La Psicologia della Sostenibilità e dello Sviluppo Sostenibile: nuove consapevolezze sugli aspetti dell'accettazione sociale

Annamaria Di Fabio

Full Professor Work and Organizational Psychology

Dipartimento di Formazione, Lingue, Intercultura, Letterature e Psicologia (FORLILPSI)

Università degli Studi di Firenze

Unifi Green Week

SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE

Sustainability Science
(Komiyama & Takeuchi, 2006;
Takeuchi, Osamu, Lahoti, & Gondor, 2017)

creates a **trans-disciplinary** reflection space that combines

natural and applied sciences

social sciences

humanities

SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE

Sustainability Science

brings **various disciplines together** to address sustainable development

to contribute directly to the **UN Sustainable Development Goals** (United Nations, 2018)

UNITED NATIONS AGENDA 2030

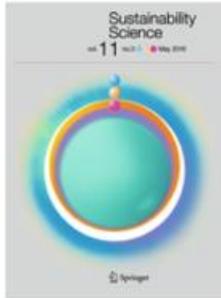# Psychology of Sustainability and Sustainable Development

Psychology of Sustainability and Sustainable Development:
A current research area
officially born in 2016 in the journal

Springer Publisher

Impact Factor 6.0

https://link.springer.com/journal/11625

5 year Impact Factor 7.4

Sustainability Science

Editor-in-Chief: Kazuhiko **Takeuchi**

ISSN: 1862-4065 (print version)
ISSN: 1862-4057 (electronic version)

Journal no. 11625

Editor-in-Chief

Kazuhiko Takeuchi
The University of Tokyo, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan
(Landscape ecology and planning)

lectito

EDITORIAL

Opening the Black Box of Psychological Processes in the Science of Sustainable Development: A New Frontier

Annamaria Di Fabio [1*], Marc A. Rosen [2]

[1] *Department of Education and Psychology (Psychology Section), University of Florence*, via di San Salvi, 12, Complesso di San Salvi, Padiglione 26, 50135 Firenze, ITALY
[2] *Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Ontario Institute of Technology*, 2000 Simcoe Street North, Oshawa, Ontario, L1G 0C5, CANADA

*Corresponding Author: adifabio@psico.unifi.it

ABSTRACT

The psychology of sustainability and sustainable development represents a new research area in the field of Sustainability Science. It introduces a psychological perspective and enhances the trans-disciplinary framework that forms the foundation of Sustainability Science. Firmly establishing the psychology of sustainability and sustainable development as a research area means recognizing and integrating the value of psychology and the psychological approach in the construction of processes linked to sustainable development. Enriching sustainable development through opening the black box of psychological processes in support of sustainable development is a new and exciting frontier, that will likely lead to major developments and concrete advances for making development more sustainable in the 21st century and beyond.

Keywords: psychology of sustainable development, psychology of sustainability, sustainable development, sustainability
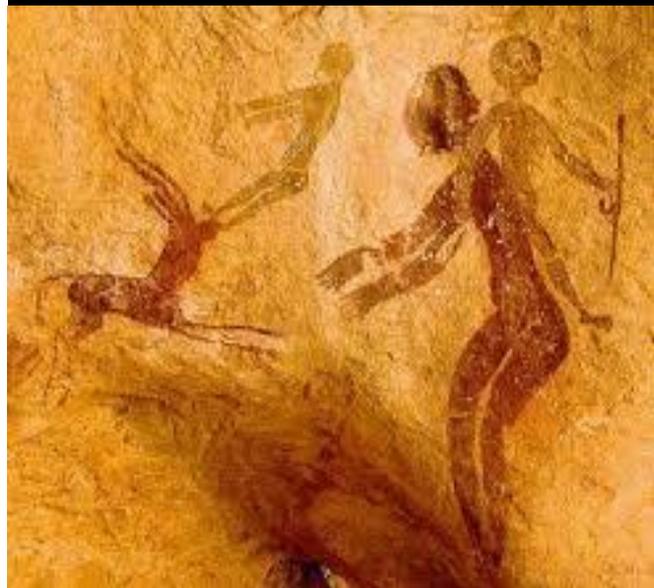
New Section in *Sustainability* (MDPI):
"Psychology of Sustainability and Sustainable Development" (2019)

