

**You cannot solve the problem with the same
thinking that created the problem** *Albert Einstein*



Systemic Approach to Sustainable Development Strategies and Food Security

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The Millennium Institute



- MI was established in 1983 to promote holistic, long-term strategic planning based on lessons learned in **Global 2000**
- MI's Vision is a world where decision makers apply knowledge and a systemic approach to bring about a sustainable, equitable, and peaceful society
- MI's Mission is to achieve this by
 - Enabling decision makers to use system dynamics tools to analyze and understand the links between the economy, society, and environment and the links with peace and security
 - Increasing their capacity to design and implement sustainable policies
 - Building capacity in countries to use these tools
 - Playing a catalytic role in creating a global network of system thinkers to help solve critical 21st century challenges



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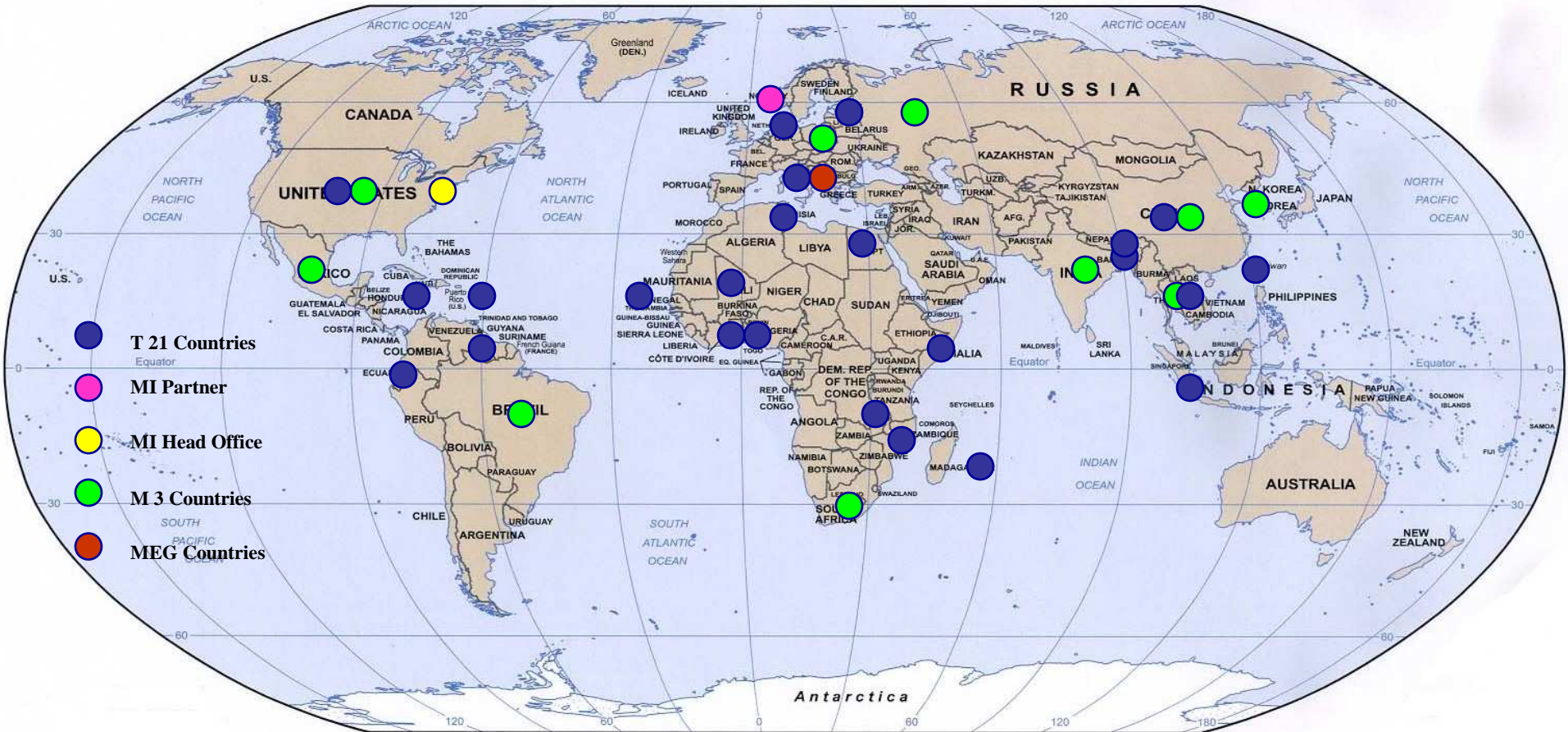
Our Areas of Expertise



- Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
- Food Security
- Energy Security
- Population dynamics and education
- Poverty reduction, MDGs, Malaria, HIV/AIDS
- Natural disasters and External shocks
- Sustainable Development and the Green Economy
- Business and Industry
- More Peace and Security being included



MI Around the World



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Toward Sustainable Development



- Human survival depends on natural resources and ecosystems
- In the 21st Century, we have passed the limits of environmental sustainability
- Climate change is a major example of the risks we face
- Food, water, and energy security, and protecting our eco-systems are essential for sustainability
- Continuing business-as-usual will greatly exceed the Earth's capacity and is not sustainable
- We need to make transformations at all levels in order to assure sustainability for our children and theirs



Challenges to Address



- Taking account of the vital interactions among the Economic, Environmental, and Social factors is essential
- Managing energy and natural resources is essential for economic and social progress
- Enabling social structures and governance to function equitably and assure peace is necessary
- Social and environmental services to reduce poverty and provide food security are needed, as well economic growth

To Deal with These Challenges



- Understand real relations in the situations we face, within and beyond economics
- Take account of interactions and feedback loops across different sectors and from different policies
- Manage depletion of natural capital and investment in human and appropriate physical capital
- Take account of longer term effects of policies

Limits of Normal Tools



- Conventional models focus on sector specific and beneficial economic results, assuming markets work
- They are short term or comparative static, and focus on direct causation, not indirect causes
- They don't include the environment or social externalities or equity
- A more comprehensive approach is needed



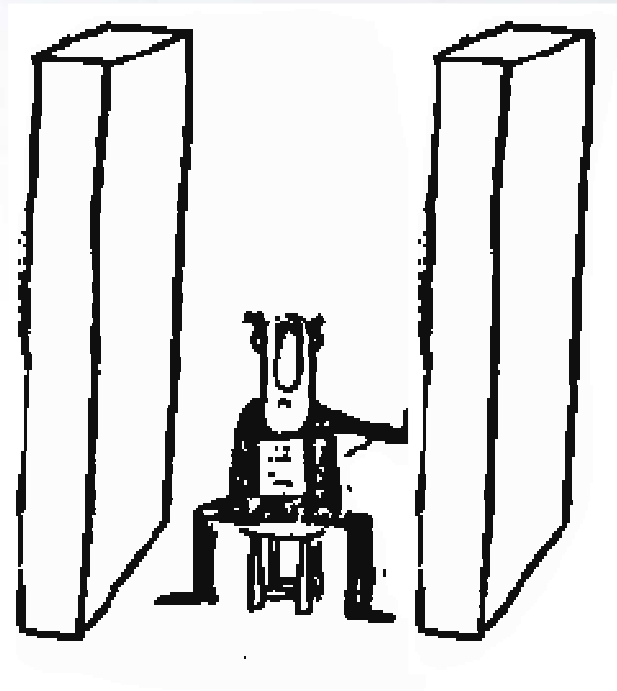
A Systemic Approach Works



- It takes account of the causal relations among economic, social, and environmental issues comprehensively
- It can incorporate any factor considered important
- It illustrates how activities in any sector can affect other sectors: directly and indirectly -- good and bad
- It takes account of lags before impacts are likely to become evident, which is not certain and may take many years



