# TEACHING AND LEARNING FOR AN UNKNOWN FUTURE:

**Educating for Change as a Constant** 

Nobel Prize Teacher Summit

30-09-2022



Teacher and Learning for Sustainability

#### **Dr. Shepherd Urenje - SWEDESD**

Program Specialist – Education for Sustainable Development Centre for Research and Education on Learning for Sustainable Development and Global Health, Uppsala University, Sweden The Greek philosopher, Heraclitus of Ephesus (500 BC)

"the only constant in life is change"

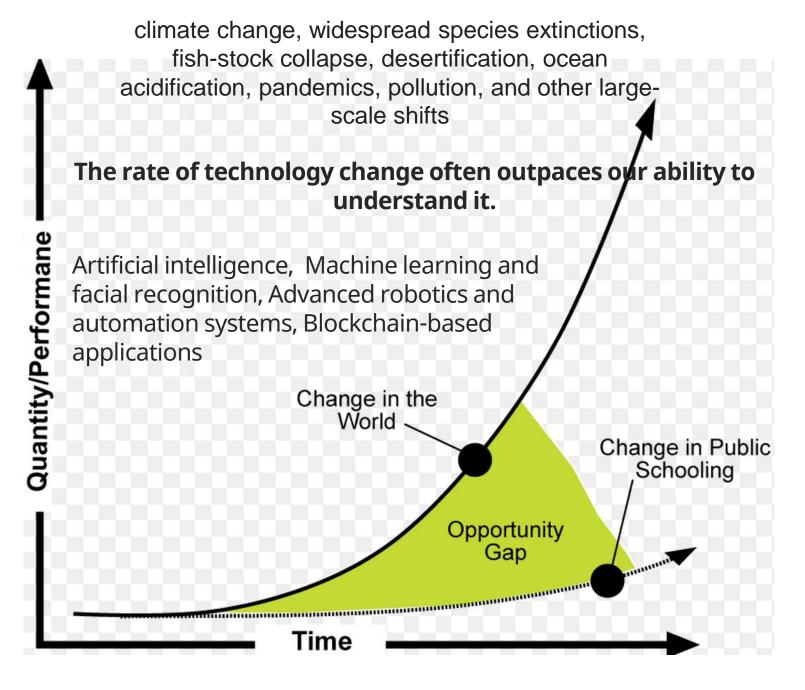


### Justin Trudeau, 2018

 On January 23, 2018, at Davos, Justin Trudeau said: "Think about it: The pace of change has never been this fast, yet it will never be this slow again."

 The pace of change will never be as slow as it is today

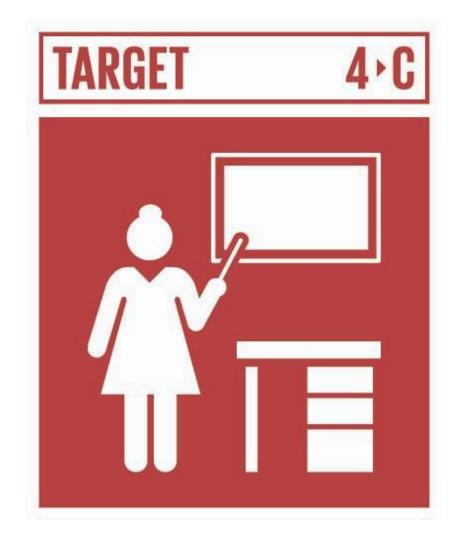




The rate of change in the world is far outpacing the rate of change in education

**Dr Justin Tarte, 2015** 

Research alone does not change practice



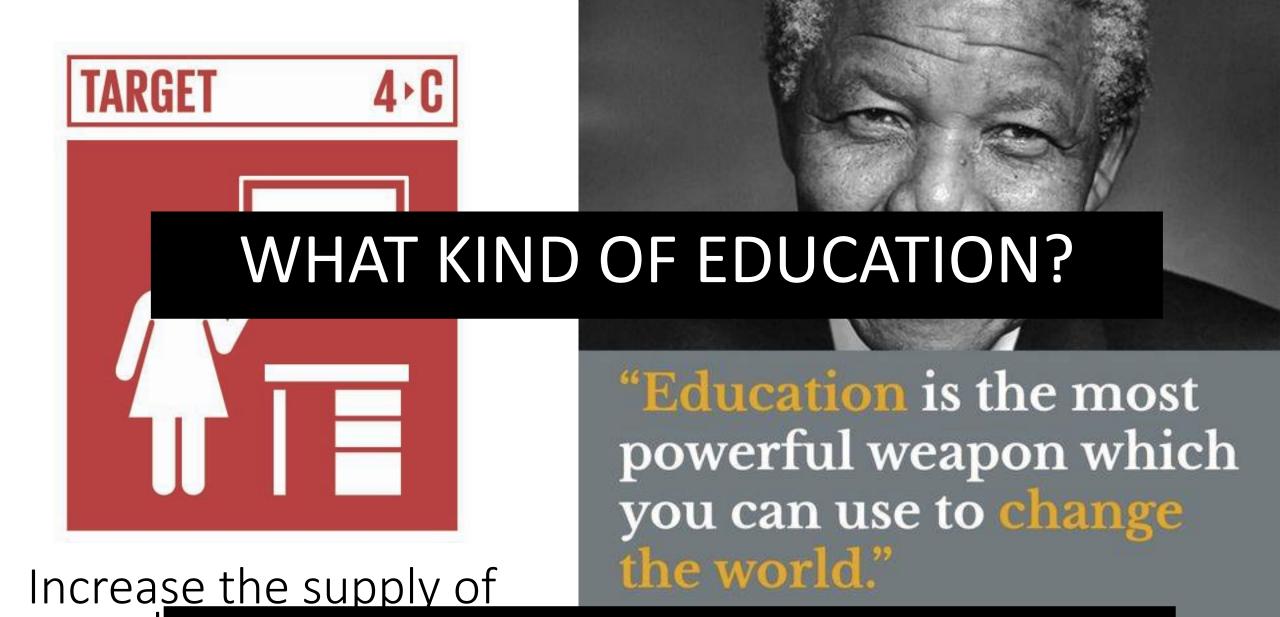
Increase the supply of qualified teachers



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Nelson Mandela

Nobel Peace Prize 1993



WHAT KIND OF TEACHERS?



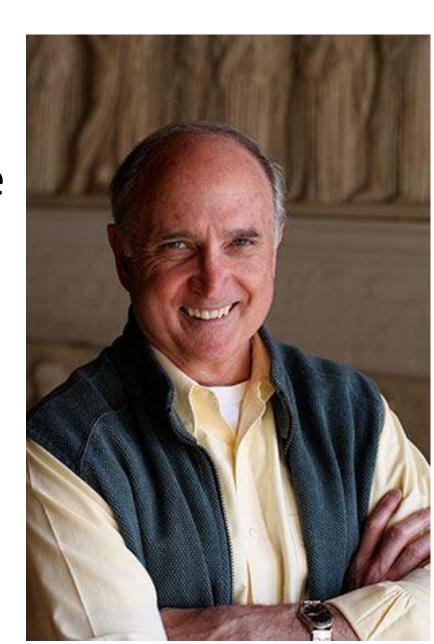


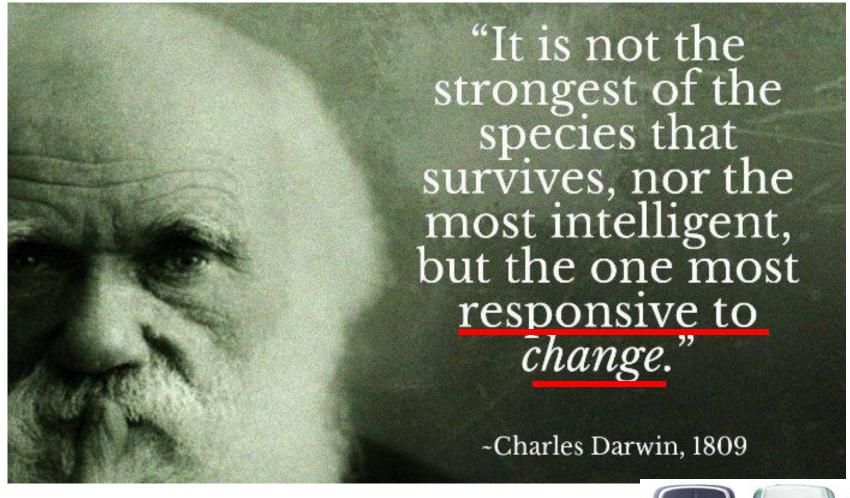
#### THE CHALLENGE

"the knowledge, skills, aptitudes and values necessary to industrialise the earth are not necessarily the same as those that will be needed to heal the earth or build durable economies and good communities based on principles of equity and sustainability"

(David Orr, 2004)







Sustainability
Competences for a changing world:

Advancing quality learning for vibrant societies

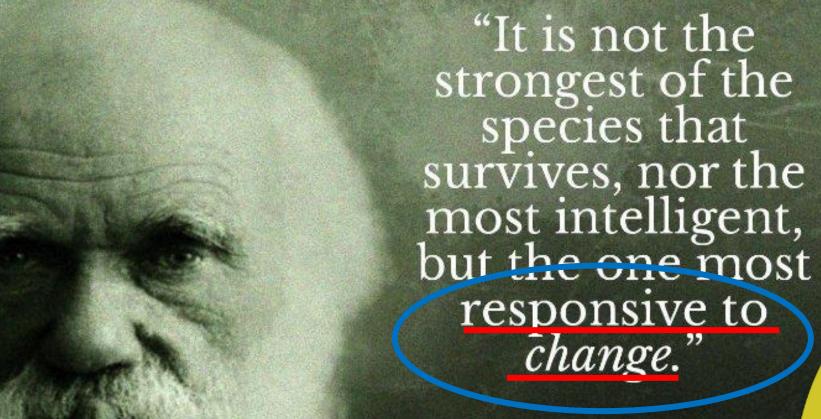
READINESS For CHANGE

# CHANGE OR DIE.

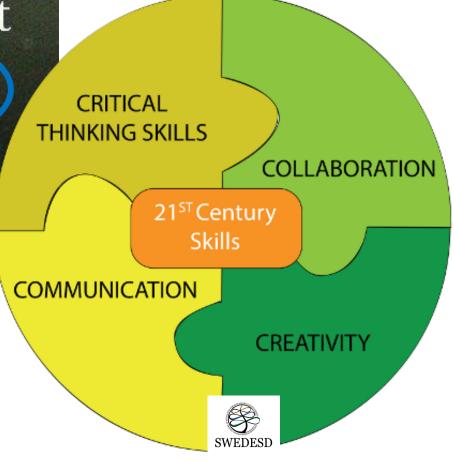








Responding to
CHANGE?
COMPNCES for 21st
Century



# CHANGE OR DIE.

~Charles Darwin, 1809

#### WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO CHANGE?

Ways of thinking and acting

We are the students of today attending the schools of yesterday being taught by the teachers of the pastwith methods from the Middle Ages to solve the problems of the future!



Classroom

You

Pedagogy





## WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO CHANGE?

Introducing New ways of thinking and acting

We are the students of today attending the schools of yesterday being taught by the teachers of the past-with methods from the Middle Ages to solve the problems of the future!

Classroom
You
Pedagogy

#### Discussion:

- Why is this important for Teacher (Re)Education?
- How can ESD achieve this ambition?



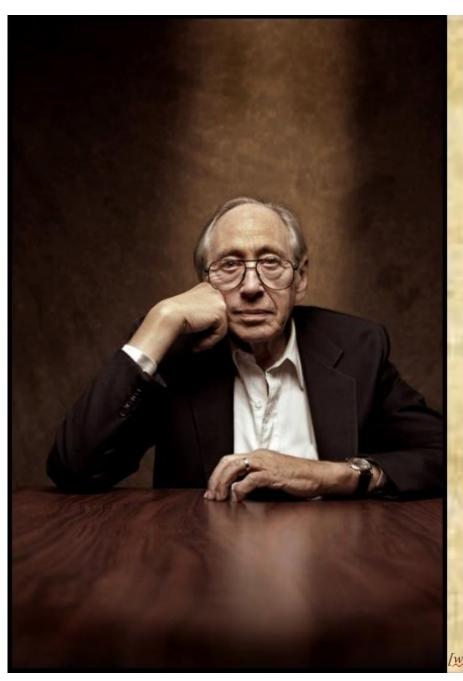
Teachers of tomorrow







The quality of education accessible to the majority has not empowered people to sustainably adapt to, mitigate and cope with the complexity of emergent issues in their environments.



"The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn."

- Alvin Toffler

**ESD PROMISES** 

LEARNING UNLEARNING
AND RE-LEARNING

FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

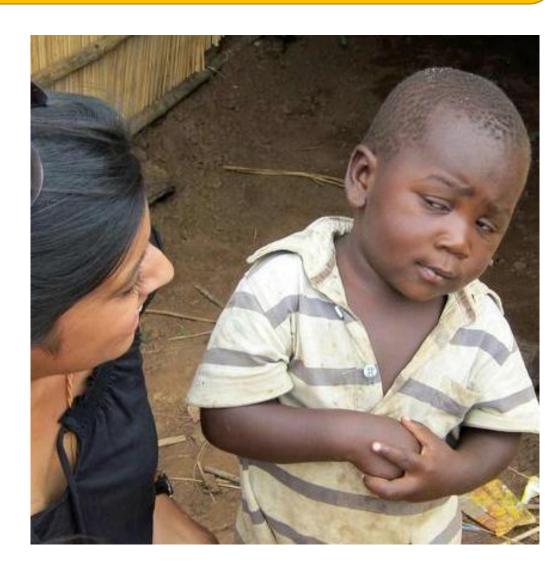
[www.goodreads.com/quotes/8800-the-illiterate-of-the-21st-century-will-not-be-those]

#### A DILEMMA OF SUSTAINABILITY COMPETENCES:

Do we know the kind of learning that will take us out of unsustainability?

