

# IWMI's Water Accounting Research: Some Highlights

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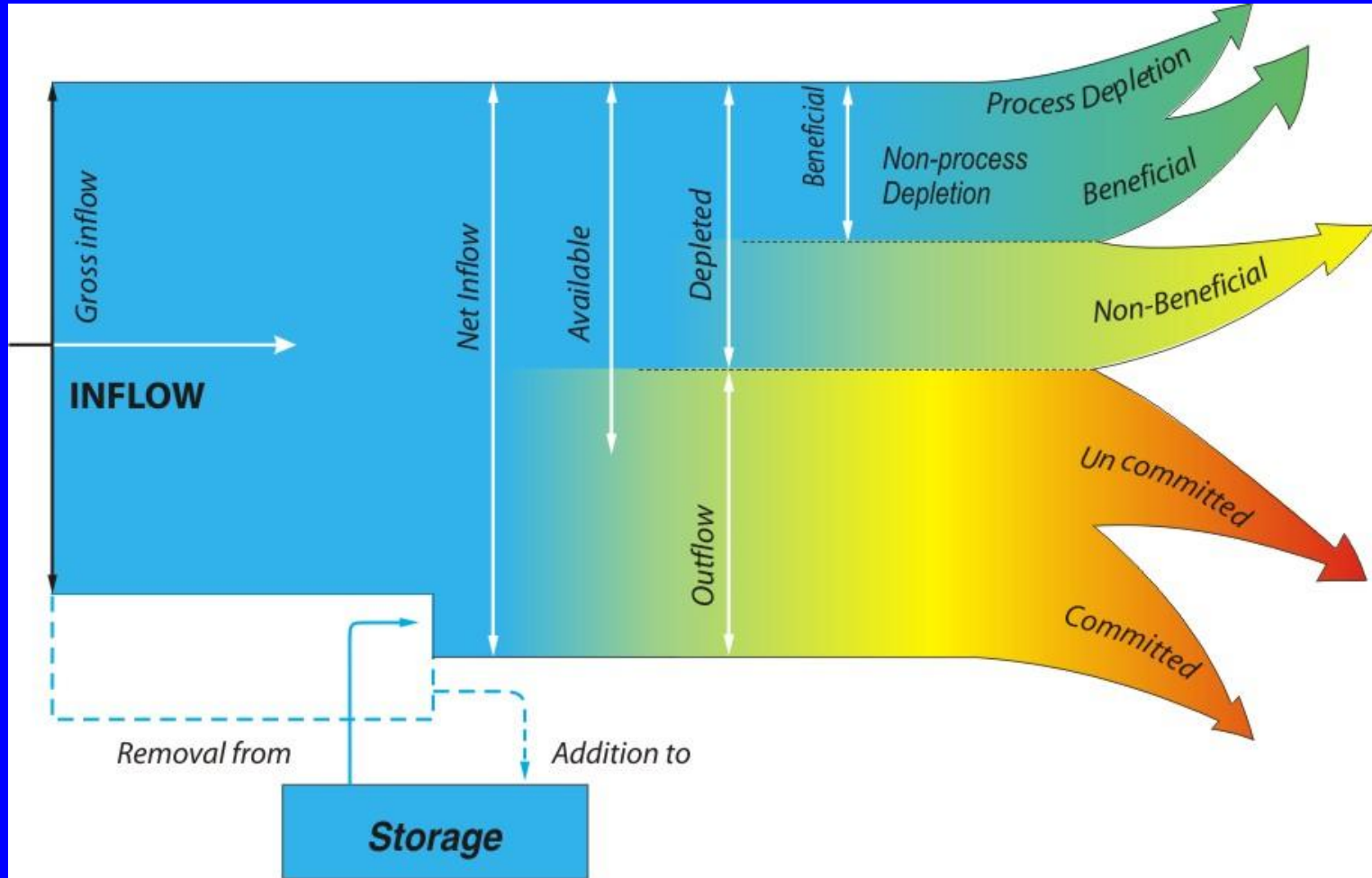
*Senior Researcher*

