THE GREAT TRANSFORMATION

CLIMATE — CAN WE BEAT THE HEAT?



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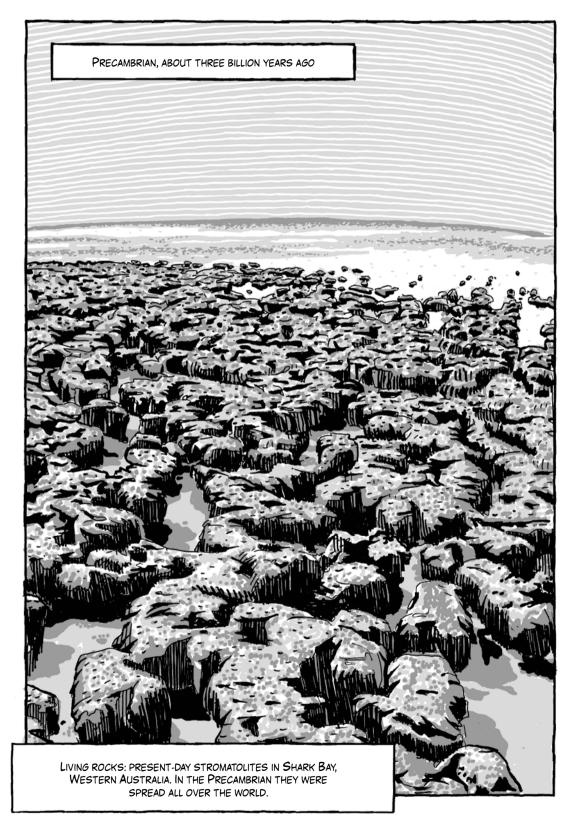
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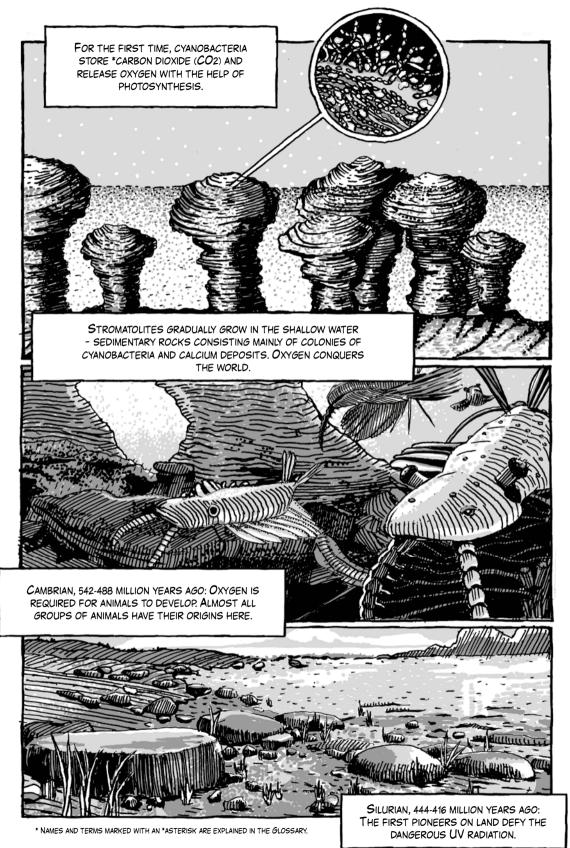
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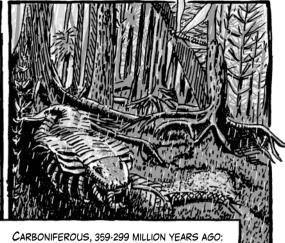
PROLOGUE





DEVONIAN, 416-359 MILLION YEARS AGO: AFTER ARTHROPODS, MOLLUSCS AND PLANTS, FISH MOVE ONTO THE LAND.



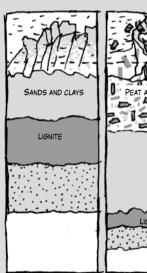


CARBONIFEROUS, 359-299 MILLION YEARS AGO. THE EARTH IS COVERED BY FORESTS OF LYCOPSIDS UP TO 40 METRES HIGH.

SINCE THIS TIME, HEAT AND PRESSURE HAVE BEEN TURNING DEAD FORESTS INTO COAL. THE *CARBON BOUND IN THE PLANTS IS STORED IN THE GROUND.



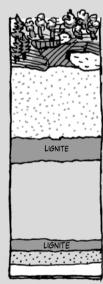
PLANTS THAT HAVE SUNK IN THE SWAMP TURN INTO PEAT IN THE ABSENCE OF AIR.



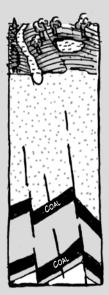
WHEN THE SEA FLOODS THE SWAMP, SEDIMENTS COVER THESE LAYERS OF PEAT.



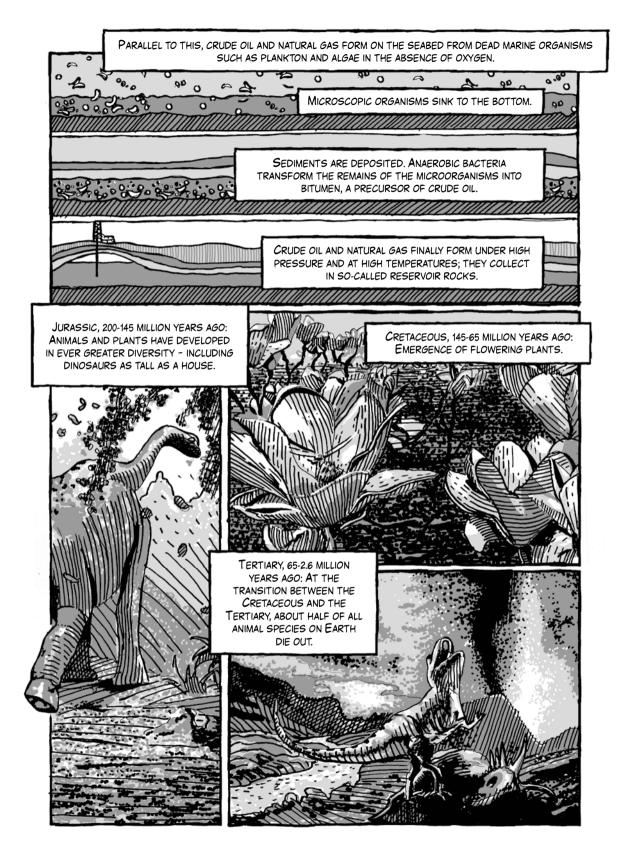
AS THE PRESSURE BUILDS UP AND THE TEMPERATURE RISES, LIGNITE IS FORMED FIRST.

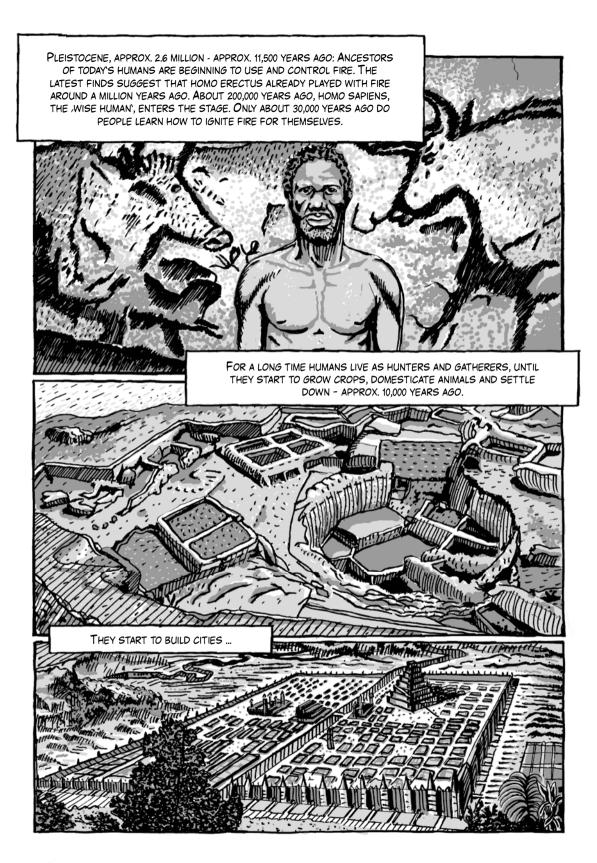


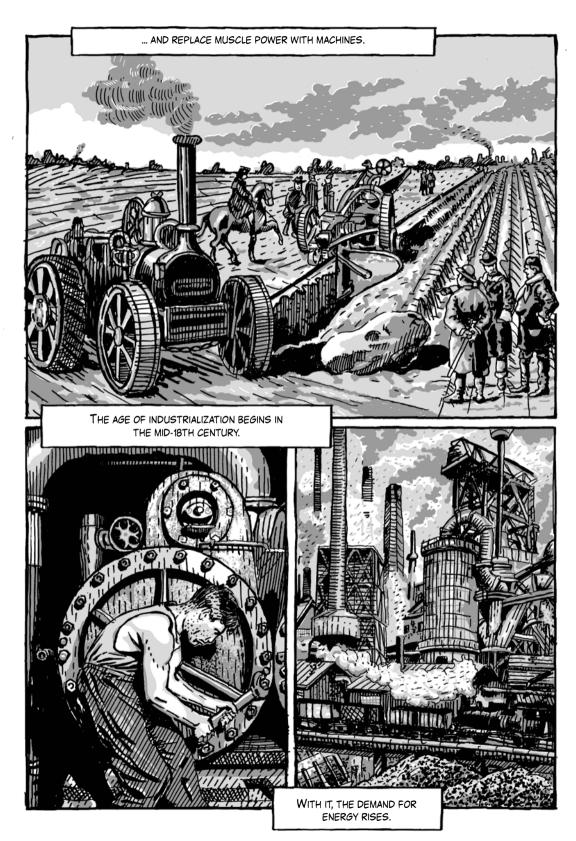
THE MORE LAYERS ARE DEPOSITED, THE MORE WATER IS FORCED OUT OF THE LIGNITE.

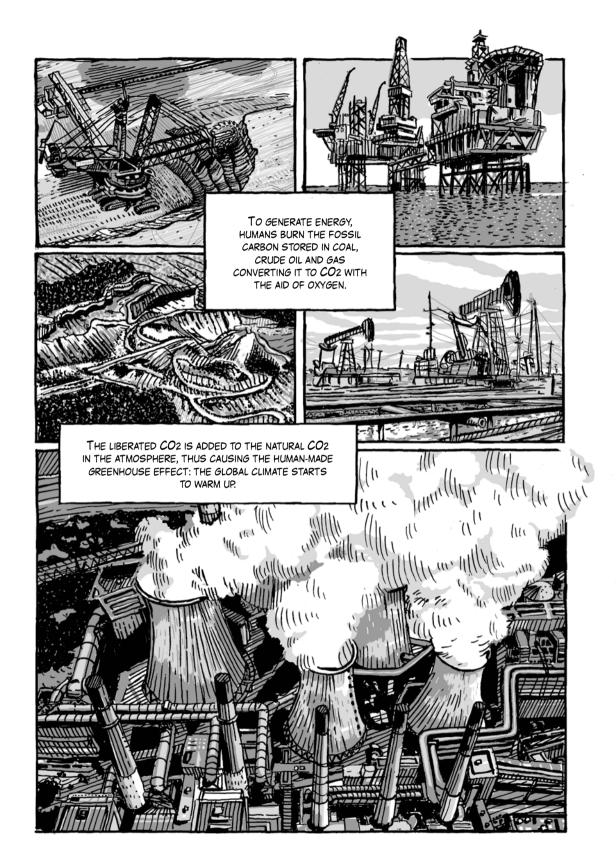


THE LIGNITE GRADUALLY BECOMES COAL, WHICH WE ARE STILL MINING TODAY.



