

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT
COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION WORKSHOPS
SUMMARY OF OUTPUTS

TWEED HEADS, UKI, MURWILLUMBAH, CABARITA

11, 13, 18, 20 MAY 2023



Document prepared for the Tweed Shire Council and community participants as part of the Tweed Climate Ready Project.

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#### **Acknowledgements**

The authors would like to thank the participants in this project who generously shared their time, ideas, and passion for climate action and the health, wellbeing, and prosperity of their community.

We respectfully acknowledge the Ngandowal and Minyungbal-speaking people of the Bundjalung country on which this project took place and which some of the authors live as being the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land and waters within the Tweed Shire boundaries. We also acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which Griffith University is located, and we work across five campuses in South East Queensland, the Yuggera, Jagera, and Turrbal peoples, and the Kombumerri peoples. We pay our respects to elders, past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples everywhere. We acknowledge and respect the unique spiritual relationships between Traditional Custodians and this country and the importance of two-way learning and sharing. We, as researchers, are committed to a path of 'walking together' to build sustainability, cultural awareness, and resilience into our research projects and to work towards reconciliation in our project outputs and impacts.

We acknowledge the input of the Tweed Shire Council Aboriginal Advisory Committee, inviting us to present to their meetings on two occasions and receive valuable feedback and input on this project.

We would like to thank Tweed Shire Councils' Debbie Firestone and Jane Moad for their input to the workshop design, support with coordination and set up and participation in the workshops.

## **BACKGROUND**

This document is a collation of results (outputs produced by participants during the workshops). from the Climate Ready Tweed project, community climate action workshops run by Griffith University in May 2023:

- 1. Workshop 1 at Tweed Heads, Thursday 11th May, 2023 from 6pm-8.30pm at Tweed Heads Civic Centre. Thirteen Tweed Shire residents over the age of 18 participated (5 male, 8 female) (and eleven remaining at the end of the session).
- 2. Workshop 2 at Uki, Saturday, 13th May, 2023 from 10am-12.30pm at Uki Holy Trinity Church. Seven Tweed Shire residents over the age of 18 participated (3 male, 4 female).
- 3. Workshop 3 at Murwillumbah Thursday 18th May, 2023 from 6pm-8.30pm at Murwillumbah Services Club, Seven Tweed Shire residents over the age of 18 participated (3 male, 4 female).
- 4. Workshop 4 at Cabarita, Saturday 20th May, 2023 from 9.30am-12pm at Cabarita Surf Life Saving Club, Sixteen Tweed Shire residents over the age of 18 participated (4 male, 12 female), this included 3 council staff.

## **WORKSHOP 1 – TWEED HEADS, 11 MAY, 2023**

## **WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES**

Participants were run through a series of activities related to climate action at the personal and community level across carbon emissions reductions and preparedness for key climate risks and related events including floods, storms and bushfire. Participants were worked primarily in smaller groups at 3 tables around which the discussions were focused.

## **Refining and Prioritising Climate Actions**

Refining and prioritising climate actions was conducted through the first two activities.

Activity 1 focused on Individual/household scale actions while Activity 2 focused on community scale actions.

Participants were asked to:

- a) refine add ideas to the list of personal and community climate actions they would like to do/see happen in the Tweed and then individually select preferred (top) 3 climate actions from each list (6 prioritised for each person).
- b) in small groups discuss people's selections and collectively choose 3 priority climate actions for the group.

In Activity 3, all the groups came together to vote on the list of priority actions, with the three ideas/actions with the highest votes being taken forward into the second part of the workshop to develop into strategy.

#### Outputs of Activity 1a Refining and prioritising INDIVIDUAL/HOUSEHOLD level and climate actions

Table 1 shows the list of individual/household climate actions provided in the handout to participants and the number of highlights from participants in terms of actions of importance to them.

**Table 1 Individual/Household Climate Actions** 

Purchase an E-bike	0	Refuse to use non-reusable or non-biodegradable plastic products	0
Invest in rooftop solar for your home	2	Carry reusable drink containers	1
Donate to pro-environmental groups	1	Vote for pro-environmental politicians	0
Invest in an Electric Vehicle	1	Ride a bike	1
Reduce energy consumption at home	4	Make a plan for emergencies	2
Attend a pro-environmental rally, march, or protest	0	Invest your money in climate friendly industries or businesses, remove from fossil fuel industries	1
Grow own fruit/veggies/herbs	2	Member of an environmental group	0
Encourage climate action by others	2	Raise awareness and education	1
Learn how to compost	1	Minimize air travel	1
Eat less red meat	4	Don't have children	0
Contact government members about environmental issue	2	Participate in beach clean-up or land care projects	2
Use cold water to wash clothes	2	Walk, bike, or take public transport instead of drive	0
Throw away less food	5	Go minimal - reduce your consumption of products generally	4
Use environmentally friendly products	1	Change energy supplier to a more green company	0
Reduce unnecessary spending	2	Buy local goods	1

Participants also added the following actions to the existing handout list of individual/household actions:

- Make reusable bags out of old clothes
- Buy recycled goods
- · Redivert food waste
- Buy bulk produce with your neighbors
- Avoid buying new things/fix things
- Reduce water consumption
- Be aware of carbon footprint through carbon calculator
- Drive an old car/repairs
- Solar on cars

From the expanded list of actions, workshop 1 participants identified the following individual/household scale climate actions as most important to them:

(numbers in brackets indicate number of participants who highlighted this option on participant worksheets):

- 1. throwing away less food (5),
- 2. eating less red meat (4),

- 3. going minimal (4), and
- 4. reducing energy consumption at home (4)

Participants also stated that there were certain products they do not do or cannot do because of living locations with purchasing an e-bike or investing in rooftop solar.

#### Outputs of Activity 1b Identifying Top 3 Individual/Household scale climate actions

Workshop 1 participants were encouraged to identify their top 3 individual or household climate actions and top 3 for community climate action on separate sheets of paper. For individual/household scale actions, Workshop 1 participants listed the following:

(Note: the following are organised under broad categories post-workshop. numbers in brackets indicate number of participants who highlighted this option on participant worksheets, no number indicates one participants priority).

