



Population health/Sustainable development



For More Information See the Paper
on our web site

<http://www.healthandeverything.org>



Some Key Concepts

Health

**Public
Health**

Medicine

**Health
Promotion**

**Population
Health**

**Sustainable
Development**

**Sustainable
Economy**

**Sustainable
Environment**

**Sustainable
Society**

**Risk
Management**

**Risk
Assessment**

**Decision
Support**



New Ideas as Filters for the Future



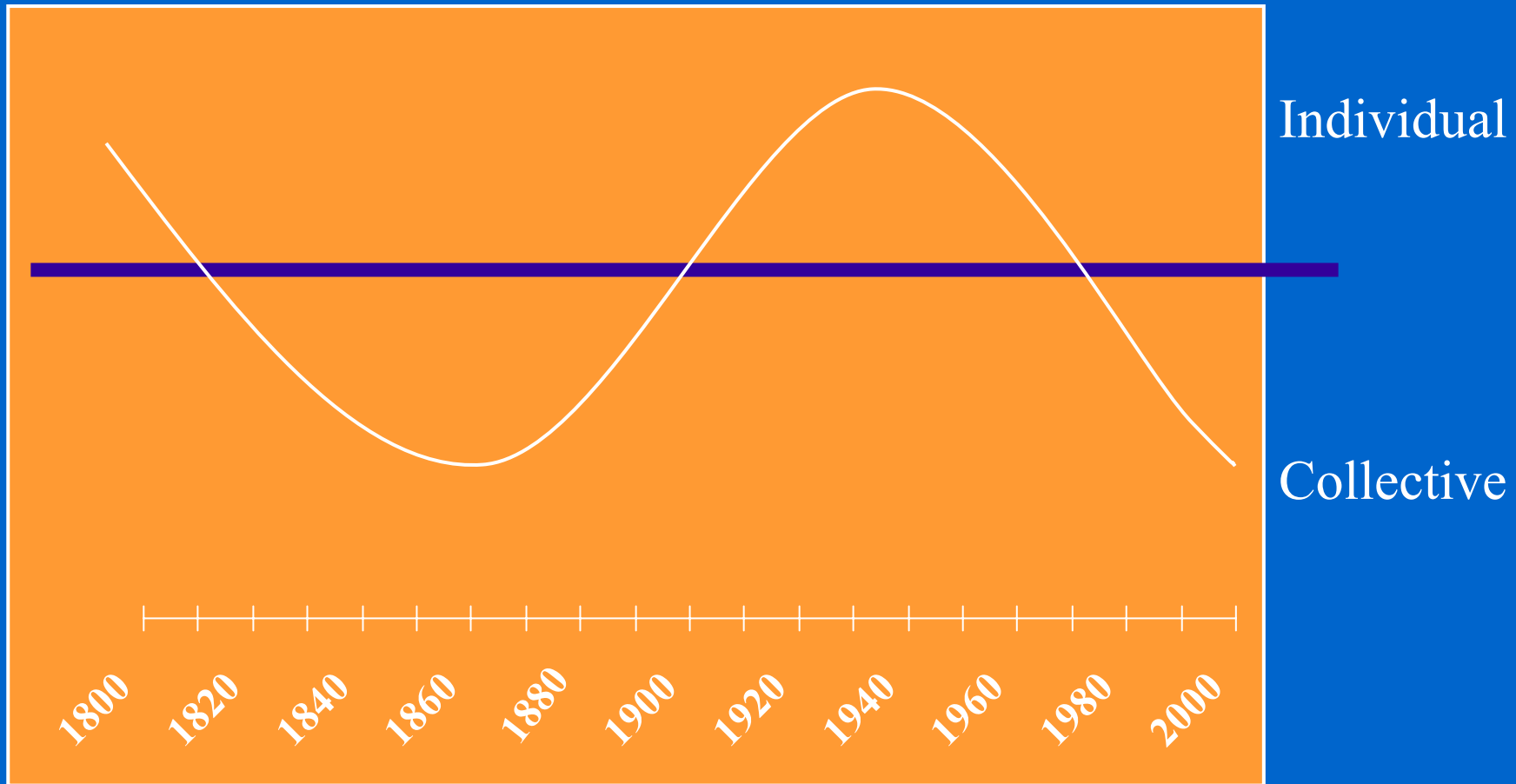


A brief history of ideas about health

- Health as a God given blessing
- Health from a sanitary environment
- Health as a result of medical science
- Health as a consequence of lifestyle
- Health from socioeconomic strength
- Health in the context of sustainability



Focus of Attention for Health





Some Health Related Questions

- What must we do to keep people healthy?
Public Health
- How do we diagnose and treat people?
Medicine
- How do we improve the health of the population?
Health Promotion
- Why are some people healthier than others?
Population Health



A Brief History of Public Health

- Miasma Theory
- Chadwick, Snow and 19th century epidemics
- Statistical analysis and epidemiology
- Sanitation movements
- Public Health nursing
- Health standards and inspection
- Tracking communicable diseases
- Health protection
- Community Organization