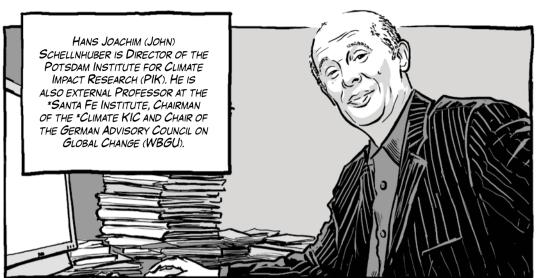


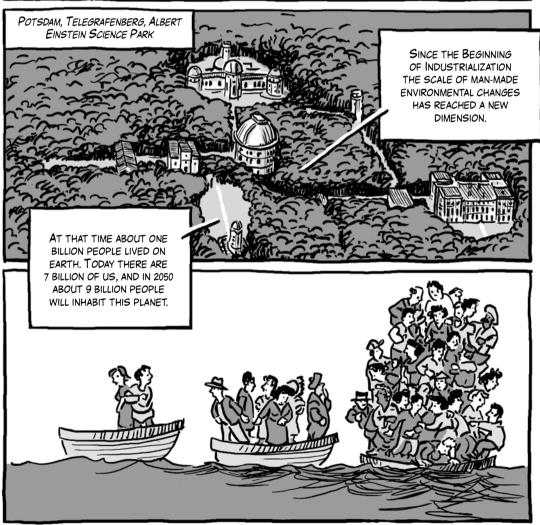


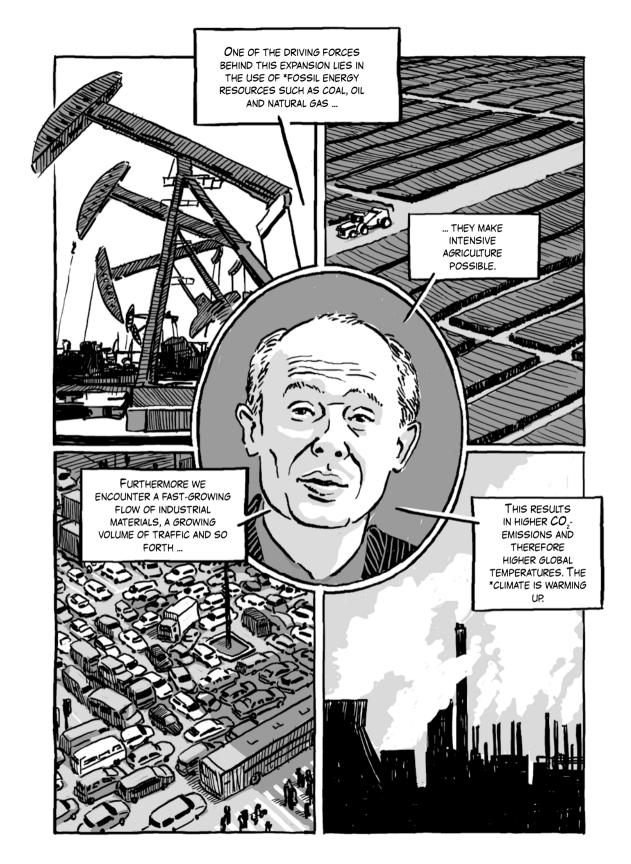


CHAPTER 1

WHY WE NEED TO TRANSFORM OURSELVES



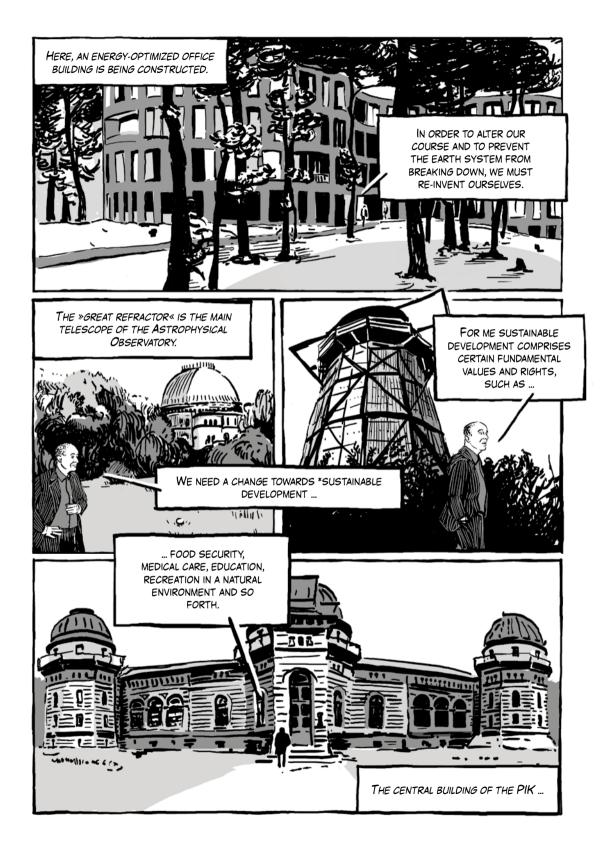


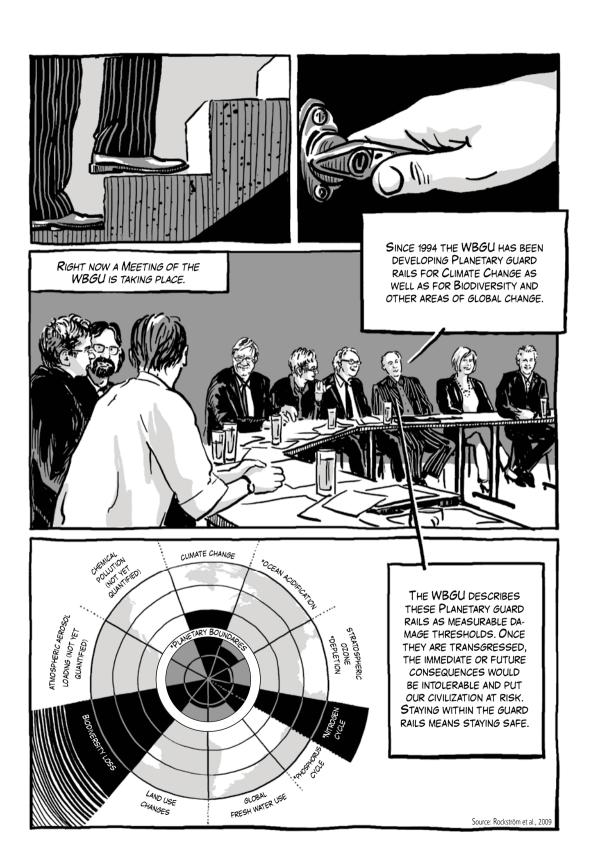




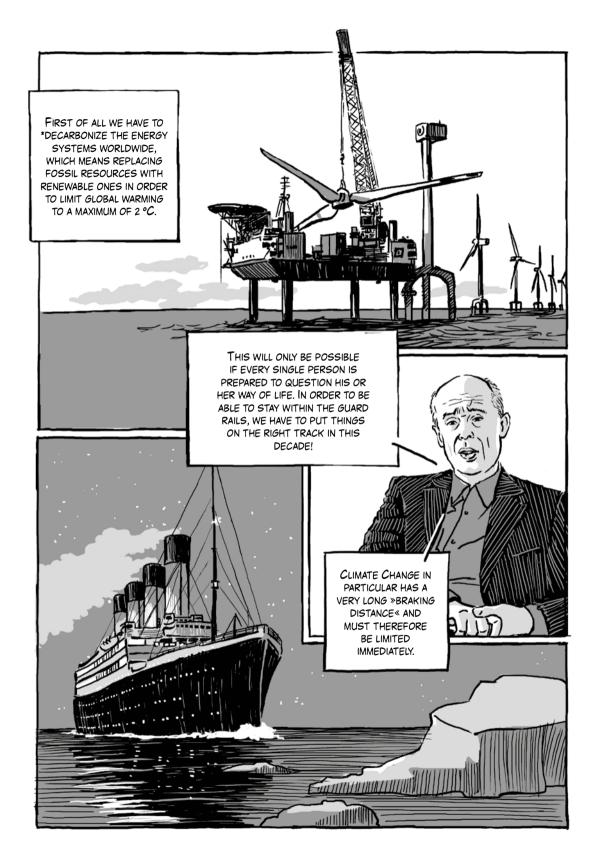




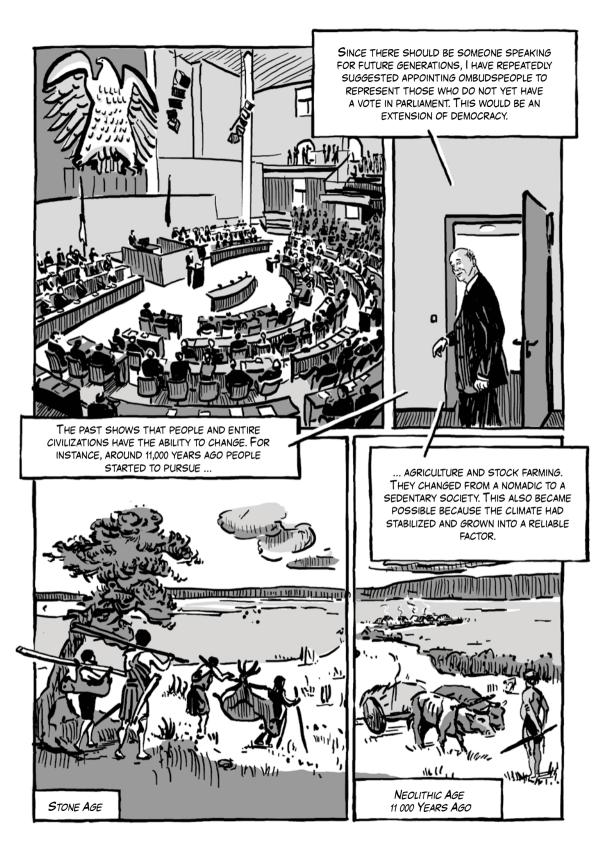








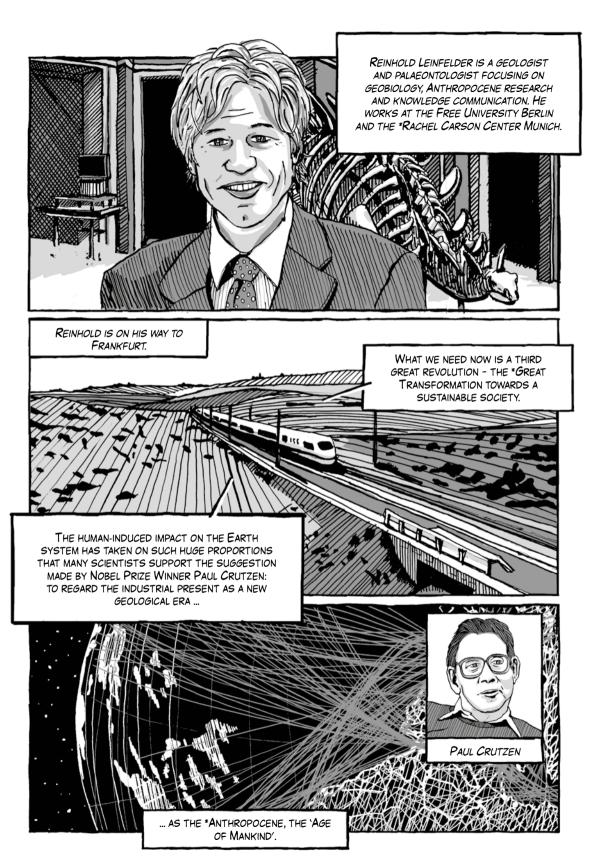




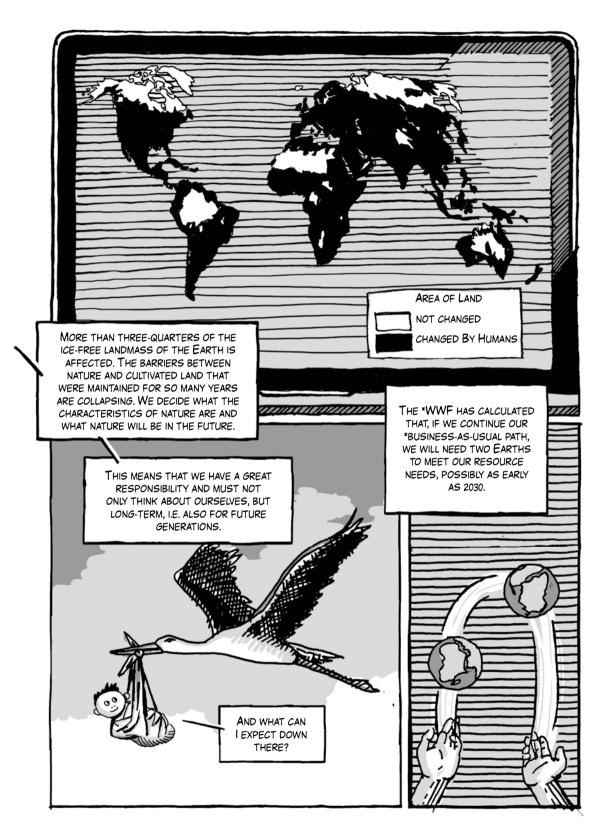


CHAPTER 2

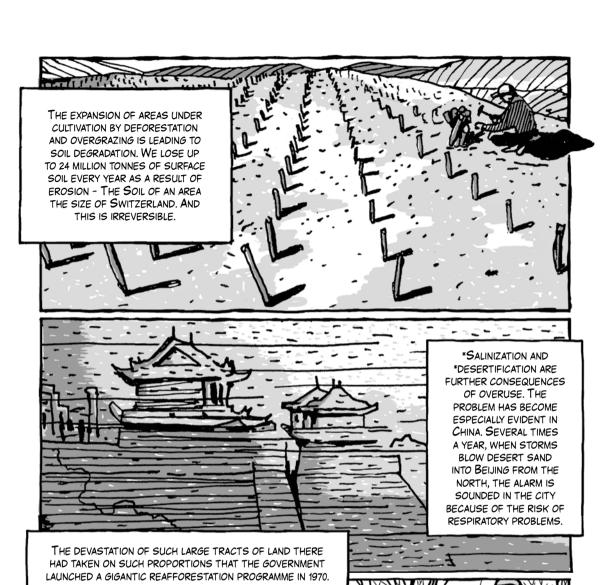
PLANET EARTH IN THE ANTHROPOCENE — THE AGE OF HUMANS





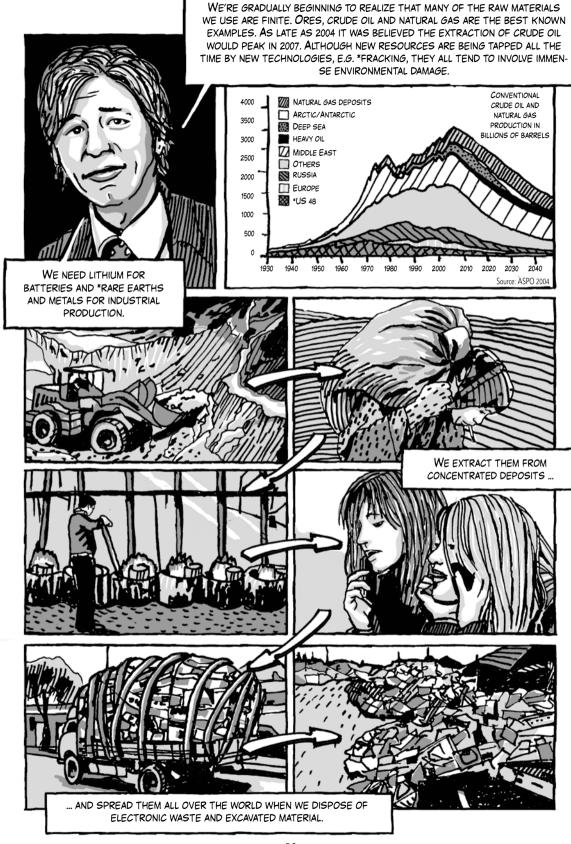


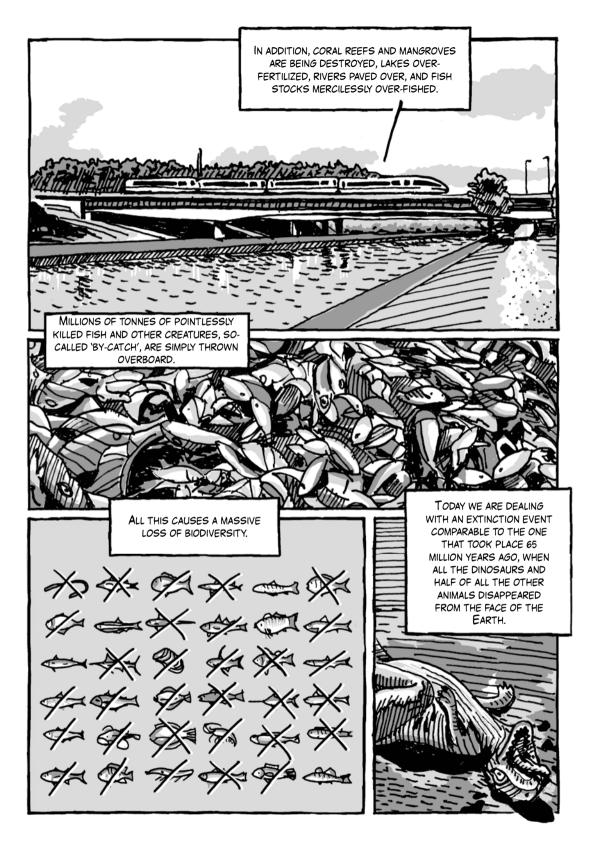


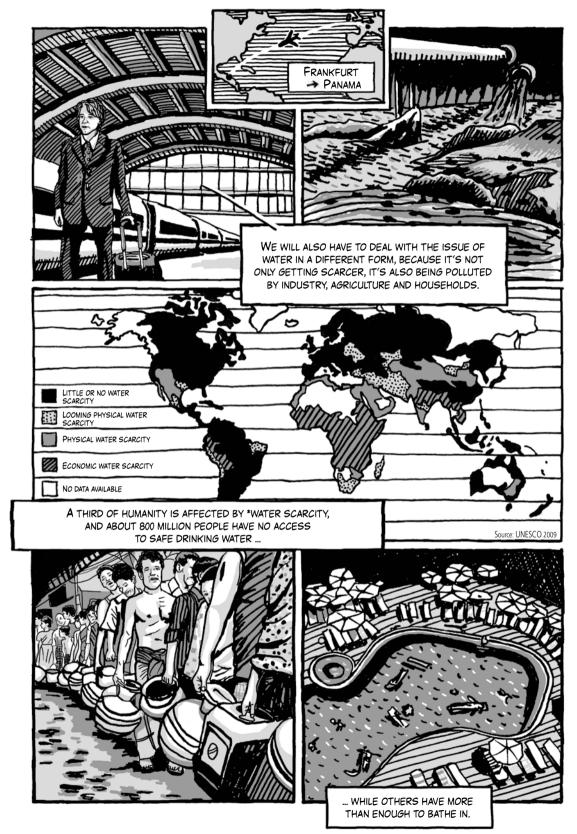


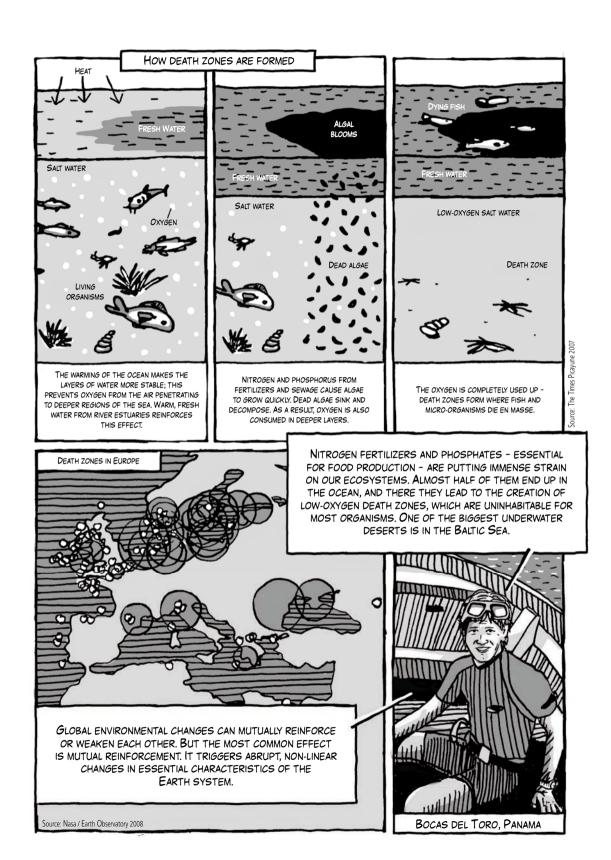


13 PROVINCES. 35 MILLION HECTARES OF FOREST ARE TO BE PLANTED OVER A PERIOD OF ALMOST 80 YEARS. THAT'S AN AREA ABOUT THE SIZE OF GERMANY.

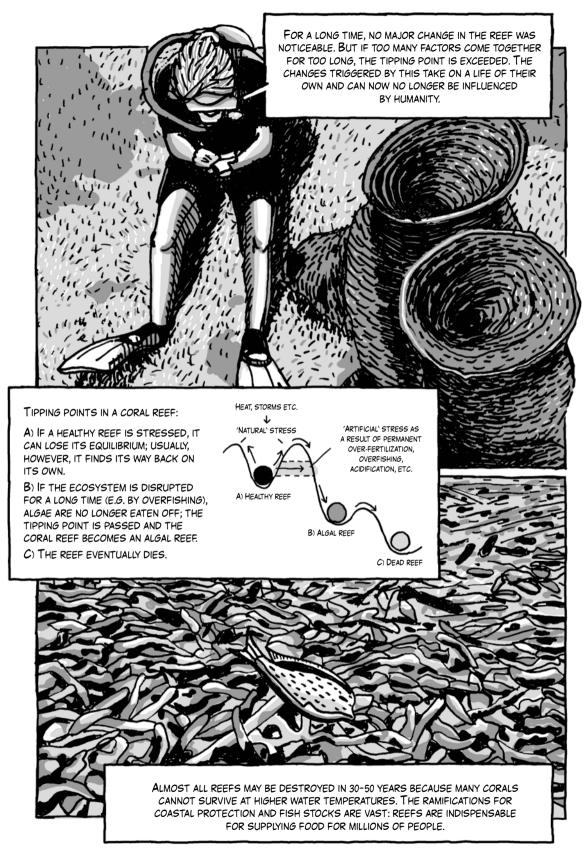








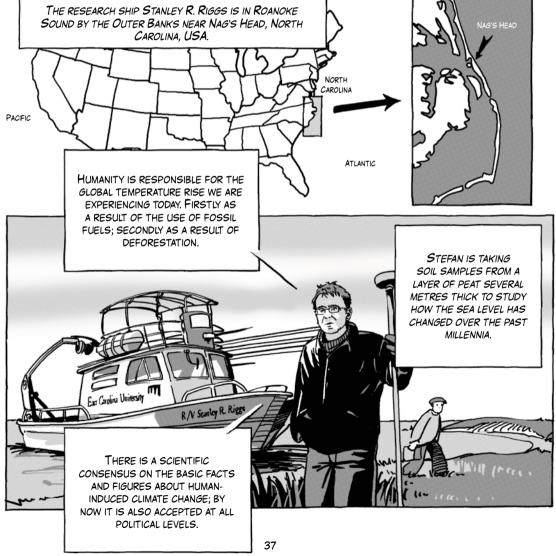


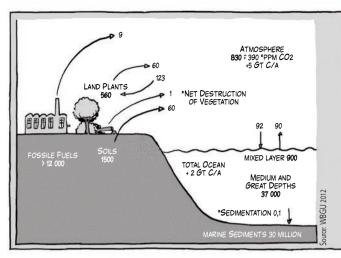


CHAPTER 3

HOT STUFF: CLIMATE CHANGE





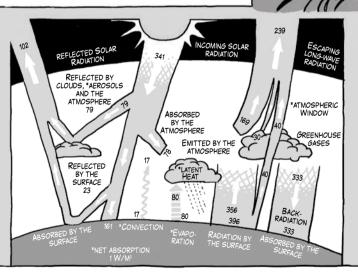


CARBON (C) FLOWS IN GIGATONNES (GT) PER ANNUM

(BOLD TYPE: TOTAL AMOUNTS OF STORED CARBON IN GT)

WHEN THERE IS NO HUMAN INTERFERENCE, THE *CARBON CYCLE IS IN EQUILIBRIUM. HOWEVER, OUR USE OF FOSSIL FUELS IS INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF ATMOSPHERIC CARBON BY 5 GIGATONNES A YEAR.

THE CONCENTRATION OF CO2 IN THE ATMOSPHERE HAS INCREASED RAPIDLY SINCE CA. 1850, FROM 280 PPM (A TYPICAL VALUE FOR WARM INTERGLACIAL PERIODS) TO OVER 390 PPM. CO2 IS A RADIATIVE FORCING GAS: THE HIGHER ITS CONCENTRATION IN THE ATMOSPHERE, THE MORE THE SURFACE TEMPERATURES RISE. IF THE CO2 CONTENT IN THE AIR DOUBLES, THE AVERAGE GLOBAL TEMPERATURE RISES BY 2-4°C.



SUNLIGHT SHINES ON THE EARTH.
A THIRD OF IT IS REFLECTED, THE
REST IS CONVERTED INTO HEAT
IN THE ATMOSPHERE AND ON THE
EARTH'S SURFACE.

THE EARTH CAN ONLY GET RID OF HEAT BY RADIATING IT BACK OUT INTO SPACE.

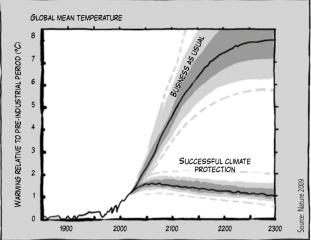
HOWEVER, GREENHOUSE GASES PREVENT THE ATMOSPHERE FROM LETTING LONG-WAVE THERMAL RADIATION THROUGH. A LOT OF THE RADIATION EMITTED FROM THE SURFACE IS ABSORBED AND RERADIATED BACK DOWN.

