

Understanding and Preventing Climate Breakdown

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CorrelAid Netherlands

27th November, 2021

Outline

Part I: The Bigger Picture

Part II: Climate Impacts Today & Tomorrow

30 min

Part III: Why Have We Failed So Far?

Part IV: What Can We Do Today?

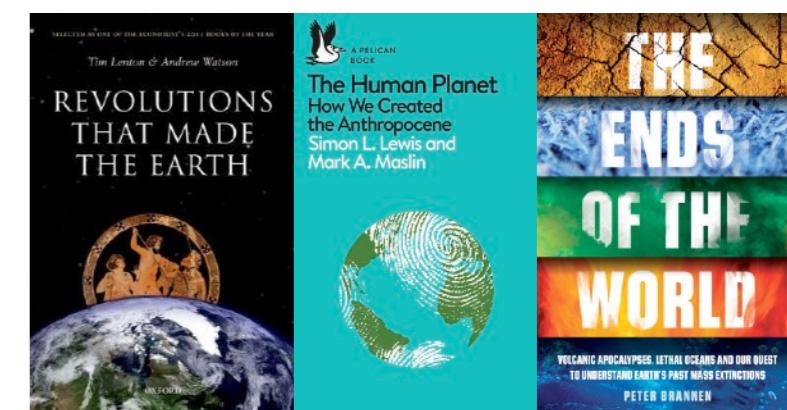
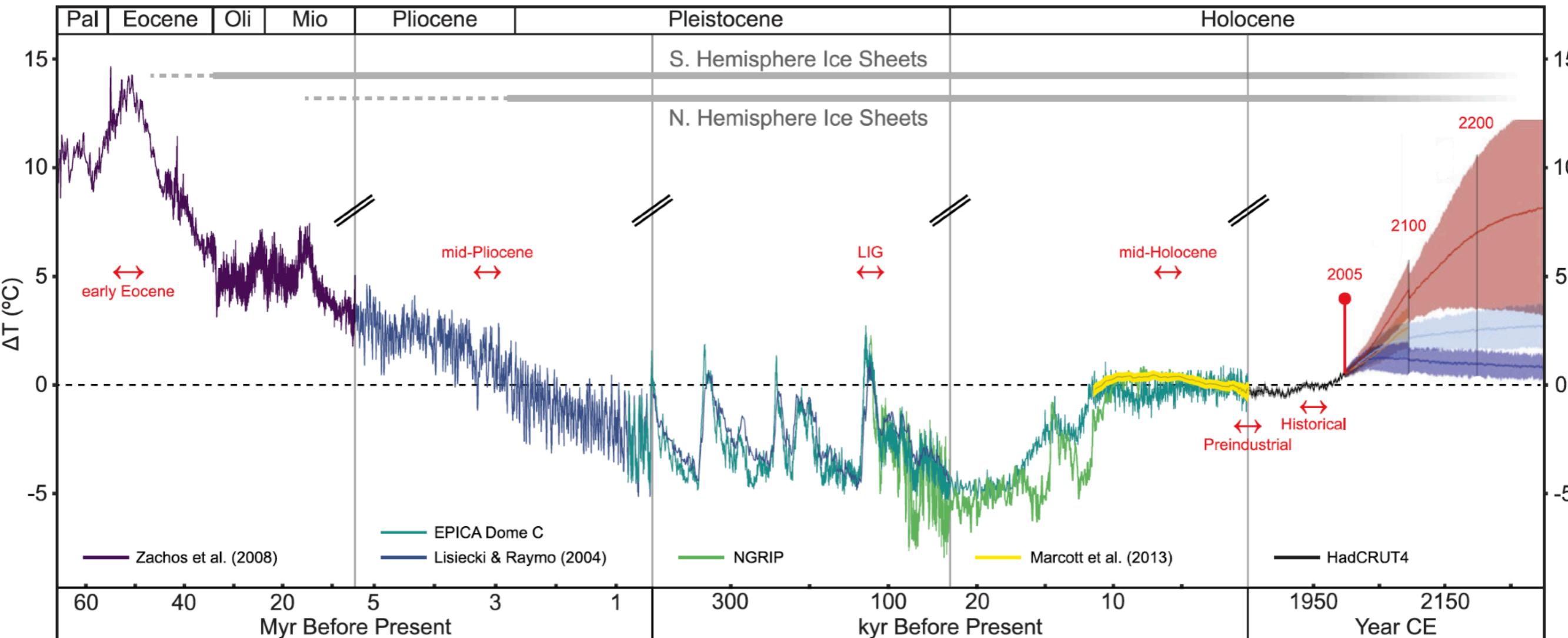
30 min

