

Genervision Cape

Issue No. 18 | 06.2022



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What is Being Discussed in the Climate Negotiation?

From June 6 to June 16, Samson Cheng from Genervision House, had the honor to participate as an observer in the 56th Subsidiary Body Meeting (SB56) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Bonn, Germany.

As the annual meeting between the Conferences of the Parties (COP), this two-week subsidiary body meeting aims to build on the outcomes of last year's COP26 in Glasgow and accelerate the process through a series of technical negotiations to ensure the completion of COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, at the end of this year.

As a youth delegate, Samson also participated in a bilateral dialogue with the COP26 Presidency and the EU Climate Negotiations Team to discuss their expectations and preparations for SB56 and COP27, youth leadership in the climate agenda, etc.

After two weeks of learning, Samson would also like to share what he learnt from the Climate Conference, as well as some knowledge about climate negotiations, including the urgent topic of Losses and Damages in recent years and how the conference resulted in a legally binding document, etc.

A Knowledge Cape For Development Updates

Past Event

Genervision House Invited to Attend “Climatizer” Youth Talk and Share Experience in Promoting Action on Climate Change

Genervision House’s ESG and Community Project Manager Gladys Ng was honored to be invited by the China Youth Climate Action Network (CYCAN) to speak at the “Climatizer” youth talk on June 26, 2022, in the run-up to the International Youth Summit on Energy and Climate Change, IYSECC. In the Youth Talk session, Genervision House and other environmental non-profit organizations from Mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong discussed the role that non-profits can play in promoting environmental protection and combating climate change. It was a very interesting exchange!

During her presentation, Gladys shared the experience on promoting the Sustainable Development Goals and climate change communication in Macau, as well as how to use mindfulness to bring people closer to nature.

In the face of the growing distance between human beings and nature, we hope to help people to pay attention to environmental issues through four methods in our communications:

Pull in the psychological distance between man and nature

- Make it Alive**
Tell personal and concrete stories that people can relate
- Focus on the Positives**
Talk about climate change in a positive light
- Encourage Habits**
Guide people to build habits with simple and consistent actions
- Proactive Discussion**
Normalize climate discussion and form mainstream awareness

On personal awareness, we can also try to practice mindfulness, focusing our attention on the present moment and understanding our own behavior:

Mindfulness and Mindlessness

Many unsustainable behaviors result from being unaware of the impacts of our actions

Mindfulness, on the other hand, promotes environmental sustainability

Mindfulness intensifies our experience of natural environments and fosters a stronger connection with nature

