BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: A NEW FORM OF TWINNING

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UCL

HISTORY OF TWINNING

836 AD Paderborn , Germany and Le Mans, France

1905 Keighley West Yorkshire, England twinned with Suresnes & Puteaux France

After the Second World War in 1947, twinning was intended to foster friendship and understanding among different cultures and between former foes as an act of peace and reconciliation, as well as encouraging trade and tourism

1989 town twinning was supported by the European Union through a twinning scheme; there are now more than 7,000 bilateral relationships with 10,000 European Municipalities

By the 2000s, town twinning became increasingly used to form strategic international business links among member cities

THE BENEFITS OF TOWN TWINNING AROUND THE WORLD

Ciudades hermanadas (sister cities)
Partnerstadt, miasto partnerskie, partnerstad, stedenband, partnerské město (partner towns)
Jumelage, gemellaggio (twin towns)
Αδελφοποίηση (*adelfopiisi* fraternisation)
vinabæir (friend towns) *vinaborgir* (friend cities)
города-побратимы (sworn brother cities)
友好城市 (yǒuhǎo chéngshì – friendship city)

CAN TWINNING HELP TO DELIVER SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPERITY?

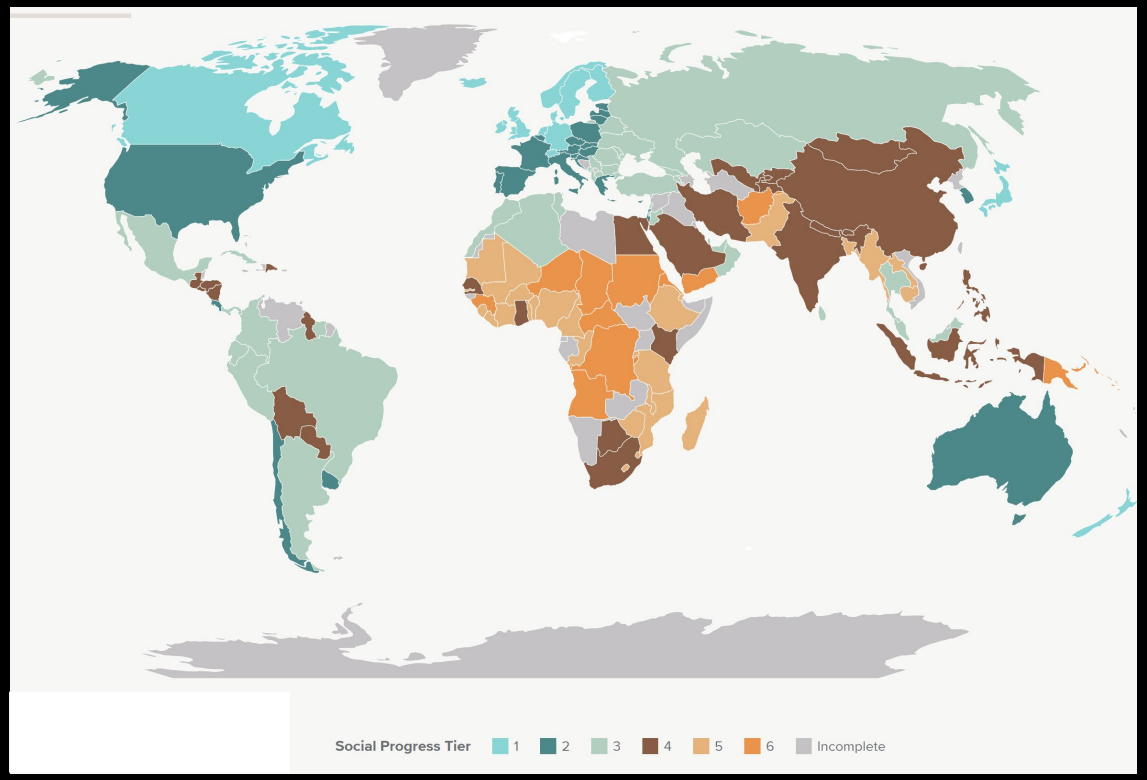
http://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/project/twintowns/

