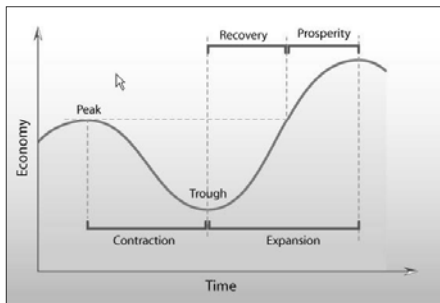


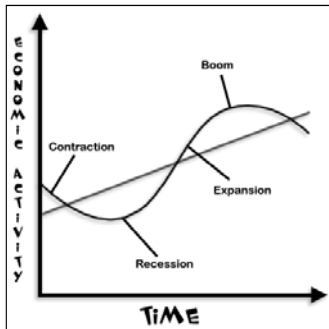
Overview

- Change – past, present, future
- Moving toward a new economy
- Building a new community
- How do we get there?

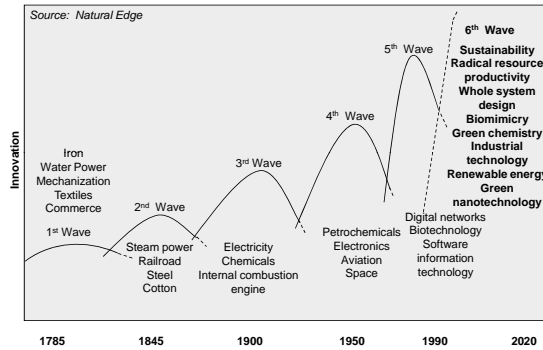
Good News: The Business Cycle



Bad News: The Business Cycle

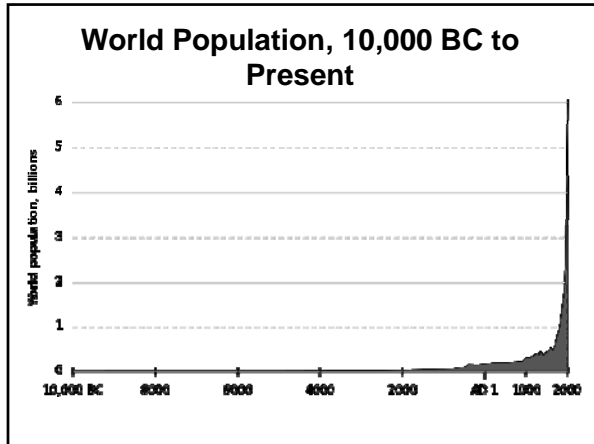


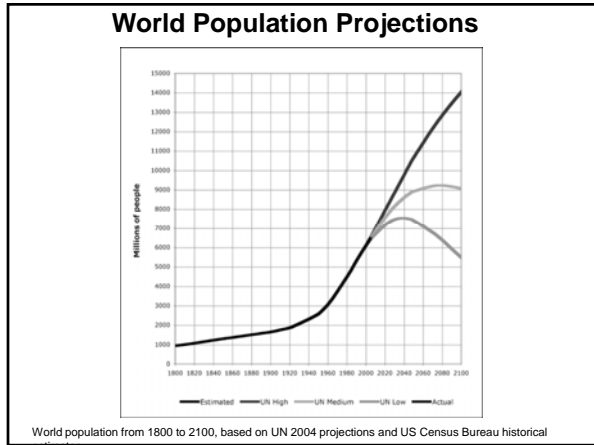
Waves of Innovation



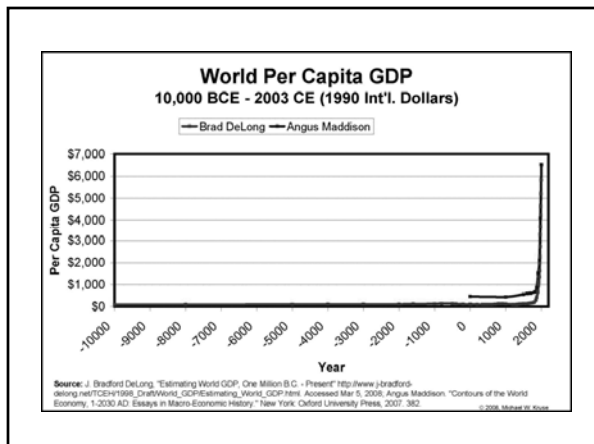
Other Upward Trends

Considering the Implications of Growth





World population from 1800 to 2100, based on UN 2004 projections and US Census Bureau historical



Source: J. Bradford DeLong, "Estimating World GDP, One Million B.C. - Present" http://www.jbradford.org/millennium/2000/03/03/estimating_world_gdp.html, Accessed Mar 5, 2008; Angus Maddison, "Contours of the World Economy, 1-2000 AD: Essays in Macro-Economic History" New York: Oxford University Press, 2007, 382. © 2008, Harvard UP Press

Conceptual Reform in Economics: Seven Big Ideas

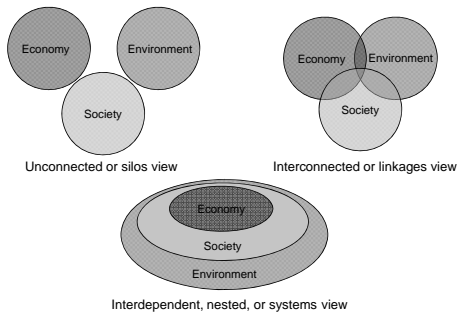
- Adjust economic scale
- Shift from growth to development
- Make prices tell the ecological truth
- Account for nature's contributions
- Apply the precautionary principle
- Revitalize commons management
- Value women

Source: Gardner, Gary, and Prugh, Thomas, Project Directors. *State of the World 2008: Innovations for a Sustainable Economy*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2008.

