# Center of Excellence (CoE) Starter Kit

Operationalizing Power Platform Governance

What is the Center of Excellence Starter Kit?

The Center of Excellence (CoE) Starter Kit is Microsoft's comprehensive solution for organizations implementing enterprise-grade Power Platform governance. This collection of pre-built Power Platform components provides IT leaders with the tools, dashboards, and processes needed to monitor, govern, and scale low-code development across the enterprise.

Built by Microsoft's own CoE team, the starter kit represents proven best practices from thousands of enterprise deployments. It transforms governance from reactive fire-fighting into proactive strategic enablement.
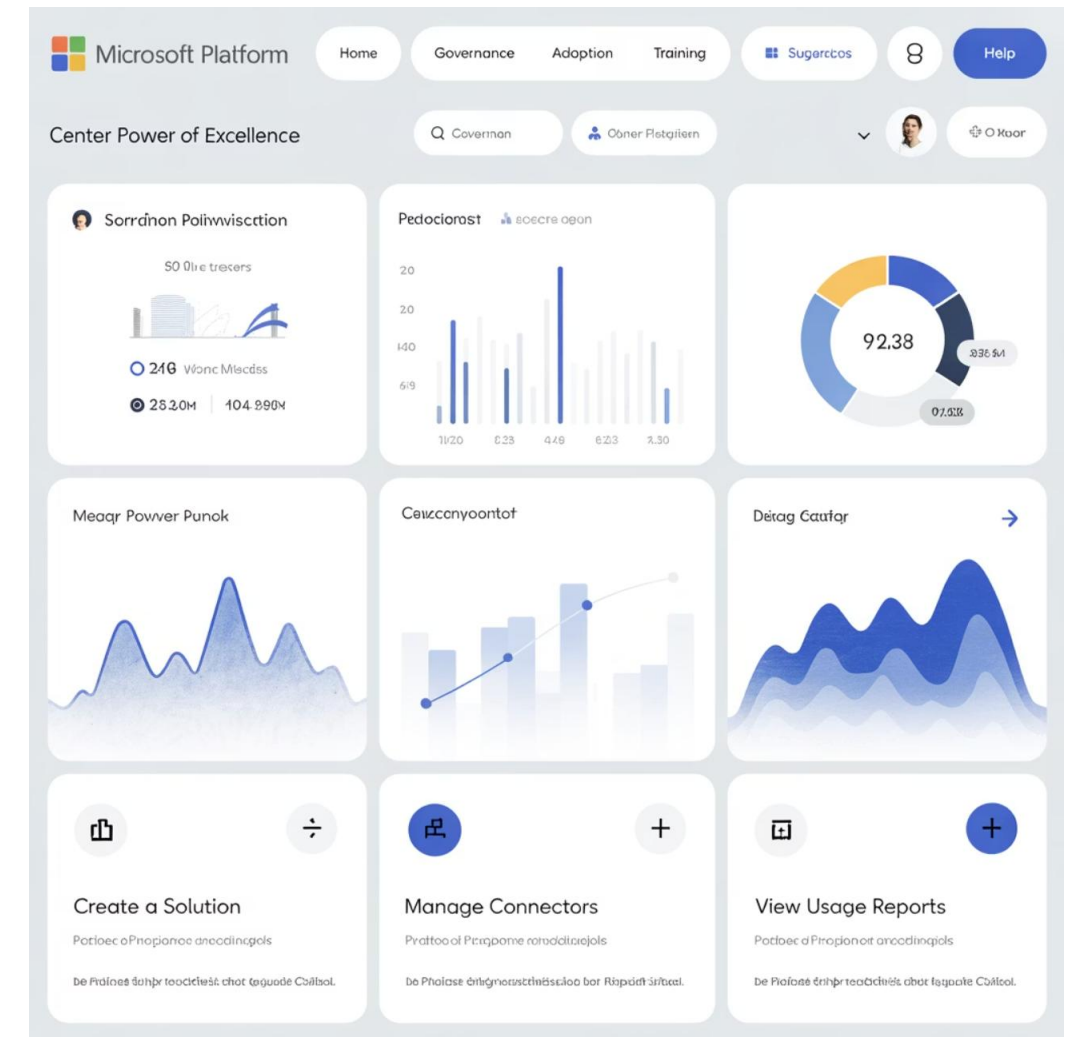
CoE Starter Kit Components

