



Becoming your Community's Climate Resource

SEEDING ACTION

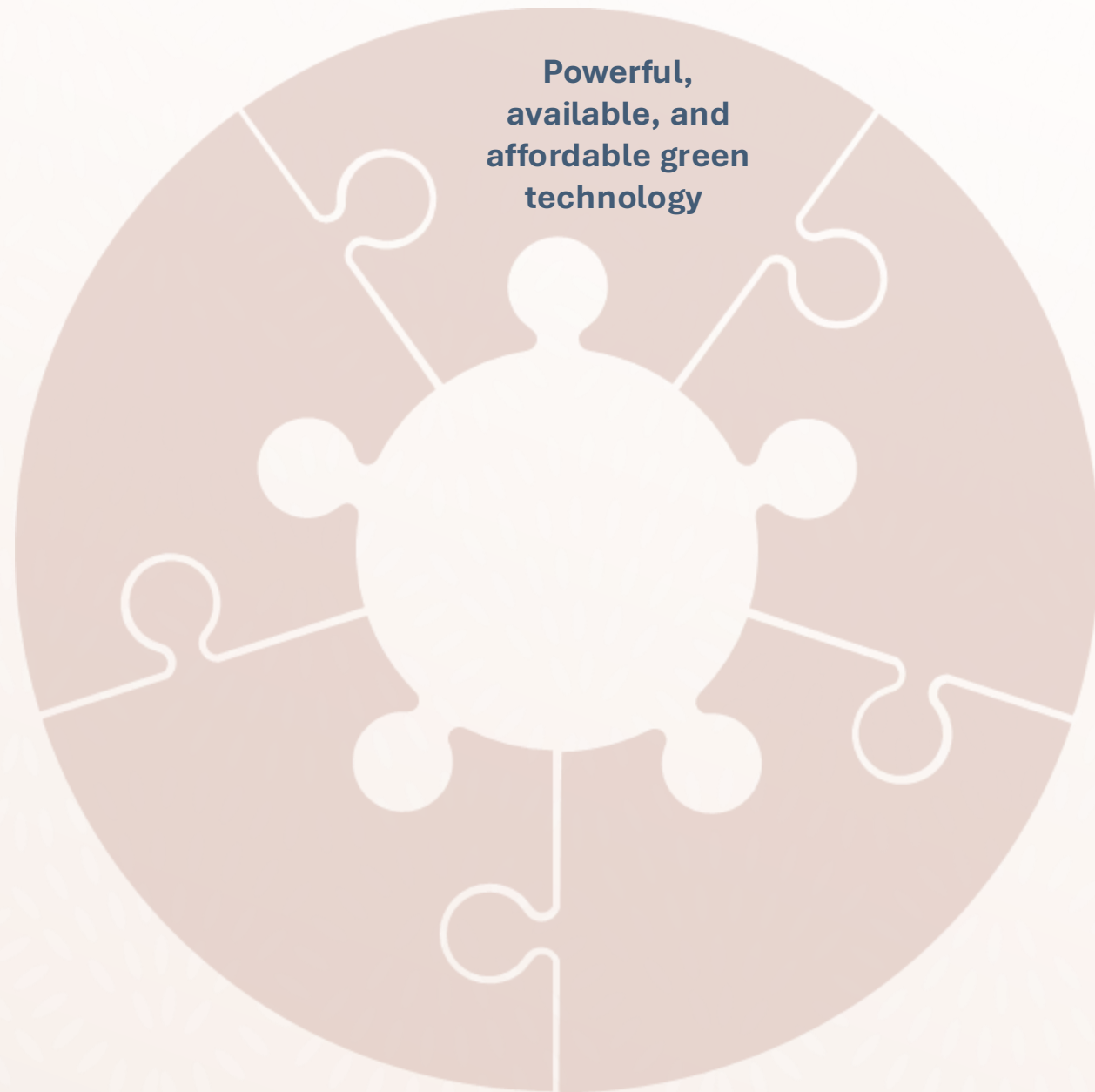


Association of Science
and Technology Centers

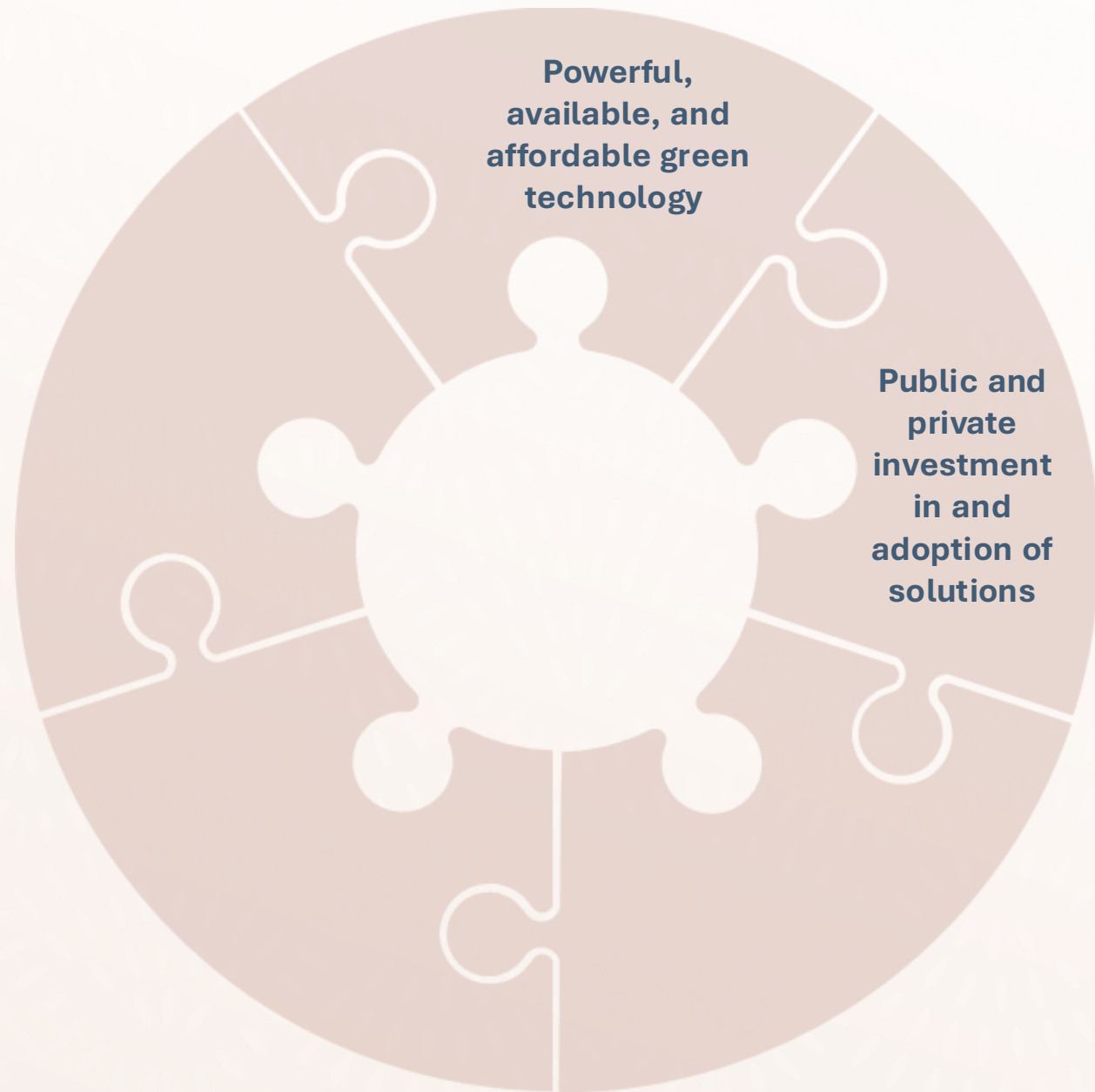
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the pieces needed to
improve the health of
our planet and people.



