



DYNAMIX

Decoupling growth from resource use  
and its environmental impacts

# Overarching policy mix – input to 3rd DYNAMIX Policy Platform

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## Session 2:

# Drivers, barriers, targets, vision, policy instruments

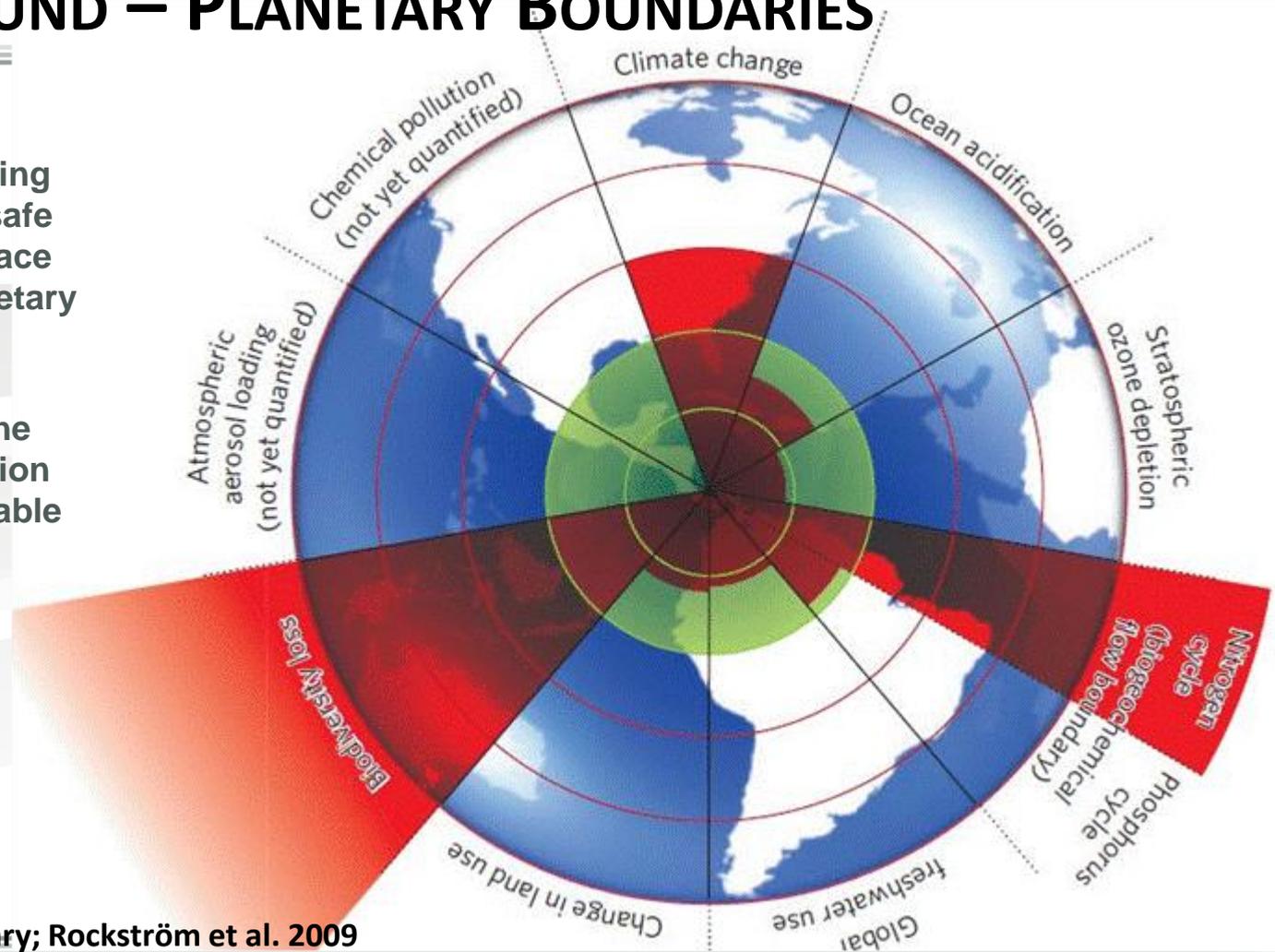
- Policy mix area problem situation:
  - Consumption of goods, services, and raw materials by households and companies in the EU continues to grow
  - Demand for and use of almost all materials is increasing
  - Planetary boundaries are exceeded or in danger of being exceeded



# BACKGROUND – PLANETARY BOUNDARIES

inner green shading = proposed safe operating space for nine planetary systems

red wedges = estimate of the current position for each variable



Beyond the boundary; Rockström et al. 2009



- Vision 2050:
  - All EU citizens enjoy high quality of life
  - At the same time, significant shifts in production and consumption patterns have resulted in the EU consuming within sustainable limits.
  - Potentials for efficiency improvements and recycling in the economy have been fully exploited, including through system innovation.
  - Consumers use low environmental, health and social impact products and consumption habits have changed.
  - Products that are adaptable, long-lived, and designed for remanufacture are easily available and affordable.



### Milestones 2030 (1):

- Europe's ecosystems and associated biodiversity are recovering; stocks of renewable resources are managed more extensively and depletion of non-renewable is slowed or halted.
- Consumption in the EU has shifted towards more sustainable goods.
- Products are better designed, more durable and recyclable.
- Public sector leads by example.
- Today's niche markets have become more mainstream.
- Quality of labelling has improved.
- Infrastructure investments and urban and land use planning enable more sustainable habits (mainly mobility, waste reduction).



### Milestones 2030 (2):

- Schools and university address issues of system thinking to raise awareness for environmental limits.
- Decision-making is becoming more transparent with the science-policy interface strengthened;
- Beyond GDP metrics are widely used to inform public decision-making.



- Policy instruments are (1):
  - Resource pricing upstream informed by scarcity, environmental limits and internalising external costs
  - Subsidy reform to abolish environmental harmful subsidies
  - Instrument set for shifting consumer choices and consumer habits, including inter alia:
    - discourse on social norms,
    - instruments to enable substitution from income to leisure,
    - infrastructure expenditures and planning decisions for enabling sustainable practices
    - changed rules on advertising
    - information, education and awareness raising



- Policy instruments are (2):
  - Strengthened standards on liability and warranty
  - Increasing efficiency and other product standards
  - Increased R&D expenditure, venture capital and green public procurement to support technological and social innovation – particularly system innovations
  - Instruments to improve transparency and accountability of business and political decision-making
  - Improved implementation of existing EU regulation
  - Promotion of shareholder responsibility, changing the incentive structure for investors to allow for accounting of long-term impacts, promotion of not-for-profit business models