Core Components

- Data model and connectors
- Power BI dashboards
- Admin flows and apps
- Inventory and monitoring

Governance Components

- Policy enforcement flows
- Compliance monitoring
- Archival processes
- Risk assessment tools

Nurture Components

- Maker onboarding
- Training programs
- Community management
- Support request system

Pre-Installation Prerequisites

01

Environment Setup

Establish dedicated CoE environment with appropriate licensing and security configurations. Ensure Power Platform admin privileges and tenant-level permissions.

02

Service Principal Configuration

Create and configure service principals with necessary API permissions for automated data collection and administrative operations.
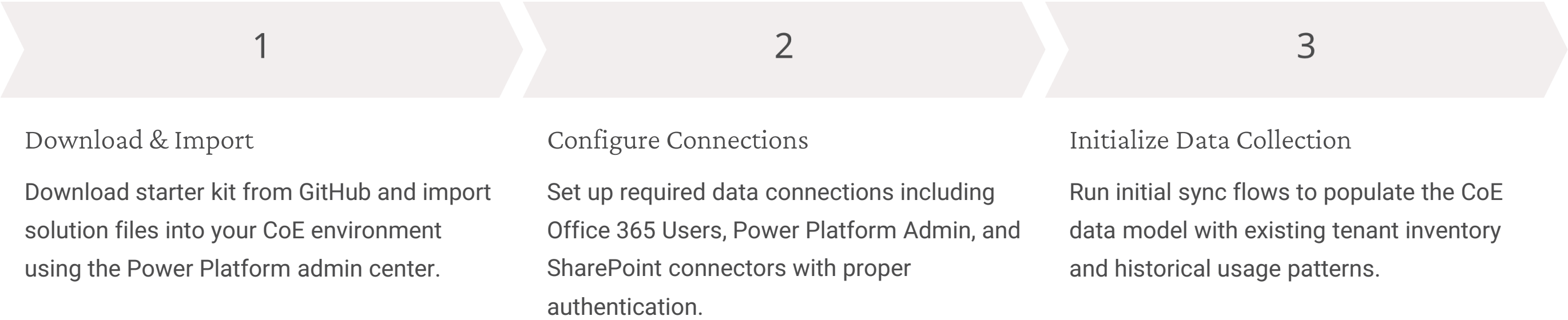
03

Data Loss Prevention Review

Review existing DLP policies to ensure CoE components can function properly while maintaining security boundaries.

04

Stakeholder Alignment

Secure executive sponsorship and define CoE team roles, responsibilities, and success metrics before deployment.

Installation Process

1	2	3
Download & Import	**Configure Connections**	**Initialize Data Collection**
Download starter kit from GitHub and import solution files into your CoE environment using the Power Platform admin center.	Set up required data connections including Office 365 Users, Power Platform Admin, and SharePoint connectors with proper authentication.	Run initial sync flows to populate the CoE data model with existing tenant inventory and historical usage patterns.

https://github.com/microsoft/coe-starter-kit

CoE Dashboard Overview

The CoE Starter Kit provides comprehensive Power BI dashboards that transform raw tenant data into actionable insights. These dashboards serve as your command center for Power Platform governance, offering real-time visibility into adoption patterns, risk indicators, and operational metrics.

Each dashboard is designed for specific stakeholder groups - from executive summaries showing ROI and adoption trends to detailed technical reports for administrators monitoring security and compliance.

Key Dashboard Categories

1
Executive Dashboard
High-level metrics showing Power Platform ROI, user adoption rates, and business value creation across the organization.

