



**COSTA RICA
REGENERATIVA**

Building a prosperous and abundant future through regeneration

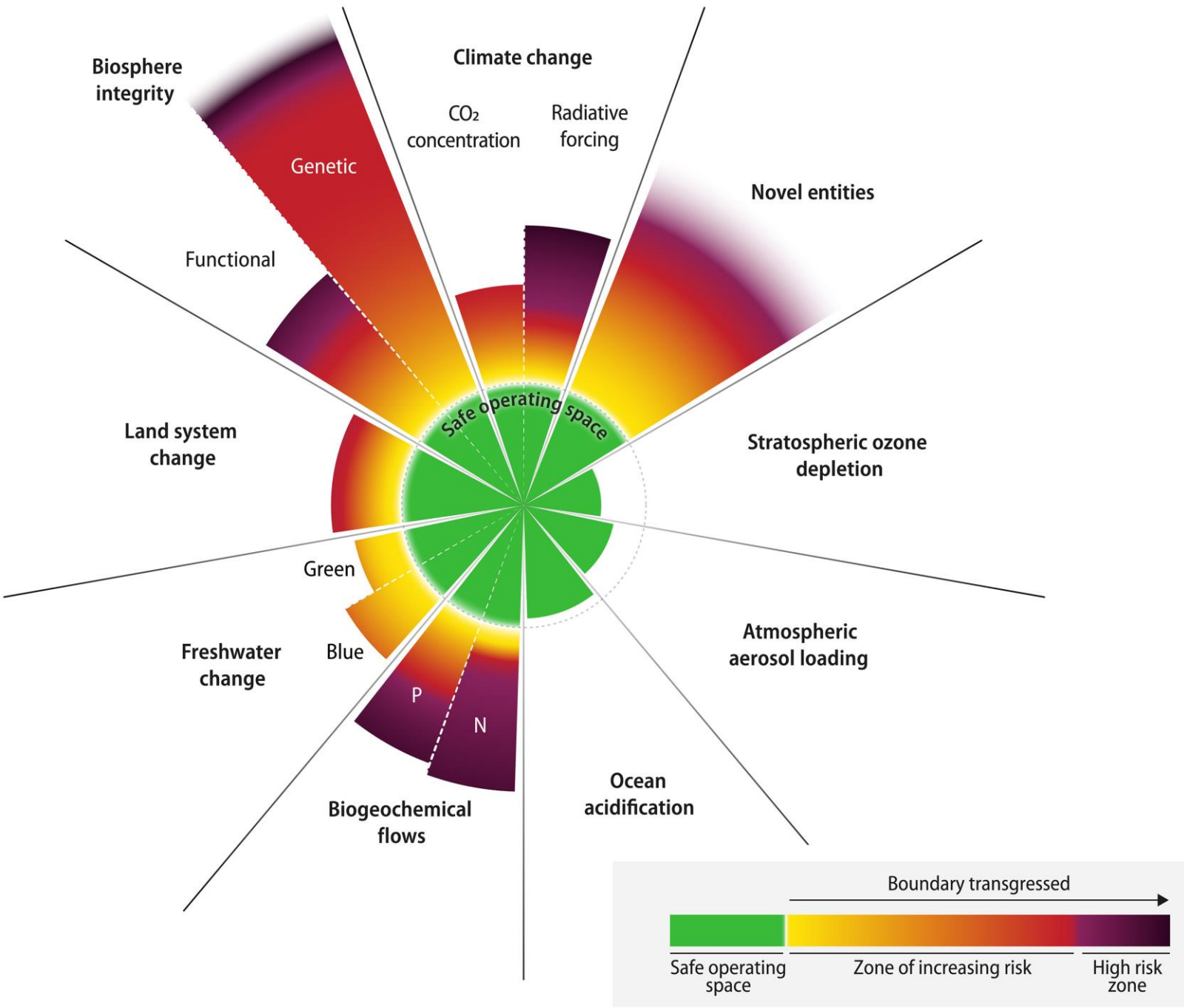


Eduard Müller
Rector



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Updated Planetary Boundaries
 (Figure from Wang-Erlandsson et al, 2022)

Safe operating space for humanity

Anthropocene

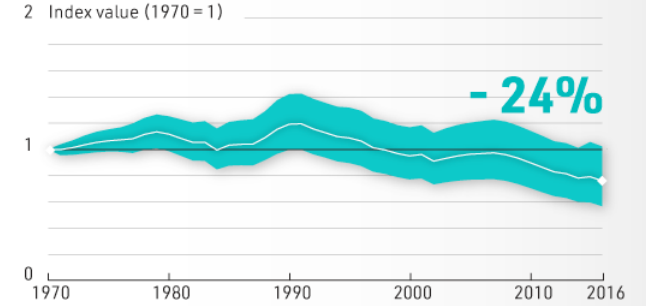
VISUALIZING THE REGIONAL DECLINE OF EARTH'S BIODIVERSITY

The Living Planet Index (LPI) tracks the abundance of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians across the globe.

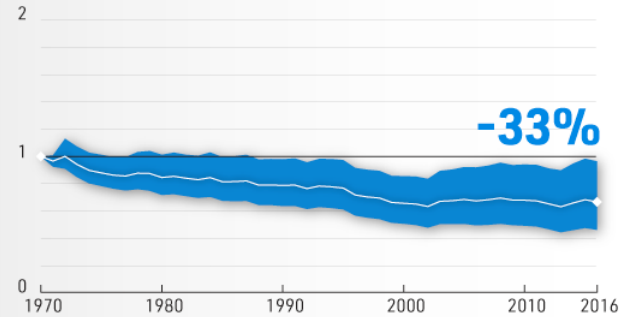


Between 1970 and 2016, vertebrate population sizes dropped by **68%** on average worldwide. However, this rate of this loss varies from region to region.

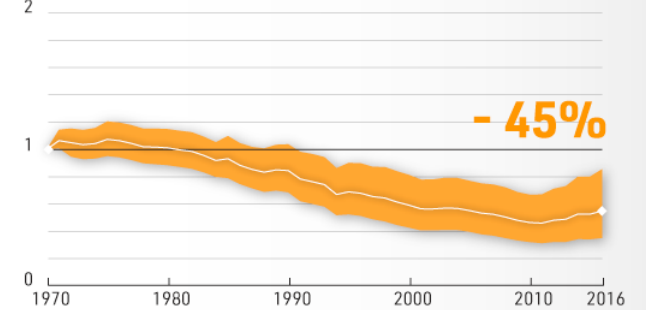
EUROPE



NORTH AMERICA

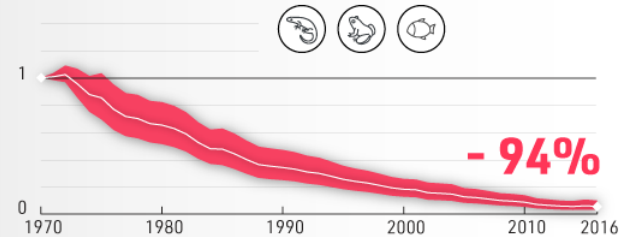


ASIA

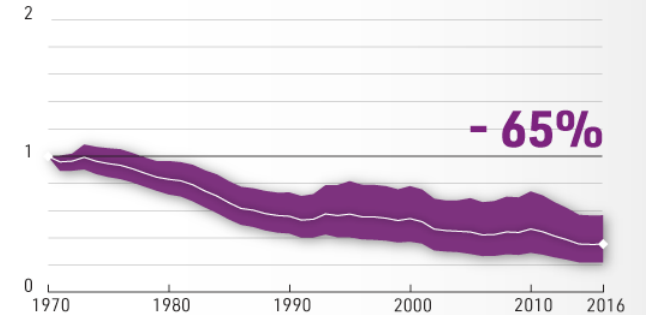


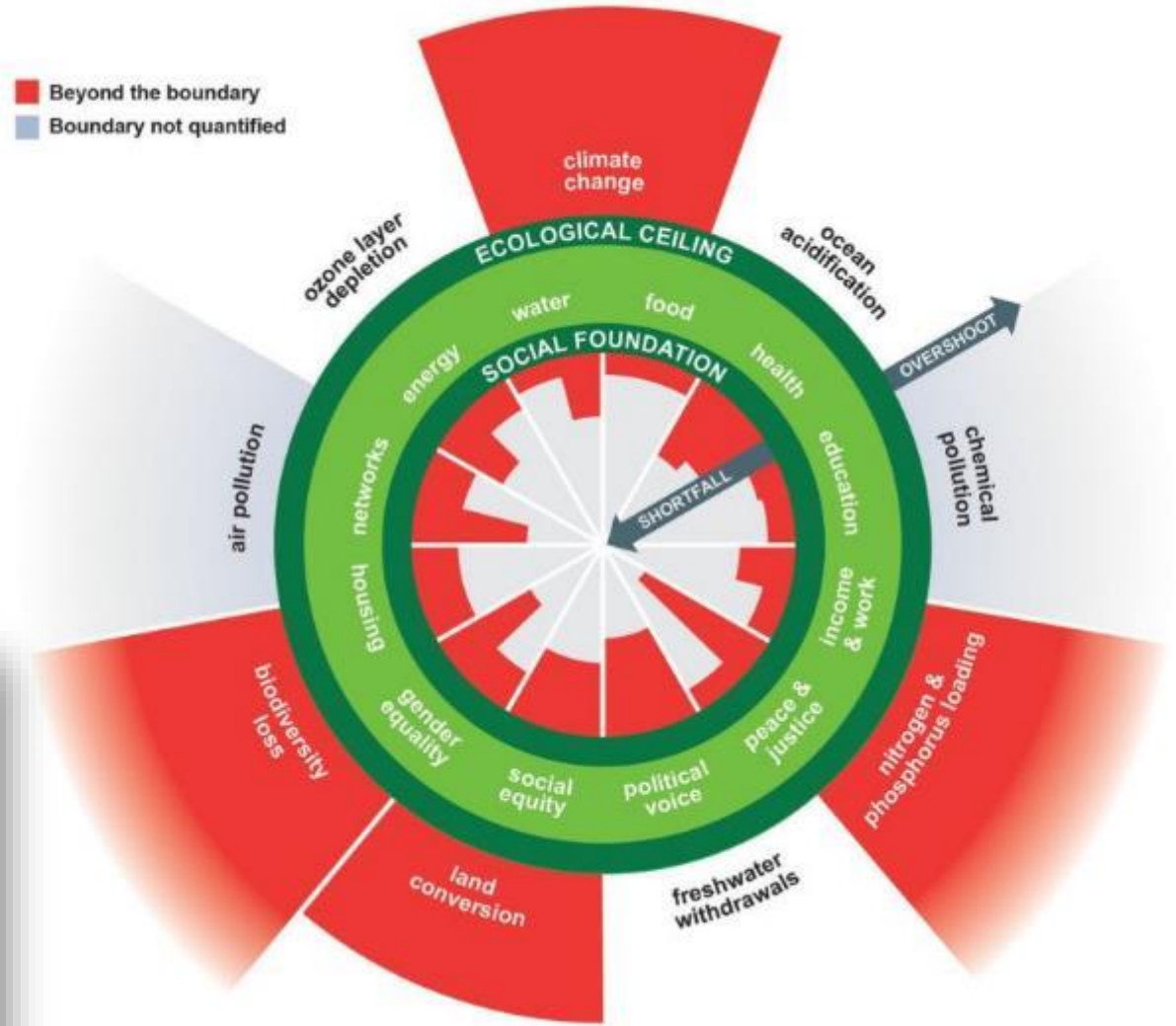
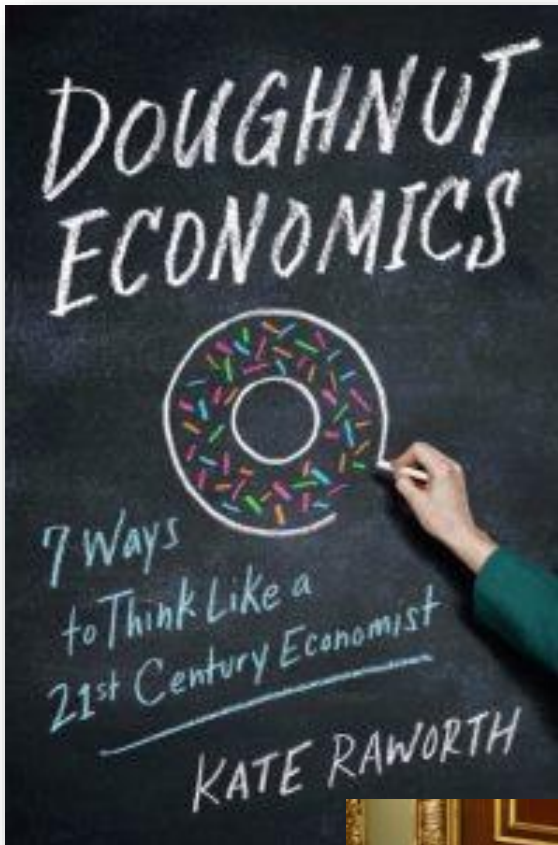
LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Latin America & Caribbean has seen the largest drop in biodiversity at **94%**, mainly driven by a significant decline in reptile, amphibian, and fish populations.



