

## /REPORT PREPARED FOR: Michael Tidwell 04/Apr/2023

Welcome to your Personalized Report. This Report is based on your selections on the SMI. It is meant to be a personal development tool, to highlight aspects of your understanding, behaviors and feelings related to your Sustainability Mindset (SM).

You will find observations that you may identify with, others that you vaguely recognize, and others that perhaps don't resonate with you. Keep what you need and what makes sense to you.

You will also find questions to consider, suggestions for things you can try, and information related to the aspects covered in this report, and how these are related to the Sustainability Mindset.

Take your time reading your Report. Pause, take notes, and reflect. It is all about you, and for you. There were no wrong answers in the survey. Only good options and perhaps some that you hadn't thought of.

## /WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES

This Personalized Report is organized into several sections. The first section contains a graph, displaying how the different aspects assessed compare to each other, according to your choices in the survey. Those that occupy a larger area are your stronger ones and the narrower or missing ones are aspects of the Sustainability Mindset that are less developed or absent for you, as inferred from the combination of your answers.

The next section presents personalized descriptions of where you find yourself on your journey towards a Sustainability Mindset, in four clusters: Ecological Worldview, Systems Perspective, Emotional Intelligence, and Spiritual Intelligence.

Within each of these clusters you will find what aspects were assessed, and a graph for each aspect displaying how you connect to this topic, whether intellectually, through your actions and behaviors and/or by engaging your emotions.

If you see some areas missing within the graph, it means that either you selected "neither" for that question and therefore we don't have information to report on, or your answers suggest you don't engage in one or more particular areas (cognitive, behavioral or affective). Similarly, if you selected "neither" for all the questions within one aspect, we don't include a graph, since we don't have information to report on.

Each graph is accompanied by a box with a brief explanation, and you will find much more information in the text to include what your choices suggest, why this particular aspect is key for a sustainability mindset, and questions to ponder and suggestions to try.

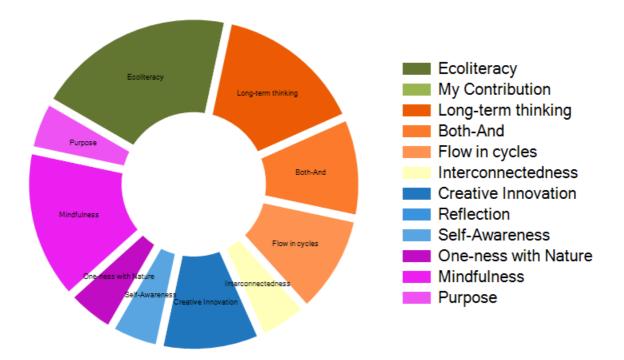
Enjoy your journey into the realm of the Sustainability Mindset - a place where you can be your best, for yourself and for the World.

The SMI Team

## / Your overall SUSTAINABILITY MINDSET PROFILE

The graph below shows your personal profile, indicating how – relatively to each other – you have developed your Sustainability Mindset. The wider sections indicate your stronger areas, and vice versa.

If you see some aspects listed in the side box that are not included in the graph, it means that these are areas to be considered more closely. It may be that you didn't feel represented by any of the statements to choose from, or it might be that your reality, context, and/or habits prompt you to think, act or feel differently. You will find further comments in this report about these aspects, exploring their up- and downsides.





## /ECOLOGICAL WORLDVIEW

An ECOLOGICAL WORLDVIEW is the result of having an intellectual and affective broad understanding of the planetary challenges, how they are interrelated, and how we are contributing to them.

HOW YOU UNDERSTAND THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES, AND HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT IT, AND THE IMPACT ON YOUR BEHAVIORS.



What this tells you:

When the graph is well balanced, it means that you have a good understanding of the aspect of the Sustainability Mindset being assessed, that you are able to connect with your feelings about it, and that you tend to act upon what you know and feel. This is a good start, and you might want to think about circumstances or contexts in which you would like to act more, understand better or further explore your feelings.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you have a good understanding of the complexity of the planetary challenges we are facing, and how they are interrelated. In addition, you seem to be socially sensitive and have empathy for the suffering of others.

This may be an important motivation for you to act in your daily decisions in ways that can minimize your ecological or social footprint, and/or help the sustainability of our planet.

