

Faced with food and energy crises how can society improve its wellbeing in a sustainable way?

I thought a lot about different answers to this question, some more realistic than others. I thought about exploiting other planets, use their resources when our own have come to an end. I thought about using the power in the beams of the sun in a more efficient way, since that is a source of energy that probably not will end during the human era. I thought about genetically modify animals and plants, make them more sustainable to the changes of the climate. Enable them to live and grow in the hot desert and at the cold mountains.

Thinking of which one of the three subjects I should choose for this essay I realised that they all got one thing in common, they all need really talented scientists to become reality. People become good scientists since they are well educated. So the simple answer to this complex question is education. Both at an elementary and at an advanced level.

The question "Faced with food and energy crises how can society improve its wellbeing in a sustainable way?" is complex in two ways, it is hard to give a general answer since the world looks so different due to where we live. And it is also a difficult question because the word wellbeing can mean so many different things.

Is wellbeing driving around in a car, living in a villa, having a well paid job and to be able to go on a vacation once a year? Or is it to have a roof above one's head, to have so much food that one does not need to be hungry and to have a family who loves you? I believe that wellbeing is somewhere between those two examples. Not a life in poverty and not one in luxury. It is to live a life that you are happy with.

I have got three main arguments to why I think that education can achieve this for every human on this earth.

The first one is that countries where a larger part of the population is well educated have in general a higher level of wellbeing. Just by looking at school statistics compared to wellbeing in different countries confirms this argument.

The second argument is that it is the capacity of the human brain that separates us humans from the other animals. We have our brain to thank for being the earth's superior race. And if we would like to remain this, we have to continue to train, evolve and educate our brain. Thanks to our unique ability to find new smart solutions on complicated nearly unsolvable problems, we have been able to find ways to fit in and survive in different areas and surroundings. Our population has spread all over the earth and if it continues to grow like today it will live approximately 62 persons on every square metre year 3000. The earth simply won't have resources to feed us all.

By using our brain in the right way we can prevent this from happening. Well we can't stop our population to grow since that is natural, but we can learn how to use our resources in new more efficient ways. And we can learn how to re-use things that we today call rubbish.

We have to educate ourselves and our brains in many different ways. First of all should all people have the right to get educated in an elementary way. Everybody shall be

able to read, write and to do some simple maths. Some knowledge in human rights, English, environmental care and history are also useful

English is good since it is an international language and it definitely simplifies cooperation if everybody involved can speak and communicate with each other. History is important, so we don't make the same mistakes as our ancestors. Human rights and environmental care are vital subjects; we need to respect both each other and the nature. By doing this we have the best conditions to use all our resources in efficient ways.

It is very important that some people go beyond this elementary knowledge and get educated further. We need researchers and scientists whose only goal is to improve wellbeing in all different ways. These super humans might be the ones that will save our species from extinction.

By using our brain we can solve every problem or task that comes across our feet's. No one can do it alone but we stand strong together. We have to learn from each other, developing and industrializing countries has to cooperate. An example of doing this could be to send well educated scientists all over the world to teach and share their experiences.

This is one part of my third and final argument. To cooperate, and this is especially important to do across borders. Since our personal abilities and knowledge's change a lot due to where we are born and raised we see solutions on problems very different.

There is only a limited amount of matter on our earth and when more and more of that matter become humans less will remain to feed and supply us. So my first thought about moving to other planets might not be so far away as I first expected. But to be able to do this we still have a long road to walk. Somewhere, somehow in a place near us quite soon I know that someone will find the key and unlock an unbelievable new dimension of our universe.

Summary

The answer on the question is education. Our brain is our weapon and by using it the right way we can continue to evolve as species. It is a fact that countries where a larger part of the population is educated have a higher level of wellbeing. If all countries could follow in these countries footsteps everybody would benefit from it. Together we can find new ways to use our resources in efficient ways. People will get healthier and happier. And when the earth gets too small for us we will have the knowledge to expand out in the galaxy.