

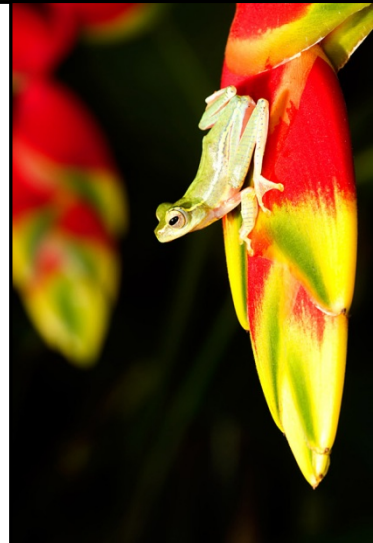


Sustainability

People and Environment in the
Anthropocene



NELSON
INSTITUTE FOR
Environmental Studies



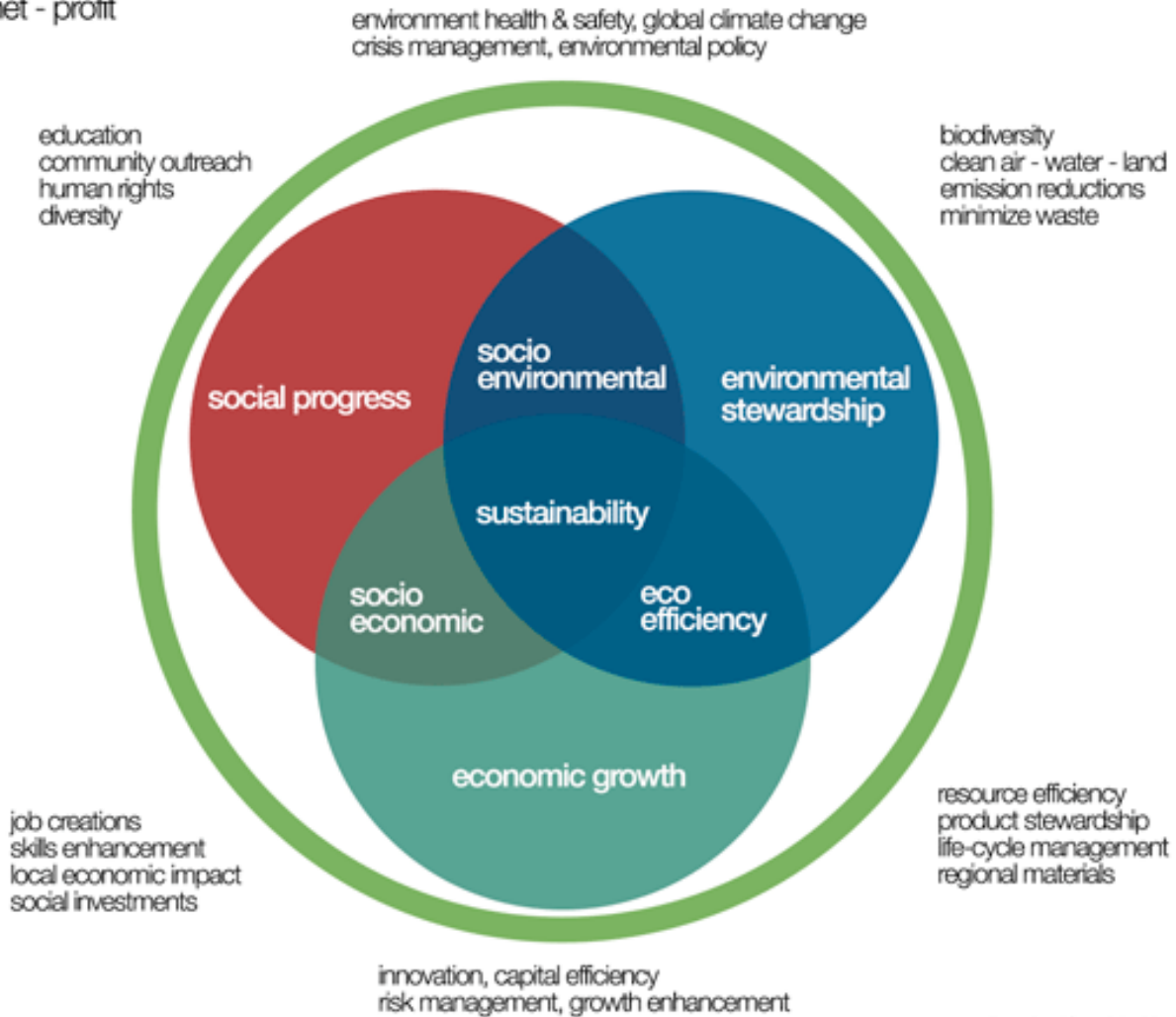


Sustainability Science

- The cultivation, ***integration***, and application of knowledge about Earth systems gained especially from the holistic and historical sciences (such as geology, ecology, climatology, oceanography) coordinated with knowledge about human interrelationships gained from the social sciences and humanities, in order to evaluate, ***mitigate***, and minimize the consequences, regionally and worldwide, of human impacts on planetary systems and on societies across the globe and into the ***future*** – that is, in order that humans can be knowledgeable Earth stewards
 - Kieffer, S.W., Barton, P., Palmer, A.R., Reitan, P.H., & Zen, E. 2003. “Megascale events: Natural disasters and human behavior.” Geol. Soc. America Abstracts: 432.

the triple bottom line

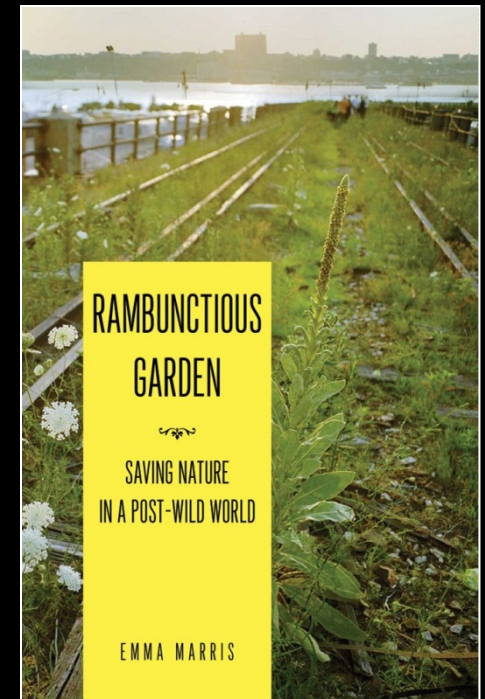
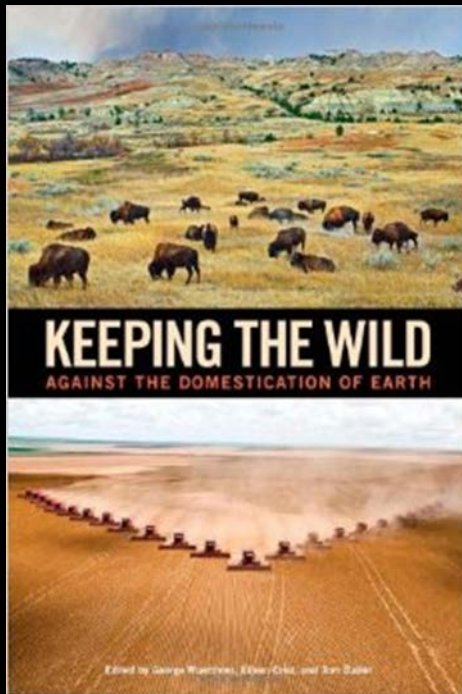
people - planet - profit



