



Sustainable Thinking

Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Coordinator for Library Sustainability, Mid-Hudson Library System



“...trustees must always be mindful of how their **decisions** impact **the lives of people** and **the future of their community.**”

-**Bernard A. Margolis**, State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner for Libraries,
Preface to the *Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State*

Vital

Visible

Viable

“Use of public libraries
drifts **down**...”

-The Pew Research Center, April 7, 2016



JUST SAY NO TO
CRAZY CONSPIRACY THEORIES
ABOUT THE
NEW LIBRARY

dis^rUⁿtion



Self-Actualization
You are living to your highest potential

Esteem
You've acquired the skills that lead to honor and recognition

Love & Belonging
Achieving deeper, more meaningful relationships

SAFETY
Home, sweet home

Physiological Needs
Food, water, sleep

Graphic: Mirko Casagrande

“Assessing & Managing Risks”



Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability,
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, United Nations

“Social equity and community contribute to resilience. Strong, culturally diverse communities in which people know, respect, and care for each other will fare better during times of stress or disturbance.

Social aspects of resilience can be as important as physical responses.”

The Resilient Design Principles, ResilientDesign.org

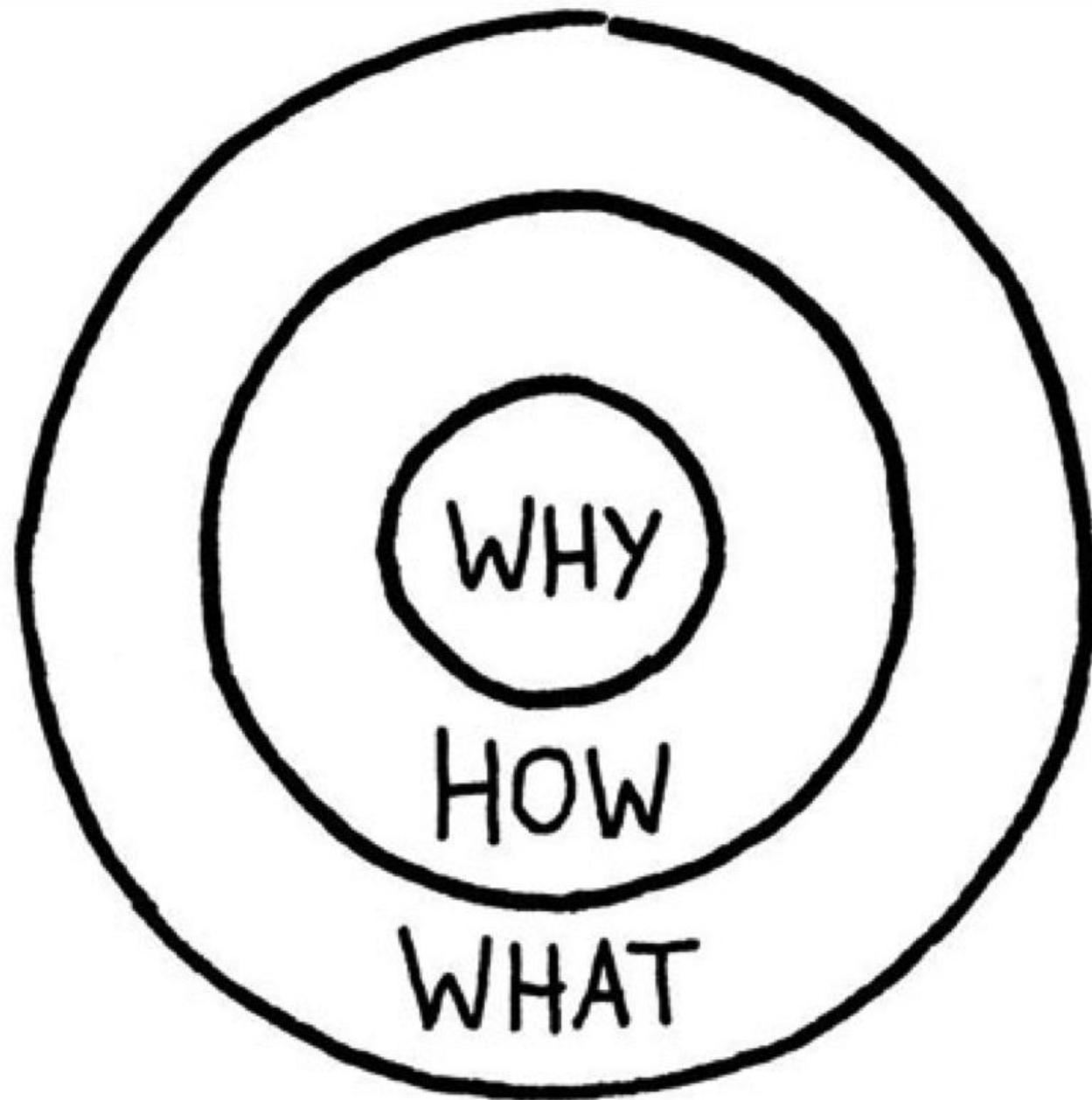


Christian Zabriskie, Urban Librarians Unite
Photo Credit: Vicky Zabriskie

Strategy: Defined

Create a **sustainable competitive advantage...** by “**deliberately** choosing a different set of activities to deliver **unique value.**”

