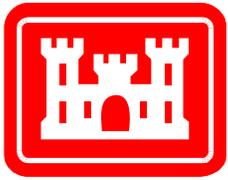


ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (eCoP) OVERVIEW

2006 Army Environmental Cleanup
Workshop

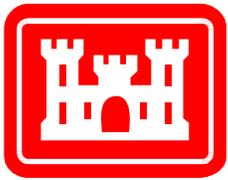
31 January 2006



Mission (COP Charter)



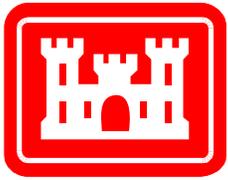
To ensure relevance of the Corps of Engineers to the Army and the Nation in executing its responsibilities through a network of people that share a common interest in environmental skills, experience, and principles.



Functions of the Communities of Practice



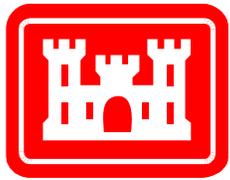
- ER 25-1-8, The Community of Practice (CoP) in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), 23 Jan 06
 - Execute Community Functional Responsibilities
 - Promote a Capable Workforce
 - Build and Maintain Relationships and Coalitions at all levels
 - Promote Organizational Communication
 - Enhance Organizational Learning



Critical Elements for the eCoP



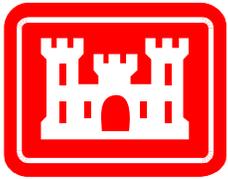
- Become the recognized leader to convey/transfer technical expertise and knowledge
- Champion use of Web connectivity throughout the community
- Promote community membership, advocacy, and influence needs to be ubiquitous



eCoP Development Plan



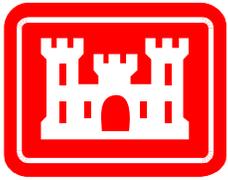
- Established internal and external eCoP Web-sites (May 04)
- Signed Steering Committee Charter (June 04)
- Released Final PgMP (Sep 04)
- Regular conference calls with MSCs
- Environmental Sub-communities created
- Field Tomoye and Groove software
- Register eCoP Members on-line / sub-CoP interests



Key Points of eCoP PgMP



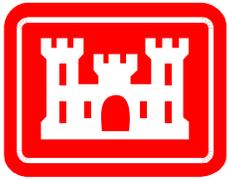
- Introduction– CoPS have always existed within the Corps, present whenever a group gets together to share information—day-to-day exchange of tacit knowledge.
 - Decrease learning curve
 - Quick response to customer needs
 - Reduce amount of rework
 - Spawn new ideas
- Steering Committee—Representing a cross section of environmental functions within the Corps
- Roles & Responsibilities; Environmental CoP Leader, Steering Committee, Sub-CoPs, members of the COP
- Identifies Environmental Sub-Communities



Environmental Sub-Communities



- Abandoned Mines Lands
- Environmental Compliance Coordinators
- Environmental Planning and Ecosystem Restoration
- Environmental Stewardship
- Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste Remediation
- Military Munitions Response
- Regulatory
- Water Quality and Control

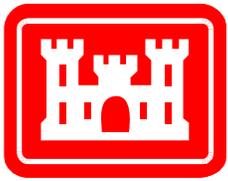


Steering Committee



Purpose

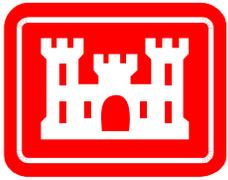
- Monitor Operations of USACE Environmental Community and Advise eCoP Leader
- Ensure That USACE Makes Progress Towards Incorporating Environmental Operating Principles in Managing All USACE Projects



