



Annotated Bibliography for Developing Regenerative Networks

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Key

* Good introductory materials

~ Deeper information and practice

Book Resources:

- ~ [Network Weaver Handbook: A Guide to Transformational Networks](#), by June Holley (398 pages)
 - *This book is packed with valuable information for readers to become or level up their works as network weavers taking leadership to introduce network approaches, co-create supportive systems and increase a network's connectivity, self-organisation, health, and impact. It also includes real-life examples, case studies, exercises, worksheets and checklists to use for practical application.*
- * [Introduction to Network Weaving](#), by June Holley (150 pages)
 - *This is an introductory version of the more comprehensive Network Weaver Handbook that people and groups can use to get started, gain basic skills, develop their understanding and improve the effectiveness of networks.*
- ~ [Connecting to Change the World: Harnessing the Power of Networks for Social Impact](#), by Peter Plastrik, Madeleine Taylor, and John Cleveland (256 pages)
 - *Interesting book highlighting the necessity to adopt a network-centric approach for social entrepreneurs, community leaders, and non-profits to solve difficult problems and achieve greater impact. The authors share frameworks, practical advice, case studies, and expert knowledge on how to form and manage social-impact networks. Actionable advice for creating collaborative solutions.*
- ~ [Net Work: A Practical Guide to Creating and Sustaining Networks at Work and in the World](#), by Patti Anklam (288 pages)
 - *Besides well established and increasingly mainstream networks in business, education, and technology the purpose of this book is to be a guide, both theoretical and pragmatic for emerging networks. The focus is to help leaders and participants to create and sustain successful networks including governance, agreements, using appropriate tools, and understanding of network's growing and changing with time.*
- ~ [Net Gains: A Handbook for Network Builders Seeking Social Change](#), by Peter Plastrik and Madeline Taylor (117 pages)
 - *Excellent, practical resource for people interested in networks to get a clear introduction, and awareness of the network approach, learn the seven decisions for organising networks, which I have used a lot for intentional network design and navigating development spirals. The books also describes five tasks to manage a network's development and strategies for building networks for social change.*

- ~ [Global Action Networks: Creating our Future Together](#), by Steve Waddell (271 pages)
 - *Distillation of insights from one of the worlds experts in large scale activist networks, sharing hands-on practice and experience from network projects with many global organisations. The book is also deeply grounded in theory including systems thinking and network analysis to community building and organizational change. The many examples and suggestions lay out a clear path for network leaders, organisers, and social innovators to navigate complexity and work together to create a better future.*
- ~ [Understanding Social Networks: Theories, Concepts, and Findings](#), by Charles Kadushin (264 pages)
 - *This book explains the social network concept, their application and the rising use of network analysis in social science. It covers fundamental concepts, then discusses networks and their core themes in increasing order of complexity plus examples of best practices. Useful reading for social scientists, network students, or managers and marketers constantly working with social networks.*
- ~ [Social Physics: How Social Networks Make Us Smarter](#), by Alex Pentland (320 pages)
 - *Over years of groundbreaking experiments the author as distilled remarkable insights significant enough to become a whole new scientific field: social physics. Humans are social creatures and we are wired to act in social groups. The books shares about the way human networks spread ideas and transform those ideas into behaviours, the patterns of information exchange – thanks to abundant digital data. Social networks can be used to maximise collective intelligence, performance, and resilience.*
- ~ [Leading Change](#), by John P. Kotter (208 pages)
 - *Interesting book on change management and leadership, written for the business context, but still with some worldview translations highly valuable for leading change in non-profits and networks too. I appreciate the concise writing style, illustrations, inspiring stories, and concrete examples alongside the eight-step process for leading and managing change as a practical resource guide.*
- ~ [Reinventing Organisations: An Illustrated Invitation to Join the Conversation on Next-Stage Organisations](#), by Frederic Laloux (172 pages)
 - *This is the shorter, illustrated version of Reinventing Organisations covering the main ideas of the original book, many of the real-life stories in an engaging, lively way. I learned a lot from the consciousness development (spiral dynamics) perspective applied for organisations, translated into management patterns and practices and made possible and applicable through real-life examples and stories.*
- ~ [The Essentials of Theory U: Core Principles and Applications](#), by Otto Scharmer (192 pages)
 - *This book offers a concise, accessible guide to the key concepts of Theory U. The author argues that our capacity to pay attention co-shapes the world and emergent future, a lack of awareness is a blind spot e.g. in leadership and can be overcome through the process, principles, and practices of Theory U. He also shares a framework for updating the operating system of education, economies, and democracies to connect with and act from the highest future possibilities.*
- ~ [Emergent Strategy: Shaping Change, Changing Worlds](#), by Adrienne Maree Brown (280 pages)
 - *Change is constant. The world is in a continual state of flux. It is a stream of ever-mutating, emergent patterns. Rather than steel ourselves against such change, this book invites us to feel, map, assess, and learn from the swirling patterns around us in order to better understand and influence them as they happen. It adds a complexity lens to social activism, draws parallels to ecosystems and is written by a woman of color plus interviews with other people on the topic.*

