

# The Collaborative Stewardship Model: A Framework for Sustainable Community Design

## Executive Summary

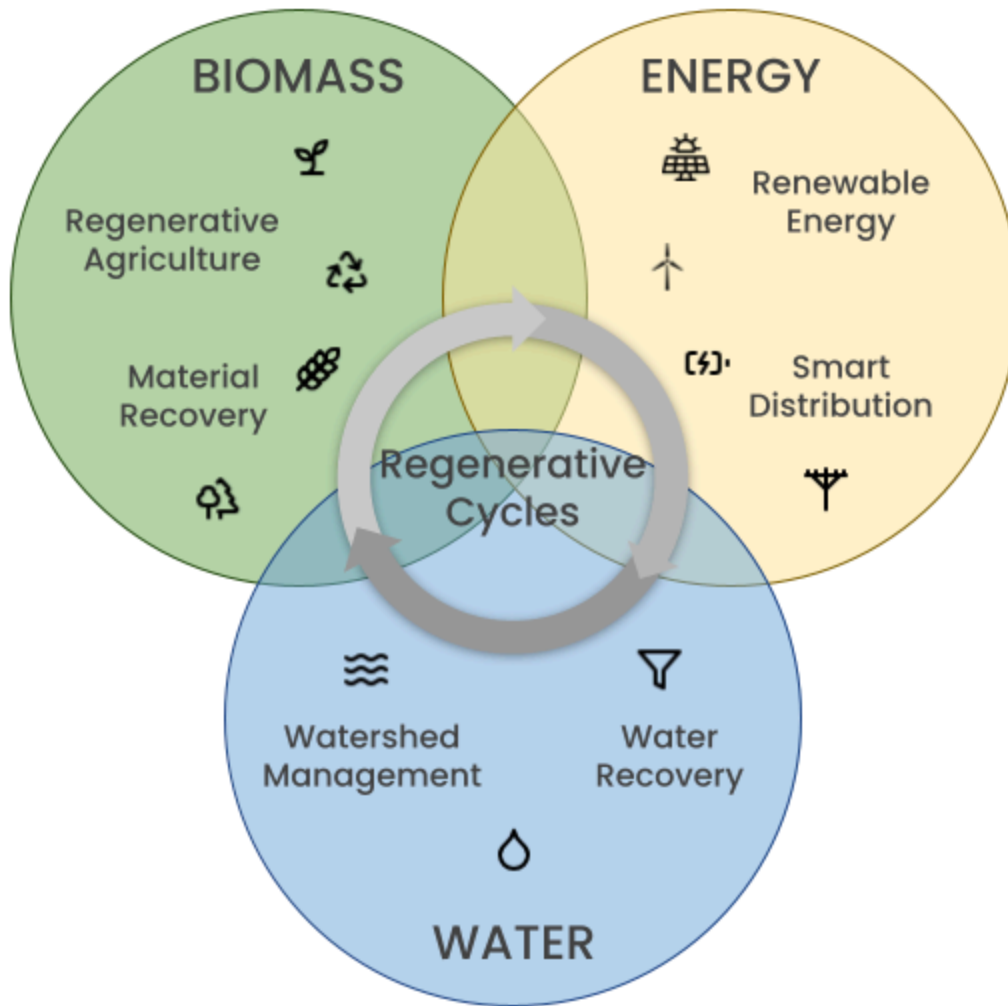
As we face mounting environmental challenges and social inequalities, the need for alternative models of social organization becomes increasingly urgent. The Collaborative Stewardship Model (CSM) offers a practical framework for creating resilient, sustainable communities built on proven successful examples.

## Core Innovation

The CSM integrates three proven approaches while adding crucial innovations:

- Nordic social democracy's universal access to essential services
- Mondragón Cooperative's democratic workplace organization
- Kerala Model's participatory local governance

What makes CSM unique is its integration of these elements within an ecological framework, enabled by modern technology and designed for cultural evolution toward sustainability.



