

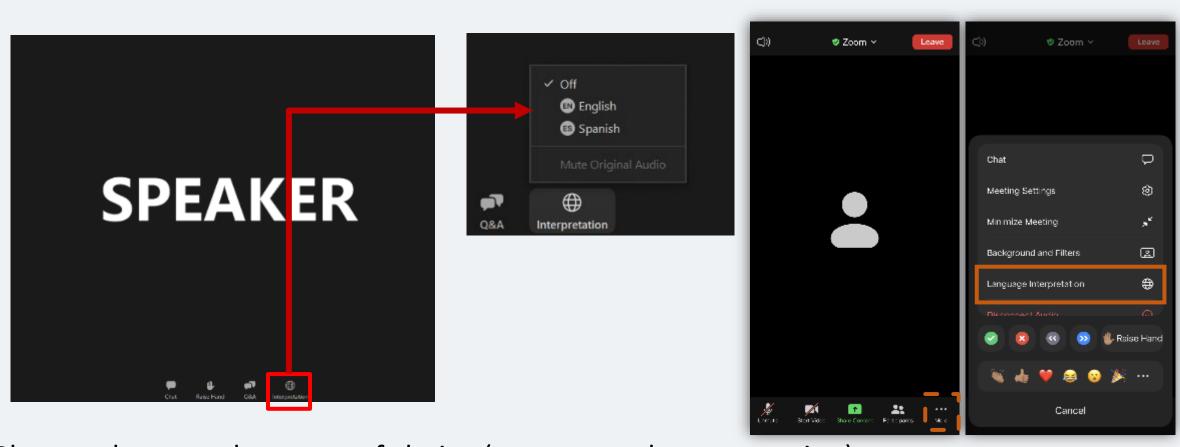
County of San Diego



Food Systems & the Circular Economy Working Group

October 25, 2022

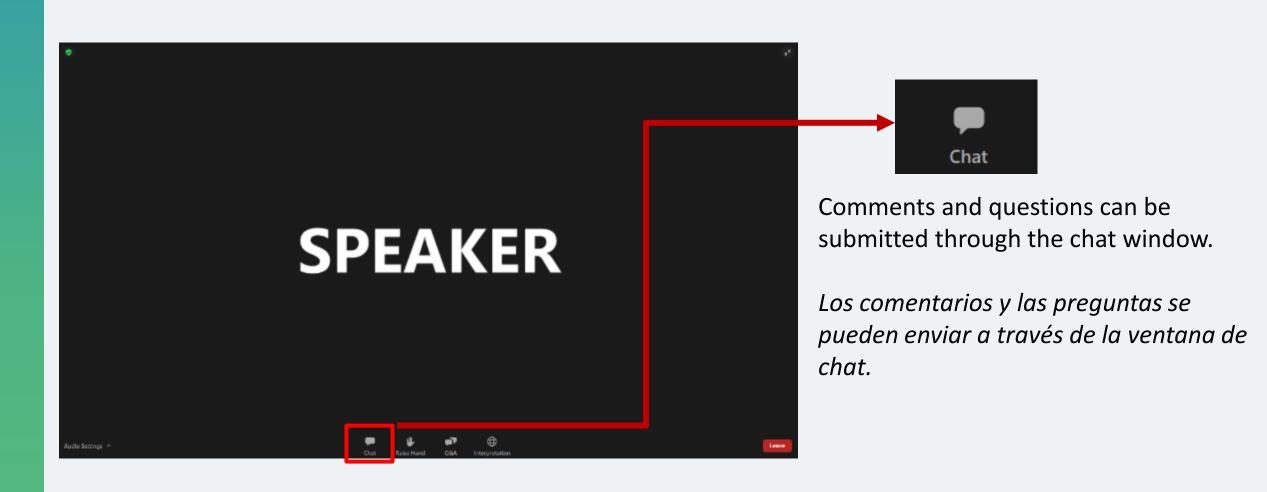
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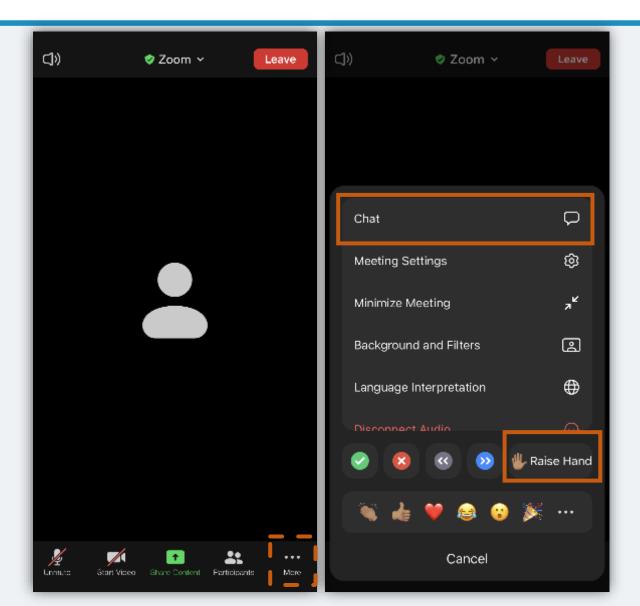
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Role of Working Groups