Part V: Climate Action with En-ROADS

15 min

Part I: The Bigger Picture

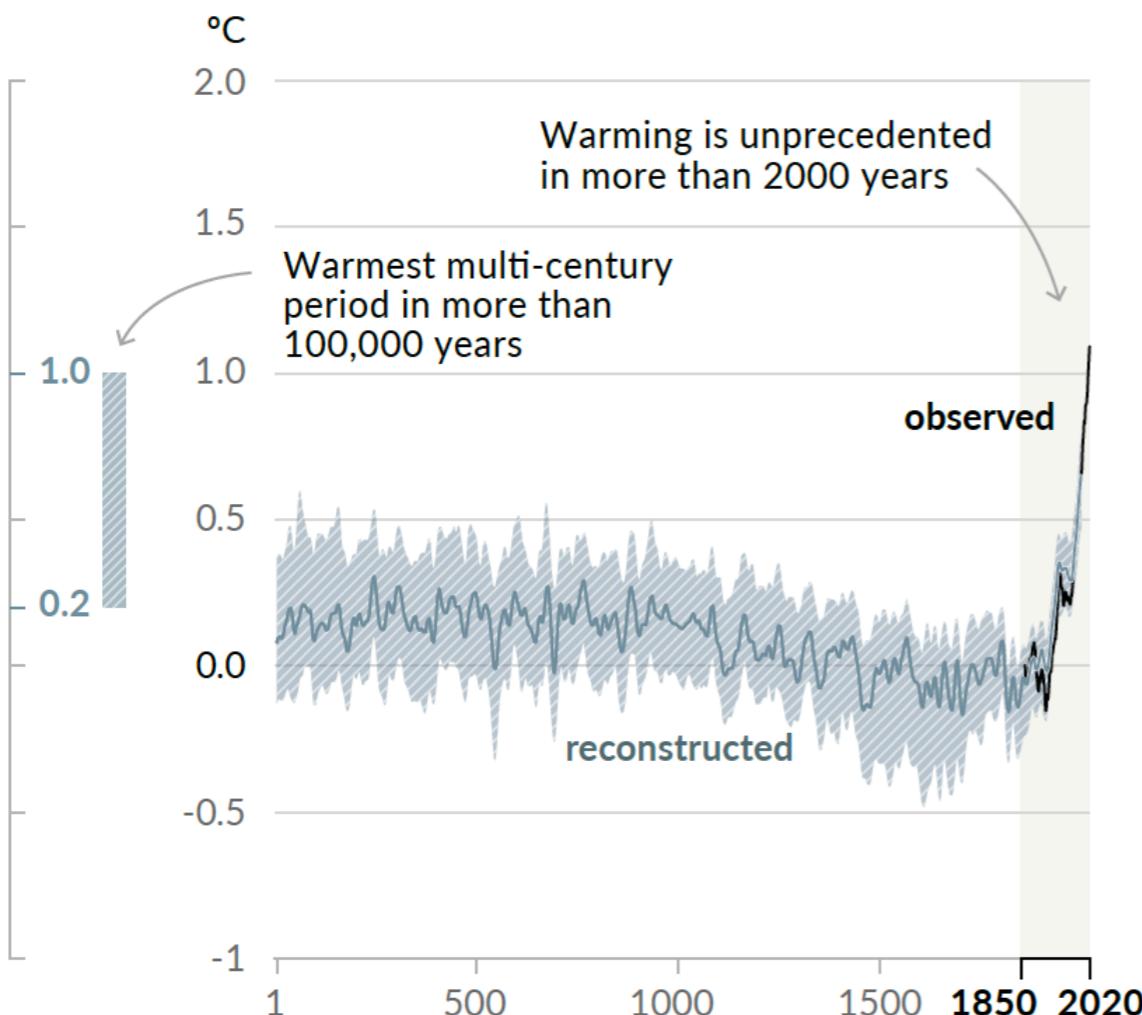




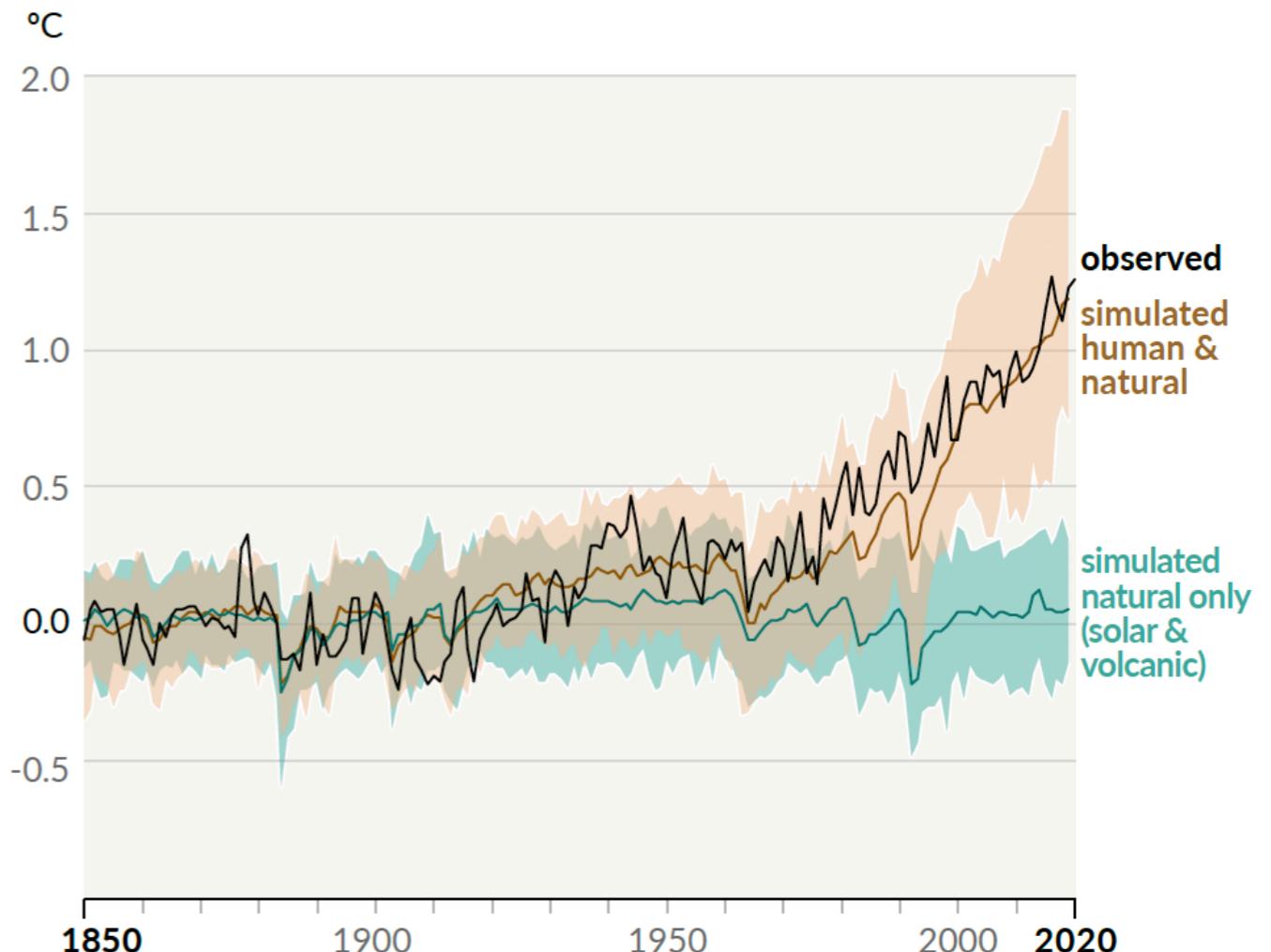
Burke et al. (2018); Brannen (2021); United Nations (2021)

