

# What is Sustainability?

## - Vision & indicators

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# The Ecological Footprint

## MEASURES

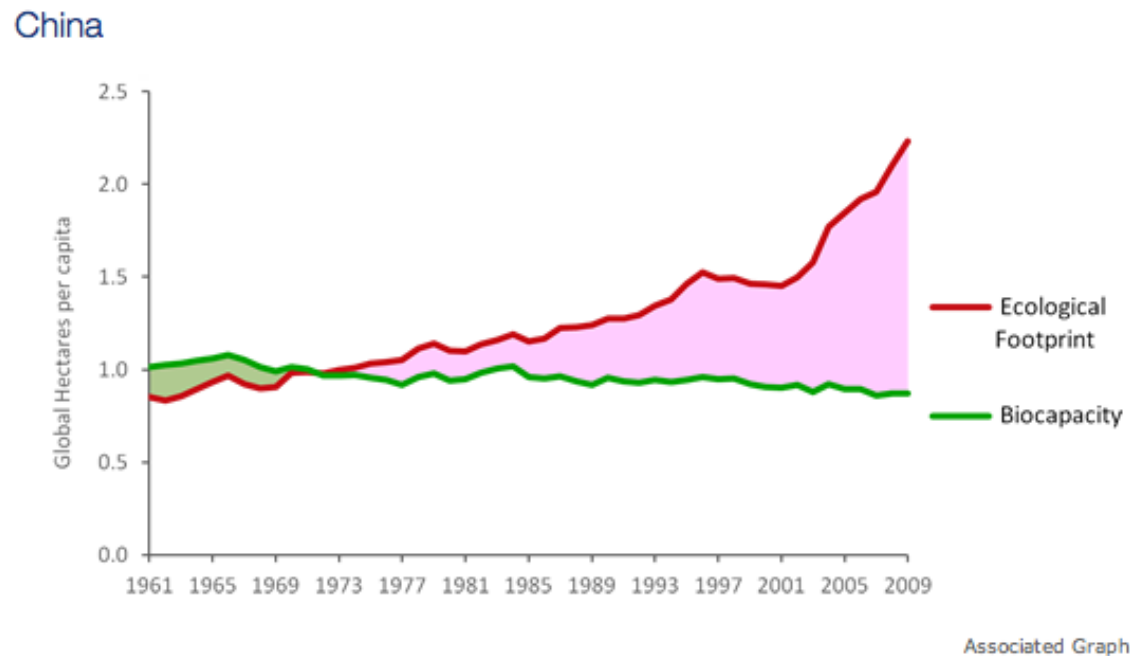
how fast we consume resources and generate waste



Our current global situation: *Since the mid 1980s, humanity has been in ecological overshoot with annual demand on resources exceeding what Earth can regenerate each year.*

[http://www.footprintnetwork.org/gfn\\_sub.php?content=footprint\\_overview](http://www.footprintnetwork.org/gfn_sub.php?content=footprint_overview)

