

## /REPORT PREPARED FOR: Isabel Rimanoczy 14/Feb/2024

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.

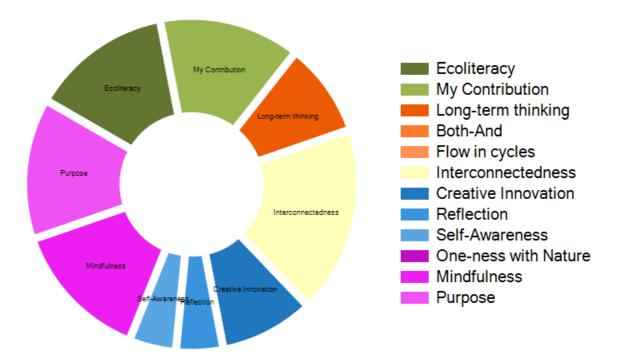
Enjoy your journey into the realm of the Sustainability Mindset - a place where you can be your best, for yourself and for the World.

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.

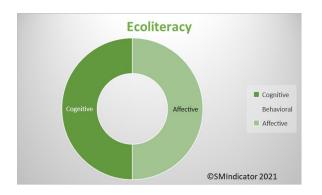




# /ECOLOGICAL WORLDVIEW

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:

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 complexity of the planetary challenges we are facing, and how they are interrelated.

You also seem to be socially sensitive and have empathy for the suffering of others. This may be creating some emotional stress, perhaps feelings of being overwhelmed by a reality that you think you cannot change.

But is it really so, that you cannot influence and make a difference?

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

You understand the scope of the sustainability challenges, from the environmental and social perspective; you notice linkages, relationships and connections. The other powerful path is in your emotions. Your social sensitivity is a special gift. Yet somehow, you are not connecting what you know and how you feel, with actions or behaviors that could contribute to greater sustainability.

You have an opportunity there to put your unique gifts and passions to use for the greater good. When we allow ourselves to connect from the heart with the reality of the news and find small ways to change our behavior, we are more present and don't need to live with our divided selves. This can be more fulfilling.

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

We are definitely living in a time of information overload. It is challenging to stay on top of all that is happening, while keeping up with our own obligations and activities. Furthermore, sustainability news tends to be on the negative side, creating doomsday scenarios and scary prophecies that can trigger anxiety, make us feel bad, sad, or worried.

Yet 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.

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

Here are some suggestions to ponder:

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? What do you see as your next frontier of development?



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.



What this tells you:

This graph shows two dimensions, the behavioral and affective. This means that you connect emotionally with this aspect, and act upon it, perhaps without a full understanding of why it is important. You may find it interesting to deepen your understanding of this principle.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you are a very sensitive person, with an open heart, and you have a skill to connect with your emotions, and also feel for others, with empathy and compassion for their suffering. This is a precious quality, although at times it can be difficult to live with it.

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

Particularly, it may collide with your pragmatic approach to the world. You seek to distance

yourself from distressing information about sustainability problems to avoid getting too emotionally entangled. You are aware of the many environmental and social challenges, but you aim to keep them separated from your personal life. After all, you didn't cause them!

**/YOU ARE COMFORTABLE WHEN** you can take a proactive role. Instead of remaining "the victim," you choose to act. You find small ways in which you are contributing to the problems and seek out those changes you could make to be less a "part of the problem" and become part of the solution. This is a wonderful start. The more you observe, the more opportunities you will find to make a real difference with a few simple changes to your behavior and habits.

## /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 your contribution is definitely an important milestone in your personal development, with planetary implications.



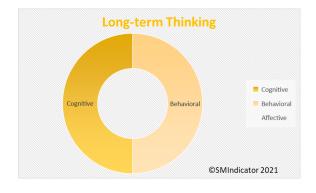
When we identify the ways in which we are unintentionally contributing to the problems, we have a chance to do something about them. It also expands our consciousness, and develops social sensitivity.



# /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:

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 have a good understanding of the long-term sustainability impacts that our decisions may have, even the simple and daily ones, not to mention behaviors commonly accepted in our society.

**/YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE** thinking of "what ifs" and the long-term consequences of possible decisions before taking them.

This may not always be welcome in a team setting, but from the perspective of shaping a sustainable world, this contribution is a great asset to yourself and to your working groups. Your perspective will likely enrich actions, as they result from considering potential impacts in the longer term.

