INSTITUTE FOR
ECOLOGICAL
CIVILIZATION

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

It's our pleasure to share with you EcoCiv's annual report for 2022. It comes with gratitude to the many individual supporters who have made these achievements possible.

These last months have brought a growing awareness of the global effects of the climate crisis. When EcoCiv was launched in 2015, we and our partners were buoyed up by an optimism that systemic change was close. That was the year when 196 parties signed the Paris Accord; hope was high that global warming could be held to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Eight years later, the setbacks, the inactivity of governments, and the evidence of corporate greenwashing have shaken the confidence of many. As I write these words, two-thirds of Americans are under warnings for extreme or abnormal weather. Today no one can seriously doubt the global consequences of climate disruption.

As the ancient Jewish text teaches, without hope the people perish. EcoCiv's mission is to identify and to assist in implementing solutions that move the needle toward sustainability. Our battle is for the quality of life of future generations of humans and the countless species with whom we share this beautiful blue and green planet.

There's a reason that the EcoCiv projects featured here focus on food, water, and economies. These are, after all, the foundational human needs. No future society will be sustainable without safe water and sufficient food. And no society with unjust systems of exchange will survive over the long term.

With your support, EcoCiv will be involved in an increasing number of sectors in 2023. We will organize high-level convenings that help create and publicize solutions that hasten the ecological transformation. With our allies, we will work to turn global attention to the pathways toward a new, sustainable civilization.

This is the decade to make a difference. It's the epic struggle of our age: decisions made now will have consequences for centuries to come. Will you join us in supporting this work?

Together for the planet,

Philip Clayton, President

OUR MISSION

Since 2015, EcoCiv has promoted long-term solutions for the well-being of people and the planet.

VISION

EcoCiv envisions a just and sustainable world that serves the wellbeing of people, ecosystems, and the biosphere as a whole – a world that is supported by local communities striving for an ecological civilization. Promoting solutions in the areas of Food, Water, and Work, EcoCiv works with partners around the globe to provide resources, knowledge, and support that accelerate systemic change toward genuinely sustainable societies.

VALUES

"Ecological civilization" expresses the five-part commitment at the heart of our work: that solutions must be long-term; that they will require systemic change; that they must support the thriving of both people and ecosystems; that justice and dignity are requirements for a sustainable society; and that the solutions we promote need to have broad impact, which means that they must be replicable and scalable.

PROGRAM AREAS

EcoCiv's program areas include Water, Food, and Economies – three systems that are critical for the transition to a just and sustainable society. Our fourth area, the IDEAS program, focuses on thought leadership: the deeper causes of environmental destruction, the dynamics of systems change, and the pathways toward long-term harmony between people and planet.

WATER

Water security requires that communities have access to adequate quantities of acceptable quality water to sustain human well-being and livelihoods, while ensuring protection against water-borne pollution, water-related disasters, and preserving ecosystems.

EcoCiv's Water Program, W12+ Programs, works with partners at the local and global level. We convene multi-stakeholder groups, support place-based projects, and co-lead global projects with international partners. Our projects include the W12+ Blueprint as well as support for a number of local projects, such as the Water Institute of South Sudan. W12+ Programs is jointly run by EcoCiv and SOSNPO, a South African non-profit.

FOOD

EcoCiv's Agrifood Systems Program is working to address the UN goal of achieving a carbon-neutral and nature-positive agriculture and food sector. Healthy agrifood systems provide affordable, culturally appropriate food that is grown using the methods of regenerative agriculture – farming that builds ecological resilience and supports equity.

EcoCiv is currently pursuing funding opportunities to launch new Agrifood Systems projects, including convenings that help to identify promising solutions and to implement them on both local and international levels.

ECONOMIES

Economies are ways that humans provide, organize, and produce for each other and the planet. Healthy economic systems, according to the UN SDGs, are those that are sustained and inclusive. Wellbeing economies offer employment creation and social development.

EcoCiv's Economies Program works with local and global partners on projects including convenings, facilitations, and research. We also support place-based projects launched by our local partners and lead projects with international partners.

IDEAS

EcoCiv's IDEAS program is the thought leadership branch of EcoCiv. It includes researching the pathway to a sustainable, genuinely ecological civilization, EcoCiv's Learning for Impact program, and other educational programs.