Anthropocene

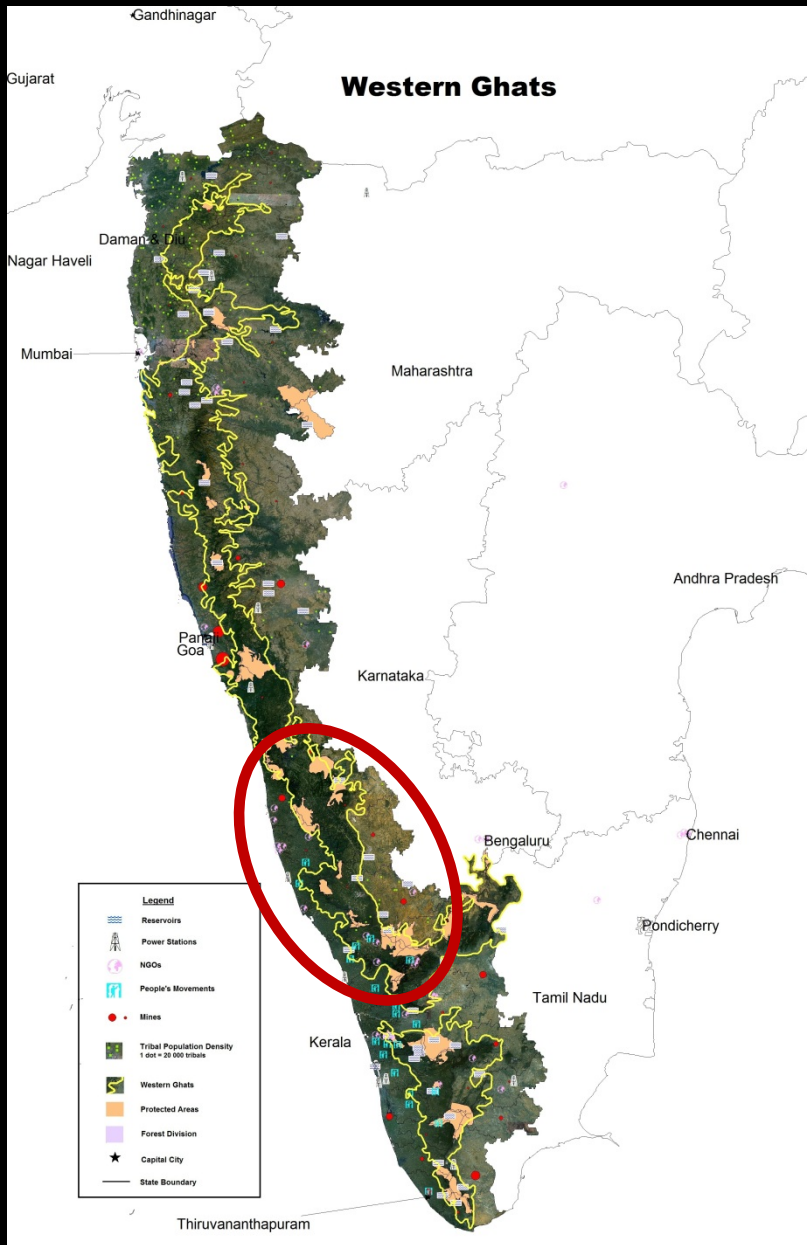
Earth systems dominated by anthropogenic forces

Climate change
Ecological Novelty
Altered geomorphology
Altered biogeochemistry



“Producing wildlife: Biodiversity conservation in dynamic commodity landscapes”

- National Science Foundation (#7153185): Dr. Krithi Karanth (Centre for Wildlife Studies, India)
- Collaborative research investigation with University of Illinois project (NSF #1153944), Ashwini Chhatre





- Natural vegetation
 - evergreen, moist-deciduous and dry deciduous forests, and montane grasslands
- Faunal diversity
 - includes 30% of all Indian plant and vertebrate species.
- Land Uses
 - Compared to formal conservation areas (<12% of the landscape) and
 - traditional conservation systems such as sacred groves (<1%)
 - agro-forestry areas cover a much larger proportion of the landscape



