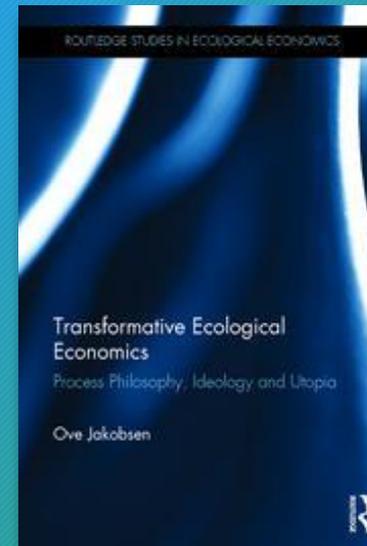


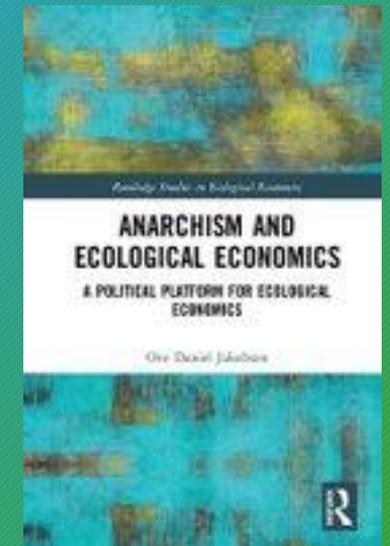
Transformative ecological economics

Professor Dr. Oecon. Ove Jakobsen

Centre for ecological economics/Business School/
Nord university/ Norway

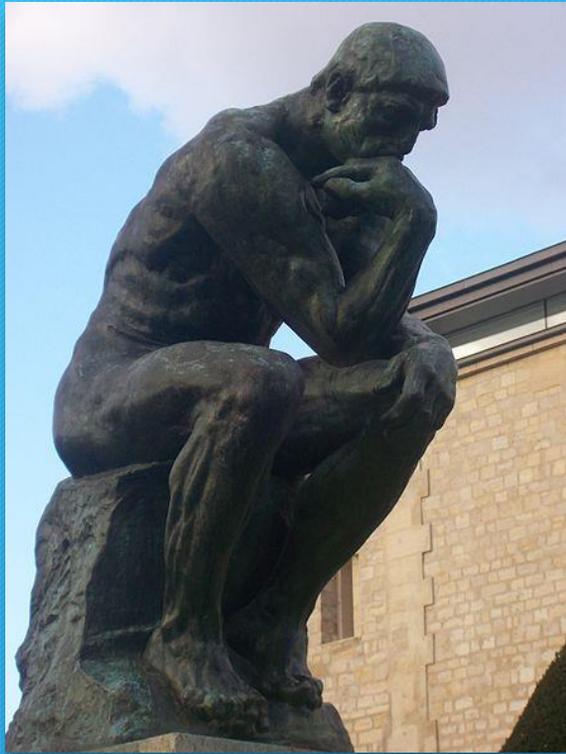


2018



2019

The modern world is in crisis, a double crisis

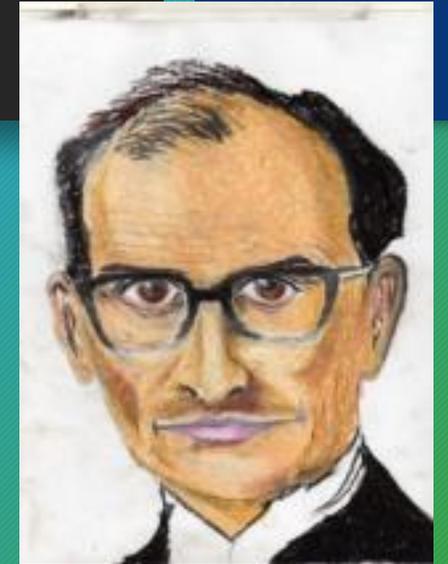
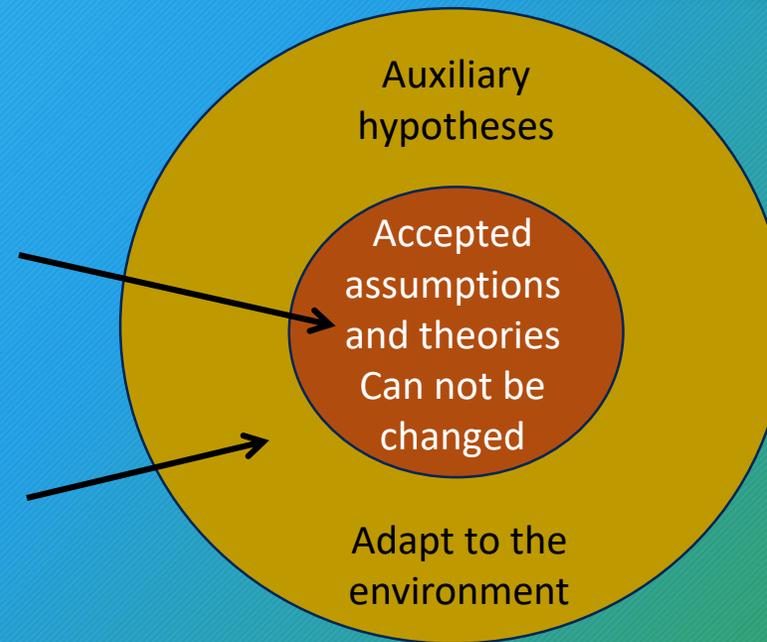