A brief history of medicine and health

- Professionalization
 - Chadwick and the need for death certificates
 - Flexner and certification of doctors and specialists
- The growth of the modern hospital
 - poorhouse
 - general hospital
 - specialty based hospital
- The growth of medical knowledge
 - Folk medicine
 - Experiential medicine
 - Evidence based medicine



A brief history of health promotion

- McKeown's search for influences on health
- Lalonde Report and Health Field Concept
- Growing awareness of limitations of persuasion model
- Achieving Health for All (The Epp Report)
- The Ottawa Charter
- Move to healthy communities
- More determinants with complex interaction



The Epp Report

**HEALTH
CHALLENGES**

**ACHIEVING HEALTH
FOR ALL**

**Reducing
Inequities**

**Increasing
Prevention**

**Enhancing
Coping**

**HEALTH
PROMOTION
MECHANISMS**

**Self
Care**

**Mutual
Aid**

**Healthy
Environments**

**IMPLEMENTATION
STRATEGIES**

**Fostering
Public
Participation**

**Strengthening
Community
Health Services**

**Coordinating
Healthy Public
Policy**



The Ottawa Charter

- Building healthy public policy
- Creating supportive environments
- Strengthening community action
- Developing personal skills
- Reorienting health services



Key Determinants of Health

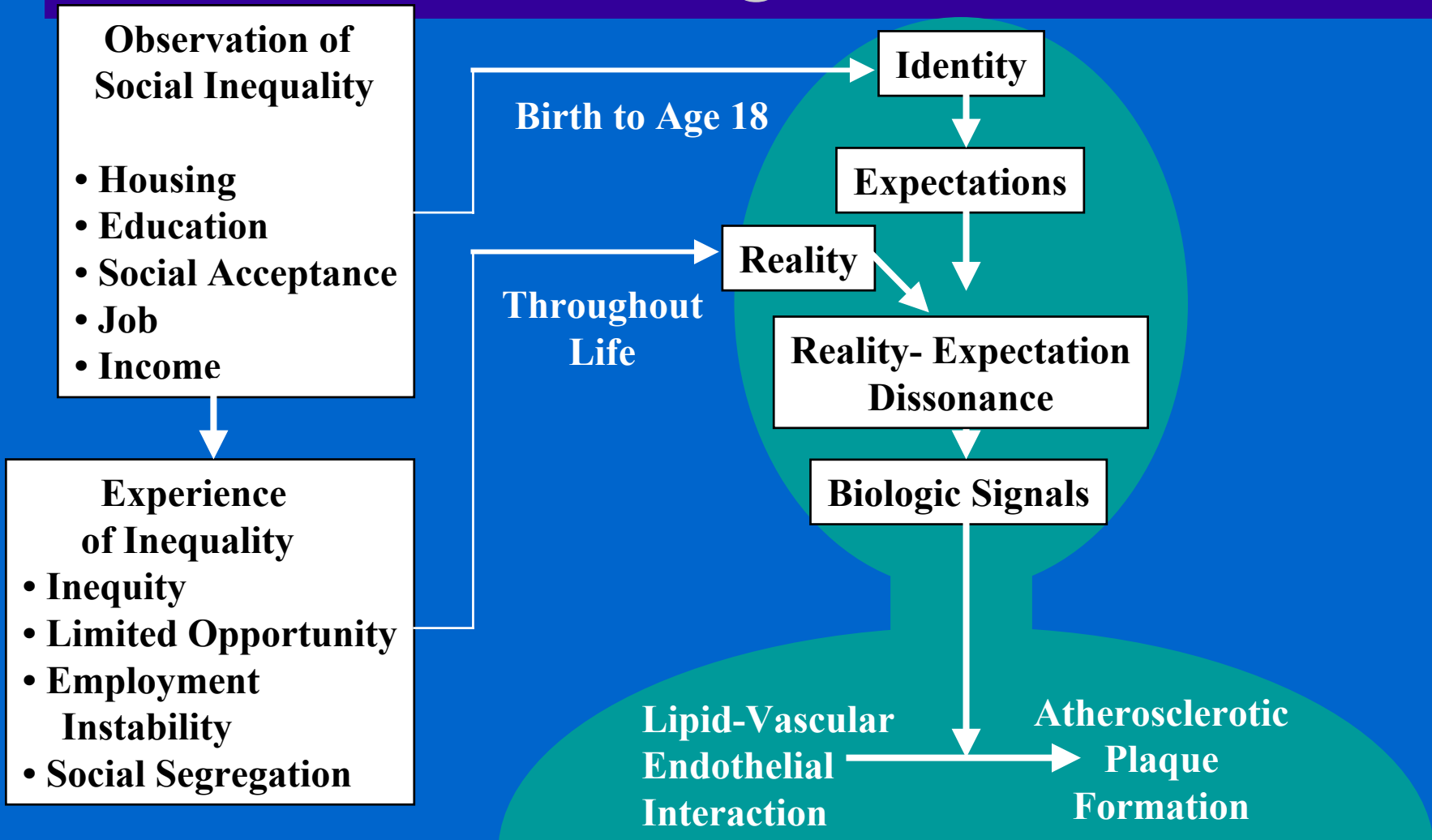
- Income and Social Status
- Social Support Networks
- Education
- Employment/Working Conditions
- Social Environments
- Physical Environments
- Personal Health Practices
- Healthy Child Development
- Biology and Genetic Endowment
- Health Service
- Gender
- Culture



