



Impact of Climate Change on Crop production

Alexander J.B. Zehnder

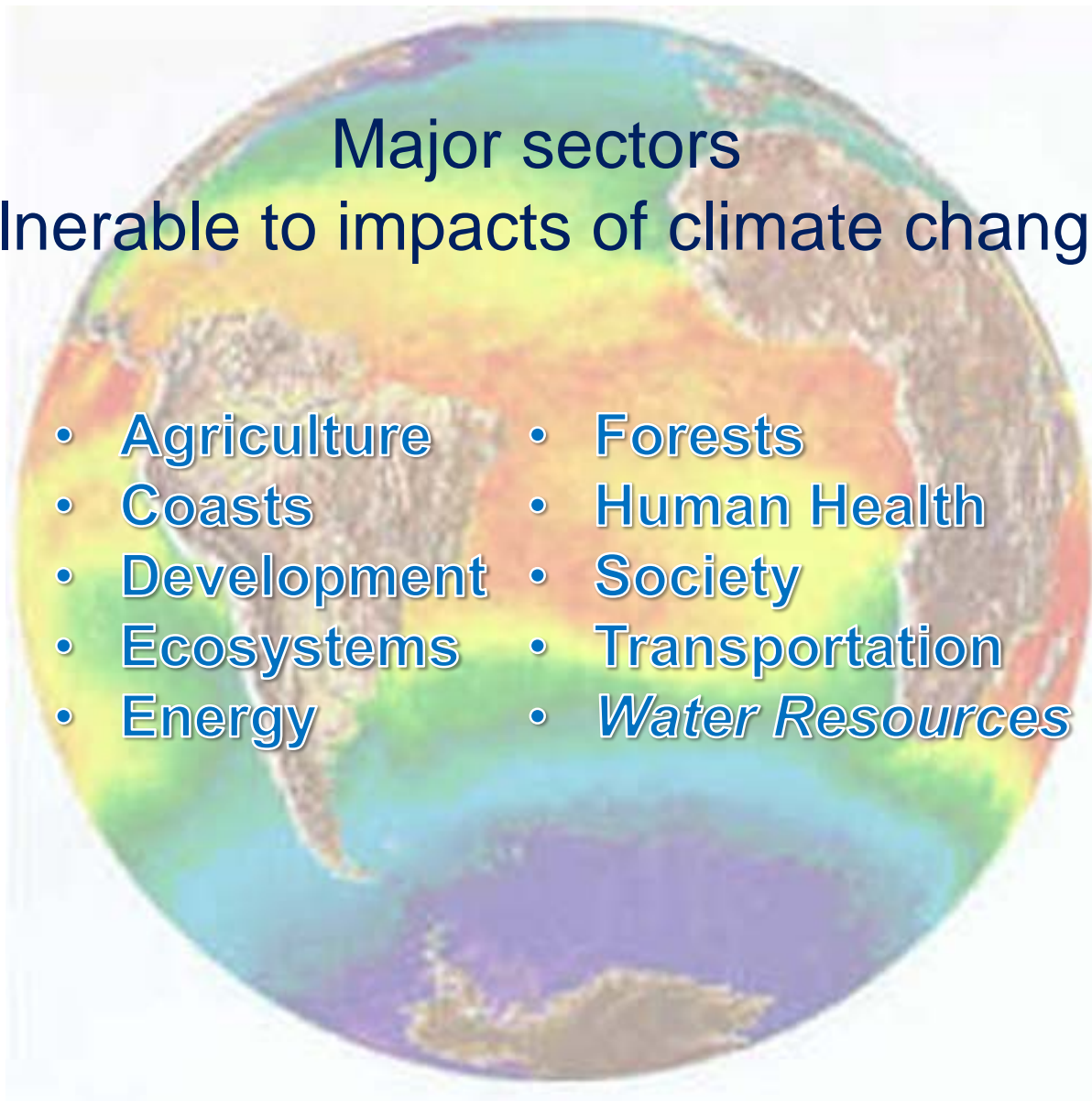
*NTU Singapore; triple Z Ltd, Switzerland; AI-EES,
Canada*

Acknowledgment
Hong Yang
Junguo Liu
Monireh Faramarzi

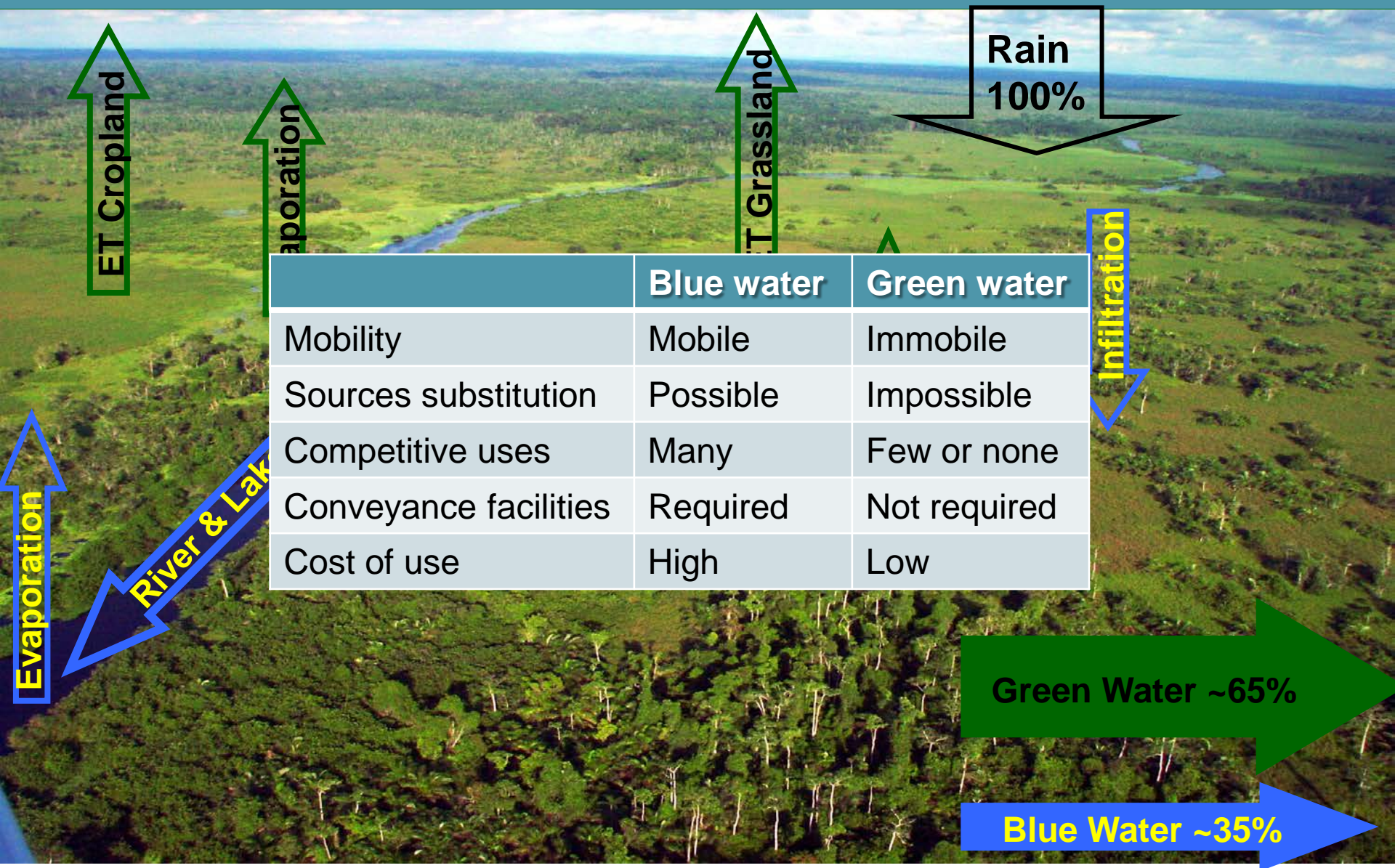
Impact of climate change

Major sectors
vulnerable to impacts of climate change:

- Agriculture
- Coasts
- Development
- Ecosystems
- Energy
- Forests
- Human Health
- Society
- Transportation
- *Water Resources*