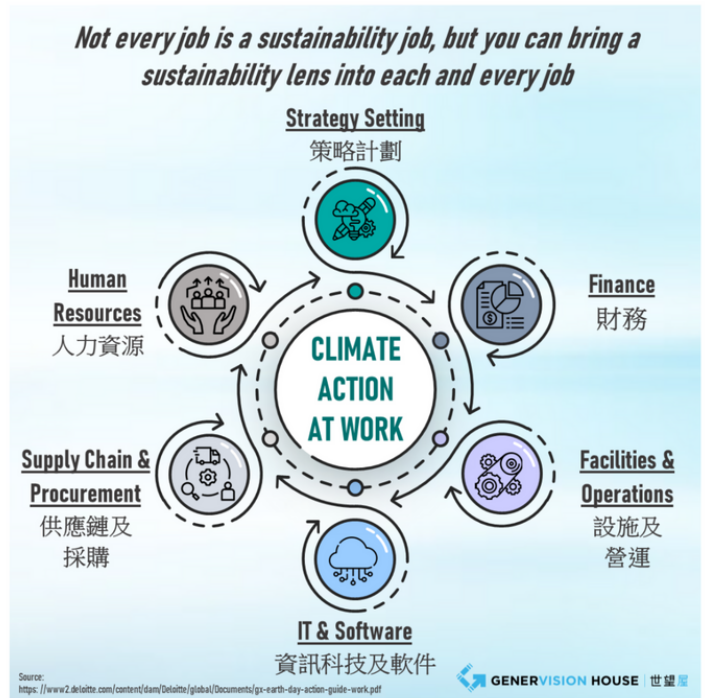
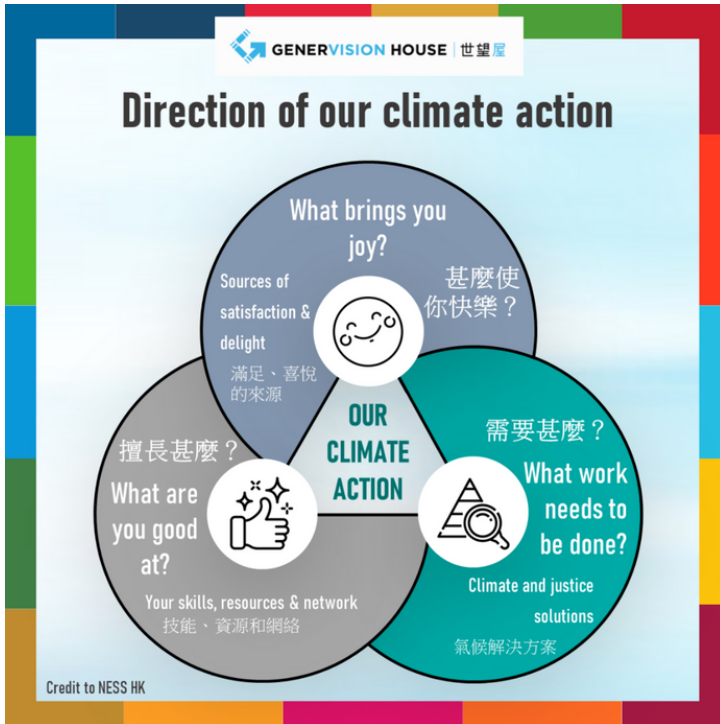
It can free us from unconscious thoughts and makes us more aware of the impact of our actions on distant communities and the environment as a whole

Thank you again for CYCAN's invitation! If you are interested in climate change and youth action, don't miss out on this year's International Youth Summit on Energy and Climate Change! Check out more details here: <https://bit.ly/3nopPLb>



Our Climate Action

When we talk about sustainability development, have you ever wondered what can we do to contribute? It might seem to be vague and clueless sometimes. Just a little suggestion, we could start by thinking what we enjoy doing, what we are good at and what are the sustainability issues that need to be resolved to come up with our little climate action plan. It doesn't have to be something big - celebrating little wins and sharing/exchanging ideas with friends could definitely help.



<p>Strategy Setting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed sustainability & climate change directly into short & long-term business strategy Evaluate organizational risks and opportunities associated with climate change Consider how changing weather & severe weather events may impact operations 	<p>策略計劃</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 將可持續發展和氣候變化直接納入短期和長期業務戰略 評估氣候變化相關的風險和機遇 考慮不斷變化的天氣和惡劣天氣事件會為營運帶來甚麼影響
<p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track financial losses due to severe weather impacts Develop a responsible investment policy that incorporates sustainability considerations Ensure sustainability reporting is done with the same rigor as financial reporting 	<p>財務</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 追蹤因惡劣天氣影響造成的財務損失 制定包含可持續性相關的負責任投資政策 確保可持續發展報告與財務報告一樣嚴格
<p>Facilities & Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase renewable energy or generate it on premise Add sustainability to the list of criteria in vendor selection Implement policies to reduce food waste & promote locally sourced food 	<p>設施與營運部</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 購買再生能源或自行生產 將可持續性添加到供應商選擇的標準列表中 實施政策以減少食物浪費和推廣本地採購的食物

Source: <https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/global/Documents/gx-earth-day-action-guide-work.pdf>

