

Bharathidasan University

**Programme: MSc Environmental Science and Sustainable
Management**

**Course Title: ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND SUSTAINABILITY
Course Code: 21PGEC04-1**

Unit- I Natural capital and human capital

**Prof. R. Mohanraj
Dept. of Environmental Science and Management**

THE HINDU

Tiger reserves: Economic and environmental win-win JULY 22, 2017

“Saving 2 tigers gives more value than Mangalyaan”

Saving two tigers yields a capital benefit of ₹520 crores, while Mangalyaan cost us ₹450 crores

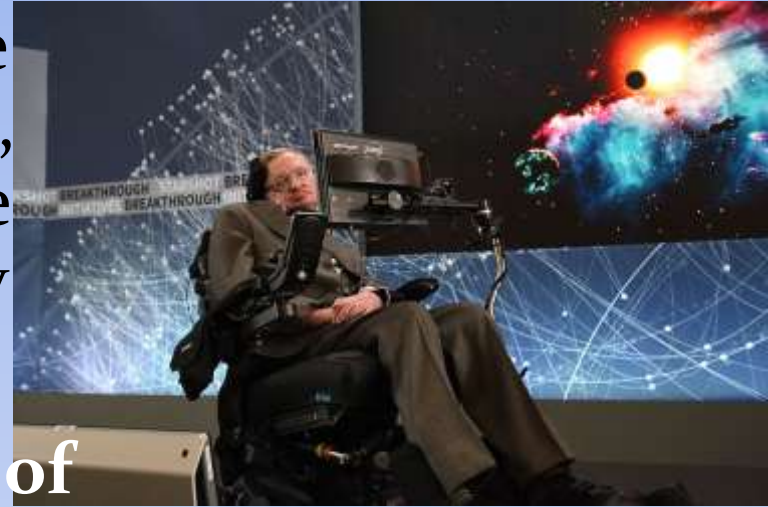


Trees offer multiple benefits — don't kill them, breed them

- Hundred trees remove 53 tons of carbon dioxide and 430 pounds of other air pollutants per year
- In 1979, Dr. T.M. Das of Calcutta University estimated that the monetary value of a tree, during a life span of 50 years, amounted to about **\$2,00,000** (at 1979 rates)
- Healthy trees mean healthy environment — 100 mature trees catch about 1,40,000 gallons of rain water per year

Stephen Hawking's warning: Find another planet

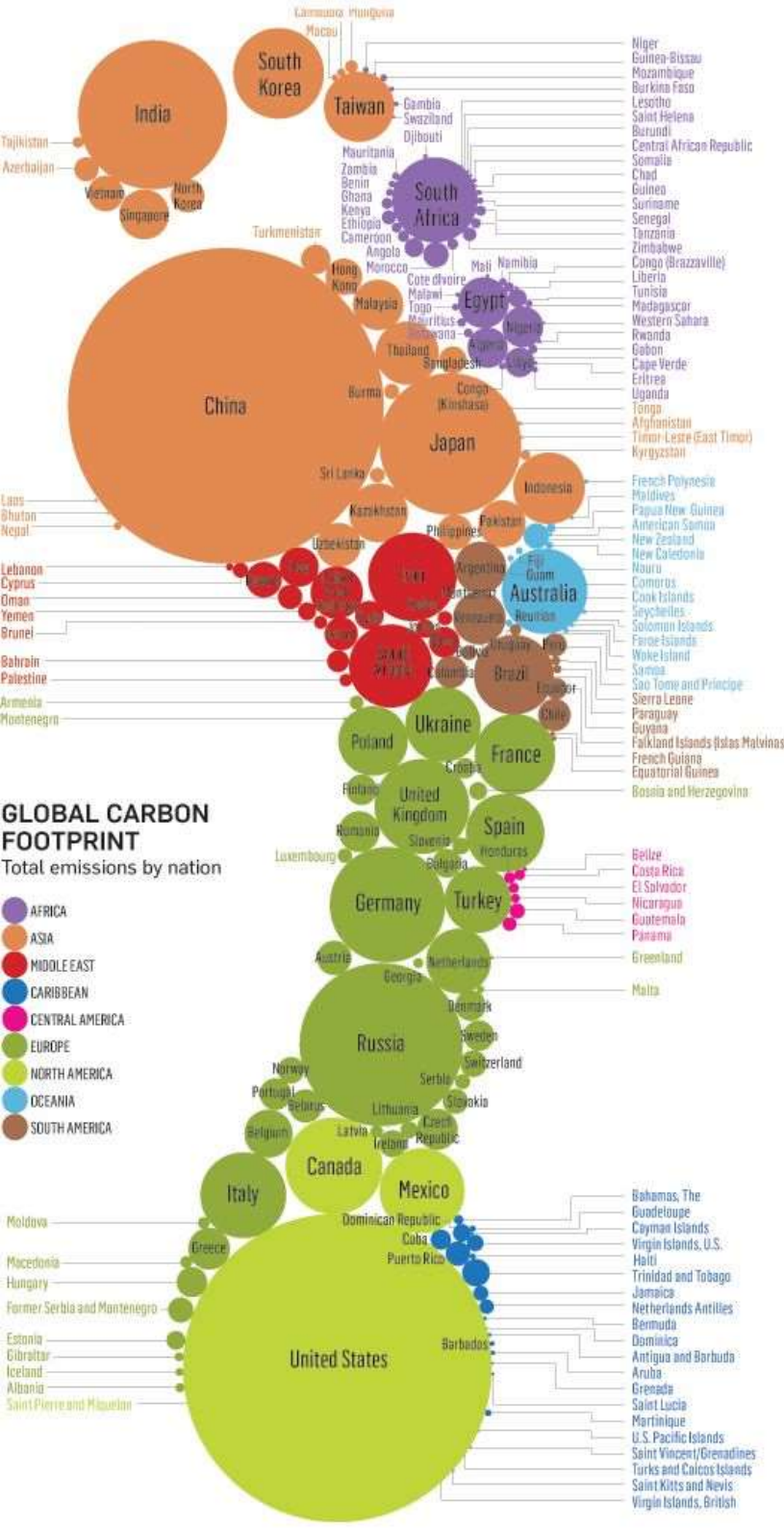
Within the next 100 years, he warned, we need to colonize Mars and other planets. If we don't, we may not survive climate change, disease, and other versions of doom we're bound to inflict on ourselves this century



- **Why Stephen Hawking is more afraid of capitalism than robots**

Everyone can enjoy a life of luxurious leisure if the machine-produced wealth is shared, or most people can end up miserably poor if the machine-owners successfully lobby against wealth redistribution. So far, the trend seems to be toward the second option, with technology driving ever-increasing inequality

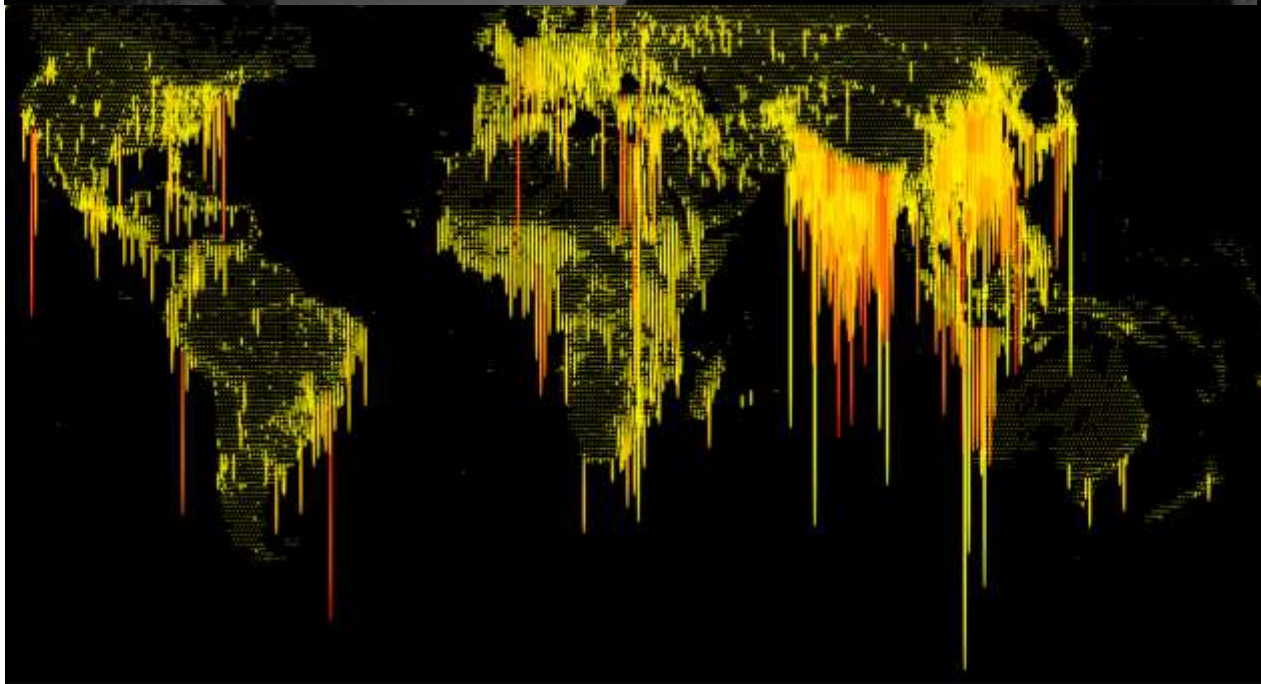
Human Vs Earth



Earth Vs. Humans

All of our basic resources, such as land, water, energy, and food, are shared with all human populations, currently around 7.5 billion. Resources are shared among growing numbers of people. If we cannot slow our pace of growth, human progress and quality of life will be severely threatened.

Resource use is increasing.



We need 1.5 planets to sustain current consumption patterns ...

Overstepping Ourselves

As our Ecological Footprint continues to exceed Earth's biocapacity, we overdraw from our future.



1961

74%
OF BIOCAPACITY



1985

114%
OF BIOCAPACITY



2012

156%
OF BIOCAPACITY

Plastic Pollution



Nearly 50% of the plastic waste generated globally in 2015 was plastic packaging.

