Green Economy for Sustainable Mountain Development

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Outline

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1. Why Green Economy?
2. What are principles of green economy?
3. Why mountain matters in Green Economy?
4. What are the opportunities mountain regions of developing countries in promoting GE ?
5. What are the Challenges?
6. Role of Media in Promoting Green Economy

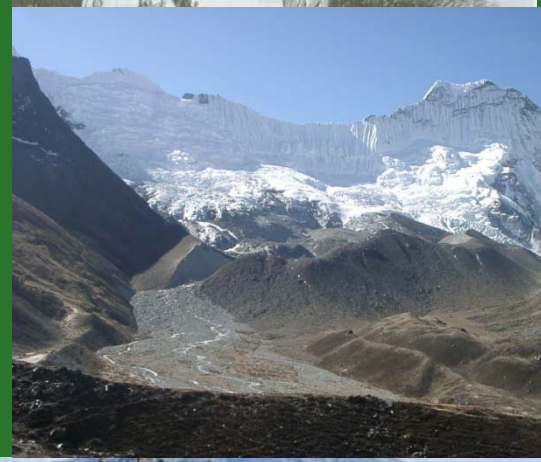
Why do we need Green Economy?

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- Conventional economic model failed to sustain economic growth, reduce poverty, protect environment
- High carbon emissions, climate change, resource depletion, loss of biodiversity, energy crisis, water shortage, food insecurity, persistent poverty





