

Civilization as Wealth

Maria Joutsenvirta

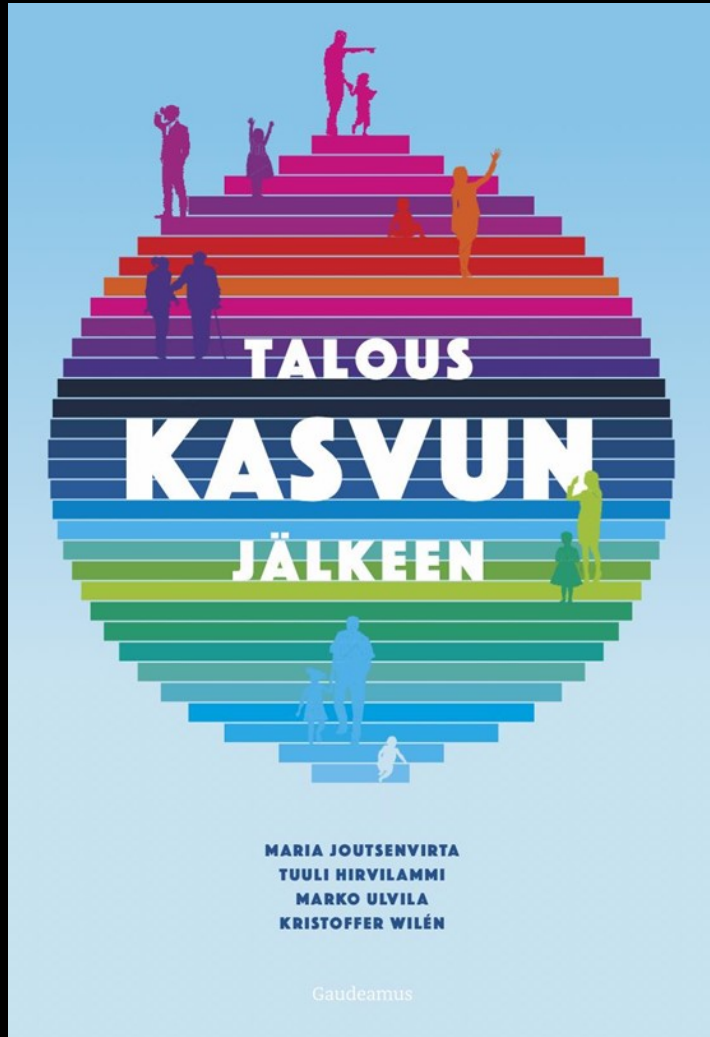
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- Transformative Learning Designer
- Author



Civilization as Wealth

- 1. Building a holistic economy with holistic economics**
- 2. Collective capacities of radical creativity – Sustainability as a human transformation**

