

Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) Minutes

January 04, 2024

Present: Margaret Johnson (Chairperson), Lee Maxwell (Vice Chairperson), Elise Snavelly, Allen Dearry, Sue Davidson, David Sonnenfeld, Jeweleen Mustard, Vacant, Vacant

Absent: None

Staff: Brady Golden

Guests Hon. Bill Craft

Meeting called to order at 0830hrs.

- **Motion to Accept Meeting Agenda-** 1. Lee Maxwell 2. Allen Dearry
Approved Unanimously
- **Motion to Accept September 2023 Minutes-** 1. Lee Maxwell 2. Allen Dearry
Approved Unanimously

Announcements

- **Oak Island Mayor Phone Call-** The EAC Chairperson, Margaret Johnson, had a phone conversation with the Oak Island Mayor, Liz White on January 3, 2024. They discussed several topics, two summarized below:
 - EAC had requested time to brief the Town Council on a few topics (i.e., Draft EAC Governance document, Draft EAC Budget Proposal, etc.) at the January 9th meeting. Because of the packed agenda and the Mayor's desire to reduce the Town Council meeting to a reasonable period, she asked if she could reschedule the EAC presentations to February 2024. The EAC Chairperson agreed to the reschedule. Material will be sent to the Mayor and Town Council to review before the February 2024 Town Council meeting.
 - In the past few years, the Oak Island advisory committees/boards have reported directly to Oak Island town staff. The Oak Island Mayor is leading an effort to realign the advisory committees/boards to reporting directly to Town Council and to have a Town Council member representing each advisory committees/boards. The Hon. Bill Craft attends EAC meetings and represents the EAC at Town Council meetings.
 - The Mayor plans to be present at the February 2024 EAC meeting.

Staff Report

- **Mr. Brady Golden-** No Report. No update about the Carton Council Grant.
- **Mr. Rick Patterson (Stormwater Chief)-** Absent from meeting. EAC Chairperson provided update.
- **Update-- Stormwater Educational Meeting for Contractors-** Two (2) workshops were held to date. They averaged about 20 contractors. The workshops were well received. *The next workshop is not scheduled yet but most likely will be at the end of January 2024.*

- **Update-- Friends of Stormwater Awards-** “Friends of Stormwater” plaques are ready for distribution for three (3) businesses. The plaques will be dated for 2023. Rick prefers to have a Town Council member and an EAC member to make the three (3) separate presentations. Action item: Rick will contact Mike Emory to explore next steps in making 2023 plaque presentations. Bill Craft stated he can present at Town Council meetings in 2024. ***Did not occur yet.***

Old Business

- **Action Items-** Action items will not be tracked via the minutes in 2024. Committee motions will be tracked. If warranted, the status of a motion will be updated in the following monthly meeting minutes.
- **EAC Sustainable Economic Development (SED) Team** (Allen Dearry, Lee Maxwell, Jeweleen Mustard) – The SED team is still waiting to meet with the Town’s Economic Development Director, Hallie Willis to determine common interests between what she is doing with business development versus the EAC’s SED effort, and to determine if there is any interest on her part regarding SED workshops to educate town staff, EAC members and others. EAC has not had any conversation with her since August 2023. Hon. ***Mr. Bill Craft volunteered to assist with a meeting between Ms. Willis and the SED Team.***

In addition, the SED team has produced a draft SED overview paper. It was compiled by Jeweleen Mustard. The presentation was sent out to the EAC members by the SED Project Lead, Allen Dearry. SED proposed focusing initial on SED training to EAC members and non-government entities like Tree Peace with the hope of having them become local experts to drive the SED discussion.

