

# CODEX

## For Ecosystem Restoration Camp Altiplano

(revised 20170909)

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# I. INTRODUCTION

*“The Altiplano Ecosystem Restoration Camp in Murcia, Spain, is a practical learning-field for inner and outer permaculture.”*

Imagine someone passing you a handful of playing cards and saying, “*Your turn,*” without the two of you having first agreed upon the rules of the game you intend to play. You would be paralyzed. You wouldn’t know what the objective is, which are the wildcards. At the least you would make false assumptions and implement old habits. Conflicts would soon erupt.

Without first establishing the rules of engagement for our Ecosystem Restoration Camp it is unlikely that any progress would be made towards accomplishing our goals or serving our common vision. Common assumptions won’t work here. This is not a modern culture gameworld.

## RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

The question arises: Which rules of engagement do we want to have here?

Many discussions about this question have already taken place. Many more discussions are sure to follow. The question can never fully be answered because circumstances change and the project and its participants continue to evolve. The rules of engagement documented in this Codex will forever be a working draft.

Nonetheless, it is hoped that this Handbook empowers us to live, work, play, grow up and evolve together by providing a clear foundation upon which our creative collaboration can stand. This is an official Codex... our rules of engagement... a bridge to help each other cross over into a new culture.

## MODERN CULTURE

What is a new culture? Before asking this question it might be useful to first ask what is the culture most of us were born and raised in? What role models and examples were fed to us along with our baby formula in the bottle?

Modern culture is a capitalist patriarchal empire. When followed to its extreme, any one of these three memes (capitalism, patriarchy, and empire) is a [ecocidal strategy](#).

By now it should be obvious that the perspectives and attitudes demonstrated by the role models in the political, religious, educational, and financial hierarchies of modern culture are uninitiated adolescents. This is because authentic adulthood initiatory processes were [eliminated](#) long ago from modern culture. (If it interests you to inquire as to *why* modern culture would so thoroughly eliminate authentic adulthood initiations you might also want to read the article: [“Beware The Psychopath, My Son!”](#) )

By definition, modern culture cannot be repaired or fixed to produce more sustainable results because modern culture is not broken. Modern culture is doing exactly what it is designed to do: rapidly extract a maximum of Earth’s natural resources and convert them into imaginary numbers in computers so as to benefit a very few people playing the game of: *“Whoever dies with the biggest numbers in their offshore bank-accounts [wins](#).”*

## THREE GAMES

There are three types of games which can be played:

1. “I win, you lose” games, which are competitive, scarcity-based, survival games. The objective of such a finite game is to win and to cause all the other players to lose. When someone wins, the game is over. Finite games produce far more jealous desperate losers than happily fulfilled winners while forcing most people to spend their time and energy trying to find a worthwhile game to play. (For more clarity please read the small enlightening book [Finite and Infinite Games](#) by James P. Carse.)
2. In the 1960s a new game was invented, the “I win, you win” game, often referred to as a “win-win” game. This is a cooperative game which, in practical application, often reduces

to a game of “lose-lose” through making compromises: *“I am willing to lose this if you are willing to lose that.”* Compromises diminish the range of potentials that could otherwise be activated if all parties would simultaneously win. Also, in win-win games, it is okay with me if you win, just as long as I win a little bit more than you, changing the game back into I win, you lose.

3. More recently a third game has emerged, a game of creative collaboration in the service of the Bright Principle of “Winning Happening.” This is an infinite game. The objective of a Winning Happening game is to keep the play of the game going. This is different from “I win, you win” games because in “Winning Happening” there is no “I” and no “you”. Instead the Bright Principle is a felt experience in the game-space which benefits all players equally with archetypal-body ecstasies.

Ecosystem Restoration Camp is a Winning Happening game.

Even if our Camp is playing full out in a Winning Happening game we certainly do not want to cut off and completely isolate ourselves from modern culture. This would be a fool’s dream and would not serve the many people who are ready to encounter and co-create regenerative human culture on Earth. The main objective of this learning field is to empower the efforts of edgeworkers to restore the diversity, beauty, and resilience of the inner and outer ecosystems of Earth.

To accomplish this objective, however, the Camp wisely distinguishes its culture as being very different from modern culture using a strong yet semi-permeable bubble-like boundary. The reason for this boundary is obvious: until you put up a gated fence around your herb and flower garden it serves primarily as a dog toilet. The culture of the Camp thrives undiluted within this bubble while modern and other cultures thrive in their own bubbles. The boundary is an energetically declared experiential distinction.

One request of the Camp is that Camp visitors read this *Codex* before passing through the interface. Whoever has not read and understood the *Codex* has not actually entered the Camp. Instead they remain in their own personal bubble of culture with probably little understanding of what is actually happening all around them in the Camp.

Holding a clear distinction between cultural contexts transforms the culture itself into a medium of exchange. The unique perspectives, practices, tools, customs, and clarity of Camp culture stand available as a rich source of new ideas for local guests, volunteers, inner and outer permaculture workshop participants, filmmakers, authors, artists, and researchers.

We don't claim to automatically know how to play this new game, how to live together in this new culture. All of us at Camp are on a learning journey in the Camp's learning field.

The exciting thing to recognize is that this new culture already exists and is functioning - alive and well - within our Camp. We welcome you as a guest.

## SHIFTING

If modern culture is capitalist patriarchal empire, what is this new culture we are speaking about?

The new culture is regenerative rather than consumptive, dynamically toroidal in shape (donut shaped) rather than rigidly pyramidal, navigated by placeholders in circles-within-circles rather than led by leaders in hierarchies, egalitarian with regards to sexes and a diversity of collaborating species rather than dominated by the clever-but-unwise naked male monkey, and serving the needs of diverse resilient local-authority ecosystems rather than serving government subsidised machine-centered mono-culturing. The new culture places authentic adulthood initiatory process at its central and highest value rather than modern culture's personal monetary profits and material possessions.

Many researchers describe a new culture in much these same terms (for example, [Hildur Jackson](#), [Sabine Lichtenfels](#), [Wangari Maathai](#), [David Korten](#), [Virginia Coyle](#), [Robert Gilman](#), [Jim Rough](#), [Joanna Macy](#), [Ross Jackson](#), [Diana Leafe Christian](#), [Tom Atlee](#), [Charles Eisenstein](#), [Alanja Forsberg](#), [John Croft](#), [Clinton Callahan](#), [Aldous Huxley](#), [Olaf Stapledon](#), [Paul Ray](#), [Sherry Anderson](#), plus more than [fifty-million more](#)...). The characteristics of a new culture are obvious. What remains less obvious is how to shift there.

The steps for shifting to next culture are unclear because modifying the shape of your personal defense strategy so as to personally enter next culture involves feeling deep immediate personal feelings, and we have not been trained how to do that. We are using very old thoughtware.

The people and projects currently shifting into next culture remain below the radar of modern culture's corporate-owned shock-and-awe intelligence-diminishing media and therefore do not occupy front page news except in publications such as [YES! Magazine](#). Even so, human consciousness and responsibility are rapidly shifting into a new culture. Our Ecosystem Restoration Camp is but one tiny - yet still amazing and remarkable! - manifestation.

## THE EMERGENCE OF “ARCHEARCHY”

Human cultures have gradually matured through matriarchy and patriarchy and are entering the planetary era of *archearchy*.

Matriarchy is baby human culture, when we walk around on mother Earth in small tribes hunting and gathering as if Earth were a giant salad bar open 24/7/365.

Patriarchy is adolescent human culture, when we irresponsibly consume resources and make technological and social messes with no intention at all of ever cleaning them up.

What sort of culture is it when archetypally initiated adult women creatively collaborate with archetypally initiated adult men? For lack of a pre-existing term, this is *archearchy*, where archetypal feminine and masculine qualities co-create.

Archetypal qualities naturally emerge when authentic adulthood initiatory processes are highly valued and placed at the center of our ongoing educational process. As [Stephen Jenkinson](#) explains, “*Adults are made by other adults.*”

Millions of people have discovered that the capitalist patriarchal empire of modern culture has concept limits. These edgewalkers have dared to stand on the edge and notice that the world is not flat, that they do not fall off and die if they take steps beyond the concept limits of modern culture.

Yes, it is difficult indeed for men to [escape the psycho-emotional grips of the patriarchy](#). It is also difficult for women to stop training their daughters to survive patriarchal society and instead support them to unfold their incredible potentials as women in archarchy. But these valiant efforts reveal whole new sets of options for more responsible and conscious human cultures on Earth. This is our future. The future is being created now. Joyous life in regenerative and sustainable cultures are possible and straightforward.

What you are reading here equates to a *Lonely Planet Guidebook* explaining what this new culture is like and how to have the most enjoyable time here.

Welcome to the *Codex* of the Ecosystem Restoration Camp Altiplano!

