



not undercutting
the Cross-cutting

By Nnimmo Bassey

on the Panel on **Interlinkages** at the
IPM 27 February 2009

Green or Red Revolutions?

- When a **revolution** becomes **conventional** it becomes in a major sense a mere **rotation**...



The Environmental Food Crisis

- "Simply cranking up the fertilizer and pesticide-led production methods of the 20th century is unlikely to address the challenge. It will increasingly undermine the critical inputs and nature based services for agriculture such as healthy and productive soils; the water and nutrient recycling of forests to pollinators such as bees and bats."
- We need a **green revolution with a capital G**...(preface)
- We need to deal with not only the way the world produces food but the way it is distributed, sold and consumed, and we need a revolution that can boost yields by working with rather than against nature." - Achim Steiner. **UNEP** Executive Director



Melt down

Free Market forces are not free after all...



WB & other IFIs

- Equitable and not a privatized space for shareholders interests only
- Democratize



justice

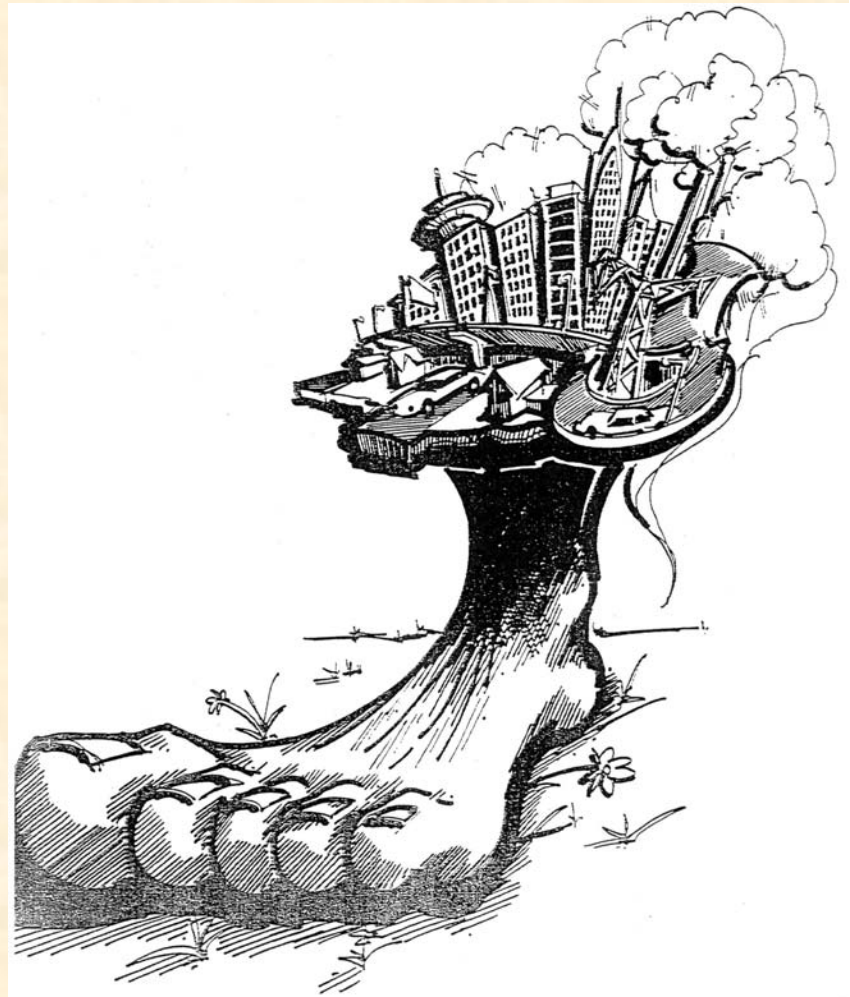
- **Control** over use of natural resources is a source of power – EU (at session on Land)
- **Fair** distribution of natural resources: the ecological footprint must be equitable...
- **Social** equity
- **Gender** justice
- **Environmental** justice

