World Future Council

Guarding our Future: Securing Long-Term Wellbeing on one Planet

Consultation of the Hungarian Parliamentary Commissioner for Future Generations Budapest, February 14, 2011

Background of Assumptions

• Science and human experiences tell us that we have to change our goals and means of social and economic development



- This change will have to be structural and paradigmatic
- Actors from all sectors need to coordinate incremental but decisive change
- Binding rules and their adaptive management, guided by transparent indicators and agreed principles are key means for this collaboration
- A compelling vision and trust can turn these means into a surge



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Worldviews, Habits, Institutions Frame our Reality



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"Men make their own history, but they do not make it just as they please; the do not make it under circumstance chosen by themselves, but under circumstances directly encountered, given and transmitted from the past. The tradition of all the dead generations weighs like a nightmare on the brain of the living."*

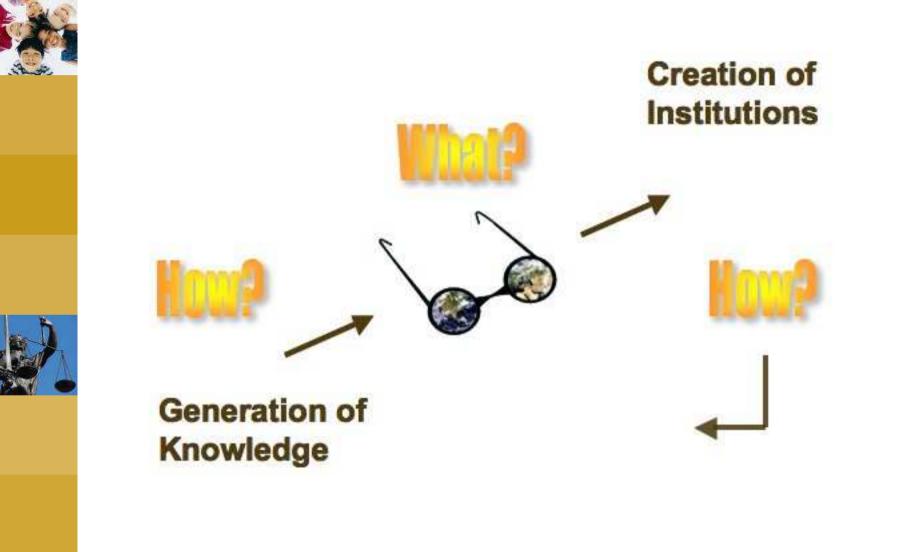
- -Convictions, knowledge and science
- -Values, norms and habits
- -Roles, rules of interaction in institutions
- -Public laws and jurisdiction

* Karl Marx: www.goodreads.com/quotes/show/114782

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Worldviews as Filters...

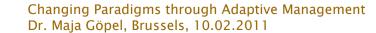


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Humans and Planet Do not Fit Economic Equations







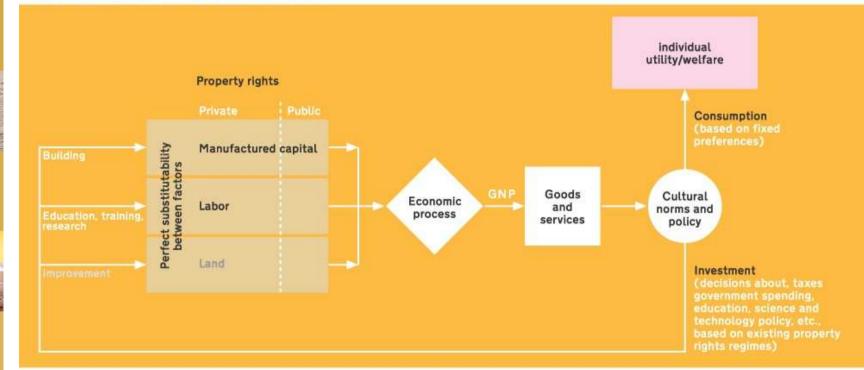
Our World Appears as a Dead World



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Dead World Model of Economies



*Adopted from: Costanza, R.; Cumberland, H., Daly, H., Goodland, R., Noorgard, R. 1997, *An Introduction to Ecological Economics*, St. Lucie Press.