- ~ [The Power of Collaborative Solutions: Six Principles and Effective Tools for Building Healthy Communities](#), by Tom Wolff (320 pages)
 - *The book addresses contemporary social problems by helping people of diverse circumstances and backgrounds work together to create collaborative solutions for community challenges. Filled with clear principles, illustrative stories, and practical tools it shows how to make lasting change happen, both visionary and achievable.*
- ~ [Systems Thinking for Social Change: A Practical Guide to Solving Complex Problems, Avoiding Unintended Consequences, and Achieving Lasting Results](#), by David Peter Stroh (264 pages)
 - *The book enables readers to contribute more effectively to society by helping them understand what systems thinking is and why it is so important in their work. It also gives concrete guidance on how to incorporate systems thinking in problem solving, decision making, and strategic planning without becoming a technical expert. It is highly readable, effective guide to understanding social systems and using that knowledge to get the results you want.*

Presentations:

- * [Kumu Map with Introduction to Network Weaving and Social Change Network Development](#), by Christine Capra of Greater than the Sum and Social Innovation Lab
 - *This was one of the first pieces of information I found when first starting to research and actively learn about networks. It provides a clear, structured overview of basic network patterns, principles, and practices of social change development.*
- * [Networks Emerging as part of a New Evolutionary Phase](#), by Laura Kaestle
 - *Interview Laura gave for the Conscious Evolution Summit 2020 shared as a facebook live stream event with additional Q&A. It provides an introduction to network weaving to understand what networks are, why they are needed, their principles, functions, and basic network patterns, design, development, mapping, and leadership.*

Video Resources:

- * [Networks: Weaving People, Ideas and Projects](#), with June Holley (10 min) shared by I-Open Community
 - *June Holley provides an introduction to Network Weaving for leaders in community, industry and organizations. She talks about where to start to make positive change in your work, life and where you live.*
- * [Network Strategies for your Network](#), with June Holley (31 min)
 - *Informative recording of call with June looking at the food policy efforts through a network lens with a focus on strategies and practices for networks including levels and stages of network development. She shares about system shifting networks and strategies to develop network leadership, align people and purpose, connect and self-organise, action learn, experiment, do projects, exchange support, and more.*
- * [Food Policy Networks Project Network Weaving Workshop #1](#), with June Holley and Jasmin Yonis (1h 4 min) shared by John Hopkins Center for a Liveable Future
 - *This video is the first in a series of virtual workshops, presented by noted leaders in network development June Holley and Yasmin Yonis, on different aspects of network approaches. This first session introduces basic structure, governance and decision-making options for networks. It gives inspiring information, and possibilities to experiment with network governance, structures, co-design, and decision-making.*
- * [Network Weaving and Belonging](#), a Conversation with Alexis Flanagan, Curtis Ogden, David Ehrlichman, and June Holley (1 h 27 min) shared by Building Belonging
 - *A conversation with diverse perspectives and voices on network weaving as a catalyst*

for transformation and liberation, sharing practical examples and ways to apply this to your work, practices to embody network weaving, advice for aspiring weavers, and a future outlook for how the world could be transformed through network weaving.

