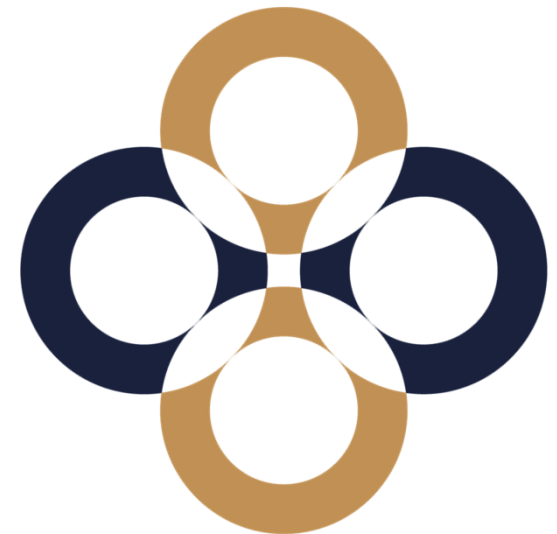


Ecological Economics: The deep-green shade of sustainability transitions

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Economics



Light green: market solutions

- Economic growth solves our problems because...
 - Countries with higher GDPs started greening the earliest
 - Then there is money we can spend on protecting the environment
 - Then there is the opportunity to spend on technological innovation
 - We make people more environmentally conscious once all their needs are met
 - Growth creates jobs and thus reduces social inequalities

Key terms:

Economic growth = development

Neo-liberal market economy

Eco-modernization

Decoupling

Weak sustainability

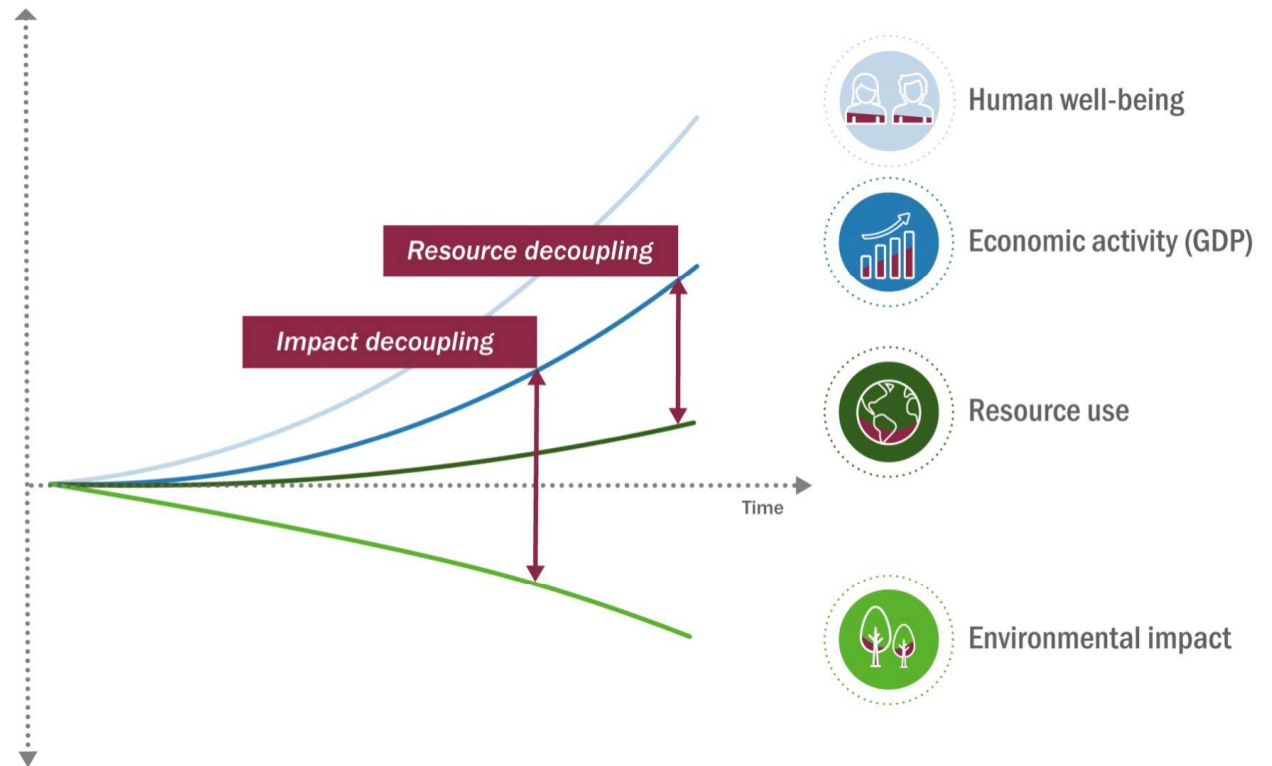
The responsibility lies with the consumer



The myth of ecological modernisation (and green growth)

Absolute decoupling is not working (especially not in the available timeframe)

Problem-shifting is working



Source: UNEP. (2011) Decoupling natural resource use and environmental impacts from economic growth, A Report of the Working Group on Decoupling to the International Resource Panel.

