

# Sustainability

## Perspectives and values

---

WAT-E1100

Meeri Karvinen Sept 30 2020



Aalto University  
School of Engineering



# Agenda for the afternoon

**13.00 - 13.30 Environmental management, values and perspectives –  
- What is the connection?**

**13.30 - 14.15 Independently: Insights on our common future –  
30 min video by Arthur Keller (+ 15 min break)**

**14.15 – 15.00 Joint exercise related to the video &  
Introduction to the Thematic Task**

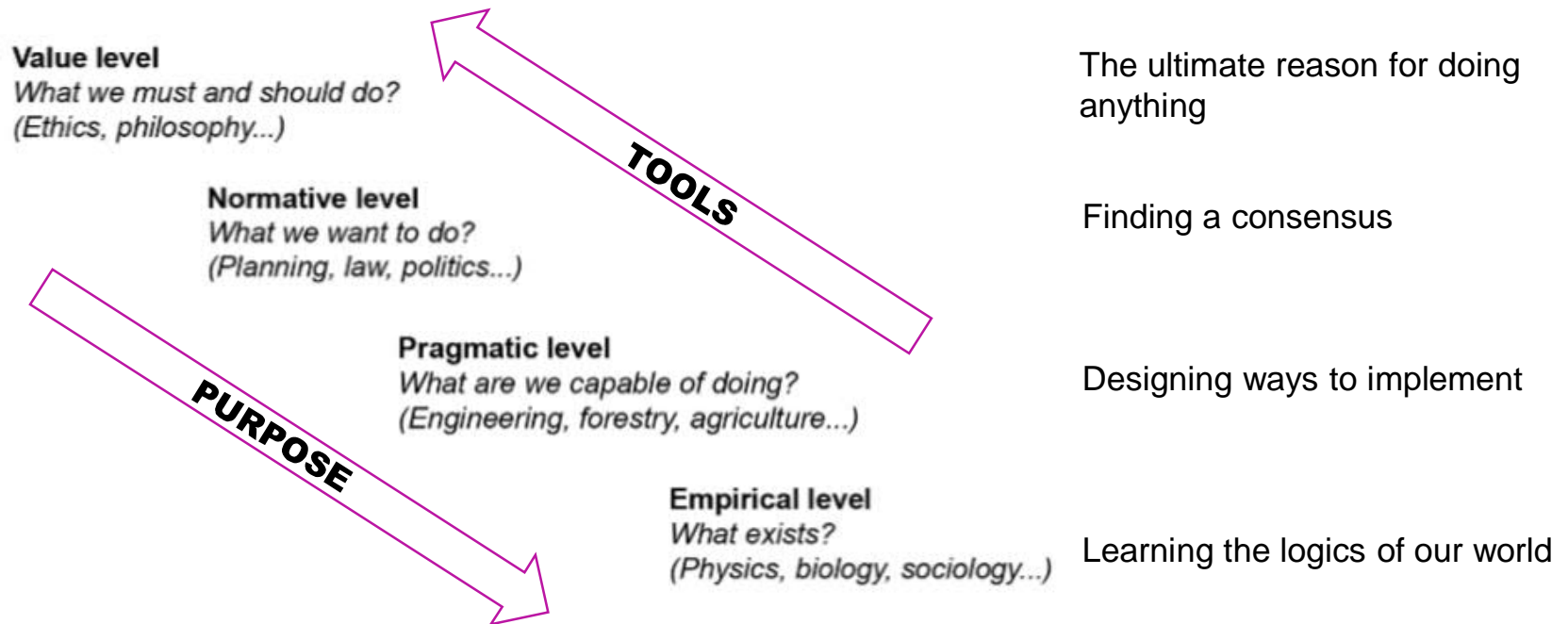
# Learning objectives

**After the following 2,5 days you should be able to:**

- reflect on the role of values and perspectives of sustainability in environmental management
- define, explain and be able to use sustainability vocabulary and relevant facts in writing and conversation
- formulate well supported arguments for various viewpoints
- make reasonable estimates on the order of magnitude to questions about global development
- critically review arguments and show respect to people with opposing opinions