-Michael Porter, *Competitive Strategy*



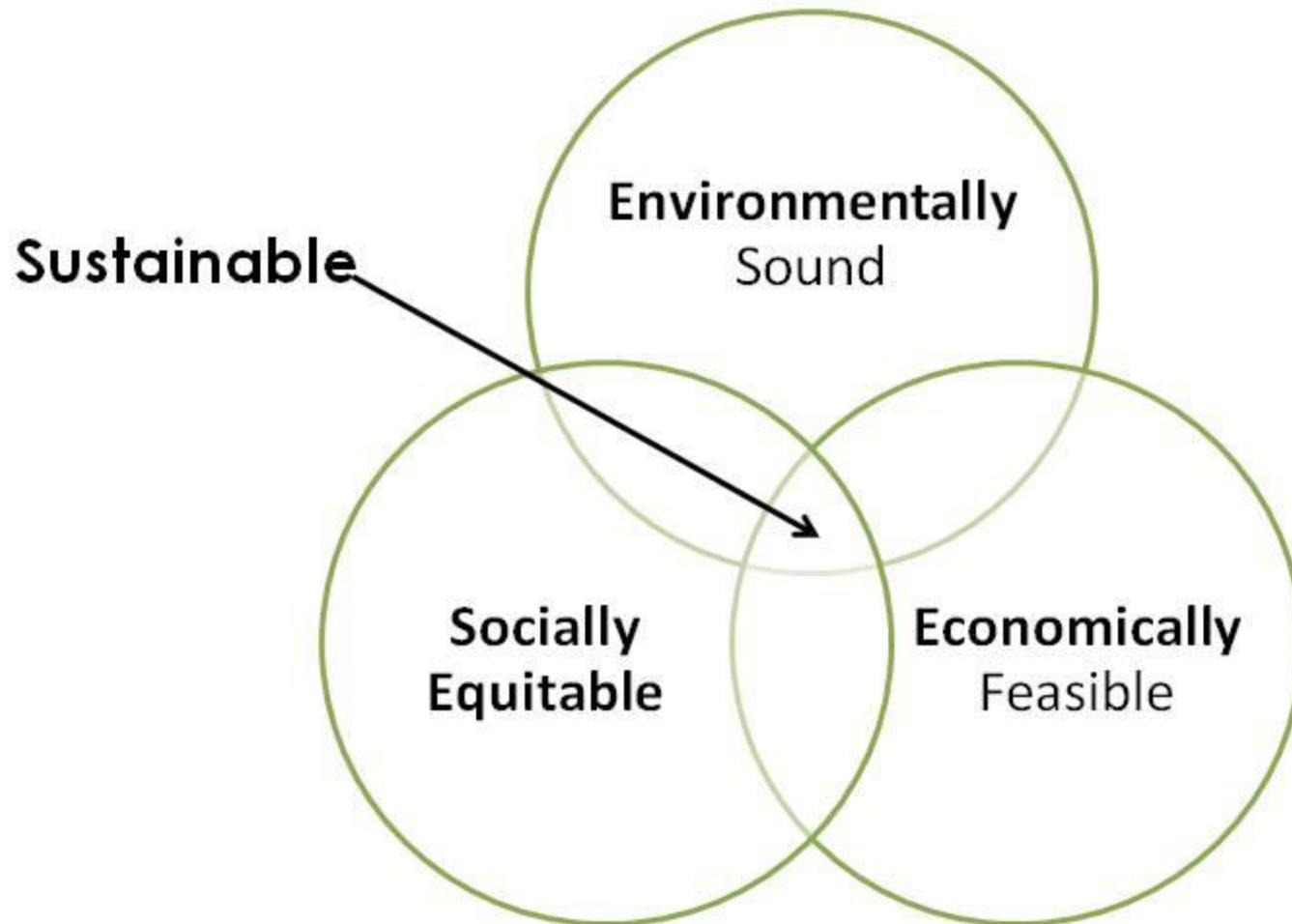
START
HOW GREAT LEADERS INSPIRE
