

Sustainability Frameworks

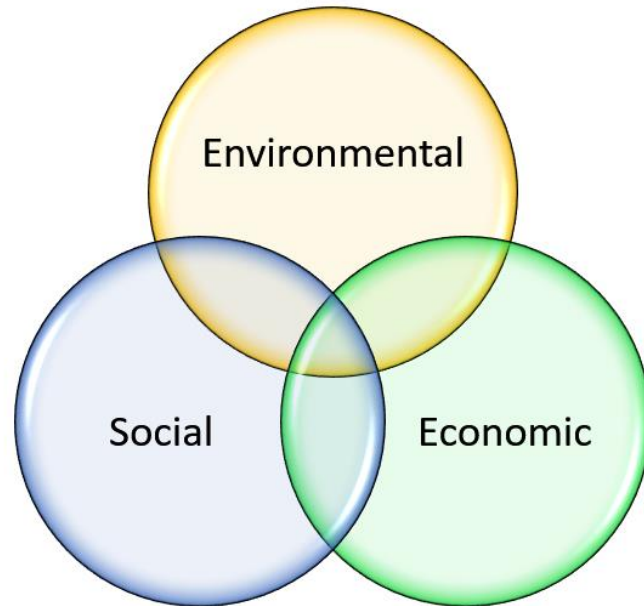
Complied by
Sustainability Learning
Community
SUNY New Paltz, USA
2026



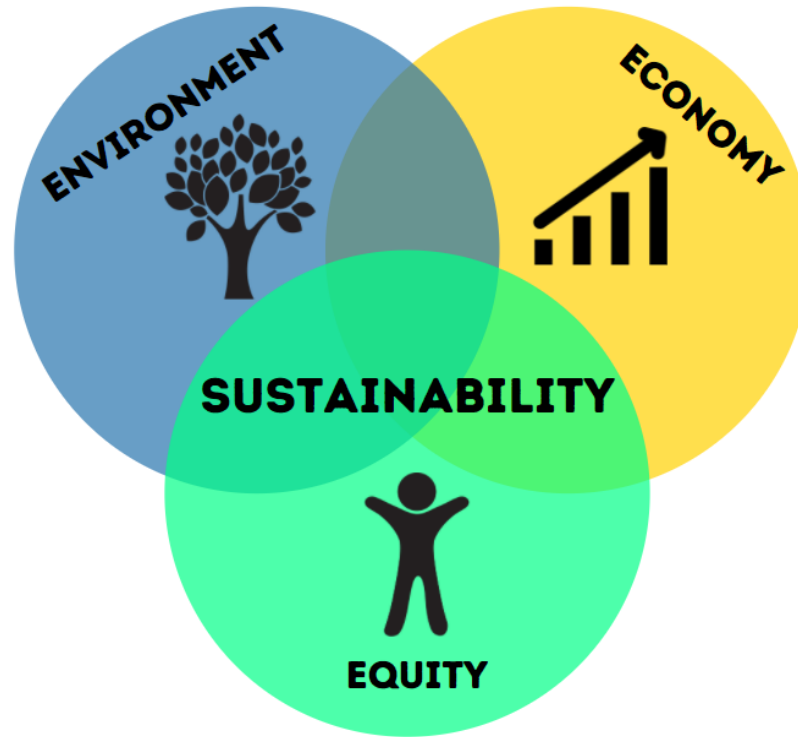


ANCESTRAL LANDS
INHABITED BY THE LENNI
LENAPE PEOPLE, ESOPUS
MUNSEE TERRITORY

Three Dimensions of Sustainability



Version 2: The Three E_s



Bemidji State University Version



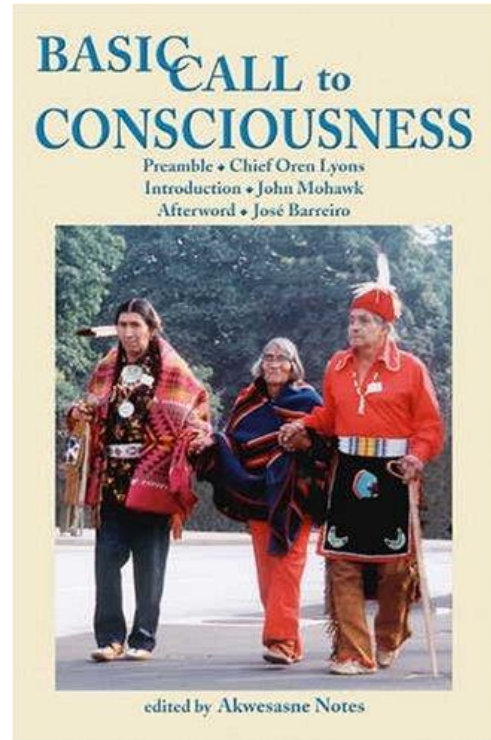
One Dish One Spoon Treaty (~1000 CE)



Earth is a Great Dish given to us that contains all that we need. How do we share this resource?

