and interactions you have with them, including the technical input provided. Below are a few examples of how stakeholder mapping is useful for different aspects of project management.
Project design

1. Helps identify who the key stakeholders are and clarifies their relationship with the project
2. Ensures that there is clarity on roles and dimensions of the project and a shared vision among key players of the project
3. Brings together new ideas to innovate

Support implementation

1. Brings people together to pool knowledge, experience, and expertise to co-create solutions
2. Helps build and foster partnerships and new relationships that generate value

Avoid roadblocks

1. Allows those who affect or will be affected by the project to voice their opinions ahead of time
2. Helps reduce the level of risk and ensures that the project is fully demand-driven
3. Provides all players in the project a sense of ownership and improves governance
Mapping your stakeholders

It is important to identify, analyze, and prioritize your stakeholders based on their professional and personal investment in the project and their ability to influence its success. Once this is done you can plan for how to engage them successfully.

Step 1: Identifying your stakeholders

The type and role of stakeholders will vary depending on the nature, impact, and duration of your project. The following are some key categories to consider:

Decision makers: If your project needs support from senior leaders, or significant buy-in and investment from the private sector, the World Bank Group, or related partners, you should include these groups as major stakeholders, since they will have the power to influence your project’s future.

Users: Knowing and understanding your end user or audience is critical for building a successful project. The groups of people who will be affected by the project and whose needs it will serve could be included among your stakeholders.

Local markets: For large-scale projects that involve a substantial number of players, it is imperative to include the key players in your country’s local markets. For a DRF project, this could include local insurance companies, underwriters, etc.
Stakeholders can be divided into internal and external stakeholders:

**Internal stakeholders** are people on your team and your immediate colleagues who, despite possibly varying levels of involvement, have a major impact on the design and implementation of the project.

**External stakeholders** are those who advise, facilitate, or will be impacted by your project, even though they don’t directly participate in the daily work on the project.
**Below are some examples:**

### Internal Stakeholders
- Politicians and parliament
- Colleagues from within your ministry and other government ministries
- Financial regulator

### External Stakeholders
- Development organizations
- Donors
- Risk modeling companies
- Finance Parties (Insurers, Banks and Capital Provider)
- Taxpayers and beneficiaries
Can you think of additional internal and external stakeholders? If yes, make a list below:

*Internal Stakeholders*


*External Stakeholders*


Step 2: Analyzing your stakeholders

Once you have identified all the stakeholders related to your project, you can begin to analyze them and map them based on their interests and ability to influence your project.

**Interest**
What is important to them?

**Influence**
What could they contribute to enable your work on Scalable Social Safety Nets?
Important factors to consider for each stakeholder identified in Step 1:

1. What are their key interests and motivations?
2. How are they influenced by this project?
3. Which elements of the project are they most interested in?
4. How does the success or failure of the project impact them?
5. What key decisions need to be made by them in order for the project to progress?
6. Will they have a positive or negative reaction to your project, and why?
7. Do they have a personal connection to the project?
8. Which other stakeholders are they connected to?
9. Do they influence the financing available?
10. Do they influence any of the technical design?
11. What risks do they pose to the project?
## Mapping External Stakeholders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Development organizations</th>
<th>Donors</th>
<th>Risk Modeling Companies</th>
<th>Finance parties</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interest</strong></td>
<td>Country’s prosperity; financial and physical resilience</td>
<td>Improve post-disaster outcomes, protect people, reduce poverty</td>
<td>Access to quality data; proprietary knowledge; sale of their product</td>
<td>Market penetration &amp; growth at a risk-reflective price</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Influence</strong></td>
<td>Provide resources, DRF know-how, experience</td>
<td>Raise awareness and provide start-up &amp; operational funds</td>
<td>Identify risk; measure exposure; establish pricing</td>
<td>Provide capital; provide risk transfer and risk management expertise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>Regional trade/policy bodies</td>
<td>Politicians</td>
<td>Finance ministry</td>
<td>Other ministries &amp; DRM functions</td>
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<td>Country's prosperity; regional stability</td>
<td>Decision-making; benefiting citizens</td>
<td>Appropriate/cost-efficient use of funds/budgets</td>
<td>Reconstruction; resilience</td>
</tr>
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</table>

| Influence | Provide resources, regional engagement, and legitimacy | Provide legitimacy, accountability, decision-making power | Make a financial commitment [or “Commit finances” to save space]; use resources effectively | Offer trust, decision-making expertise, on-the-ground knowledge |
Step 3: Prioritizing your stakeholders

Not all stakeholders need the same level of engagement and communication. The most efficient way to prioritize stakeholders is to consider how they are positioned across two factors:

- **Interest**: How invested are they in achieving their outcomes?
- **Influence**: Is their power to influence the project significant or relatively limited?
The four quadrants of the matrix break down as follows:

I. High Influence, High Interest (Manage Closely): You must prioritize engaging with these stakeholders as much as possible.

