



Open localisation

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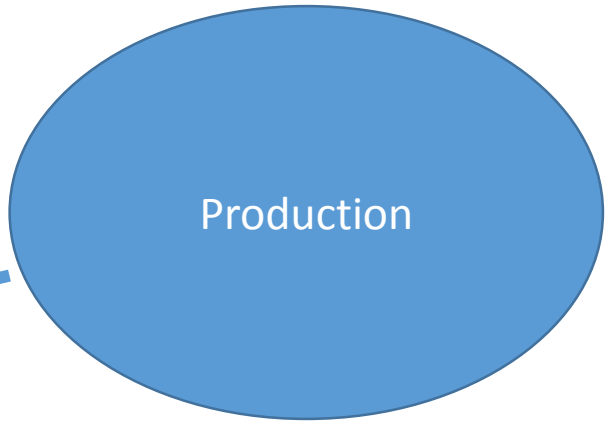
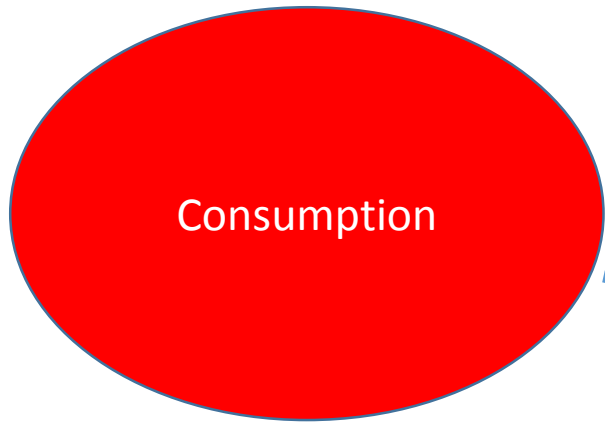
Small is beautiful

A photograph of a man in a dark blue polo shirt reaching up to touch a branch of a large, leafy tree. The tree is heavily laden with fruit, some of which are red and some are yellow. Numerous white labels are attached to the branches, indicating a research or experimental orchard. The background is a clear sky.

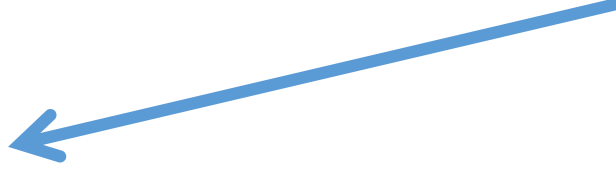
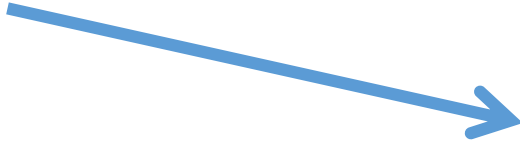
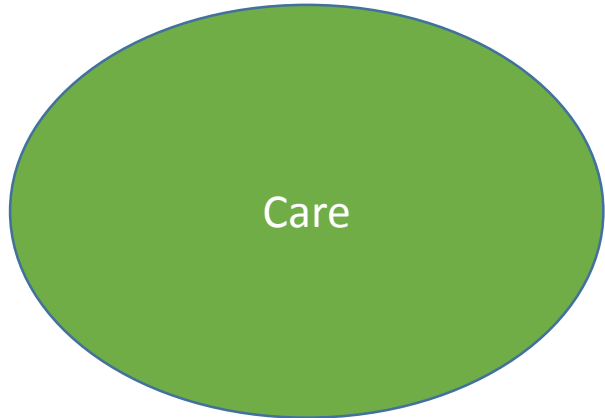
LOCALISATION

