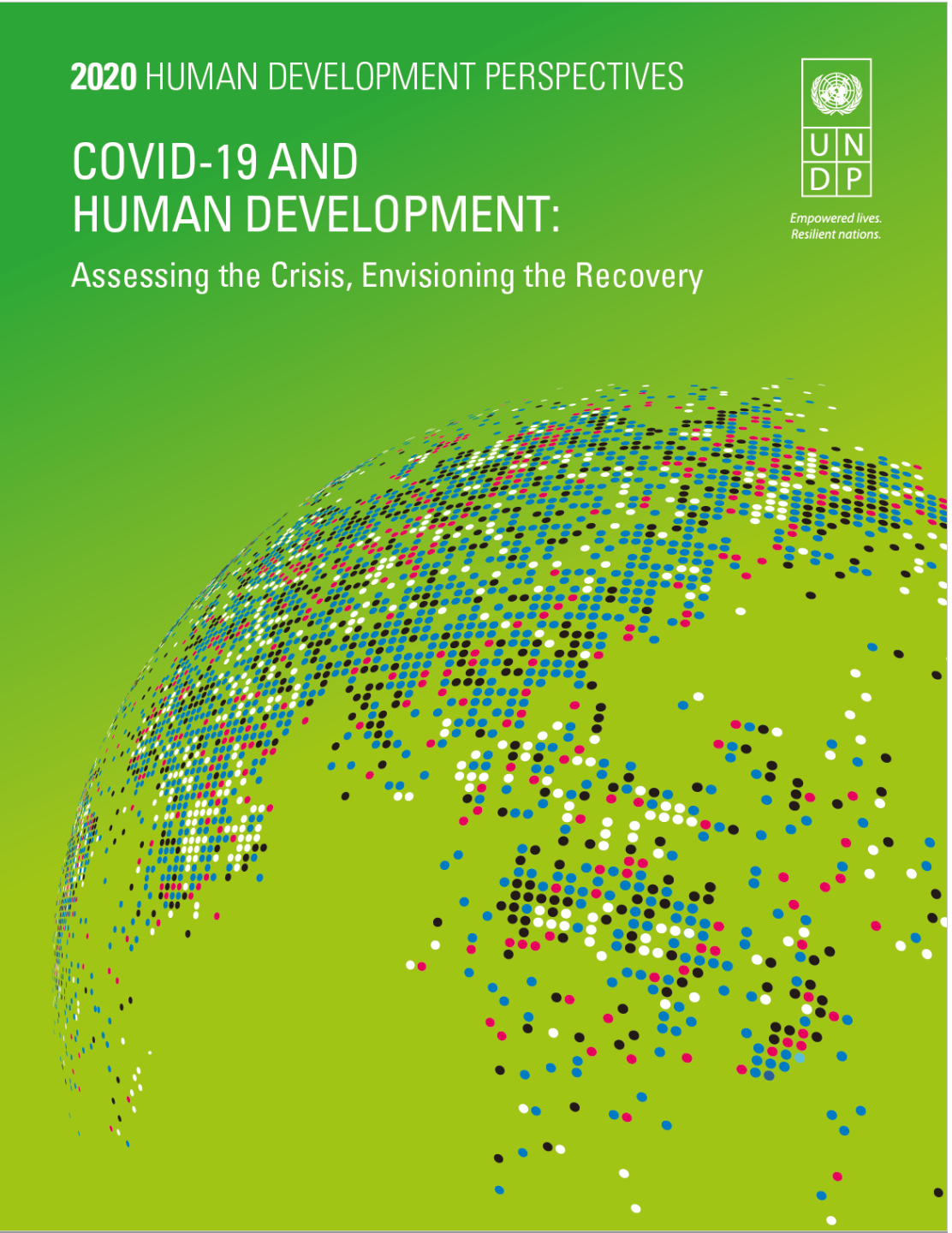
Connected Humans in a COVID World

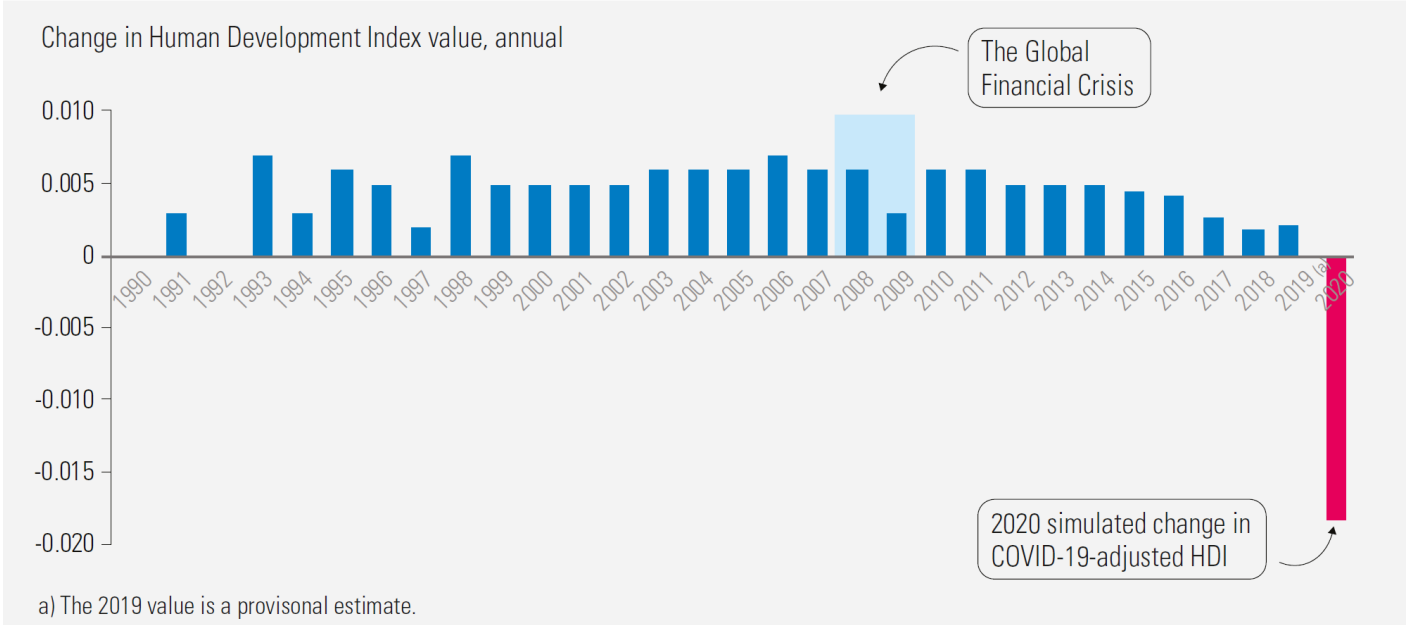
Finding Meaning in the Time of a Pandemic



The coronavirus pandemic has shown us a new world – one where the status quo no longer exists.

Millions of people are experiencing untold misery and suffering as the virus overwhelms our bodies and economies.