Grass green: sustainable development

The state has a major role to play in transforming institutions (customs, rules, systems) because the market alone will not solve the problems:

Green tax system

Quotas, prohibitions

Grants (financial)

Ensuring innovation

Education / environmental education

Key terms:

Eco-efficient economic growth

Market economy influenced by state intervention

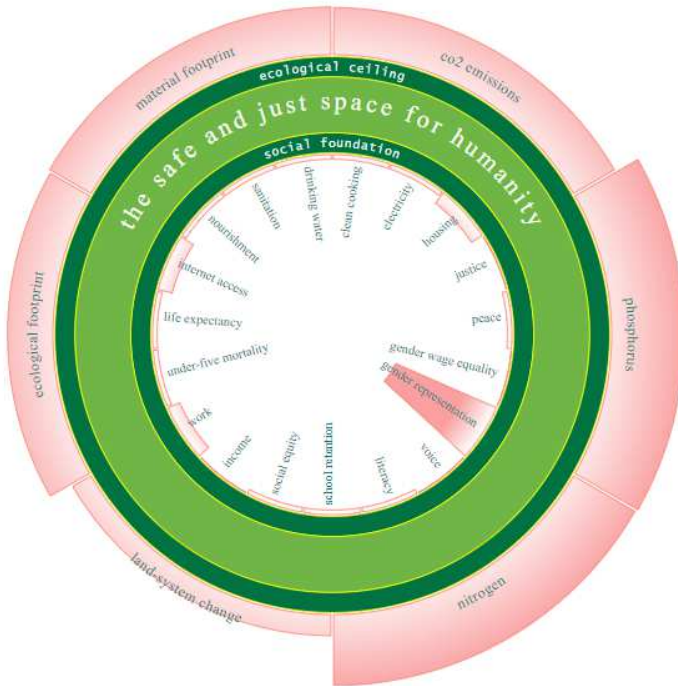
Internalization of externalities

Decoupling

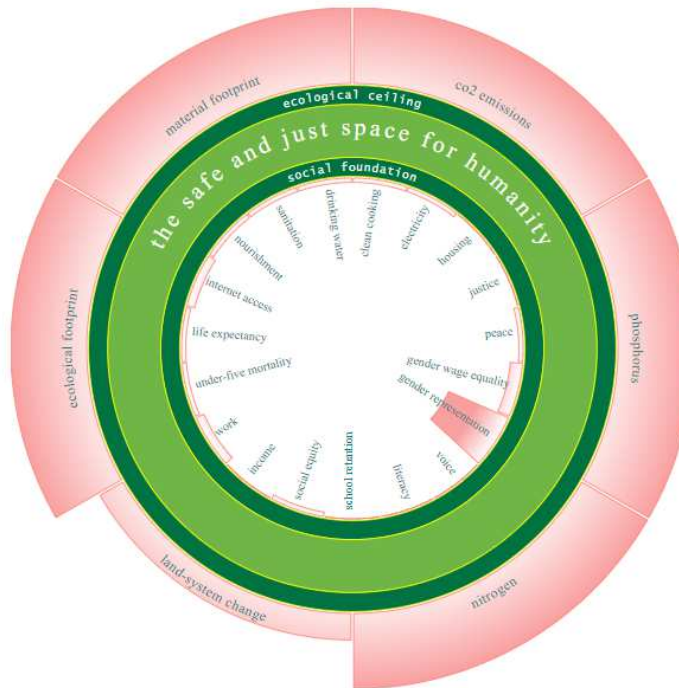
Weak sustainability

The responsibility lies with the state

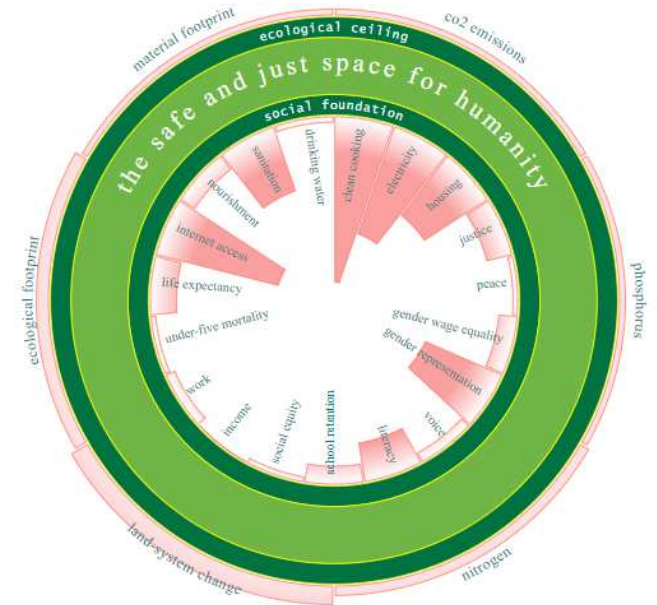




Hungary

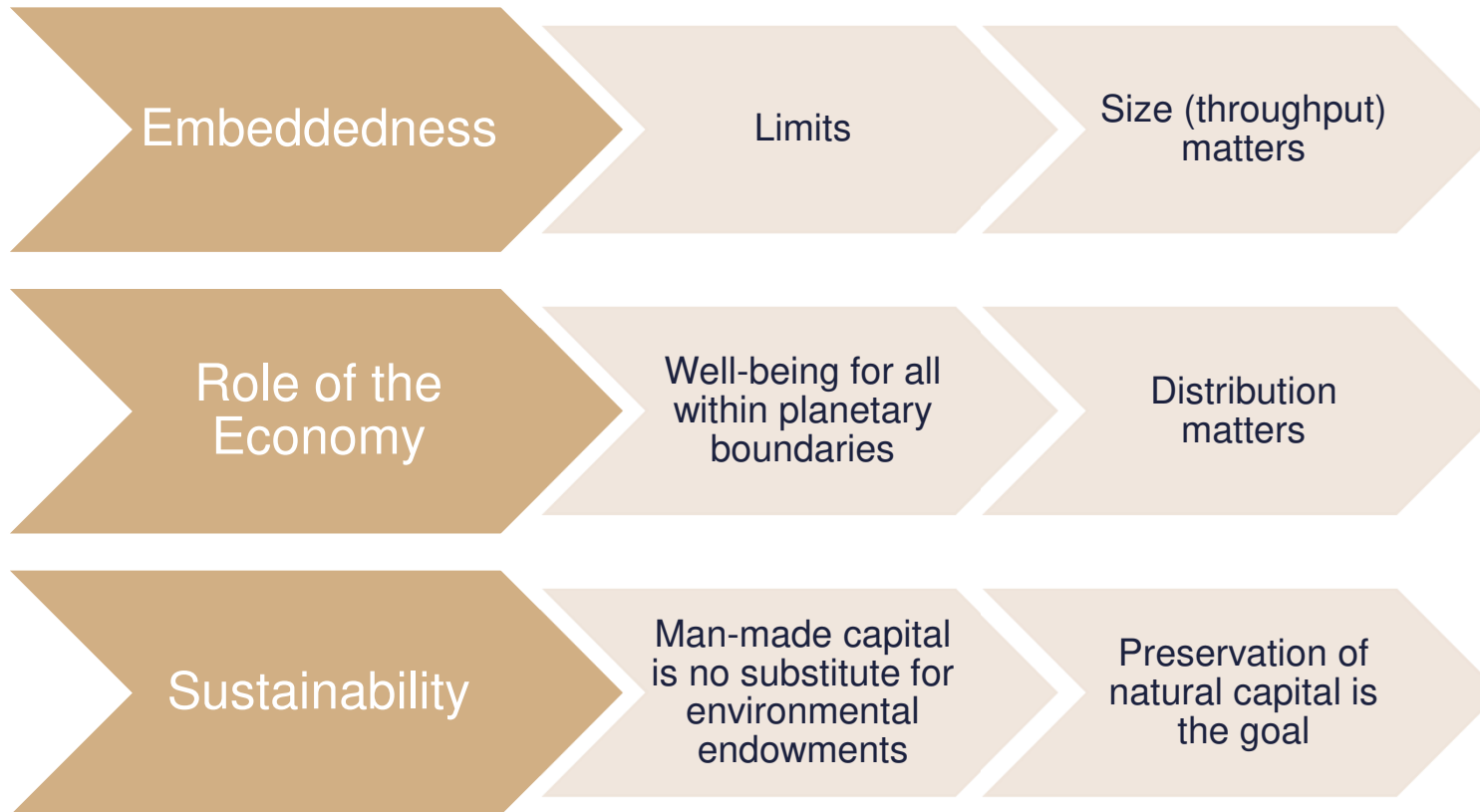


United States



Malawi

Deep green premises of sustainability in ecological economics



What is Degrowth?