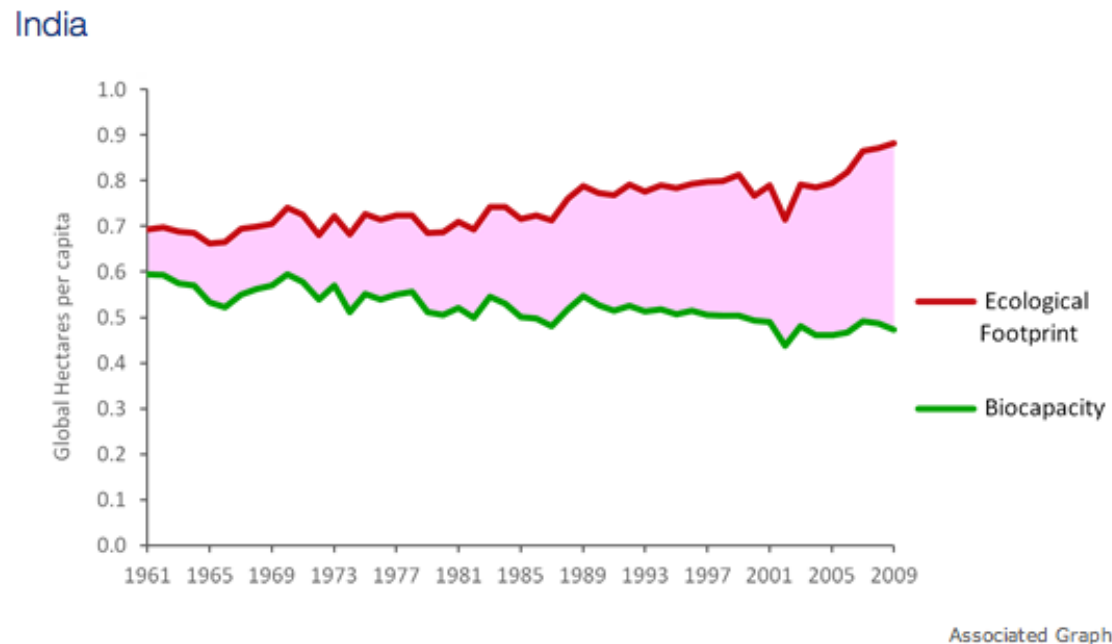
# Ecological Footprint - China



**Figure 1** tracks the per-person resource demand **Ecological Footprint** and **biocapacity** in China since 1961. Biocapacity varies each year with ecosystem management, agricultural practices (such as fertilizer use and irrigation), ecosystem degradation, and weather, and population size. Footprint varies with consumption and production efficiency.

[http://www.footprintnetwork.org/gfn\\_sub.php?content=national\\_footprints](http://www.footprintnetwork.org/gfn_sub.php?content=national_footprints)

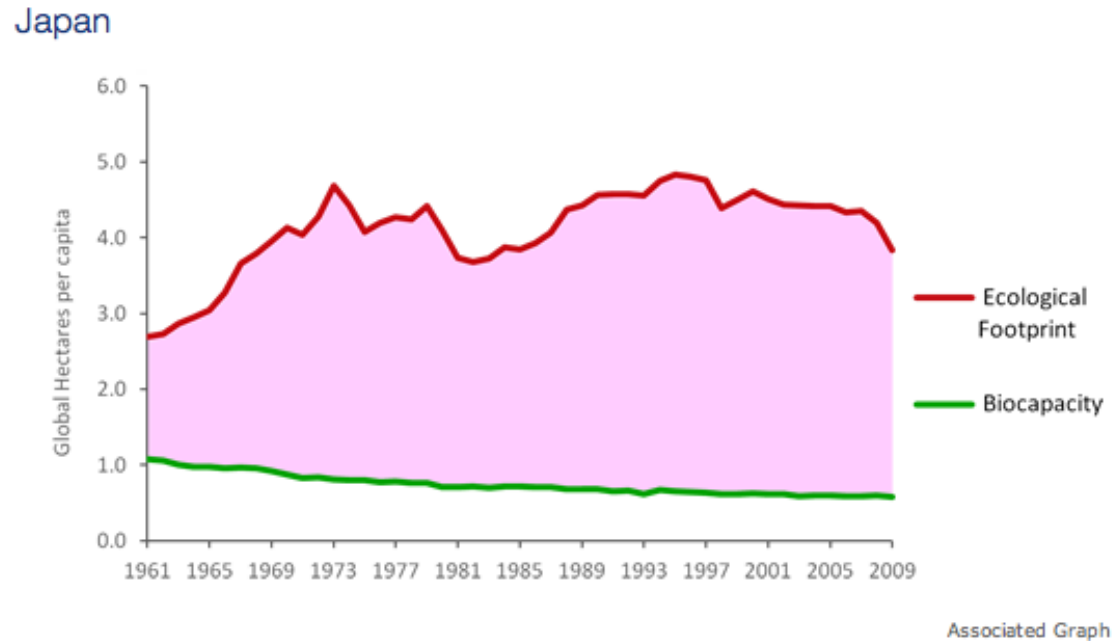
# Ecological Footprint - India



**Figure 1** tracks the per-person resource demand **Ecological Footprint** and **biocapacity** in India since 1961. Biocapacity varies each year with ecosystem management, agricultural practices (such as fertilizer use and irrigation), ecosystem degradation, and weather, and population size. Footprint varies with consumption and production efficiency.

