

Ecovillage Design Education Glarisegg



2020

January 20 - February 22
SWITZERLAND



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1. COURSE OVERVIEW

Schloss Glarisegg community was founded in 2003 at Glarisegg castle on the Swiss side of Lake Constance as “a place for encounter and awareness”. The community has more than 50 members who mainly use the Scott Peck method of community building, and welcome other methods such as Forum and Possibility Management for continuous community development. The project also includes a free school, a permaculture garden, a food cooperative, a lake bistro, a meditation house and a seminar center with guest house and campsite. A wide range of courses and seminars are hosted throughout the year. Many healers and therapists call Glarisegg their home and offer their gifts at the place.



Schloss Glarisegg in the January sun

The Ecovillage Design Education (EDE) programme was hosted at Schloss Glarisegg for the 5th time this year. This course is based on the Gaia Education EDE curriculum, organized around the four dimensions of sustainability: social, worldview, ecology and economy, incorporating an approach of Whole Systems Design for Sustainability. In a four weeks programme, participants learn how to create, develop and maintain ecovillages and eco-projects.

The founders and organizers of this EDE, Elisabeth Schrag, Jashana Kippert and Sonja-Vera Schmitt, have added the component of “Creating a Transformative Culture” to the curriculum, as well as a 5th week called the “Growing Together Days”. This gives the great opportunity to former participants to join the new group for a week, to get to know each other and build the network. The Growing Together Days are usually co-created by participants using open space technology, which allows them to share skills, knowledge and interests.

In 2020, we welcomed a total of 57 participants from 17 different countries. In addition, 35 former participants of the past four years came back to Glarisegg for the Growing Together Days.

This year’s EDE was again structured using Sociocracy 3.0, allowing participants to self-organize and make decisions through the Community Care Council. The Community Care Council is an inner circle formed by an elected representative of each of the ten project groups. Other highlights on the learning journey were Permaculture, Dragon Dreaming, Deep Ecology, Spiral Dynamics, Forum, Reinventing Organizations, Economy of the Common Good, Conflict Resolution or Transparent Communication.

2. THE TEAM

Organizers (Also lovingly called “The three witches”)



Sonja-Vera Schmitt, Glarisegg:

Is one of the co-founders of Schloss Glarisegg community. She was and is present in the development of the community project with her whole being. Being the initiator of the EDE Glarisegg, she brings her diverse expertise and qualities into the field: community building/mediation, project development, community economies, her involvement with GEN Europe and always exploring the best possibility in logistics and coordination of the course. She is a therapist / teacher of breath, voice and speech as well as a flutist, singer and contact-improv dancer. Since 2005 she has been passionate for Vipassana meditation and sits her 1 - 2 hours daily.

Jashana Kippert, Hawaii:

The co-founder of EDE Glarisegg is a lover of learning. Jashana has degrees in Environmental Science, Anthropology, a Master's in Social Ecology and a Ph.D. in Philosophy. In her twenties, she was involved as an activist in attempting to stop the war in Guatemala. That struggle brought her to the alternative community movement with a commitment to become part of the “solution”. She has lived part of her life in Findhorn, later built up a community project for regenerating land and securing food supply in Hawai'i and currently lives with a small community on the island.



Elisabeth Schrag, Glarisegg:

The co-founder of the EDE-Glarisegg is trained in or as: Synergetic-Psycho-Therapy (Gestalt, Bioenergetics, NLP), Biodynamic-Craniosacral-Therapy, Movement Medicine-Dance, Middle Earth Medicine Ways, Flute (Soprano and Alto), Group Dynamics and Deep Democracy leadership. She is a full-on healer working with the chambers of the heart and holding space for groups and single persons in deep healing processes. She is a member of Schloss Glarisegg community.



Assistants (all former EDE participants)



Irina Cojocaru, Romania:

There was a time when I started to question a lot the way we are living, how are we spending our time on Earth and how could this be transformed into something better, more sustainable, more connected, more alive. I strongly believe in our power to create, and even stronger, to CO-CREATE a better world for us and the future generation. I also learned that the journey of transformation starts from inside and EDE was a big step for me into this journey.

