



Prosperity without Growth

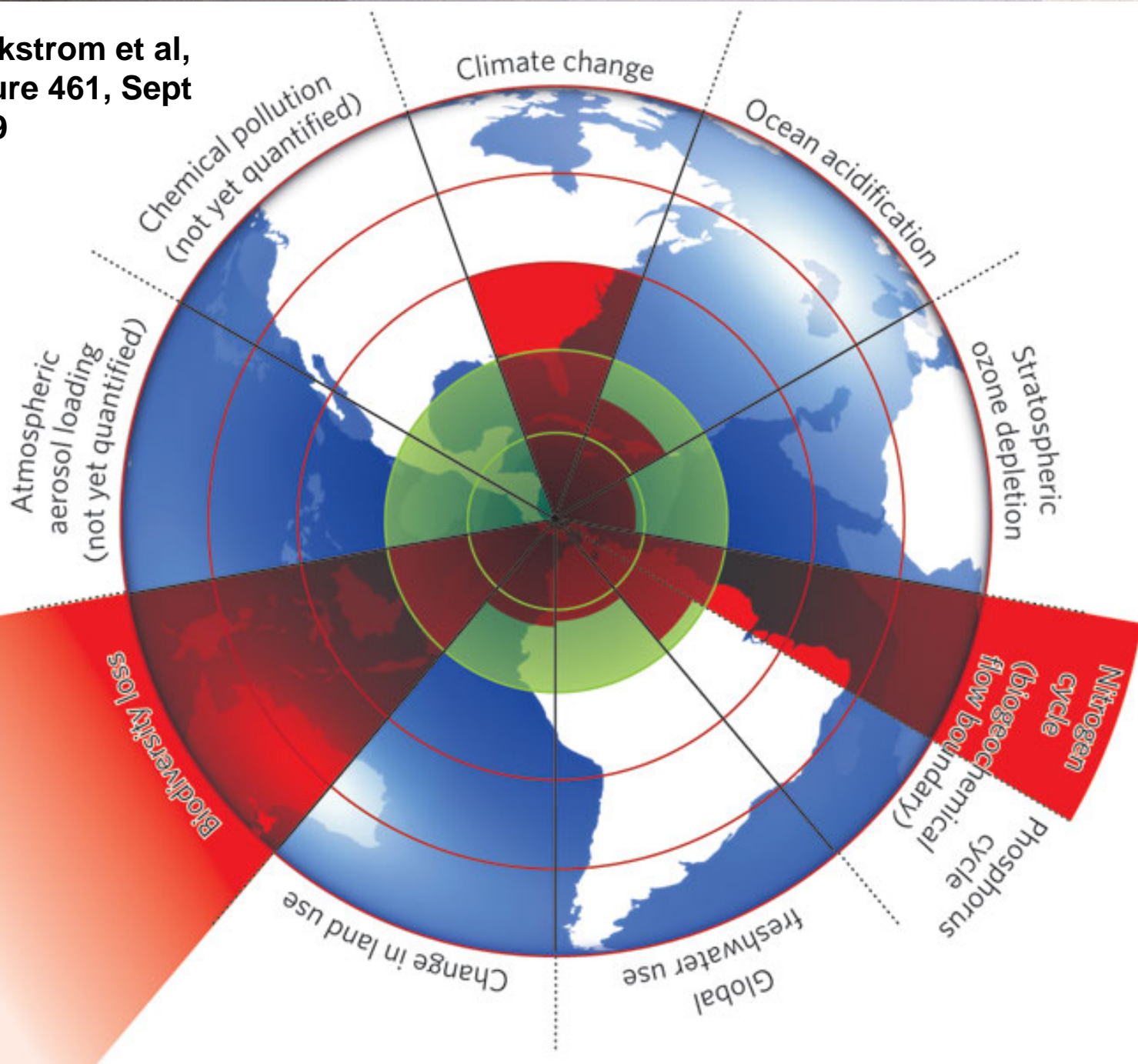
Tim Jackson
25th January 2010



Sustainable
Development Commission

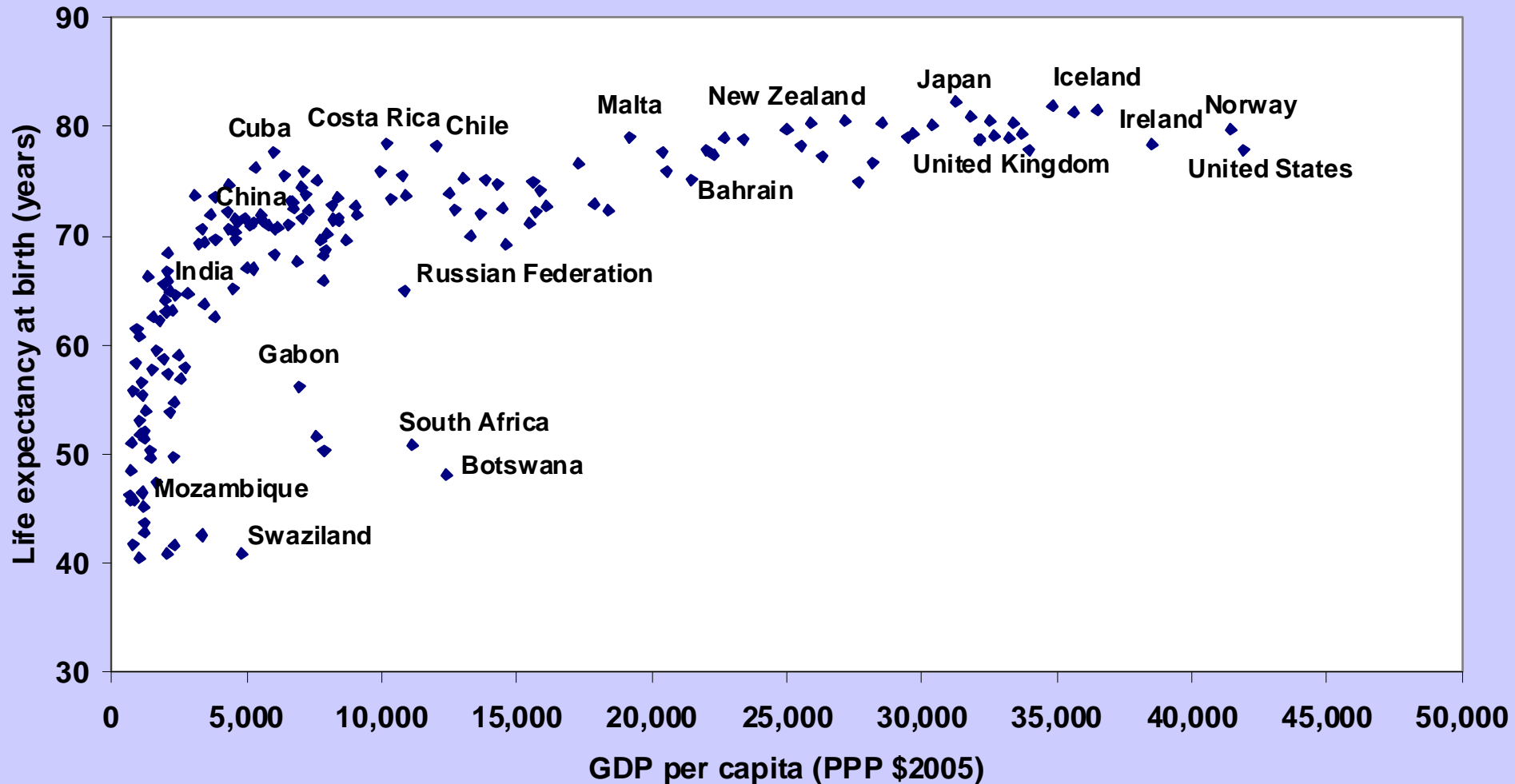
People • Planet • Prosperity

Rockstrom et al,
Nature 461, Sept
2009



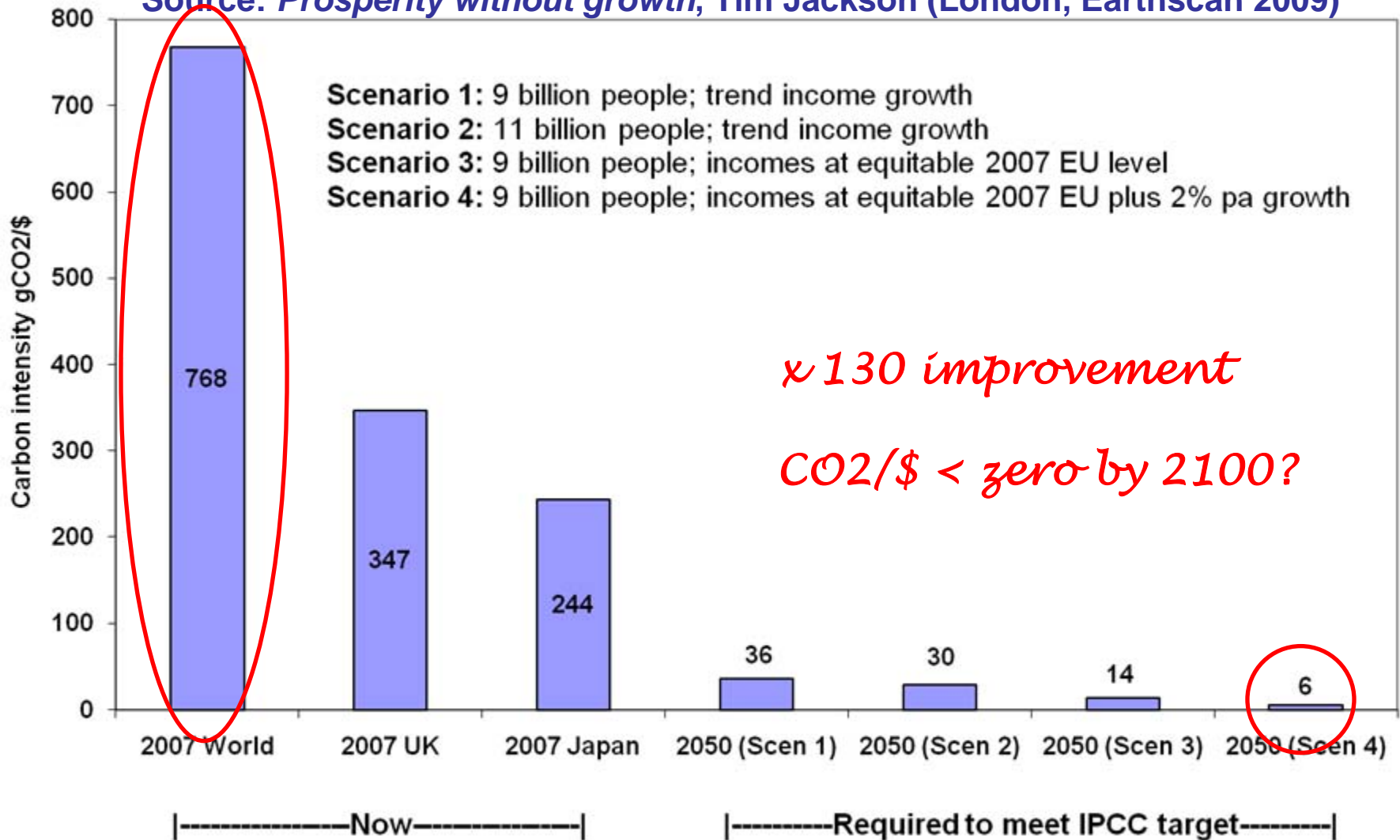
The Dilemma of Growth

Life Expectancy at Birth

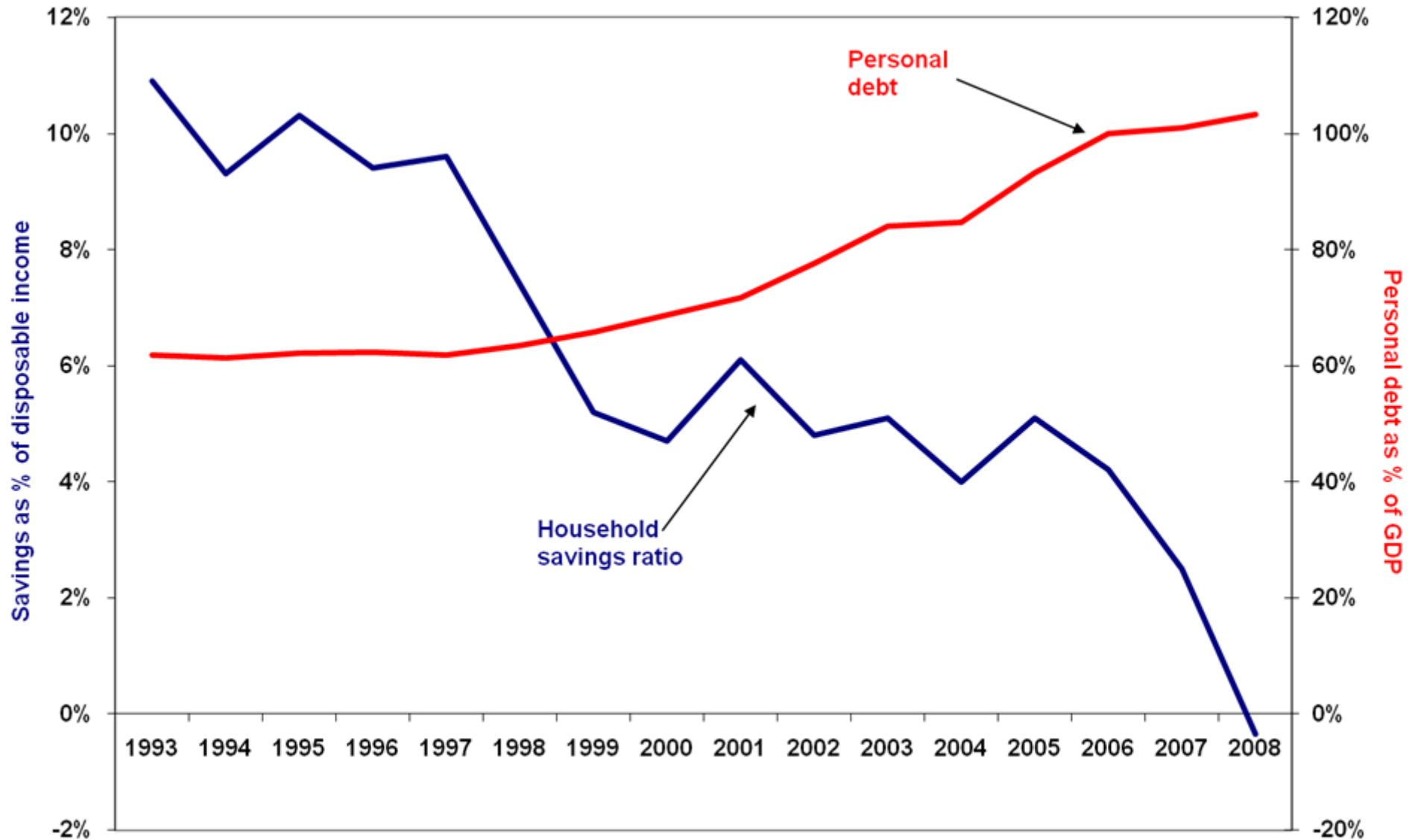


The Dilemma of Growth

Source: *Prosperity without growth*, Tim Jackson (London, Earthscan 2009)



The Engine of Growth





Diagnosis

