

Prelude

One necessary condition of successfully continuing our existence is the creation of an atmosphere of hope that the huge problems now confronting us can, in fact, be solved—and can be solved in time.

— Margaret Mead, 1964

The Holotopia initiative undertakes to *supply* that “one necessary condition of successfully continuing our existence”.

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At the onset of this decade, a respectable institution organized a conference “to explore the question: What can be achieved in this decade to put the world on a path to a more sustainable, more prosperous future for all of humanity?” In the Holotopia initiative we ask: What do we *have to do*—to give our next generation (our students, our children...) *a fair chance*?

Then something *wonderful* unfolds: We realize that the changes we *have to* make are both fundamental and structural. And that when we *do* make those changes—our condition will *improve*! And it will improve *radically*—far beyond what you might consider possible.

In this bolder approach to existential threats the “huge problems” become *assets*; because they *compel* us to make the changes that are long overdue; which would otherwise be impossible.

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We will *not* solve “the huge problems now confronting us” without making those requisite changes; or in other words—we will not solve them as *problems*. The *holotopia strategy* is to shift focus from problems to *comprehensive* change—of our societal-and-cultural order of things or *paradigm* as a whole.

What makes this strategy astonishingly attractive is that we already own all the data points needed to envision and complete

such a change. The elephant is *already* in the room; we only need to connect the dots.

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This strategy is made concrete and actionable by the *holotopia paradigm prototype*; which includes both a *vision* of the emerging paradigm and a carefully choreographed *process* by which this vision can be realized; which is already in motion; which this book is part of, and also you as its reader. The creation of the holotopia prototype took different thinking and thirty years of devoted labor; we were fortunate to collaborate with constellations of colleagues who were creative leaders in their fields.

Of the two of us, Fredrik is an academic communication designer. Dino has been academically trained in systems science and algorithm theory; and privately, in Oriental human cultivation arts; which resulted in different thinking and led to *holotopia vision*. Together, we designed a process to *manifest* that vision. As of 2008 Dino coordinated an international R&D community called Knowledge Federation, and Fredrik designed its communication. Through a series of projects, this community turned theoretical ideas into technology-enabled real-life systemic solutions we call *prototypes*; which are now ready to be examined, updated and put to use.

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Will the huge problems now confronting us be solved in time?

There is no final solution to humanity's problems—save the one that we must learn to *avoid*. The aim of the Holotopia initiative is to help us become *proactive* participants in humanity's drama. The resulting positive effects will not only be huge, they will also be *instant*: We will find ourselves *on a creative frontier*; more exuberant than *any* in human history.