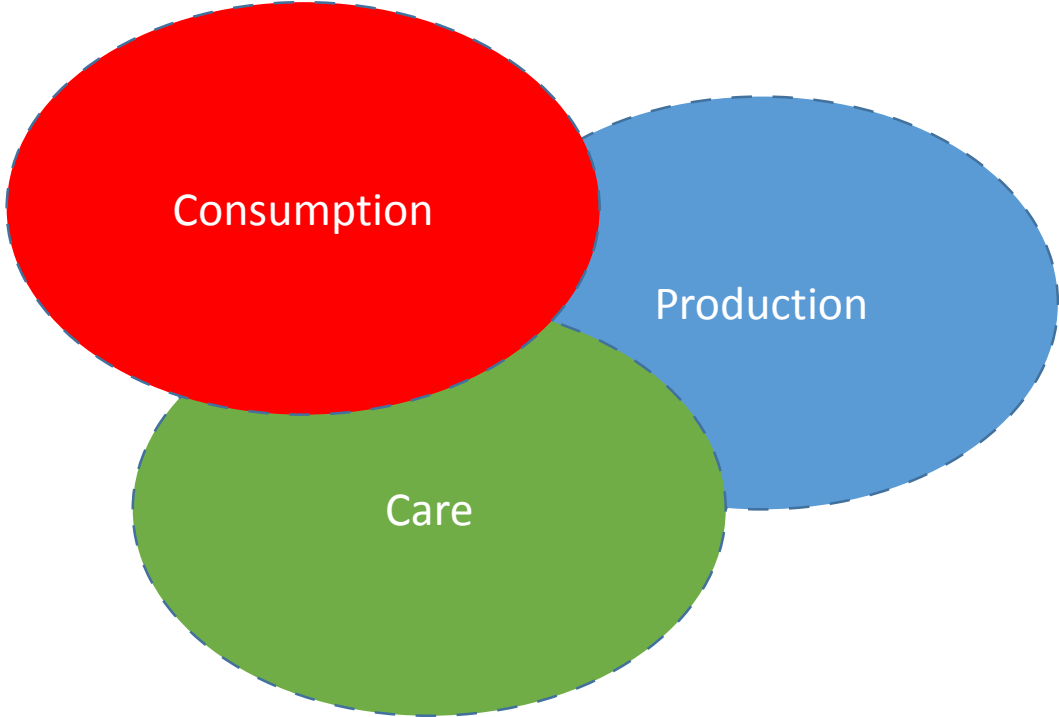
Being connected with our direct environment
with all our senses