Blue and green water



Rain
100%

ET Cropland

Evaporation

ET Grassland

Infiltration

Blue water

Green water

Mobility

Mobile

Immobile

Sources substitution

Possible

Impossible

Competitive uses

Many

Few or none

Conveyance facilities

Required

Not required

Cost of use

High

Low

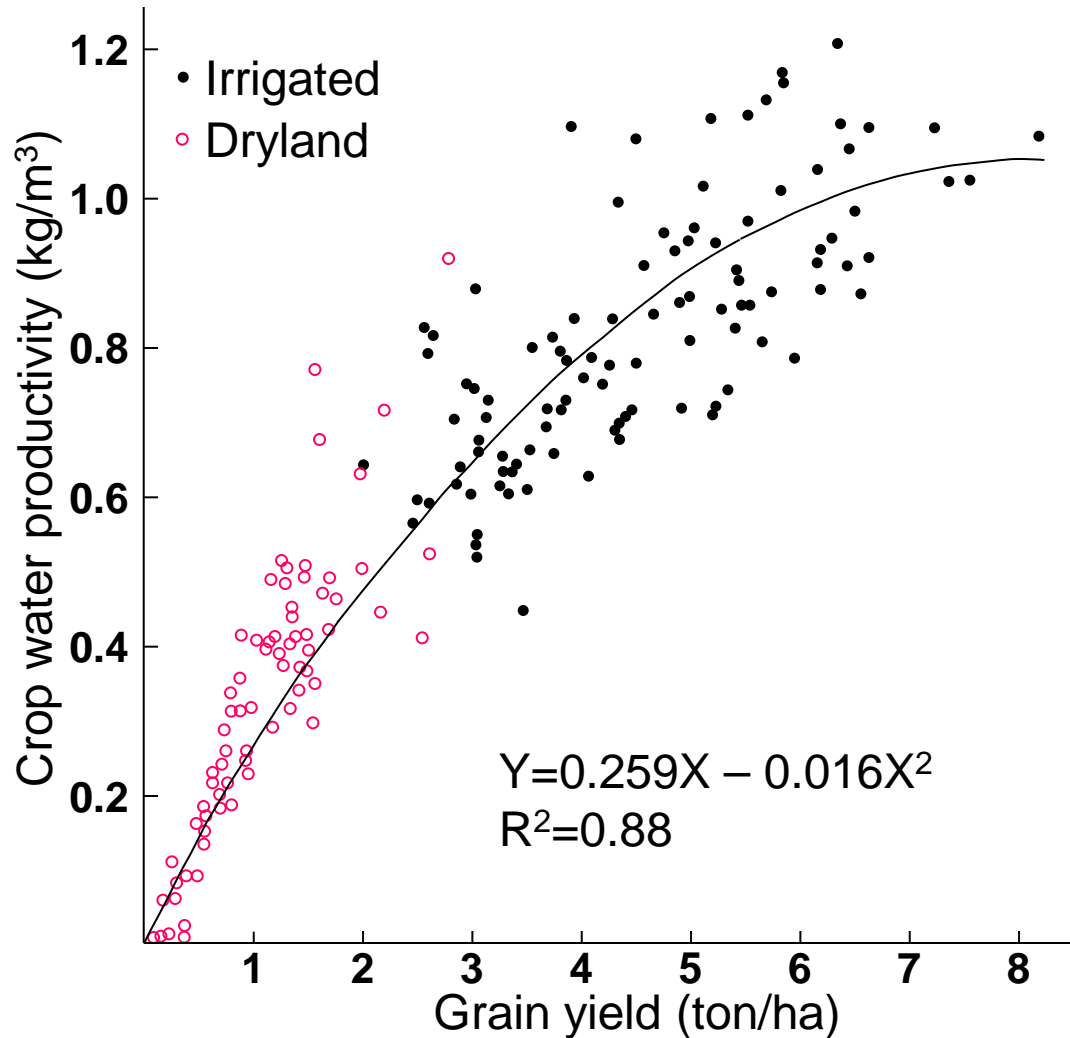
Evaporation

River & Lake

Green Water ~65%

Blue Water ~35%

Relationship of crop water productivity (cwp) to grain yield



From: Musick *et al.* 1994

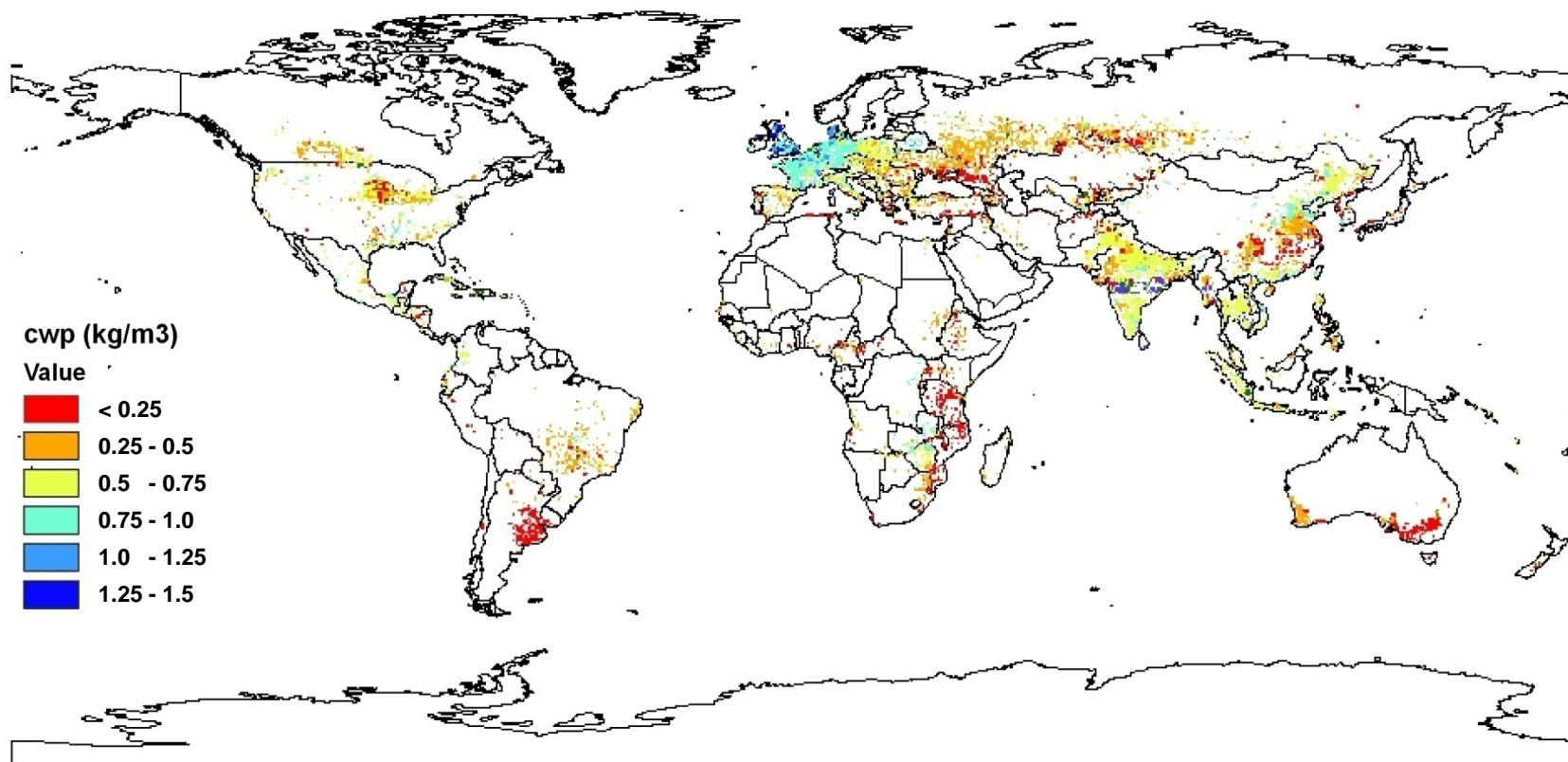
Irrigated crop water productivity



Crop	No. of studies	Median per study kg/m ³	Overall median kg/m ³
Wheat	28	0.58 – 2.23	1.06
Rice	13	0.46 – 1.84	0.89
Maize	26	1.01 – 2.92	1.78

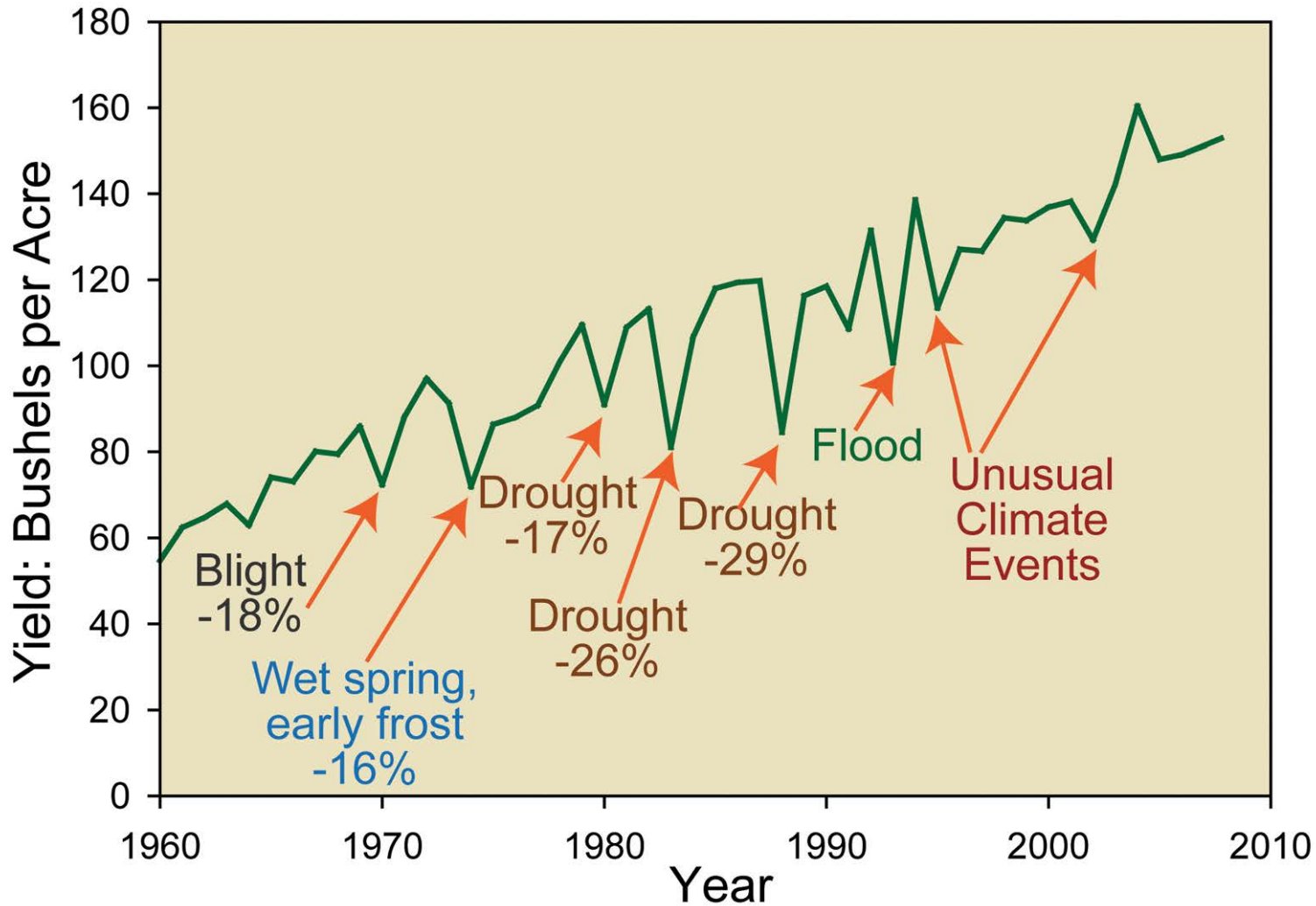
Data are from studies from 1996 to 2005

Crop water productivity of wheat (2000)

