

Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable: California and Regional Sustainability Efforts

The California Regional Progress Report

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On behalf of the California Strategic Growth Council*



Thriving into the Future

- How and where will we grow?
- How will we plan for and invest in our future?
- How will we become better stewards of our natural resources?

Today's decisions will influence how well we prepare for and address our future...a framework to define and measure progress towards sustainability will help us get there...

2010 CALIFORNIA REGIONAL PROGRESS REPORT - REGIONAL INDICATORS

2010 CALIFORNIA REGIONAL
PROGRESS REPORT



ONE STATE
MANY REGIONS
OUR FUTURE

*tracking Progress
toward Sustainability*

PREPARED FOR California Department of Transportation
& The California Strategic Growth Council

BY Applied Development Economics, Inc.
AND Collaborative Economics, Inc.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH Information Center for the Environment at UC Davis
& CALCOG

Progress Report Sponsors, Partners and Project Team

- Sponsors – Caltrans and Strategic Growth Council
- Partners – Information Center for the Environment (ICE) at UC Davis, CALCOG and members, Project Advisory Team (State agencies, regional planning agencies, Blueprint stakeholders), California Forward, WELL Network
- Project Team – Caltrans, ICE, Applied Development Economics, Collaborative Economics

SB 732: CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL

*THE
Strategic Growth Council*

- Members:
 - Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
 - CAL EPA
 - Health and Human Services
 - Governor's Office of Planning and Research
 - Natural Resources Agency
 - Public Member
- Mission:
 - Coordinate state agency activities to support local and regional sustainability activities
 - Provide grant programs to support planning and development of sustainable communities, including urban greening
 - Provide information

Focus: State of the Regions



Why Regions?

- The scale of natural systems – watersheds, air basins, geographical boundaries
- The scale of economic activities, labor markets and commute sheds
- The scale at which certain challenges are best addressed
- We compete with other regions in the global economy
- Federal and state partners emphasize regions

Focus: State of the Regions

- Update of 2007 Report
 - First statewide Regional Quality of Life Indicators Report, based on Regional Blueprint Goals
- New policies, challenges, and opportunities
 - Creation of Strategic Growth Council, AB 32, SB 375; statewide challenges & opportunities; new requirements for regional planning agencies
- Transition to broader state sustainability objectives within Three E's framework

Report Purpose

- Assist the mission of the SGC to provide information resources for state, regional, and local policy makers, planners, and residents to inform planning and investment decisions critical for our economic prosperity and quality of life
- To measure regional and state progress toward sustainability through place-based, cross-cutting indicators

TRACKING PROGRESS TOWARD SUSTAINABILITY



- To identify regional disparities, focus state resources, share successes and encourage action to address issues
 - *“What gets measured gets done.”*
- Foster innovative solutions, new businesses and jobs – renewable energies and efficiencies, green building, alternative fuels, air and water quality and conservation

Planning Process

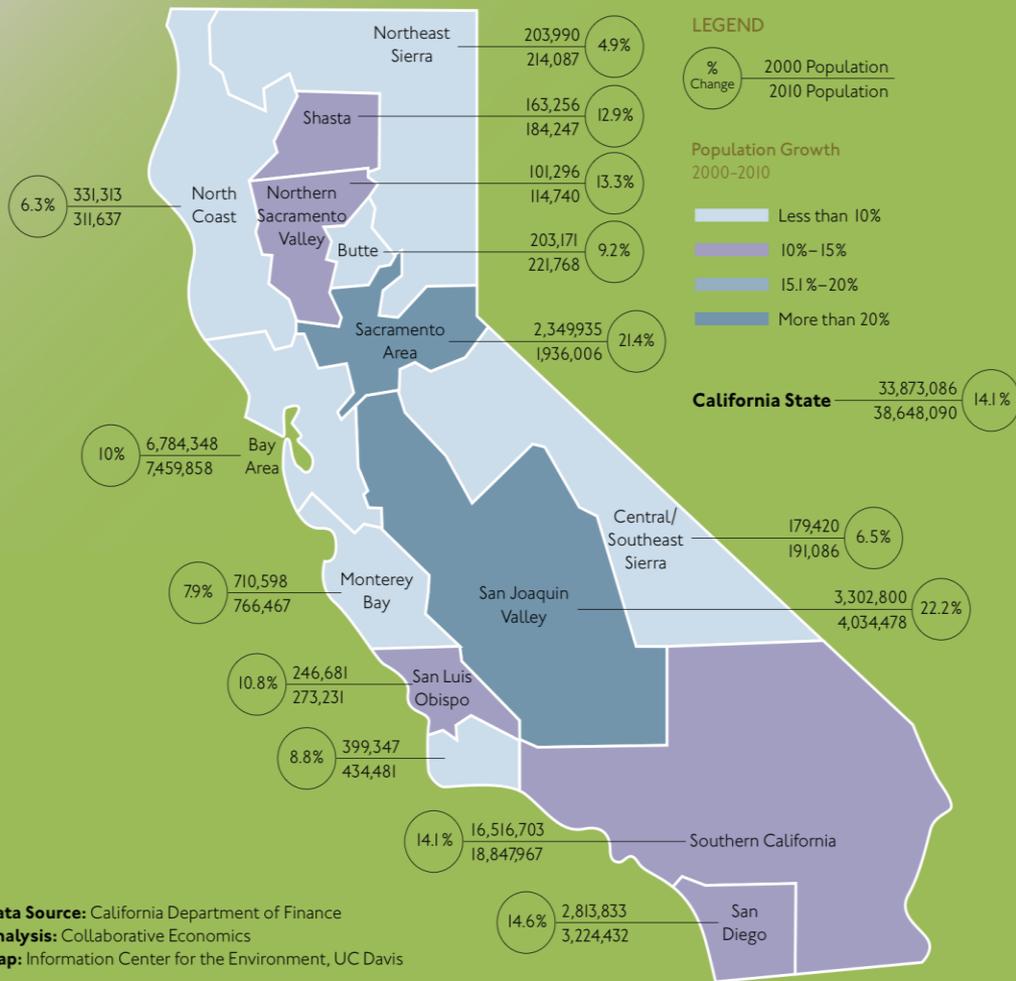
- **Scoping Process 2009:** expanded Project Advisory Team; review of 2007 indicators, policy drivers and data availability
- **Ongoing coordination** with SGC, CALCOG, state agency partners
- **Development of Matrix of State Sustainability Objectives & Planning Priorities**, policy areas, potential regional measures and indicators
- **Selection of final measures (13) & indicators (20)**
- **Report development** with partners, subject area experts, 2010

