

NOT A SPEED BUMP

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WHAT IS THE INSTITUTE FOR ECOLOGICAL CIVILIZATION?

JOHN COBB TO THE UCC ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

- “The more progressive denominations on the whole have been losing members and resources. There are many reasons. **But I think the deepest one may be that what we do and say does not seem to be terribly important.** This is true with regard to our children whom we bring up in the church. They may have a positive attitude toward it, but they do not see any reason to give much, if any, of their time and energy to its support.”
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Bill McKibben

“Thus human beings are now carrying out a large scale geophysical experiment of a kind that could not have happened in the past nor be reproduced in the future. Within a few centuries we are returning to the atmosphere and oceans the concentrated organic carbon stored in sedimentary rocks over hundreds of millions of years.”

— Bill McKibben, *The Global Warming Reader: A Century of Writing about Climate Change*

Bill McKibben

EAARTH:

Making a Life on a Tough New Planet



WHY NOT A SPEED BUMP?

- Scientific data, virology: transmission of the virus
 - Economic data:
 - Individuals
 - Small businesses
 - government
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***THE* COLLAPSE, OR ONE OF MANY LITTLE COLLAPSES?**

We don't know. What do we know?

- Biological systems are interconnected
 - Economic systems are interdependent
 - Market calculations notwithstanding, in a finite system, the future will not necessarily be similar to the past.
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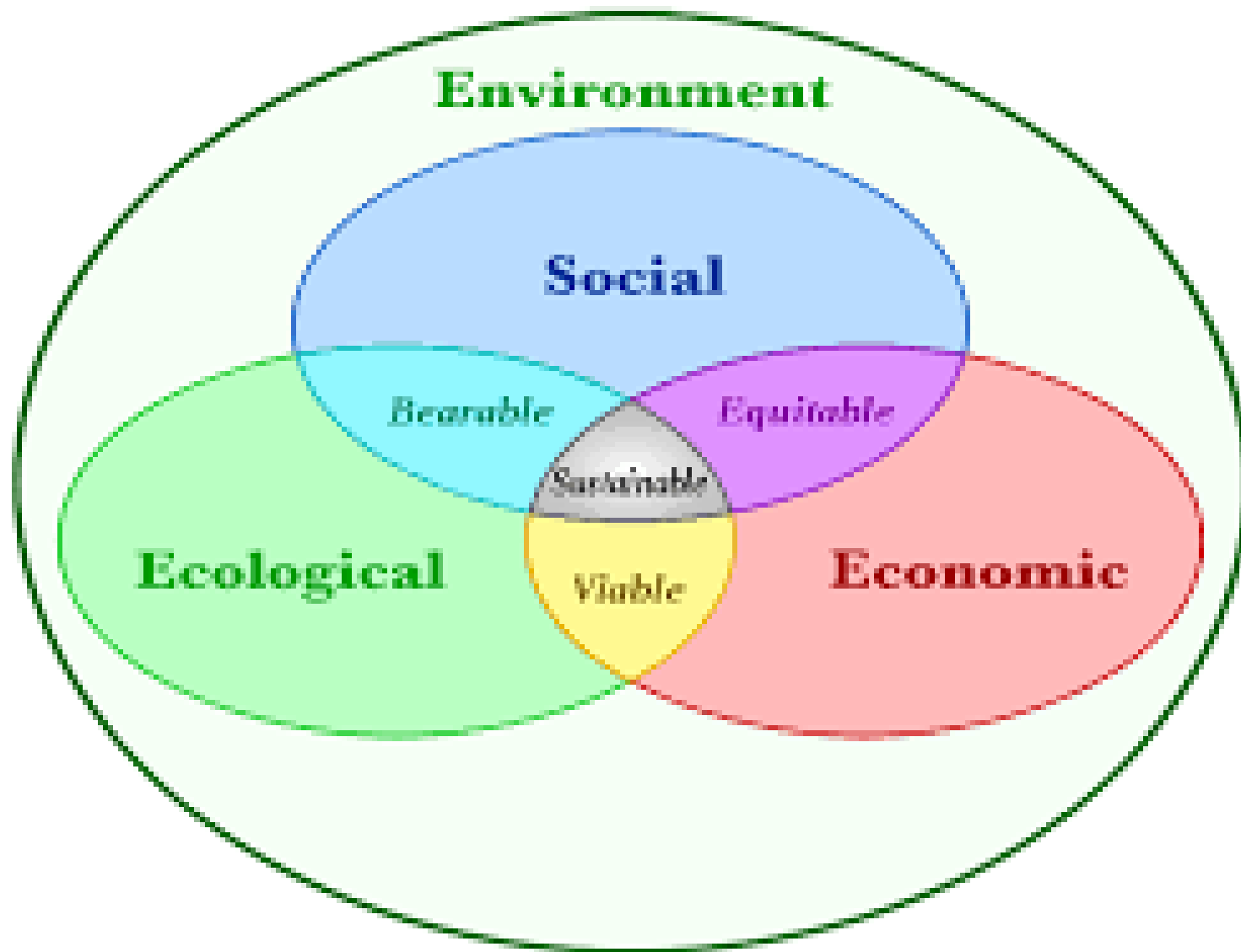
WHAT'S NEXT AFTER PANDEMIC?