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*New Delhi Office*

- Formerly International Irrigation Management Institute
- Changed to International Water Management Institute in 1995
- One of the 15 centers under CGIAR
- Offices in Africa and Asia
- Vision: Water for a Food Secure World
- Mission
  - Improve the management of land and water resources for food, livelihoods and nature.
- Has four themes
  - Theme 1- Water Availability and Access
  - Theme 2- Productivity Water Use
  - Theme 3- Water Quality, Health and Environment
  - Theme 4- Water and Society

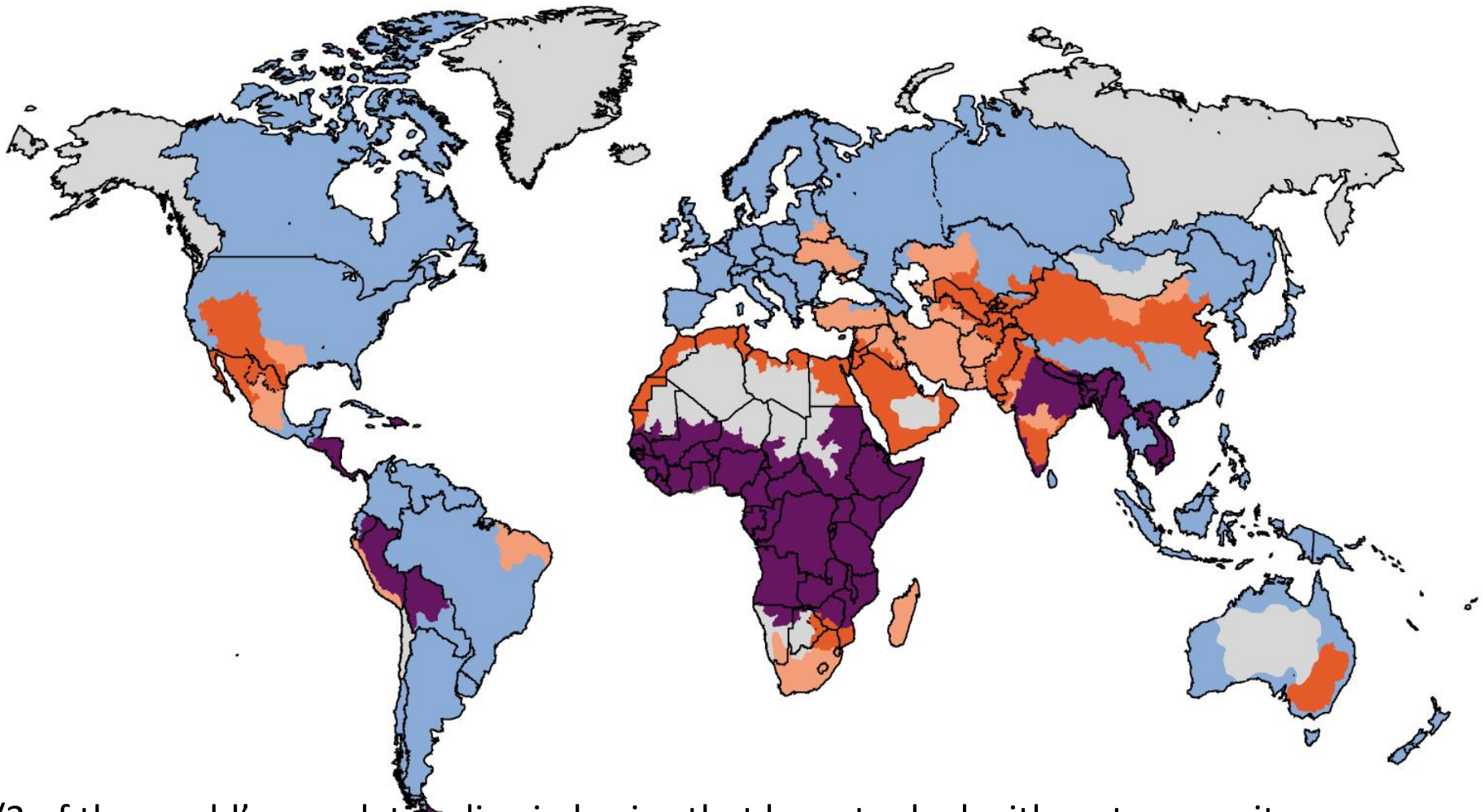
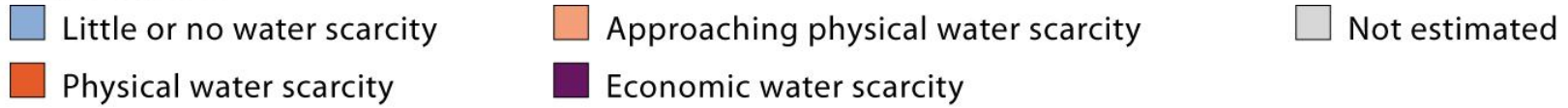
# Water Accounting Methodology