Rouven Lipps, Germany:

I am somewhere in between the old tradition of traveling craftsmen and the new phenomena of digital nomad. My personal “Walz” of the last five years has been dedicated to discovering how we humans can live together in holistically sustainable and connected groups. Their growing into resilience I support as a “community builder” in all possible meanings of the world; with real, mental, emotional and virtual infrastructure. On this way in the EDE 2016 has been an important milestone. In this year’s EDE I am mainly responsible for the kitchen management.



Lou Salomon, France:

Curious about the infinite possibilities of the exploration of human life, I’m passionate about researching what it means to be human and who we can be as a being on this planet. Facilitator, project coordinator and filmmaker, I love to get engaged in projects that sustain life and hold space for authentic, playful, conscious and connective experiences.

Julia Ritsche, Germany/Austria:

Looking for my role in creating radical change in this world, I have worked with various environmental and political groups and self-organized projects, I studied geography and forest ecology at university, have lived in different countries and communities, and I am learning about human functioning, love and trust. I very much enjoy observing (and changing!) group dynamics and creating spaces where we can connect deeply with ourselves and with each other.





Diego Hidalgo Ruiz, Spain:

Passionate for the inner quest and its impact in our daily living, I'm a filmmaker visiting communities and ecovillages since one year ago. My dream is to develop an audiovisual project with the objective of making the link between the inner and outer healing, which I strongly believe our world needs. This year's EDE for me is dedicated to a video project documenting the participants' road to community.

Roos Derks, Netherlands:

After lots of movement around the world, and finishing a master in Cultural Sociology, I decided to dedicate my life to research, in a practical way, how we can live as humans truly connected to each other and to the land we live on. In the social realm this means for me learning tools to process deeply, communicate authentically and decide together effectively. In the material realm this means developing a local and land-based lifestyle, growing and harvesting food. In this year's EDE I will also teach permaculture and sociocracy.



Manuel Kuhn, Switzerland:



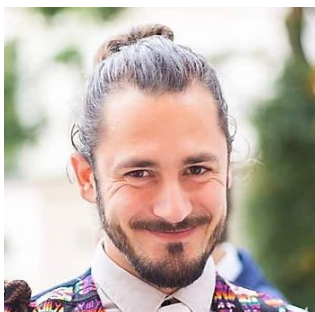
As a lover of the beauty of everyday life with all his magic, I'm looking forward to meeting you and celebrating the EDE 2020 in Glarisegg together! I try to flow through life with ease on the path of peace with the question "How is it really?" and the state of curiosity "hmmm, interesting" and "I wonder ...". With the background of being an ex-banker, I'm totally interested in a radical transformation of the current economy.

Katarina Wiesner, Austria:

Guided by my natural curiosity for life I embarked on a quest of self-directed education across Africa, Europe and the Middle East. I navigate to the edge of modern culture where I now joyfully stand and co-create new ways of living, learning, working and relating. With an open heart, I intend to host spaces that empower and transform. Adventures in wild nature, dance and community make me come alive.



Emilien Clercq-Roques, France:



Taking part in 2019's EDE opened to me so many doors within myself and widened my field of possibilities. I now feel honored and joyful to serve others taking part in this magical journey. I'm fascinated by community dynamics, collective intelligence and everything that contributes to the growing and spreading of this truly transformative culture. I believe that the ability to dream and work together is the answer to many of the challenges humanity is facing today.

Associated team members:

Daniel Auf der Mauer, Glarisegg:

Daniel Auf der Mauer has many years of experience as a coach, facilitator and mediator and teaches modules on Conflict Resolution. In Daniel's words: "Conflict is the natural response of an interconnected and deeply sensitive system to bring awareness to areas of wounding, contraction and inner withdrawal. Conflict symptoms are an invitation of life itself for us to slow down and re-relate again in deeper vulnerability, clarity and intimacy."



Jan Kruse, Glarisegg:

Jan is part of the Glarisegg community and hosted a Non-Violent Communication Seminar in the Open Space of the EDE 2019. This year, he took the role of the team's personal mediator to support them going through this journey in the best possible condition.

3. PARTICIPANTS

The course had **57** participants this year, the highest number in the history of EDE Glarisegg. For the first time as well, a special intention of gender balance was brought by the organizers. In the past years, the ratio was usually around $\frac{2}{3}$ women, $\frac{1}{3}$ men. In 2020, 29 women and 28 men participated in the course. **17** nationalities or countries of origin were represented. The largest bunch of participants came from Germany (24), 9 from Switzerland and 5 from the Netherlands. Other participants came from Ukraine, Armenia, Spain, Austria, Romania, UK, South Africa/Eswatini, France, Myanmar, Brazil, Italy, Canada, Ireland and Slovenia. The age of participants ranged between 20 and 54 years and the age average was considerably higher than in the last years. The majority of participants were between 28 and 32 years old (30 persons), 14 persons were under 28, 13 persons were older than 34.

Around half a dozen participants have a community living background while some others were really new to big group settings. The majority has had experiences with non-individualistic-urban lifestyle, and some are involved in environmental activism. A big majority went through higher academic studies. Here is a small selection of the professional backgrounds of our participants: medical doctor, social worker, robotic engineer, professional singer, philosophy and social economy student, sport coach, life coach, PhD student of Physics, botanic biologist, organic farmer, psychologist, vegan chef, tour guide,...

From a subjective perception of the authors of this report, the wide diversity of age, origin and backgrounds led to very inclusive working groups and an amazing, particularly attentive group dynamic throughout the EDE journey.



4. COURSE RHYTHM

Daily schedule from Monday to Saturday:

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------------------|
| 7:00 to 8:00 | Morning practice |
| 8:00 to 9:00 | Breakfast |
| 9:00 to 9:30 | Team meeting (organizers and assistants) |
| 9:30 to 10:30 | Morning circle |
| 10:30 to 13:00 | Morning session |
| 13:00 to 15:00 | Lunch break |
| 15:00 to 18:00 | Afternoon session |
| 18:00 to 20:00 | Dinner break |
| 20:00 to 22:00 | Evening session |

Optional morning practice:

Self-organized by participants, they have the opportunity to lead and introduce others to their own practices. We have seen different kinds of yoga, Qi Gong, Thai Chi, Massage, breathing techniques, guided blind walks to the woods, self-defense and frequent collective swimming in (partly frozen!) Lake Constance.

Organizers and assistants meeting:

Every day we met for half an hour all together as a team. Usually we divided the time to take 15 minutes of “check-in” and sharing and 15 minutes of logistics. With the days filled with tasks and business, this was usually our only time of the day to be all together, and a really good way to keep in touch and feel into every team member.



Morning team meeting

Morning circle:

This routine community time is an important moment of gathering. Starting with a different song each morning, somebody reads a poem for the day. A round of looking into the eyes of the neighbors is also the opportunity for a round of “welcomes and goodbyes” of people to briefly present themselves to the community or to announce their leaving. After a common stretch by holding hands together “up to the sky and down to the earth”, the Day Director (one of the assistants) reads out the announcements that were collected in a basket. Morning circle is also the opportunity for birthday celebrations. Schloss Glarisegg community members were always invited to join the circle.



The morning circle is an important part of the day and gives a great opportunity to meet everyone in a biiiiig circle.

Session time:



Session time is divided into three slots per day; morning, afternoon and evening and sums up to ca. 8h per day from Monday to Saturday. Most of the sessions are non-optional and were designed in an interactive way. Sessions were facilitated by the team, community members and specialized external facilitators.

A special guest at the morning session: the sun shining and illuminating some faces

Strands:



Roos and Wolfgang hosting the Permaculture strand

This year we introduced a system of “strands” to the program to give participants the chance to specialize in a theme they are interested in. The participants could choose between four different themes: Permaculture (led by Roos and Wolfgang), Community building (led by Sonja-Vera), Conflict Transformation (led by Daniel) and Find your inner healer (led by Elisabeth). Four morning sessions were dedicated to the strands, all four happening simultaneously.