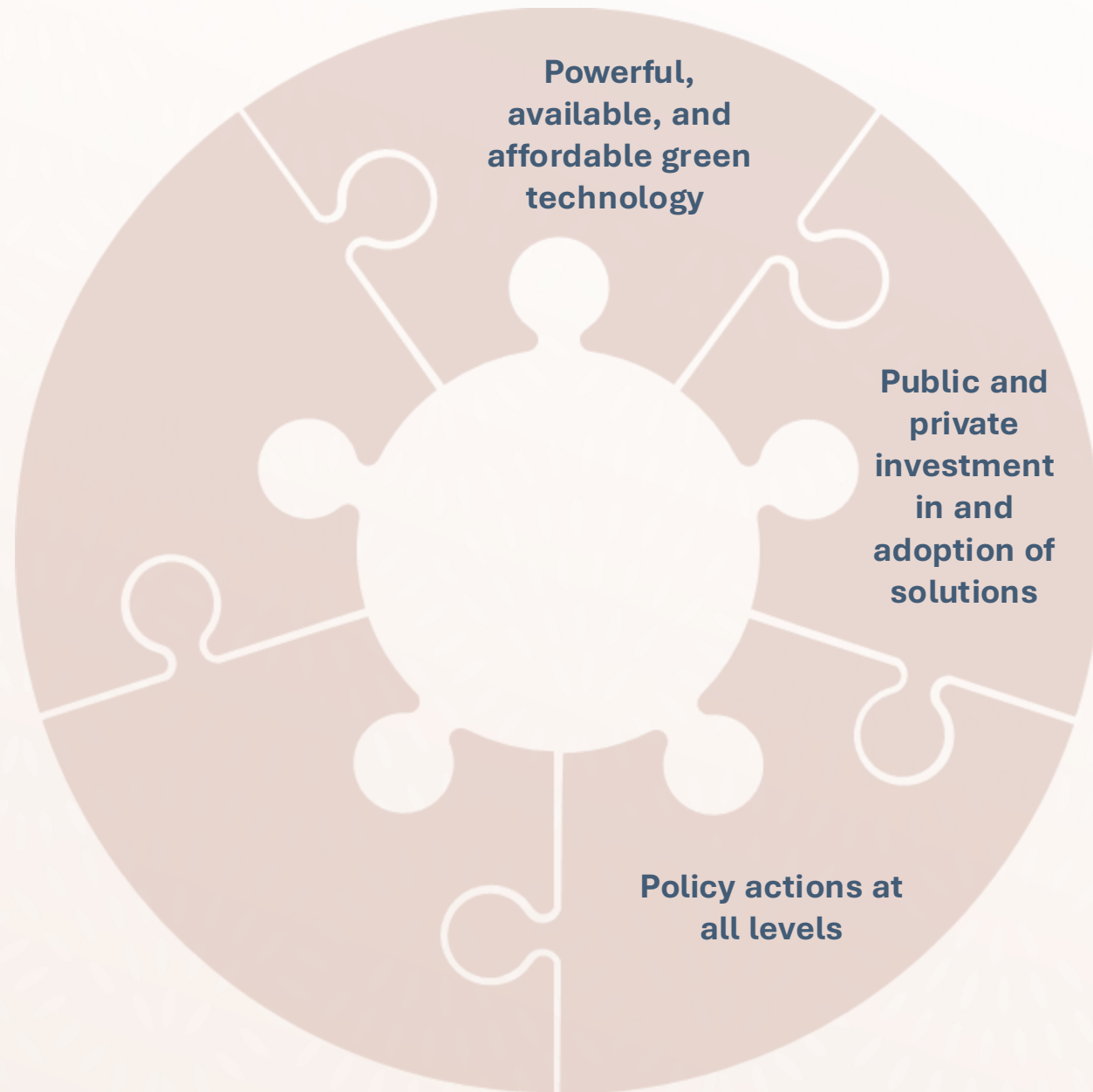
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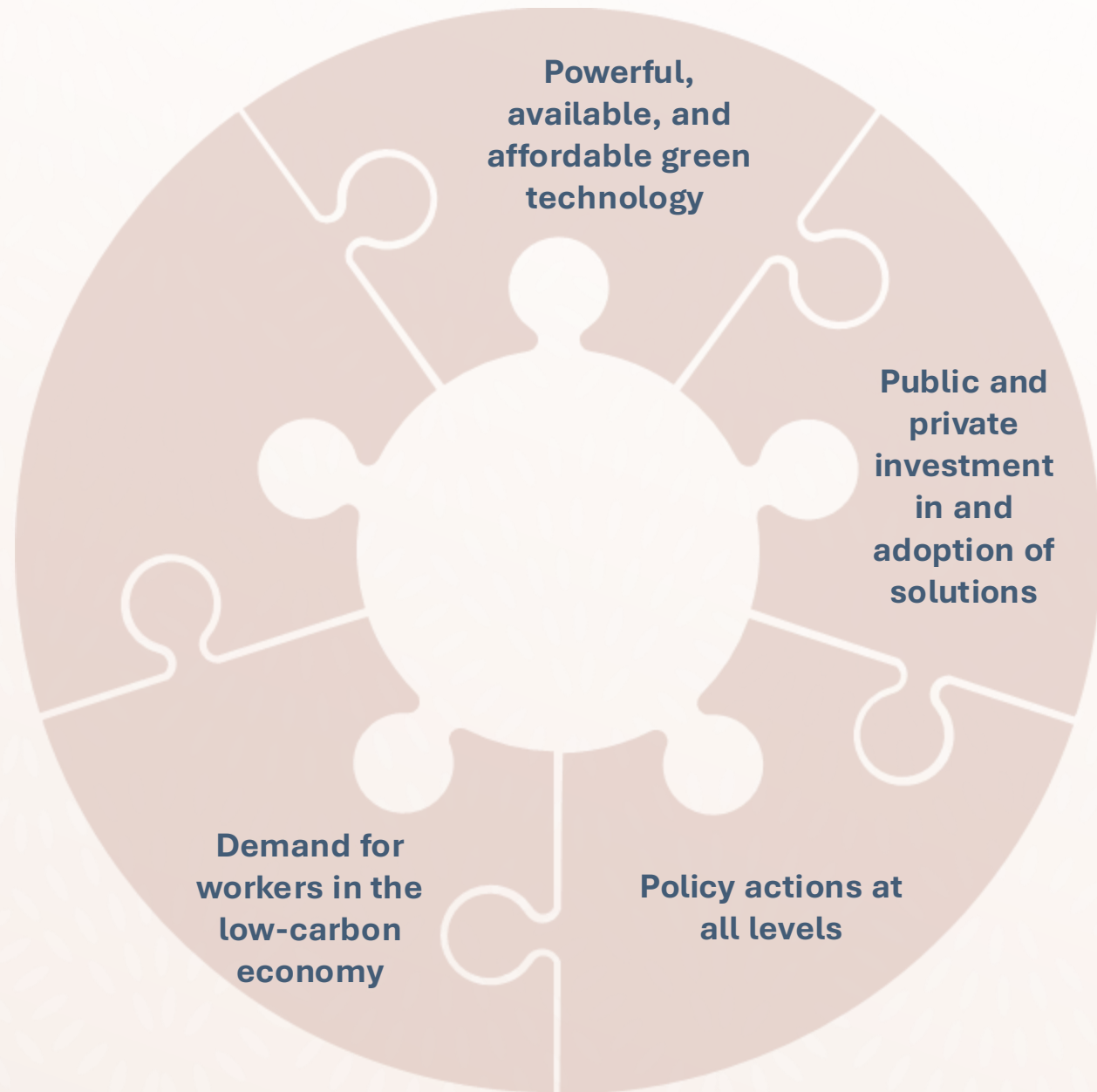
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