- **David Molden 1997, Accounting for Water Use and Productivity, SWIM Paper 1**

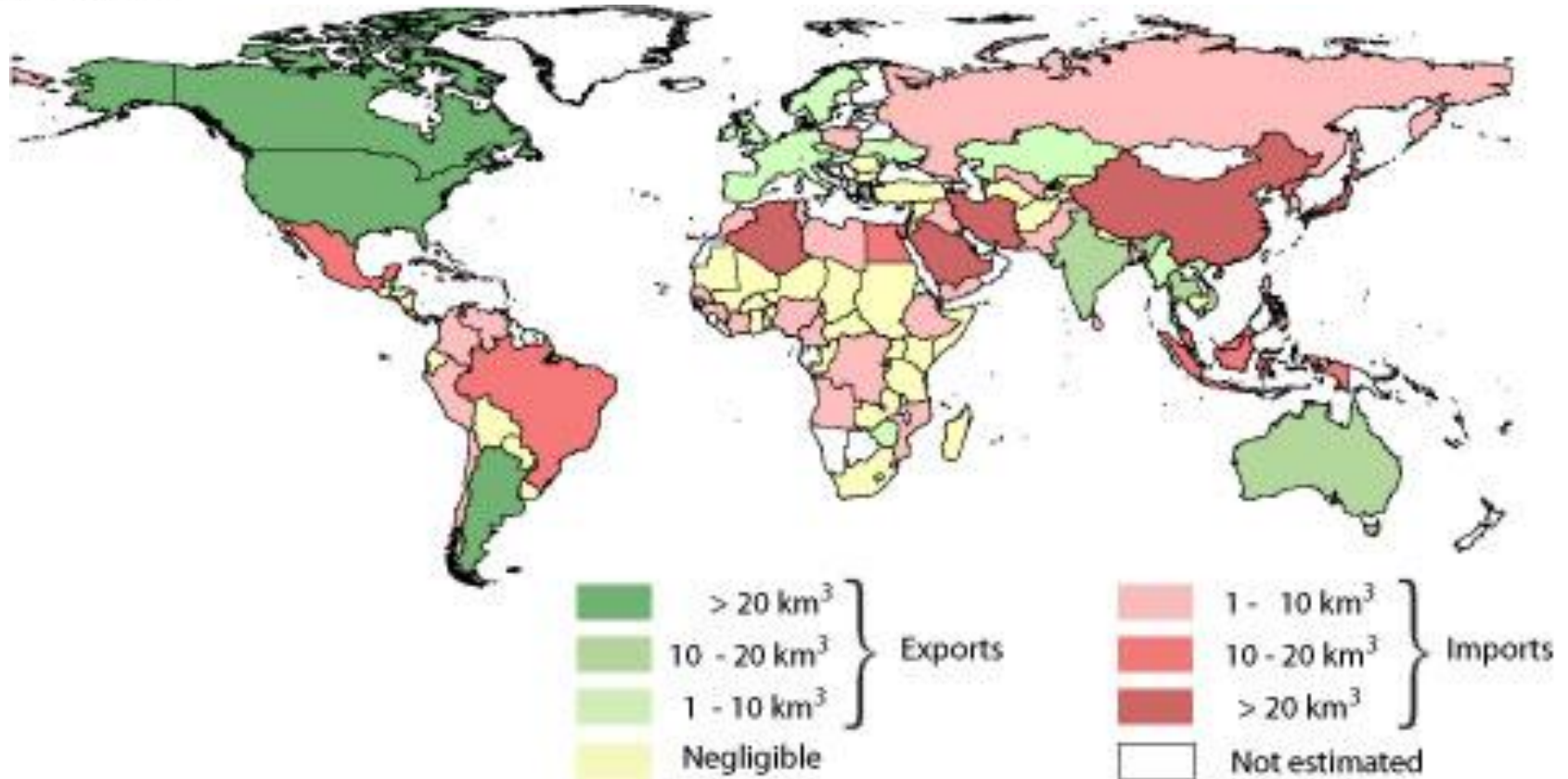
- World water demand and supply, 1990 to 2025: Scenarios and issues.
  - *Research Report 19 . Seckler et al 1998*
- World water demand and supply, 1990 to 2025: Scenarios and issues.
  - *IWMI 2000 (internal draft)*
- Does international cereal trade save water? The impact of virtual water trade on global water?
  - *Comprehensive Assessment Research Report 4 (Fraiture et al 2004)*
- Looking ahead to 2050: scenarios of alternative investment approaches. (Fraiture, C. de and Wichelns, D. 2007.)
  - *WATERSIM model*
  - *Contributed to IWMI's Comprehensive Assessment of Agriculture*