LAND USE & NATURAL

CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

TRANSPORTATION

Today's Agenda

- Welcome
- Stakeholder Presentations
 - Elly Brown, San Diego Food System Alliance and Facilitator Questions
 - Mary Matava & Katie Byrne, San Diego County Farm Bureau and Facilitator Questions
 - Dr. Ami Doshi, San Diego State University and Facilitator Questions
- Implementation Playbook & Actions Matrix
- Open Discussion
- Closing



Food Systems & the Circular Economy

Elly Brown

San Diego Food System Alliance

Idea #1



San Diego County Food Vision 2030

San Diego Food System Alliance October 2022





Why Food System?

Decisions made about food have a powerful ripple effect in all aspects of society.

Changing the way we grow food, move food, share food, and think about food ultimately changes the way we treat the planet and each other.





















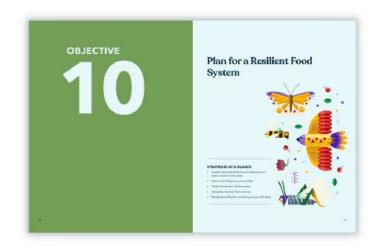




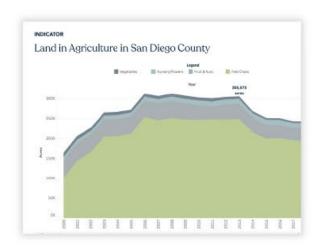


Community-Rooted Plan and Movement

SDFOODVISION2030.ORG



3 Goals, 10 Objectives, Detailed Strategies



Interactive
Indicator Dashboard



Community Stories

Strengths

Year-round growing season and diverse land and sea microclimates

Number and diversity of farms

Farm to School network

Active hunger relief network



Active food justice movement

Diversity of restaurants and retailers

Diversity of region

Active food waste prevention and recovery network

Challenges

Decline in agriculture and commercial fisheries landings

Farms, fisheries, and food businesses struggle to make a living and maintain viability

Development pressure, declining agricultural lands, water stress and costs

Food and farm workers receive low wages and minimal protections



Rampant market concentration

Impacts of climate change and other shocks to our system

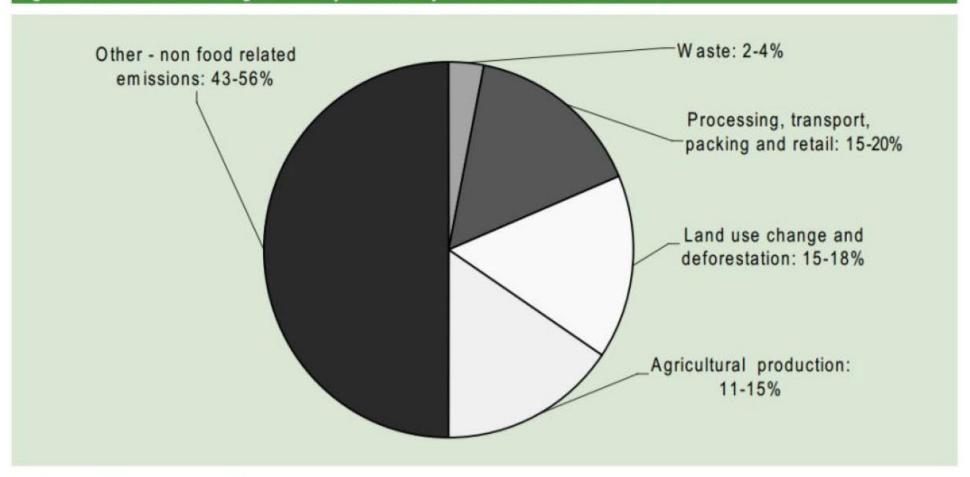
Culture of wasting food and resources

Communities of color have limited access to healthy food and agency over their food environments

