

# SCP in Europe – Policy developments and the link to climate change



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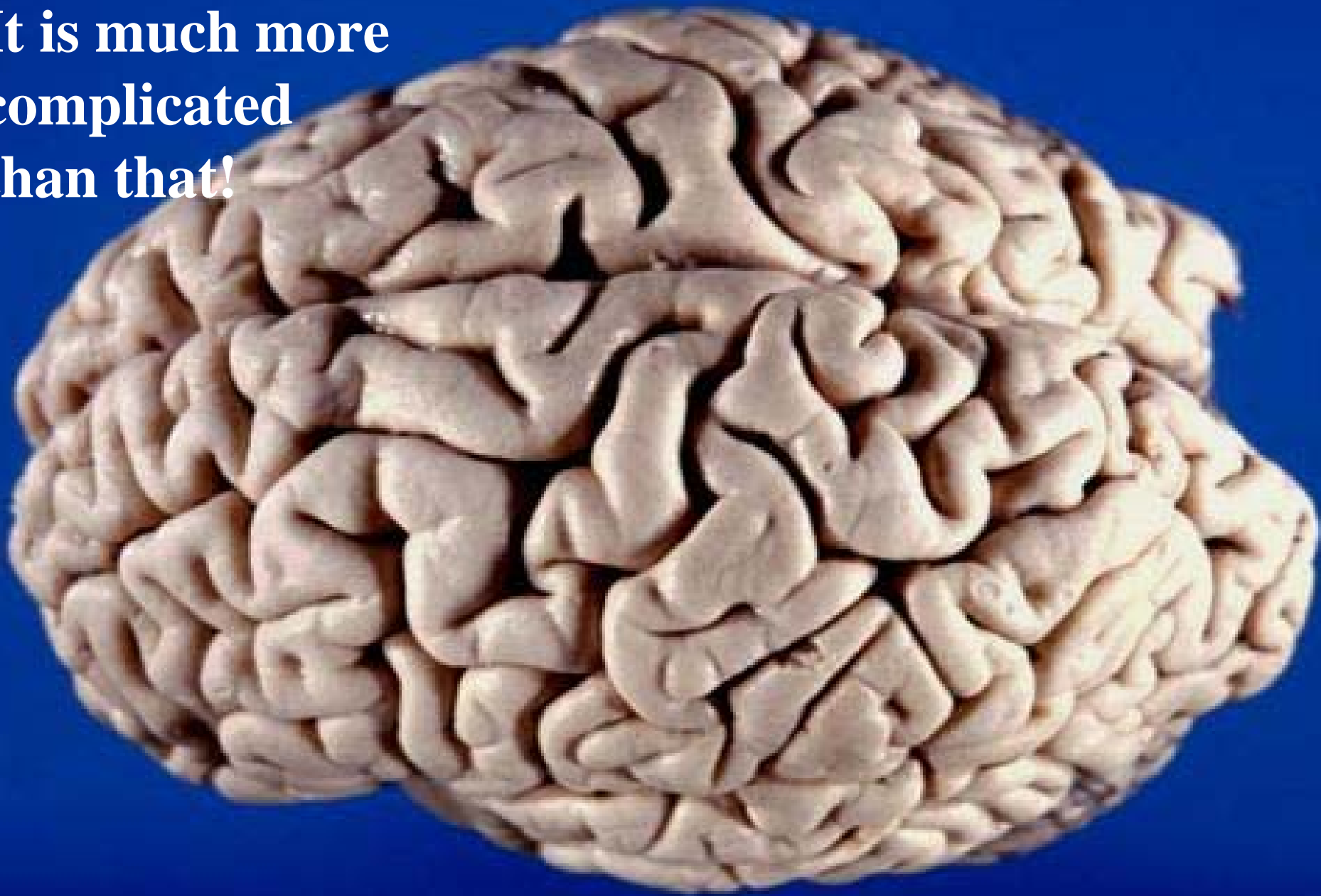


A photograph of a rocket launch at sunset. The rocket is on the left, with a large plume of white smoke and fire at its base. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, with a crescent moon visible in the upper right. The foreground shows the silhouettes of launch pad structures and utility poles.

