

## SITUATION

The environmental implications of our actions need to be considered more deeply, and sustainability needs attention. On a local scale, this means engaging youth in discussions about how their everyday behavior can impact the world around them.



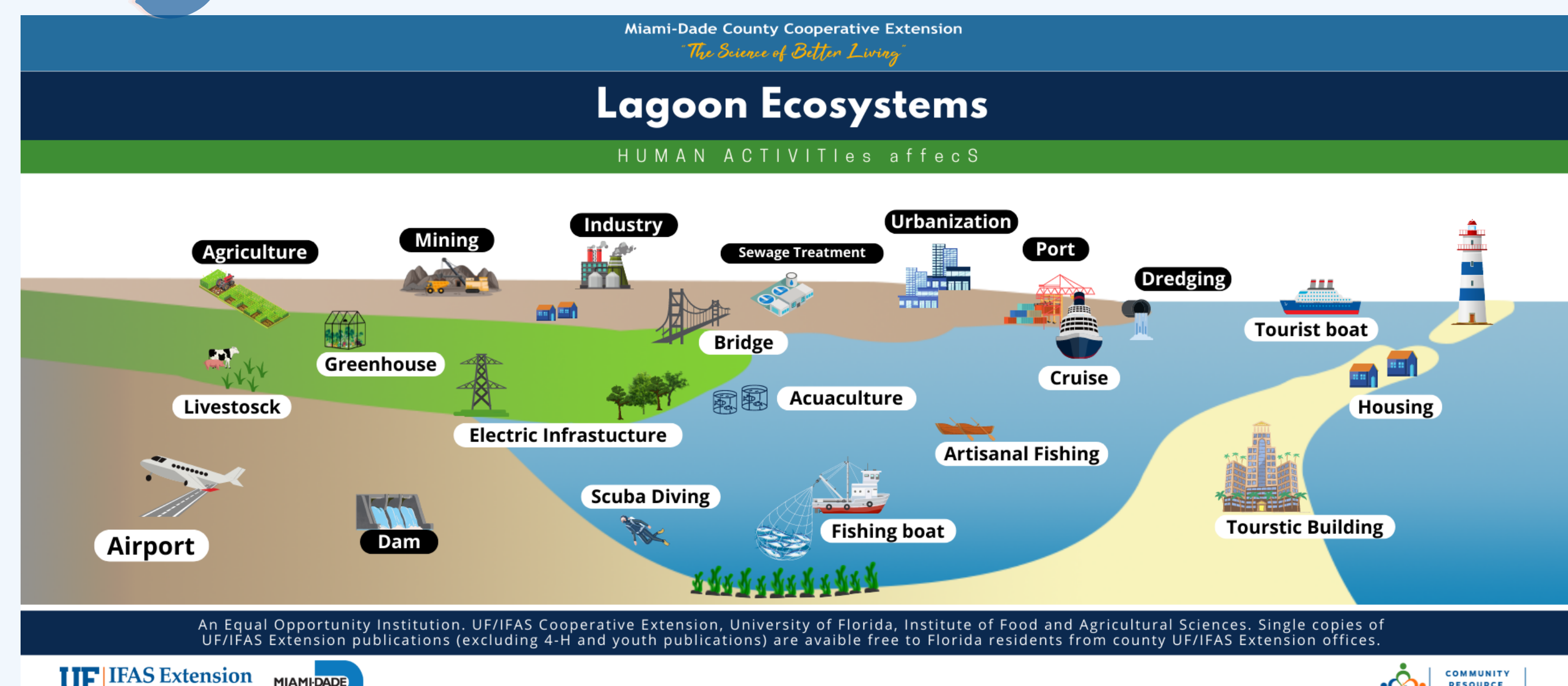
Sources: Scan QR Code