Building a Holistic Economy with Holistic Economics

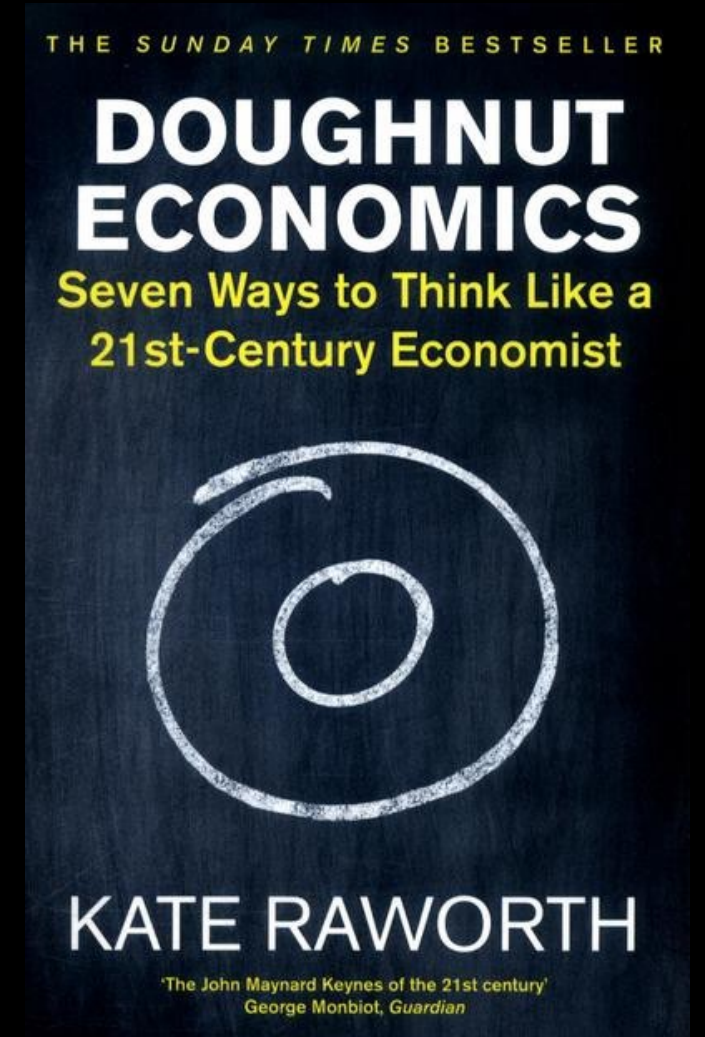


Economy
after
Growth

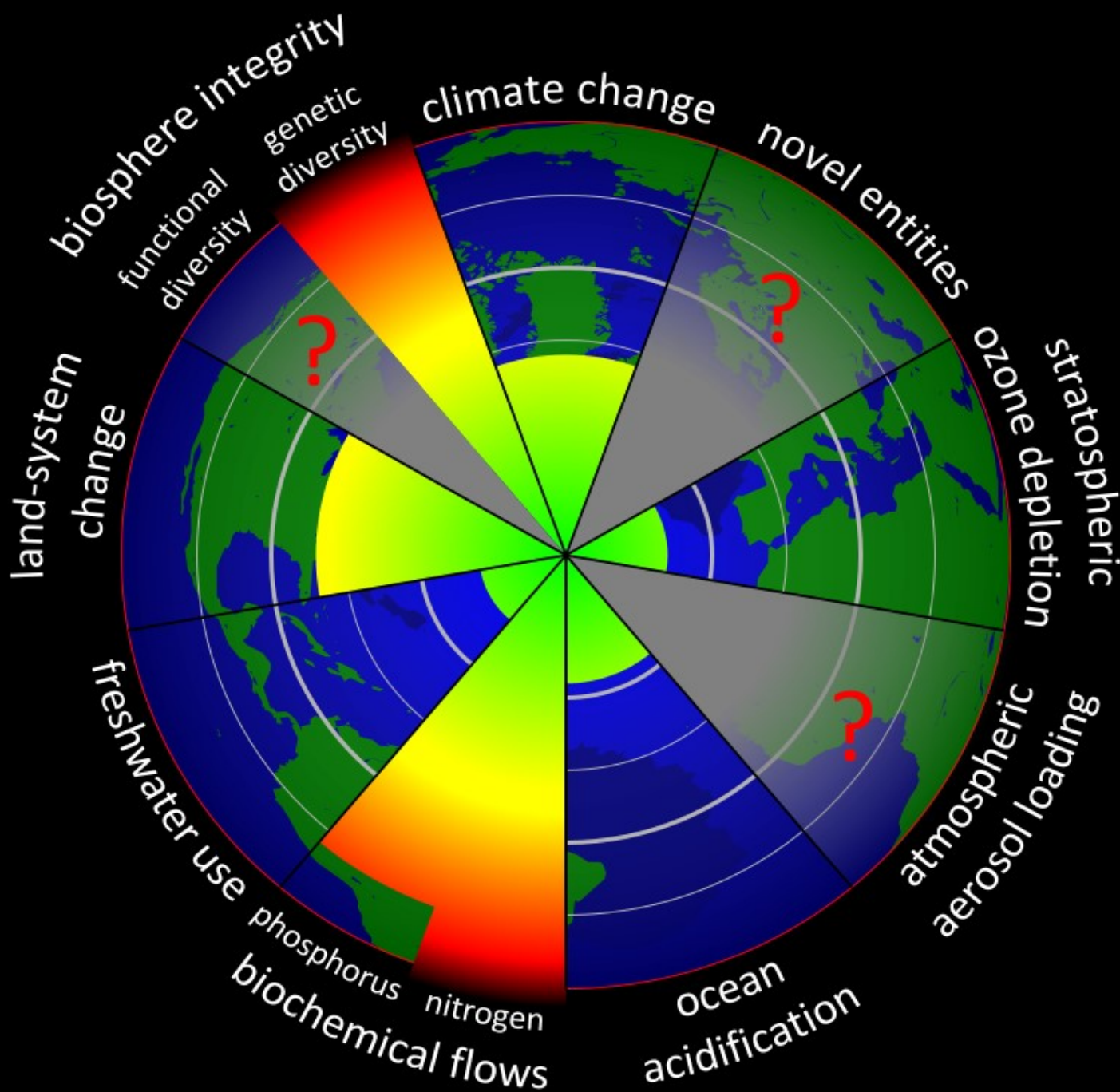
Joutsenvirta
Hirvilampi
Ulvila
Wilén

2016, Gaudeamus

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2017, Random House



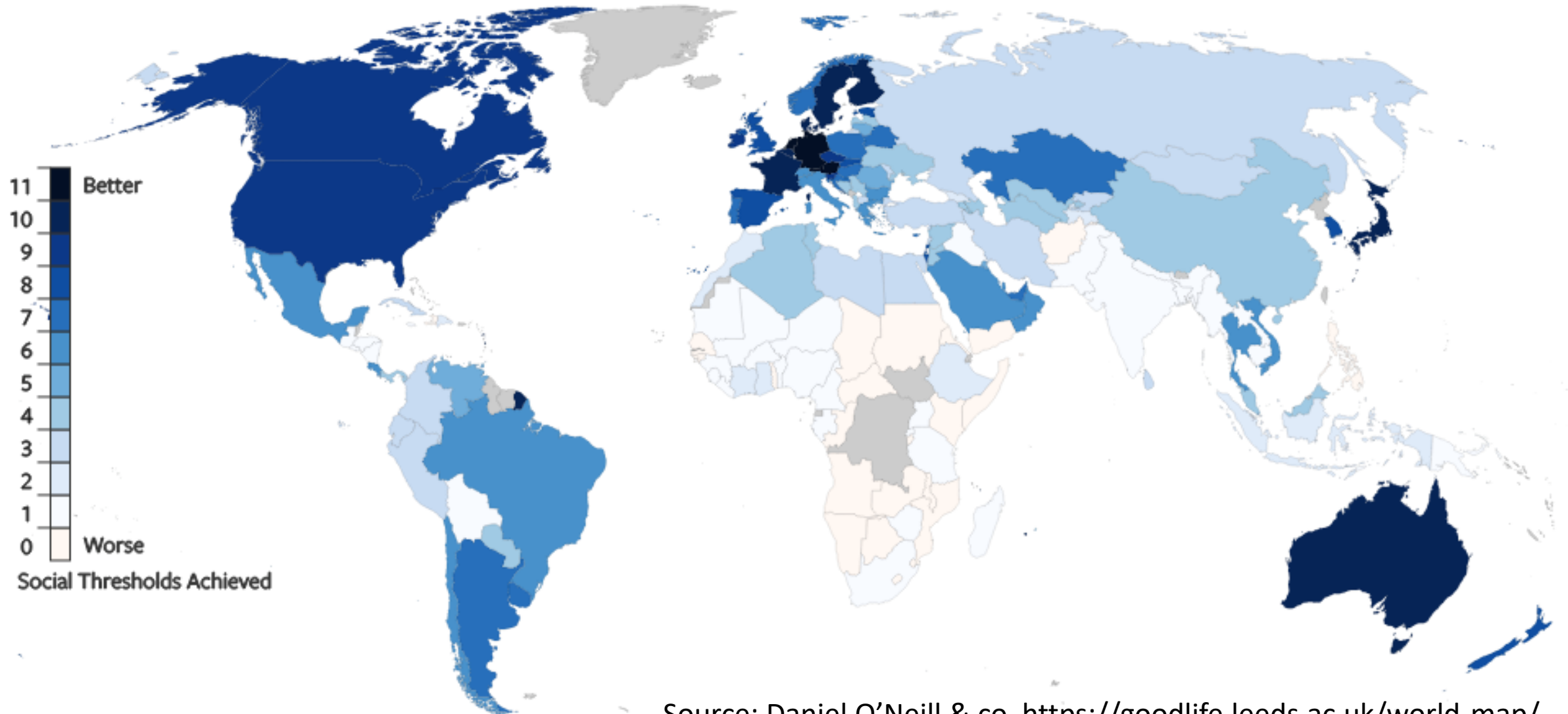
How to build well-being for all within the planetary boundaries?

- Beyond zone of uncertainty (high risk)
- In zone of uncertainty (increasing risk)
- Below boundary (safe)
- Boundary not yet quantified



