



Overview of responses from the Transition movement evaluation survey

Impacts of the Transition movement



Image: Mike Grenville

March 2021

In November 2020 Transition Network launched an evaluation of the impact, relevance and potential of Transition. Our survey was open during November 2020, gathering 377 responses from 32 countries. **This document presents an emerging, “rough analysis” overview of the survey responses, in relation to impacts.**

A separate companion document presents the overview in relation to relevance and potential.

There are other aspects we will continue to analyse, including evaluation reports sent in by Transition groups, the discussion groups held in December 2020, and academic papers. We will also be organising further ways to explore and discuss the emerging analysis.

The first section of this report describes the story so far of the Evaluation project, where we are in an ongoing process.

After this, there is a summary overview of who responded to the survey and some overview tables.

We show a table summarising the self-assessed depth of impacts of Transition groups and Hubs, categorised against the draft Transition characteristics and, within that, different types of activity.

The main part of the document then collates a range of examples of impacts, as shared in the survey, under each of the draft Transition characteristics categories.

We briefly look at some of the factors that are being reported, that influence the impact of a Transition group or Hub.

This report concludes with a section looking at how Transition groups and Hubs have responded to recent challenges and crises, in particular Covid-19, as well as political unrest and extreme weather events.

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Reducing carbon emissions

Increasing resilience to climate change impacts

Local food

Renewable energy

Green transport

Waste or pollution reduction

Protecting and restoring land or water

Improving biodiversity, protecting wildlife

Developing social enterprises or cooperatives

5. Connect and care for each other: practice and celebrate creativity, mutual support, fun and friendship, bridging divides and decreasing polarisation to create caring and equitable communities and cultures;

Offering nature connection activities

Social cohesion and community spirit

6. Contribute to a wellbeing economy : – innovate and collaborate to create economic models and opportunities focused on wellbeing and inclusion e.g. new social enterprises, currencies, livelihoods;

Social cohesion and community spirit

Developing mutual aid/care systems

Sharing 'care or wellbeing economies' principles and practices

Developing a local currency

7. Broaden and deepen participation: model and promote approaches to participation and decision making which value and accommodate multiple perspectives and life experiences;

8. Bring people together : convene and energise broad alliances which agree and work towards a common purpose;

Participatory democracy (e.g. citizens assemblies)

Influencing political debates or processes

Building networks and coalitions

Sharing ecological principles and practices

9. Address injustice : – increase awareness of social justice issues within and beyond our movement and find ways to decolonise, heal and make reparations for historic and current injustices, becoming good allies to those who have been doing this work for many years.

Addressing social injustice

What are some of the factors that influence impact?

Flexible responsiveness to local community

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The story so far of the Evaluation project

This evaluation project is inspired by people from Transition groups and Hubs, and funders, who are asking questions about what the Transition movement has achieved and how it might need to adapt to the challenges that are coming towards us.

In July 2020 Transition Network staff and trustees discussed some aspects of how we could do this evaluation. We introduced the evaluation project intentions to the Transition Hubs Heart Circle and we met with and gained advice from a small number of particularly interested Hubs representatives. Most of the first phase of the evaluation project was then coordinated by Transition Network's Feedback Loops role (Nicola Hillary), Practice of Change role (Deborah Benham) and Hubs Heart Circle Link (Sarah McAdam); and, to add much needed capacity and expertise, Jo Hamilton joined us as a research contractor.

During the design process for the evaluation work, we realised that if we are to assess the impact, relevance and potential of the Transition movement, we need some shared understanding of the areas where the Transition movement is collectively seeking to have impact. Bringing together many sources, including the Transition principles and essential ingredients, Deborah led on compiling the following **draft list of characteristics of the Transition movement**, [shared here](#):

People in the Transition movement come together to:

- Raise awareness – support people to engage with the interconnected challenges of our times (climate change, loss of biodiversity, social injustice and other impacts of the global growth economy);
- Create positive narratives – create and share positive, motivating visions and narratives of a healthy, resilient and equitable future;
- Support inner transformation – build psychological resilience and wellbeing through connection with ourselves, others and the natural world and explore how mindsets, attitudes, emotions and worldviews can contribute to or block social change;
- Take practical action – design and implement practical projects which reduce carbon emissions and increase local resilience e.g. in areas such as food, energy, waste, transport, shelter, mutual aid, disaster relief;
- Connect and care for each other – practice and celebrate creativity, mutual support, fun and friendship, bridging divides and decreasing polarisation to create caring and equitable communities and cultures;
- Contribute to a wellbeing economy – innovate and collaborate to create economic models and opportunities focused on wellbeing and inclusion e.g. new social enterprises, currencies, livelihoods;
- Broaden & deepen participation – model and promote approaches to participation and decision making which value and accommodate multiple perspectives and life experiences;
- Bring people together – convene and energise broad alliances which agree and work towards a common purpose;
- Address injustice – increase awareness of social justice issues within and beyond our movement and find ways to decolonise, heal and make reparations for historic

and current injustices, becoming good allies to those who have been doing this work for many years.

We are using the evaluation process to test these draft characteristics and can already see a need to make some adjustments in the light of feedback received last year and new insights gained through our analysis of the survey. As we update the characteristics we will share them on the Transition Network website and explain the reasons behind the changes, continuing to invite comments and questions from the wider movement.

As we started the Evaluation exercise we were lucky to be able to draw on a range of excellent recent feedback from different parts of the movement, including a strategic evaluation conducted by Transition US, the recent survey carried out by the new international circle for Training for Transition and last year's survey of Transition groups in Britain. Jo also started an ongoing review of over 250 academic papers on Transition published in the last 5 years.

This [Initial Analysis document](#) brought together **a summary of this recent feedback**.

We planned to combine a survey, for breadth, with discussion groups and case studies for depth.

During November we gathered responses to a survey [shared here](#), available in 9 languages (with thanks to the translation support from many Hubs who sourced and provided translation and tech support from Liza Zijlstra Jovanovska at Transition Network). Survey respondents were also able to send us existing case study and evaluation reports that their group had done.

As the survey period concluded in December, we held three open international online discussion groups (in different time zones), with thanks to facilitators Sarah and Anahí Beatriz Pacheco Araneda. The evaluation team prepared a document, [shared here](#), to inform these discussions, available in English and Spanish, which drew on the survey responses we had received by 22 November. This [Exploring what's emerging from the Transition movement survey](#) document starts to pull out the important themes and tensions we can see in the survey responses (reproduced at the end of this document).

A rough analysis of the full survey responses is now available, and a summary of that rough analysis is the main part of THIS document.

What's next in the Evaluation project?

- Analysing the case study and group evaluation reports we've been sent.
- Analysing the December 2020 discussion groups.
- Exploring how to frame and support people to engage with the different worldviews and perspectives on current and future context which underpin the feedback we've received.
- Inviting feedback on the role and activities of Transition Network, which could include online meetings with Hubs representatives and a session with critical friends.
- Further discussion groups with invited participants, to more deeply explore specific themes and tensions (potentially using deep democracy processes to help illuminate areas of difference).
- Progressing work being led by Deborah Benham on mapping the place and practices of the Transition movement/ Transition Network in the wider ecology of change.
- Informing and feeding the co-creation of funding proposals and new directions of work by Transition Network and with the distributed circles and teams in the international movement.

Overview of survey respondents

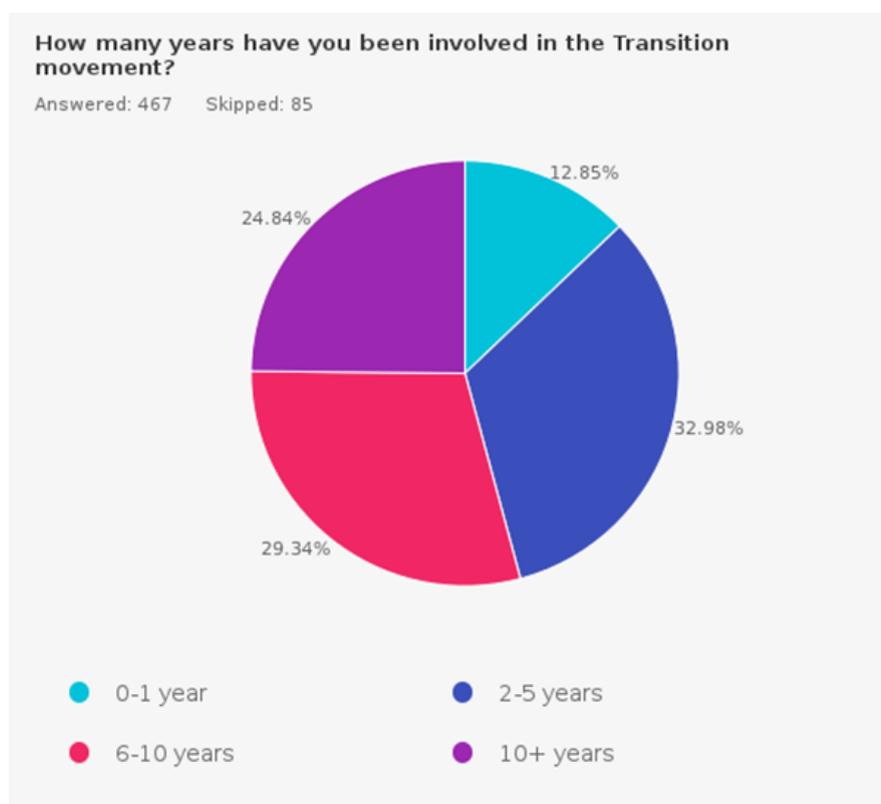
Survey overview:

This brings together the themes from analysis of 377 full survey responses received by the survey close of 6th December 2020. It does not include documents and links to websites that were included in the survey, nor the detailed evaluation from specific projects such as Municipalities in Transition, nor the initial analysis of the discussion groups.

