



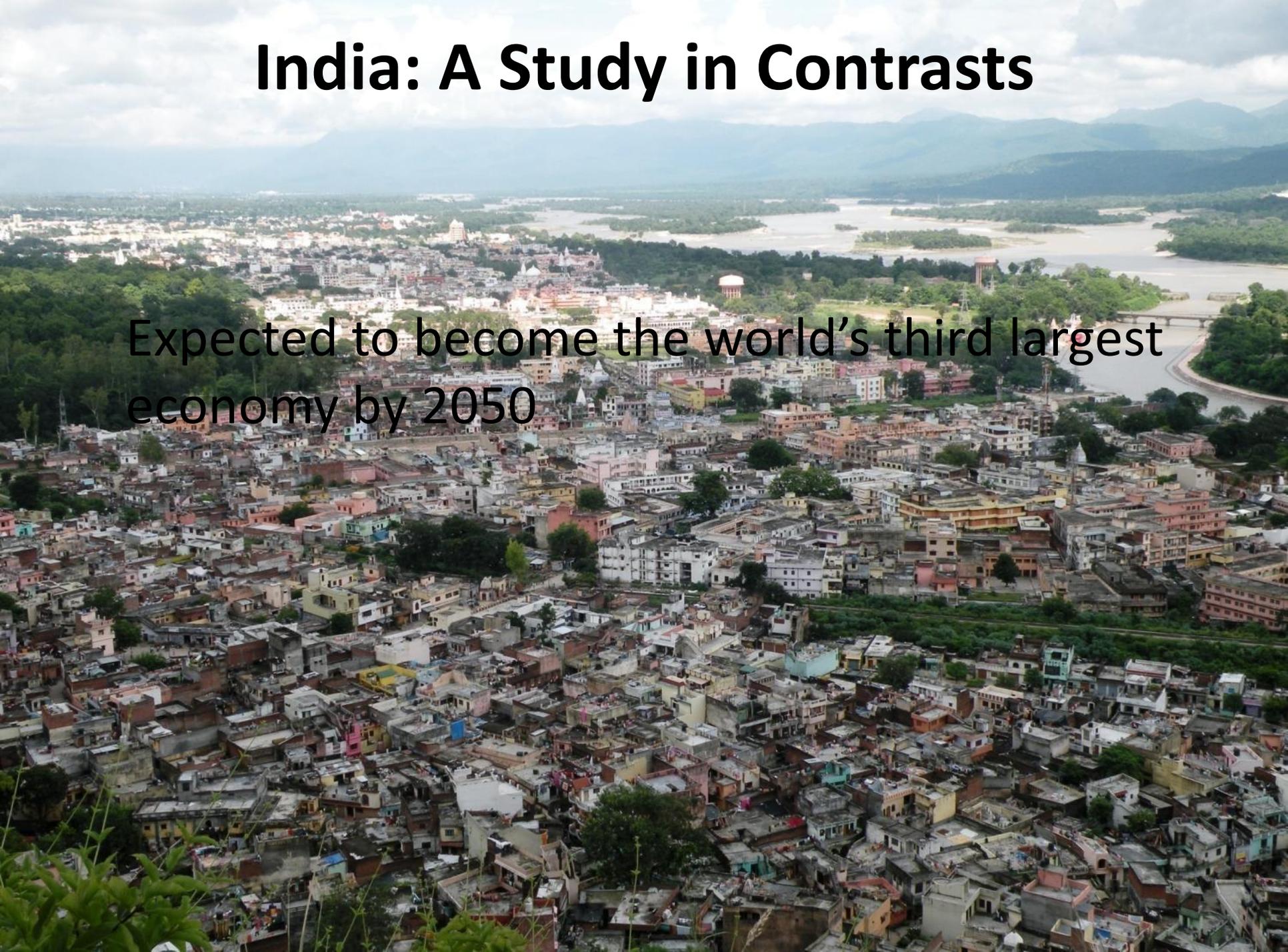
Global Problems...Local Solutions

WWF's work on Energy and Water
