

Documentary Sustainability Reading Group Questions

We hope this one-sheet is a useful guide to conducting conversations in your community!

Discussion Goal:

Inspire ongoing dialogue and action throughout the field in pursuit of tangible strategies leading towards a sustainable and healthy ecosystem for the professional documentary community and a vital creative economy.

Suggested Questions For Discussion:

- Sustainability can mean something different for everyone. What will it take for you as an individual professional in the field to be sustainable?
- What are untapped resources that are specific to your community or networks?
- What are specific sustainability challenges or barriers in your community? What do you need or what will it take to address these challenges or barriers? How can we work together as a team to tackle these challenges?
- Are there local models that have been successful in your community, or are there existing models that have potential to be successful in your area? How can you take steps to contact those local entities/resources?
- In relationship to cross-sector networks (outside of the professional documentary community), what networks do you have access to that can help move this conversation forward? What stakeholders might not be involved in this conversation that could be?
- How can your audiences—including members of the local community—become aware and engaged in this discussion? How can filmmakers make sure to bring this into local screenings, Q&A's, public events, etc.?

Determine Next Steps:

- Determine specific goals for your group as a community – how often do you want to meet?
- Do you want to invite new individuals/networks outside of the immediate documentary field to expand the conversation?
- Are there specific actions that we would like to take as a group, or individually, as a next step? Share out with the group.