[http://www.footprintnetwork.org/gfn\\_sub.php?content=national\\_footprints](http://www.footprintnetwork.org/gfn_sub.php?content=national_footprints)

# Ecological Footprint - Japan



**Figure 1** tracks the per-person resource demand **Ecological Footprint** and **biocapacity** in Japan since 1961. Biocapacity varies each year with ecosystem management, agricultural practices (such as fertilizer use and irrigation), ecosystem degradation, and weather, and population size. Footprint varies with consumption and production efficiency.

# Workshop - Vision & Indicator

## <Mission>

Imagine that we are holding “SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) Dialogue” in this room.

You should be able to present the followings;

1. define “sustainable X” (X=country/region)
2. propose
  - a. your own vision and goals
  - b. key indicators
  - c. key policies for country/region/global society

## <Process>

- Area: Energy & climate change + economy + food, waste, biodiversity, resource-productivity, equity, satisfaction...
- Individual work
- Presentation & Discussion

# Workshop - Vision & Indicators

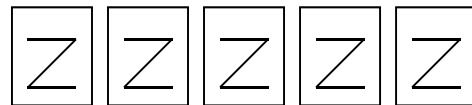
Presentation  
example

## <Sustainability>

- Our definition is ...

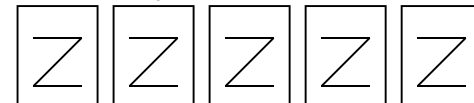
## <Vision – Goals>

- GHG emissions will be
- Energy mix will be...



## <Indicators>

- Energy consumption per capita
- % of nuclear energy for electricity



## <Policies>

- Action 1
- Action 2

# Workshop - Vision & Indicators

<To start your thinking... >

## 1. Vision –

**In 2050, we want the situations concerning energy will be like this....**

When it comes to oil/nuclear energy, ...

When it comes to renewable energy, ...

The GHG emissions level is where ...

Once we achieve this vision, we will be able to ...

The implication for food is...

## 2. Indicator –

**We recommend YY as an indicator to measure our progress toward this vision.**

YY is...

It can tell us ....

The reason why we think YY is better than ZZ is that....

Other possible indicators are...