## II. DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

(**NOTE:** Until we can find ordinary terminology to express the meanings we intend, we are using a few jargony words in *this Codex*.)

### SUBSTITUTION IDEAS

“Core distinctions” could be the substitute for “Context”.

“Project” could be the substitute for “Gameworld”.

“Policies” or “MOU” (Memorandum Of Understanding) could be the substitute for “Rules of engagement”.

“Psychological defense strategy” could be the substitute for “Box”.

Unfortunately, there is no substitute for “authentic adulthood initiatory processes”, and that explains a lot about the current predicaments of modern culture.

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**ARCHEARCHY** - Arcearchy is the form of human culture that naturally emerges after matriarchy and patriarchy. Matriarchy is characterized by relying on Mother Earth to take care of us with an abundance of food available in natural habitats. Patriarchy is characterized by external male authority figures taking care of us using religious or political beliefs and technological weapons in hierarchical power structures. Arcearchy is archetypally initiated adult women creatively collaborating with archetypally initiated adult men in circular power structures with localized authority. Arcearchy is the culture of the [planetary era](#).

**ARCHETYPAL LINEAGE** - Your archetypal lineage is the service you were born to deliver for the village where you live. Your archetypal lineage does not necessarily fit into the classifications provided in a tax form. Neither is it necessarily taught in a college curriculum. Still your services are required by the local villagers. Most classical services have been removed by the Starbucks mono-culture of modern civilization - a franchise model which sucks power and money resources away from local villagers and gives it to owners of large corporations. The more you realize that the rule of law of modern civilization leads directly to the annihilation of life on Earth (currently exterminating 200 species per day, faster than any of the previous [5 great extinction](#)

[events](#)) the more motivation you feel for re-localizing authority and inventing regenerative human culture. This shift includes connecting into your own archetypal lineage and providing its services to the village. Some examples of archetypal lineages are: element shifter, memetic wizard, village weaver, infrastructure knight, guardian of the water, adulthood initiator, well-being restorer, theater witch, Being caller, presence facilitator, Gremlin trainer, underworld navigator, demon slayer, and so on.

**AUTHENTIC ADULTHOOD INITIATORY PROCESS** - An initiation is any process through which a human being takes ownership of and becomes responsible in practical terms for a new faculty. Usually the first step in an initiatory process is distinguishing that something completely different from this is possible right now. It is the distinction that opens the eyes to a new awareness. Distinctions create clarity. Clarity creates power. Initiations bring you into adulthood and eventually archetypal power to create and navigate spaces. The space you create determines what is possible. Creating at this level is each person's birthright, and it is also often ecstatic. The universe is waiting for adults to show up and creatively collaborate with it, but getting out of our childhood survival strategy at the right time and in the appropriate ways involves authentic adulthood initiatory processes which were eliminated from modern culture some 6000 years ago. This explains why modern culture is dominated by uninitiated adolescents in the highest hierarchical positions. Adults are made by other adults, which implies that the people providing any particular initiation have themselves already been initiated.

**CODEX** – A *Codex* is an ever-evolving description of the most current policies and rules of engagement for how to participate in a gameworld. Without a clear *Codex* a project drowns in confusion and often ends up serving primarily as a battleground for a context war between various factions of participants righteously defending their favorite contexts. With a clear *Codex*, participants can determine beforehand what sort of project this is so that they can more consciously choose whether or not this is a gameworld in which they wish to participate. Leaving away a clear *Codex* would be like bringing out three sticks and a ball and shouting “*Let’s play!*” without explaining the rules of the game.

**BOX** - The term “Box” is a shorthand term that refers to the combined effect of a person's beliefs, worldview, mindset, superstitions, stories, opinions, conclusions, comfort-zone, identity, personality, ego, attitudes, and psychological defense strategy. Each of us creates a Box as a buffer-zone between our Being and the world. The Box acts as a giant filter through which you

view the world and experience it. It is the part of you that freaks out when you see a mouse. It is the set of stories that causes you to feel jealousy or to blame or to feel depressed or anxious, superior or inferior, not good enough or too good. The stories are not reality. The purpose of the Box is to assure survival. The problem is that it works. The other problem is that modern culture has forgotten that there is a difference between surviving and living. The Box has the same function for a human being that a chrysalis has for a butterfly, or an eggshell has for a bird, a turtle, or a lizard. The Box protects the vulnerable Being as the individual builds enough energetic matrix in their energetic body to collect the distinctions that allows them to be conscious enough, and therefore responsible enough, to live as an adult in the world. When you are initiated into taking responsibility for having creating your Box then without permission you can change the design of your Box any way you want at any time for no reason. If you change the shape of your Box you change the way the world works for you. (By the way... this is a huge and amazing secret.)

CONTEXT – The context sets the relationship of a project to consciousness and responsibility. Context is the foundation of clarity (the red thread) that emanates the set of distinctions as rules of engagement for your project. You choose your context either consciously or unconsciously. The project's results are shaped by your context. The context is the jewel that is in the center of the heart of your project. To give an example, in modern culture, consciousness is regarded as esoteric (i.e. bad) and therefore irrelevant, and, responsibility should be avoided in order to achieve the modern culture ideal (i.e. personal wealth) because the more costs you can externalize from your corporation, the more the 'profit' you make. In contrast, the context of this new culture is that responsibility is applied consciousness, and it is our birthright to discover how to take radically responsible.

FEELINGS/EMOTIONS - A human being has 5 bodies: physical, intellectual, emotional, energetic, and archetypal. Feelings are the language and intelligence resource of the emotional body. There is a world of difference between feelings and emotions. There are 4 feelings: anger, sadness, fear and joy. Feelings are experienced anger, sadness, fear, or joy and their energy and information are applied and then they are completely gone from your emotional body in a matter of a few minutes. Emotions, on the other hand, are experienced anger, sadness, fear, or joy but they do not come from the present moment. They come from three possible sources: from external authority figures (parents, church, government, corporations, etc.), from incomplete or unexpressed feelings from your past, or from your Gremlin - that is, from the part

of you that is serving hidden or unconscious defensive purposes in order to merely survive. Since emotions do not originate but are only triggered by your current circumstances they do not vanish when you act on them. Emotions can stick around in your experience for hours, days, even weeks. Each emotion that arises is a gateway to an authentic healing and transformation process. Emotions are for healing things, and feelings are for handling things. Your relationship to feelings is established by the thoughtware you use about feelings. Modern culture teaches the thoughtware that feelings are bad or negative (even being too happy is bad or dangerous...) and should be avoided. An upgraded thoughtmap of feelings distinguishes feelings from emotions and says that feelings are neutral energy and information that any adult can use for living (as opposed to merely surviving) and to use as rocket fuel to deliver their destiny and serve their archetypal lineage in the world. Shifting from the *Old Thoughtmap of Feelings* to the *New Thoughtmap of Feelings* is as impactful as shifting from thinking the world is flat to thinking that the world is a sphere, and is a necessary and formidable adulthood initiatory process.

**GAMEWORLD** – A gameworld is the internally consistent construct through which human beings interact with each other and with the world. A gameworld emerges from a specific context that gives specific distinctions that are applied through specific rules of engagement (or policies) about how the gameworld works. For example, culture is a gameworld. Money is a gameworld. Marriage is a gameworld. So is a country, a business, a club, a family, and a project.

**GREMLIN** - Gremlin is the part of you that actions the defensive or offensive survival mechanism of your Box. Since survival seems like the highest priority the Gremlin disregards all rules and can destroy any space at any time for no reason. Through adulthood initiations you begin to establish a conscious working relationship with your Gremlin. He soon becomes an incredible ally as an unlimited source of nonlinear possibilities for helping you deliver the services of your archetypal lineage.

**PERMACULTURE** – Permaculture encourages people to use their time, energy, and dreams in coherent ways to heal and transform their relationships to the Earth, to themselves, and to each other.

**INNER PERMACULTURE** – Optimizing internal ecological systems through upgrading thoughtware and inner navigation skills.

OUTER PERMACULTURE – Optimizing external ecological systems through upgrading water retention, soil quality, and diversity of species.

RADICAL RESPONSIBILITY - Being radically responsible is taking responsibility at the level of being the source. You assert that you are the cause of what is. From this point of origin there can be no one to blame - not circumstances, not fears. In radical responsibility it is impossible to be a victim. There is no such thing as a problem. It is pointless to complain. There are no excuses. You are free of all that, and the consequences provide you with feedback and coaching about what to try next time to create better results.

