

Prepared for International Congress on:
Culture—Key to Sustainable Development

Enhancing Nature-Culture Synergies for Sustainable Development

加强自然文化融合，促进可持续发展

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Topics, 提纲

- Culture in post Rio+20 era ， 里约后的文化
- Nature-culture nexus, 自然与文化
- UNEP: synergies of nature and culture,
(联合国环境署, 自然与文化融合)
 - Ecosystem services, 生态服务
 - Climate change, 气候变化
 - Green economy, 绿色经济
- Conclusions, 结论

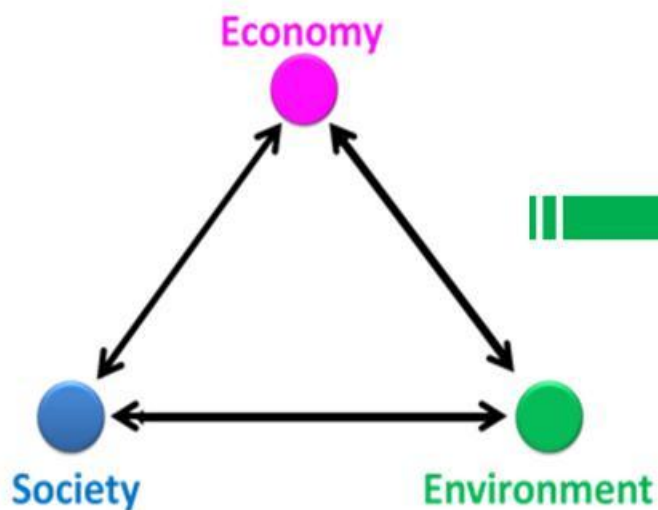
Culture in post Rio+20 era

里约后的文化



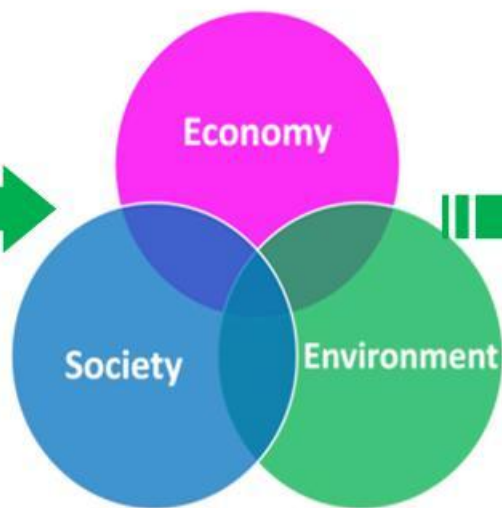
Rio+20: Paradigm shift, 模式转变

1972-2012



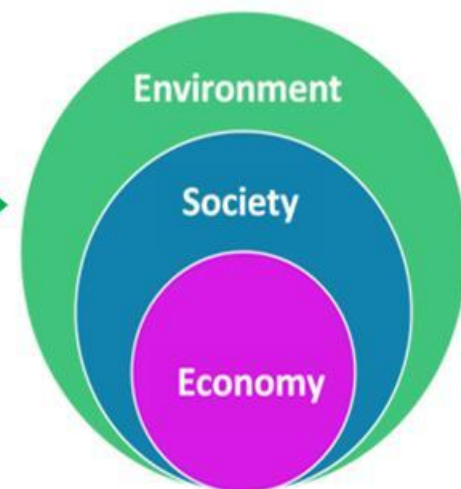
Balancing
平衡

2012



Interacting
相互影响

Post 2012+
后里约+20



Integrating
协调发展

Rio+20: Overarching framework, 综合框架





1962, sown the seed of Global Environment Movement

Culture in 1972, 1992 & 2012

- 1972 Stockholm Declaration: 0 para on culture
- 1992 Rio Declaration: 1 para (22)
- 2012 The future we want 2 paras (41 & 58)

