

Ball State University

Green²

Sustainability Background



Kickoff Meeting

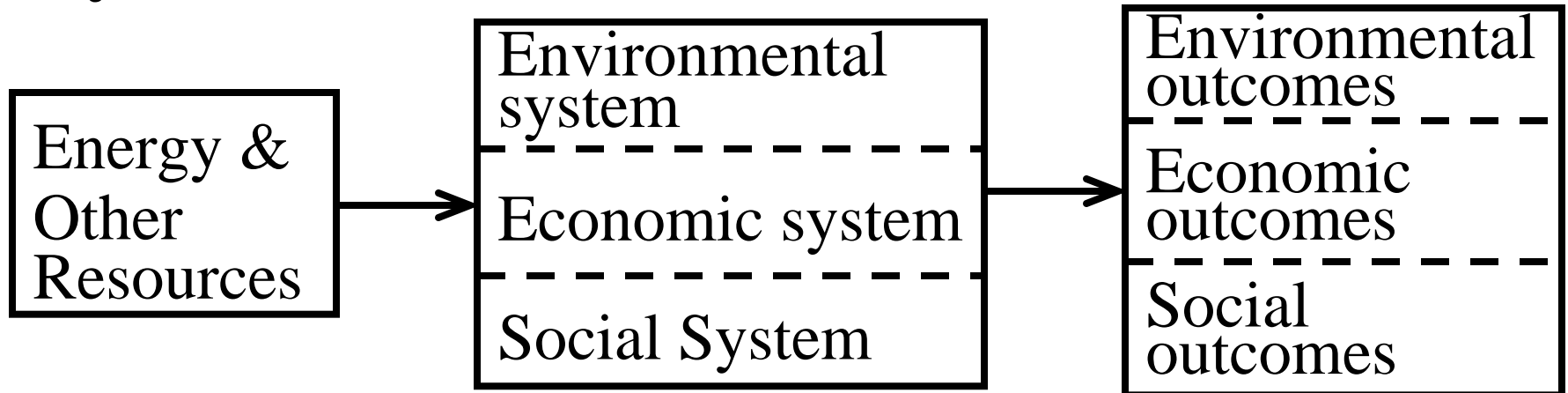
September 28, 2000

Alumni Center

Ball State University

Sustainability Requirements

- 1. Functioning systems providing outcomes necessary for human life**
- 2. Energy and Other Resources to Run the systems**



