

# What Happens When the Pit is Full?

Developments in on-site Faecal Sludge Management

14-15 March 2011

Garden Court Marine Parade Hotel, Durban, South Africa

## Human Waste

for how long can we afford to throw it away

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# Scary Facts

## and then join the dots

- 2004 2.6 billion, i.e. 42% lacked adequate sanitation.
- 330 million, i.e. 5% have advanced sewage treatment
- malnutrition is 14% of global burden of disease (DALYs)
- sanitation-related diseases 3.4%
- sub-Saharan Africa excreta production is more than 100% of the local application of mineral fertilisers

Annika Nordin  
Ammonia Sanitisation of Human Excreta Treatment  
Technology for Production of Fertiliser, Doctoral Thesis,  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala (2010)



# Effect of Phosphate Fertilizer

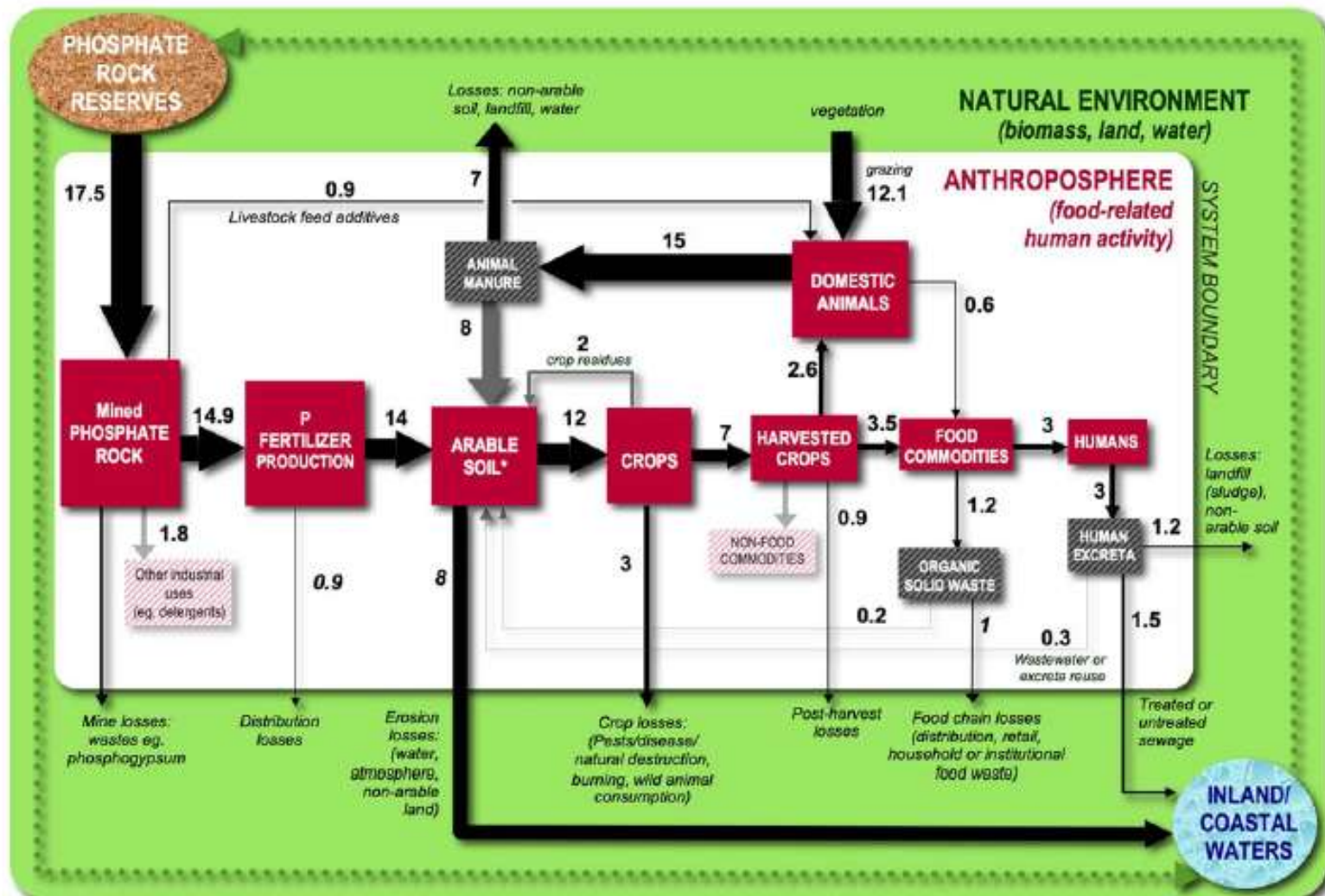
phosphate  
addition



control  
no  
phosphate

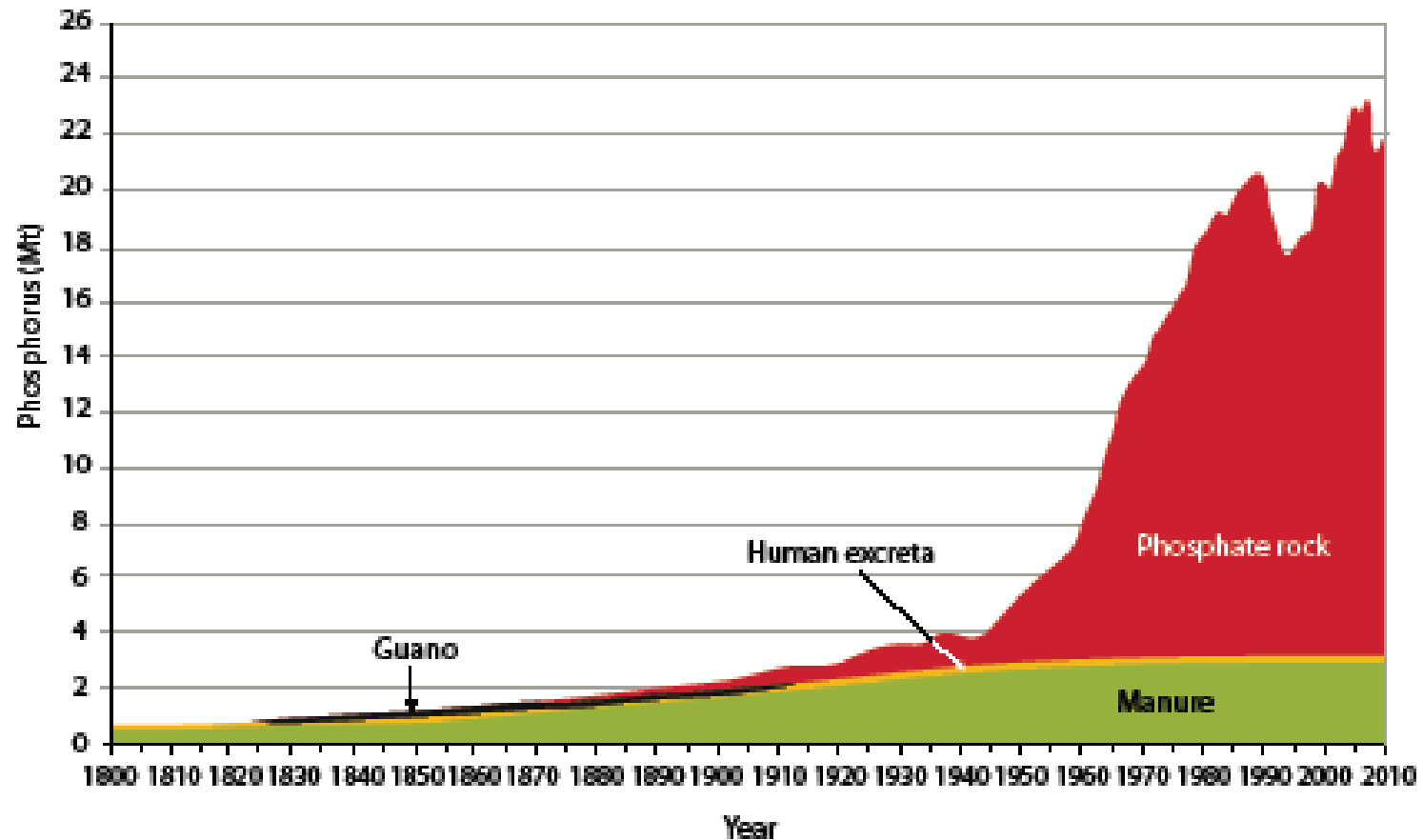
# Phosphorous Flow and Global Food Production

