Environmental Transformation of Education

From societal attitudes to personal resilience

Czech Society: Four Attitudes

- Active Greens (15–20%): Core environmental values, lifestyle changes
- Light Greens (~50%): Care, but need external motivations
- Indifferent (~30%): Unengaged with environmental issues
- Dark Reds (~10%): Resistant to green narratives (growing group)
- Trend: Active Greens declining slightly, Dark Reds increasing

Schwartz's Value Theory

- Two key axes:
- - Openness to Change vs. Security
- - Self-Transcendence vs. Self-Enhancement
- Czech public leans toward: Security & Self-Enhancement
- Environmental action needs: Openness & Transcendence
- Challenge: Value mismatch in communication

The Christmas Tree Metaphor

- A tree with 4 levels of bulbs (body, emotion, thought, relationships)
- Bulbs may shine, flicker, be off, or over-glow
- They reflect life experiences and development
- Education helps reconnect and regulate what is already within

The Christmas Tree Metaphor

How Education Builds Resilience

- 1. Reflect working bulbs – validate strengths
- 2. Provide nurturing environments (e.g. nature)
- 3. Help reconnect dimmed or over-glowing bulbs
- Rule: Only reflect what the person can see themselves
- Trust is built through authenticity

Emotional and Cognitive Growth

- Body: Vertical vs. Horizontal energy (focused vs. flowing)
- Emotions: Recognizing and working with hidden feelings
- Thoughts: Helping ideas and cognitive lights shine again
- Relationships: Crucial to all other development layers

Educator's Role

- Go beyond knowledge delivery
- Understand value systems and early experiences
- Help learners reconnect with their inner 'bulbs'
- Every person carries a unique configuration of light

Conclusion

- We don't just teach facts – we help people shine
- Education = relational and emotional transformation
- Start from where people are, not where we wish they were
- Transformation requires empathy, patience, and honesty