#### Education and Awareness:

- Be aware of your carbon footprint
- Raise Awareness
- Encourage actions by others

#### **Disaster Planning:**

- Be prepared/bug out plan
- Make a plan for emergencies (3)

#### Reducing consumption and impact of products:

- Reduce/rubbish/compost/recycle
- Throw away/waste less food (5)
- Reduce consumption generally (i.e. clothes/goods) (2)
- Use as many reusable containers as possible
- Reduce/eliminate packaging
- Having just one child
- Go minimal (2)
- Use environmentally friendly products

#### Food and Agriculture

- Grow own fruit/veg/herbs
- Eat less red meat (x2)

#### **Ecological**:

Plant native plants to support biodiversity

#### **Culture Shift**

• Cultivate earth relevant spirituality/religious practice

#### Clean Energy Shift and Energy Efficiency:

• Reduce energy consumption at home (3)

- Invest in solar
- Renewable energy
- Add batteries to rooftop solar

#### Green Transport and Infrastructure Planning:

- Invest in EV
- Invest in EV car when EV chargers' infrastructure in place
- Purchase e-bike
- More charging stations for electric vehicles
- Drive or fix an old car
- Minimise air travel

#### Outputs of Activity 2 Refining and prioritising COMMUNITY level and climate actions

Table 2 shows the list of community scale climate actions provided in the handout to participants and the number of highlights from participants in terms of actions of importance to them.

Table 2. Handout list of community scale climate actions

Advocate for public transportation improvements  Create local education programs to raise awareness of climate change impacts locally  Join with others to advocate for renters and low-income earners to participate affordably in  Develop a community led waste management strategy  Get involved with community organisations and help the coordination during climate related events  Local projects to increase awareness of environmentally friendly behaviour changes
Create local education programs to raise awareness of climate change impacts locally  Join with others to advocate for renters and  1 Get involved with community organisations and help the coordination during climate related events  1 Local projects to increase awareness of 0
awareness of climate change impacts locally  help the coordination during climate related events  Join with others to advocate for renters and 1 Local projects to increase awareness of 0
events   Join with others to advocate for renters and   1   Local projects to increase awareness of   0
Join with others to advocate for renters and 1 Local projects to increase awareness of 0
low-income earners to participate affordably in environmentally friendly behaviour changes
clean energy transition
Use or set up group to develop a climate risk 0 Community led practices prioritizing ecosystem- 1
rating map to help influence and assess new based adaptation strategies
developments
Join with others to establish a community 1 Engage others to reduce their carbon footprint 1
voice to help with climate action strategy and through local events
supportive policies locally and regionally
Connect to or set up a community renewable 0 Get involved with local businesses and 0
energy group to promote community owned organisations to strengthen ecosystem health
and operated renewable energy systems and wildlife
Campaign for better financial incentives for 3 Run a fundraiser and use funds to help 0
household rooftop solar and break down transition the community to low-carbon and
barriers to uptake of solar climate resilient future
Spread information to help create plans in 2 Campaign to businesses, organisations, state, 0
case of climate related events and local government to collaborate to help
reduce carbon emissions
Undertake SES or Red Cross training for 0 Join or establish a bulk buy for electric vehicles 0
preparedness and response to emergencies to increase purchasing power
Join local landcare and dunecare group to 1 Set up a neighbourhood or community network 2
support rehabilitation for emergency response

Workshop 1 participants also added the following actions to the existing handout list of community actions:

· Ban plastic bags

- Return/swap beer bottles to get another carton (like in UK)
- Have more bulk products available to reduce packaging
- Education
- Community based complexes consolidating power generated through renewables
- Get response from government members if you contacted them
- EV chargers along the road
- Financial incentives for batteries
- Community should stop cutting trees down
- Preserve what we have
- Incentives for landcare

From the expanded list of actions, workshop 1 participants identified the following community climate actions as most important to them (numbers in brackets indicate number of participants who highlighted this option on participant worksheets):

- 1. advocate for public transport (5),
- 2. campaign for better financial incentives for household rooftop solar (3),
- 3. spread information to create plans in case of climate related events (2), and
- 4. set up neighbourhood or community networks for emergency response (2)

#### **Activity 3 Identifying Top 3 Priority Climate Actions**

After identifying their top 3 actions, participants collectively chose 3 climate (either individual or community scale) that were considered priority to take forward in discussion. The 9 priority actions identified across the three tables were:

- 1. Community awareness
  - a. Get to know your neighbours bloc party!
  - b. Emergency plans
  - c. Network to assist
  - d. Utilising technology that is already available
    - i. Flood maps
    - ii. Bushfire risk maps
    - iii. Carbon footprint calculators
- 2. Reduce consumption and waste
  - a. Household
  - b. Education especially schools and community groups regarding what they can do
- 3. Protecting biodiversity
  - a. Plant local/native species
  - b. Protect and preserve waterways
  - c. Education/outreach
  - d. Clean up programs and education
- 4. Renewable energy (reduction of emissions)
  - a. Electric cars
  - b. Rooftop solar (batteries)
  - c. Public transport (electric buses)
  - d. E bikes
  - e. Using older cars to reduce energy consumption making new vehicles
- 5. Environment (reducing packing and use of plastics)
  - a. Wildlife conservation
  - b. Actions like:

- i. Recycling
- ii. Reduce landfill
- iii. Packaging reduction especially plastics
- iv. Composting
- c. Landcare and rejuvenation
- d. Local projects/disaster resilience
- 6. Commitment (education and public activites [eg. Ecofest, environment day fest])
  - a. Accountability
  - b. Awareness actions individuals can take
  - c. Making a commitment to environmental changes
- 7. Rethink (reduce) food consumption and waste (including compost) education
- 8. Community led practices prioritizing ecosystem-based adaptation strategies
  - a. Nature based solutions
- 9. Advocate for public transportation improvements (eg. EV)

These 9 broad priority actions identified across the three tables by workshop participants were clustered into a final 6 options including voting results of the whole of group voting process:

- 1. Awareness and education program (9)
  - a. Food waste
  - b. Consumption and waste
  - c. What climate actions to take
- 2. Ecosystem-based adaptation (8)
- 3. Advocacy for public transport/EV (5)
- 4. Rooftop solar incentives (4)
- 5. Advocating for business changes to packaging (3)
- 6. Biodiversity protection restoration (3)
  - a. Forests and trees

With three tables of attendees, the top three were workshopped further in the second part of the session.

## Part Two - Strategy Development

#### Activity 4 Developing strategies for implementing the priority climate actions

Participants were asked to join the group of one of the Top 3 priority actions that they preferred to work on in the second half of the workshop. In developing the strategies, each group was to follow the instructions and fill in details around the six topics shown in Figure 1.