D. Cordell et al. / Global Environmental Change 19 (2009) 292-305

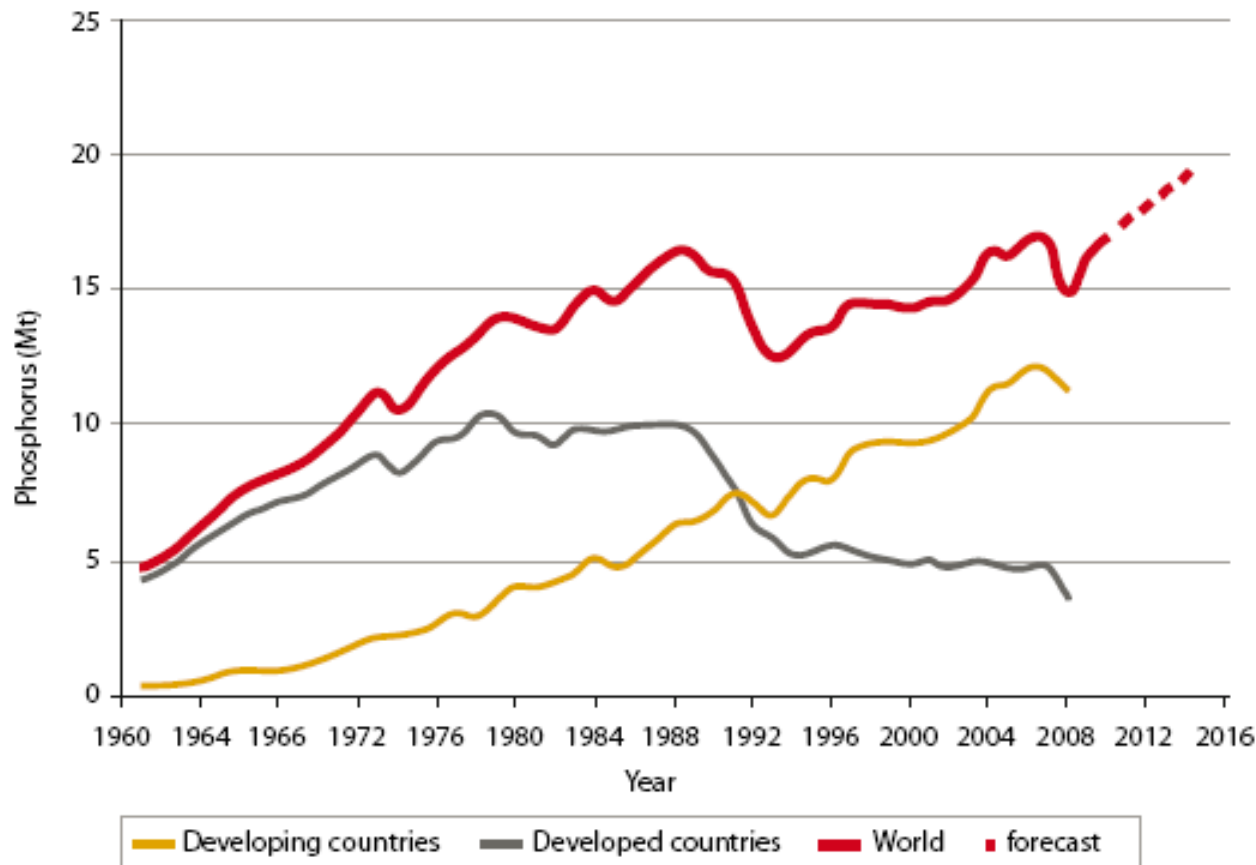


D.Cordell et al / Global Environmental Change 19 (2009) 292-305

# Global Sources of Phosphorous Fertilizer



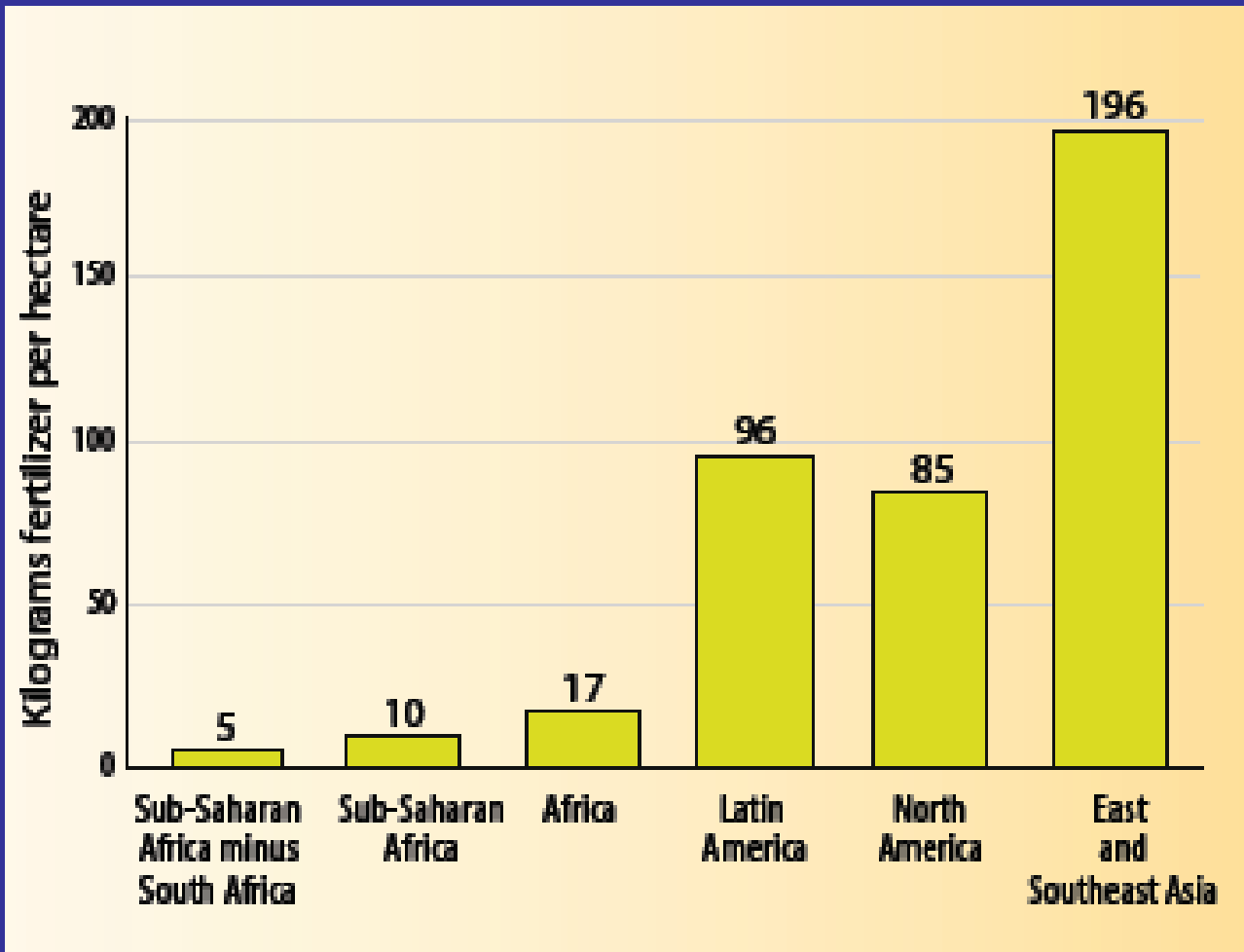
# Global Phosphorous Fertilizer Consumption





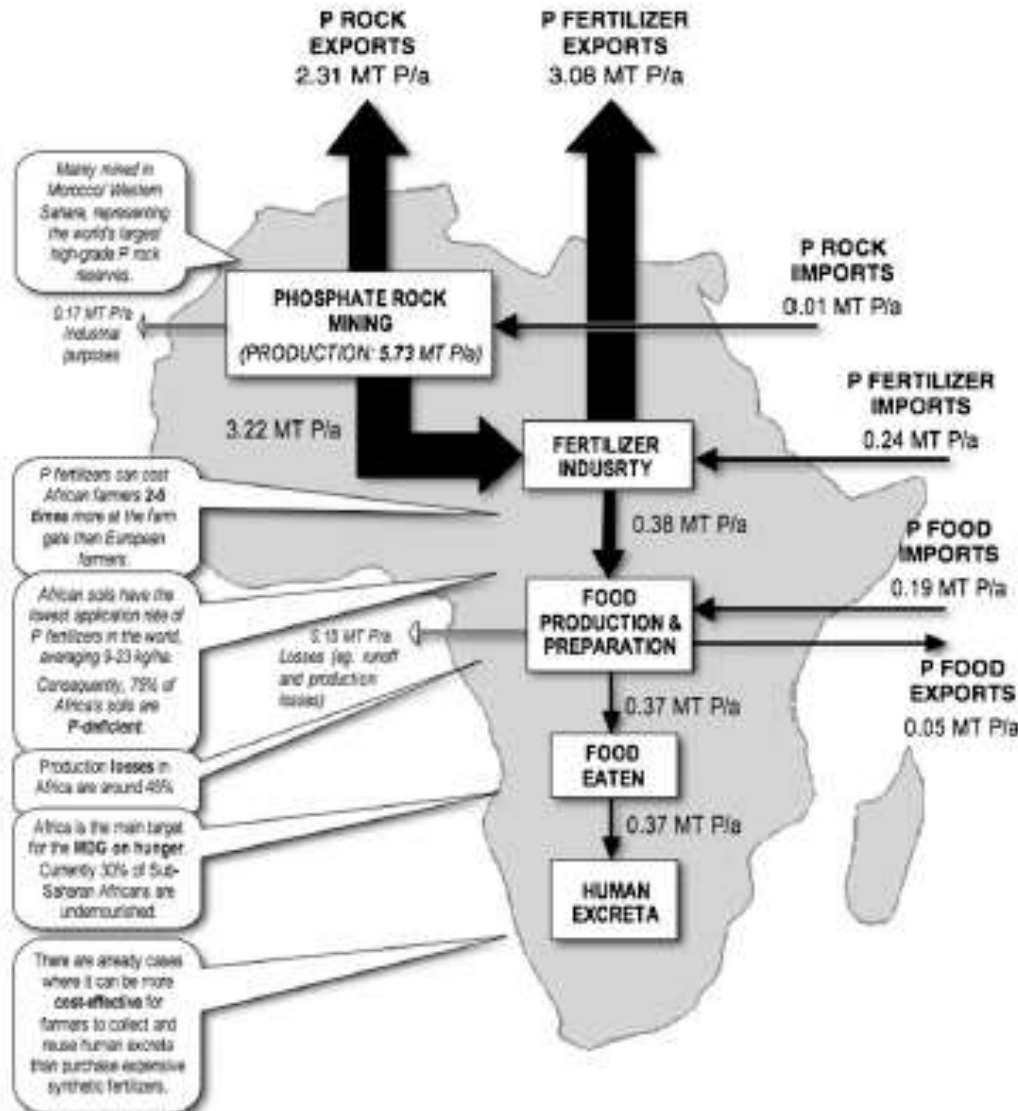
# Regional Disparities

## use of phosphate fertiliser



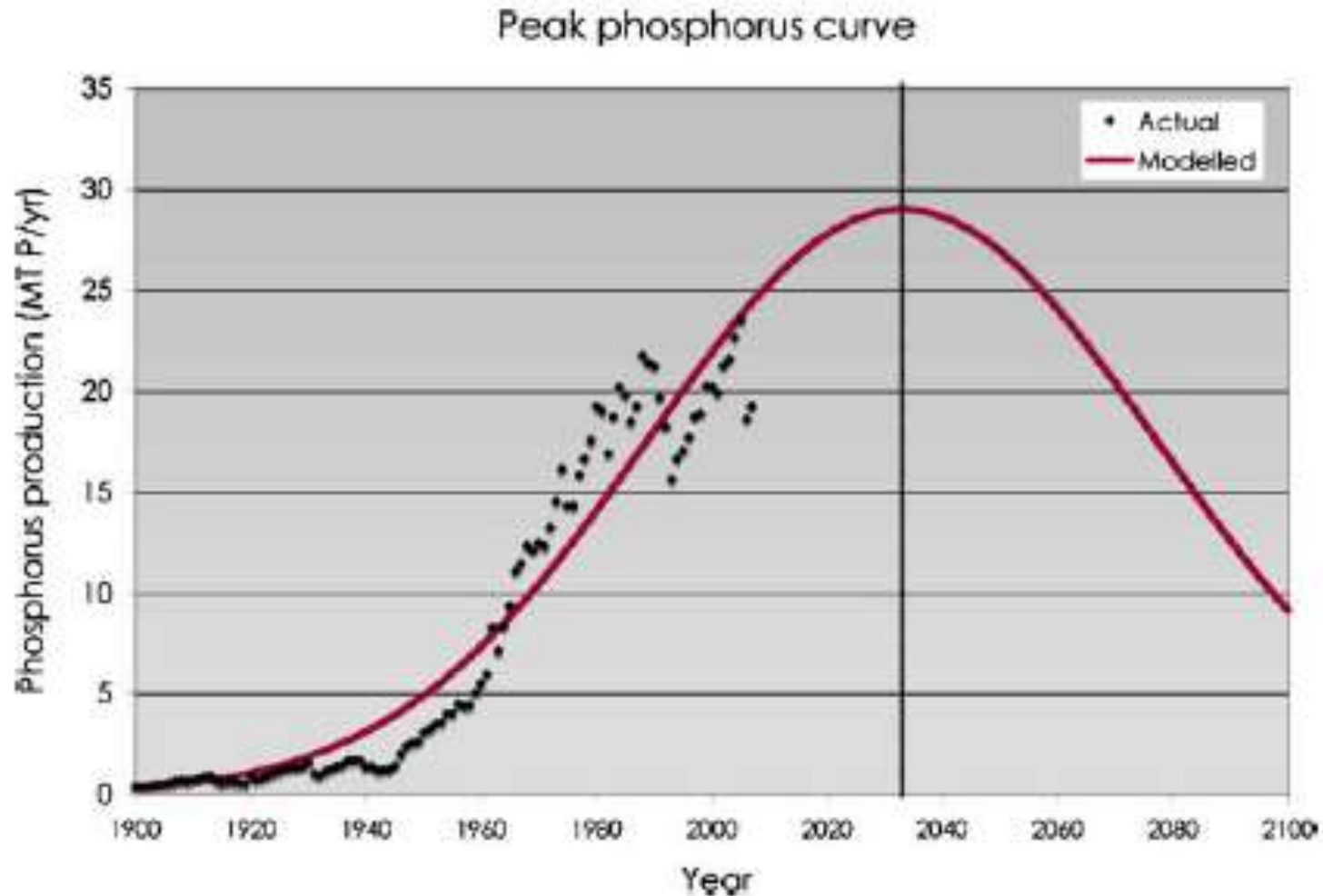
# Phosphorous flow in Africa

*D. Cordell et al. / Global Environmental Change 19 (2009) 292–305*





# Peak Phosphorous?



# Nutrient content of excreta

Table 1. Proposed new Swedish default values for excreted mass and nutrients (Vinnerås, 2002)

| Parameter  | Unit            | Urine | Faeces | Toilet paper | Blackwater (urine+faeces) |
|------------|-----------------|-------|--------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Wet mass   | kg/person,year  | 550   | 51     | 8.9          | 610                       |
| Dry mass   | kg/ person,year | 21    | 11     | 8.5          | 40.5                      |
| Nitrogen   | g/ person,year  | 4000  | 550    |              | 4550                      |
| Phosphorus | g/ person,year  | 365   | 183    |              | 548                       |

Table 3. Estimated excretion of nutrients per capita in different countries (Jönsson & Vinnerås, 2004)

| Country             |        | Nitrogen<br>kg/cap, yr | Phosphorus<br>kg/cap, yr | Potassium<br>kg/cap, yr |
|---------------------|--------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| China, total        |        | 4.0                    | 0.6                      | 1.8                     |
|                     | Urine  | 3.5                    | 0.4                      | 1.3                     |
|                     | Faeces | 0.5                    | 0.2                      | 0.5                     |
| Haiti, total        |        | 2.1                    | 0.3                      | 1.2                     |
|                     | Urine  | 1.9                    | 0.2                      | 0.9                     |
