

# Workshop on Sustainable Minerals Roundtable (SMR) – Introductory Comments

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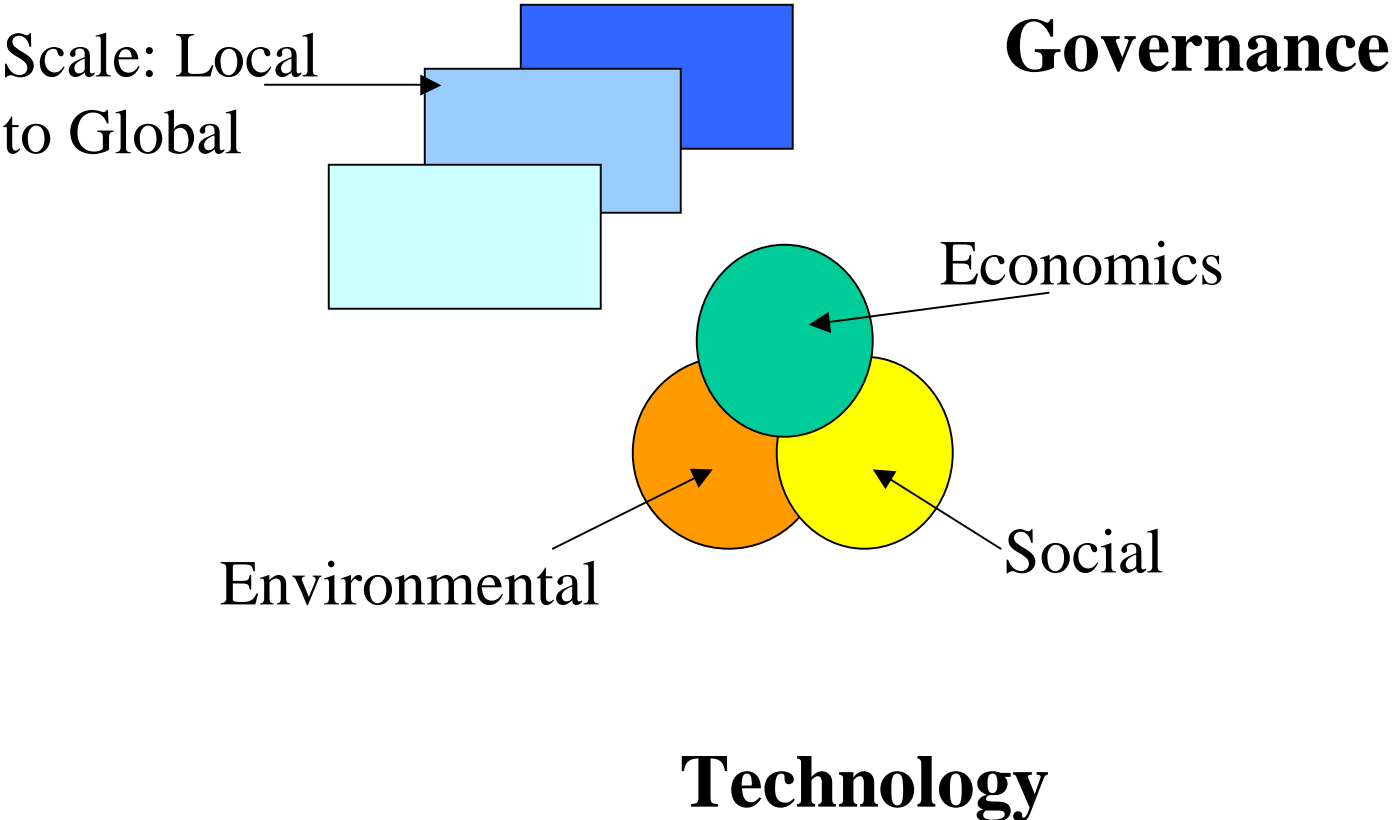
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# Purposes of the Workshop