THOUGHTWARE – Thoughtware is what a person uses to think with (context). In school we are taught what to think about (content). We usually download most of our thoughtware before we go to school - in other words, we download it from our parents. Where did our parents get their thoughtware? From their parents. This means we are using thoughtware that has been handed down generation after generation for thousands of years, in other words, we are using very old thoughtware (Standard Human Intelligence Thoughtware). Upgraded thoughtware is available. Since your mind is yours to play with and make into whatever you want, you are free to upgrade your thoughtware. Human beings do not interact with the world as it is. We interact with the world through our thoughtware. Our thoughtware determines the real results we can create. That is why it made so much difference to shift from a flat-world to a round-world view of Earth. When you adopt new thoughtware you perceive a new world. Changing what you think with changes who you are. The process of upgrading your thoughtware is called *initiation* and involves going through liquid states in your five bodies during which time you shift into a new shape.

### III. CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

The context of Ecosystem Restoration Camp Altiplano is **radical responsibility**.

Most of us were born and raised in an irresponsible society where many of the people making decisions believe in the fantasy that they can avoid the consequences of their actions. As a result we grant them the authority to create wars, induce climate change, clear-cut primordial forests, blow up mountaintops, frack for methane, and dump toxic and nuclear wastes into the oceans. This is done in our names because we have not taken our authority back. Then we wonder why we are competitive, afraid, weak, confused, and jealous.

At the same time, we know how to plant trees, grow organic vegetables, improve soil, sequester carbon, etc. As John D. Liu famously said in his the award winning film *Green Gold*, “*Why are we not doing it?*” What stops each person from taking remedial actions?

*“Manger bio ne nous empêche pas d'exploiter notre  
prochain - Pierre Rabhi.”*

(Translation: “*Eating organic doesn't prevent us from exploiting our neighbors.*”)

#### CONSCIOUSNESS.

The vision and mission of our Ecosystem Restoration Camp is not unique. Neither is it obscure. It is a straightforward plan for millions of individuals around the world to come together in small local groups and restore the ecosystems of Earth to better assure a bright future for all living Beings. What seems to stop each of us is that, as the American revolutionary Juan Santos said, “*We cannot change what we cannot face.*” We are not initiated into the skills of facing uncomfortable things. But we could be. Our vision and mission lives through each person who becomes radically conscious of their responsibility for having created this environment in the first place, and letting the pain of that realization guide their remedial action steps.

Being radically responsible means being conscious that the connection we have with the planet, others and ourselves is our doing. We are creating a space to hold such a level of responsibility that every action, word, decision, contact, interaction, you create is your responsibility, your

choice, whether it is conscious or not. To be radically responsible is to be aware of your actions, words and thoughts. This awareness awakens alertness, sensitivity, precision, care, and the possibility of creating sanctuaries for the kinds of intimacy and vulnerability that many humans deeply long for.

## CHANGE.

This shift demands that we, human and conscious beings, become the change we want to see in the world. The change doesn't come from outside. The change comes from within.

But what does change really mean? Changing is scary. Change equates to walking into unknown territories, leaving the familiar behind. During your stay at Altiplano Ecosystem



Restoration Camp you learn how to plant trees, improve soil quality, capture moisture, and re-green the planet, but that has small impact if it does not involve at the same time restoring yourself. It would only be another mechanical solution that robots could implement.

If you heard about Altiplano Ecosystem Restoration Camp you are already looking beyond the edge of a modern culture that denies consciousness, responsibility, co-intelligent creativity, human health, personal development, the evolution of awareness and consciousness.

We have created a Camp where people can evolve into more conscious responsible human beings. This requires a set of distinctions and rules of engagement which are hinted at in this *Codex*. We have created a space where new options for daily life are possible.

As children each of us figured out how to survive by implementing strong defensive mechanisms. These mechanisms are designed to shift from being defensive to being expansive during the late teens and early twenties. You may remember waiting expectantly during those years for something big to happen. But it never did. You were allowed to smoke and drink. You

were allowed to vote and drive a car. But the authentic adulthood initiatory process to let your Being hatch out of your childhood psychological defense strategy were never delivered.

If you are lucky then you still experience the longing to live even if the options around you seem only to offer mere survival. Living is being yourself outside of the defensive survival mechanisms that you built long ago. You are not a machine that follows habits to survive. You have more than the usual animal's range of possibilities. Humans have the chance to help each other expand their possibilities.

#### RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INNER AND OUTER PERMACULTURE.

We see Ecosystem Restoration Camp as a School of Life. While we are giving a second life to this degraded planet we are also giving ourselves another chance at living. These two processes are deeply woven together. The spaces we live in and move through are defined by us and by all the people moving through those spaces with us.

The qualities of possibility in a space change when you change yourself. The new and evolved you will impact and relate differently to the Planet, to others and to yourself.

Here we discover the relationship between inner and outer permaculture. Planet Earth does not belong to us. We do not have control of the Earth. We are the Earth. We are an element of the ecosystems. We restore an ecosystem by restoring ourselves.

You can stand in radical responsibility for your actions, in terms of relationships and connections with the planet's ecosystems. You are inextricably woven into the ecosystems. The pain of realizing that you are an element of an ecosystem - in other words, when you harm the ecosystem you harm yourself - motivates you to take care of the ecosystem.

Not realizing your interconnectedness leads directly to inner and outer war, hunger, suffering, desertification, and unimaginably degraded injustices. The way to shift the external culture is to shift the culture that is active within in you. You source the inner and outer cultures that you live in, either consciously or unconsciously. Changing behaviors about restoring ecosystems on Earth starts by feeling the pain of the consequences of your actions.

#### HIGH-LEVEL FUN.

The realization of the harm we are creating on the planet is painful. This pain can be transformed in High Level Fun when we explore problems as doorways to evolution and transformation. High Level Fun is an expression of radical responsibility. Exploring problems and new innovative technologies and techniques is at the core of the Ecosystem Restoration Camp mission. Each new problem becomes a stepping stone for our creative collaboration to invent, implement, integrate and share. Let this be our food creating energy to move forward in the restoration of Planet Earth and Human Beings.

#### WHERE ARE THE RULES?

The purpose for explaining how the culture of our Camp works in this *Codex* is to give you support for expanding your awareness. We are not interested in imposing control over your life. However, if you want to play a certain game with other people you need to agree to abide by the rules of the game. The rules and distinctions for our Ecosystem Restoration Camp Altiplano are in this *Codex*.

Enjoy the read!

The Altiplano Camp Team

## IV. THE BRIGHT PRINCIPLES

*“Responsibility is applied consciousness.”*

*The (Bright) Principles of Camp Altiplano are the specific aspects of consciousness which resonate to and are supportive of the vision and mission of this particular project. Each Bright Principle is a force of nature, a splinter of consciousness. The Bright Principles cannot directly serve the world because they lack hands, eyes, feet, and a mouth. This is how humans can collaborate with the Bright Principles, by actively being the space through which the Bright Principles can do their work in the material world.*

*Each project has its own set of Bright Principles which participants in that camp are naturally attracted to serving. Here are the Bright Principles of Camp Altiplano:*

EMPOWERMENT - helping each other reclaim and apply our individual authority through adulthood initiatory processes. Initiations bring new clarity. Clarity is the basis of empowerment.

LOVE - loving the Earth results in loving each other because we are the Earth. This love causes us to share what we learn.

REGENERATION - inner and outer regeneration is both noble and ecstatic. Regeneration brings harmony to our life and relationships.

INTEGRITY - doing what you say you will do, and the oneness of all things - a whole systems approach.

## V. CODEX

Each Ecosystem Restoration Camp is a seed crystal of regenerative human culture in the global ethnosphere. Once a seed crystal exists it establishes new precedent making it easier for others to do something similar - in the same way that Roger Bannister's impossible 1954 feat of running a mile in less than four minutes made it possible for John Landy to break that record only forty-six days later.

Each Ecosystem Restoration Camp flies according to its own unique *Codex*. The diversity of cultural qualities in the global network of Ecosystem Restoration Camps is a tribute to the blossoming abundance of the human spirit. This also makes it fun and educational to journey from Camp to Camp and receive the various initiations that each Camp specializes in delivering.

This *Codex* can serve you like a *Lonely Planet Guide Book* to our ecosystem restoration learning village of the Murciano Altiplano.

### IV.1 Vision

*“This is our town and these are the people...”* - Harry Nilsson, *The Point*

Our living environment is one of radical responsibility. We envision a fully functional, peaceful, abundant, biologically diverse Earth brought about through a global network of cooperating local-authority initiation-centered volunteer-run Ecosystem Restoration Camps.

The culture of this living environment is the space in which people help each other become more and more radically responsible, learn to be in community, experience authentic adulthood initiatory processes, deepen communication skills, restore ecosystems, and embrace change adaptation and transformation in relationship to yourself, to others, and to nature.

Together we experience the parallels between inner restoration and outer restoration. We learn how to learn, how to collaborate, how to share, how to establish creative sanctuary, how to engage in parallel play, how to navigate spaces that optimize group intelligence, and how to implement new possibilities in practical daily life. Dreaming planning implementing celebrating... this is our living environment.

