

**SSEE**

***Climate Code Red – Priorities for Action***

**Summary of Outputs**

**Canberra, ACT  
March 2010**

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## Overview

A 3 hr workshop held in Canberra on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 was the continuation of a series of workshops held in 5 cities around Australia. This report provides a summary of the outcomes of that workshop, as well as the outputs of previous workshops

## Purpose

The workshop was held to build on the results of the Code Red Workshop series by considering opportunities for action within the 3 Priorities for Action identified at the National SSEE Conference.

## Outcomes from workshop

### 1. *Priorities for Action*

The 3 Priority themes were affirmed by the majority of delegates.  
An additional key area of focus was also discussed

**A. Energy production, distribution & efficiency**

**B. Community awareness & engagement**

**C. Urban infrastructure**

**D. Urban form**

### 2. *Collaboration amongst participants*

The interactive discussion allowed plentiful sharing amongst participants and this provided an opportunity for relationship building and collaboration.  
Participants are encouraged to build on those connections made

### 3. *Working group to advance key ideas*

The suggestion of a working group arising from the workshop was made by a number of people.  
Participants are encouraged to contact Adrian Piani to express an interest in being involved.  
[adrian.piani@hyderconsulting.com](mailto:adrian.piani@hyderconsulting.com)

## Next steps

### 1. Working group

- a. A working group may be formed to identify key opportunities for action from amongst those suggested by the workshop cohort
- b. These actions could then guide further local SSEE actions

### 2. EA communication

- a. A key opportunity for SSEE Canberra is to increase communication and influence with EA directly, to influence policy, education and standards relating to Sustainability and Climate Change issues



**Appendices**

***Appendix A; Individual suggestions of Key ideas for Action***

***Appendix B; Café' table outputs of Issues and Opportunities relevant to 3 Priorities for Action***

***Appendix C; Priorities for Action – From previous workshops***

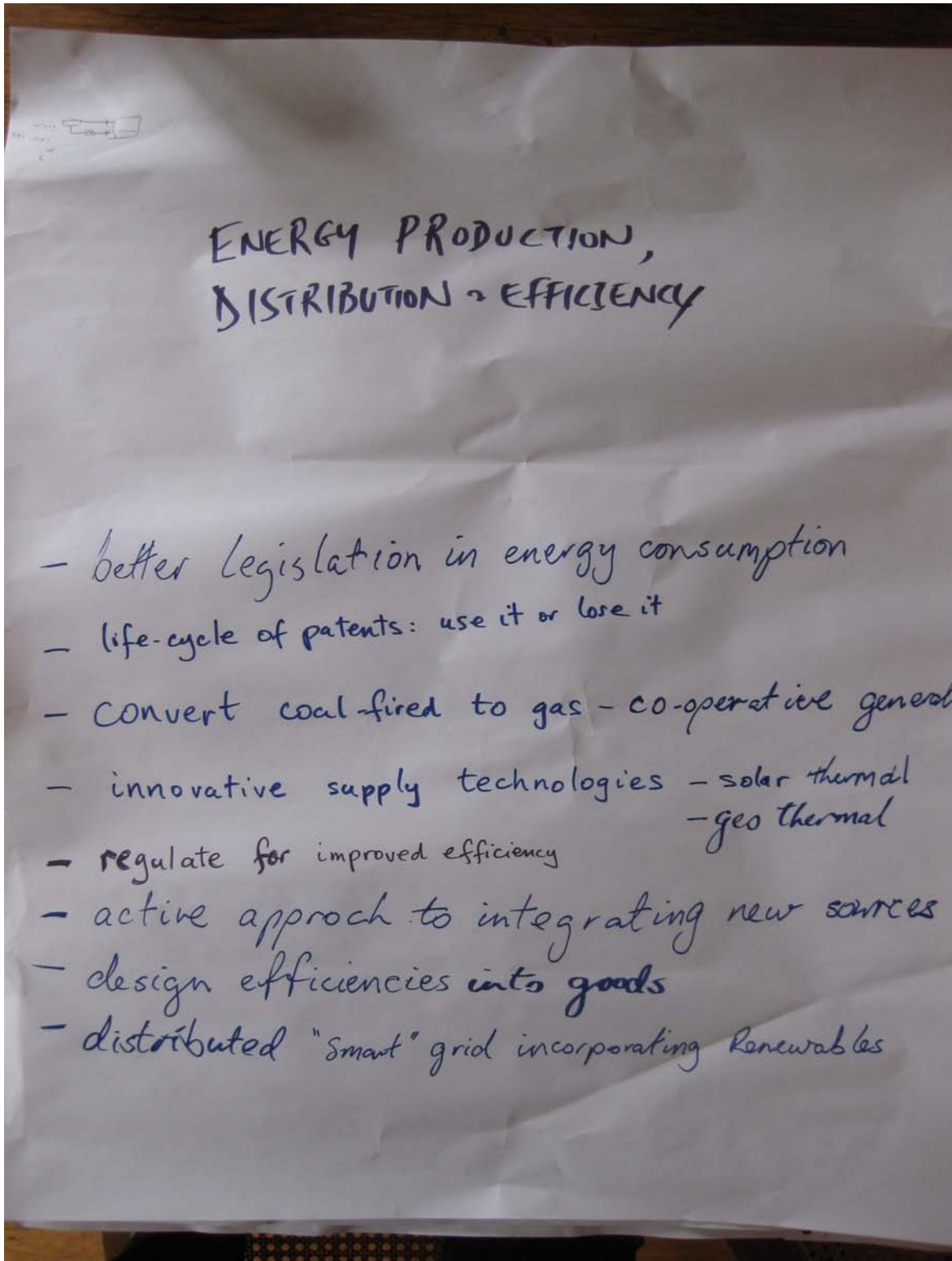
***Appendix D; Related organisations – begun in Melbourne***

