

# 2052 – A Global Forecast for the Next Forty Years

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#### 12 scenarios for the 21<sup>st</sup> century

LIMITS TO GROWTH The 30-Year Update DONIELLA MEADOWS | JORGEN RANDERS | DENNIS MEADOWS

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#### Limits Scenario 1: Resource crisis



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Source: Meadows, Randers and Meadows, LTG 30 year update, 2004

#### Limits Scenario 9: Sustainability



## The 3 conclusions of The Limits to Growth

- The planet is small (Resource constraints are likely within 100 years if growth continue)
- Overshoot is likely (Current systems of governance are likely to allow human activity to grow beyond the finite carrying capacity of the planet)
- Once in overshoot, physical contraction is unavoidable (Either managed or by the forces of nature or the market)

#### A Global Forecast for the Next Forty Years

For all numerical data and the forecast model, consult the book website www.2052.info

for the Next Forty Years 아는 어떤 하루를 살고 있을까





#### JORGEN RANDERS

Der neue Bericht an den Club of Rome 40 Jahre nach »Die Grenzen des Wachstums« A GLOBAL FORECAST FOR THE NEXT FORTY VEARS



#### 今後40年のグローバル予測

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#### **Jorgen Randers**

A REPORT TO THE CLUB OF ROME COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF The Limits to Growth

## The five regions used in the 2052 forecast

Region	Population 2010	GDP 2010	GDP per person 2010
	(billion people)	(trillion \$ pr year)	(1000 \$ pr person-year)
US	0,3	13	41
China	1,3	10	7
OECD-less-US (1)	0,7	22	30
BRISE (2)	2,4	14	6
ROW (3)	2,1	8	4
Sum world	6,9	67	10

(1) Old industrial world, including EU, Japan, Canada, Australia, New Zealand etc
(2) Brazil, Russia, India, South Africa and the ten biggest emerging economies
(3) The remaining ca 140 countries of the world

### World population will peak in 2040



Figure 4-1 Population – World 1970 to 2050

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Source: Jorgen Randers, 2052, Chelsea Green, Vermont, May 2012

#### World GDP growth will slow down



## **Global consumption will peak in 2045**



Figure 4-4: Production, Consumption and Investment – World 1970 to 2050

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Source: Jorgen Randers, 2052, Chelsea Green, Vermont, May 2012

#### Energy use will peak in 2040



Figure 5-1: Energy Use – World 1970 to 2050

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Source: Jorgen Randers, 2052, Chelsea Green, Vermont, May 2012

#### Fossil fuel use will peak around 2030



## World CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will peak in 2030



Figure 5-3: CO2 Emissions from Energy Use – World 1970 to 2050.

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Source: Jorgen Randers, 2052, Chelsea Green, Vermont, May 2012

#### Temperature will pass +2 degrees C in 2052



Figure 5-4: Climate Change – World 1970 to 2050

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Source: Jorgen Randers, 2052, Chelsea Green, Vermont, May 2012

#### Food will satisfy demand – but not need



Figure 6-1: Food Production - World 1970 to 2050

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Source: Jorgen Randers, 2052, Chelsea Green, Vermont, May 2012

#### **Discussion of the 2052 forecast**

- Growth in population and GDP will slow "by itself" – because of human decision making, not because of planetary constraints
- 2. But growth will not slow fast enough to avoid a climate crisis
- There will be enough resources including energy, water and food – to cover demand (which is not the same as need)
- 4. There will be more poverty both in the rich and the poor world

### There will be huge regional differences



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Source: Jorgen Randers, 2052, Chelsea Green, Vermont, May 2012

#### Main conclusions from the 2052 forecast

 World population and economy will grow more slowly towards 2052 than most people expect
 but still fast enough to trigger a climate crisis

Consumption will stagnate because world society will have to spend ever more on repair and adaptation

 The short-term nature of man
 reflected in the short term focus of democracy and capitalism is the root cause of this development

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#### What should be done? - Ideally

- 1. Further slow population growth Introduce 1-child policy – first in rich world
- 2. Cut CO2 emissions first in the rich world Ban the use of coal, oil and gas from 2024
- **3.** Reduce poverty in the poor world *Give them a climate-friendly energy system*
- 4. Reduce the ecological footprint of the rich world Legislate compulsory vacation
- 5. Temper national short termism Establish supra-national institutions
- 6. Reduce the focus on income growth Establish "increase in well-being" as a new goal

#### What should be done? – Realistically (1 of 2)

**1.** Further slow population growth Give moral support to women with < 2.1 children Increase the pension age Explain that support burden will stay constant 2. Cut CO2 emissions – first in the rich world Subsidize energy efficiency in all sectors Build no new fossil capacity in the rich world Introduce a high carbon price Reduce poverty in the poor world 3. Use most development aid to build renewable energy capacity Copy the rise of Japan, South Korea, and China – and their use of strong government

### What should be done? – Realistically (2 of 2)

4. Reduce the ecological footprint of the rich world Legislate more compulsory vacation Give each person the right to a certain amount of paid work ("ration paid work")

5. Temper national short termism Establish a global agreement where all nations promise to emit less CO2 than the US Evolve IPCC to IPCC3 (funded to execute the most effective cuts)

6. Reduce the focus on income growth *Start measuring change in well-being alongside change in GDP* 

#### Time to turn!



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#### What can you do on your own?

Fight short-termism in the following ways:

- 1. Accept that the root problem is human short-termism "My greed today damages my grandchildren!"
- 2. Tell the world that you will do your fair share once the majority agrees to act "I am ready if you are!"
- **3.** Admit that the simplest solution is strong government

"I am in favour of tax-financed, collective action!"

Or at the very least: 0. Buy CO2 emission rights in the European quota trading system and burn them!

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# **Slowing growth in total productivity - USA**



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Source: Jorgen Randers, 2052, Chelsea Green, Vermont, May 2012

## Fertility decline in EU-15 – 1950 to 2010



#### Enough land – but less of it undisturbed



Figure 6-2: Biological Capacity – World 1970 to 2050

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Source: Jorgen Randers, 2052, Chelsea Green, Vermont, May 2012

#### OECD outside the US – 1970 to 2050



#### OECD outside the US – 1970 to 2050



#### OECD outside the US – 1970 to 2050

