January 24, 2023 Translation Working Group Call

Attendees: Kira Sullivan-Wiley, Alison Gerken, Michael Gerst, Jody Peters, Charlotte Malmburg, Cliff Duke, Melissa Kenney, Mike SanClements
Regrets: Chris Brown, Jessica Burnett
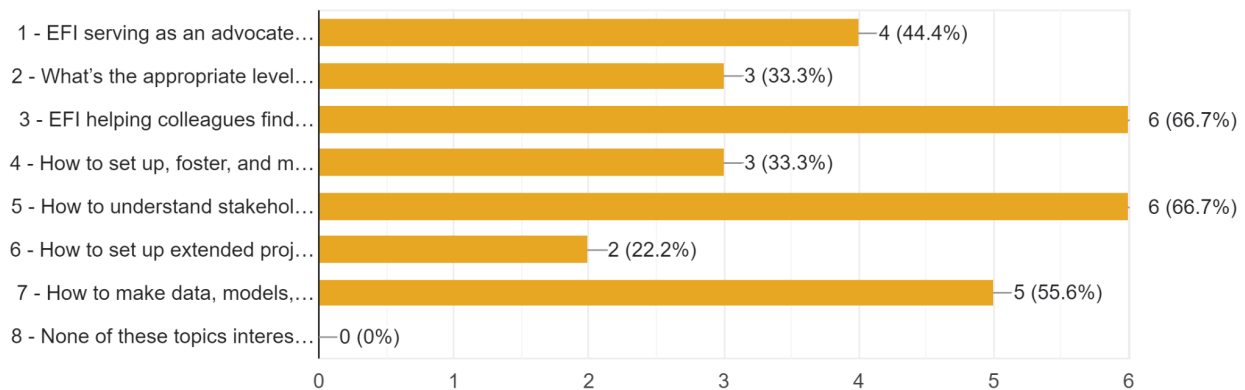
Agenda

1. Announcements:
    a. [Applications](#) are open June 21-23, 2023 [EFI Unconference](#) at NEON HQ in Boulder, CO Save the Date. **Applications are due February 1**
        i. Goal: Bringing People Together to Do Forecasting: Training, Technology, Theory, and Translation
            1. Participants will work together to produce products they want to work on. Examples are (but not limited to): getting a forecast up and running, developing teaching materials, finalizing tutorials, refining or creating tools, analyzing forecasts for a manuscript, and/or developing visualizations.
            2. The event will also include a poster session for attendees to present their research.
        ii. Travel funds within the US are available
        iii. Space is limited to 50 people.
        iv. The application to attend is due on Feb 1. But the nominations of project ideas are not due at that time. So this group will have more time to think about specific project ideas to propose.
        v. It would be great for this group to think about if there is the opportunity to connect a project at the Unconference with the 7 points Michael Gerst synthesized about support needed across the EFI community to be able to translate research to action
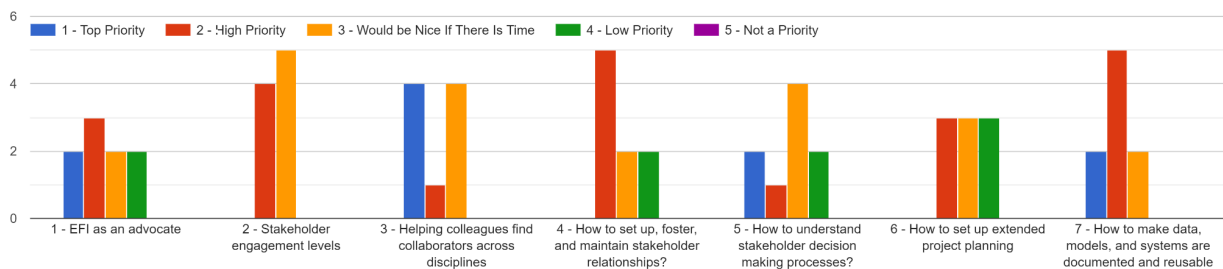

2. Synthesis from the Interviews
    a. Goal was to identify the big translation barriers. Once identified, then find the low hanging fruit that the group can address
    b. Michael's original synthesis of 7 main topics from the interviews
    c. Results from the survey of the working group about assessing individual's personal interest in the 7 different topics synthesized from the interviews and what people think are of priority for the EFI community
    d. Reminder of the 7 topics
        i. EFI serving as an advocate for ecological forecasting to stakeholder groups, especially the public sector.
        ii. What's the appropriate level of stakeholder engagement? Is co-production always the right answer?

iii. Helping colleagues find collaborators across disciplines (i.e., matchmaking) as well as providing guidance on what makes a fruitful multi-disciplinary collaboration

iv. How to set up, foster, and maintain stakeholder relationships?

v. How to understand stakeholder decision making processes?

vi. How to set up extended project planning to ensure continued operationalization?

vii. How to make data, models, and systems that are documented and reusable (FAIR data, models)

Below are the 7 topics that Michael identified across the interviews. Select the topics that you would be most interested in discussing or helping...ch as seminars, manuals, or guidance documents.
9 responses

For the 7 topics listed above, rank what you think the priority is for each topic for the EFI community.

Notes from the discussion of the survey:
- From the survey, it appears the priorities are #3 (both within the working group and across EFI) and #5 (particularly within the working group)
- If we have a specific project that can help with both matchmaking and understanding stakeholders decision making processes
- For #1 serving as an advocate - this connects with some of the activities of the Steering Committee. Engagement with Foundations and other Research Institutes
- Build in forecasting in next-gen earth science.

- "Evidence-based" NGOs and science-grant making orgs
- Integrating algorithms into things like LI-COR sensors
- Identify shared collaboration spaces
- #7 got traction in the priority level - it relates to sustainability and how to keep the forecasts going. How to maintain long-term
  - How to define a successful partnership?
    - Is success having a forecast being sustained after funding/initial stakeholders have moved on?
    - How to maintain projects?
    - We are well connected to NEON. Are we connected to DataOne, Data Dryad? Other organizations that last beyond the project life?
    - NEON works a lot with EDI
- Top 3 priorities -
  - #3, 5, and 7
    - # 3 Helping colleagues find collaborators across disciplines (i.e., matchmaking) as well as providing guidance on what makes a fruitful multi-disciplinary collaboration
    - # 5 How to understand stakeholder decision making processes?
    - # 7 How to make data, models, and systems that are documented and reusable (FAIR data, models)
- Next steps
  - We had talked about engaging with the broader community. This will be more inclusive, but will bring up some challenges
  - Bring this up to the Steering Committee call on Feb 7 to share the priorities and get input. Kira will lead this and report back. See how this fits in with what the other working groups are working on.
    - Want to bring in more social scientists, but in order to bring in people it works best to have concrete projects to work on.
    - So matchmaking will resonate well
    - Think there are lots of opportunities but need to re-envision how to structure projects/proposals to incorporate social science and accommodate the budget needs
  - We'll move our Feb call from Feb 21 to Feb 14 to work around meetings that have come up.

3. Potential Blog Post
   a. Jody drafted this blog post to run by the group.
   b. Goals: 1) share with the EFI community what the group has been working on, 2) show the community the list of topics that are good to consider when working with stakeholders, 3) see topics the Translation working group is thinking about creating resources for (I don't want to lock the group into these specific topics if the group doesn't want to work on them though), and 4) show where there are connections to other working groups/collaborators for some of these topics.

c. If the group can help with editing so the post is ready to go before Jan 30, we can include it in the next newsletter
    i. Kira, Michael, and Mike offered to look at it this week