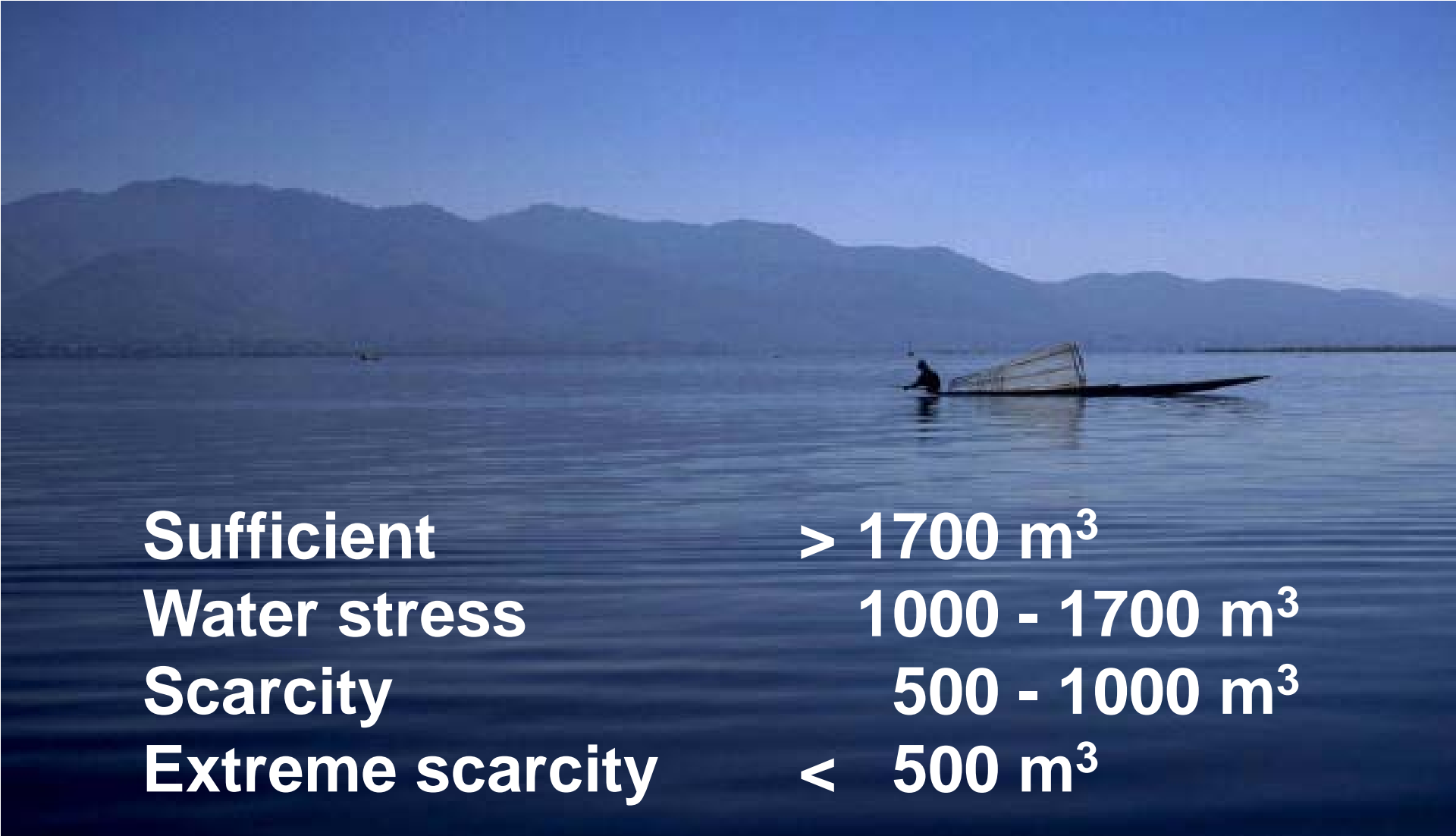


From Liu *et al.* 2007

Impact of climate on agricultural production



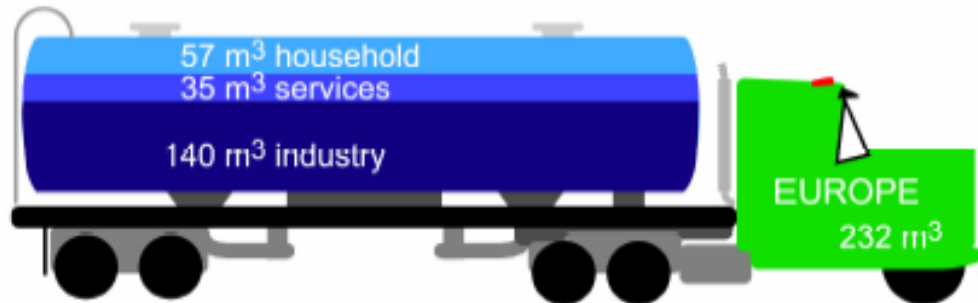
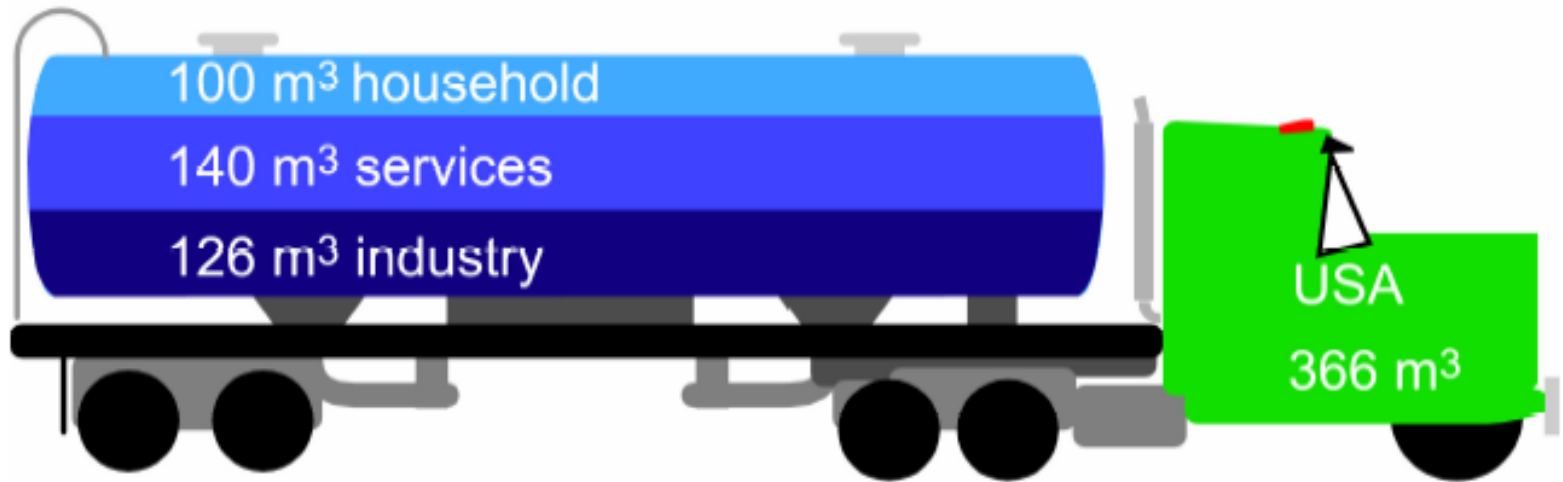
Annual water requirement per person



A photograph of a person in a small boat on a large body of water, with mountains in the background. The person is using a traditional fishing net. The water is calm and the sky is clear.

Sufficient	> 1700 m³
Water stress	1000 - 1700 m³
Scarcity	500 - 1000 m³
Extreme scarcity	< 500 m³

Annual water requirement per capita for household, services, industrial activities



AFRICA

10 m³ household
8 m³ services
7 m³ industry

(average 2002–2011)

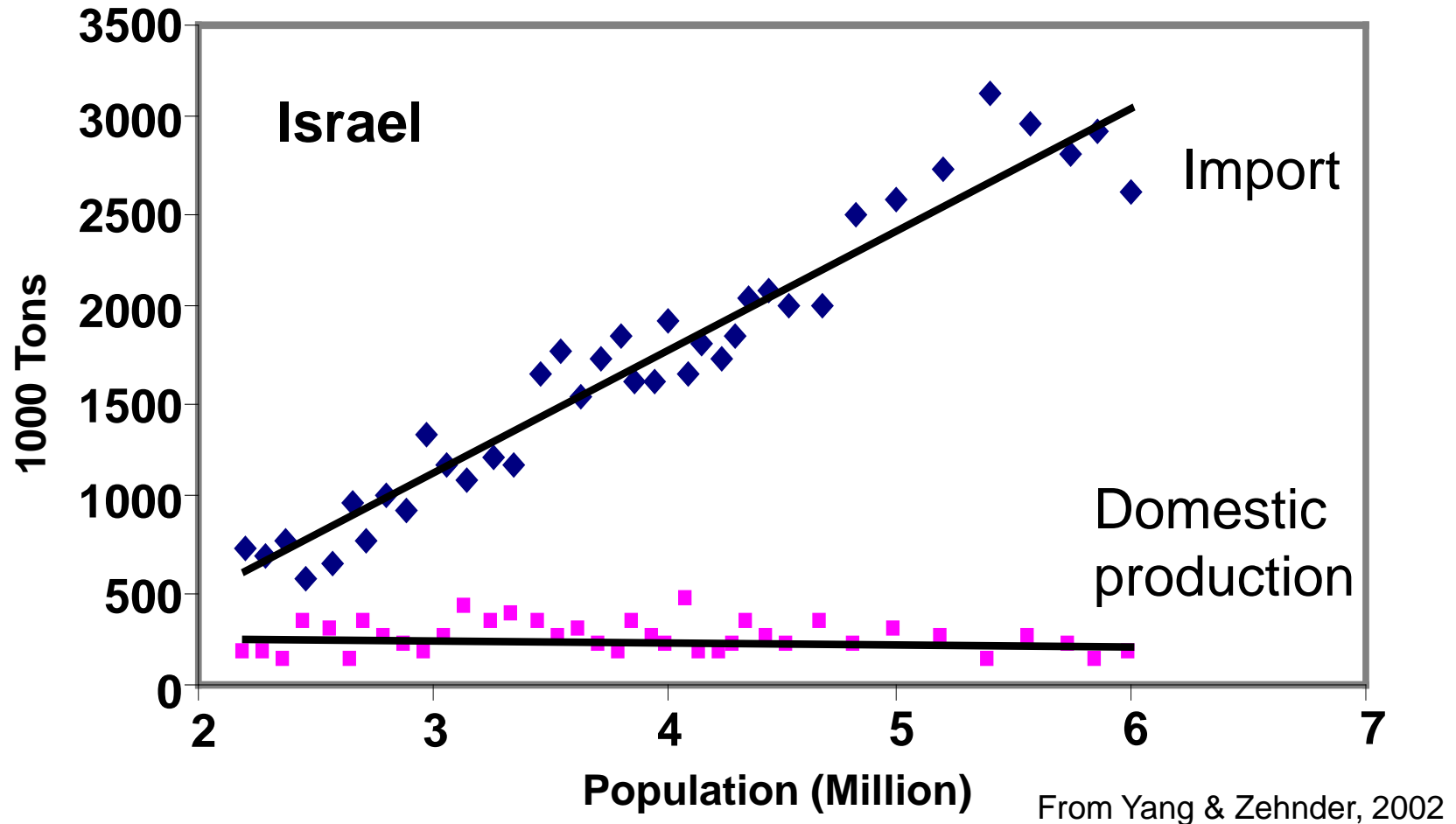
Annual per capita water needs for food to cover 2500 kcal a day



