A JOURNEY THROUGH A GOMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (GOP)





A JOURNEY THROUGH A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (COP)





What is a CoP?

A CoP is a **gathering of individuals** motivated by the desire:

- To share and learn from one another either face-to-face or virtually;
- To **exchange** experiences, insights, problems, and tolls on a specific topic.
- To **cross** organizational (unit) boundaries;
- To build a body of actionable knowledge through **collaboration**.



What does a CoP contribute to?

A CoP contributes to



KNOWLEDGE SHARING and



COLLABORATION





KNOWLEDGE SHARING





COLLABORATION



By involving members from **different disciplines** and **geographic areas**, a CoP:



- multiplies knowledge flows
- fosters partnerships
- · creates new solutions





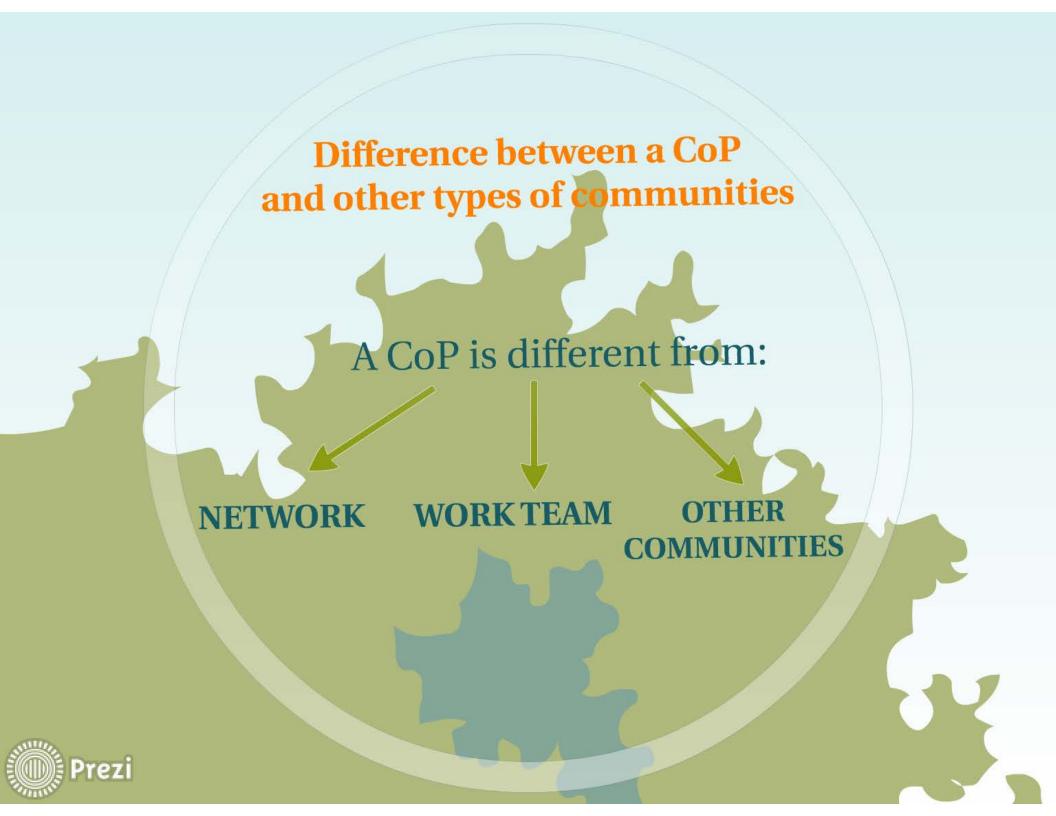
Through a CoP you can:

CONNECT

EXCHANGE

COLLABORATE





...in the sense that a CoP:

- Focuses on a substantive topic and is not just a set of relationships.
- The shared interest and vision of its members keep it together.
- Exists because participation has value to its members.
- Its members are more likely to share a common profession or work situation.



Critical building blocks of a CoP

Although every CoP is unique in how it creates a sense of community among its members...

...all CoPs share essential traits:

Topic focus
Clear target audience
Leader/coordinators
Resources (e.g. technology, logistics...)
Critical mass of active members



Why are COPs important?

CoPs are important because:

They serve as an **ongoing learning forum** for development practitioners;

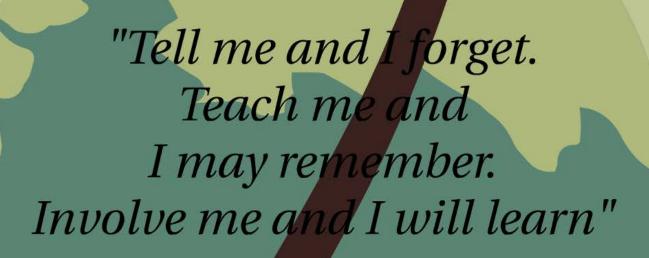


Why are COPs important?

CoPs are important because:

- They serve as an ongoing learning forum for development practitioners;
- They influence development outcomes by promoting greater and better informed dialogue;
- They develop and transfer best practices on specific topics;
- They promote innovative approaches to address specific development challenges.





- Benjamin Franklin -



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