

CHAPTER 2: LMD logistics operations and impacts

UNIT 4: Society Current Demands and Trends

Capsule 2.4.3

Doughnut Economics



To be done prior to this capsule:

No previous additional knowledge is needed

Capsule linked with:

1.3.5, 1.4.6, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.3.2, 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.4, 3.3.1, 3.3.3, 3.4.5. Special direct link with capsules from this Unit 2.4.

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Objectives of the Capsule

The aim of this capsule is to present the Doughnut Economics concept, as the challenge of the global economy to meet the needs of all within the means of the planet.

Category	E-learning	EQF		
		4	5	6
			X	X

Exercises included	YES
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Effort for the capsule	Content 15 Min.	Exercises 4 Min.	Extra material - Min.
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Contents

1. What is the Doughnut?
2. What is Doughnut Economics?
3. The Mobility Doughnut

1. What is the Doughnut?

“Doughnut economy” describes the challenge of the global economy to **meet the needs of all within the means of the planet** (1).

But... before focusing on the “Doughnut Economics” concept, it is important to explain first, what the “Doughnut” is.

*“The **Doughnut** offers a vision of what it means for humanity to thrive in the 21st century - and **Doughnut Economics** explores the mindset and ways of thinking needed to get us there” (2).*

So, what is the Doughnut?

The Doughnut can be described as a compass for human prosperity in the 21st century, with the aim of meeting the needs of all people within the means of the living planet. It sets a vision for the future.



Image: (3)

1. What is the Doughnut?

The Doughnut consists of two concentric rings:

- a **social foundation**, to ensure that no one is left falling short on life's essentials, and
- an **ecological ceiling**, to ensure that humanity does not collectively overshoot the planetary boundaries that protect Earth's life-supporting systems.

Between these two sets of boundaries lies a doughnut-shaped space that is **both ecologically safe and socially just**: a space in which **humanity can thrive** (2).