**Achieving sustainable  
consumption and  
production  
is not rocket science...**



**It is much more  
complicated  
than that!**



# The European Environment Agency (EEA)

- EU institution in Copenhagen since 1994
- Provide decision-makers with information needed for sound and effective policies
- 32 member countries
- SCP is one of our focus areas
- Works together with the European Topic Centre on SCP (ETC/SCP), a consortium of 8 partners from different European countries



# Points

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1. What is SCP?
2. Policy processes
3. Paradigm shift from production to consumption and production
4. The triangle of change
5. The SCP building blocks
6. The link to climate change

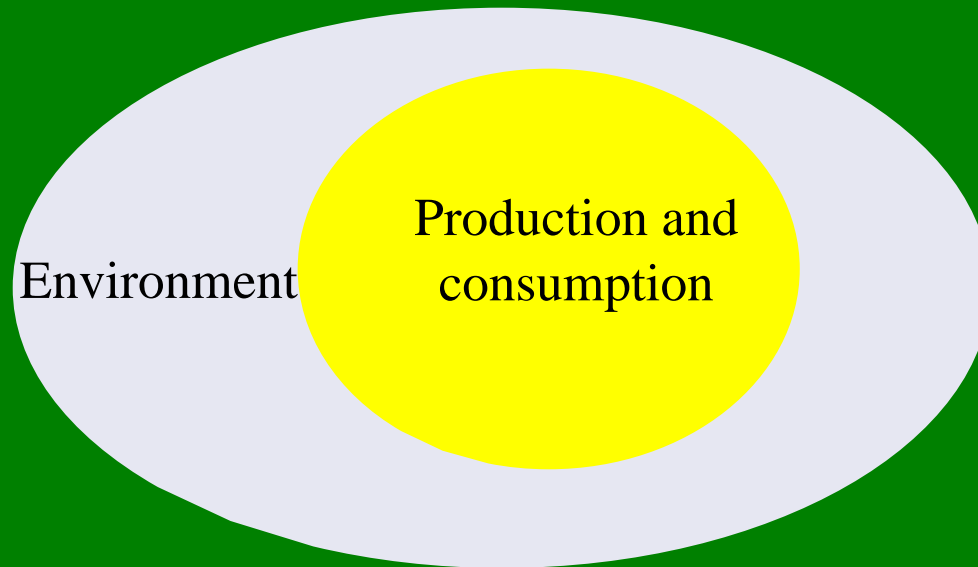


# Message 1

Sustainable consumption and production –  
the cornerstone of sustainable development