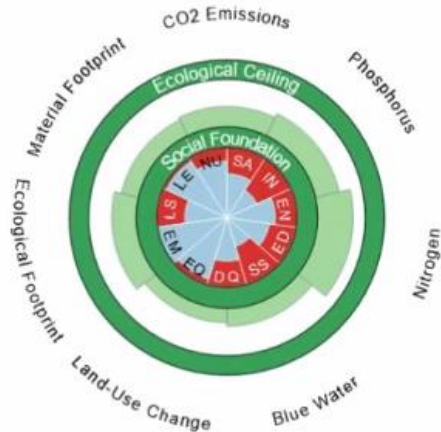
AFRICA





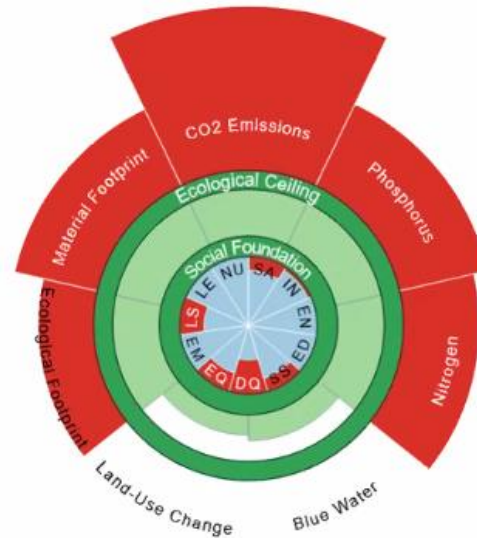
A Good Life For All Within Planetary Boundaries

Bangladesh



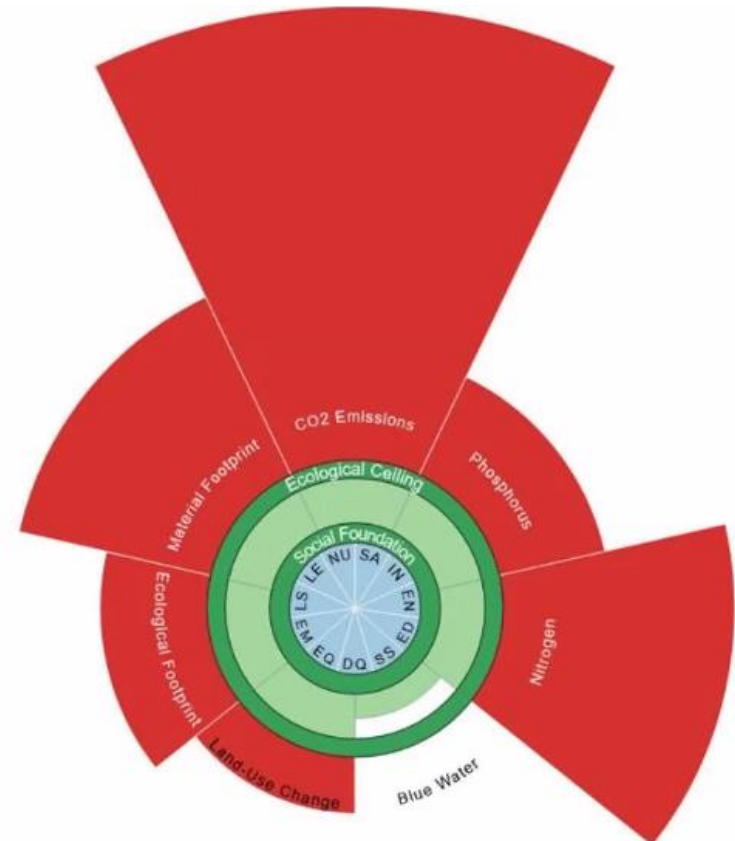
\$5,100 pc

China



\$17,200 pc

Norway



\$44,300 pc

Best scientifically documented planetary extinction...



Data → Information → Knowledge → **Wisdom?**

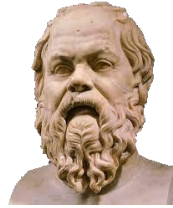
In 2017 we produced the same amount
of data as what was produced up to 2016.

Challenge #1: Humans and Nature or Humans are Nature?



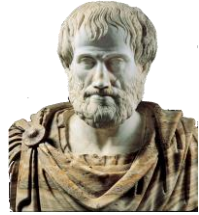
Challenge #2

The reductionist approach of Western science and education!



399 BC

- Socrates – Plato: Hypothesis, and **one answer**.



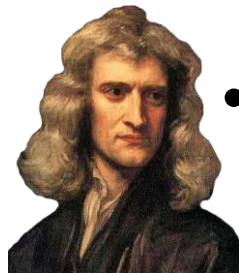
322 BC

- Aristotle - Logic: **True or false**.



1650

- Descartes: **material** and **spiritual** realms are disconnected.



1727

- Isaac Newton: interactions are limited to **forces exerted between the bodies**.

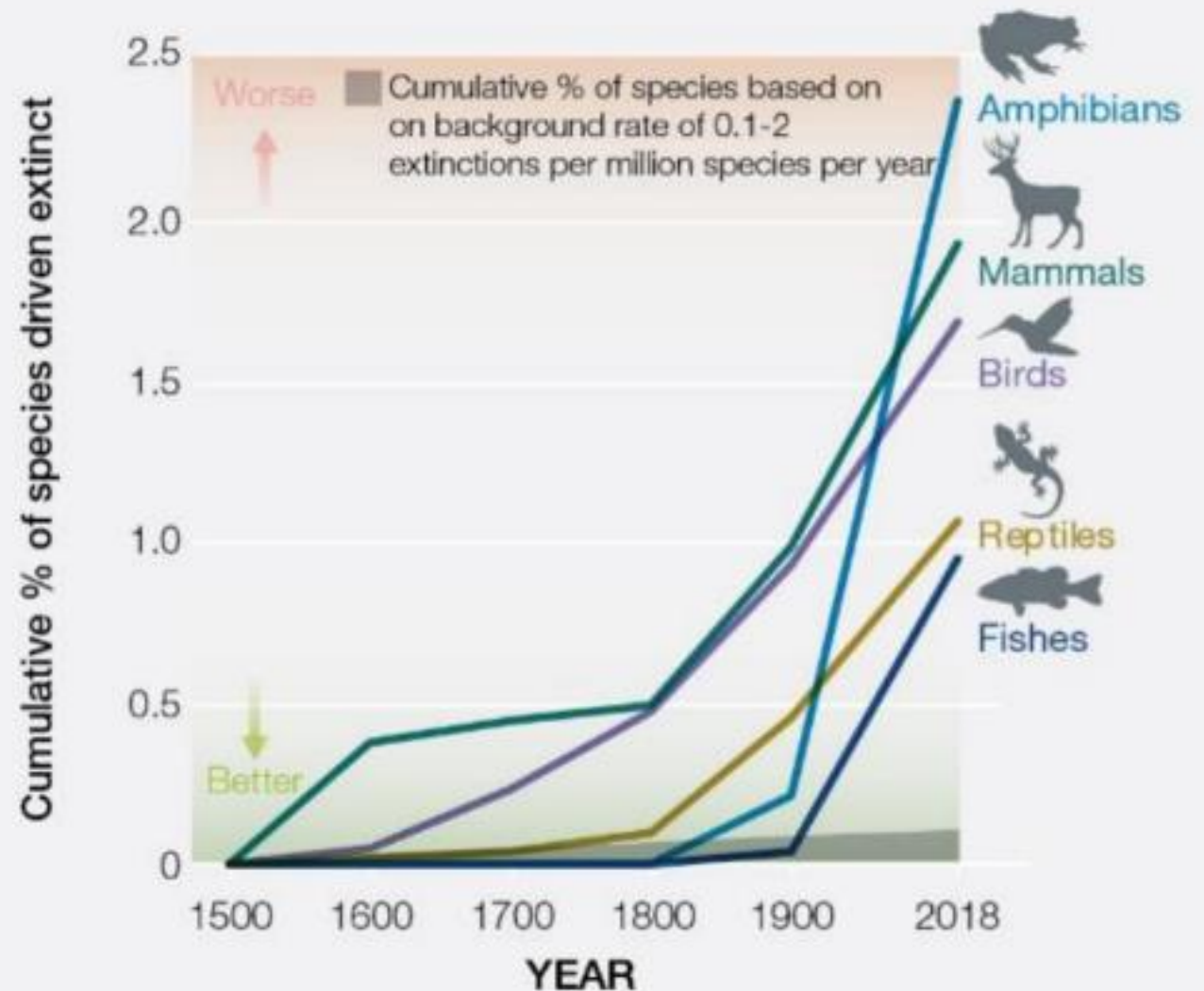


Challenge #3: Exponential changes

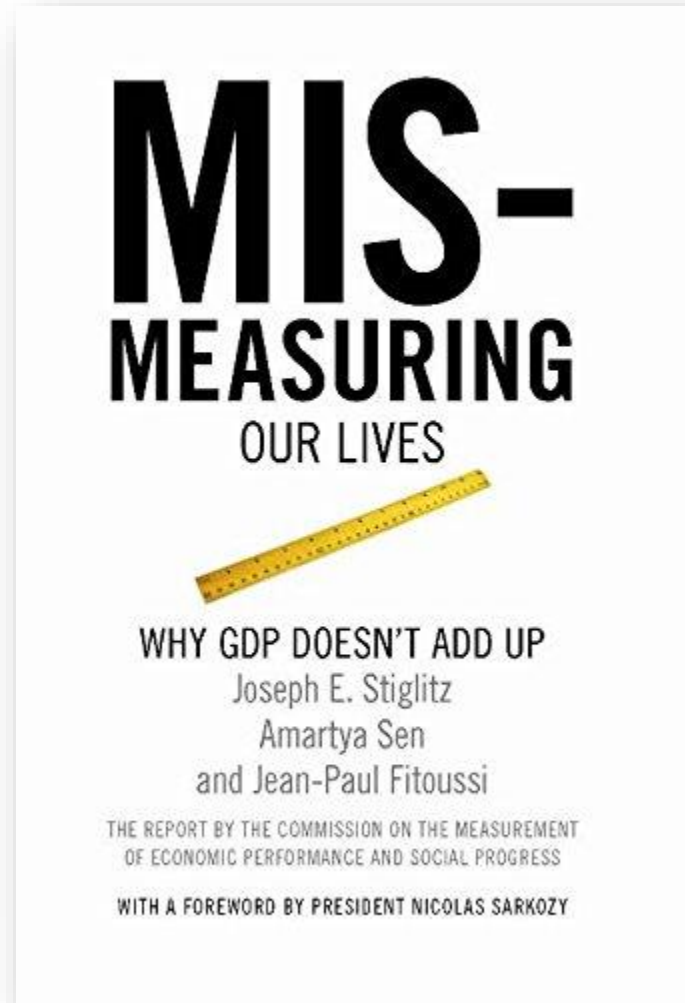
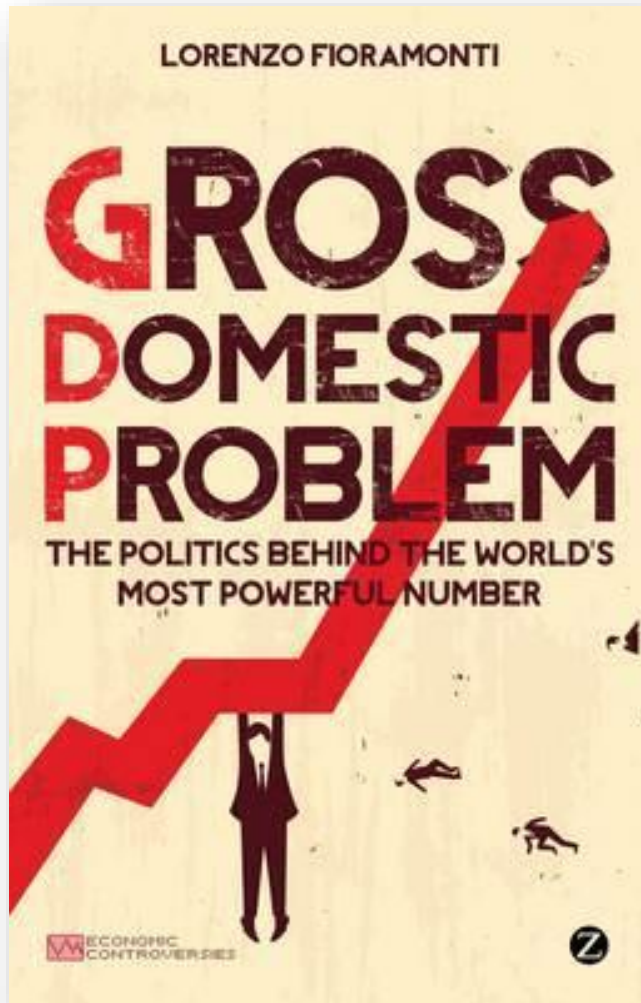