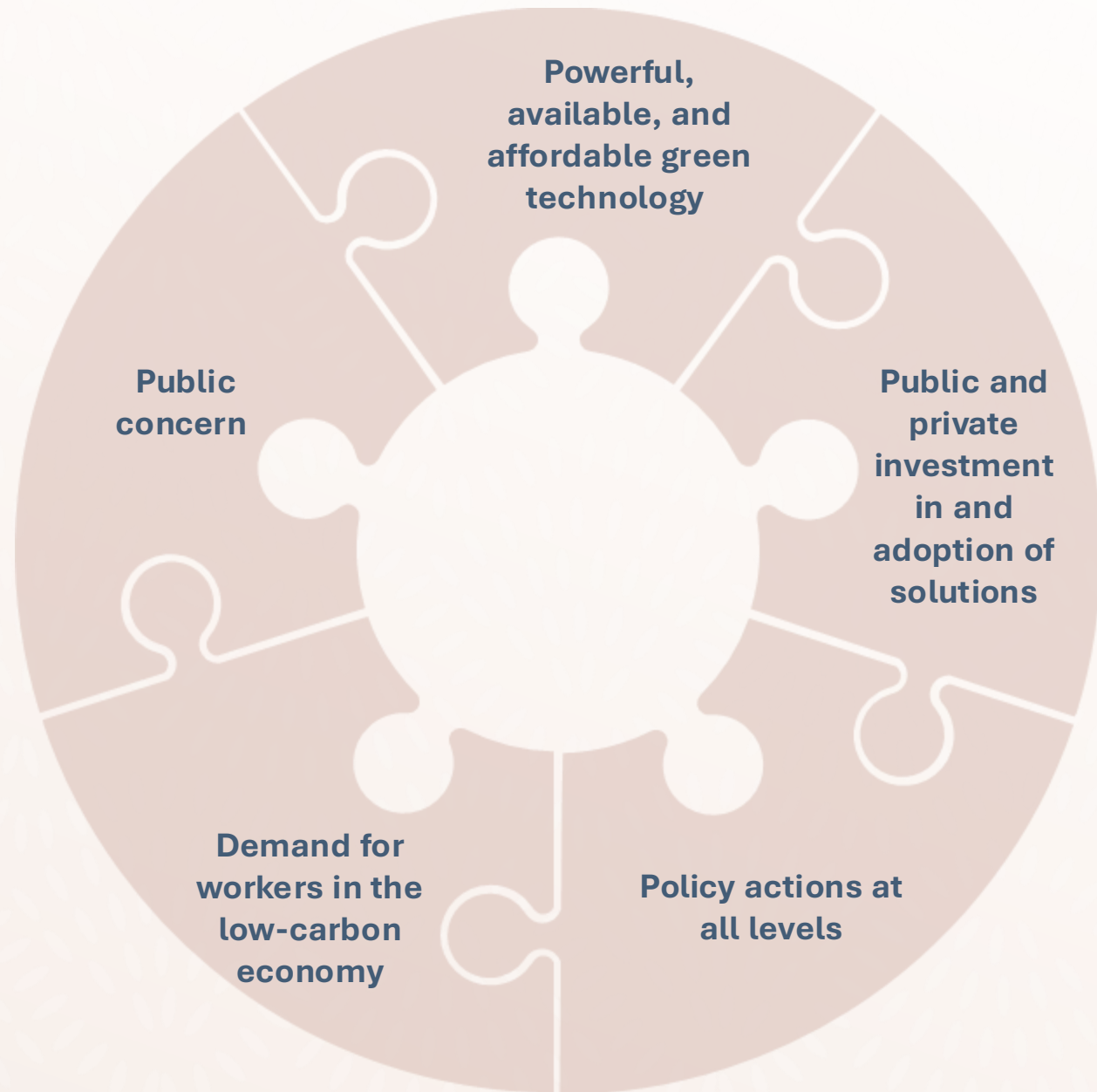
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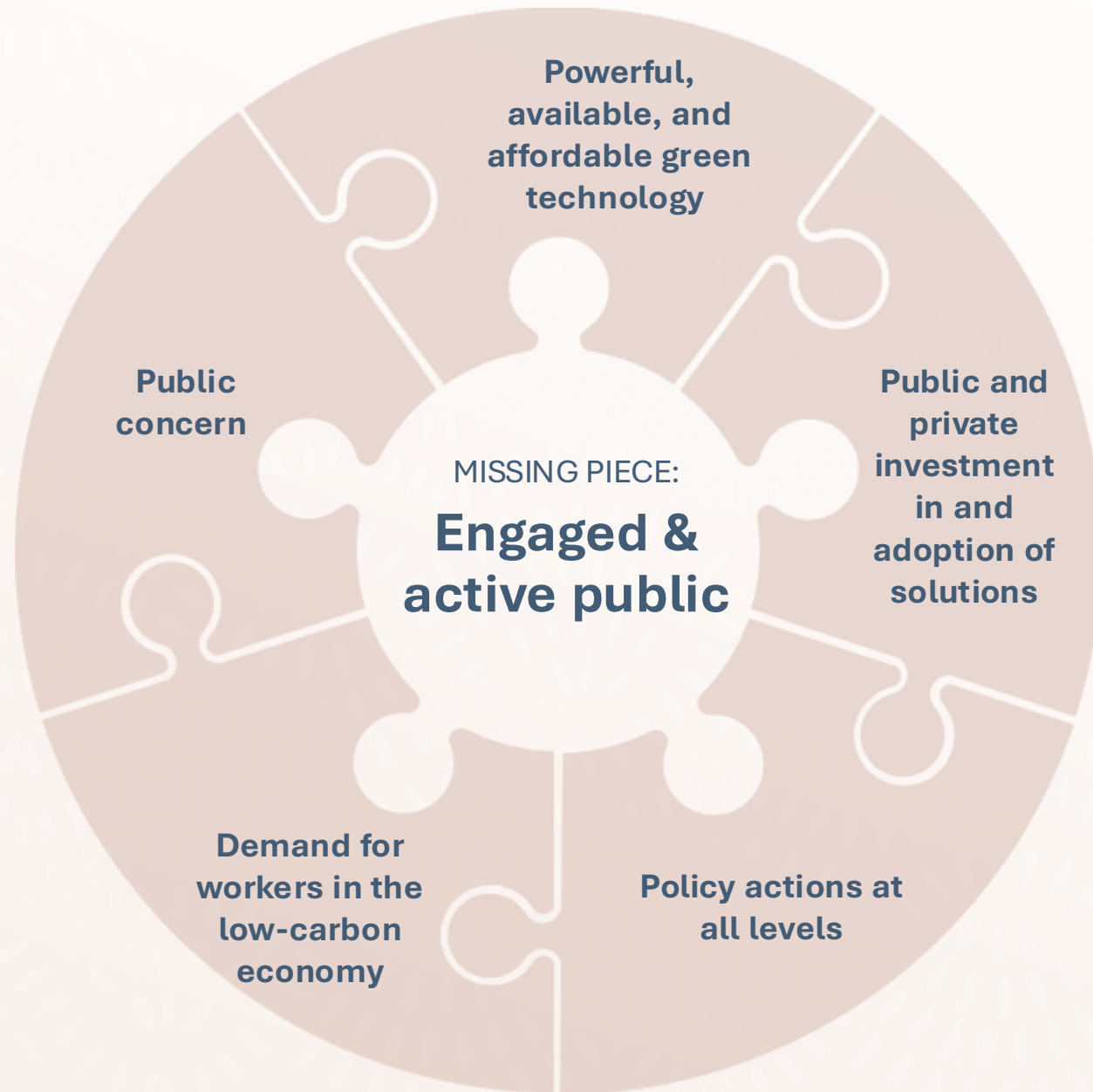
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About ASTC

