
Building Capacity for Health Impact Assessment in Oregon

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Oregon
Health
Authority

Background



Oregon Public Health Institute
Upstream Public Health
Coalition for a Livable Future
Northwest Health Foundation
Kaiser Permanente
Portland State University
Multnomah County Health Dept



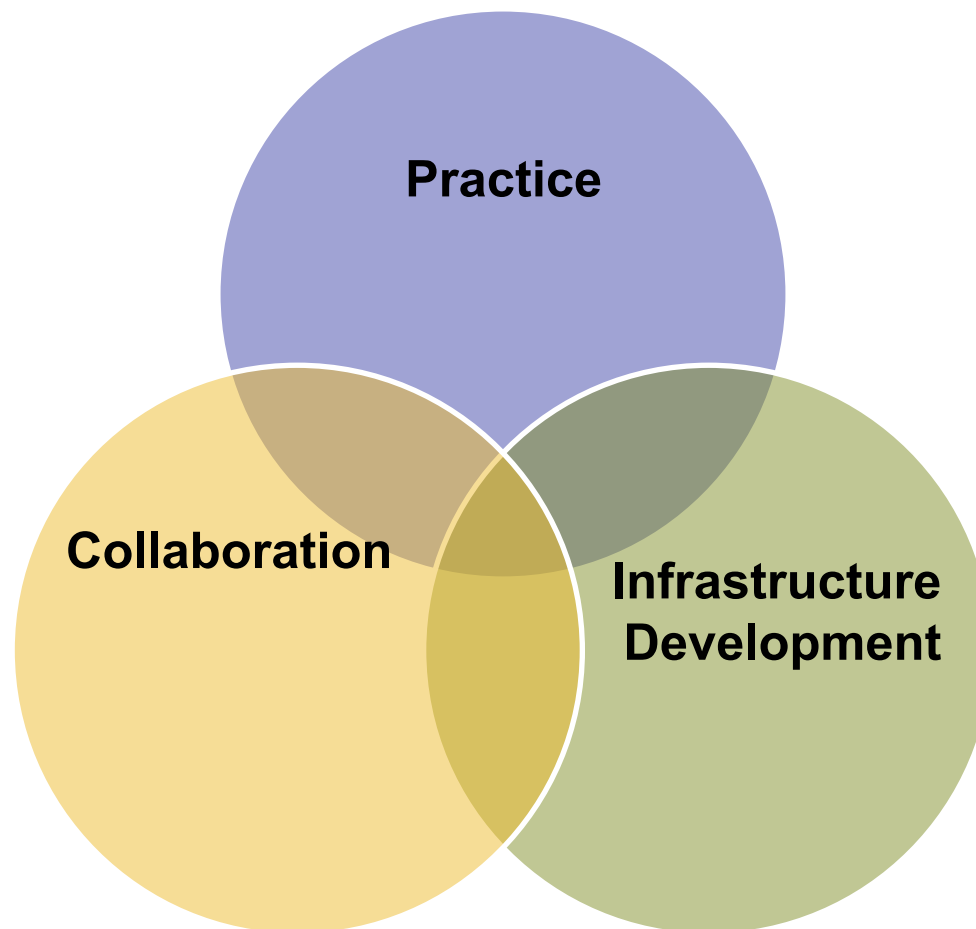
April 2008:
Oregon HIA
Workgroup
convened

