

“Our new Life-aligned culture is emerging! Here’s some of the evidence.”

IONS TALK, July 20, 2024
Elaine Cornick, [Cultural Butterfly Project](#)

Section 1:

New ways of relating to the Earth, ecology, climate, food, and agriculture

Note: this is by no means an exhaustive list, and it’s not meant to be.

Living regeneratively is a step past sustainability. In his book [Regeneration: Ending the Climate Crisis in One Generation](#) and his website [Regeneration](#), Paul Hawken says that regeneration means putting life at the center of every action and decision. **Regeneration is not only about bringing the world back to life; it is about bringing each of us back to life.** It creates livelihoods that bring life to people and people to life. It is work that links us to each other’s well-being. This is a living project and website with new entries, categories (80+ at my last count!) and information being added ongoingly. The website has a Cascade of Solutions and Frameworks for Action, plus [Nexus](#), the world’s largest listing of climate solutions. They say, “These are more than just descriptions. Each Nexus entry explores **what can be done on all levels of agency**, including individual, community, classroom, city, company, and government.”

Regenerative agriculture is a system of managing food production that increases the carbon levels of soil, removes carbon from the atmosphere and actually fights climate change. ([Regenerative Farmers of America](#)). Further, **regenerative agriculture is inherently about a positive future of abundance, joy, well-being, and prosperity.** ([The Joy of Regenerative Agriculture](#)). Regenerative Agriculture movement, e.g.:

- ◆ [Common Ground](#) documentary film
- ◆ [Kiss The Ground](#) documentary movie
- ◆ [Savory Institute/Holistic Management](#)
- ◆ [Dirt To Soil: One Family’s Journey Into Regenerative Agriculture](#) book by Gabe Brown
- ◆ [A Bold Return to Giving a Damn: One Farm, Six Generations, and the Future of Food](#) book by Will Harris
- ◆ [Green Grass in the Spring: A Cowboy's Guide to Saving the World](#) book by Tony Malmberg

TED Talk: Why healthy soil matters now more than ever: “There is no machine that can bring soil back. But we can **build our soils** and **put more carbon underground** with a little help from plants and microbes. Rebuilding soil is going to require us to **fundamentally rethink our reliance on technology and chemicals** to deliver *what soils can do on their own: support life*. The awesome thing is **carbon-rich soils help buffer us against what is an uncertain climate future.** The trick is to really rethink how we do agriculture.”

Permaculture movement, e.g. [Andrew Millison at Oregon State University](#)

[Biomimicry Institute](#): “We are on a mission to help solve humanity’s biggest challenges through the adoption of biomimicry (nature-inspired innovation) in education, culture, and industry. We are the bridge between biology and design, advancing the adoption of nature-inspired strategies to help solve the most pressing problems of our time.” This year’s [Ray of Hope Prize® finalists](#) offer inspiring industry-changing solutions aimed at solving critical environmental and social issues through their **use of biomimicry**. Their solutions . . . are **leveraging nature’s genius** to revolutionize textiles, wind turbines, waste remediation, building materials, cleaning products, sunscreen, plastics, and more. Janine Benyus, the co-founder of the [Biomimicry Institute](#), says they continually ask the question, “What would nature do?” They say, “For eons, nature has solved its problems with well-adapted designs, life-friendly chemistry, and smart material and energy use. We exist to shine a light on nature’s genius, and bridge pressing design challenges with proven biological strategies for a better future. How do we make the act of asking nature’s advice a normal part of everyday inventing?”

The [Pachamama Alliance](#) was co-founded by Lynne Twist, who also founded the [Soul of Money Institute](#). The July 17, 2024 “Wednesday Wisdom” blog from the Soul of Money Institute was titled “**Transforming Human Supremacy to Sacred Reciprocity**”. It said in part,

“We hope you were aware of, and possibly celebrated, the Summer Solstice that just happened this June 21st. The Indigenous Kogi people of Colombia had said that this particular solstice was a turning point for humanity – that Mother Earth needed to feel humans’ commitment to stand with her and assist in her restoration.

“In early June, Lynne was blessed to be part of a gathering to create such a commitment. The Pachamama Alliance invited 65 global leaders – visionaries, experts, and activists from around the world – to come together for five days with this bold and inspiring purpose: **To accelerate an evolutionary leap that transforms our species’ dominant way of being from human supremacy to sacred responsibility and reciprocity with Earth, one another, and all Life.**

“. . . what it would mean for humans to see themselves not as the masters of the Earth but as a part of Nature, interconnected with and responsible for all of life. What a different future would be possible if we humans honored a reciprocal relationship with Earth and each other -- giving and taking in ways that are sacred and mutually-enhancing!

