

CCLIC

CIRCULAR MODELS LEVERAGING INVESTMENTS
IN CULTURAL HERITAGE ADAPTIVE REUSE

Cultural Capital, Lost in Translation

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Culture is a community's collective beliefs, customs, values, attitudes and social behaviors that create a collective understanding and assign meaning to behaviors objects and ideas.

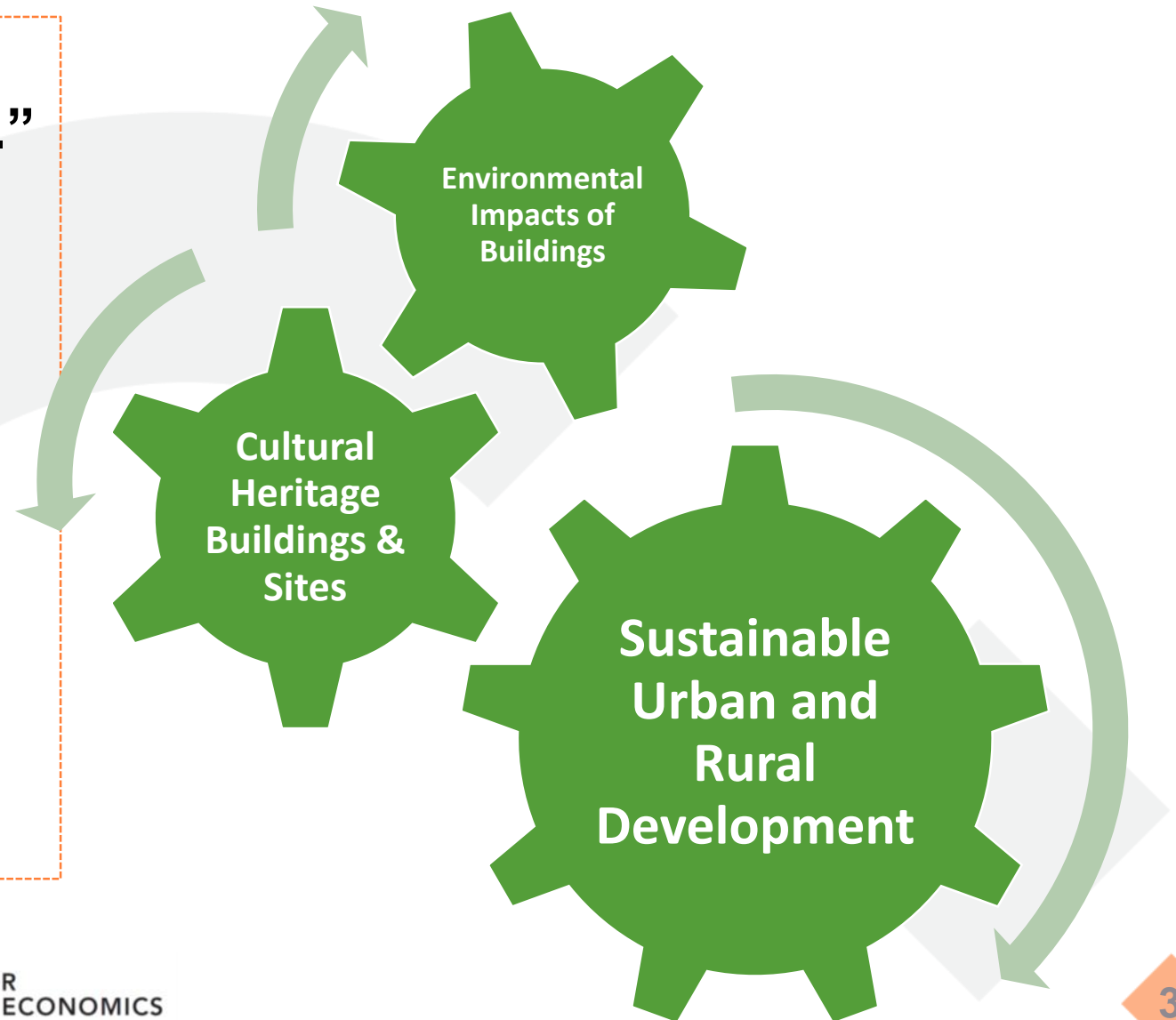
What is origin of “Cultural Capital”?

