



Sustainable Thinking

Creating Strong Libraries and Resilient Communities







2021 Atlantic Hurricane Season



 <p>Ana</p>	 <p>Bill</p>	 <p>Claudette</p>	 <p>Danny</p>	 <p>Elsa</p>	 <p>Fred</p>	 <p>Grace</p>
 <p>Henri</p>	 <p>Ida</p>	 <p>Julian</p>	 <p>Kate</p>	 <p>Larry</p>	 <p>Mindy</p>	 <p>Nicholas</p>
 <p>Odette</p>	 <p>Peter</p>	 <p>Rose</p>	 <p>Sam</p>	 <p>Teresa</p>	 <p>Victor</p>	 <p>Wanda</p>



Death Valley National Park

Homeland of the Timbisha Shoshone

“

CODE RED FOR HUMANITY

António Guterres

United Nations Secretary-General, 9 August 2021



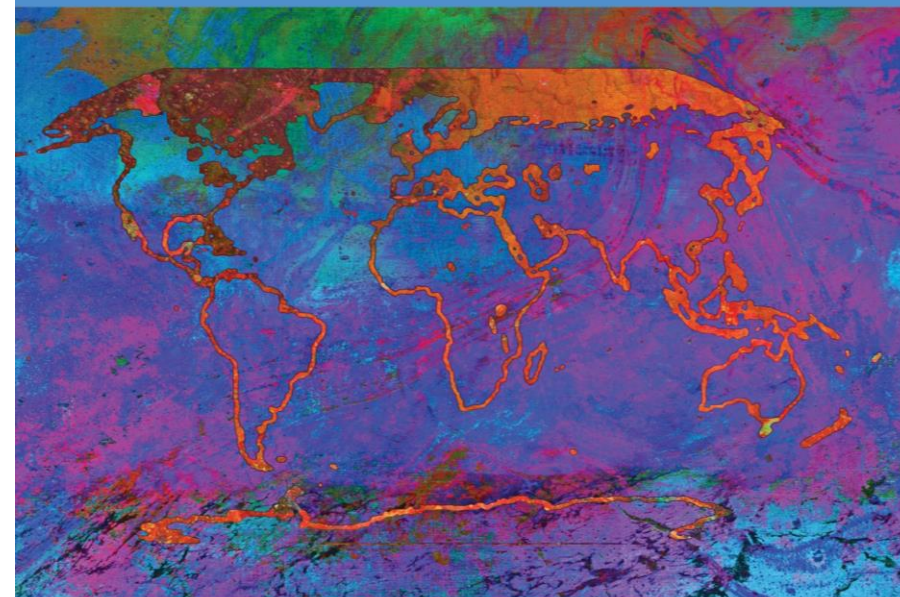
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INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change