- **Society is locked into an ‘iron cage’ through two mutually reinforcing dynamics: 1) economic structure and 2) social logic: economic growth is served by these dynamics, but wellbeing is not**
- **Government itself is conflicted: its role in protecting macro-economic stability contrasts with its role in defending other social goods.**

Prognosis

A photograph of a white building with a window and a wooden chair. The window is a multi-paned window with a white frame, set in a white wall. Below the window, a wooden chair with a curved back and a wooden seat is positioned on a small patch of ground. The overall scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

Another world is possible

- **economic structure**
- **social logic**
- **governance**

Another Prosperity?



Prosperity consists in our ability to flourish as human beings – within the ecological limits of a finite planet.

- **material flourishing: food, clothing, shelter**
- **social and psychological flourishing: identity, meaning, participation in the life of society**
- **rethinking social goods and public spaces**

Another Prosperity?

A photograph of a white building with a window. The window has a white frame and is divided into six panes. The building is set against a background of a light-colored sky. In the foreground, there is a wooden chair with a curved back, positioned in front of the building. The ground is covered with dark, dry leaves or mulch.

'... sites for the cultivation of a common citizenship, so that people from different walks of life encounter one another and so acquire enough of a.. sense of a shared life that we can meaningfully think of one another as citizens in a common venture'

Michael Sandel, June 2009

Another Economic Engine?

