

Saving humanity involves a lot
more than zero carbon by 2050

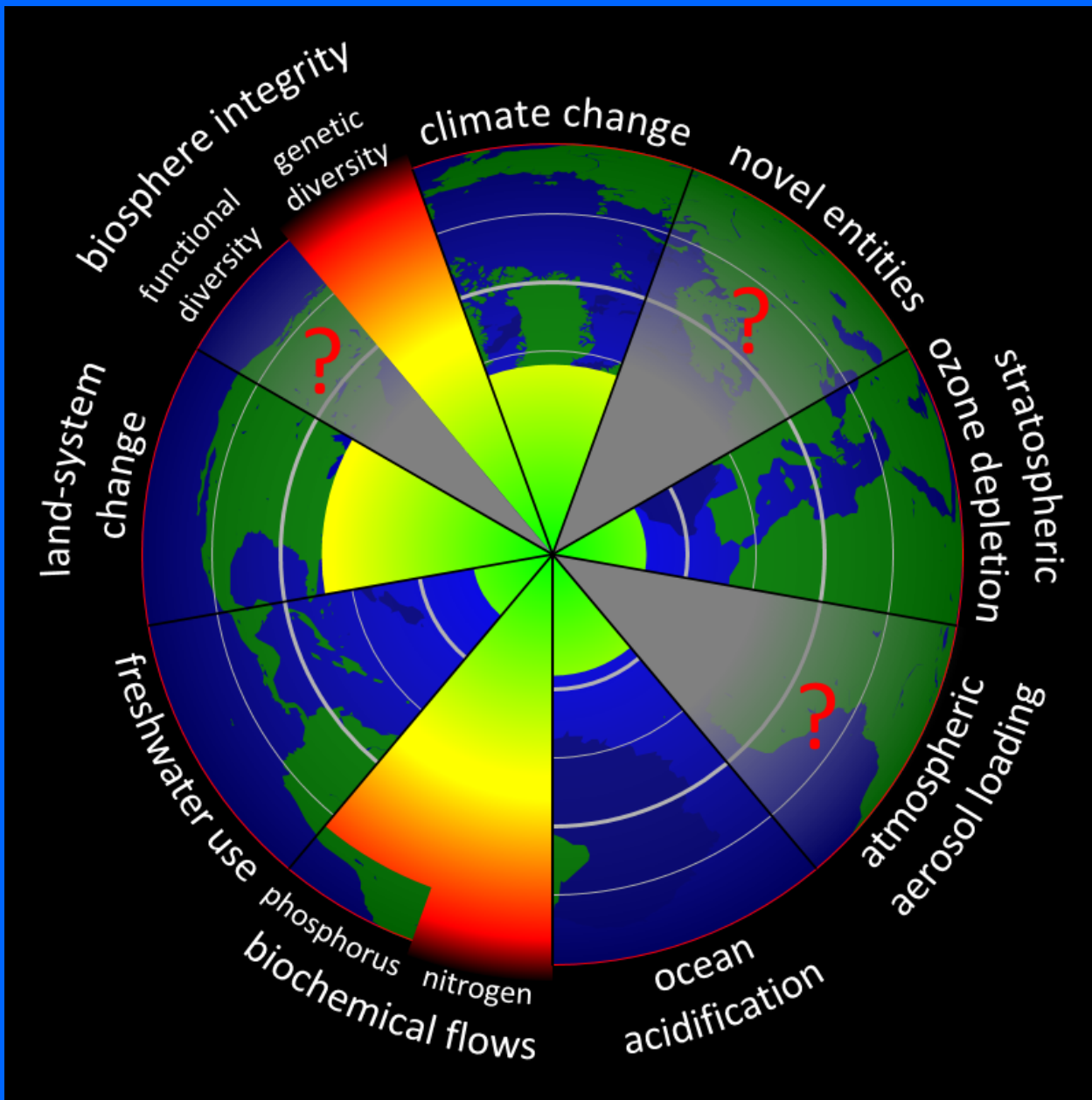
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Fossil fuel's paradise

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 - Resource depletion: consumption > capacity
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- **Inequity**
 - Intra- and inter- national
 - Abuses of human rights

Mess of our own making: a failure to

- Recognise co-evolution and ...
- ... our part in complex adaptive ecosystems
- The earth's finite natural resources
- Each individual's dignity, human rights and aspirations
- See the economy as a tool of society
- Plan for the long term

A failure of collective decision making

- To learn from past mistakes (lost civilisations)
- To process and respond to what we know (evidence)
- To include all voices
- To govern for minorities as well as majorities
- To use fair processes to produce fair outcomes