June 2008:
Columbia River
Crossing

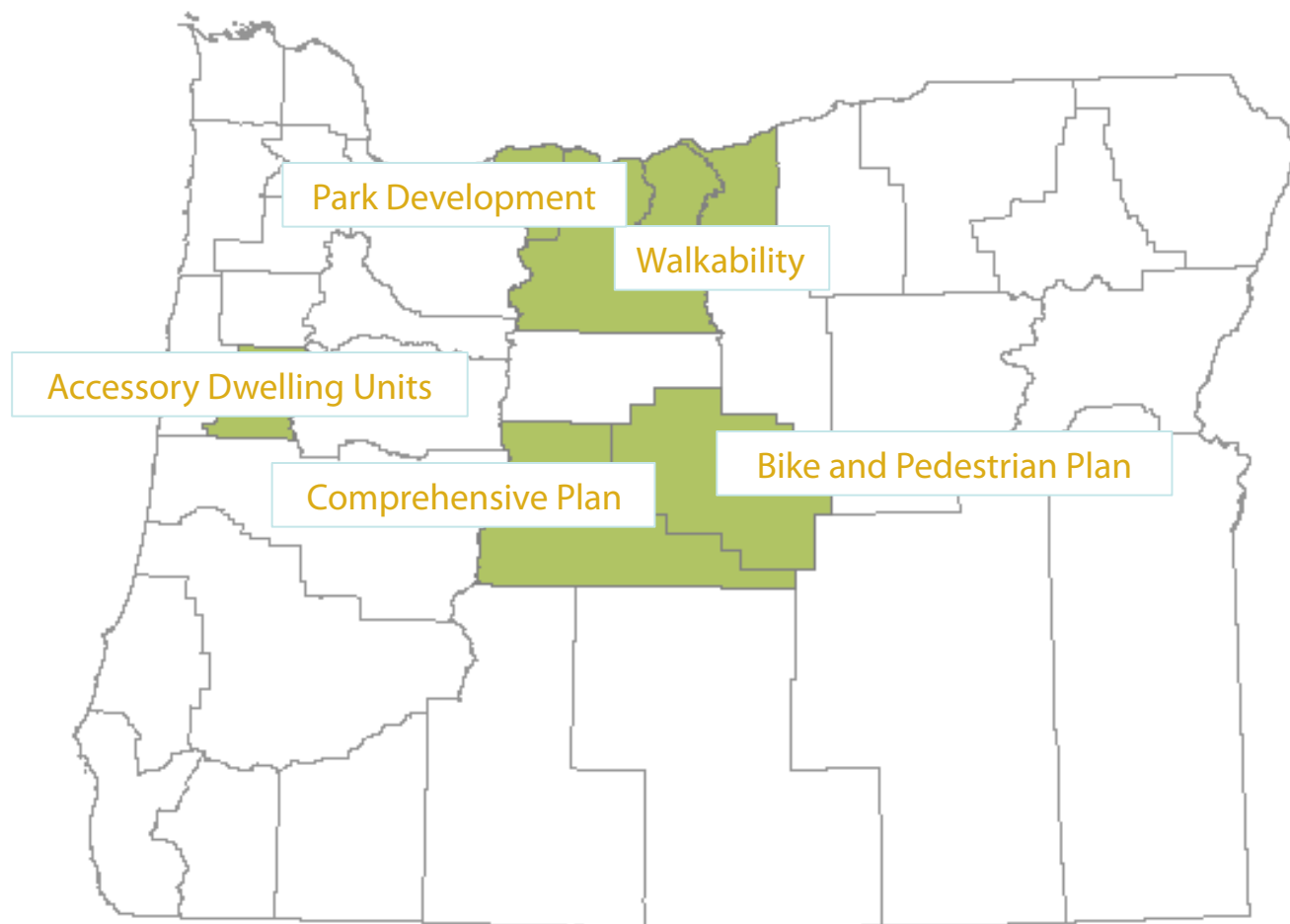


December 2008:
State Capacity
Building
project

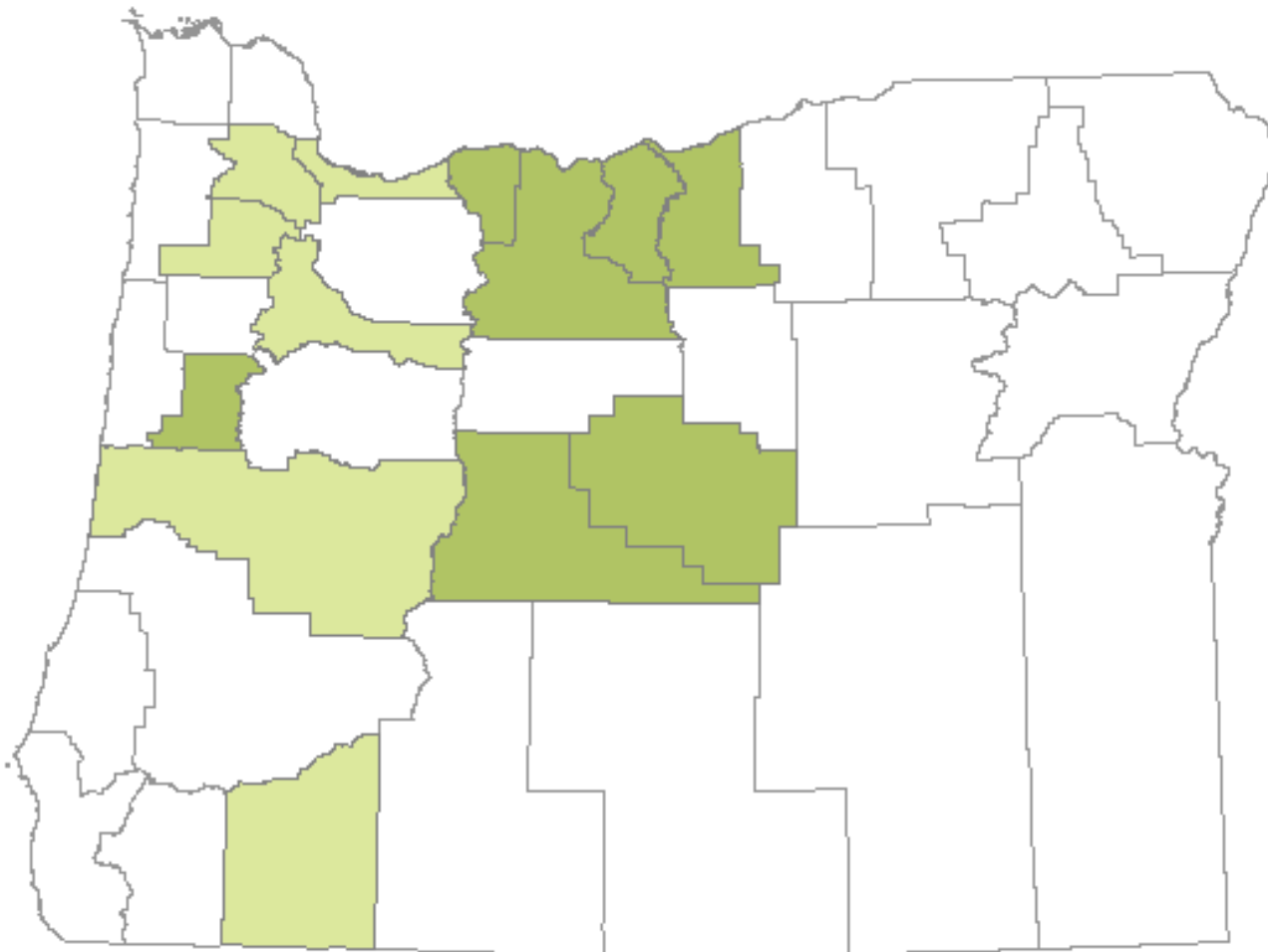
Capacity Building Activities



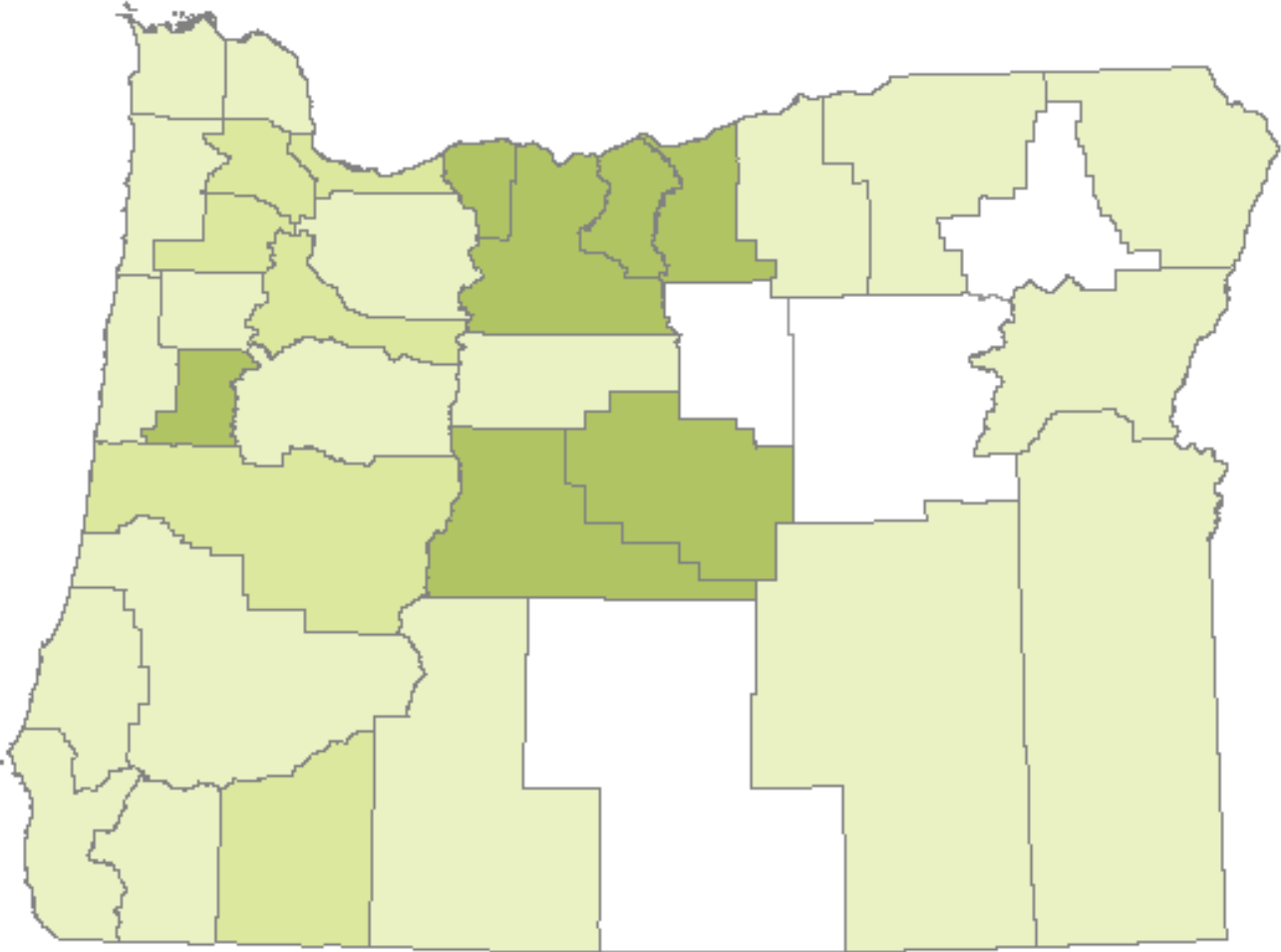
Capacity Building: Conducting HIAs



Capacity Building: Two-day training



Capacity Building: Workshop or Webinar



State-led HIAs



School Biomass Boilers



Wind Energy

Successes

- Partnerships
- Building capacity through different activities
- HIA Network growth

Challenges

- Time and resources
- Responding to demand
- Finding projects in rural areas
- Securing buy-in from leadership without precedents



Lessons Learned

- Invest in pilot HIAs- “Just do it”
- Leverage programs and relationships
- Involve planners as early adopters
