

Creating Sustainable Community Energy Plans through Citizen Engagement

National Extension Energy Summit

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OSU Extension



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

What we will cover...

- What are sustainable communities?
- How does sustainable planning address issues of energy rich communities?
- How does this model seek to engage audiences in sustainable energy planning?

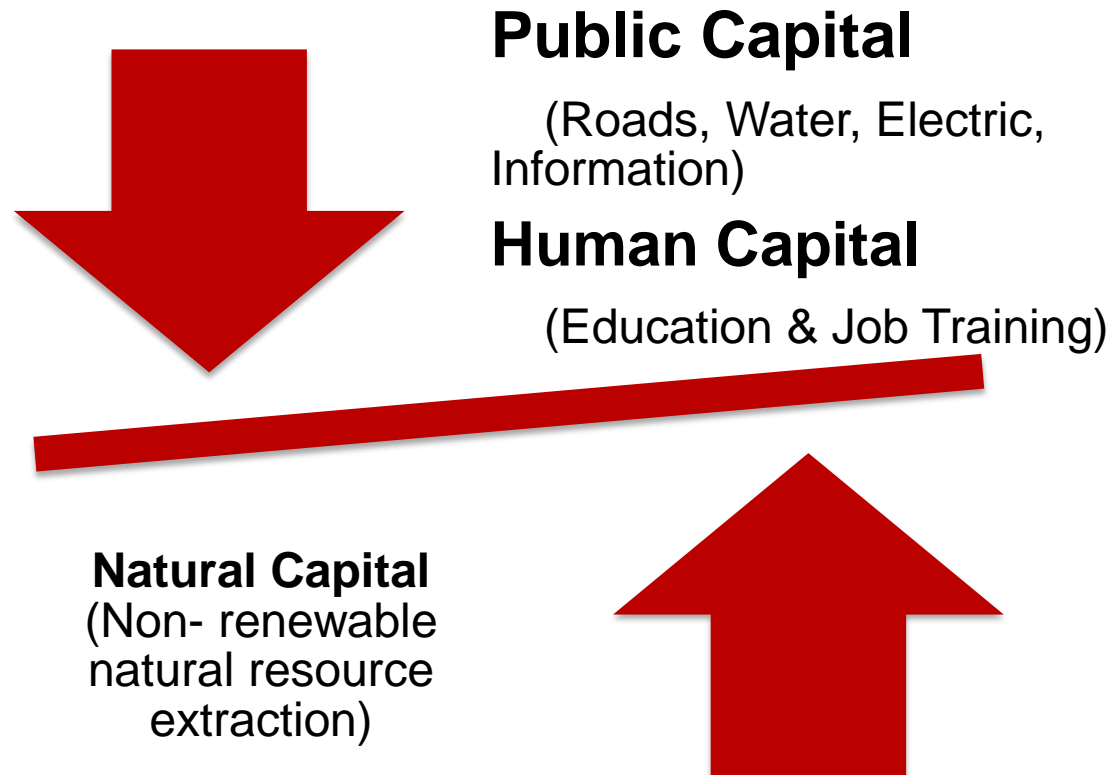


Sustainable Communities

Sustainable development is a dynamic process in which communities anticipate and accommodate the needs of current and future generations in ways that reproduce and balance local social, economic, and ecological systems, and link local actions to global concerns.

Berke and Conroy
American Planning Association Journal
Vol. 66, No. 1, Winter 2000

Natural Resource Based Economies: Boom/Bust



What is Community?

