



Suffizienz – neue Unternehmensstrategie für nachhaltigen Konsum?

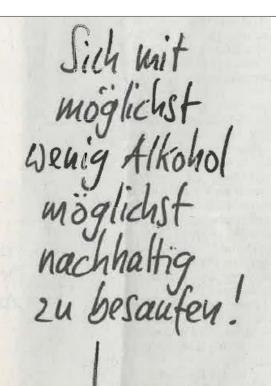
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Chair of Management and Sustainability www.wiso.uni-hamburg.de/sustainability





Was heißt Suffizienz?



Merriam-Webster dictionary :

- sufficient means to meet one's needs
- a modest but adequate scale of living

Sufficiency promotes ideas towards *less*, *slower*, and *local*

Sources: Der Tagesspiegel, 24. Mai 2015 ; http://www.merriam-webster.com; Linz (2014): Suffizienz – unentbehrlich für Nachhaltigkeit





Technology is seen as the answer

Kondratieff's economic waves

Soviet economist Nikolai D. Kondratieff proposes idea of economic waves. The world has seen 5 thus far:

- 1. Steam engine / cotton (~1800)
- 2. Railway / steel (~1850)
- 3. Electrical engineering / chemistry (~1900)
- 4. Petrochemicals / automobiles (~1950)
- 5. Information Technology (~1990)

Jeffrey Sachs

- Sixth wave is needed!
- Intense focus on & investment in intelligent large-scale green technologies
- We have the know-how, technology, & the urgent need to do it so let's do it.



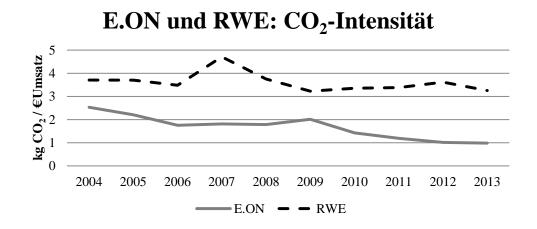
1892-1938





Efficiency

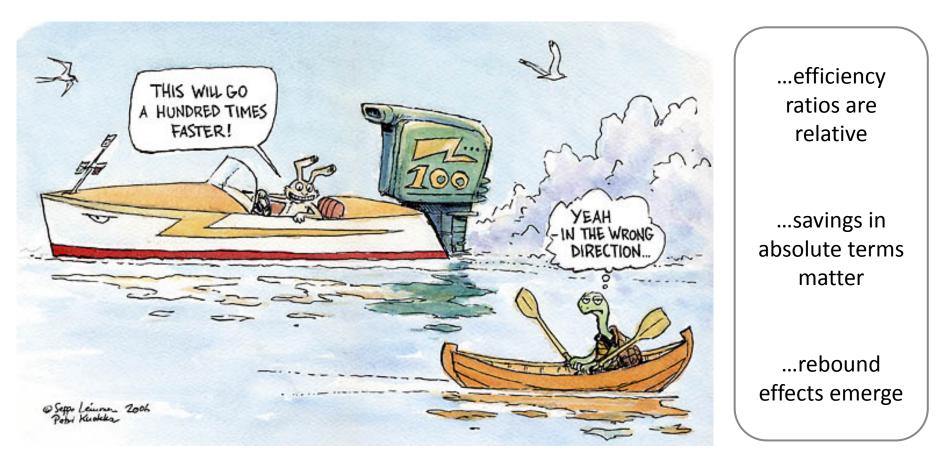
The basic idea of eco-efficiency: creating more value with less impact on the environment







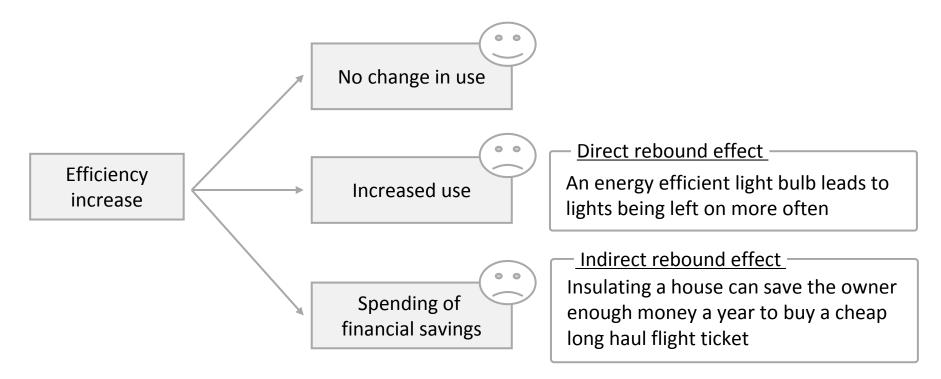
However...