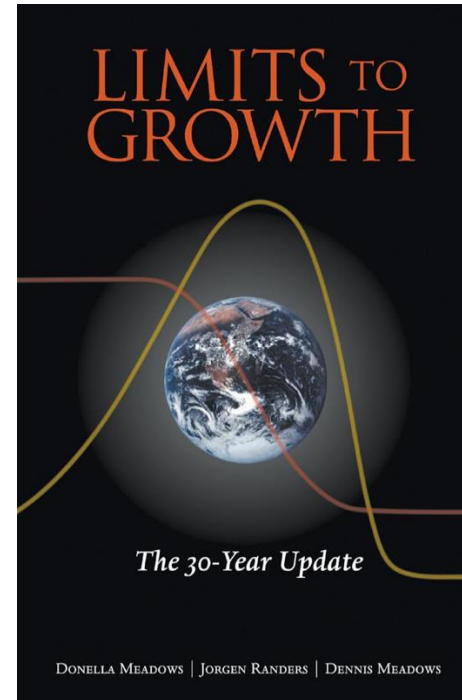
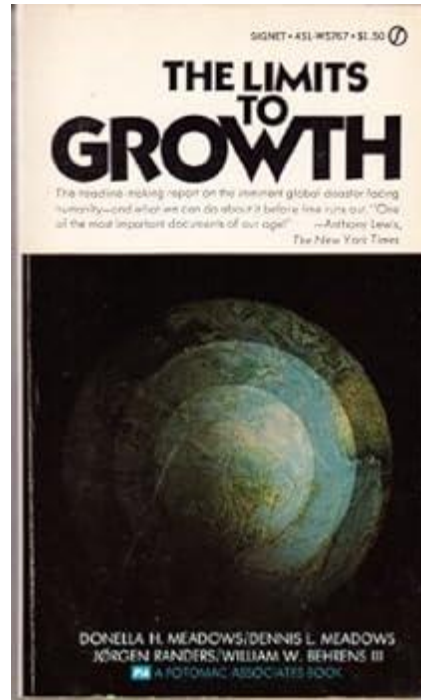
1. Only take what you need to feed yourself and make yourself well.
 2. Always leave some for others to enjoy.
 3. Keep the dish clean.
- Anishinabek & Potawatomi & Haudenosaunee

Basic Call to Consciousness



[Open-Source Introduction](#)

Limits to Growth



“Brundtland Definition” of Sustainable Development

from the Brundtland Report, [Our Common Future](#) (1987)

*"Development that meets the needs of the present
without compromising the ability of future generations
to meet their own needs"*

Principles of Environmental Justice (1991)

DUMPING IN DIXIE



Race, Class, and Environmental Quality

Robert D. Bullard

WE, THE PEOPLE OF COLOR, gathered together at this multinational People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, to begin to build a national and international movement of all peoples of color to fight the destruction and taking of our lands and communities, do hereby re-establish our spiritual interdependence to the sacredness of our Mother Earth; to respect and celebrate each of our cultures, languages and beliefs about the natural world and our roles in healing ourselves; to ensure environmental justice; to promote economic alternatives which would contribute to the development of environmentally safe livelihoods; and, to secure our political, economic and cultural liberation that has been denied for over 500 years of colonization and oppression, resulting in the poisoning of our communities and land and the genocide of our peoples, do affirm and adopt these Principles of Environmental Justice:

The Principles of Environmental Justice (EJ)