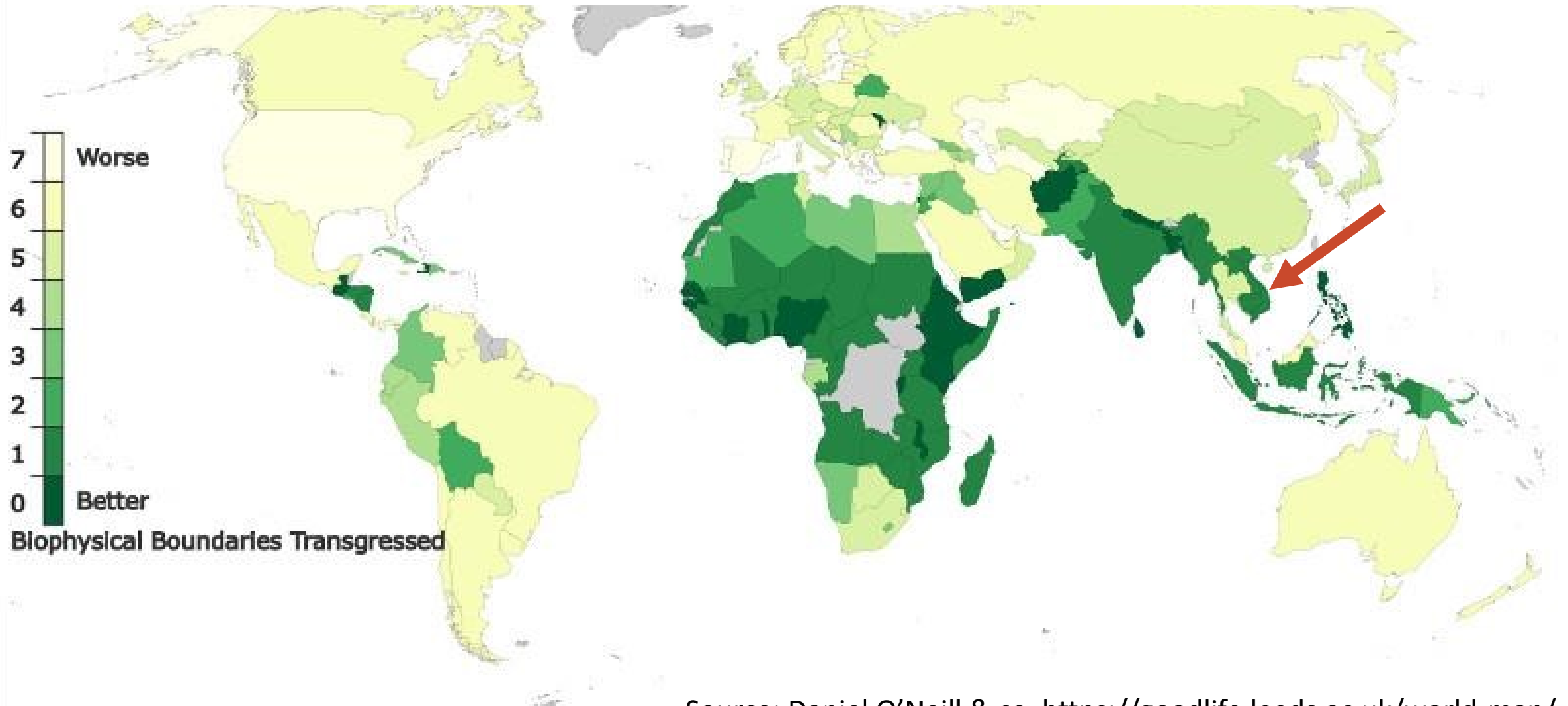
Photo by [Ashraful Haque Akash](#) on [Unsplash](#)

How well countries meet the social needs



Source: Daniel O'Neill & co, <https://goodlife.leeds.ac.uk/world-map/>

How well countries do with sustainability



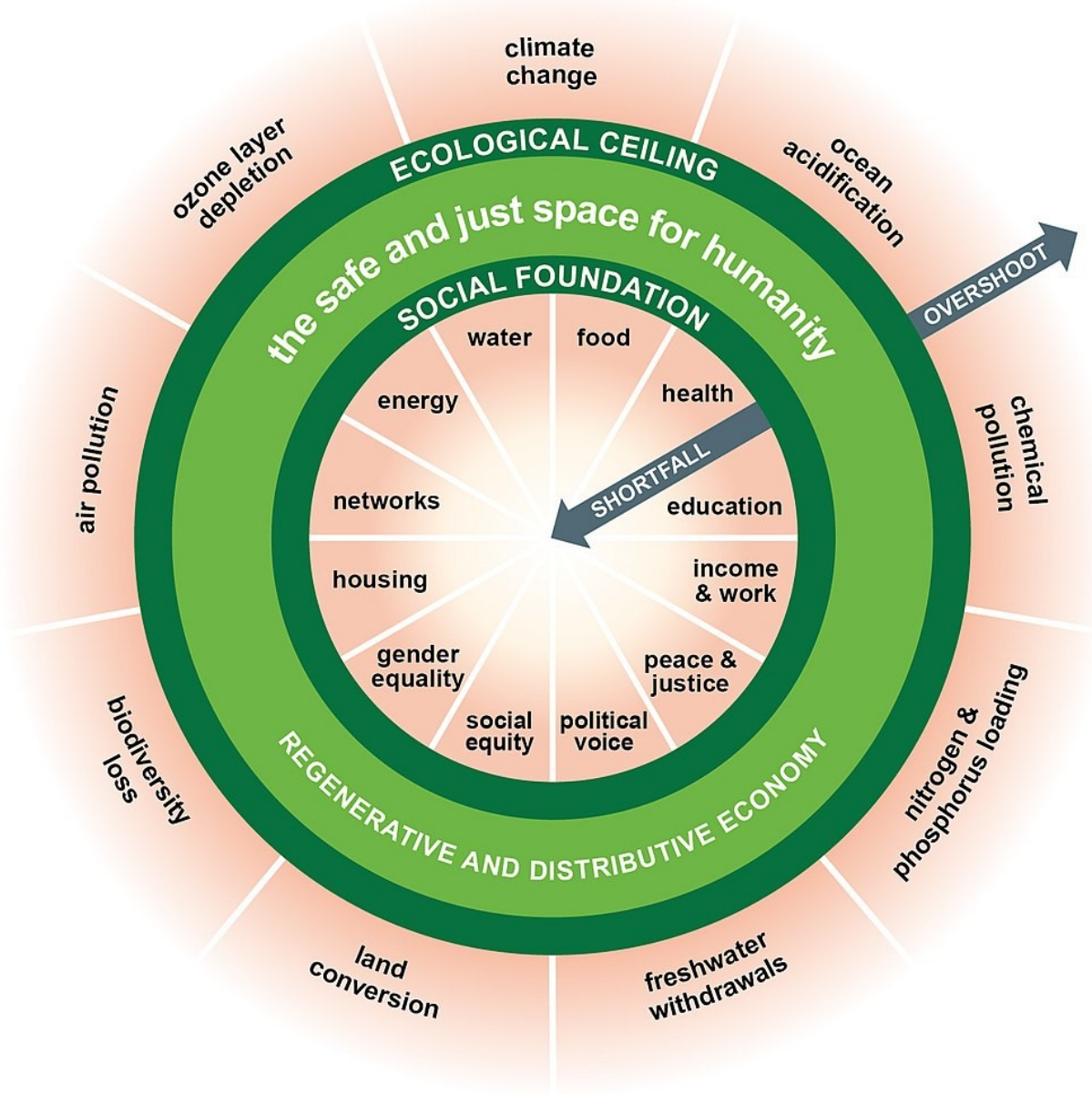
Source: Daniel O'Neill & co, <https://goodlife.leeds.ac.uk/world-map/>

Why economy and
economics matter?



**We need to end
Growth Dependency**

But how?

