**Message from International Network on Appropriate Technology (INAT) President**

**We are in a State of Emergency**

This morning I woke up to news of further destruction and loss of life in Gaza. Thousands of children and thousands more women have been killed as the direct result of the Israeli bombing of Gaza. There is no act on the part of any Palestinians that justifies this scale of death and destruction. It is made possible because of the development, deployment and use of the most advanced warfare technology. In INAT, we deplore the extensive financial and human resources devoted to military technology. The runaway escalation of military technology development is responsible for the scale of human destruction we see in Palestine. On 29 October “Philippe Lazzarini, the commissioner-general for the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), said that almost 70% of Palestinians killed in the Gaza Strip during the past three weeks were children and women.” (source https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/10/31/gaza-has-become-a-graveyard-for-thousands-of-children-un)

This senseless loss of life is made possible in part through the $3 billion/year donation from the USA to Israel for military technology. This money should be used to save our planet.

**The Arctic is melting**

“The Arctic’s climate is warming at least four times faster than the global average, causing irrevocable changes to this vast [landscape](https://news.sky.com/story/dramatic-changes-to-polar-ice-caps-revealed-on-new-map-of-arctic-and-antarctica-12898550) and precarious [ecosystem](https://www.nwf.org/Educational-Resources/Wildlife-Guide/Wild-Places/Arctic#:%7E:text=The%20Arctic%20is%20a%20unique,in%20the%20summer%20to%20breed.) – from the anticipated [extinction of polar bears](https://earth.org/polar-bears-to-become-extinct-by-2100/) to the [appearance of killer whales](https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/as-arctic-sea-ice-melts-killer-whales-are-moving-in/#:%7E:text=Killer%20whales%20often%20feed%20on,navigate%20through%20the%20icy%20waters.) in ever-greater numbers. A new [study](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-023-38511-8) suggests the Arctic Ocean could be ice-free in summer [as soon as the 2030s](https://theconversation.com/arctic-ocean-could-be-ice-free-in-summer-by-2030s-say-scientists-this-would-have-global-damaging-and-dangerous-consequences-206974) – around a decade earlier than previously predicted. … Most of all, the Arctic matters because it is the fastest-warming part of the planet, and its microbes are responding first. What happens there carries implications for everyone. It is the harbinger of change for everywhere.” (source https://theconversation.com/the-melting-arctic-is-a-crime-scene-the-microbes-i-study-have-long-warned-us-of-this-catastrophe-but-they-are-also-driving-it-207785)

**The Antarctic is melting**

“The West Antarctic ice shelf is the part of Antarctica that is melting most rapidly in response to climate change. It contains enough water to raise global sea levels by about 10 feet. … when the authors used a computer to simulate what would happen if humans immediately slashed greenhouse gas emissions, they found it would have basically no effect on the rate of melting in West Antarctica for the rest of the century. … Disappearing ice in West Antarctica [disproportionately drives sea level rise](https://apps.npr.org/arctic-ice-melting-climate-change/texas-galveston-sea-level-rise.html) on the East and Gulf Coasts of the United States, because of ocean currents and other ocean and ice dynamics.” (source https://www.npr.org/2023/10/27/1207159544/antarctica-is-melting-and-we-all-need-to-adapt-a-trio-of-climate-analyses-show)

These two seemingly unrelated events have serious implications for the future of humanity. The first is on the front pages of most newspapers and the headlines of TV and radio. The second is relegated to science journals and an occasional news editorial. Both are processes that suffer the inertia of a society grounded in a conquest mentality that can only lead to destruction. We must work together to uplift humanity. Our role in INAT is to promote appropriate technology. This is technology that empowers community, addresses basic needs and assures the environmental integrity of our planet.

**To all members, social media visitors, and friends of INAT, please reach out and work with our International Network.** INAT is truly global and need activists that share our love for community to join us in our effort to empower communities through developing and sharing appropriate technologies. Visit our website -> [www.appropriatetech.net](http://www.appropriatetech.net)

**Membership is free, Join at: https://form.jotform.com/202622911839052**