**Appendix A – Individual suggestions of key ideas for action**

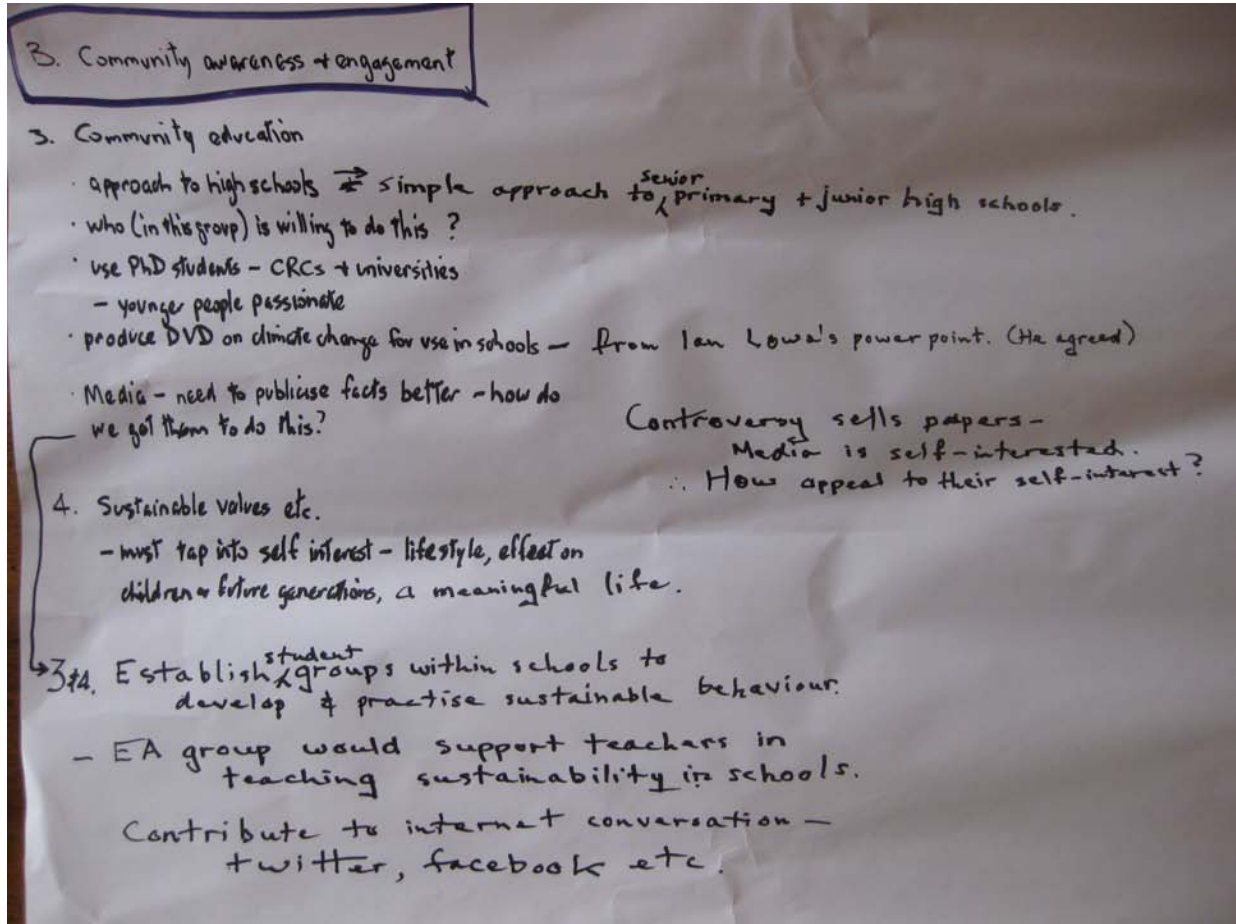
Big Ideas	Personal actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School education</li> <li>Media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy Cost increase (will drive engineering innovation)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce energy use at home               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solar hot water</li> <li>Solar cells/ energy production</li> <li>Energy efficient appliances</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation to reduce inefficiencies in electrical consumer goods/ appliances (ie. Mandate minimum energy efficiency)</li> <li>Regulation in buildings; requiring higher energy efficiency rating. Mandating solar power on houses for localised energy production</li> <li>Conversion of existing coal power stations to gas fired</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce car use by taking public transport, car pooling or riding</li> <li>Convert incandescent / halogen bulbs to more efficient types</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free public transport and disincentives for driving.</li> <li>Better bicycle infrastructure. Eg. More road lanes for bikes, fewer cars</li> <li>Raise cost of parking</li> <li>Regulations for solar passive building as standard</li> <li>Incentives for solar hot water and power</li> <li>Smart metering in individual dwellings</li> <li>Smart sensors on public lighting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn off electrical items rather than leave on standby</li> <li>Fix bike to ride short distances when I would otherwise drive (if not 'convenient' to walk)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect investment of coal power station owners, convert to natural gas.</li> <li>Invest in renewable energy generation and phase out fossil fuels without penalty when they reach then end of life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bring about an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling and socially just human presence on this planet</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Influence Australian standards to ensure world best practices in energy efficiency in our products and appliances</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop use of Geothermal energy</li> <li>Use Solar Panels (hot water &amp; Electricity) with help of Govt support (long term interest free loans and cash payments)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn off lights when not needed</li> <li>Turn off TV and Computer when not in use</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free up energy saving technology patents; Make them public domain within 2 yrs. Use it or lose it</li> <li>Convert Coal power stations to gas (by legislation) for completion in 2 yrs. Use the existing infrastructure for it's remaining life-cycle whilst new alternatives are phased in</li> <li>Ration energy use to homes and office. Legislate for more efficient buildings, appliances and transport</li> <li>Build new Solar Thermal and alternative power stations nearer to point of use</li> <li>Legislate. Do not use Carbon Trading because it is too indirect</li> <li>Control world population. Reference "Sustainable Population Australia". [If carbon emissions are reduced 50% per capita, but world population doubles then no benefit</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total conversion to renewable energy by 2030</li> <li>Worlds best practice in buildings, vehicles, appliances</li> <li>Urban design/ planning for sustainable cities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aim to be carbon neutral; Offset travel (Greenfleet), Solar DHW, GreenPower, Low on food chain, Contribute to offset schemes for residual consumption</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy production for food; make eating more efficient</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education of others through my work and the IEEE</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look to (cat?) more efficiently</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make the guiding principle of Suburban house design ‘Solar passive’ rather than ‘Views’; After a few walks around a house, you hardly notice the view, but moving sun into living areas and shading when needed makes life more comfortable and reduces energy use and CO2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pelmet, draught stopping, hang lining &amp; curtains on each window</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing cars in Canberra; Sustainable transport, better public transport system, encouragement for cycling &amp; walking</li> <li>• Increase parking fees, introduce paid parking in Parliament house</li> <li>• Reduce # car lanes, increase # bus lanes, increase cycle lanes</li> <li>• Make driving slower and more painful, therefore less attractive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisation ‘Carbon footprint’</li> <li>• ‘Project Footprint’ – works for clients that will have major impact eg. Subdivision design</li> <li>• Then assess changes needed</li> <li>• Community awareness, energy use and efficiency</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversion of public transport to renewable power; solar to Hydrogen</li> <li>• PV solar installation for every house</li> <li>• Tax incentives to retrofit rental properties and private homes with energy efficiency measures (ie attain 5 star rating and keep it through auditing)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit household energy consumption and identify changes</li> <li>• Design and build a new energy efficient house (5 yrs)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education in the schools and seminars for adults in what be done on an individual basis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More bicycle travel</li> <li>• Solar panel cells x 12 for feed-in power into the grid</li> <li>• More use of rainwater</li> <li>• Turning off all standby appliances</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better integration of transport and land use planning, leading to a more compact city form, resulting in less energy consumption for transport, home energy use and infrastructure provision such as water supply</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ride bike to work</li> <li>• Eat less – especially meat products</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program to educate high school students about climate change</li> <li>• Production of a DVD explaining climate change</li> <li>• Influence regulations to make buildings more energy efficient, appliances more efficient</li> <li>• Make wider community more aware of energy consumption and implications for climate change</li> <li>• Greater use of renewable energy and increased Govt. support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish EA working group to tackle climate change</li> <li>• Sponsor DVD on Climate Change</li> <li>• Discussion with EA policy makers on need for more comprehensive and stronger policies relating to climate change, especially building standards and appliance standards</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislate urban food strategy;</li> <li>• Design integrated program to support sustainable living spaces and community health and carbon reduction &amp; amenity &amp; Greening</li> <li>• Develop with community business media and all levels of Govt to ensure integrated policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grow a garden, eat the products (slowly) and enjoy it</li> <li>• Ride to work at least one day a week</li> <li>• Establish a compost heap</li> </ul>

