

Developing standards to address global sustainable development



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Swedish Standards Institute, Stockholm, 21 November 2009

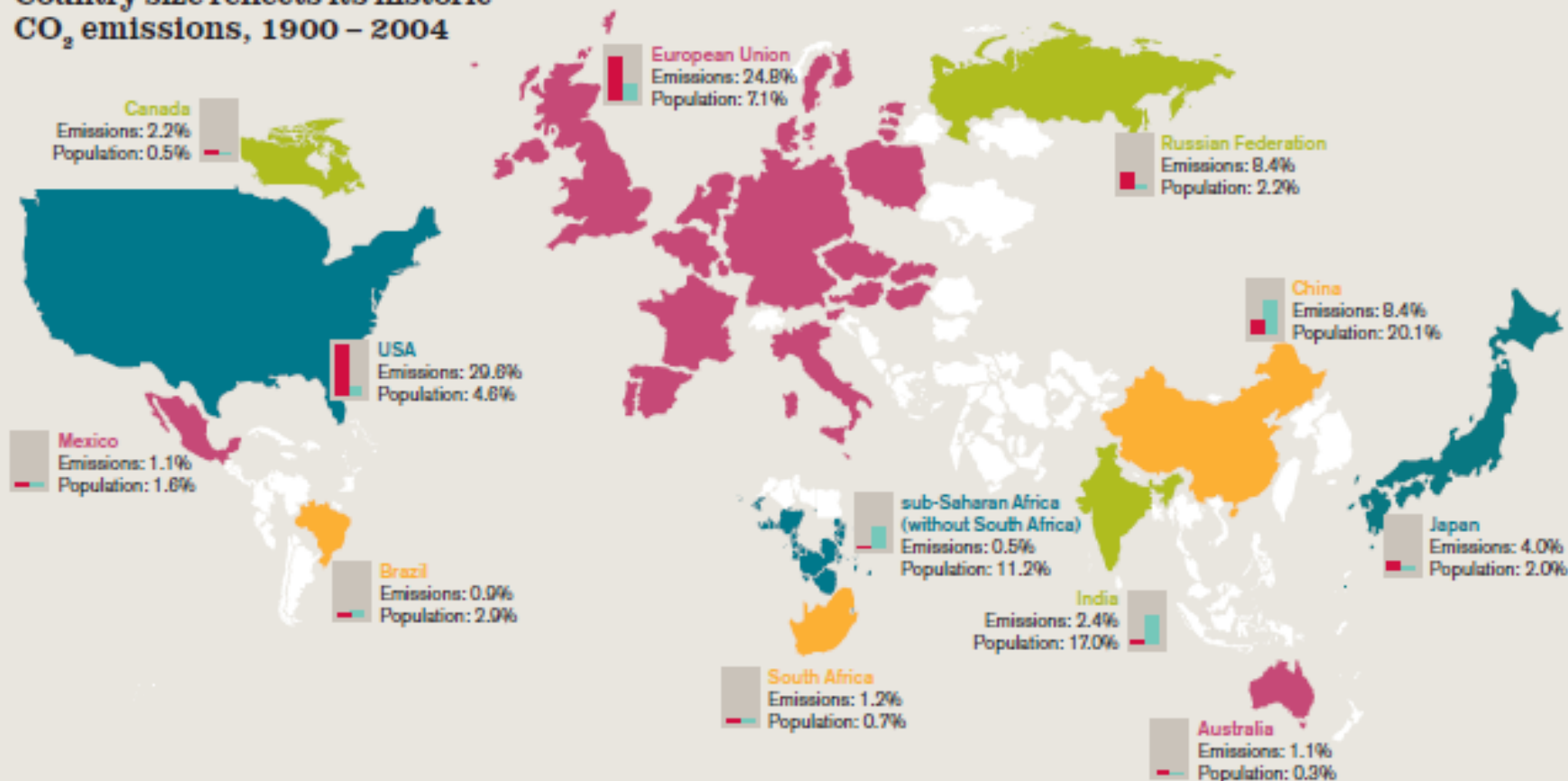
Principles

1. Common but differentiated responsibilities
2. LICs will be impacted first, fastest, hardest
3. Sustainable development objective
4. Standards are a foundation; indicate potential; evolve; food miles
5. The food is one element of CC

