

Are environmental sustainability and economic growth compatible goals?

Professor John Watts, Oxford - Introduction

Professor James Belich, Oxford - Depletion-driven expansion in global history

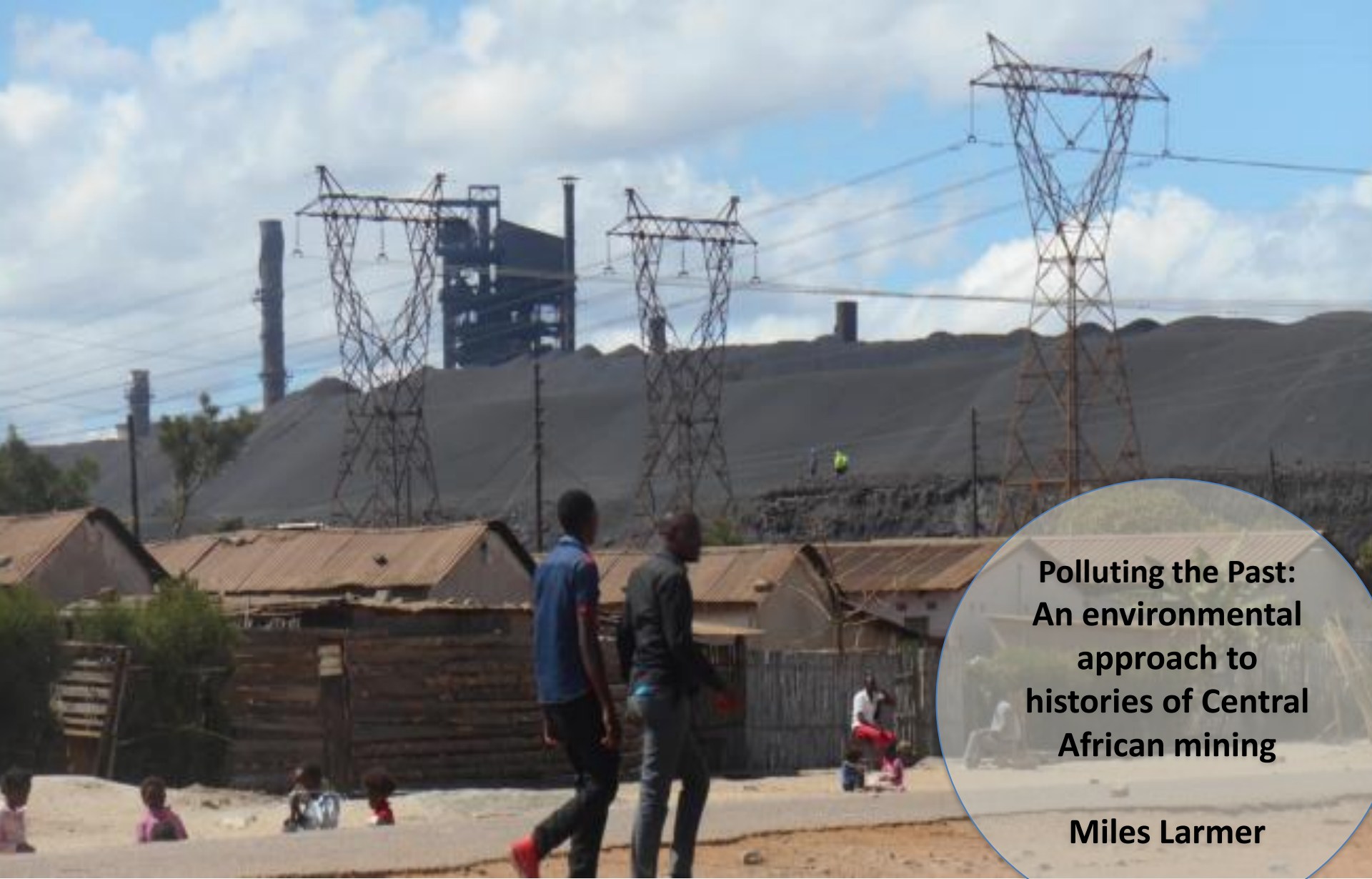
Dr Amanda Power, Oxford - Is 'civilisation' sustainable?