Motion: ***There was a Motion made that the EAC provide the Town of Oak Island staff, committee members and the interested public an educational workshop on the topic of “Sustainable Economic Development.”*** The motion was made by Allen Dearry and seconded by Elise Snively. Approved- Unanimously. October 2023. ***To date has not been scheduled.***

- **EAC Oak Island Town Council Presentation-** As stated in the Announcements above- Oak Island Phone Call, the EAC presentation to the Oak Island Town Council has been tentatively rescheduled to the February 2024 Town Council monthly meeting. EAC presentation will be sent out to Town Council via the Town Clerk before the meeting. (Margaret Johnson, Hon. Bill Craft)
- **Oak Island Recycling-** There is an effort by the EAC recycling project lead, Sue Davidson, to strategically work with other entities in Brunswick County who champion recycling efforts -like the Oceanview Methodist Church and the Friends of Brunswick County Recycling- to educate and promote recycling within the county. Sue Davidson has drafted the 2024 EAC Recycling Strategic Plan which details her roadmap to accomplishing the strategic goals she is pursuing. (Sue Davidson)

- **New- Tree City USA and Arbor Day Update** – At last month’s EAC meeting Rick Patterson, Oak Island Storm Water Chief, stated that a report is due confirming that Oak Island is still in compliance with Tree City USA requirements. He wants to confirm when the Arbor Day celebration is scheduled for in the Spring 2024. He prefers that the Earth Day celebration be on Arbor Day, April 26. Elise Snavelly is the EAC project lead for this effort. She is waiting on the Oak Island Rec Center coordinator to determine the date of the Earth Day celebration. She will form a EAC support team once she confirms the Earth Day celebration date. (Elise Snavelly)
- **Skip the Plastic Straw Initiative (SPSI)**–36 of 50 Oak Island establishments have accepted utilizing non-plastic straws, six (6) are pending acceptance of the program, and seven (7) have not accepted the program. Not able to make contact with decision maker for two (2) businesses. Lee will send out to EAC members the list of business’s who accepted not using plastic straws so members can confirm compliance when they eat at a particular establishment. (Lee Maxwell)
- **EAC Communication-** David and Allen will check with Mike Emory, Oak Island Communication Director, to obtain EAC webpage utilization statistics and to check if it is possible to advertise EAC vacancies on the EAC webpage.

The Hon Mr. Bill Craft will check with Rick Patterson, Oak Island Stormwater Chief, to confirm whether EAC members could use the Town’s SharePoint resources to collaborate and store committee working documents for current and future members. (David Sonnenfeld, Allen Dearry)

New Business

Motion: *There was a Motion made by the SED team that they could speak sustainable economic development on behalf of the EAC to community based and non-governmental organizations. More broadly this motion applies in spirit to all EAC initiatives where the EAC representatives have area expert knowledge of said initiative.* The motion was made by Lee Maxwell and seconded by Allen Dearry. Approved- Unanimously.

Meeting was Adjourned at 9:30 am

Motion: *There was a Motion made to adjourn the January 2024 EAC meeting.* The motion was made by Elise Snavelly and seconded by Jeweleen Mustard. Approved- Unanimously.

Minutes compiled and submitted by: David Sonnenfeld

Appendix: The SED team has produced a draft SED overview paper for EAC reference. It was compiled by Jeweleen Mustard, EAC member.

Sustainable Economic Development (SED) Overview

The Oak Island Sustainable Economic Development (SED) team, established in May 2023, has been actively engaged in research and collaboration, highlighting the importance of sustainable economic development in the region. While sustainable economic development lacks a universally accepted definition, it generally involves a holistic approach that considers economic, environmental, and social factors for the benefit of future generations. Some key goals include promoting a sound natural environment, biodiversity, and transparent government policies.

The benefits of sustainable economic development are manifold, ranging from resource efficiencies to environmental preservation and improved community resilience. Examples include enhanced resource efficiency in water, land, transportation, energy, and material use, which can lower the cost of living. Additionally, the preservation of natural resources supports cultural, educational, and recreational opportunities, while also contributing to local industries, tourism, and public health.

Maintaining healthy natural resources, such as water supply systems, forests, and wildlife habitats, offers multiple advantages, including mitigating air pollution, improving water quality, reducing drought and flooding, and supporting local recreational and employment opportunities.

In response to the rapid growth in the area, the SED team recommends specific actions for the town of OKI:

- **Educational Workshops:**
 - Host an educational workshop on "Sustainable Economic Development" for elected officials, departmental staff, and relevant board/committee members.
 - Consider a second public educational workshop involving property owners, builders, and community members.
- **Collaboration and Expert Involvement:**
 - Engage relevant parties, including experts from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), UNCW, and Brunswick County, for planning, organizing, and participating in workshops.
- **Technical and Funding Assistance:**
 - Explore technical and funding assistance from NCWRC for activities such as integrating conservation data, writing habitat conservation plans, and reviewing land use plans and ordinances.

