

Sustainability Curriculum

Creating Climate Literacy among
Staff and Elected Officials in
Scio Township

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Photo credit: Fatimah Bolhassan

Project team

MENTOR

Jan Culberston



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CLC FELLOW

Bonny Wysocki



Question to the audience:

**Does your community have
Sustainability Goals?**

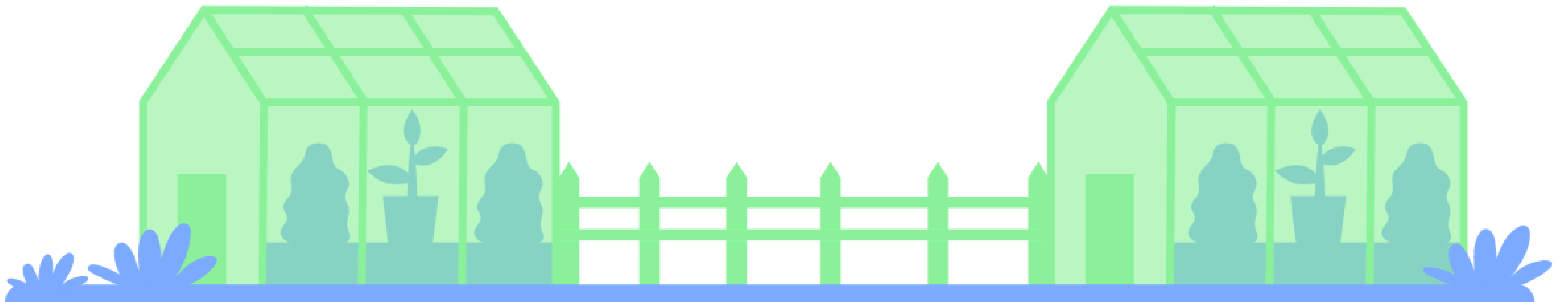


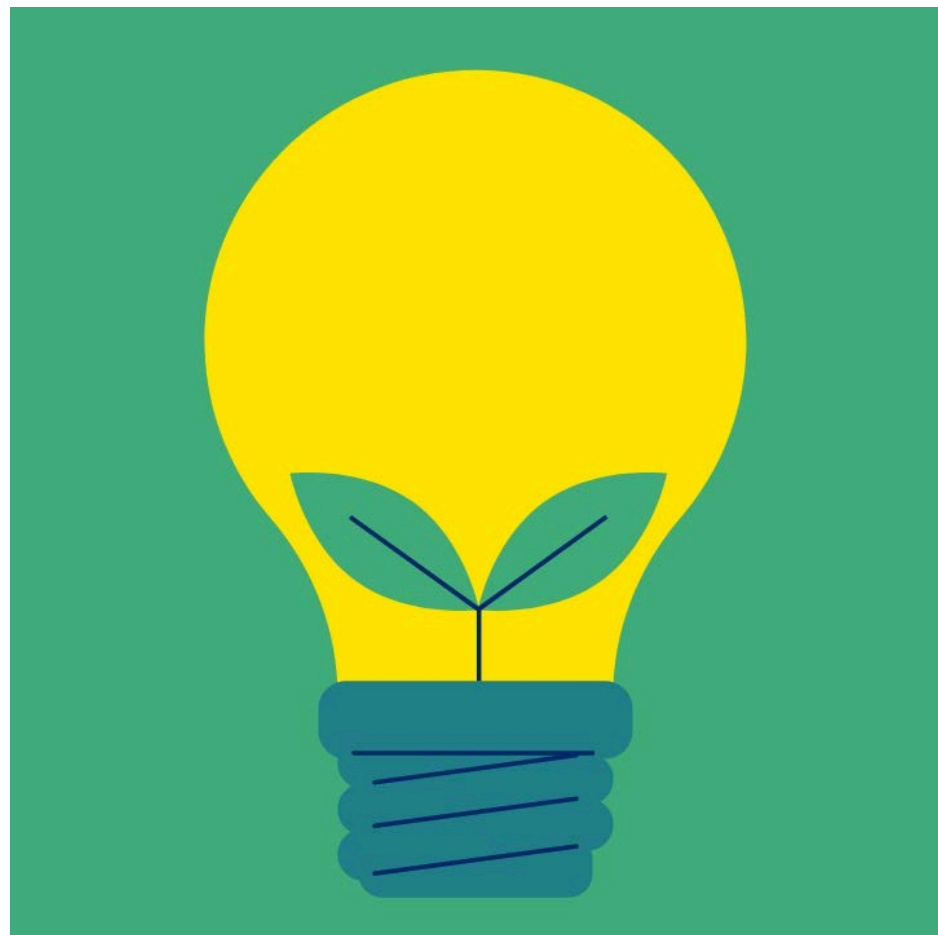
As many other townships, cities, and counties,

Scio Township has Sustainability Goals

However

Staff and Elected Officials
don't have a clear understanding of
Sustainability.





Solution

Design an
Educational Tool

Engaging and **accessible**

Build **Climate Literacy**
and
empower people to
apply Sustainability
in their daily lives and their roles.

Project Timeline (10 – weeks)



