

CHARGE FOR BUDGET AND FINANCE WORKGROUP
Updated June 22, 2016

Workgroup Purpose: Support the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) in achieving the goals established in the Chesapeake Watershed Agreement by serving as a focal point for coordination, innovation, and accurate reporting related to an overall program finance system 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 CBP partners and the program related to sources of information useful in identifying existing resources, gaps in those resources, and opportunities to develop finance strategies that align resources for CBP Outcomes including but not limited to federal and jurisdiction agencies. More specifically the workgroup will:
 - a. Coordinate and facilitate a process for distribution of discretionary GIT Funding (starting with FY2017).
 - 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 individual funding and opportunities for collaboration among funding organizations where needs and opportunities are identified.
2. **Finance Strategies:** Serve as a resource for stakeholders and the interested public on funding and innovative environmental finance strategies for Chesapeake Bay watershed restoration and protection.
 - a. Coordinate partnership response to recommendations coming out of symposiums and similar forums or financial analysis reports and evaluations (e.g., 2016 Environmental Finance Symposium Report and Recommendations).
 - b. Participate in finance-related commitments in the Chesapeake Watershed Agreement (e.g., Local Leadership Outcome – “implementation of economic and policy incentives”)
3. **Budget:** Coordinate the partnership response to requests for accurate, consistently reported budget and funding information to support partnership needs such as the Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act (CBARA), work plans, and providing data needed to support the ChesapeakeStat suite of accountability products.
 - a. Identify opportunities for including and improving funding information in other CBP products.