

## Introduction

What we have to explain to people who are listening to us, is the essential human characteristic of looking for resources in nature and in living things. It must be said that biodiversity is not synonymous with nature, it's the living part of nature. Nature has existed for as long as the Earth and mankind goes in search of mineral resources in the geodiversity and living resources in the biodiversity. We must not forget that humans don't just consume the biological, but also cooperate with the biological. This relationship is extremely strong between humans, nature and all the life around us. I often say that a human body has at least ten times more bacteria on the skin and in the gut than human cells.

We will exploit this nature in the best sense, in a reasoned way, in a true sense because we will seek our resources. Of course, we need to eat, we need to develop, we need to get dressed. And it is this side that will show the obvious relationships between consumption and biodiversity. The issue here it quite logical. What becomes alarming is when you want to over-consume and want to move towards a system just beyond the thresholds of the renewability of nature.

### 1. What are the threats on the biodiversity ?

So looking at this issue which is precisely on looking for what we can find, there are five major threats to biodiversity and the destruction of nature and ecosystems: we destroy, we pollute, it is one of the current major pillars of the problems of the human-nature relationship; we over-exploit, we will talk about it, we spread everything everywhere and finally we influence the climate, climate change, and it all results in this kind of problem. So this is how we will approach the question of exploitation. And the most obvious examples we can find are on land, forests, and in the sea, overfishing.

### 2. Why and how to exploit the biodiversity ?

We will search for resources that mankind needs in this way. Then of course, the thing that is most obvious is that humanity was created at the start, there were some humans there, without agriculture, that is to say they could only hunt and gather. But since our number increased, it had to change. And actually, it all starts about twelve thousand years ago. When people stopped moving, women started making a lot of babies. And then we invented agriculture and livestock. We produced, by human practices, more animals and more plants than the non- human system that was around before was able to produce.

### 3. What are the limits?

And this was where, in relation to these agricultural considerations, we destroyed nature to produce, we were also interested in stocks which were already there that weren't cultivated, like the rainforest and fisheries. And this was when the problem on exploitation arose. We take more from trees than what nature can renew and we also take more fish than the natural system can produce. We can easily tell from these remarks that there are limits. And whatever political systems that interest us, the geographical and geopolitical considerations, it always comes back to the same thing: we will have to limit access to the resource. So at the forest level, what can we say? Indeed, nature gives us trees, there are rainforests, temperate forests, boreal forests and mankind will exploit them for timber, for food, for lots of uses that we will have for developing this humanity which, in addition, does not stop multiplying. One of the great debates we have today on the issues that concern us is actually the fact that the demographics continue charging ahead. There are now over 7.3 billion people on Earth. So we are going to use more trees than the natural system can produce and equally in the sea, we will exploit the stocks.

And this is where the limits are clear, we have to find systems to limit these activities. In which case, if we let these systems be managed by a private company, for example, well, it will end with the destruction of the resource.

### 4. How to reconcile « economy » and « ecology »?

Considering what has been said, the question is: can we go on developing humanity in harmony with this exploitation of resources that we have mentioned ? And for this, we must be able to actually calculate what the world can naturally produce, as well as with agricultural practices or, as we mentioned, of course, livestock. Can humans highlight this? In addition, it is very different depending on geographical location. For example, take the case of the rainforest. If we just take the case of Brazil, of Haiti or of Indonesia, we have removed great swathes of forest, every year an area about a quarter of the size of France is gone, which is, of course, far too much.

And also, if we take Indonesia which has removed rainforest to replace it with palm oil, between 2009 and 2013 twenty-three millions of hectares of forest have disappeared. So there, of course, stop, find a harmony between this deforestation on one side and then the human development activities. Bearing this in mind, as we remove forests, trees know how to make it rain. Without forests, it doesn't rain anymore and agriculture faces problems and, of course, it forces people to leave.

It's kind of the same thing in the sea: when you remove more fish than the sea can renew, we get to the point where, indeed, no one can manage, neither the whales nor the fish at the end of the chain that eat pelagic fishes, nor the birds. And it ends with the end of fishermen and then sea food altogether.

## Conclusion

Finally, to conclude, it is: how to find an economy compatible with this development and with this exploitation of resources? Any economy that seeks to make short term profit often by destroying that diversity and nature or by over-exploiting it has shown its limits. So you have to move to a much more intelligent and harmonious system, but by bearing in mind something that is very clear: we need economic models that adhere to ecology and not the reverse, because ecology and life have been around for almost four billion years, they are used to that. So mankind must find much more humility, respect, ideas of sharing, love and harmony to reclaim this nature, accepting that we are a part of it, that we are not outside it and therefore have a visceral need of it.