

# Economics for a Flourishing Earth

Harmony with Nature

United Nations General Assembly

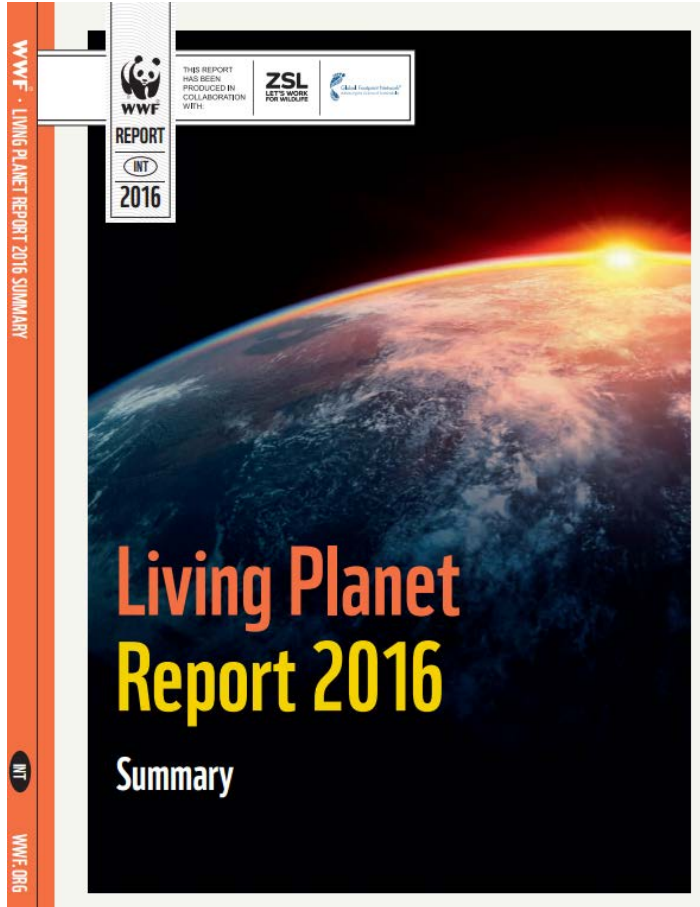
April 21, 2017

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Economics for the Anthropocene Project

