

The need for person-centered education to develop resilient and sustainable ways of knowing, doing and being

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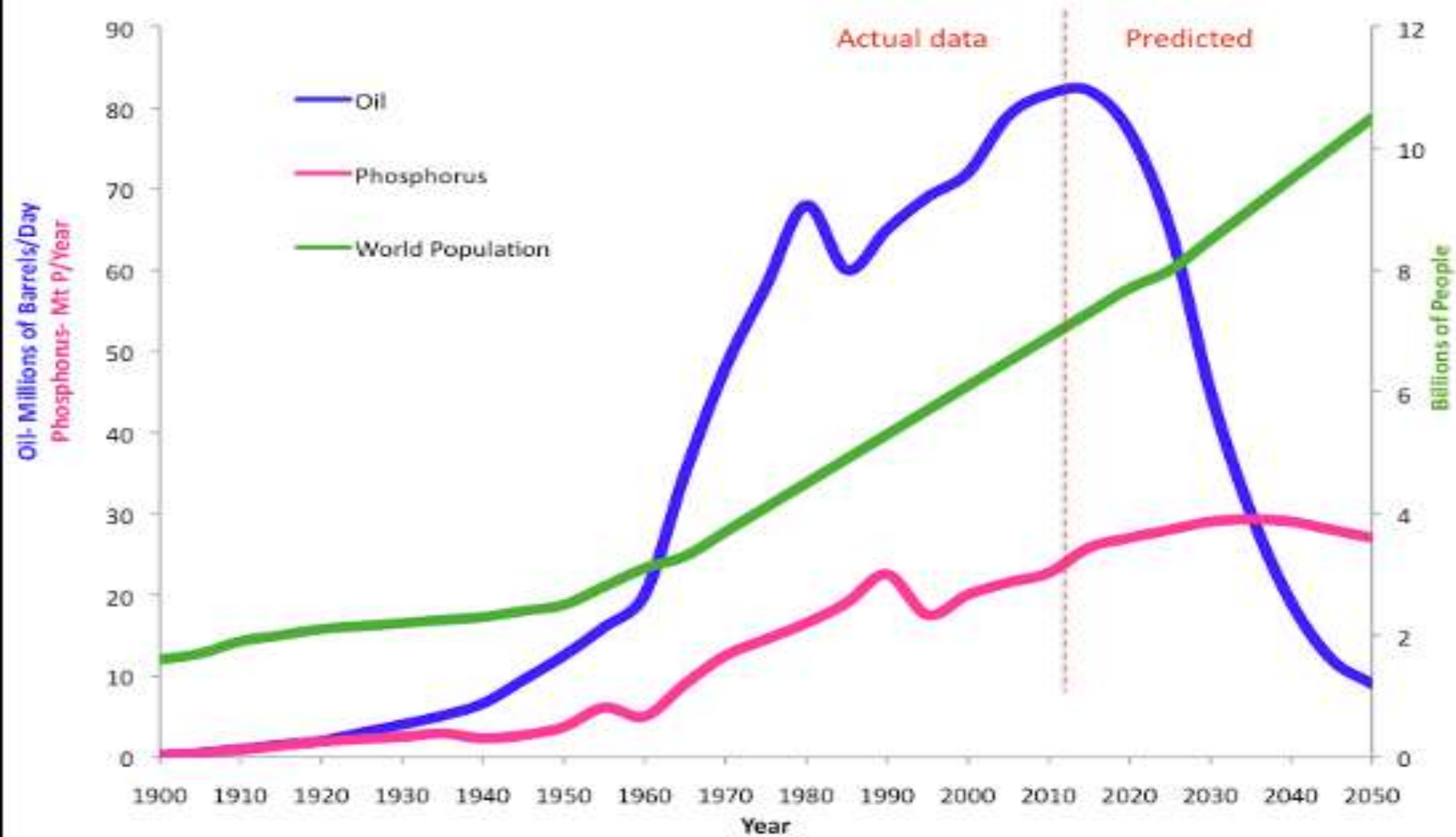








Expected population growth in comparison to resource availability



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There is ample scientific evidence that **our relationship with ourselves, others and the planet is the main variable influencing all aspects of our lives and all the life forms.**

We need to effectively see, think and act systemically, interdisciplinarily, intersectorially and interculturally



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But...

***“We cannot solve the problems
of today at the level of thinking
at which they were first created”***

Albert Einstein



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Education plays a crucial role in the **social construction of reality** and it is more and more evident that **we need a paradigm change** in **education** in order to **enable people to deal effectively** with the **mounting challenges facing humanity.**



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Enter into the 4th Industrial Revolution...



GET
PREPARED
NOW!

3S DASSAULT
SYSTEMES



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The Fourth Industrial Revolution is being driven by a staggering range of new technologies that are **blurring the boundaries between people, the virtual and the physical world.**

The incoming changes are blurring the lines between the physical, digital, and biological spheres and **will affect all our bio-psycho-social dimensions.**

It is a transformation of the way we will live, work and relate to one another in the coming years, affecting entire industries and economies, and even challenging our notion of **what it means to be human.**

Fulvia Montresor, Director, World Economic Forum



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We cannot afford to mismanage the 4th revolution with the same myopic, reductionist and mechanistic ways responsible for the blunders of the past ...

Remember how DDT was supposed to be a chemical miracle liberating us from unwanted pests?...

Too bad that we did not take into account that, after killing the pests, DDT would remain in the ecosystem, polluting the waterways and the life-chain, ending up in mother's milk...

Remember the miracle of artificial fertilizers multiplying crops... and also acidifying the oceans...destroying ecosystems...



