

Finland´s sustainability assessment

- ESDN conference, Stockholm 16.3.2023
- Eeva Furman, Secretary General, Prime Minister´s Office, Finland

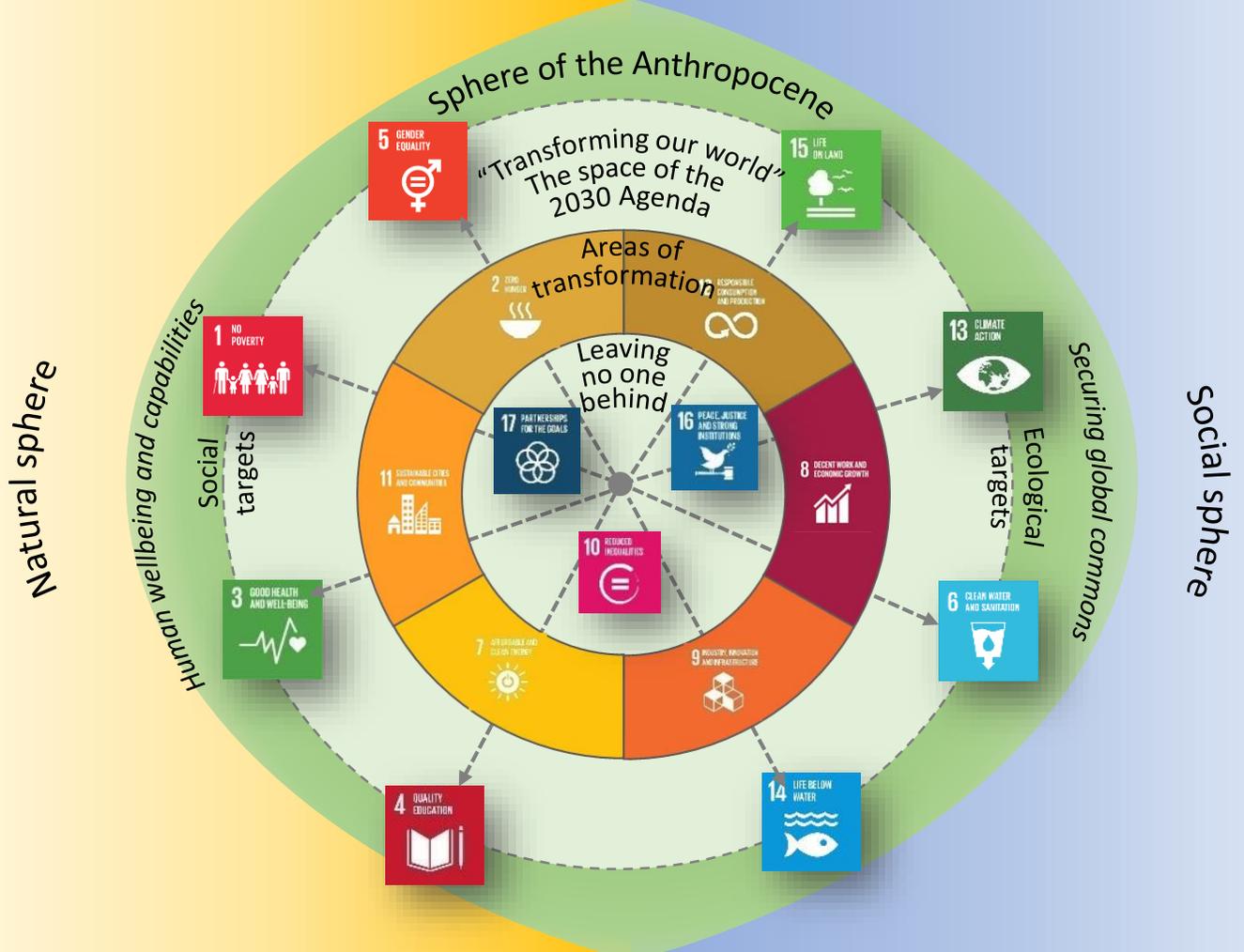
Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development

