

Educating future scientists

-moving from data to action (?)



Photo: Børge Damsgård

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Centre of Excellence
in Biology Education



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We teach our students about causes and consequences of climate change.

We introduce them to the extensive body of research available, the uncertainties, and the unsolved problems.

We show them the methods



...but do we show the way forward?

The current knowledge is outdated when the next generation is taking over the responsibility

What do current students need to learn to become good future scientists?

What do current students expect?



Peeking into the future

Our generation

- Research focus: describe, explain, and postulate climate change effects
- Recognize the need for sustainable development

Next generation

- Research focus: how to deal with climate change - reduce and adapt to change
- Take personal actions for sustainable development



Collapsing ice-wedge after record-high summer temperatures in Svalbard

- My world is literally collapsing.
- The most urgent question is no longer “what er the consequences”, but rather “what can we do about it”



Need powerful knowledge

– allows the holder to make a better contribution to society



Photo Janne Søreide

- Creativity
- Problem-solving skills
- Authentic and relevant practice outside the lecture room
- General competence and practical skills getting more important



Research and education for the future

- education developed in the intersection between knowledge content, practical skills and society needs
- how to reduce the damage?

