



## Operational Capacity, Stability, and Shared Resources

in the first year of the New Mexico Regional Farm  
Systems Partnership (RFSP) collective-impact project

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UNM Evaluation Lab  
RFSP Annual Retreat  
November 10, 2022



UNM Evaluation Lab  
*building evaluation capacity that is  
rooted in the needs of New  
Mexico's communities.*

- Evaluation Lab Fellowship: student training in partnership with community organizations
- Direct training and support for community organizations.



## Objective #3 of the RFSP

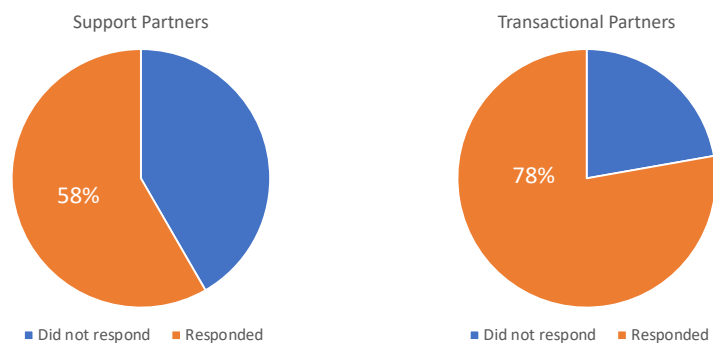
By 2023, improve the **stability and operational capacity** of at least:

- 75% of the VCC Enterprise Transactional Partners and
- 90% of the Support Partners

through the development of **shared resources, tools, and knowledge**.

## Survey response rate

- 42 partners invited
- 28 participants in the survey, for an overall response rate of 67%



## Shared human capital with other partners

(in last 6 months)

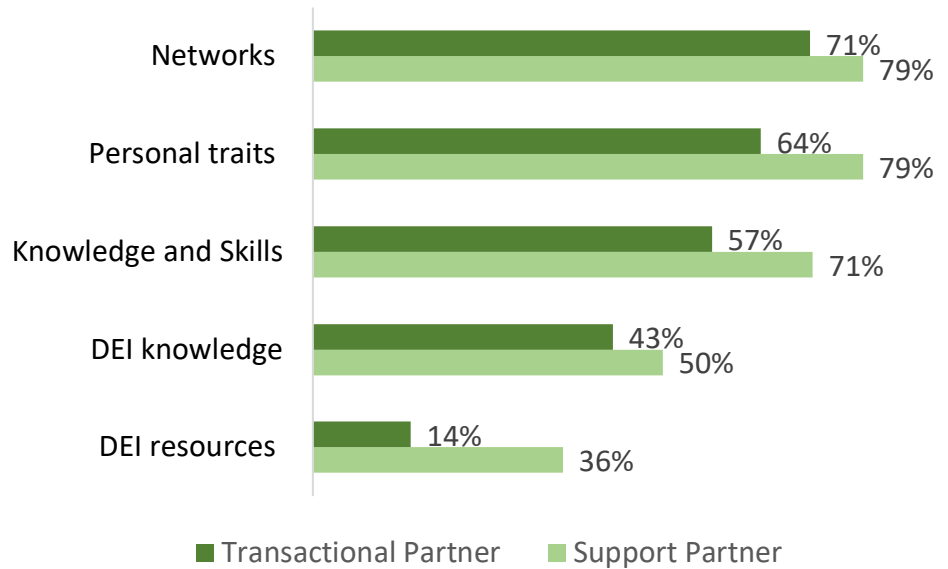
A majority shared:

- Networks
- Personal traits (drive passion, commitment)
- Knowledge & Skills

Fewer shared:

- DEI knowledge
- DEI resources (especially for Transactional Partners)