the Sustainability Curriculum content is based in

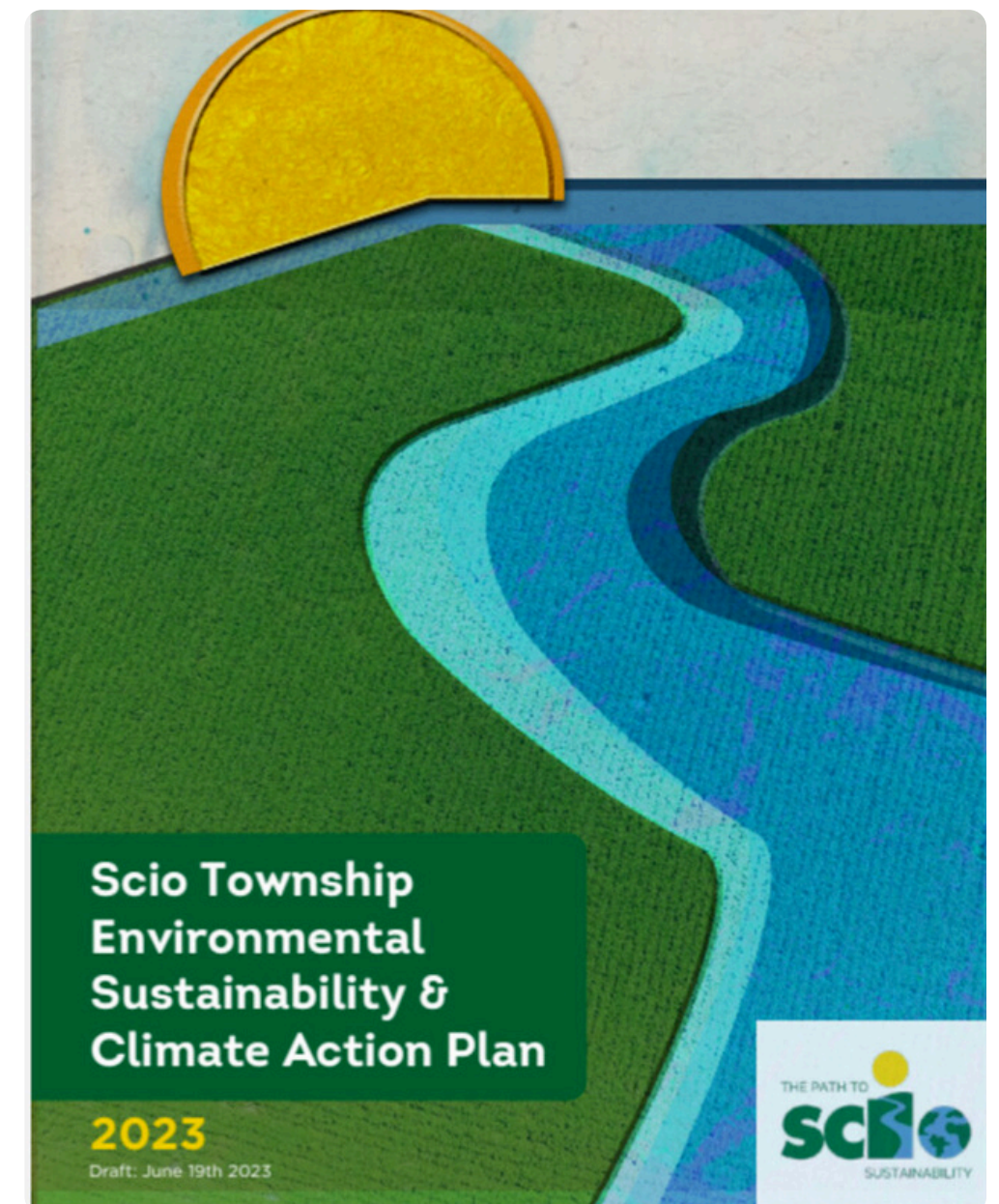
Scio Township's Environmental Sustainability & Climate Action Plan (ESCAP)

What is it?

It is a roadmap developed to guide the: community, and township operations, toward environmental resilience and greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions.

Includes

- Key Terms
- Strategies to achieve Sustainability Goals (Areas of Focus)



Benchmark: Planet Blue Ambassador



Planet Blue Ambassador

Resource Description

Introductory sustainability training for U-M faculty, staff, and students. Provides information on U-M efforts and how to get involved.

Link

[Ann Arbor Training](#)

[Dearborn Training](#)

[Flint Training](#)

U-M Campus

[Ann Arbor](#)

[Dearborn](#)

[Flint](#)

Audience

[Students](#)

[Staff](#)

[Faculty](#)

Topic

[Campus Sustainability](#)

Sustainability training program
by University of Michigan

Online / Workshop

**SUSTAINABILITY CURRICULUM
INSPIRED IN THIS STRUCTURE**

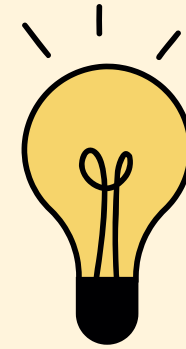
Interviews

Participants



Scio Township Staff
and
Elected Officials

Insights



- No clear understanding of Sustainability
- Not aware of ESCAP
- Showed interest and support
- Time is a constraint
- Should be mandatory

