



Energy Descent Pathways & Action Planning towards 2030

with Jacqi Hodgson of Transition Town Totnes

Talks. Workshops & Interactive Exhibits

These innovative presentations share the work carried out by Jacqi Hodgson for Transition Town Totnes (TTT) in developing the first detailed, community based energy descent action plan for a town in *transition*. This innovative guide is designed to assist society from its dependence on petroleum oil while reducing its carbon footprint. The publication "Transition in Action, Totnes & District 2030 – an Energy Descent Action Plan" is a substantial community guide, the result of extensive creative engagement with all sectors in local society and has attracted global attention, sold worldwide and created widespread enthusiasm for energy descent pathways and action planning. Jacqi Hodgson has now developed presentations at sessions as a framework for talks, workshops and interactive exhibits and displays designed to share the learning and understanding gained in this creative process to assist and inspire others to develop their own Energy Descent Action Plan (EDAP).



An Energy Descent Action Plan explores the different routes or pathways we can take as we reduce our use and dependence on fossil fuels and prepare for the effects of global warming. To make the change from our current (UK) energy use of 9 barrels of oil per person (current average) to just 1 barrel (or less) by 2030 requires society to find a new way of living. To live well in these times of change through dramatic energy reductions means that local society must work more closely as a community. A local EDAP provides a framework that weaves together the different localization themes of food production, economics, travel, energy production, building, health care etc. An EDAP provides a new lens through which to view and plan into a positive, locally based resilient future.

All the sessions can be tailored to the group's needs and accommodate participants from all backgrounds and sectors. The sessions fit well into conferences, seminars and exhibitions at public forums, community events, educational open days and specialist events. The *transition* message is gaining extensive interest and the presentations provide an opportunity to understand how this viewpoint enables us to compare 'business as usual' with 'willingness to change' and turn concerns into positive plans.

Presentations

All the presentations are aimed at motivating attendees to feel positive and inspired in the face of growing concerns and problems associated with diminishing oil supplies ('Peak Oil') and climate change attributed to man-made global warming. The material presented provides information, a context and understanding of how individually and collectively we can build our resilience to the potential impacts of peak oil and climate change over the next 20 years. The concept of engaging in energy descent individually and collectively as a positive response towards peak oil and climate change is central to the message of these sessions.

All the presentations are interactive and focus on engagement and participation with attendees. They encourage questions, debate and discussion to develop and promote understanding of the challenges being faced by society at the global and local level and actions that can be taken to effect change. The well-facilitated discussions provide a sense of inspiration in attendees and lead to desire to personally effect positive changes towards energy descent.

The presentations are provided as talks, workshops and exhibits which can be tailored to:

- Meet the needs of the client
- The present level of understanding of the issues by the audience
- Accommodate attendees from 10 to 100
- Fit into the timeslot available from 20 minutes (poster talk only) to full day (talk + 4 workshop sessions/exhibition)

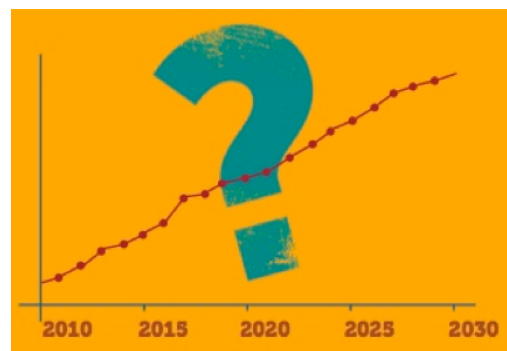


Talks

The presentation in the illustrated talk, introduces the audience to the concepts of *transition* and reflects on the significance of these issues for modern society. Using the model of the Totnes EDAP, the focus is positive and creative and leads the audience into thinking about how energy descent could be tackled and achieved in their local area and in their lives.

Introductory Talks provide:

- General introduction to *transition*
- Outline of the concepts and likely impacts of Peak Oil and Climate Change
- Introduction to Energy Descent Pathways and Action Planning
- Discussion of creative methodology to inspire engagement and ideas
- Telling a new story - visioning
- Templates and models for Energy Descent Action Planning
- Colourful presentation, handout material and useful reference.



Workshops

The workshops enable participants to explore some of the *transition* ideas and innovative processes used in developing the Totnes EDAP. Working in small groups, participants discuss and try out some of the methodologies presented. Fully supported by an experienced facilitator the participants experience and learn to use the understanding, engagement processes and tools that generate agreed strategies and actions for a Local Energy Descent Action Plan.



