Record Nr. UNINA9910140193603321 Autore Costanza Robert Titolo Building a sustainable and desirable economy-in-society-in-nature / / Robert Costanza, Crawford School of Public Policy, the Australian National University [and eight others] Canberra,: ANU Press, 2013 Pubbl/distr/stampa Canberra:,: ANU E Press,, [2013] ©2013 **ISBN** 1-921862-05-X 1 online resource (98 pages): colour illustrations Descrizione fisica Soggetti Economic development - Environmental aspects Environmental policy Natural resources Nature - Effect of human beings on Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia "Report to the United Nations for the 2012 Rio+20 Conference as part Note generali of the Sustainable development in the 21st century (SD21) project implemented by the Division for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs." Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references. Nota di contenuto Preliminary pages; Acknowledgements; Executive Summary; 1. Rationale and Objectives; 2. What Would a Sustainable and Desirable Economy-in-Society-in-Nature Look Like?; 3. A Redesign of "the Economy" Recognizing Its Embeddedness in Society and Nature: 4. Example Policy Reforms; 5. Are These Policies Consistent and Feasible?; 6. Conclusions; 7. References Sommario/riassunto The world has changed dramatically. We no longer live in a world relatively empty of humans and their artifacts. We now live in the "Anthropocene," era in a full world where humans are dramatically altering our ecological life-support system. Our traditional economic concepts and models were developed in an empty world. If we are to create sustainable prosperity, if we seek "improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and

ecological scarcities," we are going to need a new vision of the

economy and its relationship to the rest of the world that is better adapted to the new conditions we face. We are going to need an economics that respects planetary boundaries, that recognizes the dependence of human well-being on social relations and fairness, and that recognizes that the ultimate goal is real, sustainable human wellbeing, not merely growth of material consumption. This new economics recognizes that the economy is embedded in a society and culture that are themselves embedded in an ecological life-support system, and that the economy cannot grow forever on this finite planet. In this report, we discuss the need to focus more directly on the goal of sustainable human well-being rather than merely GDP growth. This includes protecting and restoring nature, achieving social and intergenerational fairness (including poverty alleviation), stabilizing population, and recognizing the significant nonmarket contributions to human well-being from natural and social capital. To do this, we need to develop better measures of progress that go well beyond GDP and begin to measure human well-being and its sustainability more directly.