## **IV.2 Mission**

To work together to restore ecological functionality to the Earth by building 'Research, Training and Innovation Centers for Ecological Restoration' to train people in existing inner and outer restoration techniques, and to invent effective new processes for restoring degraded lands and consciousness in perpetuity.

## **IV.3 Values**

*Taking responsibility for creating and moving into the culture we would love to live in includes deciding which values we hold dear. By increasing the presence of what we value, we create our own local currency. Giving value to each other creates abundance. The Values of the Altiplano Ecosystem Restoration Camp are:*

**Inner and Outer regeneration**

**Creative collaboration**

**The vitality of planet Earth**

**Sustainable living**

**Conscious communications (written, spoken)**

**Conscious choices**

**Co-creating an adult-centered culture (archoarchy)**

**Respect**

**Practical introspection**

**Evolution of awareness**

**High Level Fun**

**Being in service of something greater than ourselves**

## IV.4 Rules of Engagement - Policies

The word "culture" derives from a French term, which in turn derives from the Latin "colere," which means to tend to the earth and grow, or cultivation and nurture<sup>1</sup>. The rules of engagement concern the people and their structure and organization. This part of the Handbook tells you how it goes, how new people come, how people leave, the activities, the learning processes and relationships within the village and our interactions with entities beyond the boundaries of the village.

### Within the village

#### How do you enter the village?

Volunteers are chosen with care regarding their resonance with the project's values and their actual ability to source a needed aspect of village development. Volunteers are chosen without discrimination of gender, nationality, race, sexual orientation, religious belief, ... The selection is fair, transparent and clear. Such a process comes from clear selection criteria.

#### **Selection criteria.**

We are looking for 'edgeworkers'. Edgeworkers are people who question the thought-patterns modern culture and experiment with alternatives thought-patterns which they themselves may have had to invent. Edgeworkers have transcended their birth culture to the degree that they tend to regard themselves as 'global citizens'. Edgeworkers choose which meanings to apply to circumstances and opportunities. They connect with the whole Earth, other human beings, living creatures and themselves. Such inner navigation skills are often more difficult to achieve than external 'how to' knowledge because inner resources are avoided in traditional modern education curricula. In selecting volunteers we are prone to valuing soft skills over hard skills.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://carla.umn.edu/culture/definitions.html>

### **Soft skills.**

#### Desired selection criteria.

- Interest in learning and personal development: awareness expansion
- Interest in becoming capable of greater responsibility
- Having integrity, i.e. doing what you say you will do
- Able to source valued results such helping others to grow up
- Energy creator, i.e. creative collaboration “Winning Happening” games

#### Rejective selection criteria:

- Fanaticism, dogmatism, control, unconscious fears
- Power-game playing
- Competitive mind: “I win, you lose” games
- Hidden shadow purposes, a tendency to create intrigue
- Addiction to dramatic interactions: victim, persecutor, rescuer
- Highly skilled at blaming, resenting, justifying, feeling betrayed

### **Hard skills.**

The Altiplano Camp is located in a rough climate of Spain, a thousand meters high. It is very hot in summer, very cold in winter. It is remote from civilization and the soil is degraded. The everyday work at Camp can be physically demanding (pulling weeds, planting trees, cooking, cleaning, building, maintaining...). This means that volunteers need to find a joyous resilience in themselves and in their connection and interactions with the team. They need to be physically, emotionally, energetically and psychologically fit.

### **“Interview”.**

As part of the welcoming process every potential inhabitant of the Camp is ‘interviewed’. Each interview is as different as every individual is different. The main aim of the interview is for us and you to be convinced that you are capable of sustaining the internal shifts that will happen to you when you co-create our learning village.

Example of some questions we have asked during interviews.

- When did you exit the system? When did you realize modern culture has an edge and you stepped over it? What did you do then? What happened next for you?
- What do you source in Life? What is it that you bring to the field of consciousness?
- What percentage dogma and what percentage of openness to surprises will you subject us to?

- What percentage of your heartache comes from thinking you do not have enough money? What percentage of your insecurity is triggered by imagining that you do not have enough security?
- What book are you reading now? What are your favorite films? Why?
- How many hours per week do you spend watching horror films or playing first person shooter video games?
- What successes have you created? Please brag about yourself.
- What legends do people have about you? What would your parents brag about you to their relatives?
- What ways do you use to deal with anxiety and change and challenging environments such as travel, creating a business, taking care of your parents, being with children,...?
- What are your cleverest techniques for blaming others and avoiding taking responsibility? How do you make yourself sick, blame others, make up excuses and reasons that circumstances are responsible?

### **Integration.**

Together we are creating a culture for a new way of living and interacting with Earth, each other and ourselves. This requires a safe and relatively harmonious yet humorous space. Harmonious spaces are created by clarity, integrity and responsibility, and are stabilized by mature group intelligence that is liberated by our feedback and coaching practices. Humorous spaces are inspired by direct unlimited access to nonlinear possibilities and love.

We want to make sure that new inhabitants thrive in our matrix-building dynamic. Your personal evolution through your expression of interpersonal collaboration during ecosystem restoration reveals how it is going for both of us, and we will keep checking in about that.

Volunteers have as much freedom to leave the project as we have the possibility to ask them to leave at any moment. Both arrivals and departures are formal occasions for celebration.

Request for departure becomes necessary when behaviors threaten the safety of the spaces we are creating. Such behaviors are brought into the limelight during meetings with guests, researchers, training participants, volunteers and residents. Solutions, new options, thoughtware tools, healing and initiatory processes are offered. However, if it comes down to the Camp Manager asking you to leave, you leave. The Ranger implements the departure if necessary.

## **Problems.**

It is not a question of trying to avoid being a problem, trying to be adaptive or pretending you do not feel angry, scared, sad, jealous, abandoned, overwhelmed, insulted, or not good enough. We know there are problems. There are problems right now while you are reading this *Codex*. The way to tell if you are alive or not, is this: if you have a problem, you are still alive. Evolution of consciousness is not detected by having no problems; it is detected by having bigger and bigger problems. Edgeworkers coming to Ecosystem Restoration Camp engage the daunting problem of restoring the planet's ecosystems under threat of the extinction of life on Earth. Taking on larger problems vaporizes your current set of problems into irrelevance.

Radical responsibility asserts that you are the alchemical force transforming any neutral situation you want into a problem. If you do not regard something as a problem, how can it be a problem? One man walks ecstatically barefoot everywhere while another man sees himself as a shoeless victim. Even if you do not see something as a problem, it could be seen by someone else as a problem, and their story-world that this thing is a horrible problem may become a problem for you.

How can you determine who is right about a situation being a problem or not?

Ah, now! That is a problem!

The traditional thoughtware about problems is that if I have a problem, you better have the same problem too, or how else can we be friends? If I am your boss and I have a problem, you better have the same problem I do or you won't have a job much longer!

Standard thinking gets worse... If you have a problem, I should take it on as my problem or how can I show you that I truly care about you? Standard thoughtware forces us to be enmeshed in each others problems. Being enmeshed makes it very difficult to take responsibility for and learn from your problems because you are so entangled.

Upgraded thoughtware says that if you have a problem you can take full ownership of having created this problem for yourself as a learning opportunity. Then you can stop spreading your

problem around onto everyone thinking that if others get involved in your problem it will help you solve it.

If someone else has a problem you can let them have full and complete ownership of their problem. They worked long and hard to develop their problem in order to learn what they need to learn from it. If you try to rescue a person (to 'rescue' means to offer help that is not asked for) you insultingly degrade the victim's capacity to solve their own problem while simultaneously forcing them to create a whole new problem-environment in which to learn what they wanted to learn.

By owning your own problems yourself, and by clearly letting other people own their own problems, you create a new space of relationship in which *there is no problem*. Being together with someone else in a space where there is no problem for either of you can create a whole new problem: the problem of learning to be together in a space where there is no problem. How can you be with someone when there is no problem? Who are you then? What is your worth to them if you are not doing things to solve their problems? Of what use are you anymore? What is there to do when there is nothing to do but to be with another person?

The space of having no problem with someone - the space of being - may be much larger than you think. Learning to be with another Being can involve you learning a whole new set of skills. Welcome to a new culture...

### **Low Drama and High Drama.**

Every problem can be used as a gateway to a healing or transformation process. Can you make use of it that way? Or are you using problems to act as if you are a victim, then plotting revenge, or defending your superiority? These are the two basic uses for problems: to create High Drama which feeds your Being, or to create Low Drama which feeds your Gremlin.

High Drama is any action designed to take responsibility. For example, if you speak in "I" statements, such as, "*I did not think of that. Thank you for the feedback.*" Or, "*I feel scared that what you are doing will set back our project.*" Or, "*I don't understand. Could you please explain to me how a person such as yourself would overlook these three options and then choose to make up a story that disempowers yourself?*" and so on, you are making efforts to take responsibility. If you say, "*Would you please pass me the salt?*" Or, "*I will make that happen by*

Thursday noon.” Or, “*I propose the following... What do you think and feel about that?*” These are all High Drama.

