

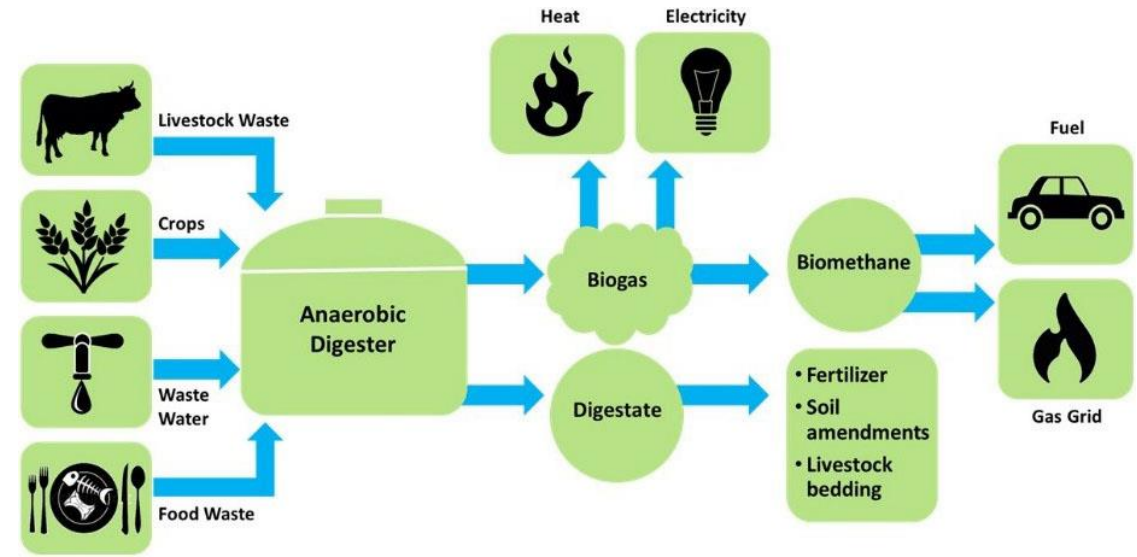
Felm¹⁸⁵⁹

Making Sustainable
Economies -
indicators for people
and planet

Twitter: Nhumalisto /

Email. niko.humalisto@felm.org /

Mob. +358 40 757 4036



Background

Academia: Biofuels and undoing excess materials in circular economy

In NGOs: Human rights in planetary boundary fitting economies



Finnish EU presidency: SUSTAINABLE EUROPE – SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Saving the cake, eating the cake:

“to make the EU more competitive and socially inclusive”

“to promote sustainable growth and combat climate change”

“the need to protect the Arctic region’s stability and particularly its fragile natural environment, and to safeguard the region’s economic potential and employment prospects”

→ All assertions are subsumed under the broad rubric of ‘sustainable economies’

SUSTAINABLE EUROPE – SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Finland's Presidency Programme

Presidency of the Council of the European Union
1 July – 31 December 2019



“The European model of wellbeing is based on economic growth”

→ service economy, circular economy, human-driven data economy, sustainable economy, economy of wellbeing, inclusive economy, platform economy, bioeconomy, low-carbon economy

SUSTAINABLE EUROPE –
SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: economies



Reality check on the economic model

Consensus: planetary boundaries fitting, fair economies for all

Contested: visions, realities and policy targets

Risk: Perpetuating debates on ideals rather than shared aims, tools and evaluation

Beyond Growth

Indicators and politics for people and planet

28-29 October 2019



A way out: INDICATORS

- **Perception:** indicators as powerful actors – act as technologies of governance, exercise veiled power, bend policy targets by their gravity
- **Benefits:** evidence-based decision-making, democratic participation, politicizes the existing models of governance, makes vague economy models tangible, does not necessitate a shared vision of the economy as a whole

A way out: INDICATORS



TECHNOCRAT

HEIGHT: 5'10"

WEIGHT: 170 lbs.

EYES: Brown

HAIR: Black, with whiteat temples

Potential problem and mitigation:

- technocratic ethos → participation and co-creation
- budgetary constraints → defining responsibilities
- competency constraints → long-term commitments and sharing responsibilities
- ownership issues → methodology and data transparency
- indicators as curiosities → incorporation of rights metrics to right policy processes

Some recommendations to the EU

- **CREATE:** Agree and adopt a common set (a dashboard?) of sustainability and wellbeing indicators – locate relevant institutions
- **TRANSFORM:** the Stability and Growth Pact → Sustainability and Wellbeing Pact
- **IMPLEMENT:** Use and refer regularly to wellbeing and sustainability measures in EU strategies, policies and statements
- **DISSEMINATE:** Advance sustainable development through global trade measures based on the climate disruptiveness or environmental harmfulness of production.

ANIMATION:

<https://vimeo.com/347333037>