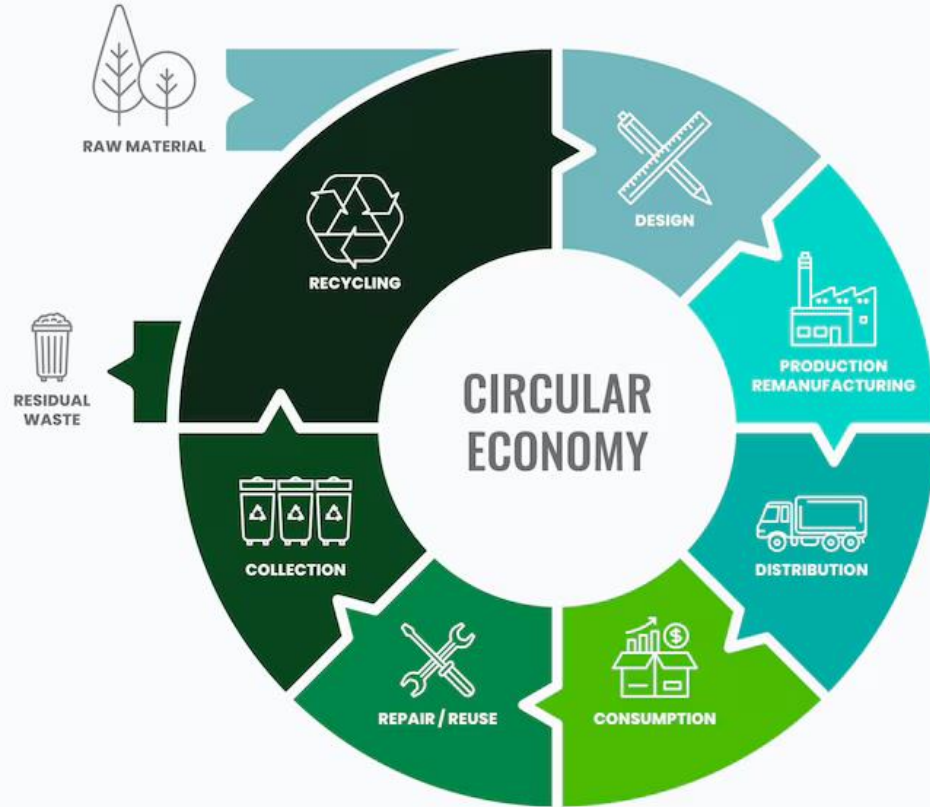
- 1) **Environmental Justice** affirms the sacredness of Mother Earth, ecological unity and the interdependence of all species, and the right to be free from ecological destruction.
 - 2) **Environmental Justice** demands that public policy be based on mutual respect and justice for all peoples, free from any form of discrimination or bias.
 - 3) **Environmental Justice** mandates the right to ethical, balanced and responsible uses of land and renewable resources in the interest of a sustainable planet for humans and other living things.
 - 4) **Environmental Justice** calls for universal protection from nuclear testing, extraction, production and disposal of toxic/hazardous wastes and poisons and nuclear testing that threaten the fundamental right to clean air, land, water, and food.
 - 5) **Environmental Justice** affirms the fundamental right to political, economic, cultural and environmental self-determination of all peoples.
 - 6) **Environmental Justice** demands the cessation of the production of all toxins, hazardous wastes, and radioactive materials, and that all past and current producers be held strictly accountable to the people for detoxification and the containment at the point of production.
 - 7) **Environmental Justice** demands the right to participate as equal partners at every level of decision-making, including needs assessment, planning, implementation, enforcement and evaluation.
 - 8) **Environmental Justice** affirms the right of all workers to a safe and healthy work environment without being forced to choose between an unsafe livelihood and unemployment. It also affirms the right of those who work at home to be free from environmental hazards.
 - 9) **Environmental Justice** protects the right of victims of environmental injustice to receive full compensation and reparations for damages as well as quality health care.
 - 10) **Environmental Justice** considers governmental acts of environmental injustice a violation of international law, the Universal Declaration On Human Rights, and the United Nations Convention on Genocide.
 - 11) **Environmental Justice** must recognize a special legal and natural relationship of Native Peoples to the U.S. government through treaties, agreements, compacts, and covenants affirming sovereignty and self-determination.
 - 12) **Environmental Justice** affirms the need for urban and rural ecological policies to clean up and rebuild our cities and rural areas in balance with nature, honoring the cultural integrity of all our communities, and provided fair access for all to the full range of resources.
 - 13) **Environmental Justice** calls for the strict enforcement of principles of informed consent, and a halt to the testing of experimental reproductive and medical procedures and vaccinations on people of color.
 - 14) **Environmental Justice** opposes the destructive operations of multi-national corporations.
 - 15) **Environmental Justice** opposes military occupation, repression and exploitation of lands, peoples and cultures, and other life forms.
 - 16) **Environmental Justice** calls for the education of present and future generations which emphasizes social and environmental issues, based on our experience and an appreciation of our diverse cultural perspectives.
 - 17) **Environmental Justice** requires that we, as individuals, make personal and consumer choices to consume as little of Mother Earth's resources and to produce as little waste as possible; and make the conscious decision to challenge and reprioritize our lifestyles to ensure the health of the natural world for present and future generations.
- More info on environmental justice and environmental racism can be found online at www.ejnet.org/ej/**

