

Are we able to return to a full green way of living?

Nymf Hathaway : Welcome everyone to our first event since the summer-break. I shall record this discussion, create a PDF out of it and will place it, later this week, on the website
<http://sciencecircle.org/>

For those who wonder... this is the Abyss Observatory from Yan Lauria, one of our board members from Japan. The sim is worth your travels... especially under water!

The subject of today is: "Are we able to return to a full green way of living?"

Vic Michalak : Is there a format or open chatter?

Nymf Hathaway : Open chat I think Vic... unless you feel differently

Vic Michalak : Nope... I like open chat, as long as everyone feels they can jump in any time...
I like to hear from lots of different people.

Jes Cobalt : yes

Astronomer Somerset : yes I like open chat format

Nymf Hathaway : On FB you said, Vic this is, you feel we never have lived fully green... how is that?

Vic Michalak : Well, that goes towards what we first may want to do -- define "green"....

Do we mean "natural" as in no technology?

Darkeagle Darkstone : right

Vic Michalak : Take fire for instance....

Dragana Noyes : /me hides her tag - that is very green

Jes Cobalt : Lol! ^3^

Darkeagle Darkstone : better define technology as well

Nymf Hathaway : hahahaha Dragana

Vic Michalak : Fire is natural and the plains grass and forests in the U.S. used to burn regularly.

Nymf Hathaway : True Vic

Vic Michalak : Is that green?

Astronomer Somerset : we haven't as a species lived a green life since the Mesolithic 10,000 years ago

Nymf Hathaway : uhm... depends on what Green is to us indeed

Vic Michalak : No, we really have not been green since we used technology....

Jes Cobalt : this is true

Vic Michalak : What about animals using technology? Is it green because they are animals?

Paolo Rousselot : countering that would seem to be Native Americans & Aborigines

Astronomer Somerset : I define it with living a completely natural life un managed

Areyn Laurasia : Even the Amish have simple use of technology..

Vic Michalak : That might be too philosophical but you have to start somewhere....

Even in the very very early days we pushed whole herds off of cliffs and slashed and burned forests to clear them for agriculture.

Plus agriculture itself substantially altered the environment.

Astronomer Somerset : we a species changed our complete way of life in the Neolithic 6,000 years ago with the introduction of settlement and farming

Darkeagle Darkstone : dang! I am being drug back to RL. I will stay logged in and at least get to read what you all have to say.

Beragon Betts : even native Americans formed the landscape

Paolo Rousselot : how so Beragon?

Astronomer Somerset : and ever since those days we have had and increasing impact on our environment

Darkeagle Darkstone : I knew it was too good to be true that I would get to sit in and contribute.

Beragon Betts : they cleared forests etc.

Vic Michalak : No, no, resist the urge to go back to First Life! ? [I am not one to talk here...]

Nymf Hathaway : No problem Dark... take your time ?

Vic Michalak : --- Now, there is another way to approach this.

Nymf Hathaway : hehhehe Vic

Vic Michalak : Since we cannot go back, we can talk about where we go from here....

Nymf Hathaway : Hi Johan

Jes Cobalt : welcome Johan

Nymf Hathaway : Hi Tess

Vic Michalak : That is the only real choice we have --- where do we go from here?

Jes Cobalt : & Tess

Astronomer Somerset : hi Tess

Tess Delwood : Hi

Areyn Laurasia : Where can we go from here, Vic?

Hi Johan, hi Tess

Nymf Hathaway : well you just spoke of technology Vic... I must say... could we still live without?

Vic Michalak : Well, in theory we could return to an animal-like way of living with no technology, but I doubt there would be very many people who would advocate that....

...plus you cannot sustain a population of 7 billion doing that.

When we were hunter-gatherers we could only have a population of maybe 1-10 million humans I believe...

What do you think, Astro?

Astronomer Somerset : no that would be impossible because our number have grown to around 8 billion it would prove impossible to feed that number of people without a basic level of technology

Vic Michalak : Yes.....

