

# Global Ecovillage Network (GEN) Research Working Group

Newsletter 3 - April 2016



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## Dear researchers in & on ecovillages,

here comes the third newsletter of the GEN research working group. We have an active period behind us. You have already received the report of the ecovillage research meeting in Rotterdam. In this newsletter you find:

- Information on events, calls, new publications, new projects etc.
- We have written a report on our aims and values, of our activities, as well as planned activities - in the chapter on progress.
- Furthermore we are creating a new website, where information on the state of the art, a research guide on methods, and a bibliography will be provided soon. Therefore I want to **invite of all you to share your own publications and other you recommend on ecovillage research** in the following google doc:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oLDx8z8TpwkILP57PLOvk\\_kFroIKTU-Pv0xs0O8N2ol/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oLDx8z8TpwkILP57PLOvk_kFroIKTU-Pv0xs0O8N2ol/edit?usp=sharing)

Please note that this document has three categories:

1. Scientific research references
2. References by ecovillage participants themselves
3. References by journalists/media

Some of you have sent me interesting research proposals they are working on and papers they are publishing. I have added a short version in the newsletter.

We are happy, if we see more of you join our working group, especially, if you have ideas and IT skills and a bit of time to set up webspaces like a interactive data base for what all of us have to share here.

And finally, we present our group members with pictures and short CV for you – soon available on the website.

## With spring flowers,

Iris Kunze (Foculizer of the GEN research working group, editor newsletter), April 2016

More information about the GEN research working group can be found on this website (currently under construction): <http://gen.ecovillage.org/en/page/research-ecovillages>

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

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- **Green Forum**, Kaluga, Russia (21<sup>st</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> March GEN Europe is going for a representative) Diana Leaf Ch. Gives Sociocracy training
- **SIBRIC**, April 13-18, ECOLISE in the NORTH of Russia, Belarus and Sweden
- [The international platform on the social production of habitat](#) (or community-led habitat and housing) urbaMonde and Habitat&Participation(Lidewij Tummers on our list) hosts the European meeting on **May 28 and 29** in Brussels and Louvain-la-Neuve.
- **QUADRUPE** event, ECOLISE Bruselles ~ May to June 2017 - Tour through five ecovillages, showcase making with policy makers

- **BASE** final conference, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Bruxelles (Gil)
- Baltic and Sweden **Ecovillage Network Järna**, Sweden June 13-19
- **LIVING KNOWLEDGE 7 (LK7)** Conference in Dublin: 22. - 24. June 2016; Stella will present “**Transdisciplinary Reallabs for Sustainable Lifestyles**” about collaborative research between students and practitioners in German Ecovillages. More: <http://www.livingknowledge.org/lk7>
- In June 2016, Daniel will represent the work of the **GEN-research group and Gaia Education** at the **Transition Design Symposium at Schumacher College**.  
More: <https://www.schumachercollege.org.uk/events/transition-design-symposium>
- **ICSA**, July 1-3, Tamera <http://icsa.tamera.org/> (Gil; Iris offers a workshop on ecovillage research titled: **Research Laboratory for a Sustainable World: Exploring Collaborations between Academics and ‘Practitioner Researchers’ in Communities and Ecovillages**.)
- **GEN Europe Conference 2016**, Arterra (Robert), July 1-3 board meeting, 3-6 GA <http://gen-europe.org/home/home/index.htm>
- **DEGROWTH Conference 2016**, Budapest, Aug 30 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. (Kariin presents the **GEN stand** and Stella her paper about “**Synergies between the degrowth movement and the global ecovillage network**”) More: <http://budapest.degrowth.org/>
- **IST 2016**, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, Wuppertal: transition: potential to have a panel on social movements (contact Iris or Flor)
- **Final TRANSIT conference**, beginning of Sept. 2017 in Rotterdam: first socially innovative expo! (Contact Flor)
- Thomas offers an **Ecovillage tour** through 5-8 ecovillages in summer, for 15 people in Germany. (Contact Thomas)

A special recommendation is the film docu of the **New Story Summit** (Findhorn 2014): Film Premiere 30 April 2016 19:00-22:00 GMT+1, Web streaming live from Findhorn with post-film discussion: <http://newstoryhub.com/film-trailer/>

### *Calls*

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**The call for Degrowth Week events is officially open. You can suggest events and activities until midnight on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2016**

The 5th International Degrowth Conference <http://budapest.degrowth.org/> in Budapest from Aug 30. - Sept 3. 2016 will foster discussion between scholars, researchers, civil society and practitioners about their degrowth-related research and activities.