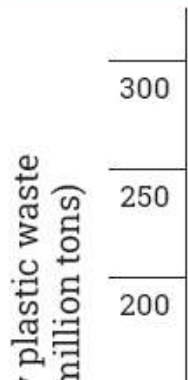
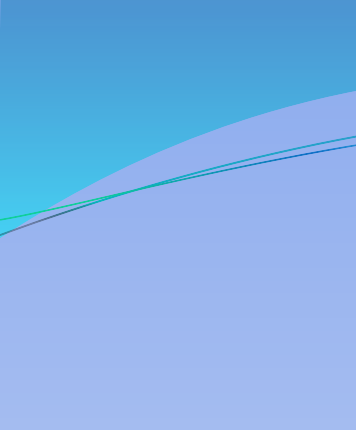
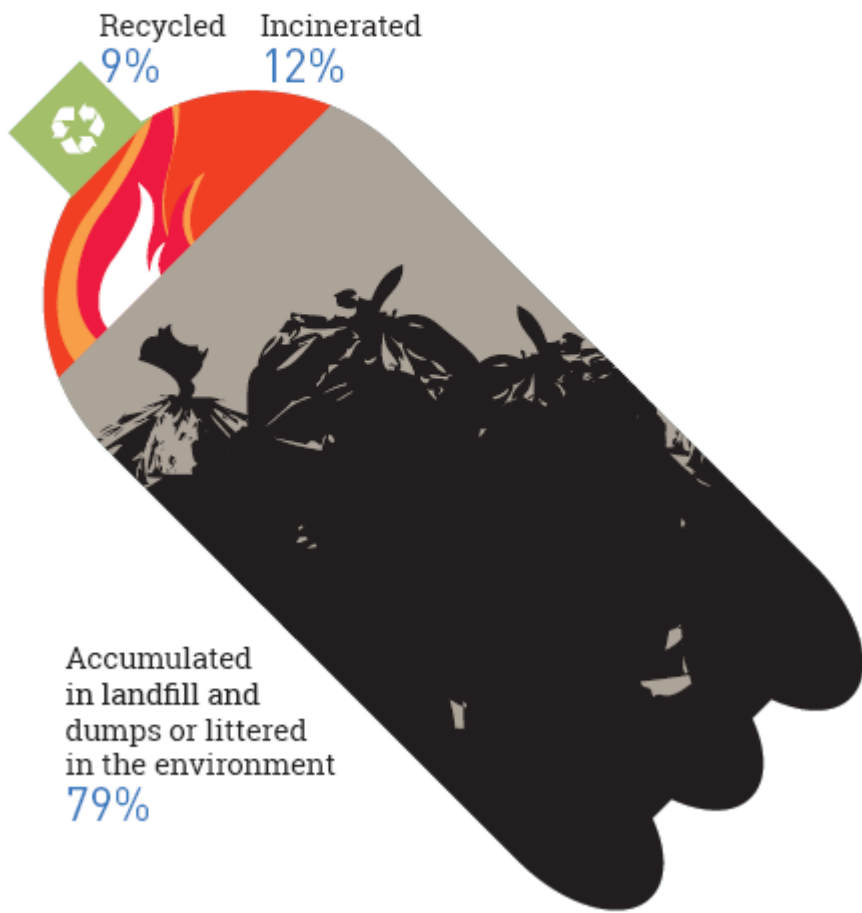
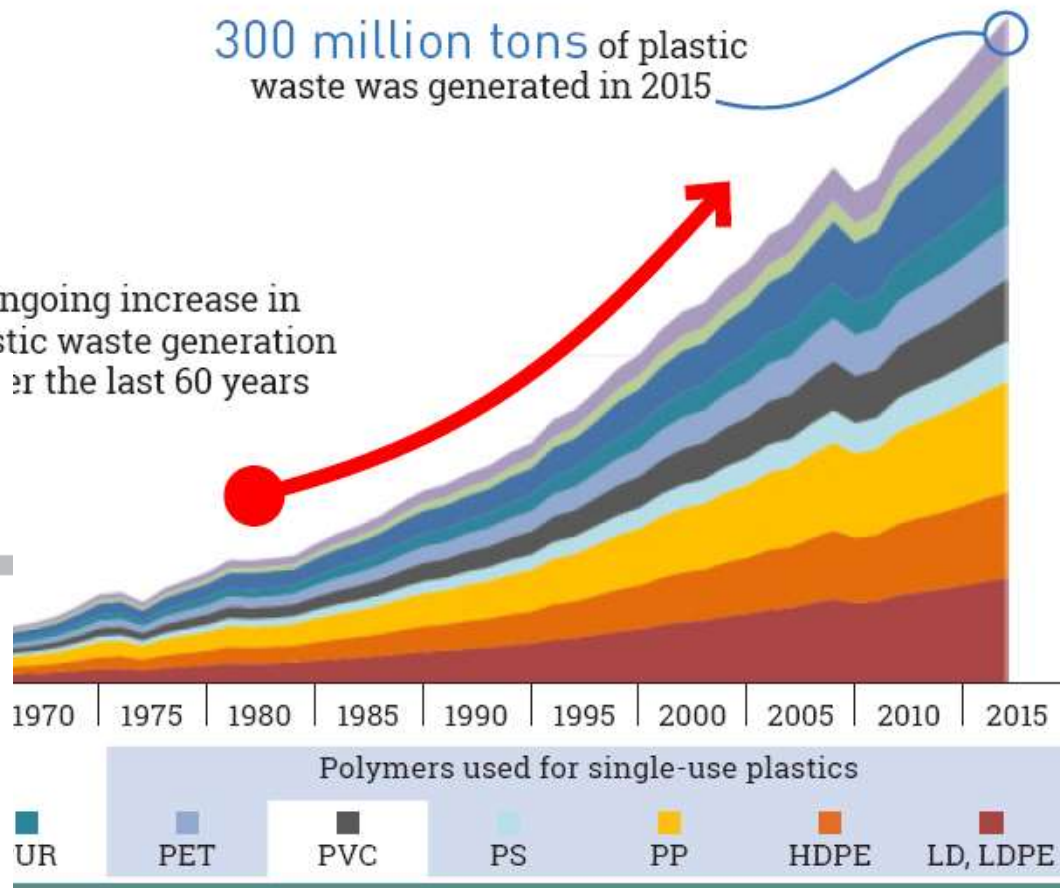


Figure 1.6. Disposal of all plastic waste ever generated (as of 2015)



Plastic bags and Styrofoam containers can take up to **1,000 years** to decompose.

Biodiversity loss and food chain contamination

Marine litter: A mammoth challenge for our oceans



By 2050, an estimated
99%
of seabirds will have ingested plastic

Marine litter harms over
600
marine species

15%
of species affected by ingestion &
entanglement from marine litter are
endangered

Arctic Tern

44,300 Miles /year

During its lifetime they found it equalled three round trips to the Moon – or more than 1.25 million miles



Arctic terns travel the longest regular migratory route of any animal on earth. Every year these sea birds travel from pole to pole and back, so they experience two summers per year. The round trip is roughly 44,300 miles. Breeding takes place in summer in the Arctic and sub-Arctic areas of North America, Asia and Europe

UTKAL ALUMINA INTERNATIONAL LIMITED, RAYAGADA, ORISSA – Case Analysis

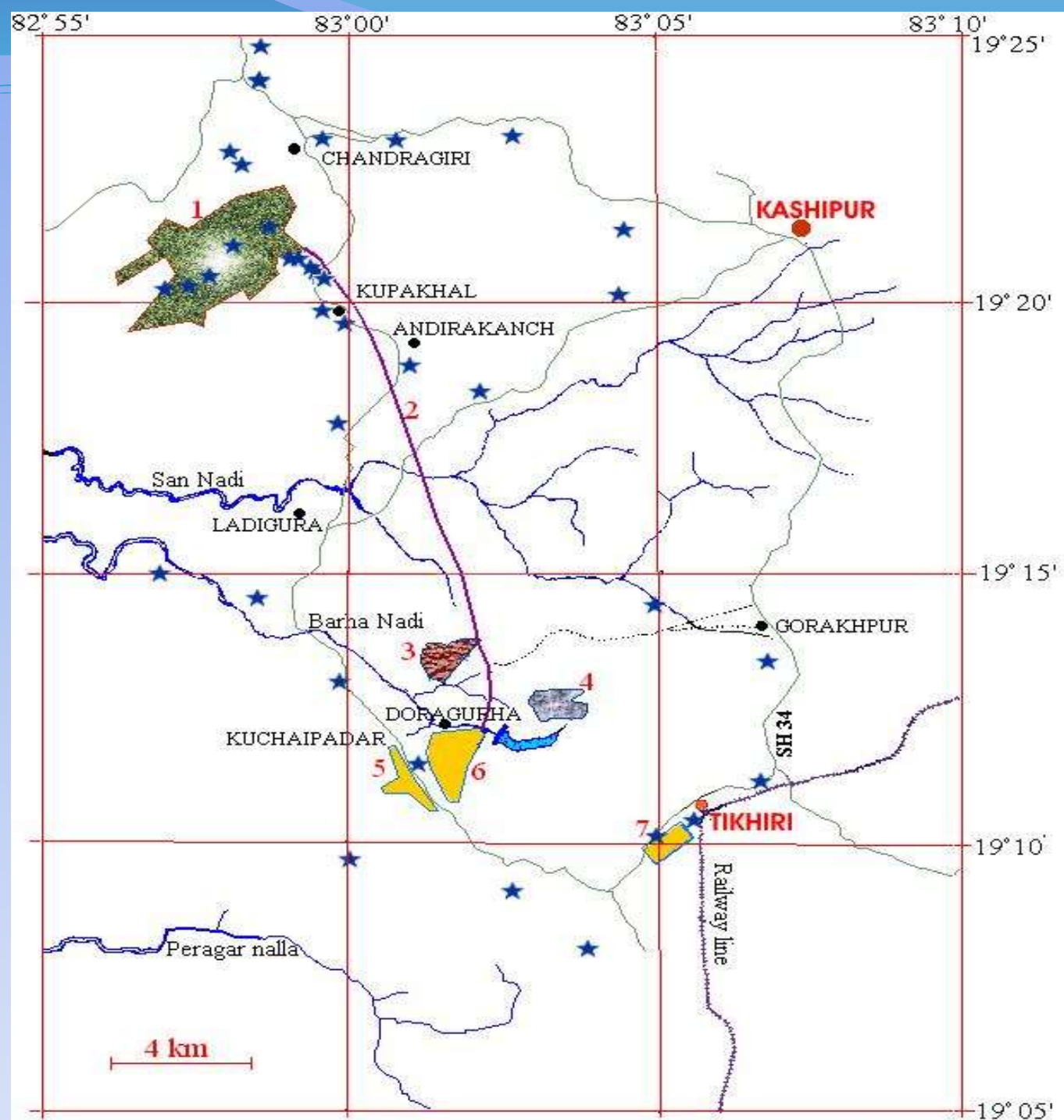
- The Utkal Alumina International Ltd (UAIL), sets up an Alumina plant at Doragurha in the Kashipur block of the Rayagada district, Orissa. The plant envisages to utilize the bauxite deposit of Baphlimali plateau.
- A conveyor belt of approximately 20km connecting it with the mine at the Baphlimali plateau, facilities for red mud and ash disposal, road network, 12 km railway siding, airstrip and a township.



Mine Area

- About 200 million tons of bauxite
- Most of the plateau will be mined leaving aside a 15m barrier at the periphery (to check erosion from the mining site)
- administrative office, Work force of around 300 people.





1. Baphlimali plateau (Mining site) 2 Conveyor route 3 Redmud pond 4 Ash pond
 5 Township 6 Plant area 7 Air strip ★ Sampling location

Figure 1 Map showing the project sites and the sampling locations



Today





Agricultural land has been polluted by toxic waste and dust due to mining



Conveyor beltline near Lundrukana village –A threat

Orissa > Mining > Vedanta

This Tribe In Odisha Lost Everything
8000 population in Niyamgiri hills

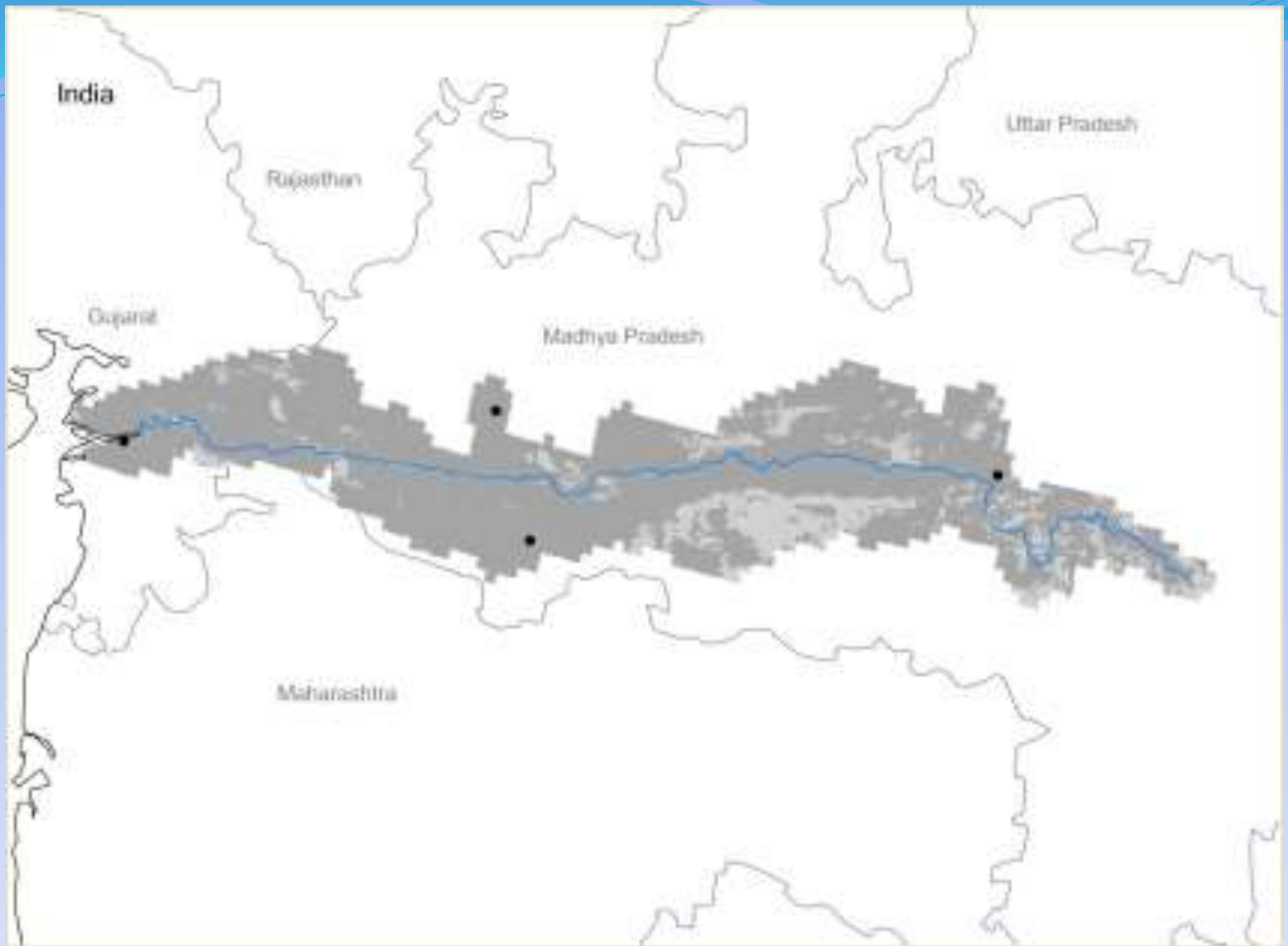


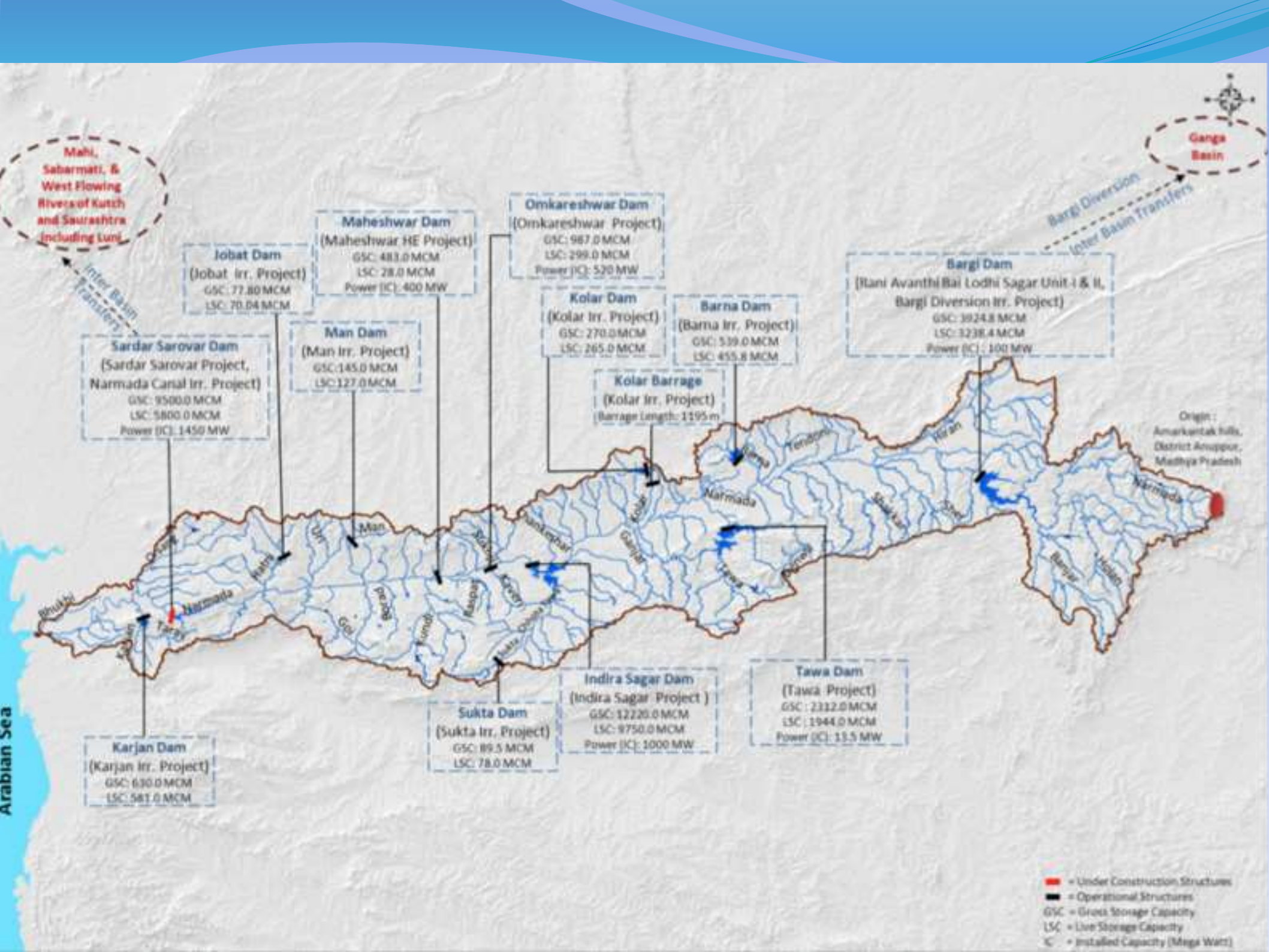
Narmada Valley

Sardar Sarovar Project

- Conceived in the mid-1960s under Nehru
- Building postponed due to disagreement between three states impacted by project:
 - Madhya Pradesh
 - Gujarat
 - Maharashtra

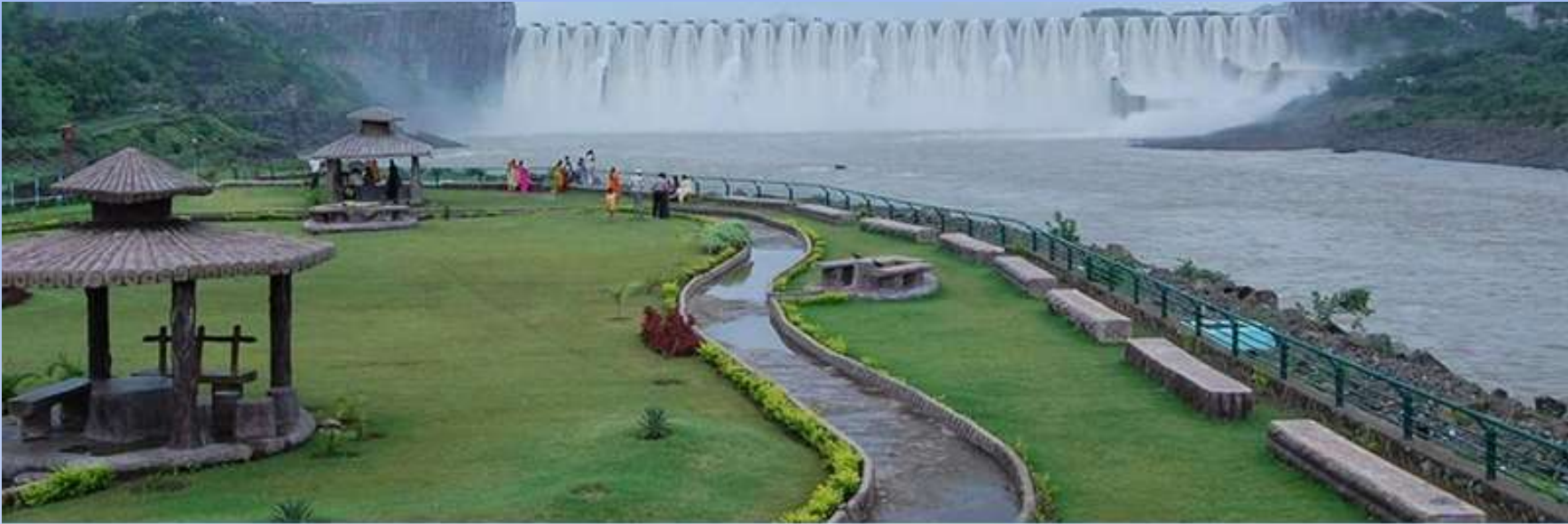






Sardar Sarovar dam

Dedicated to the nation on Sep 17, 2017, almost 56 years after its foundation stone was laid





Ecosystem Services

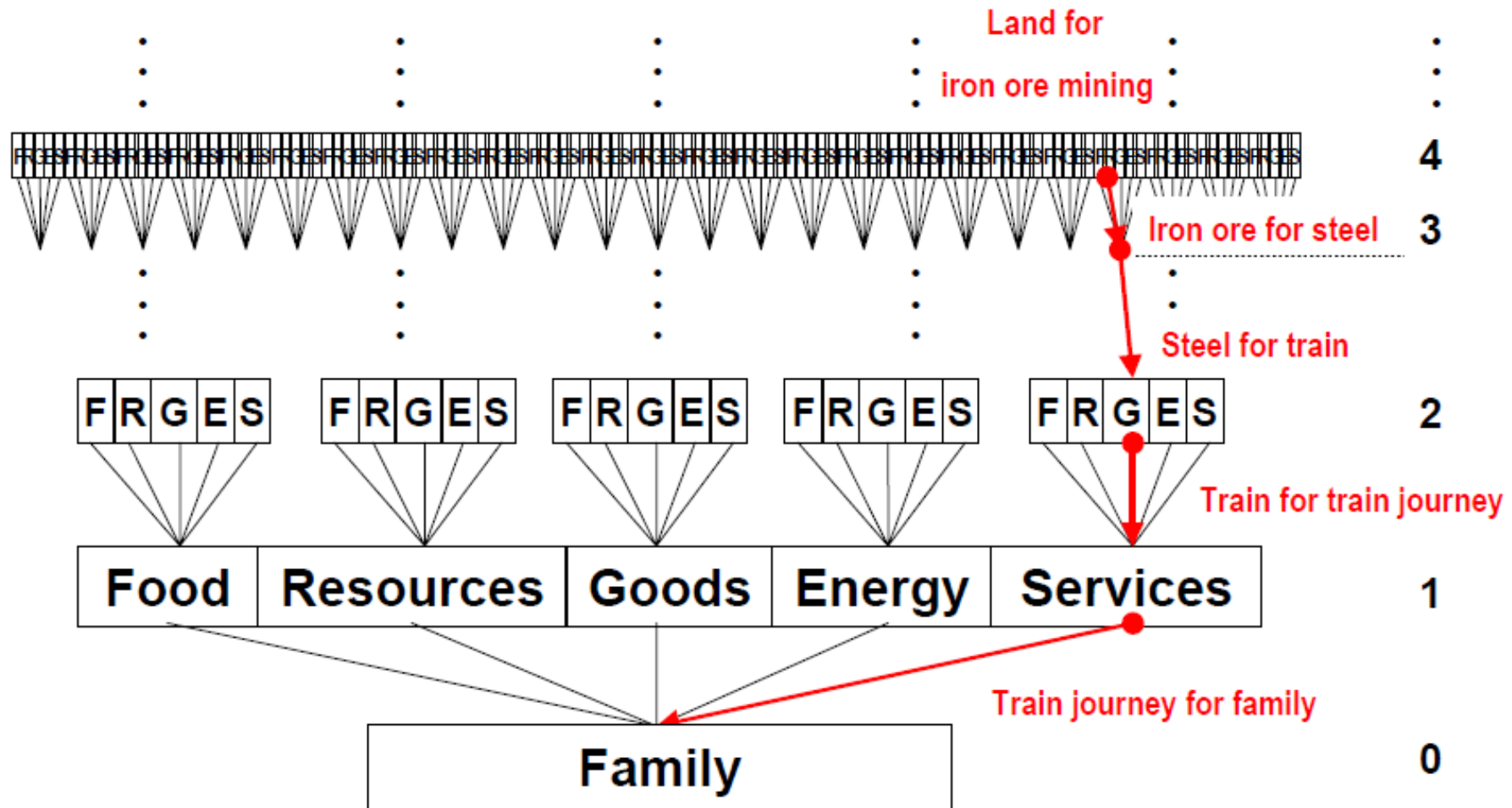


Fig. 2: Production layers and input paths in the ecological footprint of a family.

