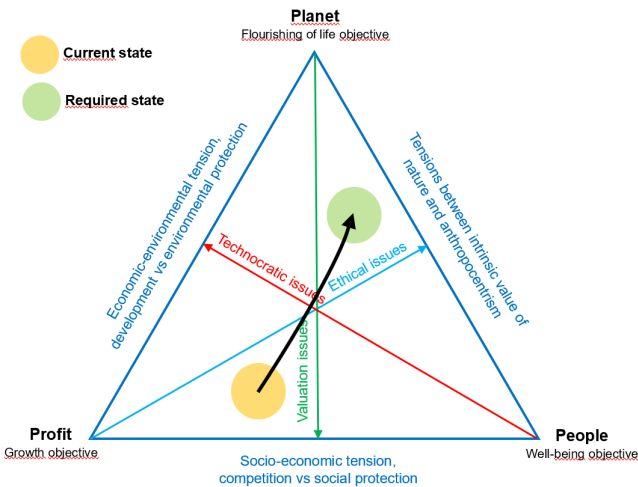


Towards a stewardship economy for biodiversity

Our vision

October 16, 2024 Vincent Linderhof



Outline

- Background
- Challenges
- Definitions
- Building blocks
- Guiding principles
- Pathways (case studies)
- Next steps

Background - project

- Funded by Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature (LVVN)
- 2023-2024
- KB-36-011-001 "Towards a stewardship economy"
- Biodiversity accounting
- Human-biodiversity relationship incl. indicators, monitoring, accounting

