

Life Support Academy

For almost two decades, Eden has worked to foster understanding of the dependence of humans on the natural world and the intimate interconnections among living things. Our expertise in demonstrating how plants meet human needs underpinned our original goal of regenerating a lifeless clay pit by gathering together one of the greatest collections of economically important plants ever assembled.

A new challenge now faces us all. We must confront the global environmental emergency that we, humans, have created. With this in mind, the Eden Project is redoubling its efforts to demonstrate how we must change on a grand scale, whilst educating and focusing on a revolution in agriculture and land management, led by scientists and innovators across the world.

We have decided to build a novel Life Support Academy, with two main components:

- a Natural Philosophy Laboratory in which transdisciplinary approaches to learning will be employed, including practical skills in nursery management
- a 'Future Living Village' to showcase innovative environment and health technologies that can help us learn to live more sustainably

The Natural Philosophy Laboratory

Eden currently offers degree courses in a number of horticultural and agricultural (i.e. agronomic)-related subjects. We will expand this course-based education for the brightest and best students from around the world to acquire the knowledge and practical skills needed to take the lead in feeding and sustaining the needs of our planet. Students will learn about soil health and fertility, its importance within carbon sequestration and biodiversity enhancement to build more resilient ecosystems and tackle climate change. They will also look at developing novel crops and experiment with urban agronomy, hydroponics and other innovations. The key thread running through these transdisciplinary programmes will be to learn how to contribute to securing and improving human health and wellbeing. Eden's Restineas and Vounder farms will become the heart of the 'Natural Philosophy Laboratory', working closely with adjacent nursery facilities and associated 'Future Living' showcase.



A 'Future Living' Village

Ingenious new technologies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, recycling waste, producing energy sustainably, fostering water security and transforming sustainable food production are proving humanity's extraordinary capacity to innovate in the face of adversity. New ways of measuring human health and wellbeing using wearable devices and smart clothing are helping us, not only to live more sustainably, but also have resilient health. Innovators need opportunities to showcase their discoveries. We will provide a futuristic stage upon which innovators and researchers from academia, technology institutes, NGOs and the business community can demonstrate the effectiveness of their inventions and new procedures for overcoming environmental, health and wellbeing problems, in full public gaze. Each year Eden will also convene thought leaders and opinion formers, together with investors and large corporates, from around the world to keep fueling progress with new ideas and resources.

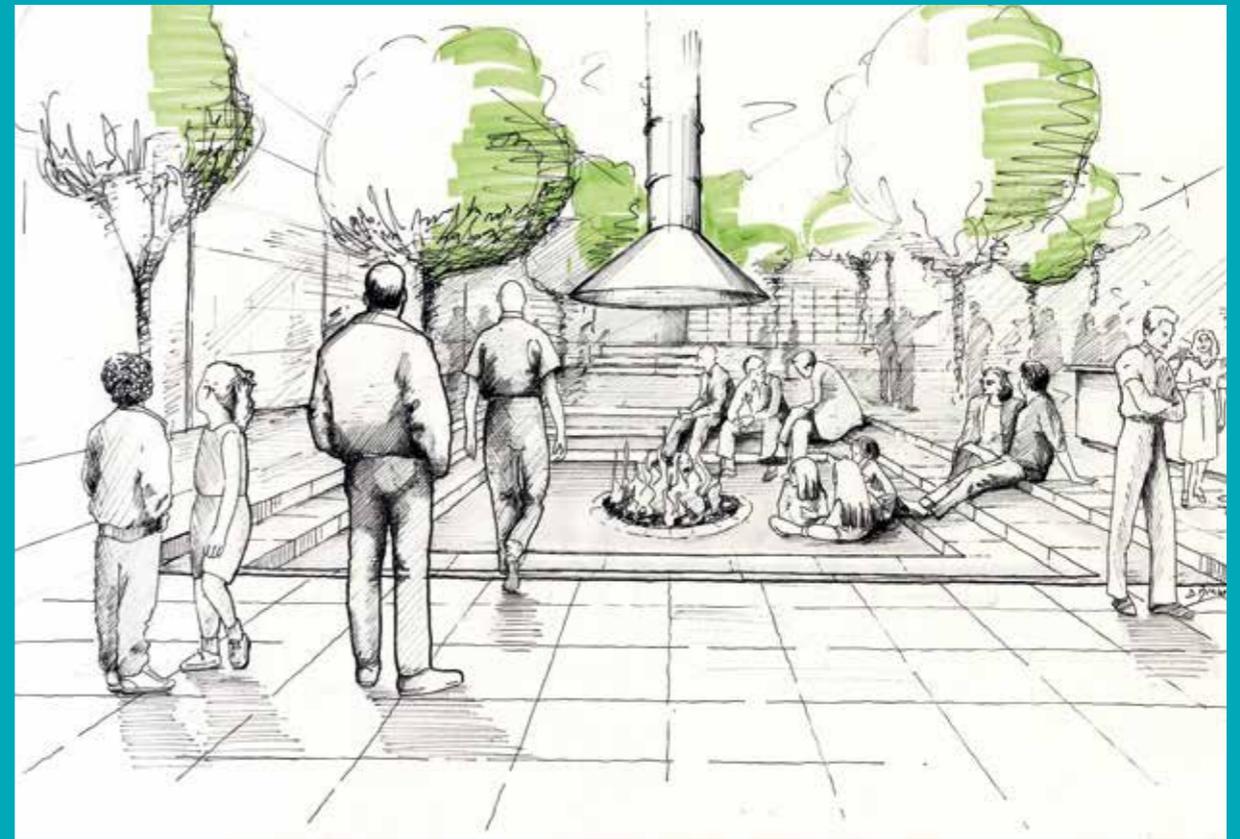
This will ensure that the best opportunities to build resilient solutions to global challenges are captured. Researchers and agritech businesses will locate for varying periods to the 'Future Living' village on the edge of the Eden site, linked to the nursery and gardens. They will be able to draw on the talent of the Academy's students and will benefit from access to renewable electricity and heat.

The Life Support Academy will partner with world-leading universities, research institutes and businesses to ensure we keep at the forefront of knowledge.

We need financial support to deliver:

- Brand new learning facilities – new buildings and repurposing of existing farms
- Custom built energy efficient nursery with outdoor propagation facilities
- Education based on an innovative model to be replicated at other Edens
- Virtual Academy to link other sites, including Edens around the world
- Student accommodation in a repurposed historic building at Eden

Funding for all these components will require venture philanthropy in the early stages and a mixture of philanthropy, equity investment by partners and venture capital. The immediate need is to raise £2.5m to confirm the feasibility, concept design and work plan.



The Eden Project aims to become a beacon of resilience for the world's agronomic and environmental systems, and an inspiration to moving rapidly into more sustainable agriculture and horticulture. We want you to be part of this exciting and optimistic intellectual journey.

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The future remains ours to make