Inequitable **ecological footprints**

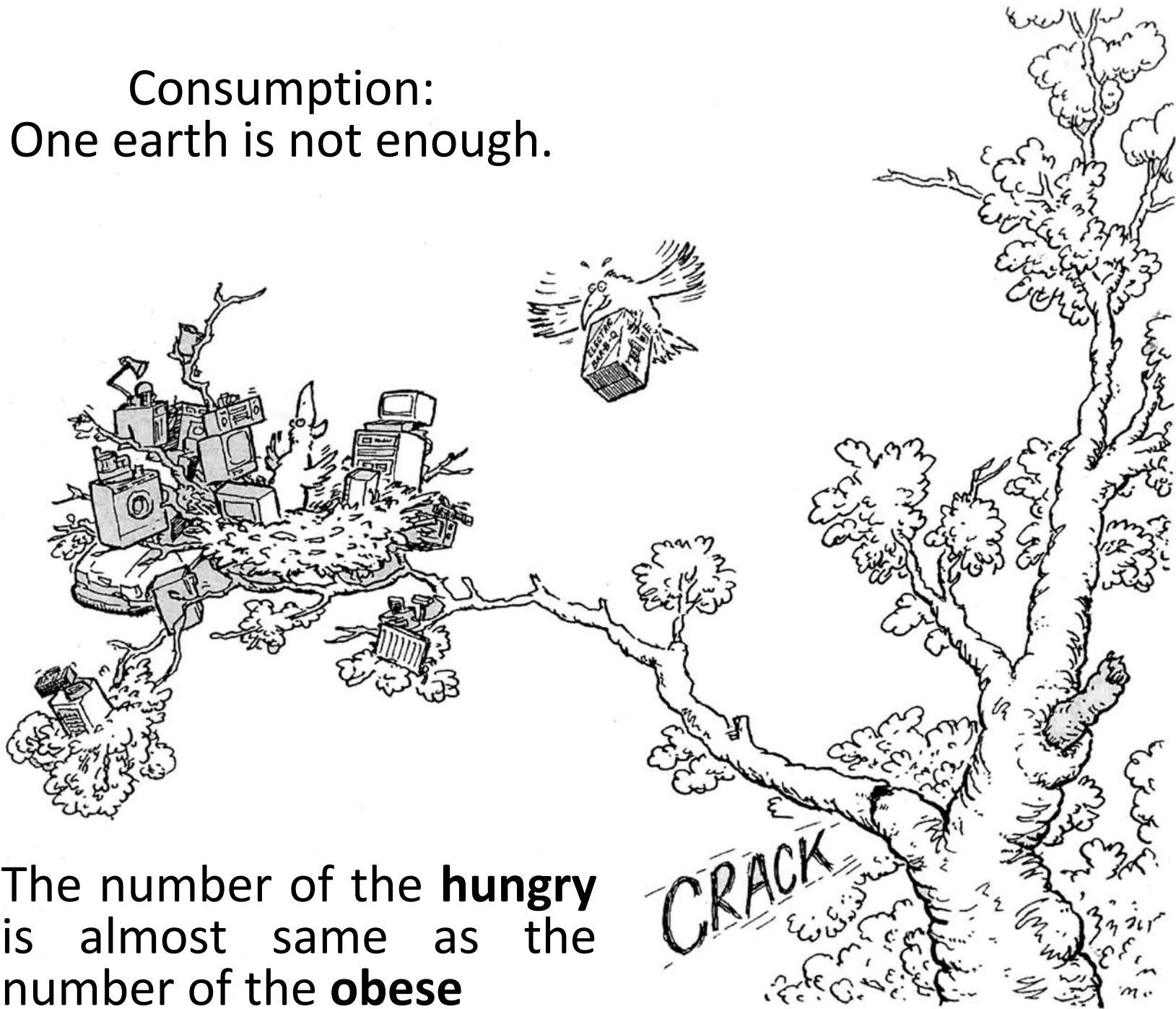
Basis for

Ecological debt

Not a moral debt. It is legal



Consumption:
One earth is not enough.