Learning Preferences



- Real Life Examples
- Hands-on Experience
- Working towards a goal

Surveys

Participants

21

out of 40

Scio Township Staff
and
Elected Officials

Climate knowledge



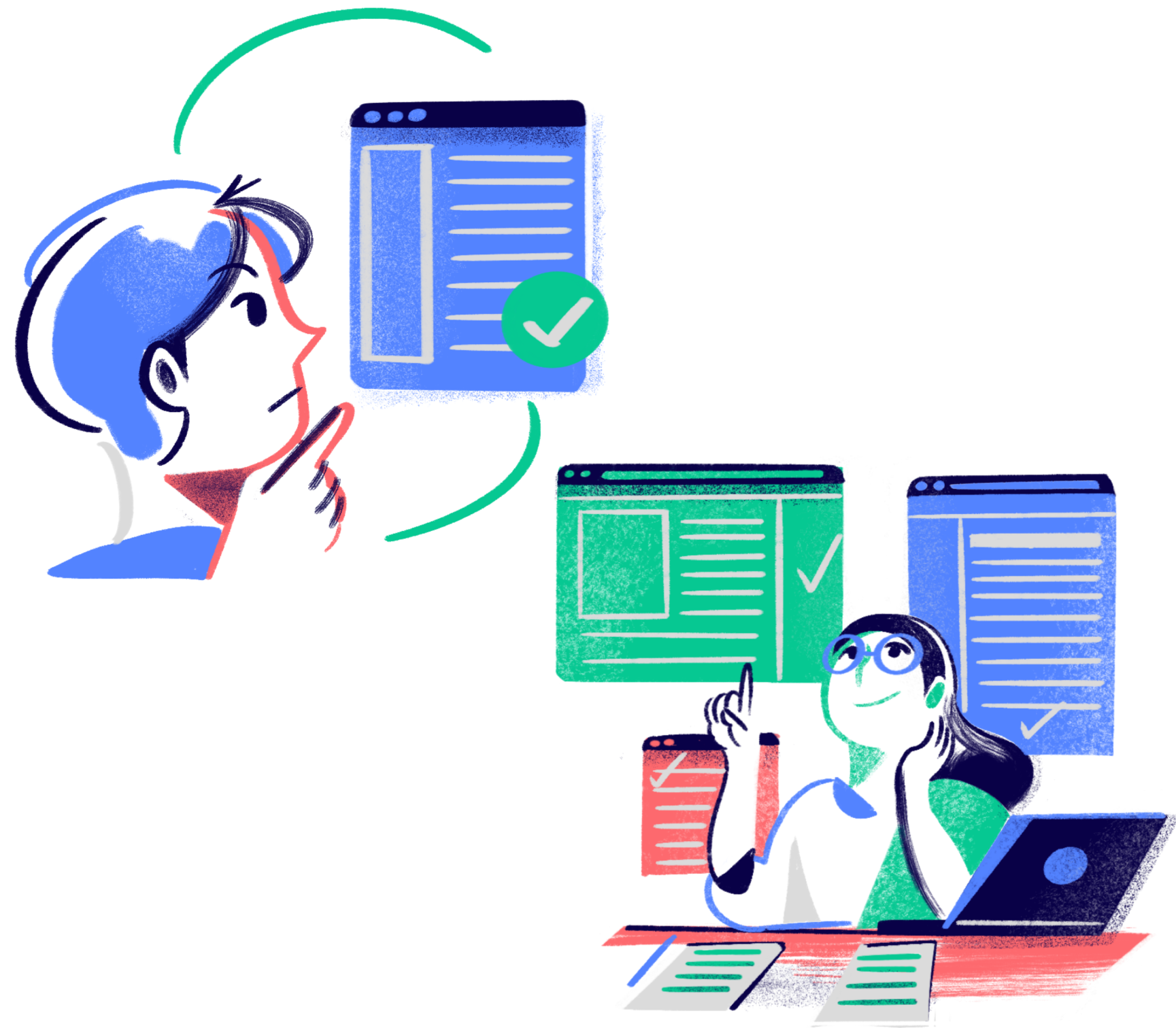
- **86%** no prior Sustainability training
- **76%** Somewhat familiar with Sustainability
- **57%** have never heard about ESCAP

Learning Preferences



- **45.5%** Interactive workshops
- **63.6%** Short videos (5-10 min)
- **50%** training length less than 1 hour