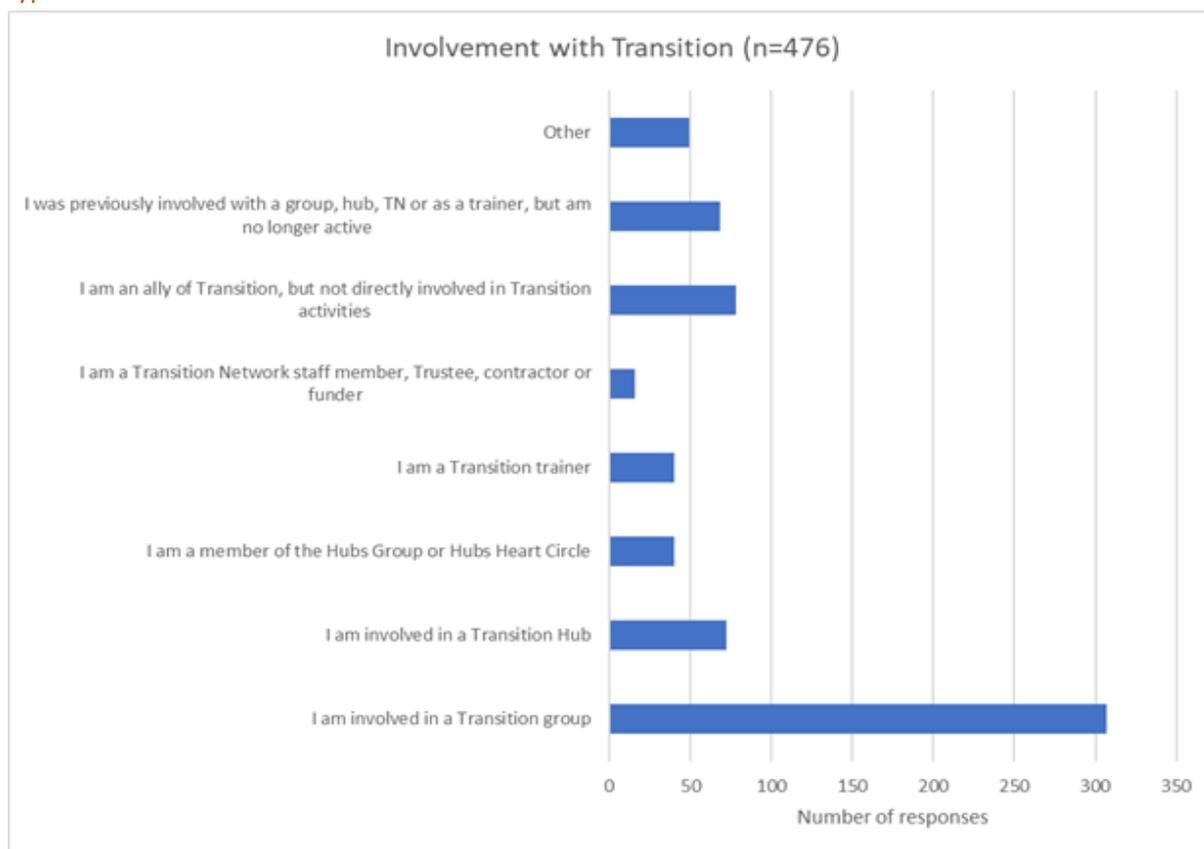
This analysis was prepared by Jo Hamilton and edited by Nicola Hillary.

Brief overview of survey respondents:

- ~ 377 full responses from [32 countries](#)
- ~ Years of involvement and type of involvement: (note: this includes partial responses)



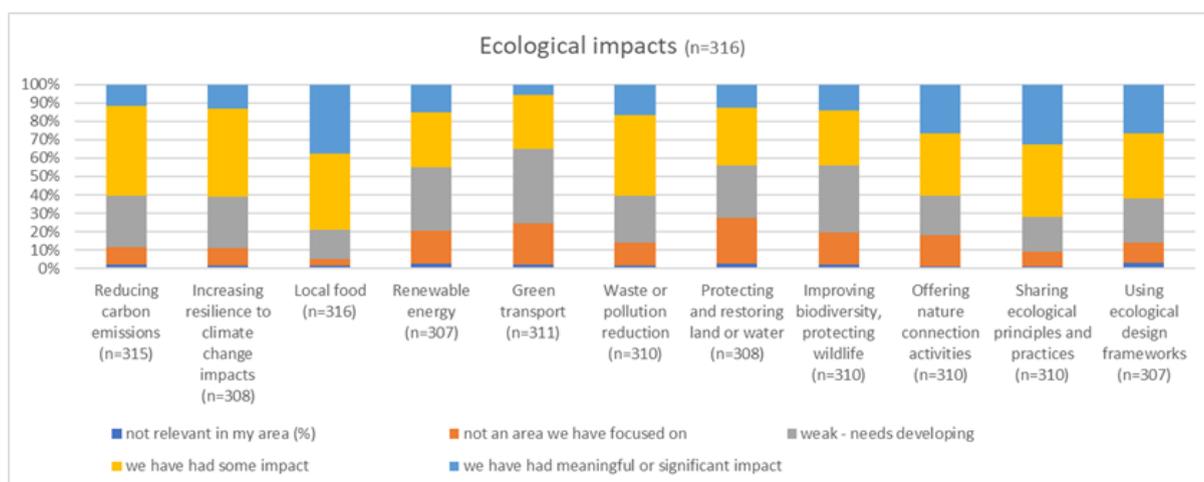
Type of involvement with Transition

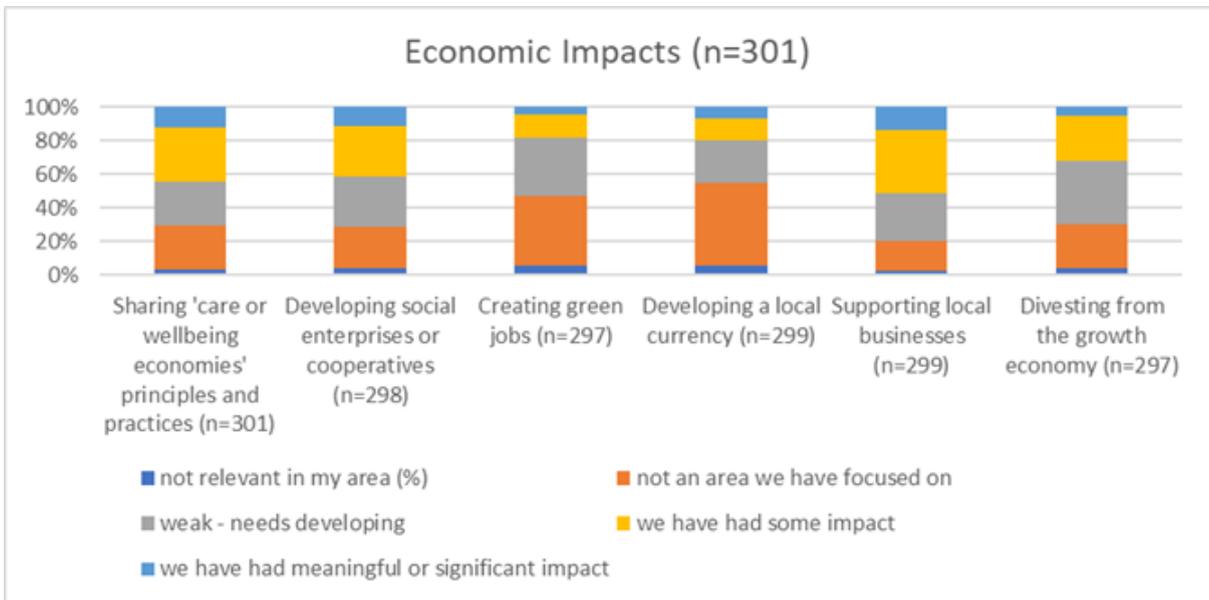
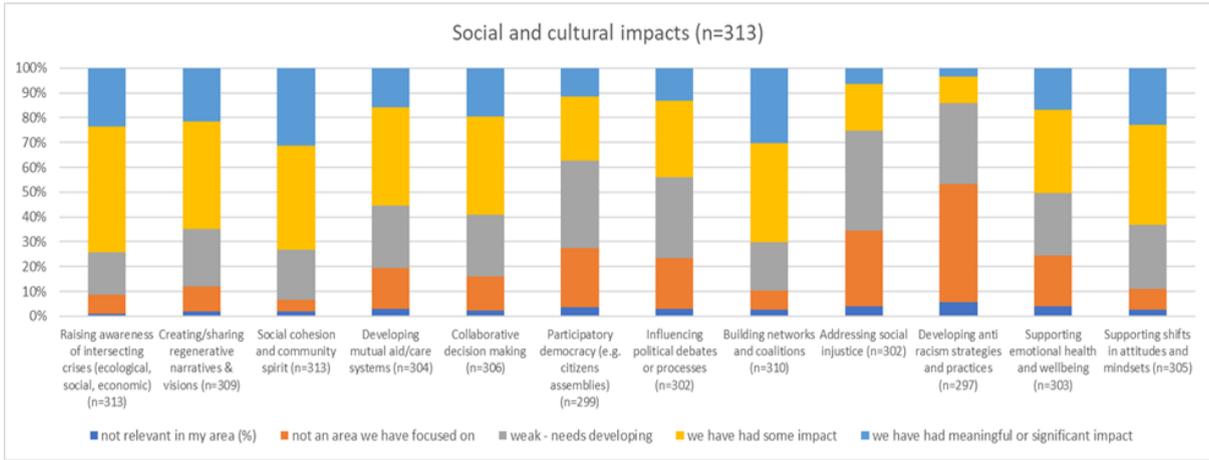


Summary of Impacts

Impact matrices (Q 9-11). Each item (on the bar graph) was answered by between 297-315 respondents, which is a fairly consistent number of answers across the matrices.