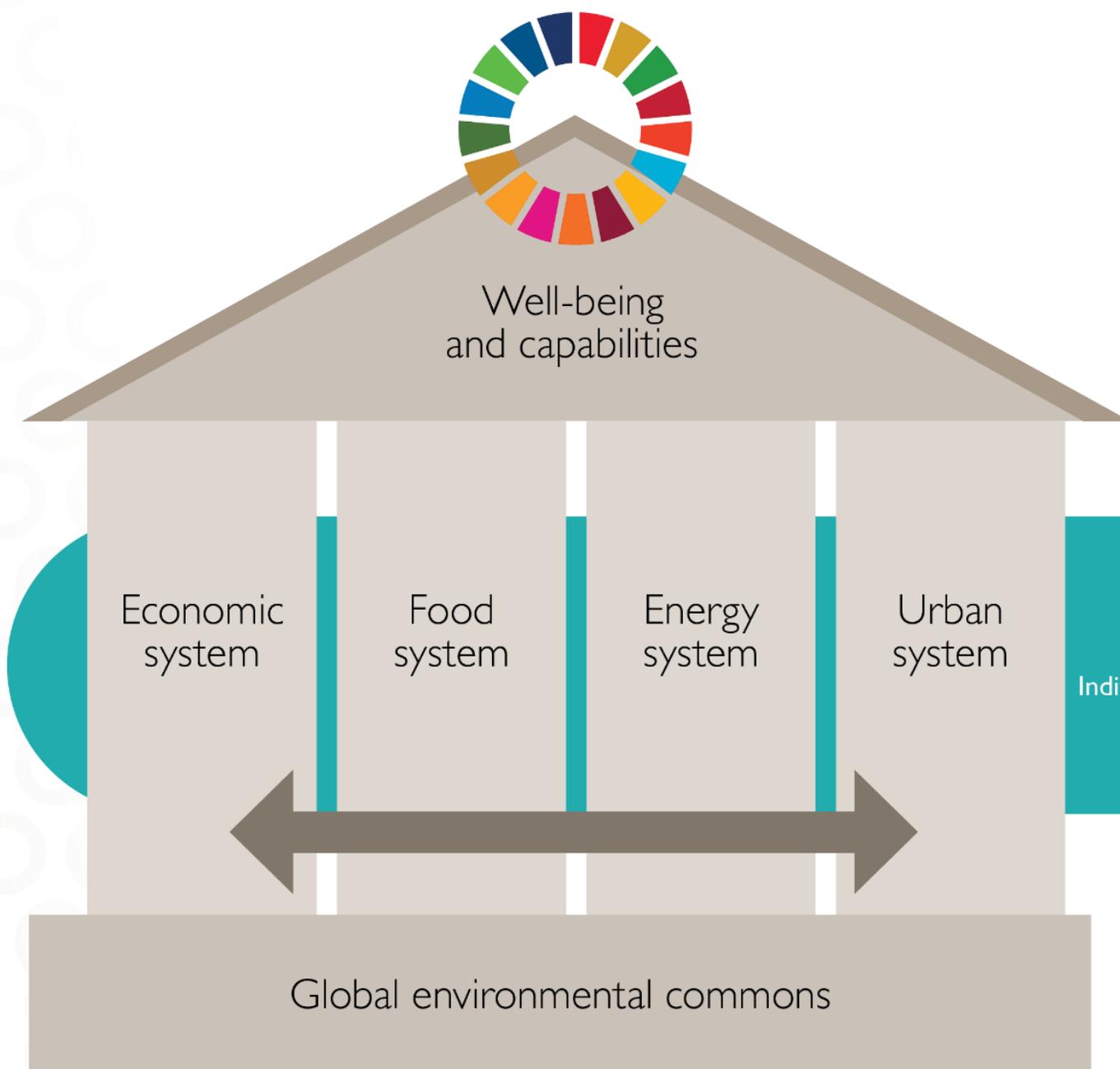


Suomen kestävän kehityksen toimikunta
Finlands kommission för hållbar utveckling
Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development

- Brings together key stakeholders of Finnish society. The Commission has been functioning since 1993, chaired by the Prime Minister.
- About 120 members and deputies from different sectors of society.
- The key task is to speed up the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and link it to the national work on sustainable development.
- Also monitors and assesses the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Finland.
- Current chair and vice-chairs: Prime Minister Sanna Marin, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Maria Ohisalo, Minister of Finance Annika Saarikko.

