

Conowingo Phase 1 Implementation Framework

Smaller-Scale Targeting Watersheds and Partnerships in Most Effective Basins:

- EPA to continue taking partnering jurisdictions' (MD, NY, PA, VA, and WV) money out of CBRAP/CBIG to fund the grantees' work (Center for Watershed Protection (CWP) and Chesapeake Conservancy (CC)) towards targeted watershed efforts (Octoraro, Upper Susquehanna Coalition, etc.) determined by the Core Conowingo Implementation Team and approved by the CWIP Steering Committee. These monies will help support implementation using traditional financing approaches, such as state or federal grants, loans, cost-sharing or other cooperative funding.
 - The funds from CBIG/CBRAP fund the cooperative agreements but will not fund implementation efforts themselves.
- The CWP will be responsible for BMP targeting/opportunity analysis, outreach and engagement strategies to educate and inform stakeholders of various project types and opportunities and facilitating project implementation by providing technical support and assistance to SRBC and other stakeholders.
- The CC will be responsible for developing a system for tracking, reporting, and verification of practices (FieldDoc) and assisting partners with implementation of the system.
- SRBC may assist with grant writing to obtain funds and/or provide funds as a match for targeted watershed efforts.

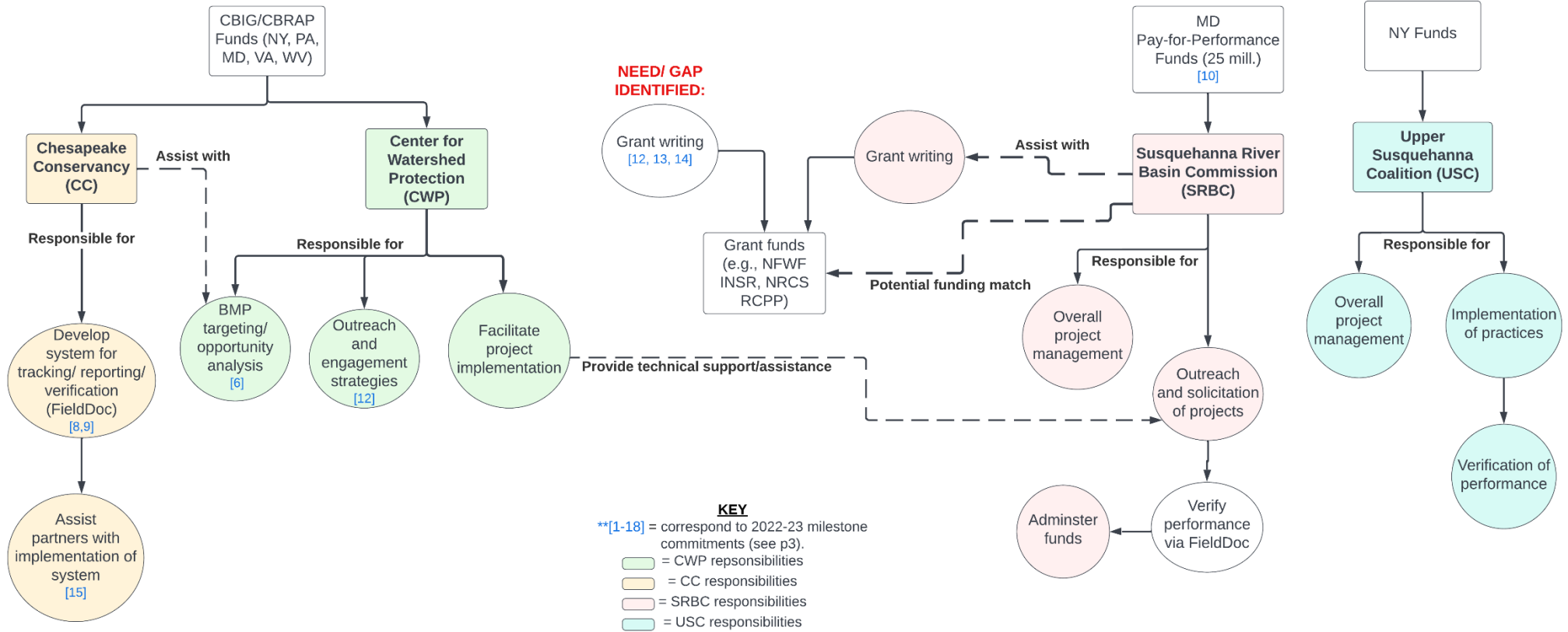
Broader State-wide Implementation Efforts in the Most Effective Basins:

- MD's \$25 million goes to SRBC for broader scale efforts in the most-effective areas that will be implemented using a pay-for-performance financing approach.
- SRBC will be responsible for overall project management, outreach/solicitation of projects, and administering the funds in a pay-for-performance structure.
 - FieldDoc may be used for tracking and reporting via the Chesapeake Conservancy. SRBC will not be responsible for verification of the practices. Verification will be the responsibility of the entity putting in the practice.
 - The CWP will serve in a technical advisory role to SRBC to ensure performance-based projects that are selected comply with metrics identified in the CWIP.
- Currently there are no plans to use SRBC in Pennsylvania or New York.
- New York funds go to Upper Susquehanna Coalition for broader scale efforts in the most-effective basins identified in the CWIP. USC is responsible for overall project management, implementation of projects, and verification of performance. Practices targeted for implementation include riparian forest buffers, prescribed grazing, and nutrient management.

Conowingo Phase 1 Implementation Framework

Smaller-Scale Targeting Watersheds & Partnerships in Most Effective Basins (MEBs)
[3, 12, 13, 18]

Broader State-wide Implementation Efforts in Most Effective Basins (MEBs)
[4, 10, 12, 18]



*See acronym list below (pg 4)

Milestone Action Items Referenced within the Framework

Details of each action item below are provided in the [CWIP Steering Committee 2022-2023 Milestones Document](#).

- [3]: Begin to deliver implementation funding.
- [4]: Launch implementation of financing authority and restoration investments.
- [6]: Roll out of the BMP Opportunity Analysis with support to local stakeholders on the data tools produced to support planning of projects to implement the CWIP.
- [8]: Establish CWIP tracking and monitoring process; ensure coordination with jurisdictions WIP III tracking processes.
- [9]: Implementation of new features/services necessary for Audit Framework in FieldDoc.
- [10]: Explore financial innovations, including pay-for-performance options and private-public partnerships.
- [12]: Forming, tracking, and developing cooperative or informal agreements with partners in the Susquehanna River watershed to further goals and implementation.
- [13]: Identify and scope one or more implementation pilot projects to achieve numeric CWIP goals.
- [14]: Identify and secure one or more funding sources for CWIP implementation over the 2-year milestone period, as well as continuing current partnership CBRAP support of CWIP.
- [15]: Providing support to stakeholders to support implementation and the tracking, verification, and reporting.
- [18]: Implement practices sufficient to reduce at least 25% of the nitrogen reductions identified in the CWIP, or 1.675-million pounds.

List of Funding Sources (as of 10/6/2022)

- Funding for Cooperative Agreements
 - State-allocated CBIG/CBRAP funds (contributions on an annual basis)
 - MD: \$87,033
 - NY: \$14,309
 - PA: \$163,681
 - VA: \$68,242
 - WVA: \$9,396
- Funding for Implementation Efforts
 - Maryland's Pay-for Performance Funds (\$25 million)
 - New York Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act (IIJA) Funds (\$500,000)
 - SRBC Consumptive Use Mitigation Grant

Acronym List

- **EPA** – Environmental Protection Agency
- **CWP** – Center for Watershed Protection (Activity 1)
- **CC** – Chesapeake Conservancy (Activity 3)
- **SRBC** – Susquehanna River Basin Commission
- **CWIP** – Conowingo Watershed Implementation Plan
- **USC** – Upper Susquehanna Coalition
- **MEB** – Most Effective Basins
- **CBIG** – Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant
- **CBRAP** – Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program Grants
- **NFWF INSR** – National Fish and Wildlife Federation, Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grants
- **NRCS RCPP** – Natural Resources Conservation Service, Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- **IJA** – Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act