

STATE OF THE STATE REGENERATIVE TECH

IN 2026



REGENERATIVE TECHNOLOGY
PROJECT

January 27, 2026

regentech.co



WELCOME!

- Welcome & Warm Up
- Why Regeneration in Tech?
- Trends in Regenerative Tech
- Questions & Exploration
- Acknowledgements & What's Next?



COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

- **Be kind and respectful**
- **Please save your questions** for the end
- **We'll share trends** until top of the hour, then time for dialogue



CURRENT STATE: ENSHITTIFICATION

Enshittification happens when technology stops serving people and starts serving only growth





How might we
compost enshittification
into the next generation of tech?



WHY REGENERATIVE TECH?

**Pervasive technology is amplifying
harms to society and planet.**

- Amplifies divisions
- Exacerbates mental health crises
- Increases material extraction, pollution
- Accelerates power asymmetries
- Infringes on local empowerment

**And this trajectory
is poised to continue.**



10x

Every year, AI uses 10x computational power to train models, demanding ever more energy and water resources
(Bloomberg)

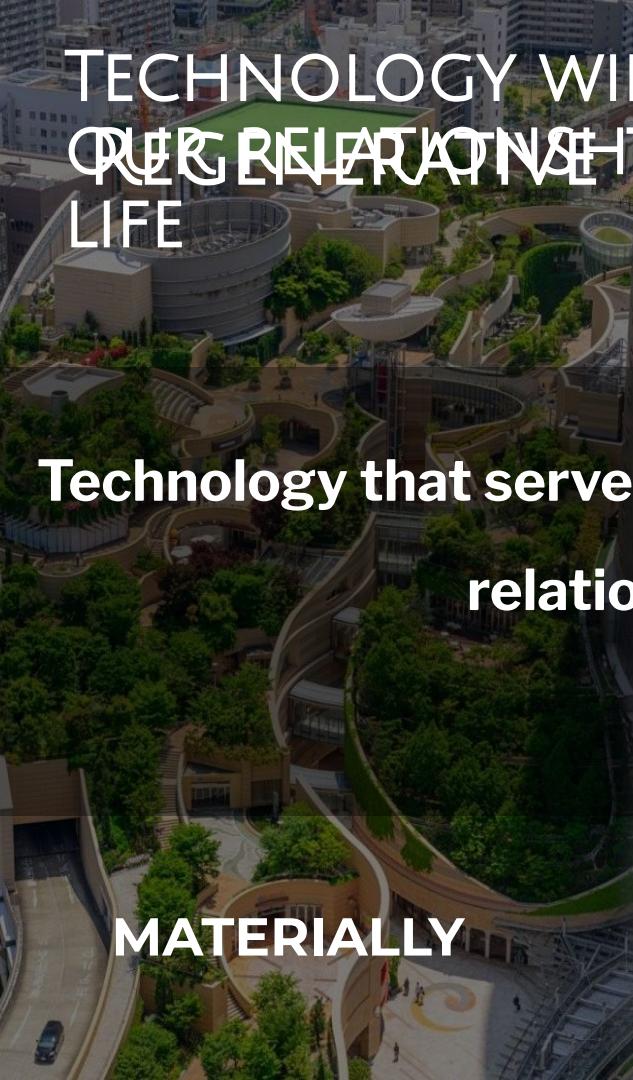
21%

Of Data centers will demand 21% of the world's electricity supply by 2030 due to AI, Streaming, Blockchain, and more. (IEA)