Still, we can be better at being "green"....

...but, like any problem, I am trying to define the boundaries of the problem.

Areyn Laurasia : why is the focus on technology and not design?

Paolo Rousselot : we're rapidly losing time - can we afford to wait for accurate definitions?

Astronomer Somerset : we need to break our reliance of fossil fuel technologies they are what prevents us from even attempting to live a greener life

Vic Michalak : Areyn... good question. I would like to hear more.

Nymf Hathaway : There is no focus Areyn... inform us

Beragon Betts : any definition of green has to include low- or non-carbon energy

Areyn Laurasia : Now, I'm just winging it.. haven't been able to prepare much for the discussion..

Astronomer Somerset : that's ok

Vic Michalak : Well, even that is a problem.... I was reading an article this morning about electric cars. Sometimes they have a larger footprint than gas-powered cars because of how the electricity is produced.

It is very complicated....

Areyn Laurasia : I have seen a lot of green design in buildings and architecture using locally sourced materials to make energy efficient living environments.

Beragon Betts : yeah we need reduced carbon grid energy or no grid

Nymf Hathaway : Awesome heh Areyn, saw that too

Astronomer Somerset : we need to get away from carbon footprints as a way of measuring a greener way it very misleading

Paolo Rousselot : too little too late though?

agreed Astro

Vic Michalak : Ah, I think Areyn has a good point... we can be "greener" in that way -- buildings use a lot of power and could have "green" roofs and contribute rather than just take...

Astronomer Somerset : no matter what we come up with there's always a carbon expenditure

Tess Delwood : Electric cars have the problem of a bigger footprint after you consider how they've been built. The elements needed for the battery shipped from here, then assembly there, etc. etc. That they don't run on gasoline is great, but that's ignoring quite a bit on its own.

Paolo Rousselot : yes Tess :-(

Vic Michalak : Carbon footprint measurements also lead to the quite silly idea of "carbon trading" which is just a quaint marketing idea for not having to face the problem.

Nymf Hathaway : so true Tess... learned this yesterday

Astronomer Somerset : even building solar cell cost us a carbon foot print they use glass and steel they require energy to produce

Beragon Betts : all creatures impact the environment. Wildlife create trails (deer paths) and fire ants turn the areas around their nests into deserts

Vic Michalak : So I think that Areyn has a good idea in design.... We do not have to do away with technology but we can be smarter in how we design it.

Paolo Rousselot : yes but that's for new buildings only and doesn't have a broad enough impact on the immediate problem

Astronomer Somerset : be careful of what you imagine will have no effect on our environment

Vic Michalak : Beragon... yes, that is why I wanted to start with how humans and animals and plants ALL affect the environment. We cannot avoid it and live. But we can be smarter about what we impact negatively.

Jes Cobalt : Exactly Vic

Beragon Betts : /me nods

Astronomer Somerset : imagine if every roof was covered in solar cells what would be the net effect on our climate

Nymf Hathaway : Take food for example... we can eat oranges from Spain, wine from Chili, tomatoes from Israel at all seasons... but why are we still? Consumer forces the industry.

Astronomer Somerset : even more sunlight and heat would be reflected into the atmosphere and so would cause global cooling

Vic Michalak : Now.... in looking at the REALLY big picture, none of what we do will make any difference at all in say 10 million years. We will have undergone Ice Ages and climate changes on an order of magnitude much greater than anything we can accomplish.

BUT if we want to keep that 7-10 billion people happy in the next couple of 1000 years, we need to do something now to make this place more habitable in the future and not wipe out critical species... or even nice ones like elephants.

Beragon Betts : excuse me, i need to go take care of something inworld. bbs

Vic Michalak : Thanks for participating, Beragon!

Paolo Rousselot : later Beragon!