Security in India

Sejal Worah

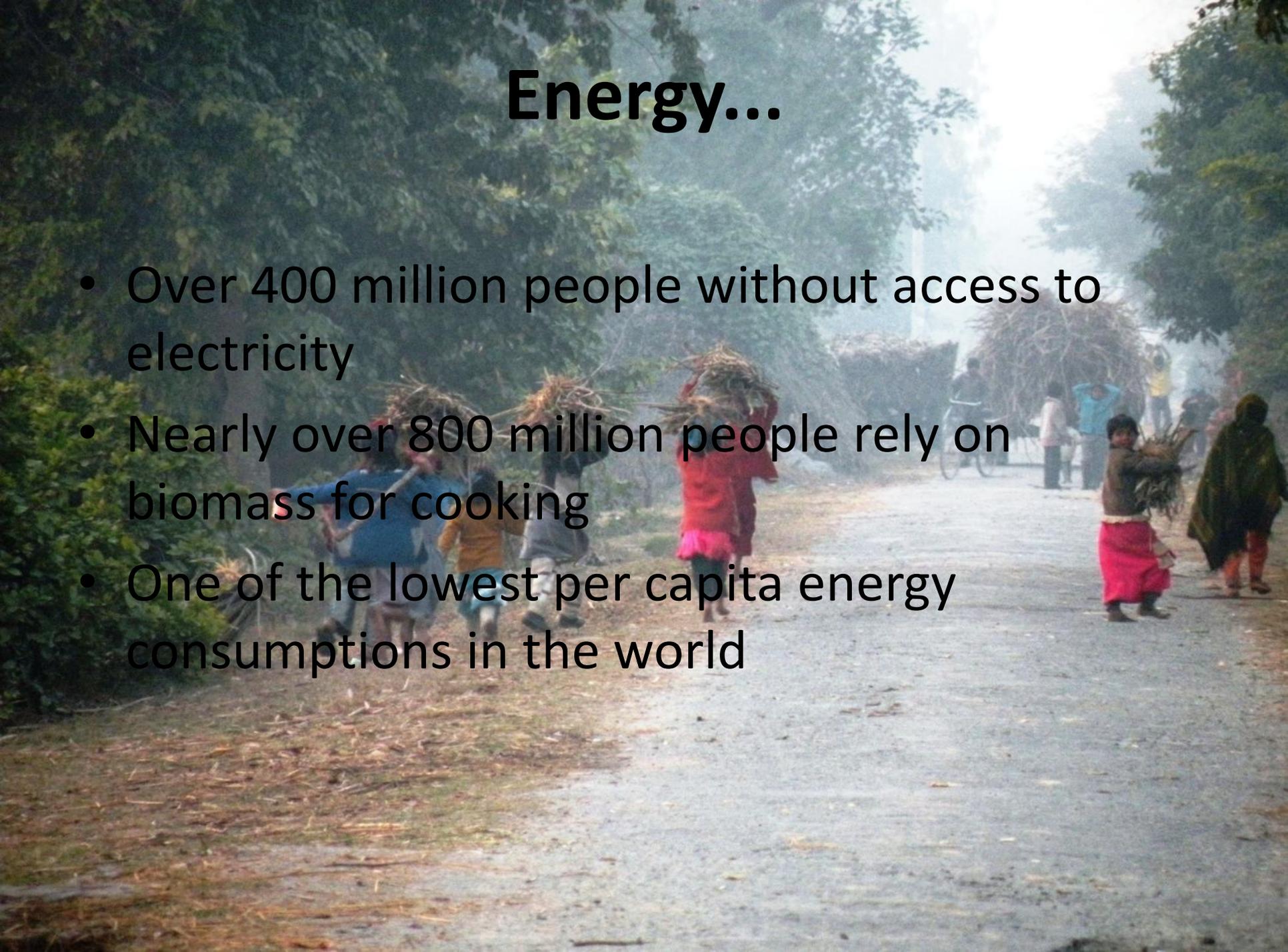
India: A Study in Contrasts

