

September, 2009

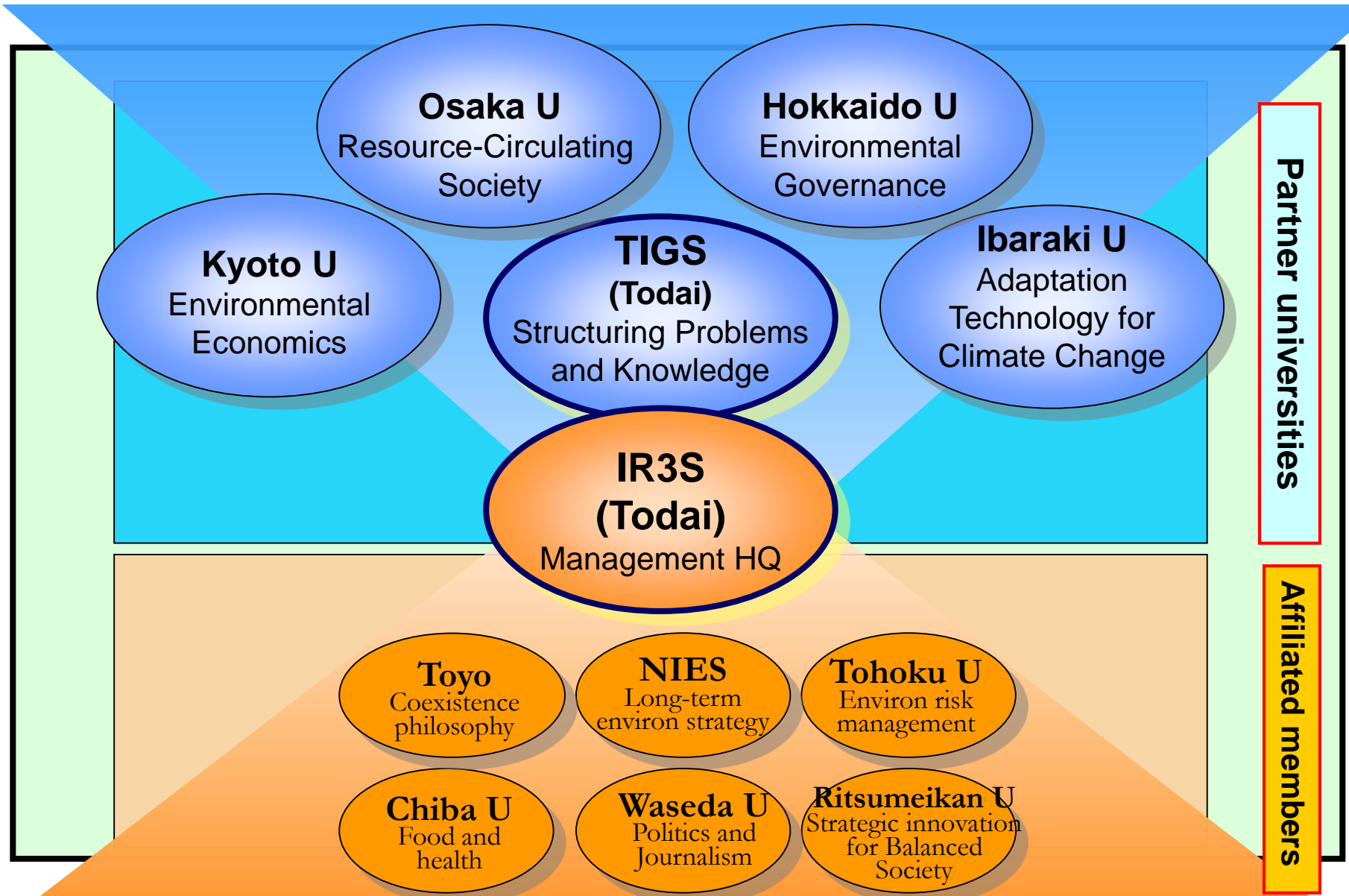
University of Rome

# Development of Sustainability Science

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Professor, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo  
Vice-Rector, United Nations University

# Integrated Research System for Sustainability Science (IR3S)



# Sustainability is the Complex Issues



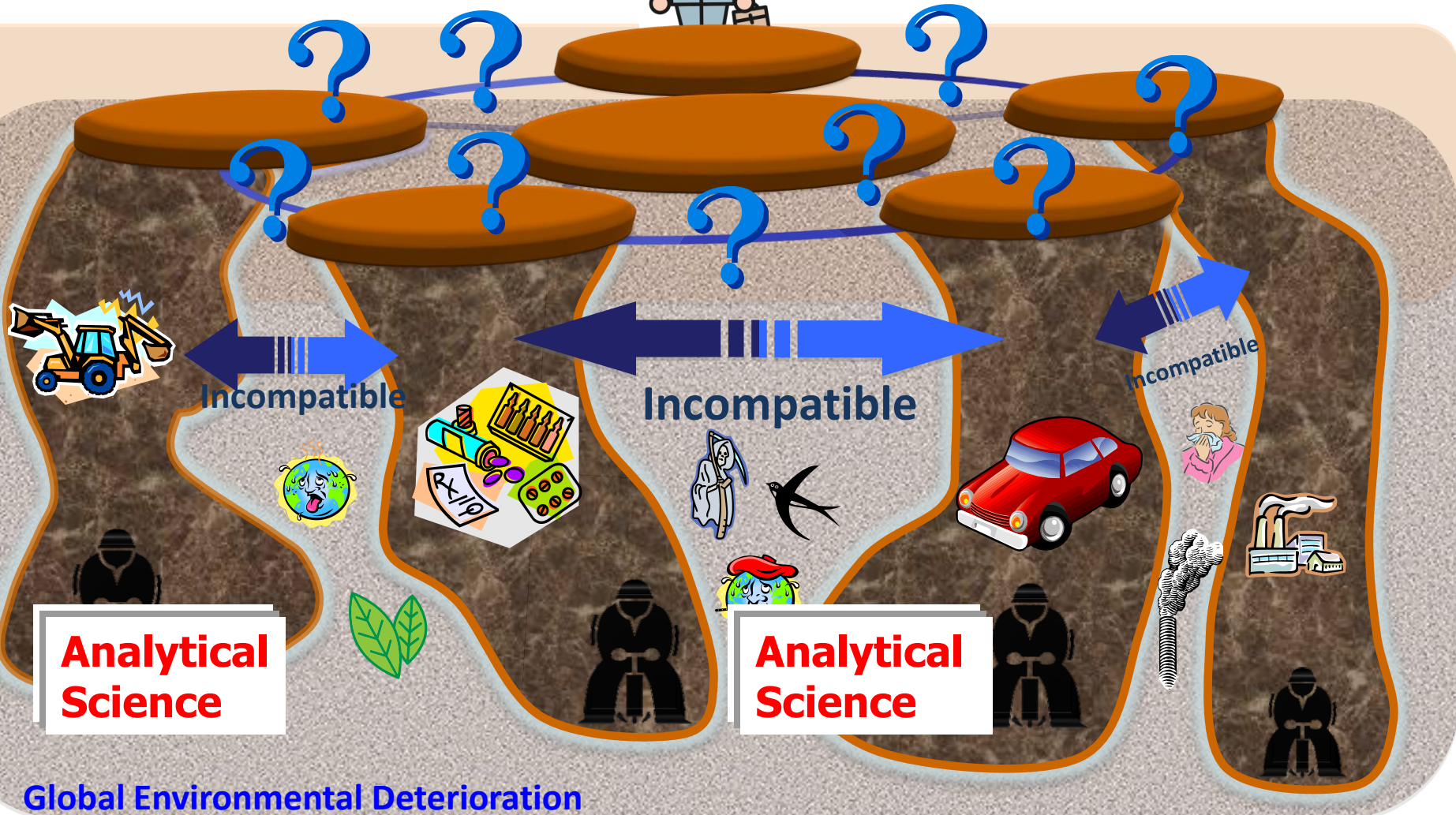
- ✓ The environment and “development” can coexist. This *complex* issues embraced by the *new concept* of “*sustainability*” cannot be explained by a single word “environment”
- ✓ Human stops thinking about a concept when it is *no longer new*.

**We must constantly *renew* the concept of “*sustainability*”, accept it in all its *complexity*, and resist simplifying its meaning.**

# Creating Man-Made Environment that Matches Natural Environment

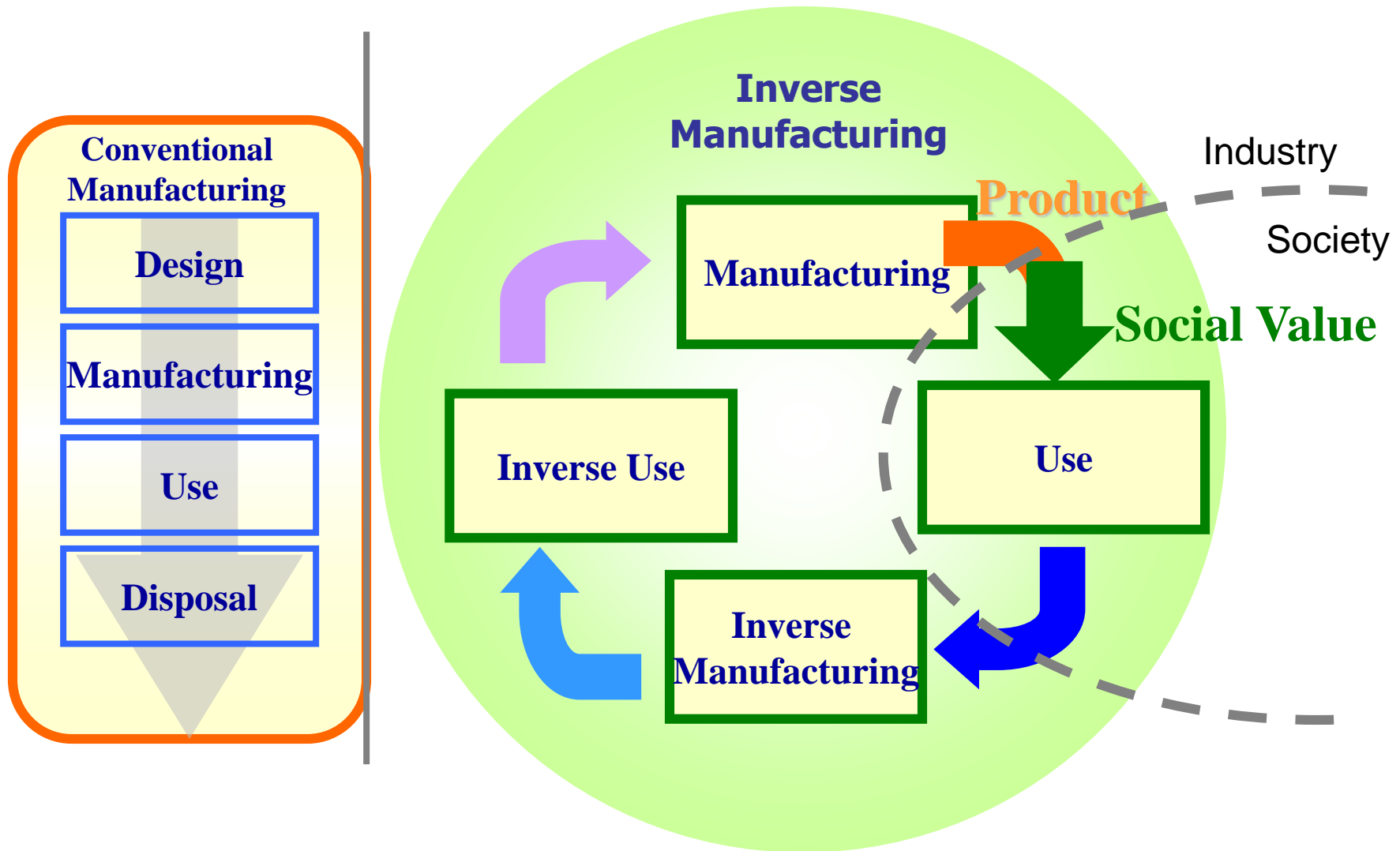


**Sustainability Science  
Synthesiology**



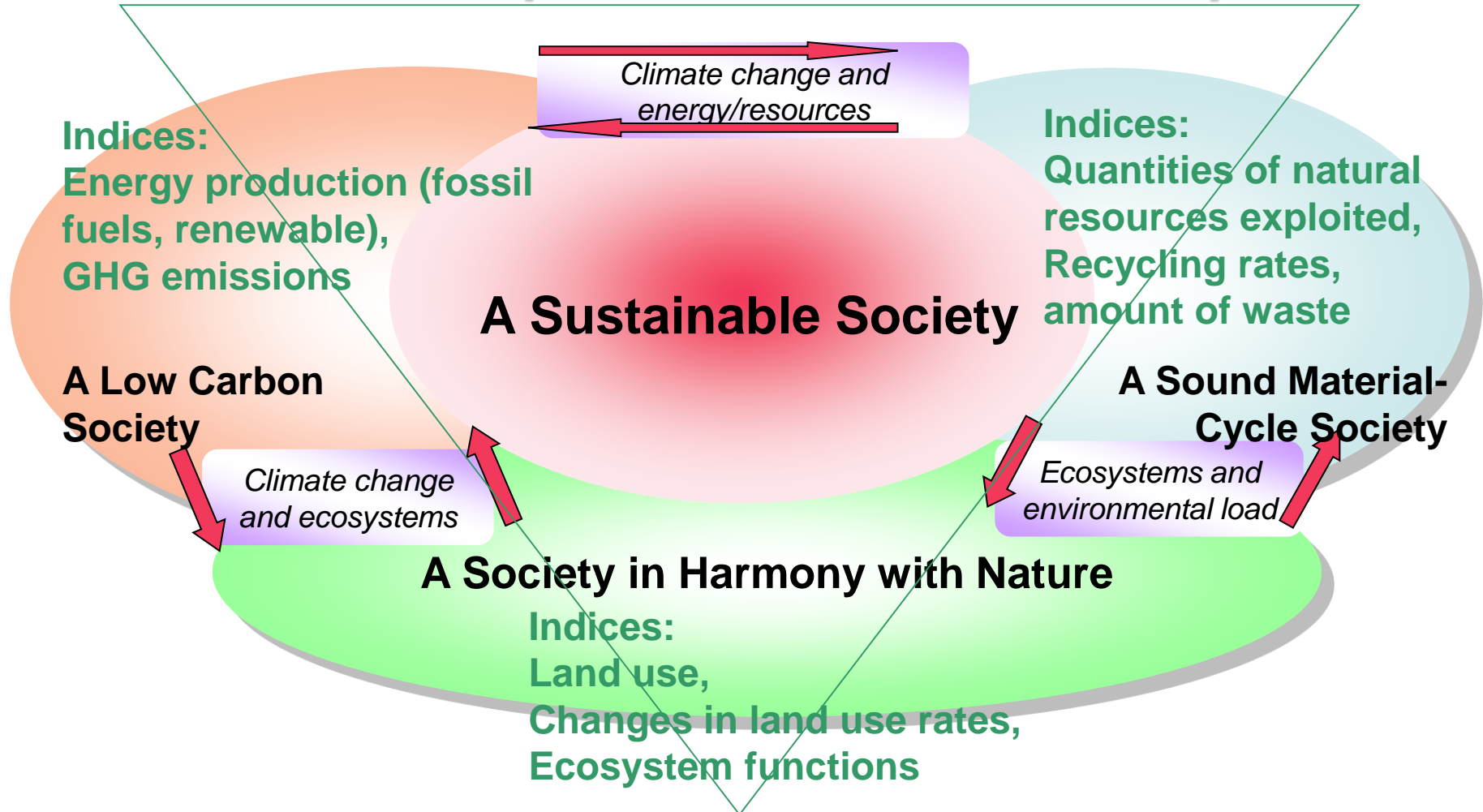


# Inverse Manufacturing

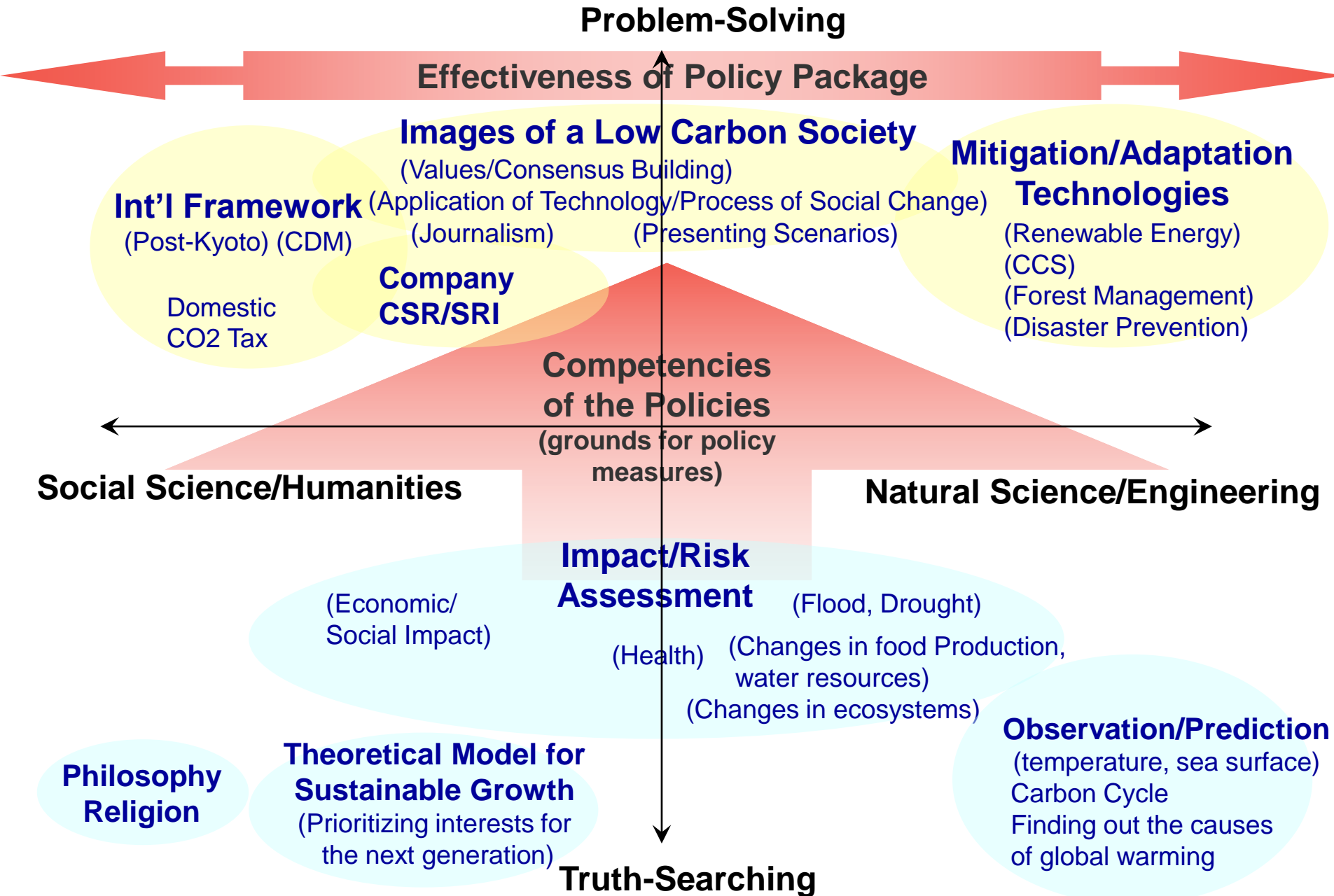


# Research that integrates the Three Societies

**Sustainability indices to connect each society**



# Mapping of Climate Change and SD



# Key Questions for Mitigation and Adaptation

Amount of anthropogenic GHG emission?  
Emission sources?

What is the mechanism of climate change

Key Question

How can human societies change?

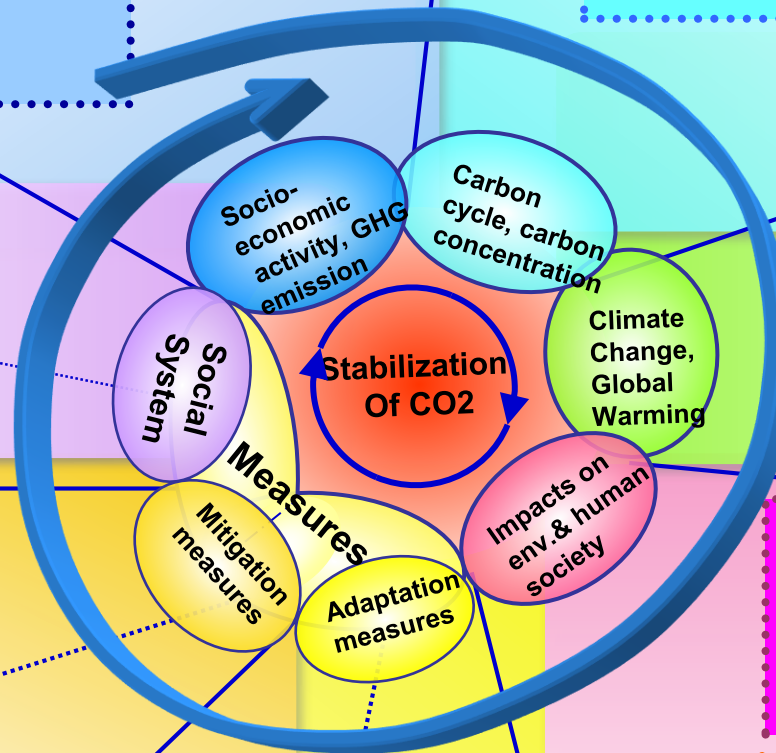
Future climate?  
Sea-level rise?

How much GHG reduction and adaptation is possible by technology?

How much human and ecosystem put at risk by climate change?

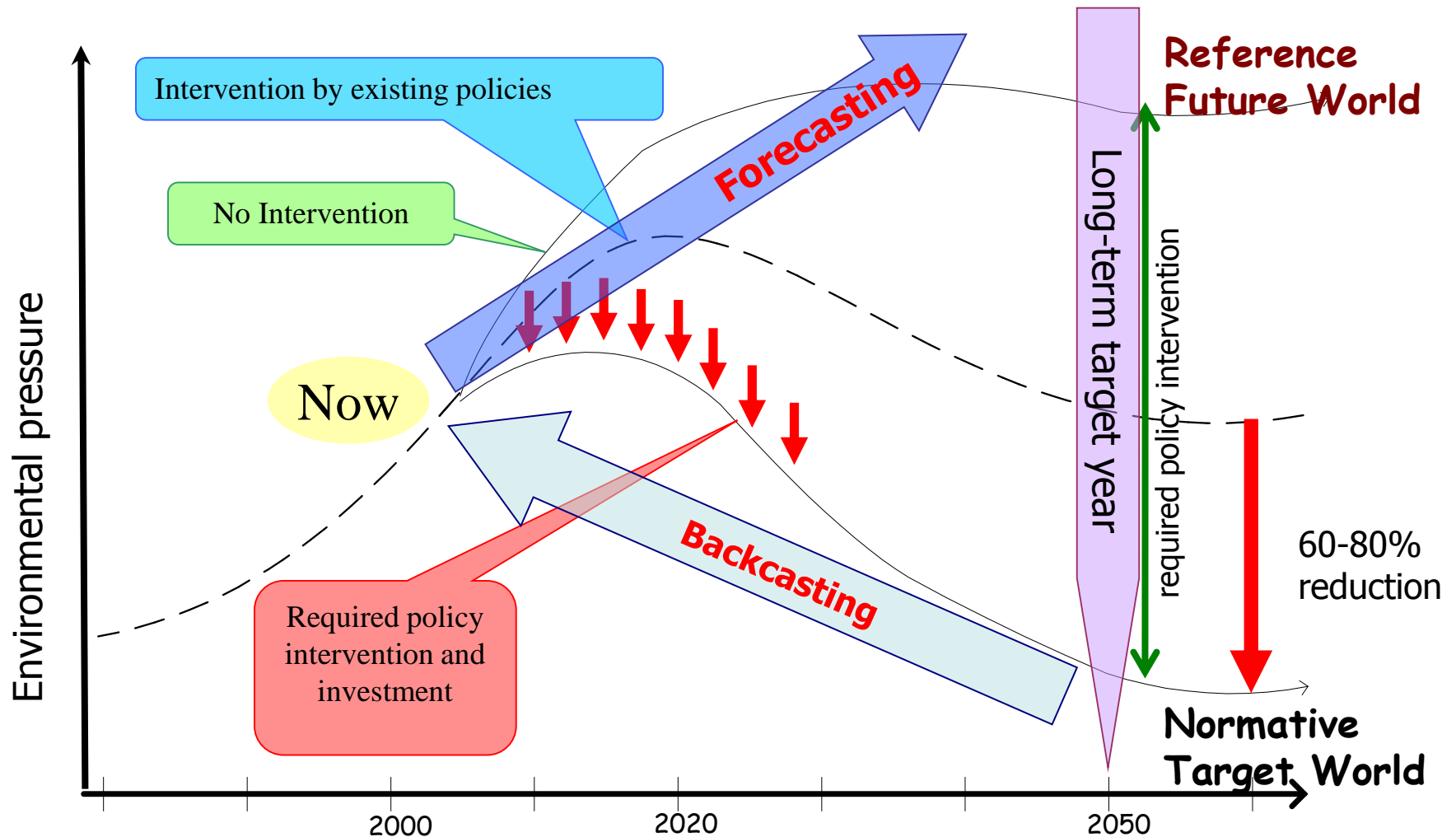
Risk can be avoided by adaptation?

What kind of policies are required?





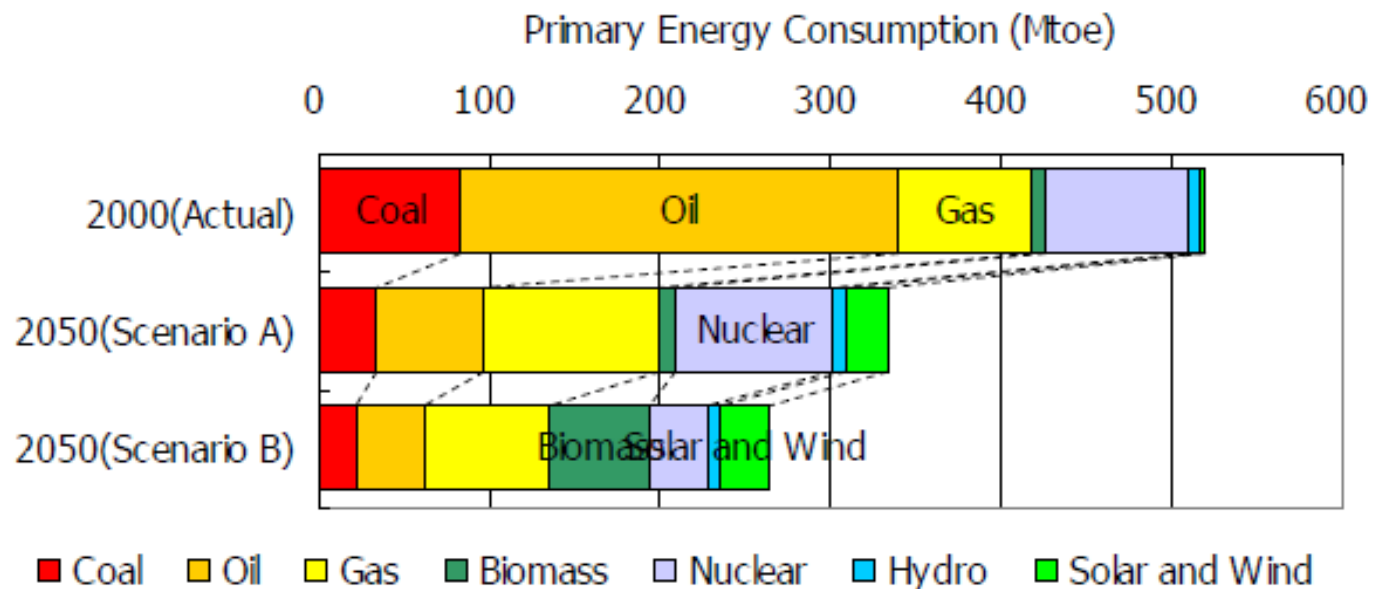
# Back-Casting from Future Target World



From "*Low carbon society scenarios towards 2050*" project

# Breakdown of Primary Energy Supply

Primary  
energy  
supply

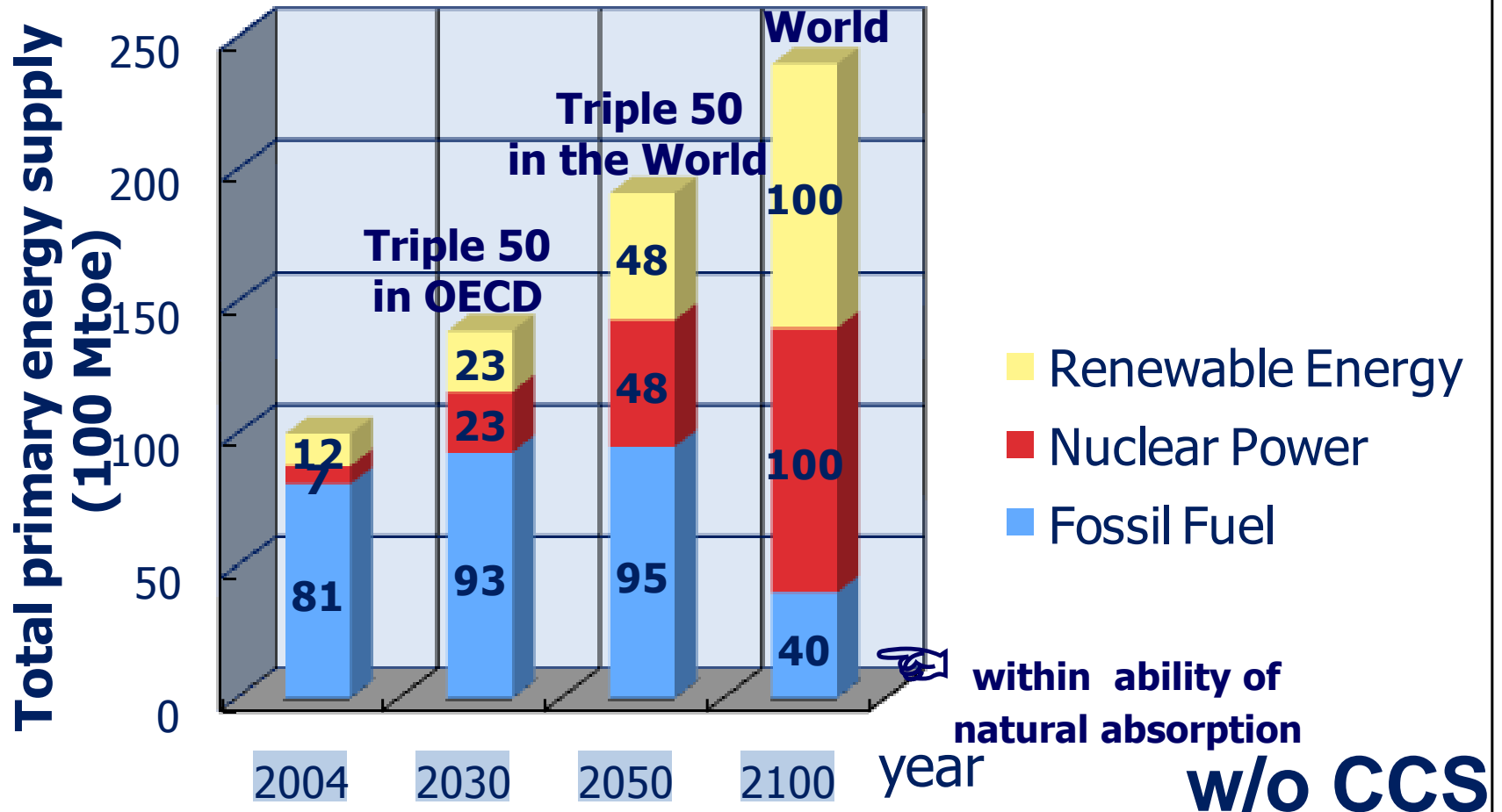


From "Low carbon society scenarios towards 2050" project

# Sustainable Energy Mix Future

(<500ppm)

Sustainable



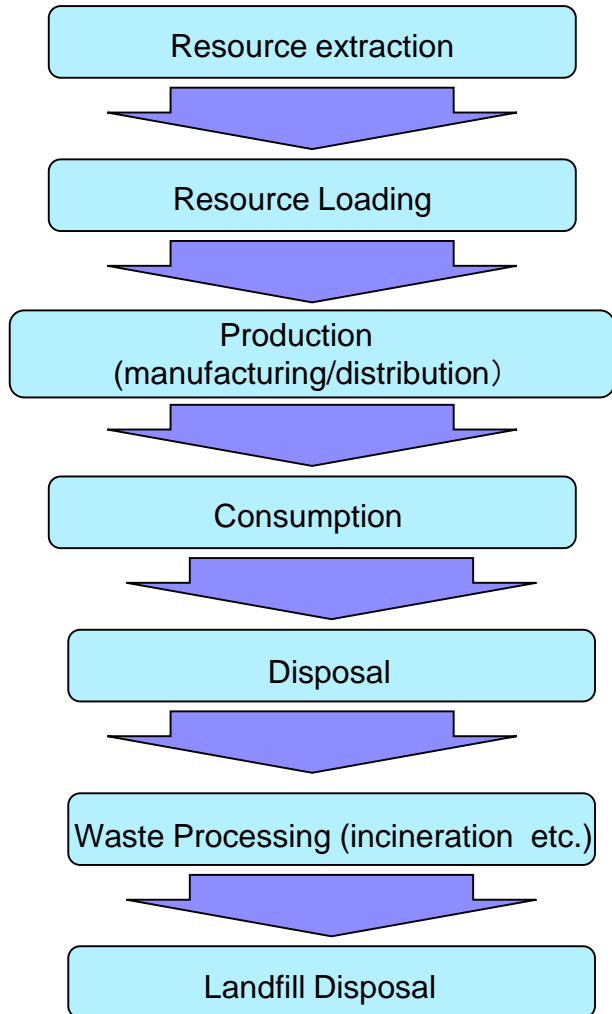
**Triple50: 50% Self-sufficiency, 50% Dependency on Fossil fuel, 50% Energy efficiency**  
**Sustainable = Emission of CO<sub>2</sub> within Earth ability of natural absorption**  
**( exhausted with fossil fuel 4Btoe)**

