



Great Lakes Water Levels Integrated Assessment

Thank you for joining us. The webinar will begin shortly.
Please remember to join the conference call:

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Great Lakes Water Levels Integrated Assessment

Planning Grants Request for Proposals Webinar

December 17, 2014

Agenda

1:00-1:10 Welcome, tech check-in & introductions

1:10-1:15 Overview of Graham Institute & Integrated Assessment (IA)

1:15-1:25 Objectives and requirements for the Planning Grants

1:25-1:30 Timeline & plans for the IA following the planning grants

1:30-2:00 Questions & discussion



Photo by Michigan Sea Grant



The Graham Sustainability Institute is a University of Michigan (U-M) Provost's unit which fosters sustainability at all scales by leading stakeholder-centric activities that systematically bring together and harness talents across all U-M schools, colleges, and units. The work focuses on three key areas:

Transformative Learning: Helping students engage across disciplines, experience diverse perspectives, think systemically, and pursue action-based learning throughout the world.

Institutional Leadership: Promoting sustainability excellence across the U-M by leading discussions, planning, and coordination for university-wide sustainability strategies and activities.

Translational Knowledge: Facilitating vibrant collaborations among academic, practitioner, and other stakeholder communities to advance sustainability scholarship and influence real-world decisions.





Integrated Assessment Center

Focuses on sustainability problem solving by using Integrated Assessment as a methodology for connecting academics, decision makers, and stakeholders.

Water Center

Engages multi-disciplinary expertise to improve ecosystem restoration success – science, management, policy – in the Great Lakes and other freshwater systems globally

