

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
“REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MEETING
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”**

Fourth meeting

Geneva, 1–2 December 2009

**“The 10-Year Framework of Programs on Sustainable
Consumption and Production Patterns”**

Wednesday, 2 December, 11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

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MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE
E DELLA TUTELA DEL TERRITORIO E DEL MARE

Environmental threats linked to consumption and production patterns

Climate Change and Air Pollution

2050: increase of GHG emissions by 50% resulting in a global temperature raise between 1.5° and 3.4°. Premature deaths linked to urban pollution will increase with a factor 6 between 2000 and 2030.

Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

From 1980 the extraction of natural resources has increased 36% and by 2050 such increase could grow 2-3 times

Sustainable Production and Consumption

1.7 billion people can be classified as “consumers” 70-80% of environmental impacts are caused by transport, food & drink, housing

Conservation of Biodiversity

1.7 billion people can be classified as “consumers” 70-80% of environmental impacts are caused by transport, food & drink, housing

Consumption trends: Private transportation

Number of Private Vehicles

Year 1990

- 1.1 million (China)
- 1.7 million (India)
- 2.1 million (South Korea)
- 11.8 million (Brazil)
- 10.1 million (Russia)
- 152 million (USA)

Year 2000

- 6 million (China)
- 6.1 million (India)
- 8.8 million (South Korea)
- 18.5 million (Brazil)
- 19.5 million (Russia)
- 175 million (USA)

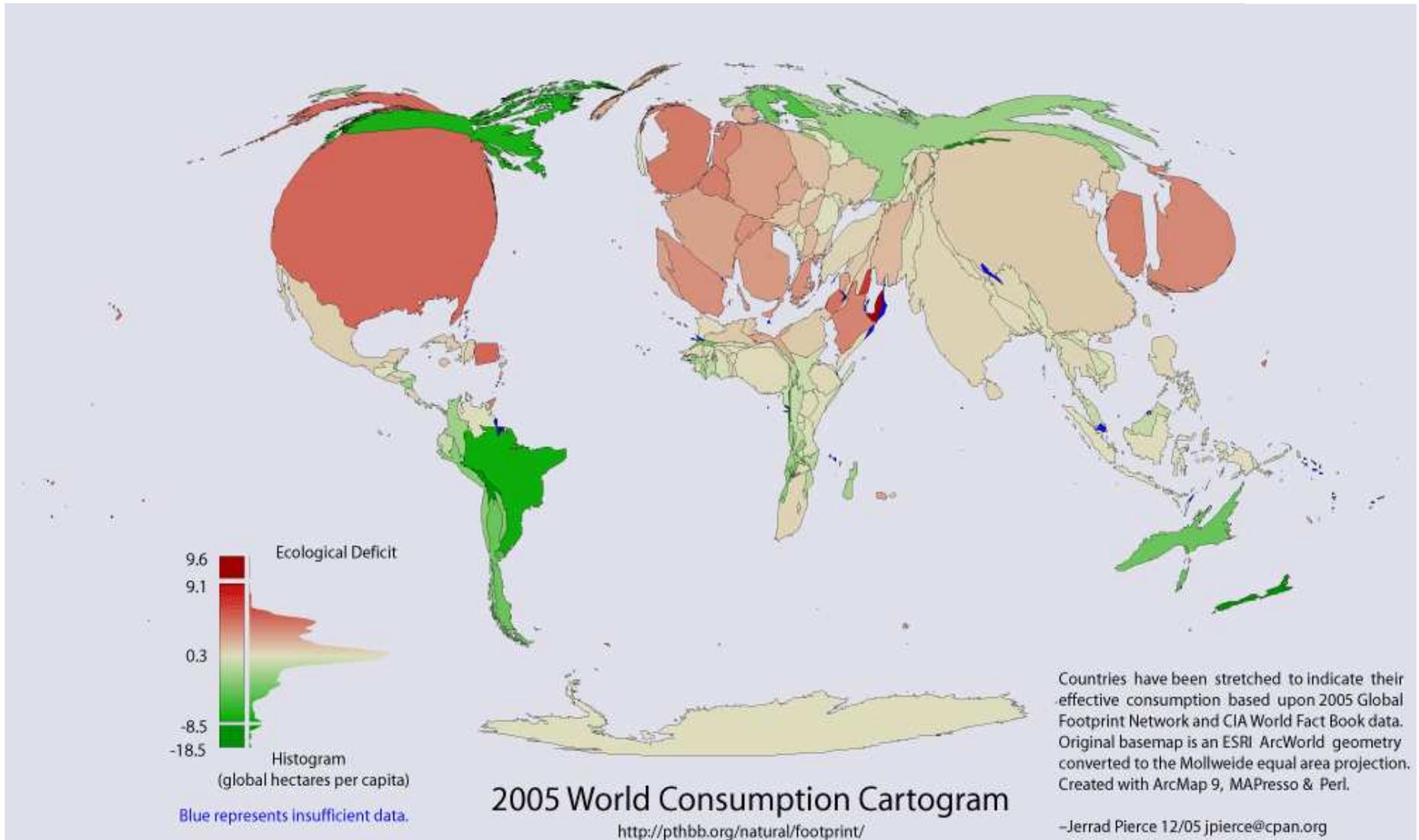
Number of private vehicles: over 600 million worldwide...