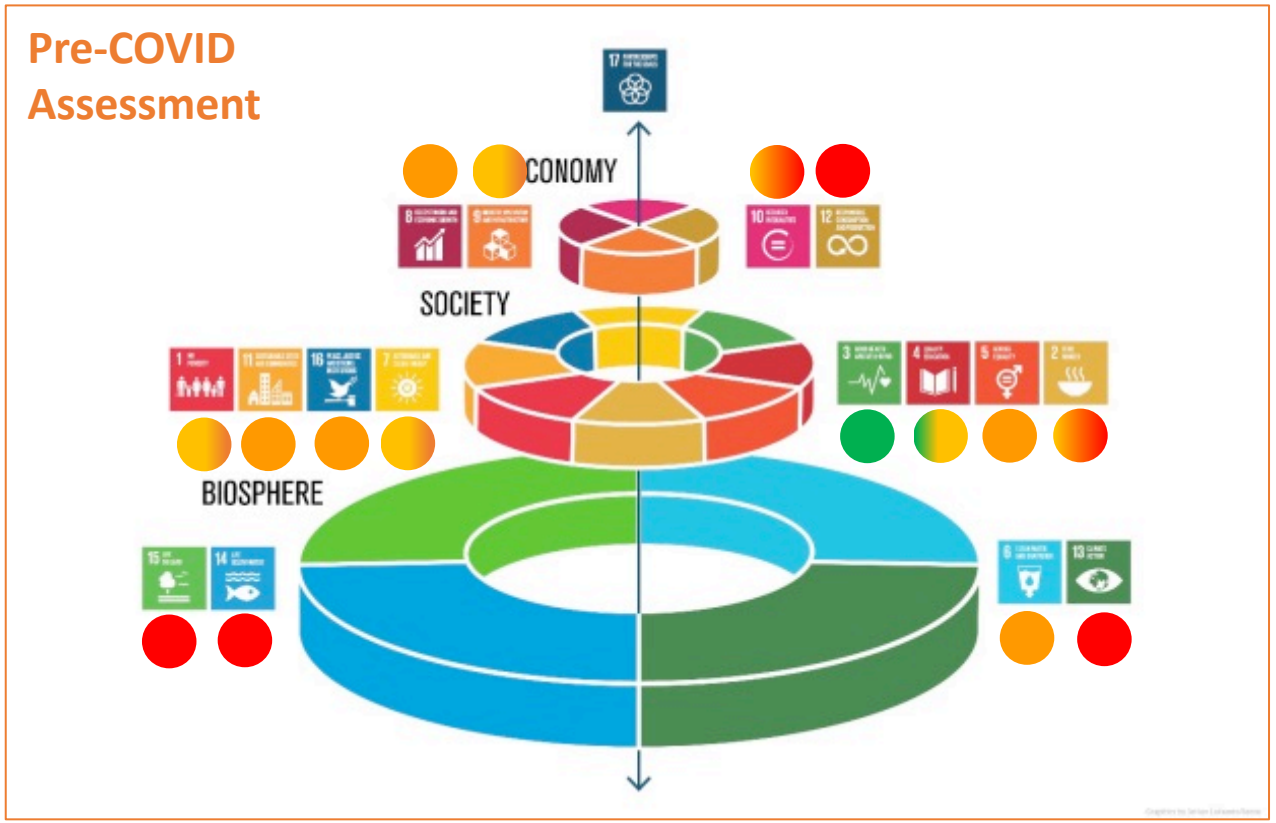
Rich and poor, the pandemic has forced us to reconsider almost every aspect of how we live.



How can we build ~~back~~ and sustain a just and sustainable planet?

Today's economy has a low level of investment, low human capital and technological productivity; theer are inequalities associated with structural constraints, low worker bargaining power, and in-work poverty, plus there are the uncertainties associated with Brexit.

UK Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee Super-Inquiry (June 25 2020).



Values-Led Recovery

Environmental effects of a near-stoppage of the world's economies

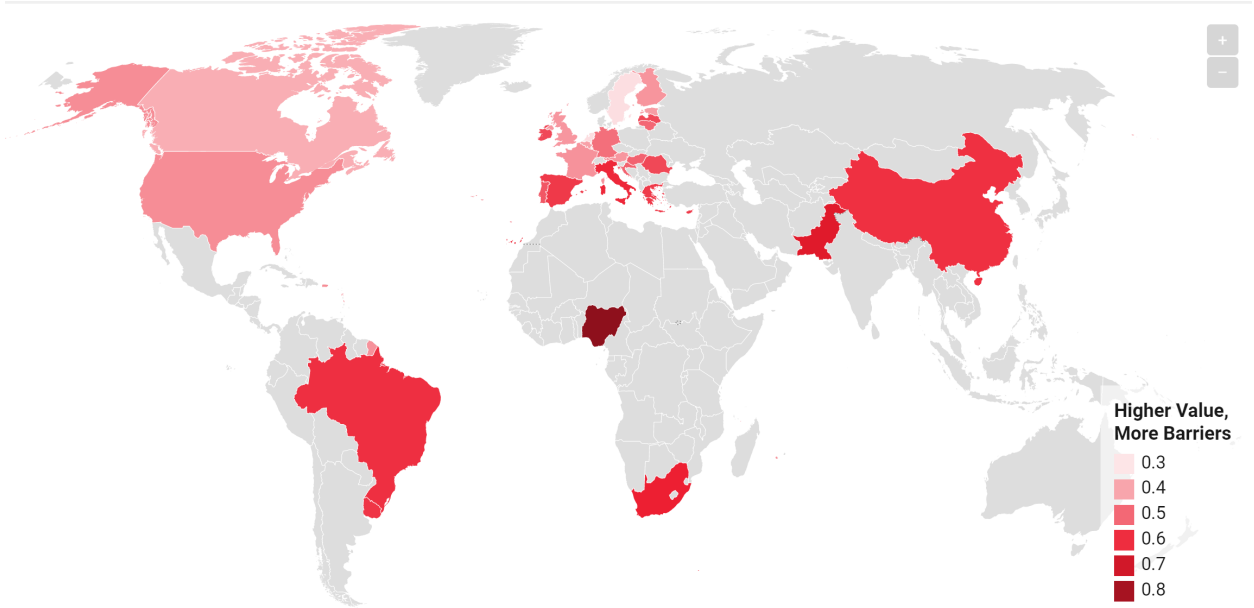
Emerging perspectives and guiding principles about resilience and meaningfulness linked to ecological awareness

Experiences of new online communities and social capital

Re-imagining belonging as mutable, locally rooted, drawing on traditional and indigenous peoples' and globally connected

The Meaning of Work

A Pivotal Shift in the Nature of Work



Bana et al. 2020 Sloane Review MIT

A human-centred approach for increasing investment in people's capabilities, in the institutions of work, and in decent and sustainable jobs for the future.

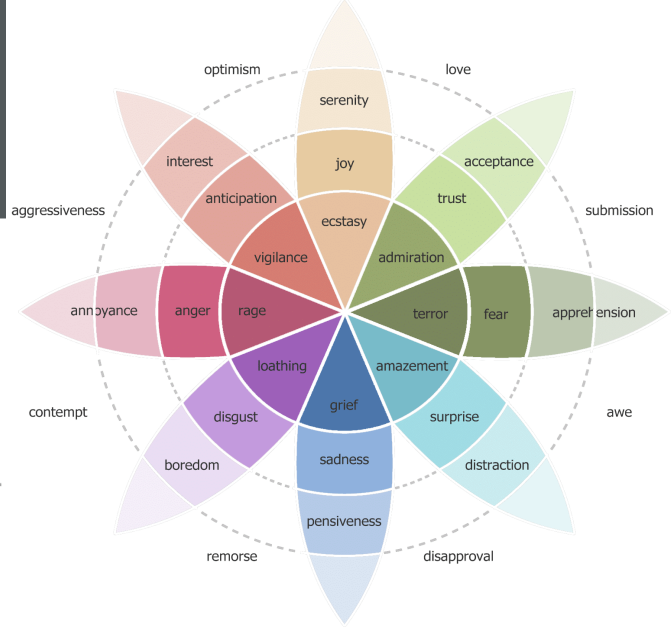
International Labour Organisation 30 June 2020

Giving meaning to work goes beyond decent jobs – it means giving voice, control and significance, and ultimately purpose and responsibility

