

## SUMMARY:

The aim of this essay is finding some ways to face the food and energy crisis day by day, in our daily routine. This can be made changing our way of living, not as an individual but as a community. The web is a very good instrument to achieve all this. It is an invitation to look at ourselves and at our society in a different way. All together we can fill this huge gap between who has everything and who has nothing.

## ESSEY:

It's time to face the problems, nowadays we can not pretend anymore we are not aware that the largest part of the world population is living in poor conditions. We live in developed countries, knowing that there are people living in undeveloped countries, the so called "third world". We also know that they have not the same resources that we have, most of all in terms of energy and food. What we fear as "first world society" is that they can reach us. We know exactly that if all the world population will develop we will not be able to live in the same conditions we are living now, there will be a lack of resources. We need a reaction right now, we need to understand that the world society can not be a pyramid with a tiny little edge and an enormous base. We misuse food and energy resources. Every 3,6 seconds someone dies of hunger and 1,6 billions of people live without electricity, the 99% of this amount of population lives in developing areas. Those issues are very complex and involve government and industries but I am sure that everyone can make a little daily effort to improve our well being involving everyone in the world.

The way to face the energy crisis is "re-thinking" our lifestyle in terms of sharing, recycling and reducing any kind of waste: About this I could make an example, very basic but very effective. Every morning I go to work by the train, my route from the house to the station is the same of all the people living in my street, about 24 people every morning at the same time go for the same street park in the same parking with 24 different cars. The number of this car could be reduced to 6 saving 75% of energy, it's so easy to say but very hard to organize, the solution is in the web that can link people together. There are already websites doing this for wider distance but that kind of websites such as "roadshering.com" or "hitchhikers.org" are orientated more about travelling together than organizing our daily routing to avoid wasting energy. The hardest part would be changing the people habits, trying to turn individuals into communities. This is "small-scale" solution, just a little help to the energy crisis but this principle of creating communities and sharing resources can be used in many little daily issues. The big scale solutions involve industries and government but starting with little steps we can make a long path. That's a reason why recycling as much as we can we can avoid making new useless goods. Making things costs energy, so as disposing them; living in a consumerist society has made us used to throw away things that can indeed be used by someone else. An example is the city of Barcelona where in the day that big refuses are collected for disposal many people walk around the city looking for goods of all kinds (clothes, furniture and sometimes domestic appliances). For a more organized modality of recycling goods the web again gives us a very good way to link together: a website called "freecycle.org" where millions of users post what is going to be thrown so that someone interested can get in touch and collect it. All this energy saved by those little shrewdnesses is not going to be enough to fill the huge demand of energy but it can be a little important help. Most of all a step to create a world of communities aware that together we can make many little steps to save energy that can

be used by someone else who needs it. The planet should be a great place where to live for everyone, not just for the minority of us.

About the world food crisis we have world forums, organizations and experts studying how to resolve this problem. Here are some well known solutions: distribution of food is a short term measure: giving a man a fish is nothing compared to teach him how to fish, and this is a very famous quote. Educating populations is the best way to freed them. Another solution for which many organizations are fighting for is dropping the world debt so to put the developing contries in a lighter economic situation. This could permit them to increase more easily their economy and their production. New technologies could help to increase productivity in those lands where it could be hard to grow products (if cities have been built in the middle of desert i don't think why those desert can nott be used for specific plantation).

As for the energy crisis we can try everyday to show awareness in the problem sharing, recycling and avoiding waste. For example all food that can not be sold in supermarkets or shops because is too close to the expiring date can be distributed to the people who need it. In a larger scale industries could donate products that con not be put in wide distribution but that still have some days before expiring. It is a short term solution but it is always a solution. As for the energy crisis the web could provide a way to inform people about goods, quantities and where they can be collected. We should all be aware of the food situation trying not to waste, making intelligent and sensible shopping insted of throwing things away because forgotten on the back of the fridge.

If we start thinking ourselves part of little comunity that can be a nighbourhood, we can then try to fell a part of larger comunity that is the world and little by little we could face the greatest problem of this world. We have to begin creating a society aware that resources are limited, trying to live at the same level without creating a world that has everything and that is pretending to forget that there is one that has nothing.