

TNS System Conditions Analysis Worksheet

System Condition 1: In a sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing concentrations of substances extracted from the Earth's crust.		
Questions: Does your organization, committee or initiative rely on...	Current Situation (Baseline)	Current ways you reduce reliance on these substances
<p>... <u>fossil-fuel based energy for operations?</u> (e.g., gas-fired electricity, coal-fired electricity, gas for heating, etc.)</p> <p>... <u>fossil-fuel based transportation to move people and things?</u> (e.g., vehicle fleets, flights for visitors, commuting of employees, collection of garbage, transport of products/supplies, etc.)</p> <p>... <u>processes that use metals and minerals?</u> (e.g., mercury in electronics, cadmium in batteries or paint dyes, etc.)</p>		
<p>What might be a compelling vision that would help you reduce reliance on these substances extracted from the Earth's crust? That is, what will it look like when you are doing a much better job of avoiding reliance on materials extracted from the Earth's crust?</p>		
<p>What actions can you take now or soon to help you reach that vision?</p>		

System Condition 2: In a sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing concentrations of artificial substances produced by society		
Questions: Does your organization, committee or initiative produce or use...	Current Situation (Baseline)	Current ways you reduce reliance on these substances
<p>... <u>synthetic substances that contain persistent compounds?</u> (e.g., PVC in piping, CFCs, volatile organic compounds in cleaners, paints, adhesives, etc.)</p> <p>... <u>processes that use synthetic substances which contain persistent compounds?</u> (e.g., dioxins, pesticides, herbicides, Freon, etc.)</p>		
<p>What might be a compelling vision that would help you reduce reliance on artificial substances produced by society?</p>		
<p>What actions can you take now or soon to help you reach that vision?</p>		

System Condition 3: In a sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing degradation by physical means.		
Questions: Does your organization or initiative use, rely on or produce...	Current Situation (Baseline)	Current ways you reduce reliance on these practices
<p>... <u>food & fiber from renewable resources that are not sustainably harvested,?</u> (e.g. where does your lumber/paper and food come from and how is it produced?)</p> <p>... <u>processes that require encroachment into natural areas?</u> (e.g. land use practices that result in sprawl, etc.)</p> <p>... <u>practices that introduce foreign and invasive species</u> into an ecosystem?</p> <p>... <u>practices that modify ecosystems</u> in ways that reduce biodiversity and productivity?</p> <p>... <u>products or processes that use materials extracted from the earth by mining?</u></p> <p>... <u>materials that wind up in landfills?</u></p> <p>... <u>processes that use water beyond the natural replacement rate?</u></p>		
<p>What might be a compelling vision that would help you reduce degradation of the physical environment?</p>		
<p>What actions can you take now or soon to help you reach that vision?</p>		

System Condition 4: In a sustainable society, people are not subject to conditions that undermine their ability to meet their needs.		
Questions:	Current Situation (Baseline)	Current ways abilities are enhanced/ barriers are reduced
<p>How well does your organization or initiative enhance people’s ability to meet their human needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subsistence Protection Affection Understanding Participation Idleness Creation Identity Freedom <p>Does your organization, committee or initiative rely on inputs from unsafe or unhealthy work environments? ... places where authorities create obstacles to people meeting their needs?</p>		
<p>What might be a compelling vision that would help you do an even better job of fostering people’s ability to meet their current and future needs, bearing in mind the first 3 system conditions?</p>		
<p>What actions can you take now or soon to help you reach that vision?</p>		

Putting it all together – considering all 4 system conditions ...

Baseline – what is the current situation?

Compelling vision – what will it look like when you are doing an even better job of fostering people’s ability to meet their current and future needs, while simultaneously reducing conflicts with first 3 system conditions?

Down to action – What actions can you take now or soon to move toward that vision?