PROSPERITY – A SHARED COMMUNITY AGENDA

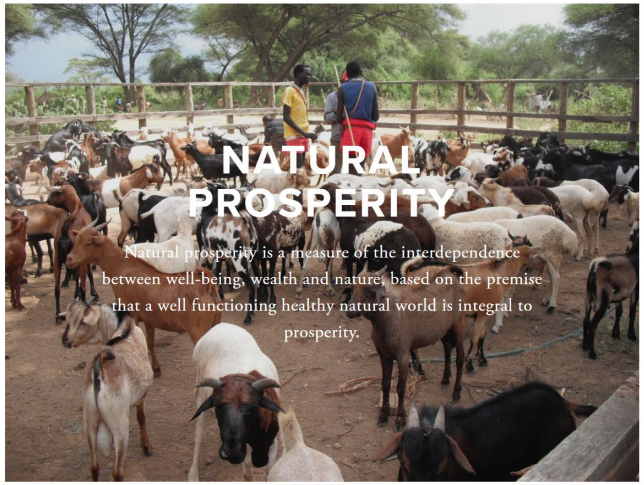
- **Why not use Gross Domestic Product?**
  "Only measures output"
  On January 4, 1934, economist Simon Kuznets presented the US Senate with the first set of national economic accounts that added up total economic activity now known as Gross National Product. GDP and GNP are very similar measures. But neither tell us about the health of the economy or about the quality of our lives in terms of the real things that matter to real people

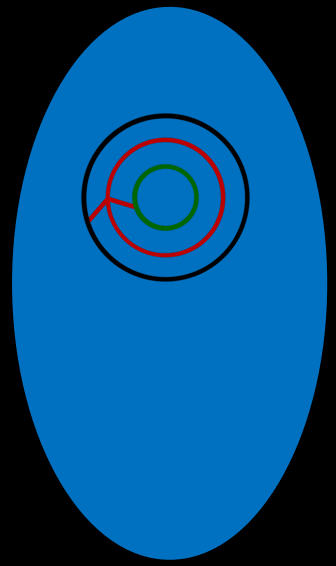
- **What other measures exist?**
  Social progress index
  Gross National Happiness
  Prosperity index