# Water Scarcity 2000



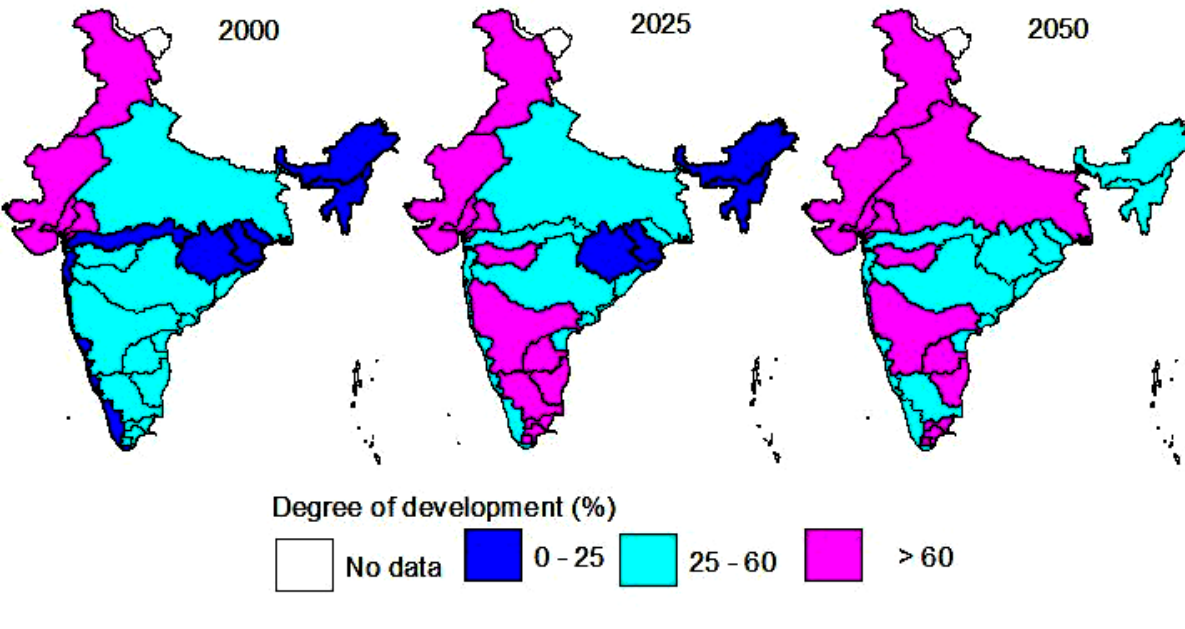
1/3 of the world's population live in basins that have to deal with water scarcity

