

Keynote (virtual): The Initiative of Just Transition for the Development of Regional Resilience



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The Initiative of Just Transition for the Development of Regional Resilience

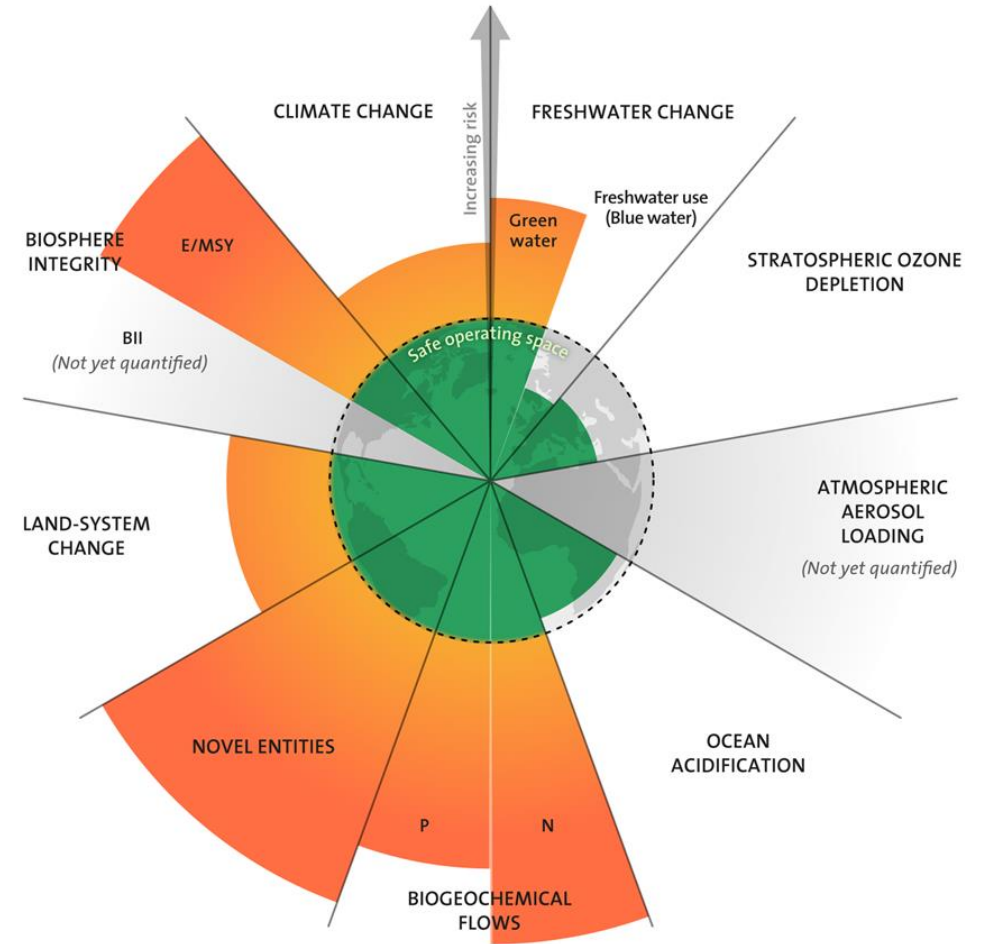
**Mags Bird
WWF European Policy Office**

- What is 'Just Transition'?
- Which principles apply to a Just Transition ?
- How might we support transforming principles into practice ?

The situation



Staying within planetary boundaries = a prerequisite for safeguarding social welfare



‘development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’