On the other hand, If you speak in “you” statements such as, “*You always have to have it your way...*” Or, “*You never listen to me...*” Or, “*You asshole...*” then you are are making efforts to avoid responsibility. You invest in finding evidence to prove your story that someone else is persecuting you as a poor miserable victim. If you try to manipulate others by saying, “*Where’s the salt? Don’t they have any salt around here? Who forgot the salt? Don’t they want their food to taste good?*” this is trying to get rescued. It is all Low Drama. When you blame someone else, justify yourself, make excuses, boil in resentment, complain, gossip, talk about someone behind their back, cause intrigue, try to be right, or try to make someone else look bad, your Gremlin gets fat and your life gets weary. This is all Low Drama.

Neither Low Drama nor High Drama is right or wrong, good or bad... however! Your choice of which approach you apply in creating each action has serious consequences. Even your smallest gestures - the way you move your eyes, the way you sigh - create Low Drama or High Drama. Consciously creating High Drama builds matrix in your energetic body to hold more consciousness.

### **Financial requirements.**

Modern culture creates exchanges using money. To stay in relationship with modern culture institutions and to serve modern culture by being a bridge to next culture, Camp Altiplano needs to be financially sustainable. Inhabitants of the Camp arrange to pay for the real cost of their food, lodging and transport.

To co-create financial stability the inhabitants of Camp creatively collaborate to invent financial and working opportunities for each other. For example:

- Campers arrange to sell produce in the Camp shop or at local markets that is grown on their own garden plots.
- Campers manufacture products during their own time and with materials they find, grow, or purchase, to sell a the Camp shop or online.
- Campers write books, record music CDs, or give classes, public talks, workshops or webinars using knowledge learned at Camp.

Fifty percent of the income is kept privately.

### **Expectations.**

Expectations kill intimacy. The way this works is that when you make an assumption, you assume you are not stupid for making your assumption and you assume that your assumption is true. This changes your assumption into an expectation. What is scary is that expectations have no connection to reality. Anyone can make an expectation about anything. If any of your expectations are not fulfilled they suddenly change into a resentment. Then if you try to be intimate with the person you have the resentment about, you will not experience the intimacy. Instead you will experience your resentment about them.

## How do we live in the village?

### **Greetings.**

Various cultures greet each other with bows, kissing cheeks, rubbing noses, pressing foreheads together, shaking right hands, and so on. It is a custom in our village to hug each other when we first meet. If you believe that each day, you wake up a different person than you can also every morning. Hugging has been scientifically proven to be essential for [good health](#).

### **Meetings.**

A village creates itself and evolves through ongoing meetings, whether they are one-on-one, small group, or village meetings.

#### **Village meetings**

Practical Monday. Monday morning at 08:00 for 30 to 45 minutes is the *Practical Monday* meeting - a rapid-fire planning and logistics meeting for the whole group to organize the rest of the week. There might also be a song or an inspirational sentence.

Theory & Practice. Sunday mornings from 09:00 to 11:00 are the *Theory & Practice* meeting for developing interconnections through feedback and coaching while learning new soft skills.

Possibility Meeting. Thursday evenings from 19:30 to 22:00 are *Possibility Meetings*. One never knows what is wanted and needed in this unpredictable healing and transformational space. It could be stage work, inner navigation journeys, study and discussion, or personal healing processes.

#### **Small groups.**

Nucleus Meeting. *Nucleus Meeting* is when the spaceholders of the seven circles meet to celebrate creative collaborations and amplify serendipitous synchronicities.

Circle Meeting. *Circle Meeting* is when the seven seven interdependent Camp functional circles meet as a separate circle to organize and coordinate their creative efforts.

### **One-on-One (O-o-O).**

O-o-O meetings can happen during extended walks, at the café, in the Mushroom, or in private spaces. O-o-O meetings are valued and necessary for sharing five-body intimacies. They are not intended for gossip, triangulation, or back-stabbing. These are precious moments of sharing in a private and intimate space with another Being. They can be creative sessions or times of deep sharing. O-o-O spaces are sacred and the custom at Camp is to highly respect them.

### **Food and other substances we put in our bodies.**

Juicy red (or green) tomatoes, fresh zucchini, perfect peaches, crunchy apples, beautiful eggplant, large squash, ... all coming from our garden. We are so fortunate at Camp to have an abundance of food growing under our feet and above our head. Food is life. Food brings people together. Harvesting, preserving, preparing, eating, and cleaning up together allows people to collaborate and share life. These moments are celebrated.

At Camp Altiplano, we are mainly vegetarian. We love cheese, yogurt, eggs, and honey. Occasionally, and with deep gratefulness and insight, some inhabitants eat meat or fish. We are not fanatical with vegetarianism or veganism. It is the custom of the Camp to respect each other's eating habits while at the same time to ask perceptive and expansive questions about these habits rather than placing judgment. Since eating beef, pork, chicken, and ocean fish contribute to climate change, as well as eating imported and out of season foods, using these foods and materials is questioned. Why are we attached to certain foods? Are we willing to change our habits? What foods are destroying the planet and how? What replacements can we grow or find locally?

### **Meals.**

We work together to provide ourselves with 3 meals a day, breakfast, lunch, dinner and sometimes a celebratory snack in the afternoon. Inhabitants organize cooking and cleaning teams. This process is supervised by the Kitchen Conductor who makes sure that there is the food and the people to create warm, diverse and delicious meals.

Before each meal, we have the custom to pause and take a moment of gratefulness for the food, the people who made it and the day. Anyone who is inspired can hold that moment. We have the custom to invite guests to hold the moment.

### **Alcohol/Drugs/Cigarette.**

Cigarette. The Camp is a smoke free place. Inhabitants of the Altiplano Camp have the freedom to enjoy a smoke free environment so no one smokes within the Camp. Smoking areas are designated. Smoking is an addition. Johann Harri explains in his [Tedtalk](#) that Addiction comes from lack of connection. We can inquire your smoking habits with you.

Drugs/ Alcohol. Inhabitant of the Altiplano Camp have the freedom to not experience drugs and alcohol so no one will be under the influence of drugs or alcohol within the limits of the Camp, except prescribed by a doctor. We have a tradition of enjoying Tapas at the nearby village on Friday. This is an occasion for inhabitants of the Camp to enjoy alcohol if they want to.

Cigarette, drugs, alcohol are everywhere outside the Camp. If they are necessary for you, then it is probably not suitable for you to be at Camp.

### **Medicines.**

Camp Altiplano uses Grey Water System and composting toilets. We recycle our waste. Medicine that you ingest will go into the soil through the water or the composting toilets. Please let us know if you have to take medicine.

### **Clothes/Interior design**

The clothes we wear says a lot about us. It is our style, our way to express ourselves. The Camp encourages the inhabitants to express their deepest creative self by the way they dress: vertiginous hats or hairdos, colorful jewelries, sparkling jeans, ...

We encourage the habits of creating our own clothes out of [recycled](#) or local fabrics, like esparto.

Feeling inspired and wanting to make pillows, lamp, plant hangers, paintings, ... ? Show off your creativity and share it with the community.

### **Currency.**

Currency comes from the Latin *currens*, meaning 'in circulation'. Currency is the medium of exchange within one culture. Money is one currency out of many. The bills and coins owned by

private and national banks and traded through exchange houses are but a small portion of the currencies represented as digits in computers.

Altiplano Camp's currency is Creative Collaboration. Within the Camp we negotiate the exchange of information, skills, ideas, connections, food, clothes, objects, services, and so on. To make use of someone else's knowledge or possessions we make creative offers which are either accepted or creatively modified so that there is a satisfactory balance for all parties involved.

Sometimes creative exchange arrangements also work with neighbors and local acquaintances. But beyond the boundaries of Camp Altiplano there are businesses such as the baker, the garden supply shop, the café, the grocery and hardware stores. There are local and national governments with their telephone, water, and electric utilities, land and income taxes. There is the gas station with propane gas for cooking (we are working on building solar cookers and installing solar hot water heaters), and fuel and oil for the *Great White Whale* - our 2003 nine-passenger Santana Anibel four-wheel-drive transporter.

Most of these external gameworlds require that we interact with them using the Euro. Part of our vision is to be financially able to demand less and less Euros from edgeworkers who come here to learn how to restore ecosystems and create more ecosystem restoration camps.

### **Language.**

Camp Altiplano is multi-lingual. English is our main speaking language but Spanish is not far behind. Within Camp, you might also hear Dutch, French, German, Italian, and Creole, with a sprinkling of Japanese and new thoughtware terms. We are gradually expanding the use of language and expressions from different cultures. Studies shows that speaking multiple languages makes us more tolerant.