I have inserted the tables, which give the number of respondents (n=XX) for each item on the bar graph.





Summary of impacts of Transition by different types of activity

The survey gives us a detailed picture of how people assess the impact of different types of Transition activity. The summary below is colour coded to show the proportion of respondents who reported 'some' or 'meaningful or significant impact' against each activity. We have mapped the activities against the broad characteristics of the Transition movement.

Characteristics	Total of 'some' and 'meaningful or significant impact'			
	<30%	30-55%	55-70%	>70%
1. Raise awareness: support people to engage with the interconnected challenges of our times (climate change, loss of biodiversity, social injustice and other impacts of the global growth economy);	9.1 Raising awareness of intersecting crises (ecological, social, economic) 74.12% 9.9 Addressing social injustice 25.16% 9.10 Developing anti-racism strategies and practices 14.14%			
2. Create positive narratives: create and share positive, motivating visions and narratives of a healthy, resilient and equitable future;	9.2 Creating/sharing regenerative narratives & visions 64.72%			
3. Support inner transformation: build psychological resilience and wellbeing through connection with ourselves, others and the natural world and explore how mindsets, attitudes, emotions and worldviews can contribute to or block social change;	9.11 Supporting emotional health and wellbeing 50.49%			
	9.12 Supporting shifts in attitudes and mindsets 63.28%			
4. Take practical action : design and implement practical projects which reduce carbon emissions and increase local resilience e.g. in areas such as food, energy, waste, transport, shelter, mutual aid, disaster relief;	8.1 Reducing carbon emissions 60.64%			
	8.2 Increasing resilience to climate change impacts 61.04%			
	8.3 Local food 79.12%			
	8.4 Renewable energy 45.27%			
	8.5 Green transport 35.05%			
	8.6 Waste or pollution reduction 60.64%			
	8.7 Protecting and restoring land or water 44.15%			
	8.8 Improving biodiversity, protecting wildlife 44.19%			
	10.2 Developing social enterprises or cooperatives 41.28%			
	10.5 Supporting local businesses 51.50%			
5. Connect and care for each other: practice and celebrate creativity, mutual support, fun and friendship, bridging divides and decreasing polarisation to create caring and equitable communities and cultures;	10.6 Divesting from the growth economy 32.33%			
	8.9 Offering nature connection activities 60.32%			
	9.3 Social cohesion and community spirit 73.16%			
6. Contribute to a wellbeing economy : – innovate and collaborate to create economic models and opportunities focused on wellbeing and inclusion e.g. new social enterprises, currencies, livelihoods;	9.4 Developing mutual aid/care systems 55.59%			
	10.1 Sharing 'care or wellbeing economies' principles and practices 44.85%			
	10.3 Creating green jobs 18.18%			
	10.4 Developing a local currency 19.73%			
7. Broaden and deepen participation: model and promote approaches to participation and decision making which value and accommodate multiple perspectives and life experiences;	Expanded community participation in ecological activities			
	Expanded community participation in economic activities			
8. Bring people together : convene and energise broad alliances which agree and work towards a common purpose;	9.5 Collaborative decision making 59.15%			
	9.6 Participatory democracy (e.g. citizens assemblies) 37.46%			
	9.7 Influencing political debates or processes 44.04%			
	9.8 Building networks and coalitions 70.32%			
	8.10 Sharing ecological principles and practices 71.93%			

	8.11 Using ecological design frameworks (e.g. systems thinking or permaculture) 62.21%
9. Address injustice : – increase awareness of social justice issues within and beyond our movement and find ways to decolonise, heal and make reparations for historic and current injustices, becoming good allies to those who have been doing this work for many years.	9.9 Addressing social injustice 25.16%
	9.10 Developing anti-racism strategies and practices 14.14%

Examples of impacts reported in the survey

The survey gives us a detailed picture of how people assess the impact of different types of Transition activity. This section shares a selection of the examples given by respondents in the survey, grouped by each of the draft characteristics. Within each of the “characteristics” categories this is subdivided further into different impacts headings.

1. Raise awareness: support people to engage with the interconnected challenges of our times (climate change, loss of biodiversity, social injustice and other impacts of the global growth economy);

Some of the examples of raising awareness:

Raising awareness of intersecting crises (ecological, social, economic)

A facilitator from Red de Transición Hub, Spain: “Last week we completed the VII Online Transition Course in which I participated as a facilitator, The materials and group dynamics have been reviewed and updated for this edition, taking into account the impact of current challenges such as Covid19. The course was very well received, we had participants from Spain and Latin America, and we have received a lot of gratitude and positive feedback from people. Likewise, they have expressed great enthusiasm to start their own projects and remain connected to the Transition movement.”

fairNETZt Lörrach, Germany: “A round table on the climate of the civilian population has gained momentum and shows that it is important for citizens not to work on just one crisis.”



Transition Buxton, UK: “Since May we have been providing 1hr Mini-Seminars on alternate Thursday evenings on a host of relevant topics. The 15 sessions so far have served to widen our audience, keep existing Members engaged, and increase our knowledge.” Topics included, ‘What We Need To Do Now’ by Chris Goodall, ‘People Powered Retrofit’ by Jonathan Atkinson from Carbon Coop, and ‘From Consumer Culture to Sustainability’ by Dr Terry Newholm.

Transition Town, All Saint Anthony Park, USA: “I think [the] interactive booths we have mounted over the years at the local art fair are educational. Some titles “Color-Code Your Green Home” (sharpies-a color for weatherstripping, for insulation, for rain barrel, etc.); “Our Walkable/Bike-able Neighborhood” (Pencil on a string measure on a map from your house to the nearest grocer, school, pharmacy, etc.)”

Gruppo Municipalities in Transition Valsmoggia, Italy: “The Municipalities in Transition group actively supports various municipal administrators in the management of the territory. There are three main directions the work is focusing on:

- 1) Activation and support for the work of the "Climate Emergency Table" - a work table that involves all local political forces and works with dynamic governance models (Sociocracy 3.0) and with a systemic and complex approach to reality.
- 2) Support for local trade, to respond to the Covid crisis, through the development of a complementary local currency (together with simpler actions to promote proximity trade)
- 3) Activation of a project to create new energy communities (in collaboration with the reference institutes of the territory)

The action focused above all on the local area, but with various awareness-raising activities it was also possible to influence the surrounding areas (especially with two activities in particular: "Change the Current" to raise awareness of the transition to a sustainable energy supply contract and "Beware of the weather" to raise awareness of extreme events)"

2. Create positive narratives: create and share positive, motivating visions and narratives of a healthy, resilient and equitable future;

Some of the examples of creating narratives:

Creating/sharing regenerative narratives & visions

Transition Town Tooting, UK: “We have developed a culture of the 'possible'; closing the busy A24 for a Carnival to reimagine the future, transforming a bus turning circle into a pop up village green - imaginative ideas collectively manifested by large numbers in the community - across age and cultural difference.”

Bonn im Wandel e.V, Germany: “At local level we are quite successful in telling a better narrative about our future and also making it visible with our projects if its the CSA, the Cargo Bikes, Bonn blossoms and Humms, as well as Trainings und Events about Transition, REconomy, SDGs. We wrote articles and newsletter about sense making out of Covid 19, and got very positive feedback. <https://bonnimwandel.de/corona-spueren-was-wichtig-ist/> We also talk about Climate Change as katalyzer for change e.g. here <https://bonnimwandel.de/speedtalk1-was-ist-eigentlich-transition-1/> , more over, our CSA and our community gardens are affected by heatwaves and start experimenting with permaculture techniques at low level.

Within the last 12 months we drafted a concept of participation and cocreation for a climate neutral city. Its called "**Bonn4Future - we for the climate**". We started with explorative talks with initiatives, experts, representatives of the City administration and politics about the question "what has to happen that the transformation towards a climate neutral city would be successful and a process I would love to contribute?". Based on this



inquiry and the experiences in other cities such as Totnes or Marburg we co-created the concept for a city wide process. This process was supported by more than 50 organisations, enterprises and initiatives. It was adapted by the council of the city of Bonn on 2nd of September 2020, to start as a city wider project on 1st of December. www.bonn-for-future.de
<https://bonnimwandel.de/breite-buergerbeteiligung-beim-klimaschutz/>

Transición México Hub: “Prior to the pandemic, events were being held about the documentary that we made about local currencies, with the participation of environmental organizations, social actors, activists and initiatives, that gave space for dialogue and questioning the situation.”

Transición Colombia Hub: “From Transition Colombia, we are starting the **#yosoyelcambio** campaign, with the purpose of spreading and expanding the collective response to these changes and sharing successful experiences from different topics as a contribution to the transition that we are making from each home.”

Creativity and the arts

Lame in transizione, Italy: “The group started as an offshoot of Zoè theaters but over time has increasingly identified with that which makes the Associazione social promotion www.zoeteatri.it
<https://lameintransizione.wordpress.com/> Improsocial is the workshop for facilitating projects related to community social theater, generative, within the relationships created from time to time. Locally as a Lame neighborhood we are now beginning to see some fruit.
<http://transitionitalia.it/2017/09/27/improsocial/>
<http://transitionitalia.it/2018/04/03/officina-di-facilitazione-per-comunita-dinamiche/>”

Transition Town Tooting, UK: “My work at Transition Town Tooting gave rise to a handbook called Playing for Time - Making Art As If The World Mattered which maps creative practices in community for harnessing our imaginations and creative capacities. It sprang from much of the work seeded in TTTooting and has had an impact in the wider professional arts and cultural sector as well as in systems change/transition/grassroots community activism.”