#### /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 rational and pragmatic approach, seeking to avoid getting emotional about future scenarios, particularly related to our planet or our society. This may be very useful to stay focused and concentrate on the action.

At the same time, we are complex human beings: rationality is one aspect, and emotions also form who we are. Trying to keep your feelings related to the uncertainty of the future under control may make it more challenging to connect with others who look through the prism of their feelings, and empathize with them.

Does it happen sometimes to you that you cannot understand why others passionately resist your long-term thinking? If that is the case you might want to remember the emotional weight of uncertainty. You may yourself feel a bit of anxiety or fear of the unknown, if you would check on your feelings.

## /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 which are key for a sustainability mindset, it is not a question of choosing one over the other, but a matter of balancing both views and taking both time horizons 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 about this doesn't stop it from happening. Stretching our imagination to consider potential impacts across time helps us make better decisions, and play a more active role in shaping a better world.

This is something about which you seem to know quite a lot.

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

Empathy and understanding go hand in hand, and smooth out our interactions. Is this something you remember when you are in a conversation? Or something you would like to keep in mind? (I)

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.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you a pragmatic person that likes clarity in life.

**/YOU ARE MOST COMFORTABLE** when you have clear choices - black and white options and you 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."

This may be useful for avoiding gray areas, but perhaps you also miss out on understanding the complexities of the situation.

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

You are aware that when we start 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.

That said, we cannot comment on your feelings about this topic, since you indicated (by choosing "neither") that you did not find yourself represented by either of the available options. 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? What may we be missing that these others are seeing when we find ourselves in a situation where we see it the right way, and others are wrong? How could we all benefit from having a fuller picture?

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

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 you acknowledge others' points of view, and yours are also included by others?

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.

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

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. In a way, 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.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you are a person who is profoundly committed to actions, who enjoys the challenges life offers, and looks at them as opportunities to find intelligent solutions. Indeed, intellectual abilities are important for you, as they permit you to control difficult situations.

**/YOU ARE COMFORTABLE** crafting plans and setting goals to measure your progress. And if a problem is beyond your control, as many sustainability-related problems are, you rely on those who are capable of solving them. You strongly believe and trust in human ingenuity to figure out solutions for our environmental or social problems.

This allows you to feel empowered and in control, which is a nice feeling, particularly as it avoids the stress of uncertainty. You seem to enjoy making plans and implementing them, and derive a sense of fulfillment and satisfaction when you achieve the goals you set for yourself.

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

While planning is a way to feel in control of situations, it is constantly challenged since life -

with its countless variables - is too complex to be managed.

Do you experience frustration at times when things don't work out as you planned, or expected? How do you react? Do you let go of your plans and observe what the events are telling you, or do you use persistence and incremental efforts to stay on top of your planned course?

## /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.

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

Planning in itself is not the problem but rather, excessive reliance on carefully crafted steps. How do you incorporate the cycles of nature into your planning? As an example, do you accept phases of growth and decline - aging and impermanence, along with endings and mortality followed by new beginnings and birth? How do you incorporate humanity as part of Nature, rather than its controller?

Many implications, indeed.

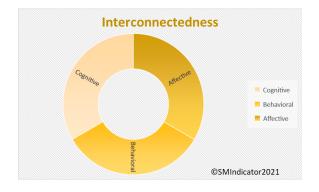
Here a few thoughts to ponder. Do you see yourself balanced in terms of making and letting go of plans? How do you balance structure and flow, organization and flexibility?

Relaxing your grip on plans may cause uncertainty, yet like swimming along with the river's current, it can also increase your speed, and reduce the stress of resisting obstacles. Worth a try.

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.

 $\bigcirc$ 

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



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 clear understanding that we are all interconnected, even in non-obvious ways, and that no one is really fully independent.

You are comfortable seeing yourself as part of a larger whole, and you pay attention to the input of stakeholders when analyzing a problem and seeking effective solutions. In addition, you are appreciative about other people's input and support. You thrive in collaborative environments,

welcome participatory solutions and feel grateful for the help of others.

This is a precious combination in the current times! While certain cultures have a collectivistic framework, most of the western-northern culture - widely exported and globalized - is individualistic and celebrates personal achievement. But you know this is neither realistic nor feasible.