Delegates to the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit held on October 24-27, 1991, in Washington DC, drafted and adopted these 17 principles of Environmental Justice. Since then, the Principles have served as a defining document for the growing grassroots movement for environmental justice.

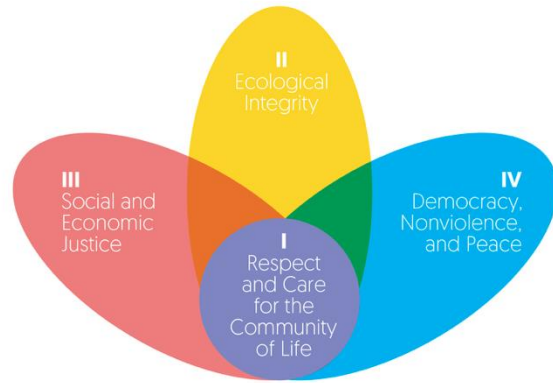
John Elkington's Triple Bottom Line or The Three Pillars (1997)



Circular Economy & ESG (environmental, social, governance) Investing



The Earth Charter (2000)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfMtTpXjV78>

PREAMBLE

We stand at a critical moment in Earth's history, a time when humanity must choose its future. As the world becomes increasingly interdependent and fragile, the future at once holds great peril and great promise. To move forward we must recognize that in the midst of a magnificent diversity of cultures and life forms we are one human family and one Earth community with a common destiny. We must join together to bring forth a sustainable global society founded on respect for nature, universal human rights, economic justice, and a culture of peace. Towards this end, it is imperative that we, the peoples of Earth, declare our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations.

Earth, Our Home

Humanity is part of a vast evolving universe. Earth, our home, is alive with a unique community of life. The forces of nature make existence a demanding and uncertain adventure, but Earth has provided the conditions essential to life's evolution. The resilience of the community of life and the well-being of humanity depend upon preserving a healthy biosphere with all its ecological systems, a rich variety of plants and animals, fertile soils, pure waters, and clean air. The global environment with its finite resources is a common concern of all peoples. The protection of Earth's vitality, diversity, and beauty is a sacred trust.

The Global Situation

The dominant patterns of production and consumption are causing environmental devastation, the depletion of resources, and a massive extinction of species. Communities are being undermined. The benefits of development are not shared equitably and the gap between rich and poor is widening. Injustice, poverty, ignorance, and violent conflict are widespread and the cause of great suffering. An unprecedented rise in human population has overburdened ecological and social systems. The foundations of global security are threatened. These trends are perilous—but not inevitable.

The Challenges Ahead

The choice is ours: form a global partnership to care for Earth and one another or risk the destruction of ourselves and the diversity of life. Fundamental changes are needed in our values, institutions, and ways of living. We must realize that when basic needs have been met, human development is primarily about being more, not having more. We have the knowledge and technology to provide for all and to reduce our impacts on the environment. The emergence of a global civil society is creating new opportunities to build a democratic and humane world. Our environmental, economic, political, social, and spiritual challenges are interconnected, and together we can forge inclusive solutions.

Universal Responsibility

To realize these aspirations, we must decide to live with a sense of universal responsibility, identifying ourselves with the whole Earth community as well as our local communities. We are at once citizens of different nations and of one world in which the local and global are linked. Everyone shares responsibility for the present and future well-being of the human family and the larger living world. The spirit of human solidarity and kinship with all life is strengthened when we live with reverence for the mystery of being, gratitude for the gift of life, and humility regarding the human place in nature.