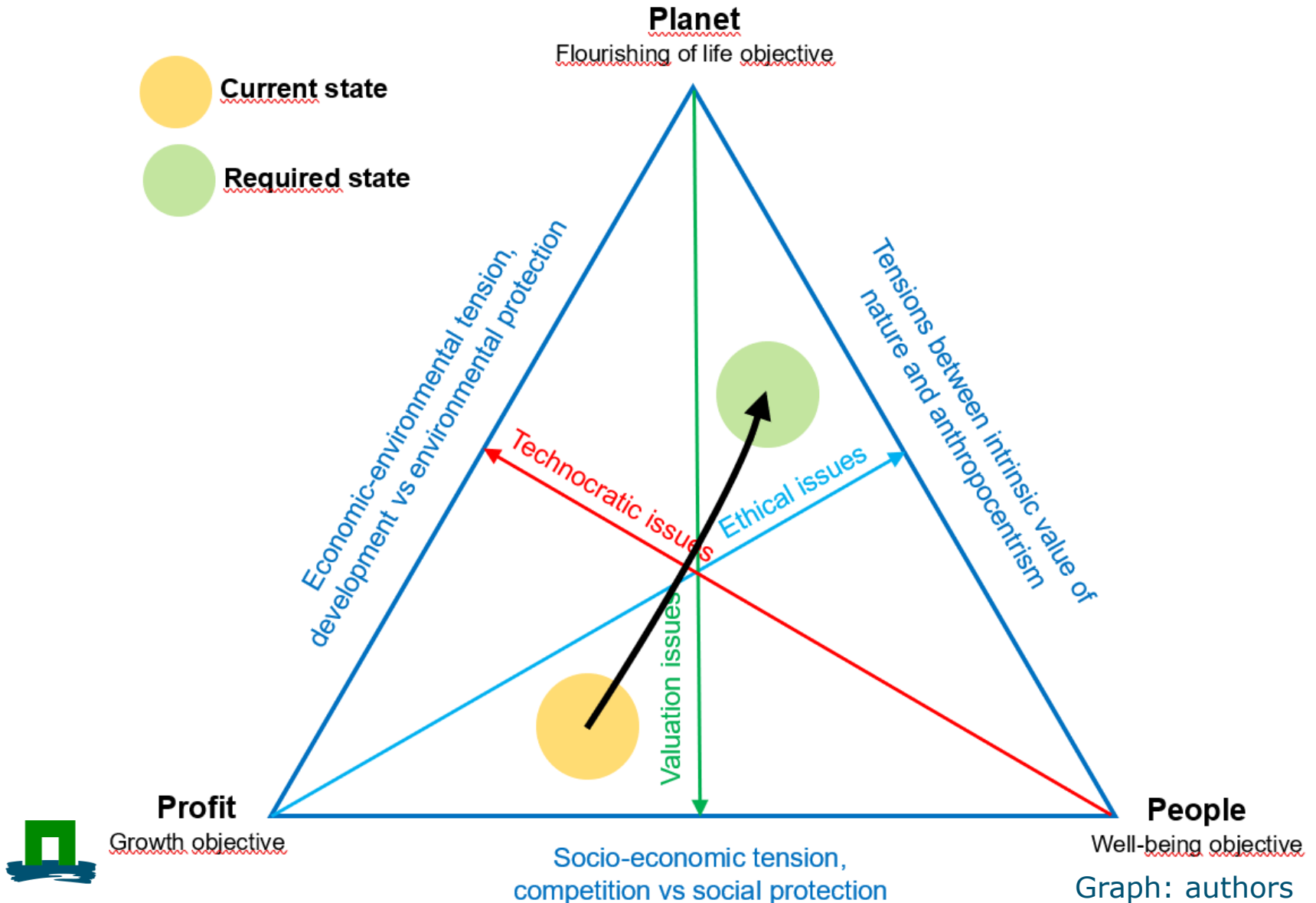
Team on vision

- Vincent Linderhof
- Justine Raoult
- Rolf Michels
- Kees Hendriks
- Robert Baayen
- Jeanne Nel
- Thirze Hermans
- Krist Krufft

Background



Disbalance between PPPs



Challenges to include biodiversity in decision-making (1)

Socio-political issues

- Multiple world views: plural values of biodiversity
- Lobbying of sectors, lobbying of countries due to differences in biodiversity (no global consensus)
- Valuation of biodiversity (monetary and non-monetary terms) by citizens, companies, governments, global

Challenges to include biodiversity in decision-making (2)

Economic issues

- Negative external effects are unknown and/or ignored, and.
- Solutions like biodiversity accounting, environmental taxes, tradeable emission permits, true cost/pricing, PES are limitedly applied
- Income and food security are prevailed over biodiversity
- Trade and tele-coupling: connection to biodiversity

Challenges to include biodiversity in decision-making (3)

Environmental issues

- Scale issues: local vs. global biodiversity (who is responsible)
- Conflicting interest between ecosystems and sustainability

Stewardship and stewardship economy

Stewardship

- It is caring for nature and biodiversity on behalf of current and future generations. Similar concepts include earth stewardship (Chapin et al. 2022), biodiversity stewardship (South African National Biodiversity Institute 2014; Rawat 2017) and land stewardship (NICOLE 2022)

Stewardship economy

- A concept for an economy in which people and organizations take **care** and **responsibility** for nature and biodiversity. They accept **accountability** for this responsibility as well.

Building blocks

- A. Care and responsibility for biodiversity
- B. Biodiversity as an indispensable element of decision-making *at all levels*
- C. Collective purpose and institutions that distribute power *collective ownership of public resources like land and air*
- D. Information, knowledge, and education on biodiversity

Guiding principles

- I. Caring, taking responsibility, and accountability for nature and biodiversity
- II. Moving to decision-making for collective purposes with nature and biodiversity at heart
- III. Becoming aware of the impact on people and places over time
- IV. Fostering integrity of facts concerning nature and biodiversity for large-scale transformation



Picture by Olivia Azhari

Pathways based on case studies (in progress)

- Biodiversity in and around Lake Dembel (Ethiopia)
- Eco-tourism and conserving nature and biodiversity on Bonaire population and visiting tourists



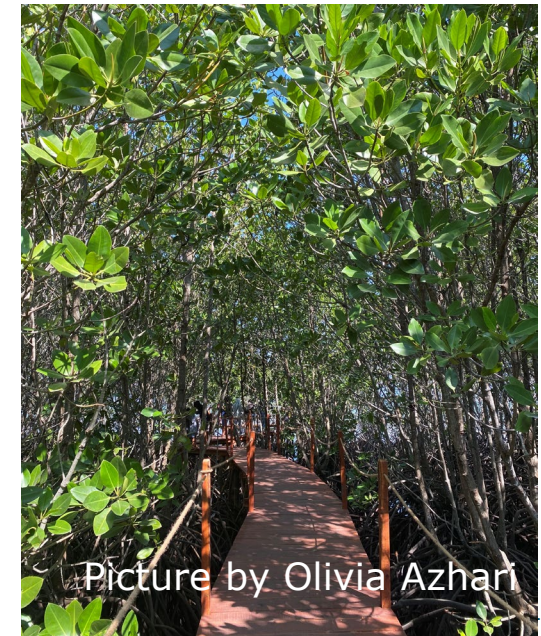
Picture by Thirze Hermans and Krista Krufft



Picture by Peter Verweij and Kees Hendriks

Pathways based on case studies (in progress)

- Forest strategy in the Netherlands and its link with the EU.
- Indigenous knowledge in nature conservation in local communities on Lombok (Indonesia)



Next steps

Based on building blocks and guiding principles of our vision of stewardship economy for biodiversity already identify important pathways:

- 1) A pathway to transform paradigms and build nature connectedness in society.
- 2) A pathway to address the transformation of norms and rules of the various institutions, since those shape the context within which economic and social activities occur.
- 3) A pathway for stimulating actor-agency (leadership) and personal transformation. This builds on the transformation of paradigms (values) and moves towards 'taking action'.

Thank you!
Vincent.linderhof@wur.nl

