

# Sustainability Series

## pushing a new paradigm

**review May 2018 work shop**

A perspective on last year's discussion by Anja

# Ecosphere – physical Environment & Biodiversity

- Defined biophysical + resource constraints

- Key questions:
- How can the west do with less?
- How can developing countries be happier places
- What can the west cut back on?
- How does the west replace material values?
- What is reasonable carrying capacity that allows us to share with each other and with the other creatures (creations?) on the planet?
- What are implications for population and migration?
- What technologies + practices are there for regeneration + life affirming global culture

- Desired outcomes

- Sustainable + secure food
- Greener urban environments
- 11 billion people living rewarding lives
- Society based on sufficiency not growth
- Creating institutions that are more responsive to ecological change
- Enhancing individual and collective capacity to care

# Ecology

- consequences of not acting
- industrial to regenerative agriculture
- population carrying capacity

- Farming + grazing practices that, among other benefits reverse climate change by rebuilding soil organic matter
- restoring degraded soil biodiversity resulting in carbon drawdown
- Improving water cycle
- E. g. permaculture, holistic grazing, biodynamic farming

- Cross cultural
  - Cross religion
  - Cross personality
  - Long-term wellbeing
  - Deliver ecosystem services that enable life on Earth
  - All land-based ecosystems rely on “soil”
- } resolutions

**Goal:** to rehabilitate + restore soil to sustainable soil management

# Sociosphere

## psycho-socio-political dynamics + governance + cultural dimensions

### Outcomes – whiteboard

- Healthy procedure outcomes/SOS
- Diverse landscapes – versatile soils - Regenerative agriculture
- Human ecological footprint
- Rewilding of fertile land; crop versus animal production
- Reverse urban sprawl onto top quality soil – local working + living/sharing resources (community owned)
- Greening cities – jungle – crops – biodiversity – (Christchurch) inner city green zone
- Break cities into self-determining suburbs/block streets = village economies
- Population – planet will have to support 10/11 Billion people
- Vegan/vegetarian versus reductarian (problem consumption)
- NZ can feed itself - Self sufficient – basic needs – minimalism equals more free time, less working
- Endemic/Indigenous Earth = alternative world view
- Rational Mind : Organic Mind = Do what is necessary, not what is possible
- National + local 100 year plan (government)
- Council invite people to become actively involved in local issues, advertise effectively so people know when and where these meetings are held
- Environment media NGO that knows how to spread + how to present the word
- Eco-campaigns before elections to boost advocate eco leaders

### Grass root actions

- power structures – do they have a limited tolerance to community empowerment? – lower barriers for communities to make decisions
- Development of collective will to change
- What action will they take to maintain power?
- Raising ecological literacy of public, knowledge, wisdom
- Reconnect and build people relationship with nature
- Education = connecting to production + transparent use of products + share
- Basic business/paradigm
- Educate: Treaty of Waitangi
- Educate: Social equity
- Educate: Enable future generations + nature/other voices to be heard
- Charter Rights : Duties
- Return to Humanism – respect for other living creatures
- Time bank- educate people on how it will make their life easier
- Local recycling centres take old furniture and appliances and attempt to repair, recycle and create jobs

## How to reach people who are not on the same page?

Ask questions to start them thinking:

- what are your values?
- What do you really care about?
- How do you find meaning in life?

More traditional values: family, security, etc.

How to break the cycle of consumerism – the myth that consumption = happiness?

Is Permaculture the answer? – health, physical, psychological, emotional

Comfort - convenience – cleanliness

Nature – ecosystem services – wellbeing

### Conversations

Patience

Tolerance

Take time over

tea

Not the same as

you/us

### Maximum needs

Protection

Affection

Partnership

Understanding

Creativity

Freedom

Leisure

Human needs

## What sort of society do we want in 2050 + how do we get there?

All waste is a resource

Integrated systems (like permaculture) contained within biosphere

Demand reductions, sharing society. Culture of enough

Food system which is lower down the food chain – more plant based

# Econosphere

- conventional BAU accounting + steady state equity
- economic – business goals

- Focus in particular on issues of power
- Building on idea that there are certain groups/individuals in society who use their power to either help/hinder the transformations required to live in a more sustainable world

- Capacity to care
- For certain reasons that could be **structural** (time poor, not having enough resources, having multiple responsibilities) or **individual** (personality, interest, desire) people will have more or less capacity to care for the environment

**Our goal should be to help enhance individual capacity to care as a way to bring about collective change**