

Comments to Rob's "Core Components" from Herwig Schmid:

At 1. Affordability

I think the corporate equity should consist of sales of our homes (=shares) in the relocation process (or rental income to pay off a loan) plus multiple (eventually on-location) business ventures from 1st and 2nd gen. We have a wealth of experiences and knowledge accumulated ourselves plus all the resources from a worldwide network of Blessed Families > there might be MORE Blessed families and associates attracted to relocate for this unique community building project than only the local existing group, if they get the information (in the future). **Ideas are powerful – once the concept is ready to be marketed (= vision statement, core values, founding of the corporation, offer of shares) it might move people from other locations to jump on this train.**

I'm always for experimenting to think with the new paradigm of CREATING the "New We" (CIG) rather than repeating the same lifestyle in just a different location.

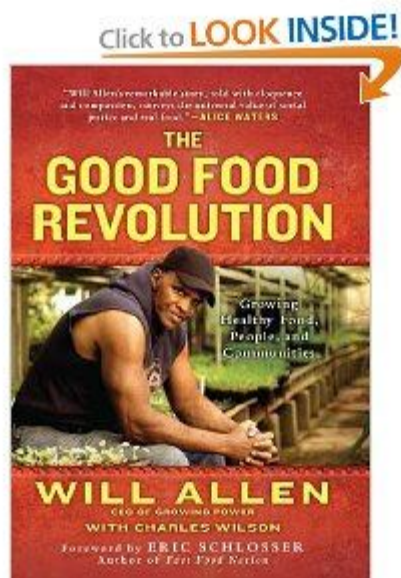
At 2. Sustainability

On page 160-163 of Diana Leafe Christian's book "Creating a life together" you find a chart about internal community finances – it shows that it can be done in many different ways.

The whole chapter 14 with the title "Can we afford to live there" presents opportunities and risks of community business, as well as considerations and models of income sharing, member-owned co-ops, sole-proprietor businesses that serve the community, etc.

Chapter 9 deals with all the issues of buying land as a community → **I think at this point (after the vision statement is completed and the core values settled) everybody involved should read chapter 9-12 of that book before the next meeting or seminar.**

At 3. Organic start and growth



Here you learn the skills to produce 365 days a year in all seasons <http://www.growingpower.org/index.htm> – in the meantime it grew to a big movement and "genius award winner" with nationwide infrastructure to teach.

Allen built the country's preeminent urban farm—a food and educational center that now produces enough vegetables and fish year-round to feed thousands of people. Employing young people from the neighboring housing project and community, Growing Power has sought to prove that local food systems can help troubled youths, dismantle racism, create jobs, bring urban and rural communities closer together, and improve public health. Today, Allen's organization helps develop community food systems across the country.")

To start a project like this will eventually involve lots of young and old people (also from the surrounding local community) involved in growing, processing, selling and teaching the know

how – and lovin' it! A nice little film to it <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGbnG0nH3n4>

At 4. Lifestyle first, not theology

That's a little bit of an exclusive phrase, I think, but a good catchy title 😊

After all, our blessed altruistic lifestyle is based on universal divine principles which will, if lived well, result in a VERY desirable setting > one (big or small) family under God.

How to name that setting we have to agree upon, but we can definitely be **proud** of this lifestyle AND True Parents, the Blessing, the DP and all the Blessed families, which helped us to grow into it.

I think you maybe just meant that it should never be a “church hierarchy” controlled settlement, which I totally agree upon. It’s more like a **tribal environment**, a multi-generational village of friends and relatives.

At 5. Interdependent-Community Connections

Absolutely!

It always has been our calling to reach out to the world – we have a lot to share with the local community. **With a proper lifestyle of integrity it will gain momentum fast.**

On the DVD “A new We” you’ll find the German co-operative “Schloss Tonndorf”, living on 40 acres with 30 adults and 25 children, experiencing the same. People from the surroundings even seek contact by themselves to enjoy the spirit of community – after all the desire to be family is rooted deep within all of humankind.

At 6. Intergenerational

That’s why my vision tries to be a little bigger, eventually **including educational and recreational facilities, as the community expands. Also manufacturing systems such as greenhouses, construction, garage, studios, etc. as well as care facilities for decreasing health or simply maintaining good health.**

Maybe it’s good to keep all that in mind and always foresee the possibility for further expansion and development already during the decision process.

At 8. Occupancy

A clever way to increase living space:

“The Farm” Ecovillage community in Tennessee has an interesting twist – they have a building, which is forever under construction. They call it “The Green Dragon” and it’s part of their “tool kit” for teaching different kinds of natural building.

People which are interested sign for a month’s long apprenticeship and get to build a “back packer cabin” with all natural materials from the surroundings. So, in the end, people leave smarter and the “cabins” stay as housing for the next apprentice. <http://www.thefarm.org/etc/etcapprentices.html>

There are some straw bale constructions in your neighborhood: <http://sbregistry.greenbuilder.com/search.straw?lcou=United%20States&lsta=PA>, <http://greenleafhomes.net/id6.html>, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xeHqos5zFE>

Watch the Brazilian version of creative housing on slideshare, you’ll be surprised and impressed: <http://de.slideshare.net/stavit3/recycling-brasilien-5845421>

Now, doing some serious research, there could be a way to increase skills AND houses.

On our trip to Australia in 2011 we spent time with a Blessed family (Gunter Kersting) which built a totally self-sustainable environment on their 25 acres property in the Australian bush. Everything was done by the family themselves, including building several brick buildings, water supply, power plant, waste water system, chicken shack, fishpond and greenhouse, hot water from solar collectors etc.

One Austrian brother (Johann Pranzl), a construction engineer, has invented a “solar repository” home or “5 module surplus energy home”, which stores the summer heat underground, so you never have to pay for heating again. He also invented a “one man modular system” – as he calls it – a house made of prefabricated compounds, which, if put together, make up a simple house. Each of the compounds can be manufactured and transported by one man.