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Environment : Sustainable Development

Meyer, Kate, Newman, Peter

Planetary Accounting

Quantifying How to Live Within Planetary Limits at Different Scales of Human Activity

- Addresses the political and behavioural as well as the scientific problems that we are facing today
- Introduces the novel concepts of Planetary Quotas and the Planetary Accounting framework – the first scalable and actionable framework of planetary limits derived from the much-quoted Planetary Boundaries – in a comprehensible format for all levels of action.
- Shows how every person can take responsibility as “kaitiaki” (stewards) of our planet.
- Provides tangible details, helping the reader to understand how the novel elements of the book can be applied to real-world situations.
- Extends for the first time the concept of carbon accounting to encompass other key global,

This book presents a novel way to enable people, regardless of their scale of influence, to take responsibility for global environmental problems including climate change. It introduces a new framework called Planetary Accounting, which allows the Planetary Boundaries, non-negotiable limits for the environment, to be translated into limits for human activity. It shows how such limits can be broken down into chunks that can be managed at different levels (from individual and community, to business and sector levels, to cities and regions), and at any level of government. The book begins by summarising the science of climate change and introducing the notion of the Anthropocene – the “human age”. It highlights the importance of returning to and remaining within the Planetary Boundaries but shows that we can't realistically do so unless we have a new approach to environmental accounting. The book then outlines how Planetary Accounting furnishes this new approach by combining sustainability science, change theory, and environmental accounting to create a scalable framework for environmental management that encourages systemic and individual change. The details of the science of and our human contribution to ten critical human pressures are then presented, and the book concludes with a guide for those seeking to apply Planetary Accounting in practice.

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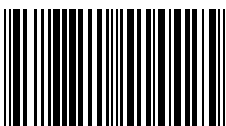
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