

# The Human Empowerment Model of Societal Development

Christian Welzel

Leuphana University Lueneburg  
Higher School of Economics St. Petersburg  
World Values Survey Stockholm  
**[cwelzel@gmail.com](mailto:cwelzel@gmail.com)**

# The Concept of Human Empowerment

What People are *Able* to Do (creatively)

Skills:  
Intellectual  
Capital

Tools:  
Technological  
Capital

Connections:  
Social  
Capital

What People are *Willing* to Do (creatively)

Desire for  
Independent  
Choice

Desire for  
Equal  
Opportunities

What People are *Allowed* to Do (creatively)

Personal  
Autonomy  
Rights

Political  
Participation  
Rights

Action **REOURCES** increase  
**capabilities** to act at own will.

Emancipative **VALUES** elevate  
**aspirations** to act at own will.

Institutional **FREEDOM** extends  
**entitlements** to act at own will.

Instrumental  
AGENCY:  
The **UTILITY**  
of Freedom

UTILITY  
VALUATION

Motivational  
AGENCY:  
The **VALUE**  
of Freedom

VALUE  
CODIFICATION

Legal  
AGENCY:  
The **RIGHT**  
to Freedom

**H U M A N E M P O W E R M E N T :**

**What Ordinary People are Able, Willing, and Allowed to Do (creatively)**

# The Concept of Human Empowerment (short version)

HARDWARE

SOFTWARE

LICENCE

Action  
RESOURCES

Emancipative  
VALUES

Institutional  
FREEDOM

The UTILITY  
of Freedom

UTILITY  
VALUATION

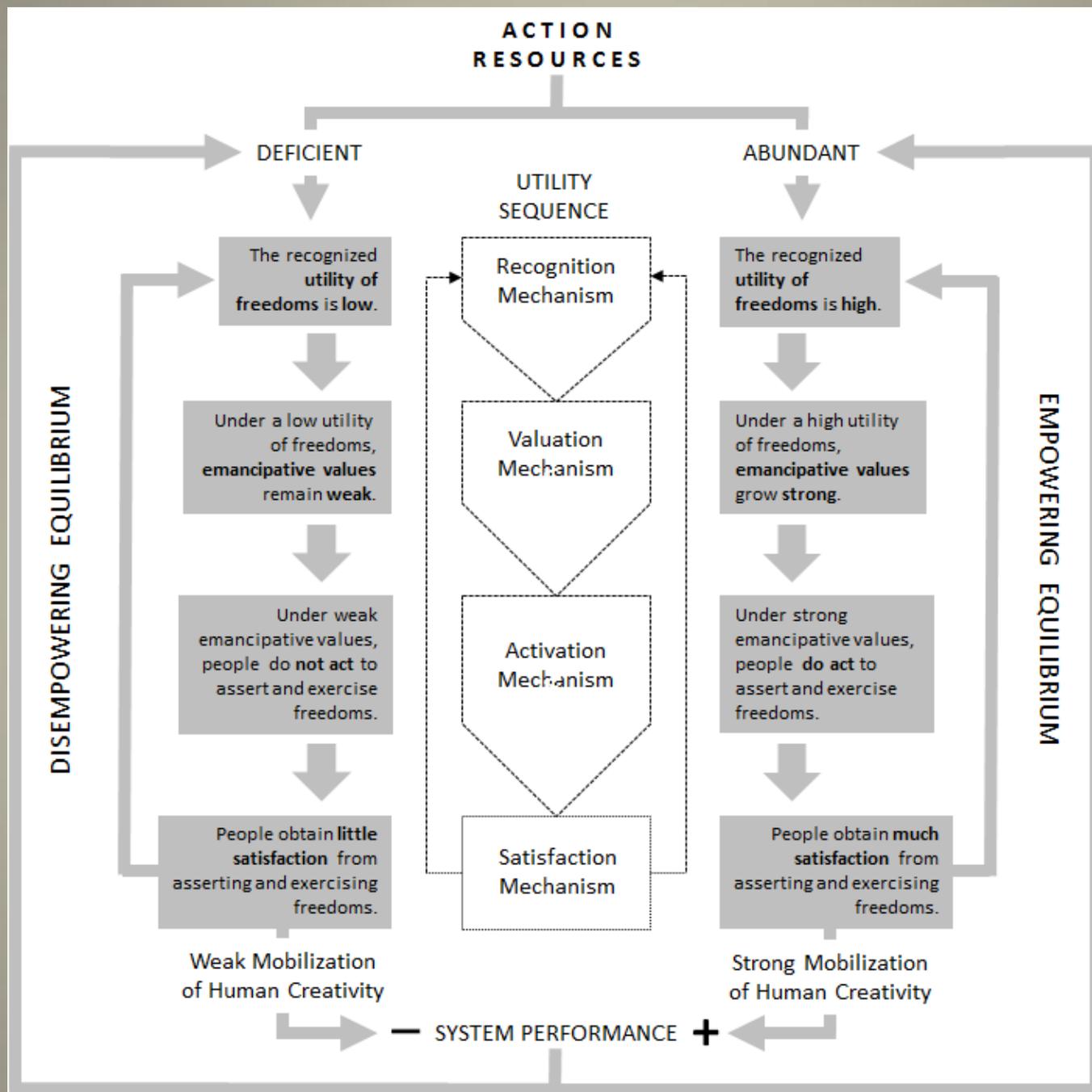
The VALUE  
of Freedom

VALUE  
CODIFICATION

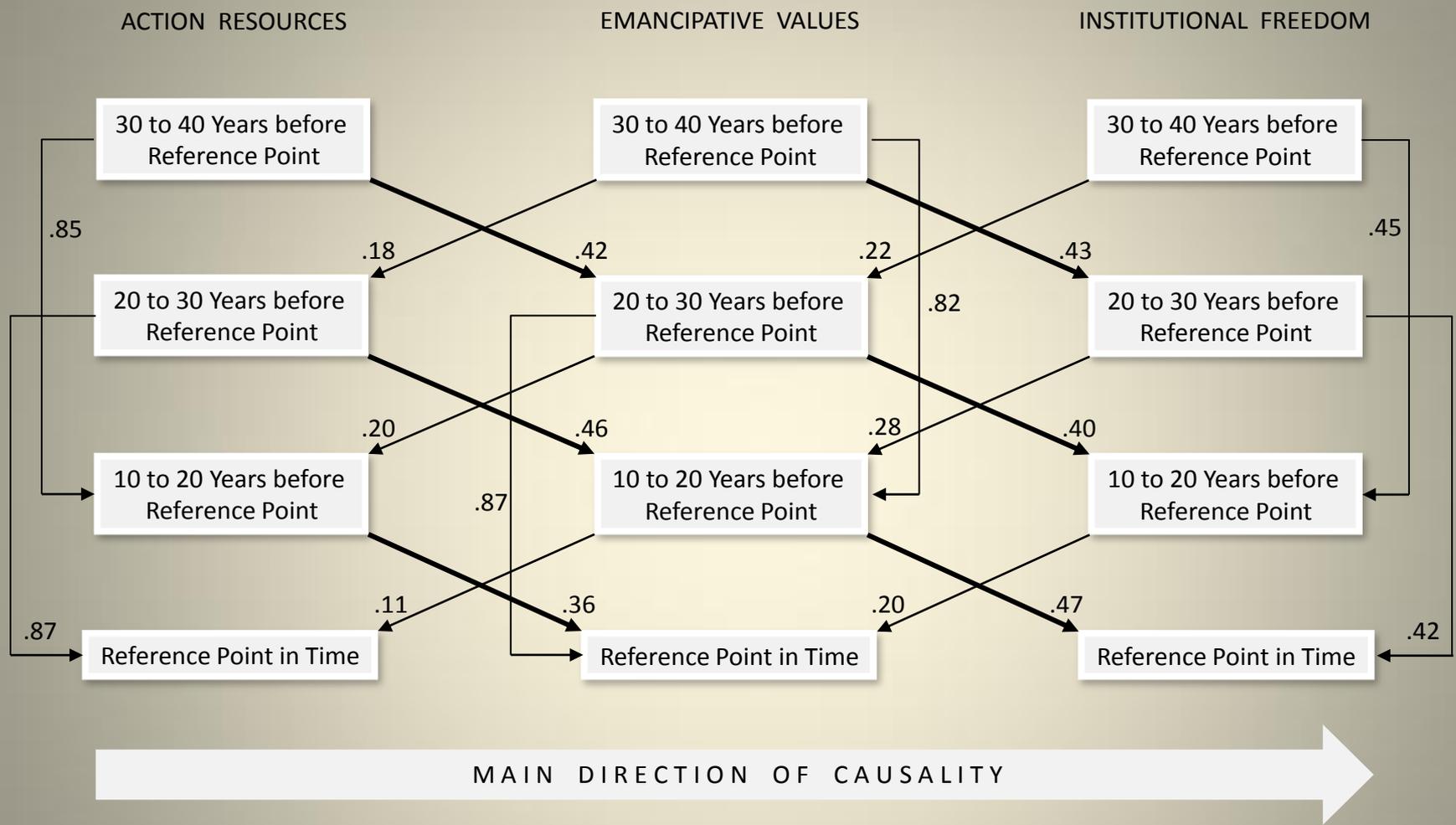
The RIGHT  
to Freedom

H U M A N E M P O W E R M E N T



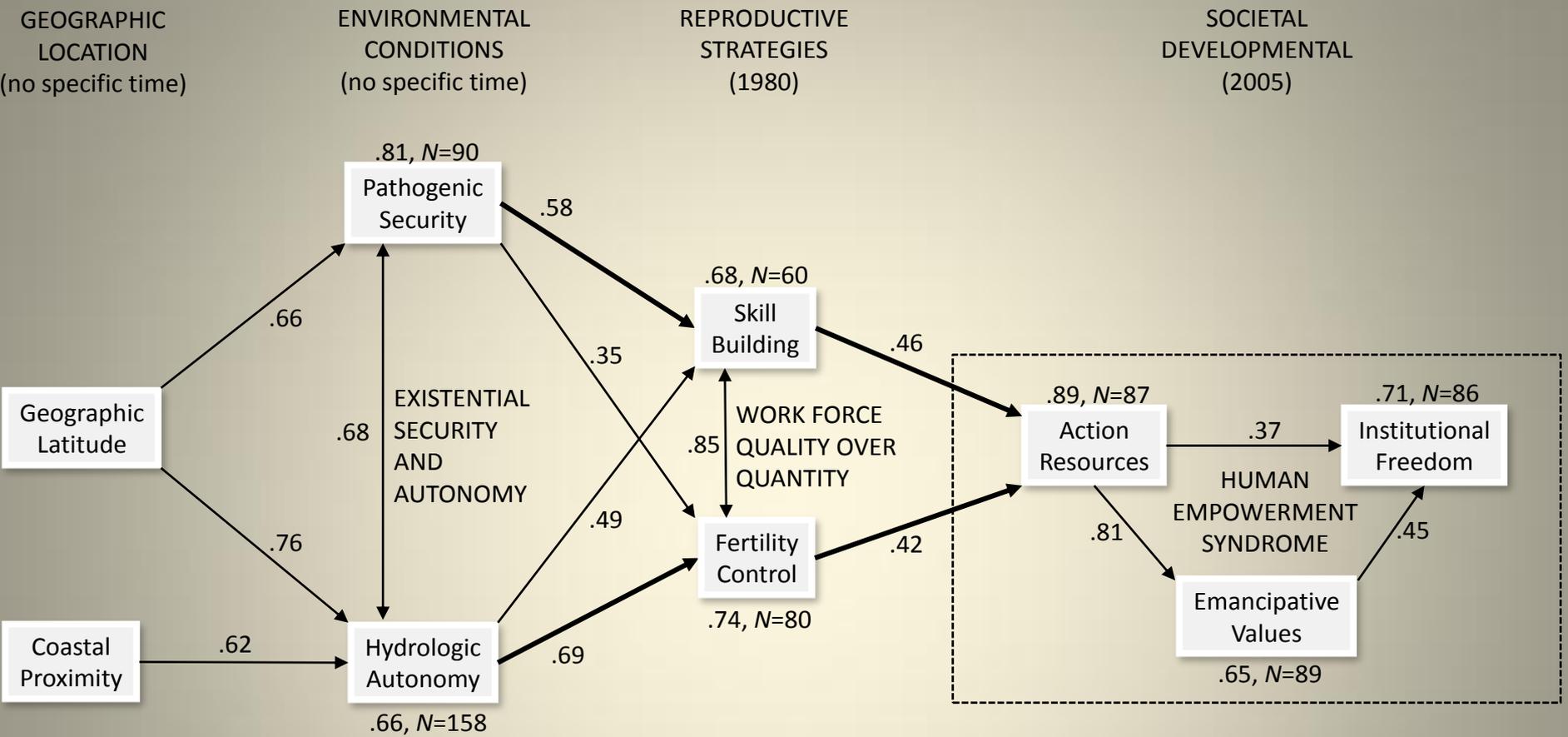