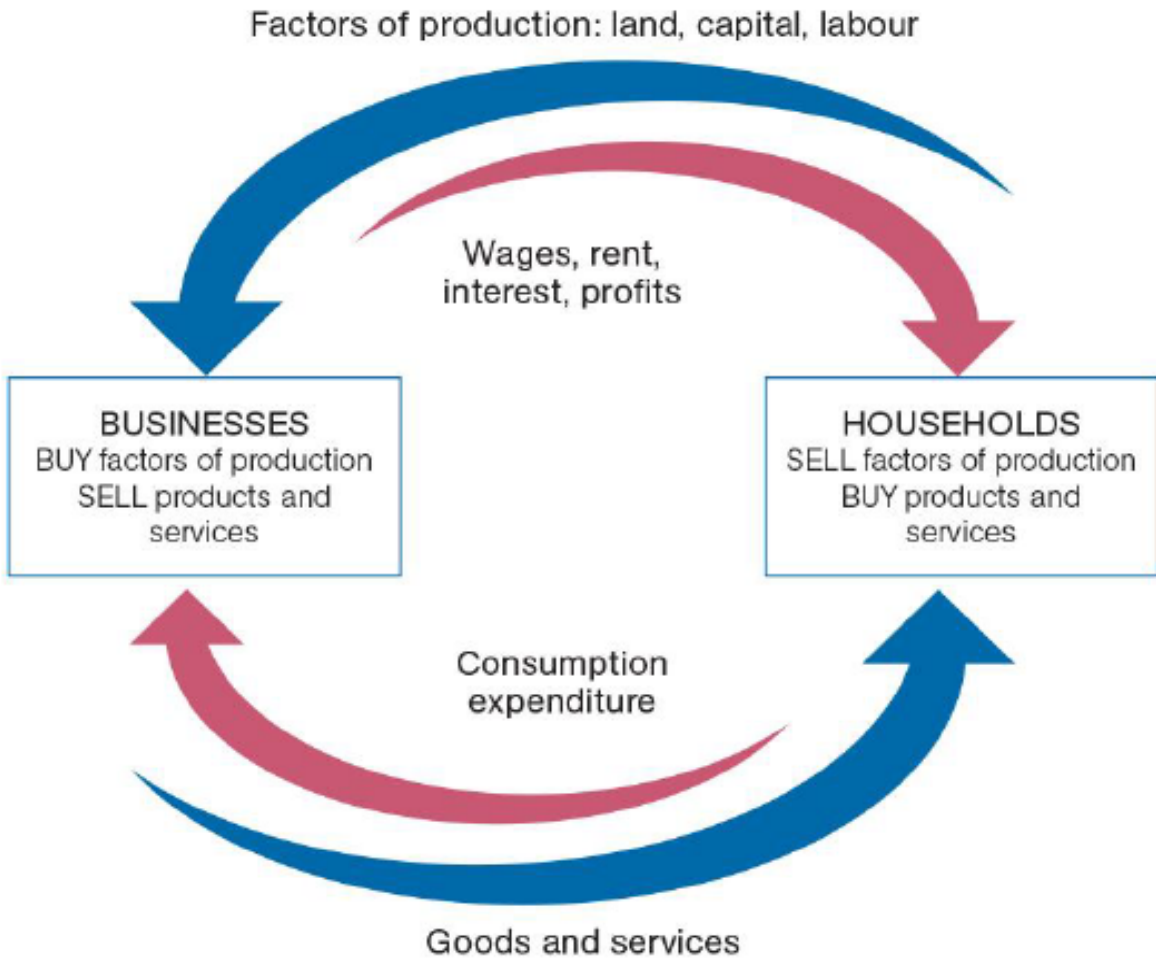


Reframing economic problems

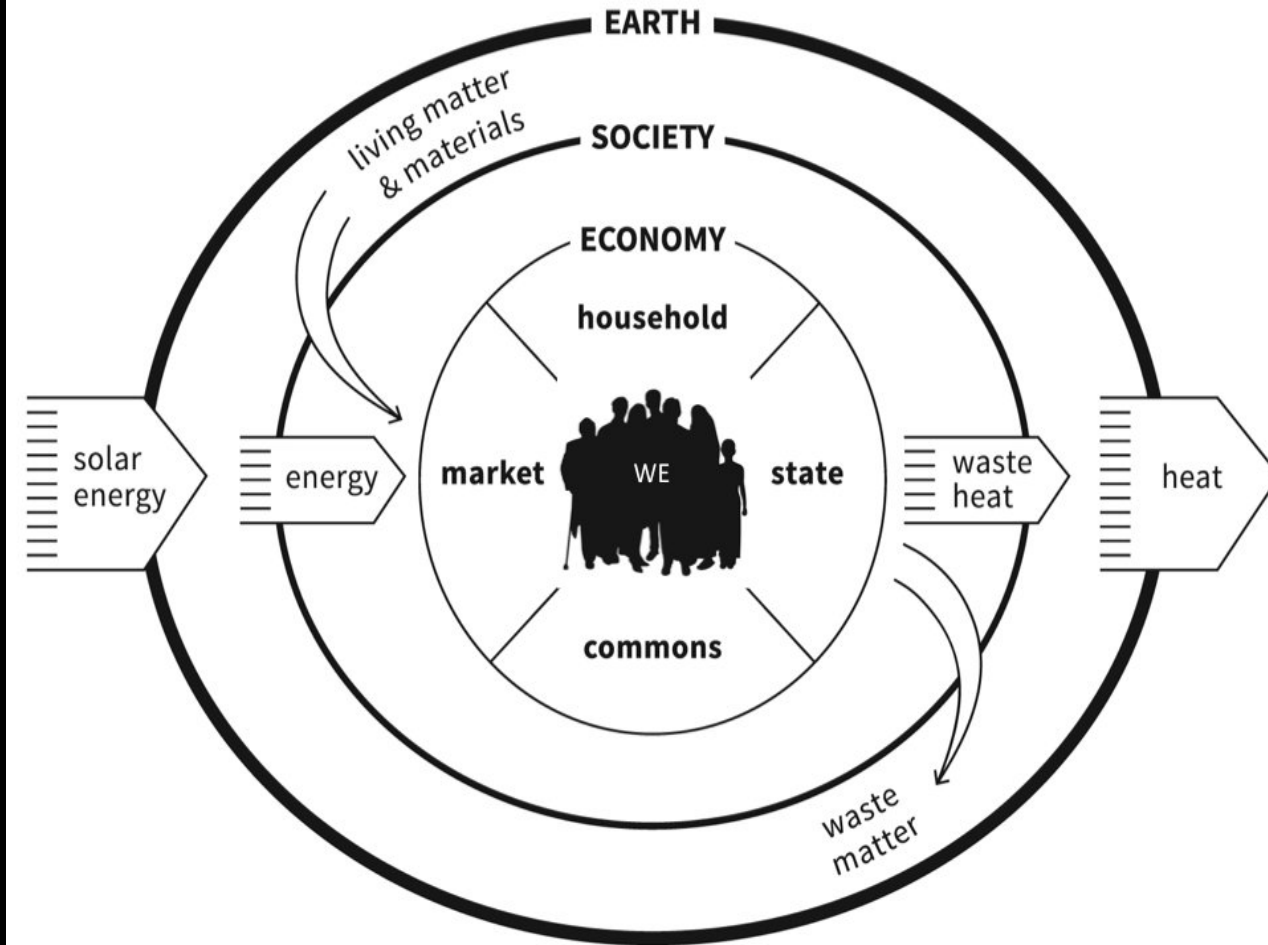
Setting new goals

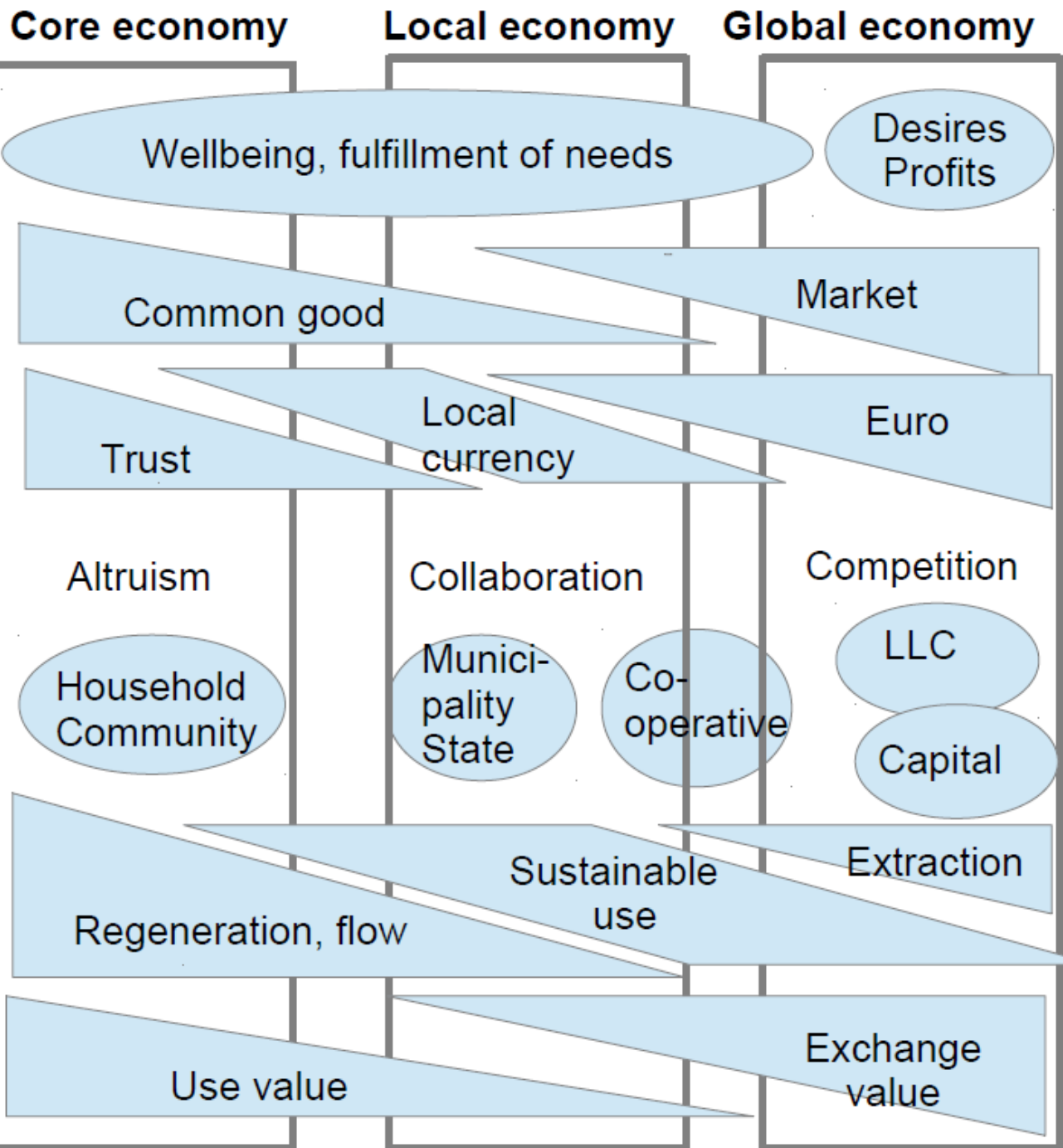
A compass towards a sustainable economy

Conventional production process in economics



The embedded economy





Three fields of economy

More diverse understanding of

- economic activity
- value creation
- institutions

To support people's livelihood and wellbeing

Source: Joutsenvirta, Hirvilammi, Ulvila, Wilén (2016). Talous kasvun jälkeen. [Economy after Growth]

Holistic economy