<p>Human Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure sustainability is referenced in brand, purpose, values, and mission statement Incorporate small elements of climate learning into all organizational trainings Advocate for hybrid or work-from-home policies for positions 	<p>人力資源</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 確保在品牌、宗旨、價值觀及使命中提及可持續發展 將氣候學習的小元素融入所有組織培訓中 倡導混合或在家工作政策
<p>Supply Chain & Procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the carbon footprint of each step in the production process Work with vendors to reduce packaging Purchase renewable energy Decrease waste and increase practices that reuse, recycle and regenerate 	<p>供應鏈及採購</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 了解生產過程中每個步驟的碳足跡 與供應商合作以減少包裝 購買再生能源 減少浪費並增加再利用、回收和再生的做法
<p>IT & Software</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include take-back provisions in equipment contracts Ensure equipment specifications include green certification Extend equipment life and policies for upgrades, subject to security considerations Program equipment to turn off completely when not in use 	<p>資訊科技及軟件</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 在設備合同中包含回收條款 確保設備規格包括綠色認證 延長設備壽命及升級政策，同時需考慮安全因素 將設備編程在不使用時完全關閉

Source: <https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/global/Documents/gx-earth-day-action-guide-work.pdf>

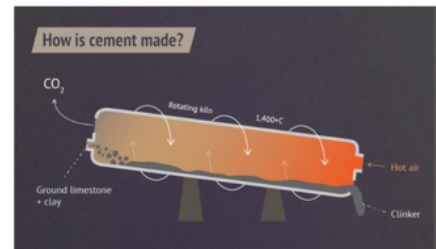
UK Engineers Invented Zero-Emission Cement

Cement is used in construction to bind other materials together. It is mixed with sand, gravel and water to produce concrete, the most widely used construction material in the world. A major cement used globally is Portland cement, and a critical step in making this type of cement is the production of Portland clinker. During the production, limestone (CaCO_3) is "calcinated" at high temperatures in a cement kiln to produce the clinker, leading to the release of waste carbon dioxide (a major greenhouse gas). Because carbon dioxide is produced from a chemical reaction, it can't be eliminated in the process. But there's now a possibility to make CO₂-free cement.



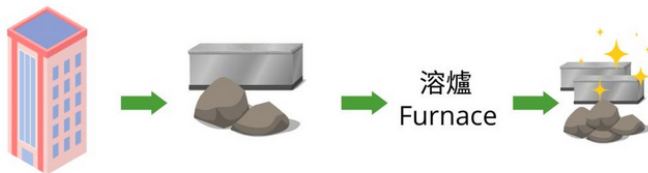
在水泥生產過程中，石灰石(CaCO_3)在水泥窯中被高溫「煅燒」以產生熟料，過程中亦會排放二氧化碳(一種主要的溫室氣體)。因為二氧化碳是由化學反應產生的，所以在這個過程中它不能被完全消除。

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圖片來源 Photo Credit: CarbonBrief

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從回收的混凝土中分離出來的水泥，幾乎與回收用過的鋼材過程中所用的石灰熔劑相同。當鋼融化時，回收的混凝土(或熔劑)漂浮在熔化的鋼上，以保護其不被氧化。在收集鋼材後，熔劑最終會變成礦渣，它可以被研磨成粉末，取代製造水泥過程中的熟料。

Cement separated from recycled concrete was virtually identical to the lime flux that is used to recycle used steel in furnaces. As steel melts, the recycled concrete (or flux) floats on top of molten steel to protect it from oxidizing. The flux then ends up as slag after the steel is collected, and it is can be grounded into a powder that can replace clinker to be used to make cement.

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Engineers from Cambridge University found that cement separated from recycled concrete was virtually identical to the lime flux that is used to recycle used steel in furnaces. As steel melts, the recycled concrete (or flux) floats on top of molten steel to protect it from oxidizing. The flux then ends up as slag after the steel is collected, and it is can be grounded into a powder that can replace clinker to be used to make cement. If the entire recycling process is powered by electricity generated from renewable sources, it can supply all the the basic materials in construction without any greenhouse gas emissions.

This cement - Cambridge Electric Cement- was invented as part of the UK FIRES program, which aims to enable a rapid transition to zero emissions based on using today's technologies differently.