- Factual level; different problems that interact and mutually reinforce each other
- Epistemic level; no single science or expertise can grasp the complexity

Evolution and Revolution

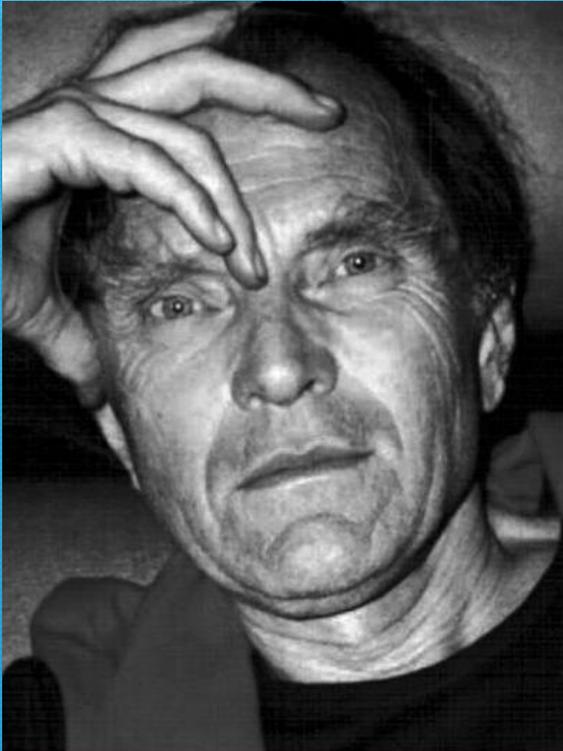
Hard core – Theories, concepts, preconditions that are taken for granted and questioned without threatening whole the research program

Protective belt – Theories and concepts that can be changed in order to protect the “hard core”



Imre Lakatos (1922- 1974)

Anything goes



Paul Feuerabend (1924-94)

- To reach any new understanding we have to ask questions that challenge and contradict well-established theories
- The consistence condition demanding that new hypothesis are consistent with accepted theories serves to keep the older theories in place

Reform can be radical, that is going to its roots, or it can be superficial, trying to patch up symptoms without touching the causes (Fromm 1955)