Changes in global surface temperature relative to 1850-1900

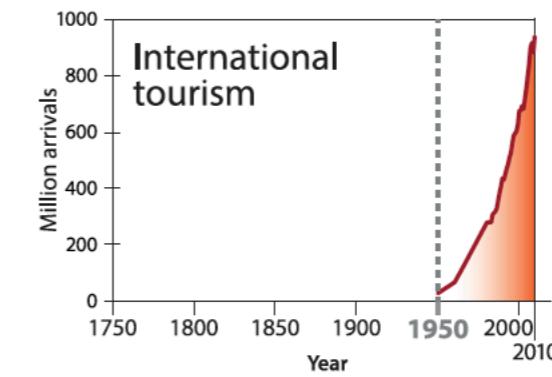
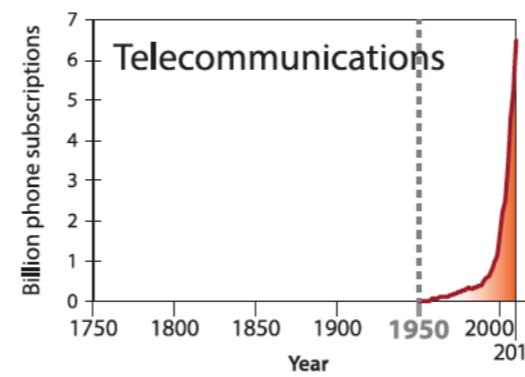
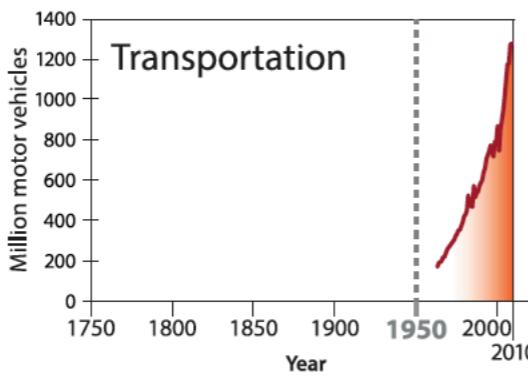
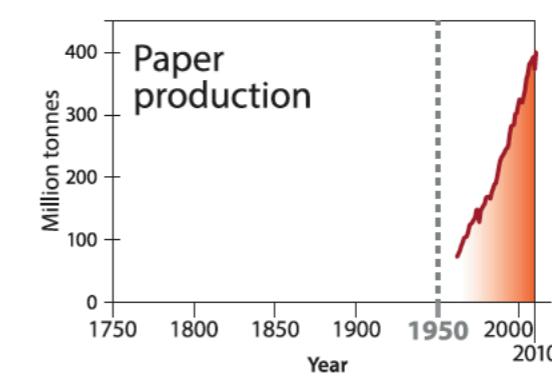
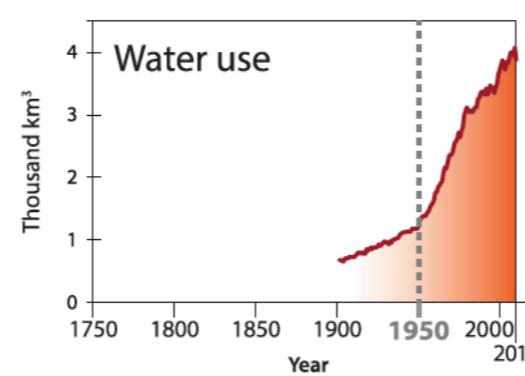
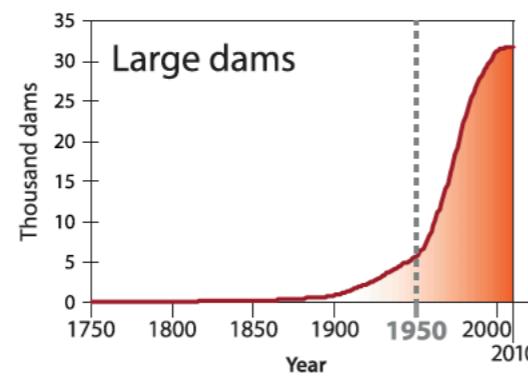
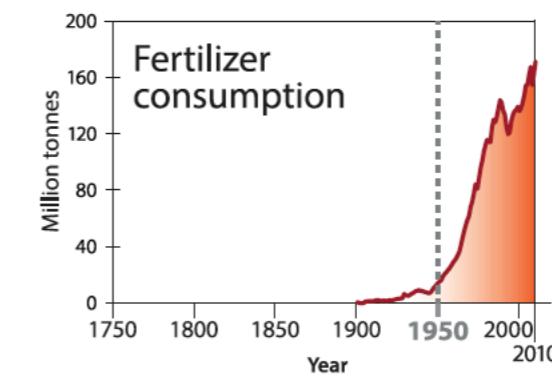
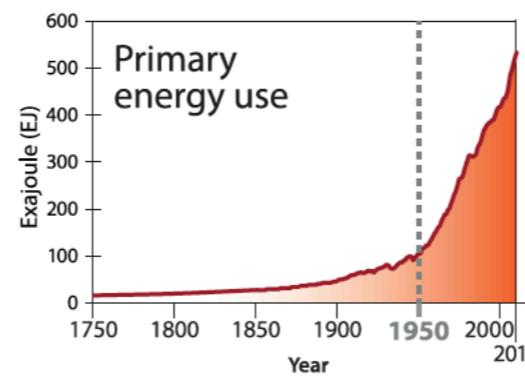
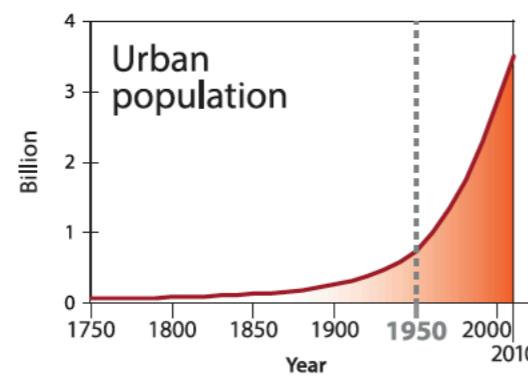
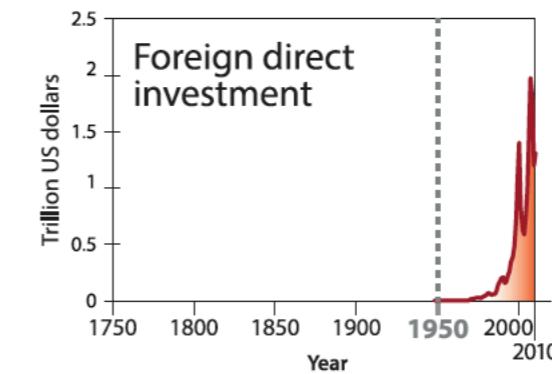
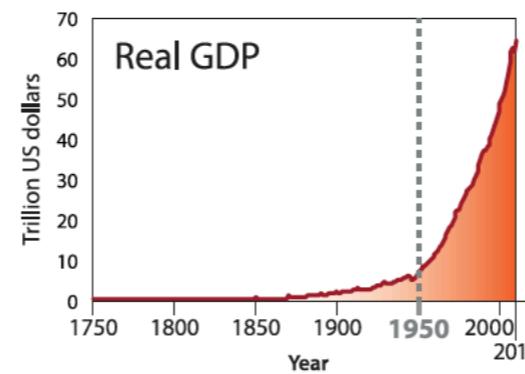
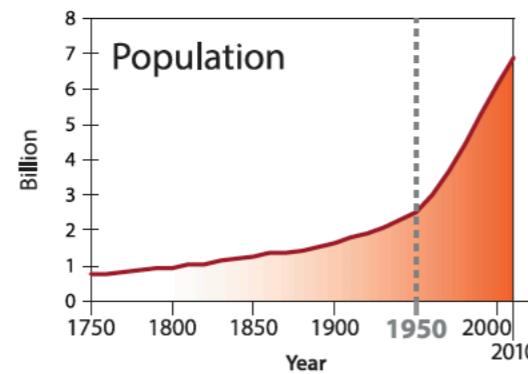
a) Change in global surface temperature (decadal average) as **reconstructed** (1-2000) and **observed** (1850-2020)



