

Technology
Efficiency

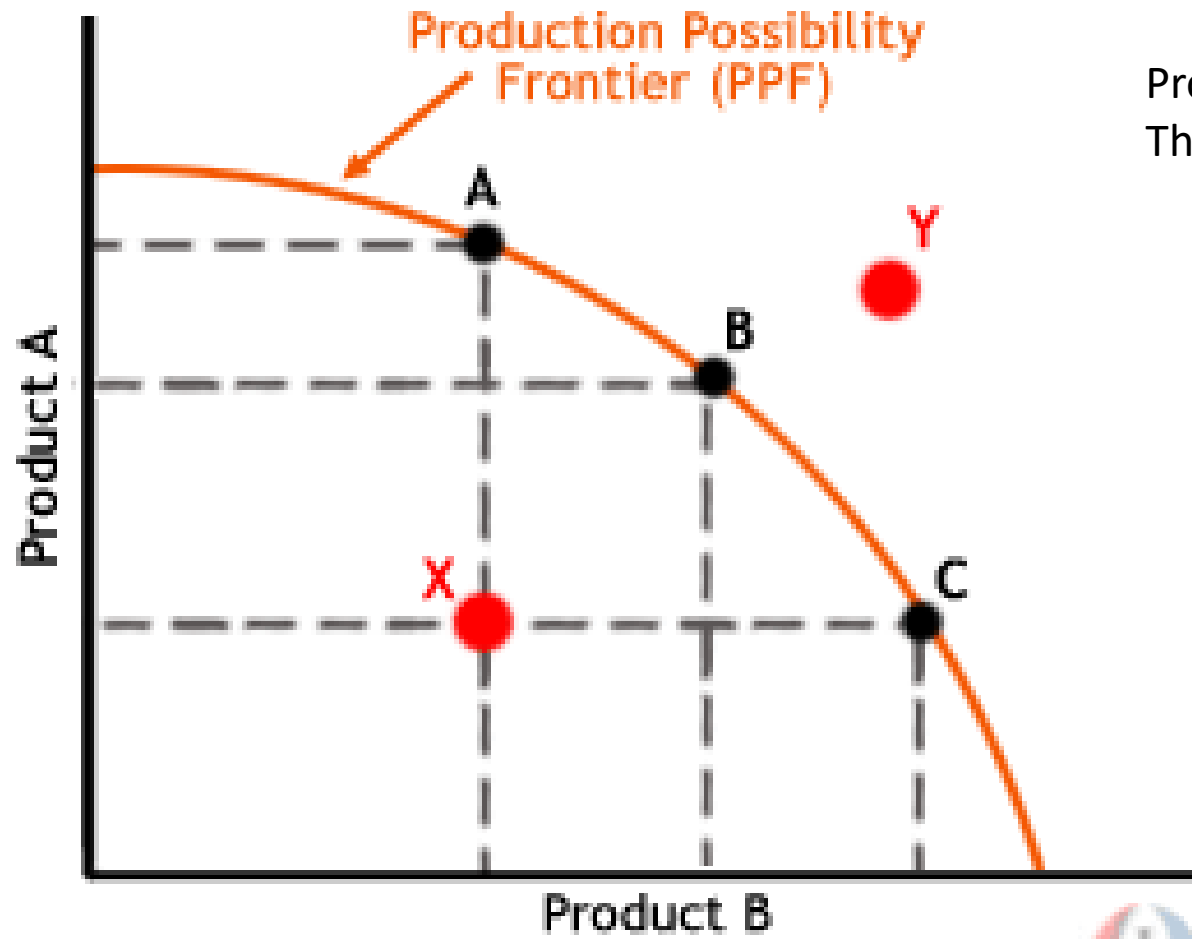
Standard of Living



Today – World Production of Goods and Services
divided by World Population =
Share of World's Production.

But many are under that average share, even
far below at a poverty level. Assume they
want just to reach that average.

What must happen to the World Production
of Goods and Services?

