

Forest Governance in the 21st Century:  
Resilient Forest Communities, Landscapes and Agencies

Session 5: Perspectives of Local People and Industry: Concerns,  
position and plans

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# MANAGING INTENSIFICATION

1. The Anticipation Imperative
2. Forests Under Pressure
3. Managing Intensification

# TWO TYPES OF PUBLIC POLICY ARE:

- Reactive
- Anticipatory

*Skating to where the puck will be*

# THE THREES DEFINING FEATURES OF OUR WORLD ARE:

- The intensity of inter-connectedness
  - A strangely intimate global family living together in a small apartment
- The speed of change
  - Breathtaking acceleration that does not level off at cruising speed but rockets faster and faster
- The depth of inequalities

# OUR PUBLIC POLICY SYSTEMS ARE DESIGNED FOR:

- Change that is steady/arithmetic in speed
- Taking care of ourselves and our corner of the world

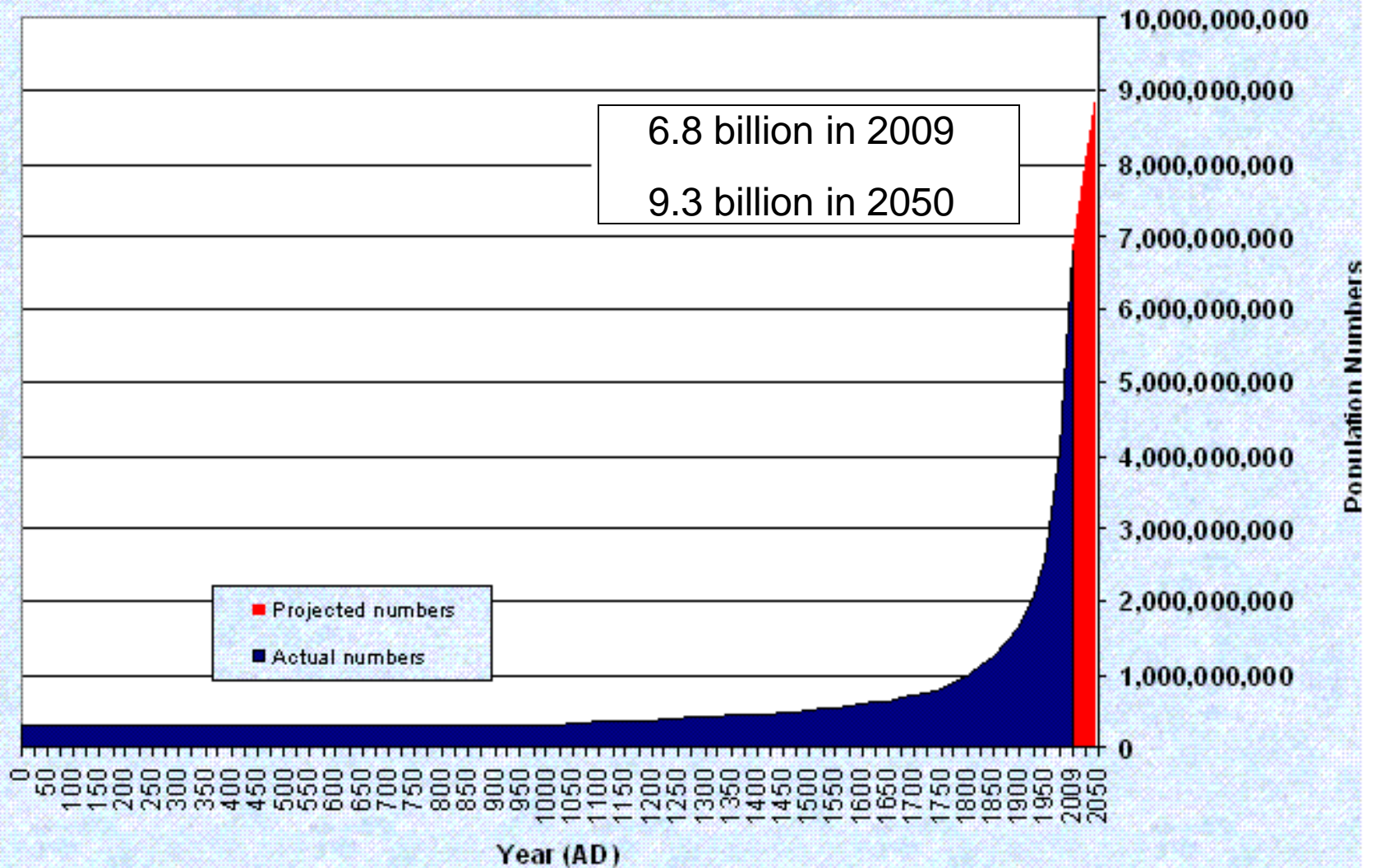
# HOWEVER

- Our public policy issues are driven by exponential change and interdependence

# World population growth

Optimum Population Trust

Source: United Nations 2008-based Medium Variant Projection



(Some details - e.g. Black Death effects - are not represented.)

