Community characteristics & orientation

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Community & UN SDG(s): __Affordable & Clean Energy (SDG 7) - Responsible Consumption & Production (SDG 12)__

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Instructions

Research the community you are most interested in exploring using links from the UN Sustainable Goals website (https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/) and others. In your exhaustive research, answer the following.

Community characteristics		
Community life-cycle (current state)		
Where is your community in its life-cycle?	**What you need to focus on:**	**Special needs**
☐ **Just forming** Need basic tools to connect, but not sure from there	Research and/or discuss the potential of some basic tools with members, explore what ideas it might give them, and see what they might bring in with them.	
☐ **Self-designing** Information stage, but with a strong sense of what it wants to accomplish	Contribute ideas to the design. Analyze systematically the implications of their community design for technology, infrastructure, and technology skills.	
☐ **Growing & restless** Ready to add new functionality to its tool configuration	Try to make this a community reflection and self-design event. Does their restlessness suggest a major change, such as a transition to a new platform?	
☑ **Stable and adapting** Just needing some new tools	How much disruption will the community tolerate? How will the new tools be integrated into or affect existing practices?	The UN communities involved under SDG 7 and SDG 12 are well established so far. With the community regarding Responsible Consumption and Production aiming to accomplish a plethora of goals around the year of 2030, including reducing food waste, waste generation and increasing awareness on the topic to name a few. At this stage, the communities would benefit from newer tools, more funding and more backing from larger companies, aiding them to accomplish their worldwide goals in an easier fashion and making them accessible to as many areas as possible, integration of new tools would depend of the funding received and the tools

		acquired, if highly professional tools are received from high paying funding, the integration should be seamless.

Constitution

Diversity: How diverse is the community?

Topic	Your notes
What are the different types of members and what are their levels of participation?	There are a numerous amount of types of members under this community, we can consider companies who produce the infrastructure and tools for clean energy and responsible consumption and production (windmills or recycling plants for example) as having a participation level on the higher end as they provide the funding and physical buildings to accomplish the SDGs. Next we can consider the workers for these buildings/plants to also have a very high level of participation as they are what make these buildings run and stay maintained.
How spread apart is it in terms of location and time zones?	This community can be considered worldwide or international as there are people and organizations all over the world attempting to solve the problems that these SDGs try to solve, however I would say most countries outside of North America are more involved and aware of the SDGs and their goals.
What language(s) do members speak?	English can be considered to be a global language that most people around the world can understand, every foreign country I've been to contains signs and such in English. But again seeing as this is on an international scale, many languages are spoken amongst members.
What other cultural or other diversity aspects may affect your technology choices?	Being international, there would be cultural and/or religious differences amongst different sections of the community (sub-communities) and also various sub-communities may vary in their use and/or access to advanced technology.

Openness: How connected to the outside world is your community?

Topic		Your notes
How much do you want to control the boundaries of your community? Does your community need	☐ To be private/secure ☐ Open boundaries ☑ Both private & public spaces	Working amongst the community to achieve the SDG goals is a great feat and the more people involved the better, but there may be moments when executives or contributors to tools/buildings would need to have private spaces to conduct meetings and ensuring safety of knowledgebases, whereas the workers would be more in the public spaces, working in the community and making a difference.
How does your community need to interact with other communities? Do you need common tools for sharing and learning with them?		I think the community NEEDS to interact with other communities as a lot of the SDG goals outside the ones I'm covering are very interconnected, meaning that the more collaboration and learning that takes place the better, as it would benefit everyone involved.

Technology aspirations

Technology savvy, tolerance, & constraints: What are your community's technology interests and skills and patience thereof? What are the constraints imposed by technology factors?

Topic	Your notes

How interested is your community in technology?	The community is decently interested in technology, technology and tools can greatly help to achieve the goals of clean and affordable energy as well as responsible consumption and production as a lot of things require them such as big plants and buildings.
What is their capacity for learning new tools?	While a lot of tools are tried and true such as windmills or recycling plants, there is always room for innovation and making things easier if the opportunity arises. Of course this would assume that the new tools are of high quality and easy to use/understand/integrate.
What is the range of skills? If their interests and/or skills are diverse, could it cause conflict or distraction?	The skillset of the members vary greatly, some are better at physical work and others at the corporate side of things for example, seeing as this is a broad community all trying to accomplish the same/similar goals, the way they do so vary greatly and thus so do the skills. This could cause conflict between companies however if in the end everyone is trying to better the world, I don't see it being a downside.
How tolerant are members of the adoption of a wide variety of tools?	Again, there is a lot of variety of members and tools, so the adoption of new or a wide variety of tools would be welcome as long as things don't get too complicated and difficult.
How many technological boundaries are they willing to cross, e.g. sign in to more than one web-based tool, learn to use new tools, or give up old favorites? This helps you understand what level of integration you need.	Seeing as the diversity of tools and sign-ins are already so great, any additional technological boundaries would not be very difficult to cross.
What are your members' technology constraints (e.g., bandwidth, operating systems, etc.)?	Bandwidth and access to technology, as a lot of the places working towards the goals set out by the SDG are in lesser developed countries than those like Canada, the access to technology and bandwidth can be extremely limited and thus could be a constraint.
How much time are members able to be online and from where (office, home, field)? Some people have limited online time, or are able to be online only in specific locations. Others are always on. Very diverse situations can affect participation	Again with the variety of locations around the world, this can vary, but I would like to think most people are working physically in some location and only a handful in comparison would be able to work online, those being the corporate side of workers.

