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Inter-University Research Institute Corporation National Institutes for the Humanities  
Research Institute for Humanity and Nature

# Multi-scale water-energy-food nexus in Asia



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(Acknowledge to Dr. S. Lee (RIHN) & Dr. N. Masuhara (RIHN))

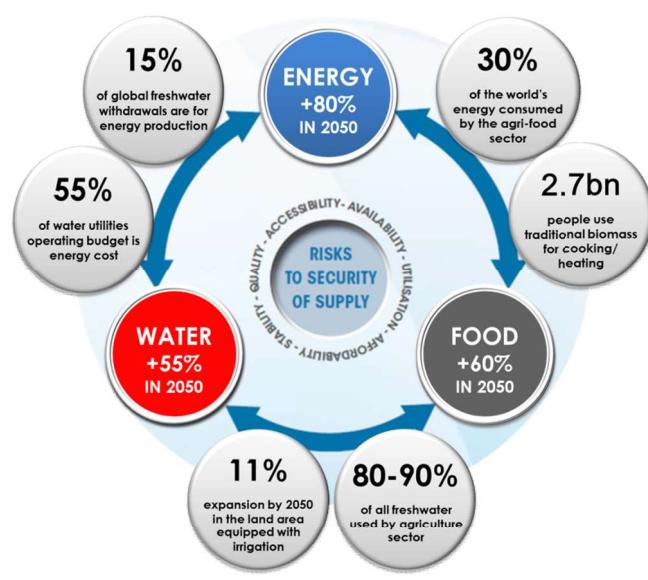


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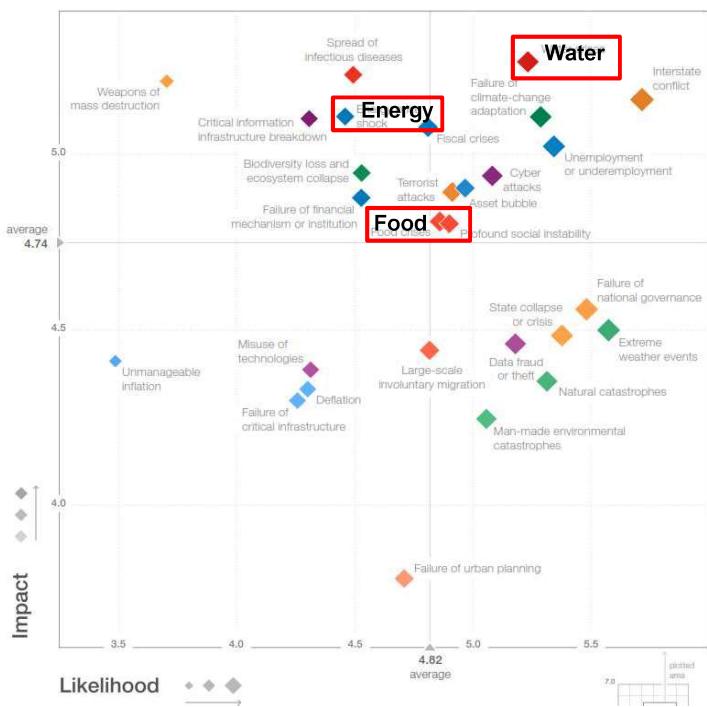


## Water-Energy-Food Nexus



Ferroukhi et al., 2015

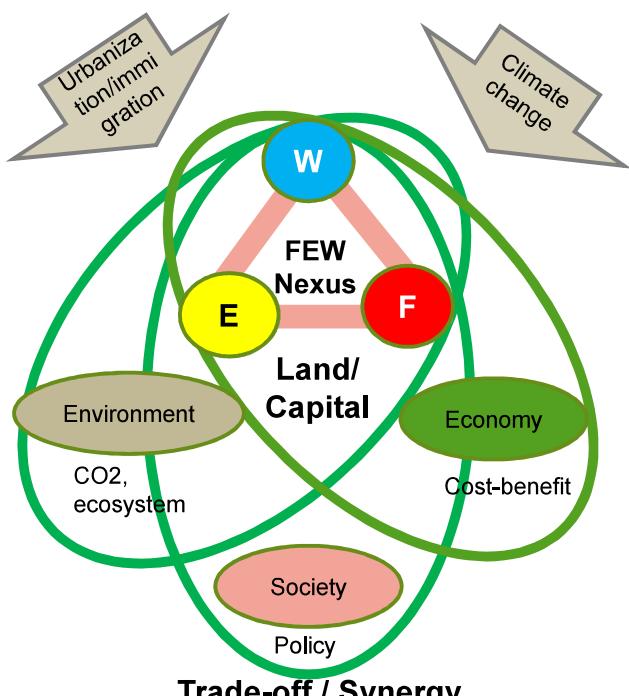
## WEF Global Risk 2015 Report



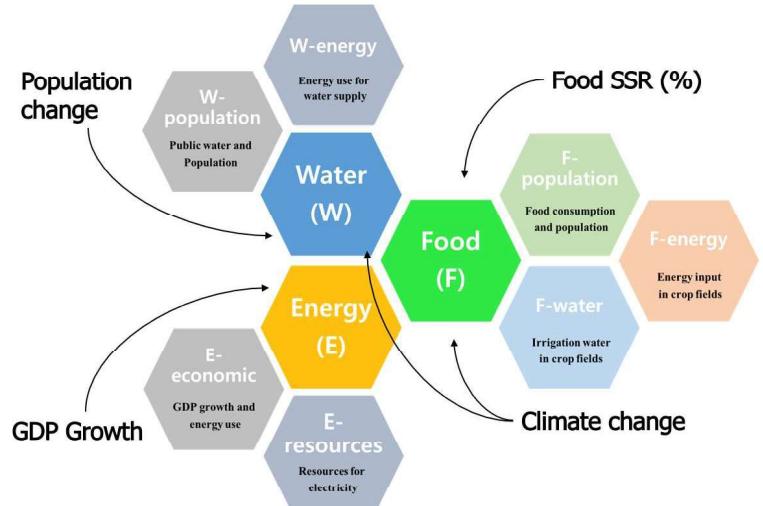
# Intelligent Urban Metabolic Systems for Green Cities of Tomorrow: an FWE Nexus-based Approach