This article highlights the ontological inconsistency built into the definitions and uses of the term cultural capital.

It explores culture's role in achieving sustainability and how this is measured and valued in three disciplines.

“Adaptive reuse of urban cultural heritage buildings is a nexus issue.”

- ❖ **Transdisciplinary**
- ❖ **Complex**
- ❖ **Interactive variables with feedback loops**
- ❖ **Requires complex socioecological economic perspective and mixed methods**



◆ **Cultural Capital in Social Practice Theories**

◆ **Pierre Bourdieu**

◆ **Cultural Capital in Ecological Economics**

◆ **Berkes & Folke**

◆ **Cultural Capital in Cultural Economics**

◆ **David Throsby**

“Cultural capital can exist in three forms: in the embodied state, i.e., in the form of long-lasting dispositions of the mind and body;

in the objectified state, in the form of cultural goods (pictures, books, dictionaries, instruments, machines, etc.), which are the trace or realization of theories or critiques of these theories, problematics, etc.;

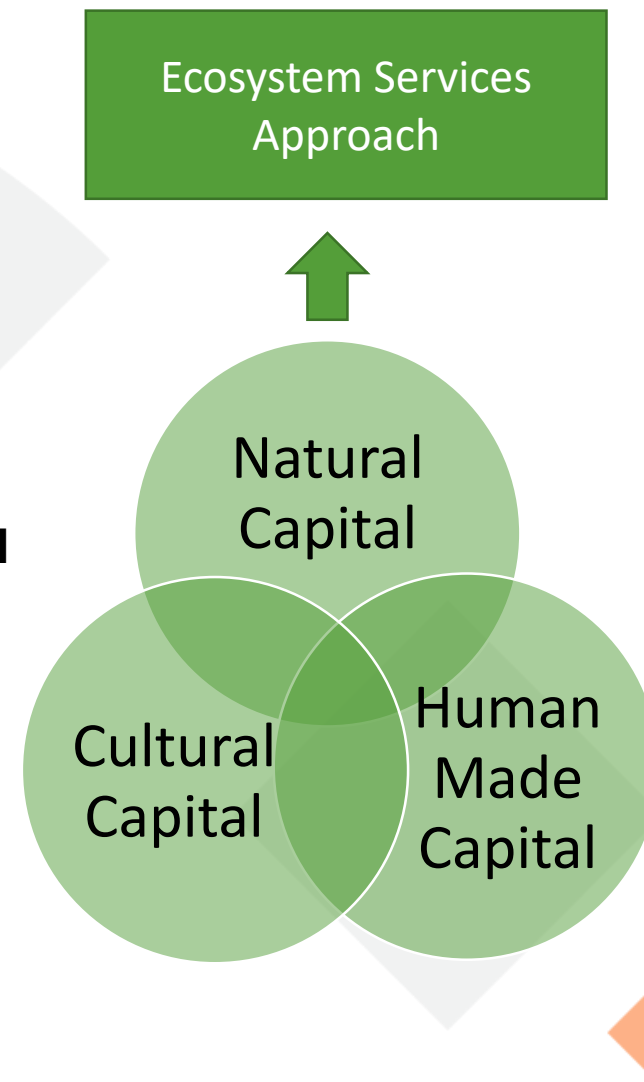
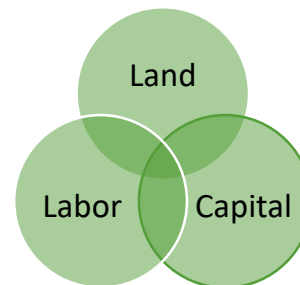
and in the institutionalized state, a form of objectification which must be set apart because, as will be seen in the case of educational qualifications, it confers entirely original properties on the cultural capital which it is presumed to guarantee.”

Bourdieu, P., 1986. The forms of capital Handbook of theory and research for the sociology of education (pp. 241–258). R.(1974). The Power Broker: Robert Moses and the Fall of New York.

