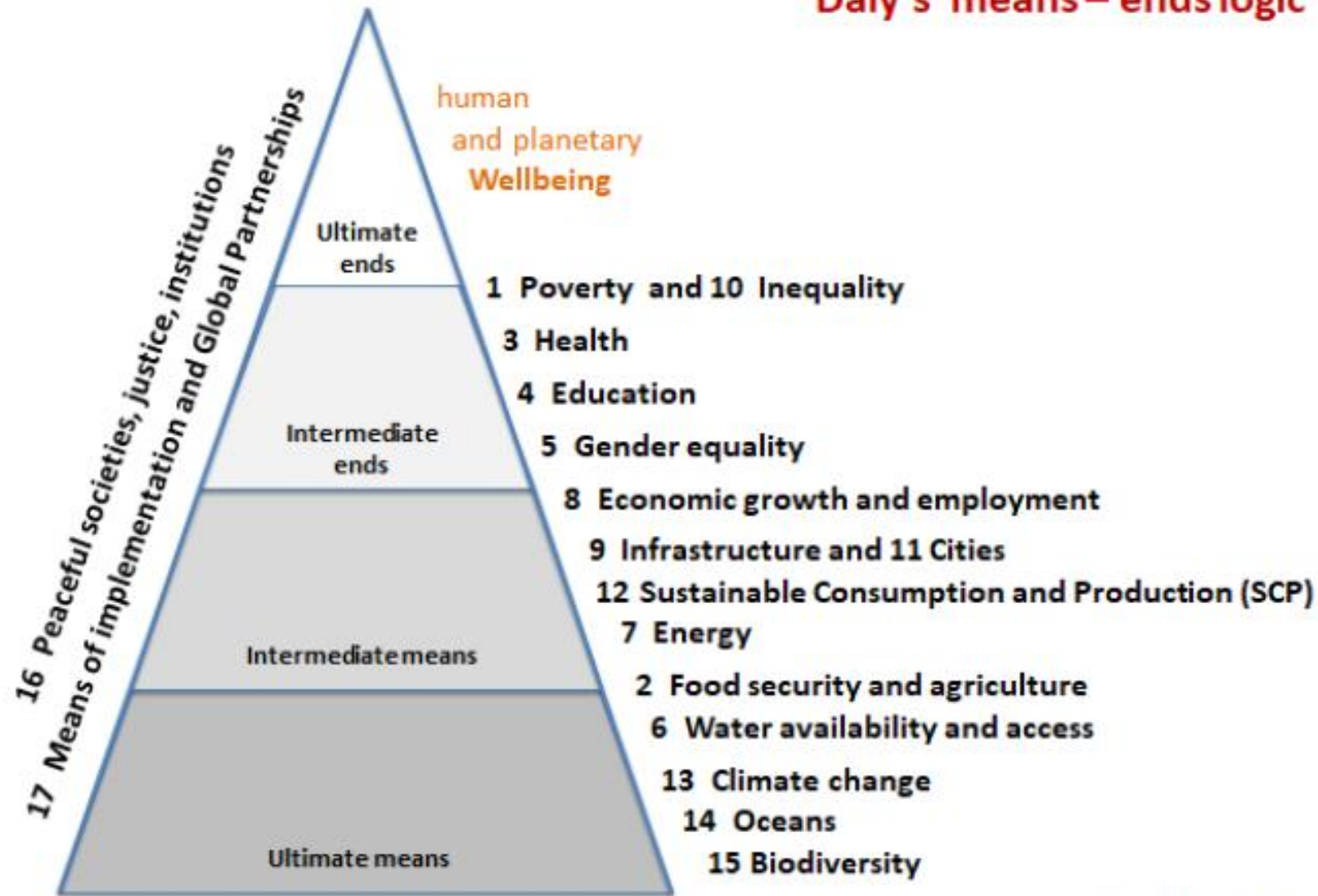