A brief history of population health

- Search for hard scientific explanations of inequalities in health
 - relate to gradients of income, status, etc
- Identify some developmental issues
 - windows of developmental opportunity
- Identify more social issues
 - social conditions and resiliency
- Identify determinants of inequality of health

Sociobiological Translation





Four Major Influences on Population Health

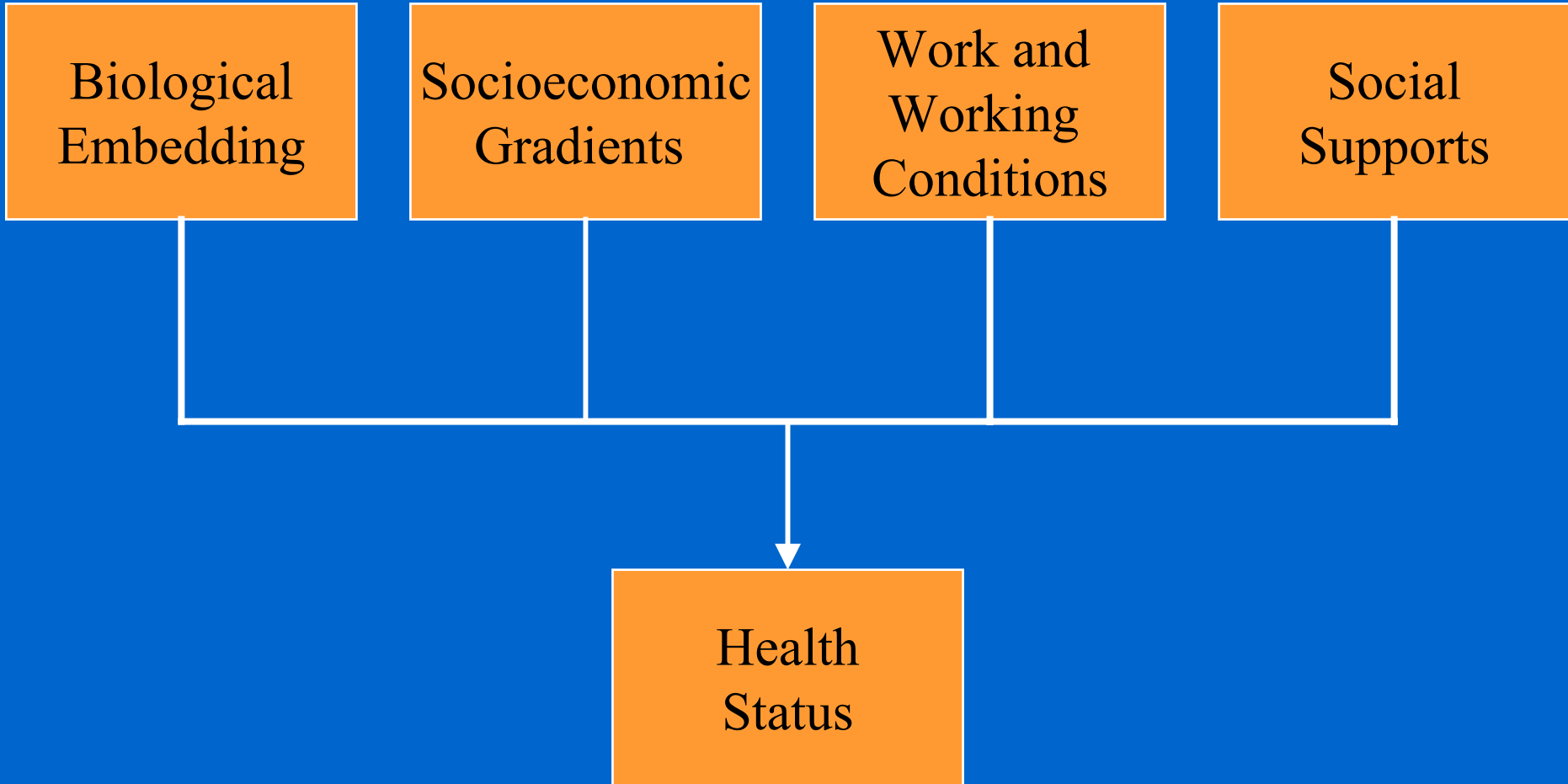
Biological
Embedding

Socioeconomic
Gradients

Work and
Working
Conditions

Social
Supports

Health
Status





Biological Embedding

- Facts: Maternal nutrition and early childhood experience can have a strong impact on lifelong health status
 - windows of opportunity for development
 - windows of opportunity for lifelong harm
- Policy Implications:
 - Investment in children will yield medium term health benefits
 - Implications for Health Canada



Socioeconomic Gradients

- Facts: Gradients in health status are mirrored in gradients of socioeconomic status
- Countries with the least disparity between richest and poorest have highest health status
 - overall wealth is less critical than distribution
 - debate moving in the direction of distribution
- Policy Implications:
 - Economic redistribution yields health benefits
 - Implications for Health Canada?