Needs trust connection nestedness



Worldview:
glocal, living systems



Health – livelihood – safety – full human being – belonging – flourishing

- **Doughnut economics applied in thriving cities (11:20 min)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCqGf7T9ABo>

Collective capacities of radical creativity

Sustainability as a human transformation

- 1) What is planetary bildung?
- 2) A new story of progress
- 3) From individuals to relations

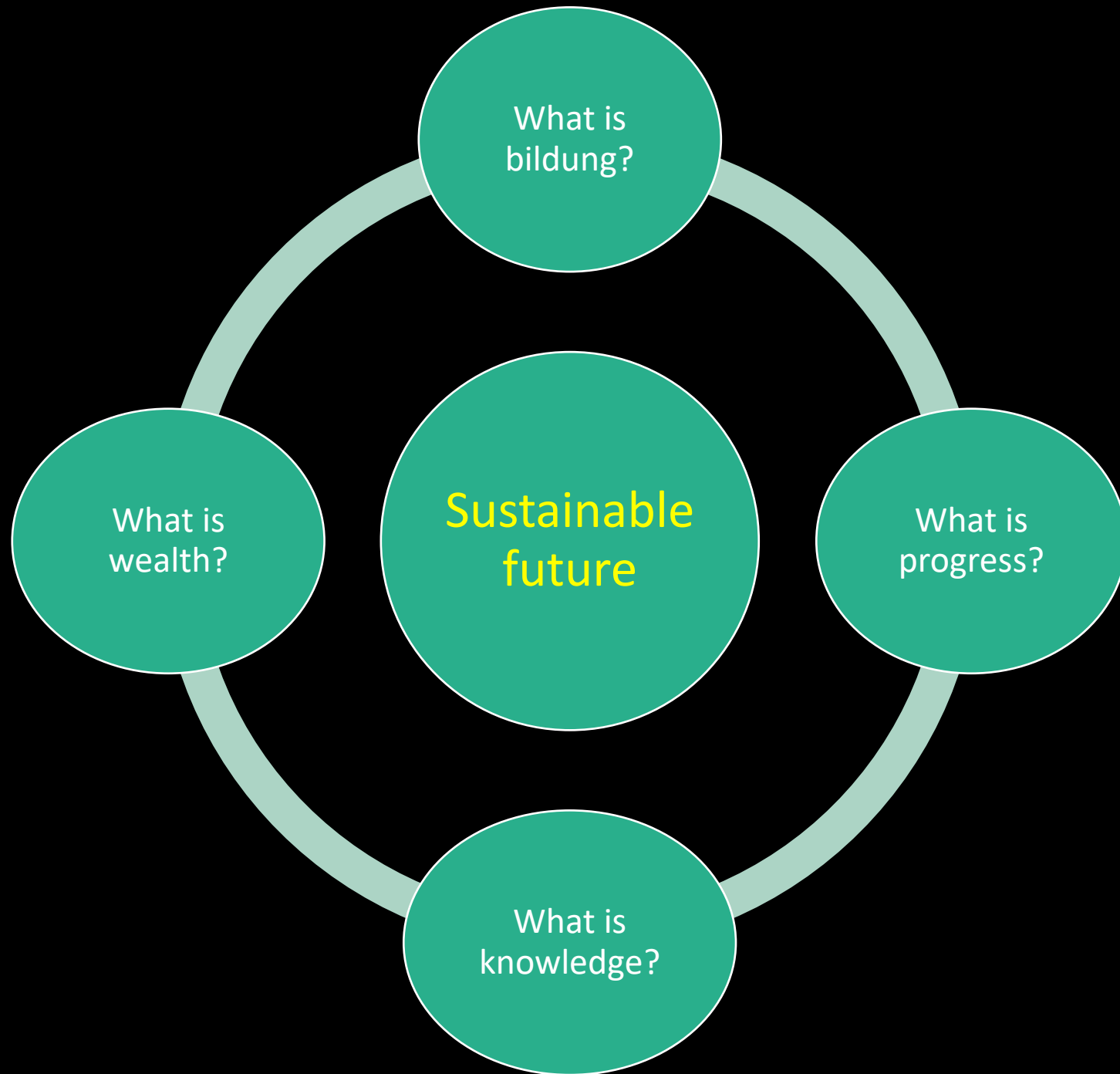
Bildung as wealth – radically but gently towards a sustainable society (Basam Books, 2020)