Dragana Noyes : I am sorry I just woke a bit before but I want to throw in an idea - I think products have to be like rented instead of sold - like this makers would produce extremely well quality. it would help in the process of moving away from the trashing culture.

Vic Michalak : Rented?

Areyn Laurasia : can I rent a greener Earth? :P

Dragana Noyes : yeah like the washing machine - you pay a fee for using it

Paolo Rousselot : great idea - how do you get transnational corporations to sign off on it though?

Dragana Noyes : the product is not yours

Vic Michalak : Ah...

Dragana Noyes : they would earn with years like now they have to produce and things don't last as long cause otherwise they won't make money in future

Vic Michalak : Would renting make people want to trash things earlier? Rented cars and rented houses certainly take more abuse than if YOU owned it...

Jes Cobalt : Touching on what Astro said earlier on cost... The issue of money comes to mind as well, where I am it is grossly expensive to buy say, solar panels for your home, and for most people just too much to pay all at once, so many people see it as profitable and charge greatly for it

Vic Michalak : But I understand the quality part....

Astronomer Somerset : how would you pay for all the products Dragana

Dragana Noyes : phone ...

Areyn Laurasia : have you heard that talk by Hans Rosling?

Paolo Roussetot : nope

Vic Michalak : Summary please?

Paolo Roussetot : or link?

Areyn Laurasia : he asked a roomful of people how many of them uses a washing machine.. does anyone hand wash anymore?

Nymf Hathaway : seldom

Astronomer Somerset : people in third world countries do

Johan39 Bluewood : I use the washing machine once a week .. to save water and energy.

Astronomer Somerset : that's ok if you live alone but people who have families that would be impossible

Vic Michalak : That brings about an interesting question -- are persons in developing (poor) countries "greener" than in developed (richer, more technological) countries?

Paolo Roussetot : could be Vic

Vic Michalak : Technology is often about convenience...

Astronomer Somerset : no I don't think so Vic

Vic Michalak : Well, I do not know --- in developing countries, water pollution is often an issue...

Though electricity is less of one...

Johan39 Bluewood : I think.. give the (poor) country's solar power.. and windmill energy

Astronomer Somerset : because developing countries do not have access to the most efficient technologies

Vic Michalak : Yes...

Paolo Roussetot : but live closer to the earth

Vic Michalak : Johan... yes, that would help.....

Tess Delwood : I think that would also mean that, without taxing, any solution would have to be fairly convenient. I mean, asking people to hand wash when they have a washing machine would be like talking to a wall. It would be nice if people did that for the environment, but in reality, few are going to bother.

Areyn Laurasia : I'm not sure if this is the link..

http://www.ted.com/talks/hans_rosling_and_the_magic_washing_machine.html

Vic Michalak : BUT, like malaria, what developing country would shell out the money to help developing countries by installing renewable energy sources there?

Nymf Hathaway : Thanks Areyn

Areyn Laurasia : you're welcome

Nymf Hathaway : Gosh bad connection for Paolo :(

Jes Cobalt : wb Paolo

Paolo Roussetot : (must be overloaded servers - if I do *anything other than sit & chat - crash...)

Vic Michalak : Please define "living closer to the Earth" Paolo? [That is a concept from when I was in college during the first Earth Day]

Nymf Hathaway : Sorry to hear that :(

Astronomer Somerset : um I hate to throw a spanner in the works but vast areas of our globe renewal energy sources are not an option

Paolo Rousselot : same as going back to Native American habits & lifestyles

Vic Michalak : Return to the stone age?

Nymf Hathaway : Looks at Jes... running in a bearskin

Astronomer Somerset : we would all do that in another ice age

Paolo Rousselot : they lived closer to the earth, knew the "heartbeat" & what it took to live sustainably

Jes Cobalt : pfft

Johan39 Bluewood : make a green garden with garbage, beans, tomatoes etc. etc.

Vic Michalak : If we lived like the early Americans we could not be doing what we are doing now...

Paolo Rousselot : destroying our planet?

