Green Growth and LEDS

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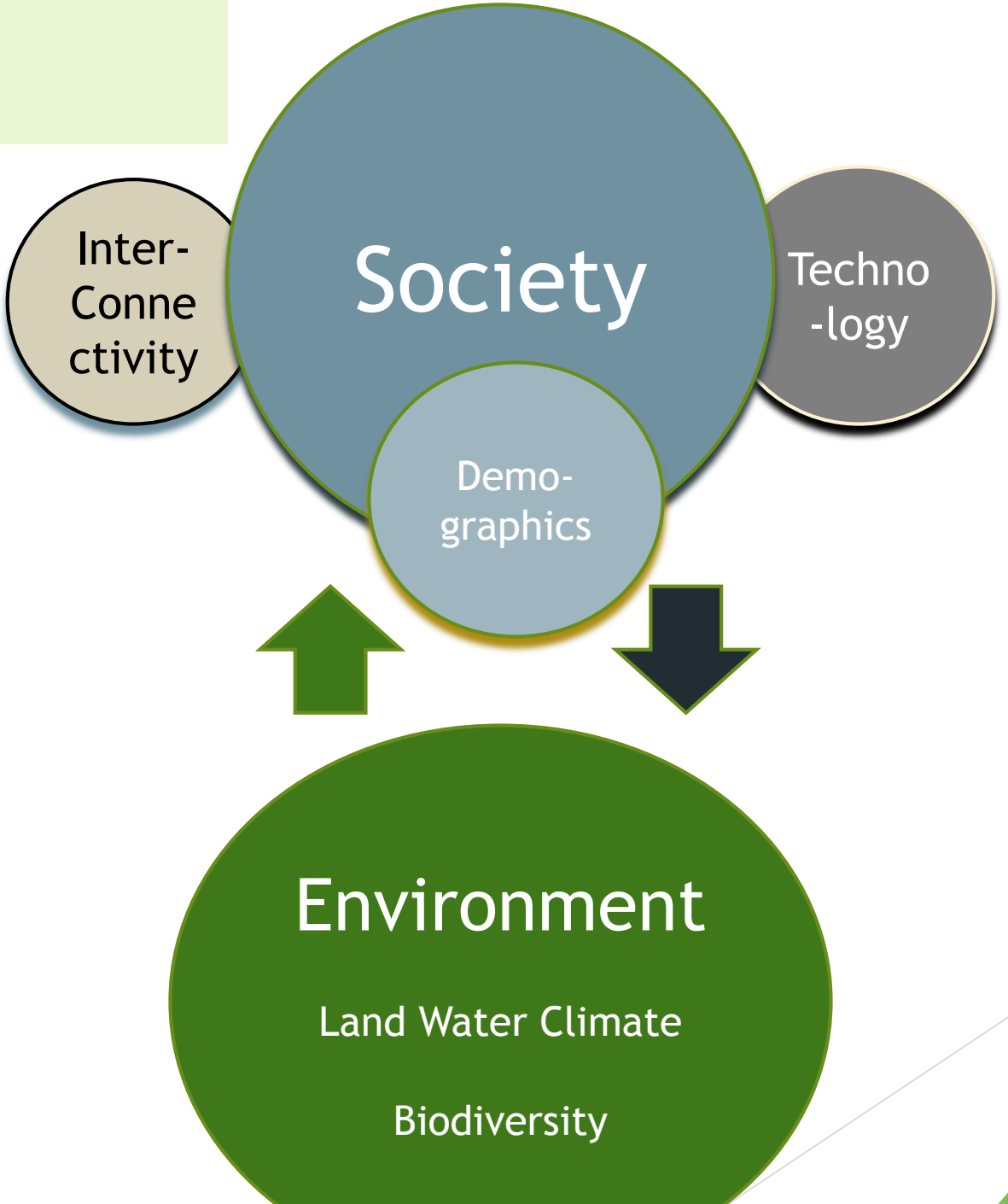
The big picture



Rising global demand…

Selected Trends and Projections:

World Population

1.6 billion (1900) ▶ **7 billion** (Today) ▶ **9 Billion** (2050)

Increase in global demand by 2030 (in comparison to present):

Energy up to + 50%

Food + 50%

Water +30%

(Sources: UN, IEA, FAO, IFPRI)

…and growing ecological footprint

From past to present

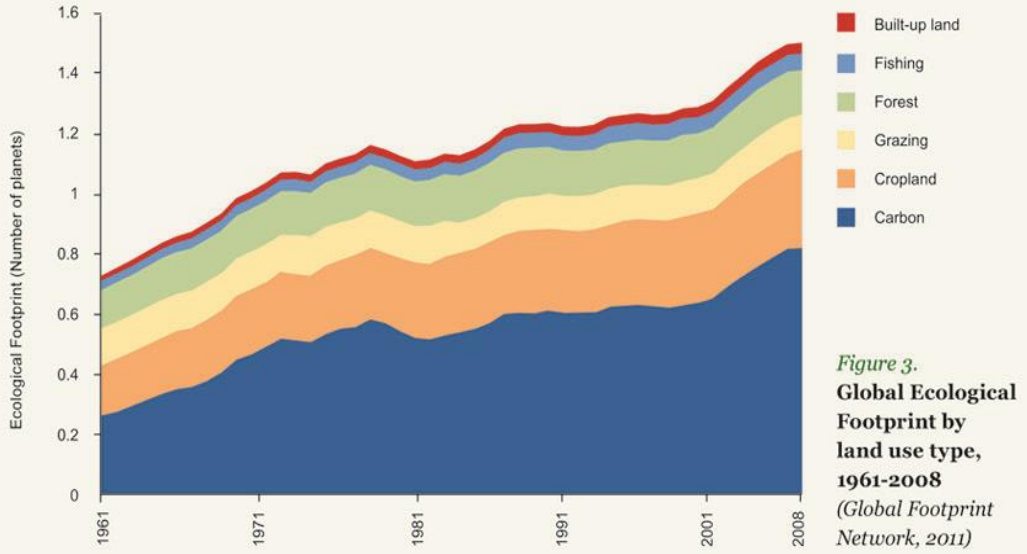


Figure 3. **Global Ecological Footprint by land use type, 1961-2008** *(Global Footprint Network, 2011)*

Current resource demand cannot sustainably be met.

It would require 1.5 planets.

(Source: WWF and AfDB, 2012)

Where do we go from here?

Development in the Anthropocene

- We live now in an age where humans have become the dominating force in shaping planetary processes – the anthropocene

Source: Crutzen, 2002

- Rockström et al (2009) propose a set of planetary boundaries to ensure that the earth‘s life support system is maintained.

These include climate change, ozone depletion, atmospheric aerosol loading, ocean acidification, rate of biodiversity loss, fresh water use, P- and N-Cycles, and chemical pollution.

- In addition to global changes, local environmental degradation and pollution impact on human health, food security, environmental goods and services…

Considerable development progress has been made, but not enough

- MDGs: Halving of Extreme Poverty, good progress globally, but…

large differences regionally and between individual goals

- Ambitious Future Development Agenda

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Open Working Group Proposal for the Sustainable Development Goals (2014)

outlines 17 Goals and associated sub-targets, including:

- Elimination of absolute poverty by 2030
- Every person has access to energy by 2030…

also outlined are a set of environmental goals which are linked to relevant international agreements….

The central question

- How do we reconcile the need for economic growth and the right to improve the human condition

with

the need to sustain the earth‘s life support system we depend on?

Towards an answer:
Transformation of our economic model

2.Green Growth and Green Economy:
Definitions and underlying concepts

Green Growth Definitions (Selection)	Reference
"…growth that is efficient in its use of natural resources, clean in that it minimizes pollution and environmental impacts, and resilient in that it accounts for natural hazards and the role of environmental management and natural capital in preventing physical disasters."	World Bank 2012
"…means fostering economic growth and development, while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which our well-being relies."	OECD 2011
"…the promotion and maximization of opportunities from economic growth through building resilience and managing natural assets efficiently and sustainably, including enhancing agricultural productivity, and promoting sustainable infrastructure."	AfDB 2013
Green Economy	
"An economy that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities."	UNEP, 2011

Green Growth and Green Economy

- Multiple definitions with slightly nuanced emphasis, but common elements
- Green Economy could be viewed as an ideal state of the economy, connecting the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development
- Green Growth can be viewed as a process which should lead towards greener economies
- Key words: *resource use, natural capital, efficiency and sustainability, reduction of pollution, resilience building, reducing of vulnerabilities and hazards*

It`s quality of growth that matters

- Emphasis on quality of growth: Environmental sustainability dimension of green growth is complemented by the social equity focus of inclusive growth

- Need to think beyond increasing GDP, but also think about how it is increased and who benefits

- Consider coupling with additional indicators, e.g.:

  CO2 emissions/unit of GDP

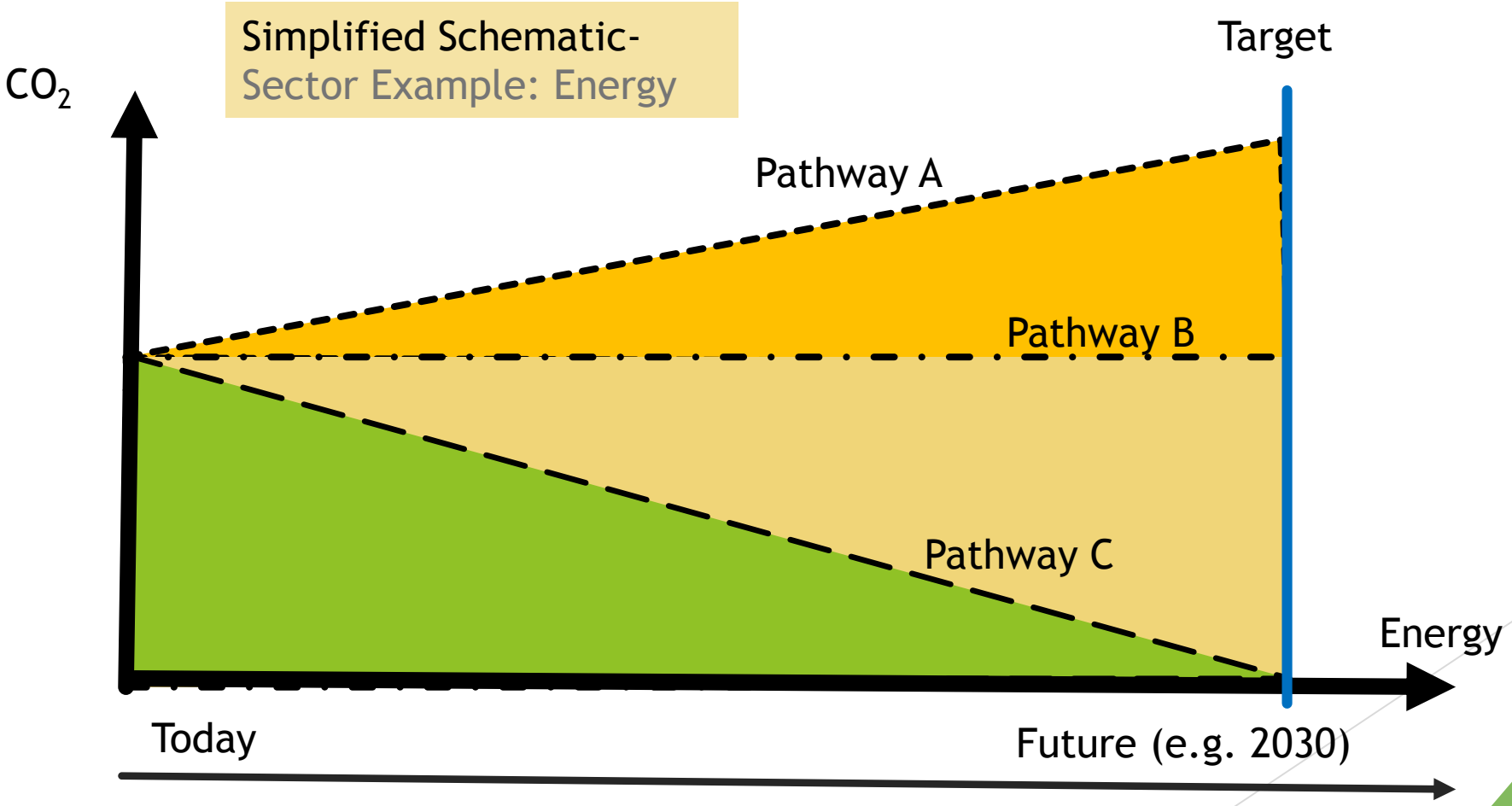
  Rate of deforestation

  etc.

It's about strategic transformation:

Identifying the right pathways towards a strategic development objective

- Focus on economic transformation, which maximizes benefits/minimizes trade-offs btw. economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development



There are often multiple, possible pathways towards a development goal associated costs and ecological footprints

(Greener does not necessarily mean more expensive)

Source: Sperling

Entry Points for Action

- Green Growth is a process for economic transformation, which leads towards a greener economy and more sustainable development
- Consequently, the main focal areas are upstream development planning efforts and programmatic investment strategies, which build the enabling environment for transformation
- But, the holistic perspective of green growth should also be mirrored in project initiatives by emphasizing multi-purpose solutions, e.g.:

  - Promoting school buildings that can serve also as shelters in disaster prone areas of developing countries,

  - Managing and utilizing the multiple functions of landscapes, e.g agroforestry, integrated watershed management

Important: Ensuring the linkage between enabling environment at national level and subnational implementation activities (working across levels)

Examples: Sustainable Land Management,

Programmatic Payment for Ecosystem Services Schemes, such as REDD+

Relationship between Green Growth and LEDS

- Green Growth goes beyond climate change
- Low emission development strategies need to be viewed as an integral component of green growth ambitions
- Emphasis is placed on decoupling the achievement of development needs from an increase in emissions

  Key sectors: Energy, transport, agriculture and other land-uses
- Focus on reducing emissions, enhancing efficiency
- Potential for synergies/trade-offs with adaptation concerns and other natural resource management objectives

Green Growth in Developed and Developing Countries

- There is no single approach to green growth, solutions and priority actions need to be tailored to the specific development contexts

- In general, affluent, developed countries tend have a large of aggregate and per capita footprint and hence need to focus on absolute decoupling

- Developing countries often have:

- a comparatively small ecological footprint and emissions
- urgent need/right to develop and improve human welfare
- but often also are quite inefficient (energy consumed/unit GDP produced)

⇨ emphasis should initially be placed on relative decoupling

Conclusions

- In light of the global trends, need to think ahead to seize development opportunities, while managing risks and promoting sustainability
- Green Growth/LEDS offer a more holistic focus for choosing development pathways
- With much of the infrastructure still needing to be built, developing countries have the opportunity to do things differently in terms of energy mix, transportation systems and city planning.

Merci! Thank you.