The IDEAS program works with networks of visionary leaders across the Ecological Civilization community; runs EcoCiv's monitoring, evaluation, and learning initiative; and educates the public through podcasts and dialogues programs.

OUR APPROACH

PARTNER

Build relationships with local and global partners, identifying their priorities and the root causes of key issues

RESEARCH

Connect local and international experts to provide contextually appropriate, crucial research insights for identifying relevant solutions

ACTION

Facilitate the design, implementation, and evaluation of place-based projects by local partners and design, implement, and evaluate global projects with international partners

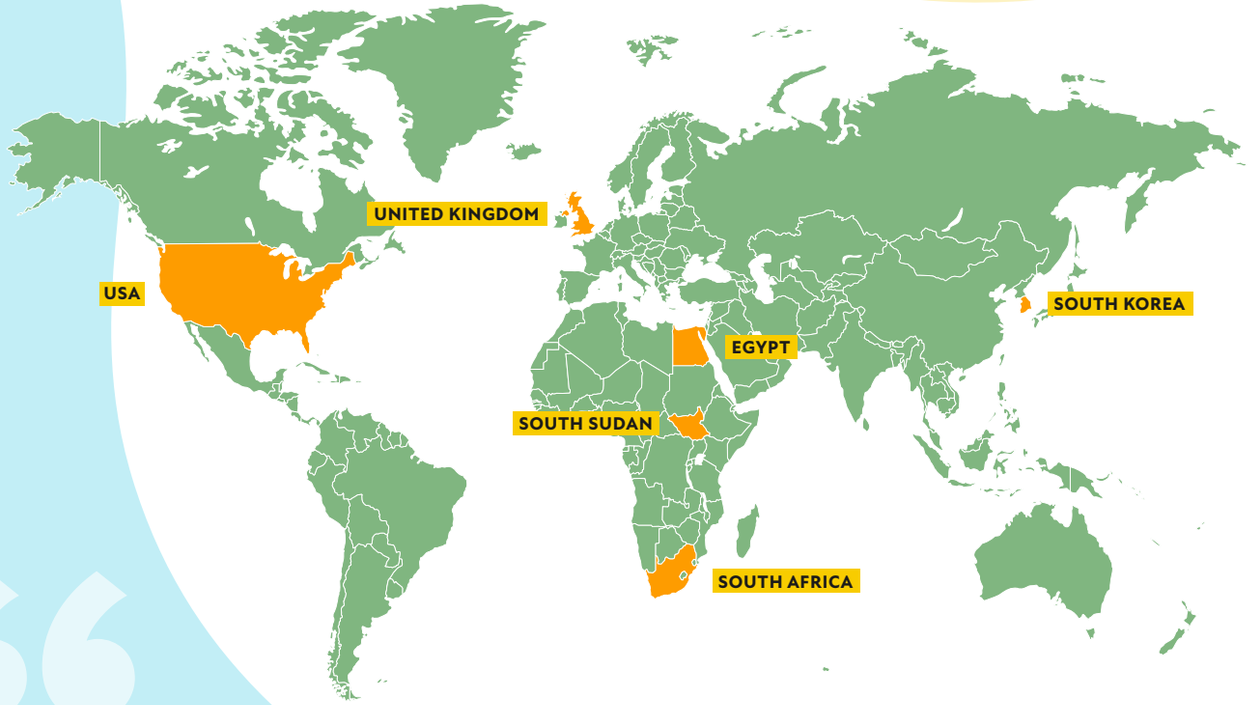
PARTICIPATORY DECISION MAKING

Informed and prioritized by local people and Indigenous communities and with justice and ethics at the center

KNOWLEDGE SHARING & NETWORK BUILDING

Share solutions globally to prompt replication, scaling and paradigm shifts

PROGRAM MARKETS



"Working with EcoCiv and W12+ over the last year has been an incredibly rewarding experience for us at Life from Water Foundation. Through our collaboration, we were able to organize a roundtable that served as a great platform for connecting various experts of the water and wastewater sector in Egypt as well as highlighting priority areas. The event was a success, and it helped to create a higher level of awareness and connection between different players in the water sector. EcoCiv and W12+'s work was invaluable in the success of the event. Their professionalism, dedication, and attention to detail ensured that the event went off without a hitch. We are looking forward to further work together to take the results of the collaboration roundtable to the next level on the ground."

