

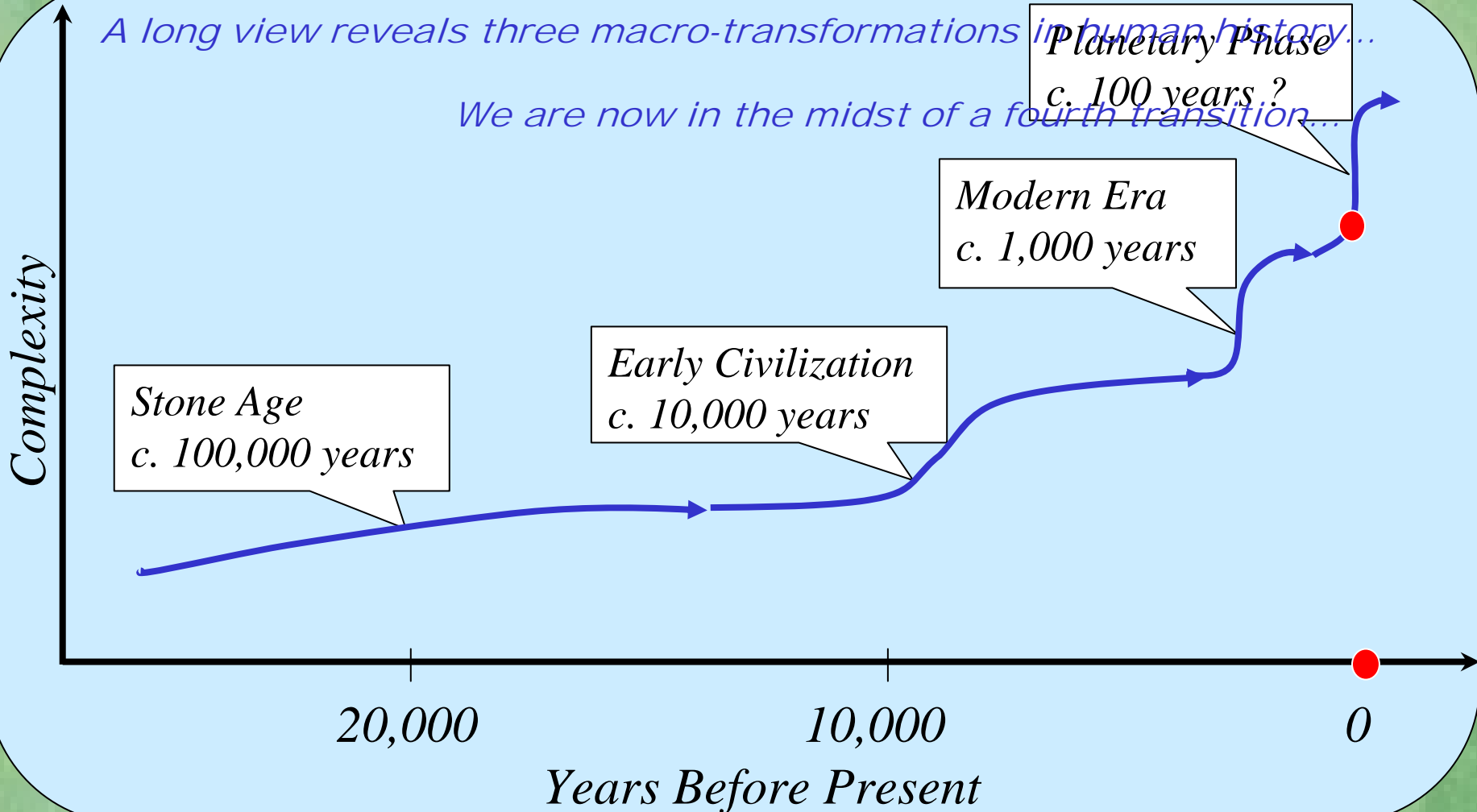
# The Great Transition?



