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Centre for Peace &
Conflict Studies



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UNU-EHS

Institute for Environment
and Human Security



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Sustainable Peace for Coping with Global Environmental Change (Plenary)

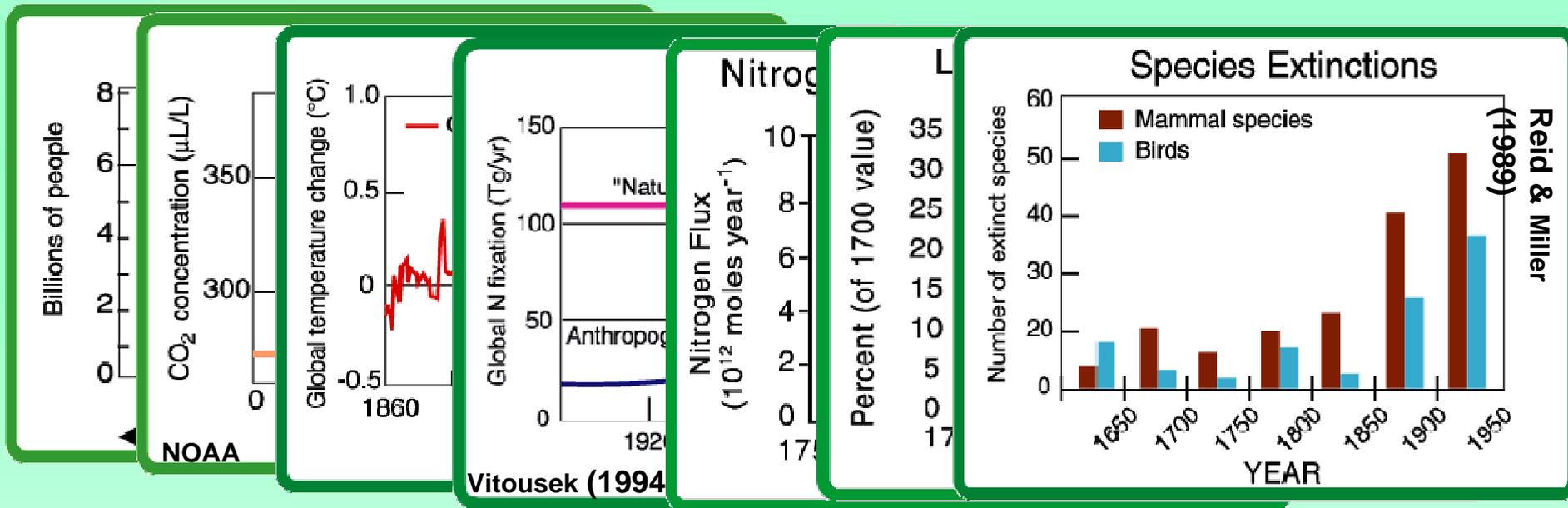
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1. What is Global Environmental Change?

- GEC is more than climate change
- Includes natural **plus** human components
- It is a constellation of **changes in different spheres**, such as:



GEC and Security

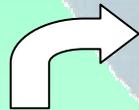
Ecosphere

Atmosphere

Hydrosphere

Biosphere

Lithosphere
Pedosphere



**Global
Environmental
Change**

Anthroposphere

Urbanization

Economy

Transportation

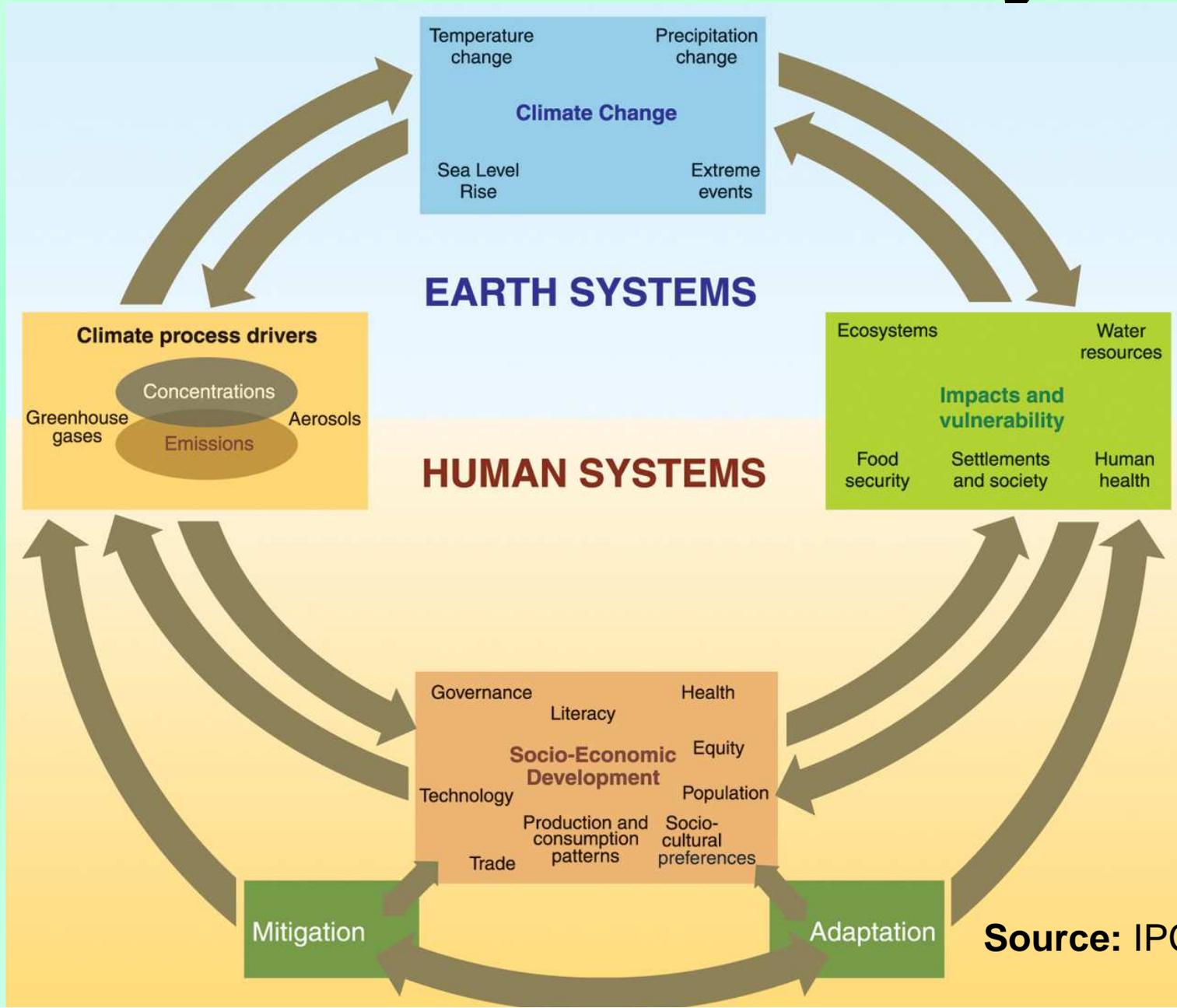
Population Growth

Science &
Technology

Culture and Gender
Identity



GEC: Earth and Human Systems

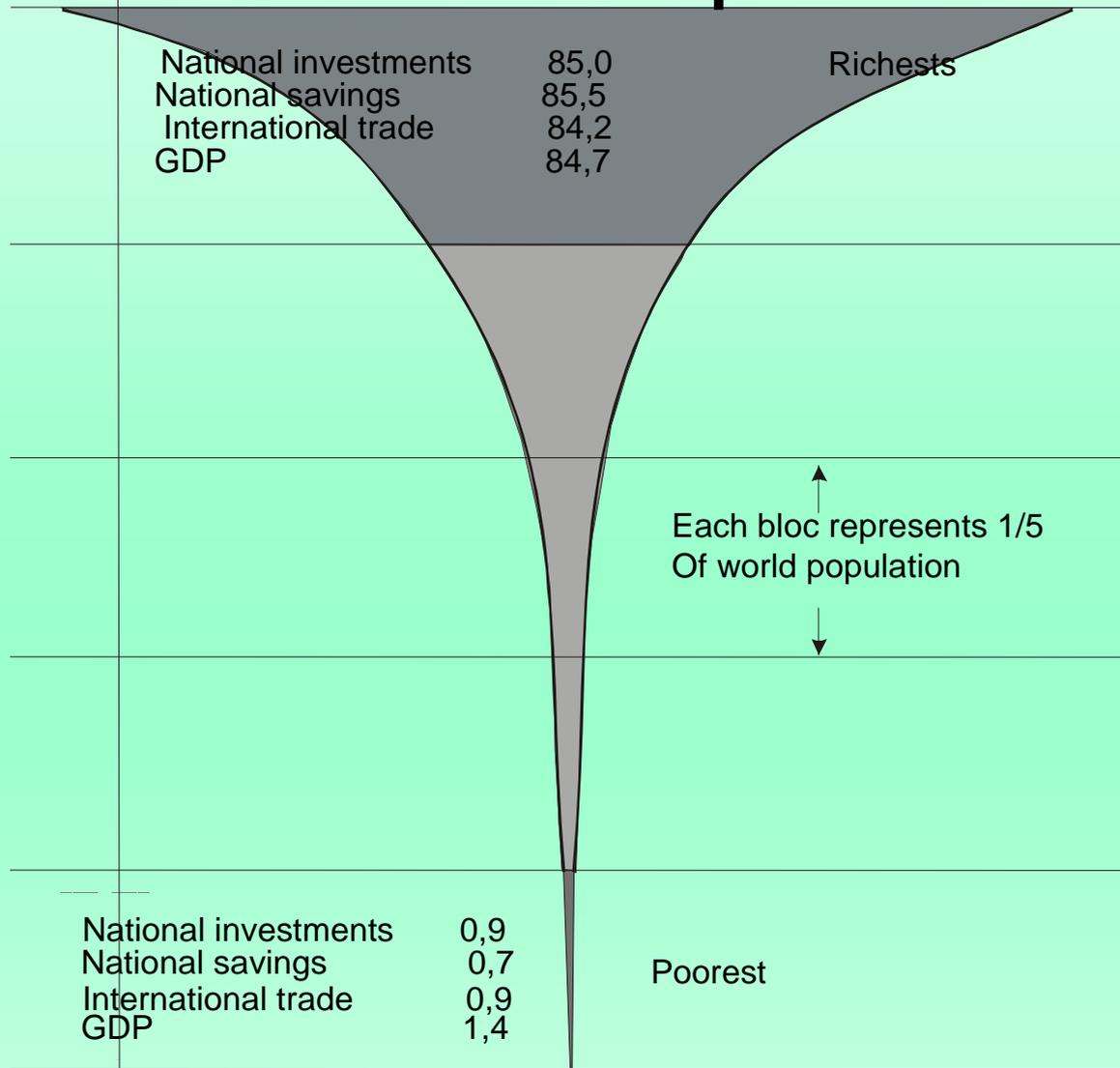


Source: IPCC, 2007

Globalization

1. Global financial networks
2. Instant communication (internet)
3. Global trade system
4. Global multilateral system of negotiation within the UN and the UN Security Council
5. Global agreements on human rights and its reinforcement
6. International Council of Justice
7. Consolidation of democratic political systems
8. Increase of social gaps within countries and between North and South

Globalization created unequal access to goods and crises



Outcomes of globalization and GEC

1. *Economic crisis: most severe financial crisis* since 1929 (collapse of private banks, insurance companies and enterprises), reduction of economic growth, increased unemployment and decline of remittances from migrants.
2. *Population Growth:* The world population has tripled during the 20th century from 2 to 6 billion and it is projected to **grow to 9 billion** until 2050.
3. *Climate Change:* global temperature is projected to rise between **1.1 and 6.4°C by 2100** ; sea-level between **18 cm and 2.4 metres**; precipitation patterns change significantly, climate related **hazards** will increase in number and intensity affecting more people and economies.
4. *Water Security:* during the 20th century population **tripled** and water consumption increased **six fold**. By 2025, more than 2.8 billion people in 48 countries are projected to face water stress, most of them in Asia and Africa.
5. *Food Crises in 2009:* **more than one billion people are hungry**; 68 million more due to food price increase; more than 24,000 people die daily due to hunger-related causes

Produce regressive globalization

- Strategy of groups and governments that favor a globalization only to **benefit themselves**
- **Administrative unilateralism** makes use of global strategies of pre-emption and counter-proliferation in a clearly expression of national interest. This could create **isolationism** and an **anarchic global system of governance**.
- The rise of **nationalistic and religious fundamentalist** groups, which spawned a new geopolitical terrorism. This new groups are depend on **global infrastructure** such as internet, global funding and financial system, communication, propaganda and technology.

2. What is Sustainable Peace?

- It is a **generally accepted value**, a type of desideratum linked to **harmony, tranquility, cooperation, alliance, well-being, and agreement**.
- It started with **'preventive diplomacy'** from Dag Hammarskjold, later adopted by Boutros Boutros-Ghali, and today used in different governmental discourses and practices: tries in a **preventive way** to avoid escalation and spreading of conflicts through political solutions.
- The Orient contributed **nonviolent practices** with other humans and nature: **ahimsa** signifies not to do harm to any living organism.
- China's Taoism proposed a **harmony among sky, earth, and humans** generating cosmic energy which is the way to intelligence and fruitful life (Kongfuzi).
- In Mesoamerica indigenous societies, living in difficult environmental conditions, have developed **equilibrium, deep respect and unity with nature** and a profound knowledge on environment management
- Dark history of gender discrimination, intra-familial violence, feminicides, rape, trafficking and aggression have created **higher vulnerability of women**. UN Security Council Resolution 1325 that reinforced the ongoing gender mainstreaming in the UN bodies, highlighted the crucial role of women in development.

Critics to sustainable peace

- underlies a **hierarchical** present world order, where international institutions and **patriarchal** organizations are maintaining the status quo of the present exclusive globalization process.
- no **structural changes** are proposed
- **conflicts** are required to offer the superpower and its allies' **cheap raw materials** for consumerism and wasteful fossil energy use.
- ideologically false realities: **cheating system** of free-market and global trade: world elite get richer using legal and transnational organized crime to amplify their accumulation of capital and power
- South: sustainable peace implies **critics of the existing model** of exclusivity and violence.
- new elements to create a sustainable model of society with **less environmental destruction, resource efficiency** and **shared** use of science and technology (against TRIPS and GATS)
- promotes **reduction of global environmental change, poverty alleviation and self-reliance**: a new paradigm of security: Human, Gender and Environmental Security: **HUGE**

3. What is security?

- Security (Lat.: **'securus'**, **'securitas'**, **'se cura'**)
- philosophical and psychological **state of mind**
- subjective feeling of **freedom from sorrow.**
- Political concept of 'Pax Romana': **stability** in era of Augustus.
- Western thinking 'security' synonymous: 'certitudo'; **certainty**
- Since Augustus, and Middle Ages, 'securitas' was linked with **'pax' & 'libertas'** that was associated with 'quietness'.
- 19th century, **state** is key security institution governed by law.
- 20th century, security associated with **preventing internal & external dangers**; police & courts (*internal: justice & home affairs*) & political, economic, military measures (*external: security/defense*).
- a general 'societal idea of value', a universally **normative concept**, different meanings in affirmative manner.
- **political value**, related to individual or societal value systems

Objective, Subjective, Intersubjective Security

- **Wolfers (1962)** pointed to two sides of the security concept: “Security, in an **objective sense**, measures the **absence of threats to acquired values**, in a **subjective sense**, the **absence of fear that such values will be attacked**”.
- From a constructivist approach in international relations ‘security’ is the outcome of a process of social & political interaction where social values & norms, collective identities & cultural traditions are essential. Security: **intersubjective or “what actors make of it”**.
- Copenhagen school: security as a **“speech act”**, “where a securitizing actor designates a threat to a specified reference object and declares an existential threat implying a right to use extraordinary means to fend it off”.
- Such a process of **“securitization”** is successful when the construction of an “existential threat” by a policy maker is socially accepted and where “survival” against existential threats is crucial

4. Is GEC a security risk?

PEISOR Model

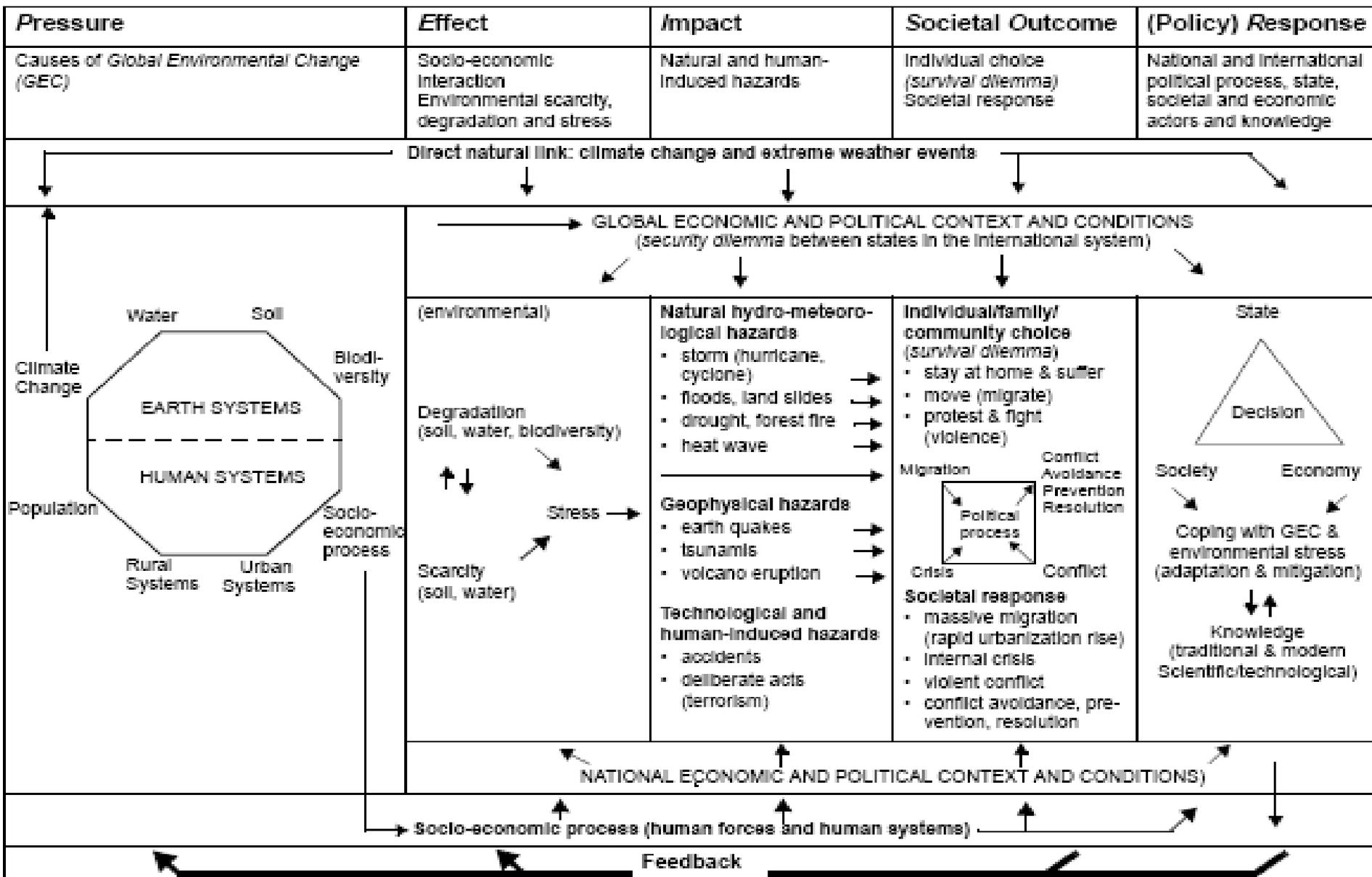
- **PEISOR: Result of pressure and response models and of debates on environmental security and on natural hazards.**

The PEISOR model combines five stages:

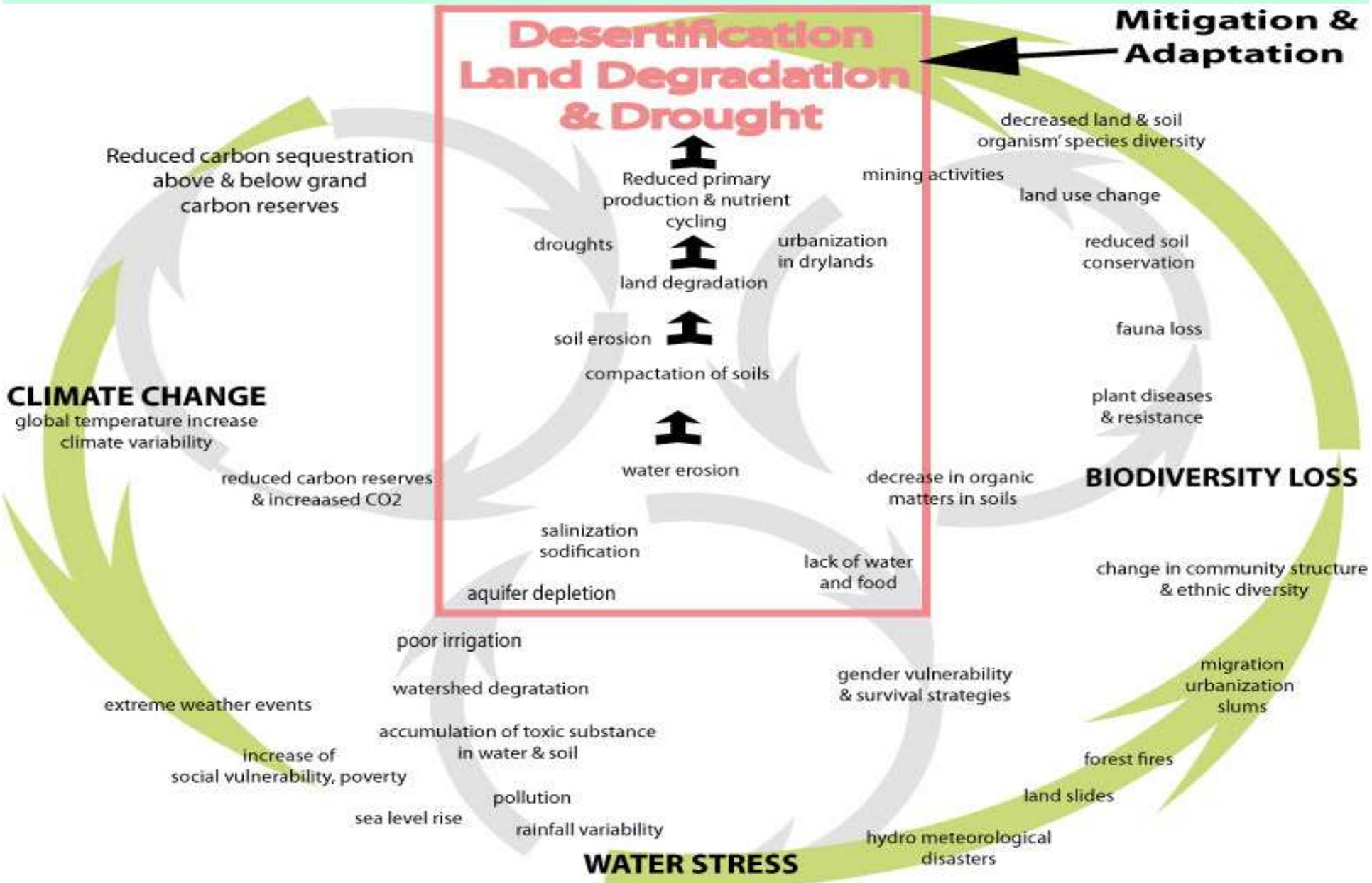
- ***P (pressure)*** refers to 6-8 drivers of global environmental change
- ***E to the effects*** of the linear, non-linear or chaotic interactions within the 'hexagon' on environmental scarcity, degradation, and stress;
- ***I to extreme or fatal impacts*** of human-induced and climate-related natural hazards (storms, flash floods, flooding, landslides, drought);
- ***SO to societal outcomes***: internal displacement, migration, urbanization, crises, conflicts, state failure, and
- ***R to response by society***, business community, state where both traditional & modern technological knowledge can make a difference.

Hazards cannot be prevented, their **impact** in terms of deaths, affected people, economic & insured damages can be reduced by policies & measures that link protection with empowerment of the people to become more resilient.

PEISOR Model



P: Pressure: Interactions of GEC



5. How to securitize HUGE

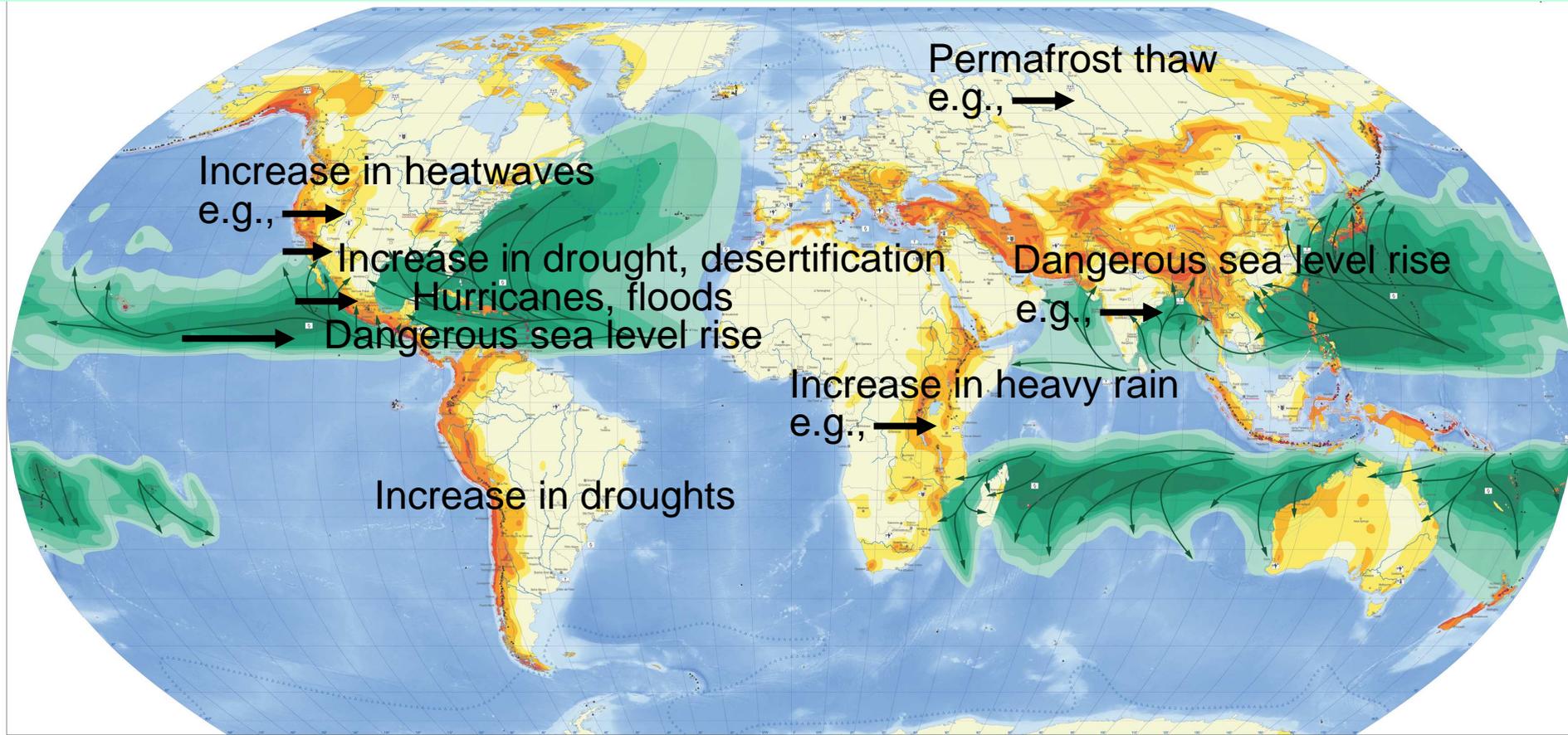
- Human, Gender and Environmental Security (HUGE) combines a **wide gender concept** (vulnerable: including children, elders, indigenous and other vulnerable groups) **with a human-centered focus on environmental security and peace challenges.**
- HUGE analyzes the **patriarchal**, violent and exclusive structures within the family and society questioning the existing process of social representation-building and traditional role assignation between genders. HUGE asks for the **obstacles to overcome** the consolidated discrimination of women and poor, but also narrow feminist approaches of male-female opposition.
- HUGE's '**human security**' includes equity, development and conflict resolution through social organization, specific governmental policies, private ethical investments and legal reinforcements by stimulating socio-political participation of women, young, elders and marginal.
- At the **international level** HUGE analyses the potential of free and equal access to world and regional markets and the limits due to existing trade distortions.
- HUGE revises the **obstacles for world solidarity** to support poor countries with financial aid, technology and debt relief.

- HUGE includes a **healthy environment**, integral management of natural resources, prevention and remediation practices to reduce vulnerability and to stimulate resilience-building through bottom-up organization combined with top-down policies and institution-building.
- **Nonviolent conflict resolution** is central for personal and social identity in a world where processes of unification and diversification are occurring quicker than ever.
- HUGE includes consolidation of **participatory democracy and governance**, promoting conflict prevention, nonviolent conflict resolution and peace-building: a **'huge' solidarity** process of sustainable, inclusive, just and equal development.

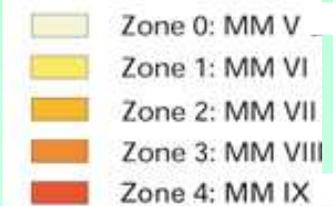
Human, Gender, Environmental Security

Determina- tion Which security?	Reference object: Security of whom?	Value at risk: Security of what?	Source(s) of threat: Security from whom or what?
National security	The State	Territorial integrity	State, substate actors
Human security	Individual, humankind	Survival of humankind people	Natural events, state, globalization
Environmental security	Ecosystems, rural and urban systems, water and food	Sustainability	Humankind, natural events
Gender security	Gender relations, indigenous people, minorities	Equity, identity, social relations, solidarity, tolerance, culture	Patriarchy, totalitarian institutions (élites, governments, religious fundamentalism, dominant cultures), intolerance, violence

Climate Threats, Disasters and Impacts

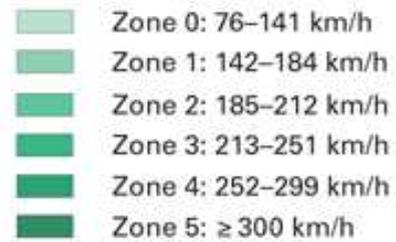


Earthquakes



MM: modified Mercalli scale

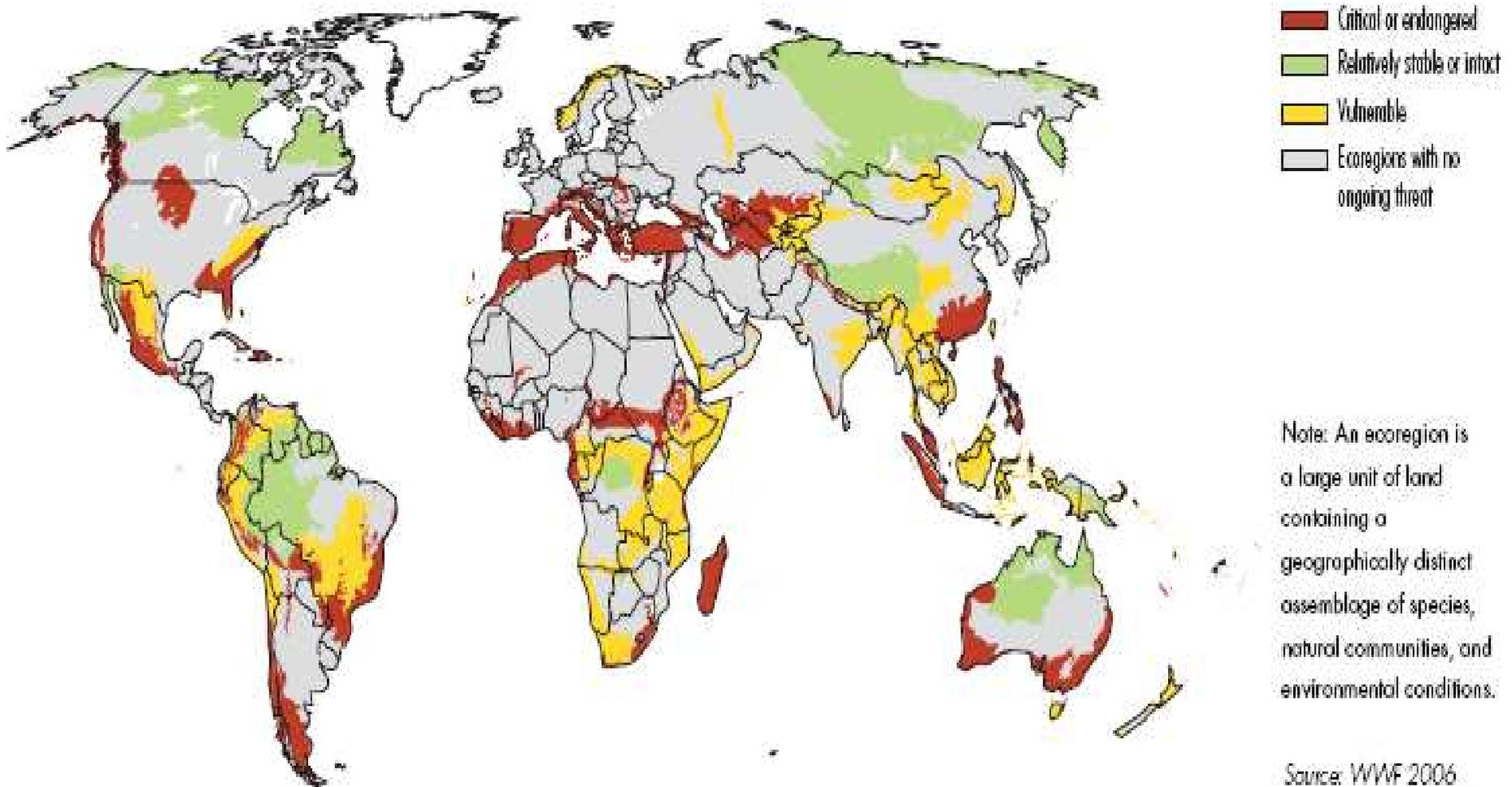
Tropical Hurricanes



Münchener Rück
Munich Re Group

Threatened Ecosystems

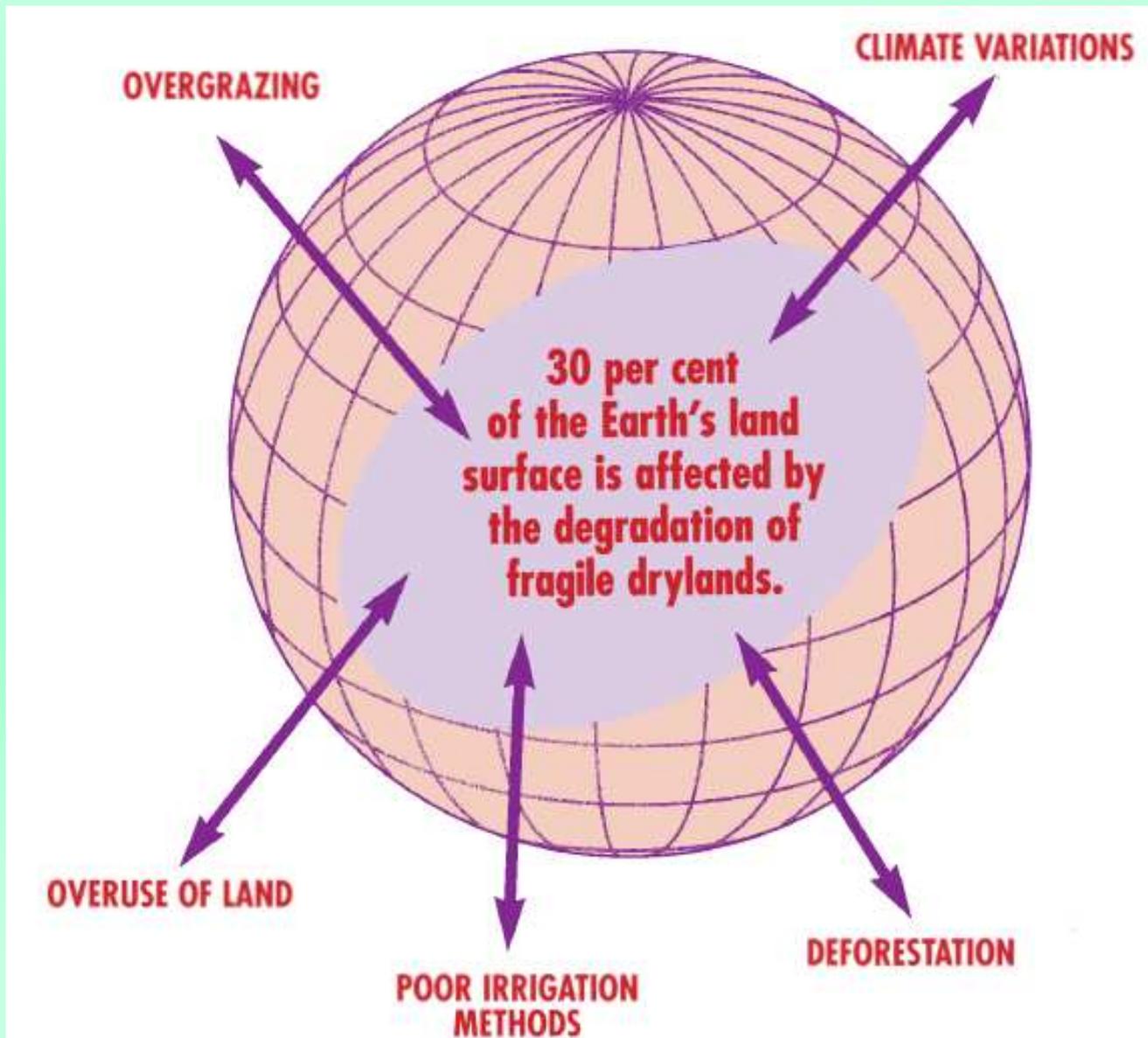
Figure 5.1 Status of terrestrial ecoregions



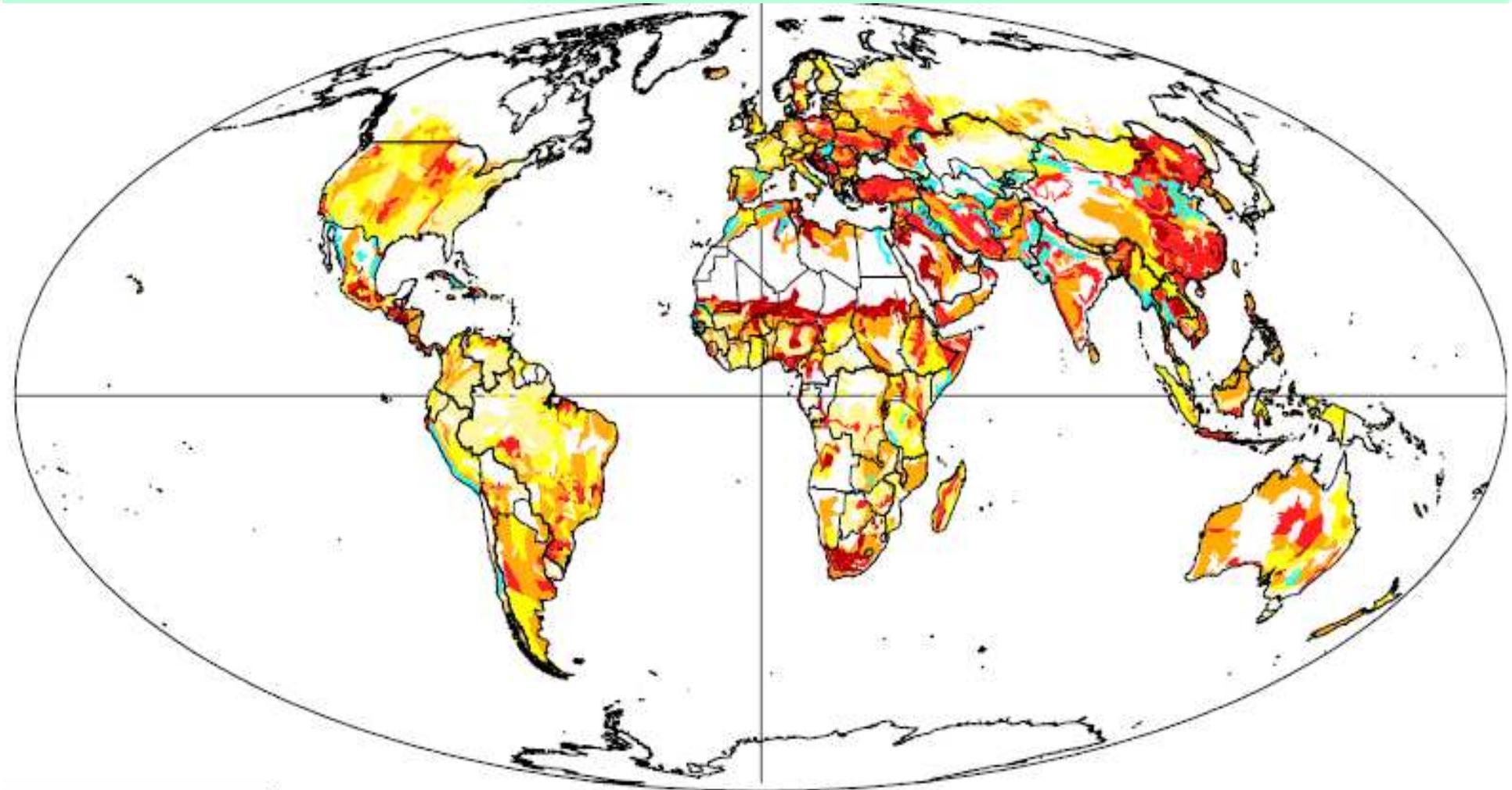
Desertification, erosion, land degradation

- **110 countries** are potentially at risk. UNEP estimates that desertification costs the world **US\$ 42 billion/year**. **Africa** alone loses some **US\$ 9 billion/year** (Lean 2008: 10). The continent with the highest proportion of severely or moderately desertified drylands is North America (74%), but also 13 European countries suffer from desertification.
- **30% of the earth** is deteriorated due to overgrazing, overuse of land, poor irrigation methods, deforestation, urbanization, climate variability and change, human-induced increase in food, water and soil due to population growth, modernization processes, livelihood changes and waste.
- **Loss of yield productivity**, water and food scarcity, inadequate land management and poverty are key drivers of forced migration of people from drylands to humid regions where new desertification trends surge from an increased **demand on the carrying capacity of the land**.

