

# Sustainable Development

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Sustainability Research Centre: *Transforming Regions*

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# Sustainability Research Centre

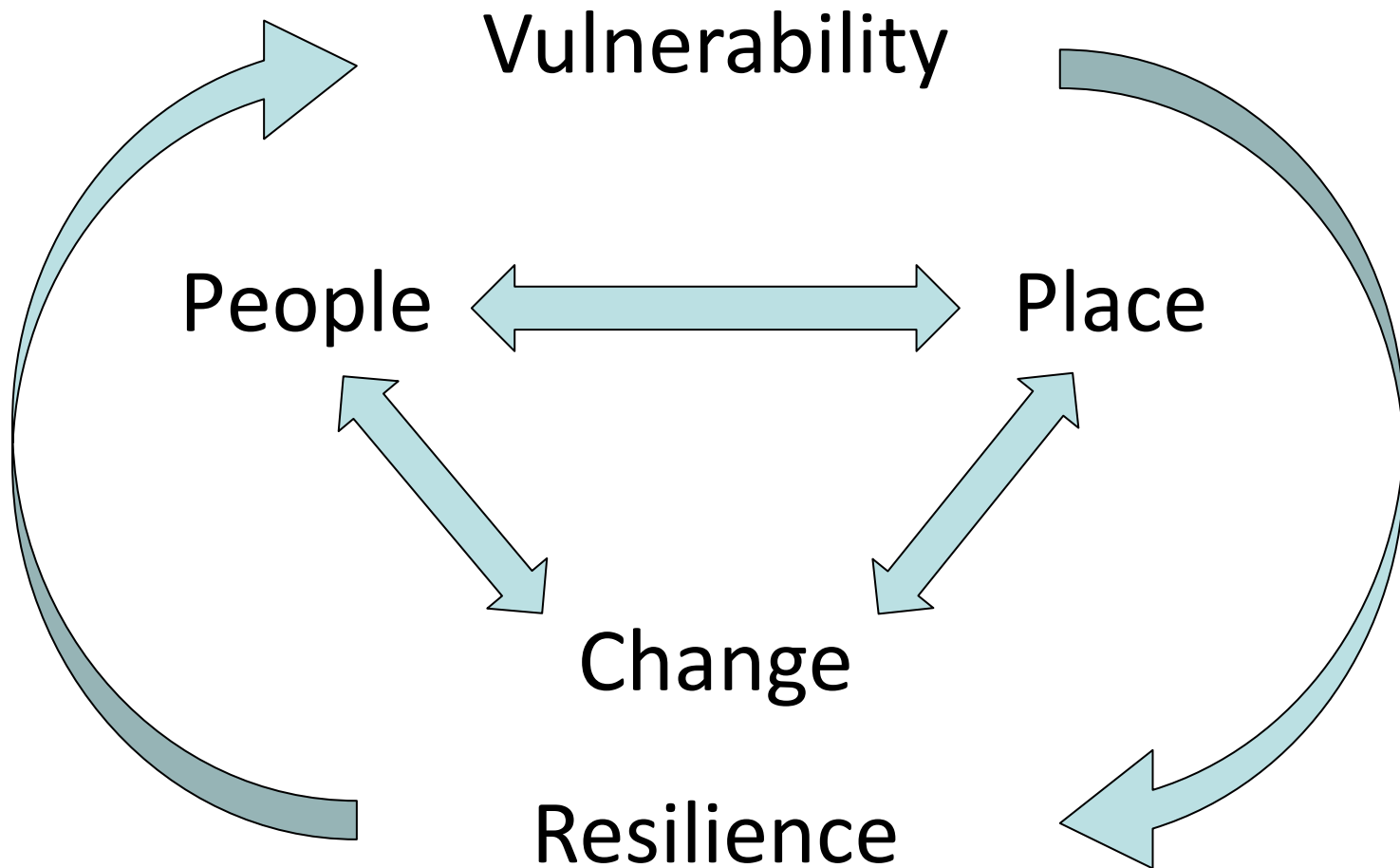
- Over 60 Researchers (including 30 PhD students)
- Operating since 2007
- Flagship Research Centre at USC



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# What we do



# Examples of current research partners



Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences



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- What is sustainability?
- What is development?



