QUARTERLY PROGRESS MEETING – February 2021
Chesapeake Bay Program

Land Use Options Evaluation

Renee Thompson
Maintain Healthy Watersheds
GIT, Coordinator

Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement*, the Chesapeake Bay Program has committed to…*

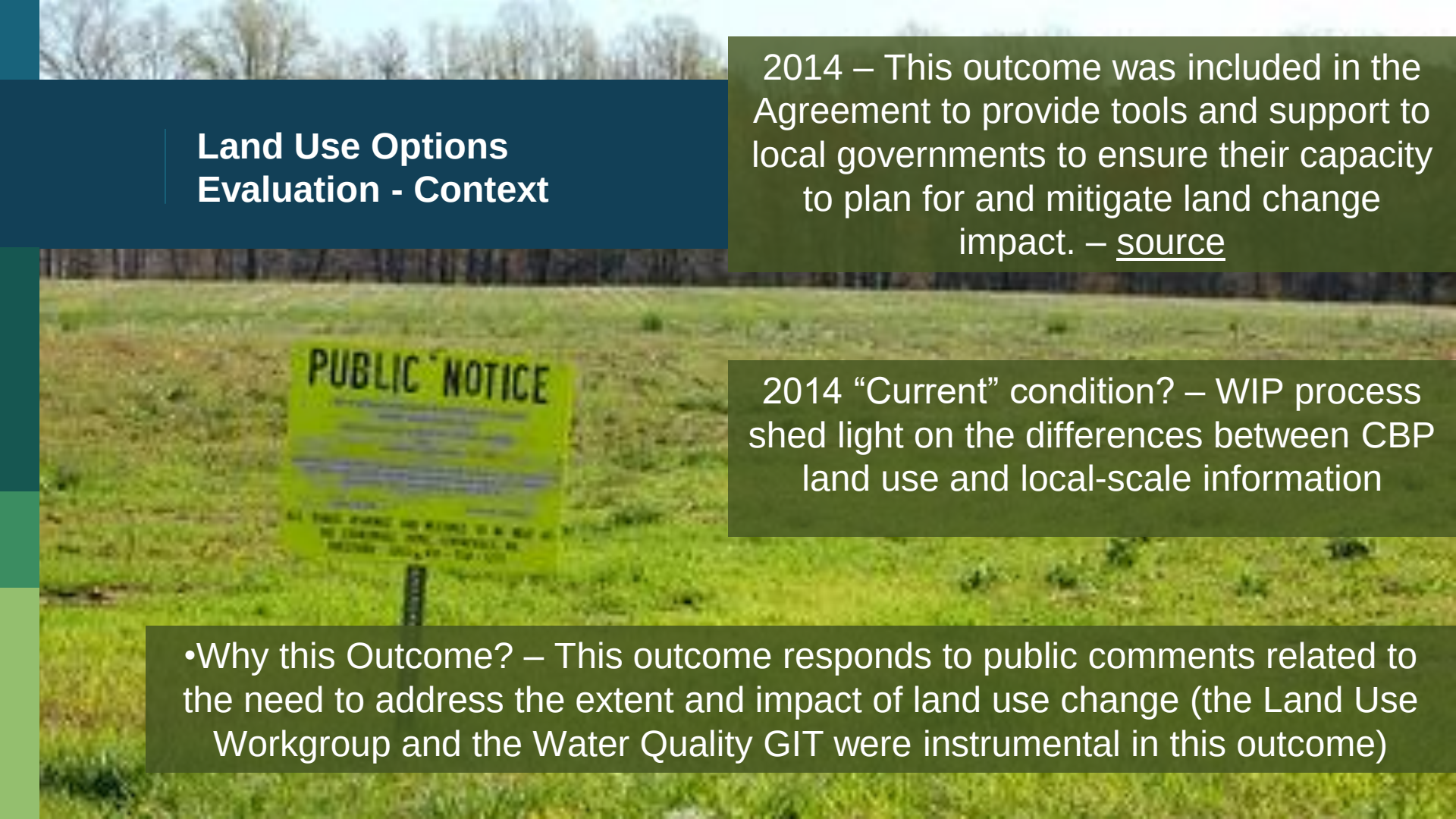
Goal: *Land Conservation*

Outcome: By the end of 2017, with the direct involvement of local governments or their representatives, evaluate policy options, incentives and planning tools that could assist them in continually improving their capacity to reduce the rate of conversion of agricultural lands, forests and wetlands as well as the rate of changing landscapes from more natural lands that soak up pollutants to those that are paved over, hardscaped or otherwise impervious.

