



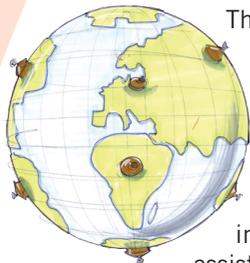
Embassy of the Earth Summerschool at the Tata-Dhan Academy

July 27 - 30, 2016



The Embassy of the Earth is partnering with the DHAN Foundation. In July 2016 the Asian Center of the Embassy of the Earth will be opened in Madurai, India. The first act will be the Embassy of the Earth Summer School. The objective of the Summer School will be to train people to become adequate in designing, managing and leading interventions to restore and enhance the ecology, to vitalize and build communities. To become worthy Ambassadors capable of responding to and supporting demands across Asia. This first Summer School will have its main focus on the Search Conference -a participative process that allows large groups to take the responsibility for creating and implementing their own future plans.

Embassy of the Earth



The Embassy of the Earth is a concept created by Frank Heckman in 1999 when he came back from a UN mission in Kosovo. The challenge there was to 'repair' the war damage to power plants and main roads before the harsh winter was setting in. By creating a social platform and assisting a very diverse group of people to design the way towards solution(s) was in retrospect the fastest way to get the job done. The local culture of sitting on the ground in a ceremonial room (oda) proved to be very effective for constructive dialogue. We were working in an 'Embassy of the Earth'. Then a few years later in 2008 we got serious about it, founded The Embassy of the Earth and honoured the principle: 'One Earth is enough for the whole world'.

Social platform

We envisioned permanent Embassies of the Earth on all seven continents. To serve as educational centers and as operational base camps. Introducing the 'Embassy' as a social platform serving the urgent complex requests concerning relevant, often ecological issues - such as for climate, water, food, education, climate/draught, health etc.). And to build local and regional capacity, unleashing the power of community's ability to actively adapt to severe challenges.

Currently we are looking at 'centers' in Africa, Ethiopia and the Americas, Upper Peninsula, Michigan. A European

branch has temporarily opened up in France, Chateau Millemont (40 km outside Paris) in first instance to support activities for the COP21 in December 2015. The Veerhuis (Ferry House) in Varik, Netherlands is our homebase. The Asian Branch in Madurai / DHAN Foundation will be the first official foreign center of the Embassy of the Earth.

More information on the Embassy? www.embassyoftheearth.org

SUMMER SCHOOL

Embassy of the Earth /DHAN Foundation



Certain things just cannot be learned from a book, let alone in a classroom. If you want to learn how to become a worthy Ambassador of the Embassy of the Earth, to acquire professional excellence in

designing, guiding and leading interventions to restore and enhance the ecology, to vitalize and build communities, don't hesitate and join us on this Journey.

Stripping life to the bare essentials

You discover new qualities within yourself and others, you learn to conquer fear and resistance, to experience the magic of the moment and to eventually take the 'treasure' back home with you. We employ the concept of a journey to shake off fixed frameworks, just as the nomads do.

But in the first place we always embark on the journey with a real task, a challenge, an issue which the team of travelers must get a grip on. Staying open and connected to others, the environment, society, world is key to designing solutions. The format is a reflective practicum, to learn by doing, to connect thinking and doing. Always aiming only for the best results. In this way, mutually dependent, participants become the guides, the social designers of the future.

On this Learning Journey you will also receive the necessary concepts, tools and skills helping large groups of people, communities, to get their act together.

Praxis

The Search Conference is a real practical application, one of the key interventions used by the Embassy. The SC implies

that any system – an organization or community – has an open and direct relationship with its larger environment. A system learns from its environment and, in turn, changes its environment in a purposeful way. This is called active adaptation and allows 'systems' to thrive, in even the most turbulent environments. Communities behaving and acting as an eco-system.



Learn to become a good social architect

Some of the key principles that underlie the Search Conference are:

- establishing 'common ground'
- focus on the future
- getting the 'right system' in the room
- engaging people in concrete tasks
- exploring the context before making decisions
- all participants, practitioners have value
- the relevance of good data
- rationalization of conflict

Since it can be tough to do this work, in an often 'unknown territory', we prepare you for this. And we assure you, this is not for the meek of heart, for this is the Hero's Journey! Frank Heckman and his crew will take you through the five dimensions of the life changing Journey:

'Calling – if you don't know where you're sailing any wind will do'

'Fellowship – one finger can't lift a pebble';

'Dragons – where you stumble the treasure lies';

'Performance – stepping into the middle of the moment';

'Return – bringing home the holy grail'.

So the summer course will run like a double helix. Aiming at to your personal development and at the same time the Journey model functions naturally as the hands-on education toward social design and management of large group interventions. The Embassy of the Earth applies her experience of supporting the birth - or reviving of many kinds of (sometimes temporary) communities. A deep awareness of the process and the ability to honor stillness turned out to be significant.



Journey, from the top clockwise: 'calling', 'fellowship', 'dragons', 'performance', 'return'.

The Program

Who should enroll?

Anybody who is in the position of and responsible for getting projects of the ground. Or in the midst of trying to restore some unity and endurance in the community. Are you facing any of the following challenges or dilemma's:

- time pressure,
- little involvement of stakeholders,
- limited resources,
- complex issues,
- diverse and/or maybe conflicting parties,
- turbulent and shifting circumstances,
- short term results in relation to long term effects,
- tired of trying to be the boss.

So if you recognize any of these, and do you want to find out that working in large group constellations can actually be a very rewarding and joyful experience? Then do yourself a favor and head for the Summer School this September at the Tata Dhan Academy. To enter, participants must have experience in working with groups, either as facilitator or in managing or leading.

Format

The program extends over three and a half day, starting with a late afternoon / evening kick off.

- 27 July 2016 –5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – dinner, orientation & kick off program
- 28 & 29 July 2016 - 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. – special evening program
- 30 July 2016 – 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – end of SC training. 13:30 p.m. to 16:30 pm world-wide application modeling & Embassy of the Earth networking. 16:30 p.m. to 17:30 p.m. – Official ending of the summer school

Location

Tata Dhan Academy, Madurai, India.

Participants will learn

- How to manage a gathering in which the target of change is a Whole System's capability for action, now and in the future.
- How to identify the Whole System and its boundaries.
- Key issues in matching the Conference purpose and participants.
- Theory and practice in working with large and diverse groups.
- How to leave critical choices in the hands of the participants.
- How to enable diverse groups to get their act together faster.
- The basic principles and techniques to design a Search Conference and many other gatherings.
- That your own 'state of mind' is a key factor in the transfer of knowledge and experience.

The agenda includes:

- Theory, history and dynamics of Search Conference
- Conditions for success
- Conference planning and implementation
- Output and follow-up

- Large group skills and techniques
- World-wide applications and strategies

Search Conference applications

- Initiate rapid action on complex issues where no coordinating structure or shared vision exists
- Community building and development
- Regional issues on the ecology – food, water, biodiversity etc.
- School system planning and development
- Partnerships in diverse or conflicting groups
- Public sector planning
- Economic development

Registration

Fee: ₹10,000/- for each participants for the course towards food, stay, tuition, course materials & field visits.

The fee may be sent by Demand Draft in favor of "DHAN Foundation" payable at Madurai or transfer to: Account Name: DHAN Foundation, Canara Bank Town Hall Branch, Town Hall Road, Madurai 625 001.

SB Account No.: 1013101028758

Swift Code: CNR BIN BB UFM.

IFSC Code: CNRB0001013

Further information, Please contact

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