Integrated Agenda2030 for sustainable development





Towards a strong sustainability

Pathways:

Governance
Economy and finance
Individual and collective action
Science and technology

The house of sustainability transformation

Strategy of the National Commission on Sustainable Development 2022– 2030

*” A prosperous and globally responsible
Finland that protects the carrying capacity
of nature”*

*Aims to create and speed up system level
changes in the Finnish society*

Six areas of societal transformation



Strategy of the National Commission on Sustainable Development 2022– 2030

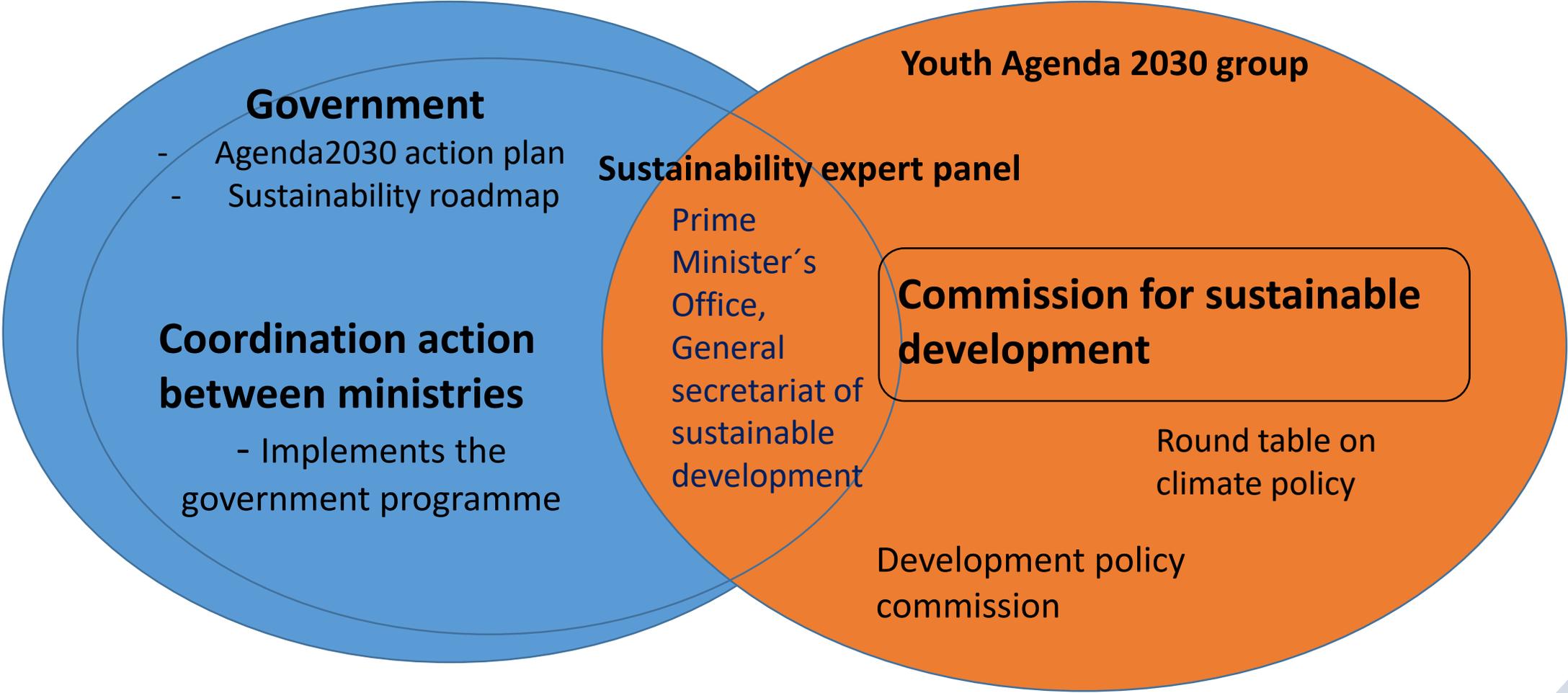
Monitoring to be started these
weeks

*Aims to create and speed up system level
changes in the Finnish society*

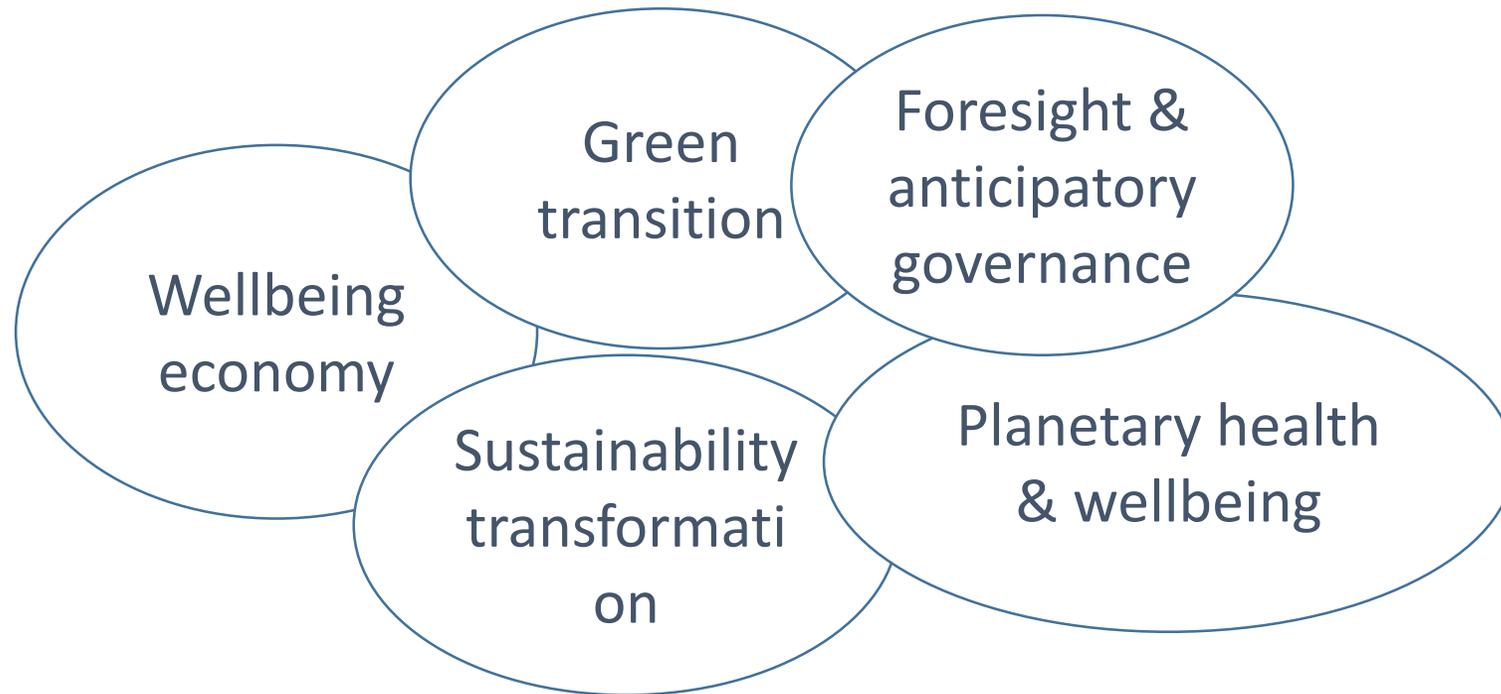
Six areas of societal transformation



The two dimensions of Finland's sustainable development framework



Several approaches to sustainability within the government



Roundtable discussions on sustainability thinking

- Aim to create collective understanding within government on sustainability assessment and identify ways to bring sustainability thinking more strongly into governance and cross governmental planning and decision making processes

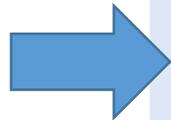
2023



Government's Sustainability Roadmap

Progress made and topics for further preparation
– Executive Summary

- Sanna Marin's government: social, ecological and economic sustainability and interlinkages.
- Also analysis on experiences from other countries