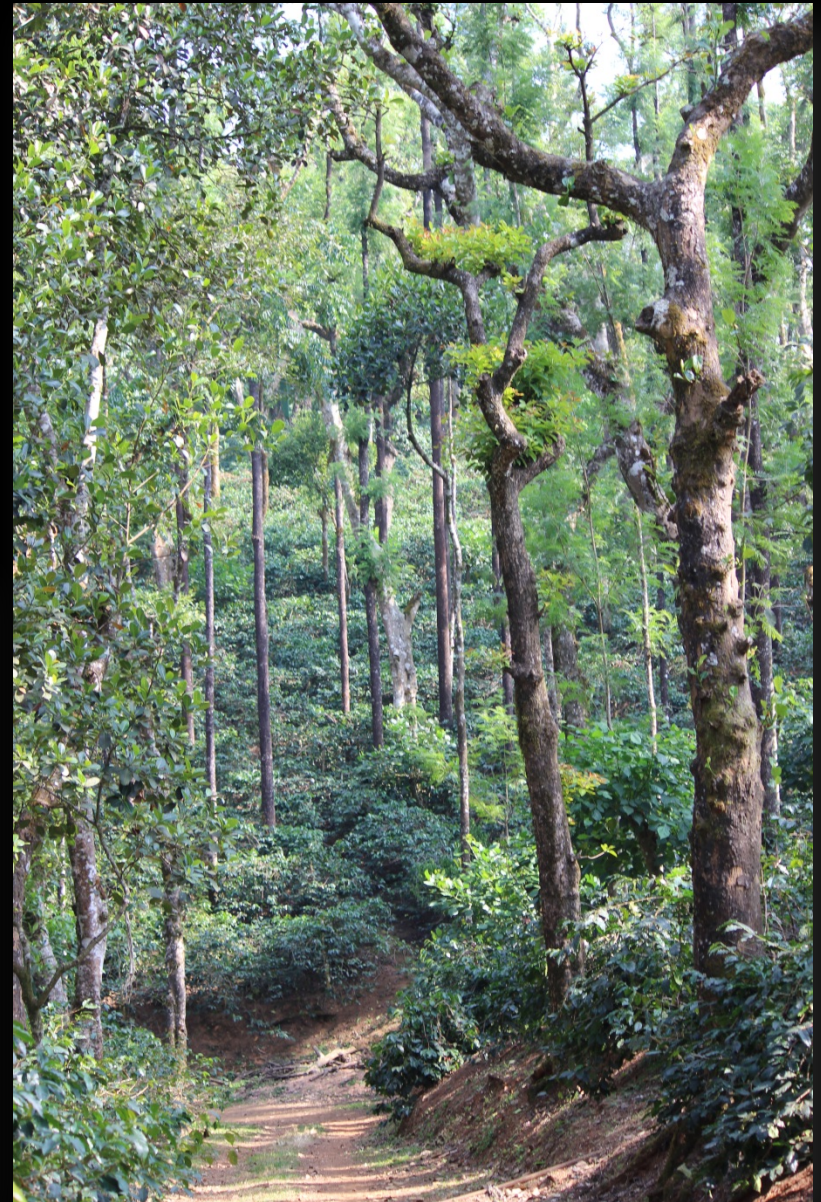
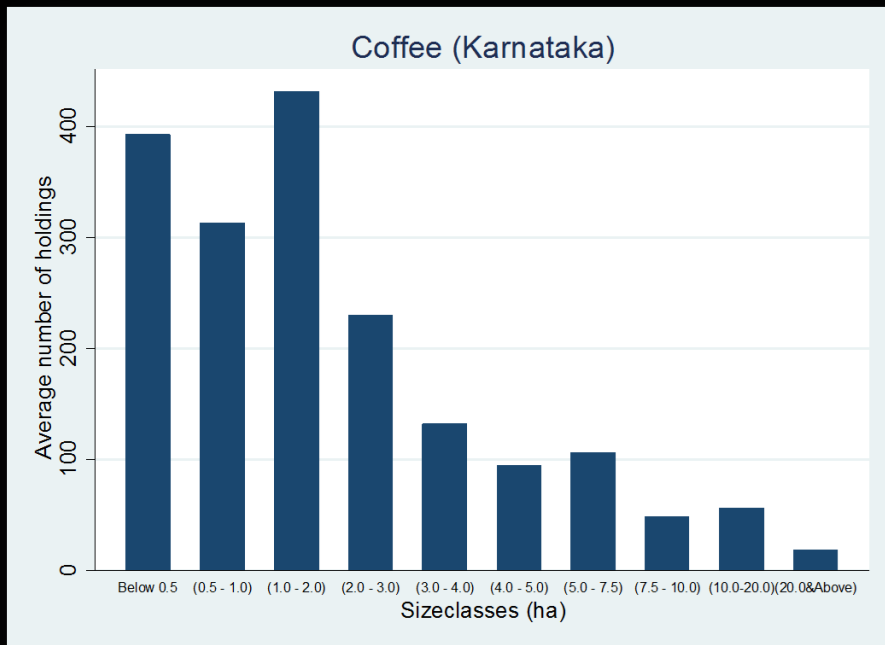


Key Commodities / Land Uses

- coffee (3,200 sq.km.)
- rubber (5,000 sq.km.)
- areca (2,700 sq.km.)

range of holding sizes

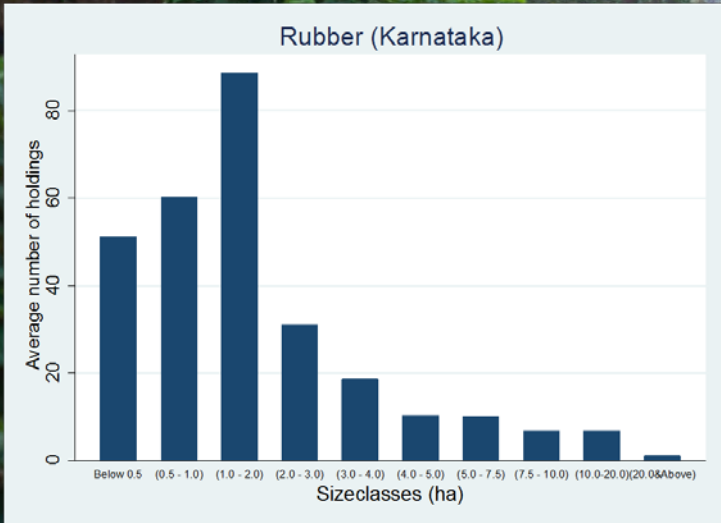
from large highly-capitalized plantations (> 100ha) to smallholder systems (<5ha)





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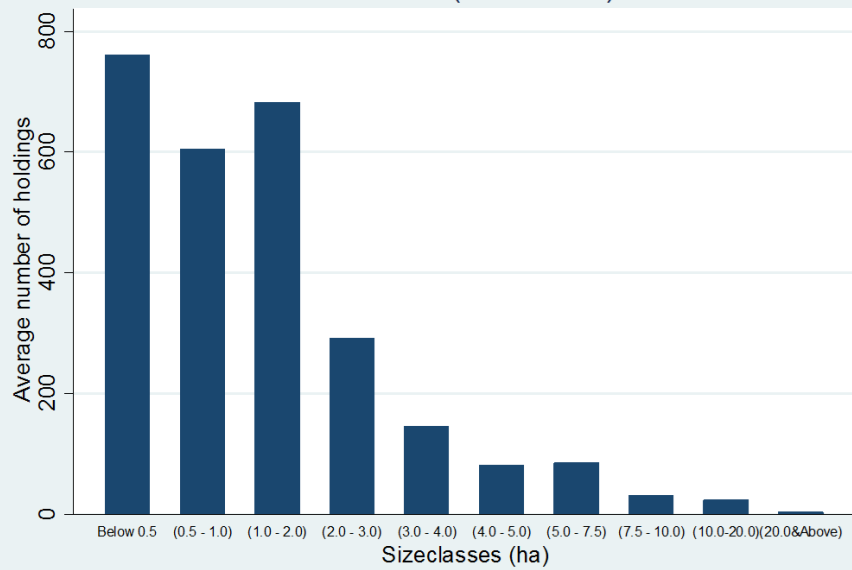


