



Evaluation in NICE

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NASA Postdoctoral Program

NASA Innovations in Climate Education (NICE)

Minority University Research & Education Program (MUREP)

Why Evaluation?

- The NICE team is interested in:
 - **Documenting** the activities, outcomes, and impact of a long-term portfolio of 75 projects
 - **Reflecting** on their own practice in supporting the community and individual projects
 - **Strengthening your evaluations!**
 - Revised evaluation plans are due 90 days after your award.
 - Ideas here can strengthen that evaluation, now and through your award!

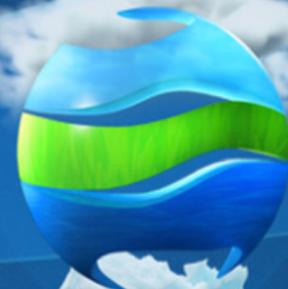
How Your Work Relates to NASA Evaluation

- Reporting
 - Your thoughts, challenges, and submitted data are read, digested, and used within the NICE team
- Your evaluator
 - Can benefit from resources and other support that the team can offer
 - nice-evaluators@lists.nasa.gov -- contact Mary Jo Leber to get your evaluator signed up, and encourage them to participate!
 - agency-cce-common-eval@lists.nasa.gov -- connections to evaluators at NOAA & NSF too

NICE

NASA Innovations in Climate Education

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NICE Resources

NICE-funded evaluators can use this password-protected space to share climate education related evaluation tools, resources, and instruments. The following resources have been shared by members of our community so that all of us may benefit and leverage prior work. Each entry includes some basic usage, reference, and point-of-contact information. Please visit the Suggestion Box tab if you would like to add some of your materials to this space.

• CABPES 9-12 Youth Pre-Post Instrument

[Lynds_CABPES_K12PrePostInstrument2013.pdf](#)

AUTHOR: CIRES/Susan Lynds

POINT OF CONTACT: Susan Lynds, CIRES at UC Boulder, [EMAIL](#)

DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCES: *Program is a partnership with the Colorado Association of Black Professional Engineers and Scientists, a non-profit organization dedicated to encouraging African-American and underrepresented youth to pursue careers in engineering and applied sciences. Pre-experience survey for high school students in an after-school program.*

Climate and Climate Change Undergraduate Course Pre-Assessment

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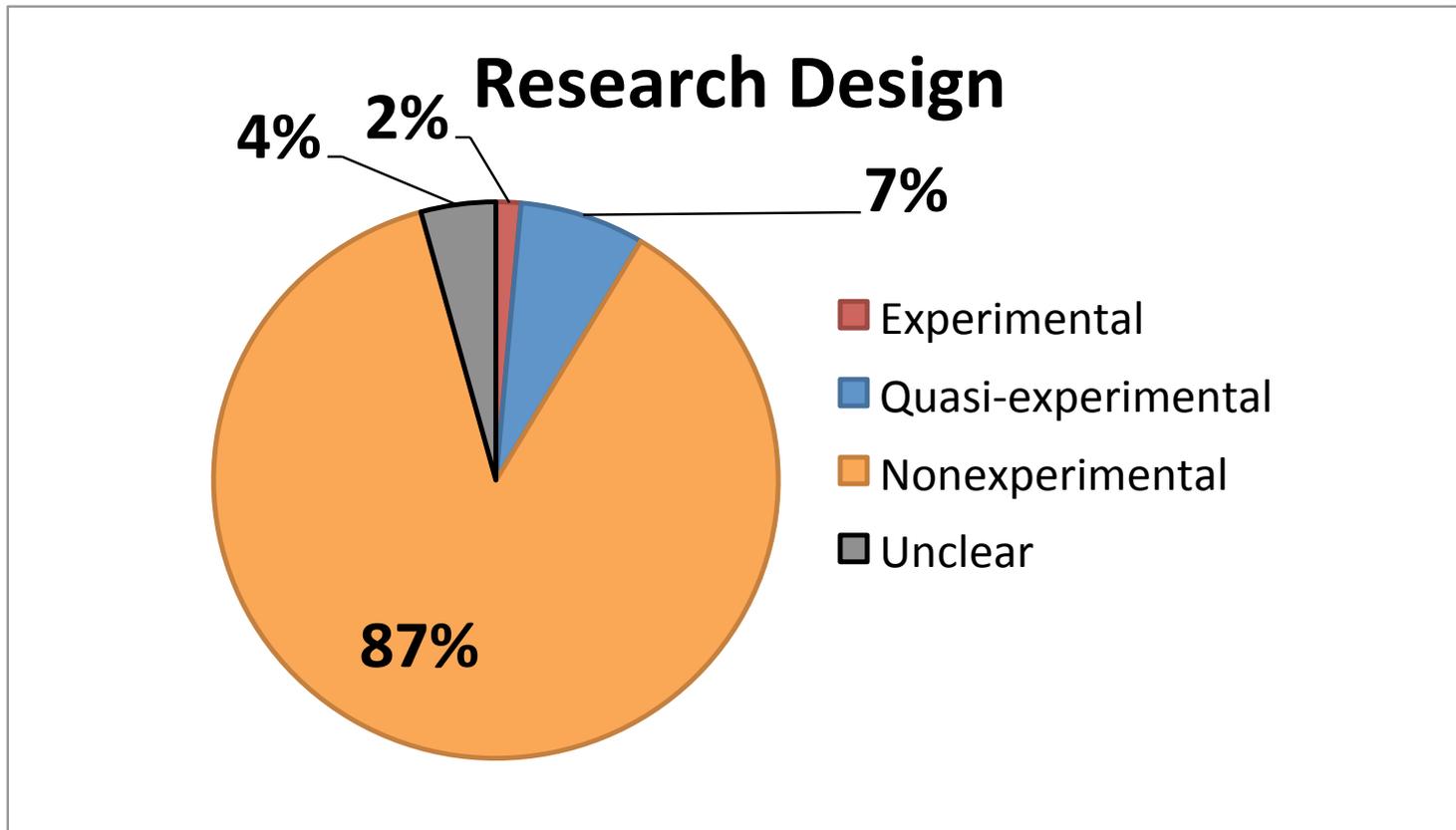
Before we move on to
evaluation findings from
NICE . . .

QUESTIONS?

NICE's Overall Evaluation Questions

1. What and how are projects evaluating?
2. To what extent are NICE program-level integration activities successful?
3. To what extent do NICE-funded projects partner with each other and with other institutions?
4. What overall outcomes for the project portfolio can be assessed using available data?
5. What promising practices are emerging from the NICE portfolio?

Q1: How are projects evaluating?



- Most (86%) plans are not explicit about their research design, and only 1 paid attention to causal inference, even though most plans intended to make causal connections.

Q1: How are projects evaluating?

- **Nuts & Bolts:** Lack of detail in evaluation plans.
- **Methods & Designs:** Reliance on self-report data; little ability to assess cause-and-effect relationships.
- **Activities & Focus:** Heavy emphasis on summative evaluation, with little to no formative or front-end.
- **Outcomes, Audiences & Participants:** Good match between project goals (target audiences and outcomes) and evaluation questions.

Q2: The NICE Awardee/ Management Community

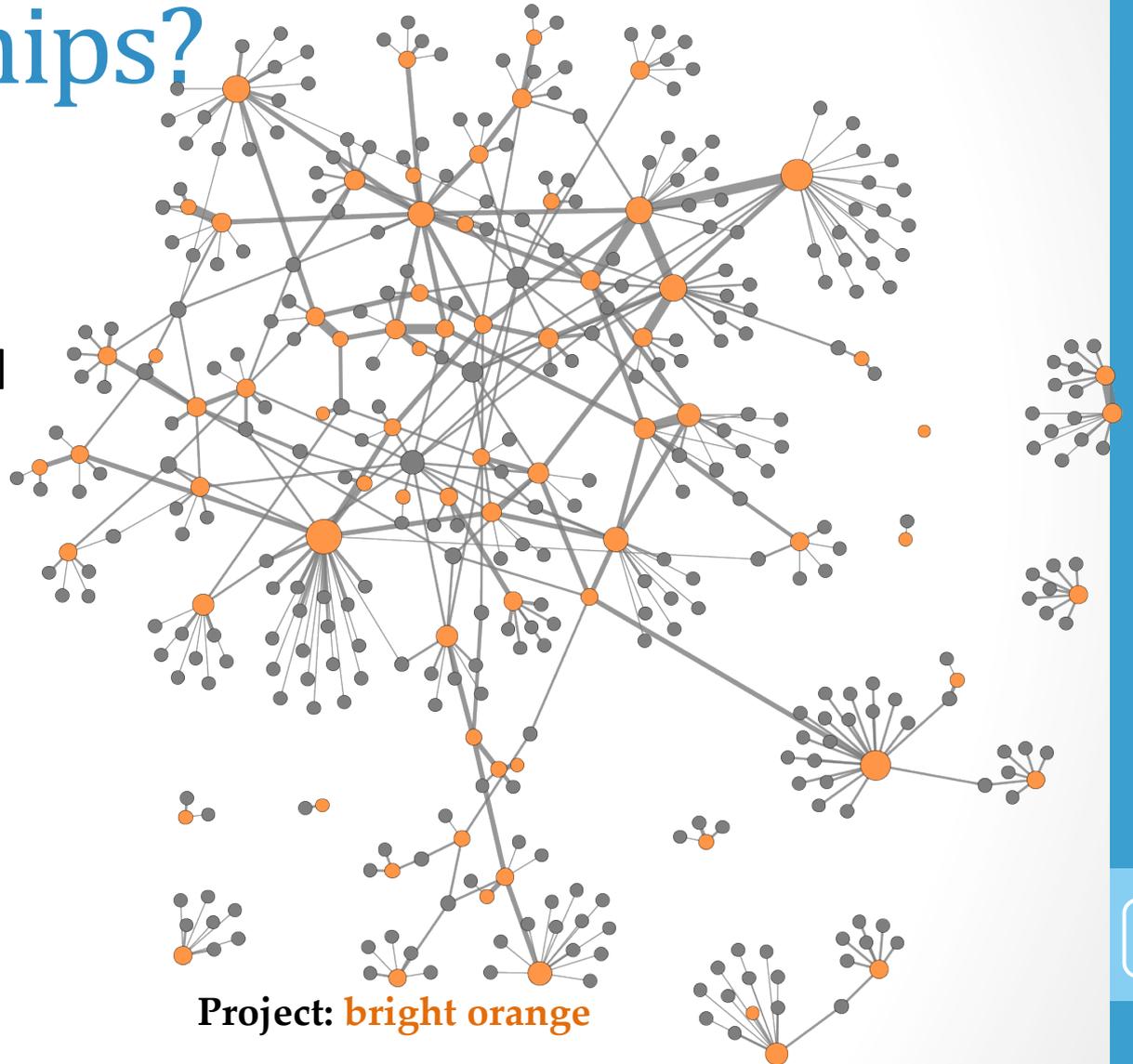
↓ Relationship Mode:	Role for NASA: →	Expert Colleague	Customer Service representative
One-Way Communication	constantly available presence	staff serve as informants	
Two-Way Engagement	active participant in project success	staff serve as helpers and troubleshooters	

Q2: The NICE Awardee/ Management Community

- "I found communication from the management team to be **exceptional**. From day 1 . . . it was made clear that my colleagues and I are **members of a learning community facilitated by an active management team** focused on providing as many opportunities as possible for learning from each other."
- "I had **far more involvement** with the program director on this grant than from any other grant . . . Keep that up!"
- "I . . . **never felt 'lost in the crowd,'** as can happen with some large programs."
- "This [tri-agency PI] meeting is a **showcase of best practices** . . . and **should be observed and replicated.**"

Q3: Do NICE projects build partnerships?