## VIRTUAL WATER TRADE in 1990



- **Virtual water trade of cereals in 1990**
- **Significant VWT within countries**

### Increasing physical water scarcity

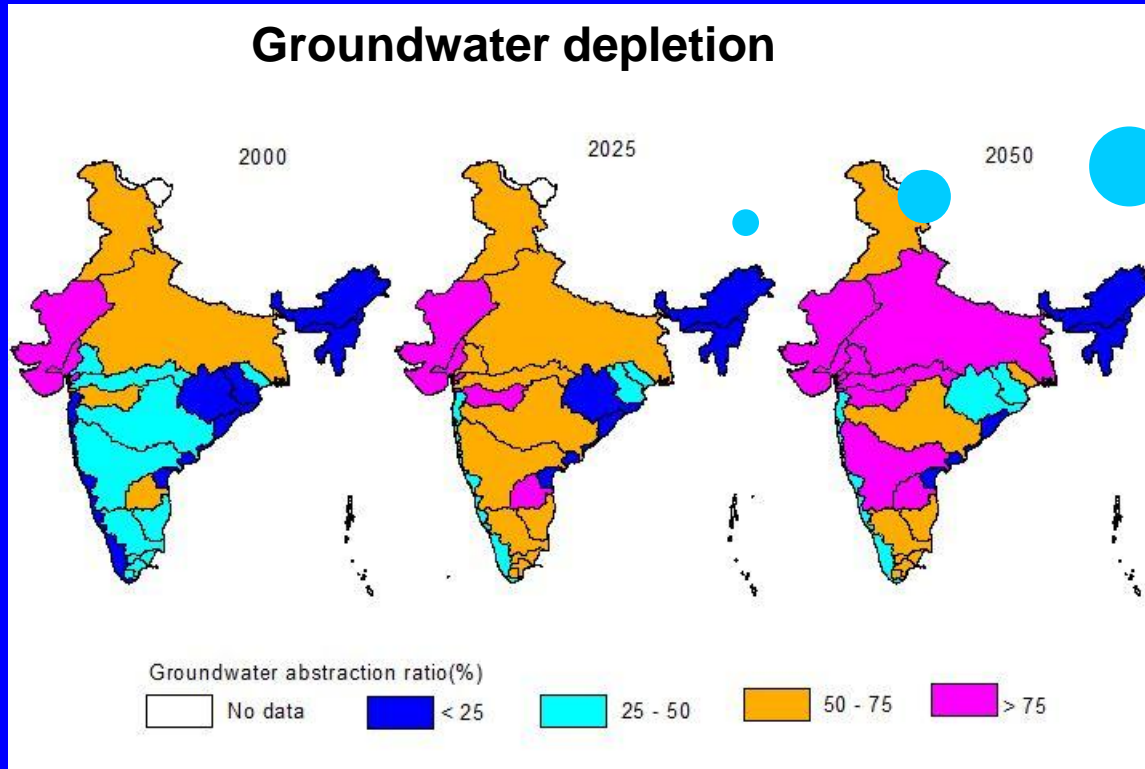


- Amarasinghe et al 2004. Research Report 83

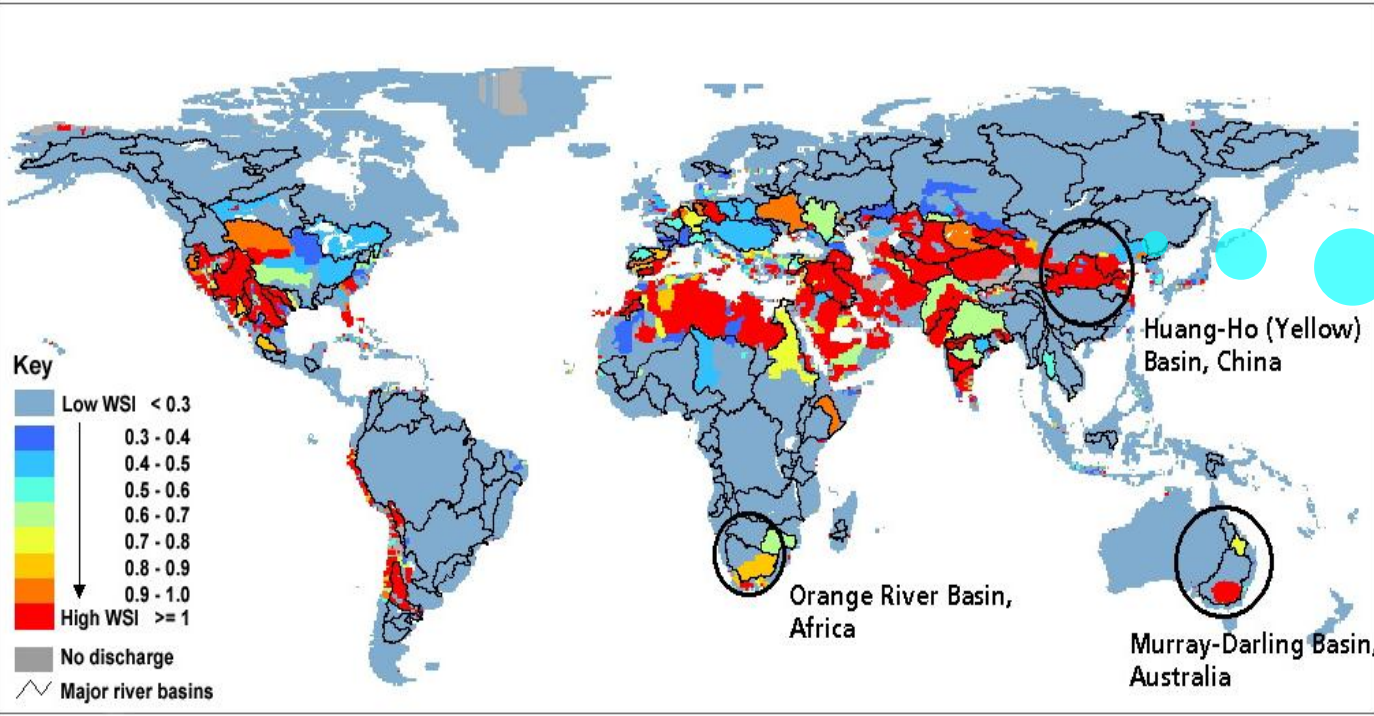
- Amarasinghe et al 2008. Research Report 123

- 10 river basins will be physically water scarce by 2050
- 8 river basins will withdraw more than 75% of the available groundwater resources
- These basins account for 80% of India's *GW* withdrawals

Many river  
basins are  
having  
severe  
environmen-  
tal stress



- **If groundwater withdrawals remains at the current level, additional surface withdrawal requirement is 65 Bm<sup>3</sup>**