https://www.procolkenya.com/thinking-about-prosperity



PROSPERITY CO-LABS AT WORK

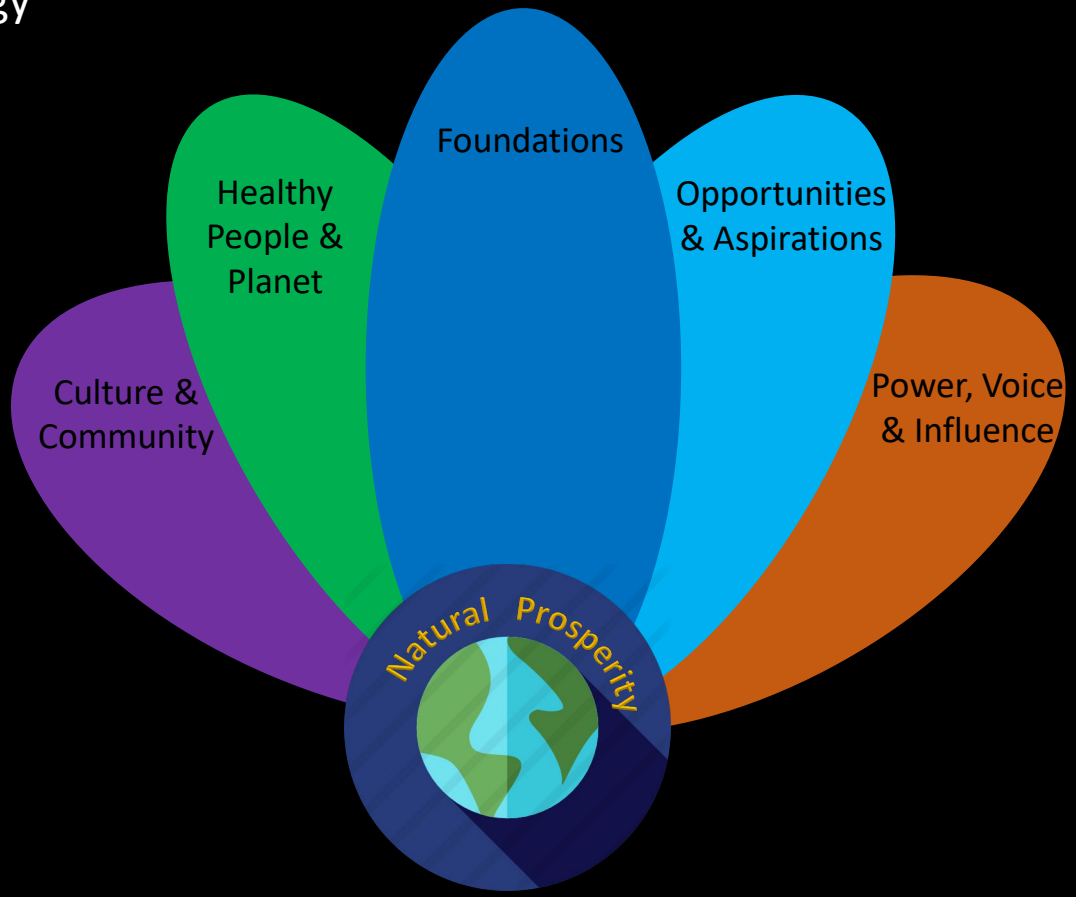




Foundations

- Good quality secure jobs
- Affordable housing, transport & energy
- Openness & transparency
- Inclusion and Fairness
- Local value creation