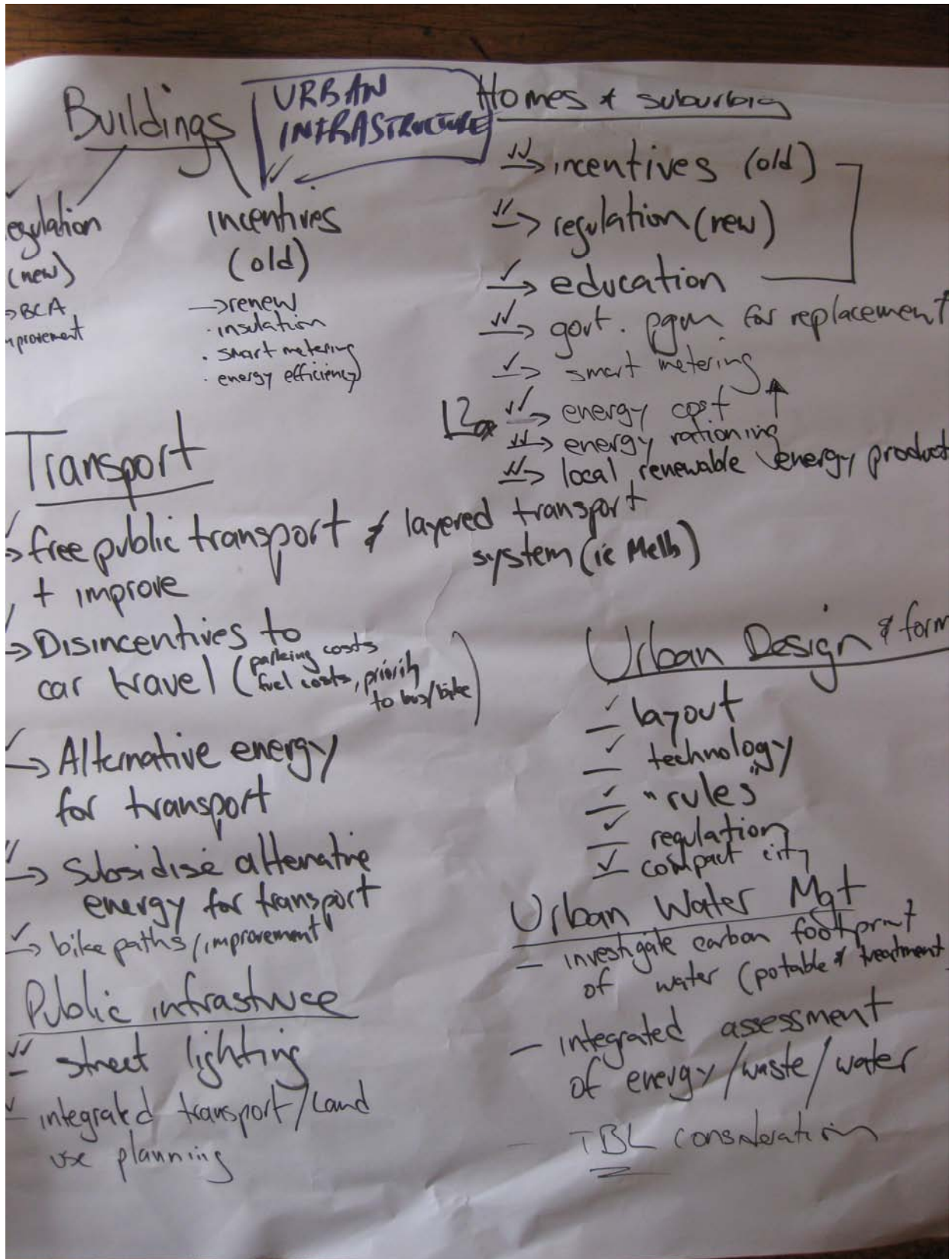
a. Energy Production, Distribution and Efficiency



