# Developing Geo-STEM Learning Ecosystems

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Creating More Diverse, Inclusive, and Resilient Communities Engaged in the Geosciences

Cheryl L. B. Manning, PhD Student Northern Illinois University cmanning4@niu.edu

## Origins of STEM Learning Ecosystems

2014: <u>STEM Learning is Everywhere</u>, a Summary of National Academies of Science Convocation on Building Learning Systems, focused on K-8

2018: <u>Charting a Course for Success: America's Strategy for STEM Education</u>, the new Strategic Plan for STEM education. It presents a vision for a future where all Americans have access to high-quality STEM education; expands STEM learning ecosystems to all citizens

#### **GOALS FOR THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR STEM EDUCATION**

Build Strong
Foundations for STEM
Literacy

Increase Diversity,
Equity, and Inclusion in
STEM

Prepare the STEM Workforce for the Future









**Pathways** and **Objectives** Representing Cross-Cutting **Approaches** 

**PATHWAYS** 

**OBJECTIVES** 

**Develop and Enrich** Operate with **Engage Students** Build Transparency and Strategic where Disciplines Computational **Partnerships** Accountability Converge Literacy Advance Innovation Leverage and Scale Foster STEM **Promote Digital** Evidence-Based and **Ecosystems that** Literacy and Cyber Entrepreneurship Practices Across **Unite Communities** Safety Education **STEM Communities** Increase Work-Based Make Computational Report Participation Learning and Training Make Mathematics a Thinking an Integral Through Educator-Magnet Element of All Underrepresented **Employer** Education **Partnerships** Blend Successful **Expand Digital** Encourage **Practices from Across** Platforms for **Use Common Metrics** Transdisciplinary to Measure Progress the Learning Teaching and Learning Landscape Learning Make Program Performance and **Outcomes Publicly** Develop a Federal Implementation Plan and Track Progress

Rates of

Groups

Available

## STEM Learning Ecosystems

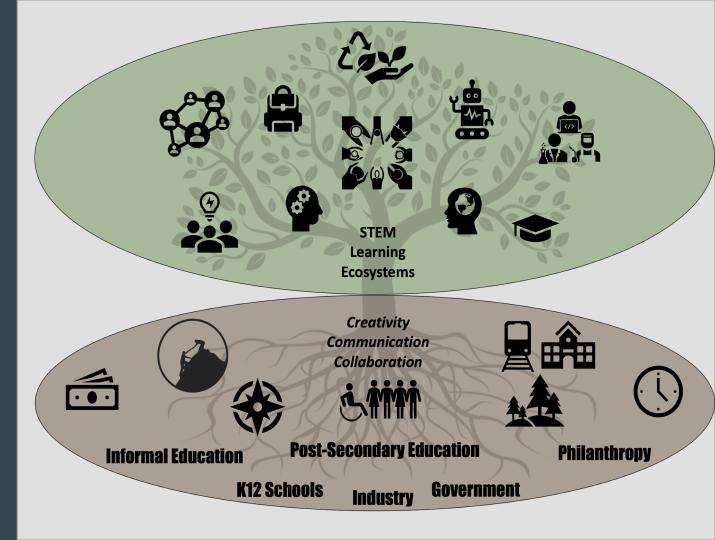
- Most provide K-8 education
- Focus is on medicine, technology, robotics, and engineering
  - Incredibly effective in changing peoples' thinking about computer science and
    - Who can do CS?
    - What kinds of jobs are there in CS?
    - How old do kids have to be before introducing and learning CS?
- Minimal focus on geosciences or environmental, resource, disaster issues

## STEM Learning Ecosystems: A Conceptual Model

Community organizations develop systemic collaborations that engage learners from all walks of life, facilitate enduring and effective STEM learning opportunities, elevate community literacy and innovation, improve networks, and activate sustainable and transformative solutions for the broader community.

