

Environmental Citizenship, Ecological Politics and Global Justice Workshop

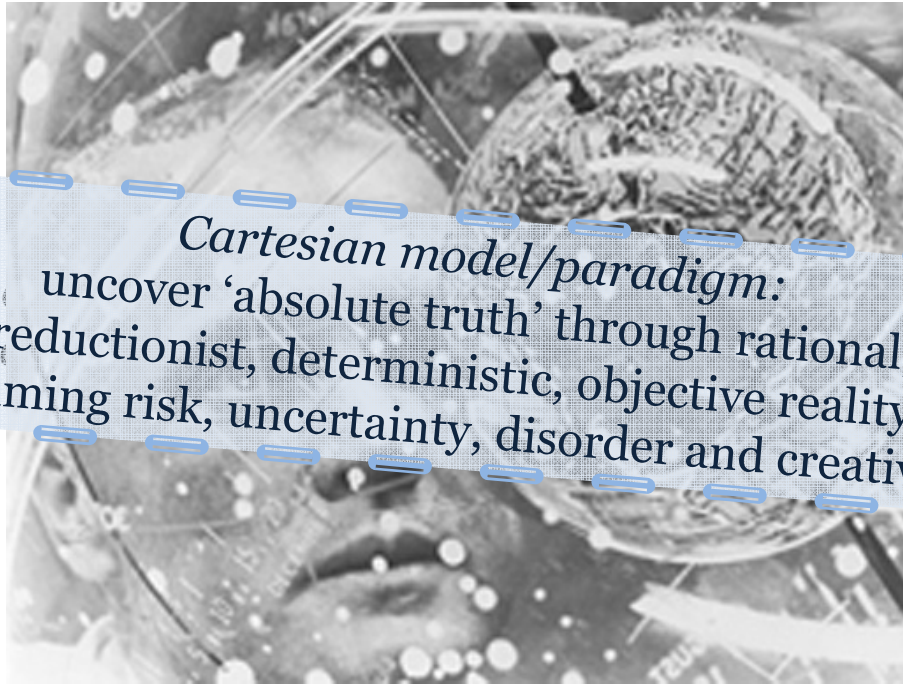
Lightening Talks I: Science & Citizenship

Decommissioning silos; engaging with sustainability as a trans-disciplinary meta-topic

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MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE



“It is possible to reduce nature to the utmost use to men ..and thereby make it amenable to man”
Cartesian model/paradigm: uncover ‘absolute truth’ through rational, reductionist, deterministic, objective reality – taming risk, uncertainty, disorder and creativity (Descartes, 1638)

Definition of Engineering: *“The art of **directing** the great sources of power in **nature** for the use and convenience of man.”* (Thomas Tredgold, 1828)

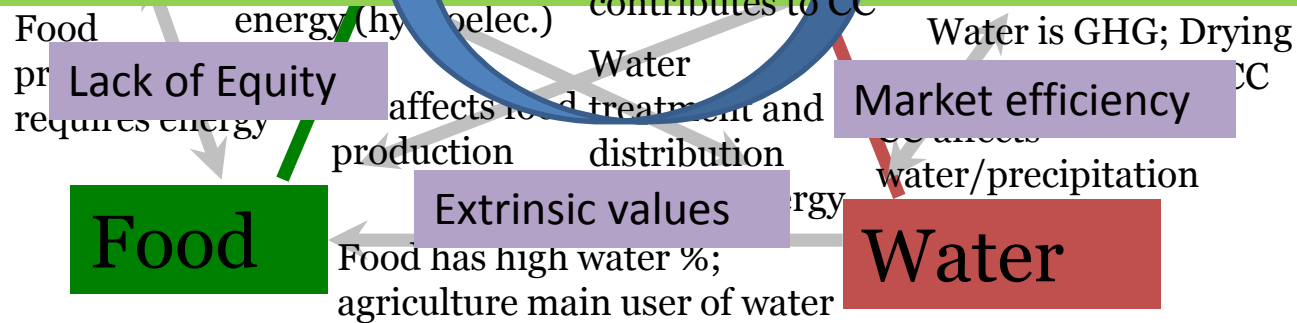
*“The next generation of engineers ..will have to somehow **manage** the great forces of **nature** for the benefit of us all”* (P.J. Rudden, President Engineers Ireland, Sept. 2011)

Unsustainable Societal Construct

CC means threats/opportunities
 Growth paradigm
 Advances
 Biological/societal/economic collapse
 Reduced well being & human flourishing
 Consumerism