Work and Working Conditions

- Facts: Most recent Whitehall study results show that lack of control over work is most significant determinant of heart disease.
 - Studies at Institute of Work and Health
- Policy Implications:
 - Increasing sense of job control could have positive health implications
 - work issues require intersectoral engagement
 - implications for Health Canada?



Social Supports

- Facts: Everson study suggests that hopelessness is more closely connected with the onset of Atherosclerosis than smoking, drinking or nutrition
 - Institute of Work and Health study of Torstar
- Policy implications:
 - Investment in social cohesion could significantly reduce hopelessness
 - Health Canada is currently grappling with policy implications of social cohesion?



Sustainable Development

“development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”

World Council on Environment and Development

Growing Global Consciousness

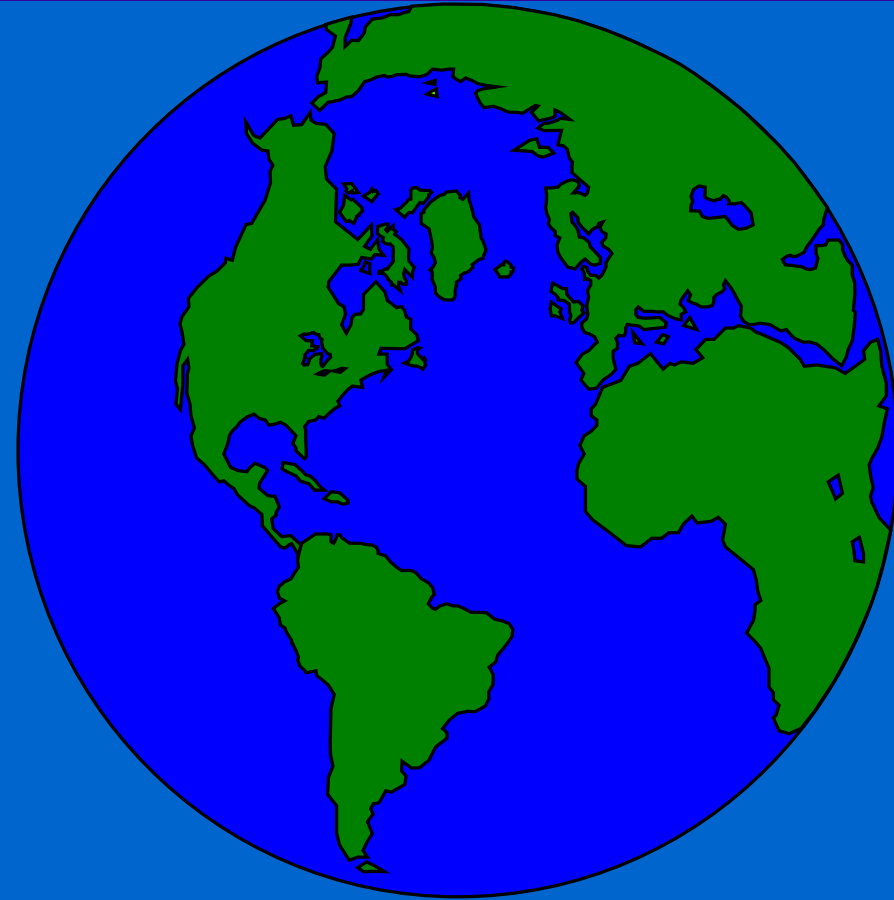
The world is an interactive and continuous set of relations.



Global ecosystem
Global markets
Global telecommunications

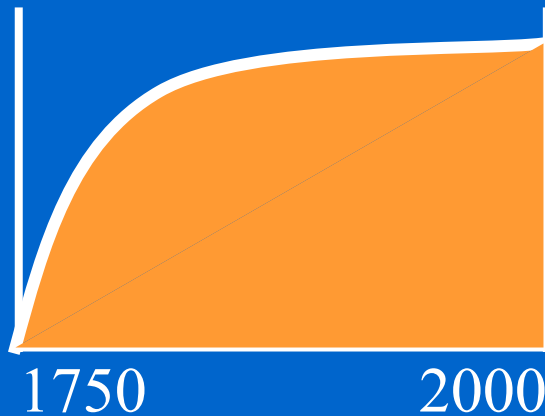


Global nuclear war
Global epidemics
Global warming



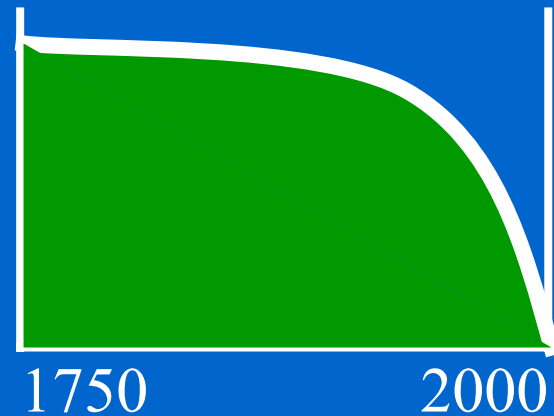


Rates of Change on the Planet



Increases in:

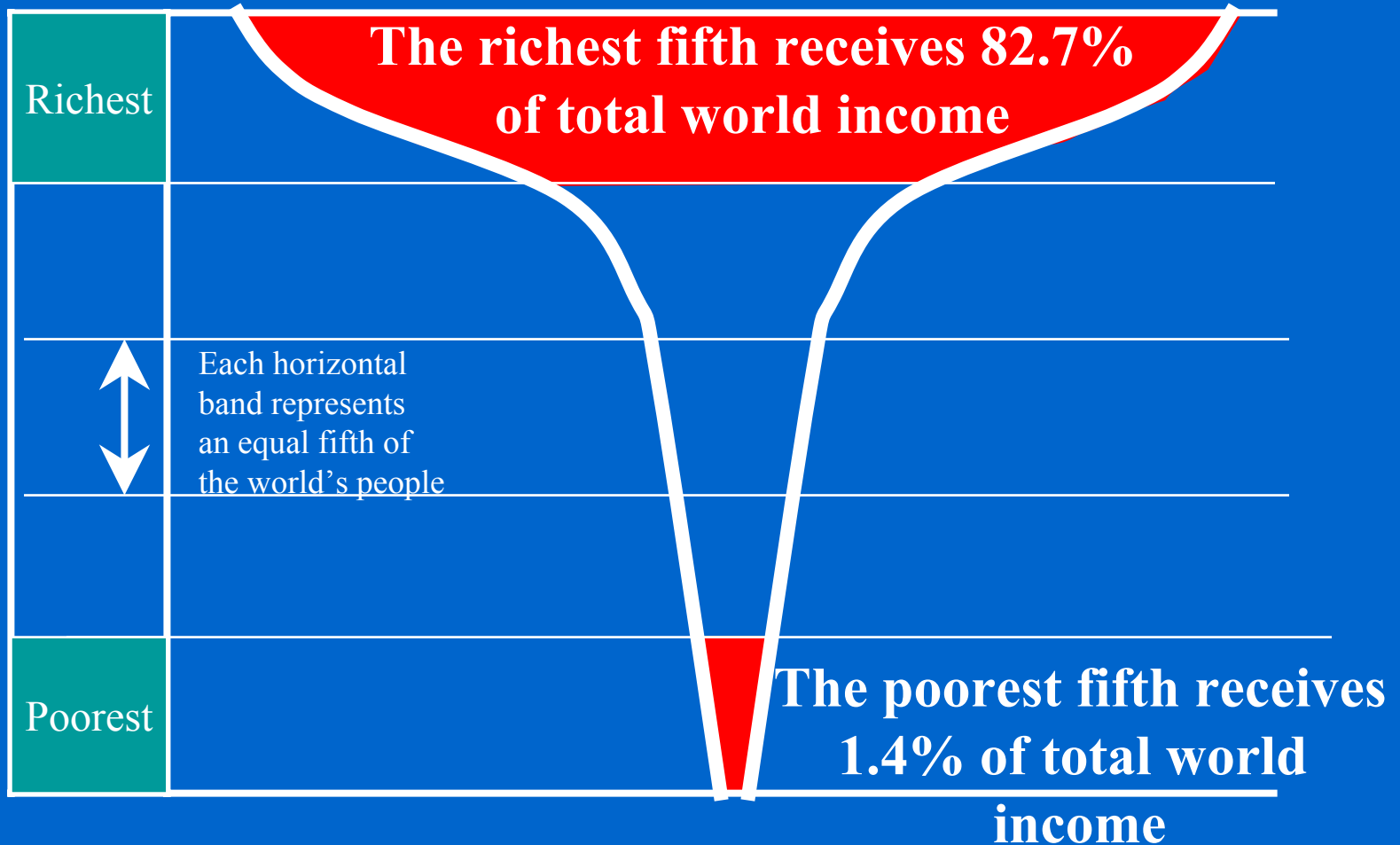
human population; consumption of fossil fuels, consumption of other resources, industrial production, agriculture, desertification, salinification, pollution, military expenditure (until 1987)



Decreases in

forests, fish stocks, farmlands, soils, habitats, species biodiversity, environmental services, human diversity

Growing Inequity Between Rich and Poor



Source: UNDP (1992).



Sustainable Development

“development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (WCED, p. 43).