Environmental Operating Principles



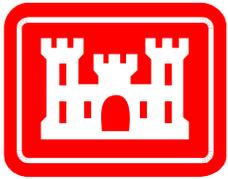
- Strive to achieve environmental sustainability. An environment maintained in a healthy, diverse and sustainable condition is necessary to support life.
- Recognize the interdependence of life and the physical environment. Proactively consider environmental consequences of Corps programs and act accordingly in all appropriate circumstances.
- Seek balance and synergy among human development activities and natural systems by designing economic and environmental solutions that support and reinforce one another.
- Continue to accept corporate responsibility and accountability under the law for activities and decisions under our control that impact human health and welfare and the continued viability of natural systems.
- Seeks ways and means to assess and mitigate cumulative impacts to the environment; bring systems approaches to the full life cycle of our processes and work.
- Build and share an integrated scientific, economic, and social knowledge base that supports a greater understanding of the environment and impacts of our work.
- Respect the views of individuals and groups interested in Corps activities, listen to them actively, and learn from their perspective in the search to find innovative win-win solutions to the nation's problems that also protect and enhance the environment.



Environmental Operating Principles



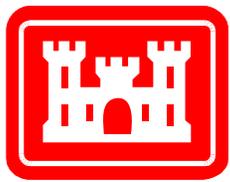
- Our survival depends upon sustained and balanced ecosystems
- Environmental concerns are part and parcel of all USACE missions, decision-making, programs and projects
- Principles illuminate ways our missions integrate with environmental laws, values and sound environmental practices



Three Reasons for Principles



1. To create unity of purpose within the Corps when dealing with environmental issues
2. To reflect a new tone and direction for dialogue on environmental matters
3. To ensure that conservation, environmental preservation and restoration are considered in all Corps activities at same level as economic issues

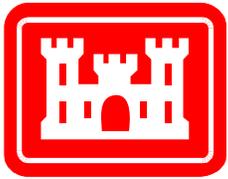


Statutory and Army Policy Foundations



Principles are consistent with:

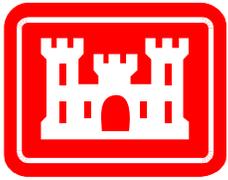
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Other environmental statutes and environmental provisions of Water Resources Development Acts that govern Corps activities
- Army's Environmental Strategy of prevention, compliance, restoration and conservation



Corporate Impacts



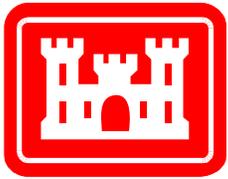
- Empower employees to look for innovative solutions/programs to integrate environmental components with traditional activities
- Opportunity to assess existing processes and procedures to more fully integrate environmental considerations into day-to-day decision-making and long-term planning processes



Corporate Impacts (con't)



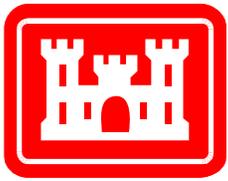
- Project Management Business Process -- Principles are the “what” we should be doing and PMBP is the “how” we do it
- R&D products will reflect the principles
- Include EOPs in evaluation mechanisms/ procedures to ensure their integration
- Consistent with USACE goal of becoming a Learning Organization



Next Steps



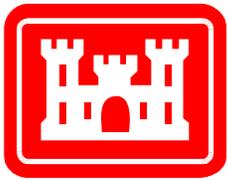
- Strategic Implementation Plan
 - Developed to tie operational aspects of eCoP together
 - Better define business rules for Sub-Communities
 - Sharpen role of the Steering Committee
- Publicize, recruit, promote eCoP
- Provide training to MSCs and Districts



Establish and Support Sub-Communities



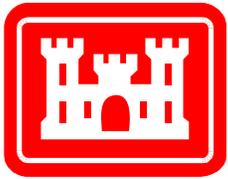
- Finalize Sub-Communities (Designated Leader for each)
- Identify a core group(s) within the Sub-Community or a level below
- Establish a collaborative network (using Groove and EKO)



eCoP Websites



- **Internal-Use Engineering Knowledge Online (EKO) has Army Knowledge Online (AKO) authentication**
 - **<https://eko.usace.army.mil/usacecop/environmental/index.cfm>**
 - **Contains both Civil and Military Internal-Use Community links, reports, and contacts**
- **Public website links from CEMP pages and contains links to USACE pages and information on both civil and military environmental programs**
 - **<http://hq.environmental.usace.army.mil/>**



Questions ?