Free evenings and Sundays:

After the evening sessions, the seminar halls were free for participants to organize themselves in dancing, movies, music jams or playfight sessions. We also had two vibrant, super fun parties involving costumes, face paint, performances and games. Sundays offered free time for participants. Most Sundays we had a self-organized open space where participants proposed activities to share their skills, knowledge and interests or just have a good time together. Trips to nearby towns or attractions (Rhine waterfalls, Hermann Hesse museum) were coordinated by an assistant. Every Sunday evening, we were able to heat the sauna of the Schloss Glarisegg community and jump into the cold lake afterwards!



Left: Make-up and costumes preparation for the EDE midterm party



Right: The lake is a good place to integrate the new experiences on a free Sunday

Kitchen and housekeeping:

Participants were generally responsible for cooking, dishwashing and cleaning the common spaces, supported by the assistants. In the beginning of the course they divided into two main groups, the Lizwiz (Lizard Wizards) and the Kumbo (The kumquat eating bonobos), taking turns of kitchen vs. housekeeping every three days. Smaller groups formed that were responsible for cooking and dishwashing of the individual meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner). Cleaning parties for the different localities on site were scheduled in the programme every three days and were carried out by the participant groups during the lunch break. Working times were usually opened with a brief check-in and intention setting, and closed by a check-out and short reflection on the experience. Over time, the participant groups took over more responsibility and were less reliant on the support of the assistants.



Annabelle dedicated to making the kitchen shine again

5. HIGHLIGHTS of the 4 DIMENSIONS

Social dimension

Within the social dimension, the course programme had sessions on Sociocracy 3.0, Possibility Management, Scott Peck community building, Dragon Dreaming, Nonviolent Communication, embodied leadership, feedback and deep listening, transparent communication, Let's Talk About Sex, rank and hierarchies. During the third week, Forum was offered every afternoon with different



Circle culture was taught as an important aspect of community life

forum leaders. We introduced and used various methods to facilitate group interactions including World-Café, Open Space Technology, Fishbowl Conversation and Hot Chair. Two of the eligible strand specializations fall into the social dimension: *Community building* and *Conflict transformation*.

During our first sociocracy session, each project group elected a representative to form the *Community Care Council (CCC)*, which is a vessel to collect tensions relating to the whole course setting from the participants and to bring constructive proposals. The CCC met four times in the course of the EDE. Compared to last year, this year's CCC was less active and fewer proposals came up and were implemented. This year, the CCC was composed of representatives of the project groups instead of working groups, and meetings did not take place as part of the official programme but were self-organized during breaks and meals. This might have had an impact on the activity of the CCC.

Economic dimension

As for the economic dimension, we started with diving into big topics of global economy and global food markets and went on with sessions on Reinventing Organizations, comparing community economies, personal and collective relationship to money, Gift Circle, empowered fundraising and Economy of the Common Good in theory and practice. One highlight was the visit of Antje von Dewitz, CEO of the outdoor equipment producer VAUDE.

As an experiment for the period of the course, we founded the *Bank of Transformation* and produced an alternative currency called *Wonga*, with the aim of rethinking ownership, consumption and our relationship to money and banks. The EDE community joyfully embraced the *Wonga* and found creative new ways to play the money game. Nevertheless, we see an even larger potential for the Bank of Transformation with more time and preparation before next year's EDE.



The Bank of Transformation opened some spaces to share and brainstorm about our relationship with money

Ecological dimension

Within the ecological dimension we covered Permaculture principles and design methodology, self-sufficiency and ecovillage design. We learned about global chocolate production, its impact on the environment and agroforestry solutions for more sustainable cacao production. Previous EDE participant Claudio Beretta introduced us to his PhD research on food waste in Switzerland. During a project-pitch session, participants and the organizing team shared about their experiences with environmental movements such as GEN, Extinction Rebellion, Earth Restoration Camps and Positive Deep Adaptation. One of the eligible strand options focused on Permaculture and included theory as well as practical work in the garden.