“. . . in the midst of so much challenging news and scary predictions of a global meta-crisis, so many people are rising to the occasion, determined to find pathways to a regenerative future. Mother Earth is calling for a new human consciousness of responsibility and sacred reciprocity, and there is a surge of possibility and power to make that happen. Each of us can play our part, beginning with realizing the privilege of being alive at a time when we can make such a significant difference in altering the course of history.”

The [EcoRestoration Alliance](#) is an alliance of scientists, storytellers, and practitioners working together to restore the climate by restoring the biosphere. Their [whitepaper](#) says the prevailing climate change narrative is demoralizing and dangerously incomplete, and gives an actionable strategy that could literally *reverse* global warming in a few decades: **restore the healthy ecosystems that (until recently) moderated the climate.**

"[Fighting Fire with Fire](#)" is reintroducing **indigenous cultural burning practices** in Australia to deal with climate change.

Mega and metropolitan cities need a solution where **many dense patches of forests can be created.** The [Miyawaki method](#) of creating forests is a way to bring a big quick change in a small area. Miyawaki dense forests grow 10 times faster, they are 100 times more biodiverse, 30 times better noise and dust reduction, have 30 times more green surface area and are 100% organic, with up to 30 times better carbon dioxide absorption as compared to a monoculture plantation. **We get a 100-YEAR-OLD FOREST IN JUST 10 YEARS.**

Patagonia announced on Sept. 14, 2022 that "[Earth is now our only shareholder](#)".

Environment/Ecology:

- [Stanford Designer is Making Bricks Out of Fast-Growing Mushrooms That Are Stronger than Concrete](#)
- [Scientists Create Transparent Wood Nearly as Clear as Glass to Make Stronger, Better Insulating Windows](#)
- [Breakthrough 3D Solar Panel Design Increases Light Absorption By 125% – A Potential Game-Changer](#)
- [Bamboo Tower Produces Up To 25 Gallons of Water In A Day Without Electricity](#)
- [Mini Wind Turbine Can Generate Energy Made From the Breeze You Make When Walking](#)
- [These Wind Turbines Attached to Highway Street Lights Are Powered By Traffic](#)
- [Kites of Renewable Energy Generate Wind Power by Flying Through the Air](#)
- [Student finds bacteria that eats pollution and breathes electricity](#)
- [Natural Organisms in Soil Can Power Lights With This Bio Battery, Which May Be World's Most Disruptive Technology](#)
- [Scientists Create 'Super Enzyme' That Eats Plastic Bottles Six Times Faster than Previous Enzymes](#)
- [H&M In-Store Recycling Machine Turns Old Clothes into New Threads—A World First](#)
- [Englishman Grows 500 Types of Edible Foods With Only a Few Hours' Work a Month](#)
- [Off the Wall: Vertical Growing is Coming to a Market Near You](#)
- [TED Talk: Big data, small farms and a tale of two tomatoes: the path to a healthier, zero-waste food system](#)
- [How Costa Rica Slowed, Stopped, Then Reversed Deforestation in Their Rainforests](#)
- [Tiny Forests Are Springing Up All Around Europe, Inspired By Japan, to Help Restore Biodiversity](#)
- [TED Talk: An Engineer's Vision For Tiny Forests, Everywhere](#)
- [TED Talk: The global movement to restore nature's biodiversity](#)
- [Couple Turns Barren Estate Into Eden, Rewilding to Attract Species of Astonishing Diversity](#)
- [In a world's first, India's dozen major ports now run fully on renewable energy](#)
- [California highway made from recycled plastic!](#)
- [Zero-Emission Trucks Set To Make New Zealand A World Leader In Hydrogen Energy](#)

- [Downtown Sydney is now powered by 100% renewable energy thanks to historic deal](#)
- [Invention For Renewable Energy Inspired by the Physics of Northern Lights](#)
- [Asia's largest organic rooftop farm - located in busy Bangkok](#). This green roof and farm offer a Swiss army knife of solutions — flood control, solar energy, fresh produce, green space for city dwellers, jobs, learning opportunities, and more.
- [TED Talk: "Leather and meat without killing animals"](#)
- [World's Biggest Rooftop Greenhouse in Montreal is as Big as 3 Football Fields – Now Can Feed 2% of the City](#)
- [Largest urban rooftop farm in the world, now supplying produce in Paris](#)
- [Scientists and Refugees Grow Crops in Desert Using Old Mattresses Bound for the Landfill](#)