

Network Facts

Though sharing a common mission, the programs of the Network are diverse in structure and funding.

Who Leads Network Programs?

Network programs are multi-agency coalitions that draw upon the expertise and resources of partner agencies and organizations within their states. One agency is needed to lead and organize the effort, often a role filled by University Cooperative Extension or Sea Grant Extension programs (*graph 1*). In general, agencies with a mandate for research-based, non-advocacy public outreach are the best choice for leadership and delivery of NEMO programs, since they are viewed as being an objective and reasoned voice in the sometimes contentious world of land use planning. This is why the NEMO Network is perhaps the only effort in the country that involves the USDA Land Grant, NOAA Sea Grant and NASA Space Grant university systems.

Who Funds Network Programs?

Network programs are funded in a variety of ways, ranging from federal grant programs to private foundations. Rarely are programs supported by a single agency or organization. Rather, they leverage

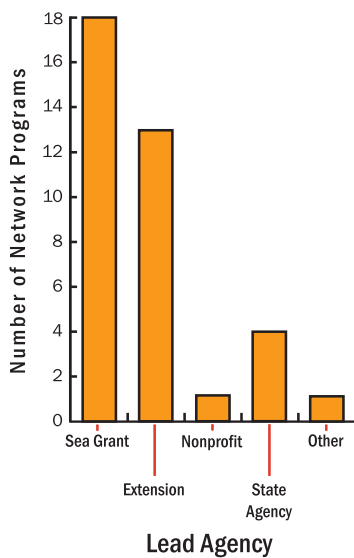
funding from a variety of sources, matching state and local dollars to federal contributions.

Of the funding sources supporting the Network, nearly two-thirds come from federal agencies, with the remaining coming from state funds, local governments or private funds (*graph 2*). The most common source of support comes from state administered EPA Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source funds. NOAA also funds a number of NEMO efforts through several agency programs. These include the Sea Grant Coastal Community Development Program (CCDP), a national initiative that provides funding for educational programming that supports coastal communities, and the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program, enacted by Congress in 1972 to protect, restore and responsibly develop coastal communities and resources.

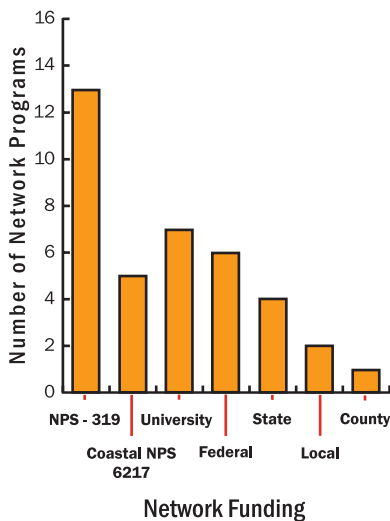
Finally, many NEMO programs receive support from a variety of special state funding sources having to do with community planning, nonpoint source pollution control or other related topics.



North Carolina NEMO's Kate Ardizone signs the National Network Charter as Network Coordinator, David Dickson, looks on.



(Graph 1, above) Over two-thirds of NEMO programs are led by university-based outreach extension programs. (Graph 2, below) Funding for Network Programs. Multiple sources are reflected.



Who Advises the Network?

The Network is advised by the National NEMO Network **Interagency Work Group**, an *ad hoc* group of representatives of federal agencies and national organizations that are involved with, or invested in, NEMO. These include USDA, NOAA, EPA, NASA, the American Planning Association, the National Association of Counties (NACO), the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO). The Work Group has met annually since 1997 and keeps in contact with the Network through the Hub.

First, it sets forth several key shared philosophical and operating principles for Network programs. These include:

- a non-regulatory, research-based educational approach;
- a primary target audience of local land use decision makers;
- a focus on natural resource-based land use planning and design; and,
- the use of landscape research and mapping technologies to help community leaders visualize their current and future landscapes.

How Does a Program Become a Network Member?

At NEMO U2, the Network conference held in January 2002, member programs developed a **Network Charter**, which programs sign to become part of the Network. The Charter has two main purposes.

Second, it describes the responsibility that Network programs have to fellow members and to the Hub. The emphasis is on the free exchange of ideas and materials, helping to ensure that the Network reaches its goal of becoming greater than the sum of its parts.