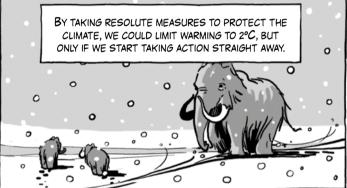
GLOBAL ENERGY FLOWS AND GREENHOUSE-GAS EFFECT, DATA IN WATTS/M2

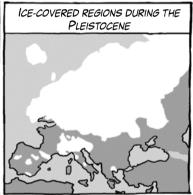
Data: IPCC 2007



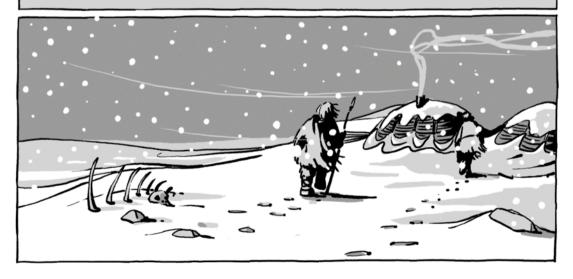
IF WE DO NOT CHANGE OUR WAYS SOON, WE EXPECT TEMPERATURES TO INCREASE BY AN AVERAGE OF 4-7°C OVER THE NEXT 100 YEARS.







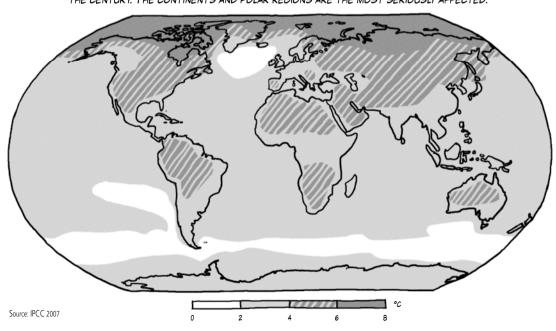
BY WAY OF COMPARISON, THE LAST GREAT GLOBAL WARMING TOOK PLACE AT THE END OF THE LAST ICE AGE APPROXIMATELY 15,000 YEARS AGO. OVER A PERIOD OF 5,000 YEARS THE GLOBAL TEMPERATURE ROSE BY APPROXIMATELY 5°C. AN UNLIMITED MAN-MADE GLOBAL WARMING COULD REACH SUCH A SCALE IN A FRACTION OF THAT TIME - AND IT'S STARTING FROM A CLIMATE THAT'S ALREADY WARM.

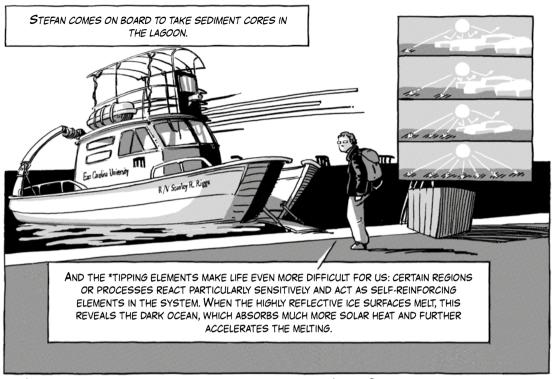




REGIONAL DIFFERENCES IN WARMING, ASSUMING A MEAN GLOBAL WARMING OF ABOUT 4°C UP UNTIL THE END OF THE CENTURY. THE CONTINENTS AND POLAR REGIONS ARE THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED.

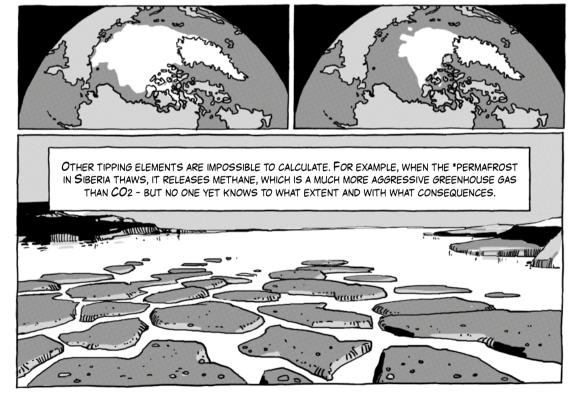
THE GLOBAL TEMPERATURE IS RELATIVELY EASY TO PREDICT, BUT IT'S MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO PREDICT THE EFFECTS OF WARMING ON THE ICE MASSES, THE SEA LEVEL OR VEGETATION.

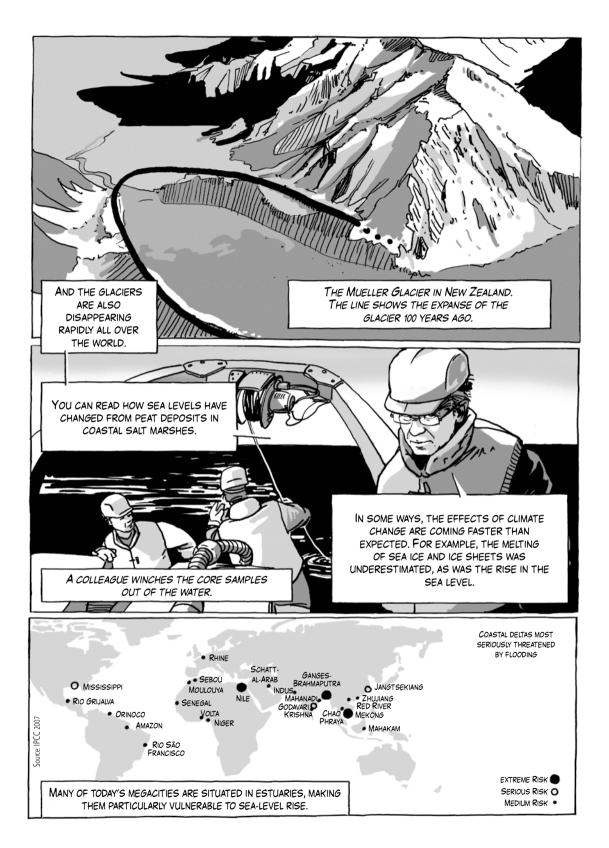


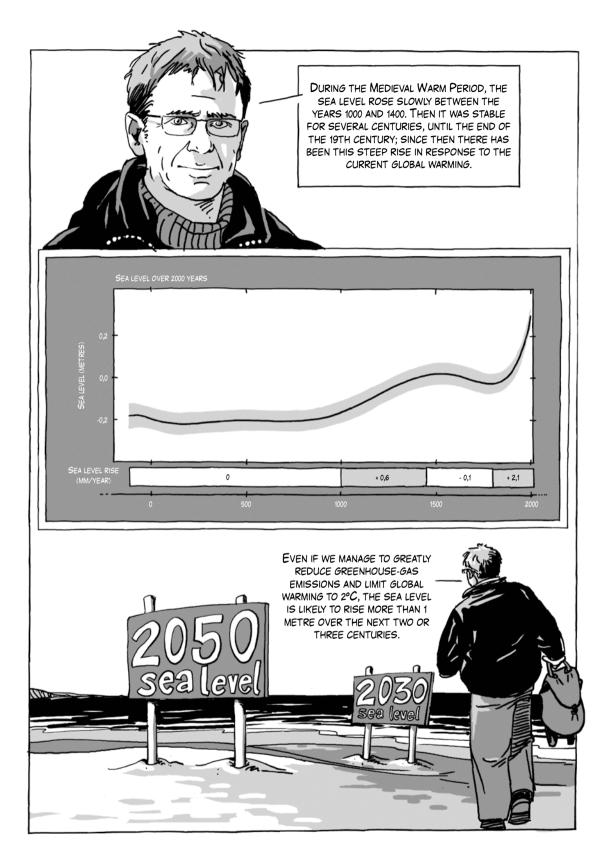


JUST ONE EXAMPLE: HALF OF THE SUMMER SEA-ICE COVER ON THE ARCTIC OCEAN HAS ALREADY DISAPPEARED.

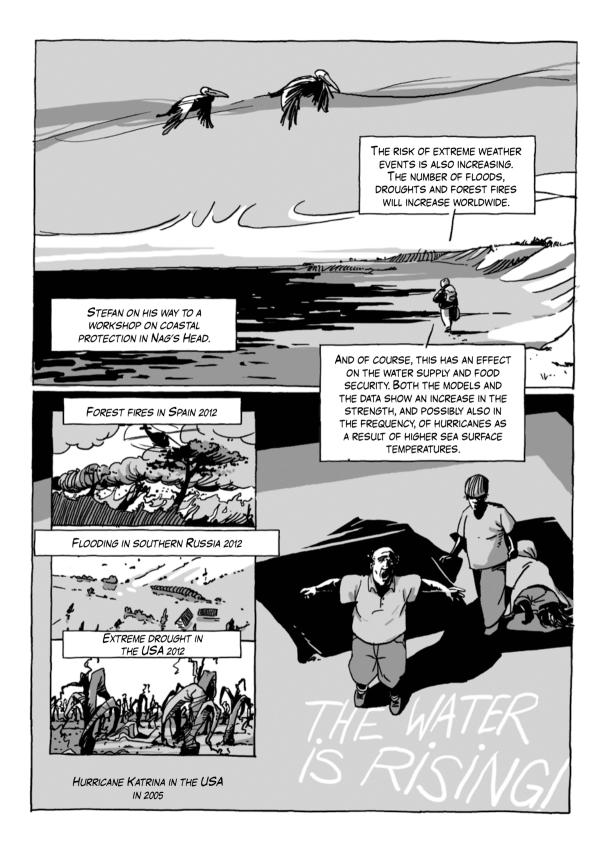
COMPARISON OF THE EXTENT OF THE ARCTIC SEA ICE IN 1979 AND 2012











NAG'S HEAD

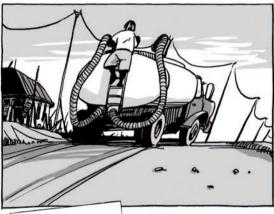
ALTHOUGH GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION DOES NOT NECESSARILY HAVE TO DECLINE IN WARMER CLIMATIC CONDITIONS, SOME HARVESTS WILL BE AS A RESULT OF WATER SCARCITY AND



THIS WILL THREATEN WATER SUPPLIES TO MAJOR CITIES LIKE LIMA.



THE WATER SUPPLY IN LIMA IS HIGHLY DEPENDENT ON THE ANDEAN GLACIERS. WHILE THE POPULATION IS GROWING, THE GLACIERS ARE MELTING, AND NO ONE CAN STOP THEM.







CHAPTER 4

WE'RE NOT THAT STUPID. A GLANCE INTO THE PAST





THE WORLD ECONOMY IS CHANGING RADICALLY. 1.3 BILLION PEOPLE BELONGED TO THE GLOBAL MIDDLE CLASS IN 1989, WITH 80% OF THEM LIVING IN THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. BY 2030 THE GLOBAL MIDDLE CLASS WILL NUMBER ABOUT 5 BILLION PEOPLE, AND 80% OF THEM WILL BE LIVING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND EMERGING ECONOMIES. THE RECOVERY OF EMERGING ECONOMIES DIFFERENT REGIONS' PERCENTAGE SHARES OF THE WORLD ECONOMY % 100 90 REST OF THE WORLD MIDDLE EAST 80 70 USA JAPAN _ 60 50 40 30 INDIA 20 WESTERN EUROPE CHINA 10 1820 1870 1900 1913 1978 2003 2008 2015 2030 1700 1950 2050 FORECAST Source: Die ZEIT 2008 IF THERE IS NO TRANSFORMATION TO SUSTAINABILITY, THIS DEVELOPMENT TREND WILL LEAD TO THE DEGRADATION OF THE NATURAL LIFE-SUPPORT SYSTEMS. CHANGE OF VIEW THE 'DISCOVERY' OF A LIFESTYLE THAT IS CONSCIOUSLY GEARED TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY IS COMPARABLE TO THE ADVENT OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT IN THE 17TH CENTURY. BOTH CONCEPTS CALL FOR AN EXTENSIVE REORGANIZATION OF THE SOCIETY IN WHICH THEY EMERGED.



THE ENLIGHTENMENT WAS ABOUT THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF 'HUMAN RACE'; YET FOR MANY ENLIGHTENMENT THINKERS SLAVES WERE NOT PART OF IT.





DAVID HUME (1711-1776)



MONTESQUIEU (1689-1755)



DENIS DIDEROT (1713-1784)



VOLTAIRE (1694-1778)



MANY PROPONENTS OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT WERE FANTASTIC FUTURE-ORIENTED MINDS AND VISIONARIES, BUT THEY WERE ALSO CHILDREN OF THEIR TIME. SLAVERY IS AN EXAMPLE OF THIS CONTRADICTION.



IMMANUEL KANT (1724-1804)



JEAN-JACQUES ROUSSEAU (1712-1778)



THE US CONSTITUTION OF 1787 BEGINS WITH THE FAMOUS FORMULA 'WE THE PEOPLE' - YET SLAVERY REMAINED PART OF SOCIETAL REALITY IN THE USA FOR ANOTHER EIGHT DECADES ...



... AND ULTIMATELY LED TO THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR OF 1861-1865.

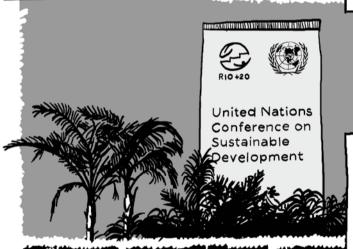


SO IT'S A LONG, HARD ROAD WITH MANY SETBACKS FROM A SOPHISTICATED PHILOSOPHY AND IDEA TO SOCIETAL REALITY. LINEAR PROGRESS IS UNKNOWN IN WORLD HISTORY.



SEEN FROM THIS PERSPECTIVE, THE SUSTAINABILITY PARADIGM HAS HAD A BREATHTAKING CAREER. EVEN THOUGH THE *UN CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN RIO MUST BE REGARDED AS A FAILURE.

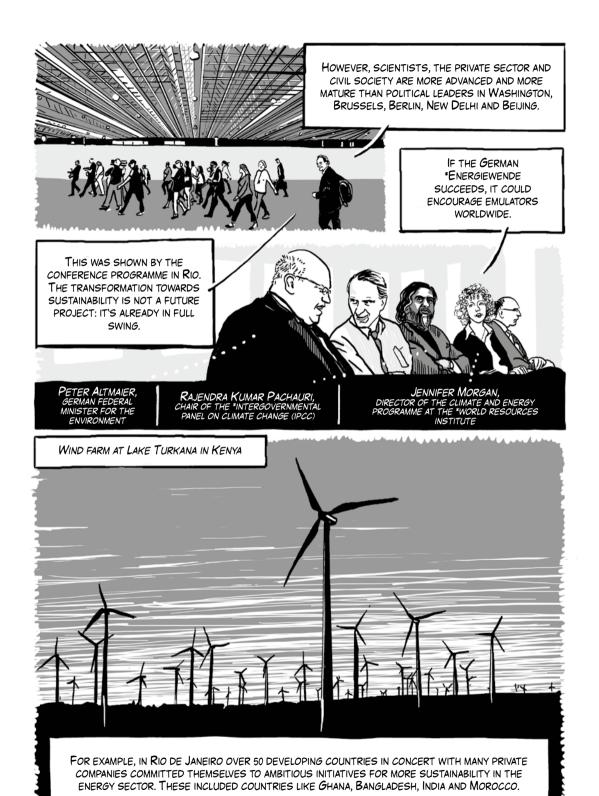
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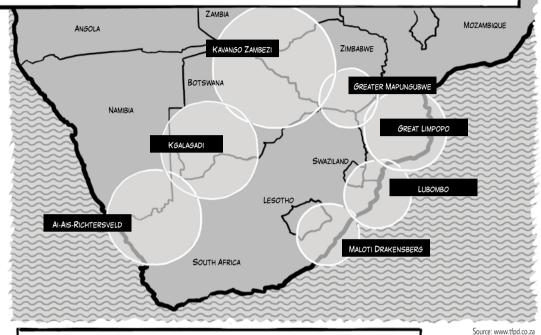
THE THE PERSON OF THE PERSON O

NOTHING IS LEFT OF THE SPIRIT OF CHANGE AT THE FIRST *EARTH SUMMIT OF 1992. THE FINAL DECLARATION DID NOT GENERATE FRESH IMPETUS, AND THE LARGE NUMBER OF PROBLEMS ADDRESSED HAD THE EFFECT THAT NOT A SINGLE ONE WAS RESOLUTELY TACKLED. YOU COULD REALLY SPEAK OF A RIO MINUS 20 CONFERENCE.

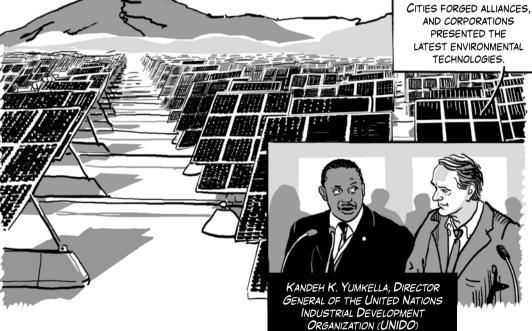


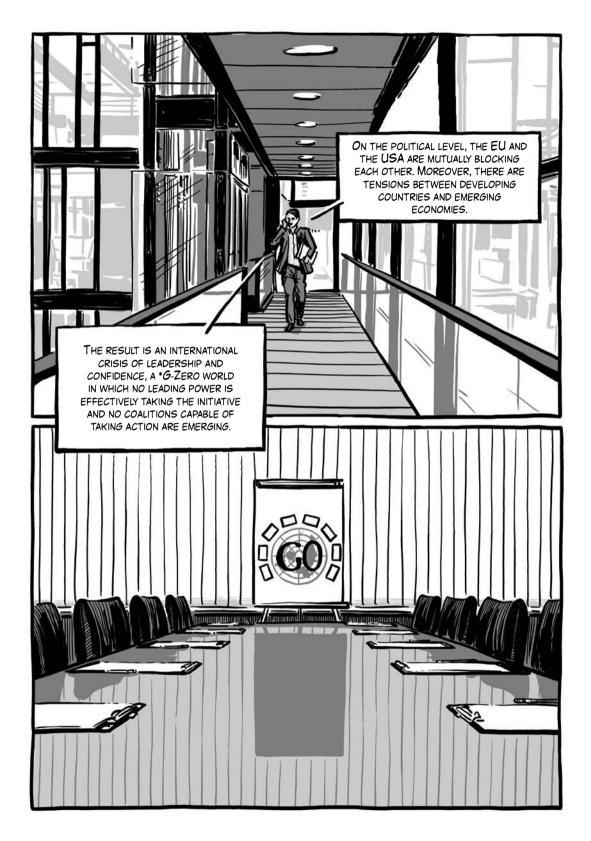


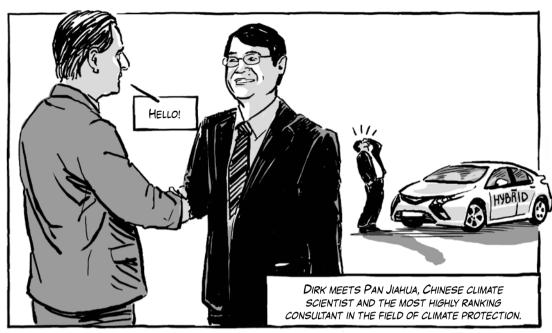
A GROUP OF AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS, THE WORLD BANK, MAJOR PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS LIKE CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL AND CORPORATIONS IN TURN AGREED CONCRETE INITIATIVES TO PROTECT NATURAL ASSETS IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES. PROJECTS LIKE THE CROSS-BORDER *PEACE PARKS FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ECOTOURISM. THESE APPROACHES WERE FURTHER DEVELOPED IN RIO.