II. High Influence, Less Interest (Keep Satisfied): Put enough effort in to keep these stakeholders satisfied and informed, but be strategic about your communication.

III. Low Influence, High Interest (Keep Informed): Communicate regularly with these stakeholders, as they will be influential in the successful ongoing delivery of the project.

IV. Low Influence, Less Interest (Monitor): Minimum effort is required with these stakeholders, and they can be informed as part of general briefings that you prepare for others as required.


Your high-power stakeholders can help you gain resources, prioritize competing demands for resources or competing timelines, and clear potential roadblocks. Your low-power but invested stakeholders are your champions on the ground.
Step 4: Engaging your stakeholders

Once you have identified your stakeholders and their level of impact and influence, you need to plan the best way to engage them.

Begin by thinking back to Step 2 and Step 3 to assess why you want to engage them. Here are a few possible reasons, but you might have additional reasons to engage your stakeholders.

1. Shift critical perceptions and opinions about Public Asset Insurance
2. Reinforce and support your project with expertise and financing
3. Build trust and status within your group and improve professional relationships
4. Improve your project Management with better collaboration and input
5. Manage Risk and reduce/remove Roadblocks towards your project
Below are five suggestions for engaging your stakeholders.

1. **Provide (social and professional) value.** People like to feel they have a voice within the group. Demonstrate to stakeholders how their contribution adds value to your project. Also, clearly emphasize the value you provide them, such as a professional network, knowledge, etc.

2. **Build lasting relationships.** Strong relationships translate to better collaboration. People work together more easily and effectively when there is trust. Investing in relationships can increase confidence across the project, minimize uncertainty, and speed up problem solving and decision-making.

3. **Engage rather than manage.** Why “stakeholder engagement” and not “stakeholder management”? Stakeholders are proactive and independent individuals; by engaging with them respectfully and listening to their views, you optimize your chances of influencing their choices.

4. **Consult, early and often.** The purpose, scope, risks, and approach of technical projects may sometimes be unclear to your stakeholders, particularly in early project stages. Early and regular consultation (where possible) helps to ensure that the final project is demand-driven and enjoys the support of most of the stakeholders.

5. **Communicate.** The best way to engage and influence stakeholders is to communicate well. It is crucial to understand the people you will be working with, their mindsets, and the best way to effectively garner their support. Not everyone responds to the same style of communication. See the box below for some tips on how to communicate effectively.
These five tips will help in building an effective narrative for your stakeholders:

1. **Use what you know**: Few things are as engaging and authentic as a personal story. Hook your audience by speaking about your personal experience and how it relates to the project.

2. **Create a shared experience**: The best way to engage people is to talk about things they care about. If possible, find a shared idea or experience that you can use to connect with your audience.

3. **The art of storytelling lies in listening**: While it is important to be prepared in order to communicate effectively, it is equally important to be able to read the room and audience and adjust your narrative accordingly. A good rule of thumb is 80 percent preparation, allowing for 20 percent flexibility; this ensures that you can quickly pivot from your prepared narrative to maintain or build your audience's interest.

4. **Be clear and concise**: When planning your narrative, ensure that it has a clear start and end and ask for feedback from those you are engaging with. Changes in the content and the pace of the narrative should be easy to follow and understand. Powerful stories always have an arc and powerful hook which draws people into the narrative.

5. **Remember why you are engaging**: Your narrative should include a clear takeaway, offer concrete next steps, and allude to the actions required to complete these steps that are easy to comprehend and remember.
Now that you’ve learned about the importance of stakeholder mapping and communication, use the template below to help you plan and strategize your stakeholder engagements for a specific project:

**Stakeholder Engagement Planning Template**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder</th>
<th>Interest</th>
<th>Power</th>
<th>Key reason to engage</th>
<th>Frequency of communication</th>
<th>Communication method</th>
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Thank you

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