



"Everyone who is concerned about Peak Oil needs to see this film."

– Richard Heinberg, author of *The Party's Over, Powerdown*, and *The Oil Depletion Protocol*



the Power of Community

How Cuba Survived Peak Oil

The Community Solution presents EUGENE "PAT" MURPHY, MATT SIMMONS, MEGAN QUINN, RICHARD HEINBERG, ROBERTO PEREZ, RITA PEREIRA, MIGUEL COYULA, BRUNO ENRIQUEZ & RACHEL BRUHNKE
 In a film by COMMUNITY SERVICE, INC.
 "THE POWER OF COMMUNITY: HOW CUBA SURVIVED PEAK OIL"
 Narrated by BRUCE CROMER
 Cinematography/Photography by GREGORY GREENE, FAITH MORGAN & JOHN MORGAN
 Edited by ERIC JOHNSON Associate Producer TOM BLESSING IV
 Written and Produced by FAITH MORGAN, EUGENE "PAT" MURPHY & MEGAN QUINN
 Directed by FAITH MORGAN

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Power of Community – Synopsis

When the Soviet Union collapsed in 1990, Cuba's economy went into a tailspin. With imports of oil cut by more than half – and food by 80 percent – people were desperate. This film tells of the hardships and struggles as well as the community and creativity of the Cuban people during this difficult time. Cubans share how they transitioned from a highly mechanized, industrial agricultural system to one using organic methods of farming and local, urban gardens. It is an unusual look into the Cuban culture during this economic crisis, which they call "The Special Period." The film opens with a short history of Peak Oil, a term for the time in our history when world oil production will reach its all-time peak and begin to decline forever. Cuba, the only country that has faced such a crisis – the massive reduction of fossil fuels – is an example of options and hope.

Presenter – Ezio "Buzz" Gori

Buzz is a project management and sustainable development consultant who first saw this film at an Ecovillage Design Education course at the Findhorn Ecovillage in northern Scotland during 2006. A year later Buzz undertook a cycle trip in Cuba and now screens this film followed by a brief slide and talk show of his Cuban experience and its relevance to current sustainability trends.

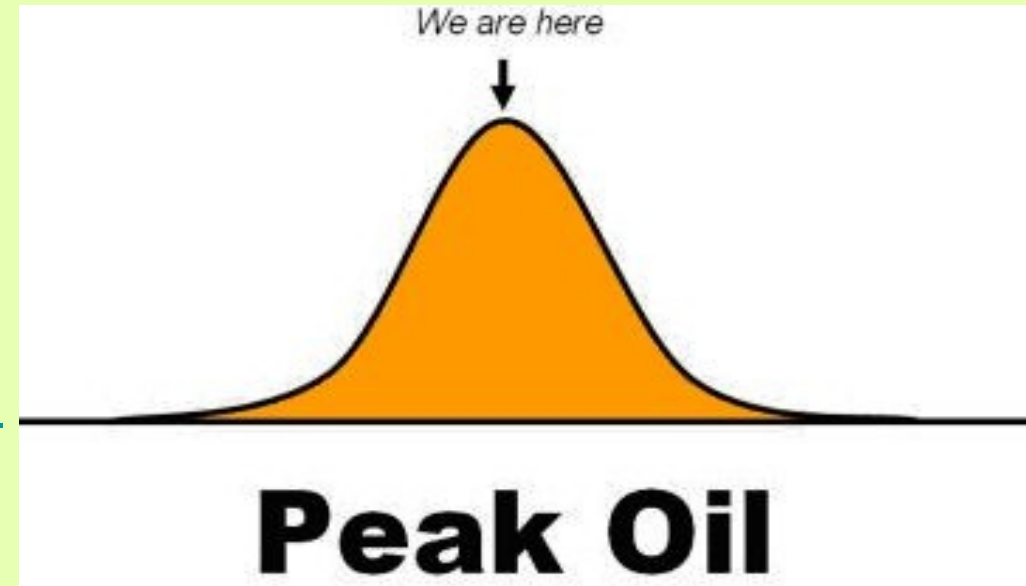
Petrol price spike – is this the catalyst for a paradigm shift?
Come and see the award winning documentary, "The Power of Community - How Cuba Survived Peak Oil", followed by a talk and slide show by Buzz Gori exploring transition towns & his recent cycle trip in Cuba

7 pm
Tuesday 15th April

Breathing Space yoga studio
CNR Bulwer & Ferguson Rds,
Glenwood

Some tasters for coping with the onset of Peak Oil & Climate Change

- [Humanity's two greatest challenges](#)
- www.communitysolution.org
- **Transition Initiatives**
 - www.transitiontowns.org
 - www.transitionculture.org
- **Findhorn Ecovillage**
 - [Ecovillage Design Education – Ecological Footprint](#)
 - [Positive Energy Conference](#)
- **BP Gulf Oil Spill Disaster**
 - [General Development Scenarios](#)
 - [Clean Up Scenarios](#)
- **General**
 - [Globalisation vs Relocalisation](#)
 - [Sustainability weblinks](#)



**SUSTAINABILITY
MEANS WORKING
TOGETHER AS A
COMMUNITY**



**Ecovillage Design
Education Course
Findhorn, Oct / Nov 2006**

HUMANITY'S TWO GREATEST CHALLENGES



PEAK OIL

- Coal to liquids
- Gas to liquids
- Relaxed drilling regulations
- Massively scaled biofuels
- Tar sands and non-conventional oils
- Resource nationalism and stockpiling

WHEN SEEN AS TWO ASPECTS OF THE SAME PROBLEM:
BUILDING RESILIENCE PLUS CUTTING CARBON EMISSIONS

Planned relocalisation (building local resilience)

- Tradable energy quotas
- Decentralised energy infrastructure
- The Great Re-skilling
- Localised food production (food feet)
- Energy descent planning
- Local currencies
- Local medicinal capacity