# What is SCP? - The Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Egg



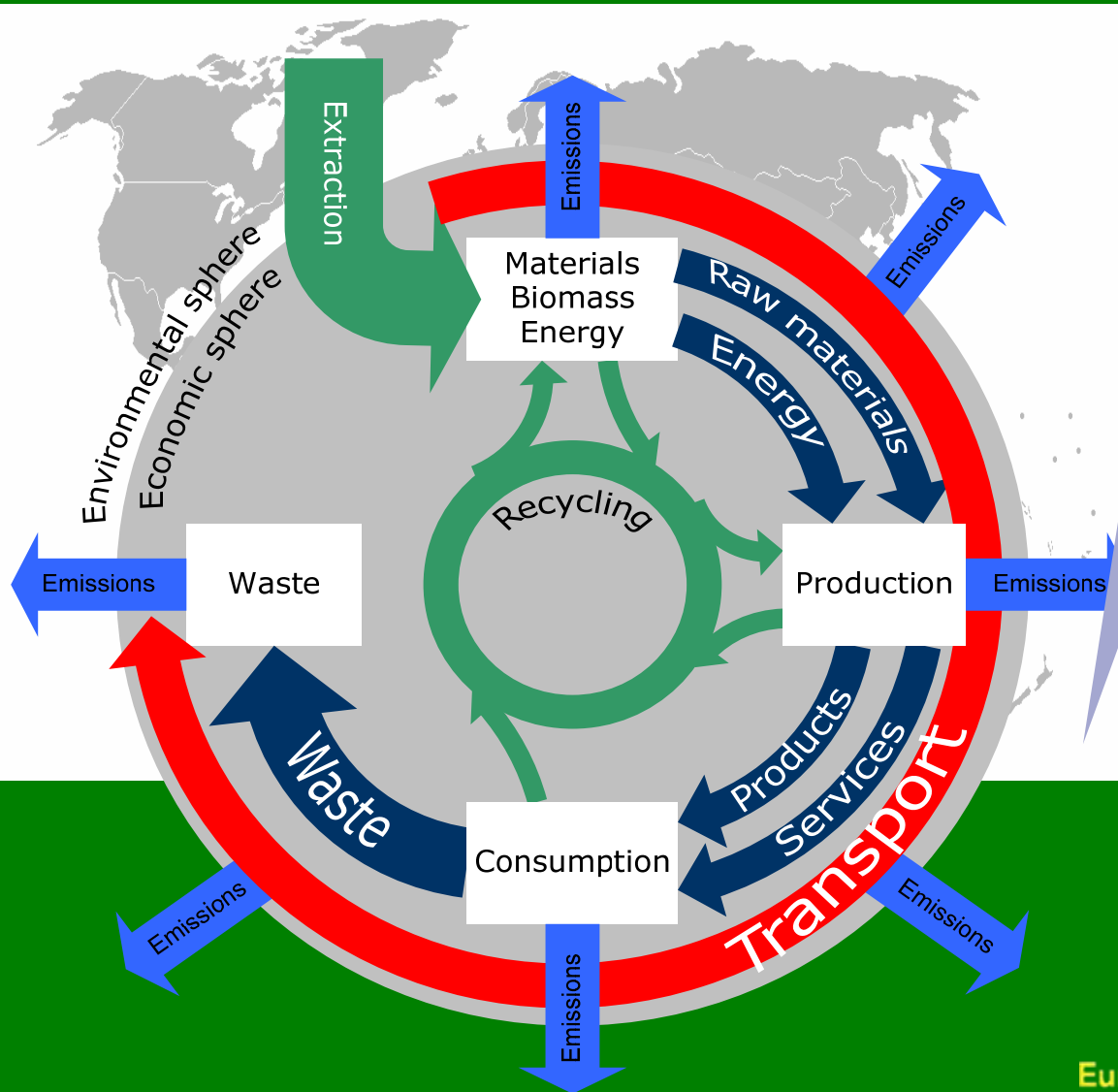
SCP = Links environment and economy

Links Europe and the world

Links public authorities, citizens and business



# What is SCP? - The full cycle



*..a holistic approach to minimising negative environmental impacts from the production-consumption systems in society.....so that the needs of society are met without jeopardising the ability of future generations to meet their needs*

