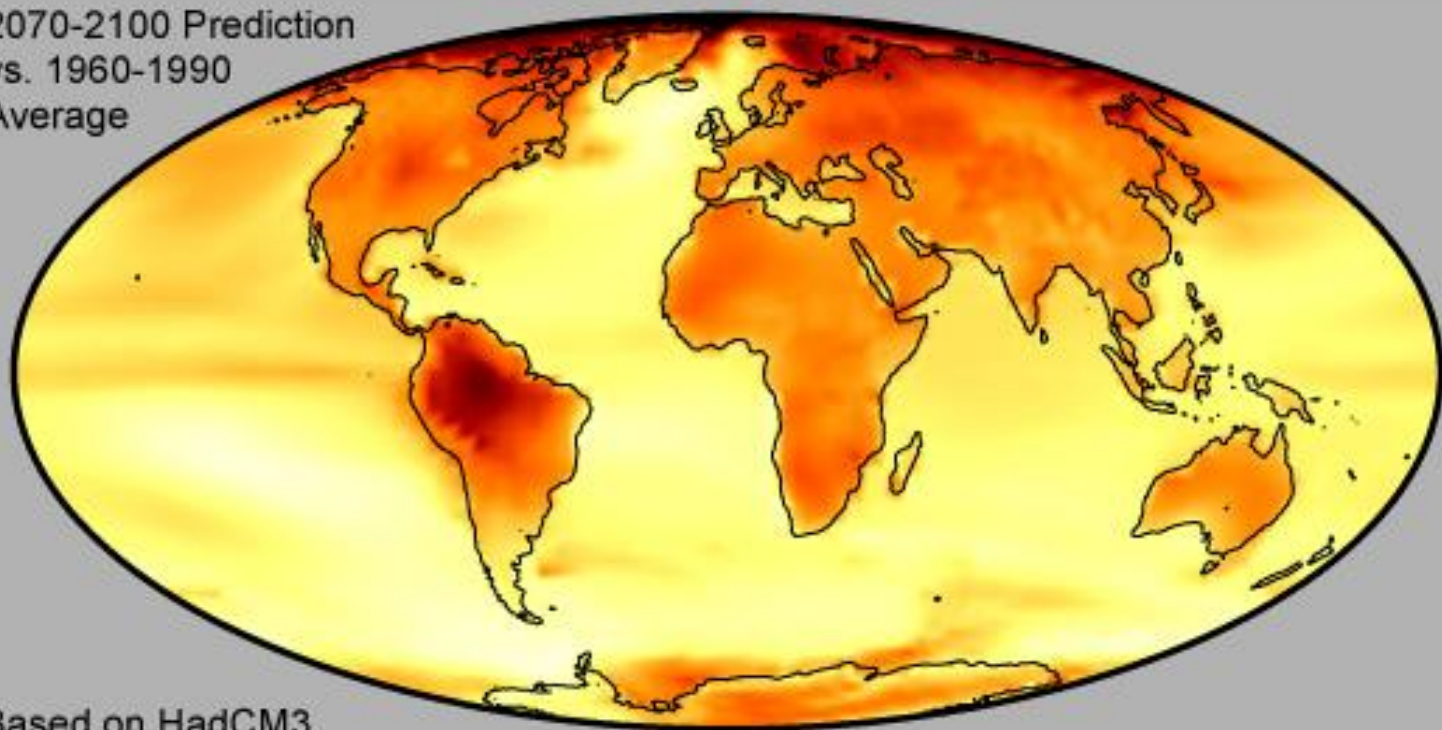


# Global sports: time for a changing climate, in times of climate change

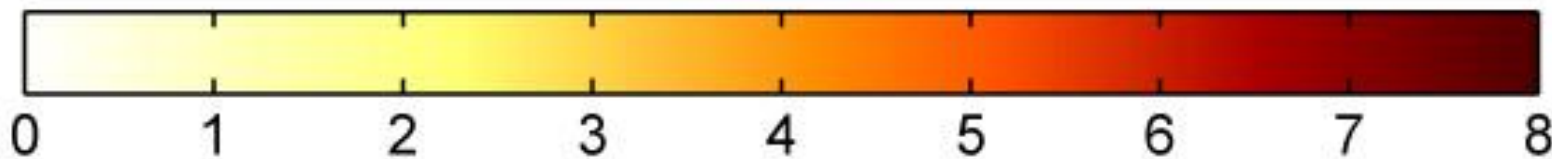
# Global reality of a changing climate

## Global Warming Predictions

2070-2100 Prediction  
vs. 1960-1990  
Average



Based on HadCM3



Temperature Increase (°C)



- 2°C
- Everyone
- Binding



# Vision of the EU's 7th Environment Action Programme

'In 2050, we **live well**, within the planet's ecological limits.

