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Sustainable design and participation in urban planning and redevelopment projects

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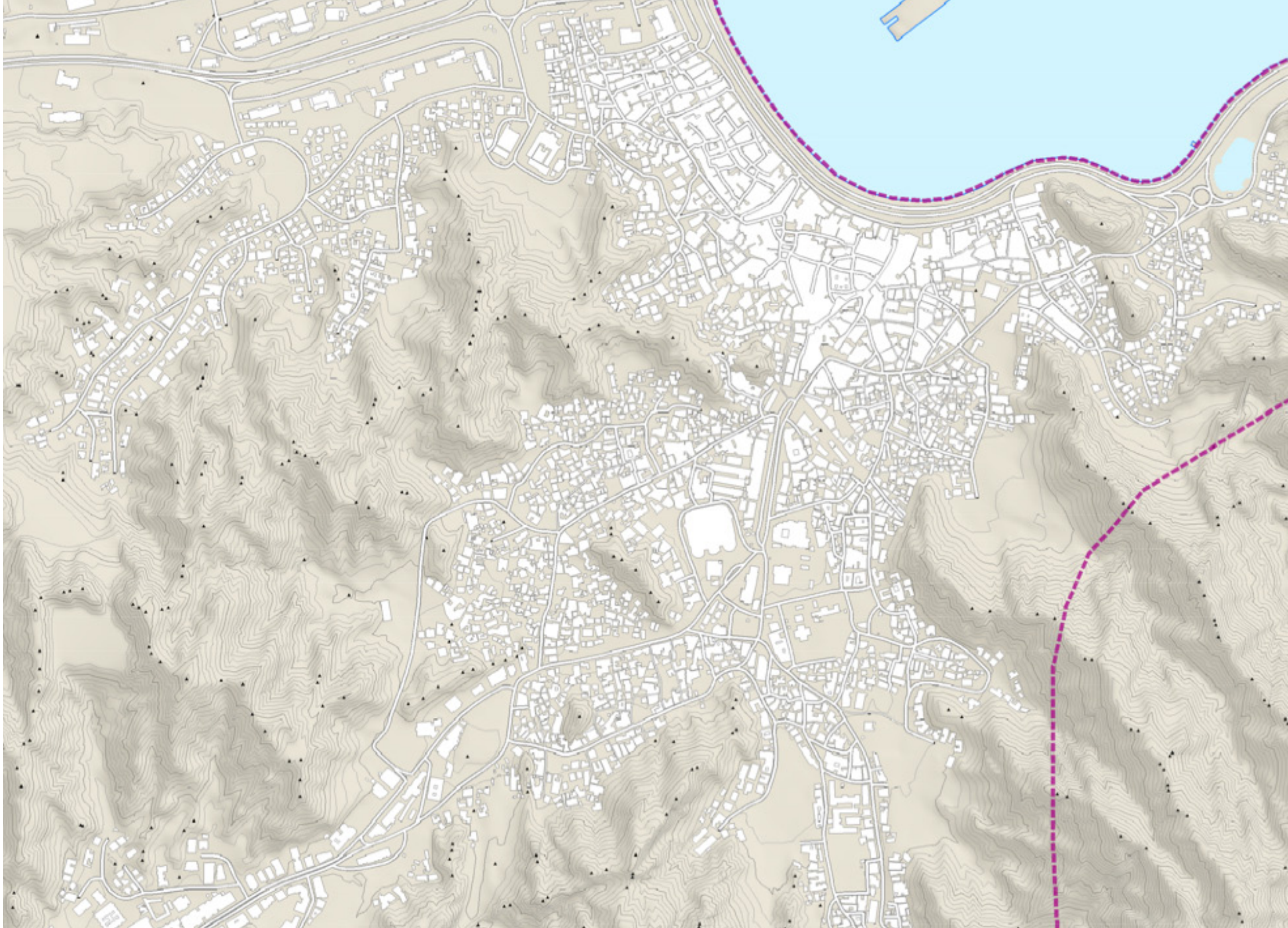
50 YEARS OF WORLDWIDE COOPERATION