Hot poles: Antarctica, Arctic 40 and 30 degrees Celsius above normal

by Seth Borenstein



Challenge #4: Wide acceptance of wrong methods



Challenge #5: Unlearning



Conceptual framework
E. Müller 2008 - 2016

Spirituality

ethics, values, compassion,
mindfulness

Politics

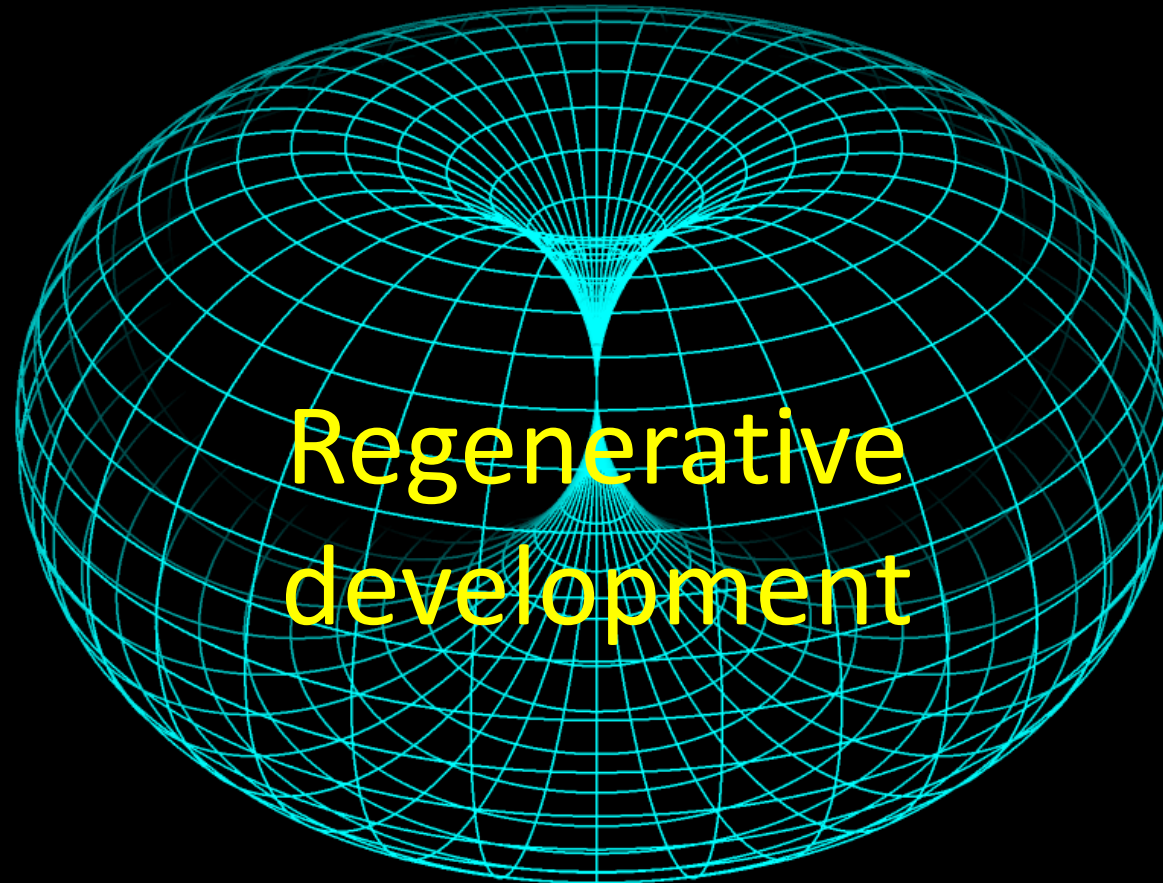
Youth, young women,
transparency, good
for all

Economy

Regenerative,
wellbeing, inclusion,
for all life forms

Culture

Identity, feminine
principle, equality



Regenerative
development

Society

Self determination,
active participation

Mother Earth

Ecosystems – biodiversity
Functional landscapes and seascapes

A lush, misty tropical forest with tall trees and dense foliage. The scene is filled with various green plants, including ferns and broad-leafed trees, creating a vibrant and textured environment. The lighting is soft and diffused, typical of a forest interior.

Mother Nature's Wisdom

We are nature
Functional biomimicry

**We build the
future we want!**

**Regenerate
Costa Rica**



UCI

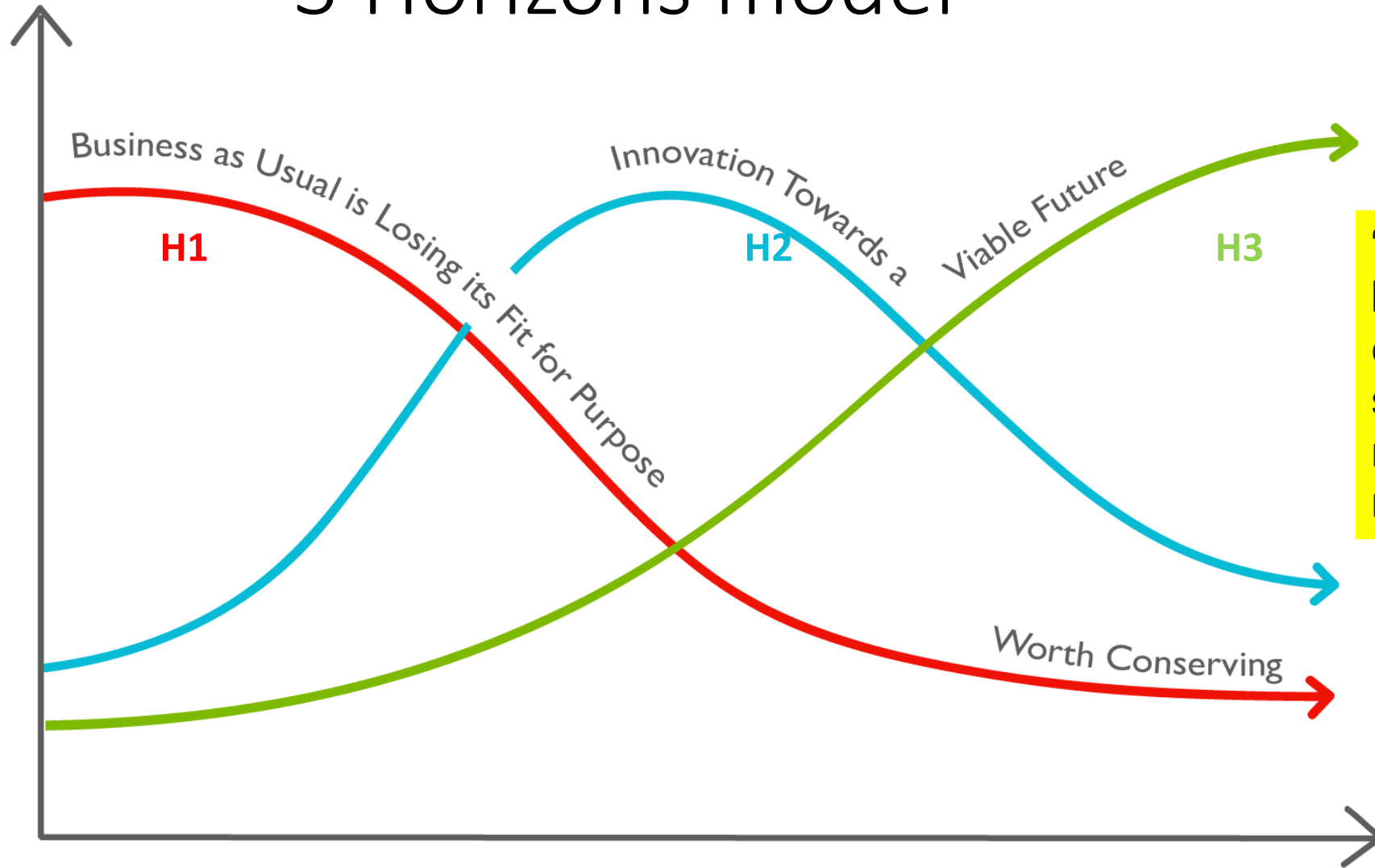
University for
International Cooperation



**COSTA RICA
REGENERATIVA**

Pattern

3 Horizons model



Regeneration

“You never change things by **fighting** against the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the old model **obsolete**.” B. Fuller

Evolution → Transformation

From theory to action!

University for International Cooperation

Implementing regenerative development




UCI
University for International Cooperation



25
anniversary


Three days of great work at Rancho Margot, Costa Rica



OFF THE GRID

PARADISE

July 18-20, 2018



CO_{2eq} < 350ppm

What we strive to accomplish:

- ✓ Reduce CO₂ to below 350ppm by putting it into the soil
- ✓ Regenerate degraded land and water sources
- ✓ Increase biodiversity and ecosystem function
- ✓ Strengthen community organization, participation, empowerment - competency development, education
- ✓ High quality food production resilient to climate change
- ✓ Develop local economies and reduce poverty
- ✓ Bring high-tech and innovation to rural communities
- ✓ Peace and wellbeing for the majority

Implementing Regenerative Development Workshop

Why do we meet?

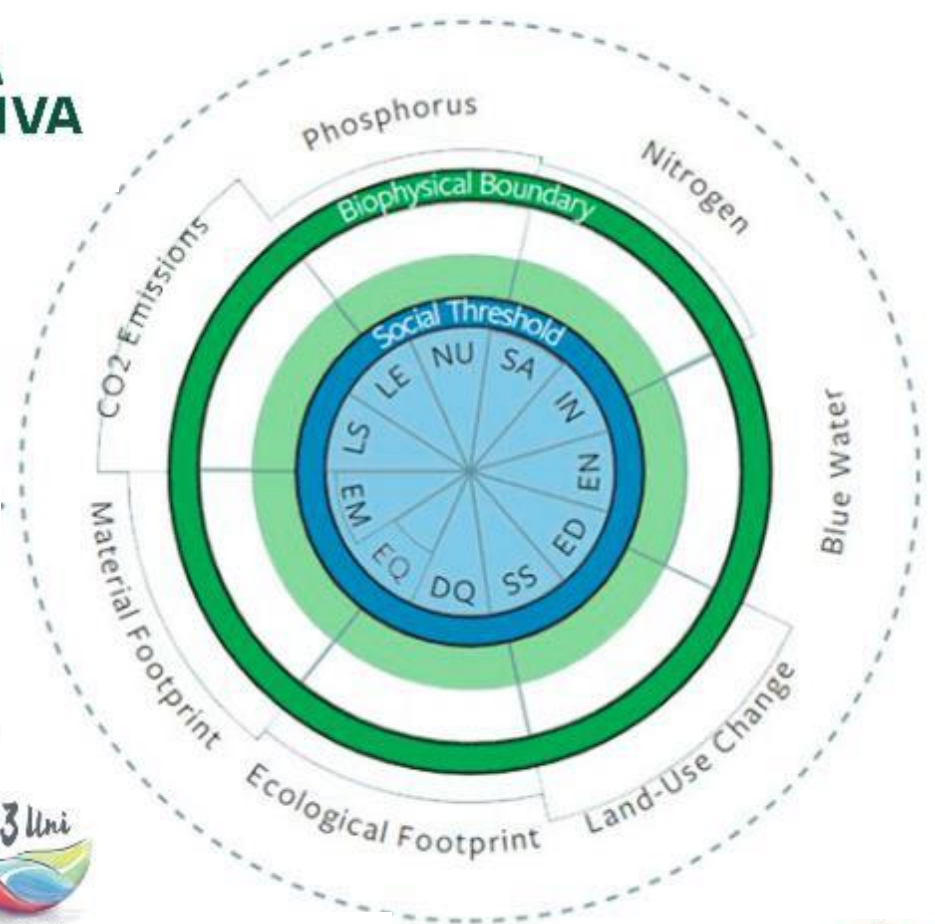
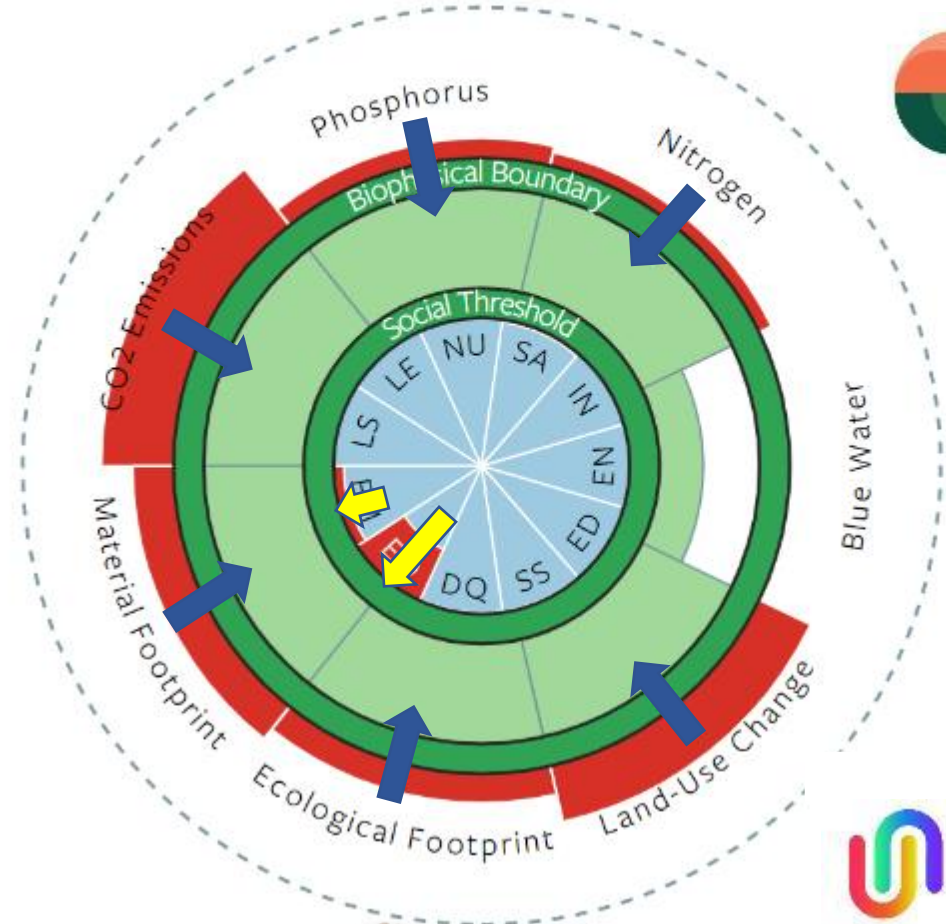
- ✓ Design a site-based approach to implement holistic regenerative development by combining the advancements achieved by different groups working on regeneration.
- ✓ Launch the Regenerate Costa Rica Hub and establish possible networks

What we need to do:

- ✓ Regenerative agriculture and animal production
- ✓ Regenerate functional landscapes and seascapes
- ✓ Regenerative cultural design
- ✓ Regenerative economy – economy of the common good, circular, doughnut, blue economy
- ✓ Entrepreneurship, startups, acceleration
- ✓ Enhance values, ethics, caring society
- ✓ Innovative learning communities

Costa Rica

Ideal doughnut



Regenerative Guanacaste

- Regenerative agriculture and community farms
- Education
- Regenerative Tourism
 - Longer stays
 - Living experience – learning – sharing
 - Higher benefit for more
 - Local economies: local sourcing – local consumption
 - Biodiversity + connectivity
 - Marine biodiversity / fisheries
- Diverse and inclusive economy
- Local culture – traditions – food - agrobiodiversity
- Holistic cattle grazing (Savory)
- Public policy
- Local governments
- Local governance



Agriculture is biology, not chemistry







REVIEW

Managing soils for negative feedback to climate change and positive impact on food and nutritional security

Rattan Lal

Carbon Management and Sequestration Center, The Ohio State University

-157ppm

ABSTRACT

The increase in atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide to 415 ppm in 2018, along with the enrichment of greenhouse gases, has led to a global mean temperature increase of 1°C. Among anthropogenic sources, historic land use and conversion of natural to agricultural eco-systems has and continues to be an importance source. Global depletion of soil organic carbon stock by historic land use and soil degradation is estimated at 133 Pg C. Estimated to 2-m depth, C stock is 2047 Pg for soil organic carbon and 1558 Pg for soil inorganic carbon, with a total of 3605 Pg. Thus, even a small change in soil organic carbon stock can have a strong impact on atmospheric CO₂ concentration. Soil C sink capacity, between 2020 and 2100, with the global adoption of best management practice which creates a positive soil/ecosystem C budget, is estimated at 178 Pg C for soil, 155 Pg C for biomass, and 333 Pg C for the terrestrial biosphere with a total CO₂ drawdown potential of 157 ppm. Important among techniques of soil organic C sequestration are adoption of a system-based conservation agriculture, agroforestry, biochar, and integration of crops with trees and livestock. There is growing interest among policymakers and the private sector regarding the importance of soil C sequestration for adaptation and mitigation of climate change, harnessing of numerous co-benefits, and strengthening of ecosystem services.