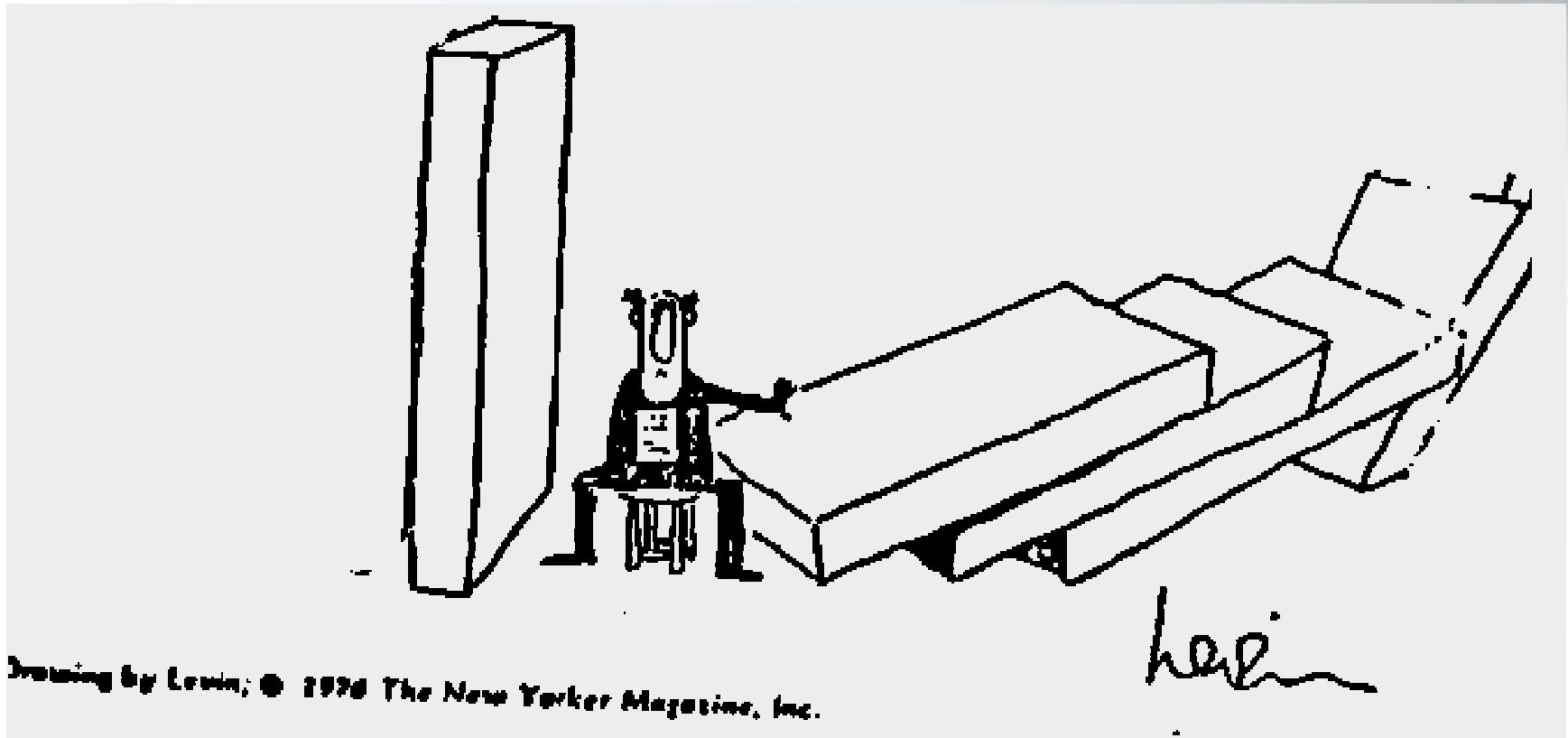
Why Take a Systemic View?