Expected to become the world's third largest economy by 2050



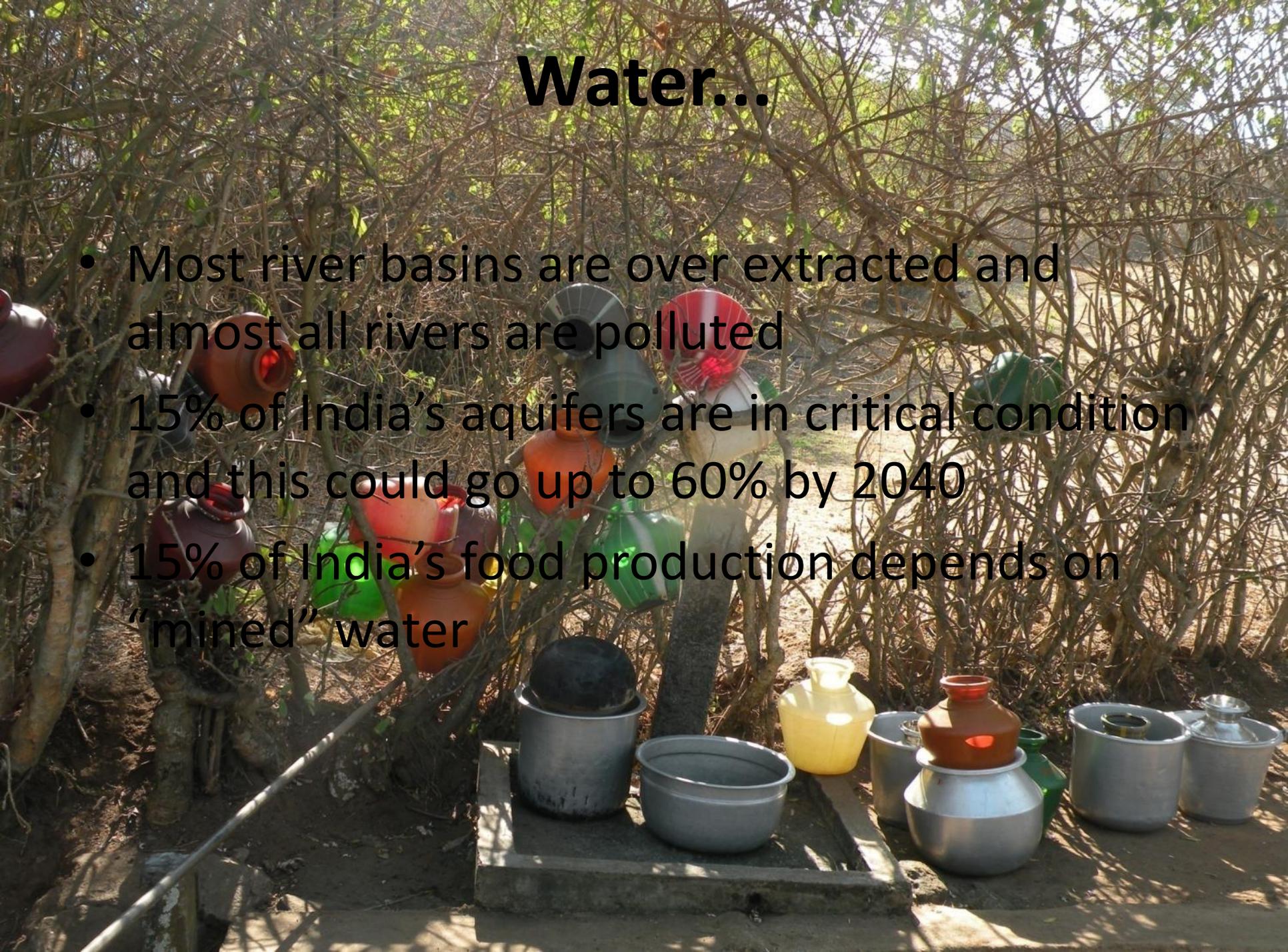
Energy...

