

Osa Bioregional Framework

Who are we?

We are a collective of individuals, groups and initiatives that are working towards a regenerative society in the Osa Peninsula. This society celebrates the diversity of life that makes up the Osa Peninsula within the spirit of community, reciprocity, solidarity and nurturing each other from the ground up. We're in the process of grouping ourselves under a cohesive 'umbrella' that is nested within various international (digital) networks that focus on regenerative finance, funding, land-based stewardship and local/bioregional impact.

the grouping of initiatives has yet to form under a cohesive "umbrella", what we have been in the process of forming is an alliance, collective, network of groups, individuals and initiatives that are nurturing the Osa community in all its diversity while nurturing each other from the ground up. While decidedly bioregionally based...this initiative is also nested within various international digital networks that focus on regenerative finance, funding, land based stewardship and local impact.

The emergence of a three legged formation

Over the last years, we've seen a three-legged formation (trinity) emerging that follows the internationally recognised [framework of Bioregional Finance Facilities](#) designed by the [BIOFI project](#) and consists of:

- **The bioregional Hubs:**

[Los Higueros](#): a space established 4+ years ago to promote better economic, social, cultural and environmental alternatives for the Osa community. In that time it has evolved into a bioregional hub, incubator space, resilience center, regeneration station or [any number of names that one would put to a space that is evolving based on what becomes emergent within the community](#).

Currently, Los Higueros is moving towards a [commons/ community land trust model of ownership](#) where those who have been stewarding the place and its initiatives will become vested stewards of the space. For more information about this [click here](#).

Also, to hear one of our local members share about its importance for the community listen to this audio (in Spanish) [Click here](#)

[The Local library](#): The library was established around 18 years ago. It is a place where children and families come together, cultural events take place and classes are given. It allows people from different communities spread over the Osa to learn about the history and other things related to culture and language. For more information about the vision of the library [click here](#)

- **Bioregional Organising Team**: Over the years, we've experienced various attempts to bring individuals from organisations as well as key people in the bioregion together to co-create strategies to collaborate for the shared regenerative (yet, undefined) vision. . The last attempt was in 2024 which was a process of Encuentros Comunicatarios of which the first two have taken place. These were organised by long-term leaders from the civic sector who brought together diverse community organisations, community leaders and knowledge holders. These sessions and other synchronistic, and asynchronistic, weaving, has led to greater collaboration and more collective imagining of the regenerative future for the bioregion. To continue this work of local ownership in a non-extractive and exploitative way,, we need funding to form a Bioregional Organizing Team with clear roles and responsibilities that is embedded in the local environment. For more information about a minimal viable team to operate and envisioned members click [here](#)
- **The Bioregional Trust**: About 2.5 years ago an initiative named [The ReGenerOsa Collective](#) began to take shape. Inspired by a regenerative financial framework the ReGenerOsa Collective executed a participatory community based and focussed giving program in 2024. This first pilot round, under the name of 'spider' for its weaving nature, integrated digital and analog, oral and written, multi-lingual and cultural within a multivalent framework, funding those regenerative grassroots projects and weavers that have difficulty with receiving funding from contemporary funds.

Besides the giving program, a vision for a three-legged financing facility surfaced that also entails cultivating a land trust based with regenerative acquisition structures and micro loans. Both of these legs need to be worked out more in detail.

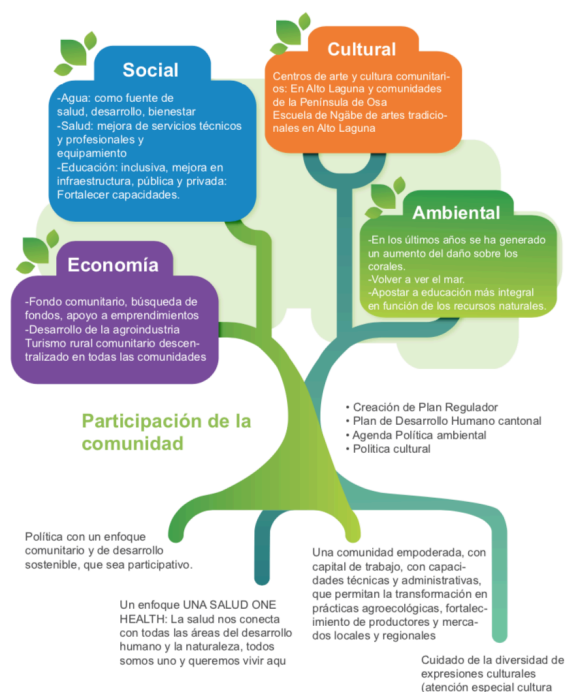
What did we already do?