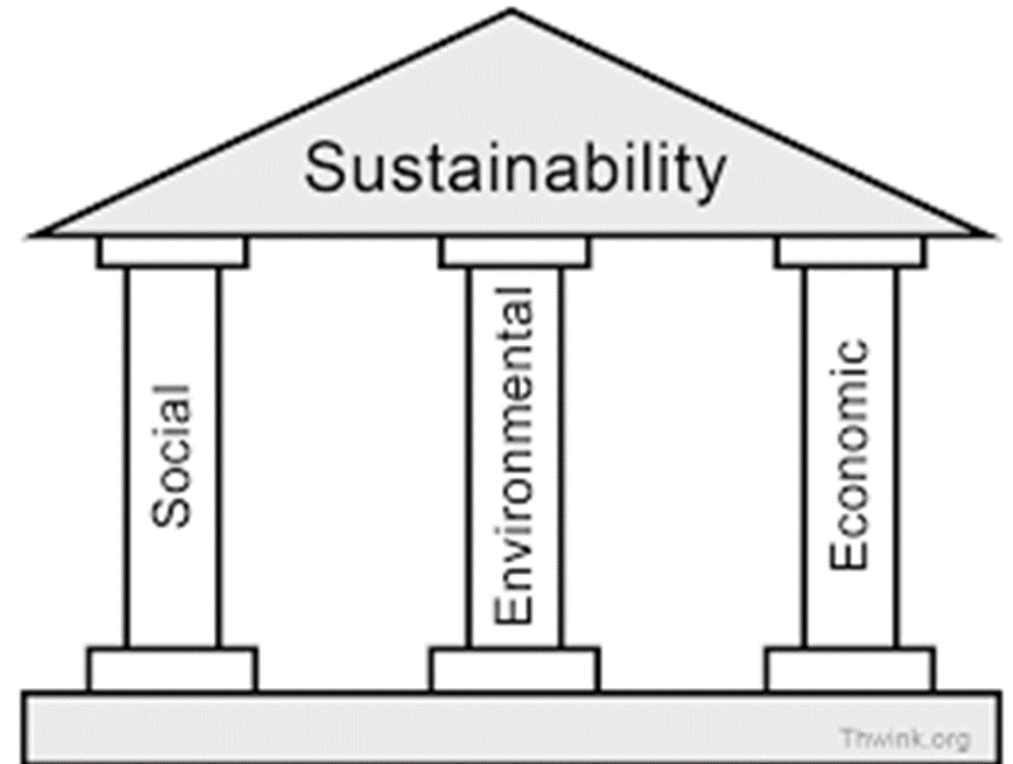
1987 Brundtland report

Sustainable Development



- Social
- Environmental
- Economic

3 equal pillars ??



From US labour movement 1960s ...
... to UNFCCC COP negotiations 2000s
... ILO Guidelines 2015
... Paris Agreement
... ?

‘Prioritising equity, climate justice, social justice, inclusion and just transition processes can enable adaptation and ambitious mitigation actions and climate resilient development’

(IPCC, 2023: 33)

Just Transition – dimensions of justice



- i) Distributive justice
- ii) Procedural justice
- iii) Recognition justice
- iv) Restorative justice