Source: Oslo Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption, 1994

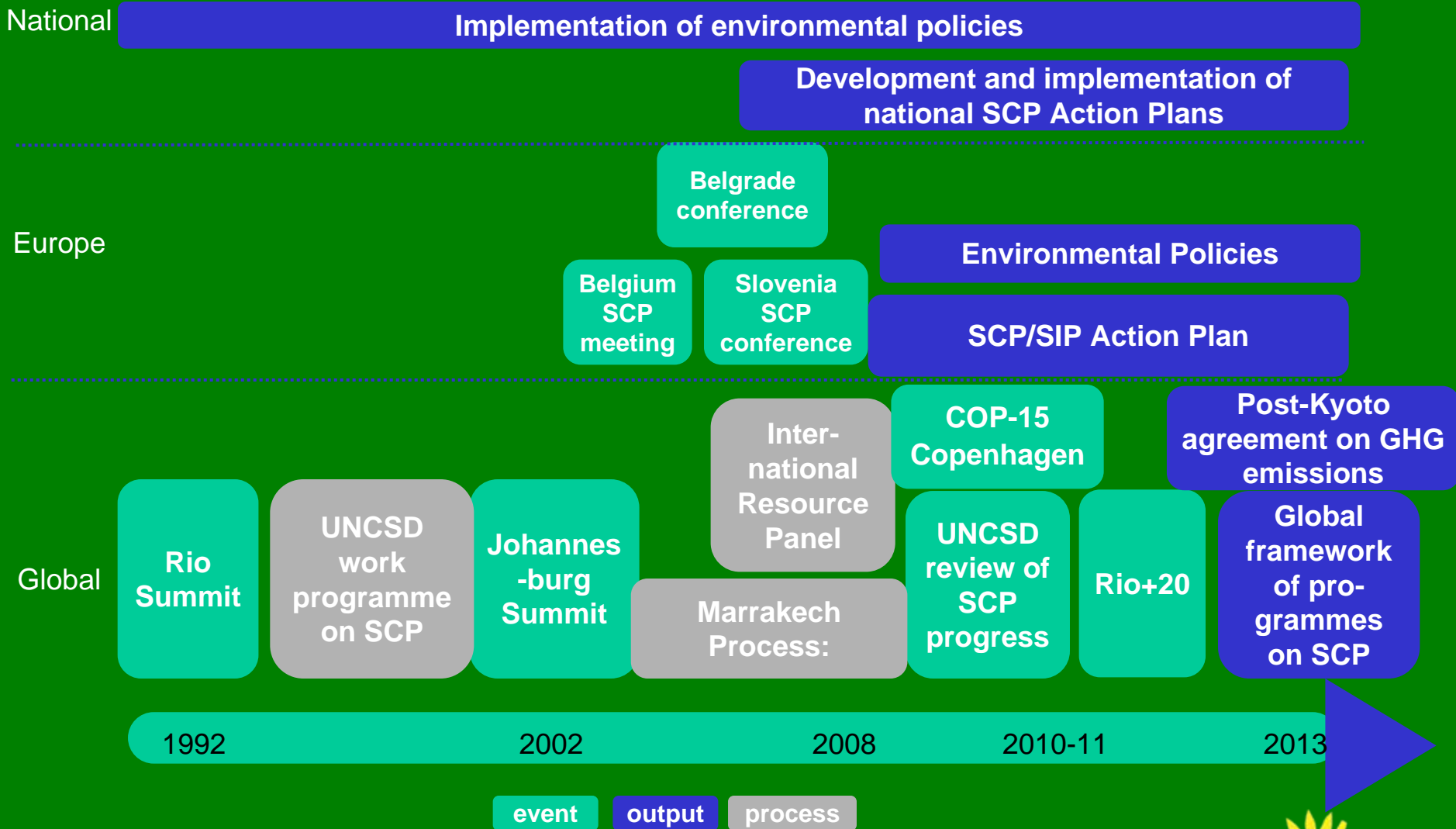
Source: ETC/RWM

European Environment Agency





# SCP Policy processes



# EU Action Plan on SCP and Sustainable Industrial Policy

- Smarter consumption and better products
  - Eco-design Directive: Extension
  - Labelling: Revise Ecolabel and Energy Labelling
  - Consistent data and methods on products
  - Promote GPP: Communication
  - Work with retailers and consumers: Retail Forum
- Leaner production
  - Boosting resource efficiency
  - Supporting eco-innovation
  - Enhancing the environmental potential of industry: Revise EMAS regulation; help SMEs
- Global markets
  - International initiatives



# What is missing?

- Removal of subsidies which encourage unsustainable production and consumption (e.g. in the area of agriculture)
- Differentiated VAT rates?
- Targets for reduction of resource use?
- Internalising environmental costs in energy and water prices?
- Price of private vs public transportation?



## Message 2

We are experiencing a paradigm shift from production to consumption and production