**20% meat:
1200 - 1500 m³**

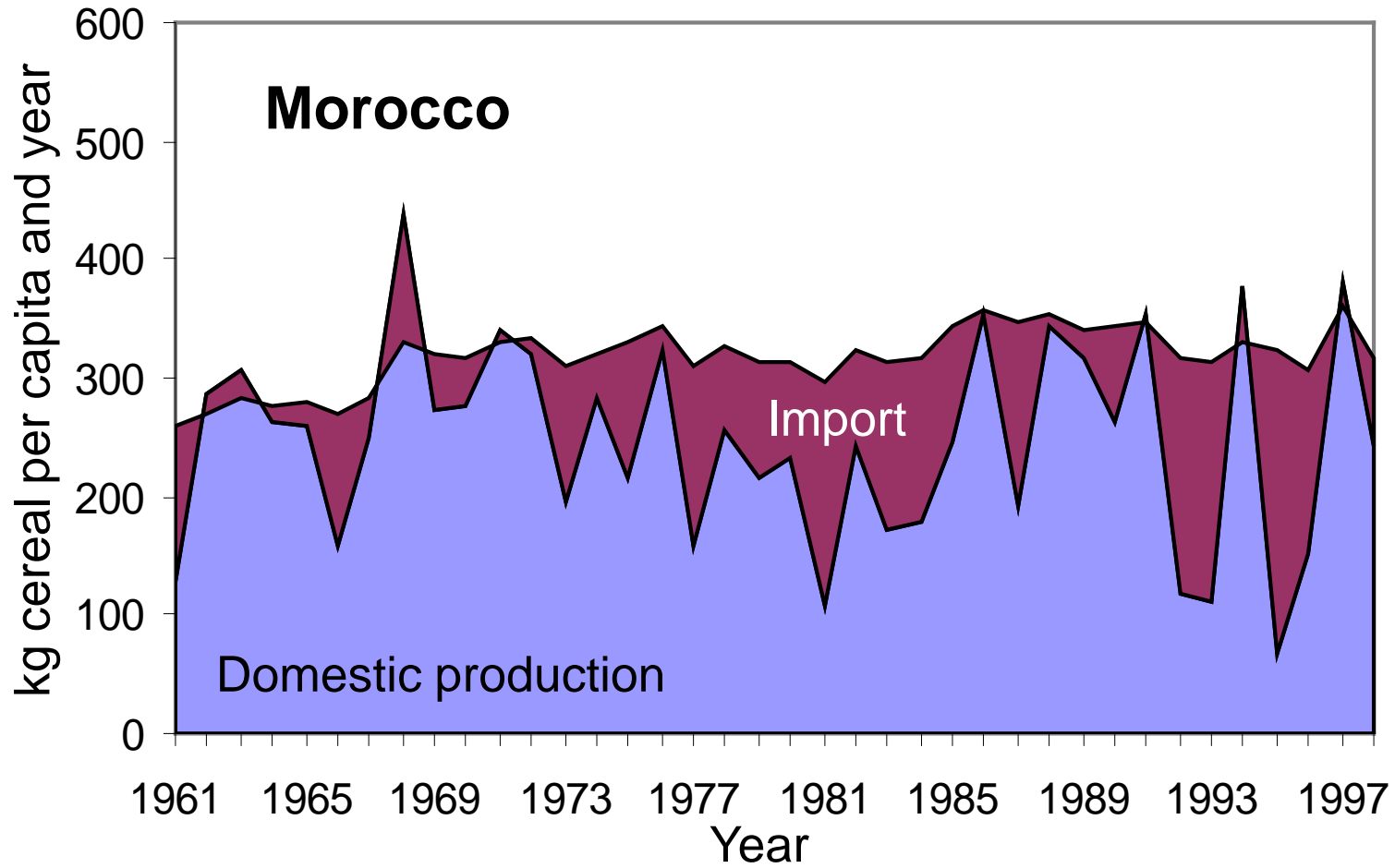
**Vegetarian:
600 - 1000 m³**

Population, cereal import, and domestic production (1961–1998)



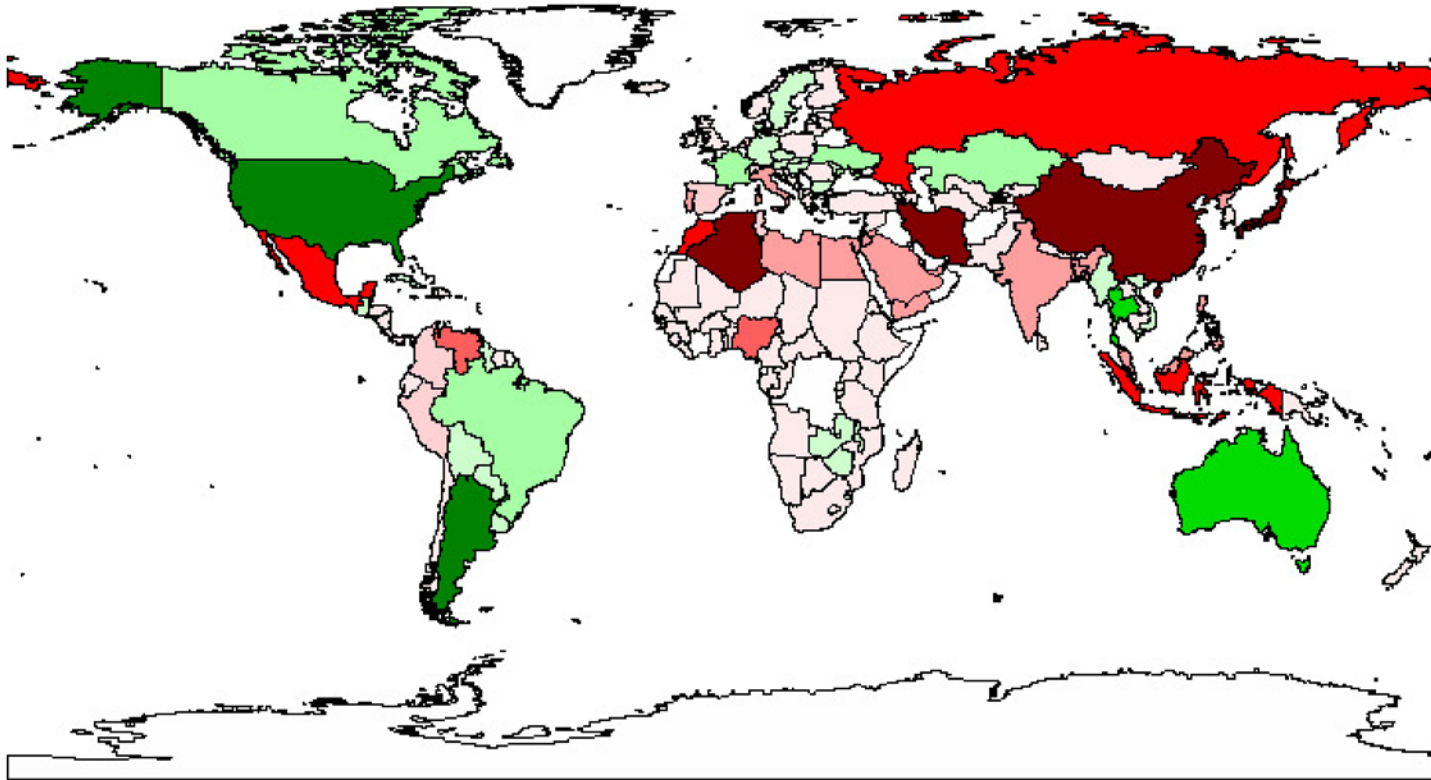
From Yang & Zehnder, 2002

Changes and sources of per capita cereal supply, 1961–1998 (kg/capita)

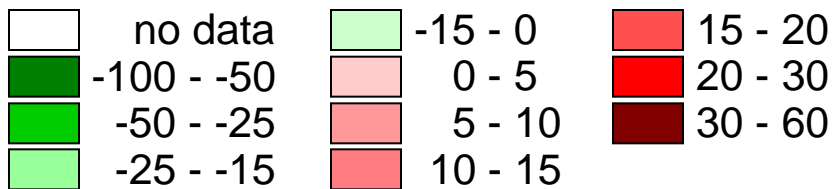


Data from Yang & Zehnder, 2002

Net virtual water trade by country (average over the period 2000–2006)

