



Double in a Decade – Responsibly

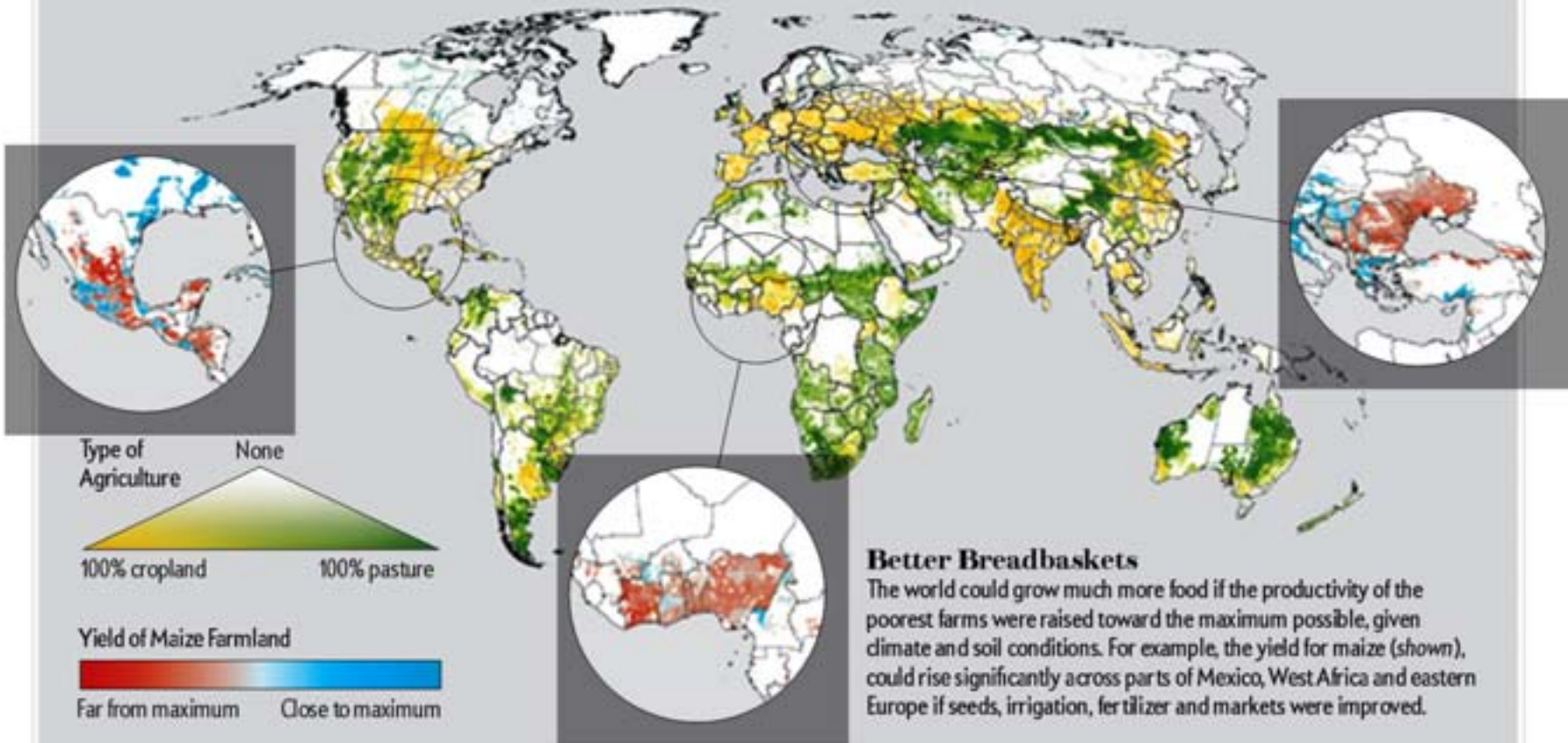
Wally Stevens
Executive Director
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Farming Hits the Wall, but Not the Ceiling

Humankind now farms 38 percent of the earth's ice-free land. Crops take up one third of that area; pastures and rangelands for livestock cover the rest. Little room exists for expansion because most of the remaining land is deserts, mountains, tundra or urban. Still, farms in many existing areas could be more productive (*insets*).



