



EUROPEAN
ENVIRONMENT
FOUNDATION

7TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAUREATES

FREIBURG, GERMANY · 15 - 18 MARCH 2018



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Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker

Co-President Club of Rome

Board of Trustees, European Environment Foundation

„A new enlightenment for the full planet“

ICEL 15. March 2018

Surviving
Thriving in the „Full World“

Prof. Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker

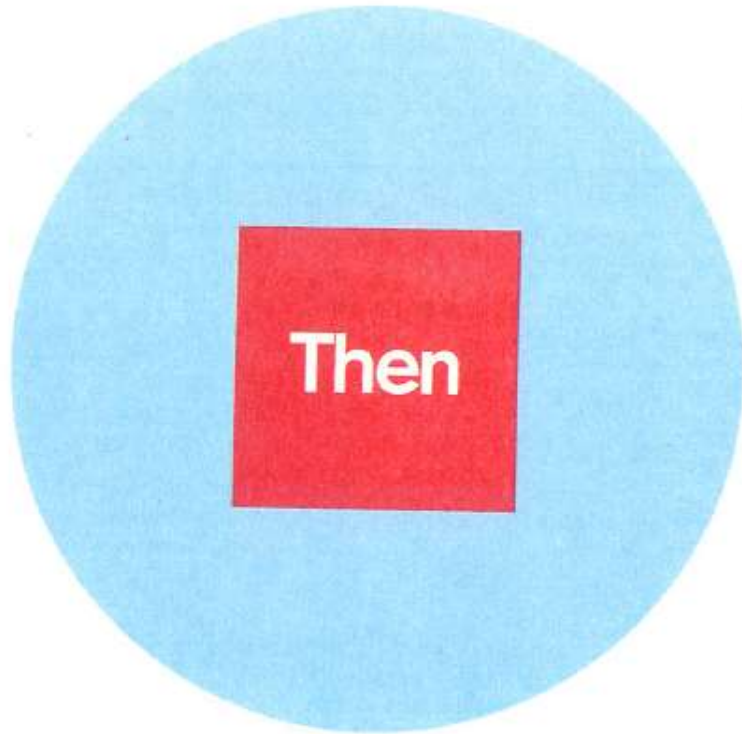
Presented by Mathis Wackernagel

Co-President

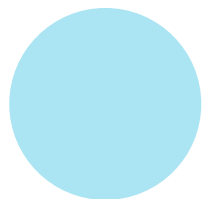
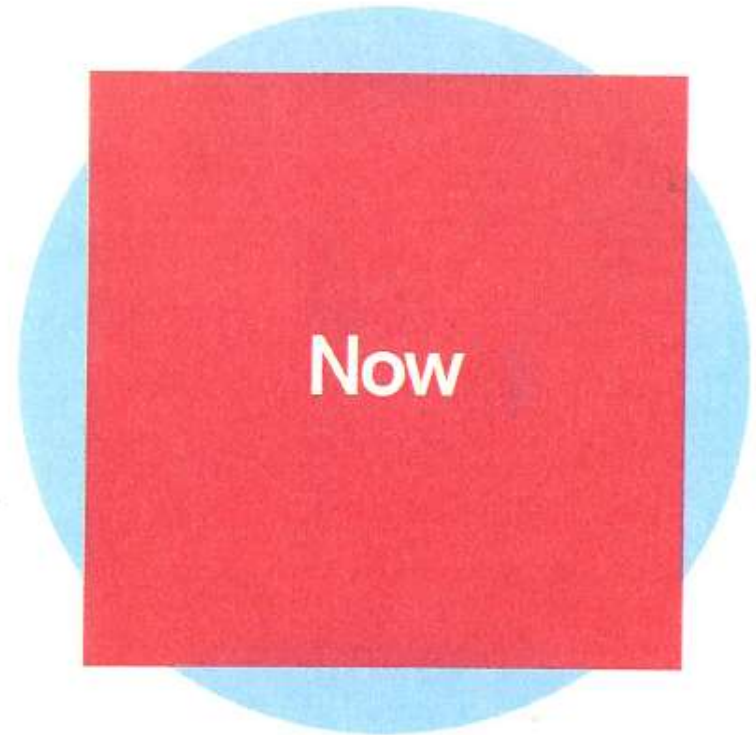


Growth economics was ok for the *Empty World*. But it makes us poorer in a *Full World*. (Herman Daly)

Empty World



Full World

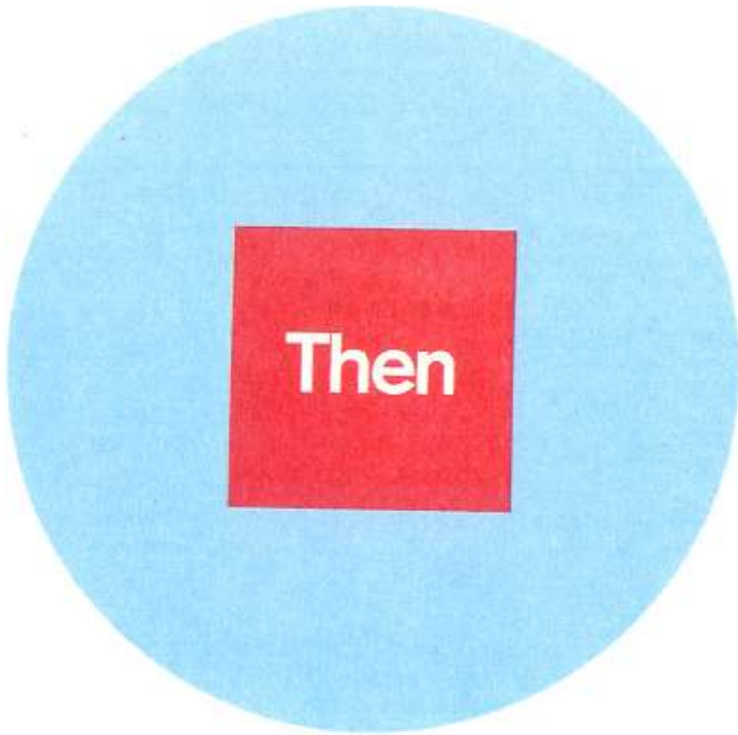


The World



Human economy

You want more fish. What will you do?