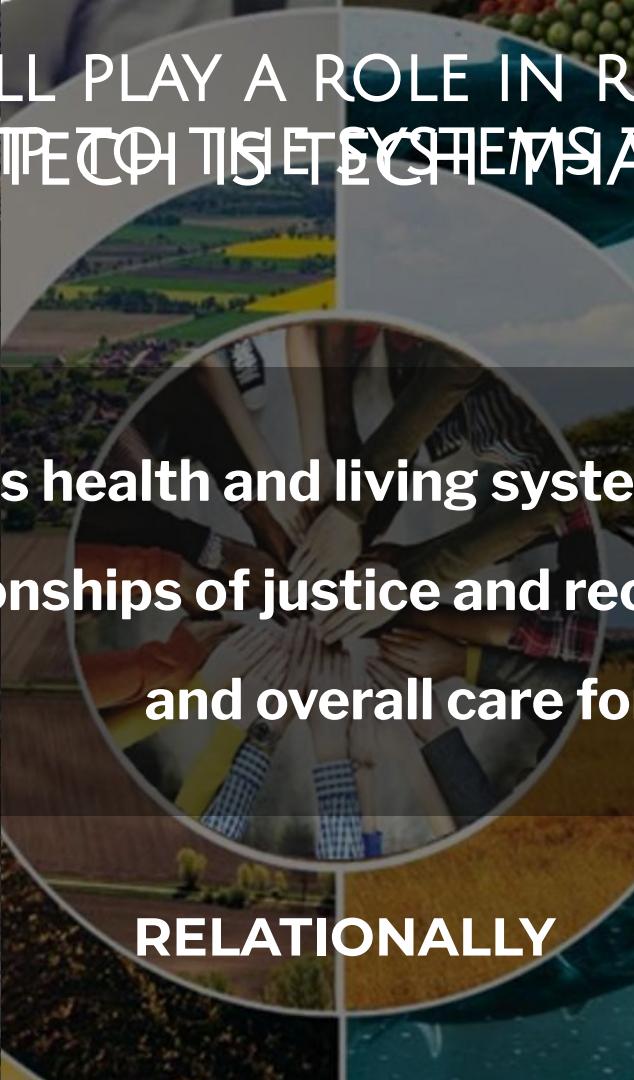
60M

Tech produces over 60 million tons of e-waste in landfills per year, growing to 110 million tons by 2050
(UN)

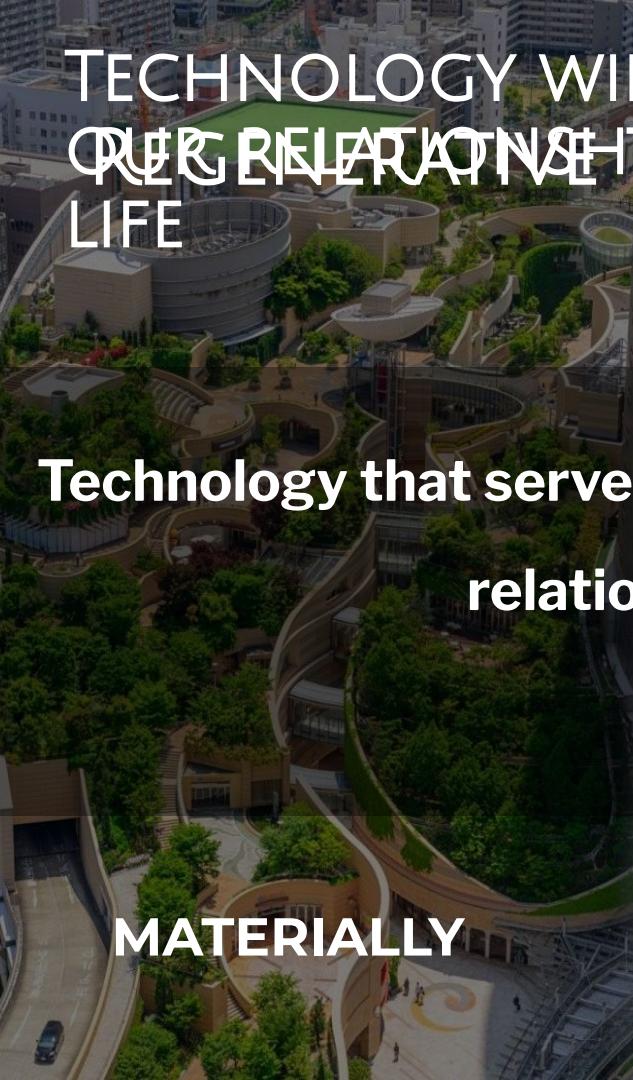
TECHNOLOGY WILL PLAY A ROLE IN REIMAGINING
OUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE SYSTEMS THAT SUPPORT
LIFE