2
Admin Dashboard
Technical insights for IT teams including app performance, connector usage, security compliance, and resource consumption patterns.

| 3 |
|---|
| **Maker Dashboard** |
| Self-service analytics for citizen developers showing their app usage, performance metrics, and improvement recommendations. |

4
Governance Dashboard
Compliance monitoring, policy violations, risk assessments, and audit trails for regulatory and security teams.

Monitoring App Activity

Application Insights

- Active user counts and session analytics

- App performance and error rates

- Feature adoption and usage patterns

- Business value metrics and ROI tracking

The CoE tracks every app interaction, providing deep insights into which applications deliver business value and which may need optimization or retirement.
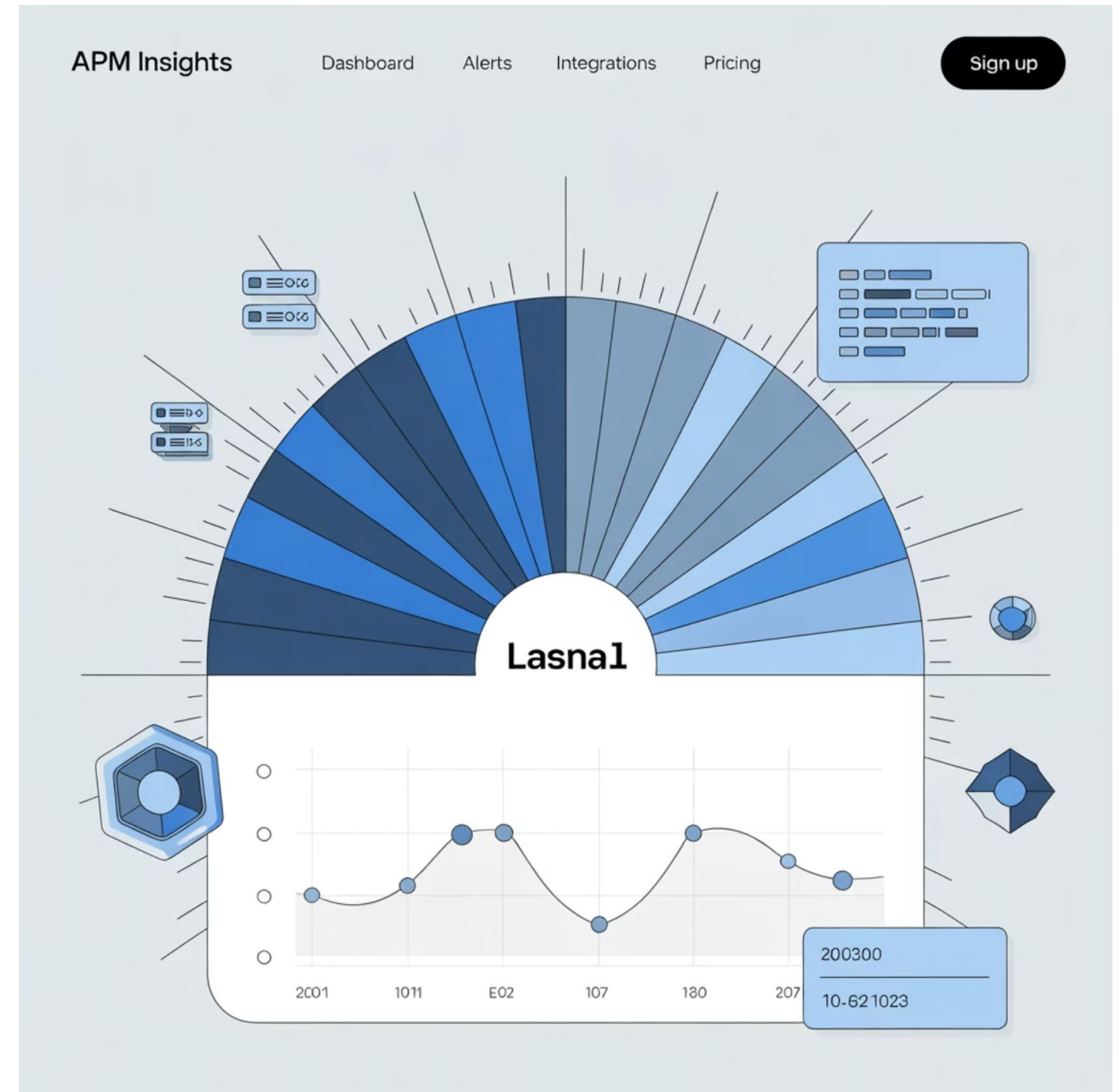
Flow Monitoring and Analytics