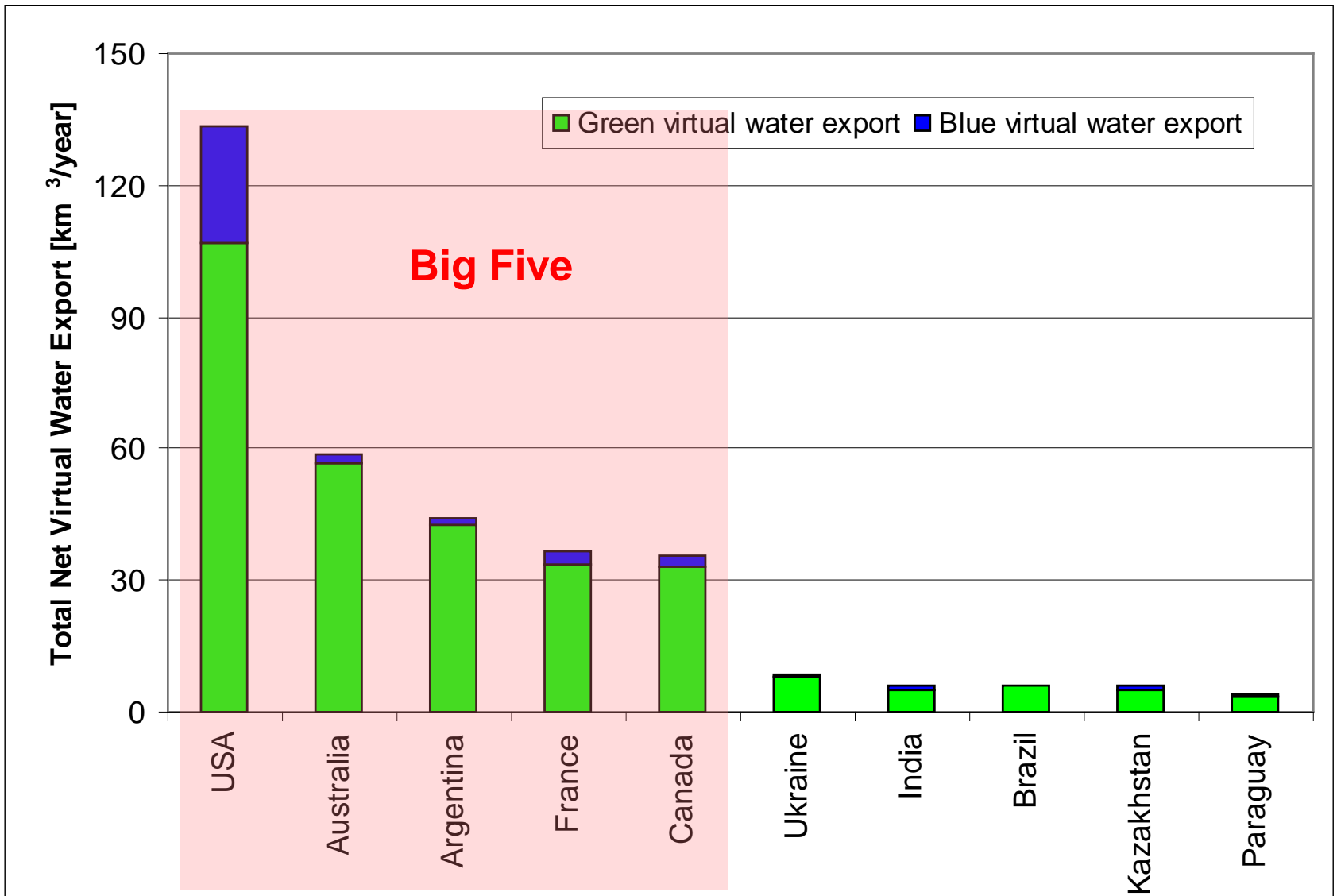


Unit: cubic km

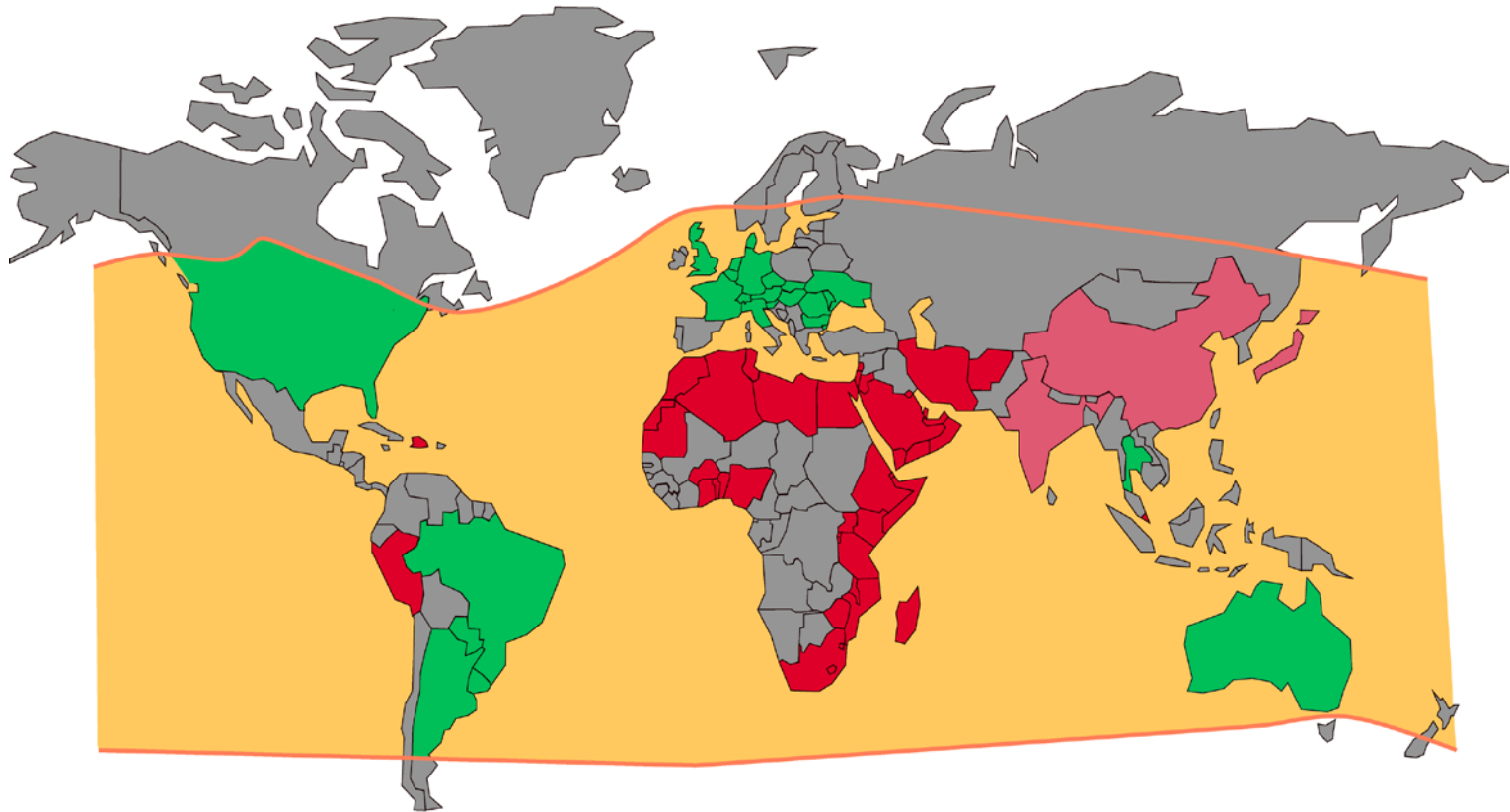


From Yang *et al.* 2007

Virtual water export



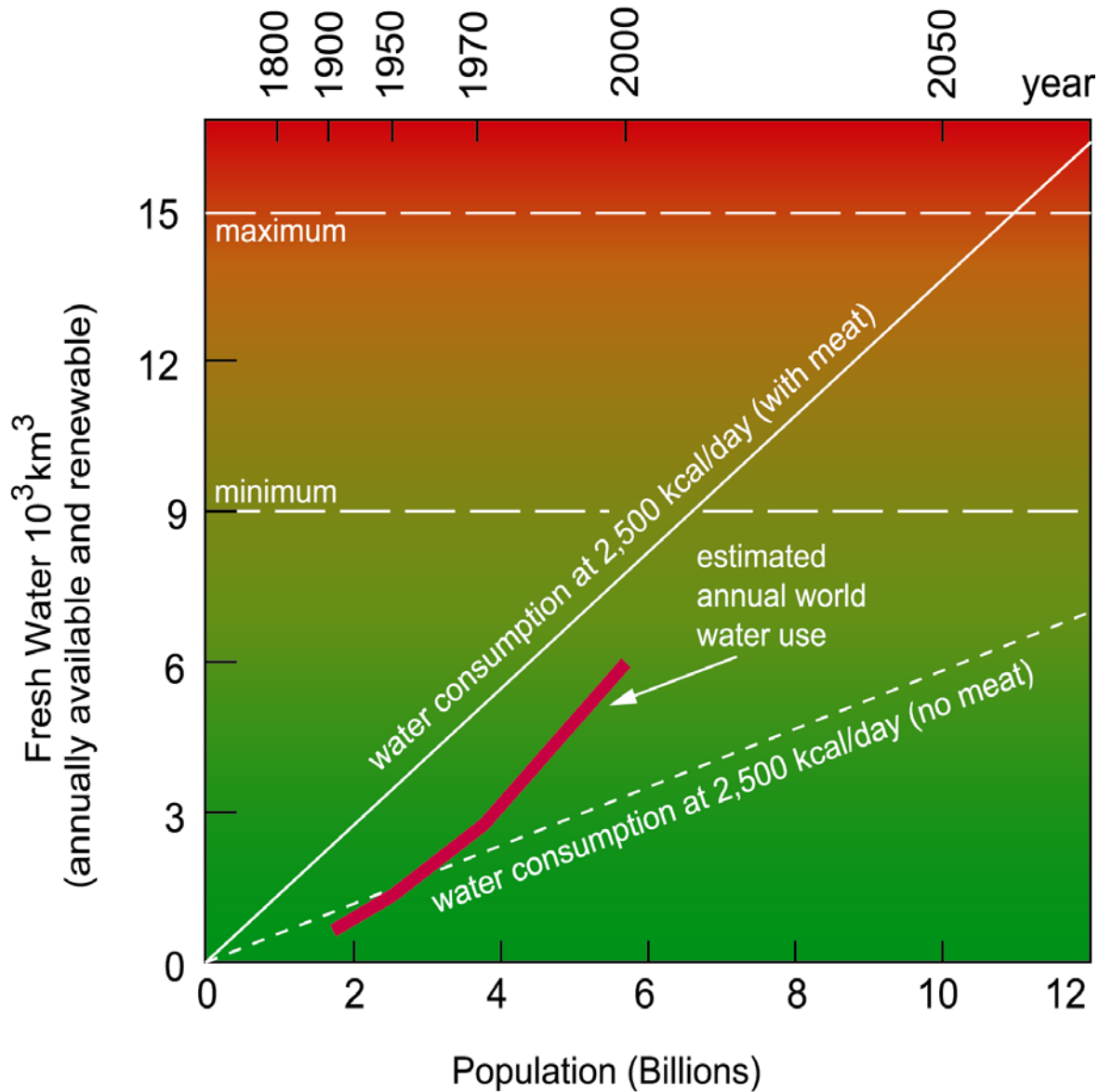
Situation 2030



- Limits for food production
- Lack of water for sufficient food production
- Water, soil and climatic conditions allow substantial food production for export

From Zehnder, 2002

Projection of water availability



From Zehnder, 1999

Future? – models used and interpretation

Models used

HadCM3 (Hadley Centre Coupled Model, version 3), UK

CGCM2 (Coupled Global Climate Model version 2), Canada

CSIRO2 (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization), Australia

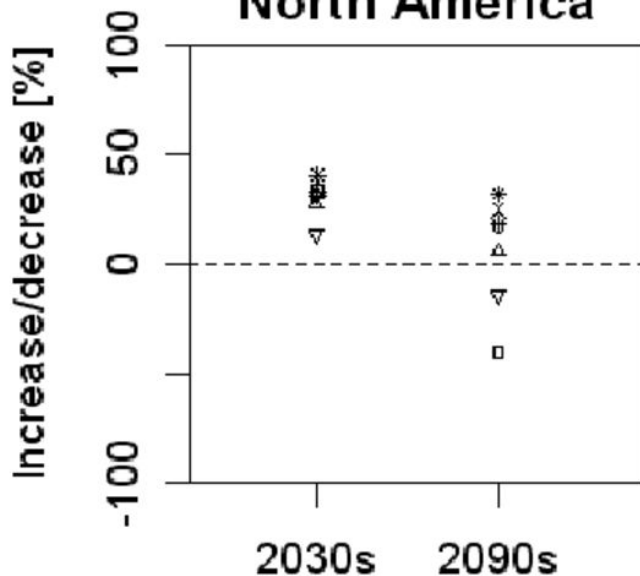
Parallel Climate Model couples three models, USA

Scenarios

A1FI - emphasis on fossil-fuels (Fossil Intensive).