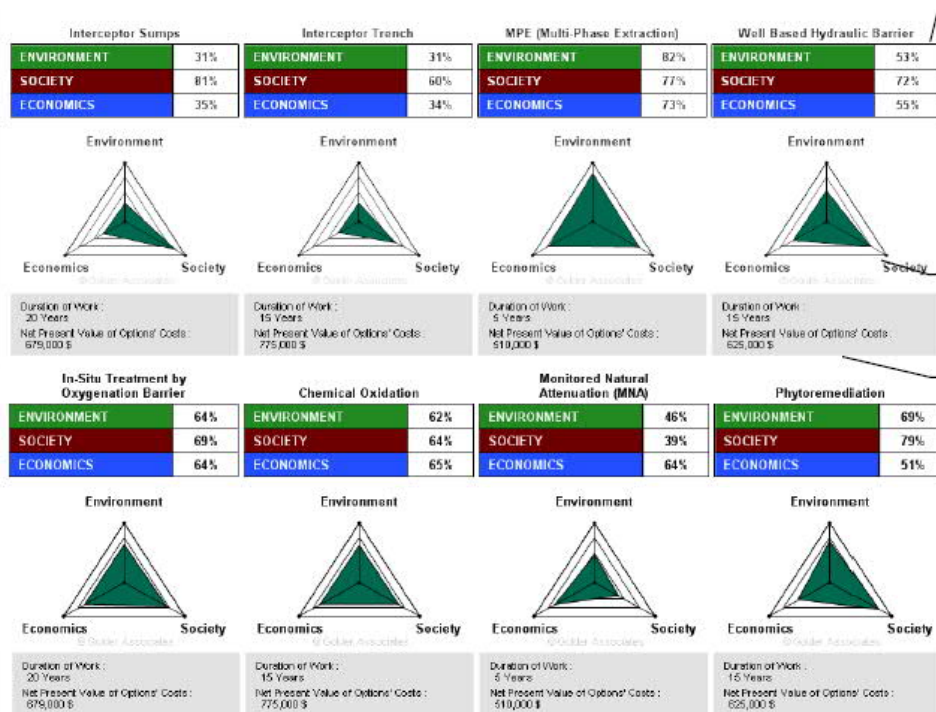
# Values and perspectives in environmental management

