

VALUE-CREATING GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION  
FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

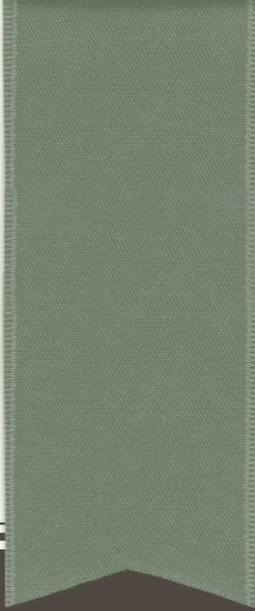
Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities Reading Group  
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# Framework for Discussion

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- Soka or value-creating education
- Education for sustainable development, and
- Global citizenship



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# SOKA OR VALUE-CREATING EDUCATION

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# Value-Creating Education

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- Soka or value creation is, “the capacity to find meaning, to enhance one’s own existence and contribute to the well-being of others, under any circumstances” (Ikeda 2008: 443).
- Soka or value-creating education is a learner-centered approach that is focused on the health, well-being, and happiness of each student. Happiness is described as the ability to lead a contributive life.
- For example, within the Soka Schools and Universities which are secular institutions founded by the Buddhist leader and educator, Ikeda, a key emphasis within learning is to enhance students’ relationships in education.

# Buddhist View of Interdependence

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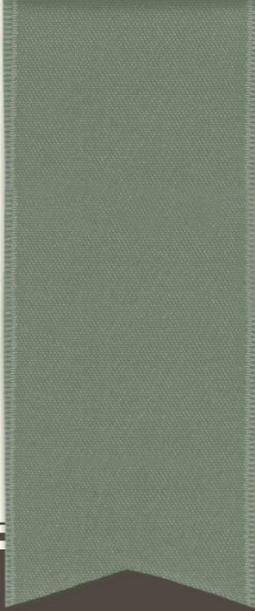
It has been argued that the philosophy that undergirds the notion of relationship building in the Soka institutions stems from the Buddhist view of interdependence –

**dependent origination:** “all beings and phenomena exist or occur in relation to other beings or phenomena. Everything is linked to an intricate web of causation and connection – and nothing – whether in the realm of human affairs or of natural phenomena – can exist or occur solely of its own accord” (Ikeda 1991: 4).

# Using “value creation” as a lens

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- For example, to examine similar notions of interdependence from the Indian subcontinent (the Buddha, Aurobindo, Tagore, and Gandhi), and the emergence of alternative schools and curricula in India that are based on such perspectives (Sharma 2021);
- Using a value-creating approach to engage with the UNESCO led initiatives of education for sustainable development and global citizenship.

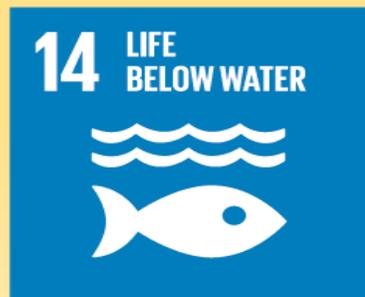
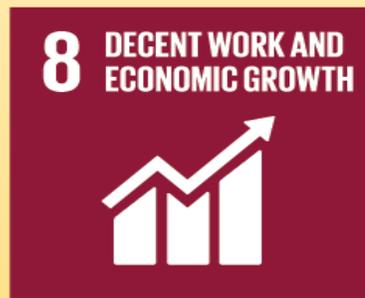


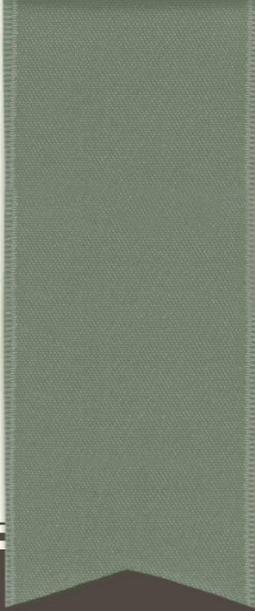
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EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL  
CITIZENSHIP

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# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





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# VALUE-CREATING GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

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# Value-Creating Global Citizenship Education

A pedagogical approach that advances learning for sustainable development based on an integrated view of life; it engages with the values, interests, and beliefs of learners; and is founded on a trust in the learners' capacity to create value and meaning for self and others (Sharma 2020: 136).



Sharma 2018: 94  
Sharma 2020: 7

# In Summary - 1

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- Value-creating global citizenship education brings in certain non-Western perspectives into the discourse on education for sustainable development and global citizenship.
- The approach proposed takes Soka, or value creation, as the focal point of inquiry. It also locates commonalities with other perspectives.
- There needs to be a more substantive engagement with the human/personal dimension of education (where there is an emphasis on the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of development, for example, UNESCO 2018).

## In Summary - 2

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- Values and beliefs can propel people and movements into action. Toward this a key step in education for global citizenship is to engage with the values of the learner to enable them to develop their own identities in a positive way (see Dill 2013).
- Resources to help engage in sometimes difficult conversations on values and local-global issues.

# Moving Forward – Using the Delors Report as a Framework

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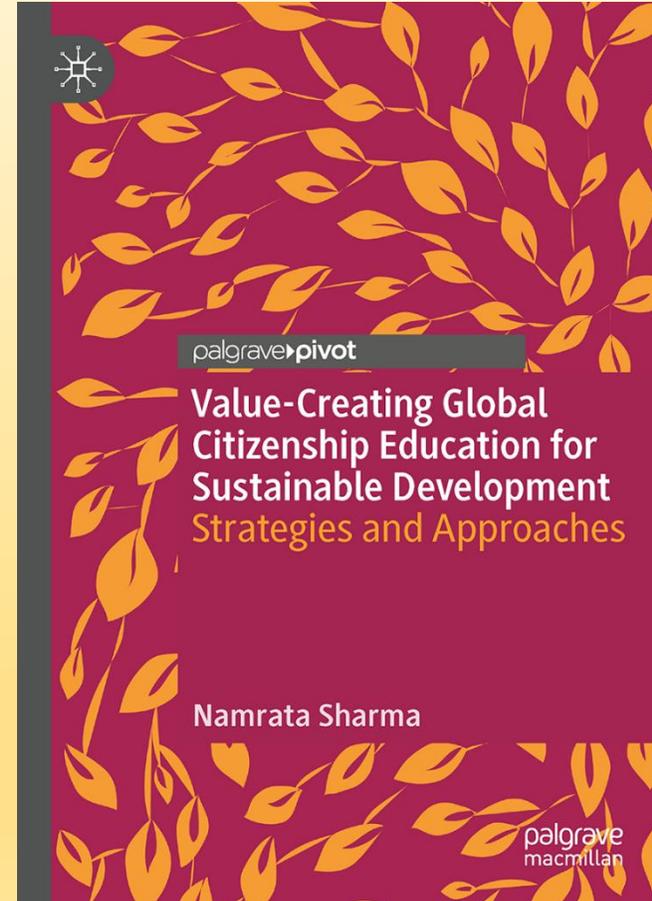
- **Learning to know** – integrate conversations on earth-centered perspectives. [#HarmonyWithNature](#)
- **Learning to be** – alternative perspectives and paradigms of viewing self, others, Nature, and the universe. [#EarthCharter](#)
- **Learning to do** – a critical and values-based approach. [#Faith4SDGs](#)  
[@JLIFLC](#) [@rcsd\\_hu](#)
- **Learning to live together** – leaving no one behind. [@ArigatouGeneva](#)

# THANK YOU!

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# References and Photo Credit

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