Climate Change 2021

The Physical Science Basis

Summary for Policymakers



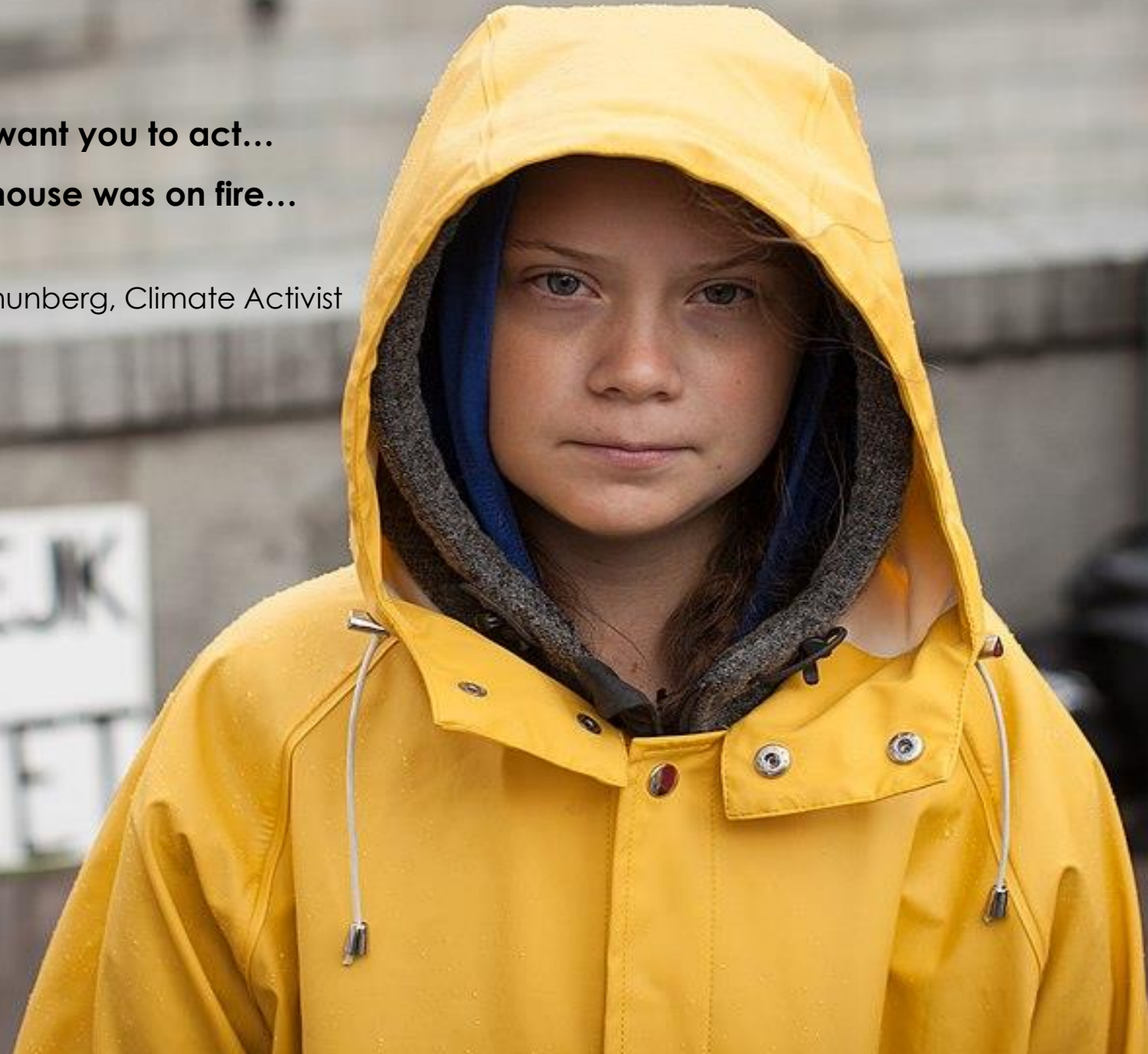
WGI

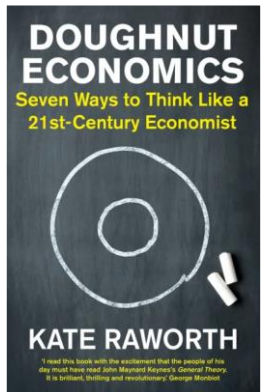
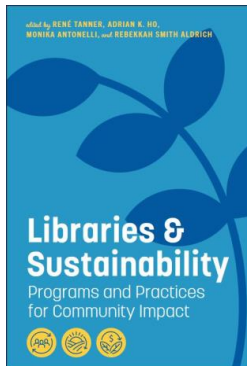
