



FIGURE 1. The four ecosystem functions and the flow of events between them. The arrows show the speed of that flow in the ecosystem cycle, where arrows close to each other indicate a rapidly changing situation and arrows far from each other indicate a slowly changing situation. The cycle reflects changes in two attributes, i.e. (1) The Y axis: the amount of accumulated capital (nutrients, carbon) stored in variables that are the dominant keystone variables at the moment and (2) The X axis: degree of connectedness among variables. The exit from the cycle indicated at the left of the figure indicates the stage where a flip is most likely into a less or more productive and organized system, i.e. devolution or evolution as revolution!