

The Frontier of BUDDHIST ECONOMICS
Research and Education:
What's Next

Clair Brown, Prof of Economics, UC Berkeley

Positive Outlook

- Many approaches (spiritual life, economic system, government policy, business models) with one primary goal:

**Create meaningful lives for all people
in a sustainable world,
now and in the future.**

- Buddhist Economics is making valuable contributions.

Challenges

- Global climate emergency does not allow much time to make required cultural and political changes.
- Buddhist Economics often dismissed by media and many researchers as fringe “religious” field of study.

We need Buddhist Economics in action.

- **Current Paris 2015 pledges** will cause temperatures to **rise 2.9C by 2100.**
- **Political forces** led by fossil fuel industry and greed push fossil fuel energy, and resist change.
 - **Economics:** We have the knowledge and resources to create a low-carbon, equitable economy.

Solution: a holistic approach that incorporates Buddhist values.

How to make Buddhist Economics more relevant to a broader audience?

Ask: What makes life meaningful?

Show: What creates well-being, for people and the planet?

Engage: Outreach to many groups---
spiritual, business, environmental and political.

Emphasize shared values of ethical living and compassion, interdependence of people and the planet, impermanence.

Studies in Buddhist Economics, Management, and Policy

New Series by Palgrave-MacMillan, Clair Brown & Laszlo Zsolnai, editors

- Ernest Ng, *Introduction to Buddhist Economics: The Relevance of Buddhist Values in Contemporary Economy and Society*
- Gábor Kovács , *The Value Orientations of Buddhist and Christian Entrepreneurs*



BUDDHIST ECONOMICS

"Creating an Equitable, Sustainable Future"

CLAIR BROWN, University of California, Berkeley