

Gerhard Centre Webinar Series

The Aftermath of COVID 19: Why the future is more horizontal?

Alan Fowler

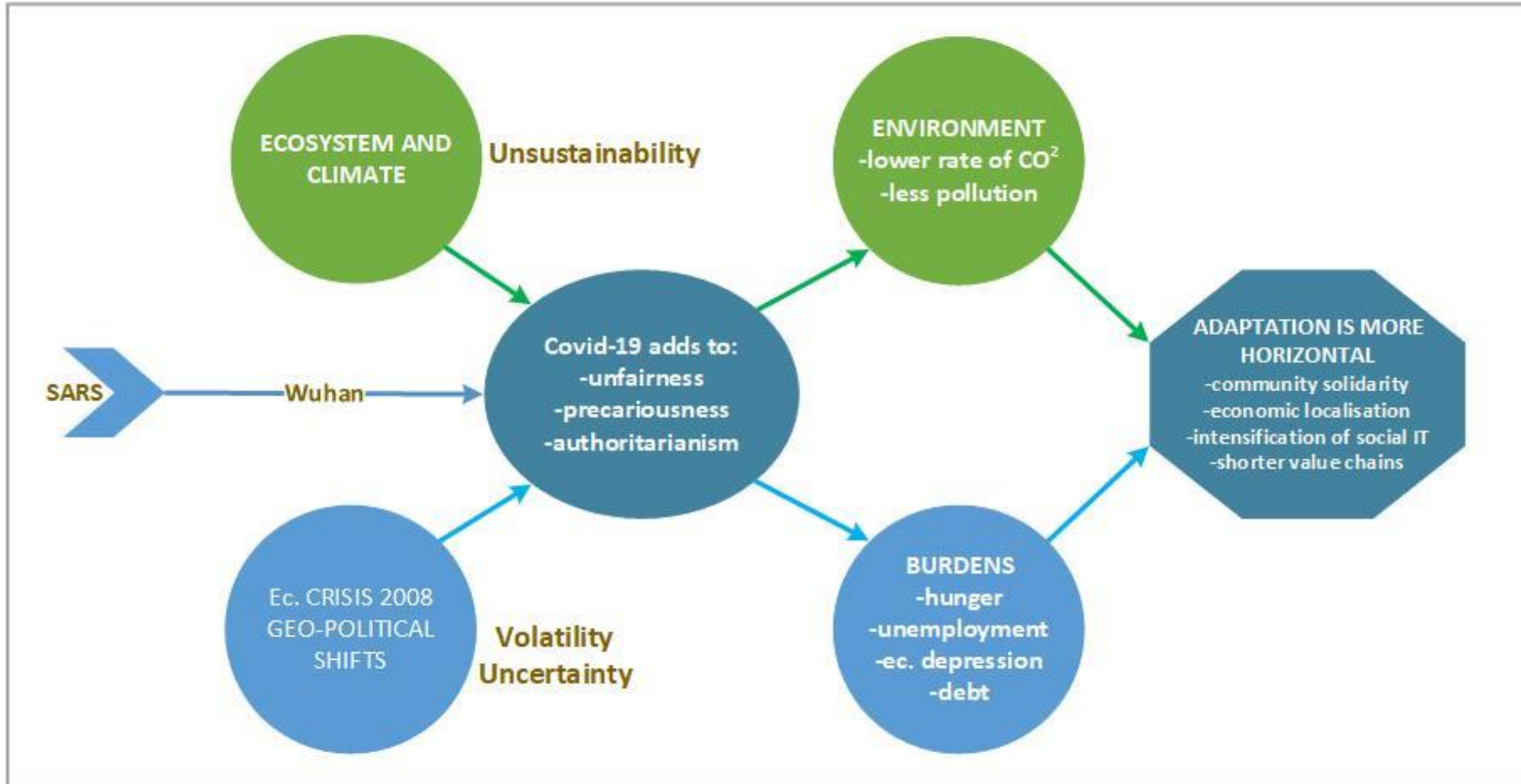
28 April 2020

The Future is More Horizontal?

Webinar objective: Stimulate thinking about a post-Covid-19 World

- Personal Introduction
- Clarifying concepts – vertical and horizontal
- The webinar story
- Horizontality and Adaptability
- Open for discussion

The Webinar Story Line



Covid-19 arrives and deeply disrupts a highly unstable world order

Socially, Vertical and Horizontal Asymmetry are Normal

Birth means looking up to carers

Later, socialisation means looking around one's community and environment.