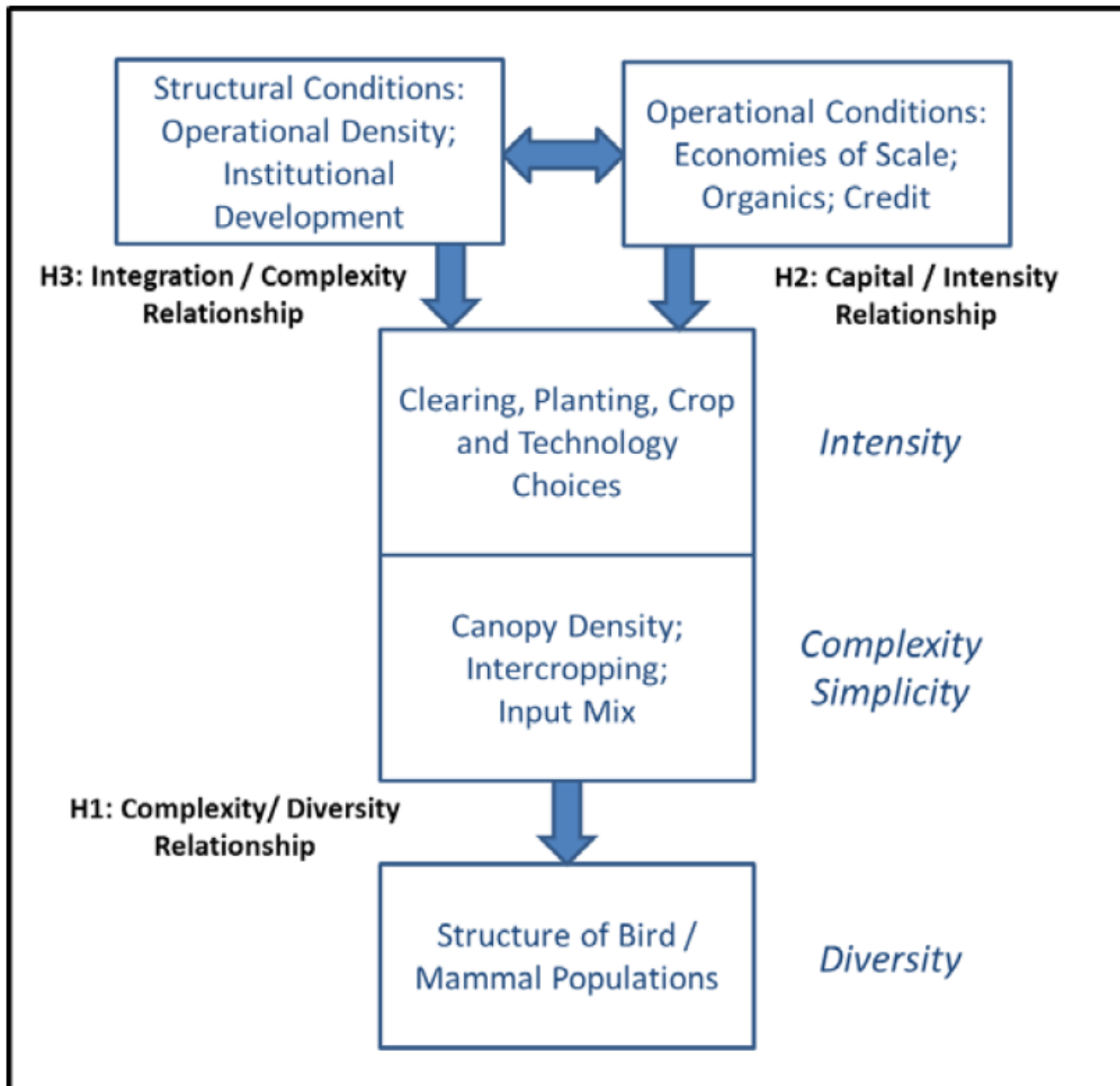
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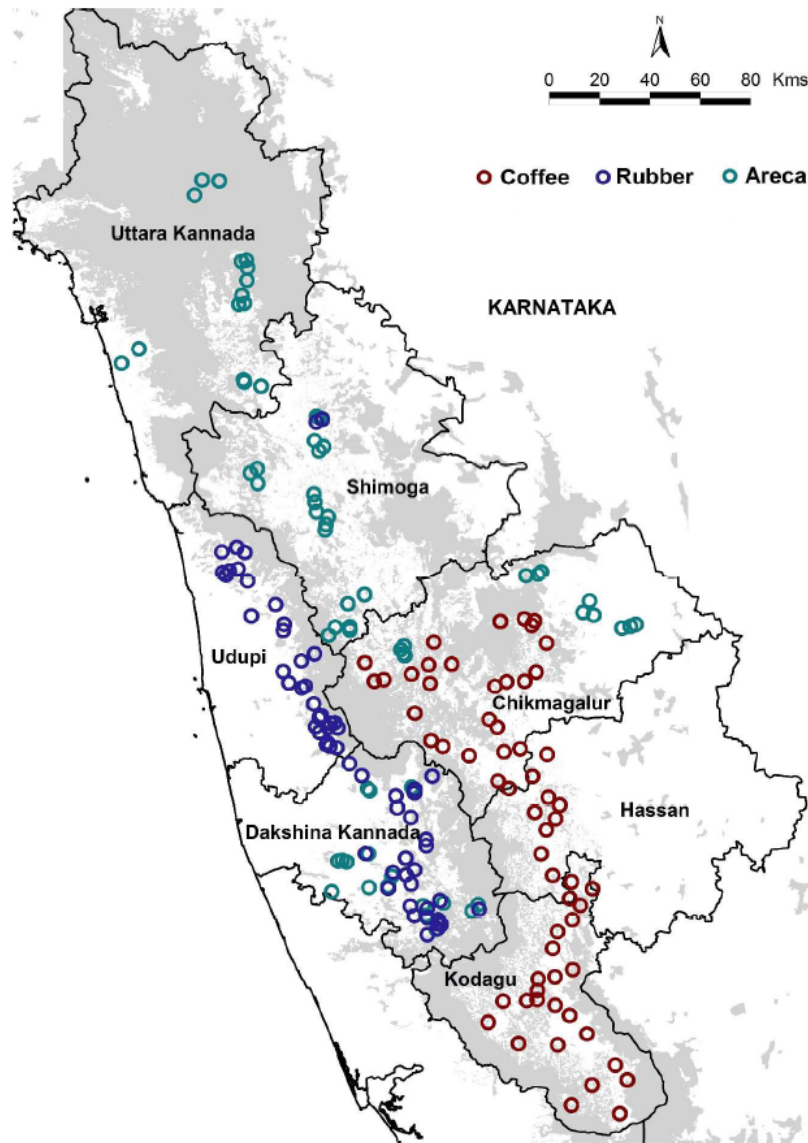


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Arecanut (Karnataka)