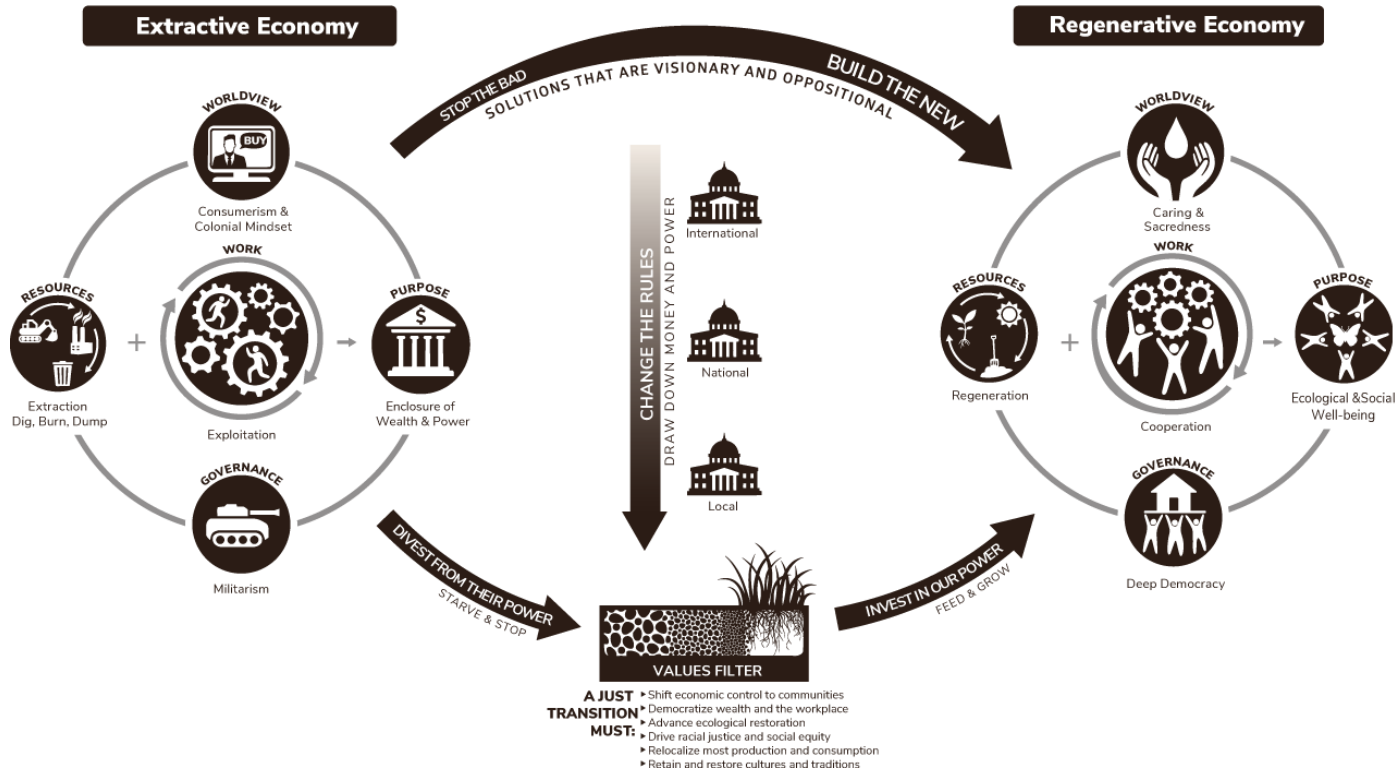
We urgently need a shared vision of basic values to provide an ethical foundation for the emerging world community. Therefore, together in hope we affirm the following interdependent principles for a sustainable way of life as a common standard by which the conduct of all individuals, organizations, businesses, governments, and transnational institutions is to be guided and assessed.

Julian Agyeman's Just Sustainabilities (2003)

Conditions of Just Sustainabilities (global perspective):

