

Scientist-Community Partnership Worksheet

Each scientist-community partnership will be slightly different—there is no “one-size-fits-all” model. But here are some questions for you and your partner(s) to answer that can help ensure success at each stage of your collaboration.

Scoping the Partnership

What issues interest you?

Are there people already working on those issues in your local area? If so, who are they?

Building the Partnership

Describe what each partner wants to accomplish in this collaboration. In other words, what do they hope to take away from it?

Are there deliverables that will be produced? If so, how will they be used?

What roles will each partner play in this collaboration?

Will any of the partners need financial support for this work? How can you access that support?

What is the timeline for this partnership, and what are the milestones along the way?

How will you stay in touch, and how often?

How will you communicate the results and share data? In what format will the information be made available? How will authorship and/or ownership of the output be determined?

Does each partner honestly have the time and capacity to take on this work?

Evaluating the Partnership

Did this collaboration meet your expectations? Why or why not?

What worked well in your collaboration? Did all partners accomplish their initial goals?

What, if anything, would you change in how you approach future collaborations?

What are the next steps for each partner?

How will your future work be informed by this partnership? Have you identified new research questions, or new ways to communicate or share information?

How would you like to keep in touch about future opportunities, updates, or connections?

How much time would you like to spend staying involved from this point forward?