ESD and RCEs: Charting our way forward

1. Where have we come from?
2. How are our models developing?
3. Where are we going?

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1. The emergence of ESD

- **70’s**: Human environment (SD)
- **80’s**: Environment and development (SD)
- **90’s**: Environment, society, ecology (separate pillars)
- **2000’s**: ‘Strong Sustainability’ Earth stewardship futures learning (ESD)

**RCE**: Multi-stakeholder - Community, Education / Training and Public Awareness

An *experiment in social learning* (Harold Glasser)
Changes in SD thinking

Coupled with changes in EE/ESD thinking

The Ecological System
- air
- soil
- minerals
- decomposition
- ecosystem functioning
- thresholds
- biogeochemical cycles
- nutrients

The Social System
- Society
- Culture
- Family
- History
- Gender

The Economic System

ESD: AN EXPANDING CONCEPT

Source: Hahn, 2012
2. ESD, an expanding concept.....

- **Knowledge**: Situated knowledge & systems thinking
- **Ethics**: Ethics-led within cultural historical context
- **Values**: Valuing & purposeful learning from / with others
- **Actions**: Developing agency in sustainable earth stewardship

**Expanding concept**: ‘Get-together’ / ‘getting buy-in’

- Participatory / co-engaged practices
- Ethical, situated and transformative with ESD competences specified

**Early foundational concept**: ‘Get-to’ / ‘get-the-message-across’

- Create **awareness** and foster **values, knowledge, skills, attitudes** and **behaviours** (practices)
  
  ....which are based on and instill respect for human rights, social justice, diversity, gender equality and environmental sustainability (UNESCO, 2014).
An open and expanding concept of ESD

Developing agency in sustainable earth stewardship

Ethics-led within cultural historical context

Valuing & purposeful learning from / with others

Situated knowledge & systems thinking

Valuing & purposeful learning from / with others

Purposeful learning engagement in sustaining valued practices and earth stewardship for the common good
3. Responding to the GAP: Three rules of thumb

- Spreading the spirit of ESD
- Being gentle in our invitations to others
- Passing on the charm and value to the future