Belmont Forum projects “Sustainable Urbanisation Global Initiative: Food–Water–Energy Nexus” (2018–2020)

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## Multi-scale platform with subsystems



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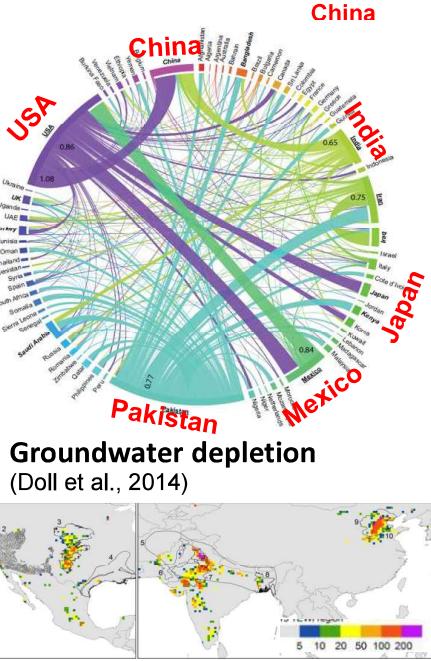
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## Multi spatial scale FEW Nexus

### Global

Groundwater footprint through food trade (Dalin et al., 2017)

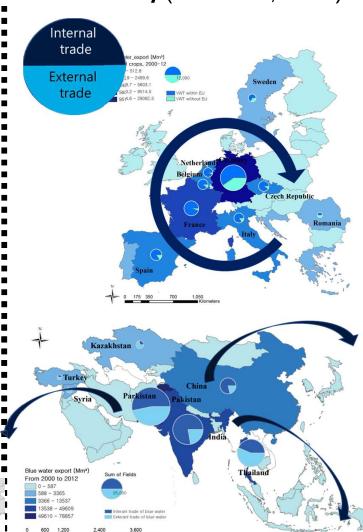
Export: India, US, Pakistan  
Import: Japan, China



Groundwater depletion (Doll et al., 2014)

### Regional

Evaluation of external virtual water export and dependency through crop trade: an Asian and EU case study (Lee et al., 2017)

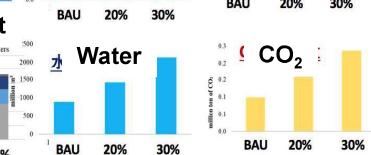


EU: Internal trade  
Asia: External trade

### National

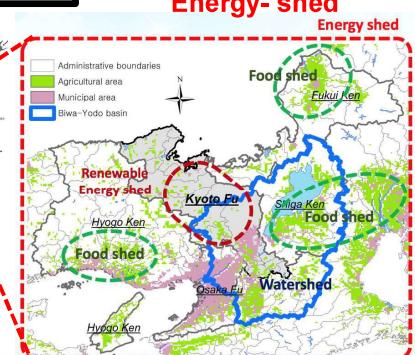
Food security  
Energy security  
Water security

Food import



### Local

Water-shed  
Food-shed  
Energy-shed



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FOOD-WATER-ENERGY NEXUS

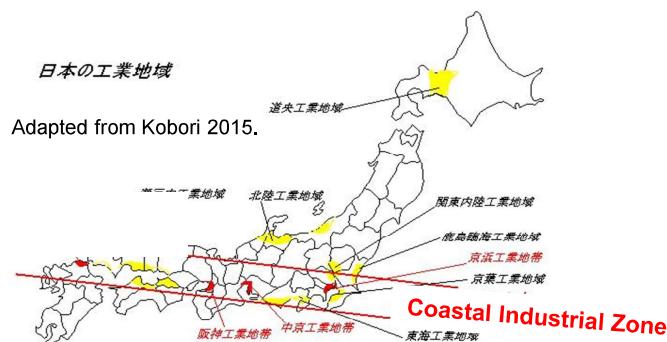
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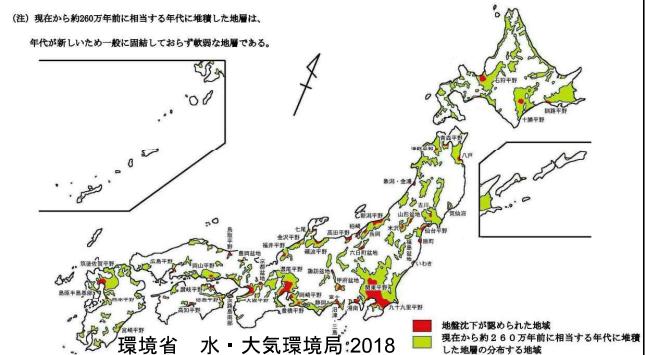
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# Coastal Industrial Zone in Japan

