

The background of the slide is a reproduction of the painting 'The Scream' by Edvard Munch. It depicts a figure in the center, likely a woman, with a pale, almost white face and a wide-eyed, open-mouthed expression of intense distress or agony. She is surrounded by a dark, turbulent sea with swirling, wavy patterns. The sky above is a mix of dark, swirling colors, suggesting a storm or a night sky. The overall mood is one of profound suffering and mental anguish.

University of California, Berkeley

**Climate Change: A Gender
Perspective on Global
Security**

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30 of March 2008**

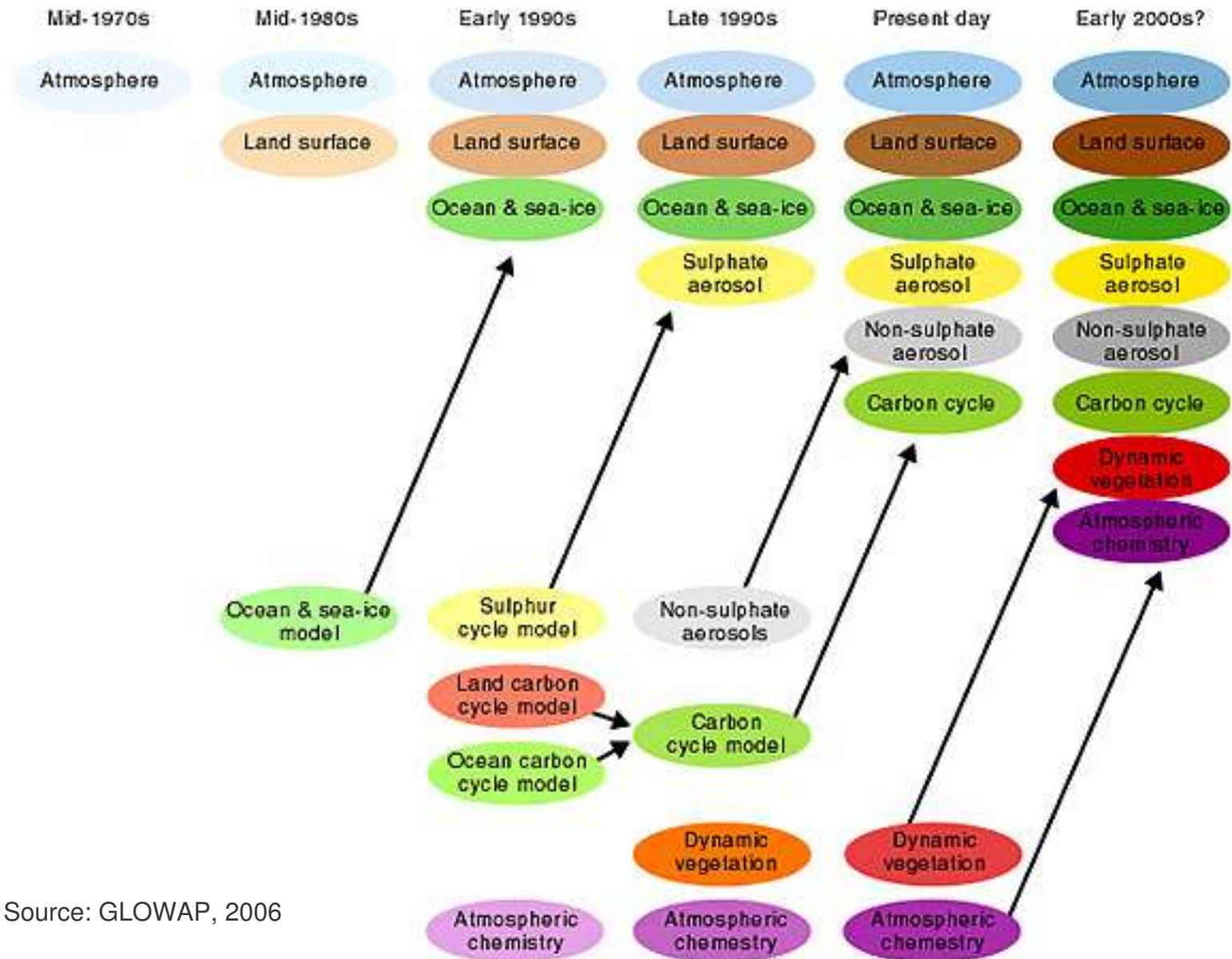
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Global Environmental Change and Globalization



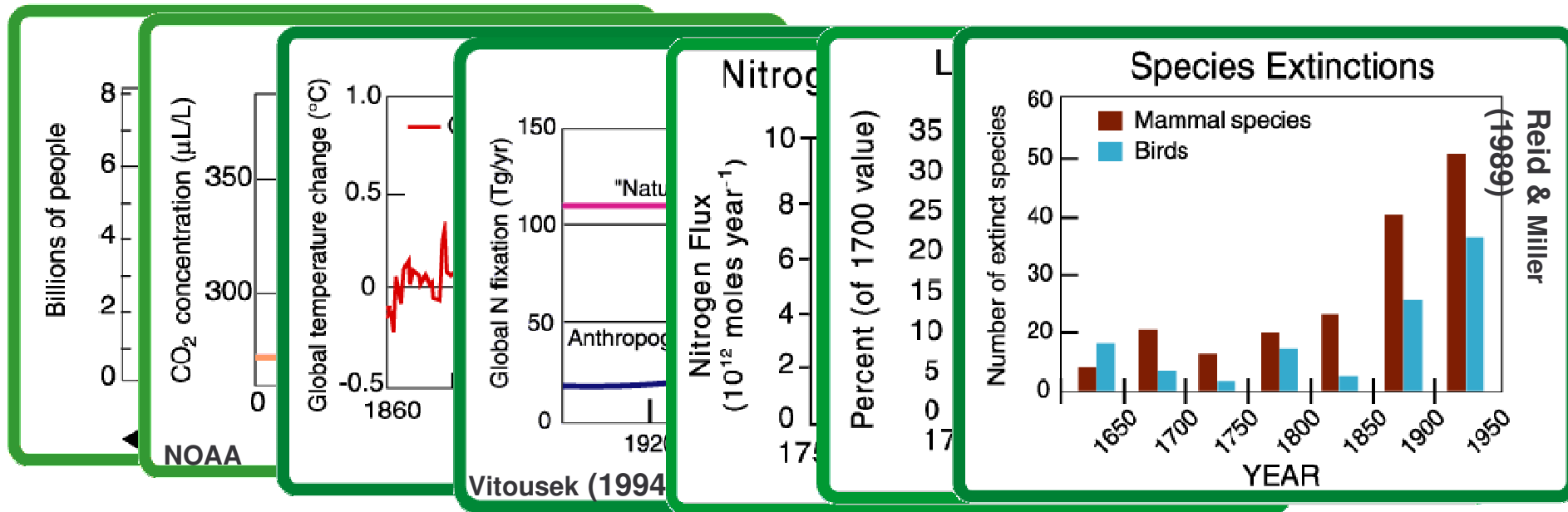
The Development of Climate models, Past, Present and Future



Source: GLOWAP, 2006

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:



Characteristics of GEC

1. Extreme temperatures: warmer and colder
2. Climate change
3. Desertification and erosion
4. Increase of sea level
5. Hydro-meteorological disasters with greater frequency and higher impact
6. Erosion and loss of biodiversity and ecosystems
7. Urbanization with slum development
8. Poverty and social inequality
9. Migration and environmental refugees
10. New plagues and illnesses (avian flue, Ebola)

Desertification



Degradation of soils in semi-arid, arid and dry sub-humid areas

Loss of soil fertility

Erosion

Quantitative and qualitative reduction of water

**Reduction of yield average
and vegetation**

Loss of ecosystems and biodiversity

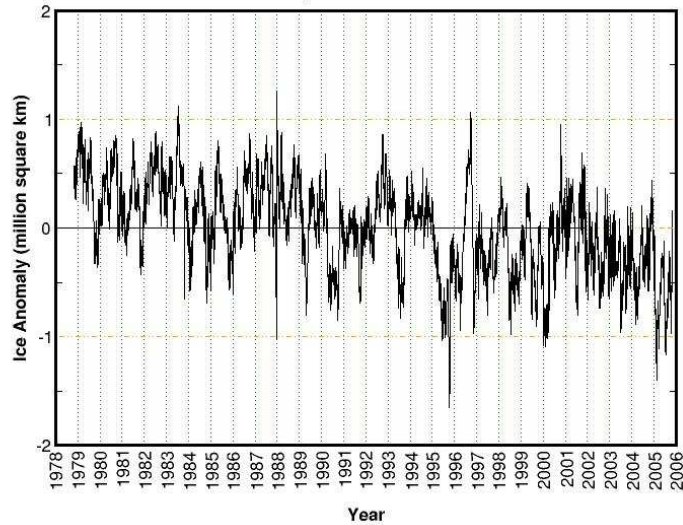
Air pollution

Human induced unsustainable productive activities

Permafrost and Glaciers

Northern Hemisphere Sea Ice Anomaly

Anomaly from 1978-2000 mean

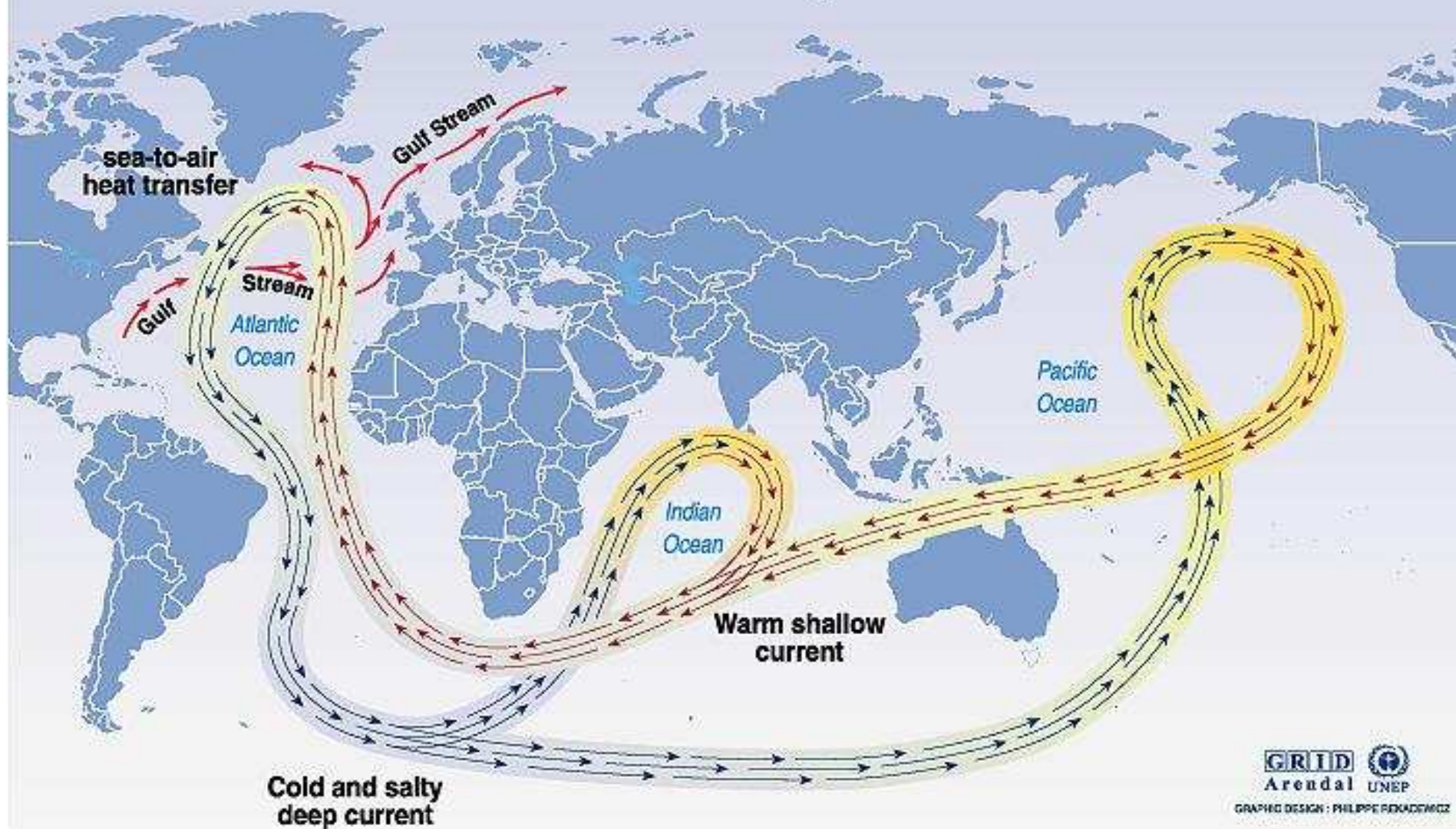


Larsen B

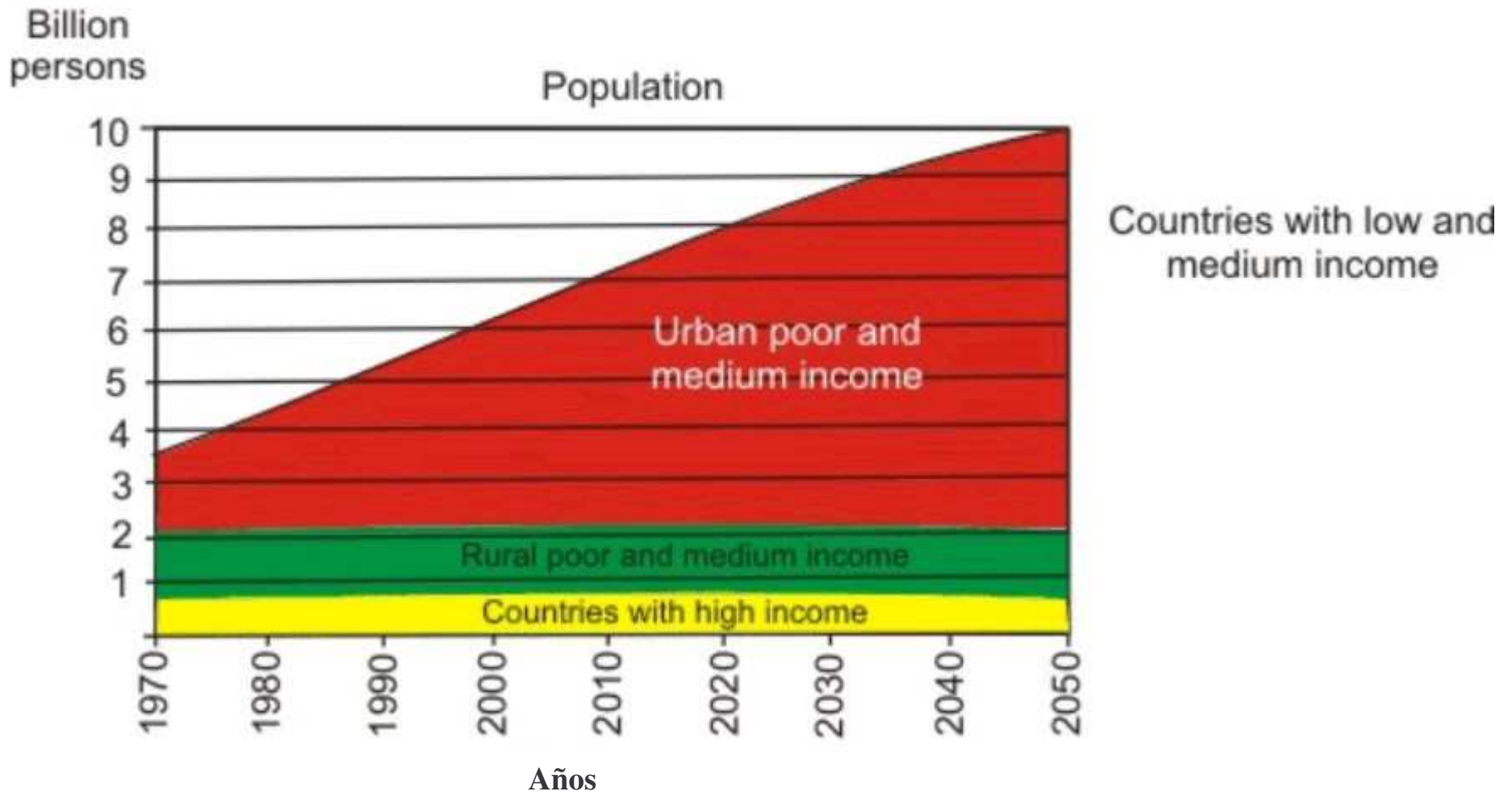


Chacaltaya (1996 y 2004)

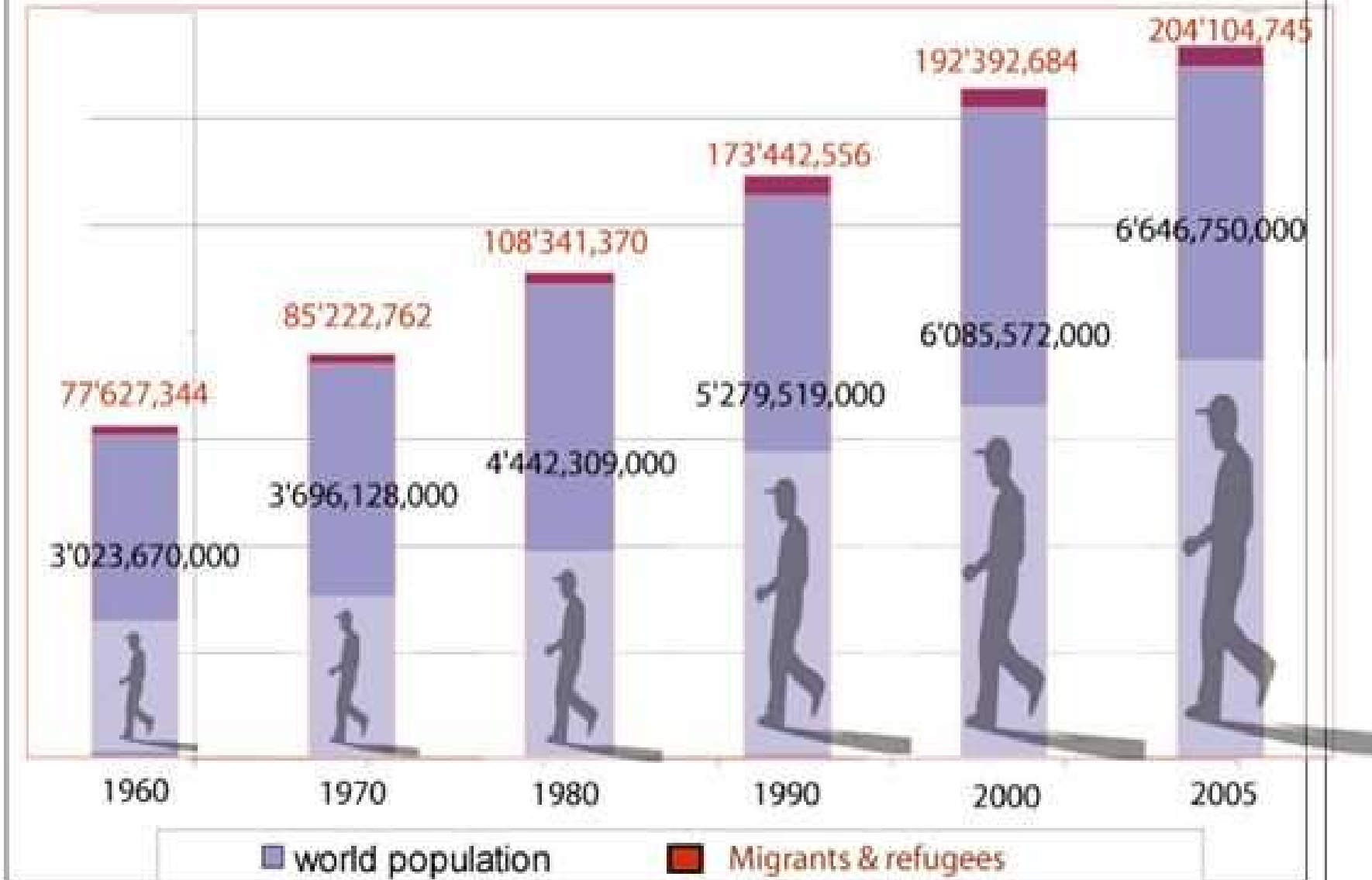
Great ocean conveyor belt



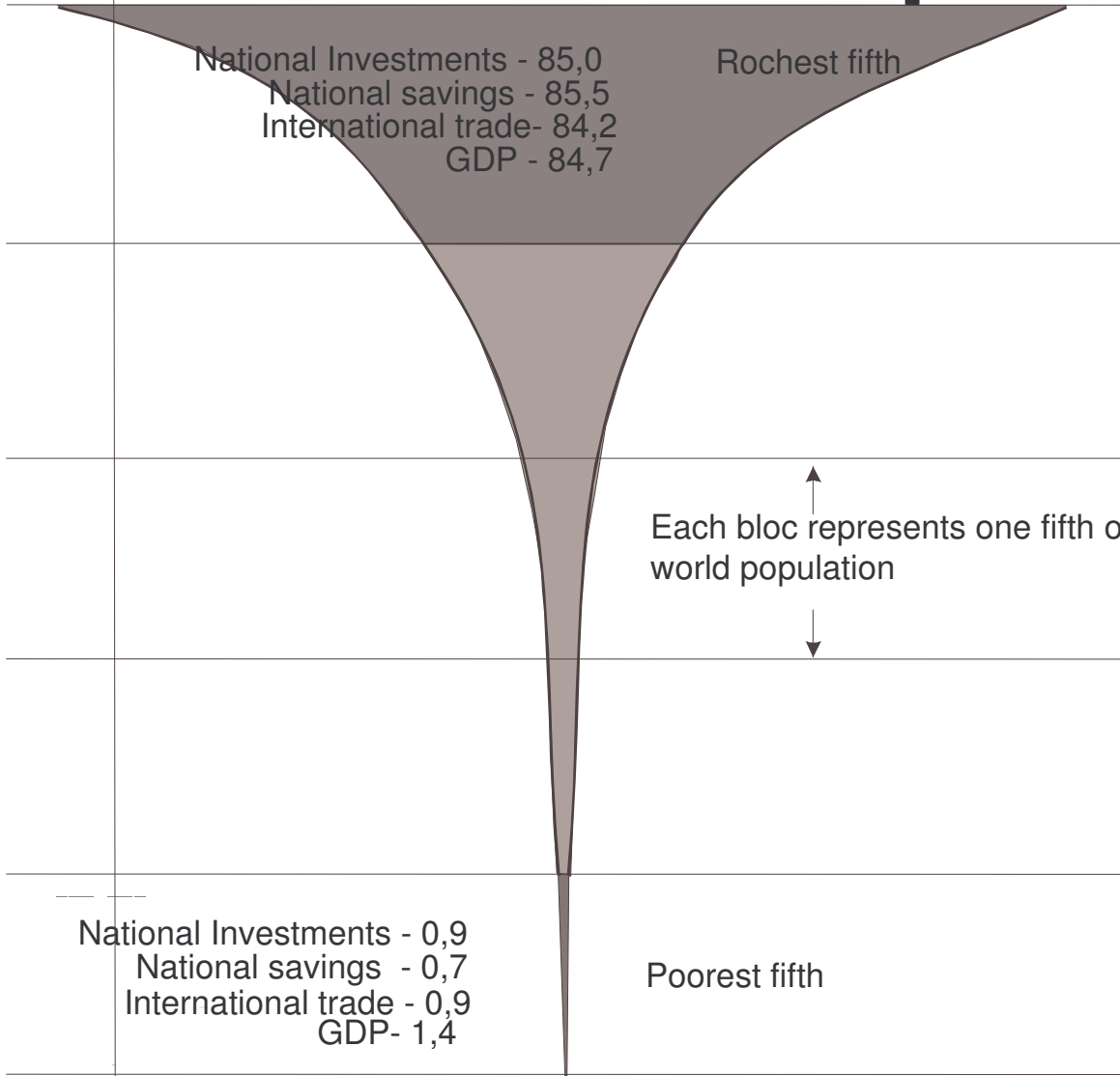