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A failure of morality

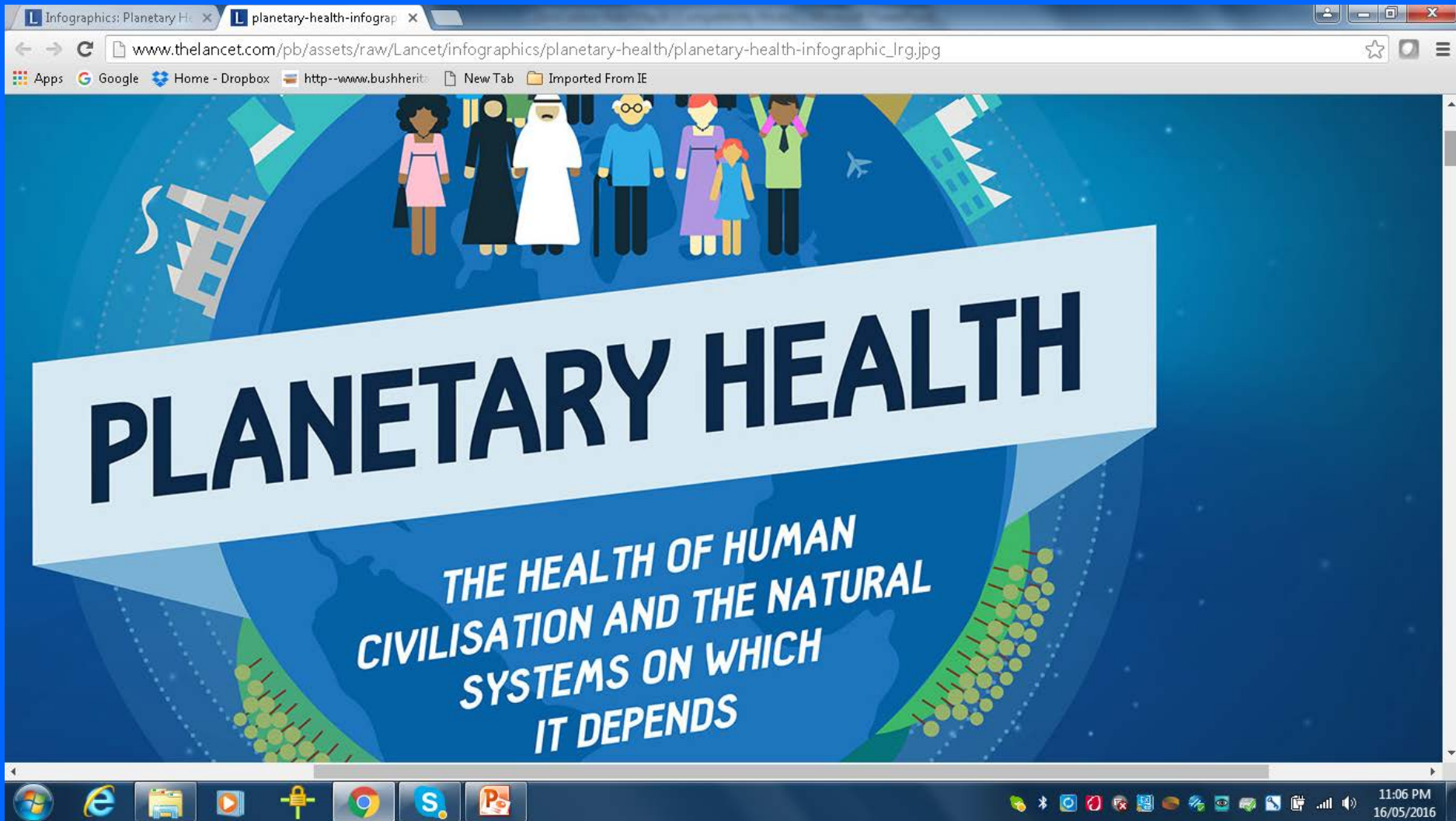
What won't work ...

- Zero carbon as the only goal ...
- ... or any other single issue as the only goal
- Purely scientific, engineering, technological responses to environmental problems
- Ignoring equity
- Keeping the democracy/ies we've got

Contributors to saving humanity

1. New models for collective decision making
 - What sort of society do we want to live in?
 - ... and leave for future generations?
2. Complex adaptive systems understandings and interventions
3. Environmental sustainability

Lancet-Rockefeller Commission 2015



<http://www.thelancet.com/pb/assets/raw/Lancet/infographics/planetary-health/planetary-health.pdf>

Planetary Health

- Civilisations
 - Learning from past
 - Safeguarding for future
- Health
 - Not just human or even animal
 - All living organisms
 - Protecting ecosystems essential for human survival

Planetary Health

- *“see the public [health], the global [health], and the planetary as three dimensions of our experience, incorporating the idea of health into all aspects of our living and constructed world” [Horton 2016]*

