



# **Eco-Insurance for a Sustainable Future**

**AN OVERVIEW** 

KATOOMBA VI CONFERENCE, LOCARNO, SWITZERLAND – November 2003



















## Home insurance for the planet



### Eco-Insurance\*

- A Risk Management Strategy for the 21st Century
- Promotes responsible Global Environmental Governance by means of Shrink & Share of ecological footprints
- Proposes to levy a modest Eco-Insurance Premium from People and Organizations to make large scale investments in the maintenance of the globe's life-supporting ecosystems
- Seeks to insure planet by promoting environmental, economic and human security for the globe's citizenry
- Fosters (and requires) international cooperation amongst multiple stakeholders

<sup>\*</sup> from Greek Oikos, house + Insurance, the business of insuring against loss

# Why we need it



## Risk Management in a Complex World

Mounting environmental challenges



» Deforestation

**Biodiversity Loss** 

» Dwindling Fresh Water Supplies Collapsing Fisheries

» Climate Change

Food & Health Safety

Increasing economic instability



» Financial Volatility

Ecological Deficits

» Environmental Costs

Rich and Poor Divide

» Energy Dependency

Short-term Policy Focus

Declining (human) security



- » Resource conflicts and war
- » Environmentally induced (mass) migrations
- » Poor most affected

## Shrink & Share?



Promotes <u>responsible</u> Global Environmental Governance

PRECAUTION

**EQUITY** 

**EFFICIENCY** 

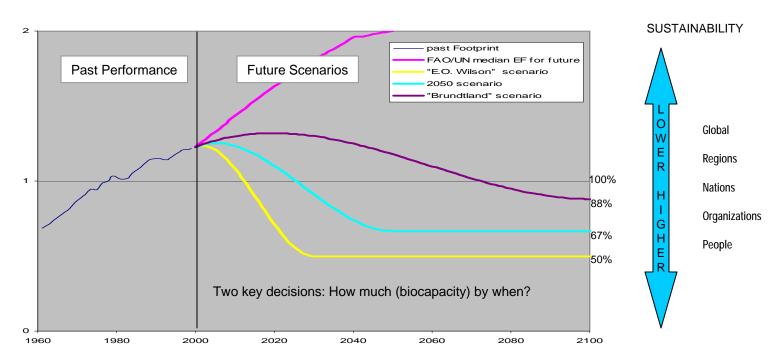
**CHOICE** 

- Builds on Contraction & Convergence Model
  - Applies to total Ecological Footprint, not only CO<sub>2</sub>
- Requires Three Important Decisions
  - 1. How much of the globe's natural capital should be preserved to ensure sustainability?
    - » E.O. Wilson (50%), 2050 Scenario (67%), Brundlandt (88%)
  - By when should goal be reached/how much time do we have?
    - » 2010, 2050, 2100
  - 3. How much should be invested to achieve goals 1 & 2?
    - » \$ 3 billion p/a (current level)
    - » \$ 50 billion p/a, \$ 100 billion p/a, or more

# Managing Our Future



#### Four Scenarios for the Planet

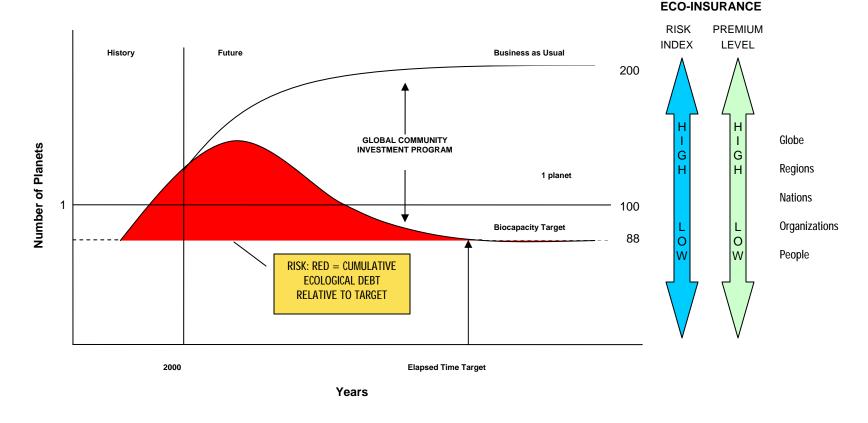


Source: Lovink and Wackernagel 2003 (forthcoming)