The suggested workshop topics cover a wide range of aspects related to sustainable economic development, including defining sustainability, understanding the financial and

other benefits for the town and residents, identifying steps for implementation, addressing OKI-specific issues, exploring relevant technologies like GIS, and ensuring the continuity of SED efforts.

The proposed workshop aims to engage the larger OKI community, discuss short- and long-term outcomes of SED implementation, and highlight the relationship between SED and comprehensive land use planning. The SED team expresses readiness to assist with further workshop planning, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts in promoting sustainable economic development in the region.

Why is Sustainable Economic Development Important?

Sustainable economic development is important for several reasons, encompassing environmental, social, and economic considerations. Here are key reasons why sustainable economic development is deemed crucial:

➤ **Environmental Conservation:**

- Biodiversity Preservation: Sustainable economic development recognizes the value of a healthy natural environment, including biodiversity. Preserving diverse ecosystems contributes to the overall health of the planet and ensures the sustainability of various species.
- Resource Efficiency: Emphasizing sustainability promotes responsible use of natural resources such as water, land, and energy. Efficient resource use helps minimize environmental degradation and reduces the ecological footprint of economic activities.
- Mitigating Climate Change: Sustainable practices often involve reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate change impacts. This is crucial for addressing global environmental challenges and ensuring a stable climate for future generations.

➤ **Social Well-being:**

- Community Resilience: Sustainable economic development enhances community resilience by creating systems that can withstand shocks and stresses, whether they are economic, environmental, or social. This resilience is particularly important in the face of changing climate patterns and economic uncertainties.
- Public Health: Preserving natural resources and reducing pollution positively impacts public health. Clean air and water, access to green spaces, and a healthy environment contribute to improved well-being and quality of life for residents.

- **Equitable Development:** Sustainable economic development emphasizes social inclusivity and equity. It seeks to address disparities in access to resources, opportunities, and benefits, promoting a more just and fair society.
- **Economic Prosperity:**
 - Long-Term Economic Stability: Sustainable economic practices are geared towards long-term viability rather than short-term gains. This approach contributes to economic stability by avoiding the depletion of resources and the creation of economic bubbles.
 - Innovation and Efficiency: Pursuing sustainability often leads to innovation in technology, business practices, and resource management. This innovation can result in increased efficiency, reduced costs, and the development of new industries.
 - Global Competitiveness: As sustainability becomes a global priority, businesses and regions that prioritize sustainable economic development are likely to be more competitive in the global marketplace. This is reflected in consumer preferences, investor priorities, and international regulations.
- **Inter-generational Equity:**
 - Consideration for Future Generations: Sustainable economic development takes a holistic and long-term perspective, considering the needs and well-being of future generations. It seeks to leave a positive legacy and ensure that resources are available for the prosperity of future communities.
 - Preserving Cultural Heritage: Sustainable development recognizes the importance of preserving cultural and natural heritage. This includes maintaining landscapes, traditions, and ecosystems that are integral to the identity of communities.

In summary, sustainable economic development is important because it promotes responsible stewardship of the environment, enhances social well-being and equity, contributes to economic prosperity, and ensures inter-generational equity by considering the needs of future generations. It is a holistic approach that seeks to balance economic, social, and environmental priorities for the benefit of current and future societies.

What are the Financial Benefits of Sustainable Economic Development?

Sustainable economic development can yield various financial benefits, both at the micro and macro levels. Here are some key financial advantages associated with embracing sustainable practices:

➤ **Cost Savings and Efficiency:**

- Resource Efficiency: Sustainable economic development emphasizes the efficient use of resources such as energy, water, and materials. This leads to reduced waste, lower consumption, and ultimately cost savings for businesses and communities.
- Operational Efficiency: Implementing sustainable practices often involves optimizing processes and operations. This can lead to increased efficiency, streamlined workflows, and reduced operational costs.