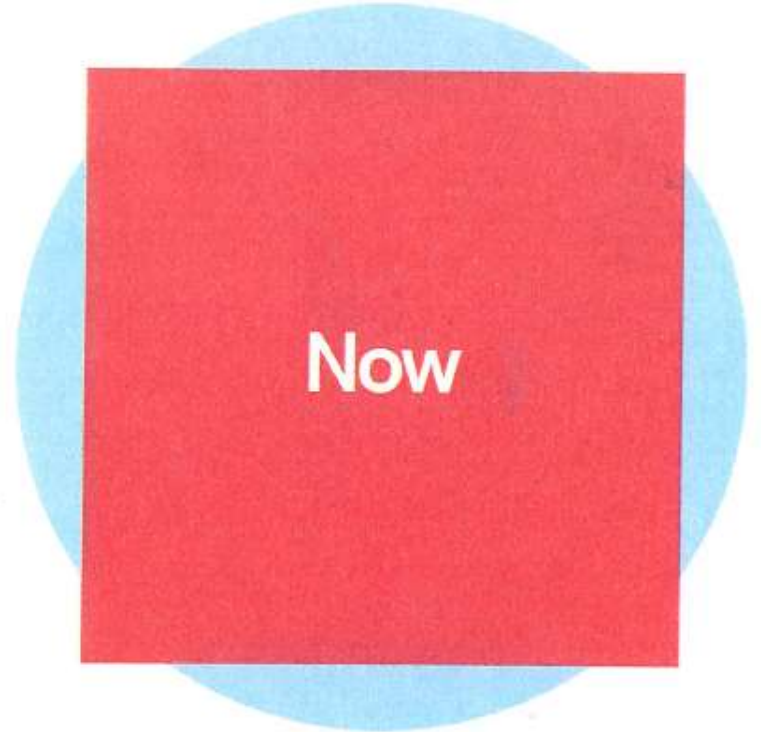
More fishermen,
More nets,
More boats...

You want more fish. What will you do?

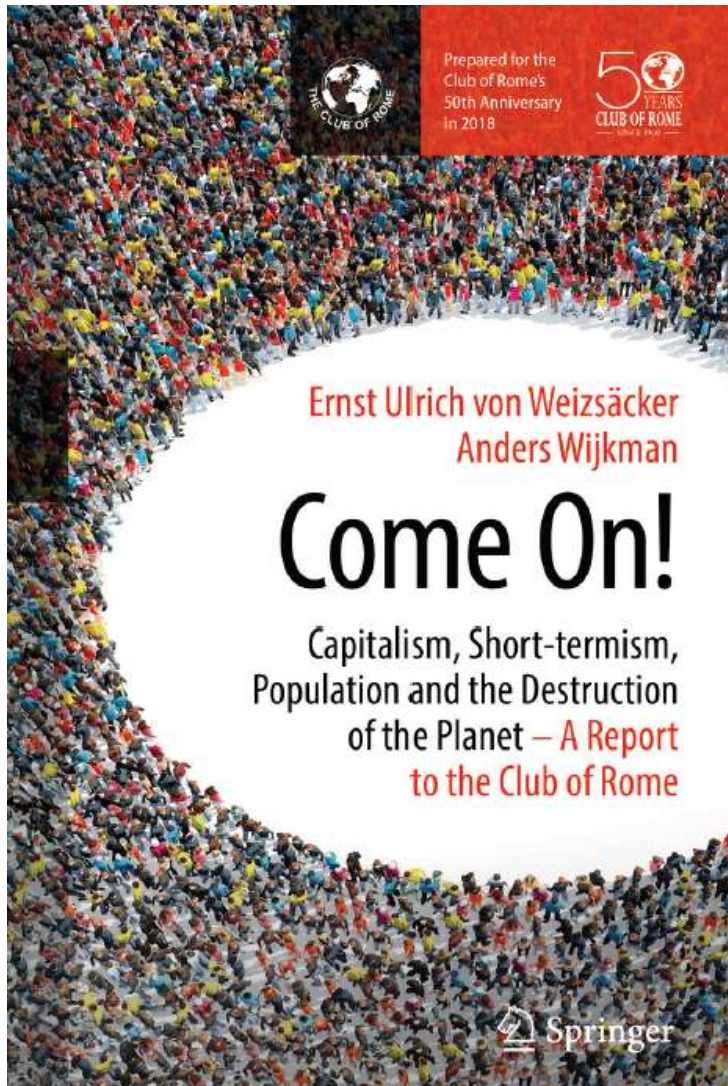
Marine protection zones,
(no fishing allowed).

Fish farming.

Save female fish



The difference between the Empty World and the Full World lies at the core of the new Club of Rome Report



The original edition, 2018



German translation (2017)

The title and the three Chapters are:

Come On! Capitalism, Short-termism, Population and the Destruction of the Planet.