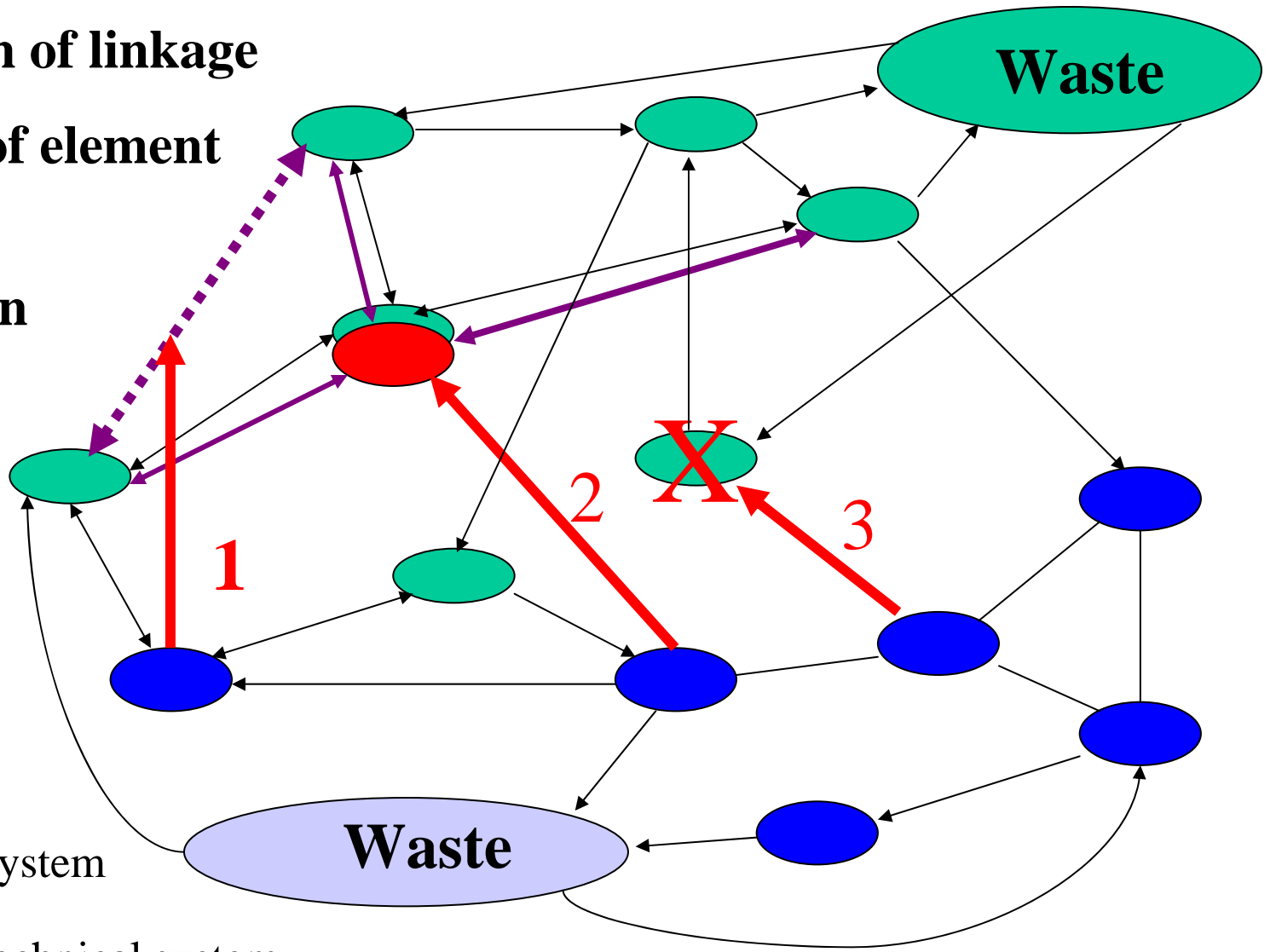
Triple Bottom Line

Systems Elements and Linkages

1 Disruption of linkage

2 Mimicry of element

3 Element destruction



 Natural system

 Human/technical system

The Natural Step Systems Condition 1

In order for a society to be sustainable, nature's functions and diversity are not systematically subject to increasing concentrations of substances extracted from the Earth's crust

That is, human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels, and the mining of metals and minerals will not occur at a rate that causes them to systematically increase in the ecosphere.

The Natural Step Systems Condition 2

In order for a society to be sustainable, nature's functions and diversity are not systematically subject to increasing concentrations of substances produced by society.

That is, humans will avoid generating systematic increases in persistent synthetic substances.

The Natural Step Systems Condition 3

In order for a society to be sustainable, nature's functions and diversity are not systematically impoverished by physical displacement, over-harvesting or other forms of ecosystem manipulation.

That is, humans will avoid taking more from the biosphere than can be replenished by natural systems. In addition, people will avoid systematically encroaching upon nature by destroying the habitat of other species.