Simultaneously, across Budapest, Degrowth Week will bring discussions, public panels, artistic performances and exhibitions, practical workshops and conviviality events into public space. This open platform for degrowth dialogue, practice, networking and expression will introduce Degrowth to Budapest and its inhabitants, and also to the scholars, researchers, civil society and practitioners being present at the conference.

**[The international platform on the social production of habitat](#)** (or community-led habitat and housing) aims to **bridge regional and South-North gaps between community-led habitat initiatives**, promote public policies that support community-led initiatives and to connect local inhabitant groups by enhancing experience exchange and creating solidarity links.

## INFORMATION

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### 1. *Collecting a bibliography*

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**Asking for your contribution:** This list of references has been compiled by Iris Kunze and Flor Avelino. **Please add references that you think are missing. And especially your own publications on ecovillage research.**

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oLDx8z8TpwkLP57PLOvk\\_kFroiKTU-Pv0xs0O8N2ol/edit#](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oLDx8z8TpwkLP57PLOvk_kFroiKTU-Pv0xs0O8N2ol/edit#)

Please note that this document has three categories:

4. Scientific research references
5. References by ecovillage participants themselves
6. References by journalists/media

### 2. *Research guide*

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**A research guide to ecovillages** is prepared by Iris Kunze and the GEN research group to be published soon online at the GEN research website. Some information and research protocols in German can be downloaded on Iris website: <https://iriskunze.wordpress.com/research-guide/>

### 3. *New publications*

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#### **A research study on GEN and social innovation**

is published online. The research was conducted in the frame of the project TRANSIT which intends to build an empirically based theory of social innovation by examining 20 global networks of social innovation. The **124 pages long research report on GEN and the two local ecovillages of Schloss Tempelhof in Germany and Tamera in Portugal** plus three summaries can be downloaded as full text:

- Kunze, I. and Avelino, F. (2015) [Social innovation and the Global Ecovillage Network](#) (TRANSIT research report), TRANSIT: EU SSH.2013.32-1 Grant agreement no: 613169

#### **Further publications of TRANSIT including ecovillages:**

- Wittmayer, J. M.; Backhaus, J.; Avelino, F.; Pel, B.; Strasser, T. and Kunze, I. (2015) [Narratives of change : how social innovation initiatives engage with their transformative ambitions \(TRANSIT working paper ; 4\)](#) TRANSIT: EU SSH.2013.3.2-1 Grant agreement no: 613169.
- Avelino, F.; Dumitru, A.; Longhurst, N.; Wittmayer, J.; Hielscher, S.; Weaver, P.; Cipolla, C.; Afonso, R.; Kunze, I.; Dorland, J.; Elle, M.; Pel, B.; Strasser, T.; Kemp, R.; and Haxeltine, A. (2015) [Transitions towards new economies? A transformative social innovation perspective \(TRANSIT working paper ; 3\)](#), TRANSIT: SSH.2013.3.2-1 Grant agreement no: 613169.
- Kunze, Iris (2015): Blog: [Ecovillages: isolated islands or multipliers of social innovations?](#)

#### **Publications on GEN and ecovillages contribution to sustainability research (in German)**

- Veciana, Stella "The international network of sustainable model projects GEN – Global Ecovillage Network". In: Veciana, Stella / Neubauer, Claudia (2016): Demokratisierung der Wissenschaft –

Anforderungen an eine nachhaltigkeitsorientierte partizipative Forschung. Mit Förderung und Unterstützung durch das Umweltbundesamt. Die Studie entstand in Kooperation mit der Zivilgesellschaftliche Plattform Forschungswende. Stiftung Mitarbeit Bonn, Vereinigung Deutscher Wissenschaftler (Hrsg.), Berlin.

