Theory of change - Lowimpact.org

Problems

- 1. We're headed for 'biological annihilation' (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA, May 2017)¹.
- 2. Corporate capitalism has to grow perpetually, which destroys the biosphere; and it concentrates wealth perpetually, which prevents real democracy and therefore our ability to do anything about it.
- 3. Money is created centrally, lent at interest and invested to maximise returns. This concentrates wealth and requires perpetual growth.

Solutions

- 1. The **commons economy (CE)**² is an economy owned and controlled by communities.
- 2. **Mutual credit**³ is a trading system in which the means of exchange is not a store of value, is not lent at interest and does not become concentrated.
- 3. Self-provisioning via **low-impact living**⁴, using appropriate (convivial and sustainable) technology.

We will engage with: individuals communities

the commons economy

by (activities):

- 1. providing / updating info on the website.
- 2. reaching out via social media & newsletter.
- 3. maintaining a network of specialist advisors.
- 1. helping to build local commons / mutual credit schemes.
- 2. experimenting with different types of commons tools.
- 1. interviewing key players for our blog.
- 2. providing training materials.
- 3. promotion / finding new customers.

so that (results):

- 1. people gain skills.
- 2. people switch to the CE for essentials.
- 3. people encourage friends / family to switch to the CE.
- 1. local commons groups are formed.
- 2. there are many successful local commons and mutual credit schemes.
- 1. key players coordinate via the site.
- 2. commons groups grow in size/number.
- 3. commons groups trade in mutual credit.

Intermediate outcomes

- 1. Trust engendered in commons and mutual credit through success in practice.
- 2. Awareness of and support for the commons maximised.
- 3. Mutual credit schemes plug into global Credit Commons.
- 4. Identification and removal of barriers to the growth of the commons.

Ultimate outcomes

- 1. The commons economy grows to constitute the entire economy.
- 2. Mutual credit is the exchange system of the commons economy.
- 3. Communities achieve resilience via self-provisioning and the commons economy.