Nymf Hathaway : Thinks Vic means discussing here in sl

Astronomer Somerset : I already do that Johan I have an allotment which I use to grow vegetables and fruit

Vic Michalak : How could we keep what we have now (like Second Life) but still live greener?

Johan39 Bluewood : me to Astro

Paolo Rousselot : don't mean to appear to be going off topic but it seems to boil down to human psychology & the choices we make

Vic Michalak : I have heard one option that is actually doable so far..... greener design.

Paolo... exactly.

Nymf Hathaway : Always picture Q racing on a bike here in my living room while I am discussing here with all of you... green energy

Vic Michalak : But human psychology what it is, we are not likely to change until there is a life or death reason for doing so that we feel personally.

Paolo Rousselot : unfortunately I heartily agree

Jes Cobalt : then you crash when he passes out, hehe

Astronomer Somerset : were missing a big point here guys with a greener lifestyle what is the cost in jobs

Nymf Hathaway : ssstt Jes

Jes Cobalt : Hahaha

Nymf Hathaway : Does it Astro... maybe those people create themselves jobs by being more green

Paolo Rousselot : this goes back to one of Vic's earlier points - we can't assume growth, jobs, etc. - that's all going to change whether we like it or not

Vic Michalak : Astro... that is the other big sticking point.. and the reason why many would be unlikely to change.... change always means a significant effect on employment -- a cycle of losing current jobs and gaining other types....

Areyn Laurasia : Would you need a job if you have a piece of land you can sustain yourself from?

Nymf Hathaway : Must agree... every change has + and -

Astronomer Somerset : no if you get rid of the fossil fuel industry what happens to all the people who work in the associate industries

Nymf Hathaway : Areyn has a good point

Paolo Rousselot : look - what's going to happen if we DONT change?

Vic Michalak : Paolo.... in the case of the environment, we do not have the vote for "Mother/Father Earth".... that vote will be the Earth's....

....and it may not be pretty for billions of people running out of water or food.

Paolo Rousselot : the Himalayan glaciers are melting - losing that water shed will affect millions of people

Astronomer Somerset : the refineries and engineers and technician who build and run oil rigs and refineries and mines and the power stations

Paolo Rousselot : all living on politically and economically fragile borders

Vic Michalak : Business (which is necessary to sustain the type of life we all have or we would not be here) is in it for the short term, which is never good when we are talking about long term processes like we are today.

--- There is an old saying that change starts with us and our families.

Paolo Rousselot : short question which seems to sum up a great deal - "What have we inherited from the 20th century that 21st century challenges can no longer allow?"

Nymf Hathaway : is ashamed for Shell drilling in Alaska waters for oil :(

Vic Michalak : We may not be able to make any difference at all, but I always try to do what is "right" under the circumstances. I obey speed limits because it is civilizing in the long run, not because it is good for me at the moment.

Astronomer Somerset : we in the UK went through vast changes in the last ten years with the introduction of bio fuels and it wasn't good with more and more farmers swapping over to oil seed rape there were less and less land being farmed to produce food and we ended up with a huge increase in the cost of living and a shortage of some food stuffs

Vic Michalak : Nymf, I know Shell is Dutch, but there is almost no such thing as a national company now -- they are all global in design and in effect.

Astronomer Somerset : not all green ideas have a positive impact on life

Paolo Rousselot : while I agree in principle that "everything starts at home" I don't think that's realistic anymore considering the gravity of the problem

Astronomer Somerset : or the environment

Paolo Rousselot : article from Huff Post last night http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/10/05/arctic-ice-melt-sea-level-rise_n_1942666.html

Nymf Hathaway : still... such huge companies should be leading in finding solutions instead of going the same road to wealth... they have a responsibility as well

Paolo Rousselot : agreed Chantal - and a few are trying most however are green washing - Shell being one of them

Johan39 Bluewood : Shell is from our queen Beatrix .. She has 55% of all shares

Astronomer Somerset : can I ask this group a question

Paolo Rousselot : really - wow!