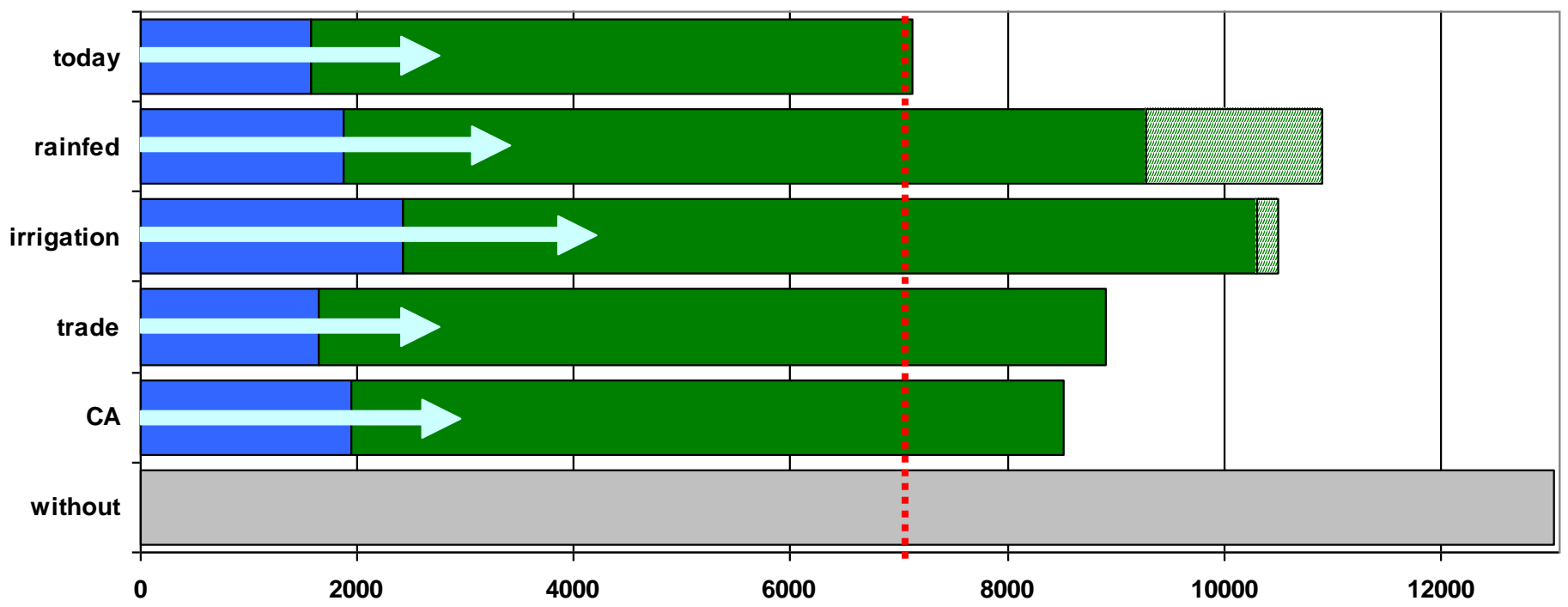


WSI high regions show conflicts between human water use and environmental water needs

**Smakhtin et al. 2004** *Taking into Account Environmental Water Requirements in Global-scale Water Resources Assessments*

CA Research Report 2

- **Increase water productivity**
- **Increased focus on rainfed agriculture**
  - **Rainwater harvesting**
  - **Improve rainfed productivity**
- **Demand management**
  - **Water markets, pricing**
  - **Energy regulation**
  - **Water saving technologies**
  - **Water rights, water users associations**
- **Changing cropping patterns, agronomic practices, water use patterns**
- **Increase virtual water trade**