Deliverable



Easy to

Edit

Replicate

Access

Understand

Should Include

Videos

Real life examples

Scio Township initiatives

Interactive features: Quizzes, reflections, feedback

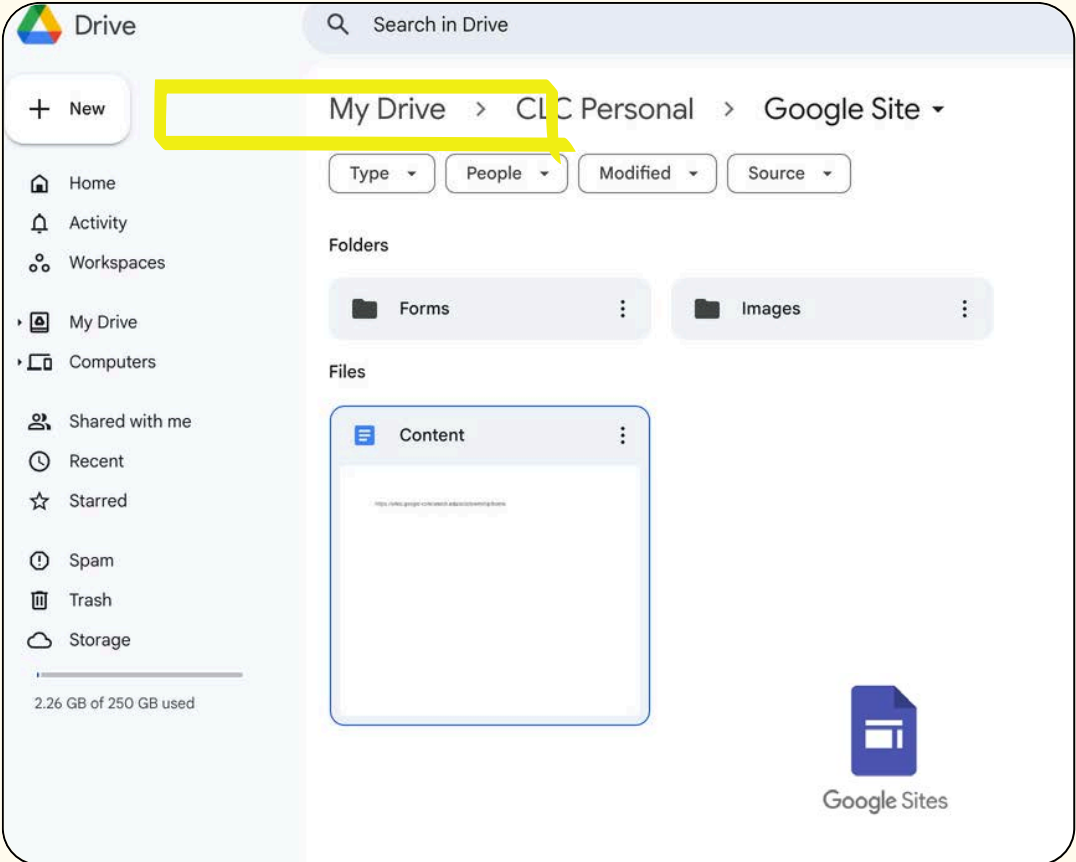
Promote

Climate Knowledge

Google Site Website

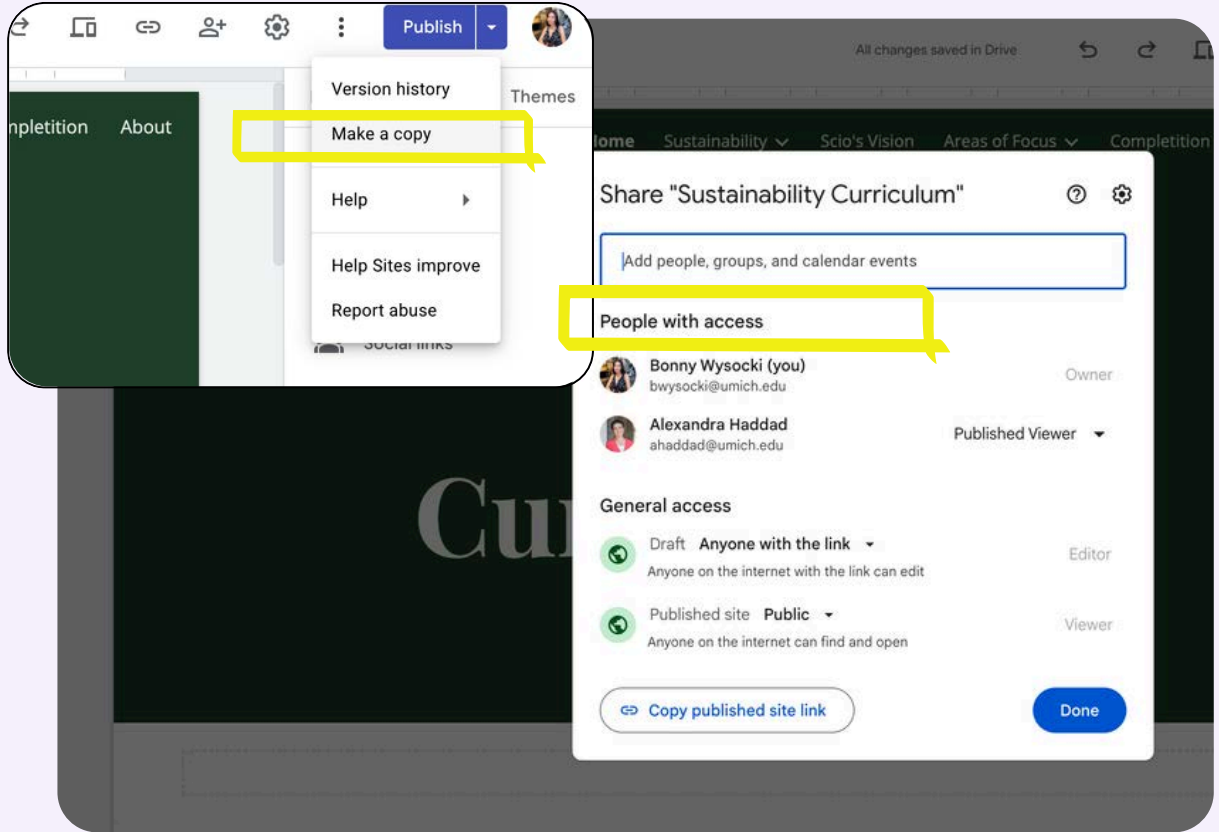
Free

No maintenance fees.
Only a Gmail account is needed!



Shareable

Ownership,
content, easy to replicate.