Sustainable design and participation in urban planning and redevelopment projects











Location	Mutrah
Buildable Area	2.12 km ²
Inhabitants	ca. 40.000
Inh./ sqkm	18.870

4 principles identified:

- Cultural Heritage Protection
- Infrastructure Redevelopment
- Sustainability
- Community consultation
& involvement

Sustainability:

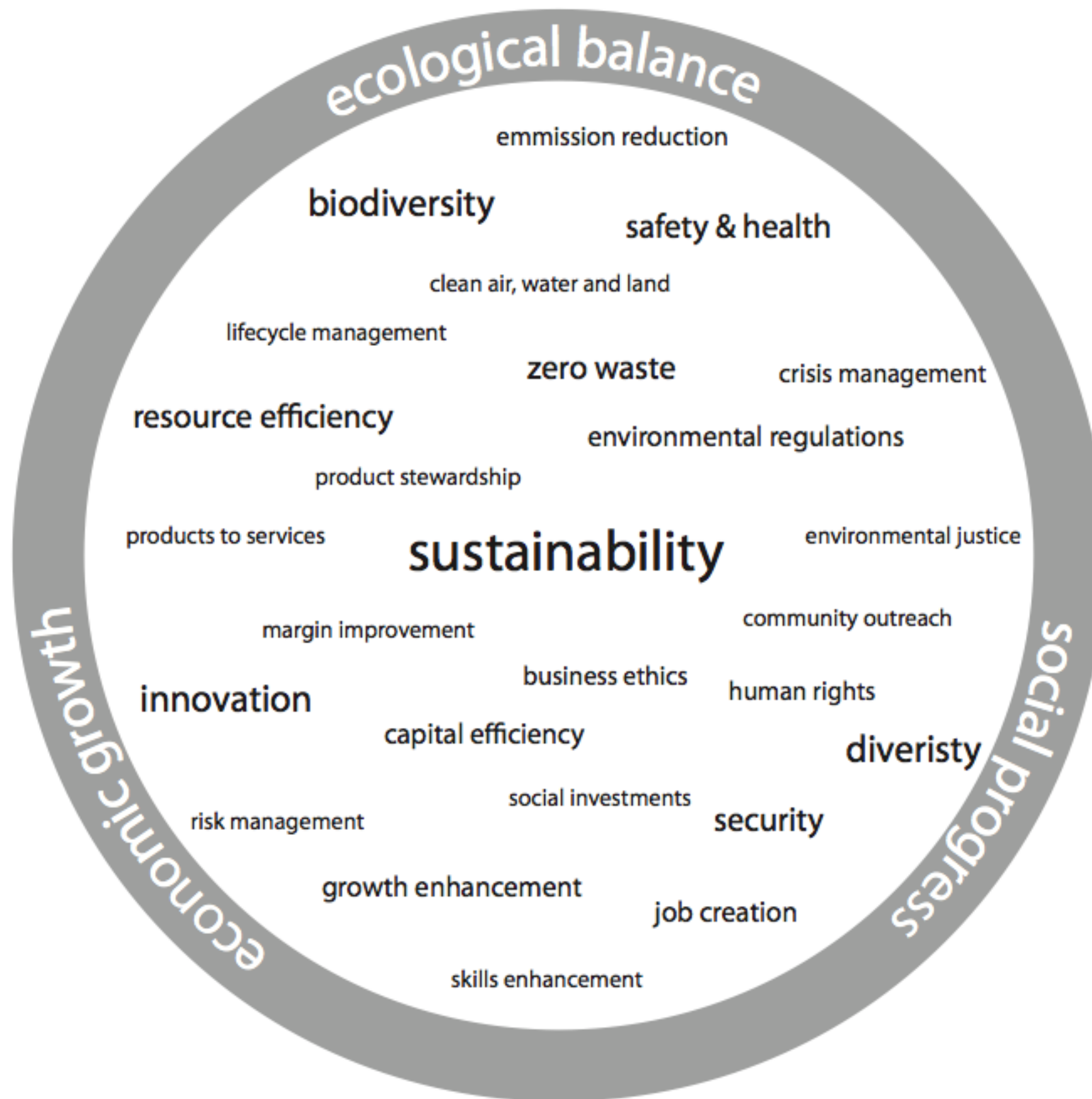
“A development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