- Over 400 million people without access to electricity
- Nearly over 800 million people rely on biomass for cooking
- One of the lowest per capita energy consumptions in the world



Water...

- Most river basins are over extracted and almost all rivers are polluted
- 15% of India's aquifers are in critical condition and this could go up to 60% by 2040
- 15% of India's food production depends on "mined" water



Forests

- Over the last 20 years, 1.2 million ha of forest have been diverted to infrastructure projects – roads, mining, hydropower...
- In the last four years alone nearly 400 sq km of forest has been “lost”

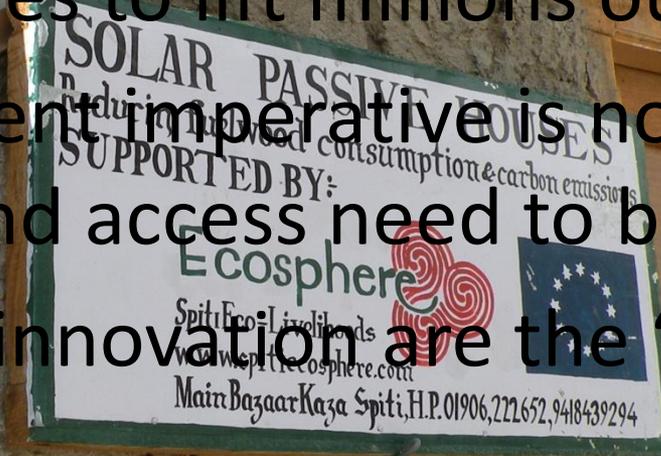




**Of the G20 countries, India will be
worst hit by climate change...**

A transformational decade?

- India needs to grow by at least 8-10% for the next 2-3 decades to lift millions out of poverty
- The development imperative is not in question but inequity and access need to be addressed
- Efficiency and innovation are the “low hanging fruit”
- Growth without incurring massive environmental debts is key



Finding the right mix of...

- Technology
- Finance
- Institutions
- Governance
- Environmental Sustainability

India (and the world) has no choice but to select an alternative development pathway



The Sundarbans

- The largest mangrove delta in the world (10,000 sq km)
 - Home to 4 million people - population density of nearly 1000 people per sq km
 - One of the most “climate threatened” places in the region
 - Barely 20% have access to reliable energy
 - Most people depend on agriculture or natural resources for livelihoods
- 









