

GOVERNANCE

Phase II: Stabilizing Governance



Activity 10: Financial and Organizational Stability Assessment Checklist

The community/organization thinks about and actively plans for the future	Yes	No	In Progress	Maybe Later	N/A	Rank
Do you document your mission-driven goals and milestones on a regular basis? Possible evidence: Strategic plan, logic model, documented goals						
Do you measure progress toward these goals and milestones at least annually? Possible evidence: Documented assessment of goals						

The community/organization maintains control over and monitors its own finances	Yes	No	In Progress	Maybe Later	N/A	Rank
Do you have access to and control over your bank account(s), budget, ledger/log of all receivables and expenditures, and any accounting software and/or bookkeeping environment? Possible evidence: Review of each element						
Do you have a chart of accounts that details your categories of expenditures and receivables? Possible evidence: Chart of accounts, account report demonstrating the use of the chart of accounts						
Do you create an officially approved annual operating budget for the community/organization each year? Possible evidence: Annual budget developed by the community/organization that is approved by its governing body						
Do you rectify your financial books at least quarterly with review and sign-off from a designated governing body representative(s)? Possible evidence: Signed quarterly reports or other evidence of successful review						

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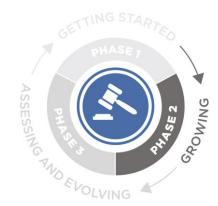


Activity 10: Financial and Organizational Stability Assessment Checklist

The community/organization maintains control over and monitors its own finances CONT.	Yes	No	In Progress	Maybe Later	N/A	Rank
Do you have written financial policies that are adequate for the size and complexity of your community/organization and that include explicit internal controls? Possible evidence: Accounting manual, policy documentation						
Do you have an annual independent audit or review conducted of your financial statements? Possible evidence: Audit or Review documentation						
Are there at least two, non-interdependent funding streams for the entity (e.g., memberships, subscriptions, services, grants, contracts, donations)? Possible evidence: Documented revenue streams						

The community/organization understands, maintains, and communicates its legal and organizational identity(ies)	Yes	No	In Progress	Maybe Later	N/A	Rank
Do you know how to describe your legal and organizational identity (e.g., incorporation, taxable status, charity status, etc.)? Possible evidence: Official documentation as compared to self-description						
Do you clearly document your community/organization's legal and organizational identity(ies) such that community members and customers/clients understand what the legal entity can do and who has authority to speak for it?						

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Possible evidence: Documentation review

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Possible evidence: Disclosure via Website or other public forum, contractual language					
Do you engage a legal advisor and/or lawyer to review all contracts (both those you prepare and those you sign?) Possible evidence: Legal representation					
The community/organization understands, maintains, and communicates its legal and organizational identity(ies) CONT.	Yes	No	In Progress	Maybe Later	N/A
If you are not a free-standing organization but instead are hosted by another legal entity, do you transparently and publicly acknowledge this hosting relationship? Possible evidence: Disclosure via Website or other public forum, contractual language					
If you are hosted by or housed within another entity, do you have a documented pathway for separation that can be enacted by your governance group? Possible evidence: Documented separation pathway and trigger events					
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The community/organization clearly documents its succession plans	Yes	No	In Progress	Maybe Later	N/A
Do you have a policy that describes how organizational ownership or responsibility may be transferred, and does this policy explicitly prohibit contracts/agreements to be reassigned without express permissions from community stakeholders?					

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Do your governance documents include a legal commitment to maintaining your organization's mission regardless of company ownership? Possible evidence: Documentation review			
Do you have a succession strategy that identifies entities that will steward products and services if or			
when your company ceases to operate?			
Possible evidence: Succession documentation			

The community/organization clearly documents its sunsetting and dissolution plans	Yes	No	In Progress	Maybe Later	N/A	Rank
Do you have a financial reserve set aside that is adequate to cover sunsetting costs? Possible evidence: Documented financial reserve and sunset budget						
Do you have a plan documenting what happens when your company ceases to operate? Possible evidence: Documented sunset/dissolution plans						
Do you document, test, and regularly update specific pathways for any user-owned or generated content to be migrated to another platform or service in the case of dissolution? Possible evidence: Agreements with similar platforms/services, migration strategies and pathways, contracts with users/members, testing documentation						