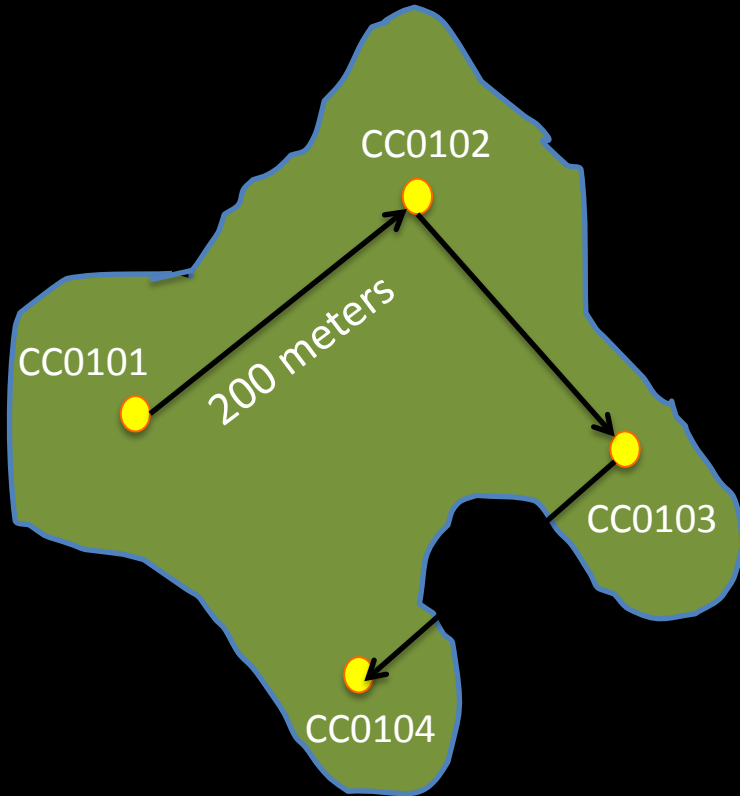






Locations of all sampled areca, coffee and rubber agro-plantations in India's Western Ghats
994x1386mm (120 x 120 DPI)

Bird Point Count Sampling



- Each point re-sampled 6 times
- Sampling time per point is 7 minutes



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6 INTERNS

11 VOLUNTEERS



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©Prasenjit Yadav



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Malabar Trogon



©Ramki S

Red Spurfowl



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White-bellied Woodpecker



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Greater Racket-tailed Drongo



©Ramki S

Orange-headed Thrush



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Banded Bay Cuckoo



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Malabar Woodshrike



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Malabar Barbet



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Grey-headed Bulbul



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Malabar Parakeet



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Flame-throated Bulbul



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Hill Myna



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Brown-breasted Flycatcher



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Asian Paradise Flycatcher



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Tickell's Leaf Wabler



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Kashmir Flycatcher



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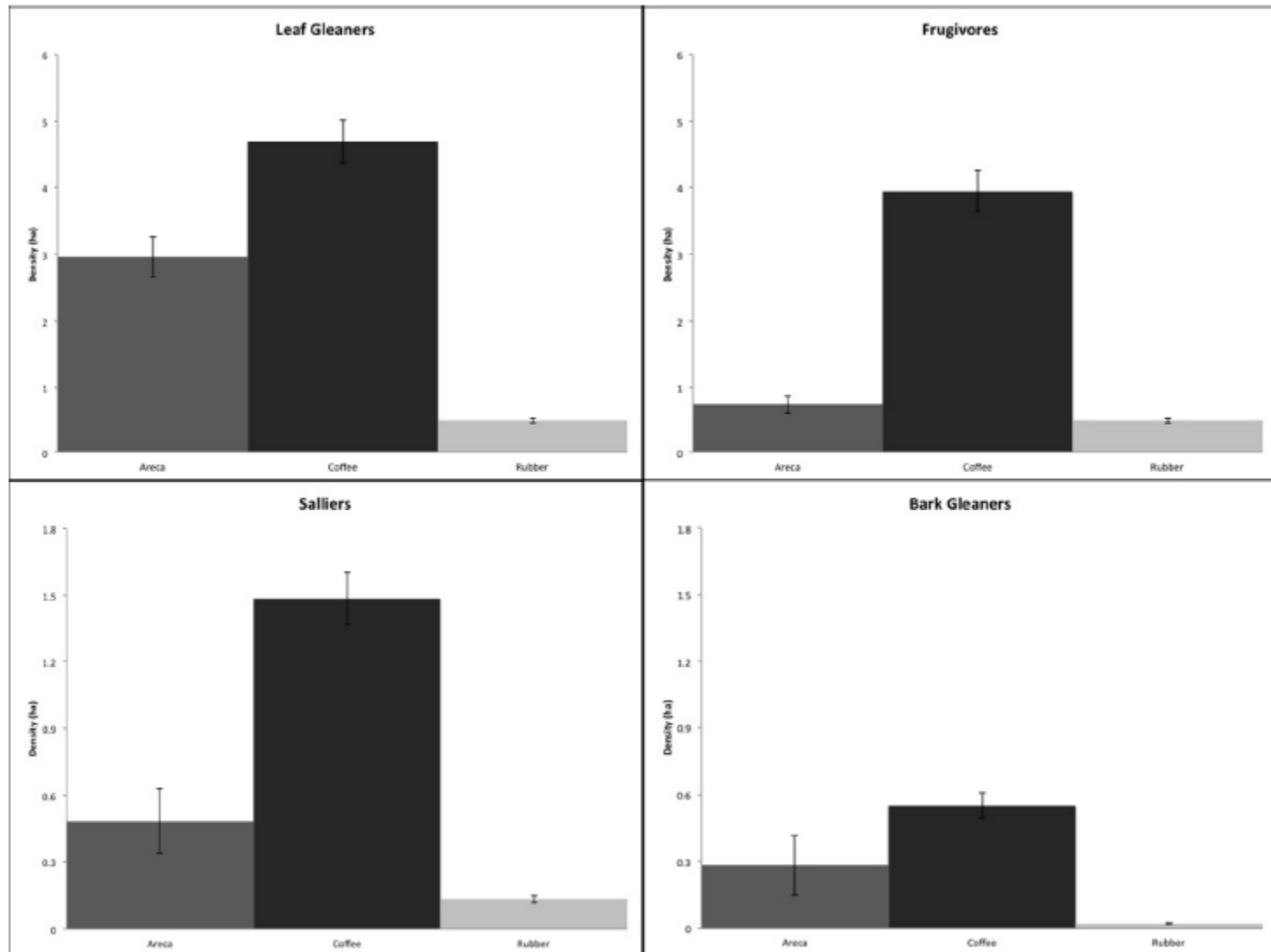
Blue-tailed Bee-eater



©Ramki S

Table 1: Bird species and species richness across the three agro-plantations

	Areca	Coffee	Rubber
Total number of species	122	127	169
Total number of Migrant species	105	106	137
Species Richness (SE)	34.06 (1.76)	58.21 (1.85)	45.41 (2.1)



Bird density (per hectare) across the three agro-plantations for four feeding guilds: Leaf Gleaners, Frugivores, Salliers, Bark Gleaners
407x305mm (72 x 72 DPI)

Amphibian Sampling



- Method 1
5m*5m quadrat
across all available
micro-habitats
- Method 2
Time bound Visual
encounter survey



Rhacophorus malabaricus.