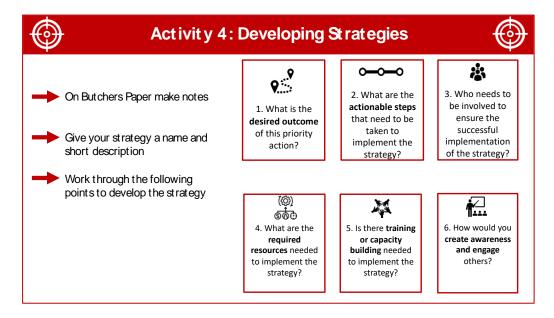


Figure 1 Instructions for Activity 4: Developing Strategies

#### Strategy Development Table 1 – Awareness and Education Program

The participants developing the awareness and education program strategy produced the following outline. Note: this was the largest group of participants.

Title: Not Know Not Care to They Know They Care

- 1. What is the desired outcome?
  - a. Tailored education and programs according to community needs/wants
  - b. Fun
  - c. Sense of engagement
  - d. Sharing responsibility
- 2. What are the actionable steps?
  - a. Series of community based workshops to find action points
- 3. Who needs to be involved?
  - a. Community
  - b. Individuals
  - c. Schools
  - d. Experts
    - i. Academics
    - ii. Expertise
- 4. What are the required resources?
  - a. Funding
  - b. Venue/spaces
  - c. Food/refreshments
  - d. Measures
    - i. Numbers attending
    - ii. Outcomes achieved
    - iii. Objectives actioned
- 5. What about training or capacity building?
  - a. Facilitators/coordinators/council
  - b. School
  - c. Volunteers

- d. Action groups
- 6. How to create awareness?
  - a. Letterbox
  - b. Online surveys
  - c. Advertising
  - d. Steering committee
  - e. Fairs/fests/ecofests

#### Strategy Development Table 2 - Ecosystem-based adaptation strategies

Despite having the second highest vote, only one participant worked with the table facilitator on this topic and no ideas were documented, although the report back suggested a public education program and awareness raising on the value of ecosystem-based adaptation strategies.

#### **Strategy Development Table 3 – Better Public Transport**

The participants developing the Better Public Transport strategy produced the following outline.

#### Short description

- Better public transport Energy Efficient
- 1. What is the desired outcome?
  - a. Effective public transport to reduce private vehicles (hence emissions)
  - b. Greater use of the public transport service
- 2. What are the actionable steps?
  - a. Better structure to support EV systems
  - b. Develop a reliable and regular bus service
    - i. Single journey options to popular destinations eg. Airport
- 3. Who needs to be involved?
  - a. State governments (QLD and NSW)
- 4. What are the required resources?
  - a. Co-ordination across border
  - b. Technical infrastructure for EV
- 5. What about training or capacity building?
  - a. NA
- 6. How to create awareness?
  - a. NA

## **WORKSHOP 2 – UKI, 13 MAY, 2023**

## **WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES**

Participants were run through a series of activities related to climate action at the personal and community level across carbon emissions reductions and preparedness for key climate risks and related events including floods, storms and bushfire. Participants were worked primarily in smaller groups at two tables around which the discussions were focused.

## **Refining and Prioritising Climate Actions**

Refining and prioritising climate actions was conducted through the first three activities.

Activity 1 focused on Individual/household scale actions while Activity 2 focused on community scale actions.

Participants were asked to:

- a) refine add ideas to the list of personal and community climate actions they would like to do/see happen in the Tweed and then individually select preferred (top) 2 climate actions, one from each list<sup>1</sup>.
- b) in small groups discuss people's selections and collectively choose 3 priority climate actions for the group.

In Activity 3, the whole group came together to vote on the list of priority actions, with the two ideas/actions with the highest votes being taken forward into the second part of the workshop to develop into strategy.

#### Outputs of Activity 1a Refining and prioritising INDIVIDUAL/HOUSEHOLD level and climate actions

Table 1 and 2 shows the list of individual/household climate actions and community-scale climate actions respectively as provided in the handout to participants, with the number of participants highlighting those actions listed in the column next to it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This step was modified from Workshop 1 (selecting one from each list rather than three) to allow for more time for discussion.

Table 3 Handout list of Individual/Household Climate Actions

Purchase an E-bike	0	Refuse to use non-reusable or non-biodegradable plastic products	1
Invest in rooftop solar for your home	0	Carry reusable drink containers	0
Donate to pro-environmental groups	0	Vote for pro-environmental politicians	2
Invest in an Electric Vehicle	0	Ride a bike	0
Reduce energy consumption at home	0	Make a plan for emergencies	0
Attend a pro-environmental rally, march, or protest	0	Invest your money in climate friendly industries or businesses, remove from fossil fuel industries	1
Grow own fruit/veggies/herbs	0	Member of an environmental group	0
Encourage climate action by others	2	Raise awareness and education	2
Learn how to compost	0	Minimize air travel	0
Eat less red meat	0	Don't have children	0
Contact government members about environmental issue	0	Participate in beach clean-up or land care projects	0
Use cold water to wash clothes	0	Walk, bike, or take public transport instead of drive	0
Throw away less food	0	Go minimal - reduce your consumption of products generally	0
Use environmentally friendly products	0	Change energy supplier to a more green company	0
Reduce unnecessary spending	0	Buy local goods	1

Table 4. Handout list of community scale climate actions

Advocate for public transportation improvements	1	Develop a community led waste management strategy	1
Create local education programs to raise awareness of climate change impacts locally	1	Get involved with community organisations and help the coordination during climate related events	0
Join with others to advocate for renters and low-income earners to participate affordably in clean energy transition	0	Local projects to increase awareness of environmentally friendly behaviour changes	0
Use or set up group to develop a climate risk rating map to help influence and assess new developments	0	Community led practices prioritizing ecosystem- based adaptation strategies	0
Join with others to establish a community voice to help with climate action strategy and supportive policies locally and regionally	0	Engage others to reduce their carbon footprint through local events	0
Connect to or set up a community renewable energy group to promote community owned and operated renewable energy systems	0	Get involved with local businesses and organisations to strengthen ecosystem health and wildlife	0
Campaign for better financial incentives for household rooftop solar and break down barriers to uptake of solar	0	Run a fundraiser and use funds to help transition the community to low-carbon and climate resilient future	0
Spread information to help create plans in case of climate related events	0	Campaign to businesses, organisations, state, and local government to collaborate to help reduce carbon emissions	1
Undertake SES or Red Cross training for preparedness and response to emergencies	0	Join or establish a bulk buy for electric vehicles to increase purchasing power	1
Join local landcare and dunecare group to support rehabilitation	0	Set up a neighbourhood or community network for emergency response	0

Participants in workshop 2 also added the following actions to the existing list of individual/household actions:

- Support the growth of trees (carbon)
- All community moving in tiny homes/granny flats
- Pressure governments to stop all new fossil fuel mines
- Stop all fossil fuel subsidies (participant noted ~\$11b in subsidies in 2022/23)

From the expanded list of actions, workshop 2 participants identified the following individual/household scale climate actions as most important to them:

(numbers in brackets indicate number of participants who highlighted this option on participant worksheets):

- 5. public transportation improvements (1),
- 6. developing a community led waste management strategy (1)
- 7. creating local education programs to raise awareness of climate change impacts locally (1).

