On 31 January 2018 at the Dutch Federation of Accountants in Amsterdam, Reporting 3.0 convened the kickoff meeting of the Global Thresholds & Allocations Council (GTAC), a governance body tasked with vetting and validating thresholds (the ecological ceilings & social foundations of Kate Raworth’s Doughnut Economics) and allocations (or fair share “slices of the pie” of resources). Kate Raworth presented the below abstract of her comments delivered in the ‘Planetary Boundaries & Social Foundations’ session.

Kate Raworth
Author, Doughnut Economics
Senior Visiting Research, Oxford University

Planetary boundaries offer a profoundly powerful starting point for conceptualizing ecological thresholds and allocations for 21st century enterprise. But just as there are outer limits of pressure that humanity can place on the living world, so too there are inner limits of resource use required for every person to meet their human rights. Drawing an inner ‘social foundation’ as a counterpoint to the
outer planetary boundaries turns the circular ‘safe operating space’ into a doughnut-shaped ‘safe and just space for humanity’ in which we meet the needs of all within the means of the planet.

An economy that thrives within the Doughnut will be one that is regenerative by design, working with and within the cycles of the living world. If designed effectively, GTAC’s approach of thresholds and allocations can act as a valuable staging post along the way to this fully regenerative economy. In addition, a Doughnut economy will be distributive by design – pre-distributing the sources of wealth creation so that value created is shared far more equitably. This raises important questions about the social implications of assigning ecological thresholds & allocations, eg for workers, for customers, for communities, and for civil society.

— Abstract of presentation from the Reporting 3.0 Global Thresholds & Allocations Council Meeting at the Royal Dutch Federation of Accountants in Amsterdam on 31 January 2018.