

THE NEED OF SUSTAINABILITY

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Workshop at



August 26th, 2014

FIRST CHAPTER

INTRODUCTION



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What is sustainability?

Sustainability is an opportunity

... to talk about man

In particular, the study of sustainability is the study of the relations of man – both as individual and in its collective expressions – with his context.

The context(s) can be different: environmental, social, economic, political, urban, juridical, etc.

2 key concepts:

- Purpose(s)

better life conditions

living in harmony with Nature and other individuals

- Transdisciplinarity

We think that the disciplinary structure of knowledge is a problem of fragmentation, a difficulty to be overcome rather than a criterion to be met. Real problems do not respect academic boundaries. We certainly believe that thinking should be 'disciplined' in the sense of respecting logic and facts, but not 'disciplinary' in the sense of limiting itself to traditional methodologies and tools that have become enshrined in the academic departments of neoclassical economics.

Daly, H. & Farley, J., *Ecological Economics - Principles and Applications*, Island Press: Washington, DC, 2004.

COMMUNICATION

INFORMATION

AWARNESS

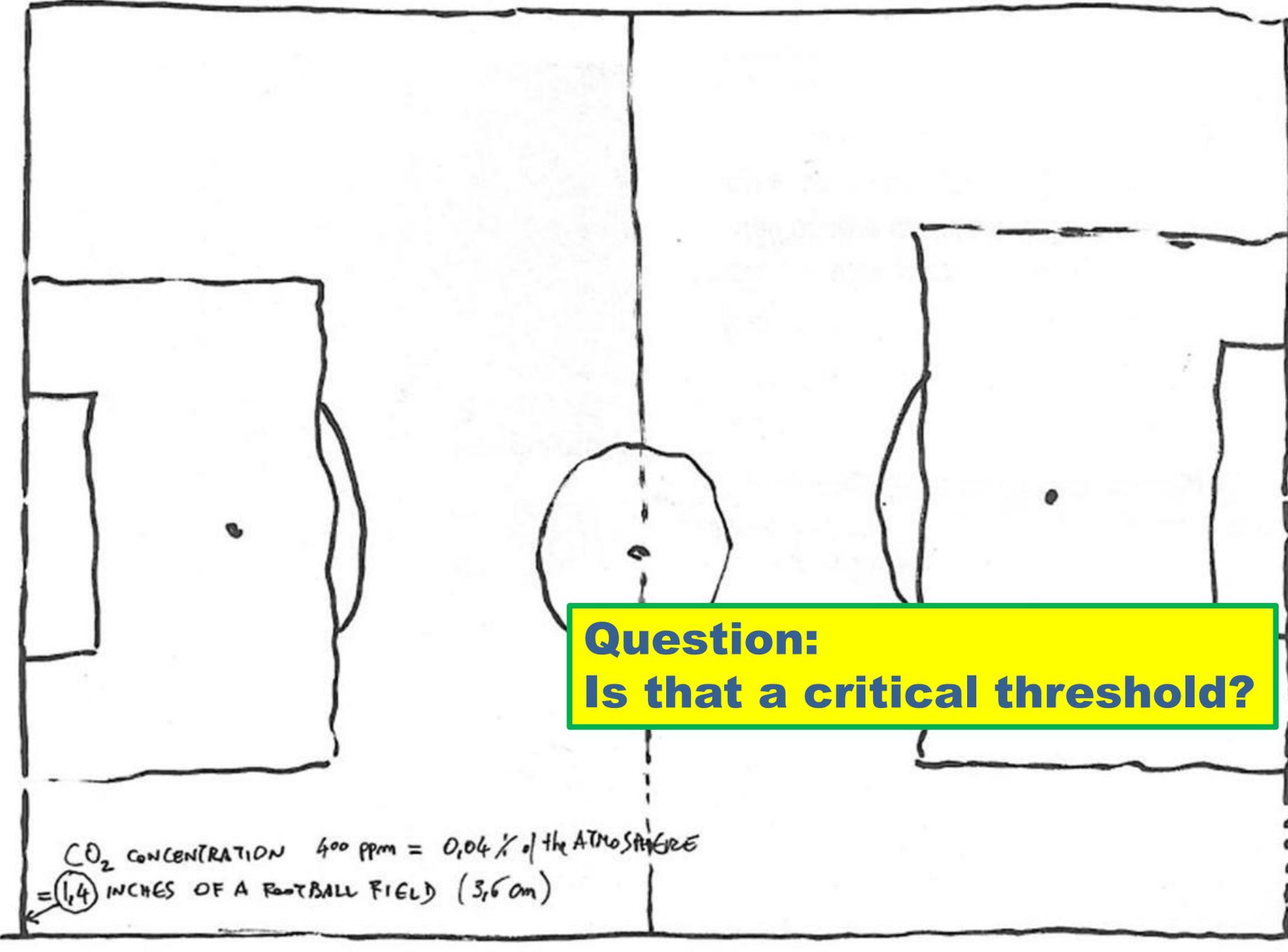
EDUCATION

DISSEMINATION

POPULARIZATION

TEACHING





Question:
Is that a critical threshold?

CO₂ CONCENTRATION 400 ppm = 0,04% of the ATMOSPHERE
= 1,4 INCHES OF A FOOTBALL FIELD (3,6m)



EARTH OVERSHOOT DAY 2014



The date our
Ecological Footprint
exceeds our planet's budget

Em menos de oito meses, Humanidade já usou todos os recursos naturais disponíveis para o ano

Dados mostram que consumo do brasileiro corresponde a 50% a mais da capacidade da Terra

POR O GLOBO

19/08/2014 6:00 / ATUALIZADO 19/08/2014 8:28



Esta terça-feira é marcada pelo dia da Sobrecarga da Terra (em inglês, Overshoot Day). Desde 2000, a data surge cada vez mais cedo: de 1º de outubro em 2000 a 19 de agosto em 2014

RIO - Em menos de oito meses, os habitantes da Terra já usaram todos os recursos naturais do planeta disponíveis para o ano. Segundo cálculo divulgado pela Global Footprint Network, uma organização internacional pela sustentabilidade em parceria com a Rede WWF, nesta terça-feira o Planeta Azul entra no vermelho. Até o final do ano, a população mundial seguirá em déficit ecológico, já que reduzirá as reservas e aumentará ainda mais a quantidade de CO² na atmosfera.

Segundo a entidade, 85% da população mundial vive em países que demandam mais da natureza do que os seus ecossistemas podem renovar. De acordo com os cálculos da GFN, seriam necessários 1,5 planeta para produzir os recursos ecológicos necessários para suportar a atual pegada ecológica mundial.

A organização também garante que projeções sobre a população, o uso de energia e a produção de alimentos sugerem que a humanidade vai precisar usufruir da biocapacidade de três planetas bem antes da metade do século. E isso pode ser fisicamente impossível.

BRASIL

No caso do Brasil, o consumo médio de recursos ecológicos equivale a 1,6 planeta – bem próximo à média mundial. Mesmo assim, o país está consumindo acima de 50% da capacidade anual do planeta.

Para reverter este quadro, a CEO do WWF-Brasil, Maria Cecilia Wey de Brito, defende que sociedade civil, poder público e empresas precisam se envolver no processo de redução dos impactos.

O cidadão pode fazer a sua parte adotando uma postura crítica e melhorando os seus hábitos de consumo.

O poder público, por sua vez, é responsável por planejar e implementar políticas públicas de mitigação, como transporte público menos poluente, instalação de ciclovias e planejamento ambiental. Na outra ponta, as empresas têm o papel de melhorar suas cadeias produtivas e oferecer aos consumidores produtos mais sustentáveis - explica.

CHALLENGES and Questions:

On NOV 2013: find articles on this event in newspapers

Today:

Where will COP 20 be held???

Where will COP 21 be held???

For teachers: ask your students to find articles on events like this (e.g. Overshoot), and analyze the way in which these are presented

“How to teach/communicate sustainability” GAME:

Find communication tools to divulgate concepts like sustainability and crucial environmental themes.

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SECOND CHAPTER

FOUNDATIONS



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...Sustainable
is that development that meets the needs of the present
without compromising the ability of future generations to
meet their own needs...

WCED: "Our Common Future" Rapporto Bruntland, 1987

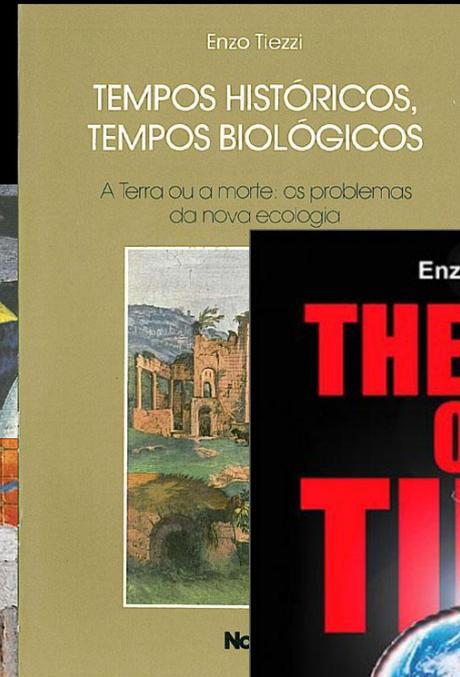


SUSTAIN



1 TIME

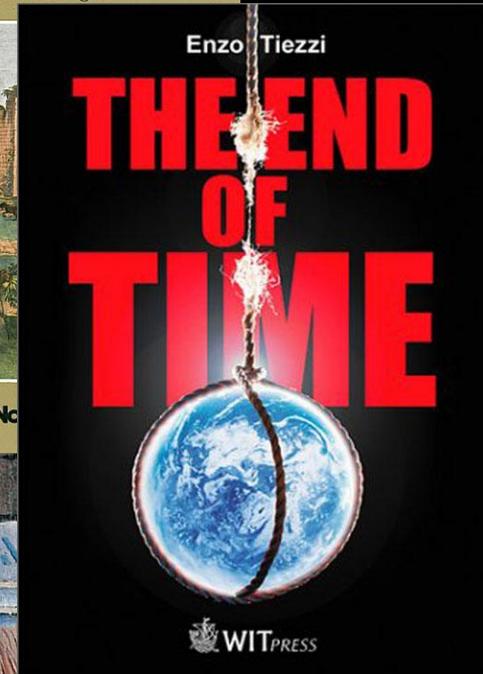
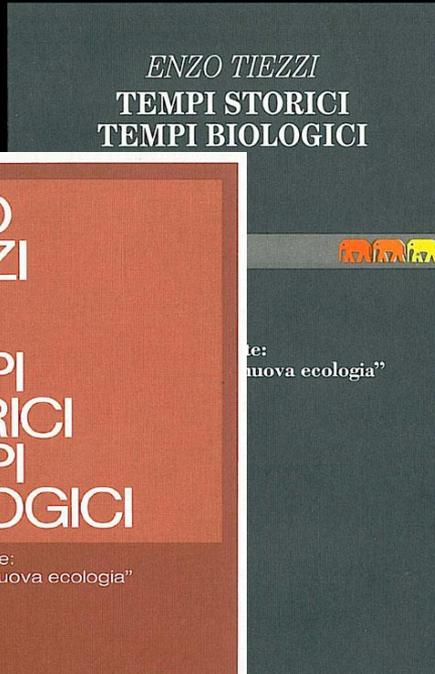
1990



2005



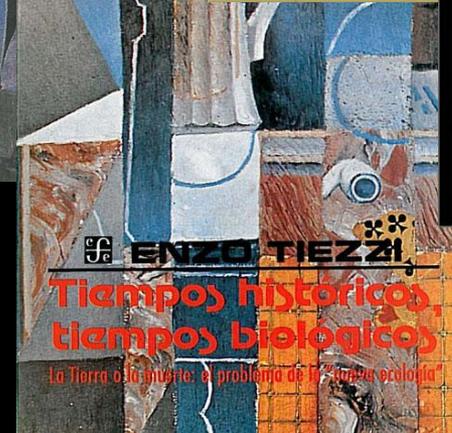
1992



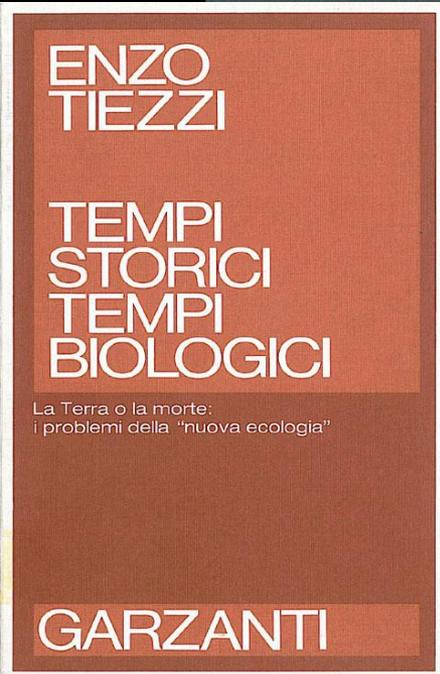
2003



2001

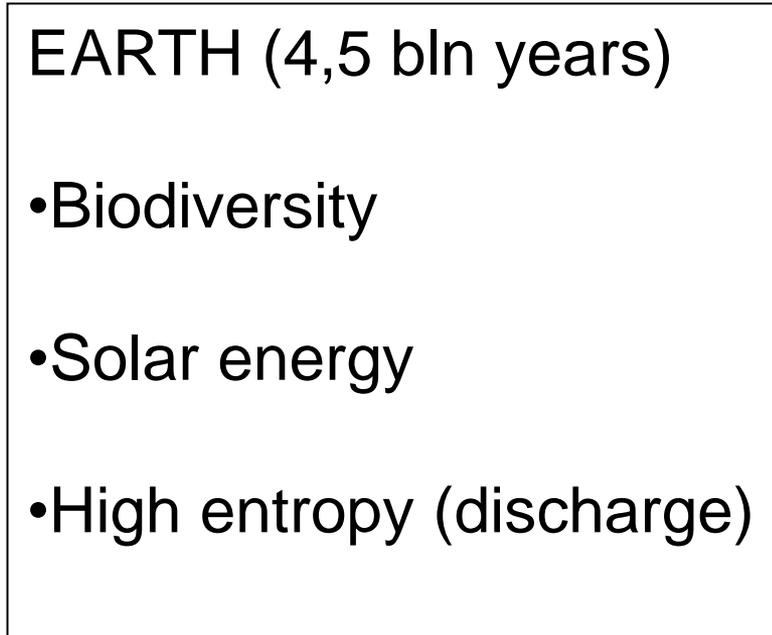


1988

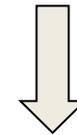
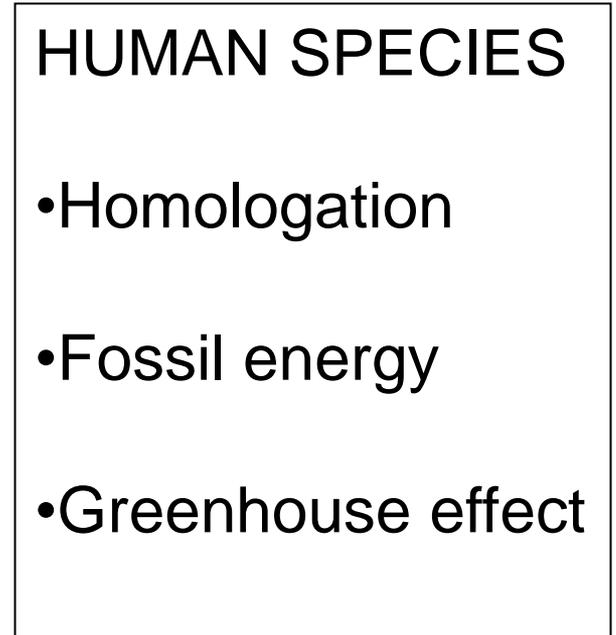


1984

SUSTAINABILITY is an **ANTHROPOCENTRIC** CONCEPT

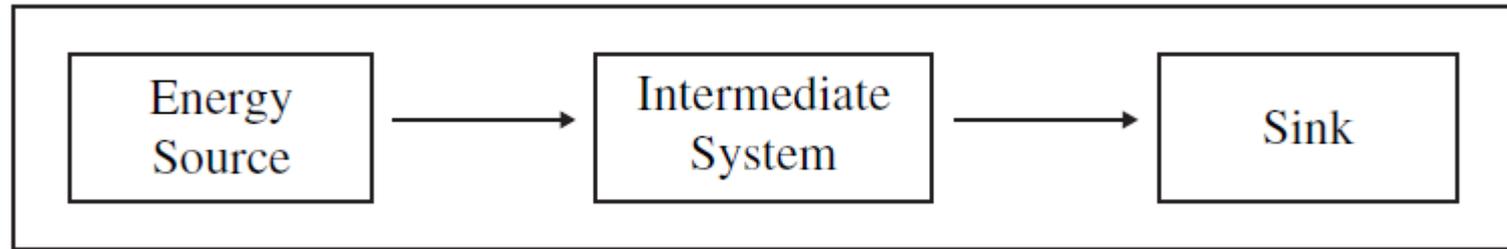


vs



2

BIOPHYSICAL LIMITS



Isolated systems tend to the thermodynamic equilibrium (maximum entropy)

Biological systems (open systems) seem to violate the second principle: they have extremely ordered structures that evolve in the direction of greater order or lower entropy.

SUN - BIOSPHERE - UNIVERSE

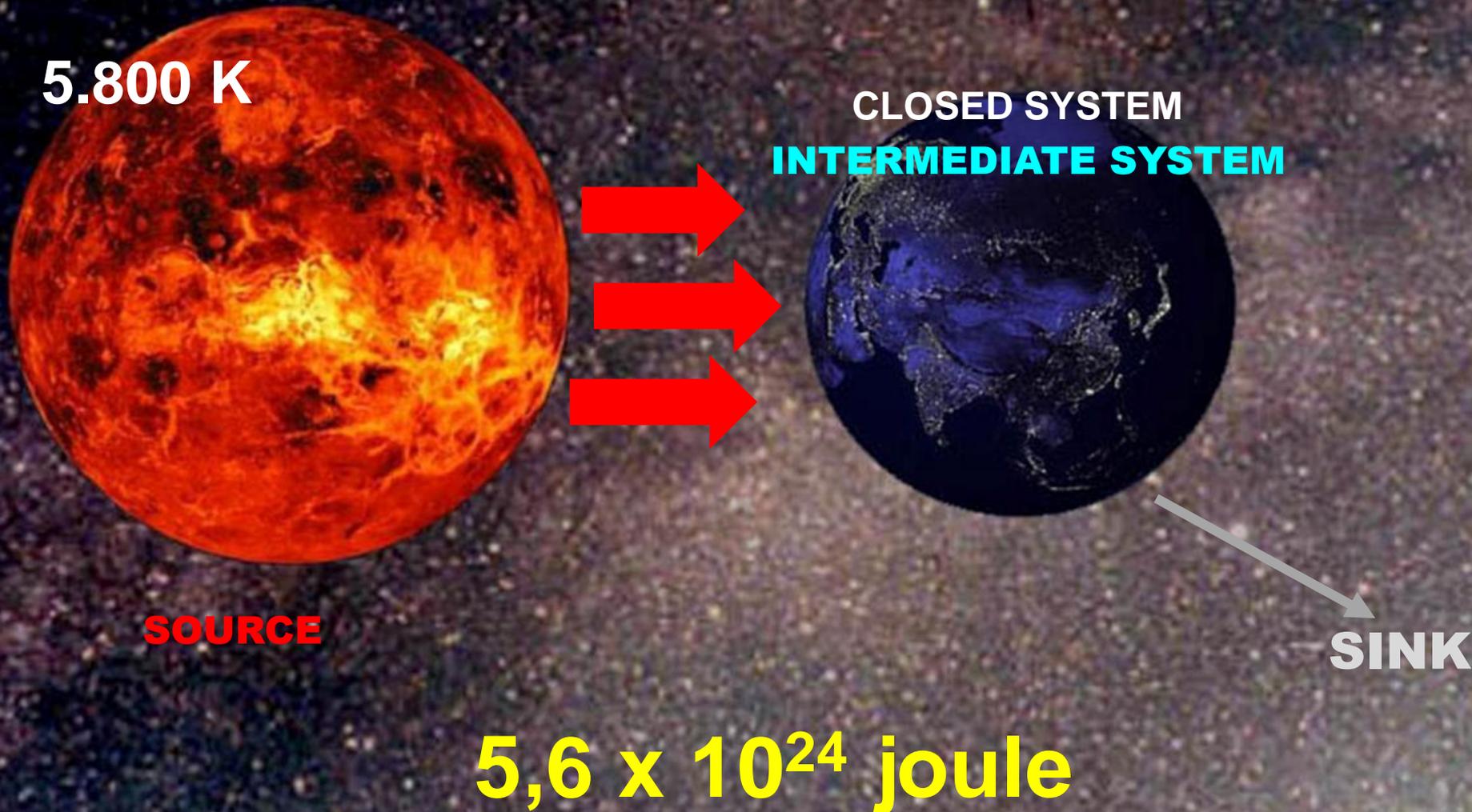
5.800 K

**CLOSED SYSTEM
INTERMEDIATE SYSTEM**

SOURCE

SINK

$5,6 \times 10^{24}$ joule



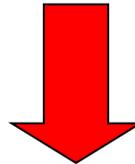
Erwin Schrödinger



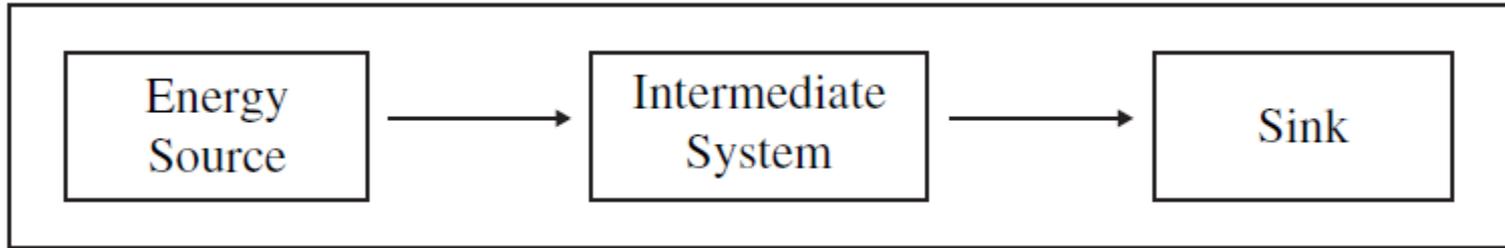
“a living organism feeds upon negative entropy, attracting a stream of negative entropy upon itself, to compensate the entropy increase it produces by living and thus to maintain itself on a stationary and fairly low entropy level”.

[...] “And that we give off heat [thermal entropy] is not accidental, but essential”

EVERY SYSTEM DEPENDS ON THE CONTEXT IN WHICH IT LIVES



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS

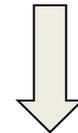


2 ESSENTIAL STATEMENTS

- 1) throughput, not just availability of resources, enables the system to survive, develop and increase in complexity**
- 2) a low entropy source is just as necessary for the system as a cold sink for dissipating high entropy.**

All this shows the importance of relationships for living systems and the dependence of all such systems on their contexts. **Prigogine** defined systems that decrease in entropy as they exploit flows of energy as “*dissipative structures*”. The complexity of these structures manifests in the **relations** that these non-isolated systems entertain with their surroundings and in the way they self-organise.

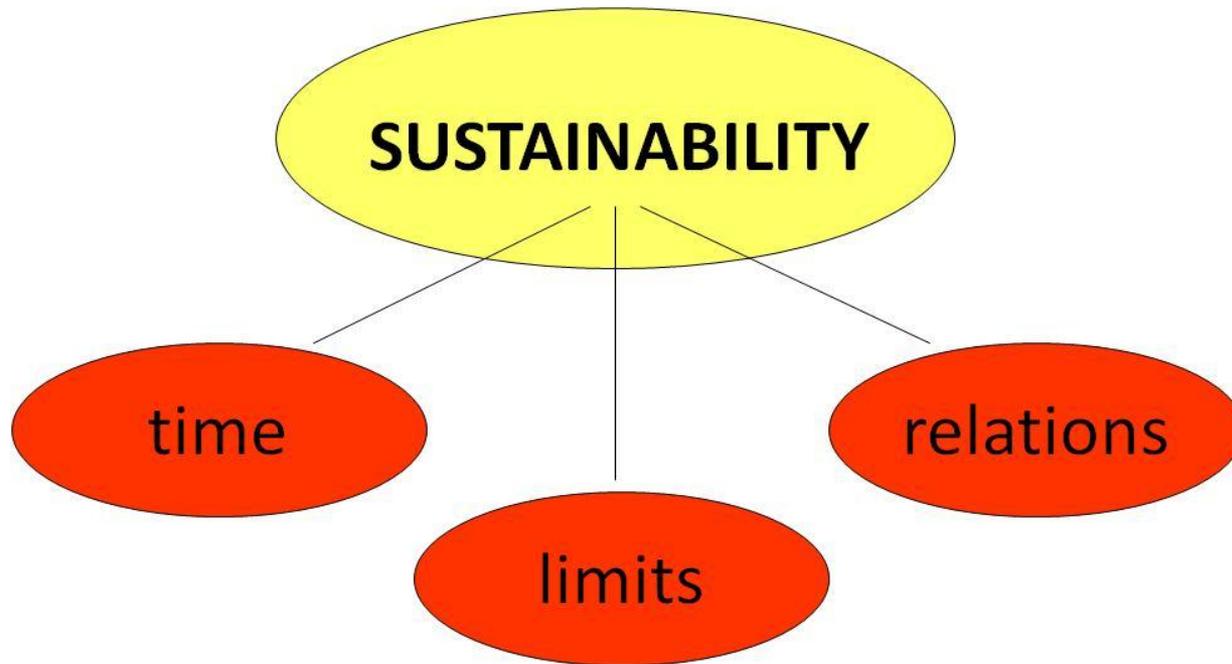
Human behaviour and its manifestations resemble dissipative structures: economic systems, social systems, regional systems, urban systems all develop by exploiting flows of energy and matter, releasing entropy into their surroundings.



3

RELATIONS

The concept of sustainability therefore rests on three pillars: time, biophysical limits and relations.



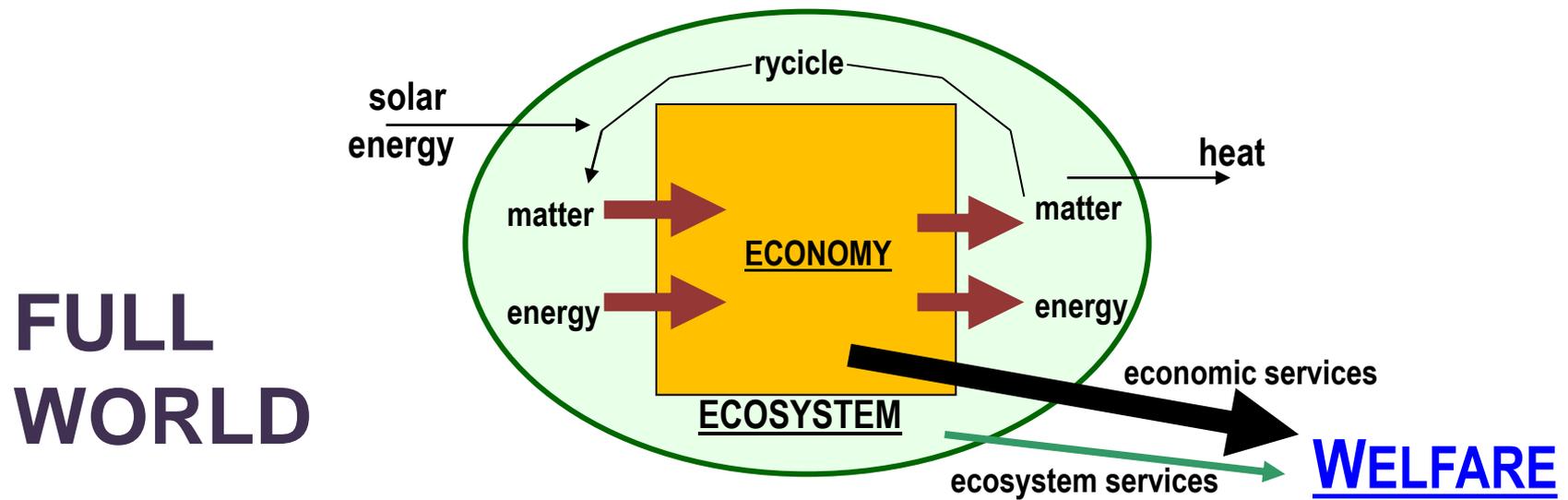
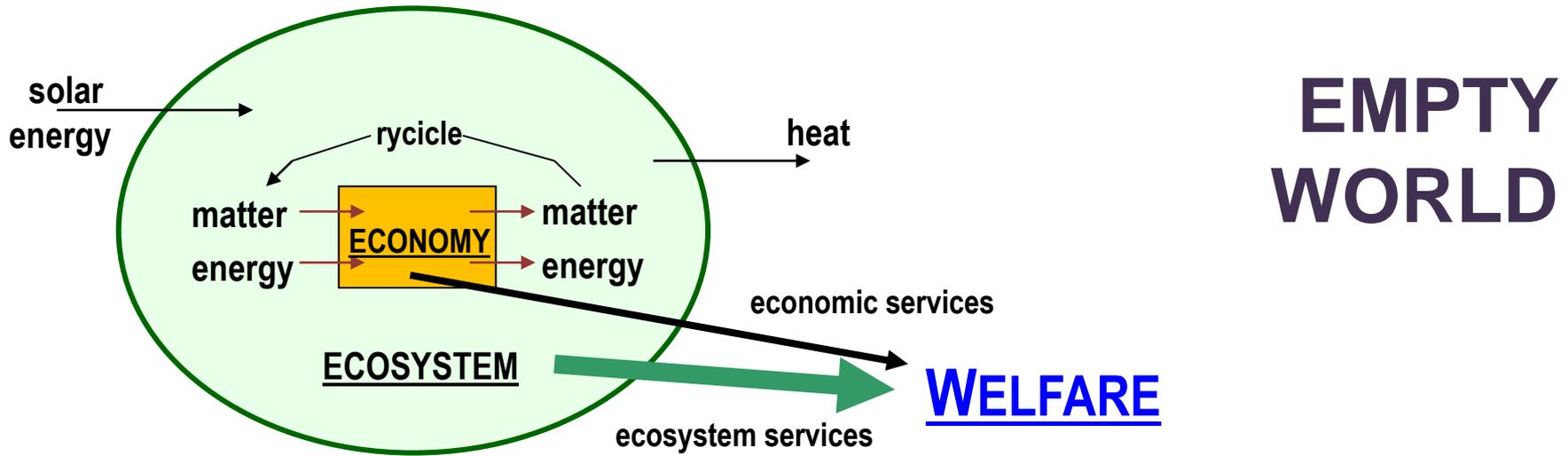
A project cannot be called sustainable without these foundations: the use of the word sustainable would be inappropriate, misleading, or illusory. Human behaviour generally violates the laws of nature for ends that are often in contradiction with the ultimate aim of survival of the species.

THE ESSENCE OF SUSTAINABILITY

■ TIME; ■ BIOPHYSICAL LIMITS; ■ RELATIONS.

- It is a transdisciplinary e complex concept;
- The chemico-physico-environmental component is a priority (“environmental sustainability” is a necessary condition);
- “Measuring” sustainability is difficult;
- “Communicating” sustainability is difficult;
- “Translating” sustainability into policies is difficult.

**... THE
CURRENT
CONDITIONS**



Daly, H. and Farley J. 2004. *Ecological Economics: Principles and Applications*. Island Press, Washington DC.

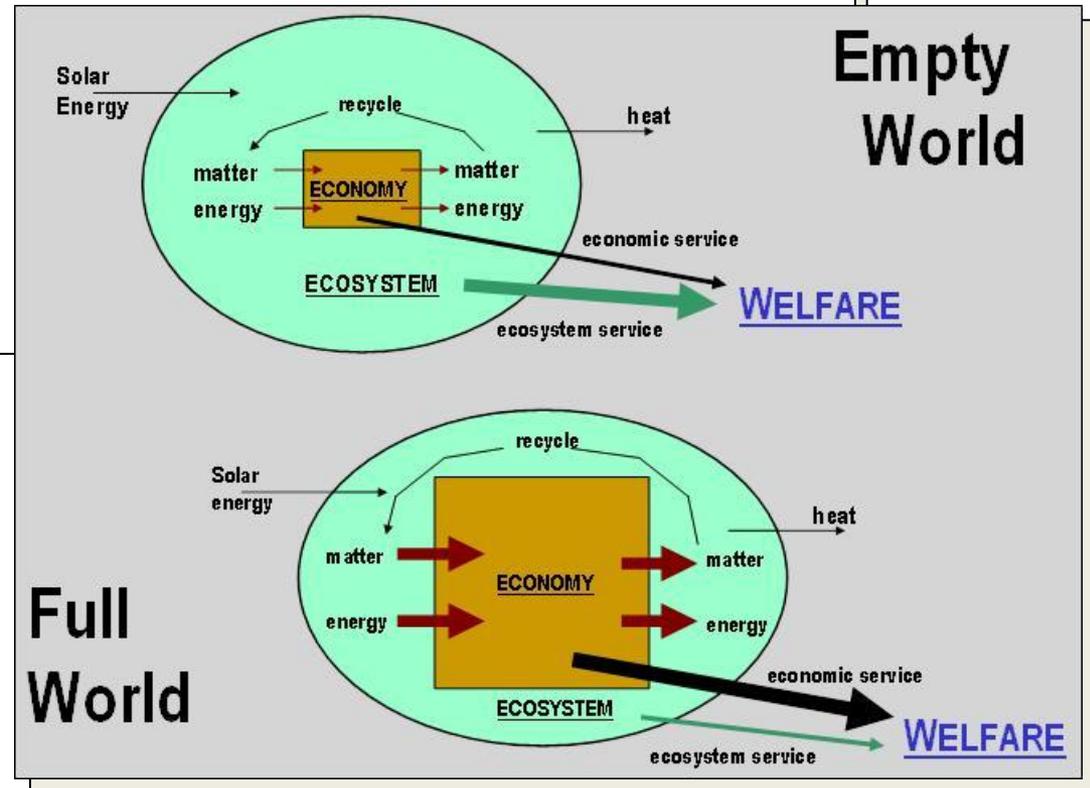
THREE MAIN ELEMENTS:

(to be determined)

**Dimensions of the economy
within the biosphere**

**Magnitude of energy and matter inflows
and outflows**

**Role of Ecosystem
Services and welfare**



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THIRD CHAPTER

ADVANCEMENTS

FOCUS ON GDP, EMISSIONS AND RESOURCES



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I

A focus on...

GDP

Herman E. Daly



When the economy's expansion encroaches too much on its surrounding ecosystem, we will begin to sacrifice natural capital (such as fish, minerals and fossil fuels) that is worth more than the man-made capital (such as roads, factories and appliances) added by the growth. We will then have what I call «uneconomic growth».

Daly, H. Preface to "The Road to Sustainability" by FM Pulselli, S Bastianoni, N Marchettini & E Tiezzi. WIT Press, Southampton, 2007.

ISEW

is an aggregate indicator of development that integrates information contained in GDP by correcting aspects such as inequable distribution of wealth, environmental damage and some social variables.

$$\text{ISEW} = C_w + G_{nd} + I_{ncg} + S - D_p - N$$

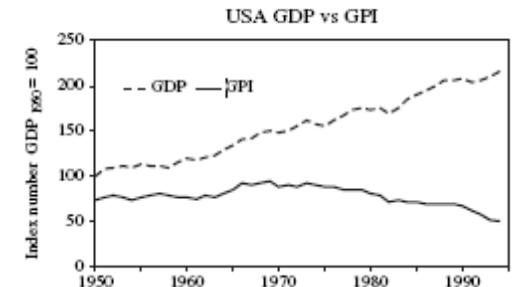
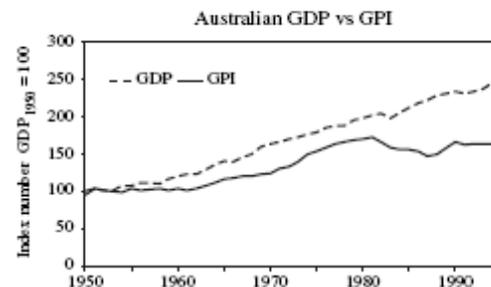
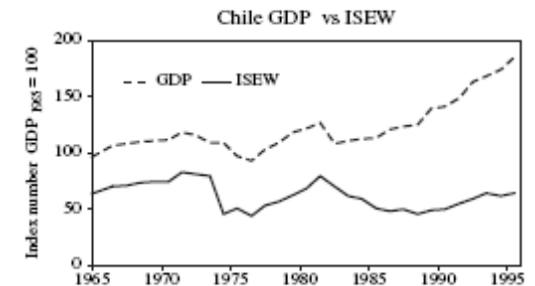
where:

C_w :	weighted consumption
G_{nd} :	non-defensive public expenditure
I_{ncg} :	net capital growth
S :	unpaid services contributing to welfare
D_p :	private defensive expenditure
N :	consumption/depletion of natural capital

Items composing the index

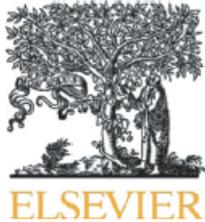
A		Year
B		Private consumption
C		Gini's index
D		Weighted private consumption
E	+	Services of domestic labour
F	+	Services of consumer durables
G	+	Road system services
H	+	Public non-defensive expenditure on education and health
I	-	Expenditure on durables
J	-	Private defensive expenditure on education and health
L	-	Commuting costs
N	-	Road accident costs
O	-	Costs of water pollution
P	-	Costs of air pollution
Q	-	Cost of noise pollution
R	-	Loss of wetlands
S	-	Loss of agricultural land
T	-	Depletion of non renewable resources
U	-	Long-term environmental damage
V	+	Net capital growth
W		ISEW
Y		GDP (inserted for comparison)

Examples at the national level



Example at the sub-national level

ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS 60 (2006) 271–281



available at www.sciencedirect.com



www.elsevier.com/locate/ecolecon



Calculation for the Province of Siena, Italy.

ANALYSIS

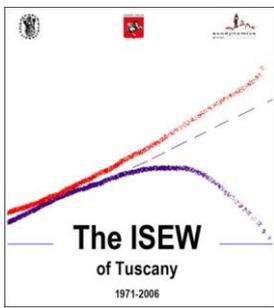
The index of sustainable economic welfare (ISEW) for a local authority: A case study in Italy

Federico Maria Pulselli ^{a,*}, Francesca Ciampalini ^a, Enzo Tiezzi ^a, Carlo Zappia ^b

^a Department of Chemical and Biosystems Sciences and Technologies, University of Siena, Via della Diana 2/A, 53100 Siena, Italy

^b Department of Economics, University of Siena, Piazza S. Francesco 7, 53100 Siena, Italy

- ... it is possible and appropriate for local government to apply **different instruments** in order to obtain insights into its region and regional dynamics;
- ... it is possible to detect **particularities** and critical elements that do not emerge from indices applied at national scale;
- ... it is also possible to build local development of a kind that is not based exclusively on economic results, also considering the **living conditions** of the population, **environmental quality** and **availability of resources**.

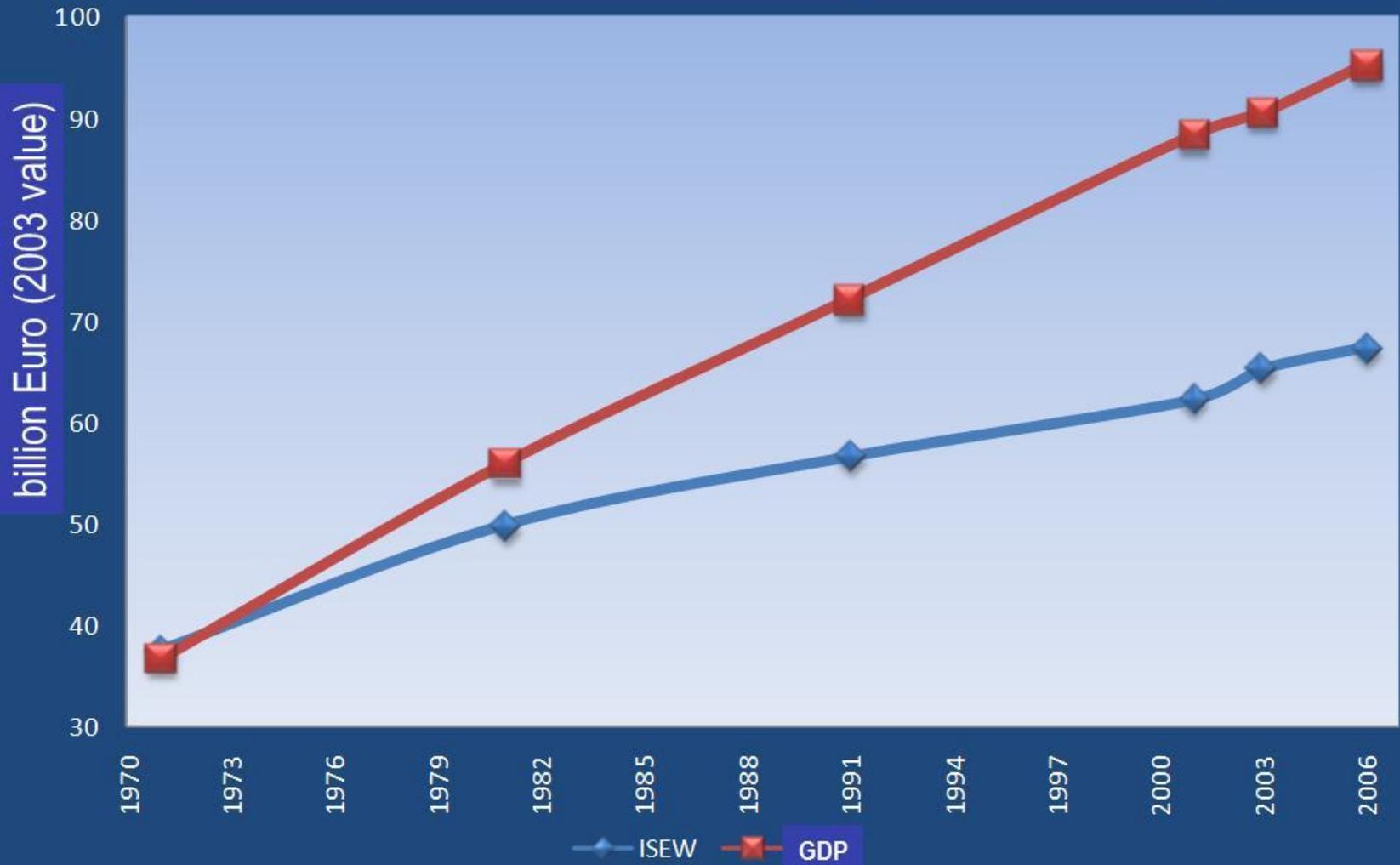


Results



Table 25: Trend of ISEW 1971-2006 item by item		1971	1981	1991	2001	2003	2006
A	Year						
B	Private consumption	24.724.659.489	31.703.914.500	42.413.202.090	53.179.025.590	54.206.850.000	55.333.625.514
C	Gini's index	0,400	0,330	0,360	0,360	0,307	0,279
D	Adjusted private consumption	12.963.984.856	21.241.622.715	27.144.449.338	34.034.576.378	37.565.347.050	39.895.543.996
E +	Services from domestic labour	23.045.961.960	21.703.366.136	20.754.166.053	18.707.077.224	19.769.528.967	19.807.283.864
F +	Services from durable goods	7.531.113.941	16.407.916.055	20.823.588.306	23.007.511.262	22.395.697.524	21.839.278.887
G +	Services from infrastructure	145.904.683	103.529.676	225.959.746	232.504.961	244.271.500	241.707.395
H +	Public health care and education costs	2.491.661.197	3.990.119.819	5.272.217.385	5.027.898.427	5.087.354.681	5.085.512.310
I -	Expenditure in durable goods	2.295.543.247	3.079.299.302	4.399.843.473	5.814.266.481	6.087.369.775	6.569.085.235
J -	Private health care and education costs	337.292.936	341.162.693	608.960.082	1.048.398.025	1.093.450.000	1.144.799.618
L -	Cost of commuting	636.253.221	1.040.678.129	1.474.833.591	1.568.861.871	1.617.461.354	1.672.894.102
N -	Cost of road accidents	39.533.033	29.475.044	31.523.326	72.269.892	79.542.222	78.347.293
O -	Cost of water pollution	278.397.996	280.897.641	230.404.223	162.281.092	199.072.443	200.503.730
P -	Cost of air pollution	1.282.714.969	1.888.078.870	1.799.434.360	1.272.929.953	903.488.110	863.694.357
Q -	Cost of noise pollution	114.514.696	189.098.067	264.930.458	280.543.738	288.055.604	296.990.040
R +	Variation of forest area	-677.455	-677.455	3.905.667	239.233	-165.930	0
S -	Loss of agricultural land	2.668.182	-49.366.969	221.689.126	92.539.266	0	0
T -	Depletion of non-renewable resources	5.987.418.580	9.302.406.209	8.051.733.715	7.631.301.136	8.421.417.068	7.460.364.901
U -	Long term environmental damage	1.269.902.493	2.610.337.859	4.099.228.821	4.826.674.094	5.521.726.175	5.790.834.070
V +	Net capital growth	3.543.462.002	5.070.132.172	3.576.102.415	4.029.568.306	4.380.552.919	4.467.060.703
W	ISEW	37.477.171.831	49.803.942.271	56.617.807.734	62.269.310.243	65.231.003.959	67.258.873.810
X	ISEW per capita	10.791	13.908	16.039	17.802	18.292	18.487
Y	GDP	36.748.899.359	55.879.696.290	72.013.046.616	88.249.707.300	90.476.143.344	95.121.440.249
Z	GDP per capita	10.581	15.604	20.401	25.230	25.371	26.145
	Population	3.473.097	3.581.051	3.529.946	3.497.806	3.566.071	3.638.211

GDP and ISEW of Tuscany 1971 - 2006



Dealing with Un-sustainability, the role of thresholds is crucial

Example: economic and ecological indicators

ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS 60 (2007) 667–672

available at www.sciencedirect.com

www.elsevier.com/locate/ecolecon

NEWS AND VIEWS

Strengthening the threshold hypothesis: Economic and biophysical limits to growth

Valentina Niccolucci*, Federico M. Pulselli, Enzo Tiezzi

Department of Chemical and Biosystems Sciences and Technology - University of Siena, via della Diana 2A, 53100 Siena, Italy

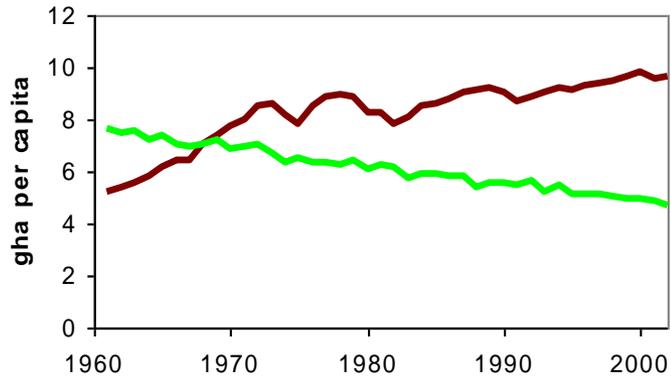
Comparison of Ecol.Footpr., Biocapacity, GDP and ISEW for national economies

The joint use of different indicators is important:

- it transcends the traditional short-sighted reductionist view of the economic system as a self-sufficient closed system in which households and firms are linked by flows of products and income;
- it promotes implementation of new economic scenarios and related legislative measures, inspired by the results of the kinds of analysis discussed, that in turn promote further scientific research in the environmental and social fields;
- it brings attention back to the biophysical foundation of all human systems.

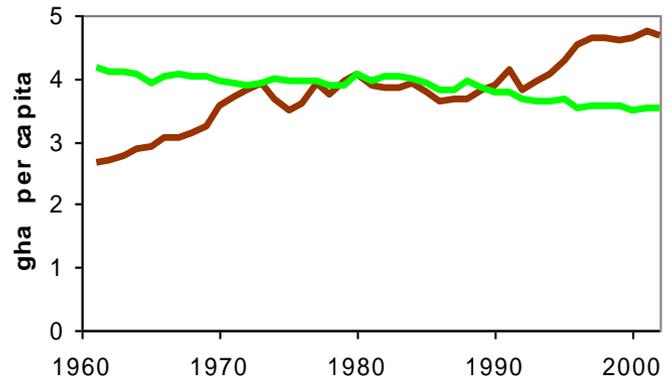
These economic and biophysical thresholds of growth should be understood as natural long term limits to human activity. For sustainable well being in the long run they are stronger than mere economic “break-even points”, based on parameters such as feasibility, profits and prices.

USA Ecological Footprint vs Biocapacity



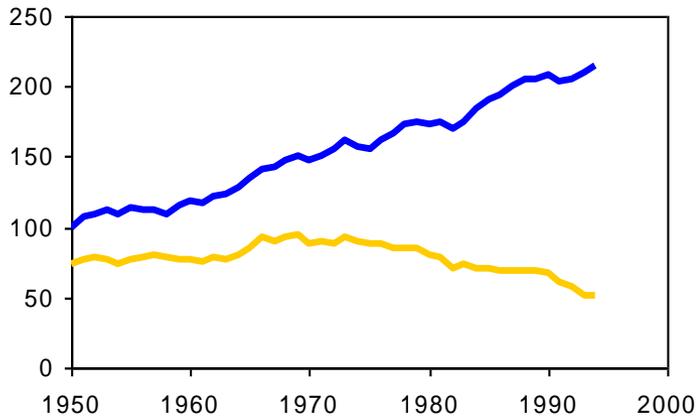
EF BIO

Austrian Ecological Footprint vs Biocapacity



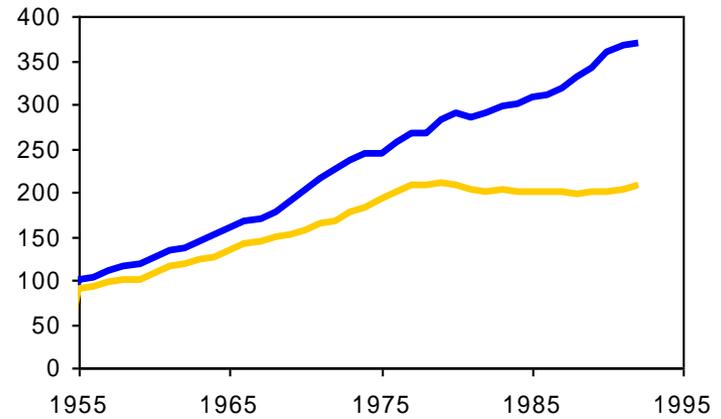
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USA GDP vs GPI



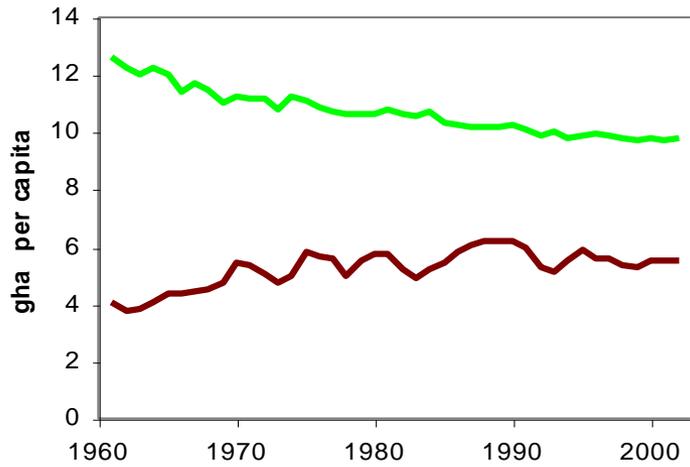
GDP GPI

Austrian GDP vs ISEW



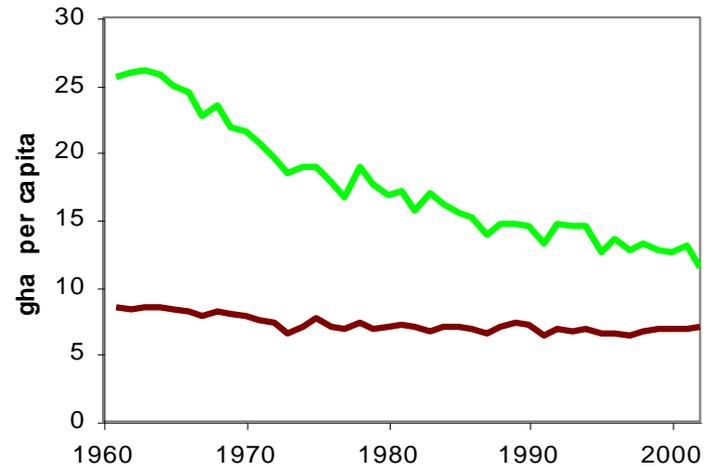
GDP ISEW

Swedish Ecological Footprint vs Biocapacity



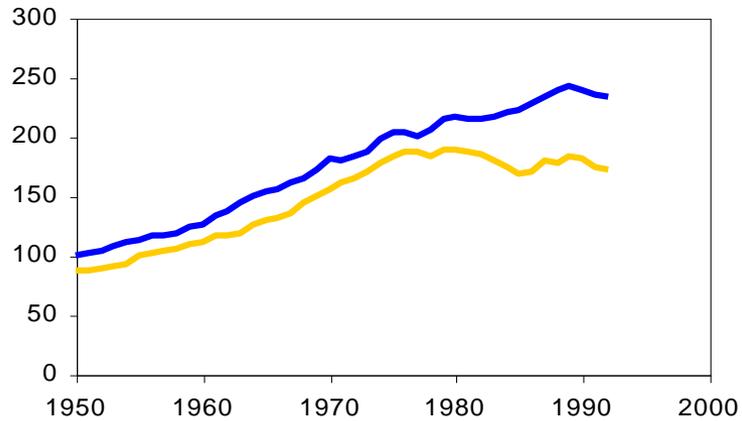
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Australian Ecological Footprint vs Biocapacity



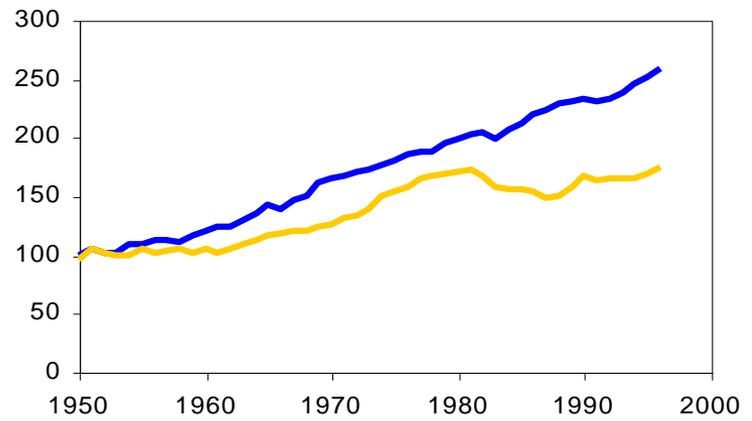
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Swedish GDP vs ISEW

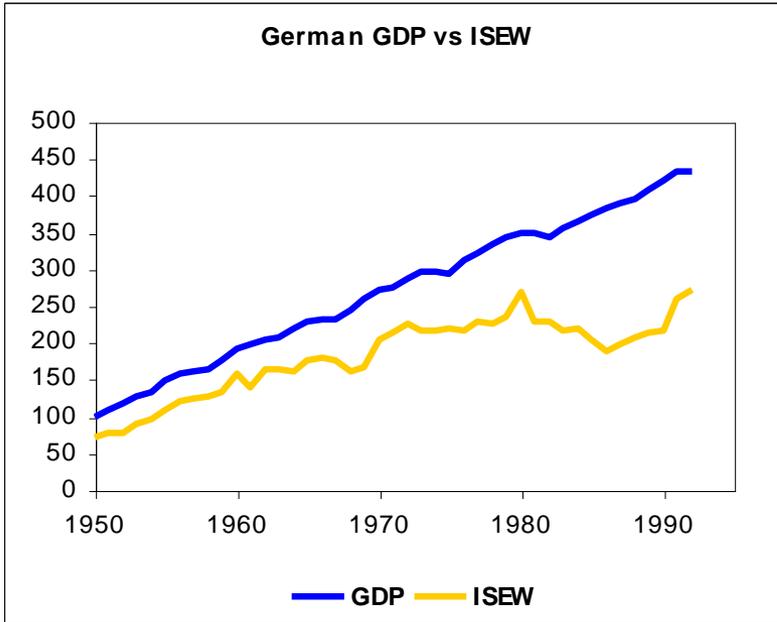
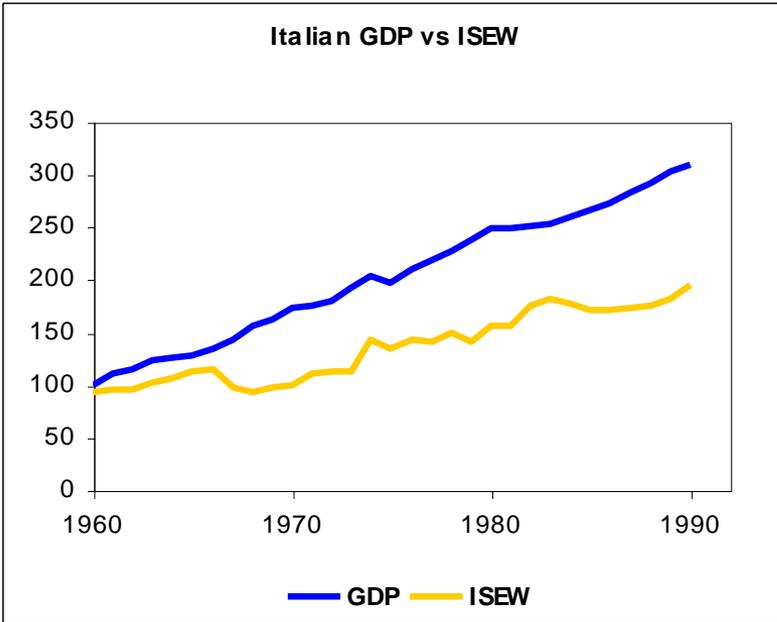
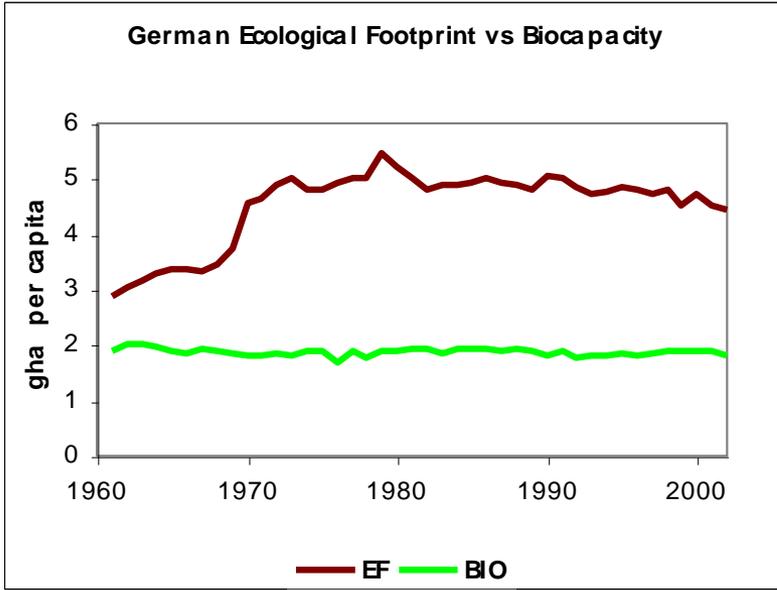
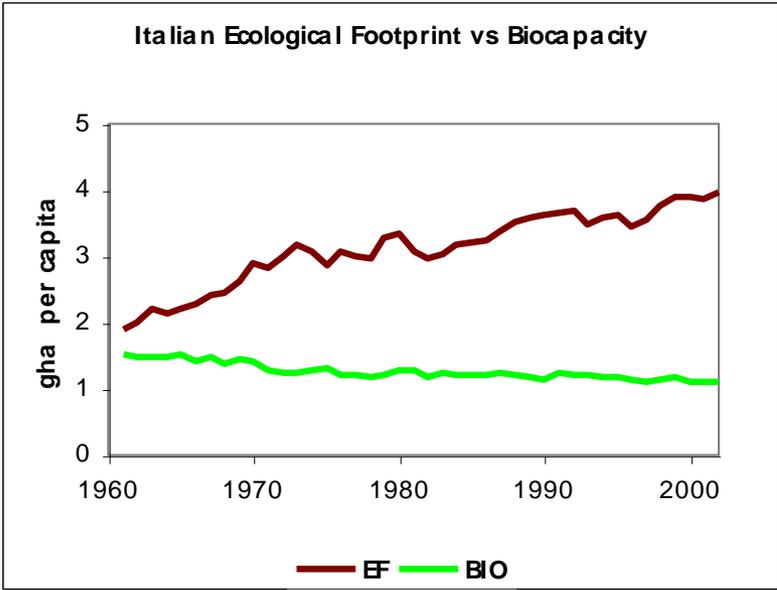