- Raising awareness through different opportunities for engagement is important
- Focus on the process



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www.oregon.gov/dhs/ph/hia



The screenshot shows the Oregon Health Authority website's Health Impact Assessment page. At the top left is the Oregon.gov logo. The page title is "Health Impact Assessment". A navigation menu on the left includes "Department", "About Us", "Contact Us", "About HIA", "News and Events", "Training and Tools", "Data Resources", "Local Ongoing and Completed HIAs", "Partners and Links", and "Wind Energy HIA". The main content area features a section titled "Working towards healthier projects and policies" with a sub-image of people in a hallway and text explaining that HIA provides decision-makers with information about how any policy, program or project may affect the health of people. Below this is a link for "More information about our initiative". Two sidebars are present: "Health Impacts of Wind Energy" and "HIA Webinars and Request for Proposals". The "Health Impacts of Wind Energy" sidebar contains text about the Office of Environmental Public Health's HIA on wind farms, the importance of ensuring impacted people have a voice, and a request for feedback. The "HIA Webinars and Request for Proposals" sidebar includes a link to an "Introduction to Health Impact Assessment Webinar Series" and a "Call for Proposals: Health Impact Assessment" section, which invites local health departments to apply for funds to conduct HIA, with applications accepted until Friday, December 10, 2010.



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