Connectedness, Belonging & Human Resilience

The Corona Mood Barometer

Emotions and Associated Topics in May 2020



Anticipation Vigilance Fear Anger Sadness

Share of Voice Dev %

+100

+50

0

Stay-at-Home Order
Huntington Beach
Protests

Unemployment
Death Toll
World War
VE Day

Aid Distribution
Buried CDC Report
Hospital Ship

Stay Alert
New Slogan

300,000
Global Deaths

Economic Fallout
Netanyahu

Mass Casualties
Plane Crash
Karachi

Lockdown
D Cummings
Hong Kong
Protests

George Floyd
National Guard
Minneapolis
Protests

Grim
Milestone
100,000
U.S. Deaths

Hydroxychloroquine
Moderna

Remdesivir
Gilead

Second Wave
White House

Vigilance Decreasing

Vigilance / Fear Decreasing

01 May 03 May 05 May 07 May 09 May 11 May 13 May 15 May 17 May 19 May 21 May 23 May 25 May 27 May 29 May 31 May

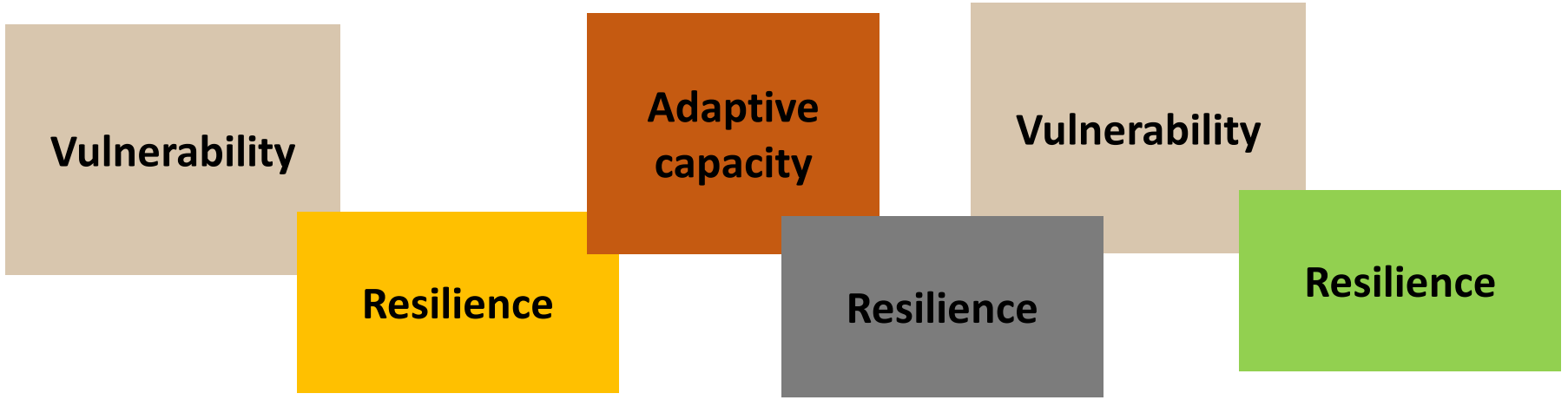
Source: International English-Language News Media Coverage
May 1-31, 2020 • 178,100 online articles
www.weblyzard.com/corona-mood-barometer

ReTV Re-Inventing TV for the Interactive Age

MODUL TECHNOLOGY

webLyzard technology

Building Resilient More Diverse Economies

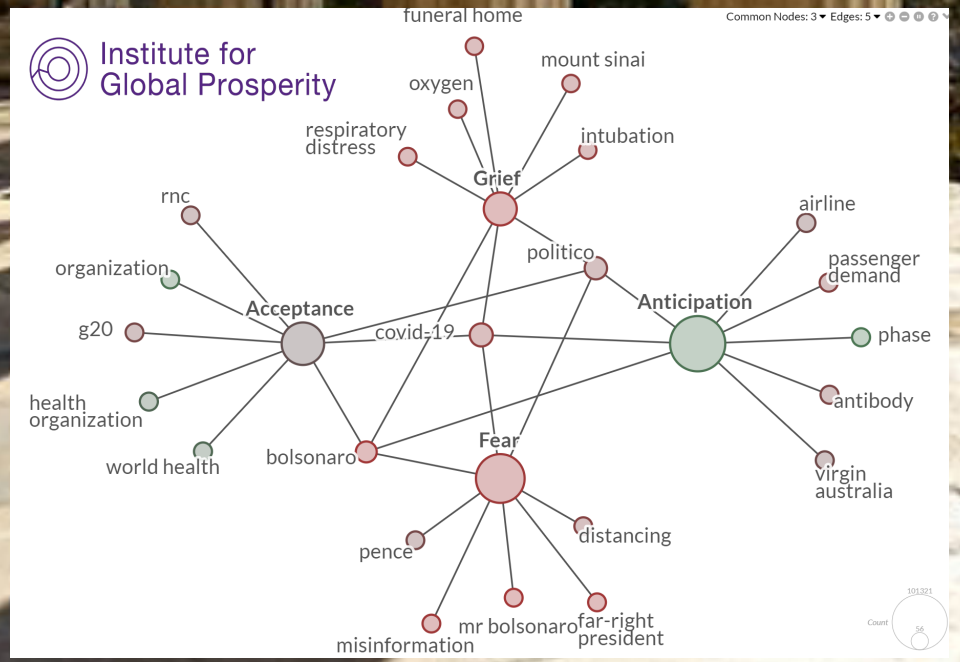


Ecological resilience - the ability of species and ecosystems to absorb change and disturbance (Holling 1973)

Psychological resilience – human capacity to rebound from adversity (Larson and Luthans 2006)

Inclusive resilience – concentrating human capacities to respond to and enact responsibly towards others and to share meanings and find ways of being together in the world (Liedtka 1996)

Increasing Trust & Acceptance of Knowledge to Create New Meanings



Meanings help to expand our understanding and knowledge of what we value, to express what we care about and mediate outcomes (Yeoman 2020)

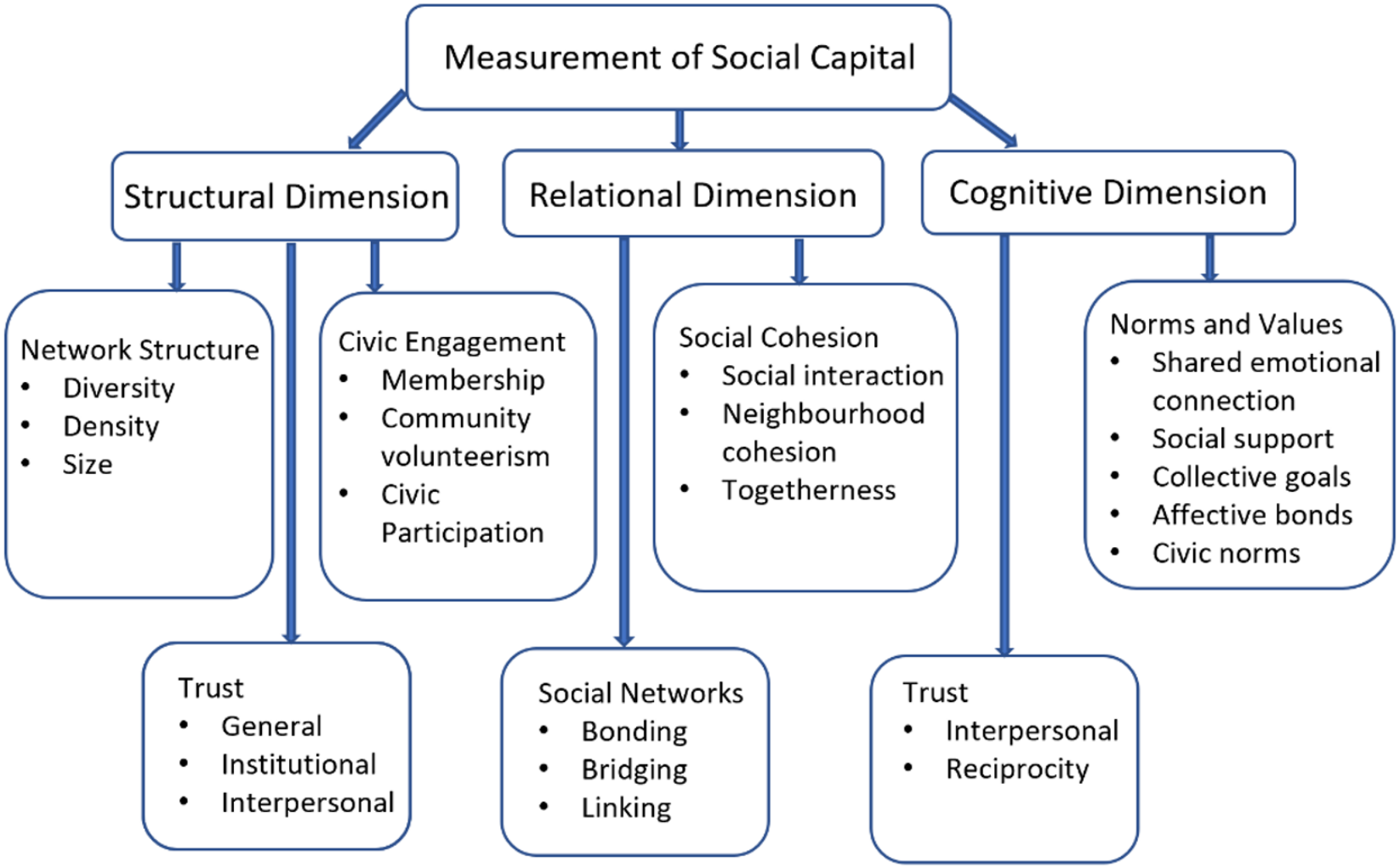
Re-imagining belonging

Belonging comes from *longen* the old English word to go – to go along with to relate to
Belonging is mutable, changeable and suggests travelling together
Belonging can be temporary and episodic and in flux
Belonging can give a sense of agency to shape the circumstance of one's life

