

The Great Mindshift Soft Power in Sustainability Transformations

Dr. Maja Göpel 17.10.2017



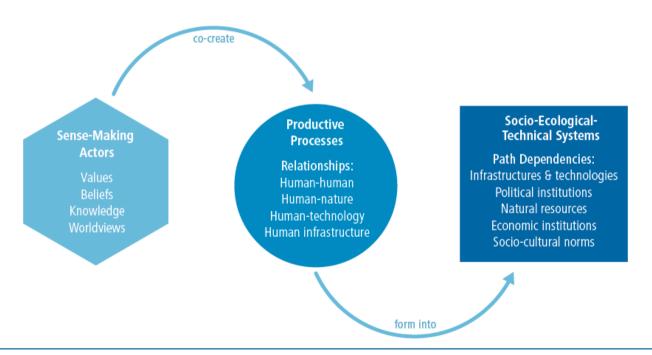
Transforming our world – ok, let's go!

- 1. If the changes envisioned by the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda are supposed to be transformational in quality, *how do we work toward this quality*?
- 2. If the transformations envisioned are supposed to support sustainable development, what are the key leverage points to unlock unsustainable path dependencies?

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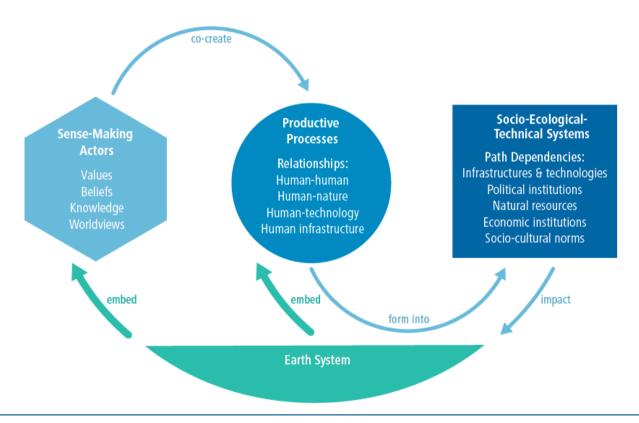


Transformation as an ongoing process



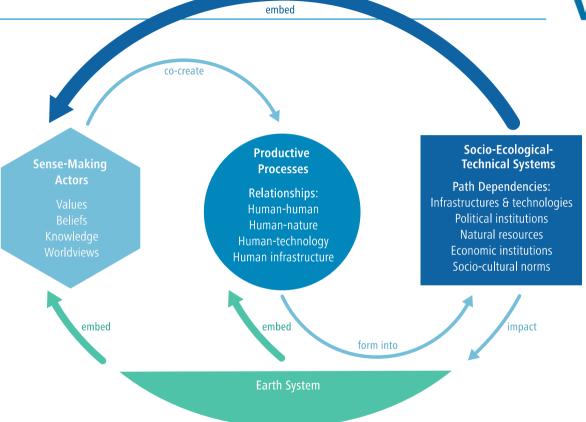
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What is transform-ability?

"the capacity to create *untried beginnings* from which to evolve a *fundamentally* new way of living when existing ecological, economic, and social conditions make the current system untenable."

Stockholm Resilience Centre 2012

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Q 1: Reflexivity - the place of transformative intent

pur·pose

/'parpas/

Noun

The reason for which something is done or created or for which something exists.



Purpose of history-making today







"Progress"

"Development"



"Return on Investment"



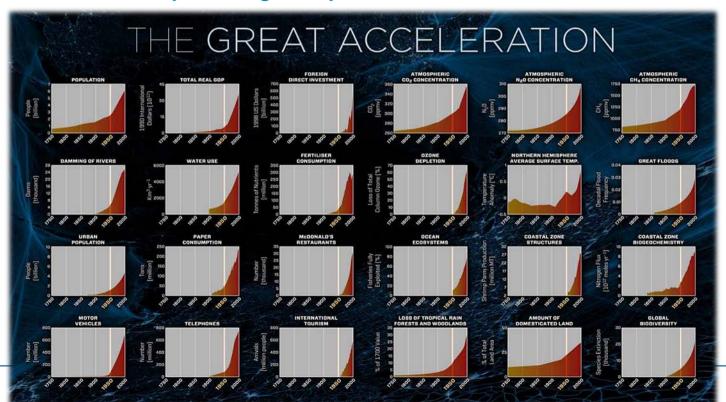
"Economic Success"