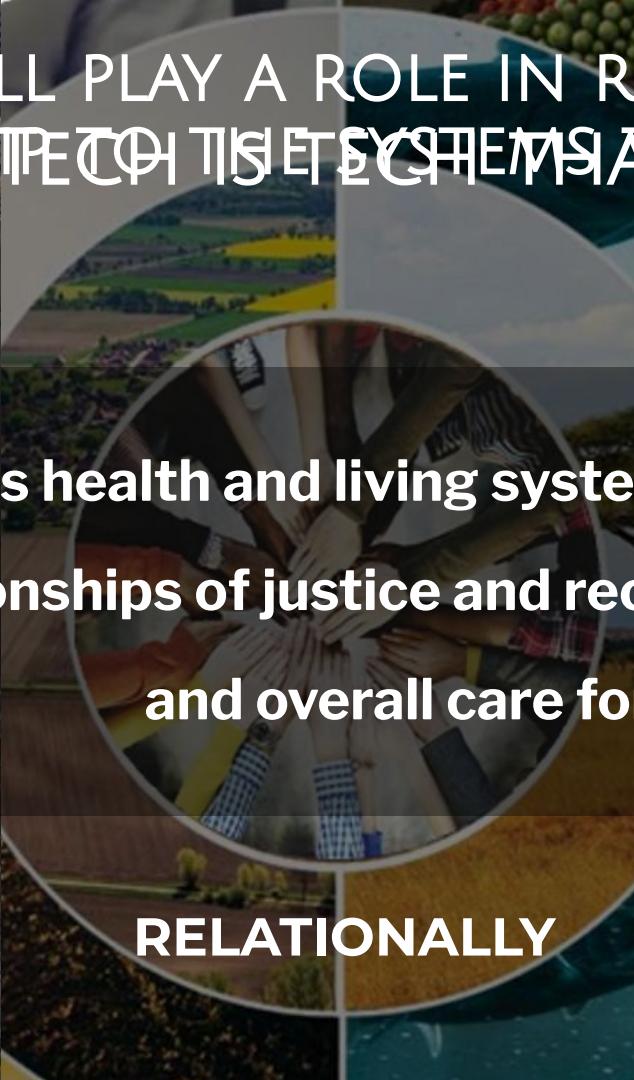
Technology that serves health and living systems,
relationships of justice and reciprocity,
and overall care for earth and community.



MATERIALLY



RELATIONALLY



ECONOMICALLY



TECH TODAY REFLECTS AND
ACCELERATES DOMINANT
PATTERNS OF EXTRACTION AND
EXPLOITATION

WHILE "ETHICAL" APPROACHES
ARE CRUCIAL FOR ALTERNATIVE
FUTURES, THEY FALL SHORT OF
THE SYSTEMIC CHANGE NEEDED

WHERE ARE WE
SEEING
REGENERATIVE
TECH IN 2026?



TRENDS IN REGENERATIVE TECH 2026

REMOTE SENSING EXPANDS
PLACE-BASED DATA



REGENERATIVE AI



TEK-KNOWLEDGE-Y



TECH FOR COLLECTIVE



DEEPENING TECH STACK
DISRUPTION



REMOTE SENSING EVOLUTION EXPANDS PLACE-BASED DATA

EVER-WIDENING DATA SPOTLIGHTS
NEW INSIGHTS AND LIMITATIONS

CATALYZING FORCES

- Expansion of *cheaper, place-based* sensing capabilities (IoT, eDNA, acoustics, satellites, drones, AI)
- Open tools improve access for citizens, NGOs, land stewards, researchers
- Diverse applications underpin power struggle: surveillance, controls, value

Image source: Geospatial World

FROM EXTRACTIVE MANAGEMENT TO PLACE-BASED LISTENING

These inputs are increasing visibility, transparency, and lowering costs for key regenerative processes... but cold data is not the whole story



- Illuminates data's regenerative potential to serve eco-social-economically aligned decision-making
- Multimodal sensor fusion enables richer analysis, but remains decontextualized
- **7%:** current nature tech has access to estimated 7% of data on the Earth's total biodiversity and ecosystems (Microsoft)



Q: How might your work or project add contextualization based on place-based identities?