## PROJECT & DESCRIPTION

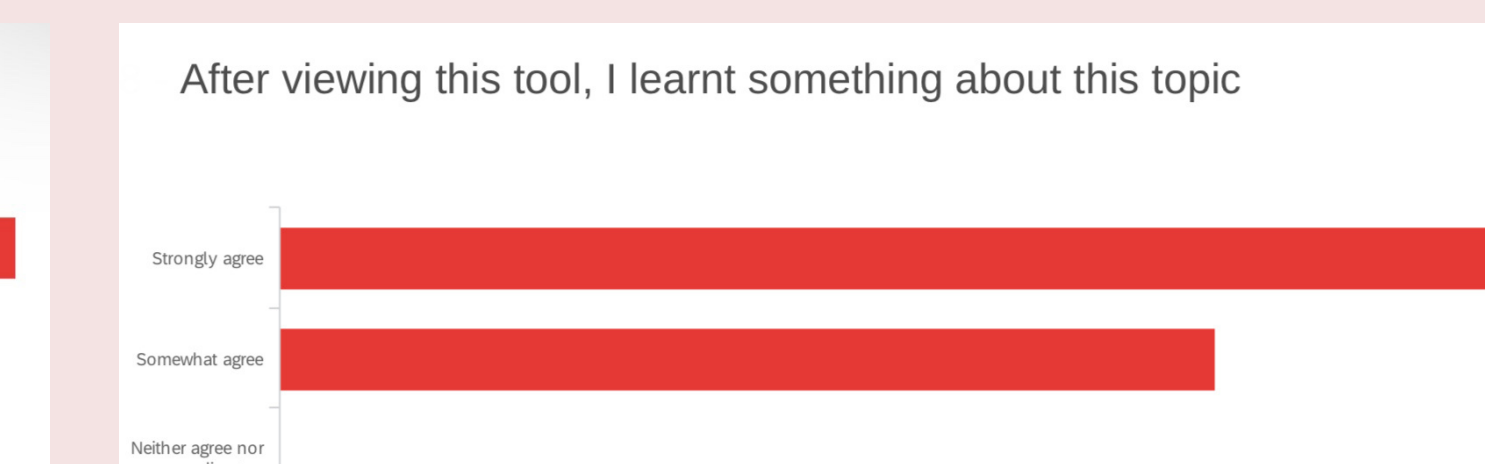
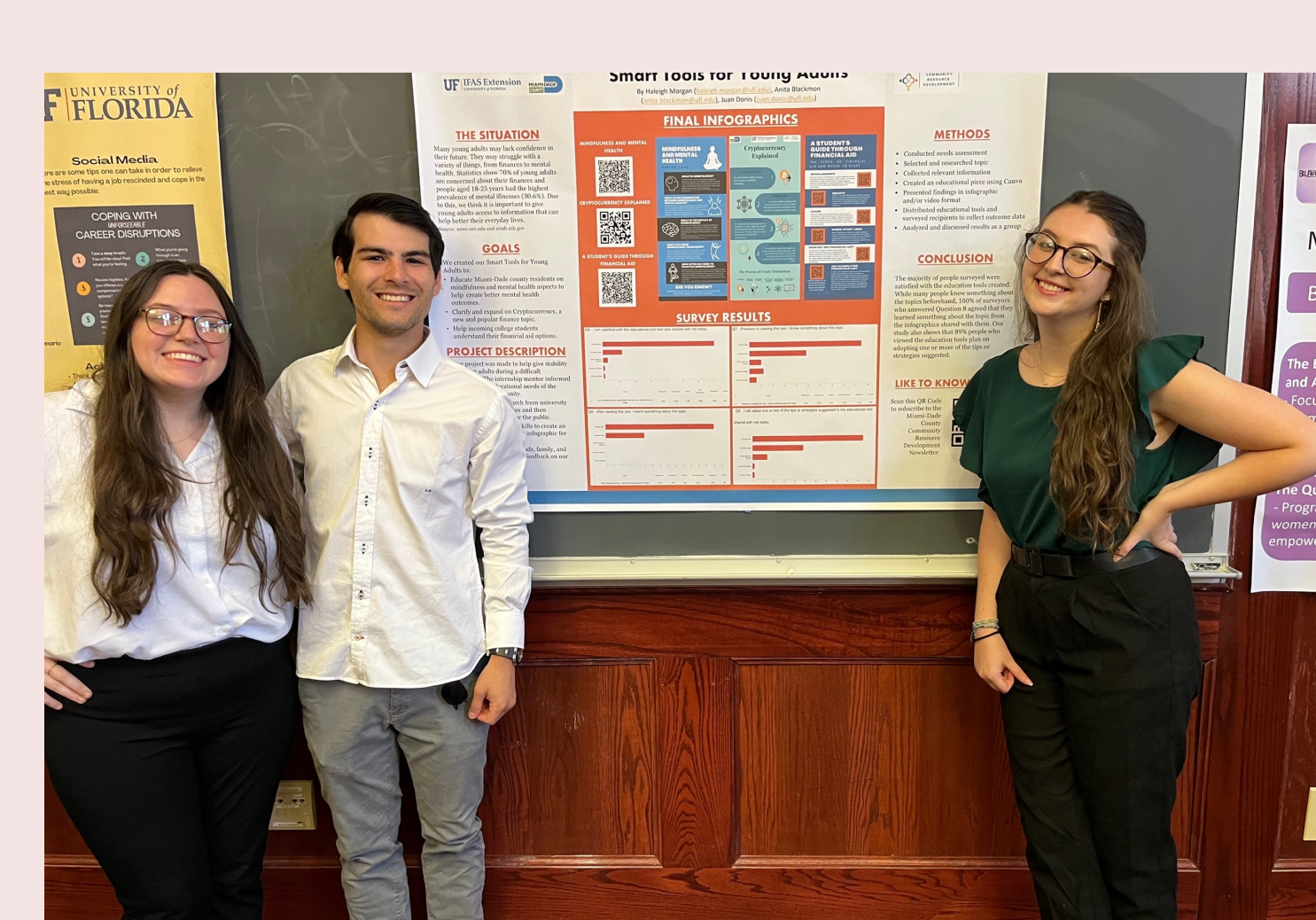
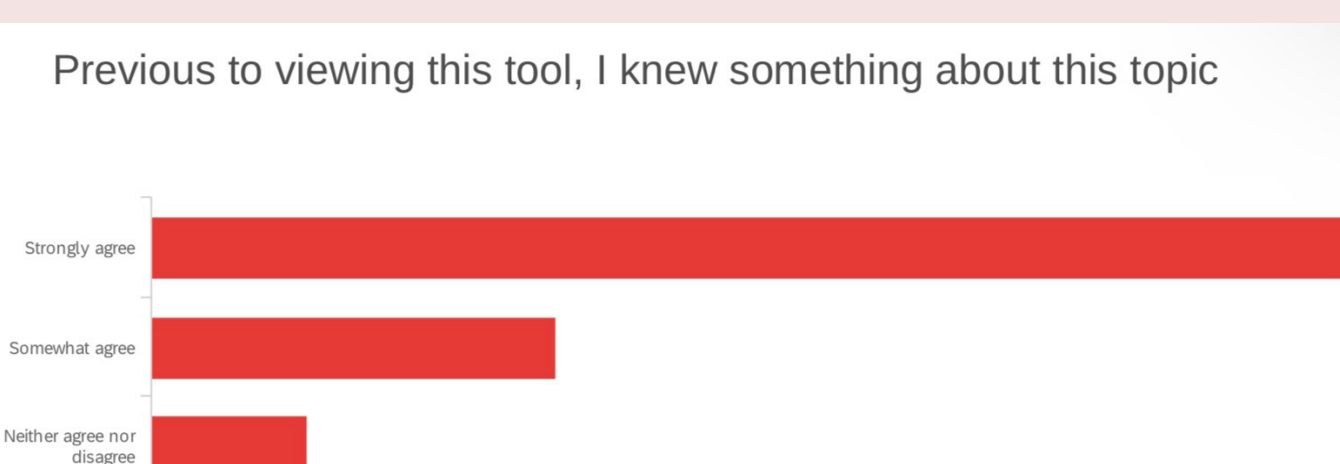
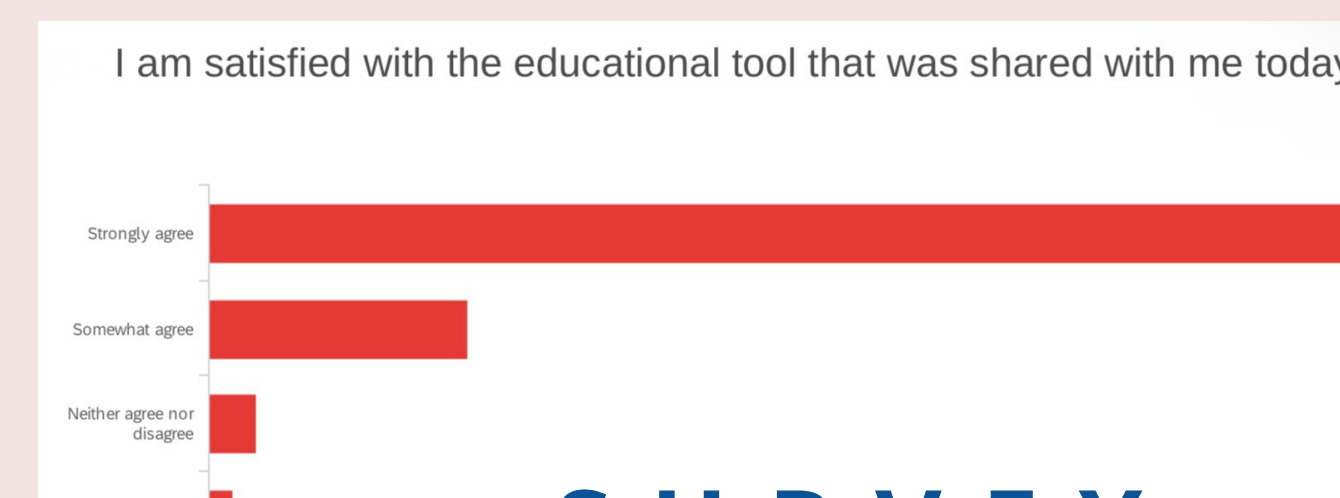
- Participants created an educational tool based on Lagoon Ecosystems.
- Research was gathered from academic and government sources and then condensed and applied to create an easily-accessible infographic.
- The project mentor reviewed the materials, apply standard editing protocol, and instructed participants to share their pieces with family, friends, and peers.
- A final survey was distributed to collect data on how well the materials were received.
- Finally, a poster presentation was created to share the final pieces and spark topic conversations.

