OSPO Book // TODO

OSPO END-USER
JOURNEY REPORT

SONY

SONY

OSPO SPOTLIGHT

Unlike ad-hoc activities, such as OSS license consultations that focus only on specific fields, the OSPO can consider broader and deeper aspects that were previously overlooked

Hiro Fukuchi

The OSPO End User Journey report highlights active Open Source Program Offices Practitioners and demonstrates how their organizations grow their open source knowledge and benefit from building a strategic vision and commitment around open source through an OSPO. Our first OSPO End User Journey report looks at Sony. Sony's OSPO covers Sony's business segments, which include semiconductor, electronics, gaming, and picture-related industries.

THE SUPPORT TEAM TO BRING A PARADIGM SHIFT FOR EMPLOYEES AND MANAGEMENT

By the time Hiro - Senior OSPO Alliance Manager- and Alin - Open Source Community Manager- joined the team, the open source efforts were made by a virtual committee led by a few open source evangelists, an ad-hoc activity, focused mainly on legal risk management and collaboration with the legal and IP department. The virtual committee created the guidance on OSS usage, including licenses and contributions. After Years, the OSPO was formally established to continue and expand the open source efforts. ***The perceived value of the OSPO concept lies in its ability to bring about a paradigm shift, from a risk management and support operation office to strategic function. However, the challenge lies in spreading awareness and information about the OSPO's actual role***, says Masa Kuwata - OSPO Manager at Sony.

SONY

OSPO SPOTLIGHT

Our goal is that open source development practices, and the philosophy could be seamlessly woven into the fabric of the organization's operations, processes, and systems, creating a cohesive and harmonious environment

Alin Jerpelea

OSPO IN ACTION

WHY IS THE OSPO AT SONY NEEDED?

The organization operates as the center of open source activity for employees and management to bring a paradigm shift.

WHAT IS THE OSPO AT SONY?

A Center of Excellence: **Open source integrated at all levels within the organization adapted to everyone's needs**

In order to do that, the OSPO provides internal education through various means, including:

- Training courses such as LF training courses and internal training courses.
- Internal open source events.
- Creation of internal communities, OSS license committees, and technical communities.
- Promoting participation in external open source events.
- Publishing newsletters like OSS quarterly reports.