Simple systems are transparent

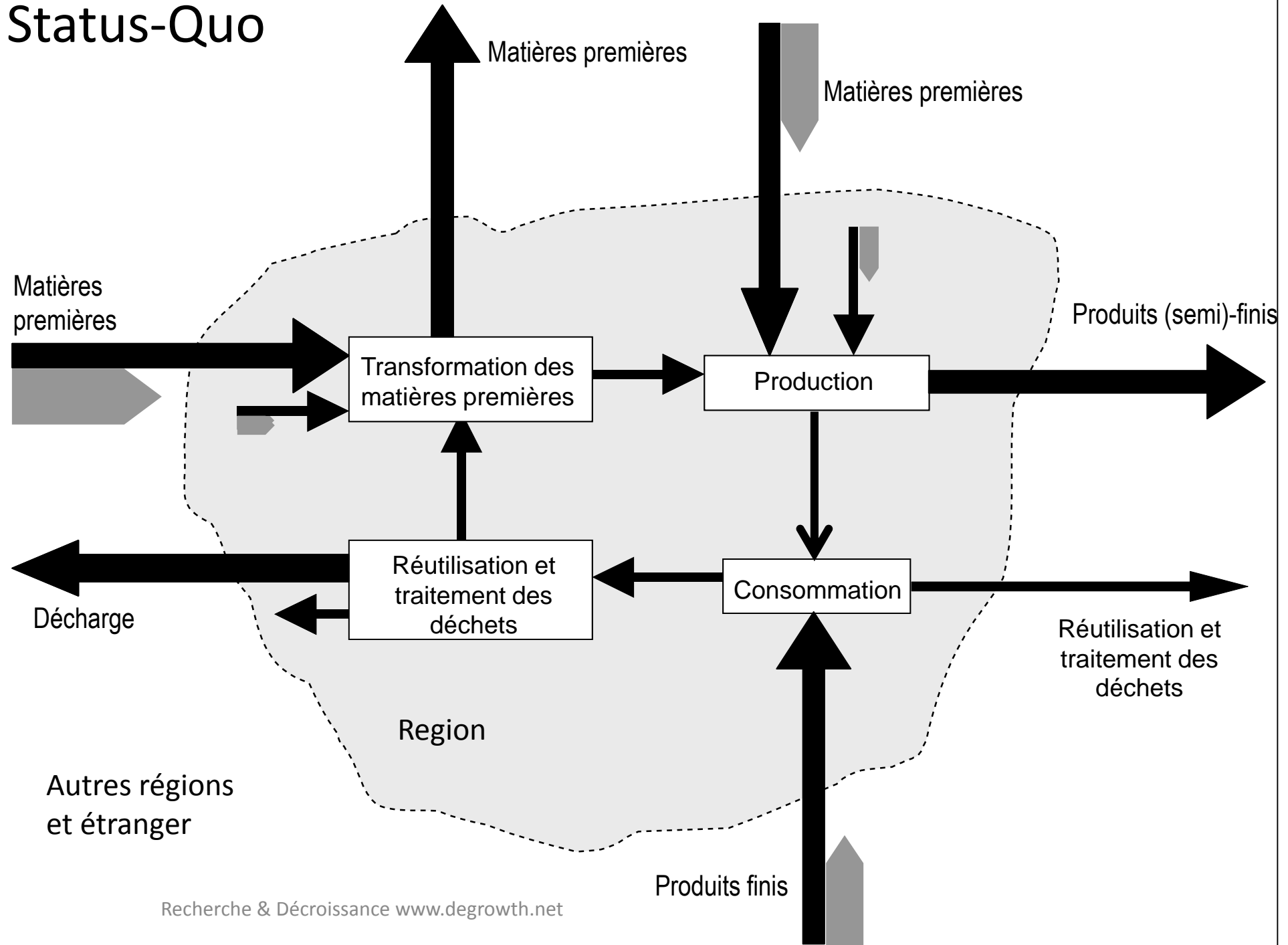


LOCALISATION
Reducing distances

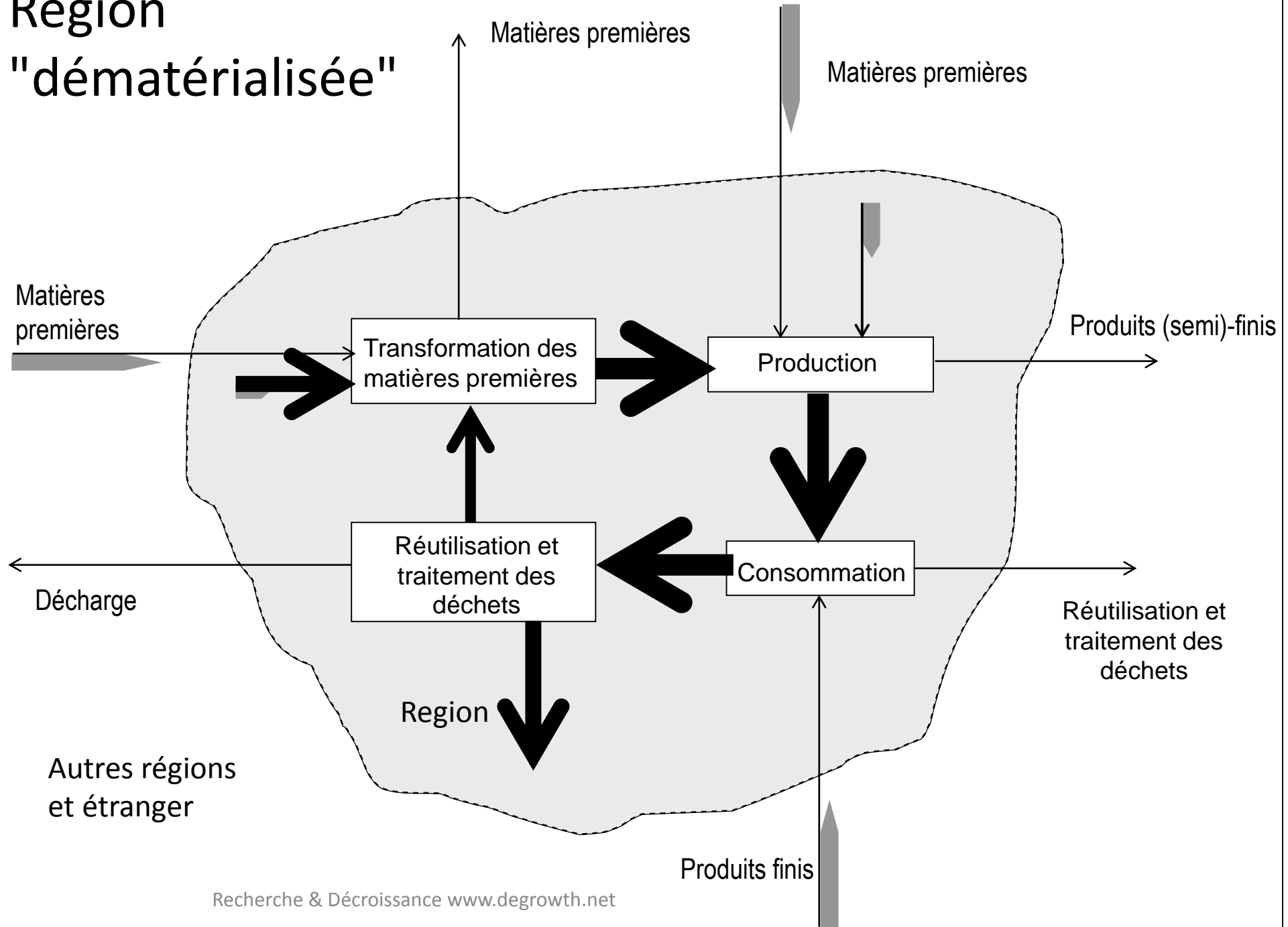




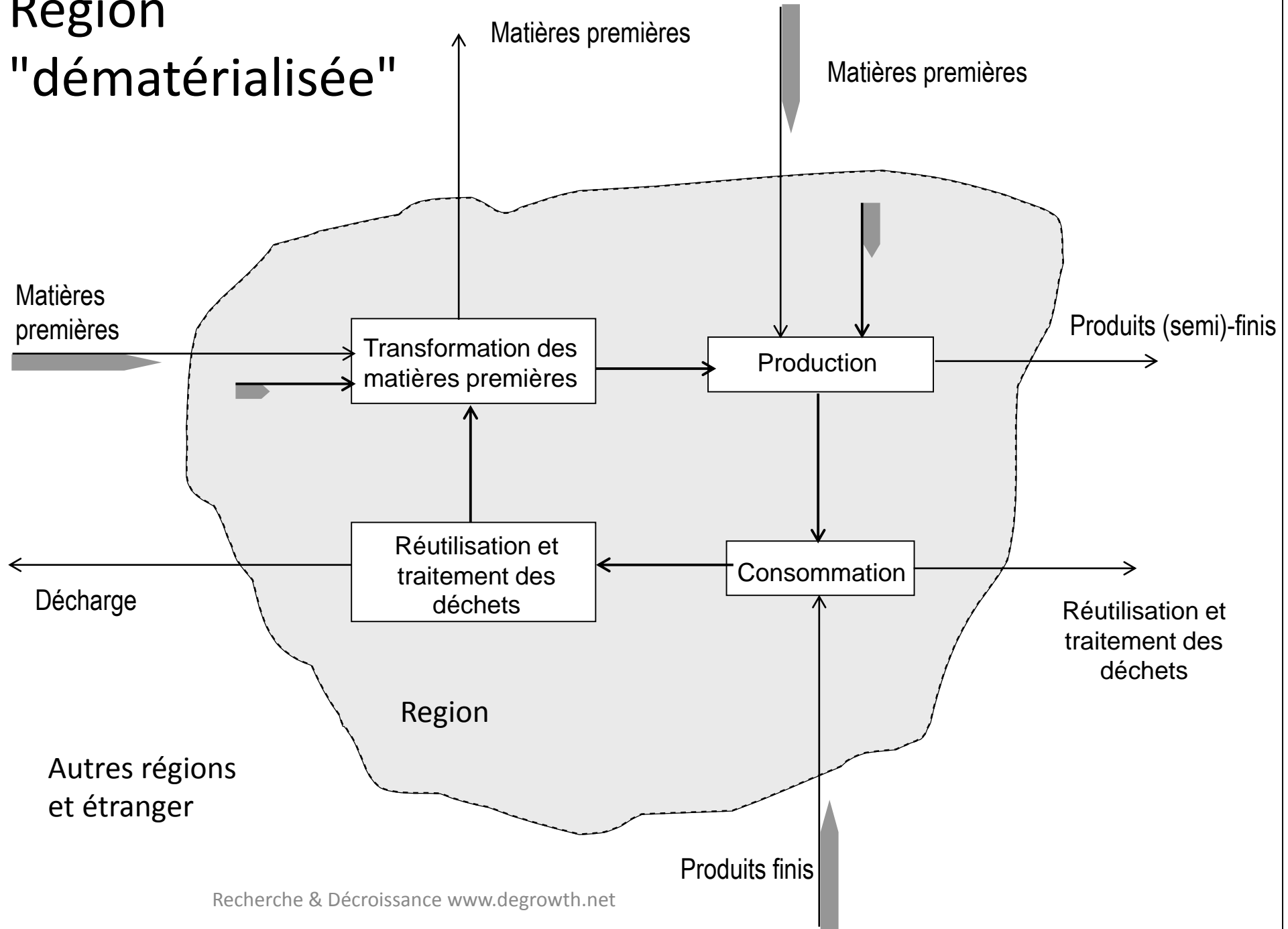
Status-Quo



Région "dématérialisée"



Région "dématérialisée"



Great potential to create communities

Continuous redefinition of what is the local

First danger facing us

- A cultural homogenisation of society - through globalisation – the market economy and the virtualisation of exchanges (without direct contact) are able to expand to the entire world and to all corners of society destroying the connection to our surroundings with all our senses.

In present times consumer lifestyles that destroy condition of survival of poors are simultaneously promoted and made inaccessible. As this occurs in a context of limited resources, this leads to enormous inequalities in the world.

Second danger facing us

- The society is closing itself, becoming more fragmented and unequal. Closure comes with the rise of xenophobia and anti-immigration sentiments, with strengthening of border controls and demarcations, with gated communities and technological devices to select who may come in a certain perimeter etc.



Definition of closure

Processes of drawing boundaries, constructing identities, and building communities in order to monopolize scarce resources for one's own group, thereby excluding others from using them.