Abundant water + imported fuel (with ports construction)  
-> Industrialization

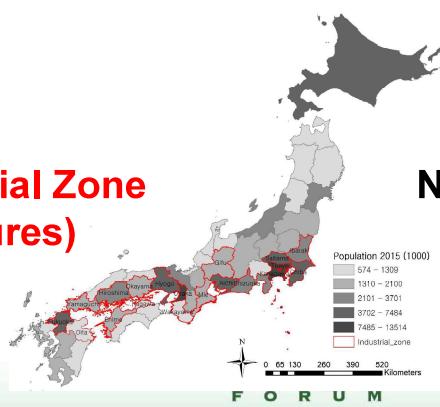


## Coastal Industrial Zone in Japan



## Land subsidence in Japan

### Coastal Industrial Zone (19 prefectures)



### Non-Industrial Zone (28 prefectures)

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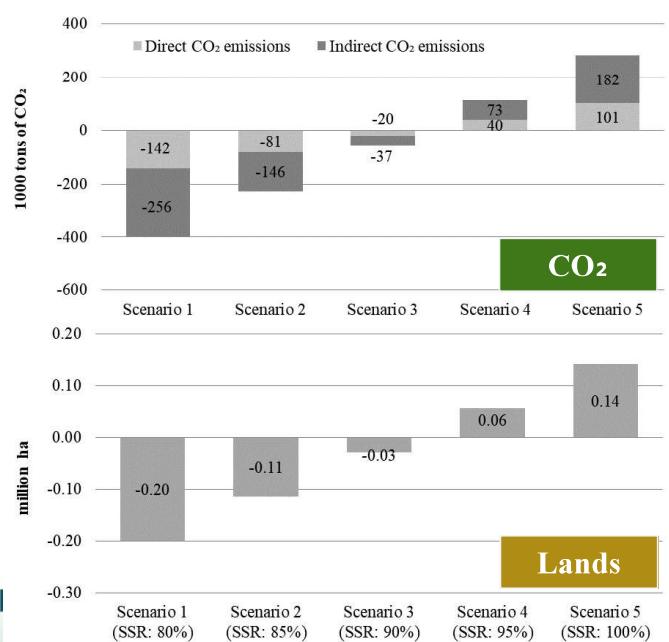
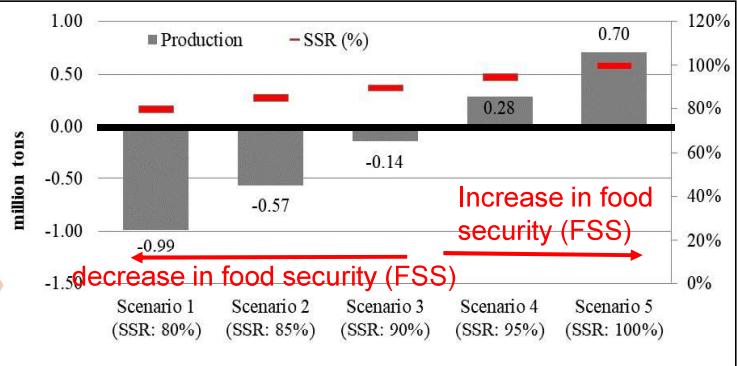
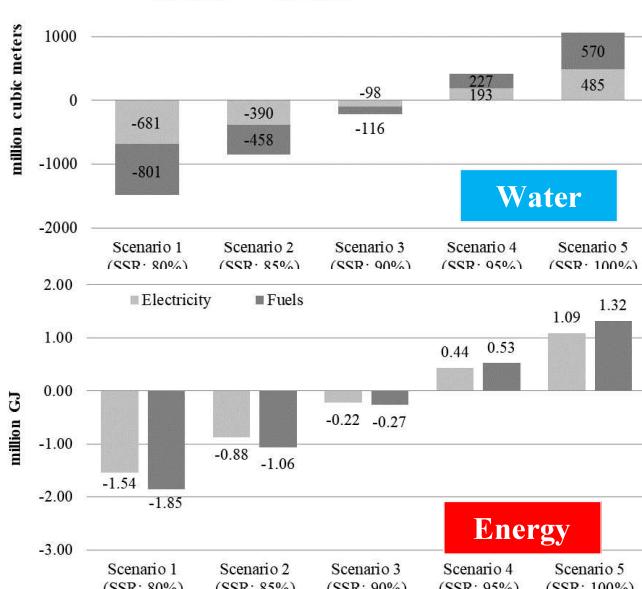
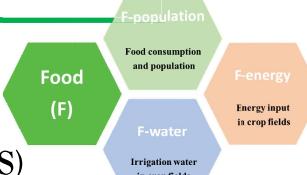
## Multi-Scale Nexus: National level

### Food-centric Nexus

Crops (rice and others)

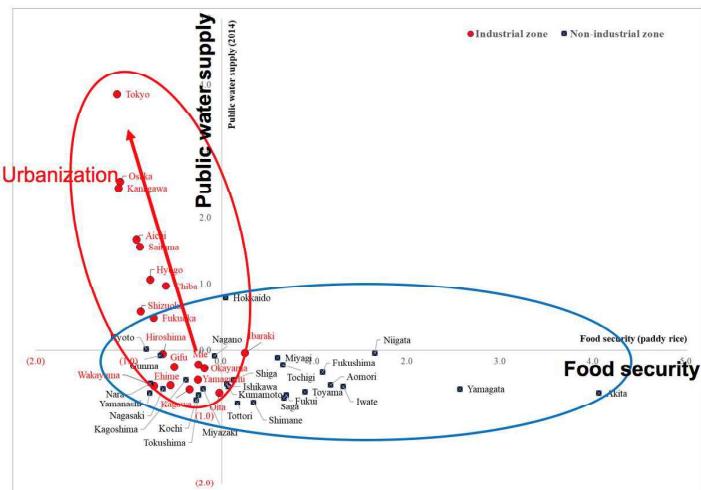
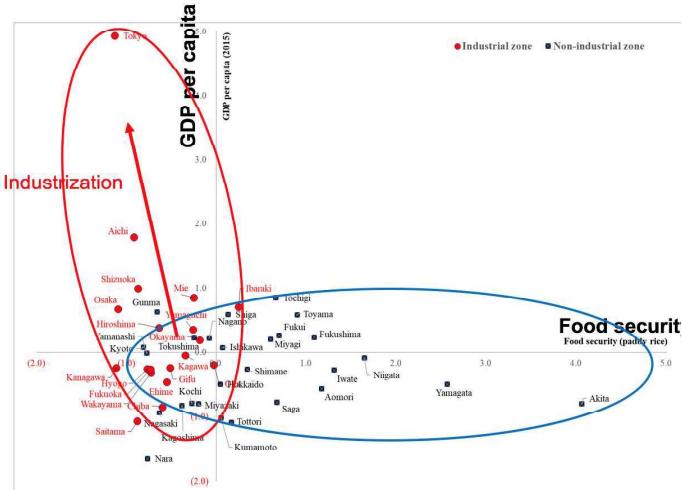
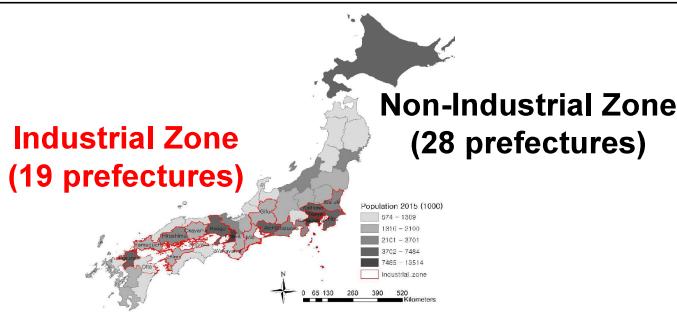
Food self-sufficiency (FSS)