Land Use Options Evaluation - Context

2014 – This outcome was included in the Agreement to provide tools and support to local governments to ensure their capacity to plan for and mitigate land change impact. – source

2014 “Current” condition? – WIP process shed light on the differences between CBP land use and local-scale information



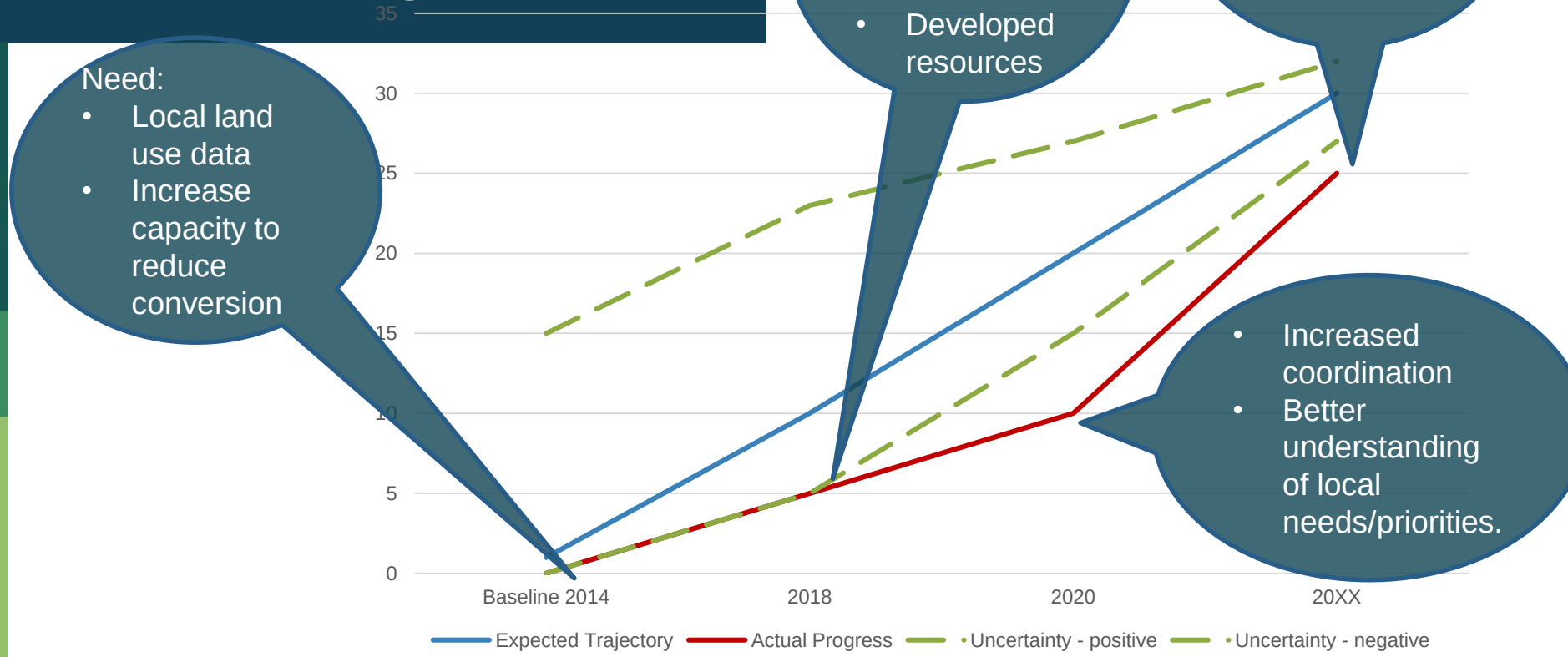
•Why this Outcome? – This outcome responds to public comments related to the need to address the extent and impact of land use change (the Land Use Workgroup and the Water Quality GIT were instrumental in this outcome)

Co-Benefits

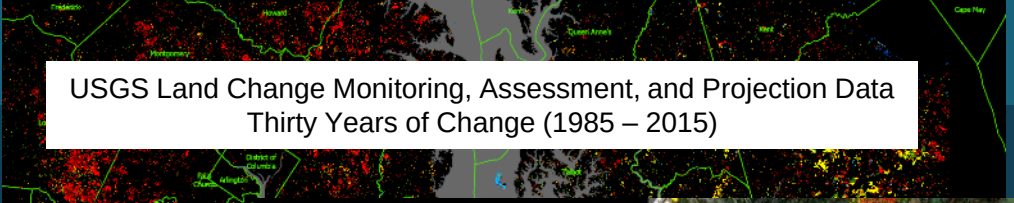
Reducing the rate of conversion provides:

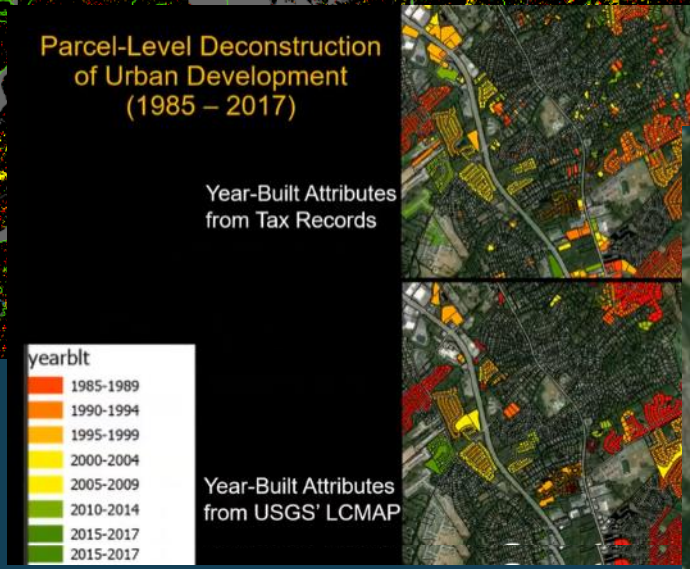
- Clean Water
- Resilience (flooding, climate change, invasives)
- Social and economic benefits
- Drinking water sources
- Critical habitat and connectivity
- Recreational opportunities

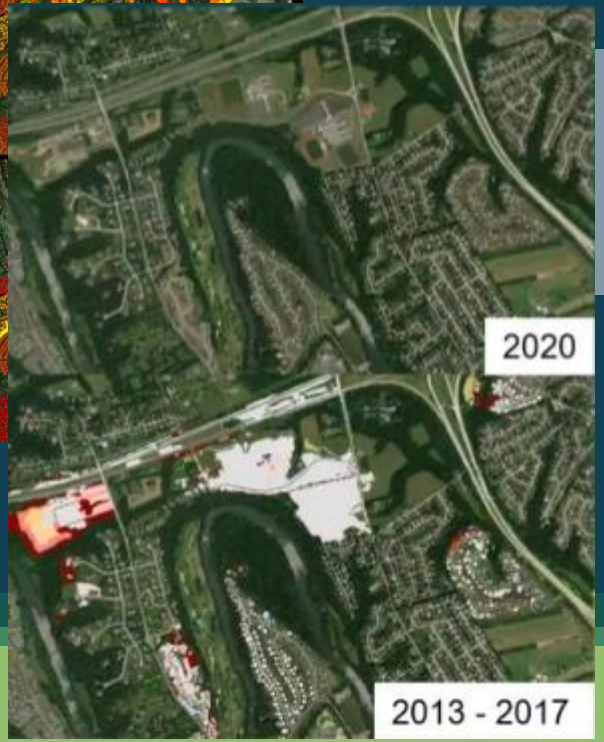
What is our Expected and Actual Progress?



Increasing knowledge at a scale that is locally relevant







Rates of conversion:

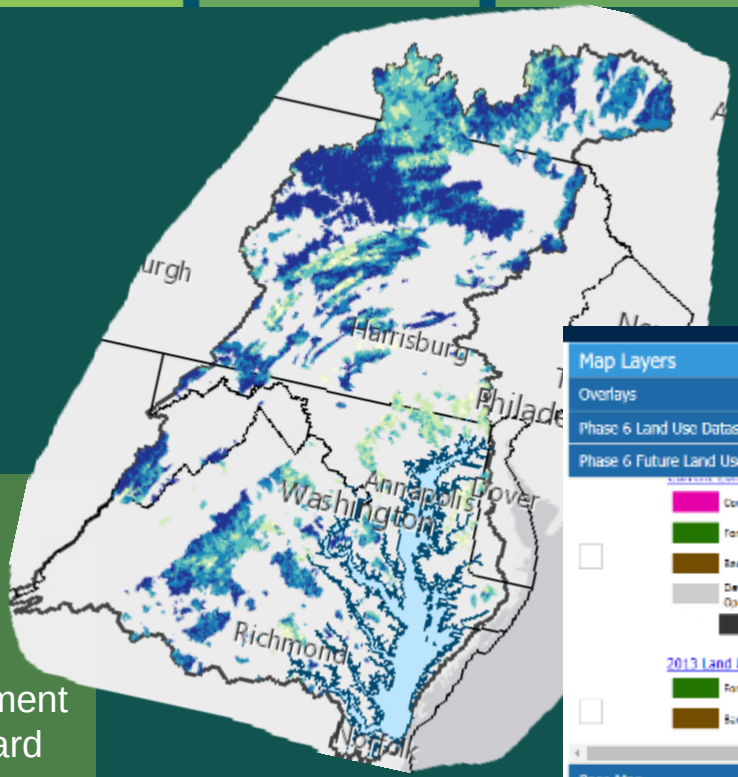
- Farmland
- Forest
- Wetland
- Impervious Cover