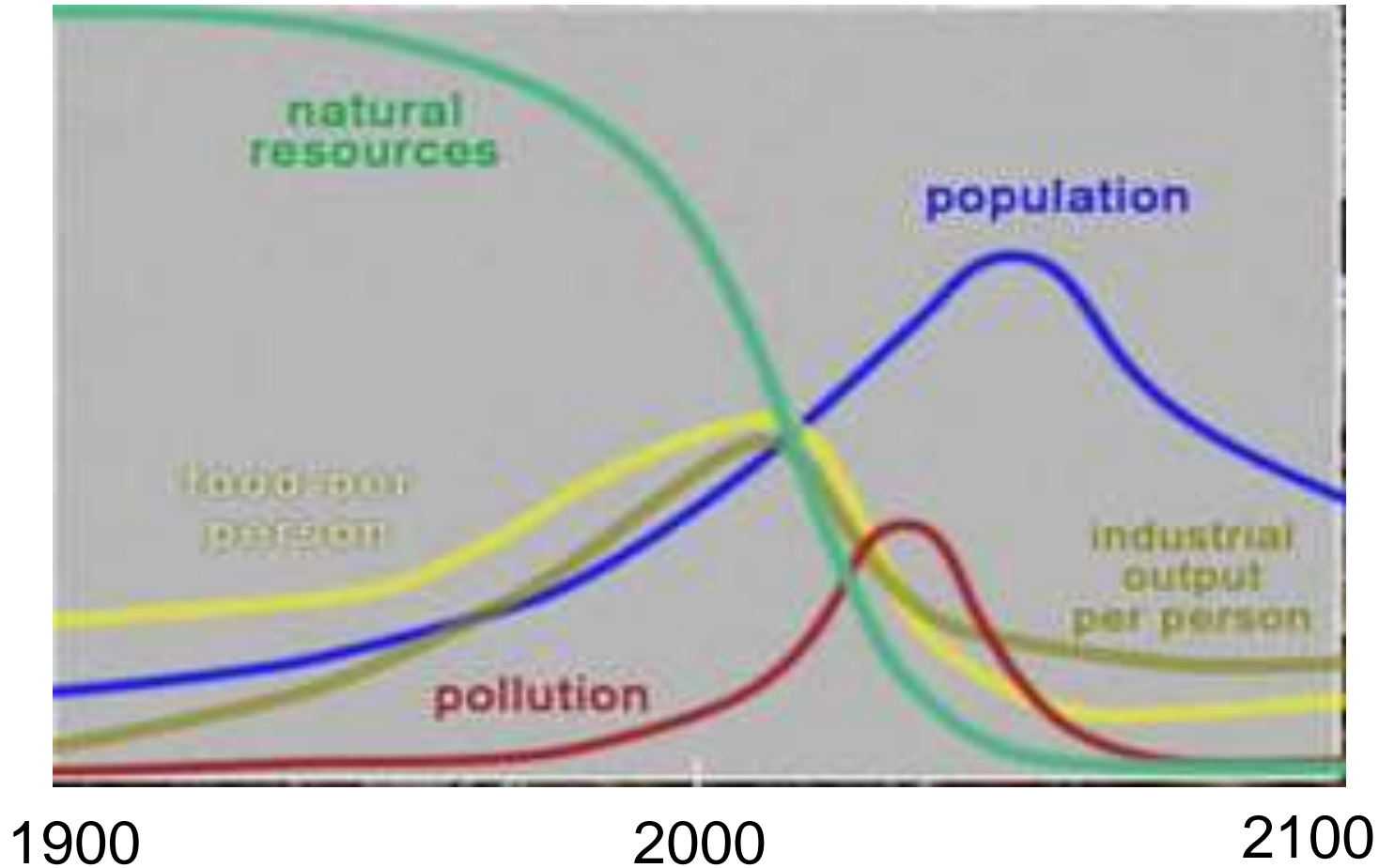
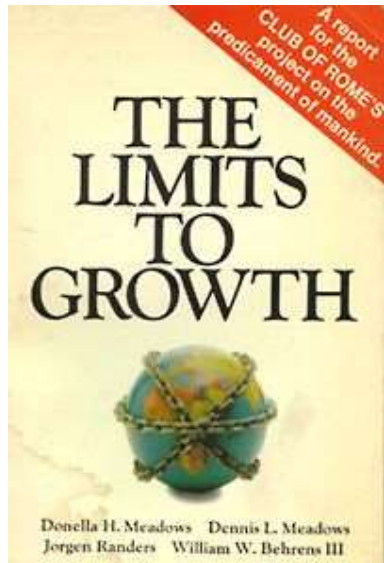
- 1. C'mon! Don't Tell Me the Current Trends Are Sustainable!**
- 2. C'mon! Don't Stick to Outdated Philosophies!**
- 3. Come On! Join Us on an Exciting Journey Towards a Sustainable World!**

2018, Publisher: Springer New York - Heidelberg



The first major Club of Rome Report was in 1972, called „The Limits to Growth“.

And here is its central picture of collapses after 2000:



Politics and business

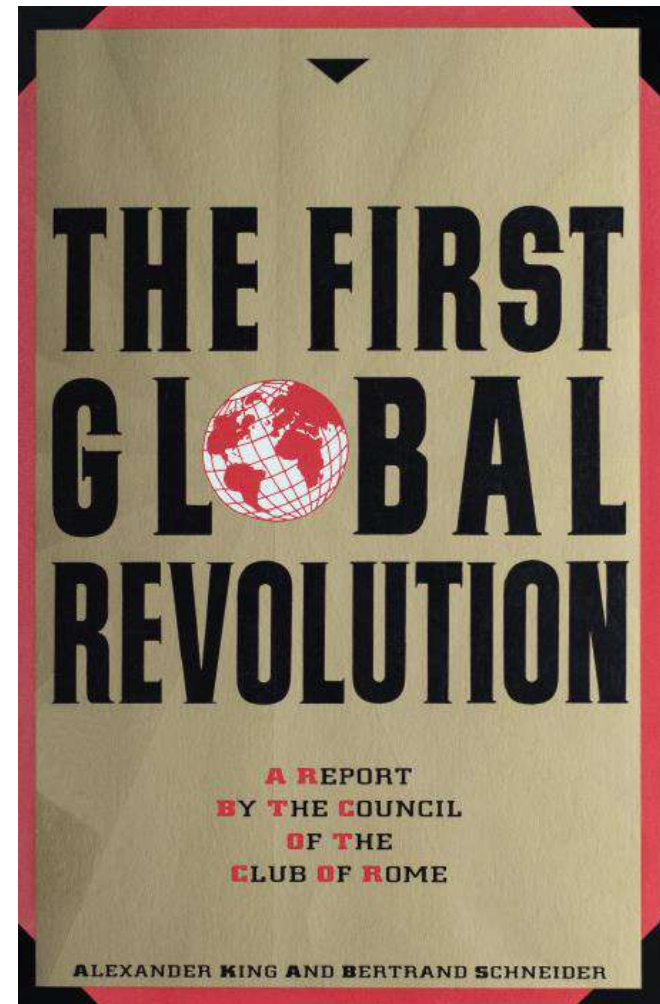
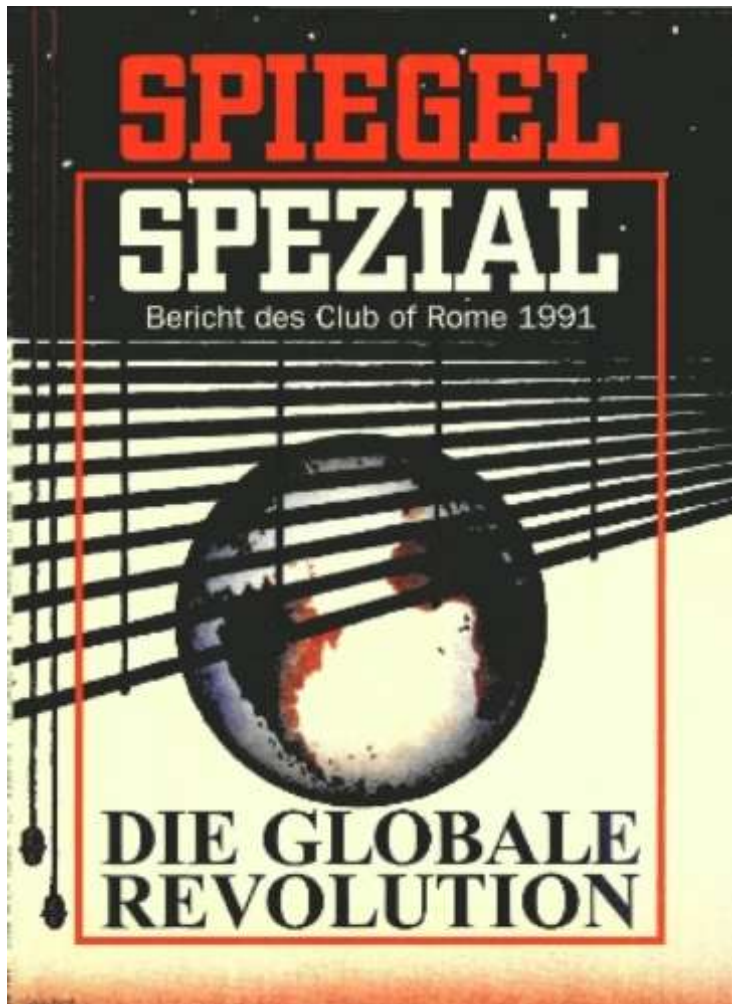
hated the Limits to Growth.