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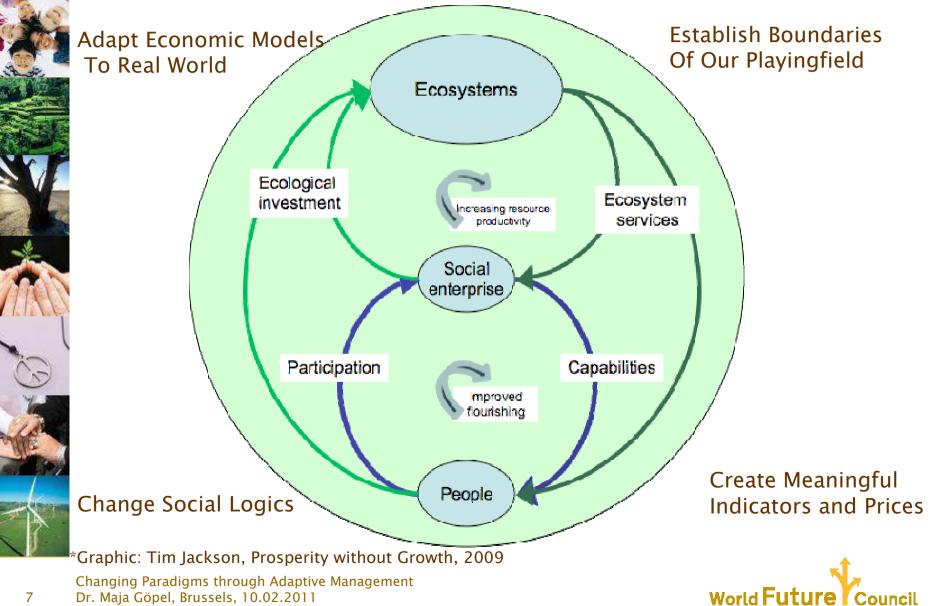




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Livable Economies on one Planet*



Changing Paradigms...



The process of human development

	Economic	Cultural	Institutional
Components	Individual resources	Emancipative values	Freedom rights
Process	Economic development	Emancipative cultural change	Democratisation
Effect	Enhances capabilities	Increases priorities	Broadens entitlements
Causality	From resources to values to rules		
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Sources: Welzel, Inglehart & Klingemann (2003) p. 346 and Inglehart & Welzel (2005) p. 3, Compilation by Deutsche Bank Research



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Vision of Future Justice



- "Future Justice" allows for the discovery of joint interests:
- Difficult to argue against the human rights of those that do not have any responsibility for the situation of today.

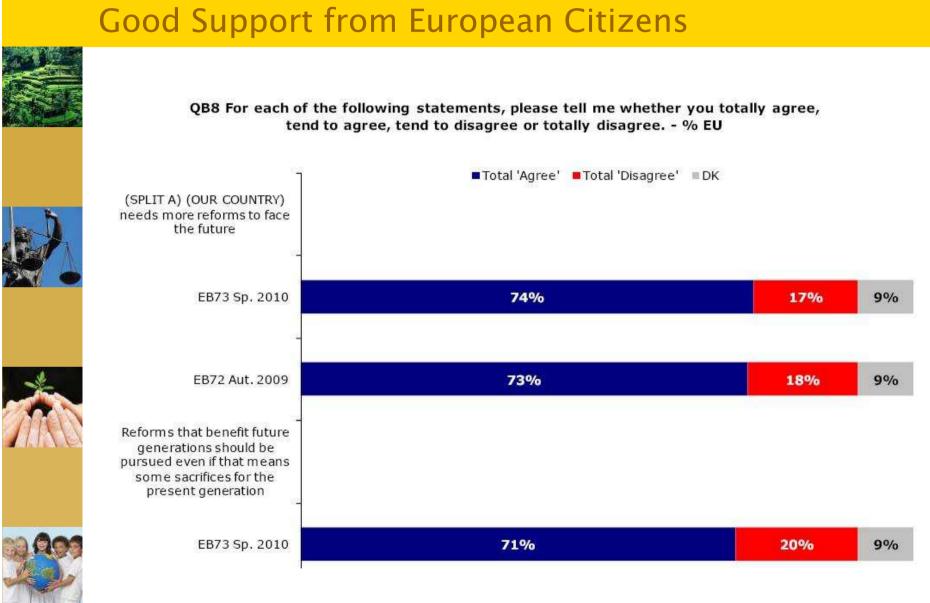


- Focus on wellbeing of future generations brings values like social justice, less consumption an precaution to the forefront.
- Recognition of diversified indicators to grasp prosperity highlights mutual influencing between different sectors.
- Use universally accepted principles for sustainable development to guide the creation of new joint solutions.





