

# STATE OF THE STATE REGENERATIVE TECH

IN 2026

January 27, 2026



REGENERATIVE TECHNOLOGY  
PROJECT

[regentech.co](https://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

## STAGE 1: ATTRACT

(Users Love It!)



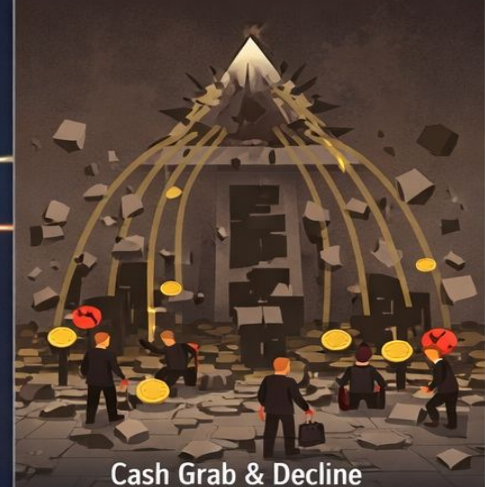
## STAGE 2: EXTRACT

(Advertisers Win)



## STAGE 3: EXPLOIT

(Shareholders Profit)





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

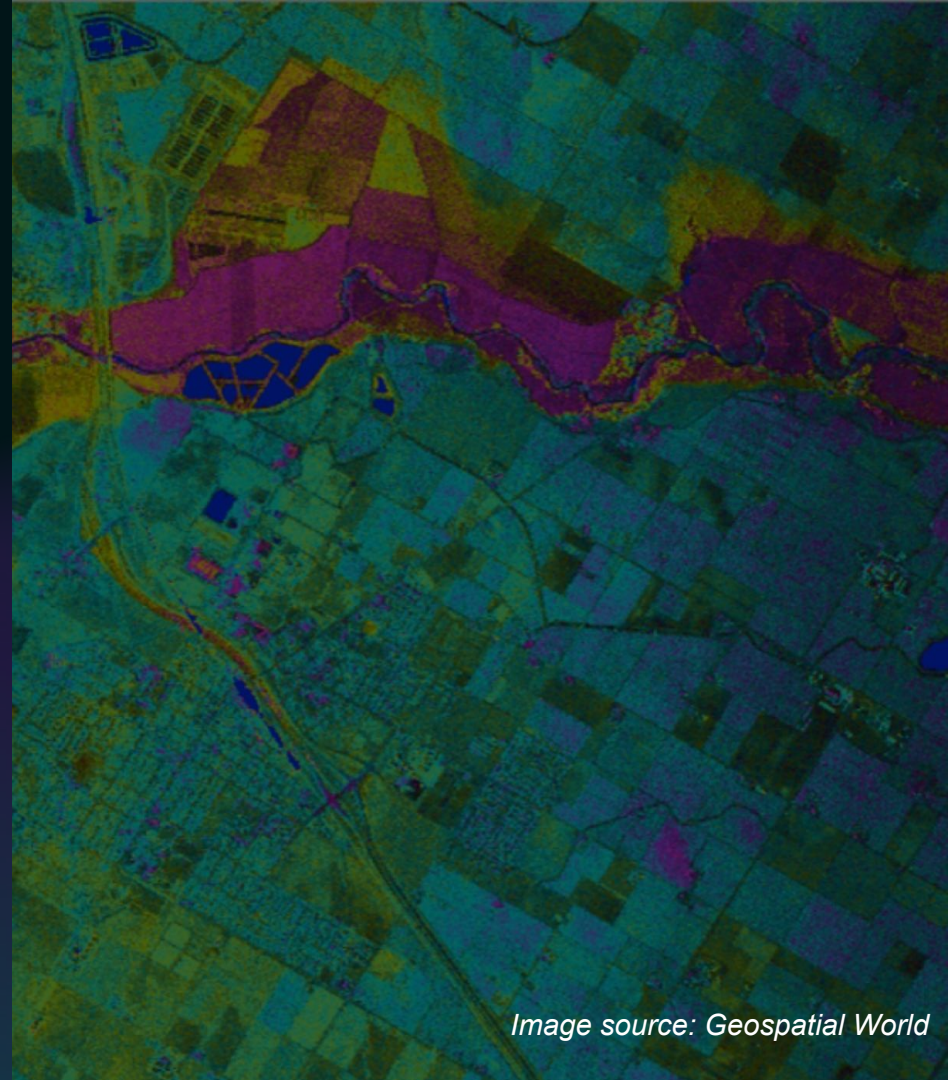
These inputs are increasing visibility, transparency, and lowering costs for key regenerative processes... but cold data is not the whole story