➤ **Risk Mitigation:**

- Resilience to External Shocks: Sustainable practices contribute to building resilience in communities and businesses. This resilience helps mitigate the financial impact of external shocks, such as natural disasters, economic downturns, or supply chain disruptions.
- Adaptation to Climate Change: Businesses that anticipate and adapt to the impacts of climate change are better positioned to manage related risks. This can include avoiding damage to infrastructure, protecting assets, and maintaining business continuity.

➤ **Market Access and Reputation:**

- Consumer Preferences: As consumers become more environmentally and socially conscious, they often prefer products and services from businesses that demonstrate sustainable practices. Meeting these preferences can lead to increased sales and market share.
- Brand Loyalty: Companies with a strong commitment to sustainability can build trust and loyalty among consumers. This loyalty can translate into repeat business and positive word-of-mouth, further enhancing financial performance.

➤ **Innovation and Competitive Advantage:**

- New Revenue Streams: Sustainable economic development encourages innovation in products and services. Businesses that develop environmentally friendly or socially responsible offerings may tap into new markets and revenue streams.
- Market Differentiation: Sustainability can serve as a key differentiator in a competitive market. Companies that stand out for their commitment to sustainable practices may attract more customers and investors.

➤ **Regulatory Compliance and Avoidance of Fines:**

- Compliance Cost Savings: Proactively adopting sustainable practices can help businesses stay ahead of regulatory requirements. This proactive approach may result in cost savings compared to companies that have to adapt to regulations retroactively.

- Avoidance of Fines: Non-compliance with environmental and social regulations can lead to fines and legal consequences. Sustainable economic development helps businesses avoid these financial penalties.
- **Access to Capital:**
 - Investor Attraction: Sustainable businesses may be more attractive to investors who prioritize environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria. This can lead to increased access to capital and potentially lower financing costs.
 - Green Financing: The rise of sustainable finance instruments, such as green bonds and sustainable loans, provides opportunities for businesses to secure funding specifically earmarked for environmentally friendly projects.
- **Employee Productivity and Retention:**
 - Productive Workforce: Employees often take pride in working for socially and environmentally responsible companies. A positive work environment can enhance productivity and reduce turnover costs associated with recruitment and training.
 - Talent Attraction: Companies with a commitment to sustainability may find it easier to attract top talent. This can contribute to the overall success of the business.
- **Long-Term Value Creation:**
 - Asset Appreciation: Sustainable practices can contribute to the appreciation of assets, including real estate. For example, green buildings may have higher market values due to energy efficiency and environmental considerations.
 - Future-Proofing Investments: Investments in sustainable technologies and practices can future-proof businesses against changing regulations and market preferences, ensuring long-term financial viability.

In conclusion, sustainable economic development can generate financial benefits by promoting cost savings, risk mitigation, market access, innovation, regulatory compliance, access to capital, employee productivity, and long-term value creation. Adopting sustainable practices is increasingly recognized as a strategic approach to building resilient and prosperous economies.

Brunswick County Resources & Partners for Sustainable Economic Development

Specific resources in Brunswick County, North Carolina, for towns pursuing sustainable economic development may vary. However, here are some potential resources and organizations that towns in Brunswick County might explore for support in sustainable economic development:

- **Brunswick County Economic Development:**
 - The Brunswick County Economic Development office can provide information on local economic development initiatives and potentially connect towns with resources for sustainable development.
- **Brunswick County Planning Department:**
 - The Planning Department may offer guidance on land use planning, zoning regulations, and other factors related to sustainable economic development.
- **Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce:**
 - The Chamber of Commerce may provide networking opportunities, business support, and information on economic development initiatives in the region.
- **North Carolina Coastal Federation:**
 - The North Carolina Coastal Federation works on coastal conservation and sustainable development. They may provide resources and guidance for towns in Brunswick County.
- **Brunswick Community College:**
 - Local educational institutions, such as Brunswick Community College, could be potential partners for workforce development and training programs related to sustainable industries.
- **Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce:**
 - For towns in the Southport-Oak Island area, the local chamber of commerce can be a valuable resource for economic development support and networking opportunities.
- **North Carolina Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC):**
 - SBTDC offers counseling, training, and resources for small businesses. Towns can explore their services for support in sustainable business development.
- **Brunswick County Soil and Water Conservation District:**
 - This district may provide information and support for sustainable land use practices, including conservation initiatives that align with economic development goals.
- **North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) - Wilmington Regional Office:**
 - The Wilmington Regional Office of DEQ can offer information on environmental regulations, permits, and sustainable development practices.
- **Brunswick County Green Business Network:**
 - If available, a local Green Business Network or similar initiative could connect businesses and towns interested in sustainable practices.
- **North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA):**