CLIMATE CHANGE

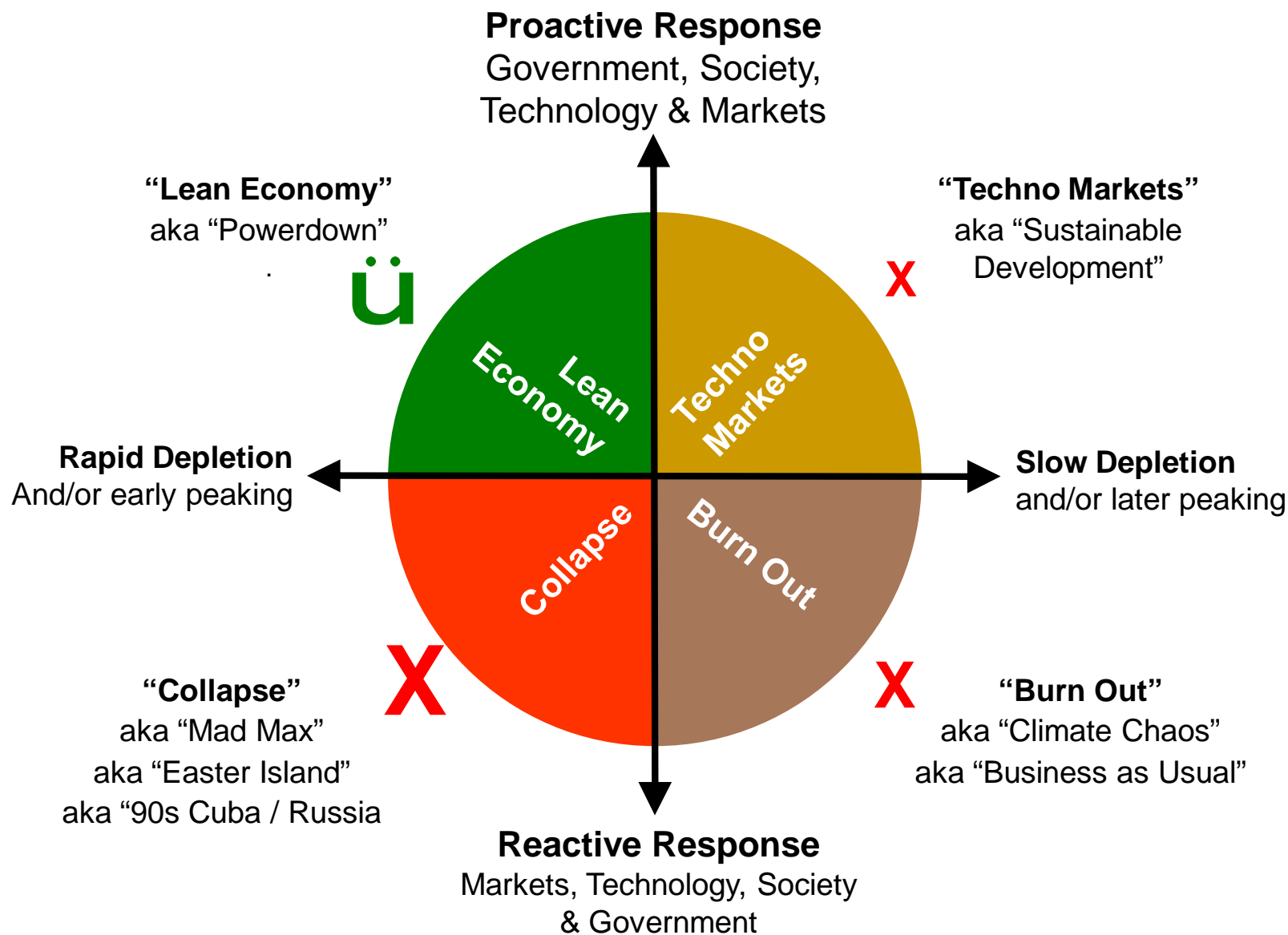
- Climate engineering
- Carbon capture and storage
- Tree-based carbon offsets
- International emissions trading
- Climate adaptation
- Improved transport logistics
- Nuclear power



Reasons why not to go Nuclear

1. Length of time to come on stream
2. Insurance
3. Waste
4. Cost (Energy Return on Energy Invested – EROEI)
5. Peak Uranium
6. Carbon Emissions

FOUR ENERGY SCENARIOS





- [The Problem](#)
- [Our Solutions](#)
- [Food](#)
- [Housing](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [New Solutions Reports](#)
- [Press & Presentations](#)
- [Annual Conference](#)
- [Resources](#)



The Fifth Annual Conference

Oct. 31-Nov.2 – The Fifth U.S. Conference on Peak Oil and Community Solutions
Plan C: Individual and Community Survival Strategies for the Energy Crisis [Get info](#) ▶▶

Food

It's not just what we eat, but how we grow it, ship it, process it and store it. To reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, and to slow climate change, we need to grow, shop and eat local!



Housing

In spite of improvements in efficiency, our homes today use more energy than they did 40 years ago. Why? They are bigger and use many more appliances than ever before. Just what is sustainable housing? ▶▶

Transportation

The freedom of the road will soon be a thing of the past unless we can get over our love affair with the car, and reduce our society's reliance on cheap, polluting transportation. ▶▶



Visit the website for our award-winning film about how Cuba survived an artificial Peak Oil. ▶▶



Local Knowledge Series
Talks and discussions on global issues by Dayton-area local experts. ▶▶

Join our mailing list

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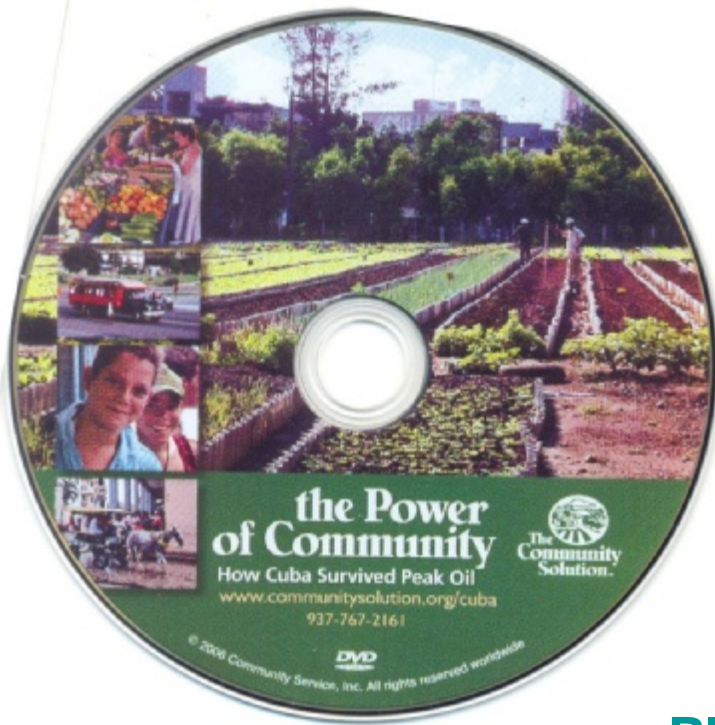
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www.powerofcommunity.org