Impact Factor 3.9

5 year Impact Factor 4.0

Prof. Dr. Marc A. Rosen

Editor-in-Chief

Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Canada

Website | E-Mail

Interests: sustainability; sustainable development; energy; efficiency; environmental impact; economics; ecology; sustainable engineering and design

Special Issues and Collections in MDPI journals

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/sections/Psychology_Sustainable_Development

Prof. Dr. Annamaria Di Fabio

Section Editor-in-Chief

Full Professor Work and Organizational Psychology, Director of the two International Research and Intervention Laboratories: Cross-Cultural Positive Psychology, Prevention, and Sustainability (CroCPosPsychP&S), Psychology for Vocational Guidance, Career Counseling and Talents (LabOProCCareer&T), Department of Education and Psychology (Psychology Section), University of Florence, Italy

Website1 | Website2 | E-Mail

Interests: psychology of sustainability and sustainable development, cross-cultural positive psychology, prevention, work and organizational psychology, talents, positive career outcomes, career decision-making, workplace relational civility, decent work, positive relational-management, intrapreneurial self-capital, acceptance of change, project reflexivity, career counseling, guidance, resiliency, emotional intelligence, personality and individual differences

The psychology of sustainability and sustainable development is thus focused on different environments from the natural environment, the personal environment, the social environment, the organizational environment, and the inter-organizational environment, to the globalized environment and the virtual environment. Opening the black box of psychological processes in the science of sustainability and sustainable development will be the main aim of the new research area distinguishing this section.

SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE

Including in
Sustainability Science

the official recognition
of the value of the study
of psychological processes

favours the establishment of
a **culture of sustainability and sustainable development**

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SUSTAINABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Firmly establishing
the Psychology of Sustainability
and Sustainable Development
as a **research area**

→

means recognizing and integrating
the value of psychology and
the psychological approach

↓

in the construction
of processes linked to
sustainability and
sustainable development

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SUSTAINABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Psychological processes
Influence

→

decisions and behaviors connected to
sustainability
and sustainable development issues

↓

alone **and** in relation with external processes

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SUSTAINABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
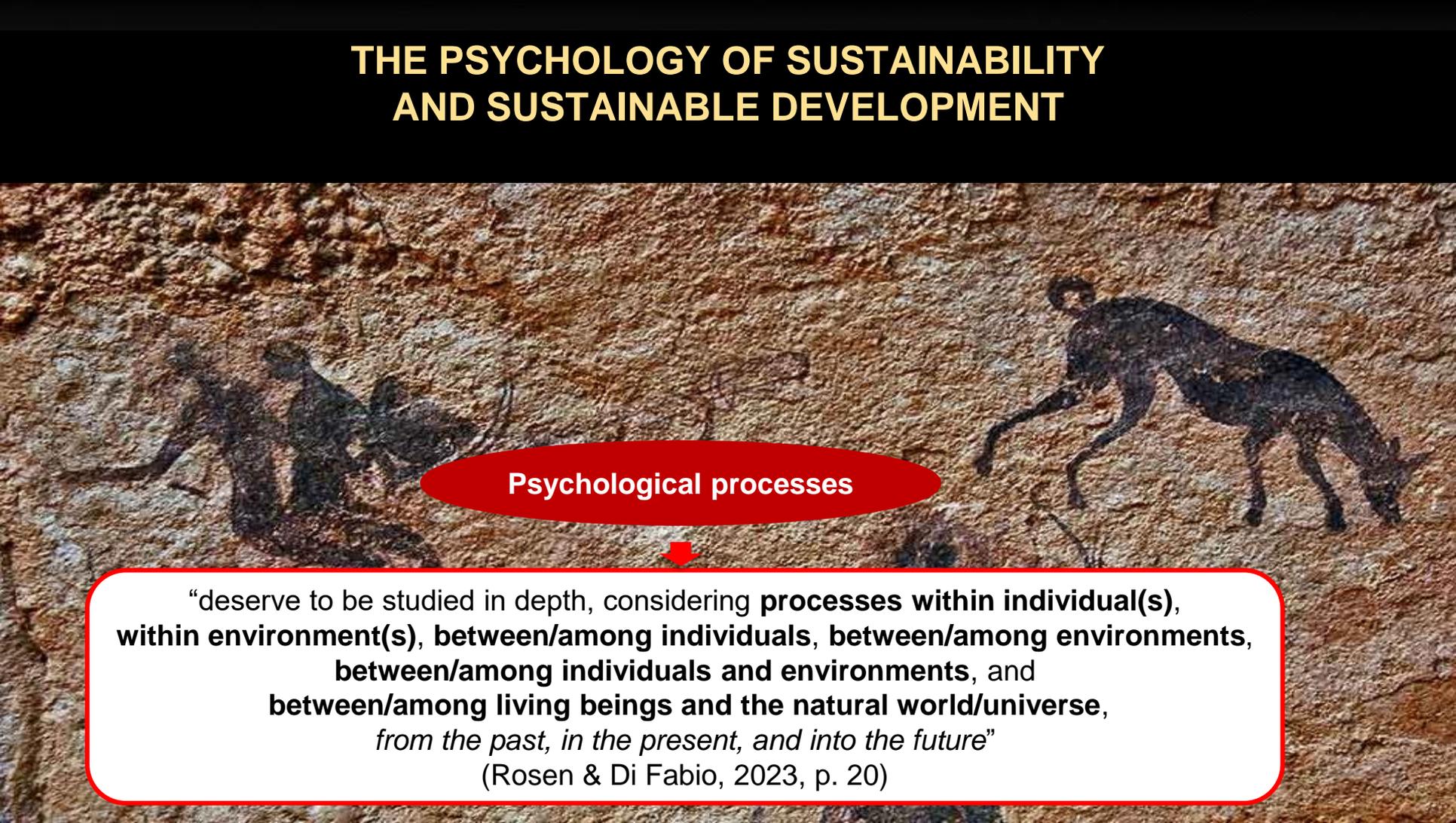
Psychological processes