% of Respondents who shared human resources

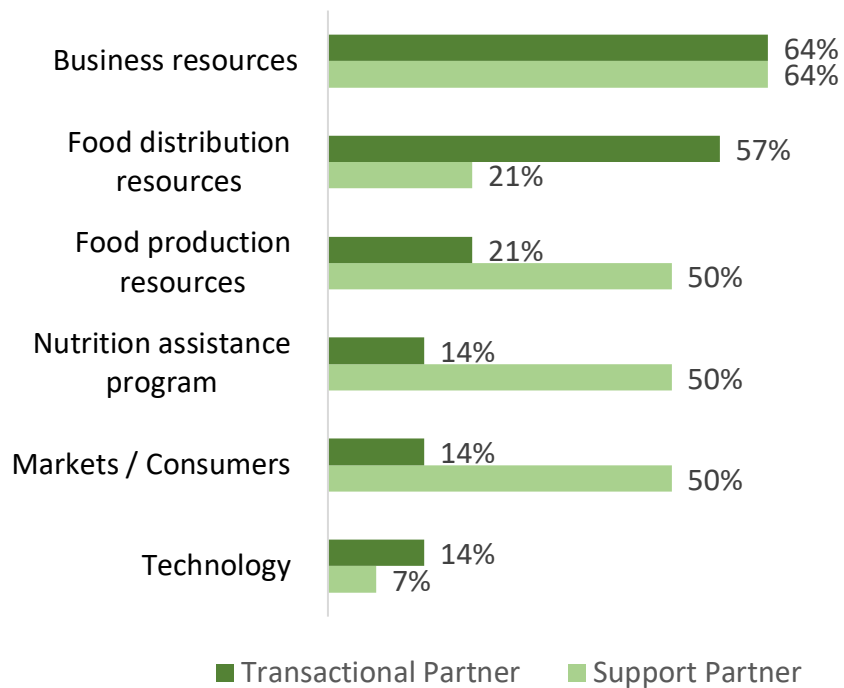


## Shared operational resources with other partners

(in last 6 months)

- A majority shared Business resources
- Very few shared technology
- **Support Partners** were more likely to share food production, and information about nutrition assistance programs and consumers

% of Respondents who shared operational resources

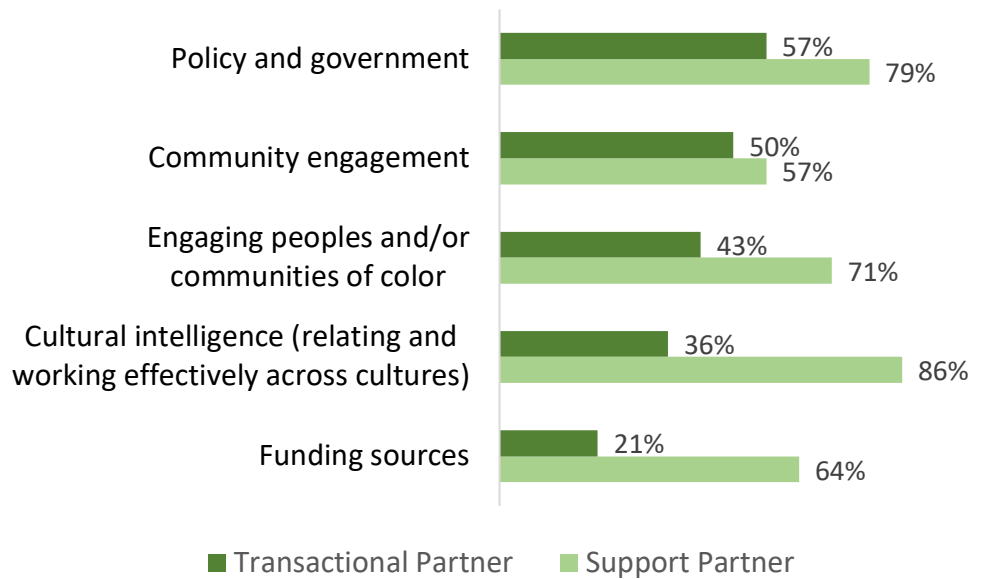


## Received community-related resources

(in last 6 months)

- **Support Partners** were more likely than Transactional Partners to receive resources related to community context from another project partner.

% of Respondents who received resources related to community context



## Received business operation resources

(in last 6 months)

- Many partners received resources related to food and farm safety.
- Many Support Partners received marketing and planning resources.
- Few Transactional Partners received resources related to grower and organizational business practices.

% of Respondents who received business operations resources



## Operational Capacity & Stability: Business operations

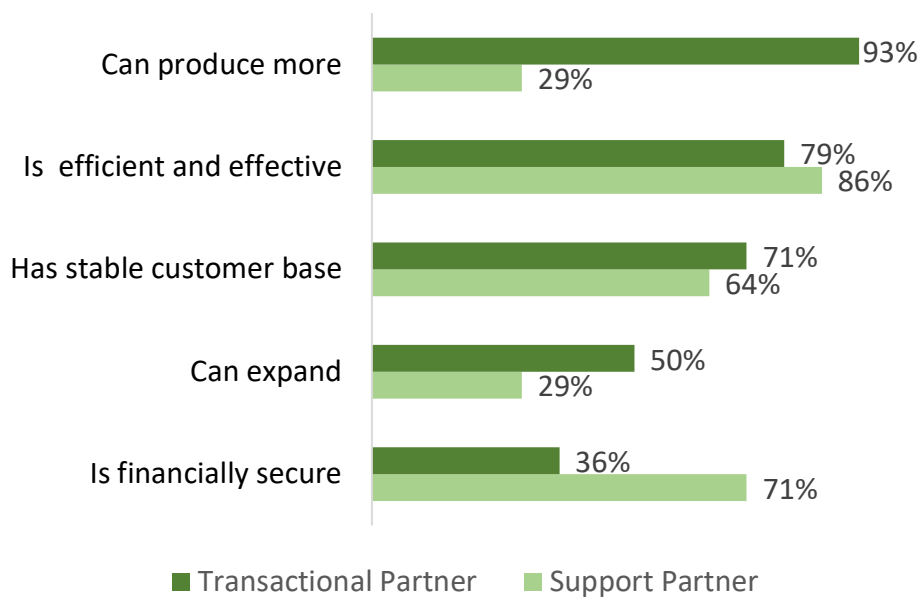
### Most Transactional partners:

- Operate effectively and can produce more
- Do not have financial security

### Most Support partners:

- Operate effectively
- Have financial security
- Cannot expand

Percent of respondents who agreed or strongly agreed that their organization. . .



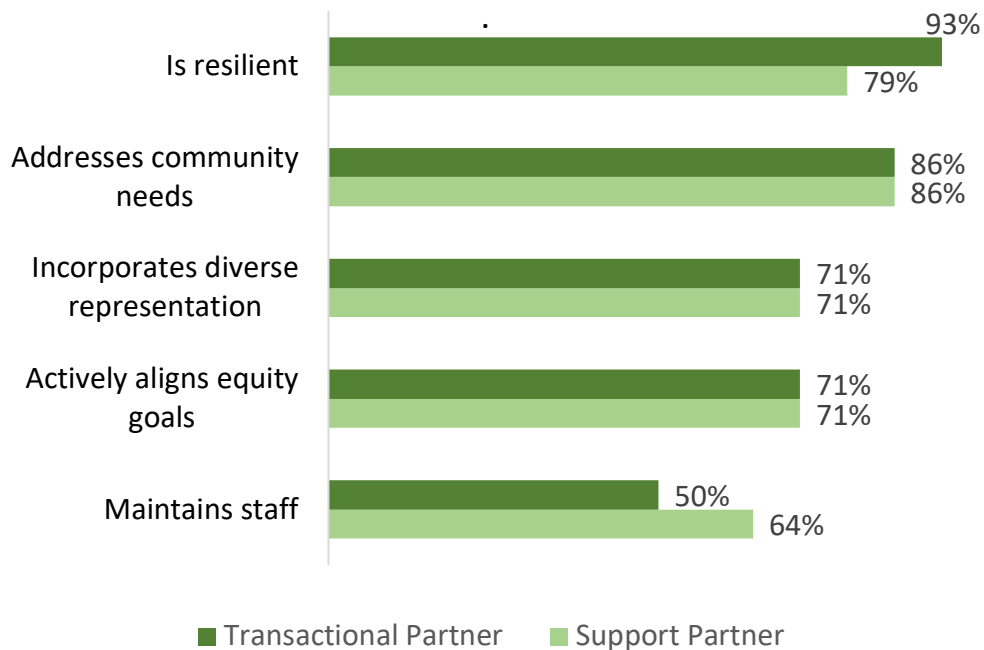
## Operational Capacity & Stability: Human dimensions

### Organizations:

- are resilient
- address community needs
- incorporate representation from underserved communities
- actively align equity goals with organizational culture

Maintaining staff is more of a challenge, especially for **Transactional partners**

Percent of respondents who agreed or strongly agreed that their organization. . .