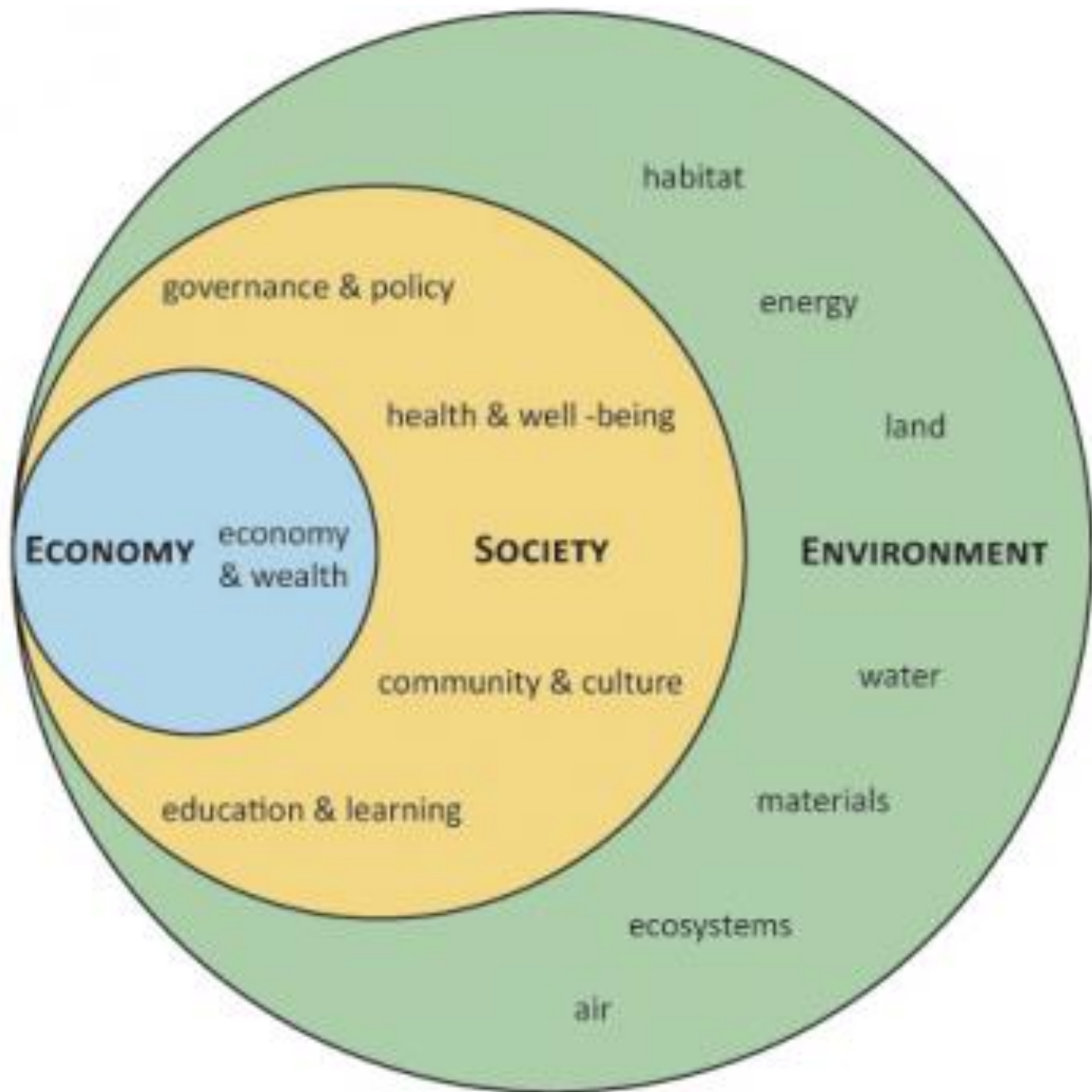
WHAT TO THINK?

