

The what, why, and how of creating a local sustainable food system



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Cultivating Food Connections:

Toward a Healthy
and Sustainable
Food System
for Toronto

May 2010

Toronto Public Health



Priority Areas for Action

1. Support Food Friendly Neighbourhoods
2. Make Food a Centerpiece of Toronto's New Green Economy
3. Eliminate Hunger in Toronto
4. Connect City and Countryside through Food
5. Empower Residents with Food Skills and Information
6. Urge Federal and Provincial Governments to Establish Health-Focused Food Policies

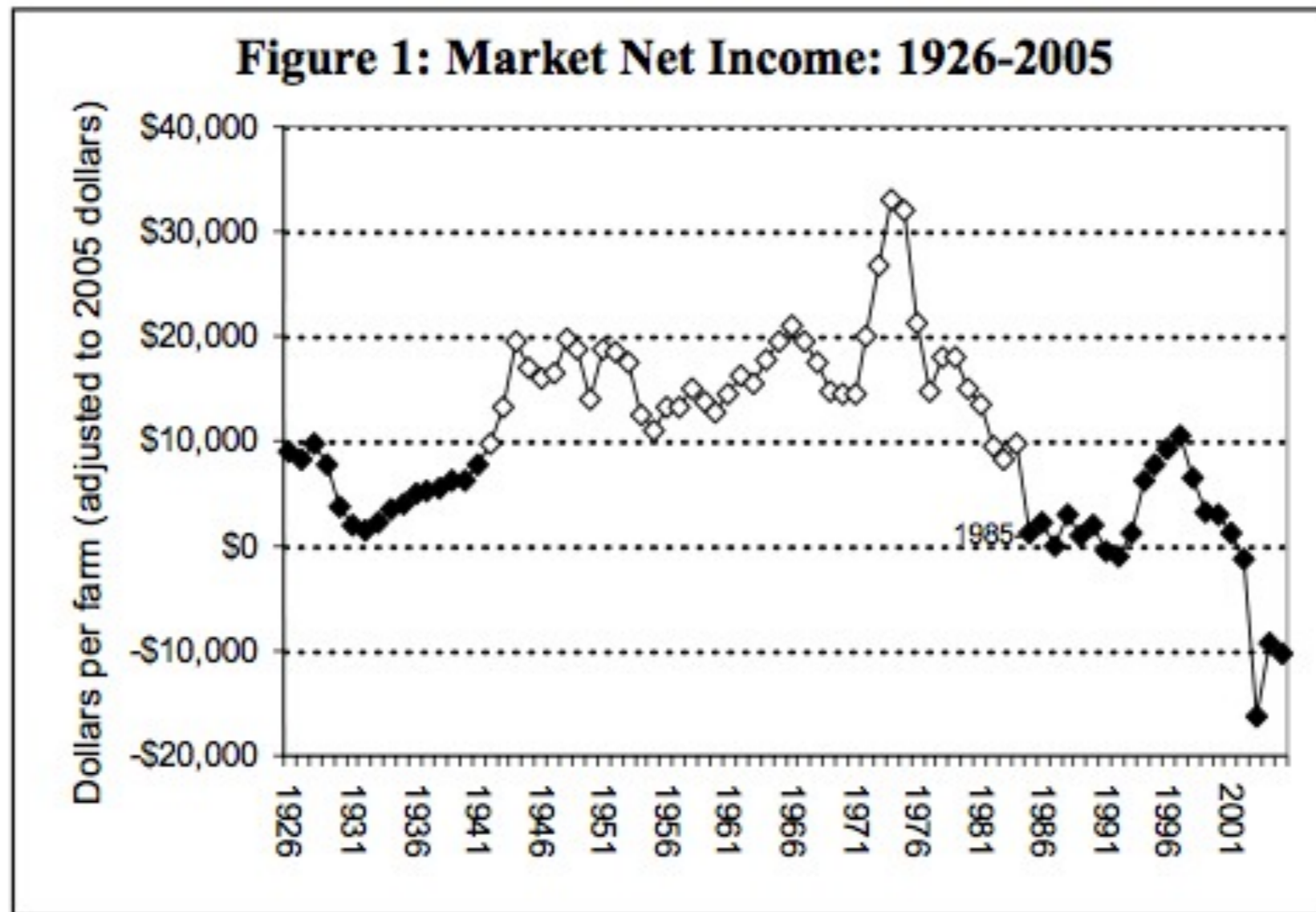
Headwaters Community Well-Being Report

**Small town feel
Protecting headwaters
Rural roots
Community safety
Economy
Poverty
Health and social services
Arts, culture, heritage
Community involvement**

What are local food strategies responding to?

