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MCP Adoption and Why OSPO Skills Matter

An Introduction to Model Context Protocol for organizations

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👋 Hi, I'm Ana

Sr. Project Manager, The Linux Foundation

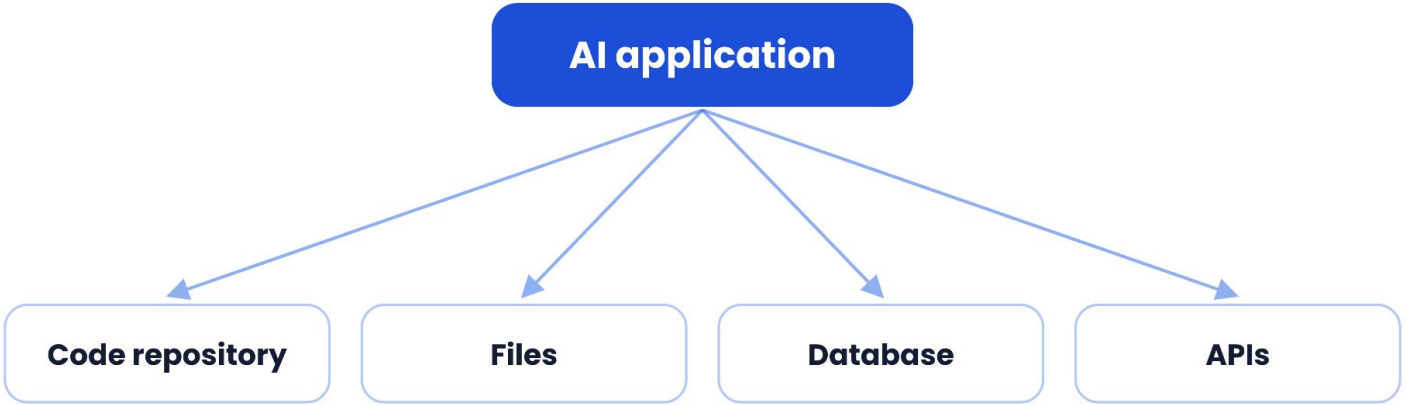
Agentic AI Foundation Ambassador

Open source strategy, OSPO and community health

👷 `Where I contribute`

AI applications are no longer only generating answers

Search information → Read files → Query systems → Take actions



How does one application discover and talk to all of these systems?

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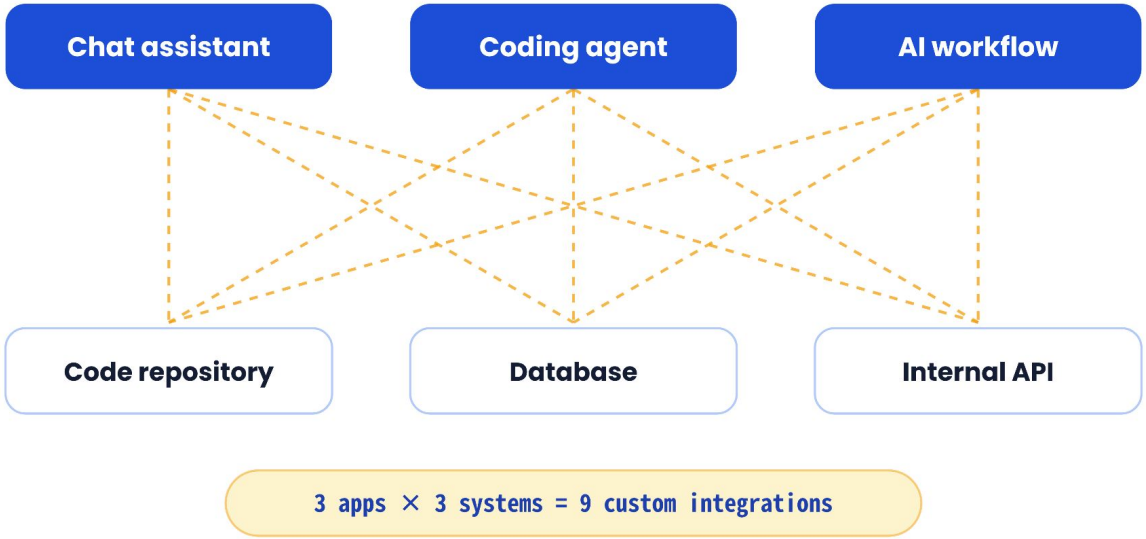
Every connection can become a custom integration



