

BIO-REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY MATRIX

the conceptual framework of Austin Green Art

Helping communities imagine and manifest regional sustainability





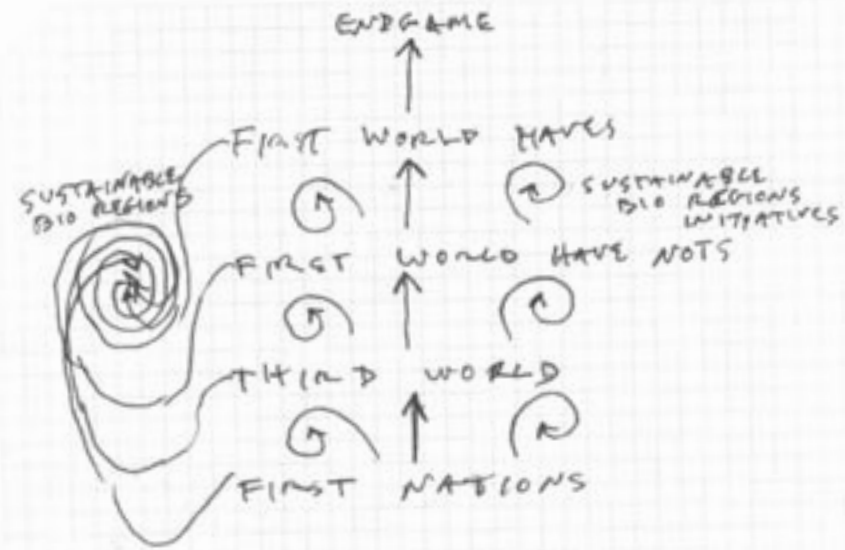
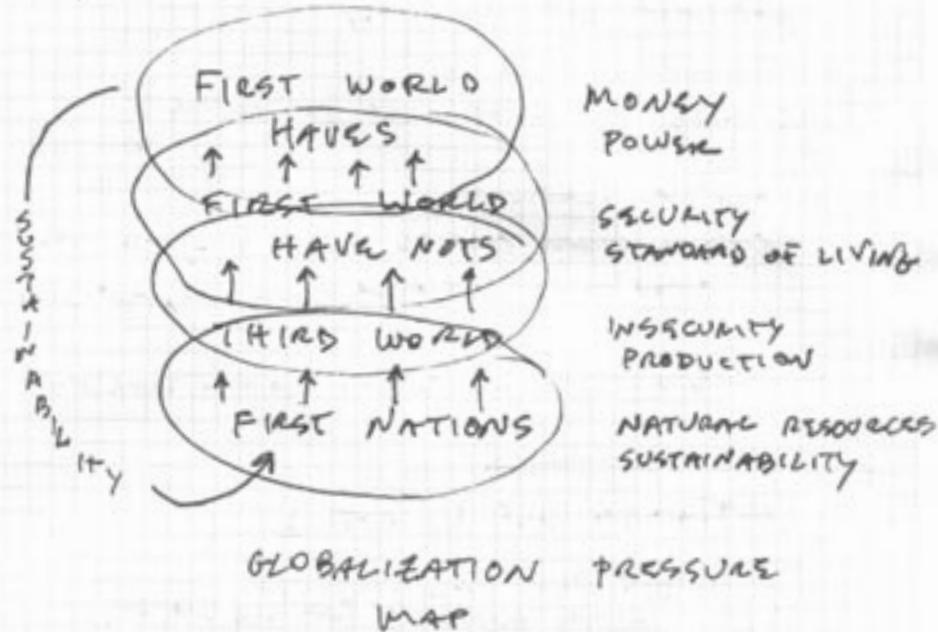
**We each contain the seeds of sustainability.
AGA fosters them.**

**learning
restoration
stewardship
relationships
growth**

- **every citizen should be a sustainability steward**
- **every site should have a sustainability assessment and development plan**
- **community groups should be aware of and participate in enriching a sustainability matrix**

Every citizen and site is part of the bio-region's sustainability whether they actively pursue stewardship and development or not – a possible binary symbol -- “off/on.”

MCKIBBEN / HAWKEN



AGA provides deliverability through:

- **visual models of sustainability for individual, sites and community groups**
- **stewardship training and collaborative activities (assessment and development)**
- **Landscape Division (AGA's unique sustainable site development creator program)**
- **community partnerships for public projects (our current and past activities)**

All projects are educational and inspirational in themselves and part of the sustainability matrix – AND they provide opportunity to continually recruit (“turn on”) new participants.

Sustainability as a Never-ending Fun Game

The Sustainability Matrix maps sustainability as a process. We may not know what sustainability is in practice yet, but we know what its elements are, and that enhancing connectivity between these elements continually increases sustainability even as those changes must continually adapt as natural conditions vary.

Using the Sustainability Matrix we can create a community-wide game. We create a scoring system that assesses “sustainable development” in the nine areas.

We will ask organizations that already lead in the nine areas to contribute to the scoring document that provides a framework for engaging a household or business in the region in a 20 - 30 minute conversation about how their home functions.

The game begins internally within AGA, but is designed to spread virally as outreach enables neighbors to initiate their friends and family.

Game Framework:

- six degrees of sustainability roughly defined
- keep central database of participating households and organizations initial scores
- develop starter database of implementable projects
- keep database of proposed projects
- add to database of projects as community creativity kicks in

- **CREATE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY**

“How can private space be converted into sites where sustainable development happens?”

“How can we create community connectivity between 500 individuals committed to improving sustainability together?”

“We will systemically ask, sit down together, and play sustainability one house, one project at time.



Sustainability Wheel:
 a conceptual map of sustainability as a process
 a community map of organizations
 a tool to assess sustainable progress for any entity

The principle of “deep ecology” dictates that each of these areas is connected to the other. Each community member is connected to the other. The greater degree of connection and rigor of connection increases sustainability.

- Food**
- Transit**
- Green Building**
- Water**
- Waste**
- Art**
- Wildlife Habitat**
- Native Plants**
- Economy**



MAP AGA PAST PROJECTS on MATRIX

MAP AGA CURRENT and FUTURE PROJECTS on MATRIX