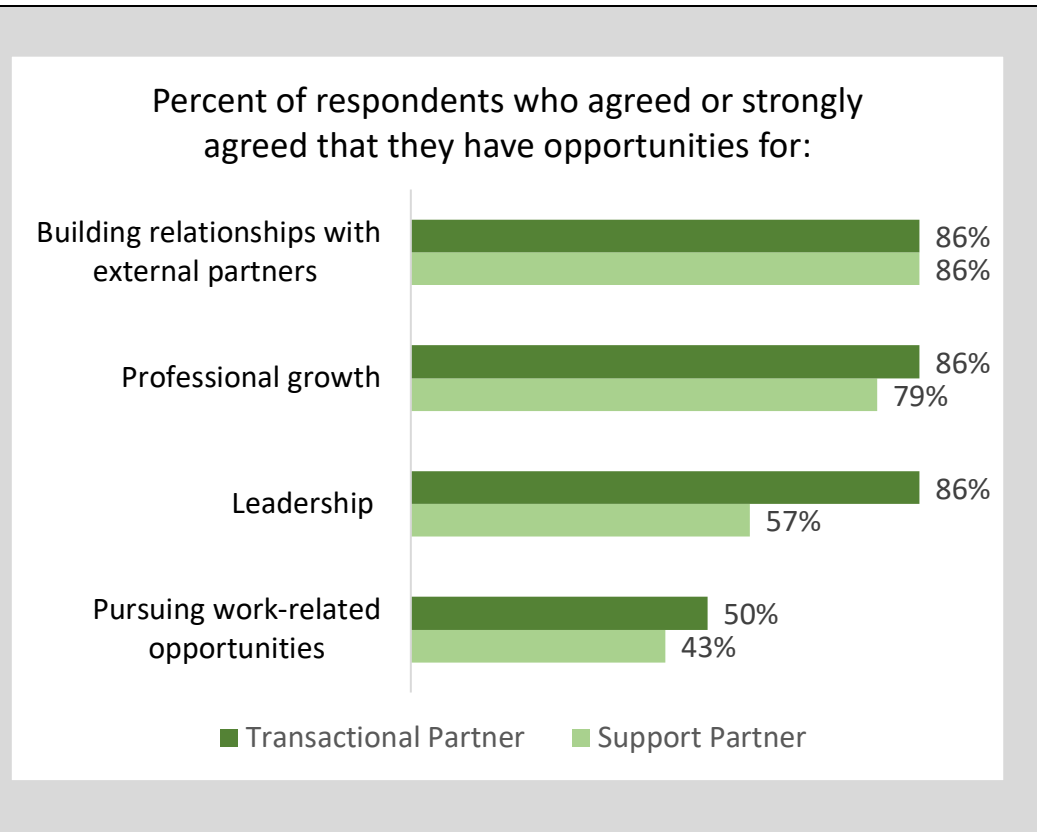
## Operational Capacity & Stability: Work opportunities

Most can:

- Build relationships with external partners
- Grow professionally

Fewer report that they can pursue work-related opportunities

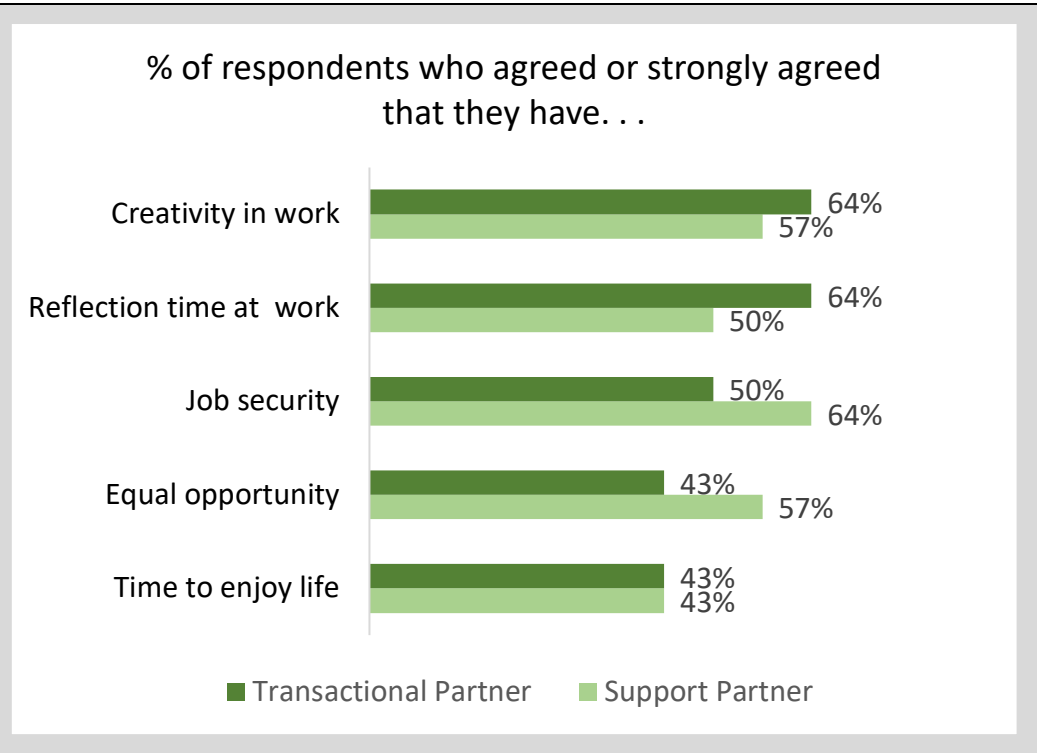
**Support partners** have fewer leadership opportunities



## Operational Capacity & Stability: Working conditions

Less enthusiasm for working conditions (compared with work opportunities)

Less than half of the respondents have time to enjoy their personal life



## Next Steps

- Follow-up survey in January
- Review and analyze results
- Share results with partners at spring quarterly meeting

## Clarification Round