Johan39 Bluewood : yess ???

Jes Cobalt : /me listens to Astro

Astronomer Somerset : who amongst us makes a conscious effort to only fill a kettle with only the water you need to make a drink

Paolo Rousselot : /me raises his hand

Nymf Hathaway : I do... but out of impatience to wait for a full kettle to boil :(

Astronomer Somerset : and me

Vic Michalak : I do...

Areyn Laurasia : somewhere in between.. :P

Vic Michalak : ...and only uses the water I need to brush teeth or wash dishes, etc.

Nymf Hathaway : yes same as Vic here

Astronomer Somerset : um 4 out of ten of us

Vic Michalak : ...for the same reason I obey speed limits and pick up trash off the ground.... I have my personal standards that I know are "right" regardless of whether others are there or not.

Astronomer Somerset : that's not exactly good odds

Nymf Hathaway : and educating my kids in using water, energy, closing doors etc.

Vic Michalak : It is how I grew up in the 60s-70s....

Nymf Hathaway : Agrees Vic... I do too

Johan39 Bluewood : I use rain water for my plants and flowers and flush my toilet ...

Nymf Hathaway : That's one of the most stupid things... we flush our toilets with clean water!!!!

Paolo Rousselot : my wife & I generate very little trash, recycle almost everything - our neighbour's barely pay attention - typical

Nymf Hathaway : Most people live by short term happiness Paolo

Astronomer Somerset : my point is that if less than half of our planet makes a conscious effort to do such a small thing we really have an uphill struggle to impact on our energy usage

Vic Michalak : All of what we do all our lives may not account for even a minute of what a coal-fired electric plant in the U.S. or China does to impact the environment, but it is what we each can do. We cannot impact the world but we can make individual choices.

I am going to use a couple of analogies here....

One is about religion and one is about war....

Astronomer Somerset : and if that is the norm we can never return to a green way of living because what the half save that's cancelled out by the half that don't

Johan39 Bluewood : Nymf .. I live for 70% biological sorry

Vic Michalak : Religions make stronger impressions when individuals live their ideals.... not because of what the institution or large groups do..... and when you are at war you fight not for "freedom" or other abstracts but because you want to protect your buddy next to you and do not want to let down the group.

Nymf Hathaway : why be sorry? That's something to be proud of

Vic Michalak : So.... individual actions count, even if you cannot impact the larger picture.

Astronomer Somerset : yes Vic

Vic Michalak : Answering Nymf (and the big question), we will return to a greener way of life when it costs us enough to do so.... like always.

Johan39 Bluewood : when you will live green, think green (biological)

Vic Michalak : And I mean cost as in money but also lives and quality of life and shock, etc.

Paolo Rousselot : I'm just afraid it's all going to be too little too late people will go to war to get the water or food they need

Nymf Hathaway : I was very idealistic in the past... worked for Greenpeace, was in politics nationally... but walking against walls made me try to change the world on a less large scale... just in my own home... letting people around me know living green is our responsibility

Vic Michalak : Nymf, that is perhaps the best strategy.... I think...

Areyn Laurasia : Unless someone come out with a new idea that will make the changes that are necessary the next big trend..

Paolo Rousselot : so do we collectively have a self-destruct desire?

Nymf Hathaway : I hoped it would Areyn... but majority rather thinks/works for their next mobile phone

Vic Michalak : No, actually quite the opposite... we do not do anything unless it has personal impact.

Nymf Hathaway : I agree Vic

Areyn Laurasia : I think so, Paolo.. or at least the mentality that it's not going to affect our generation that much.. leaving it to the future generations to deal with our mess

Paolo Rousselot : sure - rather than confronting the issues *now*

Vic Michalak : We do not want to self-destruct, but we often do not look far enough ahead to see the wall that Nymf mentioned... I see that while driving with others and I see that in my students who want to know what button to push to make what they want happen... now.