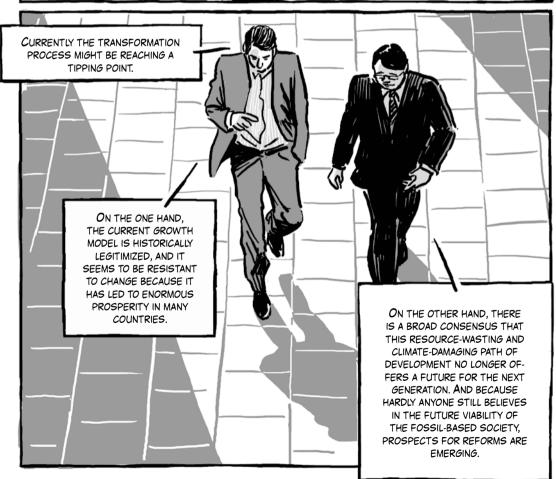


SOLAR ENERGY PLANT NEAR MOUNT ABU IN RAJASTHAN, INDIA





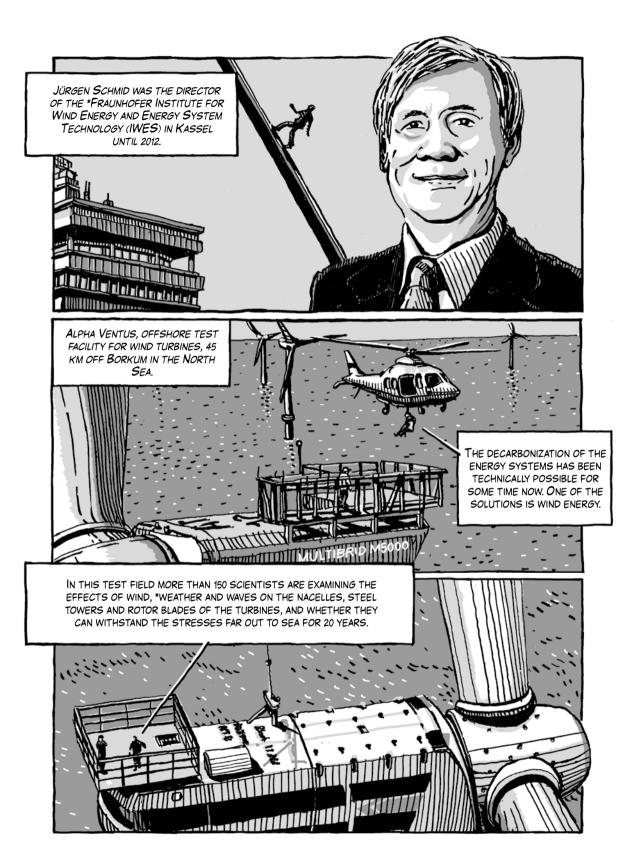


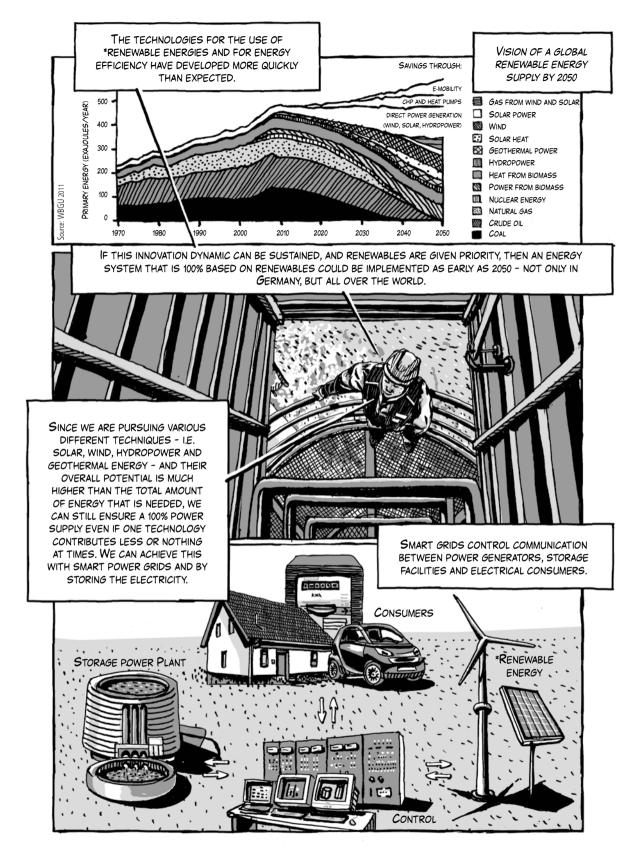




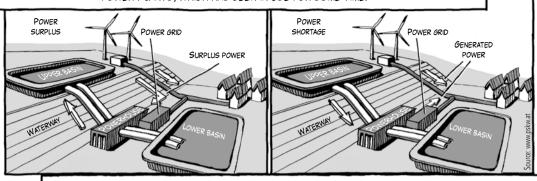
CHAPTER 5

TECHNICALLY, EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

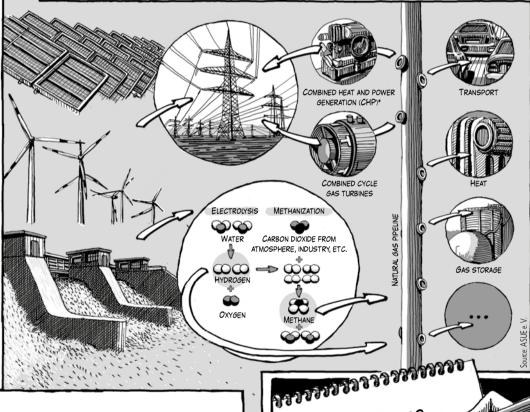




THERE ARE TWO VIABLE TECHNOLOGIES FOR STORAGE. ONE OF THESE IS PUMPED STORAGE POWER PLANTS, WHICH HAS BEEN IN USE FOR SOME TIME.



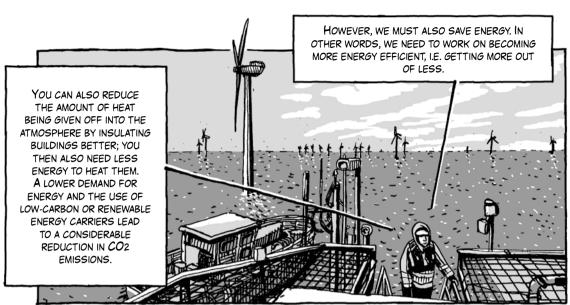
THE OTHER IS STORING THE ELECTRICITY IN THE FORM OF GAS. TOGETHER WITH THE CENTRE FOR SOLAR ENERGY AND HYDROGEN RESEARCH BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG WE'RE DEVELOPING AN IDEA FOR COUPLING ELECTRICITY AND GAS.



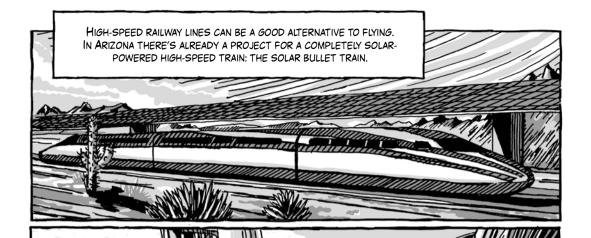
YOU TAKE THE EXCESS ENERGY FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES AND MAKE METHANE OUT OF IT. THIS GAS CAN BE USED TO GENERATE HEAT, OR AS A FUEL, OR BE STORED IN NATURAL GAS NETWORKS. THE NATURAL GAS NETWORKS ALREADY EXIST. THE METHANE CAN BE CONVERTED BACK INTO ELECTRICITY WHENEVER NECESSARY.

 $4H_{2}O \rightarrow 4H_{2} + 2O_{2}$ $4H_{2} + CO_{2} \rightarrow CH_{4} + 2H_{2}OU$

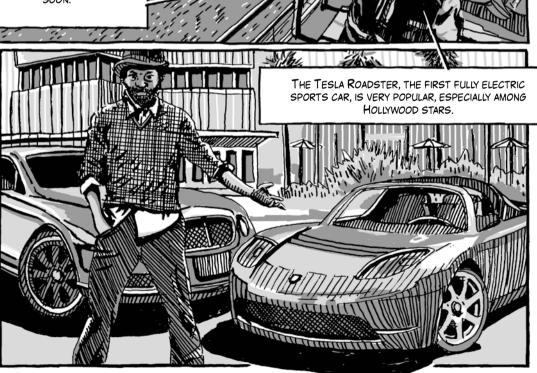
IN THIS PROCESS YOU ONLY RELEASE AS MUCH CO2 INTO THE ATMOSPHERE AS YOU PREVIOUSLY EXTRACTED FROM IT, MAKING THIS TECHNOLOGY CARBON NEUTRAL.

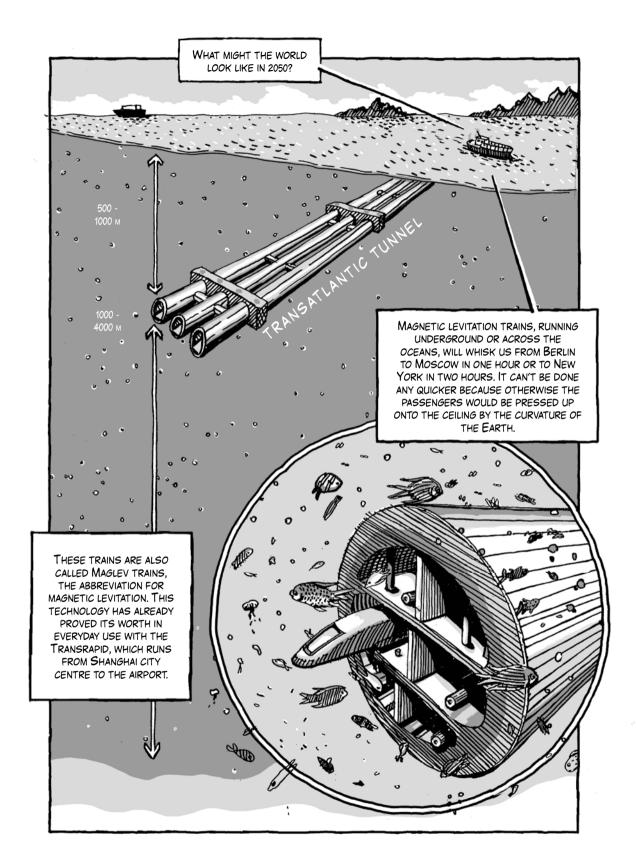


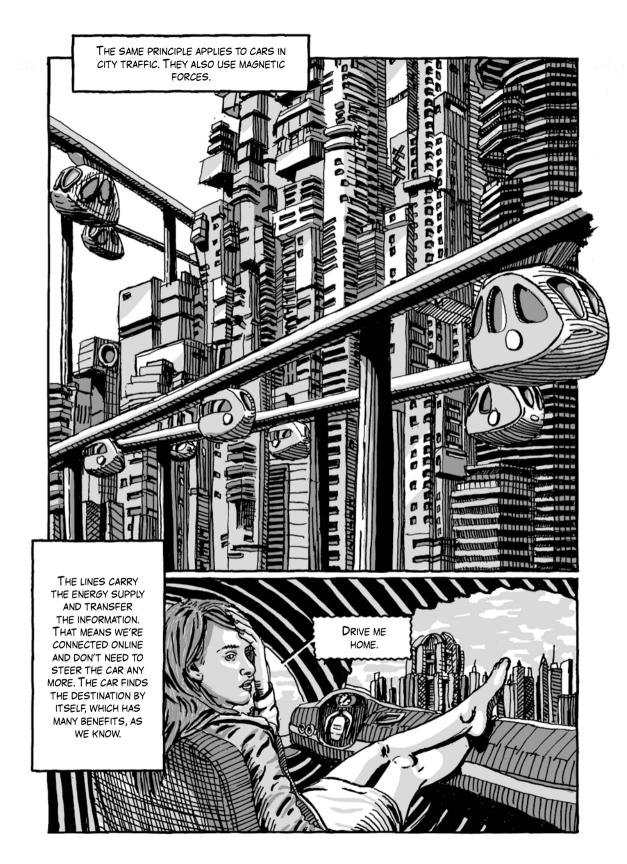


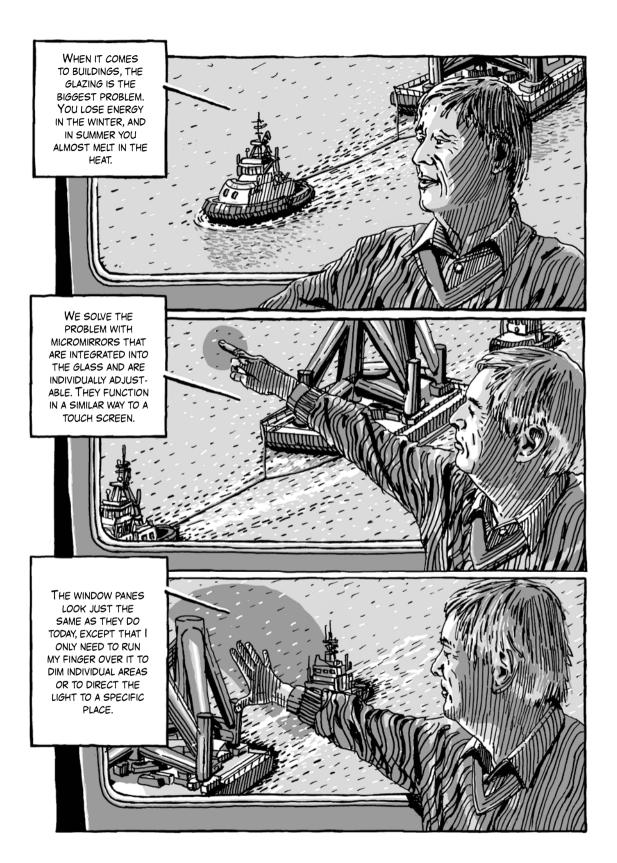


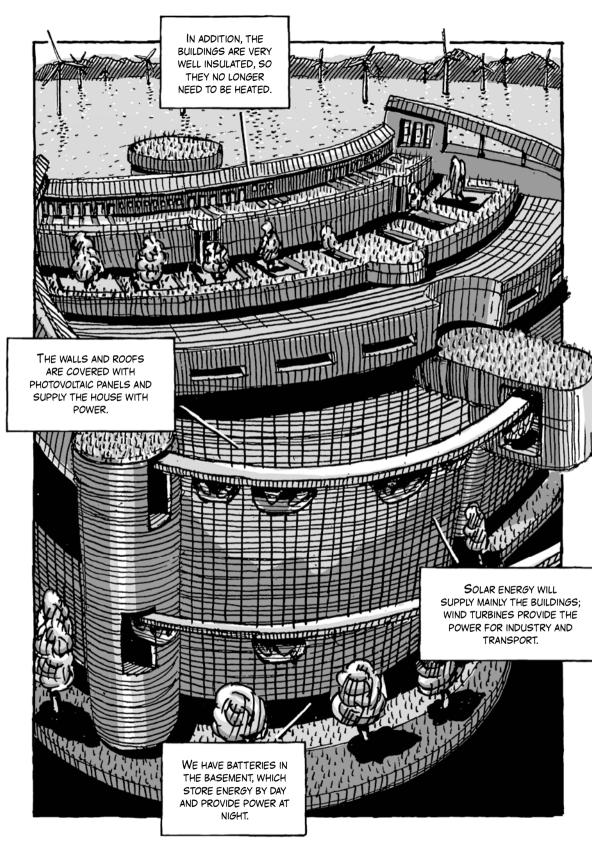
AND OF COURSE WE MUST ALSO TRANSFORM PRIVATE TRANSPORT. ALL THE MAJOR CAR MAKERS HAVE - LONG SINCE - DEVELOPED PROTOTYPES FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT ELECTRIC CARS AND OTHER CARS THAT USE LESS CARBON-INTENSIVE FUELS. THINGS MIGHT CHANGE IN THIS FIELD VERY SOON.

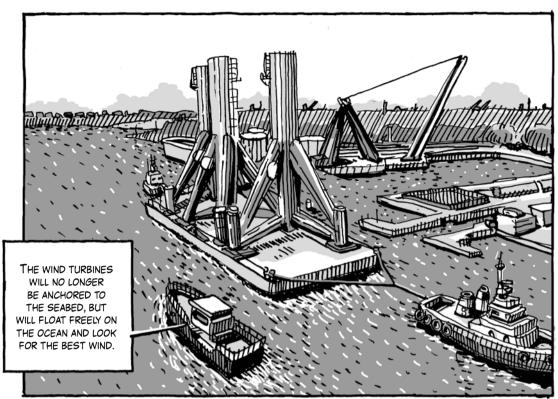


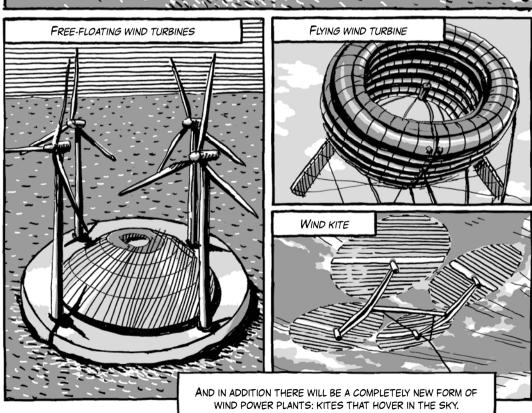


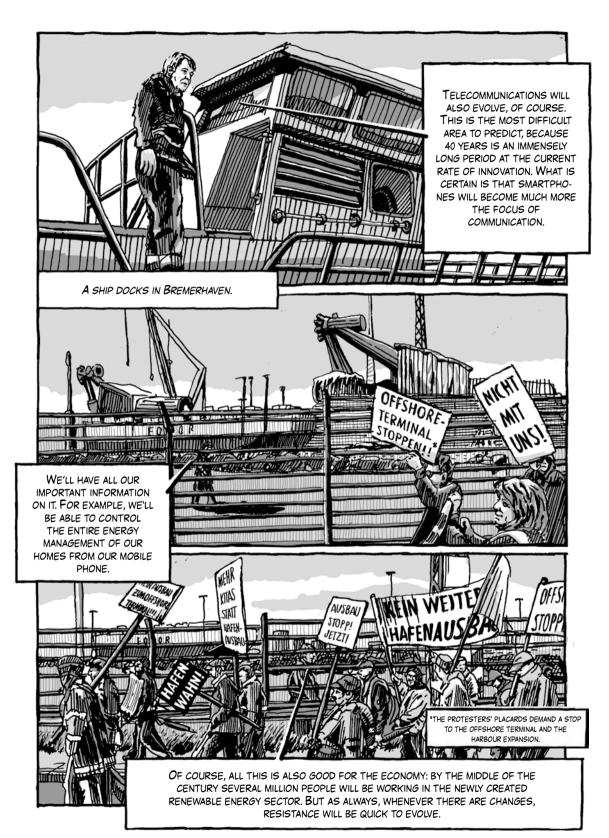






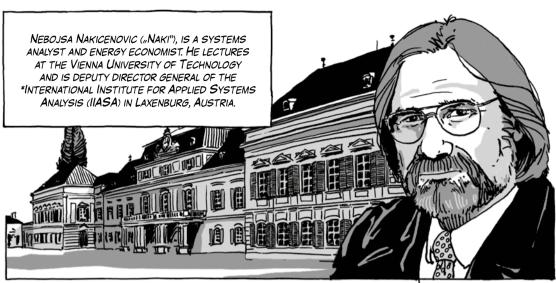


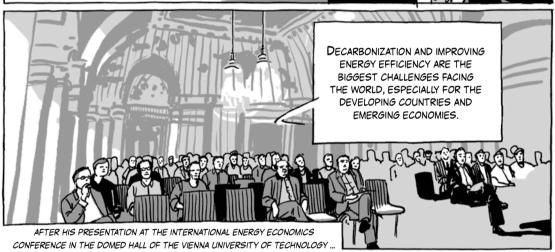




CHAPTER 6

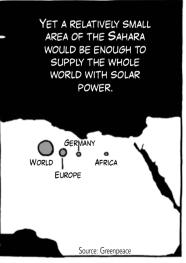
A TASK FOR THE WHOLE WORLD





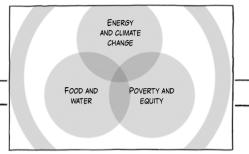




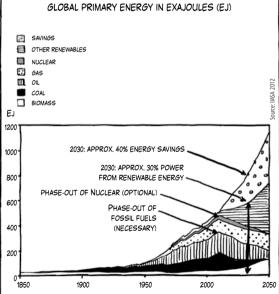




AT THE IIASA WE CONCENTRATE ON PROBLEMS THAT ARE TOO BIG FOR A SINGLE COUNTRY TO COPE WITH ALONE. THE THREE MAIN PROBLEM AREAS ARE ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE; FOOD AND WATER; POVERTY AND EQUITY.



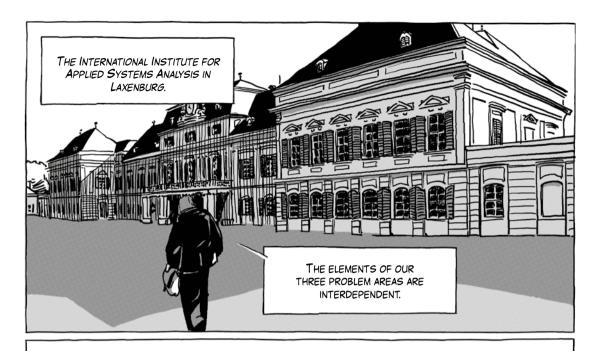
FOR OUR LONG-TERM STUDIES WE FEED OUR COMPUTERS WITH AS MUCH DATA AS POSSIBLE AND HAVE THEM CRUNCH NUMBERS ON A WIDE RANGE OF DIFFERENT FACTORS. THIS ENABLES US TO JUXTAPOSE A LOT OF DIFFERENT POSSIBLE FUTURE SCENARIOS.



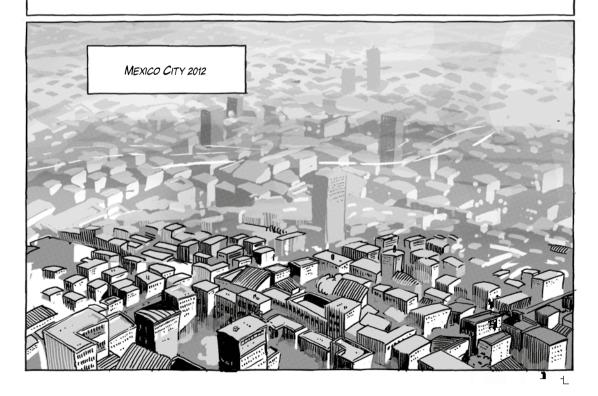
IN THIS WAY WE CAN GIVE POLICY-MAKERS A BASIS ON WHICH TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISIONS.

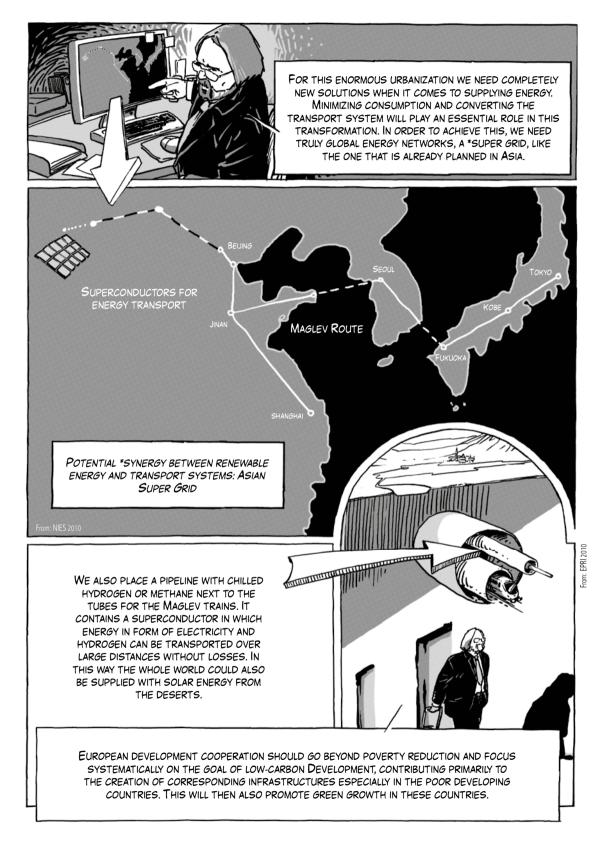


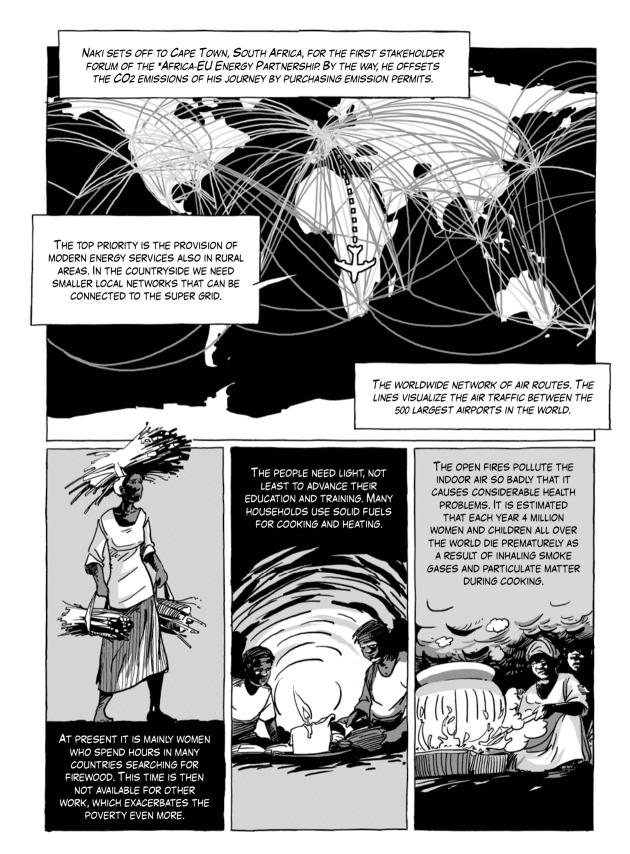
THE CHART SHOWS HOW THE GLOBAL ENERGY SYSTEM WOULD NEED TO BE TRANSFORMED TO REACH THE GOALS OF THE *SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL INITIATIVE, WHICH WAS LAUNCHED BY BAN KI-MOON, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

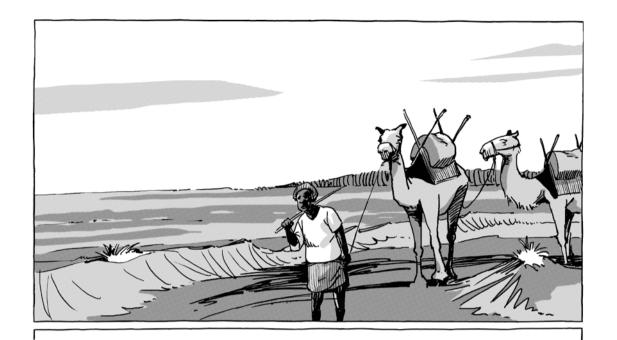


AN EXAMPLE: MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE MOVING TO THE CITIES. BY 2050, 80% OF ALL PEOPLE WILL LIVE IN URBAN AREAS, ALTHOUGH, INTERESTINGLY, THE BIRTH RATE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE IS MUCH HIGHER THAN IN THE CITY. THIS TREND PRIMARILY AFFECTS SOUTH ASIA, BUT ALSO AFRICA AND SOUTH AMERICA. USUALLY THERE IS NO REGULATED URBAN PLANNING AND OFTEN NOT EVEN HYGIENIC WASTE OR SEWAGE DISPOSAL, NOT TO MENTION THE LACK OF ELECTRICITY ACCESS.





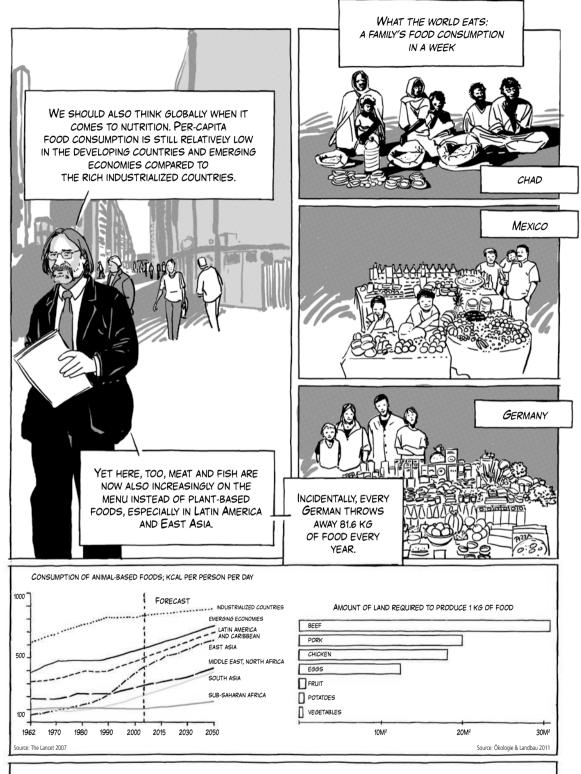




FORESTS ARE CUT DOWN TO OBTAIN FIREWOOD, WHICH LEADS TO EROSION, FLOODS AND, IN TURN, HARVEST LOSSES. IN ADDITION, CO2 IS RELEASED, STRENGTHENING THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT; ITS IMPACT IN TURN FURTHER PREJUDICES THE HARVEST. CROP FAILURES EXACERBATE THE POVERTY, ...



... AND THE POVERTY MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SWITCH TO CLEAN ENERGY SOURCES, SINCE THE PEOPLE SIMPLY LACK THE MONEY TO BUY MODERN DEVICES. MOST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES DO IN FACT HAVE ENOUGH KNOW-HOW AND CAPITAL. BUT MUCH OF IT ENDS UP IN FOREIGN BANK ACCOUNTS. AND SINCE THERE ARE NO RELIABLE INSTITUTIONS, THE GENERAL CONDITIONS ARE NOT RIGHT FOR MAJOR INVESTMENTS.

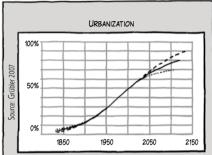


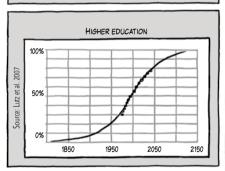
GLOBAL MEAT CONSUMPTION HAS QUADRUPLED OVER THE LAST 50 YEARS. TO PRODUCE 1 KG OF MEAT YOU NEED 7-16 KG OF CEREALS OR SOYA BEANS.

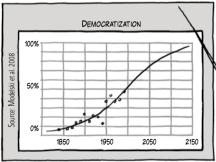




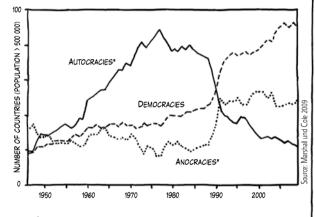


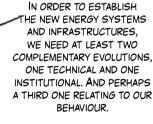






HOWEVER, THERE ARE ALSO POSITIVE
DEVELOPMENTS AROUND THE WORLD. FOR EXAMPLE,
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS IS ON THE INCREASE,
AND THE LONG-TERM POLITICAL TREND IS MOVING
TOWARDS DEMOCRATIZATION. SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT WILL ONLY BE POSSIBLE IF PEOPLE
KNOW THAT THEIR VOTE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.







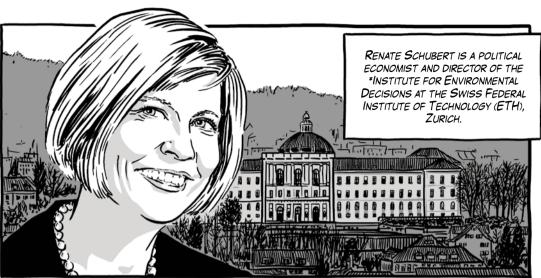
NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND SYSTEMS WILL LEAD TO NEW BUSINESS MODELS AND INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES. ALL OF THESE PARALLEL AND COMPLEMENTARY TRANSFORMATIONS REQUIRE ECONOMIC, REGULATORY AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES TO DRIVE THEM FORWARD AT THE SAME TIME.

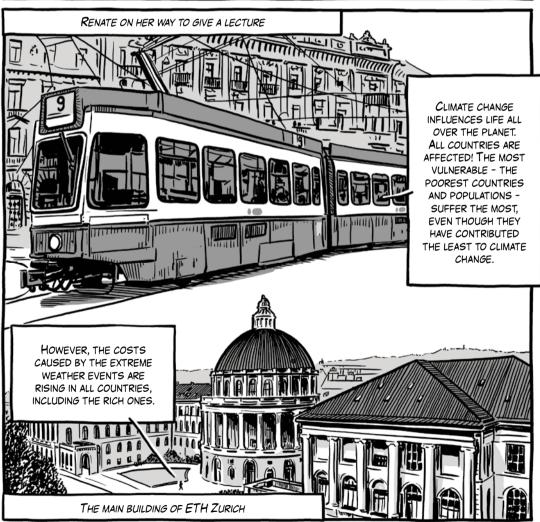
MANY COUNTRIES WILL LEAPFROG THE FOSSIL ENERGY ERA IN THEIR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IMMEDIATELY ADOPT INNOVATIVE LOW-CARBON DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE.

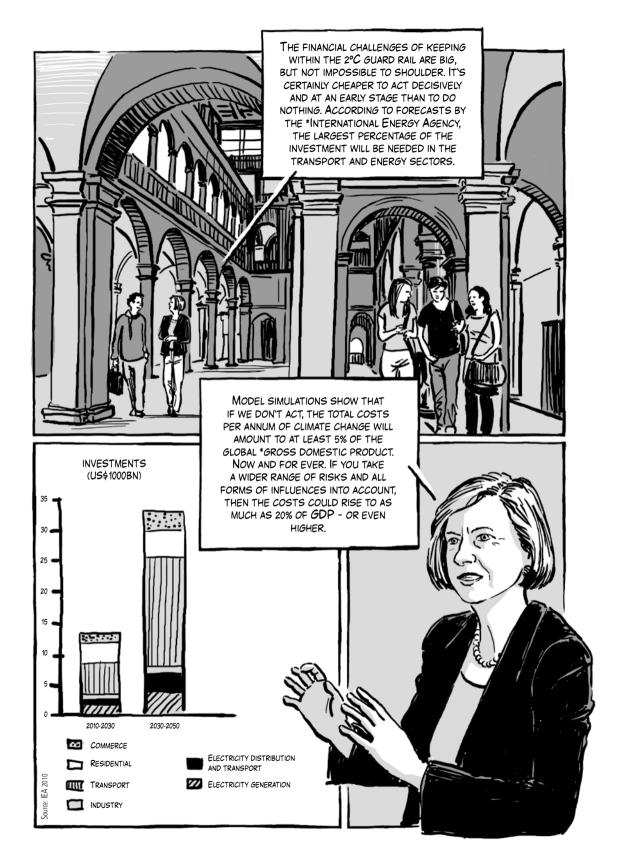


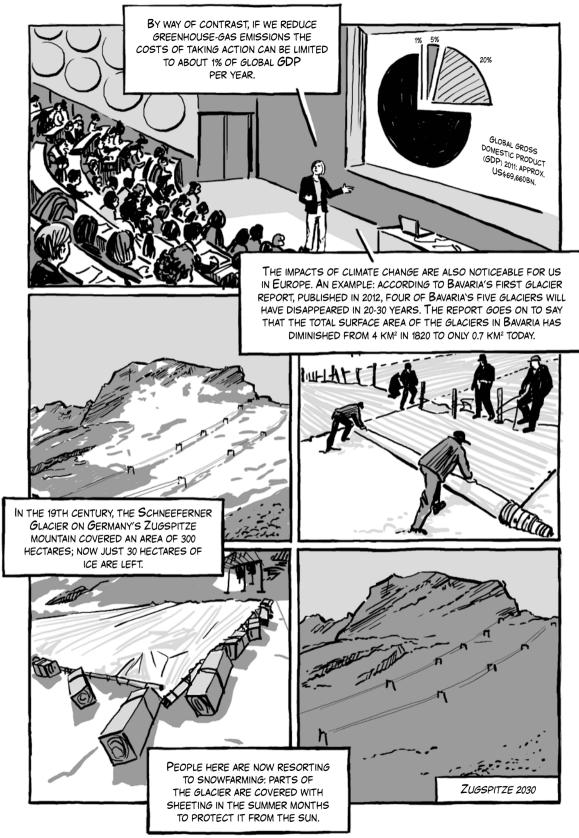
CHAPTER 7

WHO IS GOING TO PAY FOR IT?