More systems = more integrations to build and maintain: the N × M problem

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Model Context Protocol

An open protocol for connecting AI applications to external systems

🛠️ Tools

Actions the model can execute

📚 Resources

Context the application can read

🎯 Prompts

Reusable “expert” templates

Introduced by Anthropic in 2024, now hosted as an open source project under the **Agentic AI Foundation**

🧩 **Includes an open specification, SDKs, governance, maintainers, contribution processes, and a growing ecosystem**

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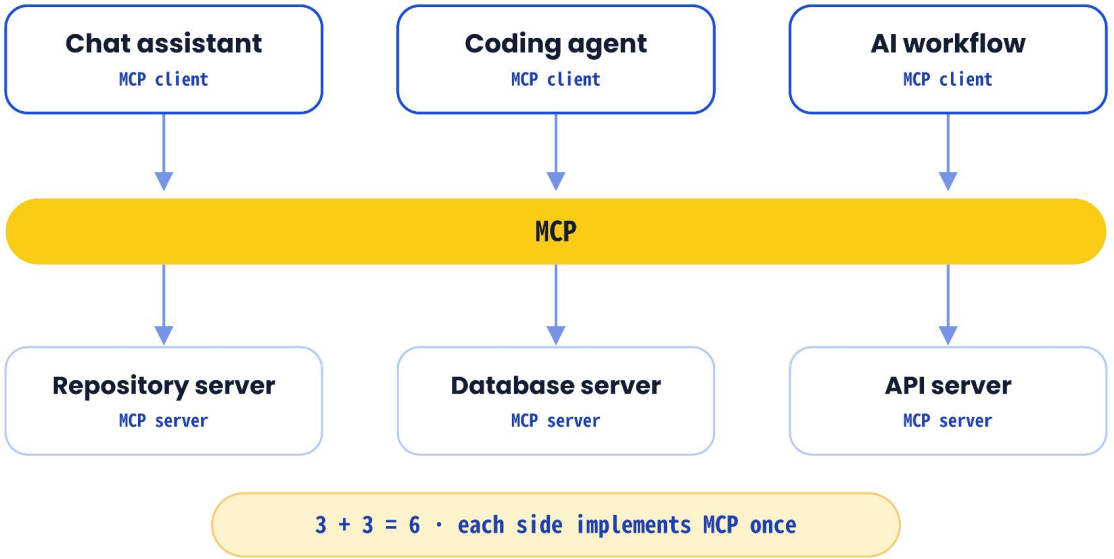
One protocol for many clients and servers



N + M implementations instead of N × M custom integrations. Clients and servers evolve independently while staying interoperable

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Why organizations are paying attention?

MCP is moving from experimentation toward production at scale

Production MCP requires decisions beyond simply implementing the protocol

Tech At Bloomberg

What We Learned Building Enterprise MCP at Bloomberg

PLATEAU MCP Server

PLATEAU MCP Server provides a Model Context Protocol (MCP) server that makes it easy for AI clients to access information about PLATEAU's 3D city models.

PayPal Begins Rollout of MCP Servers to Accelerate Agentic Commerce

Microchip Technology Unveils Model Context Protocol (MCP) Server to Power AI-Driven Product Data Access