Nymf Hathaway : Because we don't think about future generations, they will never forget us.

Paolo Rousselot : unconscious drives

Vic Michalak : The subtlety of all of this is it is not a wall, it is the proverbial frog in the water...

Paolo Rousselot : or forgive us!

in just this last year I've become a GrandPa - twice! 2 precious little ladies

Vic Michalak : I am an optimistic, but I am also realistic...

Areyn Laurasia : There will always be war.. and always for the usual reasons.. land.. resources.. influence..

Vic Michalak : Yay, Paolo! Congratulations!

Areyn Laurasia : congrats, Paolo :)

Nymf Hathaway : Congratulations Paolo... knowing you... you feel even more responsible now

Paolo Rousselot : and it drives me absolutely nuts that we *have* the resources, the technology to make the needed changes and we're not doing it

It won't affect me - but it will affect those 2 precious little girls

Areyn Laurasia : why are we not doing it?

Vic Michalak : Because it does not impact us in a way we can see yet...

Life the frog in the slowly heating water....

Paolo Rousselot : because we're selfish, shortsighted and unwilling to accept what needs to change (part of what we've inherited from the 20th century culture)

Astronomer Somerset : all we can hope for us to change local opinion if we can do that then we can make at least some contributions

Nymf Hathaway : I think we need to separate three groups of people here: Those who already do and try to be as responsible as they could.... Those who are here for short term happiness and will only act when their cell phone has been taken... and those who just keep refusing because they do not give a you know what.

Vic Michalak : And because humans are great with denial -- the news about the Arctic melting faster and still 35% of people in the U.S. and Europe not believing in climate change.... and believing "it will not happen to me" like we do with diseases and habits.

Tess Delwood : Afraid I need to get going but thanks all for the chat.

Nymf Hathaway : Waves at Tess

Tess Delwood : Bye everyone :)

Vic Michalak : Tess, thank you... hope we did not hog the conversation too much for you...

Areyn Laurasia : Have a good evening, Tess

Paolo Rousselot : \$20 trillion in offshore accounts for UK based companies? \$60 trillion in US based companies? the resources are available

good to see you Tess!

Vic Michalak : ----- Announcement (unofficial) -----

I will be starting a course on "The Development and Impact of Technology" that will be part presentation and part facilitated discussion...

This is a good Segway into that...

Paolo Rousselot : excellent!

Vic Michalak : I just need to find a time to do this course --- a time that works for most people. Any suggestions about day and time?

Nymf Hathaway : Sounds great

Paolo Rousselot : Sunday the 31st of February works for me

Vic Michalak : That course will go back to the beginning of human technology and will include the science and the social impact.

haha Paolo.. me too.

Nymf Hathaway : hehhehe Paolo

Maybe a poll would help you out there Vic

Vic Michalak : Technology is both the objects and the science and the art and the impact, all rolled up in one.

Yes, I may try that...

Nymf Hathaway : Can be on the website or FB

Jes Cobalt : both?

Nymf Hathaway : Both can be too

Paolo Roussetot : I'll do my best to make it - whenever you schedule it!

Nymf Hathaway : Same here

Vic Michalak : I will have to provide you with a summary that can go on the website and FB and in an announcement.

Nymf Hathaway : Wonderful you know my email :)

Vic Michalak : Okay...

Astronomer Somerset : I have a novel idea which could have the impact we all want instead of focusing on renewable energy resources and changing technology why not concentrate of returning to a non-monetary way of life where we replace money with bartering and a skills bank

Johan Bluewood : global warming.. we are a little part of it... what they don't tell us is that the earth axis rotate to, one cycle every 25,500 years ... and the north comes then closer to the equator. That's why the ice is melting faster too.

Vic Michalak : That might work, Astro... except for the people who worship money and cannot do anything.

Nymf Hathaway : Alternative people in the Netherlands do that Astro

One repairs bikes, another bakes apple-pie etc.