3. Support inner transformation: build psychological resilience and wellbeing through connection with ourselves, others and the natural world and explore how mindsets, attitudes, emotions and worldviews can contribute to or block social change;

Some of the examples of supporting inner transformation:

Supporting emotional health and wellbeing

Reseau Transition Hub in Belgium: “[We’ve had] bigger impacts in inner transition through the creation of a network of support professionals”
www.facebook.com/reseau.soutien.transition.interieure

Transition Town Bridport, UK: "The Shed" which (within Covid-19 rules) meets regularly to share/learn practical skills, make/restore/sell items, all with 'green' and transitional roots, and boost mental health along the way. Bridport Town Council has provided workshops, free of



**Réseau de soutien
à la transition intérieure**

charge, and the group maintains them and the workbenches in return.

A trainer from the German Transition Hub: “As a transition trainer, I have reached many people and initiatives and was able to strengthen them in their further steps. For many years I led a heart & soul group, which was able to reach many different people in many different event formats.”

4. Take practical action : design and implement practical projects which reduce carbon emissions and increase local resilience e.g. in areas such as food, energy, waste, transport, shelter, mutual aid, disaster relief;

Some examples of practical action, under a wide range of impact headings:

Reducing carbon emissions

Transition Town Worthing, UK: “We've focussed on energy/carbon reduction issues because we've been able to link and be supported by various community energy projects in Sussex and our Eco Open Houses events have been really successful in raising awareness and demonstrating best practice regarding carbon and waste reduction. Our Repair Cafe has been incredibly popular, thus addressing the same issues. Our Energy shop has seen 538 clients save over £35,000, and an estimated 84 tonnes of CO2! Eco Open Houses had over 800 visitors at the last event.”

Transition Ealing, UK: Collaboration with the Schools' Energy Cooperative has resulted in major solar panel installations on local schools, supported by Ealing Council.

<https://ealingtransition.org.uk/solar-schools/>



Transition Lopez Island, USA: Most successful has been our "Fossil Free by '33" project, highlighting speakers and events promoting carbon reduction, energy conservation, supporting local farmers, reducing waste.

<https://transitionlopezisland.org/carbon-free-by-33/>

Increasing resilience to climate change impacts

Transition Japan Hub: “The threat of natural disasters such as typhoons and floods is increasing year by year, and awareness of disaster prevention is increasing in urban areas that are considered to be vulnerable to disasters. In particular, in Bunkyo Ward, which is the base of activities, we are encouraging residents to help themselves, and an increasing number of groups are working on disaster prevention in their civic activities.”

Transição Portugal Hub: “All the Transition work had an important impact on the framing of crises in a larger context, generating narratives linking these crises with their causes and with the lack of preparation, negligence and intent of public institutions in effective preparation. Locally, it was our extended network that managed to respond to the lack of community protection masks, given the inability of the state and the mayors to respond. An online workshop was held (<https://www.pretajoia.com/2020/04/oficina-de-mascaras-de-protecao.html>) which later developed into a reusable mask production network that provided more than 500 masks for free to the community.”

Cooperation Humboldt, USA: “We provided direct assistance to a flood of fire refugees who came into our community, and are shifting that program to Disaster Response & Community Resilience (<https://cooperationhumboldt.com/resilience/>)”

Local food

Transition Telford, UK: “Our home grown projects have been an increasing success with usually 3 events a year. A Seedy Saturday Seed Swap, a Grow Local Plant Share event, and last year a Harvest Local for the first time. These are well received although we've had to cancel the last 1 in 2020. We cover all events and projects on our active blog <https://transitiontelford.wordpress.com/category/gardening/> “

Transition Bridport, UK: “In the last 6 months Food security has been tackled due to triple whammy of climate change, Brexit and loss of jobs” “The Edible Garden” at a local primary school has been particularly successful and has introduced the concept and joy of growing and eating fresh veg to one of the most deprived areas of the town. It has encouraged ownership of allotments, and provided a little employment (funds raised by TTB) to keep it going. The veg from the school garden is cooked for school lunches and during summer holidays was taken to a local food bank.”

Trudering im Wandel, Germany: “We have replaced our market meeting with exclusively regional and “unpackaged” organic food by an order and pick-up option.”



<http://www.truderingimwandel.de/2020/04/markttreff-tante-trude-ist-zurueck-bio-lebensmittel-per-lieferdienst-oder-zum-abholen/>

Transition Leytonstone, UK: Community fridge:

<https://www.transitionleytonstone.org.uk/community-fridge>

<https://www.guardian-series.co.uk/news/18831712.volunteer-year-diana-leytonstone-community-fridge/>

Renewable energy

Transition Town Koganei, Japan: “In a joint project with Cafe Slow (organic restaurant) in the neighboring town, we launched the Cafe Slow power plant project, installed a solar panel of about 8KW by crowdfunding, and provided electricity for events etc. off-grid. ing. I want to share the blessings of natural energy with everyone in the town. Let's build a power plant in Cafe Slow.

<https://motion-gallery.net/projects/cafeslowpower> “

Green TEA Eynsham, UK: “Received grant for two studies including examining the practicalities of a distributed local energy grid with Low Carbon Hub Oxfordshire.”

Transition Fujino, Japan: “Fujino Electric Power was a local electric power company, and various local electric power activities expanded with Fujino Electric Power as a trigger. Solar panel assembly workshops have been held more than 250 times throughout Japan.”

Green transport

Kings Cliffe Transition, UK: “Promoting the use of bicycles by offering free bike repair.”

Abergavenny Transition Town, UK: “pedestrianisation of town centre and encouraging the use of bikes and cycle safety.”

Kirbymoorside Environment group, UK: “Our transport team morphed into working on a regional basis, and individuals set up and supported <http://moorsbus.org/> and <http://getryedalecycling.com/> “

Waste or pollution reduction

Transition Town Worthing, UK: “Repair Cafe - running for 2 years, our most successful project so far - average 35 repairs done at each session - also a great project for bringing the community together, tackling social isolation and skill sharing.”

Transition Town Letchworth, UK: “Our Plastic Free communities project resulted in the local council declaring it wants to make the whole of the district plastic free and there are on-line meetings with other relevant groups to further this. Also the terracycle project (a one-man band initially!) has really taken off.”

Transition Granja Viana, Brazil: Implementation of the Community Composters Project in Vila Mariana - Sao Paulo. Since the beginning in March 2019, until Nov / 2020, 3 tons of organic waste have been composted.



<https://www.institutoclaro.org.br/cidadania/nossas-novidades/noticias/composteiras-comunitarias-instaladas-em-pracas-reduzem-residuos-destinados-aos-aterros/>
<https://youtu.be/iaZj5zmXJVY> “

Protecting and restoring land or water

Portugal: “At Cidade Mais, the festival we organized in Porto linked to the transition, the municipality stopped using glyphosate in its public gardens due to the debate and awareness that the festival has brought to public discussion in the municipality. We also introduced civil society initiatives to the municipality which, after the festival, began to support them, as is the case with the 100,000 trees project for the Porto Metropolitan Area.”

Improving biodiversity, protecting wildlife

Toulouse en Transition, France:
Micro-forests have been favorably received in this region, eager to be green, open, avant-garde. First planting of a Miyawaki forest in the city. Creation of a participatory planting manual for this method.”



<http://toulouse.entransition.fr/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/introduction-myawakit.pdf>

Developing social enterprises or cooperatives

Graz und Wien, Austria: “For effective implementation, we founded a cooperative 3 years ago that plans projects, integrates and motivates people to implement them, and to continue and develop them sustainably - www.imago-genossenschaft.at”

Göttingen im Wandel, Germany: “Only once did I tick: “We have made a significant impact in this area” and by that I mean the development of our SoHuWi, the world's first humus economy based on solidarity. We build humus and do this in the long term and within the framework of a community that functions according to the principles of solidarity agriculture. And it works and it will continue for the next 20 years and, who knows, maybe beyond. And it is a model project and will initiate further initiatives of this kind. I build on it! And humus, living earth, is one of the most powerful CO2 stores and CO2 sinks.

www.humusbildung-goettingen.de “



5. Connect and care for each other: practice and celebrate creativity, mutual support, fun and friendship, bridging divides and decreasing polarisation to create caring and equitable communities and cultures;

Some examples of connection and care:

Offering nature connection activities

Transition Granja Viana, Brazil: “I am organizing a working group whose objective is to set up a community garden. The project already has a name - “Recanto Eurovarde” and has so far been organizing itself to recover the soil and some existing trees in an area of 1000m2 with the objective of uniting the residents for study and joint efforts for planting in an agro-forestry system. The phase is for projects and some local action.”



San Lazzaro in transizione, Italy: “The garden of wonders of San Lazzaro in transizione” (pictured)

<http://www.economiasolidale.net/content/orto-delle-meraviglie>

Transition Town, Mönchengladbach im Wandel, Germany: “We have initiated an “Edible Wild Plant Park”, which will be set up next year by a wild plant educator in cooperation with Transition Town and the Dr. Strauss Foundation in Mönchengladbach.”

Social cohesion and community spirit

Parceria Local de Telheiras, Portugal: “Through the creation of various spaces and moments of dialogue, collaboration and joint implementation of projects, we have had an indirect impact on strengthening the feeling of community, social support networks (formal and informal) and the spirit of sharing and mutual help.”

Transição São Luís, Portugal: 9.3 For me, the Interior Transition group has been fundamental. In the early days it was our job to help other groups form. We gave support to the Water Group, the Participatory Budget campaigns and the social integration of our village as a whole.”

Transition Town Tooting, UK: “I think TT Tooting has been remarkably effective in drawing in a mix of people in what is a wonderfully diverse and dynamic part of London. It's opened up space for people who want to get involved, in a creative and positive way.”

Sustainable Backwell, UK: “I was left in a terrible state, feeling abandoned & stressed, at the beginning of March lockdown, unable to shop in the early morning or stand in queues. Sustainable Backwell sent out an email list of local resources (wide-ranging). I got a shopping Volunteer within a few days & calmed down. Same has happened with this November slightly lower level Lockdown.

Gives a new meaning to `sustainable`. Yet, thoughtfulness about others & community doesn't have to be `rocket science`. Change in a very simple list!"