Professor Miles Larmer, Oxford - Polluting the past: an environmental approach to histories of central African mining

Natasha Landell-Mills, Sarasin & Partners - A contemporary perspective
Q&A

Monday 28 September 2020

18:00-19:00



**Polluting the Past:
An environmental
approach to
histories of Central
African mining**

Miles Larmer

COMPARING THE COPPERBELT

POLITICAL CULTURE AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION IN CENTRAL AFRICA

copperbelt.history.ox.ac.uk



FACULTY OF
HISTORY



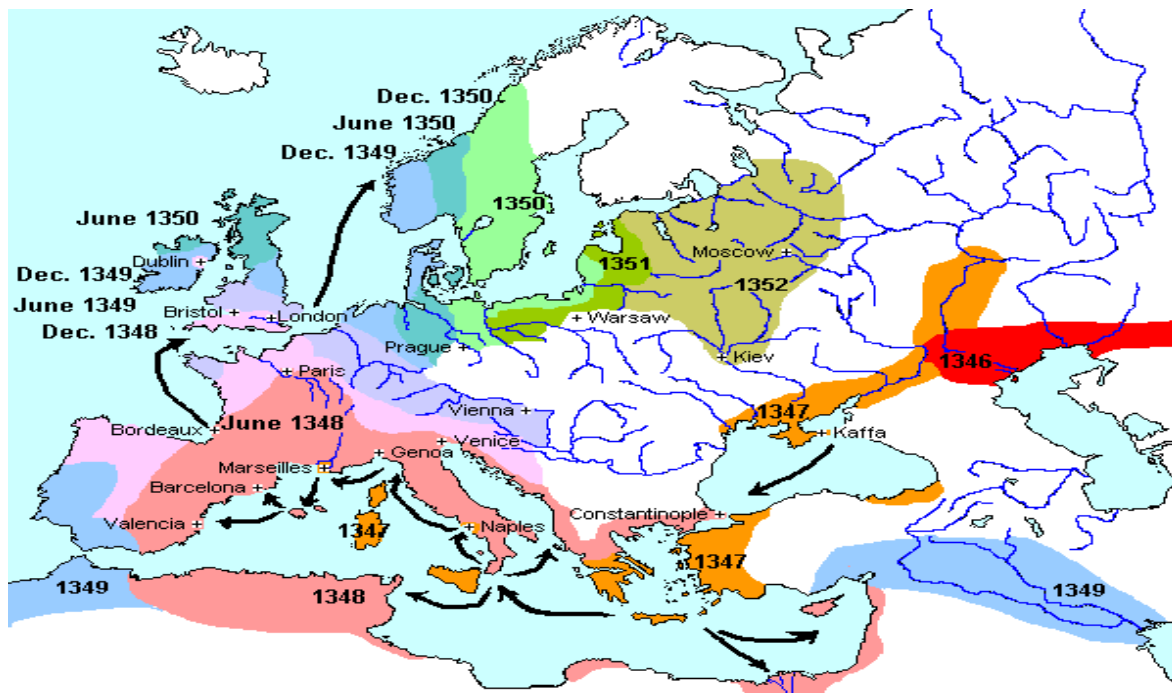
OXFORD CENTRE FOR
GLOBAL HISTORY



Depletion-Driven Expansion

James Belich, History, Oxford University

The Spread of the Black Death 1346-52





Ermine Hunting 1555

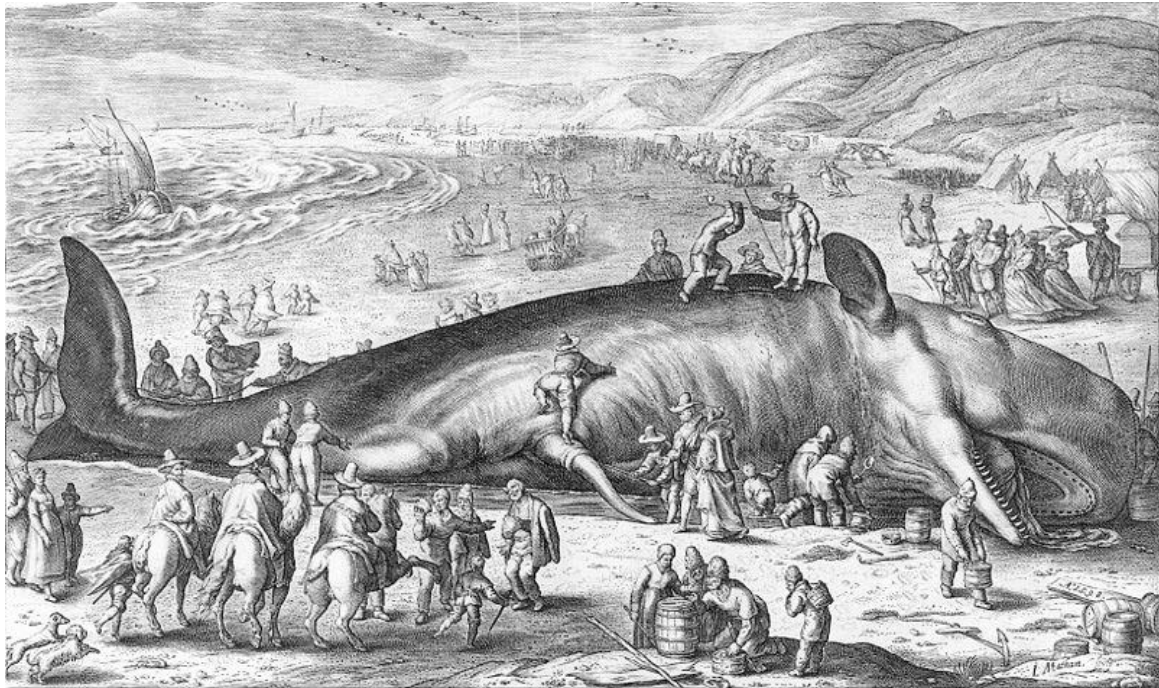


Basque Whaling 16th Century



Fig. 194.—Whale-Fishing.—Fac-simile of a Woodcut in the "Cosmographie Universelle" or
Théâtre du Monde, Paris, 1574