Food trade (FT)



# Multi-Scale Nexus: Prefectural level

## Food-centric Nexus



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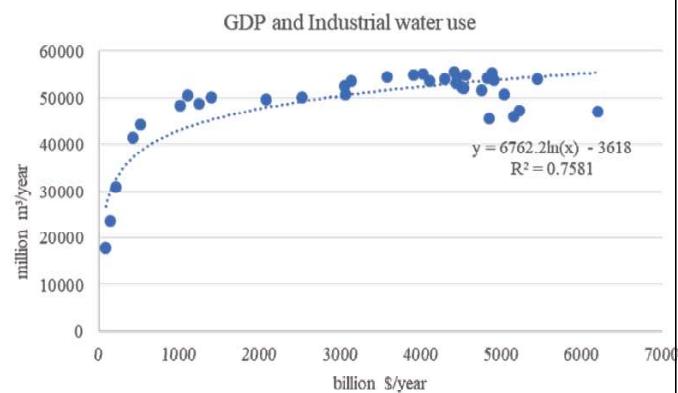
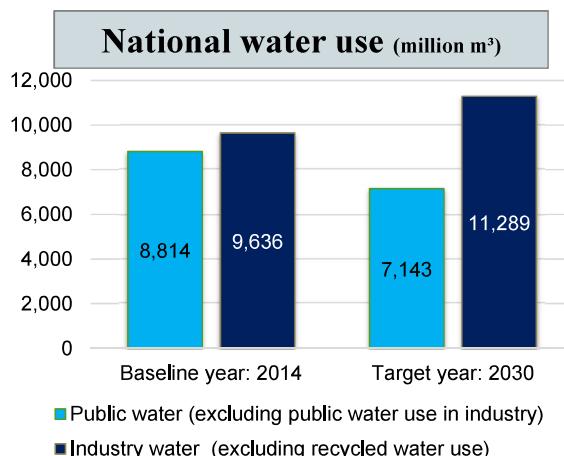
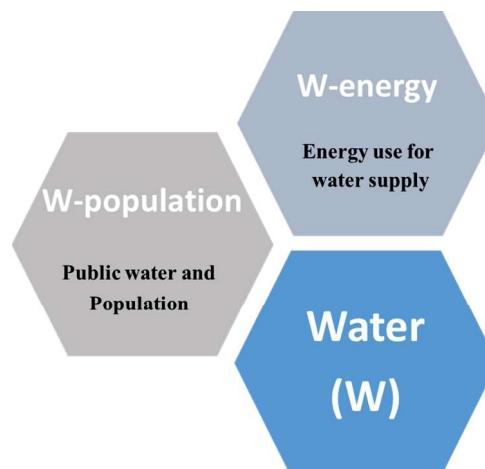
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# Multi-Scale Nexus: National level

## Water-centric Nexus

- ✓ Public water use per capita and population changes
- ✓ Relationship between GDP and industrial water use



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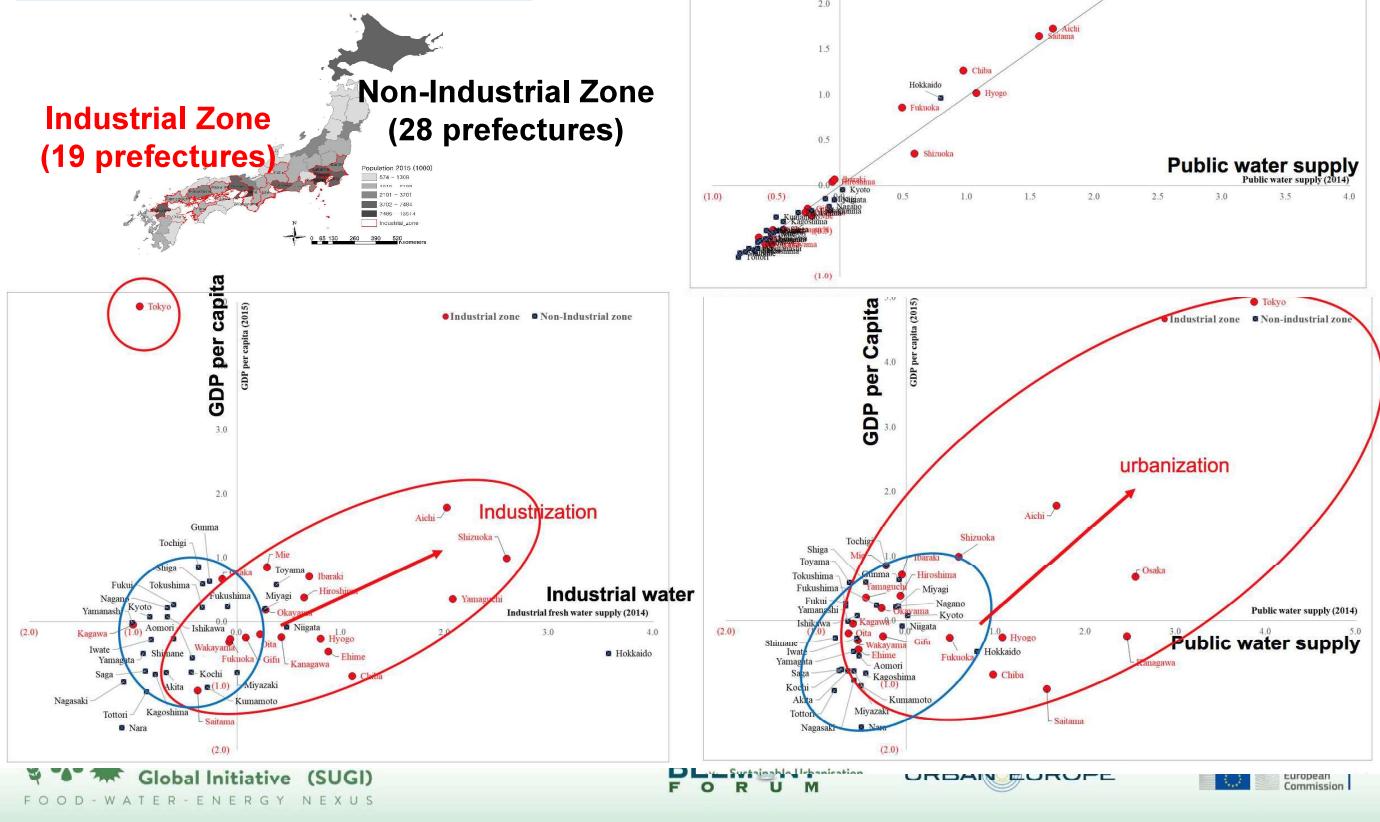
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# Multi-Scale Nexus: Prefectural level