Precise language gives us the power to make new distinctions. A new distinction clearly differentiates categories or experiences which perhaps just a few minutes before were mixed together in one lump. More refined distinctions allow us to ask questions, make decisions, take actions, and navigate spaces with more intelligence and finesse. During our meetings we

practice making both intellectual and experiential distinctions exchanging feedback and coaching to improve our skills.

Words hold much more meaning than the simple definitions. Some languages have words for things that other languages do not have. Did you know that the Inuits have 21 words for snow? This shows how important snow is for them. And Americans have 21 words for donuts. The German term *blaupunkt* is a word for that brief moment after sunset when everything turns blue. We may be absentmindedly using words with built-in assumptions that limit our possibilities in life. Some words worth contemplating, for example, might be *need*, *work*, or *believe*.

### **Communication**

Interpersonal communication.

### **Violence/Aggression.**

XXXX.

### **Male/Female.**

The culture of Camp Altiplano is archaical rather than patriarchal. This means men and women are equals and different. Men are nothing and women are everything.

Women are no object to protect or manage or to possess. Women are un-possessable because they are everything.

### **Children.**

Children are the next generation, the future. The way children are talked to, considered, loved and supported creates the next generation. A village is not complete without children. Children, adolescent and young adult have a voice in the culture.

### **Community/Individuality.**

Eastern communities stress out the importance of communities and families. Grandparents, children and grandchildren live together, each family or community member creates for the community or the family rarely for himself. Western culture is, on the contrary, very much individual. In the West, people value their freedom to make their own decisions without being linked to their grandparents health or their parents financial situation. In the West, self-realisation is very much at the center of our culture.

At Camp Altiplano we need to figure out what is the place of the individual in the community and what is the place of the community in the individual.

XXXXXXXX

## **People.**

*“People are the salt of the Earth”* - Sebastiao Salgado, photographer

People create the space, the energy, the vision and the outcome of a project. People are attracted to this project because of their resonance with it. Different circles of inhabitants are living at Camp: the nucleus people, the MLTI, the STI.

### **Nucleus people.**

The Nucleus people are not an exclusive, secret, and elitist group. The Nucleus people are a group of source people, committed to the vision and the mission, who resonate with the values and bright principles of the Camps and who are capable of creating out of collaborative systems the next steps for the project. Each nucleus person is responsible for its Circle and the energy flowing in its apprentices.

### **MLTI.**

The Mid to Long Term Inhabitants are volunteers who have a strong resonance with the project and its vision. They live at Camp for at least more than one month. They are mostly here to learn, integrate, share.

### **Ranger.**

Every culture has a version of a law enforcer. Camp Altiplano is no different in this respect. Customs and procedures may be clearly documented, but who takes the stand that they are legitimate? The Ranger. Each nucleus person takes turn in being a Ranger for the Camp. Being a Ranger means being the stand that the values, purposes, and rules of engagement of the Ecosystem Restoration Camp are valid and respected by the inhabitants of the Camp.

### **Introvert people.**

Modern culture values extrovert people. Extrovert people get fed by being with other people, they seek social interactions, they are usually the loudest in the room. *“Introverts feel at their most alive and their most switched on and their most capable when they are in quieter, more*

*low-key environments,”* says Susain Cain in her [Tedtalk](#). Introvert people bring skills and abilities that should be celebrated. Camp Altiplano has a tradition of including introvert people in the decision making process, not only those who speak first or loudest. How do we do this? We ongoingly coach each other how to be a spaceholder who includes the voices of everyone.

### **Power.**

*“Power should not be given to anyone who wants it.”* - African saying

What is power? Power is the capacity of making things happen. Power of making decision is authority. Authority only comes with responsibility. Responsibility comes before authority or power.

Roles and tasks are not distributed in advance. They are given to the people demonstrating practical responsibility for the role or task.

### **Work/Boundaries.**

What does work mean when you live where you work? What does work means when you serve that what you are? Are you working when you are thinking under the shower? Or when you are cooking for everyone or canning vegetables? These are more questions that our culture has yet to find practical answers.

### **Burn out.**

A wise permaculturist recently mentioned to us that the elephant in the Room in permaculture project is the Burns out people go through. Because of a lack of conversation about overworking is environment where there is always something to do and the project serves humanity and the Planet. How can we stop and not work 24/7?

However, we are all radically responsible, that means we are also radically responsible for our own well being. We are part of the ecosystem, so if we cannot function the ecosystem cannot function either.

Burnout comes from splitting our attention too much, wanting to do too more things that we can handle.

XXXXXX

### **Energy flow.**

People know what they're doing and are here because they want to do it. People are connected with and listened to and are met where they are. People are being trained to meet each other where they are and help them unfold and develop and connect to inner and outer resources for their life.

Energy is flowing. The Camp largely manages itself. People feed each other with their energy.

### **Structure of the day.**

Each day at Altiplano Camp is different, each day brings its fair share of surprise and unexpected events. However, the Camp offers a temporal structure:

- 3 hours a day of formalised outer permaculture
- 3 hours a day of formalised inner permaculture
- 2 hours of teamwork "maintenance"
- 16 hours a day of inner/outer connection time and integration time.

A typical day at Camp goes like this:

BEFORE 8AM. 'Maintenance' is done before the start of the day.

Camp maintenance includes opening the chicken coop and watering the house gardens.

People maintenance includes morning mediation, breakfast or stretching.

08:00. The day starts, we are all ready to walk out the door at 8am.

The different teams know where they are going: restoration, garden, carpentry, or 'office'.

10:30-11:00. Break.

(12:00. The Lunch Cooking team goes to the Kitchen to start lunch for the group.)

13:00. Lunch.

14:00. Break. Personal time.

16:00. Inner Permaculture. TPP. Sustainable living projects.

Or keep going on your project.

18:00. Break.

(19:00 The Dinner Cooking team start dinner for the group.)

20:00 Dinner.

AFTER 21:00. Personal Space.

### **Structure of the week.**

As each day is different, each week is too. However, some meetings as well as some traditions are held on a regular basis.

Monday. Practical Monday meetings. Nucleus meeting.

Tuesday.

Wednesday.

Thursday. Possibility Meeting

Friday. On Friday evening, the Camp has the tradition to go to Topares, the neighboring village to enjoy tapas and a beer for the one who want. It gives us an occasion to connect with the local village.

Saturday. Movie day!

Sunday. Practice and Theory Meeting. Cleaning Sesh.

### **Structure of the month.**

Monthly structure are very much in construction. We would like to develop ideas of having regular Days.

- "Open Days" when we invite the local community to come and help out on a big project.
- "Service Days" when the team goes to the local village, or the next town to do something is service. For example, we could all go begging for money in Murcia and giving all the earnings to a homeless person at the end of the day. We could create a flash mob related to restoration. We could put up a black board asking dangerous questions.
- "Birth Days". How do you could we celebrate people born in the same month?

We would love to hear your suggestions of the kind of Days we could have.

### **Education/Trainings.**

An important distinction that is introduced at Altiplano Camp is the difference between delivering Education and Trainings. Education delivers information, new content. Trainings delivers shifting processes, new context in both inner and outer restoration. Traditional educational system [Stole our Dreams](#) (by Seth Godin), we are here to learn to take them back.

### **Learning processes.**

We are not here to drown you in information We are holding space for you to learn, grow, integrate and share. We are exploring new fields and new paths and concept as creativity, collaboration, connection, vulnerability and expansions.

It is often the case that you teach best what you most need to learn, so it is the tradition here that the more experienced people teach the newer people rather than all bowing down to some authority figure. The Camp welcomes large number of new people, each person being at a different level of inner and outer restoration. How to keep up with the training of every inhabitants without moving too fast or not fast enough? In an african culture, the third grader teach the first grader, the third grader are taught by the the fifth grader and so forth. The older kids learn from the adults. The knowledge and skills flows down without an authority figure, the knowledge is shared and valued. Could we imagine such a system at the Altiplano Camp?

#### **Co-learning and Group Intelligence.**

Making use of group intelligence involves integrating two practices into daily life. The integration happens through through changing your standard approach to feedback and and your standard approach to coaching to an extraordinary approach to feedback and coaching.

The standard approach to feedback regards feedback as critical, negative, destructive, intimidating, opinionated, aggressive, and to be avoided. The extraordinary approach to feedback regards feedback as a simple comment about the past. Feedback says, *“From my perspective, this is what I saw happen. This is what worked about that. This is what did not work about that.”*

The standard approach to coaching is that coaching is arrogant, egotistical, superior, sports metaphors, manipulative, *“do it my way because my way is best,”* you have to, you must, you should, dogma, moralism, etc. The extraordinary approach to coaching is that coaching is an offer for experiments to try that would create a different future. The coaching includes a distinction about what to try in your experiment, such as, *“If you speak using first-person ‘I statements’ instead of third-person generalities then your speaking has more credibility and power and I am more clear about who you are and what you are saying.”*

Have you ever had valuable feedback and coaching that you did not share with someone? Can you feel how this is a loss of precious group intelligence? If someone had empowering feedback and coaching **XXXX**

In the shift to adopting the new behaviors of using feedback and coaching to optimize group intelligence it can be helpful to know that there are only two kinds of feedback to get. One kind of

feedback is: “Go!” This means what you are doing is working and please keep doing it. The other kind of feedback is: “Beep!” which simply means that what you are doing is not working

A daily Camp practice that optimizes group intelligence is to memorize and regularly use the following sentence, *“Please give me feedback and coaching about \_\_\_\_\_.”* It can help to write down the feedback and coaching you receive because you are capable of erasing new information in less than three seconds.