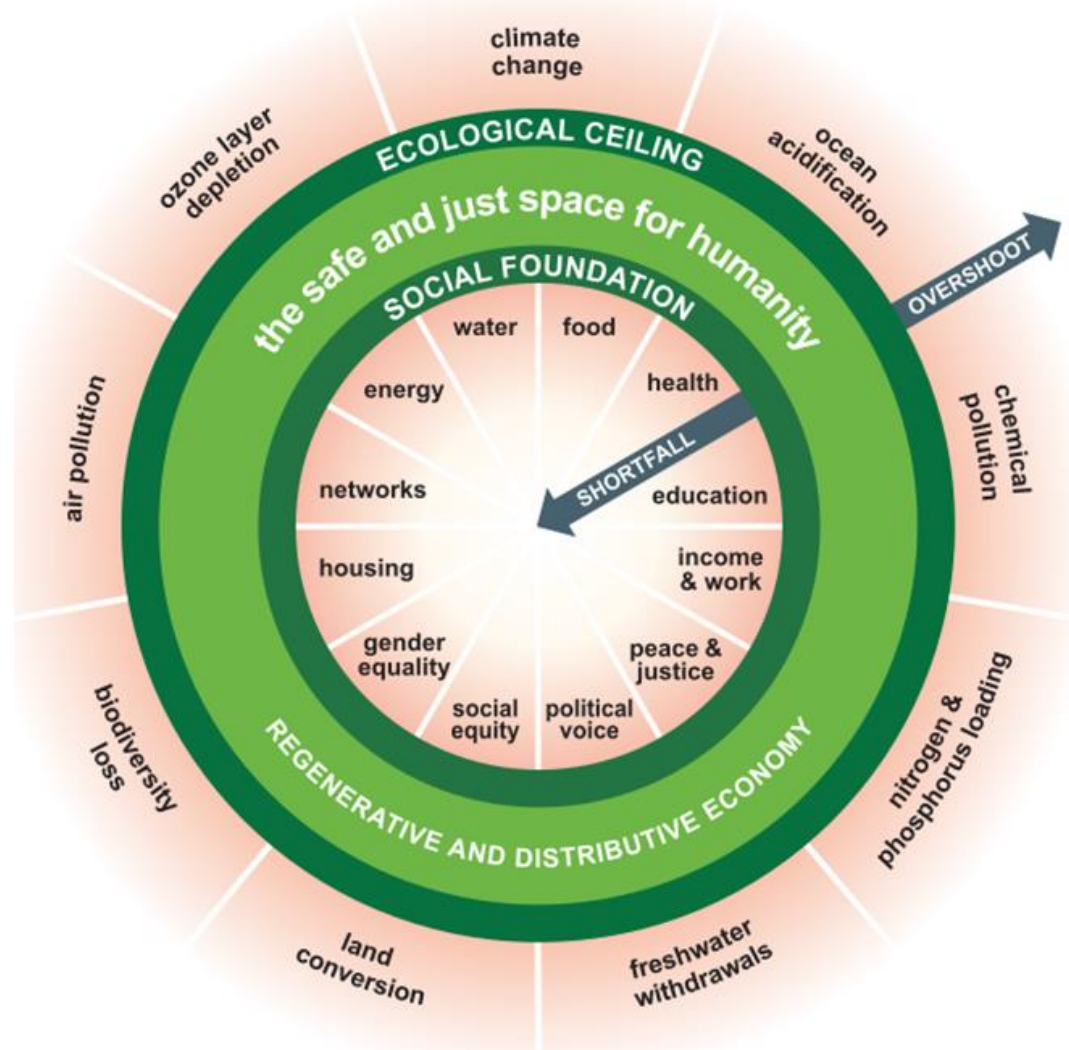


Image: (2)

1. What is the Doughnut?

So, let's better understand these concepts:

- **Social foundation**: internationally agreed social minimum standards, including 12 basic human needs, such as Health, Food, Social Equity, or Education. These categories are established through the Sustainable Development Goals.
 - **Ecological ceiling**: environmental limits of economic activity, based on the planetary boundaries.
- **Planetary Boundaries**: environmental limits within which humanity can safely operate. It consists of nine processes that regulate the stability and resilience of the Earth system.



Image: (3)

1. What is the Doughnut?

Five out of nine 'planetary boundaries' have been transgressed!

extinction rate, deforestation, atmospheric CO₂, the flow of nitrogen and phosphorus and the one for environmental pollutants, including plastics (novel entities) (4) (5).

- The green zone is the **safe operating space (below boundary)**
- The orange zone is the **exceeded zone (beyond boundary)**.

The planetary boundary itself lies at the **intersection of the green and orange zones**.