“Our common future”, published by the World Commission on Environment and Development in 1987

Participation:

“The act of sharing in the activities of a group”

Oxford English Dictionary, accessed Oct. 2012

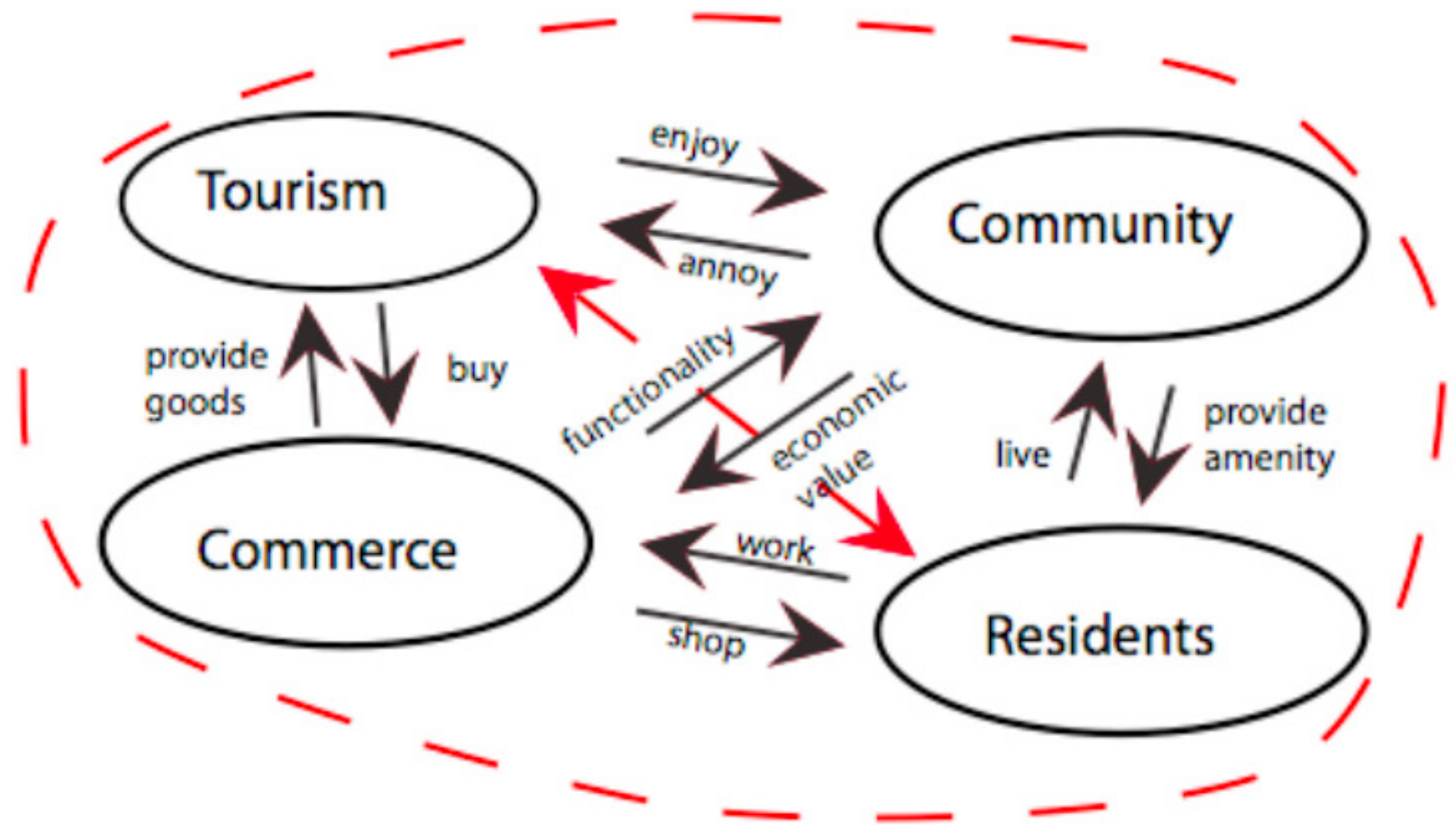