# Paradigm shift

## Past

Reduce environmental pressures from **production** in Europe

Protect **Europe's** Environment

**Technology** is solution

**Public** authorities responsible

## Future

Reduce global life-cycle environmental pressures from our **consumption**

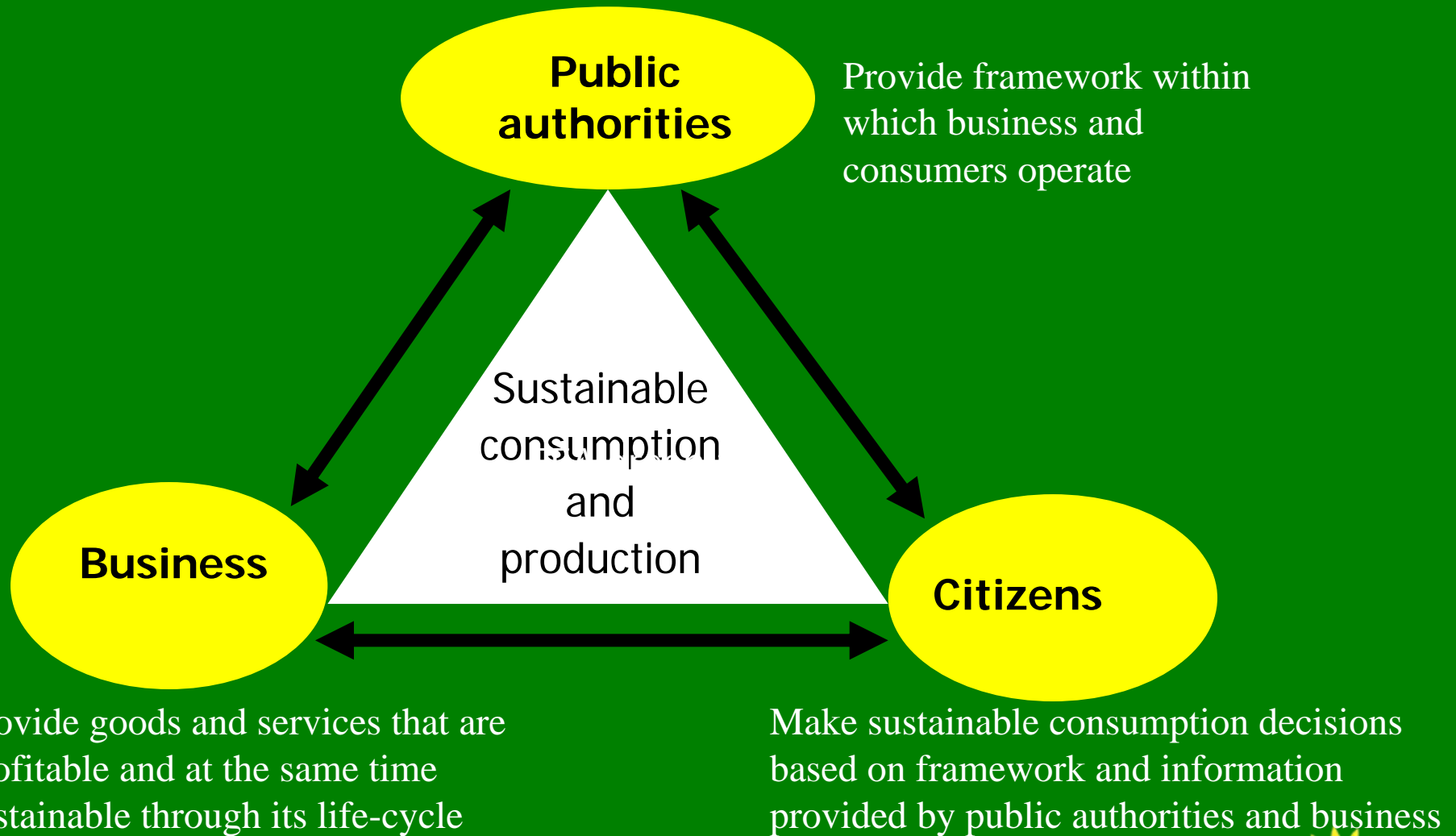
Protect the **global** environment

**Technology and behaviour** is solution

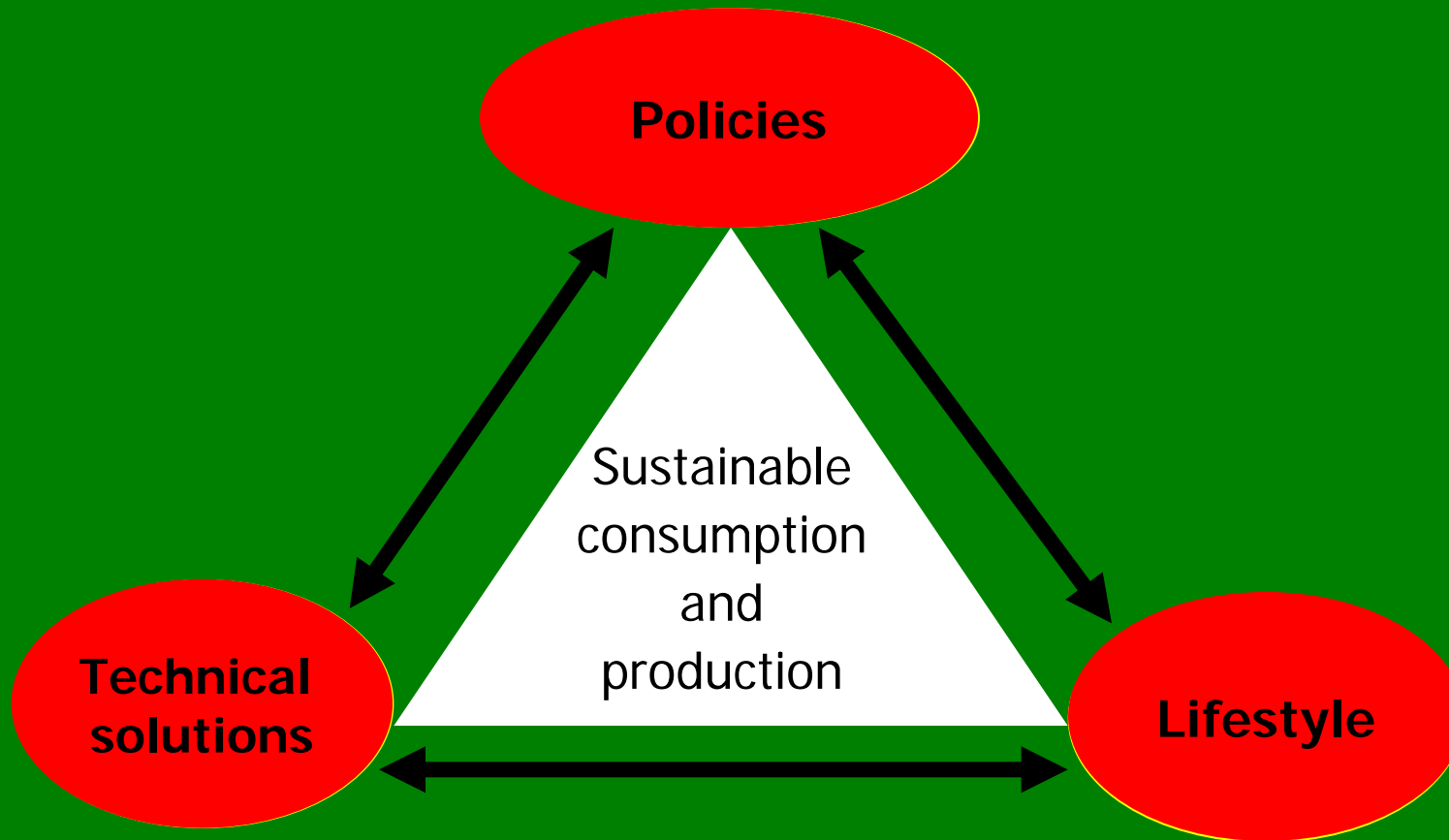
Shared responsibility in **triangle of change**