- 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)



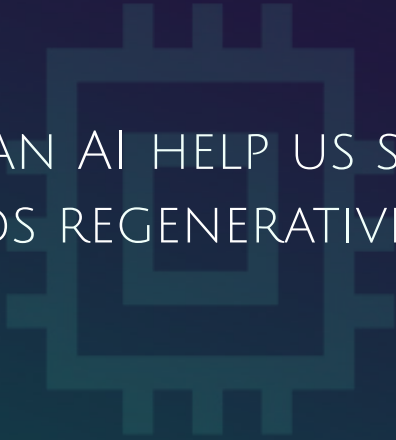
Q: How might your  
work or project add  
contextualization  
based on  
place-based  
identities?



*Image source: Geospatial World*

# REGENERATIVE AI

HOW CAN AI HELP US SHIFT  
TOWARDS REGENERATIVE PRACTICES?



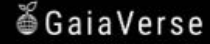
## CATALYZING FORCES

- 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



## PARTICIPATORY TECH & CIVIC RESILIENCE



## REGENERATION USE CASES\* (FOOD/AG, CIRCULARITY, ENERGY, ETC)

# THE REGENERATIVE AI LANDSCAPE

## ARCHITECTURE FOR REGENERATIVE AI



PROJECT AGAPE

HOLCHAIN

Regenerative AI Framework™



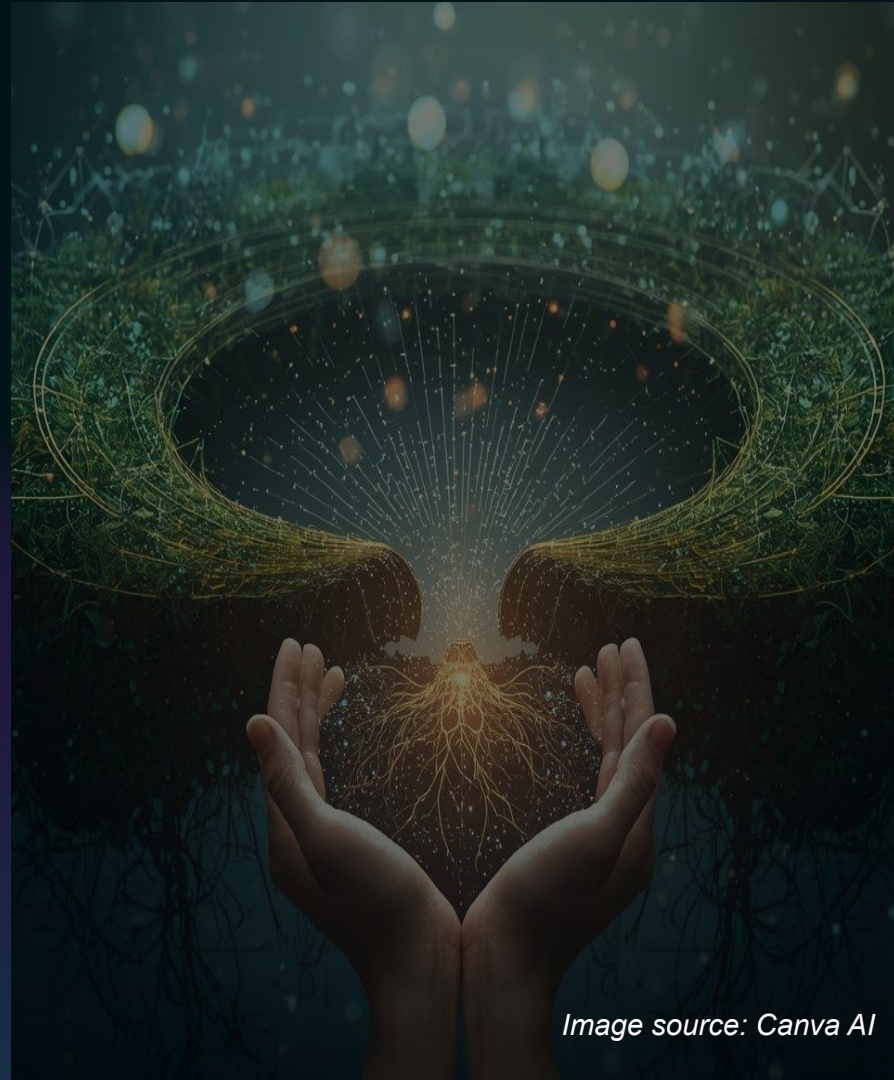
CARE Principles  
for Indigenous  
Data Governance