- Economic Sustainability
- Social Sustainability
- Environmental Sustainability



A brief history of economic development

- Development in colonial theories of civilizing forces
- Development as ever-increasing production
- The individual rational agent as the unit of classical economic theory
- Post colonial theories of industrial development in the third world
 - e.g. infrastructural development
 - Post Fordism



A brief history of social development

- Recognition that economic development has social consequences. Tribal identity: The person defined in social terms
- The rise of individualism
- The person defined in mechanical terms
- Growing awareness of experiential and social impact on biological condition



A brief history of environmental sustainability

- Paganism: humans as one element of nature
- Mediaeval notions of the world as creation
- Baconian ideas about the exploitable treasures of Nature
- Scientific advance as a solution
- Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* (1962)
- Renewed realization about humans as one element of Nature

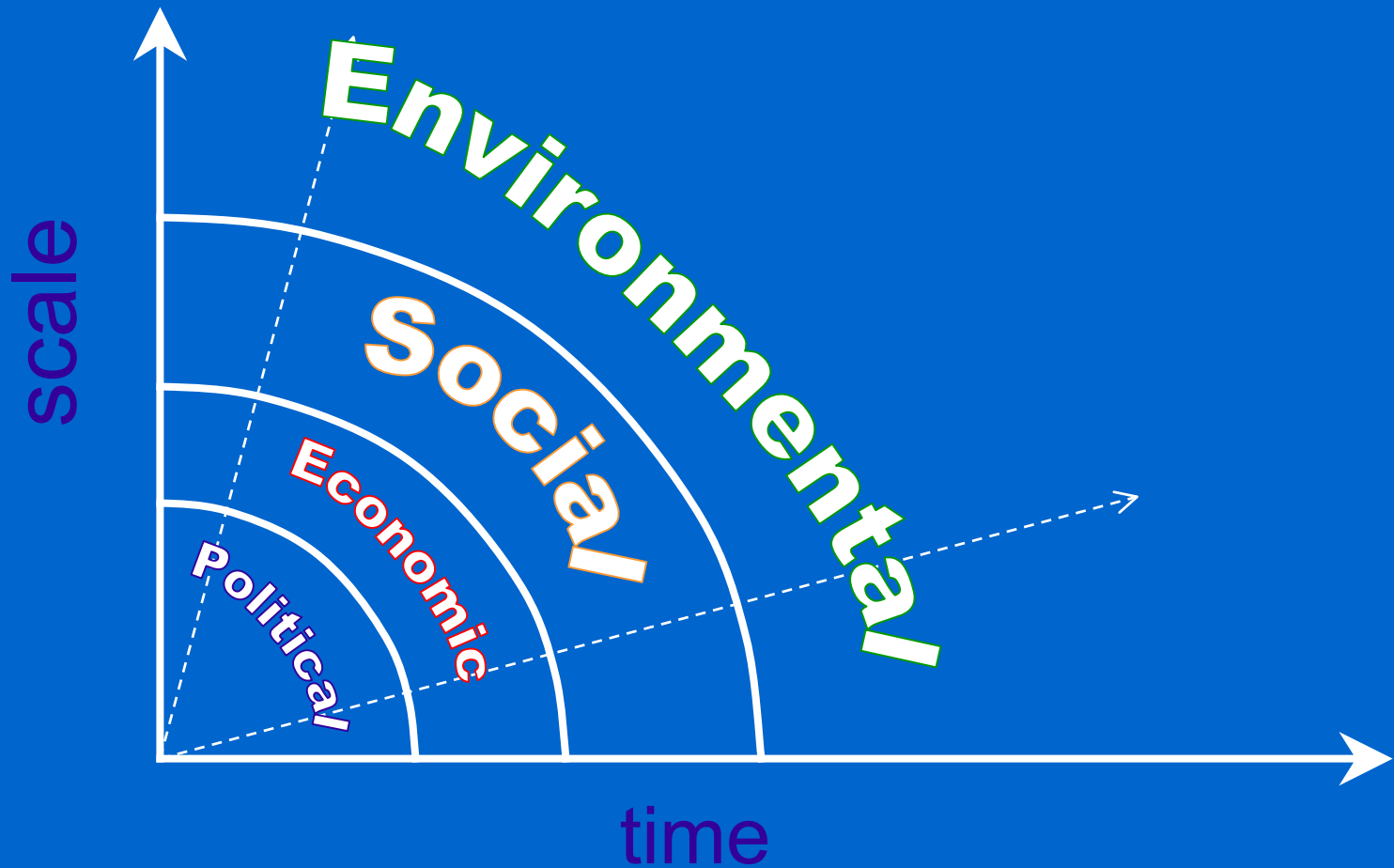


The “Rio Cluster” of UN Proceedings

- **Habitat II (Istanbul 1996)**
- **UN Conference on Trade & Development (Madrid 1996)**
- **Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing 1995)**
- **World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen 1995)**
- **Migratory & Straddling Fish Stocks (New York 1995)**
- **Conference on Population & Development (Cairo 1994)**
- **Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Barbados 1994)**
- **World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction (Yokohama 94)**
- **World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna 1993)**
- **Earth Summit (Rio de Janeiro 1992)**
- **International Conventions on Climate, Biodiversity, & Desertification**



