The Center for Social Ecology and Public Policy (CSEPP)

The logo for CSEPP is a turtle in balance with the human world. The turtle has strong origin myths about the world in both Eastern and Western cultures. and it represents the natural environment. The turtle floats below the name and rings so as not to be constrained by linear barriers. The Hokule'a is a Polynesian sailing vessel that was used to settle the Pacific Islands thousands of years ago. This outrigger canoe is a symbol of the human environment and its desire to discover, grow and explore. In recent years, the Hokule'a has been the means of cultural restoration for indigenous Hawaiians, whose young people have learned from the old ones how to construct these vessels and complete voyages to Tahiti and Easter Island, key locations within Polynesian traditions. Most species of turtles are severely threatened or endangered. The turtle and the Hokule'a represent the human and natural environments, and the balance that is required if life is to continue.

The Center for Social Ecology and Public Policy (CSEPP) is a non-profit organization devoted to enhancing productive harmony, the balance of people and nature called for in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). CSEPP is dedicated to individual empowerment through the maturing of natural systems present in all human communities. These natural systems are a pathway for direct participation of citizens in the creation, ownership and management of public policy. Natural systems are the informal networks that operate in communities and the formal bodies that are in alignment with these informal networks. They are place-based, geographically-centered, and are responsible for caretaking, survival, and cultural beliefs, traditions, and practices. When public policy grows out of social ecology defined in these terms, productive harmony is enhanced through the integration of bio-physical and social ecosystems, resulting in efficient application and mobilization of human, monetary, social, and natural capital.