

# Impact-Resources Chart

## Planning Activity

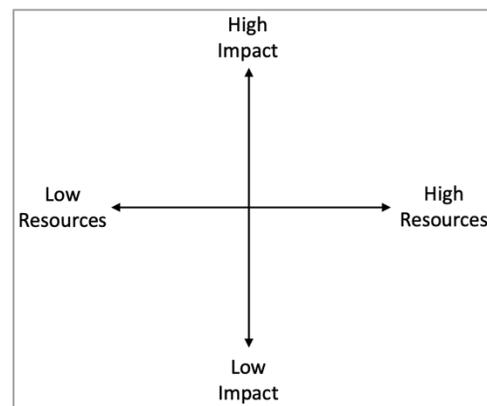
### OVERVIEW

The Impact-Resources chart provides a way for professionals to weigh the anticipated impacts and required resources of potential sustainability related projects. The activity can be incorporated into a larger planning process.

### MATERIALS

- Impact-Resources Chart (one copy per group of 3–5 people)
- Sticky notes
- Pens

The chart is available for free download from [nisenet.org](http://nisenet.org). You can print out the chart (.ppt file) on a large-format printer, or simply draw the chart by hand on a large sheet of paper.



### FACILITATION NOTES

This activity is intended for professionals who work in cultural organizations such as museums and their community partners. You can use this activity in a variety of professional settings. For example, you can use it at a green team meeting to discuss possible sustainability initiatives or at a staff meeting to discuss the what initiatives your organization should pursue next.

Participants work in small groups of 3–5 people. If you have a large group, split up into smaller groups for this activity.

Explain that the purpose of the activity is to generate and prioritize potential sustainability projects for your organization. There are no right or wrong answers. Emphasize that ideas can span all parts of your organization. Ideas can relate to facilities and operations, education and learning, community partnerships, or organizational governance and policy.

Explain the impact-resources chart. The x-axis is labeled “low resources” on one side and “high resources” on the other. Resources could refer to time, materials, or money. The y-axis is labeled “low impact” and “high impact.” Encourage participants to consider impact by thinking about sustainability as promoting healthy people, communities, and environments—now and in the future. Participants might think about impact in different ways and that’s ok too.

Ask all participants to write 3–5 sustainability project ideas on sticky notes, one idea per note.

Once everyone has jotted down their ideas on sticky notes, each person will take turns to share their ideas and add them one idea at a time to the chart. During this small group work, be sure to allow time for participants to share and discuss their ideas. This will expand and reinforce learning, and possibly lead to promising ideas. However, if you have limited time and a talkative group, you may want to suggest that they mark ideas they want to discuss later, and move on to another idea.



When you've completed the activity, take time to share the ideas you are most excited about, and discuss the reflection questions. Save the charts and ideas for reference later on.

## REFLECTION

- Can you combine some of your project ideas to make them less resource intensive or increase impact?
- Did this activity help you think about which projects your organization might want to tackle first and which ones you might get to in the future?
- Did this activity give you new ideas for how you could integrate sustainability into your work? Or new groups you could partner with?

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