VL Human Ecology:

Modules: Introduction Food production and population growth Environmental health

Human Ecology

- What is human ecology ?
- The Australian Experience: Values



Elements of Human Ecology

- Interaction: Environment, Men, Society
- Interaction/Conflicts: diversity of values
- decisions: based on evaluation with scientific methods (Interaction of hard, soft science- fields)

Models for the understanding of the interaction of Nature, Man, Society



R. Riedl nach N. Hartmann

Example for a dynamic system to analyse the interaction of Environment, Man, Society: The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment



Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

Strengthening Capacity to Manage Ecosystems Sustainably for Human Well-Being

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Environmental concerns increase opportunities and challenges for business

TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2005 | WASHINGTON, DC, UNITED STATES

Launched today, the fourth Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) report, Ecosystems and Human



Focus: Ecosystem Services The benefits people obtain from ecosystems



ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Consequences of Ecosystem Change for Human Well-being





Source: Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

MA Framework



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- Interaction: Environment, Men, Society
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Values: The problem of the diversity of values

(Groom, Meffe et al., principles of conservation biology, 2006

Instrumental/utilitarian : intrinsic/inherent Western environmental ethics:

Value	Anthropo- centrism	Judeo-Christ. stewardship	Biocentrism	Ecocentrism
Intrinsic value	Human beeings	Species,creatio n as a whole	Individial organisms	Specied, ecos. biosphere
The value of Nature	Instrumental	Holistic intrinsic	Individualistic intrinsic	Holistic- Intrinsic
Mans place in nature	Lord and master	Caretaker	One among equals	Plain member, citizen

Values: Risk Assessment needs to consider local agro-ecological and socio- economic aspects



Small scale farming, typical in many EU areas



Values: different Concepts for the conservation of nature



John Muir (1838-1914) with T. Roosevelt

"Why should man value himself as more than a small part of the one great unit of creation?"

Diversity of Value: Sustainability and its development of understanding



Value: sustainability UN: sustainability: Agenda 21

Agenda 21

Agenda 21 is a comprehensive plan of action to be taken globally, nationally and locally by organizations of the United Nations System, Governments, and Major Groups in every area in which human impacts on the environment.

Agenda 21, the <u>Rio Declaration on Environment and</u> <u>Development</u>, and the <u>Statement of principles for the</u> <u>Sustainable Management of Forests</u> were adopted by more than 178 Governments at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janerio, Brazil, 3 to 14 June 1992.

The <u>Commission on Sustainable Development</u> (CSD) was created in December 1992 to ensure effective follow-up of UNCED, to monitor and report on implementation of the agreements at the local, national, regional and international levels. It was agreed that a five year review of Earth Summit progress would be made in 1997 by the <u>United Nations General Assembly meeting</u> in special session.

The full implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Commitments to the Rio principles, were strongly reaffirmed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 26 August to 4 September 2002.



UN Millennium Development Goals (MDG) By the year 2015, all 191 United Nations Member States have pledged to meet these goals

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality and empower women
- Reduce child mortality
- Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Develop a global partnership for development

European Society for Agriculture, Food Ethics: Dialog for development in food production and agriculture/ conservation biology and ethical considerations

EURSAFE 2006

Ethics and the Politics of Food

Oslo, Norway: June 22 - 24, 2006

6th Congress of the European Society for Agricultural and Food Ethics

http://Eursafe2006.etikkom.no

It is a paradox of the Western World that amidst of technological innovation, economic welfare and social change many people have developed a serious concern about our primary goods: food and food production. This topic mobilizes people from different backgrounds and cultures. It is the focal point of both high and low politics. On the one hand, there are lively disputes and conflicts about globalization of trade as witnessed for instance in the conflicts about the WTO-rounds or debates about food biotechnology. On the other hand, there is a very concrete level of consumer choice at the shelf in the supermarket where value conflicts cannot easily be resolved. Yet, choice itself is often limited, through monopolising tendencies of corporate power.

