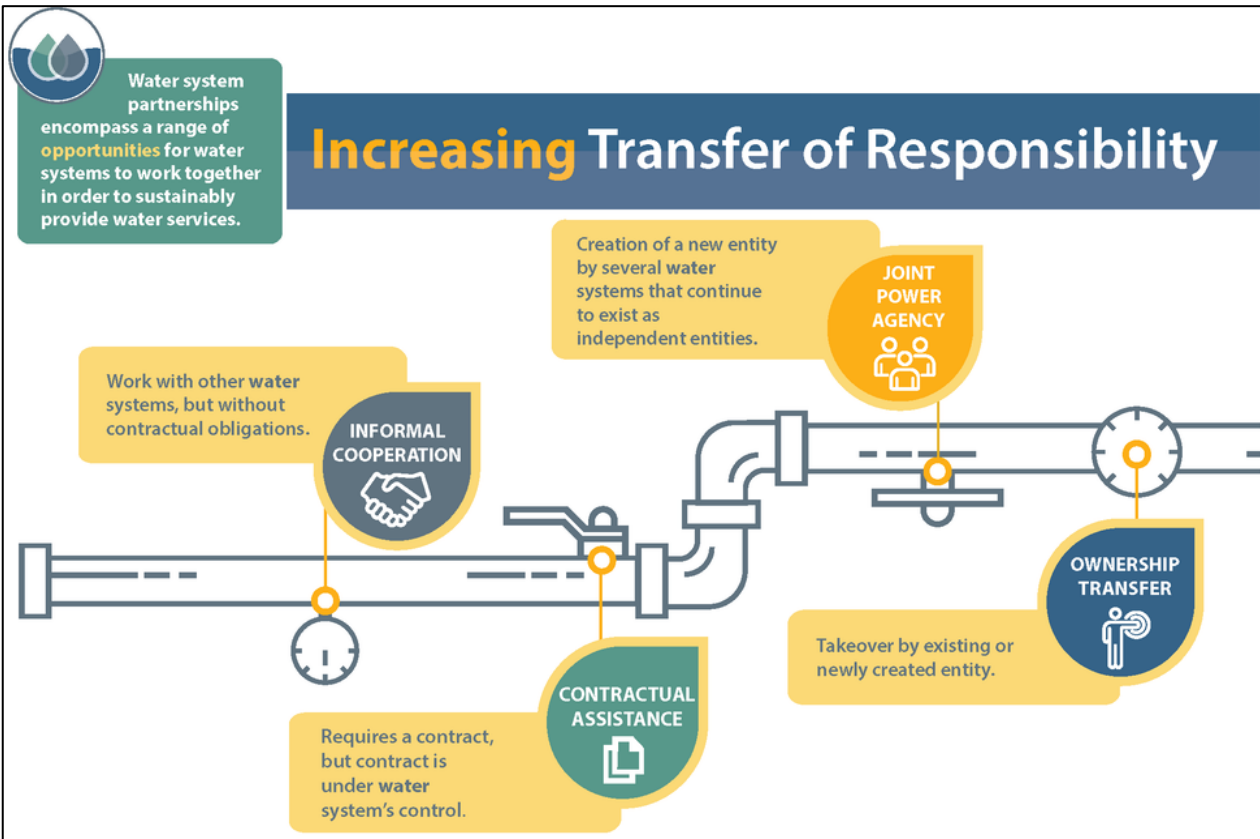


Types of Water System Partnerships



What Are Water System Partnerships?

Water system partnerships are a tool for building technical, managerial and financial (TMF) capacity at water systems. There is a high expectation on the part of the public for clean and safe water for everyone. All water systems need a high level of TMF capacity to meet all of their obligations.

Who Can Benefit from This Workshop?

- Water Systems.** The workshop is geared toward helping water systems work together to identify opportunities for them to engage in partnership activities with neighboring systems.
- Technical Assistance Providers.** Workshops are hosted by local technical assistance providers who can use the workshop to learn more about water system challenges and opportunities to implement partnerships to further support systems.

Steps to Get Started!

Water systems, technical assistance providers and communities across the country have engaged in partnerships to solve water system challenges in a variety of ways. Attendees will leave with a better understanding of partnership opportunities. To prepare for the workshop:

Step 1. Become Familiar with Water System Partnerships

Visit EPA's Water System Partnerships website to review materials about partnerships and learn what it takes to implement a successful partnership. Case studies, state programs and policies that support partnerships, a funding resources document, a getting started guide, and a handbook are available.

Step 2. Collect Information on TMF Capacity and Water System Challenges

Understanding a water system's TMF capacity, current or future challenges and existing strengths prior to the workshop can help attendees draw connections and identify solutions. Talk to colleagues or water systems you work with about their concerns and existing efforts to gain a better understanding of the water system's needs and how they could be addressed through partnerships.

Step 3. Review Workshop Materials

Materials related to the workshop, including a sample agenda, are available on EPA's Water System Partnerships website. Review these materials to ensure that you have all the necessary information to walk out of the workshop with new solutions and an action plan.



Why Do We Need Partnerships?

Engaging in water system partnerships can help address issues with:

Technical capacity, including inadequate or aging infrastructure, limited or poor source quality/quantity and a lack of certified operators.

Managerial capacity, including limited part-time management attention and a lack of expertise in long-term water system planning or operations.

Financial capacity, including a loss in economies of scale, a history of water rates that are too low and limited knowledge of financing options.

Learn more:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/water-system-partnerships>

Workshop Benefits

Understand different types of partnerships and common partnership activities

Identify how partnerships can help solve water system compliance and capacity challenges

Learn about existing partnership success stories and identify new opportunities for your water system

Network with neighboring water systems

Water System Partnerships Workshop

Quick Start Guide



A quick start guide developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for water systems and local technical assistance providers interested in hosting or attending a Water System Partnerships Workshop