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Pattern of history-making today





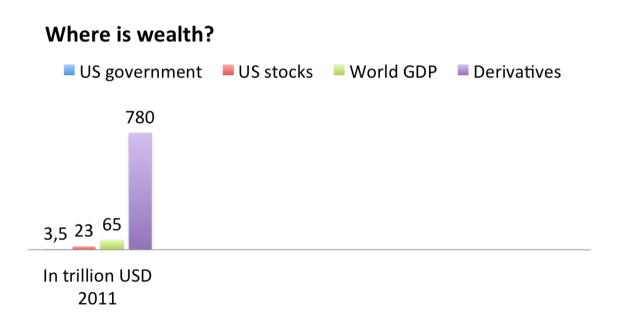
The Great Mindshift behind history-making today

"nineteenth century civilization (...) chose to base itself on a motive only rarely acknowledged as valid in the history of human societies, and certainly never before raised to the level of a justification of action and behavior in everyday life, namely gain."

Karl Polanyi, 1947

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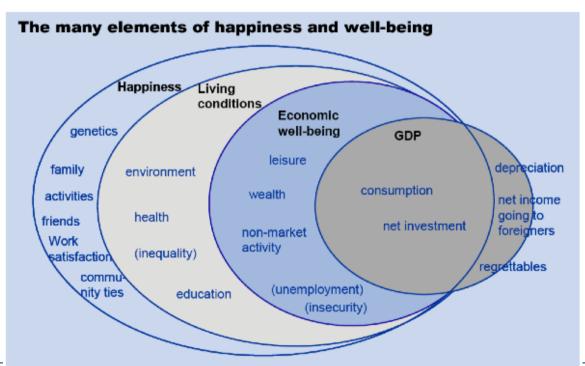


What are "productivity gains"?



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What do we sacrifice for "growth"?



TOO MANY PEOPLE SPEND MONEY THEY HAVEN'T EARNED TO BUY THINGS THEY DON'T WANT TO IMPRESS PEOPLE THEY DON'T LIKE.

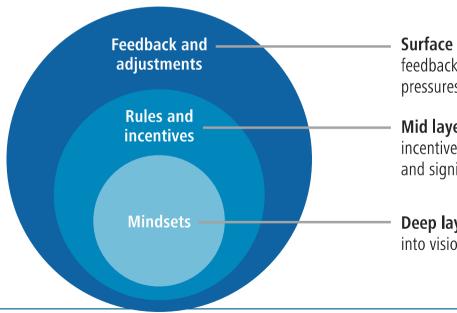
Where does "competitiveness" make sense?

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The Soft Power in Sustainability Transformations: Repurposing



Surface layer: listening to system feedback and adjusting environmental pressures maintains progress

Mid layer: using the right rules and incentives can create structural change and significantly influence key drivers

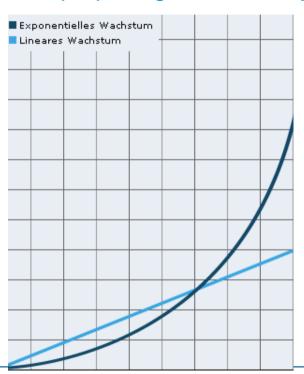
Deep layer: shared mindsets translate into vision, goals and collective action

^{**}Donella Meadows, Leverage Points, here UNEP GEO5, S.422





Q2: Repurposing our economy as high leverage point









"YES, THE PLANET GOT DESTROYED. BUT FOR A BEAUTIFUL MOMENT WE CREATED A LOT OF SHAREHOLDER VALUE."



Thank you