Today everyone come from somewhere , lives somewhere and has connections to many places

To be rooted is perhaps the most important and least recognised need of the human soul **Simone Weil**

The Value of Social Capital in our Lives



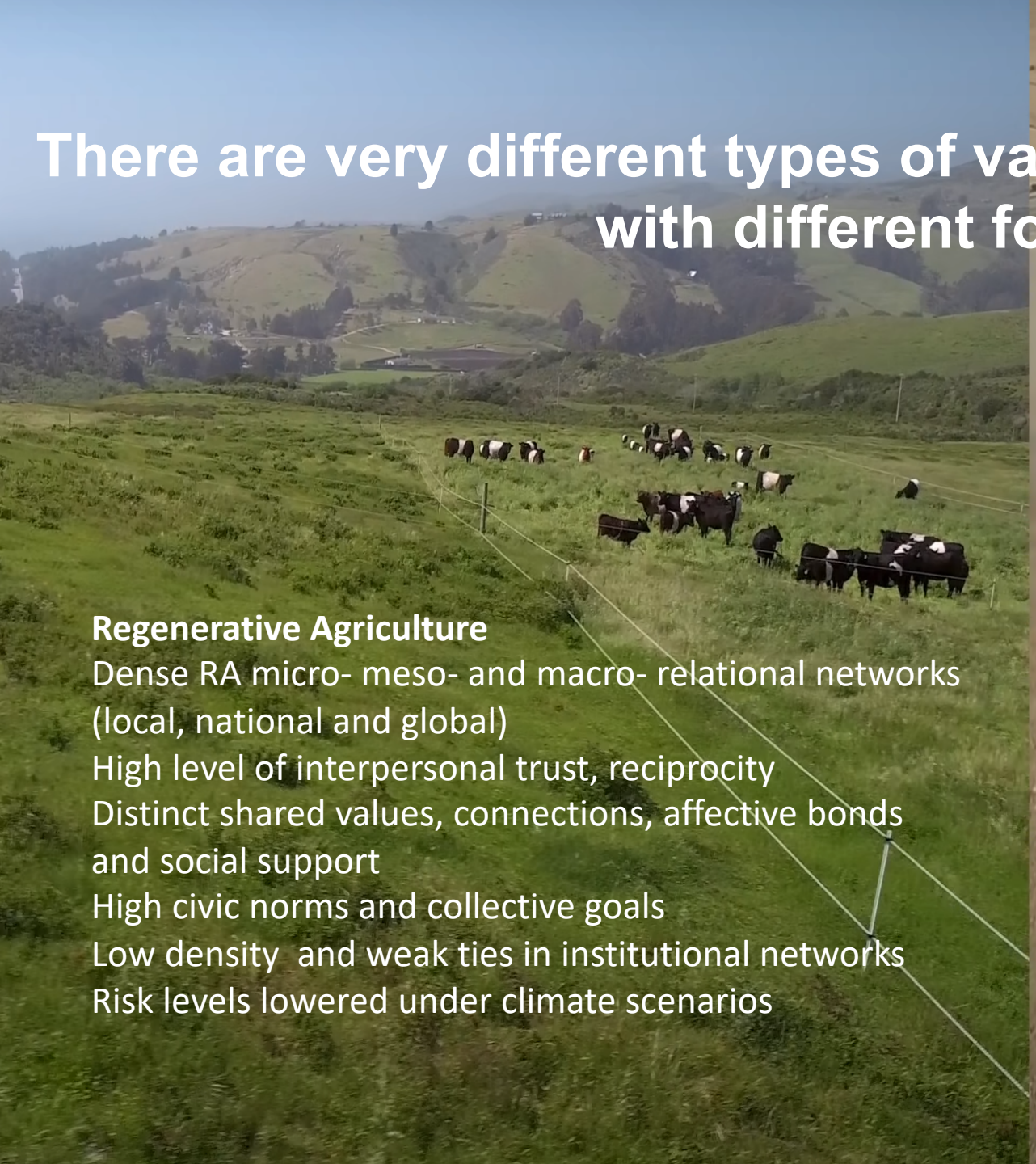
Role of social capital in shifting energy sources

How does social capital improve prosperity?

Role of social capital in vulnerability to climate change

Effects of social capital in coastal zone management

There are very different types of values and social capital associated with different forms of farming



Regenerative Agriculture

Dense RA micro- meso- and macro- relational networks (local, national and global)

High level of interpersonal trust, reciprocity

Distinct shared values, connections, affective bonds and social support

High civic norms and collective goals

Low density and weak ties in institutional networks

Risk levels lowered under climate scenarios

Conventional Agriculture

Medium macro- relational networks (global)

Strong meso- relational networks (national)

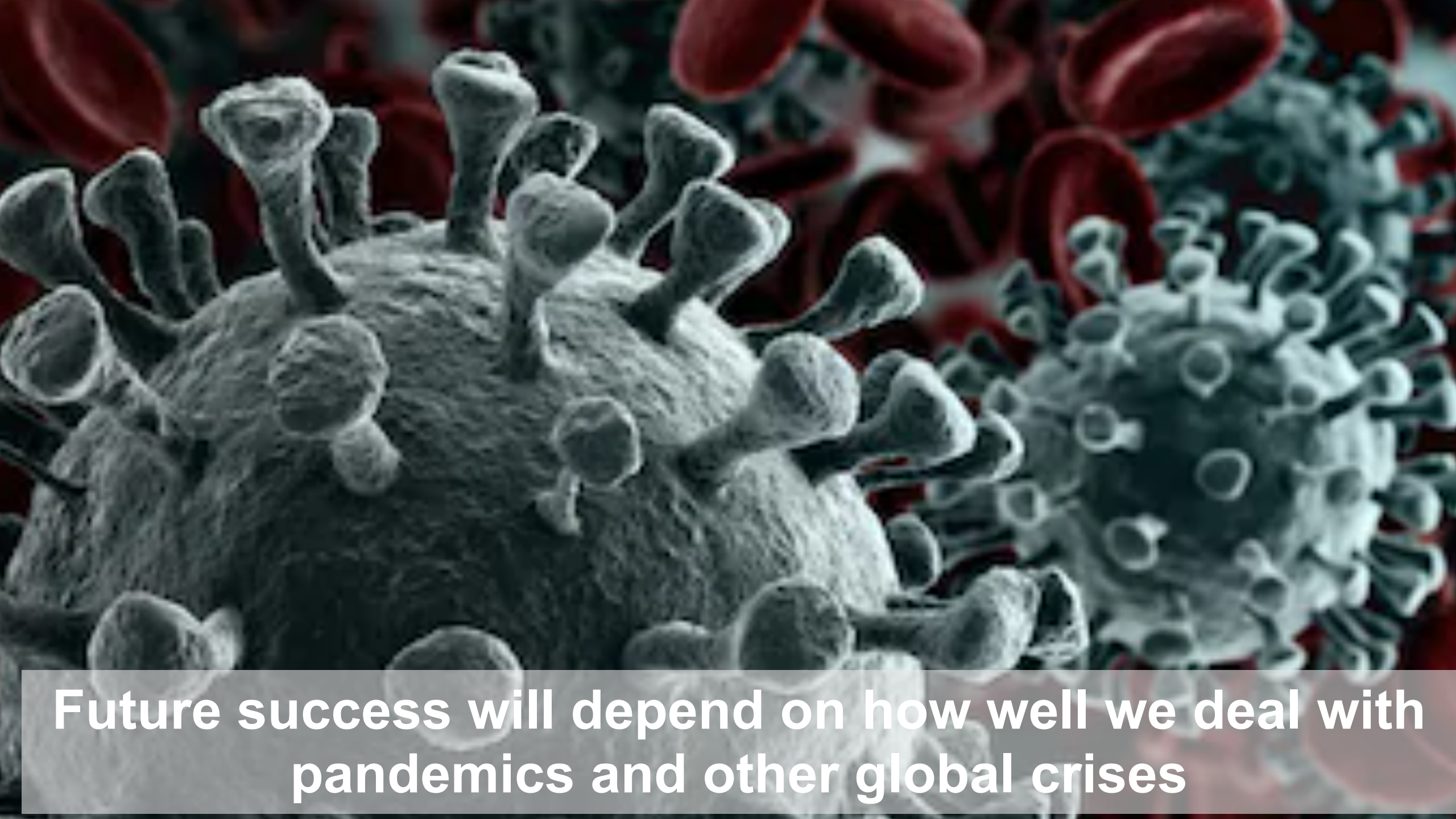
Medium - low level of interpersonal trust, reciprocity