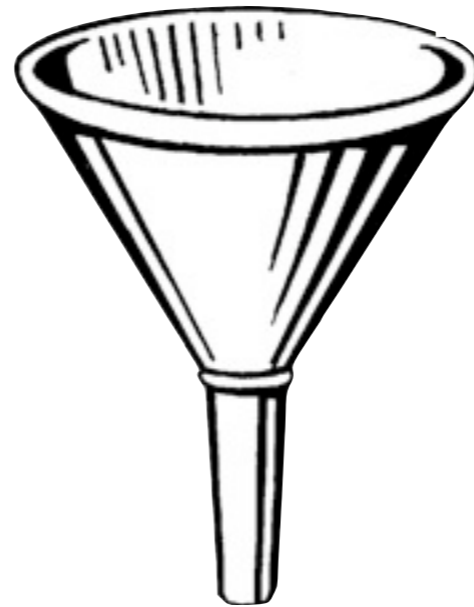
Broken food system
Climate change and variability
Urbanization
Dietary transition

Farmers can't make a living



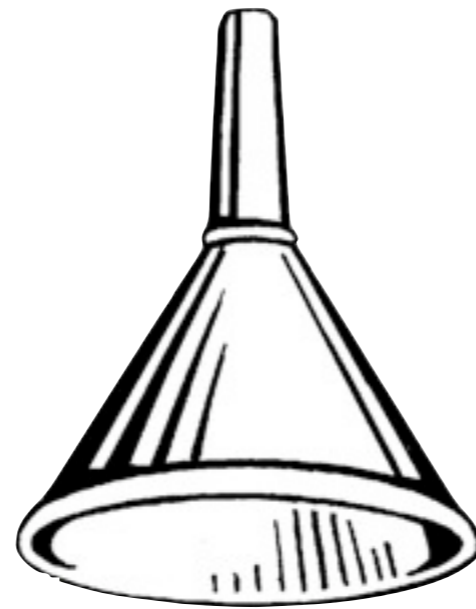
55,000 Farms

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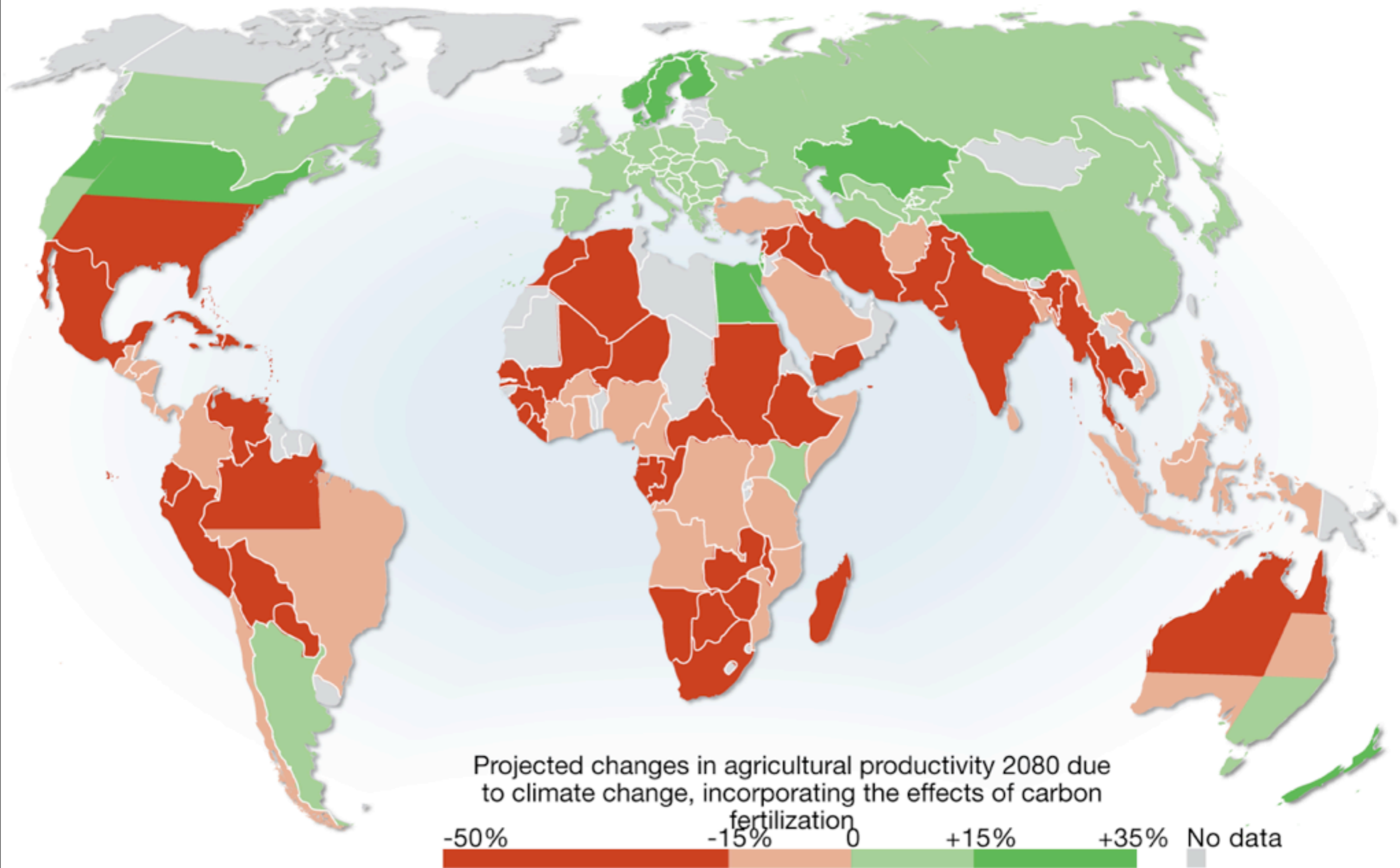