Our prosperity and healthy environment stem from an innovative, **circular economy** where nothing is wasted and where natural resources are managed sustainably, and **biodiversity** is protected, valued and restored in ways that enhance our society's resilience. Our **low-carbon** growth has long been **decoupled from resource use**, setting the pace for a global safe and sustainable society.'

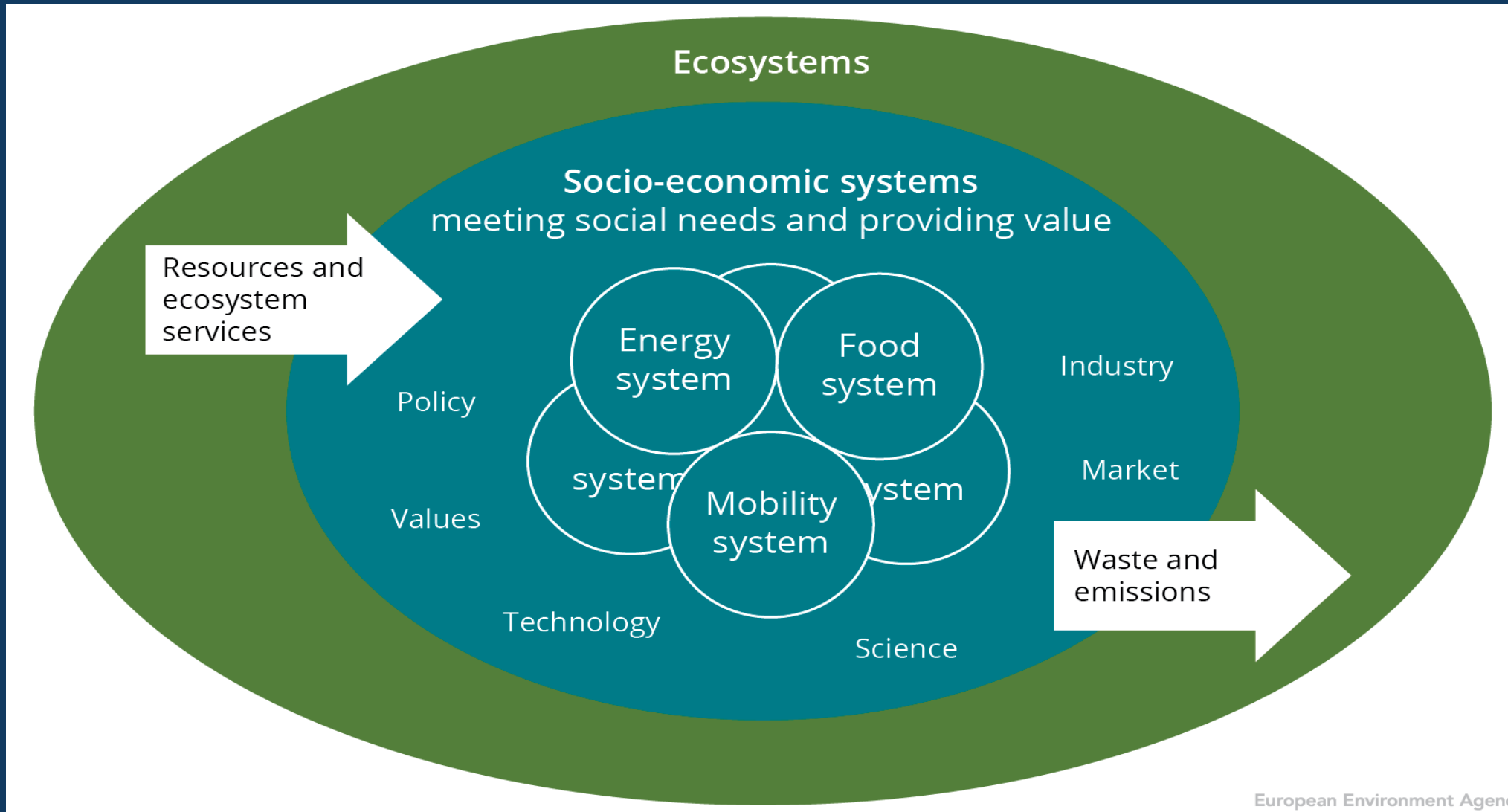
Source: 7th EU Environment Action Programme

