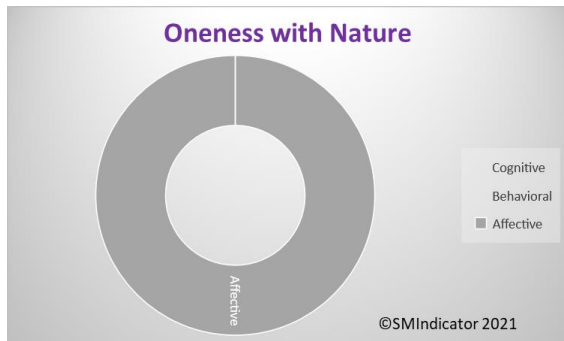




/SPIRITUAL INTELLIGENCE

The spiritual orientation to Nature, to ourselves and to others are key factors for a Sustainability Mindset, as they impact the quality of our actions.

**/WHAT IS ASSESSED HERE:
HOW YOU EXPERIENCE NATURE,
HOW YOU UNDERSTAND THE
HUMAN RELATIONSHIP WITH
NATURE, AND YOUR RELATED
FEELINGS AND BEHAVIORS.**



What this tells you:

This graph shows the affective dimension, meaning that you connect emotionally with this aspect, without necessarily engaging into action. We don't have enough data to report on your understanding of this topic.

YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE THAT your behaviors are based on a worldview in which humans are the most evolved and intelligent species, proven through many achievements and improvements in our quality of life.

We cannot comment on how you think about this topic, since you indicated (by choosing "neither") that you did not find yourself represented by either of the available options.

This said, have you noticed that some betterments have come at a cost for the environment or

society, and we are collectively paying that price? For example, soil erosion or waterways contamination from chemical crop fertilizers meant to enhance soil productivity.

It seems that the human-centric paradigm that we collectively adopted and believe has begun to show some shortcomings, inviting us to revisit our place and role in the larger ecosystem.

What are some undesirable consequences of human progress that you have personally experienced? What message may be in this for you?

/THINK ABOUT HOW YOU CAN LEVERAGE YOUR STRENGTHS AND MANAGE SOME OF THE LIMITATIONS WHICH MAY BE HOLDING YOU BACK:

Your answers to the survey also indicate that you have actually experienced some special moments, when you stood in awe, admiring nature, your heart perhaps filled with joy and a wordless experience of beauty.

What memories did that moment leave you with? Do you long to replicate, repeat or experience this again? Does something hold you back?

The combination of your chosen responses seem to show that those powerful moments may remain encapsulated, disconnected from your more rational daily manner of being. This may be your functional way of operating in a society that rewards rational thinking and intellectual capabilities, and that encourages a utilitarian or instrumental approach to the natural world and its resources.

There is a buried treasure here for you, though! Having had an experience of oneness with Nature, you have the possibility to reach back into it and honor it, reintegrating it into who you are.

/THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

We rely on and praise scientific progress, but history has demonstrated that scientific findings are always within the constraints of available instruments, paradigms or assumptions and many myopic or biased conclusions have been revealed with the passage of time, the development of more precise measurement techniques and revolutionary thinking. Biomimicry, a discipline studying how Nature solves problems, has been highlighting the wisdom of billions of years of evolution, and suggesting that we may find more answers in Nature than through our human intellect.

In fact, indigenous people have demonstrated a more resilient lifestyle, based on an intuitive connection to Nature.

Research has indicated that the experience of oneness with Nature, albeit rare, has a direct connection to shaping a more sustainable society and planet. Unfortunately, this is not yet mainstream.

According to a 2018 United Nations study, over 55% of the world's population lives in urban areas, a proportion that is expected to increase to 68% by 2050. As a result, for many of us, the disconnection from Nature is rather “natural.”

Hectic life in large cities makes it difficult for us to remember that we are more than individuals moving through traffic and buildings. The common associations with the word “Nature” may be vacation time, a park or a documentary. What about our food? Our body? The materials of every object we use?

This disconnection from Nature leads to a utilitarian relationship: Nature is reduced to instrumental resources for human needs and wants. *What consequences do you see from having a utilitarian relationship with Nature?*

We need to re-connect with Nature and re-establish the experience of oneness that has been lost, causing not only spiritual alienation but also the artificial separation from the ecosystem. It has been found related not only to spiritual alienation, but is the root cause for many unsustainability behaviors.

/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:

You seem to have experienced it: a sensorial, intuitive understanding. It is not something to be learned, but rather an experience that we allow to happen, and which makes us remember something we have always known, but had forgotten.

How can you plan to have more of these moments? Your being, your soul will welcome it, and the nourishment may help heal a perhaps currently divided self.

It is impossible to guess your particular context, and your current priorities. But we invite you to give yourself an unusual gift: Spend an hour in Nature, on your own, without looking at your phone, and with no books, pets or other people. If you have never experienced this, you are up for a very special treat!

Understanding that we are one with Nature, a species within species, is a powerful spiritual experience that can shape behaviors leading to a more harmonious relationship with each other and all beings.