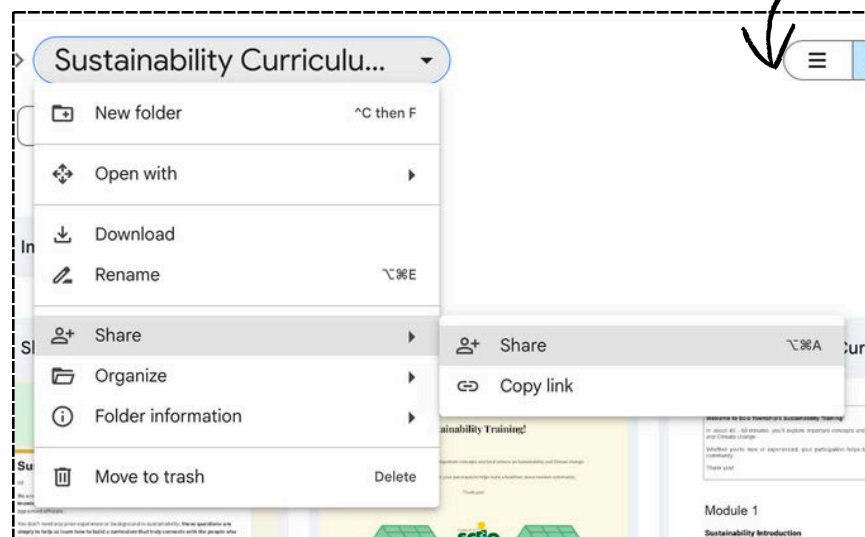
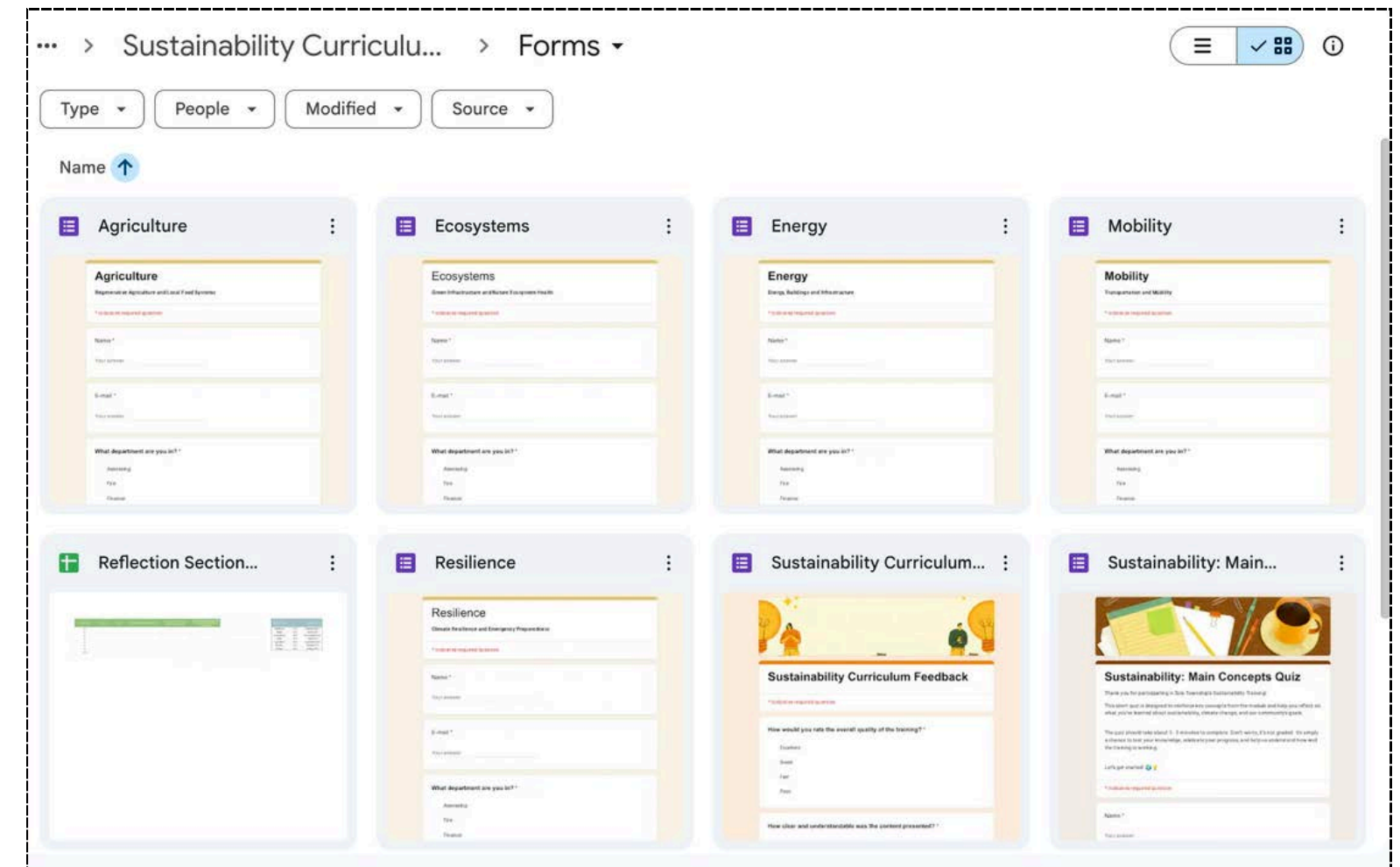
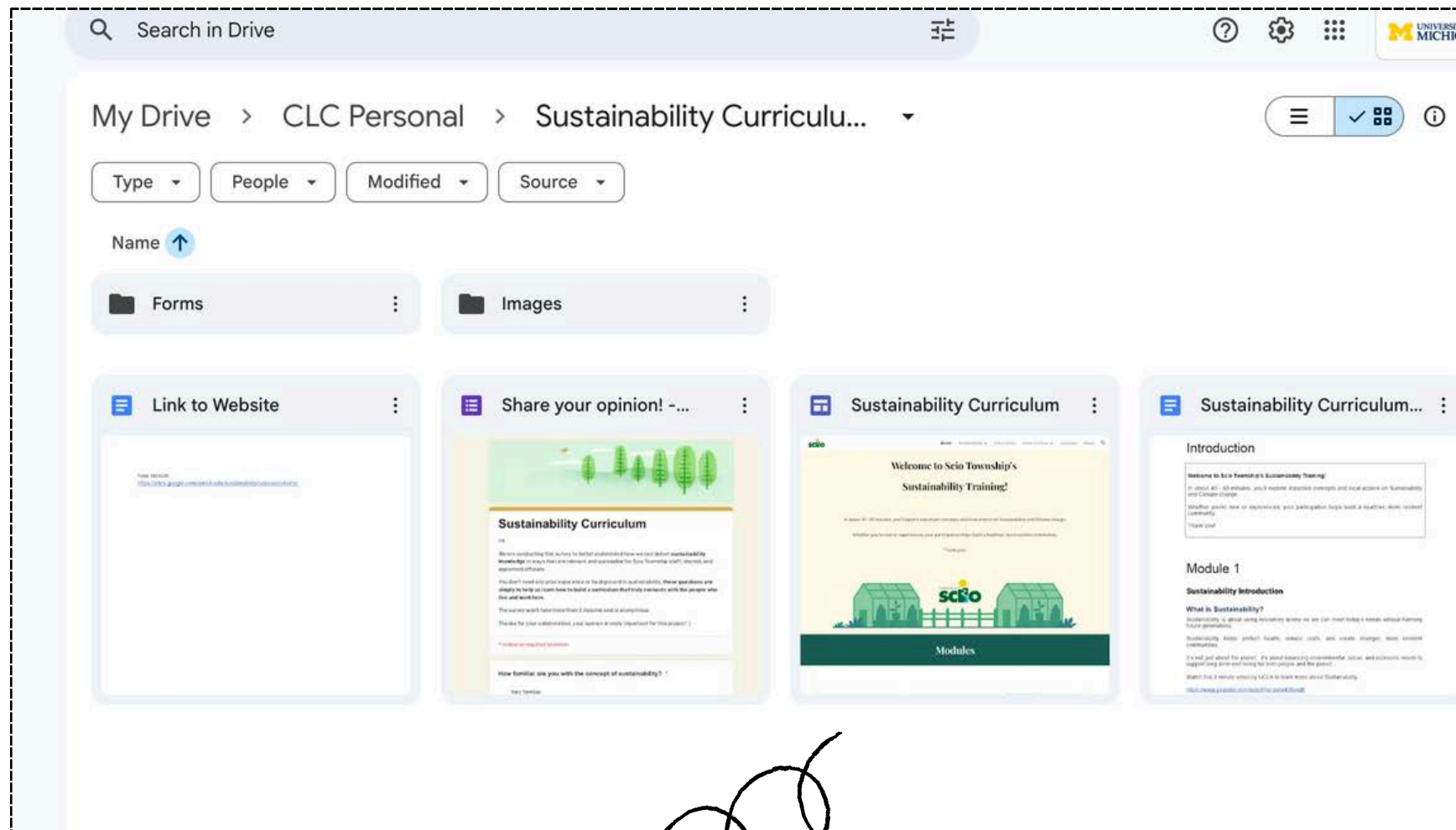


Interactive

we can include:

- Social links
- Placeholder
- YouTube
- Calendar
- Map
- Docs
- Slides
- Sheets
- Forms
- Charts