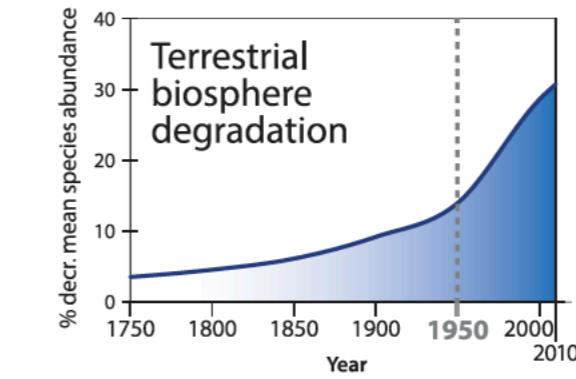
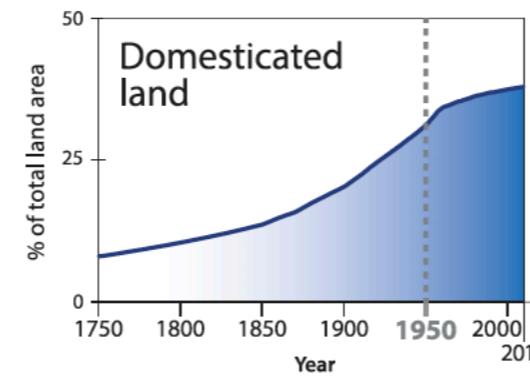
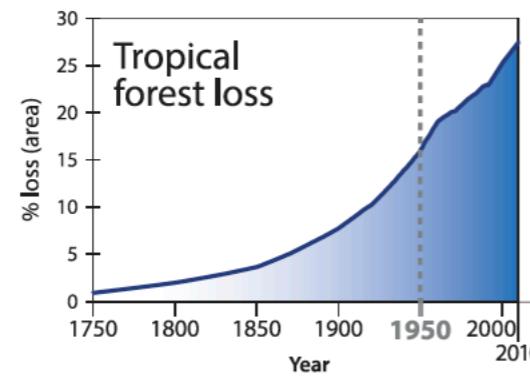
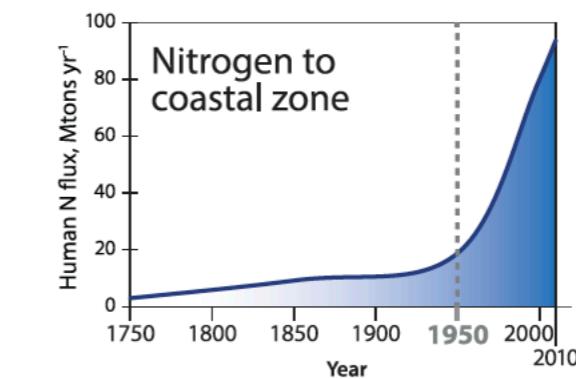
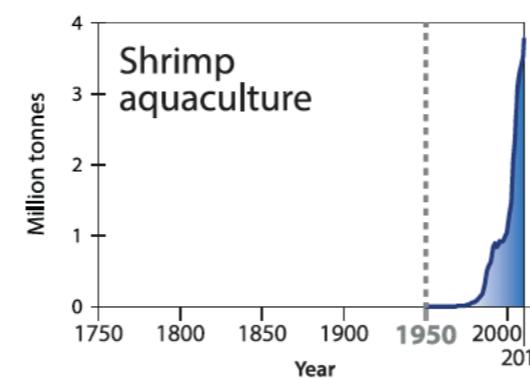
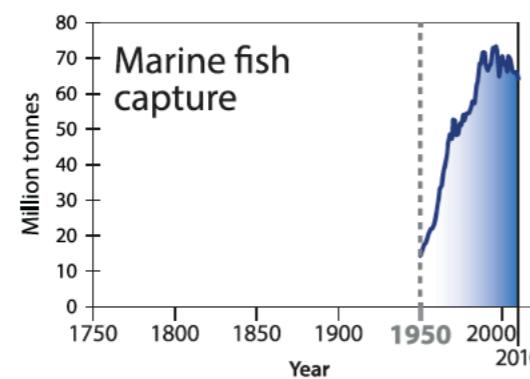
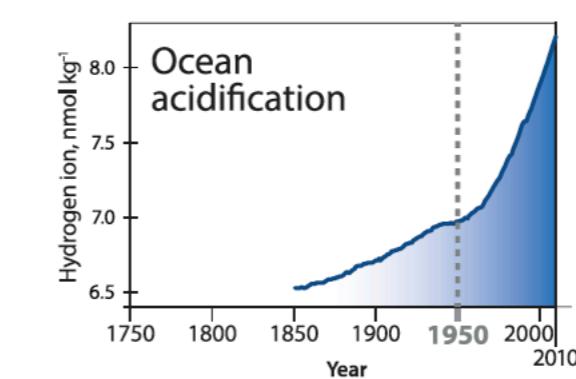
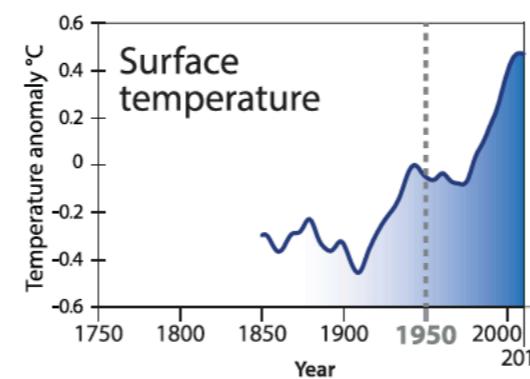
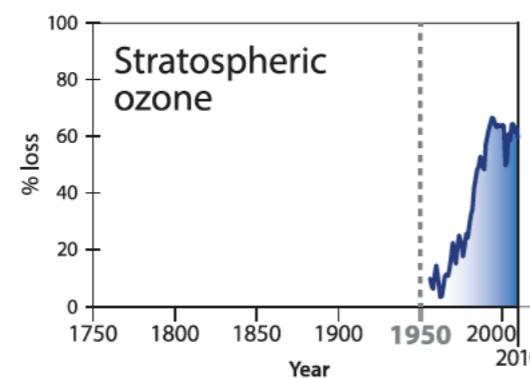
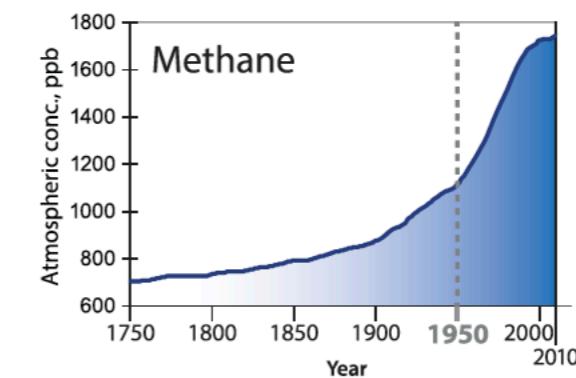
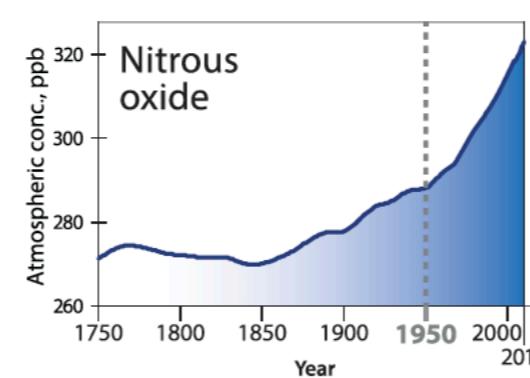
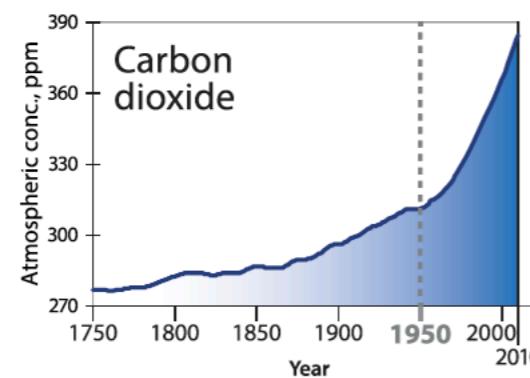
b) Change in global surface temperature (annual average) as **observed** and simulated using **human & natural** and **only natural** factors (both 1850-2020)