- Membership association for science museums, science centers, and other science engagement organizations
- 600+ members around the world
- Provide virtual trainings, create resources, connect members

Seeding Action...

Catalyzes and supports science centers, museums, and public engagement networks to **cultivate a culture of hope and action to improve community and planetary health**



Pollution



Climate Change



Biodiversity Loss

What is Community Science?

Community Science is...

A way of working in which community members **collaborate** to conduct and **leverage scientific research** and technological innovation to **advance community priorities.**

communityscience.astc.org



What is "civic engagement"?

Civic engagement encompasses the many ways people can actively participate in decision making to improve their communities and address issues of public concern.



To what extent is your organization or institution already civically engaged?

Becoming your community's climate resource: Today's agenda

Context

Roles

Frames

Visions

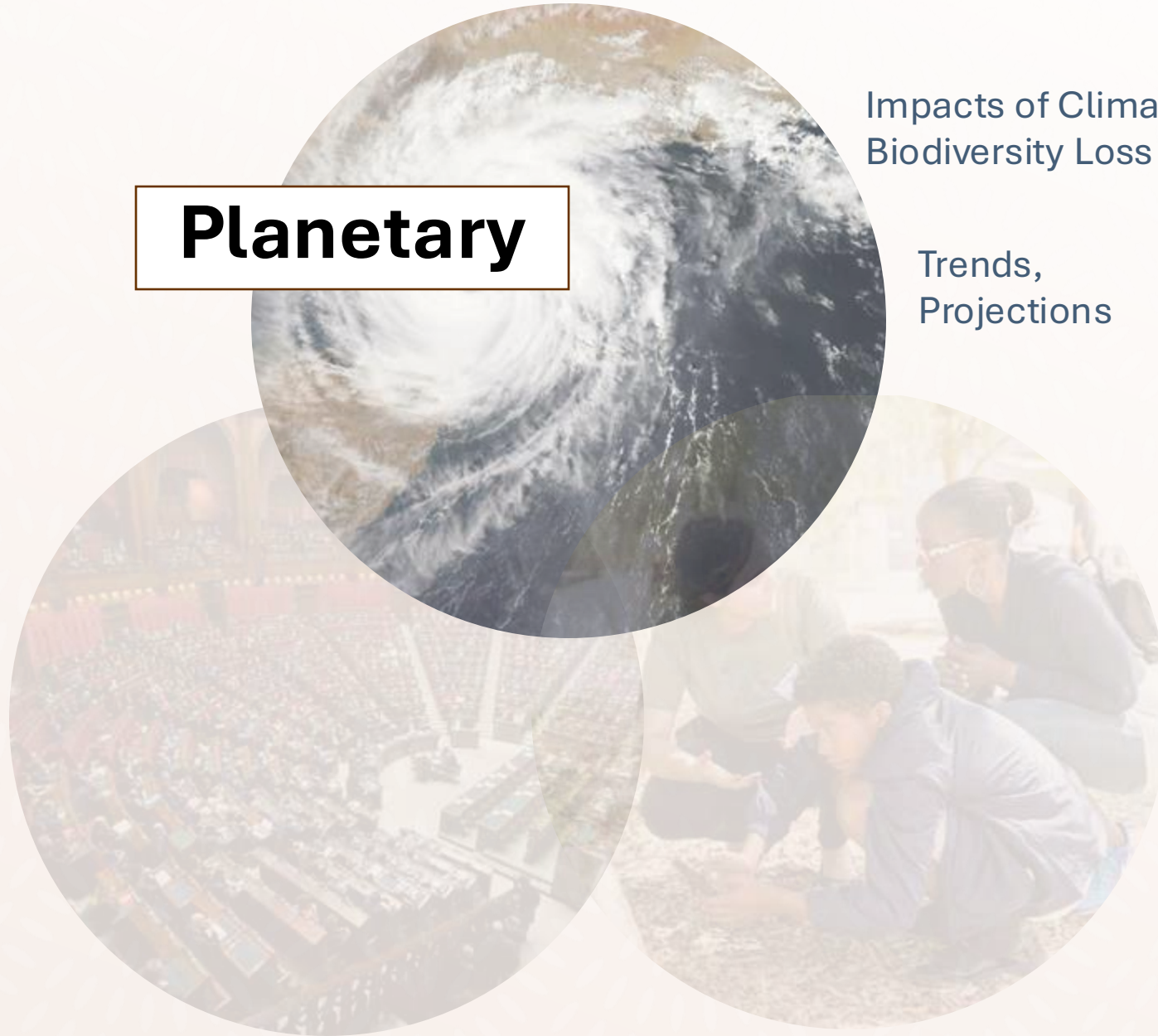
Next steps

Contexts

Planetary

Impacts of Climate Change,
Biodiversity Loss

Trends,
Projections



Contexts

Government & Economic

Policies & Goals
(Local to
International)

