

Sustainable Growth and Competitiveness (SG&C) Working Group Charter

Approved by the
Ohio River Basin Alliance Steering Committee
on
November 27, 2017

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1. SG&C Working Group Mission Statement

For high priority issues and opportunities, recommend strategies and coordinate actions leading to development and persistence of firms or industries in the region that grow global exports and achieve large national or global market shares. Such strategies and actions will recognize that the Ohio River Basin (ORB) can provide a competitive advantage for existing and emerging industries that benefit from availability of resources and ecosystem services, lower cost, enhanced transportation, and a higher quality of life. The importance of sustaining our ecosystems, water quality, and quality of life to ensure competitive advantage for years to come will be built into recommended strategies and actions.

2. Objectives and Deliverables

The main objectives of the SG&C Working Group are to:

- Promote the advantages of ORB sustainable development and support ORB sustainable development opportunities;
- Create an exemplary sustainability knowledge base;
- Educate stakeholders about ORB sustainability and support inclusion of sustainability concepts in decisions and initiatives.

Deliverables of the SG&C Working Group include:

- Quarterly teleconferences or face-to-face meetings
- Timely minutes of teleconferences and face-to-face meetings
- For each high priority challenge assigned to the Working Group
 - Identify and recruit a champion [preferably from an existing collaboration focused on the challenge]
 - Develop a contact list of organizations for which the preliminary high priority challenges are believed to be strategic
 - Effectively invite participation of such strategic organizations in the Working Group including during ORBA Summits.
 - Recruit key individuals for whom the high-priority challenges are strategic as speakers for ORBA Summits.
 - Plan, in collaboration with the Steering Committee, and execute effective Working Group breakout panels and discussions at Summits.
 - Led by the champion and existing collaborations, define the high-priority challenge and strategy being addressed; and make a compelling case for the priority expressed as a regional value proposition.

Goals and Preliminary High-Priority Challenges Assigned to SG&C Working Group include:

Goal: World-class Recreation Opportunities: Enrich the quality of life for people and recreation-based economies by maintaining and enhancing riverine, lake and wetland-associated recreation within the basin.

ORBA High Priority Regional Challenge:

- Regional Market Development for Ohio River Basin Nature and Culture Based Recreation and Tourism

Goal: Vibrant Economy: Sustain a water use system to efficiently and effectively support agricultural, industrial, and energy productivity.

ORBA High Priority Regional Challenge:

- Regional Marketing of ORB to Industry Needing Energy, Water (consumptive or non-consumptive), and Water Transportation

3. Duration

This Working Group is scheduled to last 24 months, from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019.

4. Success Criteria

The main criteria of success for the SG&C Working Group is timely achievement of milestones listed below.

5. Milestones

For the first year only:

- Draft and final minutes for quarterly teleconferences and meetings submitted to Steering Committee within one month of meeting and approval, respectively.
- Champions identified and recruited for each assigned preliminary high-priority challenge assigned to the Working Group by January 31, 2018.
- Identify (in collaboration with the champions and the Steering Committee) speakers for the Summit for each preliminary high-priority challenge six months prior to the Summit.
- Vision and value proposition developed under leadership of champion for each preliminary high-priority submitted to Steering Committee at a time to be determined for inclusion in the draft strategy.
- Summit panels or discussions for each high-priority challenge.

6. Confidentiality

The Working Group and its meetings and discussions are open to the public and minutes available to ORBA Members. Per Section VIII(d) of the bylaws: *Working groups shall report to the Steering Committee. All written reports shall be submitted to the Steering Committee and no report shall be published or released for public information without approval from the Steering Committee.*

7. Dependencies/Relationship With Other ORBA Activities

The success of the SG&C Working Group is heavily dependent on the active participation of ORBA Members in the Working Group and on the Steering Committee coordinating with the Working Group regarding strategic planning and the planning of the 2018 Summit.

8. Coordination With External Groups

The key to the successful production of strategies for the high priority challenges is the identification and effective engagement of existing collaborations focused on respective challenges. Being able to leverage their priorities and strategies will give credibility and weight as these are incorporated into the Collaborative Ohio River Basin Strategy.

9. Communication Mechanisms

Email

The mailing list for the Working Group is maintained by the Chairperson is the primary means of discussion within the group. The Chairperson will provide the mailing list to the Working Group Leader on request.

Web

The ORBA website (<http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/ORBA/>) can be used to post meetings to the calendar and to post documents after approval by the Steering Committee. The ORBA Chairperson serves as the “gatekeeper” to the website.

Phone Meeting

Except for quarters with face-to-face meetings, the SG&C Working Group meets every quarter (time and call-in information determined quarterly) by phone for one hour.

Face-to-face Meetings

Face to face meetings will occur at ORBA Summits.

Communication with the Public

See Section 6 “Confidentiality”.

10. Voting Mechanisms

The Working Group normally makes decisions by consensus, defined as “when no party objects to the proposed action or decision”. However, in situations where consensus cannot be reached on questions of unusual urgency, importance, or contentiousness, voting on such questions may be conducted upon the agreement of the Working Group.

In teleconference situations where a Working Group vote is necessary, voting may be done via e-mail to all Working Group Members. At least 25% of the Members must be respond to form a quorum. In face-to-face meetings, those present will constitute a quorum. Only decisions with a 3/4 majority vote of the response by e-mail or of present Members in face-to-face meetings will be enacted to help maintain the cooperative nature of ORBA.

11. Participation

Participation in Working Groups is open to ORBA Members. Working Group Members are expected to participate in the teleconferences, meetings, and activities of the Working Group. The Working Group Leader may recommend to the Steering Committee the removal of inactive Members from the Working Group.

12. How to Join the Working Group

To join a Working Group, an ORBA Member should submit an e-mail expressing interest to the ORBA Steering Committee Chairperson. The Chairperson will submit to the Steering Committee for consensus approval and, upon approval, will notify the ORBA Member and the Working Group Leader of their addition to the Working Group.