# THE NUMBERS ARE IMPRESSIVE:

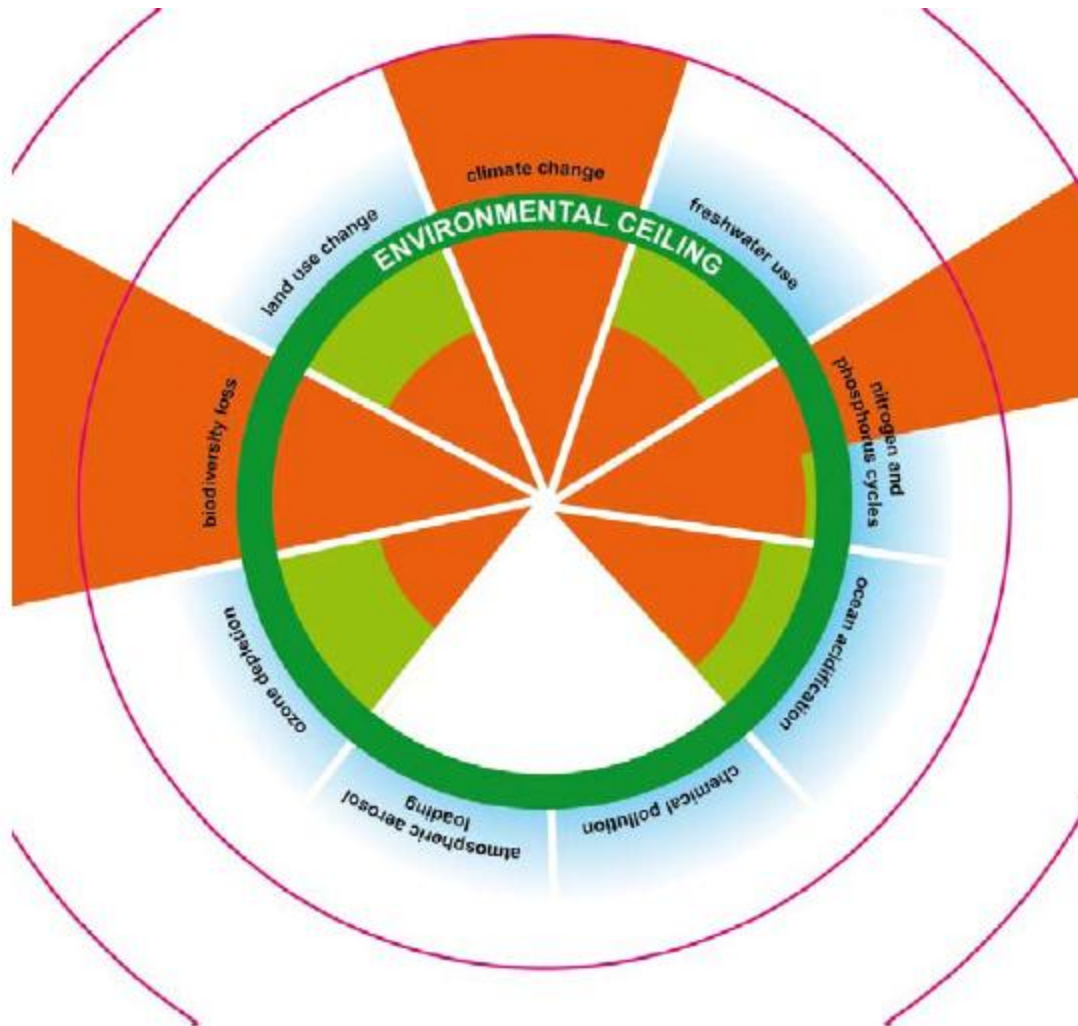
By 2030:

- Earth will add the population of China
- Global GDP will double
- Incomes in emerging economies will triple
- Global middle class will double



# PROJECTIONS ARE CONSISTENT:

- Environmental stressors outside earth's carrying capacity
- Not enough land for food production
- Not enough water
- Shrinking forest cover and biodiversity loss



Source: Rockström et al (2009b), based on Table 2 above.

# Innovation also can increase at an exponential rate

- But progress depends not just on available technology
  - Foresight, wisdom and collective will are needed
  - The commons issue especially challenges our capacity to respond
  - Progress depends on who has access to technology
  - Sustaining progress depends on how technology is managed

# DEPENDENCE ON FOREST ROLES WILL INTENSIFY:

- Storing carbon
- Sustaining biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Stabilizing water sheds
- Providing fiber for pulp, energy, chemicals fuel etc.

# DEPENDENCE ON FOREST ROLES WILL INTENSIFY:

- Sustaining forest dependent communities
- Providing recreational /spiritual refuge for city stressed populations
- Holding totemic meaning for citizens of a stressed planet

# COMPETING AMBITIONS FOR WHAT FORESTS WILL DELIVER WILL BE HARD TO RECONCILE:

- Size of forests will continue to shrink
- More intact forests will be locked for conservation
- Expansion of forest plantations will be limited by land use pressures and how we define what land is available
- ***The working forest will need to deliver more with less***

# INTENSIFICATION PRESSURES WILL GROW EXPONENTIALLY

- More trees from each hectare
- More value to more groups
- More value from each tree:
  - Fibre energy chemicals to feed the green economy

# INTENSIFICATION COULD BE BAD:

- Disease and insect infestation
- Chemical loads
- Soil degradation
- Less adaptability to shocks
- Displacement of traditional uses



# TECHNOLOGY OFFERS HOPE:

- Nanotechnology
- Breeding
- Genetic modification

# THE USE OF GMOs IS INEVITABLE

Already developed for:

- Drought resistance
- Disease resistance
- Land use efficiency

# WILL BE DEVELOPED FOR

- Climate stress
- Carbon storage
- Green chemical yields

Early experience in food crops provides  
cautions

# THE POLICY CHALLENGE:

- Ensure public utility
- Ensure safety
- Ensure social fairness

# EFFECTIVE POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS WILL:

- Drive research in the right direction
- Direct implementation in the right direction
- Maximize public benefits and minimize risks

***Denial and reacting after the fact will not protect the public interest***

RADICAL PROBLEMS REQUIRE  
RADICAL SOLUTIONS

BUT SOLUTIONS THAT ARE NOT  
VALUE DRIVEN ARE NOT  
SOLUTIONS AT ALL....