Moving Toward a New Economy

- Green economy
- Green collar economy
- Sustainable economy
- Clean economy
- Post-carbon (or carbon neutral) economy
- Circular (recycling) economy
- Steady-state economy
- Human-scale economy
- Local living economy

Evolving Views of the Community



Systems Thinking

- Systems consist of **individual but interrelated parts**.
- Systems depend on the **relationships** among the parts as much as the parts themselves.
- These relationships make the **whole greater than the sum of its parts**.
- When you **dissect** the system, you destroy the pattern of relationships.

Sustainable Community Development

Drivers

- Sustainable development and systems thinking

Goal

- Sustainability

Emerging Strategies

- Green collar jobs
- Alternative and renewable energy sources

- Local food systems
- Sustainable (eco) tourism
- Triple bottom line business
- Industrial ecology
- Valuing ecosystem services
- Precautionary principle
- Eco-municipality movement (The Natural Step)
- Transition Towns

Wisconsin Eco-municipalities

- Town of La Pointe
- City of Washburn
- City of Ashland
- City of Madison
- City of Bayfield
- Town of Bayfield
- Douglas County
- Village of Johnson Creek
- City of Marshfield
- City of Manitowoc
- City of Neenah
- City of Menasha
- Town of Menasha
- City of Eau Claire
- Town of Cottage Grove
- City of La Crosse
- La Crosse County
- City of Stevens Point
- City of Wausau
- City of Beloit
- City of Baraboo
- City of Sheboygan
- Dunn County
- Village of Spring Green
- Village of Colfax
- Town of Greenville
- Village of Shorewood






Energy Independent Communities




Four Sustainability Principles

In a sustainable society, nature is not subject to **systematically increasing...**

-  ...concentrations of substances extracted from the Earth's crust,
-  ...concentrations of substances produced by society,
-  ...degradation by physical means,

and, in that society...

-  ...people are not subject to conditions that systematically undermine their capacity to meet their needs.

Fundamental Human Needs

| | | | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|---|---|---|
| Subsistence | Protection | Participation |  |  |  |
| Idleness | Affection | Understanding |  |  |  |
| Creativity | Identity | Freedom |  |  |  |

Transition Model

“ . . . a positive, solutions-focused way of gathering those around you together to start exploring community-scale responses to peak oil and climate change.”

Rob Hopkins. *The Transition Handbook*, 2008.

Transition: Guiding Principles

- Inner and Outer Transition
- Positive Visioning
- Inclusion and Openness
- Enable Sharing and Networking
- Build Resilience
- Self-organization and decision making at the appropriate level



Three Basic Policy Goals

- Sustainable scale
- Just distribution
- Efficient allocation

Source: Daly, Herman. *Ecological Economics*. Island Press, 2004.

Building a New Community

Durable
Sturdy
Stable
Hardy
Robust
Resilient
Human scale
Self-reliant
Localized

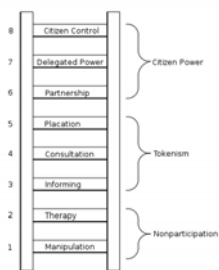
Community Engagement

Participatory
Inclusive
Decentralized
Self-organizing
Horizontal
Open
Collective
Fair and just
Empowering

How do we get there?

- The sustainability-participation connection
 - Ecosystems are about connectedness and interdependence
 - Relationships are more important than parts
 - Wisdom is about understanding interdependence
 - Understanding of others can only occur through interaction with them
 - Interacting requires participation of everyone

Ladder of Participation



Arnstein, Sherry R. "A Ladder of Citizen Participation," JAIP, Vol. 35, No. 4, July 1969, pp. 216-224

Who doesn't Participate--the Excluded

- People with lower income
- People with less education
- People of color
- People with disabilities
- Single parents
- Immigrants



How to Prevent the Excluded from Participating

- Meetings during working hours
- Meetings without child care
- Mealtime meetings without food
- Inaccessible meetings
- No translation at meetings
- No public transport to meetings



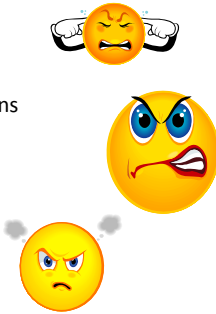
How to Discourage the Excluded from Participating

- Elites control the agenda
- Plan is worked out before the meeting
- Final decisions will be made by others
- Boring meetings
- Non-interactive meetings
- Results of meeting are ignored



The Consequences of Exclusion

- NIMBYism
- Disillusionment
- Abstinance from elections
- Distrust of government
- Tax resistance
- Development resistance



Changing our Thinking

- Respecting adversarial democracy
- Embracing diversity
- Climbing up the ladder of participation
- Appreciating creativity



Building the Base for Inclusion

- Building relationships with the excluded (one on ones, small groups, listening projects)
- Building participation skills of the excluded
- Organizing the excluded (from small groups to sustainable organizations)



Why Consensus Processes May Not Work

- There are contradictory material interests.
- There is not an honest desire among power holders to share power.



Adversarial Processes

- Riots
- Protests
- Community organizing



Professional Challenges for the Community Worker

- Elites like having control
- Elites control the community worker's salary
- Racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, etc.



Managing the Challenges

- Dividing elites
- Educating elites
- The civic engagement backdoor



Resources

- The Guide to Effective Participation <http://www.partnerships.org.uk/guide/index.htm>
- The Citizen's Handbook <http://www.vcn.bc.ca/citizens-handbook/>
- The Study Circles Resource Center <http://www.studycircles.org/>
- Fond du Lac Diversity Circles <http://www.fdl.uwc.edu/diversitycircles/>
- Consensus Organizing Center <http://consensus.sdsu.edu/>
- Organizing <http://www.tenant.net/Organize/>
