WATER SECURITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPERITY

Benedito Braga
President, World Water Council
XVth IWRA World Water Congress, Edinburgh, Scotland - 25 May 2015

WORLD
WATER
COUNCIL

Water connects society, economy, and ecology

Health and human settlements	Food and agriculture	Energy and industry	Environment
70% of all people living in cities by 2050	70% more food by 2050	40% more energy by 2030	50% of wetlands lost
2bn no access to safe drinking water or improved sanitation	70% of all water used for agriculture	1.3bn have no access to electricity	Rivers don't reach the sea

WORLD WATER COUNCIL

"Water Shortages.. threaten the very survival of the Chinese nation" – Wen Jiabao, Former Premier of China

TOO LITTLE = DROUGHT

TOO MUCH = FLOOD
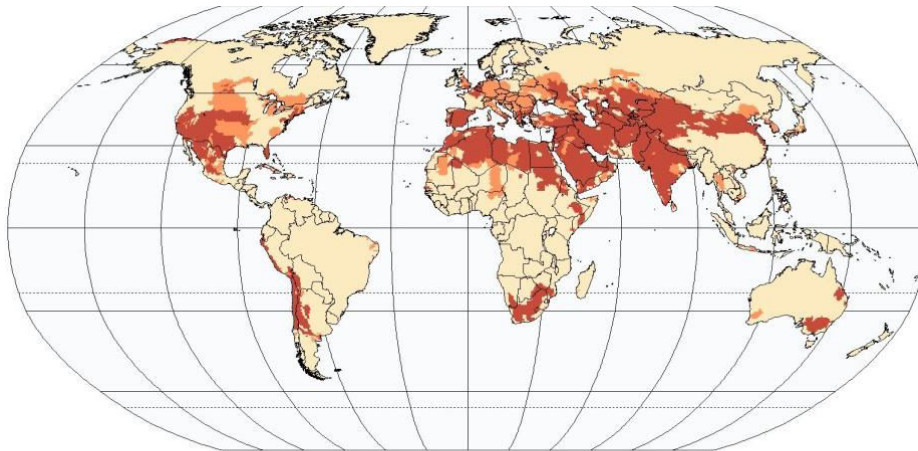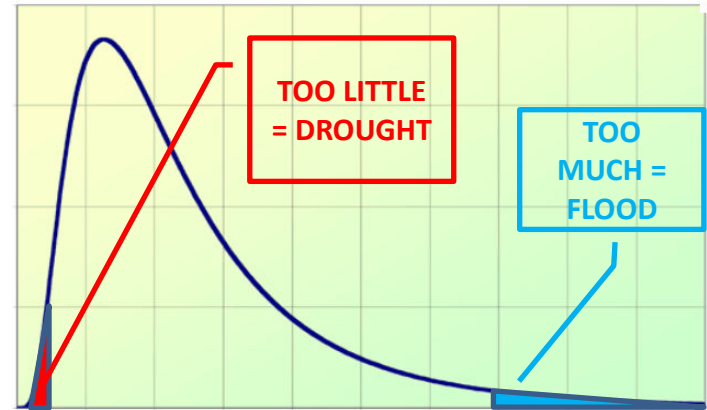
Map 6. Water stress according to drainage basins, circa 1995 [withdrawal-to-availability ratio]