("New Consumers: the Influence of Affluence on the Environment", N. Myers and J. Kent – 2002)

Consumption trends and SCP: the two faces of the medal



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Consumption Trends and SCP: the two faces of the medal

Over-consumption

- *\$ 18 billion spent yearly on beauty products*
- *122 Kg of meat per capita each year (USA, 2000)*

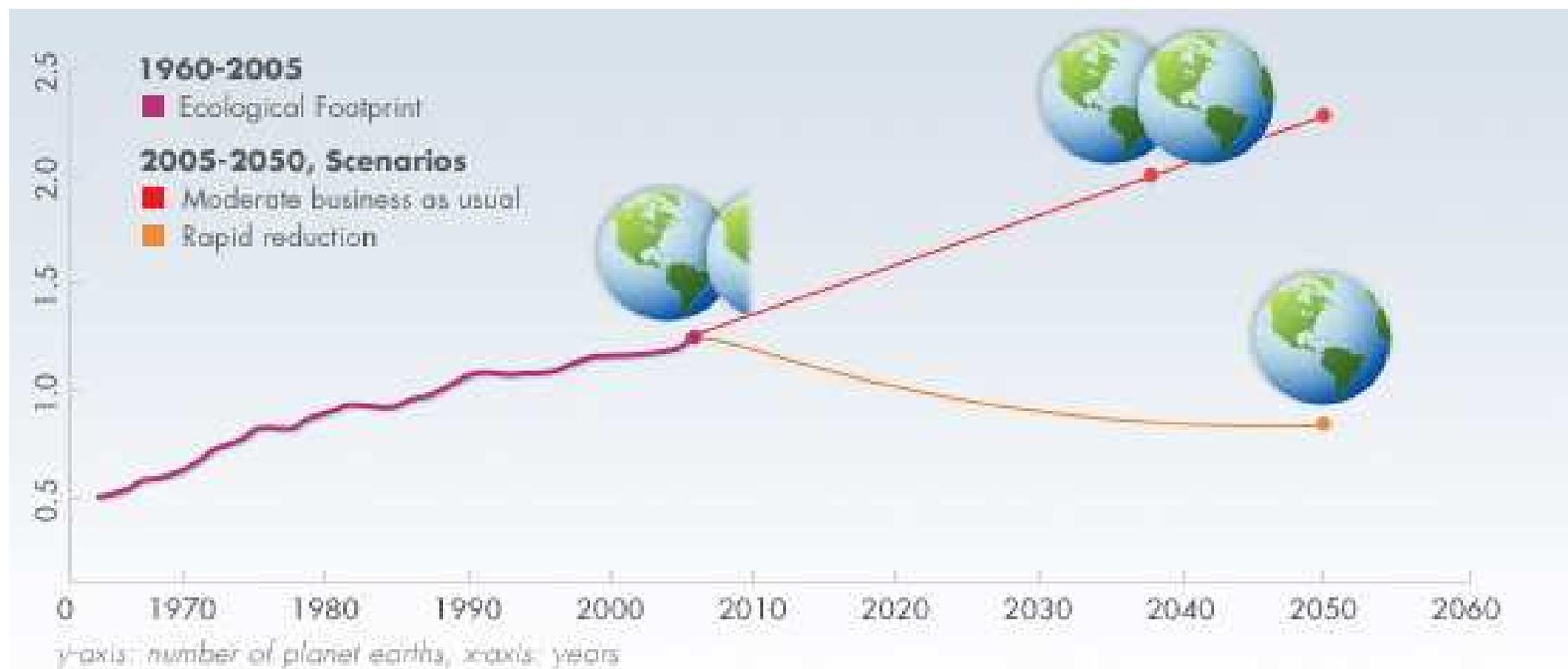
Only in USA and Europe

- *\$ 17 billion spent yearly on maintenance of domestic animals*
