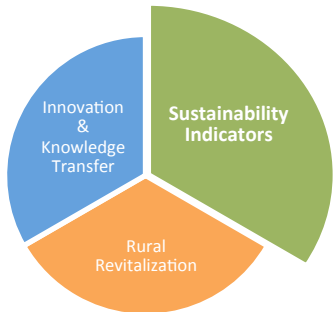
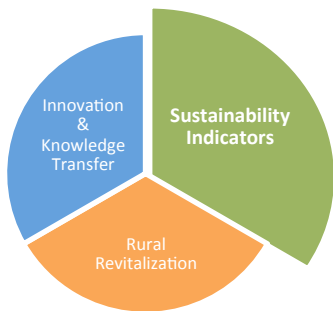


Research Focus Areas: Understanding Sustainability Trends in the Basin-Boundary



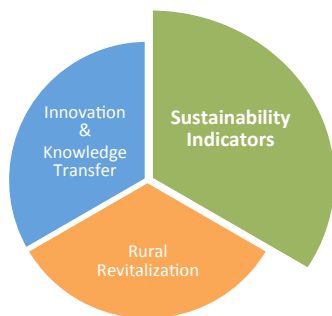

**STATE OF THE
BASIN
MONITORING &
REPORTING**

The State of the Basin Initiative will build on previous CBT research and identified indicators. Drawing on emerging models identified through a literature review of best practices in indicators reporting, it is anticipated indicators will be refined and re-framed using an integrated ‘well-being’ and ‘sustainable development’ framework (economic, social, cultural, environmental dimensions) and will include both subjective and objective measures. Analysis focused on the interrelationships between ‘dimensions’ and answering the ‘so what’ questions will be included within the annual print reports and ongoing ‘trends analysis’ on the home page of the www.cbrdi.ca website. Future development will focus on building within-region research capacity through local data collection.




**ONLINE
INDICATORS &
MAPPING TOOL**

With the goal of building capacity of Basin residents to access, understand and use indicators data, an online State of the Basin and Digital Basin portal is being developed. This innovative tool will provide a user-friendly online interface to search and compare indicators and trends by community, corridor and regional district. Output functionality will include graphs, tables, maps & related analysis. An interactive ‘Digital Basin’ web based geospatial portal is also being built to provide cutting edge geospatial data layers & related analysis. Geospatial layers will follow the economic, environmental, social, cultural framework over a multi-year development process. Digital Basin development will begin with economic assets and indicators, supporting and building on the mapping of ‘wealth generating’ lands and related assets under the Employment Lands project. Environmental, social, and cultural layers will follow. Existing data sets (i.e. the biodiversity atlas) will be integrated into the Digital Basin early in the development process. It is expected that other Columbia Basin RDI projects (Mapping Innovation in the Non-Profit Social Sector and the Business Retention & Expansion Project) will provide rich data sets to be incorporated into the State of the Basin and Digital Basin portal.



**BASIN BOUNDARY
EMPLOYMENT
LANDS INVENTORY
PROJECT**

This project, led by Community Futures East Kootenay, includes the development of an employment lands online inventory, an analysis of available employment lands, and consultations with decision makers and economic development practitioners from across the region. The Selkirk College Geospatial Research Centre will develop a comprehensive online employment lands geospatial inventory. ‘Wealth generating’ lands data layers will align with provincial geospatial mapping tools under development to ensure integrated compatibility. The RDI will provide research support, including an economic development focused analysis of available employment lands. The analysis is expected to explore how the region’s existing employment lands are being utilized, what types of employment lands are in demand, and what factors, if any, are constraining the availability and effective use of employment lands.. To ensure the online inventory remains a useful decision-making and investment attraction tool in future years, the SGRC and the RDI will also provide ongoing data housing and data updates.