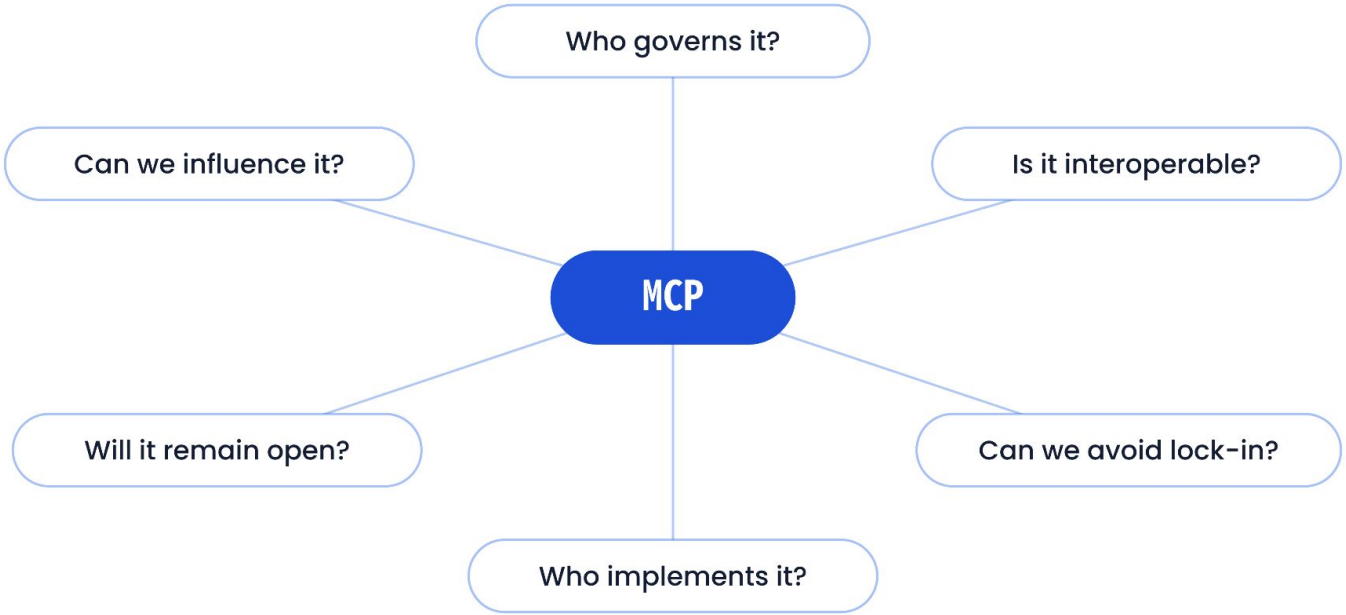
Server enables access to trusted product information across AI platforms to simplify workflows, accelerate design and boost productivity

Securing the Model Context Protocol

Learn how Block's InfoSec team is using Model Context Protocol (MCP) servers to create deterministic interfaces for AI agents, enabling more effective tool interactions and system integrations.

InfoSec team became part of implementation

New questions appear beyond technical implementation



These are not uniquely AI questions. Open source teams in organizations have dealt with them for decades

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MCP just had its biggest revision since launch

PRODUCTION

Stateless core: easier horizontal scaling

Extensions framework: capabilities can evolve outside the core

Formal lifecycle: at least 12 months from deprecation to removal

Authorization hardening: closer alignment with OAuth / OIDC deployments

The new specification strengthens OAuth and OpenID Connect alignment, validates authorization-server identity, binds credentials to the issuer that created them, and makes MCP operations easier for gateways and security infrastructure to identify and control

https://blog.modelcontextprotocol.io/posts/2026-07-28/

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MCP anchors a living, open ecosystem

New frontier. Familiar skills

OSPO SKILL
Ecosystem evaluation
Standards engagement
Contribution strategy
Cross-functional coordination
Dependency strategy
Interoperability

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State of OSPO 2026 Preliminary Data

AI governance is one example of the OSPO's expanding role. One of the 2026 sections examine how OSPOs are helping organizations manage AI governance, security, compliance, and risk

Since 2018!

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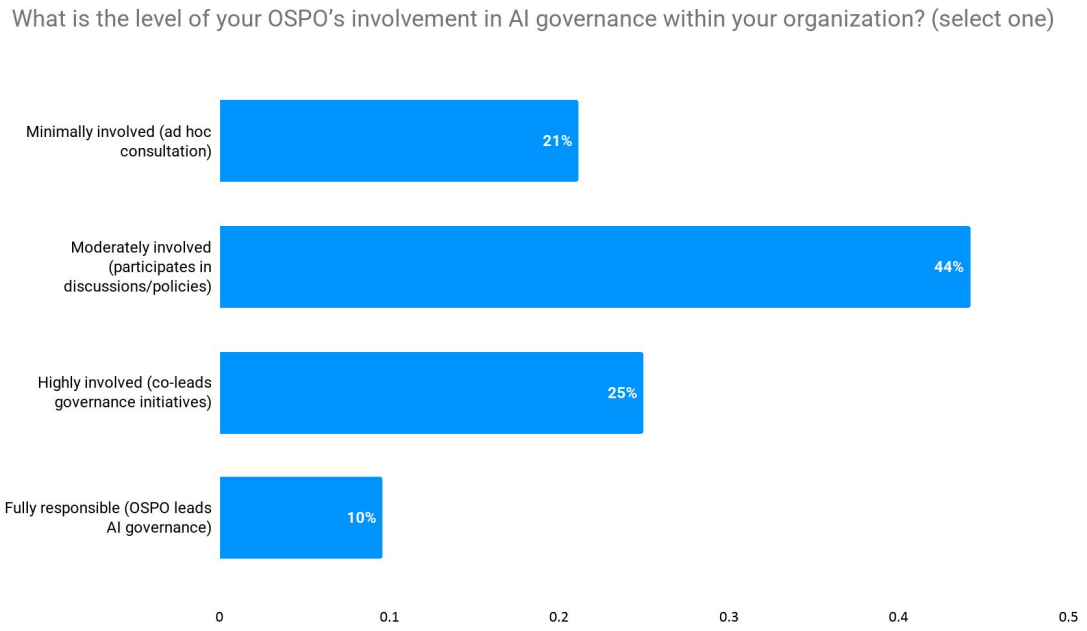
OSPO involvement in AI governance