Lessons learned⁸ i.e. factors that promote making sustainability review a part of policymaking:

Accountability and debate

- Legislation secures long-term change
- Independent oversight may promote adherence to commitments
- Public participation is important also after the wellbeing framework planning stage
- Involving parliaments provides an important forum for debate

Coordination and tools

- Leadership plays a major role in promoting widespread adoption of the sustainability approach and internal culture change in central government
- Mechanisms and incentives are needed to foster intra-administrative collaboration
- Developing analytical tools with and for government helps put sustainability goals into practice
- Peer learning is key



Aim: a comprehensive sustainability governance
model for Finland

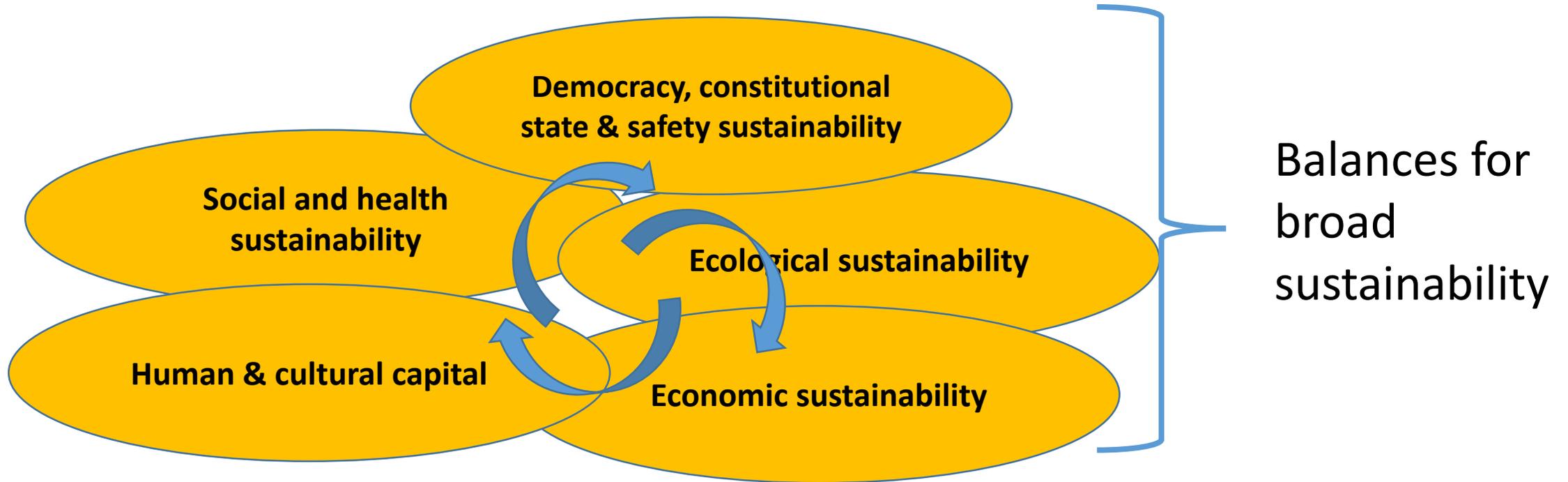
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from political government to policy government in long term



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Prime minister's office: Sustainability assessments to start soon

