Education and sustainability

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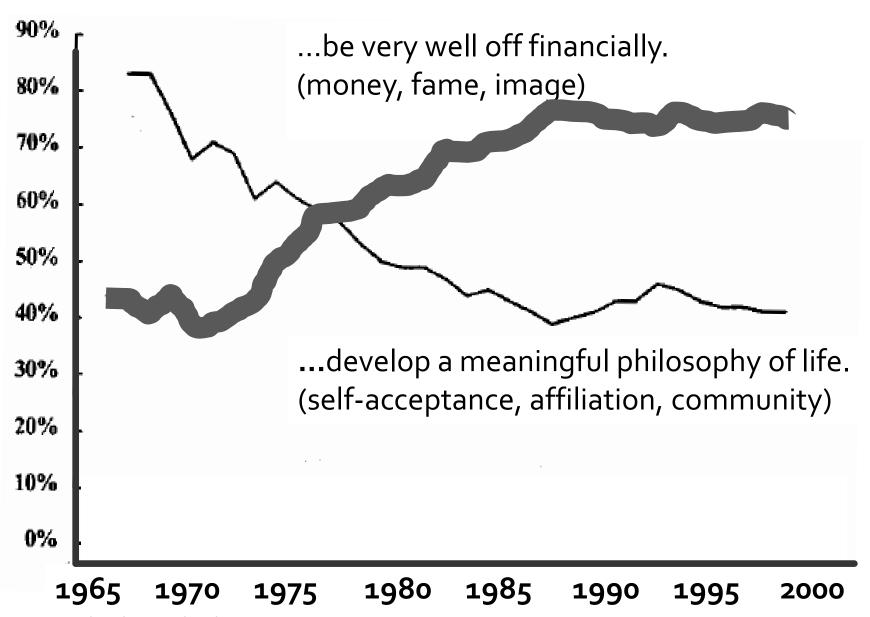
The conception of education as a social process and function has no meaning until we define the kind of society we have in mind.

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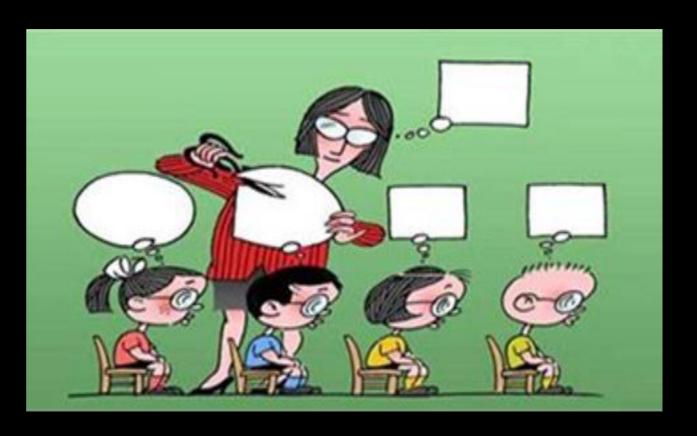
Big questions of our time

Most important in my life is to...



OUR CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

- Increasing consumption is the best way to happiness
- We need rapid economic growth at any cost



Current model of well-being, happiness and good life?

I Economic growth

Il Human rights, social justice, dignified living

III Thriving ecosystems and sustainable use of natural resources

Result #1

Depleting natural resources

Economic progress is blocked more often

- not by a shortage of fishing boat but by a shortage of fish;
- not by poorly performing pumps but by the sinking of groundwater;
- not by a lack of chainsaw but by the disappearance of forests.

Predicted depletion of different metals and fuels, and main area of usage

Commodity	Depletion (year)	Main area of usage
Silver	2020-2030	electronics, pharmaceuticals
Zinc	2025-2035	energy storage (batteries), anticorrosives
Lead	2030	automobile industry, chemical industry
Tantalum	2030	electronics (mobile phones, automobiles), pharmaceuticals
Copper	2040-2070	energy transport, piping, electronics
Uranium	2035-2045	energy generation

Bleischwitz, R., Giljum, S., Michael Kuhndt, M., & Schmidt-Bleek. F. (2009). Eco-innovation – Putting the EU on the path to a resource and energy efficient economy. Wuppertal Spezial 38. Germany: Wuppertal. Available at http://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/59278/1/600613836.pdf

Whydowe collectively create results nobody wants?

