

SUSTAINABILITY AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

SOCIETY

Universal Declaration of **Human Rights**, Article 25; Agenda 21; The 1919 Democratic Programme - The right to:-
Standard of living - health, well being, food, clothing, **housing/shelter** . . .

1937 Irish Constitution - no mention of the right to housing/shelter, but inviolability of private property

The commodification of housing & development for profits requires unending growth

(cf. Kenny Report, 1974 - the benefits accruing from the development of land for common good)

SELF-BUILD = the building of self-reliant communities and community provision

Collaboration - multiple groups working in parallel to similar goals (CEF, TT/TCC, GIY, LETS . . .)

- optimum **scale** of communities for collaboration?



RESOURCES

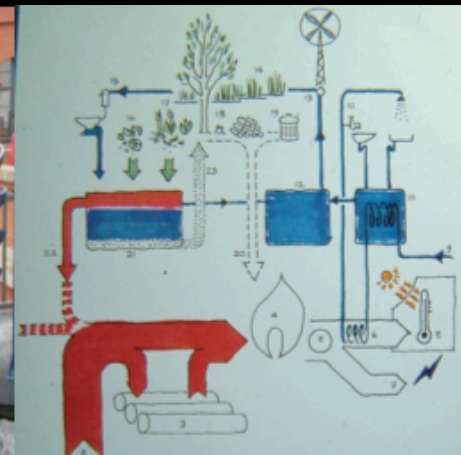
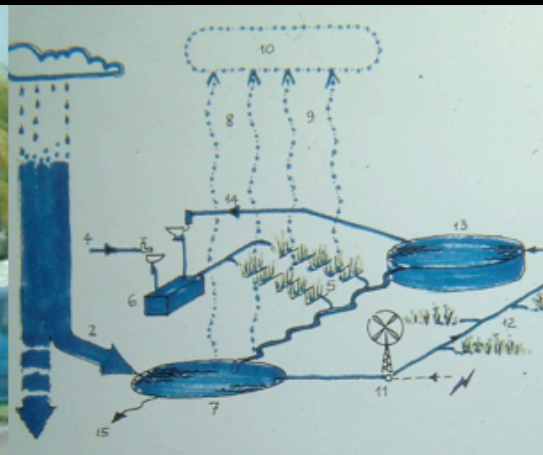
Reduce consumption of materials to provide shelter/housing, energy, manufactured products ...

Historical use of local plentiful/renewable materials and resources (relatively small population)

Creative use of diminishing (non-renewable) resources in times of "austerity" (7 billion population)

Recycle, use natural and renewable resources

Lifestyle - expectations of comfort and convenience, regardless of resource-costs



BUILDINGS

New & old - the bulk of our building stock needs to be upgraded

Long legacy of sub-standard buildings, right up to 2008 (the majority of recent buildings non-compliant)

Role of **technology** - how dependent on advanced technologies, (embodied) energy, diminishing resources...?

Upgrading older buildings - investment, finance, **payback**, funding - short-term bottom-line thinking
suitable technologies and materials (understanding of building physics)

1973 oil crisis - early advances in building **regulations** in most of Europe - energy-saving, insulation
(Ireland almost 2 decades later)

How well-prepared are the coming generation of architects? (CCAIE is part of UCC)

(what about **planning** regulations - location, transport, long commutes, unsustainable "communities"?)

The **professions** tend to be trained separately, and relationships are often seen as adversarial