Medium- weak shared values, connections, affective bonds and social support

Medium - low civic norms and collective goals

High density and strong ties in institutional networks

Risk levels raised under climate scenarios



Future success will depend on how well we deal with pandemics and other global crises

LEARNING FROM PAST LESSONS

1920s

Spanish Flu

harsh penalties
reparation payments
loss of territory
forced demilitarisation

1940s

reconstruction of the global economy
massive foreign aid programs
more democratic, resilient and stable way
creation of the Bretton Woods institutions ensuring peace, stabilizing trade, full employment and promotion of economic growth globally.
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

1950-90s

1990 - 2010s

massive and growing inequality
frayed social safety nets
oligarchic control of governments
rapidly worsening climate
accelerating loss of natural capital and ecosystem services
general loss of system resilience
Millennium Goals (MDGs)

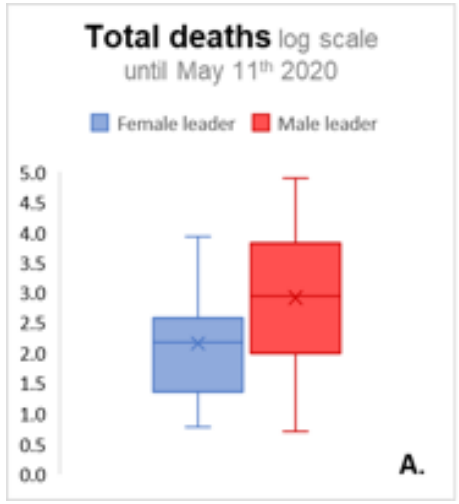
2020s?

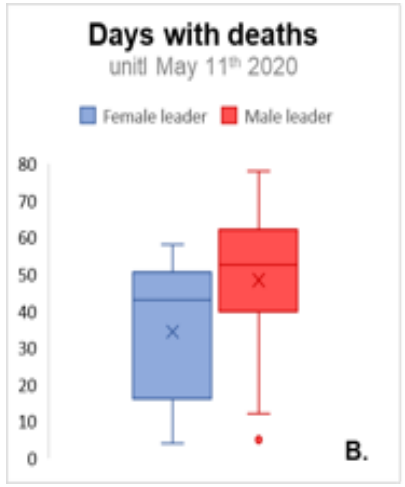
COVID-19

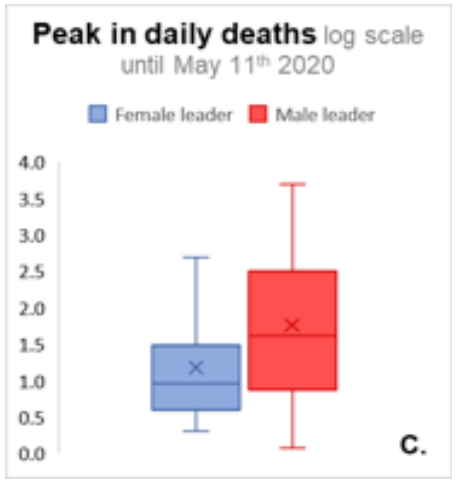
Anthropocene
Increasing social and economic development
COVID-19
planetary emergency
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

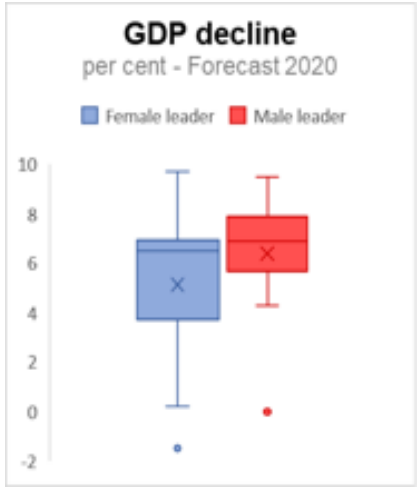
DEALING WITH COVID-19 LEADERSHIP EFFECTS

Countries with female leaders perform better across a broad range of social progress, equality and wellbeing indicators









	Female leader	Male leader
Social Progress Index	87	83
Basic Human Needs	95	93
Foundations of Wellbeing	87	84
Opportunity	78	73
Gini coefficient	29	33
Gender Inequality Index	0.08	0.13
Generosity (rank)	45	59
Happiness (rank)	22	34

Coscieme et al. (2020) Women in Power. *Solutions (in press*)

DESIGNING VALUES-LED ECONOMIES

Build Back Better	Current Economic Model	Sustainable Wellbeing Economy Model
Primary policy goal	Focus on growth GDP More is better	Focus on human wellbeing development More is not always better
Role of environment	Markets assumed to overcome any resource limits	Natural capital and ecosystem services are not infinite
Distribution & poverty	Trickle-down policies: rising tide lifts all boats	Primary concern: rising tide lifts yachts and swamps small boats
Role of Universities	Hierarchical and primarily single generational	Multilevel and intergenerational
Role of Government	Interventions minimised	Central role, new functions as facilitator and broker in new common-asset institutions
Principles of governance	Laissez-faire market capitalism	Lisbon principles of sustainable governance

A VALUES-LED APPROACH TO A WELLBEING ECONOMY

WELLBEING ECONOMY ALLIANCE

- COLLABORATE in pursuit of innovative policy approaches to create wellbeing economies – sharing what works and what does not, to inform policymaking for change.
- PROGRESS toward the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in line with Goal 17, fostering partnership and cooperation to identify approaches to delivering wellbeing.
- ADDRESS the pressing economic, social, and environmental challenges of our time.

Wellbeing Economy Governments

The Wellbeing Economy Governments partnership (WEGo) is a collaboration of national and regional governments promoting sharing of expertise and transferrable policy practices. The aims are to deepen their understanding and advance their shared ambition of building wellbeing economies. WEGo, which currently comprises Scotland, New Zealand, Iceland, and Wales, is founded on the recognition that 'development' in the 21st century entails delivering human and ecological wellbeing.