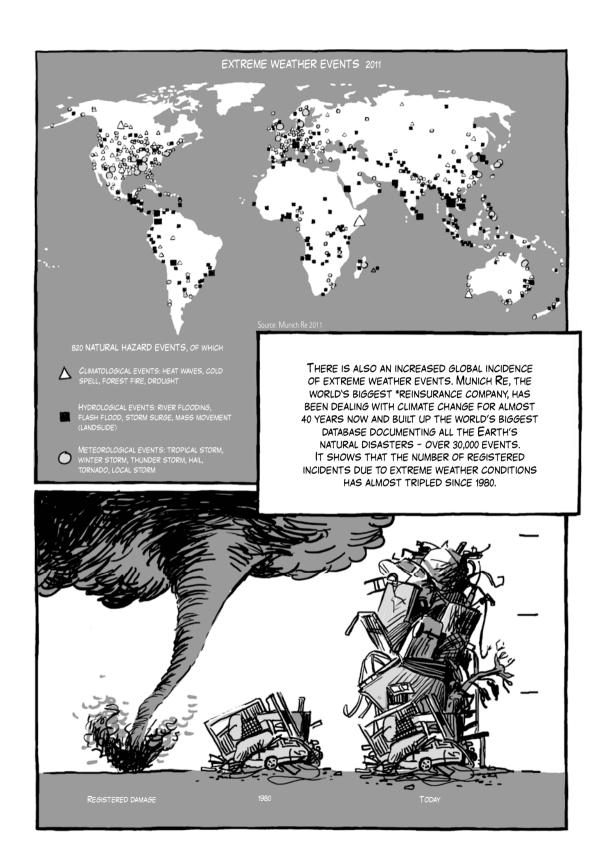


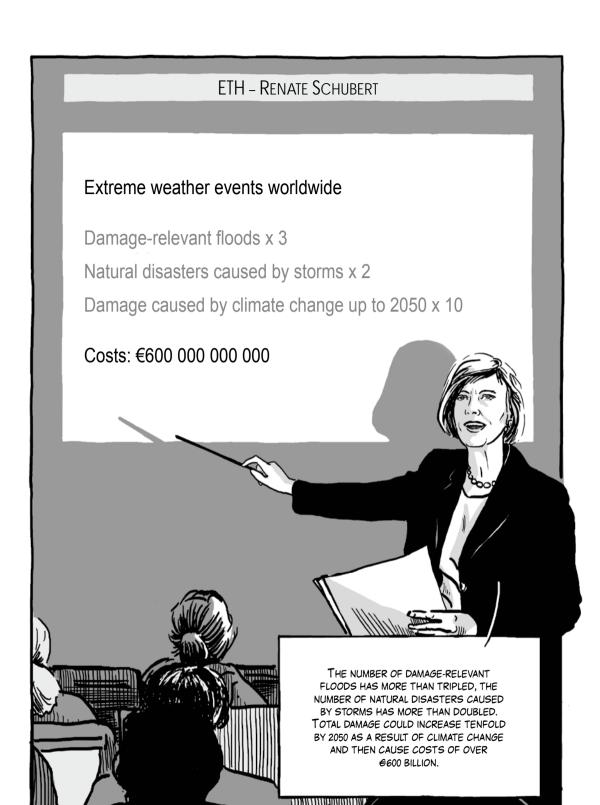




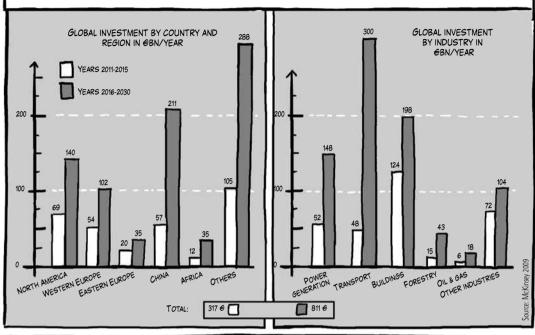


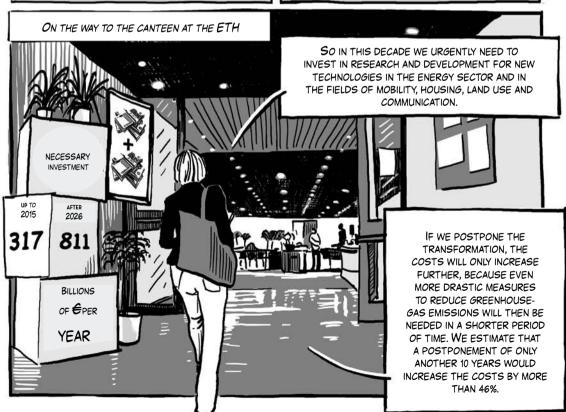




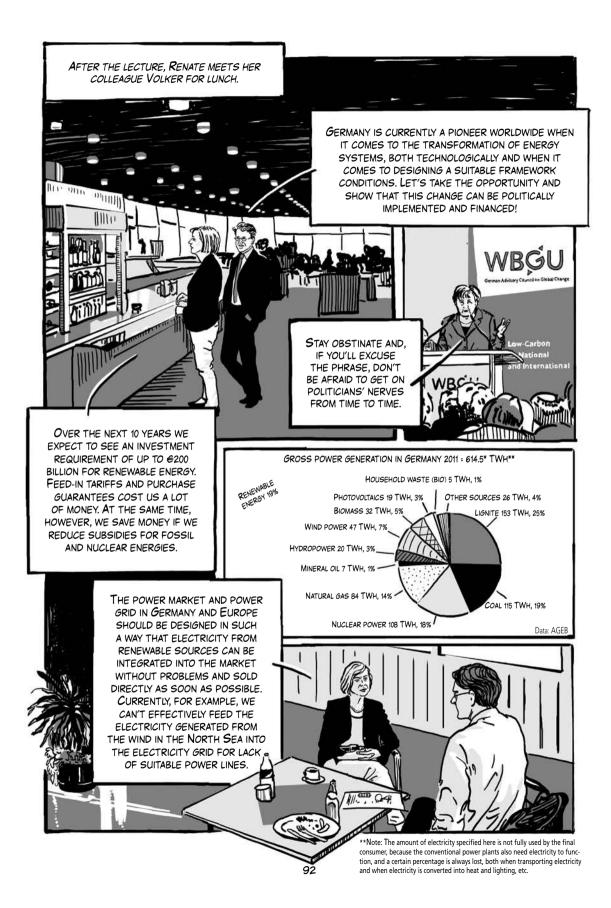


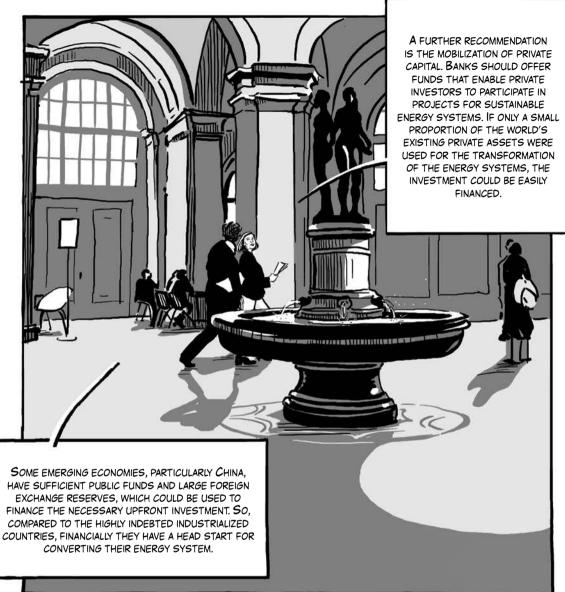
WE MUST REDUCE EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES. IF WE CAN KEEP THE CONCENTRATION OF CO2 IN THE ATMOSPHERE DOWN TO MAXIMUM OF 450 PPM, WE MIGHT MANAGE TO LIMIT GLOBAL WARMING TO 2°C. THAT WILL REQUIRE ENORMOUS INVESTMENT OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS.



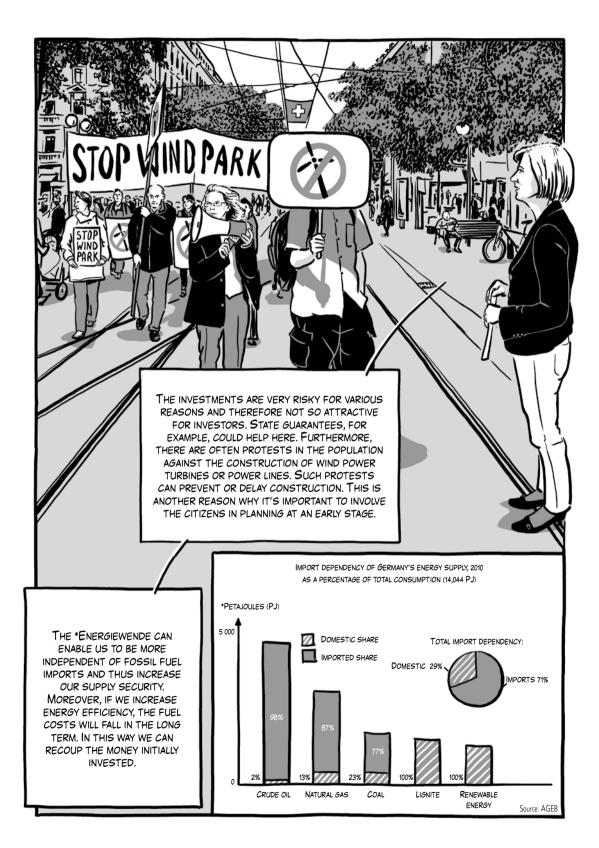


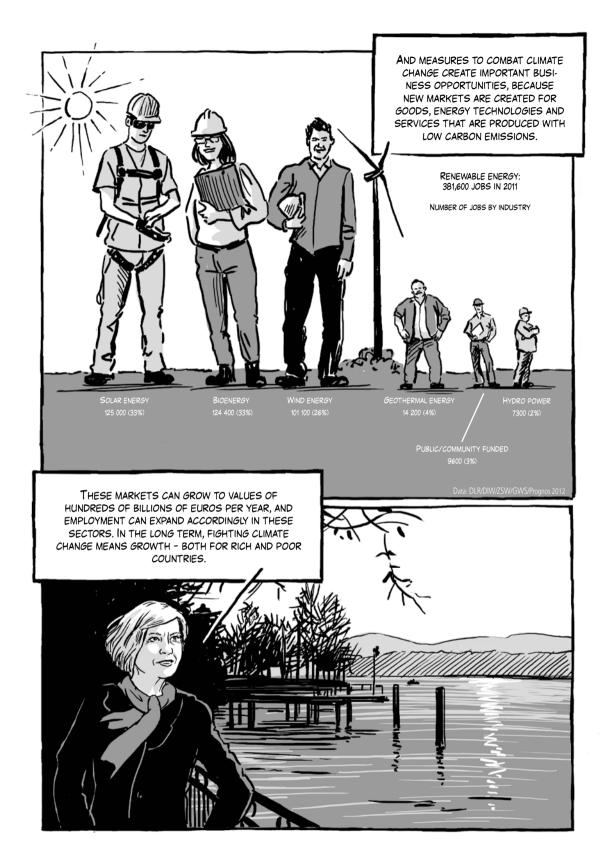
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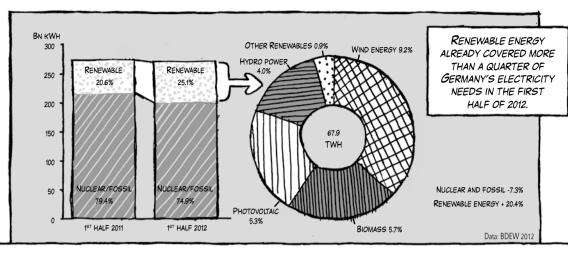


CHAPTER 8

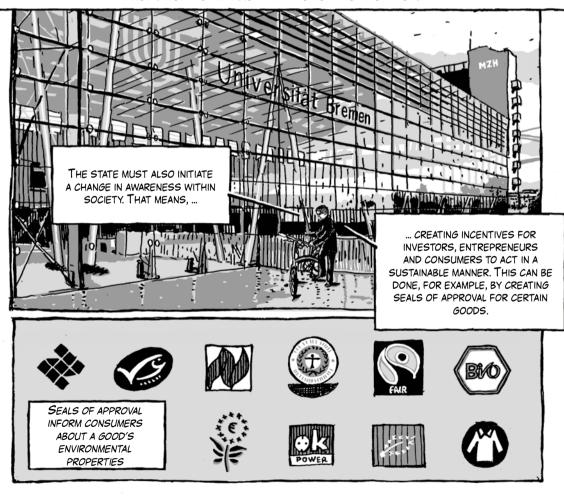
THE STATE ALSO HAS A ROLE TO PLAY

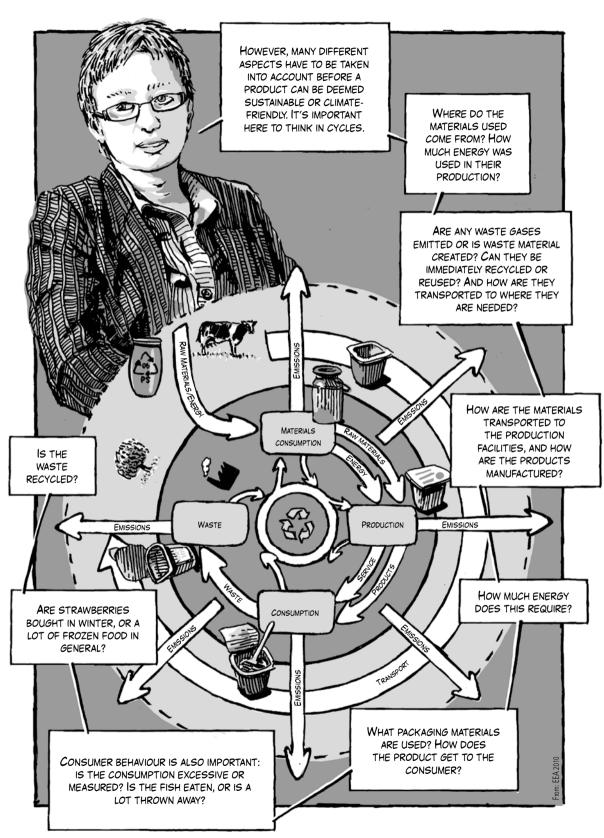






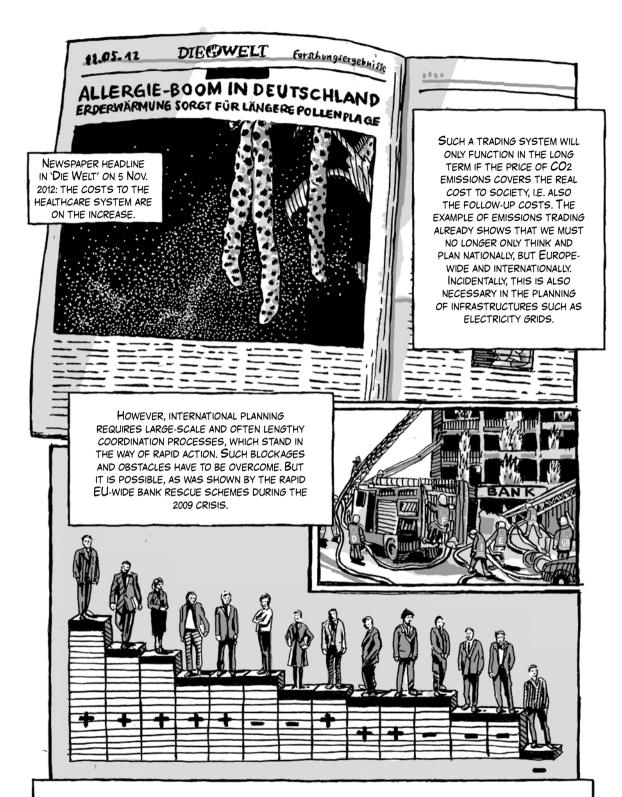
GERMANY HAS THE *RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT. IT HAS BEEN PROMOTING RENEWABLE ENERGIES FOR 20 YEARS BY GIVING PRIORITY TO FEEDING ELECTRICITY FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES INTO THE GRID AT A GUARANTEED PRICE. AND SHOULD THERE BE ANY CHANGES IN THE LAW IN THE FUTURE, THE CURRENT REGULATION WILL CONTINUE TO APPLY FOR PLANTS INSTALLED UNDER THE OLD RULES. THIS CREATES INVESTMENT SECURITY.



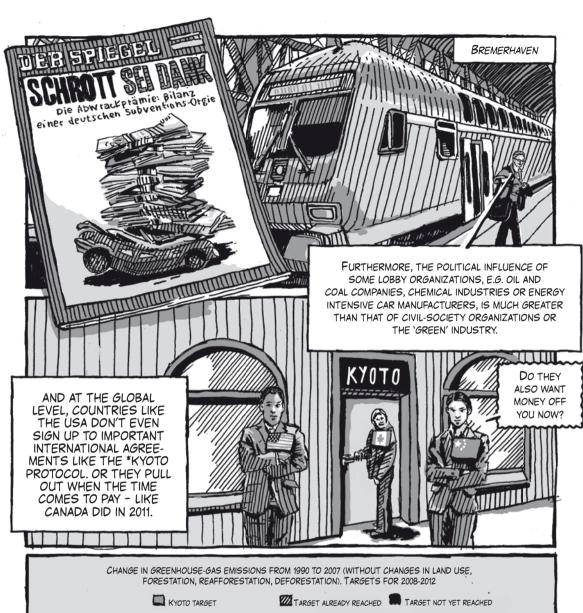


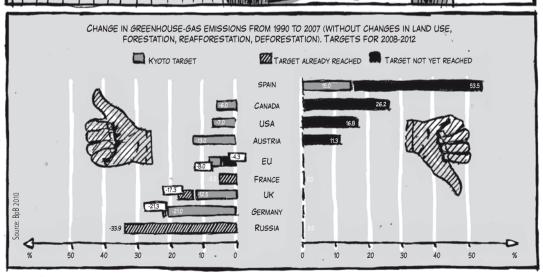


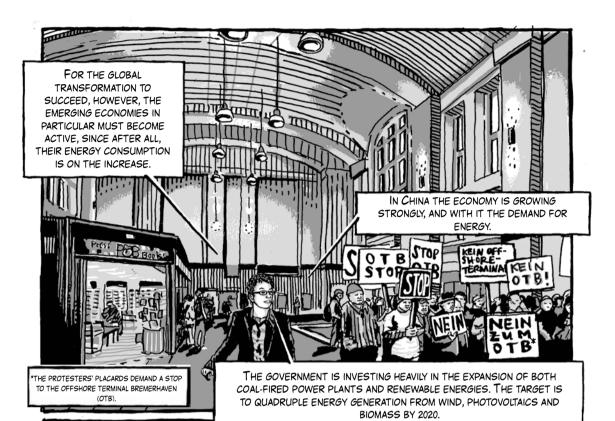


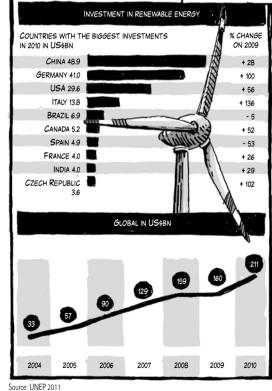


ANOTHER DIFFICULTY IS THAT POLITICS IN DEMOCRACIES IS LOCKED INTO RELATIVELY SHORT ELECTORAL CYCLES, SO THAT QUICK-FIXES AND MEDIAGENIC MEASURES ARE OFTEN POPULAR WITH VOTERS. WORKING TOWARDS LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES IS LESS ATTRACTIVE BY COMPARISON.

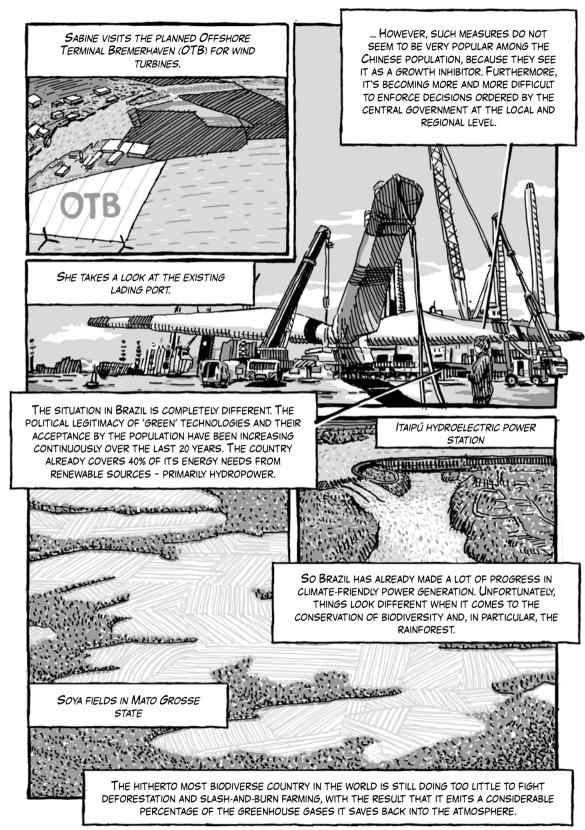


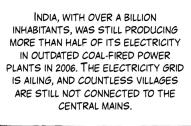


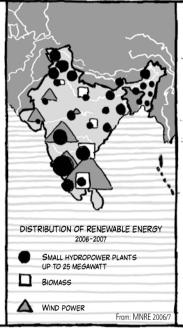












LOCALLY GENERATED
RENEWABLE ENERGIES SEEM
THE PERFECT SOLUTION TO
PROVIDE POWER FOR THE FASTGROWING ECONOMY.