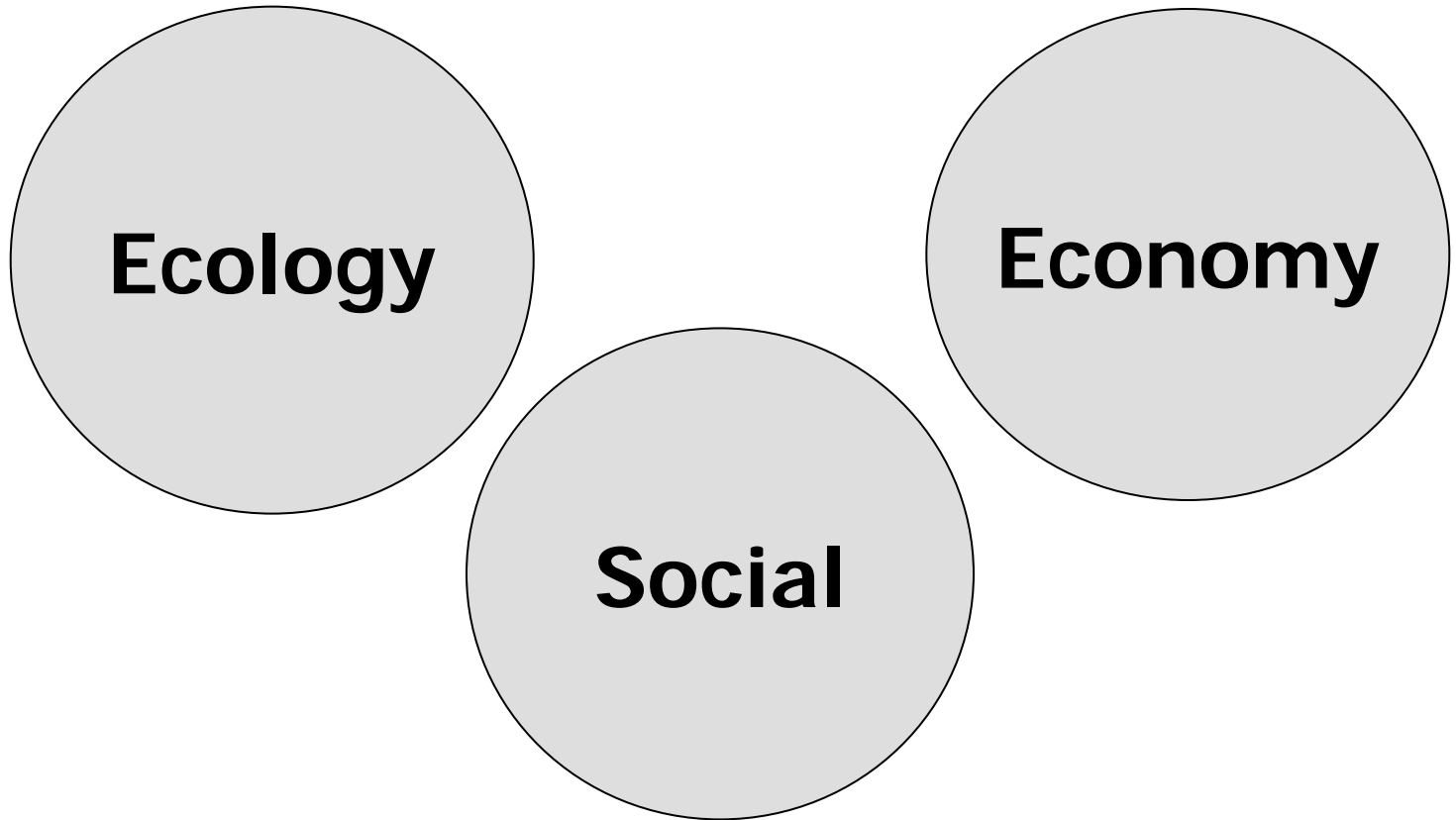


**Community
of Place**

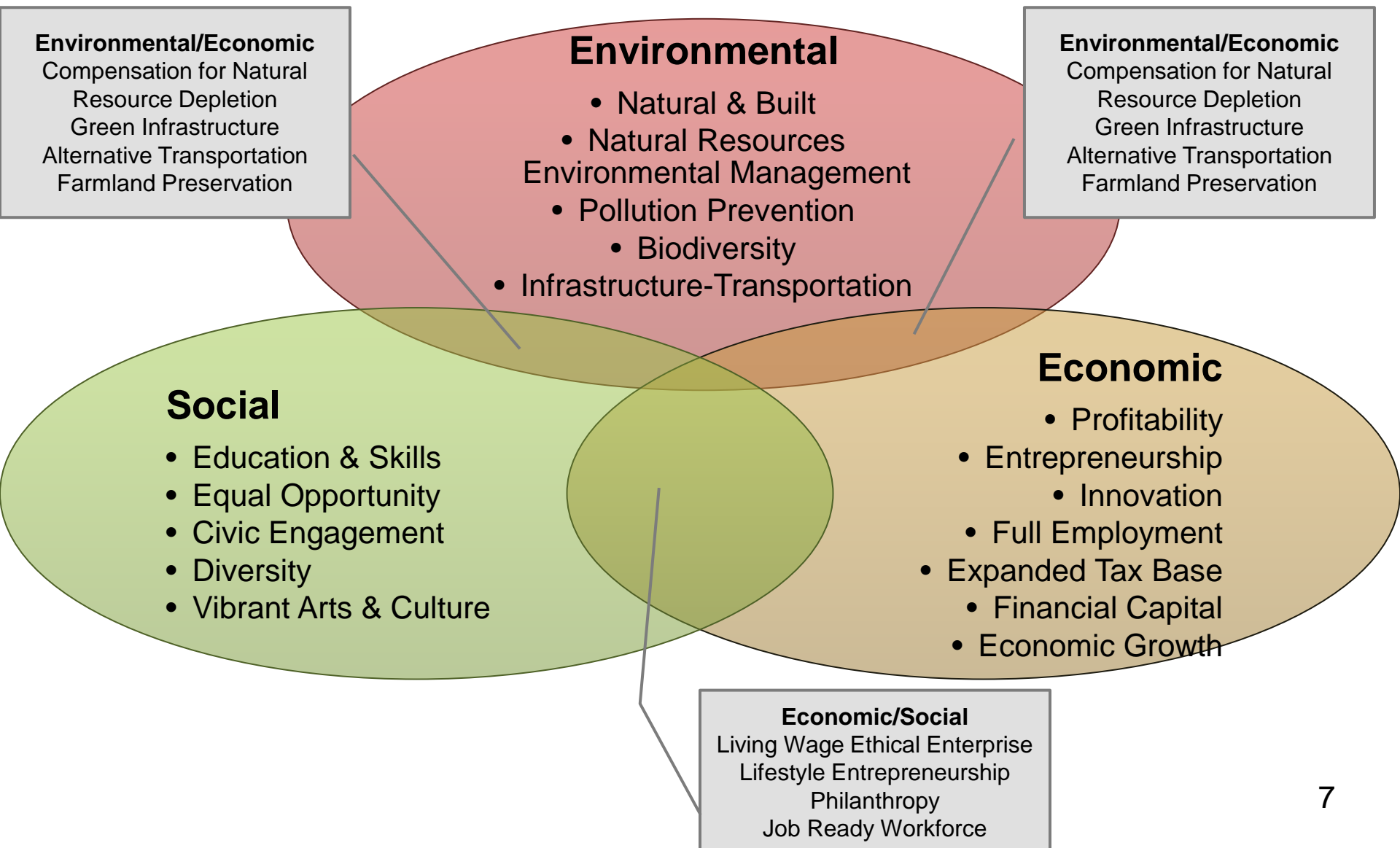


**Community
of Interest**

Three Sectors of Community



Using Sustainability to Build Capacity in Shale Impacted Communities



Cornerstones

Inclusion

Long Term

Balances/Links
three Sectors

Multidimensional
Benefit to 3 Sectors

Applicability

Vision based planning
through engaged community

Considers future generations
to transcend boom-bust
cycles

Addresses energy impacts on
all 3 sectors & links/balances
needs of each

Goals *intentionally* linked to
benefit social, environmental
& economic future

Guernsey County, Ohio



Use in Appalachia - Guernsey County Pilot



Community Engagement Process

- Step 1: Project Launch Session
- Step 2: Workgroup Participation
- Step 3: Community Engagement Sessions
- Step 4: Identify Common Themes
- Step 5: Use Themes to Develop Goals



Common Emerging Themes

- Assets:

Location at crossroads of I77/I70

Natural beauty

Rich heritage, culture, history

Agriculture

Collaboration and cooperation

Transportation networks

Common Emerging Themes

- Challenges:
 - Infrastructure & transportation
 - Housing
 - Safety & security
 - Workforce
 - Sufficient, timely revenues
 - Increased diversity

Common Emerging Themes

- Benefits:
 - Jobs & employment opportunities
 - Increased demand for services
 - Education
 - County more marketable to business
 - Increased revenues

Themes → Sustainable Goals

Agriculture

Land Use plan preserves ag lands, protects open space/ rural quality of life, & enhances ag's economic contribution

Infrastructure

Extend/improve infrastructure to developed areas

Collaboration & Cooperation

Business, Government, Agencies & residents form "Champion Group"

How does sustainability help with energy planning?

- *Promotes Balance & interconnection*: No one sector dominates (social, economic, environmental) & plan promotes interconnections
- *Inclusion*: inclusive governance & citizen engagement results in shared community goals
- *Long term*: pushes community to think beyond short term concerns & address boom-bust cycles
- *Multidimensional*: Goals intentionally include social, environmental & economic benefit

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