

In spiritual connection with the land - learning from indigenous people

Workshop with Prof. Dr. Katrin Valentin and Sarah Baumgartner-Vogel

Indigenous people (Bennani 2017) have often preserved cultural practices that reflect a closer relationship with their land. The "special spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned (...) lands, territories, waters" is even under special protection (UN 2007, Article 25).

One approach to education for sustainable development that takes into account the spiritual aspects of the educational concept can be to learn from these people and develop a spiritual connection to the land in which one lives. This can serve as a starting point for rooting oneself in the country and also enrich the work with children and young people and even adults.

The workshop will begin with a theoretical derivation of the connection between education for sustainable development (UNESCO 2021), subjective closeness to nature (Geng et al. 2015) and spirituality, as well as approaches to ESD that already take these into account (e.g. Stein/Andreotti et al. 2020). Accompanied by practical exercises, a brief insight is then given into the concepts of the Kogi people. The Kogi are a mountain tribe from Colombia (Buchholz 2021), who have preserved and developed their traditions over 4000 years and live in spiritual connection with their land.

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Stein, Sharon / Andreotti, Vanessa / Suša, Rene / Ahenakew, Cash / Čajková, Tereza (2020): From "education for sustainable development" to "education for the end of the world as we know it". In: Educational Philosophy and Theory, S. 1–14. Download <https://doi.org/10.1080/00131857.2020.1835646>.

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UNESCO (Organisation der Vereinten Nationen für Bildung, Wissenschaft und Kultur) (Hg.) (2021): Bildung für nachhaltige Entwicklung. Eine Roadmap: #ESDfor2030, #BNE2030. Bonn: Deutsche UNESCO-Kommission e.V. Download: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379488> (16.03.2023).