Ronald Reagan : "There are no such things as limits to growth", - and that made him very popular (1983)

Thatcher on Reagan: "Others saw only limits to growth. He transformed a stagnant economy into an engine of opportunity." (2004, Reagan obituary)

A second „big“ Club of Rome report was „The First Global Revolution“, 1991, by Alexander King und Bertrand Schneider.



The end of the Cold War was seen as a chance for a worldwide peaceable revolution, paid by the „peace dividends“ of disarmament.

Alas, nothing came out of it. The new neo-liberal mindset got the upper hand, with liberalization, privatization, shrinking the state. Peace dividends went into tax cuts for the rich. It was the birth of „Globalisation“.

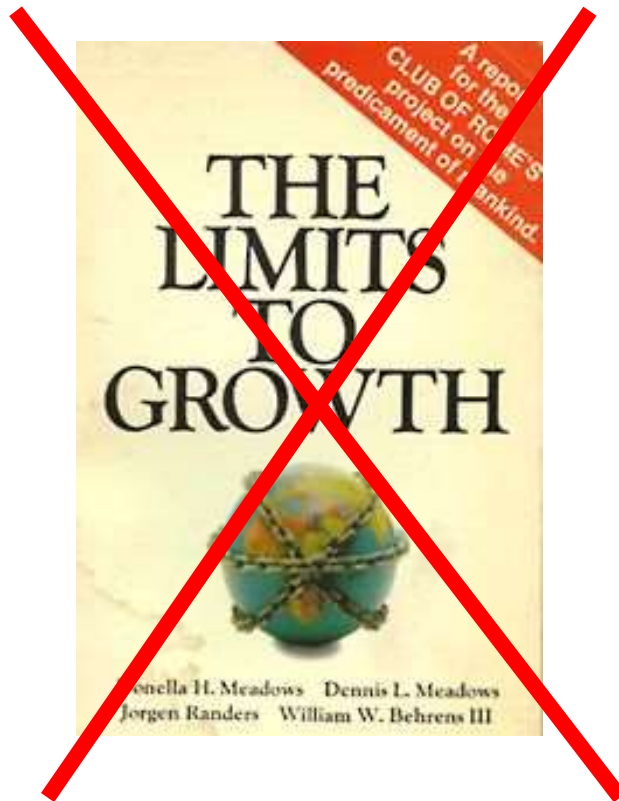
**Here is a cartoon:
The German people
tell Chancellor
Schröder to let
Angie (Merkel)
steer the boat.**

**But does the
Chancellor matter
if the real steering
power is with the
financial markets?**

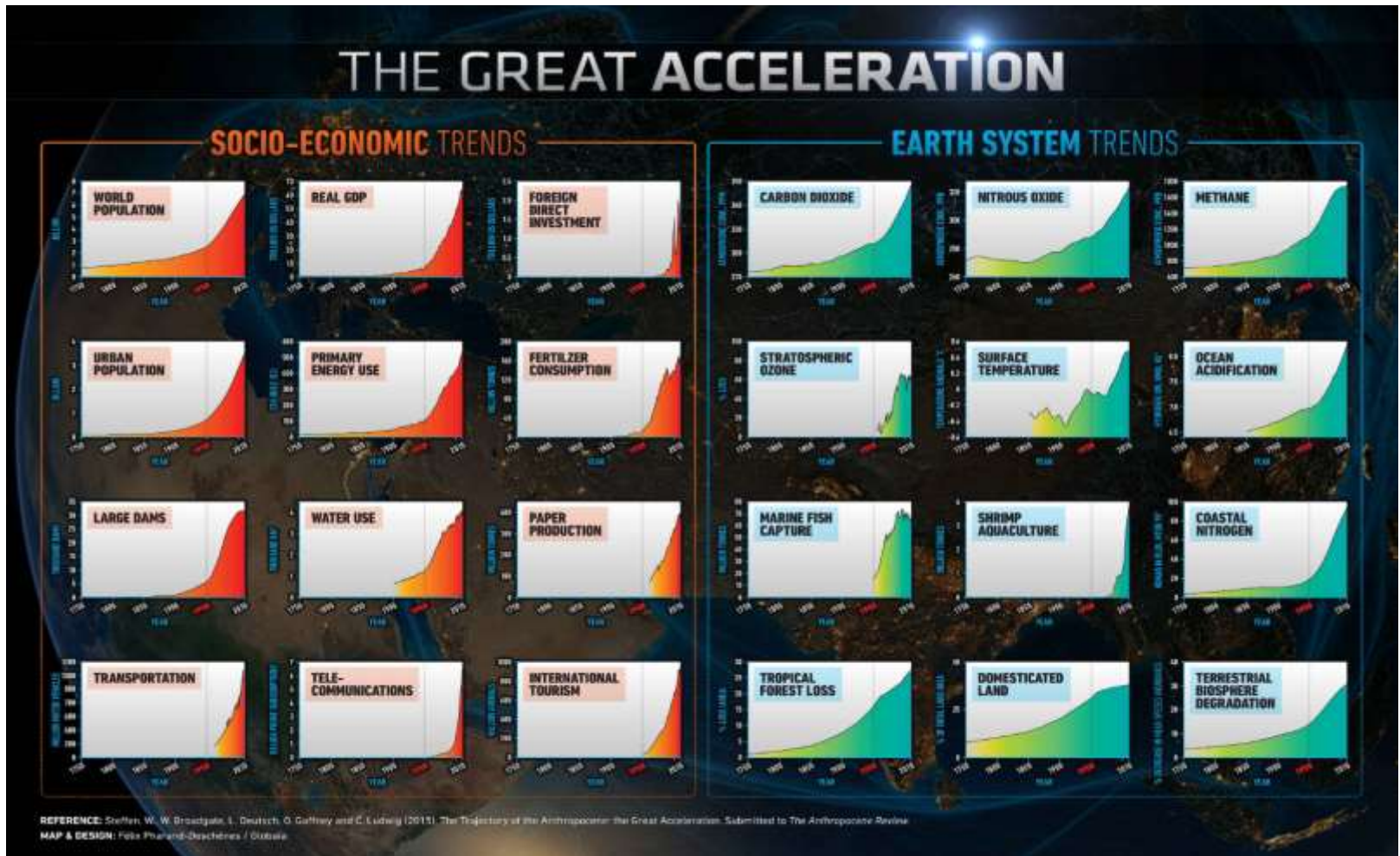
(Cartoonist Haitzinger before
the 2005 elections)



