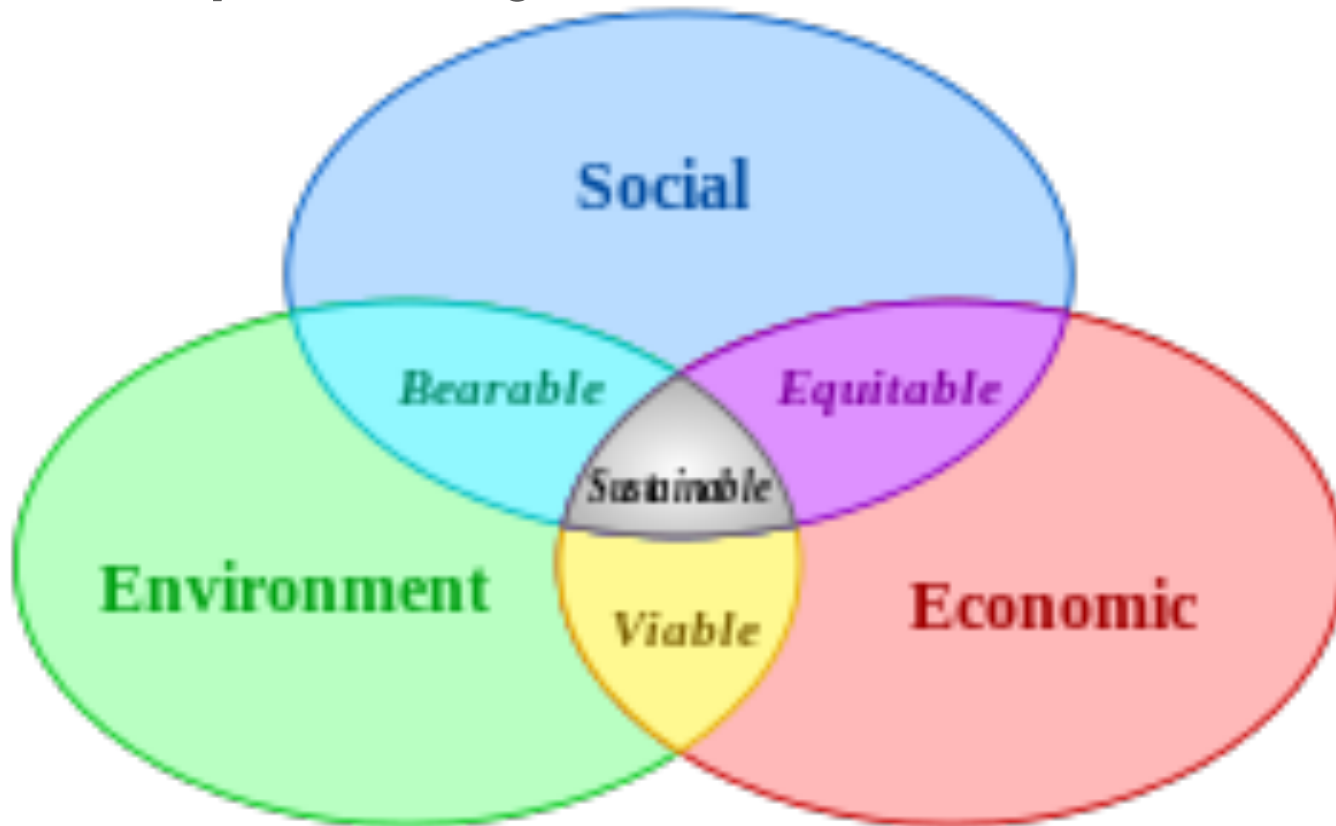


Sustainable Island
Economy

+ What is a sustainable island economy?

- Sustainable development: development that meets the needs of the present world without compromising future generations
- Economy: production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services by different agents





What does a sustainable island economy look like?



- Ensured jobs and consistent employment
- Available financial mechanisms
- Emphasis on buying local
- Embracing native diversity
- Other islands include: Lana'i, Nantucket, Vieques, Virgin Gorda,

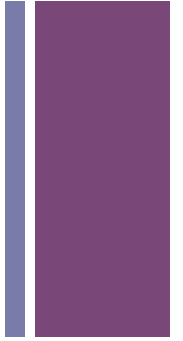
+ Example:



B O R N H O L M



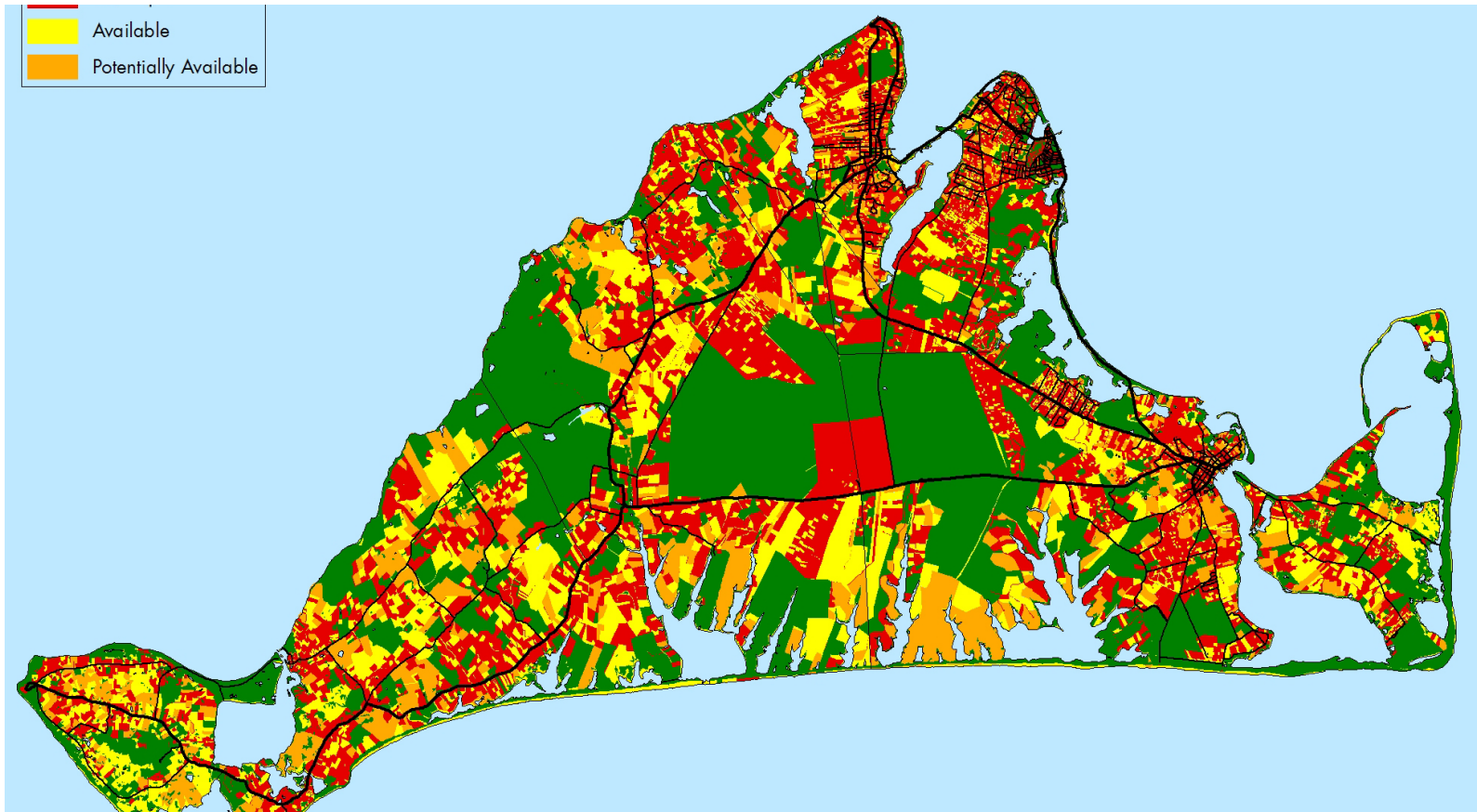
Economics on Martha's Vineyard



- Jobs fluctuate between 6,100 for the winter and 10,500 for the summer (plus 3,300 self employed)
- Despite the 70% higher cost of living on the Vineyard, wages are below state average
- About half of the Island's workers are employed in vacation – related industries
- Over 70% of businesses on the island are small



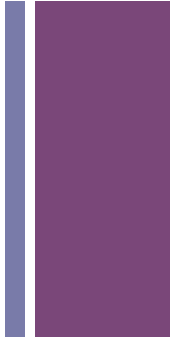
Developed areas on Martha's Vineyard



<http://www.vineyardconservation.org/>
<http://sites.google.com/vineyardconservationorg/vineyard-conservation-societyHome/almanac-archive/almanac-archive-3-28-2011>



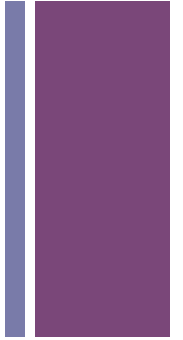
Overview of Economics on Martha's Vineyard