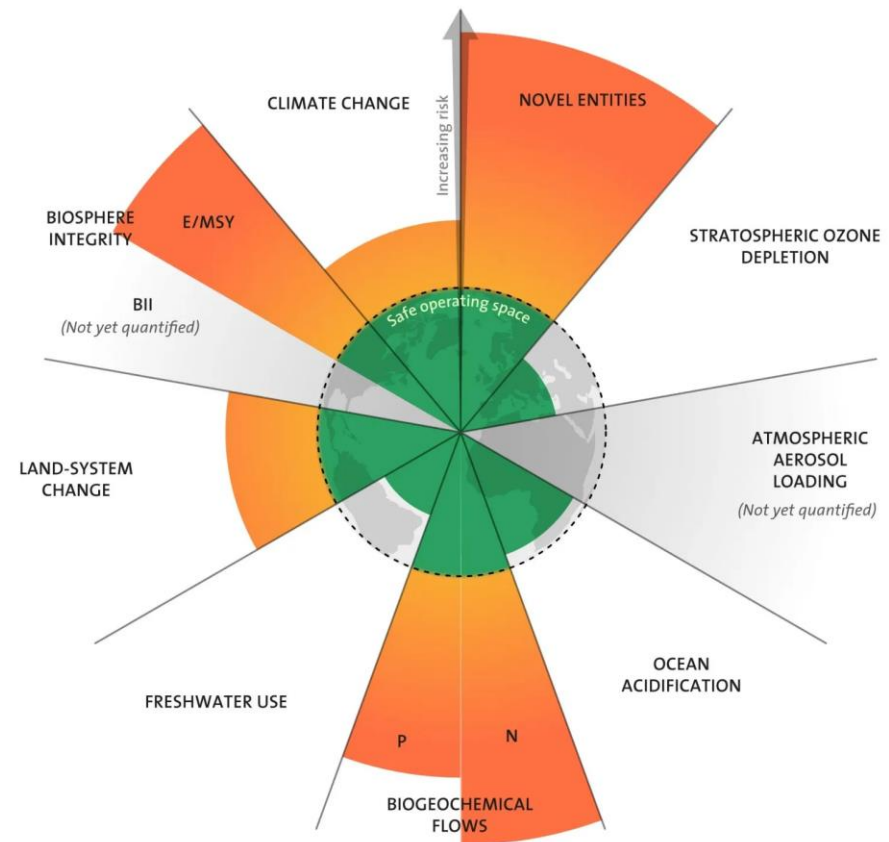


Image: (6)

2. What is the Doughnut Economics?

**The Doughnut Economics
requires a change of
paradigm!**

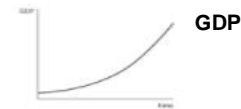
Doughnut Economics proposes **an economic mindset**, in order to get the Doughnut; it's not a set of policies and institutions, but rather **a way of thinking** that brings about the regenerative and distributive dynamics. It sets out seven ways to think in order to bring the world's economies into the safe and just space for humanity (2).

Seven Ways to Think:

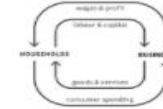
From 20th-Century Economics

To 21st-Century Economics

1. Change the Goal



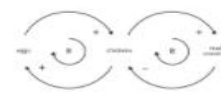
2. See the Big Picture



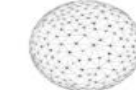
3. Nurture Human Nature



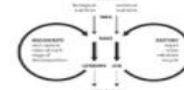
4. Get Savvy with Systems



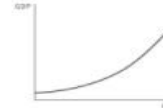
5. Design to Distribute



6. Create to Regenerate



7. Be Agnostic about Growth



2. What is the Doughnut Economics?

Watch this interesting video about the Doughnut Economics!

Featured by Kate Raworth, creator of the concept.



(7) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ziw-wK03TSw> (duration: 6.30).

3. The Mobility Doughnut

The Doughnut Economics approach can be adapted to the cities and to the Mobility sector:
The Mobility Doughnut (7).

The Mobility Doughnut is a balancing act between a social foundation for mobility and the limits of the earth's ecosystem. What falls on the outside of the Doughnut is too much: **excessive mobility**. This can lead to damage and high costs for the environment.

On the inside of the Doughnut, '**basic mobility**' is the limit. When a person falls below this limit, this is called **mobility poverty** and has negative results for the individual and for society as a whole. The time, money, space and energy that we spend on the 'too much' is no longer available for the inside of the Mobility Poverty Dot.

