



# Resource cap options in light of international (Balaton Group) expertise

Katalin Czippán  
3 November 2010, Vác



## The Balaton Group

A global network for collaboration on systems and sustainability—founded in 1982

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- Founded – by Dennis and Donella Meadows - 1982 at lake Balaton
- Network of system thinkers from all over the world – by invitation only
- No common statements – the members conduct research, share their findings, think and work together
- Thematic annual meetings



- 2007 – Trends from the past
- 2008 – Present key challenges/questions
- 2009 – Break/leverage points for the future
- 2010 – Alternatives to growth, food security

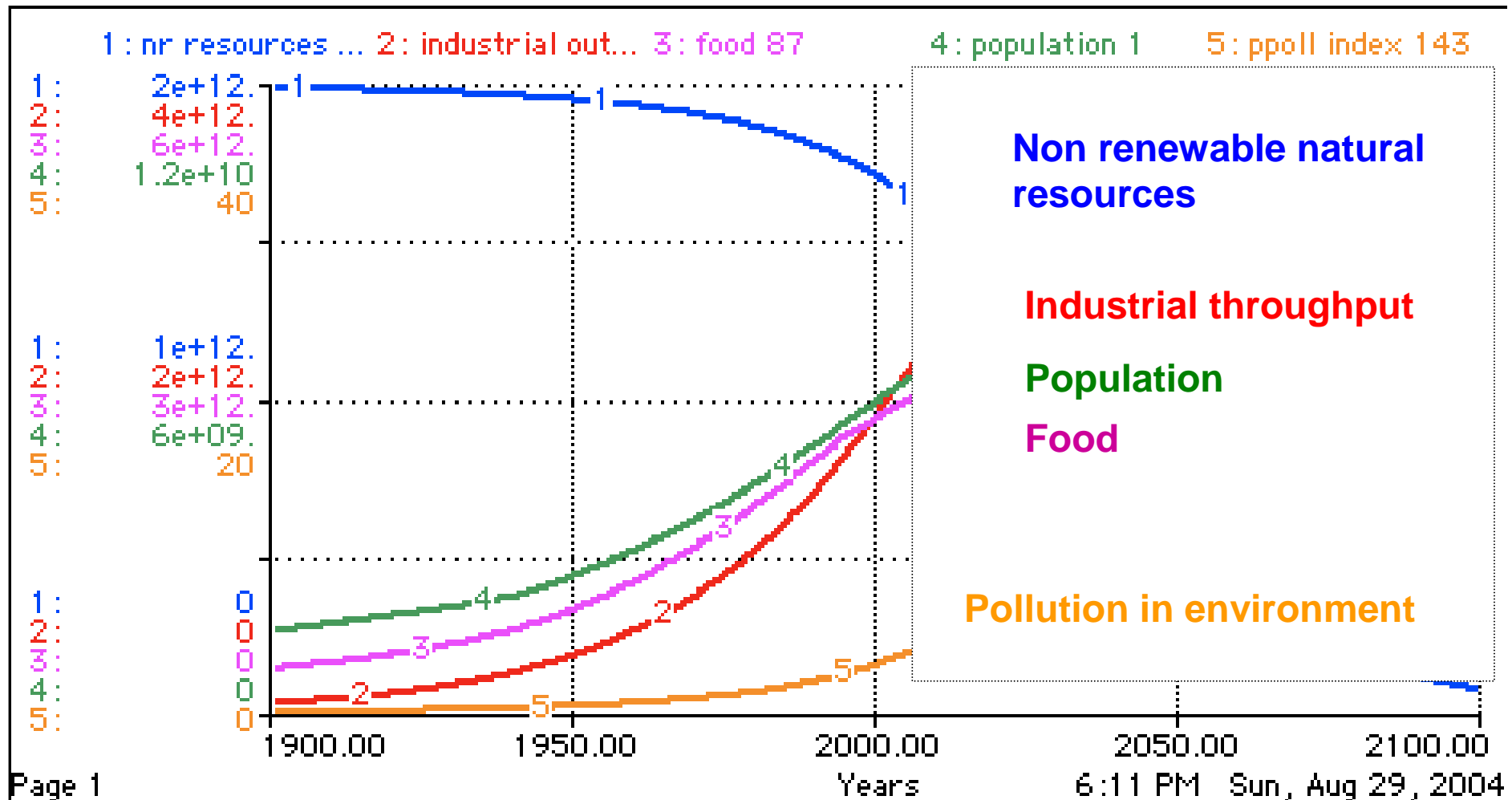
# Limits to growth

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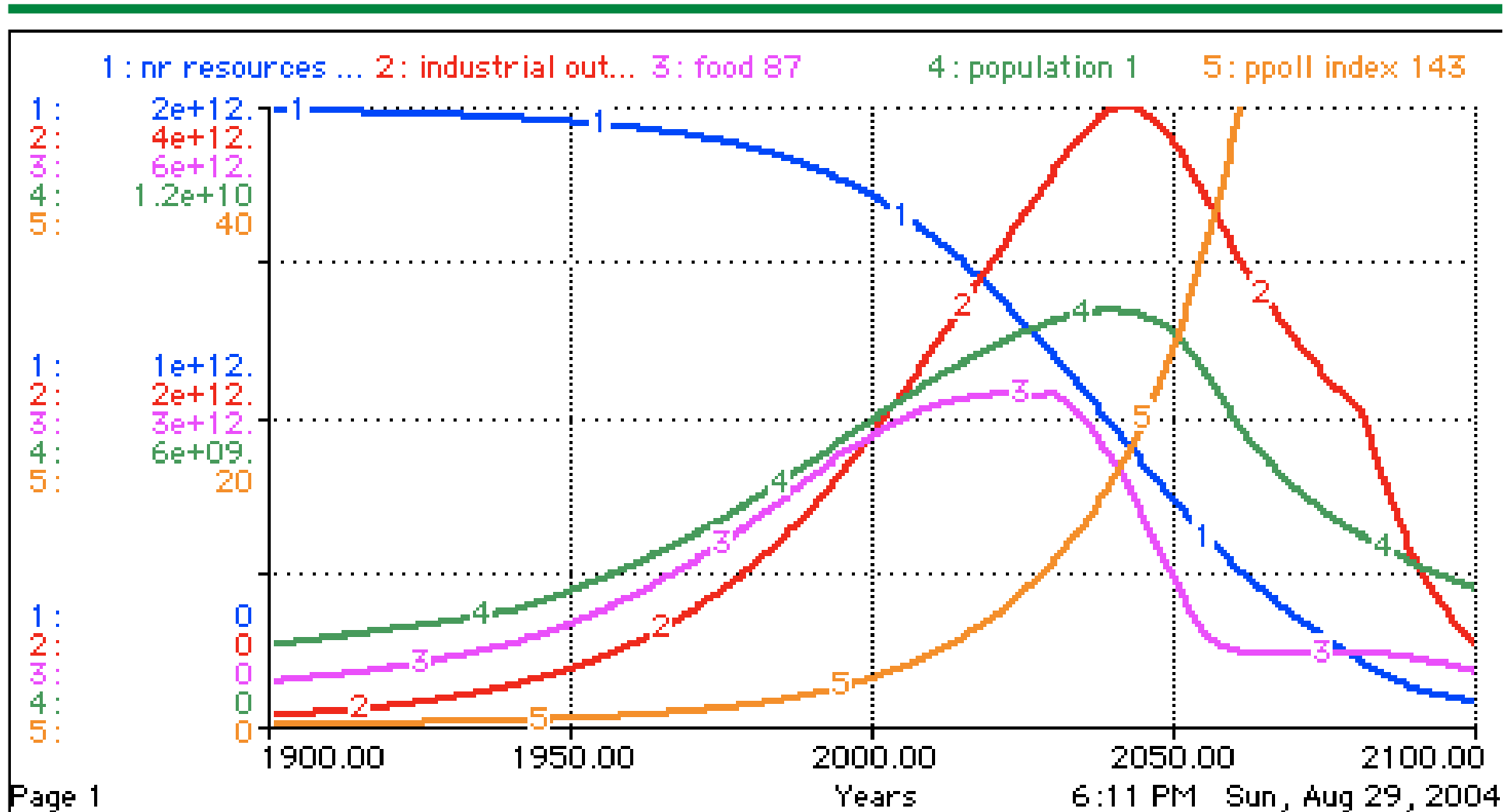
- 1972 Limits to Growth
- 1992 Beyond the limits
- 2004 Limits to Growth 30-Year Update

by Donella Meadows, Jorgen Randers,  
Dennis Meadows

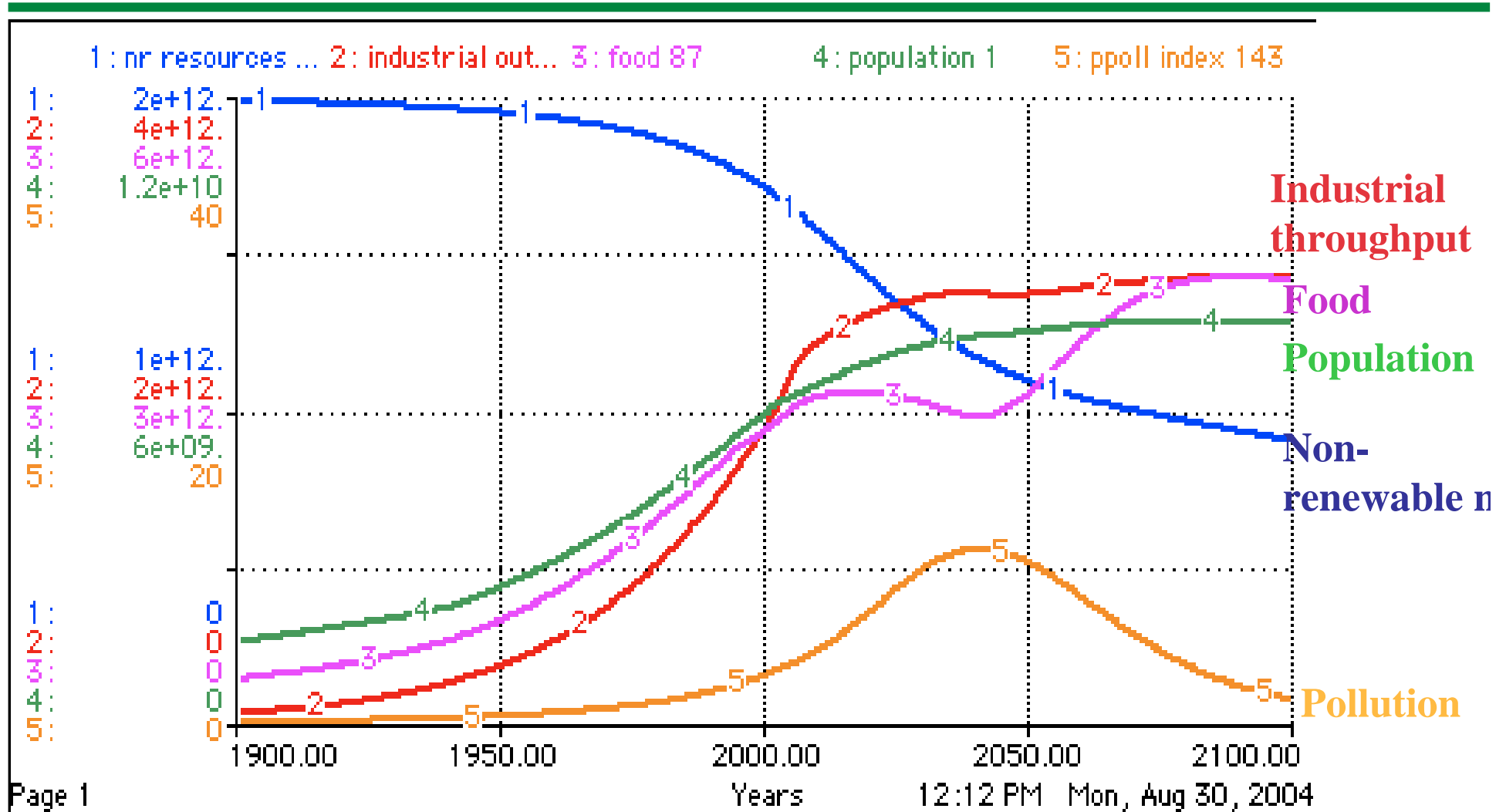
# State of the World till 2010...



# Our perspectives till 2100 in case of business as usual

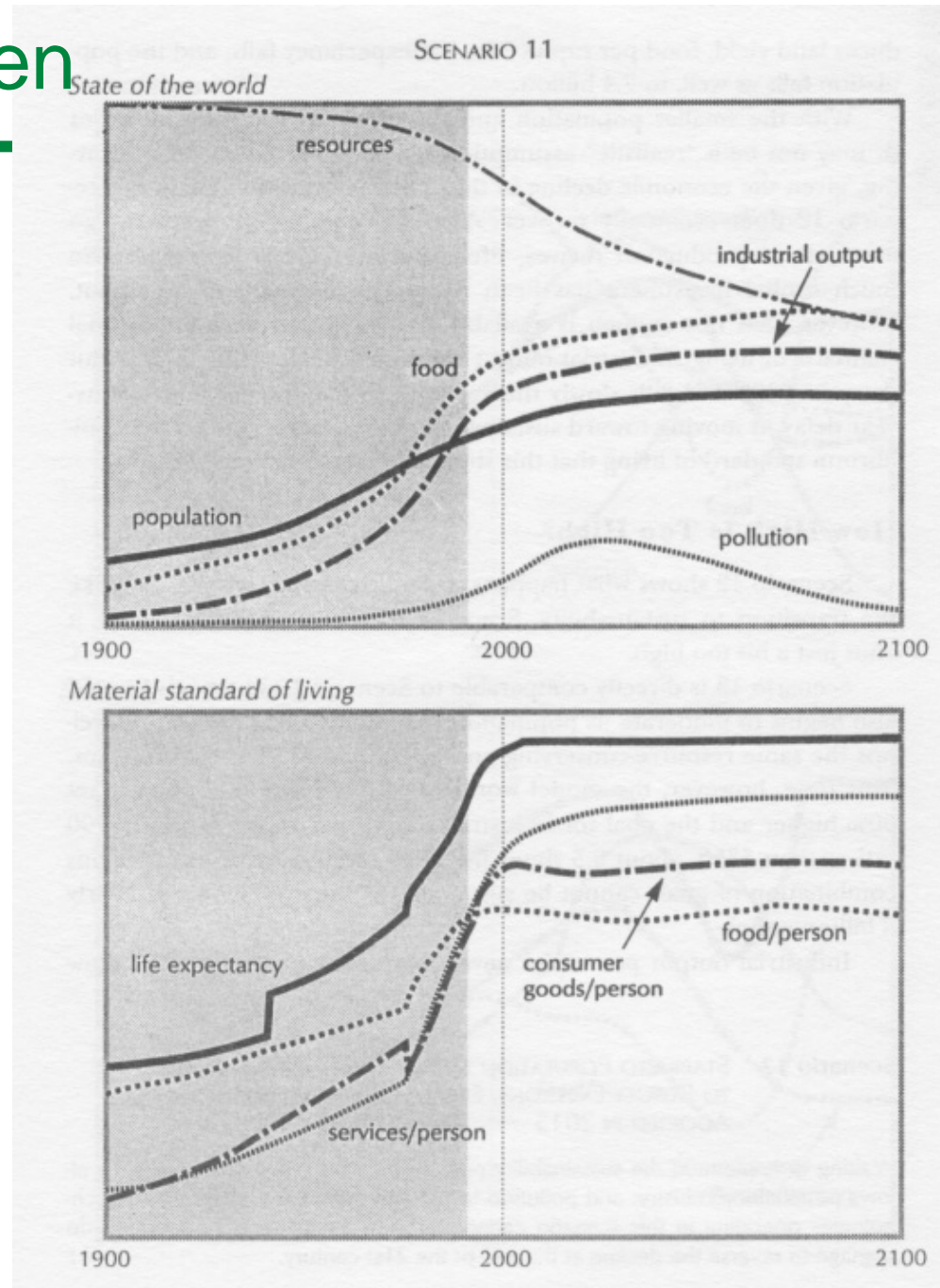


# Sustainable development



# SD- Measures taken

- efficiency
- stop pollution
- soil protection
- intensive food production
- +
  - population control
  - consumption ceiling



social

individual



# 2009 – Annual meeting

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- Planetary boundaries – Kevin Noon (28 author)
- Prosperity without growth – Tim Jackson
- Social Aspects of Sustainability – Ashok Koshla

# Planetary Boundaries: A stable operating space for humanity

Kevin J. Noone

Department of Applied Environmental Science &  
Stockholm Resilience Centre  
Stockholm University

Balaton Group

Balatonszemes, Hungary

9 September 2009



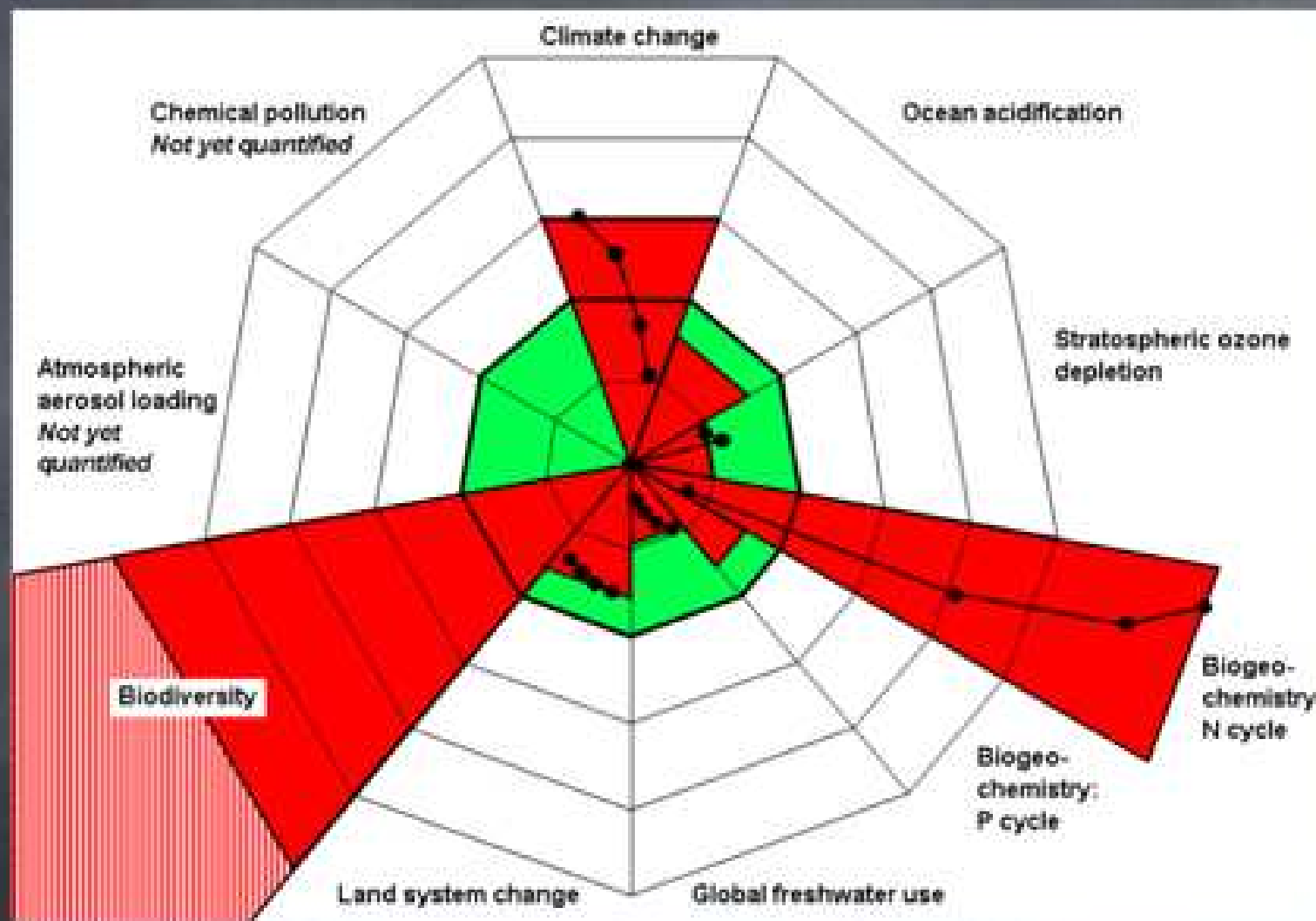
Stockholm Resilience Centre



STOCKHOLM

STOCKHOLM

# Planetary boundaries



Rockström, J. et al., 2009. Nature, in press.

# A sustainable future

What can we do to minimize our “footprint”?  
Which activities most influence our  
environment?

- Energy production
- Agriculture
- Transportation



# Why?

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- Consumption patterns
- Production systems
- Approach, technologies
- Short term thinking
- Narrow goals
- High return on investments

Knowledge, mindset, attitude

Based on – A. Koshla's presentation, 2009 BGM

# 2010 – Alternatives to Growth Food and Security

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Two examples of presentations:

Gwen Hallsmith – Creating wealth Growing  
local economies with local currencies –  
Vermont state

John Ingram – Planetary Boundaries and  
Food system



# Creating Wealth:

Growing Local Economies with Local Currencies

Gwendolyn Hallsmith



jövő  
nemzedékek  
országgyűlési  
biztosa



# Strategies for change

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## Current paradigm

Planning the way to the future

## New paradigm

Learning the way to the future

G. Hallsmith, BG, 2010



# Characteristics of the paradigms

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- Projecting past onto the future
- Focus on infrastructure and land use
- Predicting and controlling change
- Risk management
- Culture of experts
- Silo decisions
- Creating shared vision
- Learning objectives
- Fixing systems not symptoms
- Participatory
- Interdepartmental cooperation



Earth System  
Science Partnership

# Food Systems and Planetary Boundaries

*John Ingram  
GECAFS Executive Officer  
Environmental Change Institute  
University of Oxford*



ENVIRONMENTAL  
CHANGE INSTITUTE

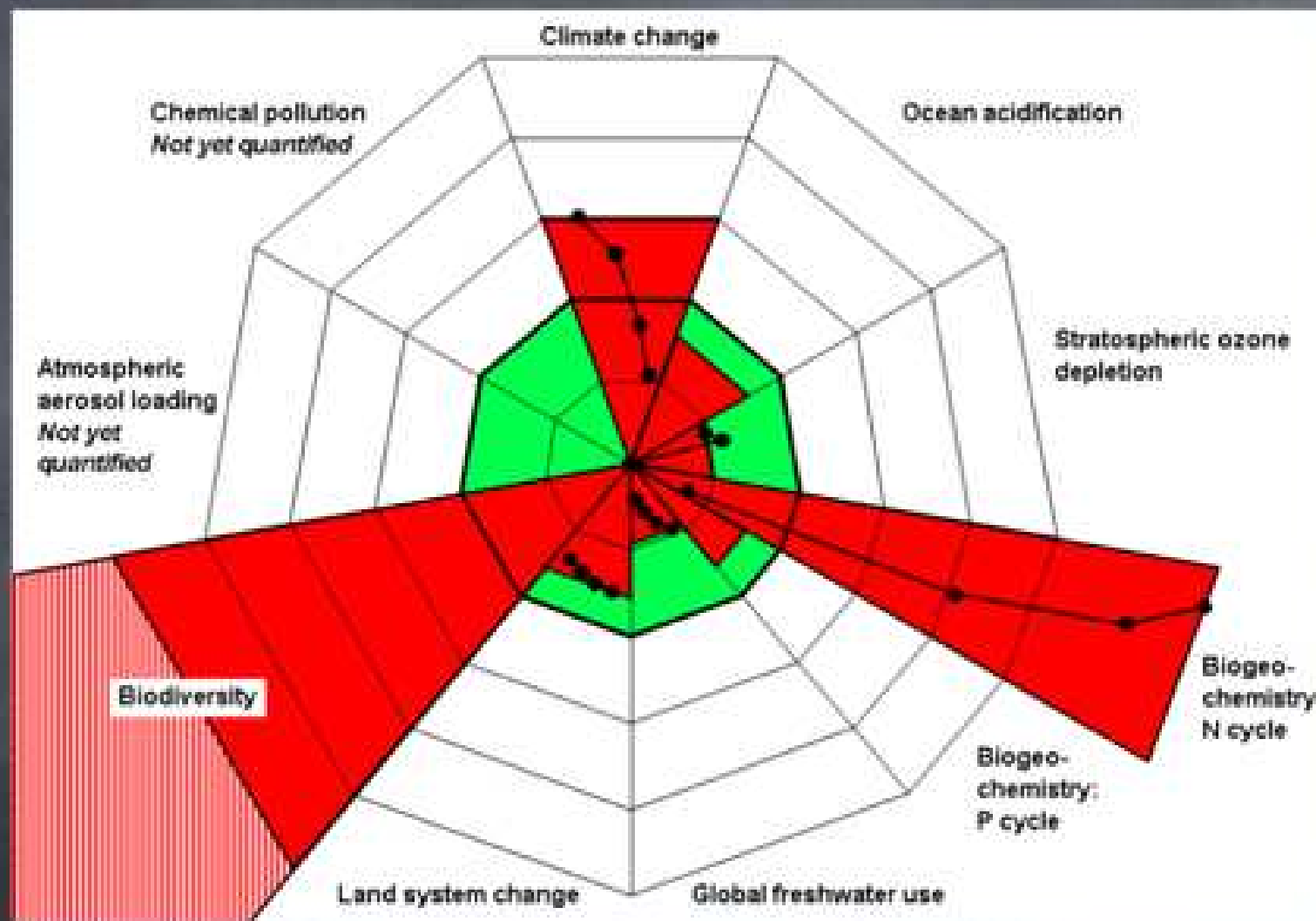


# Food System ACTIVITIES

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- **Producing food:** *natural resources, inputs, markets*
- **Processing & packaging food:** *raw materials, standards, storage requirement,*
- **Distributing & retailing food:** *transport, marketing, advertising,*
- **Consuming food:** *acquisition, preparation, customs, ...*