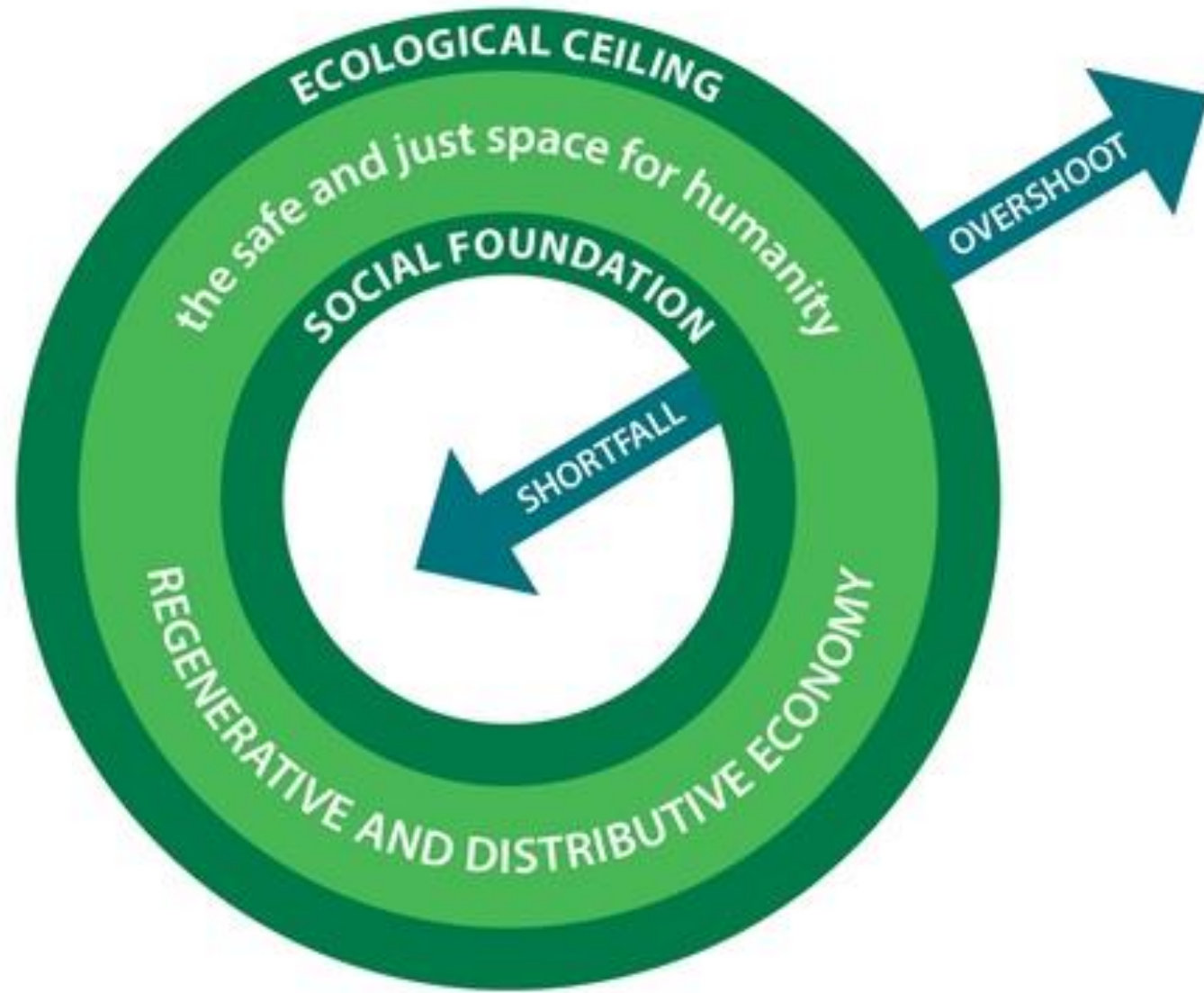
Working Group I contribution to the
Sixth Assessment Report of the
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change