GDP ISEW

Australian GDP vs GPI



GDP GPI

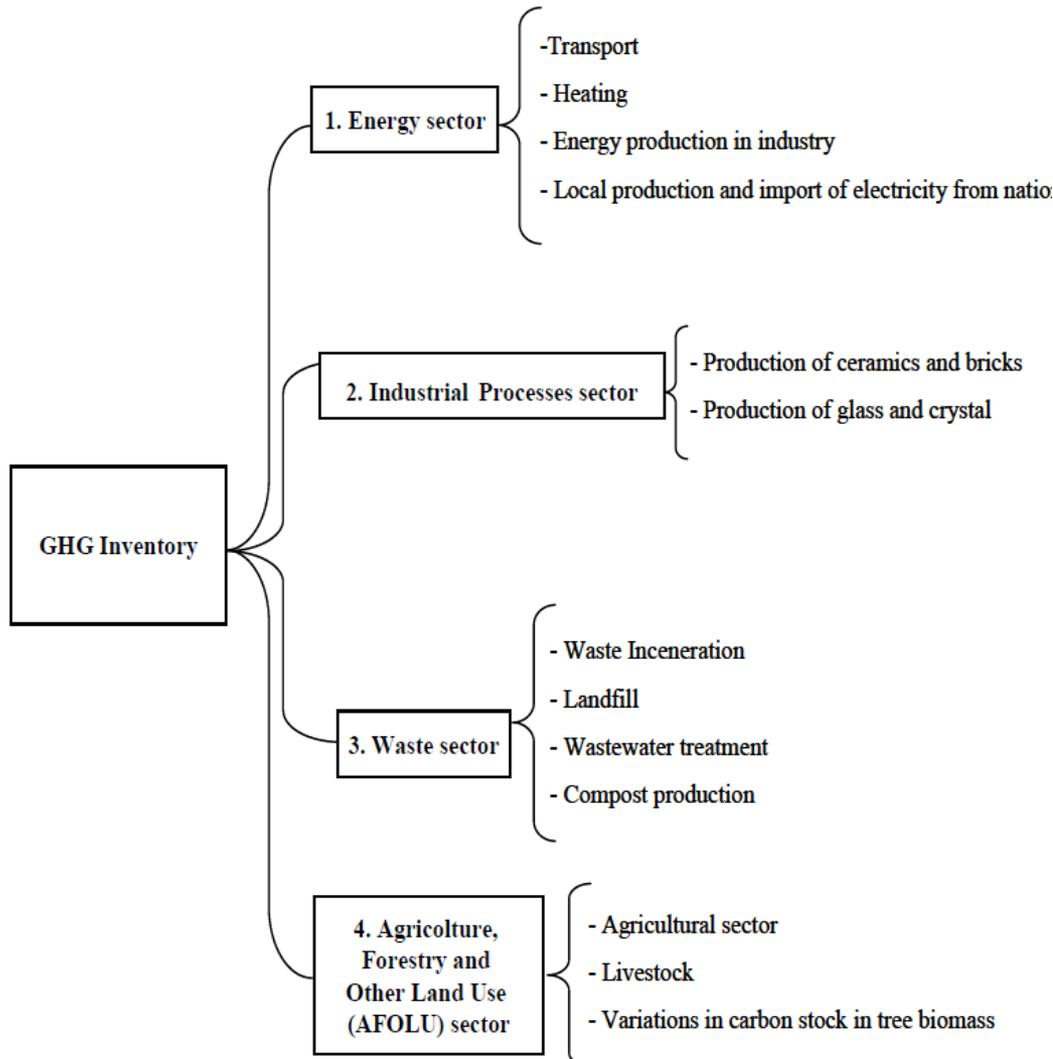


II

A focus on...

EMISSIONS

THE IPCC GHG INVENTORY Production-based accounting

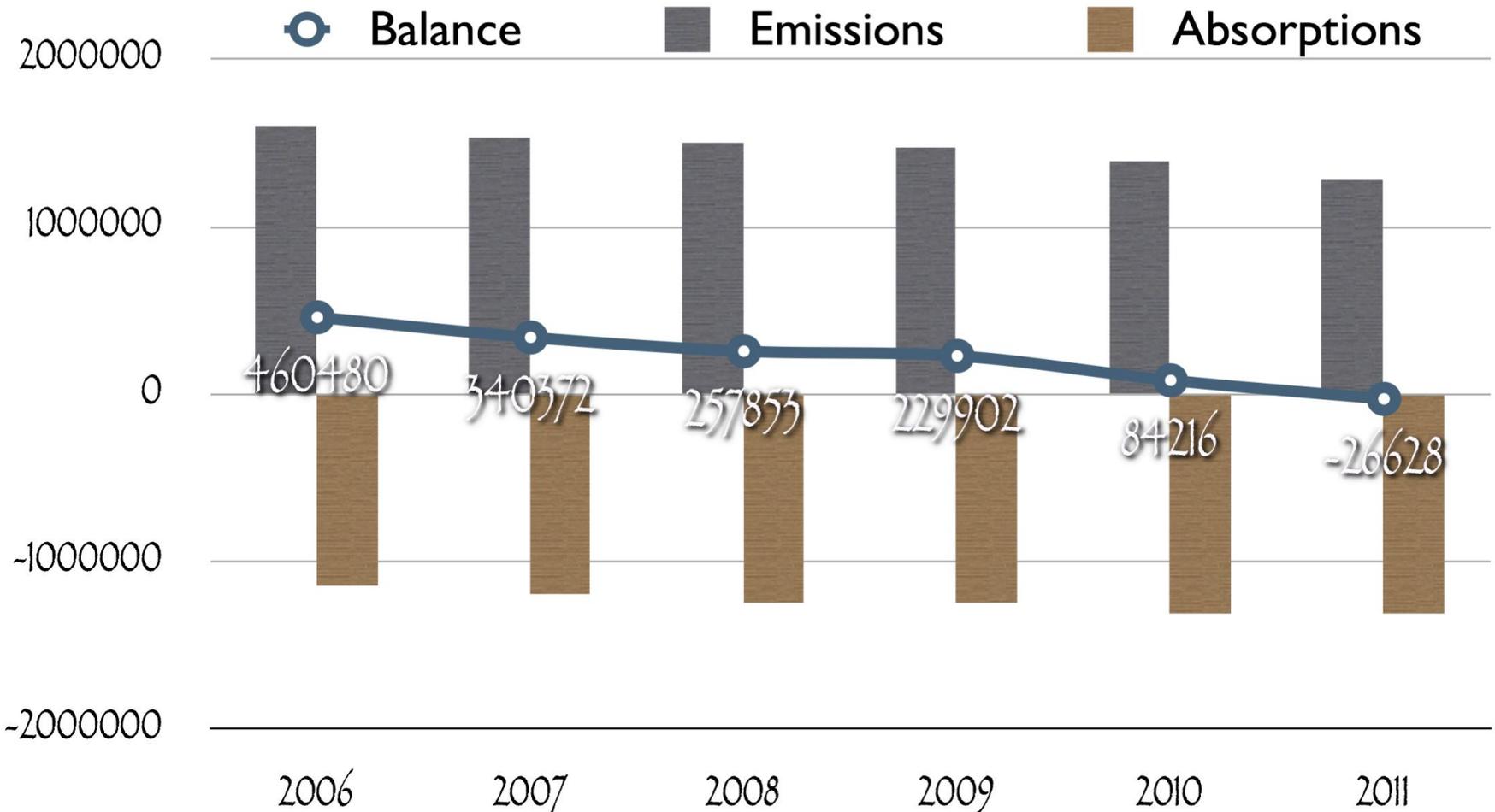


IPCC Guidelines



$$\text{Emissions} = \text{AD} \cdot \text{EF}$$

Province of Siena Balance 2006-2011



Main activities	Causes of the decrease in emission		Causes of the increase in emission	
	Global factors	Local environmental policies	Indirect factors due to the policies	Local environmental policies
Energy sector				
Transport	Economic crisis; oil price	Improvement of public transport using methane buses with CTR filters; bio-fuels	- ^a	-
Heating	Air temperature	Tests on boilers; increasing the number of energetic certifications and the efficiency of buildings	-	-
Energy production in industry	Economic crisis; oil price	-	-	-
Electricity				
Local production of electricity	-	Sustainable use of geothermal energy; Photovoltaic panels	-	Improvement of the incinerator
Imported electricity from national grid	-	The local production of electricity increases over the years, in proportion to the consumption	-	-
Industrial Processes sector	Economic crisis; European Emission Trading Scheme	-	-	-
Waste sector				
Landfill	-	-	Closure of the incinerator in 2007 and in 2008 (January–November)	-
Compost production	-	-	-	Increase of waste recycling
AFOLU sector				
Forest carbon loss	-	Reforestation; efficient wild-land fire prevention plan	-	-

^a - represents no global or indirect factor and local environmental policy.



A successful prototype

- The Province of Siena constitutes a practical example of the effectiveness of local approach to reduce GHG emissions.
- In 2008, the Province of Siena was the first territorial system in Europe to achieve the ISO 14064 certification of its GHG inventories.



A successful prototype

- The Province of Siena has recently reached the status of “Carbon Free Province”.
- The strength of the project is that the Siena Province initiative is easily feasible and highly transferrable to any regional system.



A successful prototype

- The inventory and its certification are part of a 3 steps iterative plan, which includes:
 1. monitoring the environmental performances by means of specific indicators;
 2. ISO certification, to avoid the problem of merely self-referential processes;
 3. policy actions, with a feedback to measure the effects of policy actions by using the monitoring system.



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The connection between 2006 IPCC GHG inventory methodology and ISO 14064-1 certification standard – A reference point for the environmental policies at sub-national scale



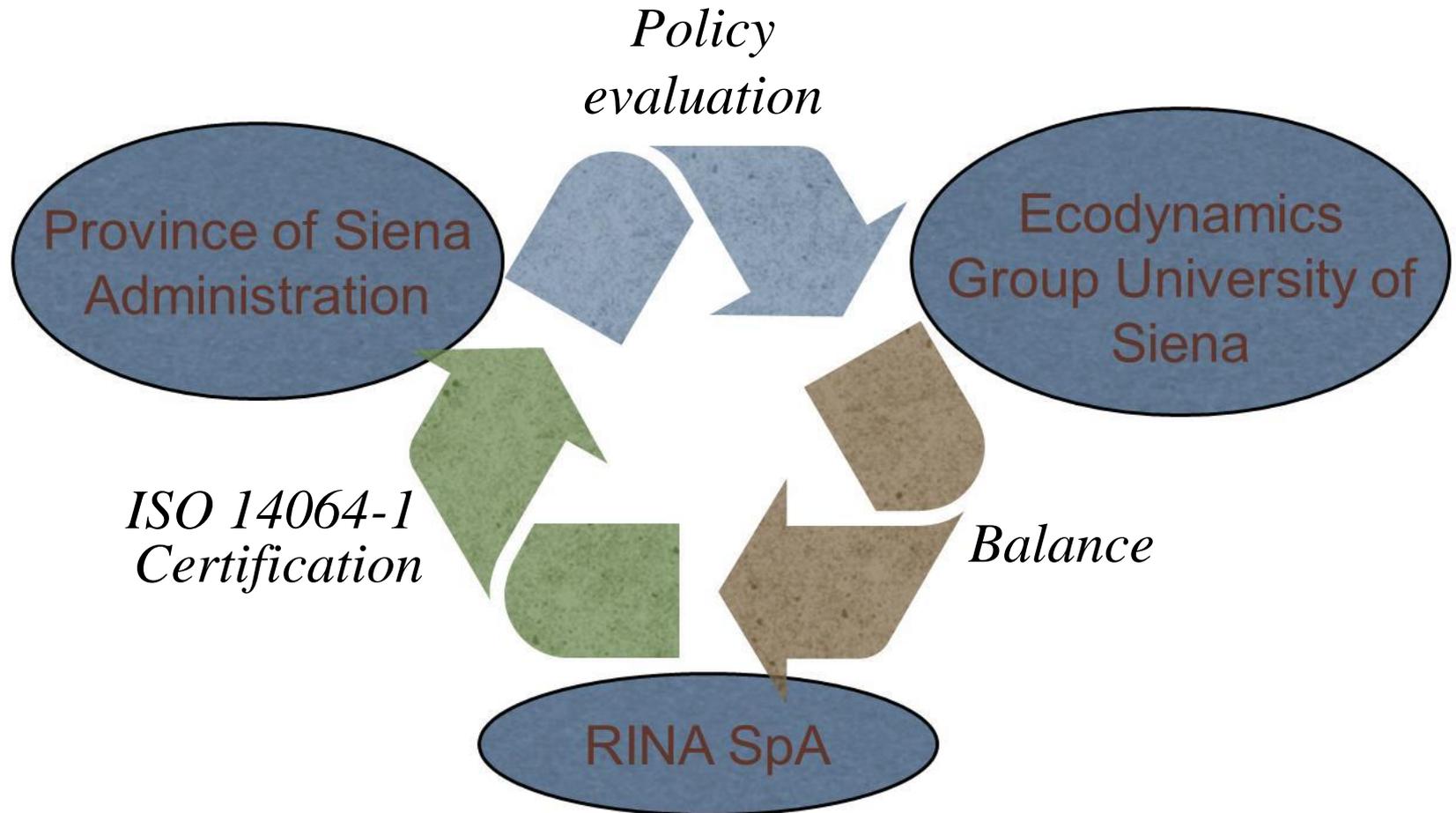
Simone Bastianoni^a, Michela Marchi^a, Dario Caro^a, Paolo Casprini^b,
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Scheme of the Siena Project

“Siena Carbon Free 2015”



What if the
responsibility
of the emissions
is taken into
account?

News and Views

The problem of assigning responsibility for greenhouse gas emissions

Simone Bastianoni, Federico Maria Pulselli, Enzo Tiezzi*

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A.R.C.A. Onlus, Associazione Ricerca e Consulenza Ambientale, Italy*

In order to abate the proliferation of GHGs and thus stop global warming, it is necessary to investigate deeply the major sources of GHGs: it is important not only to identify fuel consumption as the main source of these emissions, but also to localize where these gases are emitted, why they are emitted and which economic sectors are involved in the emission. However, without attributing responsibility for GHG emissions, their reduction and abatement will remain an arduous task.

Take a look at the following papers:

Ecological Indicators 36 (2014) 640–643

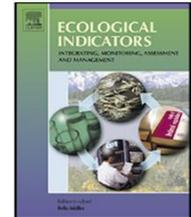


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Ecological Indicators

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On the feasibility of a consumer-based allocation method in national GHG inventories



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frontiers in
ENERGY RESEARCH

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

published: 27 January 2014
doi: 10.3389/fenrg.2014.00004



The effect of a consumption-based accounting method in national GHG inventories: a trilateral trade system application

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² Department of Political and International Sciences, University of Siena, Siena, Italy

Workshop at



August 26th, 2014

FOURTH CHAPTER

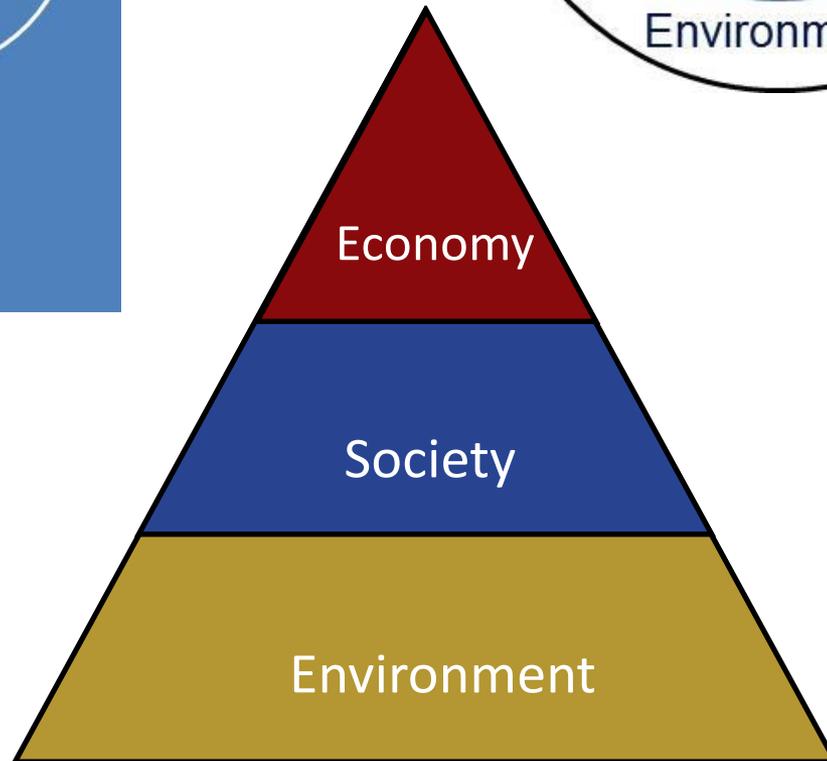
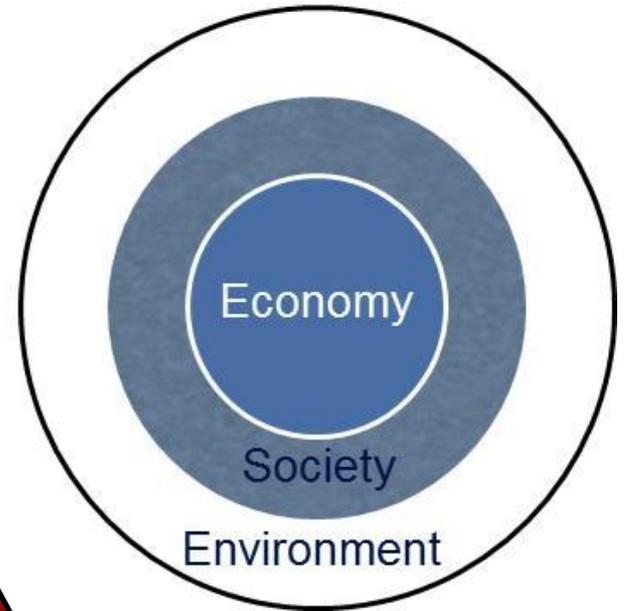
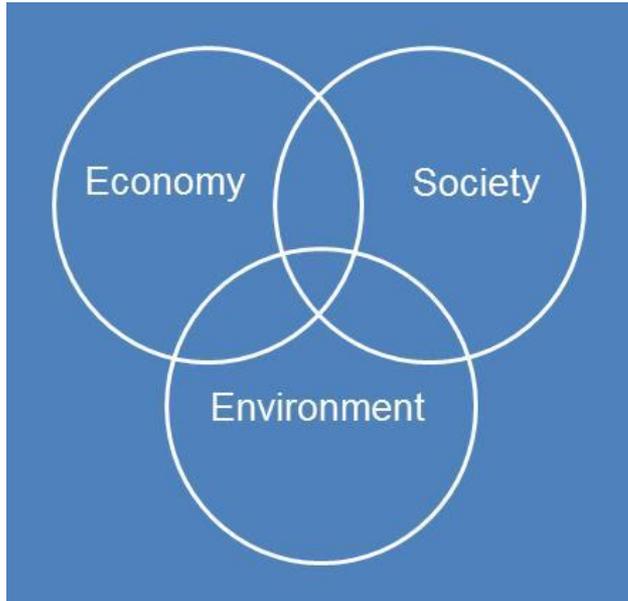
OPEN DISCUSSION

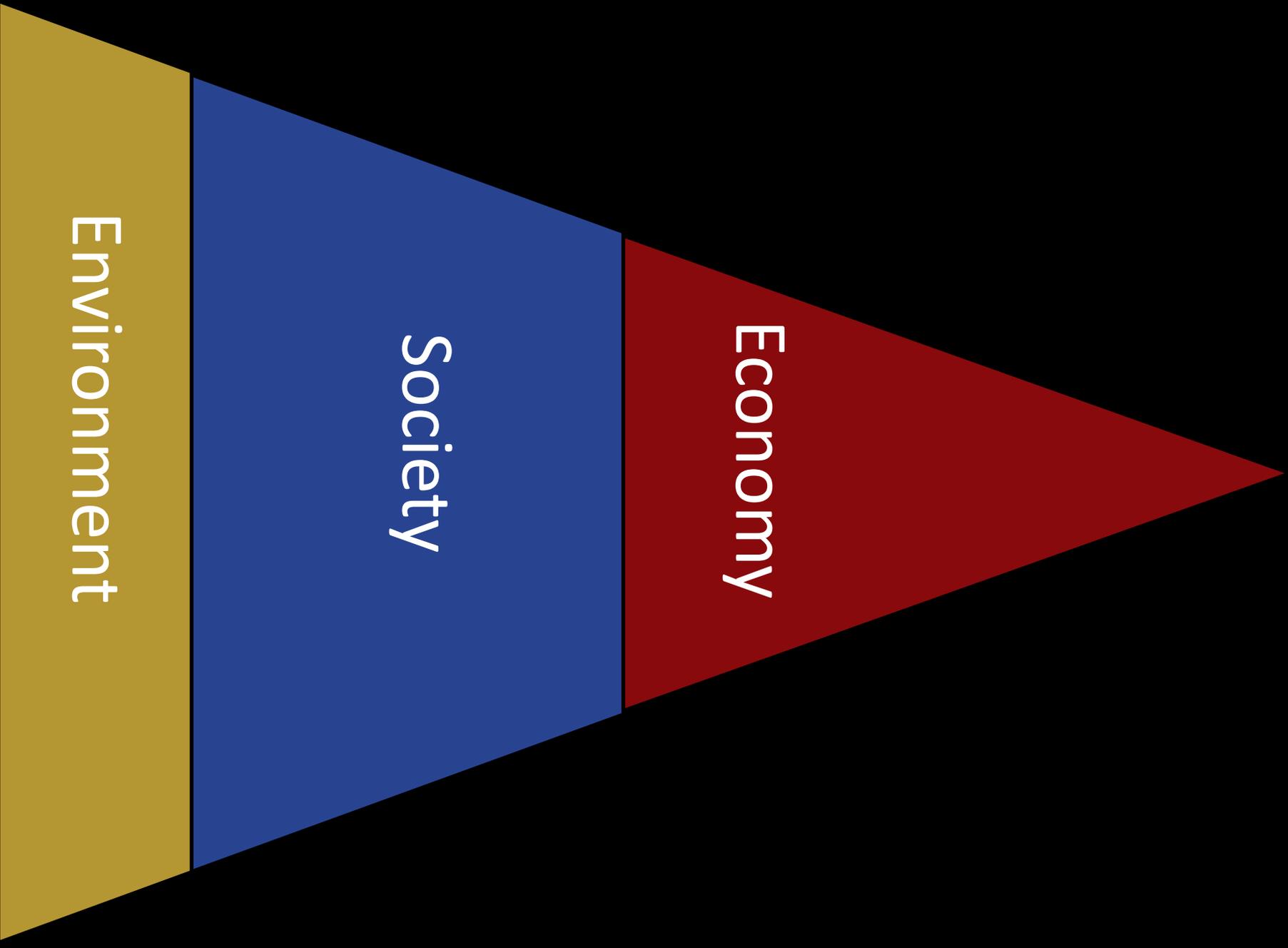
OBSERVATIONS, CRITICISM, SKEPTICISM,
AND NOTES FROM THE BRAZILIAN NUMBERS



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Usual and less usual representations
of **sustainability**