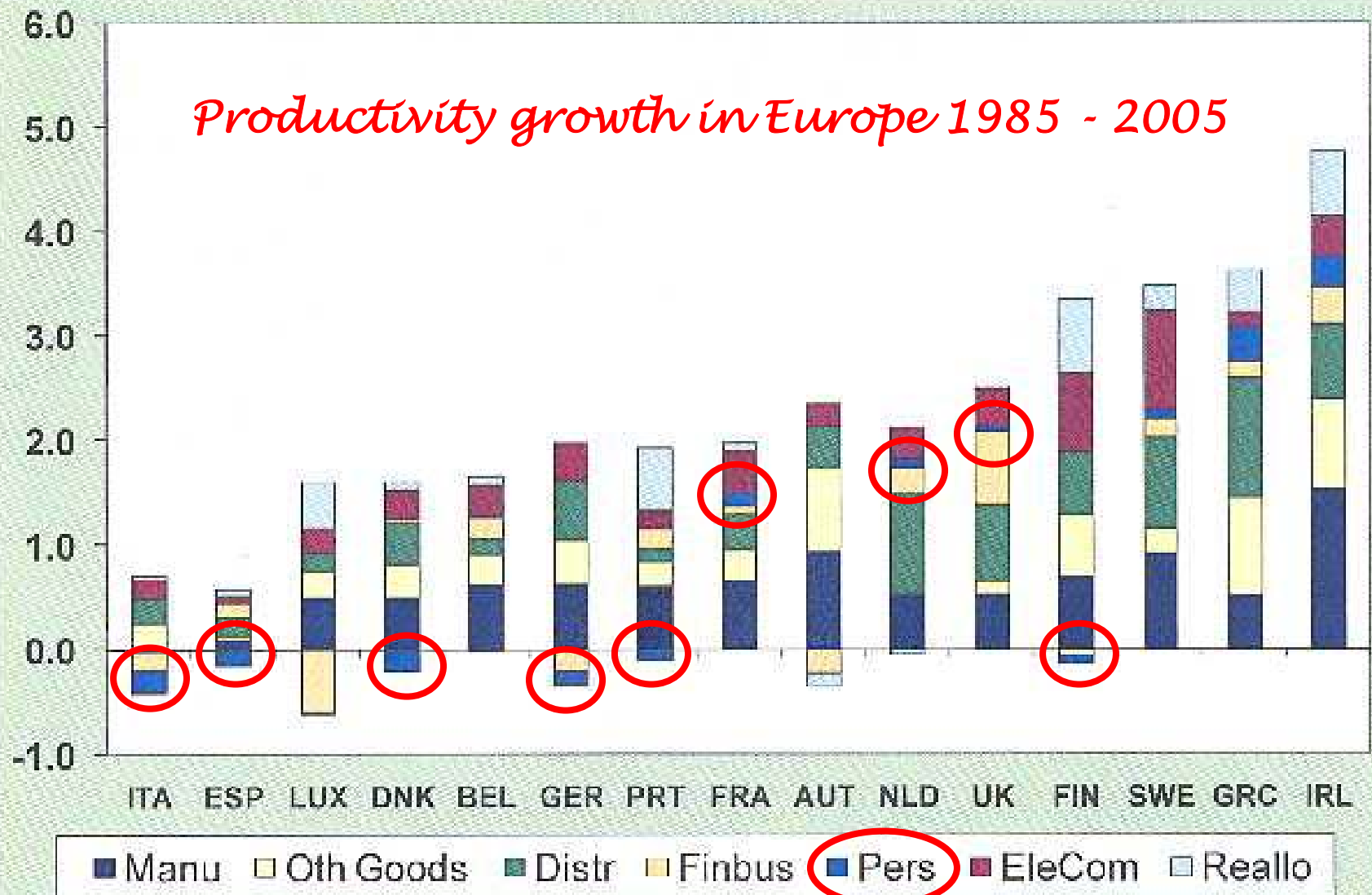
Ecological Investment

- low carbon transition
- ecological assets
- protecting livelihoods

Ecological Enterprise

- trading lightly
- supporting communities
- providing livelihoods

Another Economic Engine?



Another Economic Engine?

