



*MELF Final Research Presentation*



# Money as Mercy

A GUIDE FOR THE GLOBAL MERCY COMMUNITY  
ON PARTICIPATING MEANINGFULLY IN THE  
IMPACT ECONOMY

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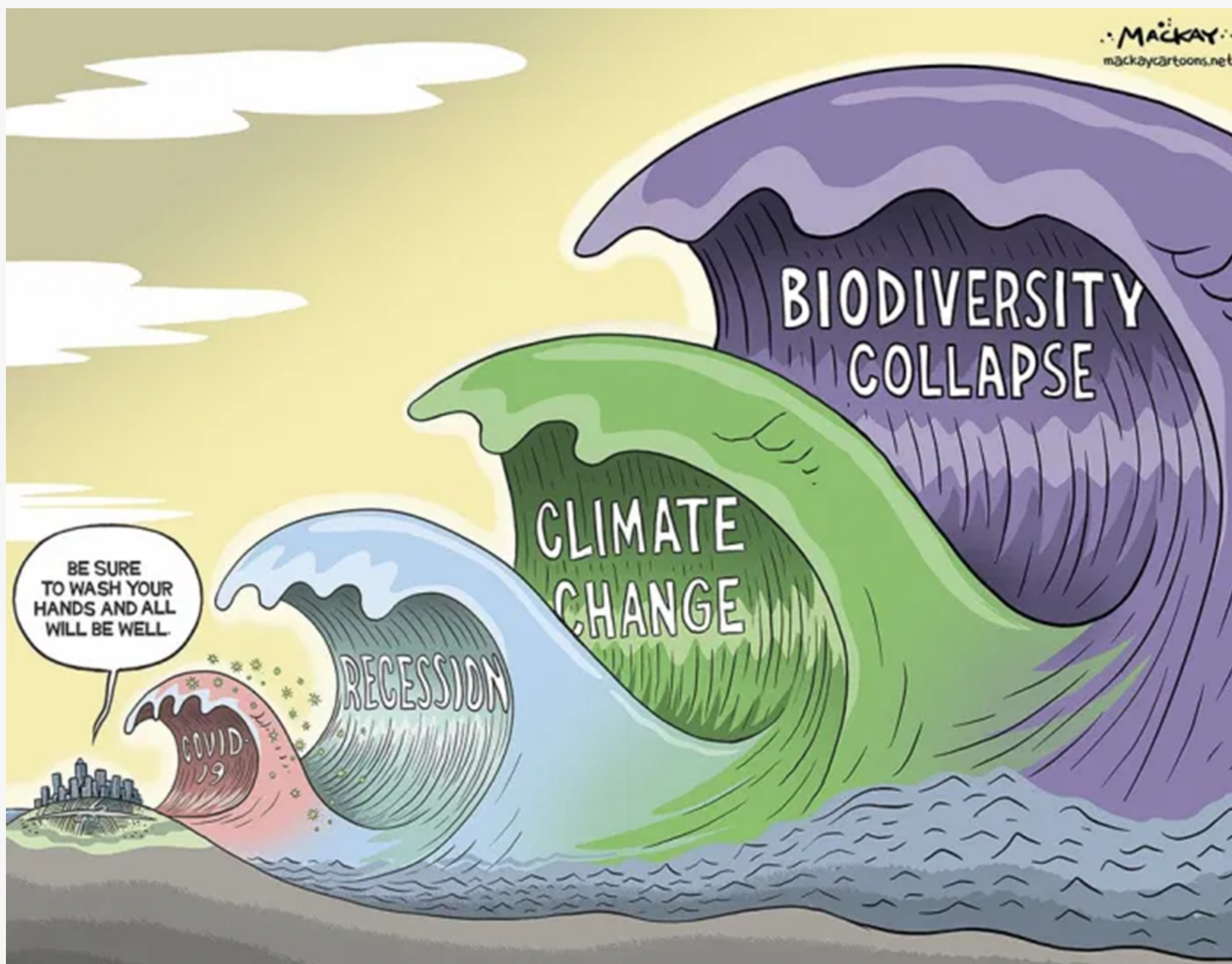


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# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

1

Context & Theological/Spiritual  
Relevance of Topic

2

My Project: A Practical Guide for the  
Mercy Community

3

The Mercy Impact Economy  
Framework

4

Possible avenues for further research

5

My sincere thanks...



"Where profits alone count, there can be no thinking about the rhythms of nature, its phases of decay and regeneration, or the complexity of ecosystems which may be gravely upset by human intervention. Moreover, biodiversity is considered at most a deposit of economic resources available for exploitation, with no serious thought for the real value of things, their significance for persons and cultures, or the concerns and needs of the poor."

- POPE FRANCIS, LADAUTO SI', 2015, 190





## THE 'INVISIBLE HAND' HAS MADE US INVISIBLE TO EACH OTHER...

"We need to shift from extractive systems to more regenerative systems. Some of that will have to do with a redesign of money, and some will do with the way in which we relate to money. I don't think it's just an external systems issue. Any sustainable solution has to bring external impact along with inner transformation in a very real way."

- Nipun Mehta, cited in *Journey to Impact*, 2019, p.13

# The Impact Economy: Toward the Invisible Heart



- Holistic conception of 'value'
- Interdependence of social, natural, human, manufactured and financial capitals in generating wealth and wellbeing
- Sustainability is key to growth
- Every financial decision has social and environmental impact
- Dignity, not charity
- The market should bring us closer to what enables people and the planet to thrive!



## 1 Context & Theological/Spiritual Relevance of Topic



The Impact Revolution is already transforming the way we think about social responsibility, business models and investment. It is beginning to **change our economies**, turning them into **powerful engines** that drive capital to **achieve impact alongside profit**.