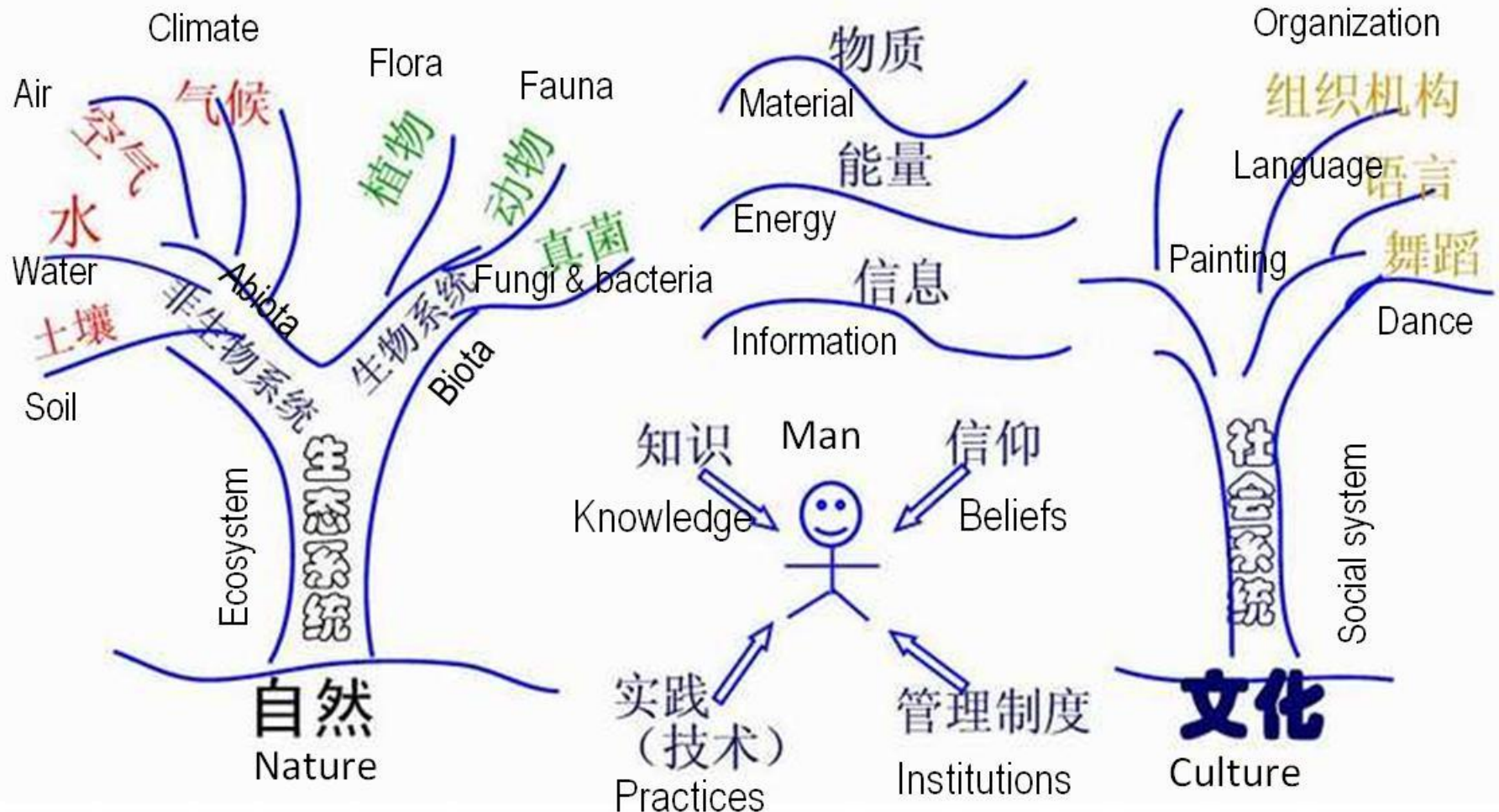
Culture in Rio + 20 (Para 41)



- Acknowledge the natural and cultural diversity ...and recognize that all cultures and civilizations can contribute to SD.
- 承认自然和文化多样性，所有文化和文明可以对可持续发展做贡献



Man, Nature and Culture (J. Xu)



Nature-culture nexus, 自然与文化

- Nature mothers culture, 自然是文化之母
- Culture helps nature conservation
文化帮助自然保护
- China, 5000 years of nature-culture dynamics
中国5千年，自然与文化互动



103

103. Lion and Lioness with a Bull. The relief is a masterpiece of the Parthian school of sculpture. It is a fine example of the art of the Parthians, who were skilled in the carving of stone. The relief is a masterpiece of the Parthian school of sculpture. It is a fine example of the art of the Parthians, who were skilled in the carving of stone. The relief is a masterpiece of the Parthian school of sculpture. It is a fine example of the art of the Parthians, who were skilled in the carving of stone.





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عبدالله





Liangzhu Culture 良渚文化
(3300-2200 BC)

sun (日)



moon (月)



cloud (云)



rain (雨)



Origin of Chinese characters

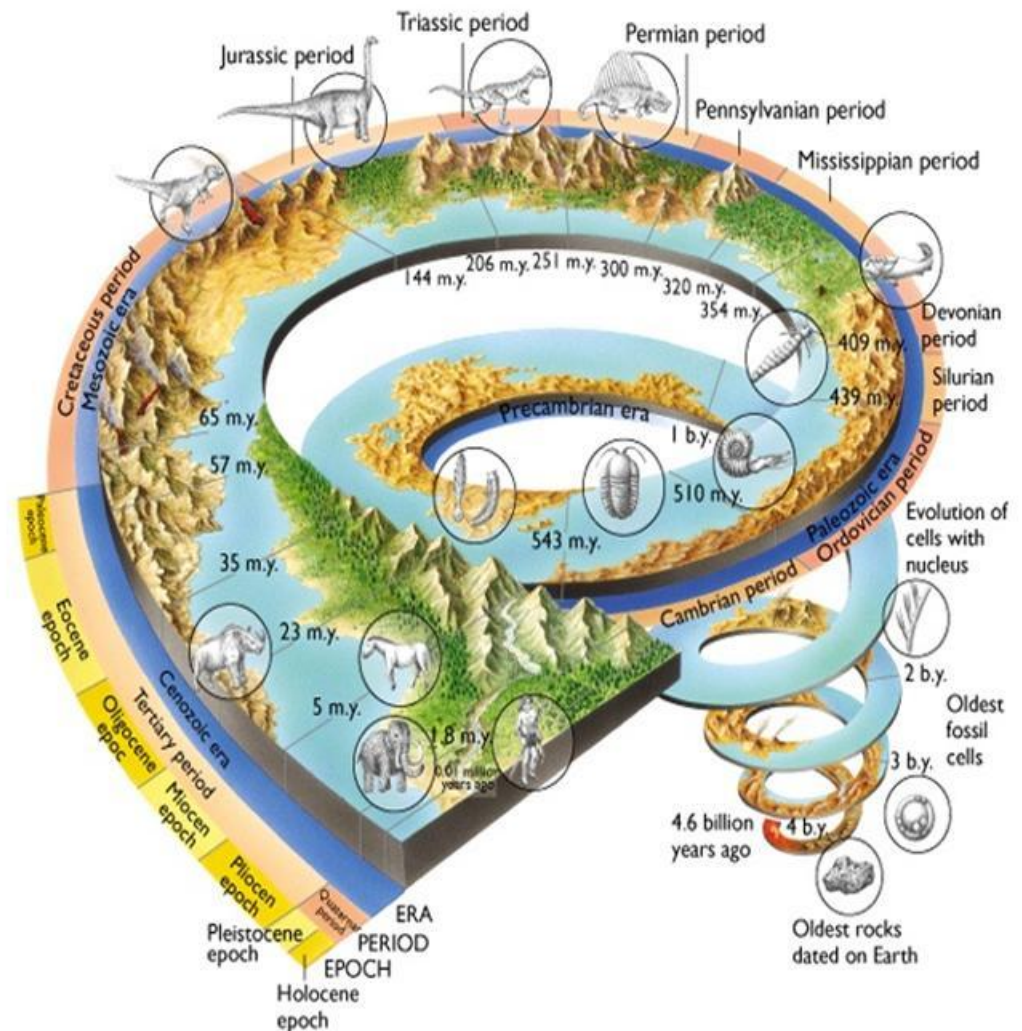
Nature mothers culture

自然是文化之母—Earth History

- 4.6 billion years
- Holocene since 12000 years

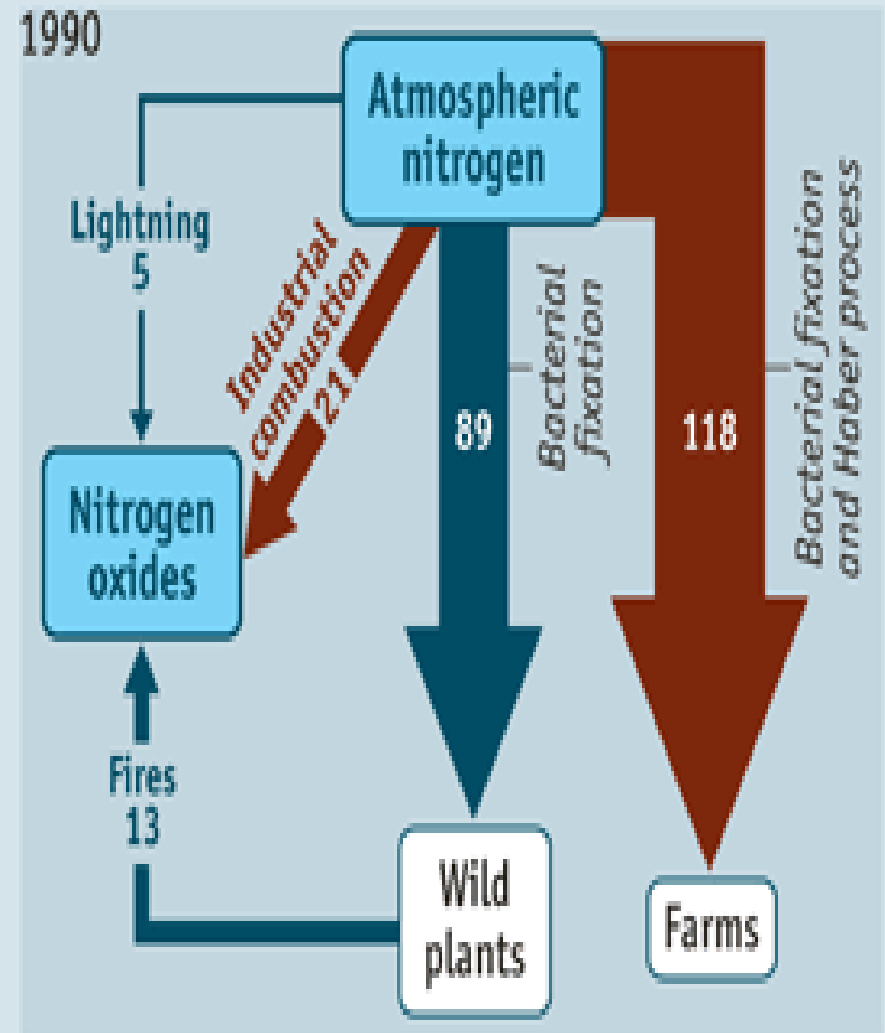
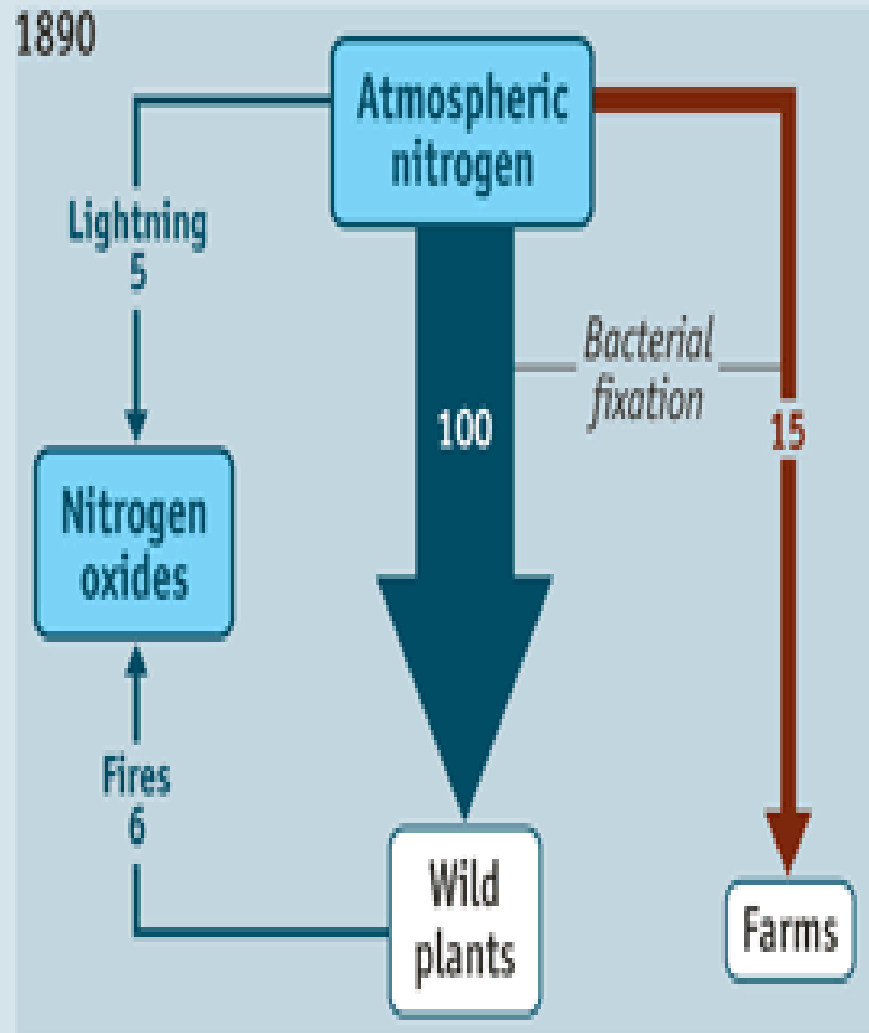


- Sir Cristpin Tickell
- ### Anthropocene - manmade earth?



Unbalancing the cycle

Nitrogen flows, megatonnes



Source: Galloway and Cowling, *Ambio*

Nature & Culture

- **Last 5000 years** : man and nature balanced relation
- **Last 250 years**: many economic and environmental crises since the Industrial Revolution
- **Last 20 years since 1992**
 - Two global economic crises (1997 and 2008)
 - Global warming,
 - biodiversity loss,
 - ecosystems degradation,
 - environment pollution
 -

China's 5000 years of nature culture
interdependence
中国5千年，自然与文化互相依存



- Environmental law of Xia (2070-1600 BC):
- **“In spring, no axes should be waved in mountains and forests, so as to let trees grow; in summer, no nets should be spread in rivers and lakes, so as to let fishes and turtles grow”**
- 禹禁：春三月，山林不登斧，以成树木之长；夏三月，川泽不入网罟，以成鱼鳖之长

Nature and Human are one

天人合一



Laozi: 571-471 BC



Zhuangzi: 369 — 286 BC

ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT



1949



1978

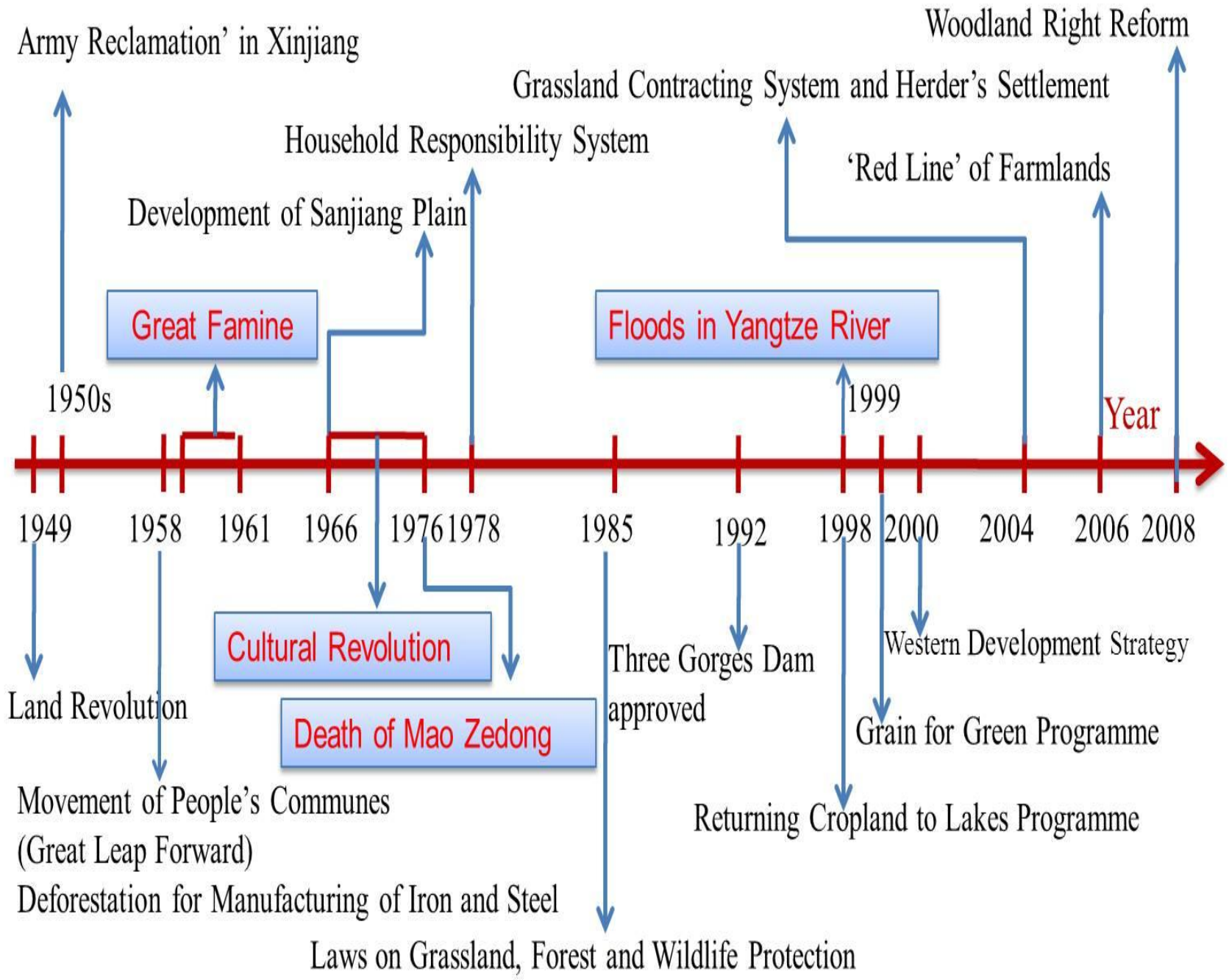


1998



*Sixty Years of Paradigm Shift in China (1949-2010):
Change of Policies and Practices on
Ecosystem Management*





2012, Ecological Civilization in China

- The Chinese Government has accorded the development of “ecological civilization” the same strategic importance as economic, political, cultural and social development for the country’s well-being
- This emerging culture is an overlay on other civilizations and is associated with globalization, and global environmental concerns, hence is likely to have a profound exemplary impact on the rest of the world

Ecological Civilization

- S. Huntington: “A civilization is the highest cultural grouping of people”
- The Greek root of ecological is *oikos*, meaning home or house
- Ecological Civilization, a clear recognition of human dependence on, and care of nature
- Consistent with “*Nature and man are one*”
- Requires fundamental transformation of its (consumerism) culture