MORE OF
THE SAME

GROWTH



SAME OF
THE SAME

STATIONARY
STATE



LESS OF
THE SAME

RECESSION

DEGROWTH,
SIMPLY
DIFFERENT

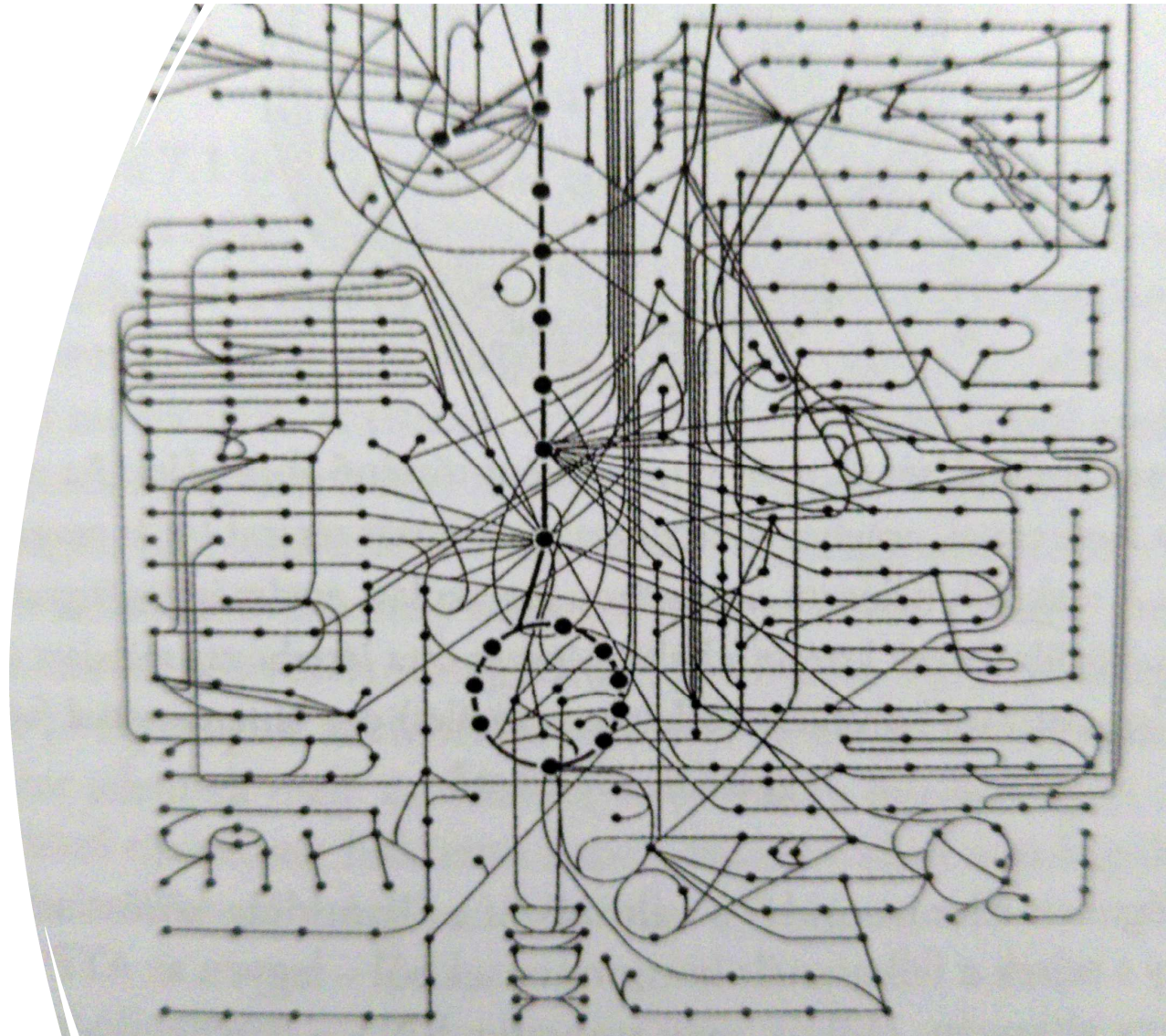


Source: Research & Degrowth

What systems thinking means in economic thinking?

- No separation
- Affect and reaction
- No hierarchy (all nodes needed)
- Coopetition
- Diversity is the key to resilience
- Relocalisation is important

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Part of the metabolic network of a simple bacterium (Capra and Luisi, 2016, p. 159)

So, what is Degrowth?

Or what kind of alternative futures should we build?



Autonomy

Redefinition
of well-being



Conviviality

Slow life



Solidarity

Trust



In harmony with nature

Tools

Readjustment of working life (working time reduction; diversity of working practices; fair and meaningful work)

Provision of basic sustenance through redistribution (universal basic income/allowance/services)

Responsible economic actors (mission-led strategies, coopetition, beyond profit motivations)

New economic models: sharing economy, solidarity economy, circular economy, service economy

Glocalisation (local production and consumption chains, shorter supply chains, stronger communities)

Private sufficiency – public luxury

Supportive technology (ethicality, fairness, equity built into technological solutions)

Social dialogue (participation, deliberation, awareness, consciousness, trust, active citizenship)



**Thank you
for your attention!**

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