Organizations are moving beyond ad hoc consultation, with OSPOs now contributing to or leading AI governance efforts



Moderate involvement is the most common level: 44% participate in discussions and policies. A further 25% co-lead governance initiatives and 10% lead AI governance outright, so 35% hold a leading role.

Twenty-one percent are minimally involved through ad hoc consultation.

Footnote: OSPO 2026, Q20, Sample size = 51

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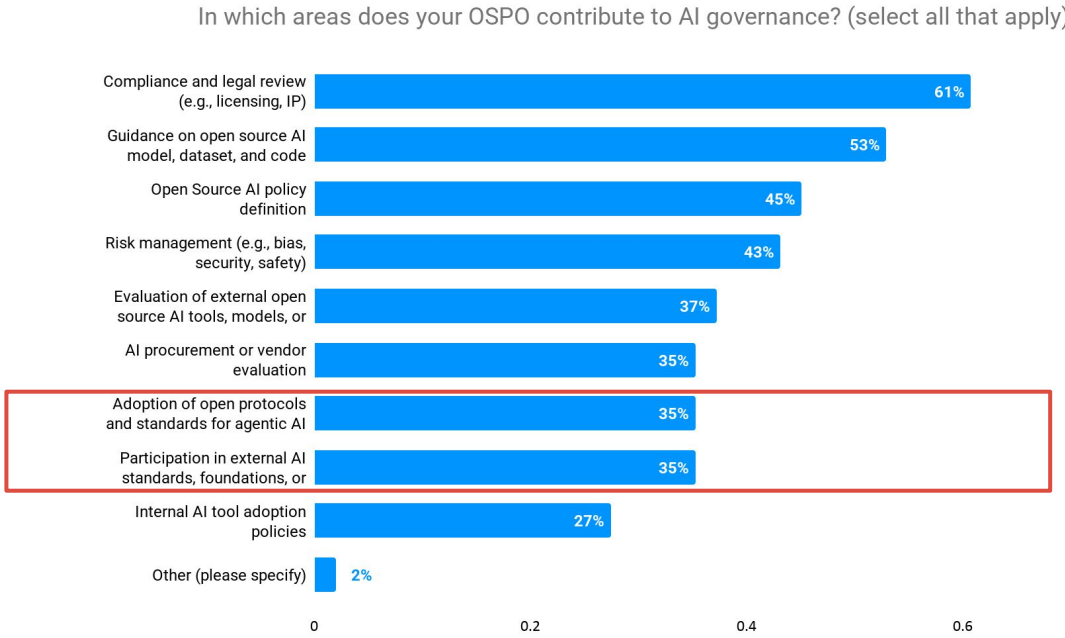
Where OSPOs contribute to AI governance

OSPOs bring their open source governance expertise into AI initiatives



OSPOs play a central role in AI governance and risk management. Most contribute to compliance and legal review (61%), guidance on Open Source AI models, datasets, and code (53%), AI risk management (43%), and open source AI policy definition (45%).

They are less frequently involved in organization-wide operational activities such as AI procurement and vendor evaluation (35%) and internal AI tool adoption policies (27%).