Sustainability Framework

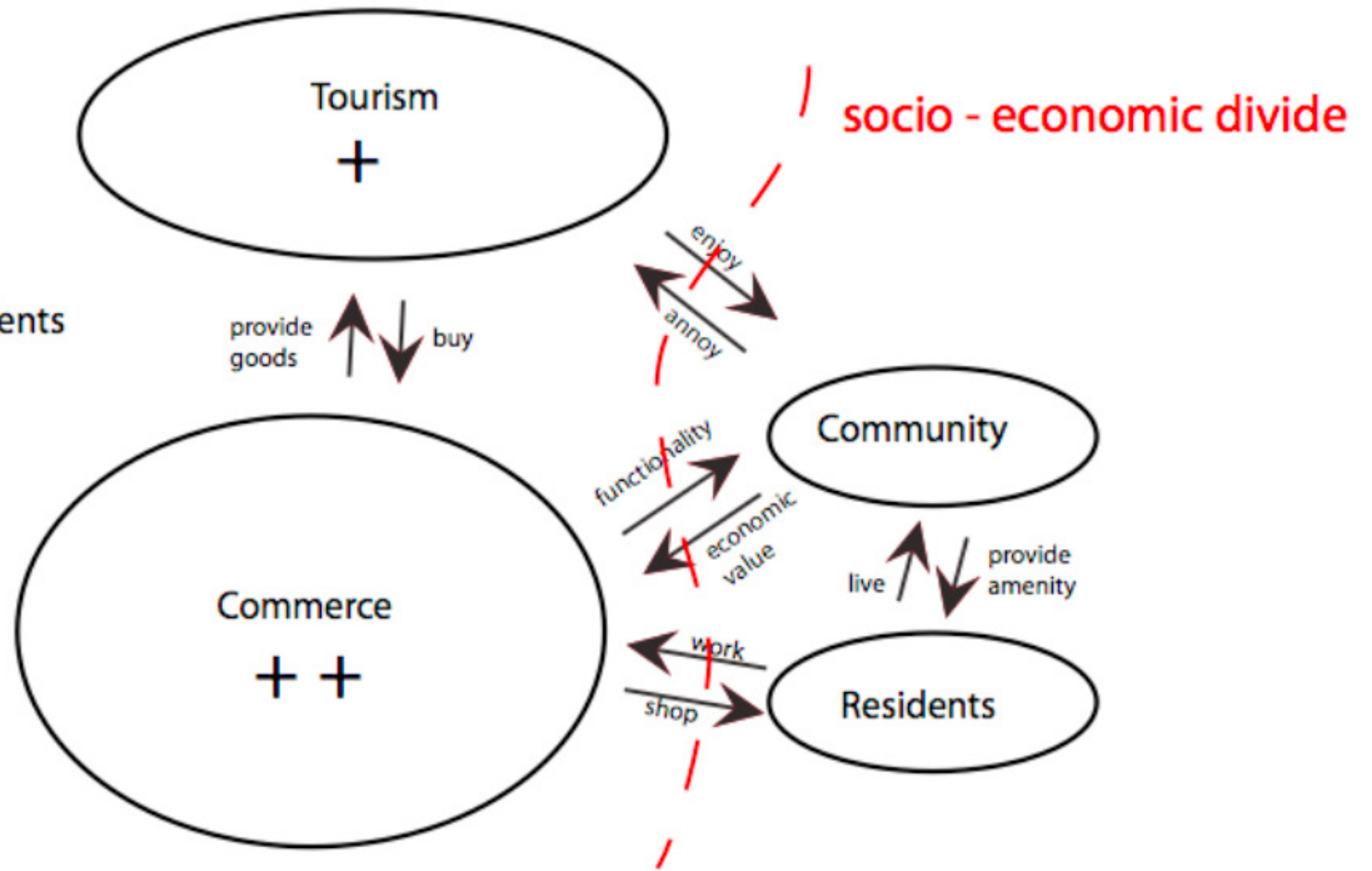
“How can Mutrah be modernized in a way that reinforces its historical qualities and social, cultural, economic and environmental potentials?”

