

*Energy, Water, and Land Use: A Framework for
Incorporating Science into Sustainable Regional
Planning*

University of Massachusetts at
Amherst and the Pioneer Valley
Planning Commission

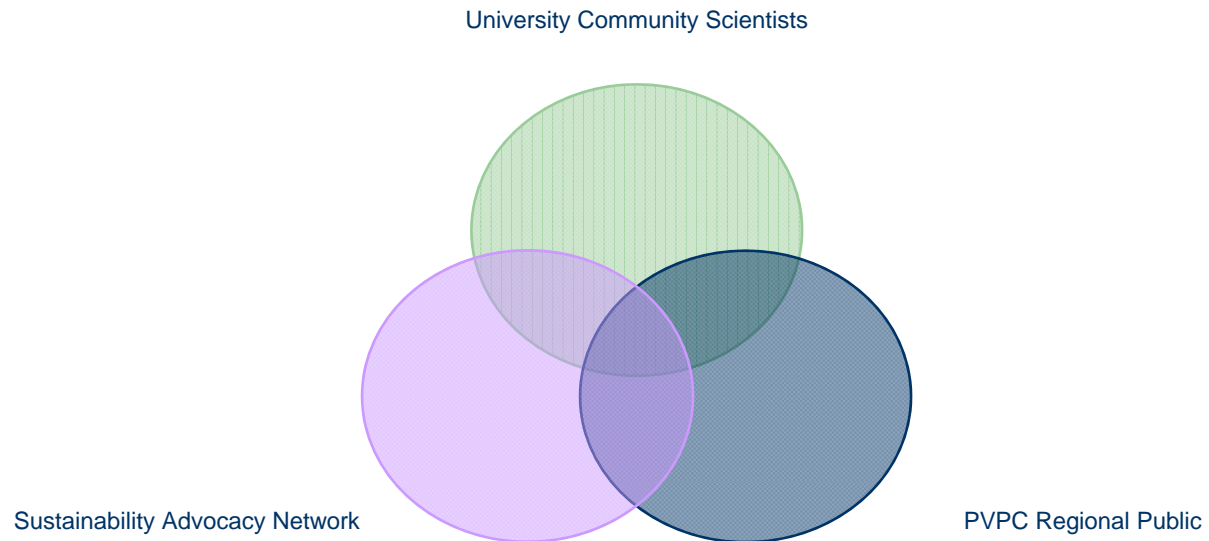
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Contributions to Regional Sustainability

- Formalization a of Network of Regional Sustainability Advocates
- Selection of Sustainability Indicators to Define and Track Progress
- Use of Media Tools to Engage Public and Encourage Action
- Design of an On-line Decision Support Tool
- Extension of DS Tool for Other Uses

Partnership Structure



Project Task Flow

Convene Sustainability Network Group
Select Indicators to Aid Decision Making
Develop Web Tools and Public Media Campaign
Select Metrics for Decision Support
Design Decision Support Tool for Energy Choices
Provide and Promote Access to DS Tools
Apply to Additional Decision

Lessons so Far



Difficulty of Multidisciplinary Agreement

Independence of Sustainability Advocates

Importance of Local Applicability

Difficulties of Selecting and Applying Indicators

The Big Questions

How do we make issues of local, regional and global sustainability important and actionable for residents in a wealthy post-industrial society?

How do we organize information so that consumers understand the effects of their choices?