European Environment Agency

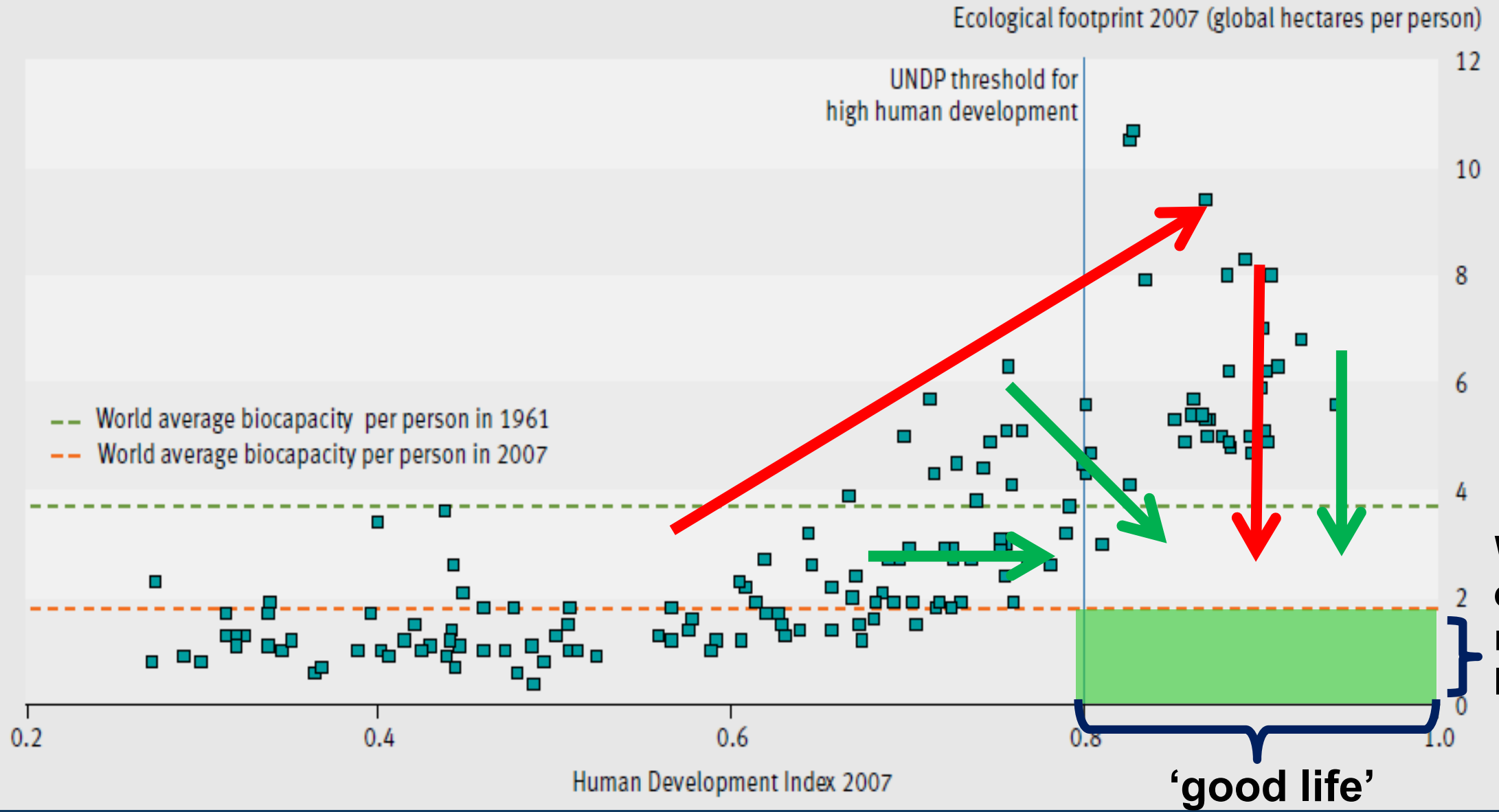


# Paradigm shift!

# What about the 'sports system'?

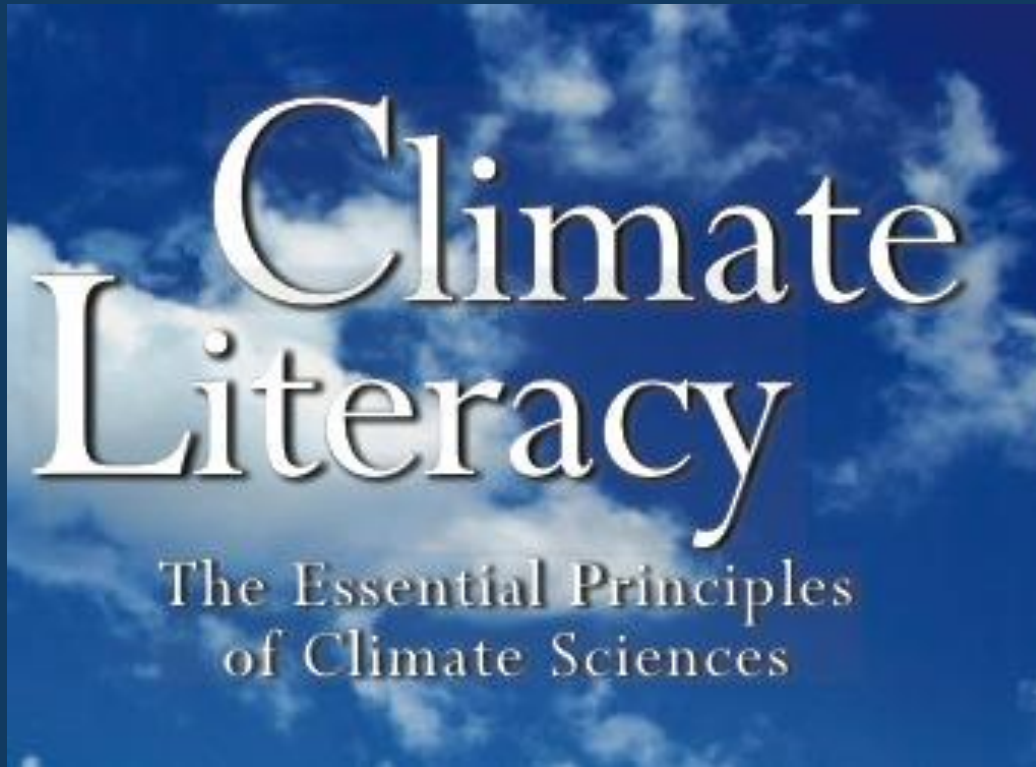


# Global imperative



# In the spirit of the 'exceptionalism' of sports?

Complete ignorance



Not our problem: ignore!



Variation: not our responsibility

# Exceptionalism at work!







# Responses: the '50 ways to save the planet' approach



# More embedded or programmatic approaches

GREEN  
SPORTS  
ALLIANCE

- Selection criterium
- Environmental management systems
- Improvement agenda
- Sport- and event-centric
- Often no serious reflection on fundamental issues

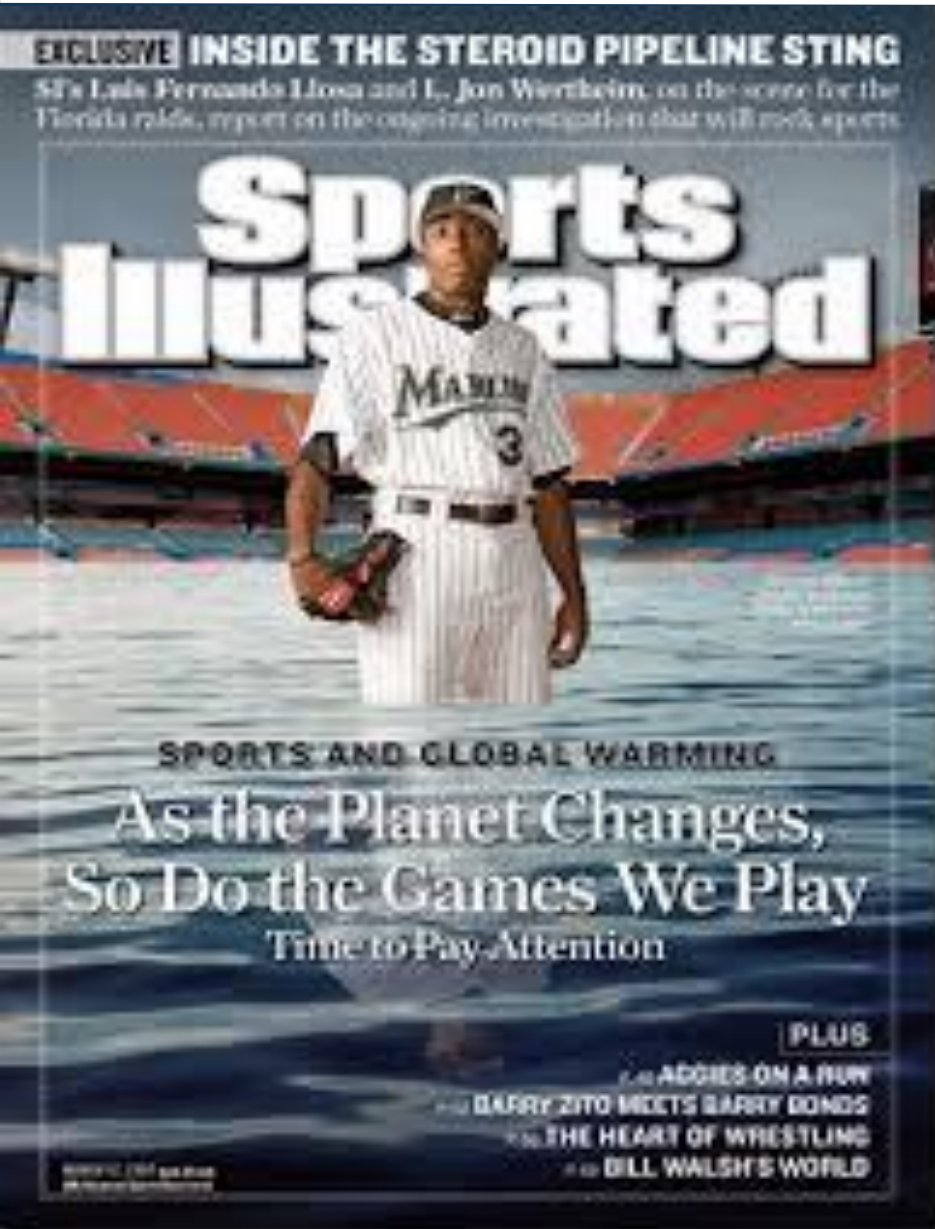
OLYMPIC AGENDA 2020  
20+20 RECOMMENDATIONS



# Olympic Agenda 2020

- Rec 4: Include sustainability in all aspects of the Olympic Games
- Rec 5: Include sustainability within the Olympic Movement's daily operations
- No clear targets, no deadlines, no links with major environmental or climate topics or policies
- The proof of the pudding ...

# Will a changing climate lead to changing sports?



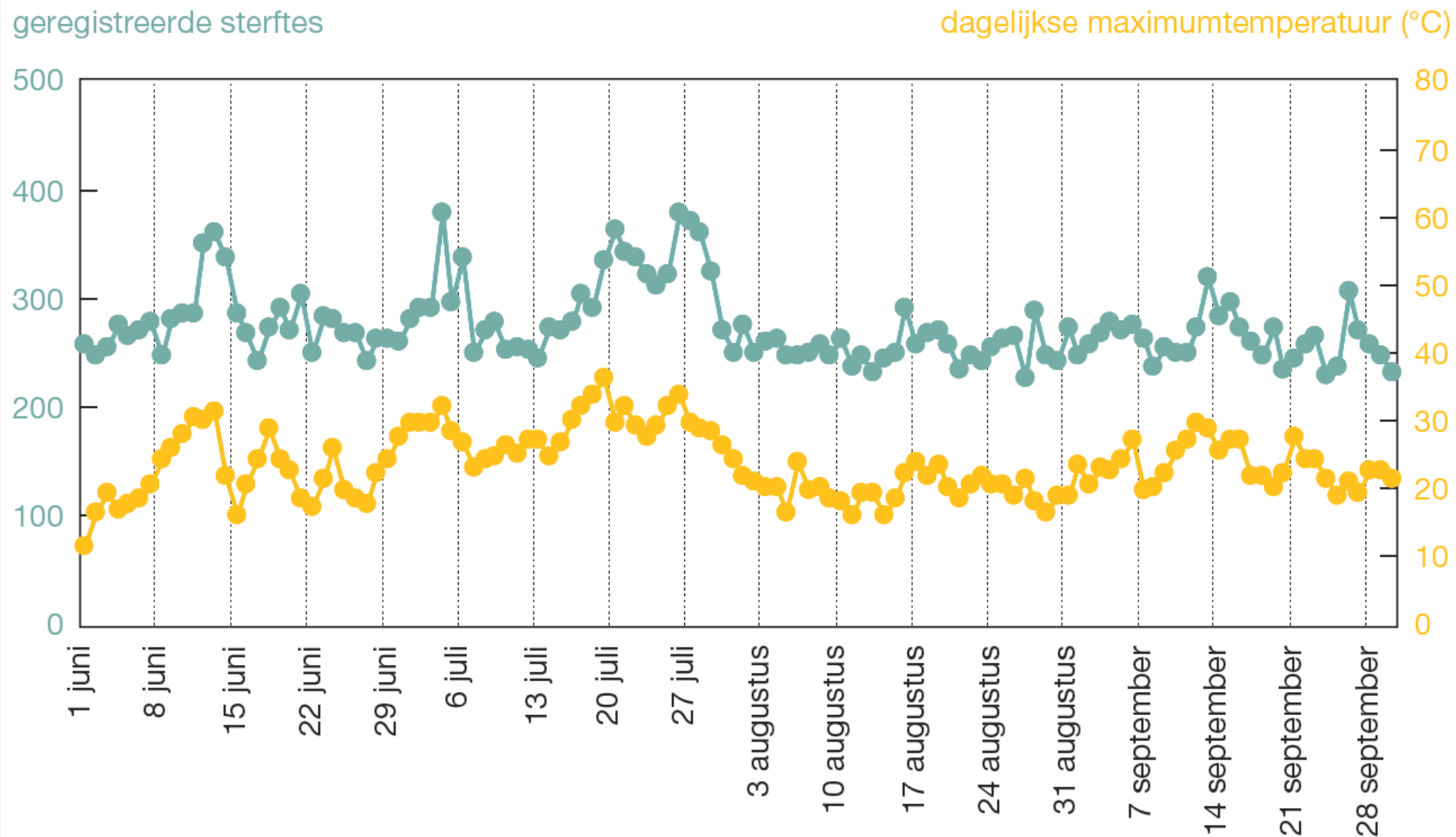
# Impacts of climate change

- Higher temperatures
- Higher humidity
- Droughts

Tips for **RUNNING**  
in **HUMIDITY**



Figuur 50: Evolutie van het sterftecijfer en van de temperatuur in de zomer van 2006 (België)



Bron: Wetenschappelijk Instituut Volksgezondheid (2007)



# Impacts of climate change

- Extreme weather events
- Changing wind patterns
- Snow patterns
- ...

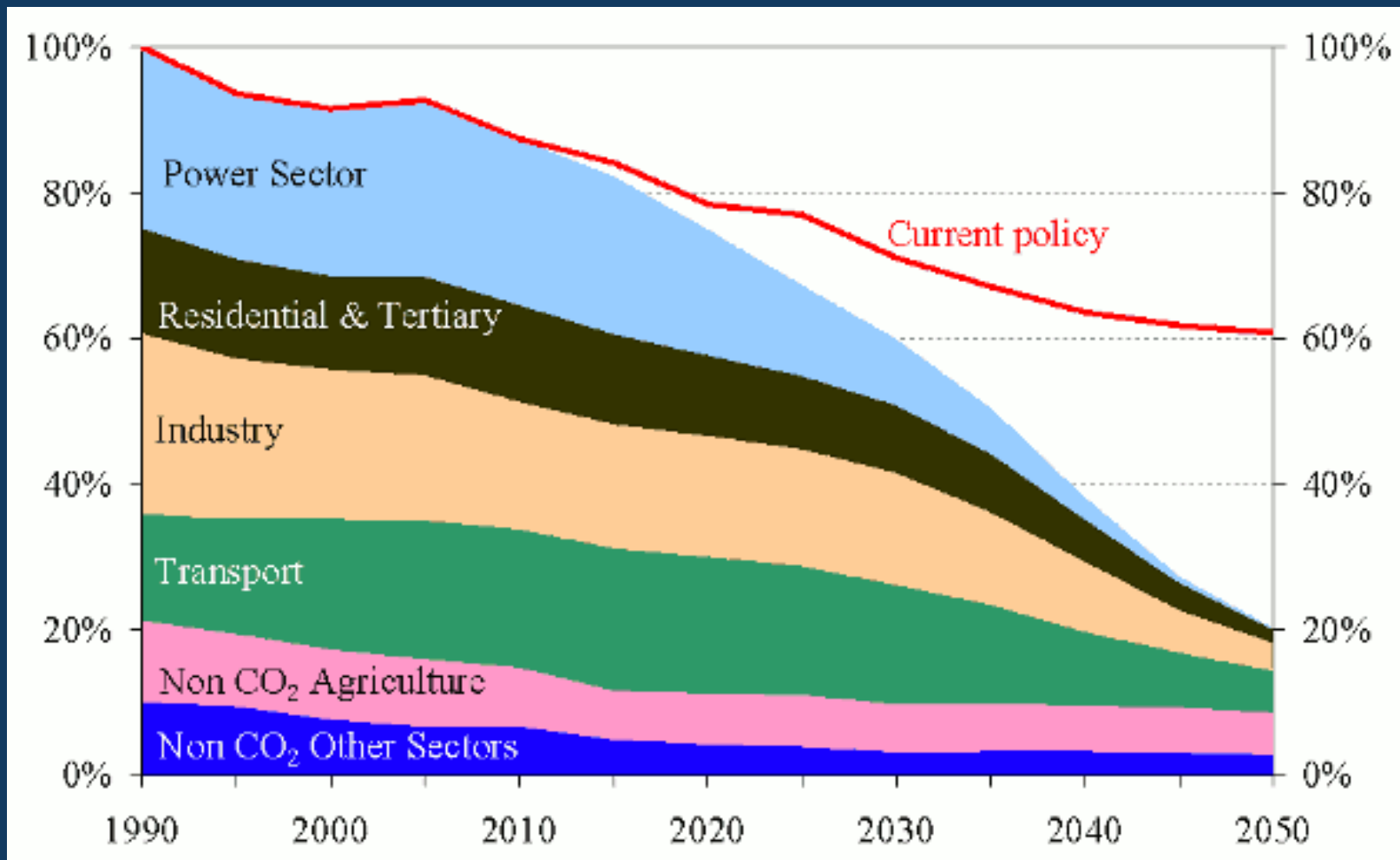


# Creative solutions?





# Moving beyond a sport-centric approach?



Energy  
system  
Impact on  
and  
contribution  
of sports?





