

Sustainable Development

What's up with that!?!

Society Faces Two Compelling Moral Crises

- How to protect and preserve the natural systems, upon which all life depends
- How to provide a decent quality of life for all the earth's inhabitants

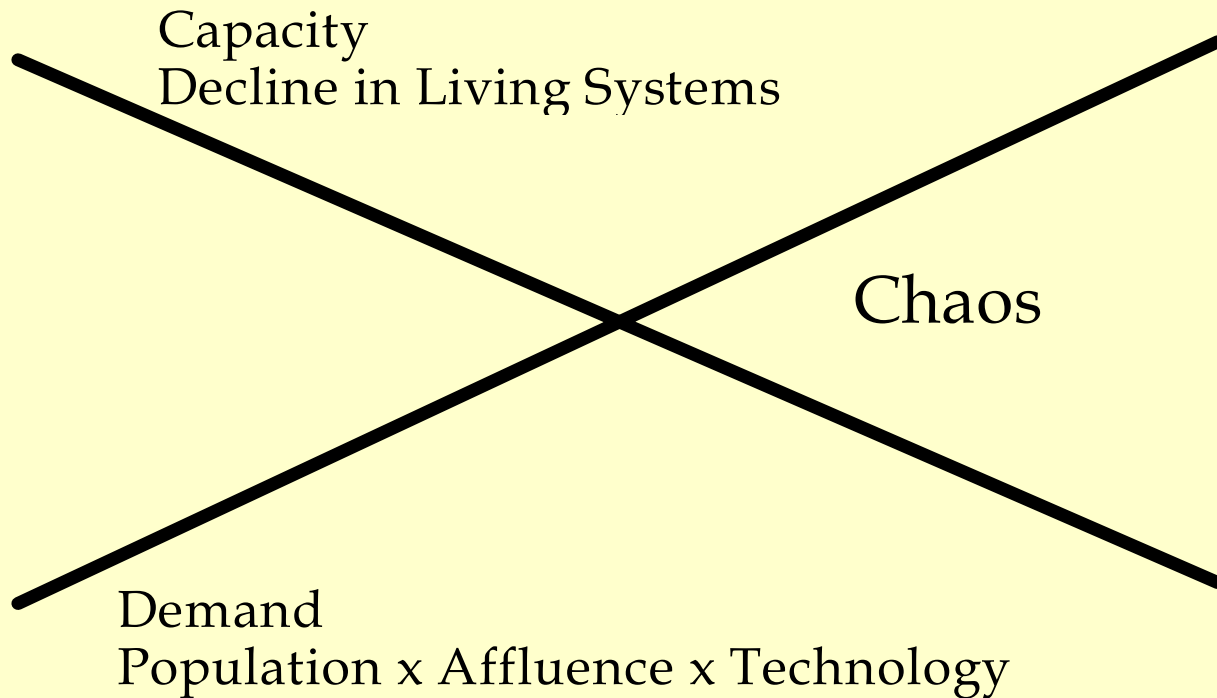
Society's Crisis

- 40,000 children dying of starvation or diarrheal disease daily worldwide
- 60,000 premature deaths from air pollution in US
- 1 billion people lack access to safe drinking water
- 2.6 billion people (>40% of the world's population) lack basic sanitation
- 800 million people unemployed or under-employed worldwide
- 1.2 billion People exist on less than one dollar a day

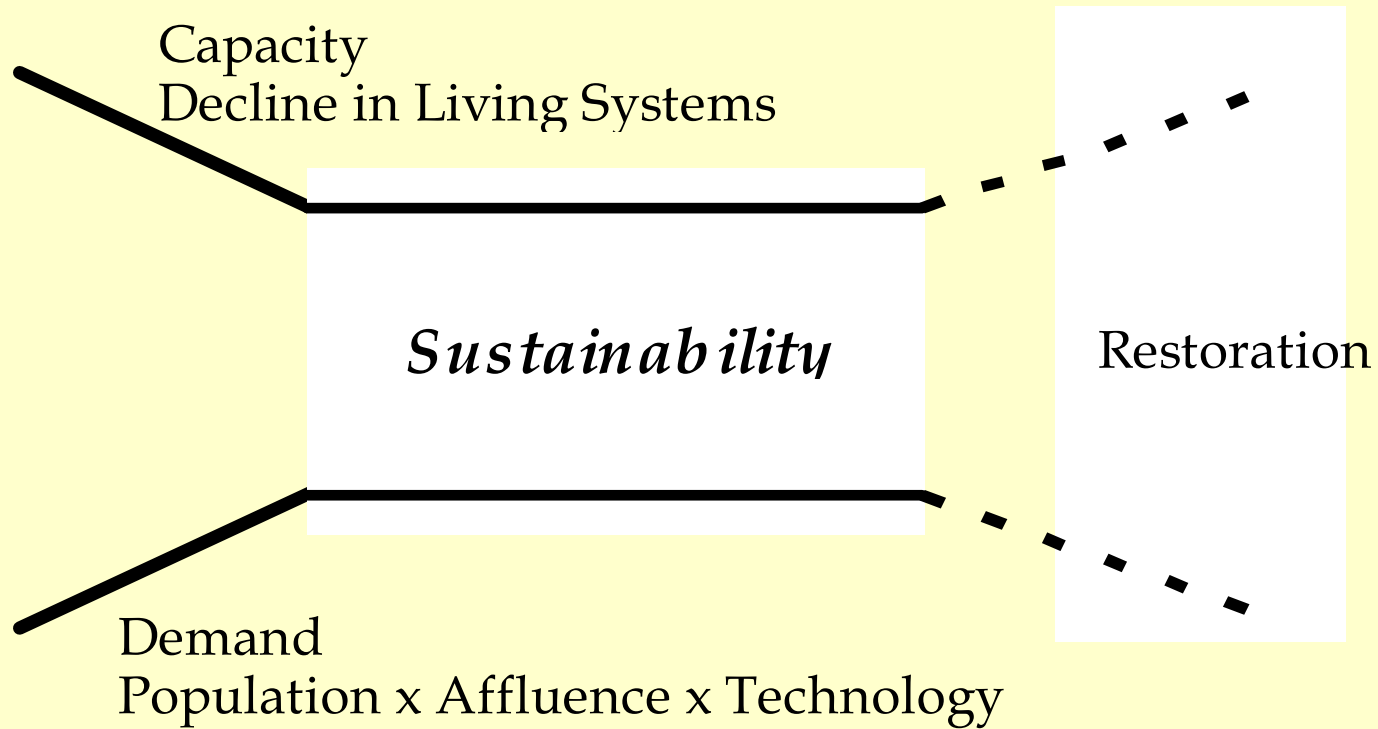
Society's Crisis

- 30 - 100 Estimated # of biological species lost daily worldwide
- 10,000 Days it took nature to make the amount of fossil fuels consumed daily worldwide
- 6 billion Tons of carbon added to the atmosphere worldwide annually
- 40% Terrestrial npp consumed by humans

Visual of Collapse



Visualization of Sustainability



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

THE ONLY SOLUTION



Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

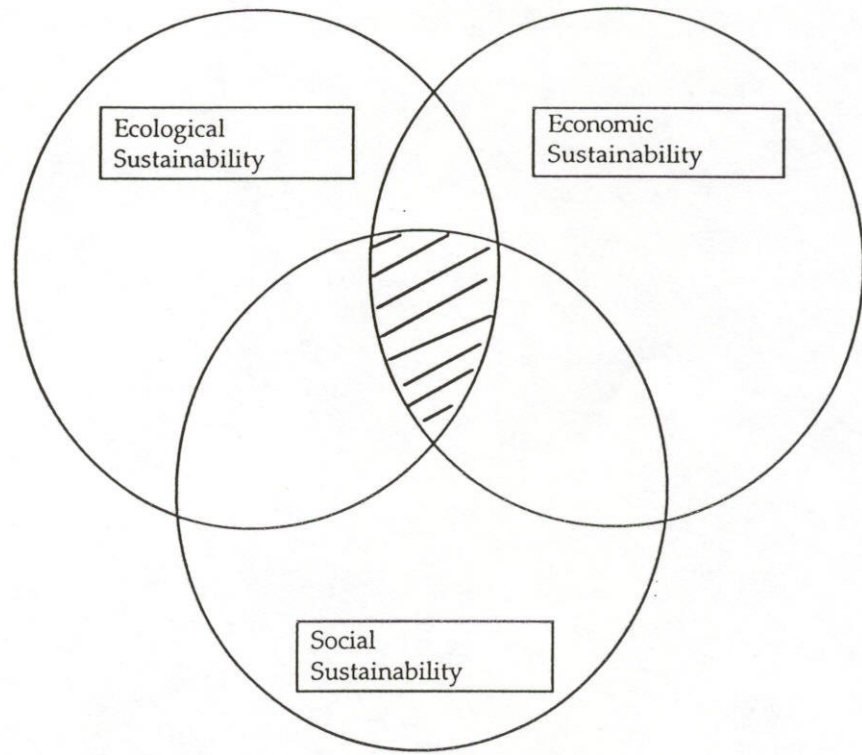
(World Commission on Environment & Development, 1987)