Dutch Whaling 17th Century

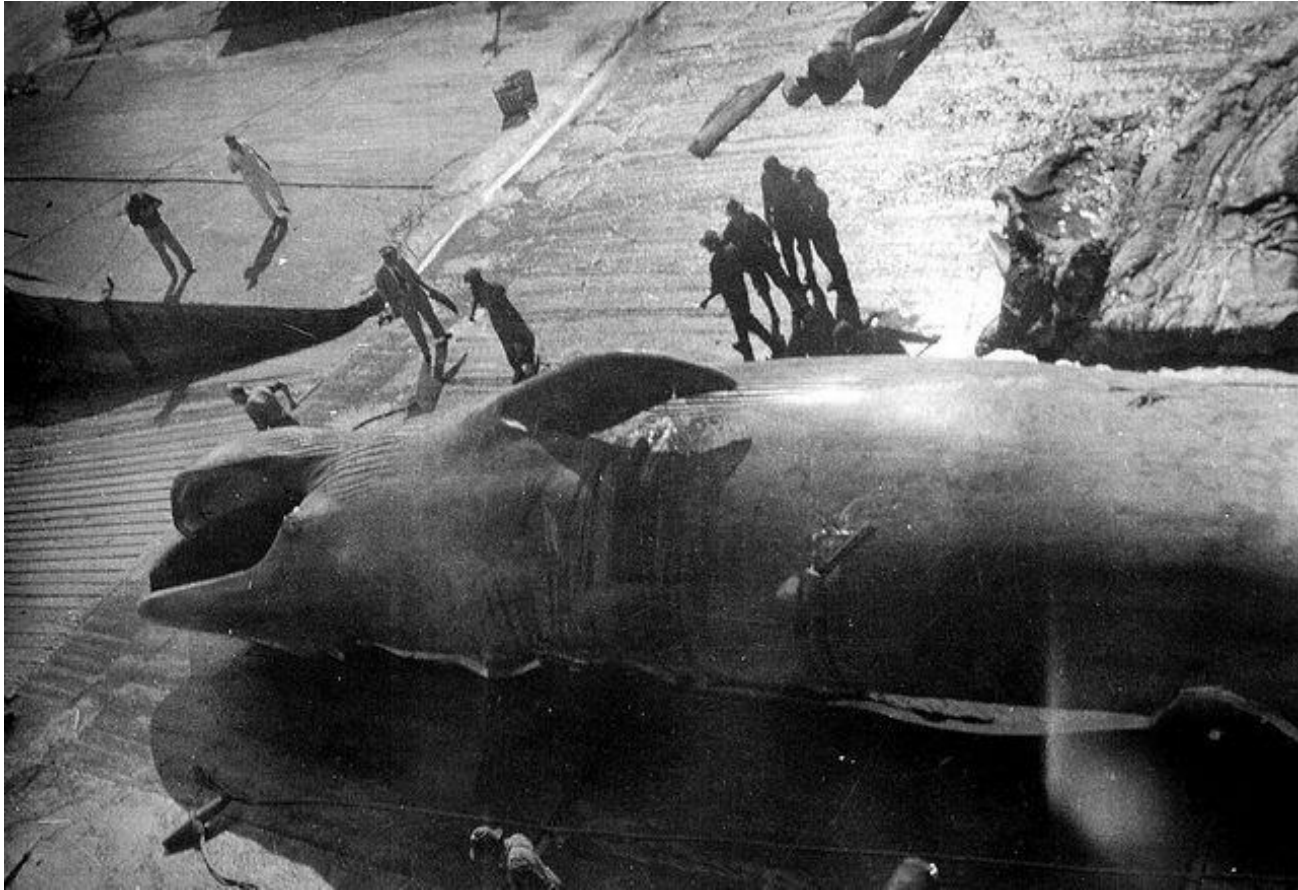


*In hoc carulis iactatus parvitas cetinae
 Di. vnde p'hibetis munda? Catharina litorea cvidit.
 Sicut p'prietate q' d'cedit, q' d'cedit
 Sicut p'prietate q' d'cedit, q' d'cedit
 Sicut p'prietate q' d'cedit, q' d'cedit*

*Quale Atlantici terror, Ballena profundi,
 Quum p'cto motu suo tellurem adhaerit.
 Et q' d'cedit, q' d'cedit, q' d'cedit
 Sicut p'prietate q' d'cedit, q' d'cedit
 Sicut p'prietate q' d'cedit, q' d'cedit*

*P'hibet, si sicut suscipit, capius argua
 Quum d'cedit, q' d'cedit, q' d'cedit
 Sicut p'prietate q' d'cedit, q' d'cedit
 Sicut p'prietate q' d'cedit, q' d'cedit*