Supply & Demand: Energy,
Technologies, Workers



Contexts



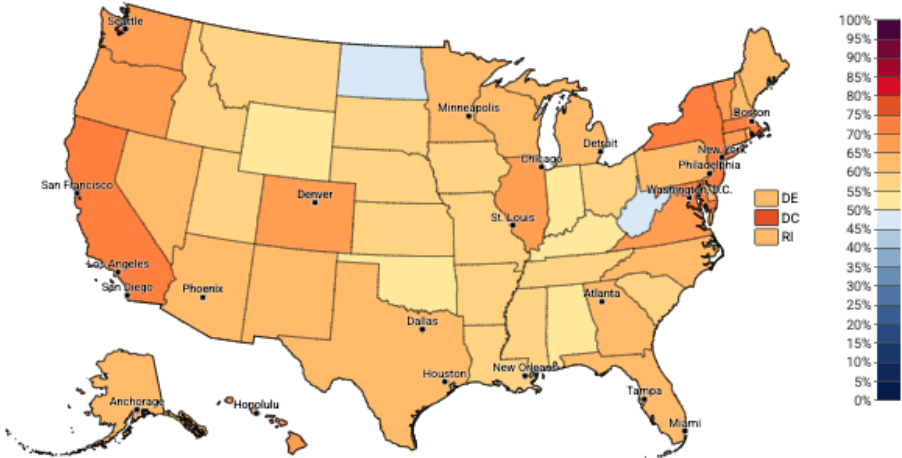
Estimated % of adults who are worried about global warming (nat'l avg. 64%), 2023

Select Question: Worried about global warming

Click map or: Select a State

Absolute Value

National States Cong. Districts Metro Areas Counties



1. Choose Country : All

2. Choose Cut By : ~All respondents Age group Education Gender Political spectrum

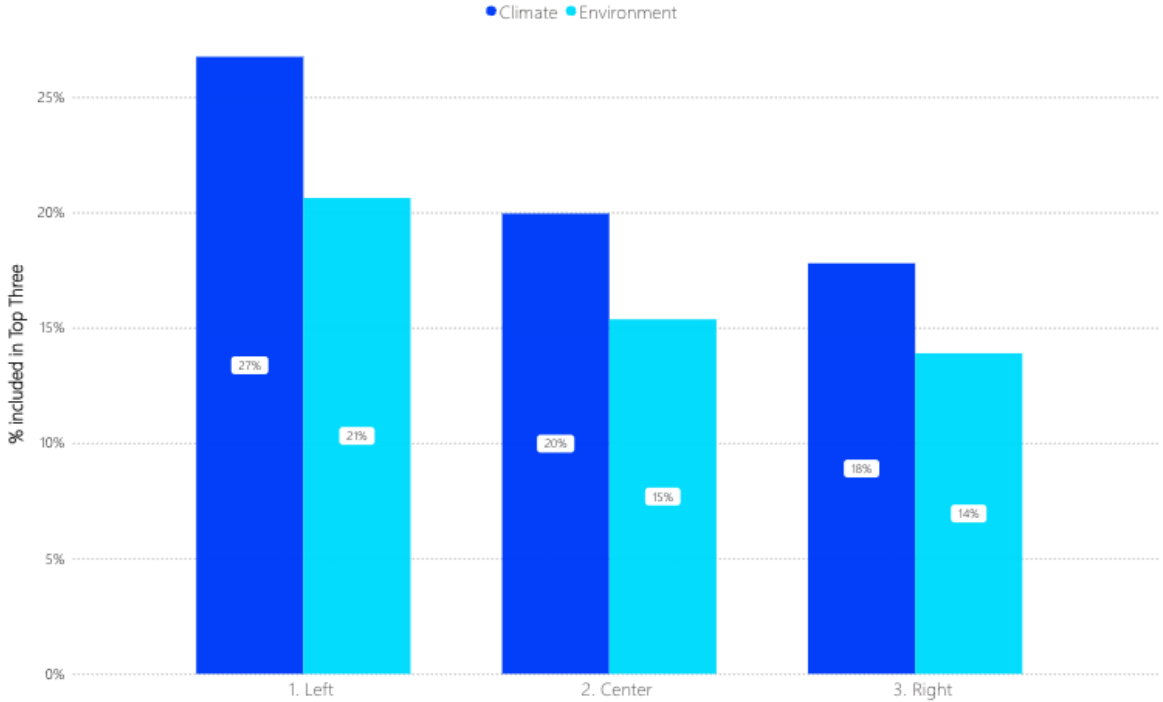
3. Choose Category : Engagement with climate change Support for government action Lift in support from different narratives Support for specific policy territories Allocation of responsibilities Motivations

4. Choose Chart : Top voting issue Heard of Paris Agreement Heard of 1.5-2°C Six audiences Social confidence



Survey Question: If there was a national election today, of the issues below, which would be most important to your vote? Please rank the most important as 1. You may select up to 5. (Respondents were provided with a list of 15 issues. Percentages refer to those who included "Climate change" or "The Environment" in their top three most important issues. Respondents in China and Saudi Arabia received a modified version of this question – refer to the Methodology Tab for more detail.)