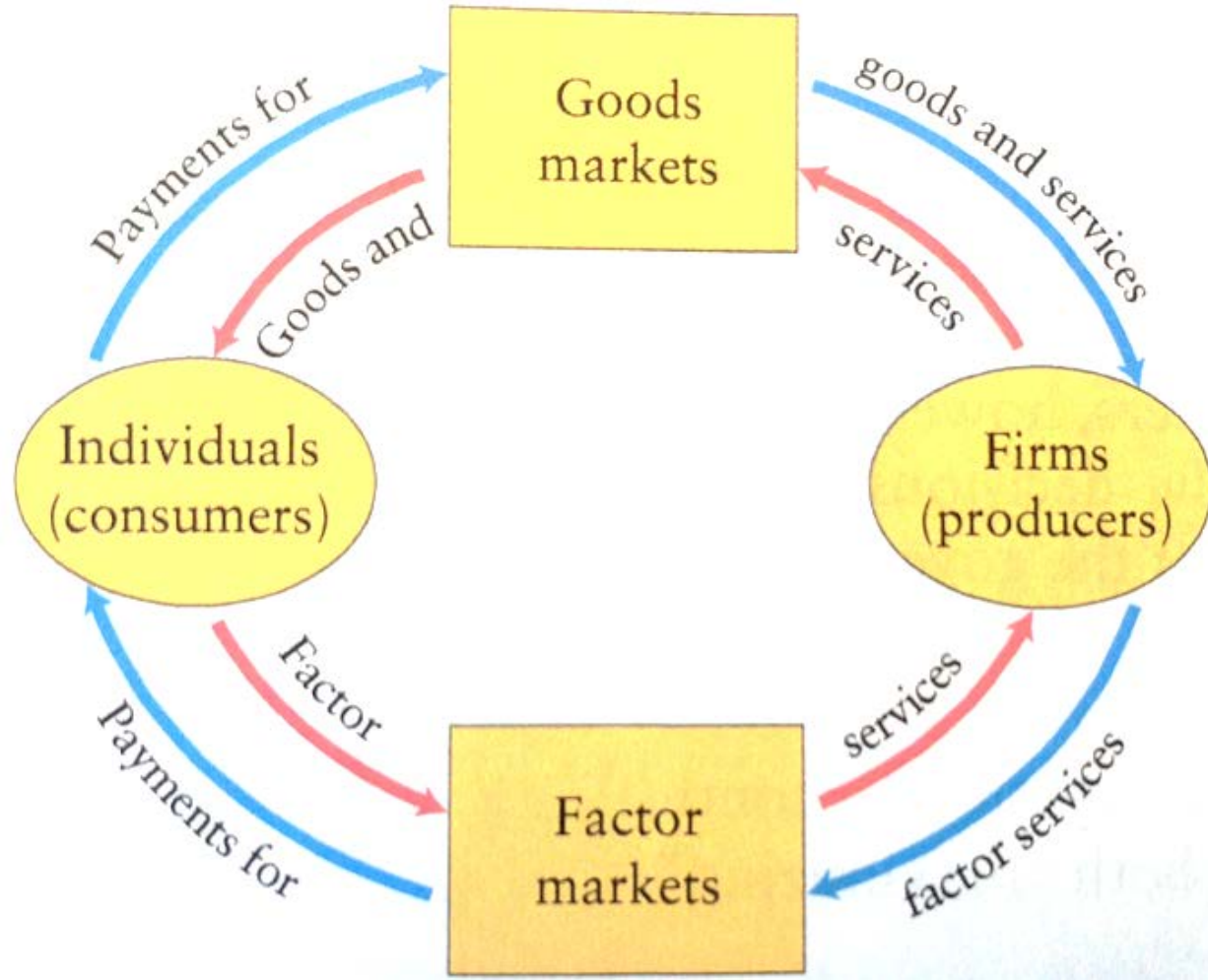
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“A shared understanding of the link between humanity and nature could induce a profound change that will allow all life to thrive in the Anthropocene.”

