Planetary boundaries - Europe’s life on a knife-edge

Webinar by MEPs Jutta Paulus and Sven Giegold, 11.6.2020

Switzerland
Policy – Experiences from Planetary Boundaries and Economics Section
Federal Office for the Environment FOEN
Transport, Energy and Communications DETE
Federal Department of the Environment, Switzerland
**Experiences from Switzerland**

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**Europe: Global sustainability leader?**


https://dashboards.sdgindex.org
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«Doughnut»: A stronger message

See https://www.kateraworth.com/doughnut

Source: Kate Raworth

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Footprints related to Swiss consumption

Source: FOEN

Footprints related to Swiss consumption

Development of the foreign share of selected footprints for Switzerland

Footprints: Bring the demand-side of the economy on board!
The map highlights countries from which Switzerland imports large quantities of high-impact products. Quelle: basierend auf Frischknecht et al. (2018)
Switzerland’s Greenhouse gas footprint per capita

Source: Calculations Freeze and Rüttler Soccó (2018)

Is decoupling enough?
Sources: Dao et al. (2015), Frischknecht et al. 2018
Lessons learnt

Assessing footprints against planetary boundaries leads to a fundamentally different assessment of the magnitude of the need for action.

Footprint perspective leads to a fundamentally different assessment than territorial perspective.

Act along the whole product chain!
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Vision: the Swiss version of “living within” the quantitative and qualitative capacity and usage limits of the planet’s natural resources are respected along the entire value chain, and natural resources are used sparingly.

Environmental impacts are kept low along the entire value chain, and natural resources are used sparingly.

«The quantitative and qualitative capacity and usage limits of the planet’s natural resources are respected.»

https://www.are.admin.ch/are/de/home/nachhaltige-entwicklung/politik-und-strategie/strategie-nachhaltige-entwicklung-2016-2019.html
Strategic anchors for systemic change in a national context

➢ Develop a vision for critical systems
➢ Act beyond thematic and sectoral policies
➢ Set footprint targets
➢ Identify hot spots along the value chain
➢ Transportation
➢ Housing
➢ Food

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<th>Actors</th>
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Balance our diets

Love food, fight waste

Farm follows fork (and vice-versa)

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Thank you