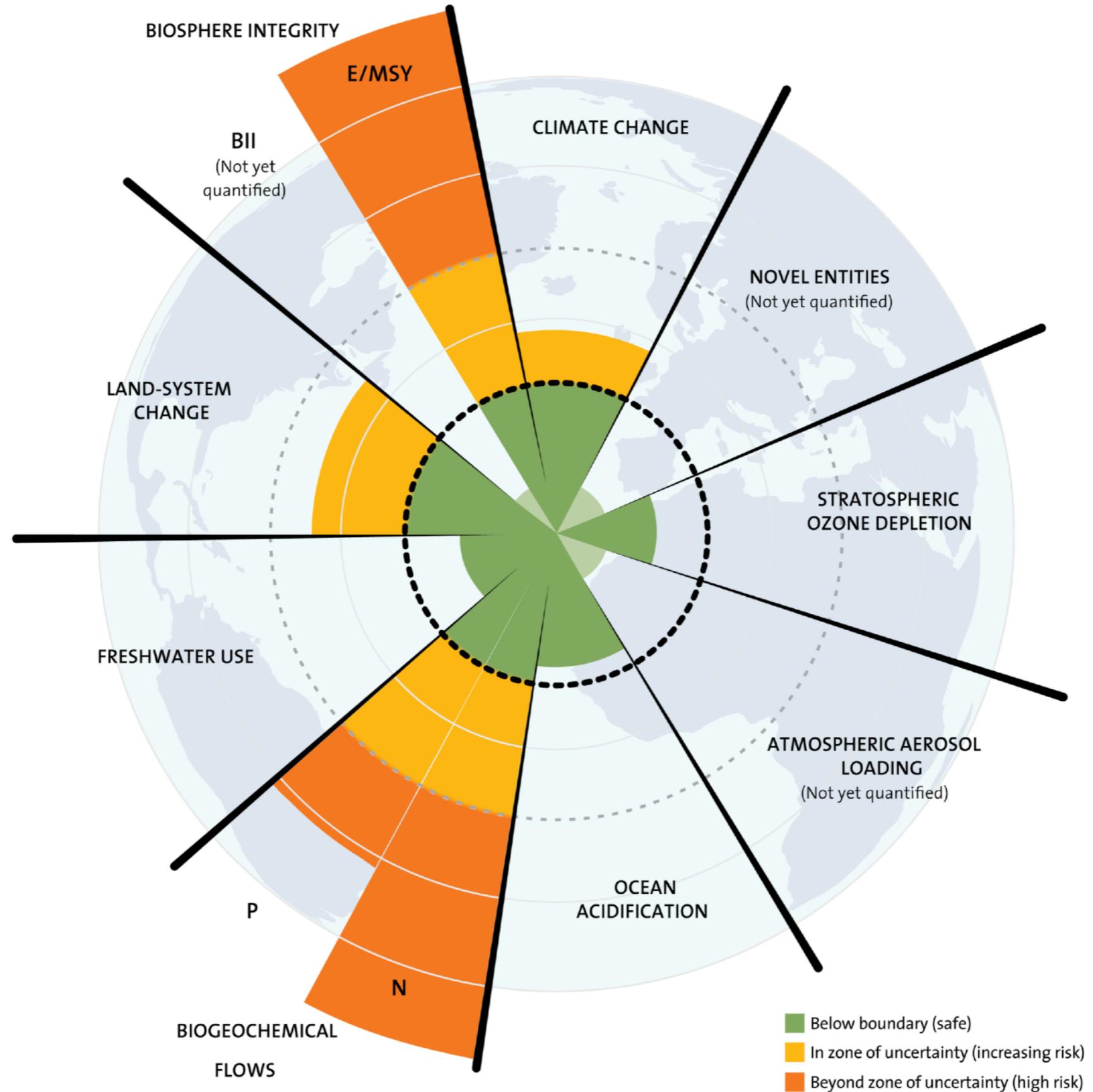


Socio-economic trends

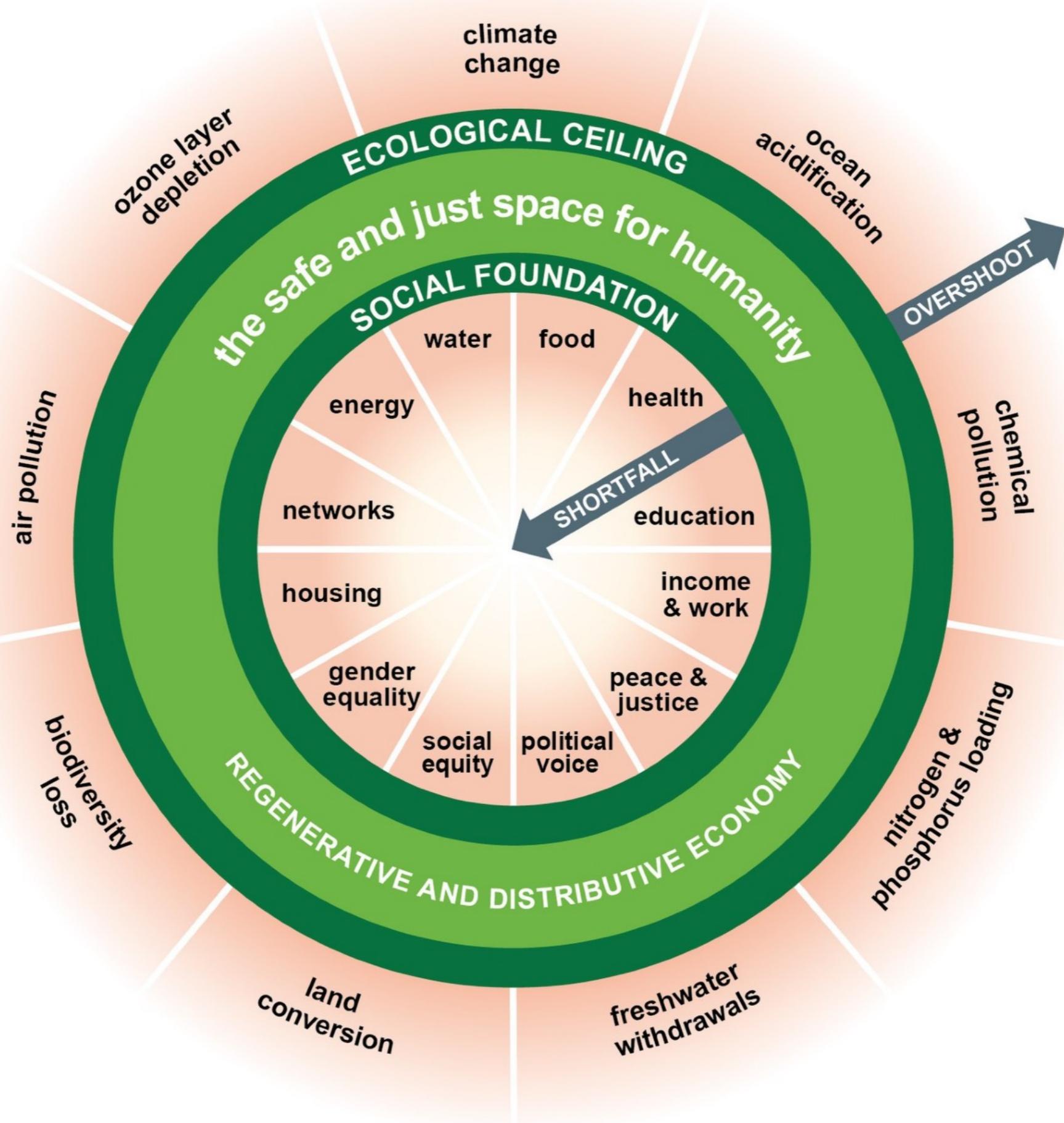


Earth system trends





Breaking Boundaries
Rockström COP26



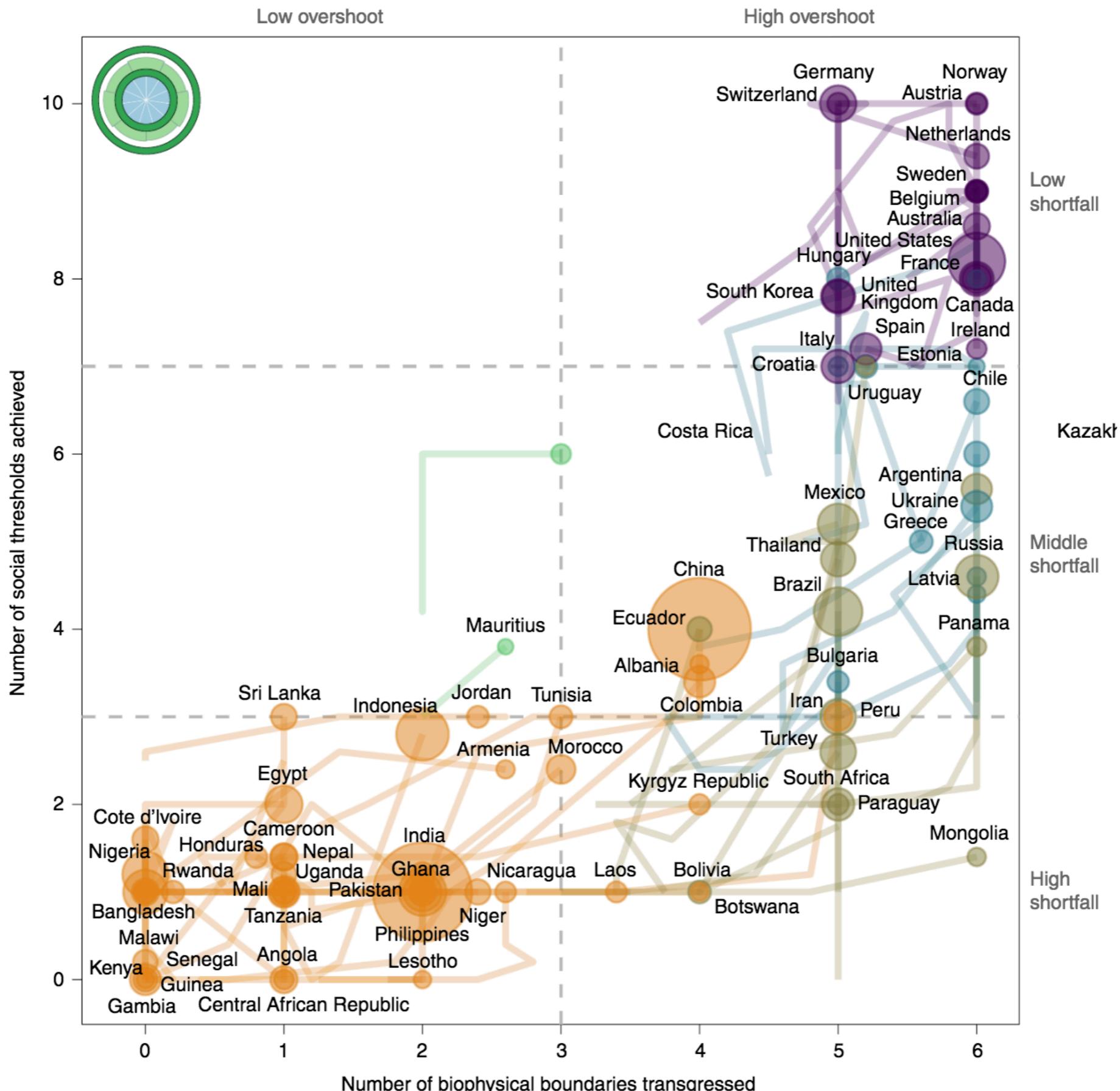
DOUGHNUT ECONOMICS

Seven Ways to Think Like a
21st-Century Economist



KATE RAWORTH

I read this book with the excitement that the people of his day must have read John Maynard Keynes's General Theory. It is brilliant, thrilling and revolutionary. George Monbiot