Lagoon Ecosystems			
Helpful Resources			
What Are Lagoon Ecosystems	Why Should We Care About Them	What Can We Do To Protect Them	University of Florida / IFAS Resources
A lagoon is a body separated from larger bodies of water by a natural barrier. Ecosystems housed in lagoons provide a range of natural services that society values. However, the ecosystems in these lagoons depend on the health of the different habitats found in the lagoons. Healthy habitats meet all the environmental conditions an organism needs to survive. For an animal, that means everything it needs to find and gather food, choose a mate and reproduce successfully. For a plant, it provides the right combination of light, water, and soil. Therefore, positive human activities can impact the health of the lagoons, affecting ecosystems and habitats.	PRICELESS NATURAL RESOURCE  KEY DRIVER TO THE HEALTH AND WEALTH OF MANY ECONOMIES  SUPPORT A VARIETY OF ESSENTIAL TO LIFE HABITATS AND MORE	THREATENED FREQUENTLY WITH LANDSCAPING  PRACTICE GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL HOUSEKEEPING  LISTEN TO THE LAGOON	Florida Friendly Yards (FFYFL) UF/IFAS Program  AskIFAS.com, our UF/IFAS' Electronic Data Information Source (EDIS) provides research-based information about environmentally friendly practices on agriculture, natural resources, family & consumer sciences, and youth development on ecologically friendly topics.  COMMUNITY VOICES, INFORMED CHOICES CIVIC is an Extension program. Through deliberative discussions or town hall meetings, CIVIC activities provide information and engage communities in discussing contentious issues that require community-scale solutions.

An Equal Opportunity Institution. UF/IFAS Cooperative Extension, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. Single copies of UF/IFAS Extension publications (excluding 4-H and youth publications) are available free to Florida residents from county UF/IFAS Extension offices.



An Equal Opportunity Institution. UF/IFAS Cooperative Extension, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. Single copies of UF/IFAS Extension publications (excluding 4-H and youth publications) are available free to Florida residents from county UF/IFAS Extension offices.



## METHODS

- Select a topic on sustainability
- Conduct literature review
- Create an educational piece about the topic selected
- Share educational piece with family & friends
- Administer a survey, collect feedback
- Discuss learnings in group settings

## CONCLUSIONS

Participants surveyed responded positively to our educational tools. Overall, young adults find the creation of -a visual aid beneficial. More than half of young adults responded that although they already knew something related to the topic before viewing the educational tools, they learned something new and enjoyed the format and expanded group discussions on the topic.

Like to know more?

KATHYMARIN@UFL.EDU

My Blog &  
 Profile Page