Proyección de población y urbanización



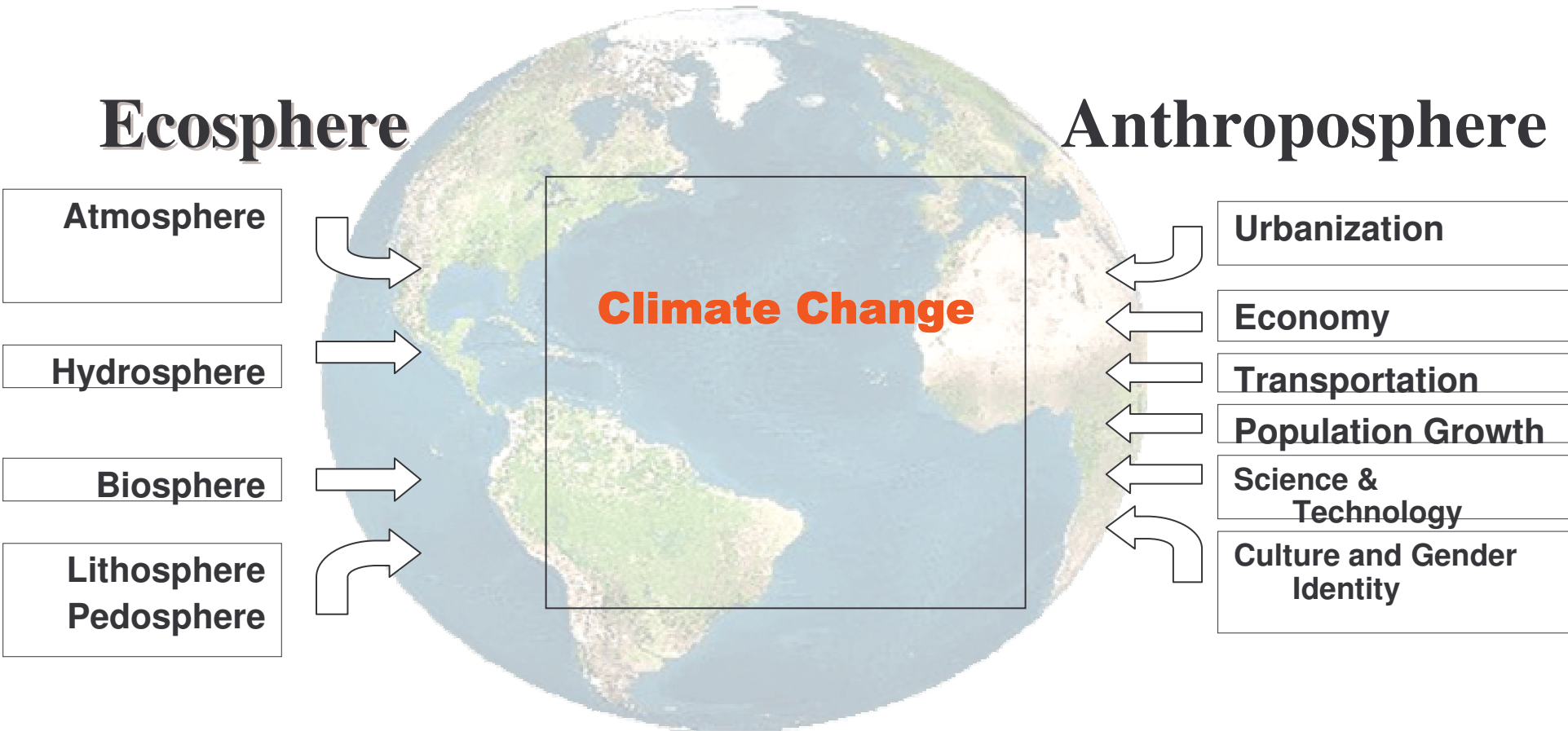
International migrants & refugees (1960-2005)



Globalization with Unequal Development



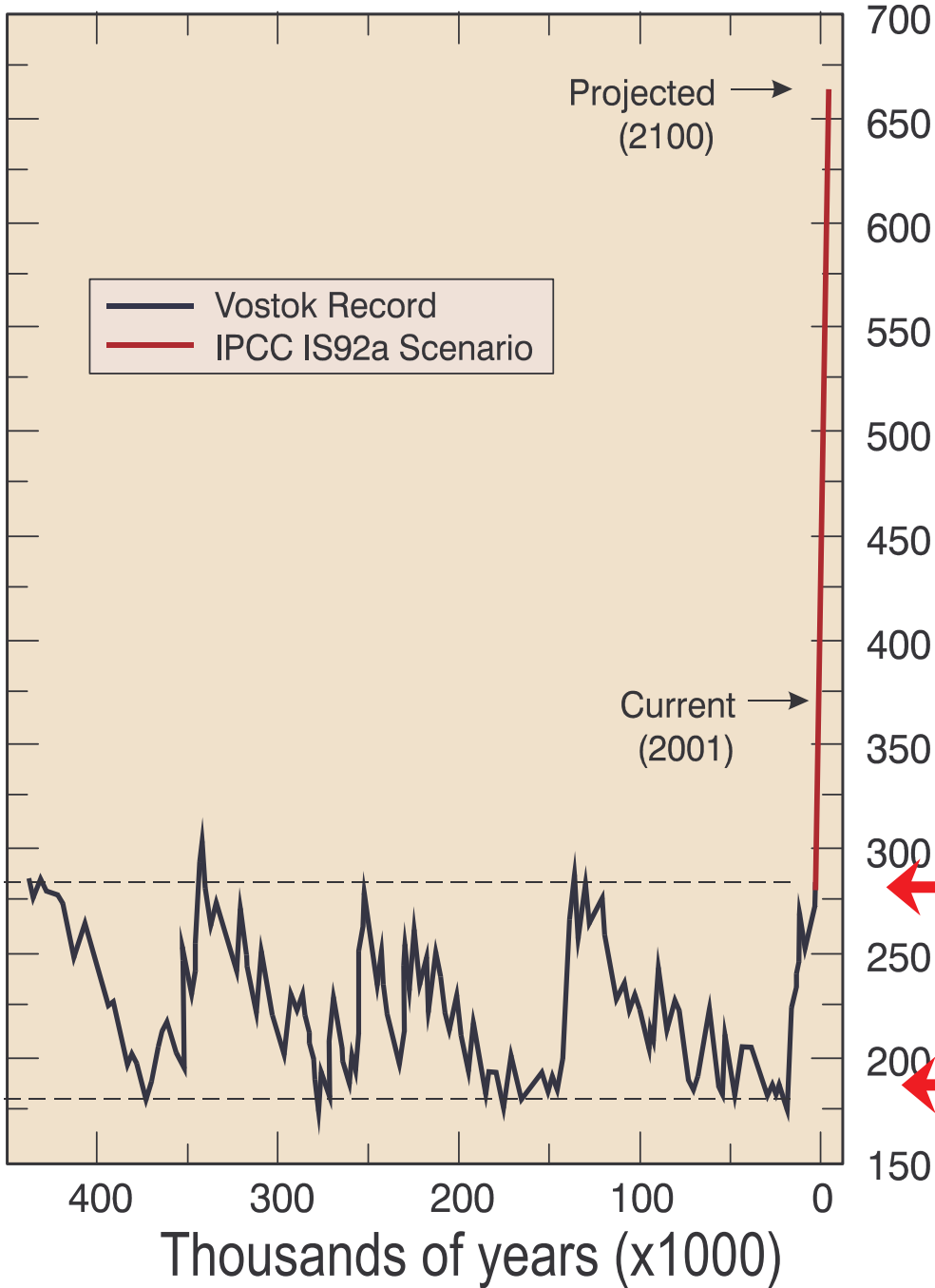
Climate Change (CC) and its Implication on Security



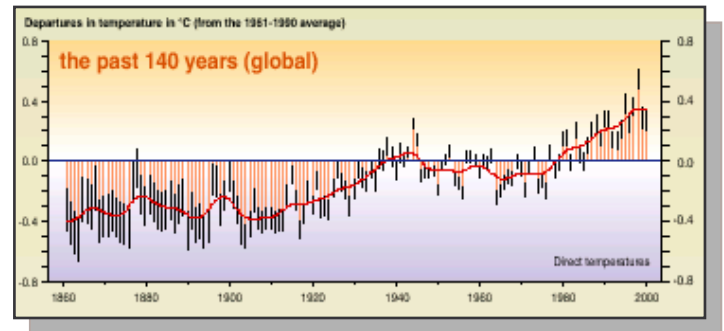
Direct outcomes of Climate Change

1. Increase in temperature; heat and cold waves
2. Rise in sea levels
3. Storms and floods
4. Desertification and loss of soil fertility and erosion
5. Irreversible ecological changes and destruction of ecosystems
6. Effects on livelihood, food production, water security and life quality
7. Increase in migration from poor countries
8. Possible hotspot conflict-zones
9. Possible large-scale changes (Amazon, Gulf Stream, depleted Asian monsoons, etc.)

Past and Future of CO₂



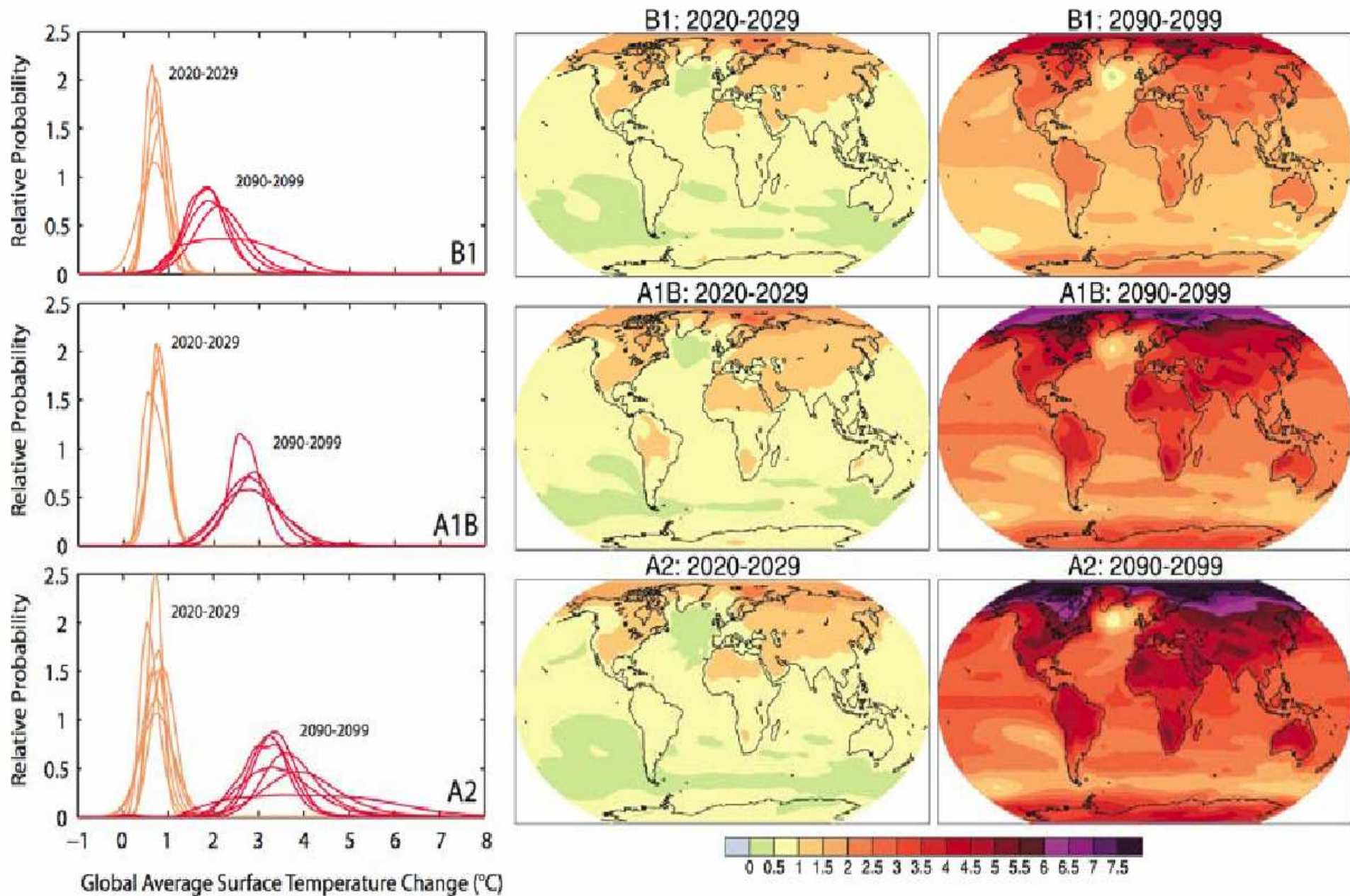
CO₂ concentration (ppmv)



← 280 ppm

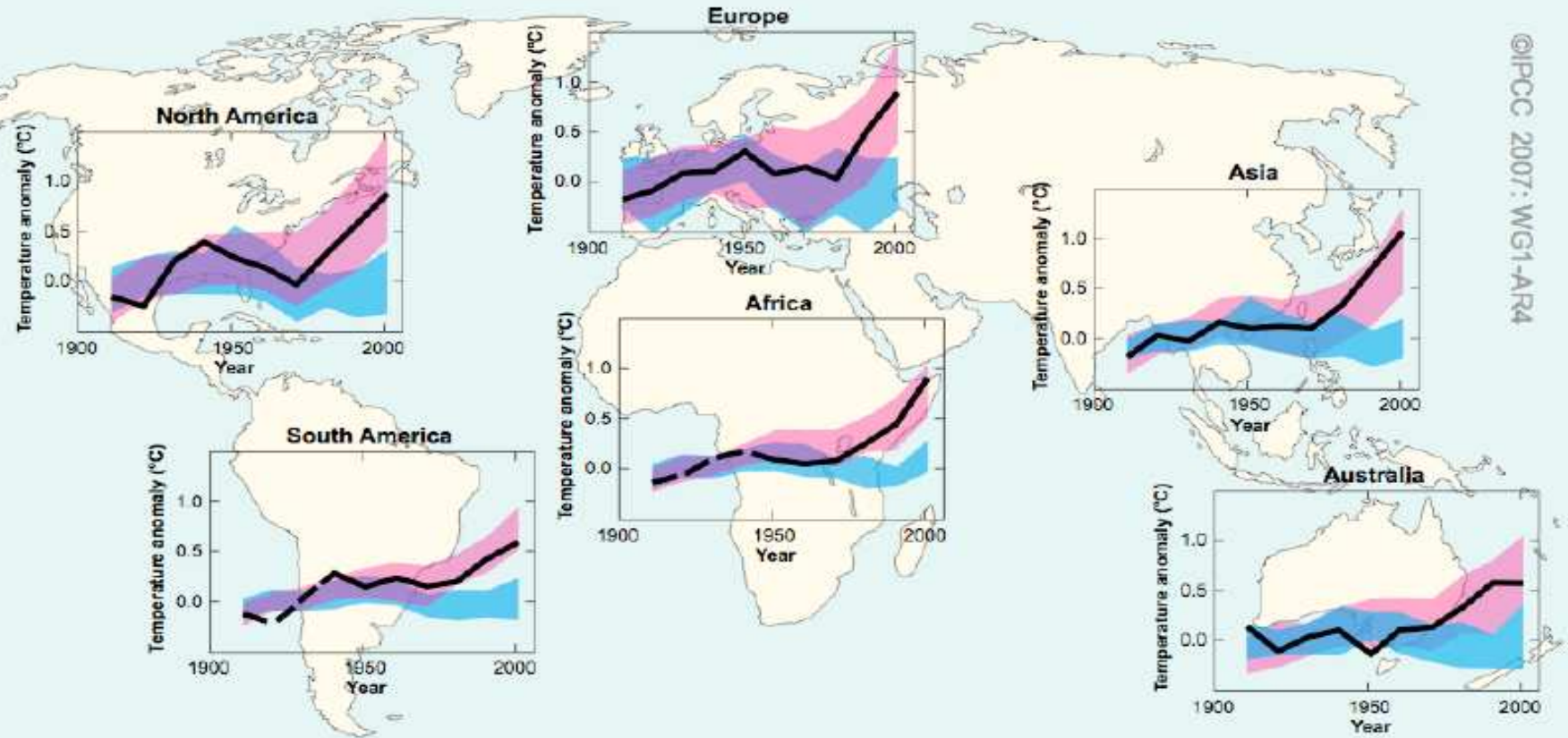
← 180 ppm

AOGCM Projections of Surface Temperatures

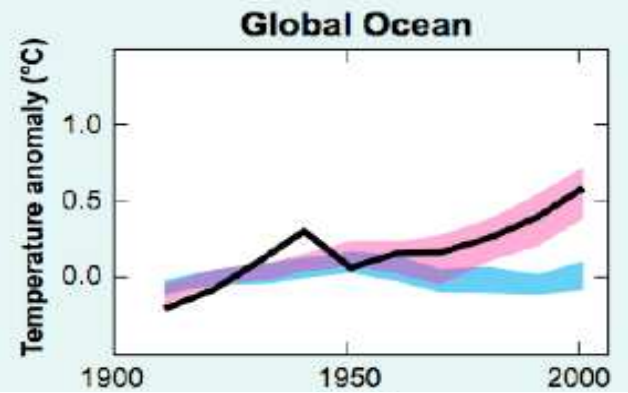
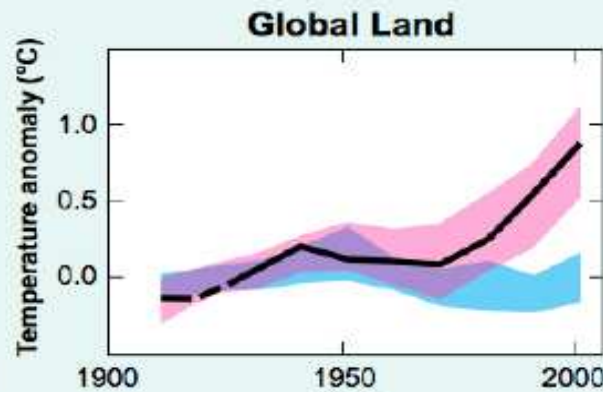
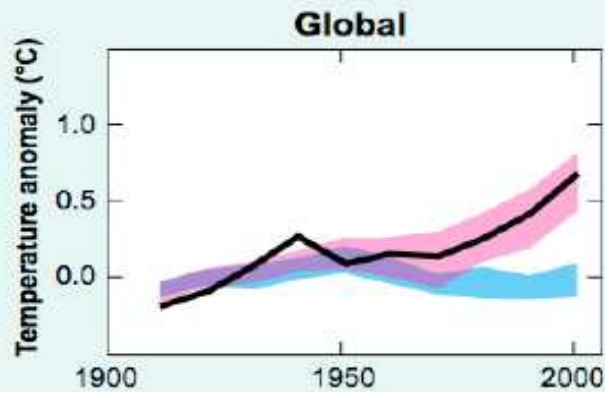


Source: Summary 4th IPCC, 2007

Changes in temperature global and by continent



©IPCC 2007: WG1-AR4



Threats, Disasters and Social Vulnerability



CC and State Security

Impact of Agent Orange in Vietnam



1. Degradation cycle:

- CC causes crises and conflicts (disasters, pollution, scarcity and abundance of resources)
- Conflicts cause environmental damage

2. Disasters can induce different outcomes:

Peace agreement in Aceh; greater intensity of conflict among Sinhalese-led government and Tamil rebels (aid distribution, control of resettlements)



Kuwait - 31 August 1990

Kuwait - 23 February 1991

Kuwait - 14 November 1991

Burning oil fields in Kuwait, 1991



3. Gender Vulnerability:
Gender Identity
Social Representations
Risks, Vulnerabilities and Challenges
Gender Violence

Main Attributes of Social Identity

- Thousands of years of experience have created a society in a specific socio-historic environment where **symbolic elements** have developed (class, ethnicity, age, religion, race, nationality). They are in permanent change, but its main attributes –**gender, sex** and **race**- and the socioeconomic conditions –**rich, poor**- are stable. Each process of classification implies relations of identity; inclusion or rejection and exclusion, what constitutes the basis of any power exercise, discrimination and violence.

Obstacles: Social Vulnerability

- Social vulnerability is an historical and accumulative result of poverty and unequal access to material and cultural consumption and power.
- Increase susceptibility of a community or person confronted with hazard impacts.
- Poor women, heads of single household are at greater risks: **poverty has women's face.**
- Hazard impacts **can empower** affected people and prepare them to cope with disasters and new risks.

Social Representations

- “*Systems of values, ideas and practices*” create a **system of order that is** able to offer a person the possibility to get familiar with the social and material world.
- Communication within a community offers a **code of common social interchange**, where several aspects of life, personal and collective history are **classified without ambiguity** (Moscovici, 1976: xiii).
- Social representations originate in **daily life**, where society is the **thinking and acting system**.
- The theory of social identity establishes a continuum between personal and social identity with a **processual**, relational, multidimensional, contextual and essentialist character.



**4. Widened and deepened
security approach:
GEC and Human Security**

Pillars of Human Security

- 1. Freedom from fear** (political, criminal violence: Canadian approach; Human Security Report, UNESCO, HS Network)
- 2. Freedom from want** (poverty, justice, governance, systems of rule: Japanese approach; UNDP 1994; CHS 2003: Ogata/Sen: Human Security Now)
- 3. Freedom to live with dignity** (UNO, Kofi Annan: In Larger Freedom)
- 4. Freedom from hazard impacts** (reducing vulnerability, enhancing coping capabilities from natural and human-induced hazards; Bogardi/Brauch; Brauch)

A photograph of a dry, eroded landscape. In the foreground, a dirt road with deep tire tracks runs across the frame. To the right, a steep, eroded bank of reddish-brown soil is visible, with some small green plants growing on it. In the background, a hillside covered in dense green vegetation rises against a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The overall scene suggests a semi-arid or arid environment with significant soil erosion.

GEC and Enviornmental Security

Impact on Environmental Security

1. “Development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of **future generations** to meet their own needs”
(Brundtland Commission)



2. Disasters confront the vulnerable with a survival dilemma





GEC and Gender Security

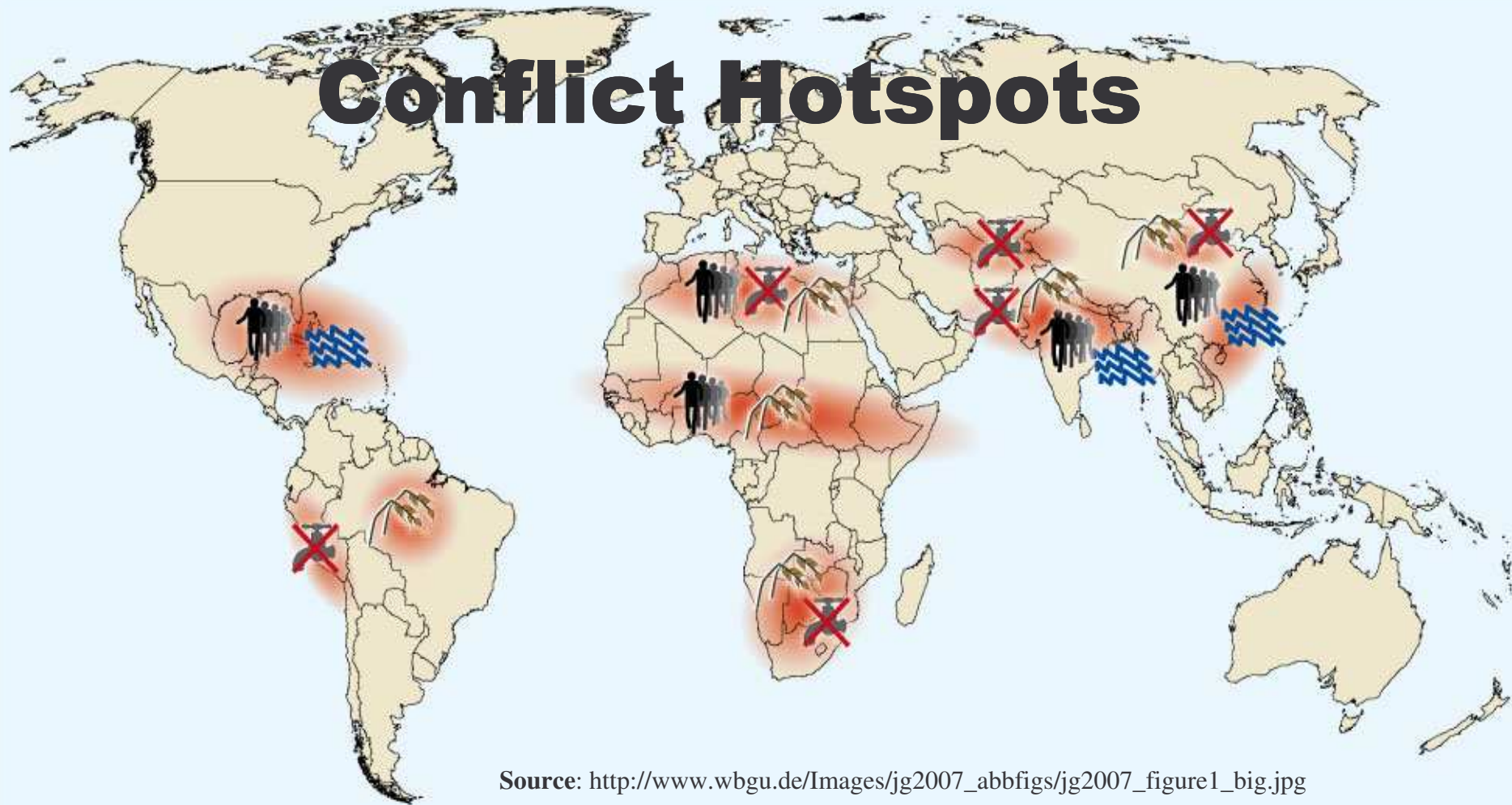
Gender Vulnerability

In Indian Ocean tsunami, the Pakistan earthquake and Bangladesh flood the rate of women dead was **68-80%.**

