

11<sup>TH</sup> ILO MEETING OF CARIBBEAN MINISTERS OF LABOUR



# Job Creation and Just Transition towards a Green and Blue Economy

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# Climate change: Why is a Just Transition to a low carbon and resilient economy so urgent?



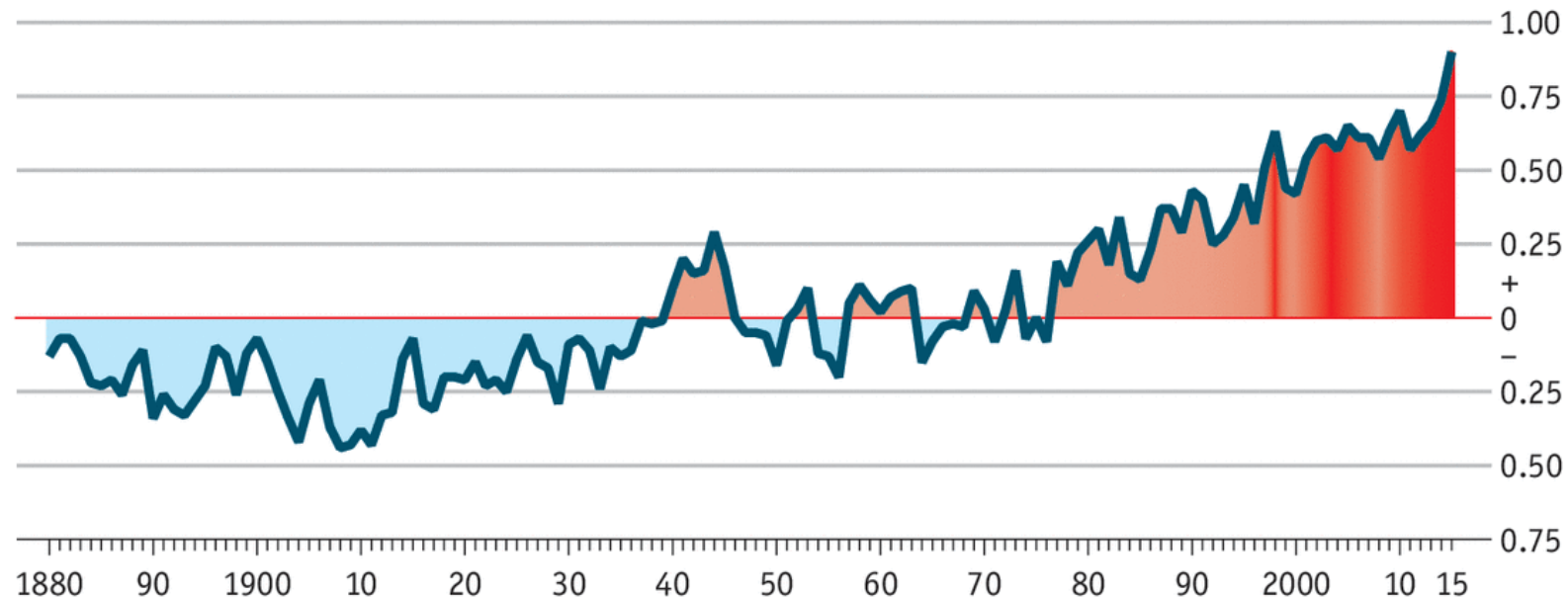
## QUESTION:

We all know about climate change and have heard it's caused by us, humanity. But how serious is the problem?

# Answer- We only have 7 years to act!

## Sizzling

Global surface temperature, deviation from 20th-century average, °C



Source: NOAA

Economist.com

### Fact:

Human activities have caused a 1.0°C of global warming already

### Challenge to the WoW:

- How to keep creating jobs without increasing global emissions.
- Companies and workers to adapt to increasing climate change impacts
- Social protection systems key to avoid negative impacts of low carbon strategies and to increase country resilience

