

Establishing and Nurturing Networks

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WHY BUILD NETWORKS

- Pool in strengths and cover up weaknesses of individual member
- Bigger voice and convening power
- Higher effectiveness – outreach, resource utilization
- Sharing knowledge and experience – faster development
- Group strength

ELEMENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE NETWORK

- Personal commitment and dedication
- Common interest and congruent objectives
- Willingness to share (resources, knowledge, experience)
- Proactive participation with 'give and take' spirit
- No room for vested interests
- Need based and not just convenience based
- Feeling of togetherness
- Programmed and managed by members

NURTURING NETWORKS

- Networks raise visibility, effectiveness and opportunities for members
- Members contribute to networks and vice-versa
- Equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities for all members
- Informal but disciplined atmosphere
- Minimal but guaranteed resources
- Regular activities – dormancy to be avoided
- Recognition and appreciation by those who matter

SUSTAINING NETWORKS

- Rolling plan to create new areas of interest
- Challenging and ambitious future rolling plan
- Effective leadership to keep the network energized
- Ensuring resources (financial, knowledge) availability
- Regular interaction –interesting but not repetitive
- Establishing linkages with other similar networks

DEATH SIGNALS OF A NETWORK

- Members give less and expect more
- Interactions become repetitive → formal → uninteresting → burdensome
- Clash in member's interest – resources (funds), target groups, recognition
- Feeling of being alienated
- External pressures start dominating

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Thank You...