During the globalization hype, nobody listened to the Limits to growth message



The Anthropocene: mega-growth since 50 years! Jumping from Empty World to Full World



Source: Globaia 2011. Bilder aus Will Steffens, Paul. J. Crutzen, John R. McNeill. 2007. The Anthropocene: Are Humans Now Overwhelming the Great Forces of Nature? Ambio 36

Another figure on the anthropocene: **97%** of the body weight of land living vertebrates are farmed animals and pets (67%) – and we humans (30%). **The remaining 3%: wild animals!**



Industrial livestock farming is the reason
picture: Randall Hill/Reuters, The Guardian 3 März 2016

Unsustainable: Climate horrors increase



flooding (Pakistan)



Dried harvests (USA)

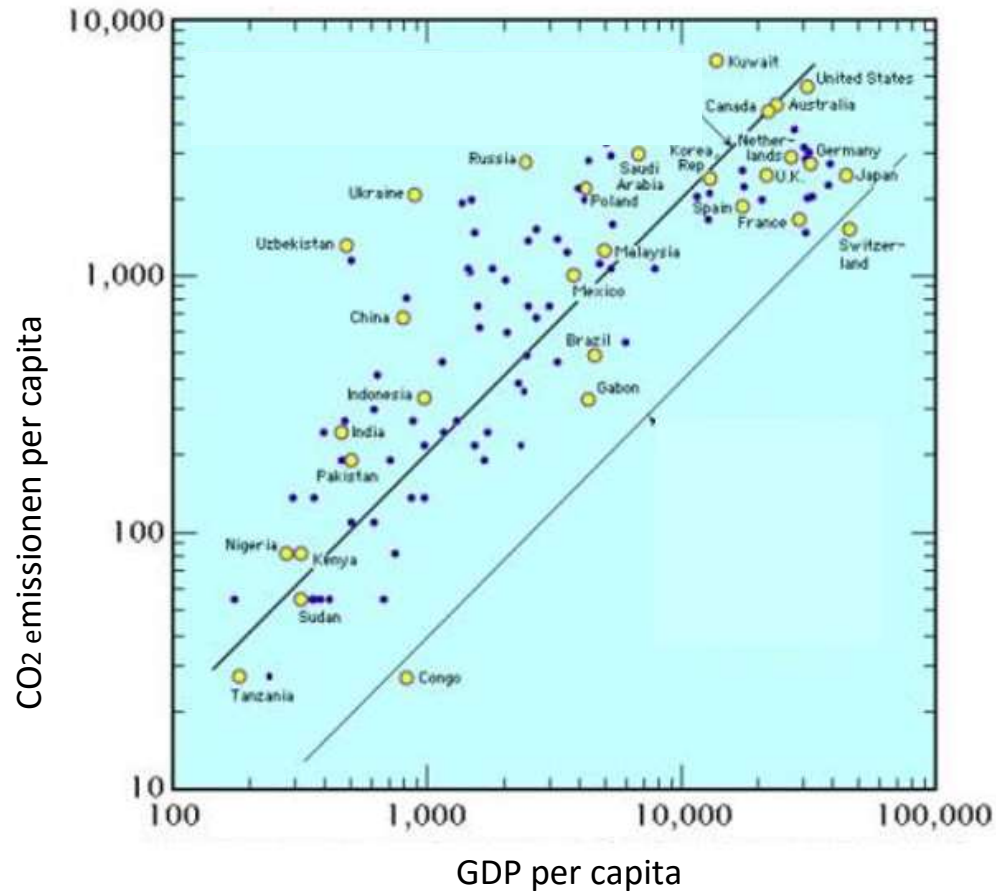


Wild fires (even in Russia)

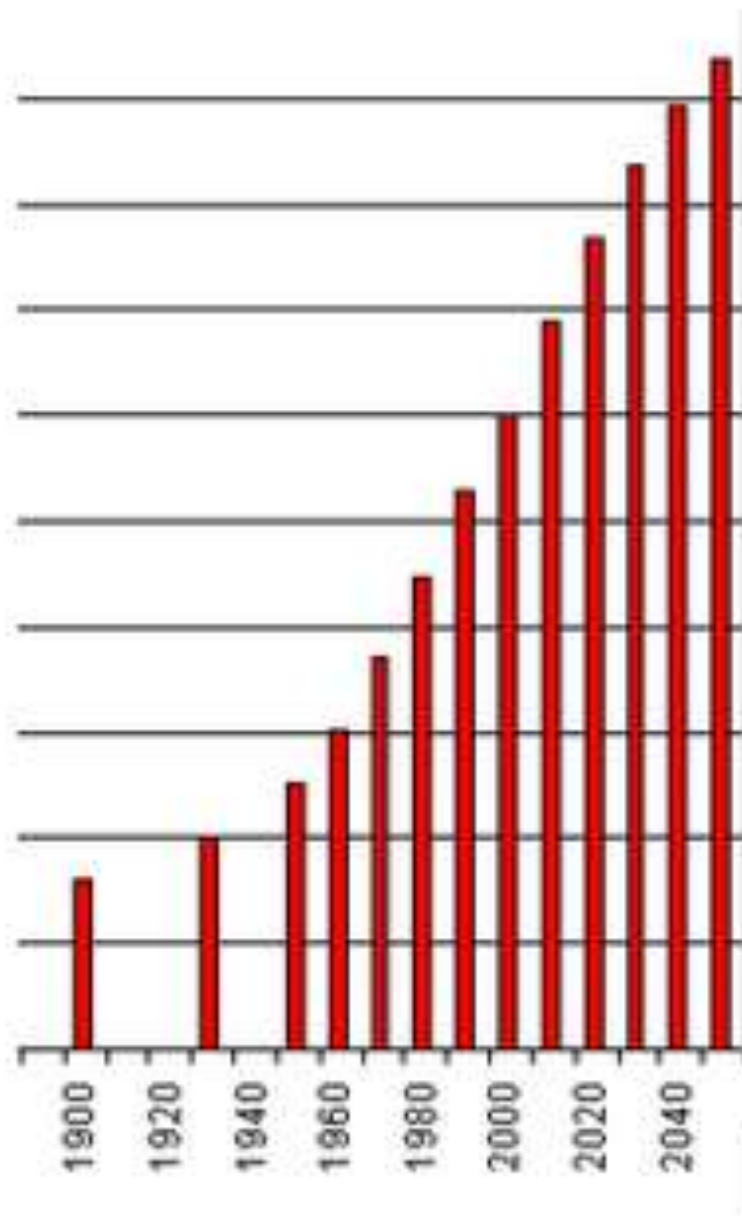
70% of Bangladesh are in high danger.