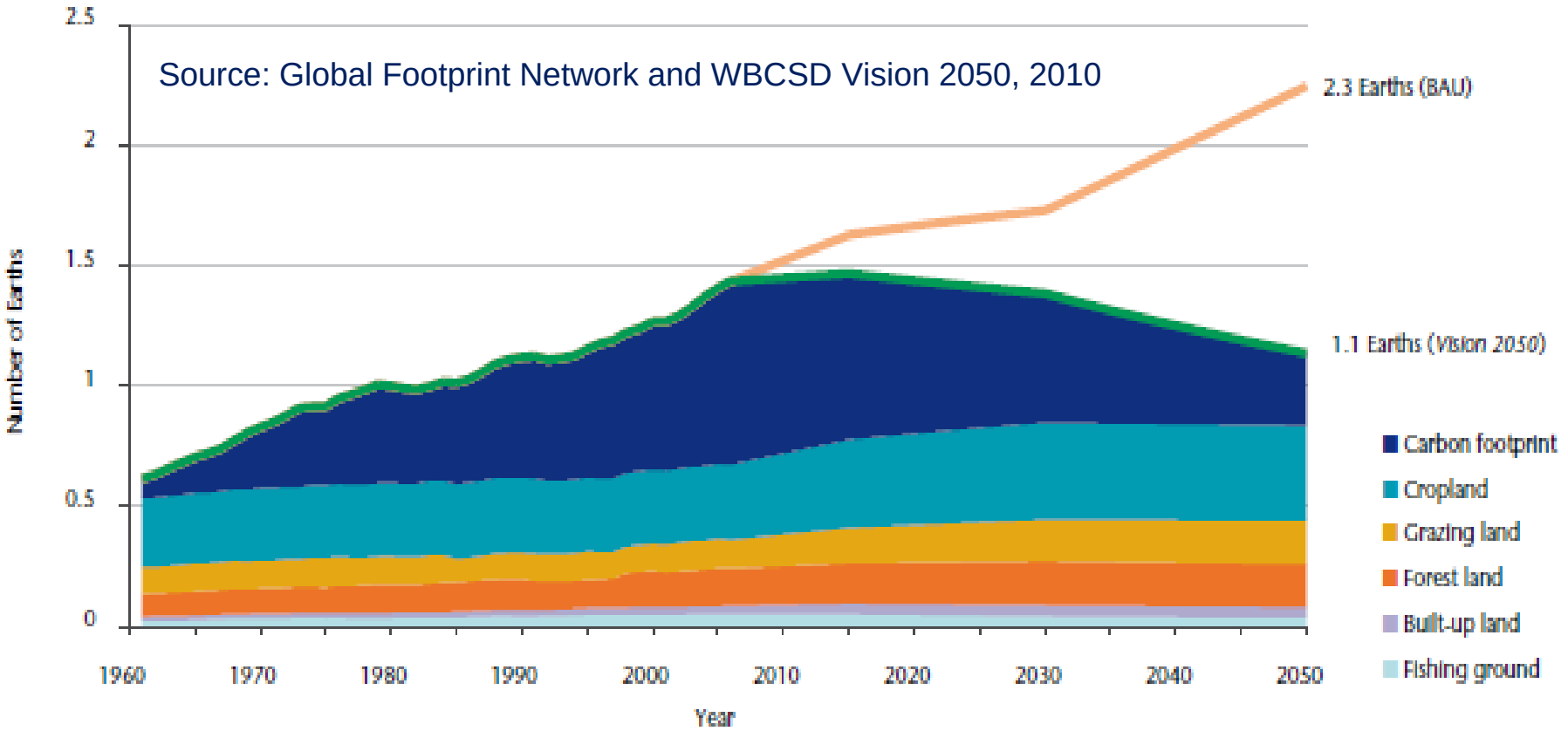




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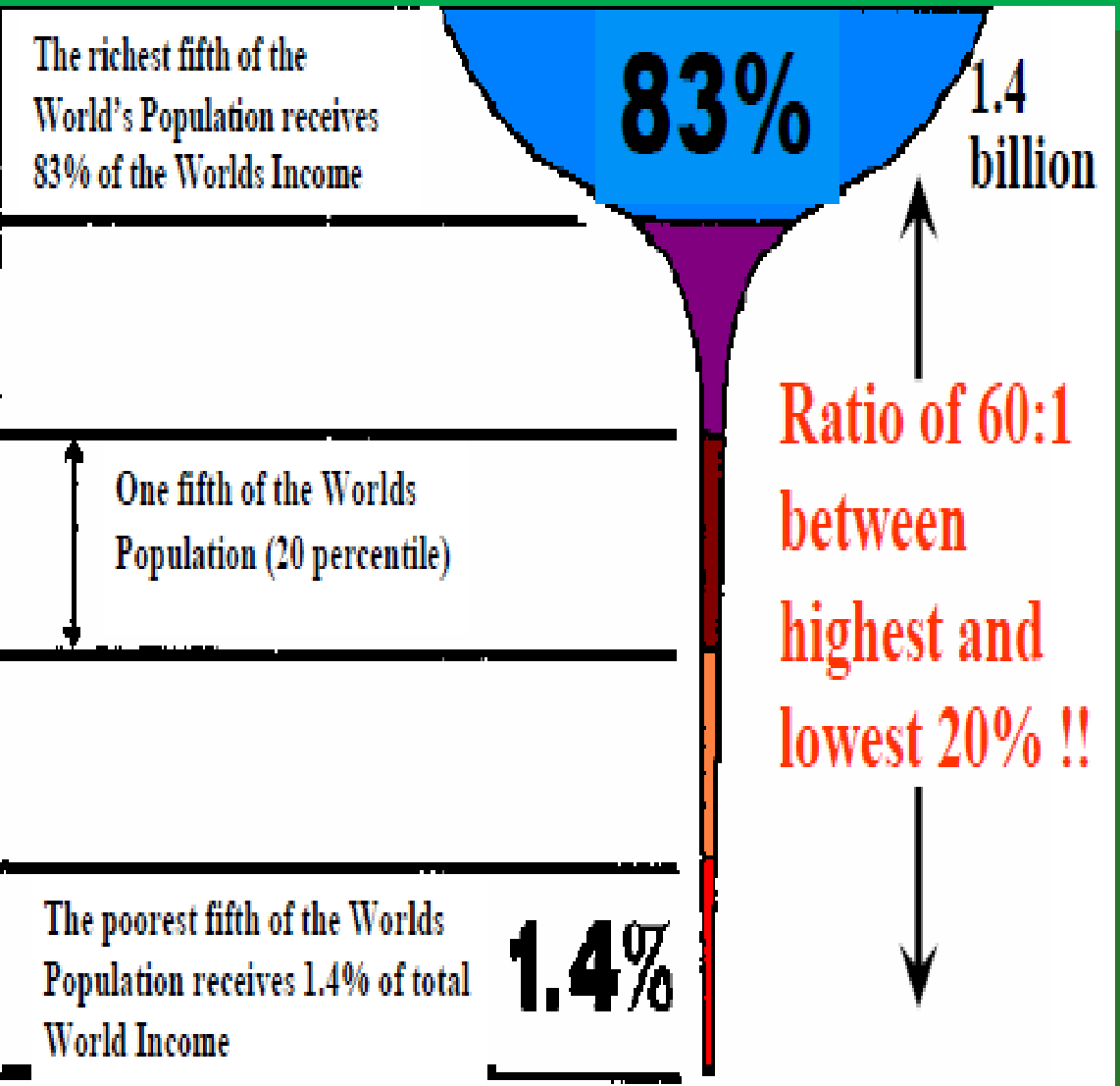
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- **We need 2.3 earth to support 9 billion people in 2050**



Why do we need Green Economy?

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- **Persistent Poverty, Growing Inequality**



Why do we need Green Economy?

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- The Rio declaration “The Future We Want” - integration of economic, social & environment into economic development
- Green economy - aims to enhance human well being, social equity and reduce environmental risks & ecological scarcities
- GE is a means to sustainable development
- **Balanced development** of 3 Pillars
  - Economic: sustained growth, quality growth
  - Social: inequalities, decent jobs, decent livelihoods- human rights, social capital, accountable public service
  - Environmental: resource use efficiency, limit planetary boundary