# The Endogenous Flow of Causality within the Human Empowerment Syndrome



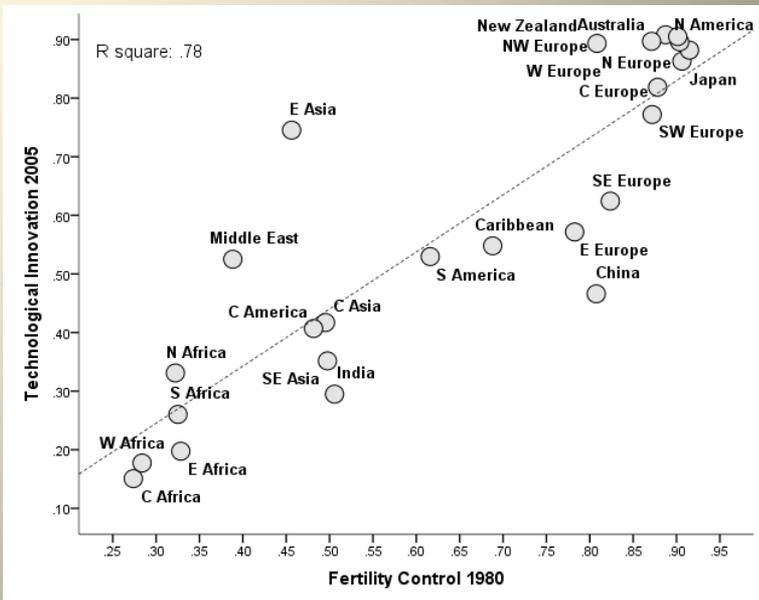
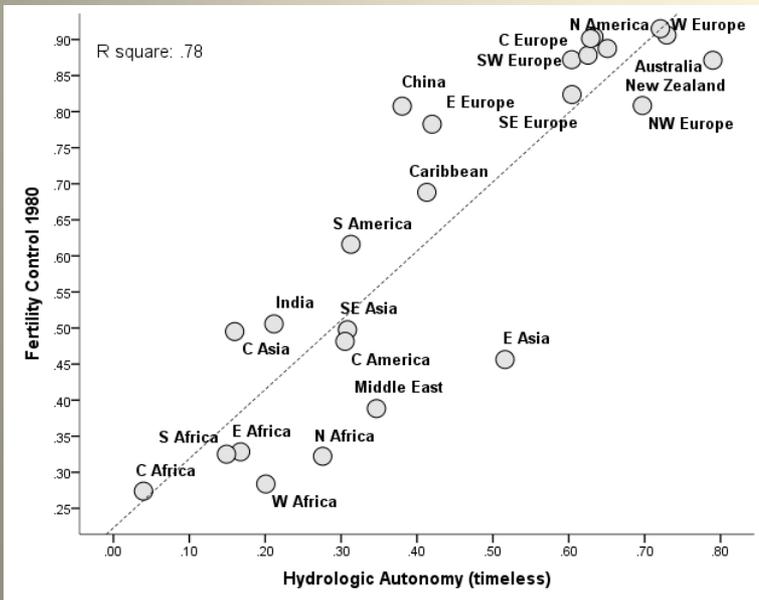
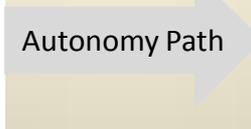
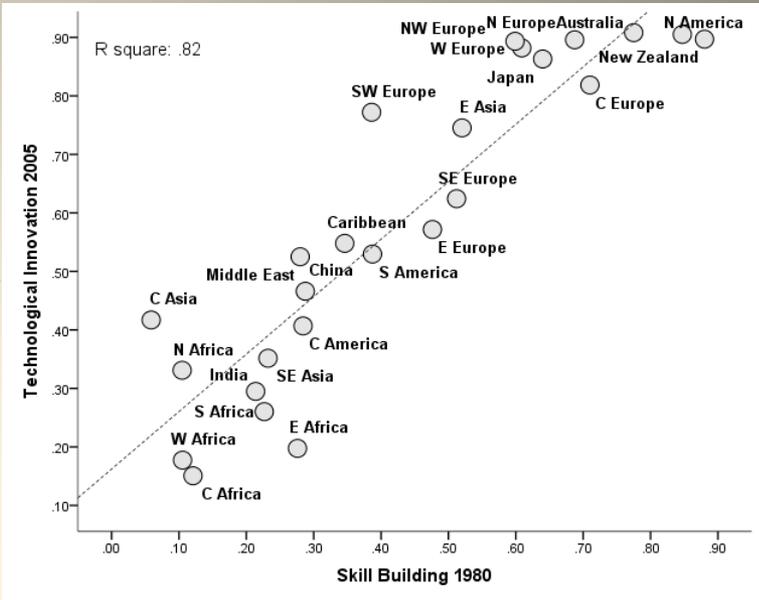
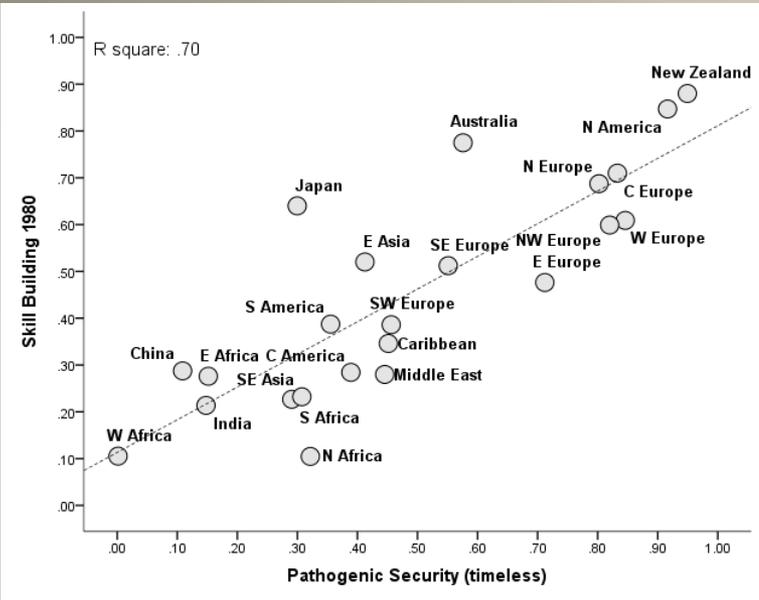
*Note:* Entries are partial correlation coefficients, resulting from a sequence of cross-lagged multi-variate regressions with 357 country-cohorts as units of analyses (5 cohorts by 80 countries).

# The Exogenous Causation of the Human Empowerment Syndrome



*Note:* Entries are partial correlation coefficients. Path diagram summarizes information of a sequence of multi-variate, temporally ordered regressions, with left-hand side variables measured before and used as predictors of right-hand side variables. Units of observation are national societies. Number of units varies by regression from 70 to 180 (each regression including all societies with available Data).

# Visualization of the Two Key Linkages in the Impact of Nature on Technology



# The Great Diversion of Development from Exploitation into Empowerment