Key factors of drylands' degradation



Global soil degradation (% of affected area)



Source: **WBGU (2006)** based on **GLASOD (1990)**.

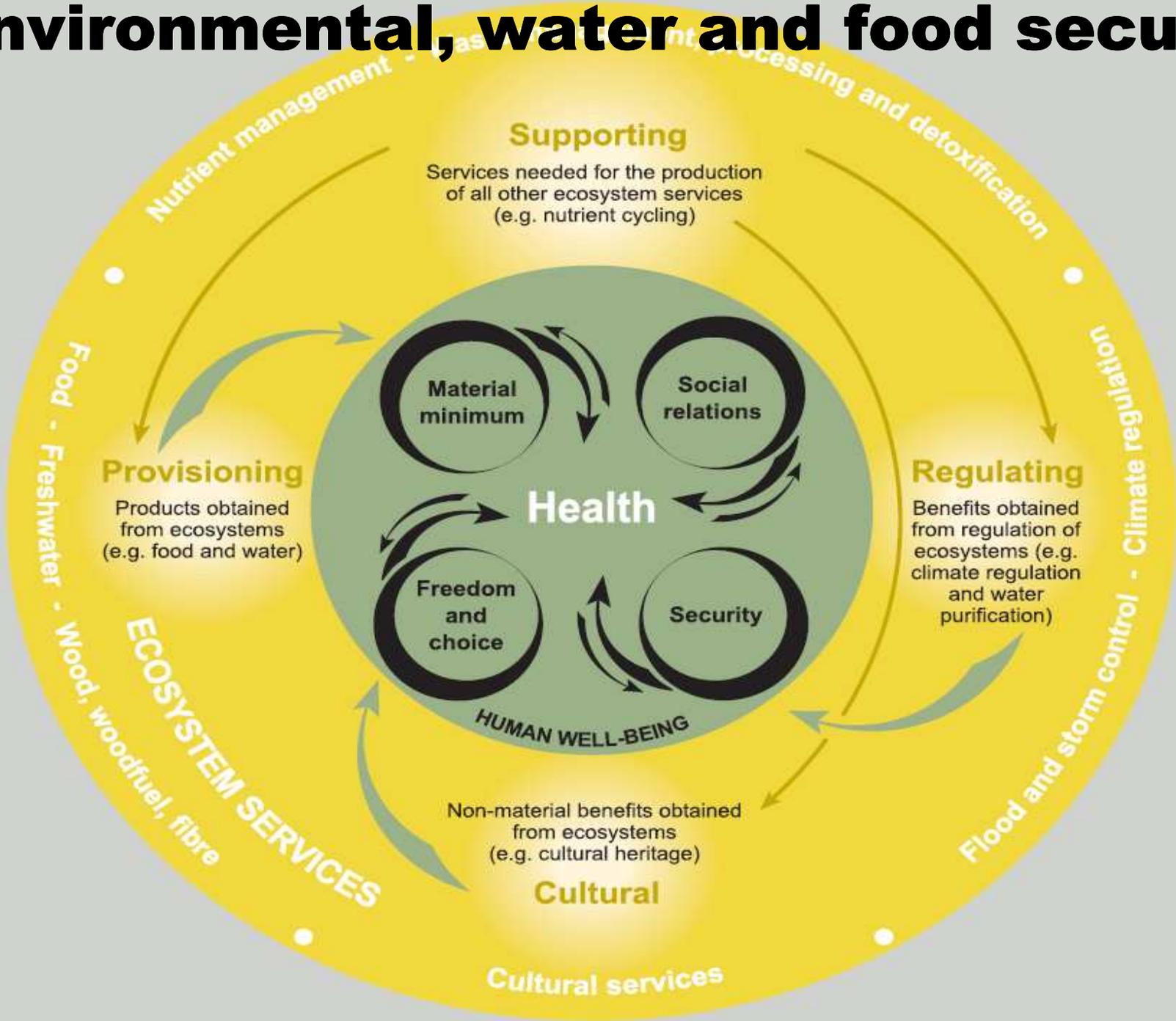
Mitigation, adaptation, resilience and social vulnerability



Integral policy: poverty alleviation and environmental recovery



Environmental, water and food security?



Ecosystem Services and Well-being

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES



LIFE ON EARTH - BIODIVERSITY

CONSTITUENTS OF WELL-BEING

Security

- PERSONAL SAFETY
- SECURE RESOURCE ACCESS
- SECURITY FROM DISASTERS

Basic material for good life

- ADEQUATE LIVELIHOODS
- SUFFICIENT NUTRITIOUS FOOD
- SHELTER
- ACCESS TO GOODS

Health

- STRENGTH
- FEELING WELL
- ACCESS TO CLEAN AIR AND WATER

Good social relations

- SOCIAL COHESION
- MUTUAL RESPECT
- ABILITY TO HELP OTHERS

Freedom of choice and action

OPPORTUNITY TO BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE WHAT AN INDIVIDUAL VALUES DOING AND BEING



ARROW'S COLOR
Potential for mediation by socioeconomic factors

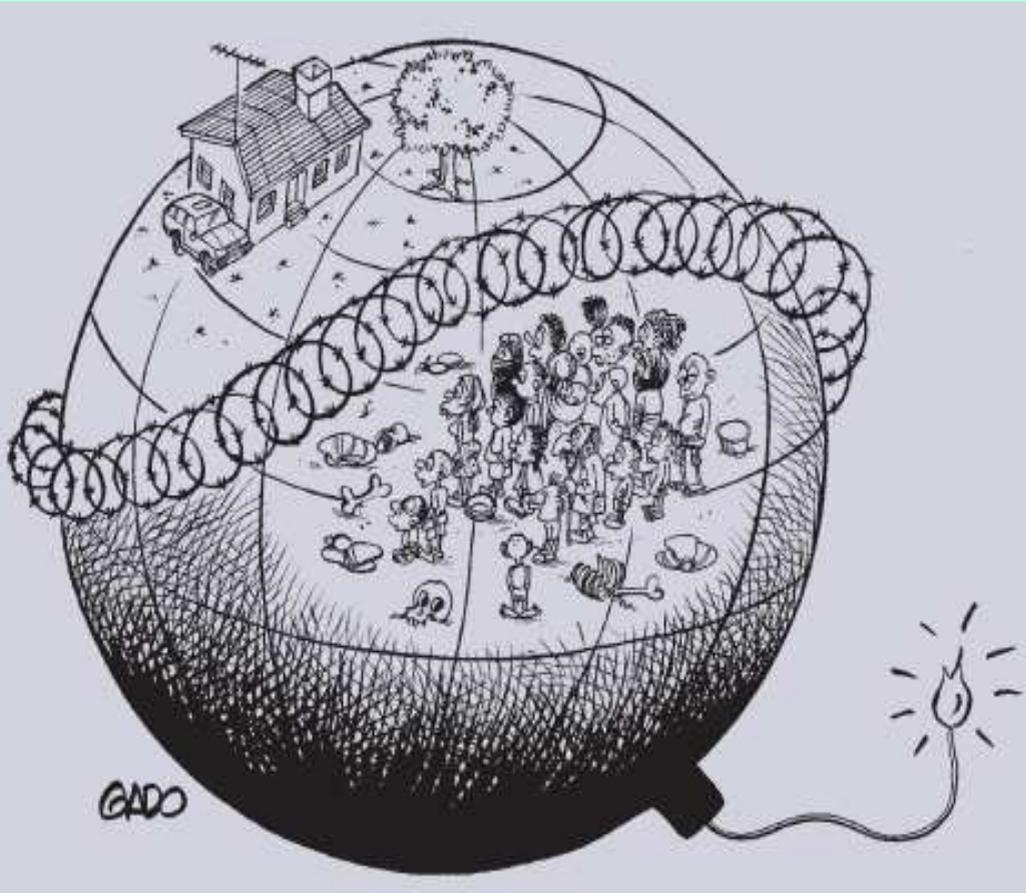
- Low
- Medium
- High

ARROW'S WIDTH
Intensity of linkages between ecosystem services and human well-being