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



## 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

RIISING 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



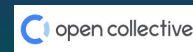
## COOPERATIVES



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



## REGENERATIVE FINANCE

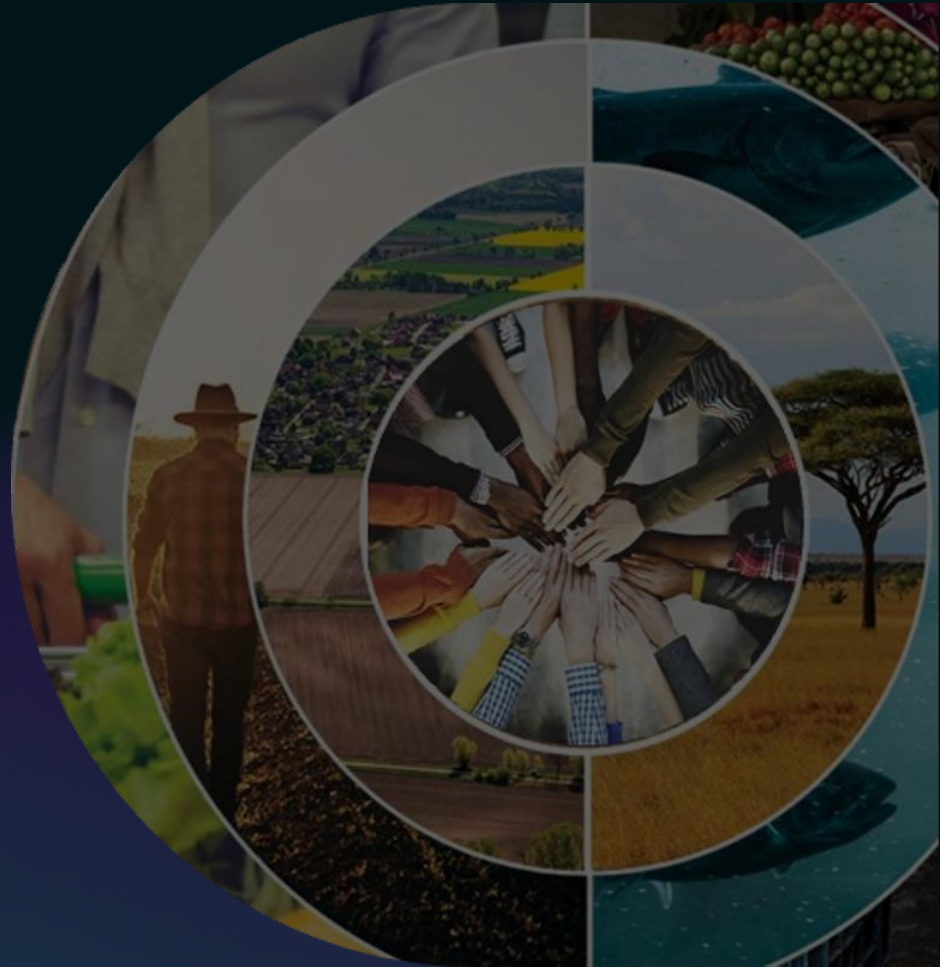


Despite the headwinds, #ReFi projects pioneer infrastructure that unlocks and circulates capital where it's needed most