Workshops include:

- Introductory Talk (20 mins)
- An engaging interactive visual display
- Ice-breakers
- Break-out discussion groups
- Experience of EDAP methodologies
- Experienced facilitation
- Creative enjoyment

A brief 1 hour workshop can be provided which includes the introductory talk and introduces participants at a gallop across the basics of creating an EDAP. This short workshop finishes with a 20 minutes guided session of building the 20 year Timeline, using post-its onto the display provided. This workshop can be used as a taster (useful for conference planners) with a view to preparing for a longer workshop session at a subsequent event.

The (recommended minimum) 2 hour workshop is commenced with a reflective quiet time to bring the focus of participants into the session. This is followed by a short period of introductions around the participants. Following the introductory talk (see above), the group is led in an interactive discussion around the **Assumptions** they have of the future (population, political, financial etc). Participants are then introduced to **Future Scenarios** as a conceptual planning tool for developing and comparing possible futures for specific areas of interest. Participants are then encouraged to become relaxed in preparation for some **Visioning of 2030** from a reflective individual viewpoint, allowing a deeper sense of ownership of the future. The visions and dreams around 2030 are articulated onto post-its which are then attached onto year 2030 of the timeline provided.



Participants are then introduced to **Back-casting**, or how we get from B (2030) to A (now). In self-selected groups of 4-6 they select one or more of the posted visions they would like to work on. Having identified some steps and strategies to achieve their chosen visions, the groups discuss linked actions which can be taken at the local level. Participants are invited to turn their actions into a creative narrative such as a media headline and post these on the display timeline in the appropriate years. The last activity in the workshop is for participants to read all the actions posted and look for links towards '**Joined-up thinking**' and **Strategies**' they have created for energy descent.

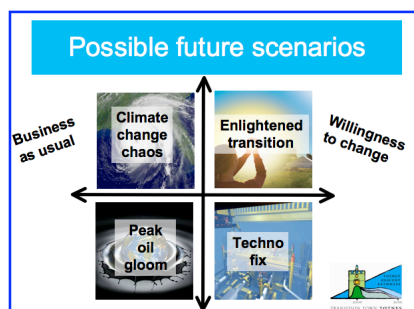
Additional workshops can be built into the time available for further in-

depth Energy Descent Action Planning activities. Each of the methodologies highlighted (in the 2 hour workshop detail above) can be discussed in further detail and worked on in small groups to provide a sound working knowledge of creating an EDAP. For groups and organizations wishing to create a wide-ranging community based EDAP at least 2 consecutive 2 hour workshops are recommended, with the ideal being a full day event including an introductory talk, 4 workshops and the interactive exhibition.

Experience of using the 2030 Timeline has shown that it provides a popular and creative platform for innovative thinking and opens up easy discussion among participants of all abilities and ages (from 8 to 99+ years old). It allows for all ideas to be compared with others and adjusted to fit in and possibly enhance others, building an understanding of the value and need for collective action while providing a taste of community planning. The process enables 'joined-up' thinking and understanding about the concepts of peak oil and climate change as inextricably linked issues which underpin societal well-being in a non-threatening, positive and creative situation.

Exhibits & Interactive Displays

The interactive exhibition display features interesting and informative visual materials that engage visitors into exploring the concepts, with opportunities to add ideas of their own. A How to create an EDAP Map illustrates the process and stages of developing an EDAP. The colourful 10 metre long timeline to 2030 that offers a visual framework towards understanding the concepts of peak oil and climate change through to the year 2030. A series of questions that challenge assumptions individuals may have about the future are provided as posters for participants to consider and help focus their thinking about making changes into the future. A digital display with a running loop of slides showing the activities which led to the development of the Totnes Energy Descent Action Plan provides additional interesting background information.