Reasons:

- 1. External:** women could not swim, wore sari, had long hair and worked mostly inside their homes.
- 2. Gender identity:** explains how a society identifies women as caregivers and how women self-identify to this role and lose their life to save others, inclusive domestic animals.

Conflict Hotspots



Source: http://www.wbgu.de/Images/jg2007_abbfigs/jg2007_figure1_big.jpg

Conflict constellations in selected hotspots



Climate-induced degradation of freshwater resources



Climate-induced decline in food production



Hotspot



Climate-induced increase in storm and flood disasters



Environmentally-induced migration

A photograph of two young girls with dark hair, smiling and looking towards the camera. They are wearing purple tops. The background is a solid teal color. The text is overlaid on the bottom half of the image.

**5. Human, Gender and
Environmental Security:
A HUGE alternative**

Human, Gender and Environmental Security (HUGE)

Degree of expansion	Denomination (security of what?)	References object (security of whom)?	Value at risk (security of what?)	Sources of threat (security from whom and for what?)
No expansion	National Security (political, military)	The Nation-state	Sovereignty, territorial integrity, power relations	Other states, terrorism, sub-state actors, guerrilla, terrorists, AMD
Incremental	Societal Security	Nations, societal groups, social movements	National unity, identity, governance, tolerance, cosmovision	Nations, migrants, alien cultures, mass media, internet
Radical	Human Security	Individuals, humankind	Survival, quality of life, livelihood, equality, development	State, globalization, elites, terrorism, organized crime, social gaps
Ultra-radical	Environmental Security	Ecosystem, humankind, green-house gases, toxics	Sustainability, industrialization, consumption, development, modernization, future	Nature, global change, global warming, population growth, development pattern, resilience
Trans-radical	Gender Security	Gender relations, indigenous, minorities, children, elders, vulnerable groups	Equity, equality, identity, solidarity, social representations, culture, and cosmovision	Patriarchy, totalitarian institutions (governments, churches, elites), dominant culture, intolerance, violence

Source: Bjørn Møller, 2003:279 and Úrsula Oswald, 2001, 2004, 2008

A woman in a red dress is standing in a field, holding a rifle. She is looking towards the camera. The background shows a line of trees and a clear sky. The image has a slightly grainy, high-contrast appearance.

6. Conclusion

Global Security: an Issue for Women and Men

Obstacles to Human, Gender and Environmental Security: HUGE

- **Top-down policies:** unequal development processes, environmental destruction, injustice, concentration of wealth, and weak health, school and public security.
- **Bottom-up:** weak internal organization, unemployment, gender violence, analphabetism, missing solidarity and training, hunger and violent conflicts.
- **Violent conflict resolution:** intolerance; imposition of authoritarian solutions, undemocratic decision.

Alternative: A 'HUGE' solidarity process of sustainable and intra- and inter-generational equality and development, reinforced by international and local collaboration, solidarity and nonviolent conflict management and preventive risk reduction.

Prevention

1. Gender pattern of resource-use
2. Reduction of 50% of green-house gases (GHG) by 2050: Post-2012 Climate Change Agreement
3. Resource conservation and environmental culture
4. Recycling, reduction and reuse of water, waste, etc.
5. Restoration of deteriorated ecosystems (forests, corral reefs, mangroves)
6. Integral river basin management
7. Actions against land erosion and desertification
8. Disaster risk reduction and risk management
9. Early warning systems
10. National preventive disaster systems and funds
11. Gender-related disaster responses and training
12. Reduction of social vulnerability: 53% of disaster dead from countries with low human development index.

Women's Key Role in Emergencies

1. Climate change is not gender neutral: it affects human rights, human and gender security, and justice
2. Anticipation, early warning and prevention are effective routines to reduce victims
3. Climate change threatens livelihood, food and water security and poverty has women's face
4. Resilience-building, adaptation, mitigation and coping strategies reduces survival problems
5. Empowerment of women increases solidarity
6. Sustainable and ethical businesses create sustainable energy and with science and technology develop alternative energy sources, resource efficiency and restoration of ecosystems
7. Post-2012 agreements with a gender road map

CC: Holistic Sustainable Development

1. Non traditional threats to stability and for fulfilling MDG
2. Anticipation, early warning, prevention and preparation
3. Legal and financial disaster and risk management (top-down)
4. Empowerment and resilience-building (bottom up)
5. Environmentally-friendly and ethical businesses
6. Science and technology: green-house gases must be globally reduced 50% by 2050: small environmental businesses boost the local and national economy and create new jobs, industries and services
7. Decentralized systems of energy, often at small scale, are supplied with renewable energy sources (wind, solar-thermal, solar photovoltaic, sea and waves, biogas, biomass from waste, geothermal, hydro energy)
8. Basic livelihood for most vulnerable includes health care, food sovereignty, education, training, democratic practices for sustainable use of natural resources with participative planning
9. **Women are contributing to sustainable livelihood and food security in poor countries.**

Women Leaders: Agents of Change

- Gro Harlem Brundlandt: Commission on Sustainability
- Angela Merkel: G-8 meeting Heiligendamm and Post-2012 Agreement
- Tarja Halonen, human rights and democracy
- Margaret Beckett UNSC on CC as security issue
- Mary Robinson: UNHCHR, WWL
- Lorena Aguilar: IUCN
- June Zeitlin: WEDO
- Rigoberta Menchú, Wangari Maathai, Aung San Su and Shrinin Ebadi, Nobel Prizes of Peace
- Francisca Rodríguez/Alicia Muñoz: ANAMURI, Chile
- Etelvina Masioli: Brazilian Landless Movement

Gender Empowerment mitigates CC

Complex networks sustain human life in normal times. Vulnerability increases during disasters and conflicts, when these networks break apart. Women and vulnerable are also indirectly affected by political, economic, social and emotional dislocation, and poverty has a women's face. **Nevertheless, women are agents of change.**

Alternatives:

1. Develop complex networks and training to support social resilience.
2. Gender specific indicators and actions related to gender security
3. Active female and male participation in education, disaster risk reduction and management.
4. In resilient societies women educate, care and maintain cultural and historical memory.
5. Survival strategies are basically in the hands of women.
6. Empowerment of women reduces gender violence and insecurity prior, during and after disasters. **We represent half of world society, and we are also the mothers of the other half.**



Thank you for your attention

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