Return on Investment



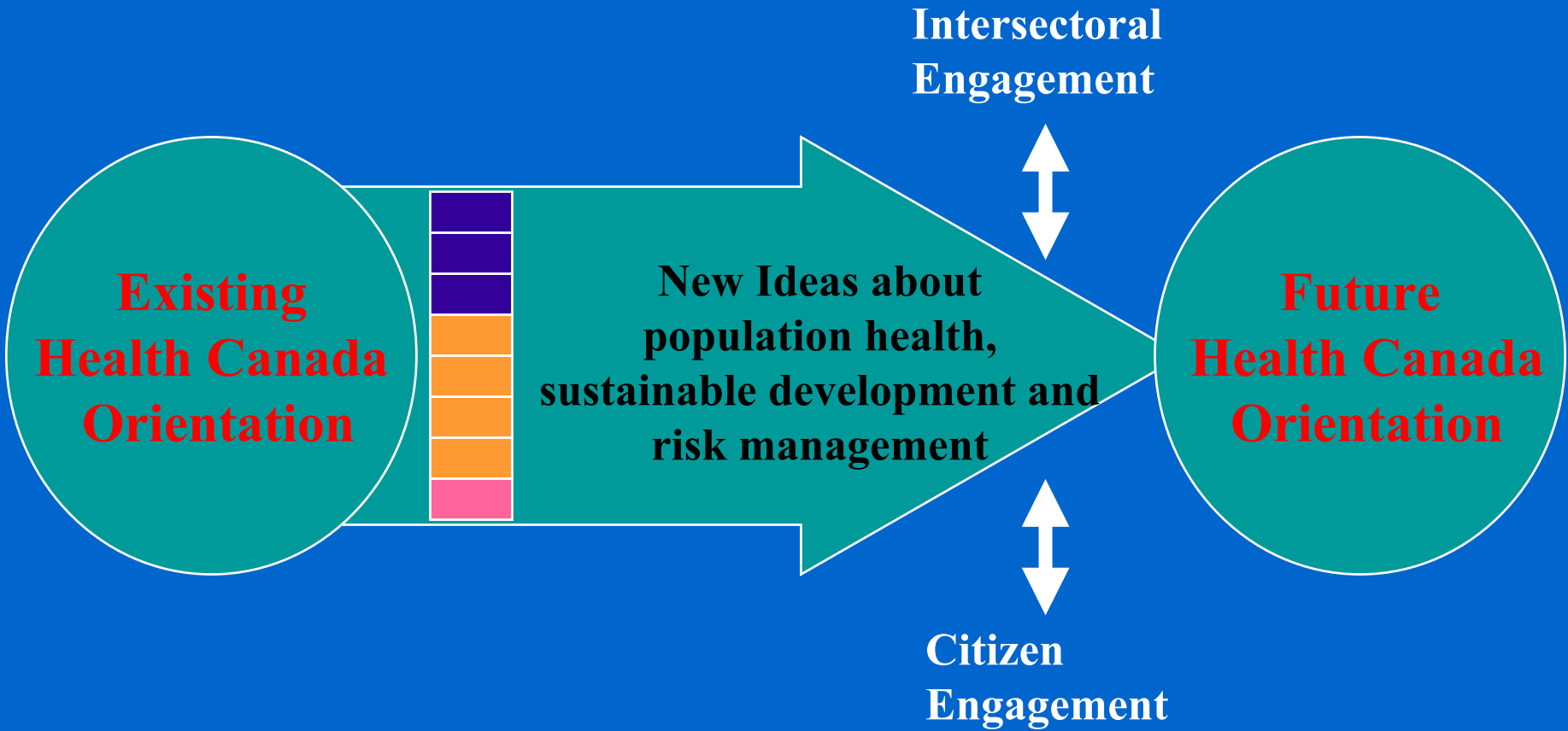


Risk Management

- Facts: Every choice involves loss as well as gain.
 - Risk management considers how to proceed given contrasting choices
- Policy Implications
 - Develop a strategies to foster investments for short medium and long term return.



New Ideas for thinking about the Future





Ideas that Emerge

- Focussing on particular populations about
 - equity, development, work and social relations
 - with partners
- Assimilation of sustainability issues
 - social, environmental, economic
- Developing risk management technologies
 - for decision support for short, medium and long term return on investment

