

## Notes and outcomes Assembly, May 18th, 2024

Time stamps are there for easily looking back the audiofile.

## Values noted by the 4 groups. See PowerPoint for original A0s.

The most prominent mentioned values are in no specific order:

Shift from ego- to ecocentric

Sharing in a just manner

For the common good

Planetary boundaries

Consumerism

Social justice

*Next 4 values were mentioned by all groups:*

Sufficiency

Care

Regenerative

Justice

## Actions to undertake 09:23

### Group 1

1. Update the 'debunking of the myths' on the website.

2. Organise a circle of speakers; who can share the knowledge on the topic.

- Speakers can/should(?) be trained by each other and share a similar slide deck/presentation.

3. Host learning circles for the Ontgroeï-members; on content/knowledge and skills.

- e.g. have practitioners share knowledge on certain topics, like Arie who is building a food forest (that's content); also how do we learn/share. So skills to hold 'courageous conversations'. for instance. Also think of trainings like Klimaatgesprekken, that have a certain conversation style/technique.

- Additionally, the presentation could be made by a few people; or be created by the whole group (to achieve a certain common sense).

- Students by HU have created slides! \*Noemie knows more about this.

3b. Also have a micro action assigned to/taken up by everyone who participates in the circle.

4. The existing knowledge needs to be harvested. Pushed into an AI-bot. And this bot can answer questions that anyone has about the Ontgroeï-topic.

### Group 2

1. Strengthen our community by organizing more frequent assemblies. Bi-, trimonthly.

1b. Additional comment on 1, that one could also assemble around 'getting things done'/creating things.

About Wageningen; there's still gatherings going on every now and then.

*Why: The 3monthly meetings, the in between is too long. We have to reintroduce to each other because of that. It's great that there's new people, but we also need consistency.*

*Remark by ...: Acquainted people vs. a group of unacquainted people. For the quality of the session, this does not matter if the form is right.*

*Reaction: It is important that people 'stick' if we want the Ontgroeï to grow/spread.*

*Reaction: Agree with that, I was only remarking that we can have quality sessions regardless.*

2. Improve the website. Aesthetically, add an archive and Drive to store for instance the mentioned presentation.
3. Writing articles for Dutch media.

Federico: We're checking for the top 3 priorities now.

### **Group 3**

1. "Building our memory" (knowledge infrastructure) Drive/online storage; where notes can be put.

*Why, so that new comers can read up on what has happened so far and be prepared a bit more.*

*! Is Google Drive the best way, or is there a (free) supplier that fits the ontgroei values better?*

*Task to investigate. E.g. Fairmeetings exists, which is an online meeting tool, like Zoom or Teams, but that has sustainable values and it's open source. Therefore 'Just Enough' uses that for their meetups.*

2. Increasing visibility to the public (those unfamiliar with Ontgroei/degrowth)  
- Through website, news letter, social media?

Remark: Seems like this requires a strategy at first! To do such a thing.

3. Build a narrative for people new into the topic of Degrowth.  
- Oneliners, other easy to 'digest' information.

4. Creating a place where people can experience/experiment with degrowth.

Reaction:

I'd like to try together how we can do things differently. We don't have to wait for all of society, but implement these ideas our own.

Already there's a lot ideas being practiced. We could visit those. E.g. harvest together at a food forest.

And also learning by doing, what obstacles are there if you try to act differently?

5. A partner network

6. Set up/facilitate local groupings. Meaning that if there's people willing to become active on this topic, they can contact Ontgroei - who keeps a 'database of active members' - and then be told with whom they can connect to become active.

*Could be part to the 'digital resources'*

### **Question raised: How do we present ourselves?**

What sort of 'entity' is Ontgroei?

Answer Federico: We can answer that, once we have defined our values.

### **New volunteers**

Contact was had with new volunteers that will/are setting up a communication plan.

They can come up with the strategy, regarding which partners to pick. Should be reach out to political parties? Other grassroots groups? Something else?  
They will figure out that question.  
! Also an open call for anyone to join this group/initiative.

## Outcome prioritizing topics:

Updating myths section website: 4

**Prio 1: More frequent planned assemblies/planned learning activities put in a calendar: ?**

**Prio 3:** Organizing common practical activities (frequently); digging holes and having fun and:

**Prio 2: Preparing the presentation to be held for public and forming/training a speaker circle: 11**

**Prio 4:** Improve website: aesthetics, an online drive archive of activities and knowledge and includes a part for local groups to get in touch: >9

External communication through media - not social media: ?

Seeking partnerships (with companies, political parties and companies) to build the movement of Ontgroei: 0

**Prio 1/3 are combined: Create a calendar for all activities to be held**

So there are 3 priorities.

These priorities are set, so that Ontgroei can hire a professional to see to the chosen priorities.

### Working groups

Question: Can Ontgroei-enthusiasts sign up for certain tasks?

Answer: Currently the coordination isn't happening strictly.

No real answer to the question was given, so it seems to be no. Until the 'hired manager' will coordinate.

### Future assemblies

The spot in Wageningen might be a nice location.

### Final extra topics

Local groups

49:21 ! Male enthusiast (no name): Will send a message in the Signal group inviting everyone to react if they feel like becoming active in a local group.

Reaction: There already is a list. That needs to be updated.

Reaction: If you (enthusiast male) write a short Call to action for the newsletter, it can also be shared through that medium.

### Closing

Anyone can contribute to Ontgroei (knowledge, events, initiatives, thesis, articles). Just send your input to the redactie@ontgroei.nl .