How to Move Toward a Regenerative Farming System

Resilience by Design: Holistic Planning for Farming Economies

The Community Food & Water and Farm Bill provides an economic infrastructure to establish regenerative food systems integral to the success of local economies and capable depending on healthy ecosystems to produce abundant sources of food and capture carbon. The resulting systems link farms to urban and rural communities.

Farm Economies

Every farm will design a Master Plan for an economically viable system featuring the components named below (1-6). Public subsidies will provide vital support to establish and maintain those components.

Every farm will be connected to locally and regionally organized network of farms and rural and urban food hubs.
Farm System Master Plan

1. Ecosystem Design

- Outline objectives for carbon capture, food sourcing and preservation and delivery system
- Water-capture, use, ground water and aquifer replenishment
- Healthy Soil: restoration, maintenance, landscaping
- Seeds-adaptation to local ecosystems, varieties (drought and pest resistance, hardiness, storage)
- Biodiversity: pollinators, trees, hedges, birds, perennial landscape restoration
- Diversification and rotation: food sources for market, plant and seed varieties
- Personnel: farmer(s), assistants, researchers, food preparation
- Infrastructure: housing and storage for people, plants, equipment, food preparation, transportation
- Research Center: to capture, document and share knowledge generated of local ecosystem, seeds, plants, practices, carbon capture

2. Personnel

- Health: Affordable Healthcare and Dentalcare provided by single payer system to maximize benefits and minimize costs
- Housing: subsidy to build or rehab energy efficient buildings to provide adequate for housing staff members
- Wage subsidy: Provide staff with living wage
- Research personnel: financial subsidy to create and conduct short and long term research
- Teaching staff/organizer
3. Local, Year-round farming systems operations to serve local communities

- System planning and implementation
- Infrastructure-storage, packing, equipment, food preservation, food preparation, on-site food service
- Market tools-transportation, storage, community connections (schools, neighborhood food hubs, learning centers, markets and restaurants)
- Research-knowledge sharing, system for sharing work and regional planning
- Insurance for weather events and disaster

4. Farm-centered, Collaborative Research and Economic Development

- Local Ecological Knowledge – captured and recorded to inform annual and long term work of the farm and the region
- Semi-annual and Annual Evaluation of the farming system-system analysis and evaluation to capture information and share across regions
- Regenerative Farming communities connected across national boundaries (knowledge sharing)
- Learning Center- recruitment tools for next generation of regenerative farmers
- Farm to School and Schools to Farms- feeding and educating next generations and cultivating knowledge and cultural norms of regenerative food systems and economies that depend on healthy ecosystems

5. Transition Economies, landscapes, and systems to regenerative approach

- Restoration –resources for transitioning from mono-cropping to perennial landscapes and regenerative systems for production
- Diversify landscape with local, climate-resilient plants to provide ecosystems for regenerative agriculture, revive water systems and soil health
6. **Universal, Regenerative Trade Arrangements**

All trade arrangements written to ensure that local regenerative systems can thrive

- Establish partnerships across political and cultural borders to share knowledge, research, promote thriving regenerative economies
- Advance Ecosystem design (see #1) opportunities to empower local communities
- Fair trade practices promoted-create markets that compensate farmers fairly for their work, knowledge and products
- Other