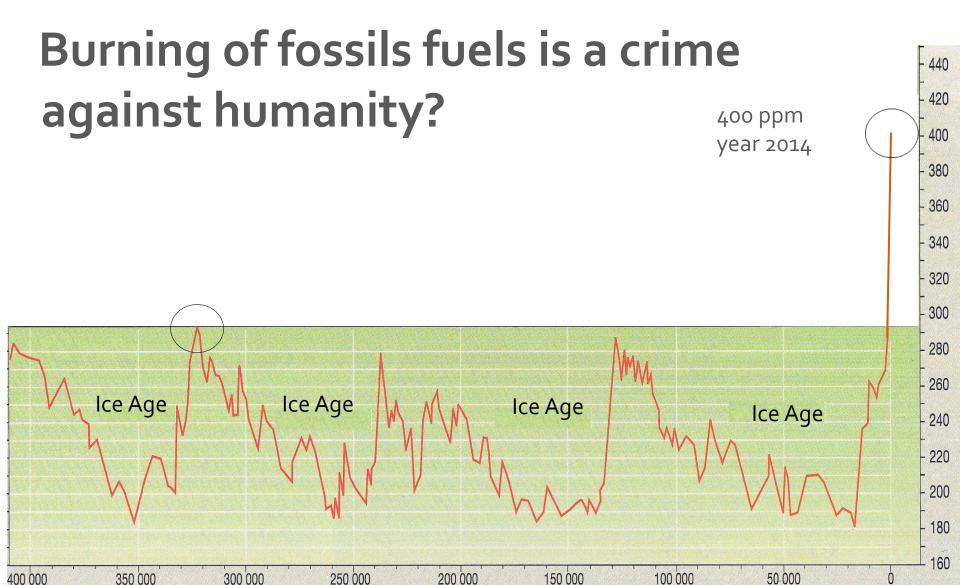
Result #2

Fast climate change

Climate change is mainly a man-made phenomenon

According to the analysis of **11 944** scientific papers, written by **29 083** authors and published in **1980** journals, there is a **97** percent consensus on anthropocenic global warming.

Cook, J., Oreskes, N., Doran, P., Anderegg, W., Verheggen, B., Maibach, E., Carlton1, J-S., Lewandowsky, S., Skuce, A., Green, S., (2016). Consensus on consensus: a synthesis of consensus estimates on human-caused global warming. Environmental Research Letters 11(4) Cook, J., Nuccitelli, D., Green, S., Richardson, M., Winkler, B., Painting, R., Way, R., Jacobs, P. ja Skuce, A. (2013). Quantifying the consensus on anthropogenic global warming in the scientific literature. Environmental Research Letters 8(2), 1-7.



Petit, J. R., Jouzel, J., Raynaud, D., Barkov, N. I., Barnola, J.-M., Basile, I., Bender, M., et al. (1999).

Climate and atmospheric history of the past 420,000 years from the Vostok ice core, Antarctica. Nature 399, 429–436.

Cook, J., Nuccitelli, D., Green, S., Richardson, M., Winkler, B., Painting, R., Way, R., Jacobs, P. ja Skuce, A. (2013). Quantifying the consensus on anthropogenic global warming in the scientific literature. Environmental Research Letters 8(2), 1-7.

year

Marcott, S., Shakun, J., Clark, P., Mix, A. (2013). A Reconstruction of Regional and Global Temperature for the Past 11,300 Years. Science 339(6124), 1198-1201 IPCC (2013). Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. Geneva: Intergovernmental panel of climate change.

Whydowe collectively create results nobody wants?

Result #3

Lack of transparency

Without transparency the most profitable way to produce goods and services is forced labour, child labour and ecological irresponsibility?

"Will we ever be able to buy a fair-trade smartphone?"

Negative social and ecological impacts are related to our daily used commodities.

Bureau of International Labor Affairs (2012). U.S. Department of Labor's List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor. Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005. Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Washington: U.S. Department of Labor. Available at http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/programs/ocft/typra.htm

Reardon, S. (2012). Will we ever be able to buy a fair-trade smartphone? New Scientist 2860, 18.

SACOM (2012). Toying with Workers' Rights. A Report on Producing Merchandise for the London 2012 Olympic Games. Play Fair.