No-state borders ?

- *Capitalist liberals* are against closure at state border levels, but they have no problem with closure at the level of private properties: borders are overall replaced by walls (privatization, gates, surveillance cameras, etc.).
- The idea of opening of borders of the liberals create privatization and walls everywhere

State and regional borders

- Closure creates vulnerability and insecurity for servile migrant workers.
- Growth is only possible for a group of privileged in their rich citadel. The situation will create always more conflicts, as closure keeps the frustration that fuels desire for more, as excluded ones would want to imitate the rich ones in their rich citadel.

Problems linked to closure

- Discrimination: people that do not have certain official papers are not allowed entry, it is in contradiction with the idea of equality
- It support wealth inequalities, as it is often about refusing the entry to those less wealthy
- It is in contradiction with the idea of liberty of movement
- It is not democratic: so-called democracies sometimes elect on the idea of expelling or refusing the entry of people affected by the general policies of these “democracies”.
- Conservatism, difficulty to evolve, loss of incentives/motivation for transformation

Degrowth is a space of dialog where different ideals – democracy, justice, ecology, bioeconomy, conviviality, good life – meet each other in order to constitute a sort of open, practical and theoretical nowtopia.

Combining the concerns around degrowth

Degrowth without justice could be about closure

Open-localisation

- Open-localisation has been mentioned several times in the degrowth movement.
- It is a localisation distancing from closure, with an openness that is not about any top-down universalism, especially it is not about generalizing the reign of individual profit, but neither the vision of a world made of cultural clusters.

Reducing pressure on resources

- Open-localisation involves degrowth of consumption (and production), which involves reduction of the pressure on resources and sinks. That means having a level of consumption that would make cooperation possible: that it is at least possible not to have losers: local and global commons become more easily managed as competition for resources would reduce.



There are too many people

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Reduction of inequalities

- It has to come along a strong reduction of inequalities, so that the frustration and promotion of consumers' lifestyles that drives desperate emigration is reduced.