"deserve to be studied in depth, considering **processes within individual(s)**, **within environment(s)**, **between/among individuals**, **between/among environments**, **between/among individuals and environments**, and **between/among living beings and the natural world/universe**, *from the past, in the present, and into the future*"
(Rosen & Di Fabio, 2023, p. 20)

SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE

SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE

L'accettazione sociale della transizione energetica in generale,
e in particolare delle tecnologie energetiche rinnovabili (RET)
riceve grande attenzione da parte dei policy makers (Rijksoverheid, 2019)

Il public engagement è lo strumento mediante il quale si intende raggiungere
l'accettazione (Kluskens, Vasseur, & Benning, 2024)

SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE

Mancanza di accettazione pubblica
può effettivamente
ostacolare la transizione
(Kluskens, Alkemade, & Höffken, 2024)

Il livello delle comunità locali

è il livello dell'accettazione che sembra essere il più problematico
(Aitken, McDonald, & Strachan, 2008; Devine-Wright, 2011, 2017)

Identificare spiegazioni universali per l'accettazione comunitaria rimane difficile…
(Ellis & Ferraro, 2016; de Wildt, Boijmans, Chappin, & Herder, 2021)

SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE

Approccio orientato al risultato

Dalle prime spiegazioni NIMBY (not in my backyard)

comprensione dei fattori sociopsicologici e contestuali che influenzano l'opposizione comunitaria (Batel, 2020)

SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE

Approccio orientato al processo

Letteratura più recente

Accettazione sociale come processo
e non focus orientato al risultato
(Wolsink, 2018; Batel & Rudolph, 2021)

Accettazione comunitaria

COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

Quattro diverse dimensioni del processo di accettazione comunitaria:

- ATTORI COINVOLTI (chi)
- LORO RUOLI (quali)
- OGGETTI DI ACCETTAZIONE (cosa)
- VARIE RISPOSTE (come)

(Kluskens, Alkemade, & Höffken, 2024)

COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

Accettazione comunitaria

sfaccettatura dell'accettazione sociale
(Wüstenhagen, Wolskin, & Bürer, 2007)

Ampliando questo paradigma, Wolsink (2018)
enfatizza la natura dinamica e sistemica del processo di accettazione

Interazione tra (Wolsink, 2010; Van Mossel & Broecks, 2015):

tre sfaccettature interdipendenti

Accettazione sociopolitica

Accettazione di mercato

Accettazione comunitaria

COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

Ciò che rende complessa la comprensione dell'accettazione come processo è che il termine è interpretato in vari modi e spesso si riferisce a una certa risposta o risultato