Recipient of People's Choice Award for Best International Film at [Aotearoa Environmental Film Festival](#) (New Zealand)



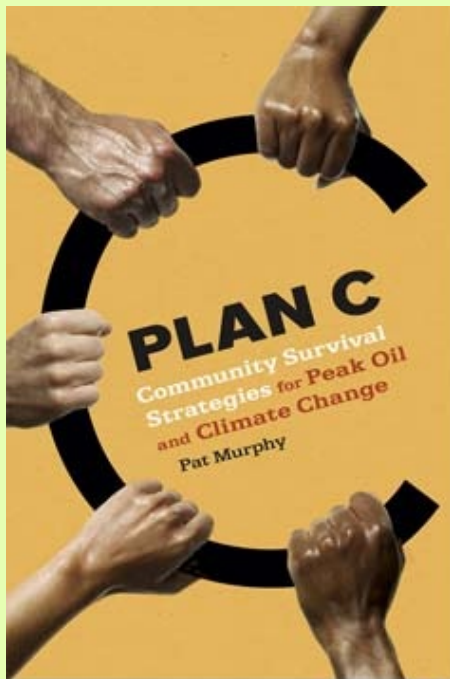
Plan C: Community Survival Strategies for Peak Oil and Climate Change

While Plans A and B seek to maintain unsustainable levels of resource consumption through energy alternatives, Plan C advocates for cultural change.

Plan A – More and dirtier fuels like tar sands, oil shale, coal-to-liquids, and “clean” coal (bury CO₂) to keep up with growing energy consumption.

Plan B – The “clean and green” approach proposes using large-scale renewables like wind, solar, biofuels and hydrogen to maintain our high energy way of life and keep us complacent and consuming.

Plan C – Our strategy of culture change, conservation and curtailment.



Transition Initiatives

- What's one of those?
- "Official" initiatives
- Mulling it over...?
- Forums
- Transition Handbook
- Transition Primer
- Transition Training
- Resources
- Criteria
- 12 Steps
- 7 Buts
- Disclaimer

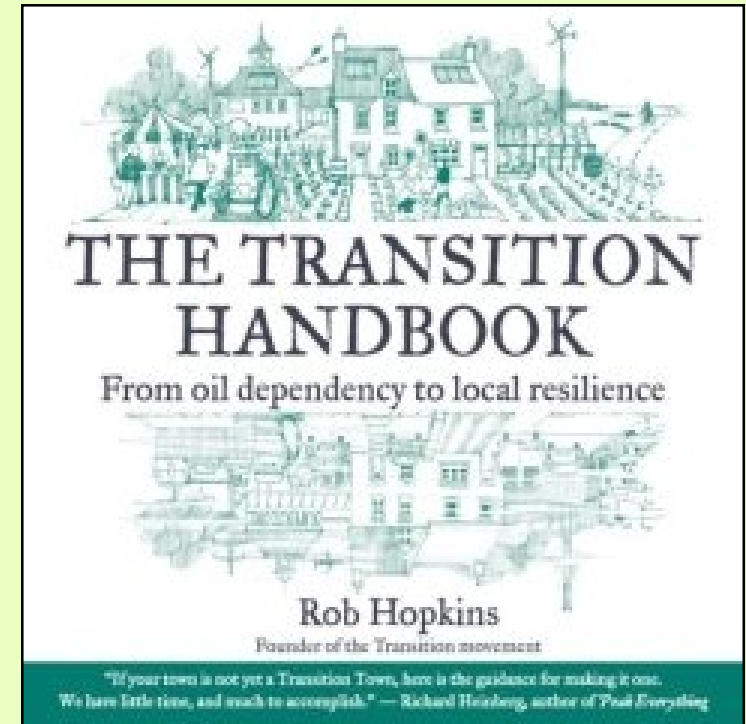
Transition Communities

Who's next...?

In date order

1. Totnes, England
2. Penwith, England
3. Kinsale, Ireland
4. Ivybridge, England
5. Falmouth, England
6. Moretonhampstead, England
7. Lewes, England
8. Stroud, England
9. Ashburton, England
10. Ottery St. Mary, England
11. Bristol, England
12. Brixton, England
13. Forest Row, England
14. Mayfield, England
15. Glastonbury, England
16. Lostwithiel, England

[and counting \(100 as at 2008/09/10\)](#)





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SITE

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- [Powerdown](#)
- [Systems Thinking](#)

LEARNING ARCHIVE

- [July 07 > Present](#)
- [Jan 07 > June 07](#)
- [Nov 05 > Dec 06](#)

Powerdown



Classes, workshops, courses, information and resources for *managing the transition to a lower energy Ireland.*

Subscribe to the Powerdown e-bulletin with all the latest news on how we *reduce our carbon footprint* and build strong communities with *resilient local economies.*



QUICK LINKS

- [Green Building](#)
- [April Gardening](#)
- [Bike Maintenance](#)
- [Transition Training](#)
- [Volunteer](#)
- [Transition Handbook](#)
- [Transition Network](#)
- [May Gardening](#)
- [Art of Living](#)
- [Ayurveda Lecture](#)
- [Health Day](#)
- [StopClimateChaos](#)
- [Fashion Evolution](#)
- [Education Directory](#)

FADA Newbridge

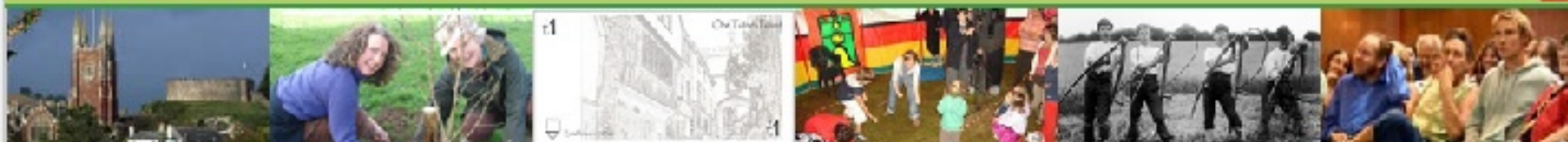
Powerdown

FADA is a network set up by volunteers, mostly from Co Kildare, preparing communities for peak oil by focusing on the localisation of the economy. It was formed after the Energy Forum, an event discussing peak oil organised in April 2006 by the Newbridge Integral Philosophy Group.