Same neighborhoods continue to be underinvested in decade after decade

Climate and Our Food System

Figure 9: Contribution of the global food production system to total GHG emissions



Source: Estimates of GRAIN

Three Goals



Cultivate Justice

Increase health, wealth, leadership, and power for BIPOC communities across our food system



Fight Climate Change

Mitigate climate change impacts and adapt to the changing climate in the food system



Build Resilience

Increase integrated nutrition and food security and create an adaptive local food economy

Ten Objectives





Preserve
Agricultural Land
and Soils, and Invest
in Long-term Food
Production



Objective 2

Increase the
Viability of Local
Farms, Fisheries,
Food Businesses,
and Workers



Objective 3

Scale Up Local,
Sustainable, and
Equitable Food
Value Chains

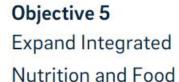


Objective 4

Elevate Wages and Working Conditions, and Improve Career Pathways

Ten Objectives (continued)





Security



Objective 6

Improve Community Food Environments



Objective 7

Scale Up Food Waste Prevention, Recovery, and Recycling Initiatives

Ten Objectives (continued)



Objective 8
Increase Leadership by
Black, Indigenous, and
People of Color Across the
Food System



Objective 9
Build a Local, Sustainable,
and Equitable Food
Movement



Objective 10
Plan for a Resilient Food
System

Recommendations



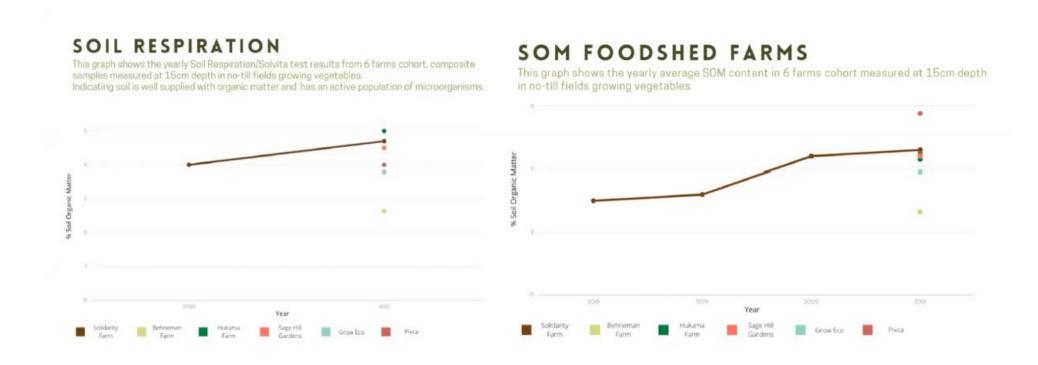
Create a supportive policy environment and invest in all strategies aligned with San Diego County Food Vision 2030 to reimagine our relationships with each other and the planet. Some areas to highlight:

- re-localizing the food system, bringing San Diegans closer to our seasonally available food sources
- shifting public-owned land for community use, control, and ownership for community agriculture to re-connect people to the land
- nurturing the next generation of food producers to ensure we have farmers and fishermen that we can continue to have relationships with
- investing in carbon farming to build soil health, centering the needs and viability of farmers above all else
- eliminating waste, both physically and as a concept, through infrastructure investments and holistic culture shift interventions
- honoring and elevating traditional indigenous ecological knowledge,
 acknowledging the harm caused and moving towards reparations



Listening to Farmers as Scientists

We can now analyze changes from year to year, compare results from farm to farm, and verify the amount of carbon sequestration occurring on our farms...



→ Who can see your viewing activity?

×

Regional Decarbonization

How do we stay imaginative, adaptive, and agile?

How do we avoid creating layers of unnecessary bureaucracy at this time?

How do we move past the short-term politics and power structures that inhibit progress?

What is our collective accountability to this earth and to future generations?