In riferimento al risultato, l'accettazione ha connotazioni correlate
come accettabilità, supporto, tolleranza
che spesso vengono utilizzate in modo interscambiabile
(Busse & Siebert, 2018)

COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

Distinzione empirica dell'accettazione dal supporto:
Come una *forma più attiva di accettazione* (implica una *posizione favorevole* verso il progetto)
mentre l'accettazione è una risposta più passiva
(Batel, Devine-Wright & Tangeland, 2013)

Accettazione non come un singolo risultato, ma **come una gamma di possibili risposte** di **approvazione** verso le tecnologie energetiche rinnovabili e le politiche, *da passive ad attive*
(Bertsch, Hall, Weinhardt, & Fichtner, 2016)

Le risposte nel processo di accettazione non vengono plasmate nel vuoto,
ma sulla base dell'*impegno* con i progetti energetici, le *negoziazioni* e l'*interazione sociale*
(Walker, Devine-Wright, & Barnet, 2013)

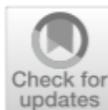**COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE**

L'oggetto di accettazione non è né una decisione una tantum né un fenomeno statico
(Küpers & Batel, 2023)

Individuals within the Larger System to Support the Energy Transition

Check for
updates

Beyond a checklist for acceptance: understanding the dynamic process of community acceptance

Nikki Kluskens[1] · Floor Alkemade[1] · Johanna Höffken[1]

UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMIC PROCESS OF COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

I risultati evidenziano 4 fasi nel processo di **community acceptance**

Fase del permesso

Fase preliminare

Fase di costruzione
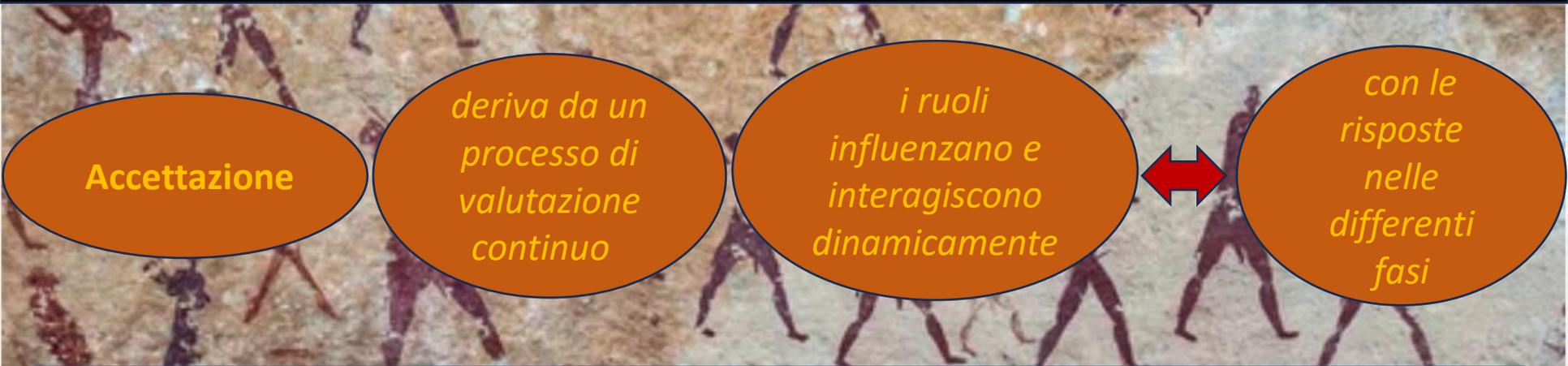
Fase operativa

UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMIC PROCESS OF COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

I risultati evidenziano sette oggetti di accettazione:

- POSIZIONE
- TECNOLOGIA DI ENERGIA RINNOVABILE considerata
- INTEGRAZIONE SPAZIALE
- PROCESSO
- COSTRUZIONE
- *GESTIONE OPERATIVA (ndr)*
- DISTRIBUZIONE DEI BENEFICI
- EFFETTI E ASPETTI INDIRETTI DELL'IMPLEMENTAZIONE

(Kluskens, Vasseur, & Benning, 2024)

UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMIC PROCESS OF COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