”Sivistys encompasses aspects of such English terms as self-cultivation, scholarship, sophistication, civilisation, civility, education, edification, culture, creation, formation and literacy.

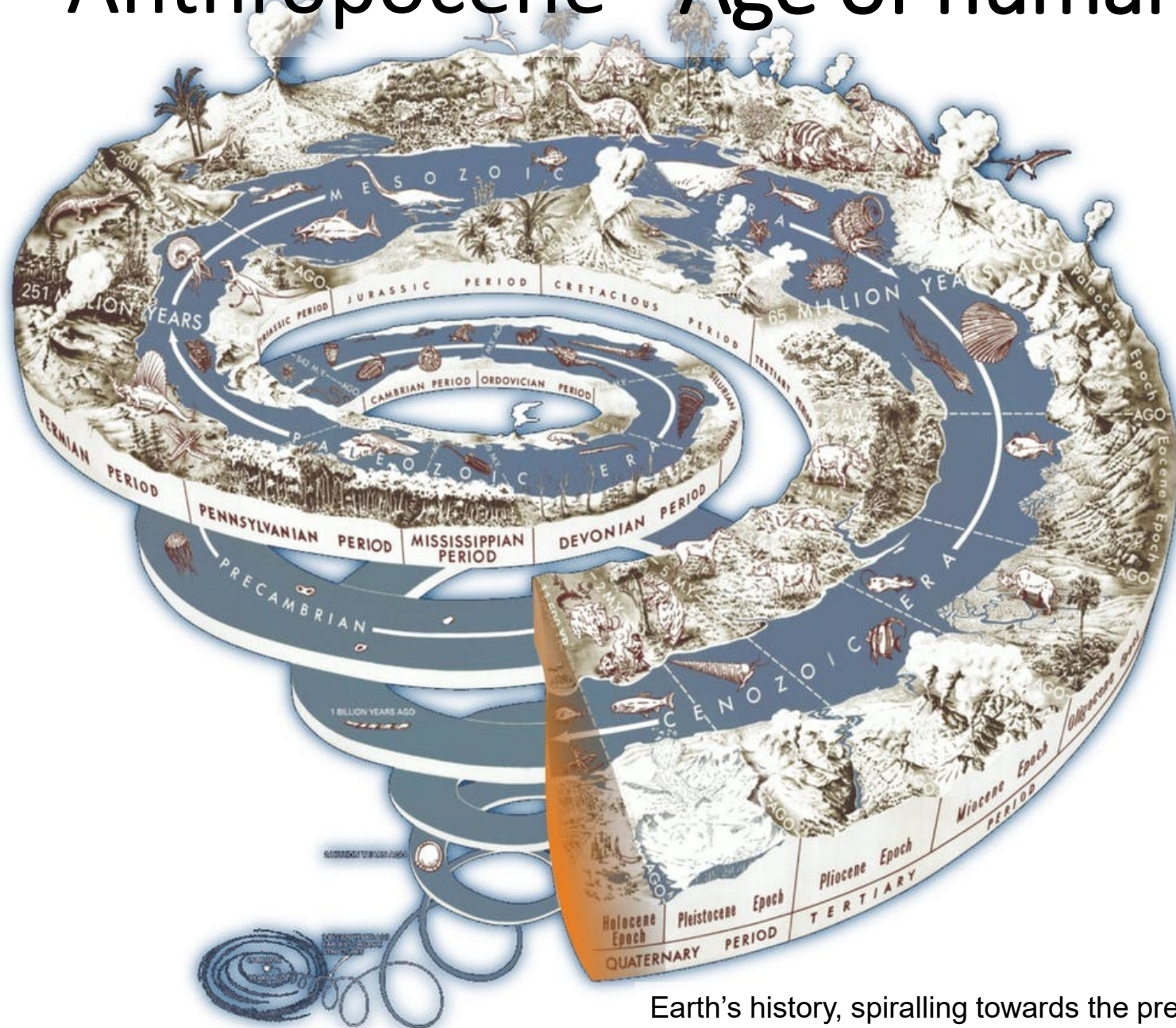
The German word Bildung probably comes closest to corresponding to the meaning of sivistys.”