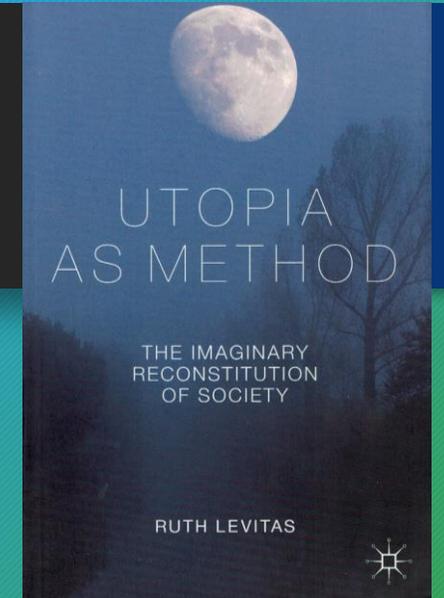
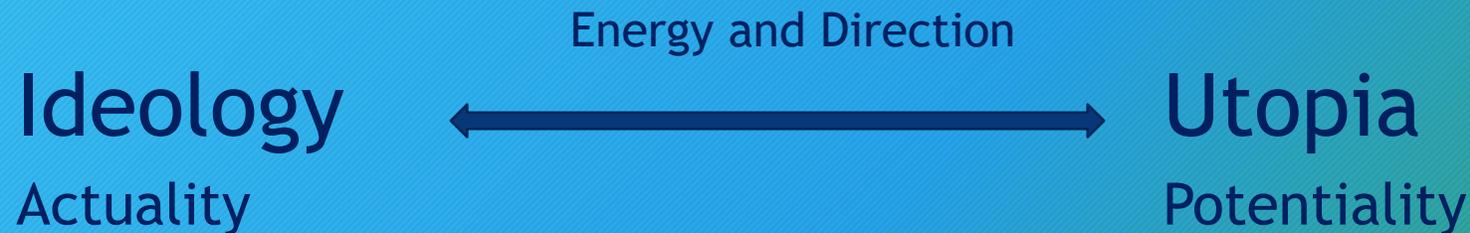
Green economy - Changes in the protective belt

- Green economy has to a small degree helped to solve the major environmental challenges,
- Instead, Green Economy are often focused on hiding problems behind environmental friendly words and concepts (e.g. green growth, green marketing, sustainable competitiveness) (Rees 2008)



A circular economy is led by business for a profit within the “rules of the game” – higher competitiveness, higher resource security and material efficiency (Webster 2015)