Accettazione

deriva da un processo di valutazione continuo

i ruoli influenzano e interagiscono dinamicamente

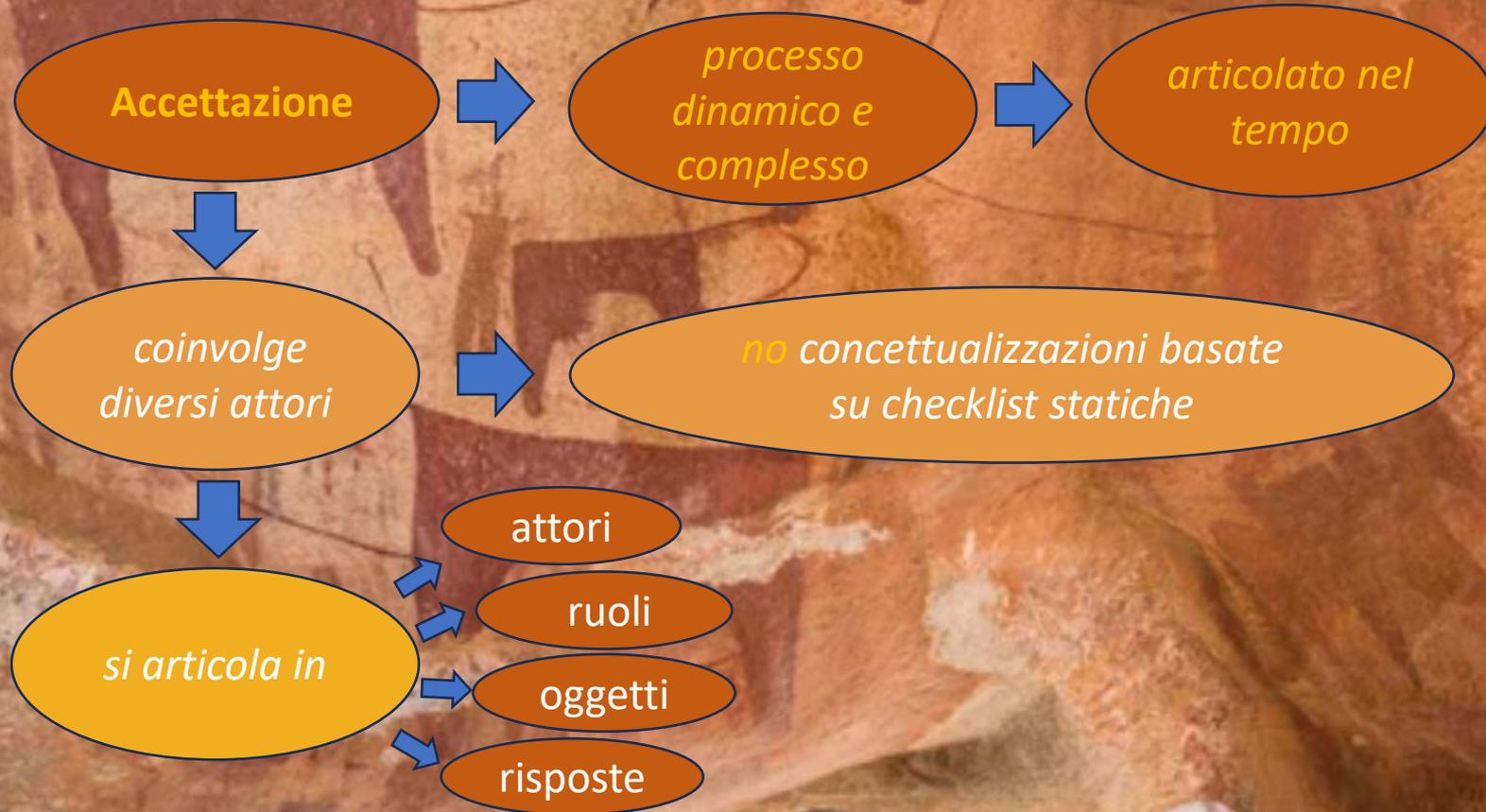*con le risposte nelle differenti fasi*

Le autorità iniziano con ruoli meno definiti, divenendo poi più formali

I residenti hanno il massimo impatto nella fase preliminare, pur essendo spesso passivi alcuni tuttavia assumono ruoli attivi

Alcuni residenti possono assumere ruoli attivi, influenzando la distribuzione dei ricavi ottenuti dalle Renewable Energy Technologies e aumentando l'accettazione