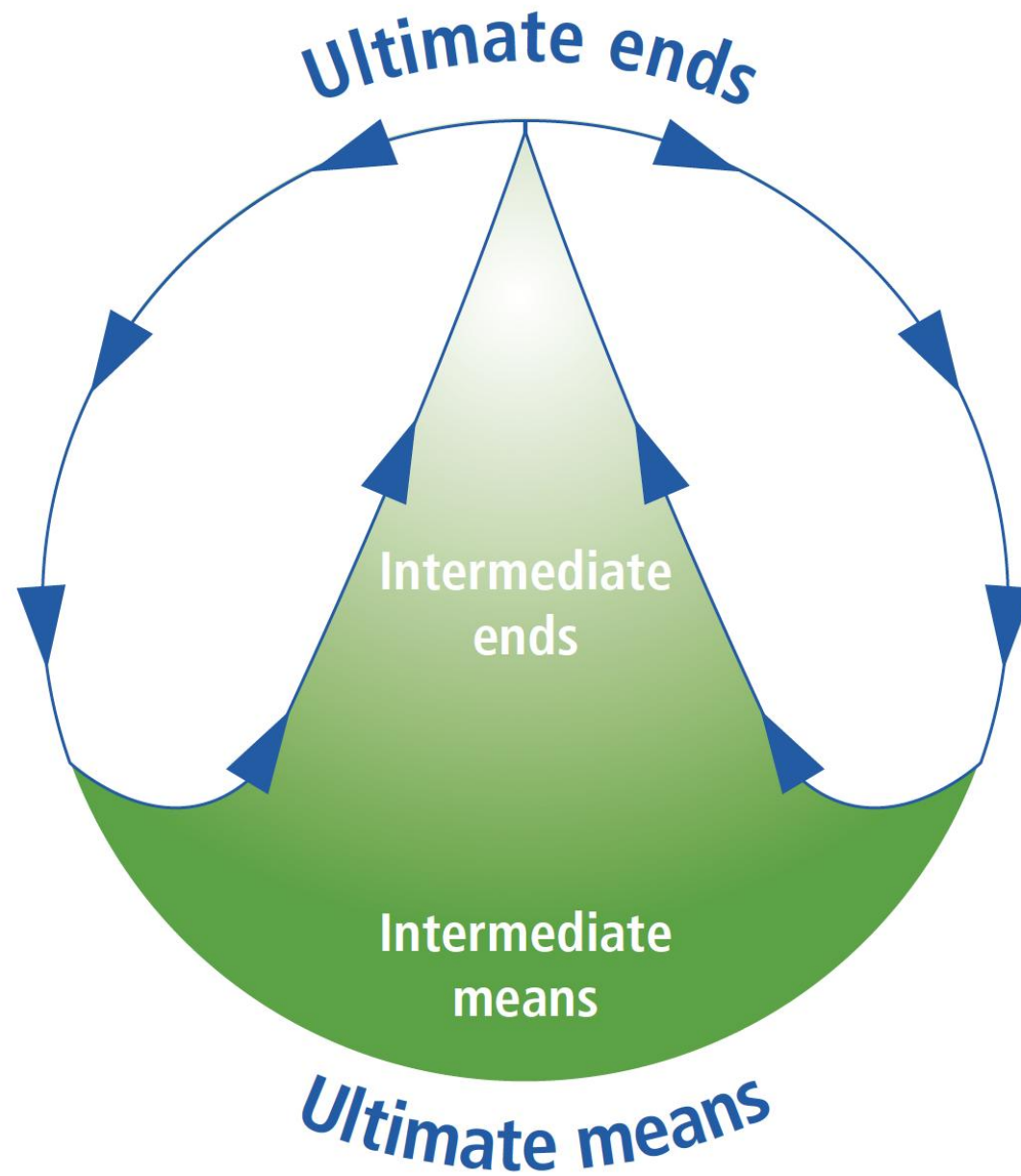


