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The critical role of information sharing to the value proposition of a food systems network

Christopher Koliba

✓, Serge Wiltshire, Steven Scheinert, Drake Turner, Asim Zia & Erica Campbell

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ABSTRACT

With goal-directed networks being used so extensively as a strategy to achieve 'collective impact,' increased attention is being paid to the investment of participating member organizations' time, and informational, financial, and human capital in these efforts. Authors draw on the concept of 'value proposition' from the business and public administration literature and use extensive network data from a food systems planning network to test hypotheses focusing on the positionality of member organizations within specific operational subnetworks by correlating positionality with multiple assessments of value. Results indicate that embeddedness in the information sharing subnetwork most strongly correlates with member value proposition.

KEYWORDS:

Network analysis	public-private partnerships	food systems	network governance

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Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

Notes

- 1. The Farm to Plate website may be found at: http://www.vtfarmtoplate.com/
- 2. For this analysis, we used the network analytic software program *ORA (Carley 2001–11), which is designed a package for general network analysis, allowing for a wide array of analyses on network data from any field of study. Along with its capacity for all standard network analytic techniques, *ORA contains specialized tools for dynamic network analysis and geographically linked network analysis. See the *ORA Publications list (CASOS 2015) for an extensive list of publications documenting the use of *ORA.

Additional information

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Notes on contributors

Christopher Koliba

Christopher Koliba is a professor of Public Administration and Governance within the Community Development and Applied Economics Department at the University of Vermont. He is also a fellow with the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics and the co-director of the Social-Ecological Gaming and Simulation (SEGS) Lab (www.uvm.edu/~segs).

Serge Wiltshire

Serge Wiltshire possesses an MS in Food Systems and is currently a Ph.D. student in the Transdisciplinary Food Systems Program at the University of Vermont.

Steven Scheinert

Steven Scheienertnert is a postdoctoral fellow with the Vermont EPSCoR Program at the University of Vermont. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Pittsburgh with a specialization in Public and International Affairs.

Drake Turner

Drake Turner earned her MPA degree at the University of Vermont and is presently the Adult Nutrition Initiatives Manager at Hunger Free Vermont.

Asim Zia

Asim Zia is an associate professor of Public Policy and Decision Analysis within the Community Development and Applied Economics and Computer Science Departments at the University of Vermont. He is also a fellow with the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics and the co-director of the Social-Ecological Gaming and Simulation (SEGS) Lab and director of the Institute for Environmental Diplomacy and Security at the University of Vermont.

Erica Campbell

Erica Campbell is a director of Vermont Farm to Plate. She holds an MS in Community and Economic Development from the University of Vermont.

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