- *\$ 15 billion spent yearly on perfumes*
- *\$ 14 billion spent yearly on ocean cruises*
- *\$ 11 billion spent yearly on ice-creams (Europe)*

Under-consumption

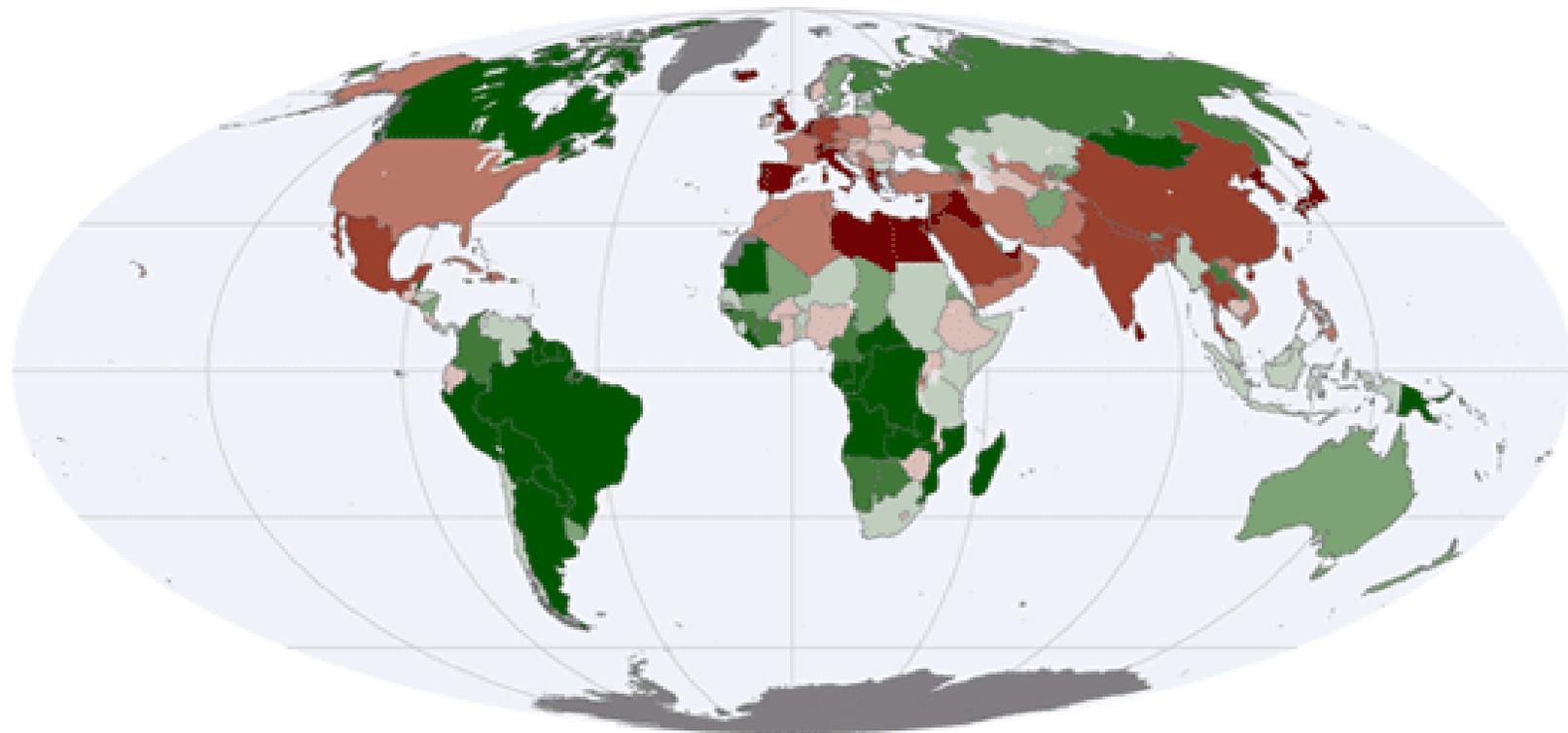
- *1.4 billion people live with less than \$1.25 a day*
- *5 Kg of meat per capita each year (India, 2000)*
- *2.8 billion of people live with less than two dollars a day*
- *One fourth of the children living in developing regions are underweight*
- *20.7% of the world's population are living in extreme poverty*