Google Drive



Easy to:
Manage
Share
Free



Enter site name

[Home](#)

[Sustainability](#) ▾

[Scio's Vision](#)

[Areas of Focus](#) ▾

[Graduate](#)

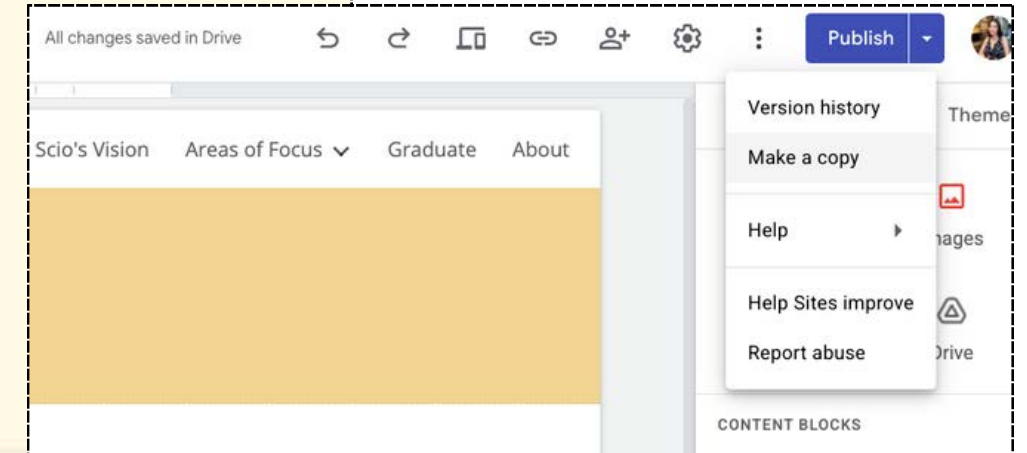
[About](#)

Welcome to Scio Township's Sustainability Training!

In about 45 - 60 minutes, you'll explore important concepts and local actions on Sustainability and Climate change.

Whether you're new or experienced, your participation helps build a healthier, more resilient community.

Thank you!





Videos



Sustainable Development

According to the United Nations (UN), "Sustainable Development is the ability to meet the needs of the present population without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Watch this video by the UN to learn more about Sustainable Development and its importance.

Benefits of Leading with Sustainability



Climate change is already impacting the quality of life and the way we live.

In the last 50 years, Washtenaw County has seen a marked increase in the number of extreme precipitation events, the overall amount of



Leading with sustainability helps communities like Scio Township

become more resilient, equitable, and prepared for the future

The Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution in

Sustainability: Main Concepts



What are Greenhouse Gases?

Greenhouse gases (GHGs), such as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases, trap heat in the atmosphere and contribute to global warming.

GHG emissions and removals associated with human activities can be tracked across sectors, including transportation, industry, electricity, agriculture, and land use.

Watch this video by NASA to learn more about how the greenhouse effect works and contributes to climate change.

Carbon Neutrality

Carbon Neutrality refers to achieving a state where the net amount of greenhouse gas emissions emitted into the atmosphere is reduced to zero by taking actions to minimize those emissions and/or by purchasing offsets.

