

Introduction and Background Information

This survey is being conducted by the Aspen Institute Roundtable on Community Change under contract with the Urban Institute and is supported by the MacArthur Foundation. The purpose of this study is to assess the performance of NNIP over the period from 2002 to 2013 in furthering the development and use of neighborhood-level information systems. The NNIP Executive Committee and Urban Institute-NNIP (UI-NNIP) staff will use the findings to shape network plans for 2015-2020.

Overall, the assessment will shed light on how well NNIP is performing on its stated goals to:

- Strengthen local capacity to use data for a range of purposes, including policy, program planning, advocacy and community engagement;
- Inform local and national policy based on lessons from local experience; and
- Build national support for community information systems.

The purpose of this online survey in particular is to elicit NNIP partner member's views about the value of the network, the benefits accrued to date, and ideas about where improvements can be made.

Your answers will be linked to the characteristics of your organization for purposes of summary analysis, but they will not be shared with the UI-NNIP staff or NNIP funders and will not be attributed to you in any summary report without permission.

The survey should take about 20 minutes to complete, depending on how long it takes you to answer the open-ended questions. Starred questions are required.

***1. How many years of professional experience in neighborhood indicators, public policy, or other related work do you have?**

- Less than 1
- 1-3
- 4-6
- 6-10
- More than 10

***2. How many years have you worked at your organization?**

- Less than 1
- 1-3
- 4-6
- 6-10
- More than 10

***3. What types of work have you been responsible for during your time at your organization? (Check all that apply)**

- Organizational management
- Fundraising
- Research management
- Data analysis
- Community outreach (nonprofits/govt)
- Policy advocacy
- Neighborhood resident organizing
- Software/web programming
- GIS mapping

Other (please specify)

Participation in the Network

***4. How many years have you personally been involved in the NNIP network?**

- Less than 1
- 1-3
- 4-6
- 6-10
- More than 10

***5. How have you personally participated in the NNIP network? (Check all that apply)**

- Member of NNIP listserves
- Entering something on or using the NNIP website
- Attending webinars or partner meetings remotely
- Attending partner meetings in person
- Communicating with other partners in between meetings
- Participating in a cross-site project
- Serving on the Executive Committee
- None of the above

Other (please specify)

***6. Other than NNIP partner meetings or calls organized by UI-NNIP staff, how often on average do you communicate one-on-one with individuals from other NNIP partner organizations outside of your city?**

- Not at all
- Once or twice a year
- A few times a year
- Once a month
- Two or more times in a month

***7. If you do not attend partner meetings regularly, please list the primary reason:**

- Not enough time
- No travel funds
- Another person from my organization attends
- Content is not relevant enough to my local work
- I do regularly attend meetings

Other (please specify)

8. An expectation for NNIP partners is that they “contribute to the knowledge sharing and supportive network of the partnership.” Please suggest ways that UI-NNIP staff could encourage more participation of individual staff members in the network.

9. Please share any other comments about partner participation in the network.

Value of NNIP Supports and Services to Partners

The primary goal of NNIP is to strengthen local capacity to use neighborhood-level data for policymaking, program planning, advocacy, and community engagement.

Examples include:

- Policy Development: estimating impacts of potential city policies like inclusionary zoning or analyzing suspension patterns to inform school policies
- Program Development: supporting a Promise Neighborhoods team or assisting a Affordable Housing Coalition to identify target neighborhoods
- Advocacy and Community Engagement: highlighting a community issue to call for new investments or helping a neighborhood group plan their agenda

***10. On a scale of 1 to 5, how helpful has NNIP membership been to your efforts to build the capacity of local and community leaders to use data for the following purposes?**

	1 - Not at all helpful	2 - A little helpful	3 - Moderately helpful	4 - Helpful	5 - Very helpful
Policy development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Program planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advocacy and community engagement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

***11. On a scale of 1 to 5, how highly do you rate the value of the following types of supports and services provided by NNIP membership to build that capacity? (You can use the drop down box or type the number.)**

	How important do you think it is?	How well does NNIP provide this service?
Partnership meetings	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Webinars	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
NNIP partner Google Group	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
One-on-one consultations with UI-NNIP staff (by email or phone)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Tools and guides developed by NNIP	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Website as a showcase for my work	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Website as a place to learn about other partners' work	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Opportunities to participate in cross-site activities on special topics	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Opportunities to learn from cross-site projects (whether or not you are participating)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Connections to national networks and organizations	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

***12. Please check the top TWO areas that would be most useful for NNIP to develop additional technical assistance and supports.**

- Organizational planning
- Business models
- Effective data partnerships with private sector
- Database design and management
- Analysis methods
- Community outreach
- Neighborhood organizing
- Web development
- Visualization tools
- No opinion

Other (please specify)

13. Are there new activities to serve the partners that NNIP should take on?

14. Are there activities to serve the partners that should be discontinued?

15. Please share any other comments about NNIP's services to partner organizations.

Other Benefits of Membership

*** 16. On a scale of 1-5, how highly do you value the following as benefits of membership in NNIP?**

	1 - Unimportant	2 - Of Little Importance	3 - Moderately Important	4 - Important	5 - Very Important
Opportunities for peer support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increased local credibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increased national visibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Opportunities for professional development or advancement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Knowledge-sharing on topical issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Knowledge-sharing on methodology and technical issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Knowledge sharing on organizational strategy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

17. Please share any specific examples of ways in which NNIP has improved your organization's effectiveness or influence locally.

18. Please share any other comments about benefits of NNIP membership.

Efforts to Build National Support for Community Information Systems

Another goal of NNIP is to build national support for community information systems in order to support local capacity in data development and use. To do so, UI-NNIP staff participate in activities with federal agencies, national funders, and other national organizations and networks. Examples include HUD, LISC, the Community Indicators Consortium, the Federal Reserve, Sunlight Foundation, and the Data Quality Campaign.

***19. On a scale of 1 to 5, how useful do you think these efforts are for the network?**

- 1 - Not at all useful
- 2 - A little useful
- 3 - Moderately useful
- 4 - Useful
- 5 - Very useful
- X - Cannot rate

***20. How often has NNIP facilitated connections to national organizations or networks that were helpful to you?**

- Never
- Seldom
- Sometimes
- Often

21. Which specific relationships, if any, are most important to your work? (Please specify.)

22. Please list any other organizations or networks that you think NNIP should be connecting with.

23. Please share any other comments about NNIP's efforts to build national support for local data capacity.

Future Directions for NNIP and Final Comments

As the NNIP Executive Committee and UI-NNIP staff plan for the next five years, please share any advice on the issues below.

24. Over the period 2002-2013, NNIP grew from a network of 6 organizations to a network of 39 active organizations. The partnership has committed to growing by one or two partners each year.

Do you have suggestions on how NNIP services, structure, or communication should change to maintain the most positive characteristics of a smaller network as it grows?

25. What other issues should NNIP think about as it plans for the next five years?

26. If you have any other comments related to this assessment of the NNIP Network that you would like to share, please include them here: