

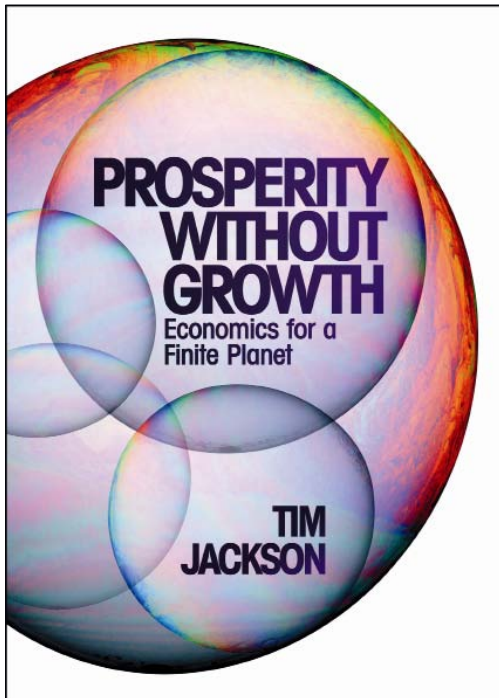
Prosperity without Growth

Economics for a Finite Planet

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TIM JACKSON

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Prosperity Without Growth is a substantially revised and updated version of Jackson's widely acclaimed and controversial report for the Sustainable Development Commission, an advisory body to the UK Government.

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Forewords by Herman E. Daly, Bill McKibben, Mary Robinson and Pavan Sukhdev

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TIM JACKSON is Economics Commissioner on the UK Sustainable Development Commission. He is also Professor of Sustainable Development at the University of Surrey and Director of the ESRC Research Group on Lifestyles, Values and Environment (RESOLVE). In addition to his scientific work, Tim is an award-winning dramatist with numerous BBC radio writing credits to his name.

'One of the best books of the year.
A challenge to mainstream economic thinking
that is both accessible and robustly argued.'

The Financial Times

'A new economic movement is emerging, and
this superbly written book should be the first
stop for anyone wanting a manifesto.'

The Guardian

'Bold and provocative...' *The New York Times*

'In the teeth of the economic crisis, Jackson has written the most important book that could possibly be written now.' *James Gustave Speth, Yale University*

'*Prosperity without Growth's* hugely encouraging and thrilling theme is that humanity can prosper without growth. In fact there is no other way left to us.' *Robert Goodland, winner of IUCN's Coolidge Medal of Honor 2008*

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Is more economic growth the solution? Will it deliver prosperity and well-being for a global population projected to reach nine billion? In this explosive book, Tim Jackson – a top sustainability adviser to the UK government – makes a compelling case against continued economic growth in developed nations.

No one denies that development is essential for poorer nations. But in the advanced economies there is mounting evidence that ever-increasing consumption adds little to human happiness and may even impede it. More urgently, it is now clear that the ecosystems that sustain our economies are collapsing under the impacts of rising consumption. Unless we can radically lower the environmental impact of economic activity – and there is no evidence to suggest that we can – we will have to devise a path to prosperity that does not rely on continued growth.

Economic heresy? Or an opportunity to improve the sources of well-being, creativity and lasting prosperity that lie outside the realm of the market? Tim Jackson provides a credible vision of how human society can flourish – within the ecological limits of a finite planet. Fulfilling this vision is simply the most urgent task of our times.

