

Regenerative and Alternative Economic Models

REGENERATIVE ECONOMICS

In a regenerative economy, assets are restored, improved, and enriched, as opposed to extracted, concentrated, and controlled. Regenerative finance puts community needs first, and gives those communities full exercise of their rights. It should be regulated and restructured to restore capital into communities for long-term health, well-being, and resilience.

[Regenerative Finance](#) has developed a set of core values to consult when considering potential investments:

1. Builds Community Wealth
2. Shifts Economic Control
3. Democratizes the Workplace
4. Drives Social Equity
5. Advances Regenerative Ecological Economics
6. Re-localizes Primary Production and Consumption
7. Strengthens the Public Sector
8. Builds Movements and Power
9. Retains Culture and Tradition
10. Restores Indigenous Sovereignty and Promotes Decolonization
11. Restores Right Relationship within Ourselves and with Our Communities

Capital Institute's [8 Principles of a Regenerative Economy](#) is another easy-to-understand conceptualisation of how to build a stable, healthy, and sustainable financial system



CASE STUDY

The Kataly Foundation's [Restorative Economies Fund](#) seeks to close the racial wealth gap and transform the financial system. It does this by strategically reinvesting resources into community-owned and governed projects that create shared prosperity, self-determination, and build collective political, economic and cultural power.



What if funders fully prioritised the impact on Black and brown communities over financial returns in our investment decisions? What would that look like?

Nwamaka Agbo, CEO of Kataly and Managing Director of the Restorative Economies Fund

EMBODIED ECONOMICS

Denise Hearn’s Embodied Economics policy seeks to acknowledge the impact financial markets have on the human body (from the food you eat, to the care you receive). It rejects the idea that a global financial system doesn’t include community and interconnectedness. Economic policy builds power for some - and has done so for centuries - while claiming all consumers are equal. Embodied Economics centres the body, care, power, interconnectedness, and nature, provoking us to question how we currently do things.

INDIGENOUS ECONOMICS

Indigenous groups around the world have traditional economies allowing exchange of the goods, knowledge, language, and culture. These have typically developed from generations of learning and improvement.

Often, these economies engage with their local environment, and prioritise good relations with both each other and the land. According to a Pennelys Drois NDN Collective article, Dr. Ron Trosper, Salish/Kootenai tribal member and economic researcher, has noted that thriving traditional economies share three common principles:

1. Permanence within a homeland and the understanding that, even though families may have a recognized right to harvest within certain territories, lands remain a collective responsibility;
2. Deep emphasis on reciprocity and generosity with the land and each other; and
3. A system of accountability for leadership.

DECOLONISING WEALTH

Decolonising wealth seeks to eliminate the “top-down, closed-door and expert-driven” nature of the field, as well as closing the race-wealth gap. “If you are working in finance or philanthropy, and your job is to move capital, you’ve got to be aware of the history,” says Edgar Villanueva, author of [Decolonizing Wealth: Indigenous Wisdom to Heal Divides and Restore Balance](#). The book analyses colonial dynamics at play in finance and offers practical advice on how to allocate capital to repair damage done and build a better future.



LEARN MORE

Denise Hearn and Jonathan Tepper, [The Myth of Capitalism: Monopolies and the Death of Competition](#).



LEARN MORE

Tyson Yunkaporta, [Sand Talk: How Indigenous Thinking Can Save the World](#)

Ben Walker, Erin Roxburgh-Makea, Jesse Pirini, and Stephen Cummings, [Putting the community back into business: what te ao Māori \(the Māori world\) can teach us about sustainable management](#)



CASE STUDY

Roanhorse Consulting and Native Women Lead partnered with Nusenda Credit Union to develop [a new loan product that changes the rules of lending](#) with transformative effects.