

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES:

HOW TO IMPROVE THE BRIDGE?

Introduction

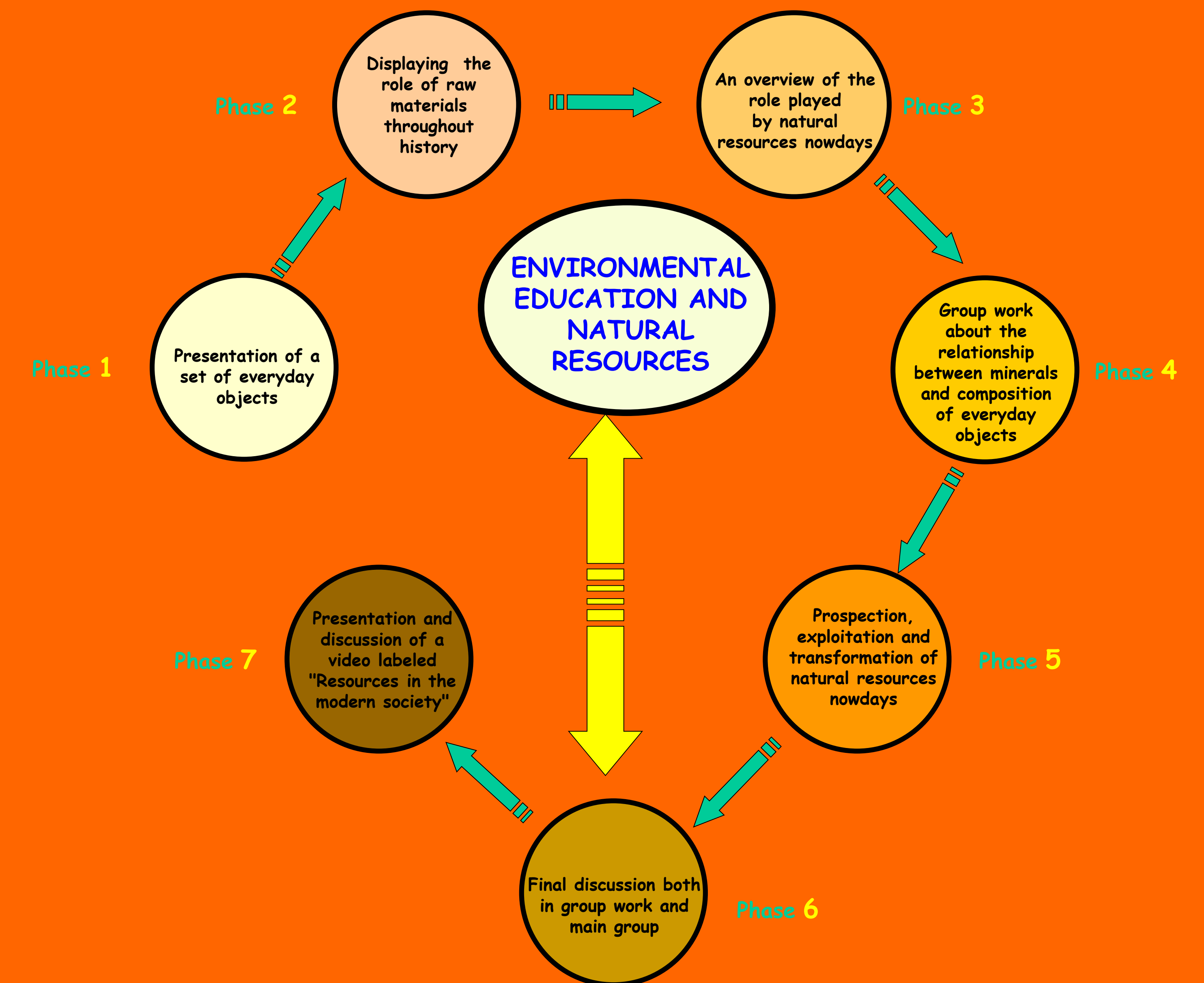
This poster corresponds to the development of a Workshop carried out with science teachers in the context of an in-service teachers training programme. Main aims, materials and the phases of the methodology which have been used, will be presented here as an attempt to make the teachers aware of the environmental education issues.

Main aims to be achieved

- ☞ To demonstrate the importance of the Geosciences in Environmental Education;
- ☞ To promote reflection upon the Science-Technology-Society-Environment Movement (STSE);
- ☞ To reflect upon the position of raw materials in the world today and on the means of obtaining them;
- ☞ To make the participants aware of the connection between everyday attitudes and natural resources.

Theoretical Framework

In science today it is impossible to separate the logical structure of scientific knowledge from the context of society and technological development. This unity affects our daily life profoundly and reconstructs it. Science education cannot ignore the changes that have taken place in science. In the meantime, an anthropocentric paradigm based on mankind domination on all living and non-living beings should move towards a biocentric paradigm. Here the sustainable development means the recognition that the equilibrium of the different sub systems should be maintained and attention have to be paying to different parameters such as renewing rate of the natural resources systems and to the ecosystems load capacity.