- * [What is Social Systems Mapping](#), with Christine Capra (17 min)
 - *Christine from Greater than the Sum clearly describes the relatively new social system mapping field combining the software kumu for visualising and sumApp for data gathering. These maps are a mash-up of social network, asset and system map – shared with visual examples – for the networks to learn to be more resilient, adaptive and self-organising. It is a new visual language at the intersection of data visualisation, network science, and system thinking. It is a powerful tool to understand and engage with social systems and network dynamics, same as geographical maps help us understand and navigate the physical world.*

Interesting Articles:

- [Network-ing does not Equal Network WEAVING](#), by Christine Capra (11 min read)
 - *First and brilliant article I read about network weaving with a clear distinction how it is different than networking in the context of understanding four different types of networks: ego, social, open and eco-networks. The clarity and possibility in this article inspired my further research and then work with mapping and network weaving.*
- [Human Factors in Regenerative Networks](#), by Curtis Ogden
 - *The author starts with a definition of regeneration as renewal, revival, restoration, spiritual transformation, an aspect of living systems essential to life, and an adaptive, evolutionary trend that plays out at different systemic levels. The articles then describes 12 design principles for regenerative, healthy, and human-centred networks including connectedness, equity, democracy, diversity, humility or creativity. This inspired me to add similar principles in my prototype network pattern map.*
- [Building Smart Communities through Network Weaving](#), by Valdis Krebs and June Holley (18 pages)
 - *Communities are built on connections. Better connections usually provide better opportunities. This paper investigates building sustainable communities through improving their connectivity – internally and externally – using network ties to create economic opportunities. Improved connectivity is created through an iterative process of knowing the network and knitting the network.*
- [Network Weaving 101: What your network role says about you](#), by John Saunders
 - *Everyone can develop as a network weaver, as the leadership capacities of members grow so does the power of the network. The author describes how network leadership is more inclusive, diverse, and open than in an organisation, they work collaboratively using their strengths and understand they are part of a relationship web. Four distinct roles of network weavers are: connectors, project coordinators, network facilitators, and network guardians, which are outlined together with network functions, and some interesting questions to ask about your network.*
- [Learning to Breathe in the Network Era](#), by Harold Jarche
 - *The networked workplace is a new reality. Interesting perspective on workplace developments and the value of sharing and using knowledge, solving problems together, and working at the complex and chaotic edge. Intriguing graphic on seeking, sensing and sharing knowledge across structured vs open and goal-oriented vs opportunity-driven groups. Finally the article outlines three needed changes for networks: power distribution, transparency – allowing work to move outwards to the edges -, and self-directed learning (personal knowledge mastery).*
- [Intersectionality in Networks and Organisations: Widening the Scope of Inclusions and Diversity](#), by Ammie Kae Brooks

- *I appreciate the engaging, personal touch of starting the article with a real-life story of the author, then analysing larger social and legal-political dynamics. Super helpful, practical tips for weaving more intersectionality informed diversity approaches into networks by: taking a look at data, not streamlining (enforcing homogeneity), being continually open to improve diversity and inclusion policies to empower minorities in your network and create safe spaces, and leading the way (not wait for legislation).*
- [Dismantling Racism is the Place to Start Creating System Shifting Network](#), by June Holley
 - *Worthwhile article with June sharing how we must center dismantling white supremacy culture in our networks in order to become networks that shift the system toward liberation for all people. Honest reflections on her own journey reading about racism and sharing excellent books and resources, as well as a short list of ideas and actions we can all engage with to support this shift.*
- [Transformational Weaving in the New Decade](#), by June Holley
 - *I enjoyed reading this short article because it is thought-provoking, inspires deeper reflection and shows gaps and possibilities in the field. June asks a lot of questions e.g. about healing processes in networks and dismantling hierarchy, patriarchy and racism, encouraging seeking for support and mentoring between network weavers, emphasising the importance of dissemination, networks of networks, and self care.*
- [Tools for System Thinkers: Systems Mapping](#), by Leyla Acaroglu (7 min read)
 - *System thinking requires a shift in our perception of the world. We need to discover the dynamics and interconnectedness of systems at play. This is way system mapping tools are important. The author shares two mapping tools with a clear step-by-step process: a cluster or “brain dump” map to start exploring a complex issue collaboratively and an interconnected circles map to show causal relationships.*
- [Meta-mapping the Ecosystem Building the Next Economy](#), by Jules Peck
 - *Interesting case study of the Real Economy Lab creating and using a kumu ecosystem map of the network, great video walk through the map. Followed by a conversation about the value of system mapping with valuable insights and thinking e.g. democratic control of resources, collective awareness, or collective intelligence.*
- [Supporting Networks with Sociocracy: Combining the Strength of Sociocracy and the Beauty of Networks](#), by Ted J. Rau (11 min read)
 - *Having clarity and common ground in our understanding of collaboration brings more possibility and choice. The author offers an interesting synergy and shows clear benefits for networks to use Sociocracy, a governance system for organisational self-governance. Application examples are distributed authority, consent decision-making, continuous improvement, co-creation of proposals, inclusive meeting format, linking groups, and distinguishing between circles with clear domain and communities of practice, separating feedback from decisions, and participation.*