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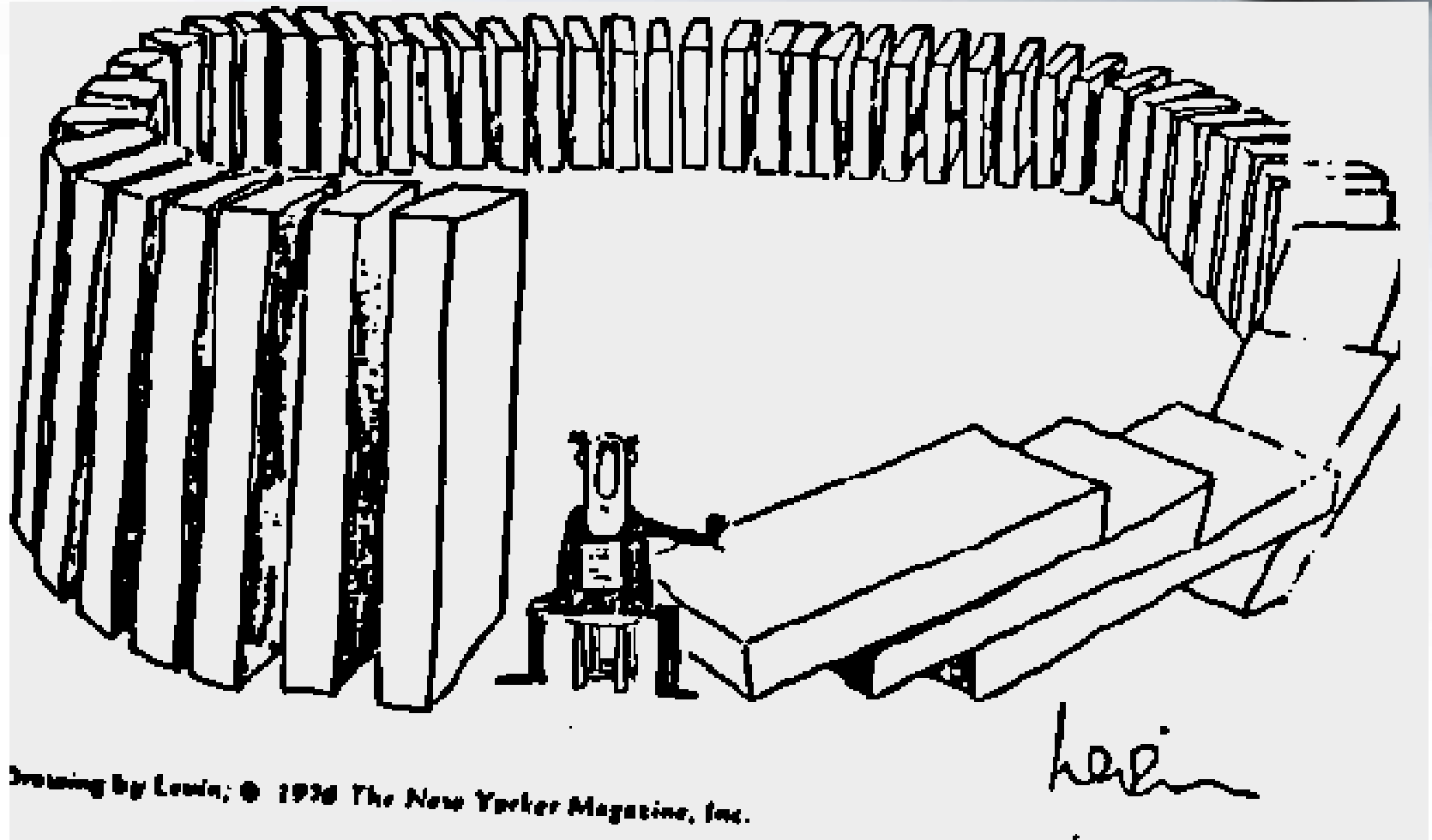
We Need to be Careful



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To Avoid Unexpected Results!



Drawing by Lewis; © 1896 The New Yorker Magazine, Inc.



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The Threshold 21 Model



- System dynamics methodology
 - Based on existing information and sector analyses
 - Reflects observed real world relations
 - Analyzes cross-sector links and feedback loops
- Composed of three main pillars
 - Economic -- SAM, key market balances, production in 3+ sectors, energy, government budgets, technology
 - Social -- dynamics in population, health, HIV/AIDS, education, employment, poverty, income distribution
 - Environmental – Land, water, minerals, GHG and other pollution, and country-specific issues and information