Mohannned Hesham, Life from Water

IMPACT 2022

24

Added 24 number of globally relevant case studies to the W12+ Blueprint

7

Held 7 convenings with over 120 participants

3

Ran 3 podcasts shows

17

Hosted 17 podcast episodes

120

Facilitated over 120 experts, leaders, and decision makers on topics including wellbeing economy transitions in Pomona, California; water security interventions in the greater Guateng region of South Africa and the El Minya region of Egypt; global priorities for conservation economies; and more.

189K

Reached 189,044 on our communications platforms

LinkedIn	Website	Twitter	Facebook	Instagram	Youtube
11,084	21,921	43,669	44,606	35,012	32,752

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

THE W12+ EGYPT HUB

SOUTH AFRICA HUB

AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS

Through W12+ Programs, EcoCiv partnered with Egyptian NGO Life from Water in early 2022 to launch a W12+ Hub in Egypt. We began by jointly conducting research to identify the root causes and key leverage points for water secure futures in El Minya, Egypt. In July 2022, EcoCiv held a half-day virtual convening with over 30 stakeholders and leaders from relevant international organizations active in the region, governments, universities, businesses, and more.

EcoCiv's Visioning, Backcasting, and Roadmapping (VBR) methodology was applied. The workshop began by "visioning" - identifying specific elements of visions of a water secure future in El Minya, Egypt. We then reflected backwards ("backcasting") to consider the policies, initiatives, and norms that led to our current reality. Finally, we brainstormed project ideas that could lead to ultimate visions ("roadmapping").

This convening led to the identification of two priority projects for the region: (1) a networked sanitation project and (2) a public awareness program. Stay tuned as we support Life from Water in developing new projects related to these priorities in 2023!

ECONOMIES HUB / POMONA, CALIFORNIA

In 2022, EcoCiv collaborated on three in-person workshops that facilitated local leaders in Pomona to identify their priorities for projects related to economic reform. Through these workshops, participants identified a clear priority for worker-owned cooperatives and anchor institution models in the Pomona region. Together with the Latino Latina Roundtable, EcoCiv applied for and received unanimous support for a grant launching a worker-owned cooperative by the Pomona city council.

Additionally, EcoCiv worked with three partners to receive a collective $10 million grant to support violence prevention programs in Pomona. EcoCiv is providing the facilitative support to launch this transformative program.

Stay tuned for more progress as we facilitate the launch of the worker owned cooperative in Pomona in 2023 and support the replication of models like this across California and beyond.

SOUTH SUDAN WATER INSTITUTE

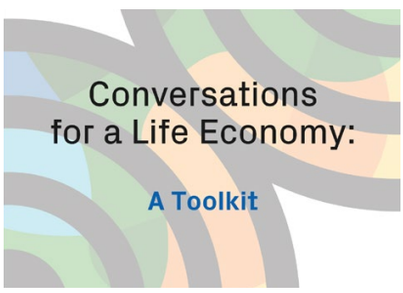
In 2022, EcoCiv supported Water for South Sudan in the design, funding, and launch of the Water Institute of South Sudan. This partnership project will increase the technical capacity for monitoring drinking water quality across South Sudan, ultimately reducing waterborne disease and illness in the country. This partnership project with Save Our Schools NPO will improve human technical capacity for monitoring drinking water quality across South Sudan, ultimately reducing waterborne disease and illness in the country. The 4-week module, titled "Water Quality for Climate Adaptation" is scheduled to launch on March 6, 2023.

In 2022, EcoCiv continued its "W12+ work in South Africa with a focus on the Gauteng province including Johannesburg and Pretoria. We partnered with the National Business Initiative (NBI), a voluntary coalition of South African and multinational companies, working towards sustainable growth and development, to launch EcoCiv's South Africa Hub.