To maximize simultaneously the biological system goals (genetic diversity, resilience, biological productivity), economic system goals (satisfaction of basic needs, enhancement of equity, increasing useful goods & services), and social system goals (cultural diversity, institutional sustainability, social justice, participation).

(Barbier, 1987)

NEED—not profit – or growth-oriented; endogenous (accords with values of each culture and leaves people of that culture free to determine those values); stresses self-reliance rather than increased dependence on the world market; ecologically sound (tailors itself to local, regional, global capacities); and based on transforming existing power structures such that self-management and participatory democracy replace the current system of entrenched economic and political privilege.

(From the Dag Hammarskjold Foundation of Sweden in the *Palmetto Press*)

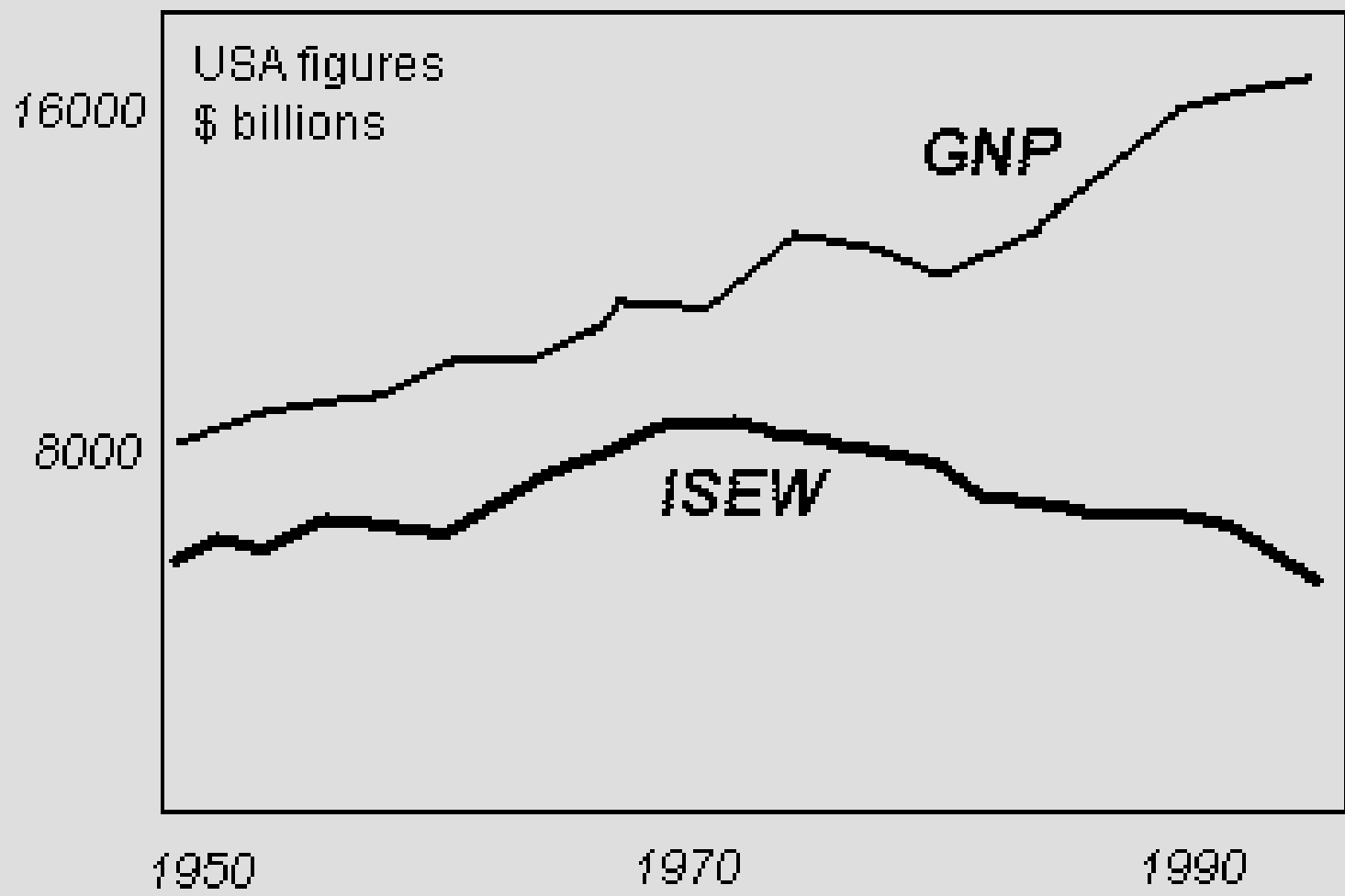


Dominant Social Paradigm

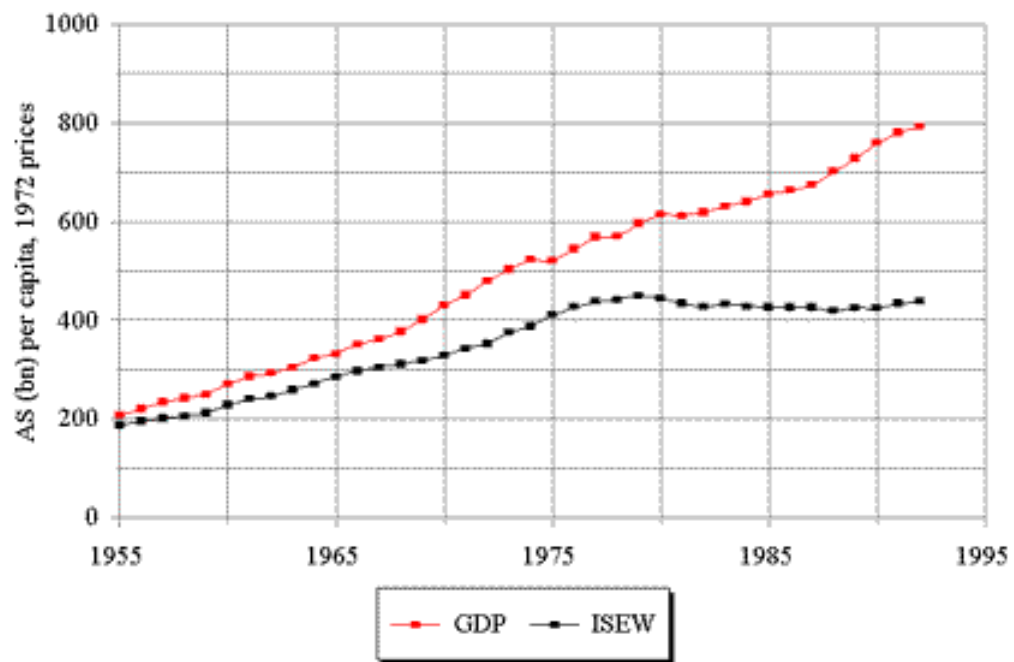
- Humans are separate from nature, highest species on evolutionary scale and dominant
- Resources are inexhaustible
- Technology can fix most problems
- Nature has an infinite assimilation capacity
- Material acquisition and accumulation is the most important indicator of “success”