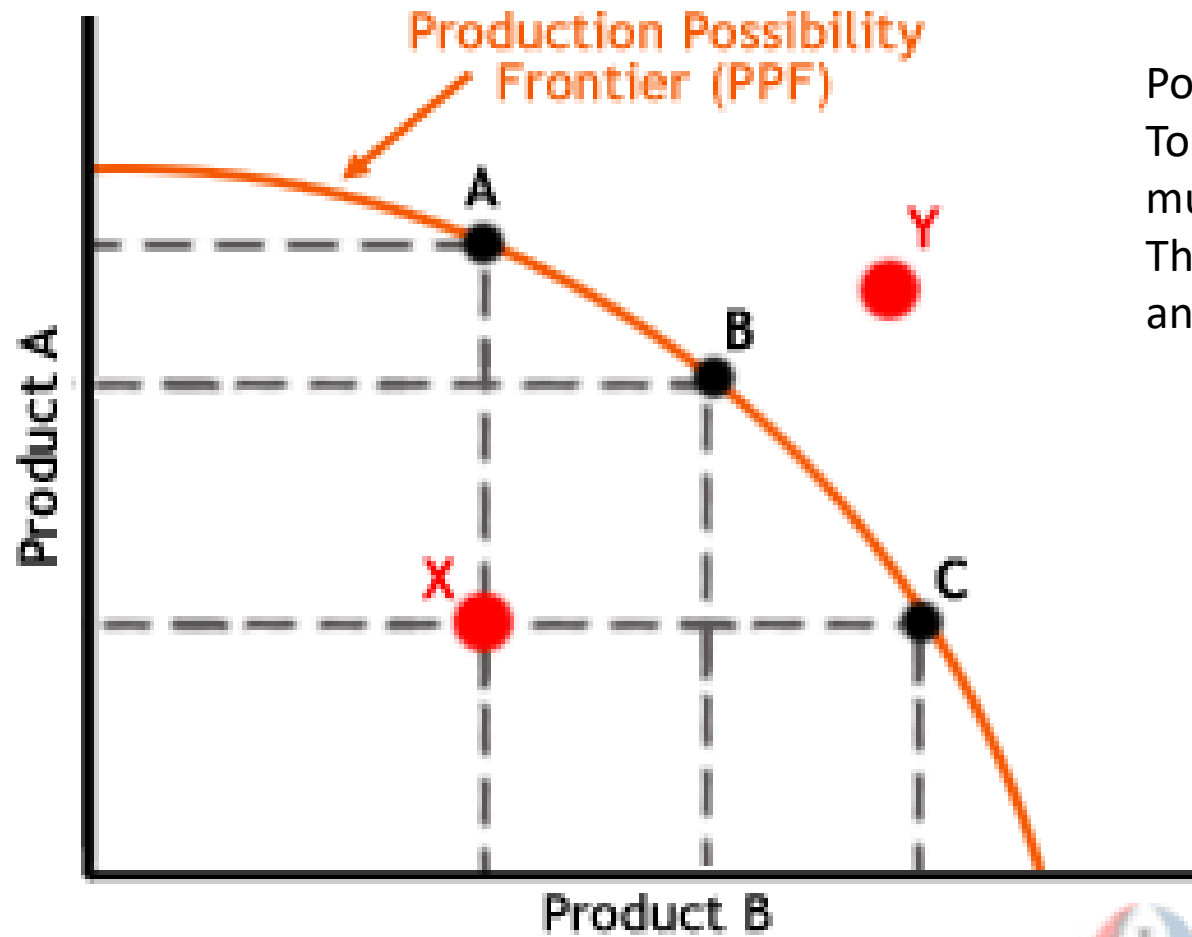


Production must grow.
The curve moves to the right and up



Also, the human population
is growing

In 1950, the world had 2.5 billion people; and in 2005, the world had 6.5 billion people. By 2050, this number could rise to more than 9 billion