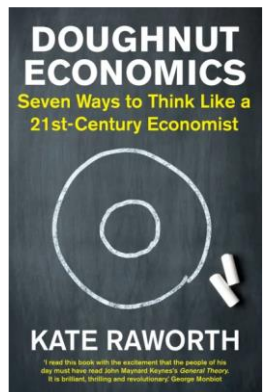
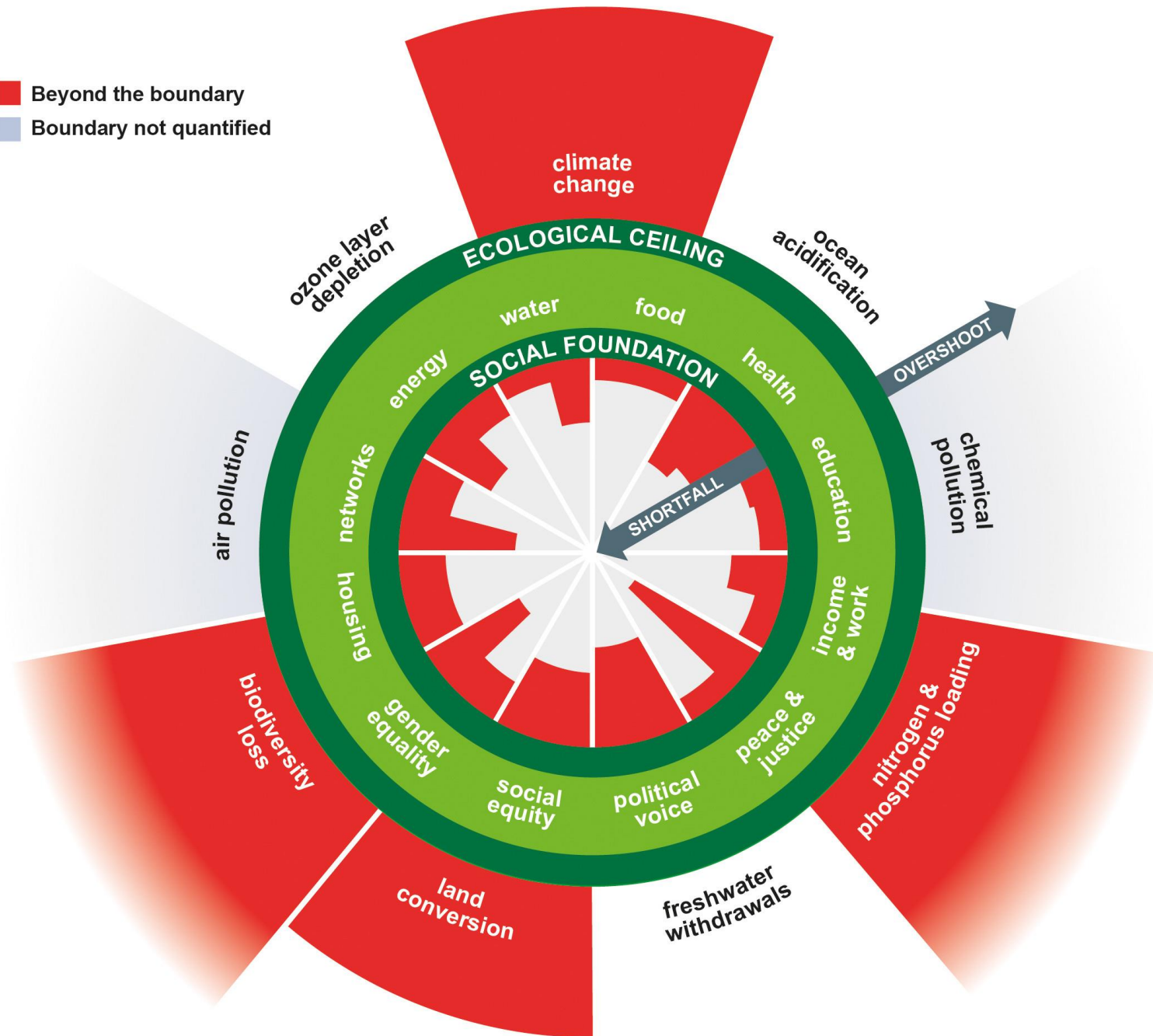
**“I don’t want your hope. I want you to act...
I want you to act as if the house was on fire...
because it is.”**

-Greta Thunberg, Climate Activist





- Beyond the boundary
- Boundary not quantified



Strategy: Defined

Create a **sustainable competitive advantage...** by "**deliberately** choosing a different set of activities to deliver **unique value.**"

-Michael Porter, *Competitive Strategy*



**EVERY
JOB
IS A
CLIMATE
JOB**

**PROJECT
DRAWDOWN.**



Sustainability = Core Value





Triple Bottom Line Definition:

- Environmentally Sound
- Socially Equitable
- Economically Feasible

Climate Action Now

Identify Vulnerability

- Drought/Heat Wave
- Flooding
- Hail
- Hurricane
- Tornado Outbreak
- Severe Weather
- Wildfire
- Winter Storm/Cold Wave

National Centers for Environmental Information, NOAA

Decarbonize the Library

climate mitigation

Decarbonize Library Infrastructure
by **reducing greenhouse gas
emissions:**

- Energy Efficiency
- Switch to Renewable Energy
- Electric Vehicles
- Ethical Carbon Offsets

Climate Justice

climate adaptation

**“Strengthen community resilience and
livability:**

- Advance Food Justice;
- Advocate for Transportation Equity;
- Uphold Civil and Human Rights in
Emergency Management; and
- Facilitate Participatory Democracy.”

