



A Bridge to the Future Making Sense of the SDGs

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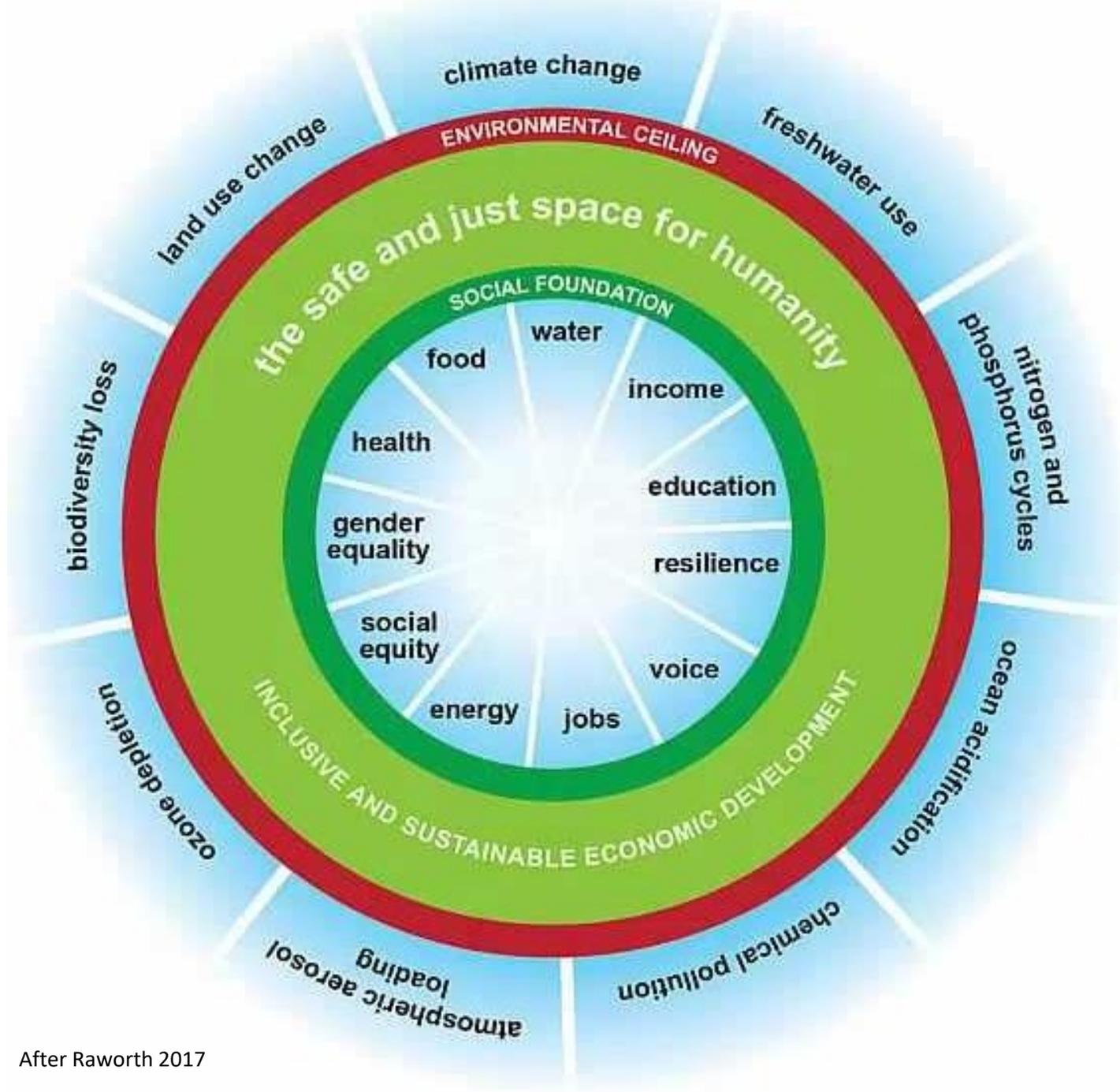
TEESNET Annual conference

Tuesday 11th September 2018

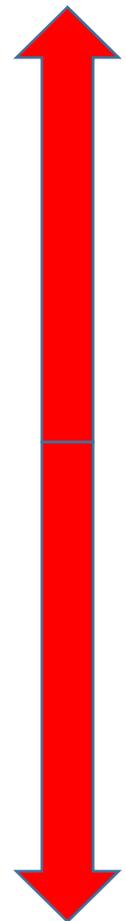


17 Goals to Transform Our World

The [Sustainable Development Goals](#) are a call for action by all countries – poor, rich and middle-income – to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and addresses a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