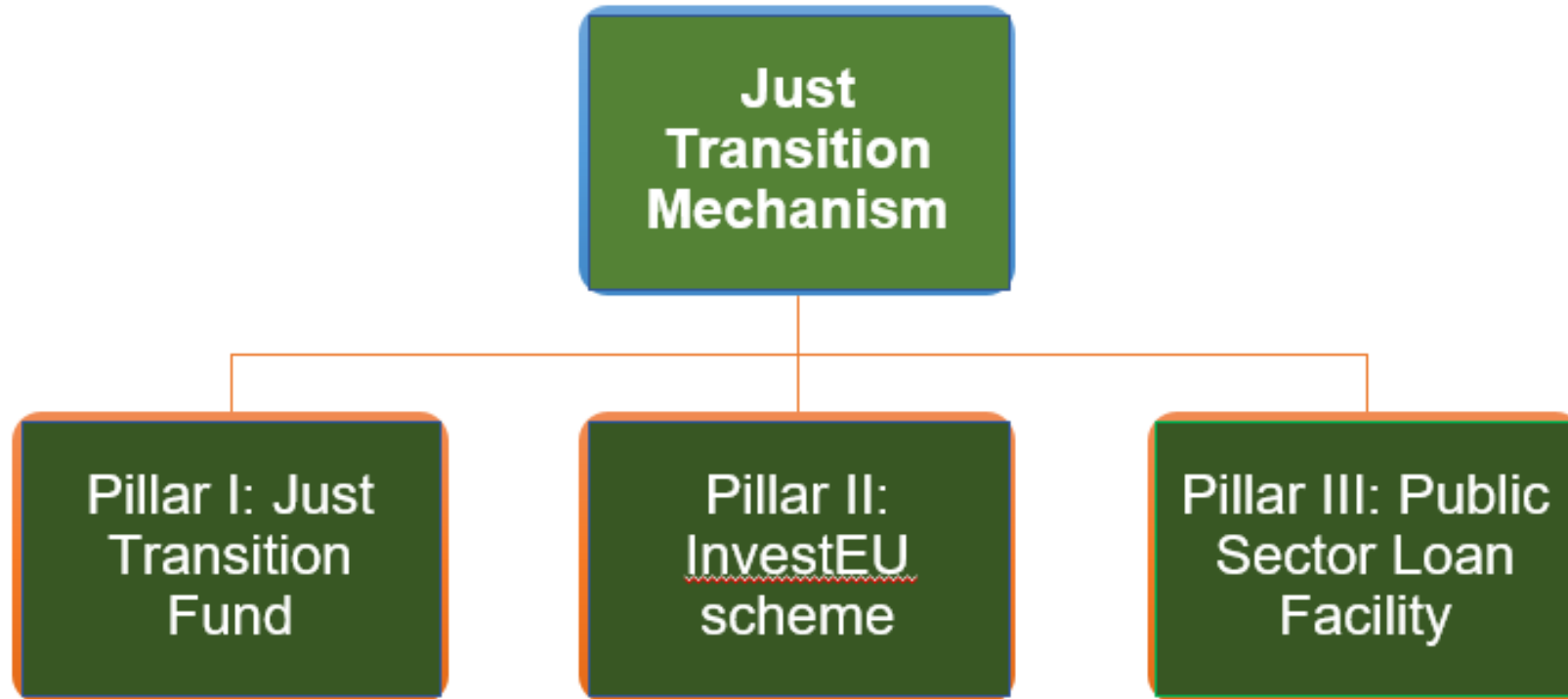
European Green Deal



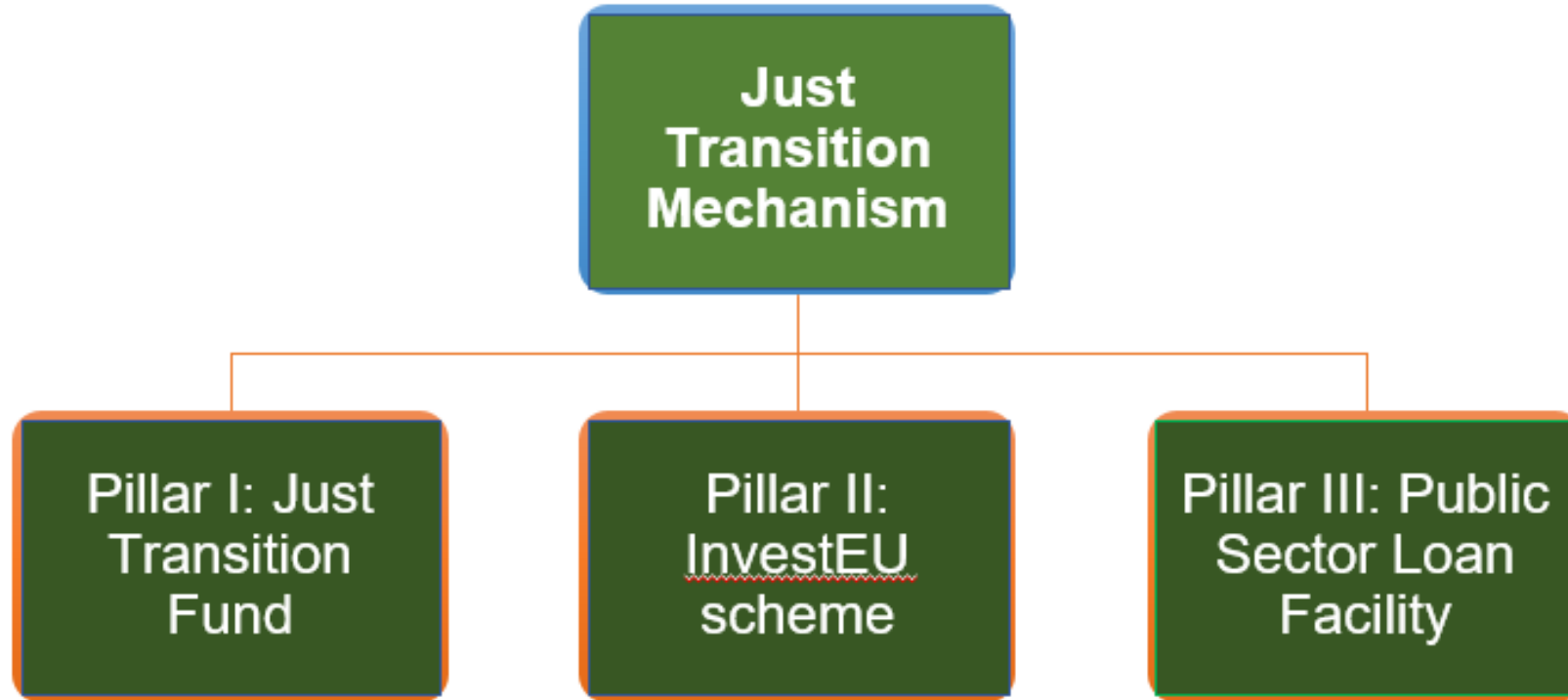
European Green Deal



EU Just Transition Mechanism

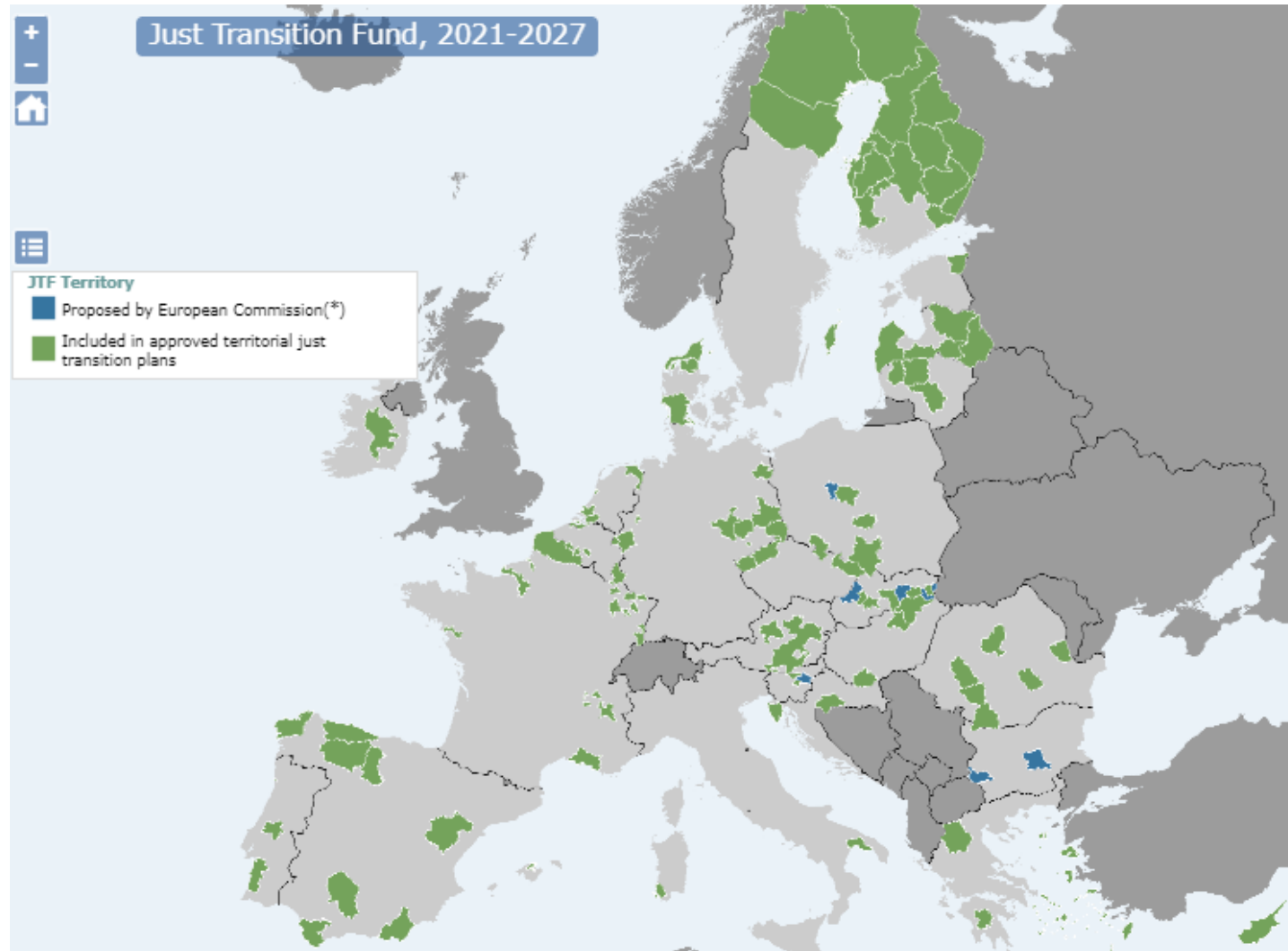


EU Just Transition Mechanism



Funding allocated to specific regions upon approval of Territorial Just Transition Plans (TJTPs)

EU Just Transition Mechanism



WWF understanding of Just Transition



- Fair
- Sustainable, enabling and supporting climate ambition (1.5 aligned)
- Part of wider strategy for energy transition and nature protection
- Planned and implemented early
- Inclusive : meaningful stakeholder participation, social dialogue.

WWF Principles for EU TJTPs



- Climate ambition
- Fossil fuel phase out
- Sustainable economic diversification
- Addressing inequalities
- Supporting environmental objectives
- Polluter pays principle
- Adequate public and private funding
- Participatory processes
- Place-based, local approach
- Review and indicators

Formulating indicators from principles



Principle 1 Climate ambition

Makes a strong and decisive commitment to the Paris Agreement and EU climate objectives







1.1 - Alignment with the commitment to cut GHG emissions quickly

1.2 - Proposals to increase renewable energy in the region

1.3 - Proposals to increase energy efficiency in the region

Formulating indicators from principles



1.1 Alignment with the commitment to cut GHG emissions quickly		Indicates a commitment to reduce GHG emissions but by < 55% emissions reduction versus 1990 levels by 2030 OR it does not indicate a need to reduce emissions at all
