

APPENDIX THREE  
CO-ORDINATOR AND MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRES

January 25, 2001

Dear SEED User,

My name is Andrew Lowd. I am a SEED member and a college student writing my thesis on local currency in the United States. Very little has been written about the effectiveness of local currency programs. As part of my thesis, I am interested in finding out about your usage of SEED and your experiences with it. The results of this questionnaire will help measure the impact of SEED and determine the optimal conditions for the success of local currencies.

I am interested in **your** opinions, ideas, and experiences. All the information you provide is confidential and will be published **only** in summary, statistical form. The aggregate data will also be shared with SEED coordinators to help them improve the SEED program. You will not be identified in any way. In order to get useful and accurate information about the SEED program, I need completed surveys from **all** SEED users. Please help me by answering the questions to the best of your ability.

Please take the time to complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided. It would be very helpful to have your completed questionnaire returned to me by **February 28, 2001**.

Thank You,

Andrew Lowd

Andrew Lowd  
742 North Amherst St.  
Claremont, CA 91711  
(909) 607-3988  
Andrew.Lowd.01@McKenna.edu

February 13, 2001

Dear SEED User,

Two weeks ago you received a questionnaire asking for your participation in a very important study about SEED. I want to reiterate the importance of including your experiences and opinions in this study. This study will help local currency coordinators across the United States understand better how to design successful programs and give SEED's coordinators much-needed feedback about the currency's successes and struggles.

If you have already returned the questionnaire, please accept my sincere thanks. If you have not responded, please take a minute now to do so. Because this survey was only mailed to a sample of SEED members, your feedback is important if the results are to accurately reflect the experiences and opinions of all SEED members. As the last letter noted, your response is completely confidential but very valuable.

If you did not receive the questionnaire, or it got misplaced, please call me at (909) 607-3988 and I will get another one in the mail to you immediately.

Thank You,

Andrew Lowd

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742 North Amherst St.  
Claremont, CA 91711  
(909) 607-3988  
Andrew.Lowd.01@McKenna.edu

## SEED Users Questionnaire

### Transactions

1. What goods and services do you purchase with SEED? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What goods and services do you offer for SEED? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Were you offering these goods and services before you joined SEED, or did you start because of SEED? (circle one)  
a. OFFERING BEFORE b. STARTED BECAUSE OF SEED c. SOME OF EACH
4. How many SEED have you earned in the past 12 months? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many SEED have you spent in the past 12 months? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How many transactions do you make in an average month (buying and selling) with SEED? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you purchase things with SEED that you wouldn't have purchased with federal currency? What things? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Do you pay or charge different rates for people using SEED than for those using cash? If yes, why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Changes

9. Are there things you want to sell for SEED that you cannot? Please list them. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Are there things you want to buy with SEED that you cannot? Please list them. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. What changes would improve the system? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Would you like to be more active in using SEED? (circle one) YES                      NO  
If YES, what do you think is stopping you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(over, please)

Lastly, I need to find out some brief demographics about SEED users.

13. How long have you been on the North Coast? (years and months, if possible) \_\_\_\_\_

14. How long have you been using SEED? \_\_\_\_\_

15. How did you learn about it? (newspaper, friends, presentation, other) \_\_\_\_\_

16. What was your total income (SEED and US dollars) for the past 12 months? \_\_\_\_\_

17. Why did you choose to join? (Mark all that apply.)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide goods and services                      | i. <input type="checkbox"/> Ecological beliefs           |
| b. <input type="checkbox"/> Obtain goods and services unable to do for self | j. <input type="checkbox"/> Boost the local economy      |
| c. <input type="checkbox"/> Obtain goods and services unable to afford      | k. <input type="checkbox"/> Promote a more equal society |
| d. <input type="checkbox"/> Acquire new skills                              | l. <input type="checkbox"/> Change in lifestyle          |
| e. <input type="checkbox"/> Compensate for unemployment                     | m. <input type="checkbox"/> Meet new people              |
| f. <input type="checkbox"/> Use skills ignored by the job market            | n. <input type="checkbox"/> Learn how money works        |
| g. <input type="checkbox"/> Promote own business                            | o. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain)       |
| h. <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguard against economic disaster             | _____  |

Thank you for your time and participation,

Andrew Lowd

Please Return Surveys To:

Andrew Lowd

742 North Amherst St.

Claremont, CA 91711

(909) 607-3988

Andrew.Lowd.01@McKenna.edu

October 2000

Dear Local Currency Coordinators,

Your answers to the following survey will help measure the impact of local currency and determine its optimal conditions for success. If you wish to write more than the space provided, feel free to attach additional sheets. If you feel I have omitted any critical issues, your feedback is more than welcome.

What is the name of your currency and its value in dollars? (Example: Ithaca HOURS are \$10/HOUR)

\_\_\_\_\_

For how long has your currency been in circulation? \_\_\_\_\_

How long did you spend planning the currency and building community support before launching it?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What were the major reasons for you to start this currency? i.e. certain expected benefits, visible problems, or personal interests. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How much currency is in circulation currently? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the membership fee, to join and to renew? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How much currency do you give to new members, and under what circumstances do you hand out more currency to existing members? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How do you decide how much currency to issue? What measuring guidelines, if any, do you use? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Will you redeem the currency and exchange it for U.S. dollars upon request? YES NO

Do you consider there to be a fixed rate of exchange between your currency and the U.S. dollar?

YES NO

How many members do you currently have? \_\_\_\_\_

How many of those members are individuals and how many are businesses?

Individuals: \_\_\_\_\_ Businesses: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you network with other currency programs? Which ones? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any businesses whose participation you consider essential to the program's success? Which ones are those? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are the greatest challenges your currency has faced, and how are you working to address those?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is the geographic range of the area in which the currency circulates? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How often do you hold social events? How many persons attend those? If attendance is particularly high or low, what do you think are the reasons for this? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list (and attach copies of articles if possible) the publications and dates where your program has received mention. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name and Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Web site for your currency? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like a summary of the results of these surveys? YES NO

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742 North Amherst St.  
Claremont, CA 91711  
(909) 607-3988

Thank You,  
  
J. Andrew Lowd