Erasmus INTENSIVE PROGRAM
"Permaculture Design Course – The City of the Future"
Future search Workshop

In a **Future Search Workshop** the participants will be confronted with questions regarding visionary problems. The efforts of a "learning community" facilitate the creation of a common vision regarding a theme, which should finally lead to a harmonisation of the different demands concerning the city of the future. The Future Search Workshop is very clearly structured. (see: program Future Search) This structured course of action will systematically create an excellent basis for dialogue, will further the emotional understanding between the participants of the meeting and will enable all interest groups concerned, to understand their common situation better and to accept the responsibility for it. The aim is to reach a common vision and to elaborate proposals for its implementation.

The schedule of the Future Search Workshop comprises six phases
        PHASE 0 – Introduction
        PHASE 1 – Searching for common ground
        PHASE 2 – Desirable trends
            We don't talk about PHASE 3 – prouds and sorries – because of the time limit
        PHASE 4 – Future scenarios, visionary phase
        PHASE 5 – Formulation strategies, common ground
        PHASE 6 – Plans for action, time schedule

In the last phase, measures will be planned and a work and time schedule will be developed, referring to the topics which will be elaborated by groups of students within the project week (Sept. 9th - 12th 2013)

PHASE 0
INTRODUCTION PRESENTATION

Purpose: Become acquainted with the participants in various groups, where they come from; countries, cities, Institutions, languages, co-operations …..Dissimilarities and common ground

(2.1) **Part 1 Where do we come from ?**

Method: Tell the people about your country

(2.2) **Part 2 What are we doing ?**

Method: Tell the people about your university, or institution, etc.

(2.3) **Teil 3 What projects are you working on ?**

Method: Tell the people about your projects, or duties

PHASE 1
SEARCHING FOR COMMON GROUND

Purpose:

Sharing information about the project "The City of the Future" and discussion about prepared papers and case studies (Ecology, architecture and spatial planning, solidarity economy, culture and identity) in relation to Neusiedl am See. This method of starting shows the participants that their ideas will be registered without discrimination based on status or affiliation.

Part 1 (5.1) Our personal relationship to the topic
Working in mixed groups
Method

- Tell the people in your group about your projects and what you read about various topics (regional concept, agriculture, energy systems, urban gardens, EU policy etc.)
- Using brainstorming the group suspends judgement and evaluation.
- We emphasize spontaneous sharing of mutual perceptions rather than spontaneous appraisal of other ideas.
- All inputs are recorded on flipcharts and hung on the walls.

PHASE 2 / A
EXTERNAL TRENDS

Purpose:

The desirable trends are those they want to support from a policy standpoint. The probable trends are those they consider likely to extend into the future weather they are desired or not.
Using brainstorming, the group suspends judgement and evaluation and allows for conflicting observations to be expressed. This scanning of the environment sets the tone for the conference.

- What are the social, ecological, cultural and economic driving forces – market conditions, price of energy etc.?
- What are the pressures (urban expansion, soil sealing, deforestation, emissions, etc.) and impacts (climate change), which are causing soil degradation, erosion, contamination etc.) ?
- What kind of positive trends do you recognize?
- Which external trends may have consequences to your work?

Within group work try to develop future trends and challenges. Try to gather within your group most important external trends of your environment in relation to economic, cultural, ecological and social problems. Additional we will set up a **mind map**.

(6.1) Part 1 Which external trends and problems may have consequences to your work ?

Working in _homogeneous groups_ (Institutions, working groups). Take a short glance to your publications and/or subjects relating to soil.

Method

- Just tell the group, what was important in relation to your paper and your work.

- Identify five or six major <u>trends</u> that are shown by the work you have already done.
- All inputs are recorded on <u>flip charts</u> and hung on the walls.
- This simple technology assists in the symbolic representation of the shared world of the participants. They can see that their perception is legitimately a part of the whole group.

(6.2) **Part 2 Elaborating a mind map**

Gathering external trends which are important for you. Elaborating a **MIND-MAP** in the plenum.

Method

Try to find some catchwords in relation to your personal environment about ecological, economic, social and technical trends

Make some notes …

We will put up a <u>mind map</u> in the plenum about trends

Rules of the game

1. Brainstorming. The purpose is to generate as many ideas as possible. Don´t reject proposals or critisize.
2. Who nominates a trend, may decide where to put it on the mind map. Members have an equal chance to express their views.
3. Try to bring up examples.

PHASE 2 / B
DESIRABLE TRENDS

Purpose:

The group then moves to sort these trends into desirable and probable **categories.** This phase is characterized by more detailed knowledge and would correspond to define the operating environment of the system.

(6.3) **Part 3** Plenum - Selection of trends - diagnosis

Method

- Try to <u>select five trends</u> out of your mind map, which are most important for you
- Indicate these trends with a <u>sticking point</u>
- the small group present their scenarios to the large group and common themes are combined into the total group´s most desirable and most probable future scenarios.