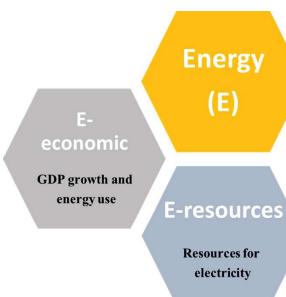
## Water-centric Nexus



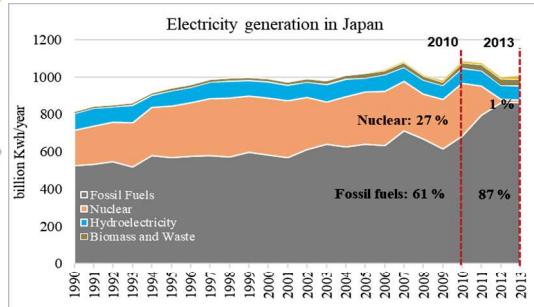
# Multi-Scale Nexus: National level

## Energy-centric Nexus

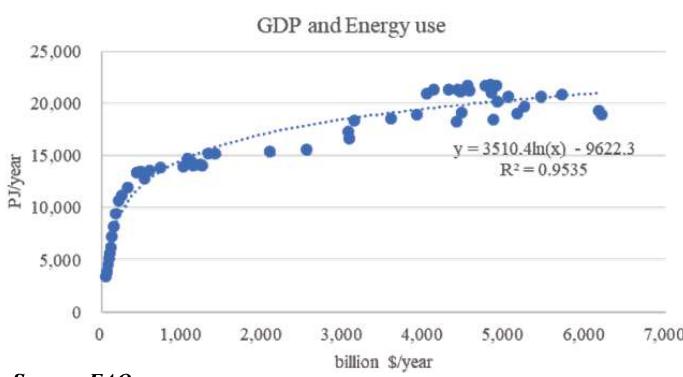
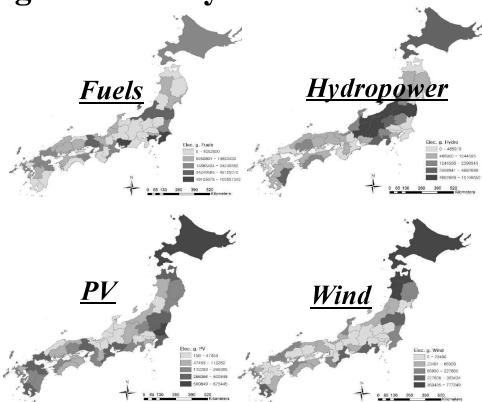
- ✓ Energy use per capita and population changes
- ✓ Energy use in industry by GDP growth
- ✓ Relationship between GDP and energy use



- Source of electricity generation and CO<sub>2</sub> emission

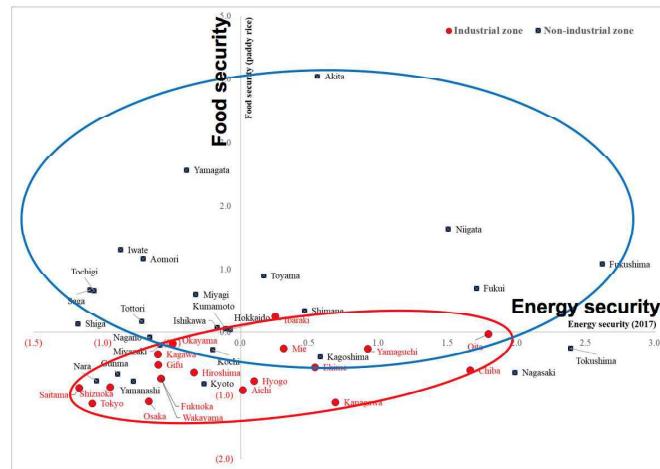
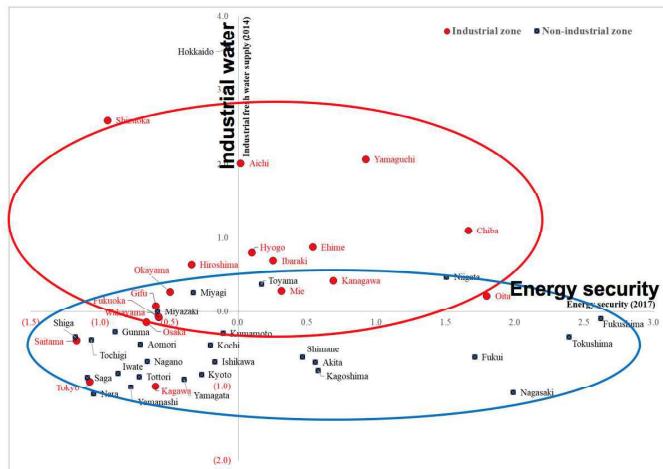
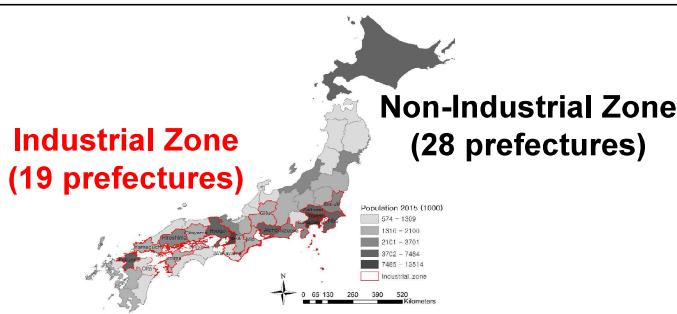