The value of the world's ecosystem services and natural capital

Robert Costanza*†, Ralph d'Arge‡, Rudolf de Groot§, Stephen Farber||, Monica Grasso†, Bruce Hannon¶, Karin Limburg#*, Shahid Naeem, Robert V. O'Neill††, Jose Paruelo‡‡, Robert G. Raskin§§, Paul Sutton||| & Marjan van den Belt¶¶**

* Center for Environmental and Estuarine Studies, Zoology Department, and † Institute for Ecological Economics, University of Maryland, Box 38, Solomons, Maryland 20688, USA

‡ Economics Department (emeritus), University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming 82070, USA

§ Center for Environment and Climate Studies, Wageningen Agricultural University, PO Box 9101, 6700 HB Wageningen, The Netherlands

|| Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15260, USA

¶ Geography Department and NCSA, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801, USA

Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook, New York, USA

** Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, University of Minnesota, St Paul, Minnesota 55108, USA

†† Environmental Sciences Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831, USA

‡‡ Department of Ecology, Faculty of Agronomy, University of Buenos Aires, Av. San Martin 4453, 1417 Buenos Aires, Argentina

§§ Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, California 91109, USA

||| National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis, Department of Geography, University of California at Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, California 93106, USA

¶¶ Ecological Economics Research and Applications Inc., PO Box 1589, Solomons, Maryland 20688, USA

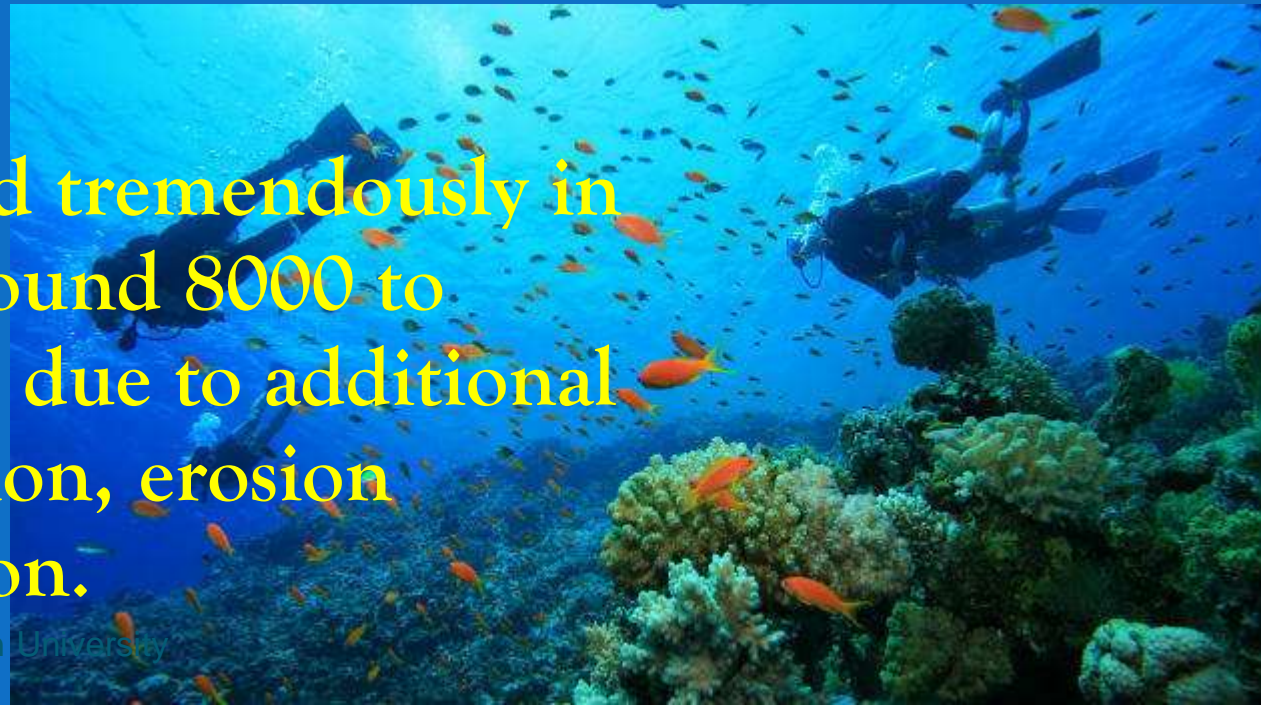
The services of ecological systems and the natural capital stocks that produce them are critical to the functioning of the Earth's life-support system. They contribute to human welfare, both directly and indirectly, and therefore represent part of the total economic value of the planet. We have estimated the current economic value of 17 ecosystem services for 16 biomes, based on published studies and a few original calculations. For the entire biosphere, the value (most of which is outside the market) is estimated to be in the range of US\$16–54 trillion (10^{12}) per year, with an average of US\$33 trillion per year. Because of the nature of the uncertainties, this must be considered a minimum estimate. Global gross national product total is around US\$18 trillion per year.

Valuing Ecosystem Service (Costanza 2014)

Some biomes showed significant increases in value. For example, tidal marsh/mangroves increased from around 14,000 to around 194,000 \$/ha/yr.

This is largely due to new studies of the storm protection, erosion control, and waste treatment values of these systems.

Coral reefs also increased tremendously in estimated value from around 8000 to around 352,000 \$/ha/yr due to additional studies of storm protection, erosion protection, and recreation.

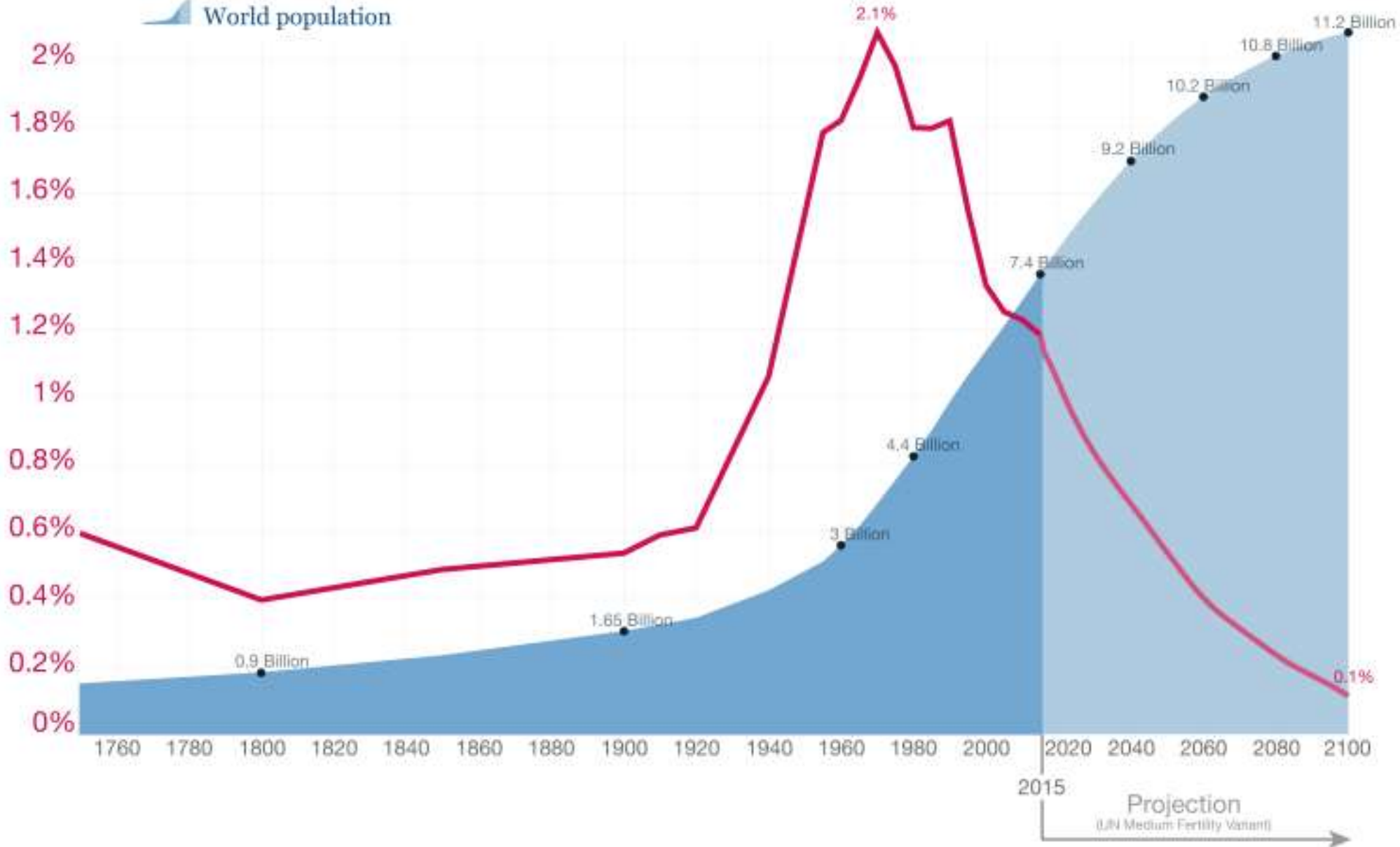


Human Population – A Trigger

Our World
in Data

World population growth, 1750-2100

Annual growth rate of the world population
World population



Data sources: Up to 2015 OurWorldInData series based on UN and HYDE. Projections for 2015 to 2100: UN Population Division (2015) – Medium Variant. The data visualization is taken from OurWorldInData.org. There you find the raw data and more visualizations on this topic.

Licensed under CC-BY-SA by the author Max Roser

Ecological Footprint (number of Earths)

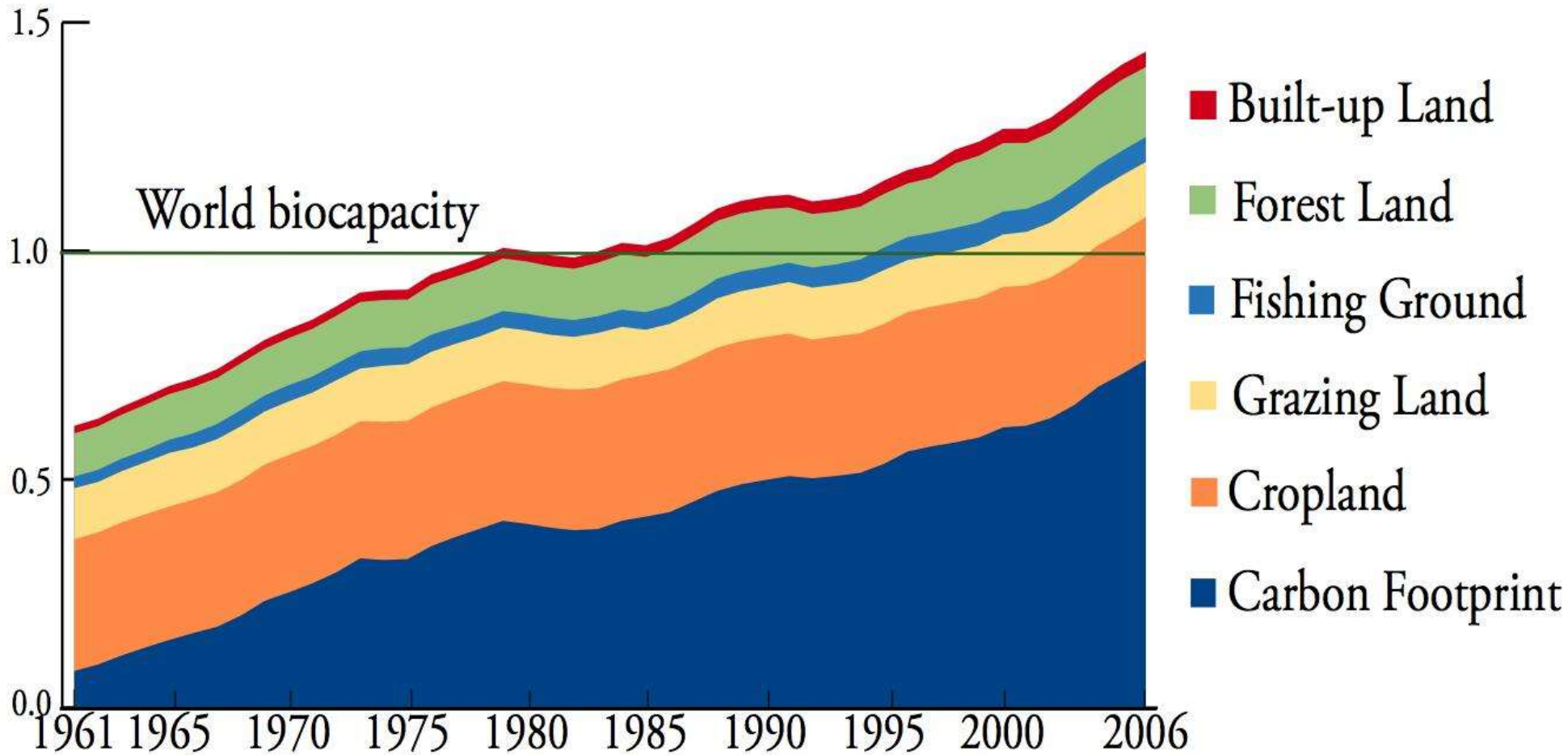


Figure 3. Humanity's Ecological Footprint, 1961-2006

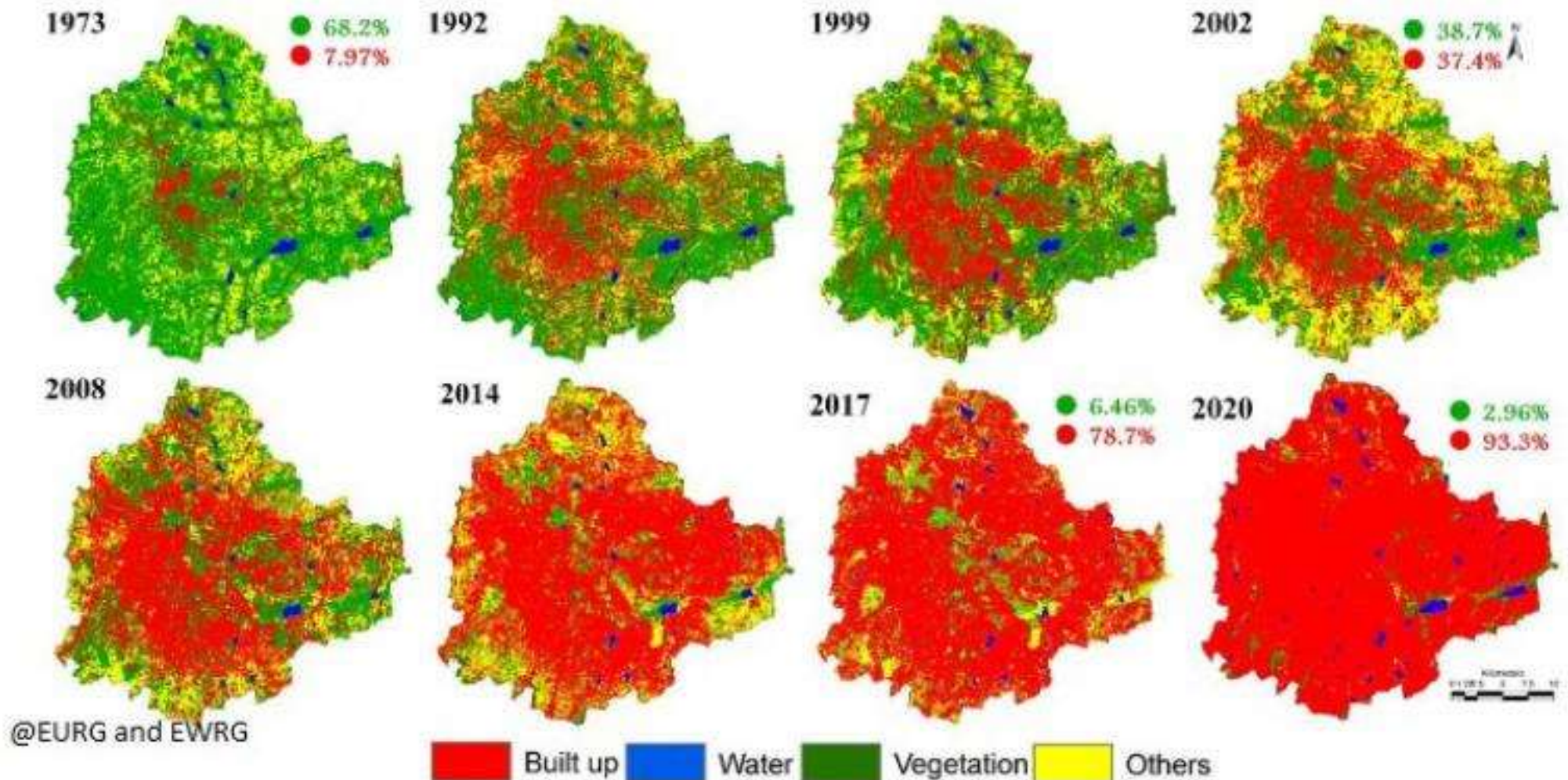
Urban Footprints

- **Consumed Land**
 - **Built environment**



Urban Footprints

Bangalore City Land use changes



Land use dynamics in Bengaluru

Transportation Footprints



- If one person travels 5 kilometers twice each workday:
 - **Bicycle: 122 sq meters**
 - **Buses : 301 sq meters**
 - **Cars: 1,442 sq meters**

Agricultural Footprints

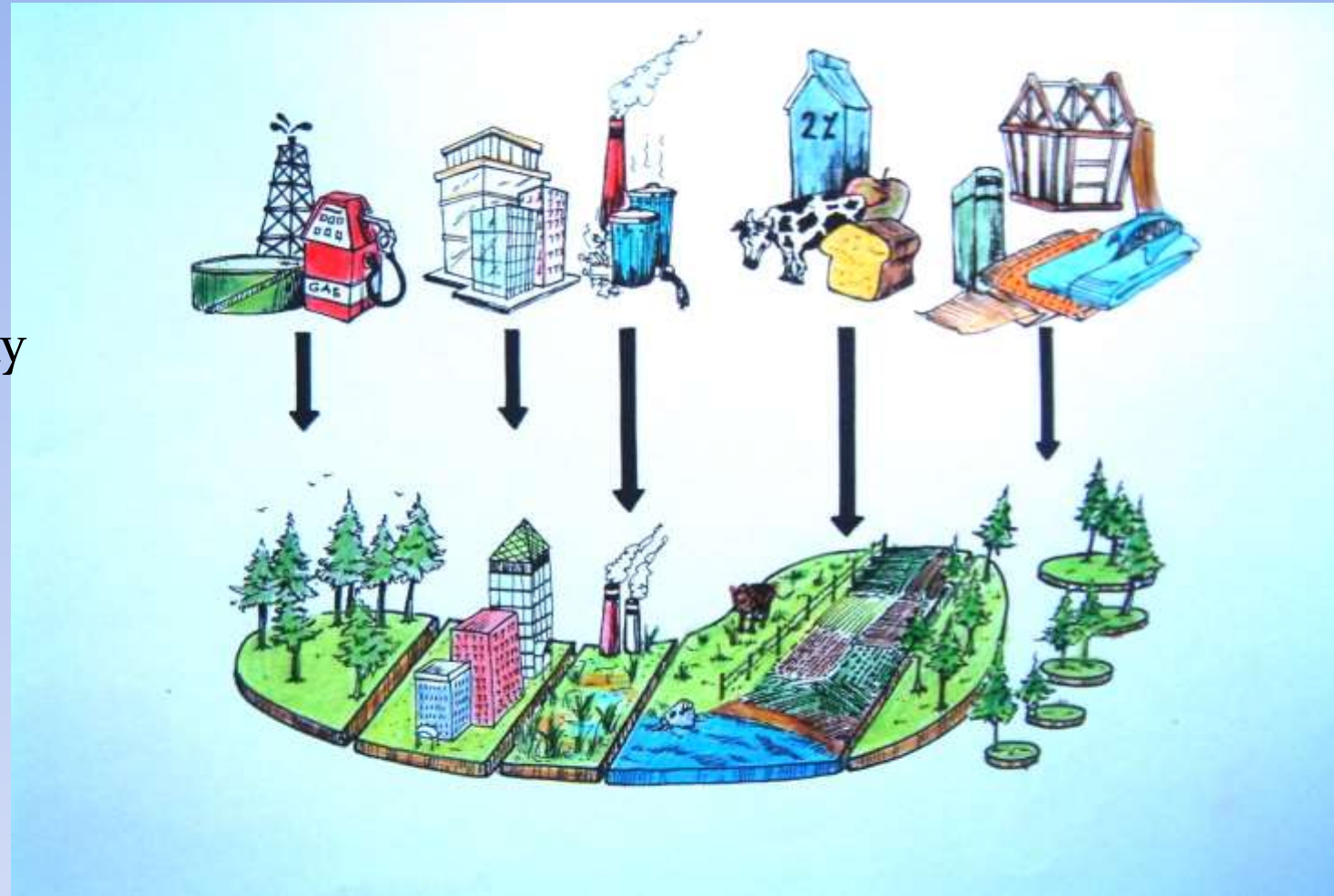


- **Open Field production of tomatoes takes up more land than greenhouse production**
- **But Greenhouse production has a much larger ecological footprint (10-20x)**
 - **Energy**
 - **Fertilizer**
 - **Other inputs**

Products and the Environment

- At first glance, the relationship between products & our environment may seem clear,

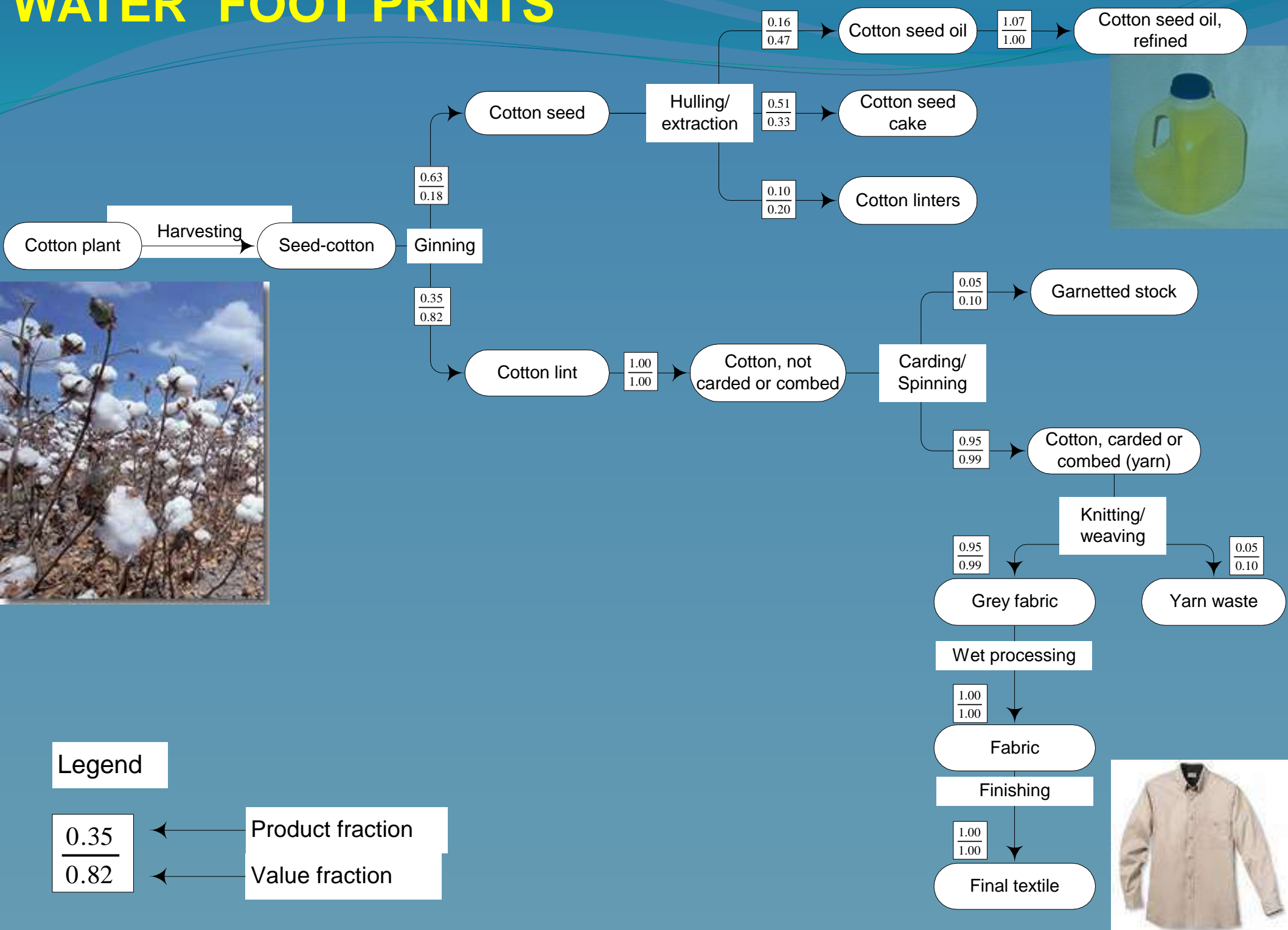
BUT....





