

CORNUCOPIA Introduction

The Millennium Moment

Can we avail ourselves of the circumstances of our century's end and the turn of this second millennium so as to start making those changes crucial to sustainable life on earth? To surmount our psychological and institutional barriers to change, we humans need a shared moment when together we begin doing the wide range of things that we know we must do to begin a new period of responsible living on Earth.

The Millennial Moment (1999 - 2001) is just such a moment, rich with possibilities for constructive change. As a milestone on the human path and a threshold to a new era, it invites reflection on past accomplishments and future goals, and offers a time for a new beginning.

The Event - It's Our Future

Cornucopia 2001 will incorporate a multitude of interrelated activities to both celebrate and prepare for the third millennium. The event will be staged yearly, over the summer holiday period, from 1999 to 2001 and will be a major regional component of Australia's millennium and Centenary of Federation celebrations. It will also link with events already planned for many parts of the world (see Appendix 1 for a list of other global activities). These activities will take advantage of the millennial opportunity to bring focus on creating a healthy and sustainable world. Although this period may be a set of years like any other, personally, socially and technologically it is of great significance.

The event will help to illuminate what a sustainable future will incorporate and thus encourage people to embrace it now.

Major benefits will include:

- the building of community spirit through social interaction;
- community development that is culturally diverse, proud and cohesive;
- a boom for cultural and recreational tourism in the region;
- a more creative and change competent community;
- a more rapid integration of new residents and ideas;
- an opportunity to reflect on past achievements; and
- a chance to build shared visions for a prosperous future.