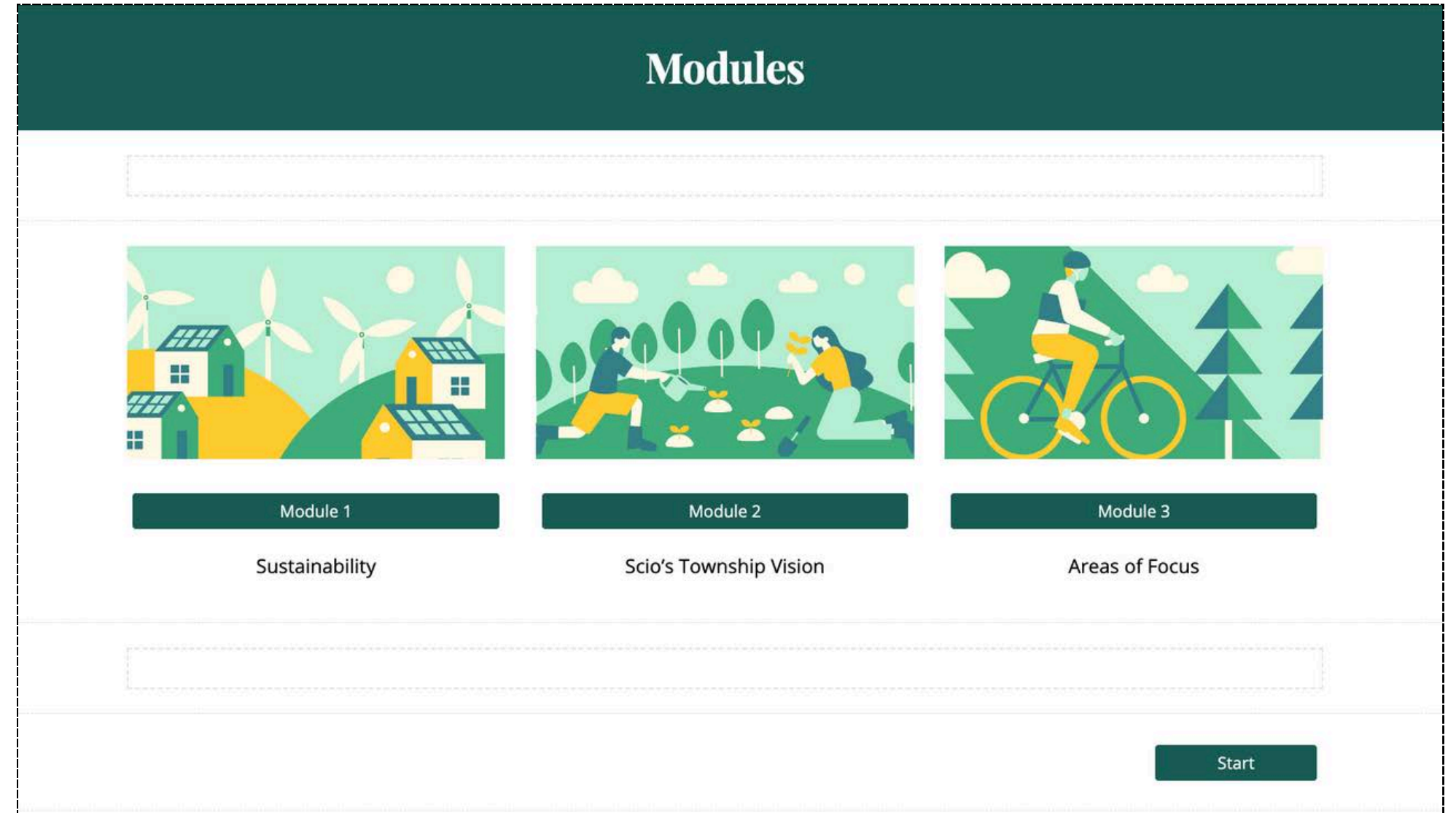
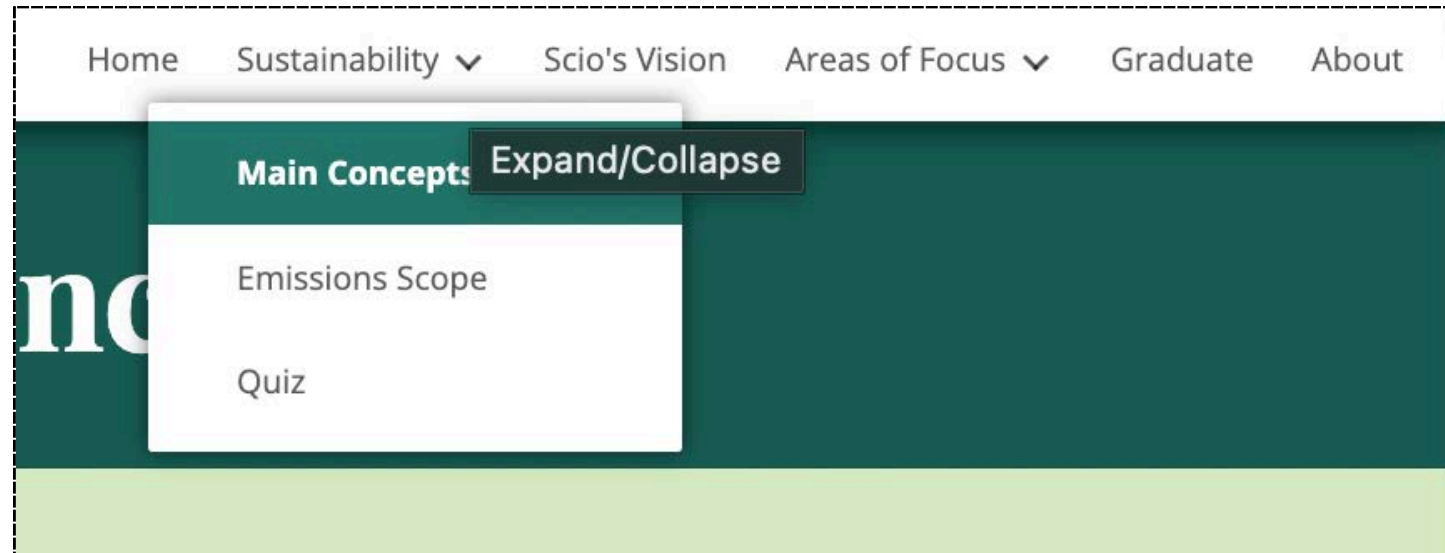
Carbon Offset is a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases made in order to compensate for emissions made elsewhere. This can be a project to mitigate Greenhouse gas GHG emissions that is measurable, additional, and verifiable.

Source: U.S. EPA, Carbon Offsets

Watch this video by Sustain Life to learn more about the difference between net-zero and carbon-neutral.



Modules



Content:

Sustainability Key Concepts

Real-life examples

How to be more sustainable.

Scio Township's progress towards achieving its Sustainability goals.

Introduction to: ESCAP (Environmental, Sustainability & Climate Action Plan)

Quizzes, Feedback

scio Enter site name Home Sustainability Scio's Vision Areas of Focus Graduate About

Quiz

Congratulations on finishing the first module!

This short quiz should take about **3 - 5 minutes to complete.**

Don't worry—it's **not graded.** It's simply a chance to test your knowledge, celebrate your progress, and help us understand how well the training is working.

Let's get started!

Sustainability: Main Concepts Quiz

Thank you for participating in Scio Township's Sustainability Training!

This short quiz is designed to reinforce key concepts from the module and help you reflect on what you've learned about sustainability, climate change, and our community's goals.

The quiz should take about 3 - 5 minutes to complete. Don't worry, it's not graded. It's simply a chance to test your knowledge, celebrate your progress, and help us understand how well the training is working.

Let's get started!

bwysocki@umich.edu [Switch account](#)

Not shared

* Indicates required question

Name *

Enter site name Home Sustainability Scio's Vision Areas of Focus Graduate About

Reflection

This survey is not mandatory, but your **contribution is highly appreciated.**

Energy

Energy, Buildings and Infrastructure

bwysocki@umich.edu [Switch account](#)