# Transdisciplinary view on values

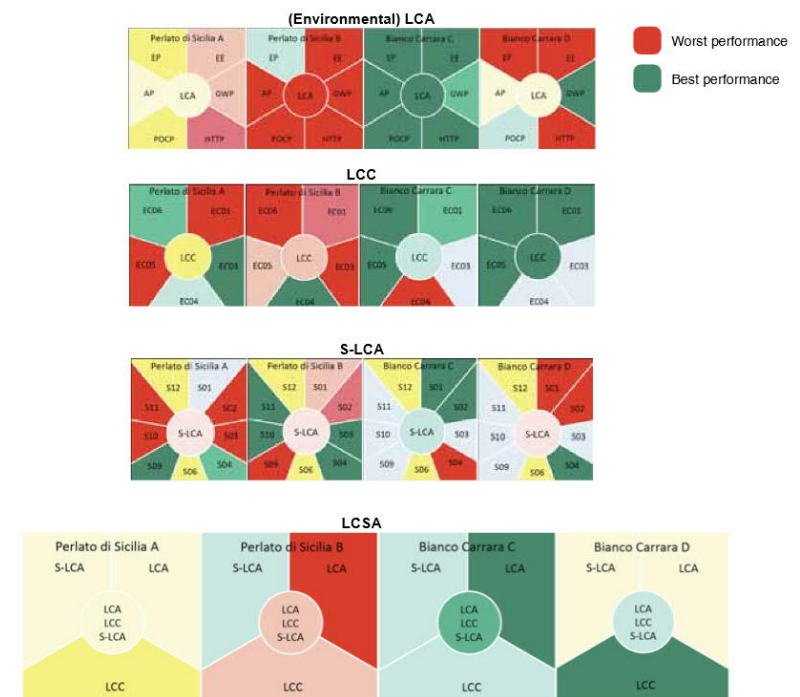


# Environmental management

GoldSET Tool, MCDA Summary table

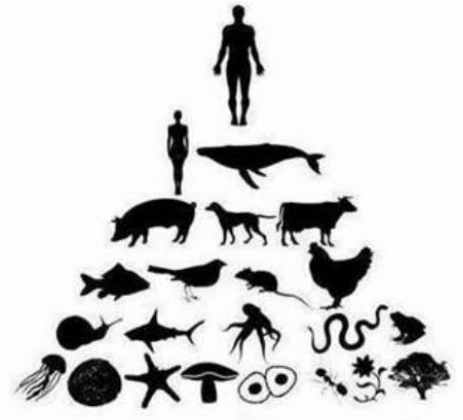


Lice Cycle Sustainability Analyses Tool



# All decisions are influenced by worldviews and values

http://glancesideways.com/2012/10/progression-and-conceptual-adjustment/



World as a resource  
“Anthropocentric”

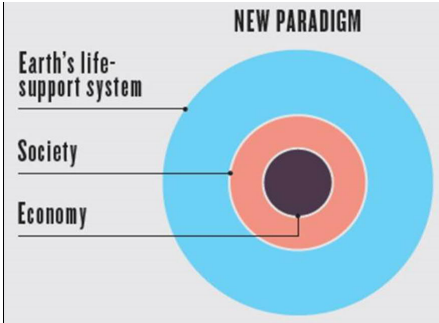
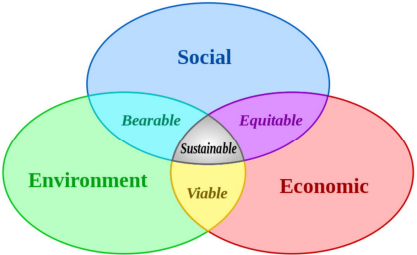


Interconnected



Regenerative

“Ecocentric”



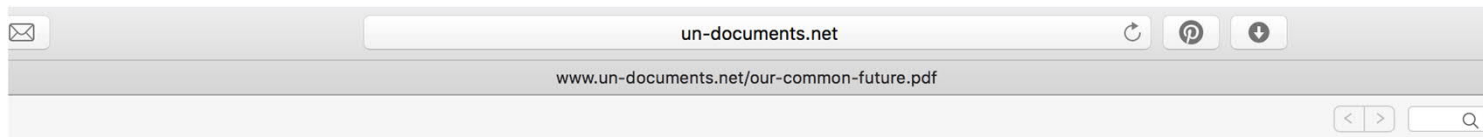
hearings it was the young, those who have the most to lose, who were the harshest critics of the planet's present management.

### 3. Sustainable Development

27. Humanity has the ability to make development sustainable to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The concept of sustainable development does imply limits - not absolute limits but limitations imposed by the present state of technology and social organization on environmental resources and by the ability of the biosphere to absorb the effects of human activities. But technology and social organization can be both managed and improved to make way for a new era of economic growth. The Commission believes that widespread poverty is no longer inevitable. Poverty is not only an evil in itself, but sustainable development requires meeting the basic needs of all and extending to all the opportunity to fulfil their aspirations for a better life. A world in which poverty is endemic will always be prone to ecological and other catastrophes.

28. Meeting essential needs requires not only a new era of economic growth for nations in which the majority are poor, but an assurance that those poor get their fair share of the





hearings it was the young, those who have the most to lose, who were the harshest critics of the planet's present management.