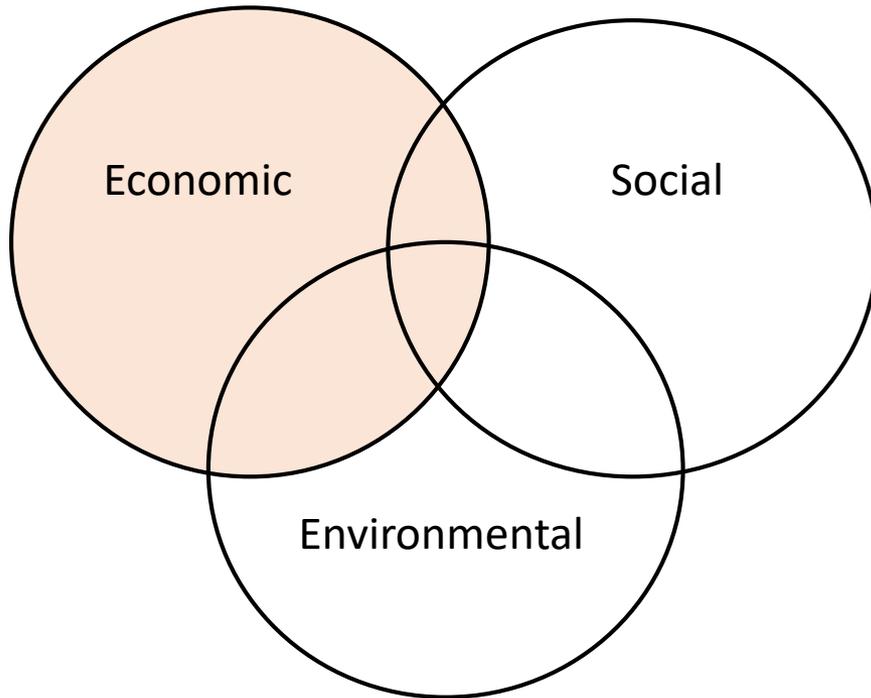


Ecological overshoot



Human deprivation

Problems	
1. There are too many goals	Wish list? UN speak?
2. The goals focus on symptoms not causes	Lack of context or historical background
3. The goals take a simplistic view of international relations	Social and cultural differences between countries.
4. The goals have post-colonial dimension	'Developed' and 'developing' countries
5. The goals are not clearly articulated	What is sustainable development? A political slogan?
6. The goals are contradictory	An elaborate welfare state or unrestrained neo-liberalism?
7. The goals have an unacknowledged ethical base	Benefit of all? Better ways of living?
8. It is not clear how the goals will be implemented	Reliance on technology, growth and corporate responsibility

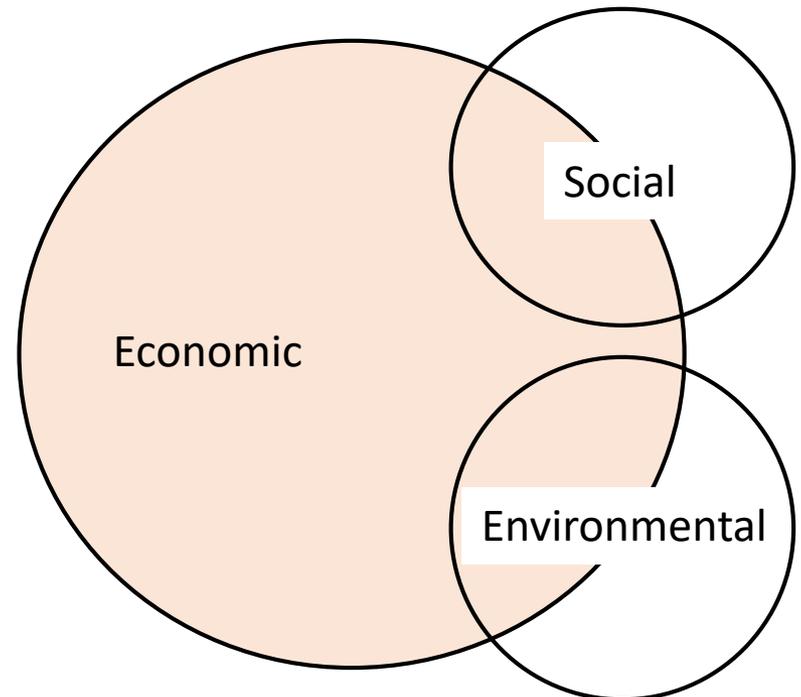


Sustainable development involves integrating economic, social and environmental aspects at all levels.

UNGA 2012

The goals are actively dangerous: they lock in the global development agenda for the next 15 years around a failing economic model that requires urgent and deep structural changes.

Hickel 2015



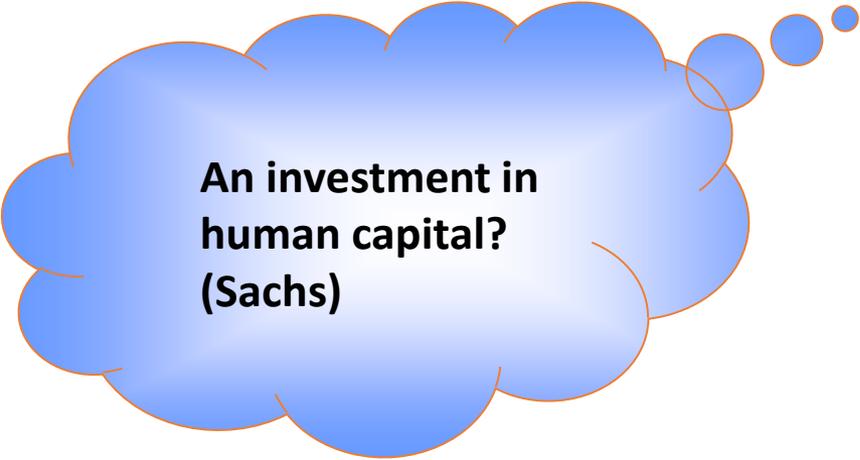
Business as usual?