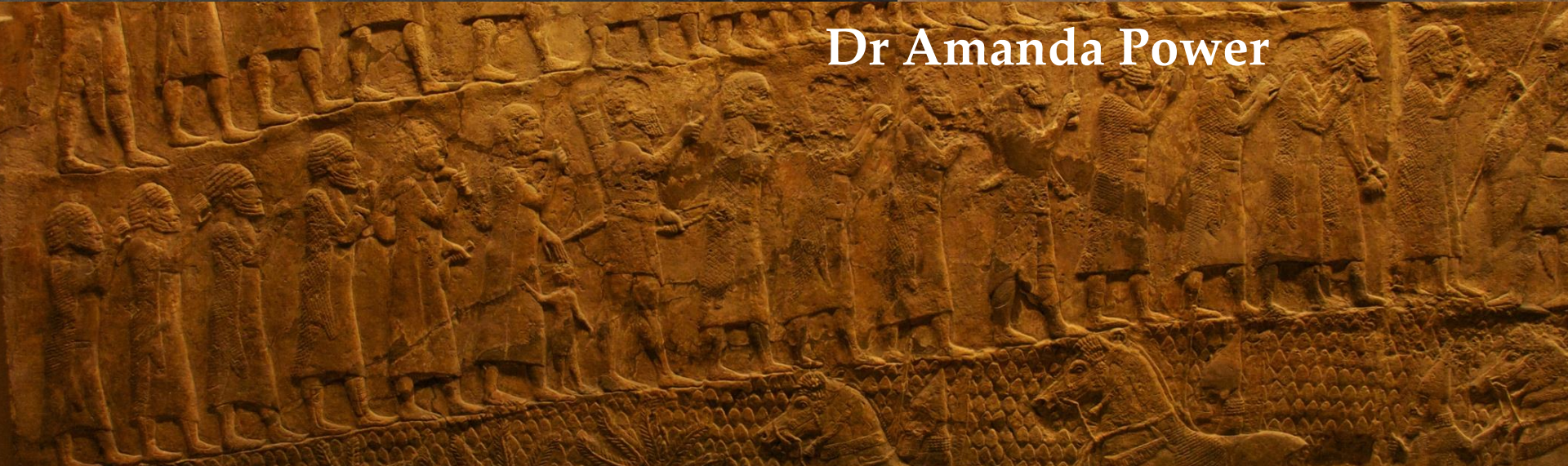
South African Whaling 20th century





Is 'civilisation' sustainable?

Dr Amanda Power



Are sustainability and growth compatible goals?

Thursday 17 September 2020

Natasha Landell-Mills, CFA

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What would you choose?

Enduring growth must be sustainable



When costs to nature are hidden – there is no need to choose

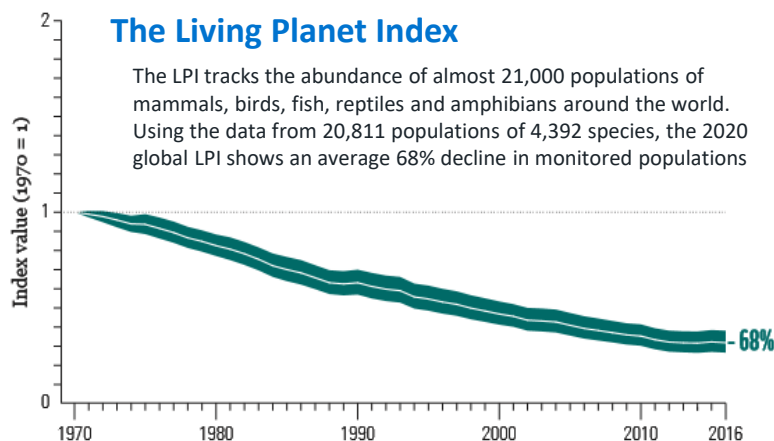
Growth will deplete our natural capital



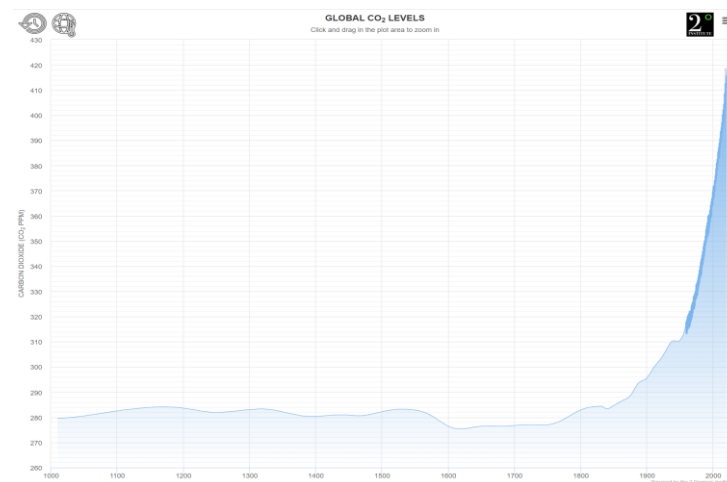
We can no longer ignore these ecological costs