		Indicates a commitment to at least a 55% GHG emissions reduction versus 1990 level by 2030 at regional or national level
		Indicates a commitment to at least a 65% GHG emissions reduction in the region by 2030 at regional or national level
1.2 Proposals to increase renewable energy in the region		Does not recognise the opportunities to increase renewable energy use in the region or nationally
		Recognises the opportunities to increase renewable energy in the region or nationally, but no specific actions, projects or targets are proposed
		Recognises the opportunities to increase renewable energy in the region and specific actions, projects or targets are proposed

Participatory process for scoring



Territorial Just Transition Plans - build your scorecard

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The EU Just Transition Fund is a new fund proposed by the European Commission. It will become operational from 2021 and will run for the next seven years under the current Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) of the EU until the end of 2027.

[Test your plan](#)

All Member States are required to develop Territorial Just Transition Plans (TJTPs) in order to access funding from the Just Transition Fund. These local-level strategies must be developed in public consultation with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society and local community representatives as set out by the European Code of Conduct on Partnership. The plans are being developed now and must be submitted by

Compiling the scorecard



Principle	1 Climate ambition	2 Fossil fuel phase-out	3 Sustainable economic diversification	4 Addressing inequalities	5 Supporting environmental objectives	6 Polluter Pays	7 Adequate public and private funding	8 Participatory processes	9 Place-based, local approach	10 Review and indicators	Total score
Austria	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	19
Czechia - Karlovy Vary, Moravia Silesia and Usti	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	18
Germany - Northern Ruhr	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	1	20
Germany - Rhenisches Revier	3	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	20
Germany - Laszian Region	2	1	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	20
Estonia - Ida Virumaa	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	2	21
France - Hauts- de-France	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	19
France - Bouches- du- Rhone	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	18
Greece - Aegean Islands and Crete	2	2	3	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	21
Greece - Megalopolis	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	22
Greece - Western Macedonia	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	22
Slovakia - Trencin	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	19
Sweden - Norbotten	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	18
Total score by principle	28	23	33	25	30	20	26	26	27	19	257
Principle score as a percentage	72%	59%	85%	64%	77%	51%	67%	67%	69%	49%	66%

