

4SD

Skills, Systems & Synergies for Sustainable Development

Helping people to think, talk, act and lead on Sustainable Development



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was agreed by world leaders in September 2015. The Agenda offers a clear vision for the future for the world's people, for the places where they live and for the planet.

4SD helps people working on sustainable development to have strategic influence within challenging situations. 4SD equips them with the skills they need to make a lasting difference. 4SD accompanies them as they nurture their skills in their professional practice.

4SD encourages the use of **Living Systems approaches**: these enable more effective engagement across sectors and among multiple stakeholders.

4SD fosters integrated people-centred action in ways that are inclusive, always connecting more stakeholders and offering the promise of generative futures for all.

Living Systems for Sustainable Development

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development engages us in contexts that are complex and unpredictable, with multiple systems across the boundaries of sectors and professional disciplines. The Agenda shifts our worldview from detailed focus on specific parts to embracing the whole. At times, we all struggle to invent and then inspire others with these new ways of thinking, working and being.

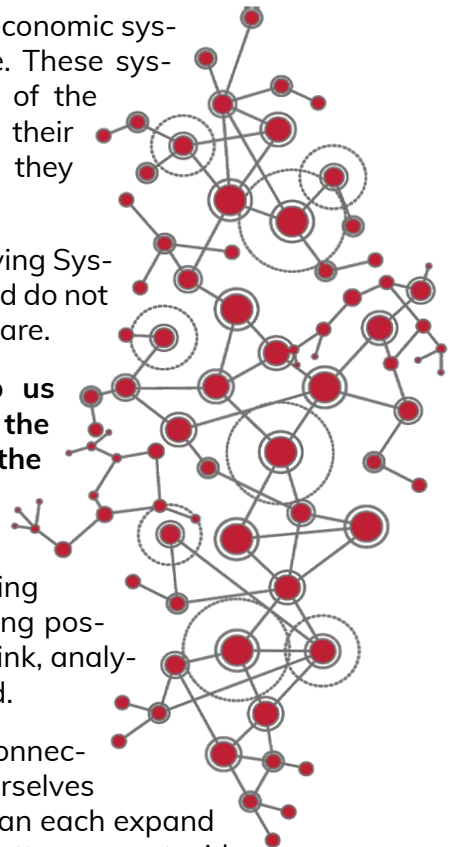
At 4SD, we believe that social and economic systems dance in the dynamics of life. These systems behave as they do because of the people within them - their identity, their relationships and the information they share.

In 4SD we view organisations as Living Systems. They are never mechanical and do not work well if treated as though they are.

Living Systems approaches help us navigate a journey that reflects the lives we desire for each other. At the same time, they help us better serve those for whom we work.

Appreciating the dynamics of Living Systems opens up a range of exciting possibilities – including new ways to think, analyze, organise, communicate and lead.

Within 4SD, we recognize strong connections between how we are in ourselves and how we treat each other. We can each expand our self-consciousness so that we better connect with Living Systems. This involves mind, feelings and body – our whole being.



The Living Systems 4SD Mentoring Academy

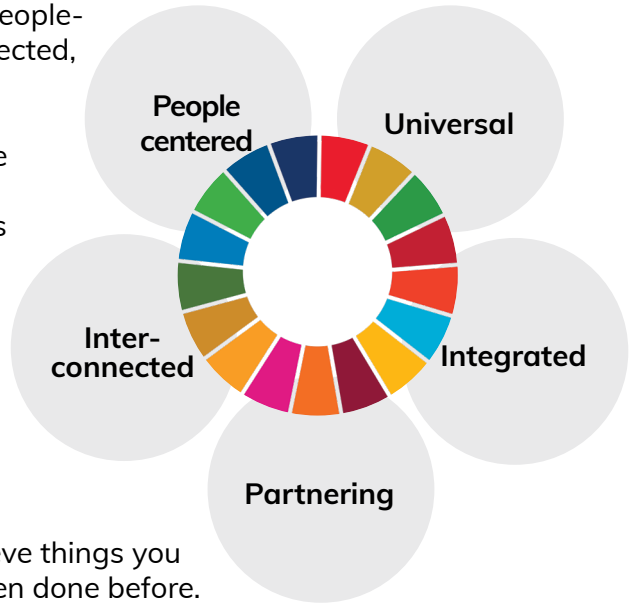
The 2030 Agenda is people-centred and interconnected, calling for integrated actions all around the world. To leave no-one behind, partnering is essential. This involves actors with varied motives, mandates and ways of working.

This makes work for the 2030 Agenda complex and at times deeply political.

You are trying to achieve things you believe have never been done before.

You are active within a realm where conflicting and competing interests are chasing the same scarce resources and influence. You find it can be tricky to navigate all this and at times feel discouraged. You even wonder if your quest is feasible though conclude that somehow you must progress.

This work may call on you to develop your capabilities. In 4SD we believe that you can acquire them through practice and learning from others. Our passion for continuous collective learning inspires our Mentoring Academy. Its expanding mentoring network is made up of people with interests like yours. The mentors will enjoy accompanying you as you navigate complexity.



4SD works with partners to increase the opportunities for mentoring those who work on the 2030 Agenda.

Members of the 4SD Mentoring Network are framing their **learning themes for improving their leadership in living systems for sustainable development**. They include:

<p>Personal skills</p> <p>Radical listening Using emotions effectively Public speaking and presenting</p>	<p>Implementation</p> <p>Prioritization, organization, and reporting Decision making: synergies & trade-offs</p>
<p>Change management</p> <p>Change processes and transformations Measuring progress Managing expectations</p>	<p>Coalition building</p> <p>Systems mind-sets Moderation and facilitation; Inclusivity Dispute resolution</p>

In 2019, 4SD offers you the following:

- **Personal Mentoring:** regular one-to-one engagement with a 4SD Mentor;
- **Collective Mentoring:** small-group residential immersions and a facilitated network of practitioners;
- **Process Mentoring:** support to specific systems initiatives focusing on food, nutrition, climate & health.

4SD is also involved in applied interdisciplinary learning within universities and staff colleges internationally.

At 4SD we would be delighted to explore how best we can support you. Please get in touch: contact@4SD.info