# What is sustainability?

- Meeting “the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (UN Bruntland commission)
1. Protection of the environment that supports life
  2. Biological diversity
  3. Inter- and intra-generational opportunity

# What is development?

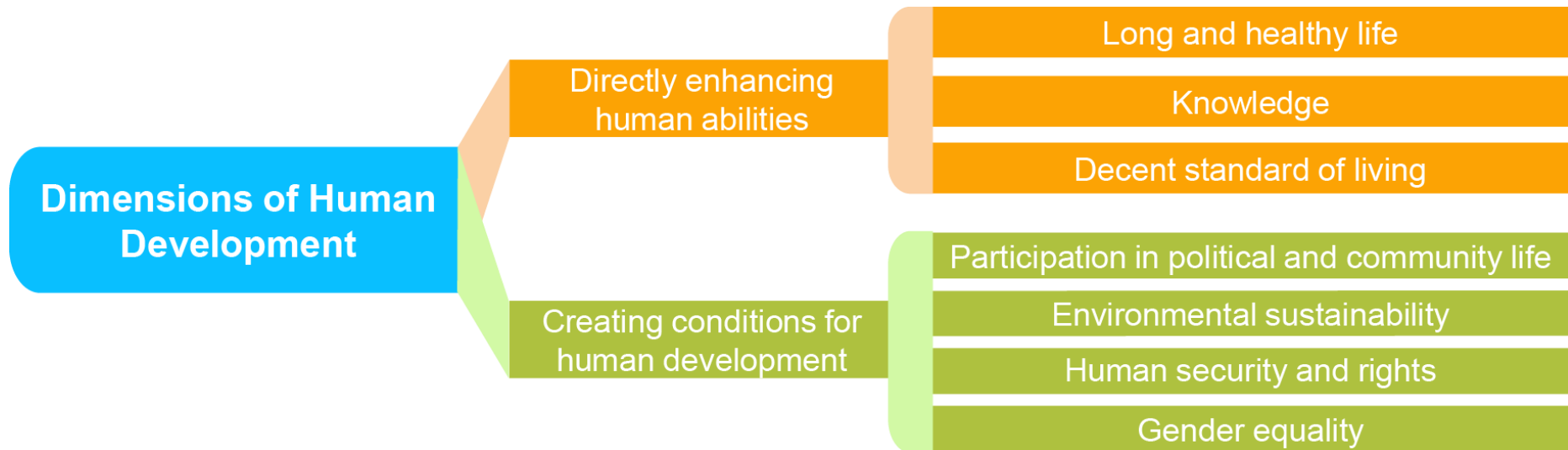
- Expanding the richness of human life ... focused on people and their opportunities and choices

1. Freedom
2. Choice
3. Opportunities

United Nations Development Programme: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/humandev>

# What is development?

- Improving the lives people lead, rather than assuming that economic growth will automatically lead to greater wellbeing for all



United Nations Development Programme: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/humandev>



# What is development?

- Improving people's well-being by ensuring an equitable, sustainable and stable planet

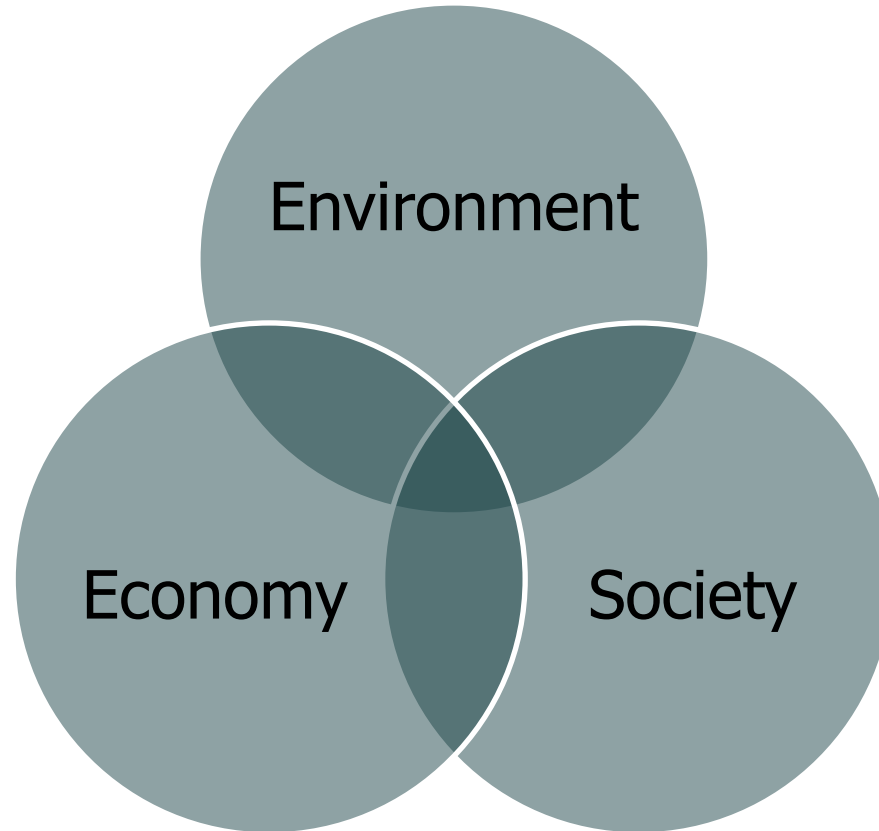
United Nations Development Programme: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/humandev>

