Green Career Profile

Name: Tom Buckley-Houston

Organisation: Alamex, UK

Job title: Web Developer

What I do in my job: '*I develop websites from start to finish. This includes all elements from back-end programming, front end design, information architecture (text, imagery, graphics, voice, sourcing, and data), user experience (accessibility – allowing viewing on multiple devices), social media marketing, testing and maintenance.*'

The green competences I use to act sustainably in my job are....

- Exclusively using open sourcing –
  - I see open **sourcing like nature** – it grows like a tree. It responds to needs without having a vision that is focused on economics. Therefore it's **fundamentally sustainable** because it never takes more than it needs.
  - There is no one particular persons vision being taken forward, it is a **global community.**
  - There are fewer requirements for transport and infrastructure as there are **no large corporations** involved.
- **Dealing with conflict** of personal and corporate interests and critically evaluating available 'sustainable' pathways in ICT
- **Promoting the values** of LINUX through all my work – raising awareness of social equity
- Promoting hardware **recycling** where possible, helped by LINUX' **adaptability**.

The core values I take into my work are....

- **Social responsibility** – everything we do to some extent contributes to the whole
- **Relationships** are more important than products
- **Social equity** – developing countries should have equal access to technological advances, not just the rich West.
- **Respect for nature** – no matter how hi-tech the world becomes we can't survive without a healthy planet
- **Independence** – stand on one's own two feet and not just follow the crowd
- **Self respect** – if we don't respect ourselves it is hard to respect others and the planet
- **Critical thinking** – always be curious and critical about what you are presented with.

I have been inspired to work sustainably through...

Gaining a close connection to nature while growing up in a rural part of West Wales. During that time I had access to wild food; I gardened with my parents and went on camping holidays to the Highlands of Scotland with friends.
As an adult I experienced a life changing self realisation that my personal lifestyle was unsustainable. I therefore sought an alternative more socially and environmentally sustainable life path through personal practice of meditation. This offered amongst other things a profound appreciation of nature and a deep faith in the underlying universal design and direction. I apply these personal realisations to my daily and working life.

Key definitions:

- **Competences -** *The skills, knowledge and understanding, qualities and attributes, sets of values beliefs and attitudes which lead to effective [...] performance in a given context, situation or role.* (Woodall & Winstanley, 1998)
- **Green competences** – *Competences for environmentally and socially sustainable behaviour at work*