[Hoekstra & Chapagain, 2008]

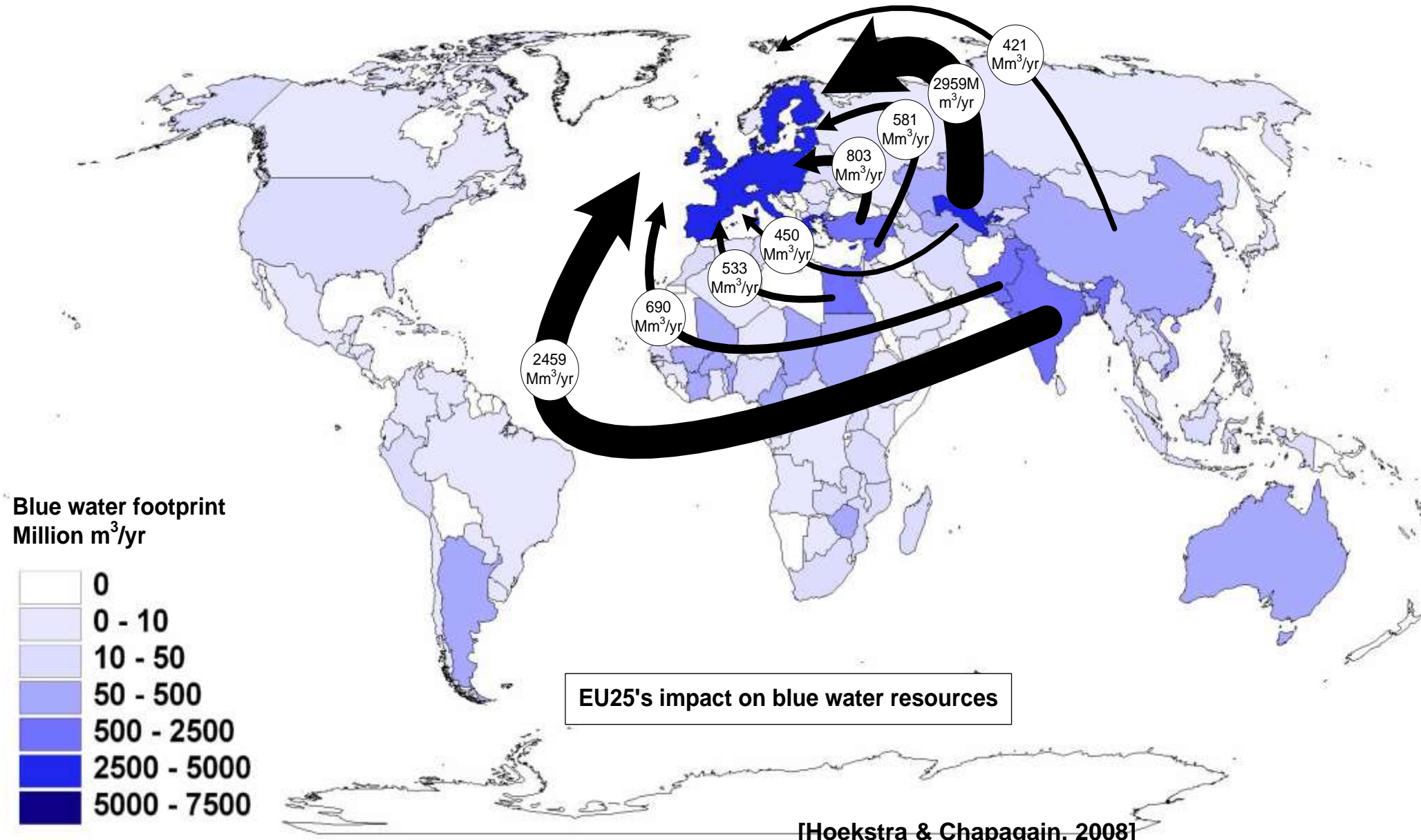
WATER FOOT PRINTS



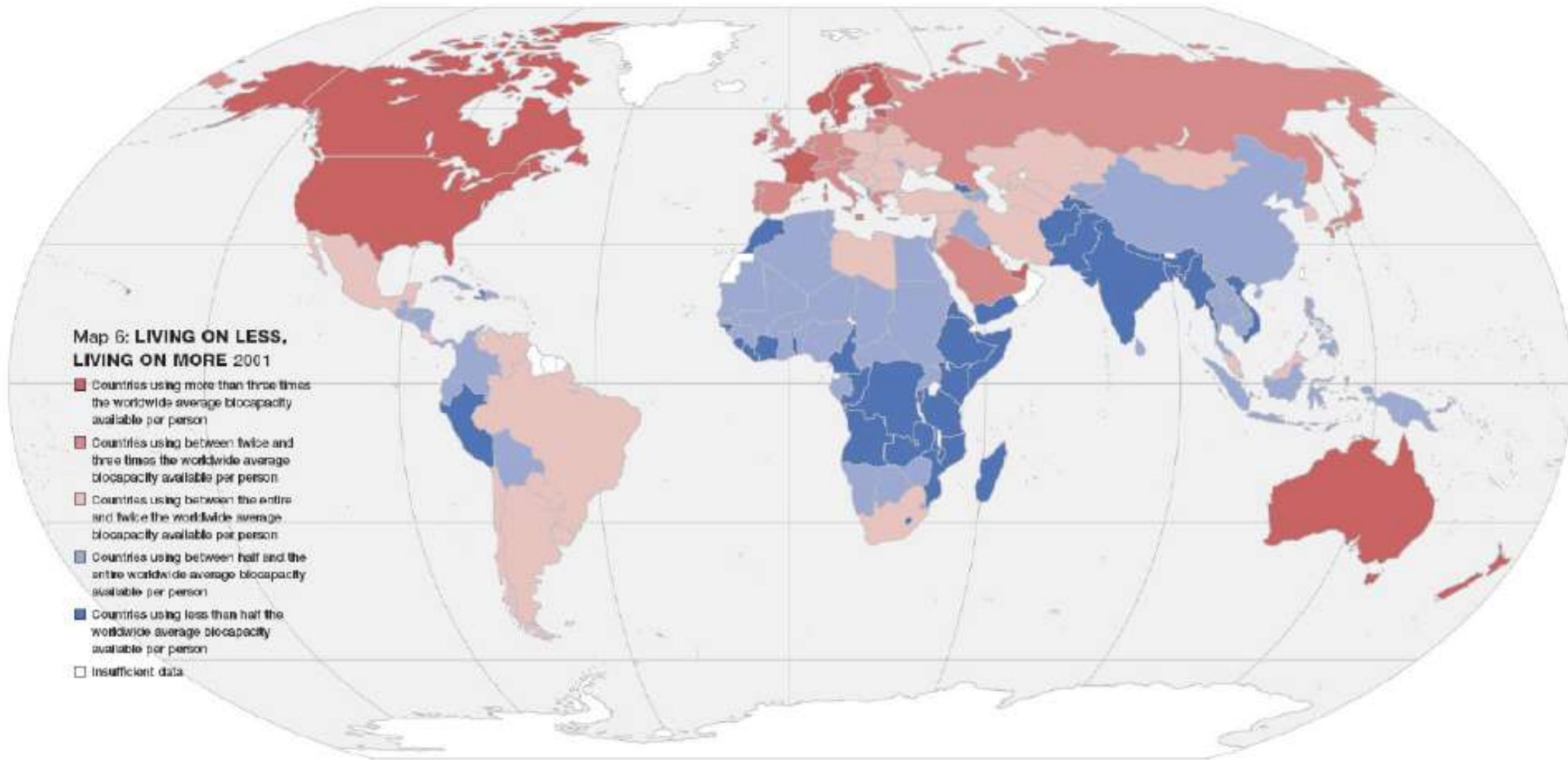
Polluted Waters – River Noyyal



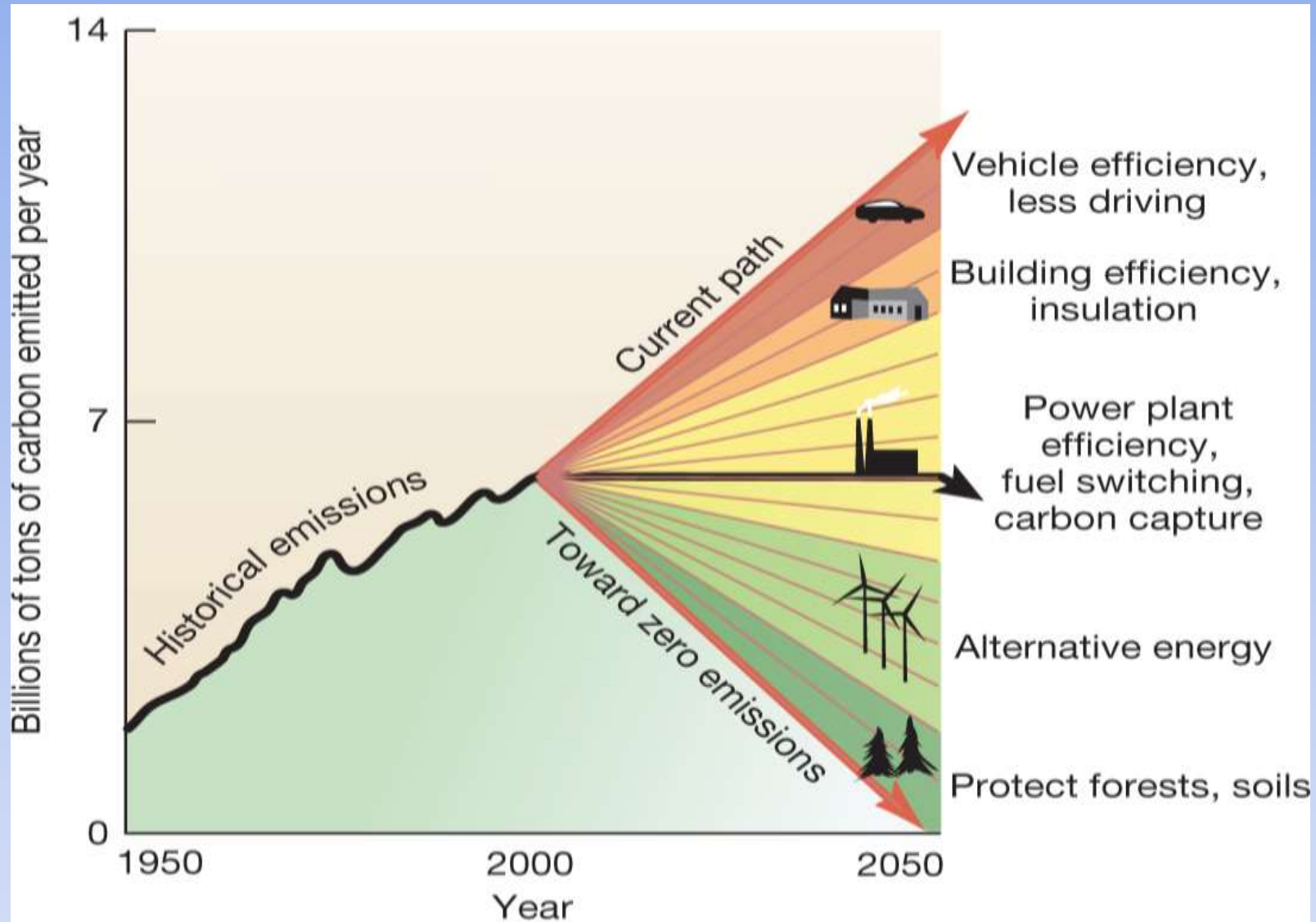
Water footprint of EU's cotton consumption (blue water)