Economy

Society

Environment

THE FRAMEWORK

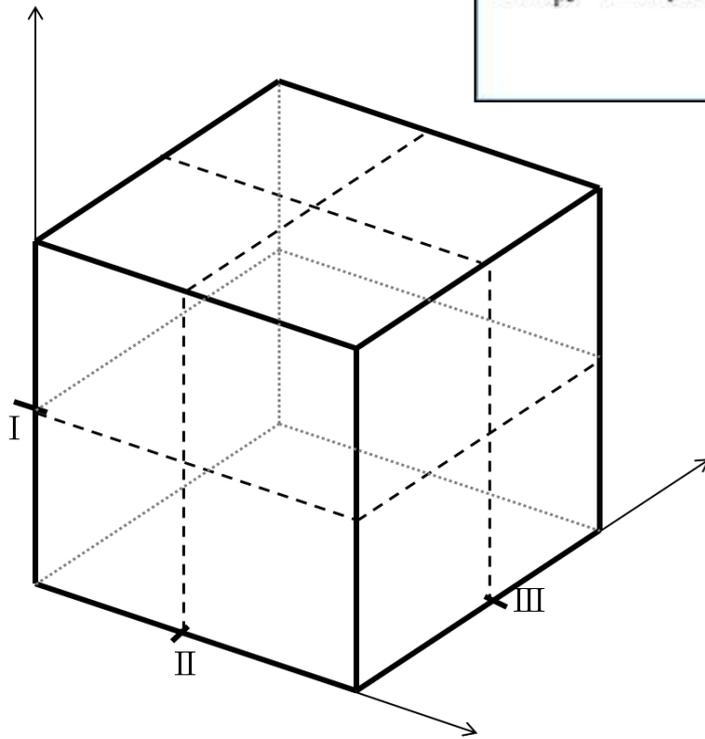
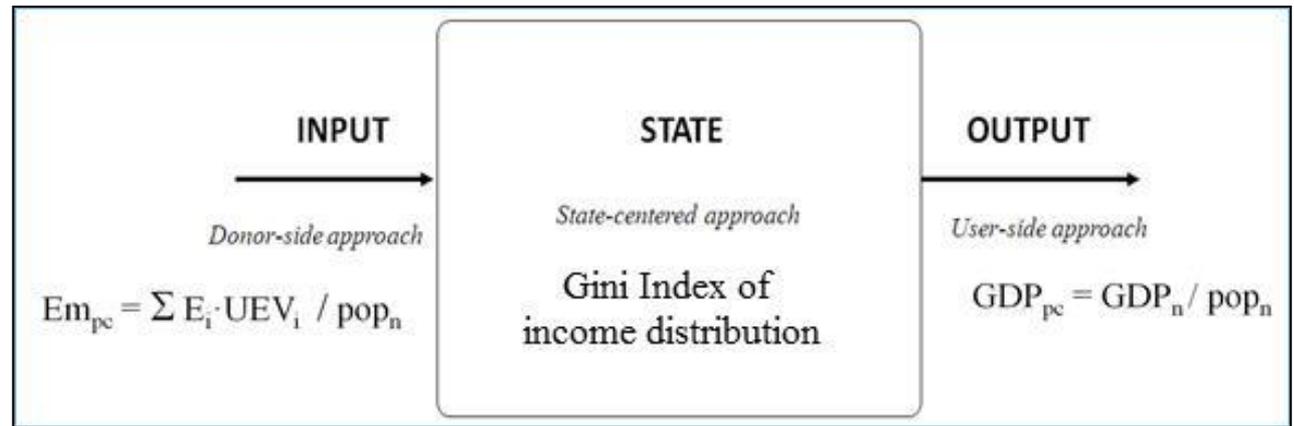


DEFINITIONS

The “**Inputs**” to a given system are all flows of energy and matter entering the system from the environment.

A “**State**” of a system is a particular configuration/organization of the abiotic–biotic system components. It is characterized by specific relationships between living and non-living entities.

The “**Outputs**” of an ecosystem are all flows of energy and matter, resources, goods and services moving from the system to the environment.

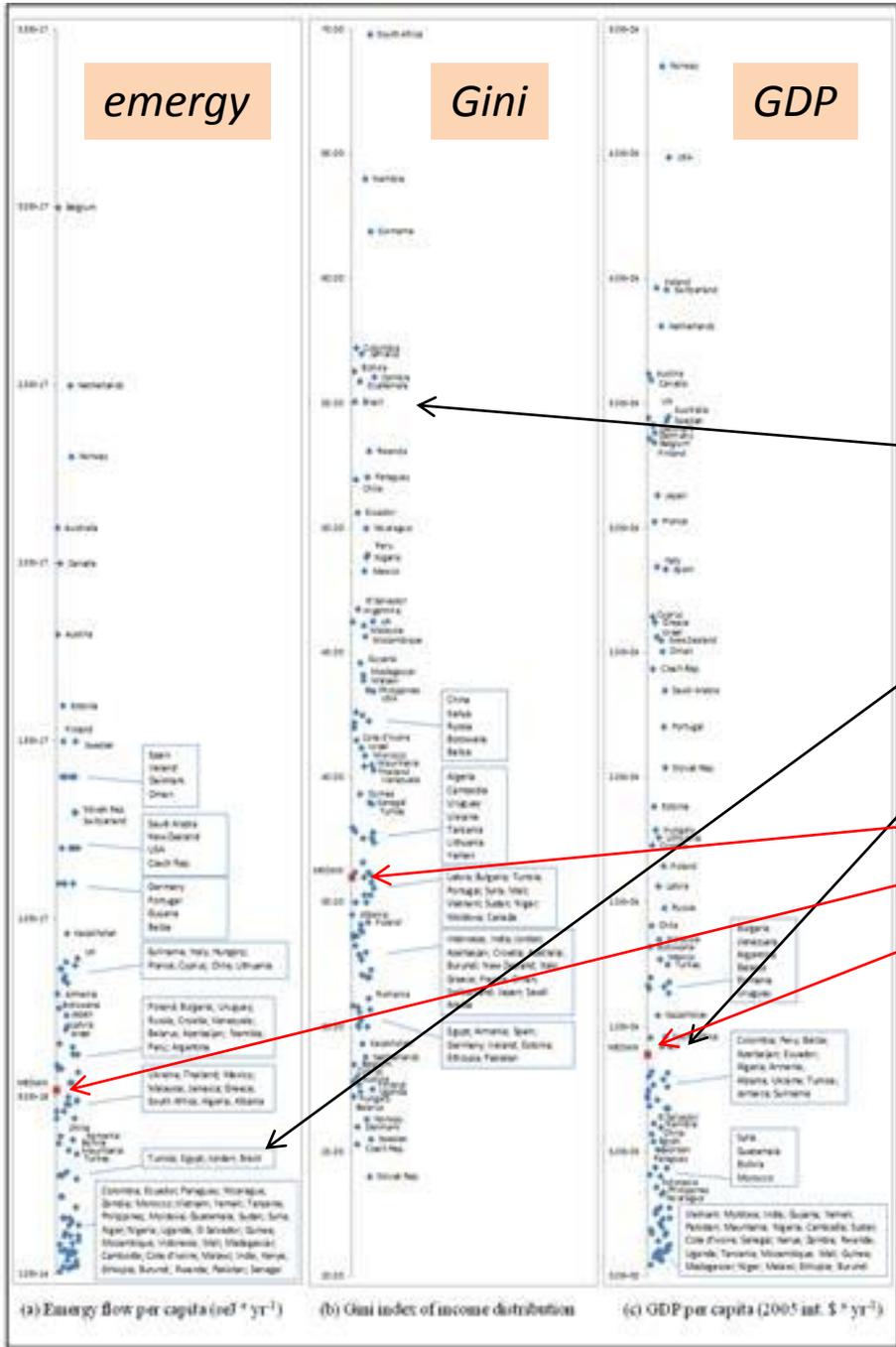


The cube derives from a three-axis diagram. Median values are forced in the middle of the segments; 8 sub-cubes characterize different combinations of the indicator values.

energy

Gini

GDP



BRAZIL

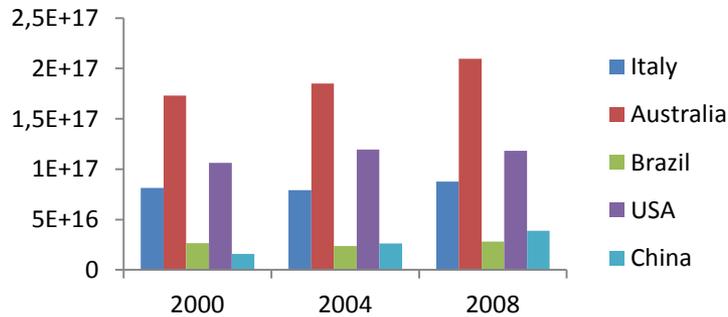
median

(a) Energy flow per capita (10⁶ yr⁻¹)

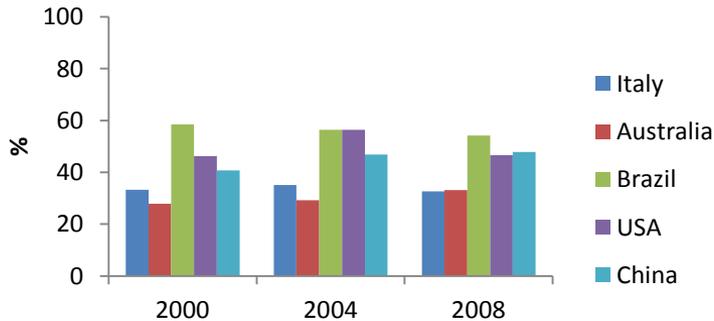
(b) Gini index of income distribution

(c) GDP per capita (2005 int. \$ * yr⁻¹)

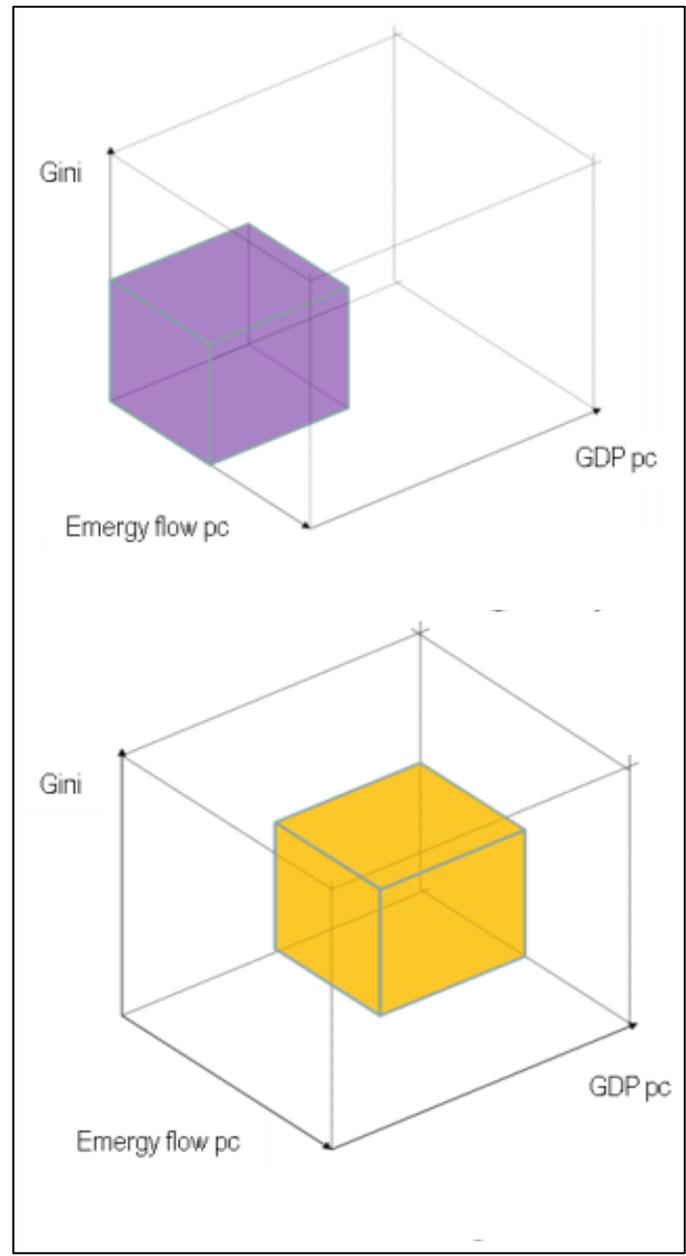
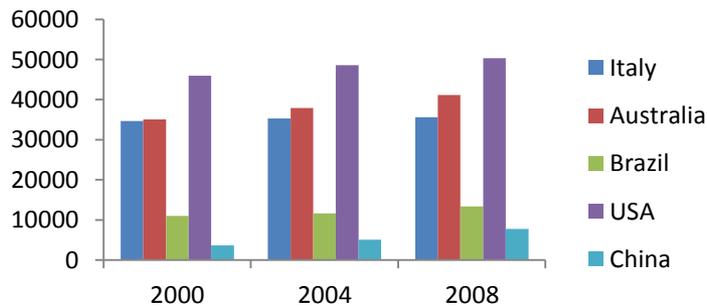
**(a) Energy Flow per capita
(seJ * year⁻¹)**



(b) Gini index of income distribution



**(c) per capita GDP, PPP
(constant 2011 international \$ * year⁻¹)**



Further results will be provided.....

to be good to be beautiful



Thank
you

In passato erano importanti solo la crescita, l'economia e le questioni sociali. Adesso abbiamo bisogno di etica e estetica, di bellezza... di beni comuni. Adesso dobbiamo ricercare il buono e il bello.

Enzo Tiezzi

In the past, only growth, economics and social issues were important. Now we need ethics and aesthetics. We need beauty. We need common goods. We need to be good and to be beautiful as much as possible.