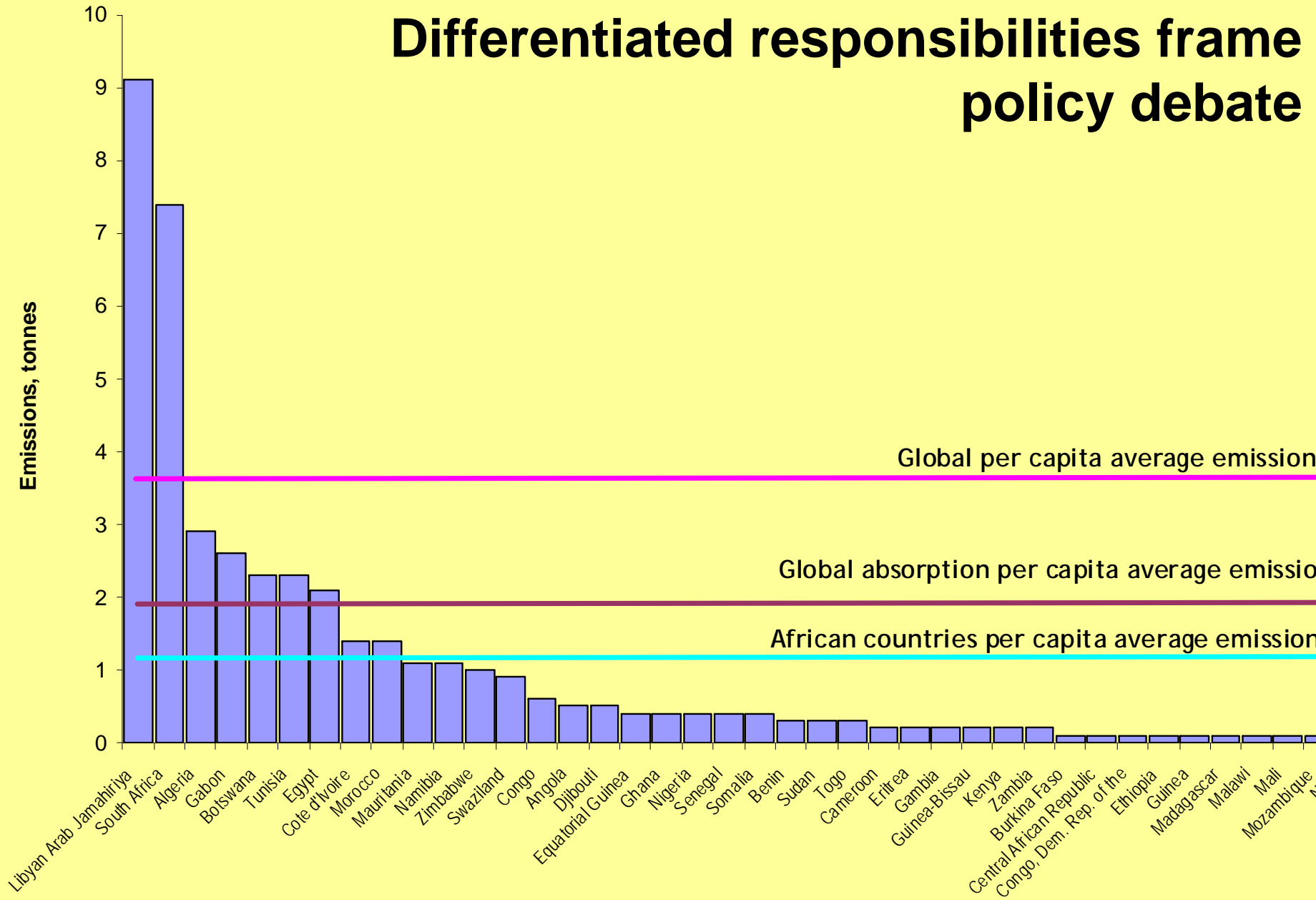
1. Common but differentiated responsibilities