0 - 0.2 [low water stress]
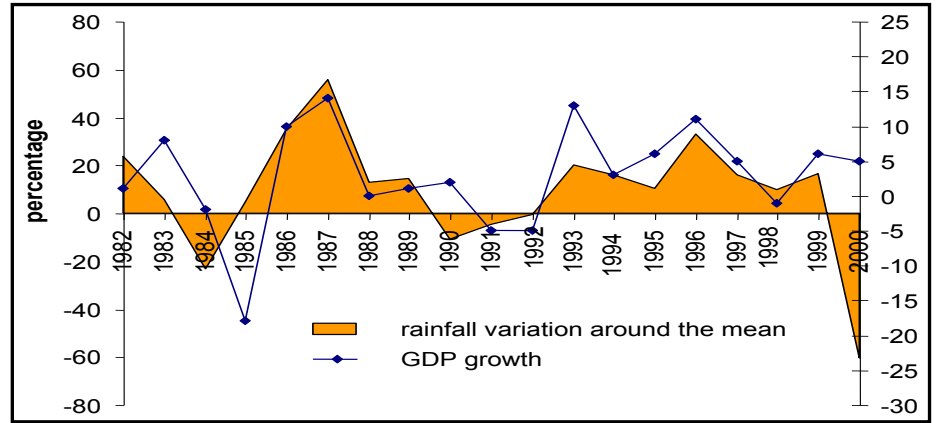0.2 - 0.4 [mid water stress]
more than 0.4 [severe water stress]
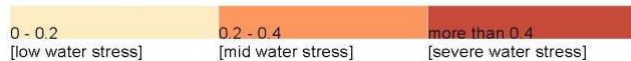
(c) Center for Environmental Systems Research, University of Kassel, April 2002- Water GAP 2.1D

WORLD WATER COUNCIL
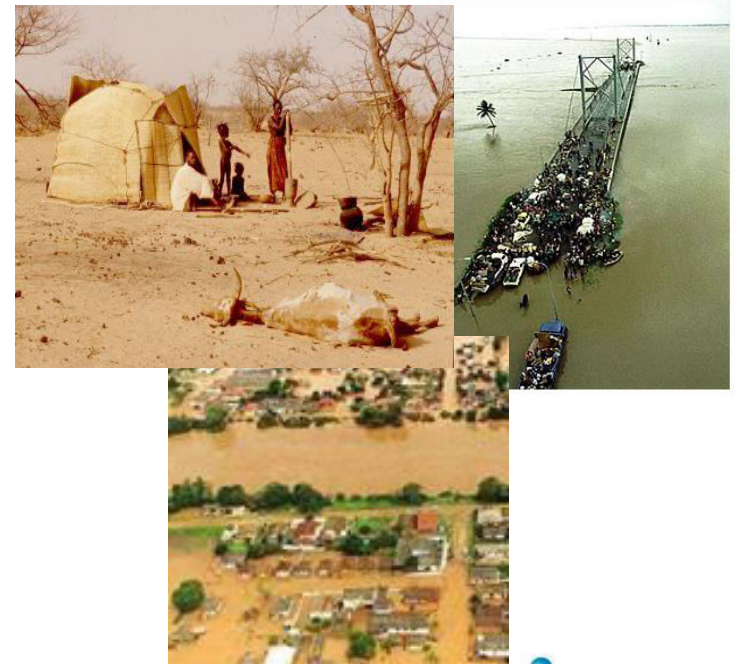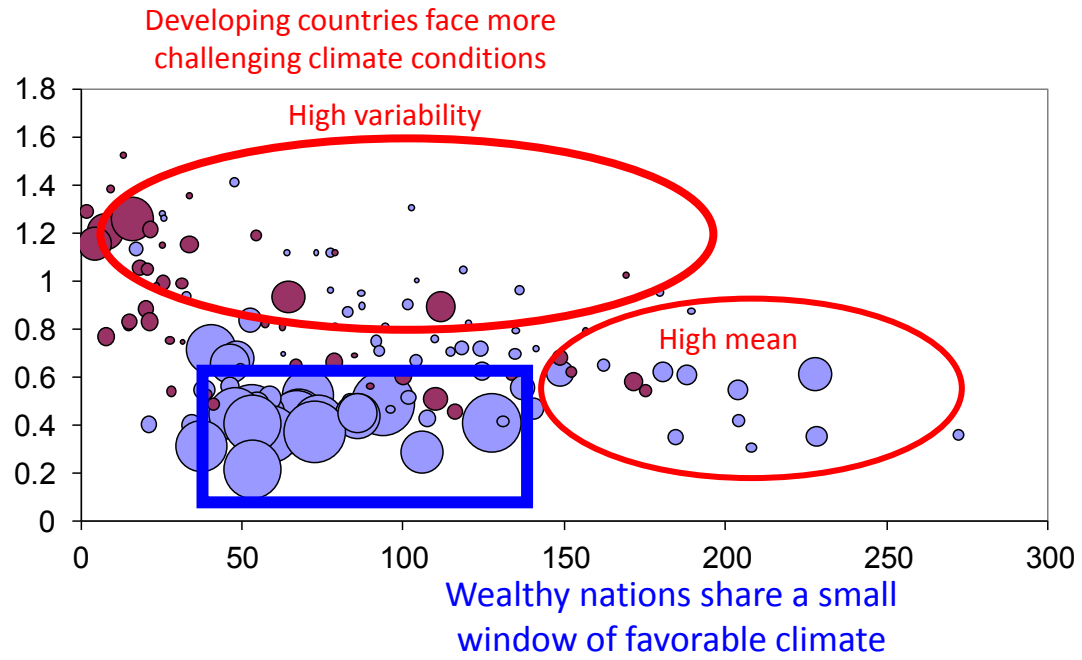
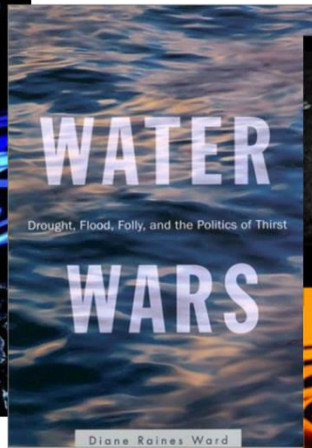"It's the economy, stupid"

Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign

Developing countries face more
challenging climate conditions

High variability

High mean

Wealthy nations share a small
window of favorable climate

WORLD
WATER
COUNCIL
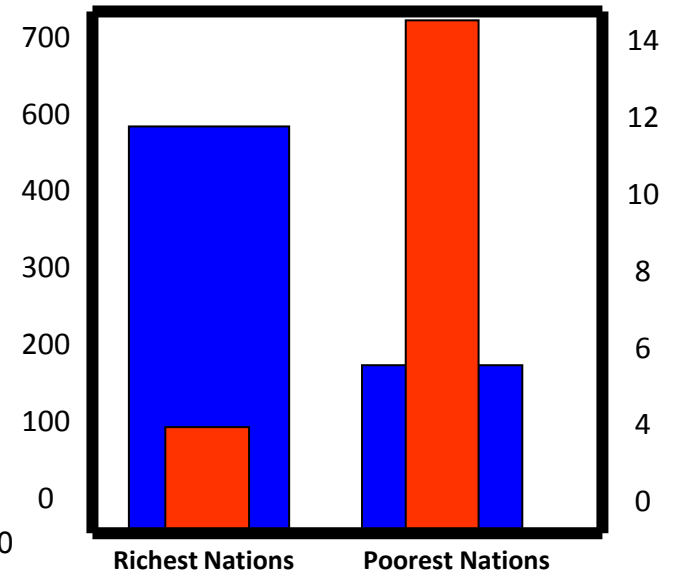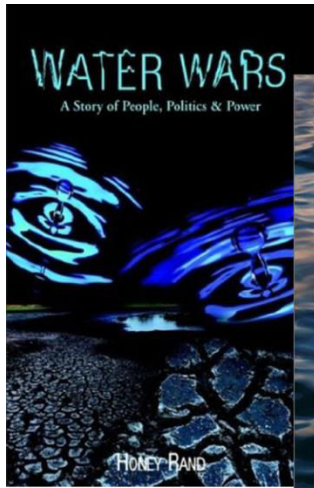
"The only matter that could take Egypt to war again is water." – Anwar Sadat, Former President of Egypt
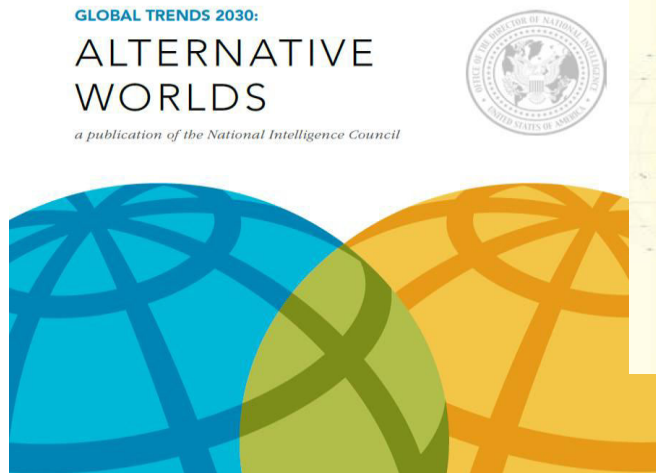
INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROSPERITY

Source: World Development Report, 1994

Infrastructure stocks per capita 1990 ($, 1985 prices)

GDP per capita, 1990 (PPP dollars)

Norway
Spain
Japan
Australia
Paraguay
Zambia
Mexico
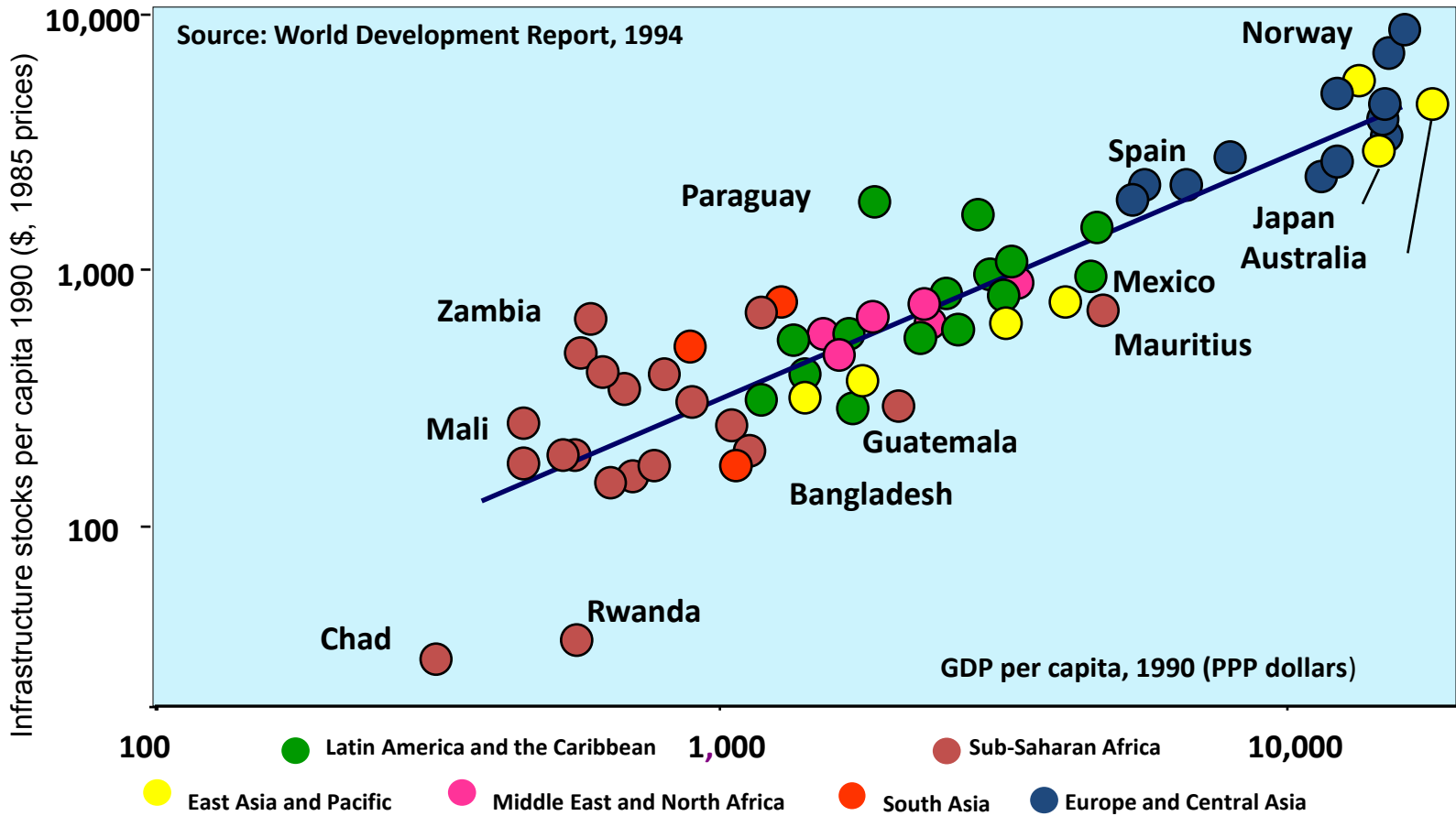Mauritius
Mali
Guatemala
Bangladesh
Rwanda
Chad

