Ecological Economics

Fioramonti: Wellbeing economy

**中文深入解读（按原文顺序）**

1. **引言与研究动机**  
   文章首先指出，面对气候变化、生态退化和社会不平等，单纯依赖GDP增长的传统经济范式已经难以应对。全球需要一个能够在生态约束下保障人类福祉的新框架，作者提出“福祉经济”（Wellbeing Economy, WE）作为潜在答案。
2. **福祉经济的定义与特点**  
   福祉经济并不以经济增长为主要目标，而是关注**人类生活质量、自然资本健康、社会凝聚力和公平性**。它强调**多维度指标**，例如教育、健康、环境质量和社会信任，而不是单一的产出指标。
3. **与去增长（Degrowth）的比较**  
   虽然两者都强调减少不可持续的资源消耗，但福祉经济**叙事更积极**，更容易被政策制定者和公众接受。去增长在公众语境中常被误解为“经济收缩”，而福祉经济强调的是“优化分配与改善生活质量”。
4. **现有国际实践**  
   作者列举了新西兰的\*\*“福祉预算”**、冰岛的**福祉指标体系\*\*、以及WEGo（Wellbeing Economy Governments）网络，作为该理念已进入政策层面的证据。

新西兰：自2019年起实施“福祉预算（Wellbeing Budget）”，将传统财政预算的支出优先级从单纯的经济增长目标，转向提升国民福祉的多维目标。预算编制依据涵盖健康、教育、环境质量、心理健康、收入分配等方面的综合指标，并明确每年在预算案中对这些领域进行专项投入。

冰岛：建立了39项国家福祉指标体系，这些指标横跨经济、社会和环境三个维度，例如心理健康状况、社区参与度、空气与水质量、教育可及性等。政府通过定期发布指标报告来监测和指导政策调整。

WEGo（Wellbeing Economy Governments）网络：由新西兰、冰岛、苏格兰发起，后续加入了威尔士、芬兰等国，旨在共享经验与政策工具，推动全球范围内将福祉经济理念融入政府决策。这一网络不仅定期举办高层会议，还开展跨国合作项目，探索如何将自然资本与社会资本纳入经济核算体系。

1. **度量工具：可持续福祉指数（SWI）**  
   SWI将**经济净贡献（E）**、\*\*自然资本（N）**和**社会资本（S）\*\*用半饱和函数处理并相乘，形成“木桶效应”：任一要素短缺都会限制总体福祉提升。这种设计突出了生态与社会因素的重要性，避免了单纯依赖GDP的偏差。
2. **政策路径**
   * **税制改革**：从劳动与生产税转向对环境破坏、资源占用征税。
   * **公共预算**：以福祉为导向分配资源，而非单纯追求GDP增长。
   * **劳动力制度**：缩短工时、保障公平薪酬，承认无偿照护与志愿服务的社会价值。
   * **技术选择标准**：只推动能提升净福祉的技术，例如分布式可再生能源、循环经济模式等。
3. **面临的挑战**
   * **测量一致性**：如何在不同国家间统一自然资本与社会资本的评估方法。
   * **政治阻力**：既得利益可能抵制税制和补贴改革。
   * **全球正义**：发达国家需要承担更多减量义务，而发展中国家应有提升基本福祉的空间。

**English Deep Interpretation Introduction & Rationale**  
The paper opens by acknowledging that climate change, ecological degradation, and social inequality have exposed the limitations of GDP-focused growth. It calls for a new framework that secures human wellbeing within ecological boundaries, proposing the **Wellbeing Economy (WE)** as a viable approach.

1. **Definition & Core Features**  
   WE shifts the focus from economic expansion to **quality of life, natural capital health, social cohesion, and equity**. It relies on **multidimensional indicators**—such as education, health, environmental quality, and trust—rather than single output metrics.
2. **Comparison with Degrowth**  
   While both advocate reducing unsustainable throughput, WE uses a **more positive narrative** that resonates better with policymakers and the public. Degrowth is often misinterpreted as economic contraction, whereas WE emphasizes **redistribution and quality of life improvement**.
3. **International Practice**  
   Examples like **New Zealand’s Wellbeing Budget**, **Iceland’s wellbeing dashboard**, and the **Wellbeing Economy Governments (WEGo)** network illustrate how WE concepts are already entering the policy mainstream.

New Zealand: Since 2019, the government has introduced the Wellbeing Budget, shifting budget priorities from traditional GDP-driven objectives to multidimensional wellbeing goals. Budget allocations are guided by comprehensive indicators covering health, education, environmental quality, mental health, and income distribution, with targeted funding to address these areas each fiscal year.

Iceland: Has developed a set of 39 national wellbeing indicators spanning economic, social, and environmental dimensions—such as mental health status, community participation, air and water quality, and access to education. These indicators are regularly reported and used to inform policy revisions.

WEGo (Wellbeing Economy Governments) Network: Initiated by New Zealand, Iceland, and Scotland, later joined by Wales and Finland, this network facilitates the exchange of best practices and policy tools to embed wellbeing concepts into governance. It hosts regular high-level meetings and undertakes cross-national projects, including methodologies for integrating natural and social capital into economic accounting systems.

1. **Measurement Tool: Sustainable Wellbeing Index (SWI)**  
   SWI integrates **net economic contribution (E)**, **natural capital (N)**, and **social capital (S)** through half-saturation functions and multiplication, producing a “bucket effect” where any shortage in one dimension caps total wellbeing. This underscores the necessity of ecological and social dimensions, avoiding GDP-only bias.
2. **Policy Pathways**
   * **Tax reform**: shift from labour/production taxes to taxes on environmental harm and resource appropriation.
   * **Public budgeting**: allocate resources based on wellbeing priorities, not GDP growth targets.
   * **Labour systems**: shorten working hours, ensure fair pay, and recognize unpaid care and volunteering.
   * **Technology adoption criteria**: promote only technologies that deliver net wellbeing gains, such as distributed renewables and circular economy models.
3. **Challenges Ahead**
   * **Measurement consistency**: establishing comparable methods for valuing natural and social capital across countries.
   * **Political resistance**: entrenched interests may oppose tax and subsidy reforms.
   * **Global justice**: developed nations should bear greater reduction responsibilities, while developing countries retain room to enhance basic wellbeing.