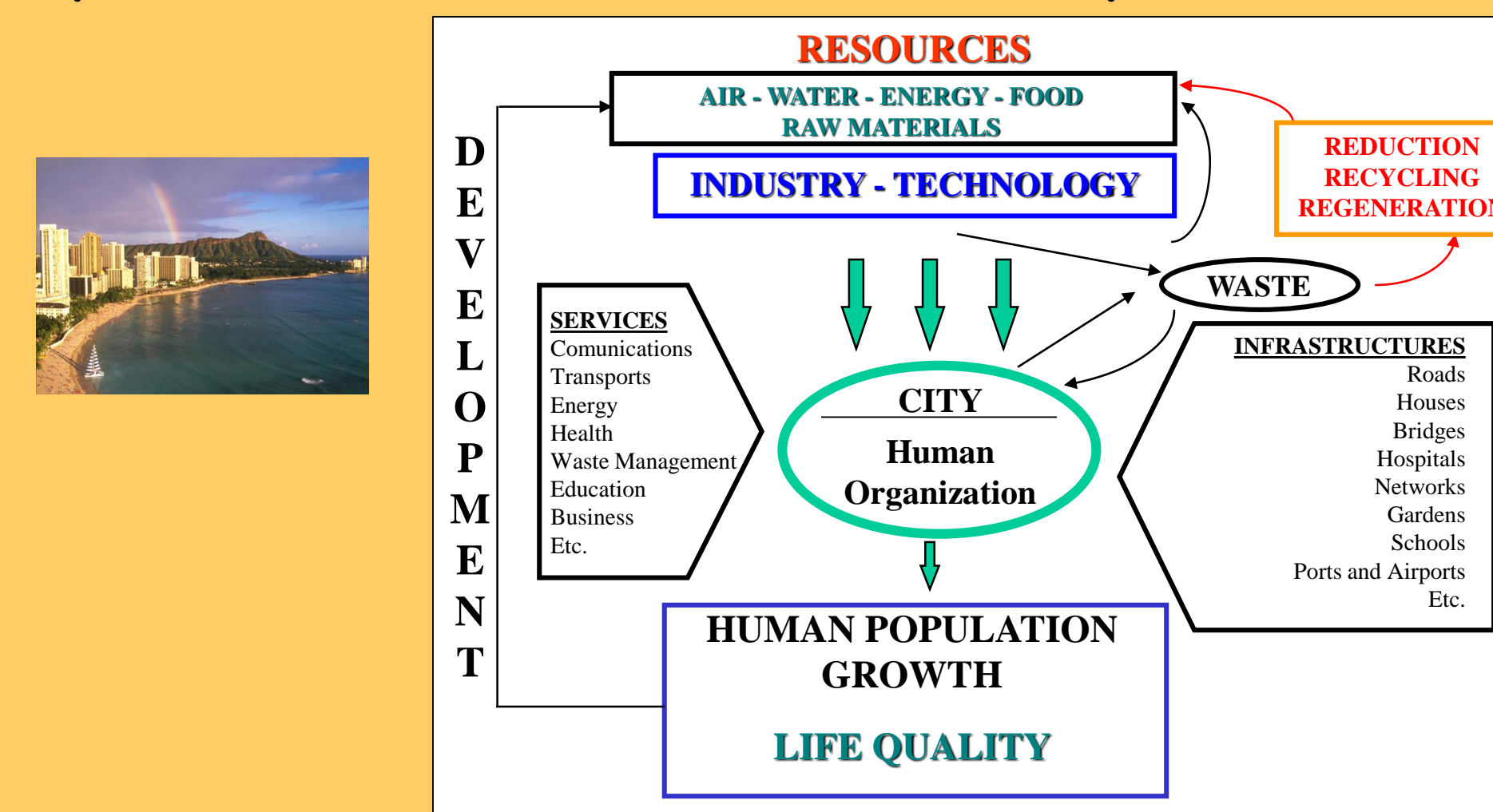
1 - Presentation of a set of everyday objects



2 - Displaying the role of raw materials throughout history



3 - An overview of the role played by natural resources nowadays



4 - Group work about the relationship between minerals and composition of everyday objects



5 - Prospection, exploitation and transformation of natural resources nowadays



6 - Final discussion both in groups and whole class



7 - Presentation and discussion of a video labeled "Resources in the modern society"



Final Coments:

- The way in which society uses technology necessitates a form of education which promotes dialogue between STS.
- Formal science curriculum is one part of person's access to global education and this increases its responsibility on contributing towards ethical, social and cultural demands.
- The articulation between natural resources and environmental education belongs to this framework.