THE COUNTRY RECOGNIZED THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF RENEWABLE ENERGIES AT AN EARLY STAGE AND CREATED A MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES IN 1992. THE GOVERNMENT PROMOTES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN THE ENERGY SECTOR, AND INDIA HAS SIGNED UP TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL.



THIS EXAMPLE SHOWS THAT CLIMATE PROTECTION CAN ALSO COME INTO CONFLICT WITH ECOLOGICAL GOALS. THE STATE MUST TAKE THESE CONFLICTS SERIOUSLY. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE LAW CAN PROVIDE A MECHANISM FOR BALANCING INTERESTS. WITHOUT PUBLIC OPINION, WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE POPULATION, THE AIM OF CREATING A SOCIETY WITH A SUSTAINABLE AND LOW-CARBON ECONOMY WILL NOT SUCCEED ANYWHERE.

CHAPTER 9

POLITICIANS CAN'T MANAGE IT ALONE



THERE'S NO POINT IN ANY GOVERNMENT PASSING A LAW MAKING ALL CITIZENS VEGETARIANS. THAT WOULD BE A DICTATORSHIP OF VIRTUE. BUT THE STATE COULD LAUNCH A CAMPAIGN OF PERSUASION TO GENERATE INTEREST IN NEW IDEAS, SHOW THE OPPORTUNITIES OF SUCH A TRANSFORMATION, AND LINK IT WITH IDEAS OF A GOOD LIFE WHICH THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE ALREADY HAVE ANYWAY.





DEMOCRATIC LEGITIMACY IS MORE THAN JUST GAINING ACCEPTANCE. APART FROM THE OUTPUT, I.E. THE PRACTICAL RESULTS OF POLITICS FOR THE CITIZENS, IT ALWAYS INVOLVES INPUT TOO: NAMELY THE POPULATION'S PARTICIPATION IN THE DECISIONS. IN A DEMOCRACY THIS IS DONE BY ACTIVE MAJORITY CONSENT TO AN ISSUE, E.G. IN ELECTIONS OR REFERENDA.





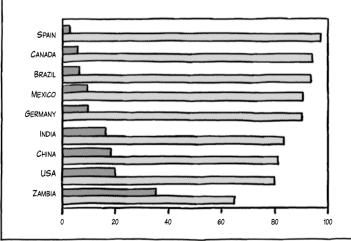
INDEED, THERE HAVE BEEN TRENDS WITHIN THE POPULATION IN FAVOUR OF SUSTAINABILITY AND A CLIMATE-FRIENDLY LIFESTYLE FOR A LONG TIME. ITS SUPPORTERS ARE NOT - OR NO LONGER - GOING AGAINST THE TIDE.

THIS TREND CAN BE OBSERVED ACROSS CULTURES, EVEN WORLDWIDE.



IN SPAIN, FOR EXAMPLE, ALMOST 100% OF THE POPULATION TAKE CLIMATE CHANGE VERY SERIOUSLY AS A GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM.

- SERIOUSLY / VERY SERIOUSLY
- NOT VERY SERIOUSLY / NOT AT ALL SERIOUSLY

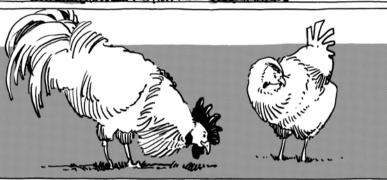


BASIC NEEDS LIKE SHEL-TER AND FOOD SECURITY MUST BE ADEQUATELY MET BEFORE POST-MATERIALIST VALUES AND AN ORIENTA-TION TOWARDS SUSTAINA-BILITY CAN BECOME THE NORM. THEN, QUALITATIVE NEEDS - SUCH AS EDUCA-TION, LIVING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE, LEISURE -BECOME MORE IMPORTANT. AND SO-CALLED GROWTH TARGETS (MORE MONEY AND MORE MATERIAL GOODS) BECOME LESS ATTRACTIVE.

Source: World Values Survey 2009

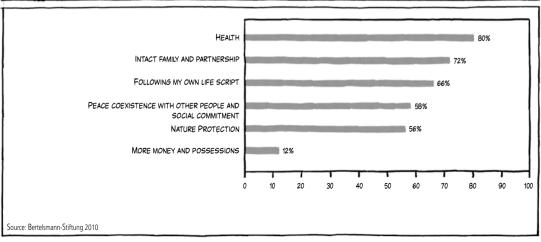


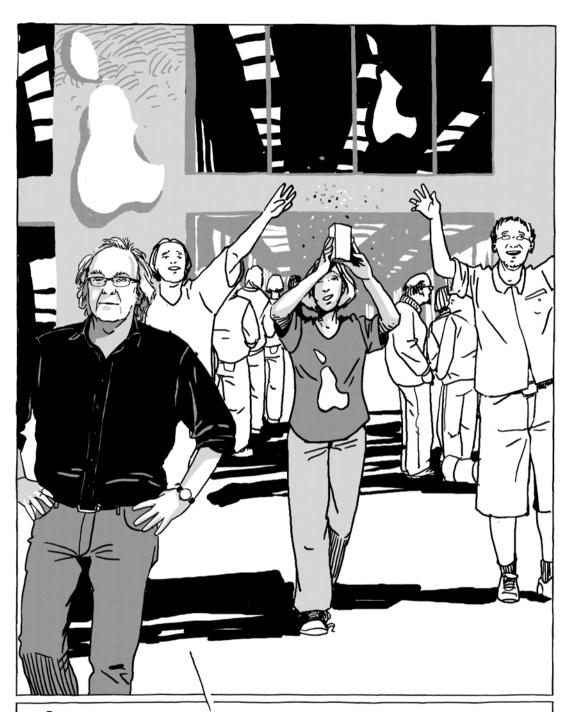
... BUT OF EATING AS WELL AS POSSIBLE AND TAKING CARE NOT TO HARM YOURSELF OR OTHERS WITH YOUR EATING HABITS.





THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS INVOLVES INTANGIBLE FACTORS LIKE BEING EMBEDDED IN COMMUNITIES AND NETWORKS, PARTICULARLY FAMILIES. BUT FULFILLING LEISURE TIME IS ALSO IMPORTANT. THIS HAS BEEN SHOWN BY STUDIES IN THE PAST FEW YEARS.





FOR ME, A 'GOOD LIFE' MEANS NOT ONLY FOLLOWING MY OWN LIFE SCRIPT - WHICH IS A GOOD START - BUT ALSO TAKING ON RESPONSIBILITY FOR OTHERS AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. IN OTHER WORDS, NOT TO LIVE IN AN 'OTHER-DIRECTED' AND EGOISTIC WAY, BUT IN A WAY THAT IS COMPATIBLE WITH MY ENVIRONMENT. SMARTPHONES, FOR EXAMPLE, ARE VERY POPULAR. AND THAT'S A GOOD THING BECAUSE THEY ENCOURAGE COMMUNICATION, KNOWLEDGE SHARING, PARTICIPATION AND TRANSPARENCY. BUT MUST IT ALWAYS BE THE VERY LATEST MODEL? SMARTPHONE MANUFACTURE PUTS A LOT OF PRESSURE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, AND THERE IS HARDLY ANY RECYCLING.

ACCEPTANCE OF DIFFERENT ENERGY CARRIERS IN THE EU, ATTITUDES AS % SOLAR ENERGY 80% WIND ENERGY HYDRO ENERGY 65% ENERGY SOURCES OCEAN ENERGY BIOENERGY NATURAL GAS 27% CRUDE OIL 26% COAL 20% NUCLEAR ENERGY

40

60

20

Source: Eurobarometer 2007

CHANGING VALUES DO NOT,
HOWEVER, MEAN THAT
THESE NEW ATTITUDES ARE
TRANSLATED ONE-TO-ONE INTO
ACTION. IT'S BY NO MEANS
RARE FOR PEOPLE TO ADVOCATE
AMBITIOUS CLIMATE PROTECTION
IN SURVEYS WHILE AT THE SAME
TIME REJECTING HIGHER PRICES
FOR ELECTRICITY AND FOSSIL
FUELS.



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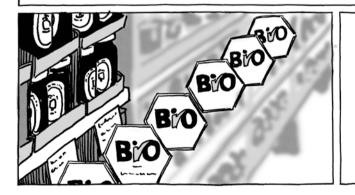
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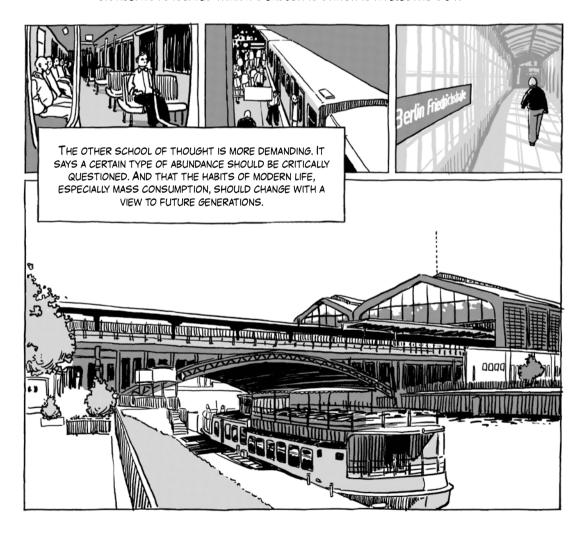
THESE PEOPLE ARE PIONEERS, LEADERS OF SOCIAL CHANGE. CHANGE AGENTS ARE OF KEY IMPORTANCE IN THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND IDEAS. THEY ARE TREND SETTERS, AND THEY CREATE A WE-FEELING.



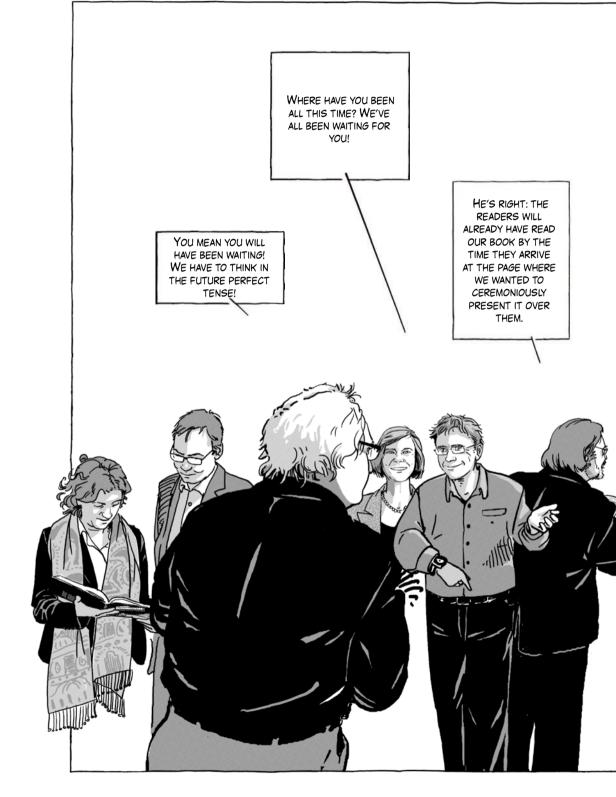
WISE LEGISLATION, TARGETED MARKET INCENTIVES, COMPANY INITIATIVES AND FAR-SIGHTED INVESTMENTS CAN ALL REINFORCE THE TREND. PAYING ATTENTION TO YOUR OWN DIET AND HOW FOOD IS PRODUCED CAN BECOME STANDARD IN THIS WAY.



THERE ARE TWO SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT IN THE CURRENT DEBATE: ONE FOCUSES ON RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND IMAGINES THAT, ON THIS BASIS, NONE OF THE HABITS OF MODERN LIFE NEED TO CHANGE. ITS ADVOCATES THINK IT'S ENOUGH TO SWITCH TO AN ELECTRIC SUV.









The WBGU

In the age of Global Change, political decision-makers face the great challenge of having to take decisions even though the complex interrelations between global environmental and development problems are not yet fully understood. For this reason, the German Federal Government set up the German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU) as an independent, scientific advisory body in 1992. Its main responsibilities are to analyse and report on global environmental and development problems, issue early warnings of new problem areas, prepare recommendations for action and research, and raise public awareness of global change issues.

The nine members of the WBGU meet for two days once a month to consider ways of moving towards global sustainable development. For example, they give recommendations on issues like how to move forward with the global energy-system transformation, how best to protect biodiversity, or how to achieve food security in a world with 9 billion people without destroying the environment. In addition to the nine Council members, the WBGU team also includes nine personal scientific research assistants to the Council members and a secretariat with extensive experience and excellent scientific expertise in the preparation and dissemination of reports. Once a report is finished, it is officially presented to the German Federal Government.

In 2011 the WBGU published a flagship report 'World in Transition – A Social Contract for Sustainability', which focused on the urgent need for the transformation to a low-carbon, sustainable society. In the report, the WBGU shows ways of accelerating such a transformation and presents ten packages of practical measures. This report became the basis of this book.

The WBGU is reappointed every four years. This guarantees a regular breath of fresh air and new ideas. The nine experts in this book were the WBGU Council members from 2008 to February 2013.

Dr Benno Pilardeaux Head of Media and Public Relations, WBGU Secretariat, Berlin

The publishers



Alexandra Hamann Alexandra Hamann is a media designer and has been running an educational media agency since 2001. She visualizes complex scientific and technological processes for teaching purposes. For several years she has been studying new ways of imparting knowledge. www.mintwissen.de



Claudia Zea-Schmidt is a communications scientist with Colombian roots. She began her working life in Berlin as a documentary film maker and correspondent for Deutsche Welle TV and Latin American channels. Since 2002 she has been developing and implementing projects for the print media, radio and television. Her passions are culture, science and politics. www.b26.info



Reinhold Leinfelder (see also page 124) is a member of the German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU) and one of the editors of this book. www.reinhold-leinfelder.de

Members of the WBGU



Professor Dr Dr hc Hans Joachim Schellnhuber is a physicist. He is the director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Chair of the WBGU. He is also Chair of the Governing Board of the Climate KICS (Knowledge and Innovation Community) of the European Institute for Technology. His research focuses on climate impact research and Earth system analysis.



Professor Dr Dirk Messner is a political scientist and economist. He is the director of the German Development Institute (DIE) in Bonn and co-director of the Centre for Advanced Studies on Global Cooperation Research at the University of Duisburg-Essen. Among other things, he studies the impact of climate change on global governance dynamics. He is Vice-Chair of the WBGU and advises not only the German Federal Government, but also the Chinese Government, the World Bank and the European Commission.



Professor Dr Reinhold Leinfelder is head of the department of Geobiology and Anthropocene Research at the Institute of Geological Sciences at Freie Universität Berlin, and Affiliated Carson Professor at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Munich. He concentrates in particular on the fields of geobiology, biodiversity, Anthropocene research and science communication. He is especially interested in research on coral reefs.



Professor Dr Stefan Rahmstorf is head of the department of Earth System Analysis at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and professor of physics of the oceans. His research concentrates primarily on the interactions between the oceans and global warming and on natural climate changes; he is a co-founder of the world-famous blogs RealClimate and KlimaLounge.

Professor Dr Jürgen Schmid is an aerospace engineer. Until 2012 he was director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Wind Energy and Energy System Technology (IWES) in Kassel. He is the founding president of the European Academy of Wind Energy (EAWE) and Chair of the Board of the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Supply Technology (ISET). Previously, he was head of the department of Efficient Energy Conversion at the University of Kassel. He co-invented the technology behind 'micromirror arrays' for directing light.



Professor Dr Nebojsa Nakicenovic is a systems analyst and professor of energy economics at the Technical University of Vienna. He is also deputy director general of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Laxenburg, Austria. Among other things he is engaged in research on economic development under the influence of climate change and on the evolution of energy, mobility, information and communication technologies.



Professor Dr Renate Schubert is an economist. She lectures in economics at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich, and is director of the ETH-based interdisciplinary Institute for Environmental Decisions, of which she was a founding member in 2005. She is engaged in research especially in the fields of decision-making, risk and insurance research, and energy and environmental economics.



Professor Dr Sabine Schlacke is a professor of law. She teaches public law with a focus on German, European and international environmental and administrative law at the University of Bremen and is the managing director of the Research Centre for European Environmental Law. She is also the publisher of the 'Zeitschrift für Umweltrecht' (Journal of Environmental Law).



Professor Dr Claus Leggewie is a political scientist. He is the director of the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (KWI) in Essen, and since 2012 co-director of the Centre for Global Cooperation Research ('Käte Hamburger Kolleg') on 'Political Cultures of World Society' at the University of Duisburg-Essen. His research focus is 'Climate Culture – the cultural prerequisites enabling modern societies to adapt to the effects of climate change.



The artists



Jörg Hülsmann, studied illustration in Düsseldorf and Hamburg. He works for a number of publishing houses and on independent projects. His book Die unsichtbaren Städte (The Invisible Cities), based on the novel by Italo Calvino, was selected as one of the ,Best Designed German Books' by the Stiftung Buchkunst (Book Art Foundation). www.joerghuelsmann.de



Iris Ugurel, studied graphic art in Düsseldorf and Berlin, where she works as an artist and illustrator. Her works can be seen in numerous exhibitions. www.irisugurel.com.

Iris Ugurel and Jörg Hülsmann collaborate on projects and live in Berlin.



Studio Nippoldt

Graphic artist **Robert Nippoldt**, studied at the University of Applied Sciences Münster. His book 'Jazz – New York in the Roaring Twenties' was chosen as the 'Best Designed German Book of 2007'. www.nippoldt.de

Illustrator **Christine Goppel**, studied visual communication at the Bauhaus University, Weimar. She illustrates, designs and writes books for children and adults. www.christinegoppel.de

Video artist **Astrid Nippoldt**, studied visual communication at the University of Applied Sciences Münster, and art at the University of the Arts in Bremen. Her works can be seen at international exhibitions. www.astridnippoldt.de



Jörg Hartmann, studied illustration and graphic design at the University of Applied Sciences in Münster and already began working for publishers as an illustrator as an undergraduate. In addition to illustrating children's books, he enjoys drawing comics (Wilsberg). www.extrakt.de

Glossary

Aerosol Tiny particles or droplets (e.g. pollen, dust, sulphur and other particles) that float in the air.

Africa-EU Energy Partnership Programme launched in 2007 aimed at promoting political cooperation between the EU and Africa in the energy sector, especially in

Renewable energies and energy efficiency.