*Resource Cycles in the Collaborative Stewardship Model. The three primary systems—Biomass, Energy, and Water—form an integrated network of regenerative cycles.*

## Key Elements

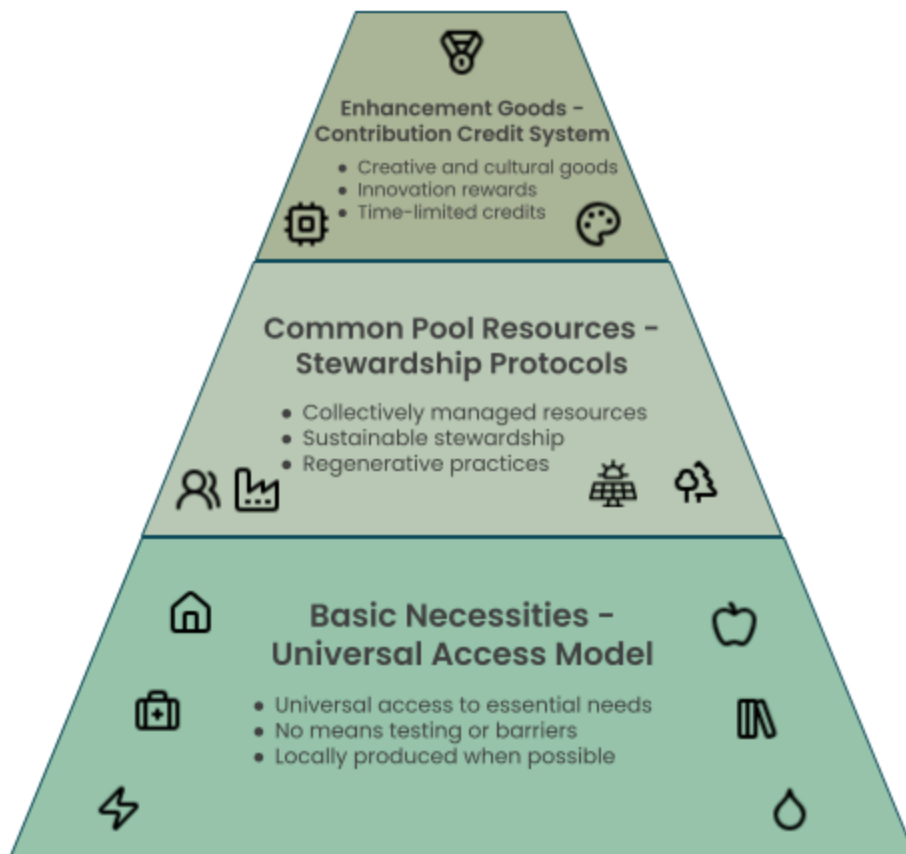
### Resilience Hubs

Communities of 5,000-50,000 people form the basic unit, sized for meaningful democracy while maintaining sufficient diversity. Each hub:

- Manages local resources sustainably
- Provides universal access to basic needs
- Integrates housing, agriculture, and energy systems
- Uses participatory decision-making

# Resource Management

Unlike current economic systems, CSM distinguishes between different types of resources and needs:



*Economic Framework of the Collaborative Stewardship Model. The pyramid structure represents a hierarchy of needs rather than power relations, illustrating how the economy is organized to serve human well-being.*

The model provides:

- Basic necessities through universal access
- Common pool resources stewarded collectively
- Enhancement goods managed through contribution credits

