

7 Ways the Work Gets Done

INDIVIDUAL & COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE

Just learning more about the system's needs and dynamics from our collective intelligence and insight helps us each be better change agents back in our own agencies, organizations and companies.

COLLABORATIONS

Collaborations emerge spontaneously as we learn about one another's work. These can be one-to-one, partnerships, or new ventures among individual participants or groups of participants.

NETWORK INITIATIVE GROUPS

Initiative groups are created and implemented through “member power” with staff and logistics support from the backbone organization, and may leverage additional funding for bigger projects from funders, company foundations, or agencies.

WHOLE NETWORK PROJECTS

Certain large or complex initiatives may be developed and implemented as projects involving the whole network with staff and logistics support from the backbone organization, with project funding from other parties.

SPIN-OFFS OF THE NETWORK

Especially large initiatives may evolve into a separate network with its own design team, a new partnership, or a new organization or business venture that is formally spun off from the main network.

THROUGH OTHER GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Certain initiatives are important to foster but may not a good fit for the particular working group (for political or other reasons). The working group can “frame up” these initiatives and hand them off to other groups.

INFLUENCING THE LARGER SYSTEM

Just the existence of a collaboration starts to shift the narrative in the system you're working to change. When others know that many influential people are working together toward a big goal, it makes them pay attention to the issue you're working on, and even influences them to take action toward the goal—even when they are not part of the network or directly part of an initiative of the network.