Digital Public Goods are Critical to Solve Global Crises

In recent years, digital public goods (DPGs) have become an emerging trend under global digital cooperation that can realize sustainable development. From combatting fake news to Covid-19 vaccination management registration, DPGs are very diverse and bring about effective outcomes.

The DPGs are open softwares, open data, open AI models, open standards and open content. Once these low-cost, easily replicable technologies are discovered and further developed by the Digital Public Goods Alliance, they can be used to solve the world's present and future global challenges, adapting their solutions to local situations.



Fact-check Information and Combat Fake News During Election

As our society becomes increasingly polarised with fake news that are difficult to identify, the UN Development Programme has launched a tool called iVerify for this specific purpose. Through the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and human fact-checking, this digital tool can effectively identify fake news related to elections and inform groups such as citizens and journalists of such fake news, thereby helping to prevent hate speech and strengthen citizens' trust in the political system. iVerify has already been applied in Zambia and Honduras, and, therefore, supporting peaceful and just local elections.

Effective Management of Vaccination which Accelerates Data-Driven Decision-making

To address Covid-19, India invented a digital platform named CoWIN, which allows citizens to register for vaccination and provide post-vaccination feedback. Medics authorities could also use real-time data generated on the platform to manage vaccination and reduce vaccine wastage. CoWIN has helped to deliver 1.3 billion vaccinations in under a year across 327,000 centres. This platform has steady become a digital public good, which can be adapted for use in different countries.

The “Roadmap for Digital Cooperation” report released by the United Nations Secretary-General in 2020 points to the need for countries to cooperate in terms of digital public goods for a more equitable world. The report also emphasised the importance of the functioning of the Digital Public Goods Alliance.

A Global Food Crisis at an Alarming Level

The global food crisis is now at an imminent stage, with more than 276 million people on the brink of famine. One of the main culprits of this crisis is the war between Russia and Ukraine; compounding the war and climate change have caused global food prices to rocket, leading many countries in Africa are facing severe food shortages.

Ukraine, a major food exporter to hundreds of millions of people around the world, has already lost 20 million tons of food to international markets by May 2022; in addition, Russia, also a major food producer, has stopped exporting to most countries, causing countries that have always relied on Russian and Ukrainian agri-food imports, as well as the Sahel region of Africa, to be the first to suffer. Since the war began, 23 countries from Kazakhstan to Kuwait have announced severe restrictions on food exports in which covering 10 percent of global trade calories. To make things worse, due to the lack of rainfall, from China, the second-largest exporter of wheat, to the wheat belt in the United States and the grain silos of the Beauce region of France are affected causing wheat production has fallen short of projected export levels; International organizations are now calling countries for joint action and open markets to avoid a humanitarian and food crisis disaster.



What are War Crimes?

War crimes is a very broad concept used to refer to crimes that occur in war (armed conflict). The concept is divided into two levels: war crimes as a kind of "state crime"; and war crimes as a system of international law for holding individuals criminally responsible, which began after World War II. They are considered so serious that there is no period of limitation for such crimes - which means that those who commit them can be prosecuted and punished no matter how much time has elapsed since the crimes were committed.

At the end of World War II, the part of the London Agreement signed by the U.S., Britain, the Soviet Union, and France established three categories of war crime:

1. Conventional war crimes: including murder, ill-treatment, or deportation of the civilian population of occupied territories;
2. Crimes against peace: planning, preparation, initiation, or waging of a war of aggression, or a war in violation of international treaties, agreements, or assurances;
3. Crimes against humanity: political, racial, or religious persecution against any civilian population.

How to Have a "Green" Summer? Five Hacks for Sustainable Living

How do you want to spend your summer?

For many people, summer means sunshine, beaches and colorful clothing. Why not try a new way of living - a more sustainable way of living - at a time when everything is thriving? Let those attempts to be thoughtful for the planet and animals become a little bit of a ritual to get through the summer.

We've compiled five suggestions for sustainable living that might inspire you to start a new summer in a better way.