Source: PBL

Daly's means – ends logic

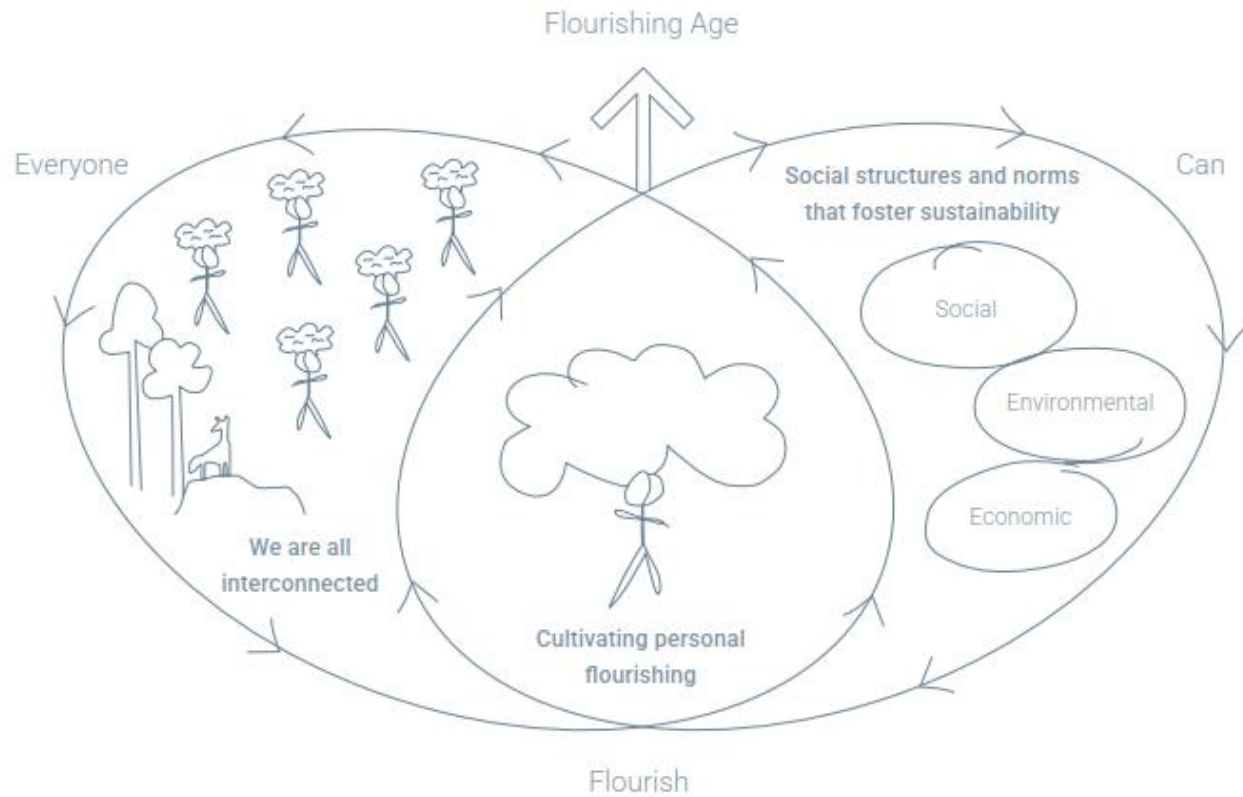













Everyone Can Flourish

on the **Islands of Peace**



Graphic: Everyone Can Flourish original diagram.
Source: Government of Åland.

-  1 | Well-being
-  2 | Trust and participation
-  3 | Clean water quality
-  4 | Biodiversity
-  5 | Attractiveness
-  6 | Significantly reduced climate impact
-  7 | Sustainable consumption and production

THE FOOTPRINT AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable development is a commitment to “improving the quality of human life while living within the carrying capacity of supporting ecosystems” (IUCN *et al.*, 1991).

Countries’ progress towards sustainable development can be assessed using the United Nations Development Programme’s (UNDP) Human Development Index (HDI) as an indicator of well-being, and the footprint as a measure of demand on the biosphere. The HDI is calculated from life expectancy, literacy and education, and per capita GDP. UNDP considers an HDI value of more than 0.8 to be “high human development”. Meanwhile, a footprint lower than 1.8 global hectares per person, the average biocapacity available per person on the planet, could denote sustainability at the global level.

Successful sustainable development requires that the world, on average, meets at a minimum these two criteria, with countries moving into the blue quadrant shown in Figure 22. As world population grows, less biocapacity is available per person and the quadrant’s height shrinks.

In 2003, Asia-Pacific and Africa were using less than world average per person biocapacity, while the EU and North America had crossed the threshold for high human development. No region, nor the world as a whole, met both criteria for sustainable development. Cuba alone did, based on the data it reports to the United Nations. Changes in footprint and HDI from 1975 to 2003 are illustrated here for some nations. During this period, wealthy nations such as the United

States of America significantly increased their resource use while increasing their quality of life. This did not hold for poorer nations, notably China or India, where significant increases in HDI were achieved while their per person footprints remained below global per person biocapacity.

Comparing a country’s average per person footprint with global average biocapacity does not presuppose equal sharing of resources. Rather it indicates which nations’ consumption patterns, if extended worldwide, would continue global overshoot, and which would not. The footprint and the HDI need supplementing by other ecological and socioeconomic measures – freshwater scarcity and civic engagement, for example – to more fully define sustainable development.

Fig. 22: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINTS, 2003



ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT