

THE TRANSITION TOWNS MOVEMENT

ENHANCING ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The [Transition Towns movement](#) continues to expand its activities both in the cities and internationally. The [Map published in the Transition Towns website](#) shows all the cities and countries involved.

The Transition Towns Network was founded in 2008 in United Kingdom by British permaculture educator Rob Hopkins to support people involved with Transition initiatives. In 2004, Hopkins started applying permaculture principles to the concept of peak oil, adapting them in the fields of energy production, health, education, economy and agriculture as a *road map* to a sustainable future for the town. Developing these concepts in Totnes (UK), in 2006 the city became the first Transition Town.

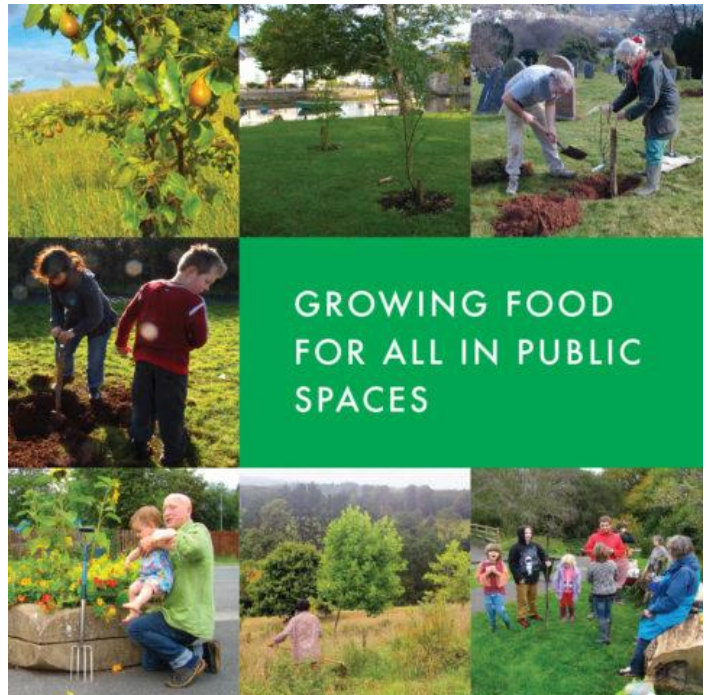
[Transition Town Totnes](#) is an umbrella organization consisting of different groups working in partnership with other local initiatives in order to implement projects, increasing low impact affordable housing, sharing skills, creating livelihoods, reducing energy costs and carbon emissions, growing local food economy.

Transition Network's role is to inspire, connect, support and train communities as they self-organize around the Transition model, creating initiatives that rebuild resilience and reduce CO2 emissions. Central to the Transition Town movement is the idea that life without oil could be far more enjoyable and fulfilling than the present.

Communities are encouraged to find ways of reducing energy usage as well as increasing their own self-reliance. To reduce dependency on fossil fuels, for instance, Transitions Towns Totnes implements an *Energy descent action plan* (EDAP) 2010-2030, in collaboration with people, local institutions, local agencies and the local council.

Depending on local situations and priorities, the EDAP Plans can include activities in the following areas:

- Transportation. Communities adopt methods for reducing energy usage as well as reducing their reliance on long supply chains that are totally dependent on fossil fuels for essential items.
- Food production. Food is a key area for transition and communities realize initiatives to implement community gardens or replacing ornamental tree plantings with fruit or nut trees, in order to grow food.



- Waste exchange and recycling. Industrial practices of waste materials use are promoted as well as practices of repairing old items rather than throwing them away.
- Introduction of own local currency which can be spent in local shops and businesses, helping to reduce food miles while also supporting local firms.

The initiative spread and by May 2010 there were over 400 community initiatives recognized as official Transition towns in more than 43 countries. The Network involves villages, neighborhoods of cities through council districts, cities and city boroughs. In the webpage of [Transition Brasil](#) the links are available to get information on the most important international hubs of the movement.

To know more

[Transition Network website](#)

[Transition Network Map](#)

[Transition Totnes website](#)

[Transition Brixton website](#)

[Transition Town Dorchester website](#)

[Transition France website](#)

[Transition Mexico in Facebook](#)

[Transition Brasil](#)