1. Learn to read product labels and choose ocean-friendly sunscreen

Summer is the peak season to go to the beaches and swimming pools, according to statistics, every year, an average of more than 14,000 tons of harmful sunscreen substances dissolved in the water. These harmful chemical sunscreen ingredients can affect the development of the coral, so that it can not reproduce properly, and increase the phenomenon of coral fading whitening, and damage health of other marine life such as fish and sea turtles. In addition, it may interfere with the human endocrine system or trigger skin allergies, and even affect the development of children. Therefore, it is worth taking a minute to look carefully at the sunscreen ingredients label in order to not only protect your skin from UV damage and hormone disorder, but also to prevent damage to the ocean and coral.

The following 10 kinds of chemical sunscreen ingredients are harmful to the marine ecology: cinnamate (Octinoxate, Ethylhexyl, methoxycinnamate), dioxybenzone (Oxybenzone, Benzophenone-3, BP3), Octocrylen, 4-methylbenzylidene camphor (4-Methylbenzylidene Camphor, Triclosan, Methyl paraben. In particular, do not choose sunscreens that contain dioxybenzone or cinnamate. Many sunscreens that are mild or designed for sensitive skin do not contain chemical ingredients.

2. In addition to sunscreens, many beauty and skin care products can harm the ocean and the human body, such as glitter and scrubs (e.g., facial cleansers, body creams, lip balms and toothpastes). Due to their small size, these microplastics/microbeads are not filtered by the current wastewater treatment system and most of them are discharged directly into the ocean. Microbeads can adsorb and accumulate large amounts of toxic substances (including flame retardants and dioxins) at concentrations up to one million times higher than those absorbed by seawater. Toxic substances accumulate in marine organisms with the microbeads, which then enter the human body through the food chain. Microbeads can also block the esophagus or digestive system of fish and sea birds, causing malnutrition and even death.

To reduce marine pollution, the mobile app Beat the Microbead is a great tool. By scanning the barcode of a personal care product, the app will color-code the product's plastic particle content, giving consumers a more complete picture of the product they are buying. In addition, consumers can check the ingredients label on the product packaging at the time of purchase. The presence of substances such as polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP) or nylon indicates that the product contains microbeads.

3. Re-match old clothes to reduce the need for "a new wardrobe for a new season"

Summer is a good season to dress up. If you want to wear a new style, you don't have to buy new clothes all the time, but can make the best use of your existing clothes to look stylish and give people a different impression. When you really want to buy new clothes, you may also try to find surprises from vintage and second-hand clothes. With a little modification the clothes would look like a tailor-made. Don't just throw clothes you don't wear anymore in the trashbin, you can resell them through second-hand clothing platforms or donate them to clothing recycling (there are clothing recycling bins at all four Eco-Fun stations), but beware of donating clothes that can't be reused and will end up costing extra to transport to landfills. Such as household fabrics, damaged goods, second-hand underwear or socks, are not allowed to donate for recycling. When donating clothing, the first thing to do is to clean all items to ensure hygiene, but not to repackage them.

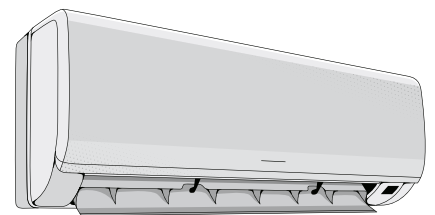


4. Turn on the air conditioner skillfully for health and environmental protection

The temperature range of air-conditioning should be 26-28 °C , with automatic temperature control to avoid wasting energy due to excessive cold. In addition, adjusting the mode from "air conditioning" to "dehumidification" can not only achieve the same effect of reducing the indoor temperature, but also save electricity and reduce the harm to human body. Remember to open the windows for ventilation after the air conditioner has been on for 3 hours. Keep cleaning the air filter once every two weeks can also help save electricity. Of course, the most environmentally friendly is the use of physical insulation, as far as possible without air conditioning, you can install an additional layer of internal windows at the inner edge of the window, and install window-blinds in the middle, which can have a good effect on heat insulation.