The organizing team attempted to design everyday life during the EDE in a way that gives opportunity to learn about different aspects of ecological living. We bought a large part of the vegetables used in the kitchen from nearby organic farmers, and participants had the chance to join the collection of foods from their farms. We also received left-over bread from a nearby bakery and went dumpster diving at supermarkets in the surrounding, as a deliberate act to counteract the destruction of perfectly edible food and to become aware of the dimensions of food waste in Switzerland. In the kitchen, participants had the chance to learn from each other about ways of self-sufficiency, i.e. by baking sourdough bread, producing fermented foods and cooking with seasonal and regional foods. We installed three temporary compost toilets (two outdoor and one indoor) on the premises of Schloss Glarisegg. A compost team made up of one assistant and several participants took care of the compost disposal and was able to learn about humanure and composting.



Left: Dumpster diving as a way to save a lot of perfectly edible food from the trash

Right: Setting up the compost toilet

Worldview dimension

In the worldview dimension we looked at Spiral Dynamics, Theory U, Dragon Dreaming, alternative health and self-care, and practiced Joanna Macy's Work That Reconnects. We offered one evening of women / men / star* circles, and the participants took this up and self-organized more circles during free evenings. Several meditation sessions and rituals were held as part of the course programme, such as a water/grief ritual with *Stimmvolk*, a ritual to connect with our ancestors and a sweat lodge ritual. Singing and dancing was an integral part of community building and daily routines during the whole EDE. Contact Improvisation, Authentic Movement, Playfight, Ecstatic Dance and LifeDance were offered optionally as somatic practices for embodiment. One of the four strands falls into the worldview dimension: *Find your inner healer*.



Participants on the way to the ruins for a ritual

Design dimension & Project groups

The design dimension was realized through the applied work on projects that the participants brought with them. During the first week we had a morning of project pitches, where we saw more than 20 presentations of participants sharing their project dreams, whether still a seed or already in action. We continued with a World Café, to find out more about the project ideas and perhaps already start dreaming together. At the end of the day, nine groups had formed. A 10th project group (The Italian House) developed spontaneously out of a Gift Circle in the second week. Work on the projects began with a guided Dragon Dreaming process of finding a common vision and mission. It then flowed into self-organized working processes where tools and lessons learnt throughout the course could be applied. Support from the team was available when needed. In total, the groups spent at least 18 hours on their projects, and additionally had a weekly evening of sharing and being together. The last few course days were all about finishing up the work on the projects: last decisions needed to be taken, group tensions resolved, presentations wanted to be prepared and rehearsed and project reports finalized. On the last day, all groups presented their projects (in incredibly creative ways) and had a final chance for reflection, appreciation and celebration.



Project group time!

Below is a short quote and visual impression of each project group.

The Seed of Life - Ubuntu Ecovillage in the Netherlands (Shanti, Thomas, Oleg, Chris, Renata, Yadana, Joseph, Daniel, Victoria)

“Our Ecovillage has the vision to design new pathways to a sustainable future, while building bridges of hope and international solidarity. As a solution-based ecovillage we provide information, tools, and practical examples of sustainability in our lifestyle.”

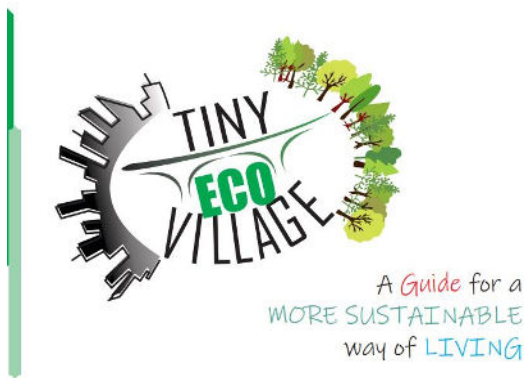


Tiny Ecovillage

(Mariona, Paulo, Daria, Dan, Michael, Florian, Katja)



“What is a “Tiny Ecovillage”? For us a “Tiny Ecovillage” consists of a single house or apartment in a limited area. The residents form a community that wants to live more sustainably. They are willing to share goods, have some joint activities and support and care for each other. We wrote a practical guide that motivates people to create “Tiny Ecovillages” by following some concrete steps. The guide illustrates how these steps can be applied in two exemplary cases based on a city environment and a village environment.”



