

Mapping network resources flows in a Social System Map

DeepDive April 19th 2021

MentiMeter Voting Link: <https://www.menti.com/oeaq5uaqcr>

MentiMeter Slides:

https://static.mentimeter.com/screenshot/pdfs/DeepDive%204%2F19%2F21%20-%20Mapping%20Resource%20Flows.pdf?seriesId=c315a577260e4c2fb554dcc0f0348eab&screenshotTargetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mentimeter.com%2Fpreview&_ga=2.206833109.794584.1618845797-722728157.1614799589

Similarities	Differences
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Highlight inequity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not as much focus on relationships in why and how compared to the initial what
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to visualize the flows & make sense together	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• KA - allocations in many ways, distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Missing - sense of ID, appreciating value
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Similarities in how people would use resource flow mapping - to see sources and recipients, and discern equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some disparate responses about implementing - from specific (e.g., Strategic Doing), to abstract, e.g., shifting from attributional to contributive sensemaking
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Different kinds of capital -- landscape or ecosystem	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finding ways to connect network perspective with systems perspective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation and the problem of attribution (rather than ensuring a focus on contribution)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Different purposes and levels of abstraction.

•	• What contributions do
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Mario M: What contributions are different players making toward the outcomes - not just the funders taking responsibility for all outcomes (find this in the recording)

Kathryn Alexander - Didn't see anyone reflecting the assets of the value of what they offer and what they are.

Major point was to get the neighborhood to understand what it owned and had access to and appreciate the assets in the neighborhood in a new way.

- Also not seeing people's history. I have a bias, there's something about age and length of time and experience that is an asset and often overlooked. Just having more history, more experience in that space, that is an asset and is often overlooked. That usually resides in people, we can view people as disposable when they really aren't and come with levels of experience you only gain over time.
- Sometimes they have criteria that are not needed to be met in certain situations and being undercut to produce the situations you really want.

Mary Roscoe - Think of funding as being sort of linear and restrictive. I was pleased to see this ecosystem of resources and wondering if more types of capacities, assets, resources are mapped, whether it would help with funding in terms of seeing organizations having a rich ecosystem not depending just on the financial funding.

- Someone contacted me about an idea that they saw at the local foundation that the normal thing they give grants and there's a reception for the grantees. What about the people who didn't get the grants? I did have the idea of gathering the people who didn't get the grants together to share resources. It seems like such a valuable group of people who are applying for grants and there's a disparity between those who get it and those who don't.
- It seems like you could do so much more in working in different ways with people. Mary was on a zoom call this week with people who had been rejected for their grant and had these feelings of shame.

Jim Best - Not seeing any thought about a gift economy mentality. I came into this thinking about flows and where they need to be but not thinking about what happens to relationships when thinking of the gift economy when you give and receive a gift and think about where it flows. Not just by flows and managing but thinking of how to build a community through gifting. Robin Wald Kimmerer, (Braiding Sweetgrass) ... also [The Serviceberry Economy](#) ... excellent!

- Question about all the things that we came up with in the mentimeter describing the richness of flow. Are there frameworks specifically about the relationships that would help us promote flow of all those things? Are there different kinds of relationships that promote flows of different kinds of things? Is there something we should be thinking about what we can measure in networks to increase flows? Are there ways to even measure, by mapping, the kind of flows that's actually happening? If visualizing flow is important, we need a way to visualize it.

Yes, Kathryn! That's a big component of asset mapping in the Strategic Doing process...valuing resources more than money, everyone has assets/resources to offer/share.

per Kathryn, not seeing diversity, in all it's many forms, as an asset

Christine Capra - One of the biggest puzzles of the power of funding to promote or stop promoting any kind of social change or any kind of relationship. That underlying power to support or just by omission thwart efforts at seeing and utilizing all these: money has this big veto power in a way. And even because people who are most in need of change or most motivated to make change are the people who are least resourced in a way. There's so often there's a chicken and egg thing about funding versus just self-organizing that becomes a problem over and over again in networks. How can we surface this problem and look at it to have a meaningful conversation? So often the people that have the funding in their hands so often it happens that if the outcomes are different from their

outcomes or are threatening to undermine their vision they can cut the project. Seeing a decouple from the power of funding from the power systems in networks so it can be more generative and less able to harm.

per Christine, besides funding, not seeing how power modulates resource flow in general