#### **Outputs of Activity 1b Identifying Top 3 climate actions**

Workshop 2 participants were encouraged to identify their top 3 climate actions across both individual/household and community-scale climate action. Workshop 2 participants identified the following list of priorities:

(Note: the following are organised under broad categories post-workshop. Numbers in brackets indicate number of participants who highlighted this option on participant worksheets, no number indicates one participants priority):

#### **Education and Awareness:**

- Encourage actions by others
- Raise Awareness and education (create local education) (3)

#### Reducing consumption and impact of products:

- Refuse non biodegradable products
- Refuse non-reusable plastic products
- Avoid packaged food at supermarkets

#### Ecological:

Plant trees

#### Clean Energy Shift, Energy Efficiency:

- Pressure governments to stop fossil fuel subsidies
  - o \$11billion 22/23
- Pressure governments to stop new fossil fuel mines
- Lobby for national changes to coal/electric supply
- Clean energy transition (for low income)
- · Electrification of everything
- Energy storage (batteries)
- Expand rooftop solar

#### Green Transport and Infrastructure Planning:

- Organize bulk buy for electric vehicles
- Lobby for public transport networks
- Cycle paths
- Improved housing
- · Society more village-based

#### **Community Engagement**

• Rally, attend marches and rallies

#### Activity 1c Identifying Top 3 Priority Climate Actions<sup>2</sup>

After identifying their top 3 actions, participants at each of the two tables collectively chose 3 climate actions (either individual or community scale) to put forward for further development. The six priority actions identified across the two tables were:

- 1. Energy
  - a. Community strategies
    - i. Vote/lobby for low income support for solar power alternatives
    - ii. Lobby/vote for changes to electricity supply/clean energy transition
  - b. Personal strategies
    - i. Solar expanded solar/battery
    - ii. Reduce power use
    - iii. Electrify everything
- 2. Housing
  - a. Rapid DA's ok
  - b. More housing
  - c. More village based
  - d. Lobby council for improved DA process to support climate refugees
- 3. Transport
  - a. Lobby for public transport and cycle ways
    - i. Electric bike
    - ii. Electric cars
    - iii. Local shops etc
  - b. Support local businesses reduce transport
    - i. Local growers
- 4. Encourage climate action by others (personal and community)
  - a. Vote, rally, write to government
- 5. Raise awareness and education
  - a. Target people in their 20's and 30's
- 6. Reduce waste

These 6 priority actions identified across the two tables by workshop participants were then voted on by the whole group (number of votes in brackets):

- 1. Encourage climate action (personal and community) (8)
- 2. Reduce waste (7)
- 3. Low-income support for solar uptake and changes to electric system to support clean energy transition (2)
- 4. Public transport and alternative transport (2)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This activity was identified as Activity 3 in Workshop 1.

- 5. Streamline development for housing (1)
- 6. Raise awareness (1)

With two tables of attendees, the top two were workshopped further in the second part of the session.

## Part Two - Strategy Development

#### Activity 4 Developing strategies for implementing the priority climate actions

Participants were asked to join the group of one of the Top 2 priority actions that they preferred to work on in the second half of the workshop. In developing the strategies, each group was to follow the instructions and fill in details around the six topics shown in Figure 1.

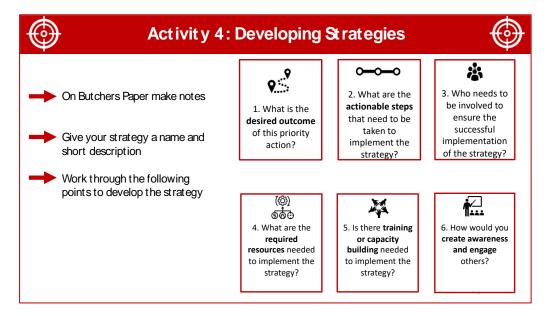


Figure 2 Instructions for Activity 4: Developing Strategies

#### Strategy Development Table 1 - Encourage Climate Action

The participants developing the Encourage Climate Action strategy produced the following outline.

Title: Encourage Climate Action: Group and individual action to lobby government for climate action

- 1. Desired outcomes:
  - No new fossil fuel mines No exploration, No new coal or gas mines
  - · No fossil fuel subsidies
  - Increased awareness and education
- 2. Actionable steps
  - · Key messages determined
    - o Personal tax input
    - o Time per minute
  - Local politicians and Info on what their constituents believe
    - o How many people vote
    - Electoral consequences of not making changes in this term of government

- 3. Who needs to be involved?
  - Key leaders working, e.g. Info and survey at markets etc then meet politicians
- 4. Required resources?
  - Key groups working together Opportunity to meet in council places
  - Don't know how to do this?? research it.
  - Report provide support
- 5. Training/capacity building
  - Training on how to run a group and have political impact e.g. Anne Tiernan or others at Griffith
- 6. Creating awareness N/A

#### Strategy Development Table 2 - Reducing Waste

The participants developing the Reducing Waste strategy produced the following outline:

Encourage people to buy less, use less, waste less

- 1. Desired outcome Reduce plastic, food, clothing, energy, fossil fuels
- 2. Actionable steps
  - Form a group
  - Finding a focus
  - Working with schools/workshops
  - publicity
- 3. Who needs to be involved?
  - Schools (primary and high)
  - Teachers
  - P&C's (Parents & Citizens)
  - Council
  - Businesses
  - Producers
  - Consumers
- 4. Required resources?
  - Motivation humans
  - Money
  - leaders
- 5. Training/capacity building
  - Presentation skills/verbal
  - Knowledge
    - i. Facts impacts
    - ii. benefits
- 6. Creating awareness
  - Posters
  - Social media

## WORKSHOP 3 – MURWILLUMBAH, 18 MAY, 2023

## **WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES**

Participants were run through a series of activities related to climate action at the personal and community level across carbon emissions reductions and preparedness for key climate risks and related events including floods, storms and bushfire. Participants worked primarily in smaller groups at three tables around which the discussions were focused.

