



Artwork by Linda Dalal Sawaya/AramcoWorld

## Localization: Towards Economic and Environmental Justice

We can live in a world with deeper spirituality, closer connection to the environment and fellow beings, where we are less stressed, more healthy and ultimately happier. Inspired by the film, “Economics of Happiness”, the Link Cooperative Economics Working Group, in collaboration with Loretto Outreach, Loretto Earth Network, the Sustainable and Intentional Community at the Motherhouse, and the Sustainable Communities for Equity and Food Justice (Proposal 10), is presenting a one-day workshop on July 17. We invite you to join us.

**DATE: JULY 17, 2021**

**TIME: 8:00-2:00 Pacific / 11:00-5:00 Eastern**

**LOCATION: ONLINE VIA ZOOM**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MAY 31, 2021**

The workshop is free, but registration is required. To register, go [here](#).

### Economic Globalization

*A fish served in a California restaurant was caught illegally on a Thai fishing vessel manned by slaves. A t-shirt bought in Germany was sewn in a Bangladeshi sweatshop, where workers labor in unsafe conditions for starvation wages. The rising consumption levels of India's middle class are contributing to climate chaos thousands of miles away, while the hunger of Americans for consumer goods from China is exacerbating the Chinese air-pollution crisis...*

*These are just a few of the many faces of the global economy.*

*From: Helena Norberg-Hodge/Local Futures*

As our world economy has grown, the ability to grow food and create goods to be sold worldwide has been eased by the development of global production and the use of labor in poor, under-developed countries, but at what cost? Coca Cola, Walmart, Amazon are examples of globalization that is destroying the Earth and its people. Global transportation of goods poses its own problems, as demonstrated by the cargo ship stuck in the Suez Canal back in March.



*The container ship lodged across the Suez Canal superimposed over the Motherhouse property in Kentucky.*

We stare in horror at the effects of climate crisis, environmental racism, economic inequality and endless wars. We understand the reasons people are fleeing their countries. We recognize how this is the result of colonial

and capitalist economies, creating a market driven by dollars. We may be familiar with NAFTA, but what about CAFTA, MEFTA, PICTA? We are seeking alternatives.

We reject the system of profit over people that capitalizes on the labor of the poor and the gifts of the Earth to enrich a few.



FROM THE DENVER PERMACULTURE GUILD

Our collaborative group is offering this one-day workshop to further educate ourselves about the environmental and cultural impacts of globalization and examine why localization may serve as an important alternative. We will explore creating new economic practices both within and outside of the Loretto Community and Loretto Link. We will encourage participants to share ideas for creating such local economies in their own neighborhoods, cities, states. Breakout sessions will allow us to learn from each other, especially to hear about what actions people are taking already. Networking with participants from our own and other bioregions will help us explore ways that we can support locally grown food free from chemicals, utilize more equitable labor practices and live more intentional lives. As with many Loretto events, we will take time for contemplation as we move toward action.

Join us on **JULY 17, 2021!** To register, go [here](#).