

# CLIMATE ACT

*The world is changing. Let's adapt together.*



## Reflections - Erik

I arrived in Carmel Valley with a healthy dose of cynicism towards this subject. Many well-intentioned organizations assume that there is some magical combination of technology, alternative fuels, and wishful thinking that will allow the exponential growth and “comforts” that we take for granted to continue unchecked while somehow subverting their consequences. I was prepared for several days of this kind of talk when I arrived at the C2C kickoff meeting.

I was quickly energized by C2C’s honest approach. C2C does not deny the bumpy road ahead (nor does it predict where it leads), and aims to find ways to unite people to survive and persevere. The optimism and ideas that flowed in Carmel Valley were in vivid contrast to the despair and hopelessness that typically surrounds this issue, without denying the unprecedented challenges ahead. By taking action now and working towards C2C’s mission, the transition towards an uncertain future promises to be more manageable, even hopeful. Climate change will affect us all, directly or indirectly. We’re all in this together. The time is now. Let’s do this!



## Reflections - Lena

On my journeys I have met wonderful inspiring people with honest projects. The reality of my journeys formed a strong feeling about traveling. A traveling whereby one is not the consumer of others' beauty, but the humble guest enjoying the learning from different people and the environment and gratefully offering international skills when the need or possibility emerges. The feeling that I can contribute to the birthing project with the experience to listen and to translate in between worlds was my drive to travel the long distance from Germany to be part of that weekend.

It was new to me to start with a personal visioning and take the original idea from there into a group visioning. This created a place of inclusion, whereby a collective vision was created, followed by collective ideas. Sharing visions, ideas, going for a walk, exploring the river, meditating, the interplay of these parts was highly inspirational and contributed to the clarity of the topics and the process – keeping us grounded in reality, not just abstract vision.

I loooooooooooooooooooved seeing hummingbirds flying around our meeting-table and I loved the meditation on that wonderful tree in the forest.



## Reflections – Megan

This retreat was crucial for opening up a space where we come together for a common good, letting go of attachment to ego, to allow for divine inspiration to guide our conversation. Most effective was:

- + Listening to the idea that is developing at the crossroads of our minds and hearts, as we respect what each individual is bringing to the table through their skills, experiences, and inner knowing.
- + Honoring the process of visioning from a heart-centered model, conducive to nature’s principles.

Most enjoyable was the opportunity to be surrounded by nature as we developed an expansive model of necessary contribution.

My vision for involvement at the beginning of the weekend was one of cooperation and discovery. By the end of the weekend, I was clearer on ways to be involved further down the road. Specifically, I can see myself playing a vital role in developing a culture of wellness/wholeness for



this organization. I can see myself facilitating visioning sessions at the start of future meetings to create a reverent, love-based space for ideas to emerge.

## **C2C Flagship Project: Moken on Koh Surin**

Connecting with local realities

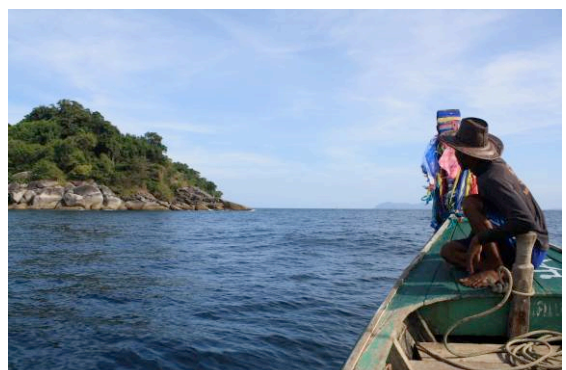
After the Tsunami in 2004, C2C activists have observed the development of the Moken community on Koh Surin. Almost ten years later, their problems remain the same. It is time to look for real solutions and engage in systems thinking to figure out this state of disaster as a flagship project.

The Moken have been living on their houseboats and the islands of the Mergui Archipelago for many centuries. Originally nomadic, the Moken have settled on the Surin Islands in the 1990<sup>th</sup>. The 2004 tsunami gave a huge tsunami hit the Surin islands and the Andaman coast, which led to a state of disaster.

With outside help or with access to their local resources, many coastal communities managed to regain a sustainable livelihood. The Moken on the Surin Islands have received a lot of outside attention, nevertheless, their way of life remains in a post-disaster situation. With little access to local resources or the economy, limited mobility, and a high presence of outside aid, the Moken way of life is far from sustainable. In this state of vulnerability, future natural events will have disastrous effects on the local way of life.

With the knowledge of similar bioregions with resilient communities, C2C aims to increase awareness of sustainable livelihood practices. Once more drawing attention to the post-disaster space on Koh Surin, C2C aims to engage in systems thinking with the Moken to analyze their current state. C2C further seeks to connect with the resilience network and include the local stakeholders on Koh Surin to empower the Moken to move towards a resilient community.

Connecting bioregions through the resilience network in a movement of adapting to climate change, C2C aims to increase awareness of sustainable and resilient options and helps to empower local communities. According to Nozick 1992, reflected by Hathaway and Boff (2009), bioregionalism 'envisions a society based on small, local communities linked together in a network of relationships based on equality, sharing, and ecological balance instead of exploitation. This model seeks to build communities that are self-supporting and self-regenerating". (p. 11)



*the Ecology of Transformation.* Orbis Books: New York.