## **Refining and Prioritising Climate Actions**

Refining and prioritising climate actions was conducted through the first two activities.

Activity 1 focused on refining the list of individual/household and community scale actions,

Participants were asked to refine or add ideas to the list of personal and community climate actions they would like to do/see happen in the Tweed and then individually select preferred (top) 2 climate actions, one from each list<sup>3</sup>.

Activity 2 focused on prioritising them and collectively (at each table) choosing a preferred action to develop up into a strategy.

Activity 3 then focused on developing the prioritised actions into strategies for implementation.

#### Outputs of Activity 1a Refining and prioritising climate actions

Table 1 and 2 shows the list of individual/household climate actions and community-scale climate actions respectively as provided in the handout to participants, with the number of participants highlighting those actions listed in the column next to it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This process was modified from earlier workshops (selecting one from each list rather than three) and collectively choosing at the table what strategy to develop, rather than voting as a whole group, to allow for more time for discussion.

Table 5 Handout list of Individual/Household Climate Actions

Purchase an E-bike	0	Refuse to use non-reusable or non- biodegradable plastic products	1
Invest in rooftop solar for your home	3	Carry reusable drink containers	1
Donate to pro-environmental groups	1	Vote for pro-environmental politicians	3
Invest in an Electric Vehicle	0	Ride a bike	0
Reduce energy consumption at home	3	Make a plan for emergencies	2
Attend a pro-environmental rally, march, or protest	1	Invest your money in climate friendly industries or businesses, remove from fossil fuel industries	1
Grow own fruit/veggies/herbs	2	Member of an environmental group	1
Encourage climate action by others	2	Raise awareness and education	3
Learn how to compost	2	Minimize air travel	2
Eat less red meat	3	Don't have children	1
Contact government members about environmental issue	1	Participate in beach clean-up or land care projects	1
Use cold water to wash clothes	2	Walk, bike, or take public transport instead of drive	0
Throw away less food	2	Go minimal - reduce your consumption of products generally	2
Use environmentally friendly products	2	Change energy supplier to a more green company	0
Reduce unnecessary spending	3	Buy local goods	1

Participants in workshop 3 also added the following actions to the existing list of individual/household actions:

- Growing organic
- Regenerating farmed produce and meat
- Plant endemic/local species
- Volunteer in community
- Stop glyphosate use!
- Make homes warmer/cooler e.g. filling gaps, planting for shade, making/installing warm curtains for winter, insulating homes
- Help landowners to regenerate their property through grants

#### Table 6. Handout list of community scale climate actions

Advocate for public transportation improvements	1	Develop a community led waste management strategy	1
Create local education programs to raise awareness of climate change impacts locally	2	Get involved with community organisations and help the coordination during climate related events	0
Join with others to advocate for renters and low-income earners to participate affordably in clean energy transition	0	Local projects to increase awareness of environmentally friendly behaviour changes	0
Use or set up group to develop a climate risk rating map to help influence and assess new developments	0	Community led practices prioritizing ecosystem- based adaptation strategies	0

Join with others to establish a community voice to help with climate action strategy and supportive policies locally and regionally	2	Engage others to reduce their carbon footprint through local events	1
Connect to or set up a community renewable energy group to promote community owned and operated renewable energy systems	1	Get involved with local businesses and organisations to strengthen ecosystem health and wildlife	1
Campaign for better financial incentives for household rooftop solar and break down barriers to uptake of solar	0	Run a fundraiser and use funds to help transition the community to low-carbon and climate resilient future	0
Spread information to help create plans in case of climate related events	0	Campaign to businesses, organisations, state, and local government to collaborate to help reduce carbon emissions	1
Undertake SES or Red Cross training for preparedness and response to emergencies	0	Join or establish a bulk buy for electric vehicles to increase purchasing power	1
Join local landcare and dunecare group to support rehabilitation	0	Set up a neighbourhood or community network for emergency response	1

Participants in workshop 3 also added the following community-scale actions to the existing list:

- · Government stop glyphosate and chemical use
- Community produce share
- Government spending
- Low impact transport
  - o Busses less cars
- Sharing household items e.g. sewing machines, movers
- Support local businesses that are reducing their environmental footprint
- Mobilize large numbers of people and protest about the federal government fossil fuel subsidies
- Campaign local government

From the expanded list of actions, workshop 3 participants identified the following individual/household scale climate actions as the most important to them (each with equal numbers):

(numbers in brackets indicate number of participants who highlighted this option on participant worksheets):

- 8. investing in rooftop solar (3),
- 9. reducing home energy consumption (3),
- 10. voting for pro-environmental politicians (3),
- 11. raising awareness and education (3),
- 12. eating less red meat (3), and
- 13. reducing unnecessary spending (3)

Workshop 3 participants also highlighted the following community climate actions as most important to them:

- 1. creating local education programs to raise awareness (2)
- 2. establishing a community voice to help with climate action strategies (2).
- 3. Advocating for public transport (1)
- 4. developing community led waste management strategies (1)
- 5. engage others to reduce their carbon footprint (1), and
- 6. establish bulk buying for electric vehicles (1)

#### **Outputs of Activity 1b Identifying Priority Climate Actions**

Workshop 3 participants were encouraged to identify their top 2 climate actions across both individual/household and community-scale climate action. Workshop 3 participants identified the following list of priorities:

(Note: the following are organised under broad categories post-workshop. Numbers in brackets indicate number of participants who highlighted this option on participant worksheets, no number indicates one participants priority):

#### **Education and Awareness:**

Raise Awareness and education

#### **Disaster Planning:**

- Set up neighbourhood or community network for emergency responses
- Do more emergency management studies

#### Reducing consumption and impact of products:

- Reuse, recycle, reduce
- Refuse to use non-reusable or non biodegradable plastic products
- Use environmentally friendly products
- Go minimal reduce consumption of products

#### Ecological:

- Soil health
  - o Runoff
  - Compaction
- · Farms increase capacity not land clearing
- Learning to grow your own food and compost
- Plant native and endemic species at home
- Council to allow 'guerilla' food planting on unused and weedy land
- Support for local environmental stewardship

#### Clean Energy Shift, Energy Efficiency:

- Renewable energy supply
- Enable low income people to access affordable renewable energy
- Invest in climate friendly no fossil fuel industries

#### **Green Transport and Infrastructure Planning:**

- Refuse car use
- Limit car ownership
- Demand flexible public transport
- · Less vehicle use
- Build on popularity of rail trail
- Bike racks on buses
- Safer bike routes for commuters