Living means doing both. But looking up usually gains more attention.

Pre-dispositions are to look up to:

- **older family members**
- **different types of public authority**
- **leaders of social and religious groups**
- **Entrepreneurs and employers as income providers and wealth creators**
- **the rich and better off**
- **celebrities and role models**
- **etc**



Dealing with COVID-19 invites more attention to the horizontal.

As a disaster for society, the Covid19 is distinct.

It is enabling politics to become more autocratic:

- Government should ensure our security, with any costs coming later.
- Social distancing focuses attention on top-down rules and enforcement

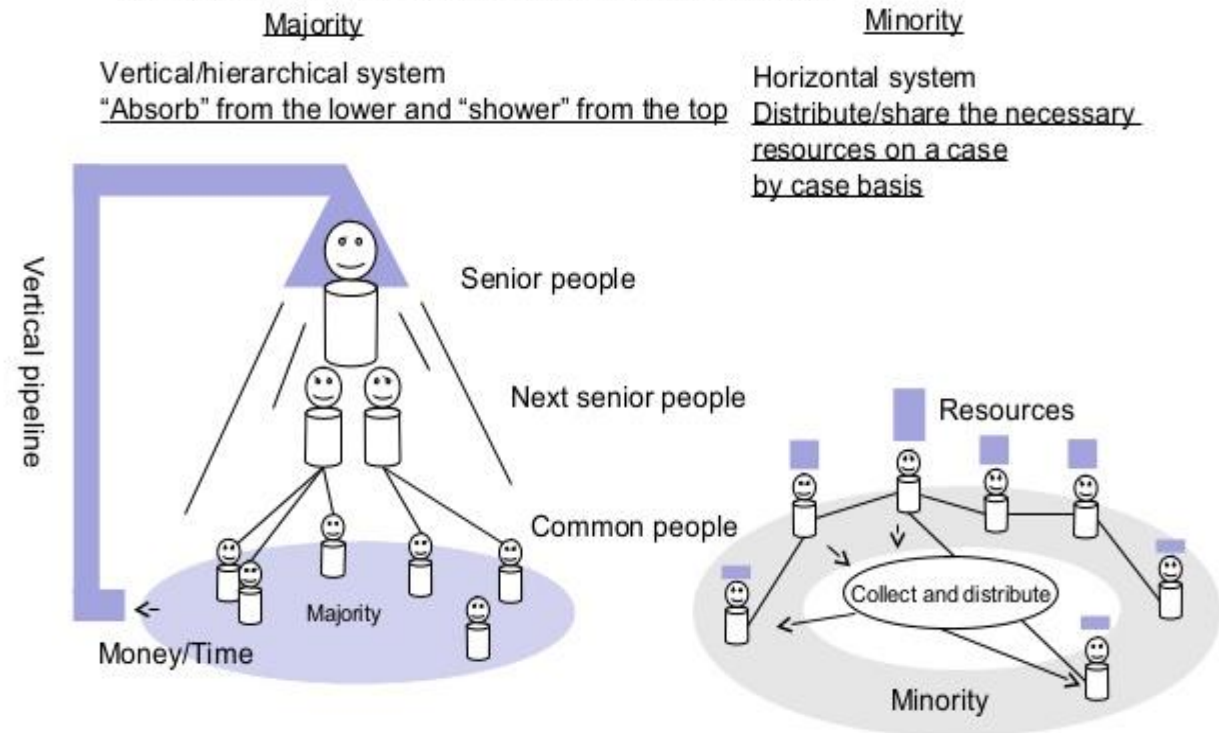
It GLOBALLY challenges the viability of vertical economic systems which are:

- Economical volatile and inequitable
- Climatologically unsustainable

Why is horizontal relevant? Because of its role in coping now and its potential for post-Covid19 adaptation.

“Vertical” and “Horizontal”

- The established system of majority→Vertical
- The counter system of marginalized minority→Horizontal



Community Matters – Covid19 may need physical distance but Social SOLIDARITY is crucial now and later

Philanthropy, Altruism, Generosity



Mobilizing Collective Resilience



Horizontalize by Adding Value Closer to Home

Reapportioning benefits

Generating shared economic gains



Think Global, Act Local (Glocalisation)



Inviting Discussion

Now it is your turn.

- **What made you curious?**
- **What made you annoyed?**
- **What future from Covid-19?**