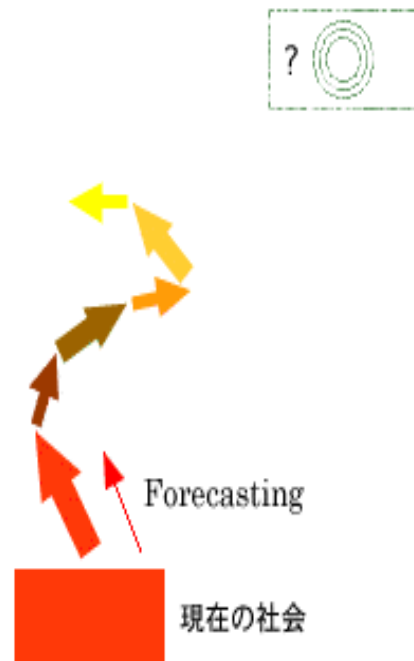


# What is vision?

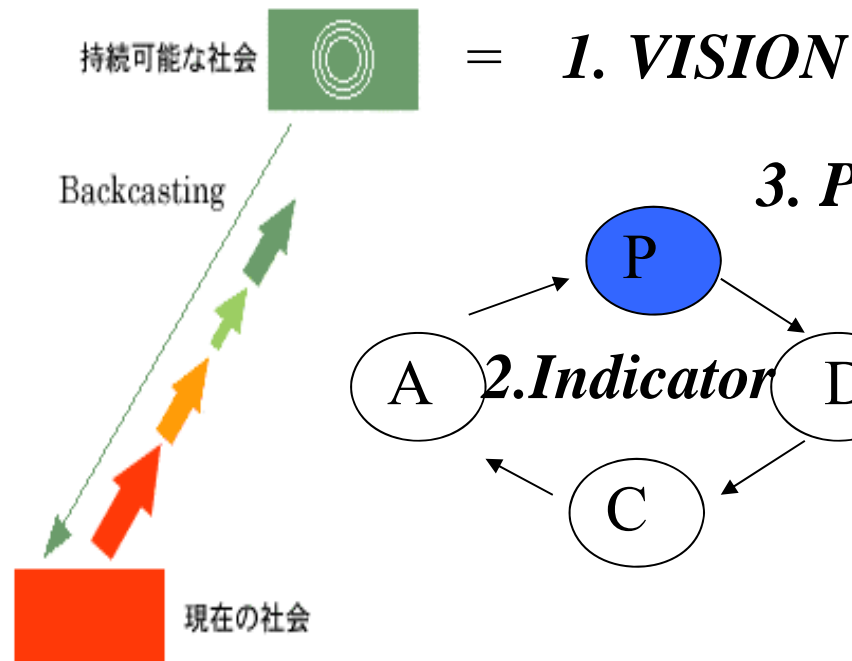
- Different from “forecast” / “prediction”
- “The Polestar”
- An ideal state
  - Where you want to go
- Guide us through the journey
- Inspire best brains

# Vision, Indicator, and Policy making

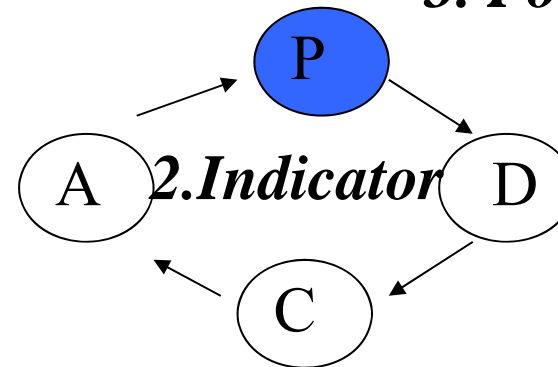
フォアキャストイング手法



バックキャストイング手法



3. Policy making



# Keys for ISD (Indicators for Sustainable Development)

- **Systemic**
  - sources, sinks, change rates, thresholds, feedback ...
- **Integrated**
  - environmental, economic, social, individual
- **Long-term**
  - minimum one generation

by Alan Atkisson

# ISD: DIFFERENT AT DIFFERENT SCALES

**Global:** CO<sub>2</sub>, Population, Food Production

**National:** GDP, HDI, ESI, Employment

**Regional:** Baltic Sea Fisheries & Industries

**Local:** Transit, Energy Use, Health Stats

**Neighborhood:** # of Abandoned Buildings

by Alan Atkisson

# Standards for assessment of progress for sustainable development

## The “Bellagio Principles”

<http://www.iisd.org/pdf/bellagio.pdf>

### **1. Guiding Vision and Goals**

(clarity about sustainability)

### **2. Holistic Perspective**

(systems and subsystems)

### **3. Essential Elements**

(ecology, economics, social equity)

### **4. Adequate Scope**

(temporal and spatial)

### **5. Practical Focus**

(clear standards, manageable tools)

### **6. Openness**

(transparent methods and sources)

### **7. Effective Communication**

(simple, and audience focused)

### **8. Broad Participation**

(diversity, completeness, link to policy)

### **9. Ongoing Assessment**

(iterative, adaptive, learning-focused)

### **10. Institutional Capacity**

(support, maintenance, development)

# Good Sustainability Policy?

## - Change the structure

- Change feedback structure/information links in the system
- Change the content and timeliness of the data that actors in the system have to work with
- Change the ideas, goals, incentives, costs, and feedbacks that motivates or constrain behavior
- In time, system with a new information structure is likely to change its social and physical structures.
- It may develop new laws, organizations, technologies, people with new skills, machines and buildings.
- Such a transformation need not be directed centrally; it can be unplanned, natural, evolutionary, exciting, joyful.