ARTICLE HISTORY

Received 5 November 2019

Accepted 16 January 2020

KEY WORDS

Soil carbon; anthropocene; historic carbon loss from soils; soil carbon sink; international initiatives on soil carbon sequestration



Landscapes, bioregions!



500 families producing their food!

Resilience + communtiy





8 – 10 T/month







Carbon, organic matter,
water, minerals, microbiome



Abundance + health



★ biomimika
Sin role



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Costa Rica Regenerativa es una iniciativa de la Universidad para la Cooperación Internacional que reúne a una comunidad transdisciplinaria para reflexionar, planificar y activar proyectos que faciliten la transición hacia un paradigma regenerativo.



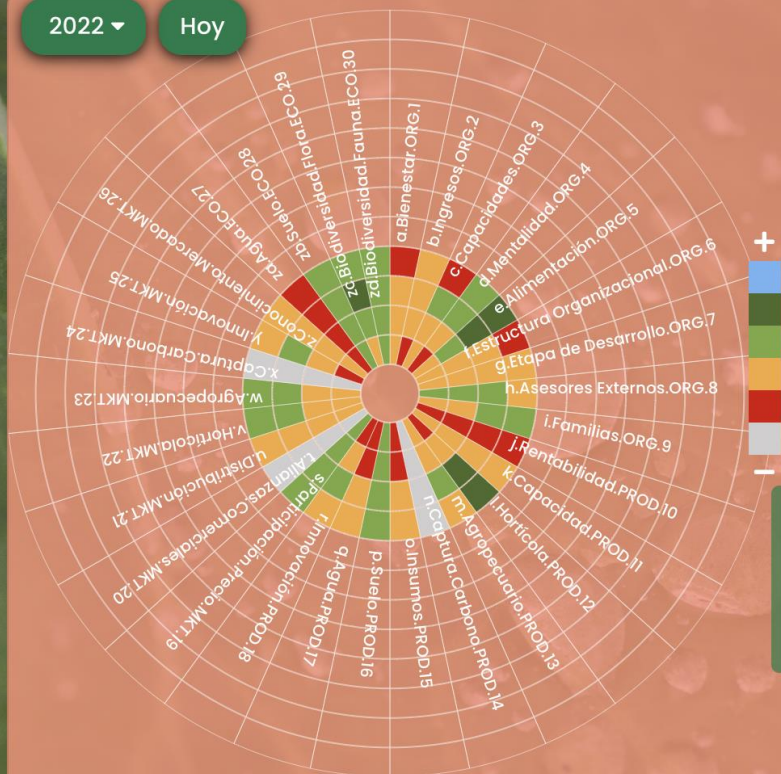
Cambio

★ biomimika
Sin role



2022 ▾

Hoy



Huerta Nambi



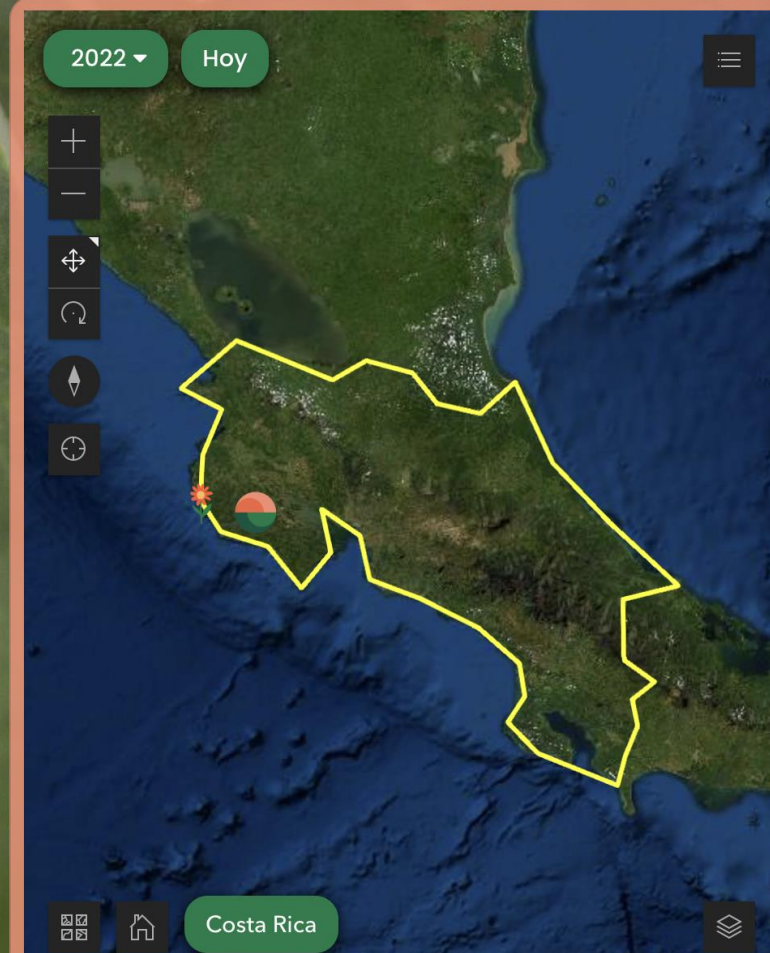
Bio-región

★ biomimika
Sin role



2022 ▾

Hoy



Earthstar Geographics

Powered by Esri

Indigenous Agroforestry Manual: The Forest Garden

Second Edition



Author: Mel Landers
English Version
June 2020

2. The Origin of Agriculture

Ten thousand years ago the people of southern Mexico transitioned from hunting and gathering to the production of agricultural crops by reproducing the natural environments where they found the plants they ate. These farmers developed foods like maize, pumpkin, beans, cocoa, tomatoes and chilies, and cotton for the fibers. They grew fruit trees like avocado and mango, and cashew nuts; also plants for dyes, medicine and many others.

The knowledge and crops spread through the Americas through migration and trade. The Maya called the areas they cultivated, "Forest Gardens;" each one, an agroforestry system that mimics the original productive ecosystem found in the forest, maintained by nature itself.

In nature there is normally no bare soil, little soil disturbance and no pure stands of anything. Nature doesn't even produce compost. It produces mulch, which is all the soil microorganisms need to provide fertility and soil moisture holding capacity for lush growth.

The Indigenous American farmers grew hundreds of varieties of crops in their fields using beneficial plant associations in raised beds that were continually covered with an organic mulch that kept the soil soft, cool and moist. The soil was not plowed and crop wastes and weeds were used as mulch; protecting from loss due to drought, excessive rain, insects and diseases. It did not harm the environment while it produced nutrient rich soils and plentiful harvests.



A photograph of a lush green agroforestry system. In the foreground, there are large, vibrant green banana leaves. The background is filled with a dense, multi-layered forest of various green plants and trees, creating a rich, textured canopy. The overall scene is bright and healthy, illustrating a sustainable agricultural practice.

**Always advance to
agroforestry systems**



Learning and
empowerment

Technical schools local youth





Regeneration includes agro-biodiversity

7.000 species of plants have been cultivated for over 12.000 years.

Today, **15 species of plants** and **8 animal species** produce 90% of food.



Study reveals nutritional benefits of regenerative agriculture crops

By Oliver Morrison [↗](#)

18-Mar-2022 - Last updated on 21-Mar-2022 at 09:36 GMT

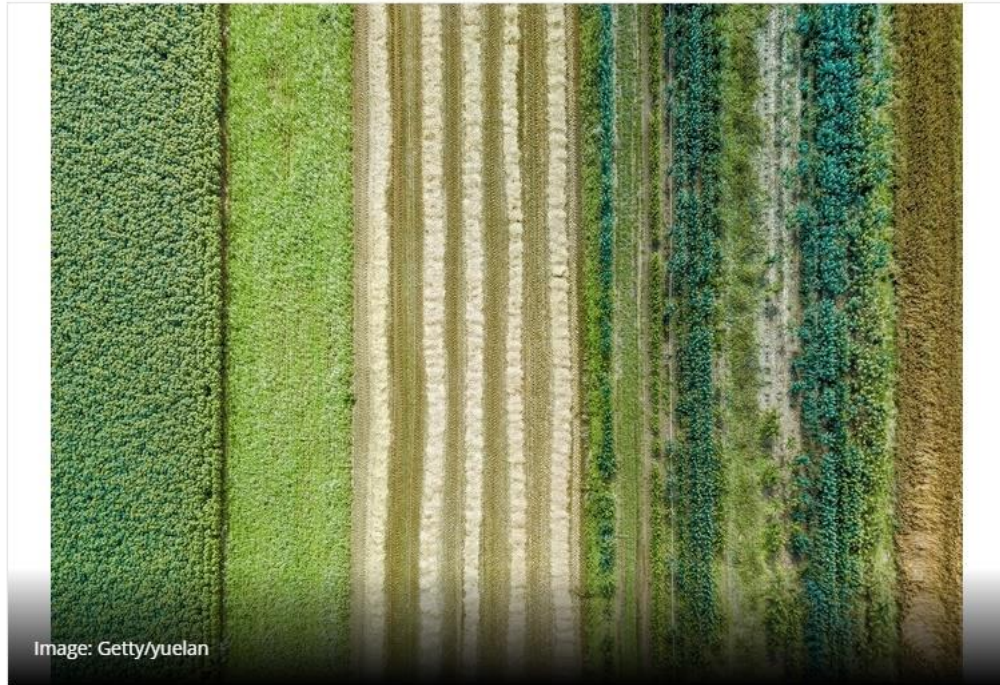


Image: Getty/yuelan

RELATED TAGS: [regenerative ag](#)

TOPIC RELATED SPONSORED LINK

Through a holistic understanding of consumer needs and market requirements, Symrise knows how to create a winning plant-based or alternative protein product... [Click here](#)

Regenerative farming practices such as soil-building techniques that minimize plowing, use cover crops, and plant diverse crops positively affect the nutritional content of the food, claims research.



New Research Shows Regenerative Practices Increase Nutrient Density in Food

February 9, 2022 | Posted in [Soil Health](#)

Source: [PeerJ](#)

Reported declines in the nutrient density of crops are typically attributed to crop breeders having focused almost exclusively on increasing yields. However, studies demonstrating that fertilization regimes and soil life affect mineral uptake by crops suggest that conventional farming practices of intensive tillage, nitrogen fertilization, and synthetic pesticide applications may have contributed to declining nutrient density through disrupting crop symbioses with soil life. While a number of previous assessments compared differences in the nutritional quality of foods grown with conventional and organic production practices, few have considered directly the influence of soil health—as reflected in soil organic matter and soil life—on nutrient density.

Soil health will be the next big thing in reversing many of today's illnesses.

How to recover the human gut microbiome through healthy soil, plant and animal microbiomes.