NAACP



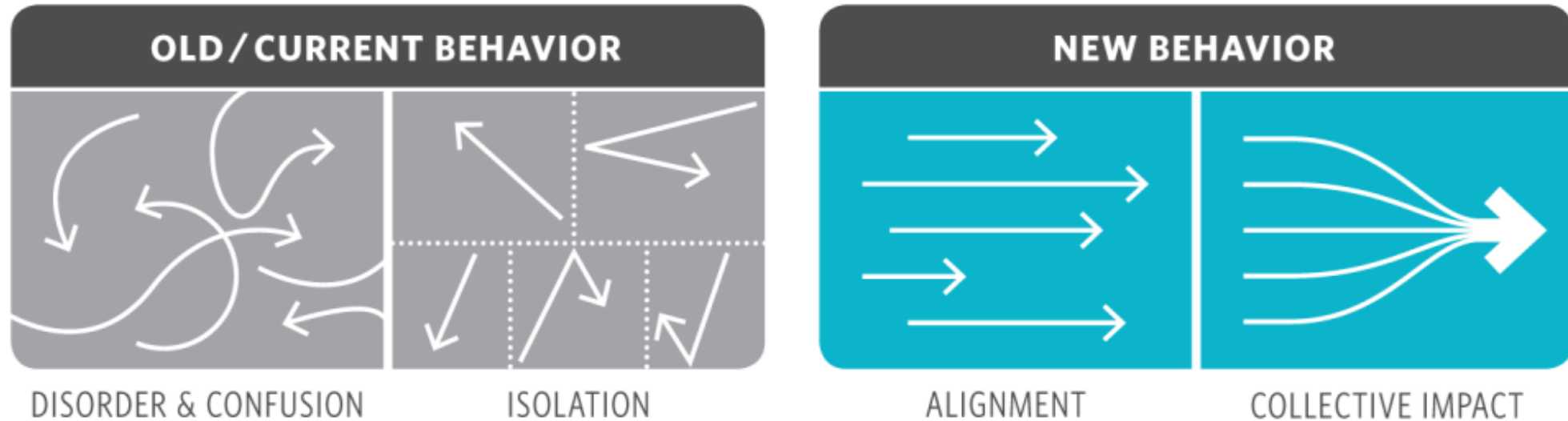
Social Cohesion

Libraries

as Sustainability Leaders



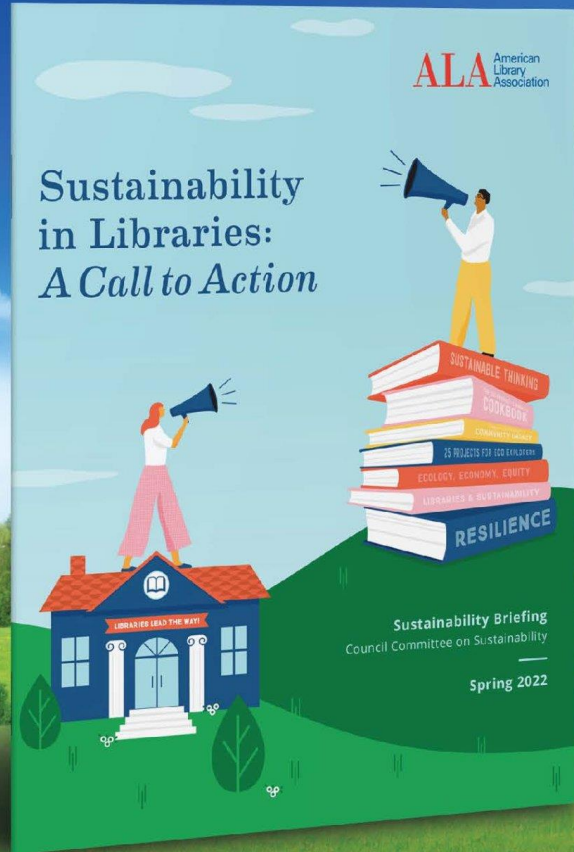
CENTER FOR THE
**FUTURE OF
LIBRARIES**
ALA American Library Association



Graphic: AllHandsRaised.org

We  *Local*

The time for climate action is now.
ALA is here to help.