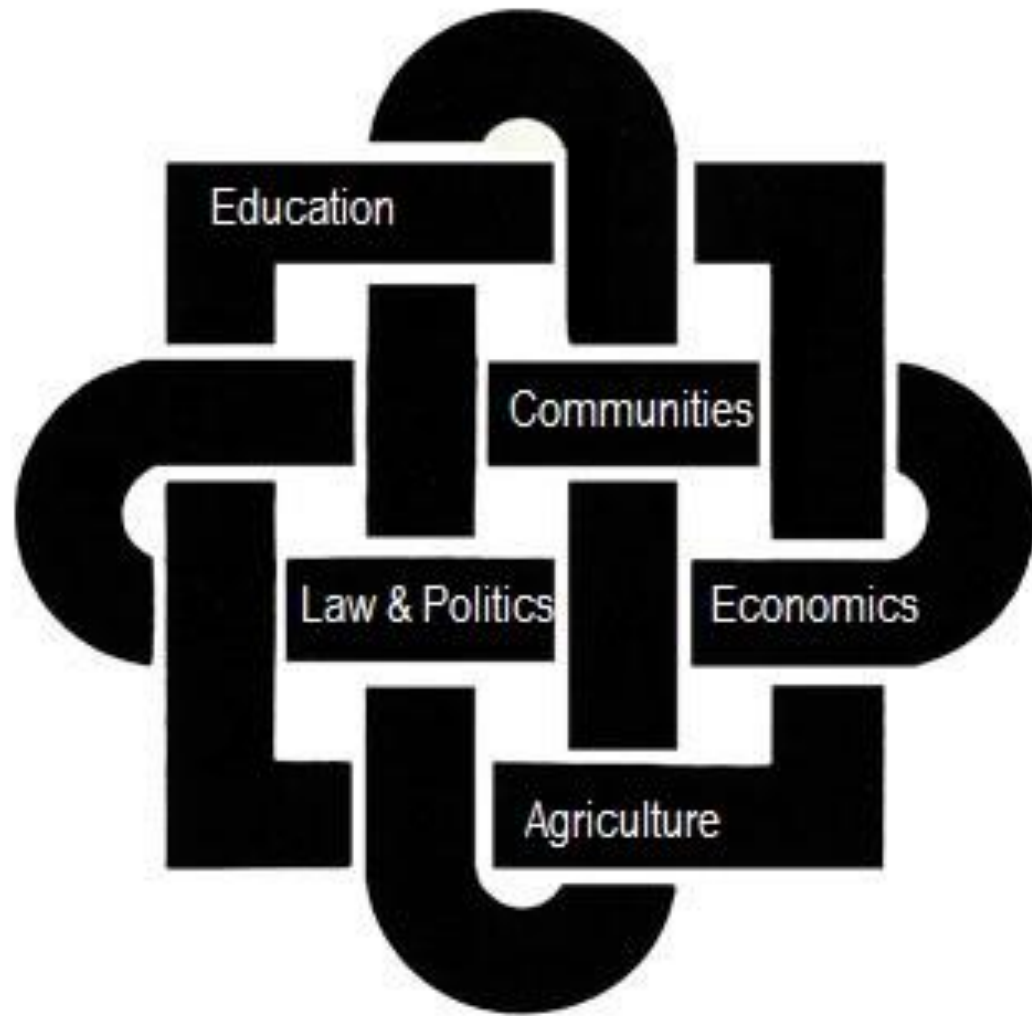
- Name the trend(s)
 - Name the decision points
 - Name the long-term goals for a sustainable human presence on this planet