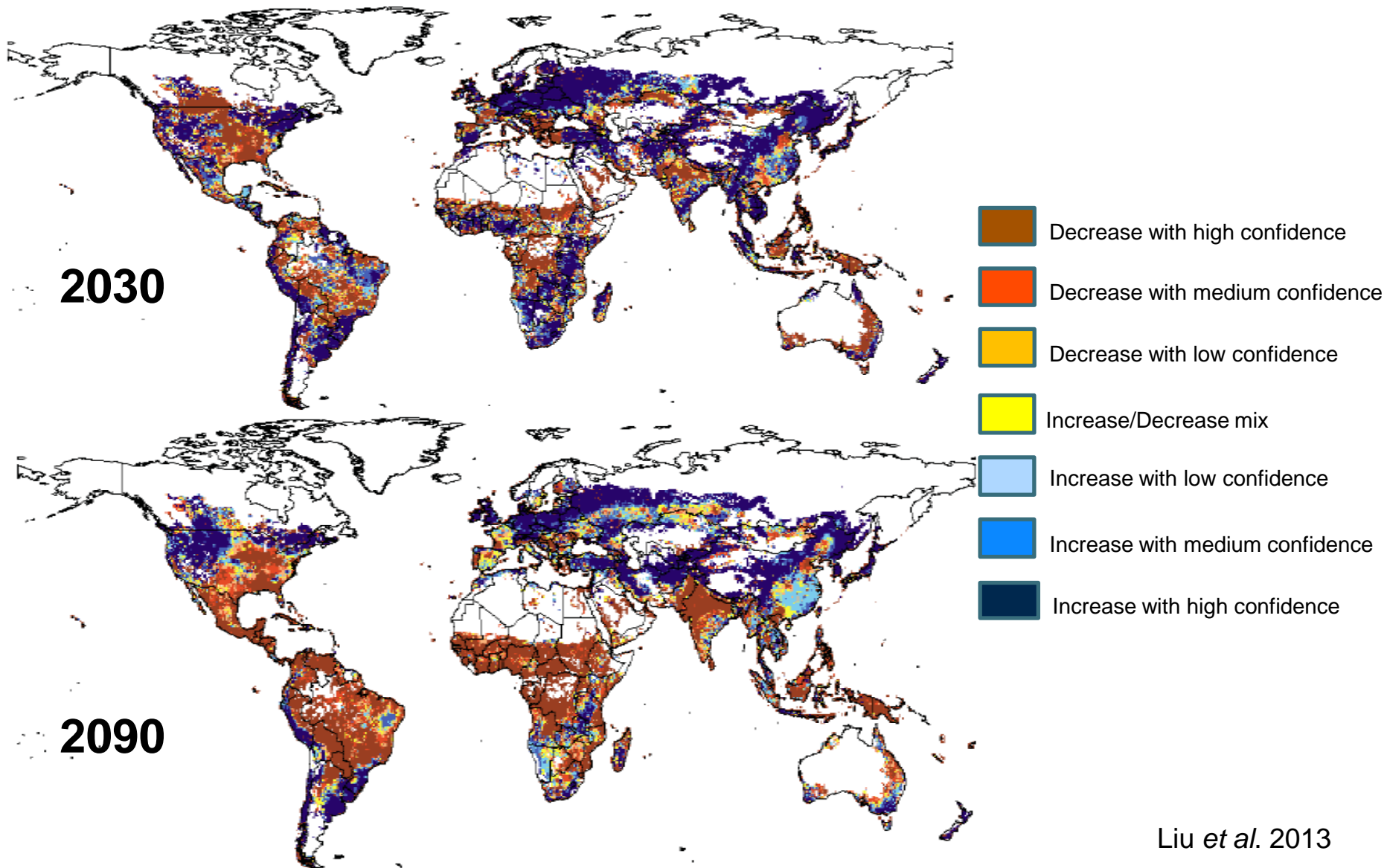
B2 – local environmental sustainable

North America

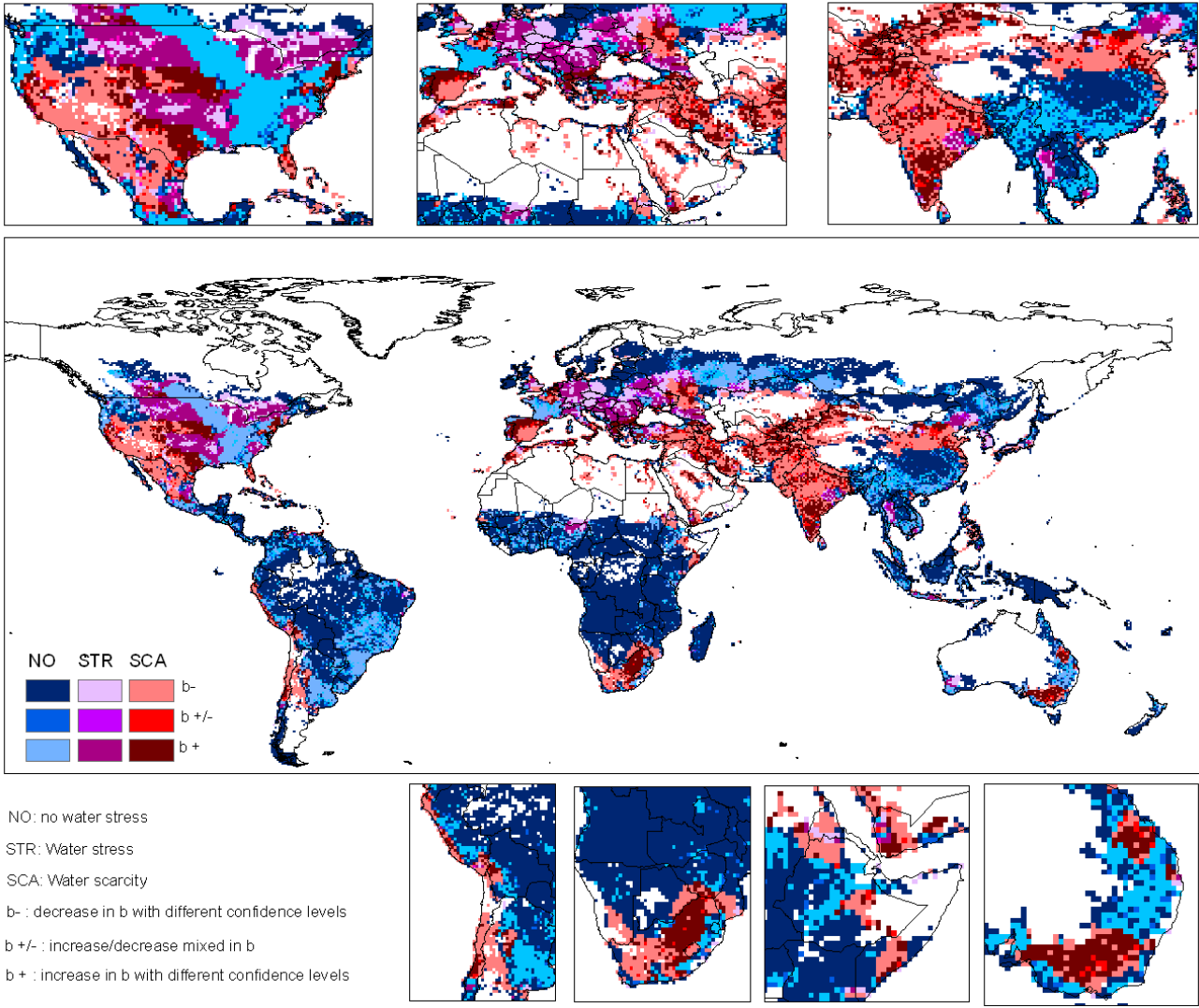


Increase with high confidence	7 scenarios
Increase with medium confidence	6 scenarios
Increase with low confidence	5 scenarios
Decrease with low confidence	5 scenarios
Decrease with medium confidence	6 scenarios
Decrease with high confidence	7 scenarios
Increase/decrease mixed	All others