www.sitra.fi/en/topics/bildung/



Characteristics of Planetary Bildung

Anthropocene - Age of humans

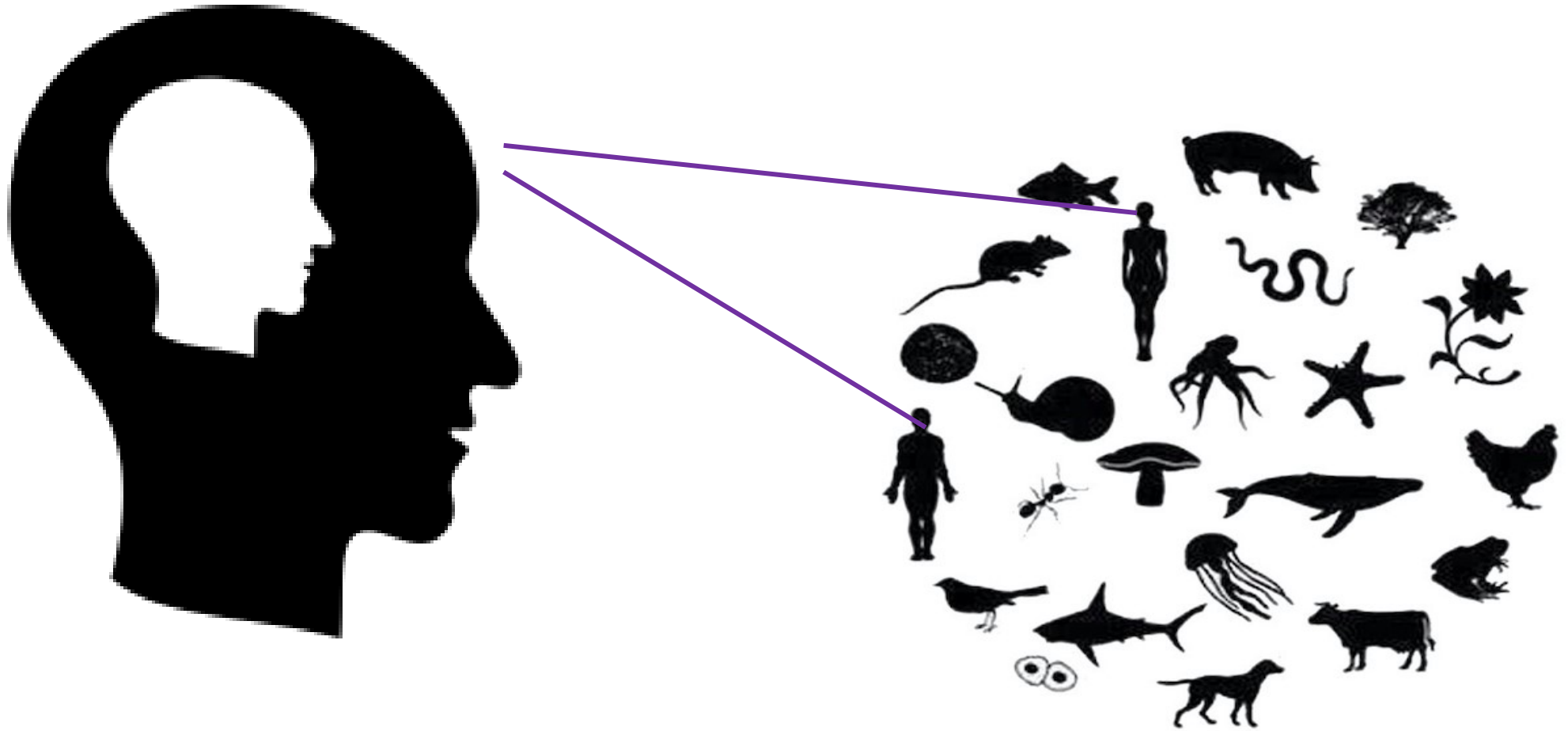


Earth's history, spiralling towards the present. USGS/Wikimedia Commons

We are part of Nature



Self-aware animals have moral agency



How to bring out the best human characteristics?



Me	Egocentric
Family	
Relatives & friends	
Immediate communities	
Citizens of own country	
All humans on the planet	Anthropocentric
Future & past generations	
Humans & other animals	Life-centric
Humans & other animals & plants	
Natural ecosystems	Ecosystemcentric
The Earth	

Joutsenvirta & Salonen 2020 Table 3: Expansion of the sphere of human care

Progress of the Enlightenment period	TRANSFORMATIVE POWERS	New story of progress
Material values	SILENT REVOLUTION OF VALUES	Post-materialist values
Standard of living	BILDUNG	Quality of life
Material conception of wealth	EXPERIENCED WELL-BEING	Multifaceted conception of wealth
Success	PLANETARY BOUNDARIES	Flourishing
Individualistic		Web of life
Scarcity thinking		Logic of abundance

I want more!

What's enough? Is it meaningful?

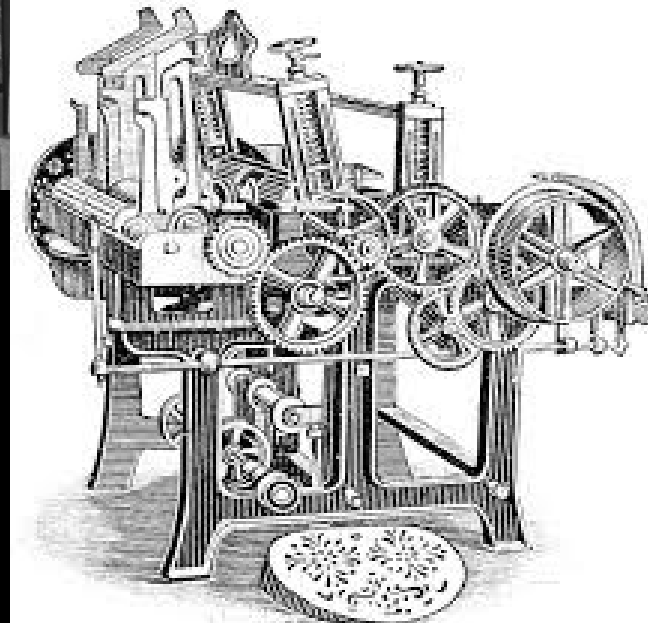
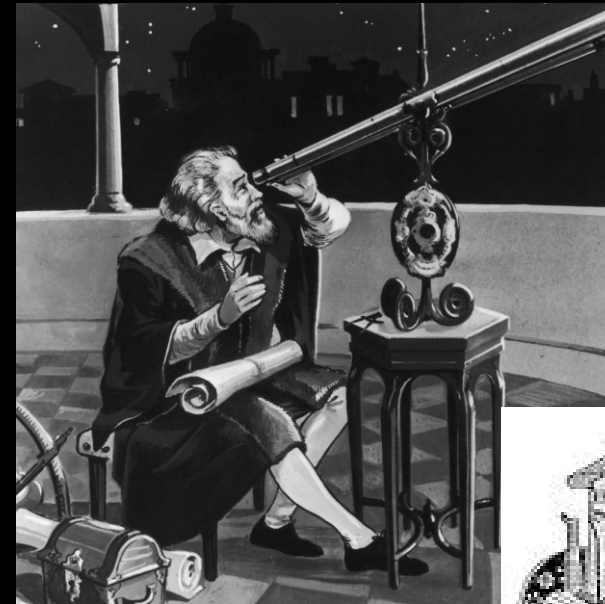
Dominant idea of citizen

