



Entrepreneurship as Environmental Justice: Transforming Inclusive Site Selection into an Economic Powerhouse

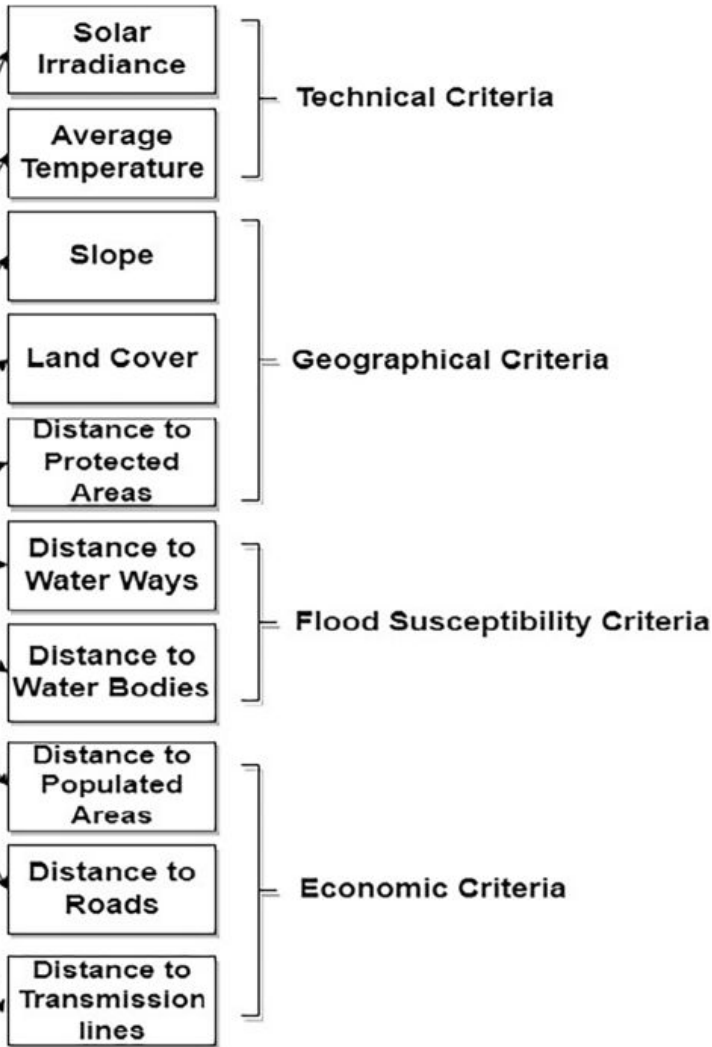
Saxon Metzger

Introduction - Welcome and Overview



Current Site Selection Considerations

Suitable Site Selection For Solar PV Power Plant



ENVIRONMENTAL

- Climate
 - Radiation
 - Temperature
 - Altitude

- Internal soil
 - Soil fertility
 - Depth
 - Texture
 - Geology
 - Landslide risk

