

Terminology

Sustainability & Resilience

Sustainability

“Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

United Nations, 1987

Mitigation

- ◆ Sustainability concept
- ◆ The action of reducing the severity of something
- ◆ Primarily achieved by the reduction of greenhouse gases
- ◆ Future focused

Resilience

The ability of a piece of infrastructure, system, environment, or community to sustain or recover its essential functions when presented with a disruption.

Adaptation

- ◆ Resilience concept
- ◆ The action of adjusting ecological, social, or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects or impacts
- ◆ Present time and future focused

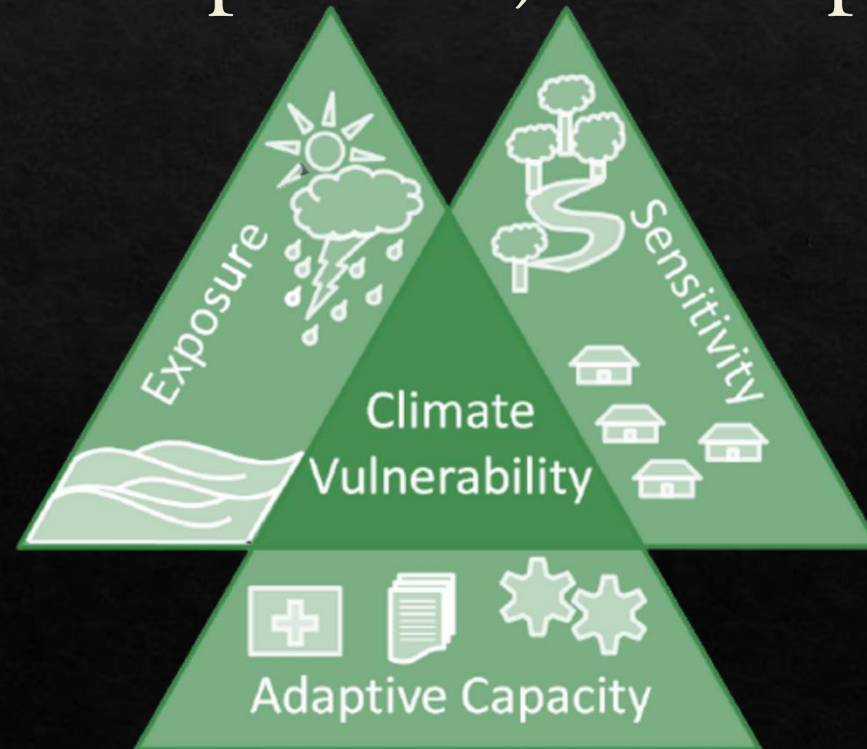
Vulnerability

“The degree to which a system is susceptible to, and unable to cope with, adverse effects of climate change, including climate variability, and extremes”.

International Panel on Climate Change

Vulnerability =

(sensitivity X exposure) – adaptive capacity



Renewable

- ◇ A resource that can be continuously used without risk of depletion
- ◇ Renewable Energy Examples:
 - ◇ Wind
 - ◇ Solar
 - ◇ Hydro
 - ◇ Tidal
 - ◇ Geothermal
 - ◇ Biomass

Carbon Sequestration

- ◆ The process by which atmospheric carbon dioxide is captured and stored
- ◆ Naturally occurs: through trees, grasses, other plants, and phytoplankton through photosynthesis and stored as carbon in biomass (trunks, branches, foliage, and roots) and soils
- ◆ Artificially occurs: through carbon capture systems installed on industrial processes, which capture carbon and then places it into a reservoir (such as a building, injecting it deep underground, etc.)

Energy Efficiency

◆ The method of reducing energy consumption by using less energy to perform the same task

Achieved by:

- ◆ Improved building design
- ◆ Innovations in technology
- ◆ Altering human behavior

Green Construction

- ◆ Construction that follows sustainable practices laid out in a national certification, such as the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification or Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC)

Greenspace

- ◆ An area within an urban environment that is mostly vegetation (such as grass, trees, wildflowers, shrubs, etc.) and is set apart for ecological, recreational, or aesthetic purposes
- ◆ Multiple concepts of greenspace exist, and many times the public definition is different then environmental definition which is different then the municipal definition

Biodegradable

- ◆ Capable of being broken down into harmless products by the action of living things (such as microorganisms) over time
- ◆ Timelines vary
- ◆ Not highly regulated

Compostable

- ◆ Capable of being broken down into harmless products by the action of living organisms in a composting environment within 90 days
- ◆ Backyard vs. Commercial Operation
- ◆ More regulated - BPI Compostable Certification

An open book is shown from a top-down perspective, with its pages fanned out. The book is open to two blank, cream-colored pages. The text is centered on the left page. The book's spine is visible in the center, and the edges of many pages are visible at the bottom, creating a sense of depth and texture.

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