Planning for a Different Future – The New California

- Growth a driving force, from 37 million in 2010 to 47 million in 2030
- Aging population cohort, especially in rural areas
- Growing diversity – increasingly racially mixed, young, mobile, with new life style preferences
- Unmet and changing infrastructure needs
- Growing natural resource scarcities

Population Growth 2000-2010

FIGURE 3: Regional Population 2000-2010



Some Key Challenges

- Unemployment and Poverty
- Housing and Financial Crises, State Budget Issues
- Pressure on agricultural lands, open space and ecosystems
- Water supply, quality and distribution; health of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, Colorado River and other waterways, and coastal areas
- Air quality, climate-related hazards such as drought, wildfires, flooding, and extreme heat

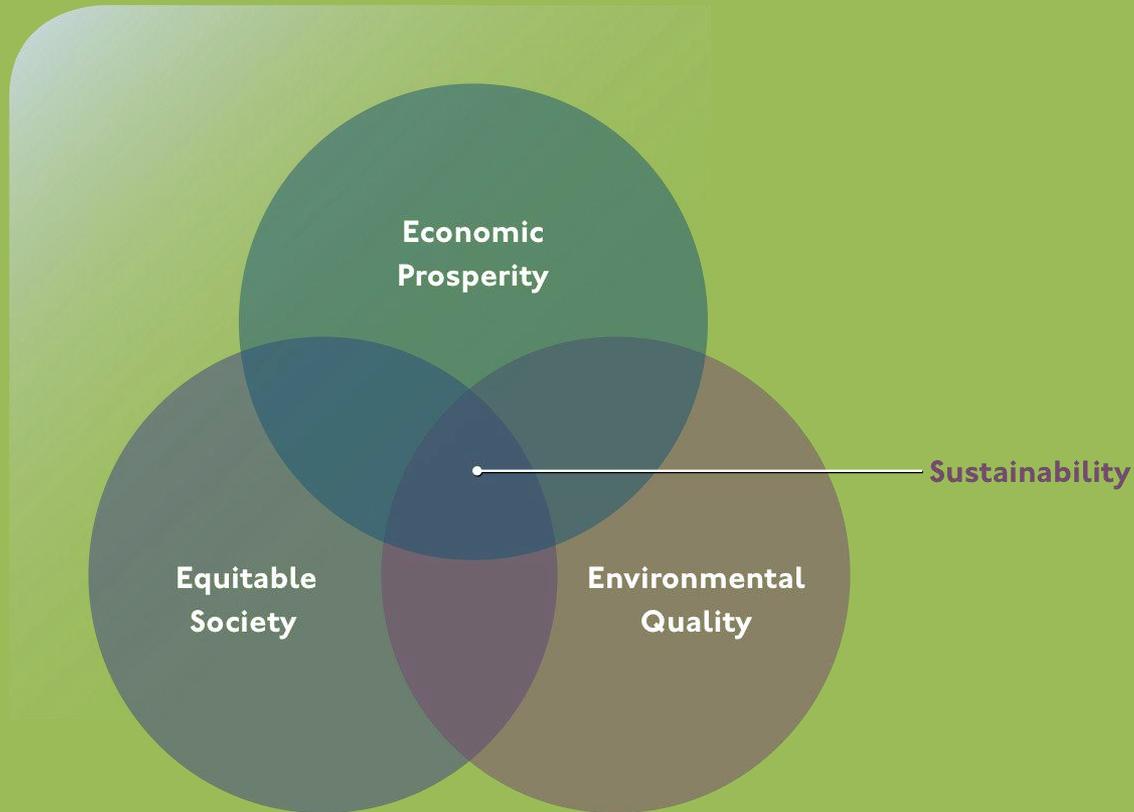
Opportunities

- Global economic leadership
- Intellectual capital
- High share of national venture capital for clean tech and clean energy
- New technologies and innovations to address sustainability challenges
- New policy innovations (state and federal)
- New partnerships and planning resources