- Weak
- Medium
- Strong

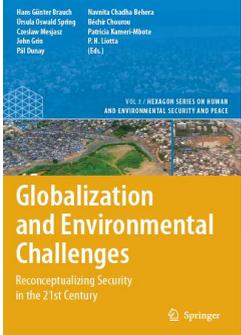
Source: Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

Future scenarios and policy



1) **cooperation** with solidarity vs. isolationism and elite behaviour; 2) **cultural diversity** vs. economic monopoly; 3) **peace with ahimsa** vs. himsa; and violence; 4) **spirituality** vs. secularity.

Conflictive Situation: Widening, Deepening & Sectorialization of Security Threats Vulnerabilities & Risks Challenges,



Security dimension ⇒ ↓	Military	Political	Economic	Environmental	Societal
Level of interaction				↓	
Human and social groups (women, children, elderly)	Drug war, human, arm, drug, organ trafficking	Failed state	Food and health security	Cause & victim	Food, water and health security
Human security ⇒		Public insecurity	Employment, income security		Gender security
Societal, community security	Border control	Public (in)security	Water, Food & Health sec.	↑↓	↑↓
National security	War on terrorism since 2001		Energy security, maquila, cheap labour force	↑↓	Energy Food, Water & Health security
International and Regional security	Merida agreement including Central America		Water & virtual water security	↑↓	Water & soil security
Global and planetary security ⇒	Terrorism	Intern. Migration, drug and human trafficking	Financial crisis, money laundering	CC; GEC; biodiversity loss, desertification	Health security

Regional peace, sustainable development, participative governance

- medium and long-term problems related to security and co-operation in the region;
- improvement of regional capacity and mechanisms to prevent, manage and resolve crises through political and not military means;
- creation of development & democratic institutions with representative governments and protection of human rights, social rights and fundamental freedoms;
- sustainable growth and poverty alleviation with direct involvement of women.

Ecofeminism

- Ecofeminism promoted sustainable subsistence in hand of women for food and wealth of their families, communities and the planet
- non-violent management of nature and society
- peaceful and nonviolent conflict resolving society
- confronted with globalization and rape capitalism, organized crime and depletion of nature, ecofeminism allied to other social movements for an inclusive peace behaviour in daily life (Reardon 1996; Boulding 2000; Oswald 1990; Campos 1995).

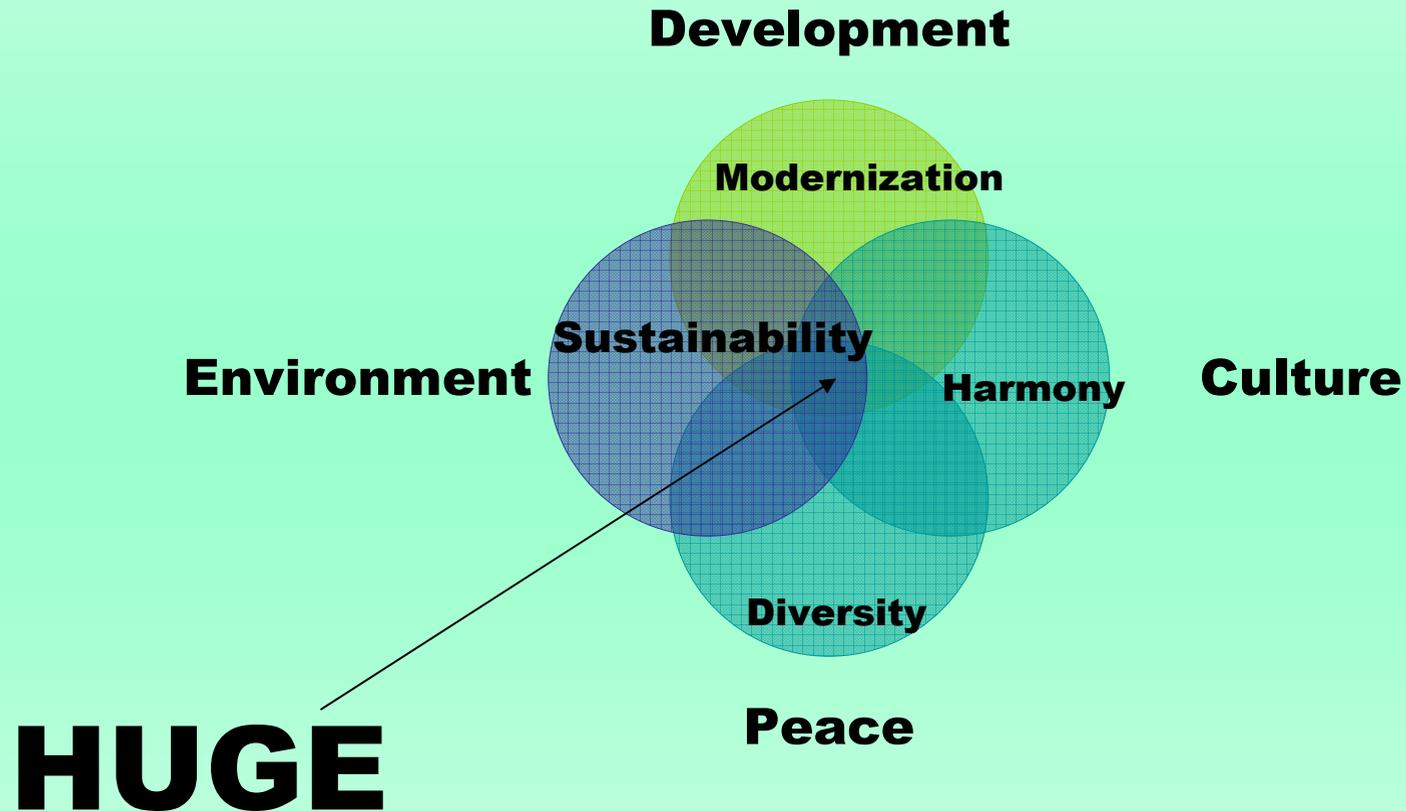
**FROM VIOLENCE TO NONVIOLENCE
FROM PATRIARCHY TO PARTNERSHIPS
OF SOLIDARITY AND SUSTAINABILITY**



**FROM SUSTAINABILITY TO
SUSTAINABLE NONVIOLENCE AND
SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**



Sustainable Development and Sustainable Peace with HUGE



A photograph of a waterfall cascading over dark, mossy rocks in a forest. The water is white and frothy as it falls, creating a misty spray at the bottom. The surrounding area is lush with green moss and some dry, brown branches.

Thank you for your attention

http://www.afes-press.de/html/download_oswald.html