**Announcing a new resource from the
ALA Council Committee on Sustainability.**

Accelerate your understanding of the new core value of sustainability, learn from library leaders focused on climate action, and empower yourself to be a leader in the area of climate justice.

Download the free guide at bit.ly/3QmDYWC



SCAN ME

ALA American
Library
Association

New Briefing on Sustainability:

- “Triple Bottom Line” definition of sustainability;
- How libraries can take the lead on climate adaptation;
- Why climate justice work is equity, diversity, and inclusion work;
- How many in our field are already answering the call for leadership on the topic of sustainability;
- How ALA, as an association, is living its values out loud on this topic; and
- Simple, practical steps anyone can take to get started.

ALA American
Library
Association



Sustainable Libraries Initiative

The Sustainable Libraries Initiative (SLI) provides **library leaders** with a **proven path** forward to co-create libraries and communities that will thrive in the coming years. The Sustainable Library Certification Program and the SLI community of practice focuses your leadership to **enable your library, and ultimately your community, to become more environmentally sound, socially equitable and economically feasible.**

Sustainable Libraries

- ✓ **Strong & Authentic Institutions**
- ✓ Catalyst for **Social Cohesion** in Communities
- ✓ Working on **Climate Mitigation** (reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GhG))
- ✓ Active Participants in **Climate Adaptation** (strengthening community resilience)



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

Examples from the Field



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

Strategic Planning



San Diego County Library Buildings

- Capital: All new libraries are designed to be ZNE and LEED Gold – Alpine, IB, Borrego, Lakeside
- Master Plan: equitable locations, sustainable footprints and building systems, data-driven planning
- County Goals and Initiatives – leader in sustainability; enterprise-wide efforts

BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND OPERATIONS

Goals	Strategies	Sustainable Concord Plan
1 GHG REDUCTION The Library has an implementation plan for its buildings to be carbon neutral in 2030.	1.1 Planning for net zero Develop a net-zero plan for existing buildings 1.2 Sustainable building principles Develop sustainable building principles for upgrades of all buildings 1.3 Sustainable operations guide Collaborate with the Town to create a sustainable operations and maintenance guide	BUILT ENVIRONMENT 
2 NATURAL RESOURCES The Library's landscape and grounds demonstrate resilience for the community.	2.1 Inventory practices Inventory current resilient landscaping practices of the Library 2.2 Sustainable landscape design Implement sustainable landscape design infrastructure and practices that support water conservation 2.3 Biodiversity Increase native biodiversity on Library grounds	NATURAL RESOURCES 
3 MATERIALS MANAGEMENT The Library's materials and resource system uses zero-waste principles.	3.1 Opportunities for zero waste Develop a zero-waste plan for operations 3.2 Evaluate waste stream Assess the current waste stream to better understand opportunities for waste reduction 3.3 Partnership with CPW Partner with Concord Public Works to demonstrate sustainable materials management	BUILT ENVIRONMENT 
4 MOBILITY The Library supports sustainable transportation options.	4.1 Commuting Understand transportation options for staff and emissions to and from the Library 4.2 Inter-building transportation Explore low-emissions transportation for inter collaboration	

<https://bit.ly/3ycjx6v>





Sustainable Staffing

Healthy Weekly Produce Delivery Option



Starting Salaries

With the increases in minimum wage beginning in 2017 and reaching \$15.00 an hour in 2021 the rate of pay for all staff will be increasing accordingly. Part-time will increase \$1.00 per hour a year and full-time will increase at 3% per year (requires yearly public vote)

Additional Benefits

- Tuition reimbursement
- Paid holidays and closings for FT & PT staff
- Professional development
- Health Insurance
- Medicare Eligible PT staff can join our health insurance policy-paying lower premiums in full
- Deferred Compensation
- NYS Retirement
- Paid Family Leave



MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

GREEN CLEANING

- The library facility is cleaned by our custodial staff who have all taken “green cleaning” training offered by the NYS Office of General Services.
- They use environmentally-friendly cleaning products and procedures. There are many products available which can clean and disinfect without introducing toxic chemicals into our environment.
- Cleaning products are purchased in concentrate and diluted to the correct strength to reduce wasteful packaging.
- Cloth towels are used for most everyday cleaning, then washed and air-dried.
- We expect all library employees to comply with these practices throughout the building.