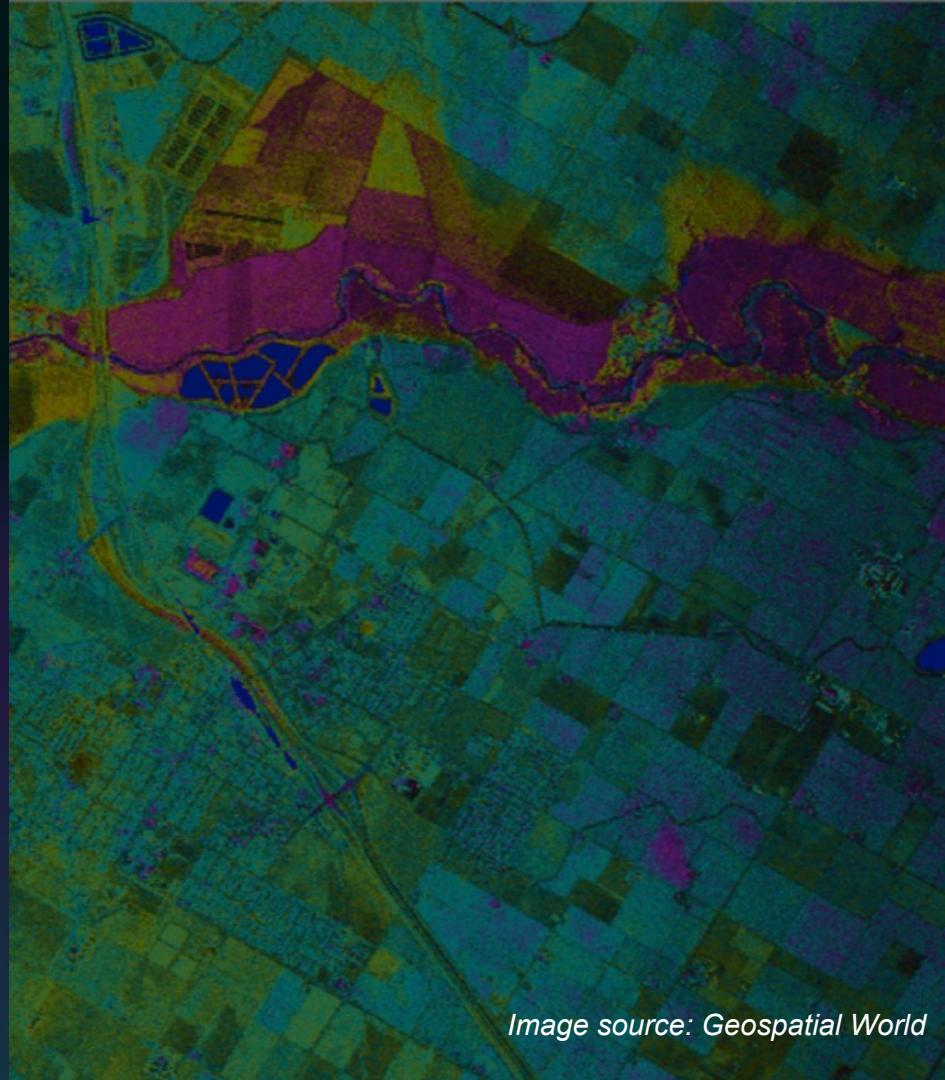


Image source: Geospatial World

REGENERATIVE AI

HOW CAN AI HELP US SHIFT
TOWARDS REGENERATIVE PRACTICES?

CATALYZING FORCES

- AI ethics' harm reduction and anthropomorphism = insufficient
- Cambrian explosion of AI R&D, wider datasets, decentralized, and cheaper modalities
- AI amplifies acceleration in the wrong direction– and new narratives too!

