

Leveraging Social Governance to Achieve Landscape Sustainability Success

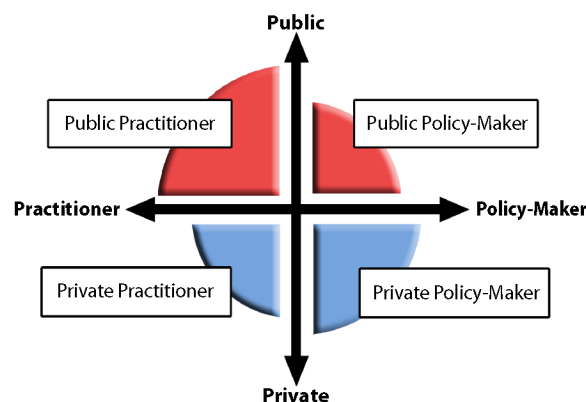
Few sustainability topics seem more awkward to discuss and strategize about than *governance*. We understand the technical, scientific, and political issues of sustainability, but governance is like the *invisible* 'elephant in the room'. It is looming but difficult to describe. But that can change.

After two decades of multi-sector experience as both a practitioner and policy analyst, Tim Gieseke has developed a unique framework to assess the governance mix of multi-stakeholder programs, projects and policies.

Taking a practical and novel approach, Tim created a *governance compass*® describing governance sectors and their roles and then applied this to established governance knowledge. Each sustainability component and task has a unique governance footprint that becomes transparent and manageable.

This framework provides new insights for civic engagement, identifies areas prone to conflict and which sectors are best suited for certain tasks. Overall, it gives a new context to multi-stakeholder efforts and offers a more inclusive approach to achieving sustainability objectives and success.

Using new governance knowledge, sustainability leaders and planners can effectively leverage the more tangible technical, scientific and political resources. It enables a new style of leadership to bridge the efforts among the many stakeholders involved in addressing these complex natural resource issues.



Sustaining water quality and the agricultural landscape is no longer just a technical, scientific or even a political problem, but has evolved into a social governance issue.

Resolving watershed issues is greatly enhanced with a transparent and inclusive governance strategy.

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Tim Gieseke's experience includes a MS in water quality science, agriculture production, governance conservation, federal farm policy analysis, business and authorship. His most recent book; *Shared Governance for Sustainable Working Lands* (Taylor & Francis, Aug, 2016) uses 11 state and national case studies to describe governance strategies for agriculture landscape sustainability.

Whether you represent government, watershed, agriculture, environmental or conservation organizations, Tim can present this topic to meet your needs: as an introduction for organizational leadership and boards, as an enlightening keynote to a broad audience and at a more detailed level if your organization is involved in developing or implementing a governance component for any type of watershed or landscape plans. Despite the seemingly complex nature of governance, Tim presents the topic in a step-wise and intuitive manner to those involved in multi-sector/stakeholder projects.