

Jenna Kay

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To: Jenna Kay; Amy Koski; Ben Duncan; Sylvia Ciborowski; Dana Hellman; tlunsford@parametrix.com; Nicole Metildi; Harrison Husting
Subject: Exceeding Earth's Safe Limits with Johan Rockström | TGS 134

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Exceeding Earth's Safe Limits with Johan Rockström | TGS 134
1 hour 34 minutes

<https://youtu.be/JaboF3vAsZs?si=oCWeLsj52P2i5NeL>

Here is a concise summary of the key points from the video:

The video discusses the concept of planetary boundaries, which are the environmental processes that regulate the stability and resilience of the planet. Developed by scientist Johan Rockström and his team, the planetary boundaries framework identifies 9 critical systems, including climate, biodiversity, and freshwater, that must be kept within safe limits to maintain a livable planet.

Rockström explains that currently, 6 of the 9 planetary boundaries are being transgressed, putting the planet in a state of emergency. He is deeply concerned that even if we solve the climate crisis by phasing out fossil fuels, we will still exceed the 1.5°C warming limit unless we also restore the health of the biosphere.

Intact natural systems like forests and oceans currently absorb 30% of human-caused carbon emissions, acting as a buffer. But as the planet's health declines, this buffering capacity is reduced, amplifying climate impacts.

Rockström argues that global cooperation and policies to protect the planet's vital systems are urgently needed. Specific actions include: implementing the Paris Agreement, pricing carbon globally, and halting expansion into natural ecosystems. He believes that if we can become good stewards of the 9 planetary boundaries, we have a chance of handing over a livable planet to future generations.