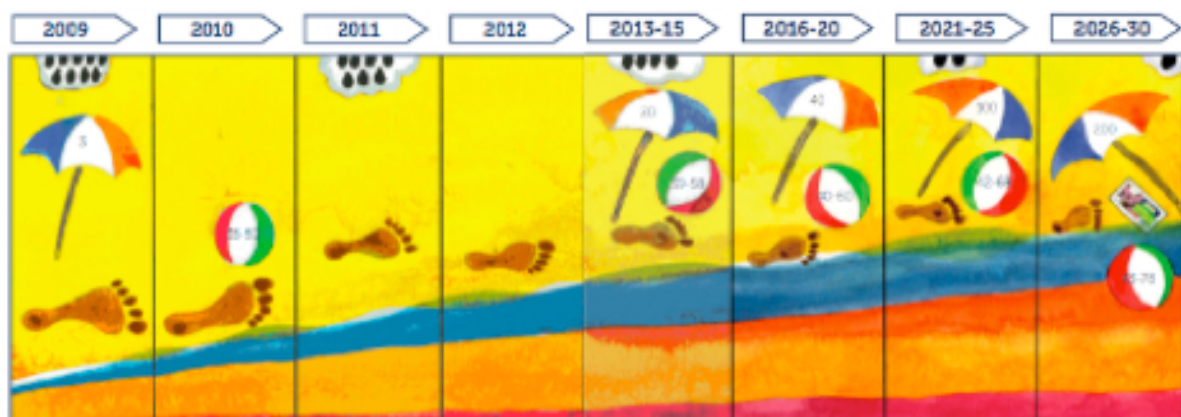


Exhibits & Interactive displays:

- How to create an EDAP Map
- Colourful 10 metre long timeline to 2030
- Digital display with a running loop of slides
- Facilitated 'Roll over' timed visitor sessions (optional)

Facilitated Exhibitions & Interactive Displays

Facilitated exhibition sessions can be provided as part of an interactive display that provides for a 'roll-over' basis for a timed visitor session. This can be structured to provide a brief (5 minutes) poster style presentation and basic information every half hour to introduce new visitors to the display and how the concept of energy descent pathways opens up new thinking and opportunities. Visitors are taken through a brief 2030 visioning exercise and then invited to work alone, in pairs or threesomes and add their thoughts, dreams and hopes for 2030 as post-its on the Timeline. They are then invited to select pre-drafted ideas on 'post-its' for events, stories and changes they anticipate will be happening into the future, then script their own ideas for actions they or others or the college could take towards energy descent across the different years of the timeline. Time permitting participants can add more post-its to the Timeline (working backwards from 2030) on the year(s) they consider appropriate for actions. As visitors finish adding to the Timeline, they will be invited to review how some of the ideas and actions posted link together to form energy descent pathways.



Presentation and Display requirements

- 10 metre continuous length of display boards to affix the Timeline (it has Velcro).
- Additional display stands for other materials (with Velcro fixings) – 2 pairs of A1 boards suffice
- Digital projector and screen / wall (I bring my own laptop) for powerpoint / loop display
- 1 larger table for materials and smaller discussion tables with seats for 4-6 participants/table



Fees and Charges

Fees are charged on the basis of a daily minimum rate of £250 plus travel costs (public transport from Totnes, Devon). Not for Profit organizations, groups within 30 miles of Totnes and organisations experiencing financial disadvantages are welcome to request a reduced fee.

Introductory Talk only (including Q & A time up to 1 hour)	£100	
Taster Workshop	£100	
2 hour Workshop	£200	
Each additional 2 hour workshops (same day & same venue)	£100	
Exhibition & Interactive Display only		£50 + £25 per hour (min 2 hours)
Facilitated Exhibition & Interactive Display with 'Roll over' visitor sessions		£50 + £75 per hour (min 2 hours)
Full day event comprising introductory talk, 4 workshops with the Exhibition / Interactive Display	£500	
Introductory Talk plus Facilitated Interactive Exhibition with 2 hours of 'Roll over' visitor sessions	£250	



Jacqi Hodgson – biography

Jacqi coordinates the Energy Descent Pathways project for Transition Town Totnes and is co-author of the highly acclaimed 'Transition in Action - Totnes and District 2030 - an Energy Descent Plan' which emerged from the project. She currently works as a freelance consultant, advising groups and organizations and provides talks and facilitated innovative workshops to assist others in using innovative methodologies and developing their own energy descent action plans. With a strong background in working with environmental and Local Agenda 21 organizations and community groups in developing cross-sectoral partnerships, Jacqi has been active in producing and coordinating projects and actions for a cooperative and partnership approach to sustainability. She was elected to Totnes Town Council in July 2009, South Hams District Council in May 2011 and is very active in local community work.

Contact information & enquiries

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Transition in Action: Totnes & District 2030 – an Energy Descent Action Plan

Scripted by Jacqi Hodgson with Rob Hopkins

£19.99 ISBN 978-1-900322-85-0

Available for on-line viewing and purchase at www.totnesedap.org.uk

