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). Ralph Thurm presented the below abstract of his comments delivered in the ‘GTAC Overview & Review’ session.

Ralph Thurm
Managing Director, Reporting 3.0 & OnCommons

The seeds of a Global Thresholds & Allocations Council were planted back when we at the Global Reporting Initiative were working on the Sustainability Context Principle. Here’s the very first sentence of how we framed the Principle at the time, followed by other key segments:

[S]ustainability reporting draw[s] significant meaning from the larger context of how performance at the organisational level
affects economic, environmental, and social capital formation and depletion at a local, regional, or global level...

[Placing performance information in the broader biophysical, social, and economic context lies at the heart of sustainability reporting...

This will involve discussing the performance of the organisation in the context of the limits and demands placed on economic, environmental, or social resources at a macro-level.

While we didn’t use the terms “thresholds” and “allocations” back then, clearly those concepts were embedded in nascent form: “limits and demands” suggest thresholds; “performance of the organization in the context of ... economic, environmental, or social resources at a macro-level” suggests the need for allocations. In the intervening decade-and-a-half, I have been staunchly advocating for greater uptake of the Principle, to little avail. Given the state of the world, we can wait no longer for blanket implementation of the Sustainability Context Principle. So it is a distinct pleasure to see this body, whose mandate is to spur comprehensive compliance with the Susty Context, becoming a reality.

— 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.