#### Community Engagement

- Connect Networks to share resources
- Together better, stronger outcomes
- Community led produce swap/share

- Create local organisations to strengthen ecosystem health and wildlife
- Start a community/street library/food sharing
- · Local protects awareness and behaviour
- Mobilise large numbers of people to get out on the street and protest about federal government fossil fuel subsidies
- Part of a community voice to help increase awareness for environmental change
- · Have regular community get togethers to talk

#### Societal:

• Stop human colonization, population caps, no kids

#### Governance

- Campaign local government
- · Government spending and planning

#### Activity 2 Identifying Top 3 Priority Climate Actions<sup>4</sup>

After identifying their top 3 actions, participants at each of the three tables collectively selected one priority action that they would focus on developing. These were:

- 7. Soil Health = Climate Health
- 8. Community Engagement & Care Program
- 9. Community Voice for Government Action (Loud, Vehement, Effective)

These three tables of participants, workshopped further in the second part of the session to develop up strategies to implement these activities.

## Part Two - Strategy Development

#### Activity 4 Developing strategies for implementing the priority climate actions

Participants were asked to work on their priority actions at the table (or given the option of moving if they preferred one of the other tables priorities. In developing the strategies, each group was to follow the instructions and fill in details around the six topics shown in Figure 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This activity was identified as Activity 3 in Workshop 1 and 2.

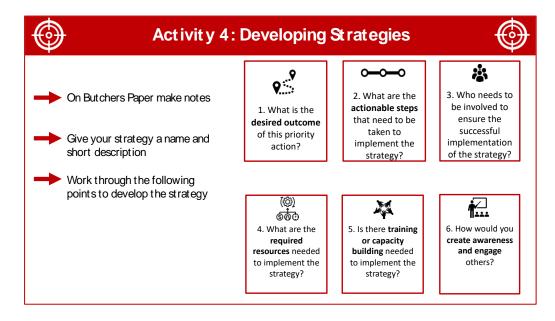


Figure 3 Instructions for Activity 4: Developing Strategies

#### Strategy Development Table 1 - Soil Health = Climate Health

The participants developing the Soil Health = Climate Health strategy produced the following outline.

Title: Soil Health Climate Health

- 1. Key outcomes
  - a. Awareness
  - b. Water capture
  - c. Knowledge of soil in your space
  - d. More people 'earthing'
  - e. Carbon sequestration
  - Remediate soil
  - g. Grow your own community
- 2. Actionable steps
  - a. Recruit and educate
  - b. Ambassadors
  - c. Markets
    - i. Display pop up stall
  - d. Approach funding
    - i. Government
    - ii. Philanthropists
  - e. Reach the unreachable
  - f. Join networks together
  - g. Train the trainer
  - h. Street meet
- 3. Who needs to be involved
  - a. Schools
  - b. Teachers
  - c. Parents
  - d. Students
  - e. Farmers
  - f. Landowners

- g. Producers
- h. Residents
  - i. Renters
  - ii. Owners
- i. Experts
- i. Households
- k. Council
- I. Tafe NSW
- m. Influencers
  - i. Costa
  - ii. Dirt girl
- 4. Required resources
  - a. Education
    - i. Topics
    - ii. Interaction
  - b. Experts and hands on workshops
  - c. Community gardens
    - i. Volunteers
    - ii. Ambassadors
  - d. Materials
    - i. Locations
  - e. Face to face
  - f. Schools
  - g. Community gardns
  - h. funding
- 5. Training or capacity building
  - a. Open gardens
  - b. Community gardens
  - c. Train to trainer
- 6. Create awareness
  - a. School talks
  - b. Social media
  - c. Council newsletter
  - d. Local paper
  - e. Facebook/insta
  - f. Street meets
  - g. Markets
  - h. festivals

#### Strategy Development Table 2 - Community Engagement & Care Program

The participants developing the Community Engagement & Care Program strategy produced the following outline:

Short description - Education and awareness raising

- 1. Key outcomes
  - a. More residents taking action from increased awareness of the personal effects of climate change
- 2. Actionable steps
  - a. Big ads in the tweed weekly (e.g. graphs of increase in temperature in TSC)
  - b. Leveraging current groups in the villages and follow ups
  - c. Local media
  - d. Access youth network groups and invite to demonstrations
  - e. One act locally (see Lindsay)
  - f. Recognized days utilize it

- 3. Who needs to be involved
  - a. Federal government rep
  - b. SES/current community leaders (e.g. Robert)
  - c. North coast ABC
  - d. MLC/Mt St Pats etc
  - e. Local XR
- 4. Required resources
  - a. Funds already available for adds
  - b. Willing adults to have kind conversation about one act locally
- 5. Training or capacity building
  - a. n/a
- 6. Create awareness
  - a. n/a

#### Strategy Development Table 3 - Community Voice/Government Action (Loud, Vehement, Effective)

- 1. Key outcomes
  - a. Community mobilization
    - i. Attending forums community
    - ii. Attending community events
    - iii. Protest/rallies
    - iv. Organizing into formal groups
  - b. Change in environmental laws/regulations (federal)
    - i. Tax, subsidies, etc.
- 2. Actionable steps
  - a. Community mobilization
    - i. Attending forums community
    - ii. Attending community events
    - iii. Protest/rallies
    - iv. Organizing into formal groups
      - 1. E.g. organizing bus trips to parliament
- 3. Who needs to be involved
  - a. All community
    - i. youth
  - b. Experts
  - c. Government
  - d. Council
  - e. Sustainable industry/business
  - f. Unsustainable industry/business
- 4. Required resources
  - a. Human resources large, aware, informed
  - b. Money
  - c. Council grant
  - d. Access to media/paid social media
- 5. Training or capacity building
  - a. Passive resistance training
  - b. Environmental education more local, specific
- 6. Create awareness
  - a. Good credible leadership from within community
  - b. Focused issue (e.g. flood, fire, logging)
  - c. Fear and efficacy "Yes we can"
  - d. Social media
  - e. Supporting people to be active agents of positive change

# WORKSHOP 4 – TWEED COAST (CABARITA), 20 MAY, 2023

## **WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES**

Participants were run through a series of activities related to climate action at the personal and community level across carbon emissions reductions and preparedness for key climate risks and related events including floods, storms and bushfire. Participants worked primarily in smaller groups at three tables around which the discussions were focused.

## **Refining and Prioritising Climate Actions**

Refining and prioritising climate actions was conducted through the first two activities.