**b. Community Awareness and Engagement**

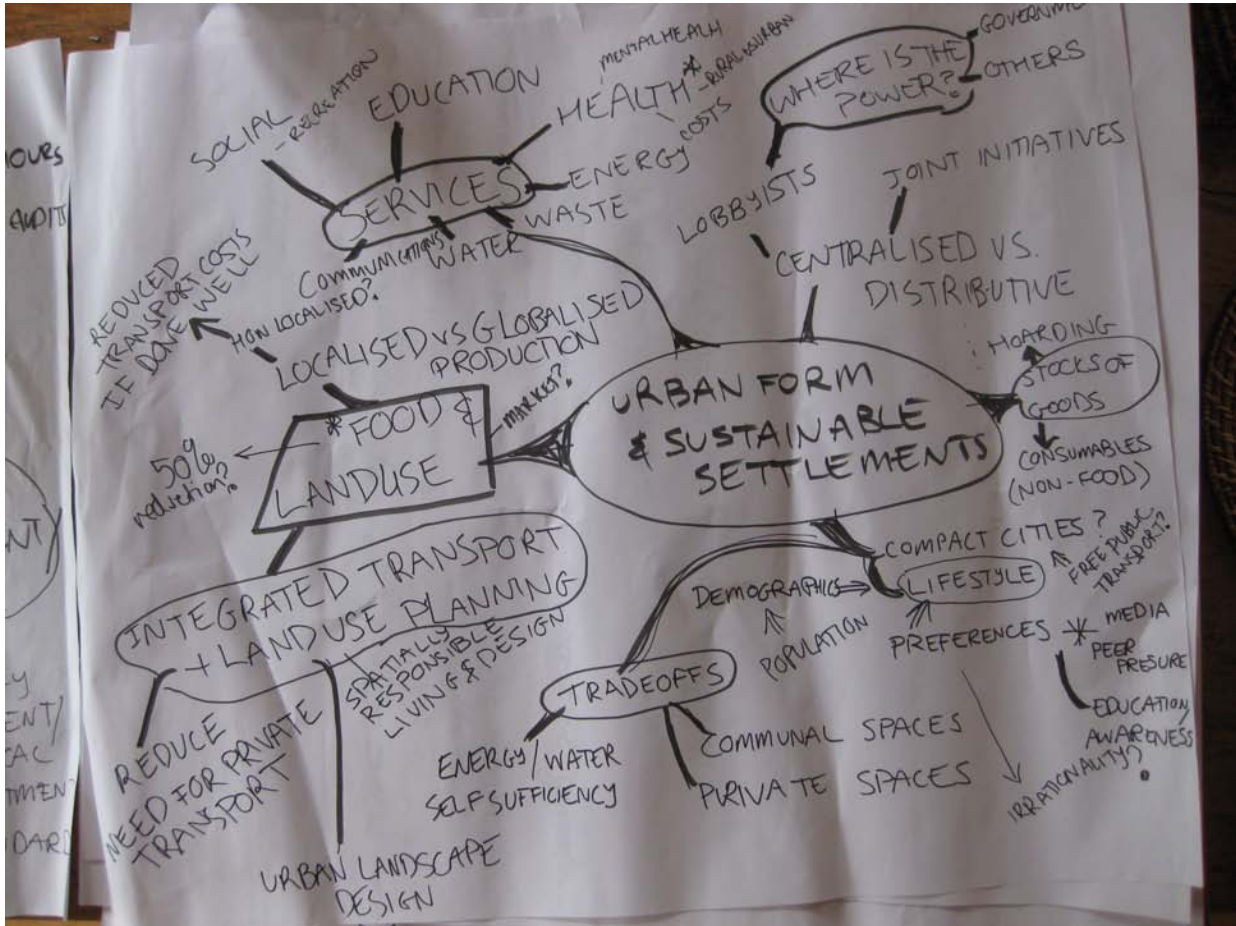


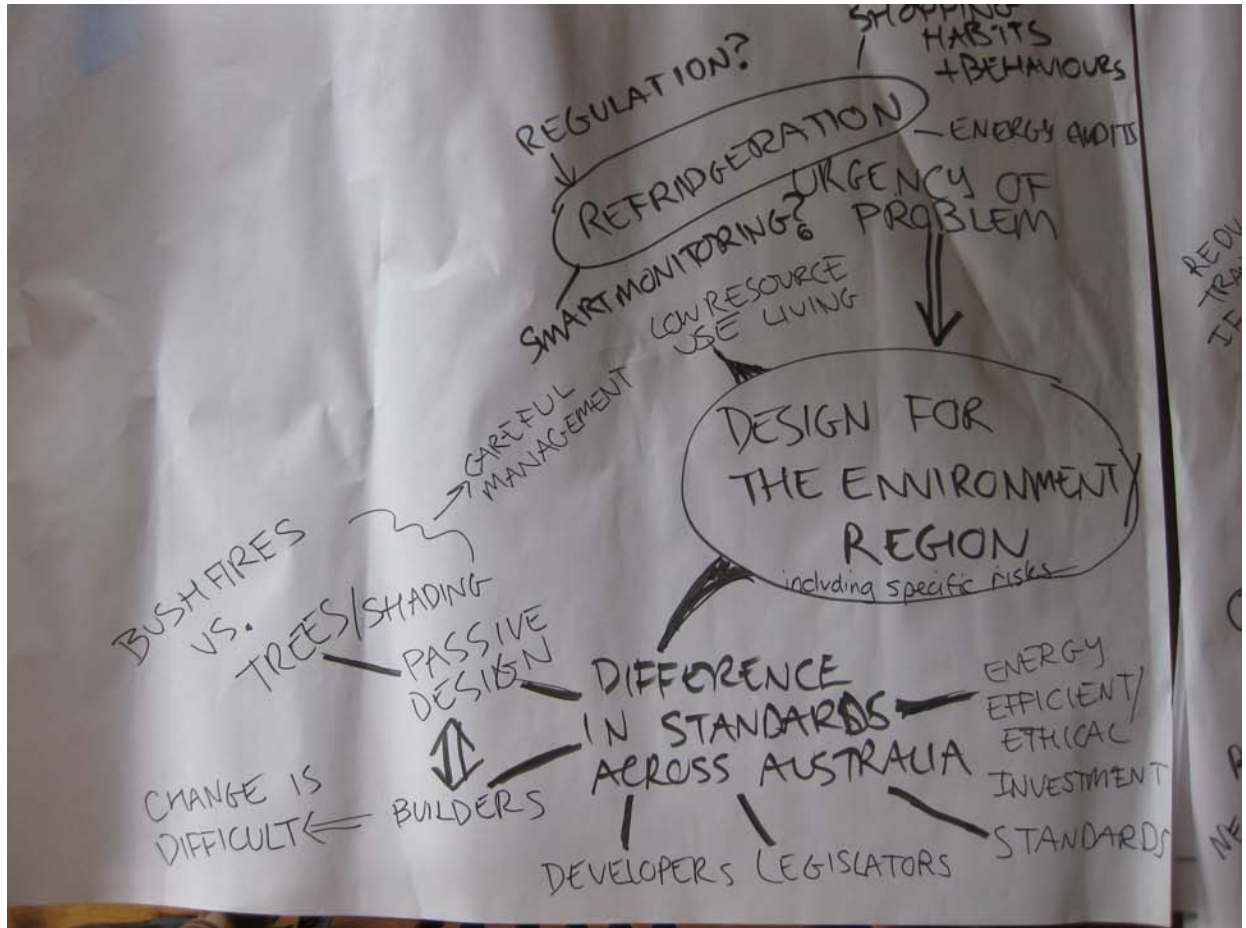
c. Urban Infrastructure





**d. Urban Form**





**Appendix C - Priorities for Action – From Previous workshops**

The actions listed below were identified from sub-groups at the Melbourne workshop. Also shown are suggested actions arising from the previous workshops for these 3 priority areas