Regional Sustainability Framework

- New baseline for transition to a more comprehensive, integrated sustainability framework
- Indicators are directional (no targets yet)
- 20 indicators in 4 interrelated groupings:
 - Efficient Transportation and Land Use
 - Economic Competitiveness and Opportunity
 - Environmental Health
 - Resource Efficiency and Conservation

Three E's of Sustainability



Sustainability Framework

Regional Sustainability Framework

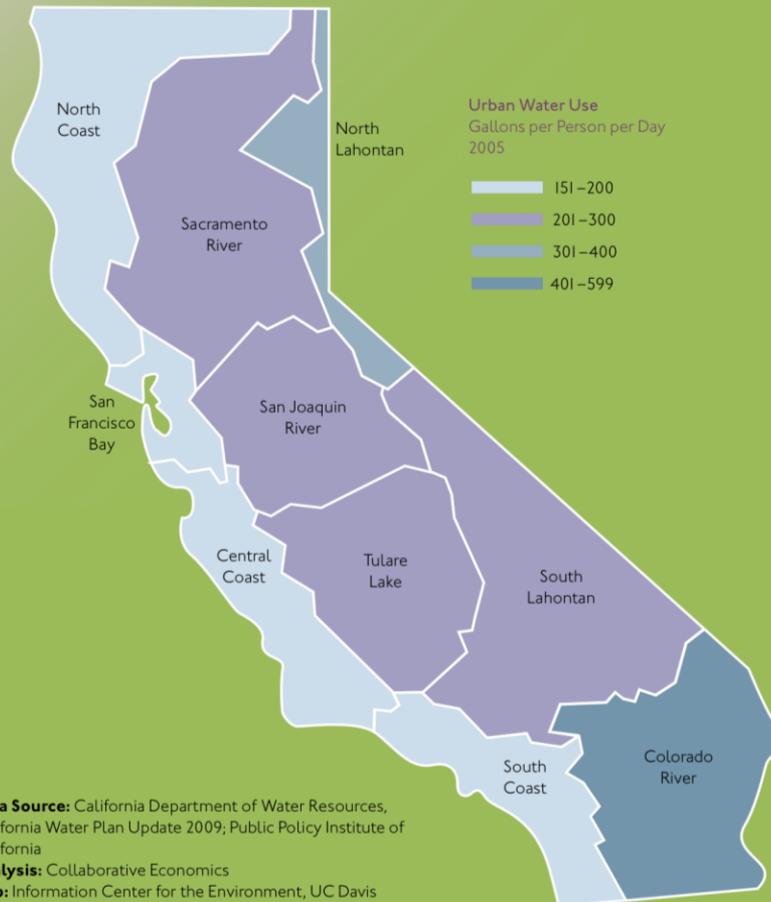


Key Findings – Resource Efficiency and Conservation

- Negative trends in per capita residential energy use, mixed trends in natural gas use
- Mixed trends in non-residential electricity and natural gas use
- Positive trends in per capita water use, but better indicators needed

Urban Water Use by Major Hydrologic Region, 2005

FIGURE 35: Urban Water Use by Major Hydrologic Region
2005



Data Source: California Department of Water Resources, California Water Plan Update 2009; Public Policy Institute of California

Analysis: Collaborative Economics

Map: Information Center for the Environment, UC Davis

Some Data Gap Priorities

- Baseline for Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Refine Vehicle Miles Traveled
- Conservation Indicators
- Density, Access and Connected Land Use
- Housing and Transportation Affordability Index
- Energy Use – such as renewable energy generation and use
- Water Use – capacity, supply, sustainability

Current Work

- Coordinating with state agencies and other partners on sustainability indicators and data efforts
- California Water Indicators Sustainability Framework
- Healthy Communities Indicators looking at broad array of indicators for health status and outcomes connected to land use and access to housing, jobs, green space, clean air and water, etc.

Current Work

- SGC is supporting the Sustainable Communities Learning Network with the Institute for Local Government and UCD
- Conducting scoping process for 2013 Progress Report to identify key emerging policy issues and priorities, such as climate change risk and adaption
- Will coordinate with Governor's Office of Planning and Research on Environmental Goals and Policy Report (EGPR)

SOME RESOURCES

- Strategic Growth Council/funding programs
<http://www.sgc.ca.gov/>
- 2010 California Regional Progress Report
http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/orip/Collaborative%20Planning/California_Regional_Progress_Report.html

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