



Meridian Institute

Connecting People to Solve Problems

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Summary

A Partner at Meridian Institute with 20 years of experience in the collaborative decision making and conflict resolution field. Demonstrated expertise facilitating policy dialogues, negotiations, and strategy development processes. Expertise in the areas of agriculture and biotechnology; climate change and energy; environmental cleanup and waste management; biodiversity and natural resources; mining; security; and water and watersheds. Prior to joining Meridian, served as an independent facilitation and mediation consultant focused on local and regional water quality issues. Holds a B.A. in Political Science and Economics from Colorado College.

Meridian Experience

Meridian Institute

2000–Present

Meridian Institute designs and facilitates collaborative processes that help diverse parties identify critical issues, build relationships and trust, construct innovative solutions, and implement durable decisions. These collaborative processes address challenges at the local, state, national, and international levels, and involve leaders from government agencies, industry, nongovernmental organizations, and international institutions. Meridian also assists organizations in conducting strategy development and planning.

Partner

Serves as a Partner, involved in the overall management of Meridian's business systems and strategic planning. Responsible for working with clients and team members to coordinate and assist in collaborative problem solving and strategic assessment and planning, including: convening and organizing meetings and activities as required to achieve project goals; advising on direction, strategy, and process design; drafting materials for meetings or informed decision making; and providing coordinated facilitation, logistical, and research support for meetings and activities. Selected highlights are summarized below:

- Serves as the Project Director and lead staff supporting the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Agricultural Development Team on their strategy development and convening planning. Worked with the team to develop priorities and targets for alleviating poverty through agricultural productivity growth.

www.merid.org

Colorado Office

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- Serves as the co-lead for the Johnson Foundation Freshwater Forum, an intensive multi-year effort to bring together government, businesses, and NGOs to more effectively address the looming crisis that threatens America's freshwater resources and systems and the health of communities.
- Served as a core team member for the U.S. Green Building Council strategic planning effort. Facilitated an issue-mapping process to assess the external environment in which USGBC operates, analyzed the results of that effort for the board and senior management, designed and facilitated a board/management team retreat, drafted the strategic plan, and supported the implementation of the plan and key strategic goals.
- Facilitated the creation of a voluntary, industry-led effort to increase security on the internet, including the coordination of responses to, and protection from, complex security threats.
- Facilitated the creation and implementation of a collaboration among scientists, landowners, and regulators addressing the source of mercury contamination to the San Francisco Bay Delta.
- Served as the lead facilitator on numerous projects, including: Microsoft's Global Security Strategy and Diplomacy group, the Wyoming Coal Bed Methane Watershed planning project, the Yerington Mine site clean-up project, Planned Parenthood strategic planning, and others.
- Please see <http://merid.org/staff/mmayo> for a full list of projects completed.

Previous Experience

Independent Consultant

Denver, Colorado 1998–2000

Facilitator and Mediator

Provided neutral, third-party facilitation and conflict resolution services for environmental and public health projects and other local and regional multi-party decision-making processes. Facilitated community-based watershed groups.

Antarctic Support Associates

McMurdo Station, Antarctica 1998–1999

Served on the communications team for the U.S. science and research station in Antarctica.

Colorado Center for Environmental Management

Denver, Colorado 1994–1998

Associate

Designed and facilitated stakeholder involvement and collaborative decision-making processes for environmental cleanup and technology development projects. Planned and facilitated focus groups, meetings, and workshops. Wrote proposals and grant applications.

Developed training curriculums and educational materials. Managed politically sensitive and controversial projects.

Woodward-Clyde Consultants

Denver, Colorado 1992–1994

Community Relations Specialist

Managed and coordinated public involvement, community relations, risk communication, and public education projects for various environmental and public health projects. Designed and coordinated open houses, public meetings, focus groups, presentations, telephone hotlines, newsletters, fact sheets, press releases, and advertisements.

Cooperation for PeaceStockholm, Sweden, and
New York, New York 1991 and 1992*Intern*

Served as an NGO representative at a preparatory conference for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Worked with international aboriginal, ethnic, and public interest groups to draft document proposals, lobby delegates, monitor U.N. delegation proceedings, etc. Also responsible for the development of a special education and awareness project.

Education**Colorado College**B.A., Political Science and Economics
1990