

SES CDP: Moving Between Agencies

I have moved between agencies and I've found that very rewarding for me in terms of learning more about public administration and learning from others as to how to lead and how to manage and to just have a better understanding of the mission of those agencies and where they fit in in terms of public service. What I found helpful when I move from agency to agency has been the importance of understanding the mission of those agencies so that I could do my job better, and again, I worked in the administrative field so I did have an advantage that many of the rules and laws that guide the administrative management transcend different agencies, so the government-wide rules apply in most of the agencies that I might work so I can bring that with me, so that knowledge and that skill in terms of how to implement those was invaluable and made the transition easier for me, but doing it without knowing the mission of the agency makes the job that much more difficult, so it's really important to understand, providing some contract services and some property acquisitions for a resource management agency certainly may be different when you're going with a science agency where the acquisition of equipment is really enabling in terms of the scientific experiments or some of the data gathering that we're trying to do, and if we're not sensitive to that and sensitive to the urgency and the timing of all that then we will cause some dysfunction and will sub-optimize what the scientists can do in terms of their efforts.