# Leaving no one behind (1)

- Close the knowledge gap regarding interlinkages between poverty, multidimensional inequality and sustainability
- Systematic assessment of the potential negative/positive side effects of the transition on Europe's poor population;
- Better understanding of intergenerational drivers of inequality: energy costs for older households, impact of environmental degradation on future options for the young.
- Air pollution: agree plans to reduce pollution (indoor as well as outdoor) with all Member States individually, prioritising places with the most severe levels using poverty maps to understand interlinkages



## Leaving no one behind (2)

- Ambitious, green social housing policies (access to energy, energy efficiency, quality housing, access to nature)
- Promoting the **social economy** within the sustainability transition (e.g. circular economy, energy transition).
- Moving away from cheap food policies in lieu of social policies, with new approaches to rebalance the cost of food where healthy and sustainable products become cheaper and more accessible to lower income consumers
- Role for cohesion policy: how to not leave Eastern and Central Europe behind (multi-speed Europe, MFF)



### Towards 'a good life' in Europe?

- Having a much wider understanding of "Just transition" (beyond coal) and building an effective European Social Pillar in support of Just Transition
- Identify policy win-wins: policies which reduce poverty, inequality and enhance sustainability
- Sustainability considerations within reforms of redistributive systems (tax and social protection)
- Adopt a comprehensive EU environmental health approach within health policies
- Establishing an EU Guardian for future generations
- Design a strategy to ensure not only cities but also rural communities become more inclusive, resilient and sustainable.



# LIVING A 'GOOD LIFE' HOW ARE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES PERFORMING?

#Think2030



This graph compares "good life" achievements of 25 European countries.

The horizontal axis is based on the number of biophysical boundaries transgressed by each country (CO2 emissions, Phosphorous, nitrogen, Blue Water, Land-use change) downscaled at per capita levels and two footprint indicators (ecological and material footprint).

The vertical axis is based on the number of minimum social thresholds achieved by each country (life satisfaction, healthy life expectancy, nutrition, sanitation, income, access to energy, education, social support, democratic quality, equality, employment).

Source: https://goodlife.leeds.ac.uk

Living beyond the means of the planet



# Within a context marked by unparalleled challenges.....

- Building a new growth model truly decoupled from the use of natural resources, e.g
  - How to move away from mass consumption societies (efficiency and sufficiency policies)?
  - Social impacts of the circular economy (e.g. employments effects of transforming products into services)
  - Interlinkages with innovation, digitalisation and AI, incl. a sharing economy?
  - Aging Europe: what impact on growth, public revenues and expenditures, poverty and sustainability?



Based on current technology, one ton of material footprint represents one of the following: 2500 km of air travel (a return trip from Brussels to Madrid):

495 km by car (a return trip from Budapest to Vienna); or 33 kg of meat (around half of the current per capita average consumption of meat in Europe).

Own calculations based on Groezinger (2009): SPREAD Consortium (2012); Schmidt-Bleek (1993), Bringezu (2009), Kotakorpi et al (2008) and Lettenmeier et al (2012); Schmidt-Bleek (1993). Full explanation of the methodology on www.think2030.eu





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