	<b>Priorities</b>	<b>SSEE Actions – from Melb. workshop</b>	<b>Actions – 4 Initial workshops</b>
<b>A</b>	<p><b>Energy production, distribution &amp; efficiency</b></p> <p><i>Drive research and support a shift from coal powered to renewable energy generation, more efficient infrastructure and energy use</i></p>	<p>a. Emergency Response Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stop non-essential energy consumption</li> <li>-</li> </ul> <p>Level 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essential services only</li> </ul> <p>Level 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement new gas/diesel solar PV asap</li> </ul> <p>Level 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Longer term energy management &amp; resources</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support design and investment of renewable energy generation projects</li> <li>2. Support bans on all new coal powered plants</li> <li>3. Design or advise on grid and generation infrastructure; co-generation, distributed gen.</li> <li>4. Develop Engineer’s professional skills, standards, qualifications &amp; knowledge sharing regarding energy</li> </ol>
<b>B</b>	<p><b>Community awareness and engagement</b></p> <p><i>Facilitate education and awareness raising in the community to prompt urgent action for change, both to reduce carbon usage and also to engender sustainable values</i></p>	<p>a. Engage &amp; lobby</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engineers Australia</li> <li>• Govt.</li> <li>• Professional groups</li> </ul> <p>b. EA Sustainability Scorecard</p> <p>c. Raise Engineers profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate with the public</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research and provide ‘truth’ and facts about carbon</li> <li>2. Support labelling of ‘whole of life’ costs of goods</li> <li>3. Facilitate community education and communication, particularly with children</li> <li>4. Foster and advocate sustainable values, lifestyle and reduced consumption</li> </ol>
<b>C</b>	<p><b>Urban infrastructure</b></p> <p><i>Improve urban transport, building and infrastructure design &amp; standards to support energy efficient living in our cities</i></p>	<p>a. Connect with EA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Influence mindshift towards climate change actions</li> <li>• SSEE 2 pg report to Board</li> <li>• Consensus from SSEE on major issues</li> </ul> <p>b. Recommend immediate actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA</li> <li>• Govt</li> </ul> <p>c. Develop and apply new needed skills in profession</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engineering education</li> <li>• Upskill for immediate action</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support urban infrastructure planning &amp; design</li> <li>2. Facilitate professional development, knowledge sharing and best practice</li> <li>3. Develop or support 10 Star building standards</li> <li>4. Design low/ zero emissions vehicles</li> </ol>

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Website</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
<b>AGIC</b>	agic.com.au	Establish a national framework for infrastructure sustainability
<b>Alberfield</b>		Energy, environment, risk consultants (specialist risk management)
<b>APACE</b>		Appropriate Technology, Native plants nursery with focus on Sustainable employment/ work practice. Grass roots org
<b>Australian Renewable Energy Professionals</b>		Linked in group
<b>AusLCI</b>		Lifecycle inventory standardizing carbon content assumptions in products
<b>AWA</b>	awa.asn.au	Sustainability and climate change practitioners in the water industry
<b>Bayside Climate Action</b>		Lobby and support local community, council and sustainable local technology
<b>Beyond Zero Emissions</b>		Climate solutions/ planning for zero carbon economy – campaigning, radio show
<b>CANA</b>		Climate action network Australia
<b>CANWA</b>		Overarching network (created by Conversation Council WA) to link together smaller climate action groups
<b>Climate Emergency Network</b>		Victorian network of climate action groups aligned w 'climate code red' book by Phil Sultan and David SPtratt
<b>Eco2sys</b>		Sustainability and Change transformation consultancy
<b>Engineers without Borders</b>		Sustainable development Engineering solutions
<b>Green Building Council of Aust.</b>		Greenstar building rating scheme
<b>Global Footprint Network</b>		Ecological footprinting
<b>NABERS</b>		National Australian Built Environment rating scheme
<b>Parsons Brinkerhoff</b>		Engineering Consultancy
<b>Project One Earth</b>	projectoneearth.org	Business resilience, climate change adaptation, energy & sustainability
<b>Safe Climate Australia</b>		Create a transition plan for Australia to a safe climate
<b>Sustainability practitioners</b>		WA based consultant groups
<b>Synergetics P/L</b>		Environmental consultants
<b>Vic. Technology centre</b>		Meeting rooms 6 – 60 pax, free coffee, sandwiches for SSEE
<b>VIPAC Engineers and Scientists</b>		Consultants – evaluations and evidence based actions
<b>WASEN</b>		WA student body for climate change and environment issues
<b>WA Sustainable Energy Society</b>		Sustainable energy
<b>World Wildlife Fund</b>		Living planet index
<b>Zero Carbon Aust.</b>		A plan to shift to zero carbon in power, transport & agriculture by 2020