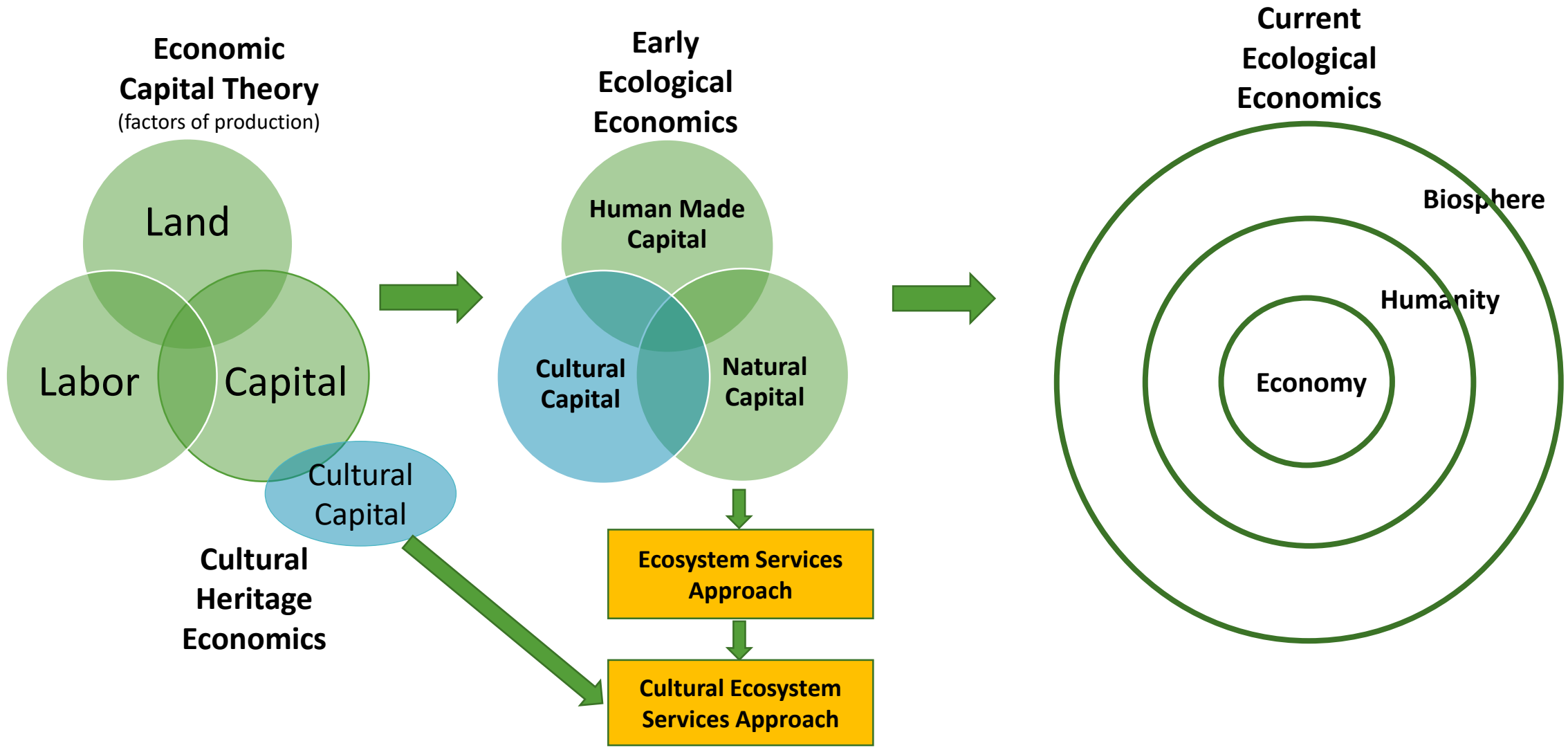
- ◆ **“We use the term cultural capital to refer to factors that provide human societies with the means and adaptations to deal with the natural environment.**
- ◆ **Cultural capital, as used here, includes factors such as social/political institutions, environmental ethics (world view) and traditional ecological knowledge in a society.**
- ◆ **The three types of capital are closely interrelated. Natural capital is the basis for cultural capital. (emphasis added)**
- ◆ **Human-made capital is generated by an interaction between natural and cultural capital. Cultural capital will determine how a society uses natural capital to create human-made capital.”**

Berkes, F., Folke, C., 1994. Investing in cultural capital for sustainable use of natural capital. Investing in natural capital: the ecological economics approach to sustainability, 128.