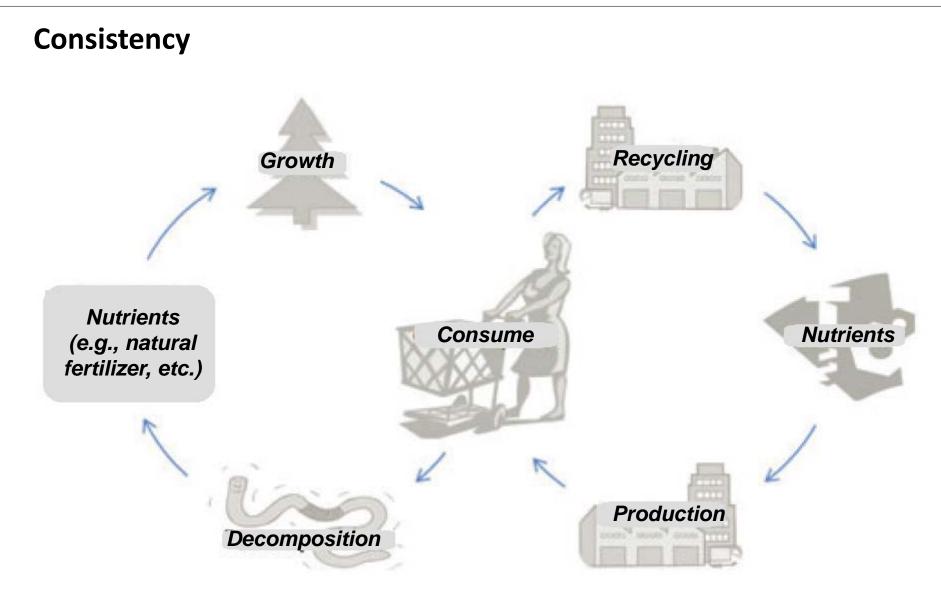


Efficiency enhancements can be reduced by rebound effects













Example: Rendem Furniture



Cradle to Cradle Certified Product Scorecard

MATERIAL HEALTH	Gold
MATERIAL REUTILIZATION	Gold
RENEWABLE ENERGY & CARBON MANAGEMENT	Gold
WATER STEWARDSHIP	Gold
SOCIAL FAIRNESS	Gold
OVERALL CERTIFICATION LEVEL	Gold

- Dutch furniture company
- "Optimal sustainability" is the driving force
- No forest is felled: All materials are agrowaste from rubber and coconut plantations
- No use of fossil fuels
- Production with geothermal energy
 - Free from harmful substances





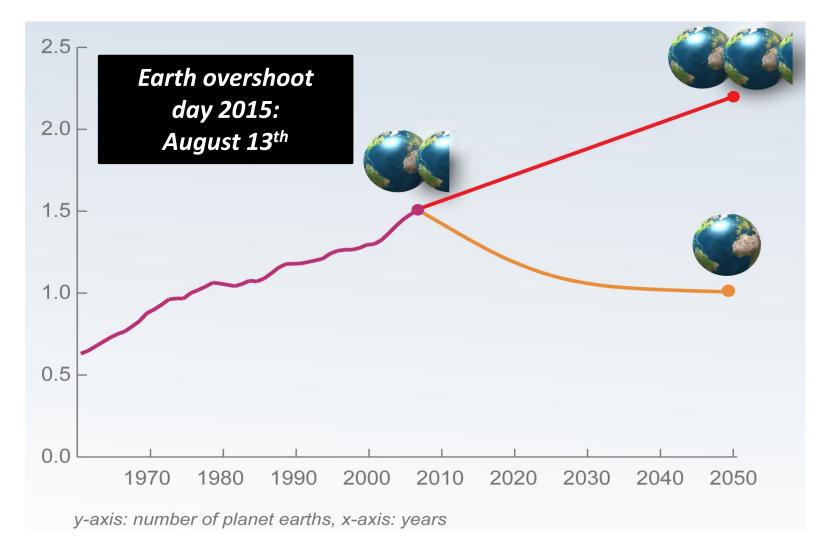
However...