Sir Ronald Cohen, *Impact: Reshaping Capitalism to Drive Real Change*, 2020, p.5





# International CAMPAIGN TO BAN LANDMINES

1997 Nobel Peace Prize







# Mercy is never a 'unilateral act or process'

BUT ONLY TRULY OCCURS WHEN WE RECOGNISE THAT WE  
ARE "AT THE SAME TIME RECEIVING MERCY FROM THE  
PEOPLE WHO ARE ACCEPTING IT FROM US"

- Pope John Paul II, 1980, 14

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"To be without mercy is to be yet without an honest awareness of our own humanity... Mercy is what makes us, keeps us, available to one another. It opens our hearts to strangers. It enables hospitality."

Joan Chittister, 2016







# My Research Project: A Practical Guide to the Impact Economy for our global Mercy community





## 2 My Project: A Practical Guide for the Mercy Community

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### 1 Introduction

#### 3 Section 1

*Dealing with the invisible hand: Understanding the link between money and the big issues*

#### 7 Section 2

*Introduction to the Impact Economy: a way through the dichotomy*

#### 9 2.1 Prevailing Principles & Frameworks of the Impact Economy

#### 11 2.2 What constitutes the Impact Economy

#### 25 2.3 Frameworks for success

#### 28 Section 3

*Money as Mercy: Navigating the Impact Economy in the spirit of Catherine McAuley*

#### 31 3.1 The Mercy Impact Economy Framework

#### 34 3.1.1 Understanding the four stages

#### 40 3.1.2 Seeing what is possible: deciding which financial mechanisms are best for your mission

#### 49 Section 4

*Into calmer waters: Resources for further discovery and action*

#### 56 Recap and Last Words

#### 58 References

Impact Philanthropy	
Podcast	Values-Based Philanthropy - SSIR
Article	The Power of Catalytic Philanthropy - GatesNotes
Article	Catalytic Philanthropy - SSIR
Podcast	Bridging the Climate Change Investment Gap - SSIR
TED Talk	An Introduction to Social Impact Bonds - McKinsey & Company
Video	Katherina Rosqueta Defines High Impact Philanthropy
Article	Catalytic Philanthropy - FSG
Online Guide	Field Guide to Impact Investing: For Australian Charitable Trusts
Online Hub	Philanthropy Insight - Charities Aid Foundation
Podcast / Article	Belinda Morrissey on the Role of Philanthropy & Social Enterprise to Tackle Complex, Systemic Problems

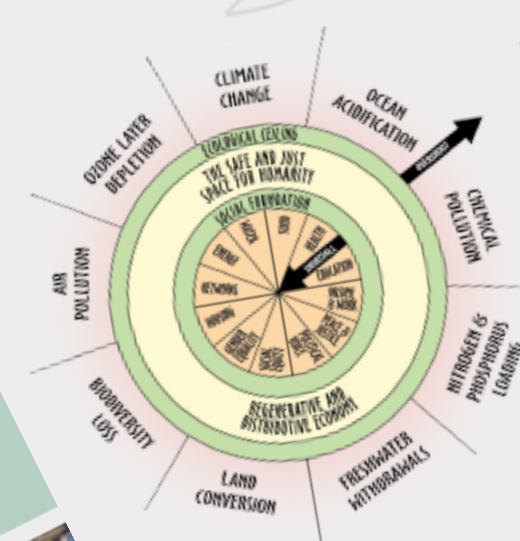


### 2.3 Frameworks of Success

"... the metrics that we define our success by and guide us are far too narrow. They're just based around finance or GDP. I think we need to broaden those metrics considerably to bring more visibility into the things that really matter to us."

- Damon Gameau, Journey to Impact, p.9.

New models of prosperity are emerging within the Impact Economy that take into account people, planet and profit. These models are all based on the same principle: that we can use business and the market to achieve a more holistic and sustainable wellbeing for the biosphere. It doesn't matter which model one chooses to follow; the important point is that we adopt a different understanding of success/progress to that espoused by traditional capitalism.



### DOUGHNUT ECONOMICS

Presented in 2017 by Oxford economist Kate Raworth, the doughnut is a 'compass for 21st Century prosperity'. It measures the performance of an economy by the extent to which it can meet people's basic needs (the Social Foundation) without overshooting the world's ecological ceiling. The aim of our economy is therefore to be 'regenerative and distributive' and thus create a 'safe and just space for humanity'.

### WHO GIVES A CRAP

Based in Melbourne, Australia: This social enterprise sells ethically made toilet paper created from 100% recycled post-consumer waste paper or bamboo fibres. It donates 50% of its profits towards sanitation projects around the world and reinvests the remaining profit back into the business to build operations. Founded in 2012 via an innovative crowdfunding campaign in which co-founder Simon Griffiths sat on a toilet for 50 hours straight, Who Gives a Crap has since donated over \$8.3 million to vetted sanitation projects and thousands of trees, millions of litres of water and thousands tons of carbon emissions. The Co-Founders are firm believers that business can be a source of fun - the brand has built on cheeky messaging and colourful toilet rolls. As they say, 'people are thinking about where their money goes and what that means for them, which is really (source).

### SOCIAL ENTERPRISES







# The Mercy Impact Economy Framework

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# Where To From Here

- Anthology of stories/examples from the Mercy community
- Mercy & the Impact Economy at MGA at the UN level
- Applying the Mercy Impact Economy Framework



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"Do not be daunted  
by the enormity of the world's grief.  
Do justly now,  
Love mercy now,  
Walk humbly now.  
You are not obligated to complete  
The work, nor are you free  
To abandon it."

Jewish prayer - Micah (Tanakh)  
Rami Shapiro