Prosperity Measures



Natural Prosperity

- Healthy ecosystems
- Clean air & water
- Productive soils
- Unpolluted oceans

Prosperity Index

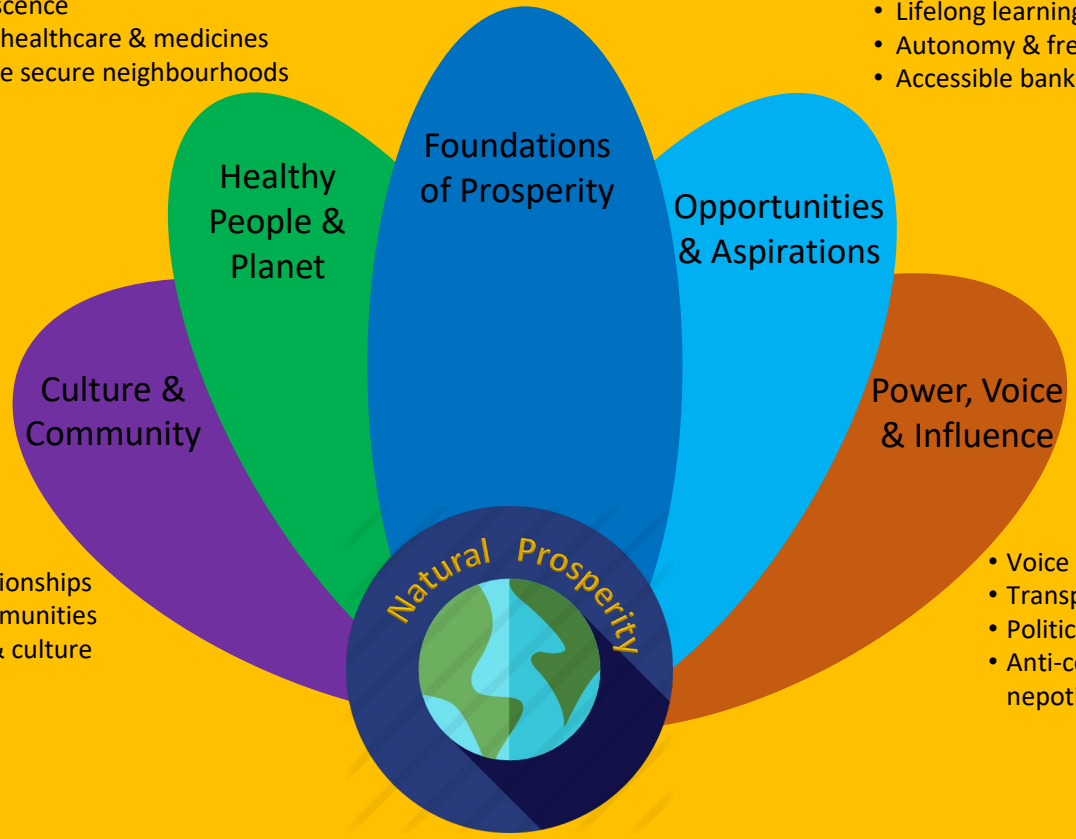
Health & Well-being

- Healthy bodies & minds
- Healthy childhood
- Safe adolescence
- Affordable healthcare & medicines
- Healthy safe secure neighbourhoods

Distributional policies

- Good quality secure jobs
- Affordable housing, transport & energy
- Openness & transparency
- Inclusion and Fairness
- Local value creation

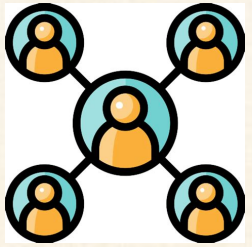
- Affordable good quality basic education
- Lifelong learning
- Autonomy & freedom
- Accessible banking



Interdependencies

- Social relationships
- Strong communities
- Identities & culture

Connectedness



- Voice
- Transparent influence
- Political inclusion
- Anti-corruption & -nepotism

- Healthy ecosystems
- Clean air & water
- Productive soils
- Unpolluted oceans

BUILDING MASSIVE OPEN AND ONLINE COMMUNITIES TO DELIVER PROSPERITY

IDENTIFY and analyse the conditions and characteristics, drivers and obstacles to transforming communities

DISCOVER communities facing similar challenges across the world and build partnerships and networks to enable sharing of knowledge and solutions to flow through conversations, citizen exchanges and open data about activities in the community

FACILITATE the transformations, based on community based, evidence-informed processes across the different areas of need

DEVELOP personal links and learn from each other through visits and exchange of ideas

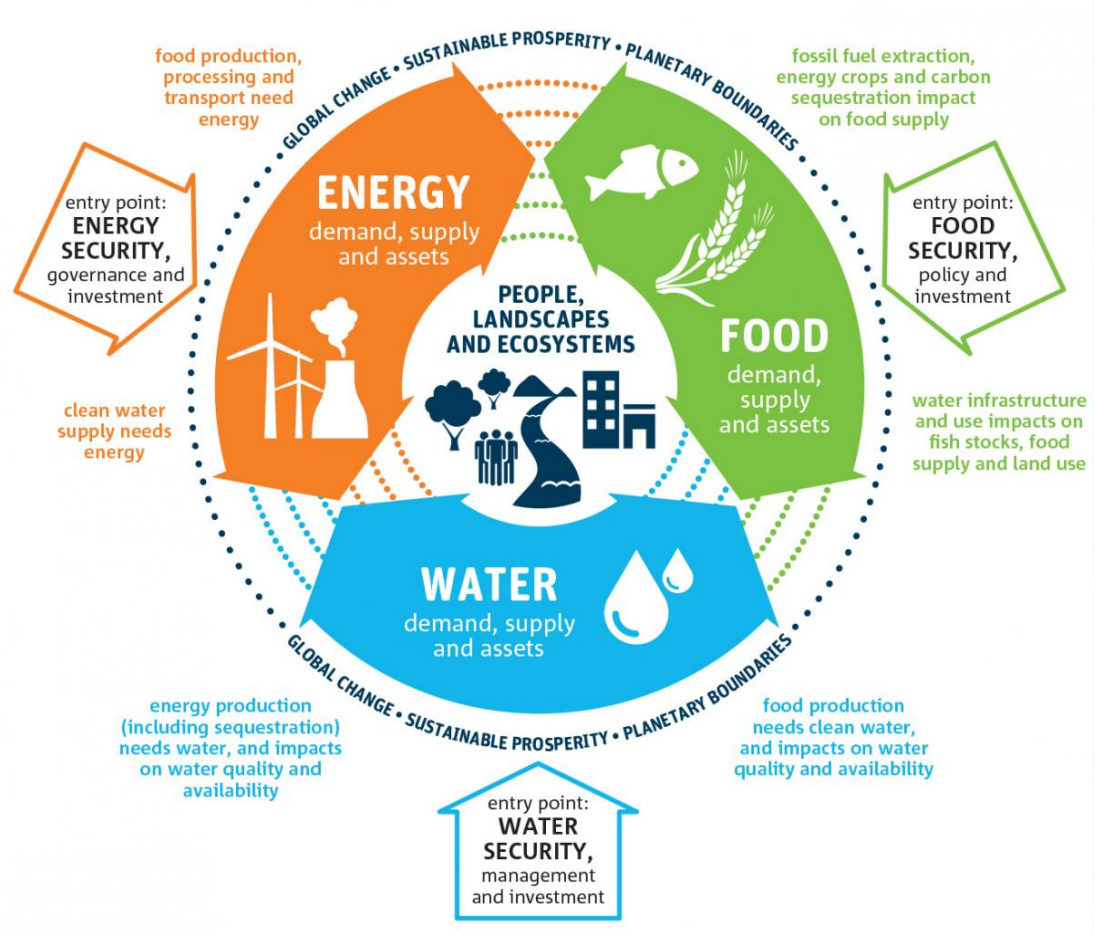
HELP governments and society gain a better understanding of the ecological, social and cultural contextual conditions needed for such a transformation

