

ADDRESSING OUR VUCA WORLD

In today's **VUCA** world we need to restore the sense of harmony, health, hope and happiness in everyday life.

VUCA has been defined as a combination of individual and community responses to increasing uncertainties, constantly-changing improvisations, an overload of information-rich but often ambiguous communications, and the previously unimagined rate of technological changes that generate volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity in our lives.

- **Volatility** - Volatility refers to the speed of change in an industry, market or the world in general. It is associated with fluctuations in demand, turbulence and short time to markets and it is well-documented in the literature on industry dynamism. **The more volatile the world is, the more and faster things change.**
- **Uncertainty** - Uncertainty refers to the extent to which we can confidently predict the future. Part of uncertainty is perceived and associated with people's inability to understand what is going on. Uncertainty, though, is also a more objective characteristic of an environment. Truly uncertain environments are those that don't allow any prediction, also not on a statistical basis. **The more uncertain the world is, the harder it is to predict.**
- **Complexity** - Complexity refers to the number of factors that we need to take into account, their variety and the relationships between them. The more factors, the greater their variety and the more they are interconnected, the more complex an environment is. Under high complexity, it is impossible to fully analyse the environment and come to rational conclusions. **The more complex the world is, the harder it is to analyse.**
- **Ambiguity** - Ambiguity refers to a lack of clarity about how to interpret something. A situation is ambiguous, for example, when information is incomplete, contradicting or too inaccurate to draw clear conclusions. More generally it refers to fuzziness and vagueness in ideas and terminology. **The more ambiguous the world is, the harder it is to interpret.**

Erwin Schrodinger, a Nobel Prize-winning Austrian-Irish physicist thought "It seems plain and self-evident, yet it needs to be said, the isolated knowledge obtained by a group of specialists in a narrow field has in itself no value whatsoever."

Developing our new communities must mean reaching for the common good, where no one is left behind and a place is found for everyone.

Roger Smith, an American television and film actor, producer, and screenwriter, summed up our current situations with “ The world need specialists and highly-trained people with advanced degrees - no question about it - but the world also needs diversity and versatility. It needs people who know as much about our Value System as they do about our Solar System.”

Russian novelist Fyodor Dostoevsky, may have summed up the world's current situation when he wrote “I tell you, the old-fashioned doctor who treated all diseases has completely disappeared, now there are only specialists, and they advertise all the time in newspapers. If your nose hurts they send you to Paris : there's a European specialist there, he treats noses. You go to Paris, he examines your nose : “I can treat only your right nostril” he says “I don't treat left nostrils, its not my speciality, but after me go to Vienna, There's a separate specialist there who will treat your left nostril.”

Recovering from the COVID 19 crisis is an opportunity to start afresh, tackling new public health risks as well as rebuilding that lost sense of community.

E Team Learnings has developed individual, family and community print-based and electronic resources that provide reliable, user-friendly information in collections of gently-graded, easy to use suggestions and activities.

They promote philosophies and practices based on inclusion, tolerance, human dignity, learning, compassion, justice, truth, honesty, respect, integrity, transparency and ethical community relationships.