Integrated Assessment

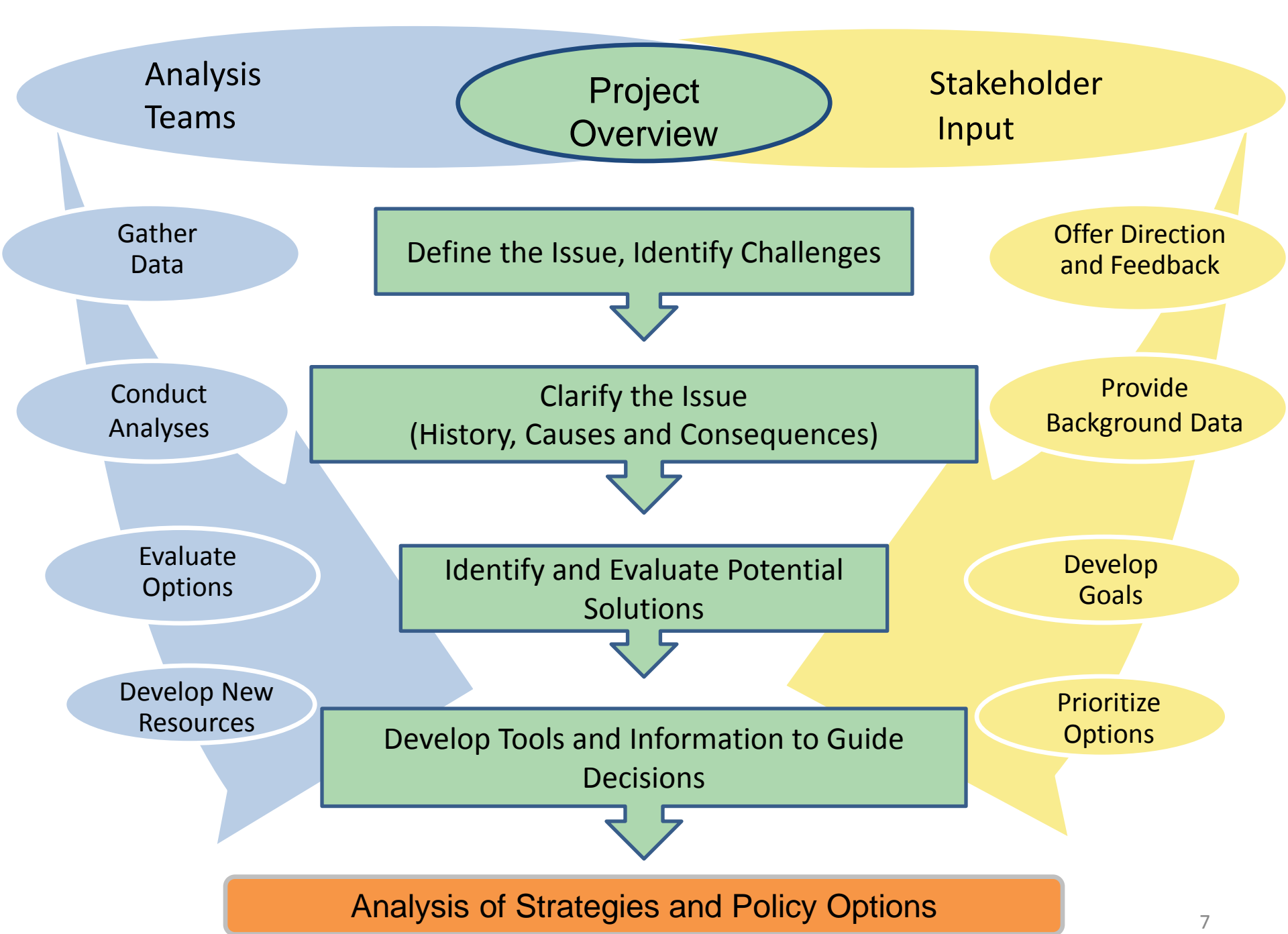
Focuses on *PROBLEM SOLVING*

- Assembles and analyzes environmental, social, and economic information to support decision making