- Veciana, Stella “The contribution of intentional communities to sustainable lifestyles and sustainability research”, Research Arts Plattform 1.2 | 2015  
More: [http://www.research-arts.net/forschen/ra15\\_forschen\\_Intentionale%20Gemeinschaften.html](http://www.research-arts.net/forschen/ra15_forschen_Intentionale%20Gemeinschaften.html)

#### **Handbook for the development of transdisciplinary cooperation projects between indigenous communities and research institutions (in Spanish)**

- Veciana, Stella (2015): Manual para el desarrollo de proyectos transdisciplinarios en el marco del proyecto “Diálogo de Saberes y Conocimientos para el Vivir Bien”. Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Universidad Indígena Intercultural (UII), Fondo Indígena.  
More: <http://t1p.de/f6fl>

#### **Research on communities and ecovillages at the ecovillage Sieben Linden (in German)**

Sieben Linden is currently participating at six different research projects in the areas of climate protection, sustainable food, science and responsibility, renewable energies and sustainable construction involved. More: <http://www.siebenlinden.de/index.php?id=82>. The creation of a new research institute with and for intentional communities is planned by Stella, Christoph and Iris (soon more).

#### **Publication of the research report of the co-operative housing movement:**

- Kunze, Iris, Philipp, Andrea (2016): [The Eco-District of Vauban and the co-housing project GENOVA](#).  
→ In: Picabea, F., Kunze, I., Bidinost, A., Phillip, A. and Becerra, L (coord.) (2016) [Case Study Report: Co-operative Housing](#). TRANSIT: EU SSH.2013.3.2-1 Grant agreement no: 613169.

#### **GAIA education and research**

GEN Research group member Daniel Wahl has recently completed a six month long review and expansion of the four dimensions of **Gaia Educations on-line programme on Design for Sustainability** (GEDS). Originally conceived of as an on-line version of the popular Ecovillage Design Education (EDE) course - which has been taught in 41 countries on five continents over the last 10 years - this groundbreaking distance learning programme of 450 study hours has grown far beyond the 125-hour residential EDE course. The GEDS will support Gaia Educations new Training of Trainers program and already forms part of an on-line masters course at the Open University of Catalonia. Both programs share a four-dimensional approach to designing sustainable communities: social design, ecological design, economic design and worldview.

More: <http://www.gaiaeducation.org/index.php/en/how/e-learning>

In March 2016, Dr. Wahl took part in a '**Forum on Second Order Science and Policy**' in Aberdour, Scotland, organized by the Finnish Innovation Fund (SITRA) and the International Futures Forum (IFF). For defining the emerging second order science approach more clearly and exploring its implication for policy makers and national and international research funding. The results of this meeting will be published in a special edition of the *World Futures Journal* and a forthcoming report by SITRA and the IFF.

Dr. Wahl's **book *Designing Regenerative Cultures*** will be published by Triarchy Press in May 2016. The book offers a wide-ranging analysis of the underlying dysfunctional patterns of our societies,

addressing them in a systemic way. It covers examples from agriculture, design, ecology, economics, sustainability, business and society at large, reframing the converging crises faced by humanity at global and local scales as opportunities for transformative innovation. The book asks how we can collaborate in the creation of diverse regenerative cultures adapted to the unique bio-cultural conditions of place? How can we create conditions conducive to life?

More: <http://www.triarchypress.net/reviews-designing-regenerative-cultures.html>  
and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SpcDcmOILZ0>

#### *4. Newly started research & doctoral projects*

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Existing projects collected in the internal questionnaire for the Rotterdam ecovillage research meeting:

- COSIMA (climate mitigation practices of 3 ecovillages and 3 municipalities in AT and GE) (Iris)
- How Tamera (PT) is managing the Water Landscapes (Gil)
- The ecovillage experience as an evidence base for national wellbeing strategies (Robert)
- PhD: writing a dissertation on co-housing and energy transition (Lidewij)
- cultural anthropologist (Judith, HU)
- Ecovillages as shared spaces for research, knowledge integration and rethinking science policies (Stella)
- "Grassroots innovations to sustainable development: The case of Ecovillage Brabant", by Linda van de Kruijs
- CATALISE [www.rediscovergir.net](http://www.rediscovergir.net)
- TESS EU project
- ECOLISE knowledge & learning working group: forum to link ecovillage, permaculture, transition research

**New doctoral research project: Toward 'one planet living': a comparative study of participation and praxis for sustainable community development in ecovillages and Transition Towns** (working title) of LISA MYCHAJLUK PhD Student, Adult Education and Community Development, Department of Leadership, Adult and Higher Education, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto; [lisa.mychajluk AT mail.utoronto DOT ca](mailto:lisa.mychajluk@mail.utoronto.ca)

## EXCHANGE & DISCUSSION FORUM

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### Report of the ecovillage research meeting at DRIFT in Rotterdam, Feb.25

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The goal of this meeting has been share insights of academic research on ecovillages conducted so far, provide a good basis for more research cooperation, and to share dreams and strategies for future ecovillage research. The meeting was organized by Flor Avelino and Iris Kunze. The minutes have been sent out separately on the GEN research newlist.