FADA's objective is to help create and maintain a vibrant, diverse, secure and sustainable community by fostering ingenuity through local projects and positive action.



Transition Town Totnes



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Password: *

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- ▣ [Request new password](#)
- ▣ [Register for free e-bulletin](#)

What are you looking for ?

- ▣ [Get involved](#)
- ▣ [Current bulletin](#)
- ▣ [Calendar of events](#)
- ▣ [Projects](#)
- ▣ [Make a donation](#)

Welcome to Transition Town Totnes

This new website replaces our old Wiki as of 31st March 2008. Some content is still under construction for the next few weeks (particularly the project pages). Please let us know what you think of our new online home.



Totnes is the UK's first Transition Initiative, that is, a community in a process of imagining and creating a future that addresses the twin challenges of diminishing oil and gas supplies and climate change, and creates the kind of community that we would all want to be part of.

The challenges presented to us today by global warming and peak oil (and gas) are perhaps the greatest that humanity has faced. This time brings a great opportunity for rethinking the way we live and making conscious choices about what kind of community and world we would like to live in. Change is coming whether we like it or not – and a planned response to the change will leave us in a much stronger position than if we wait until change is upon us.

Transition Town Totnes (TTT) believes that only by involving all of us - residents, businesses, public bodies, community organisations and schools - will we come up with the most innovative, effective and practical ideas, and have the energy and skills to carry them out. Our future has the potential to be more rewarding, abundant and enjoyable than today, and by working together we can unleash the collective enthusiasm and genius of our community (that means you!) to make this transition.

With this in mind, our mission is two-fold:

- To explore and then follow pathways of practical actions that will reduce our carbon emissions and dependence on fossil fuels.

Font size : [A+](#) - [R](#) - [A-](#)



Latest TTT updates

- " [Non-TTT Events](#)
- [Job Vacancies](#)
- [Good Energy](#)
- " [Energy Group Meeting \(March 08\)](#)
[more](#)

Partners and links

Kinsale 2021

An Energy Descent

Action Plan – Version.1. 2005



By Students of
Kinsale Further Education College

Edited by Rob Hopkins



zerocarbonbritain
an alternative energy strategy

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Centre for Alternative Technology

Login Form

Username

Password

“An inspiration to all who are grappling with the challenge that climate change is bringing to our world”

Sir John Houghton
Former Co-Chair of the IPCC
Former Director General of the UK MET Office

What is this?

zerocarbonbritain details how Britain can eliminate emissions from fossil fuels in 20 years and break our dependence on imported energy.

It demonstrates how we can achieve this by halving energy demand and installing massive renewable energy generation.

[Read more...](#)

Quick Links

DOWNLOAD

[Full Report \(4Mb\)](#)

PURCHASE

[Buy Online](#)

WATCH

[Launch Animation](#)

Latest News

- [Looking back at 2007...](#)
- [CAT supports Minister's plan for offshore turbines](#)
- [Reducing CO2 emissions to zero is the only option](#)
- [Lib Dems adopt CAT's zero-carbon policies...](#)

An Alternative Energy Strategy



Joanna Macy

has developed an international following over the course of 40 years as a speaker and workshop leader on Buddhist philosophy, systems theory and deep ecology. She is the author of numerous books, including *Coming Back to Life: Practices to Reconnect Our Lives, Our World and World as Lover, World as Self*.

Richard Heinberg

is widely regarded as one of the world's foremost Peak Oil writers and educators. He is a Research Fellow of the Post Carbon Institute and author of seven books, including *Powerdown: Options and Actions for a Post-Carbon World* and *The Oil Depletion Protocol*.



Richard Olivier

is the founding voice of Mythodrama - a new form of experiential learning - which combines classic stories with psychological insights, creative exercises and organisational development techniques to explore issues faced by modern leaders. He is the founding director of Olivier Mythodrama Associates.

Dorothy Maclean

is a co-founder of the Findhorn Foundation community. Dorothy continues to dedicate her life and energy to educating others to make their own inner connection to the divine and to nature's intelligence.



Richard Lochhead

lives locally and is Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment in the Scottish Parliament and Member of the Scottish Parliament for Moray, the constituency in which Findhorn is located. Richard is an expert in renewable energy policy.

Rob Hopkins

is founder of the Transition Town movement in the UK. There are now 12 Transition Towns in the network, each of which is exploring options and strategies for energy descent planning. Rob has been a teacher of permaculture for 10 years.



Megan Quinn

is the Outreach Director of Community Service, Inc and has been writing and speaking on Peak Oil for more than four years. She has served as Master of Ceremonies for the first three US Conferences on Peak Oil and Community Solutions. Megan co-wrote and co-produced her organisation's new documentary, *The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil*.

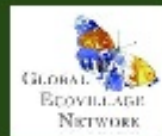
Jonathan Dawson

is President of the Global Ecovillage Network, a network of communities on every continent dedicated to developing models for low-impact, high-quality lifestyles. He is the author of several books including the recently published *Ecovillages: New Frontiers for Sustainability*.



"Let us accept the current challenge - the next great energy transition - as an opportunity to re-imagine human culture from the ground up, using our intelligence and our passion for the welfare of coming generations and for the integrity of nature's web as our primary guides."

Richard Heinberg



Workshop Venue

The conference will take place at the Findhorn Foundation ecovillage in the north of Scotland. A recent study found that the Findhorn ecovillage has the lowest ecological footprint ever recorded for any settlement in the industrialised world. It has its own community currency and bank, the UK's oldest organic CSA box-scheme, the UK's first Living Machine sewage treatment system and a large number of innovative ecological houses built in various styles. The ecovillage is a net exporter of electricity from its 750 kilowatt-capacity wind-park.