- NCSEA focuses on clean energy and sustainable practices. They may provide information and resources for towns in Brunswick County interested in sustainable energy initiatives.
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North Carolina Resources for Sustainable Economic Development

North Carolina offers various state-level resources to support towns and communities in pursuing sustainable economic development. Here are some potential state resources in North Carolina:

➤ **North Carolina Department of Commerce:**

- Office of Science, Technology & Innovation (OSTI): OSTI supports innovation and technology-driven economic development. It may provide resources for towns focusing on sustainable technologies.
- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG): Administered by the Rural Economic Development Division, CDBG funds may be available for projects that promote economic development, affordable housing, and community revitalization.
- Main Street Solutions Fund: This program provides financial assistance for projects that contribute to downtown revitalization, economic development, and job creation.

➤ **North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ):**

- Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources: This division may offer resources and information related to sustainable energy development and land management.
- Brownfields Program: DEQ's Brownfields Program provides support for the assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of contaminated properties, contributing to sustainable land use.

➤ **North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources:**

- Natural Heritage Program: The program focuses on the conservation of natural areas, biodiversity, and ecosystems. Towns may find resources related to sustainable development that align with environmental conservation goals.

➤ **North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services:**

- Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund: This fund supports projects related to agricultural development and the preservation of farmland, contributing to sustainable rural economies.

➤ **North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC):**

- NCWRC may offer technical assistance and funding for integrating conservation data, developing habitat management plans, and reviewing land use plans, as mentioned in your original text.
 - **North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center (NCCETC):**
 - NCCETC provides information, technical assistance, and training on clean energy technologies and policies, supporting sustainable energy initiatives.
 - **North Carolina Rural Center:**
 - The Rural Center offers various programs and grants to support economic development in rural areas, which may include sustainable development projects.
 - **North Carolina League of Municipalities:**
 - The League of Municipalities provides resources, advocacy, and support for municipalities, including information on sustainable practices and community development.
 - **North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA):**
 - NCSEA focuses on advancing clean energy and sustainable practices. It may provide resources and information for towns interested in sustainable energy initiatives.
 - **North Carolina Office of Resilience and Recovery:**
 - This office may offer resources and support for resilience planning and projects that enhance a community's ability to withstand and recover from various challenges, including environmental and economic.
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Federal Resources for Sustainable Economic Development

Several federal resources are available to support towns and communities pursuing sustainable economic development initiatives. These resources span various agencies and programs, providing financial assistance, technical support, and guidance. It's important for towns to explore these resources to enhance their capacity for sustainable development. Here are some key federal resources:

- **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):**
 - Brownfields Program: The EPA's Brownfields Program provides grants and technical assistance to assess, clean up, and revitalize contaminated properties, turning them into productive community assets.
 - Smart Growth Program: The EPA's Smart Growth Program offers resources to help communities plan and implement sustainable development strategies that improve the economy, environment, and quality of life.

- **Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):**
 - Community Development Block Grants (CDBG): CDBG funds can be used for a variety of community development activities, including those related to sustainable economic development, job creation, and environmental improvements.
 - Sustainable Communities Initiative: HUD's Sustainable Communities Initiative promotes integrated regional planning approaches that consider housing, transportation, and environmental sustainability.
- **Department of Commerce:**
 - Economic Development Administration (EDA): EDA provides grants and technical assistance to economically distressed areas for projects that support job creation and economic development. Sustainable initiatives may qualify for funding.
- **Department of Agriculture:**
 - Rural Development Programs: The USDA offers various programs, including the Rural Business Development Grant Program and the Community Facilities Program, which can support sustainable economic development in rural areas.
- **Department of Energy (DOE):**
 - Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE): EERE provides funding and resources to support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, contributing to sustainable development and economic growth.
- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA):**
 - Coastal Zone Management Grants: NOAA provides grants to support coastal zone management initiatives, which may include projects related to sustainable development, resilience, and environmental conservation.
- **U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT):**
 - Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grants: TIGER grants support transportation projects that have a significant impact on the nation, including those with sustainable and multimodal components.
- **Small Business Administration (SBA):**
 - Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs): SBDCs provide counseling, training, and resources to small businesses, including those focused on sustainable practices.
- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA):**