Optimum Outcome

Present situation:
relatively balanced relationships
between all actors,
except residents and tourist



Scenario 1: Commercial growth
-> tourism influx, stagnant residents
and community

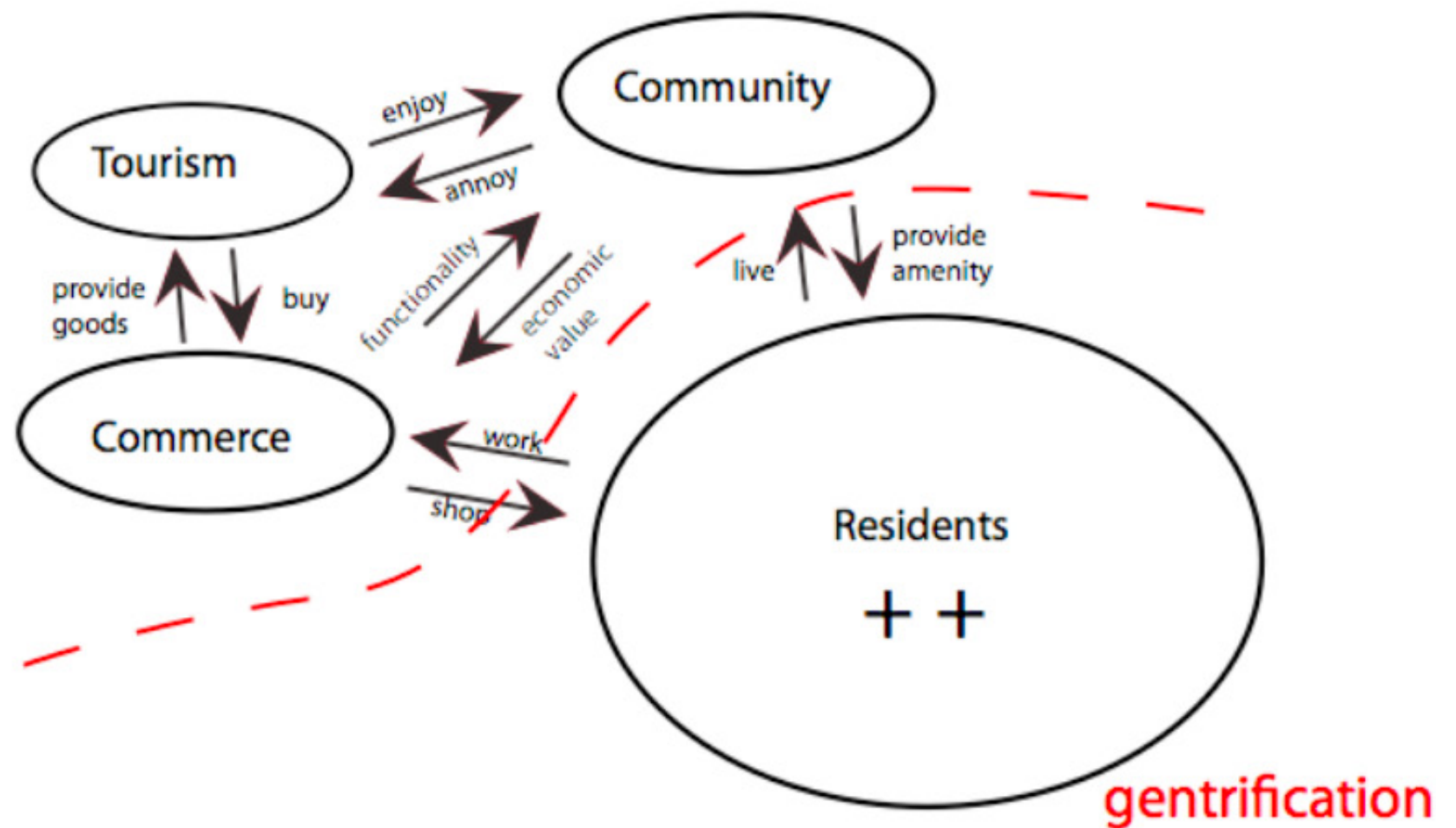


Optimum Outcome scenarios

Scenario 2:

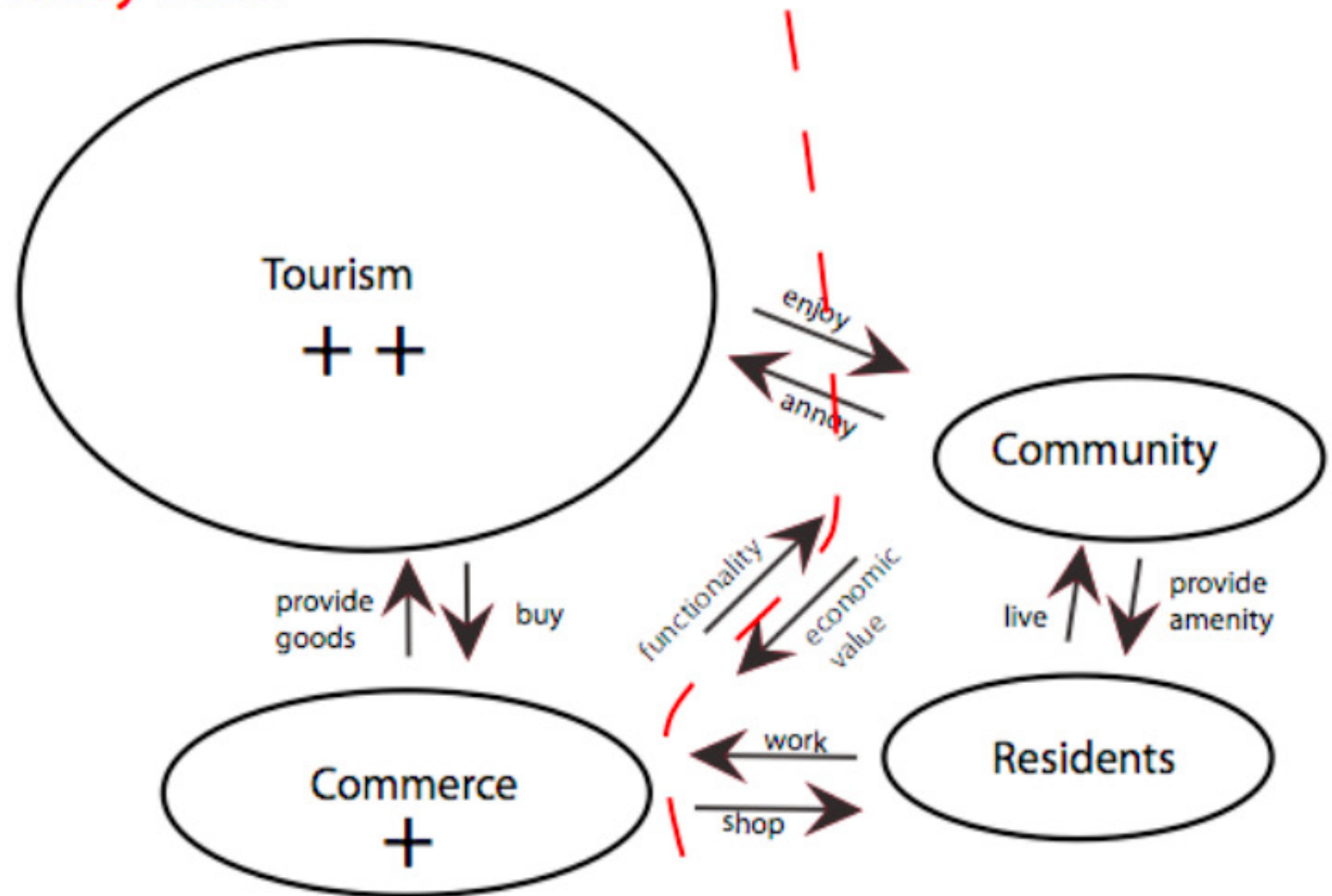
Growth of residents

-> New residents from outside do not contribute to commerce and community.