Coninck, N. Theuws, M. & Overeem, P. (2011). Captured by Cotton. Exploited Dalit girls produce garments in India for European and US markets.

Amsterdam: SOMO - Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations. Available: www.indianet.nl/pdf/CapturedByCotton.pdf

Iqbal, S., Guggenberger, M. & Alam, K. (2012). Deadly Denim. Sandblasting in the Bangladesh Garment Industry. Amsterdam: Clean Clothes Campaign. Ferus-Comelo, Anibel & Pöyhönen, Päivi (2011). Phony Equality - Labour standards of mobile phone manufacturers in India. Finnwatch, Cividep and SOMO.

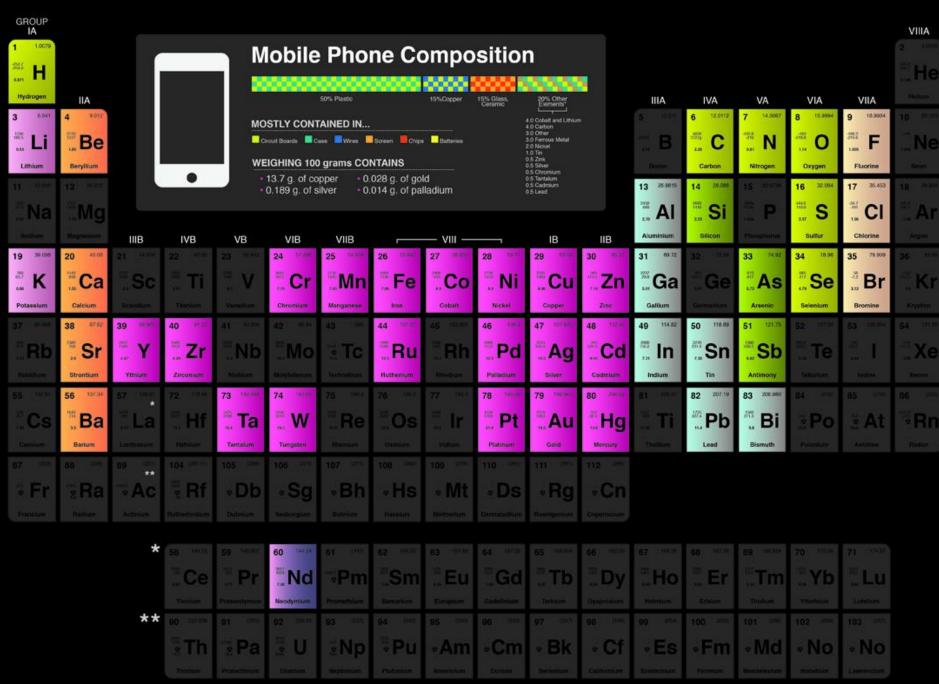
Kakuli, A. & Risberg, V. (2012). A lost revolution? Empowered but trapped in poverty. Women in the garment industry in Bangladesh want more. Swedwatch report 47. Available www.swedwatch.org/sites/www.swedwatch.org/files/a_lost_revolution_sw_o.pdf

Kit Ho, Chun, Pöyhönen, Päivi & Simola, Eeva. (2009). Playing with Labour Rights: Music player and game console manufacturing in China. Helsinki: FinnWatch.

Pöyhönen, P. (2009). Fair Phones: It's Your Call – Why Finnish mobile operators should be responsible for supply chains. Helsinki: Finnwatch. UNDP (2008). Human Development Report 2007–2008. Fighting climate change. Human solidarity in a divided world. New York: United Nations Development Programme.

Chan, Jenny, de Haan, Esther, Nordbrand, Sara & Torstensson, Annika (2010). Silenced to deliver: Mobile phone manufacturing in China and the Philippines. Stockholm: SOMO & SwedWatch

UN (2011). Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework. Geneva: United Nations. Available: www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/GuidingPrinciplesBusinessHR_EN.pdf



Whydowe collectively create results nobody wants?

Result #4

Human life can no longer be taken for granted

There is an irresponsible search for short-term benefits without concerns for long-term consequences.

If we do not change direction we will end up exactly where we are heading.

-Chinese proverb

"Human activity is putting such strain on the natural functions of Earth that the ability of the planet's ecosystems to sustain future generations can no longer be taken for granted."

