

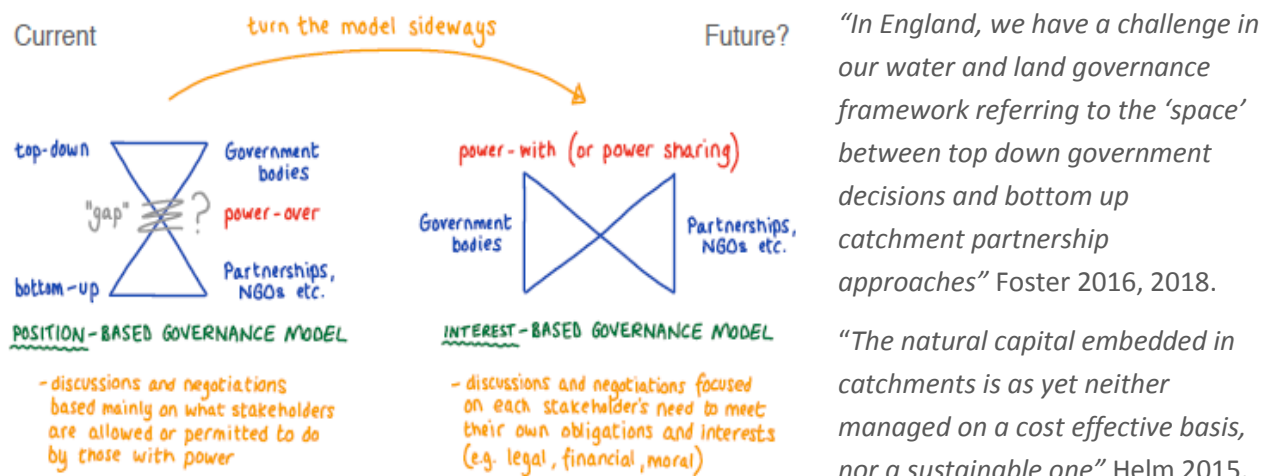
"These are very valid proposals and interesting events, the focus is certainly highly relevant to CIWEM and our members". Alastair Chisholm, Policy Director, Chartered Institution of Water and Environment Management

DRAFT BRIEFING - integrated catchment events: building relationships, sharing and embedding best integrated catchment management practices across the UK

Summary

This briefing proposes a solution to achieving integrated catchment working and seeks your support. You are invited to join an inclusive partnership creating 70 free events across the UK in 2019/2020. Visits, workshops, webinars and practical training will inspire grassroots ways to better manage catchment and coastal resources generating the relationships and skills to achieve this. Co-led by local partners, the days achieve shared goals bringing together communities, farmers and land owners, policy makers, planners, academia and practitioners and people who may not normally work together.

The challenge



"Human capital: Talking about kindness doesn't fit easily in the rational, dispassionate, evidence-based language of public policy. A challenge for many of us working in this current tradition". Julia Unwin 2018

Ambition and solution

1. **Offer:** Catchment Based Approach National Support Group is offering to coordinate and support local events enhancing outreach and impact, involving influential decision makers and expert practitioners. This will facilitate co-learning on the best solutions and achieve the ambition here.
2. **Inspiring people to get practically involved** in events on the ground improving flood resilience, local environments, soils and natural flood management in rural, urban and coastal locations
3. **Improving working relationships between sectors over time** - a recommendation of 2015 River Basin and Flood Risk Management Plan consultations. Enable Catchment Partnerships to have strong relationships with Regional Flood and Coastal Committees (RFCCs) - a [Defra 2015 recommendation](#) from evaluating the Catchment Based Approach (CaBA)
4. **Sharing best practice** in catchment management and developing capability to adopt it
5. **Building capacity** with communities, farmers, land owners, businesses and local stakeholders

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6. **Sharing catchment management innovation, creating and strengthening partnerships**, solving problems and involving people who are best placed to improve our land and water system
7. **Sharing funding models and learning cost effective ways** to deploy funding optimising benefits

Results - successes to date

- In 2017/18, 11 events engaged 600 participants across many sectors. See [information online](#).
- Successful hosting events in England, sponsored by RFCCs, Catchment Partnerships, CaBA NSG, Institute of Fisheries Management, Institute of Agricultural Management, [CIWEM](#) and others.
- Highlighting how collaborative approaches enhances and protects partnership investments and achieves multiple benefits towards profitable farming and healthier soils, natural flood management, future urban environments, estuaries and coasts and social and natural capital.
- The 11 events and activity completed are valued between £270k and £1million: this is from funds contributed, time, support in kind and benefits achieved.
- Excellent feedback and evidence on how people are building new relationships and applying learning practically. Helping businesses be a part of this partnership to commercialise solutions.

Geoff Stevens Swallowfield Flood Group *“Very useful networking finding out more on natural flood management (NFM). I learnt how Stroud project developed, overcame obstacles like technical aspects of structures built”*

Simon Evans Chief Executive Wye and Usk Foundation *“Great workshop, first class discussion and presentations. It inspired me to push harder to engage businesses in sourcing products responsibly from the Wye and since the workshop substantive progress has been made.”*

Julia Aglionby, Executive Director - England, Foundation for Common Land *“Stroud was great... I learnt a great deal – I’m keen to see applications to common land where there is plenty of space to slow the flow.”*

How can you get involved?

1. Provide your feedback on the appetite for such co-designed events, and ideas for events that are needed in your region: best practice sharing, innovations, skills building, practical training
2. Hosting events: if you would like to host an event, we’d be delighted to hear from you
3. Financial contributions for events in your region enabling them to remain free to attend
4. In-kind contributions could include: free venues, ideas and planning for events, outreach and promotions, event facilitation, talks, promoting and embedding learning from the events
5. Your attendance and participation.
6. Please contact dom@theriverstrust.org 07795 333 157 by 25 January 2019.

Upcoming 2018/19 events – more to be announced soon

1. **1 Jan 2019** NERC NFM initiative Q-NFM, North West, contact [Dave Johnson](#)
2. **8 Jan 2019** Health and Safety conference, North West, contact [Dave Johnson](#)
3. **9 Jan 2019** Regional collaboration and crowd funding tool – [workshop contact](#), Durham
4. **17 Jan 2019** Integrated Urban water management – workshop, Kettering, denise@rnnp.org
5. **2019 Catchment Based Approach Annual events** - **28 Jan London**, **14 and 15 Feb Durham** North East including urban workshop, **14 Feb Solihull**