

Can the Polluter Pays Principle help to speed up the transformation to a sustainable world?

Friends of the Earth Hamburg
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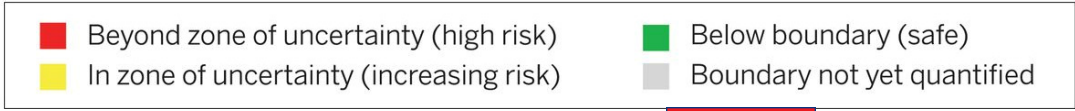
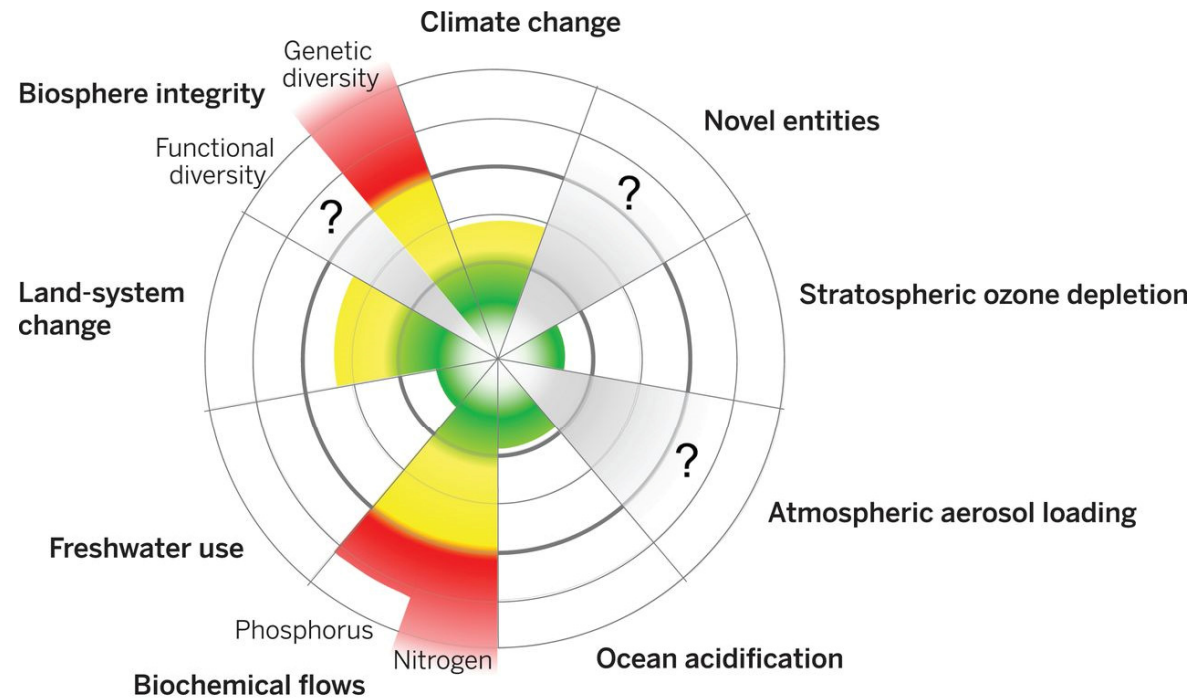
C20-Summit Hamburg - June 18, 2017

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Structure of the workshop

- Short Introduction
 - Are we heading for a sustainable world?
 - Why not?
 - What can be done about it?
 - The Polluter Pays principle
- Discussion