## Progress of the GEN research group

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The following text introduces our vision, aims and work activities, information, if you want to join our working group, as well as the ideas for the next years. At the time the majority of the text is the draft for the new website.

### *Aims of GEN research working group*

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**Networking** between GEN and ecovillages and academic researchers requires different forums: Discussion workshops at GEN conferences on what ecovillages want from research and how they want to deal with research requests, and lectures and panels at academic conferences of different disciplines. We are thinking about an advisory board for GEN (Research) with established professors from the academic world with the purpose of ensuring appropriate research on ecovillages (see standards & values).

**Integration & Dissemination** is to acknowledge and bring into awareness how much research has been already published on ecovillages. This is the base for further research, instead of reinventing the wheel which is still happening. We are exploring appropriate options using existing platforms in the academic world like researchgate.net and academia.edu, rather than creating a GEN-specific database (as this would be costly, time consuming, and most likely less effective in reaching researchers than these existing platforms). The main aim is to integrate links to and sources of existing ecovillage research in one place, and to disseminate this information widely.

**Setting standards, values & goals** refers to a 'code of conduct' (or code of research practice) that will set guidelines for researchers on how to approach ecovillages with research requests, how to conduct this research respectfully, and how to include means of compensation for resources and staff time that ecovillages are requested to extend in support of research projects. In the long-term we hope that the research working group and its advisory board can also be involved in setting goals for future research.

Firstly, we want to raise the awareness amongst researchers to give something back to the ecovillages. Secondly, we will develop a code of conduct and recommendations on ecovillage research. In most of the cases researchers from universities work for their personal accreditation or are paid, while expecting voluntary time investment by the ecovillagers. Related to the amount of work it should be fair and the researcher takes care of 'giving something back': it can be voluntary work in the ecovillage or with larger projects, a financial contribution and inclusion of the ecovillage as a partner in the research proposal and project funding.

## *Our activities*

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In these areas we are active in and we welcome your support, if you are a researcher on ecovillages. Please join the newslist and become active.

### **Networking**

1. Provide a platform for exchange:
  - a. Find reviewers on ecovillage articles for journals etc.
  - b. Find other researchers to collaborate
  - c. Share proposals on research ideas
1. Offer sessions, presentations and organize meetings at scientific and other conferences
2. Continue to send out the regular newsletter every 3 months to research mailing list
3. Maintain, explore and build relations to academic researchers at universities.
4. Reach out to ecovillages and GEN - clarify needs and questions about research
5. Exploring funding opportunities for research on ecovillages

### **Integration and dissemination of existing research**

6. We want to create a database or overview of the research that has been done on ecovillages with the target:
  - a) Monitor and gather new publications in the field
  - b) Coordinate and exchange results of research ON, FOR and FROM ecovillages
7. We use public existing databases and platforms like researchgate and academics to publish research on ecovillages

### **Setting research standards, values/guidelines and goals**

8. We are in an ongoing discussion with GEN and ecovillagers to improve the approaching of academics to ecovillages. This website with its protocol for researcher is the current point of discussion on this, including bibliography on the state of the art and suggestions for appropriate research methods on ecovillages
9. Create list of suggested topics for BA and MA theses for students
10. Other projects like an "Ecovillage Design Research" capacity building program and handbook are planned.

## *Interested to become active? Structure of this group*

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If you are interested to become active, please let us know how. The structure of this group has mainly two options to either be informed and exchange information or get more involved.

### **1. The ecovillage research e-mail-list:**

As medium of communication we (the focalizer) hosts a newslist with currently more than 100 people. It is used for exchange between researchers in the area of ecovillages, communities and neighboring fields. A GEN research newsletter is posted. All members of the list are invited to post their urgent news and send their information to the focalizer who compiles a newsletter.