Photo by: Shashank Dalvi/Krithi Karanth/CWS.

The gliding abilities of *Rhacophorus malabaricus* aided by long skin between their fingers allow these frogs to cover distances of 10 feet in one leap.

Polypedates maculatus.
Photo by: Shashank
Dalvi/Krithi Karanth/CWS.

Polypedates maculatus can
adopt lighter skin colors
and secrete mucus to
regulate moisture loss.



Rarchestes luteolus.
Photo by: Shashank Dalvi/Krithi
Karanth/CWS.

The blue-eyed bush frog



Nyctibatrachus minimus.

Photo by: Shashank Dalvi/Krithi Karanth/CWS.

Nyctibatrachus minimus is the smallest known frog in India.



Rhacophorus lateralis.

Photo by: Shashank Dalvi/Krithi Karanth/CWS.

Rhacophorus lateralis was rediscovered in 2000 and is thought to be extremely localized. We observed more than 200 individuals of this species in a pond.



Nyctibatrachus dattatreyaensis.

Photo by: Shashank Dalvi/Krithi Karanth/CWS

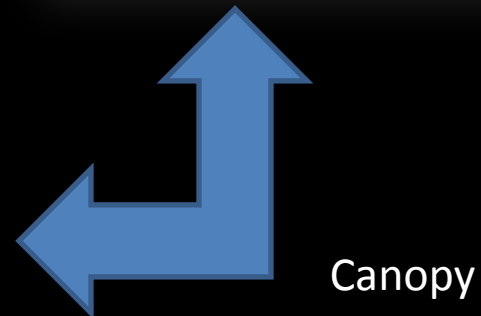
New to science 2008

Critically Endangered



19.5% of the coffee planters reported an increase in canopy cover over the last 10 years

5% reported a decrease



Species Diversity

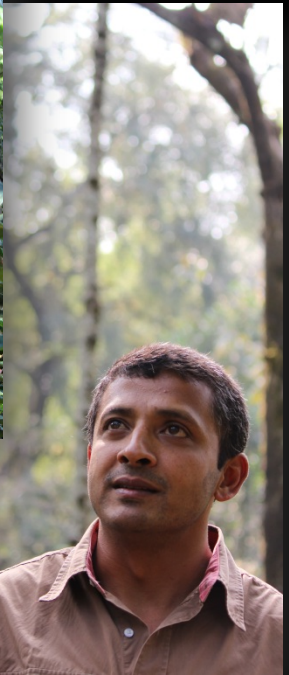


Mean 7 tree species on coffee plantations (reported)

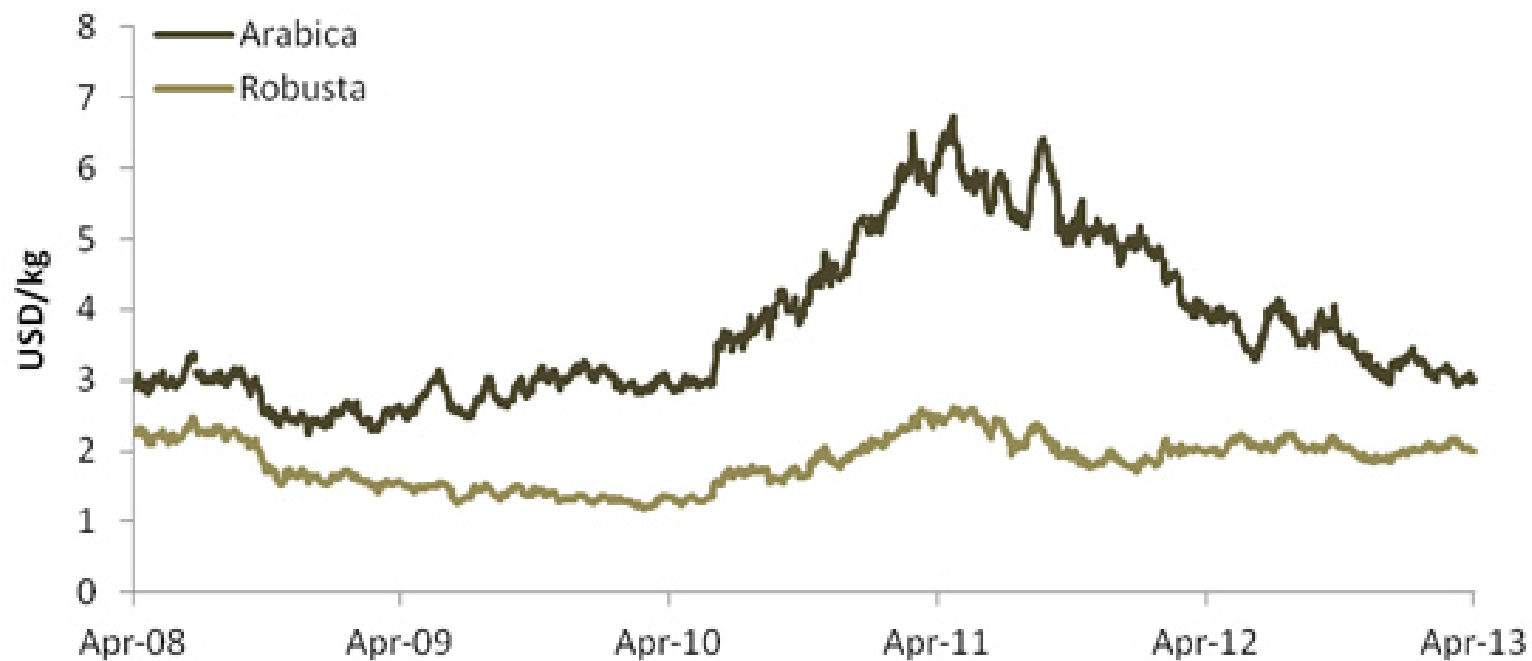
One Arabica planter identified the maximum of 31 tree species.