Part II:

Climate Impacts

Today & Tomorrow

Seville, Spain

August 2021: A billboard shows 47C (117F)



Crop Failures

Extreme Heat

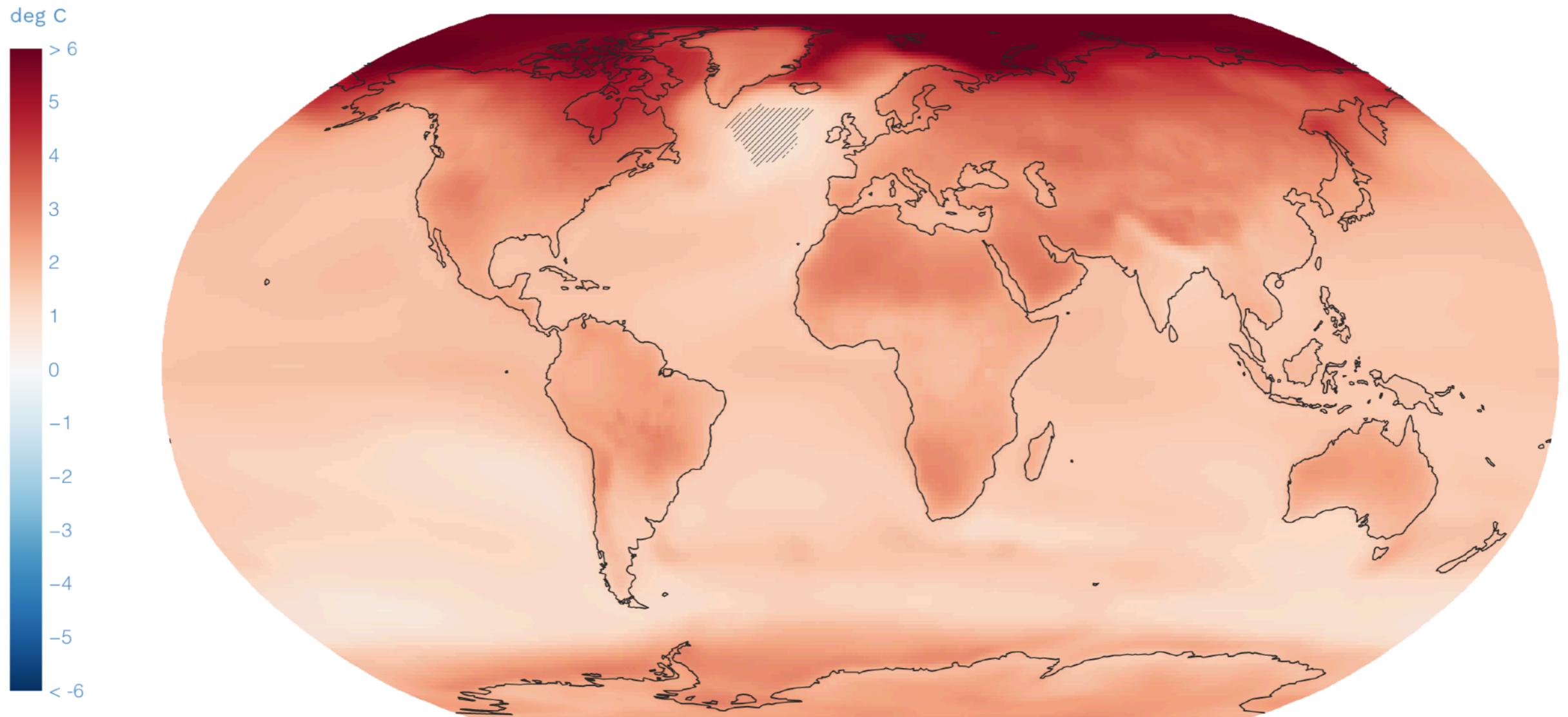
Badghis, Afghanistan

September 2021: A farmer holds a handful of failed wheat from his crop



[Source](#)

Heat



CMIP6 - Mean temperature (T) Change deg C - Warming 2°C SSP2-4.5 (rel. to 1850-1900) - Annual (34 models)

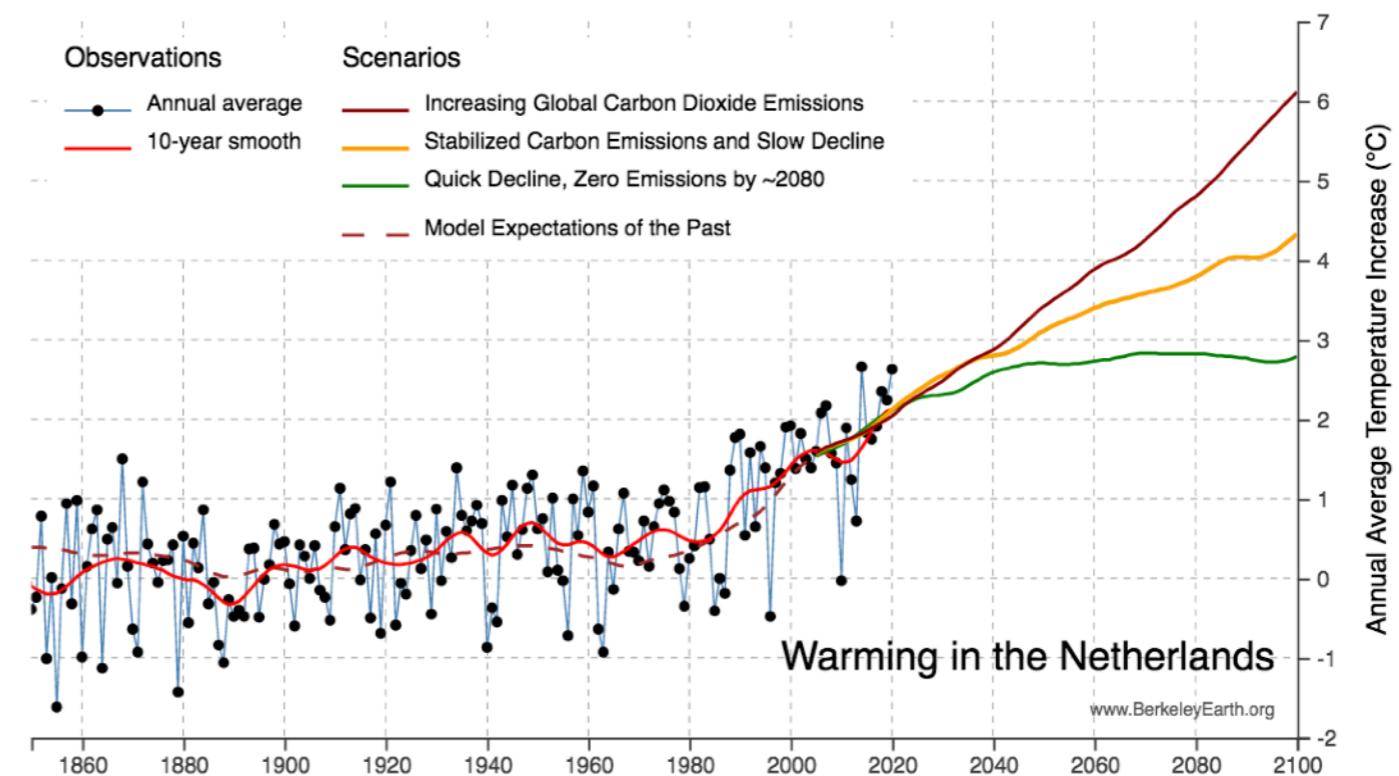
Byrne (2020)

McSweeney (2019)