 - Help as many people as possible to see that these goals are crucial – and to live accordingly
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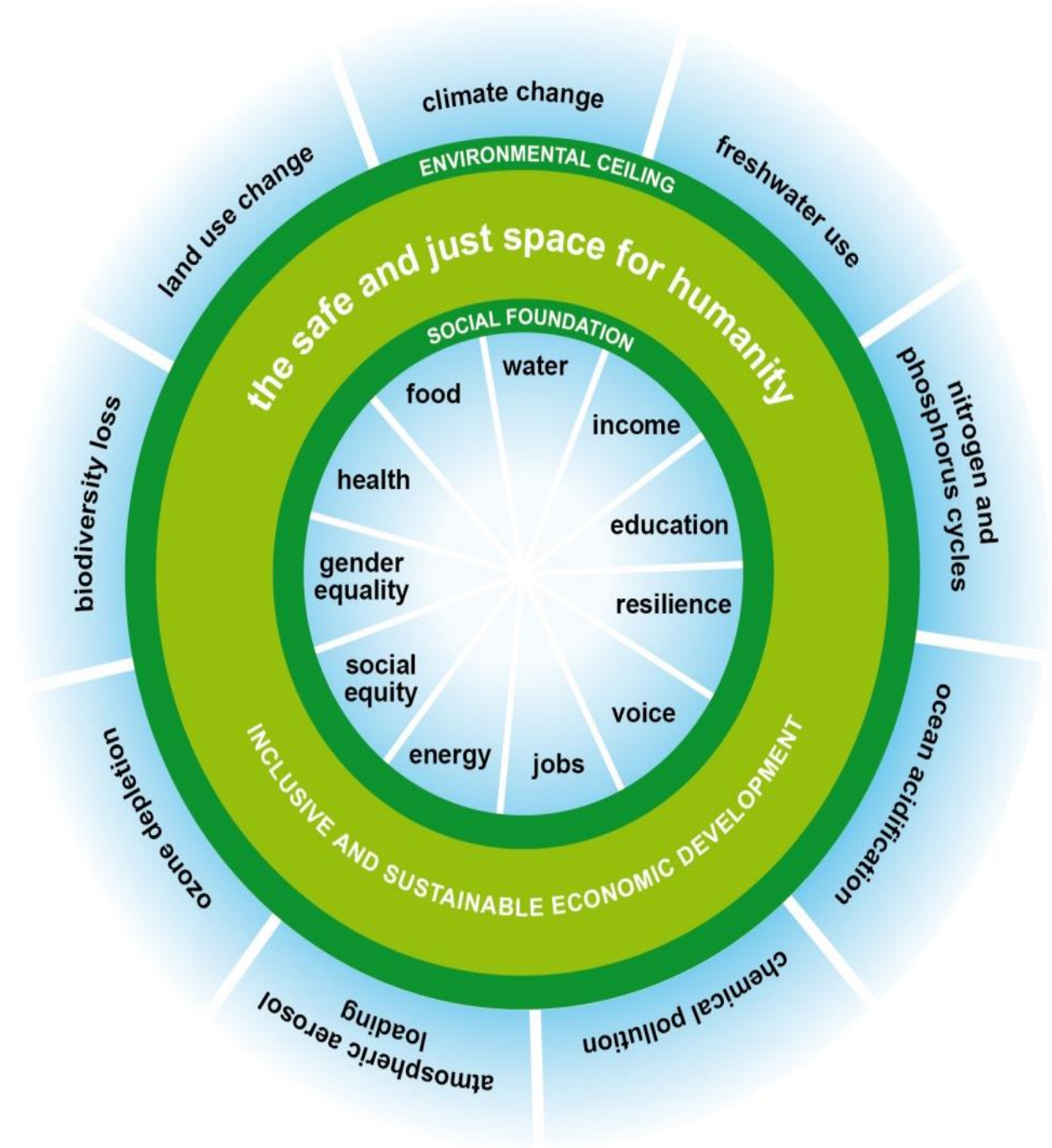
WHAT TO BUILD?