When 2030 comes, will we be proud of the relationships we have with each other and this earth?



Thank you!

Explore San Diego County Food Vision 2030:

sdfoodvision2030.org

Become an Alliance member (program launch in May):

sdfsa.org

Follow us on social media:

- © @sdfoodsys
- @sdfoodsys
- f facebook.com/sdfoodsys
- in linkedin.com/company/san-diego-food-system-alliance



Food Systems & the Circular Economy

Mary Matava & Katie Byrne
San Diego County Farm Bureau
Idea #2







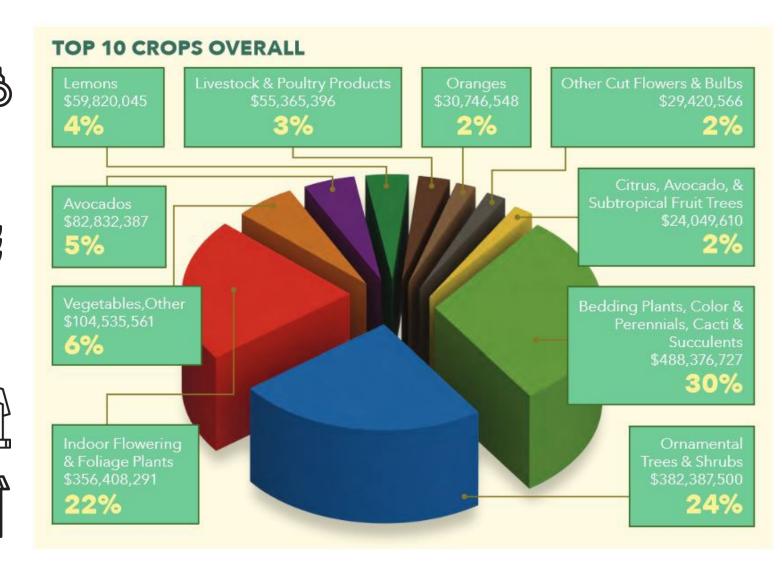






SAN DIEGO AGRICULTURE AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY





San Diego County Agriculture

- 219,874 acres of agriculture in production during 2021
- 27% decline in acreage agriculture since 2011





LOCAL FARMS

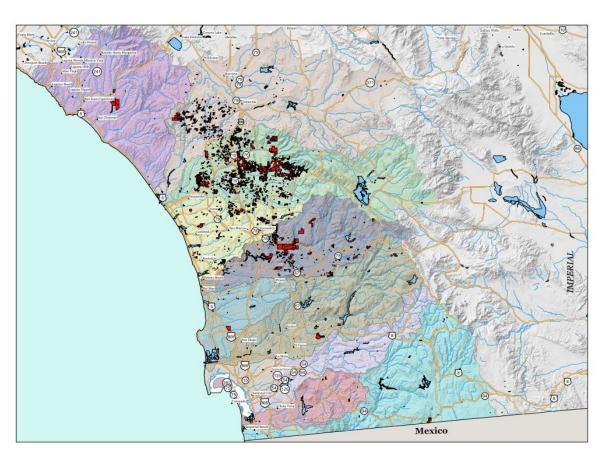












Economic Value

\$1.75 billion annual impact

Farm Size

79 acre average

4 acre median

Demographics

20% of SD farms are operated by women

At least 25% are operated by minority farmers

















THE VOICE OF LOCAL FARMERS

Standard Challenges to Farming in the Region

- High Cost of Land
- High Cost of Water
- Labor Shortage
- Complex Regulatory Framework















LAND

Cost of land has more than doubled in the past 20 years in San Diego County.







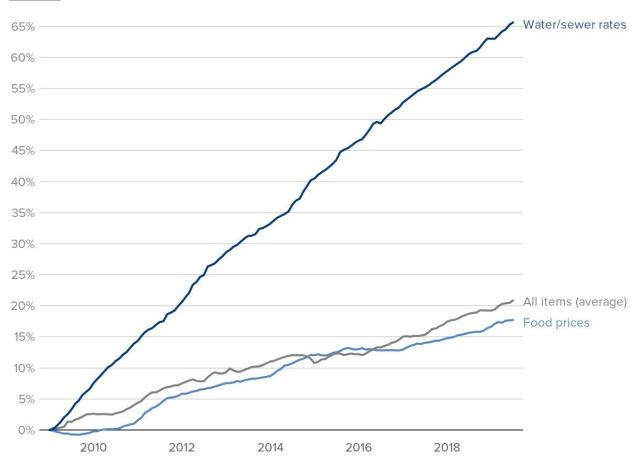








WATER



















LABOR

New Farmers

- Educational resources through local colleges and UCCE
- Young Farmers and Ranchers Group for networking