6. Contribute to a wellbeing economy : – innovate and collaborate to create economic models and opportunities focused on wellbeing and inclusion e.g. new social enterprises, currencies, livelihoods;

Some examples of wellbeing economy:

Social cohesion and community spirit

Transição São Luís, Portugal: "We initiated a local farmers "Extra Row" program- extra crops are grown by the farm, then our transition group provides the volunteers to harvest and distribute the produce to people in need."

Transition Town Tooting, UK: "Our Transition has initiated or supported a number of spin off groups and projects in the area of food growing, repair, streets, planning, green spaces and more. Our work has also supported connections between across the locality which now has a rich ecosystem of community groups. Some of our ways of working have been taken up by other groups. We have done several significant projects that involved the arts/creativity and the imagination including large-scale outdoor events. ... In some ways it is the slowly developed relationships with individuals and communities that are really significant though."

Developing mutual aid/care systems

Transition Granja Viana and Transition Brasil Hub: "We held an online event with the local community to hear everyone's needs in the face of the COVID 19 crisis and the impacts on our region; local producers had strong support from the movement in the transition to delivery, so that they could continue to produce and sell and the first Launch online training in Brazil was organized." [

Sharing 'care or wellbeing economies' principles and practices

Graz und Wien, Austria: "We have created our own platforms for regional small businesses and farms so that they can present themselves better and maintain access to customers. This is how the region is networked and informed! @ Austria delivers, @Steiermark delivers, @Wien delivers, @Weiz delivers @Gleisdorf delivers @Leibnitz delivers, More than 10,000 companies are now using this! A web / internet shop has also been set up at Imago where producers can market their products without their own shop! www.imago-genossenschaft.at/shop"

Colombia: "a barter festival that has been held annually for twelve years, last year we integrated the festival with the assistance of 300 people and the previous year we managed to have around 2600 people from the countryside and the city, changing articles of different categories and contributing in the education to the conscious consumer, the valuation of the rurality, economic and tourist activation for the municipality."

Sète en Transition, France: "The Thau SEL group (local exchange system) activates solidarity, social bonds, mutual aid. The last gratifieria reached 700 people, 2900 kg of objects were exchanged."

Wezembeek-Oppem en Transition, Belgium: “Projeto Eco-Trocas (exchange network) was a local success in terms of circular economy, with more than 1000 participants.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/648985185848263> “

Developing a local currency

Transición México Hub: “The creation of a local currency, the support to the organizations or groups with which transition works has been significant, especially in the transition initiative of Queretáro where a currency for children has even been formed with everything and what it implies. Regarding the products and services they develop as well as the series of products they make to exchange and sell at fairs, it seems to me of high impact since this information is acquired by girls from an early age and the knowledge is transmitted directly to the family. This initiative has led other schools and communities to follow suit to the point that there are already encounters between prosumer girls and boys. The individuals and families involved form a network that is interwoven with other networks at the local, national, Latin American and international levels. On the other hand, the creation of a social currency does not only imply the currency but also a series of changes in people's daily habits as well as the connection with networks of consumers and organic producers, green companies and many other activities related to prosumism.”

Transition Fujino, Japan: “Local currency Yorozuya. It has been implemented for more than 10 years by adopting the LET'S local currency. It has been working to imitate the regions that it has been using for some time, but it has been featured in the media as a local currency unique to Japan, and it has also been adopted in transition towns in each region.”

Transition Town Peterborough, Canada: “TTP has had a long-running experiment in a local currency. The local currency is still viable though not being used widely except among some loyal users at farmers markets and few small businesses. This is due to the lack of volunteers to continue to promote and demonstrate it, as well as more robust belief in it and promotion of it by the Credit Union which is its 'banker.' It remains one of those "experiments" that our times call for and still has potential.”

7. Broaden and deepen participation: model and promote approaches to participation and decision making which value and accommodate multiple perspectives and life experiences;

Some examples of broader deeper participation:

Transition Holywell & District, UK: “For the last ten years we have organised big summer events ("green", "crafty" historical etc) in the town centre. In 2017 a HolyWELL-BEING Day event with help from the NHS and a whole range of health and fitness - and "green" -related orgs. Holywell is a poor town, so these festivals have supported local businesses, showcased local singing etc talent while cheering people up and fostering a greater sense of local pride.”

Greener Fram, UK: “Our festival Sustainability on Sea was positively received and mobilised many people in the community to take on projects, events etc.”

8. Bring people together : convene and energise broad alliances which agree and work towards a common purpose;

Some examples of bringing people together, under a range of impact headings:

Participatory democracy (e.g. citizens assemblies)

Transição São Luís, Portugal: “Participatory budgeting. Today most of our public buildings have photovoltaic panels, thanks to the Transição São Luís project.”

Dresden im Wandel, Germany: “I was the project manager of the Zukunftsstadt project, in which we developed and tested a citizen participation procedure and from which a vision of the future city of Dresden and 8 citizen projects with an impact in the city emerged:

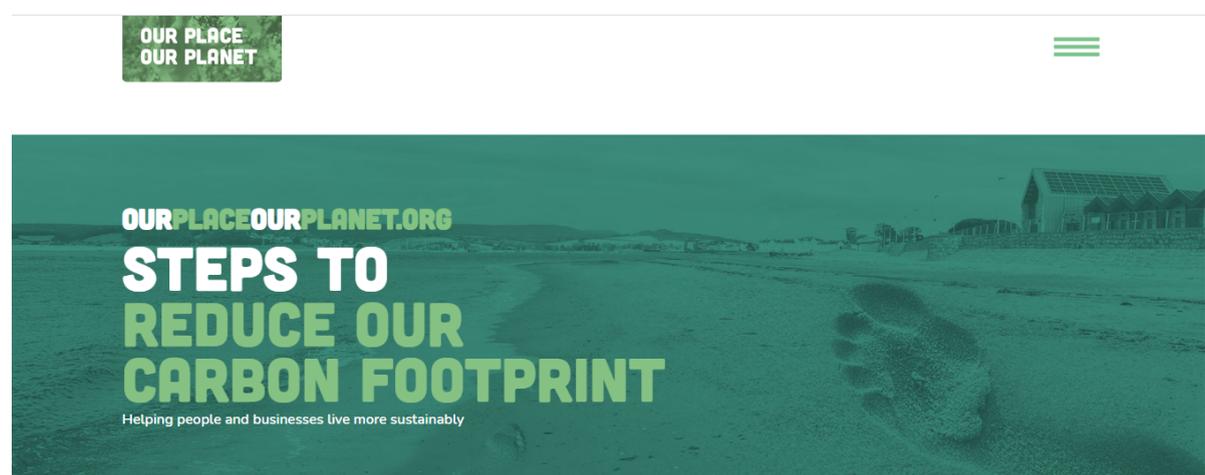
<https://zukunftsstadt.de/zukunftsstadt/zukunftsstadt-dresden> Based on this experience, we have also developed software that supports cities in setting up comparable participation processes.”

Influencing political debates or processes

Camarones, Argentina: “Create a culture of joint work between the municipality and the civil society organization. In a context of bipolar party politics (you are from one bank or the other), the transitional approach helped to overcome some of the obstacles of this old paradigm. Municipalities in Transition is a super resource in this regard.”

Parceria Local de Telheiras, Portugal: “We work in a community network of organizations in our neighborhood. We have developed several activities to promote the transition, some more awareness raising, others very practical (such as school gardens, the creation of a center of shared resources and events to promote sustainability). The activities are always promoted in a network, which allows a great involvement of the community. The fact that in this network we have civil society organizations working side by side with representatives of the local government has allowed an action with more impact, more information and that provides more appropriate responses to the needs of the community. Since 2018, we have been implementing the Municipalities in Transition system, which has brought you a more systemic vision to our performance.”

Transition Exmouth, UK: “Working with Town Council - we have a seat on the climate action working party . We have just launched www.ourplaceourplanet.org , steps towards climate action. The council have linked to this from the home page of their website so we are reaching deep into the community.”



Sharing ecological principles and practices

Beauvais en Transition, France: “Before the municipal elections, we published a white booklet bringing together proposals related to the transition. Permaculture training was offered to local elected officials.”

Luxembourg Transition Hub CELL: “Perhaps our biggest achievement is the Äerdschëff www.aerdscheff.cell.lu which is going to be finished in 2021, a bioregional learning centre!”

Croatian Transition Hub: “Despite the financial crisis, we've been able to complete several educational activities, including 3 Permaculture Design Courses. It seems that the interest for practical sustainability and resilience has grown due to the Covid crisis.

9. Address injustice : – increase awareness of social justice issues within and beyond our movement and find ways to decolonise, heal and make reparations for historic and current injustices, becoming good allies to those who have been doing this work for many years.

Addressing social injustice

Transition Holywell & District, UK: “4 members of our group are active members of Flintshire City of Sanctuary and we have recently introduced 3 Syrian families to our community garden, and one has started working with us. He is a chef so we're trying to arrange work for him locally once he has his food hygiene certificate.”

Transition Vila Mariana, Brazil: “Here we developed the beginning of a transition project in a very low income community, and subnormal settlements (favela) that continue to this day. They developed an awareness that brings them together in groups to create medium and long-term projects. This has been going on for 10 years and the meetings and projects continue to take place.”

Transition US Hub: “Transition US has funded six local Transition projects through our Community Resilience Stimulus Fund, facilitated two online trainings (Regenerative Leadership and Social Justice)”

Göttingen im Wandel, Germany: We recently held an event entitled "Building bridges to those who think differently". This brought opposing positions closer to one another and showed who you can listen to in your position and who cannot. And where your own position on the topic lies, maybe in the middle between the two extremes. Reports about this can be found on the Erdfest page and in our blog: www.goettingen-im-wandel.de”

There are some inspiring examples of how groups and hubs are addressing injustice across the movement. These include practical mutual aid and solidarity, alongside anti-racism awareness raising and incorporating anti-racism practices into groups that enable participants to engage and talk about the subjects, rather than avoid them. However, at least 70% of respondents reported that both *addressing social injustice* and *developing anti-racism strategies* were not areas that they had focused on, or areas that were weak and needed developing.