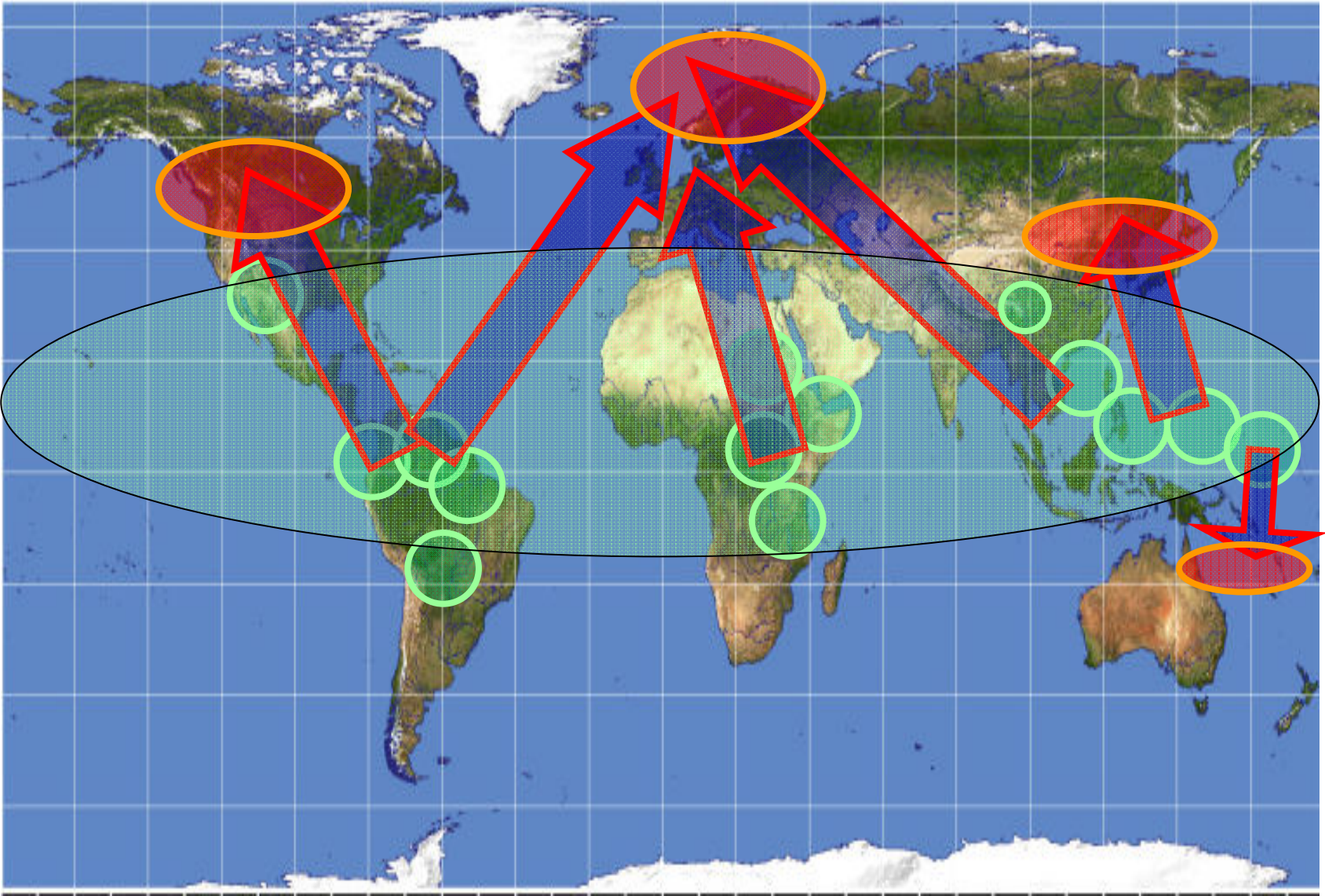


The number of the **hungry**
is almost same as the
number of the **obese**

land grabs



land-use change in
global South, & peculiar value-addition and trade linkages





Climate Justice



water as a HR

- More than 1.2 billion people in the world lack access to potable water + those who cannot afford water bills charged by companies
- **Potable water should be seen as a fundamental human right.** - a common public good that should not be commodified or **Privatized.**
- **Critical for sewerage and sanitation**
- **Colombia:** forthcoming referendum backed by CSOs
- 2.09 million signatures of Colombian men and women have asked for a referendum