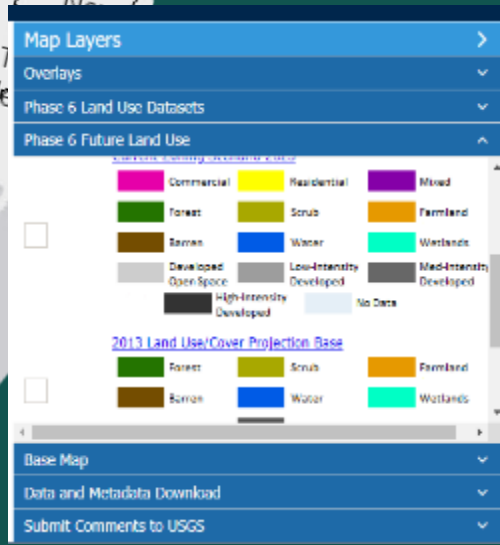
Slides courtesy of Peter Claggett, USGS CBP

Chesapeake Bay Environmental Justice and Equity Dashboard (DRAFT)

Overview | Demographic Indicators | Cross-Outcome Applications | Current Initiatives | Acknowledgements

.."Evaluate policy options, incentives and planning tools that could assist in continually improving capacity.."





Data and Tools

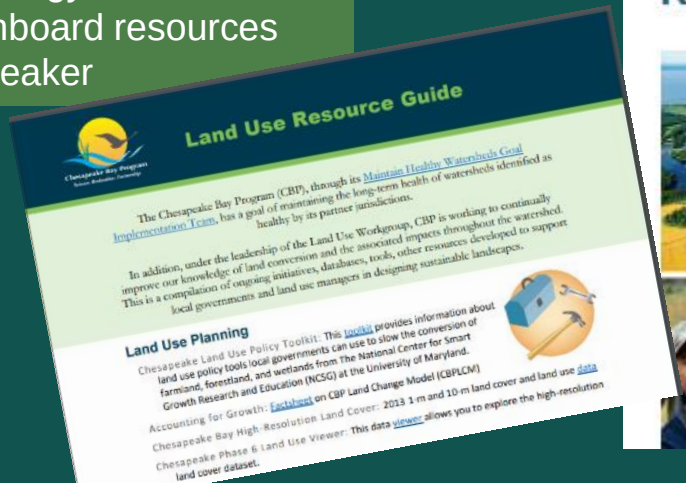
- Hi-res land cover
- Phase 6 Land Use Viewer
- Data Dashboard
- Chesapeake Healthy Watersheds Assessment
- Environmental Justice and Equity Dashboard