# The triangle of change



# The triangle of change – link to conference sessions



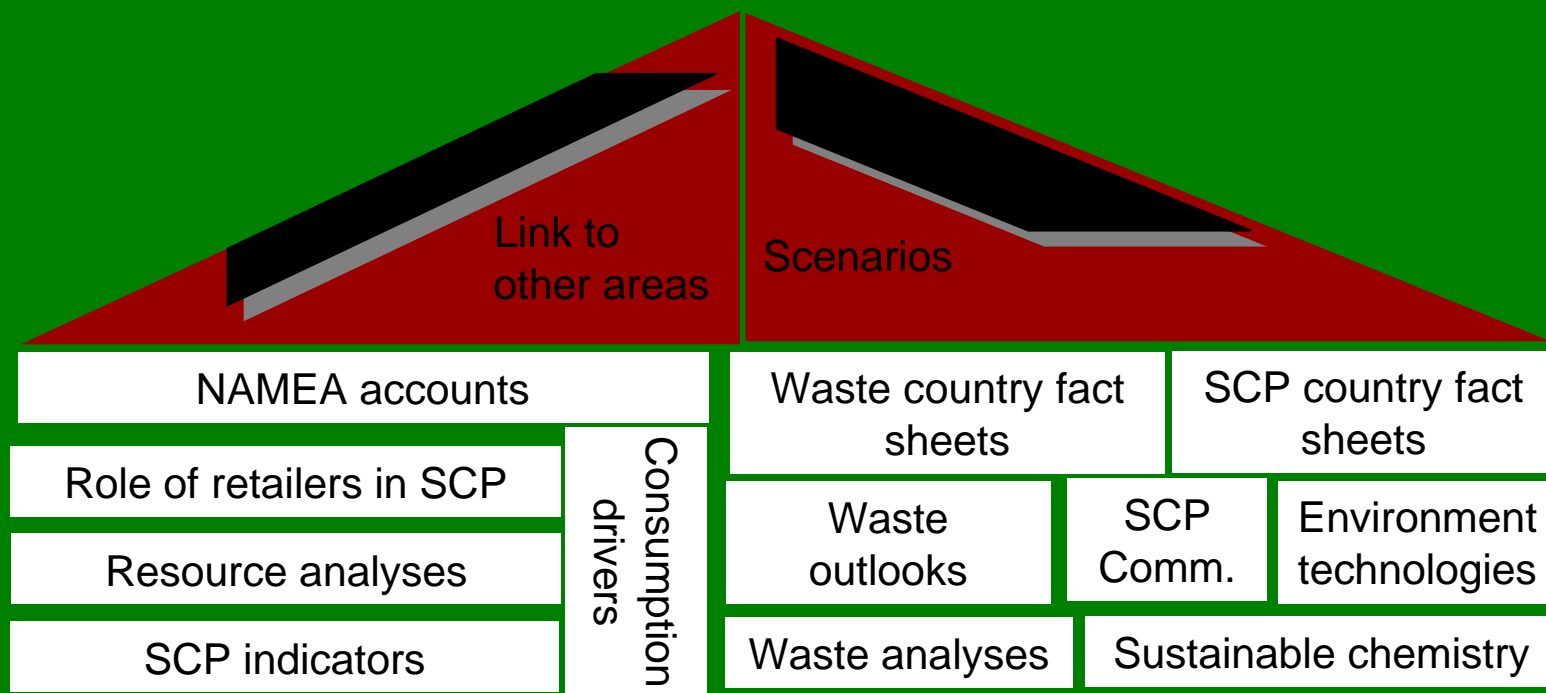
# Message 3

Governments, business and civil society need sound SCP information





# The EEA - ETC/SCP building blocks



# Message 4

The link to climate change:

Production and Consumption – the problem and the solution to climate change

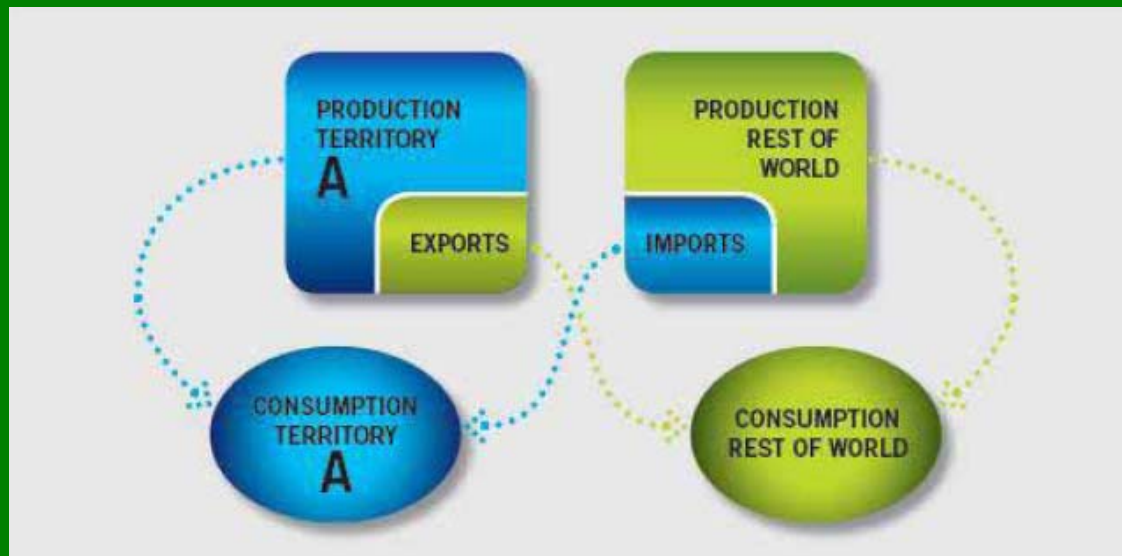




On the other hand:

## SCP is part of the solution to climate change

- SCP provides a new way of looking at climate change and other environmental problems by applying the production perspective as well as the *consumption* perspective



*Source: Carbon Trust (2006)*

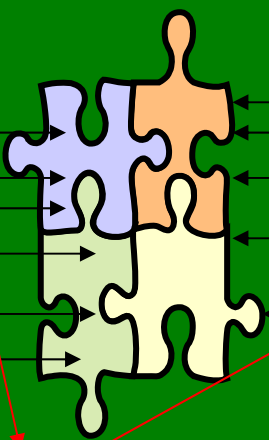
- The consumption perspective takes into account indirect GHG emissions embedded in traded products



# Example: Our NAMEA project

## National Accounts (NA-)

## Environmental Accounts (-EA)



Since 1950s

Being developed based on environmental data

### Matrix

(based on input-output analyses)

#### Indicators:

- GDP
- Production value
- Value added
- Imports/exports
- Consumption expenditure etc.

#### Indicators

- Global Warming Potential: CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>4</sub>
- Acidification Potential: SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>
- Tropospheric Ozone Formation Potential NO<sub>x</sub>, NMVOC, CO, CH<sub>4</sub>
- Domestic Extraction Used (DEU)

•Time series: EU-25: 1995-2004;  
•EU-8: 1995 & 2000, 2005 forthcoming

# Production perspective – some results

**Air emissions and GHGs** from EU production are dominated by a few sectors:

- *Agriculture (16% of total GHGs)*
- *Electricity (32% of total GHGs)*
- *Manufacturing (28% of total GHGs)*
- *Transport services (11% of total GHGs)*

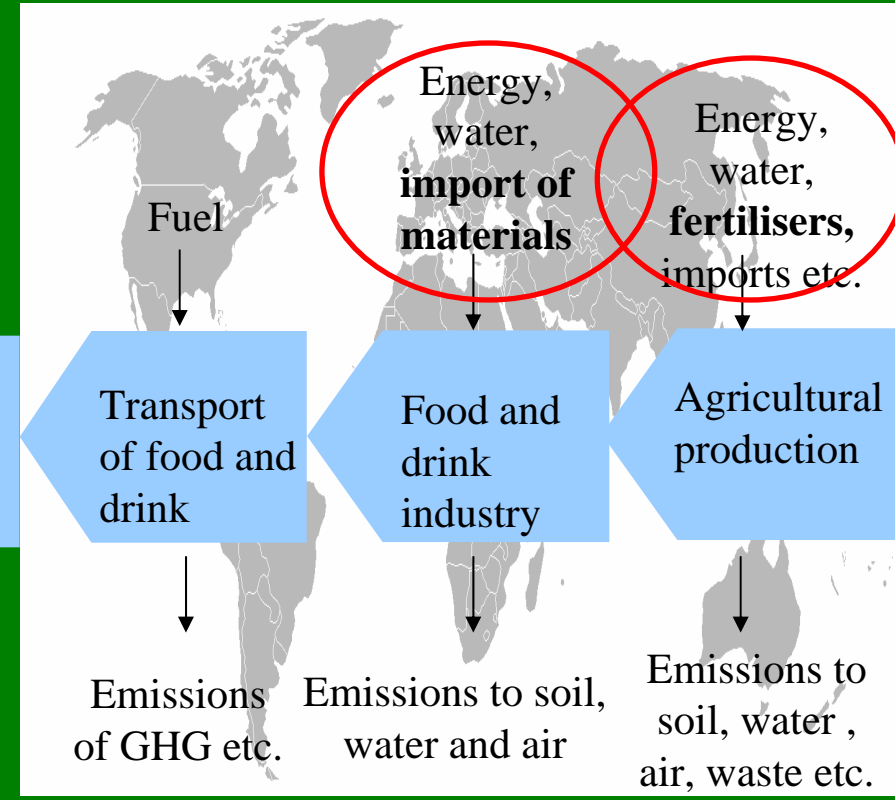
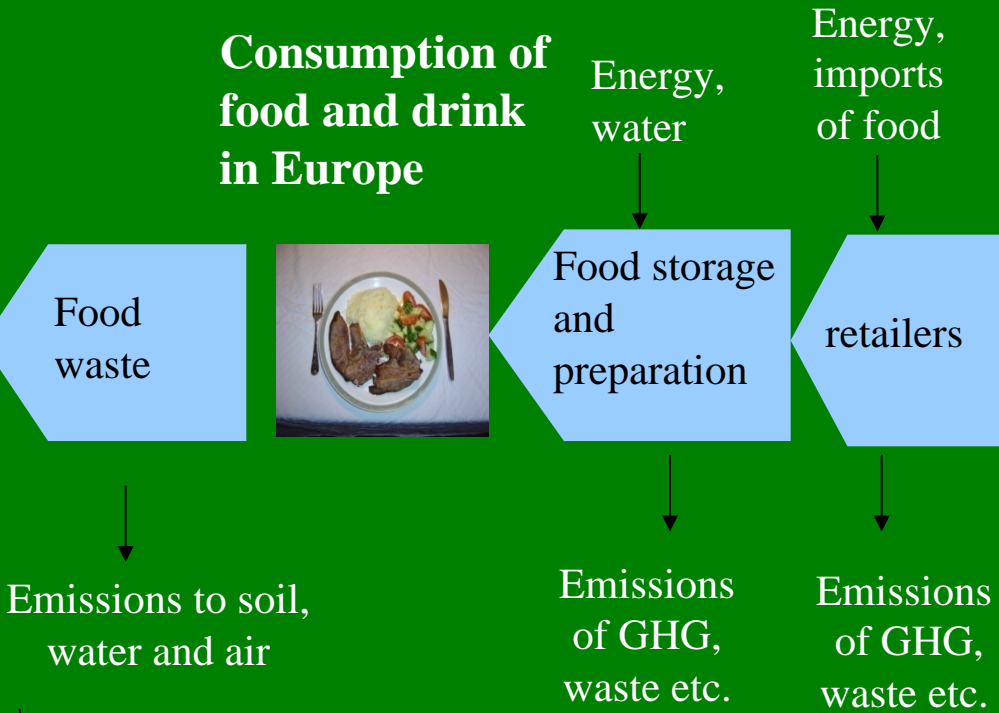
**Answers questions such as:**