Existing Farmers

- Labor source
- Reduce barriers to farm worker housing

















STREAMLINED REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS ARE NEEDED TO ASSIST OUR FARMERS

- Ag Water Order
- Ag Chemical Restrictions/Regulations
- General Labor
- Ag Worker Housing















KEY ELEMENTS FOR VALUE ADDED AGRICULTURE















EXPAND LOCALLY PRODUCED FOOD OPPORTUNITIES

- Partner relationships with local vendors
- Agritourism
- Wineries/Farm Stands
- School Field trips















POSITIVELY AFFECT CLIMATE CHANGE

- Sequester carbon while producing food
- Remove organics from the SSWS and compost locally
- Source food locally















IMPROVE PROFITABILITY

- Monetary incentive for carbon sequestration
- Stabilize water prices
- Incentivize local purchases





PROVIDE A SAFE AND SECURE WORK ENVIRONMENT FOR EMPLOYEES









- Green consciousness on farms
- Living wages
- Reduce barriers for farm worker housing





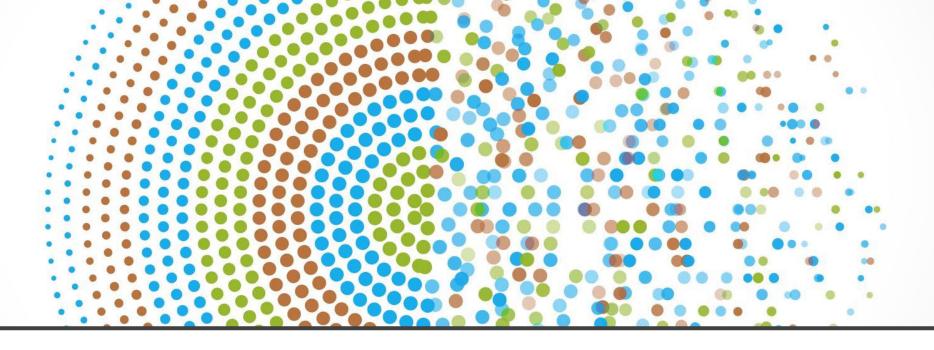


Food Systems & the Circular Economy

Dr. Ami Doshi

San Diego State University

Idea #3



FOOD SYSTEMS & CIRCULAR ECONOMY WORKING GROUP OCTOBER 25, 2022

Ami Doshi, Ph.D. Fowler College of Business San Diego State University

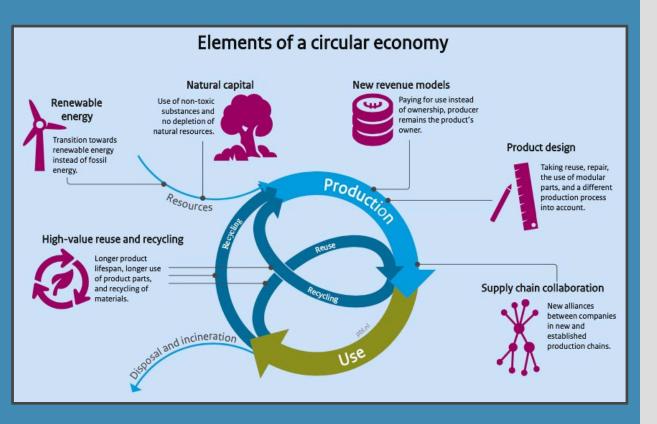


THE (BROADER) PROBLEM



- Dramatic surge in global population and consumption habits.
- Escalating need for resources and energy, adding to sustainability and ecosystem degradation issues.
- Global water crisis worsened by intensive agricultural practices, extreme weather, relentless drought.
- Safety and sustainability of food systems is a critical building block for global well-being and equity.
- Addressing complexity and scale of these problems requires unique models of collaboration.

THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY MODEL



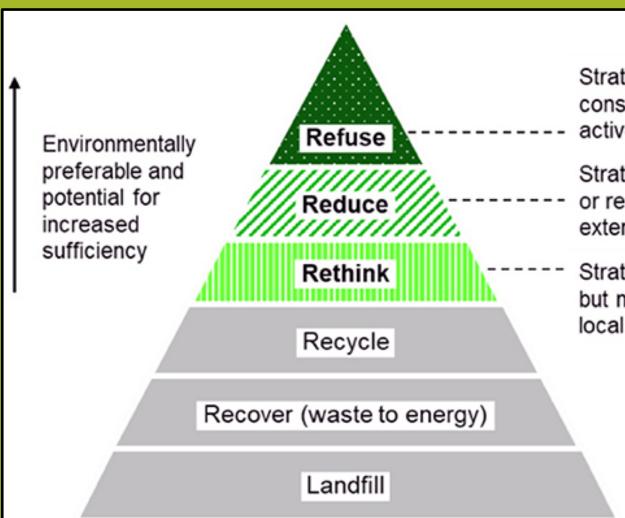
- Current, linear system based on perceived abundance of materials, resources, nutrients.
 - Unrealistic and unsustainable
- CE thinking uses theory and principles from industrial ecology.
 - Parallel natural ecosystems
 - Restorative by design
- Promising strategy to support sustainable, regenerative practices in the food system.
 - Grounded in reality of resource scarcity + problems related to extraction of new materials.
 - Focused on optimal use and reuse of resources along entire value chains.
 - Requires innovative, collaborative stakeholders who support changes in policy and decision-making tools.

FOOD SYSTEMS AS COMMON POOL RESOURCES



- For transition towards sustainable food systems, key food system elements need to be reconceptualized as common goods.
- Management of common pool resources is classic collective action dilemma.
- Polycentric approach recognizes interdependence of multiple interests and institutional mechanisms.
 - Authority vested in individuals, communities, local governments, NGOs.
- Transition to fully circular economy will require transition away from large-scale industrial agriculture/production to decentralized network of circular food systems.

SUFFICIENCY-BASED CIRCULAR ECONOMY



Strategies that inspire consumers not to overconsume or not to consume at all, by moderating sales (not offering reduced pricing/actively discouraging purchases), and support for self-sufficiency

Strategies that encourage consumers to consume fewer products or resources, such as eliminating planned obsolescence, life extension services, support for repair

Strategies that invite consumers to consume more sustainably but not less per se, such as second hand sales or a focus on local production

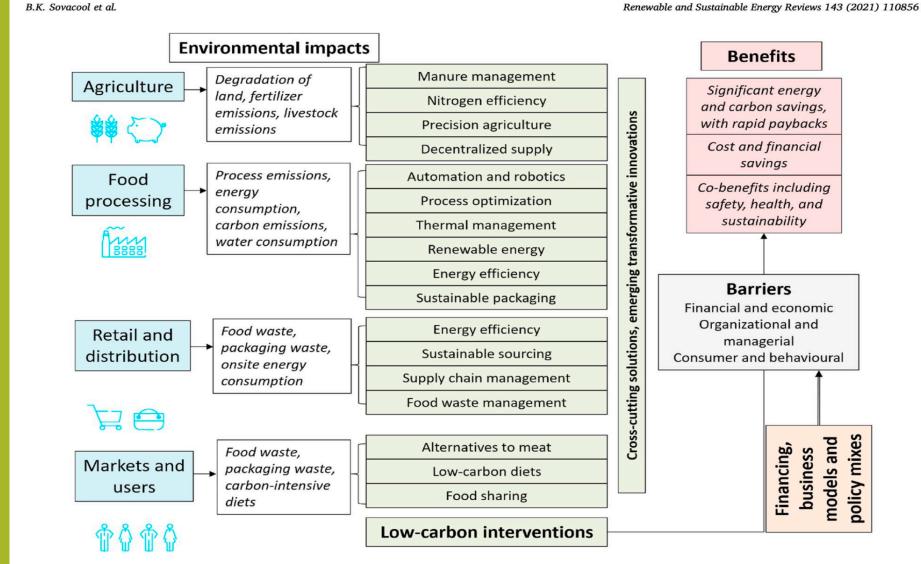
Circular hierarchy depicting sufficiency strategies. *Source*: Based on <u>Bocken and Short</u> (2016) and <u>Niessen and Bocken (2021)</u>.