We are reaching (exceeding) the natural limits

- Half of the topsoil on the planet has been lost in the last 150 years.
- Almost 90% of global wetlands have been lost since 1700
- By 2025, two-thirds of the world's population may face water shortages.
- One-third of the world's assessed fisheries are currently pushed beyond their biological limits.
- 70-90% Coral reefs could disappear by 2040
- Climate change is a driver and magnifier: *Up to one-fifth of wild species are at risk of extinction; water scarcity & flooding will worsen; extreme weather events will kill and displace millions, etc*



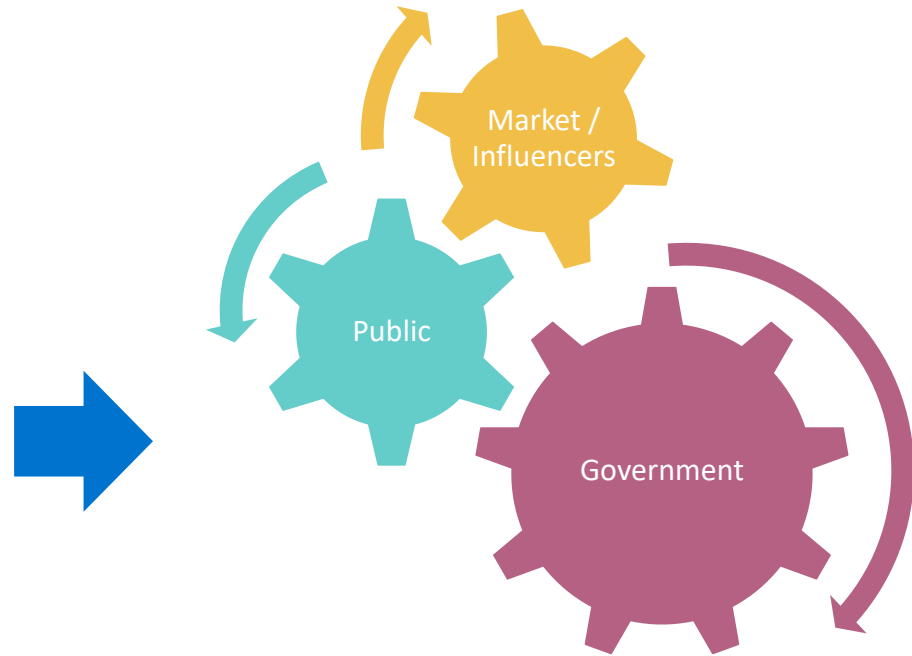
Living Planet Report 2020: WWF 9.9.20



<https://www.co2levels.org/>: Real time and historical CO₂ data combined
17.9.20

Better understanding = complexity = paralysis

Collective action problem demands system-wide response



- Can we learn from our past to address this threat?
- Can we take preventative action?
- Can we individually **own** the collective problem?

Investment industry as a driver of positive change?

A key 'influencer'

The question of sustainability should profoundly impact how capital is deployed. Not only because it impacts risk-adjusted returns, but because it affects our future.

Responsible Investment - \$30.7tn – up over a third in two years (2019)

Potential for a ripple effect...

- Investment deployed towards more sustainable companies
- Engagement to press for more sustainable behaviour – companies reallocate capital



"Yes, the planet got destroyed. But for a beautiful moment in time we created a lot of value for shareholders."

CartoonCollections.com

A shareholder revolution to drive sustainable growth

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