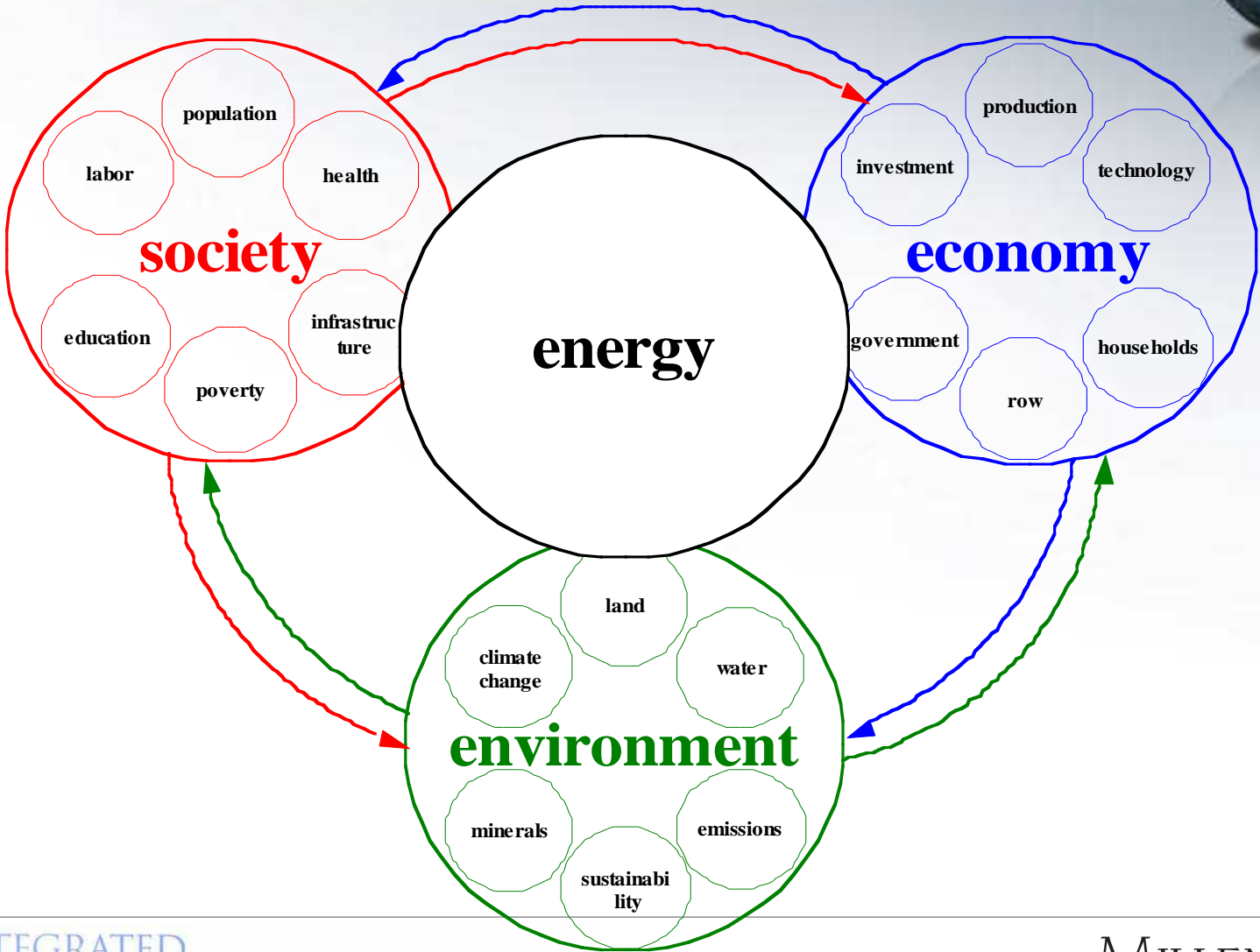
T21 Characteristics



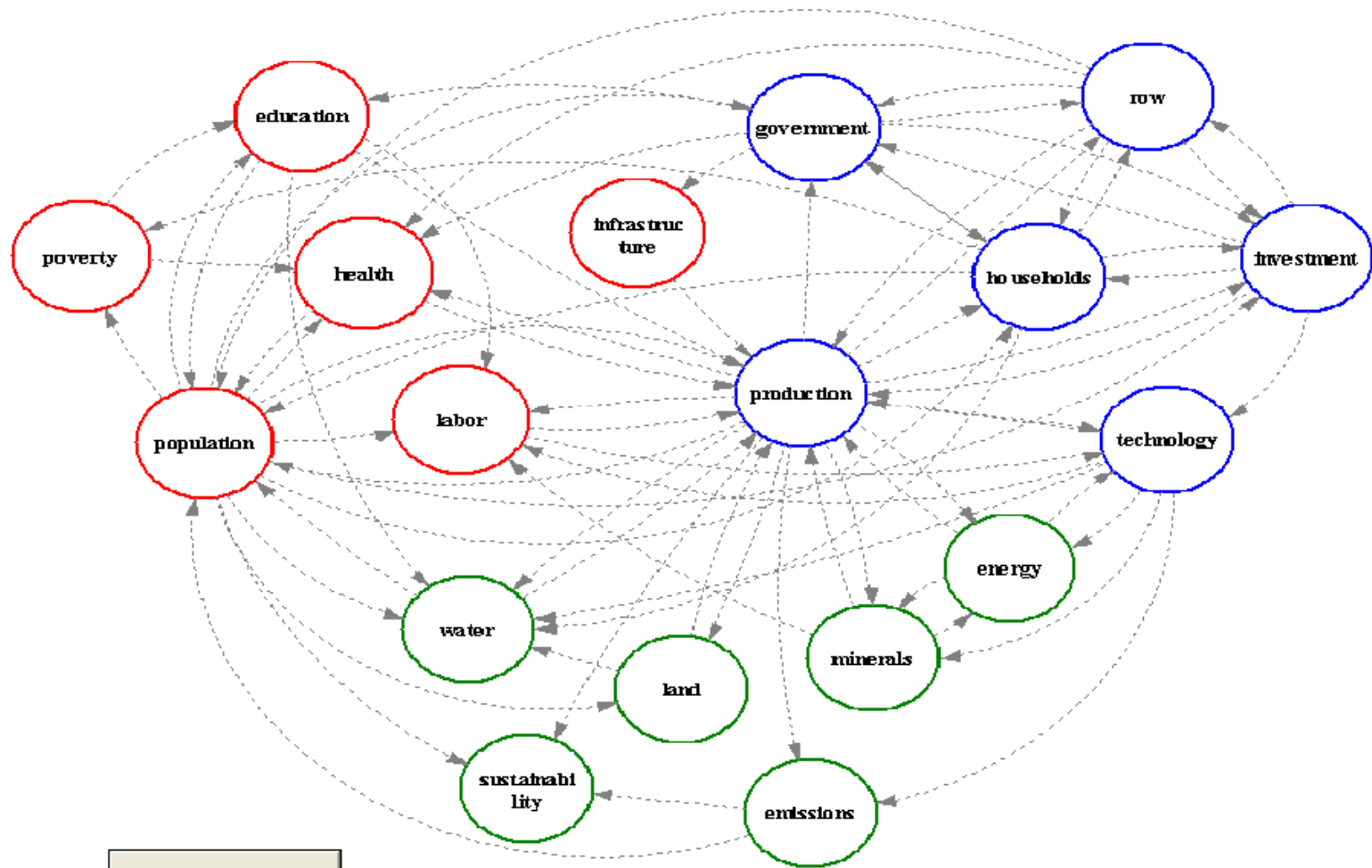
- Adapted to priority goals and vision for each individual target area based on available data, structure, and patterns of activity
- Highlights inter-sectoral feedbacks
- Tracks progress on MDGs and other indicators -- can add SDGs
- Calibrated against history to provide reality checks
- Generates multiple medium-to-long-term scenarios
- Transparent and easy to use



The Basic T21 Structure



The Key Connections in T21



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Causal Link Approach



Society

Economy



Legend:

➔ (+) Positive link

➔ (-) Negative link

Environment

Application of T21



- Generate scenarios to examine and compare effects of
 - different green economy, food security, and other policies
 - different assumptions about CC and other factors
 - how longer terms benefits can be managed and negative feedbacks mitigated
- Compare results to demonstrate which sets of policies can be most effective across all three pillars
- Identify emerging risks and tipping points to be taken account of
- Build broad stakeholder support for approaches by involving them in the process and demonstrating results
- Establish milestones for monitoring and evaluation of progress