Consumption  
Water  
Disease  
Biodiversity  
Energy  
Globalisation  
Poverty  
Population  
Waste  
Pollution  
Crime  
Transport

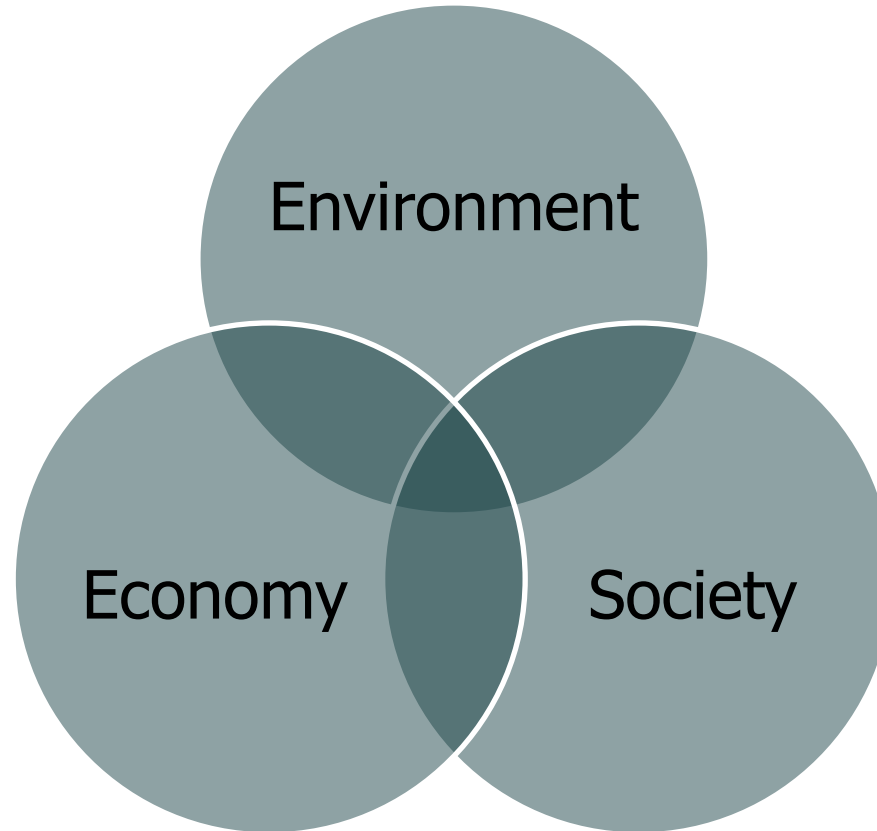
“As for the future, your task is not to foresee  
it but to enable it”

Saint-Exupery, A de 1952, *The Wisdom of the Sands*, Hollis & Carter, London (UK Edition).