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

This is a great foundation so, where do you think your next challenge is? Maybe to understand more about what is happening, and connect more through your heart and your feelings? Perhaps you can imagine ways in which you can use your skills and unique gifts to contribute and make personal changes for the greater good.

## /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

We tend to underestimate our own power and influence in shaping a better world. As a matter of fact, if the challenges we are currently experiencing are a product of past problematic behaviors, then we are also positively shaping the future of the planet with our current mindful decisions and restorative actions. That opens an interesting path.

Here are some suggestions to consider: What are things you are good at that you aren't incorporating into your sustainability contributions? Who could benefit and where from your gifts and talents and possibly your passion?



Understanding the state of the planet allows us to be more fully aware of the challenges, the complexity of how they are linked to each other, and to explore what it means to US.

HOW YOU SEE THE RELATION BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL DECISIONS AND PLANETARY CHALLENGES, HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT IT AND THE IMPACT ON YOUR PERSONAL BEHAVIORS.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you are aware of the many environmental and social challenges, which you aim to keep separated from your personal life. After all, you didn't cause them!

#### **/YOU ARE MOST COMFORTABLE WHEN**

you can keep a pragmatic approach to the world. You seek to distance yourself from distressing information about sustainability problems to avoid getting emotionally entangled.

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

This can be a useful coping strategy. Perhaps you sense that you would be overwhelmed by emotions while feeling powerless to solve the problems. What's more, you are aware that others played a role in causing the many problems we experience, and you may try to maintain emotional distance by expecting them to fix it.

When problems seem exceedingly large, our hope may be that someone will eventually intervene. Yet, this perspective also can cause stress, as it assumes we are victims at the mercy of powerful external forces or individuals.

All that said, there may be another way to look at this: What if you could identify small ways in which

you realize that you are contributing to the problem, and then, begin to explore changes that are within your control? Certainly you will not solve the bigger problems, but to begin with you may feel more empowered, less at the mercy of others, and playing a role that you may actually enjoy. Food for thought.

### /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

Thinking of how we are personally contributing to the planetary challenges may not be something we do daily. Our demanding lives have many obligations and don't leave much time for reflecting on this. We are busy getting things done!

Yet when analyzing the current un-sustainability of our planet, science has clearly established a link between human behaviors in past decisions and the current problems we face. Much attention is now focused on how to repair the damage done, and how to restore damaged, depleted or endangered resources. Scientists and entrepreneurs study how to minimize current or future problems at the environmental or social level, and how to innovate to avoid negative impacts into the future.

If we collectively influenced the place we find ourselves in now (with all of its problems), that means we also hold the key to influence where we will collectively be in the future – we meaning humankind at large, or, from a closer perspective, our families, children and grandchildren.

#### **/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:**

What if you could develop the habit of asking yourself periodically: *how am I contributing to this problem?* 

This question opens a path of inquiry, which automatically leads to expansion of your

consciousness. You become more alert to take notice, and thus more open to try out new behaviors.

This same question, by the way, is also a powerful tool that can improve your relationships and interactions with others! So often we focus on what others are doing unto us, which leaves us powerless. When we learn to pay attention to what is our role in the problems we endure, we regain control and can actually do something.

Actively thinking about how we might be contributing to environmental or social problems makes us better planetary citizens. At the same time, this enhanced awareness is an important milestone in our broader personal development.



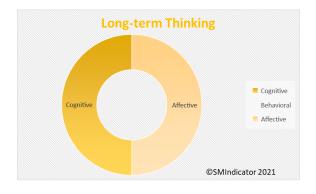
When we identify the ways in which we are unintentionally contributing to the problems, we have a chance to do something about them. It also expands our consciousness, and develops social sensitivity.



## /SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVE

When analyzing information and making decisions a SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVE has a major impact on the sustainability of our actions.

/WHAT IS ASSESSED HERE: HOW YOU THINK ABOUT THE LONG-TERM IMPACT WHEN ANALYZING AND MAKING DECISIONS, COMPLEMENTING SHORT-TERM THINKING; HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT IT, AND THE IMPACT ON YOUR BEHAVIORS.



What this tells you:

This graph shows that your approach to the assessed topic is both cognitive and affective, but you are not necessarily translating what you know and feel into actions. You might use this information to explore new habits and daily changes for a sustainability purpose.

YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE THAT you have a good understanding of the long term sustainability impacts our decisions may have, even simple and daily ones, not to mention behaviors commonly accepted in our society.

In addition, this understanding is not indifferent to you: you are a sensitive person, who seems to get worried about the long term impact that your personal lifestyle or decisions may be having on the planet. It is difficult to live with that feeling!

At the same time, you are pragmatic and prefer to focus on the short term when trying to solve a

problem, because it seems more tangible, concrete and functional.

# **/YOU ARE COMFORTABLE** solving problems: looking for quick ways to address a situation, and seeking to simplify matters. Acting promptly is important for you, and it provides you and others with a sense of control and direction. It saves time (so it seems).

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

What comes up from this combination is that there seems to be a disconnect between what you know about the long term impacts of our behaviors, and the way you solve problems, focusing rather on the short term.

Perhaps bringing your understanding into actions is easier than it may seem. For example, what would your latest decision look like if you would have considered the potential long term impacts? It takes practice to develop new mental habits, but they too, can have long term impacts – for the good.

It is because of people with your sensitivity that changes happen in the world. Any thoughts of what you could do?

## /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

There is a tacit pressure to act promptly and focus on that which needs immediate attention. This is very important, and there are many circumstances where this way of responding is the optimal, or even the only one that matters. A fire in the house, for example. We can sense the urgency and it is not a good idea to pause and reflect on the longterm implications of the fire. But for many daily decisions, the context is different, and yet we still prioritize short term thinking, often without even pondering any medium- or long-term impacts of what we are doing. The stream of life, our colleagues, perhaps everyone with whom we interact takes for granted that we "all" act this way.

On the other hand, with greater understanding of the social and environmental problems we are facing, it has become clear that the law of causeand-effect is always at play, even if not immediately obvious. In other words, the consequences of our daily actions do have impacts - some over time, some just in a different geography, and many on both.

As with other aspects key for a sustainability mindset, it is not a question of choosing one over the other, but a matter of balancing both views, taking both time perspectives into account.

This mental habit expands our consciousness, as we become more aware of the way we are impacting others and the world. Not thinking of it doesn't avoid it from happening. Stretching our imagination to consider potential impacts helps us make better decisions, and play an active role shaping a better world.

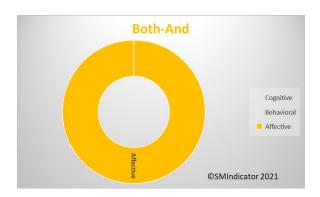
Something you seem to know a lot about.

#### **/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:**

How comfortable are you bringing the long-term perspective into the conversation? Do you sense that sometimes you hold back, because it is not so popular? Are you fully aware that your perspective, by not being culturally mainstream, is what we all need more? Is this something that may encourage you further to speak up?



Every action has consequences that are not immediately visible. Considering the long-term when analyzing situations and making decisions has a positive impact on global sustainability. /WHAT IS ASSESSED HERE: HOW YOU THINK ABOUT AND DEAL WITH AMBIGUITY AND PARADOXES, HOW YOU RECOGNIZE DIVERSITY, FEEL ABOUT IT AND ACT TOWARDS IT.



What this tells you:

This graph shows only the affective dimension, meaning that your predominant tendency is to connect emotionally with this aspect, without necessarily engaging in related behaviors or fully comprehending it. You might want to try and expand your understanding and also explore how you might make a small difference every day.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you are an empathetic person, and it comes easily to put yourself in another person's shoes, trying to see life from their point of view, as puzzling at it might be.

It makes you feel good when you do so - in a way you feel closer to the other. Moreover, not being inclusive may make you feel guilty, selfish, righteous, or irresponsible. This is your internal compass.

At the same time, you are a pragmatic person that likes clarity in life. You feel most comfortable with

clear choices - black and white options - and find a sense of stability and reassurance in holding onto your values and your worldview. When faced with a new situation, you seek to rapidly frame it within what you have learned is "right" or "wrong."

You are also aware that when one starts to be inclusive of other people's perspectives, we may lose sight of what we hold true and right, thus not fully honoring the responsibility we feel to champion these values.

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

The combination of your natural empathy towards others, and your desire to have clear distinctions of what is right and wrong doesn't make your life easy! Simplifying complexity is helpful for avoiding gray areas, but you sense that you also miss understanding the complexities of the situation.

Here is a question to consider: Can you think of an event or situation, however minor, where someone with a different opinion was able to step into your shoes? How did it make you feel? How did it impact your attitude and your behavior? What if we could shape a world that makes room for different perspectives, where people acknowledge others' points of view?

In a way, you are already feeling empathy for others, which is a valuable asset in these polarized times. How could you convert your empathy into inclusive behaviors?

Since we cannot control what others think or do, but do have control over our own way of thinking, there may be an interesting path worth exploring here. Your behavior could role model appreciation of diversity. Are you aware of it? You could inspire others to feel empathy.

#### **/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:**

You are a naturally caring person. Now, in what areas does empathy and inclusion come easier to you, and which situations are more challenging? This is your work.

You can start practicing with little day-to day opportunities to put your empathy into action, in new ways. Any thoughts?

#### /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

Many of our world's sustainability challenges originate in choices such as: "either the planet or the economy" and "either protect the wolves or the farmer." Yet, *either-or* choices can be misleading, and have us believe there are win-lose solutions that work.

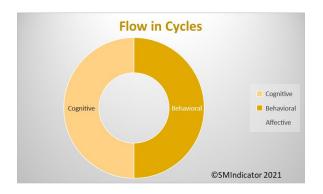
But do they really? If the cost is high, do they still work? It is reassuring to find ourselves in a situation where we see it the right way, and others are wrong. But at the same time, you sense that we may be missing what these others are seeing, that we don't. How could we all benefit from having a fuller picture?

It seems that today, more than ever, we are collectively being confronted with paradoxes and ambiguity. Increased transparency and access to information from around the world makes us aware of very different ways of thinking, being and acting with which we may not agree or be comfortable. Challenging as this may be, there is a benefit to it: We are becoming aware of our own worldviews just by realizing that there are other ways of seeing and feeling. This is an evolutionary insight of great value, the foundation for more peaceful societies.

Life is prompting us to expand our understanding and our scope of caring, which go hand in hand. When we understand something, we can begin caring. This is the start of a better world for all.



Both+and thinking allows us to understand paradoxes, and calls for creative solutions that are inclusive of all stakeholders. /WHAT IS ASSESSED HERE: HOW YOU BALANCE YOUR CAPACITY TO ANALYZE AND PLAN WITH THE UNDERSTANDING OF NATURAL CYCLES, AND MAKE THEM PART OF YOUR MINDSET.



What this tells you:

If a graph shows the two dimensions - cognitive and behavioral - it means that your tendency is to distance yourself from your feelings, particularly in the aspect assessed here. You have a good understanding about it, and are acting upon it, but you might want to further explore your emotions in relation to it.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you are aware of the commonly shared belief that humans are the most intelligent species, the apex of creation, with the intellectual ability to control nature. And you have come to realize this assumption is most frequently contradicted by reality, particularly when we think in a linear way, acting outside the cycles of Nature.

**/YOU ARE COMFORTABLE** when you can express an understanding of impermanence and act in alignment with the cyclical flow of Nature,

which means accepting that things grow, but not forever because there is also decline and death.

In our day-to-day this may mean accepting ageing and mortality, endings of relationships or certain phases in our life, and new beginnings as well. In another context, it means that we see ourselves as part of Nature, not as its controller-in-charge. This is a valuable attitude, because it may make your life easier. Like swimming along with the river's current, it increases your speed, and reduces the stress of resisting obstacles.

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

At the same time, you seem to feel a tension between this understanding, and feelings of empowerment and control when you actually make a plan and achieve a tangible goal. The sense of accomplishment is a feeling you enjoy, particularly since letting go of plans can bring you stressful uncertainty.

It seems that in this phase of your life you are in a transition, going back and forth between two ways of being in the world.

In one, you derive great pleasure in planning as a way to feel in control; in the other, you know that flexibility and flow is ultimately more efficient, and you try to practice this. In this back and forth, it may be that the frustration, when things don't work out as you planned or expected, reminds you to let go of your plans and observe what life is telling you.

### /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

You may be wondering why planning is related to several key aspects for a sustainability mindset. The connection is not in the planning as an activity per se, but in the way we think and process information when we plan. Planning is about organizing and structuring in order to control outcomes. Planning is linear by definition -one step after the other - and it assumes cause-effect relationships. But what about multi-effects, multicauses, and feedback loops?

Contrast this with the sustainability problems we are facing. To begin with, they are complex and multidimensional by their very nature. Many are the result of our linear thinking, for example we believe that we can pursue unlimited growth, yet depletion of natural resources shows us this is not possible.

Our reliance on the human mind can create a collective assumption that we are in control, but a "small" manifestation like Covid-19 arrives as a surprise to debunk the myth of our own superiority.

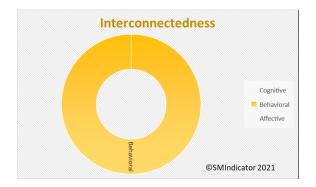
Planning in itself is not the problem but rather, excessive reliance on carefully crafted steps, and forgetting the natural cycles of growth and decline.

#### **/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:**

Here a few thoughts to ponder. Do you see yourself balanced in terms of making and letting go of plans? How do you balance structure and flow, organization and flexibility? What do you see as your personal development challenges in this aspect? There are no linear processes in Nature: Everything flows in cycles of birth, growth, death, and rebirth. Many aspects of man-made unsustainability of the planet are a result of the misconception that we are not governed by this law of Nature.



#### /WHAT IS ASSESSED HERE: HOW YOU UNDERSTAND AND EXPERIENCE INTERCONNECTEDNESS, VERSUS VALUES LIKE AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE.



What this tells you:

of your behaviors on others.

This graph shows only one dimension – behavioral indicating that you are action- oriented. We don't have enough data to report on your feelings about or understanding of this topic.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE THAT you see yourself as part of a larger whole, which means that you pay attention to the impact

You may find yourself in situations where you could make quick progress going on your own, but you realize that you have to consult with others, for example stakeholders.

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

We cannot comment on how you think and feel about this topic, since you indicated (by choosing

"neither") that you did not find yourself represented by any of the available options.

While certain cultures have a collectivistic framework, most of the western-northern culture - widely exported and globalized - is individualistic and celebrates personal achievement. Do you experience this tacit expectation in your daily life, to be independent, to outperform others, perhaps to demonstrate your value in competitive settings, or to be self-reliant? Have you sensed the contradiction between this paradigm and your inclusive behaviors?

How realistic do you think is the concept of autonomy and independence? Let's pause for a moment: Can you name one achievement that was purely and authentically your own without another person playing any role in it? ?

At the same time, in many settings where teamwork or collaboration is expected, it may be challenging to balance your individual performance with the collective contributions, and your personal efforts, gifts or skills may go unrecognized, or possibly even unappreciated. How do you deal with this tension?

## /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

The polarities of independence VS. interconnectedness and competition VS. collaboration are of particular relevance when focusing on sustainability. To begin with, the environmental and social challenges are complex and multidimensional, making it impossible for any one person to solve on their own. It is only through collective thinking, action and the collaboration of multiple stakeholders that we will be able to develop alternatives. This, by the way, makes sustainability a great opportunity for contributing personal skills to a larger cause.

#### **/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:**

We invite you to explore what success and autonomy mean for you. What are the roots of these values for you, perhaps in your upbringing or in your current context?

When we see interconnectedness, we understand the importance of diversity, and our decisions and actions become more inclusive, which contributes to the sustainability of the whole.

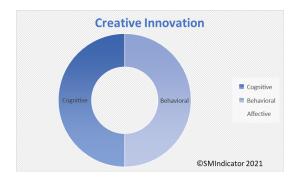




## /EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Understanding ourselves through the anchors of our identity, the pace of our life, and how we consider our intuitive wisdom are key for a sustainability mindset.

HOW YOU INCORPORATE NON-RATIONAL INFORMATION, INTUITIVE KNOWING, CREATIVITY AND IMAGINATION IN ORDER TO BALANCE RATIONAL THINKING, AND HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT IT.



What this tells you:

This graph shows the two dimensions of cognitive and behavioral, meaning that you have an intellectual understanding of this aspect, and you also act upon it. We don't have enough data to report if or how you connect with your feelings related to this item.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you have a clear understanding of the value of combining your logical and analytical thinking abilities with creative imagination.

You know that the human mind is capable of great accomplishments, as history has shown, when intuition and creative ideas are coupled with rational thinking and good strategies. You may even trust that our sustainability problems could be addressed with a good balance of these abilities.

