

Sustainability & Modern Society

Thoughts about the place of food

Colin Sage

Environmental citizenship, ecological politics, global justice

- Emerged from a 'reactive' not proactive process
- Workshop September 2011
- Reinvigorated Oct 12 with the objective of working toward a transdisciplinary conference in Sept 2013.
- Forging collaborative research partnerships around sustainability to win EU & IE funding

Challenges for sustainability research

- Neo-liberal values dominate & establish primacy of an instrumental utilitarianism
- 'Maximising good' for greatest number
- Role of markets in restoring economic growth + science & technology = BAU
- Safe sustainability → ecological modernization
- More critical approaches - challenging consumption practices – are suspicious
- Food as a lens - & instrument of change?



