

ENSE 405

Activity #2: Community characteristics & orientation

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Community (UN SD goal): 12. Responsible Consumption and Production, 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities

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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
<input type="checkbox"/> 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.	
<input type="checkbox"/> 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.	Community is seeking the right technology and infrastructure to incorporate the context and services with an effective design. Technology tools are still in experimentation phases and are being observed for best response from community members activities and practices.
<input type="checkbox"/> 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?	
<input type="checkbox"/> 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?	
Constitution		
Diversity: How diverse is the community?		
Topic	Your notes	



What are the different types of members and what are their levels of participation?	This community involves world experts researching in the field and putting information for public, world wide organizations interested in community developments and contributing in community by adopting experts advice and individual participants seeking knowledge and good community practices.	
How spread apart is it in terms of location and time zones?	This community is working world-wide since experts and organizations from all over the world are sharing their advanced technical skills, effective practices and activities for others to use.	
What language(s) do members speak?	Due to the diversity, this community is not limited to a single language. Content and learning resources have the ability to translate into multiple languages and similar content, tools guide are available in most of the languages.	
What other cultural or other diversity aspects may affect your technology choices?	There are no cultural limitations to the community since experts and organizations are contributing from different regions and following global standards to achieve global acceptance.	
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	<input type="checkbox"/> To be private/secure <input type="checkbox"/> Open boundaries <input type="checkbox"/> Both private & public spaces	Community requires both private and public spaces to create a difference between experts researching content and public reviews from activities and experience. It cannot provide editing access for specific content(statistics and proven methods) to the public.
How does your community need to interact with other communities? Do you need common tools for sharing and learning with them?		Sharing tool can be essential for this community since it's still in self-designing phases, sharing with other communities will allow them to raise awareness and receive feedback.
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?		Technology is the key since most of the relevant content and practices are shared through digital platforms. Therefore, the community is seeking technology to provide a learning platform, sharing tools, generating libraries of good and bad practices.
What is their capacity for learning new tools?		Due to limited existing tools, the community needs more technical skills and practices. More organized and structured platforms are needed to provide a knowledge crowd with information.
What is the range of skills? If their interests and/or skills are diverse, could it cause conflict or distraction?		Skill ranges vary between experts with detailed knowledge on scientific context and technical experts with more knowledge on how to structure platforms for the public which can cause conflict and distraction. As observed, some platforms are focusing on providing formal content and background while some platforms are focusing on interaction between community members.
How tolerant are members of the adoption of a wide variety of tools?		Community members are still new to the variety of tools and are not properly educated with the instructions to use some advanced tools such as barcode scanner, eco-friendly tags.



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.	Community members are always seeking for a better solution and therefore, they are willing to experiment with multiple tools to achieve results. As observed, popular platforms in the community include reviews and ratings of existing libraries, platforms providing detailed specifications of each product in the library and platforms providing learning experience to new members of the community.
What are your members' technology constraints (e.g., bandwidth, operating systems, etc.)?	Limitations include platforms lacking cross-compatibility with devices, information dependency on network availability, some tools are limited to devices with cameras and etc.
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	Experts are frequently involved and spending more time towards information and tools. Knowledge crowd is less active and mostly seeks platforms when there's a need for guidance with a problem. Therefore, it mostly involves online activities from home or relevant locations in the community (organizations working as experts in the community)

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
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/> Face-to-face/blended <input type="checkbox"/> Online synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Online asynchronous	Meetings are only required for small groups. Mostly experts collaborating for development in the field. Individual members are not interested.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.	<input type="checkbox"/> Single-stream discussions <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-topic conversations <input type="checkbox"/> Distributed conversations	Conversation between members of the community is useful and productive since there are a lot of members seeking reasoning and overall impacts of the community.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Projects	<input type="checkbox"/> Practice groups <input type="checkbox"/> Project teams	Project orientation is valued since several project groups and



						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	<input type="checkbox"/> Instruction	teams are formed to address different issues in the community such as project teams to provide manufacturing brands with information and project groups generating a variety of tools for the community.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/> Library <input type="checkbox"/> Structured self-publish <input type="checkbox"/> Open self-publish <input type="checkbox"/> Content integration	Community requires a strong source of library to provide interested members with latest developments and practices. Community is dependent on scientific research.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/> Questions & requests <input type="checkbox"/> Access to experts <input type="checkbox"/> Shared problem solving <input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge validation <input type="checkbox"/> Apprenticeship & mentoring	Key activities include FAQs, online conversation with experts. Experts could be brands promoting their products relevant to the community.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/> Connecting <input type="checkbox"/> Knowing about people <input type="checkbox"/> Interacting informally	Interaction is limited between members and does not require relationship orientation. Community is more focused on content and services than interaction.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/> Levels of participation <input type="checkbox"/> Personalization <input type="checkbox"/> Individual development	Individual participation and personalization through customized filter results for information allows individuals to receive preferred information only. Multi-membership with



						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	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-membership	other communities can help with community integration with other communities.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/> Democratic governance <input type="checkbox"/> Strong core group <input type="checkbox"/> Internal coordination <input type="checkbox"/> External facilitation	Internal coordination and external facilitation are focused in the community to provide coordination between organizations and provide external facilitation to the knowledge crowd.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization as context <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-organizational <input type="checkbox"/> Other related communities <input type="checkbox"/> Public mission	Majority of the community is focused on a public mission to resolve environmental issues and generate good practices for responsible consumption and production. Services include learning tools, experts opinions and selection tools.
Scratchpad (other interesting insights, questions/answers, etc.)								