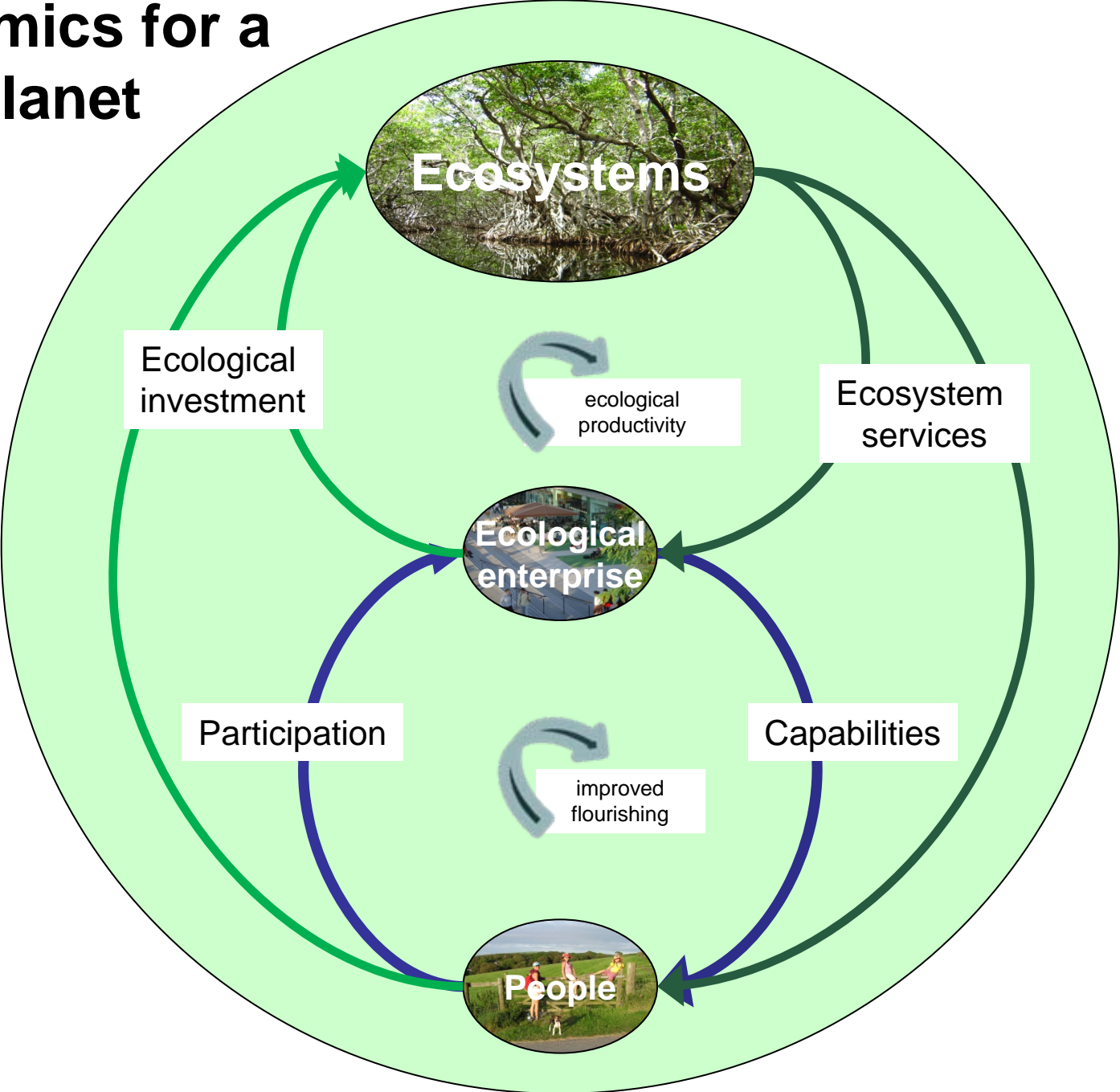
Ecological Investment

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Ecological Enterprise

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Economics for a finite planet



Ecological Footsteps



Establish the limits
Fix the economics
Change the social logic

‘The crisis doesn’t only make us free to imagine other models, another future, another world. It obliges us to do so.’

President Sarkozy, September 2009

<http://www.earthscan.co.uk/pwg>