GDP still goes with CO₂ emissions



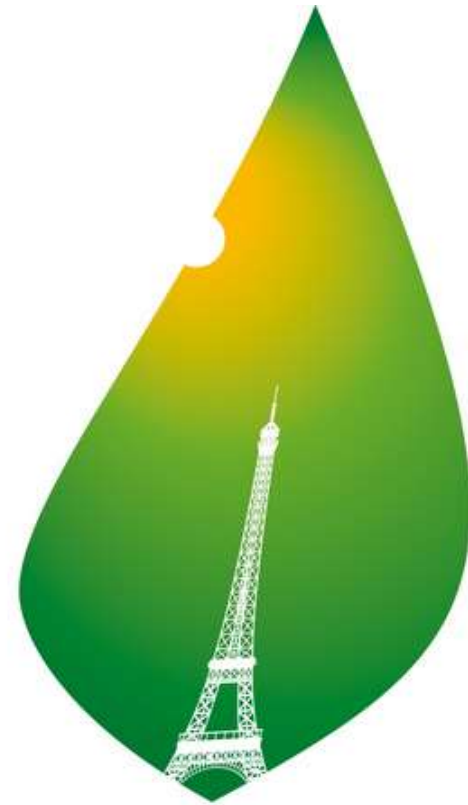
**Population
increase is still a
key driver!**



Weltbevölkerung

Sign Paris

Continue BAU



COP21 • CMP11

PARIS 2015

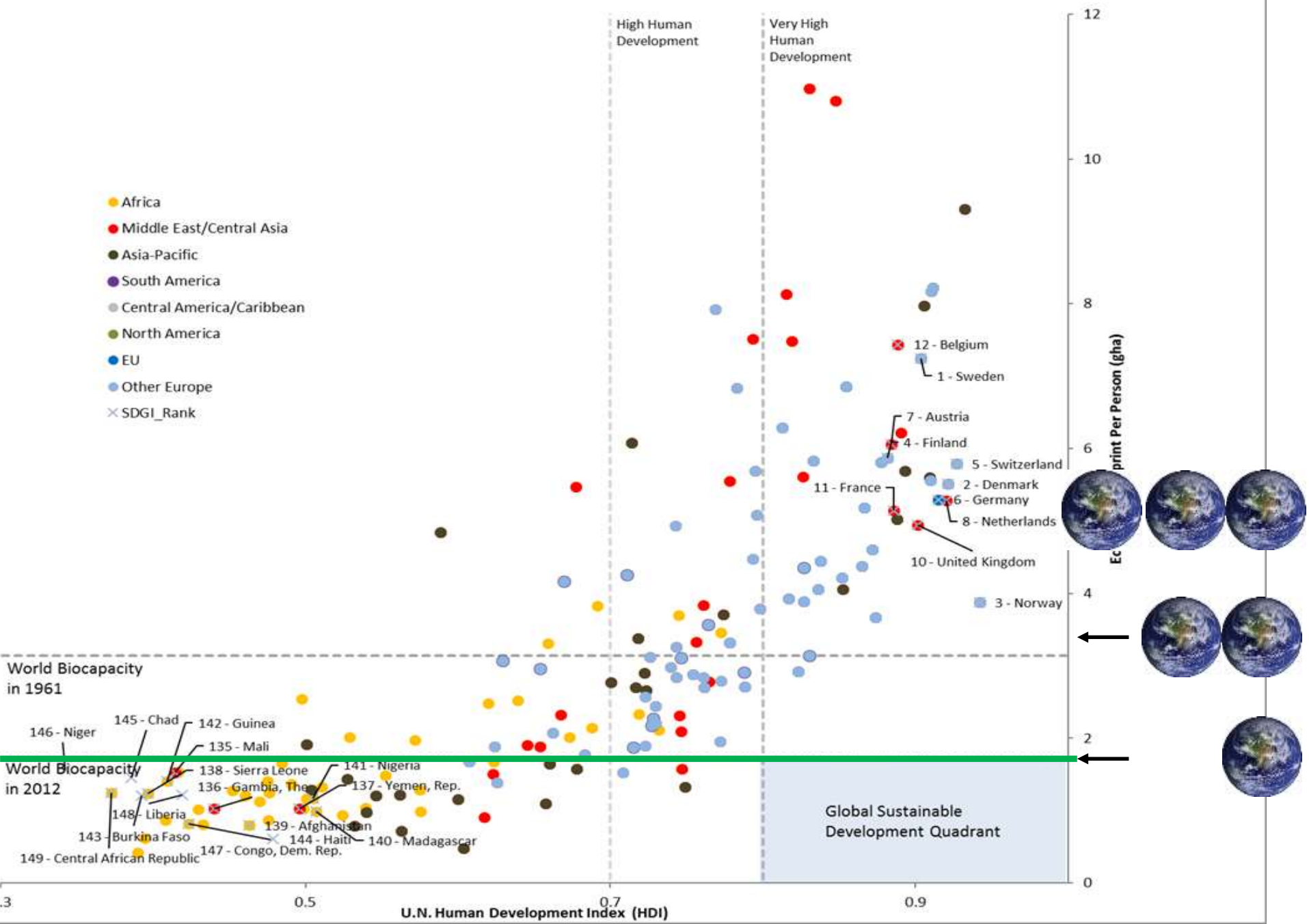
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

**The UN 2030 Agenda. 17 Sustainable Development Goals.
But 11 of them require a lot more growth! Which would kill
climate, oceans, and biodiversity. In caricature words:
The Sustainable Development Agenda is not sustainable!**