**Depletion met by irrigation**



**Depletion met by rainfall**



**Difference pessimistic-optimistic**

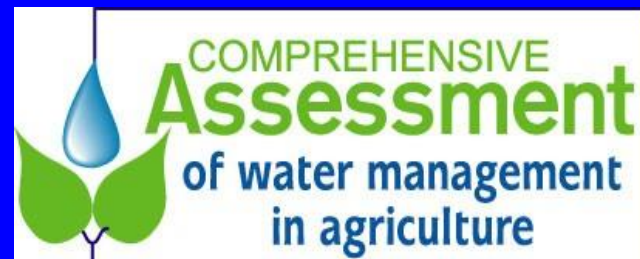


**Without productivity improvement (worst case)**



**Irrigation withdrawals**

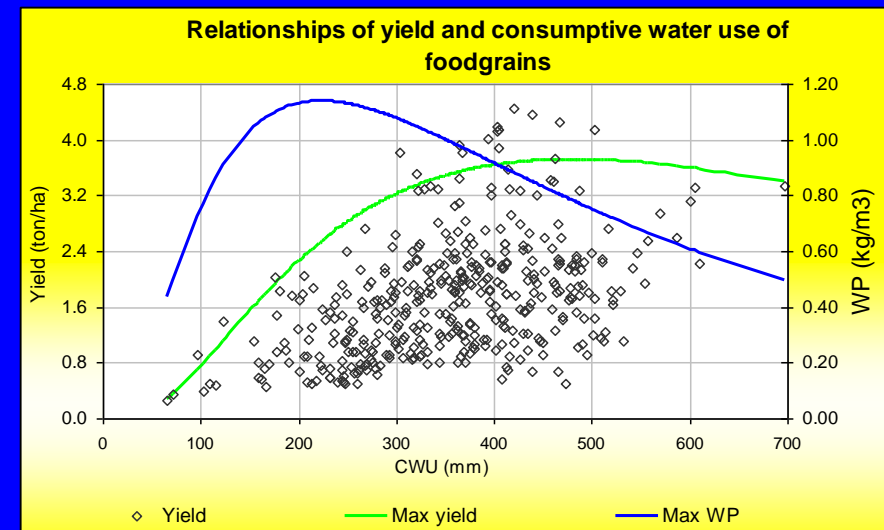
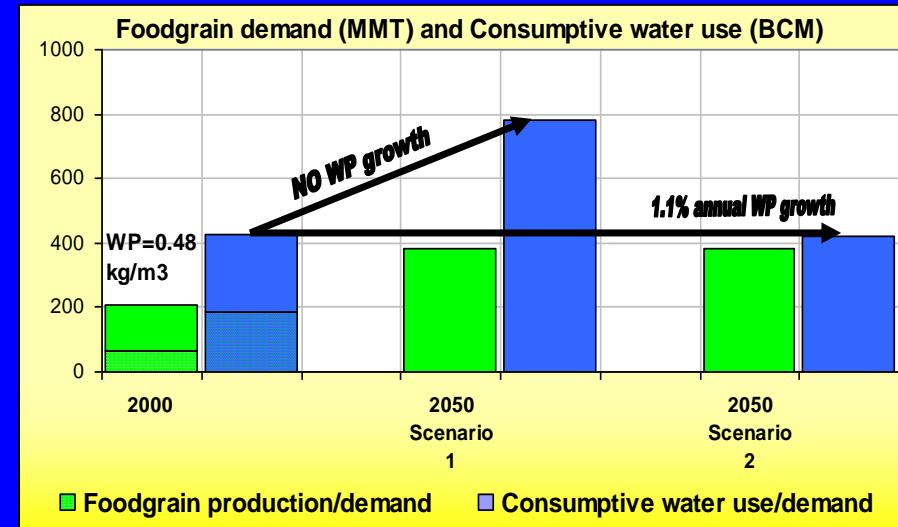
**Source: WATERSIM simulations**



# How to face the pending water crisis?

## Improve Water Productivity

- If no growth in WP, CWU demand is close to potentially utilizable water resources
- 1.1% annual growth in WP demand no increase in CWU
- Potential of improving WP in India? **Very high!**
  - Supplemental irrigation in low CWU regions (rainfed)
  - Bridging the yield gap (Water and input management)
  - Deficit CWU (high CWU regions)



**Water  
for food  
Water  
for life**



[Http://www.iwmi.org](http://www.iwmi.org)

A Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture



Comprehensive  
assessment  
of water management in agriculture

Thank You

<http://www.iwmi.nrlp.org>

PROCEEDINGS

**Strategic Analyses of the National  
River Linking Project (NRLP) of India  
Series 1**

India's Water Future: Scenarios and Issues

Upali A. Amarasinghe, Tushaar Shah and R. P. S. Malik, editors



**IWMI**  
International  
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