SDG 4.7

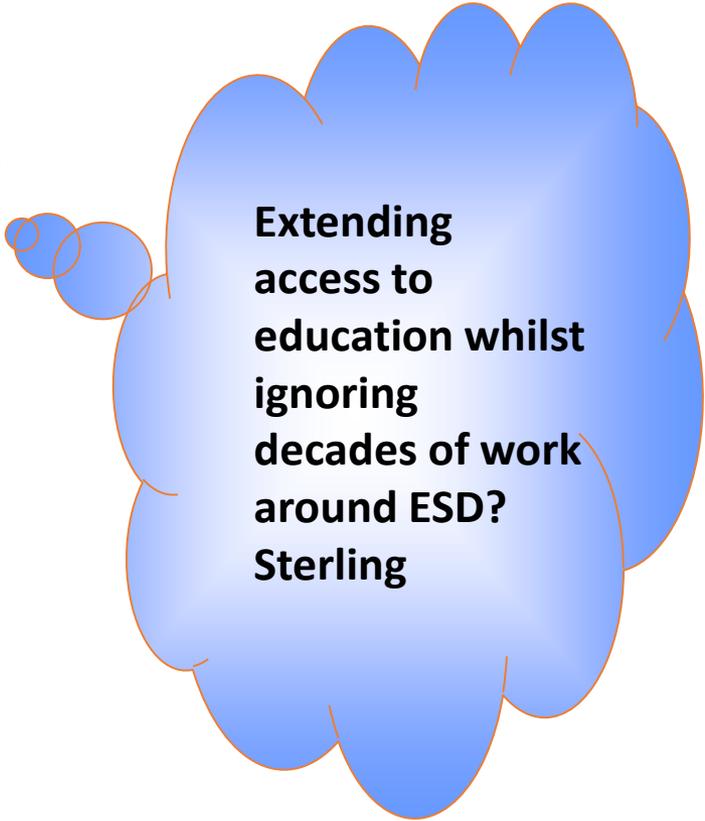
By 2030 ensure all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development



Focus on technical and Vocational skills as a route to employment (UN)



An investment in human capital? (Sachs)



Extending access to education whilst ignoring decades of work around ESD? Sterling

Purpose of education

Three enduring challenges:

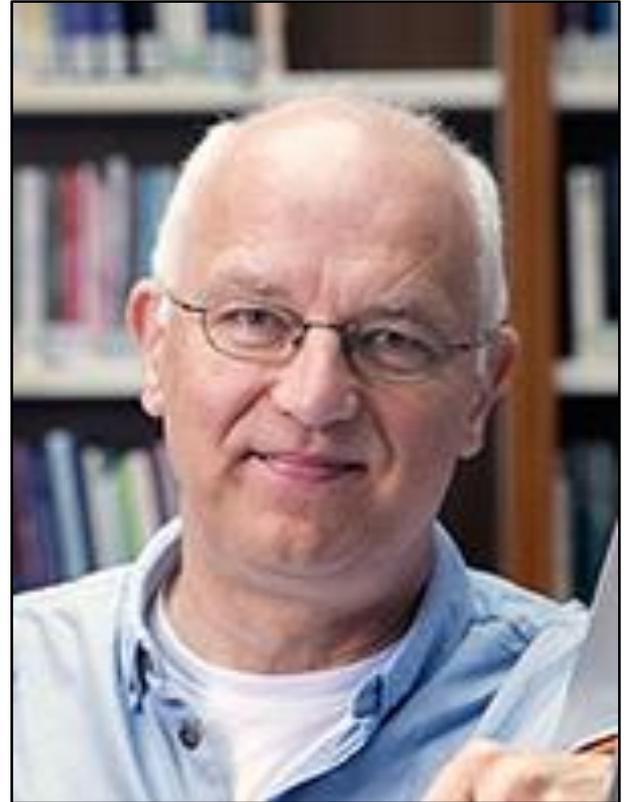
Democracy – how to live together

Ecology – how to manage and sustain our lives on a finite planet

Care – how we ‘carry’ others, particularly those who can't care for themselves

A shift away from competition towards co-operation

A shift away from survival towards life



The educational task consists in arousing the desire in another human being for living in the world in a grown-up way (Biesta 2017 p7)

We have to ask of everything that is potentially there whether it is desirable for the life of the child, for the life of the child that lives with others, and for the life we live together on a vulnerable planet with limited capacity (Biesta 2015 p8)

A critical moment

For the environment

For education

For humanity