- Community and Regional Development Programs: NIFA provides funding for programs that address community and regional development issues, including sustainable agriculture and economic development.
 - **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**:
 - Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grants: HMA grants from FEMA support projects that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of natural hazards. Sustainable development practices can be integrated into hazard mitigation planning.
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Proposed Workshop Agenda:

Sustainable Economic Development (SED) Workshop for OKI

Introduction (15 minutes)

- Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Overview of the Workshop Objectives
- Introduction to Sustainable Economic Development (SED) and Its Importance

Session 1: Understanding Sustainability (30 minutes)

- 1.1. Defining Sustainability
 - Presentation on the Concept of Sustainability
 - Interactive Discussion: Participants share their perspectives on sustainability
- 1.2. Key Components of Sustainability
 - Environmental, Economic, and Social Dimensions
 - Group Activity: Identifying Interconnections and Interdependencies

Session 2: Benefits of SED (45 minutes)

- 2.1. Financial Benefits to the Town and Residents
 - Presentation on Economic Advantages
 - Case Studies: Examples of SED Success Stories
- 2.2. Non-Financial Benefits
 - Improvements in Quality of Life, Community Resilience, and Public Health
 - Group Discussion: Identifying Non-Monetary Benefits

Break (15 minutes)

Session 3: Implementing SED (60 minutes)

- 3.1. Steps to SED Implementation
 - Overview of the Implementation Process
 - Breakout Sessions: Small group discussions on specific steps and challenges

3.2. OKI-Specific Issues

- Presentation on Local Environmental and Economic Considerations
- Q&A Session: Participants discuss specific challenges and opportunities for OKI

Lunch Break (1 hour)

Session 4: Technology and Resources for SED (45 minutes)

4.1. GIS and Other Technologies

- Presentation on the Role of GIS and Technology in SED
- Interactive Demonstration: Showcasing GIS Applications

4.2. Required Resources for Implementation

- Identification of Necessary Resources (Financial, Human, Technological)
- Group Exercise: Planning Resource Allocation

Session 5: Short- and Long-Term Outcomes (45 minutes)

5.1. Defining Short-Term Goals

- Facilitated Discussion: Participants outline achievable short-term outcomes

5.2. Envisioning Long-Term Success

- Group Activity: Visualizing the Desired Long-Term Outcomes
- Reporting and Sharing Group Findings

Break (15 minutes)

Session 6: SED and Comprehensive Land Use Planning (30 minutes)

6.1. Overview of the Relationship

- Presentation on Integration with Comprehensive Land Use Planning
- Group Discussion: Opportunities for Alignment

Session 7: Engaging the Larger OKI Community (45 minutes)

7.1. Strategies for Community Engagement

- Presentation on Effective Communication and Community Involvement
- Workshop Exercise: Brainstorming Community Engagement Ideas

7.2. Building Partnerships

- Discussion on Collaborative Efforts with Stakeholders
- Identifying Key Partners and Potential Collaborators

Session 8: Ensuring Continuity of SED Efforts (30 minutes)

8.1. Sustainability Planning and Governance

- Overview of Strategies for Long-Term Success
- Developing Action Plans: Groups outline steps for continuity

Closing Remarks and Next Steps (15 minutes)

- Recap of Key Takeaways
- Thanking Participants and Presenters
- Invitation to Continued Collaboration and Follow-Up Activities

*****Note: The agenda can be adjusted based on the specific needs and time constraints of the workshop. Workshops may benefit from interactive elements, such as group discussions, activities, and participant engagement, to ensure a dynamic and participatory learning experience.*****