



# EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

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ELIA-Ecological Living In Action



[EDUCATIONFORSUSTAINABILITY.INFO](http://EDUCATIONFORSUSTAINABILITY.INFO)

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# EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY



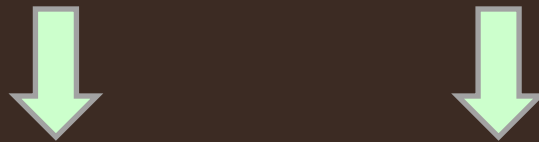
- ❑ **Education for Sustainability (EFS)** is a **COMMITMENT** to an educational system that is **transformative, value-based** and **future oriented**.
- ❑ This system prepares people to **THINK & ACT** for the **wellbeing and sustainability** of the living systems that sustain us and the future generations.
- ❑ This kind of education is founded on the **KEY PRINCIPLES** of **sustainability** and brings into practice the **interconnections** between the three dimensions of sustainability: **ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY & ECONOMY**.

# EFS PRINCIPLES



- 1) All education is education for sustainability
- 2) Systems thinking & holistic approach to education
- 3) Experiential learning in and from nature
- 4) Education in dialogue with place
- 5) Schools as Learning Communities

**Source:** Based on David Orr's foundations for ecological literacy (Orr, D. 1993. *Ecological Literacy – Education and the Transition to a Postmodern World*. Albany: State University of New York Press, pp. 90-92)



## EFS CHARTER & PLEDGE

# CHANGE AT THE SYSTEM'S LEVEL



## CONVENTIONAL

- Transmissive
- Instructive
- Imposed
- Rigid closed system

## EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

- Transformative
- Constructive
- Participative
- Open adaptive system

Source: Adapted from Sterling, S. (2002). *Sustainable Education – Re-visioning Learning and Change*. Devon: Green Books.

# EFS PROGRAMME – OVERVIEW



- ❑ **JAN 2011:** programme started for for the 18 Catholic secondary schools in Mauritius, was then called the Ecological Literacy Programme (ELP).
- ❑ **JAN 2013:** name changed to **Education for Sustainability (EFS) programme**, 3 pilot schools – Loreto College Curepipe, St Mary's College Rose-Hill and BPS Fatima College Goodlands.
- ❑ **2013 – 2018:** implementation of EFS principles & practices within the curriculum system.
- ❑ **19 FEBRUARY 2014:** The **EFS Charter and Pledge** was signed by the Catholic secondary schools.
- ❑ **MARCH – APRIL 2014:** Development of the **EFS platform**
- ❑ **JAN – JUNE 2014:** Writing of **EFS Articles** for special edition *Studies in Applied Pedagogy*, Vol 3, 2014.

# PROGRAMME SPONSORS



**omnicane**  
*Integrating Energies*

SPONSOR 2011-2013

**terra**foundation

SPONSOR SINCE 2014 FOR  
BPS Fatima College

Sponsor for  
LCC ??



**Investec**  
Specialist Bank

SPONSOR SINCE 2014 FOR  
St Mary's College

# IMPACTS



- ✓ Over **70 TEACHERS** have been **trained in EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY**.
- ✓ **10 EFS MENTORS** of the 3 EFS pilot schools have received **in-depth training and guidance** for how to implement EFS & create engagement.
- ✓ Some **12,000 STUDENTS** have been **ENGAGED** in the programme.
- ✓ **ECO-AGENT INITIATIVES** driven by students and teachers are **successfully applied and shared across the BEC network**: paperless surveys, separation of waste and application of the 4Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle, repurpose), composting, rainwater harvesting, setting-up of medicinal and vegetable gardens, cooking classes, eco-camps, development of eco-games, and more.
- ✓ **TEACHING** at school level has become **LESS ACADEMIC** and **MORE EXPERIENTIAL** with **project & experiential learning-based initiatives**.
- ✓ **MANY NEW COLLABORATIONS HAVE FORMED** within and between the Catholic schools and **with partner & support organizations for EFS**.
- ✓ **ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT** for the EFS programme continues to grow.

# LAUNCH OF THE EFS PLATFORM



<http://educationforsustainability.info/>

<http://educationforsustainability.info/>





EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

THANK YOU!!



## EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

*How can Education contribute to a sustainable society and future?*

# ROLE OF EDUCATION



## PARADOX

quantity of education ↑

unsustainability of human activities ↑

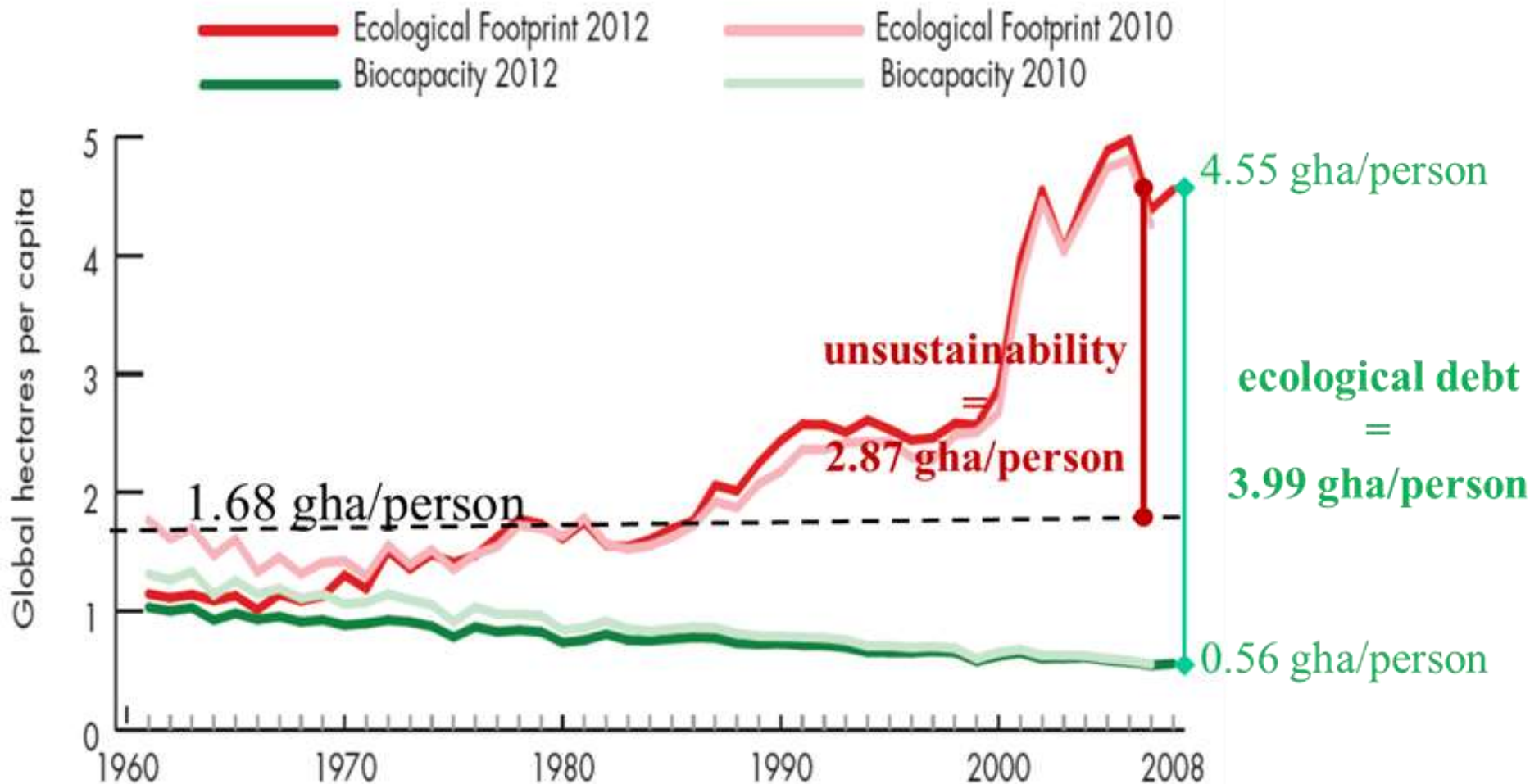
- ❑ **Humanity is exceeding its ecological limits by 50%** = it takes the Earth one year and six months to regenerate what we use in a year (Source: WWF, 2012).
- ❑ **Several critical global, regional and local eco-system thresholds are close or have been exceeded** → irreversible changes to the life-support functions of the planet are likely to occur with significant adverse implications for human well-being (Source: 2012 UNEP report – GEO5 Global Environment Outlook).

# ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT TRENDS



Mauritius

## Trends in the Ecological Footprint and biocapacity in 2010 and 2012



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



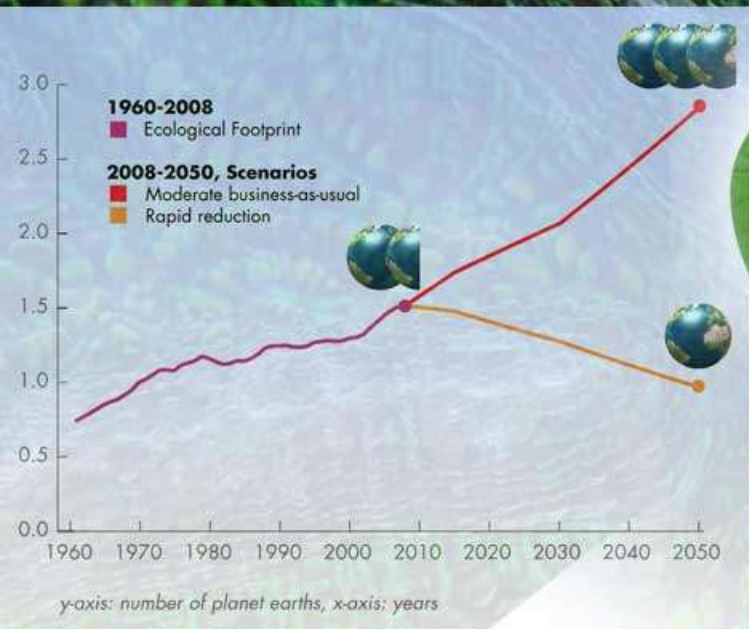
“... a **change process**, in which the societies improve their *quality of life*, reaching dynamic equilibrium between **ECONOMIC** and **SOCIAL** aspects, while protecting, caring for and improving the natural **ENVIRONMENT**. This **integration** and **equilibrium** among these **THREE aspects** **MUST BE TAUGHT AND TRANSFERRED** from this generation to the next and the next.”

*Source: Lozano, R. (2006). Incorporation and institutionalization of SD into universities: breaking through barriers to change. Journal of Cleaner Production, 14, pp.787-796.*

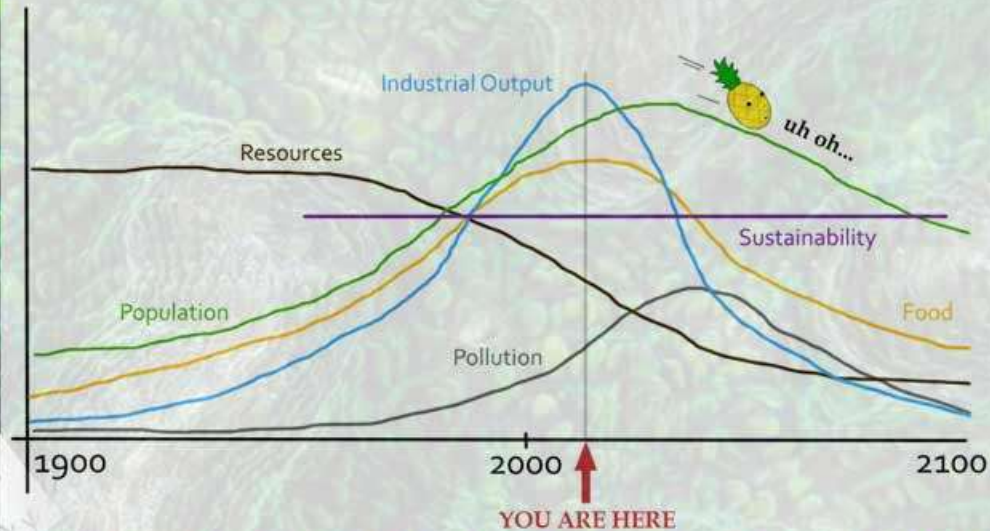
# EDUCATION & SUSTAINABILITY



What do we need to learn & practice at school to change this?



State of the World



# LEARN, CHANGE, ACT!



Are you becoming  
ecologically literate?

ecologically literate?

HOW DO YOU MEASURE & CHANGE YOUR IMPACTS ON:

- *Environment*
- *Society*
- *Economy*
- *Our future*

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



connect  
**ENVISION**  
engage  
REFLECT  
*share*



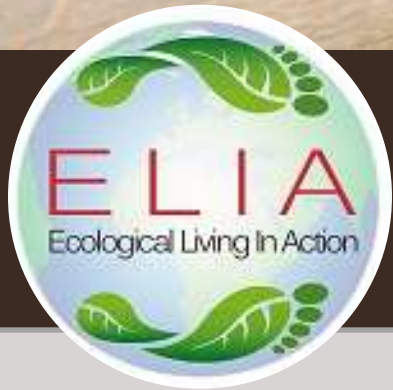
# LEARN, CHANGE, ACT!



Join us on the platform!

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Website – [educationforsustainability.info](http://educationforsustainability.info)



THANK YOU!!

CONTACT

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