Proposed by T.YUHARA

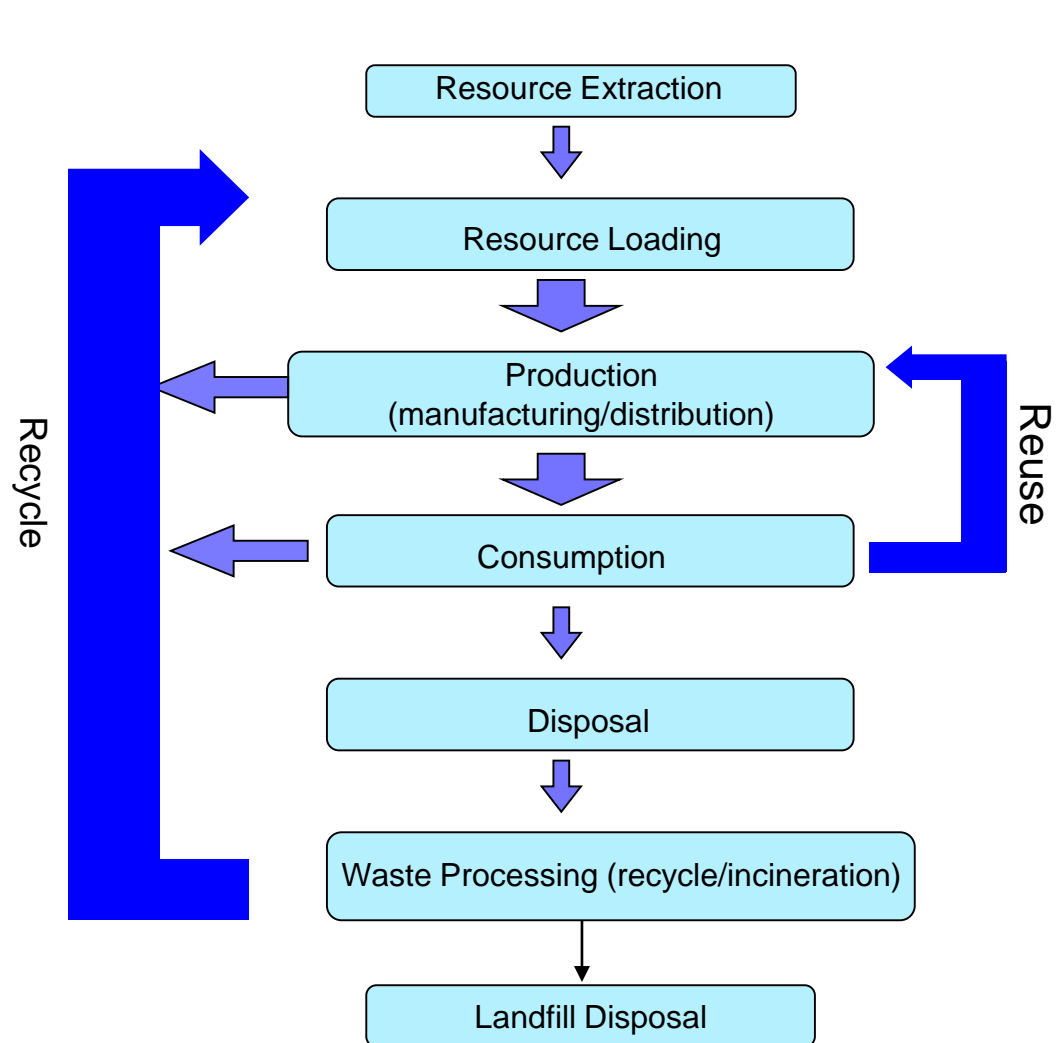
#3 Japan-China forum on environment, energy and transportation issues, Jan. 2008

# A Sound Material-Cycle Society

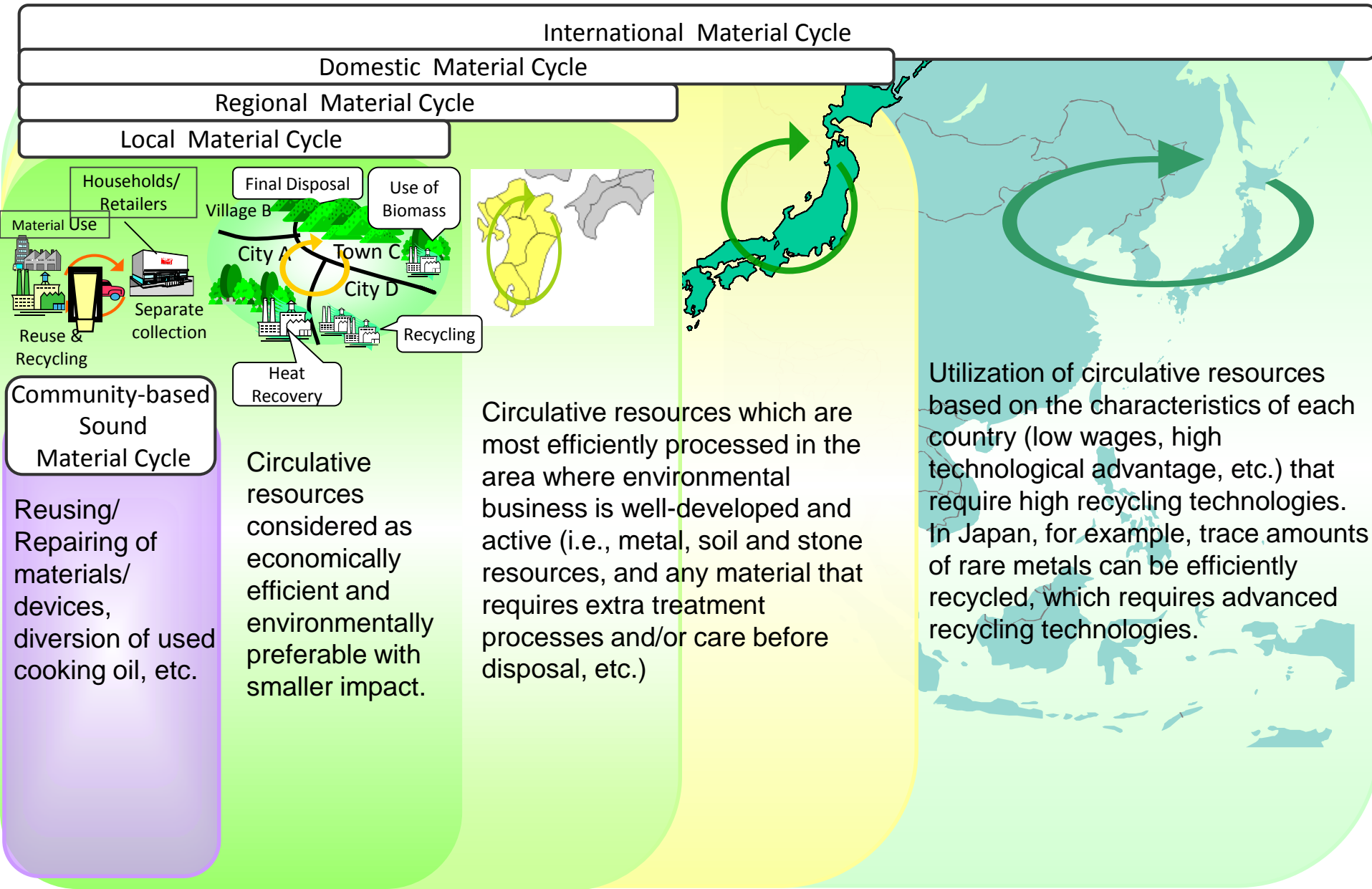
In a **One-way based Society** of mass production, mass consumption and mass disposal



In a **Sound Material-Cycle Society**  
Promotion of **3R**



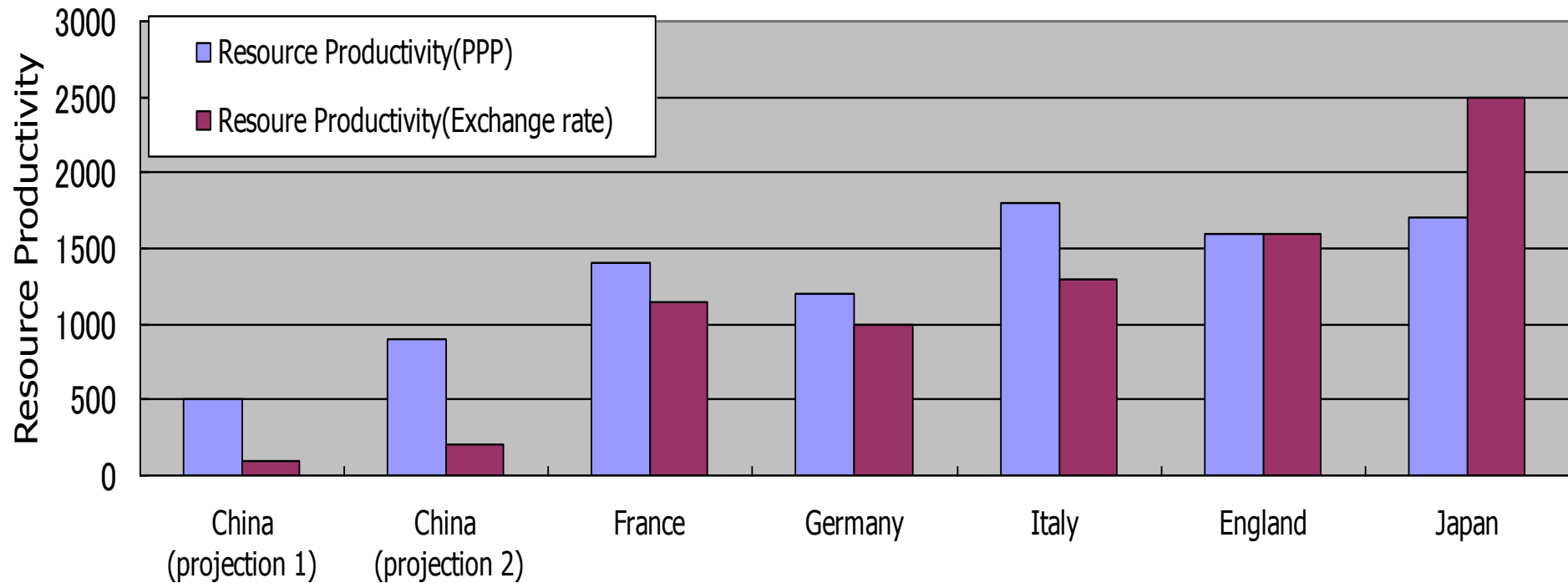
# Spheres of Sound Material Cycle





# Resource Productivity in Major Countries

## Resource Productivity in Major Countries(2002)



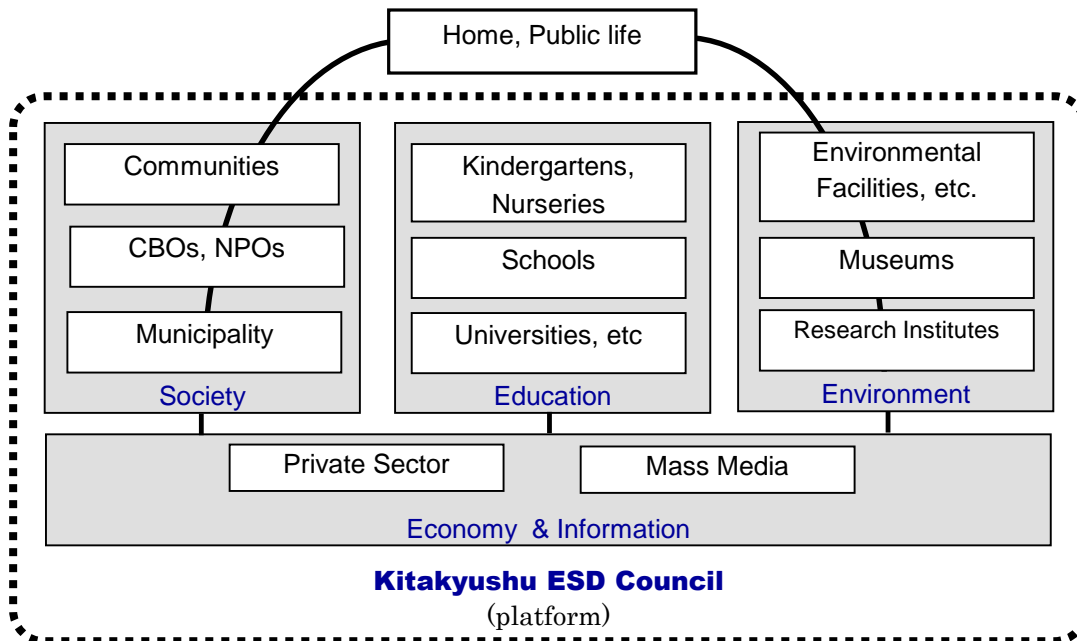
Comparison of resource productivity in major countries (2002)

For such cross-country comparison like this, which common currency used to convert the GDPs (gross domestic product) has great impact. It is pointed out that common GDP conversion in market exchange rates can give a very misleading picture of the size of a country's economy. This is particularly true for such country like China; therefore, here GDP adjusted for PPP (purchasing power parity) is used for the estimation to ensure more accurate comparison.

Estimation by Yuichi Moriguchi at the National Institute for Environmental Studies of Japan based on data from Liu Bin, Xu Ming, EUROSTAT, Ministry of the Environment of Japan, International Monetary Fund and others.

# Enhancing Regional Partnership in ESD

- **“Decade of Education for Sustainable Development”** has contributed greatly to educating people about sustainable development
- For further going, connect RCEs into networks t from **regional coalitions for the “Education for SD”**
- Kitakyushu City has been designated as an RCE in Japan
  - A famous model city for overcoming pollution and building a resource-circulating society
  - Training centers that support development of environmental technology in developing countries
  - Best suited for UNU **on-site training centre**

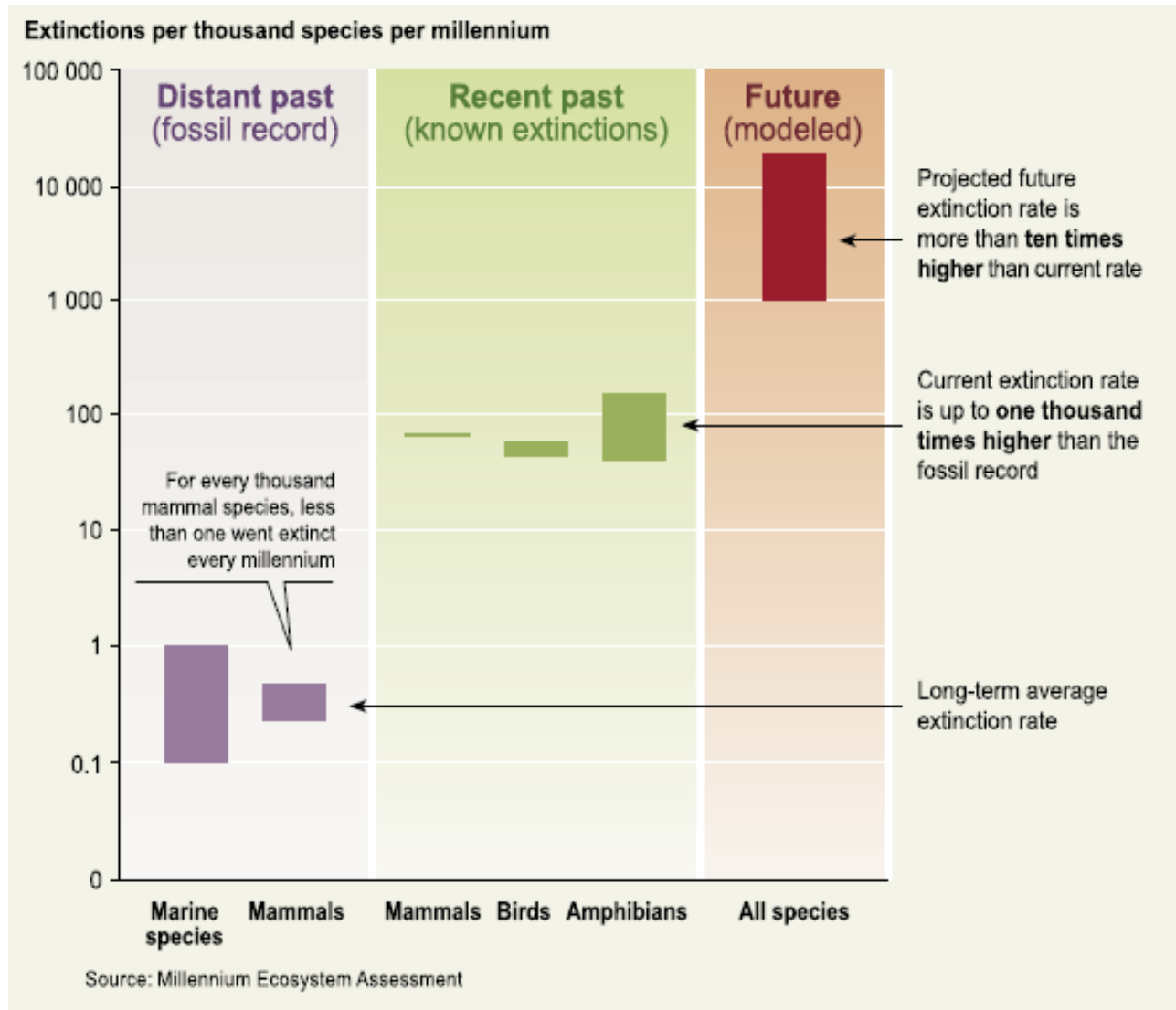


## Kitakyushu Eco-Town



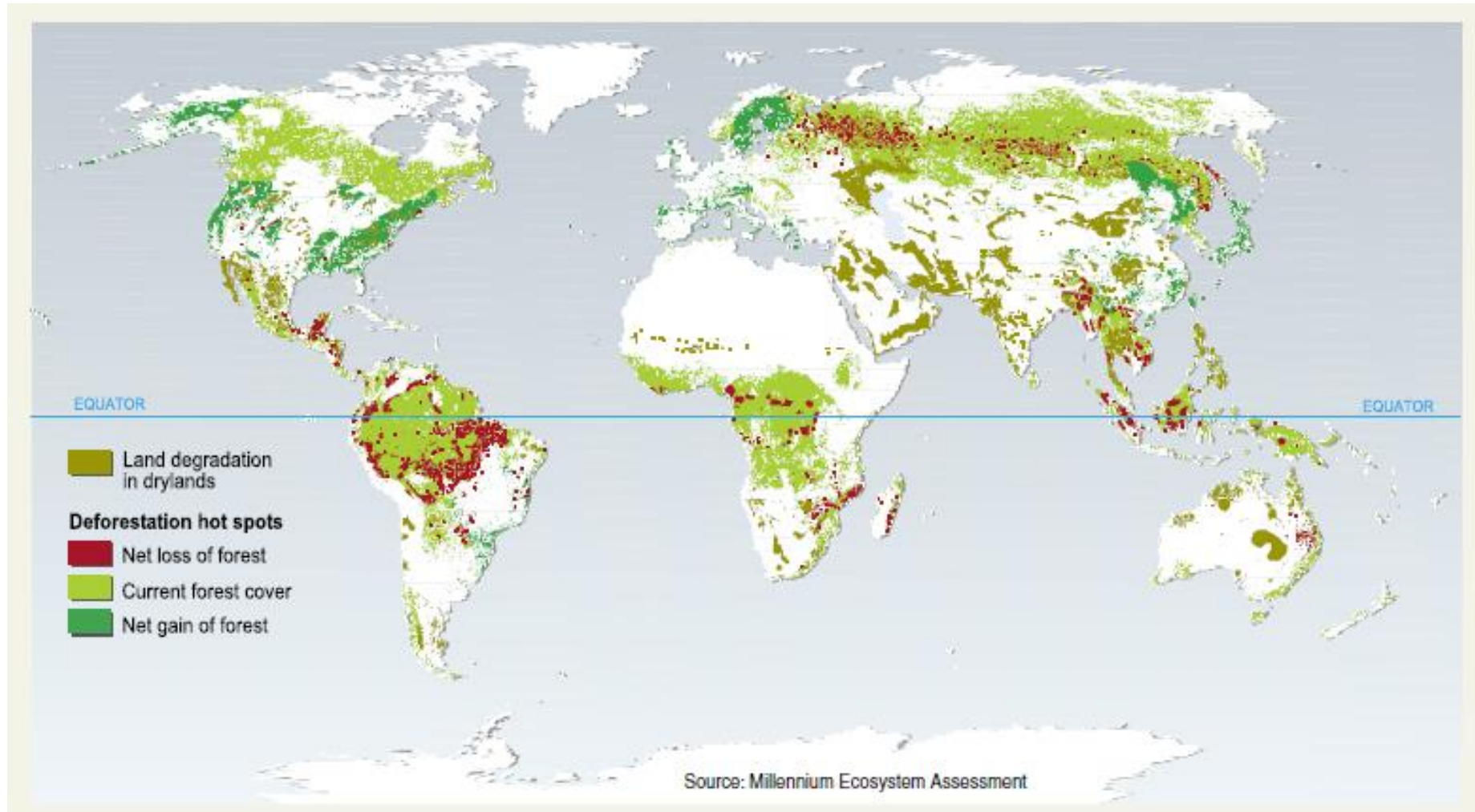
Comprehensive Environmental Industrial Complex, Hibiki Recycling Area

