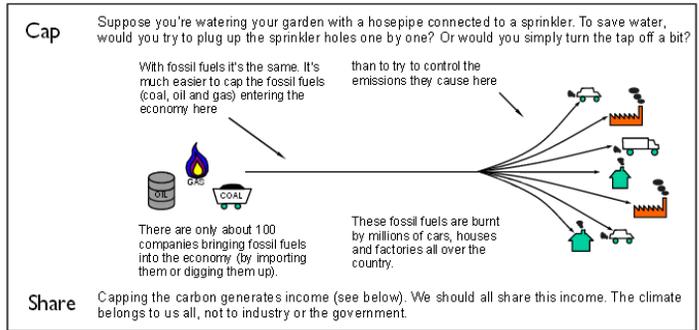


The Alternative to Austerity

Radical Emissions Reductions through Degrowth

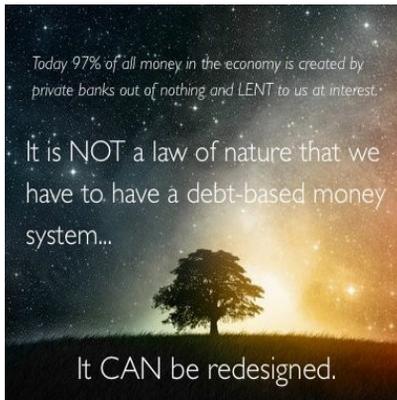
Cap and Share – keep the fuels in the ground

Ban the production and sale of fossil fuels without the purchase of permits, cap the number of permits and quickly reduce them each year to stay within a fixed carbon budget. This would prevent “rebound” from greater efficiency. Share the permit revenue equitably among the public to put the biggest burden on the rich.



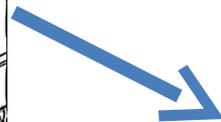
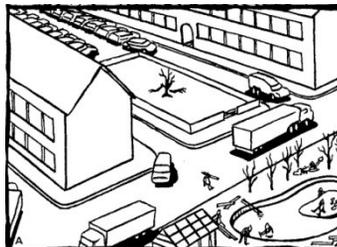
Banking System Reform

Banking system reform is needed to end the growth imperative of bank debt based money which drives emissions growth. The alternative, public money creation, could also fund energy system changes.



Change in values, culture and community living

Well being through greater equality; more free time; ability to live non materialistic values; more opportunities for sharing and “commoning.” Promote these at community and neighbourhood level together with ecological design of buildings, and gardens. More shared infrastructure to reduce individual consumption - extend the library and resource centre principle .



LOCATIONS OF 'TAX HAVENS' FOR TAX DODGERS



Taxation and Public Expenditure

Site value taxation would provide an un-evadable revenue source and enhance localisation – and prevent eco-enhancement leading to increased rents. Equitable taxation would fund employment and training programmes to develop the skills necessary in a declining emissions economy.

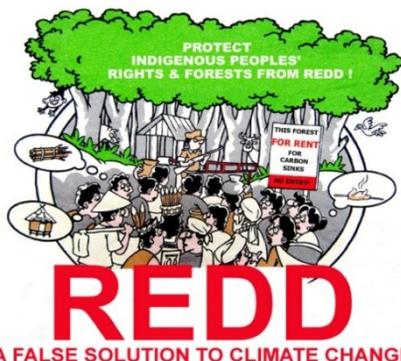
Where is the evidence that ‘degrowth’ will work?

There is evidence for individual policies but an effective “degrowth package” is unprovable in advance. The scale of the required social mobilisations and changes are akin to a wartime emergency. Society cannot wait for full evidence before acting.

Alternatives to “carbon development” in the Global South

In the Global South 2 billion people live on commons managed with customary rights often looking after carbon rich bio-diverse eco systems. They should be protected from corporate land grabs. Nature should be taken out of markets and protected by knowledgeable indigenous communities with a record of land care.

Land reclamation, re-afforestation and other land based carbon sequestration is only safe, if at all, when knowledgeable local people can be trusted to do it – not external corporations.



Governments are tightly inter-dependent with energy corporations and banks and will find difficulties managing as fossil fuel sources deplete, energy costs rise and growth slows anyway - perpetuating a financial system crisis. This package is designed also to appeal to people who can act locally, preparing the political conditions for later government action.