ERLE - Earth Regeneration Lab Experience

(Florian, Felix, Robin, Crissi, Melina)

“Our vision is to (...) start a movement for exploring and designing regenerative cultures. We want to come together for two weeks - as people striving to create whole systems transformation - for an experimental learning lab, creating the conditions for social and ecological regeneration & earth healing. Together, we will develop a learning format that can be applied as an impulse to different questions and topics, empowering ourselves to work as Earth Regeneration Magicians.”



The Italian House

(Beat, Konstantin, Rafael, Ayla, Ismael)

“We envision a home in the dolomites which opens a conscious space for the EDE family and other changemakers to gather, celebrate and grow together. From this prototype we will create a Self-organized Co-living Model, attracting other interested real estate owners to join with lands; houses; buildings; villages to be part of this harmonious network”



Dare to Dream

(Catherine, Lenny, Annabelle, Rémi, Roosje)

“Our mission is to offer a course program in high schools, where students enter a space of self-discovery, feeling connection and creative expression. The course shall help students to engage with their dreams about their lives and society as a whole, as a basis for empowerment.”



YOUth FOR CHANGE by the Pachamama Group

(Timon, Julius, Priska, Ana, Eva)



“Our mission is to learn to live a transformative culture by working in a group project and supporting the YOUth FOR CHANGE initiative by creating a logo and outlining its distribution strategy and network.”

Yeebo

(Katharina, Jo, Jonas, Arthur)

“We dream of a transformative network for people who have attended the EDE and beyond. The core tool of the network is an online platform as a central node to connect the people and projects of working towards transformative culture.”

Visit the online platform! <https://yeebo.org/>



Meta Fluffy Wolf

(Pauline, Sasou, Nadina, Azia, Nathan)

“How to train youth educators in transformative culture? Our values: learning emotional and social intelligence, self-reflection and responsibility, healing, authenticity, embracing and allowing ourselves to be human, empowerment, transformation, transparency, accessibility, embodied learning.”

→ Create a Zine: collect information on different tools and from different experts into a booklet!



Being Human

(Björn, Tara, Anita, Laura, Tobias, Sunamit, Hanna, Jasmin)



“Through participating in a program of Being Human, children and adolescents get the chance to change their perspective on what they thought themselves and the world to be till now. Reflection and authentically relating to themselves and others opens new doors of freedom.”

Inspired

(Andreas, Silvia, Martin, Iurdana)

“Our vision is to facilitate the co-creation of an open space in the middle of the town of Los Llanos de Aridane, La Palma, Canary Islands, where every living being can feel the natural link that keeps us all connected. A regenerative neighbourhood of self-organising, empowered and mutually supporting individuals emerges.”



6. Financial framework

The participants could choose between three different payment rates for the EDE Glarisegg 2020, depending on their financial possibilities: the survival rate of 1500€, the middle path of 2500€ and the thrive rate of 3500€ which supports scholarships. This year we were able to give **three full scholarships** including travel costs to participants from Myanmar, Eswatini / South Africa and Armenia. Costs and spending of the EDE bookkeeping are made transparent to the participants and to the network of former participants during the Growing Together Days.

7. Evaluation

In the design of this year's EDE we integrated feedback that came from 2019 participants. The Social Tools block in the beginning of the programme was less focused on Possibility Management but included a larger variety of tools and methods and was mainly facilitated by the course organizers themselves. A call for more thematic depth was followed up on by the introduction of four thematic strands, within which participants could specialize in a chosen topic. The strands were generally well received. We dropped the "Home Groups" and instead gave more sharing and integration time within the project groups. We also followed a strong request for more Forum and scheduled daily Forum spaces for an entire week of the program, led by four different forum leaders. This seems to have contributed to the emotional and energetic depth of the course and towards intimacy and trust among the participants. We also changed the system of cooking and cleaning duties in a way that brought more predictability and stability within groups.