- 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**

infomaniak

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



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

webAI

**Full stack platform for  
sovereign AI**

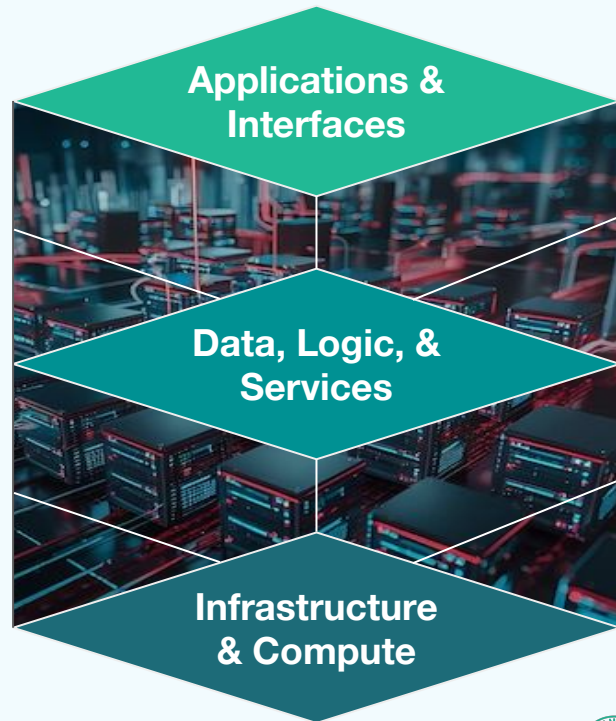


VAINE

Vaire Demos Energy Recovery With Reversible Computing Test Chip



**The Regenerative Data Center—A Future-Saver**



# AN ECOLOGY OF TECH

In service to what?

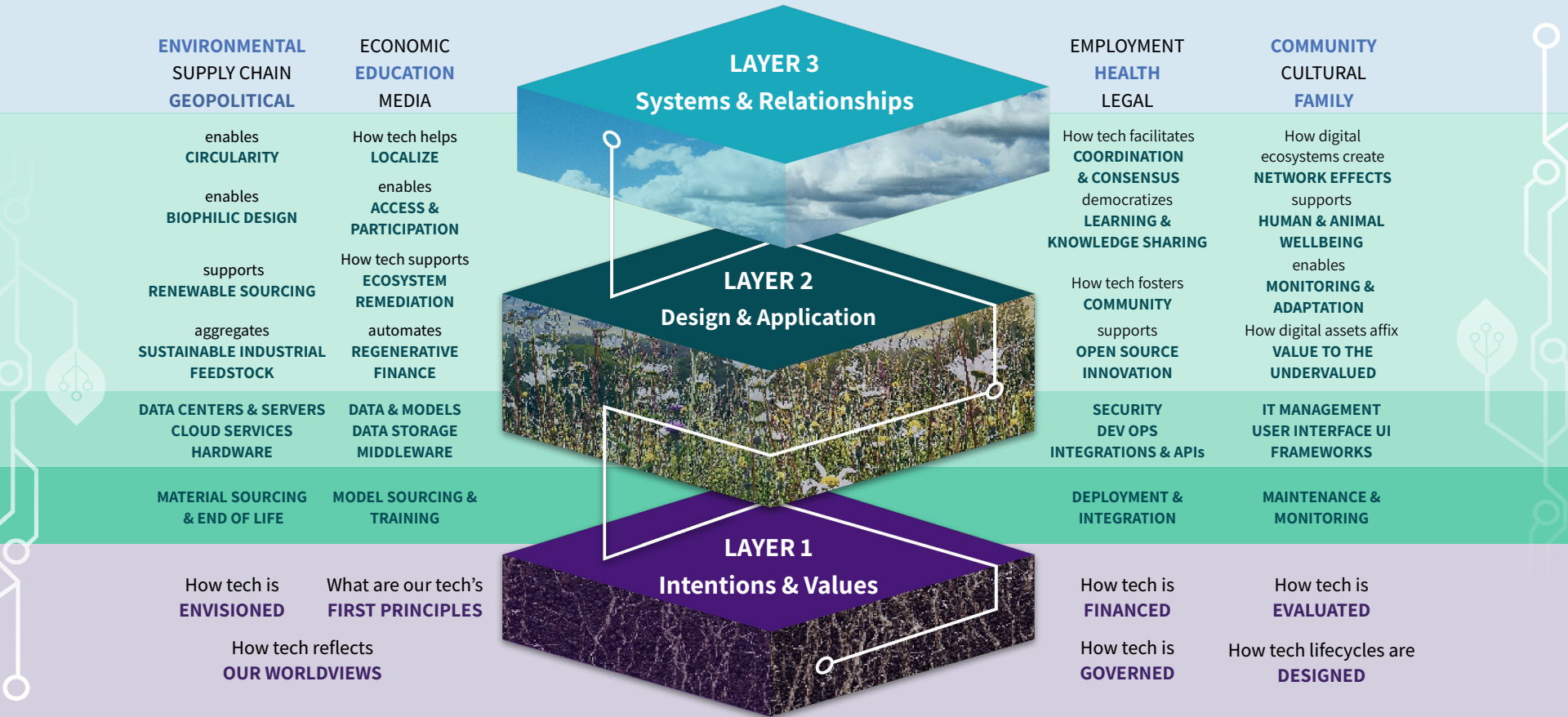
What we design

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)



WELCOMING YOUR VOICES

# 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](https://regentech.co)  
and on LinkedIn and Bluesky



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PROJECT

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

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