Image source: Canva AI

BIOMIMETIC & REGENERATIVE DESIGN



ClimateGPT 2.0 by Erasmus.AI



+Ai2 OlmoEarth Platform



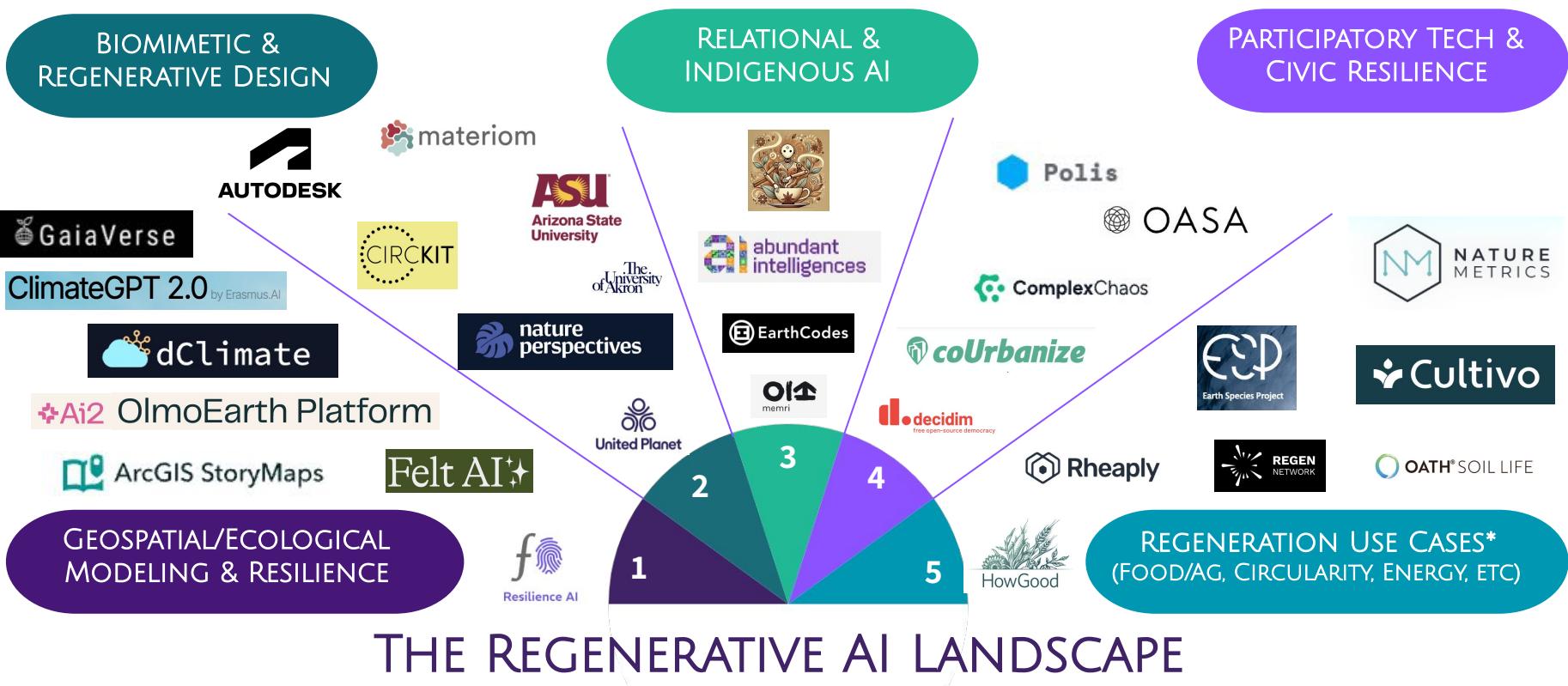
GEOSPATIAL/ECOLOGICAL
MODELING & RESILIENCE



RELATIONAL & INDIGENOUS AI



The University of Akron



ARCHITECTURE FOR REGENERATIVE AI



PROJECT AGAPE

HOLO CHAIN

Regenerative AI Framework™



CARE Principles
for Indigenous
Data Governance

DEVELOPED BY THE REGENERATIVE TECHNOLOGY PROJECT



Q: How might we use
AI “for the intentional
reorientation of
attention— toward
conditions required for
collective repair?”

– Project Agape (Metarelational.ai)

