

ADVANCING THE CONVERSATION

on Scaling National Informal STEM Programs

Dissemination Toolkit

Thank you for agreeing to help disseminate the *Guidelines for Equitably Scaling Informal STEM Programs* and *Collaborative Decision-Making Tool for Equitably Scaling Informal STEM Programs*. In this toolkit, you will find key information about the resources and sample social media posts to amplify and share with your network. If you have any questions, please contact Tara Cox at tcx@ngcproject.org.

BACKGROUND

In 2023, the National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP) and Education Development Center (EDC) collaborated with informal STEM learning practitioners to co-design *Advancing the Conversation on Scaling National Informal STEM Programs*, a conference to examine current frameworks and conceptions of scale in informal STEM learning. This conference convened and elevated voices commonly missing from scale-related conversations: the people who work directly with youth and families to provide informal STEM learning programs.

Following the conference, NGCP, EDC, and collaborators developed a set of resources for anyone interested in **equitably scaling informal STEM learning programs and curricula**, including, but not limited to, program developers, implementers, researchers, evaluators, and funders.

OVERVIEW OF THE NEW RESOURCES

[*Guidelines for Equitably Scaling Informal STEM Programs*](#) outlines the contextual issues around scaling informal STEM programs, discusses the limitations of current frameworks for scaling, and provides six guidelines to consider for equitable scaling.

Practitioners can also utilize the companion document, [*Collaborative Decision-Making Tool for Equitably Scaling Informal STEM Programs*](#), to begin implementing the guidelines. This tool provides a starting place for those interested in applying these ideas to their practice.

These resources are not intended as how-to guides on scaling. Rather, they serve to empower people to engage in conversations and ask critical questions related to equity and scaling.

WEBINAR ON JUNE 4, 2024

NGCP, EDC, and practitioners from across informal STEM learning spaces hosted a webinar on June 4, 2024, titled, *Scaling STEM Equitably: Practitioner-Driven Reflections and Emerging*

Guidelines. During this webinar, participants heard reflections from the field on the challenges and opportunities of engaging in equity-centered scaling. The webinar recording can be viewed [here](#).

ESSENTIAL LINKS

- <https://ngcproject.org/ScalingInformalSTEMPrograms> - This link can be used to share overall information about the project, including the new resources.
- <https://ngcproject.org/resources/new-tools-transforming-equitable-scale-informal-stem-programs> - This blog post can be used to share the new resources.
- <https://ngcproject.org/resources/scaling-stem-equitably-practitioner-driven-reflections-and-emerging-guidelines> - This resource page includes a link to the webinar recording, slides, and chat transcript.

GRAPHICS & IMAGES

- [Social media graphics](#) - These designed social media graphics can be used to share about the new resources.
- [Images from the conference](#) - These images from the conference can be used in social media posts or other dissemination efforts.

Accessibility note: Please make sure to include alt text (a textual description) when posting an image or a graphic to increase digital accessibility. [Click here](#) for more information.

ACCOUNTS TO TAG

- **LinkedIn:** @national-girls-collaborative @edc.org
- **X:** @ngcproject @EDCtweets
- **Facebook:** @ngcproject @edc.worldwide
- **Instagram:** @ngcproject @edc_org/

SAMPLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS FOR X

These can be adapted for other platforms. Make sure you tag the correct handles using the accounts above!

Report Release

New Resource: *Guidelines for Equitably Scaling Informal STEM Programs* by @ngcproject, @edctweets & collaborators! Explore the resource to consider WHO benefits from scaling #STEM programs, HOW to center equity, WHY it matters. #STEMEquity
ngcproject.org/ScalingInformalSTEMPrograms



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New Resource: *Collaborative Decision-Making Tool for Equitably Scaling Informal STEM Programs* helps all who influence #STEMEquity with a four-step process to help practitioners apply more equitable decision-making strategies.

<https://ngcproject.org/ScalingInformalSTEMPrograms>

Webinar Promotion

Watch the webinar recording *Scaling STEM Equitably* hosted by @ngcproject, @edctweets, and informal STEM practitioners to hear about the challenges and opportunities of equity-centered scaling and learn about new resources. <https://bit.ly/3x3Lh0B>



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