increased. As a result of the different opportunities, there have been great differences in economic development. In some regions of the world food surpluses have been formed, while in others famine zones have come about. The quantity of food provided through aid programmes has increased. In the second half of the 1970s Africa, South-America and Asia received 7.3 million tons of grain aid, whereas in the second half of the 1980s this figure was 9.8 million tons. Within this, however, there was an increase in the case of Africa, while the figure for Asia showed a decrease. In 1987, the statistical average grain aid in Africa was 11 kg per inhabitant.

Intensive soil cultivation, incorrect irrigation, the extensive use of mineral fertilizers and the decreasing use of organic manure have together led to the degradation of the environment. The voluntary environment protection movements being formed in the 1960s were primarily against pesticides used in agriculture. (Silent Spring.) Later other areas came to the fore: pollution caused by transport and industrial activity, the unsolved problems of megacities, the nuclear power stations and energy policy in general. There were views stating that growth should be limited in order to be able to preserve the natural resources we still had.