Healthy food blended
with culture and
traditions



¡Sumate ya a la Coope!
Regeneremos Juntos



CoopeRegenerativa

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Savory Hub + Biodiversity

Suelos vivos – Savory Hub

- Living Soils **business platform** – carbon, biodiversity, markets
- MRV – Measuring, reporting and verification
- Training for holistic management, EOV, etc.
- Link with animal and human health - nutrition
- Linkage with production (milk, meat, etc.) – data management – One Health
- Biodiversity – pastures and biological corridors
- Water harvesting and erosion control

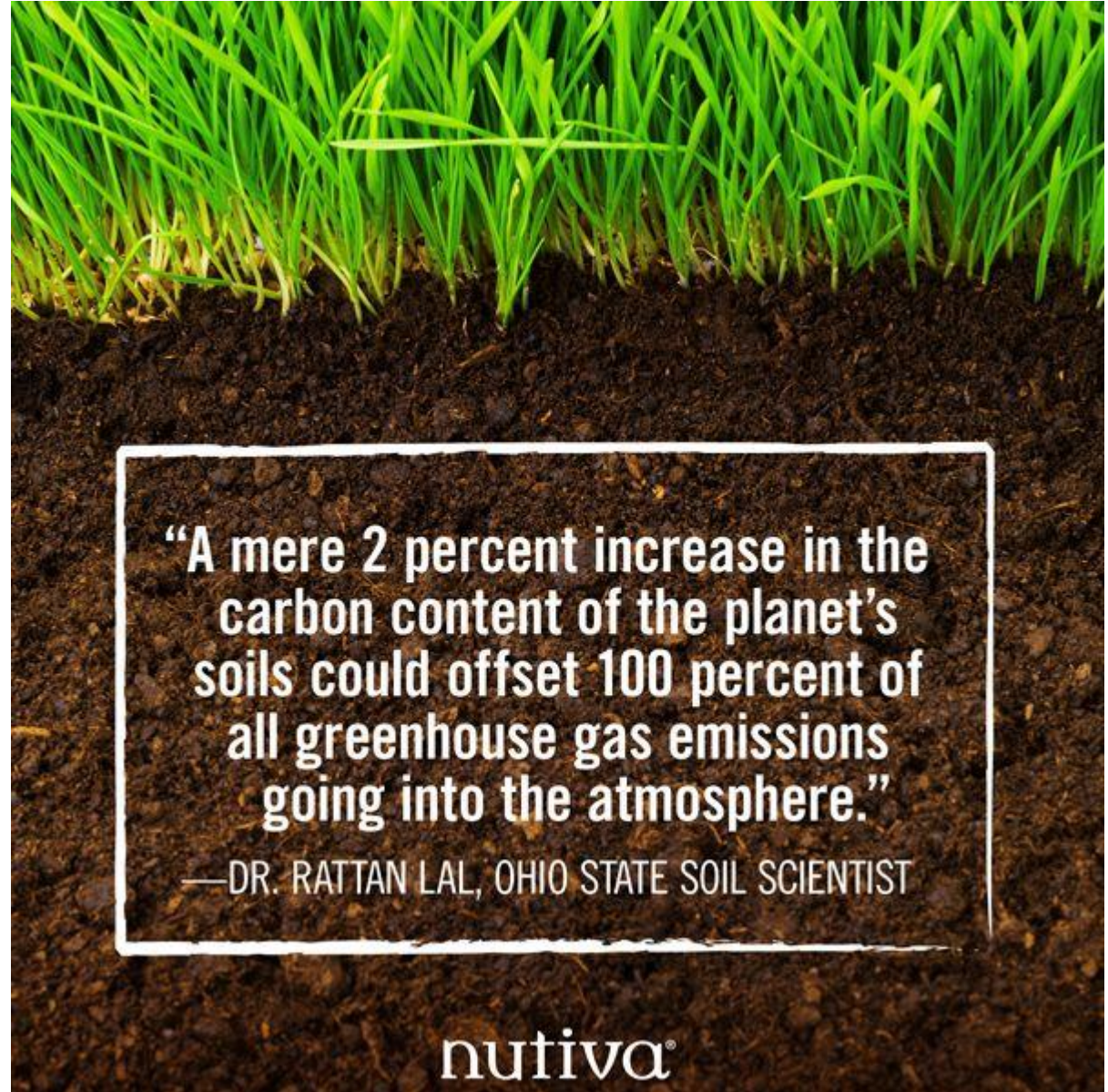


Savory hub in Costa Rica



We must reduce CO₂
levels to less than 350 ppm

James Hansen

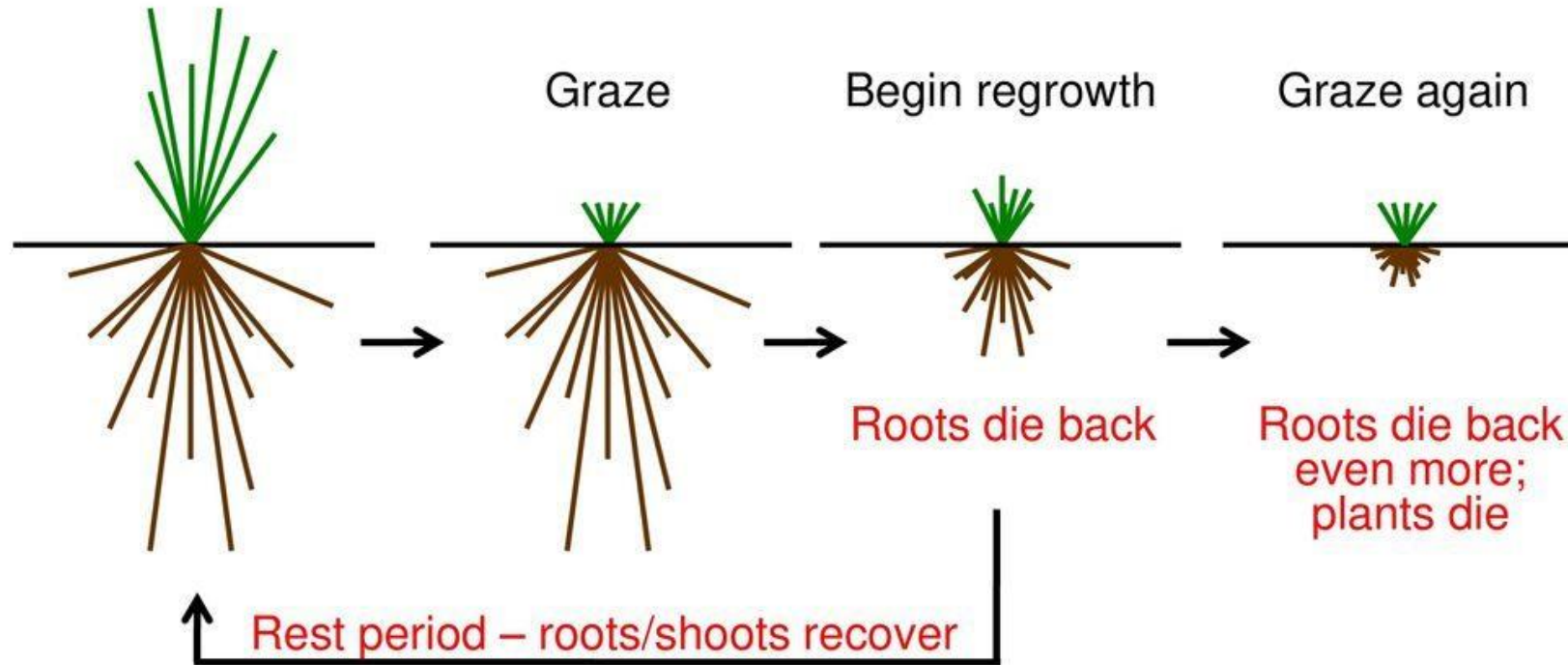


“A mere 2 percent increase in the carbon content of the planet’s soils could offset 100 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions going into the atmosphere.”

—DR. RATTAN LAL, OHIO STATE SOIL SCIENTIST

nutiva®

It's ALL about the grass



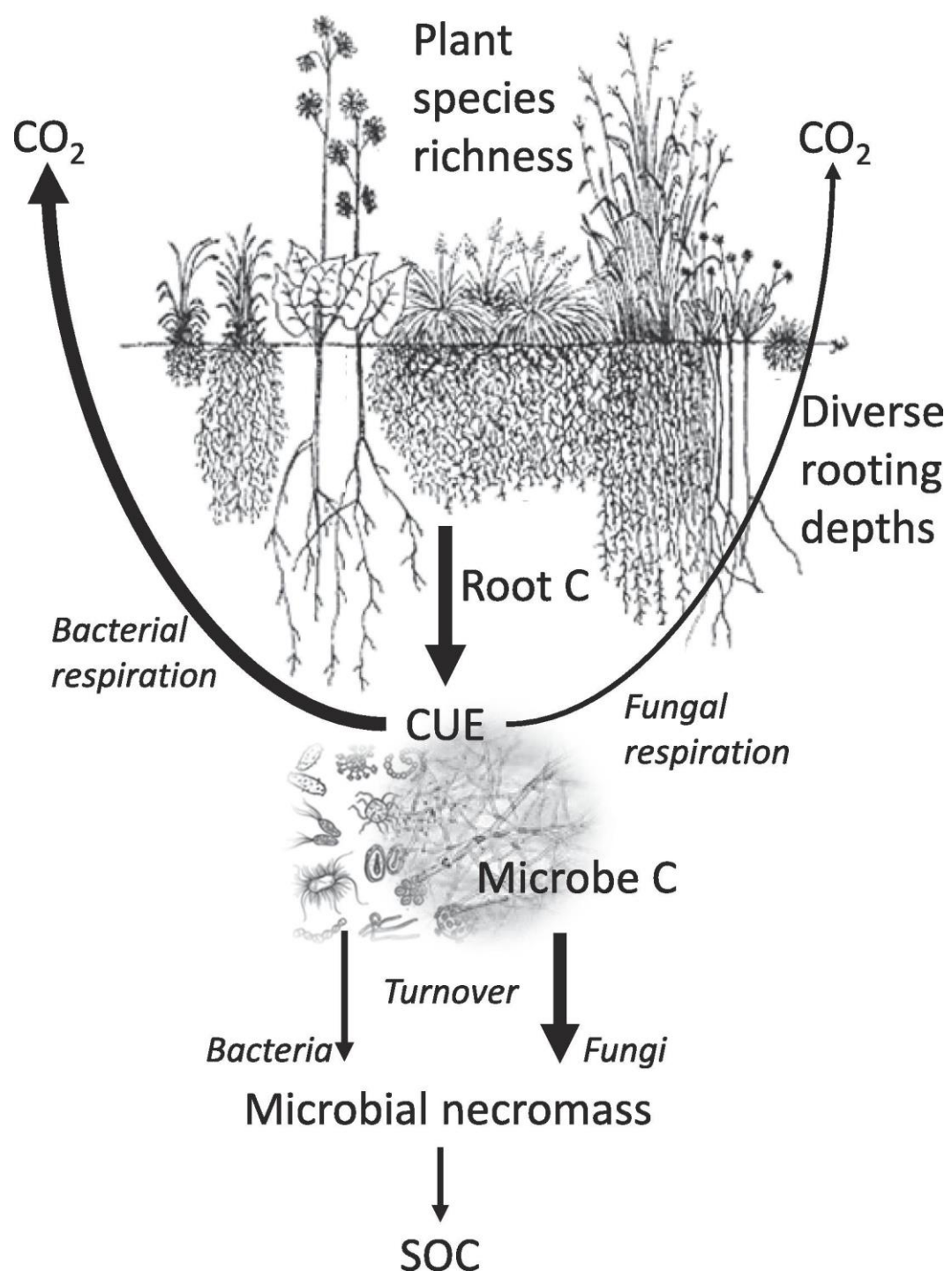
Rational Grazing = Rotational stocking

Increases forage productivity

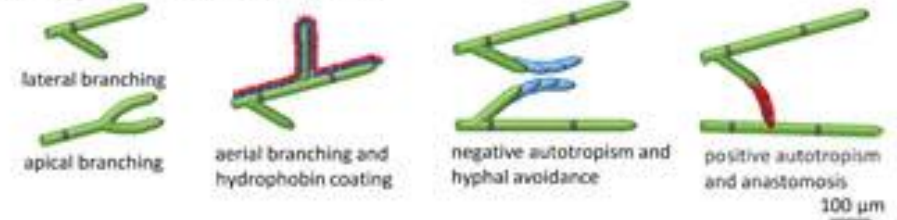
Decreases drought impacts and weed encroachment



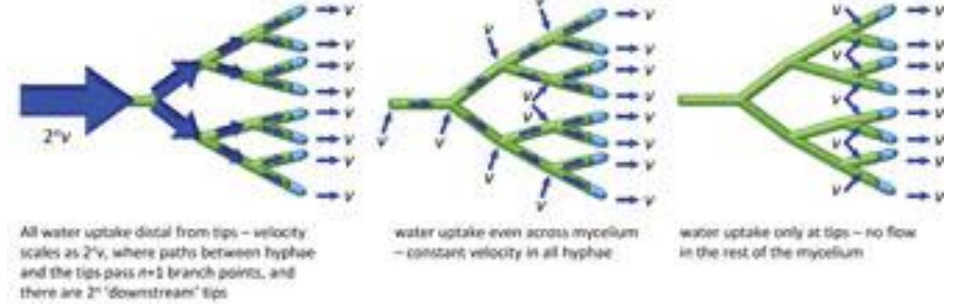
A man measures the root system of a vetiver plant after 2 seasons of growth. This plant has been dug out of a bank in Malaysia and the roots washed clean. In this case, the roots had reached 2 meters in red latosol soil.



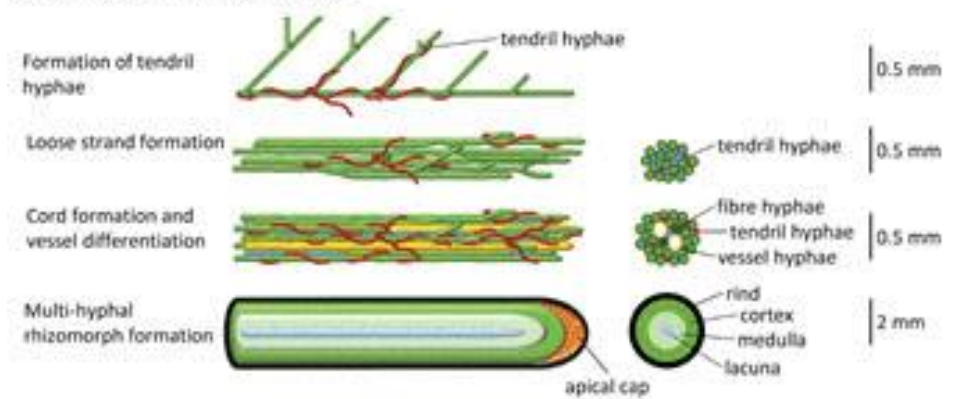
A Branching, tropisms and fusion (anastomosis)



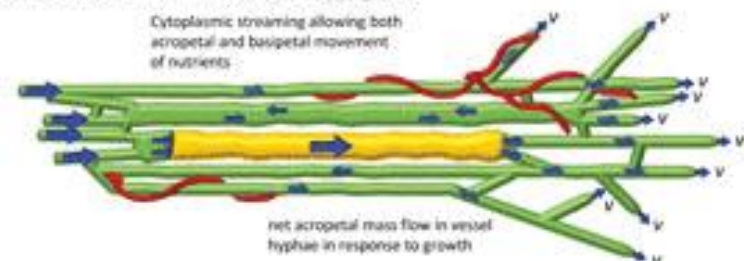
B Impact of branching and water uptake on flow velocity



C Formation of multi-hyphal aggregates



D Long-distance translocation in multi-hyphal aggregates



Regenerating the soil with Glomalin

(carbon tubes deposited by Mycorrhizal fungi)



The original soil with a low amount of carbon.