Booking Information:

Contact: bookings@findhorn.org
www.findhorn.org/positiveenergy

If booked before 21 January, 2008:
Low income £495, Medium income £555, High income £645

Bookings after 21 January, 2008:
Low Income £525, Medium Income £585, High Income £675

Designed and printed by Big Sky, Findhorn, an ISO14001 certified company, using recycled paper and vegetable oil-based inks. www.bigskypriest.com

FINDHORN FOUNDATION
EASTER CONFERENCE MARCH 22-28, 2008

POSITIVE ENERGY

Creative community responses to Peak Oil and Climate Change

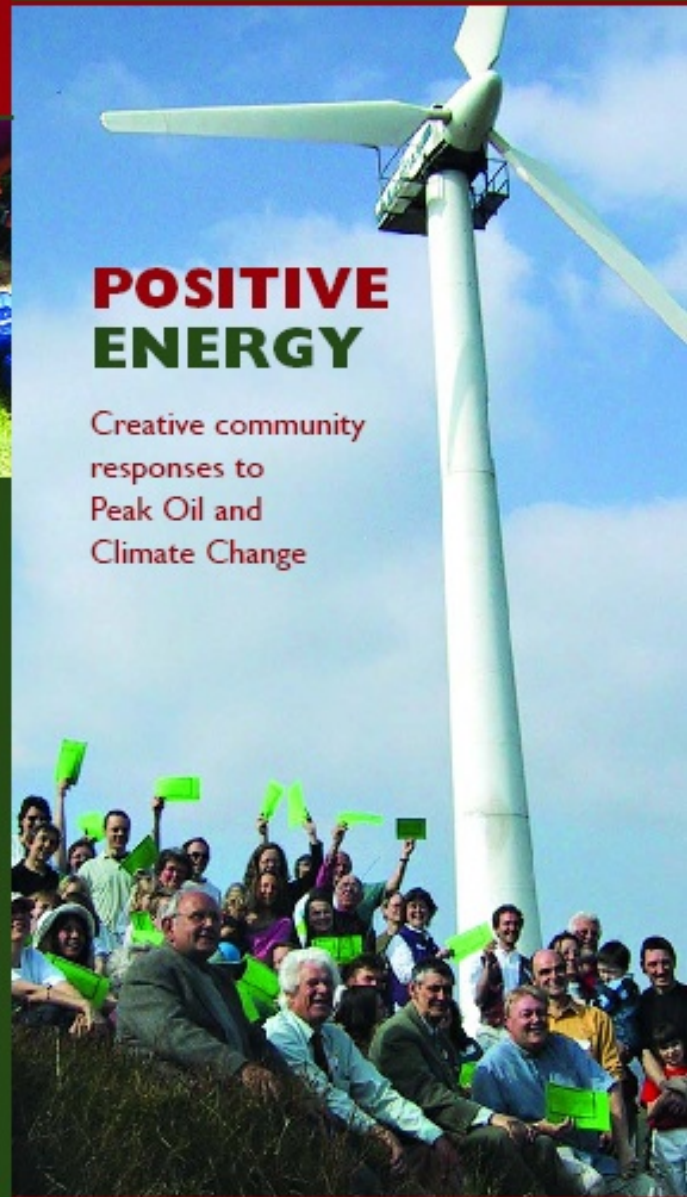