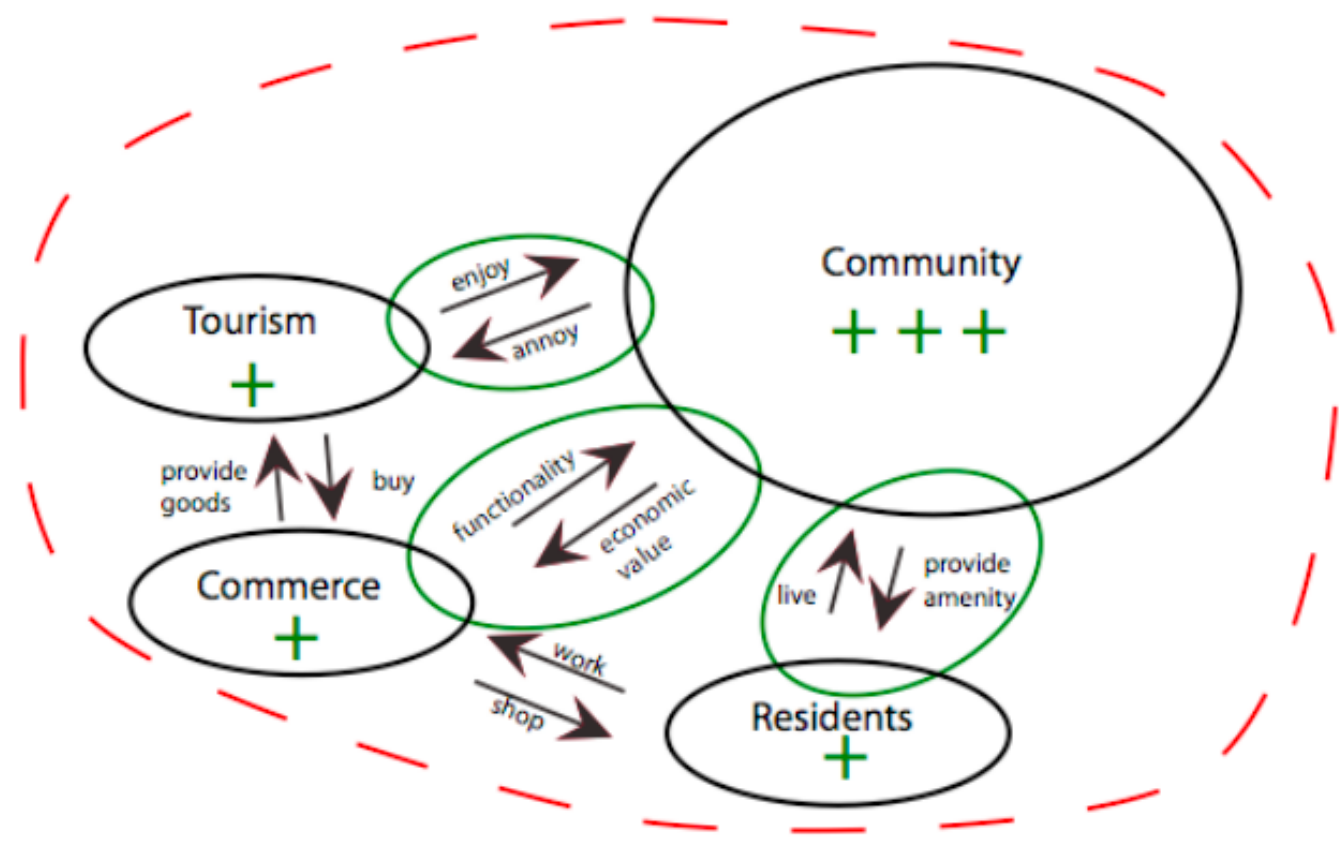
Disney Land

Scenario 3:
Growth of Tourism and related commerce
-> stagnant residents and community
lead to "Disney-fication" of Mutrah