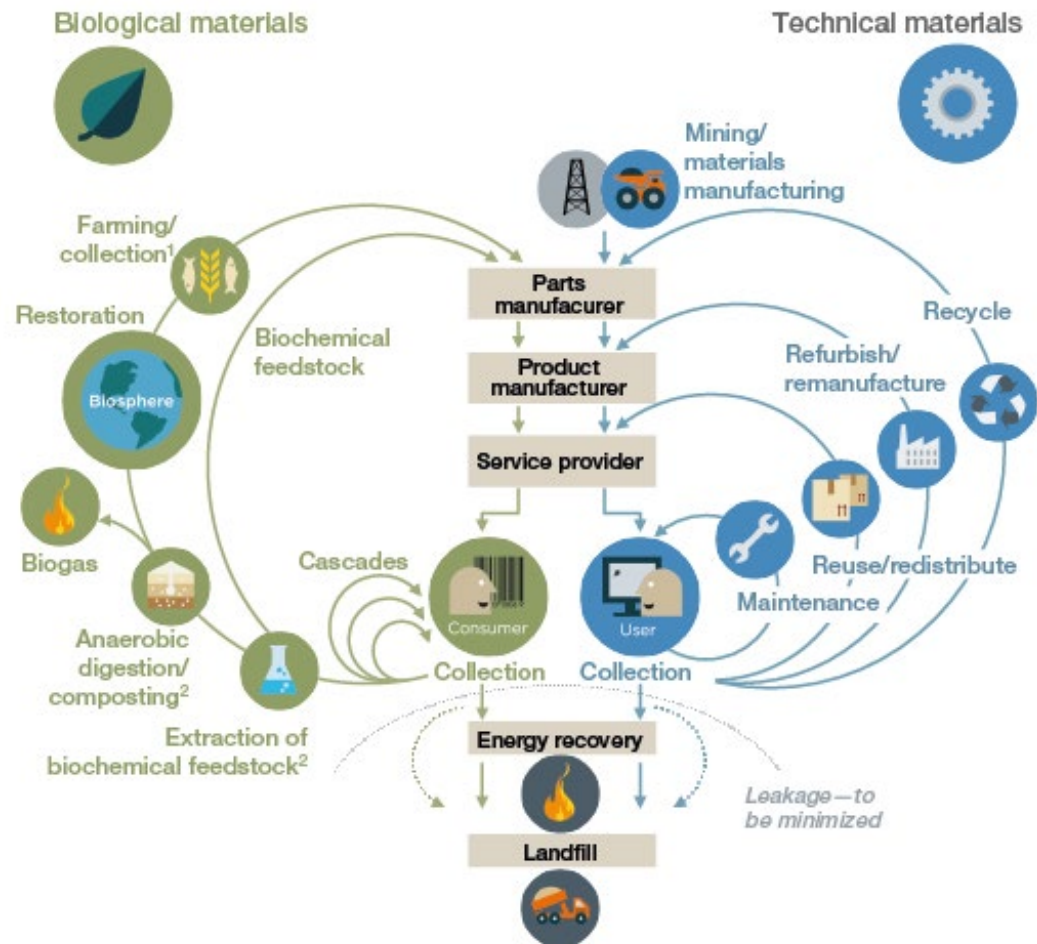
# Circular economy as an opportunity to increase competitiveness and go greener

## QUESTION:

Our current economies are based on linear thinking: extract-use-waste.

Within this framework, what's the percentage of materials the world re-uses?

# Answer- A circular economy to increase competitiveness and create employment



## Facts:

- Total material inputs = 90 billion tons/yr, of which **only 9 % recycled back into economy.**
- Current model **leaves too many behind** and exposes future generations to risks and costs of growing environmental and social externalities from over-production and over-consumption
- Economic benefit estimated in **one trillion dollar value**

## Challenge to the WoW:

- Create **new business models** along global value chains with a circular economy approach
- **Social dialogue** and collaboration along material flows (beyond paper, card, glass).
- **Training** and capacity development for workers and employers

# Promoting a Blue Economy

## QUESTION:

Let's talk now about our oceans. Let's see how healthy they are.

What is the level of fish stock that is already fully exploited, overexploited or depleted?