Whydowe collectively create results nobody wants?

Conclusion

Our society is focused on speed

"If you have no idea where you want to go, it makes little difference how fast you travel."

- Italian proverb

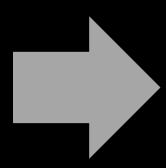
Life satisfaction and meaning as a goal of life

Assess your life satisfaction (scale 1-7)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

low life satisfaction ------ high life satisfaction

Results by the groups (scale 1-7) 400 richest people in USA 5,8 Maasais from East Africa 5,7



Happiness-enhancing capacity of money is limited

5,6

Ramdom sample of people from Sweden

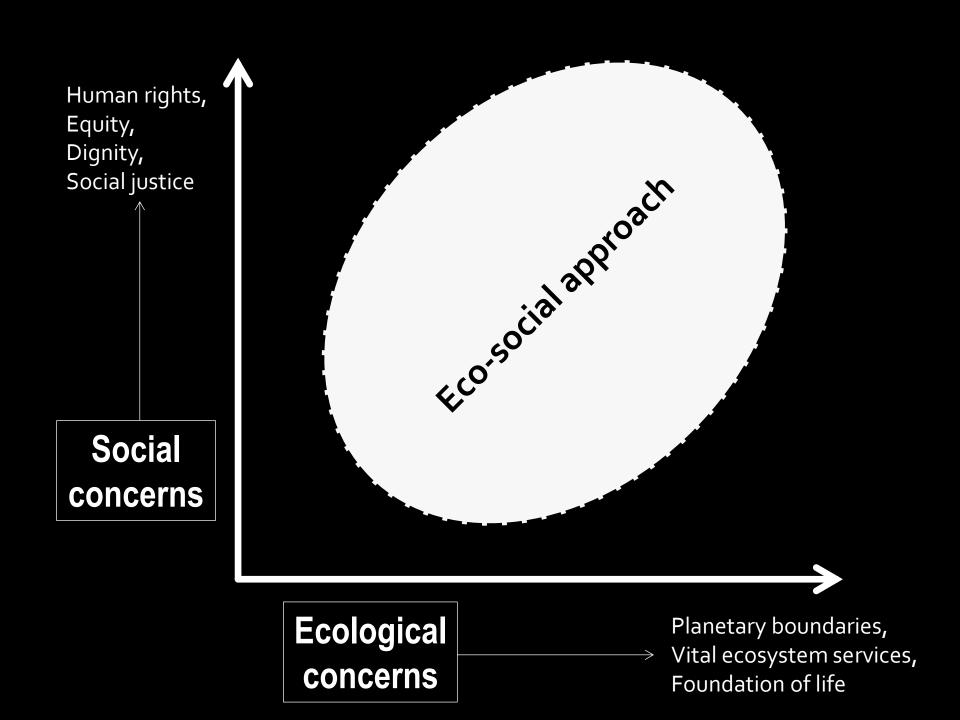
Education needs to help people to reach their full potential and more fullfilling lives?