Vic Michalak : Johan... yes, in the end the Earth will have the final say. But we can definitely change the environment over the next few 1000 years.

Jes Cobalt : shh, don't make me hungry

Paolo Roussetot : repairs baked apples?

Jes Cobalt : Lol! ^3^

Areyn Laurasia : so it's not about saving the Earth.. but our human survival?

Johan39 Bluewood : I agree with that Vic

Nymf Hathaway : ssssttt Paolo... you just want the pie huh

Paolo Roussetot : indeed Areyn

Nymf Hathaway : Great question Areyn

Vic Michalak : Well, the survival AND the quality of life for billions of people, yes...

Paolo Roussetot : /me chuckles... yup - lunch is overdue

Nymf Hathaway : For me no Areyn... I would not mind if humans are erased... I would say; that's Earths decision to make

Vic Michalak : Not those who can afford it... technology always expands where and how we live... but for those "closer to the Earth" we could really mess it up for them...

Jes Cobalt : agrees with Chant here

Astronomer Somerset : the ones not interested in that form of life would be in a minority and would be forced to toe the line how could they use and make money if the majority turn their backs on it their fortunes would become worthless in a non-monetary system

Paolo Roussetot : the wealthy have known for years that this was coming and have been working to gain control over crucial economic areas

Nymf Hathaway : Trued and all... we are just another kind of animal

Vic Michalak : One thing we have not mentioned is that we will have to tell billions of people that they will have to try to find a way to become richer/developed but NOT follow the same path we did (like China is doing now) because the world cannot afford more coal and oil plants and the way we have lived in the past.

Paolo Roussetot : agreed

Vic Michalak : Who are we to tell them?

Who are we to say they cannot have a car?

Areyn Laurasia : exactly.. they want the same things developed nations have

Nymf Hathaway : Recall we once discussed that Vic?

Vic Michalak : Yes...

Nymf Hathaway : Hi Jarek

Vic Michalak : These are the difficult questions... more difficult even if everyone in the U.S. decided to go green...

Jarek Enyo : hi all

Areyn Laurasia : hi jarek

Vic Michalak : We would still have the problem of developing countries becoming developed....

Areyn Laurasia : where and how does science play a role in helping us return to a greener way of life?

Nymf Hathaway : Once the entire west goes green... and the rest of the world claims what they feel is their right.... we have a huge problem

Paolo Roussetot : I believe the solutions are there - we just have to find the courage and conviction to search for it

Vic Michalak : Yes... I would like to keep "hope" like Paolo and others have said...

Nymf Hathaway : Science already is looking for answers Areyn... small projects, companies which are seeking for solutions... but you know mankind... when it brings in money like flies on you know what... if not... only the idealistic ones get enthusiastic

Vic Michalak : Areyn... Science is our understanding of what we observe about how things work, and could give us alternative ways of doing things.... provided that politics and economics and human nature do not prevent this.

Nymf Hathaway : Point Vic!

Areyn Laurasia : food for thought indeed

Paolo Roussetot : politics and economics and human nature - sizeable roadblocks to surmount!

Vic Michalak : Thought is good food...

Astronomer Somerset : it's a case of needs must when the devil drives and when he doesn't its business as normal

Vic Michalak : Yes... I always thought I lived in an interesting age, from the time of computers and television to the time when we will make very real changes in the environment and have to learn to live with them. I may not live to see all of what we do, but I think I will live to see if we do anything at all that will help.

Paolo Roussetot : indeed!

was reading this morning that IBM is working on cognitive computing

Astronomer Somerset : I wonder how much computer technology increased our carbon footprint

Vic Michalak : Brain-computer interface?

Nymf Hathaway : I love the fact we live in the age of science... we learn so much about earth, the universe, humans, animals etc.... just a pity my brain cannot keep up with all the facts ?