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

Do you experience an unspoken expectation in your daily life - to be independent, to outperform others, to be self-reliant or perhaps to demonstrate your value in competitive settings? Have you sensed the contradiction between these two paradigms, one valuing competition and selfreliance, the other promoting collaboration and inclusion? How do you manage the tension, and are you able to share your perspective with others, perhaps helping to expand their thinking horizons?

### /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. The environmental and social challenges are complex and multidimensional, making it impossible for any person to solve on their own. It is only through collective thinking, action and 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:**

With your valuable perspective, how do you handle situations when others don't see the urgency of collaboration but rather respond from the old paradigm of autonomy and competition?

Here is a tip that may come handy. Invite them to name one achievement that was purely, authentically, their own, without any other person playing a role in it.

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:

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 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 quite comfortable in situations where 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.

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

You seem able to live with a certain degree of risktaking, and based on your answers, that worked well for you. How did that feel? Because your responses also reveal a personal preference for more structured situations, where you can think something through and craft some concrete strategies to implement a solution.

You indicate that you enjoy organizing reality into priorities, and when you can follow proven steps. Order is something you cherish, disliking the uncertainty of chaotic situations.

This must create some tension - between your need for order and strategic plans and your moments of unleashed imagination!

## /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.

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

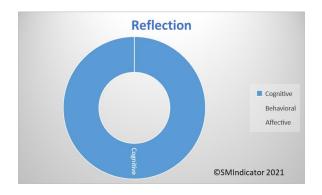
This seems to be your current challenge: How can you feel a bit more comfortable bringing your rich creativity and risk acceptance into other situations? You have a very valuable asset in the ability to unleash your imagination. Can you imagine if you could fully enjoy and deploy it, letting go of any fears and concerns?

Here is a thought to ponder: What would have to be true and how can you influence this?

It seems that you have a reservoir of imagination and perhaps intuitive wisdom, which you are already tapping into. This may come at a personal cost, in the form of "what-ifs," concerns and maybe even fears. But if you find ways learn to trust your intuition, you will flourish further and enjoy it more. This, complemented with your strategic thinking, will maximize your achievements for the benefit of all. 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 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.



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 have a sense that we are collectively trapped in an accelerated pace.

Perhaps you notice your own speed, or see it in others. The fact is that you observe and seem to think about this phenomenon, and may be asking yourself about the cost of this upon you or others. How is it possible to contemplate the future implications of decisions taken under the pressure of speed?

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

#### However, you are comfortable

multitasking, you thrive on the adrenaline of urgency and it brings out your best performance.

How do you bring together the downsides you see of our fast pace, with your own reality?

## /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 prior 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 can be very useful to avoid future problems. For example, what can be learned to avoid or repeat from past experiences? Can you identify, in hindsight, something that was at stake and overlooked because you were trying to act fast? When you have more information you can better weigh alternatives.

Although this requires to slow down!

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

You seem to have good endurance of tension to sustain multitasking and even enjoy it. And yet, according to your answers, you realize that something is not quite right.

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

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?

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

Here is a simple (and challenging) exercise for multitaskers like you.

Set your alarm to ring once every two hours. When the alarm goes off, pause whatever you are doing, and set the timer for 60 seconds. Close your eyes during that minute, or look out the window, just sitting in silence for a full minute. It is not a time to think of what you still need to do, or what you should be doing: it's just a gift of 60 seconds for you, to do nothing. If this is too difficult, start setting the alarm once a day, then slowly increase the times for a pause.

Noticing your pace and finding ways to slow down may not only be good for you, but also for the decisions you make, and for the planet.

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 – 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 been noticing that many of your automatic behaviors are not very environmentally friendly, or perhaps have some kind of negative social impact.

This seems to have motivated you to try to make some changes, although it might not have been easy.

Nevertheless, this is a very important moment of awareness: change starts with our noticing some discomfort about something, and wanting to do something about it to feel better (or at least less bad). In this case, you seem to have achieved this very important step. Of course it can be overwhelming to think of the complex problems. But what if you start small?

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 any of the available options.

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

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 another habit 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, right?

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.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you see yourself as a rational individual.

You are comfortable opting for an intellectual approach to Nature and you value efforts to build scientific and objective knowledge about it. This is certainly how our understanding of the natural world, including our bodies, has advanced over time!