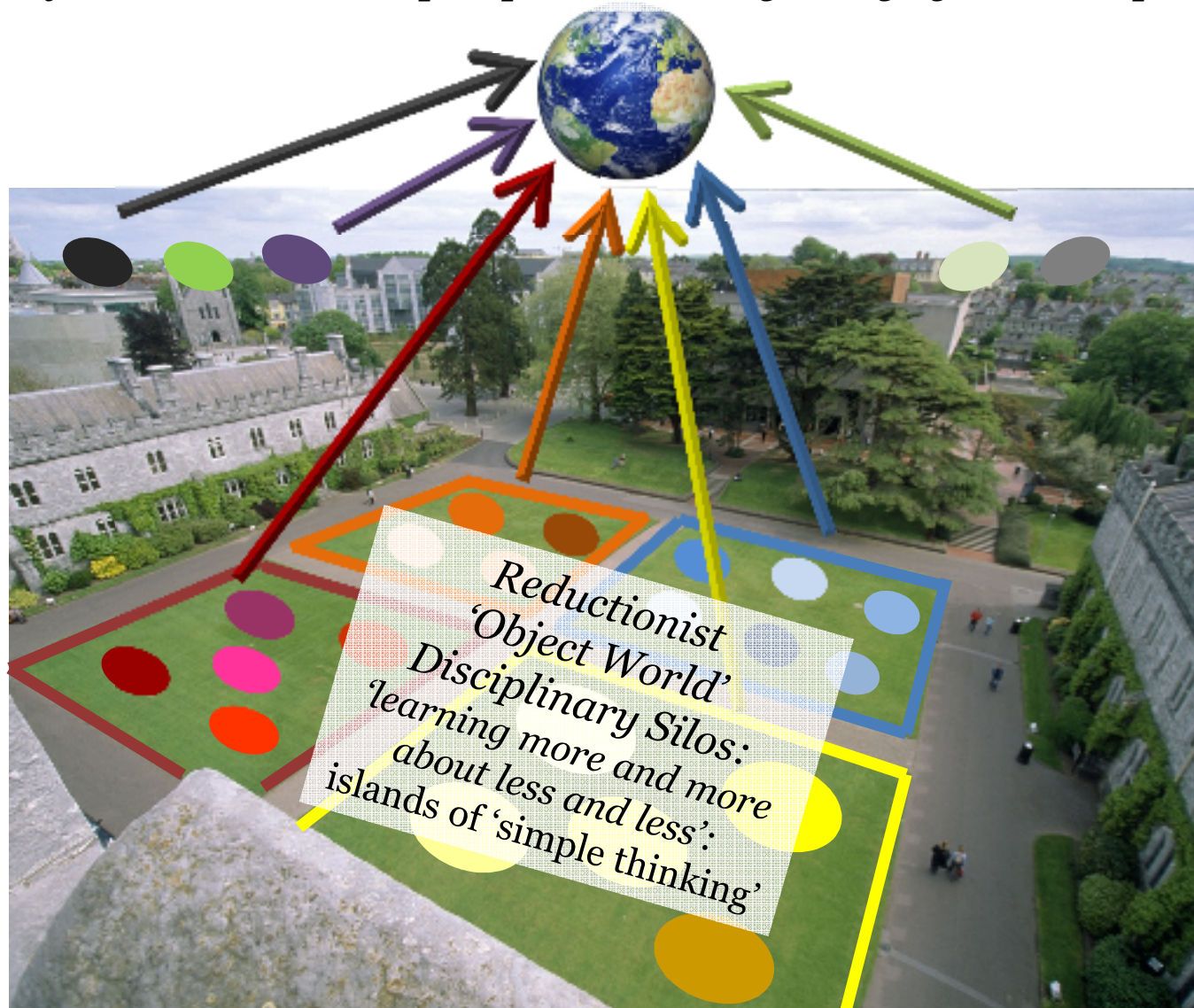
*“We have got to deal with increased demand for **energy**, increased demand for **food**, increased demand for **water**, and we've got to do that while mitigating and adapting to **climate change** ..and we have but 21 years to do it.”*

John Beddington (UK Government Chief Scientific Advisor), 2009



*“The **consumption** driven modern way-of-life continues un-abated in all fronts, everywhere ...the human species is on a **brutal collision course** with its natural environment”*
 Pereira, 2009

Multi-faceted multi-scale perspectives, recognising system complexity



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