World of emissions, world of inequalities

Country size reflects its historic CO₂ emissions, 1900 – 2004



Differentiated responsibilities frame policy debate



**2. LICs will be impacted first,
fastest, hardest**

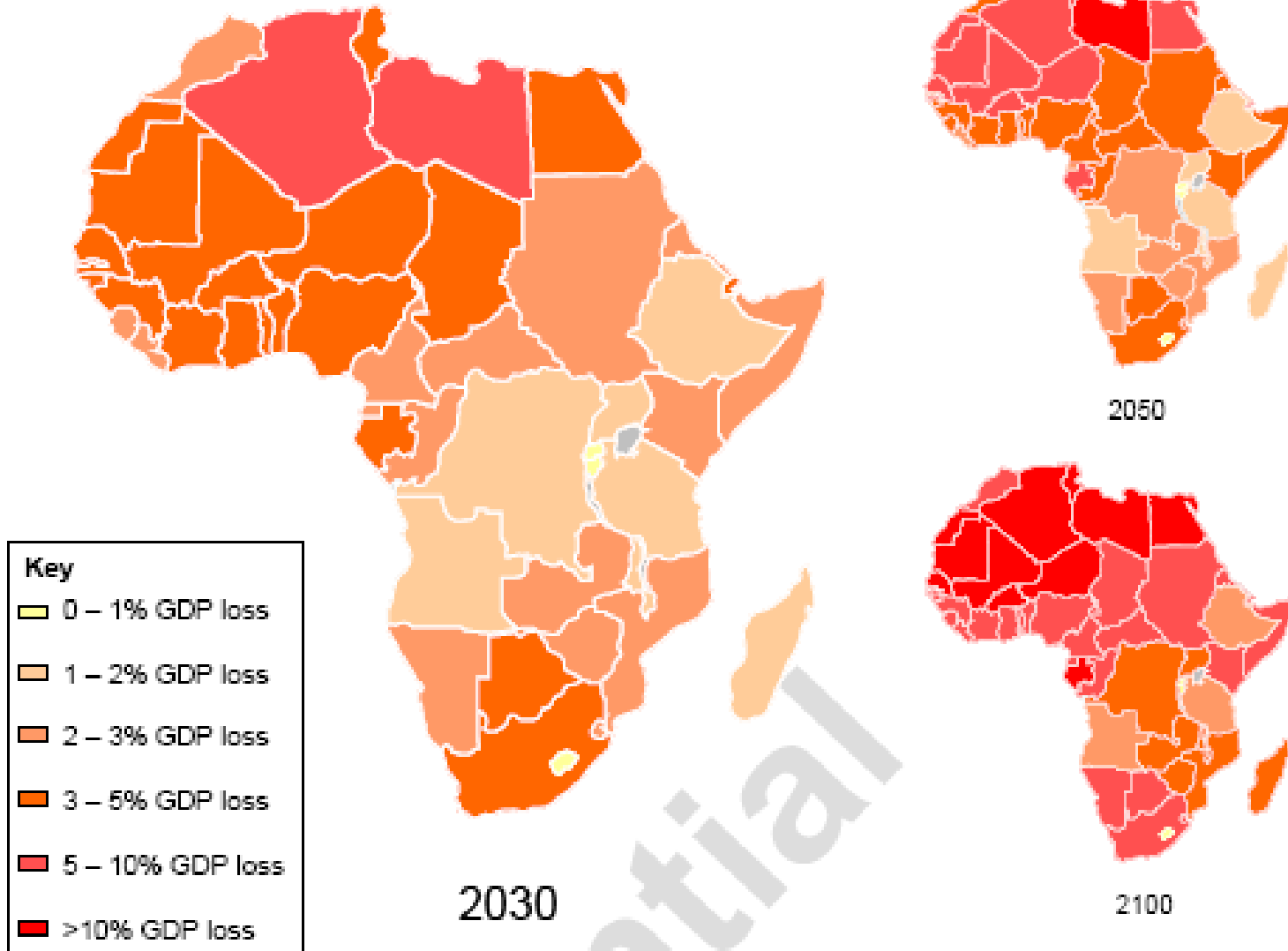
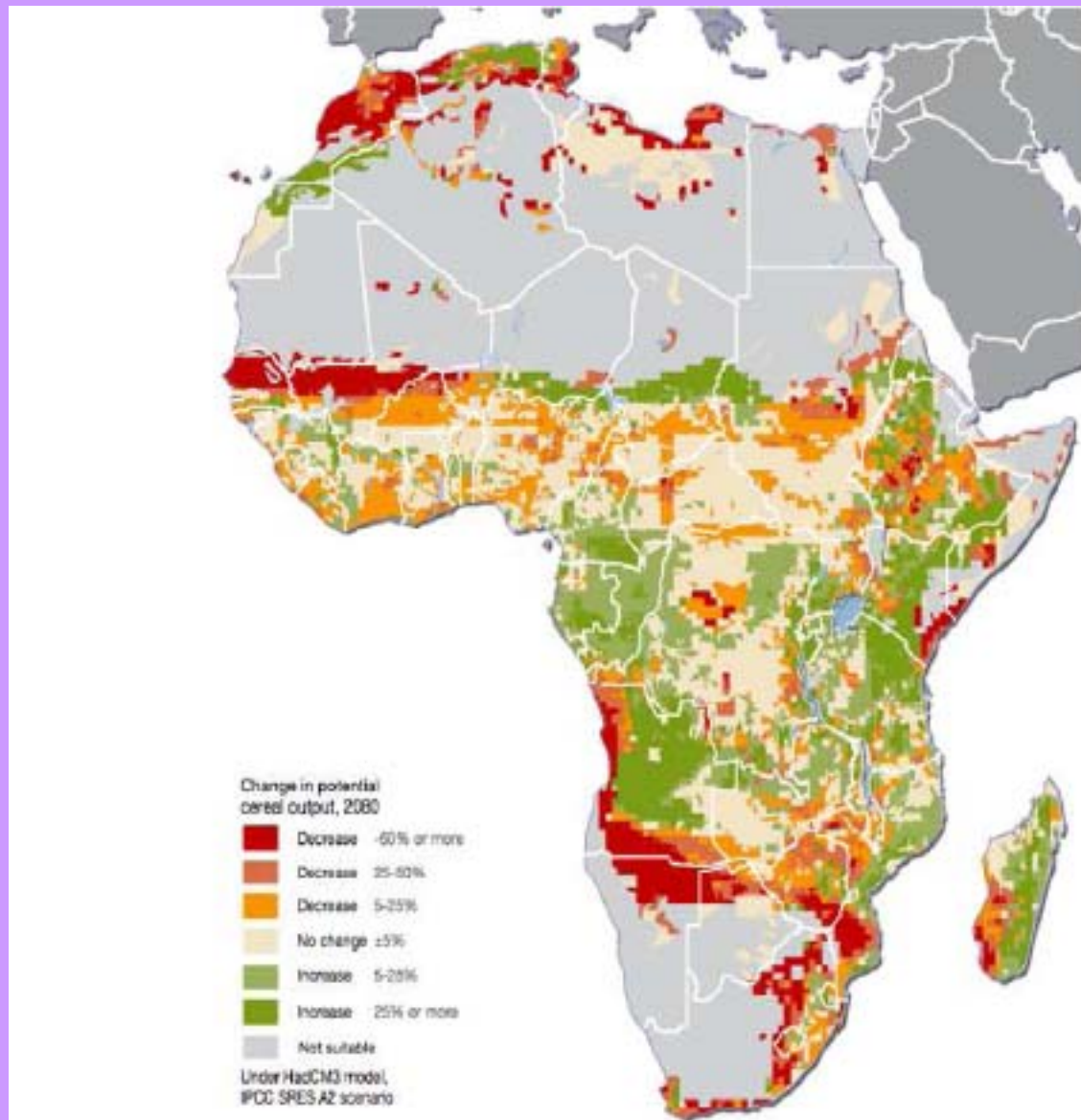


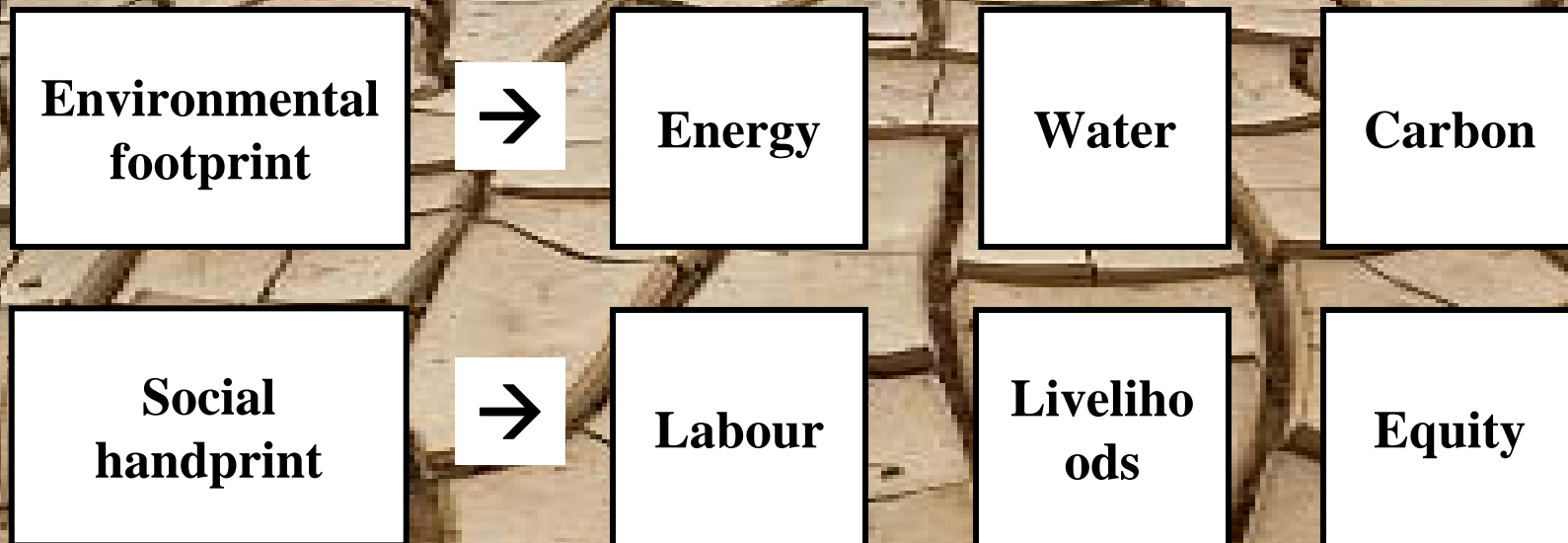
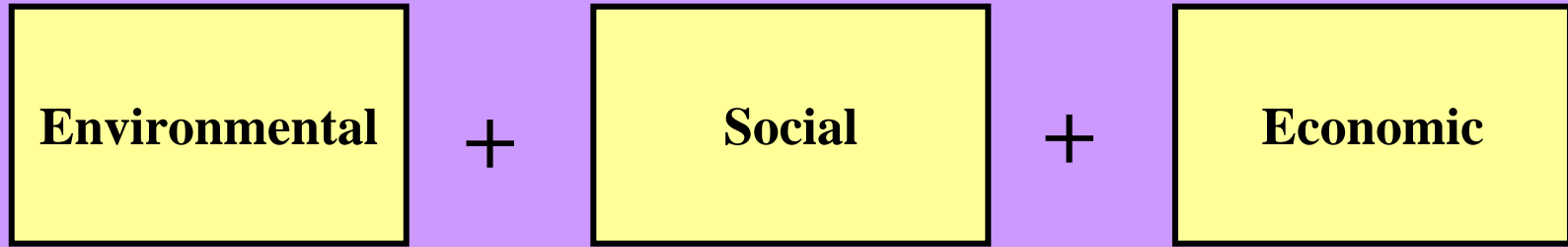
Figure 3. Annual Costs from Climate Change as a Fraction of GDP in Africa.
 Source: FUND national model