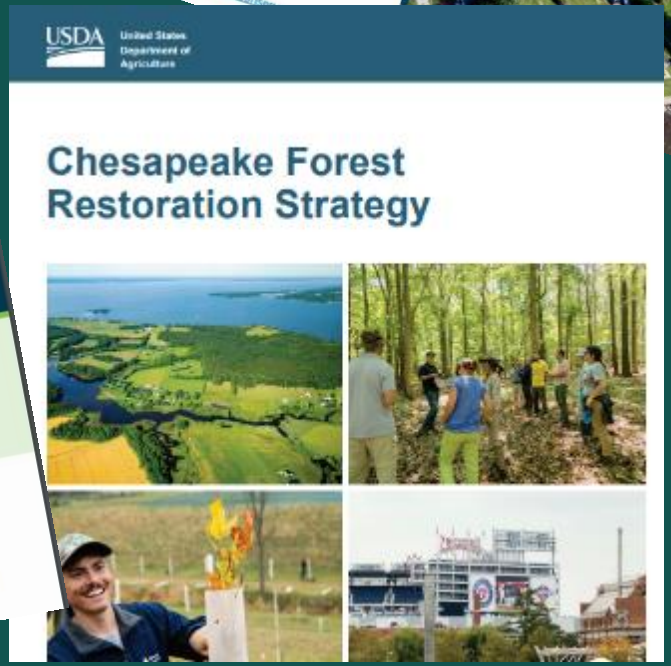
Projects

- Cross-Outcome Watershed Educational Materials
- Conservation of Working Lands-Finance Forum consultants
- Improving Technical Service Delivery for Private Landowners
- Targeted local outreach for green infrastructure in vulnerable areas
- Chesapeake Watershed Finance Intensive Workshop

Communications

- Land Use Resources Guide
- Forest Restoration Strategy
- Land Policy Data Dashboard resources
- Presenter, panelist, speaker





Potential Metrics to measure progress

- Land Use Metrics: rate of farm, forest, and wetland conversion through time
- Assess the rate of conversion against key policies (in selected jurisdictions) to determine if the policies, incentives, and planning tools are having the intended effect. (How can the land policy BMPs be utilized?)
- Number of projects, presentations tools – total people reached
- Survey of key audience needs? / Does what we have developed meet their needs?
- Web Analytics: Total downloads, site visits, use of resources, tools and information provided on websites.
- Provide a mechanism for feedback directly on the web support tools (to demonstrate direct involvement)

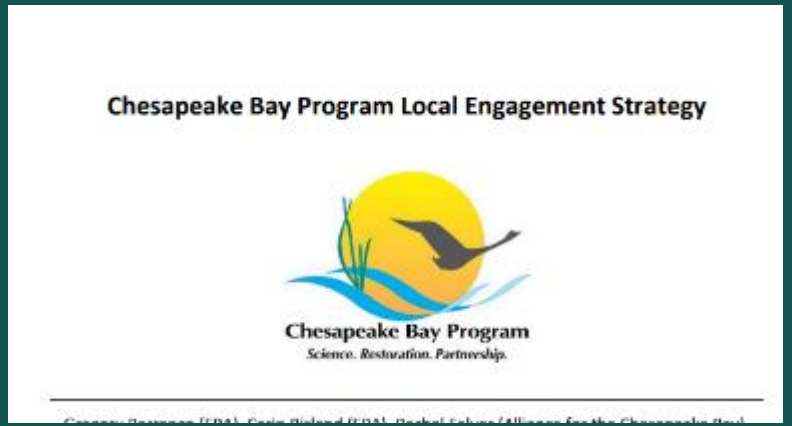
Learn

What have we learned in the last two years?