Some Key Concepts in Sustainable Development

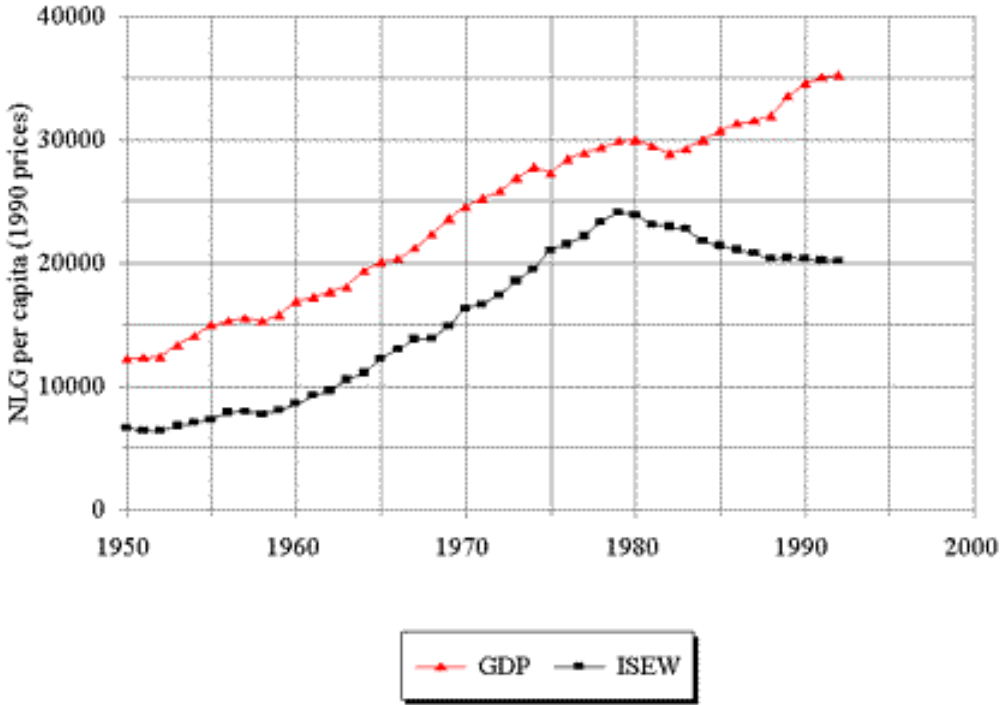
- Systems thinking
- Finite limits
- Distributive justice
- Long planning horizons
- Stability in diversity
- Appropriate scale



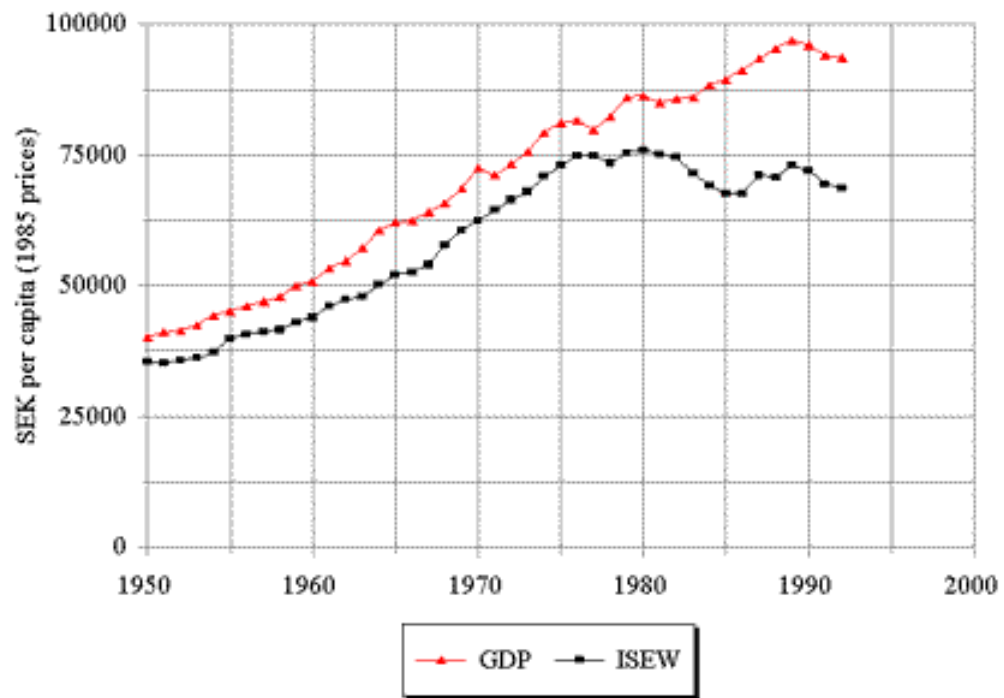
Austrian ISEW



Netherlands ISEW



Swedish ISEW



Chilean ISEW