Impacts of climate change on cereal output in Africa (Fischer et al., 2005)



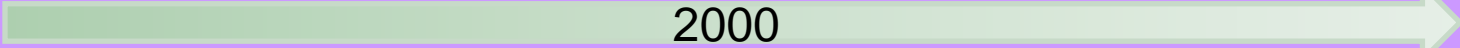
3. Sustainable development objective

Sustainable development



**4. Standards are a foundation;
indicate potential; evolve; food
miles**

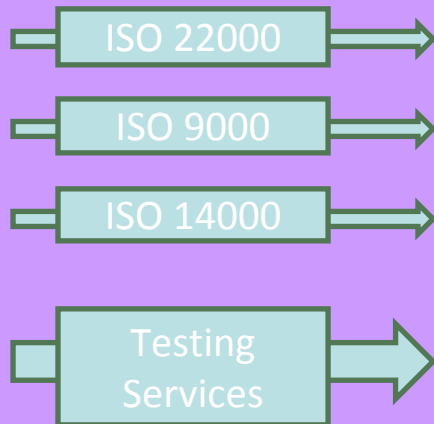
Private Standards Framework

1990  2000 2010

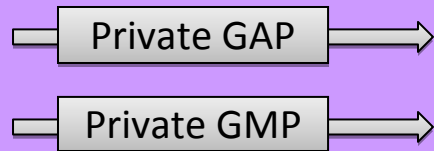
Business to Business

Business to Consumer

Business to Society



ENTERPRISES



CONSUMERS

SHAREHOLDERS

GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY



Standard bearers

Horticultural exports and private standards in Africa

Edited by Adeline Borot de Battisti,
James MacGregor and Andrew Graffham

Standard bearers

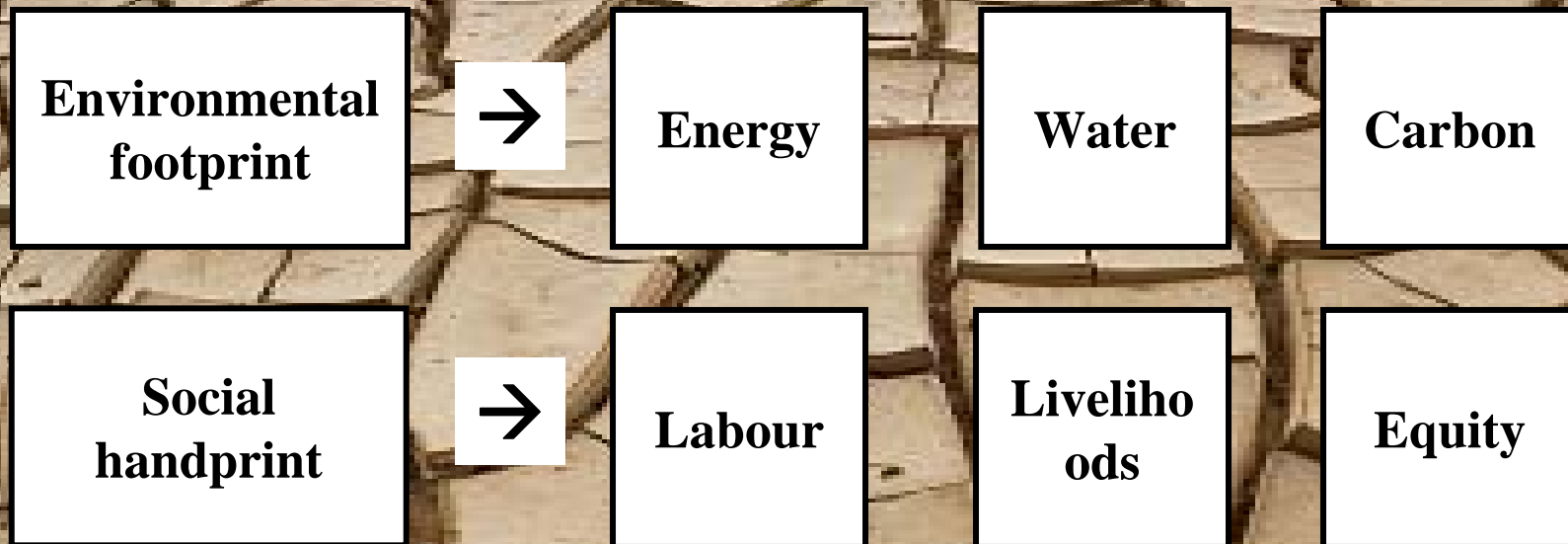
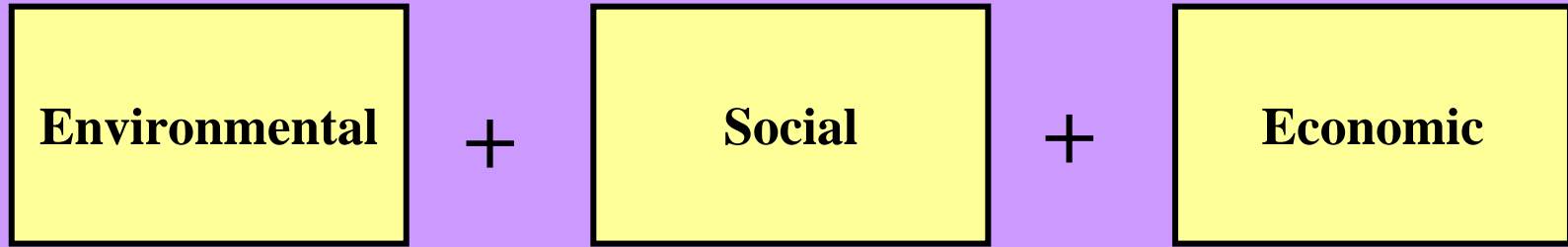
For developing countries, PVS for export horticulture:

- More trade
 - Fewer buyers
 - Higher quality
 - Stronger secure stable supply chains
 - Greater multipliers
 - Contribute to food security
- If you want a copy sent to you, email james.macgregor@iied.org

Food miles



Trading off sustainable development



Kenyan green beans: The epitome of (un)sustainable consumption?

