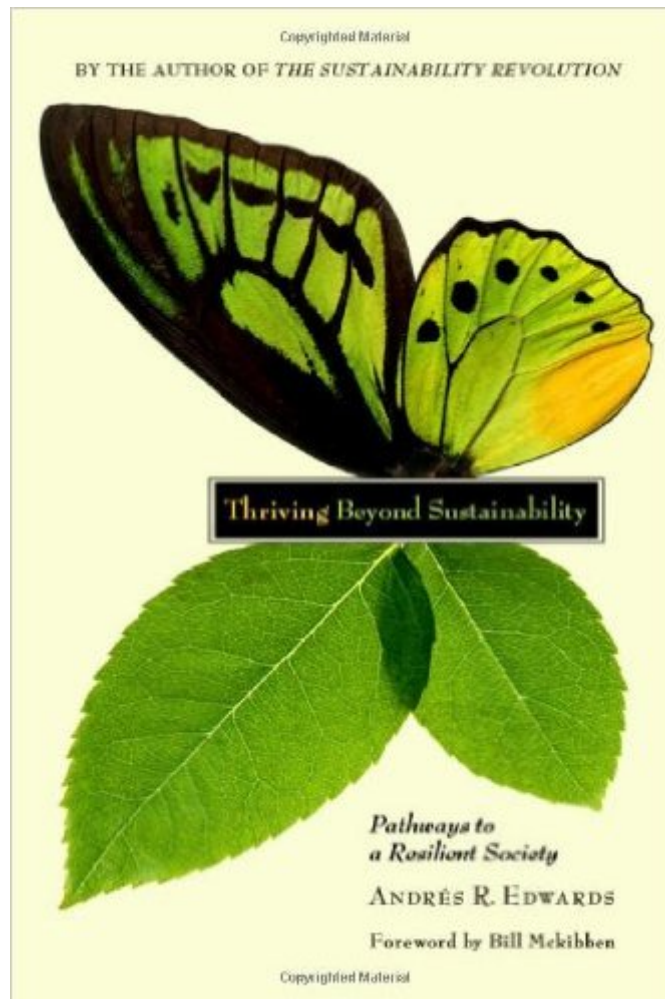


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# Thriving Beyond Sustainability: Pathways To A Resilient Society



## Synopsis

Every fifteen seconds on our Earth, a child dies from waterborne disease. Three times an hour, another species becomes extinct. Each day we consume eighty-five million barrels of oil and pump twenty-three million tons of carbon dioxide into an already warming atmosphere. But against this bleak backdrop, beacons of hope shine from thousands of large and small initiatives taking place everywhere from isolated villages to major urban centers. *Thriving Beyond Sustainability* draws a collective map of individuals, organizations, and communities from around the world that are committed to building an alternative future—one that strives to restore ecological health; reinvent outmoded institutions; and rejuvenate our environmental, social, and economic systems. The projects and initiatives profiled are meeting the challenges of the day with optimism, hope, and results, leading the way in: Relocalization Green commerce Ecological design Environmental conservation Social transformation Overflowing with inspiration, the stories and ideas in these pages will cause the most chronic pessimist to see the glass as half full—to move beyond a perception of surviving with scarcity to one of flourishing with abundance. The comprehensive resource section provides the tools for everyone to become a catalyst for change. Andres R. Edwards is the author of *The Sustainability Revolution*, which has sold over twenty thousand copies. He is an educator, media designer, LEED-accredited green building and sustainability consultant, and the founder of EduTracks, a firm specializing in developing education programs and providing consulting services on sustainable practices. Gold Medal Winner, 2011 Living Now Book Awards, Social Activism

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## Customer Reviews

Review of *Thriving Beyond Sustainability* The more you research about the subject of sustainability, the more you will come to realize that talking about sustainability is like talking about matter. There are so many different types, and such a widespread topic that it is hard to know where to begin. "Sustainable development" is often associated with environmental protection and conservation, but it is actually far more broad a subject than just that, it deals with the encompassing of economic, political and sociocultural concerns as well. Defined simply as development that meets the needs of the present without negotiating the ability of future generations. Sustainable development is more a general approach than a specific set of practices. It can be applied to literally all sectors of human work, from education to enterprise, and from fine arts to the physical sciences. The message of *Thriving Beyond Sustainability* is straightforward. The book simply gathers prime examples of several main themes at the center of the global sustainability conversation. The first chapter, titled "Lessons from Our Ancestors," teaches us a lesson of what could happen if the human civilization declined, largely as a result of having overexploited the natural resources on which they depended. Edwards demonstrates how the modern developed world will learn lessons from the ancient people of Easter Island. These people went into steep decline after they over-harvested their trees and marine life. Also there are lessons from the Inuit, who have managed to thrive for centuries in the Earth's North Polar regions. Some other notable chapters include those on regenerative design, saving ecosystems, going "Glocal" or otherwise known as global localization.

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