Output Expands, Harm Contracts

To feed the world without harming the planet, agriculture will have to produce much more food (blue) and find better ways to distribute it (red), while significantly cutting the damage it does to the atmosphere, habitat and water (yellow).

Food Production

By 2050 global population will be two billion to three billion greater, and a larger proportion of people will have higher incomes, so they will consume more per person. Farmers will need to grow twice as much as they do today.



Food Access

More than one billion of the earth's seven billion people suffer from chronic hunger. Poverty and poor distribution of food must be overcome to provide adequate calories for everyone.

Environmental Damage

To reduce harm, agriculture must stop expanding into tropical forests, raise the productivity of underperforming farmland (which could boost production 50 to 60 percent), use water and fertilizer far more efficiently, and prevent soil degradation.



The “Big Five” Challenges

- Disease Management



- Feed Supply



- Environmental Impact



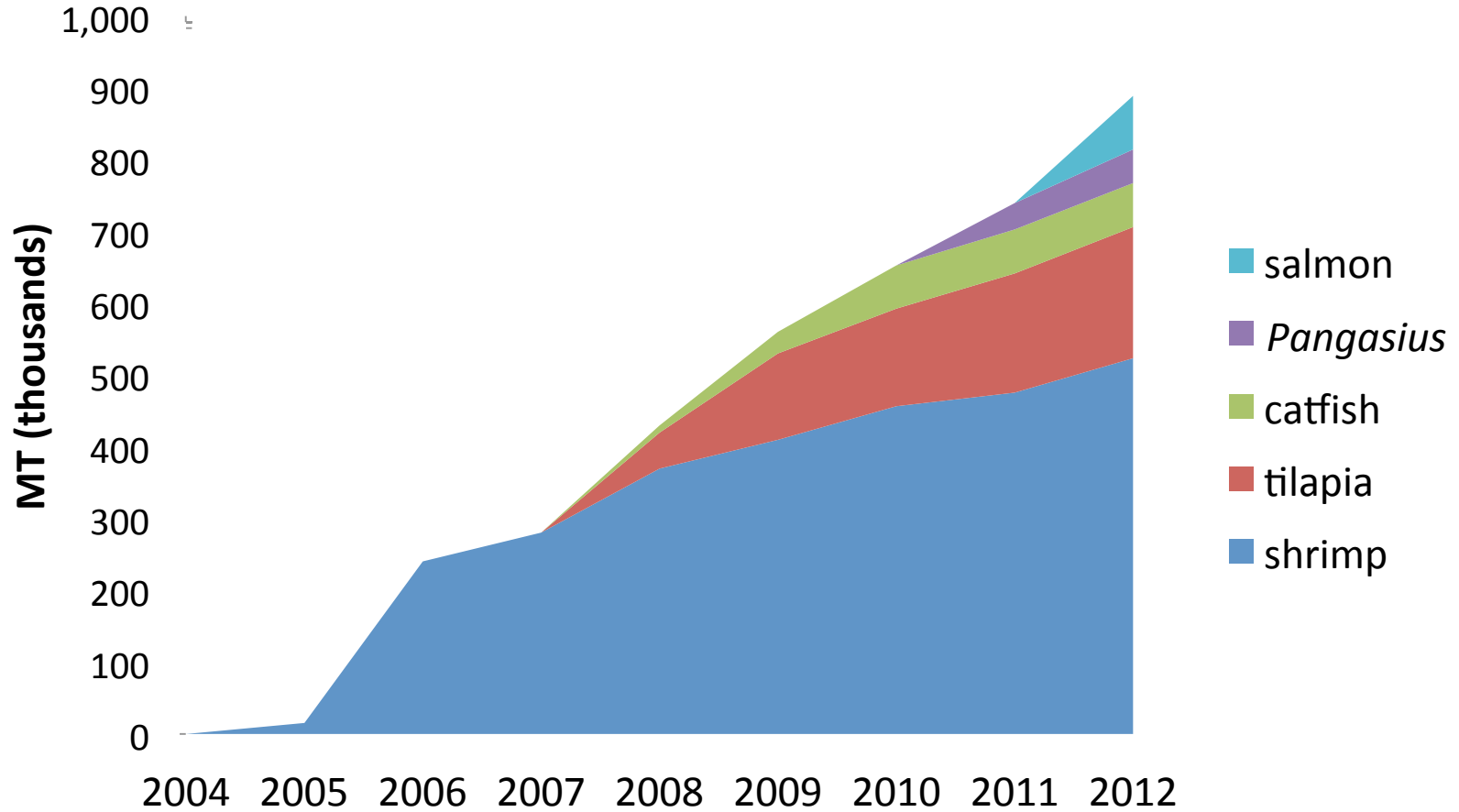
- Funding



- Market Acceptance

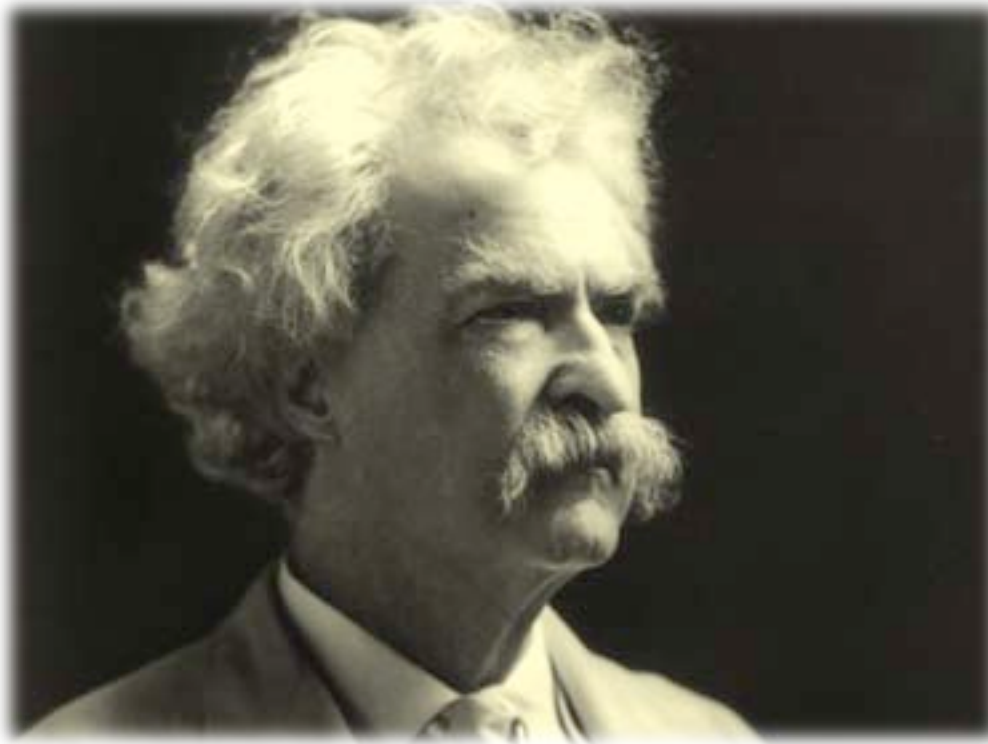


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"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do. So turn at once to your willing crew and sail away from the safe harbor."

Mark Twain



Words to consider...
from anthropologist
Margaret Mead.

*“Never doubt that a
small group of
thoughtful,
committed citizens
can change the
world; indeed it is
the only thing that
ever has.”*