As the organizing and assisting team, we experienced an exceptionally sensitive and reflective group of participants at this EDE, with a high level of presence and very ready to dive deep. As the team, we take learning around the topics of participation and co-creation, where participants expressed the wish to be better informed and more involved in program decisions and to learn more from each other. There was a call for more feedback cycles within the course period, and for collective reflection about where we stand as a community. We also learnt about the importance of clearly communicating the difference between therapeutic spaces (which the EDE cannot offer) and a community-based learning framework. Awareness of safe settings for emotional processes was raised.

According to the evaluation survey, the external facilitators that were invited for this year's EDE showed a large degree of satisfaction with the way they were prepared and hosted at the course. Some facilitators asked for longer sessions and for more clarity about the time schedule in advance. Their success rate of being able to deliver the learning outcomes was estimated at between 80% and 100%.

Key trends from Gaia Education evaluation survey

Up to now, 29 participants participated in the survey. Percentages are based on this number.

Overall satisfaction:

- 80% found that the course met their expectations well or very well.
- 84% thought that the course was very well or well organized.
- 55% would “extremely” recommend this experience (10/10).

Strengths:

“The social and worldview dimensions are well developed, the facilitators are really good in these aspects and in being transparent and humble, open to feedback”

“A very committed and experienced team, reliable structures and a good infrastructure, including permaculture gardens, compost toilets and wild natural spaces.”

“The many different tools we learnt all around self-development, resilience in community and inner work. Such as forum, possibility management and conflict transformation.”

“The assistants, the kitchen organization, social tools in the first week.”

“It was really transformative programme, directed to make deep changes on personal level and provide participants not only with useful information, but also show them the way for the further development.”

Possible Improvements:

“Topics of Sexuality, Relationship, Love need more space and are in my eyes the foundation for a lot of other things.”

“More space for reflection! And more space for silence and digestion. Maybe no input on Saturdays but instead room for feedback and common reflection.”

“More space for open feedback and connected to that co-creation of the learning vessel itself. Continuously giving more space and inviting for that during the course -> self-responsibility and empowerment.”

“More free space to digest. Sometimes it would be better to go deeper into one topic (according to skills of facilitator) rather than covering everything.”

“Maybe it would need a week more.”

Gratitude:

“Everything was on a very high level, many thanks to all organizers for an excellent job!”

“WOW, thanks so much! So much heart and effort put in it, completely living what you “preach”!”

“Accommodation, food and facilities were excellent. Beautiful location and facility”

“Conscience about nutrition (where does it come from, how was it produced) highly developed (deserves the rating of excellency). Has massively been enriched with dumpster-dived goods, especially oranges, mango, banana and coffee. It’s clear that we took profit from a sick system in crisis”

8. Outlook

Over the last five years, the EDE at Schloss Glarisegg has developed into a growing network of engaged humans which we like to call our “EDE family”. After the official ending of the EDE program, a 5th week called “Growing Together Days” gives the chance to former EDE Glarisegg participants to join the new group and self-organize using Open Space Technology. This year, a group of (former and new) participants officially took over responsibility for the association “*Creating a Transformative Culture*”, which is the carrier organization for the EDE. They formed a think tank that will develop ideas on how to strengthen the association and how to use existing funds for the benefit of all.

A number of opportunities to meet, reconnect and work together with the EDE family are already scheduled for the next months:

- **European Ecovillage Gathering**, July 2020
- **Dragon Seed Camp**, EDE summer gathering and skill-sharing camp), August 2020 (www.dragonseed.org/)
- **Plant a Seed**, community project out of the EDE family to live and grow within a Transformative Culture (<https://yeebo.org/group/26/about>).
- **EDE New Year’s Gathering**, December 2020
- **EDE 2021 + Growing Together Days**, January 18th - February 20th, 2021

“You don't need to do everything. Do what calls your heart; effective action comes from love. It is unstoppable, and it is enough.”

Joanna Macy