# STEM Learning Ecosystems

A Conceptual Model



## Inputs and Collaborations



Infrastructure



**Direction and Vision** 



Accessibility



People



**Natural Resources** 



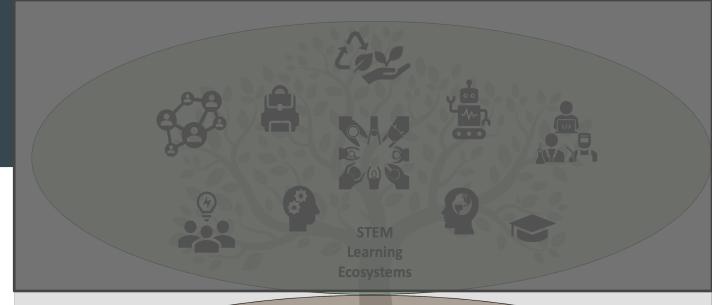
Financial Support

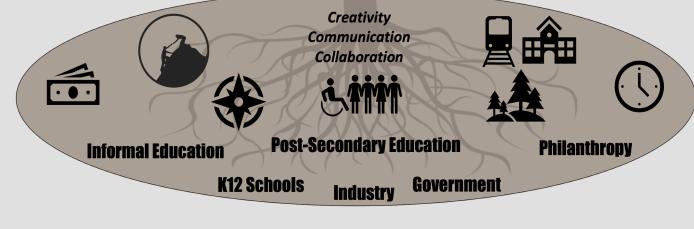


Time



Leadership





### **Outputs &** Goals



Critical Thinking



**Broader Participation** 



Literacy



Sustainability and Resilience



**Geo-STEM Identity** 



**Technology Innovation** 



Strong & Enduring Networks



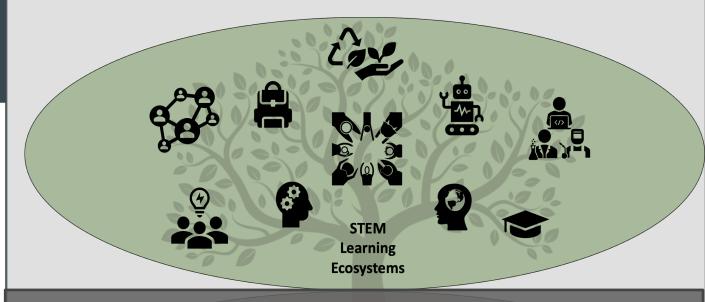
Collaborative Ideas



Transferrable Skills



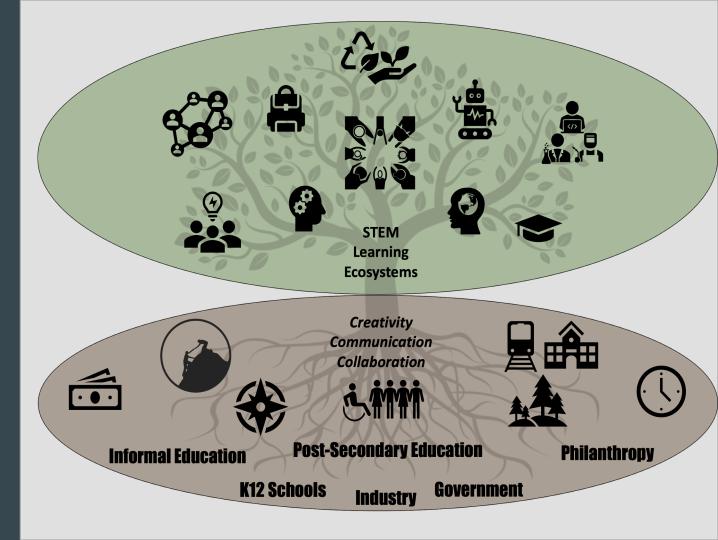
Jobs





# STEM Learning Ecosystems

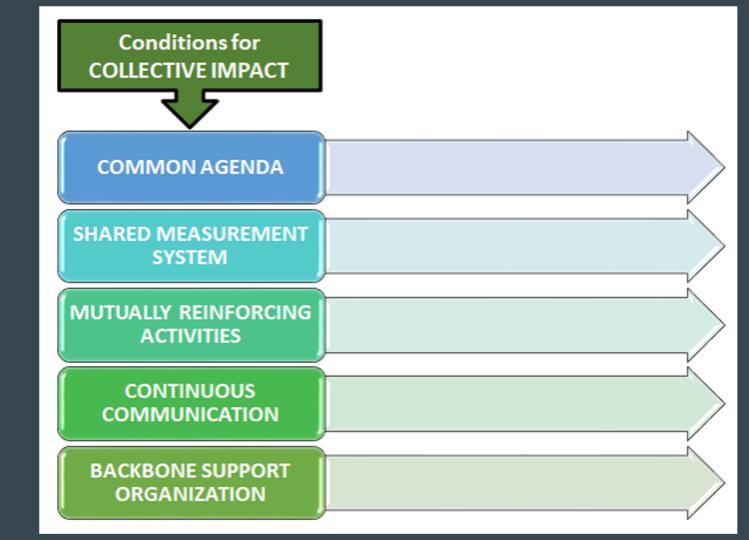
A Conceptual Model



Broadening Participation

Build a stronger and more diverse workforce

Developing
Communities
of Practice



## Examples of Geo-STEM Learning Ecosystems









### **Discussion** ---

What are you thinking so far?

What examples of STEM Learning Ecosystems are you a part of?

How can you build on these to make them stronger?

### Links from our Round Table Discussion

- STEM Learning is Everywhere
- 2018 US STEM Strategic Plan
- STEM Learning Ecosystems Communities of Practice
- EarthConnections
- Thriving Earth Exchange
- <u>SEAS</u>
- Epic-N
- <u>Communities of Practice</u>
- GEOPAths Solicitation
- Assessing STEM Learning Ecosystems
- Assessing Communities of Practice