Power Automate flows are critical infrastructure components that require continuous monitoring. The CoE Starter Kit provides comprehensive flow analytics including run history, success rates, performance bottlenecks, and failure patterns.

99.8%

Success Rate Tracking

Monitor flow reliability across environments

2.3s

Average Runtime

Performance optimization opportunities

1.2M

Monthly Executions

Usage volume and scaling requirements

Maker Activity Intelligence

Understanding maker behavior is crucial for effective governance. The CoE provides detailed analytics on developer activity, skill progression, and community engagement patterns. This intelligence enables targeted support and identifies potential governance risks before they become problems.

- **Skill Development Tracking:** Monitor maker progression from beginner to advanced capabilities

- **Collaboration Patterns:** Identify knowledge sharing opportunities and mentor relationships

- **Risk Indicators:** Flag unusual activity patterns that may indicate security or compliance issues
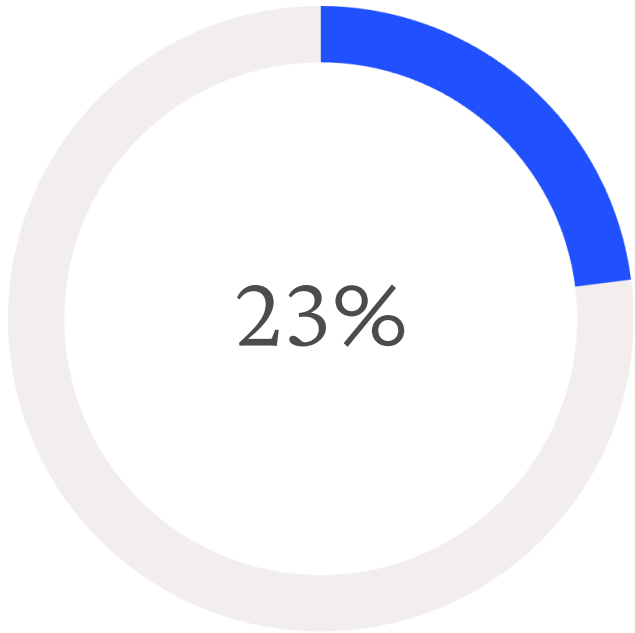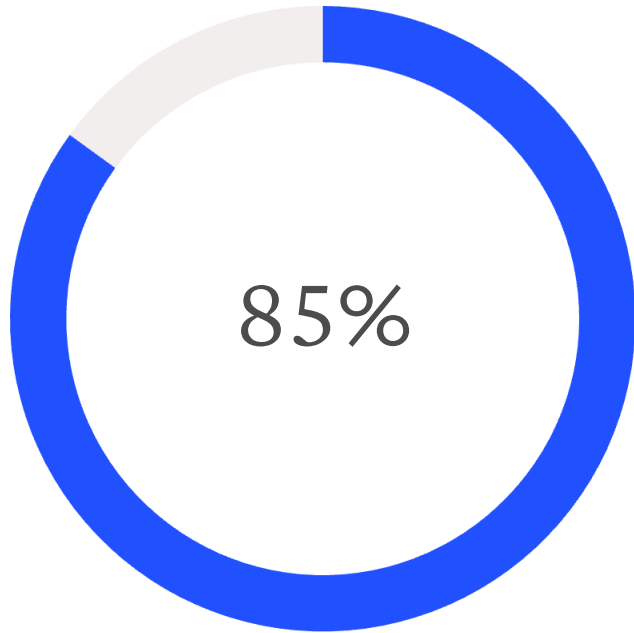
Administration: Adoption Monitoring