The Netherlands

Already **+2.1 °C** in 2020

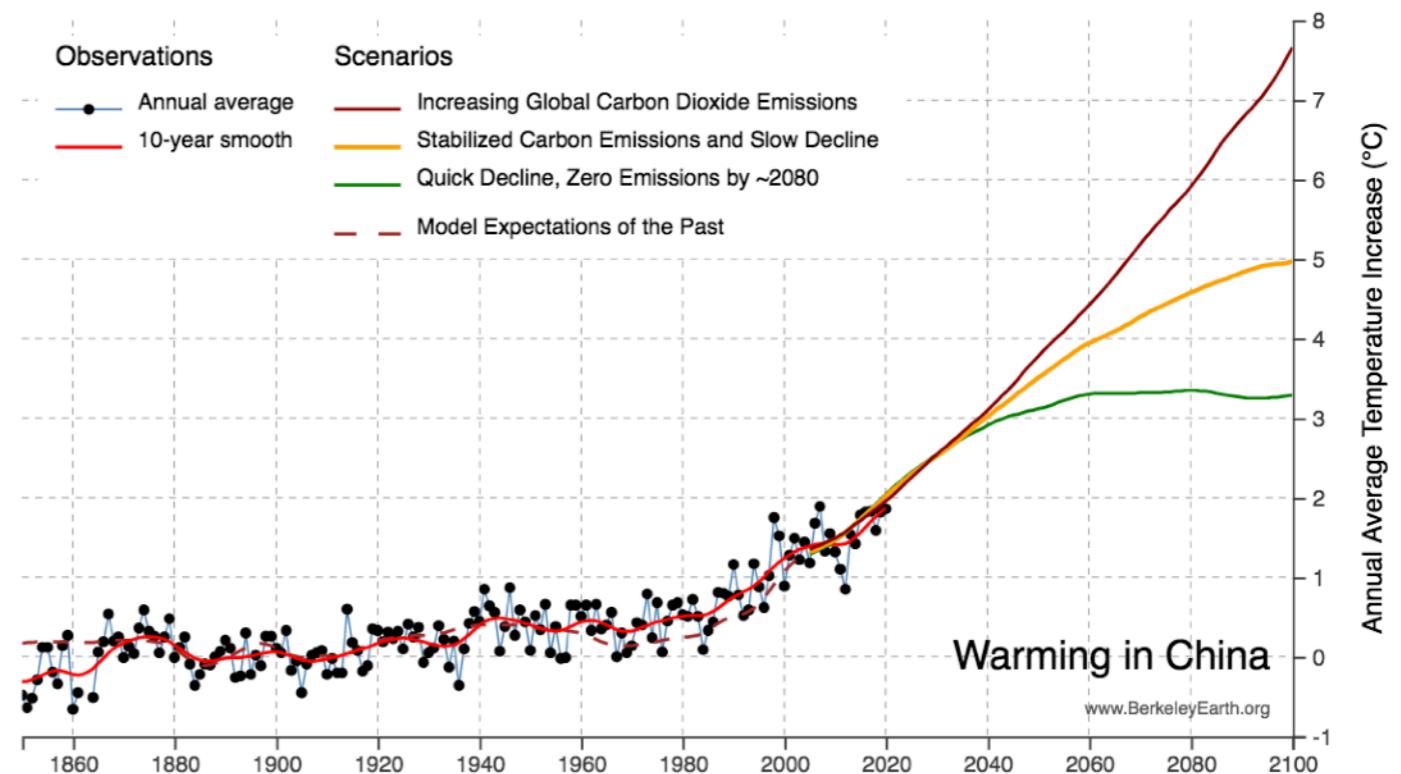
Heading for around **+4.3 °C** in 2100



China

Already **+1.9 °C** in 2020

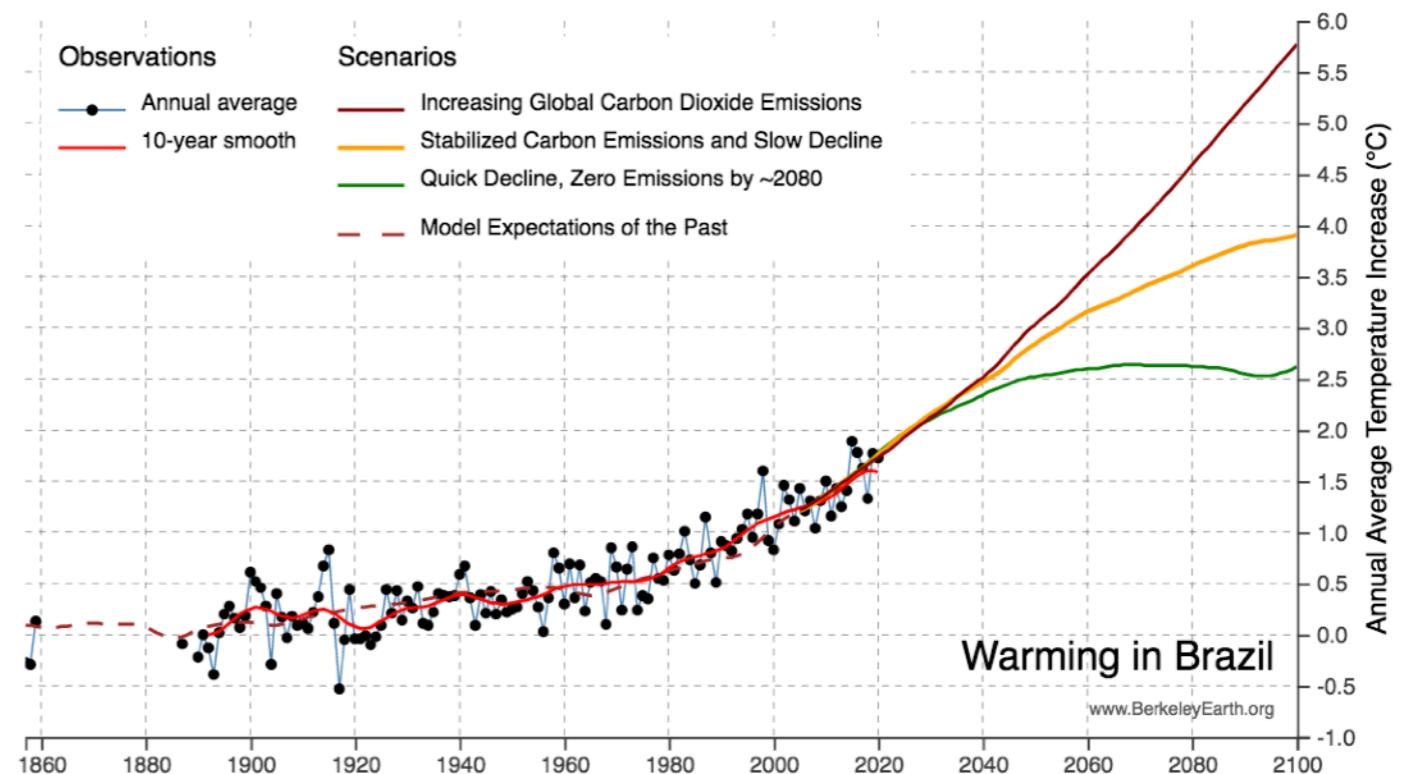
Heading for around **+5.0 °C** in 2100



Brazil

Already **+1.6 °C** in 2020

Heading for around **+3.9 °C** in 2100



Increasing trends in regional heatwaves

S. E. Perkins-Kirkpatrick  & S. C. Lewis

Nature Communications 11, Article number: 3357 (2020) | [Cite this article](#)

21k Accesses | 54 Citations | 1095 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)



Abstract

Heatwaves have increased in intensity, frequency and duration, with these trends projected

to worsen under enhanced global warming. Understanding

critical implications for the biophysical and human system

comprehensive assessment of regional observed changes

metrics employed, underpinning datasets, and time periods

Berkeley Earth temperature dataset and key heatwave me

regional and global observed heatwave trends. In almost

demonstrates the most rapid and significant change. A m

significant increases almost everywhere since the 1950s, i

Trends in heatwave frequency, duration and cumulative h

1950s, and due to the high influence of variability we reco

assessed over multiple decades. Our results provide comp

heatwave trends, on spatial and temporal scales necessar

Article | Published: 31 May 2021

The burden of heat-related mortality attributable to recent human-induced climate change

A. M. Vicedo-Cabrera , N. Scovronick, [...] A. Gasparrini 

Nature Climate Change 11, 492–500 (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

10k Accesses | 2 Citations | 5519 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

Abstract

Climate change affects human health; however, there have been no large-scale, systematic

efforts to quantify the heat-related human health impacts that have already occurred due to

climate change. Here, we use empirical data from 732 locations in 43 countries to estimate

the mortality burdens associated with the additional heat exposure that has resulted from

recent human-induced warming, during the period 1991–2018. Across all study countries,

