

enACT3 participant survey (August 2009)

1. Rate how valuable the enACT3 Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream Symposium was for you...

Excellent		17	63.0%
Good		10	37.0%
Fair		0	
Poor		0	

2. What did you value most from the symposium?

The whole process, but especially connecting with local groups, which I did not really manage to do... so looking forward to continuation. It is really wonderful to see so many people of the world awakening, so please keep it up.
The video presentations, which were excellent, both in content and style and the opportunity to meet with others trying to change Canberra for the better.
The developmental approach to the symposium. It took us from the past to the future allowing the audience to move through a process to possibilities. Then having the 'market' place was really useful at the end to see how a person could practically ground their energy to do something in the local area.
Confronting and acknowledging the challenges ahead collectively with a group of similarly minded people. Finding out about what other people in the community are doing is always inspiring
Getting information and meeting people.
Meeting with others who sense the urgency for action rather than talk
Some of the video footage was very informative, some was light and funny and some was confronting. In the way it was presented it worked well for me
What I valued most was the sharing of information with other like minded individuals and being inspired by what is happening in our community and around the world to make a difference.
Connecting with Local Community to get involve for postive change in Canberra and other part of the world. Feel encourage to be with other role and particiaption. Feel like we are working as a Team
The videos Positive ending Nice food
Being in the group with the other committed folks who were there. The strong positive sense of hope that the workshop provided
meeting other like minded people
the intention of getting people together to awaken the power of one
Contacts
I found it inspiring to see how many people in Canberra are doing wonderful things.
The different sorts of people that attended, a great cross-section of the active people in these issues in the ACT region.
Knowledge. Although I already knew the state of the world, I still learned some interesting and some awful things, more in detail. I valued the people there want to make a change.
Interacting with other locals and hearing of their activism.
the reminder that regimes such as the Berlin Wall and Apartheid were overcome through persistence and cumulative change in attitude/awareness
I felt that the organisers knew they were dealing with a tough subject and were willing to take people, all seeking some connection amongst existing groups which are diverse and many, with a unifying goal of empathising with the concept of Gaea and valuing one another.
Finding out that there is a substantial amount in common between the spiritual and scientific approach to the climate change issue, and how the emotional/philosophical side of human nature can be mobilised around what is so often a cold and abstract issue.
The hopefulness based on acknowledging what has happened and where we are now, but creating a common future together
Connection with other people
Clear, well organised presentation, simple and impactful, encouraging
Being made aware of all the groups that are active in the Canberra community
I thought the presentation was good. I liked the way in which it began with urgency, but kept letting us know that we would not be left in despair. Yes, it was preaching to the converted but also good to help us know about tools which can be used to preach to those who are not so aware.

3. What could have been done better?

1. I did not like the segment on the big bang – especially put over as "this is how it is". It just does not hold together with the 'why we are one' concept, and also when compared to the 'Electric Universe' theory, which is far more plausible – and we have one of the top experts in Canberra. 2. I think there could be a different format to link locals up together.
The last session was informative but could have been drawn to a better conclusion.
It really went so well – possibly more engagement with audience – less reading by the facilitators and localising the content to Australia/Canberra.
I like the workshop combination from enACT2 – would be nice to see that concept run again, and somehow tie a workshop together with the symposium format (as two separate but connected events)
Was a bit hot!
possible missing out the film and instead interacting face to face. I felt that the moving around to meet with others was most useful. The film told me little that I don't already know and is depressing for the first half.
More symposiums will answer that
Mor einformation what is going take place there and also information about the organisation who is joining there.
make the venue/equipment 'greener'
Not a lot as I assume that all the workshop materials were provided and needed to be presented without much change – and the facilitators were very good. However, I would probably prefer a little less 'scripting' and more sponteneity. Also, the strong North American focus of the video materials made them a little less relevant (but difficult to know what to do about that given this workshop was presumably prepared in the US)
intersperse the first hour with some (small) activity, too much sitting in my seat.
advertising...seemed to be talking to the converted largely
Less preaching to the converted

I wished the presentations had been adapted to be Australian: Aussie voice overs, statistics etc

Some slightly differently timed breaks early on in the difficult stuff, and perhaps a slightly more guided stillness session near the end of proceedings towards a set of personal futures for all participants.