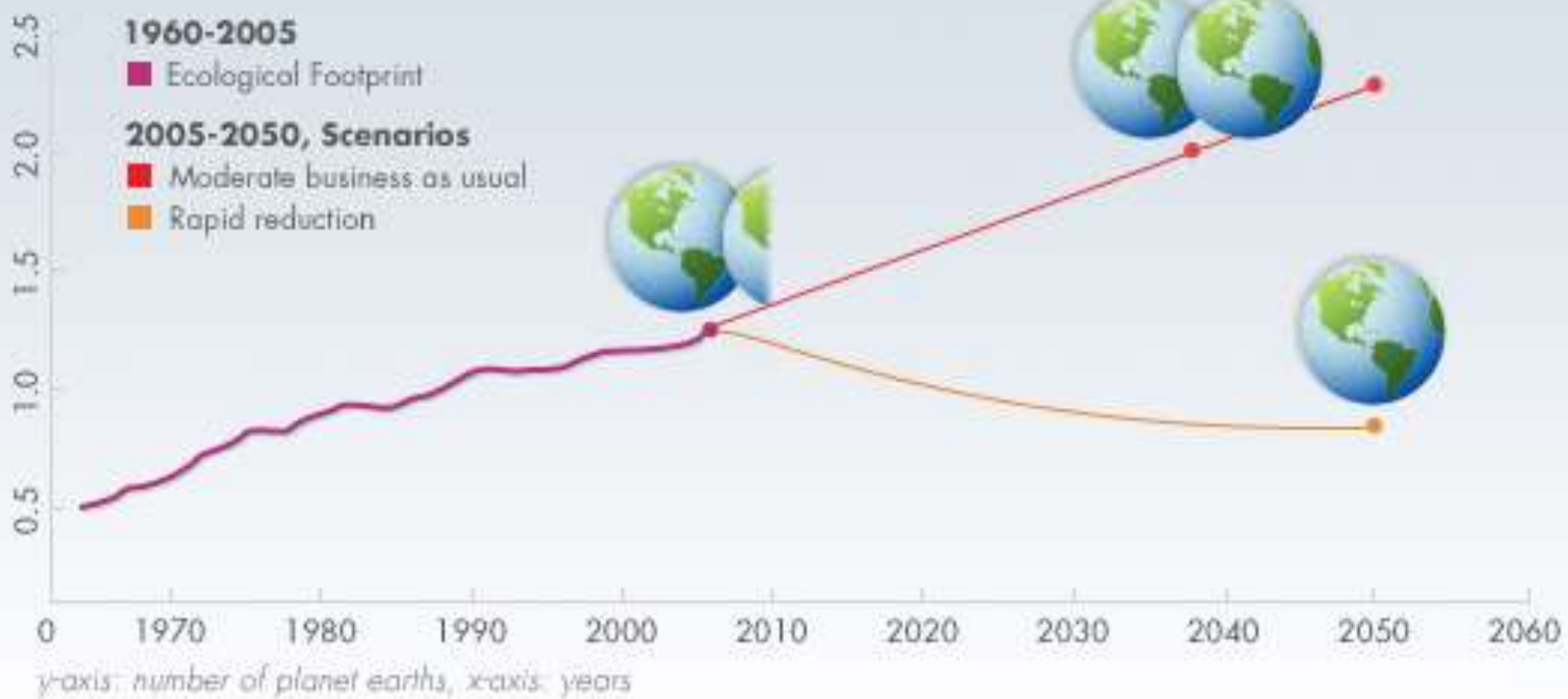
Living on Less, Living on More, 2001



Wedge Analysis

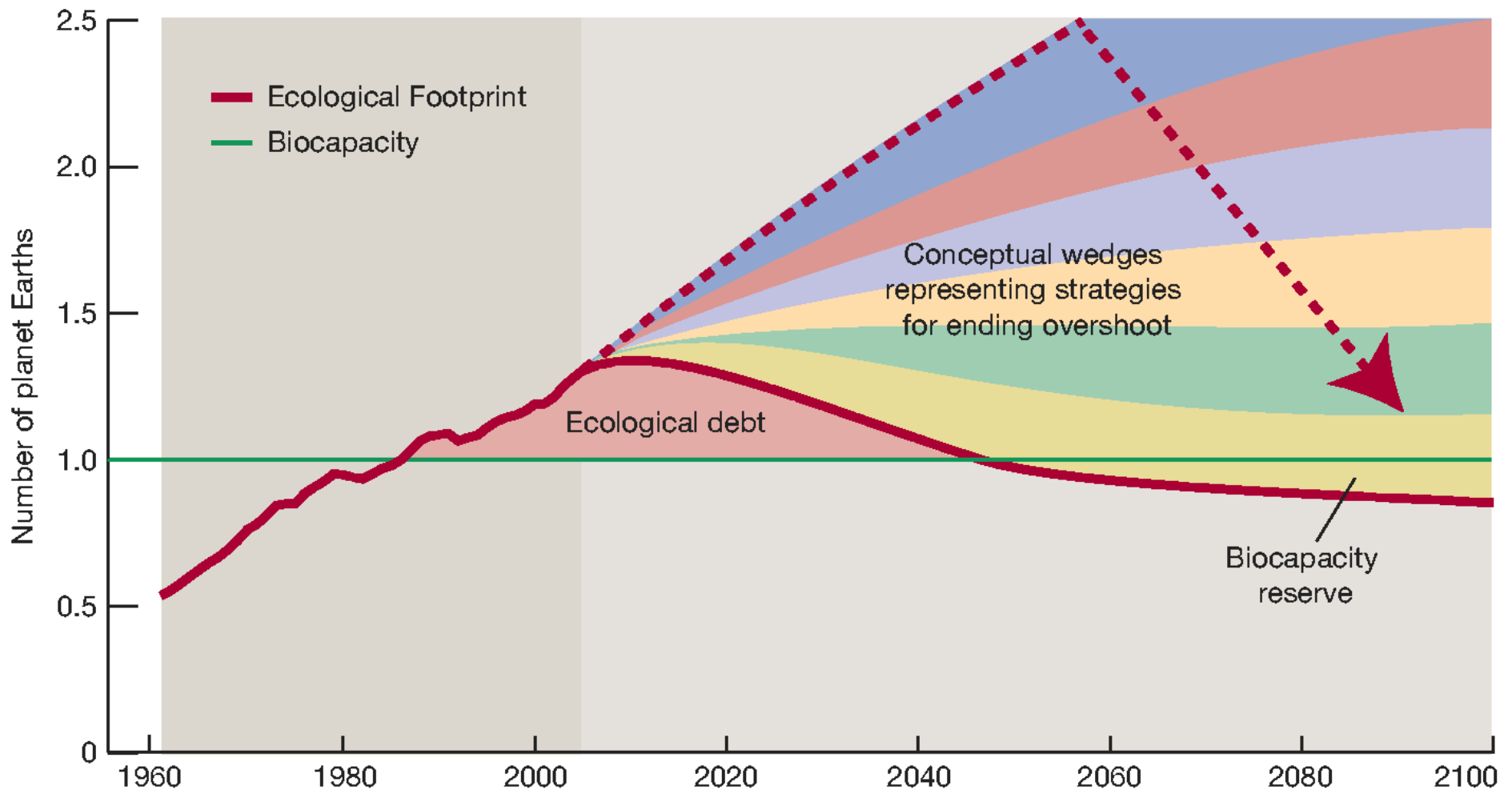


- Accomplishing just half of these wedges could level off our emissions. Accomplishing all of them could return to levels well below those envisioned in the Kyoto protocol

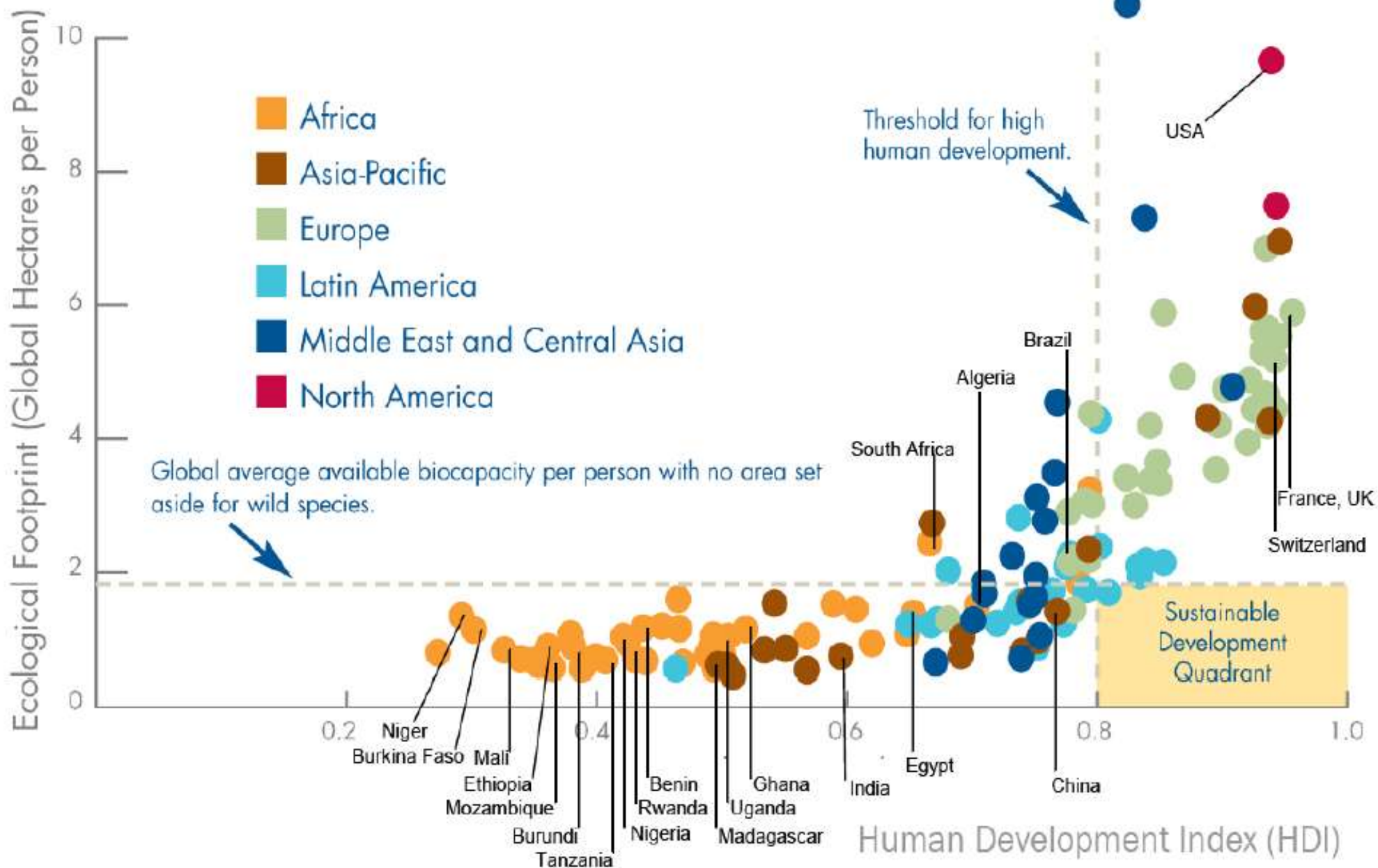


Sustainability ?

Fig. 34: **SUSTAINABILITY WEDGES AND AN END TO OVERSHOOT**



From Living Planet Report 2008, World Wildlife Fund, 2008.