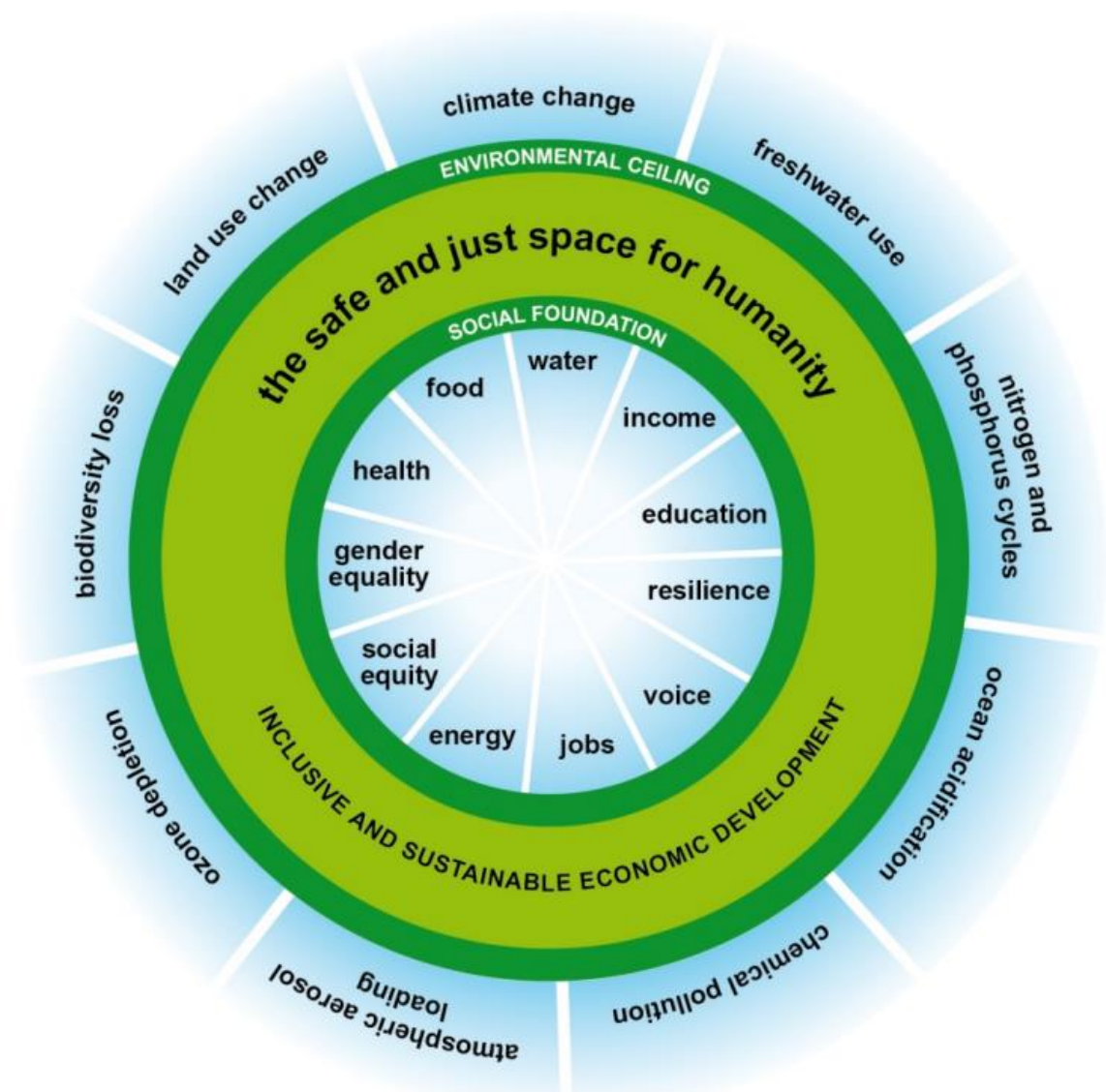
- i) Improving our quality of life and well-being;
- ii) Meeting the needs of both present and future generations (intra- and inter- generational equity);
- iii) Justice and equity in terms of recognition (Schlosberg, 1999), process, procedure and outcome.
- iv) Living within ecosystem limits (also called one planet living)

Just Transition / Movement Generation (2000s)



Kate Raworth's
**Doughnut of
Social and
Planetary
Boundaries**
(2012)

A safe and just space for
humanity to thrive in



(2015)

THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development



Critical Sustainabilities



"Critical sustainability, in many ways evolving from the inclusive concept of *just sustainability*, uses a critical theory lens to unmask intertwined social and economic systems of oppression enforced through global capitalism" (Cachelin 2019).

Example: Increase in electric cars and solarized houses is excellent for planet, but it adds yet another dimension of inequality in the unequal access various groups have to these “up” grades. Those sourcing the materials to create, deliver, dispose of these products typically do not benefit from them.

Example: With *Green capitalism*, individual consumers can purchase their conservation ethic (I recycle, I wear second-hand clothing, etc.) while “the true ecological costs of their purchases and lifestyles remain hidden from them.”