# 21st Century Risk Management



#### From the Global to Individual Level



## How it works



- People and organizations contribute Eco-Insurance Premiums based on
  - Ecological Footprint size
  - Income Levels
  - Global Eco-Insurance Risk
- Private sector driven initiatives promote voluntary adoption
  - EcoSmartCard™
  - One Percent for a Sustainable Future™
  - MyEcoFoot<sup>™</sup> for People and Organization
- Governments play a catalytic role
  - Setting (Cap and Trade) Targets
  - Fiscal and Economic Incentives

## The EcoSmartCard™



- Linking people ecosystems sustainability
  - Modeled on Affinity Credit Card Programs
  - Promotes Sustainable Consumption, Production, Trade and Investment
    - Catalogue of Eco-friendly Products and Services
    - Eco-tourism Sweep Stakes; Eco-Points
    - Links to Micro-finance Programs
  - Targets Launch Partners and their Employees
    - No Cost to User
    - Program revenues shared with Partners
  - Provides Online Transaction Platform
    - Eco-Insurance Premiums
    - Fiscal/economic incentives
    - Transparency, accountability

# One Percent for a Sustainable Future<sup>TM</sup>



## A Global Community Investment Plan

- Modeled on successful SRI Campaigns
- A ten-year home insurance plan for the planet
  - Stimulates People and Organizations to transfer 1% of investment assets into Eco-Insurance
  - Negligible Effect on overall Investment Portfolio
  - Campaign mobilizes 0.1% per year for ten years (\$ 300-500B)
- Investments to be made via EcoSmartCard™
  - Online reporting, accountability and transparency
  - Performance tracking of eco-insurance payments, applicable government incentives, and investment performance
  - Participative/interactive governance of the Global Commons through online polls and voting mechanism

# MyEcoFoot for People and Organizations™



- Awareness thru e-Learning
  - Ecological Footprints for People and Organizations
    - » Measure your Ecological Footprint interactively
    - » Learn why small is beautiful; get certified
    - » Get the tools for getting your Ecological Footprint down
    - » Become a (certified) environmentally responsible citizen
    - » Tell your friends
  - Learning applets via internet and cell phone
    - » Adults and kids
    - » MyEcoFoot Games and Competitions
  - Optional Eco-Insurance payment via EcoSmartCard™

## Eco Insurance is about Scale



- "Eco-Investment Gap" \$ 50-100+ billion/year
  - The amount between what is and should be invested to restore and maintain the globe's life-supporting ecosystems
- Eco-Insurance to catalyze balanced ecological budgets of nations, people and organizations
  - Only a large scale investment program in a sustainable future will accomplish this in a credible fashion
- Back of the Envelope Premium Target
  - \$ 9–18 average per global citizen (\$ 50-100 in OECD)
  - Approximately 0.2–0.3 percent of World GDP

# How are premiums invested?



#### Eco-Insurance -- A Global Community Investment Program

Thematic Areas	Eco-Insurance Global Performance Funds	% Target*	Eco-Insurance Global Development Funds	% Target*
• Water	<ul> <li>Greening Financial Markets</li> <li>Publicly Quoted Companies</li> <li>Triple Bottom Line Performance (People, Planet, Profit)</li> <li>Global Network of Sustainable Asset Managers</li> <li>Online Investment Platform</li> <li>Transparency &amp; Accountability</li> </ul>	TBD	EcoEnterprises Development     Direct Payment Systems for Ecological Goods & Services     Capacity Building and Training     Grants, (semi) Equity, (soft) Loans and Guarantees     Global Network of Financial Intermediaries	TBD
• Energy		TBD		TBD
• Health		TBD		TBD
• Agriculture		TBD		TBD
• Biodiversity		TBD		TBD
Total		90%→75%**		10%→25%**

