## **Definitions of Collaborative Governance**

The term "collaborative governance" refers to a relatively new and emerging field, and thus academics, practitioners and participants engage in discussions on how to best define collaborative governance. Members of UNCG draw from a variety of descriptions to describe the work their centers do. We have collected the most widely used definitions that encapsulates collaborative governance.

Collaborative Governance Definition	Source	Citation
The process of facilitating and operating in multi-organizational arrangements to solve problems that cannot be solved, or solved easily, by single organizations.	Agranoff and McGuire (2003)	Agranoff, Robert and Michael McGuire (2003). Collaborative Public Management: New Strategies for Local Government. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.
A governing arrangement where one or more public agencies directly engage non-state stakeholders in a collective decision-making process that is formal, consensus-oriented, and deliberative and that aims to make or implement public policy or manage public programs or assets.	Ansell and Gash (2008)	Ansell, Chris and Alison Gash (2008). "Collaborative Governance in Theory and Practice." Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, 18(4), 543-571.
The processes and structures of public policy decision making and management that engage people constructively across the boundaries of public agencies, levels of government, and/or the public, private and civic spheres in order to carry out a public	Emerson, Nabatchi, and Balogh (2011)	Emerson, Kirk, Tina Nabatchi, and Stephen Balogh (2011). "An integrative framework for collaborative governance." Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, 22, 1- 29.

purpose that could not otherwise be accomplished.		
Leaders engaging with all sectors—public, private, non-profit, citizens, and others—to develop effective, lasting solutions to public problems that go beyond what any sector could achieve on its own.	Policy Consensus Initiative (2007)	Carlson, Christine (2007). <i>A Practical Guide to Collaborative Governance</i> . Policy Consensus Initiative.
A concept that addresses the process of establishing, steering, facilitating, operating, and monitoring cross-sector organizational arrangements to address public policy problems that cannot be easily addressed by a single organization or the public sector alone. This mode of governance focuses on public issues and brings multiple stakeholders from different sectors together in common forum to engage in consensus-oriented solution seeking, problem solving and decision-making in order to leverage and build on the unique attributes and resources of each.	UNCG Collaborative Capacities Working Group (2012)	