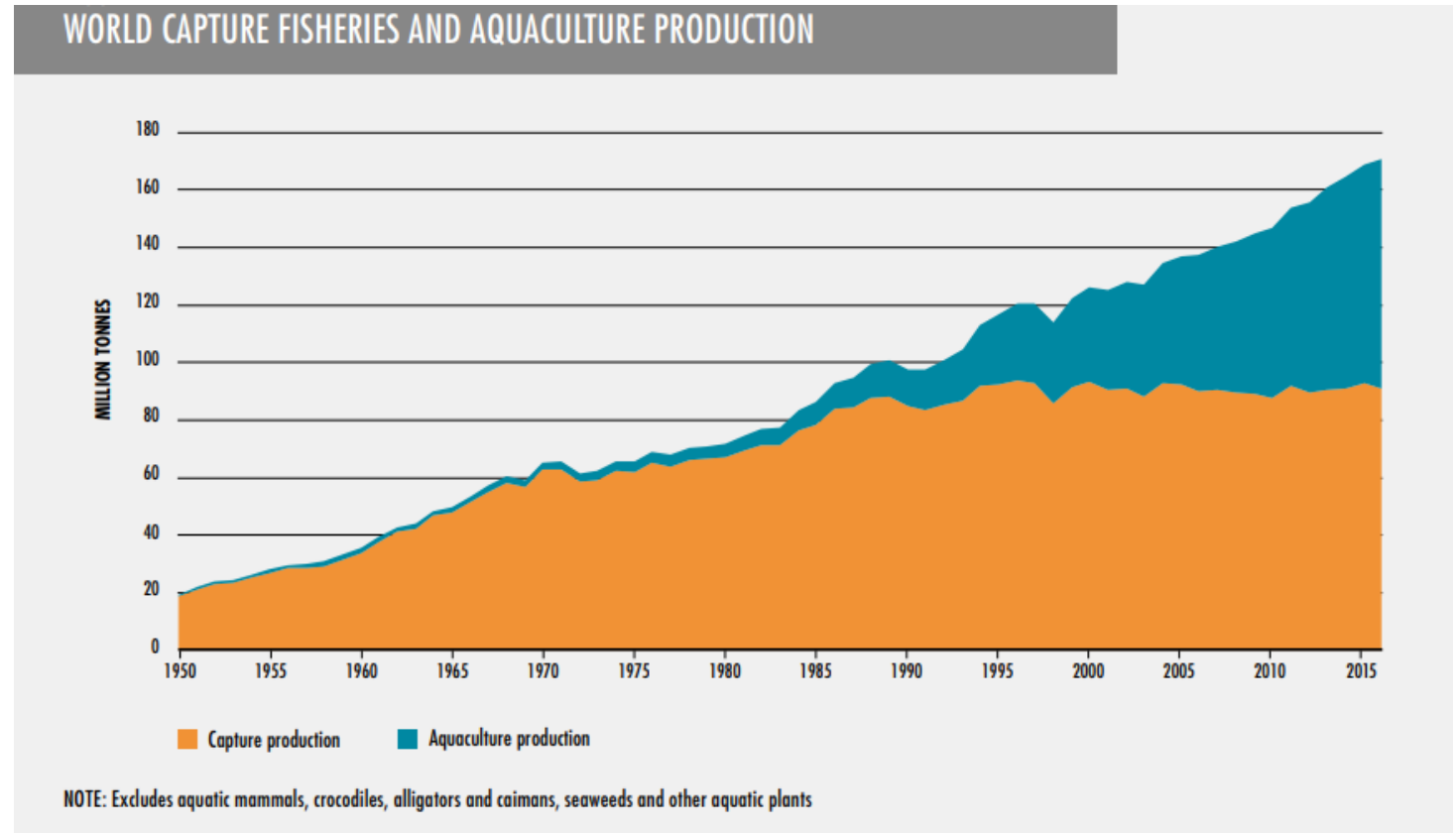
# Answer - 90% of fish stock depleted and increasing pollution of oceans

## Facts:

- Nearly **90% of the world's marine fish stocks are now fully exploited, overexploited or depleted.**
- About 8 million metric tons of plastic are thrown into the ocean annually .
- **By 2050 there will be more plastic in the oceans than there are fish.**

## Challenge for WoW:

- Impacts on economy, on jobs, on poverty, on food security.



# The ILO Future of Work Commission on Environmental Sustainability



## FoW Commission said:

- The greening of our economies **will create millions of jobs** as we adopt sustainable practices and clean technologies but **other jobs will disappear** as countries scale back their carbon- and resource-intensive industries.
- We need to **seize the opportunities** presented by these transformative changes to create a brighter future and deliver economic security, **equal opportunity and social justice** – and ultimately reinforce the fabric of our societies.

## FoW Commission recommendations:

- **Increase transformative investments** in decent and sustainable work, in line with UN 2030 Agenda, that will advance **gender equality** and can **create millions of jobs and new opportunities** for micro-, small and medium-sized **enterprises**.
- Prioritize the **rural economy**
- **Reshaping business incentive structures** for longer-term investment and new measures of country progress to incorporate environmental degradation



# Call for Action and Commitment

## UN CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT, 23 SEPTEMBER 2019



Crosscutting commitments:

- **Generating decent jobs, and strengthening climate adaptation strategies and protect workers and vulnerable groups** as part of the social and Political Drivers to advance commitments in areas that affect people's well-being. **Just transition policies** to be developed together with climate strategies.
- **Mitigation Strategy:** to generate momentum for ambitious long-term strategies to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- **Youth Engagement and Public Mobilization**

# Green and Blue Economy: Decent Work Impacts and Solutions

- **New Jobs:** decarbonizing the economy can create at least 24 million new jobs, according to the ILO
- **New skills** are needed (new ILO report 6th June)
  - New skills provision, on-the-job training and apprenticeship programmes
- **Value chain approach:** waste management and recycling, clean energies, energy efficiency, sustainable construction, organic food production, sustainable tourism.
- **Climate change labour impact assessments and social protection**
- **Dialogue and tripartism** for discussion and agreement on the way forward.
- Empowerment and support of workers and employers active in the green economy