- The article that was sent – “communities of communities”
 - “Communitarianism”
 - Not abolishing trade or giving all to government ownership
 - Sector by sector...
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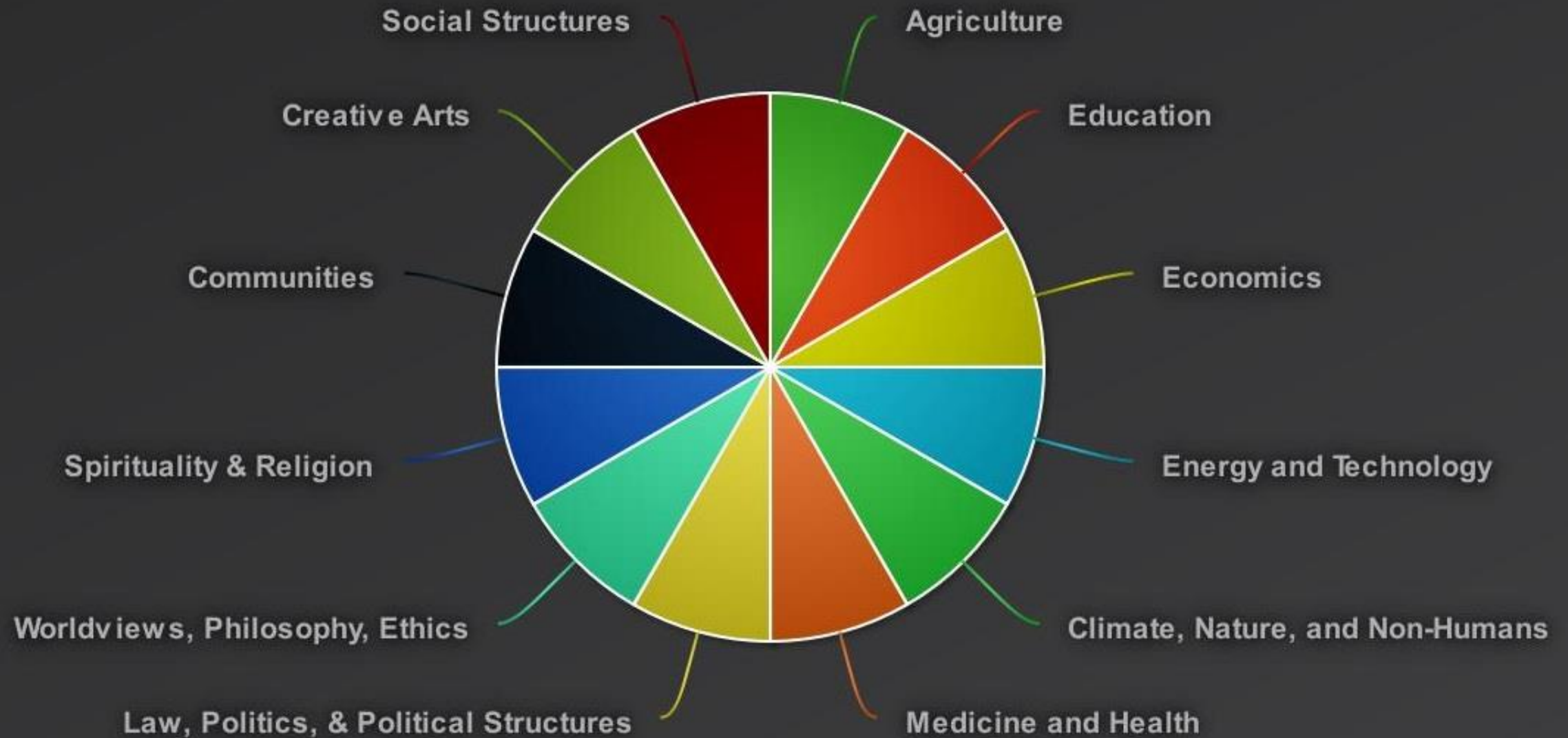