47%
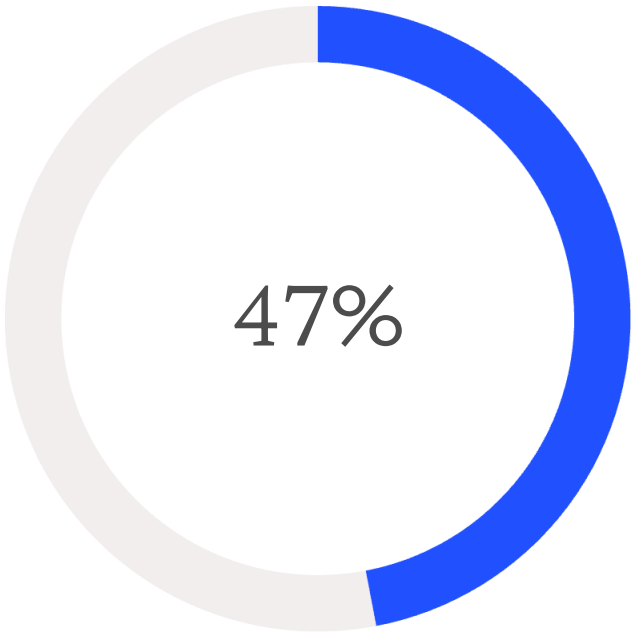
Monthly Active Users

Percentage growth in Power Platform adoption

23%

New Maker Onboarding

Citizen developers joining monthly

85%

App Utilization Rate

Applications with regular active usage

The CoE tracks adoption metrics across multiple dimensions - from individual user engagement to department-level transformation initiatives. These insights help IT leaders demonstrate business value and identify areas requiring additional support or training.

Data Usage and Capacity Planning

Effective data governance requires understanding how information flows through your Power Platform ecosystem. The CoE provides detailed analytics on data source utilization, connector usage patterns, and capacity consumption trends.
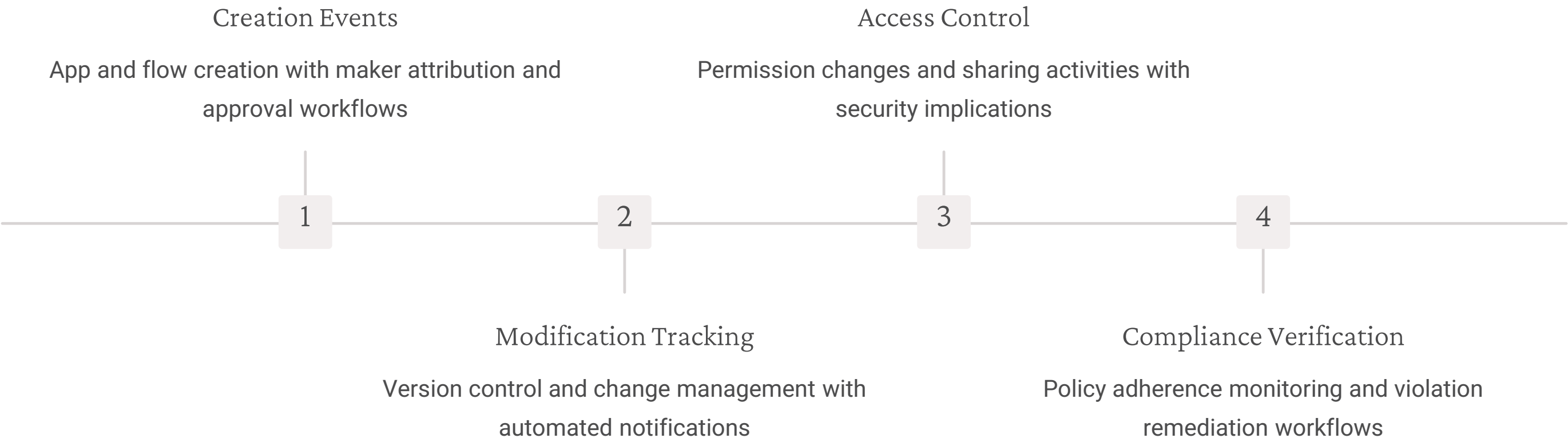
Key Monitoring Areas:

- Dataverse storage consumption and growth trends

- Premium connector usage and licensing optimization

- API call volume and rate limiting considerations

- Cross-environment data movement patterns
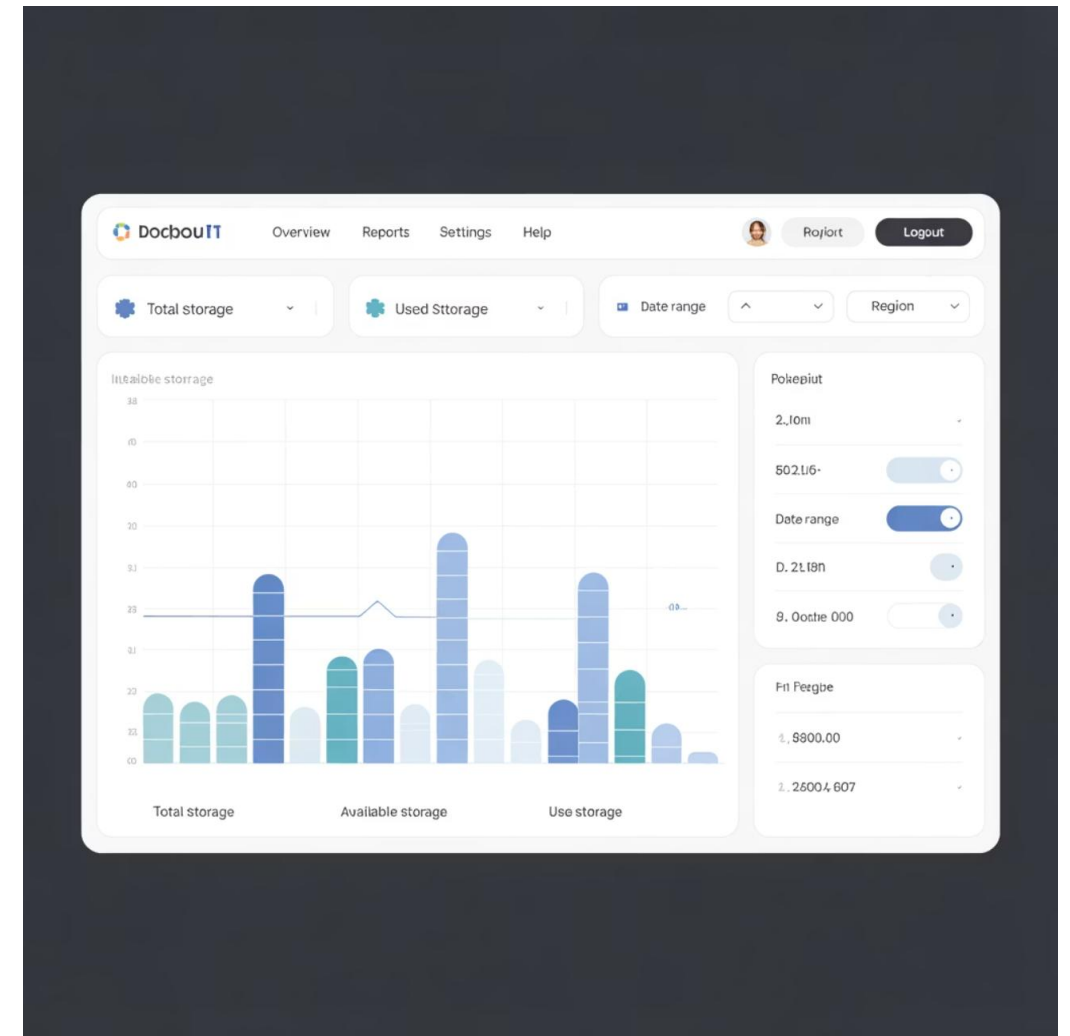
Governance: Auditing Capabilities

The CoE Starter Kit transforms Power Platform auditing from manual processes into automated intelligence. Built-in audit trails capture every significant action across your tenant, providing the documentation needed for compliance and security investigations.