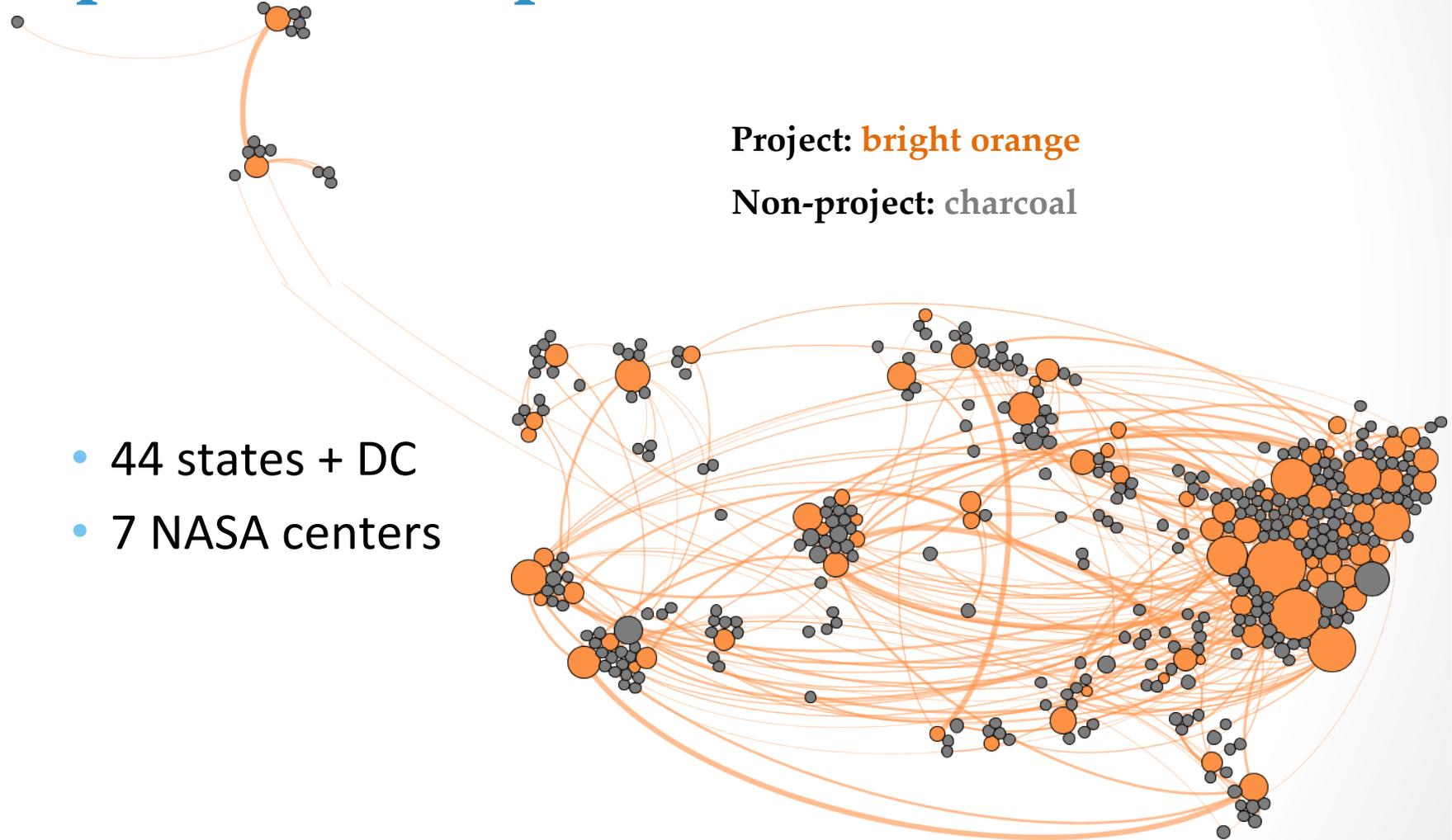
- 75 projects
- 377 unique institutions
- 450+ meaningful relationships (partnerships/collaborations)
- Projects have a mean of 6.9 relationships