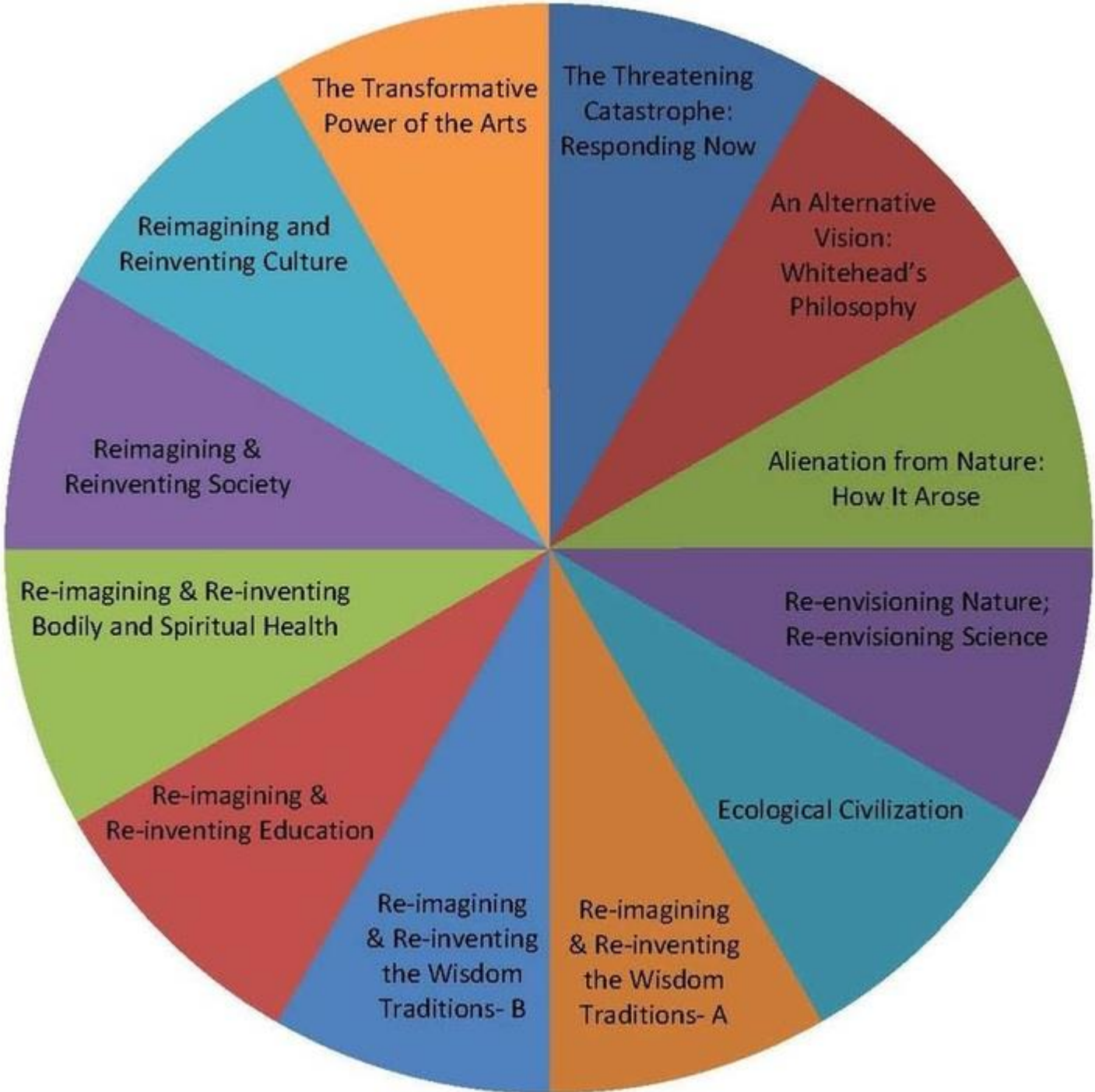






SECTORS OF CIVILIZATION





Culture | Social Structures | Living Together

- Social Structures
- Law, Politics, & Political Structures
- Worldviews, Philosophy, Ethics
- Spirituality & Religion
- Communities
- Creative Arts
- Education

Sectors of Society

- Business/Economic Sector
- Political Sector
- Family Sector
- Religious Sector
- Education Sector

Honing our Message in 2020



What EcoCiv does

- Facilitation and project management
- Visioning, Backcasting, Roadmapping
- Consulting, Convening, Catalyzing
- Not bringing all the answers, but knowing how to bring folks together to figure it out.

What we do:

- Convening experts
- Helping to find solutions
- Disseminating the results to leaders and to the broader public

CONCLUSION: “DON’T IGNORE THE LITTLE THINGS”

- Thought change, but even more...
 - Lifestyle change!
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MY QUESTIONS TO YOU ALL

- How will you think differently?
 - How can you organize smaller-scale communities?
 - How can you retain different lifestyles among friends and family?
 - How can you expand these innovations to the community level?
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THANK YOU
