

Greg David - A Perspective on Life

gregd@jeffersoncountywi.gov

(920) 988-5629

The Natural Step, the European answer to the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro

Systems Perspective of Holistic Management

Economic

Social

Ecological

<https://thenaturalstep.org/approach/>

Peak Prosperity

Living Beyond Our Means, resource shortage and or price spikes

The Three Predicaments

Economic

Energy

Ecological

<https://www.peakprosperity.com>

8 Forms of Capital, measuring value holistically

Intellectual

Experiential (time)

Cultural

Living

Financial

Material

Social

Spiritual

<http://www.appleseedpermaculture.com/8-forms-of-capital/>

Inmate Cooperative as a Economic Capital Building Idea

Description of Idea: Work with Law Enforcement, Human Services, LWCS, and Infrastructure departments to create an offender rehabilitation program that educates, trains and employs inmates in an local, organic food and energy production system that provides food for themselves (the jail), and is a catalyst to create a healthy nutritional production system for county employees, as well as sales to the public.

Why: Our current industrial food system is toxic to the environment and the people consuming the industrially prepared food. One needs only to look at the condition of our soils, waters to see the effects of industrial ag on the environment. Obesity, diabetes, heart disease and dementia all stem from an industrial food diet focused on sales, not nutrition.

By converting to a local, organic, restorative agricultural system, which employs inmates, indigent and needy, we create jobs, experiential knowledge and a healthy food system that can revitalize our damaged health and the environment.

Organizing a food and bio-energy inmate cooperative allows for rehabilitation of the needy by providing meaningful jobs, a market to sell produce, and a cooperative enterprise to manage the business and distribute assets. The cooperative would be there to assist inmates in continuing this restorative enterprise after their debt to society has been paid. The cooperative would be organized by democratic principle, insuring local control and benefit remain local.

Expected outcomes would be rehabilitated inmates with a new purpose and meaning in their lives, as well as promise of employment in the future. Consumers (inmates, county employees and the public) would benefit from better nutrition and health. Jefferson County would become more food and energy secure, since the food and energy produce would be grown, processed and distributed locally, with any excess sold to neighboring metropolitan areas.

Resources:

San Francisco's inmate rehabilitation project

<http://www.gardenproject.org>

Information about cooperatives

<http://www.uwcc.wisc.edu>

Information on local, organic food and it's effect on the economy

<https://www.organicconsumers.org/news/local-organic-food-farming-can-help-revitalize-economy>