### 3. Sustainable Development

27. Humanity has the ability to make development sustainable to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The concept of sustainable development does imply limits - not absolute limits but limitations imposed by the present state of technology and social organization on environmental resources and by the ability of the biosphere to absorb the effects of human activities. But technology and social organization can be both managed and improved to make way for a new era of economic growth. The Commission believes that widespread poverty is no longer inevitable. Poverty is not only an evil in itself, but sustainable development requires meeting the basic needs of all and extending to all the opportunity to fulfil their aspirations for a better life. A world in which poverty is endemic will always be prone to ecological and other catastrophes.

28. Meeting essential needs requires not only a new era of economic growth for nations in which the majority are poor, but an assurance that those poor get their fair share of the

# What is a necessity?





Ecocentrism  
v.s.  
Anthropocentrism

# Independent video task

# Our common future

**COLLAPSE : THE ONLY REALISTIC SCENARIO ? (A. Keller) [29:10].**

## **1) Discuss in your groups:**

Do you agree with Keller's world view or do you prefer some of the others – or some totally different from what Keller presented?

## **2) Individually:**

Write down three emotions you are feeling after the video and the group discussion

## **3) Write your notes to the whiteboard → our shared feeling cloud**

# The Feeling Cloud (to be added here)

**2 min break**



# Thematic Task: sustainability dilemmas

**The Thematic Task has two parts:**

- 1) Preparatory individual assignment with 4 sub-tasks**, submission before Friday's game seminar (DL 2 Oct at 9.00)
- 2) Follow-up assignment**, submission on Friday afternoon (DL 4 Oct 23.00)

Grading of both parts:

- Fail (-> the submission needs to be totally revised)
- Needs additional work (-> the submission needs to be revised for some parts)
- Pass (accepted submission)
- Pass - excellent (a high level submission)

# Snowflake platform

Thematic Task: Sustainability Dilemmas ▾

This week's Thematic task is done in two parts:

- 1) Preparatory assignment with four sub-tasks (individual): done **before** Friday's Board Game seminar
- 2) Follow-up assignment (group/individual): on Friday afternoon, **after** the Board Game Seminar

## Grading of the Thematic Task

Both parts of the Weekly Task have to be successfully Passed in order to pass the whole Task. The grading scale for both parts of the task is the following:

- Fail (-> the submission needs to be totally revised)
- Needs additional work (-> the submission needs to be revised for some parts)
- Pass (accepted submission)
- Pass - excellent (very high level submission)

If you received a grade "Fail" or "Needs additional work" from either of the parts, or even both, you will have to revise your submission(s) according to the feedback you got, and re-submit within one week (supplementary DL; adjusted according to the date you get your feedback).

Passing requires answering all the sub-tasks in an appropriate way (= following the given instructions). Reflect on your thoughts and opinions and learnings, write full sentences and flowing text. Reflections "I liked it" or "I didn't learn anything" are not enough. In your reflections, think about answering questions "why", "what" and "how".

1. Preparatory assignment, DL Fri 2nd Oct @9.00 ▾

Wed-Thu

2. Follow-up assignment, DL Sun 4th Oct @23.00 ▾

Fri afternoon

# Preparatory assignment, summary:

1. **Watch the Video lecture:** *Write down three most important things brought by the lecture that provoked your own thinking, and give short explanations on why you chose those things.*
2. **SDGs – select three:** *Write a brief description of the three goals you have chosen. Also write a short reflection of why you think that these goals engage you the most.*
3. **Global view through Gapminder:** *Write a short reflective text, based upon your interpretation of the graphs and how you think that they relate to the values and perspectives of sustainable development.*
4. **Preparing for the debates:** *Choose 2 topics and write arguments for and against, according to the instructions. Voluntary part: Browse through also other debate topics, make notes and bring them with you to the game seminar on Friday.*

See you on Friday at 9.00 with all kinds of Dilemmas!