The fact that we're not thinking much still. We're still in many small groups that seems interested in doing their own thing. What we really need is to have something like a central yet transparent database of sorts. We need to see what our resources are and how best to use them. I am in a parallel movement which is the activist arm of the Venus Project. (www.thevenusproject.com) I believe that is the key to living in a sustainable environment that is eco-friendly, etc. I'll give you the first paragraph of the Movement's page (<http://www.thezeitgeistmovement.com/joomla/index.php?Itemid=50>) "We intend to restore the fundamental necessities and environmental awareness of the species through the advocacy of the most current understandings of who and what we truly are, coupled with how science, nature and technology (rather than religion, politics and money) hold the keys to our personal growth, not only as individual human beings, but as a civilization, both structurally and spiritually. The central insights of this awareness is the recognition of the Emergent and Symbiotic elements of natural law and how aligning with these understandings as the bedrock of our personal and social institutions, life on earth can and will flourish into a system which will continuously grow in a positive way, where negative social consequences, such as social stratification, war, biases, elitism and criminal activity will be constantly reduced and, idealistically, eventually become nonexistent within the spectrum of human behavior itself." It may seem like a Utopia at first, but I encourage you to look at it in detail. The Zeitgeist Movement, (the movement I am in) has 300,000 thousand people globally and I am trying to establish a chapter in Canberra. I believe we need some new concept, perhaps, to bridge us. An alliance or something? Who knows, but we need a transparent way of seeing what's what, and be more wise on how to spend our resources intelligently, so we can show the rest of the world an example.

The whole event was very well run and I don't think it could have been improved. However, I felt uncomfortable with some of the American flavour of the presentations and the emphasis on spirituality. I went along to the Chorus of Women's event the following Sunday and though much less professionally run it was much more rewarding and inspiring in that the whole thing was the product of local people's vision and efforts.

as a structured 'script' I think it went really well. And I was aware (though not really antipathetic to) the US focus.

Inviting representatives from groups to write a paragraph of their primary aspiration/goal and compile a united mandala like document to send to participants

Potentially some time devoted to discussing and analysing some of the themes in the symposium.

Maybe there were too many groups to connect people in the ways they may want to in the last part of the program

Presenters read directly from sheets, delivering content rather than a symposium with people and this seemed a little contrived at times.

The session to meet the representatives of all the groups should have been the last activity of the day. When people got up to speak there seemed to be multiple representatives from the same organization speaking...just wanting to add something that the other had not covered! Perhaps they could chat before and agree!!

I thought that it was all good.

4. I am interested in hosting a symposium in my network or geographic area...

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	9	36.0%
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	16	64.0%

5. I'll invite people to future symposiums...

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	24	96.0%
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	4.0%

6. I'll be on the team for future symposiums...

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	11	47.8%
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	12	52.2%

7. I am interested in the next one-day training to lead and organise symposiums. Please keep me in the loop...

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	11	45.8%
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	13	54.2%

8. I have a venue and resources to host this training to lead and organise symposiums...

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	7	30.4%
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	16	69.6%

9. I'd like to financially support the Symposium Initiative in Australia, please call me to discuss...

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	4.8%
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	95.2%

10. What suggestions do you have for future enACT venues and ways to share sustainable food and drink together?

Combine them as a focus point for other groups so as to introduce more people who can't spare an afternoon.
I wondered about doing on through Joseph Baker at the ACT Assembly!!!! First step to the house on the hill?
Mark - you said you were interested in the Canberra Technology Park common area - this is available for rent - I'll find out some details and email them to you
Venue somewhere at Pialligo Maybe hook up with COGS people - Canberra Organic Gardening Society Have a short event at the Farmer's Market - may be a good audience there.
The location was convenient for me. The food and drink arrangements worked really well thanks. So that side of things was tops thanks.
make it from within 100km
I think it would be good to organise a community meal together, hire out a venue and everyone bring a plate to share of sustainable food.
Pot lick Dinner or bringing their own food so participant and organiser can concentrate more on topics and training.
Put up posters in civic/woden/belconnen/tuggeranong so the whole community knows about it- and to raise awareness have discount prices for anyone who walked/rode on a bike there (better for the environment than cars/motorcycles) have free morning teas with short speeches at primary schools - kids are never too young to be taught about important stuff same with nursing homes
I thought the idea of asking people to bring food to share was a good one - and also a good way of reducing costs. Majura Comm Centre was a good venue
Venue - Steiner school in Weston "food in season" - suggestions and requests to share in-season foods
I think the opportunity to meet with people is good as it enables people to get together.
I thought the venue and facilities/food etc worked really well.
Format beginning to settle in well now. Next one (enACT 4) could well be simply a 'market place' of ideas and food pivoting upon "Sharing the present, shaping the future"...a way for those in the loop to get an even better hold of the various dimensions of change happening in the region. enACT 5 could then be more 'outreach orientated' again - with the focus of getting complete outsiders to come to the hub. A symposium that is pointed towards the