## Learning is important to respond to the challenges of unsustainability but,

- Do we know the type of learning needed and associated processes and qualities of learning?
- Are current challenges reflecting the type of learning that we have received?
- Is our ability to confront the challenges questionable?



# Responding to the sustainability crisis - confronting a global dysfunction -

## BUT WHY COMPETENCES FOR SUSTAINABILITY



Current global trends suggest that our behaviours threaten our ability "to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"

(Brundtland Report, 1987)





### WICKED SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

COMPLEX

CONTEXTUAL

CONTESTED

**EMERGENT** 

**UNCERTAIN** 

EDUCATION

HOW CAN WE
PREPARE FOR THE
21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY AND
BEYOND?



**FUTURES** 

EDUCATING FOR A FUTURE WE DO NOT KNOW??

### WICKED ISSUES

#### COMPLEX

#### CONTEXTUAL

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HOW CAN WE
PREPARE FOR THE
21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY?

#### **COMPETENCES FOR SUSTAINABILITY**

Systems thinking

Futures thinking

Values thinking

Strategic thinking

Collaboration competence

Critical thinking

Personal competence

Integrated problem-solving competence

Creativity and Innovation

### SDG 4.7 by 2030



- "ensure all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and nonviolence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development".
- Shifting the discourse from learning new skills to enabling the processes that create these skills and competences.

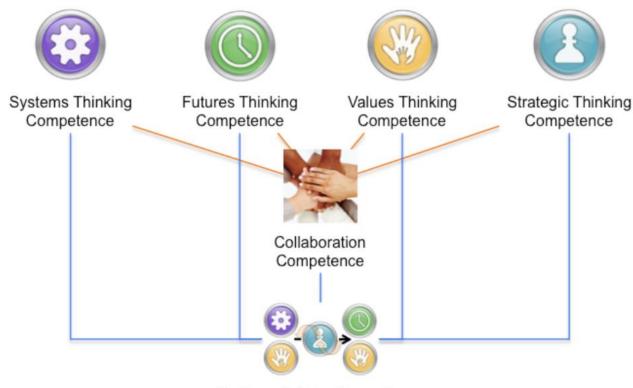
# Education needs to keep up with our fast-moving world. Here's how change might happen

Learning for a future we do not know

- Systems thinking competence
- Anticipatory competence
- Normative (Values) competence
- Strategic competence
- Interpersonal competence
- Integrated problem solving

### Increasing Relevance

 There is a wide variety of educational strategies to increase the relevance of what is taught and learned—a few examples include



#### THE NAVIGATION TOOL

**CONTENT** 

#### SUSTAINABLE GALS DEVELOPMENT GALS































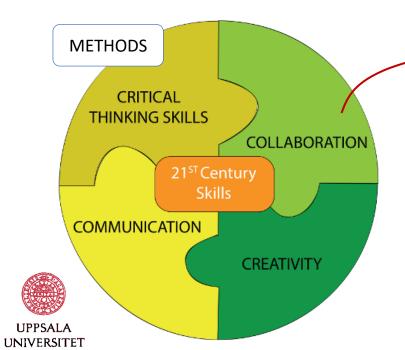












#### **COMPETENCES FOR SUSTAINABILITY**

Systems thinking

Futures thinking

Values thinking

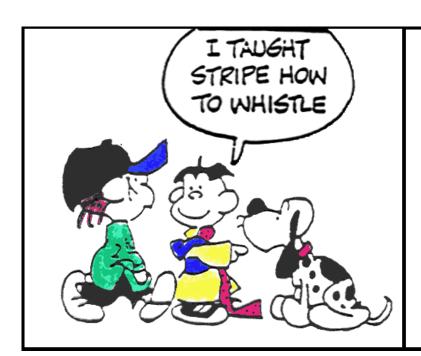
Strategic thinking

Collaboration competence

Critical thinking

Personal competence

Integrated problem-solving competence







# Transformative Learning connects teaching with learning

Educating for a new way of thinking and doing



### Thank you

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