Sustainability Education responds to a “Crisis of Perception”

Focus on discourse: We tend to rely on simplified and unrealistic representations of nature and of social systems. We center the human in all approaches.

What is it we are trying to sustain?

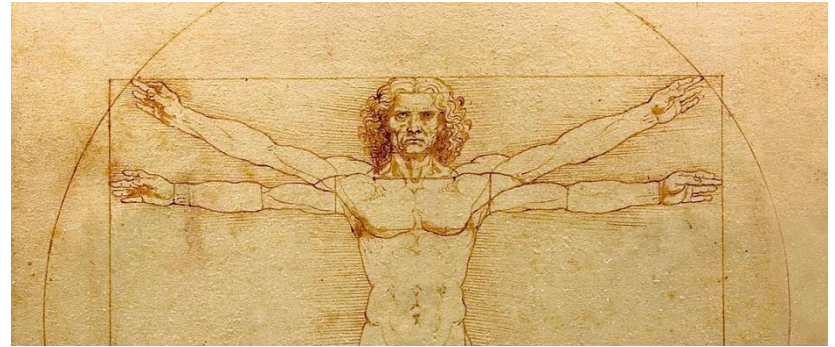
Dualisms create "myths of separation"

- Human / Nature
- Nature / Culture
- Me / not me..... leads to treating nature as *other* and eases destruction.

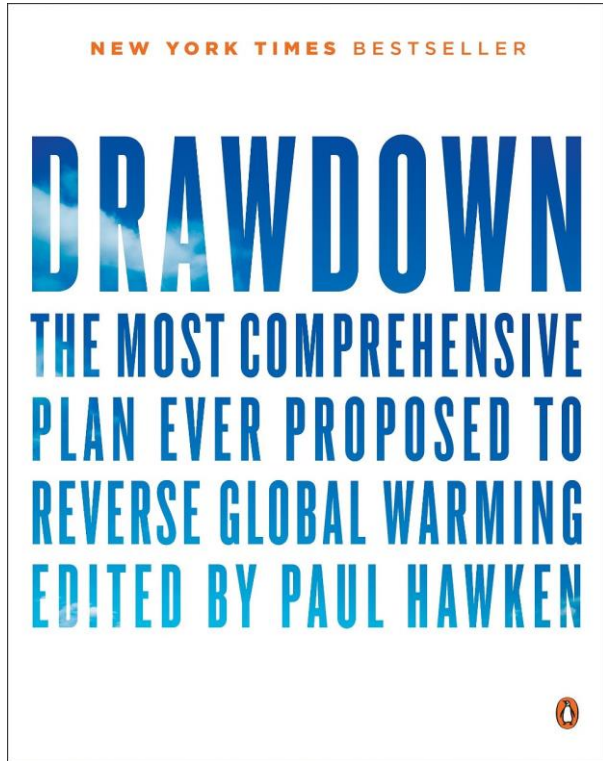
It's not about students connecting with nature, (wrong and misleading) it's about the interrelationship of all things. (David Clarke, “Becoming Rocked”)

Donna Haraway (2015) decenters the “anthro” in Anthropocene

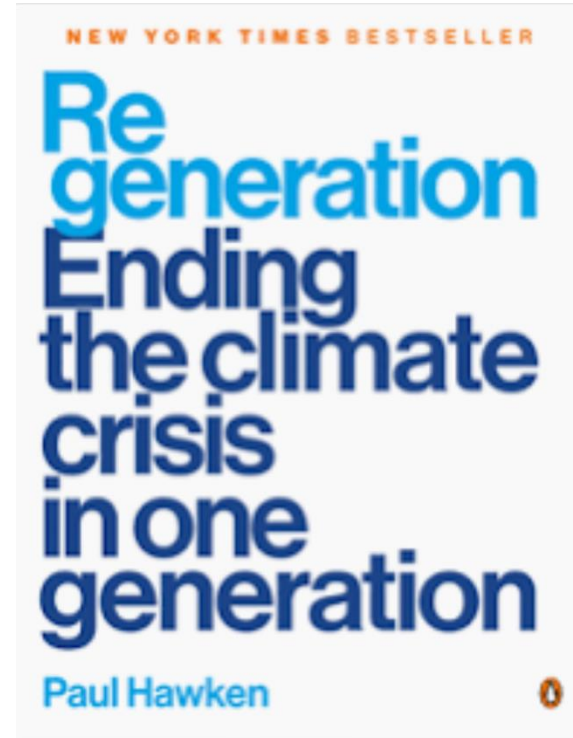
“no species, not even our own arrogant one pretending to be good individuals in so-called modern Western scripts, acts alone; assemblages of organic species and of abiotic actors make history, the evolutionary kind and the other kinds too” (159)