newspaper and T.V. press in order to let THEM see what is happening in the big picture thinking of the ACT region.....and to perhaps get them up to speed on sustainable issues – thence the public will feel the gathering momentum.
I think it is safe to say it was great. I have say, good job guys, keep up the good work!
The venue and self catering were excellent
By the number of people who attended, the venue seems appropriate, with available parking, space, etc. I think the idea of bringing food was good. The term "sustainable food" did confuse some people, though I noticed that some people just ignored it and brought afternoon tea regardless of its origin. There may be a different way to encourage awareness of food we eat and share on the day.
A tent at the Aboriginal tent embassy A tent at Government House and emphasise the subject of population demographics and Australia's changes in population for different reasons and how sustainable we can live in this large old land with its very recent changes involving hard to sustain agriculture. A tent at Floriade with pictures and produce from sustainable private and community gardens and maybe an old historical documentary of Chinese veggie gardens with comfort soup served.
The Dickson venue worked well for me and the food was great.
Meeting at a friendly cafe where patrons are prepared to support the aims meeting at houses where people already grow some food, or a local winery.
Likes the sustainable food and drinks part – this was great. Venue was good as well, although not easy to get to using public transportation.
Have in Spring , in a venue where you can go outside.
No suggestions

11. What future enACT topic or process would be compelling for you to attend?

anything to do with finance – money structures – how we view money and ideas on how we can obtain financial freedom – so that we can WORK at what motivates us, and possibly even earn something from it. It will have to come about for more people as our financial structures change.
how to clean up our 'home' act – make my house sustainable????
To somehow tie a workshop together with the symposium format (as two separate but connected events)
How we can work more sustainably – more flexible work that Banks recognise as valid for a mortgage, that managers recognise as valid, – more working from home where possible, more healthy work practices rather than sitting in front of a computer all day, and a change to salary packaging that does away with cars for SES – a key reason why there is no incentive for public transport in ACT to improve!
If we could have a sense that we all belong to the same group. It is unbelievable how many of us have our own group. If we just said that we all belong to enACT and then worked on how to integrate that with our personal and community efforts to live with a minimum carbon footprint. In reality it is more about spreading the message to our young folk, there's no hope for we middle-aged folk, we've already done the damage.
Local sustainable organic food. Looking at eating close to home and how to grow your own food no matter what size property you have. Fiona Tito Wheatland is a great contact for you.
Information and knowledge about how to have sustainable community and how to work together. Motivate leadership to motivate people more affectively anything
Difficult to get my head round that just now – but will keep thinking about it and let you know! I think the networking is very valuable – and people are starting to get to know each other better which is opening up new possibilities.
Food security, how Canberra will feed itself given peak oil, how Canberra can set up community gardens
A focused target – sustainable transport
Unsure, maybe climate change movement – empowering the masses
see above
Bridging movements and how to use resources wisely.
session on dialogue methods
not sure at this stage
I would like to include/respect the work done by people who have chosen to live a sustainable life in different social and physical environments and who have gone out of their comfort zone.
A regional summit to develop a cross-group strategic plan of action on the climate for ACT groups would be one (but I'm happy to be compelled to most things).
Educating young people for the reality and the hope. Many young people are drinking themselves into oblivion because they feel helpless and angry Maybe working with teachers in-service
Yes
Transport, Food choices
Anything which is not just talk, but has some ideas which can be put into practice. I do not feel comfortable about being in a group which just talks generally. I do not feel that people go away feeling empowered to act. They feel good about expressing themselves and it can so easily end there.

12. What event topic or process would attract many more people to take positive action in response to climate change?

Empowerment and joy – both of which you cover. Reassuring that every person counts – every 'brick' counts in a building. To be kept in touch with follow up, the knowing that the event does not 'come to naught'.
Perhaps targetting industry groups, or non climate change groups
Something that is personalised – amount of CO2 emissions for your house; estimating how much water and power you consume a day and how this adds up with our population. It always makes more impact when it is about the individual.
Perhaps just meeting with others in silence, stillness and with as little superfluousness as possible. I would like to have aboriginal elders involved please.
Transition Towns
Same type of meeting can take place in different places in Canberra. More in the Grass root level if possible. We can have more Team to this sort of work Shop.
important people (eg. Peter Garret) always attract listeners
Also thinking about this! But I do think that changing the public discourse away from an adversarial (protest) approach to one of working together is the way to go – that means bringing all sides of politics, industry and community to the table.
"hip pocket" – ways to save money, that also save the planet.
what it means to them, their lives and their wallets.
see above
Not entirely sure, I'd test a few ideas, see what works and what doesn't.
Do we need something that addresses the (in)adequacy of the Rudd Government's bill on CPRS, or something on the ethos associated with the bill? At the caring economy talk on the Tuesday following your symposium one woman asked the question Why is the Rudd Govt so scared of the big polluters? Why has Govt caved in to the coal industry? If Govt can only contemplate incremental paradigm change, what better solution is there – for example, for a more determined approach at institutional and regional levels to alternative energies? One of the (claimed) criticisms by non-sitting MPs/parties is the impact on employment. Some research is being done on employment implications – can this be highlighted, or addressed more rigorously, and publicised? A lot of us are doing our domestic bit for climate change, can enACT marshal the changes at institutional/corporate levels?
The sport/fitness event (fun run/walk/ride with renewable energy of various kinds, with group recognition)combines well with bringing attention to health issues and may work for climate response awareness raising. A mix of Women's Chorus and Canberra's ANU Impro theatre to creatively involve students, parents and grandparents in cross over roles and imaginative play on tackling change intergenerationally. Ethical shopping...what is sustainable food (including fish) and clothes, bedding (to sleep with some good conscience), low emissions transport options and heating and cooling our houses....like an expo with an emphasis on inventiveness. Artists responding to local writing of poetry concerning climate and environmental change