Anocracy A form of government between ⇒ autocracy and democracy in which there are democratic procedures, but elites are nevertheless in power.

Anthropocene A term coined in 2000 by Paul Crutzen for a new geological era in which humanity's impact on the environment has reached a global dimension and can lead to significant changes in the ecosystems, including their destruction. One of the most important changes is climate change. In the 'Anthropocene', humans should see themselves not as an antipode to nature, but as part of it, in order to make sustainable economic activity possible.

Autocracy A form of government in which state authority is exercised by a single person or a group (party, central committee, junta). There is little or no provision for the participation of the population; examples include absolute monarchies and dictatorships.

Carbon One of the most common, naturally occurring elements and a basic building block of all organic life. Burns at higher temperatures to ⇒ Carbon dioxide, or to toxic carbon monoxide if the oxygen supply is insufficient.

Carbon cycle Cycle of ⇒ Carbon in its different forms and compounds (e.g. ⇒ Carbon dioxide) as it switches between the atmosphere, the land and the sea. Understanding of this cycle makes it possible, inter alia, to estimate the impact of humanity on the ⇒ Climate and on global warming.

Carbon dioxide/CO₂ Chemical compound comprising ⇒ Carbon and oxygen. An incombustible, acidic, colourless and odourless gas, readily soluble in water. It is a natural component of the air and a natural greenhouse gas that is produced or consumed in the organisms of living beings. The natural ⇒ Carbon cycle is a closed system. However, additional atmospheric carbon dioxide is created by the combustion of carbon-based substances, especially coal, crude oil and natural gas. Plants and some bacteria convert carbon dioxide into biomass. During photosynthesis, inorganic carbon dioxide and water are formed from glucose and other organic compounds.

Carbon sinks Everything that removes ⇒ Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and stores the carbon over long periods (soil, ocean, plants, sediments, etc.).

The most important carbon sinks are the oceans and terrestrial ecosystems.

Centre for Advanced Studies on Global Cooperation Research Interdisciplinary centre for global cooperation research of the University of Duisburg-Essen. The Centre is a so-called Käte Hamburger Kolleg (Centre for Global Cooperation Research) (⇒ Rachel Carson Center). It regards global cooperation as key to effective and legitimate ways of processing urgent transnational problems.

Climate Climate is understood as the state of the climate system over a longer period of time. The climate system comprises, inter alia, the atmosphere, the ocean and the ice masses (the cryosphere).

Climate-KIC (Knowledge and Innovation Community) Research community launched in 2010 by the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT). Its aim is to promote and accelerate the development of new technologies that help ameliorate the causes and consequences of climate change.

Combined heat and power (CHP) CHP systems permit an efficient use of fuels, since they not only generate electricity, but also use the waste heat that is also formed for heating (e.g. district heating) or in production processes that need heat.

Convection The transport of particles (e.g. air or water) by means of a current that is often caused by temperature differences (thermal convection).

Conservation International A non-profit organization founded in 1987 with the goal of conserving the global biodiversity of animals, plants and landscapes. The organization focuses primarily on areas with particularly high levels of biodiversity on land and in the sea and works mainly in Africa, Asia, Oceania and Central and South America.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) An international environmental agreement negotiated in 1992 with the aim of protecting biodiversity (animal and plant species, genetic diversity within these species, ecosystems), using biodiversity sustainably, and achieving an equitable benefit sharing. This means, for example, that population groups who use traditional knowledge on the sustainable use of resources should be given a better share of its economic use. It is the first convention that deals with global nature conservation and species protection and aspires to sustainable development. It came into force in 1993 and has been signed by 168 states and the EU to date.

CO, ⇒ Carbon dioxide

Decarbonization The transition from the use of carbonaceous \Rightarrow Fossil fuels (esp. coal, crude oil, natural gas) to the use of \Rightarrow Renewable energies with zero CO_2 emissions.

Desertification The human-induced process of increasing land degradation in arid areas. This deterioration is primarily caused by the continuous overuse of natural resources (e.g. overgrazing, deforestation, false irrigation, unsuitable agriculture) in arid areas. The result is a decline in the vegetation, the erosion of the topsoil, the drying up of water reservoirs and even devastating dust storms.

Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro \Rightarrow UN Conference on Environment and Development

Ecosystem service A term that looks at the benefits of ecosystems for humanity from the economic perspective. They include supply services (e.g. pollination of fruit blossom by bees, natural filtration of drinking water, reproduction of animals as food), regulating services (e.g. protection against flooding by alluvial forests), recreational services and support services (e.g. nutrient cycle).

Emerging economies Countries whose ongoing industrialization and successful economic development puts them on the threshold of becoming an 'industrialized country'. In some cases, their levels of literacy, infant mortality and life expectancy lag far behind their economic indicators.

Energiewende is the transformation of energy systems towards sustainability.

Evapotranspiration The evaporation of water from animals (mainly by sweating), plants (mainly by stomata in the leaves, transpiration) and from the surface of the soil.

Exajoule (EJ) ⇒ Joule

FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) A specialized agency of the United Nations. It has the task of improving the production and distribution of agricultural products and foodstuffs worldwide, in order to secure the food supply and improve living standards.

Fossil energy carriers/resources/fuels Coal, crude oil and natural gas, which developed in the absence of oxygen from animals and plants that died millions of years ago.

Fracking (also known as hydraulic fracturing) A method of extracting oil and gas in which a liquid mixed with sand and chemicals is pumped under pressure into deep wells to create and widen cracks in the rock around the wells. This increases the permeability of the rock layer, so that "unconventional" natural gas and crude oil can be commercially extracted even from rocks that do not represent a conventional reservoir.

Fraunhofer Institute for Wind Energy and Energy System Technology (IWES) German research institute studying the entire spectrum of wind energy and the integration of \Rightarrow Renewable energies into supply structures.

German Development Institute (Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik, DIE) One of the world's leading research institutes on issues of global development and international development policy, operating in the fields of research, policy-advising work and training.

Gross domestic product (GDP) Value of all goods and services traded on the market that are produced in a year within the borders of a national economy. Germany's GDP includes what is produced by foreigners who work within the country; the output of Germans working abroad is not taken into account. The global GDP is the sum of all national GDPs.

Global 2000 Austria's leading independent environmental organization. It is a part of Friends of the Earth International and campaigns for an intact environment, a society that will remain viable in the future, and sustainable economic activity.

Great Transformation The term was coined as early as 1944 by the economist Karl Polanyi in an analysis of the Industrial Revolution in which he had studied the comprehensive transformation of national economies in interaction with the structures of the world economy. Drawing on Polanyi's understanding of transformation, the WBGU defines a great transformation towards a low-carbon, sustainable society as a comprehensive change involving a conversion of the national economies and the world economy within the ⇒ Planetary guard rails. The aim is to avoid not only irreversible damage to the Earth system and the ecosystems, but also the effects of this damage on humanity.

G-zero G≥0

G20 Group of the most important industrialized countries and emerging economies plus the European Union. It serves as a forum for cooperation and consultations on the international financial system and was formed in 1999 as an informal group.

Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (KWI) An interdisciplinary research institution for the humanities and social sciences based in Essen, Germany that examines modern culture. Research priorities currently include the culture of memory, interculturality, climate and culture, and the culture of responsibility.

Institute for Environmental Decisions (IED) The only research institute of its kind in Europe at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich (ETH). At the IED researchers from the fields of political science, psychology and economics examine the individual and collective decisions that are taken in the context of resource use and environmental problems.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Intergovernmental scientific institution studying climate change. The IPCC's main task is to describe the causes and effects of global warming and to compile strategies for prevention and adaptation. The IPCC does not engage in research itself, but compiles research findings from different disciplines, which it then publishes in 'assessment reports', pooling the results of hundreds of climate researchers from all over the world working in an honorary capacity. For over two decades, these reports have formed the basis of political and scientific discussions on climate change.

International Energy Agency (IEA) Cooperation platform founded in 1973 by 16 industrialized nations for the research, development, market launch and application of energy technologies. The Agency owns oil reserves with which it can intervene strategically in the oil market.

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) engages in research in the fields of international politics and diplomacy, global strategies in environmental protection and new technologies – in international coordination with the UN, the \Rightarrow FAO and other organizations.

IPCC ⇒ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Joule Internationally binding physical unit for measuring energy: $1J = 1 \text{ kg * m}^2/\text{S}^2$. 1 kilowatt-hour is equal to 3,600,000 joules.

Exajoule (EJ) 1 exajoule = 1018 joules = 1000 petajoules or 1 trillion joules **Petajoule (PJ)** 1 petajoule = 1015 joules = 1 quadrillion joules

Kyoto Protocol An additional protocol adopted in 1997 to flesh out the ⇒ UN Framework Convention on Climate Change with the goal of protecting the climate. It was to come into force as soon as at least 55 countries - that together caused more than 55% of global CO₂ emissions in 1990 - had ratified the agreement. Since the USA, one of the largest emitters, today still refuses to accede to the Protocol, it did not become effective until early 2005 when it was ratified by Russia. For the first time, the agreement specified binding targets for greenhouse-gas emissions; it remains the only instrument of climate protection policy that is binding under international law. In 2012 the decision was taken to extend the Kyoto Protocol by another eight years. However, many industrialized countries have withdrawn from the treaty. The only remaining countries with commitments are the EU, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Monaco, Croatia, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Australia.

Latent heat The amount of heat needed to evaporate water. This amount of heat is released when water vapour condenses (i.e. when clouds form) and it is therefore an important source of heat in the atmosphere.

Net absorption of heat at the Earth's surface The difference between the heat absorbed by the Earth and the heat released by the Earth.

Net destruction of vegetation The difference between destroyed and newly developed vegetation.

Nitrogen cycle The migration and biogeochemical conversion of nitrogen in the Earth's atmosphere, lakes and oceans, soils and biomass. Nitrogen is essential to all living organisms. They absorb it from the environment when growing, and it is released again from the dead biomass after their death. Few plants or algae can absorb nitrogen directly from the atmosphere; most plants have to source nitrogen compounds from the soil, a process that can be intensified by fertilization. Animals and human beings, in turn, absorb nitrogen compounds via their food.

Ocean acidification The rising acidity of sea water, proven by measurements, caused by the absorption of \Rightarrow CO₂ from the air, because the CO₂ forms carbonic acid when it dissolves in water. Apart from global warming, the problem of ocean acidification is the main consequence of human-induced CO₂ emissions.

Peace Parks Foundation was founded by several states in southern Africa the 1997. It creates cross-border protection zones in order not only to conserve nature and culture, but also to promote and secure peaceful cooperation between neighbouring states.

Permafrost soils Soils that are frozen throughout the year. Most permafrost soils have been frozen since the last Ice Age. In Siberia the permafrost can reach depths of up to 1,500 m.

Petajoule (PJ) ⇒ Joule

Phosphorus cycle The constant migration and biogeochemical conversion of phosphorus in water, soil and biomass. Phosphorus is an essential mineral for all living things and occurs in different compounds. Without it there would be neither genetic material nor bones, neither leaves nor flowers. Outside of the biological cycle, phosphorus is a limited resource that is found only in a few regions of the world.

Planetary guard rails The WBGU developed the concept of planetary guard rails since 1995 and describes them as quantitatively definable damage thresholds, whose transgression either today or in future would have such intolerable consequences that even large-scale benefits in other areas could not compensate these. If the guard rails are complied with, the Earth system's functions, services and resources – essential for securing humankind's natural life-support systems and sustainable development – can be preserved. Avoiding ➡ Tipping points in the Earth system – for example the irreversible melting of Greenland's ice sheet, the collapse of tropical coral reefs due to global warming, and other non-linear processes – plays a key role in setting the 2°C guard rail for climate protection. Compliance with the guard rails is a necessary, but not sufficient, criterion for ➡ Sustainable development.

Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) An interdisciplinary research centre established in 1992, which studies global climate change and its ecological, economic and social consequences, and designs strategies and options for a future-sustainable development of humankind and nature. The PIK is consulted not only by the Federal Government, but also by the European Commission and other national governments, as well as international organizations such as the World Bank. It is also constantly exchanging information and ideas with business and industry. Scientists from the PIK play an active role in the □ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

ppm (parts per million) Unit for measuring the concentration of chemical substances. It shows, for example, the number of CO₂ molecules per 1 million gas molecules in the atmosphere.

Primary energy refers to naturally occurring energy before its loss-incurring conversion into usable energy, such as electricity. Primary energy carriers include e.g. lignite, coal, crude oil, natural gas and nuclear fuels. In the case of
Renewable energies such as wind and solar energy, the amount of electricity generated is often referred to as primary energy.

Pumped storage power station In a pumped storage power station, whenever power consumption is low, surplus electricity is used to pump water from a lower to an upper basin. When consumer demand for power is high, the upper basin is emptied, and the water flows back down to the lower basin, driving a turbine. The electricity generated in this way is fed back into the power grid.

Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (RCC) International interdisciplinary research and teaching centre in the field of environmental and

social sciences. Part of the 'Käte Hamburger Kolleg' (▷ Centre for Advanced Studies on Global Cooperation Research). The RCC was set up in 2009 by the Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich, and the Deutsches Museum. It was named after the American biologist Rachel Carson (1907-1964), who is regarded as one of the founders of the modern environmental movement.

Rare earths Metals that are very important for many future technologies. They are used, inter alia, in the manufacture of wind turbines, light-emitting diodes, mobile phones and electric motors.

Rare earth metals include a total of 17 chemical elements. They are relatively common, but are only found in small quantities in the Earth's crust and need to be separated from various other minerals in a time-consuming process. This also creates toxic residues, with corresponding consequences for the environment.

Reinsurance Insurance companies sometimes have to make very large payouts to their customers, e.g. if they receive a lot of claims or there is a major damage event. To avoid financial ruin, they in turn take out an insurance policy with a reinsurer. Reinsurance companies have to assess long-term and large-scale risks and therefore invest heavily in climate research.

Renewable energy Energy from sustainable sources (sun, wind, water), which (in human dimensions) are inexhaustible. At the oppsite and of the scale are

⇒ Fossil fuels.

Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG) The law on the primacy of ⇒ Renewable energy came into force in Germany on 1 April 2000. It guarantees sales of electricity at a fixed price to operators of power stations generating electricity from ⇒ Renewable energies.

Salinization An excessive accumulation of water-soluble salts in the soil. Naturally occurring groundwater or river water always contains a certain percentage of dissolved components, including salts. In arid areas, salinization is often caused by mistakes in irrigation. The dissolved salts enter the soil together with the water. When the water evaporates, the salts remain and gradually accumulate in the soil until the soil finally becomes too salty and barren. Excessive fertilization with mineral fertilizers can accelerate the process because, again, mineral salts accumulate by evaporation.

Santa Fe Institute A private, non-profit, community research and education centre founded in 1984 and based in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA. It conducts interdisciplinary basic research in physics, biology, engineering and social sciences. Its work currently focuses on cognitive neuroscience, computer simulation in physics and life sciences, economic and social interactions, evolutionary dynamics and network dynamics.

Sedimentation The deposit of mineral or organic particles, e.g. on the ocean floor, the bottom of lakes or on land.

Spot price Term used in stock market trading. Price for the immediate procurement of an existing product; cash purchase price now.

Stratosphere The second layer of the Earth's atmosphere which begins at an altitude of about 8 km at the geographical poles and at approx. 18 km at the equator. Below it lies the troposphere, where most of the weather processes take place.

Super grid High-performance network for transporting electricity over long distances (often across continents). In high-voltage direct-current (HVDC) transmission, this is possible with little energy loss.

Sustainable Energy For All A global initiative launched UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. It has three specific objectives to be achieved by 2030: unrestricted access for all to modern energy technologies worldwide; a 40% improvement in the productivity of ⇒ Renewable energies; and a 30% share of ⇒ Renewable energies in global energy use.

Sustainable development The classic definition of this concept comes from the Brundtland Report (Our Common Future), which was published in 1987 by the World Commission on Environment and Development: "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Many other definitions exist in addition to this, all of which aspire to simultaneously drive forward economic, social and environmentally sustainable development.

Synergy Interaction of living organisms, substances or forces providing a common benefit.

Tipping elements Elements of the Earth system of supra-regional size that can 'tip over' into a completely different state, once a critical marginal value (⇒ Tipping point) is exceeded. This behaviour is based on self-reinforcing processes. Examples include the North Atlantic Current and ecosystems like the Amazon Forest.

Tipping point A critical point specific to a system at which, when crossed, a

⇒ Tipping element passes into a new state. For the Greenland Ice Sheet, for example, there is a critical temperature above which a vicious circle begins in which the ice melts completely.

TWh/terawatt hour Corresponds to 1,000,000,000 kWh: enough energy to cook a midday meal for about a billion people on an electric stove, or to supply 285,000 households with electricity for a year (assuming a power consumption of 3,500 kWh per year).

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20) Took place in Rio de Janeiro in 2012 to mark the 20th anniversary of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). The Conference focused on two themes: (a) a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (b) the institutional framework for sustainable development.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) International environmental agreement with the aim of stabilizing the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere enough to prevent dangerous anthro-

pogenic interference with the climate system. The convention was adopted at the 1992 ⇒ United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and came into force in March 1994. In the meantime it has been ratified by more than 190 states, including the countries with the biggest greenhouse-gas emissions: USA, Russia, European Union, China and India. The UNFCCC itself does not contain any specific commitments to protect the climate; these were laid down (only for the industrialized countries) in the ⇒ Kyoto Protocol.

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) (also called the Rio Earth Summit) Held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, where the
UNFCCC, the
Convention on Biological Diversity and the
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification were adopted. The conference is regarded as a milestone in global sustainability policy. The right to
Sustainable development as a global model for the 21st century was enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development for the first time: "Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature. (...) The right to development must be fulfilled so as to equitably meet developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations" (Principles 1 and 3 of the Declaration).

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Established in 1994, UNCCD is the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management. The Convention addresses specifically the arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, known as the drylands. In the 10-Year Strategy of the UNCCD (2008-2018) that was adopted in 2007, Parties to the Convention further specified their goals: "to forge a global partnership to reverse and prevent desertification/land degradation and to mitigate the effects of drought in affected areas in order to support poverty reduction and environmental sustainability". The UNCCD has been ratified by 195 countries.

US 48 Also known as Continental USA. The 48 US states on the North American continent that share land borders. It does not include Alaska, Hawaii or the American Overseas Territories.

Water scarcity

Physical water scarcity More than 75% of the water is taken from rivers (particularly in Central Asia, southern India, North Africa, the Middle East and in the west of the USA).

Emerging physical water scarcity More than 60% of river water is taken.

Economic water scarcity There would be enough water to meet human needs (less than 25% of the water is taken from rivers), but the necessary investments are not being made to give people access to water (primarily in Africa. South Asia. South America).

WBGU (German Advisory Council on Global Change) See page 122

Weather The short-term conditions in the atmosphere in a specific area. In contrast to the development of the climate, weather conditions are greatly influenced by random processes and can only be forecast over short periods.

World Resources Institute (WRI) A non-profit organization based in Washington D.C. that collaborates internationally with governments, business and civil society to protect the environment, promote

Sustainable development and improve people's living conditions. More than 100 business analysts, economists, political experts and other scientists work at the WRI.

WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) One of the largest international nature-conservation organizations. It was founded in 1961 as the World Wildlife Fund in Switzerland.

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