Creation Events

App and flow creation with maker attribution and approval workflows

Access Control

Permission changes and sharing activities with security implications

1　　　　**2**　　　　**3**　　　　**4**

Modification Tracking

Version control and change management with automated notifications

Compliance Verification

Policy adherence monitoring and violation remediation workflows

Compliance Enforcement Automation

Manual compliance checking doesn't scale in enterprise environments. The CoE automates policy enforcement through intelligent workflows that continuously monitor your Power Platform estate and take corrective action when violations are detected.

Policy Violation Detection

Automated scanning for apps and flows that violate organizational policies, with severity scoring and risk assessment

Automated Remediation

Configurable response workflows including notifications, quarantine, and automatic correction of common violations

Archiving and Lifecycle Management

01

Identify Candidates

Automated detection of unused or abandoned applications based on usage patterns and maker activity

02

Stakeholder Notification

Proactive communication with app owners and business stakeholders before archival actions

03

Graceful Retirement

Managed archival process with data preservation and rollback capabilities if needed

The CoE implements intelligent lifecycle management that prevents environment bloat while preserving business-critical applications. Automated workflows handle the complex process of identifying, validating, and archiving unused resources.

Nurture: Maker Onboarding Excellence

The CoE transforms maker onboarding from ad-hoc training into a structured, scalable program. New citizen developers receive personalized learning paths, access to mentorship networks, and the tools needed for successful low-code development.

Onboarding Components:

- Skills assessment and personalized training recommendations
- Automated environment provisioning with appropriate permissions
- Connection to community resources and expert networks

Community Best Practices Program

Innovation Hub

Showcase successful solutions and emerging use cases

Mentorship Network

Connect experienced makers with newcomers
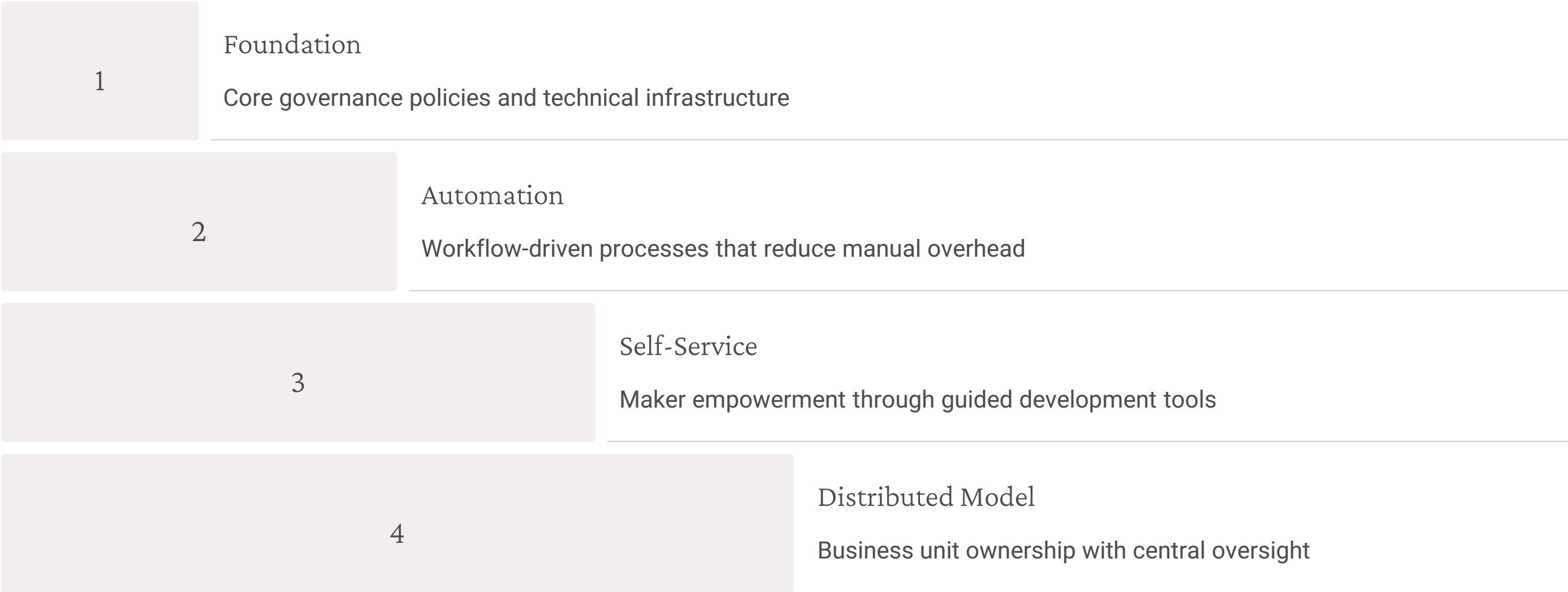
Recognition Program