over time recent or over centuries.....a visual display gives a response to a insight and topic...poetry can inspire the response...encouraging communication between the arts.

There are a few things that would engage with where most people are at, and the key is to be positive and hands-on, but if we are to move people forward to where they need to be, it also needs to deal with the sober realities of the problem and what is required to solve it.

Not sure what would attract others to take positive action – something that make their lives easier perhaps. I'd like to see something a little more in your face that challenges what you can do in your life.....

Small practical steps.

13. Are you interested in being invited to join the volunteer team to plan and organise future enACT events?

Yes		10	38.5%
Not at this time		16	61.5%

14. Any other comments?

Keep up the good work – I would help if I could, but we are at the climax point of our life time vision and it is not an easy road. Hope it will get easier and we come out financially intact – but at this point in time, everything we have and stand for is at risk, and we can't give anything more than this to the planet. We have lived this concept of action for 30 years and it has been a long long journey. I think we are at a time where awareness is at a tipping point – so actions should now get easier, especially if people like you, can link all those who care, together. THANK YOU.

I really appreciated the meeting and the collection of people at it. I am overcommitted with my two major activities right now and cannot commit to new activities of the kind you are planning. But I appreciate the vital role you are playing in this coordinating action and would like to be kept informed of progress.

Obviously my capacity is limited in terms of how I can support the enACT events, but I am happy to work together with you to make sure the climateXchange development efforts help compliment and facilitate the enACT concepts Thanks for running a great event!

Thanks for asking. I will only commit time and energy that I have and I wish to do more out here where I am living. Thanks again. Nora

It was wonderful. It was engaging, stimulating and a development for all the disparate groups to merge. Thank you sincerely. It was a huge thing to put it on and you all did brilliantly. Most extraordinary. Sincere deep gratitude. In particular I appreciated your concerns about spiritual needs being met.

I did not answer question 9 as i would like more details of costs involved.

I would like to be in touch with you and contribute my time and Skill or the effort you are making. also to assist you take this programme overseas to assist people of developing world

Thanks for a good time. I enjoyed the symposium a lot

Not at the moment (sorry!)

A different closing event would be good, the talking to other groups in the room could be replaced with a world cafe or open space on a topic picked from a majority vote ??

not at this time. not a very good team person but working on it.(as I get is necessary)

I will attempt to get to any other symposia as it is a good opportunity to get together.

Thanks, all in all, a really good afternoon. Goodluck.

well done for completing the day so well.

Although I have ticked no for most of those questions, I think we could work something out. I have informed my movement though I am not sure if they have contacted yours. (although I only informed the international part, which they are very busy, I have yet to inform the Australian chapter) If you want to discuss, I left my mobile there in case. Also I don't want this to spark a rival between the two movements, that is counter-productive to our survival, we need to be as rational and intelligent about this as possible. which I am sure you'll agree.

I was impressed, particularly by the number of people present. It is one of the best attended seminars I have been at. Your energy must be appropriate.

Thanks for helping people who are willing to be informed and be connected and show feeling come together for a tiny fee.

Nice work Global Learning! You are a tremendous asset and source of energy for the sustainability networks of the ACT. I'm looking forward to the next enACT!

Keep the revolution alive.....

I love the presenter

I thought the symposium was good. I thought that it is an excellent tool to get the word across with good background information. I found the videos effective. I was fine with knowing that it is a script. This way the same information is getting out to everyone who attends, now and in the future. I liked the way that it is a symposium formula. Good on you. I could comment about it being American based, bit to what end. The message has been put together and there is no point in reinventing the wheel. The message is urgent and needs to get out now.