Vic Michalak : Astro... actually a lot! Server farms take a LOT of energy to stay on 24/7....

Paolo Roussetot : no Vic - think of Watson listening and reasoning - coming to his (it's) own conclusions

Vic Michalak : Ah... maybe intelligent computers coming up with solutions by sorting through all of the info out there?

Paolo Rousselot : yes

Areyn Laurasia : I would worry if it decides the human race is redundant..

Paolo Rousselot : working now on medicine

Nymf Hathaway : hehehhehe Areyn... wouldn't surprise me though

Astronomer Somerset : Vic I'm not thinking of the large computer nest I'm thinking of all the pc and laptops and sonny PlayStations and x boxes have added to our energy bills

Vic Michalak : I think the human race has great potential... but we chose the "rough ride" sometimes.

Paolo Rousselot : indeed

Astronomer Somerset : kids use to go out to play but they would rather play at home

Nymf Hathaway : Rough rides... make us inventive too you know..easy rides usually make lazy and brain death

Astronomer Somerset : and that has a direct result on green living

Nymf Hathaway : Astro... parents do have a responsibility you know

Astronomer Somerset : with health issues and bad eating habits

Vic Michalak : Yes, Astro... indeed. Just as individuals can have an impact, positively or negatively, individual computers can as well.... As long as electricity is used for 1s and 0s and for running components --- maybe we need to go to DNA or more optical computing alternatives.

Astronomer Somerset : yes of course but the majority of parents actually like the peaceful life

Nymf Hathaway : always felt majority sucks... in every way

Astronomer Somerset : with their kids not under their feet

Vic Michalak : Nymf... yes, challenges have always resulted in innovations (that can be used in both constructive and destructive ways).

Nymf Hathaway : True... but usually creates us the most stunning inventions ?

Paolo Rousselot : RL calls - thanks everyone, this has been great & wonderful to see you all again (& new friends too!)

Vic Michalak : I have to return to First Life pretty soon...

Paolo Rousselot : /me waves....

Areyn Laurasia : bye Paolo

Nymf Hathaway : Waves at Paolo, enjoy your weekend

Vic Michalak : I miss these discussions and our presentations...

Darkeagle Darkstone : Well I made it back way too late.

Jes Cobalt : wb anyway!

Nymf Hathaway : Jes and me will organize the next one coming week Vic

Vic Michalak : I think the electricity we used here was worth it... ?

Nymf Hathaway : Same here

Areyn Laurasia : saves the travelling to meet

Jes Cobalt : Hahaha

Nymf Hathaway : Q is getting tired of biking though

Areyn Laurasia : :)

Johan39 Bluewood : A friend and me are missing the lectures from Astro.. we love them

Jes Cobalt : surprised he didn't die of exhaustion, geez

Vic Michalak : Is Q bicycling to make electricity to run your computer? ?

Nymf Hathaway : hahahaha I wish Vic

but indeed Jes... he would be death by now

not a good idea

Any suggestions for our next discussion?

Vic Michalak : What's in the news?

Nymf Hathaway : Nice... I like that

Jes Cobalt : mhm likes it too

Nymf Hathaway : See what's news worthy in all our countries huh

Jes Cobalt : awesome idea

Vic Michalak : Yes, in each country....

Nymf Hathaway : Good one ? Settled

Jes Cobalt : ????????

Johan39 Bluewood : what is in the news ???? when I turn the TV its misery :(

Areyn Laurasia : liquid air?

Darkeagle Darkstone : politics

Nymf Hathaway : Figures Dark

Jes Cobalt : /me keeps her mouth shut until the discussion, hehe

Johan39 Bluewood : politics, war, and higher taxes nothing more

Darkeagle Darkstone : how about those black spidery objects seen on Mars?

Areyn Laurasia : that's new.. to me..

Johan39 Bluewood : that's intrestinggggg

Nymf Hathaway : Thanks everyone for this discussion, closes the chat logger and will place a transcript on the website coming week ?