

## **A conceptual basis for decision support for sustainability: `phronesis` and stocks**

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Decision support for comprehensive and long-term sustainability policy is challenged by uncertainty and ignorance, both manifested in lacking knowledge about nature, economy, and society, and also by significant methodological differences between the disciplines. But these difficulties do not legitimize the 'muddling through' practice common in politics. In this paper, the concepts of *phronesis* and *stocks* are developed to provide appropriate decision support for sustainability. 'Phronesis' (power of judgment) is the capability of accomplishment of political actors under uncertainty. Concerning sustainability, phronesis requires normative guidelines and descriptive principles for evaluating complex ecological-economical-social interrelations. The concept of stocks is such a principle, integrating fragmented knowledge about the dynamics of relevant structures.