Materials Management: Waste & Recycling

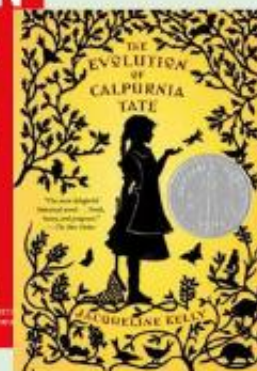
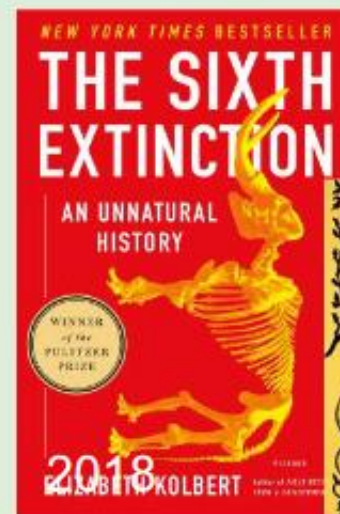
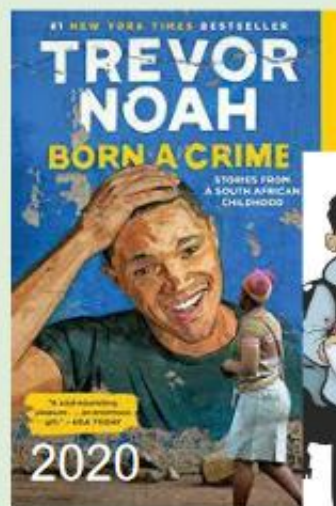
- There is no commercial recycling collection in the Village of Patchogue where our buildings are located.
- We started to recycle on our own. Paper, plastics, and glass collected are driven to the recycling center by an employee.
- We use repurposed/reusable containers to store the recycling.



Resilient Library Facilities



Partnerships

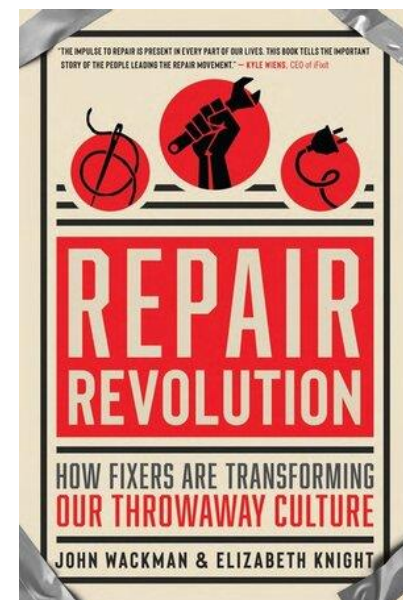




<https://www.libraryoflocal.org/>

- Tool Lending
- Seed Library
- Special Collections
 - Food Security (Y1)
 - Climate Solutions (Y2)
- Programming
- Alignment with NYS Climate Smart Communities





Disaster Preparedness

Preparedness Programs & First Responder Appreciation

Wacky Weather: Are You Prepared?



This program on preparedness taught children how to stay safe and prepare for power outages, hurricanes, & fires. They receive a pillowcase "go-bag" to customize, as well as a digital workbook from the Red Cross.

Meet Your Community Helpers



Families were invited to meet local first responders and check out their vehicles, including a fire truck, police car and ambulance.

Crafts For A Cause



This take & make program gave patrons the opportunity to create thank you cards for our police officers, firefighters and first aid squad members. We then donated them along with goodie bags made by our teens in a monthly community service program.



Happy 90th
Anniversary
Garrison Fire
Company

EVERYONE'S INVITED TO THE
DESMOND-FISH PUBLIC LIBRARY'S
COMMUNITY BARBECUE HONORING
**Philipstown's
First
Responders**
Saturday, October 5, 2019
(rain date: 10/6)
1pm - 4pm
Desmond-Fish Public Library
Corner of 9D and 403 in Garrison, NY
BRING A PICNIC BLANKET AND A
DESSERT TO SHARE AND JOIN US FOR
FOOD, FIRE TRUCKS, AND FUN!