- External soil
 - Slope
 - Land cover
 - Erosion
 - Flood and wind risk

SOCIAL

- Landscape impact

- Job opportunities

- Rural development
- Legal restrictions

ECONOMIC

- Design
 - Solar cells
 - Types of panels
 - Grid connection

- Initial capital cost

- Discount Rates
- Lifetime of the projects
- Retail price

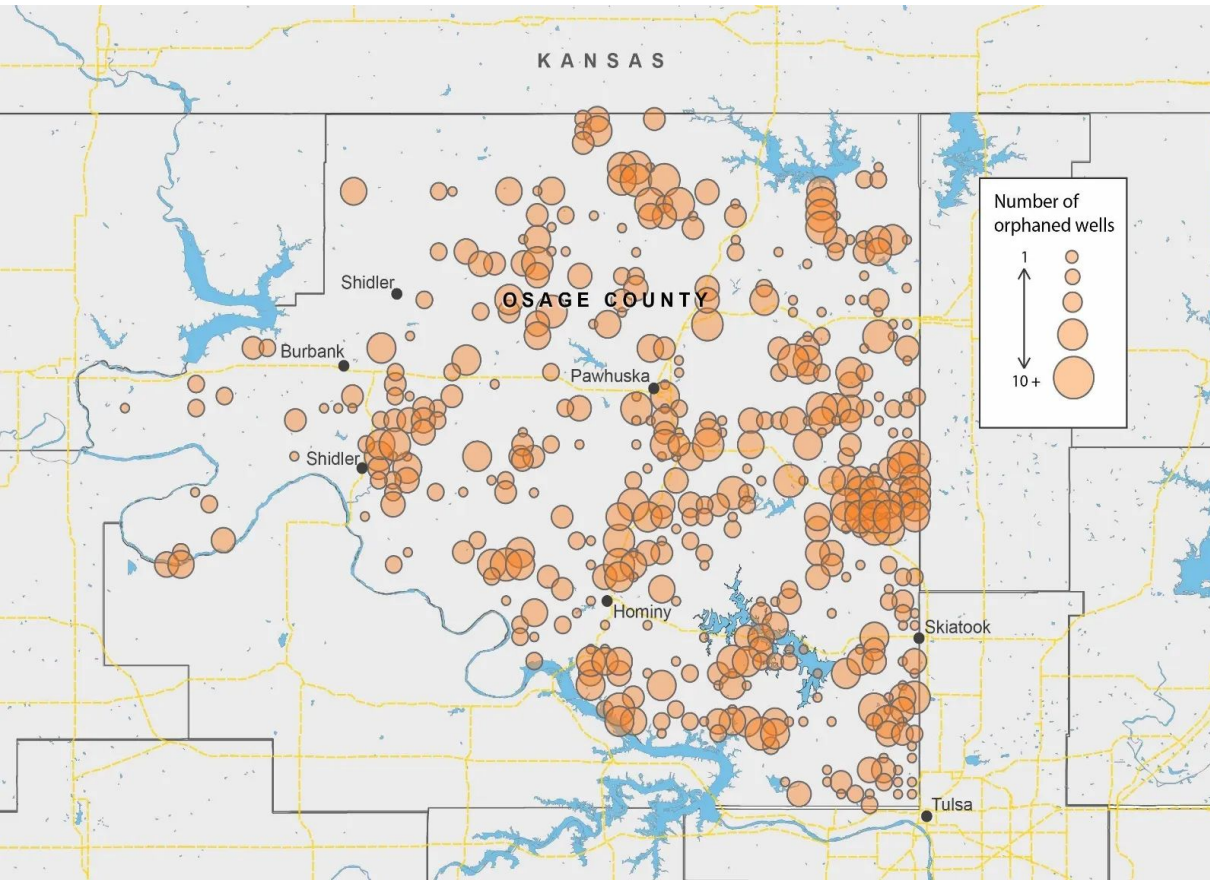
Inclusivity - A New Paradigm Entirely

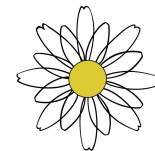
- Definition: the fact of including all types of people, things or ideas and treating them all fairly and equally.
- Each part of that definition has huge implications and reflections for the renewable industry:
 - All types of people
 - Identifying a full picture of the community
 - Identifying truly local issues
 - Things or ideas
 - What are the concepts you are unfamiliar with?
 - Indigenous perspectives
 - Treating them all fairly and equally
 - What does that really mean?

Inclusivity and Entrepreneurship

- Definition: one who organizes, manages, and assumes the risks of a business or enterprise
 - Determines “Risks of a business”
 - Organizes/Manages