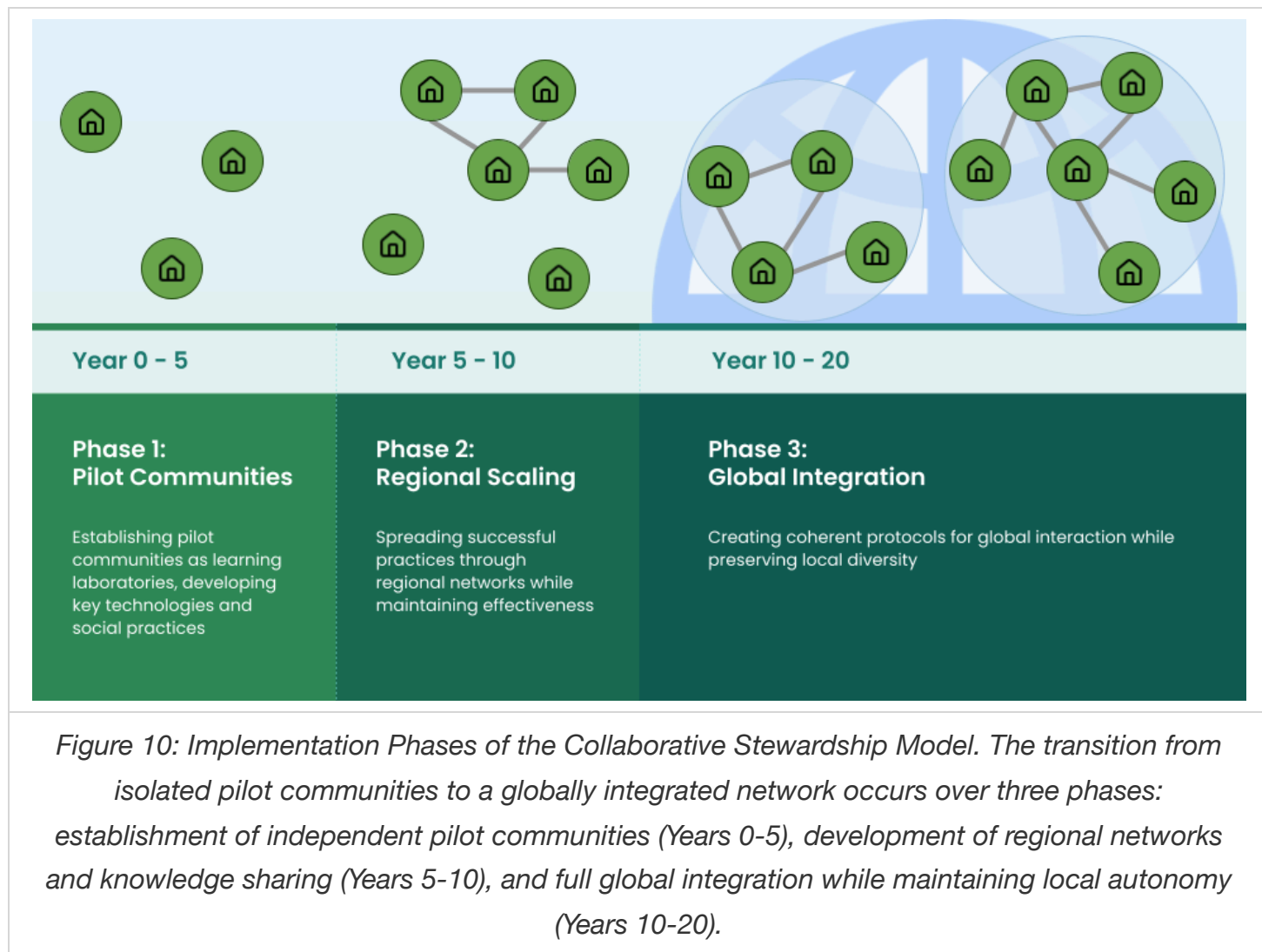
## Technology Integration

Modern tools enable coordination while maintaining human-scale interactions:

- Digital democracy platforms

- Resource tracking systems
- Knowledge sharing networks
- Environmental monitoring

## Implementation Pathway



The transition to CSM follows a carefully planned yet adaptable pathway:

1. Years 0-5: Establish pilot communities
2. Years 5-10: Develop regional networks
3. Years 10-20: Create global integration protocols

## Proven Success Elements

The model builds on demonstrated successes:

- Blue Zone communities showing how simpler living promotes longevity
- Successful cooperatives demonstrating viable alternative economics
- Traditional commons management systems proving sustainable resource governance
- Modern social democracies achieving high living standards sustainably

## Next Steps

1. **Pilot Projects:** Establish initial demonstration communities
2. **Knowledge Sharing:** Create networks between interested groups
3. **Technology Development:** Build necessary coordination tools
4. **Policy Framework:** Develop supporting legal structures

## Get Involved

For more information about the Collaborative Stewardship Model or to participate in its development, please contact:

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