The survey and the discussion groups revealed a desire to address these areas. This included the need for greater diversity and equality within the existing movement; and the need to broaden and

diversify engagement in response to the question “Where should the Transition movement focus its energy and attention in the coming years?”.

“ we have a largely white, middle aged, middle class membership/volunteer base. We know we need to work harder in 2021 to involve and represent a more diverse span of local residents.” [London, England]

“One of the priorities could be nurturing collaborative culture that is non-bureaucratic and agile, while developing capacity to integrate minority and diversity (including decolonialization).” [Croatia]

This presents an opportunity for learning from within and beyond the Transition movement, alongside organisations who are working with these issues.

For example, peer learning groups and trainings focused on decolonising practices and approaches could inform groups approaches and help them connect with and involve more diverse participants and types of participation. Seeing social and environmental justice as inherently interrelated can help unleash creativity and work towards, not divert energy away from, the goals and impacts that many groups are seeking to achieve.

What are some of the factors that influence impact?

Question 12 of the survey was “Would you like to offer more detail about any of your answers in the 3 tables above? e.g. why you think a particular area of focus, or activity has been more or less impactful in your area?”

The section below broadly clusters a summary of some of the responses to this question.

- ~ **Flexible responsiveness to local community** – importance of flexibility and attuning what the group does to the energy and interest of participants and the wider community
- ~ **People, leadership, group culture**, which is comprised of two sub-themes: *Attracting and retaining participants*, and *Leadership, power, group culture*. These themes speak to a) the themes of burnout and relying on volunteers, alongside the incredible dedication when people have the passion, energy and time, and b) dynamic of leadership, power and working with conflict.
- ~ **Too broad, not enough depth**– issues highlighted here demonstrated the difficulties that some groups have with a range of issues, the difficulty of achieving big impact and impacts at depth, and also show some limits to the depth of engagement with the wider public, which also relate to the psycho-social and existing infrastructure themes.
- ~ **Psycho-social – resistance** - another theme that is present throughout the survey, of resistance and the difficulty of seeming counter-cultural
- ~ **Existing infrastructure and culture** – this relates to the difficulty of achieving impact in areas such as transport.
- ~ **Relationship with other organisations** – respondents have both expressed the need for more definition of Transition, and given examples of how they work with other organisations.
- ~ **General** – a place where I’ve put more general comments that didn’t seem to be part of a specific theme.

Flexible responsiveness to local community

- ~ By creating a place to actively listen to the voices of overseas youth generations, I was able to realize the difference between the current situation and consciousness of Japan and the current situation and consciousness of the world.
- ~ In some respect, what we can offer depends on who makes up the group. We all bring different skills and interests. To get a project going you have to have sufficient people willing to do the work - and keep doing it.

People, leadership, group culture

Attracting and retaining participants

- ~ While we have been keen to drive forward our impact on all the above we have struggled to attract people willing to give their time and commitment and we are all burned out.
- ~ Focusing on internal transition, then we just went out to propose changes from a strong and coordinated group, with a culture of consent, meeting management, BEING / DOING balance, etc. . . . It was easier for us to overcome difficulties there.
- ~ Appreciation for this permanent voluntary work is urgently needed, both for the volunteers performing the work and for the expansion of our work.

Leadership, power, group culture

- ~ We need more project leaders, and we need to get better at encouraging and enabling more involvement.

Too broad, not enough depth (also limit of depth engagement with wider public)

- ~ A big difficulty is the diversity of fields of action, which disperses energies and makes it difficult for outsiders to understand who we are.

Psycho-social – resistance

- ~ Until recently, people are simply not energised about Climate Emergency
- ~ We are largely preaching to the converted. A major change is required before our discussions are considered in the wider community. This is changing slightly though.

Relationship with other organisations

- ~ More than anywhere else, it is necessary for transition to position itself in a complex ecosystem of already existing initiatives.
- ~ There are a multitude of different groups and people are confused about what each one does. I also think that the name "transition town" is unhelpful. Those who are not involved (the majority) have no idea what it means.
- ~ Transition Town movement has been one of the sustainable movements in Japan and it has stimulated other groups. Definitely.

How has Transition responded to recent challenges and crises, including Covid-19, political unrest and extreme weather events?

Question 13 of the survey was *“In the face of recent challenges and crises e.g. Covid 19, political unrest and extreme weather events, has your Transition work had a significant impact in your local community or more widely?”*

Below are some of the themes reported by groups and Hubs, clustered by different activity type. There were also comments on the cultural and political response to Covid-19, which I have clustered together.

The majority of respondents seem to have found an opportunity to continue some aspects of their work during the Covid-19 pandemic, with community food, nature connection projects, mutual aid, community cohesion and supporting local businesses the main impacts. Activities which relied on face to face events were negatively impacted, but where groups transferred this aspect of their work online, it was an opportunity to broaden the group’s reach. Other groups have used the opportunity to work on updating or overhauling some of their work.

Where connections to other organisations and groups in the community existed, this enabled them to respond - either as individuals or a group. Demonstrated that for the most part, community resilience preparedness over many years reaped rewards. This also illustrates the Transition group or Hub’s ‘power of convening’, social networks – and social capital – and skills that many groups have achieved over the years. However, some aspects of community resilience that Transition groups have developed (for example spaces to work together) were not able to be utilised during lockdowns.

The challenges of 2020 made some aspects of the inequalities and weaknesses in the current ‘business as usual’ system more visible, which resulted in more people contacting the group, or interest and connections from local authorities. This shows the importance of developing alternatives over time, so that alternative systems can be upscaled when demand arises – if there is sufficient capacity.

- **Local food:** Where feasible, groups raised plants, shred seeds, provided plants to others, and maintained community gardens which allowed for socialising connection to nature. Some projects (e.g. Cooperation Humboldt) provided ways to redistribute food.
- **Renewable energy:** one response here which was negatively impacted as solar PV installation on school was delayed
- **Nature connection activities:** The importance of green spaces for connecting to others and the more than human world was highlighted during and after lockdown, and contributed to connection to a sense of place.
- **sharing ecological principles and practices:** Increased interest in approaches such as permaculture
- **raising awareness of intersecting crises:** COVID has made some of the existing crises – climate, inequality – more visible. Some groups were able to use this opportunity, and responded through awareness raising by holding meetings and film screenings online. It has also provided opportunity to connect / learn together with other Transition groups.
- **social cohesion and community spirit:** This demonstrated the social capital that some TIs had, and how they were able to build on existing relationships. Some respondents gave examples of members participating in mutual aid projects.
- **developing [and involvement in] mutual aid / care systems:** These responses brought together evidence of the impact of the info shared by their local Transition group, examples

of Transitioners participating in mutual aid projects, whole programs focused on mutual aid, and Transition groups who started making and distributing PPE.

- **Influencing political debates or processes:** Illustrated that some groups continued to influence local politics, and seizing the opportunity to cohere a variety of issues together.
- **Building / involvement in networks and coalitions:** These responses show the benefit of local networks over time – so that extended networks could be activated and work together in response to Covid.
- **supporting emotional health and wellbeing:** A few Transition groups focused on inner transition specifically, although this theme was also mentioned in response to other sub-themes of this question (e.g. social cohesion and community spirit)
- **supporting local businesses:** Plenty of examples here of how complementary currencies were used, running / keeping veg markets open, social innovations linking farmers, businesses and farms [note: also link these large scale impacts to some of the MIT case studies].

In addition to these themes, responses also provided more nuance to the impacts on group capacity, culture of the lockdowns, and how Covid-19 was experienced. Finally the disaster and emergency relief theme gives examples of groups' responses and innovations.

Decrease in group capacity: Brings together the difficulties of adjusting to a very different way of working as a group, and connecting with the wider community, and the difficulties of not having confidence with online working.

Decrease in face to face events: [similar to above]: Mainly the difficulties of not having alternatives to face to face events, or the lack of online capacity to host events.

Group and hub culture: Illustrates the differing impacts of Covid-19, which included conflicts arising from existing tensions, to some hubs using the opportunity to strengthen.

Cultural and political response to Covid-19: A place where I've clustered more general observations about how the political and cultural climate of Covid-19 impacted individuals, groups and projects.

Disaster and emergency relief: A range of examples here, of groups addressing surface water flooding, supporting areas impacted by disasters, to preparing for and activating disaster response groups.

Local food

Where feasible, groups raised plants, shared seeds, provided plants to others, and maintained community gardens which allowed for socialising connection to nature. Some projects (e.g. Cooperation Humboldt) provided ways to redistribute food.

- ~ with covid the local/home food growing really took off, lots of interest from resource and health points of view. Not only is it an easy place to start, but its relevance is 100%.
- ~ As weeks went on we sowed seeds at home for the community and nurtured plants. Other members of Transition have donated some. Normally we would have got plants from our event Grow Local in May, that too – cancelled.
- ~ We've continued to connect with people and are having regular online meetings on most of our projects to do with food growing, food cooperative, energy project, and forest gardens. We recently had our AGM where we showcased our projects of the last year.
- ~ During the first lockdown, when we were unable to have our usual Farmers' Market Stall, we had two plant sales at the homes of our core group. This provided much wanted plants and enabled us to raise money for our local Food Bank.

