

Network Membership: Roles & Participation

In the dynamic process of evolving from a learning network to an action-oriented network, member roles and participation play a pivotal role. Navigation of this transformation includes considering how to keep members engaged and feeling empowered.

To better understand these changes, let's explore the evolution through the lenses of selection, governance, partnerships and initiatives, and roles. By recognizing and embracing these shifts, we can optimize the collective impact of our network and foster a thriving community of engaged participants.

	Mobilization ----->	Solutions Generation---->	Implementation --->
	Learning network		Action network
	Open Network		Tighter Network
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mobilization of member-participants through learning, relationship building, advancement of established initiatives ● Increase interactions and connections to create a dense network of ties where everyone knows each other. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members are building on learning and established relationships to identify and participate in collective action ● Continue to build network density; activate and leverage connections towards action
Membership selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More loose membership criteria ● Low barrier to entry ● Membership determines “roles” needed to advance the network’s objectives (vs tiers of membership) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More tightly controlled and limited ● Criteria exists to select members
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Decision making and jurisdiction is distributed amongst members via roles ● Design team exists to shepherd and monitor work, but not solely responsible for network wide success 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Decision making and jurisdictions is distributed amongst members via types of participation ● Sub/workgroups connect back to the design team and backbone

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub/workgroups report into core team and network but can advance work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub/workgroups and design team have jurisdiction to advance elements but reaches out to peripheral members to include when necessary
Partnerships and Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships and initiatives can emerge organically under the network banner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships and initiatives continue to emerge organically under the network banner BUT need to align with network purpose • Design team (and related functional teams) have “filtering” power to ensure strategic alignment
Member Roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Team member: a small, select group of individuals with regional, content knowledge, and relational representation relevant and necessary to the network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jurisdiction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Co-create and design network structure and priorities ■ Strategic oversight ■ Determine (in collaboration with members) functional teams • Functional team member: members of the network committed to designing and creating needed functional elements of the network (ex., communications, member engagement, etc) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jurisdiction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Advance growth objectives of the network as determined by the design team, backbone, and members • network member: Individuals and organizations that participate in and/or contribute to the network learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Team member: same as year 1 • Functional Team member: same as year 1 • Network member: same as year 1 • Solutions teams: Individuals and organizations that participate in the network project development and feedback sessions, offer options for solutions, suggestions for projects and/or ask for feedback from other network members, are encouraged to share relevant work and initiatives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Participants are drawn from the network membership ○ Participants can come from broader stakeholder categories (non-members who propose solutions, fund solutions) ○ Jurisdiction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ make decisions to advance collective action strategy

	<p>activities, can join or activate initiatives, can network and connect with other members to advance emergent priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Jurisdiction:<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Participate in functional teams, network events, and other emergent roles■ Build consensus on priority projects and activities of the network	
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