Inclusion Without Decision Making Causes Issues



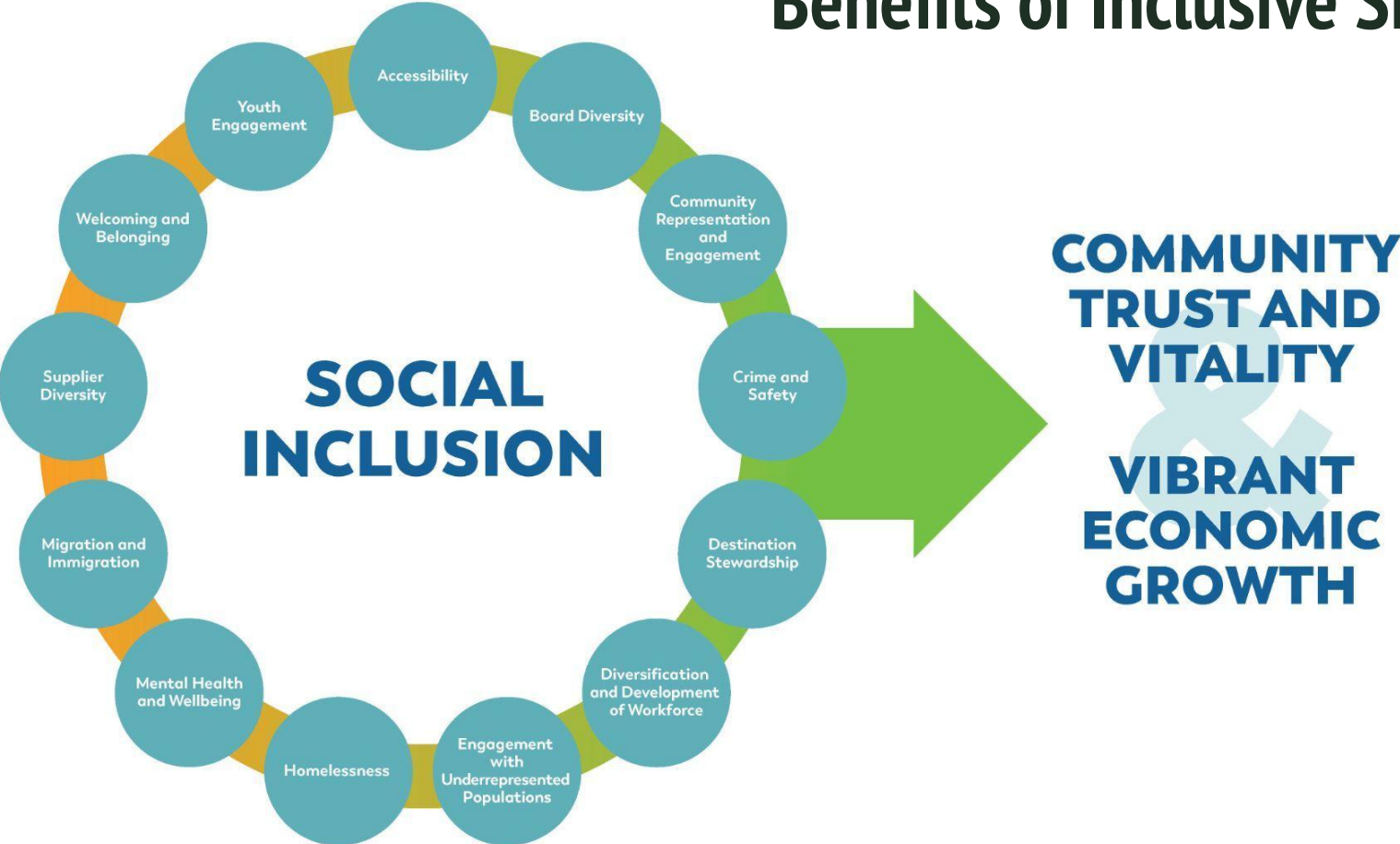


Inclusivity - Economic Impacts



- Data is clear: when we don't have diverse perspectives, everyone suffers economically
- Projects will stall, fail, and get delayed
 - Osage Nation - legacy and renewable asset issues
- Inclusion in the entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystems significantly improves economic growth.
 - (Citigroup 2020)
 - Inclusion of women and people of color in the initial stages of innovation would increase U.S. GDP by as much as \$640 billion.
 - United States' aggregate economic output would be \$16 trillion higher today if identified racial gaps had been closed in 2000.
- Inequality is partially to blame for stagnant productivity growth:
 - (McKinsey 2023) 15 years of a stall in productivity growth caused by: “the unevenness with which the benefits of innovation, globalization, and other shapers of productivity have spread” across the country.
- Jackson State University: inclusive cultures are six times more likely to be innovative

Benefits of Inclusive Site Selection



Every Step of the Project Can Be Transformed

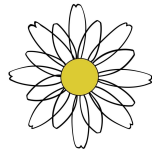
- Marketing
- Human Resources
- Land Acquisition
- Operations
- Engineering
- Procurement
- Financing

Opportunities For Established Businesses

- Inquiry
 - Recognition/respect of mistrust
- Listening
 - Commitment to doing
- Applying

Opportunities For Communities

- Learning
- Understanding opportunities
- Real participation
- Building progress
- Capacity to caretake



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Questions?

— Thank You For Attending! —