# Urban and built environment system: Impact on and contribution of sports?

**Food system:**  
Impact on and  
contribution of  
sports?



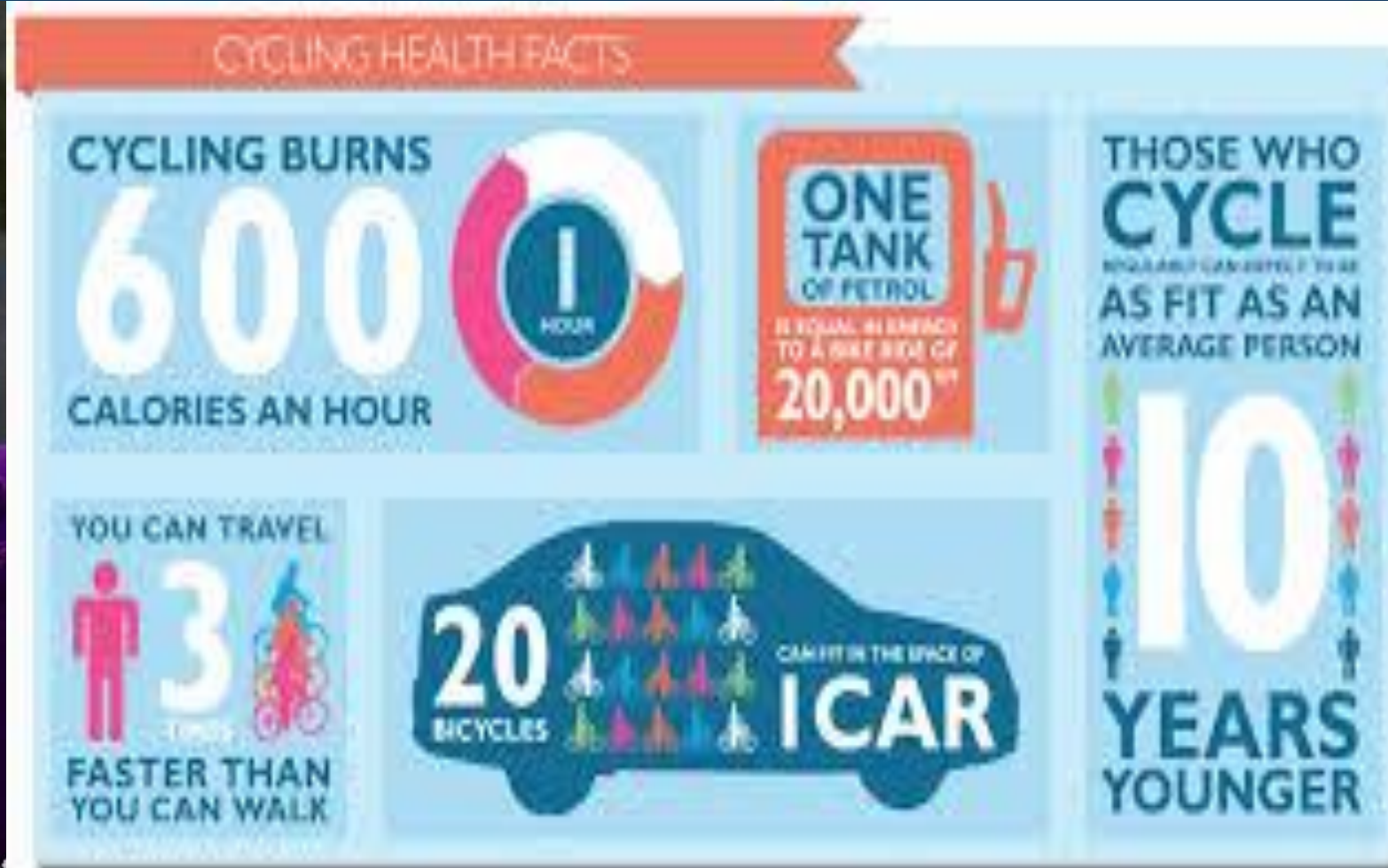
# Mobility system

Impact on and contribution of sports?

**TELL ME AGAIN**

**HOW YOU DRIVE YOUR CAR TO THE GYM TO RIDE A BIKE THAT GOES NOWHERE**

memegenerator.net



# Sports: an economic sector of significance

- Added value
- Employment
- Innovation
- Social and symbolic significance
- Proportionality?
- But not part of the problem nor the solution?

# Clear message: the times of exceptionalism are over!

- Embrace the circumstances of the 21st century
- Expect serious impacts
- Be part of the solution
- Ethical imperative
- Sense of urgency!













