Community Capacity Assessment in the Mountain Counties Funding Area

for the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program

Technical Advisory Council

Jonathan Kusel, Ph.D.
Sierra Institute for Community and Environment
March 22, 2019
Prop 1, the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act (2014)

- Authorized $510 million in Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) funding
  - $13 million for the Mountain Counties Funding Area

- Funds allocated to 12 regions across California

- 10% of the funding is dedicated to the IRWM Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement Program
Mountain Counties Funding Area and Participating IRWMs

Nine Integrated Regional Water Management Groups
Mountain Counties Funding Area Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement Program (DACTIP)

- Allocates funding for the inclusion of Tribal, disadvantaged community, economically distressed areas, and underrepresented populations—collectively known as DAC—for inclusion in IRWM planning and decision-making.

- $1.3 million for MCFA over three years—“Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement Program” (DACTIP)

- Activities: education, outreach and engagement, facilitation, needs assessment, technical assistance, site assessment, and project planning.
What is a “disadvantaged community” or “DAC?”

1) **Economically disadvantaged**
   - Below 80% median household income ($49,191)

2) **Economically distressed area**
   - 85% median household income ($52,266);
   - A municipal population of less than 20,000, a rural county, or a reasonably isolated segment of a larger municipality with less than 20,000; and
   - Financial hardship, an unemployment rate of 2% higher than the state average, or a low population density (100/square mile)

3) **Underrepresented** - defined by region
One reason this is important...
Process

1. Map and aggregate Census block groups to form communities
2. Name block group aggregations to capture major community names
3. Assess Community Capacity (through workshops involving local residents/experts)
4. Assess Socioeconomic Status
5. Examine Socioeconomic status and capacity to determine “disadvantaged” communities
Northern Sacramento Valley foothills in the Mountain Counties Area
Block Groups (grey lines) and Communities (in color)
Process

1. Map and aggregate Census block groups to form communities
2. Name block group aggregations to capture major community names
3. Assess Community Capacity (through workshops involving local residents/experts)
4. Assess Socioeconomic Status
5. Examine Socioeconomic status and capacity to determine “disadvantaged” communities
Community Capacity is:

The ability of community residents to respond to:

• circumstances of all sorts and
• to meet the needs of all residents.

This includes the ability of the communities to respond to internal and external stresses, as well as take advantage of opportunities.
Community Capacity

Five types of capital

Financial Capital: Availability of dollars for local uses and projects and to meet pressing local needs

Social Capital: The ability and willingness of local residents to work together towards community ends and purposes and beyond self-interested ends

Human Capital: Knowledge and ability to address issues of local concern, and the experience and capabilities of local residents and their willingness to use these locally

Cultural Capital: The prevalence and strength of shared local bonds and ways of living, and the uniqueness of and identification with this

Physical Capital: The “hard” infrastructure of a community, such as roads, sewers, schools, etc., including the quality of this infrastructure and its ability to meet local needs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Capacity Assessment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financial Capital</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Cultural Capital</strong></td>
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**OVERALL CAPACITY RATING**

LOW | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | HIGH
FINAL NUMBERS
CalEnviroScreen 3.0 vs. Community Capacity

Sierra Institute Capacity Assessment
Process

1. Map and aggregate block groups to form communities
2. Name block group aggregations to capture major community names
3. Assess Community Capacity (through workshops involving local residents/experts)
4. Assess Socioeconomic Status
   - Education
   - Poverty
   - Home Ownership
   - Children In families Receiving Public Assistance
   - Unemployment
5. Examine Socioeconomic status and capacity to determine “disadvantaged” communities
## Overall Community Well-Being

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<th>Capacity</th>
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