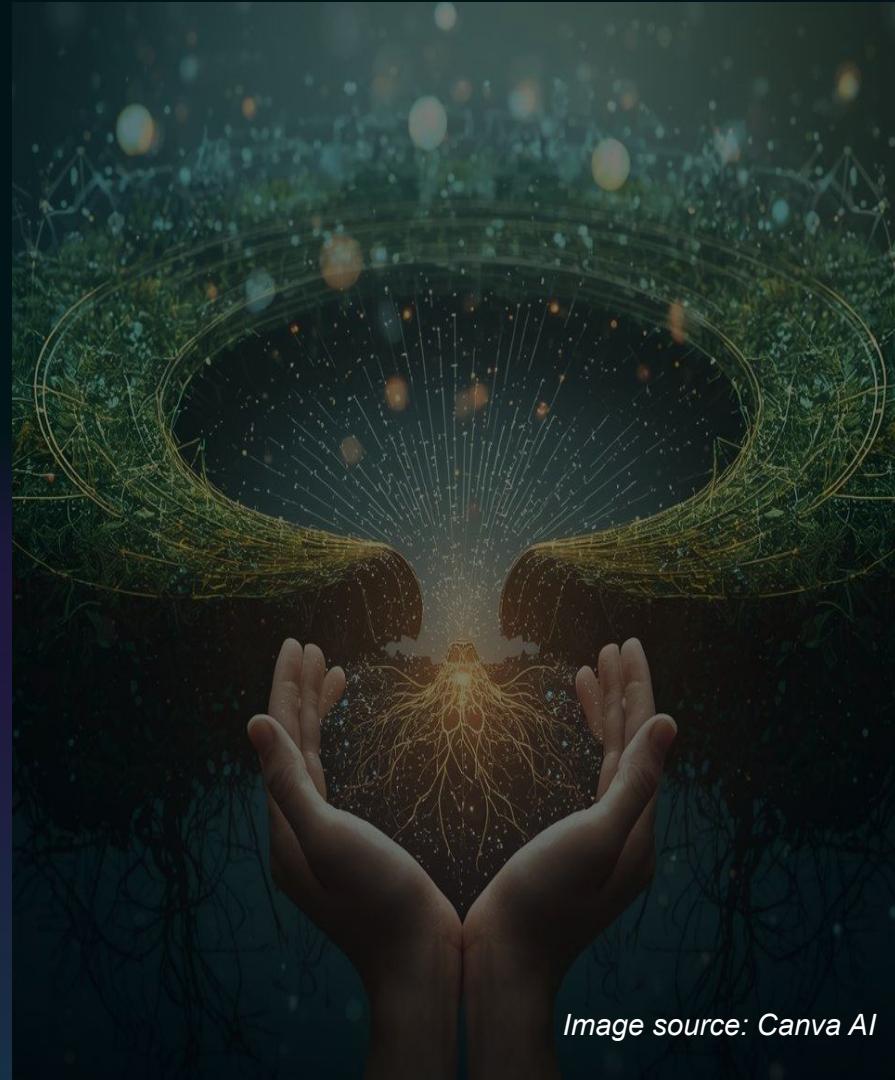


Image source: Canva AI

THE POTENTIAL FOR TEK-KNOWLEDGE-Y

ANCIENT WISDOM MEETS
NASCENT TECH

CATALYZING FORCES

- Indigenous engagement in tech/AI is inviting new models for design, digital sovereignty, governance, etc.
- Ancient protocols for new technologies (e.g. CARE)
- Tribal councils are driving community-centered tech deployment rather than technocratic mandates

Image source: Indigenous Data Alliance

RELATIONAL APPROACHES OFFER ALTERNATIVE TO EXTRACTIVE MODELS

Designing for technological sovereignty, collective good, and cultural continuity

**kōrero
māori**

 **FirstVoices**

Language & cultural continuity

Indigenous groups are developing frameworks for knowledge stewardship and community-controlled language databases used to train AI tools.



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DATA IS KEY TO CONNECTING WHO WE HAVE BEEN, WHO WE ARE, AND WHO WE WILL BE.

Data sovereignty & commonsing

Canada's Indigenous Digital Sovereignty Initiative and NZ's Māori Data Sovereignty Network aim to give First Nations control over data, infrastructure and governance.



Relational interfaces & experience

Aiden Cinnamon Tea and Gold Dust Woman GPT are re-imagining AI as kin, ancestor, or steward—not servant or god.



Q: What would our
tech look like if
“right relationship”
were a core
requirement?



Image source: Indigenous Data Alliance

- A bridge between ancestral intelligence and emerging tech

TECH FOR COLLECTIVE

RISING AUTOMATION OF NEW ECONOMIC MODELS

CATALYZING FORCES

- Platform tech, Web3, “fintech” foster digital cooperation, DAOs, new digital asset classes
- Widespread needs for network coordination (e.g. bioregional, civic tech, mutual aid, ecosystem services)
- Open source maturation across “innovation” communities and youth

Image source: One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B)

USING TECH FOR STEWARDING SHARED RESOURCES

New platforms are emerging to help stakeholders coordinate common assets and distribute decision-making and value more equitably



COMMONS & OPEN SOURCE



Open Source software helps mainstream “commons” thinking among techies, and powers innovation across categories



COOPERATIVES



The Cooperative Digital Economy is growing, powered by platforms and people coordinating at local and global scales



REGENERATIVE FINANCE



Despite the headwinds, #ReFi projects pioneer infrastructure that unlocks and circulates capital where it's needed most



- A bridge between ancestral intelligence and emerging tech

Q: If success were measured by collective wellbeing instead of individual engagement, what would be possible?