/YOU ARE COMFORTABLE WHEN you can contribute by putting your "creative hat" on, by being playful, by not preemptively censoring your ideas, and even tolerating the uncertainty of not knowing how something will work out. You seem able to live with a certain degree of risk-taking, and based on your answers, that worked well for you. How did that feel?

This question comes because we cannot comment on your feelings related to this topic, as you indicated (by choosing "neither") that you did not find yourself represented by either of the available options. Do you enjoy your playful thinking, while the mainstream may be more linear and rational? Do you balance these two ways of thinking yourself, or do you seek for complementary inputs?

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

It seems that you have a reservoir of imagination and perhaps intuitive wisdom, which you are already tapping into. Do you fully trust your intuition, or do you still have to develop that comfort a bit more?

## /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

You know that the sustainability challenges we are facing are largely new, and as COVID-19 taught us,

increasingly situations arise for which we don't have previous experience or science on which to rely. We have become more aware of this complexity of our challenges, and we are skeptical of simplistic solutions.

However this also requires entry into uncharted territories. Resilience calls for flexibility in adapting to new situations, and this entails innovating and experimenting, as you indicate you sometimes do. Definitely having no clear blueprints to follow may be disturbing, yet there are no choices but to take some risks. And fortunately you can handle them. Resilience is based on constant creativity, innovation, and experimentation. When we neglect the non-rational wisdom we have in us, our solutions are missing critical information, and may create negative impacts on the ecosystem and society.



#### **/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:**

It seems that your creative aspects complement your strategic thinking, and maximize your achievements. Have you identified in which situations you can best balance your rational thinking and your intuitive wisdom? Do you know what holds you back to do this more, or more frequently?

It might be for the benefit of all.

HOW YOU NOTICE YOUR OWN PACE, AND HOW YOU BALANCE RAPID RESPONSE WITH MAKING TIME TO PONDER AND REFLECT BEFORE ACTING. AND HOW THIS MAKES YOU FEEL.

#### **/YOUR SMI CHOICES INDICATE THAT**

you are a quick thinker!

You indicate that you have no concerns about making a quick assessment of a situation and acting promptly, and while you may overlook some details, you consider that your decisiveness also helps stimulate those that are more hesitant. Speed is justified.

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

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

Questions for reflection: Does it ever happen that you wish you could relax, slow down and do nothing? Does your body, your mind or perhaps your soul call for less stress, or even a break? What message might be there for you, waiting to be heard?

## /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

Since we are looking at these aspects from the perspective of a sustainability mindset, let's pause and think about what behaviors might be most effective as well as much needed.

While there is a call for urgent action about climate change and the related social and environmental problems, many modern sustainability challenges are actually the result of overlooked potential impacts.

For decades, well-intended decisions were largely made by quickly identifying the best option. But today we are understanding better that problems are complex, that solutions impact a multiplicity of future stakeholders, and that there are always consequences. Of course, it is not possible to anticipate all scenarios, but pausing and checking assumptions as you do it can be very useful to avoid future problems.

#### **/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:**

For example, what can you learn to avoid or repeat from past experiences? Can you identify in hindsight, what was at stake? When we have more information we can better weigh alternatives. All of this, however, is at odds with speed. We cannot both act fast and ponder carefully.

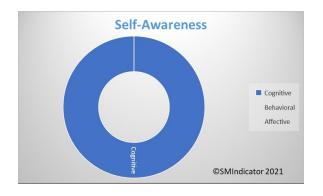
The question becomes: Is decisiveness and fast action coming at an expensive price for you and others, us, the next generations, and the ecosystem?

Food for thought!

Reflective practices help to pause, and to ponder the situation and its implications before jumping into action.



HOW AWARE YOU ARE ABOUT THE ANCHORS OF YOUR IDENTITY AND YOUR VALUES; HOW YOU FEEL AND ACT IN CONSEQUENCE.



What this tells you:

This graph shows only one dimension – cognitive meaning that you have an intellectual understanding about this aspect. We don't have enough data to report on your behaviors or feelings about this topic.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you believe the paradigm we have long been living with is due for a revision, because values like growth and progress may be linked to an assumption of unlimited resources, which may not be realistic.