UNEP, synergies of nature and culture

联合国环境署，自然与文化融合

- Ecosystem services, 生态服务
- Climate change, 气候变化
- Green economy, 绿色经济

Ecosystem in Rio + 20

- Of the 282 paragraphs of The Future We Want:

- Ecosystems seen 38 times
生态系统出现38次

- 23 paras on ecosystems
23段专论生态系统

- *Ecosystem management: An integrated process to conserve and improve ecosystem health that sustains ecosystem services for human well-being,*

- 生态系统管理：保持和改善生态系统健康，使之能不断为提高人类福祉提供生态系统服务的综合过程

Ecosystem services, 生态服务

MA 2005 (Chapters 14 & 17)

UNEP recognizes :

- Cultural perceptions and practices affect biodiversity, ...and human culture is strongly influenced by ecosystems
- The importance of cultural services and values (of ecosystems) is not currently recognized
-



Ecosystem services, 生态服务

2011UK Ecosystem Assessment (16)

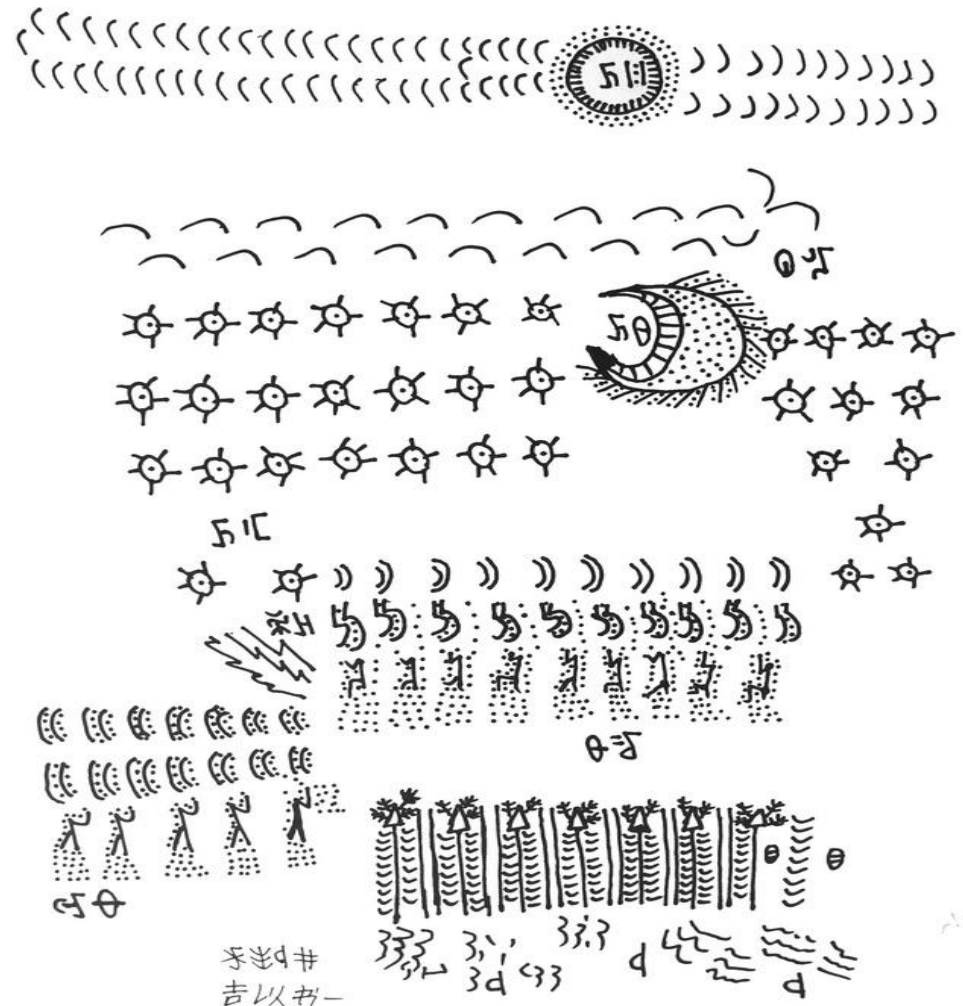
UNEP-WCMC:

- Ecosystem cultural services are the environmental settings that give rise to the cultural goods and benefits to people
- Three quarters of people in England consider local greenspace to be a very important part of the local environment, and 50% visit it at least once a week
- Open green space and access to nature is important for children

Climate change, 气候变化

Culture:

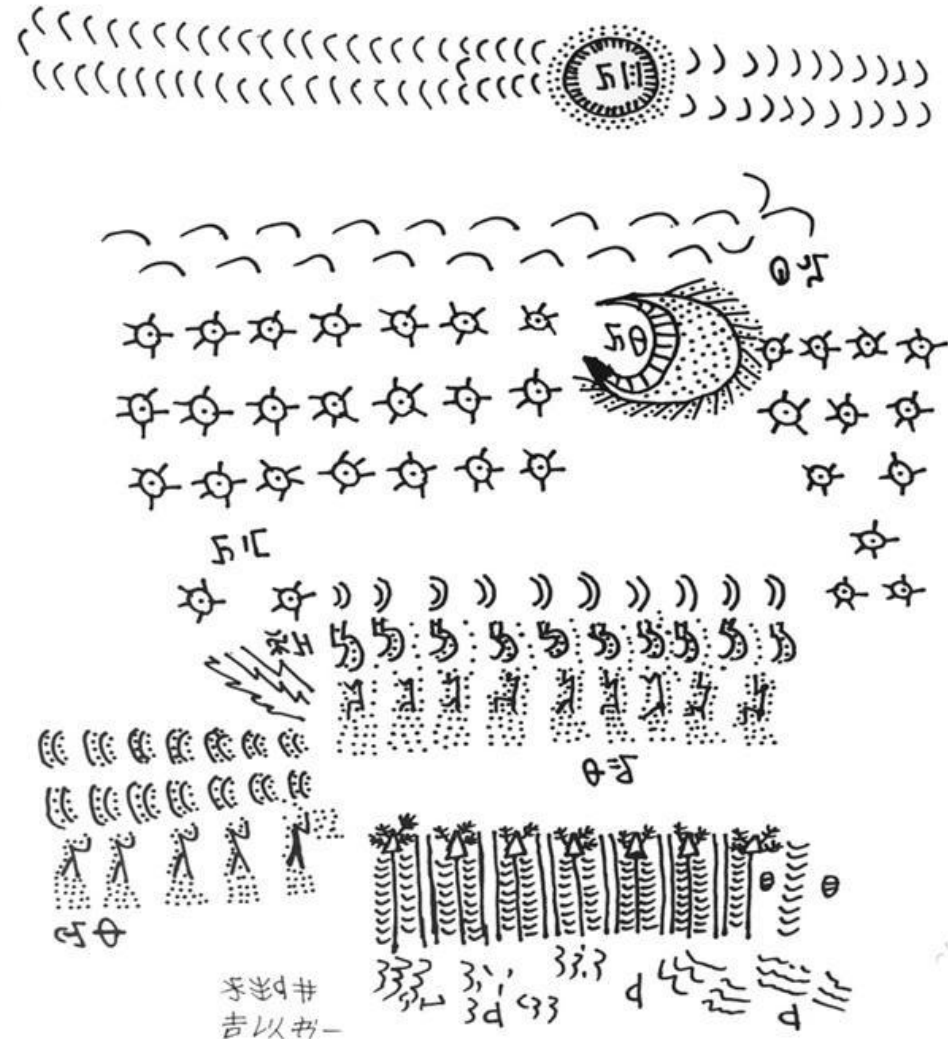
- Promotes Low Carbon development
- Increases preparedness for climate impacts and risks of disasters
- Raises science-based awareness
- Supports UN system Carbon Neutral Initiative



Climate change, 气候变化

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Climate change, 气候变化

IPCC (UNEP+WMO)

- 1991, 1st Report
- 1995, 2nd Report
- 2007, 4th Report

UNFCCC

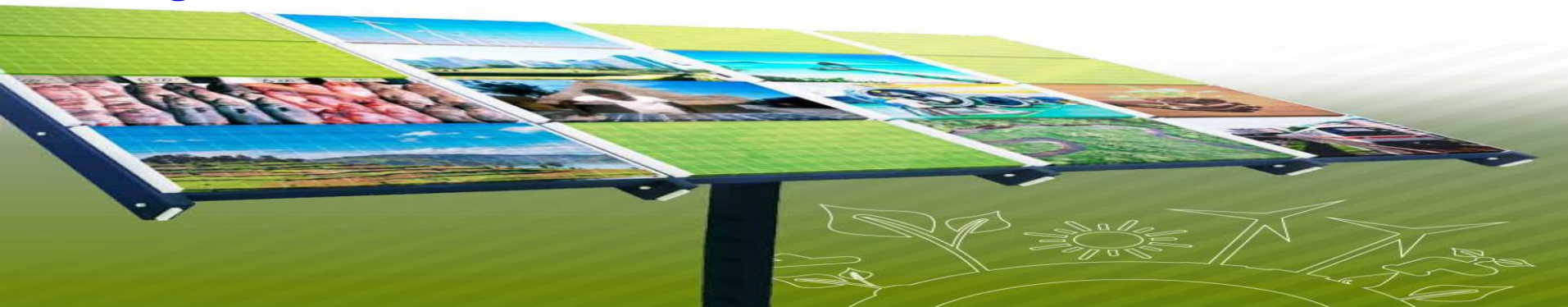
- 1992 Convention
- 1997, Kyoto Protocol
- **2007 Bali Roadmap**

Green economy, 绿色经济

- 23 times/17 para in The Future We Want
- Para 58. We affirm that green economy policies ... should:...(j) enhance the welfare of indigenous peoples ...recognizing and supporting their identity, culture and interests and avoid endangering their cultural heritage...