(6.4) **Part 4** Responses for desirable trends

Homogeneous group work
Choose a moderator and reporter for elaborating new categories

Method

1. Make some notes on a flip chart about three or four trends (it could be also a mind map) which are most important within your group

2. Write down on your flip chart, what are you doing already today in relation to these trends

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3. Additionally take a note on the flip chart, what you will do in the future in relation to these trends (and most of all what you don´t do yet today)

- **Reporter:** prepare a 5-minute summary report for the following <u>plenary and discussion session</u>

    Results of present issues: for instance green corridors, using public transportation,

    What you will do in the future: For instance – improving environmental education, elaborating participation processes.

PHASE 4
FUTURE SCENARIOS

Purpose:

Identify desired / preferred future scenarios: Consider the newspaper article you want to read about this topic ´the city of the future´ in 10 years. Don´t do problem solving at this point. Create your own ideas.

This phase explicitly calls for creativity and innovation. The future of the system can now be designed using ideal characteristics that reflect the participants values.

Method

In mixed groups identify desired/preferred scenarios for the year 2030, 2040. Consider the newspaper article you want to read about in ten years. What does it say, what is doing worthy of note. It is your desired future. Don´t do problem solving at this point.

1. Make a list on a flip chart about all achievements you made since 1999. Take your time and be sure you don´t miss any important thing which is valuable for you. Elaborate concrete examples about your personal accessible future.

2. Make a list about all your surmounted obstacles, and also all useful chances.

3. Discover a creative <u>production</u> of your vision. Think about, your vision could be already realised. Examples: TV production, press conference, collage, painting,

(8.) Scenarios about an ideal future
<u>Mixed groups</u>
Reporting is the whole group. Your presentation 8 minutes max.

Additional instruction:

This phase is not directed toward concrete strategies or solutions, although they might be suggested during brainstorming. On the contrary, we suggest people devise curative, unconventional and surprising conceptions of what the system ought to be. This kind of activity is best performed in small groups. When a small group generates enough design characteristics they switch their work with another group.

PHASE 5
FORMULATION STRATEGIES

Purpose:

> The formulation of strategies follow the same mode as the previous phase. Four small groups generate the means by which the idealized future can be attained and develop a list of strategies that the group endorses. A copy of the idealized future document is supplied to each work group so that the targeted future is the same negotiated future they can strive for.

(9) Part 1 – Formulation of strategies and measures

Method

- Elaborate goals and objectives about an idealized future
  What we want to achieve.
- Find some examples for realizing your ideas
  How we want to achieve.

Purpose:

> Mixed group. The common goal is a vision, based on the hopes and finally specifying measures what can be done on different problems with priorities on short and long time actions. The ´stakeholders´ from the region should provide local basic knowledge for responsible land use and arranging arguments for measures in regional development to support the idea of a ´learning region´ and visions for the future.

Ideas to realize:

> In the city of the future, it will be a matter, first and foremost, of satisfying the needs of people for a high quality of life with concurrent sustainable development. That means a residential area or an urban region, which, with the use of intelligent green technologies, will become a "zero emission city" or "sustainable urban region" where the people will live sustainably.

(10) Part 2 – Presentation and discussion - Group reports

Choose a reporter and two group members for elaborating a list of common ground.

Method

> 1.. Elaborate a list within your group about the common grounds (**what**)
> 2.. Elaborate a list within your group **how** you want to realize your ideas (opportunities)
> 3.. Elaborate a list within your group about unsolved problems and obstacles (**constraints**)

> Finally try to put together all the lists for creating one final document. Put your List 1,2,3 on a flip chart with little cards. The products of the action groups are presented to the large group to be followed by a debate and a discussion of their desirability and feasibility

> Make a discussion what you agree upon and what you cannot put together. Some differences we have to accept, which we cannot solve at the moment.

PHASE 6
PLANS FOR ACTION

Purpose:

Once the strategies are articulated, the participants then self-select action plan groups to design implementation plans for their chosen strategies. The common goal is a vision, based on the hopes and finally specifying measures what can be done on different problems with priorities on short and long time actions. Finally the groups are suggesting possible remedies and are specifying for each problem area what can be done by whom, how and when. Finally the students will present ideas and topics for projects in an integrated action plan what they are working on in the following project week. Within the following project week the students will elaborate in various groups concrete **proposals** about the topics of the IP and will finally produce a publication.

- Choose a reporter and prepare a 5-minute summary report for the following <u>plenary and discussion session</u>

Method

The workshop concludes with the participants identifying activities through which they intend to maintain contact with the project. Put all results into the list

Title of the project:				
Goals and objectives				
Members of the team •				
What	Who	With whom	Till Dec. 2013 (Till) when	Long term planning (till) when
+ + + + + + +				

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