We cannot comment on how this understanding reflects on your behaviors or feelings, since you indicated (by choosing "neither") that you did not find yourself represented by any of the available options.

## /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

But let's pause for a moment. This survey was designed around the Sustainability Mindset, which is a way of thinking and being to optimally adapt to the moment in which we are living. This Mindset focuses on using our natural gifts to shape a better future, for ourselves and for all, the ecosystem included. Research has proven that what may sound overwhelming, actually can be broken down into small, realistic ways to contribute to the greater good, and feel great at the same time. The first step is taking a fresh look at what surrounds us.

Undoubtedly, there are social and environment related challenges everywhere. Some happen locally, others across borders. Science has been linking many of these issues to human behaviors, such as consumption of unhealthy foods, depletion of natural resources, pollution or contamination of air, soil and water. And we are left to deal with the consequences today, trapped in a paradigm that prioritizes values that have a negative impact, such as thoughtless consumption.

But what if we would realize that some our habits today are (unintentionally) contributing to more of these problems in the future? And vice versa: What if a change in a small habit today could do its part to shape a better future?

#### **/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:**

Can you think of few habits of yours that might qualify? We don't know what we can until we try. And when we put aside cynicism for a moment, we actually may feel a deep sense of joy. Sometimes we shift our values as a result of a new experience. Worth trying? When we explore our personal values, beliefs, assumptions and motivations, we gain greater control over our actions and we can see new alternative behaviors.

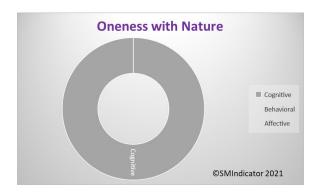




## /SPIRITUAL INTELLIGENCE

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.

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 only one dimension – cognitive indicating that you have knowledge about this aspect, without necessarily engaging your feelings. You might use this information to explore your emotions.

We don't have enough data to report on your behaviors related to this topic.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you think of Nature as an experience that offers more wisdom than we can intellectually grasp.

Interestingly, at the same time you indicate some emotional distance with Nature, as if you might not have any specific feelings towards the natural world. Do you really experience it in this way? Or is it, perhaps, that you find yourself so consumed by life's demands that there are little/no opportunities to pause, relax, and simply be with yourself in a natural environment?

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

## /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

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 reestablish 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.

When we understand something we start caring for it. Understanding that we are one with Nature is a sensorial, intuitive experience. It is not something to be learned, but rather something that we allow to occur, and which makes us remember the sense of oneness we have always known, but had forgotten.

#### **/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:**

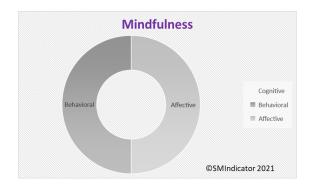
Sometimes we realize that our thinking, feeling and acting are not aligned. When we notice it, we may feel discomfort and tension- something out of sync. A sustainability mindset is not just harmony with the ecosystem, but it starts within ourselves.

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.



HOW YOU THINK ABOUT THE MEANING, ROLE AND VALUE OF MINDFULNESS AND ITS PRACTICE, AND HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT IT.



What this tells you:

This graph shows the two dimensions of affective and behavioral, meaning that you have an emotional connection with this aspect, and you also act upon it. We don't have enough data to report whether or how your knowledge and understanding is related to or might support this aspect.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you have discovered activities that quiet your mind, and help you gain some inner peace. You may not make these a regular practice, but when you engage in them, you can recognize the positive effect they have on your wellbeing.

At the same time, it seems quite challenging for you to make the time and space for these moments.

We cannot comment on how you think about this topic, since you indicated (by choosing "neither")

that you did not feel represented by either of the available options.

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

Studies show the physical and emotional consequences of a constant focus on doing while overlooking the more profound dimensions of 'being," such as reflection, spiritual or religious practices, time to recharge and find ourselves, and time to connect with our deeper self.

You have experienced it firsthand: When you allow some time to nurture this neglected part of yourself, you experience a positive impact on how you feel about yourself, and how you interact with others.

So here are some questions for you to contemplate:

Has it ever occurred to you that the fact that "everyone lives like this" may not necessarily make it ideal? Have you ever reflected on the high value our world gives to consumption, linking "who we are" with "what we have or own"? How do these thoughts align with your experience, and with your values? Does your reality reflect the priorities that are important for you?