4 Retailers

4 Retailers



33.5 million people



Toronto divided: A tale of 3 cities

The affluent move to the centre, the poor are pushed to the edges and the middle class slowly fade from view

JOHN BARBER

20 December 2007. The Globe and Mail, page 1, 15

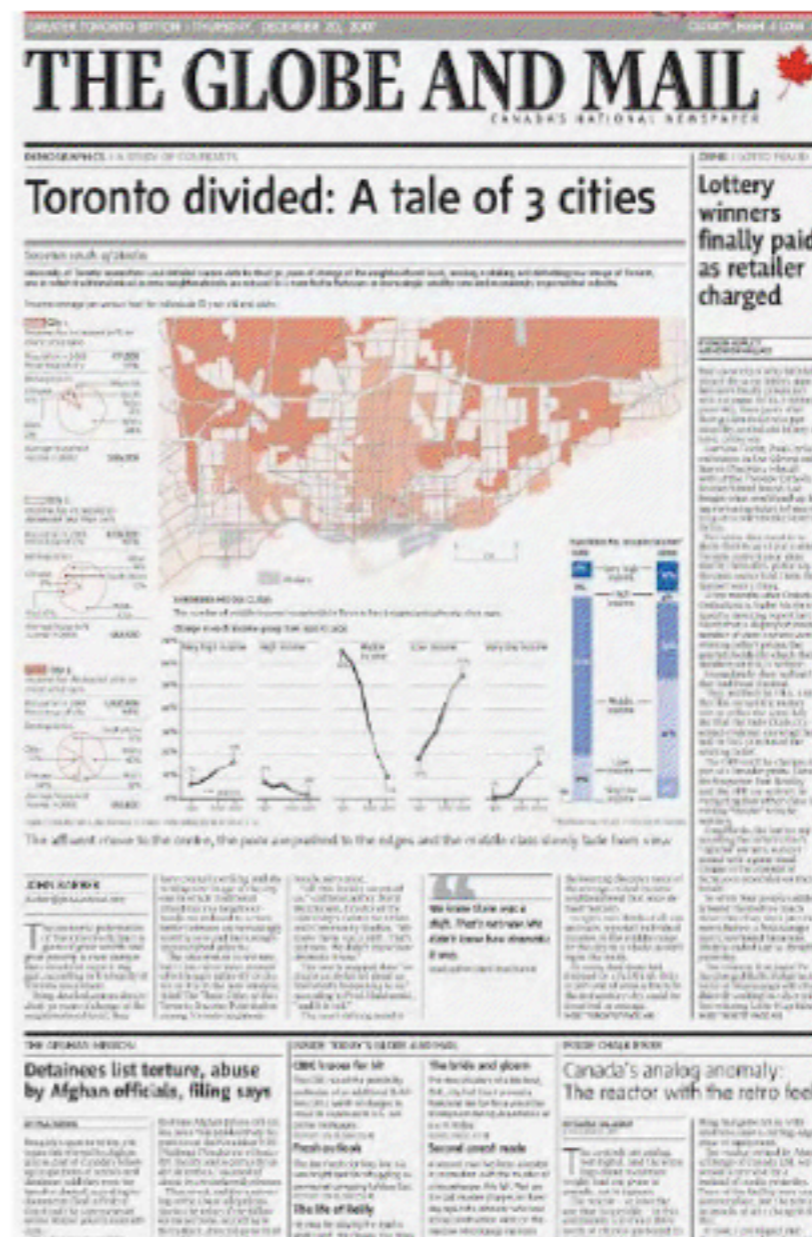
The economic polarization of Toronto into distinct regions of great wealth and great poverty is even sharper than anecdotal reports suggest, according to University of Toronto researchers.