SYSTEM-LEVEL INNOVATIONS TO DECARBONIZE FOOD SYSTEMS

Cross-cutting solutions across food system subsectors

Carbon offsets based on regenerating nature.

- Support farmers and ranchers to introduce innovative management practices that prioritize nature as well as agricultural production.





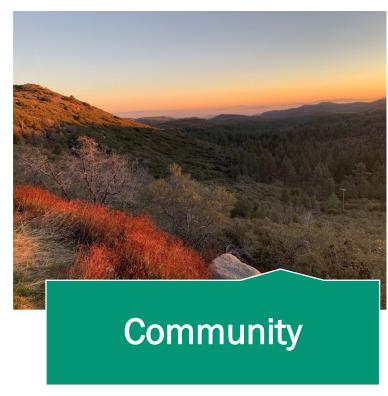
We believe that a person is a person through other persons. That my humanity is caught up, bound up, inextricably, with yours... The solitary human being is a contradiction in terms.

Therefore you seek to work for the common good because your humanity comes into its own in community, in belonging.

- Desmond Tutu

Implementation Playbook: Level of Approach







Playbook Implementation Mechanisms

- Analysis/Research
- Capital Project
- Education
- Incentive

- Partner/Collaborate
- Plan
- Program
- Requirement/Policy

Playbook Criteria

- GHG Reduction Potential
 - Relative GHG reduction compared to other actions
 - Some actions have no direct reduction (e.g., education)
 - Difficult to estimate GHG impact of an education webpage
 - Methods to estimate GHG impact of adding bike lanes



- Relative time it would take to complete an action
- Quicker to add a page to a website than to build bike lanes
- Cost to Implement
 - Relative cost to implement an action
 - Cheaper to add a page to a website than build bike lanes







Playbook Criteria

- Preliminary Estimates
 - "Average" of the category of actions
 - Not possible to comment on all potential actions
 - Education could be: page of a website or a TV commercials
 - Intended to provide initial screening for decision making
- Other Considerations
 - Co-benefits of actions (e.g., air pollution, environmental quality, and public health)
 - Primary concern of RDF is GHG emissions
 - Workforce and equity









Organization

Food S	ystems and Circular Economy
	y Steinis and Onedian Economy

Reduce Organic Waste

Activity	Implementation Mechanism	Estimated Time to Complete	Estimated Potential GHG Impacts	Estimated Cost to Implement
Install recycling containers at all facilities and sites, including public, wherever trash containers are located	Capital Project	0-2 yrs	L	٦
Provide a list on organization website about businesses or nonprofits that will take back products and packaging from customers that are otherwise difficult to reuse, recycle, or compost locally	Education	0-2 yrs	N/A	L
Develop a Zero Waste Plan to supplement statewide organics diversion efforts	Plan	0-2 yrs	L	L
Adopt a policy that requires all events to be zero waste (e.g. use recyclable and compostable materials and provide corresponding waste receptacles)	Requirement/Policy	0-2 yrs	L	L
Adopt a purchasing and procurement policy that prioritizes local products	Requirement/Policy	0-2 yrs	L	٦
Develop a construction and demolition debris diversion requirement for applicable projects	Requirement/Policy	0-2 yrs	L	٦
Adopt a low-embedded carbon purchasing policy to encourage local food production	Requirement/Policy	0-2 yrs	L	L

Community

(Some examples, many more available in online version)

Reduce Organic Waste

	Implementation	Estimated Time to	Estimated Potential GHG	Estimated Cost to
Activity	Mechanism	Complete	Impacts	Implement
Complete an analysis to evaluate options for composting more than vegetative food scraps	Analysis/Research	0-2 yrs	N/A	L
Complete an analysis to evaluate progress towards Zero Waste targets and develop potential changes in next contract with franchise waste haulers	Analysis/Research	0-2 yrs	N/A	L

Carbon Removal and Storage						
Activity	Implementation Mechanism	Estimated Time to Complete	Estimated Potential GHG Impacts	Estimated Cost to Implement		
Conduct an analysis to determine access of disadvantaged communities to community gardens	Analysis/Research	0-2 yrs	N/A	L		