> How to be all you can be

Fair future for you and me

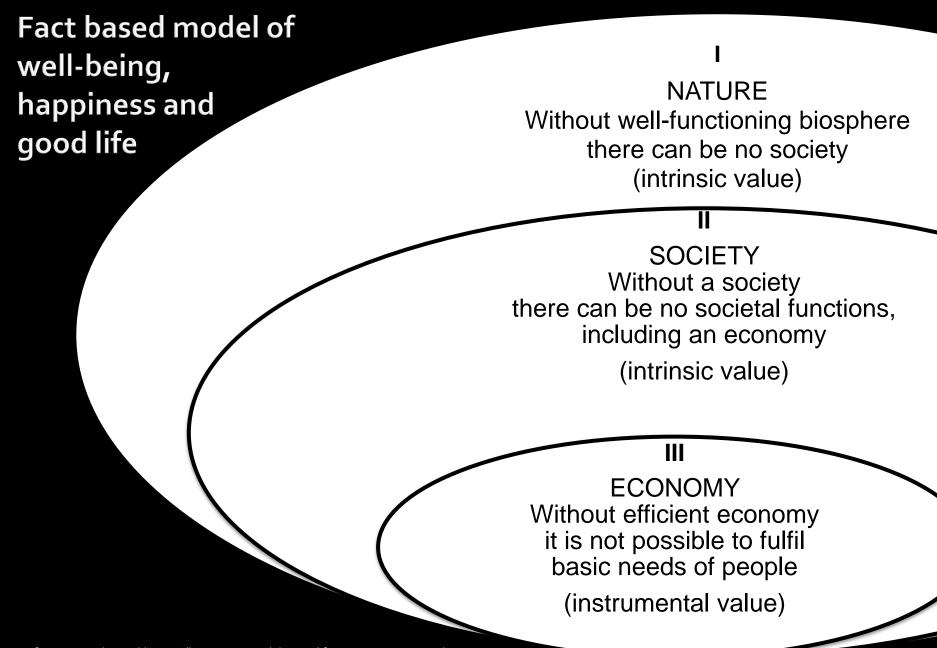
Solution #1

Integrate social and ecological concerns



Solution #2

Identify how world works



Max-Neef, M. (2010). The World on a Collision Course and the Need for a New Economy. Ambio 39(3), 200-210. Baker, S. (2006). Sustainable development. London: Routledge.

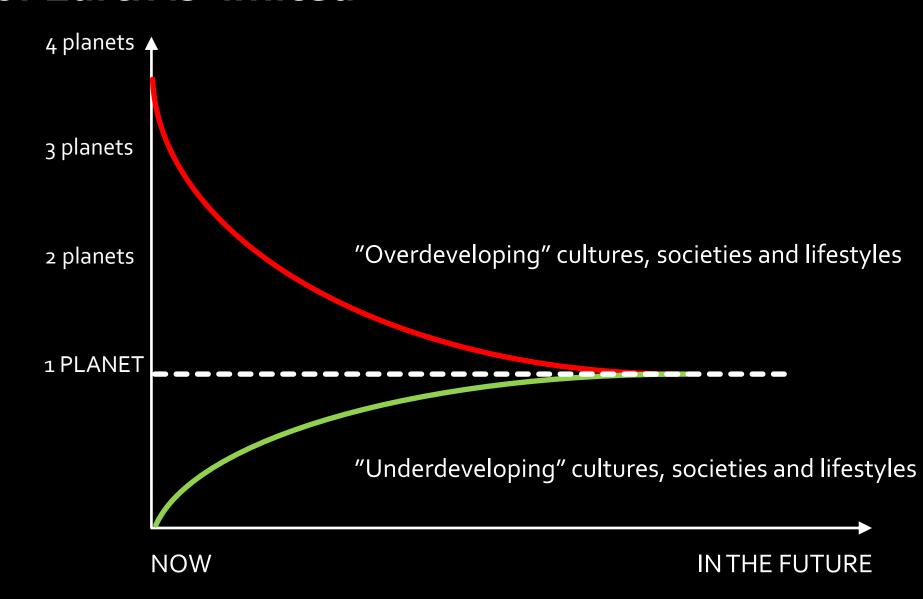
Giddings, B., Hopwood, B. & O'Brien, G. (2002). Environment, economy and society: fitting them together into sustainable development. Sustainable Development, 10(4), 187–196. Hediger, W. (1999) Reconciling "weak" and "strong" sustainability. International Journal of Social Economics, 26(7/8/9), 1120–1144.

Ott, K. (2003). The Case for Strong Sustainability. In: Ott, K. & P. Thapa (eds.) Greifswald's Environmental Ethics. Steinbecker Verlag.

Solution #3

Identify what is overdevelopment and underdevelopment

Fair future for all when carrying capasity of Earth is limited



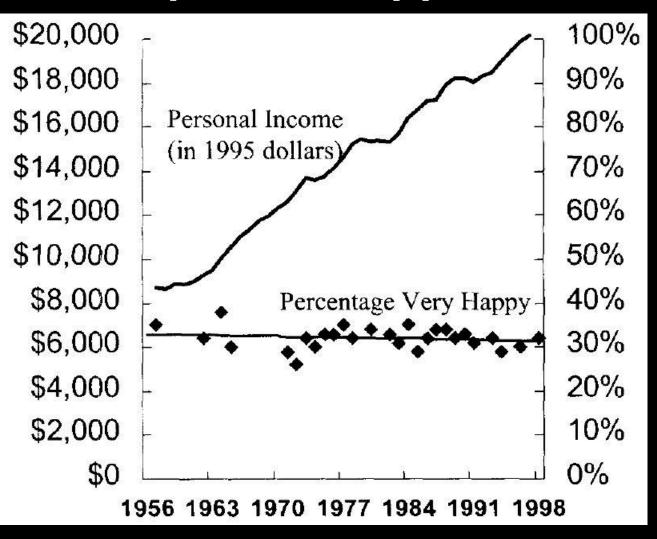
Fulfilling of basic needs can not be questioned

