

# **DRBF Practice Guide:**Guidance for Effective Site Visits and Meetings

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### Introduction

- Site visits are an integral part of the Dispute Board process
- Terminology:
  - A **site visit** normally includes a physical walkdown of the works to facilitate information gathering
  - A meeting is that part of the site visit where the parties present information and discuss current and future challenges and the DAAB promotes dispute avoidance

## Topics Included

- The need for, and purpose of, site visits
- The frequency of site visits
- The type of site visits: in-person and/or virtual
- How to organize a site visit
- What is expected of the parties, the Engineer, and the DAAB
- Site visit protocols
- Details about the site visit report
- Actions required between site visits

### Format of a Site Visit

- The first and introductory visit and meeting
  - Agenda and introduction to dispute avoidance
- Regular visits and meetings
  - Agenda, physical visit, agenda for meeting, party presentations, ongoing informal assistance, addressing current and future challenges
- Meetings at critical stages and events
- Visit in connection with a Referral
  - No informal assistance (normally), fact finding only
- Virtual Site Visits and Meetings
  - Things to consider, setting up and running the meeting

# Topics Included

- Site Visit and Meeting protocols
  - Avoiding the perception of bias
  - Natural justice
  - Avoiding communicating with only one Party
- Actions for the DAAB during a visit
  - Information gathering
  - Informal Assistance and Dispute Avoidance
- The Site Visit Report
  - Contractual requirements
  - Structure and content
- Between Visits