Examples of T21 Work



- China Model and GHG emissions
- Jamaica Model and Natural disasters
- Bhutan on equitable distribution of public expenditures
- Mozambique and HIV/AIDS
- UNEP on the Green Economic Report
- Dealing with Agriculture more extensively, Mongolia, Barilla, Kenya

Demonstration of T21



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Addressing UN DESA Issues



- T21 includes much on food production, consumption and security,
- Considers agriculture sustainability, dependence on other resources, GHG emissions, etc.
- It is extending to ecosystem management, resource sustainability, climate adaptation for food security, and other factors,
- It can be further extended to include nutritional levels, urbanization impacts, and any other quantifiable factor

Steps for UN DESA Project



- Identify key issues to address for food security
- Develop appropriate causal relations within agricultural sector and with others
- Gather the needed data and calibrate the model
- Generate scenarios to illustrate the results of different policies compared to BAU
- Use model results to support DESA analysis and policy recommendations

Agriculture in T21



- Subsectors for crops, livestock, and fisheries
- Relations to other sectors, water, industry, population, forestry, and GHG emissions
- Shifting consumption, e.g, less meat
- Inclusion of nutrition in population dynamics, labor productivity, urbanization
- Major shifts in agriculture to adapt to climate change and assure sustainability

GER Agriculture results



| Year | | 2011 | 2030 | | | | 2050 | | | | | |
|--|----------|------|-----------|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Scenario | Unit | BAU | a) BAU | a) BAU1 | BAU | G1 | G2 | BAU2 | BAU1 | BAU | G1 | G2 |
| | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| Agricultural sector variables | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Crop production | Bn \$/Yr | 629 | 795 | 786 | 752 | 806 | 836 | 913 | 898 | 849 | 941 | 996 |
| Livestock production | Bn \$/Yr | 439 | 588 | 588 | 588 | 589 | 590 | 715 | 716 | 718 | 721 | 726 |
| Employment | M people | 1075 | 1371 | 1331 | 1284 | 1351 | 1393 | 1656 | 1580 | 1489 | 1618 | 1703 |
| ^{y)} Soil quality | Dmnl | 0.92 | 0.80 | 0.82 | 0.86 | 0.94 | 0.97 | 0.73 | 0.75 | 0.81 | 0.98 | 1.03 |
| ^{y)} Agriculture water use | KM3/Yr | 3389 | 4276 | 4288 | 4300 | 3535 | 3526 | 4878 | 4903 | 4935 | 3210 | 3207 |
| Harvested land | Bn Ha | 1.20 | 1.27 | 1.27 | 1.27 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.31 | 1.31 | 1.31 | 1.26 | 1.26 |
| Deforestation | M Ha/Yr | 15 | 22 | 19 | 15 | 7 | 7 | 25 | 21 | 15 | 7 | 7 |
| Calories per capita per day (available for supply) | Kcal/P/D | 2787 | 3050 | 2973 | 2840 | 3001 | 3093 | 3273 | 3178 | 2981 | 3238 | 3382 |
| Calories per capita per day (available for household consumption) | Kcal/P/D | 2081 | 2315 | 2256 | 2120 | 2237 | 2305 | 2476 | 2406 | 2227 | 2414 | 2524 |

Thank You for Your Attention



Questions and comments are welcome

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What Partners and Clients Are Saying



- “MI’s integrated dynamic models have been vital for GM’s sales forecasts”
Paul Ballew, GM
- “MI’s long-term, integrated perspective is essential”
Pablo Guerrero, World Bank
- “MI’s T21 analytical tool is essential for effective national development strategies”
Ed Cain, Carter Center
- Fascinating!
David Cohen, Counterparts International
- If only we had known such a tool existed....
Chorus of planning experts from 11 countries in Southern Africa
- We need to use this tool at the Headquarters, in our embassies and help our country partner acquire it...
Dutch Ambassador Ton Boon von Ochsén
- I want that T 21 planning team in my office...
Président Amadou T Touré, Mali
- It has been my dream since ten years to get the the POIJ departments to work together...now its happening with T21; With T21 I can see team building and networking across the ministries and government agencies and effective communication
Wesley Hugh, Director Planning office Jamaica



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