Figure 1a – BP Gulf Oil Spill : General Development Scenarios : Detailed

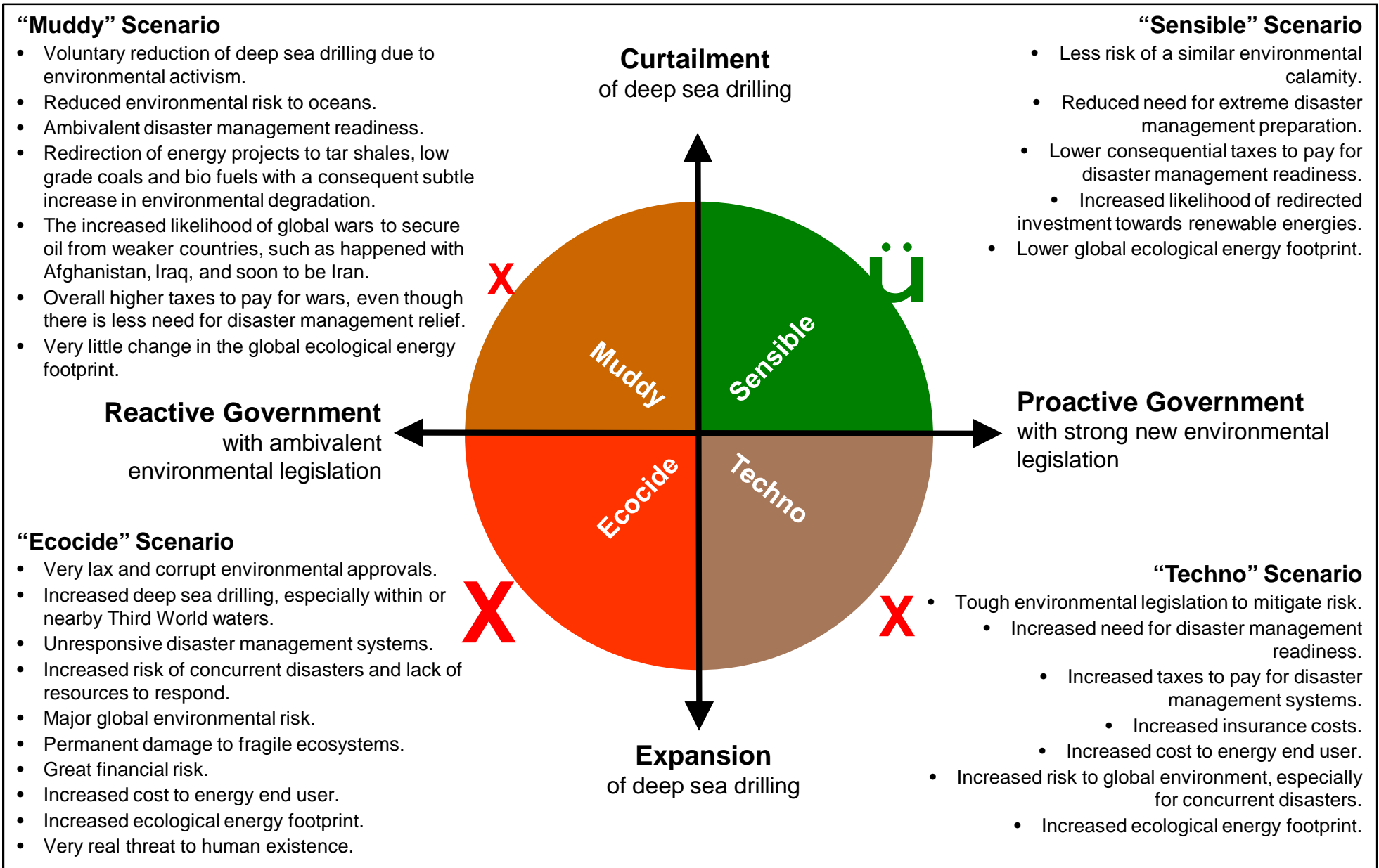


Figure 1b – BP Gulf Oil Spill : General Development Scenarios : Summary

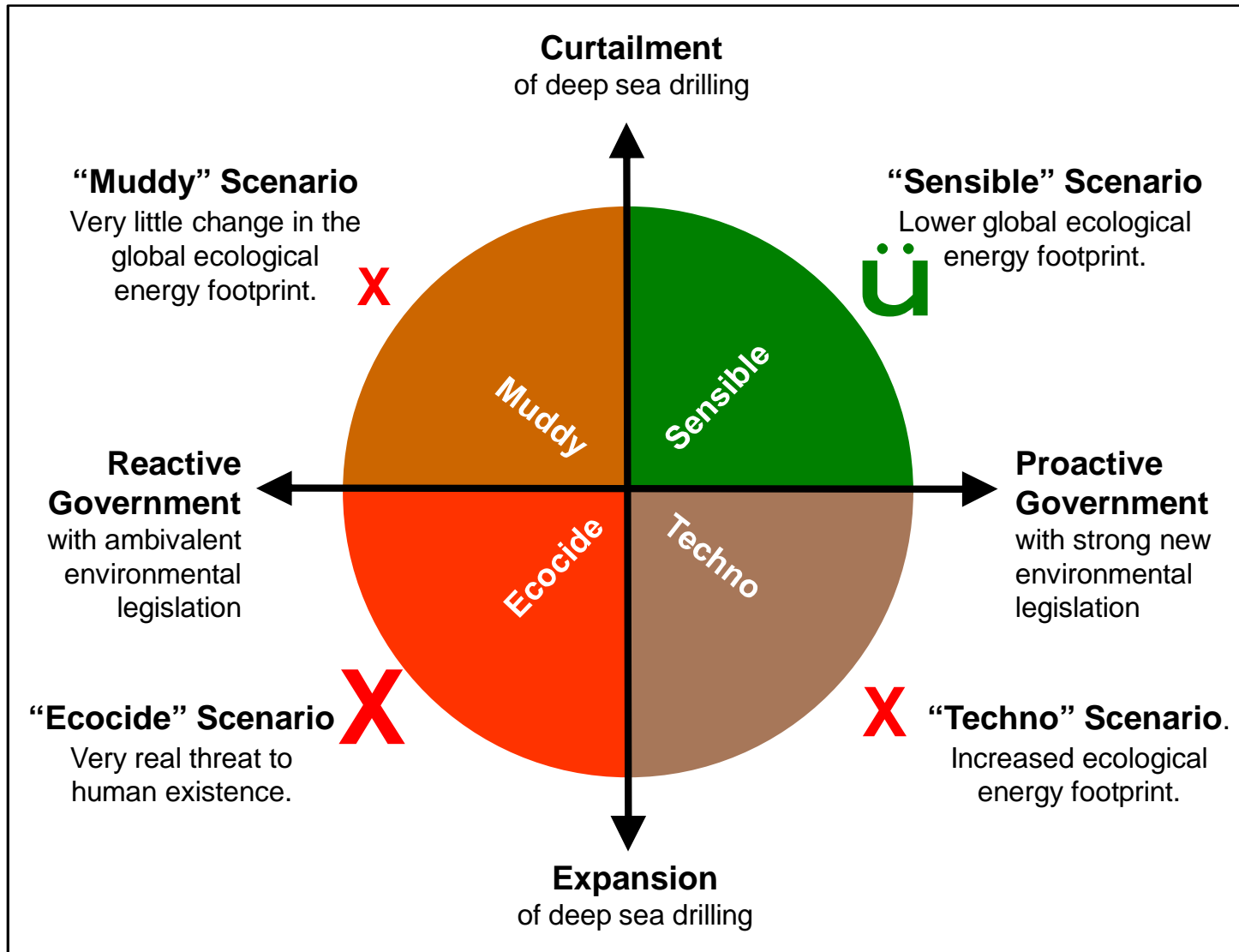


Figure 2a - BP Oil Spill Clean Up Scenarios : Details

“Fateful” Scenario

- Good chance of oil slick spreading out of Gulf area
- Permanent damage to ecosystems in Gulf area.
- Abandoned coastal and island communities.
- Huge economic setbacks.

“Hopeful” Scenario

- Environmental damage contained in Gulf area.
 - Major drain on resources for clean up.
 - Compensation payouts.
 - Long term environmental rehabilitation.