MULTIPLE ENTRY POINTS

Food – Energy – Water

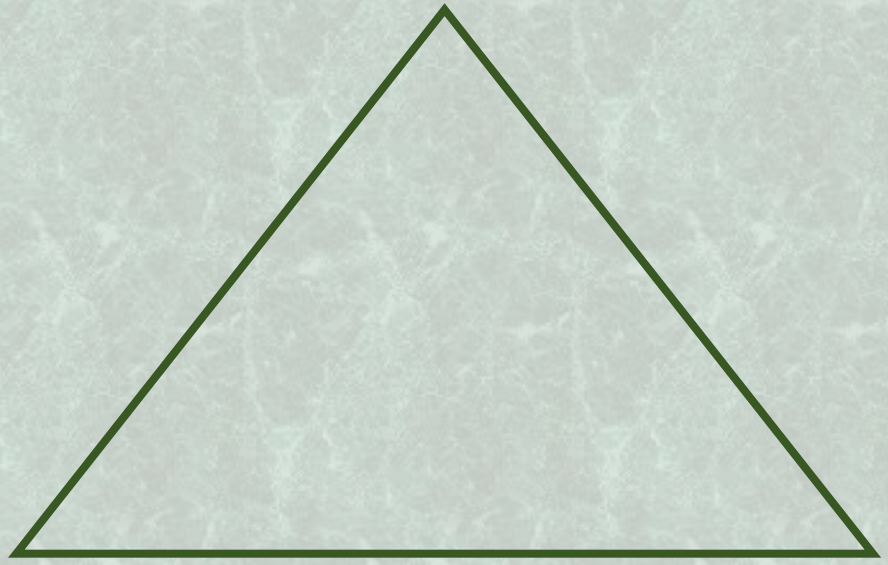
Jobs

Social inclusion



COMMUNITIES CAN PROVIDE DIFFERENT SKILLS

EXPERTISE



KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

EXEMPLIFICATION SITE

NEWS FORMS OF COMMUNITY TWINNING

YOUR OWN COMMUNITY TWINNING

Prosperity and the Deep Transformation of Development

What does prosperity really look like in your community

Data literacy and open government

Enhancing data literacy and knowledge in the community

Data and evidence needed to define direction and actions

Gathering relevant information for decision-making at the community level up to national and international

Building trust across communities

Recognising the role of the young and elderly and cultural context in building trust across your community

Moving from preserving the status quo to a prosperous future