Individualistic consumer and achiever



Dominant worldview

Mechanistic, atomistic, divided



Western dualism

human - nature

culture - nature

mind - body

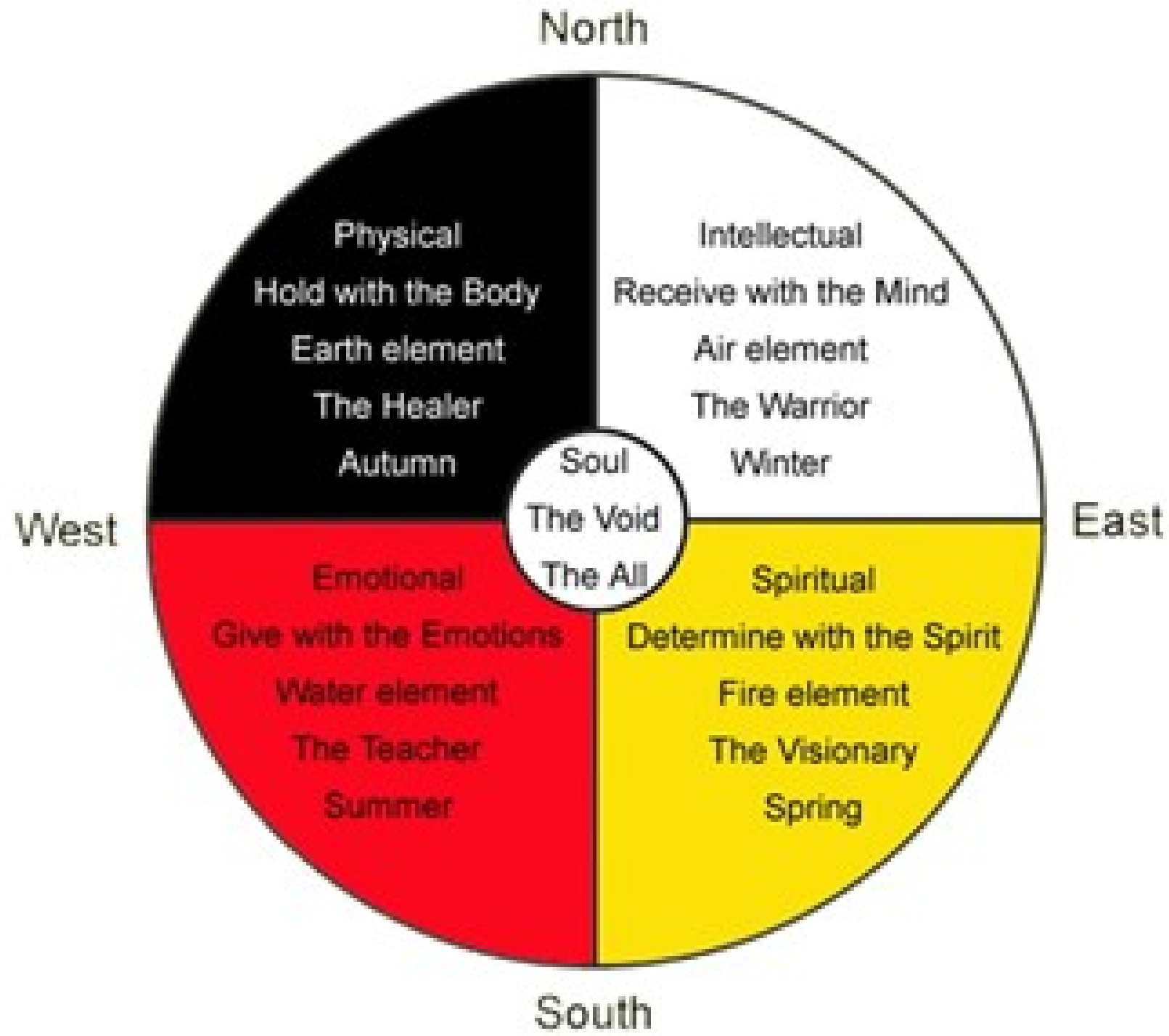
FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Native American Medicine Wheel:

We have four aspects to our nature:

- physical
- mental
- emotional
- spiritual

We must develop these equally to become healthy, well-balanced human beings

They are like seeds: they have the potential to grow into powerful gifts



FOCUS ON RELATIONS

Nature sets the example

- Relationships
- Networks
- Connections
- Interdependencies

Qualities of activity

- Organic
- Holistic
- Diverse
- Communicative / dialogic
- **LEARNING**

The entire human species depends upon attention to finding artform of mutual learning. The generations will learn together how to live differently, or they will not learn at all.

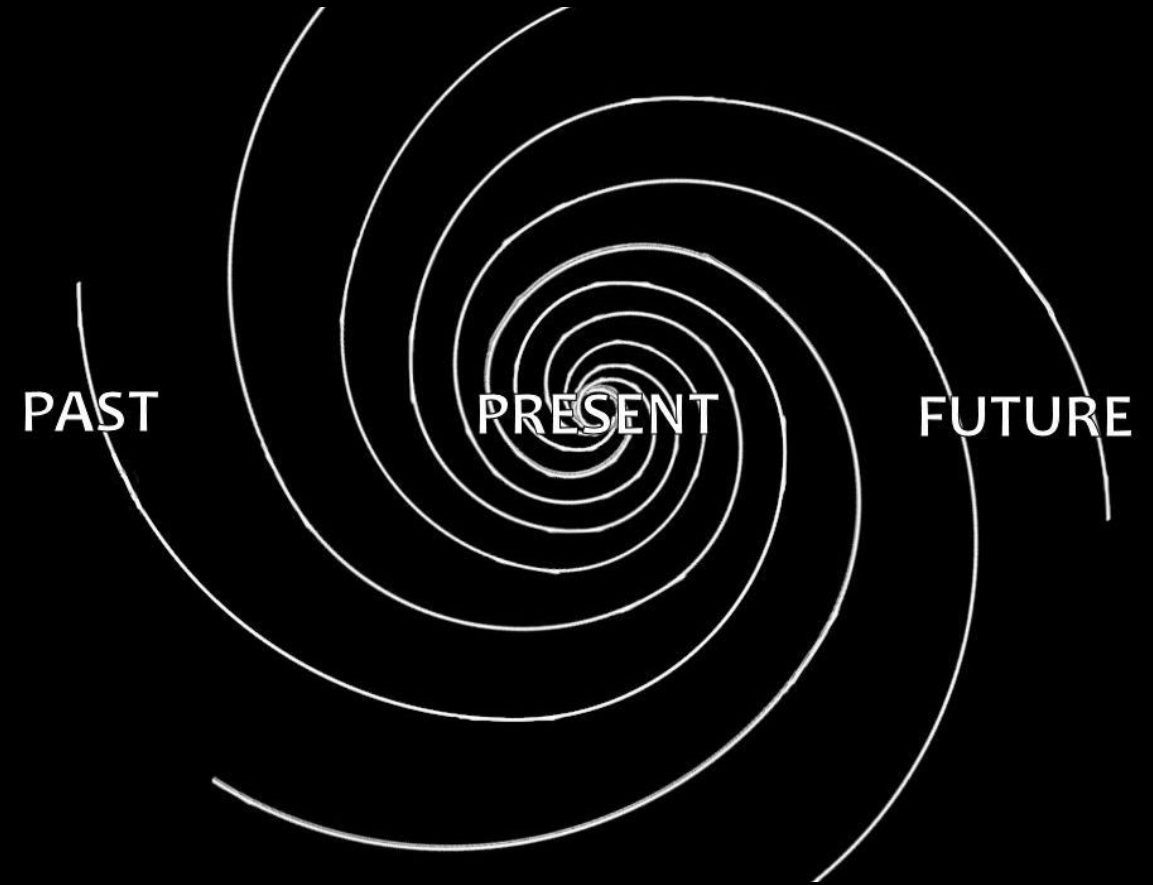
– Systems thinker Nora Bateson

Relationship to time

CHRONOS – LINEAR TIME



KAIROS – CYCLICAL TIME



intrinsic values connection to nature's cycles
inter-generational ties

WHAT YOU FEED WILL GROW

	Chronos Linear time	Kairos Cyclical time
View of reality and humans	divided into pieces, separated from the whole	holistic, parts are connected, diversity is richness
Life	desire to control and keep order	uncertainty and change are natural elements
Nature of behavior	quantity, speed efficient, measuring performance, reliable knowledge	quality, right timing creative, adapting relating, experiential knowledge
Future	based on evidence from the past	adhered to values
Solutions	improving the existing models	connecting to the new, serving the whole

PLANETARY BILDUNG

- **Widening** our relationship with the world
- **Withdrawing** from the sense of separateness
- **Recognizing** our own place in the world
- **Connecting** our uniqueness to building the common good
- **Growing** towards the fullness of our humanity