EVERYONE TO TAKE ACTION
WITH
SIMON SINEK
WHY

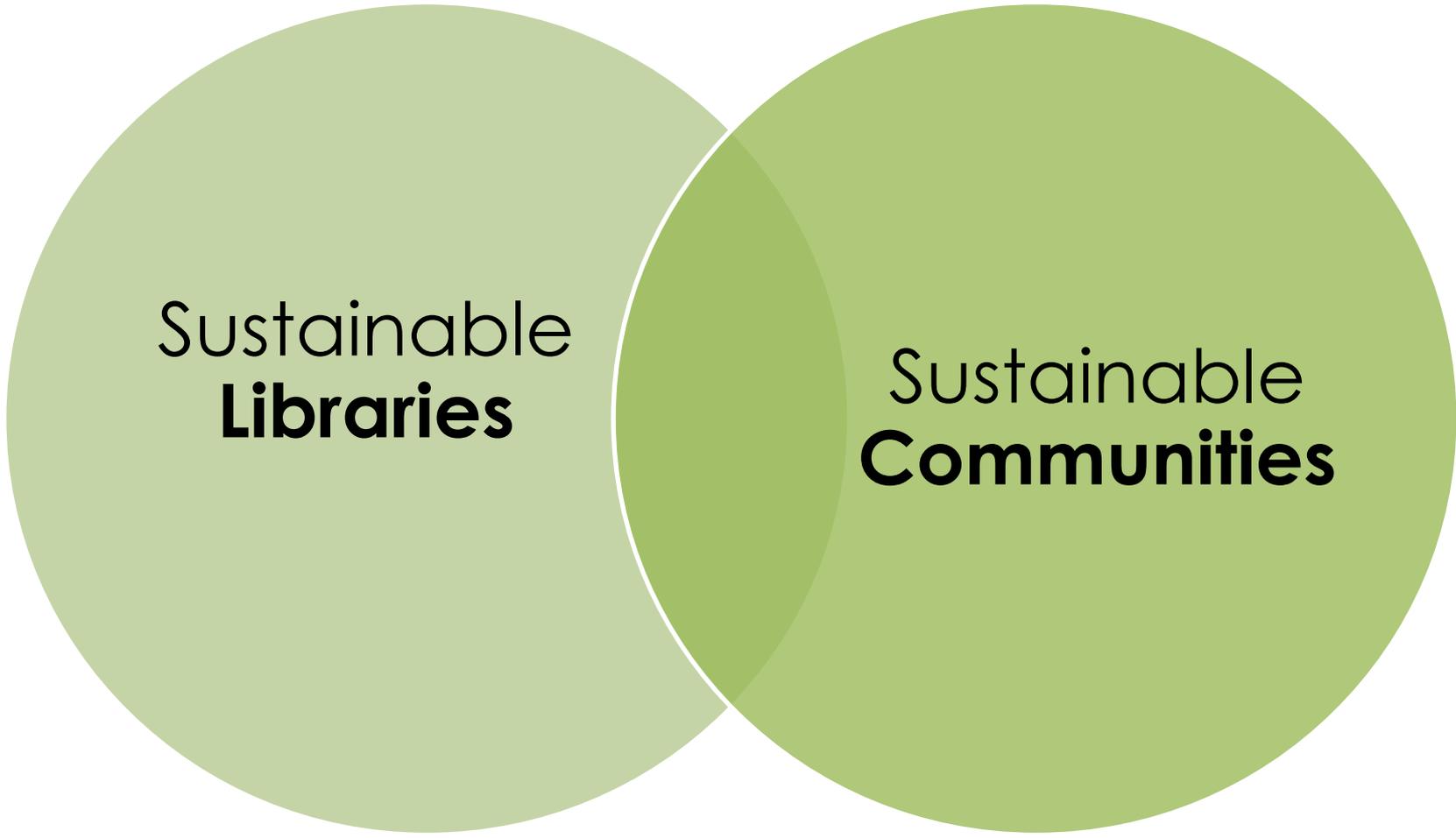
WHAT

IS

SUSTAINABILITY?