Utopian thinking

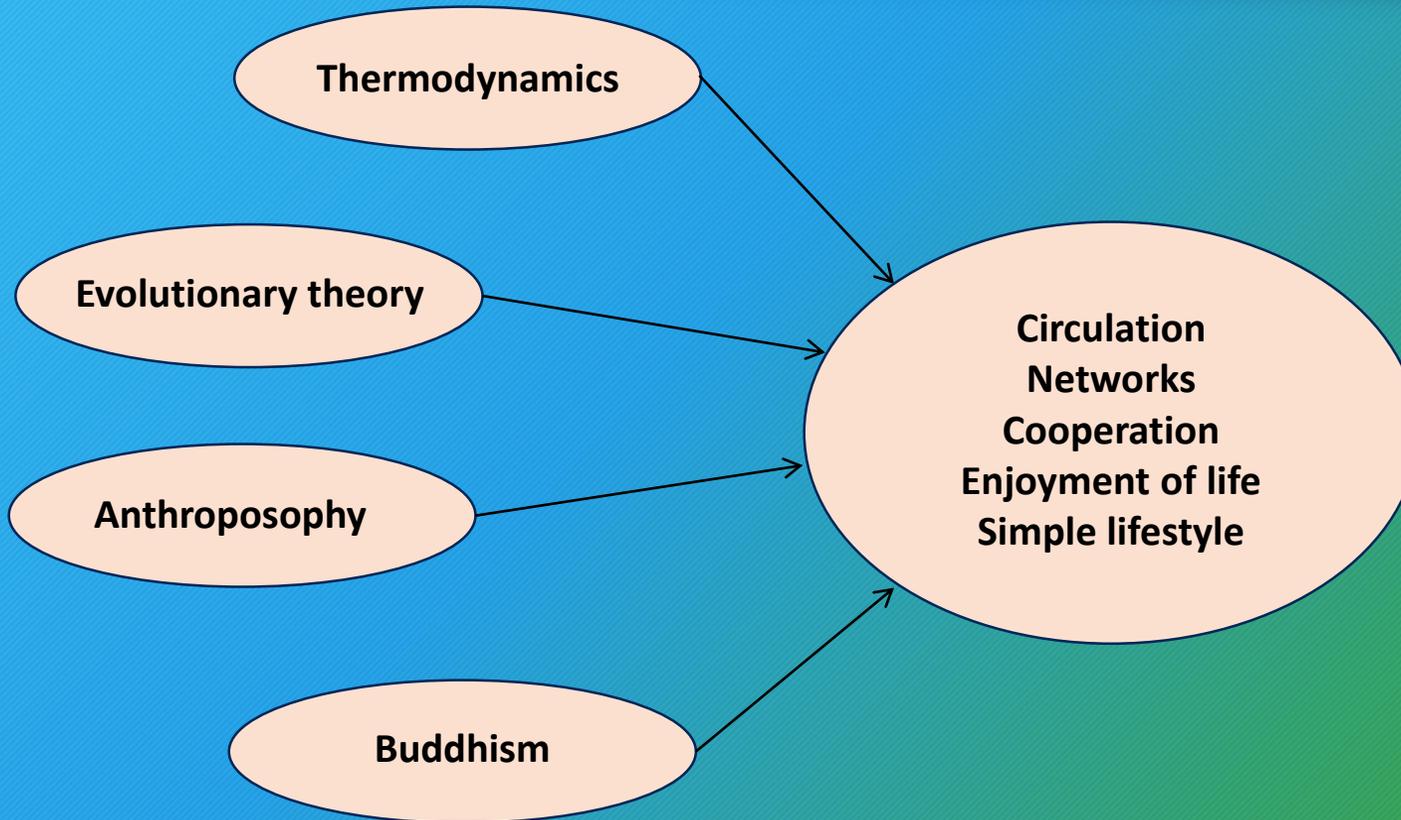


Ideology describes the present from inside
Is rooted in the ideas of the dominant social groups
Refers to accepted norms and values
Justifies authorities

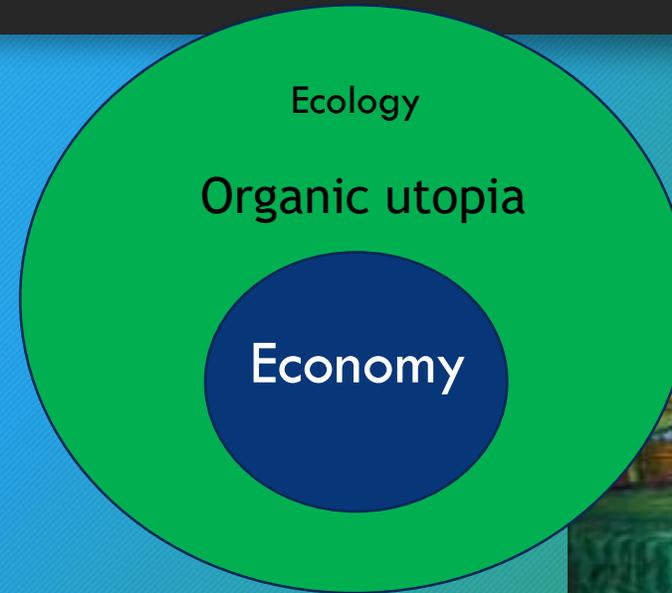
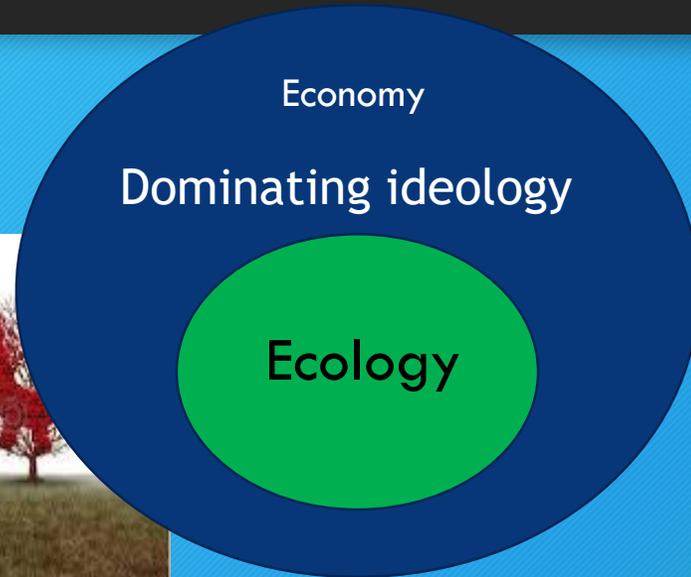
Utopia understands the present from outside
Is somewhere else, geared towards the future
Should not be realized, we can only work in that direction
Challenges authorities

Without utopia ideology becomes static, without ideology utopia becomes a mirage (Ricoeur)