- food
- clothes
- shelter
- energy
- education
- health care

Solution #4

Ask big questions: What really matters in life? What counts as a good life? What is human excellence?

While income has risen, self-reported happiness has not



Diener, E. & Seligman, M. (2004). Beyond Money. Psychological Science in the Public Interest 5(1), 1–31. Myers, D. (2000). The funds, friends, and faith of happy people. American Psychologist 55(1), 56–67.

People who prioritize money, image, and status...

- experience less happiness and life satisfaction,
- have fewer pleasant emotions such as joy and contentment
- have more unpleasant emotions such as anger and anxiety
- tend to be more depressed and anxious
- report more physical problems (headaches, stomachaches, backaches)

Kasser, T. (2014). A Values—Based Se of Solutions for the Next Generation. In: Robert Costanza and Ida Kubiszewski (eds.).. Greating a Sustainable and Desirable Future. London: World Scientific, 331–340.

Bartolini, S. (2014). Buying alone: how the decreasing American happiness turned into the current economic crisis. In: Timo Hämäläinen and Juliet Michaelson (eds.) Well-being and Beyond – Broadening the Public and Policy Discourse. Northhampton: Edward Elgar Publishing. 144–181. Pieters, R. (2013). Bidirectional dynamics of materialism and loneliness: Not just a vicious cycle. Journal of Consumer Research, 40, 615–631 Kasser, T. (2002). The High Price of Materialism. Cambridge: MIT Press.

We also need things that are not traded in markets and not captured by monetary measures.

Full humanness gives life satisfaction?

- Altruism (sharing and caring)
- Ties to other people and society
- Dedication
- Self-transcendence

HOPE FOR FUTURE:

- Elements of human flourishing are non-material
- they can increase forever

Great changes are possible

- We managed to stop the global ozone depletion
- We already almost doubled our life spans
- We have created universal education system and universal medical care.

4 Full humanness as a goal of education

4 ways to enhance life satisfaction and ensure that future generations will be proud of us



"A bundle cannot be fastened with one hand."

- Proverb from Sierra Leone

Culture of trust is worth of it

- Trusting that your wallet would be returned if found by a neighbour (for someone who already felt they belonged in their neighbourhood) has the additional lifesatisfaction equivalent of 30% higher income
- Having a sense of belonging in one's community has a larger effect on life satisfaction than a tripling of household income.

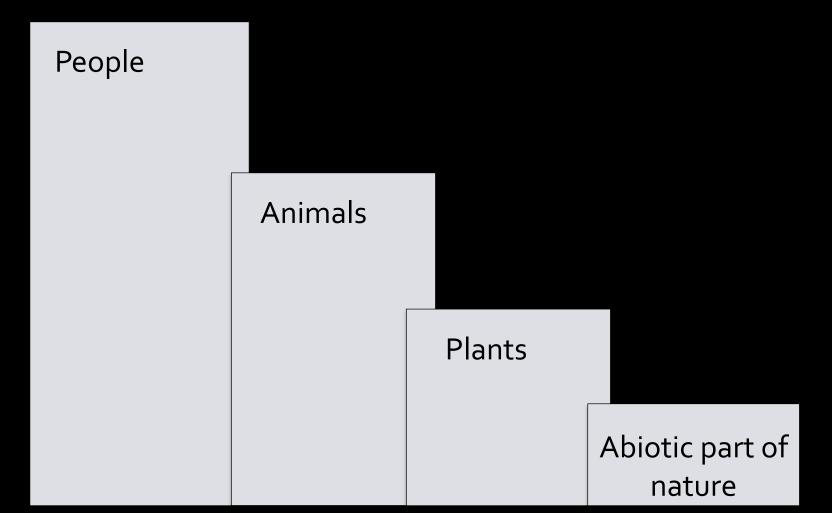
Helliwell, J. (2013). Social norms, happiness, and the environment: closing the circle. Sustainability: Science, Practice, & Policy 10(1), 78-84.