Activity 1 focused on refining the list of individual/household and community scale actions,

Participants were asked to refine or add ideas to the list of personal and community climate actions they would like to do/see happen in the Tweed and then individually select preferred (top) 2 climate actions, one from each list<sup>5</sup>.

Activity 2 focused on prioritising them and collectively (at each table) choosing a preferred action to develop up into a strategy.

Activity 3 then focused on developing the prioritised actions into strategies for implementation.

#### **Outputs of Activity 1 Refining and prioritising climate actions**

Table 1 and 2 shows the list of individual/household climate actions and community-scale climate actions respectively as provided in the handout to participants, with the number of participants highlighting those actions listed in the column next to it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> This process was modified from earlier workshops (selecting one from each list rather than three) and collectively choosing at the table what strategy to develop, rather than voting as a whole group, to allow for more time for discussion.

Table 7 Handout list of Individual/Household Climate Actions

Purchase an E-bike	2	Refuse to use non-reusable or non- biodegradable plastic products	1
Invest in rooftop solar for your home	3	Carry reusable drink containers	5
Donate to pro-environmental groups	2	Vote for pro-environmental politicians	0
Invest in an Electric Vehicle	3	Ride a bike	1
Reduce energy consumption at home	1	Make a plan for emergencies	2
Attend a pro-environmental rally, march, or protest	0	Invest your money in climate friendly industries or businesses, remove from fossil fuel industries	4
Grow own fruit/veggies/herbs	3	Member of an environmental group	0
Encourage climate action by others	0	Raise awareness and education	2
Learn how to compost	0	Minimize air travel	0
Eat less red meat	3	Don't have children	1
Contact government members about environmental issue	1	Participate in beach clean-up or land care projects	0
Use cold water to wash clothes	1	Walk, bike, or take public transport instead of drive	3
Throw away less food	2	Go minimal - reduce your consumption of products generally	2
Use environmentally friendly products	1	Change energy supplier to a more green company	0
Reduce unnecessary spending	1	Buy local goods	1

Participants in workshop 4 also added the following actions to the existing list of individual/household actions:

- Buy more used goods
- Food packaging
- Minimize food packaging
- Plant local natives in garden/street verge

Table 8. Handout list of community scale climate actions

Advocate for public transportation improvements	3	Develop a community led waste management strategy	2
Create local education programs to raise awareness of climate change impacts locally	1	Get involved with community organisations and help the coordination during climate related events	0
Join with others to advocate for renters and low-income earners to participate affordably in clean energy transition	3	Local projects to increase awareness of environmentally friendly behaviour changes	1
Use or set up group to develop a climate risk rating map to help influence and assess new developments	1	Community led practices prioritizing ecosystem- based adaptation strategies	3
Join with others to establish a community voice to help with climate action strategy and supportive policies locally and regionally	3	Engage others to reduce their carbon footprint through local events	1
Connect to or set up a community renewable energy group to promote community owned and operated renewable energy systems	2	Get involved with local businesses and organisations to strengthen ecosystem health and wildlife	1
Campaign for better financial incentives for household rooftop solar and break down barriers to uptake of solar	1	Run a fundraiser and use funds to help transition the community to low-carbon and climate resilient future	1
Spread information to help create plans in case of climate related events	2	Campaign to businesses, organisations, state, and local government to collaborate to help reduce carbon emissions	1
Undertake SES or Red Cross training for preparedness and response to emergencies	0	Join or establish a bulk buy for electric vehicles to increase purchasing power	1
Join local landcare and dunecare group to support rehabilitation	1	Set up a neighbourhood or community network for emergency response	1

Participants in workshop 4 also added the following community-scale actions to the existing list:

- Councils to implement tougher eco housing requirements
- Use of set up a group to design and plan for flood resilience
- Reduce population
- · Reduce food packaging and make more recyclable
- Local tool + household rental hub to reduce purchase of unnecessary items
- More farmers markets
- More resilience hubs
  - o Shared solar, water tanks, community garden
- Community/regional gardens of food forests
  - o Sustainable hub
- Stop wood burning for energy

One attendee indicated they could not afford an electric vehicle but have been off grid for 43 years.

From the expanded list of actions, workshop 4 participants identified the following individual/household scale climate actions as most important to them:

(numbers in brackets indicate number of participants who highlighted this option on participant worksheets):

1. Investing in rooftop solar (3),

- 2. carrying reusable drink containers (5)
- 3. investing in climate friendly industries or businesses (4)
- 4. Investing in rooftop solar (3)
- 5. electric vehicles (3)
- 6. growing own vegetables (3)
- 7. eating less red meat (3), and
- 8. other forms of transport other than cars (3).

Workshop 4 participants identified the following community scale climate actions as most important to them:

- 1. Advocating for public transport improvements (3),
- 2. community led practices prioritizing ecosystem-based adaptation strategies (3), and
- 3. joining others to advocate for renters and low-income earners to participate affordably in clean energy (3)

#### **Outputs of Activity 1b Identifying Priority Climate Actions**

Workshop 4 participants were encouraged to identify their top 2 climate actions across both individual/household and community-scale climate action. Workshop 4 participants identified the following list of priorities:

(Note: the following are organised under broad categories post-workshop. Numbers in brackets indicate number of participants who highlighted this option on participant worksheets, no number indicates one participants priority):

#### **Education and Awareness:**

Create local education programs (use retired teachers)

#### **Disaster Planning:**

- Use of set up a group to design and plan for flood resiliency
- Emergency responses network
- Make a plan for emergencies

#### Reducing consumption and impact of products:

- Water efficiency in units
- Advocacy- minimize all packaging
- Pressure on manufactures to eliminate plastic packaging
- Put a return deposit on all consumer goods

#### **Ecological**:

· Plant local natives in garden and on verges

#### Food and agriculture:

- Throw away less food/reduce food waste
- Grow own fruit/veggies
- Community/regional gardens/food forests "Sustainability hub"

#### Clean Energy Shift, Energy Efficiency:

- How to guide
  - Rooftop solar for units/body corp

- Stop wood burning for energy (circular economy)
- Electrify home
- Change energy supplier to green company
- Electrify of everything using green power

#### Green Transport and Infrastructure Planning:

- E-bikes
- Ride a bike
- Safe and more extensive bike paths, active transport
- Public transport cars off roads
- Bulk buy for electric vehicles
- Land the communication line

#### Community Engagement

- Vote for pro-environmental politicians
- Better communication system on how to help/respond re climate related events
- Centralising available resources and groups
- Tapping into what we already have and using it
- Community hub
- Meeting space (garden, café)
- Set up a neighbourhood community network for responses

#### Societal:

- Climate influencers
- No children and reduce population

#### Financial:

- Climate friendly investing/super
- Invest your money in climate friendly businesses

#### Activity 1c Identifying Priority Climate Actions<sup>6</sup>

After identifying their top 3 actions, participants at each of the four tables collectively chose one climate action (either individual or community scale) to put forward for further development into a strategy. The three priority actions identified across the three tables were:

- 7. Electrify Everything Using Green Power
- 8. S.O.S. community emergency response program (Save Our Arses)
- 9. The Community Hub

These top three strategies were workshopped further in the second part of the session.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This activity was identified as Activity 3 in Workshop 1.