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New frontier. Familiar skills

OSPO SKILL	MCP APPLICATION
Ecosystem evaluation	Understand projects, maintainers & implementations
Standards engagement	Follow and participate in MCP evolution
Contribution strategy	Decide when and how to contribute upstream
Cross-functional coordination	Connect AI, platform, security & legal
Dependency strategy	Understand where organizational dependency is forming
Interoperability	Preserve choice across implementations

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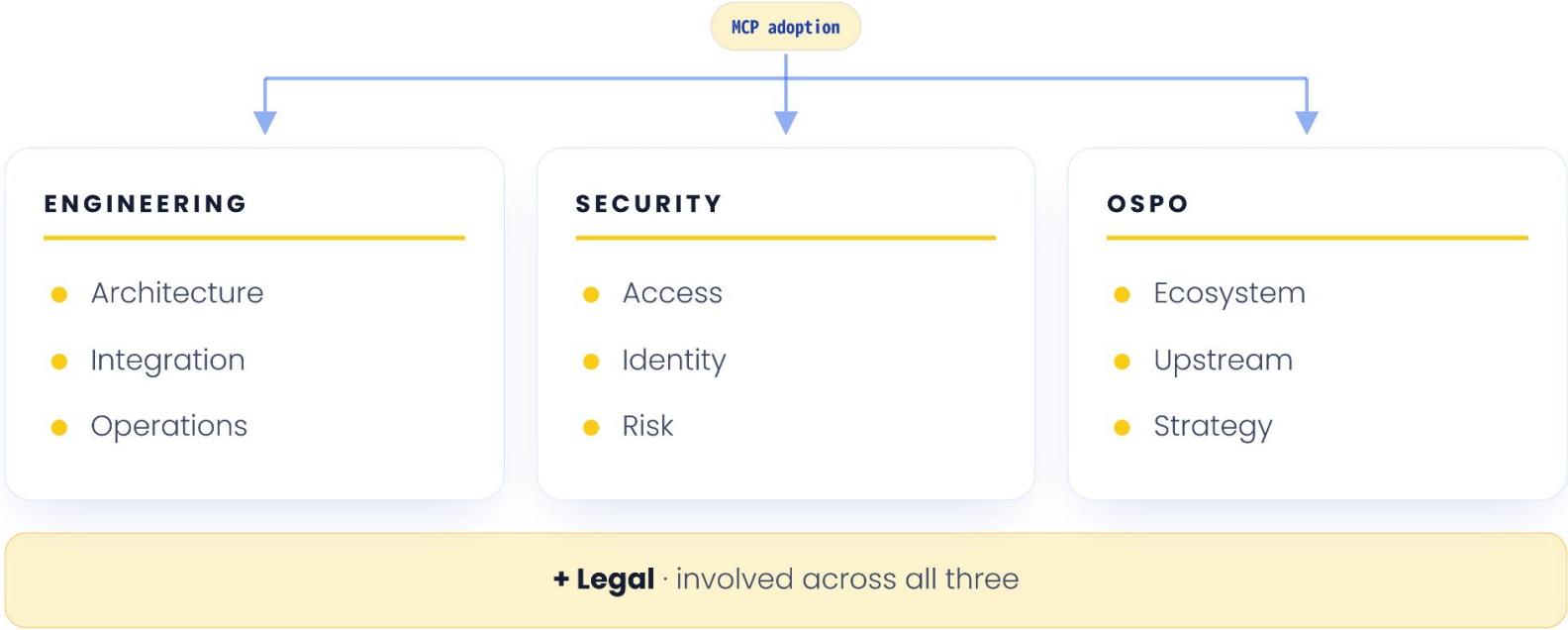
New frontier. Familiar skills



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5 questions to take back to your organization

1. **Where are we using MCP?**
   Clients · servers · SDKs · extensions
2. **What are we depending on?**
   Projects · vendors · maintainers · implementations
3. **Who is following upstream evolution?**
   Spec · SEPs · releases · deprecations
4. **Where should we participate?**
   Issues · working groups · contributions · standards discussions
5. **Are we preserving optionality?**
   Can implementations be replaced without redesigning everything?

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Final Remarks

01 **MCP adoption is more than protocol adoption:** Understand the implementations, dependencies and ecosystem around it

02 **Treat MCP as an open ecosystem, not just infrastructure:** Follow upstream evolution and understand where your organization depends on it

03 **Participate before decisions become dependencies:** Engage upstream where your organization has strategic interests

04 **Bring OSPO skills into the conversation early:** Connect engineering, security, legal and ecosystem strategy

TODO

Agentic AI OSPO WG

Group shared learnings: https://github.com/todogroup/working-groups/blob/main/wg-agentic-ai/meeting-notes.md

Building this with peers: the TODO Group Agentic AI to Empower OSPOs Working Group meets biweekly!