If you went to school one of the first thing they taught you is that getting a “Beep!” is really bad! The result is that the moment you receive a Beep! you sink neck-deep into a “Beep! Swamp” filled with three-hundred years of frog poop, dead floating fish, and those energy-sucking thought-worms that say, *“I am not good enough,” “I will never get it,” “I am a failure,” “They don’t like me,” “I don’t fit in here”*... or *“Who is this asshole giving me feedback! Look at his/her life!”*

Do you know anyone who has ever been in a “Beep! Swamp” before?

Have you ever been in a “Beep! Swamp” before?

In the moment you hear any of these voices in your head you can be sure that you are definitely in the “Beep! Swamp”. To get out of the “Beep! Swamp” simply go back to the person who gave you the “Beep!” and say, *“Thank you for the the feedback.”* This immediately puts you back into a process of Rapid Learning. Each Beep! is valuable because it gives you design suggestions for your next experiment.

Then you can Shift your approach, your behavior, your intentions, your starting position, and start over with your next experiment and see what feedback you get this time! Go! Get feedback! If your feedback is “Go!” then keep going. If your feedback is “Beep!” then stop what you are doing. Shift! your approach, and Go! once more. This is Rapid Learning.

NOTE: If you ever got a Beep! and tried again and got a Beep! and tried again and you keep getting the same Beep! for feedback, it is because you forgot the third step in Rapid Learning: Shift. The Shift into trying something else is crucial.

### **Dogma.**

Dogma limits collaborative learning and creativity, however experience is useful. Experienced people can only have 25% dogma / 75% creativity, innovativeness.

### **Instincts/Habits**

At Altiplano Camp, we have the tradition to think that there is probably no such things as instincts, we have just practices some behaviors so well that they become habitual. That means we can training our bodies and mind in other behaviors. For example, XXXX.

### **Personal Space.**

Creating personal space comes up as an issue very quickly in a community where people do not have their own house or room. Creating personal space is fostered by the Camp, but it is your responsibility to create a safe space where you can Be and create. A sacred personal for each volunteer is its bed in her/his bedroom. However, we would not want inhabitants of the Camp to hide in their bedroom. Having access to a creative personal space is much more valuable and empowering for the inhabitant and the Camp.

#### **Bedroom.**

We are sharing bedroom with one or more people. The bedroom is a sacred and it is tradition to not to disturb inhabitant who took refuge in their bedroom.

#### **Creative Personal Space.**

Camp Altiplano gives you the tool to grow up, evolve and restore the Planet in any way you can think of. An important feature in empowering inhabitants of the Camp is to provide you with support, material and coaching, for you to create your own personal creative space. For example, you could have a piece of the land to grow some special plants, you can create beehives, you can have your own soap production, you could be in charge of the seed bank, ... These are example, we want you to come up with something you thrive on!

### **Communal Space.**

Communal Spaces are mainly the Communal Hall, the Dining Hall and the Kitchen. We have the custom to leave those places as pristine as we found them. This reflect our values of responsibility, integrity and respect. In each space, you can find Guidelines, please take the time to read them, ask questions and raise concerns about certain Guidelines.

## **Hygiene.**

Living in community requires a high level of hygiene. An ecosystem is healthy and functional when its inhabitants are healthy and functional. Bad hygiene encourage diseases, bacteria and so forth.

Cleaning Sesh. Cleaning the Camp is part of our maintenance work. The Cleaning Sesh happens on Sunday after the Theory and Practical Meeting for an hour. Cleaning helps integrate distinctions and intellectual work.

In between Cleaning Sesh, the Camp emphasis on pristine living and working spaces. Each space has its set of Guidelines where you can find the Cleaning Guidelines.

## How do you leave the village?

### **Exit process**

As any person leaving the camp, part of the exit process is a request for clear, honest feedback and coaching from them so that their wisdom and experience benefits the evolution of the project, and so that they are not carrying secret resentments or insight treasures away with them.

The departure ceremony includes a circle where those who remain have a chance to express deep appreciation for the qualities of the departing person's Being which has been noticed and experienced in their presence.

### **Next steps**

In modern culture, corporations train you to behave in ways that increase their profit and efficiency. If they invest in you, they do not want this knowledge and competencies to go away. We are wanting the reverse. We want you to come here, learn, shift and then go away! When you have learned enough to start your own project, please go do that. Camp Altiplano is a space where you claim your authority back, realize a higher level of responsibility, learn to navigate spaces and feelings, and discover what you want are and what you want. It is a place to learn that problems are not an issue but unlimited jobs opportunities. We want you to take as much of all this with you as you can, the leave the Camp nest, spread your wings, and go create the next gameworld with other edgeworkers.

## **Interface with the outside World.**

Camp Altiplano is

### **Neighbors.**

We are incredibly lucky to have such amazing neighbors. Alfonso and Yanniek are a great support to the Camp and are usually available to seek advice or help. They are the closest 'external' people. However, whether you live in the House or at Camp, Alfonso and Yannick's house and garden are their property. Respecting their privacy is a highly regarded custom at Camp. Please knock before you enter their house or ask before making a fire in their fire pit.

### **Cloud.**

The Cloud is the online community of the Ecosystem Restoration Camp Foundation. The Foundation, as well as being the group that created the Altiplano Camp is also our major donor. Some inhabitants of the Camp were part of the Cloud, before coming down on the ground. The Camp has regular contact with the Cloud, sometimes daily.

The Cloud is composed of the Supervisory Board, the Board of Director and the Advisory Board. They are the other major support of the Camp. Their advice is often sought and listened to.

The Foundation as well as the Spanish Association is our outer layer. It gives us legitimacy for the local and international authorities. It gives us the power to be insured, to have a bank account and to own a car. The Camp gives them report on the evolution of the Camp, through the Camp manager.

### **Local authorities.**

### **Educators and trainers.**

There is a difference between educators and trainers. Educators deliver information and conceptual content in classes. Educators may provide information about learning new skills. For example, PDC teachers are educators. Guest speakers are educators.

Trainers facilitate shift processes either for the whole organism (e.g. context shift), for parts of the organism (e.g. teams, projects, or circles), or for individuals (e.g. personal development or healing processes).

There are two types of Trainers:

### **Volunteer Trainers.**

Volunteer can propose any course they want to deliver. We do not expect you to have a degree to deliver a course, the only skills that we request is: 'can you do it?'

### **Guest Trainers.**

Guest Trainers are external Trainers coming for the period of the course. The Camp does not have any exclusivity with any institutions. Again the criteria is can s/he do it?

### **Partners.**

Partners exchange value for mutual benefit.

The Ecosystem Restoration Camps Foundation is a strongest allies, and our first Partner. The Foundation resemble at a mother for the Camp.

### **Donors.**

Donors provide resources as fulfillment of their own vision and mission.

### **Visitors.**

Visitors are tourists. They are not granted a local passport. They have no voting rights. Visitors include volunteers, researchers, donors, neighbors, guest trainers and speakers, and people from the cloud (whether they are paying Ecosystem Restoration Cooperative members or not). Essentially visitors are everyone not holding a post in the camp structure AND living in camp.

### **Media.**

Newspapers, television. Don't let them roam around the Camp, they need to be chaperoned.

## IV.6 Customs

The cultural traditions and customs of each Ecosystem Restoration Camp are as different as the cultural traditions and customs of each nation-state, organized religion, corporation, or tribe in the world. Inner and Outer Restoration has as many flavors as ice cream.

Because the traditions and customs of this Ecosystem Restoration Camp originate from a context that is outside concept-boundaries of modern culture's capitalist patriarchal empire, learning about them can be personally challenging, surprising, perhaps even shocking. In other words... it could fry your circuits. Therefore, please consider not reading the rest of this section right now. If you do decide to read it, then please explore the ideas with the same respectful neutrality and tolerance that one might use while studying the anthropology of Inuit, Amazonian, Australian aborigine, or Borneo cultures, where it might be customary to kill whales, chew on sea-lion-skin boots, eat insects for lunch, enter dream-time, have multiple husbands, or raise children communally.