Ground Cover and Intercropping



Narrowing spread between Arabica and Robusta Coffee



Source: Bloomberg Data - ICE, NYSE Liffe



Coffee:

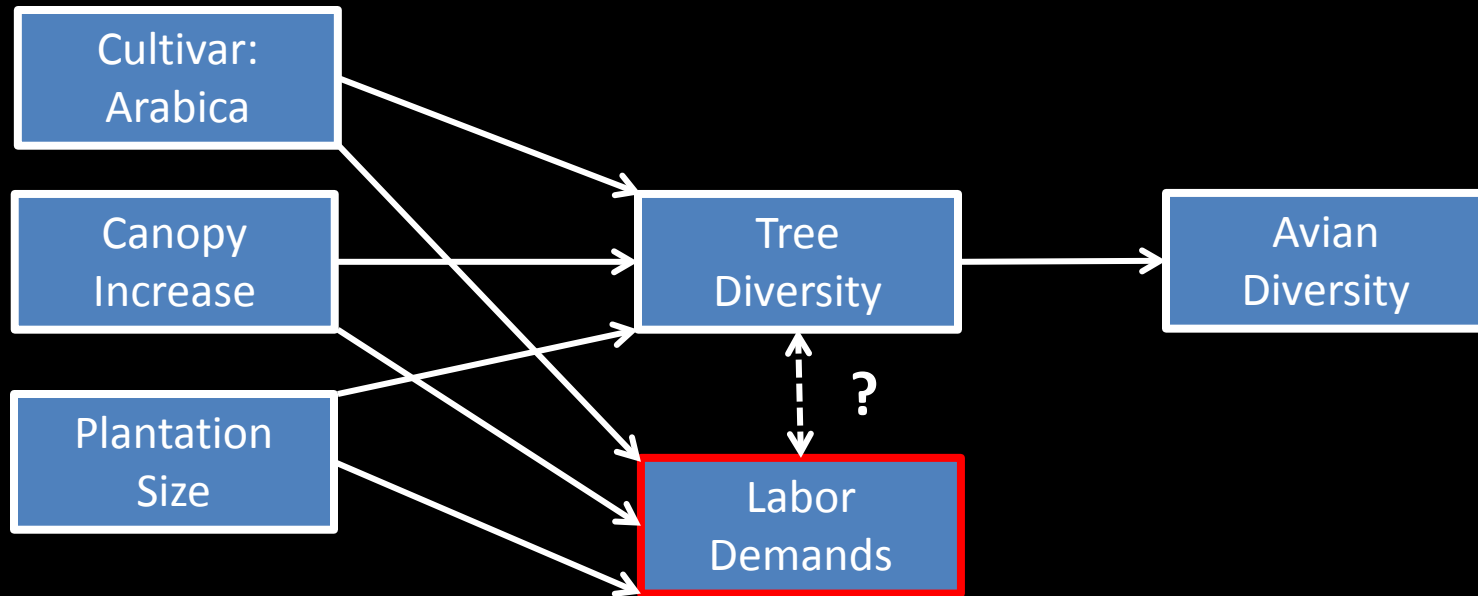
Seasonal labor 93.7%

Permanent labor: 63.3%

Initial Findings in Coffee

- Significant relationships
 - avian diversity \leftrightarrow tree species diversity
 - tree diversity \leftrightarrow reported increase in canopy
 - tree diversity \leftrightarrow plantation size
 - tree diversity \leftrightarrow Arabica
 - tree diversity \leftrightarrow permanent and seasonal labor

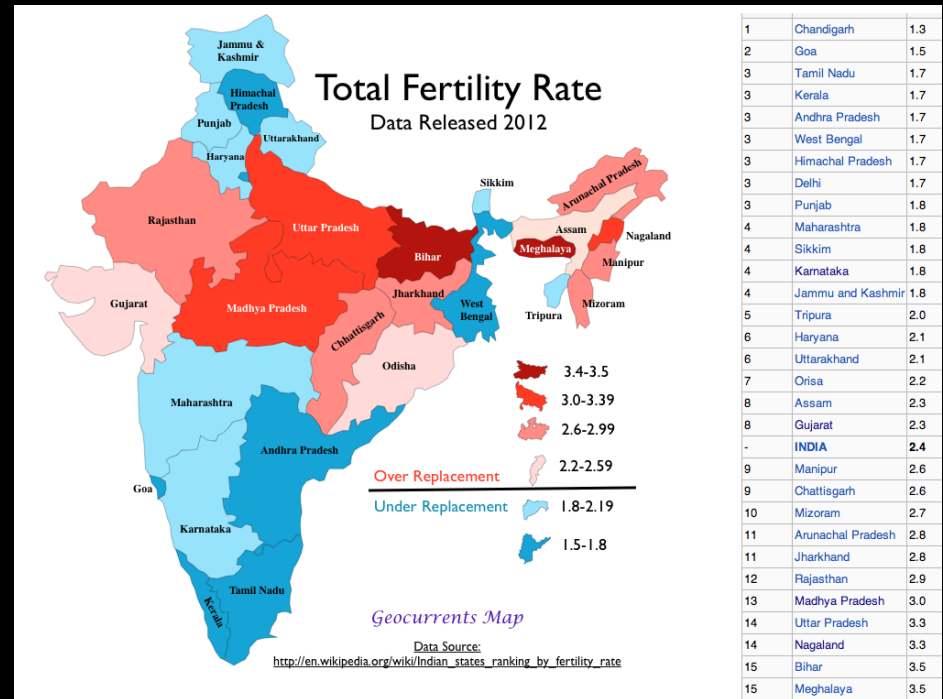
Labor in the Ecological Chain of Explanation