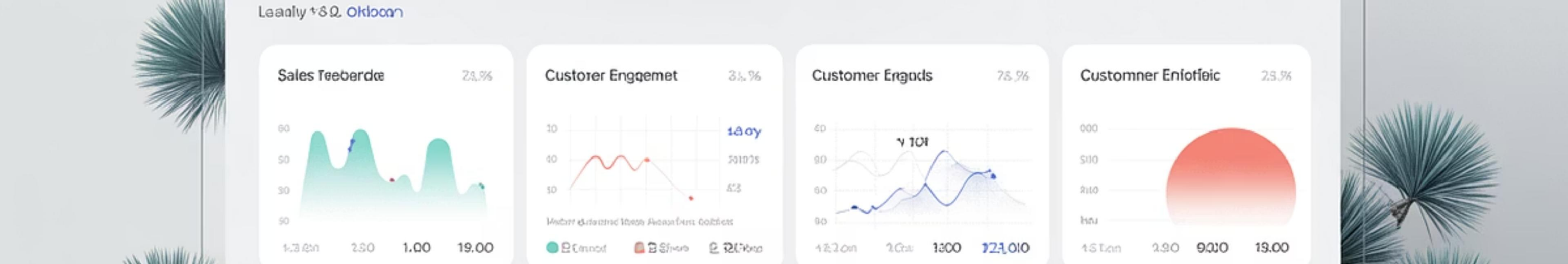Celebrate achievements and encourage adoption

Knowledge Base

Curated resources and organizational standards

Scaling Strategy: Building Sustainable Governance

Enterprise Power Platform success requires governance that scales with adoption. The CoE provides the foundation for sustainable growth through automated processes, self-service capabilities, and distributed governance models.

1

Foundation

Core governance policies and technical infrastructure

2

Automation

Workflow-driven processes that reduce manual overhead

3

Self-Service

Maker empowerment through guided development tools

4

Distributed Model

Business unit ownership with central oversight

Implementation Success Metrics

Measuring CoE effectiveness requires tracking both technical and business outcomes. The starter kit includes built-in metrics that demonstrate governance ROI and identify optimization opportunities.

65%	40%	3.2x
Compliance Rate	Support Ticket Reduction	Development Velocity
Applications meeting organizational policies	Decreased IT intervention requirements	Faster solution delivery with governance

Ready to Transform Your Power Platform Governance?

The CoE Starter Kit provides everything needed to operationalize enterprise-grade Power Platform governance. Start with core components, expand through automation, and scale with confidence.

Next Steps

- Download the CoE Starter Kit from GitHub
- Plan your implementation roadmap
- Establish your CoE team and processes
- Begin with core monitoring capabilities