Green economy, 绿色经济

*UNE Pdefines a **green economy as one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities.***

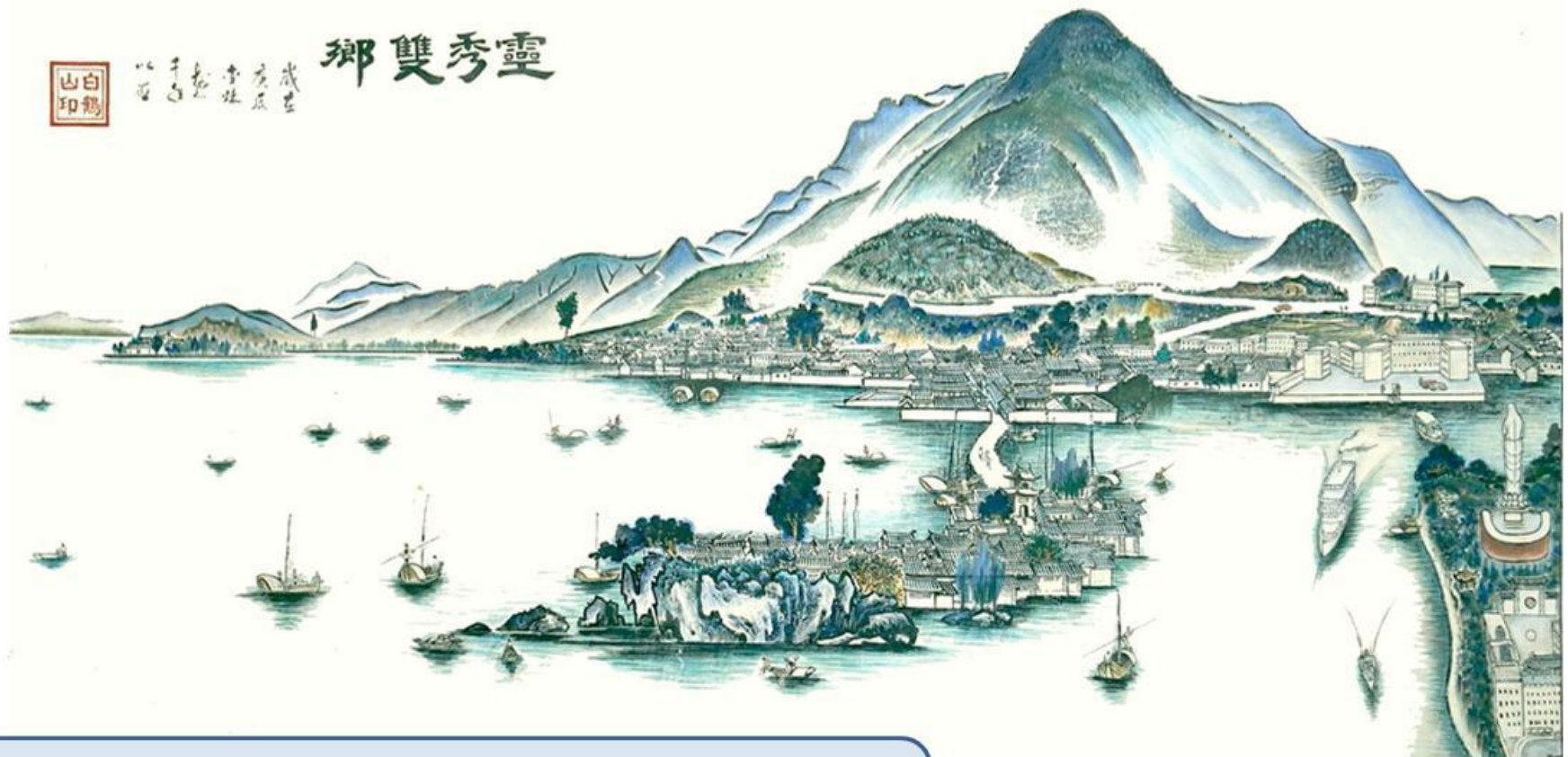


Culture promotes green economy thru mindset and behavior change leading to sustainable production and consumption

Conclusions, 结论

- Nature is the mother of culture;
- Nature and culture are interlinked pillars of SD;
- A culture that cares environment is a prerequisite for SD;
- The post 2015 SDG needs enhanced synergies of nature and culture;
- UNEP supports the increasing role of culture to promote environmental sustainability.

Thanks!



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