

## SUSTAINABLE ECO-VILLAGE PROTOCOL

**Objective:** To facilitate the creation of eco-villages or sustainable villages as a model for sustainable development.

**Process:** Community governance with non-negotiable shareholder stock / ownership.

**Outcomes:** Creation and maintenance of self sustaining eco-villages/sustainable villages that uses the

Living & Learning Center as the main platform for managing the needs for:  
**Cultural, Social, Economic & Environmental** stability.

### SUSTAINABLE VILLAGE CHECKLIST

- Sense of Place - community location & scale; restoration & preservation of nature
- Food Availability, Production & Distribution
- Physical Infrastructure, Buildings & Transportation - materials, methods, designs
- Consumption Patterns & Solid Waste Management
- Water - sources, quality & use patterns
- Waste Water & Water Pollution Management
- Energy Sources & Uses
- Risk Management and Maintenance program
- Local owned and control sustainable business
- Local Public Finance and equitable land tenure

### VILLAGE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

At the core of the Sustainable Village is accepting the principles of permaculture design and governance structures that include stakeholder agreements. Through the process of community consultation development and empowerment activities, a Village Plot Plan is drawn and approved by stakeholders that will include: Construction of a Living and Learning Center at the core of communication and training, appropriate housing, opportunity center, commercial/industrial center and a schedule for construction completion.

### Management Structure

#### Steering Committee

	Projects Group	L.L.C.E.	Management Team
Culture	Society	Economy	Environment
Education	Health	Skills training	Ecology
Celebration	Governance	Business Enterprises	Permaculture

## Living & Learning Center Enterprise (LLCE)

The Living & Learning Center Enterprise (LLCE) is a collectively held corporation that operates under a set of guidelines established by its members. The guidelines are developed through a combination of the communities' best interests, and best practices for the construction and management of eco-village communities as notated in the Global Ecovillage Network<sup>1</sup> (GEN) and the Sphere<sup>2</sup> / INEE<sup>3</sup> Standards.

The LLCE is the hub for community development, teaching, learning, and the managing of the cultural, social, economic, environmental aspects of the village life. The LLCE and its governance is based on an agreement made with members of the community and is connected to a Conditions of Use<sup>4</sup> agreement that strives to ensure the community has access to the diversity of it's members.

The LLCE oversees the distribution and management of non-negotiable<sup>5</sup> shares of stock and each shareholder gets to:

- Own one vote on all matters pertaining to operations within the village boundaries and
- or activities developed and managed by the village
  
- Access to all the services available within the community
  
- Incorporate personal responsibilities<sup>6</sup> into a social agreement<sup>7</sup> undertaken by each stake holder
  
- Participate in benefits ascribed to the village as a whole LLCE follows the intentions of Permaculture<sup>8</sup> design and operates within a democratic structure sustained by members of the community in coordination with the bi-laws established in the social agreements.
  
- Develop a risk management plan to address possible challenges that can arise from environmental disasters, conflict, political instability and other uncontrollable circumstances.
  
- Provide a maintenance program for each community development project.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.gen.ecovillage.org/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.sphereproject.org/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.ineesite.org>

<sup>4</sup> See 'Conditions of Use' contract attached –Social Housing Contract as an example

<sup>5</sup> Stocks cannot be sold or transferred

<sup>6</sup> Personal responsibilities are included within the Social Contract – Earth Charter membership declaration

<sup>7</sup> Social contracts are part of the LLCE agreement with the community

<sup>8</sup> Designing human settlements & agricultural systems that mimic the relationships found in natural ecologies

## Core Elements

### LIVING & LEARNING CENTER

- Governance oversight
- Skills and job training
- Community meeting space
- Sustainable living assistance
- Job opportunities coordination
- Management offices for the village
- Commercial / Enterprise management
- Village justice and empowerment center
- Shared interests and recreational facilities

### SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

- Recycling systems in the village contributes to the overall well-being of the inhabitants as well as creates a sense of pride and responsibility.
- Ecological sanitation reduces the need for costly services while contributing to the promotion of healthy living conditions.
- Solar energy production reduces energy costs while offering economic stability and entrepreneurial opportunities.

### SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

- Empowering community members with skill training and jobs is the backbone of the economic engines.
- Urban Agriculture helps fight poverty and malnutrition as well as provides economic opportunities for some of the villagers.
- Micro-businesses and loans stimulate self-reliance and assist in the ongoing efforts to alleviate poverty.

### SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

- Communities transform people's lives by promoting secure tenure, providing access to affordable shelter, and enhancing cooperation.
- Including women in the development of the village as well as in the acquisition of new skills helps build self-esteem and ensure stability.
- Youth-led community work reduces the gap for marginalized residents as well as promotes strong community bonds.
- Governance structures will set the standards by which residents agree to live and is the foundation of a successful village.