<sup>\*</sup> To be determined by global environmental strategic investment forum of financial experts based on clear performance criteria

<sup>\*\*</sup> Percentages change over time following absorptive capacity for investments to be made by Eco-Insurance Global Development Funds

# Who manages the money?



- Eco-Insurance Finance Mechanism
  - A Bank, Trust or Fund
  - Light, Networked Global Environmental Governance
    - » Flexible & Adaptive
    - » Values and Norm based
    - » Top-down and Bottom-up
    - » Organic growth model
    - » Decentralized yet integrated
  - Performance-based money management contracts with financial intermediaries
    - » Private Sector
    - » Multilateral Development Institutions
    - » NGOs

# Who governs?



- Bottom up as well as Top Down
  - Strategic Direction
    - Board of Governors (multi-stakeholder)
    - International Panel of Advisors (multidisciplinary)
    - Investment Advisory Forum (independent)
  - Implementation
    - Executive Board and Staff
    - Network of financial intermediaries
  - Online Accountability, Transparency, Democracy
    - Performance Reports
    - Voting/polling on Strategic Direction and Investment Objectives
    - Bottom up feedback loops

## Who benefits?



- Society as a whole
  - Enhanced environmental, economic and human security from the local to the global
  - An ethical/principled/responsible compass for poor Global Environmental Governance
- Individual nations, people and organizations
  - Lower financial (tax) burdens precaution (= tangible ROI)
  - Fairer distribution of scarce resources equity
  - Market-based allocation of resources efficiency
  - Freedom to achieve sustainability in different ways choice
- Future generations

# A Market based Approach



- Premium levels influence sustainability of patterns of
  - Consumption
  - Production
  - Trade
  - Investment
- Cap and Trade (using Footprints as Proxy of Risk)
  - Internalizes Shrink & Share
  - Promotes <u>responsible</u> Global Environmental Governance



EQUITY

EFFICIENCY

CHOICE

Harnesses market mechanisms for the common good

## A Network of Launch Partners



#### Who should become launch partners?

- Pro-active Governments
- Banking and Insurance Sector
- Business Associations
- Environmental NGOs
- Faith-based organizations
- Multilateral Development Organizations
- Academic Institutions
- Expert Individuals

#### Qualifications

- Dedication to Sustainable Development
- Commitment to Eco-Insurance mission
- Ability to add value and expertise
- Resources (financial and/or in-kind)



# Implementation Challenges



### Key Questions

- Will the private sector embrace a voluntary approach?
- Will governments provide appropriate incentives?
- Will NGOs cooperate, support or compete?
- Is international cooperation Eco-Insurance feasible?
- Can Strategic Launch Partners be identified?

### Implementation Process

- On-going Stakeholder Consultations
- Supplementary Documentation and Research
- A Phased Approach

# Implementation Strategy



## A Phased Approach\*

- Phase I (2003)
  - » Publication of Eco-Insurance for a Sustainable Future
  - » Consultations with Experts; Phase II Fundraising (\$250K)
- Phase II (2003-mid 2004)
  - » Steering Committee, Advisory Panel, Investment Forum
  - » Identification/MOUs with Strategic Launch Partners
  - » Refinement of Eco-Insurance Framework & Documentation
  - » Phase III Fundraising (\$ 2.0 million)
- Phase III (mid 2004-mid 2005)
  - » Multi-stakeholder Consultations, Initiation of Pilots
  - » Development of Business Plan with Launch Partners
  - » Fundraising for Official Launch (\$ 10 million ++)

<sup>\*</sup> provisional time table

# A public private initiative



- Initiated by
  - Institute for Environmental Security
    - The Hague
  - TransGlobal Ventures
    - Washington DC
- Initial consultations by
  - European Centre for Public Affairs
    - Sussex, UK
- Co-financed by
  - Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM)
    - The Netherlands











## For more.....



- Review the Consultation Paper
  - Released September 2003
  - Downloadable via <u>www.eco-insurance.net</u>
  - Hard copies upon request via <u>info@envirosecurity.org</u>
- Partnerships, comments and suggestions?
  - E-mail: <u>jslovink@eco-insurance.net</u>