- ~ We have been fortunate enough to be on the less affected side here in Meaford. We have been able to continue pursuing the initiatives already in place - like styrofoam recycling and the community gardens, markets, etc.
- ~ Yes, COVID seemed to spark great interest in gardening, so our "Food Up Front" project really took off and had a much greater impact than expected. You can hear about that project here: <https://stevenbiggs.ca/garage-gardeners-archives/2020/4/30/create-a-food-street-with-food-up-front>
- ~ We started a community garden in late 2019. Then came lockdown: community activities ceased. But we pressed on, raising plants from home, working in ones & twos. The garden is outside a community centre and while it was closed, or semi closed, the garden was a very visual reminder that the centre was alive. We focused on food production - very real need at the time and in this area. Leegomery Community Garden. <https://transitiontelford.wordpress.com/2020/04/16/volunteers-tackle-one-of-the-community-gardens/>
- ~ Our collaborations with other groups already established, or ones that we have helped to set up, have had the most impact during COVID: E.g. Our well established Seed Sharing Collective distributes seeds as seed outlets dry up and helps teachers and schools (green house care, school gardening plots, and seed saving education). The food group built a new "Tiny Farm" giving food to people in need, continuing with other community gardens, growing seed, providing farming jobs & also fresh produce for an adjoining restaurant.
- ~ It highlights even more the important of a cohesive community food and environment group that focuses on local food production, sharing and wildlife assistance.

Nature connection activities

The importance of green spaces for connecting to others and the more than human world was highlighted during and after lockdown, and contributed to connection to a sense of place.

- ~ We've started a new wildlife group in the last year, since the ecological emergency has been more widely talked about, and people seem more engaged in that than perhaps the climate related stuff. We are just launching a wildlife project for residents gardens, and I have high hopes this will have a big impact on residents of Wellington, both from a mental health and community cohesion point of view as well as for nature.
- ~ We have found the green space we created has been beneficial to people locally as a space to come and safely volunteer and meet with other people face to face.
- ~ All business proposals and plans up to that point (the business planned from October 2019) have been cancelled or postponed due to the Corona Virus. At the same time, outdoor activities increased, and I was able to spend time creating a community garden. It is a form in which a flexible response was successful. I think there may be various changes worldwide in the future. However, I think it is important to carry out activities with the awareness that the area in which you live and the world are connected, and to share with your colleagues.

Sharing ecological principles and practices

Increased interest in approaches such as permaculture

- ~ Almost all of our face-to-face activities in community have reduced significantly throughout 2020. However, despite the financial crisis, we've been able to complete several educational activities, including 3 Permaculture Design Courses. It seems that the interest for practical sustainability and resilience has grown due to the Covid crisis. Also, some people have got in touch to let us know that finally this year they have started e.g. gardening projects that they've been putting off for years.

Raising awareness of intersecting crises

COVID has made some of the existing crises – climate, inequality – more visible. Some groups were able to use this opportunity, and responded through awareness raising by holding meetings and film screenings online. It has also provided opportunity to connect / learn together with other TIs.

- ~ It has brought the opportunity to make more sense of the subjects and issues that we have been developing-researching, and give the opportunity to think - imagine - design new scenarios. Regenerative models like Ag, economy, social aspects, Zero food waste; and how to apport to the decarbonization of the economy and food systems before the security lines.
- ~ If there is an upside, I think these crises are leading more people to challenge the "back to normal" agenda. The old "normal" didn't work.
- ~ Due to the influence of COVID-19, lockdown etc. occurred and the situation overlapped with the peak oil crisis in Cuba, so I hurriedly cleared the copyright of the movie "Power of Community" and held an online screening. , Dozens of people participated several times. One was a couple during their stay in Totnes. Community power (5 minutes)
https://youtu.be/D8BBLU_7Hms]
- ~ We have been creating a chance to talk and learn about the climate crisis and also have a place to talk more than once a month. We also opened a discussion watching Tomorrow and learn from each other more than 20 times.
- ~ Since May we have been providing 1hr Mini-Seminars on alternate Thursday evenings on a host of relevant topics. The 15 sessions so far have served to widen our audience, keep existing Members engaged, and increase our knowledge. Some details attached below.
- ~ We have launched the I am the Change campaign, however the difficulty of mobility has locked us into the digital world and the action in the territory was affected.
- ~ The transition groups I affiliate with are over an hour from my town, so I do a lot of awareness raising as an individual, but knowing about Transition and being able to recommend the amazing resources, including fitting people into the fact of a worldwide community working through transition is tremendously empowering.

Awareness raising

- ~ My activity at local level proved important during the Covid 19 lockdown and we regularly train citizens about extreme weather.
- ~ It's been challenging with limited in person contact, but using zoom and website and mailing lists to stay in regular touch with supporters and members [148]
- ~ We were rudely interrupted by COVID - and took us a while to regroup...we've been holding successful online events (up to 70 people attending)..but haven't done anything directly COVID related. We are doing Festive Streets in December - safe way for

neighbours to work together to celebrate at street level...We think we have created conditions for new eco-groups to thrive - with the council fully supporting with grants etc..new group Grow Community (organiser featured in Independent Happy List 2020) is independent but connections to our group.

- ~ Where networks already existed and could be easily transferred to online meetings etc, this has worked well and better. Otherwise, activity has mostly ground to a halt.
- ~ Use of zoom for meetings has been useful for the group and allies.

Networking and learning

- ~ Yes! A lot of Transition activity here in the US has moved online since the pandemic, but some groups are still gleaning, helping set up gardens, and coordinating mutual aid, etc. Transition US has funded six local Transition projects through our Community Resilience Stimulus Fund, facilitated two online trainings (Regenerative Leadership and Social Justice), and is currently in the midst of a year-long "From What Is to What If" national campaign, engaging our entire network in Positive Visioning, Movement Strategy, and Stories to Action.
- ~ I think we have been using on line system to keep the people in touch and still learning from each other the situation we are facing everyday.

Social cohesion and community spirit

This demonstrated the social capital that some Transition groups had, and how they were able to build on existing relationships. Some respondents gave examples of members participating in mutual aid projects.

- ~ Yes, we stayed connected and strong, crisis didn't hit us hard. As community, connected to farmers, and taking care about each other, especially the weakest
- ~ KMEG has acted as a hub for information exchange and interactions in the town during lockdown. There is something almost every day that is circulated with the aim of inspiring, informing or including people.
- ~ Yes. We hold lives by expanding our network and publicizing our work
- ~ We wrote articles and newsletter about sense making out of Covid 19, and got very positive feedback. <https://bonnimwandel.de/corona-spueren-was-wichtig-ist/>
- ~ stronger social bond, we offer something that makes sense in the face of these challenges and that gives hope to people who find a way forward
- ~ We activated ourselves under Covid, and yes, we were a measurable point for the community. Our routine remained.
- ~ Even under the circumstances of COVID-19, if you have close relationships, you can respond to various situations and live with peace of mind. In addition, there is an evacuation site, wells, firewood, kilns, etc. in case of emergency, so there is a foundation of peace of mind. Even if we are developing our own agriculture, having a food base gives us peace of mind.
- ~ We pivoted our green drinks online which became a vibrant regular gathering - the first one started as a sharing point for how people were coping with lockdown but then went on to look at a whole range of topics including streets, green space, wellbeing, growing, cooking. Many of the individuals in the group volunteered locally with food banks, neighbour support schemes and PPE production.

- ~ Yes. It increased our local and organic food production and also created several deliveries from the Organic producers an increased production and sales. As well as the relevant decrease in the use of fossil fuel transport.
- ~ The gardening/food growing projects are ramping up momentum as people realise how important the great outdoors is. Plastic free is also popular on social media.

Developing [and involvement in] mutual aid / care systems

These responses brought together evidence of the impact of the info shared by their local Transition group, examples of Transitioners participating in mutual aid projects, whole programs focused on mutual aid, and Transition groups who started making and distributing PPE. [also see 'Disaster and emergency relief]

- ~ Some group members have also got involved in a local Covid response group
- ~ Yes I've seen how many of the transition-type initiatives locally have been an important part of community responses - especially those running their own space, with staff, or those running a community business. For example leading efforts to ensure no-one in the community is going hungry, setting up community larders, etc.
Some examples just from the first part of 'lockdown 1' in the UK:
<https://cagoxfordshire.org.uk/cags-response-covid-emergency/>
- ~ We created an entire program area for mutual aid during Covid 19
(<https://cooperationhumboldt.com/covid-response>)
- ~ A group of volunteers from this network has been concerned with providing help to students fixing old computers, and also to needy families with food baskets.
- ~ Activists at Transforming Wekerle recruited volunteer mask tailors and distributed masks to those in need, as well as purchases from them for donations. The locals were glad the civilians were even thinking about it.
- ~ Unfortunately Covid-19 has slowed down or stopped many of our dynamics. However, it leveraged the Eco-Trocas project (exchange network)
- ~ We provided some initial support to the formation of the local Covid 19 support group.
- ~ Yes, social resilience, and belonging to a community that supports itself, has been key since the spring with the Covid-19 situation. At the local level, for example, the consumer cooperative started a project to transport organic food by bike for people who could not leave home, all in a self-managed way among volunteers. <https://lafresca.eco/> is under construction For example: 1) Mutual support to bring local ecological food from the food coop, collaborative with cargobike, to people that could not go out from their houses 2) support to help people isolated through community online calls
- ~ At the beginning of the pandemic, we started making and distributing masks, because masks were unavailable in the shops because of shortages. It also grew our group, we made many friends. Also at the beginning of the pandemic, we distributed vegetable seeds donated by individuals and NGOs to people who asked for them. We started a FB group for these people, to share information and experience. This also made the community stronger and more open, including people living outside the district. We started a community space and cafe in the summer, offering vegan dishes mostly with organic and locally produced ingredients, which became popular with locals working in home office and no time to cook. [Community café](#)

- ~ Locally, it was our extended network that managed to respond to the lack of community protection masks, given the inability of the state and the mayors to respond. An online workshop was held (<https://www.pretajoia.com/2020/04/oficina-de-mascaras-de-protecao.html>) which later developed into a reusable mask production network that provided more than 500 masks for free the community.
- ~ One of our directors set up a network creating PPE using 3D printers, working from our local Town Hall with a group of volunteers. This has been very supportive to our local hospital and GP practices during the Covid crisis.