- **Which industries/sectors contributes most to total direct environmental pressures**
- **Which industries/sectors are most eco-intensive**



# The consumption perspective – Example Food

## Consumption of food and drink in Europe



**GLOBAL environmental and climate pressures from consumption**



# Consumption perspective – some findings

Eating & drinking

**18 % of GHG emissions**

**23 % of material use**



Housing & infrastructures

**29 % of GHG emissions**

**32 % of material use**



Mobility

**19 % of GHG emissions**

**7 % of material use**



SCP  
priority  
areas





# Some benefits of the consumption perspective

- Provides the ecological (or carbon) footprint of a product/service or a country in a life-cycle perspective
- Includes direct and indirect global environmental pressures
- Allow for a deeper understanding of the drivers of GHG emissions
- Technology vs. Behaviour change
- Identifies hot-spots for action, both from
  - the production side (e.g. Renewable energy, cleaner production) and
  - the consumption side (energy-efficient appliances, change in diets, etc.)

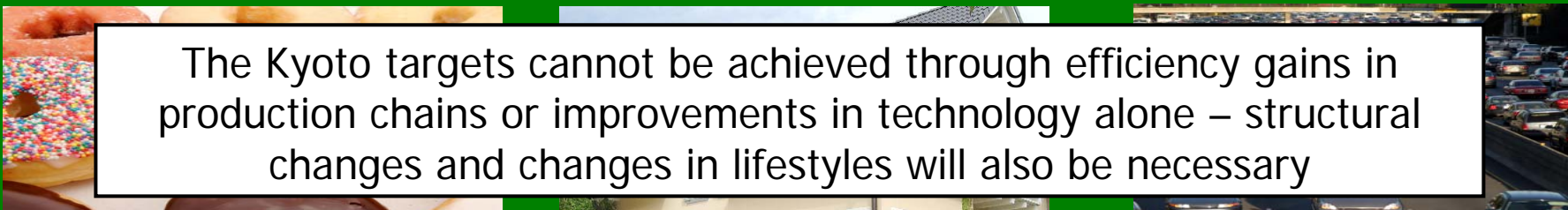


# Climate change - the challenge ahead...

Need to cut GHG emissions in industrialised countries by 80% by 2050 (IPCC)

This means reducing TOTAL EMISSIONS to about 2 - 2.5 tonnes per capita per year

Meanwhile, today each one of the three consumption areas of Eating & drinking, Housing & infrastructures and Mobility ALONE accounts for between 2 and 3 tonnes of GHG emissions per capita



The Kyoto targets cannot be achieved through efficiency gains in production chains or improvements in technology alone – structural changes and changes in lifestyles will also be necessary



Thank you for your attention



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