FIRST TAKE HOME MESSAGE:
UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMIC PROCESS OF COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

Accettazione → *processo dinamico e complesso* → *articolato nel tempo*

coinvolge diversi attori → *no concettualizzazioni basate su checklist statiche*

si articola in → attori
→ ruoli
→ oggetti
→ risposte

FIRST TAKE HOME MESSAGE:
UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMIC PROCESS
OF COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

Limiti

visione unidimensionale dell'accettazione

approccio «one-size-fits-all»
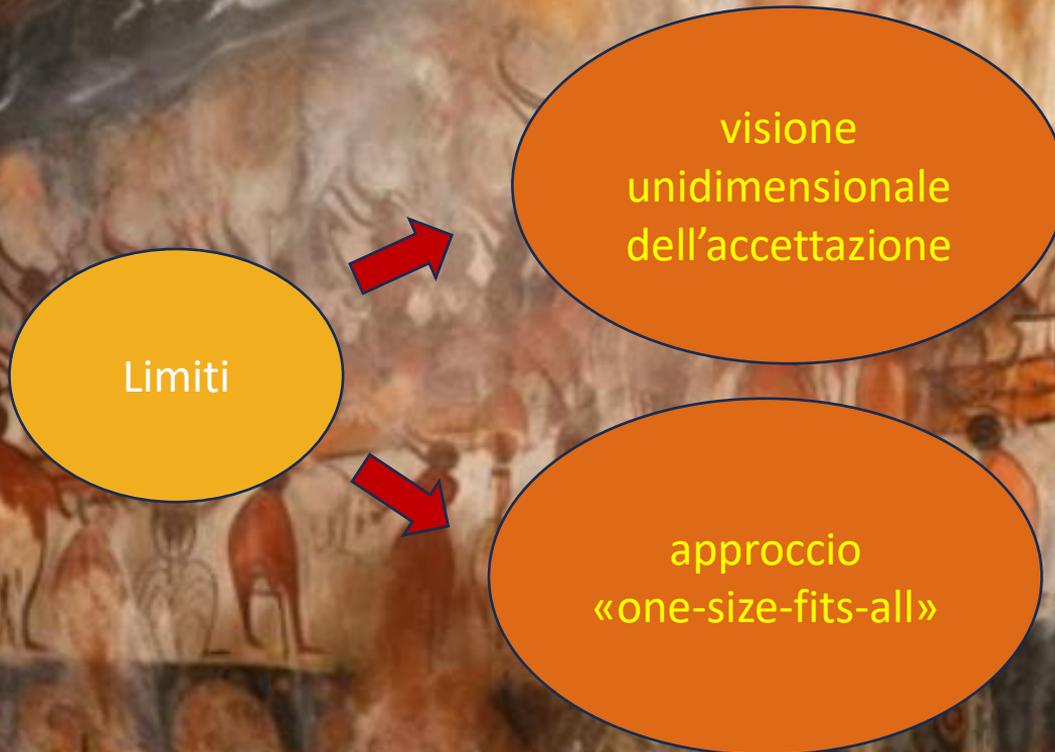
Introdurre **nuove consapevolezze**

sugli aspetti dell'**accettazione sociale**

PSYCHOLOGY of HARMONIZATION

A VITAL PILLAR FOR
the PSYCHOLOGY OF SUSTAINABILITY AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (Di Fabio, 2017a, 2017b,2018, Di Fabio & Tsuda, 2018)

PSYCHOLOGY of HARMONIZATION
(Di Fabio, 2017, 2018;
Di Fabio & Tsuda, 2018)

- *intrapersonal*
- *interpersonal*
- *with natural world/universe*

harmonic recomposition processes of internal and external complexity

geographically

temporally

near/far

from roots in the **past**

to the **present**

to the **future**

sustainable development

LA SFIDA PSICOLOGICA PER L'ACCETTAZIONE SOCIALE

PSYCHOLOGY OF HARMONIZATION
(Di Fabio, 2017, 2018;
Di Fabio & Tsuda, 2018)

PSYCHOLOGY of SUSTAINABILITY and SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
(Di Fabio, 2017a, 2017b;
Di Fabio & Peiró, 2018; Di Fabio & Rosen, 2018;
Di Fabio & Cooper 2023; Di Fabio & Peiró, 2024)

Starting from the self
- with parts of the **self**
- with **others**
- with **nature** (world)

Starting from the others
- geographically **near and far**
- temporally **near and far** in the past, present and **future**

building **strengths**

oxigenating

respect of the *zone of* **proximal development**

reflexivity
for the *next chapters* of our lives with others in the world and for the world

gaining access to Generativity and Eco-generativity

IN RELATION TO DIFFERENT ENVIROMENTS

natural E.

personal E.

social E.

organizational E.