*Adapted from "Great Transition Initiative"*

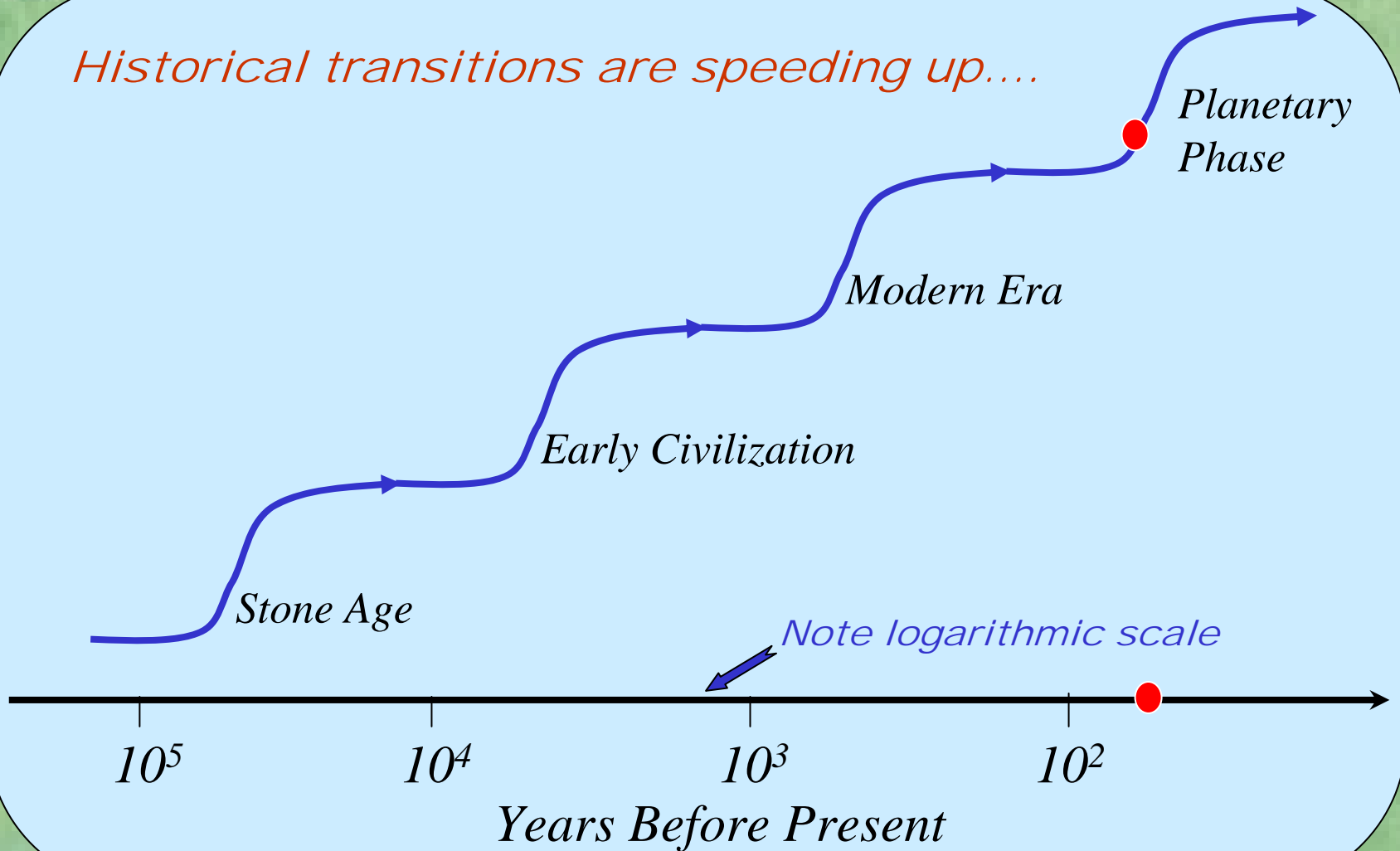
Stockholm Environmental Institute

# The Big Picture



# Accelerated Change

*Historical transitions are speeding up....*



# Planetary Transition

*The defining feature of the planetary phase is increasing global connectedness...*

*Global Connectivity*

- *Global environmental change*
- *Information technology*
- *Dominance of capitalism / collapse of Soviet Union*

- *Economic globalisation, transnationals, WTO*
- *UN Summits*
- *NGOs / civil society as a "third force"*
- *Fundamentalist reactions*
- *Great power counter-reactions*

*Take-off:*

*1950s / 1970s*

1950

2000

2050



# Branch Points

← a time for choices →

*Out of the turbulence of global change,  
very different scenarios can emerge...*

# Global Scenarios

## Conventional Worlds

Powerful global players advance the priority of **economic growth**

◆ ... converges towards rich-country patterns of development

**market forces**

Modest **government initiatives** seek to attain social and environmental goals

**policy reform**

## Barbarization

An **authoritarian** response to global threats -- elites retreat to protected enclaves

◆ ... crisis

◆ Civilisational norms erode

**fortress world**

Conflicts and crises spiral out of control and institutions **collapse**

**breakdown**

## Great Transitions

A highly **localist** vision that is a strong theme within the anti-globalisation movement