- Discuss indicators for assessing the contribution of mineral and energy systems to sustainability
- Present the indicators for discussion by participants
- Receive and record comments to help update and improve indicators

# Sustainability



# Indicators

- Some measure to describe the conditions of something, e.g.
  - Blood pressure as an indication of a patient's health status
  - Gross domestic product of the US as an indication of the well-being of the economy

# Context

- Agencies within the US Departments of Agriculture and the Interior manage forest, rangeland, water, and mineral and energy (onshore and offshore) resources
- Four Roundtables are actively developing indicators of sustainability for these resources (see last slide for roundtable information)

# Context (2)

- The SMR indicators consider all aspects of mineral and energy systems, not only the negative – thereby providing a balanced outlook
- The SMR indicators are not intended to be used for new regulatory development
- These indicators will be refined over time and some may become part of the overall indicator set used in the US to evaluate the contribution of various industrial sectors towards sustainable development

# Intended Use and Benefits of the SMR Indicators

- Federal agencies are seeking indicators to improve their accountability and to measure their natural resource management performance
- The indicators will contribute to the Congressionally mandated 2005 Update of the 2000 Resource Planning Act Assessment
- The SMR indicators will support an informed debate about mineral and energy systems and their contribution to sustainability

# Summary Program for Today – The Morning

- Concepts of Sustainability and Non-Renewable Resources – Deborah Shields, US Forest Service, Fort Collins, CO
- Indicators for each criterion:
  - Maintenance of productive capacity – Lorie Wagner, US Geological Survey, Denver, CO
  - Maintenance of environmental quality – Bob Green, Kennecott Energy, Gillette, WY
  - Maintenance of long-term social and economic, and cultural benefits – Richard Marshall, US Forest Service, Missoula, MT
  - Monitoring trends in legal and institutional framework – Deborah Shields

# Summary Program for Today – The Afternoon

- Break into separate criterion groups to discuss the indicators, focusing on the priority set
- For each criterion, discuss one indicator that has been further developed (i.e. populated with information)
- Capture and record recommendations and suggestions about the indicator set
- Invite volunteers to review and comment on the report in Spring 2003

# Roundtable Information

- Roundtable on Sustainable Forests (RSF)  
<http://sustainableforests.net>
- Sustainable Minerals Roundtable (SMR)  
<http://www.unr.edu/mines/smr>
- Sustainable Rangeland Roundtable (SRR)  
<http://www.cnr.colostate.edu/RES/srr>
- Water Resources Roundtable  
<http://water.usgs.gov/wicp/acwi/swrr>
- Roundtable Network – Coordinating Group  
[http://www.cnr.colostate.edu/RES/srr/Roundtable\\_Network/index.html](http://www.cnr.colostate.edu/RES/srr/Roundtable_Network/index.html)

# Domain Presentations

- Broader context of domain
- Major topics/headings
- List of priority indicators
- Status
- Completed example indicator

# Background

- Following the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 an international initiative was started to develop sustainable development indicators for temperate and boreal forests
- Through the Montreal Process a series of Criteria and Indicators have been developed for these forests

# Sustainable Development Indicators for Mineral and Energy Systems

- The process was initiated in 1999
- The Montreal criteria and indicators were adopted for non-renewable resources
- Four criteria (or domains) were selected for Mineral and Energy Systems:
  - Productive capacity
  - Environmental impact
  - Social and economic
  - Legal and institutional

# Sustainable Development Indicators for Mineral and Energy Systems (Cont.)

- There have been 17 meetings of multi-stakeholder groups in most regions of the US
- A set of indicators resulted from the multi-stakeholder meetings and a prioritized set has been selected for data population and presentation in the first report of the SMR
- A draft report is planned by March 2003 and a final by September 2003

# International Context

- MMSD
- ICMM
- CAMMA
- Canadian process
- Other Nations
- Post WSSD