Ecological Economics - Sources of inspiration

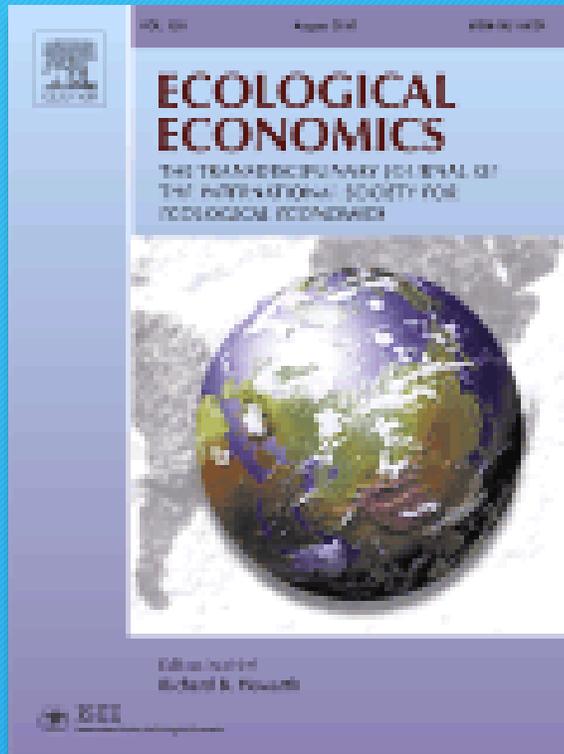


Deep Change



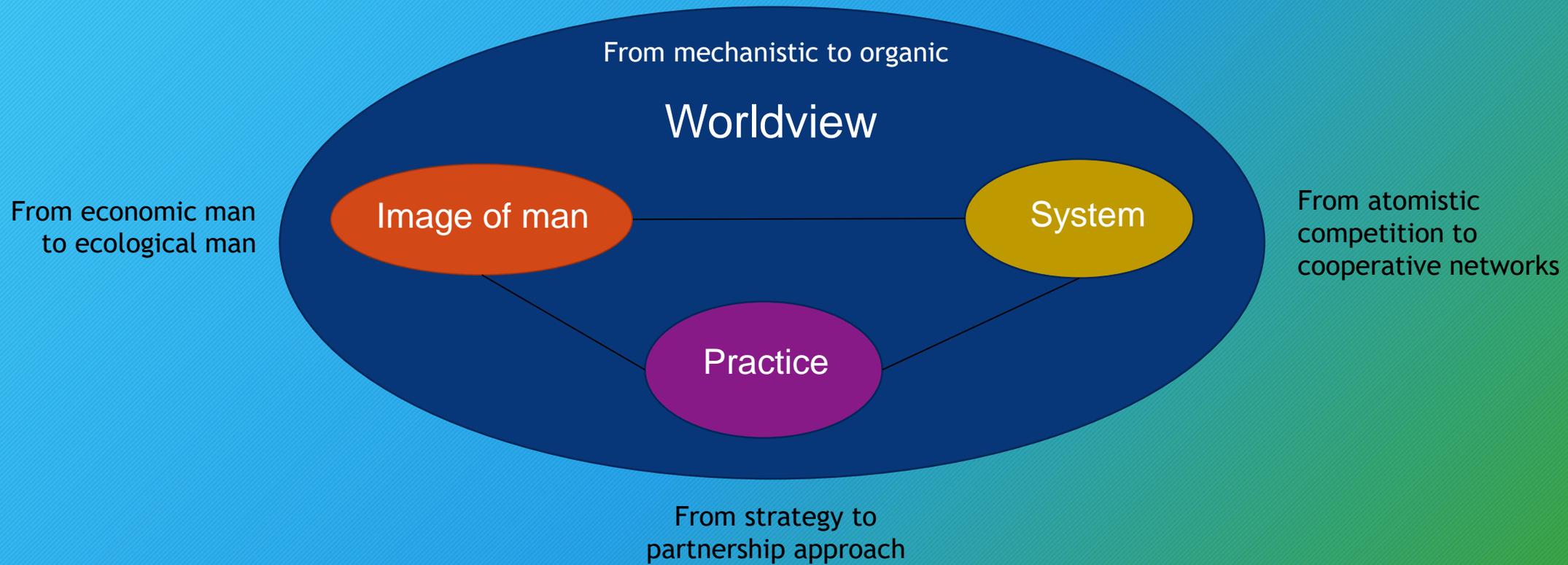
Without utopia ideology becomes static, without ideology utopia becomes a mirage (P. Ricoeur 1986)

