Map Drawing Activity

1. Think of a project (preferably with people other than just staff of your organization) you are currently working on or are thinking about forming.
2. Draw circles in the middle of the people who are working (or could be working) most closely on this project. Put their names or initials in the circles. Draw lines between the individuals who know each other.
3. Now around that core, draw circles representing people or organizations who are part of the project in some way, but not part of the core group. Draw lines to show who specifically they are connected to in the core. Also, if any of them are connected to each other, draw lines to show this connection.
4. Finally, on the outside, put names of individuals, organizations, or missing skills, resources or perspectives that you would like to tap to make the project more successful.

Roles in Your Project

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Role | Who? |
| Co-coordinators (good to have two – one more experienced, one learning) |  |
| Communications |  |
| Learning and Reflection |  |
| Outreach |  |

Analyzing and Improving Your Project

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Analysis | Actions to Improve | Priority |
| Does this project have enough energy in the core? | Add people who would bring more energy. |  |
| Do people in the core know and trust each other? | Activities to help them get to know each other like Speed Networking |  |
| Is there diversity in the core?  Are any people you serve in the core? | Who could you add to bring in new perspectives? Who will reach out to them? |  |
| What individuals or organizations seem to have the most passion or interest in this project’s goals? Do you know specifically what they are most interested in? | Who could you connect them to who is also interested in this aspect of the project? |  |
| Are there people in the periphery or outside the network who could be brought in to the core? | Which 2-3 individuals or organizations would be the highest priority? Who might be the best person to bring that person in? |  |
| How can you expand your project’s periphery? | Who will reach out to the people on your map who are not now connected? |  |
| How is the project communicating with and engaging people who don’t come to every meeting? | Who might set up a group email or enewsletter or Facebook page for communication? Do you have occasional teleconference or web conference to keep people informed about your project? |  |
| Doe the project have enough resources? | Access new resources from innovative fundraising such as indiegogo.com |  |
| Is the group spending time at meetings and other sessions on learning and reflection? | Add time at the end of each call and meeting to ask “What has surprised us? What do we notice is working? What should we stop doing?” |  |