An initial period of research resulted in a Benchmarking Report on the state of Water Security in the Gauteng region. We held a workshop entitled "Through the Eyes of the Consumer: Partnerships for Water Security in Greater Johannesburg" in May 2022 to identify projects that would support the region's transition to a water security future. This half-day virtual convening co-hosted by EcoCiv's W12+ program, NBI, and Johannesburg Water brought together over 40 stakeholders and leaders.

The top project identified developing a mentorship program to connect existing city staffers with experts working on issues of non-revenue water (water that is lost in the system and not revenue generating for the city). Other priority projects identified included establishing a national agency for non-revenue water, reviewing Public-Private-Partnership policies to allow for more collaboration, redesigning the water pricing structure, increasing household level water use monitoring, improving infrastructure related to water loss, and reducing agricultural water losses. The W12+ and NBI teams are currently exploring options to develop a mentorship program to improve non-revenue water issues.

CONVERSATIONS FOR A LIFE ECONOMY PODCAST



In early 2022, EcoCiv released the "Conversations for a Life Economy" podcast and toolkit with partners at Reboot the Future.

Conversations for a Life Economy was a project that aimed to jump-start conversations with leaders in business, government, NGOs, and more about how to mindfully shift their actions in ways that would create monumental shifts across society towards "a life economy".

LEARNING FOR IMPACT INITIATIVE

Launched EcoCiv's Learning for Impact Initiative.

EcoCiv's program team identified the need for an integrated monitoring, evaluation, and learning initiative to continually improve our methodologies and project activities. This initiative was launched in late 2022 and seeks to connect more grant or donor-driven metrics and evaluation with improvements to projects, ultimately increasing our efficiency and the impact of our projects.

In mid 2022, EcoCiv launched a period of research identifying priorities for EcoCiv's newest emerging opportunity: Agrifood Systems. Currently, there is a complex challenge of balancing food security and nutrition, livelihoods, and environmental sustainability. Reforms must address sustainable development of rural communities, including resources access, land tenure, education, and natural resources use. They must also address urban food insecurity in terms of availability, market development, and market access. Indigenous people around the world are heavily impacted by food and agriculture issues because of changing climates and exploitation, which impact their ability to access traditional food sources. In the United States, systematic displacement of Indigenous communities and systemic inequalities particularly targeting BIPOC communities have led to mass food insecurity.

Within this guiding framework, we integrated the Agrifood system program with Economies program on a project with our local partner Lopez Urban Farm in applying for funds to research and identify progressive approaches to land tenure for new/emerging farmers interested in regenerative farming, a key issue facing regenerative farmers globally.

EcoCiv's program manager, Dr. Kate Munden-Dixon, also presented a lightning talk at the 2022 CalCan conference with the title: "Pathway to Nowhere? Reimagining Long-Term Land Tenure Models for New Entry Farmers Practicing Regenerative Agriculture." Her talk emphasized the importance of long-term land tenure models in encouraging regenerative agricultural practices amongst new entry farmers.

STOCKHOLM+50

EcoCiv's managing director, Jeremy Fackenthal, attended Stockholm +50 in June 2022.

The United Nations Stockholm +50 conference, held June 2-3, celebrated 50 years since the launch of the United Nations Environment Programme. In 1972, world leaders gathered in Stockholm for the first time to address human-made threats to our environment. Now 50 years later, government leaders, policy makers, business leaders, and NGOs came together once again to discuss pathways toward a healthy planet and prosperity for all.

EcoCiv, having been granted official special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, was invited to attend, and Managing Director Jeremy Fackenthal represented the organization at the event. The conference included sessions on wellbeing economies, financing for the protection of nature and biodiversity, and the role of peace building in environmental and economic development work. Sessions described the practical roles that different sectors can play or already play to facilitate the transition toward a climate positive world that includes wellbeing and economic opportunities for all humans.

The key takeaways highlighted by UN organizers align with EcoCiv's own strategic priorities in many ways, and EcoCiv staff were pleased to see calls to action in these important areas. UN Secretary General António Guterres specifically mentioned a shift toward wellbeing and away from economic metrics based solely on GDP in his conference remarks. The conference recognized that wellbeing should be at the center of transitioning toward a healthy planet and prosperity for all. Additionally, the conference called on all parties to accelerate system-wide transformations of food, water, energy, and mobility sectors through policy reform, circular economy initiatives, and nature-based solutions. EcoCiv staff are happy to be involved in these types of critical transition initiatives and will continue to explore expanding partnerships that facilitate greater change at a faster pace and larger scale.