Image source: One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B)

“DEEPENING” TECH STACK DISRUPTION

ACCELERATING RISKS SPARK NEW
INNOVATIONS IN TECH DESIGN

CATALYZING FORCES

- Consolidation of power in Tech (+ other industries, powered by tech...)
- Rise of sustainable investment, impact accelerators, AI, GDPR, CSDR, insurance, and concerned citizens...
- Driving “Green” IT, edge compute, privacy tech, open source, planet positive frameworks

Image source: CanvaAI

INNOVATORS ARE TARGETING "SYSTEMIC" ISSUES ACROSS THE STACK

Material impacts, energy efficiency, digital sovereignty, decentralization, "green IT"

fairphone

Europe's Fairphone Enters U.S. Market Tapping Right-To-Repair Demand

Euria: the free, sovereign AI assistant to no longer depend on the American giants

infomaniak

La messagerie éco-responsable qui plante des arbres et protège vos données.



webAI

Vaire

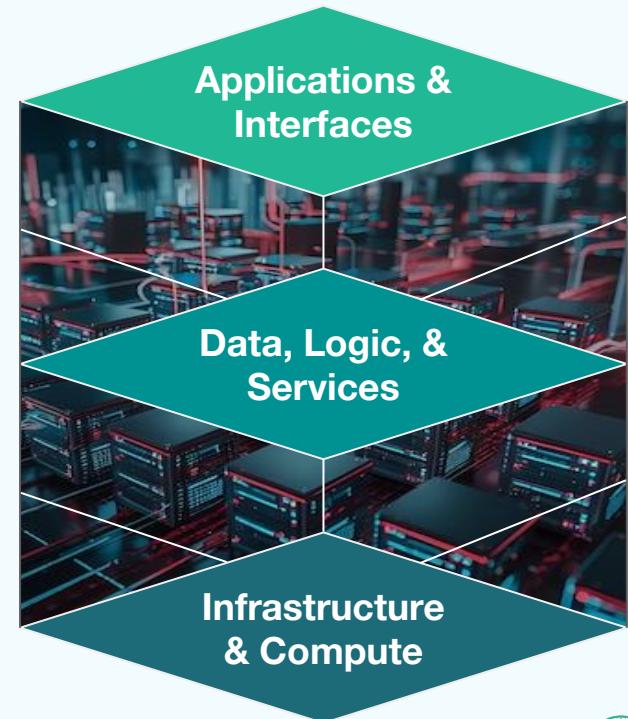
Schneider
Electric

Full stack platform for sovereign AI



Vaire Demos Energy Recovery With Reversible Computing Test Chip

The Regenerative Data Center—A Future-Saver





AN ECOLOGY OF TECH

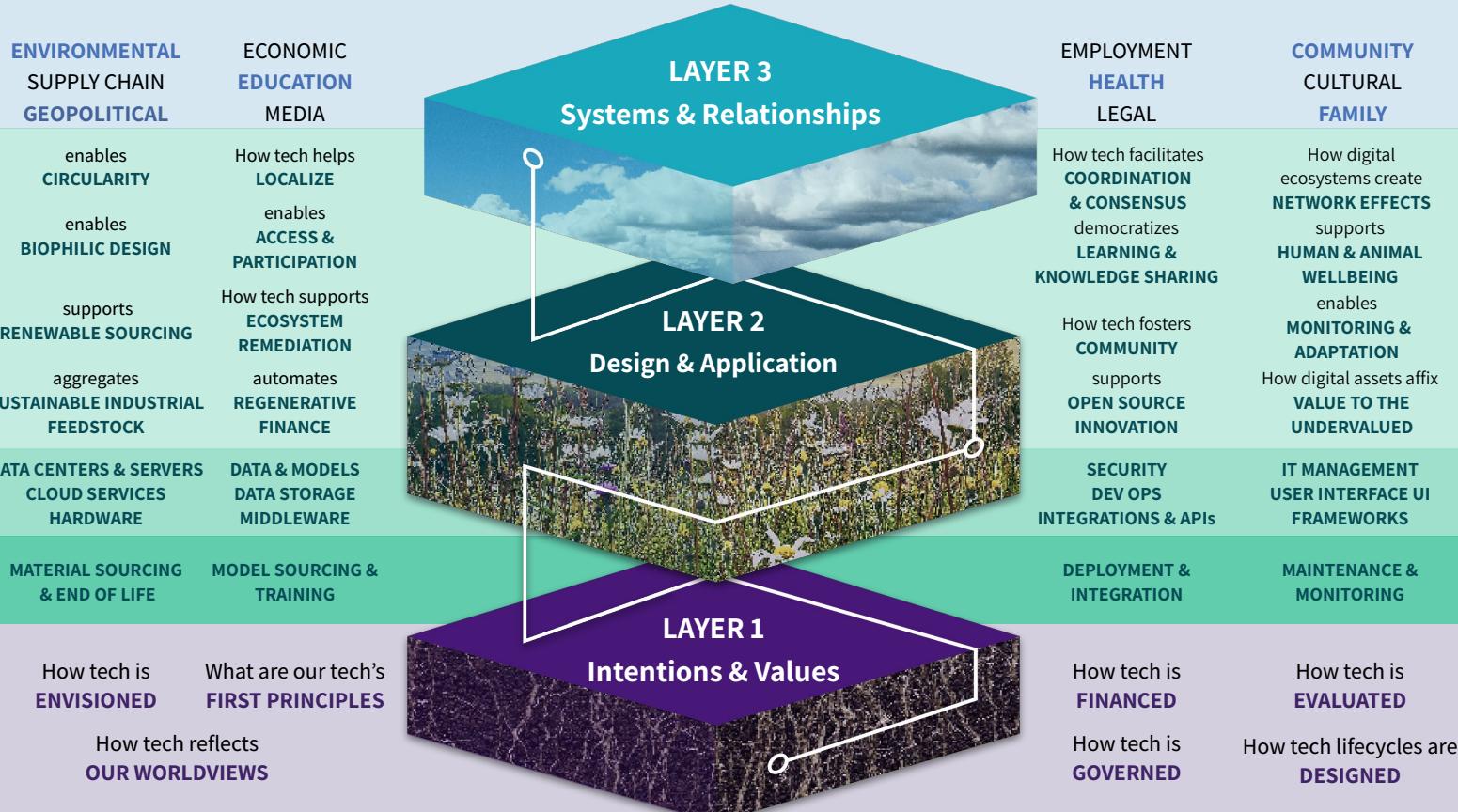