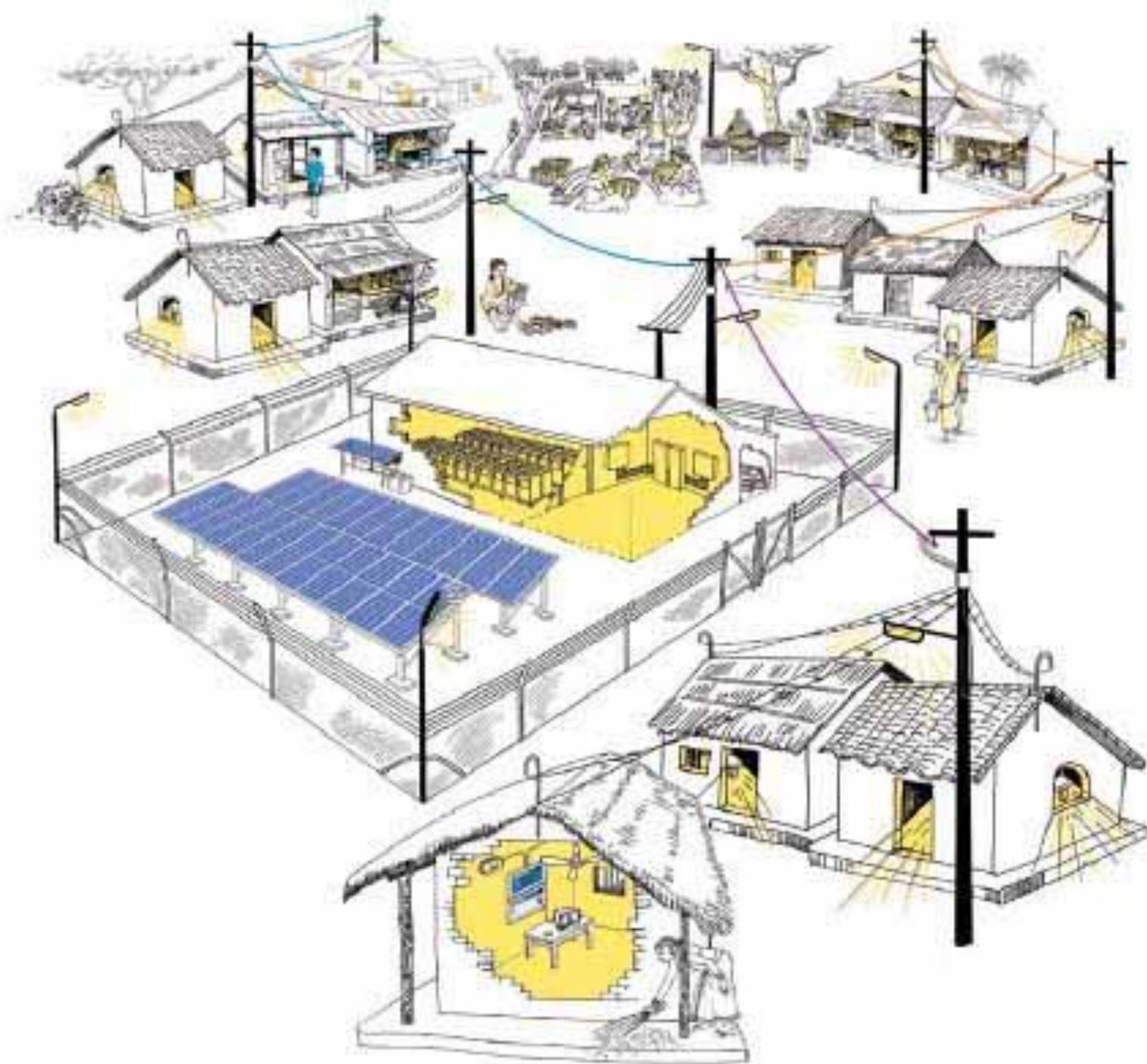












The Vision

WWF &
Bushlight

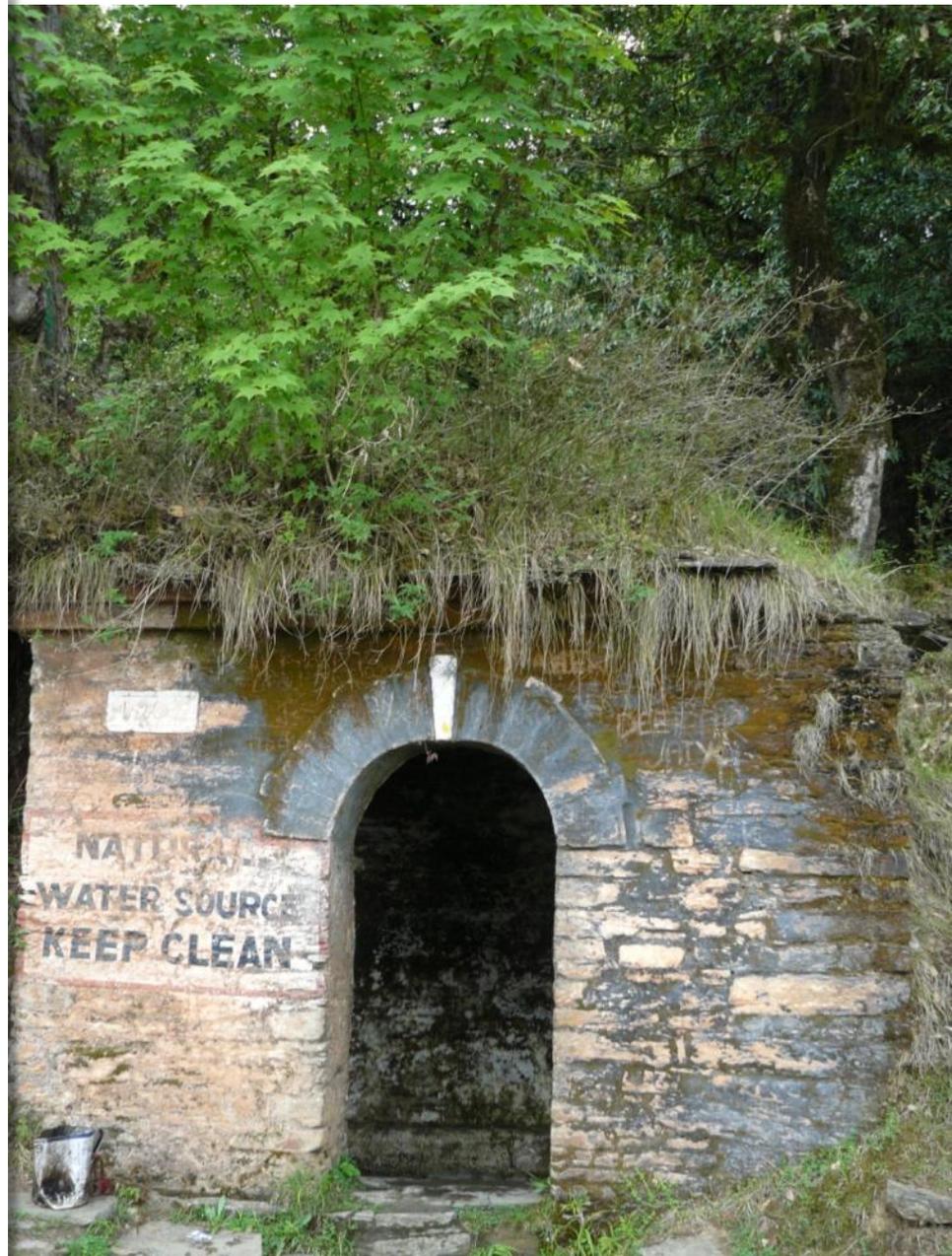




The Himalayas



Water: A Precious Resource







धारा विकास के हो ?

आकाशबाट परेको पानी
रुखपातको सहायताले
जमीनभित्र पस्छ।



यही पानी तल बग्दै गएर
जब जमीनमाथि निस्कन्छ
तब धाराहरू बनिन्छ।

याद राख्नुहोस्
धेरै लामो यात्रा गरेपछि मात्र
एक थोपा पानी तपाईंको
तिर्खा भेट्न आइपुग्छ।

त्यसैले धारा विकासको एउटै नाम
धाराको मुखमा होइन श्रोतमा काम !!





RM&DD, Govt of
Sikkim & WWF get
National Groundwater
Award!

What we have learnt

- It is possible to scale up local solutions – the right partners are key
- Linking traditional and scientific knowledge enhances acceptance of solutions
- Empowerment leads to innovation which leads to new solutions to emerging problems
- Ensuring that the technology supports long term conservation of the natural resource base will lead to more sustainable solutions

Thank You