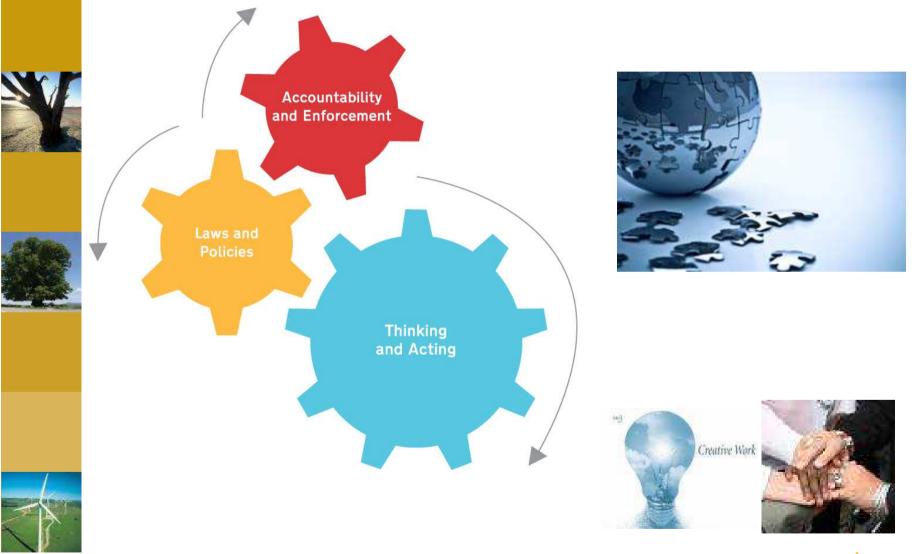




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We Need Trans-Institutional Collaboration and Trust



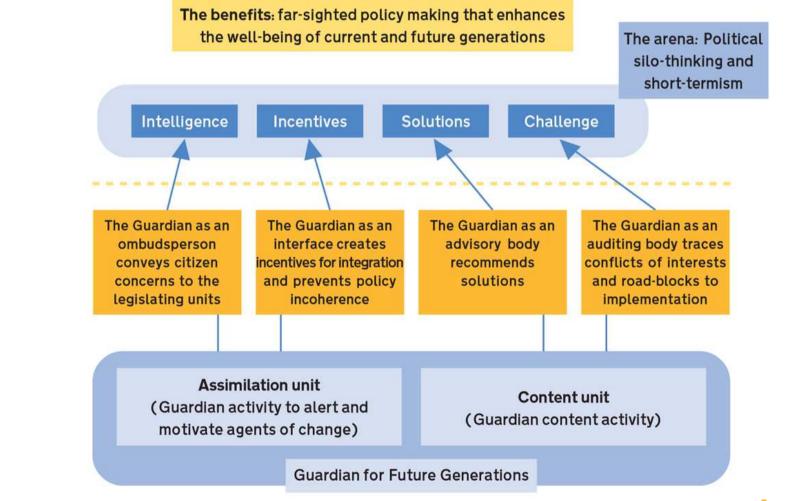


International Law Association Principles



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How would a Guardian for Future Generations work?



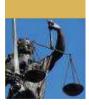


Paradigm Shift for Future Justice

- Passionate vision of secured wellbeing for all now and in the future
- Open, participatory dialogue to cultivate the vision
- Compassionate engagement with fear of loosing privileges



- Trans-disciplinary, out of the box, believable expertise
- Eye-level, pluralist expert dialogue
- Easy-to understand information and education on all levels
- Transparent disclosure of information and challenges
- Quick, incremental, accountable change of the rules of the game
- Powerful coalitions to turn empowering thinking into creative doing
- Tangible changes in the quality of life through new solutions







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Thank You For Your Attention!

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