"Our missions and visions are what created a space where there is synergy and the opportunity to imagine big projects that will bring systemic change to our communities. We created a coalition of 4 organizations working together - Latino/a Roundtable, EcoCiv, Human Values Center, and WEAll CA Hub that is known as the Pomona Wellbeing Initiative. The goal is not only to bring change to our communities but also offer different perspectives about how to address some of the most pressing issues impacting our local economy-workers, climate change, housing, health, and urban agriculture, all while also offering new definitions and language to reimagine what collective community wealth and prosperity look like in our post-pandemic society.

We are so thrilled and excited to be community partners and to learn and walk alongside our community in this endeavor to create a new economy that works for all of us!"

Lina Mira, Latino/Latina Roundtable

ECOCIV TEAM

Sarah Acquah | Arturo Angeles | Juliana Arnold | Caisa Charleston | Philip Clayton | Mary Fuschillo | Jessie Green

Anna Hixson | Judy Jiang | Sheri Kling | Jesse Knapp | Elisabeth Leaning | Lesley Lichko | Jessica Mardock

Grace Okafor | Andrew Schwartz | Dacotah Splichalova | Jae Ha Woo | Jeremy Fackenthal | Kate Munden-Dixon

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Abigail Abrash Walton | Jerry Bedford | John Buchanan | Philip Clayton | John B. Cobb, Jr.

Daniel Deng | John Fahey | Louis Kim | Steven Knapp | Sandra Waddock

ECOCIV PARTNERS

TSE | FOUNDATION

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND DEVELOPMENT
AFFILIATE OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

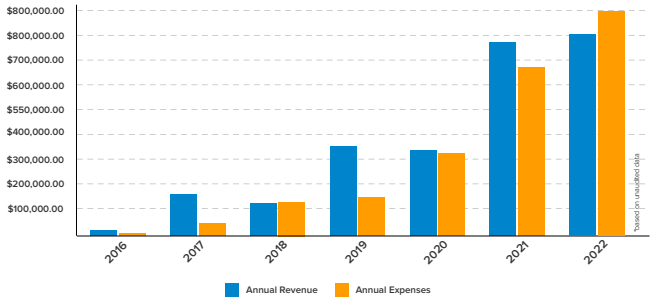
Latino & Latina Roundtable of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley

KOREA GREEN FOUNDATION

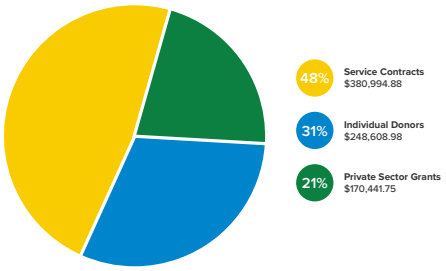
HVC THE HUMAN VALUES CENTER

FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenue & Expenses



2022 Revenue by Source



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2023...

Over the years EcoCiv has concentrated both on research and on working with transformative initiatives. Next year's projects catalyze change at the meeting place of the two:

Launching the Water Institute of South Sudan will be a first for the world's youngest democracy, supported by the international water expertise of EcoCiv and the local expertise of South Sudan's leading water nonprofit. From training field workers to measure water quality all the way to addressing systemic problems, the Water Institute blends research with on-the-ground knowledge.

To increase the impact of our wellbeing economies work in Pomona, in 2023 EcoCiv will work increasingly on the statewide level. The California Hub will support projects for systemic economic reform in multiple cities, as well as advocating for wellbeing economy policies in Sacramento.

2023 will see the launch of the International Alliance for Ecological Civilization (AEC), bringing together leading theorists and activists in this field from around the world. AEC projects identify key leverage points for the ecological transition and catalyze groups that are already taking significant steps in this direction.

GET INVOLVED

Listen to a podcast

HERE

Watch a video from Conversations for a Life Economy

HERE

Check out our Blog

HERE

Join our team! See Career Opportunities

HERE

Help support our work! You can give online

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