Planetary Boundaries



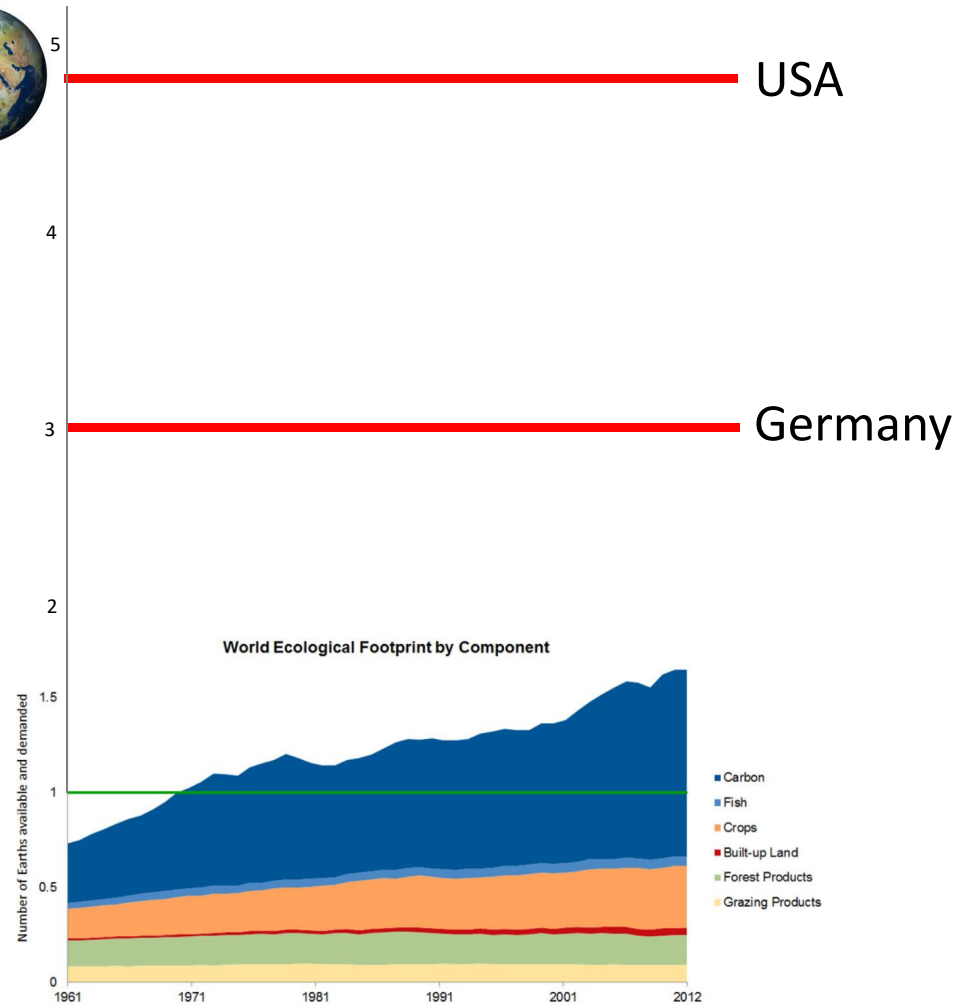
Will Steffen et al. *Science* 2015;347:1259855



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Ecological Footprint



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www.footprintnetwork.org/resources/data

Why not?

- Growth paradigm
- Mental infrastructures (Harald Welzer)
- Imperial way of life (Ulrich Brand)
- Strong pressure groups
- No institutional representation of future generations

What can be done about it?

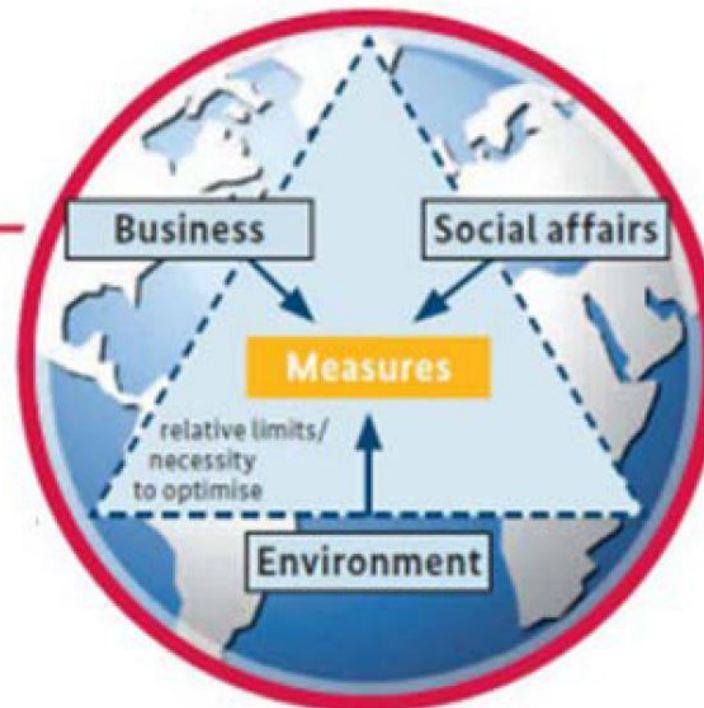
- Use the right sustainability model

Sustainability goal triangle

Absolute limit:

Conservation of the natural foundations for life in a global perspective

A life in dignity for all



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The Polluter Pays Principle

- In economics: Internalisation of external cost
- Monetary incentive to minimize pollution
- Instruments
 - eco tax (Pigou)
 - emission trading (cap and trade)
- Example: CO₂ pricing (in € per ton)
 - 5 ETS
 - 100 UBA
 - 50 net price after subsidies (DE)

The Polluter Pays Principle

- Obstacles in real world politics
 - strong pressure groups
 - socially regressive income effects
- Carbon dividend
- Sense of justice

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