

2. What are the outcomes you want to achieve with your community of practice?
3. What metrics will tell you whether you're moving in the right direction?
4. What qualitative data, stories, observations, reflections, would help you tell the story of the work's impact?

Collecting evaluation data and tracking impacts may help you to be more successful in securing funding for the work. Many people hire consultants or work with evaluation experts at a university to conduct comprehensive evaluation efforts. However, there are many scales at which you might implement an evaluation and some of it can be done in-house with purpose and intention.

Before your next session

Work through these prompts before meeting with growers or convening your group. They will help you clarify your resources, evaluation approach, and early indicators of success:

- Identify a realistic funding source: from the list above, which funding source is most feasible for your current stage of work? Name it and note the next concrete step you'll take to explore it.
- Choose a simple, sustainable evaluation approach: What is the simplest evaluation method you could implement right now - one you could realistically sustain over a full season?
- Define a short-term success indicator: One year from now, what short-term goal or outcome would tell you that your community of practice is working?

Carry forward: Your funding lead and evaluation approach carry into Section 4, where you'll connect with the broader DFI community and share what you're building.