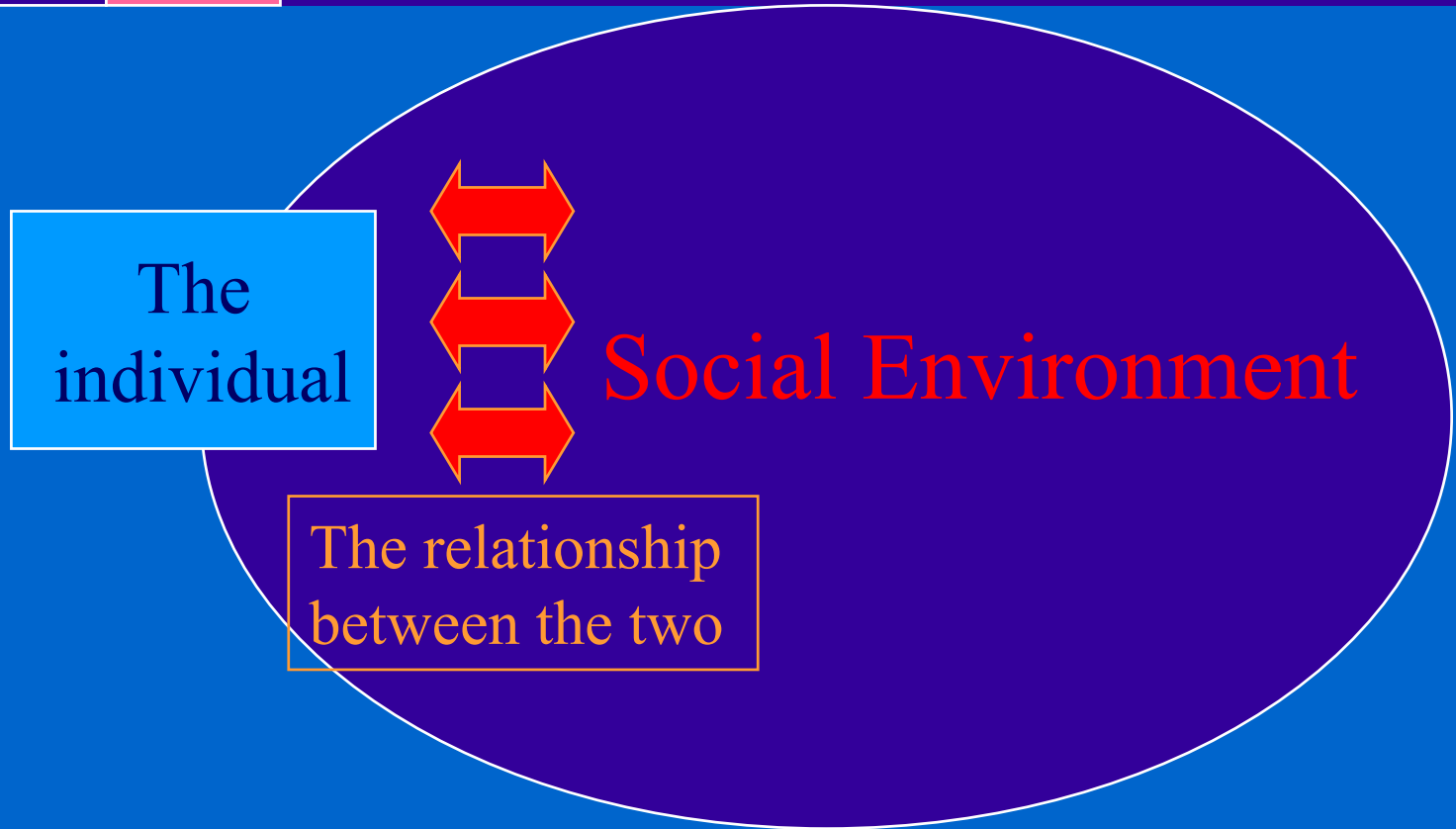


Preliminary Conclusions

- The overlap between population health and sustainable development is in the social policy area
- Social policy is harder to frame than economic policy partly because of competing time scales
- It may be useful to distinguish between time scales
- Adopting an inclusive statesmanlike view may, paradoxically, become increasingly necessary for short term political gain.
- Examples follow



Contribution to Health





Examples of Short Term Investments

- *Health Care and Economic investment*
- *Investment in sustainable health care systems*
 - responding to citizen concerns about the quality and accessibility of health care
 - commitment to stable long term funding for provincial systems;
 - supporting proven effective interventions
 - eliminating services that have not been demonstrated to be effective;
 - increasing effective activities aimed at demand reduction
- *Investment in Food and Drug Safety*
- *Investment in Emergency Response Procedures*



Examples of Medium Term Investments

- *Population Health and Social Investment*
- *Investment in Children*
 - Consequences of maternal care and support during pregnancy
 - Strong emphasis on windows of developmental opportunity
- *Investment in Social Cohesion*
 - Healthy schools, neighbourhoods workplaces and communities
- *Investment in Vulnerable Groups*
 - Special support for certain types of behavioral change
- *Programs that favour Equity*



Examples of Long Term Investments

- *Environment and Long Term Investment*
- *Investment in economic development sensitive to ecosystem of natural and human dimensions*
 - Consider long term consequences of short term investments
- *Environmental regulation and monitoring of drawdown of resources*
 - Risk manage long term implications



Next Steps

- Elaborate Potential Projects for the short and medium term
 - Connections to social and political context
 - Explore sustainable health care systems issues
 - Some children's projects
 - Aboriginal population health
 - Explore cross departmental issues
- Pursue the Risk Management component
- Develop Presentation with next users