Not shared

* Indicates required question

Name *

b

E-mail *

q

Go Back Next

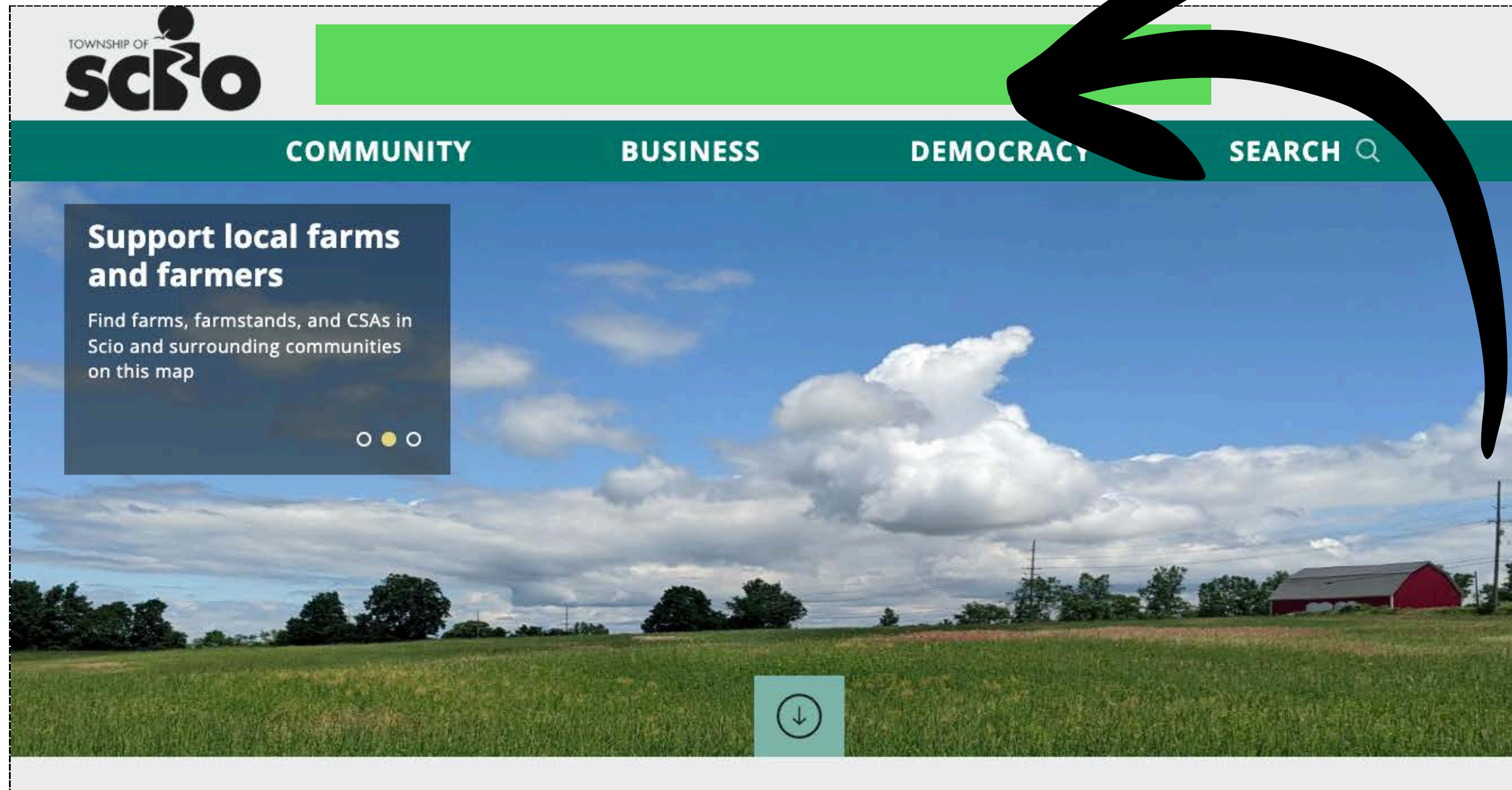
Content:

Sustainability Key Concepts Quiz

Reflection for each area of focus: Energy,

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Timestamp	Name	E-mail	What department are you in?	Choose one or more of the following initiatives:	Given your role. How can you help implement this/these initiatives?
2	a					
3	b					
4	a					
5	h					
6	k					
7	d					
8	s					
9	now					
10						

Linked to Scio Website



open to everyone!

Read me!

The screenshot shows a Google Docs interface. The document title is "Sustainability Curriculum: Scio Township" with a subtitle "Welcome to ReadMe!". The main content includes an "Overview" section describing the curriculum's purpose, followed by "Location", "Project Team", "Acknowledgement", and "Platform" sections. A "Table of Contents" is located at the bottom of the page.

Table of Contents

Overview	1
Table of Contents	1
Good Practices: Duplicating the Website	1
Where to find the Website Content?	2
Replies	2
Customizing Appearance and Editing	3
Maintenance	3

Clear instructions on how to use the website as an administrator

The screenshot shows a context menu for a file named "Sustainability Curriculum" in Google Drive. The menu options include: Open with, Rename, Make a copy, Share, Organize, File information, and Move to trash.

Where to find the Website Content?

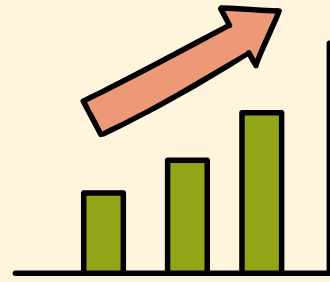
As of 2025, all the documents (including forms, images, sheets, and docs) used on this website are included in a Google Drive folder managed by Christopher Cheng (Scio Township - Project Manager) and Sarah Lee (CLC - Project Manager).

Contact emails:

Christopher Cheng	ccheng@sciotownship.org
Sarah Lee	sarle@umich.edu

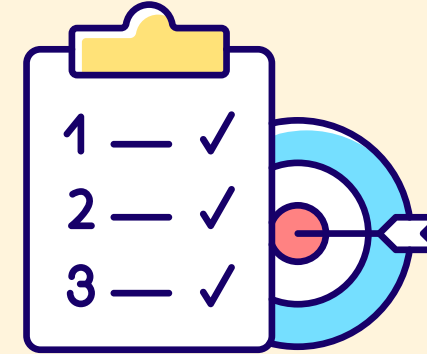
Here are some helpful links to the content:

Link to Google Drive	Google Drive includes all the documentation, including the content and the links on this table.
Link to Forms	Forms include: Quiz , key areas of focus reflection , and survey feedback.
Link to Forms replies	Includes: Answers to quiz, summarized replies to key areas of focus reflection, and replies to survey feedback.
Link to Images	Images include: Images used in the Website .



Next Steps

- Share the Sustainability Curriculum with Staff and Elected Officials
- Share it online @Scio Website



Recommendations

- Scio Township can create its own videos (more targeted).
- Encourage Scio Township to develop in-person workshops.
- Constant improvement (Feedback, surveys)

Share it with your community!

To replicate this project explore:

Resources

Stakeholders

Current initiatives

Community needs



Thank you!



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Photo credit: Fatimah Bolhassan