Community orientation

Relevance to community: Use the range from 0 (no relevance) to 5 (high relevance) to determine what matters most to the community. Look at these from the perspectives of the different types of members (under "constitution"). Also discuss the "value-added" to each member group

0	1	2	3	4	5	Orientations	Variants	Key activities/your notes

☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	Category	Options	Notes
☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	**Meetings** Many communities place a great emphasis on regular meetings where members engage in shared activities for a specific time. Meetings, and the visible participation of members, assert the community's existence	☑ Face-to-face/blended ☐ Online synchronous ☐ Online asynchronous	Most members in the community discussed would be meeting in-person as they work on their mission of bettering the world.
☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	**Open-ended conversation** Some communities maintain ongoing conversations as their primary vehicles for learning. Open-ended conversations are common when a community is co-located and people keep the conversation going as they "bump" into each other.	☐ Single-stream discussions ☐ Multi-topic conversations ☑ Distributed conversations	Again with a lot of face to face meetings, the opportunity for conversations is always high and meaningful.
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	**Projects** In some communities' members want to focus on particular topics, go deep, and collaborate on projects to solve problems or produce useful artifacts. Learning is not just a matter of sharing knowledge or discussing issues. Members need to do things together in order to develop their practice. Projects usually involve a subgroup within the community	☐ Practice groups ☑ Project teams ☐ Instruction	The whole premise of the community is to accomplish the UN SDG goals and the way the communities do this is by doing projects, such as finding ways to reduce food waste, etc.
☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	**Content** Some communities are primarily interested in creating, sharing, and providing access to documents, tools, and other content. Valuable and well-organized content is a useful resource for members	☐ Library ☐ Structured self-publish ☑ Open self-publish ☐ Content integration	Content and how to access it is helpful but probably not necessary for most members who are simply working but would be important for those creating new projects and handling the software side of things
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	**Access to expertise** Some communities create value by providing focused and timely access to expertise in the community's domain, whether internally or externally. Communities with this orientation focus on answering questions, fulfilling requests for advice, or engaging in collaborative, just-in-time problem solving	☐ Questions & requests ☐ Access to experts ☑ Shared problem solving ☐ Knowledge validation ☐ Apprenticeship & mentoring	By coming together, communities can share their problem solving skills and accomplish the SDG goals.

☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	**Relationships** Some communities focus on relationship building among members as the basis for both ongoing learning and being available to each other. This orientation emphasizes the interpersonal aspect of learning together. Communities with this orientation place a high value on knowing each other personally, emphasizing networking, trust building, and mutual discovery	☑ Connecting ☐ Knowing about people ☐ Interacting informally	With everyone focused the same/similar goals and having the same passion for making the world a better place, connecting is essential and members can often become good friends and co-members.
☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	**Individual participation** Learning together happens in the context of a group, but it is realized in the experience of individuals. People bring different backgrounds, communication styles, and aspirations to their participation in a community. People have different levels of commitment, they take on different roles, and they use tools differently	☑ Levels of participation ☐ Personalization ☐ Individual development ☐ Multi-membership	There are various levels of participation as discussed above, whether directly contributing to the cause via physical labour or managing the software and corporate side of things.
☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	**Community cultivation** Some communities are happy with loose self-organization and unplanned evolution, while others thrive on attention to community cultivation. They have a need to reflect on the effectiveness and health of the community to make things better, joined with a willingness to work on it	☐ Democratic governance ☑ Strong core group ☐ Internal coordination ☐ External facilitation	The community has a common goal and therefore is able to have a strong core group where everyone is willing to work together.
☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	**Service context** In some cases, serving a specific context becomes central to the community's identity and the ways it operates. They may live inside an organization, whose charter their practice needs to serve. They may have a mission to provide learning resources to the world or to recruit members widely. Or they may seek interactions with other communities whose domain complements their own	☐ Organization as context ☐ Cross-organizational ☐ Other related communities ☑ Public mission	The community has a public mission to reduce consumption and production overall, as well as providing clean energy to all.

Scratchpad (other interesting insights, questions/answers, etc.)