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RESPONSIBILITY

Expand your sphere of responsibility



Our planet and human life is a system of interdependence

People	Animals	Plants	Abiotic part of nature

"Happiness cannot exist while others suffer, and comes only from serving others, living in harmony with nature, and realizing our innate wisdom and the true and brilliant nature of our own mind."

- Lyonchen Thinley



SUFFICIENCY

(= an optimal state of being)

How big should our economy be

- How much material wealth is enough for us?
- More is enough?

Why do we need more and more?

A shopper who shops only to meet her or his **needs** poses danger to the consumer markets?

"You are rich if you know how much is enough"

NEEDS	DESIRES AND WANTS
Universal ends for good life	Personal instruments for good life
Can NOT be questioned	Can be questioned
Fulfilling of basic needs(* is a human right	Fulfilling of desires and wants depends on ethics

^{*)} food, water, shelter, energy, health care, education...

Systems thinking*

Our planet is a system of the interdependence. All components support each other.

- My behaviour affects other people, nature and economy locally and globally
- The challenge is to identify what kind of systems we are linked in

^{*} Systems thinking focus on causal relationships between elements. Systems thinking helps us to combine ecological, social and economic point of view. In East Africa they used to say "mvua ni chakula". It refers to the systems thinking: "rain is food".

What is behind a cup of coffee?



Global challenges in a supermarket: Effects of everyday choices occur far away from us

The origins and pathways of a can of cola bought in London

Bauxite was mined in Australia. Ore was transferred with trucks to a chemical reduction mill. After that ore was sent to Sweden. The journey across oceans took two months. In Sweden 10 meters long aluminum rods were processed in a smelter. The rods were sent to Germany where they were heated and pressed into a thin sheet of aluminum. Coils of aluminum were shipped to England, where the aluminum sheets were punched. Cans were washed, dried and coated, and transported to a bottler. Sugar canes, farmed in French farms, were refined to sugar flower and shipped to England. Cola contains phosphoric from a mine located in the United States. This mine uses energy equivalent to 100 000 people consumption of energy because food grade phosphoric requires a high degree of processing. Cola also contains caffeine. It comes from a chemical factory nearby. Cans are packed in cartons which are made of cellulose in a paper mill. The paper mill gets trees from Siberia, Sweden and Colombia. Finally, the beverage cartons were transferred to the supermarket in which they were sold to the consumer in three days. The average consumer drinks cola in a few tens of seconds. Manufacturing of the can is more expensive than the liquid inside the can.



Eco-social approach to education

Eco-social approach to education

Systems thinking

- integrated world (causal relationships)
- consequentialism
- local global

The hierarchy of ecological, social and economic aspects of well-being

- I Thriving ecosystems (intrinsic value)
- II Human rights, social justice, dignified living (intrinsic value)
- **III** Robust economy (instrumental value)

Responsibility

- enough for all (sharing and caring)
- planetary responsibility (human and nonhuman world)

Sufficiency

How much is enough?

Participation

- culture of trust
- cooperation
- value of social capital

Salonen, A. & Konkka, J. (2015). An Ecosocial Approach to Well-Being: A Solution to the Wicked Problems in the Era of Anthropocene. Foro de Educación 13(19), 19-34. Salonen, A. & Rouhinen, S. (2015). Vastuullinen maailmasuhde – tulevaisuuden toivoa säilyttävän kulttuurievoluution suunnannäyttäjä. Tiedepolitiikka 3, 7-16. Salonen, A. (2015). Ecosocial Approach in Education. In: Rolf Jucker ja Reiner Mathar (eds.) Schooling for Sustainable Development: Concepts, Policies and Educational Experiences at the End of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. Berlin-Heidelberg: Springer. Salonen, A. & Bardy, M. (2015). Ekososiaalinen sivistys herättää luottamusta tulevaisuuteen. Aikuiskasvatus 35(1), 4-15.

Together we create a just and safe operation base for humanity on the planet Earth

Jama sugo diniabe*

*Hope is the pillar of the world.
- Nigerian proverb