Traditional Capital Theory
(factors of production = land,
labor, capital)



- **“[W]e can define an item of cultural capital as an asset that contributes to cultural value. More precisely, cultural capital is the stock of cultural value embodied in an asset. This stock may in turn give rise to a flow of goods and services over time, i.e., to commodities that themselves may have both cultural and economic value. The asset may exist in tangible or intangible form.”**



- In response to U.N. Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), which shaped ecosystem services
- “The MA (1) defines cultural services in terms of the “non-material benefits people obtain from ecosystems,” and specifically lists “cultural diversity, spiritual and religious values, knowledge systems, educational values, inspiration, aesthetic values, social relations, sense of place, cultural heritage values, recreation and ecotourism”.” (Daniel, et. al quoting MA)
- This article explores the “tradeoffs and synergies across multiple value systems” referencing “Direct Monetary, Indirect Monetary, Non-monetary, and Qualitative” methods

- ◆ **Embeddedness** of the Economy and all complex human systems within bio geophysical limits
- ◆ “human behavior *in the context of* natural ecosystems” (Constanza & Daily 1987) *emphasis added*
- ◆ **Life is dependent on the planet** – not the other way around
- ◆ Economic and ecological systems are **open and complex flows of energy and matter**
- ◆ **Nature has intrinsic value** – (not asset value)
- ◆ **All values (particularly nature) are not interchangeable or incommensurable.**



Why Ontology Matters

- If human culture defines the environment, then
 - All societal choices are optimal. The utility axiom is always reached
 - Ecosystem services approach with some moderation for intangibles is 'enough' – only measures the delivery of services for human use
 - No intrinsic value of nature
 - Incommensurability of values is a footnote rather than core principal
- Consider the value of a tiger

Ecological Economics explicitly resists the anthropocentricity that allows humans to define nature in a way that is self-serving – and has proven ineffective at protecting the earth’s critical systems that support all life on earth.

Cultural Economics is anthropocentric. “For example, is new cultural capital substitutable for old? If so, the loss of heritage items by destruction or neglect could be substituted for by the creation of new cultural assets which themselves will embody or generate new cultural value in due course.” (Throsby, 2012)

Throsby, D., 2012. Heritage economics: a conceptual framework. The economics of uniqueness, World Bank Urban Development Series, 45-72.

Emphasizing the monetary valuation of tangible and intangible cultural values is problematic in the context of sustainability.

Transdisciplinary & Interdisciplinary cultural economists and ecological economists can:

- **Discuss and agree the underlying ontology of their work**
- **Pinpoint the definition of cultural capital that is applied**
- **Agree how intergenerational equity and the precautionary principle are secured and choose appropriate methods**

A low-angle, wide-angle photograph of a circular courtyard in a historic building. The courtyard is surrounded by multiple stories of stone buildings with many windows. The perspective is from the center of the courtyard looking up at the sky, which is visible through the top of the circular opening. The lighting is warm, suggesting late afternoon or early morning.

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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!!

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- “Transdisciplinary Research is defined as research efforts conducted by investigators from different disciplines working jointly to create new conceptual, theoretical, methodological, and translational innovations that integrate and move beyond discipline-specific approaches to address a common problem.
- Interdisciplinary Research is any study or group of studies undertaken by scholars from two or more distinct disciplines that links or integrates theoretical frameworks from those disciplines, uses study design and methodology that is not limited to any one field, and requires the use of perspectives from multiple disciplines. The research is based upon a conceptual and skills of the involved disciplines throughout multiple phases of the research process.¹”
- 1. Aboelela, S. W., Larson, E., Bakken, S., Carrasquillo, O., Formicola, A., Glied, S. A., Haas, J. and Gebbie, K. M. (2007), Defining Interdisciplinary Research: Conclusions from a Critical Review of the Literature. *Health Services Research*, 42: 329–346. doi: 10.1111/j.1475-6773.2006.00621.x
- Source - <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/trec/about-us/definitions/>