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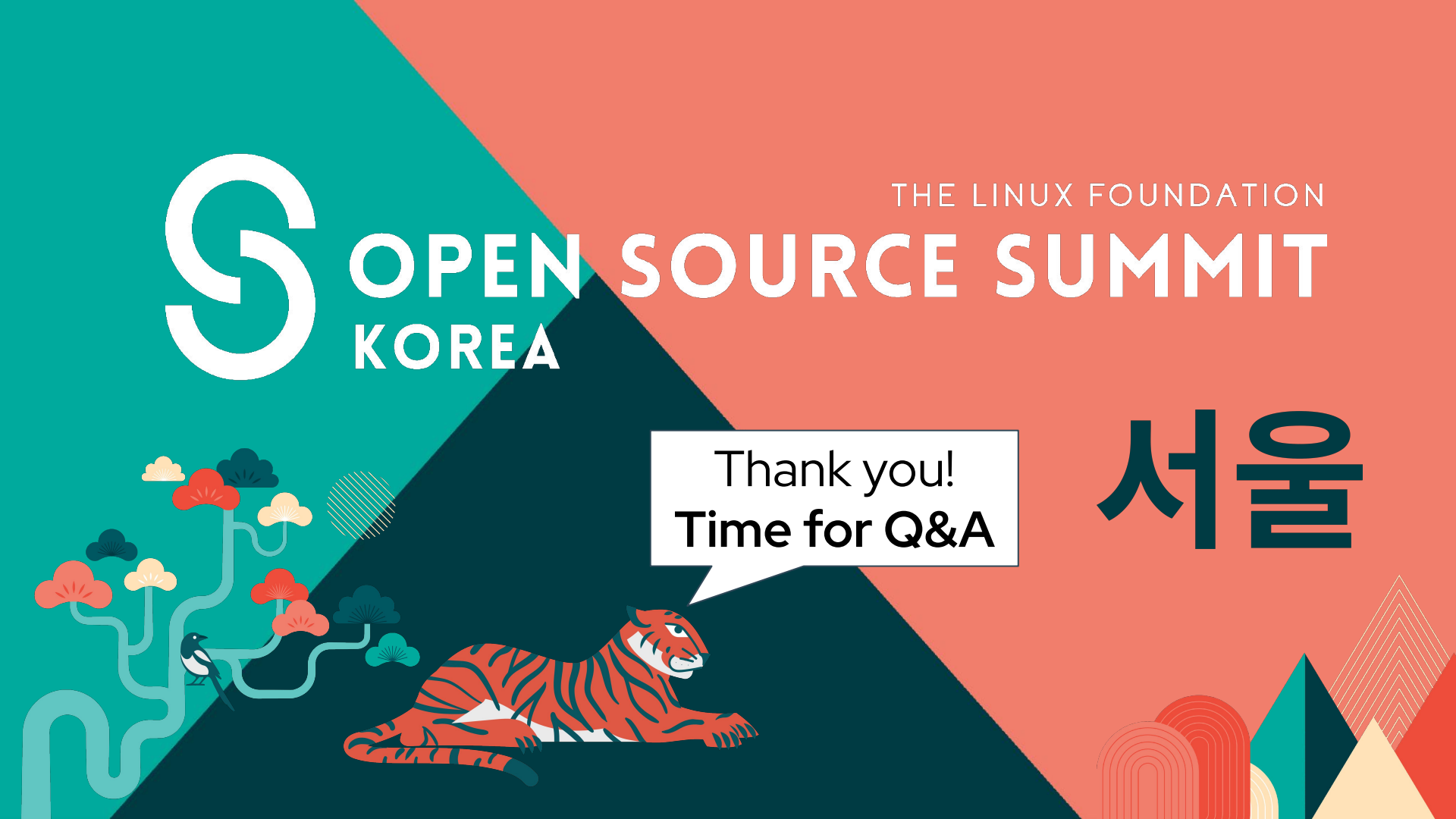
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Thank you!
Time for Q&A
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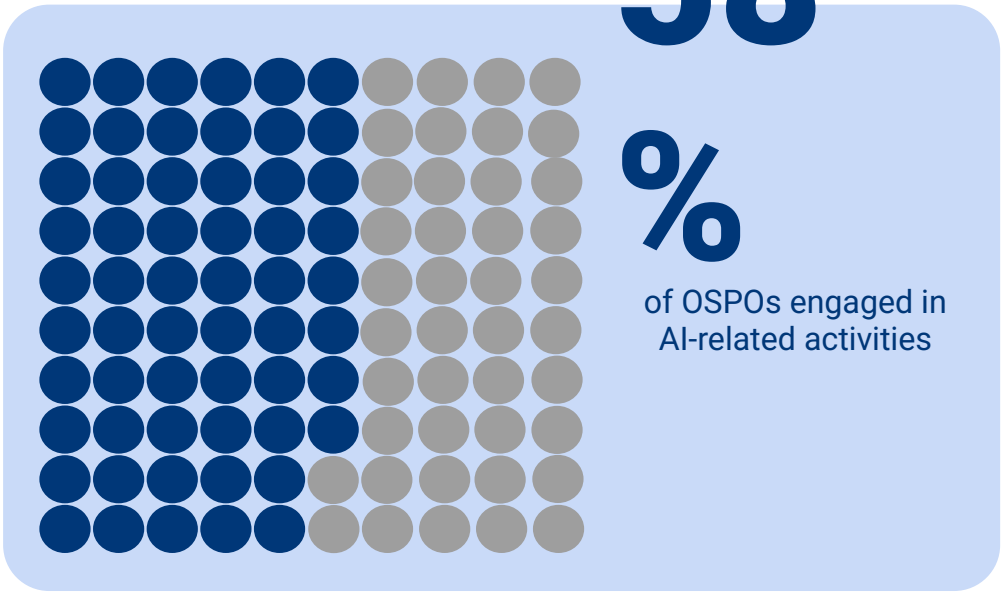
Backup Slides