Small, shared, reversible and forbidden



Large, individual, non-reversible and allowed



Openness that is not about any top-down
universalism

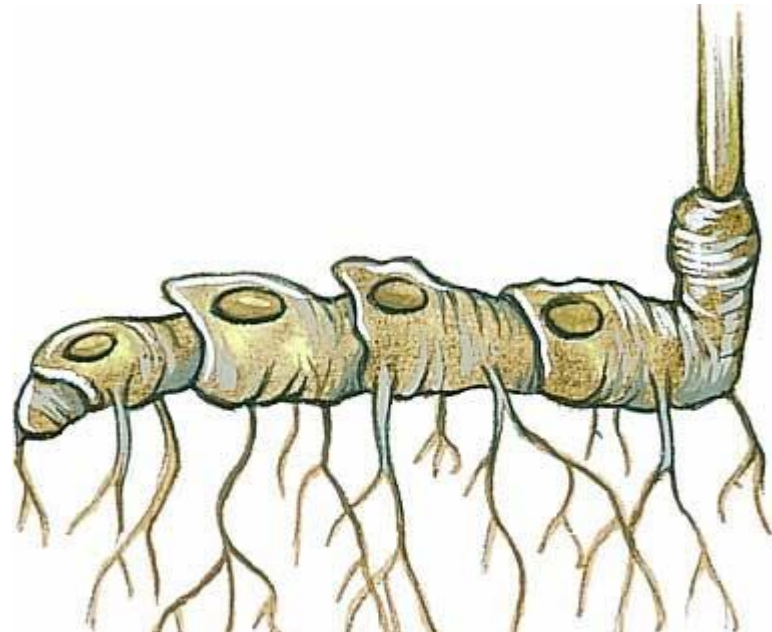
Success is not linked to more consumption or more money

- The propensity to show-off with consumption markers generates economic wars.

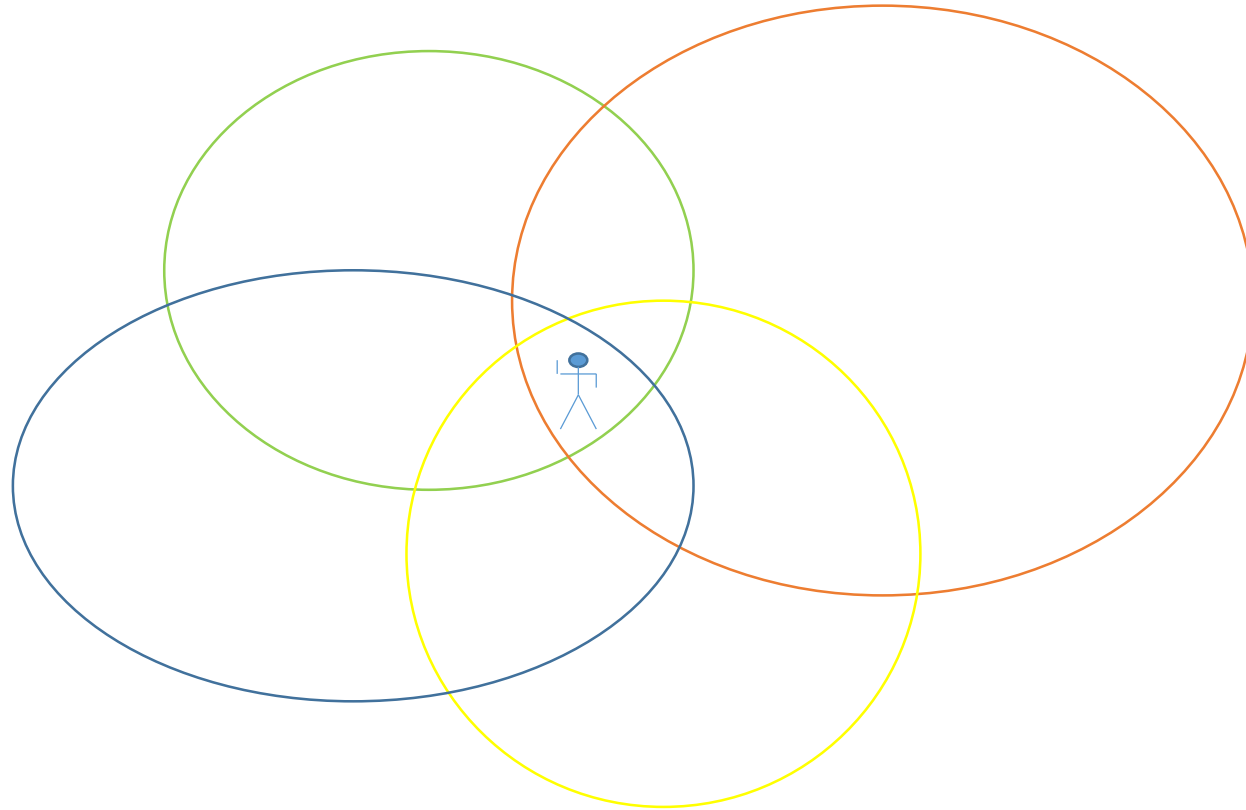
Localisation taking distance from closure.