Using detailed census data to chart 30 years of change at the neighbourhood level, they have created a striking and disturbing new image of the city, one in which traditional mixed-income neighbourhoods are reduced to a mere buffer between an increasingly wealthy core and increasingly impoverished suburbs.

The observation is not new, but it has never been presented with such authority or drama as it is in the new analysis, titled *The Three Cities within Toronto: Income Polarization among Toronto neighbourhoods, 1970-2000*.

"All this frankly surprised us," said lead author David Hulchanski, director of the university's Centre for Urban and Community Studies. "We knew there was a shift. That's not new. We didn't know how dramatic it was."

The newly mapped data "explains an awful lot about us and what's happening to us," according to Prof. Hulchanski, "and it is sad."

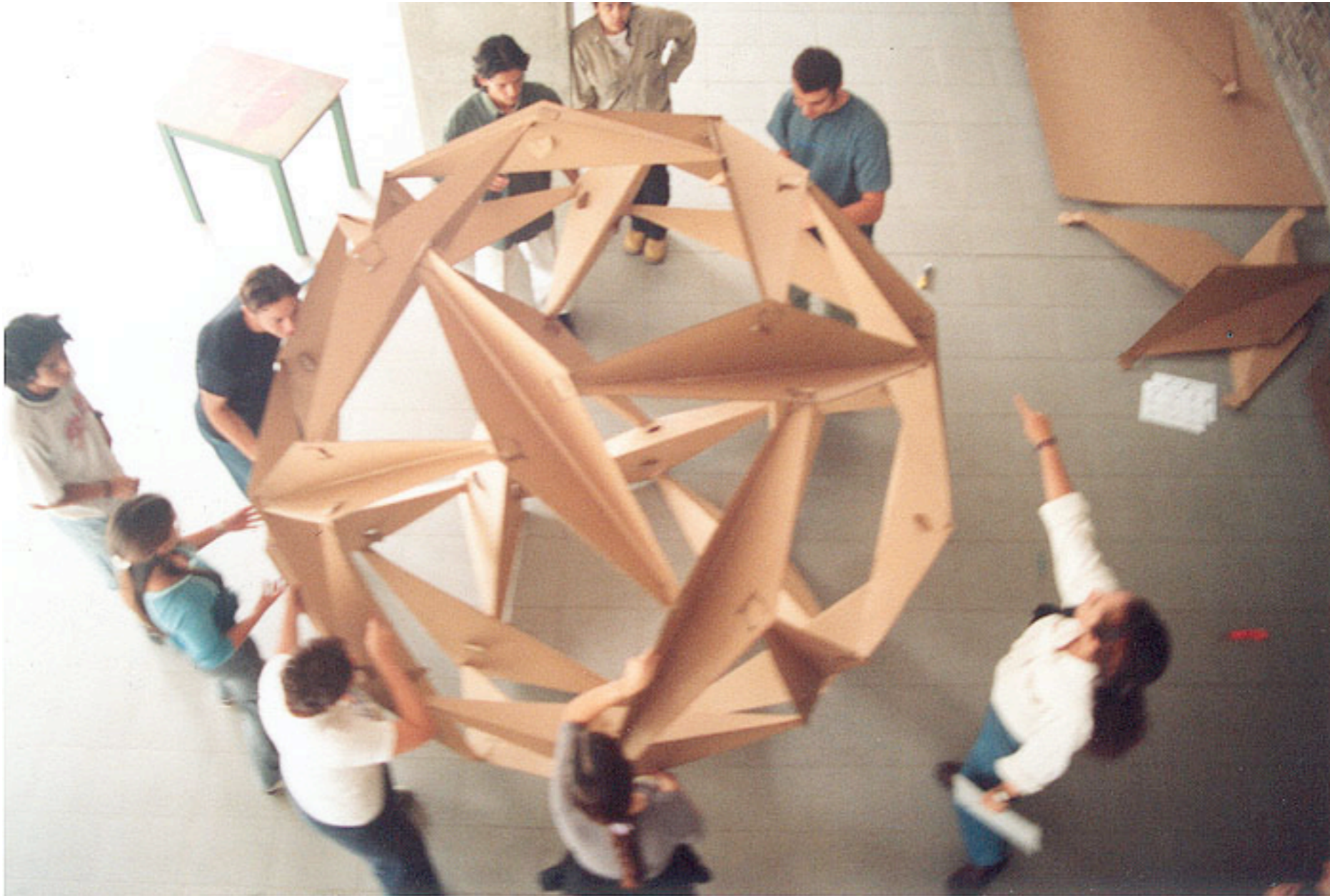




**Hard to make
good food choices**

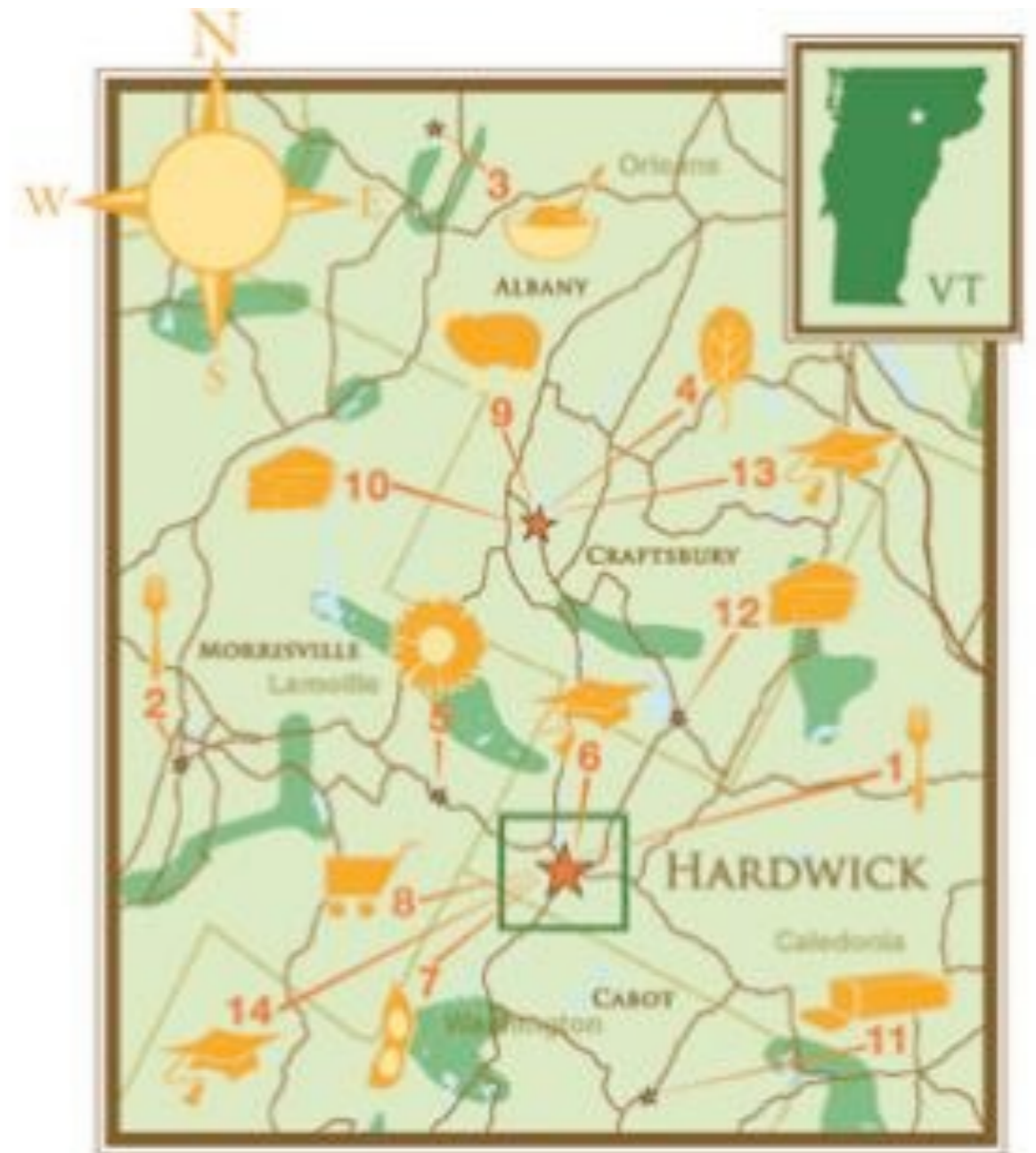
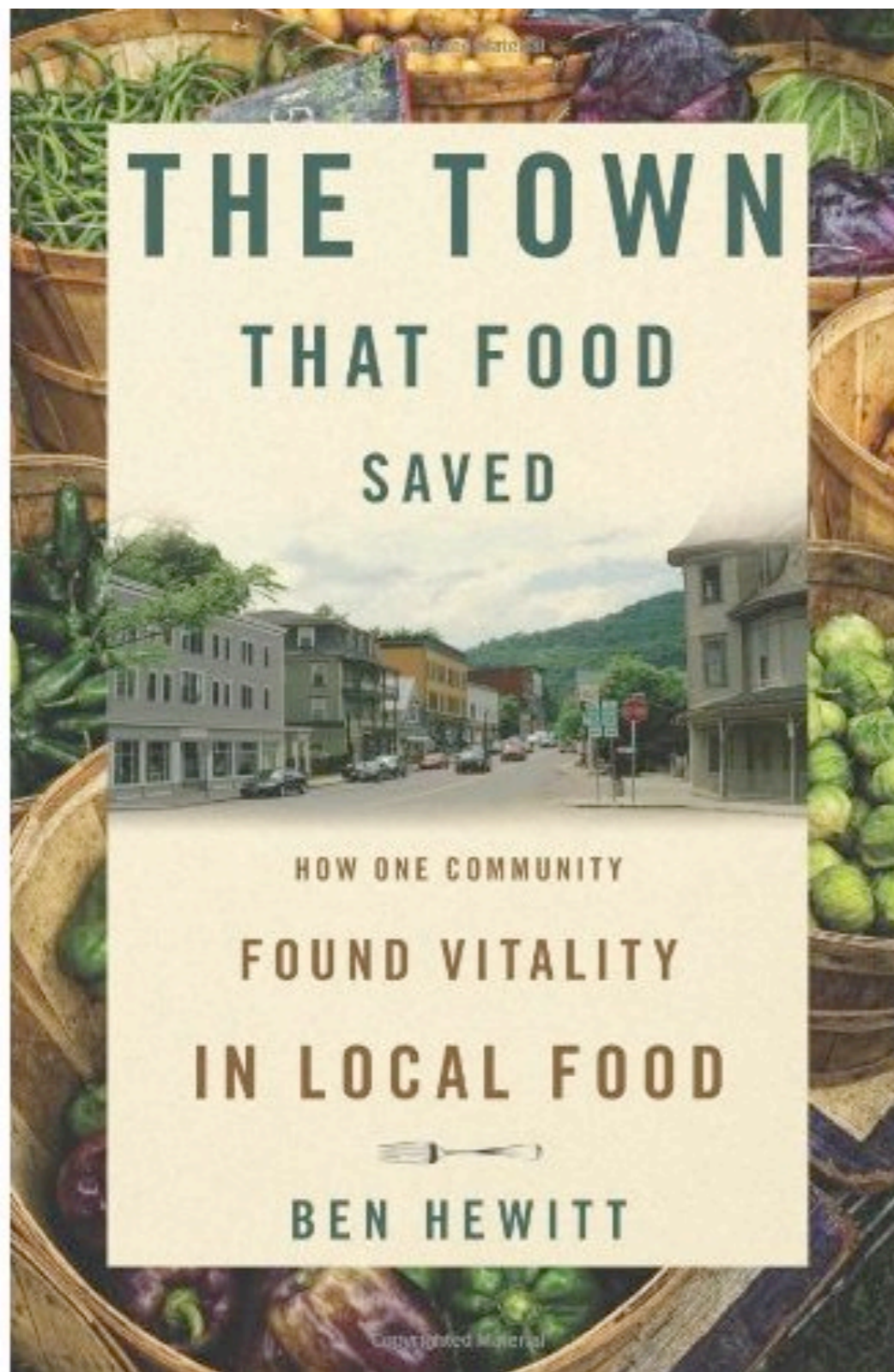


Synergy



Work together to catalyze regional food synergies.







Next steps

Food system assessment

Create a platform for action

Start working on something together

What can food do for your region?