# Crisis in Ecological System and Biodiversity



From *Report of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment: Ecosystems and Human Well-being , Biodiversity Synthesis*

# Land Cover Change in the Past Few Decades



From *Report of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment: Ecosystems and Human Well-being, Synthesis*

# National Strategy for Biological Diversity

## Highlights of the New National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan

**Crisis 1** :Species and habitat degradation due to excessive human activities

**Crisis 2** :Degradation of *satochi-satoyama*\* due to insufficient level of management

**Crisis 3** :Ecosystem disturbances caused by the introduced alien species and chemical contaminations

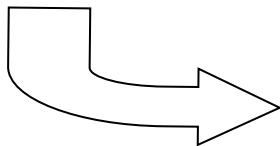


### 3 Policy Directions

1. Reinforce Conservation Efforts

2. Restore Nature

3. Work Towards Sustainable Use



### 7 Priorities

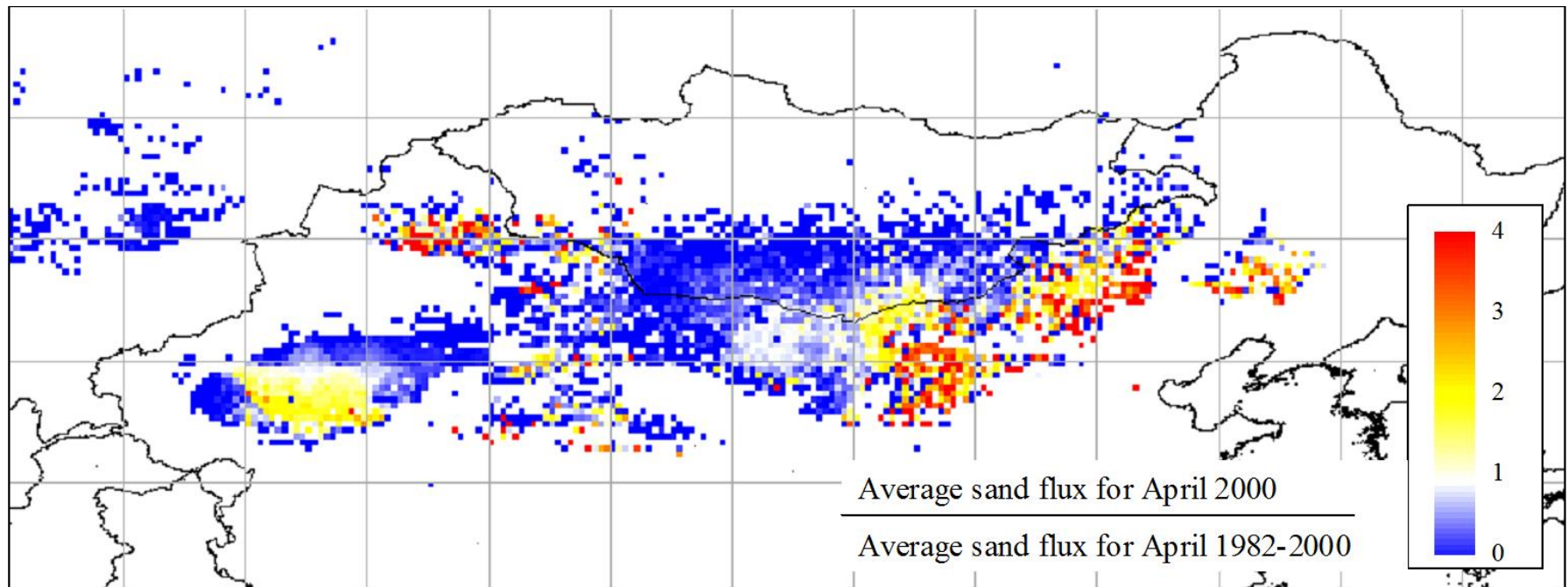
1. **Conservation of Priority Areas and Formation of "Ecological Network (s)"**
2. **Conservation and Use of *Satoyama***
3. **Conservation of Wetlands**
4. **Restoration of Nature**
5. **Conservation and Management of Wildlife**  
(Reinforcing Countermeasures against Extinction of Species and Countermeasures against Alien Species)
6. **Development of Natural Environmental Data**  
(Monitoring Sites 1,000)
7. **Effective Conservation Methods and Others**  
(Improvement of Environmental Assessments and International Cooperation)

(From Ministry of Environment )



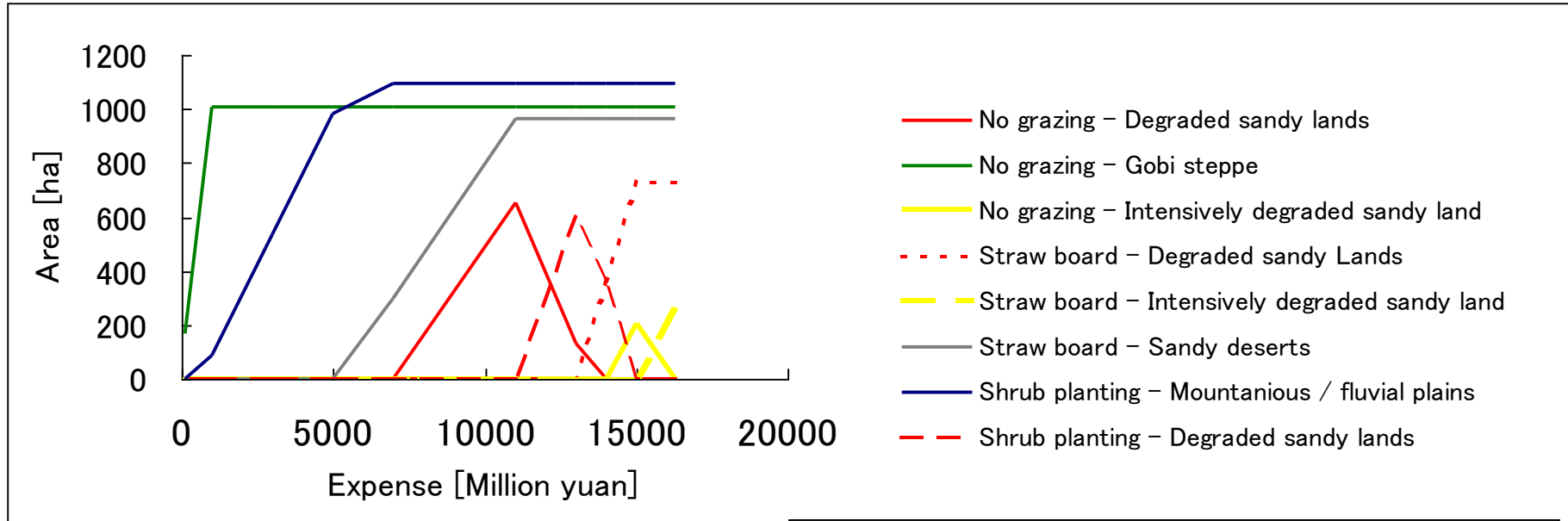
# Sand-Dust Storms Become More Frequent?

