

2-Day Workshop: Starting a Successful New Ecovillage or Intentional Community

by Diana Leafe Christian (in English WITH TRANSLATION TO GERMAN)

In the schedule below, topics apply to ecovillages and other kinds of intentional communities too.

First Day	Second Day
<p>9:00 am – 10:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Welcome & information for participants* Workshop schedule, materials* Introducing Participants & their projects: Participants names, where they live, interest in Ecovillage or community, their projects. <p>***10-Minute Break***</p> <p>10:10 am – 11:40 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Antidotes to “Structural Conflict” Seven structures every ecovillage or intentional community needs to put in place in the beginning.* 19 Steps to Start an Ecovillage Steps, processes, and tasks people typically take to start an ecovillage or community. <p>***10-Minute Break***</p> <p>11:50 am - 12:35 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Mission & Purpose The Mission & Purpose Statement — the Important first step — reminds the founders, and tells potential new members, <i>what</i> the ecovillage or community is doing, and <i>why</i> they are doing it. <p>*** LUNCH 12:35 PM - 1:35 PM ***</p> <p>1:35 pm – 2:55 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Ecovillage Timeline Game An interactive game participants play with large index cards on a long table to illustrate the steps, processes, and tasks of starting a successful ecovillage or intentional community. <p>***15-Minute Break***</p> <p>3:10 pm – 3:55 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* The Ecovillage Membership Process Creating a clear and thorough membership Process that will help the ecovillage or community meet its goals and reduce potential conflict in the future. <p>***20-Minute Break***</p> <p>4:15 pm – 5:30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Buying Land Steps & tips for searching for and buying Property for the ecovillage or community. <p>*** 2-minute Stretch Break***</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Creating “Community Glue” The many kinds of activities ecovillage members do to create a strong and enjoyable “sense of community.”	<p>9:00 am – 10:10 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Financing Land Five ways ecovillage founders typically finance their land purchase. <p>***10-Minute Break***</p> <p>10:20 am – 11:15 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Legal Entities, Part I Why ecovillages and intentional communities need legal entities for co-ownership of land, educational programs, and other purposes; kinds of legal entities, what to look for. <p>***10-Minute Break***</p> <p>11:25 – 12:40 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Legal Entities, Part II Case histories of how real ecovillages have used legal entities, including using several legal entities together to best accomplish their purposes. <p>*** LUNCH 12:40 PM – 1:40 PM ***</p> <p>1:40 pm – 1:30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Internal Community Finances How ecovillage founders typically determine Joining or membership fees, and annual dues and fees, if applicable. Labor requirements. Capital and Operations budgets. <p>***15-Minute Break***</p> <p>1:45 pm – 3:20 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Sociocracy Overview Introduction to this management and self-governance system, which includes an effective decision-making method. How it is similar to and different from Holacracy. <p>*** 15 minute break ***</p> <p>3:35 pm – 4:15 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Sociocratic Elections An effective, transparent, “feel-good” method for choosing ecovillage officers or people to facilitate meetings, fill roles, or do tasks. <p>***20 -minute break ***</p> <p>4:35 pm – 5:30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* “Ecovillage Clinic” for participants’ ecovillage or community projects Participants ask questions about their projects, group prioritizes questions, presenter uses each question to illustrate issues about starting a successful new ecovillage or intentional community* Evaluation & Closing