10,000
1,000
100

● Latin America and the Caribbean   ● Sub-Saharan Africa
● East Asia and Pacific   ● Middle East and North Africa   ● South Asia   ● Europe and Central Asia

■ Per Capita Storage
■ % Runoff

TOGETHER WE MAKE WATER A GLOBAL PRIORITY
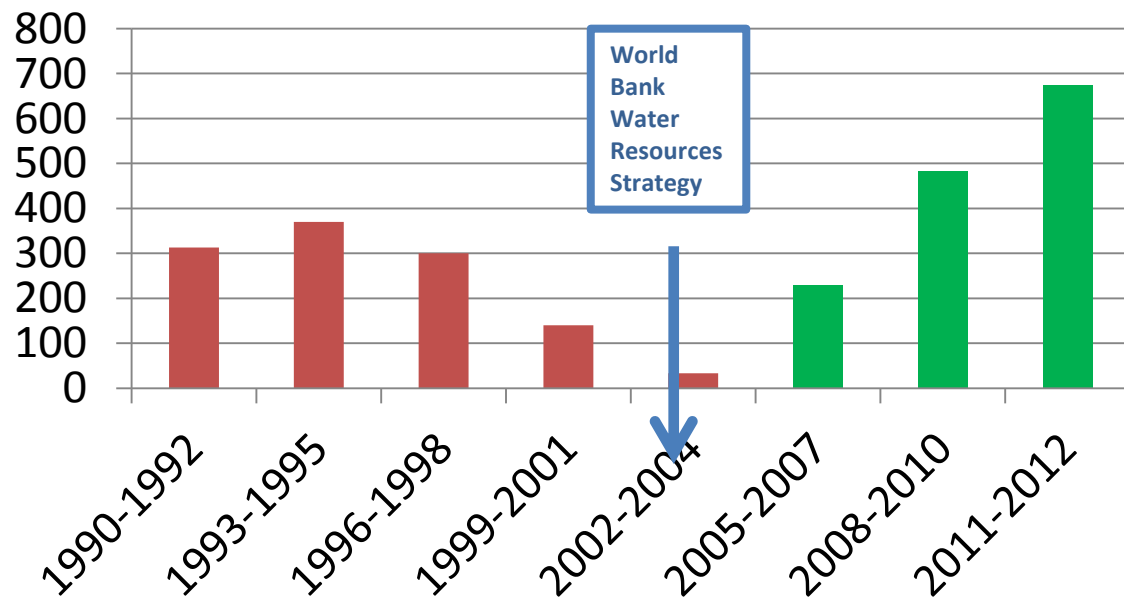
WORLD WATER COUNCIL

- Multi-purpose infrastructure
- Water management with strong public institutions
- Users' involvement in the decision-making process
- Short, medium and long range river basin planning
- Water permits system
- Economic instruments (polluter-pays and user-pays)

WORLD WATER COUNCIL

- Public finance
- International Finance Institutions
- Sovereign wealth funds
- Private finance
- Institutional investors
- Climate funds
- Micro-finance
- Corporate efficiency and cashflow

Whereas the World Bank now finances about 5 dams, the Chinese finance over 300 outside of China in the developing world

河 + 口 = 治

river   dike   political order

Water has long been known to be an essentially political process

WORLD
WATER
COUNCIL

Make water and its management part of the political agenda

Make water everybody's business

THANK YOU

worldwatercouncil.org

WORLD
WATER
COUNCIL