- Numerical simulation by using Wind Erosion Assessment Model (WEAM; Shao 2000)
- Recent outbreaks of sand-dust storms occurred **at the eastern edge of drylands in North-East Asia.**

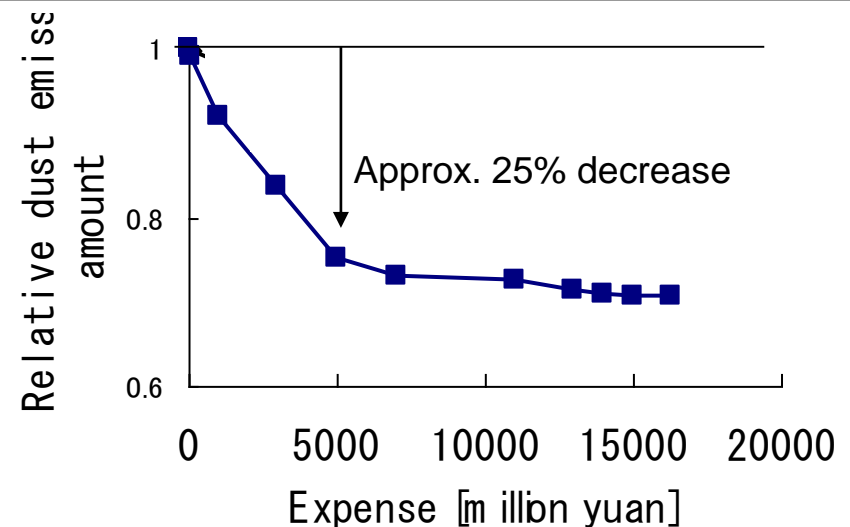


# Effectiveness of Countermeasures

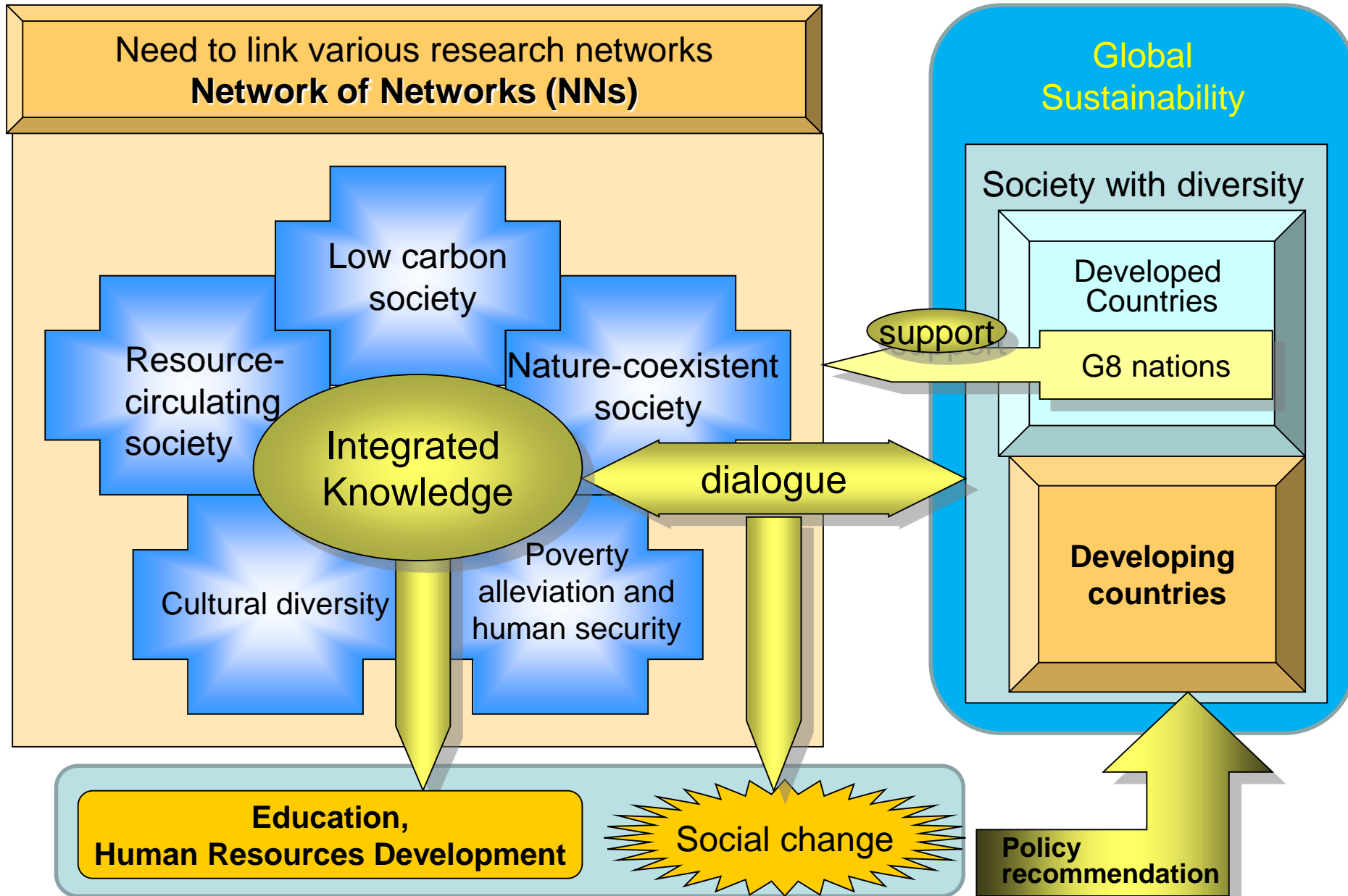
- The most efficient countermeasure is **prohibition of grazing in Gobi-steppe**



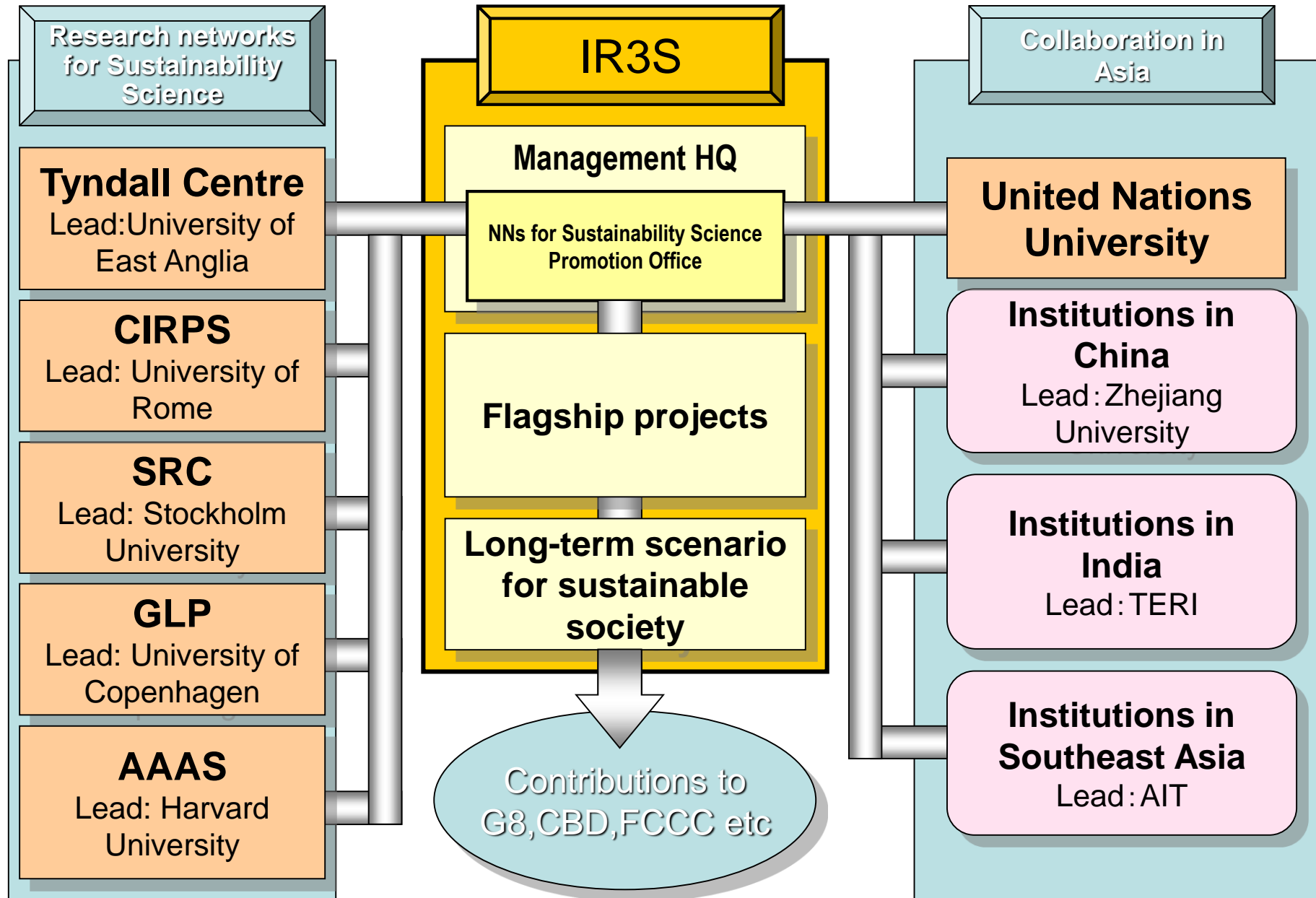
- It is worth spending up to around 5,000M Yuan (660M USD).
- ↕
- Economic damage by yellow dust in 2000 is about 1800M USD



# Knowledge Innovation for Global Sustainability



# Forming International Research Networks







Thank you