 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



Ecological Footprint Per Person and HDI of Nations with SDGI Ranking



With New Trends, beyond „Limits to Growth“

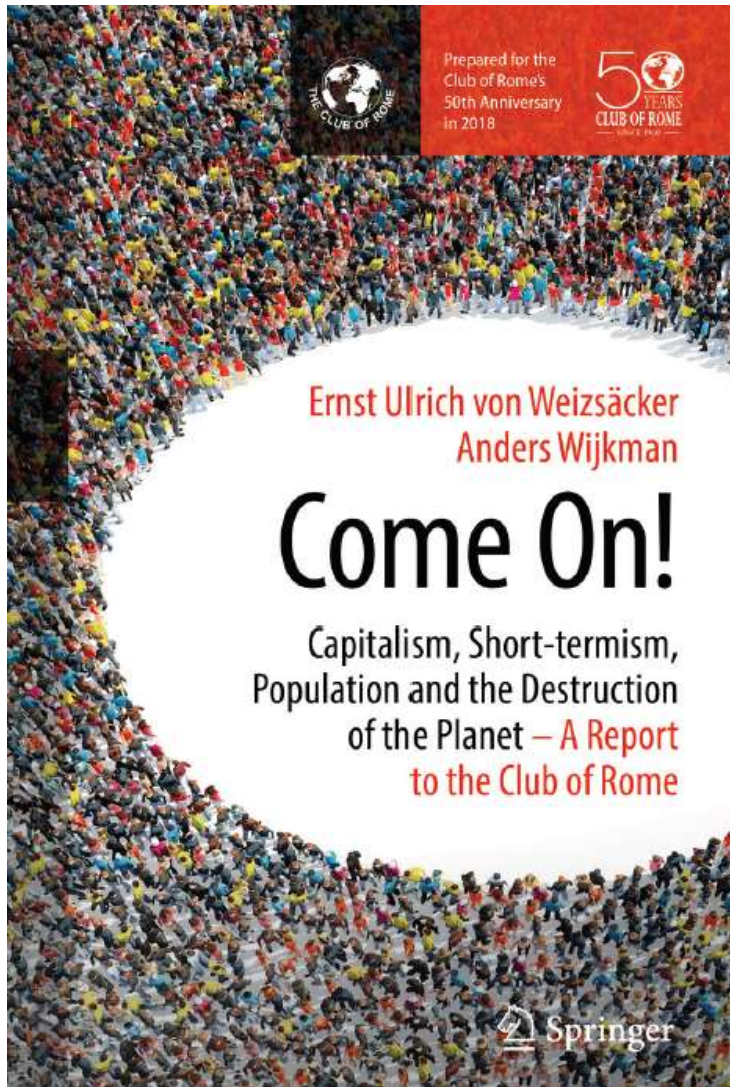
New topics:

- **Climate,**
- **Sustainability,**
- **Anthropozene,**
- **Globalisation,**
- **Digitalisation,**
- **Crisis of democracy,**
- **Unbridled power of the financial markets.**

= the need for a new operating philosophy fit for the
Full World



Now



Our book could as well be called

Policies for the Anthropocene

Remember the three Chapters

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A huge encouragement comes from Pope Francis' Encyclical *Laudato Si'*, of 2015



The encyclical names the dangers to our Common Home from the current modes of the economy. An observer from another star would immediately say that humanity is on a track of suicide!

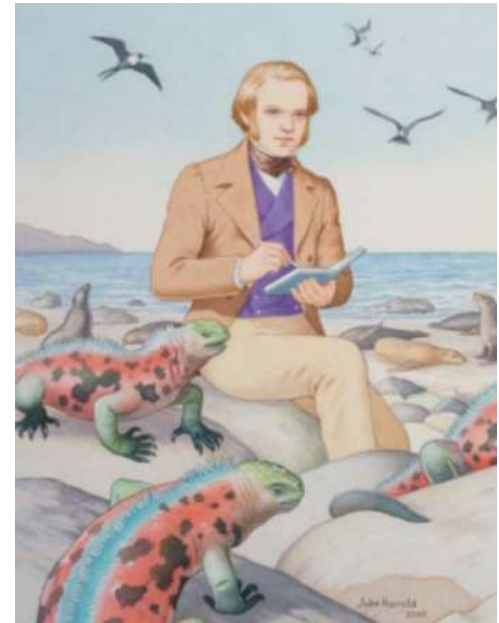
The heroes of modern economics are massively misinterpreted and abused to legitimate destructive „growth“.