5. Beauty with ethics - refuse to use fake eyelashes made of animal hair

In recent years, eyelash extensions have become popular, and many fake eyelashes are made of soft, lightweight mink hair, but the process of taking mink hair is actually very cruel and unhygienic. SEPHORA, a famous French cosmetics chain, also sold fake eyelashes made from mink hair and other animal hair, but later announced that it would stop selling all fake eyelashes made from animal hair after a lot of concern. Next time, when seeing fake eyelashes, it's better to consider: this is artificial synthetic eyelash, or eyelash made of animal hair?



Sustainable lifestyle, sustainable happiness.

How to Design a Female-Friendly City?

In "Her City: A City Guide to Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Planning and Design with Girls," UN-Habitat notes that women globally do not use urban public spaces to the same extent as men. Surveys show that from age 8, 80 percent of public spaces are occupied by boys, and girls feel unsafe or excluded by these spaces.

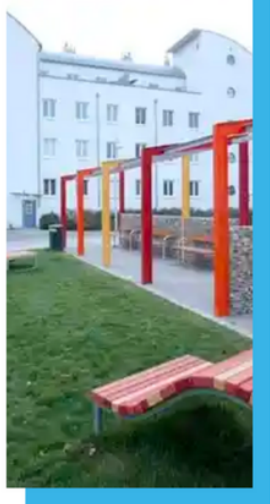
"For a long time, the default perspective in many areas has been the male perspective, and it is only when the female perspective is taken into account that we have a comprehensive human perspective.

The design of cities should take into account not only the safety of women but also the convenience of women, such as the issue of restrooms and nursing rooms. Gender equality in the city is one of the hallmarks of urban civilization. "

The civilization of a country or a city depends on the concern for the relatively disadvantaged groups. This concern is not limited to women, but also the tolerance and care for race, class, the elderly, and children.

VIENNA

Eva Kyle designed the Women-Work-City apartment building in Vienna, a 357-unit residential complex located near a public transportation station. Each floor of the building has a stroller storage area and ample open space for children to play, as well as a nursery, pharmacy and community doctor's office. The height of the building had to be low enough to ensure that the women living there could see the street, and the apartments are very close to public transportation stops, all of which were designed with women's safety in mind.



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THE UK

G. Valentine, a British scholar, studied the relationship between women's sense of danger and public space design, using British cities as examples, and proposed specific indicators for evaluating women's sense of safety in public space. For example, flyovers are preferred over underpasses, and white lighting is preferred over yellow lighting. The gardening landscape should not obscure the road or obstruct the view, and fences should be few. Corners and corners of the surveillance should be good, can be improved by adding mirrors. These specific indicators have become the planning standards for public space.



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SOUTH KOREA

Seoul, South Korea, has designated hundreds of 24-hour convenience stores in the city as "women's safe houses," where women can hide and call the police when they are in danger on the street.

In Hangun-dong, Korea, an area with the highest rate of female assault, a local cafe volunteered to serve as a women-only community space, popular with local high school girls and office workers, and a channel for passing on the latest police safety information.



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MORE DETAILS

In Shenzhen and Guangzhou, there are women-only subway cars; in Japan, too. In addition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia also has women-only buses.

In 2013, a women-only safety audit was launched in New Delhi, India, using a mobile app that allows female users to rate streets and other public spaces based on lighting, visibility, population density, security conditions, etc., and have their routes followed by someone they trust. Similarly, Melbourne has launched a mobile app called "Free to Be" that allows women to identify and share public spaces in the city that make them feel uneasy or scared, or happy and safe.



GENERVISION HOUSE 世望屋

Art and Sustainability

What can you think of when we talk about arts? Music, paintings, poetries, operas, sculptures?

Remember the high school projects that we used recycle materials to make art pieces? Remember the song 'Swallowtail Butterfly' that questions our relationship with nature?