Efficiency and consistency are not enough







Sufficiency

Implications for clients

- Reducing the usage of resources (≈8 tons)
- It is not about denial, not about sacrifice, or doing without
- It is about being satisfied with the adequate

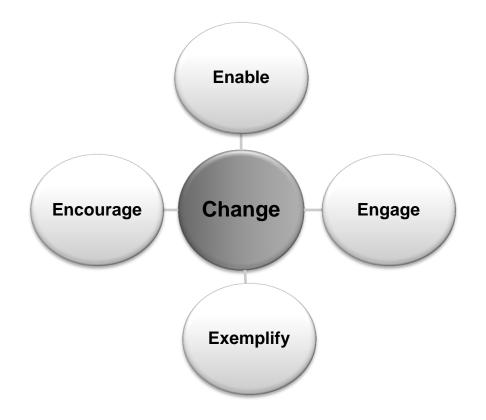
- Implications for businesses

- Increasing the quality delivered: less is more; slow movement
- Rethinking the value created: real needs; service delivered
- Redefining the business model: local value creation; sharing economy





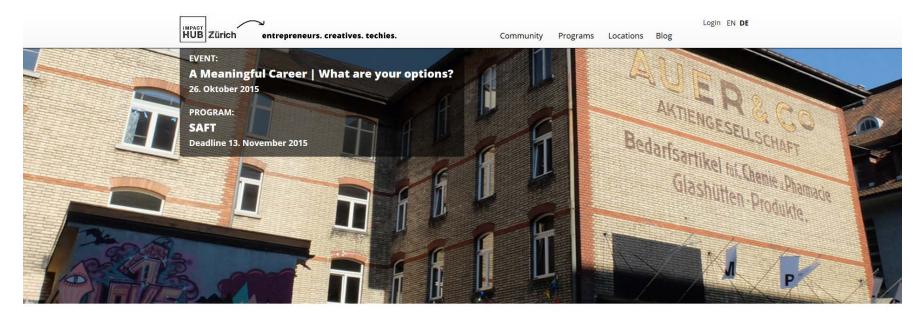
Sufficiency in business practice







Enable (I/II): Sustainability business hubs



Wir bauen die Zukunft der Wirtschaft





Entwicklung







Enable (II/II): Unverpackt





- Opened in February 2014 in Kiel
- Amount of food according to actual needs
- no plastic packaging ("bring your own boxes")
- Seasonal & local products
- Overseas products like tea or coffee are fair trade
- More than 400 products (articles in normal supermarket: ~10.540)





Encourage (I/II): Patagonia

DON'T BUY THIS JACKET



COMMON THREADS INITIATIVE Together we can reduce our environmental footprint.

TAKE THE PLEDGE

"One of the most responsible things we can do as a company is to make high-quality stuff that lasts for years and can be repaired, so you don't have to buy more of it."

Common Threads Initiative:

- REDUCE: WE make useful gear that lasts a long time YOU don't buy what you don't need
- **REPAIR**: WE help you repair your Patagonia gear YOU pledge to fix what's broken
- **REUSE**: WE help find a home for Patagonia gear you no longer need YOU sell or pass it on
- **RECYCLE**: WE will take back your Patagonia gear that is worn out YOU pledge to keep your stuff out of the landfill and incinerator
- REIMAGINE: TOGETHER we reimagine a world where we take only what nature can replace





Encourage (II/II): Car-Sharing – Car2Go



CAR2GO - Immer und überall einsteigen und losfahren. Mehr erfahren Sie unter 0180/990099 oder www.CAR2GO.com



- First introduced in Ulm in 2008
- Subsidiary of Daimler AG now operating in European and North American cities
- > 1,000,000 members (2015)
- Cars accessible 24/7 through car2go app



MANAGEMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

Exemplify (I/II): Interface

Interface^{*}

Redesign Commerce

Sensitizing

Stakeholders

The Seven Fronts of Mount Sustainability

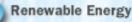
To our founder and Chairman Ray Anderson, the journey to a fully sustainable Interface would be like summiting "a mountain higher than Everest" – difficult, yes, but with a careful and attentive plan, not impossible. As we created a framework for our climb, we identified Seven Fronts[™] on Mount Sustainability through which we'd ascend.

For many companies, the most difficult step on the climb is first admitting that the mountain exists and then, that it can be traversed. At Interface, we see the mountain. We know the Seven Fronts through which we will pass. And we are climbing toward the summit of Mount Sustainability.

Select a "Front" pin for detailed information.







Benign Emissions







Exemplify (II/II): Das Caféhaus





- Pastry shop & café, Rahlstedt, Hamburg
- Originally chain store with up to 17 shops (rentals), then...
- Return to core business in on-site café
- Own roasting facilities (organic coffee)
- Own generation of electricity from own wind turbine

www.wiso.uni-hamburg.de





Engage

Educate for sustainability



http://childhood101.com



http://storyofstuff.org



Annie Leonard





Sufficiency – a new business strategy...?

...yes

but we need you!!







Planned obsolescence – how old is your smartphone?





Phonebloks: Modularity allows repairing / upgrading

















3 Strategies towards Environmental Integrity