WWF Principles for EU TJTPs



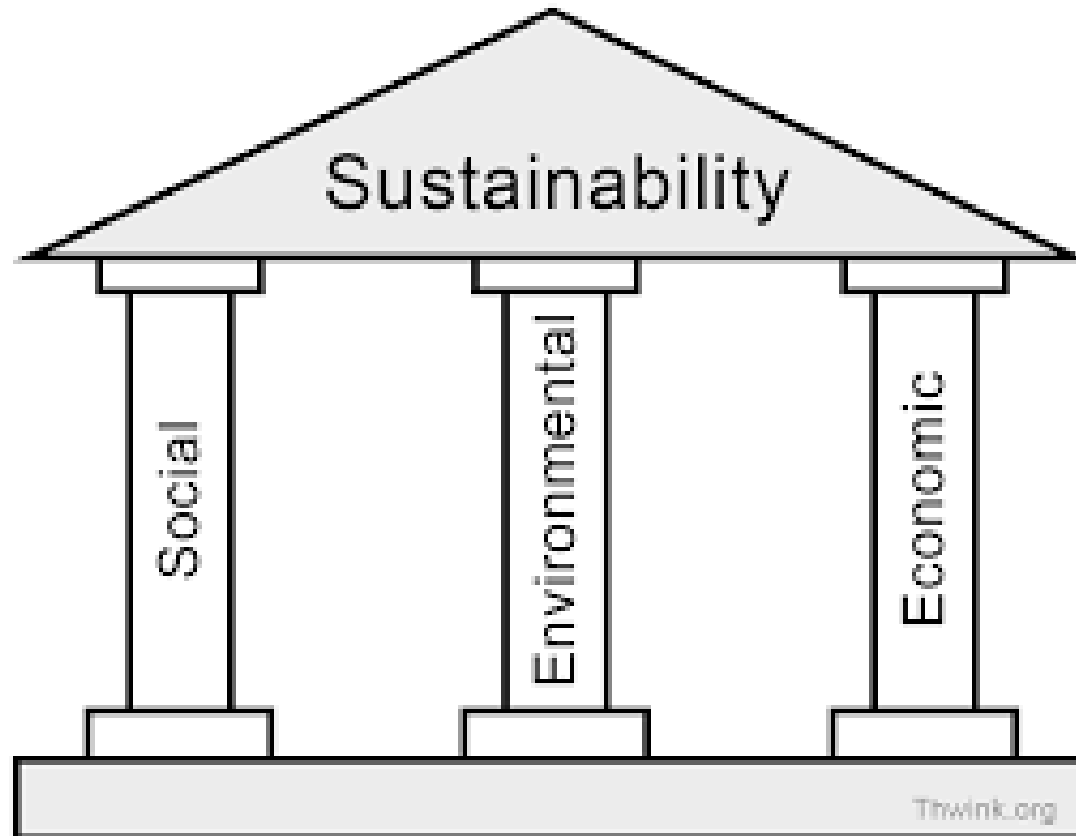
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Key findings from TJTP assessment



- Focus on economic / tech investments & workforce skills - missed opportunity for wider impact ?
- Climate ambition - but not enough
- Lacking recognition of existing inequalities - missed opportunity to link sustainable economy and social goals?
- Polluter pays principle – remains vague and largely unenforced
- Focus on avoiding new harms rather than stimulating positive social, economic and environmental transformation
- Process could be more participatory and transparent

Balancing the 3 pillars



Making positive change to sustainability



- Principles - process – practice
- More participation (it's difficult!)
- Ambition
- Action & targets
- Living laboratories ...



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