Issues surrounding sustainability are multi-layered, complex and power-engaging. And we have no defined way in approaching varying challenges.

What's special about art is that they can be in many forms and be created at any place, any time. With that, art can portray what is difficult to say about sustainability.

Not only do arts keep record of our time, but also inspire us to rethink our relationship with nature and the way we respond to it.

ART & SUSTAINABILITY
藝術與可持續發展

Embracing more-than-cognitive aspects of knowledge
啟發傳統認知以外的知識

Shifting relationships to nature
轉向自然導向的關係

Improving communication
改善溝通

Facilitating the envisioning of alternative futures
啟發對未來的想像

Grappling with power dynamics
應對權力的模式

"Towards a Community of Practice"
"進一步的社區實踐"

Our Planet Home - Our Sustainable Future

We have only one planet that we call home, but we have **Unlimited Means** to our sustainable future, how about the Art's Way "Towards a Community of Practice"?

Embracing more-than-cognitive aspects of knowledge
啟發傳統認知以外的知識

- Beyond science & technicality
科學與技術以外的知識
- Question values, sense of identity, personal meaning, and emotions
反思價值、自我認知、意義及不同的情感

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Improving communication
改善溝通

- Diverse entry points to connect cognitive with tacit and affective domains of knowledge
以不同的切入點將認知與隱性/情感領域聯繫起來

Facilitating the envisioning of alternative futures
啟發對未來的想像

- Unfold and communicate complexity in accessible ways & stimulate the imagination of alternative futures
展開對複雜議題的討論並啟發對未來的想像
- Challenge linear thinking while incorporate with surprises and opportunities
挑戰線性思維，同時探索不同的驚喜與機會

Grappling with power dynamics
應對權力的模式

- Trust & Connections VS Contestation
信任與聯繫 VS 爭論
- Alternative means of expression in extreme environments
以不同的表達方式應對極端環境/情況

Shifting relationships to nature
轉向自然導向的關係

- Open up spaces of exchange: redefine our understanding of and relationships within socio-ecological systems
開拓交流空間：重新定義我們和生態系統之間的關係

World Oceans Day

June 8 is the United Nations World Oceans Day. This year's theme is "Revitalization Collective Action for the Ocean", a call on all sectors of society to work together to protect our oceans.

Covering 70% of the Earth, our oceans are the source of all living things. Sustainable Development Goal 14 addresses sustainable development through conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources.

Just how important is the ocean? Let's take a look:

- Oceans are one of the world's major repositories of biodiversity, accounting for more than 90% of the earth's habitat;
- The oceans provide 50% of the oxygen we breathe and absorb 26% of anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions;
- The oceans provide a wide variety of commodities such as fish, shellfish and seaweed, as well as mangrove wood, algae and minerals;
- Marine ecosystems regulate the environment, prevent shoreline erosion, and provide water purification and carbon storage.

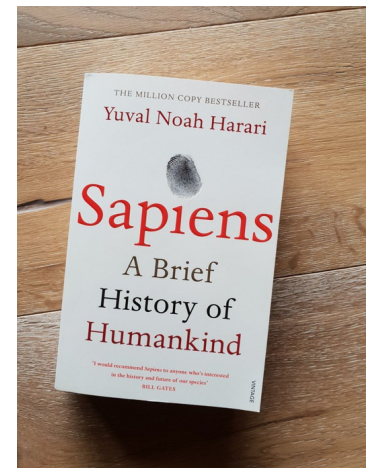
But climate change and overfishing, pollution and coastal destruction made by humans are wreaking havoc on the oceans. The oceans are very important to us and we must take good care of it!



Editor's Pick

As the summer holidays are fast approaching, we would like to share with you a good book that is... Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind. It is a book that has received excellent reviews in many international reviews because of the author's ability to take the reader high into the sky and overlook the entire timeline of human development in a few hundred pages. It covers the economic, social and religious development of mankind along the way, and even explains some of the phenomena occurring in the world today.

The book has been translated into several languages and has recently been released as an illustrated book, so check it out in the bookstore!



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