Organisations, Community of Practices and Resources:

- [Network Weavers](#)
 - *During the twenty-first century, activity will increasingly take place in self-organizing, system shifting networks. This site offers resources and discussion space for those who want to better understand network approaches to transformation and improve their skills in facilitating this transition. This is also the site for the Network Weaver Consultants Network, a loosely affiliated group of consultants who provide a wide range of network services for organizations, networks and communities.*
 - [Resource Page](#)
 - [Blog Articles](#)

- [Greater than the Sum](#) – Social System Mappers
 - *We only become greater than the sum of our parts through networks to foster emergence, support independent action, target your efforts, weave a stronger network, leveraging resources, and increase social impact. Networks are built on connections and better network connectivity starts with a map. Greater than the Sum offers various services around social system mapping, design, and analysis.*
 - [SumApp Software](#)
 - [Knowledge Base and Community](#)
- [Kumu Software](#) – System Mapping
 - *Make sense of your messy world. Kumu makes it easy to organise and visualise complex data into relationship maps that are beautiful and a easy to use. It is one platform with endless possibilities for building all kinds of map based on elements and connections. The art of mapping is to create a context in which others can think. Kumu is easy to get started, yet complex packed with powerful features.*
- [Network Impact](#)
 - *Most people are natural networkers, but it takes real know-how and skills to develop and grow networks that achieve large-scale social impact. Network Impact is accelerating and spreading the use of networks to advance positive change. Working with a variety of real-world networks, we provide consulting, tool-building, and research services to support networks, foundations, and the field of network builders.*
- [Interaction Institute for Social Change](#)
 - *Whole page with resources with network building resources including thought leaders, context information, network-related blogs, network mapping, technology, networks in action, and a list of recommended readings. Plenty of inspiration for doing extensive self-directed research into the field of networks!*
- [System Convening Group](#)
 - *Online communication platform for exchange, sharing, and learning with systems conveners as a leadership discipline for the 21st century. What is your experience of systems convening? What frameworks and tools would be useful for you to develop this leadership? The group is intended to shape an upcoming systems convening book.*
- [Reinventing Organisations Wiki](#)
 - *A wiki to inspire next-generation organisations based on the book Reinventing Organisations. Its purpose is to explain the features and characteristics of teal organisations as a sort of handbook for leaders looking to upgrade specific management practices, and to learn from deep knowledge and practical advice.*
- [Common Grounds Network](#) – Growing Regenerative Cultures
 - *A diverse network of social change leaders collaborating online and in-person to support the growth of regenerative human cultures. They help provide resources, tools, and services including coordination and education- to others who are working to make a positive impact on planet Earth in the 21st Century.*
- [Bloom Network](#) – Find Community, Take Action Together
 - *Bloom is a place-based media company that is co-led by its members with local hubs and a global collaboration network help more people find and adopt regenerative practices. They bring together people working on community gardening, transformative justice, wiser democracy, industry-scale change and more.*
 - [Article “What is Regenerative Culture? Bloom Network's Content Framework”](#) *provides a short definition of regenerative culture and outlines seven key elements: at the center collective wisdom, and around global justice, creative arts, sustainable technology, earth stewardship, peer-to-peer economy, and community health.*