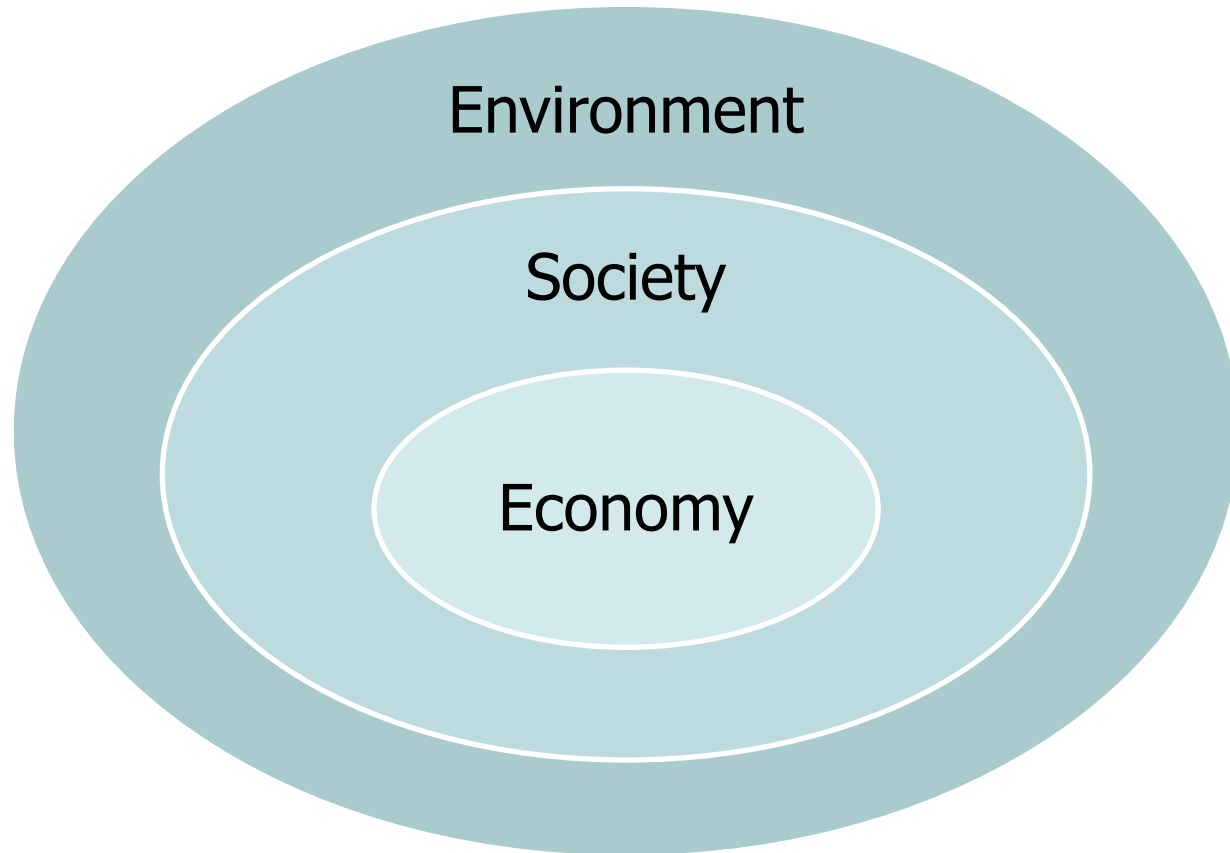
# Tradeoffs?