# Planetary boundaries



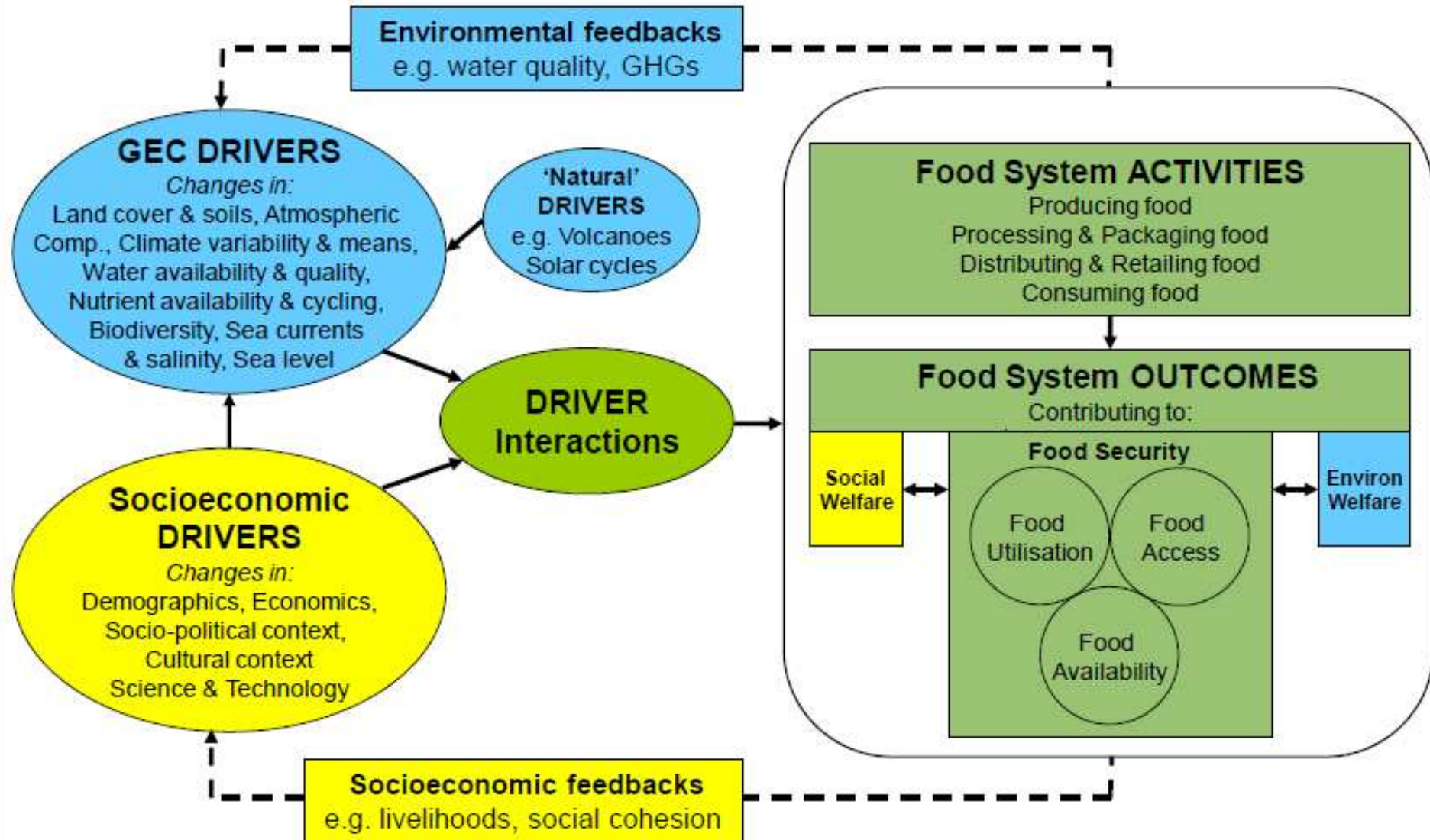
Rockström, J. et al., 2009. Nature, in press.





# Bringing it all together

Need to consider FS:PB interactions  
in context of drivers and feedbacks



# Looking for „responsible” decisions

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- Systems and personal level
- In production and consumption
- For adaptation and mitigation
- ...

# What Caused the Poor Results?

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- We had small goals
- We had time pressure
- We were unable to trust others
- We had poor examples
- We had an inadequate vocabulary
- Traditional norms did not apply

Dennis Meadows, WSF, 2009



# Why Do We Fail?

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- We had **S** mall goals
- We had **T** ime pressure
- We were **U** nable to trust others
- We had **P** oor examples
- We had an **I** nadequate vocabulary
- Traditional norms **D** id not apply

Dennis Meadows, WSF, 2009

# JNO and the red sludge - I

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## The main objectives of the Commissioner

- Investigation of anomalies relating to the protection of the environment
- Parliamentary advocacy of sustainable development
- Acting as a catalyst of research on sustainability and future generation issues

# JNO and the red sludge - II

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Ex officio investigation on system's level – for example:

- Who orders/pays the EIA?
- Who licenses on what basis?
- What is or isn't hazardous waste and why?
- Good governance vs precaution
- Attitudes: security vs risks

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**The crisis doesn't only make us free to imagine other models, another future, another world. It obliges us to do so.**

**President Sarkozy, September 2009**

From D. Meadows' presentation , WSF, 2009

Thank you for your attention

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