

The development compass

THE DEVELOPMENT COMPASS ROSE is a simple, easy-to-remember framework, which can provide a focus for work on issues. We can make use of it to help explore issues in our own immediate locality, or in unfamiliar places in other parts of the world.

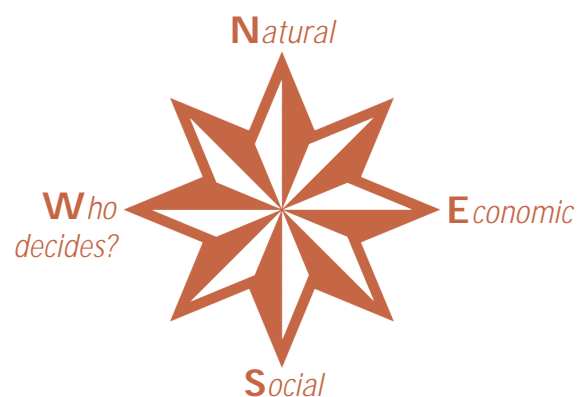
This framework helps us become aware of the range of issues that influence any given situation, and can be applied to almost any issue.

The development compass rose has three main learning objectives:

- ◆ to identify environmental, economic and political questions
- ◆ to discuss and explore some of these issues and see how they are connected
- ◆ to begin to see how much people in different places have in common.

Instead of North, South, East and West, the four main compass points represent:

- ◆ **N**atural/ecological questions
- ◆ **S**ocial and cultural questions
- ◆ **E**conomic questions
- ◆ **W**ho decides? Who benefits?
(*Political questions.*)



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The diagonal points *highlight* the relationship between the four main points. For example, NE raises questions about how economic activity affects the environment.

Some interesting debate can arise when considering the diagonal points: for example, the relationship between the Natural and the Economic (NE). Examples of this are seen in the Scotland/Southern Africa Land Issues pack (for instance, the issue of the Harris Superquarry and the Highland Water Project in Lesotho).