If not, what are some small changes you can make?

### /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

From the perspective of a sustainability mindset, mindfulness is both a key practice and an amazing result. Research has shown a direct link between individuals that have some contemplative practices not just with their physical and psychological health, but also with the emergence of feelings of empathy and compassion.

This creates a disposition towards positive social and environmental actions, and the resulting satisfaction feeds a positive reinforcing loop. In other words, the better we feel about something we've done, the more we seek to repeat the experience.

When we access and display a more balanced version of ourselves, we convey an unspoken message to the people with whom we interact, not just by what we say or how we behave, but through our attitude and energy. This has a proven positive influence on others, as science has identified with the phenomenon of "emotional contagion."

In other words, when we develop a sense of peace for ourselves, we are also radiating a gift of peace to the world. Mindfulness is being fully present, experiencing connectedness with all that is. Mindfulness enhances awareness and compassion, and predisposes to social and environmental actions.

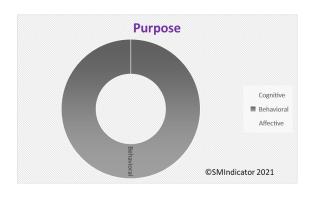


#### **/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:**

There are certain words that, just by thinking of them, create an expansion in our heart, bringing positive feelings. From a biological perspective, they cause our system to release dopamine, the so-called happiness hormone.

Can you think of some of these words? How do they make you feel? A small but powerful gift that you well deserve!

WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT HAVING A PURPOSE IN LIFE, PARTICULARLY SOMETHING THAT IS IN SERVICE TO OTHERS; HOW THIS FITS YOUR REALITY AND HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT IT.



What this tells you:

This graph shows only one dimension – behavioral indicating that you are action- oriented. We don't have enough data to report on your feelings about or understanding of this topic.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you have already found your purpose in life, through actions that serve others.

It is possible that a large part of your daily obligations and responsibilities are, in fact, in service to others, attending to their needs or expectations. You may have found a cause that you care for, or perhaps it's your work, family, and relationships that form a large part of your reality, and you perceive this as your service. How does this make you feel? Do these activities feel like your "calling," or like an obligation that lands upon you? Sometimes we don't see that we have a choice, and this may place an extra burden on us, which is perceived very differently than when we intentionally decide and choose where and how to "serve."

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

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

Research has shown that individuals who engage in activities of service to the community, volunteering or some kind of initiative for the greater good have a higher sense of wellbeing than those who do not. This includes benefits to health, feelings of joy, increased self-esteem, and personal satisfaction. Have you personally experienced this? Or perhaps focusing on the demands of your life does takes a toll on your health, your mood, creates tension or anxiety, disrupts your sleep or impacts how you interact with others.

If this is case, have you asked yourself what you could do to feel better, to lower your stress? Perhaps you have, but the answer you found may have been as long as your demands remain high, there is not much you can do.

### So here, again, are some questions to evaluate:

Which of the activities that you engage in are a necessity, a "must-do," and which ones represent a choice? Who would do these activities if it were not you? What would it take to let go of some activities, or perhaps of "how" you do them?

These questions have an agenda: to help you free up some time and space to try out a different experience, one that consists of something you do for others outside your inner circle.

### /THOUGHTS TO PONDER WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE SM:

The research regarding core aspects for a sustainability mindset identified the role of activities intentionally done for the "greater good." The state of our planet is such that it requires each of us to step up and play an active role in shaping a better world.

The actions needed, whether large or small, share a similar result: they provide us with a feeling of joy, which then we want to replicate in order to feel good again, thus creating a reinforcing loop. Interestingly, we tend to think that we need to take care of ourselves first, before helping others, but the facts show that when we do small acts of kindness for others, we feel much better ourselves.

**/HOW ABOUT YOU TRY:** 

With this in mind, what are some experiments you are willing to try? What are some things for the greater good that you have already done, and perhaps could repeat, do regularly, or improve?

Don't be intimidated by lofty phrases like "changing the world" or having a life's mission or purpose. In fact, each small act of kindness comes with an impact that we may never be able to imagine. That also changes the world, one positive interaction at a time. Defining our purpose provides an unconscious compass, and when it is grounded in values of our higher self, we actively shape a better world.



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and provide us with a brief (1 min) Feedback.

Thank you!