… E.

LA SFIDA PSICOLOGICA PER L'ACCETTAZIONE SOCIALE

PSYCHOLOGY OF HARMONIZATION
(Di Fabio, 2017, 2018;
Di Fabio & Tsuda, 2018)

**PSYCHOLOGY
of SUSTAINABILITY and
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**
(Di Fabio, 2017a, 2017b;
Di Fabio & Peiró, 2018; Di Fabio & Rosen, 2018; Di Fabio &
Cooper 2023; Di Fabio & Peiró, 2024)

REFLEXIVITY

for the *next chapters*
of our lives with others
in the world and
for the world
and new generations

**gaining access to
GENERATIVITY**

SECOND TAKE HOME MESSAGE

REFLEXIVITY

gaining access to
ECO-GENERATIVITY

SECOND TAKE HOME MESSAGE

ECO-GENERATIVITY

Di Fabio, A., & Svicher, A. (2023). **The Eco-Generativity Scale (EGS): A New Resource to Protect the Environment and Promote Health**. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 20*(15), 6474. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph20156474

Di Fabio, A., & Svicher, A. (2024). **The Eco-Generativity Scale-Short Form: A Multidimensional Item Response Theory Analysis in University Students**. *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment, 42*(2), 241-247. https://doi.org/10.1177/07342829231212320

Di Fabio, A., & Svicher, A. (2024). **The challenge of eco-generativity. Embracing a positive mindset beyond eco-anxiety: a research agenda**. *Frontiers in Psychology, 15.* https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2024.1173303

The road is open .....
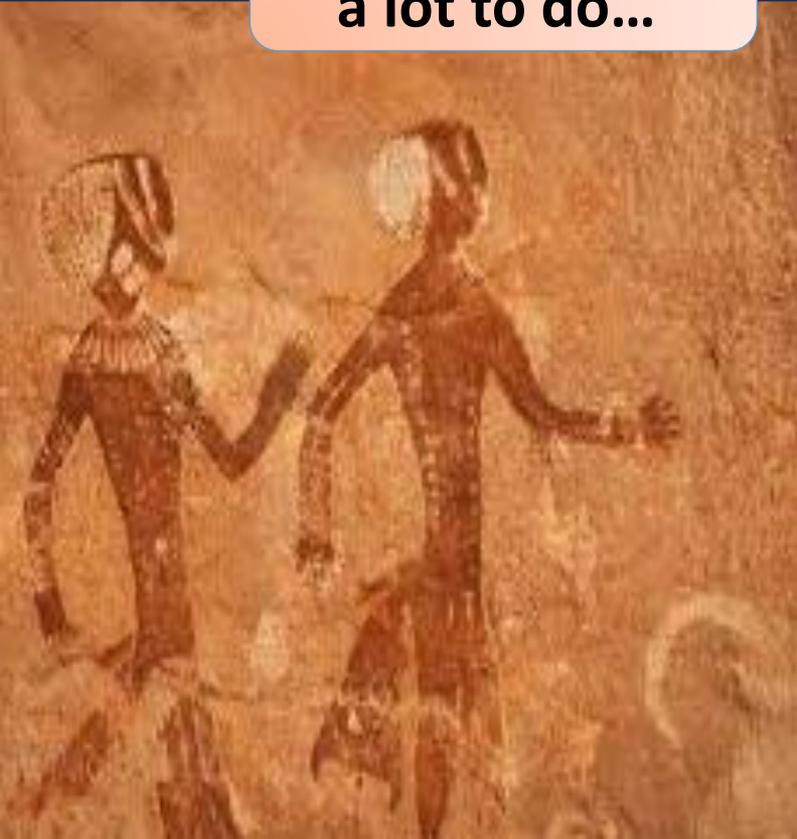
GRAZIE PER L'ATTENZIONE

annamaria.difabio@unifi.it