# Combining Resources: Distribution and Efficiency

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This paper will address the interplay between distribution and efficiency in the allocation of resources. It proceeds from the premise that *combinations* of resources are of central and increasing importance to social welfare. Complementarities between units of the same resource, between different resources, and between human capital and other resources all bear on law’s pursuit of allocative and investment efficiency. Distribution plays a crucial role, both as a precondition for certain valuable combinations and as one determinant of the social welfare consequences of the resulting resource arrangements. Structuring law to facilitate the most valuable combinations of resources is a primary task for law and economics—and one that requires connecting, rather than separating, considerations of distribution and efficiency.