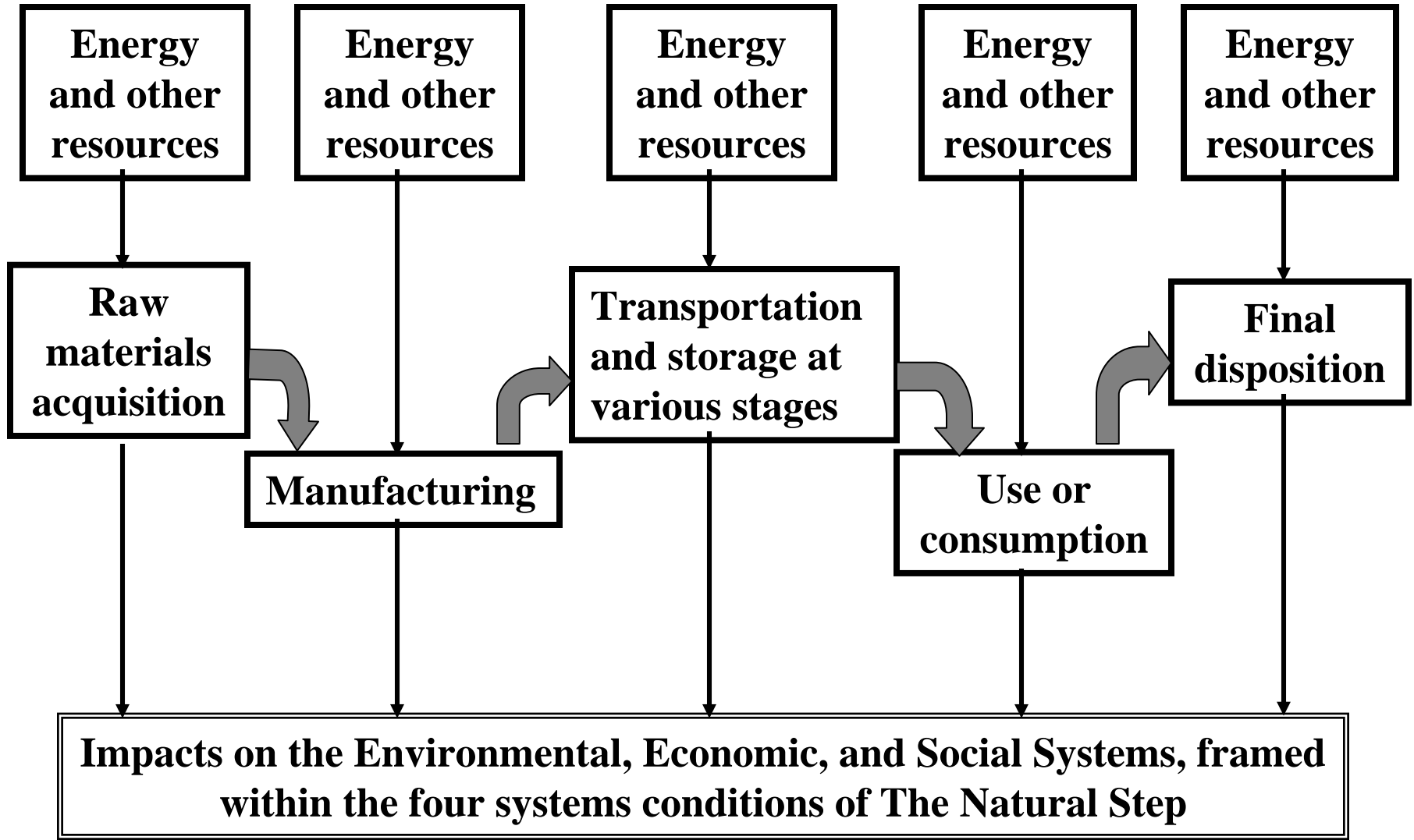
The Natural Step Systems Condition 4

In a sustainable society, resources are used fairly and efficiently in order to meet basic human needs globally.

Considering the human enterprise as a whole, we need to be efficient with regard to resource use and waste generation in order to be sustainable.

Achieving greater fairness is essential for social stability and the cooperation needed for making large-scale changes within the framework laid out by the first three conditions.