Preservation of Carbon Stocks					
Activity	Implementation Mechanism	Estimated Time to Complete	Estimated Potential GHG Impacts	Estimated Cost to Implement	
Develop a program to acquire agricultural easements	Capital Project	3-5 yrs	L	Н	
Collaborate with landowners to prepare agricultural easement grant applications to the SALC Program	Education	3-5 yrs	L	L	
Develop an agricultural Lands Conservation Program	Program	3-5 yrs	L	M	

Capture Methane				
Activity	Implementation Mechanism	Estimated Time to Complete	Estimated Potential GHG Impacts	Estimated Cost to Implement
Capture 100% of emissions from wastewater treatment (municipal/agency operations)	Capital Project	3-5 yrs	L	н
Collaborate with waste service companies to develop anaerobic digestion facilities as one method to process organic materials diverted from landfills	Partner/Collaborate	0-2 yrs	N/A	L

Region

(Some examples, many more available in online version)

Food Systems and Circular Economy				
Reduce Organic Waste				
Activity	Implementation Mechanism	Estimated Time to Complete	Estimated Potential GHG Impacts	Estimated Cost to Implement
Encourage regional waste service companies to implement a restaurant food waste collection program	Advocacy	0-2 yrs	N/A	L
Evaluate sites for resource recover parks	Analysis/Research	0-2 yrs	N/A	L

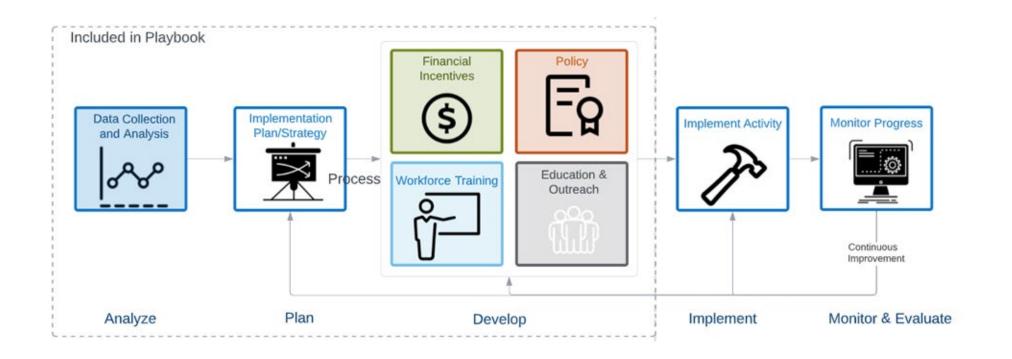
Carbon Removal and Storage					
Activity	Implementation Mechanism	Estimated Time to Complete	Estimated Potential GHG Impacts	Estimated Cost to Implement	
Complete an analysis to identify potential GHG impacts of regenerative agricultural practices in the region	Analysis/Research	0-2 yrs	N/A	L	
Develop a regional regenerative agriculture plan with estimates of GHG removal and storage potential, targets, milestones, and timelines for implementation	Plan	0-2 yrs	N/A	L	

Preservation of Carbon Stocks				
Activity	Implementation Mechanism	Estimated Time to Complete	Estimated Potential GHG Impacts	Estimated Cost to Implement
Conduct an analysis to identify properties that could be candidates for agricultural easements	Analysis/Research	0-2 yrs	N/A	L

Capture Methane	Implementation	Estimated Time to	Estimated Potential GHG	Estimated Cost to
Activity	Mechanism	Complete	Impacts	Implement
Increase methane capture at regional landfills	Capital Project	3-5 yrs	L	н
Work with wastewater treatment plant owners to increase methane capture emissions from wastewater treatment	Partner/Collaborate	0-2 yrs	L	L

What we need from you...

- 1. In your experience what has worked or not worked in terms of existing policies?
- 2. What programs could benefit underserved communities or have adverse impacts?
- 3. What are solutions that are not in the database?



Timeline

Also: Food Systems & Circular Economy matrix of actions is on the Engage site for your feedback!



PROGRAM DETAILS

Public Workshop

Completion of Technical Report & Workforce Development Reports

Special Topic Working Groups Implementation
Playbook 1st
Draft Released

Draft Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems Policy Report

Final Implementation Playbook Implementation
Playbook &
Framework
Adoption



County of San Diego



Food Systems & the Circular Economy Working Group

October 25, 2022