**The same soil with
A higher amount
After four years
under mulch.**

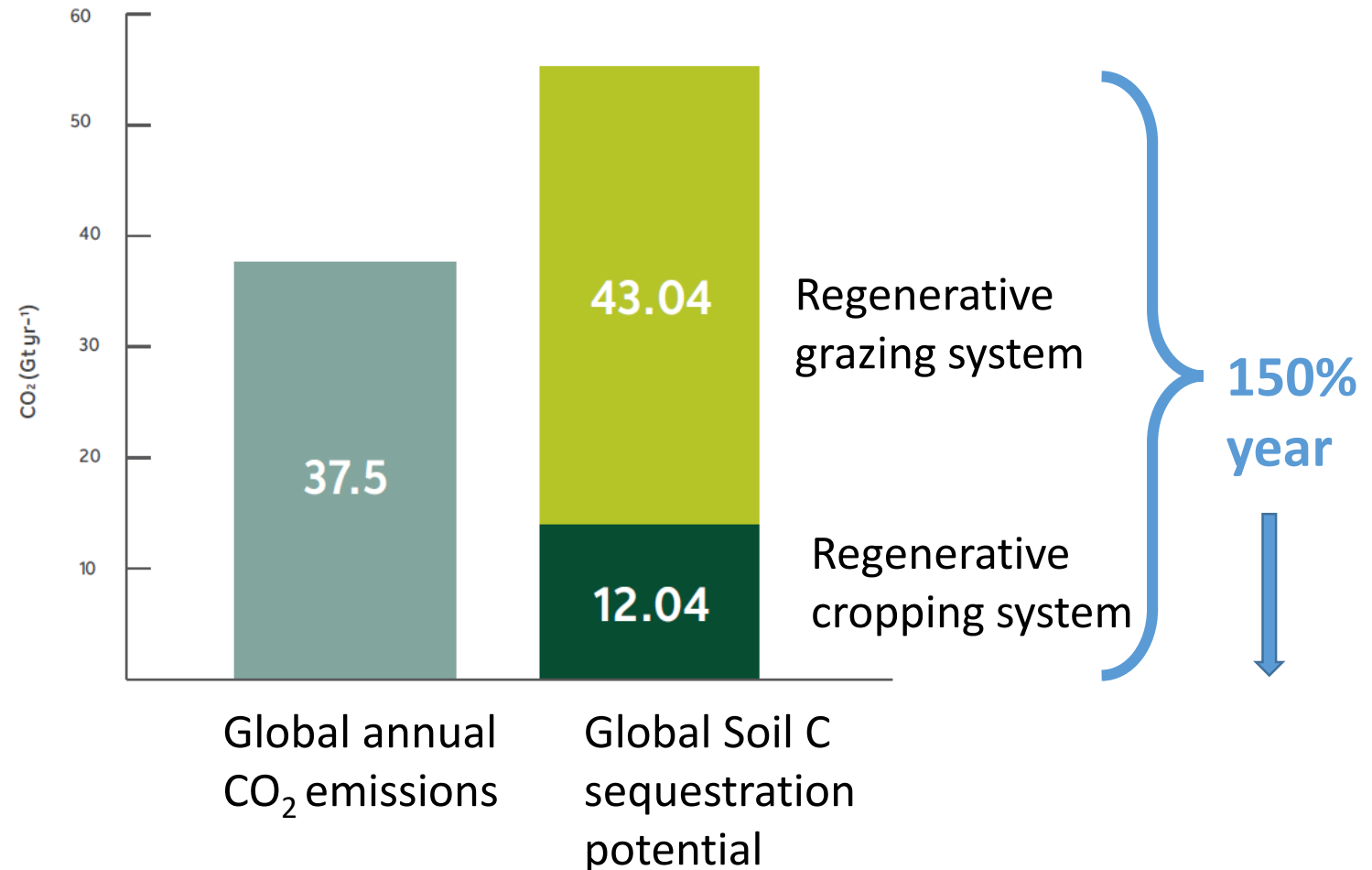
Carbon sequestration potential of global adoption of regenerative agriculture



REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE
and the **SOIL CARBON SOLUTION**

SEPTEMBER 2020

AUTHORED BY:
Jeff Moyer, Andrew Smith, PhD, Yichao Rui, PhD, Jennifer Hayden, PhD





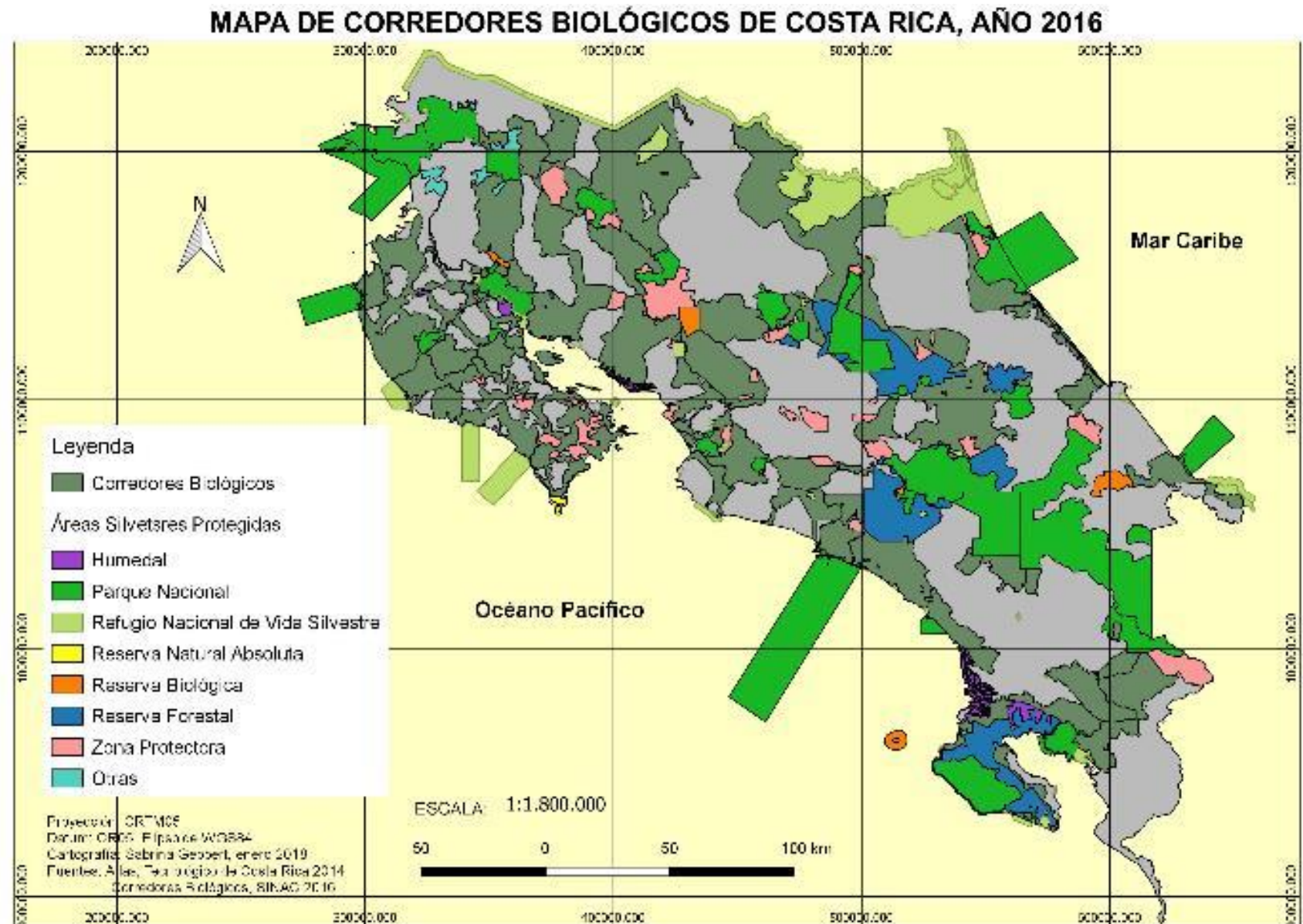
Holistic Grazing

3.500 million ha of grasslands could capture 88 - 210 GtC, would bring us down to 350 ppm CO₂ in 30 years.

2014, Seth J. Itzkan

Biological corridors:

- Are key for regenerating biodiversity
- Increasing genetic diversity
- Migration due to climate change
- Governance is critical



Holistic grazing = more biodiversity Country Brand!

- More and better dairy and beef products.
- Taking carbon from the sky and putting it beneath our feet.
- Increasing biodiversity.
- Water harvest to recover flows and aquifers.
- Stopping erosion and building soil!





The current price of carbon: \$40 to \$80 per metric ton.

Current estimates for carbon accumulation with regenerative grazing are on average 2.73 tC/ha/year with a corresponding reduction of CO_{2e} of 10.02 tCO_{2e}/ha/year (Soil4Climate Inc., 2023).

Every 1000 ha: accumulation rate of 2730 tC/ha/year US\$ 109,000 to US\$ 218,000 per year of additional income, beyond the increase in livestock productivity, soil, biodiversity, and water.

The carbon market alone would allow farmers to recoup the investment within 2 to 5 years.

200,000 ha equals capturing 25% of Costa Rica's emissions.

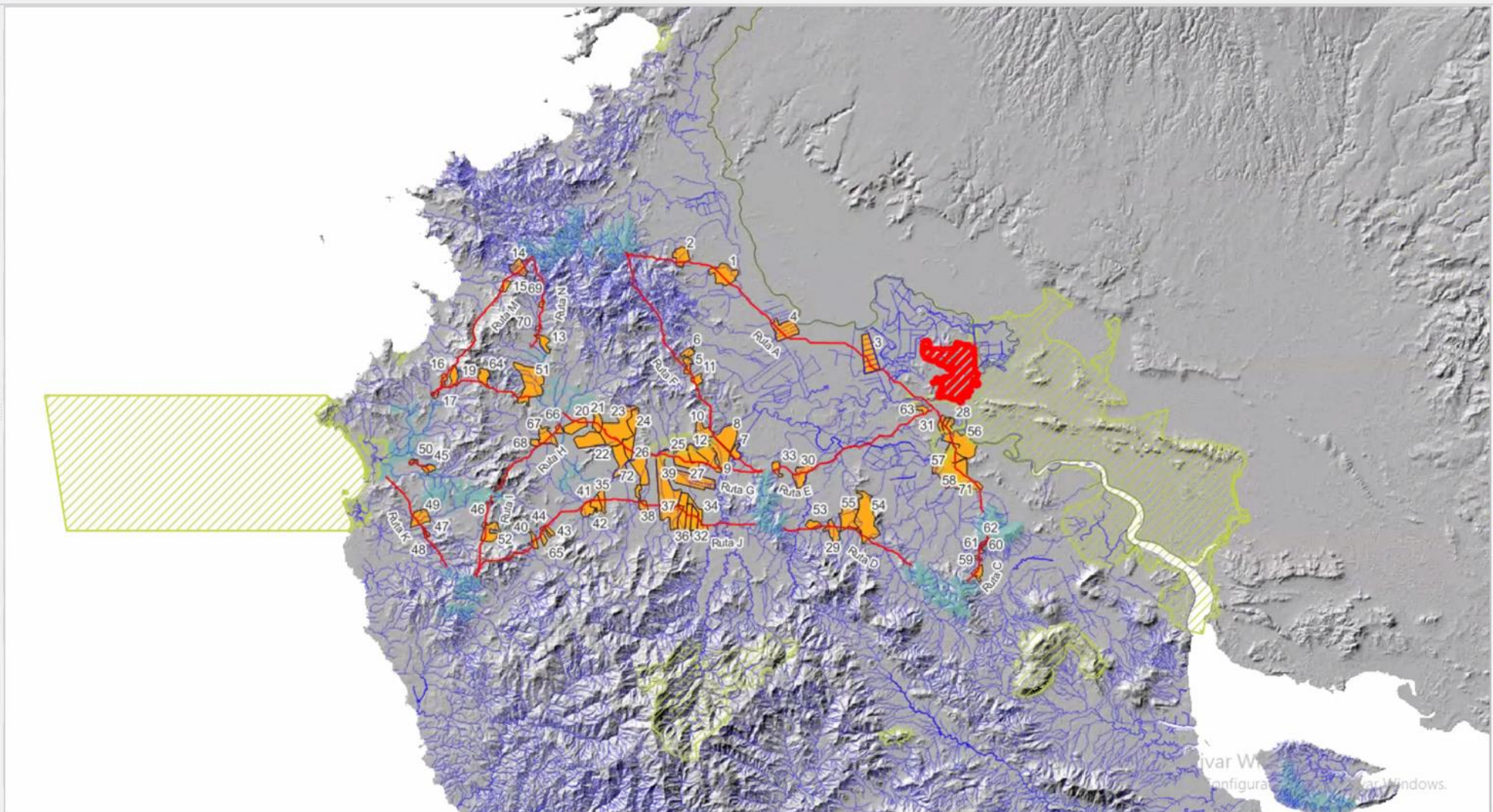


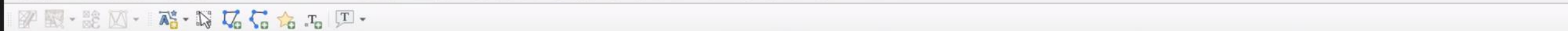
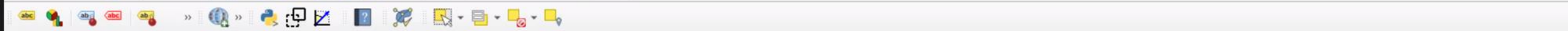
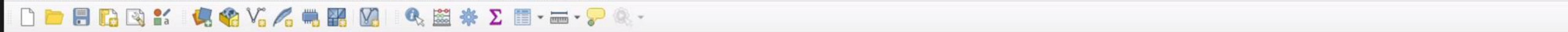
Navegador