Anita Shervington - The power piece really resonated with me. What being interested in public engagement and research was seeing how powerful it could be on a community level when looking at how we can improve our communities when looking at it from a community manager perspective. When having researchers around the table with us and understanding there's a whole world of that happening around social engagements in the last decade or so but only available to the people in that sphere. Initially I thought my role was to whisper into ears and nudge a little bit to the people who are doing that work. While the principle people agreed with inclusion in practice, I needed to lead stuff on my own from a root engagement approach where it stays in the community and we reach out to those... Time talent treasure, if you're talking philanthropy it's not just about the money. Family, friends, and any one else I can connect with. Over time there's been a taxing of time and labor to move this work forward. The end of the day the people who are paid to be there and know how to access funding and speaking that language 'the secret live of trees' we know there's roots there but we don't get to access how things work because we don't know the criteria. In the last 12-months in particular I've realized how I'm holding the inequality in place for people who have to choose, "Am I gonna work at the supermarket or come to this meeting?". That power dynamic.. I worked on an event that looked around science and religion and put in months of volunteer time, with no money, the funder gave £300 which basically paid for teas and coffee but after the event received a complaint that she should not have allowed the participants to pray at the meeting. This was an event centered around science and religion. The funder reminded her that 'they controlled the money' but in reality it was the people who put the time and resources and effort into the project that controlled the meeting.

- Thinking about my own work and how things and people move around. There's different economies at work: trust all those things a part of relationship. I would draw on other people's assets that they have, I've never taken it, it's reciprocal in exchange. If someone allows me to use their space for example, I've given my time back at a later time in exchange. It's an unspoken flow of trust and reciprocity in a community which can not always be visualized outside of that. It's kind of an unspoken reciprocity that happens. So even thinking, "How do I make sure that at least 50% of those are from the community that we center in the work that we do?". Because it is an indirect representation, it requires a kind of ongoing unconscious programming of mining those relationships. My background is Caribbean, when someone dies, you celebrate their life so you could mistaken that you're in a wedding after party when it's a funeral. In that event there's a lot of story exchanging happening with the people you know in that space. So even in these exchanges there is always a giftback happening outside of the project paid to do or not that give back is unspoken and a part of the culture.

Mary - talking about those NOT funded

Brian - Like Mary's idea because it could also help communities being under the thumb of bureaucratic institutions by emphasizing resources other than money.

Seth - And hearing the voices of those who were not funded, as Mary suggests, can provide value to ONE ANOTHER, not just what is valued by the funder (which is what network weaving is all about).

Sarah - tense, practical, or supportive relationships are key indicators of success (what type of success?) .. reference?

- In terms of resource flows, how we may show on a map that projects have been supported by our org such as the ways that people have contributed to them. Or like how Jim was suggesting, what do those look like, if we look across our projects are we going to see different types of relationships that emerge from the potency of different types of collaborations so that we start thinking about different ways to allocate our resources in our network towards our values.

Mauricio - How regenerative our sources of capital ESG, bonds, strategy philanthropy, integrated capital pathways, and then moving into place horse capitalizing around community foundations that build credibility for place based outcomes for projects or programs. I see a lot emerging into the participatory grantmaking aspects. How the intermediary initiates grassroots to acknowledge the there are the change makers and organizing themselves to drive something forward. How people organize themselves to fund local projects in their communities again, power to people moving forward. On the people power aspect of this dialogue. I also see a lot of emergent dialogue in philanthropy as well. Talking about endowments so that's really aligned with climate emergence. It's about leading with actions and I wanted to put that forth, there's amazing movements and projects doing fascinating things. Moving independent sources of capital moving forth for the benefit of all. How principles spread and strategies really align outputs and inputs on activities but more on the philosophical source as well. <https://movementstrategy.org/b/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Spectrum-2-1-1.pdf>

Brian Dowling -

Jim - if flow is important, how do we visualize that flow? Are there relational qualities that promote flows of different types of resources? What network structures are important? (hub, brokered, small world, highly-connected?)

Janos - The problem is not in the individual persons but when they form a group or a project or a small organization, there starts some different thinking and they can find a common way. The system where the project wants to implement does so differently.

Logistics system but don't have an organization system for all communities.

Cara - moved to set this up for our deeperdive next call - Ask Christine for a 'blurb' for EventBrite details.

Christine, Jim, Kathryn, Mary, Anita, Janos, Paulette, Rebecca Wells, Brian D (Jim Best to support Rebecca Wells in the design and facilitation of the next deep dive)