## Electricity generation by sources in 2017



## Multi-Scale Nexus: Prefectural level

### Energy-centric Nexus



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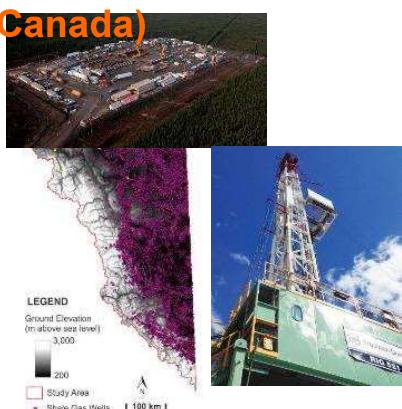
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## Multi-Scale Nexus: Local level

### Water for Energy

### How much energy can be produced per kg of water?

#### Shale gas NE BC (Canada)



Fracking water in Montney Basin  
2.79 million m<sup>3</sup>/year  
Gas production: 18,946 million m<sup>3</sup>/y

66,000 kcal/kg-water

#### Hot spring power generation in Beppu (Japan)



Energy production: 8,000kW  
Hot spring water discharge

> 16.3 kcal/kg-water

#### Small hydro-power plant in Beppu (Japan)



Energy production : 93 kW  
River discharge : 1.1 m<sup>3</sup>/s

> 0.0164 kcal/kg-water

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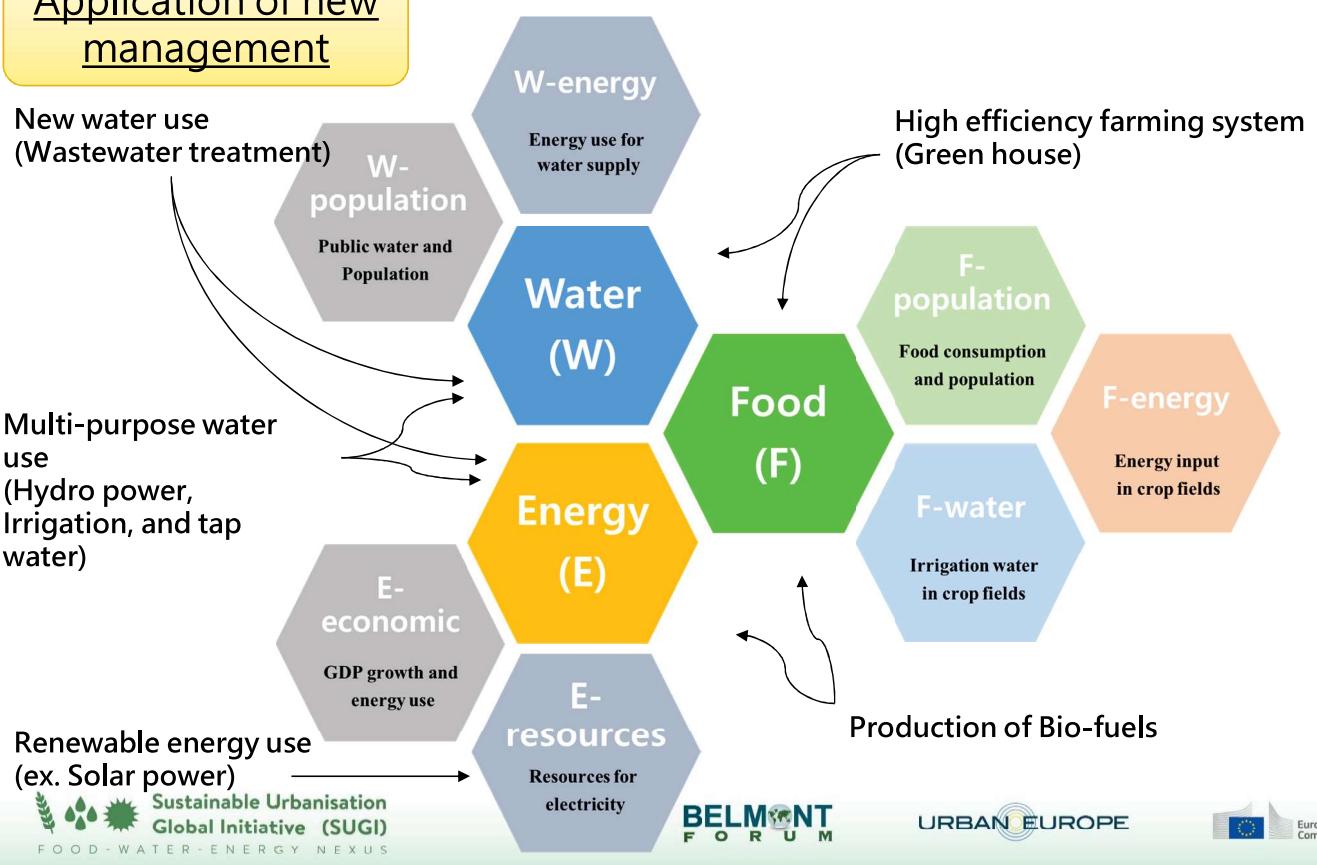
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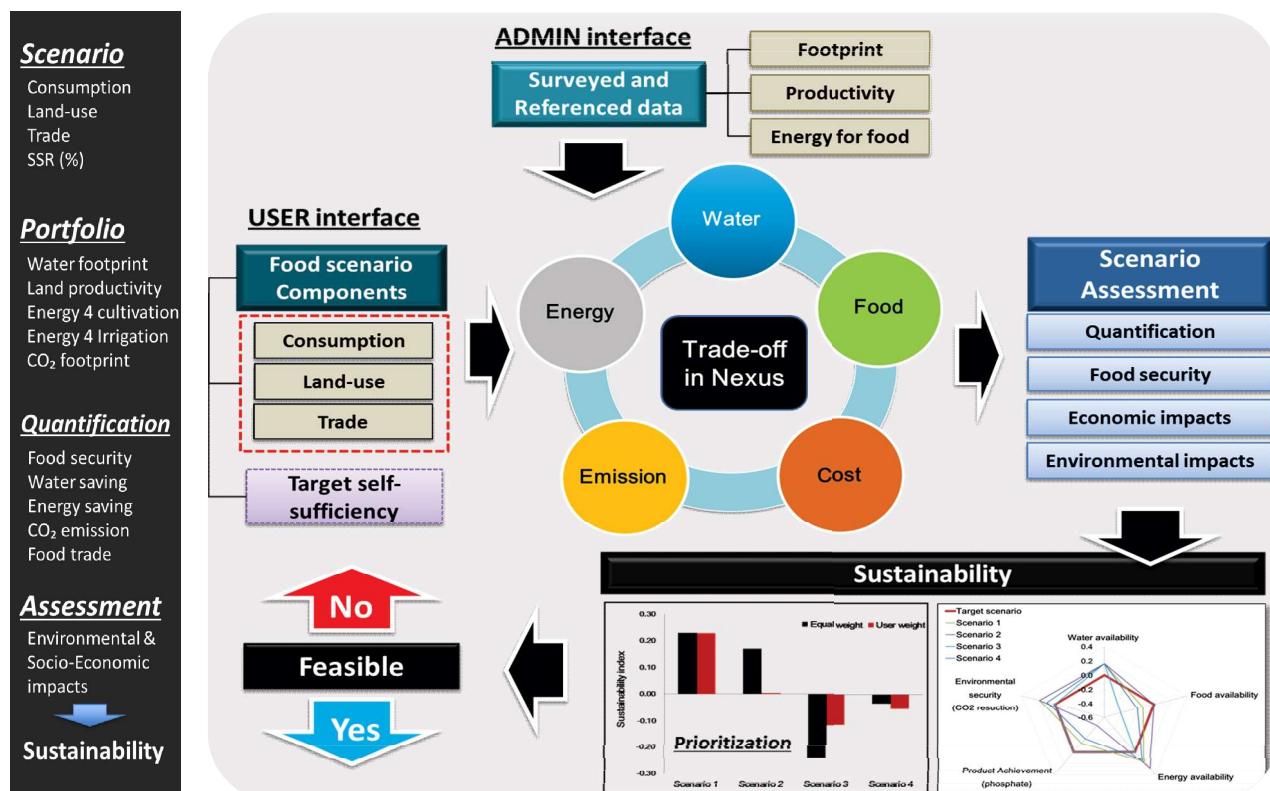
# Integrated Assessment of Nexus with subsystems in each scale