## Part Two - Strategy Development

#### Activity 4 Developing strategies for implementing the priority climate actions

Participants were asked to work on their priority actions at the table (or given the option of moving if they preferred one of the other tables priorities. In developing the strategies, each group was to follow the instructions and fill in details around the six topics shown in Figure 1.

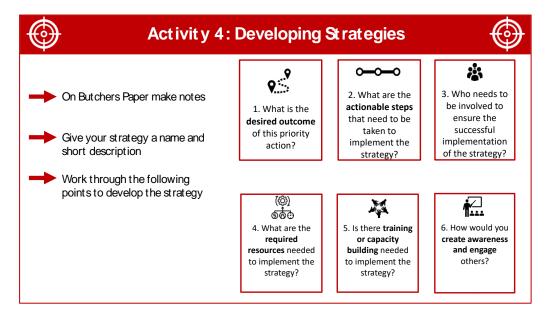


Figure 4 Instructions for Activity 4: Developing Strategies

#### Strategy Development Table 1 - Electrify Everything Using Green Power

The participants developing the Electrify Everything strategy produced the following outline.

Title: Electrify Everything: Advocacy and community awareness raising

- 7. Desired outcomes:
  - Shire to eliminate all use of fossil fuels
  - Long term all residents
  - Initially get rid of gas
  - Electrification of all public transport
  - Electrification of 'solo' waste removal
- 8. Actionable steps
  - Connect with council to support their policy 'climate action plan'
  - Public event: inviting community to a presentation by Saul Griffith
  - Form an active group to action project
  - Develop a roadmap of what actions are the highest impact and most feasible and work through them
- 9. Who needs to be involved?
  - Saul Griffith (South Coast NSW)
  - Zero Emissions Tweed (reinvigorated)
  - Residents associations
  - Council contacts

- Academic specialists
- Electricity providers
- ARENA (federal)
- 10. Required resources?
  - Lists of contacts and their roles in council, to identify appropriate officers to assist
  - Grant applications for pilot project
  - Renewal of council's contracts to reflect electrification
  - ARENA community renewable energy material
- 11. Training/capacity building
  - Connect with community development officer to establish contact with community groups
  - Technical assistance to build a road map of actions and pilot
- 12. Creating awareness
  - Community event special forum with high profile Saul Griffith and University academics (e.g. Griffith Climate Action Beacon) – talk to the issue, raise awareness
  - Start a small coordination group to develop a strategy and promote it with Council

#### Strategy Development Table 2 – S.O.S. (Save Our Arses)

#### Localised Community Emergency Response

- 7. Desired outcome
  - a. Understanding, preparedness, responding to climate events
  - b. Prepare
- i. Food, Fuel, Pets, Cash, Medication, Water
- c. Risk assessment Own risk vulnerability Heat, Flood, Bushfires
- d. Responding
  - i. Plan coordinating services/volunteers
  - ii. Role clarity
  - iii. Leaders
  - iv. Communicators
  - v. Welfare health/coord
- 8. Actionable steps
  - a. Local council to facilicate SOA (e.g. neighbourhood watch)
  - b. Agency promotion
  - c. Agency ambassador
  - d. Look at models that work (e.g. st. John Ambulance neighbourhood watch)
  - e. Recruit young people, schools
  - f. Identify leaders, volunteer recruitment
- 9. Who needs to be involved
  - a. Volunteers
  - b. Department of communities
  - c. Indigenous elders
  - d. SES
  - e. Local council facilitators
- 10. Required resources
  - a. Inventory of community resources
  - b. Funding
  - c. Community leaders
  - d. Governmance
  - e. Legal liability
  - f. Secure and reliable communication system

- g. Risk and responsibility
  - i. Privately owned boats etc.
- 11. Training or capacity building
  - a. Workshops
  - b. Risk management and legal liability
- 12. Create awareness
  - a. Social media
    - i. influencers
  - b. Online training
  - c. Schools
  - d. Markets

#### Strategy Development Table 3 - Community Hub

Hub for people to come together to promote engage and action for climate change

- 7. Desired outcomes
  - e. Community led practices prioritizing ecosystem-based adaptation strategies
  - f. Building networks for local climate action and resliliance
  - g. Reduce consumption shared resources
  - h. Social equity
  - i. Use of set up a group to design and plan for flood resiliency
  - j. Set up community shared solar
  - k. Activating community engagement processes
  - I. Tool and resource library
  - m. Community/regional gardens/food forests "Sustainability Hub"
- 8. Actionable steps
  - n. Identify areas of focus and needs in each place
  - o. Identifying local groups and places
  - p. Centralizing available resources and groups
  - q. Use existing resources and groups
  - r. Co-design workshops
  - s. Developing framework for engagement
- 9. Quick wins lead to momentumWho needs to be involved
  - t. Local groups (men;s shed, environment centre, Lion's club, community garden)
  - u. Advocae/leaders
  - v. Local gov
  - w. The community (people) all ages
  - x. Subject matter experts
  - y. Local indigenous groups
  - z. Schools (student involvement)
- 10. Required resources
  - aa. Funding for set up Design, Market/inform
  - bb. Key leader and liasons
  - cc. Shared space/location (existing preferable)
  - dd. Admin/legal/governance processes
  - ee. Admin coordinator (paid)
  - ff. marketing
- 11. Training or capacity building
  - gg. Community carers and responders (CCR) training (Plan C)
  - hh. Skills for regenerative community Communication, Collaboration
  - ii. Capacity training for community Building, Gardening, Solar
  - ij. Non violent communication

#### 12. Create awareness

- kk. Social Media
- II. Guerilla-ism (installations that disrupt spaces)
- mm. Talks from experts (building social ecology)
- nn. Community events (markets, concerts, etc)
- oo. Foster active interaction (audience involvement)
- pp. Use local networks and leaders