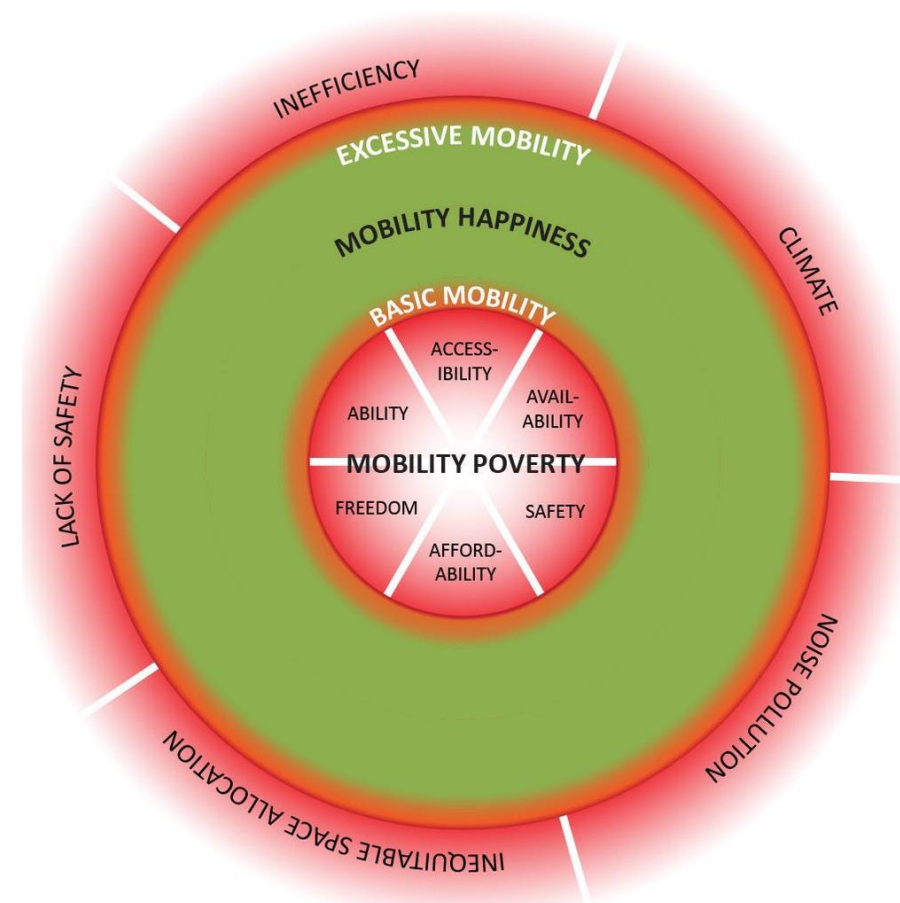


Image: (8)

Capsule's validation quiz

The following quiz represents 5 questions you will have to answer to confirm your understanding of the present capsule.

Each correct answer is worth 1 point. No point for errors.



Self-evaluation quiz

Question n°1 :

Which term does describe the challenge of the global economy to meet the needs of all within the means of the planet?

Sustainable Development

Paris Agreement

Doughnut Economy

Agenda 2030

Self-evaluation quiz

Question n°2 :

According to the Doughnut, which is the space that is both ecologically safe and socially just, where humanity can thrive?

Above ecological ceiling ring

Between social foundation and ecological ceiling rings

Below social foundation ring

There is not a space that is both ecologically safe and socially just

Self-evaluation quiz

Question n°3 :

How many planetary boundaries have been transgressed already?

None

8 out of 9

2 out of 9

5 out of 9

Self-evaluation quiz

Question n°4 :

Which of the following options is not a characteristic of the economic mindset proposed by the Doughnut Economics?

Mechanical equilibrium

Regenerative by design

Distributive by design

Social adaptable humans

Self-evaluation quiz

Question n°5 :

Which term refers to the situation where a person falls below the “basic mobility” limit, within the Mobility Doughnut?

Mobility happiness

Excessive mobility

Mobility ring

Mobility poverty

References

- (1) Raworth, K. (2017). *Doughnut economics: 7 ways to think like a 21st-century economist*. Random House.
- (2) Doughnut Economics Action Lab. *About Doughnut Economics*. Retrieved March 16, 2022, from <https://doughnuteconomics.org/about-doughnut-economics>
- (3) Pixabay. Free images website. Retrieved June 6, 2022, from <https://pixabay.com>
- (4) Steffen, W., Richardson, K., Rockström, J., Cornell, S.E., Fetzer, I., Bennett, E.M., Biggs, R., Carpenter, S.R., de Vries, W., de Wit, C.A., Folke, C., Gerten, D., Heinke, J., Mace, G.M., Persson, L.M., Ramanathan, V., Reyers, B., & Sörlin, S. (2015). Planetary boundaries: Guiding human development on a changing planet. *Science*, 347(6223). <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.1259855>
- (5) Wickman, J (2022, January 18). Euronews: Another planetary boundary exceeded. *SEI – Stockholm Environment Institute*. <https://www.sei.org/about-sei/press-room/euronews-another-planetary-boundary-exceeded/>
- (6) Stockholm Resilience Centre. (2022, January 18). *Sci Tech Daily: Earth's Safe Planetary Boundary for Pollutants – Including Plastics – Exceeded*. <https://scitechdaily.com/earths-safe-planetary-boundary-for-pollutants-including-plastics-exceeded/>
- (7) BBC Reel. (2020, June 29). *How the Dutch are reshaping their post-pandemic economy* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ziw-wK03TSw>
- (8) Mobycon. *The elements of the Mobility Donut: Finding the balance*. Retrieved June 6, 2022, from <https://mobycon.com/updates/the-elements-of-the-mobility-donut-finding-the-balance/>