From AI Governance to Organizational Impact

AI governance is only one part of the OSPO's expanding mission

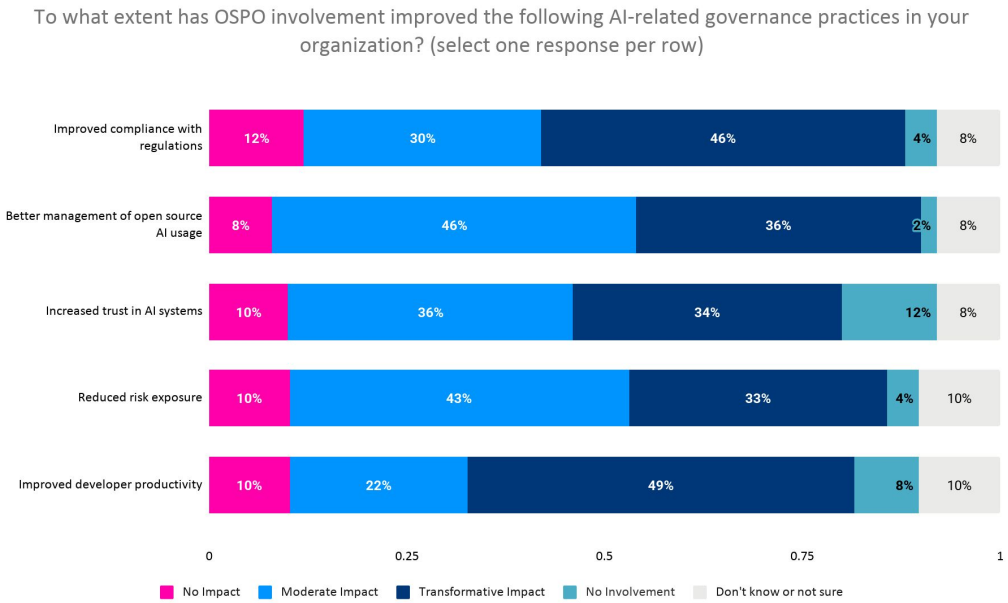


Organizations are increasingly turning to OSPOs to support AI initiatives, creating opportunities to expand their role beyond traditional governance.

58% of OSPOs are already engaged in AI-related activities.

OSPOs deliver measurable impact on AI governance

Organizations report that OSPO involvement improves AI governance across compliance, productivity, trust, and risk management



Compliance improves for 76% (46% transformative), and open source AI usage management improves for 82% (36% transformative).

Developer productivity stands apart: 49% see transformative gains, the highest single impact across all metrics.

OSPOs play an enabling role in AI governance

Footnote: OSPO 2026, Q24, Sample size = 51