- C:\
- GeoPackage
 - CRreg_SIG.gpkg
 - ASP
 - CR 1:25mil
 - Fragmentación
 - Lim_Admin
 - Limite_Proyecto
 - Parches_500_1000ha
 - poblados
 - Propiedad: Uso de la Tierra
 - Propiedades
 - RCE
 - Red hídrica 200k
 - Red hídrica 25k
 - Red vial 5k
 - Uso de la Tierra Detallado
 - Uso de la Tierra General

Capas

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- Uso de la Tierra Detallado



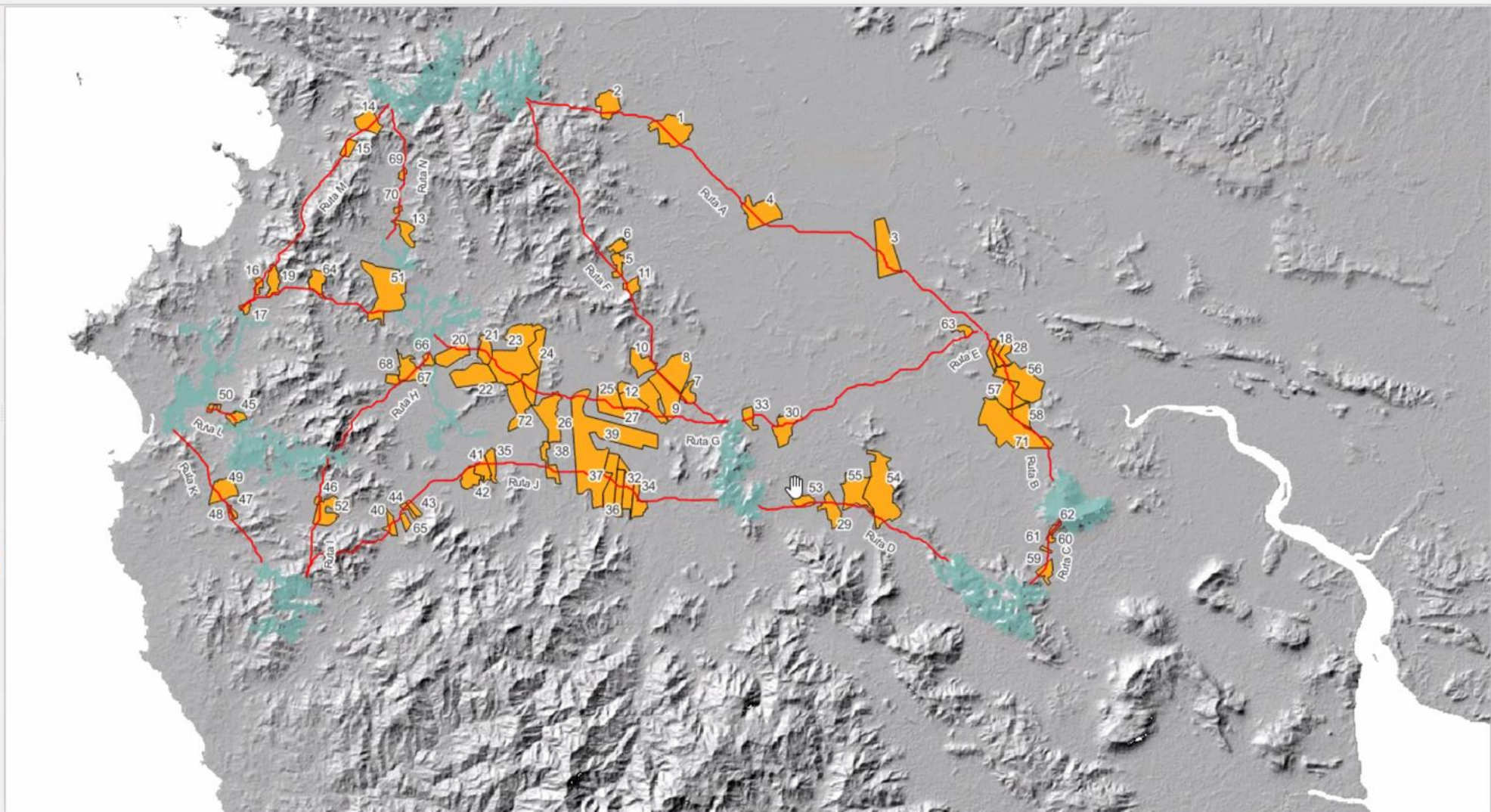


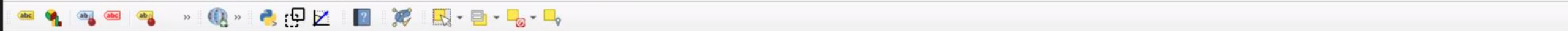
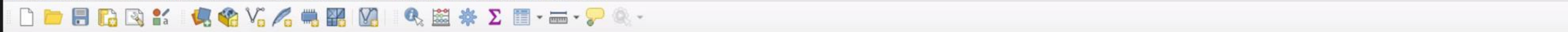
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 - Mosaico Ortofotos 1:5mil 2014-2017
 - OSM Standard
 - cr_hll_tm
 - Banda 1: cr_hll_tm
 - 242
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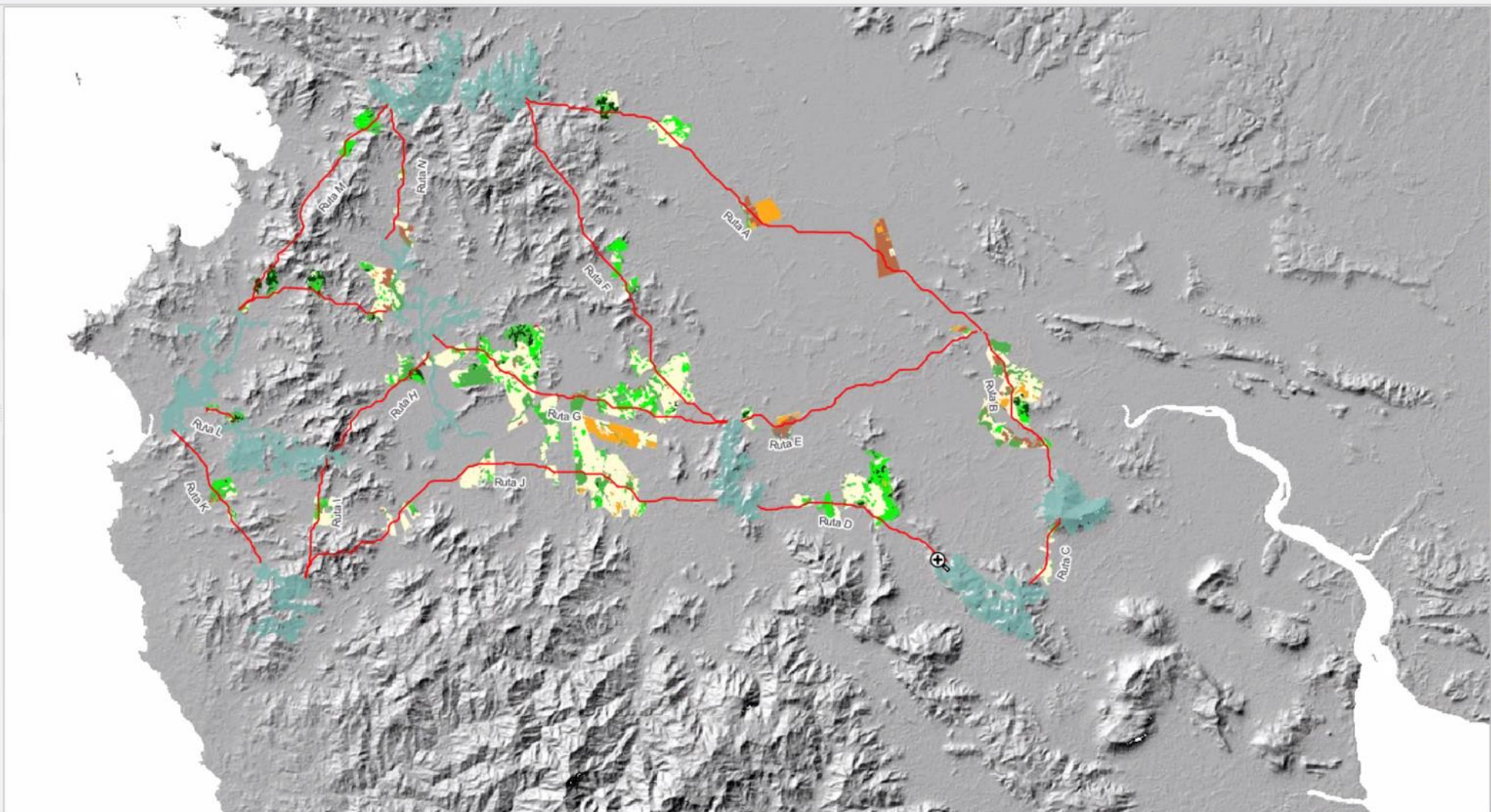


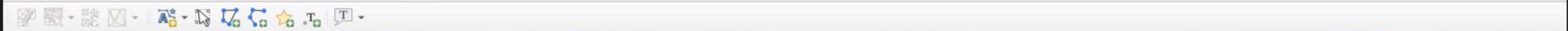
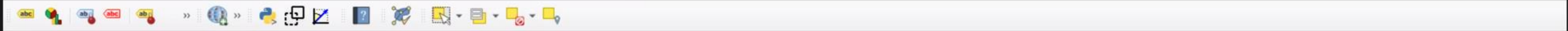
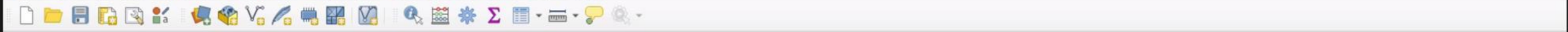
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 - 242
 - 45