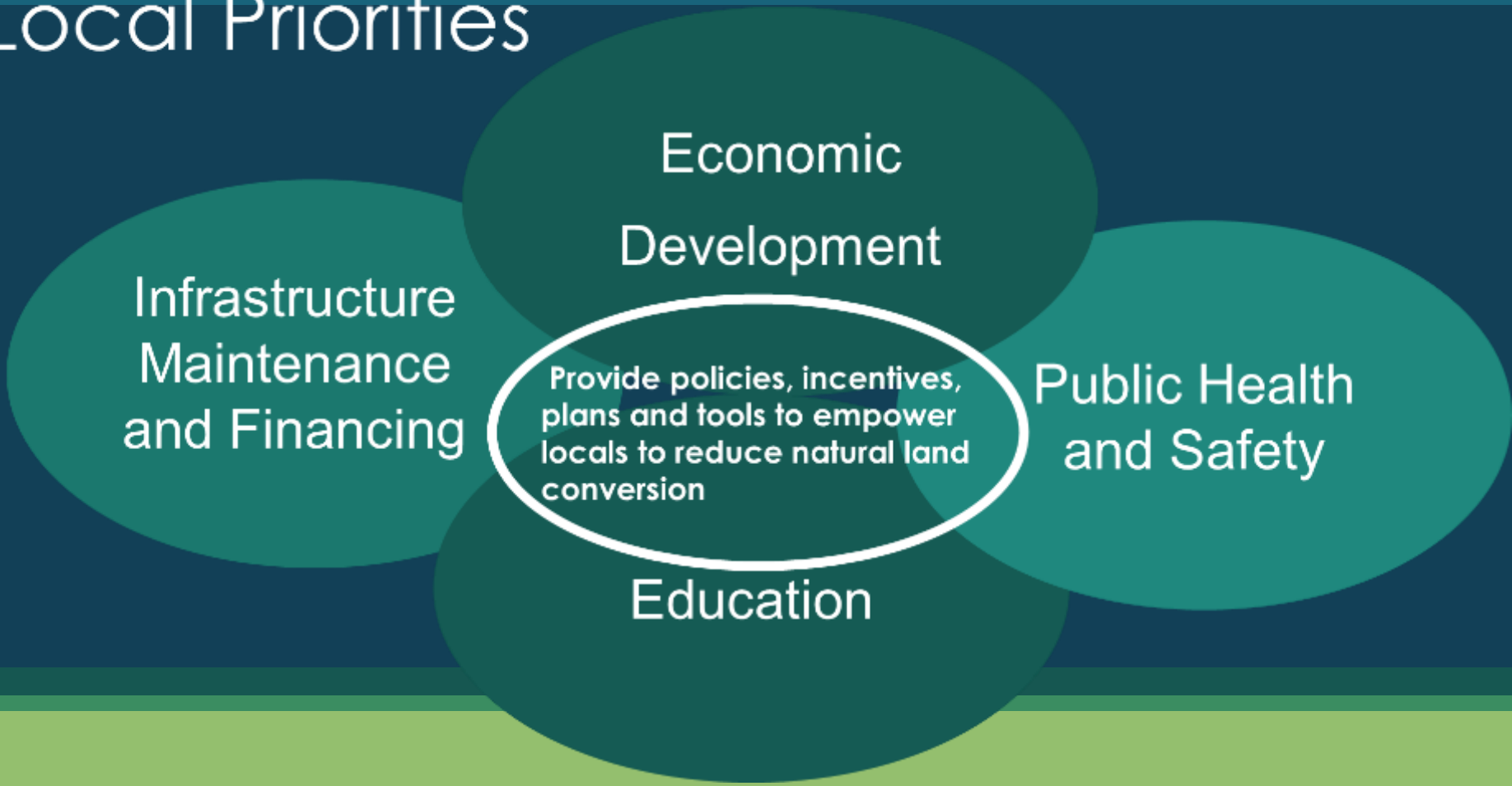
Successes and Challenges

What have we learned?

- We are dependent on the participation of related outcomes and workgroups, as well as their work/products
- The importance of champions and relationships



Local Priorities



Audience

Trusted Sources

Translators

Subject Matter Experts

What ACTION needs to happen at the local level to further this outcome?

Slide courtesy of CBP Local Engagement Team

Factors Influencing

Management Strategy

- Political and Education Challenges *(legislative engagement)*
- Sustaining the Ag and Forestry Industries *(funding and finances)*
- Ability to Engage Local Governments in Conducting the Evaluation *(education and outreach)*
- Technical Challenges

Current Logic and Action table (STAC factors)

- Partner Coordination
- Technical understanding
- Education and outreach
- Local engagement
- Legislative engagement / political challenges.

On the Horizon

Scientific, Fiscal and Policy-related developments

Scientific:

- ❑ High resolution land cover and related metrics (1m, 10m)
- ❑ LCMAP – Analysis and distillation by Sarah MacDonald, USGS CBP
- ❑ No communication/outreach plan

Policy and other developments

COVID (future impacts on land use?)

Policy:

- ❑ Better incorporate DE… …onsiderations.
- ❑ Integrate climate and DEI…

Communication, Translation and Eng…

- ❑ Translate, format, package and flow infor… through to trusted sources.
- ❑ How to effectively engage locals directly

Adapt

How does all of this impact our work?

Based on what we learned, we plan to …

Engagement, Coordination and Accounting.

- ❑ Continue to build relationships, share resources and knowledge to meet evolving needs.
- ❑ Expand connections beyond CBP internal teams.
  - Engage states and regional planning organizations and incorporate resources into land policy BMPs
- ❑ What does success mean?

Help

How can the Management Board lead the Program to adapt?

How You Can Help

- Renewed engagement land use related outcomes (and Healthy Watersheds GIT)
  - Formation of land use action team/work group.
  - Resources related to “translation” of CBP resources pursuant to the Local Engagement Strategy.
  - Guidance and feedback on how resources will be utnilized at the local level.

QUARTERLY PROGRESS MEETING
Chesapeake Bay Program

Renee Thompson, Geographer
Lower-Mississippi Gulf WSC, USGS,
Chesapeake Bay Program, MD
Coordinator Maintain Healthy Watersheds
Goal Implementation Team
Rthompso@chesapeakebay.net
Rthompson1@usgs.gov

Discussion

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