In service to what?

What we design

Why we design



THE REGENERATIVE TECH STACK



DEVELOPED BY THE REGENERATIVE TECHNOLOGY PROJECT





EMERGING “REGEN TECH”
OFFER TANGIBLE ELEMENTS
TO DESIGN BETTER
FUTURES

WHAT MIGHT WE
IMAGINE?



FRIENDS & ALLIES IN THE ECOSYSTEM

Thank you to our friends in the work that helped us promote this event (inclusion does not imply endorsement)



QUESTIONS & EXPLORATIONS

Breakout Q: What is one learning, tension, or question these trends spark in you?



LET'S CULTIVATE THE SOIL FOR REGENERATIVE TECHNOLOGY!

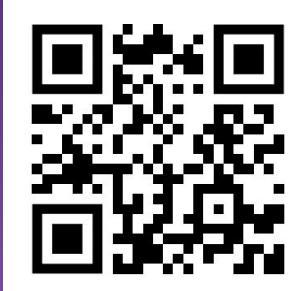
DONATE TO SUPPORT

Your contributions help sustain outreach, events, and ecosystem resources



JOIN THE COMMUNITY

Next event: Regenerative Technology Playshop
Wed, March 4



CONNECT WITH RTP

Inquiries about regenerative tech and your organization?
Reach out!



THANK YOU

Find us at regentech.co
and on LinkedIn and Bluesky



REGENERATIVE TECHNOLOGY
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A Think-and-Do-Tank
on a mission to
accelerate the Tech
innovation towards
systemic health and
regeneration.

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