



# Renewable Energy as a Public Interest Technology in Support of Tribal Sovereignty

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# What is Public Interest Technology?

*Public Interest Technology (PIT) is the study and application of technology expertise to advance the public interest.*

- Public Interest Technology University Network

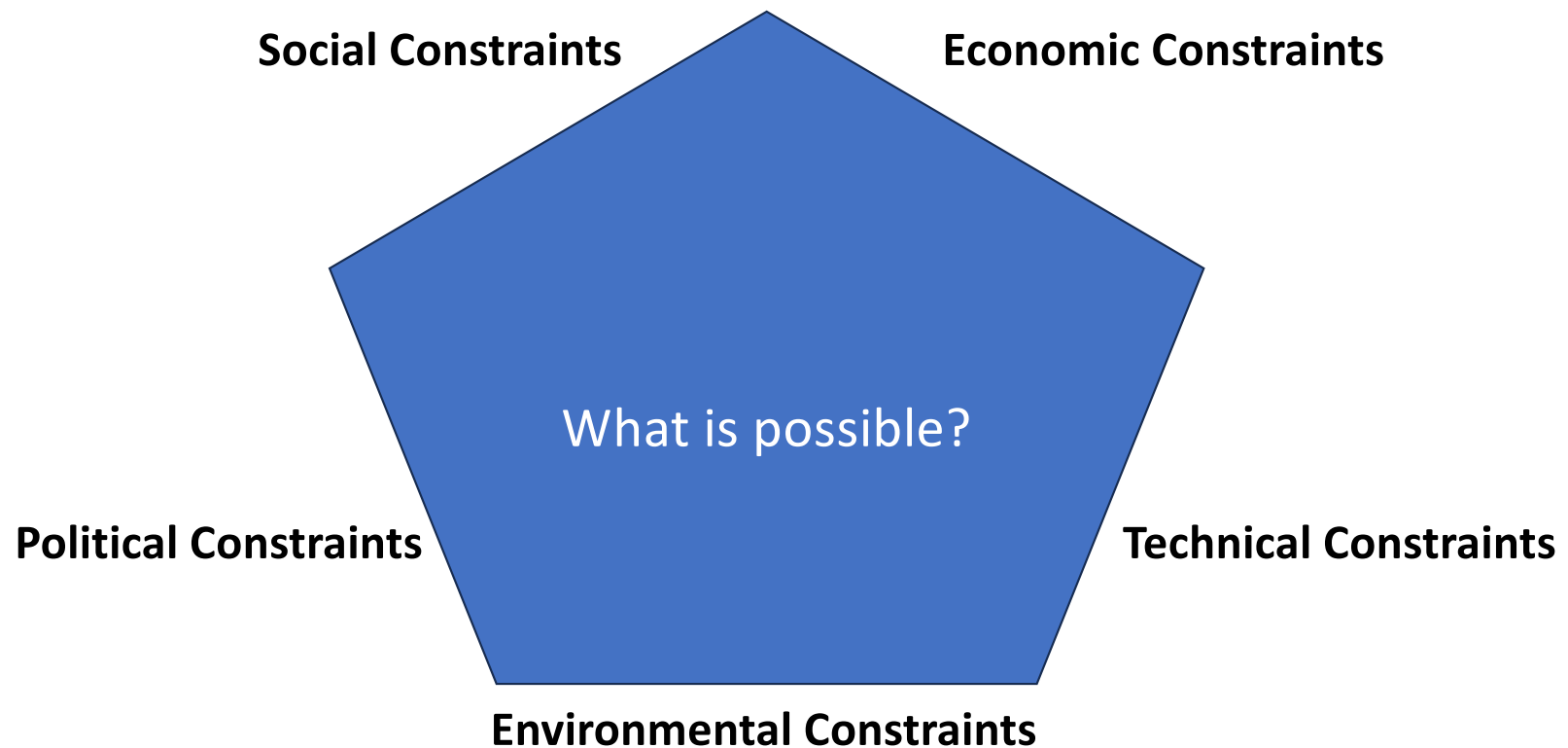
What is the relationship between Tribal sovereignty and energy development?



