

# Sustainability model of a makerspace

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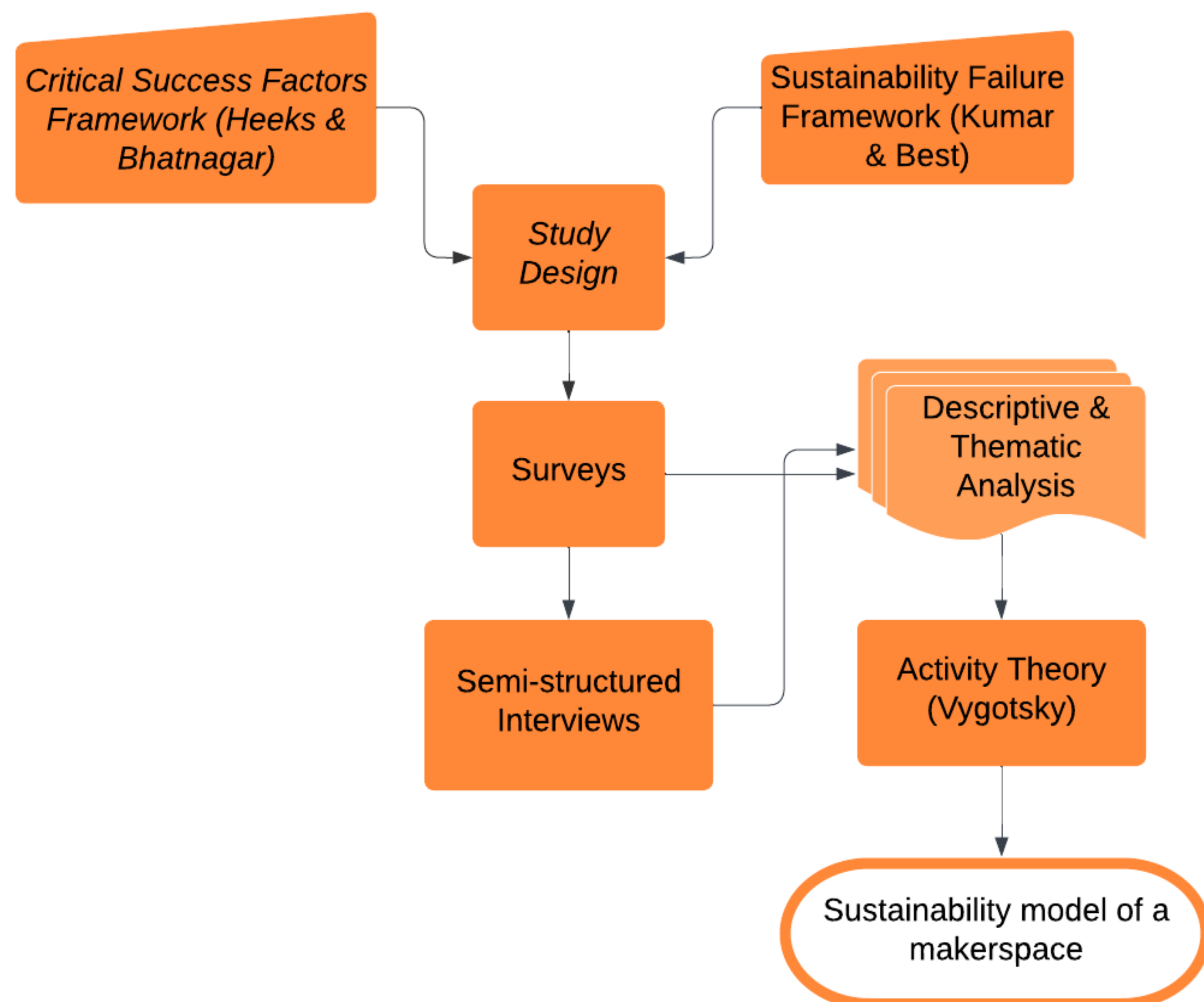
## INTRODUCTION

Makerspaces play a significant role in promoting community-based learning, entrepreneurship, and STEM education. Unfortunately, many of these spaces face difficulties and often fail to survive.

## RESEARCH QUESTION

How management of a makerspace view sustainability?