We cannot comment on your 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:

That said, the evolution of science has also shown that findings are made 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.

Have you ever reflected upon some moments when you connected with Nature, perhaps in a non-verbal but memorable experience?

### **/EXPLORING BELIEFS AND ASSUMPTIONS:**

According to your choices in the questionnaire, 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.

Yet we are increasingly aware that some betterments have come at a cost for the environment or society, and we are collectively paying the price, for example, soil erosion or waterway contamination from chemical crop fertilizers meant to enhance soil productivity.

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?

## /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?

Here is a thought to ponder: The artificial separation of the individual from the ecosystem has been found as causing not only 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:** 

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 that your approach to the assessed topic is both cognitive and affective. We don't enough have data to report about your behaviors and whether or how your understanding and feelings are converted into actions.

#### YOUR SMI RESPONSES INDICATE

**THAT** you have a clear understanding of the world we live in and the importance of mindfulness.

You realize that consumption is rewarded, linking "who we are" with "what we do, have, or own". You see this materialistic pattern in society, with its consequences on how we have to keep busy doing things, seeking to make money to be able to belong, feel respected and valued. You realize the unfortunate impact that this implicit message has on our health and well-being. It's like being trapped in a race to pursue an elusive and shortlived happiness.

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

**However you seem to experience** the tension and stress that comes with the reality you are living. According to your choices in the questionnaire, you have discovered a way to pause and re-center, experiencing a positive impact on how you feel about yourself, and how you interact with others.

It is not clear what strategies you employ to regain your inner calm. Pausing and stepping away from our tasks clears our mind, and we can return with renewed energy. Is this something you remember to do when you need it? If not, how could you help yourself remember it more regularly, or just in time?

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

Given what you notice about the "achievement race" that we live in, how does this 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 might make?

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. We all need time to recharge, and to connect with our deeper self.

It may be as simple as going for a walk, listening to your preferred music, dancing, practicing a sport, playing with children or your pet, gardening or creating art.

If these are some of the activities that help you unwind, you are on the right path already. They are called "contemplative practices" because they engage a different part of our brain, creating a 'buffer zone" that permits releasing tensions, and many times we end up seeing our challenges in a different light.

### /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.

You already know that.

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

What is mindfulness for you today: Is it a practice or a does it form a part of your lifestyle?

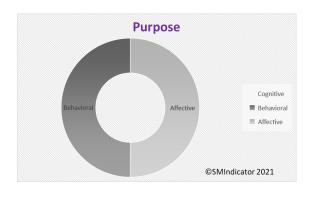
What would need to be true for you to take it to the next level, and what might that look like for you?

How easy is it for you to "catch yourself' in the moment when you are not fully present, not mindfully listening, or letting your emotional reactions control you, as opposed to your wiser self?

Mindfulness is being fully present, experiencing connectedness with all that is. Mindfulness enhances awareness and compassion, and predisposes to social and environmental actions.



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 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 may have found a purpose in life, through actions that serve others.

It is possible that you found a cause, or that part of your obligations and responsibilities are to serve others, to attend to their needs or expectations. Your work, family, perhaps relationships, form part of your reality and perhaps use up your available energy – and you perceive this as your service. If that is so, 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 had a choice, and that 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 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:

You feel how important it is for you to have a larger purpose, and realize that it may not always be very clear, or it may change over time. Perhaps you ask yourself if you are on the right path.

While your feelings are mixed, this is actually a great start! When we sense a tension between what we are doing and what we would like to do, something has already begun to shift and we are on the path of growth and transformation.

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. Do you experience this?

Perhaps at times the extreme demands of your life takes a toll on your health, your mood, creating tension or anxiety, disrupts your sleep or impacts how you interact with others. When you don't feel happy with yourself or with others, 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 that 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 new experiments you can try? What are some different things for the greater good that you already did, and perhaps could repeat, do regularly, or improve? Which of your natural gifts and skills could you put into service for the greater good, in a cause for which you have a passion?

Don't get intimidated by grandiose words like 'changing the world" or having a life mission or purpose. In fact, each small action of kindness has already an impact that we may never be able to imagine. That is also changing the world, one 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.



രുശ്രദ്ധങ്ങൾ

#### Please click HERE

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

#### Thank you!