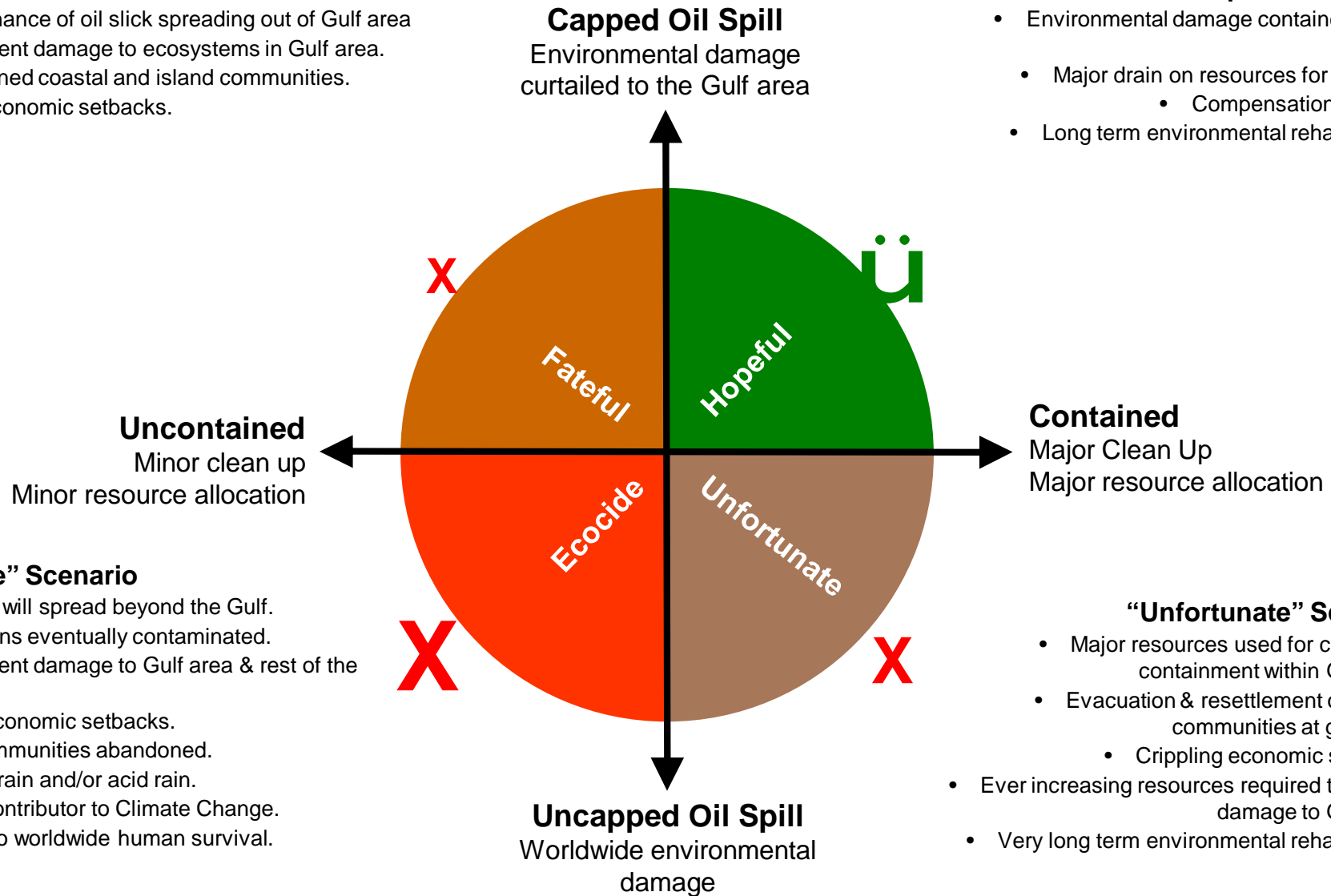
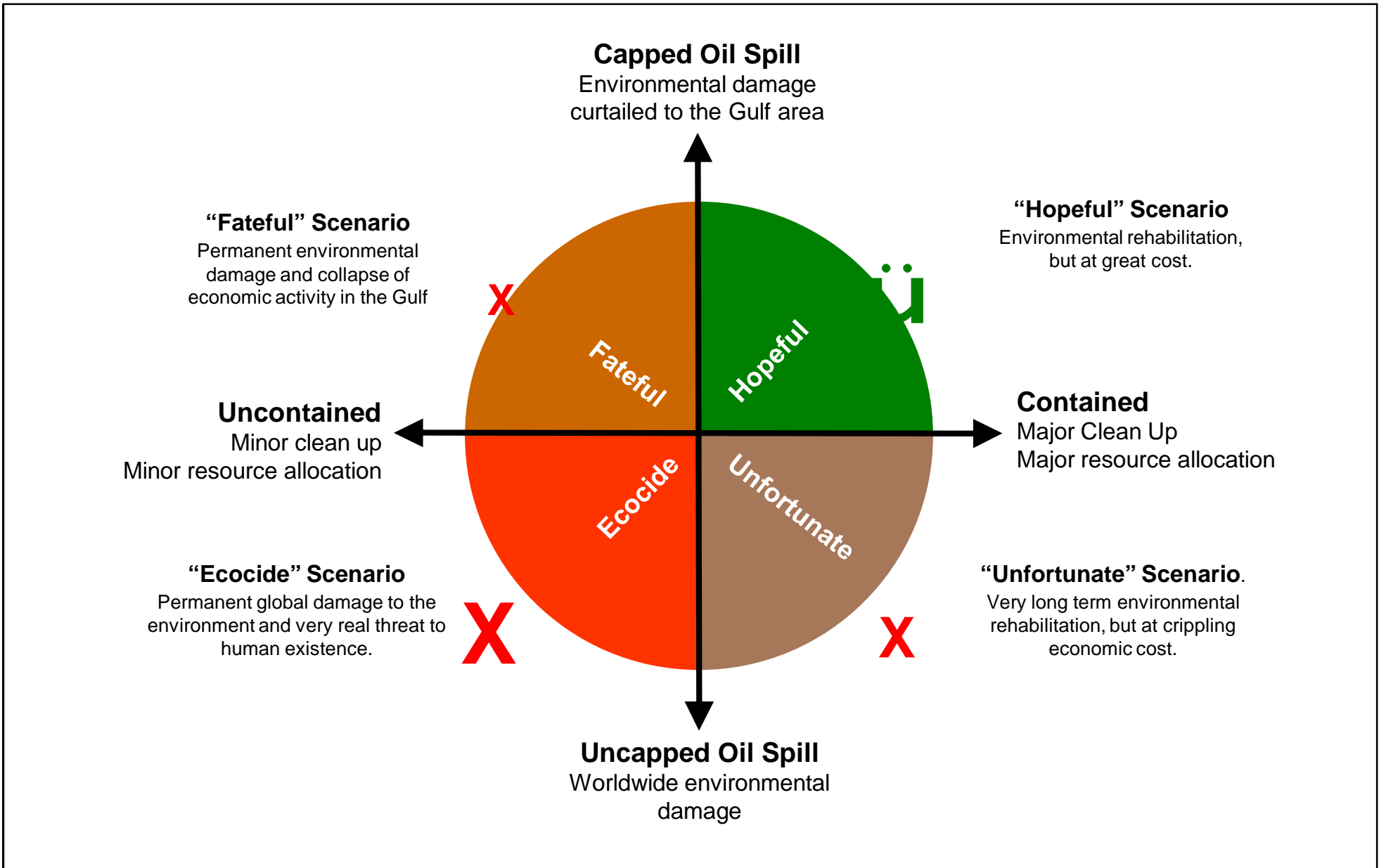


Figure 2b - BP Oil Spill Clean Up Scenarios : Summary



Globalisation versus Relocalisation

Consider a supermarket where 80% of the money spent at the till leaves the local economy, and only 20% is left as wages, rates and services. If R100.00 is traded four times it leaches out of the local economy fast:

Trades	Value of transactions	Leaves the local economy	Stays in the local economy
Trade 1	R100	R80	R20
Trade 2	R20	R16	R4
Trade 3	R4	R3.20	R0.80
Trade 4	R0.80	R0.64	R0.16

Within four trades R100 is down to 16p left in the local economy.