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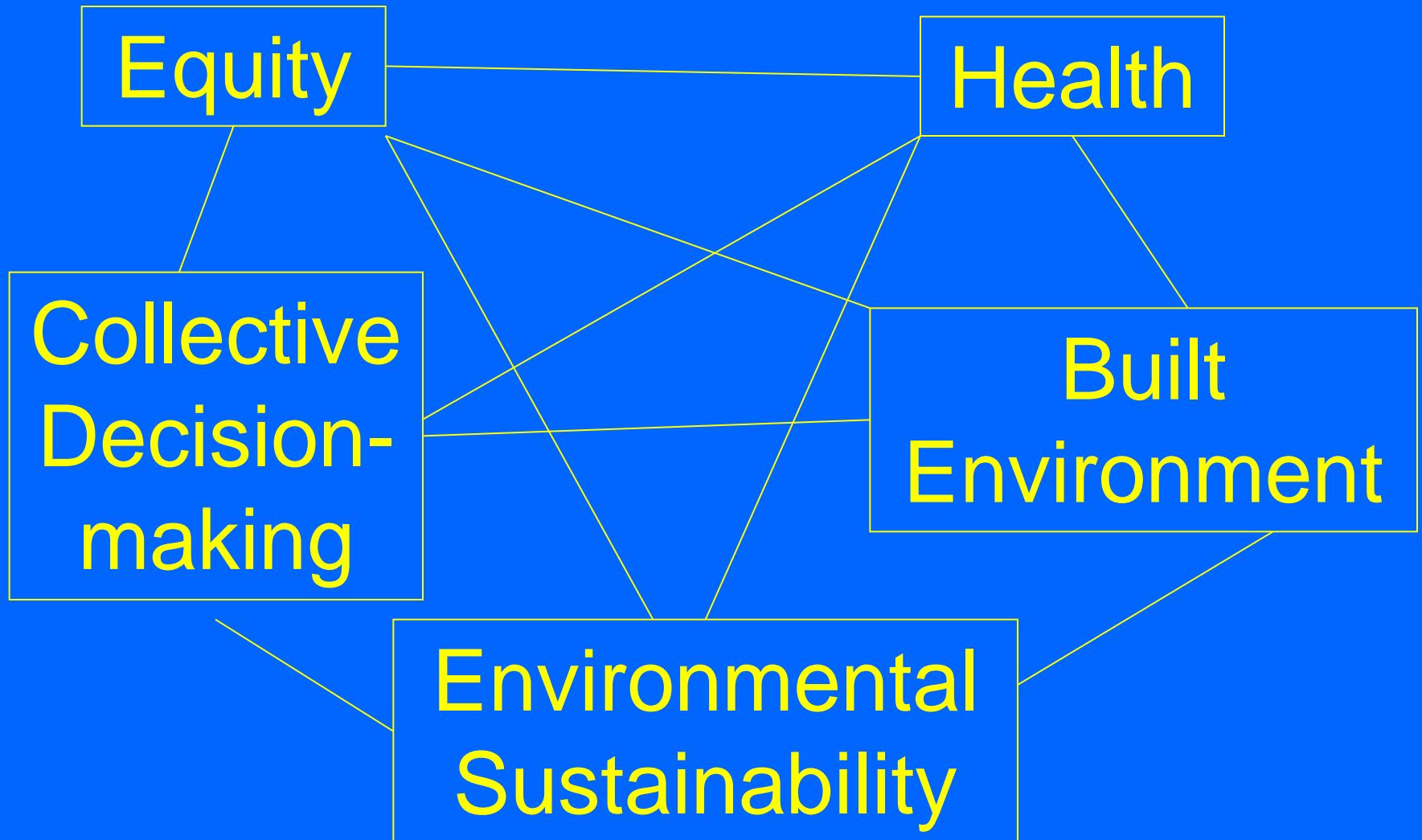
1. New models for collective decision making
 - What sort of society do we want to live in?
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2. Complex adaptive systems understandings and interventions
3. Environmental sustainability
4. UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

‘Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’



Work to a common agenda

- Better health
- Eliminate poverty
- Equity
- Energy security
- Human rights
- Environmental sustainability
- Climate change
- Sustainable economic development
- Manage fundamentalism
- Global safe food security
- Good world governance
- Democratic nations
- Stop the arms trade
- World peace
- Sustainable population
- Fair trade
- Healthy cities
- HiAD: health in all decisions
- Ethical behaviour





Can we do all this
if our economic
tool is capitalism?

What can the RACP do?

- Relatively passive
 - Inform and make aware: risks, actions, co-benefits
 - Green behaviours & buildings – College and Fellows
- Promote sustainable health services
 - Pressure and assist health departments & employers
 - Change models of care
 - Promote national Sustainable Development Unit

What can the RACP do?

- Become more politically active
 - Promote divestment from fossil fuels (Super funds, research foundations, other Colleges)
 - Lobby for more govt. action for environmental sustainability (and the health co-benefits)
 - Participate in development of a National Strategy on Climate and Health (CAHA)

To solve the climate change problem we must simultaneously solve a lot of other environmental and social problems as well.

Do we have not just the will but also the necessary tools?