At the same time we witness the traditional sectors of food production in a rapid phase of change in nearly every society. In times of globalization questions of micro- and macro-politics become intertwined, and only collective action seems to stand a chance of influencing the development. However, the disputes and political conflicts resist containment and assumed boundaries of the systems are moved only to be replaced by even wider considerations. What starts out as concerns about food risk and safety soon moves to ethics and cultural values. Ethics and cultural values are indeed a common denominator for peoples' concern about food and food production. Slogans like "from farm to fork", "vote with your fork", or "slow food" express a mingling of political, ethical and cultural values.

The challenge to ethics is to relate to these new societal contexts and provide useful concepts for analysis and understanding. The programme of the 6th Congress of the European Society for Agricultural and Food Ethics is designed to capture these complexities in their variety through different thematic sub sections and multi-disciplinary approaches.

Keynote lectures by among others: Michelle Micheletti, Vittorio Hösle.



Values of Sustainability: developments (European Society for Agriculture, Food Ethics Vienna, Sept. 2007)

The concept of sustainability has come to occupy a prominent place in discussions of the future of food production as a whole. In addition, consumers are showing interest in foods produced in a sustainable way.

However, the concept of sustainability has come to encompass a growing number of concerns and this has given rise to conceptual ambiguity and dilemmas.

In its earliest usage, the notion of sustainability was connected with **strategies to maintain renewable resources for harvest and consumption** in perpetuity, i.e. sustained yield. The term sustainability was <u>further extended</u>, beyond an anthropocentric concern for human livelihood, to cover the <u>preservation of species and ecosystems</u>.

In 1987 the Brundtland Commission shifted the focus ensuring that access to natural resources, and in particular distribution across generations, was central to the definition. Following the Rio Declaration of 1992, fair intra-generational distribution and benefit sharing between the developed and developing countries was highlighted as an important extension of the original concept of sustainability.

As the discussions of sustainability have become more politicised, more and more issues have been connected with the concept. Different dimensions of sustainability have been constructed (like ecological, economical and social) and different instruments to measure sustainability have been developed (like ecological foot printing, environmental accounting.

European Society for agriculture, food ethics Vienna, Sept. 2007

The following sub-themes will be dealt with in plenary sessions and workshops at the conference:

Sustainability and animal welfare in animal production

Diversity, responsibility and market dynamics in local sustainable food systems

Global trade of food, benefit sharing, fair trade and sustainability

The role of aquaculture in sustainable food production

Ethics of organic agriculture

Sustainable approaches to disease control and prevention in food production

Sustainable consumption of food products

Theoretical, conceptual and foundational issues in sustainability ethics.

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Sustainability: sharing of benefits: the need for Global PP-Partnerships



United Nations Development Programme

Public-Private Partnerships for the Urban Environment



Public Private Partnerships For The Urban Environment

GLN Member Login



The Public-Private Partnerships for the Urban Environm of alleviating poverty through public-private partnership The core goal of the programme is to increase the acce sanitation, solid waste management and energy by pro government, business and communities.



live in support lina world. lich as water.

Cooperation and sharing of benefits: Public goods

Classic division of goods in economy		Exclusion from consumption			
		YES	NO		
Competition in consumption	Y	<u>private good</u> : <u>food,</u> <u>clothing</u> , <u>toys</u>	common good: natural environment		
	Ν	club good: privat schools, cinemas,	public good : streets, Police, Environmental goods:e.g. clean air		

If voluntary provision of public goods will not work, then the obvious solution is making their provision involuntary. (Each of us is saved from our own individualistic short-sightedness, our tendency to be a free rider.) One general solution to the problem is for <u>governments</u> or <u>states</u> to impose <u>taxation</u> to fund the production of public goods. <u>The difficulty is to determine how much funding should be allocated to different</u> <u>public goods, and how the costs should be split Ideally</u>, these decisions should be made democratically following advice informed by economic theory. A government may <u>subsidize</u> production of a public good in the <u>private sector</u>.

Cooperation and sharing of benefits: Private Public Partnerships, PPP

public-private partnerships involve private corporations, governments, international agencies, and non-governmental organizations. They can produce the desired outcomes, but they also bring their own problems.





Private & Public Partnerships ...the 'private sector' do not understand the requirements and bureaucracy of the 'public sector' whilst in turn 'the public sector' find it difficult to relate to 'the private sectors' bottom line focus and the resources available to it.

Modules: food production and sustainability environmental health



Materials: <u>http://alexander-haslberger.at</u> University