Nicola Sturgeon Scotland's First Minister

Growing Planetary Awareness

IMPROVED RICE CULTIVATION

TROPICAL FORESTS

SILVOPASTURE

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

TEMPERATE FORESTS

PEATLANDS

TROPICAL STAPLE TREES

AFFORESTATION

CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE

TREE INTERCROPPING

G1
G3
MANAGED GRAZING
G2
G4

PLANT-RICH DIET

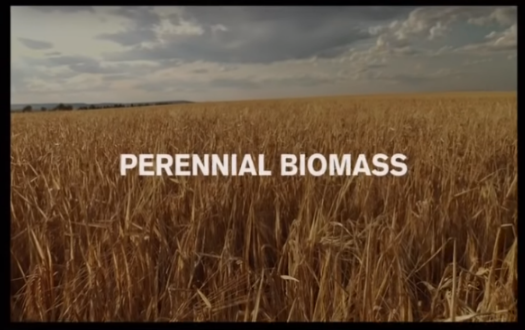
COMPOSTING

SEAWEED FARMING

BAMBOO

FOREST CONSERVATION

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES'
LAND MANAGEMENT


PERENNIAL BIOMASS

COASTAL WETLANDS

SYSTEM OF RICE INTENSIFICATION

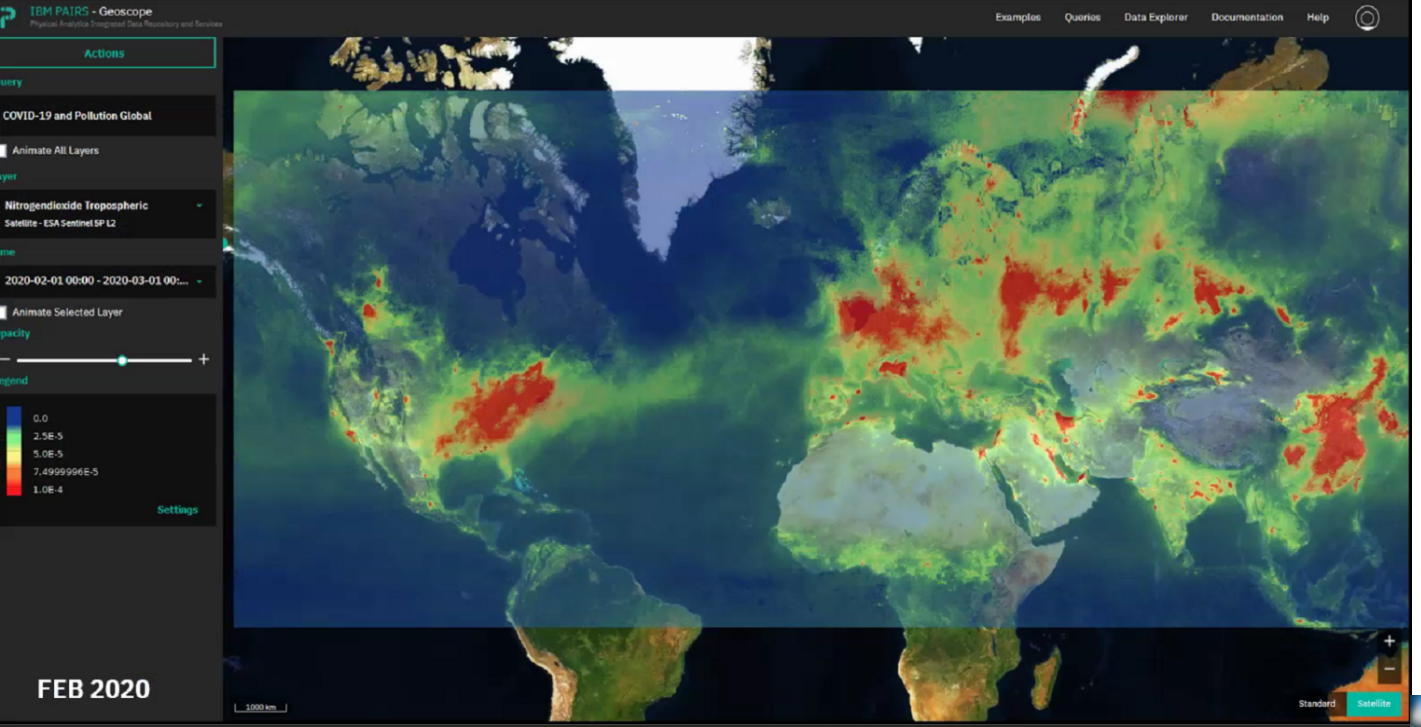
LANDFILL METHANE

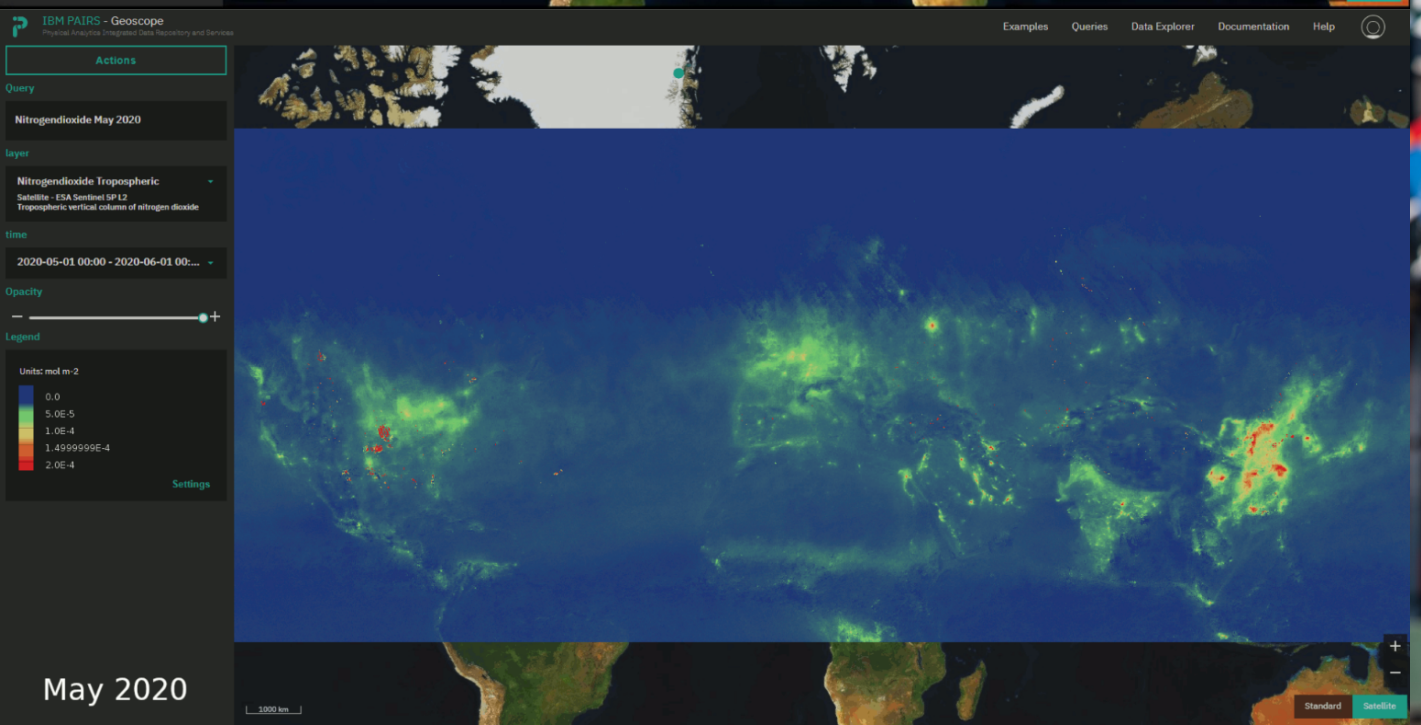
FARMLAND RESTORATION

FARMLAND IRRIGATION

BIOCHAR

GREEN ROOFS

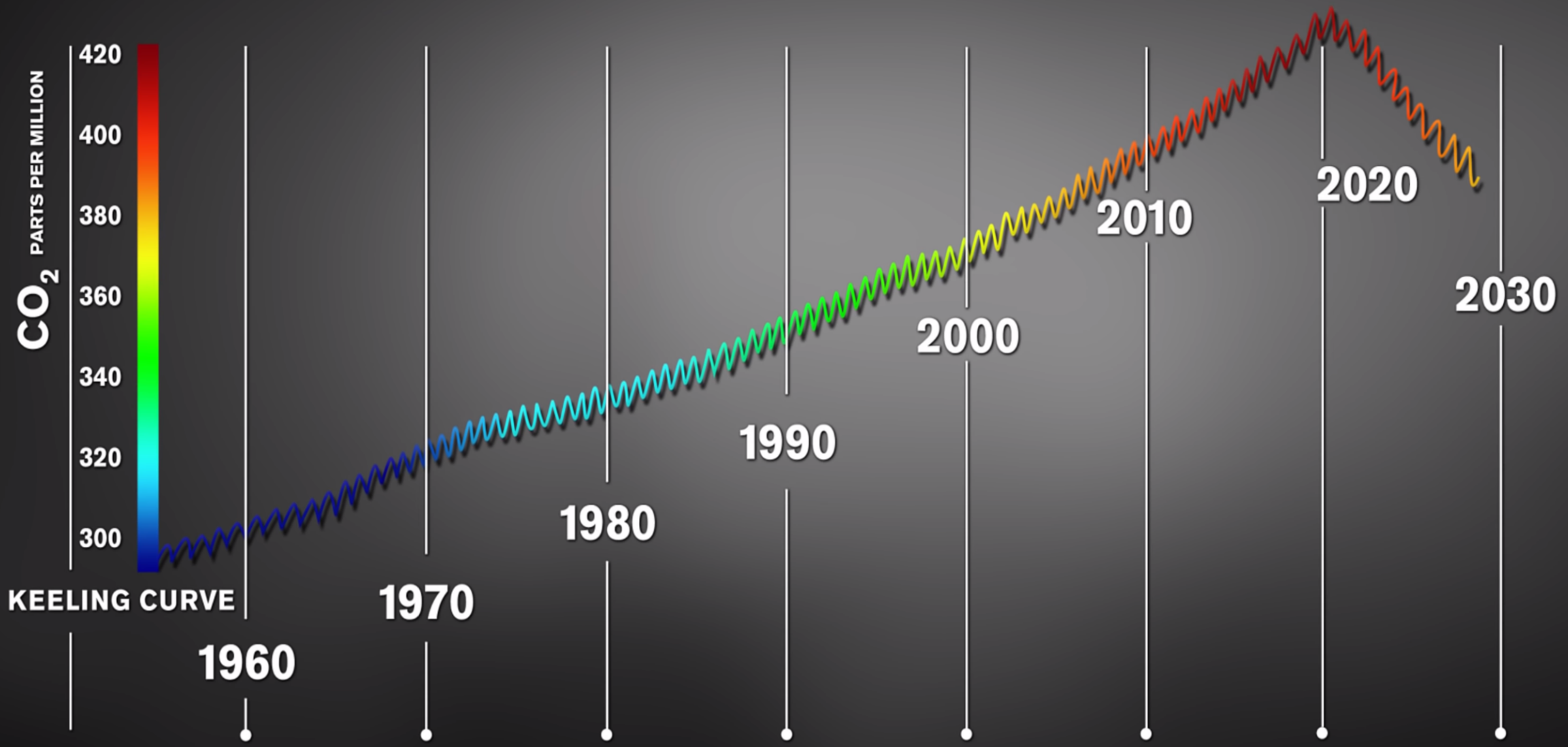