- With open localisation closure is challenged at individual (e.g. closed properties), regional, local, (closed commons), national scales (closed borders) in favour of an inter-scale (i.e. inter-levels), and inter-dimensional dialogue and action. Localisation is then not about defining an inside and an outside, but about avoiding frustration and social comparison with dramatic consequences.

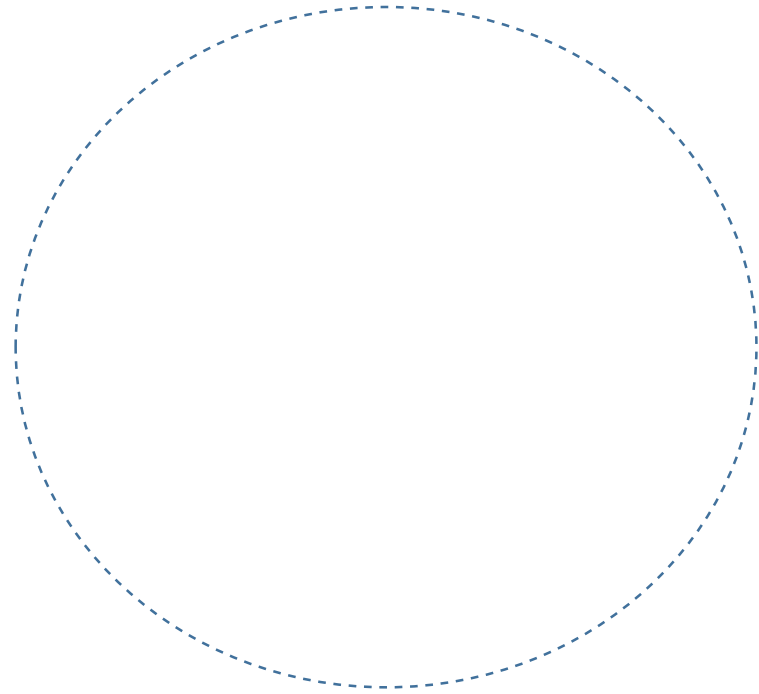
- It then challenges the identity based on national, regional or local pride (which generates ethnic wars). In open-localisation, identity is negotiable. It is based on dialogue: a rhizome/relational identity. It involves belonging to different open-communities with different focusses and at different scales, the so-called communities of project.



Individuals can be part of different communities



Communities can be open



- This makes self-institution possible so that different approaches become compatible: institutions are developed by dialogue that transcend social closures. It involves a rationality based on dialogue without given initial consensus (no false consensus): consensus is developed by a deliberative constructive process.

- Open-localisation results in the idea of a cosmopolitanism with sensibility & attachment to the proximity: against over-specialisation, against exclusion.
- Places of production and places of utilisation become closer to one another. This is for instance obtained by fighting large-scale and fast transport infrastructures. Free and slow travel for people (without discrimination), and hospitality then emerge as important counterparts of open-localisation.





DIVERSAL - PLURIVERSAL

- Open localisation is about no-borders as one degrowth proposal among many. It is not a “silver bullet” but a complementing proposal. However instead of top-down universalism or closure it involves the idea of diversel (or pluri-versality): an universalism discussed from the bottom, “non-conquering” where nobody can decide for others on earth and generalize solutions for all.

Defining limits, not building walls or new borders

- The process of defining limits is a key process to build a community

Deliberate globally, feel locally?

- So instead of the “think globally, act locally”, open-localism is about inter-scales and interdimensional dialogue and action. What would be the slogan?