Adam Smith

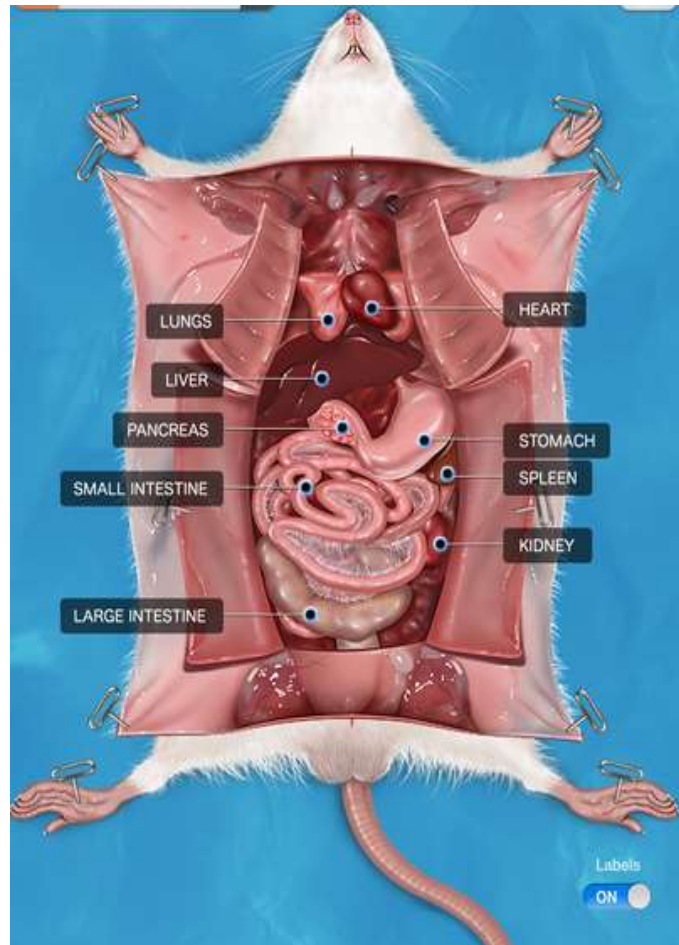


David Ricardo

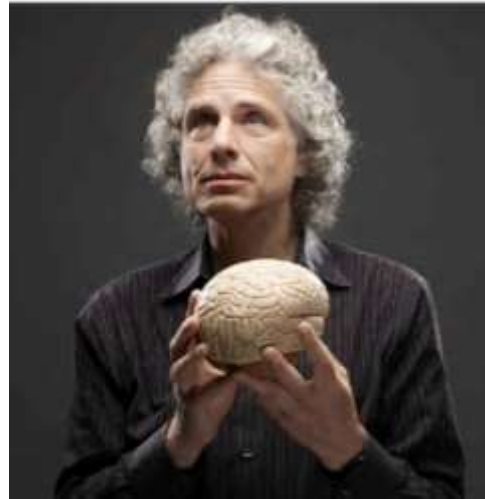
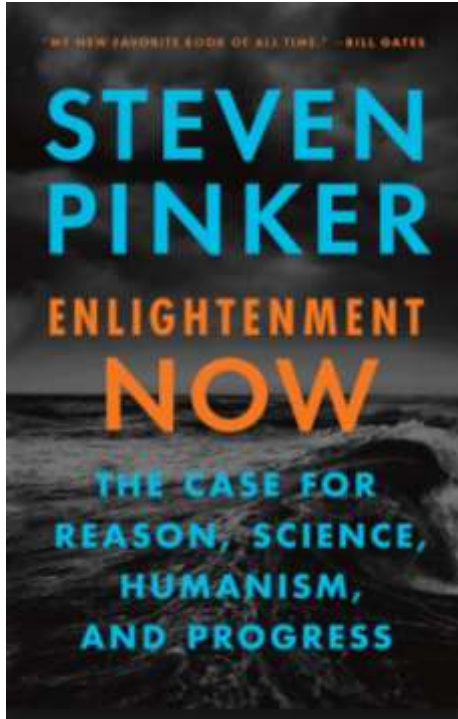


Charles Darwin

Reductionist philosophy is good at dissecting
but cannot say much about life, the future,
and complex systems



People speaking today about a new Enlightenment typically mean returning to the old one



Steven Pinker, 2018
picture: Suki Dhanda, Observer



**The New Enlightenment
should fit for the Full World.
It should reflect the needs of
our grandchildren. Solidarity
should be valued higher than
selfishness. The balance must
be restored between public and
private values. Enlightenment
should have a global horizon.**



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**We cannot wait until 7,6 Billion people have gone through the chores of a new Enlightenment.
We have to act now. That's Chapter 3 of Come On.
It includes:**

- **Energy decentralization**
- **Circular economy creating jobs**
- **„Blue Economy“**
- **Engaging civil society**
- **Financial reform curbing speculation, tax havens etc.**

(5 out of 20 items)

It starts with Ashok Khosla's „Development Alternatives“.



Over some 30 years, they created some three million sustainable jobs in rural India. Creating livelihoods even for the „untouchable“ cast.

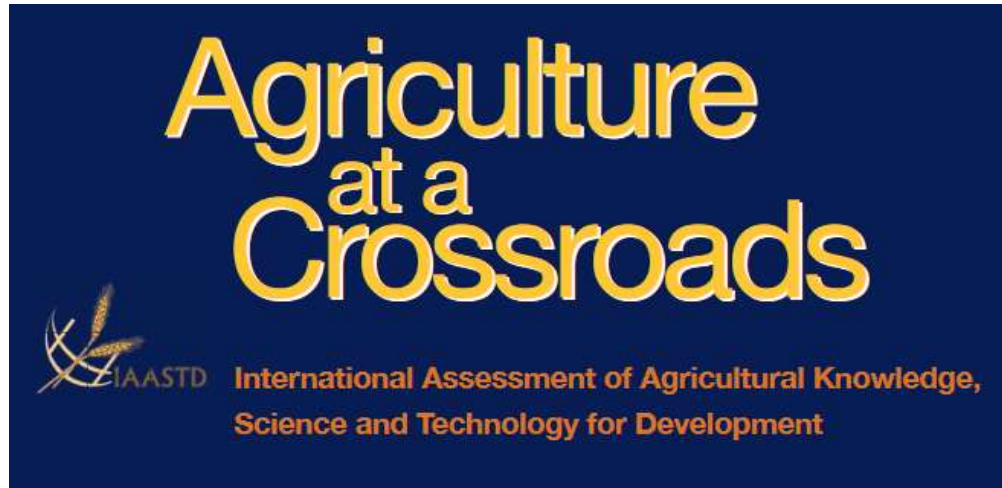


**Gunter Pauli's Blue Economy:
Cascades of energy and matter,
and circular economy. One
example: „Stone paper“ from
sand and dust and plastic waste.**

STONE PAPER



Sustainable agriculture worldwide



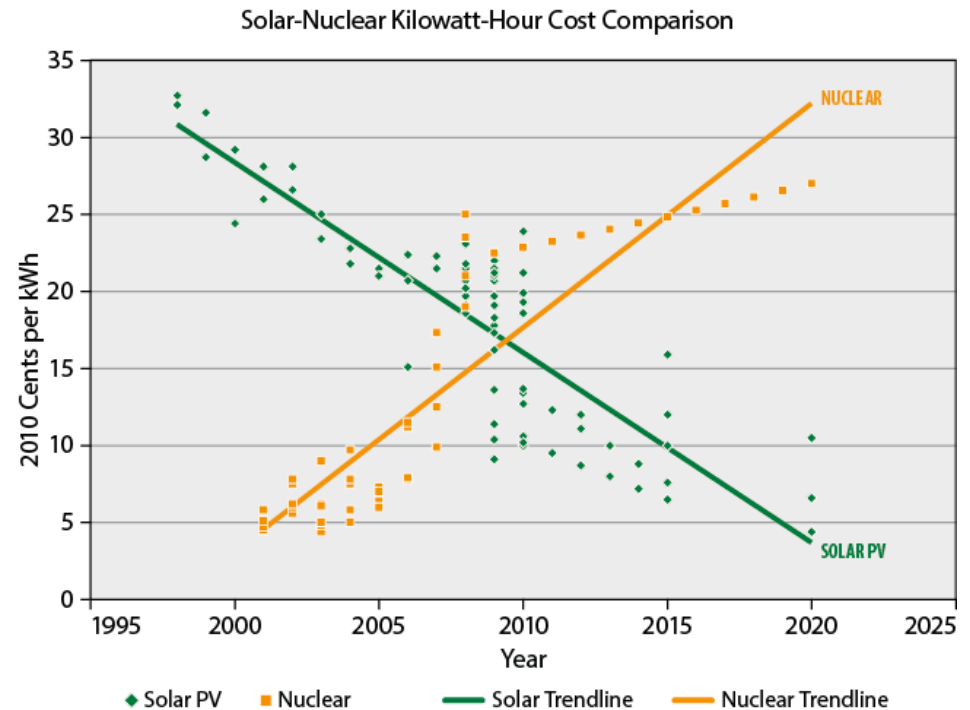
Hans Herren



Judy Wakhungu

Decentralized energy

German feed-in tariffs law boosted wind, solar, etc.





A fivefold increase of energy and resource productivity is technically available.

Two „revolutionary“ policy suggestions.

- 1. Climate: the budget approach.**
- 2. A „ping-pong“ between energy efficiency gains and energy prices.**

**The New Enlightenment is still in a nascent stage.
One goal is visible already now: restore the balance
between states and the markets**

**The next generation (you!) will have to
work hard and with courage on developing
a newly enlightened world!**

Thank you !



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