|                     | Faeces | 0.3                    | 0.1                      | 0.3                     |
| India, total        |        | 2.7                    | 0.4                      | 1.5                     |
|                     | Urine  | 2.3                    | 0.3                      | 1.1                     |
|                     | Faeces | 0.3                    | 0.1                      | 0.4                     |
| South Africa, total |        | 3.4                    | 0.5                      | 1.6                     |
|                     | Urine  | 3.0                    | 0.3                      | 1.2                     |
|                     | Faeces | 0.4                    | 0.2                      | 0.4                     |
| Uganda, total       |        | 2.5                    | 0.4                      | 1.4                     |
|                     | Urine  | 2.2                    | 0.3                      | 1.0                     |
|                     | Faeces | 0.3                    | 0.1                      | 0.4                     |

Jönsson, H, Richert Stintzing, A, Vinnerås, B, and Salomon, E (2004) Guidelines on the Use of Urine and Faeces in Crop Production, Stockholm Environment Institute, [www.ecosanres.org](http://www.ecosanres.org)

# Sanitation and Phosphorous

- phosphorous recovery
  - urine diversion toilets
  - urine diverting VIP toilets
  - urine diverting flush toilets
  - direct reuse of wastewater
- phosphorous reuse
  - direct application
  - recover struvite
  - complete evaporation



**Plate 1. Cartref (Cf), Inanda (Ia) and Sepane (Se) with no added fertilizer at 6 weeks after planting.**

**W – water; E – effluent**

*can we afford to waste  
this resource?*

# Acknowledgements

- Water Research Commission
- eThekweni Water and Sanitation