

The Global Plant Council

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COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

The Global Plant Council (GPC) is a global coalition of plant science research organizations. The GPC's goal is to promote plant science across borders and disciplines and to highlight its importance and impact on society. Started in 2009, the GPC supports plant scientists and anyone who has an interest in plant science, providing access to the wider plant science community and the public. The GPC provides an independent and inclusive forum, via social media, a newsletter, and scicomm webinars and other activities, to bring together those involved in plant research, training, and education. The community currently has a working group focused on DNA Sequencing Information (DSI) and an Early-Career Researcher International Network (ECRI) focused on job hunting, grant funding, dissemination of research results, and networking.

► Website: globalplantcouncil.org/

KEYWORDS

Disciplines / skills

- PLANT SCIENCE
- SCIENCE COMMUNICATION
- INTERDISCIPLINARY
- EDUCATION
- BIOTECHNOLOGY
- ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Programming and goals

- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
- OUTREACH AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

- KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Stakeholder relationships

- MULTI-STAKEHOLDER
- STUDENT-MENTOR
- RESEARCHER-PUBLIC
- ACADEMIA-POLICY

COMMUNITY BASICS



27 member organizations
50 core people
26 000-person broader reach via social media



Mostly online with some in-person events*

*all activities were online during the COVID-19 pandemic



International



Mostly open – has some open programming but also private activities that are reserved for paying / restricted members

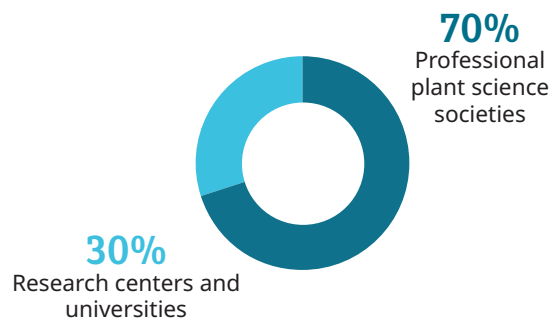
COMMUNITY STRUCTURE

Community Management

Community management is provided by the **Chief Communications Officer** (0.75 FTE) who also runs the organization's communications efforts.



Members

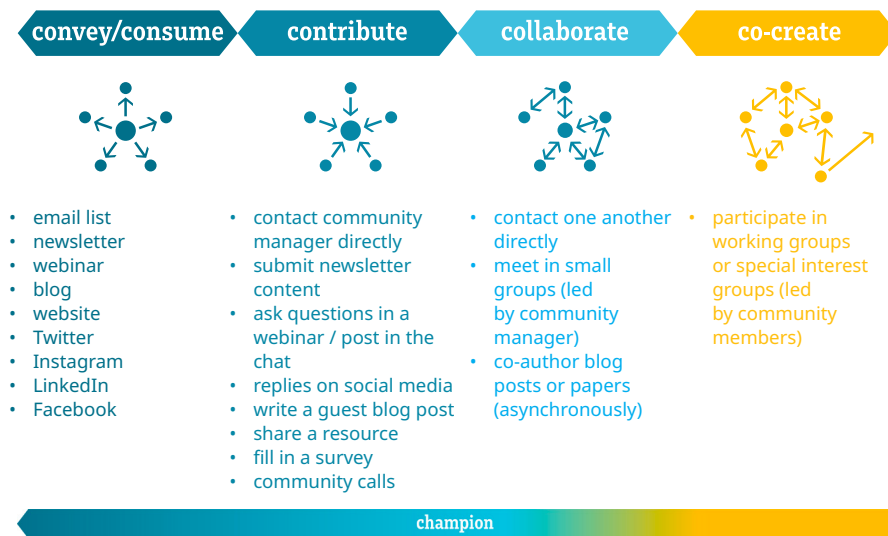


Community Configuration



PROGRAMMING

In this community, programming currently includes a working group on DNA Sequencing Information (DSI), mailing lists, social media channels, an annual scicomm contest, a series of webinars, and Early-Career Researcher International Network (ECRI) activities.



i THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION MODEL

The CSCCE Community Participation Model describes four modes of member engagement that can occur within a community – CONVEY/CONSUME, CONTRIBUTE, COLLABORATE, and CO-CREATE – and one that can occur both inside and outside of it: CHAMPION. All modes may be present at once, with some members interacting in multiple modes – or a community may have member engagement that falls into only some of the modes described. The model enables the mapping of community member behaviors to programming and other infrastructural support that the community manager, convening organization, or funder may provide to the community.

► For more information, see the [CSCCE community participation model](#).

Online

In-person

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

This community does not have a formal champions program. Members may informally act as champions in the following ways:

i CHAMPIONS take on additional activities to support or advance the community. They are sometimes described as emergent leaders.

MAINTAIN

- N/A

GROW

- reshare resources
- reshare community opportunities
- recruit new members

EVOLVE

- propose and/or lead subgroups

COMMUNITY TOOLBOX

Communications

Email	Instagram
MailChimp	Zoom
Blog	LinkedIn
Twitter	Blackboard
Facebook	MS Teams

Productivity

Google Drive	Google Analytics
Canva	

Community platform

Facebook group LinkedIn group

OUTPUTS & EVALUATION

Success looks like plant science being promoted to address global challenges; policy changes are achieved thanks to our awareness-raising; international collaborations are fostered; and knowledge exchange and effective use of resources is enabled. We have provided an independent and inclusive forum to bring together all those involved in plant and crop research, training, and education.

✓ Successes over the last year

We grew even in the challenging situation we are facing during a pandemic. We are organizing webinars for 3 plant science meetings besides our own webinar series.

- **Growth** - added new working groups
- **Growth** - launched new program or project
- **Growth** - added new members
- **Engagement** - increased activity of members
- **Activities** - an in-person or virtual event
- **Value** - external recognition of your community's impact
- **Value** - members expressing recognition of the community's value

📈 Evaluation and Reporting

- Community member surveys
- Community member interviews
- Reports for leadership

💡 Opportunities

We would like the webinar series to become the go-to webinar series in plant science.

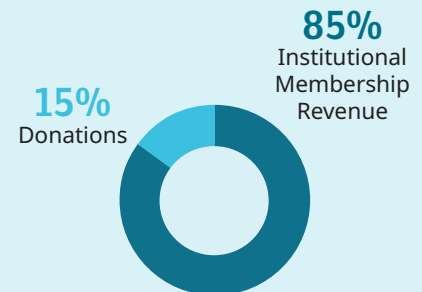
- **Engagement** - increase member activity
- **Engagement** - more members acting as champions
- **Activities** - create community outputs together
- **Activities** - host conference(s) / workshops
- **Funding** - secure new funding stream
- **Value** - external recognition
- **Value** - more members expressing recognition of the community's value

⚠️ Challenges

COVID-19 made things difficult for everyone.

- Getting people interested in and studying plant science
- Low activity from community members
- Increasing diversity
- Time management
- Staff or volunteer burnout

FUNDING



Funding Streams

- 85% institutional members pay specifically to join the community
- 15% donations

The GPC does not currently offer funding opportunities to members.

ABOUT THIS PROFILE

This profile is part of a research project conducted by the Center for Scientific Collaboration and Community Engagement (CSCCE). You can find out more about the project, and view more community profiles, [on our website](#).

Information for this profile was submitted by Isabel Mendoza-Poudereux, Chief Communications Officer.

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