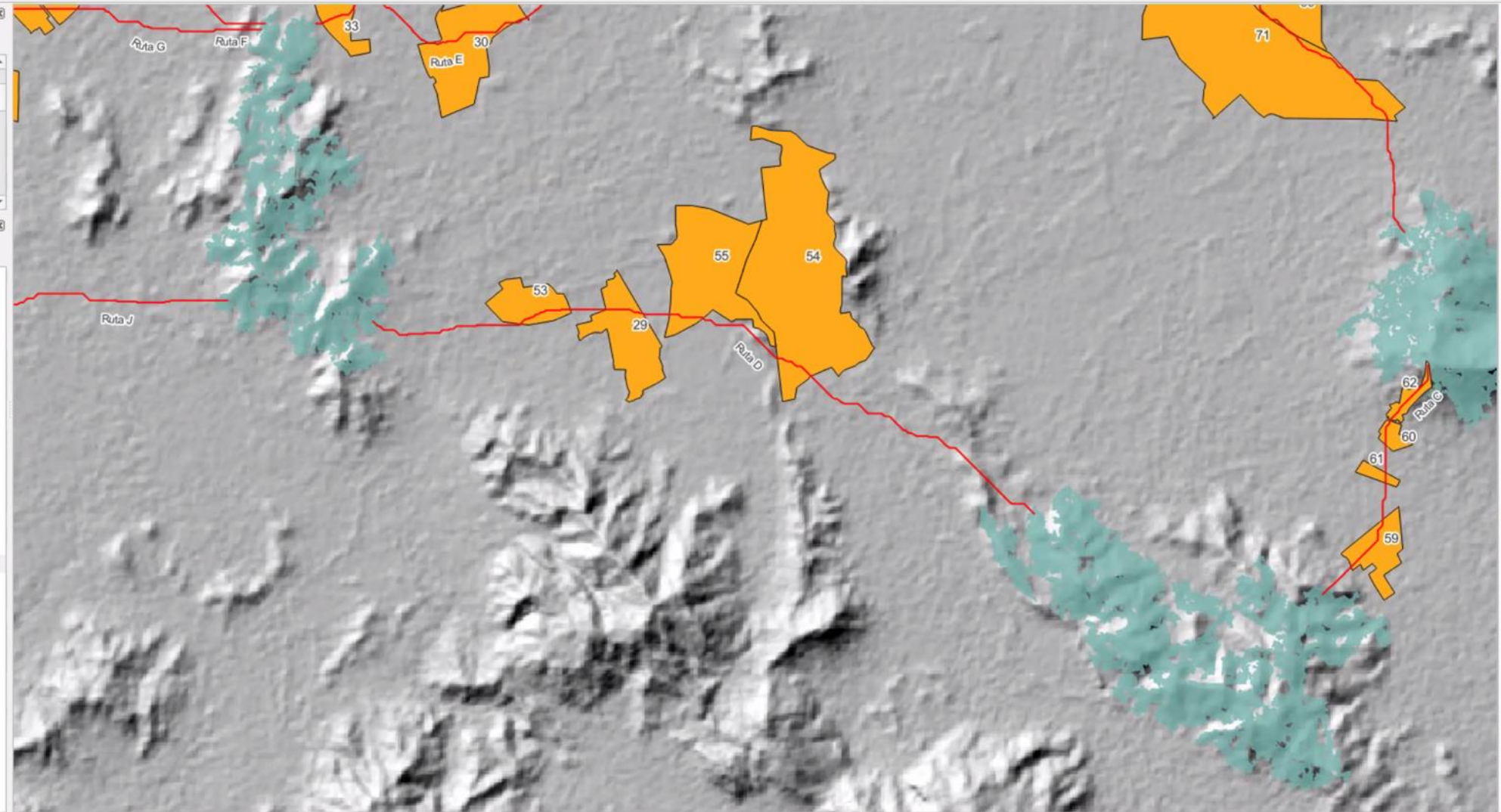


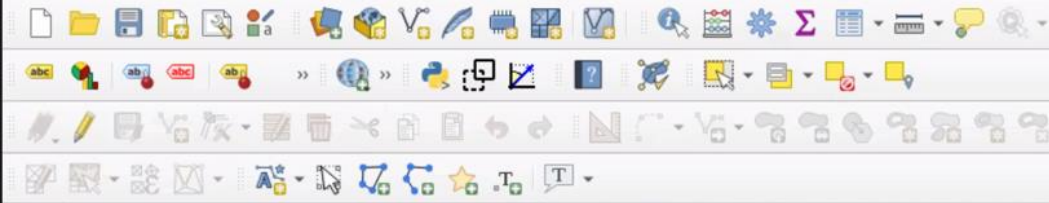
Navegador

- C:\
- GeoPackage
 - CRreg_SIG.gpkg
 - ASP
 - CR 1:25mil
 - Fragmentación
 - Lim_Admin
 - Limite_Proyecto
 - Parcelas_500_1000ha

Capas

- * poblados
- RCE
- Propiedad: Uso de la Tierra
- Propiedades
- Parches_500_1000ha
- Limite_Proyecto
- Fragmentación
 - < 2
 - 2 - 5
 - 5 - 10
 - 10 - 50
 - 50 - 100
 - 100 - 500
 - 500 - 1000
 - > 1000
- Uso de la Tierra Detallado**
 - Mosaico Ortofotos 1:5mil 2014-2017
 - OSM Standard
 - cr_hll_tm
 - Banda 1: cr_hll_tm
 - 242
 - 45



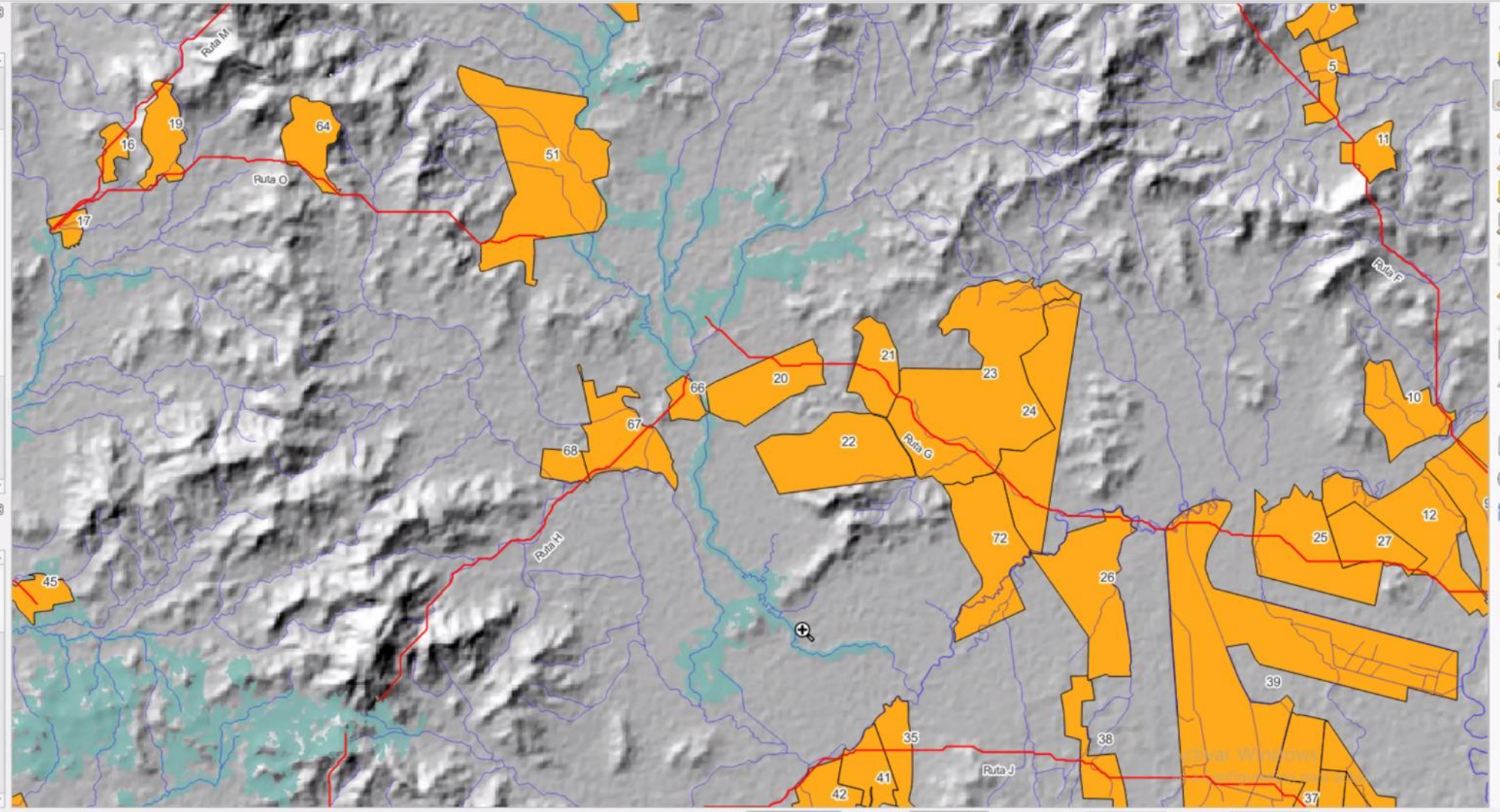


Navegador

- GeoPackage
 - CRreg_SIG.gpkg
 - ASP
 - CR 1:25mil
 - Fragmentación
 - Lim_Admin
 - Límite_Proyecto
 - Parches_500_1000ha
 - poblados
 - Propiedad: Uso de la Tierra
 - Propiedades
 - RCE
 - Red hídrica 200k
 - Red hídrica 25k**
 - Red vial 5k
 - Uso de la Tierra Detallado
 - Uso de la Tierra General
- SpatialLite
- PostGIS
- SAP HANA
- MSSQL
- Oracle
- WMS/WMTS
- Vector Tiles

Capas

- poblados
- RCE
- Propiedad: Uso de la Tierra
- Red hídrica 25k
- Red hídrica 200k
- Propiedades
- Parches_500_1000ha
- Límite_Proyecto
- Fragmentación
 - < 2
 - 2 - 5
 - 5 - 10
 - 10 - 50
 - 50 - 100

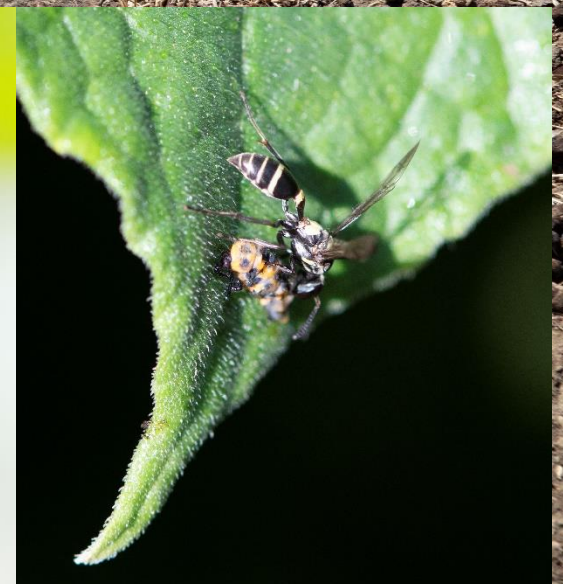


Preliminary connectivity evaluation – Las Garzas



Orden	Familia	Orden	Familia
Coleoptera	Buprestidae	Hymenoptera	Apidae
	Chrysomelidae		Formicidae
	Coccinellidae		Ichneumonidae
Diptera	Drosophilidae		Mutillidae
	Muscidae		Vespidae
Hemiptera	Syrphidae	Lepidoptera	Crambidae
	Berytidae		Hesperiidae
	Cicadellidae		Papilionidae
	Coreidae		Pieridae
	Pentatomidae		Tortricidae
	Reduviidae	Neuroptera	Chrysopidae
	Membracidae		Myrmeleontidae
Orthoptera	Miridae	Odonata	Anisoptera
	Acridoidea		Coenagrionidae
	Tetrigidae		
	Tettigonidae		

After 4 moths:
177 species of insects and arthropods



Large scale monitoring

- GIS, Lidar, ...
- Biodiversity baseline inventories
- Biodiversity monitoring
- Ecosystem services valuation
- Water cycle and harvesting
- Soil biodiversity
- Soil carbon
- Soil parameters
- Local production & consumption
- Well-being
- Community + local government planning





Biodiversity monitoring: bats

Marine Connect Ocean

- Participatory fisheries management
- Citizen science
- Responsible management areas
- Elimination of middlemen
- From the sea to the table
- Coral farms

<http://connectocean.org/>





Cities

- Biophilic cities
- Biodiversity
- Agricultural production (urban gardens)
- Tree coverage
- Regenerative badges/awards
- Well-being of the population – young people and older adults
- Heat pockets
- Pollution

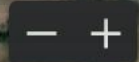
Urban landscapes

Río Perico

Hospital La Anexión

Estadio Chorotega

Cerro La Cruz
Protected Zone



Google

100%

Imagery date: 2/15/19–newer

Maxar Technologies

800 m

Camera: 5,144 m 10°09'13"N 85°25'44"W

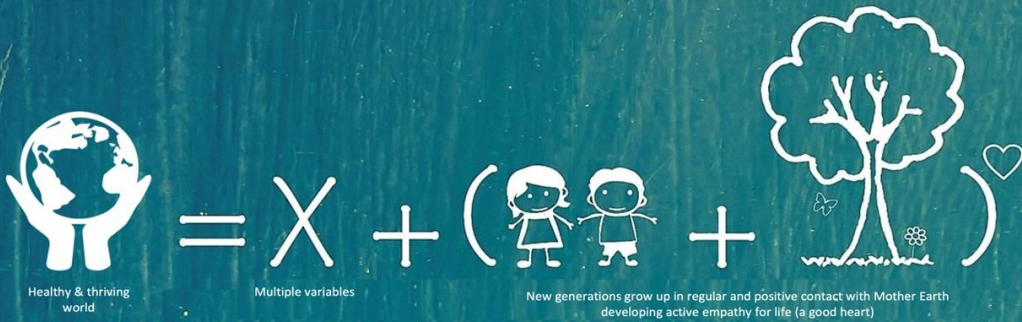
148 m



Biophylic cities program

- Capacity development: Mayor + 5
- Tax and Budget management
- Environmental management
- Cultural strengthening
- Social empowerment
- Education
- Greening the city
- Biological corridors





Escalating “TiNi: Children’s Land” methodology

An innovative methodology that catalyzes the regeneration of life with the new generations and Mother Earth as allies



Children’s Land (TiNi)

It is a methodology that connects children and youngsters with Mother Earth and empowers them as agents of change for sustainable development. It consists in granting them a space of land, which can be from three pots, where they nurture life and biodiversity with love generating well-being for themselves, others and nature.

A Children’s Land can be implemented at home, school, in the neighborhood or community, in urban and rural areas, and in various ecosystems. Children’s land helps develop active empathy for life and is an indicator of the children’s contribution to the sustainable development of their neighborhood.

✓ Recognized as a good practice in Education for Sustainable Development by **UNESCO (2012)**.

✓ Recognized by the **Ministry of the Environment of Peru** as a good practice of Education for Sustainable Development (2013).

✓ Institutionalized by the **Ministry of Education of Peru** as EsVi - Spaces of Life, currently in +5900 schools. (2015).

✓ Institutionalized by the **Ministry of Education of Ecuador** as Children’s Land for Good Living, present in +6000 schools (2017).

✓ Recognized as one of the best 7 innovative initiatives in Latin America for social impact by **VIVA (2020)**.

✓ Present in Peru, Ecuador (+ Galapagos), Colombia, Brazil, Chile (+ Rapa Nui), El Salvador, Canada, Japan and India.

An aerial photograph of a vast, dense forest. The trees are in various shades of green and yellow, suggesting an autumn or late summer setting. In the distance, a blue body of water, likely the ocean, is visible under a clear sky. The text "Kosmos Farm" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Kosmos Farm





What we need, urgently!

- **Cooperation** and not competition
- **Narratives**
- **Scalability** – we need a global movement
- **Holistic approaches** using different sources of knowledge (science, indigenous, local)
- Flexible pathways: **principles**, not recipes
- Research that allows for **immediate action** – storytelling beyond publication
- **Business models**
- Actions conducive to **life** - regeneration
- **Local well-being** above corporate and trade
- Massive **(re)education** – First responders for regeneration®
- Give **HOPE and guidance**



Will we make it
on time?