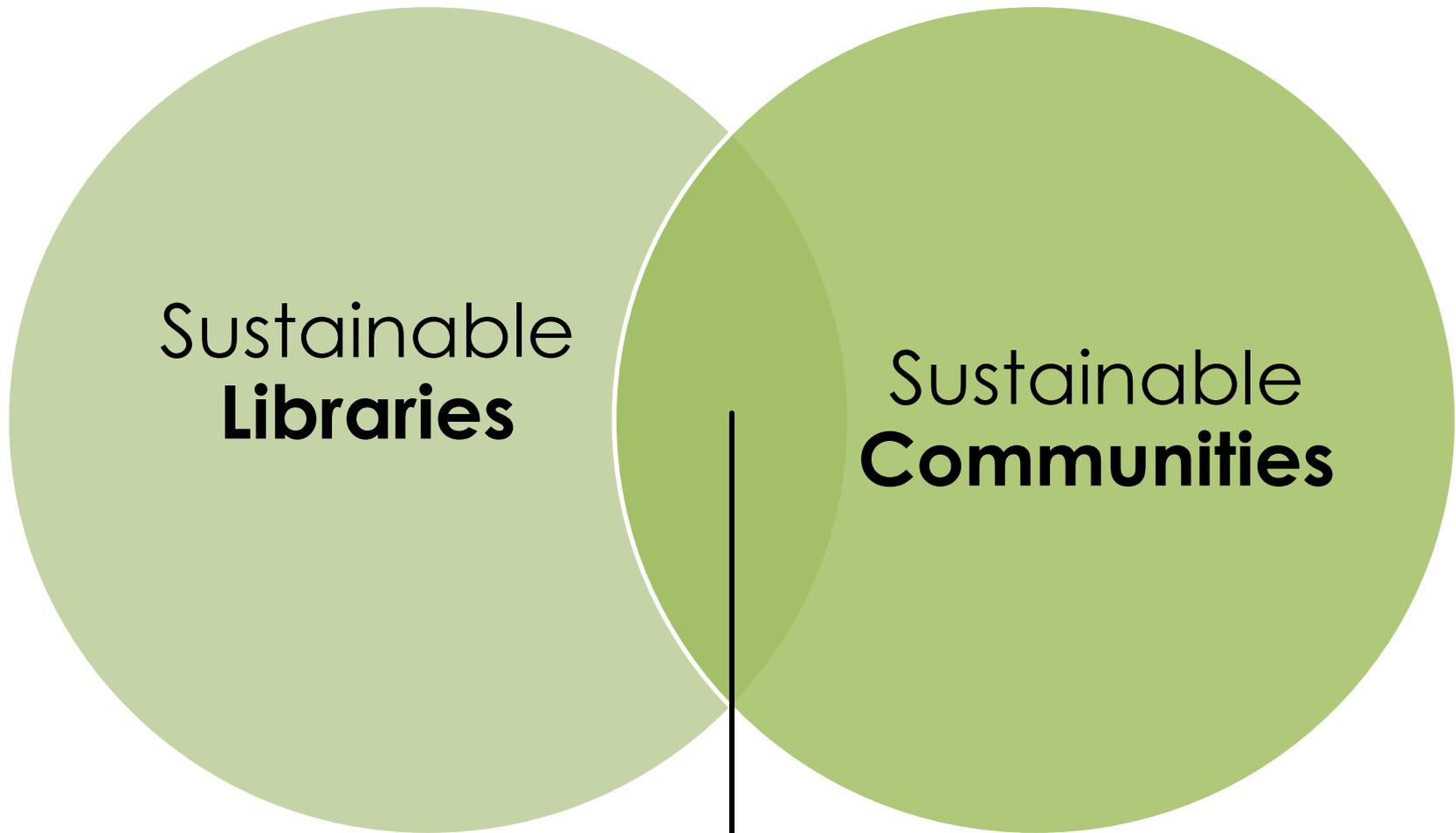
Triple Bottom Line





Sustainable
Libraries

Sustainable
Communities



Sustainable
Libraries

Sustainable
Communities

Sustainable Thinking

Regenerative: to bring new, energetic life

Resilient: to bounce back after disruption

Sustainable: to endure

*Sustainable thinking **aligns** a library's core values and resources with the local and global community's **right to endure**, **bounce back from disruption** and to thrive by bringing **new and energetic life** to fruition **through choices made in all areas** of library operations and outreach.*



Core Values

- ✓ Access
- ✓ Confidentiality/Privacy
- ✓ Democracy
- ✓ Diversity
- ✓ Education and Lifelong Learning
- ✓ Intellectual Freedom
- ✓ Preservation
- ✓ The Public Good
- ✓ Professionalism
- ✓ Service
- ✓ Social Responsibility



We ❤️ Local



Empower

Engage

Energize

1. What kind of **community** do you want to live in?
2. Why is that **important to you**?
3. How is that **different** from how you see things now?
4. What are some of the things that need to happen to **create that kind of change**?





**COLLECTIVE
IMPACT**

LIBRARY OF
THE
FUTURE
CENTER FOR THE FUTURE OF LIBRARIES

HELLO
my name is

Opportunity

*You must be
the change*

*you wish to see
in the*

World

REUSE
REDUCE
RECYCLE



employee wellness
mind · body · spirit

POLICY





Project Do Something | Pawling Library (NY)



Bike Fix Station
Albany Public Library (NY)



Farmers Market | East Greenbush Library (NY)



Outdoor Education Center | Patterson Library (NY)

Find more inspiration through **Sustainability Spotlights** (NYLA): <http://www.nyla.org/sustainability>

You've got to think about **big things** while you're doing **small things**, so that all the small things **go in the right direction.**

-Alvin Toffler , futurist