Happy 50th
Anniversary
North Highlands
Engine Co. 1





COMMUNITIES RESPONDING TO EXTREME WEATHER

CLIMATE RESILIENCE HUBS

Learn more about how your organization can become a Climate Resilience Hub!



https://www.climatecrew.org/resilience_hubs

Social Cohesion



HAVERSTRAW
KING'S DAUGHTERS
PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Foster the development of connections to deepen community bonds
 - Teens prepare & serve at Mother's Day Tea & Veterans Recognition Luncheon
 - Staff training to develop cultural competency & empathy
 - King Con, our very own annual comic con event
 - Drag Queen Story Hour
 - Dog Therapy for developmentally disabled adults
 - Prom Dress Sale, gently used dresses for \$10





Lindenhurst Memorial Library

April 22 · 🌐

...

The Board of Trustees, as part of its commitment to sustainable practices, is proud to enter into a pilot program with Suffolk County to share our EV chargers as part of a county wide charging network.

As part of the larger infrastructure work being done on the building, which includes a 73KW solar panel array on the roof, and solar parking lot lights, the EV chargers allow the public to stop at a public library to charge their car while also using library services and programs. Shared services is the backbone of public library service, and the Lindenhurst Memorial Library is excited to be at the forefront of this new initiative.





Sustainable Libraries Initiative

<https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org>



Free

- Newsletter
- Mobile App
- Resources

Become a Member

- Curated Resources
- Access to On Demand Training
- Vendor List

Sustainable Library Certification Program

- Online Dashboard to Track Action Items
- Example policies, program ideas, and more
- Assigned Mentor
- Meet Ups with Others in the Program

SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES INITIATIVE



Sustainable Library Certification Program



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

<https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org/>

Sustainable Library Certification Program

Public & Academic Libraries

- Organizational Commitment
- Energy, Land, and Water Use
- Waste, Recycling & Purchasing
- Partnerships
- Community Involvement
- Social Equity
- Community Resiliency
- Financial Sustainability
- Collections

School Librarians

- Partnerships & Community Involvement
- Leading Beyond the Library
- Social Equity & Resilience
- Standards & Curriculum
- Collections



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

<https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org/>

Coming Soon!



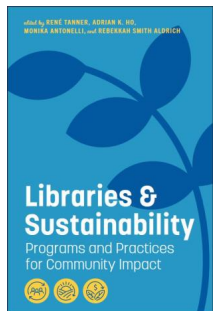
**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

Sustainability Certificate Course

- Four-week course
- Lectures
- Assigned Readings/Viewings
- Discussion Forum
- Practical Assignments

Libraries & Sustainability Book Club

- 100 Applicants to be Chosen
- Free book
- Three sessions:
 - Libraries in the Doughnut Economy
 - Walking the Path to Sustainable Library Certification
 - Rapid Library Disaster Response and Recovery for Community Resiliency



Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MLS, LEED AP

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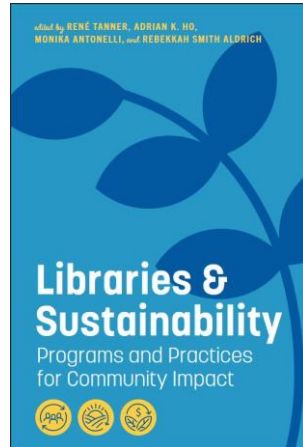
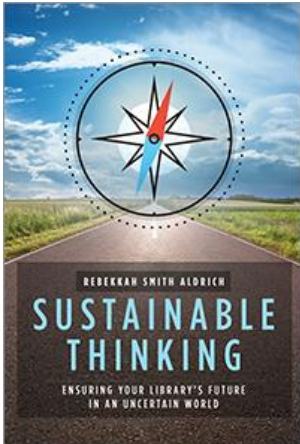
Executive Director, **Mid-Hudson Library System**

Co-Founder & Board President, **Sustainable Libraries Initiative**

Center for the Future of Libraries Advisory Group, **American Library Association**

Sustainability Columnist, **Library Journal**

Author



Thank You