Conceptual framework

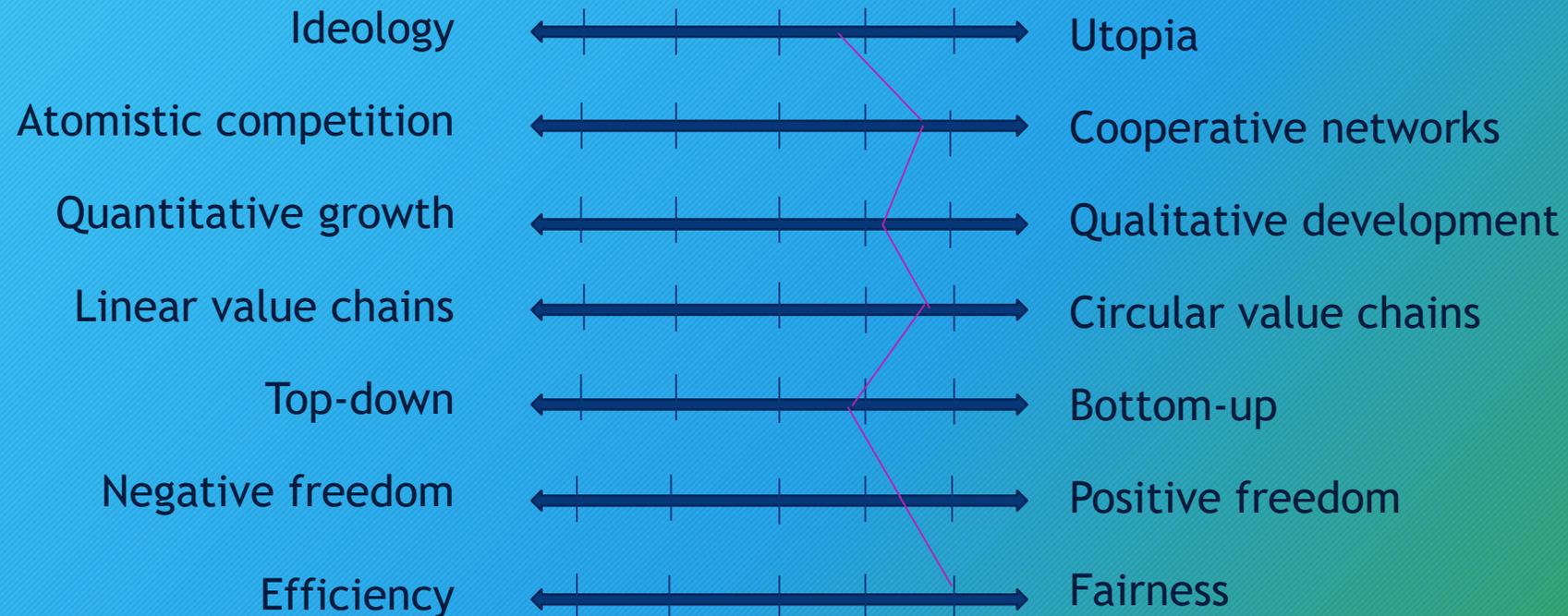


- Ecological economics refers to economic theory and practice that see the economy as operating within, rather than dominating, the spheres of nature, society, and culture
- Ecological economics refers to an economic system that is consistent with and honors the basic principles of ecology, which, ultimately, are identical with what we call the systemic principles of life
- The only valid purpose of the economy is to serve life processes in all kinds of social and ecological systems