# Weak sustainability



# Strong sustainability

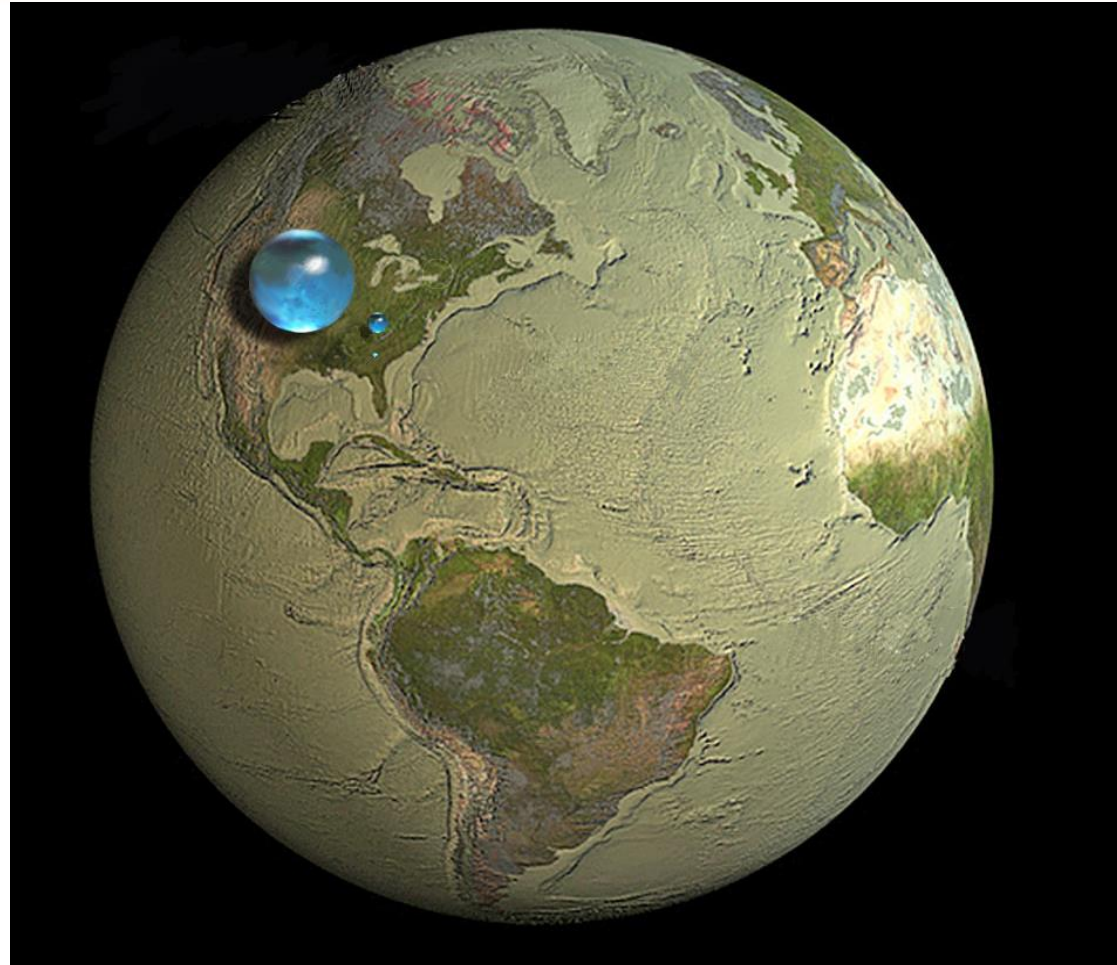


Recognising inter-dependencies



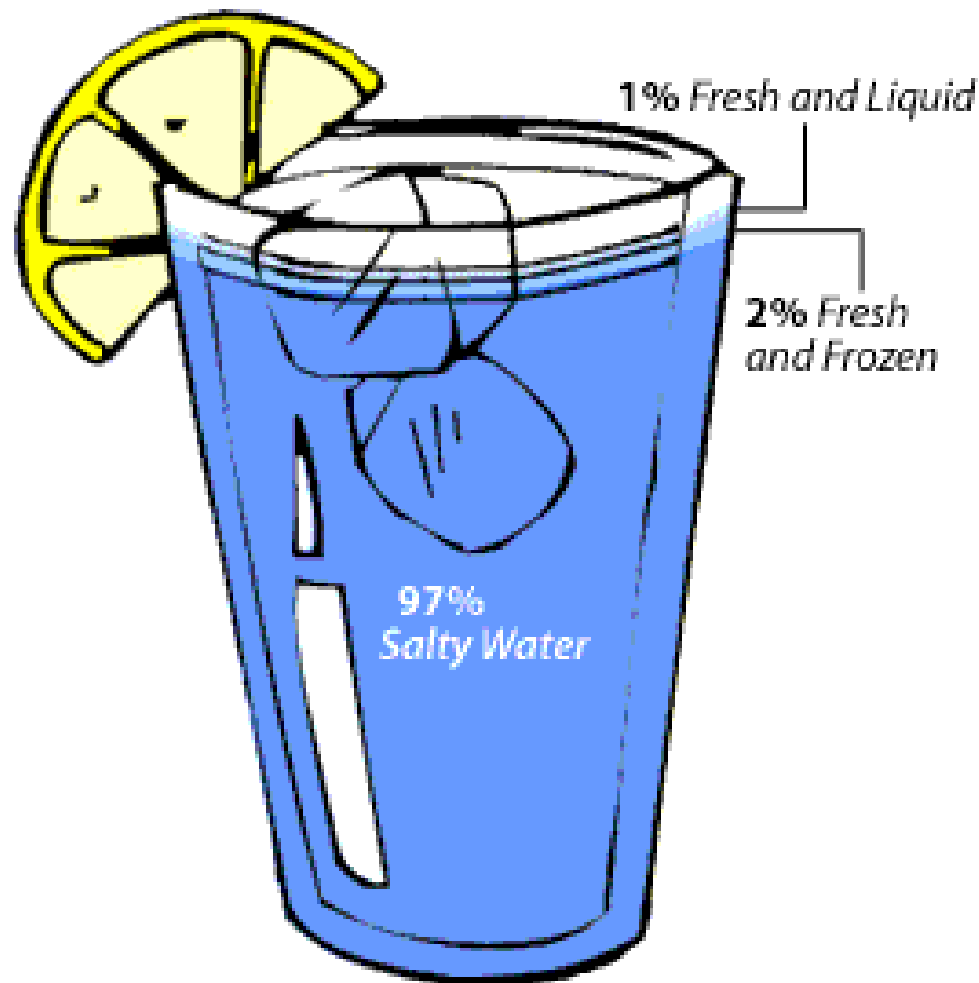
# Water is very precious

All the water in the world including oceans, ice, lakes, rivers, ground water, clouds, etc.