Project: **bright orange**

Non-project: charcoal

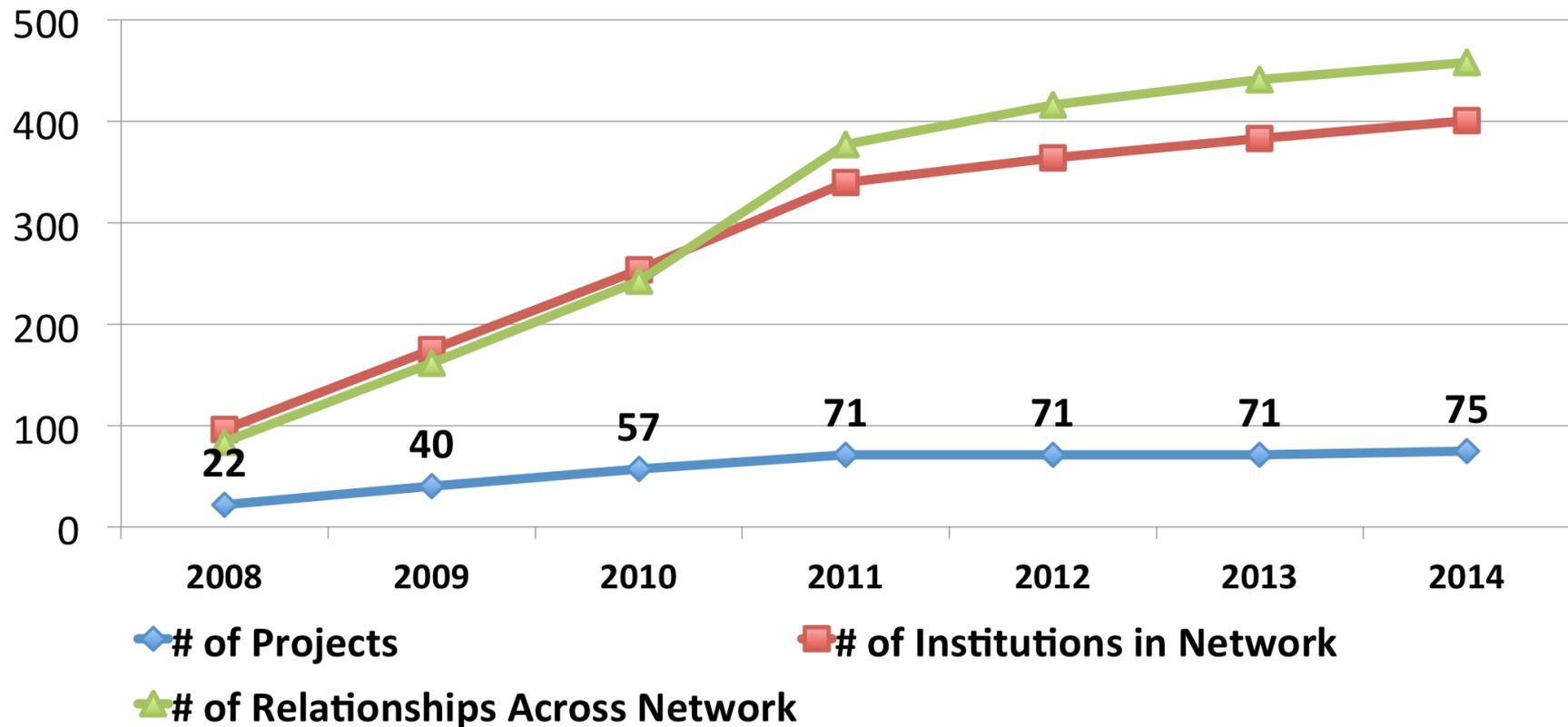
Q3: Do NICE projects build partnerships?



- 44 states + DC
- 7 NASA centers

Q3: Do NICE projects build partnerships?

NICE Network Components Over Time



Q4: What overall outcomes are achieved by NICE projects?

	K-12 Teachers	K-12 Students	Higher Education Faculty	Higher Education Students
# of Projects Targeting Audience Category (of 38)	28 + 7	14 + 7	6	12
Awareness	✓	✓	✓	✓
Knowledge (Content/ Pedagogy)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Interest	✓	✓		✓
Attitudes	✓	✓		✓
Confidence	✓			✓
Behaviors	✓		✓	✓
Skills/Competencies	✓	✓	✓	✓
Total # of Outcomes Reported	82	23	9	31