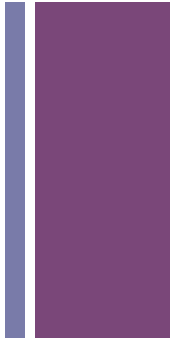
- Seasonal residents vs. year-round residents
- High cost of living
 - One of highest energy costs in the United States
- 40% unemployment
- Lack of affordable housing
 - Only 44% of homes on the Island are occupied year round
 - 9% of Island housing is multi-family
- Tourism fatigue
- Jobs directed towards non-islanders



Finances on Martha's Vineyard



- Martha's Vineyard Donors Collaborative
 - Expanding philanthropy on the Island
 - Promotes local community and Island nonprofits
 - Devoted to maintaining character of Island community
 - Education of donors about needs of island
- Scholarship endowments
 - The Permanent Endowment
 - Allows a foundation to be built
 - Increase consistency of philanthropy
 - Provides scholarships to Island youth and community nonprofits



Seasonal vs. Local Issues

- Serious fluctuation of population (~15,000 year round to ~115,000 seasonal)
- Housing – The Vineyard Shuffle
 - Impact children, families, and overall stability
- Seasonal residents generate over 63% of the economy
- Seasonal jobs can be inconsistent and unreliable
 - Weather can dramatically impact this
- Seasonal residents unaware of how to support local economy
- Minimal interaction between seasonal and local residents



How might we bridge the gap between the have and the have-nots?



- What does the island mean to you?
- Think about how you want to give back!
- What programs can provide a vehicle to bridge the gap between season and year round residents?
- Consistent philanthropy to island networks and organizations
- Consistent and meaningful interaction between groups
- Bring Island people together to become local experts



Innovative Solutions on Martha's Vineyard



- Martha's Vineyard Donors Collaborative
- Martha's Vineyard Land Bank
- Island Grown Initiative
- Vineyard Energy Project
- Women Empowered
- Martha's Vineyard Chamber of Commerce
- Thimble Farm



What else is currently happening?

■ Martha's Vineyard

- MVYLI, farming, Island Grown Schools, The Trustees of Reservations, conservation, diversity, alternative energy, vision fellowship, slow food, Martha's Vineyard Land Bank

■ Lanai

- Pulama Lanai, Aquaculture, Lanai culture and heritage culture, Locational benefits, culture, Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative- Lana'i





National and Global Innovation



- Building Alliance for Local Living Economies
 - Judy Wicks
 - Connect leaders, spreads effective solutions, drives investment towards local economies
 - White Dog Cafe
- Corporate Social Responsibility
 - TOMS, Tesla Motors
- Business Social Responsibility – Business for a better world
 - Work towards change WITHIN business
 - Integrating sustainability into old practices
- Conscious Capitalism
 - Founder of Whole Foods, John Mackey
 - Financial and social wealth for all those involved
- Social Venture Network
 - Build valuable connections between business leaders
 - The Bridge Initiative
 - People, Planet, Profit
- Alice Tepper Marlin
 - Social Accountability International
 - Driven by increasing local capacity and designing innovative processes to empower workers



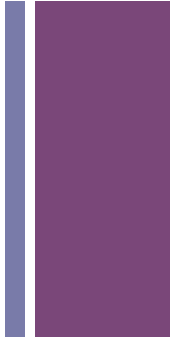
Actions we can take!

- **Buy local, think local, act local**
- MYVLI fellowship
- Vineyard Conservation Society
- Volunteer opportunities at local businesses
- Value Island's nonprofit sector (more than 14% of Island GDP)
- Protect the things we need!
 - Seasonal and year round residents both have responsibilities



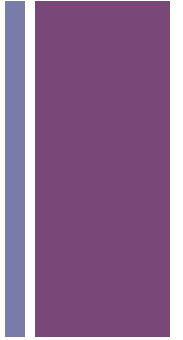


Green Jobs



- **FOOD** – slow food, farms, local groceries, Island Grown Initiative, the FARM Institute, MV agriculture society
- **ENERGY** – vineyard power
- **RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS** – South Mountain, Martha's Vineyard Chamber of Commerce,
- **NONPROFITS** – MV donors Collaborative, The Permanent Endowment for Martha's Vineyard, Island Housing Trust
- **LAND** – Martha's Vineyard Land Bank, Sheriffs Meadow Foundation, The Trustees of Reservations
- **WATER** – town water departments, board of health, natural resource department of Wampanoag Tribe, MV shellfish group
- **COMMUNITY CENTERS** – YMCA, MV Boys and Girls Club, Chilmark Community Center

+ Action Steps



- Green Jobs
- Encourage celebration of Island beauty and unique characteristics
- Increase mentorship and training available to small groups and individuals
- Encourage higher learning and education
- Increase buying power by buying local
- Maintain island based cooperatives for goods and services
- Maintain energetic town centers with diverse businesses
- Develop small businesses