Proportion of people for whom climate change or the environment is a top-three voting issue



Many people understand and are concerned about planetary health

But few translate their concern into demands for change and meaningful action.



**Understand
the problems**



Concerned



**Desire
change**



**Take
action**



**Embody
action**

Many people...

don't perceive planetary health as relevant

believe that negative effects are distant

aren't sure which actions make an impact

believe their actions don't matter



bit.ly/climate-toolkit-wksht



Planetary

How is your local environment changing? Consider species and ecosystem health, weather patterns, and pollution.

How have these changes affected the local community? Who has been affected more (or less) than others?



Government & Economic

What planetary health challenges and solutions are salient for local decision-makers? What actions have they taken recently? What actions have they not taken recently? What priorities have they expressed?

How are policy decisions (at any level) already impacting your community, or how might they impact your community?



Cultural

How would you summarize local views on climate change and solutions?

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Civic Engagement Roles



Advocacy vs Lobbying

Advocacy...

A form of civic engagement that encompasses any actions that help **uplift or support the interests of a group of people.**

No limitations for nonprofits

Lobbying...

As defined by the IRS, lobbying involves attempting to **influence specific legislation or government policy.**

Some limitations for nonprofits

Fostering Civic Action

Educate, encourage, and support your community in taking meaningful action

Can include:

- Uplifting activities already happening in your community
- Using your physical space for civic participation
- Designing and facilitating opportunities for community members to discuss and deliberate



Generating Data for Civic Progress

Produce, interpret, visualize, and/or share data to inform decision making

Can include:

- Sharing technical knowledge and equipment
- Collaboratively identifying effective research questions
- Sharing data that can inform evidence-based decision making and policy development



Contributing to Coalitions

Forge connections for action

Can include:

- Finding, supporting, and joining existing coalitions
- Bringing together diverse organizations to create a unified voice
- Sharing power to build and maintain resilient working relationships



Building Momentum and Refining Strategies

Connect community members and decision makers and strengthen strategies for lasting impact

Can include:

- Facilitating connections with decision makers and directly advocating for community priorities
- Amplifying community voices
- Evaluating and improving your civic engagement work



Roles: What is your organization well suited to do?

What are my community's priorities? What can my organization offer?

What role(s) might be a good fit?

Fostering Civic Action

Generating Data for Civic Progress

Contributing to Coalitions

Building Momentum and Refining
Strategies

Go Deeper: Risk Register & Power Mapping

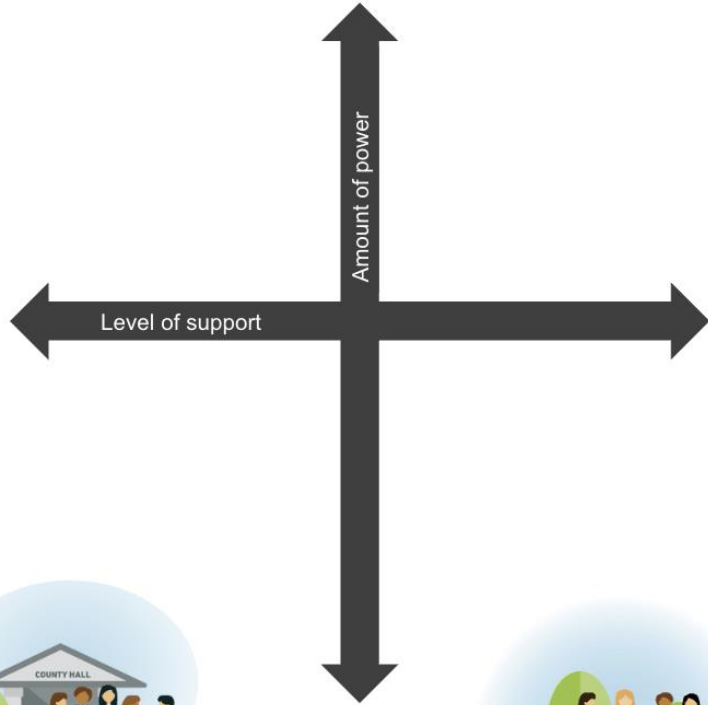
RISK REGISTER

RISK DESCRIPTION	IMPACT DESCRIPTION	IMPACT LEVEL	PROBABILITY LEVEL	PRIORITY LEVEL	MITIGATION NOTES	OWNER
Give a brief summary of the risk.	What will happen if the risk is not mitigated or eliminated?	Rate 1 (LOW) to 5 (HIGH)	Rate 1 (LOW) to 5 (HIGH)	(IMPACT X PROBABILITY) Address the highest first.	What can be done to lower or eliminate the impact or probability?	Who's responsible?

POWER MAP

What is the goal of your civic engagement or policy making effort?

Who are the key community members and decision makers who can influence this goal? Map these players according to their *level of support* and *amount power*. Keep in mind that these positions are not fixed on the map; they are subjective, contextual, and changeable!