Over the last 2.5 years we carried out a pilot called the Spider funding round for which we attracted funds by engaging with various regenerative online networks and direct relations who admire the Osa. Throughout the pilot period, an organising team and a vision team were holding the process. We surfaced a portfolio of people, projects and processes that are carrying out essential work related to a regenerative Osa community. The whole process was held by a council of women and fund distribution took place in a participatory, prosocial way that allowed everyone who contributed to the round, funders and potential grantees to engage digitally and/or analog. Read more about all the learnings of this Spider Funding round by [clicking this link \(and all the underlined words in the story\)](#).

Beyond funding, our engagement with online networks has resulted in a wide recognition and support for our work up to now. One of the physical tokens of this support is a Story of Place, offered by Glen Page & co. that they conducted after a 3-day learning journey. [Their learnings can be found here](#).

Then, during the first meeting of the Encuentro, a mapping and roots of the vision were identified with the main points being:

- Participatory co-creation and -execution of policies with a community and sustainable development approach.
- The quality of life of the community is improved with better public services.
- ONE WORLD-ONE HEALTH approach: Health connects us



with all areas of human development and nature, we are all one and we all want to live together.

- An empowered community, with working capital and technical and administrative skills that allow for the transformation to agroecological practices, strengthening of producers and local and regional markets.
- Care for the diversity of cultural expressions (special attention to Indigenous Ngöbe culture and youth).

[Click here for more information about the outcomes of this meeting \(Spanish\)](#)

Next steps & needs


At this point, the various legs have already been activated and in process. Next steps for each leg would be to strengthen each leg individually and solidify their relationship in a more formal entity. When we have all of the resources, we would be enabled to:

- Create the organisational structures for the three legs to function coherently.
- Conduct the participatory processes for cohesive local governance structures that include the voice of nature, conflict resolution, transparency and inclusive and collaborative processes.
- Form and fund the work of a team of committed key community members who have already been weaving in their pueblos and larger community coalition. Maintain the bioregional hubs that provide the physical place and space for the bioregional organizing team and other community groups to meet, incubate and host visiting collaborators.
- Strengthen the collaboration with the municipality towards exploring and implementing a functional municipal structure for this region inclusive of community participation and decision-making.
- Collaborate with key groups and individuals in the field of regeneration to implement regenerative social, economic and regenerative frameworks.

- Develop citizen assemblies that invite local people and groups to share their visions, obstacles and ideas around regenerative economic activities community wide Manos Cambiadas days which local community members come together to talk about and work on bioregionally important infrastructure, waste and security issues.
- Create structures that reward people for the work that they voluntarily conduct on behalf of, and for, the community.
- Resource projects and proposals that are activation ready, yet lack financial capacity, i.e. ASAOSA recycling center, local sports and recreation programs, micro-enterprise development and the like.
- Set up a microcredit system for local entrepreneurs with reasonable interest structures.
- Acquire land that is currently for sale with more regenerative financial structures such as lifetime lease to ensure regenerative land stewardship, and the livelihoods of locals while recommoning the land of the Osa.

Budget

The main priority is the forming and activating the bioregional organising team. Simultaneously, through the ReGenerOsa Collective, it is also possible to activate the microcredit system and create the land trust structure for acquiring land in place. Through one of the projects of Los Higuerones, it is possible to start creating the structures for rewarding local people for their voluntary community efforts. As you might sense, whether we receive \$25 or \$2500000 dollars, any number of funds can be allocated to one of the activities above or other ones that lead towards our vision. Many of these activities have been sprouted already by different individuals and initiatives, yet are struggling to grow because of the lack of resources. For a 1 year budget that enables the minimal viable option, please click here our minimal viable option look at out

 Osa Biofi Budget .xlsx .

The ideal amount would be at least a minimum of \$1000000 to ensure a 3 year rooting process of the bioregional financing facility in the Osa.

Other information

Bioregional Organizing Team (a sample)

- Estefan - leader of ccpj, pj hoy
- Andre - community organizer for trash, pueblo beautification
- Eida - long time community leader, small business person, guide and farmer
- Florencio - artistic, work with indigenous communities, community organizer and activist
- Dinnia - artist, women's group convener, librarian
- Dona Flor - head of asada in palo seco, guide, territorial council vice-president.
- Rojo -
- Jordy
- Mabel
- Angel - high school student, participant in Selal
- Ngobe youth