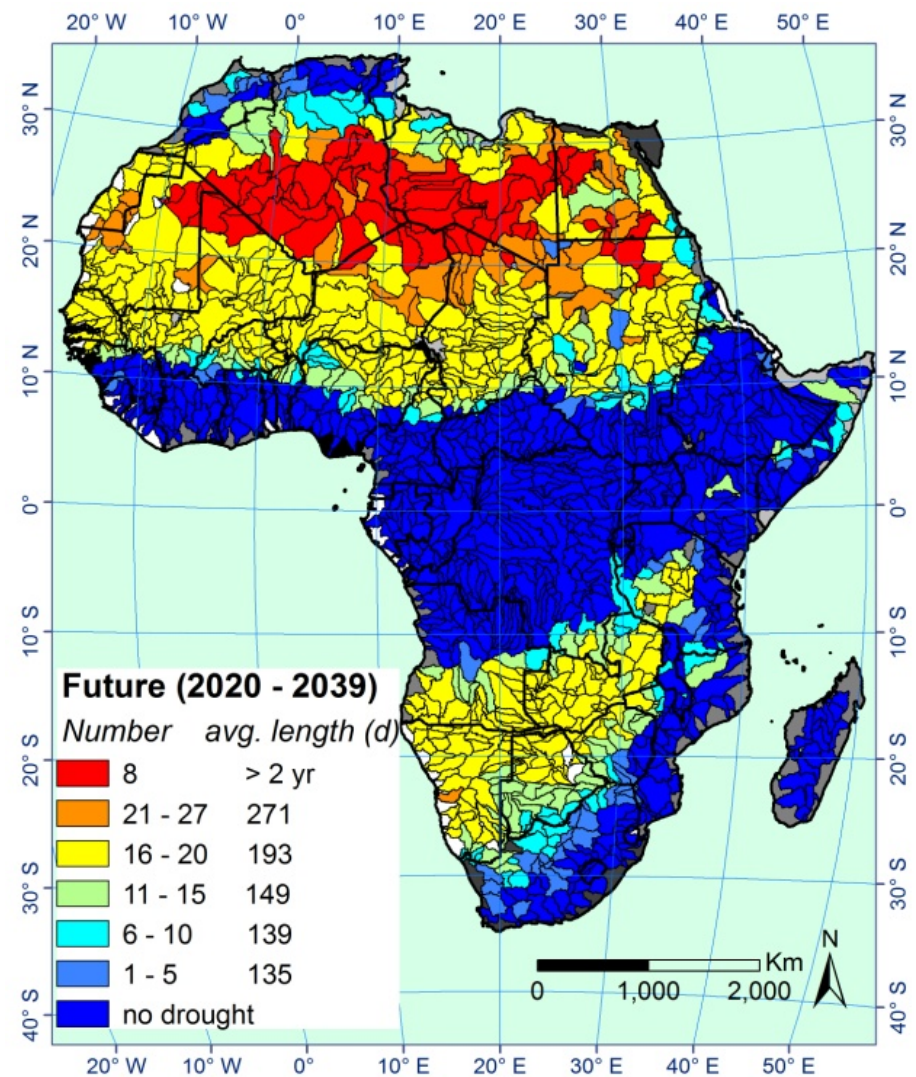
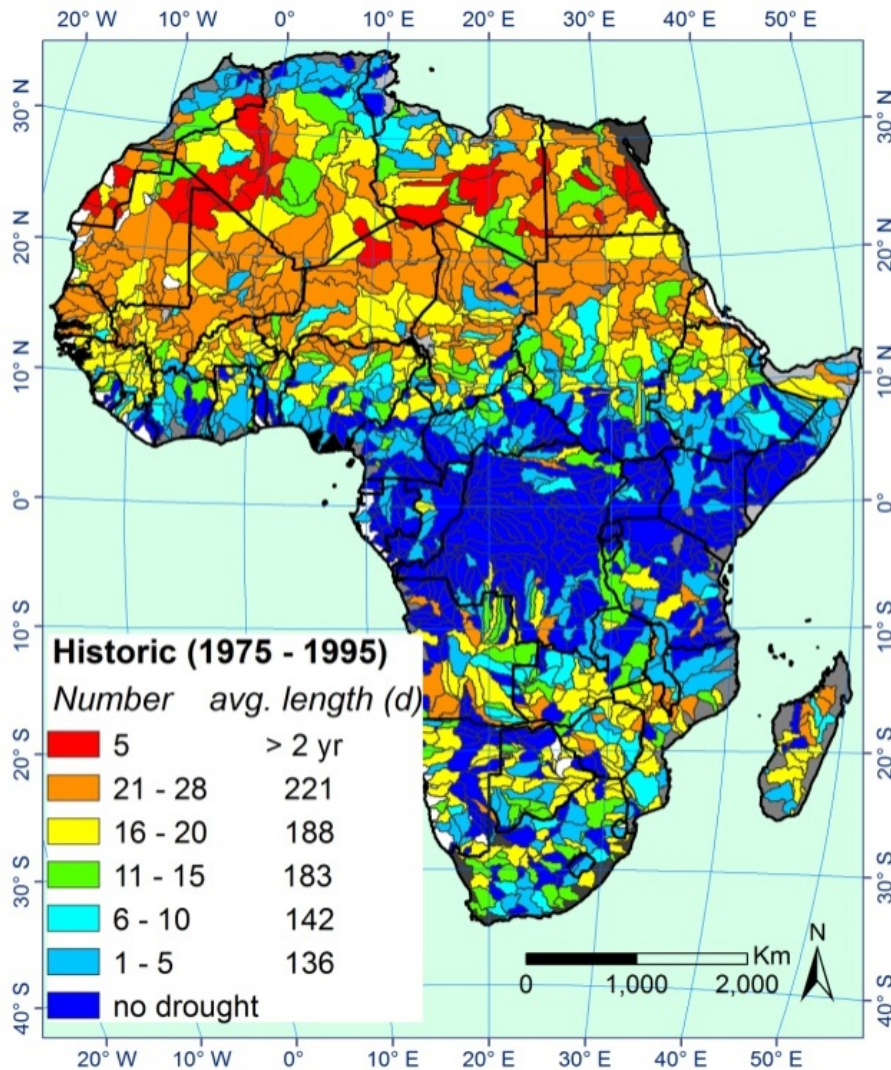
Impact of climate change on crop production (wheat, maize & rice)



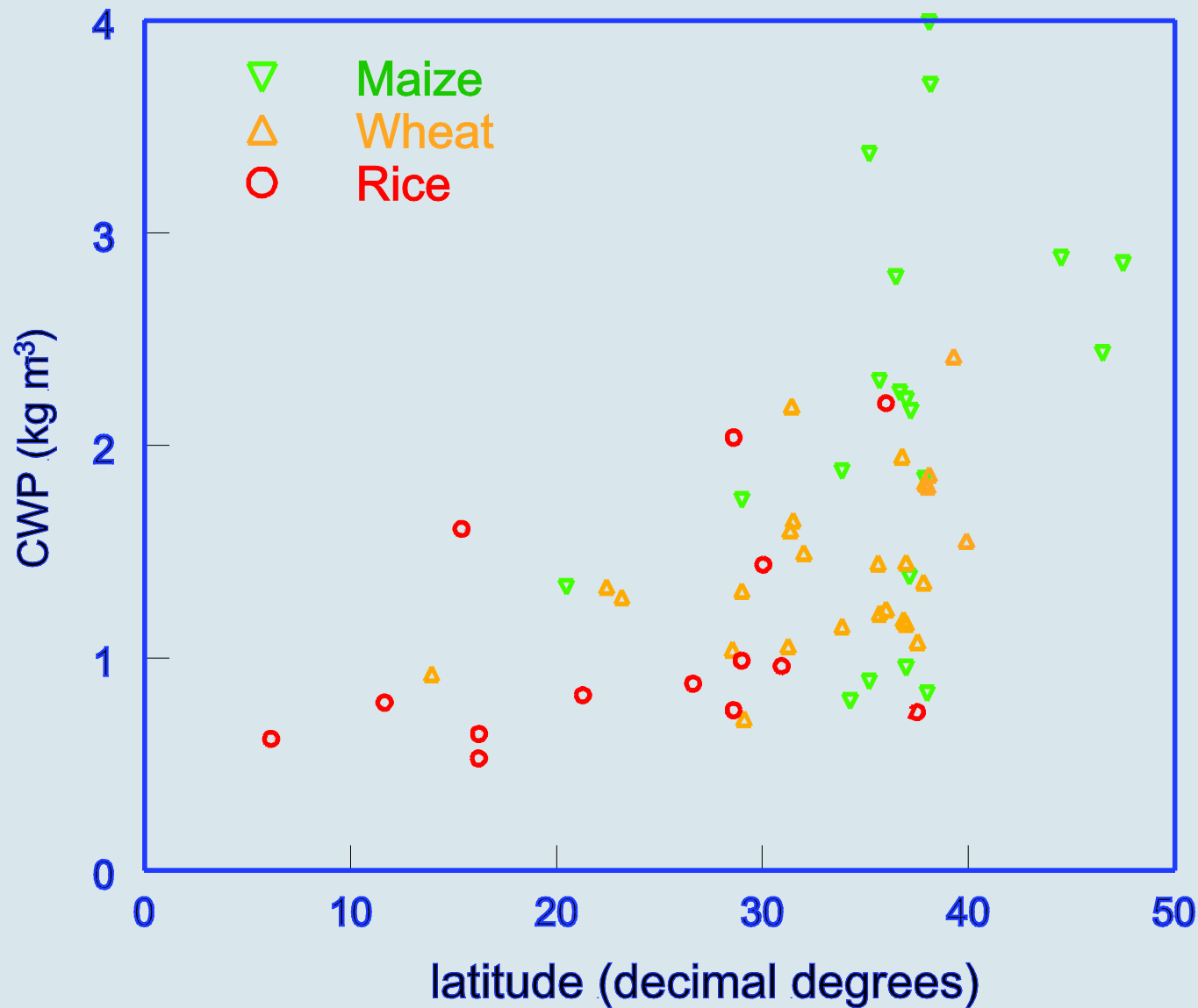
Climate change induced trend in blue water availability in 2030