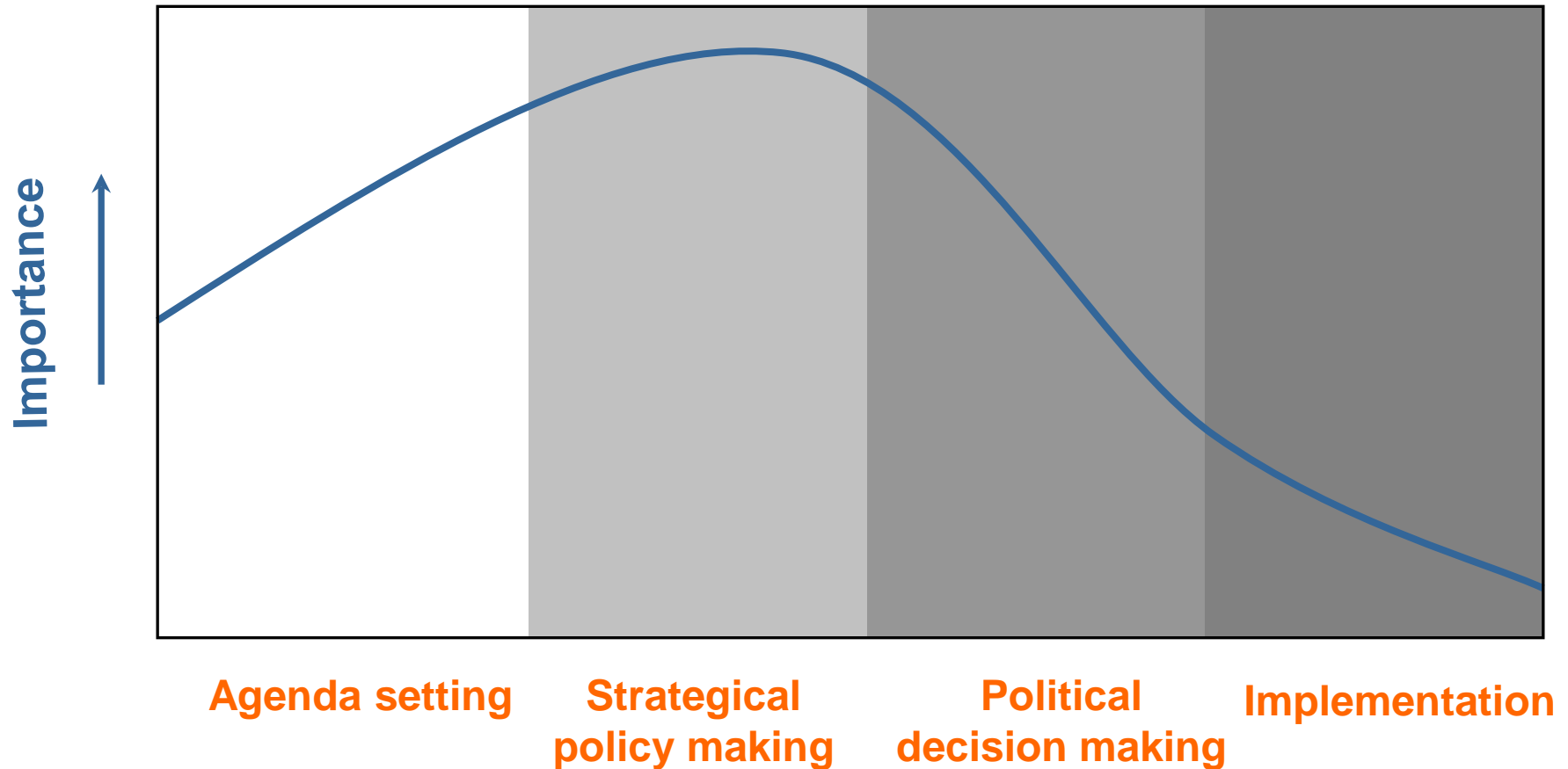
Acts as a *CHANGE AGENT*

- Requires interdisciplinary faculty expertise to address real-world sustainability problems

ENGAGES academics, decision makers, and stakeholders to affect change



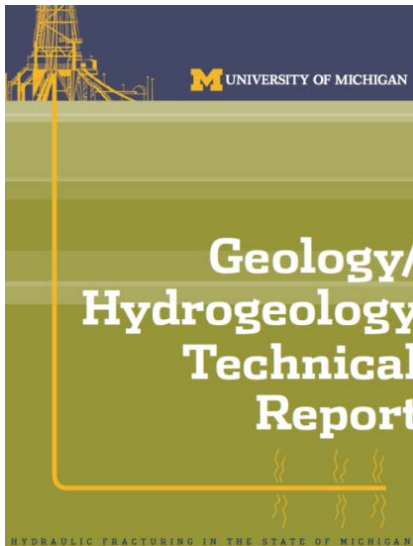
Importance of Integrated Assessment



Source: Jan Rotmans, "Introduction in Integrated Assessment," EU Advanced Summer Course in Integrated Assessment methodology, 1 September 2003, Maastricht, The Netherlands.

Integrated Assessment Benefits

- Report and supporting data / information
- Modified perspectives
- New partnerships
- Change in process
- Leveraged resources



Lund, Katie, Keely Dinse, John Callewaert and Don Scavia (2011). "The Benefits of Using Integrated Assessment to Address Sustainability Challenges." *Journal of Environmental Studies and Science* 11 November.

Integrated Assessment Program Summary

Topic	Geographic Focus	Partner	Timeline
Campus Sustainability	Campus	U-M Office of Campus Sustainability	2010-2011
Global Health Equity and Sustainability	International	U-M Center for Global Health	2011-2014
Detroit Sustainability Indicators	Regional	Data Driven Detroit	2011-2013
HOPE Village Initiative - Detroit	Local	Focus: HOPE	2011-2013
Great Lakes Cities Climate Adaptation	Regional	Great Lakes Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments Center	2011-2014
Livable Communities	National	U-M Transportation Research Institute	2012-2014
Hydraulic Fracturing	Regional	U-M Risk Science Center U-M Energy Institute U-M Erb Institute	2012-2014

Water Levels Integrated Assessment

Purpose:

To help equip the region with a robust set of water level adaptive strategies that protect the ecological integrity, economic stability, and cultural values of the region

Focus:

- Lakes Michigan-Huron & Erie
- Identify and evaluate adaptive management and other policy options
- *Will not address lake level control options*

Water Levels Integrated Assessment

Guiding Question:

What environmentally, socially, politically, and economically feasible policy options and management actions can people, businesses, and governments implement in order to adapt to current and future variability in Great Lakes water levels?

Key Impact Areas (not exhaustive)

- **Infrastructure**
(excluding lake level controls)
- **Nearshore & Shoreland Habitat**
- **Shoreline Communities & Economies**
- **Recreation & Tourism**
- **Water Quality**

Water Levels Integrated Assessment

Objectives:

- Identify and analyze key adaptive actions and policy options that minimize the negative impacts and enhance the positive impacts of water level variability;
- Create performance measures for assessing interventions through a common analytical approach;
- Build upon approaches for specific localities to identify opportunities applicable to other communities across jurisdictions throughout the Lakes Michigan-Huron and Erie watersheds including the Lake Huron to Lake Erie corridor;
- Further the development and application of adaptive approaches; and
- Form a network among communities facing water level variation.

Planning Grant Request for Proposals

Purpose:

To identify appropriate locations for the IA and to scope approaches for conducting the full assessment. Planning grant proposals must specify a locality for the focus of their work. Locations must have: known issues related to changes in water levels, multiple shoreline uses/objectives, available data, and local/community stakeholders to participate in the IA.