Core principles of green economy

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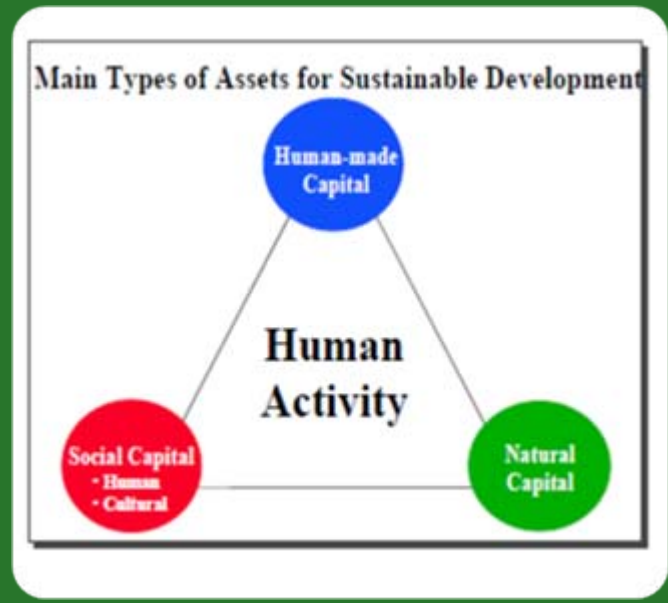
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- Recognizes the role of nature & its limits in sustaining economic growth
- Preserve natural capital & its sustainable use
- Manages & safeguards environmental assets
- Management approaches & technologies that increase resource efficiency & reduce waste
- Internalizes externalities
- Promotes sustainable production & consumption
- Promotes economic, social & environmental justice

Why mountains matter in Green Economy ?

- Economic security & human wellbeing are fundamentally dependent on ecosystem goods & services

- About half of the world's population depends on mountains for fresh water, clean energy, irrigation water, minerals, forest , NTFPs, recreation, & genetic resources



Why mountains matter in Green Economy ?

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- Mountains are the **water towers of the world**
- Almost all of the world's major rivers, and many smaller ones, originate in mountains



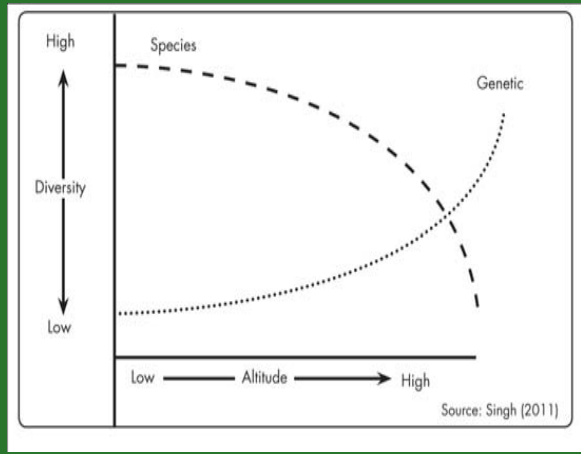
- **Hydropower & clean energy**



- **Mountains are sources of water storage, ground water discharge**

Why mountains matter in Green Economy ?

- Biodiversity
  - Mountains support 25% of the planet's biodiversity, have 50% of the world's biodiversity hotspots
  - 32% of global PAs are in mountains
  - Himalayan has 488 PAs covering 39% of the region's terrestrial area
- Mountain communities are custodians of agrobiodiversity
  - Six of 20 plant crop species that supply 80% of the world's food originated in the mountains
- Mountains: a source of cultural, spiritual & recreational resources







Why mountains matter in Green Economy ?

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Regional & global climate regulation

- Mountain ecosystems contribute in regulating global climate by mediating carbon, energy, and water balance at the land surface

•The Himalayas, for example, influence the monsoon & rainfall patterns of the Indian subcontinent





What are the Challenge?

- Mountain issues are not reflected in policies & priorities.
- Inadequate recognition of mountain ecosystems services.
- Green accounting- GDP
- Lack of disaggregated mountain-specific data
- Unclear property rights
- Nascent market procedures for mountain ecosystem services
- Transforming trade-off to synergies- creating enabling environemt for green economy

What are the Opportunities?

- Green economy recognises the value of ecosystems & their services.
- Growing realisation of the role of ecosystem services. **Policy innovations** in government for conservation & development of ecosystems
  - Fiscal transfers: India, …
  - Ecological compensation: China
- Growing market for mountain niche products

Opportunities

- Emergence of market & non-market mechanisms for mountain ecosystem services: PES, REDD(+), green certification, green marketing, eco-labelling, access & benefit sharing initiatives, ecotourism,
- New investment & employment opportunities
- Alternative energy technology: improving lives & reducing carbon footprint

What policies & insitutional measures are needed ?

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- Establish principles & instruments to provide incentives for mountain ecosystem services.
  - Institutionalizing the compensation of MESs
  - **Create market for** MESs- Correct policy, institutional & market failures
- Promote funding mechanisms to reward the conservation & development of globally significant MESs.
- Remove trade barriers & price distortions on green goods & services of mountain regions.

Role of Civil Society

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- Fundamental Role of Civil Society at different levels- national, regional & global
- Raising environmental & social issues, concerns-
- Ensuring Environmental justice – voice & representation of poor,
- Influencing policy - Environmental movement
- Serving as Watchdog for environmental governance
- Promoting regional environmental governance- regional environmental issues
- Contributing global environmental governance

Thank you

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