

Why Are We Doing This? Five Think Banana Guiding Principles:

One... Over time and geography, we are all in this together. We are connected and it is empathic. There is observed, chronicled, recorded and filmed evidence of this empathic connection within and across species.

Two... A deeper understanding of what this thing, on which we live, actually is. The earth has two living systems of systems. We are functionally and empathically connected to both. The two systems are actually support systems for all species. A goal of sustainability, alone, is no longer enough. Understanding what the earth actually is, and the complex nature of our relationship with it, will help us to create a new framework and allow us to think and see beyond sustainability.

Three... What we are doing to the earth and each other and how we are impacting all our connections. Unintended consequences occur and unknown implications descend when our relationships become unintentional. We are creating the future faster than we can understand or manage it. When we know and understand what we are doing, we can play a more meaningful role.

Four... Why are we doing what we are doing? Common buzzwords such as complacency, fear, selfishness and greed are used to describe the causes of our problems. They are NOT causes; they are symptoms—symptoms created by systems out of sync, symptoms given birth by interrupted connections within the Human system and between the Human and Natural systems. Just as our body, a system of systems, will be diminished when any of its systems are disrupted, the Human and Natural systems are being diminished. Simply stated, we are doing what we are doing because we are unaware of what we are doing. If we understood what we were doing (see three above), then we would do it differently.

Five... Changing behavior, altering patterns and transforming our systems, experiencing a more rewarding network of human activity with less cost, using less energy and fewer resources is all possible. The point is to show how to help restore balance and vitality within and between systems, allowing them to continue to co-evolve in a mutually supportive relationship. Through this idea we will offer inspiration, method, guidance and support to “write your own story” in working toward a world that works.