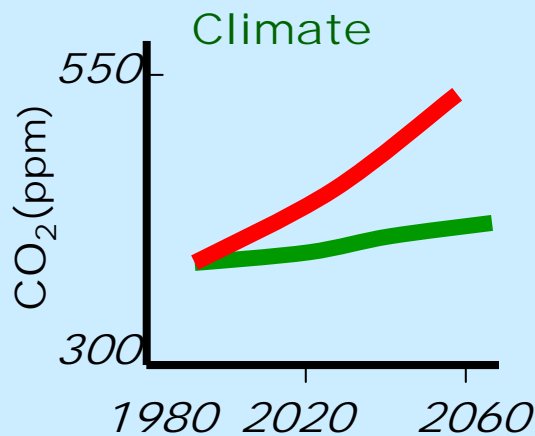
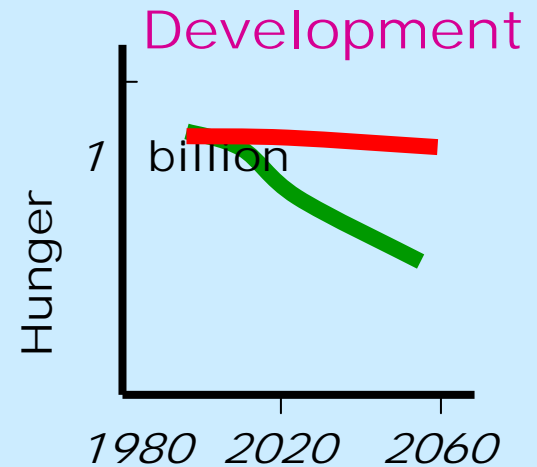
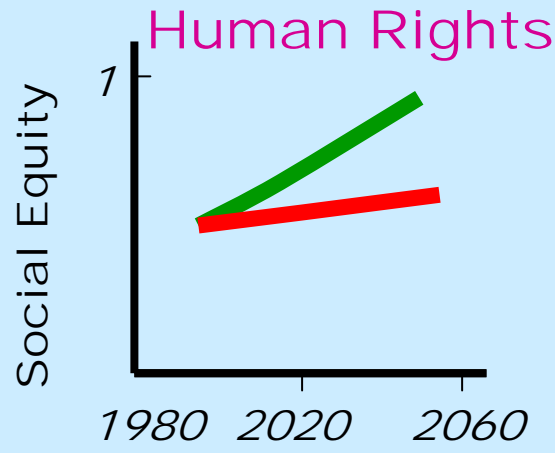
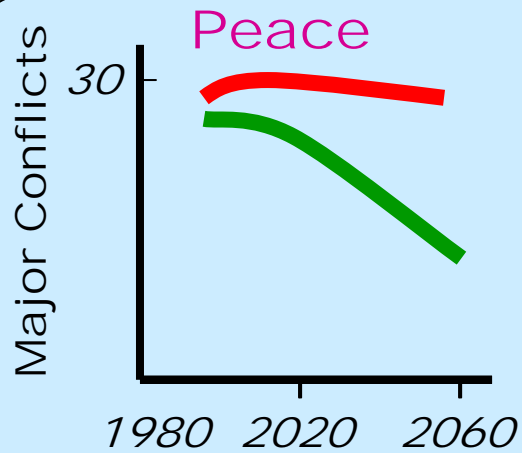
◆ ... nature becomes a friend

**eco-communalism**

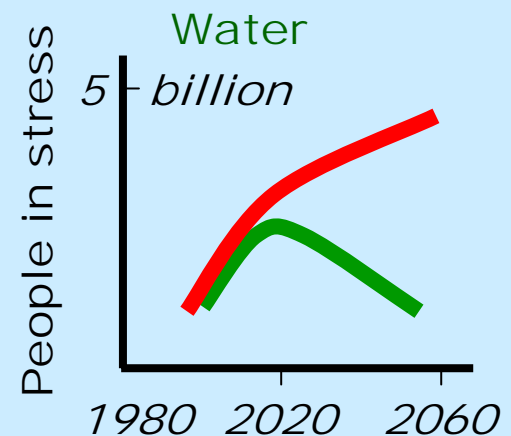
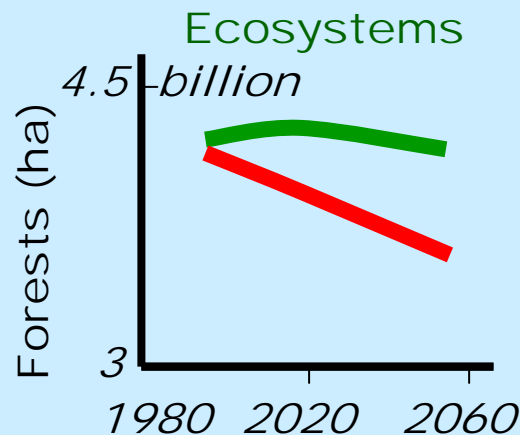
**new sustainability**

# Bending the Curve

*In the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, great hopes revolved around four great aspirations for global society... Sustainability requires sharply bending these curves... But the trends are perilous ...*



## Environmental Health





# The Great Transition?

- ➡ Will the four great hopes come to pass?
- ➡ What will it take for this to happen?
- ➡ What stands in the way?
- ➡ Who matters in this journey?
- ➡ Are there any useful signposts along the way?