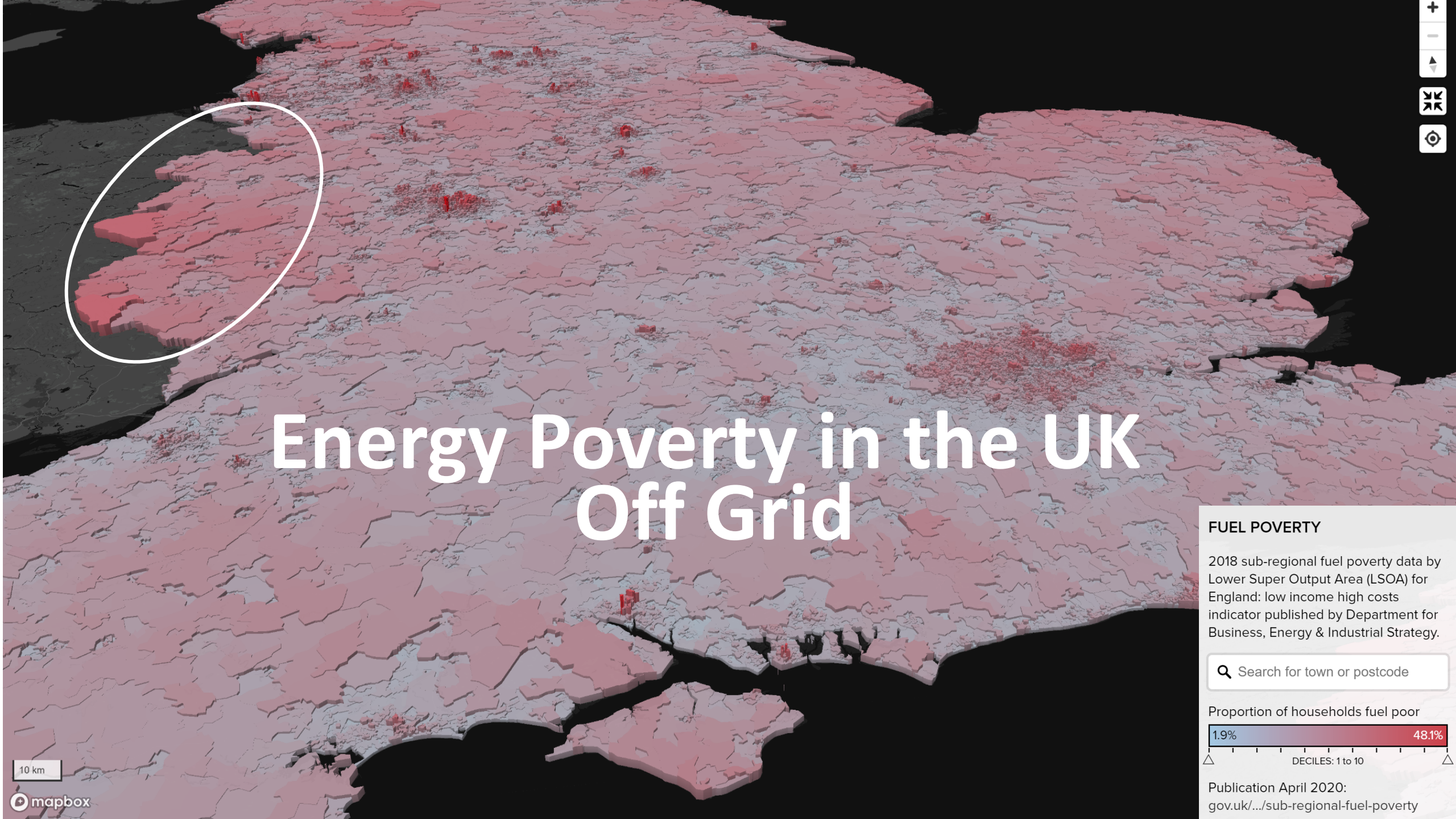
I CAN'T BREATHE

BLACK LIVES MATTER

DRAWDOWN


CO_2 PARTS PER MILLION
420
400
380
360
340
320
300
KEELING CURVE
1960
1970
1980
1990
2000
2010
2020
2030

Decarbonising our Energy


Energy Poverty in the UK
Off Grid
FUEL POVERTY
2018 sub-regional fuel poverty data by Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) for England: low income high costs indicator published by Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy.
Search for town or postcode
Proportion of households fuel poor
1.9%
48.1%
DECILES: 1 to 10
Publication April 2020:
gov.uk/.../sub-regional-fuel-poverty
10 km
mapbox

Place Matters

People Place Goods and Services

Reducing carbon in a global economy

Decarbonising how we get our goods

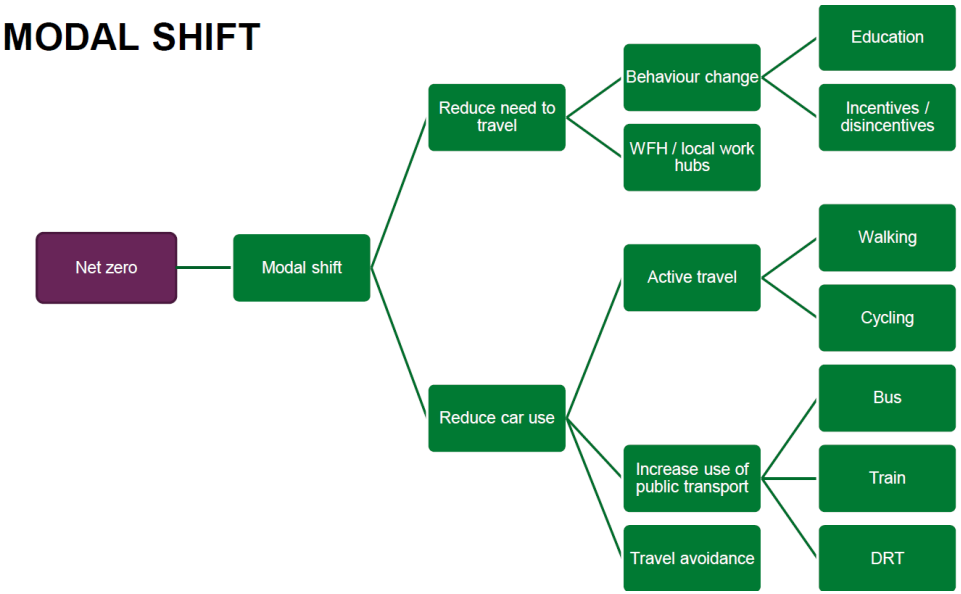
UK as a hub for green transport technology and innovation

