

Leveraging the Power of Communities for Open Science

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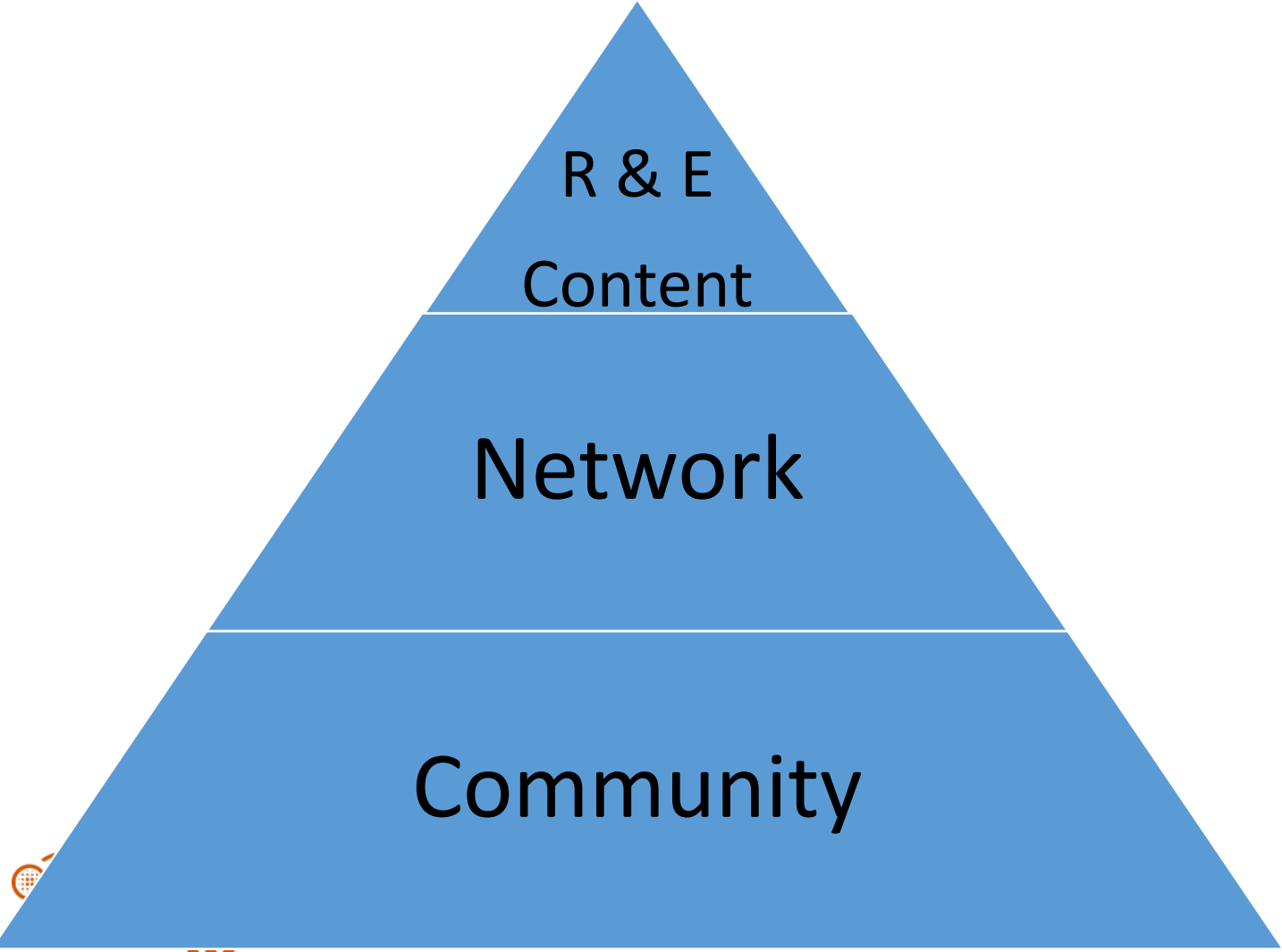
Talking Points

- How engaged are our communities in Open Science?
- A layered view of the NREN and the role of the community
- R & E Community Perspectives
- Characteristics of an effective R & E community
- Organizing R & E Communities
- Our Experience with Building Communities
- Final remarks

How engaged are we with Open Science?

- Open Science is about the modalities of producing, sharing and consuming scientific and other works for the betterment of humanity.
- In this day and age of pandemics, it has not been more critical to remove the restrictions to scientific work
- While there is the will from the R & E community to commit to open science, engaging in activities that produce open science still has to pick up
- The power of community leveraged properly can result in improved quantity and quality of open science products to compete with the restricted knowledge sharing and production by private, commercial entities

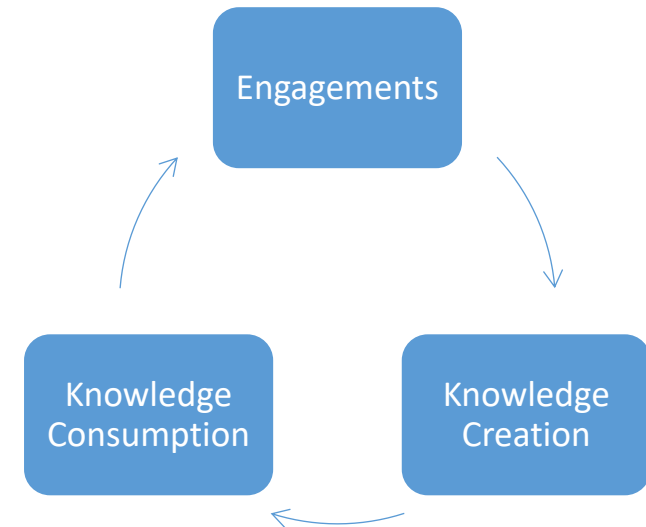
Positioning the Community in the NREN Architecture



R & E
Content

Network

Community



R & E Community Perspectives

- The community as the platform
- The community as individual producer-consumers
- The community as an incubator for young scientists and thinkers

Characteristics of an Effective R & E Community

- Resources for connecting and keeping the community
- Support within the community and especially for younger, novice scientists
- Less bureaucracy and red-tape
- Co-investment in the activities
- Regular activities and events

Organizing R & E Communities

- Community = engagement
- Organizing the community into smaller groups into tribes and clans
- The shared vision and values are mandatory
- Domain-focused groups
- Documenting the knowledge production process and products and publishing as open access resources

Our Experience with Building Communities



Our Experience with Building Communities

- Formation and support of communities as a core pillar of SomaliREN's mission
- SomaliREN put the cart before the horse – a functional community before the infrastructure
- Communities of Practices
 - Somali Network Operators Group
 - Knowledge Managers and Librarians Community
 - Public health practitioners' group
- Tools for collaboration and open access publishing
 - SORER
 - SomaliREN VC
 - And other services adapted from GEANT service portfolio based on the community needs



A final remark

How much of our traffic is categorized as an R & E traffic?

How different are we from the “commodity” Internet service providers?

Perhaps the power of community can change this status quo!

Thank you