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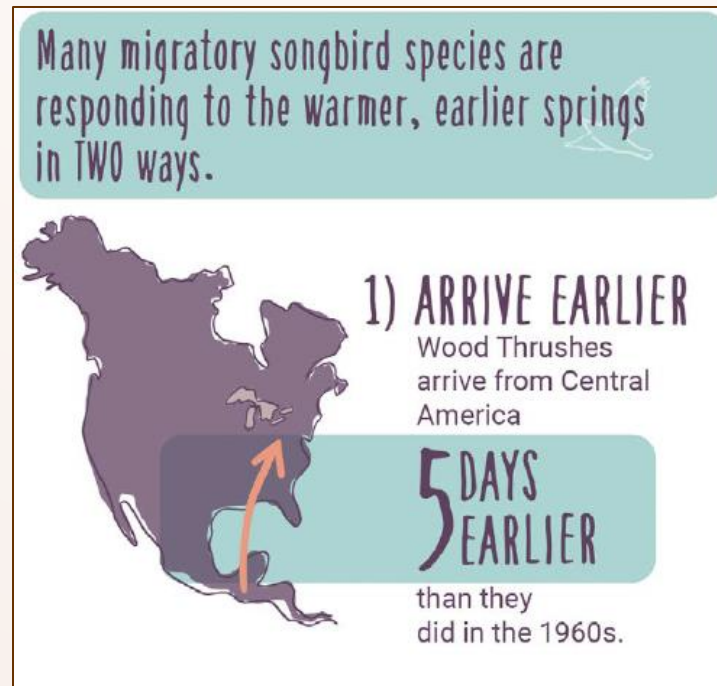
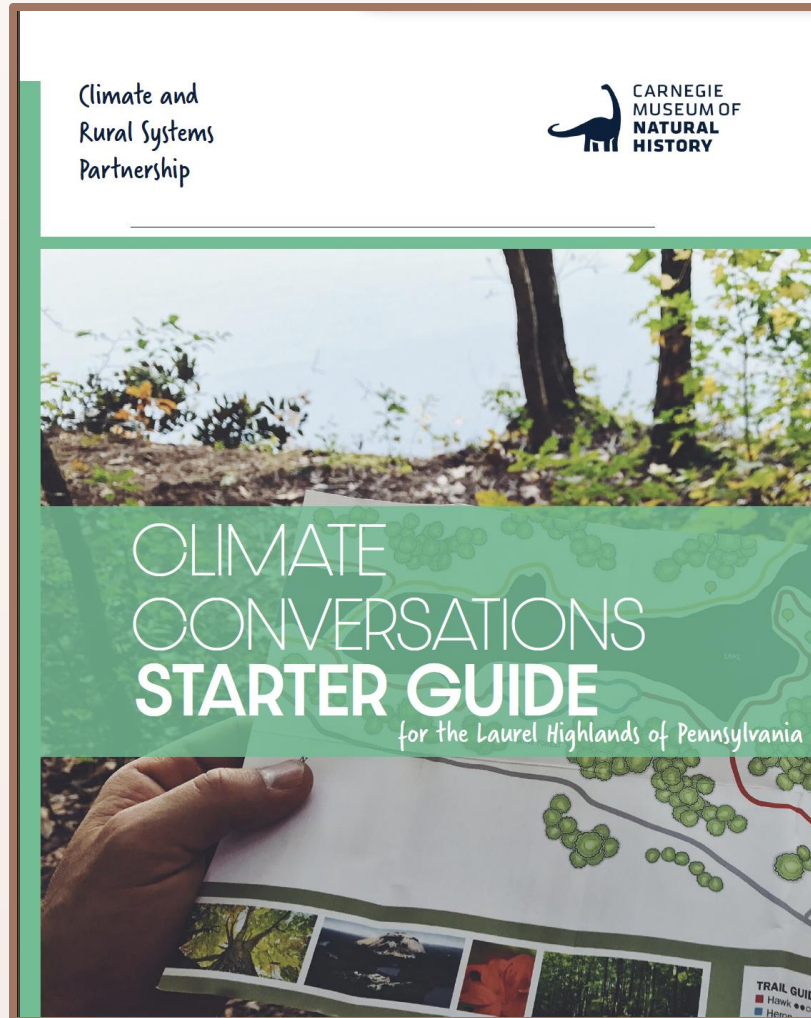
Planetary health challenges are here and now.

The health of the planet affects the things we care about.

A healthier world is possible.

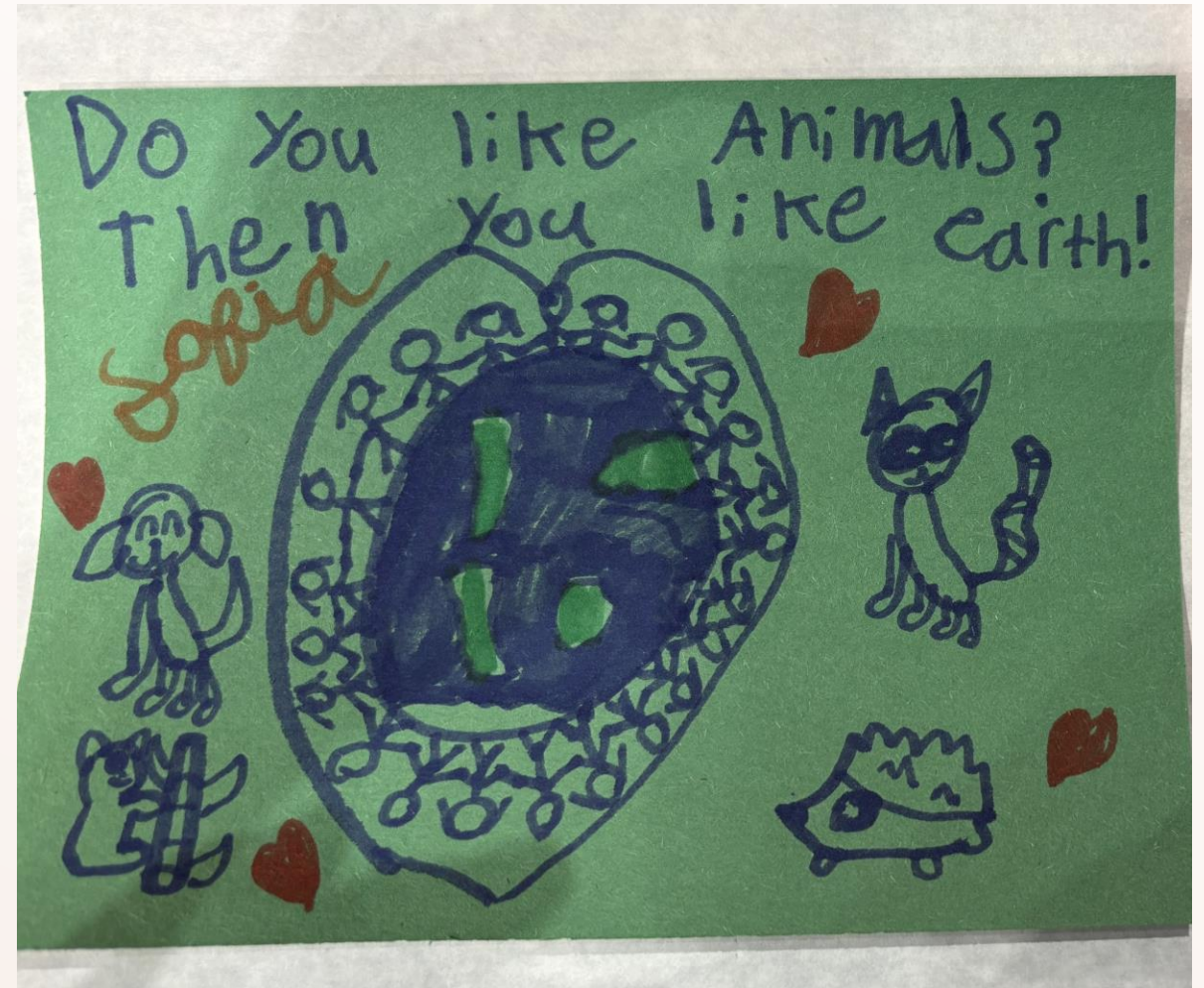
We all have roles to play in bringing about a healthy planet.

