



HUMAN ECOLOGY PRACTICAL AREA (HEPA)

hepa@co2justice.org, August 20th, 2023

Understanding in Action

According to Marx, the basis of every system of production is the relationship between humans and nature – or in other words, the between labour and land. Labour is the inherent capacity of humans to transform nature into socially useful products, and land is all the natural resource upon which humans expend their labour. In short, in every system of production, labour is the ‘father’ and land is the ‘mother’.

Land and labour, however, are not commodities – they are not produced for sale. Labour is a human capacity that comes with life itself, and life is not produced for sale. Land is another name for Nature, which is not produced by humans at all! The treatment of these things, land and labour, as commodities is, therefore, entirely contrary to reality, but based on this un-reality, markets for land and labour are organized as a means of distributing them as privately owned property to be exploited for personal gain. We are concerned here with the effect of this system of organizing the relationship between humans and nature on land, or Nature, and all its elements.

However, the systems of production differ according to how this relationship between land and labour is socially organized. In communal systems of production, the relationship is organized according to the communal ownership of both land and labour; the aim is communal security and wellbeing through the communal production of socially useful products. In capitalist systems, it is according to individual private ownership of land and labour. Therefore, the capitalist mode of production, the accumulation of private wealth through the production for sale of *privately owned commodities* is key manipulating for profit seeking behave. Here, the concept of ‘commodity’ is important: A commodity is ‘some-thing that is produced for sale on the market’, and in a fully functioning market system, everything, including land and labour, is treated as a commodity. *Finally, Carbon – a living element is becoming a commodity for commercialization and Pricing for Financing*, accordingly, the *capitalist system is aiming to Capitalization Carbon for Exploitation of Land & Labour in order for sale on the market!*.

Given that the aim of capitalist production is the accumulation of private wealth, when land falls into the hands of private producers there is no limit to what they can do with it. All the communal restraints that have been designed to protect the land are abolished, and it can be exploited for maximal private gain, even to the extent of its total exhaustion and destruction, which we see happening all over the world today. The only way of preventing this total environmental destruction is by developing collective political controls over land to protect the natural environment from being destroyed.

What we are concerned with here is just one element of Nature – carbon, a vital element that makes up 45% of all life – and which in the form of fossil fuels (coal, oil) is being extracted from the earth and burnt in such quantities in the production of commodities for mass consumption on a world scale, that CO2 emissions from this process are threatening to destroy all life on earth through rendering its climate unliveable. In an effort to avoid this situation, the world leaders have sought ways of mitigating the effect of CO2 emissions by encouraging the protection and maintenance of the earth's forests as sinks for the re-absorption of CO2. To finance this effort they have devised as system of 'Carbon Credits' whereby polluting corporations can finance the maintenance of forest carbon sinks in return for the right to continue polluting the world. The main strategy here is to create a market in pollution permits (carbon credits). In other words, to make a *commodity* out of carbon, a natural element produced by Nature. Such a market does nothing, however, to prevent continuing pollution, all it does is create yet another *fictive* commodity which private investors can buy and sell for profit.

An alternative solution to the life threatening problem of excessive industrial CO2 emissions and the resulting drastic climate change is to institutionalize a system of social control over the governance of carbon emissions and their sequestration by involving all the interested parties collectively on the basis of their respective capacities to contribute to this solution and their needs to be able to do so. This alternative is what we mean by '**Institutional Co-governance of Carbon by Five Stakeholders**', the details of which we describe below page:

Bottom Up/Decolonization Watershed Forest Co- Governance Toward CO2 Justice

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	Factor ACTOR	CONCERN	APPROACH	NEEDS	OUT COME Indicator	EFFECT Indicator	IMPACT Indicator	THEORY OF CHANG (TOC)
I	Farmer	Daily livelihood is secured.	Land/NR ¹ is legalized with full rights in Decision Making!	Not being left behind which driven to be isolated in Market Economy.	Community Solidarity Economy (Self-Determination).	Community 3R ² Eco-Landscape toward 'SMART' ³ FETRA ⁴ is achieved.	Inter-generationally persistent ecological livelihood in the rural community is improved.	51% CO2/ ID Tree (Be Owned by Farmer inter-generationally)
II	Emission Group	Profit as much as less.	Land & Labor are as exploiting as possible.	Control over Land & Labor	Destroying totality the eco-system.	Colonizing Land& Labor automatically.	CO2 is increasing (PPM ⁵ is Polluted to all living being in the planet.	40% CO2/ID Tree - (Be Owned by Emission Group)
III	CODE	Fairly & Wellbeing of Watershed Forest & Farmer living.	Farmer Based Forest, Carbon & Water Restoring in Database Monitoring & Update via WebGIS is Accuracy & Transparency.	Professional WebGIS is manageable, accessible and valuable.	WebGIS system is available for Go-Governance Strategy of Carbon Credit online in Stock Market.	WebGIS is a convenient solution for Bottom – Up Watershed Co-Governance.	WebGIS is a transparently toward CO2 share-responsibility.	5% CO2 (Knowledge, Methodology & Trust Capital) via WebGIS System for Actor I, II, IV & V.
IV	Media	Social awareness & Education is enlarged.	Publishing as much as possible for learning and social networking action toward mitigation of CO2 by Native Forest Planting.	Inspiring & encouraging as much as possible all farmers in rural areas toward NRM & EP ⁶ .	Natural Resources & Environmental Co-Responsibility is getting better all over Viet Nam.	Bottom- Up's Grass-root Media is achieving layers and deeper.	Net Zero in 2050 is Achieved.	3 % CO2 (Education & Socialization via Media)
V	Authority	GDP competition between nations	Chemical - Industrialized & Techno Land Use by Mono-Cropping for Cash income	- Foreign Exchange; - Economic growth;	Farmer is alienated; Eco-landscape is assimilated; Native Diverse Species are eroded.	- CO2 is 1.2° - PPM is 4.16 - Air is polluted.	- Unsustainable Nation economically, - Land & Labor are no longer to be self-determined.	1% CO2 (Administrative Managed Officially).

¹C, O & H are Livings Being.

² Rừng/Peak Forest – Rẫy/UpLand Farming – Ruộng/Valley

³ Specific – Measureable – Accountable- Reliable -Time toward Community Based Co-Responsibility For Carbon Justice (Community Based Forest Boundary, Classification, GPS, Auditing and Carbon Measuring).

⁴ Fair Ecological Transformation for Rural Area.

⁵ 416 PPM 2023

⁶ Natural Resource Management and Environment Protection