Influencing political debates or processes

Illustrated that some groups continued to influence local politics, and seizing the opportunity to cohere a variety of issues together.

- ~ lots of Zoom meetings, building connections with other groups, including councillors and MSPs about the Green New Deal and Just Transition.
- ~ Yes, involving the local community in actively participating in the development of Green planning policies and commenting on major development proposals.
- ~ We have noticed increasing interest from local government in the transition philosophy, and increasing political will in seeking solutions together. But our activities are essentially based on face-to-face meetings between citizens, and COVID-19 restrictions have suspended most of our plans.

Building / involvement in networks and coalitions

These responses show the benefit of local networks over time – so that extended networks could be activated and work together in response to Covid.

- ~ Our town has responded well to CV19. It would be unwise and potentially contentious to directly credit these responses to Transition but those of us who have been involved for a while can see how things we started led to many (but not all) of the networks and initiatives that enabled the town to respond as well as we did.
- ~ All the Transition work had an important impact on the framing of crises in a larger context, generating narratives linking these crises with their causes and with the lack of preparation, negligence and intent of public institutions in effective preparation. Locally, it was our extended network that managed to respond to the lack of community protection masks, given the inability of the state and the mayors to respond. An online workshop was held (<https://www.pretajoia.com/2020/04/oficina-de-mascaras-de-protecao.html>) which later developed into a reusable mask production network that provided more than 500 masks for free the community.

Supporting emotional health and wellbeing

A few Transition groups focused on inner transition specifically, although this theme was also mentioned in response to other sub-themes of this question (e.g. social cohesion and community spirit)

- ~ In times of pandemic, we stopped external actions and dedicated ourselves to the internal transition. Facebook Transition Ribeirão Preto

Supporting local businesses

Plenty of examples here of how complementary currencies were used, running / keeping veg markets open, social innovations linking farmers, businesses and farms.

- ~ Support for local trade, to respond to the Covid crisis, through the development of a complementary local currency (together with simpler actions to promote proximity trade)
- ~ Between lockdowns our local market (run by the Transition group) has been very well attended and a good meeting place for socialising.
- ~ We offered a quota service to the BioMarket in order to keep it open.
- ~ I see that the way we organize and support local businesses has made the confrontation of Covid more lenient, in my community, the creation of common sense, and support for small businesses, was something very present, which even saved many businesses that ended up being embraced by people who kept asking, via whatsapp and delivery, so that these places would not close. In addition, this sense of community has led many to support and support the local elderly by shopping for them and helping each other throughout the quarantine.
- ~
- ~ I have founded a cooperative to support regional small businesses (handicrafts, food, service providers) and farms. With this we build common networks that support each other! The cooperative initiates innovative processes and projects in this context - delivery platforms "Austria delivers", development of market systems "Total Regional", sustainable energy systems "Farm-Energy", organic agriculture and permaculture, humus development "Humus-Nectar". We had immense success with this, especially during the crisis, and we urgently need support and assistance! www.imago-genossenschaft.at

Decrease in group capacity

Brings together the difficulties of adjusting to a very different way of working as a group, and connecting with the wider community, and the difficulties of not having confidence with online working.

- ~ It has been very hard to find volunteers for ANYTHING under lockdown.
- ~ The garden is still open but few people attend.
- ~ The group was relatively new, so was still getting established in the community. We have been able to move to online working with the onset of COVID, although this has resulted in much slower progress than when able to meet face-to-face, with people having little appetite for more Zoom meetings.
- ~ The lockdowns have grounded our activities, so maintaining a momentum is at a low currently, as our funds, which were raised through events... The current lull has led us to concentrate on building a new website which will have links to the facebook page and updated information, and enable better communication and exposure.
- ~ Our group has not managed to switch to working on-line very well. So some projects have come on well during lock-down, where leaders are adaptable, but other projects have not happened at all.

Decrease in face to face events

Mainly the difficulties of not having alternatives to face to face events, or the lack of online capacity to host events.

- ~ Waste reduction - we have held many successful SwapShops - until Covid stopped them.
- ~ We have created a transition house, a 200m2 space dedicated to repair, conviviality, local currency, sharing of knowledge and know-how, and culture. This place made it possible to multiply by 4 the number of members in just 1 year, to recruit 2 employees and to be recognized throughout the region, but the covid crisis is obviously causing us big problems.
- ~ We have been unable to progress any of our Transition-related projects during lockdown except for a small amount of social media information sharing. A lot of discussions underway now about more things the community can do locally, and in support of one-another, arose from some basic meetings we had before lockdown.
- ~ The Covid19 and our way of seeing the Transition did not really mix. We mainly base our response on social exchanges, which have been damaged this year.
- ~ More widely, because of lockdowns group meetings and events are not running. The established projects such as CSA are running stably and have increasing demand. Transition Trainings as webinars are in development but no good substitutes. Our annual network meeting in the german-speaking area was successful despite being digital.

Group and hub culture

Illustrates the differing impacts of Covid-19, which included conflicts arising from existing tensions, to some hubs using the opportunity to strengthen.

- ~ Covid hit us hard internally. differences on the obedience to the norms imposed by the government ... until we have dedicated a meeting to be completely for covid, a series of circles of words and consents to strengthen the group in the face of the permanent change imposed by the situation. I put the link to download the guide for our meeting activity BE - special COVID, guide given to all the participants a few days before the meeting (the surprise game was a meditation of connection with the earth in the land of the citizen garden that we are putting together)
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/138w4XTFC1Z4afJw6BkKEAKABxq6J2Q3Y/view?usp=sharing>
- ~ The Transition Groups were strengthened during the crisis, but the Transition Hub was falling wayside during that time due to resource and time challenges.
- ~ More generally ... I feel that crises add challenges to the existing local scenario ... sometimes there is a strength that comes from that, and sometimes there is a negative impact or a dejection on the community for a while. Respect for this dynamic is very important, because if there is no personal energy available, it is difficult to face greater challenges than those already underway. Community time in facing challenges / crises and proposing solutions is an art to be understood and worked on. The opportunities for joint action bring joy and nutrition to the group and can always be activated, remembered ... Currently, online has been an opportunity to expand reach and participation. In particular, MiT's action in Brazil has generated good results even in the face of distance issues. [503]

- ~ For now, we have strengthened the hub in which we participate by paying more attention and communication with the country's initiatives and also in Latin America we have been becoming more aware of how important it is to work together, take care of ourselves and have consistency.... /The last documentary that we made on local currencies, prior to the pandemic events were being held, talks about the documentary with the participation of environmental organizations, social actors, activists and initiatives that gave space for dialogue and questioning the situation. We had more events like this scheduled but due to the pandemic they were canceled, we are currently working on the subtitling of this documentary to make it public and amplify transition stories.

Cultural and political response to Covid-19

A place where I've clustered more general observations about how the political and cultural climate of Covid-19 impacted individuals, groups and projects.

- ~ the covid is a sacred pretext for rear marches (or 'inaction); cleaning up nature and fighting against illegal dumping (we are now working with 2 other active associations, one of which won the cancellation of the development of a golf course in the agglomeration of Alès. This allows us to clean up private spaces soiled with illegal dumping by the owners themselves).
- ~ To be honest, we were played a bit against the wall after culture and civil society, in contrast to the economy in Bavaria, were subjected to the strictest Covid-19 regulations. However, we have set up and opened a regional food cooperative in our network with unpackaged shops as a contribution to decentralized supply (July 2020).
- ~ The impact of the pandemic and shut downs has improved local community cohesion.
- ~ Numerous government and media collaborative horror propaganda and strategies have left people overly quarantined by fear of infection, and even public institutions, businesses and even social welfare agencies have submitted and directed people to excessive infection control measures. A climate of caution against those who do not respond to self-restraint (almost disappeared) covers the whole country, and people's segregation policies also deprive people of the opportunity to develop transitions.
- ~ Action and information from other agencies/organisations appears to be adequate in terms of responding to the various crises. The response of agencies /organisations to crises appears to be adequate
- ~ Bridport is an exceedingly social town. Loads of festivals, events and local music. Neither political unrest nor extreme weather events have made a large local impact (other than awareness and others' suffering) but we've lost the feel of our town during Covid 19. We all miss hugging each other when we meet. My feeling is that Bridport has a remarkable sense of community and loyalty, regardless of political views - room for everyone. Any challenge seems to bring out the best in people. In the most part, there is acceptance of what can and cannot be done, social media plays a large part in the communications and of course so many of our TTB activities were based on social gatherings, films, talks, Green Drinks sessions etc which have been impossible recently. Virtual meetings are of course still possible but not so inclusive, so yes, of course it has had an impact on the community as a whole.

Disaster and emergency relief

A range of examples here, of groups addressing surface water flooding, supporting areas impacted by disasters, to preparing for and activating disaster response groups.

- ~ Regarding abnormal weather, we have reached the point where we issue a "climate emergency declaration" in Sagami City, and we are currently planning a follow-up event for it.
 - ~ Support for disaster-stricken areas during the Great East Japan Earthquake
 - ~ We have done a lot of work with local groups and within our own projects to help prevent and resolve surface water flooding, which has made a real impact on individual households and also local areas affected by flooding.
 - ~ No - although we are getting more requests from as far as California to share the Connect and Prepare model. <https://resilientneighbourhoods.ca/connect-prepare/>
 - ~ The threat of natural disasters such as typhoons and floods is increasing year by year, and awareness of disaster prevention is increasing in urban areas that are considered to be vulnerable to disasters. In particular, in Bunkyo Ward, which is the base of activities, we are encouraging residents to help themselves, and an increasing number of groups are working on disaster prevention in their civic activities.
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For further initial analysis of the relevance and potential of Transition, please see the companion Overview of responses document.