1) Planetary health challenges are here and now.



Excerpts from *Climate Conversations Starter Guide*

2) The health of the planet affects the things we care about.



Children's Science Center, *Happy Planet* Summer Camp

My philosophy is this: just about every single person on this planet already cares about a changing climate. They just haven't connected the dots. That's very different than the perspective that we often have that they don't care, they need to care, they should care, we have to make them care.

To be somebody who cares about a changing climate, the only thing we have to be is somebody who lives on this planet, who cares about ourselves, our family, our friends, our community, our neighbors, people we know, the natural environment.

-Dr. Katharine Hayhoe



Across every country, love for the next generation was the dominant reason for action on climate change.

3) A healthier world is possible.



The WaterShed

Solutions are
here and now



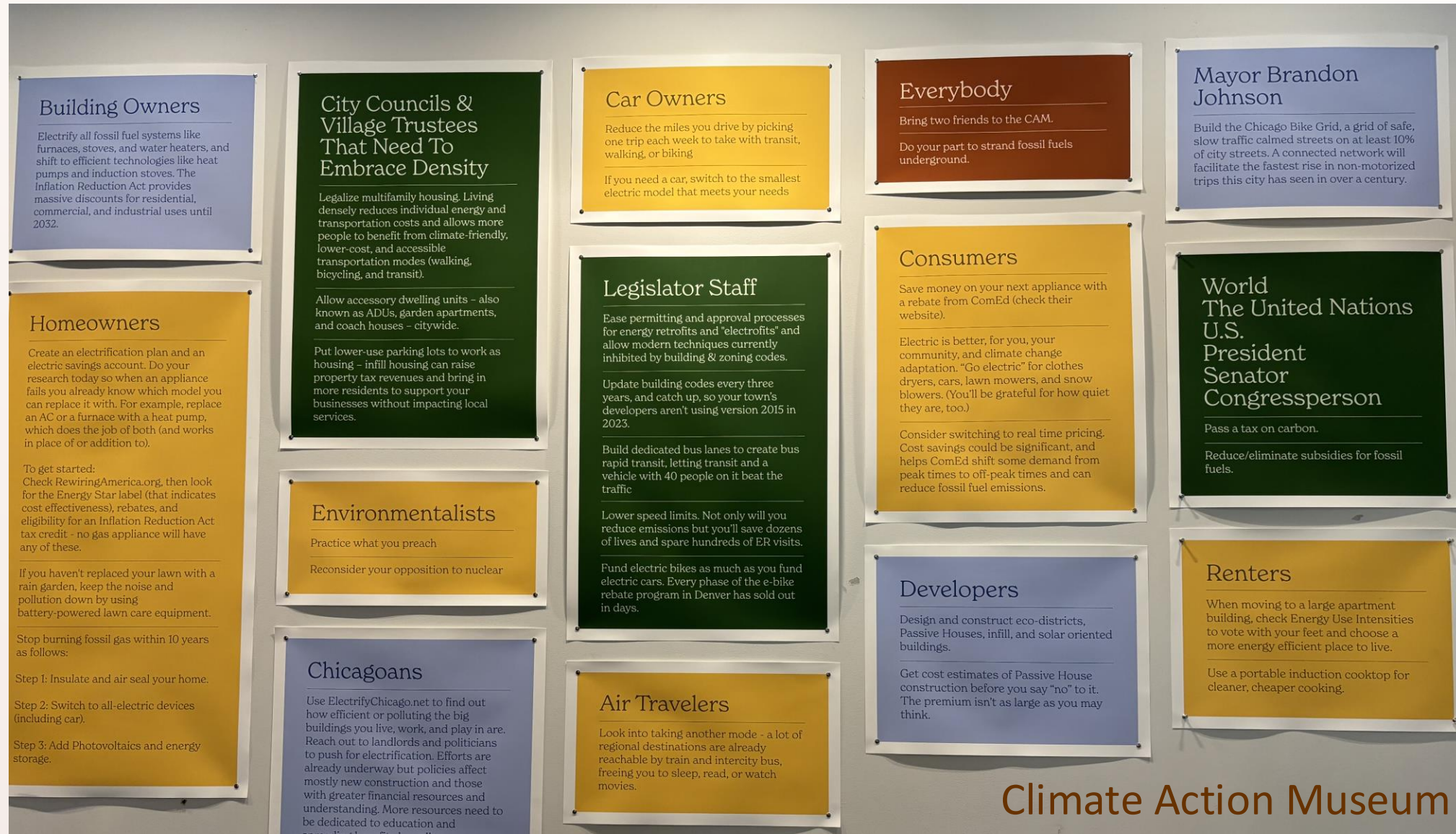
Science Museum of Minnesota

Invite
imagination



Discovery Museum

4) We all have roles to play.



Active Hope



Emphasize
social norms
and identity



National Children's Museum

Share stories of local challenges and action



San Diego Natural History Museum

Invoke love, joy, and play



Discovery Museum



Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

Issue an invitation



Bell Museum

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Describe what it might look like for your organization to participate in civic engagement. Consider:

- The issues and goals at stake - what future do you hope to see?
- The different players involved
- Resources available – both tangible and intangible

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What are 1-3 specific next steps you would like to undertake to expand or deepen your organization's work as a community climate resource?

- What do you hope to achieve?
- Who do you need or want to involve in your next steps?
- When might you undertake these next steps?
- What resources or support will help you be more successful?

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ASTC Resources to Support Your Work

If you want to...

Refine content or programs to encourage action

➤ *Framing Planetary Health Guide and Worksheet*

➤ *Imagination & Planetary Health Resources*

Facilitate action and civic engagement

➤ *Community Science Toolkit*

➤ *Dialogue & Deliberation Toolkit*

➤ *Civic Engagement & Policymaking Toolkit*



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Join Seeding Action

seeding-action.org/join



My friends,

It takes my breath away to write these words, but we did it. Rooted in our deep love for this planet and one another, we stepped back from the cliff of irreversible climate change....

First, we powered the country with 100 percent clean energy...

Second, we got well on our way to electrifying everything....

Finally, we engaged millions of people in the work for climate justice.

Let's be clear: none of this was easy. As we sit here in 2030, the clean and just energy future that we've built together has been the result of millions of people stepping up in their own states and communities ...

I know all this seemed impossible a decade ago, when it felt as if everything was falling apart and our climate might be doomed. But everything we did mattered. All of it...

Of course, we have more work to do. But we're doing that work from a foundation we built together. I can't wait to see what we'll do next.

A Love Letter from the Clean Energy Future. In R. Solnit & T. Y. Lutunatabua (Eds.), *Not Too Late: Changing the Climate Story from Despair to Possibility*