Life Cycle Framework for Impact Assessment



Reducing Energy and Resource Use

Refuse (use substitute)

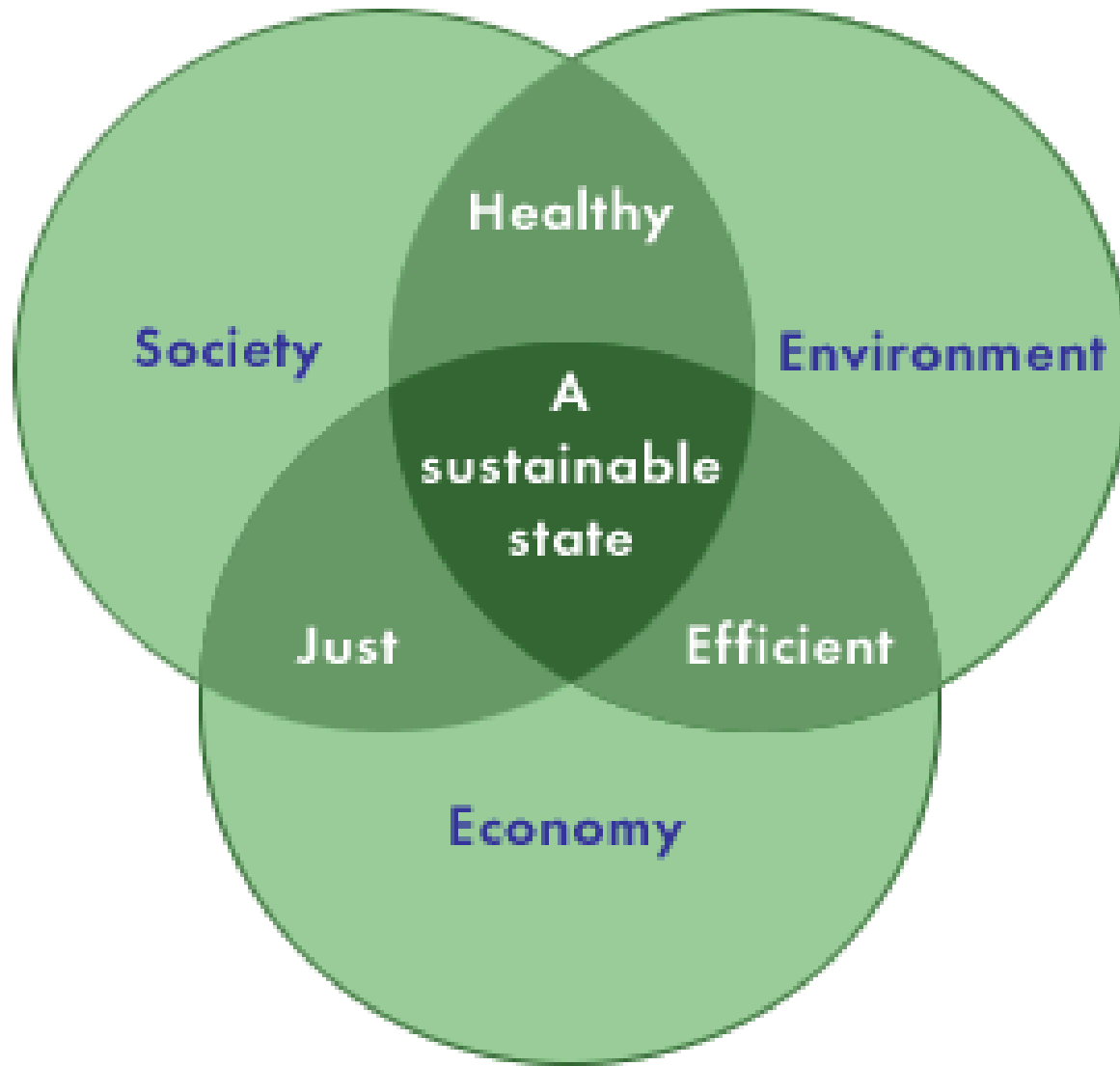
Reduce

Reuse

Reclaim

Recycle

Redesign



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