The Ecological Footprint



Global Footprint Network

In 2009, humanity is projected to use about 40 percent more than nature can regenerate this year. This year, in just 268 days, we demanded the biosphere's entire capacity for the year. In 2009, Earth Overshoot Day was reached on September 25.



Living Planet Report 2008

“Just as reckless spending is causing recession, so reckless consumption is depleting the world’s natural capital to a point where we are endangering our future prosperity.”

The way forward: Global and Intergenerational Challenges

- *The current crisis offers a unique opportunity for laying the foundation for a greener and fairer global economy.*
- *While job creation is essential, a meaningful solution to today's problems lies not in simply restarting the engine of consumption.*
- *That approach led to the degradation and depletion of the planet's resources even as it failed to meet the basic needs of the majority of humanity.*
- *Solving them requires technological leapfrogging, bold policy innovations, and a new solidarity across borders, social classes, and generations. Injecting economic structures with democratic and participatory principles is also required.*

The way forward: Global and Intergenerational Challenges

From Consumerism to Sustainability entails to move beyond the consumer culture to a culture of sustainability and to focus on:

- *interventions at the cultural, social, environmental and economic levels. New SCP models require a complex approach integrating the existing initiatives aimed at consuming efficiently - sustainable use of natural resources, waste reduction, curbing pollution and its negative impacts on health – with the necessary “preparation” of society to demand and participate in these initiatives.*
- *the existing gap and to act on both sides – over-consumption and under-consumption, reconsidering current development patterns and the related “representations” of what is a desirable life-style and supporting developing countries to leapfrog towards sustainable growth and the fulfillment of the MDGs.*

The way forward: the CSD Mandate and the 10YFP

- *Should move the SCP agenda along, building on Agenda 21, the JPOI and the work of the Marrakech Process, in particular on the tools and projects developed by the 7 Marrakech Task Forces.*
- *Should define common principles and key priority areas for the international community to focus co-operation and support specific activities (based on regional and national priorities, needs and initiatives).*
- *Should also provide incentives for all stakeholders to engage in and support concrete SCP-related actions.*

The way forward: the CSD Mandate and the 10YFP

The JPOI calls for:

- *...fundamental changes in ways societies produce and consume through promotion of SCP... (§ 14)*
- *development of a 10-YFP in support of regional and national initiatives on SCP to promote development (§15):*
 - ✓ *within the carrying capacity of ecosystems*
 - ✓ *improving efficiency of resources use*
 - ✓ *reducing resource degradation, pollution and waste.*

Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea of Italy



Thank you for your attention

Paolo Soprano