TOOLS FOR ASSESSING ECONOMIC IMPACT: A PRIMER FOR FOOD SYSTEM PRACTITIONERS
9-19-17 WEBINAR

http://foodsystems.msu.edu/resources/a-primer-for-food-system-practitioners-webinar

Q&A SUMMARY

The following answers were provided by webinar partners: Kathryn Colasanti, MSU Center for Regional Food Systems; Megan Phillips Goldenberg, New Growth Associates, LLC; and Ashley McFarland, MSU Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center

Question	Answer
Do you do an EIA before you do some of those other economic development studies like feasibility studies and health/social impacts? Which do you do first?	Great question! I think the short answer is that it depends. They could even be done simultaneously. But I'll bring that up again during the discussion time.
Wouldn't revising and customizing commercial models based on primary data be a good approach? Or are there issues you've found with customizing a model?	Hi Ryan, a commercial model is a good idea to make it more accurate. The challenge is that you'll typically need primary data in order to know how to customize. And collecting primary data could be expensive. Depending on the model and the degree of customization, you may also need extensive expertise with the model.
I'm curious to see an application of SNA to community econ analysis--do you have some references? Interested in hearing more about your study!	I (Goldenberg) primarily work with Paula Ross, retired from University of Toledo. We've hired her to consult on this upcoming study. There is a reference within the publication, specifically under this approach. On page 23 there's a ""shout out"" to a paper: Conner, D. S., King, B., Koliba, C., Kolodinsky, J., & Trubek, A. (2011) Mapping Farm to School Networks Implications for Research and Practice. Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition, 6(2), 133-152.
We did social network analysis in Northern MN, but participation can be a major issue. Many people have a large number of varied relationships and recall bias is certainly at play.	Yes! Participation is always a major issue.
Do you have an good local food examples in US which used LM3 model? I like that it's transparent and based on primary data.	Within this publication that we're discussing, there are some citations. The "shout out" to a particular study is on page 21. Knuutila, A. & Kersley, H. (2011) The Benefit of Procuring School Meals through the Food for Life Partnership: An Economic Analysis. New Economics Foundation. Retrieved from foodforlife.org.uk/~/media/files/ evaluation%20reports/fflp-nef----benefits-of-local-procurement.pdf