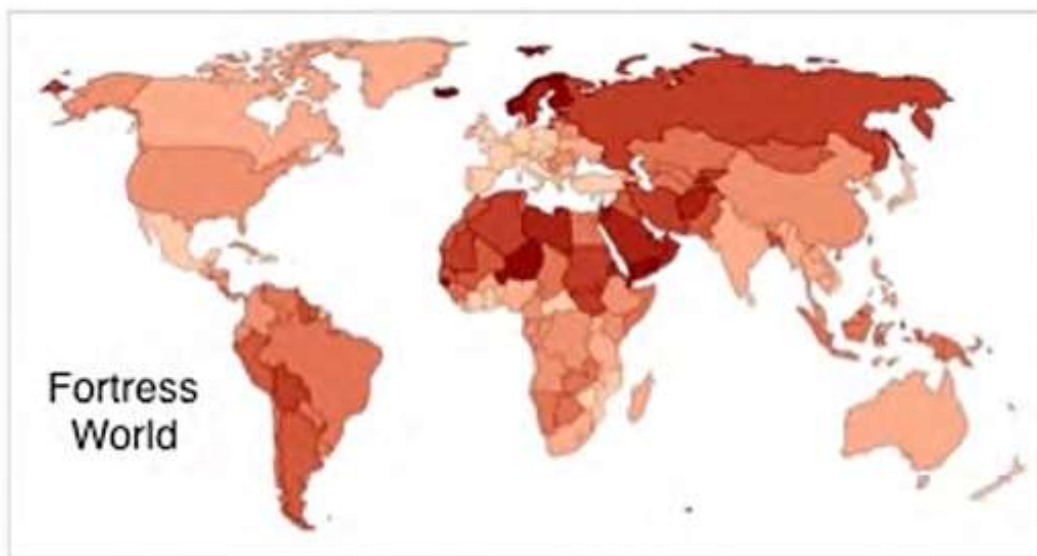
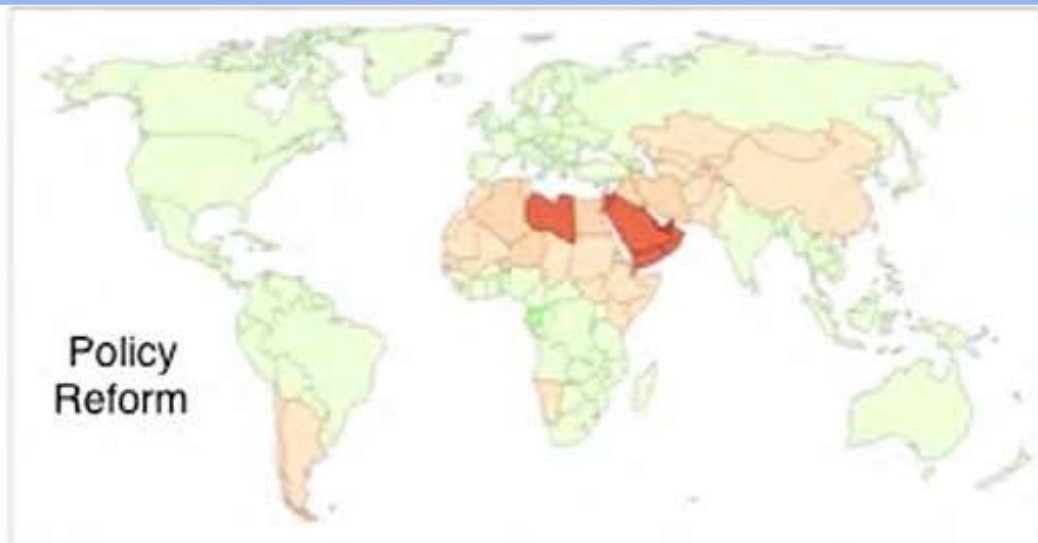
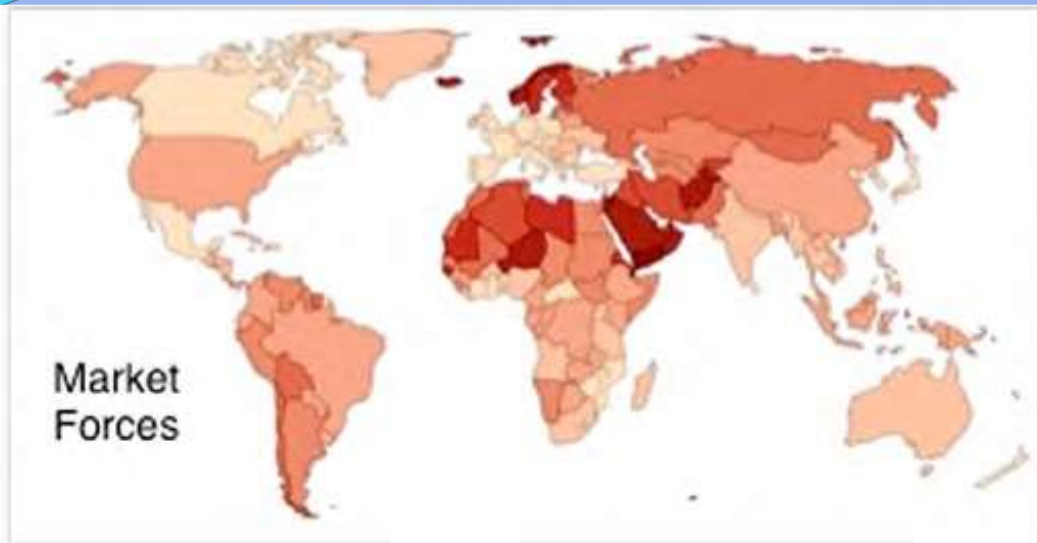


Development Index (HDI) as an indicator of socio-economic development, and the Ecological Footprint as a measure of human demand on the biosphere. The United Nations considers an HDI of over 0.8 to be "high human development." An Ecological Footprint less than 1.8 global hectares per person makes a country's resource demands globally replicable. Despite growing adoption of sustainable development as an explicit policy goal, most countries do not meet both minimum requirements.

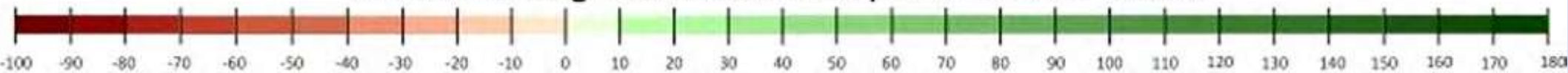
Ecosystem Services ---- Future Scenarios (Kubiszewski et al. 2017)



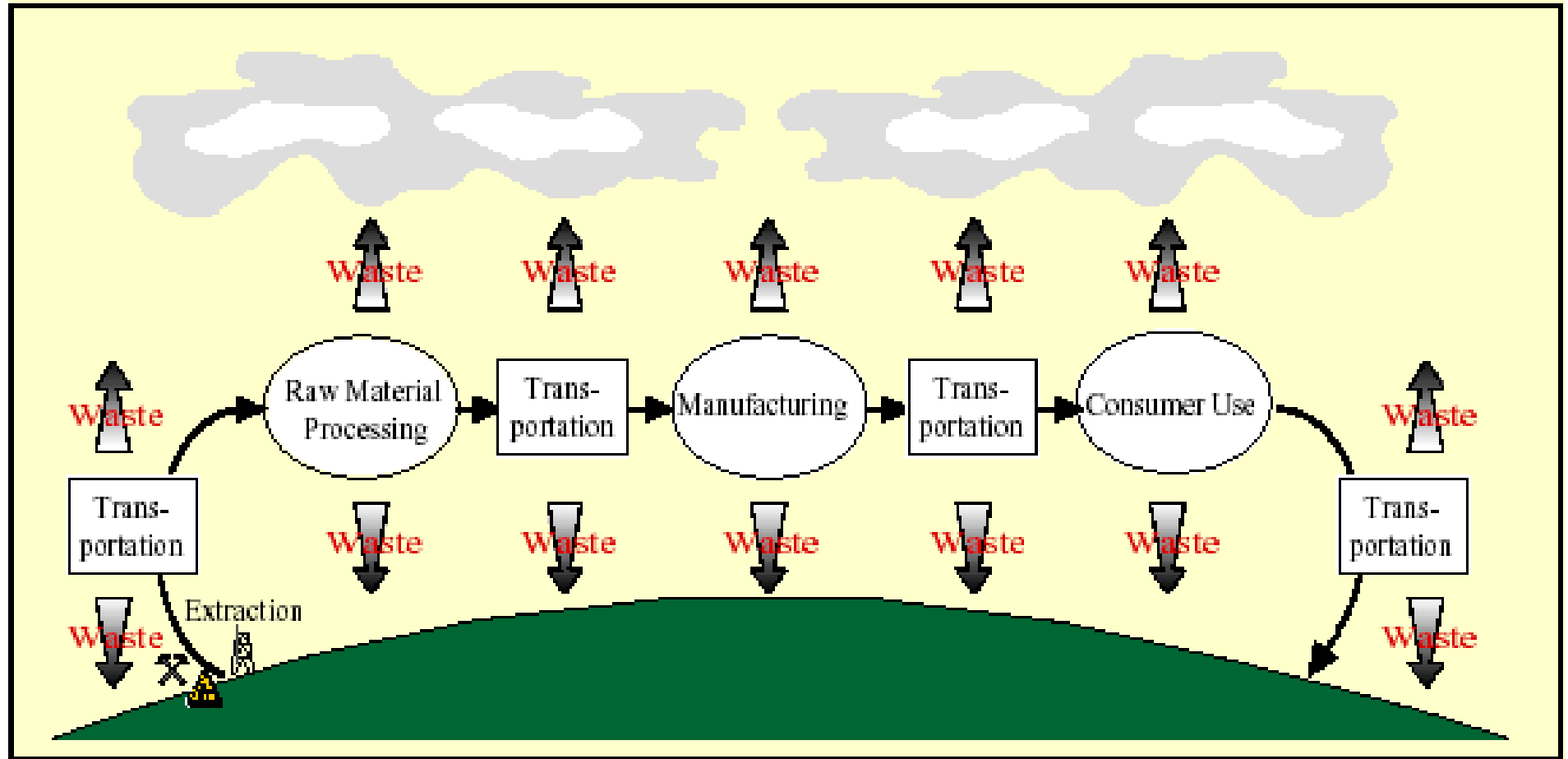
Ecosystem services value in each of the four scenarios from the 2011



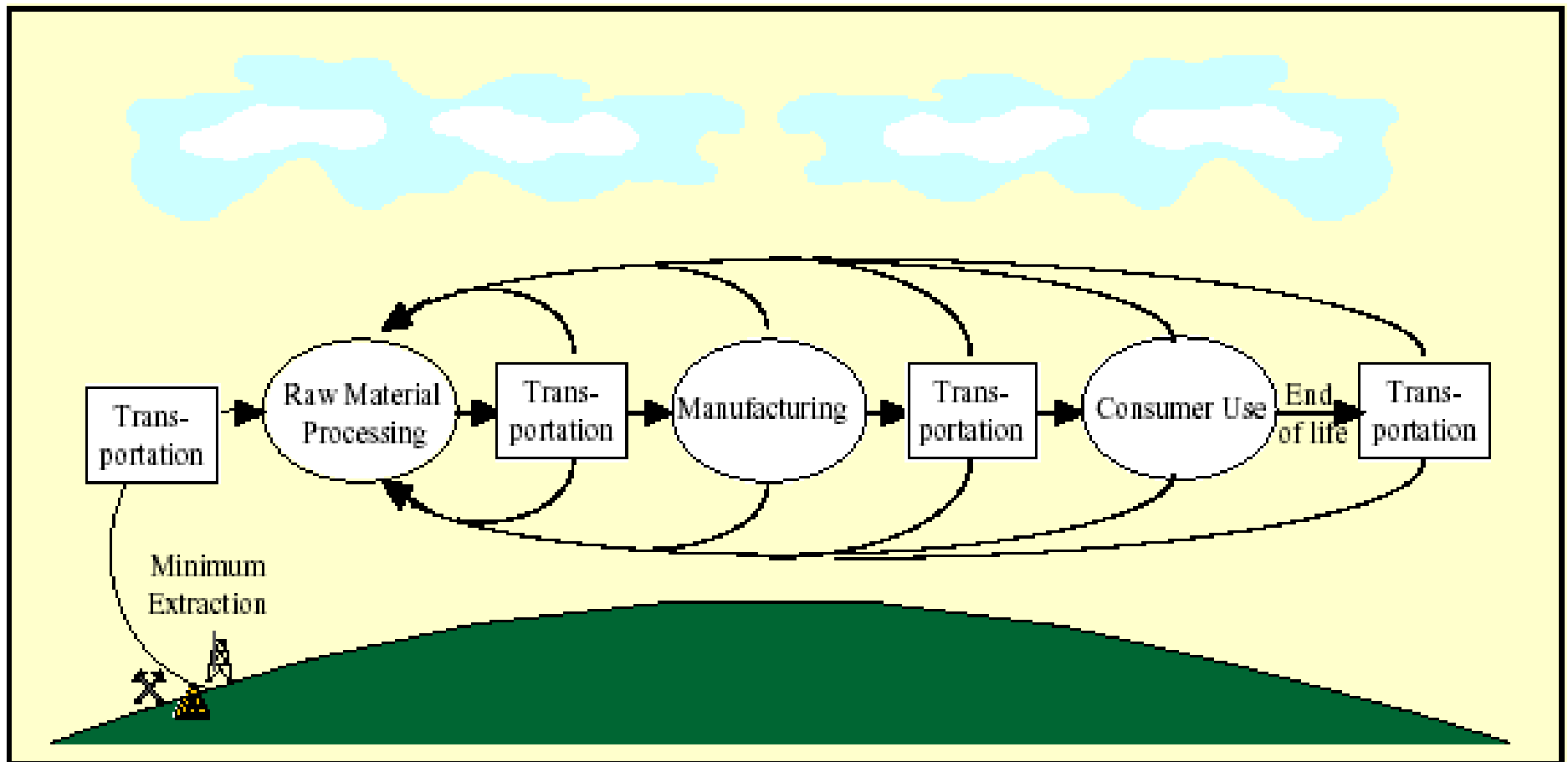
Percent Change from 2011 Ecosystem Service Values



The present state



Ideal Situation





Thank You