# Economics



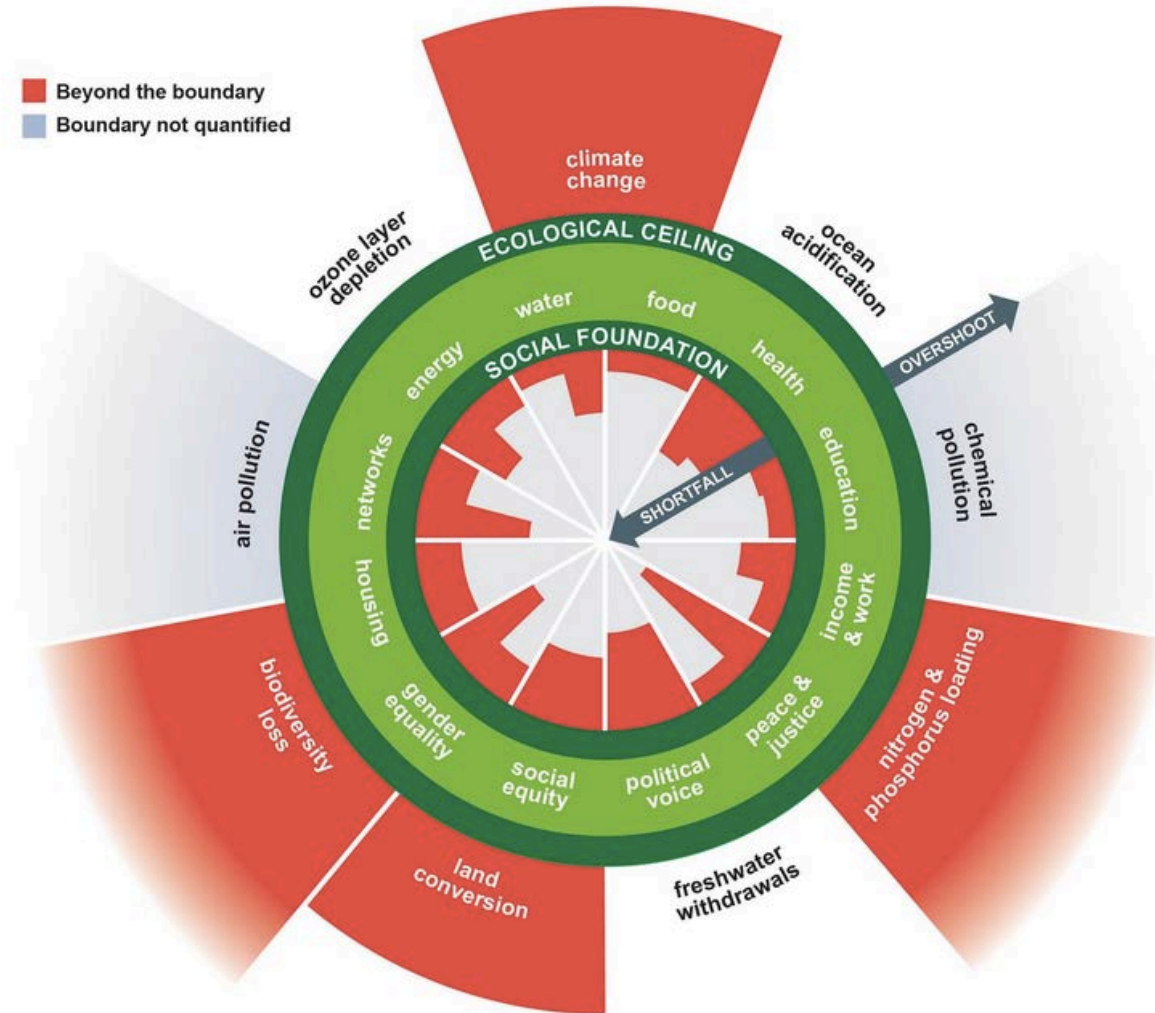
# Absurd Assumptions

- Everything in the Universe except people is of instrumental value only.
- The Economy is an isolated system not connected to biophysical reality or the laws of the Universe. Earth System Science Free.
- No principle of distribution/fairness

# Bad Consequences

- Radical Inequality.
- Facilitates the purchase of government
- Destabilizing the Earth's Life Support System