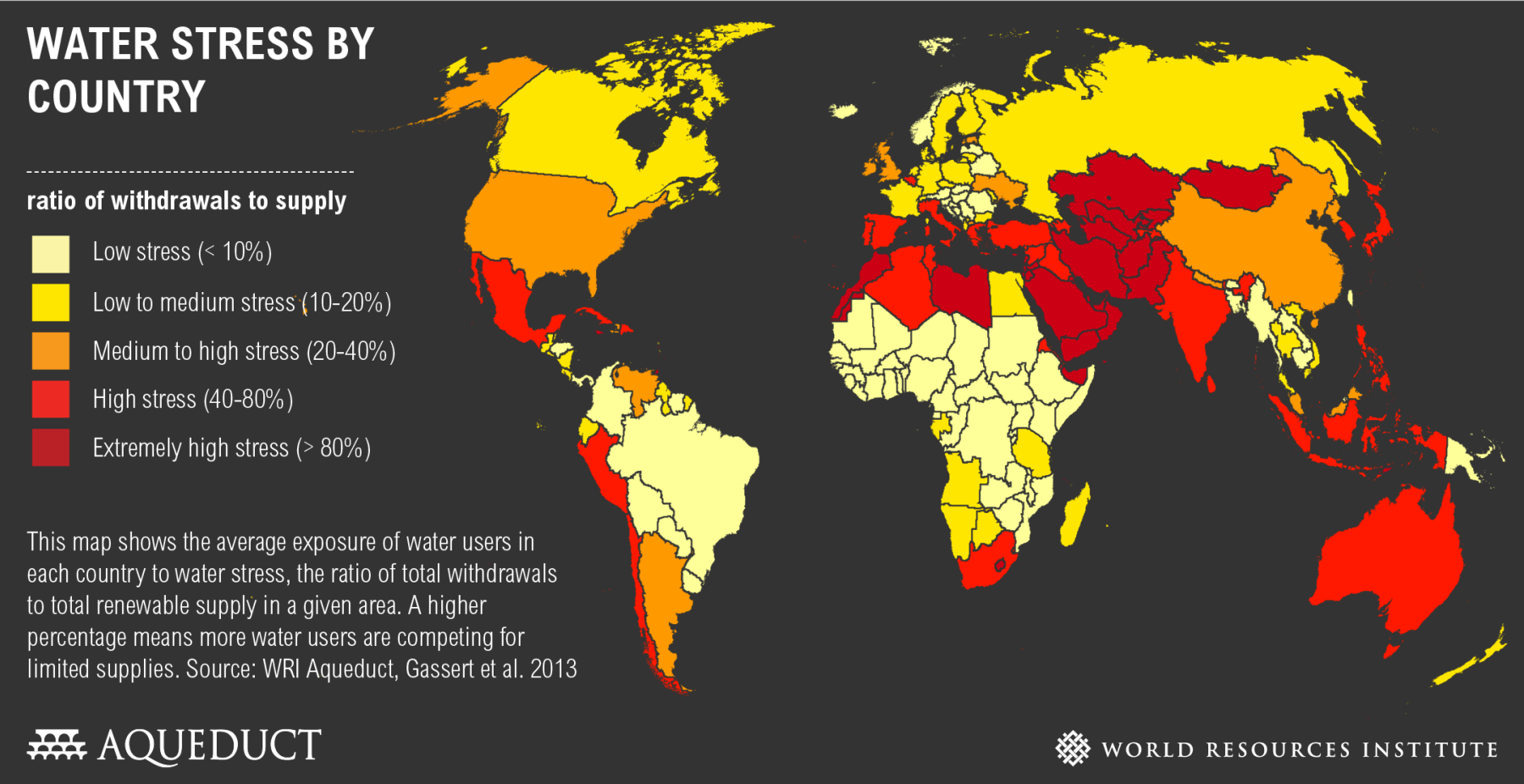


<http://pmm.nasa.gov/waterfalls/science/freshwater>

# Freshwater is very rare

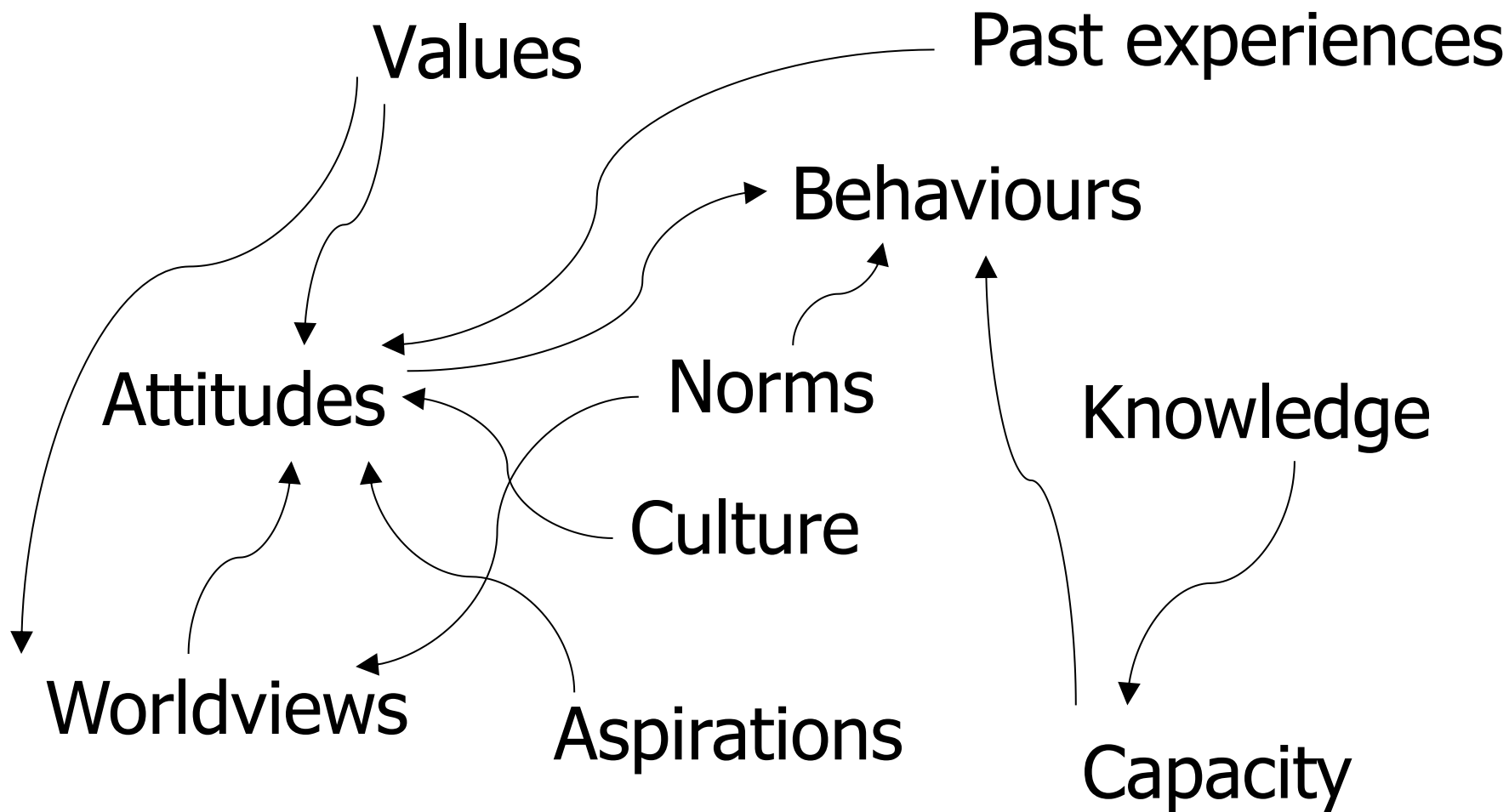