## 2. The GEN research working group

- If you want to get more involved: A working group of about 8 eight people including a focalizer (and through an e-mail-list)
- if you are interested in getting active in this working group, you can send a paragraph, describing your intentions to [research@ecovillage.org](mailto:research@ecovillage.org)

## *Targets for the coming years*

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### Networking

1. organize meetings at related conferences
2. Continue to send out the regular newsletter every 3 months to research mailing list and increase readers from 100 to 200
3. Create internal procedures or collaborative links between the research, education and consultant GEN working groups. Better connection between other websites of GEN, e.g. solution library
4. Hold GEN Research workshop at the ICSA 2016 conference in Tamera (Summer 2016)
5. Maintain, explore and build relations to academic researchers at universities: idea to found an **academic advisory board of GEN** with professors from universities or have an academic section in the planned advisory board of GEN.
6. Reach out to ecovillages and GEN - clarify needs and questions about research
7. Exploring funding opportunities for research on ecovillages

### Integration and dissemination of existing research

8. We want to create a database or overview of the research that has been done on ecovillages. The idea is to invite researchers to create a profile on researchgate or academia, upload their publications and connect them with a key word like "ecovillages" to record the research rather than trying to create our own data base (too much work while drawing too less attention from outside).
9. Improve the efficiency of responding to research requests coming to [research-requests@ecovillage.org](mailto:research-requests@ecovillage.org). Idea: invite on the website to directly inform a data base
10. Update "Research" page and improve information on GEN-International website
11. Connect to other databases, invite researchers to feed their works in the database network.

### Setting research standards, values (code of conduct) and goals

12. Continue brainstorming and plans with ecovillagers and academics on research ideas of/in ecovillages
13. Write a manual and code of conduct for ecovillage research to guide academic researchers
14. Create list of suggested topics for BA and MA theses for students
15. Work towards an "Ecovillage Design Research" capacity building program and handbook (funding required).

## Further Targets:

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1. Provide a platform for exchange:
  - a. Find reviewers on ecovillage articles for journals etc.
  - b. Find other researchers to collaborate
  - c. Share proposals on research ideas
2. Continue to provide online information on state of the art on research about ecovillages, including appropriate research methods on ecovillages (interactive web portal, wiki or data base)
3. Monitor and gather new publications in the field
4. Contact point for and coordination of researchers that approach ecovillages or GEN
5. Coordinate and exchange results of research ON, FOR and FROM ecovillages

## GEN research group members:

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### Iris Kunze

***In GEN research group: Foculizer, editor of the newsletter, hostess of the mailing lists, co-representative in the GEN steering group, researcher on ecovillages, hosting research forums; networking to academia, universities, ICSA etc.***

Dr. Iris Kunze, community researcher. My special focus is on transition studies, community research and social movements. I see science as a field which needs to be transformed and which can help raising awareness. I focus on transition studies, social ecology, social movements and intentional communities. I am educated as a geographer and sociologist, working as a senior researcher and project manager at the Center of Global Change and Sustainability at the BOKU University, Vienna. Since 2002 I started researching and teaching sociology, community living and sustainable life styles at the University of Muenster. Searching for real life alternatives, I have lived in several intentional communities since 1999. For publications and current projects on ecovillages, please visit my website: <http://www.community-research.eu>



### Taisa Mattos

***In GEN research group: representative in the GEN steering group, networking to GEN education group, CASA Brazil advisor***

MA on Psychosociology of Communities and Social Ecology at Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. Graduated in Social Communication. Ecovillage Researcher. Phd student. Co-founder of Terra Una Ecovillage. Part of the Ecovillage Movement since 2004 and the Transition Towns Moviment since 2009. Working in partnership with Gaia Education for the last 7 years, developing and coordinating EDE Programs around Brazil and abroad. Coordinator and instructor of EDE Rio de Janeiro - RJ (2009 to 2012), EDE Terra Una - MG (2011 to 2013), EDE Belo Horizonte - MG (2012), EDE Azores – Portugal (2015), EDE Nazaré Uniluz – SP (2015, 2016). She contributed to adapt the EDE curriculum to the Brazilian Slums (Gaia para Transição Brasilândia - SP, 2011) and joined the EDE team in the Amazon Forest –

AMAGAIA (2013). She was also co-responsible for taking EDE to Buenos Aires (Argentina), in partnership with Espacio Eco (EDE Argentina 2013 and 2014). Instructor and supervisor of the Youth EDE Gaia Jovem Serrano - Nova Friburgo – RJ (2015). Instructor of EDE Brasília – DF (2015) and Gaia Viçosa – MG (2015). She works as an educator, giving lectures and workshops on various topics related to sustainability.