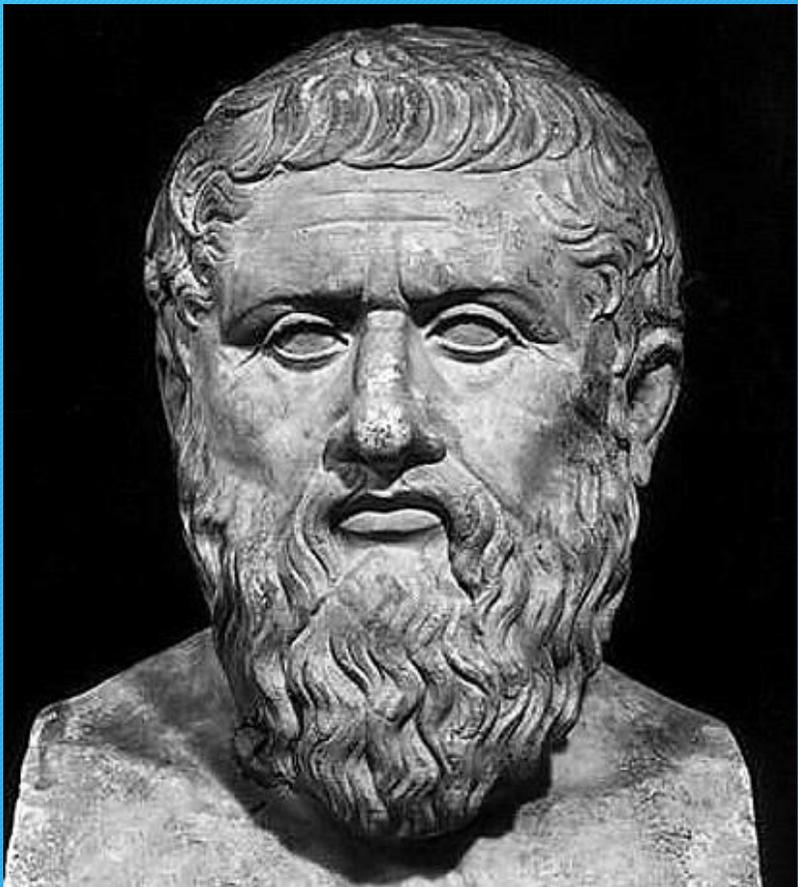
Deep changes on different levels



Dimensions in the change process



Social security for all - Poverty is the mother of revolution and crime (Plato 300 bc)



Material consumption is minimized, maximizing quality of life; "Two be - rather than to have"



Organization that promotes collaboration for the common good; "Self organized locally based, dynamic networks"



Food systems that take care of the soil, plants, animals and humans; "Local food for local markets"



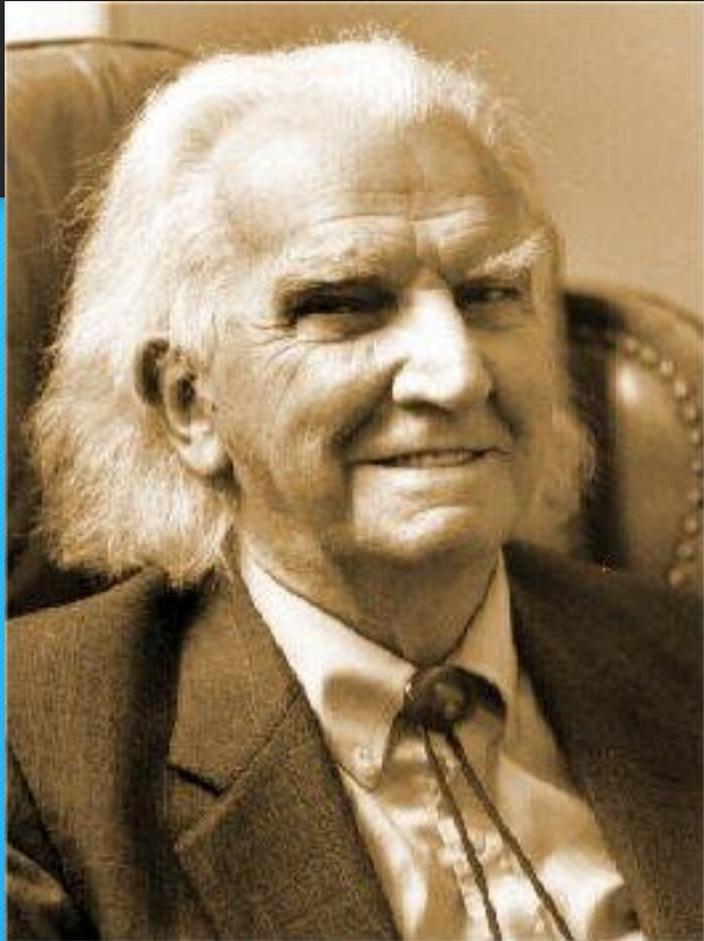
Decentralized circuit solutions for all materials; "Reduce, reuse, repair, recycle"



Small-scale technology; "Technology should be in the service of people - not people in the service of technology"



Communities characterized by diversity; "Cultural diversity and biodiversity ensures resilience"



Kenneth Boulding 1910-1993

Will we succeed

Instead of asking
How the future will be?

We should ask
How we want the future to
be?

What is made by humans can be
changes by humans (Satish Kumar)