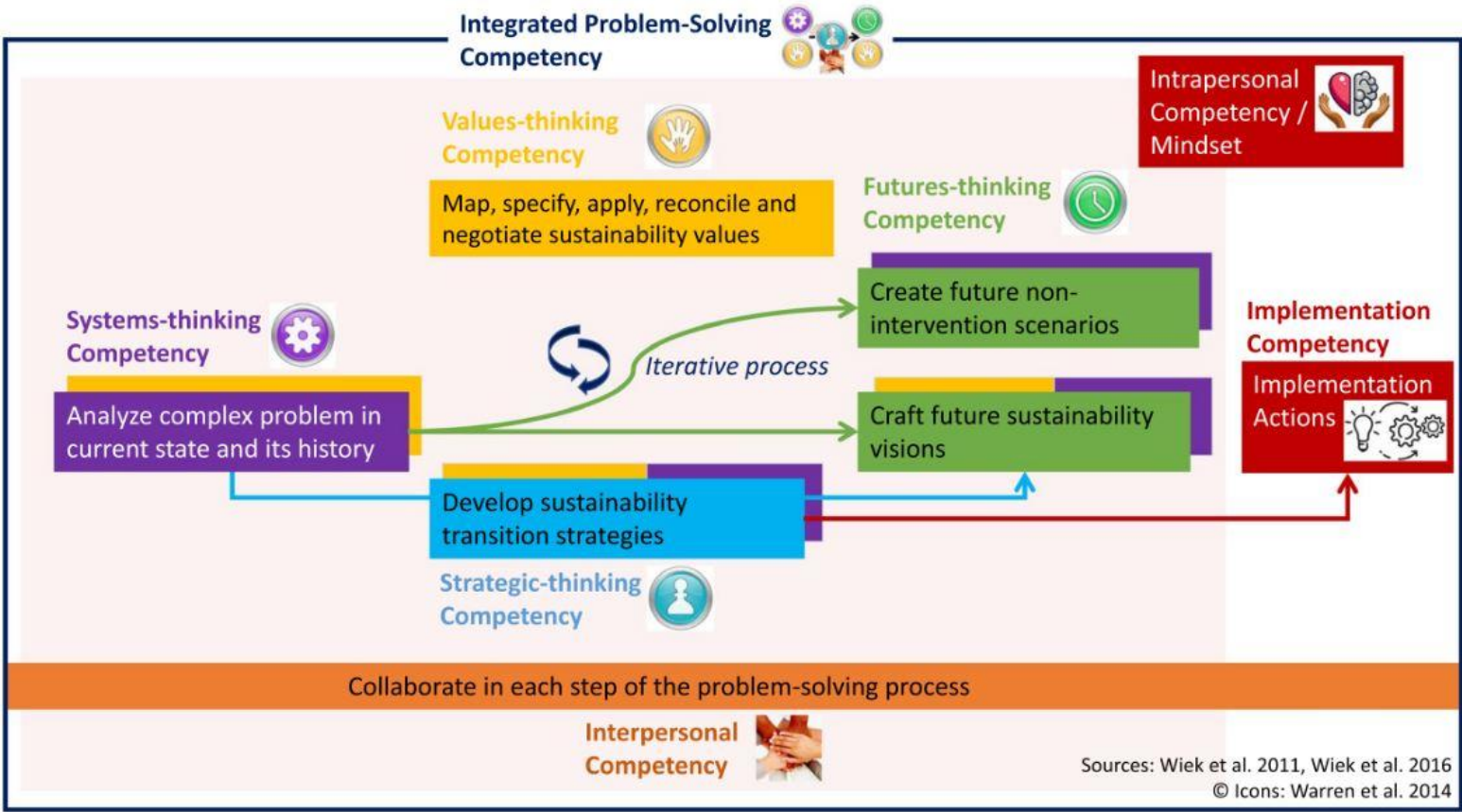
Climate Solutions Resources: Drawdown-Regeneration



<https://drawdown.org/>



<https://regeneration.org/>



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