



TAI
Progress
Report

July 2025 · June 2026

Trust, accountability & inclusion:

How TAI is advancing its theory of change

Executive Summary

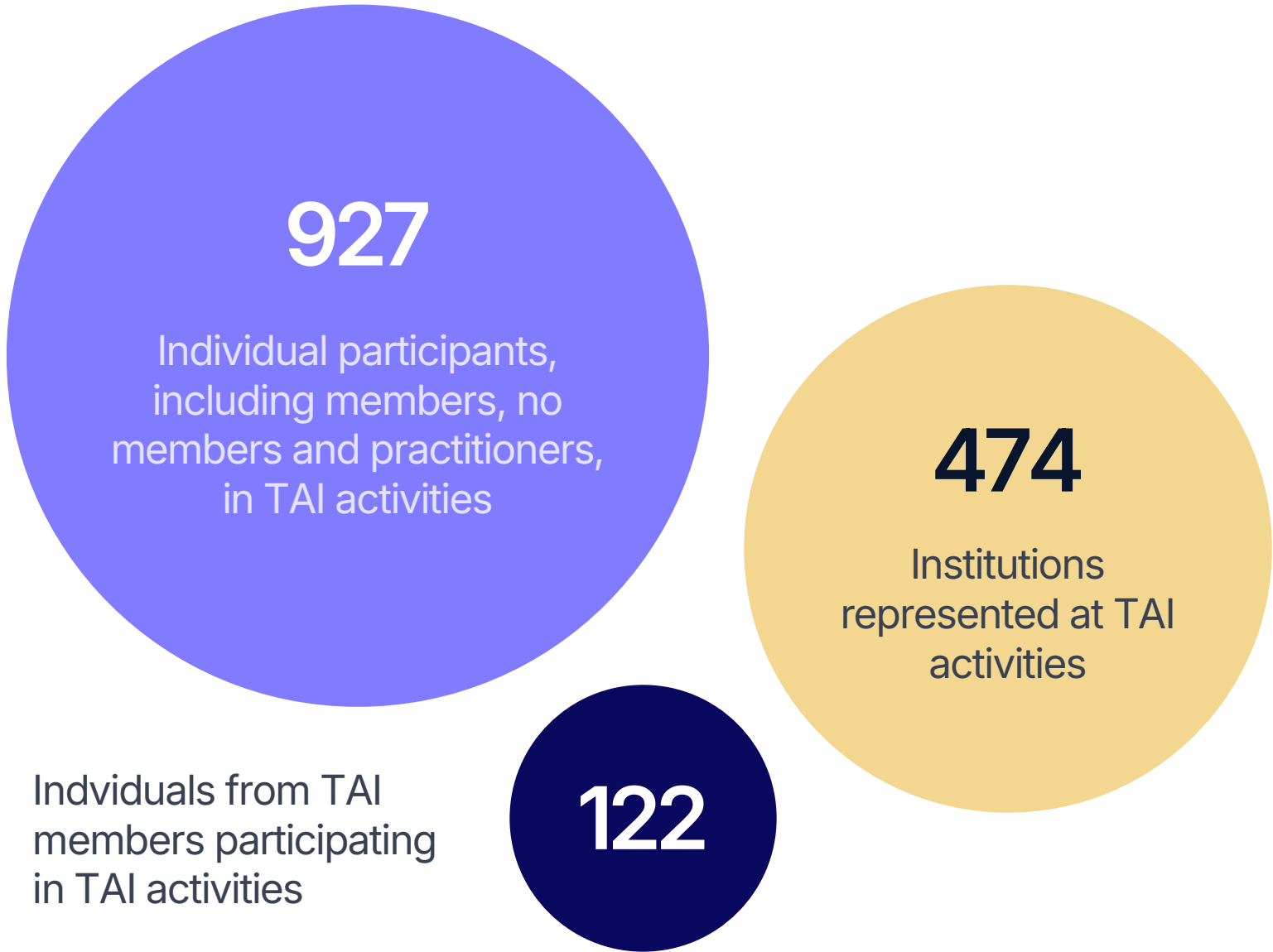
Now over a year into implementing our new strategic framework, this report looks at **how TAI is translating its vision into tangible progress**. Rather than documenting every activity, it examines what is beginning to change across funder strategies, funding practices, and the wider philanthropic ecosystem.

This is the first progress report generated under our **new monitoring, evaluation, and learning plan** that is tailored to the new strategic framework. While previously TAI had semi-annual and annual reports, we are now shifting to a model in which we share **an end-of-summer progress report** covering the preceding fiscal year, and a more comprehensive **analysis and reflection will follow in early 2027**.

Overall, **2026 has been a strong year for engagement with the TAI platform**, even as funders navigate an increasingly challenging and uncertain operating environment. We have seen growing demand for TAI's trusted spaces, analysis, advice, and opportunities for collaboration. Funders particularly value the quality and timeliness of TAI's content and the sense of community it creates. Learning is translating into changes in strategies, practices, coordination, and advocacy. This reinforces a broader trend across the report: at a moment when the context for participatory governance is becoming more difficult, the need for spaces that help funders make sense of change, connect with peers, and act more strategically is growing.



Who is engaging with TAI’s offerings, and how much?



What activities and supports did TAI offer?

Learning calls	32
In-person convenings	13
Learning and working groups	5
TAI publications	41
External publications in relevant media outlets	18
Instances of direct advice provided to funders	10

How valuable are TAI’s offerings to funders?

Funders surveyed in 2026 **rated TAI 8.7 out of 10** when asked how likely they were to recommend TAI to others.



8.7 / 10

What are funders learning from TAI?

Survey respondents said that in the last 12 months, they had learned...

About topics and issues in participatory governance

77%

How participatory governance intersects with other priorities

53%

Ways to effectively fund participatory governance work

33%

Practical ways to apply trust-based, accountable, and inclusive funding practices

30%

How are funders applying this knowledge in their own work?

43%	advocated for the integration of participatory governance topics into other programs and portfolios
37%	applied knowledge and lessons in their own portfolio or strategy
30%	applied more trust-based, accountable, and inclusive approaches in their grantmaking practices

How are funders collaborating with other institutions?

53%	coordinated with other funders on grantmaking
53%	co-funded initiatives that support participatory governance
50%	advocated externally for more resources and/or policy support for participatory governance
33%	collaborated with other funders on a new initiative, model, or approach in participatory governance