Decarbonisation of road vehicles

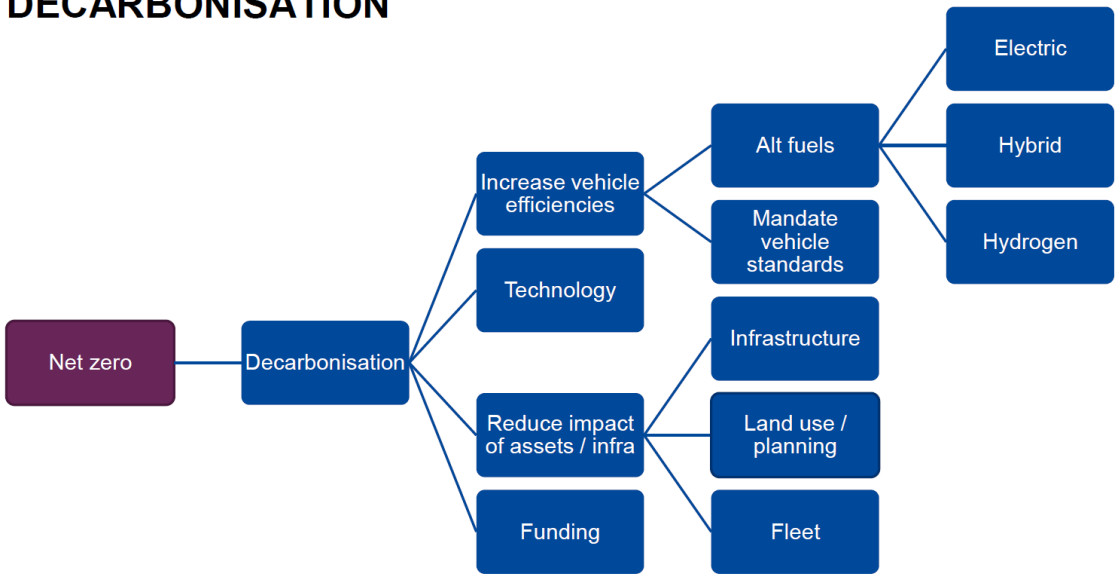
Accelerating modal shift to public and active transport

Place-based solutions

MODAL SHIFT



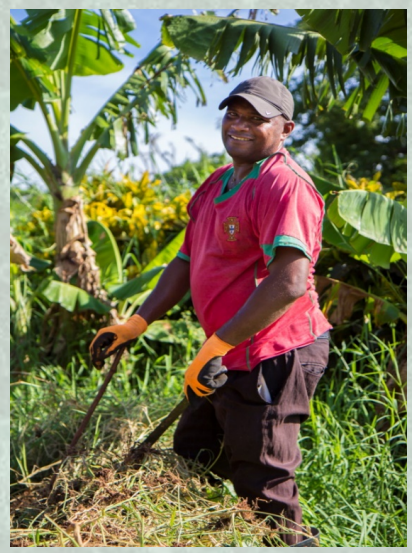
DECARBONISATION

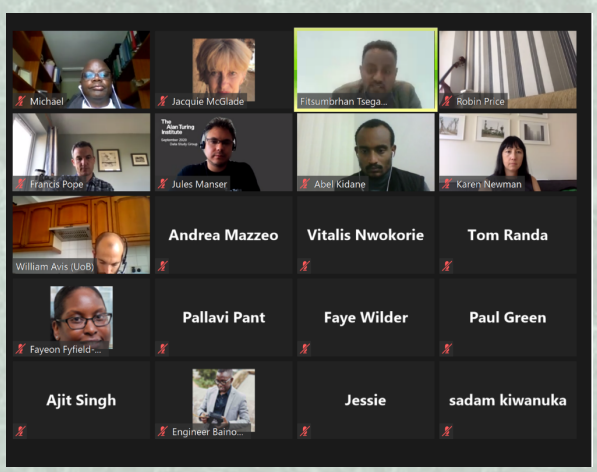


Essex Climate Action Commission 2020

New Global Communities

Regenerative Agriculture Air Quality Battery Technologies One Health and Pesticides

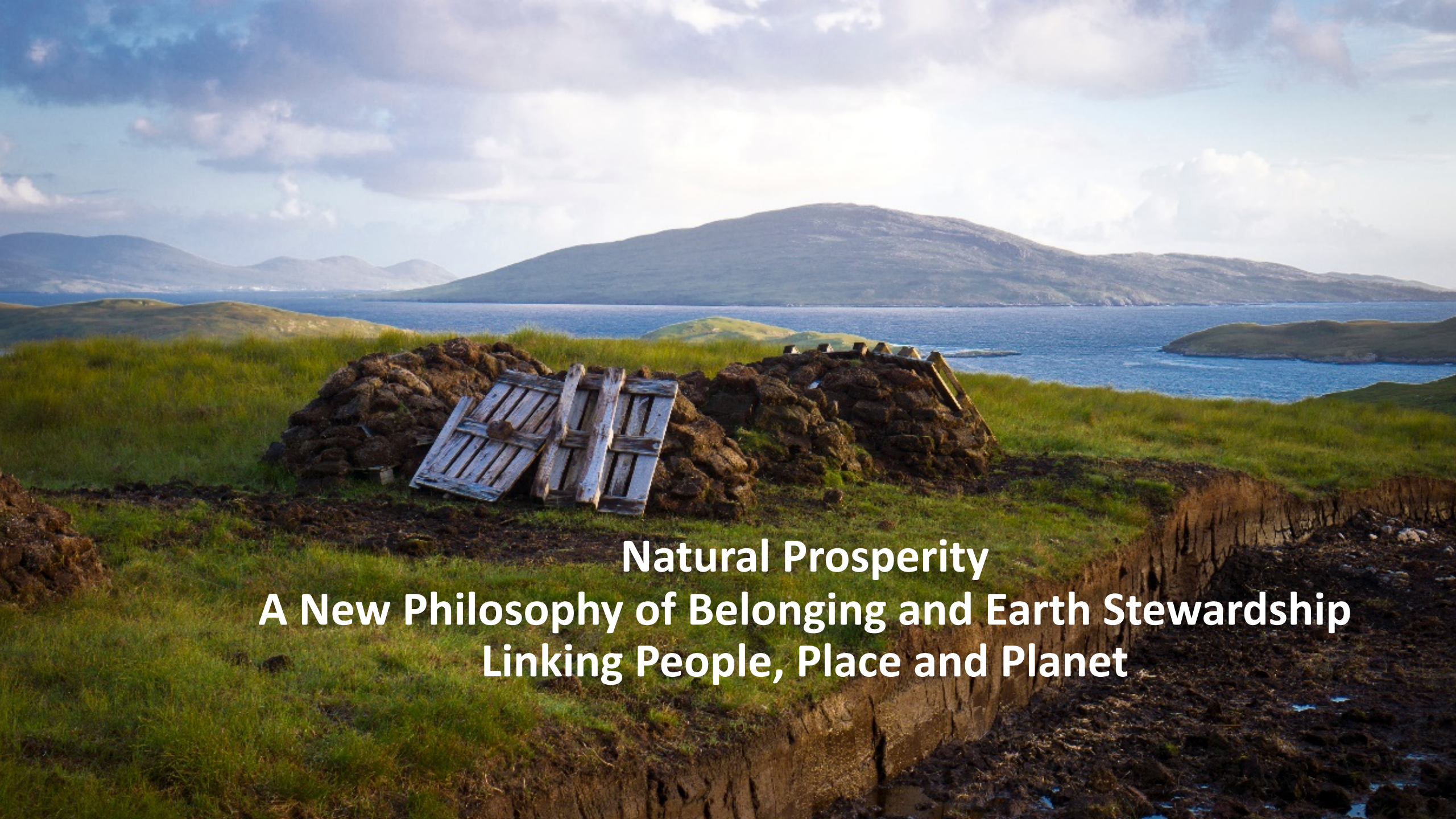




New and Ancient Narratives about Connectedness and Meaningfulness

Narratives transmit the meanings, values, knowledge and understanding between people in different parts of society and the economy

Connectedness affects multiple aspects of human life and endeavour, from cognitive development and longevity to social cohesion, security and perceptions of risk, justice and equity and helps to create meaningfulness in people's lives.


Natural Prosperity
A New Philosophy of Belonging and Earth Stewardship
Linking People, Place and Planet