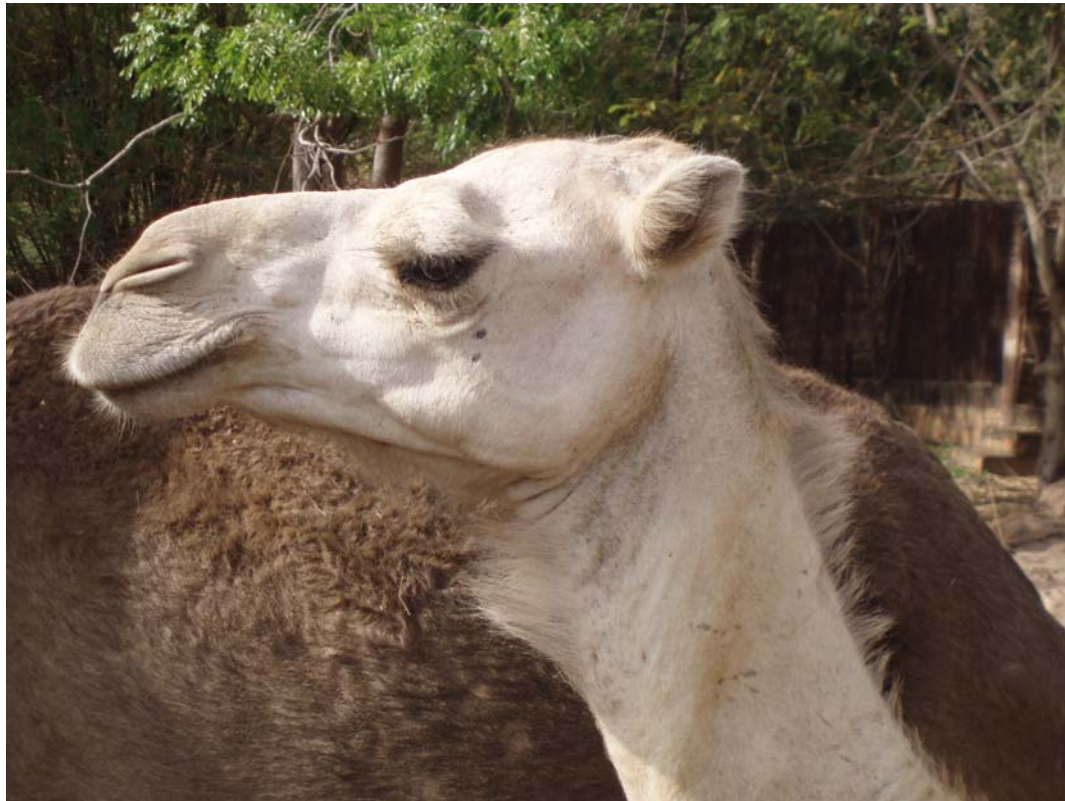


Salinization

- About 1% of water on earth is fresh while another 1% is brackish ...the other 98% is sea water.
- Agriculture competes for limited fresh water resources with home and industrial use;
- Salinization of fresh water systems is a major threat.



Land...livestock...f isheries



Some days ago month Ecuador's Congress approved the Organic Law on **Food Sovereignty** aimed at boosting domestic production.

Solidarity + cooperation

Not competition



change

- the change that counts @ the end is the improvement in peoples' lives.
- based on **human needs & human rights** ... not mere profit!



Thank you!



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