

CHARGE FOR BUDGET AND FINANCE WORKGROUP
Updated XXXX XX, 2021

Workgroup Purpose: Support the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Partnership Goal Implementation Teams (GITs) in achieving the goals established in the Chesapeake Watershed Agreement by providing a platform for coordination, innovation, collaboration, and accurate reporting which addresses: budgeting, funding sources, and integrated financing strategies.

Scope

The following work categories comprise the workgroup's charge:

1. Funding: Provide support and assistance to the CBP and GITs in identifying existing resources, gaps in those resources, and opportunities to align resources for CBP Outcomes including but not limited to federal and jurisdiction agencies. More specifically the workgroup will:
 - a. Provide support to GIT 6 in annual GIT Funding process.
 - b. Provide input on scope and implementation of CBP grant-funded projects focused on funding and financing issues (e.g., Maryland Watershed Assistance Collaborative, federal support of local program implementation).
 - c. Promote discussion among CBP partners on funding programs and opportunities for collaboration among organizations where needs and opportunities are identified.
2. Finance: Serve as a resource for stakeholders on CBP related innovative environmental finance actions, models, and strategies from public and private sources for Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration and protection.
 - a. Facilitate opportunities to raise awareness within the CBP of environmental finance actions within the Bay watershed and beyond. Past actions have included sponsoring an Environmental Finance and Investment Forum in 2020 and coordinating the partnership response to recommendations coming out of the 2016 Environmental Finance Symposium Report and Recommendations.
 - b. Identify opportunities for GITs to utilize finance-to help achieve goals, when requested. An example of this work is the GIT funding that was provided for experts to consult with workgroups on finance opportunities following the 2020 Finance and Investment Forum.
3. Budget: Coordinate CBP partnership response to requests for accurate, consistent budget and funding information to support partnership reporting needs such as the Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act (CBARA), and providing data needed to support the Chesapeake Progress suite of accountability products.
 - a. Identify opportunities for including and improving funding information in other CBP products.