We need to have sustainable education based on reality: a people centered education, scientifically grounded on how people learn and develop their potentialities.



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The problem with schools
is that there are
too many teachers and
so few facilitators of
learning

John Dewey



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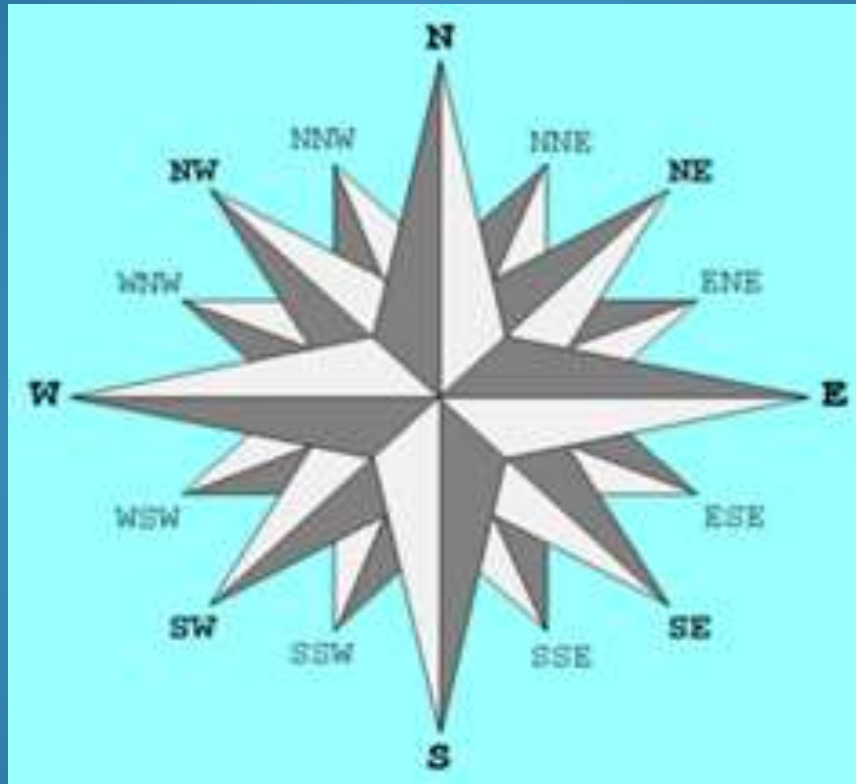


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We need a compass to navigate change, to learn how to relate in sustainable ways to ourselves, others and the world



At the basis of anything that a scientist undertakes, is first of all, an ethical and moral value judgement that he makes

Carl Rogers



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Some of the variables that will effectively foster a more humane and sustainable future for social and natural capital:

- More awareness
- More empathy
- More capacity for respecting oneself, others and the world
- More responsibility in the sense of the **ability to respond**



Education is an important aspect of the social construction of reality.

Education is at the same time a process and a product,

is one of the most important building blocks of society: Effective education promotes creativity, resilience, health and prosperity but dysfunctional education produces real damages.



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Person/Student centered education, applies more scientifically validated knowledge than traditional education; the principles of **Student centered education pedagogy** is congruent with the present scientific knowledge derived from psychology, sociology, anthropology and neuroscience.

Student centered education is more effective than the traditional professor centered teaching and content centered learning.

Student centered education is more effective than traditional education also when used in “*hard sciences*” courses, computer assisted learning, hybrid courses and e-learning.



Carl Rogers' research over the last 75 years has identified specific qualities in helping relationships which promote the development of fully functioning people as well as the healing of partially functioning people. **These relational qualities are present also in effective facilitators of learning:**

- **Respect**
- **Empathic understanding**
- **Authenticity/congruence (deep contact)**



Person Centered Education Goals

To protect and promote the person innate creative capacities of learning from their experiences

To promote *wholeness and integration in the individual* by focusing not only on the student's personal growth and development but the personal & professional growth of all the members of the learning community: administrators, management and professors as well

To promote the development of creative and competent members of society , able to contribute effectively to the life of their community



The role of the Teacher in Student Centered Education

- A professional commitment to learning and to effective, democratic and value based education
- Able to share her/his passion about learning
- Able to relate to the students with respect, empathy and congruence
- Capable to be in touch with herself, her students, the members of her community, the world
- Wanting and having the needed skills and attitudes to be a facilitator of learning
- An effective mentor promoting student creativity & autonomy
- Capable to help students develop their personal and social skills



The role of the Student in Person Centered Education

- Learning to take responsibility for his own personal development
- Interested in learning social, personal and problem-solving skills
- Learning to learn
- Learning from mistakes
- Willing to contribute to a cooperative and tolerant school ethos
- **Able to learn how to relate to herself and others with respect, empathy and congruence**



Person centered, student centered education is an effective form of Peace Education

To learn how to listen, how to understand emphatically ourselves and others, how to respect the different needs and parts of ourselves and others is at the same time an education that protects and promotes individual and social health, individual and societal potentialities and is an effective way to help persons and communities **to learn how to learn and to be at peace with themselves others and all the living lifeforms**



Education at its best is a
**bio-psycho-social-spiritual
learning experience**

promoting our capacities to live
a significant existence and
develop our potentialities to
**become creative, resilient and
peaceful citizens.**



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We need to **effectively protect and promote human & environmental capital**

We need to offer people **the knowledge, skills and competencies** to operate at intersectorial and interdisciplinary levels

- Socio cultural
- Environmental
- Economic
- Psychological
- Spiritual



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Obrigado!
Thank you!



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