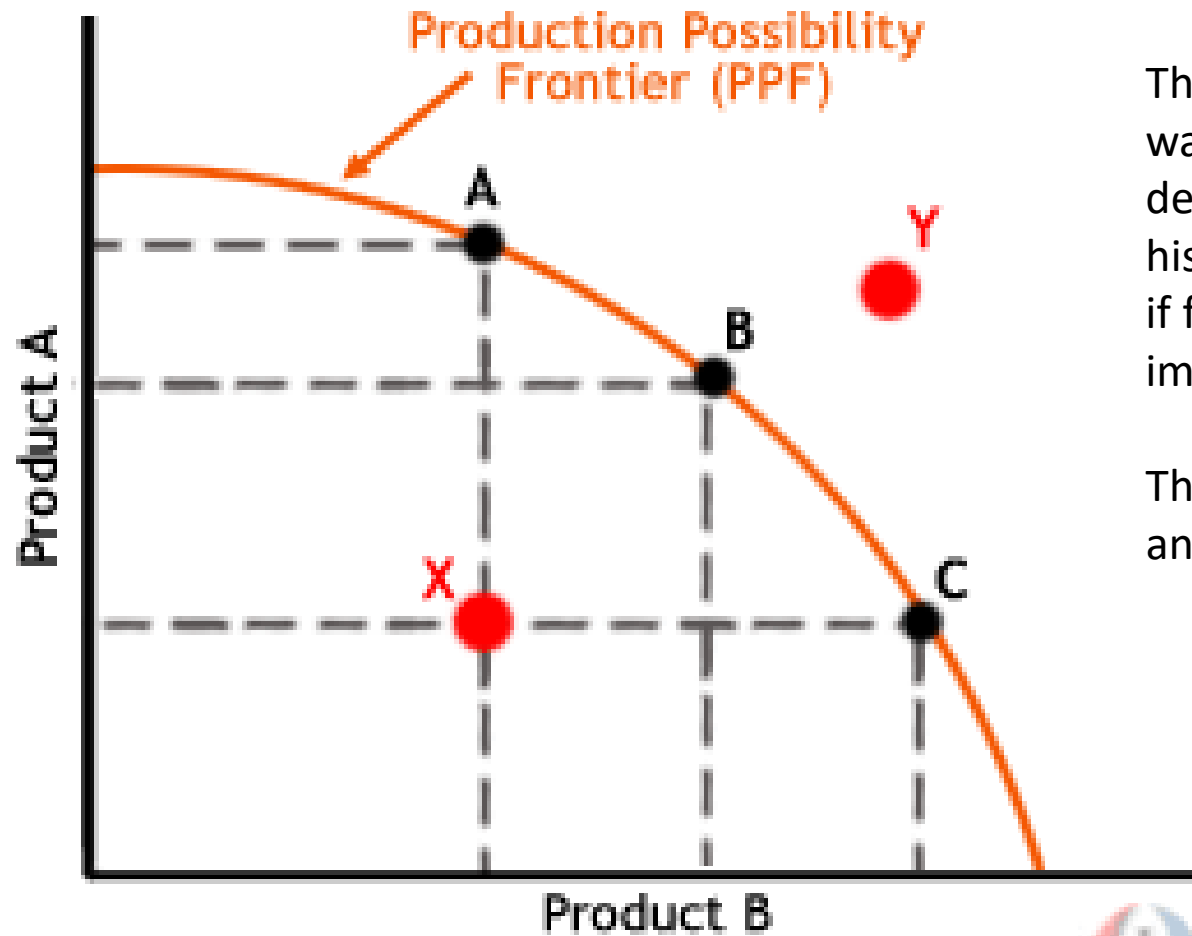
Population grows.
To keep the average, production
must grow.
The curve moves further to the right
and up



Production has grown to meet the needs of those below the average share now.

It has also grown to provide the average share to the new population.

BUT is the population willing to keep at the same average share? No!



The population will continue to want more. There will always be a desire by each individual to increase his/her share of goods and services, if for no other reason than to improve their quality of life.

The curve moves further to the right and up



Realistically, any discussion of sustainable development must address the need for the growth of goods and services – economic growth.

Yet, the current population is already stressing the capacity of the Earth, stressing its resources, and stressing its biodiversity footprint.

Sustainable development is development that meets the **needs** of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own **needs**.

TWO KEY CONCEPTS:

the concept of **needs/desires**, in particular the essential needs of the world's poor; and

the idea of **limitations** imposed by the state of technology and of social organization on the ability of the world society to manage the impact on the global environment's ability to meet present and future needs.