# Managing water can be difficult...



... some areas have less water to share than others

# Managing water occurs through social processes



# Implications for the Sunshine Coast?

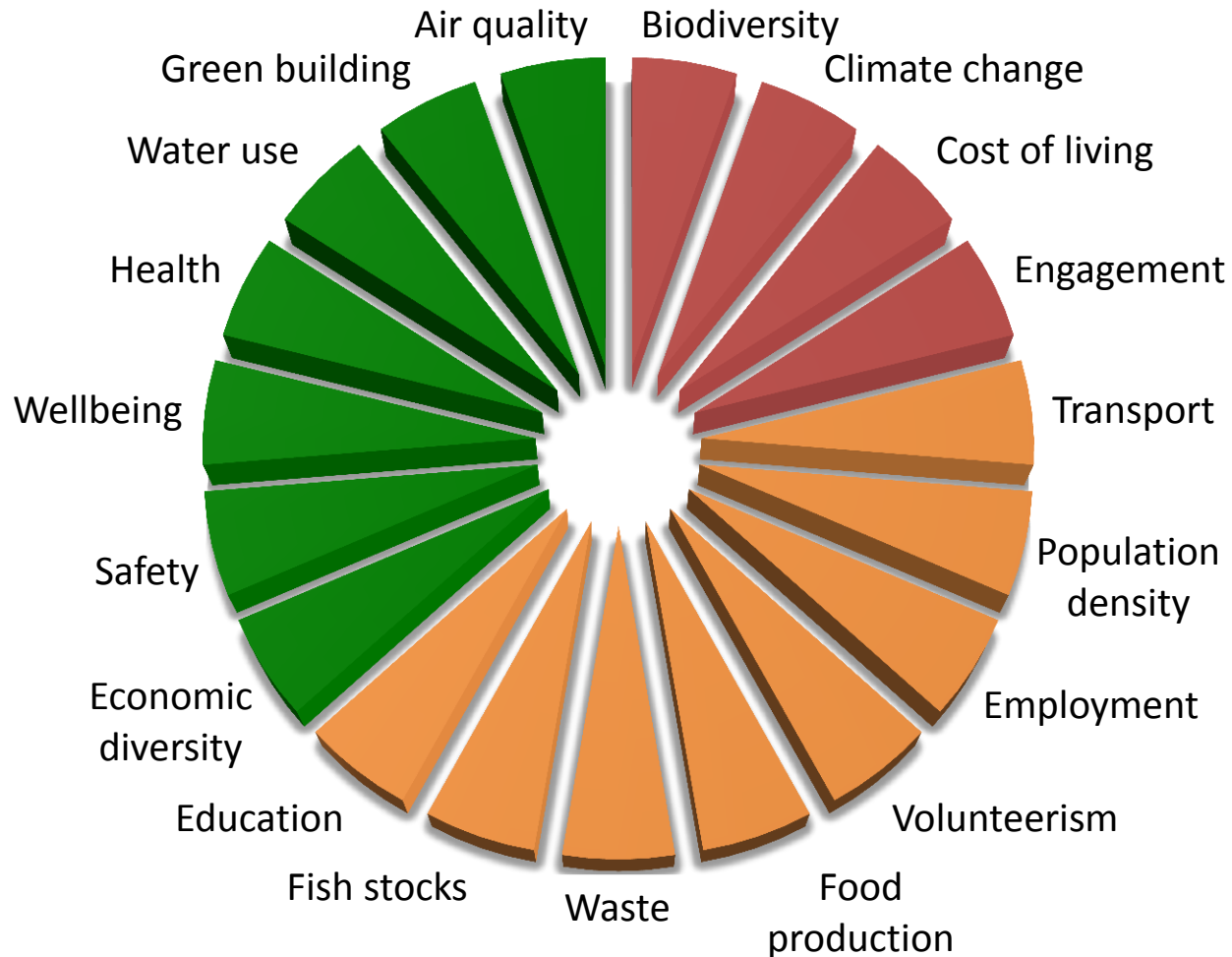
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# How are we tracking?



Are we on the correct path to achieve  
“sustainable development” on the Sunshine Coast?