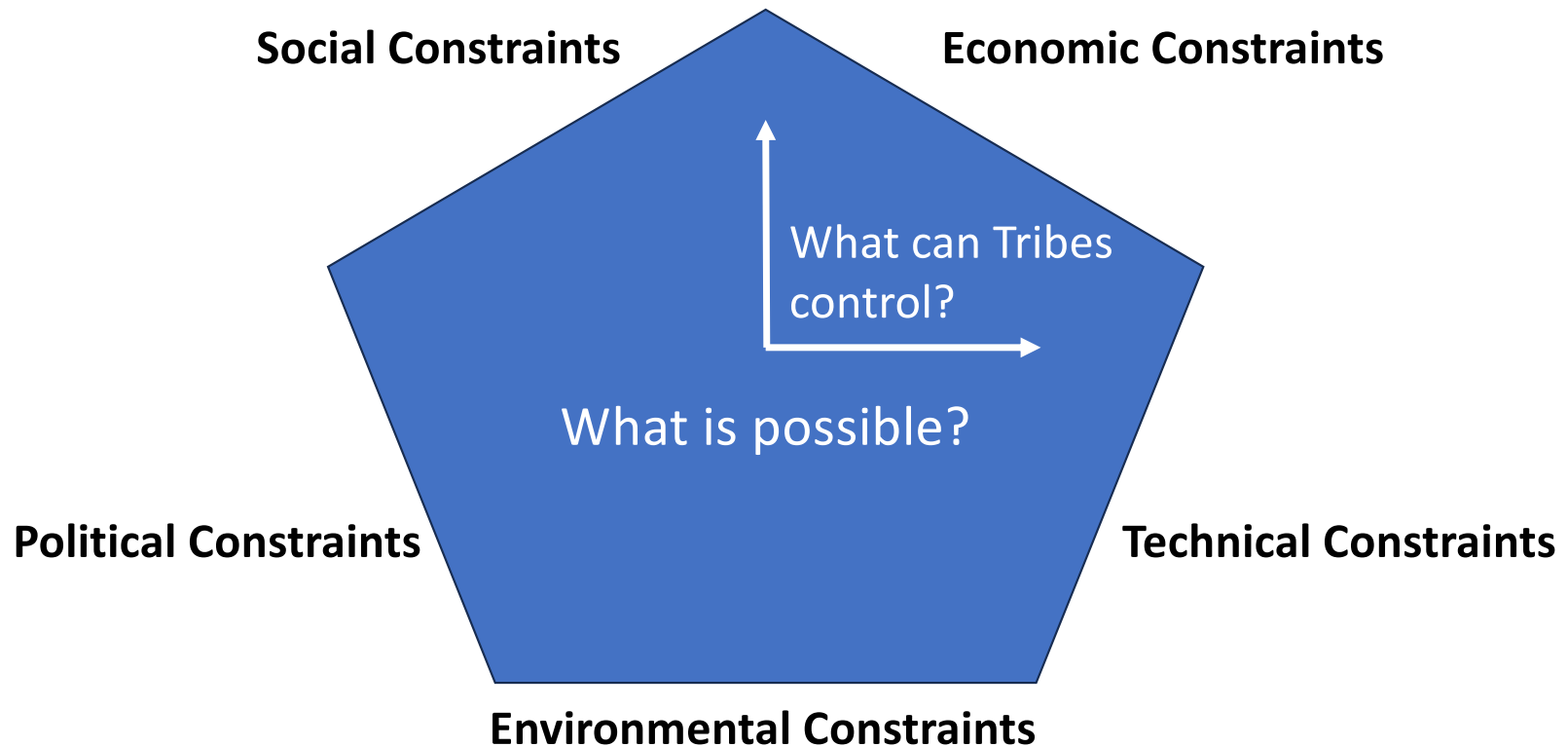
Tribal  
Sovereignty

Clean Energy  
Development

# Defining the problem through engagement with Tribes



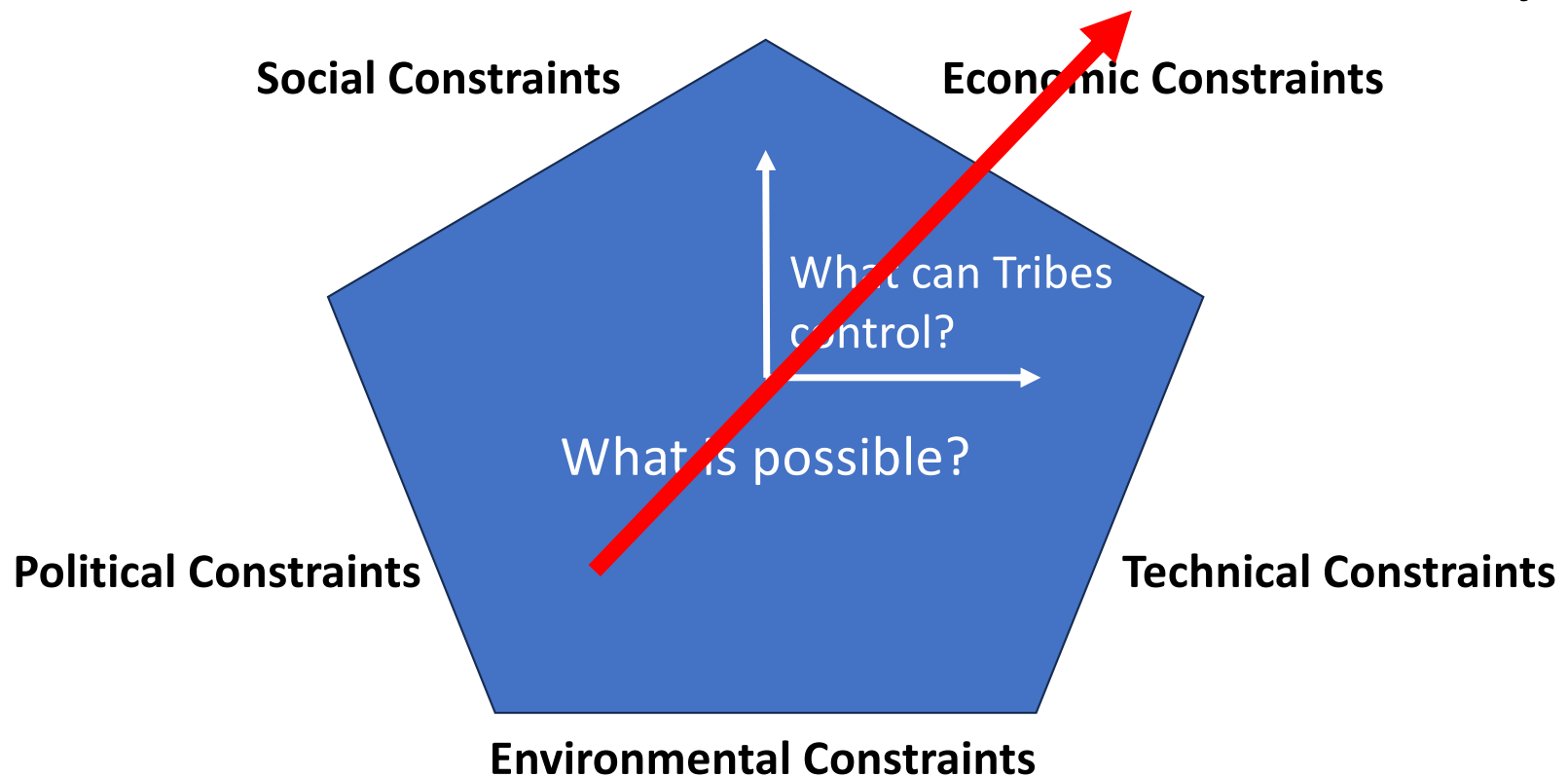
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**What are the Tribes objectives?**





# We need convergent approach to solve complex societal challenges

- Tribes have many objectives, some of which may conflict, that intersect with energy and energy sovereignty
- Solving these problems transcends disciplines and requires system thinking
- Research needs to engage Tribes throughout the process to define the problem and objectives, and embed Indigenous knowledge

# How to support Tribes through research and graduate training?

- How can we provide opportunities for Native students to earn graduate degrees through research that is meaningful to them and their communities (PIT)?
- How do we create supportive environments and communities for Native students in graduate school?
- How do we engage Tribes in research in a meaningful, equitable, and ethical way?