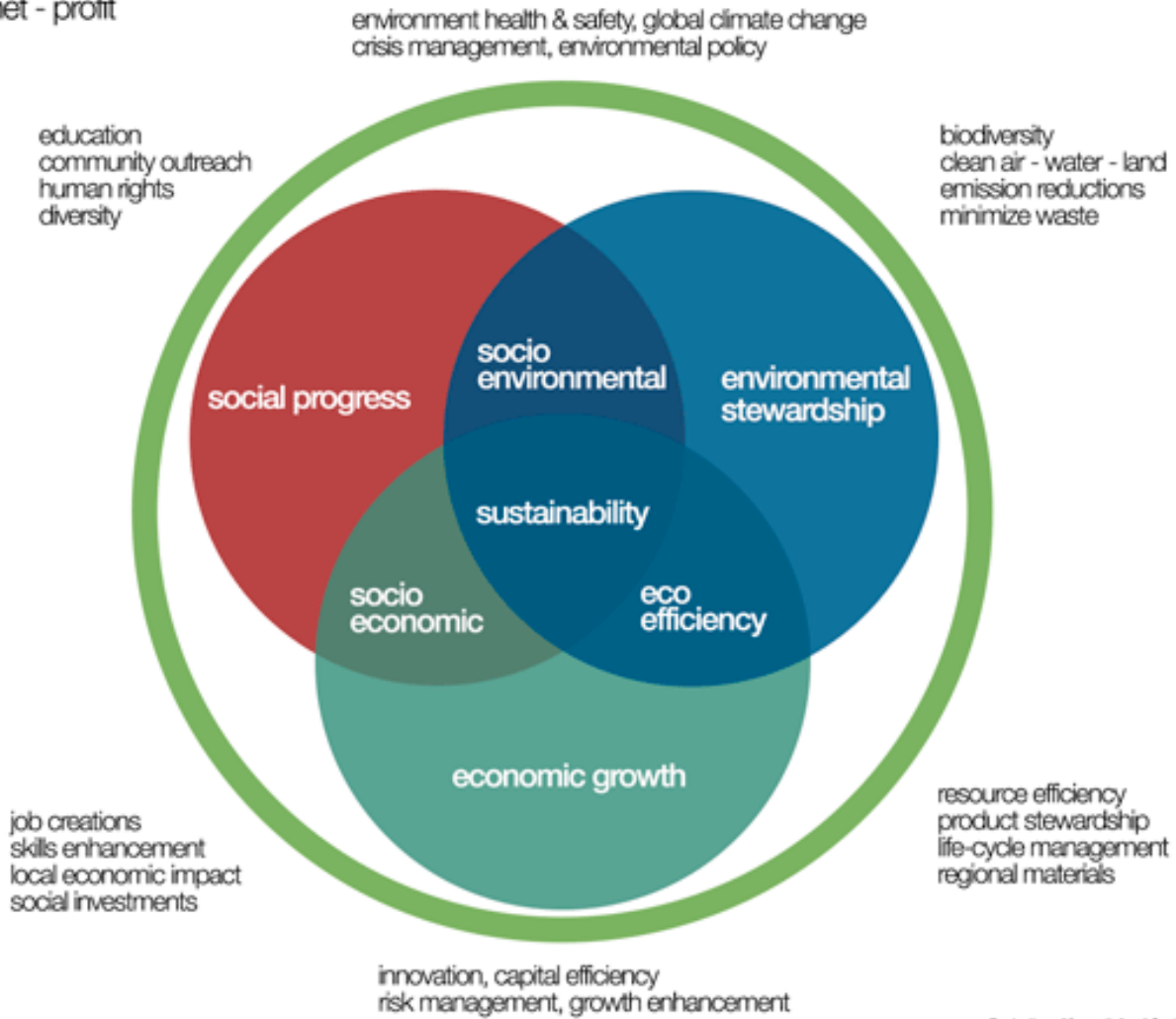
Some Key Indicators

- Karnataka fertility rate: 1.79
- Between 2005-06 and 2010-11, average growth rate of Karnataka GSDP: 8.6 %
- Karnataka is now among the more urbanized States in India
 - 38 per cent of its population living in urban areas (Census of India 2011)
 - 33.99 per cent in 2001



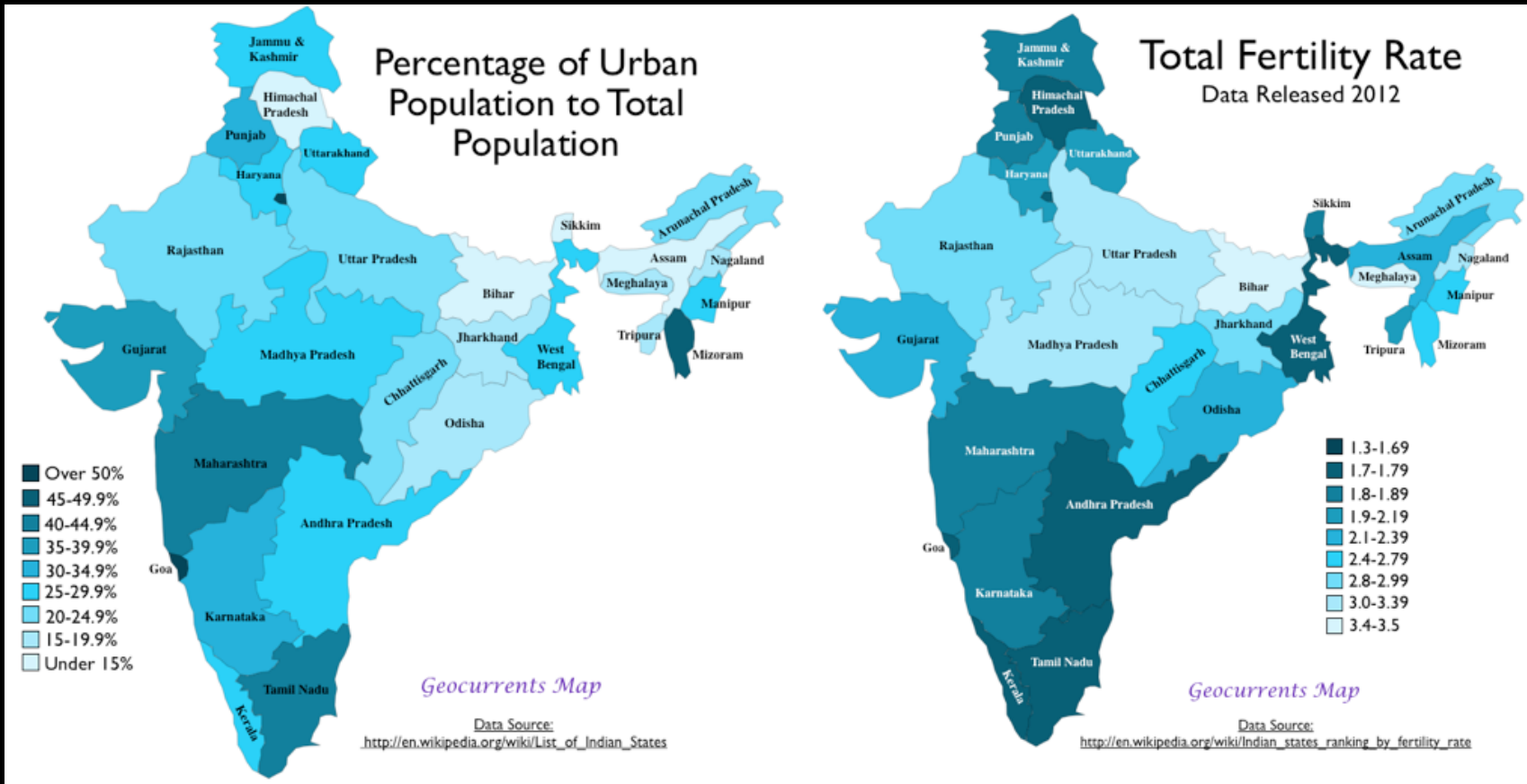
the triple bottom line

people - planet - profit



- 2015 (Under Review) Karanth, Robbins et al. “Birds in our farmyards: Richness and diversity in Agro-plantations of India’s Western Ghats” *Conservation Biology*.
- 2015. Robbins, Chhatre, and Karanth. “Political Ecology of Commodity Agroforests and Tropical Biodiversity” *Conservation Letters*. 8(2): 77–85

The Great Transition



Via Martin Lewis