Optimum Outcome

Desired situation:
enhance balanced relationships between all actors and tie them to community

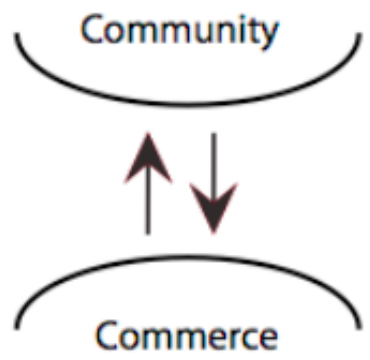


a)



- attractive neighborhoods
- good infrastructure
- public spaces
- green
- community hubs

b)



- good infrastructure
- easy access
- covered open spaces
- affordable spaces

c)



- attractions
- vibrant community
- recreational spaces
- facilities

Optimum Outcome

= Crucial Relationships for strong community building

A catalogue of technological measures:

Streamed waste recycling

Waste transfer and recycling centre

Solar powered lighting

The supply of free low energy light fittings.

Carry out free of charge the replacement of leaky tap valves

Cardboard recycling, paper recycling, food waste recycling (composting s), used cooking oil collection etc.

Establish a demonstration grey water toilet flush system

Convert to vacuum toilets, which reduce water consumption by 90%.

A catalogue of environmental measures:

Tree planting that contributes to microclimate management and carbon sequestration.

Locate several wind towers

For all new private sector development areas, provide subsidies to facilitate the incorporation of sustainable design and operation materials and other technology.

Shade structures in the public realm to promote microclimate

Provide tanks for storm water storage

Establish a number of public realm water features

Select a number of homes/apartments for a 'green home' upgrade demonstration project

A catalogue of civic measures:

Introduce a free community bus to service

Build a Community Centre

Open a "Sustainability Shop"

Establish a Community Education Program for Sustainability Awareness

Conduct community engagement measures

Purposes of Public Participation

Decision makers to acquire information about the public's preferences.

Improve the decisions by incorporating the knowledge of the public.

Planners and decision makers learn through public involvement.

Public participation is ostensibly about fairness and justice.

Normal analytic procedures.

systematically fail to recognize the least advantaged groups' needs.

Public participation gives the opportunity for people to be heard in the early stages.

Public participation is about getting legitimacy for public decisions.

Public participation may be done to build support for plans among the public.

Interactive and Collaborative Methods

Task force made up of pro-development and anti-development individuals, along with a variety of business members and nearby residents might be convened to find a consensus on the problems and desired future of a town.

The planning charrette is a model, developed by architects based on their own training in the creative method: New ideas come out of intensive and often collaborative focus around a design problem.

Development of broad community objectives in a search conference. The goal is to find common areas of community objectives and agreements and to build community in the process. The results then can be used as input to the policies of the agency or jurisdiction.

Adapted from "Planning Institutions in the Network Society: Theory for Collaborative Planning" by Judith Innes and David Booher in *Revival of Strategic Spatial Planning*, eds. Willem Salet and Andreas Faludi, Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences, Amsterdam.

Community consultation and involvement:

conduct a stake-holder analysis

set up initial consultation and engagement meetings

use digital tools for interactive community updates

prepare informative brochures

set up information center in the affected neighborhood

built on existing community government (Majlis, Shura, Municipality)

engage stake holders in workshops

train civil servants by capacity building

this process will be engaged for several years.



Learning outcomes:

- Sustainability can be defined as economic growth, ecological balance and social progress.
- Community engagement and participation are key aspects of sustainable development.
- Community engagement and participation should act on all levels and at all stages of the development process.
- Community engagement and participation will improve the overall quality of the project in terms of local acceptance, informed design decisions, resourceful implementation and durability of the design.