## Jan Martin Bang

***In GEN research group: networking to ICSA, Kibbutz, ecovillage workshops at conferences, facilitator***

I grew up in England and have lived for 25 years in Kibbutz and Camphill communities in Israel and Norway. I have worked with the Global Ecovillage Network since the conference at Findhorn in 1995. I have been active in the Norwegian Permaculture and Ecovillage movements since 2001. I have been connected to the International Communal Studies Association since its founding conference in 1985, and in 2010 was elected Chair of the Association. I was part of the organising team for the 2013 ICSA conference on Community and Sustainability, held at Findhorn. I have written seven books about community and environment.



## Daniel Greenberg

***In GEN research group: networking to GEN, sustainability education, North America***

Daniel has been a leading advocate for sustainability within international education and the ecovillage movement. He chaired Sustainability Task Forces for NAFSA and the Forum for Education Abroad and has been a frequent presenter at national and international conferences. He is also the President of the Global Ecovillage Network and co-founder of Gaia Education. After graduating Magna Cum Laude from Cornell University with a B.A. in Psychology, Daniel received his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota with a focus on education within intentional communities.



## Stella Veciana

***In GEN research group: networking to Higher Education Institutions, sustainability education, "Ecovillage Design Research" capacity building program and handbook***

Dr. Stella Veciana lives at the Sieben Linden ecovillage and Berlin, Germany. Her research fields focus on participatory research and governance, community building, and participatory conference formats for a culture of Open Science and Open Access. She studied experimental arts (University of Arts Berlin), computer arts (School of Visual Arts, New York) and earned her doctorate (University of Barcelona) in transdisciplinary research. Stella is founder of the Research Arts platform ([www.research-arts.net](http://www.research-arts.net)) advocating collaborative art-science research for sustainability. Currently, she teaches at Leuphana University Lüneburg developing research community partnership methods to support the enhancement of student's competences in participative and sustainability oriented research (RRI). Based on the capacity building manual for transdisciplinary community research she wrote for the German Agency for International Cooperation and the Fondo Indigena, she is working on developing an "Ecovillage Design Research" capacity building program and handbook.



## Flor Avelino

### ***In GEN research group: networking to European academics***

Dr. Flor Avelino works at *DRIFT, Erasmus University Rotterdam (The Netherlands)*, as a researcher and lecturer, with a focus on the power and empowerment of civil society to self-organise social innovation and sustainability transitions. As the academic director of the *Transition Academy*, she strives to co-create new learning environments to challenge people to think and act for radical change. As scientific coordinator of the *TRANSIT (Transformative Social Innovation Theory)-project*, she is currently involved in empirically and theoretically investigating social innovation and transformation, including case-studies on social entrepreneurship and the ecovillage movement. Flor's dream is to found, live and work in a vibrant eco-community where daily life is intertwined with diverse forms of art, action research, and life-long-learning.



## Daniel Christian Wahl

### ***In GEN research group: networking to GAIA education, academia***

Daniel Christian Wahl originally trained as a biologist, he also holds an MSc in Holistic Science and a PhD in Natural Design. Daniel was the director of Findhorn College between 2007 and 2010. He is a member of Gaia Education since 2007 and the International Futures Forum since 2009, and a Findhorn Fellow. Daniel currently lives on Majorca and works locally and internationally as a consultant and educator. His first book, entitled *Designing Regenerative Cultures* will be published by Triarchy Press in May 2016. Since September 2015 Daniel has been working part-time in curriculum development and programme design for Gaia Education. He is also developing a new masters programme at the Universidad de las Islas Balears.



## Ethan Hirsch-Tauber

### ***In GEN research group: networking to GEN, sustainability education***

Ethan is an educator and coordinator of ecological projects and community-based initiatives around the world. Although American born, since 2009 he has lived in communities outside of the US, working as a sustainability teacher, and becoming increasingly involved in the ecovillage movement. Since 2011 he has volunteered and worked with GEN, and spent 2015 working as Internal Communications Director at the GEN International office located in Findhorn, Scotland. From 2009 to 2012 he taught Living Routes sustainability community study-abroad program in Auroville. As an educator, Ethan loves to support others in cultivating their passion for life on this planet, for making connections between human-beings, and for knowing themselves more deeply. Along with rebuilding NextGEN, the youth network of GEN, he has helped to develop regional networks, primarily in Africa and the Middle East. Prior to his shift towards ecovillages, Ethan spent four years working in the United States in the field of green building and energy efficiency, and then completed his Masters degree in Environmental Education at the Audubon Expedition Institute through Lesley University. He currently lives in the community of Tamera in southern Portugal.