If, however a local grower sells to you and 80% of the money stays in the local economy and 20% leaves then:

Trades	Value of transactions	Leaves the local economy	Stays in the local economy
Trade 1	R100	R20	R80
Trade 2	R80	R16	R64
Trade 3	R64	R12.80	R51.20
Trade 4	R51.20	R10.24	R40.96

R40.96 is 256 times the amount left in the local economy compared with 16p.

SUSTAINABILITY WEBLINKS

[Return](#)

www.powerofcommunity.org - Host site for the documentary “The Power of Community – How Cuba Survived Peak Oil”

www.communitysolution.org – The producers of the above documentary and the proponents of “Plan C – Curtailment, Co-operation & Community”.

www.earth-policy.org – Host site for the Earth Policy Institute who are the proponents of “Plan B – Rescuing a Planet Under Stress and a Civilization in Trouble”.

www.gaiaeducation.org – the founders of the Ecovillage Design Education (EDE) course, which is fully endorsed by the UN, and, which is now been taught at various established ecovillages worldwide.

www.findhorn.org – an ecovillage in northern Scotland that was established in the early 60s and has since become a beacon of light for the Global Ecovillage Network (www.gen.org).

www.transitiontowns.org – the Wikipedia web page for the Transition Initiative.

www.transitionculture.org – a host page for all Transition Communities.

www.transitiontowns.org.za – South Africa’s own Transition Initiative webpage.

SUSTAINABILITY WEBLINKS

www.community-exchange.org – Cape Town based “Talent Exchange”.

www.cultivate.ie - which promotes the Transition Town Movement in Ireland.

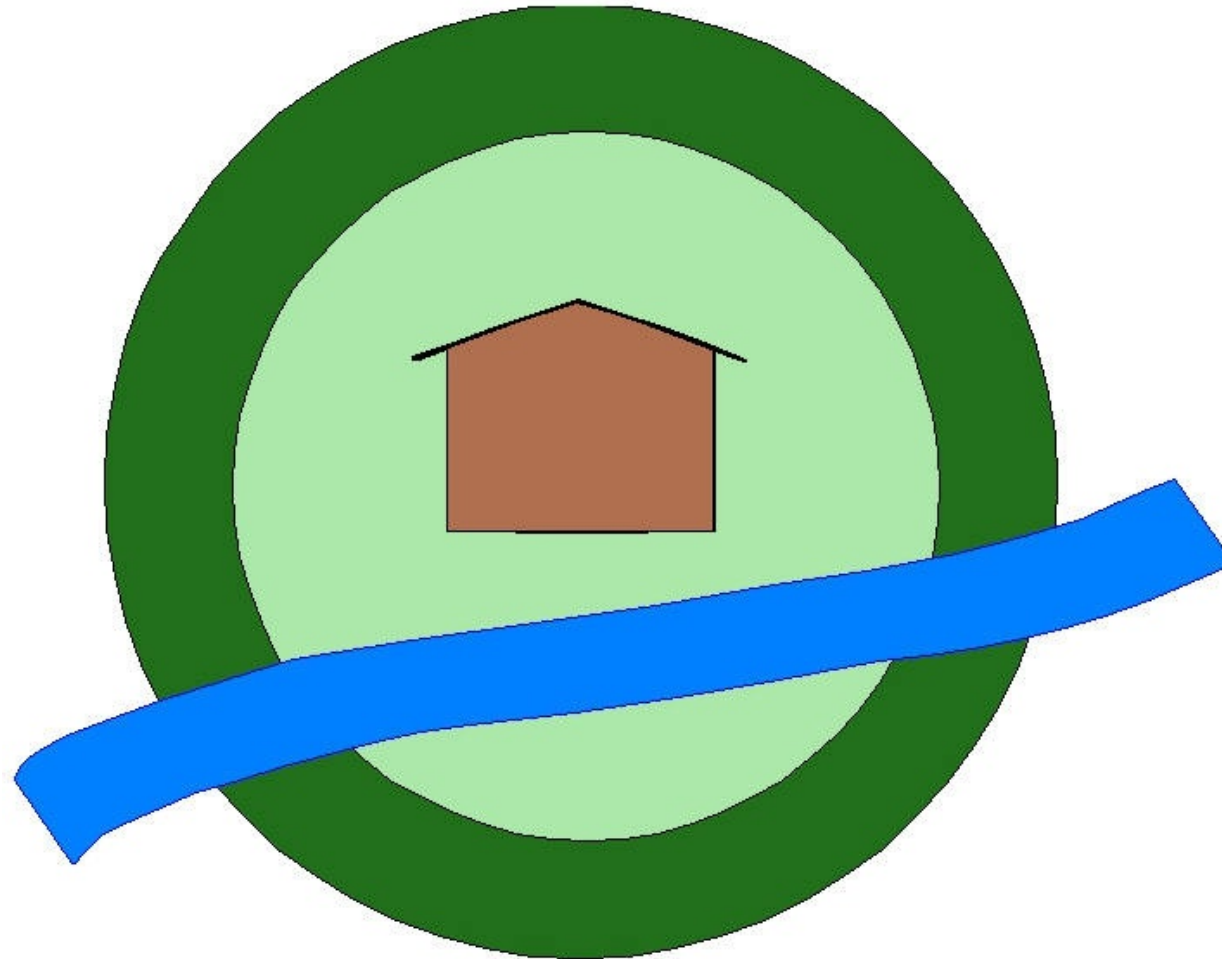
www.permaculture.org.uk –perhaps the most comprehensive Permaculture web page with information and linkages about Permaculture design principles, courses, projects, green jobs, etc.

www.aspo-ireland.org – Irish web page for the Association for the Study of Peak Oil

www.ringingcedars.co.za – for the more esoterically minded, this web page advertises the books about Anastasia who is inspiring people to live on ones own “family land” in a community of like minded people, from whence all that matters in life can be sustained in perpetuity.

SUSTAINABILITY

the final frontier



THANK YOU

Think and Listen and Go-around

1. What can you do to mitigate against Peak Oil and Climate Change?
2. How can you contribute to a Community Response?
3. What are your next steps?