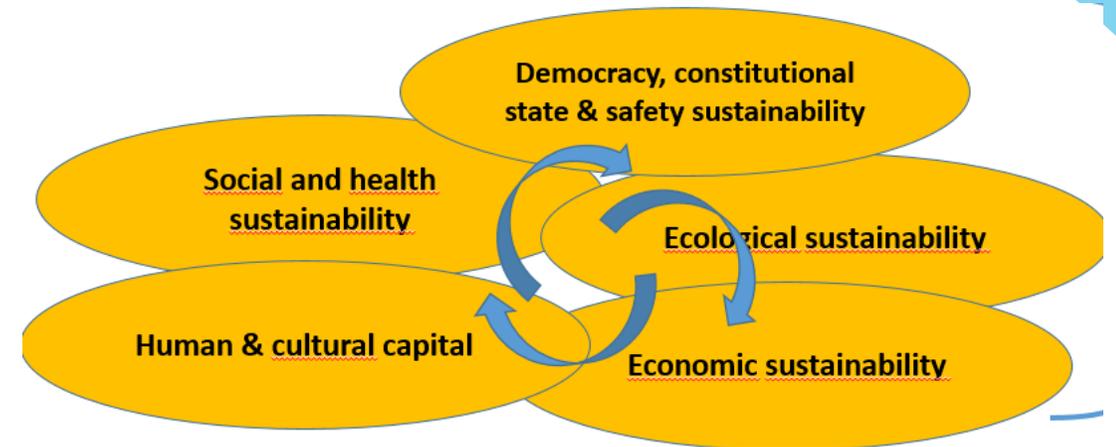


Broad sustainability assessed through 10-15 societally relevant themes on yearly basis: present stage as well as future scenarios beyond 8 years

What are the themes? Under progress...

Maybe these themes, still open: ???

- Lifestyle disorders
- Poverty
- Children's mental and physical health
- Carbon balance
- Ecosystem services
- Spillovers
- Green & wellbeing economy
- STI
- Eco-bildung
- Security
- Regional livelihoods
- Education level
- ecowelfare
- Rights to legal processes
- Participation in international peace /military efforts
- Sustainable consumption
- Emigration/immigration for work



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Two dimensions of sustainability assessment

present state

- Scientific literature
- Indicators and real time monitoring systems
- Interviews and workshops

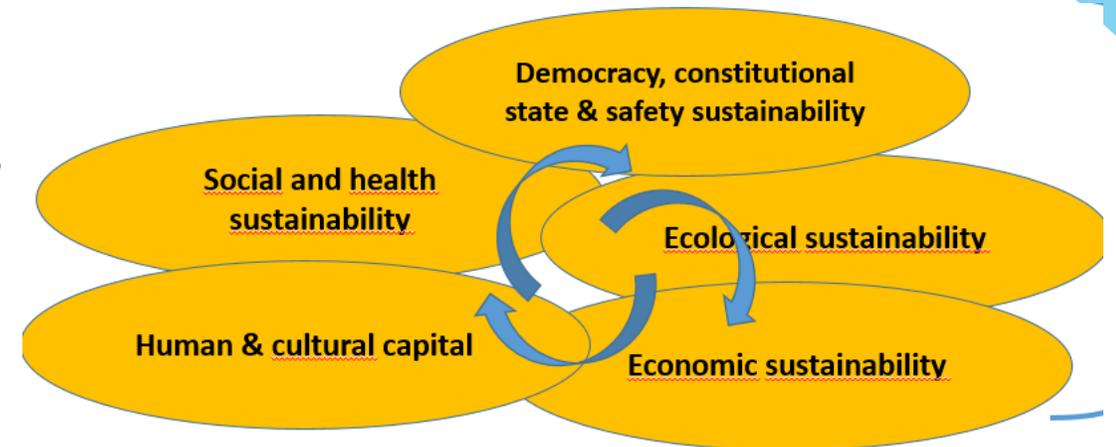
future scenarios

- 2-4 scenarios
- Collective scenario building workshops
- interviews

- Separately for science and policy
- Basis on existing and planned steering mechanisms

Using a broad ecosystem of actors

- **Cross ministerial collaboration** on themes and data
- **Expert panel for Sustainable Development:** methods, data and understanding for assessments
- **Experts from prime minister's office:** future scenario building
- **Commission for sustainable development:** society's voice



Evaluation: Finland should boost action to achieve the 2030 Agenda goals

Government analysis, assessment and research activities, Prime Minister's Office 27.2.2023 9.46

PRESS RELEASE 92/2023



Photo: Suvi-Tuuli Kankaanpää

Finland is among the leading countries in promoting sustainable development. However, in light of the current situation it may be difficult for Finland to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda. The main challenges Finland is facing are related to ecological sustainability, global responsibility and negative transboundary impacts. It is important to continue the determined and long-term efforts to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda. These are the conclusions of the evaluation report published on 27 February.

<https://kestavakehitys.fi/en/-//10616/evaluation-finland-should-boost-action-to-achieve-the-2030-agenda-goals>



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