Proposals should:

- Identify the multiple impacts and/or competing objectives (e.g., property protection, marina access, habitat protection) in that location that necessitate integrated response options; and
- Explain why the findings from that location will be transferable to other locations.

Planning Grant Request for Proposals

Deadlines:

- **JANUARY 6, 2015:** LETTERS OF INTENT (Recommended)
- **FEBRUARY 2, 2015:** PLANNING GRANT PROPOSALS DUE
- **MARCH 2, 2015:** ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS



Photo by David Johnson

Planning Grant Request for Proposals

Eligibility Information

Proposals will only be accepted from interdisciplinary teams of investigators (comprised of at least two members) affiliated with either a Canadian and/or US college or university and must propose work within the geographic focus of the assessment - Lakes Michigan-Huron and Erie including the Lake Huron to Lake Erie corridor.

Researchers are strongly encouraged to develop proposals that involve collaboration with other institutions, non-profit and for-profit entities, government agencies at all levels, and other relevant stakeholder groups. Graham Institute personnel can assist with identifying potential partners and technical resources.

Letters of Intent – due January 6, 2015

Recommended before submitting a planning grant proposal, letters of intent should include the following:

- Principal Investigator (PI) and Co-Investigator (Co-I) names and contact information,
- Project working title, and
- One page summary of proposed activities focused on the impact areas/analysis categories outlined above (or similar ones), along with the names of potential collaborators (other researchers and stakeholder groups).

Letters of Intent will not be used as a screening tool but will allow Graham Institute staff to gauge interest in this opportunity and initiate conversations regarding potential partnerships and sources of data.

Letters of intent should be prepared and submitted on-line at <http://graham.umich.edu/application-request/31268>

Proposals – due February 2, 2015

Proposals should include the following as a **single PDF** file:

- **Cover Page** with the following information:
 - Proposal title
 - Total funds requested
 - Investigators' names, titles, appointments and email addresses
 - PI's full contact information
- One page **Table Of Contents**
- One page **Proposal Summary** using non-technical language
- Five page (maximum) **Proposal Narrative**
- **Project timeline**
- **References**
- **Proposal Approval Form**
- **CVs:** Brief, i.e., \leq two pages each for PI, all Co-Is & senior project personnel
- **Budget:** Awards will be funded at a level of up to \$10,000 for six months
Budget Justification: No longer than two pages
- **Letters of Support:** From potential stakeholder/partners (not required but helpful if partnerships already exist).

Proposals must be submitted on-line at <http://graham.umich.edu/application-request/31268>

Proposal Review Information

Proposal review and selection will be completed by Graham Institute project personnel with input from the advisory committee. Proposals will be selected to ensure diverse representation across geography and topics and will be screened with the following criteria in mind:

- **Understanding of context & underlying issues**
- **Project approach**
- **Identification of relevant data sources**
- **Data/information access**
- **Competency of the proposing team**
- **Inclusion of stakeholders/appropriate decision makers**
- **Appropriateness of the proposal budget**
- **Inclusion of opportunities for students**



Photo by Michigan Sea Grant

Requirements of Planning Grant Recipients

- Participation by all funded planning grant team members in at least two meetings (a kick-off meeting and a summative meeting) during the planning grant phase to discuss project development strategies, analytical approaches, key opportunities, and learnings across teams
- Submission of a final report (following guidelines to be provided by Graham Institute personnel) addressing the outcomes of the planning grant effort and opportunities for the analyses and stakeholder engagement to continue through participating in the IA
- Mentioning Graham Institute support in any publications or presentations of project results and providing information to Graham Institute staff on any publications generated through the project

Overall Process / Timeline

Planning Grants

- **March – August 2015**
- Teams explore the feasibility of conducting work relevant to the guiding question in a particular locality and prepare summary reports

IA Phase 1

- **November 2015 – April 2016**
- At least 4 analysis teams provide an interdisciplinary overview synthesis and report of status, trends, causes, and consequences

IA Phase 2

- **May 2016 – October 2016**
- Using stakeholder input on the Phase 1 overviews, each analysis team develops a report identifying and analyzing viable policies and adaptive actions

IA Phase 3

- **November 2016 – April 2017**
- Analysis teams will work together with Graham Institute project personnel to develop a final comprehensive IA report of select options

Questions & Discussion

Photo by Michigan Sea Grant



Apply at: <http://graham.umich.edu/knowledge/ia/water-levels>