Also, the OSPO collaborates hand in hand with open source communities and foundations to address compliance, open source sustainability, or security challenges.
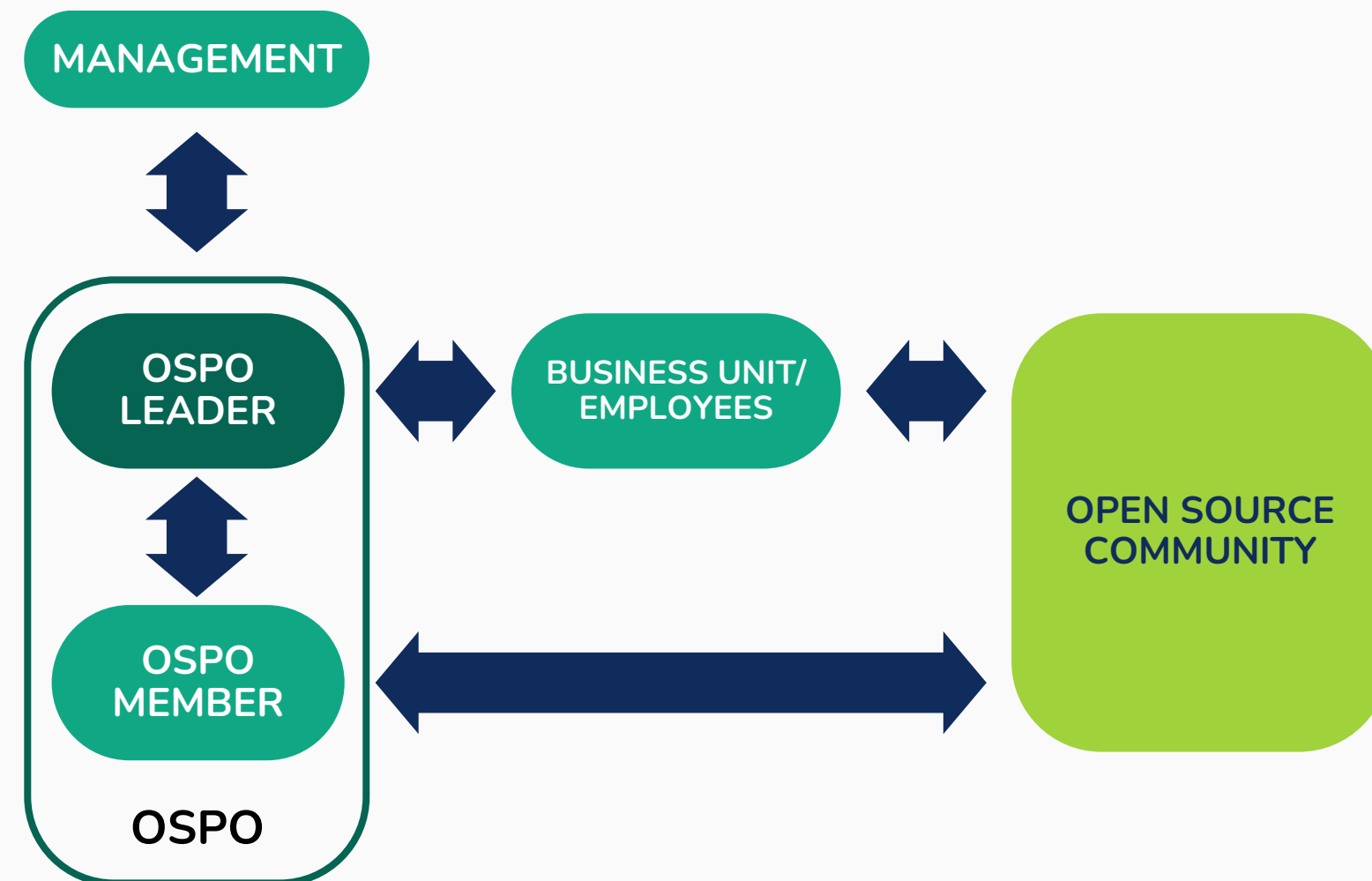
SONY

WHERE DOES THE OSPO AT SONY OPERATE?

The people behind the OSPO support the organization and share the value of open source and its philosophy across different layers:

Management Level

Alignment between OSS strategy and business strategy.

OSPO Level

Evolving OSPOs and OSPO network inside the conglomerate company.

Employee Level

Driving cultural change and encouraging an open source culture among employees.

Business Units

Encouraging collaboration between different business units and sharing best practices.

SONY

HOW DOES THE OSPO AT SONY WORK?

The people behind the OSPO share knowledge with various internal and external open source players through different channels:

- **Management, Committees and OSPO Team:** Monthly meetings.
- **Employees:** Consultations, internal websites, internal social networking sites, OSS quarterly reports, and internal OSS events.
- **Staff:** Collaboration with the legal department and the Intellectual Property department.
- **Community:** Sharing best practices at external OSS events, and exchanging opinions at the OSS community, such as TODO Group and OpenChain project.
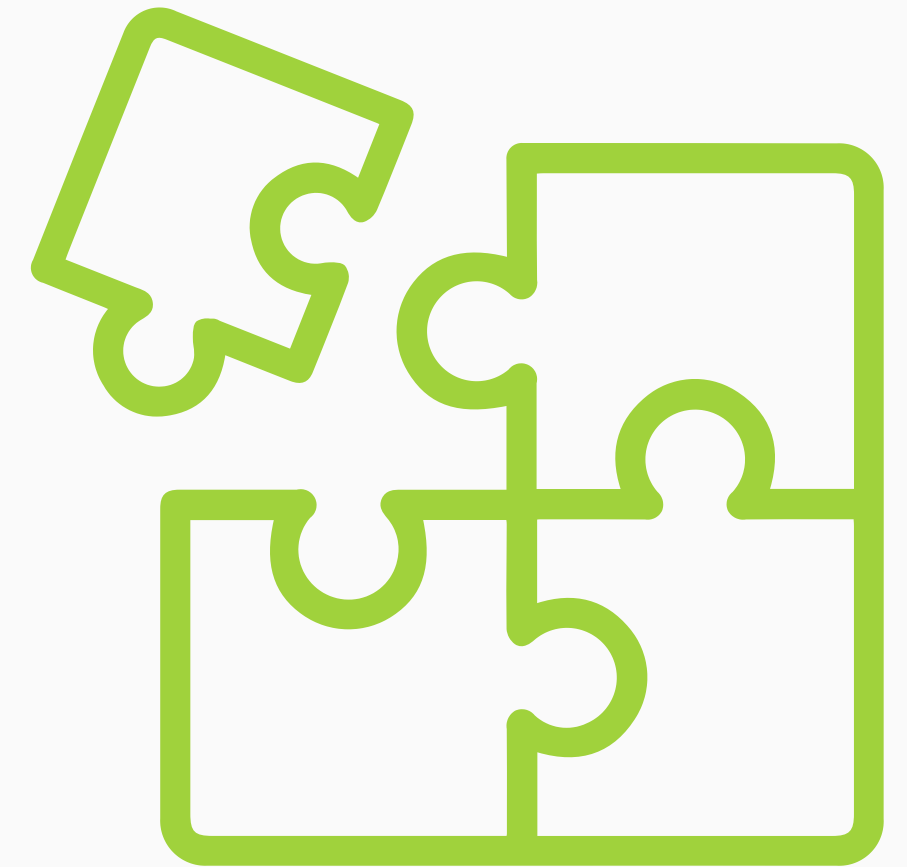
SONY

RECOMMENDATIONS

An organization with an OSPO or similar open source initiative might be encountering situations* like the ones we share in this section.

The team behind the OSPO at SONY have shared with us some recommendations that could assist others in overcoming these challenges

SITUATION #1

An OSPO underestimates the impact of the open source community, similar to democracy, on the company and society, and disregards the potential positive and negative effects it can have

Base one of your pillars of the open source strategy on engaging with the open source community and building effective communication plans, to analyze the health and needs of the community and take the necessary actions to help

SITUATION #2

An OSPO solely focuses on technical aspects, neglecting community collaboration

Build a genuine OSPO that also embraces the community aspect

SITUATION #3

An OSPO separates efforts on security and data management challenges respectively

Include societal issues that arise with the widespread adoption of open source philosophy

SITUATION #4

An OSPO neglects the necessary cultural and structural changes within the company and society to effectively utilize and create OSS strategically

Invest in needed training, tools, and other means to address cultural change while working on the technical integration of open source software

SITUATION #5

An OSPO wants to avoid a lack of internal and external community development

Recognize the need for collaboration within the organization and with external communities and society

*Scenarios provided in this section are random examples and are not related with Sony's Open Source Program Office

OSPO Book // TODO

MORE RESOURCES

OSPO Definition

TODO Guides

OSPO 101 Modules

OSPO Landscape

TODO Project Repo

SOCIAL MEDIA

Mastodon

LinkedIn

OSPO Forum

OSPOlogy Panels

ABOUT

The OSPO Book is one of the many initiatives hosted under the OSPOlogy repo.

Lead by the community of OSPO practitioners behind the **Linux Foundation**'s TODO Group project, the project addresses the following needs:

- **Helps Organizations:** Makes a simple guide about open source program offices for people within OSPOs.
- **Shares Knowledge:** Creates a living OPSO body of knowledge.
- **Fills in the Blanks:** Fixes missing parts in what we know about OSPOs, to make a useful book.
- **Works Together:** Different open source actors, like representatives from foundations, organizations and projects, are the authors and contributors of this project.

OSPO LOCAL COMMUNITY - JAPAN

Members of the OSPO at Sony are part of the **OSPO Local Meetups Japan** community. This community discusses the current state of Open Source Program Offices in Japan and promotes the adoption of open source strategies within organizations. Supported by TODO Group and OpenChain Japan Working Group.

TODO GROUP

TODO is the largest open community of practitioners who aim to create and share knowledge, collaborate on practices, tools, and other ways to run successful and effective Open Source Program Offices or similar Open Source initiatives. Learn more at todogroup.org.