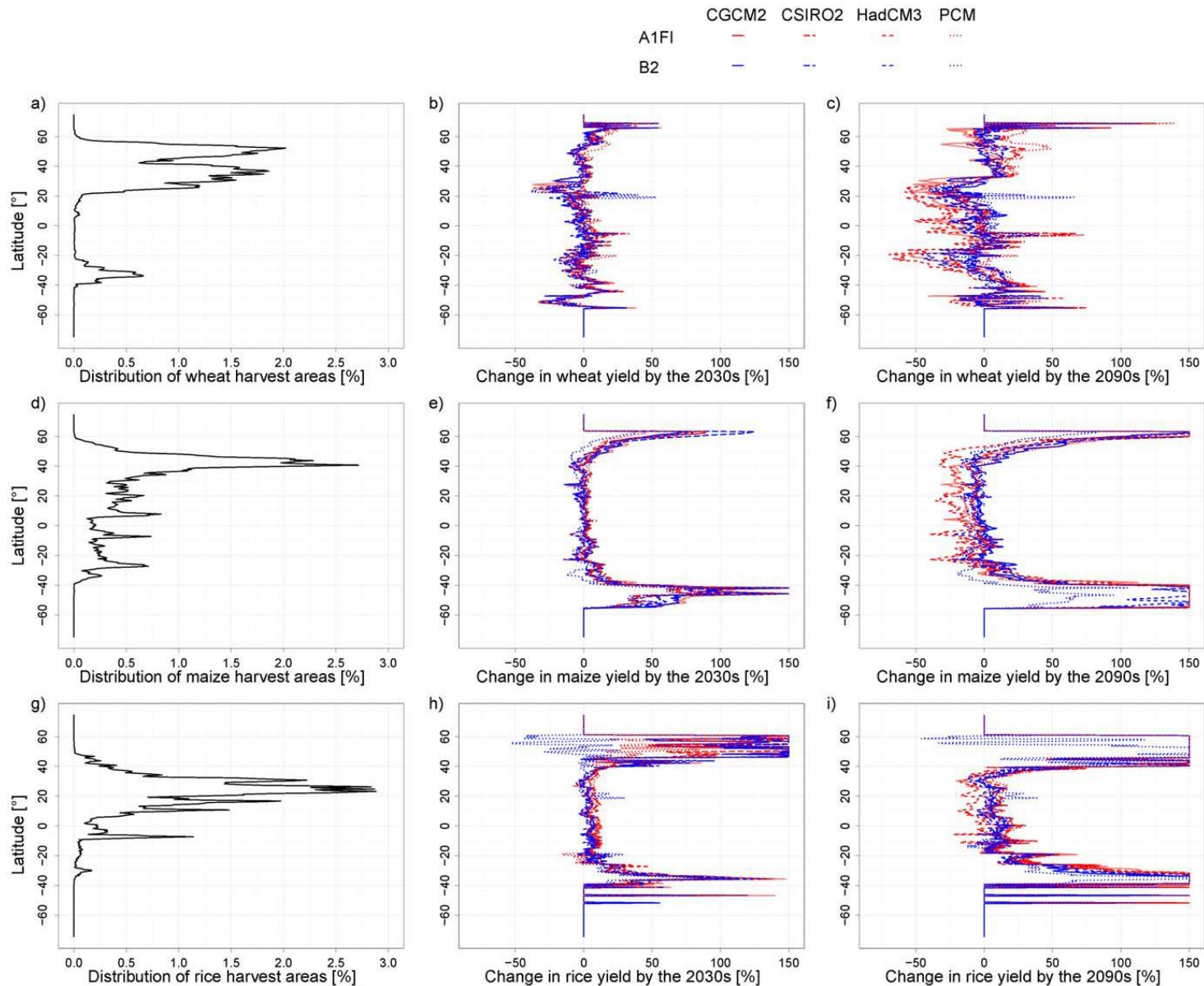
Frequencies of droughts



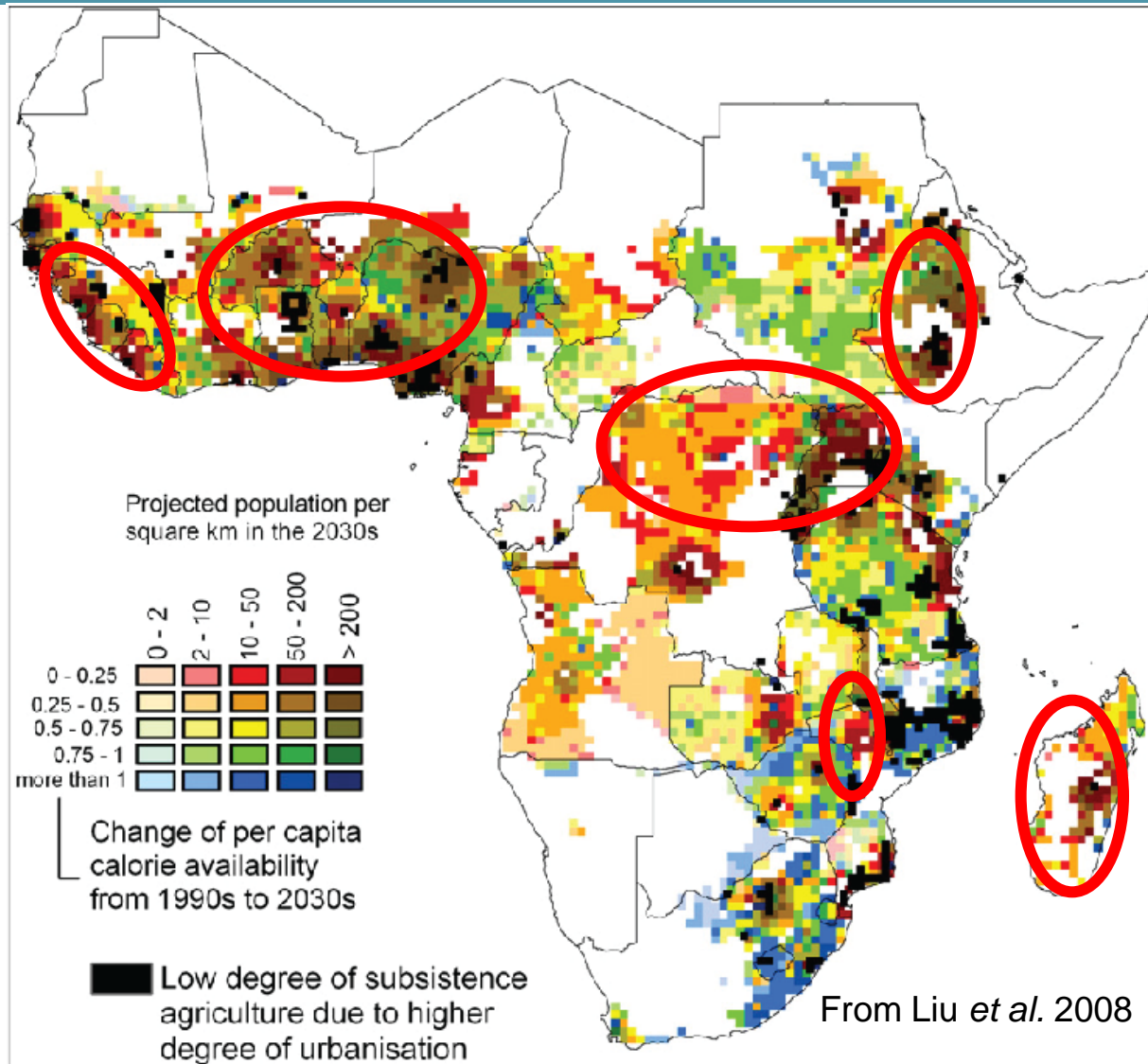
Latitude dependent irrigated crop water productivity



Change in crop yield



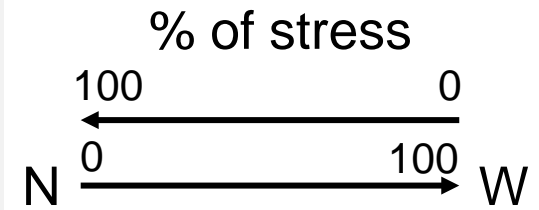
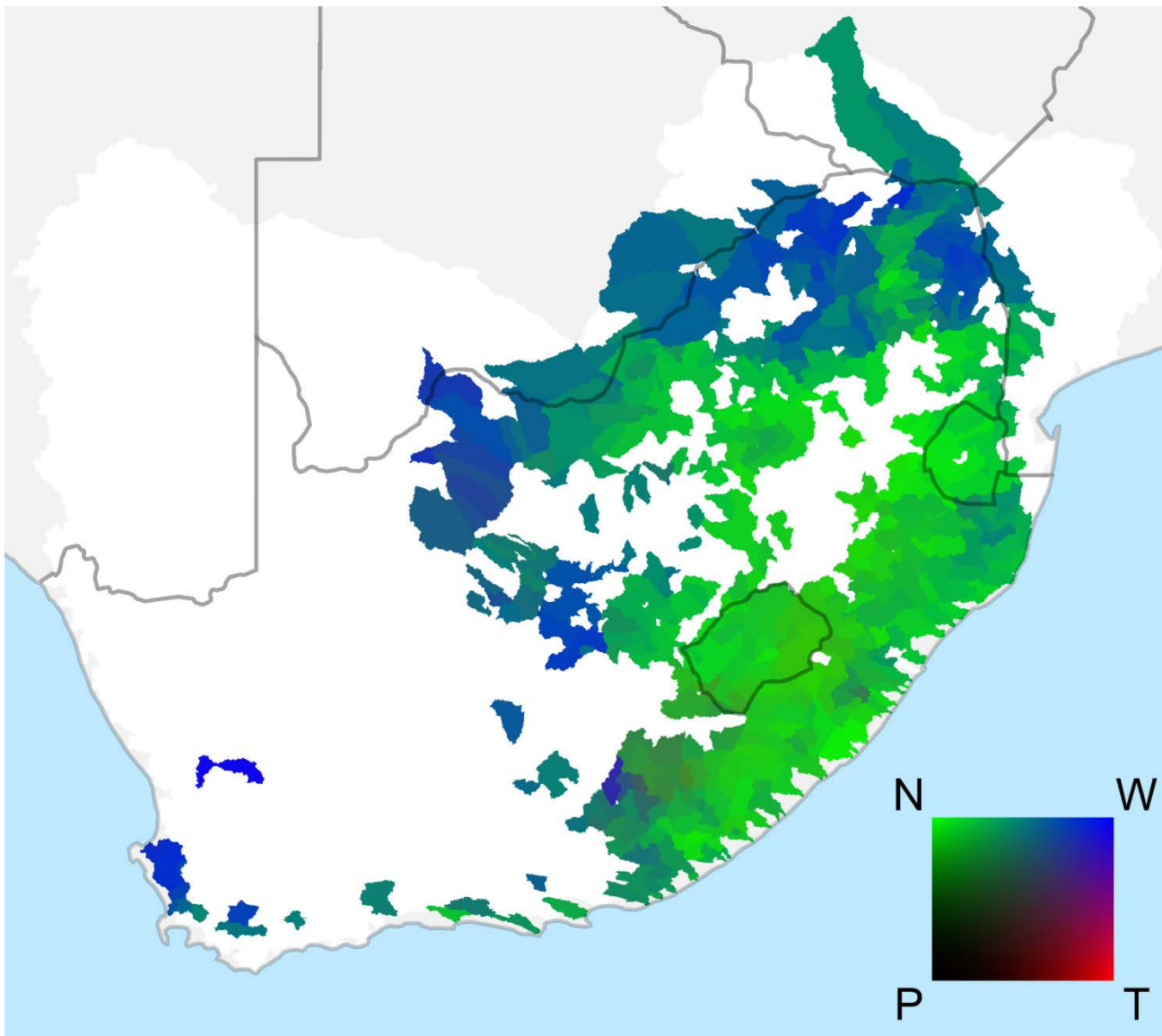
Food security in 2030



Example:
Sub Saharan Africa

Areas  with high food insecurity

Limiting factors for crop yields



Challenges & Conclusions

- Climate change may have globally less of a negative effect on water availability & food production but we need to feed 2 billion humans more.
- Flood and draughts will influence increasingly local food and water security.
- Economic and political dependence in the water and virtual water (food) sector is growing.
- Virtual water must become an integral part of future water management decisions.
- Geopolitical efforts are needed to allow the principle of national food self-sufficiency to be abandoned.
- Only if these challenges are met governments can take the most optimal economic and ecological decisions for the use of the available water in their countries.