Resolutions on the Importance of Sustainable Libraries



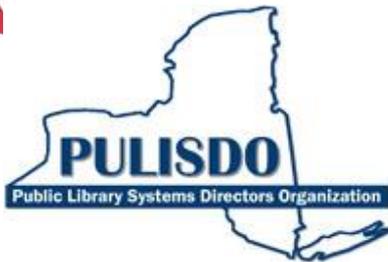
NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Voice of the Library Community





Sponsors:



“Planning for the
future should
incorporate the
**core value of
sustainability.**”

-Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State, 2015 Edition



Our Values represent our most deeply held beliefs.

EXCELLENCE

We cultivate a culture of excellence, holding ourselves accountable to a high standard. We support people in achieving their highest potential.

INCLUSIVENESS

We practise inclusiveness by respecting, reflecting and appreciating the diversity in our community.

INNOVATION

We continuously learn and improve by seeking new ways of being, seeing and doing.

SUSTAINABILITY

We manage our resources responsibly to maintain financial, social and environmental sustainability for the well-being of our community.

TRUST

We conduct ourselves openly and with integrity.

SUSTAINABILITY

We manage our resources responsibly to maintain financial, social and environmental sustainability for the well-being of our community.

 west vancouver
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

2016 – 2020
STRATEGIC PLAN

**SUSTAINABLE
THINKING.**

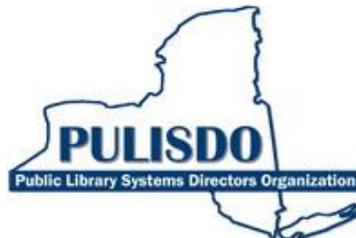
1 Invest in Success!



2 Stay Inspired!



3 Keep Learning!



NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
The Voice of the Library Community

Resources

- **Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State**
by Jerry Nichols & Rebekkah Smith Aldrich
- **Sustainability Initiative (NYLA-SI)**
nyla.org/sustainability
- **Libraries Transforming Communities (ALA)**
ala.org/transforminglibraries

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SustainableLibraries

Thank You