Unsustainable?

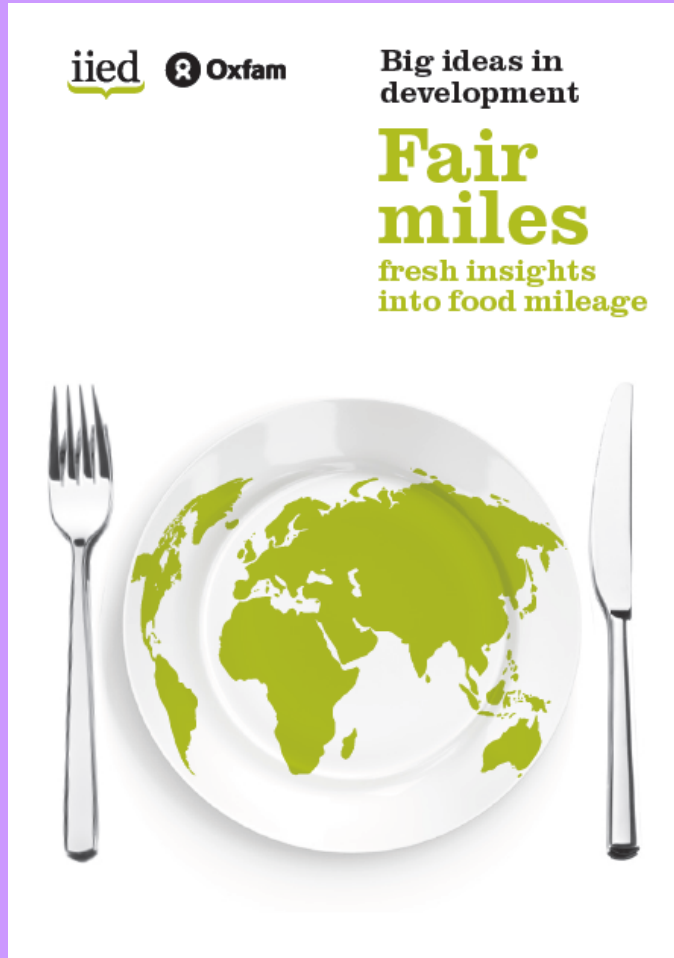
- Carbon:
 - Air freight accounts for over 90% of FFV exports from Africa to UK
- Energy:
 - Kenya production > UK-grown
- Competition:
 - Displaces UK-produced low-distance-to-market crops

Sustainable?

- Carbon:
 - Kenya in credit
 - Accounts for less than 0.1% of total UK emissions of CO2
 - 90% in bellyhold (zero?)
 - Kyoto
- Economy:
 - Fast-track to development
 - Rural injection of £200m pa
- Social:
 - Over one million rural Africans are supported by UK consumption of FFV produced in Africa
- Competition:
 - Fills gaps in UK seasonality



Fair miles



- We need to balance our diets
- Embedded livelihoods, labour, water, quality, vitamins, etc
- Knee jerk reactions to food miles can cost the planet dearly
- Buy more from developing countries
- *In season, buy local; out-of-season, buy development-friendly*
- Pocketbook - If you want a copy sent to you, email james.macgregor@iied.org

5. The food is only one element of addressing climate concerns



Food in future focus

- What is international trade in food that is:
 - Low carbon
 - High sustainable development
- Is it?
 - Meat from pastoralists in Namibia and Tanzania?
 - Huge drops in fruit availability in Europe?
- Rest of our purchases:
 - Mobiles, iPods, computers, vaccines, pharmaceuticals

Opportunities: Are climate concerns the perfect storm for LICs?

- **Need for:** economic development, technology transfer, climate adaptation
- **Assets:** low per capita emissions, cheaper labour, agricultural societies
- **Win-wins?:** agriculture+development+carbon trades+technology transfer
- **How?:**
 - More trade
 - Standards that deliver global sustainable development
- **But:**
 - How to get standards-setters to innovate, optimise?
 - How can LICs be standards-makers rather than standards-takers?
Need to get involved, raise collective voices

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