## Application of new management

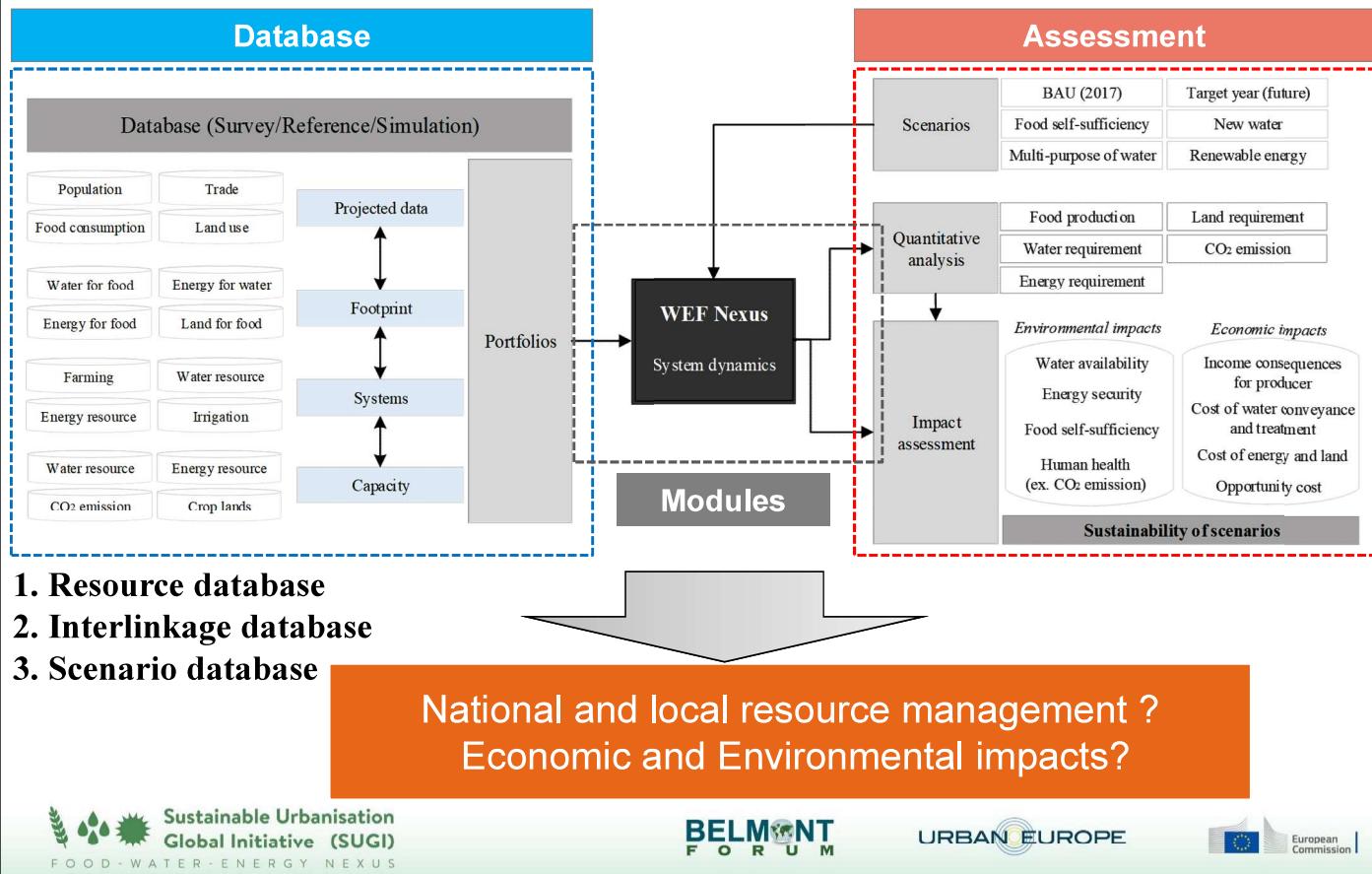


## Platform of Water-Energy-Food Nexus

### Decision support system through the Nexus



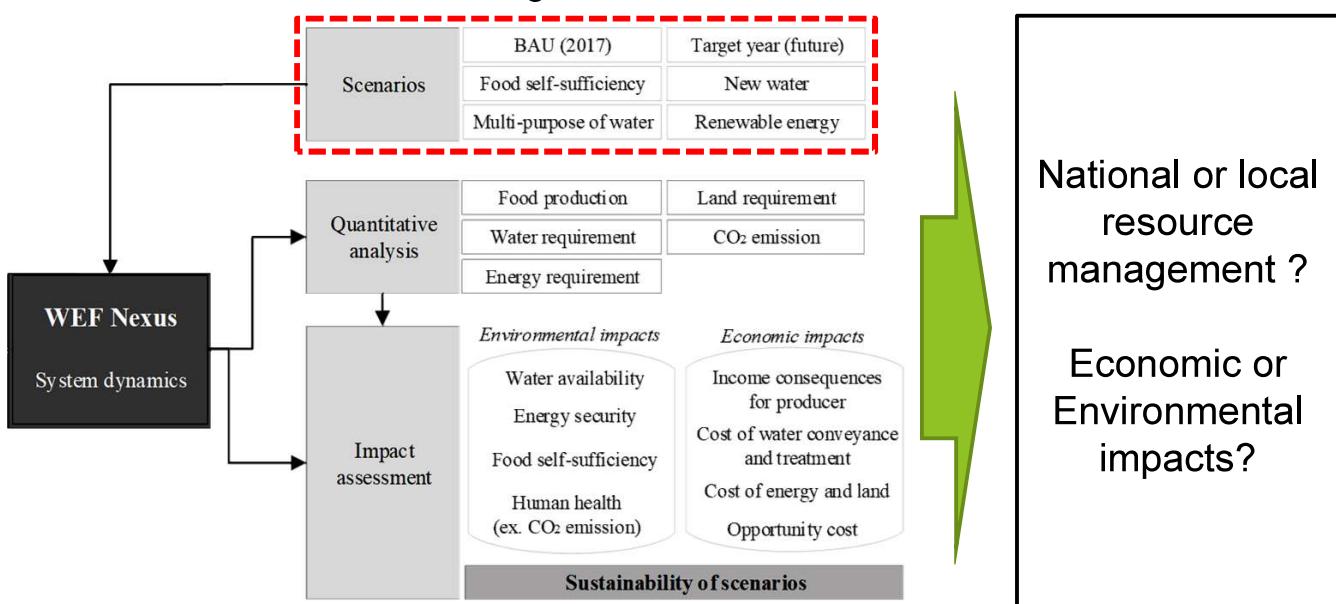
# A platform of the Nexus



## Assessment of scenarios and impacts

**What do we want to assess?**

- Relating to critical question
- National resource management or local ?



# Sustainability Assessment

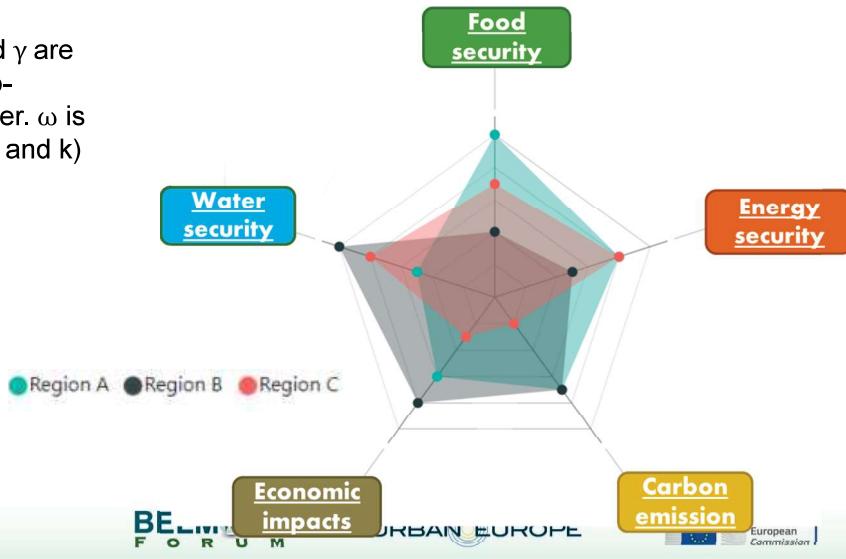
## Sustainability index

- Normalized index of environmental, social, and economic impacts
- Trade-off among indices considering weight values

### Sustainability index (SI)

$$= \alpha \sum \omega_i NI_{environmental} + \beta \sum \omega_j NI_{socio-economic} + \gamma \sum \omega_k NI_{other}$$

- NI is normalized index, and  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  are weight value of environmental, socio-economic and other impacts by a user.  $\omega$  is the weight value of components (i, j, and k) considered in each impact.



## Water-Energy-Food Nexus Platform

- 1) Nexus Research has **many entry points** such as water, energy, food, land, climate change, trade, etc., therefore more integrated studies will be achievable for sustainable society and SDGs.
- 2) **Multi-scale** is important to analyze the trade-off and synergy of the Nexus
- 3) Future Earth **Nexus** KAN (Knowledge Action Network) promotes a global platform for sharing "Nexus Tool Box" including the Nexus concept, modeling, databases, etc
- 4) **Regional platform** is useful by sharing the similarity of the Nexus (Regional Center of Future Earth in Asia (RIHN) identify **Nexus** is one of Strategic Research Agenda in Asia)

*Similarity of Nexus in Asia e.g. W: monsoon, F: rice, E: hydropower Thailand, Japan, Korea, China (south), and more*