## METHODS



## PARTICIPANTS



81 Surveys



21 Interviews



USA

## QUOTES

*I'm not sure we're sustainable because we work our butts off and make enough money to pay rent.*

*Most of these places don't make money.*

*I don't think that tools are all that important .... BUT People are ....*

*makerspaces are ultimately a reflection of the community that exists around them*

*purpose of a makerspace is to create a place where both creation and innovators can come together, they're like minded*

*a lot of makers make makerspaces. But really, there's a good part of it, that is Business Administration, and that's where we were lacking.*

*people aren't really hanging around here in the summer. how do we make summer are not so ugly for us?*

*getting the community getting the people in the community to come and stay is a real tough one.*

*Sustainability is to be able to survive by paying bills and meeting the mission statement*

*Volunteers are working for free. So you got to pay them in gratitude*

*They're there for the social environment*

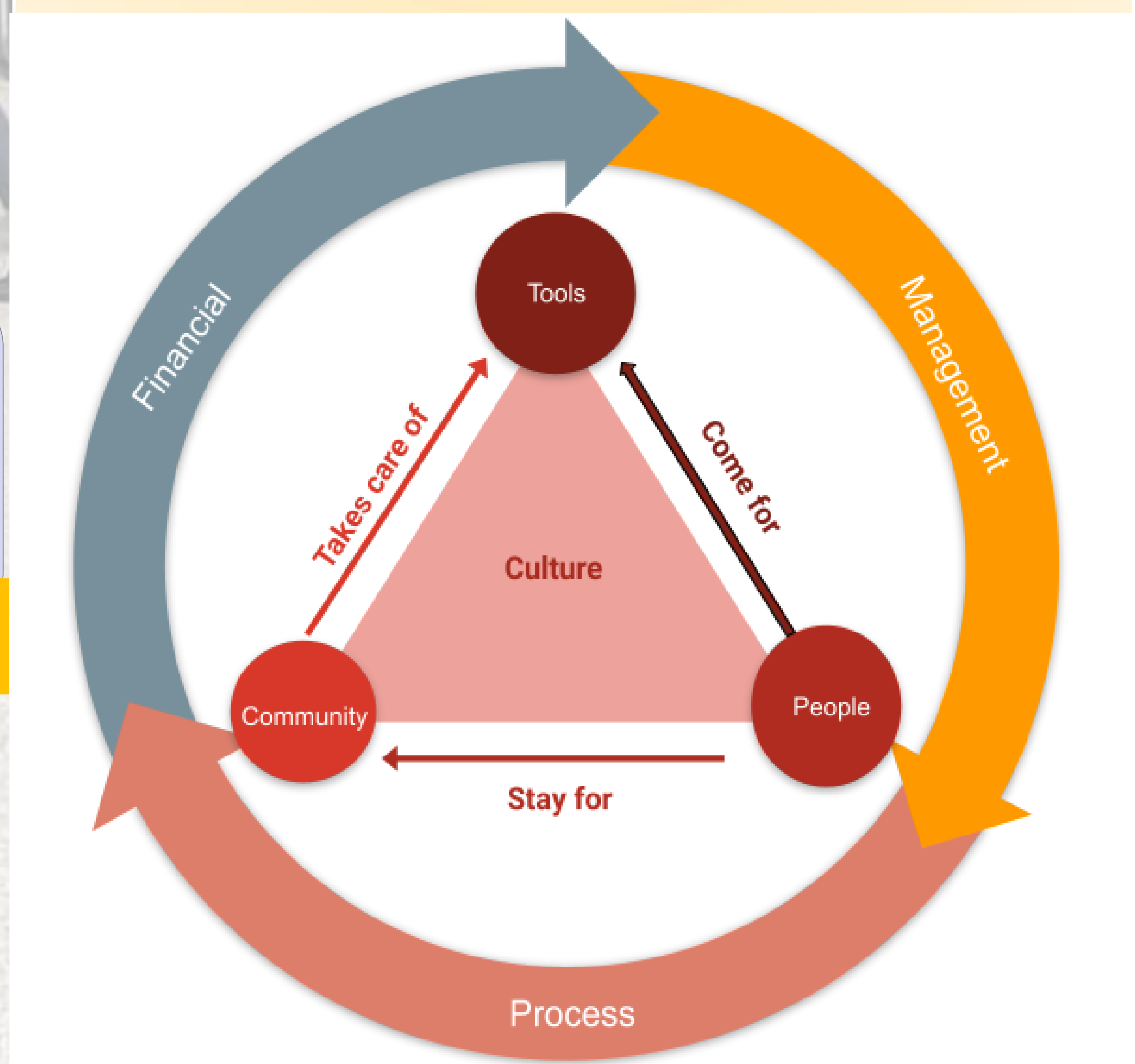
## RESULTS

The Makerspace functions as a microorganism - it requires several factors to work together systematically when achieving equilibrium (sustainability).

Our study shows that the sustainability model of a makerspace could be modeled as a system consists of two layers: core and support.

The core layer of a makerspace is made up of people, tools, and community bonded by a shared culture..

Management, processes, and finances must support and protect the core.



## THEMES

| culture          | people                     | community         |
|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| rent             | lack of business knowledge | space utilization |
| living wages     | volunteers                 | management        |
| process & policy |                            |                   |