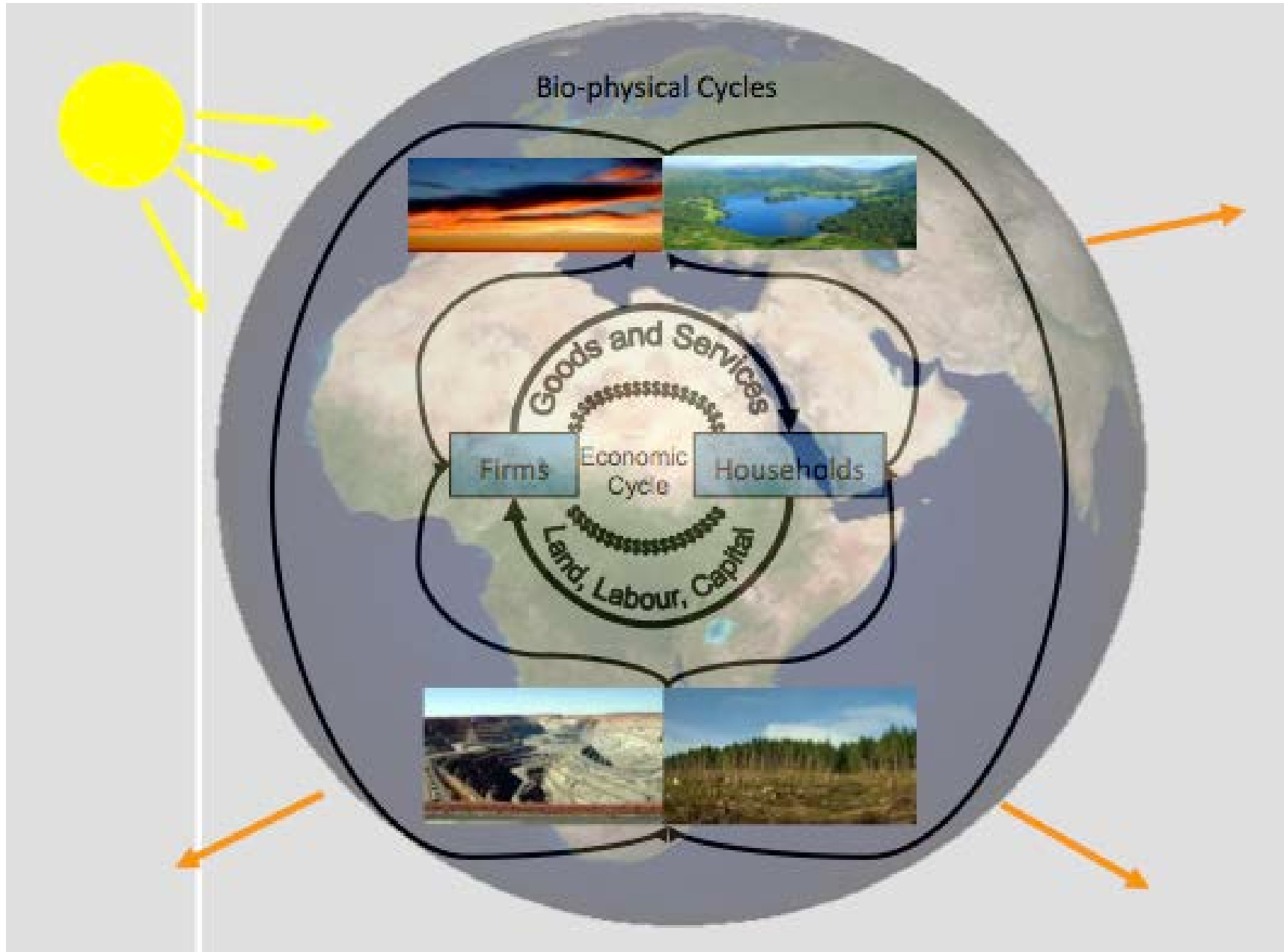
# Two Big Steps Forward: Justice! Limits



This model 'allows us to see the state in which we now find ourselves'.

Source: Kate Raworth and Christian Guthrie/The Lancet Planetary Health  
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/apr/12/doughnut-growth-economics-book-economic-model>

# An Economics for Earth



# Ethics for a Flourishing Earth: From Master to Member

- MEMBERSHIP: Humans have co-evolved with the Earth and the rest of life—hence are members of life’s commonwealth.
- HOUSEHOLDING: We have a duty to care for life’s household, as we do for our own families. Mining/lithosphere
- THRIFT: We have a duty to use the Earth’s resources with care for the long term benefit of life’s commonwealth. Far from equilibrium/energy.



# Economics for a Flourishing Earth

- Goal is a mutually enhancing human/Earth relationship.
- **Compassionate Retreat:** The human project is too big and too toxic. Seek healthy and adequate provisioning, not rising consumption.
- **Climate change is urgent:** moving away from animal agriculture can make a big difference AND spur reforestation; clean water, less heart disease, cancer, erosion...
- **Justice/Earth's Life Support Capacity:** Fairness between human generations; and humans and the rest of life's commonwealth. Reduce human footprint by means of family planning, esp. the rich.

# Rediscovering Sacred Earth the source of our being (Santayana)

