The work of the Global Tapestry of Alternatives

Building a Movement

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Outline (to be replaced)

• People – Who is part of your movement?
• Impact - What is the change that is going to happen because of your movement? This could be social, environmental, economic, individual or collective
• Movement Identity - Who are you and what do you stand for? Explore the founding principles of your movement – the purpose, experiences and values that your members share
• Movement Journey - Where are you taking people? Plan out what happens once people join your movement. How will they engage, what kind of actions will they take and how will they get the recognition they deserve?
• Movement Enablers - What do you need to get going and stay moving? Work out how to organise, communicate and connect with your movement and identify the infrastructure you’ll need to put in place.

https://thesocialchangeagency.org/movement-building/
Movement Identity

• **Contesting the dominant regime** and its roots in capitalist, patriarchal, racist, statist, and anthropocentric forces.

• **Radical alternatives** range from initiatives with a specific focus like sustainable and holistic agriculture, community led water/energy/food sovereignty, solidarity and sharing economies, worker control of production facilities, resource/knowledge commons, and inter-ethnic peace and harmony, to more holistic or rounded transformations such as those being attempted by the Zapatista in Chiapas and the Kurds in Rojava. Alternatives also include the revival of ancient traditions and the emergence of new worldviews that re-establish humanity’s place within nature, as a basis for human dignity and equality.
People

• Diversity, inclusion, experience, commitment, openness, vision

• Currently three identifiable working groups:
  • Core group
  • Endorsers
  • Complimentary global processes
Endorsing networks / movements / organisations

Afrika Youth Movement
Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa
Community Economies Collective
Defend the Sacred
Earthlife Africa Jhb
ECOLISE
European Commons Assembly
Faircoop
Focus on the Global South
Forest Peoples Programme
Gaia Foundation
Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature
Global Ecovillage Network
Global Forest Coalition
Global University for Sustainability
Iniitiated by GTA in Nov 2020, 7 global processes of transformation in dialogue, planning collective actions of resistance and alternatives:

• Global Dialogue for Systemic Change
• Global Green New Deal
• Grassroots to Global Network
• Progressive International
• Towards a New World Social Forum
• Multiconvergence
Journey

- Started with conversations and building circles of support and action
- Core group
- Endorsers to the process
- Learning, sharing and co-creating together
- Go slow but go together and go far
- Process developing and growing organically with no set structure but a clear vision
Activities

• Dialogues in various solidaric spaces – WSF, Degrowth conferences, From the Ground Up, etc
• Webinar series since COVID-19 pandemic
• Newsletter
• Compilation of community resilience stories
• Dialogues between weavers – Crianza Mutua in Colombia and Mexico + Vikalp Sangam in India
• Participate in events and activities contesting the dominant regime and nurturing radical alternatives
• Mapping of radical alternatives
Building on regional/national tapestries:

• Vikalp Sangam (Alternatives Confluence) in India
• Crianza Mutua ( Mutual Nurture) in Mexico & Colombia
First series of webinars:
DIALOGUE ON ALTERNATIVES
IN THE TIME OF GLOBAL CRISES

Second series begun in February 2021

Feminist Alternatives to the "New Normality"

Inspired by the work of community support networks of marginalized groups located on the peripheries of institutional power, the aim of this virtual assembly is to explore feminist alternatives to the new normality going beyond the State and policy recommendations.
Enablers

What is needed to build the tapestry:

• Core group of volunteers
• Technological support
• Communication platforms and tools
• Resources to facilitate interactions between weavers
• Resources for mapping
The important of movement building and the work of the GTA

• There is great possibility and hope around the world. People are resisting and creating at the same time.
• Immense opportunity in sharing, learning, supporting and creating together
• Pluriversal thinking and organic growth with deep respect for the diversity of ways of knowing, being and doing