Since the Ecosystem Restoration Camp Altiplano is new and rapidly emerging, trying to describe these traditions in black and white in this *Codex* may be premature. Yet space should be made for regenerative human culture customs to emerge, so this space is here. We provide some examples of traditions you might expect to encounter.

- There is a custom that if someone sneezes, the people around them may say something like “asparagus” or “orphanage” or “clay pot” (a different word each time, never ever repeating a phrase) to signal presence and awakesness, rather than mechanically saying “gesundheit” each time someone sneezes.
- There is a custom of removing shoes when entering indoor spaces and actually making the extra effort of putting your shoes on the shoe racks that are available.
- There is a custom of everyone licking off their yogurt spoons and sticking them back into the honey jar to put more honey onto their yogurt. This saves on dish soap and precious dishwashing time. Since the honey is antibacterial it is certain to kill off each person's

herpes or HIV viruses. The honey also purifies their karmic toxins, their bad breath odors, their emotional wounds, their underworld demons, their psychological aberrations, and, of course, their enmeshed sexual energies.

- There is a custom of wearing more-handmade rather than store-bought styles of clothing, colorful and quaint, often with stylized hats.
- Altiplano Campers have an ongoing interest in learning. We have been noticing that assumptions, expectations, resentments and conclusions block learning. To continue learning, resentments can be disassembled. Taking apart a resentment can feel like dying. Your well-defended position gets replaced by uncertainty, not knowing, no longer being right. As your certainty dissolves you become liquid in any of your five bodies which is exactly the way to become more competent in both hard and soft skills. Rather than learning from an “authority figure” or from dogmatic beliefs or rules, you learn through shared discovery on the evolutionary journey even if it is emotionally painful. The distinctions you gain are experiential rather than merely intellectual. As the place where the resentment lives in you disintegrates and the resentment no longer seems to be beneficial for you or even real anymore, intimacy becomes possible again. This is the Phoenix of love miraculously coming back to life out of the ashes of transformation. It is definitely not the “fight and fuck” syndrome (pardon the French...)
- There is a custom at Camp Altiplano to be very clear about the hidden behaviors inherent in the patriarchal context such as men being more important than women, men having more value than women or children, men owning women as a possession, men relating to women as sex objects, etc., and to leave these behaviors outside the semi-permeable membrane that distinguishes the culture or Camp Altiplano from any other culture that is out there. There are plenty of other options for attitudes and behaviors to choose from than the old patriarchal ones, once you actually stop and think about it...
- It is a custom at Altiplano to question the social construct of monogamy as a value in relationship, partnership, or couplehood. Monogamy, as commonly understood, is the unspoken tradition of expecting to be fully fed in five-body intimacies (physical intimacy, intellectual intimacy, emotional intimacy, energetic intimacy, and archetypal intimacy) by one single person - your life-mate. A key part of the monogamy construct is forbidding

your mate to have intimate interactions with any other person under threat of blame, jealousy, recriminations, being labeled an adulteress, betrayer, blasphemer, heretic, and as a consequence being stoned, castigated, banished, or burned at the stake. Also inherent in the monogamy construct is the understanding that if you are rich enough or if you can deceive well enough then you can get away with extramarital sex. Such sneaking for intimacies is so common in modern culture monogamy that it is naive to assume that your monogamous partner is not flirting at the office or with the shoe salesman, or not getting some extra snuggles at the bar, gym, or yoga class. For this reason it has become a custom at Camp Altiplano to explore a little further and to consider that the alternatives for human interactions may not be limited to only to the two polar extremes: monogamy or “free love” (often enacted as free sex). We have come so far as to claim that a third alternative exists. Since all the standard words like *relationship, partnership, couple, pair, together*, and so on, all insinuate monogamy, we have been calling the third alternative “presence journeying” (meaning to journey into the present together which is the only place where five-body intimacies can take place), or “negotiating intimacy experiments” to be clear that each new moment is unknown territory full of unpredicted possibilities. Some members of Altiplano may be actively engaged the third option. To be clear, navigating intimacy journeys in one or more of the five-bodies does not require your co-experimenter to be exclusively bound to you in monogamy. What is the result? More presence. More joy. More love happening. See for yourself. One practice that goes along with the custom of presence journeying at Camp Altiplano is that when witnessing two or more people seeming to be intimate with each other, for example, going on a walk together, talking together in the kitchen, sitting next to each other at meals or while watching movies, or working on projects together, is to observe what stories you are unconsciously making up in your mind about them. The monogamy tradition has been ingrained in our mind, hearts, and energetic bodies for so many generations that assuming people are a couple when they seem to love each other, or assuming that they must be having sex together or that they are exclusive is so automatic that you may assume your assumption is true. Then you have created an expectation which physically cuts you off from reality so much that you cannot learn anything more about that. The practice is to see if you can observe what you observe without making up any stories about it.

- Camp Altiplano gives high value to privacy for intimate conversations and personal healing and adulthood initiatory processes. Therefore we are building a structure which can be reserved for such interactions. We call it the Mush Room (“Mushroom” for short) because it is a safe space for being a little mushy (liquid) together, and also because its circular half-buried stone-and-wooden form is rather fungoid shaped.
- (Giving privacy.) Altiplano Campers quickly grow to respect each others’ privacy. Respectful privacy begins by not going through each other’s belongings, not taking or borrowing things without asking, putting tools and kitchen utensils back exactly where you found them, putting your shoes on the shoe shelf, writing the foods you use up immediately onto the shopping list, making your bed, taking cleaned clothes out of the washing machine as soon as they are washed, removing dry clothes from the clothes-drying lines as soon as they are dry, putting your toothbrush and dental floss back on your personal shelf in the bathroom immediately after use, etc. The privacy given here is the privacy of not subjecting other people to your personal messes. However, at Altiplano Camp giving privacy goes further than this. Respectful privacy extends to men not looking into the women’s bedrooms or bathrooms when the doors are open so as to give the women more privacy rather than less privacy. It extends to allowing two people to have private time together without making stories about it.
- (Taking privacy.) Taking privacy does not only mean going off on your own to watch TV or play video games when your Gremlin wants some of that kind of food. Taking privacy means respecting yourself enough to create silence boundaries and precise interaction spaces when this other sort of food is needed in one or more of your bodies - which it may well be, more often than you might ordinarily assume, perhaps even more often than going to the movies. You might notice this once you start enjoying the experience of being well fed in five bodies.. You might begin to enjoy energetic body and archetypal body intimacies even more than coffee and cake at the café. But what do we mean by “that kind of food”? Privacy can be a necessary ingredient for certain kinds of relatedness. Modern humans are so indoctrinated into thinking of talking as intimacy that you may forget that you have five bodies. Perhaps you have not learned how to elegantly create the other four kinds of intimacies. As a result you may be rather starving. Yes, talking is central to intellectual body intimacy. But without refining your attentions, you may blunder into common meeting spaces making comments to everyone at once and to

no one in particular, oblivious to having just shattered several meditative private spaces or intimate conversations. The Karma of your unconscious space-thrashing could be disastrous! On the other hand, when no one is around you may have the unconscious nervous habit of filling spaces with sounds from radio, television, or MP3 players to create the illusion of being in community. Monkey-mind word-salad creates faux intellectual intimacy, devours time and space, and leaves your physical, energetic, emotional, and archetypal bodies starving for the intimacies that specifically feed their vibrational and energetic nutritional needs.

- Starvation may be typical and common in modern culture, but that does not make it healthy. At Camp Altiplano negotiating and creating five-body intimacies is an art form, a beautiful *pas de deux*, a miraculous ever-new first-birthday celebration, the chance to be alive in every breath for as long as you can endure the intensity of the ecstasy of Being with another Being. What you may need or want in the way of five body intimacy, even if you have never experienced it before, may be easy to create for yourself and others if you learn to consciously and responsibly negotiate the arrangements. How does one learn to do this? By throwing yourself wholeheartedly into your path of authentic adulthood initiatory processes. No bullshit. There are many paths, but there is no mountain. So get with it! For one tiny example, there is a five-day initiatory skill-building workout specifically about negotiating five-body intimacies called [Presence Journeyer Training](#). (NOTE: Before participating in *Presence Journeyer* it can be helpful to read [Conscious Feelings](#) by Clinton Callahan, and / or participating in [Expand The Box](#) training. It does not matter how you learn these skills. But if you don't learn to drive your five-bodies it would be like sitting in a red Maserati GTX 5000 convertible with no driver's license. Too bad... Negotiation skills start with using your intention to place your energetic center on your physical center to get centered, energetically connecting your grounding cord from your center to the center of the Earth, energetically declaring the existence of your private bubble of personal space, and energetically declaring your pristine grounded energetic workspace cube (or dome...) in the service of your Bright Principles, and making sure the person across from you has prepared themselves in a similar fashion for this adult-to-adult negotiation. This is not about fulfilling your childhood fantasies or needs. That would be an emotional healing process made accompanied by a skilled facilitator.