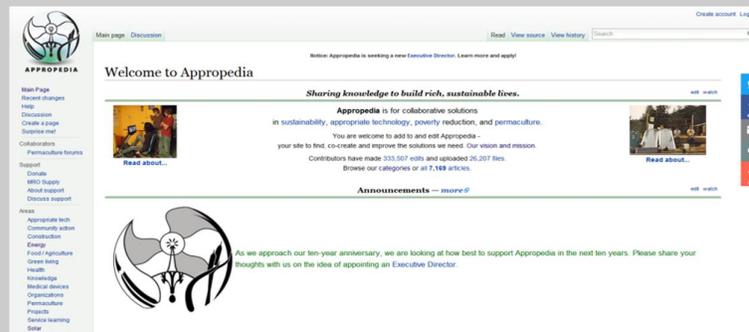


**Home Page****Logo****URL**

[http://www.appropedia.org/Welcome\\_to\\_Appropedia](http://www.appropedia.org/Welcome_to_Appropedia)

**Subject**

Economics-Encyclopedias

**Accessibility**

Free

**Language**

English

**Publisher**

Appropedia Foundation

**Brief History**

After years of other online and offline sustainable collaboration projects, Lonny Grafman and others started Appropedia in April 2006 with a focus on appropriate technology, he was assisted by Aaron and Goodsignal in the decision to use the MediaWiki engine for Appropedia. In May 2006 Lonny started a conversation with Chris Watkins via his Wikipedia userpage. Chris was focused on appropriate technology articles in Wikipedia, but by June 2006 he was convinced to join forces at Appropedia.

In the earliest stages it was collaboration between passionate people from the United States and Australia, and quickly expanded to become a global project. Appropedia now more explicitly covers broader issues of international development and sustainability.

### ***Scope and Coverage***

The encyclopedia has 7, 188 number of articles which cover the following areas like Appropriate technology, Community action, Construction, Energy, Food/Agriculture, Green living, Health, Knowledge, Medical Devices, Organizations, Permaculture, Projects, Service learning, Sustainability, Transport, Water etc.

### ***Kind of Information***

Appropedia is the site for collaborative solutions in sustainability, poverty reduction and international development through the use of sound principles and appropriate technology and the sharing of wisdom and project information. Articles on various above mentioned areas(see: ***Scope and Coverage***)are found here. Sub topics under broader categories are found through a click on the hyperlinks.

Entering into a particular area one can find brief description, history, coloured images, charts, graphs, tables etc. on that topic. Some of the terms within the description are hyperlinked which only lead to further information on that term within Appropedia. See also references, external links to other sources appropriate to the topic, references, notes (for editors) etc. are available below the article. Under the sub categories similar type of information is found.

As for example mention may be made of the area or portal Food/Agriculture. Entering into this area brief information on food and agriculture, coloured images are visible at first sight. Clicking on “More about food” various types of food from plants, food from animals, salt, food sustainability, various projects on food etc. in hyperlinked form are found which only lead to separate pages filled with information on that specific topics. Other articles (e.g. articles on Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Vegetables etc.) related to the main area (Food and Agriculture) are found in alphabetically arranged hyperlinked list.

### ***Special Features***

- ❖ Appropedia is a wiki, a type of website which allows anyone to add, remove, or edit content. Registration is encouraged but not required for contributors.
  
- ❖ Appropedia is a tool to
  - (1) share information with fellow students who may have never met,
  - (2) collaborate on documents,
  - (3) coordinate a sustainability focused service learning outreach campaign,
  - (4) review physics with application to technologies for sustainable development.
  
- ❖ It provides access to information by email and print. It also has a link to

social networking sites like Google+, Facebook, and Twitter etc.

- ❖ This encyclopedia includes provision for Fuzzy searching.
- ❖ A number of other similar sites have "joined with" Appropedia since its inception, bringing many content pages, readers and contributors, including:
  - (1) Sustainable Development Wikia
  - (2) WinWinWiki
  - (3) Wikigreen.org
  - (4) Village Earth's Appropriate Technology Wiki Project
  - (5) HowToLiveWiki, home of the Hexayurt
  - (6) The sGoals Wiki, a.k.a. the Sustainable Goals Wiki (sustainable business).

***Arrangement Pattern***

In this encyclopedia, main areas like Appropriate tech, Community action, Construction, Energy etc. are arranged alphabetically in the left side of the home page. If one enters into one main area (e.g. –Energy) then one can find the categories are also arranged alphabetically (e.g. Electricity, Energy conversion, Energy organizations, Energy policy etc.). Under a particular category along with the brief information on that category, sub categories are also arranged in alphabetic order. (The sub categories are arranged under their starting alphabet. E.g. Earth Track is found under E, Nega-Watts under Netc.) Clicking on a particular subcategory information regarding it is found.

***Remarks***

This encyclopedia is helpful for students, researchers in sustainability development studies. The site has enormous potential to assist in sustainable development.

***Comparable Tools***

- Wikipedia ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page))
- The Concise Encyclopedia of Economics (<http://www.econlib.org/library/CEE.html>)
- The Oxford Encyclopedia of Economic History  
<http://www.oxfordreference.com/view/10.1093/acref/9780195105070.001.001/acref-9780195105070>

***Date of Access***

April 21, 2016