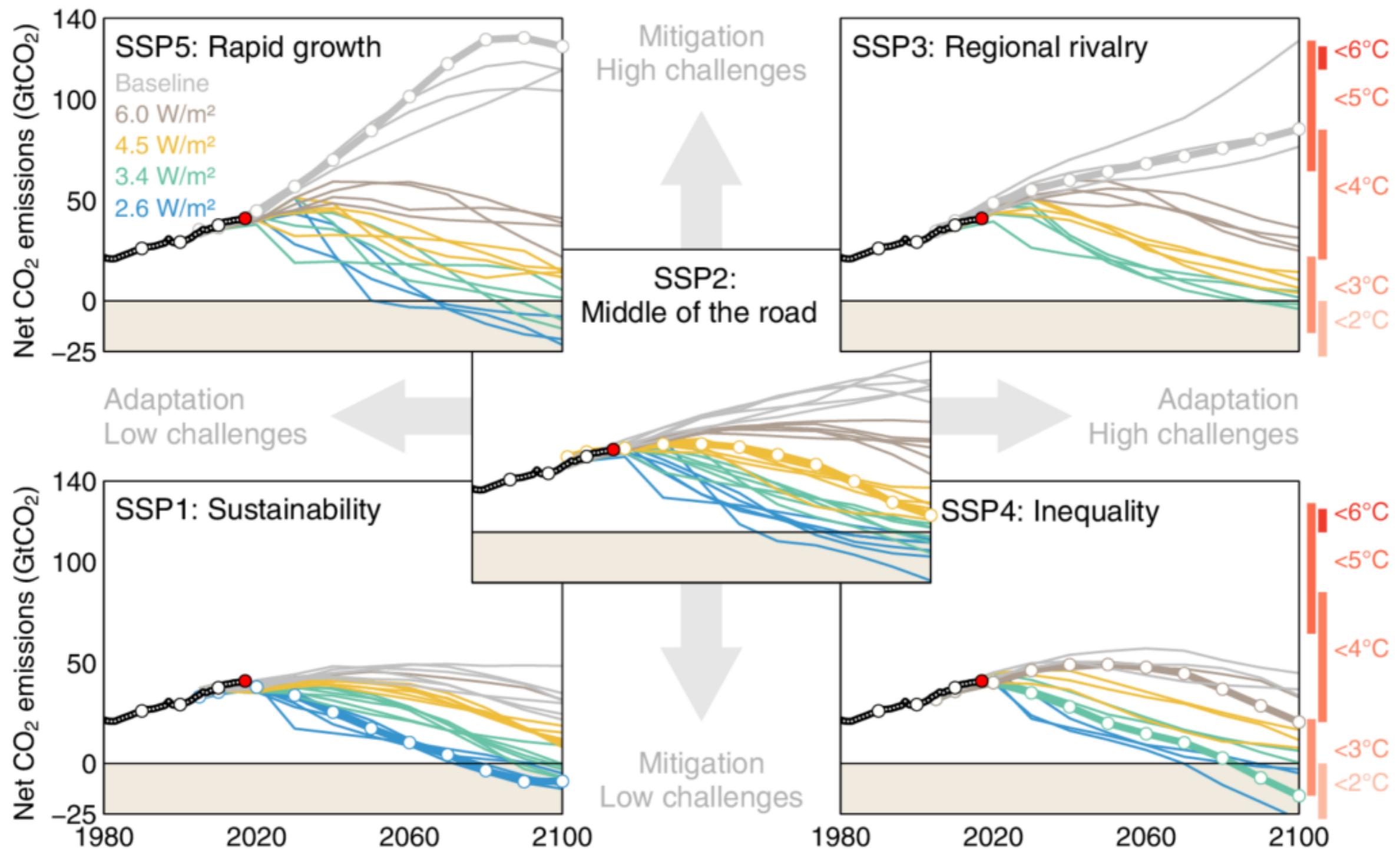
we find that 37.0% (range 20.5–76.3%) of warm-season heat-related deaths can be attributed

to anthropogenic climate change and that increased mortality is evident on every continent.

Burdens varied geographically but were of the order of dozens to hundreds of deaths per

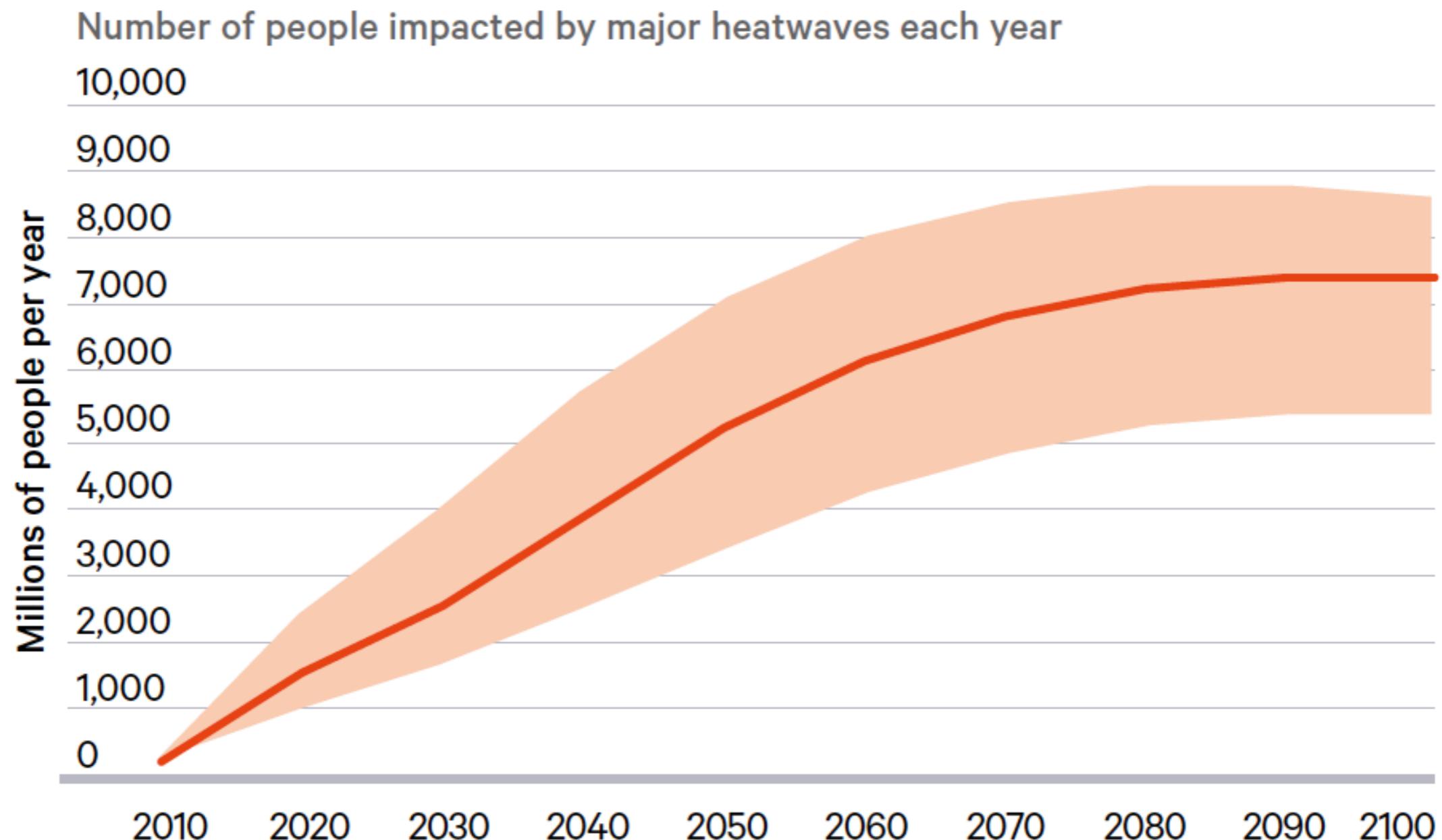
year in many locations. Our findings support the urgent need for more ambitious mitigation

and adaptation strategies to minimize the public health impacts of climate change.



Global Carbon Project

Extreme Heat - Current Trajectory



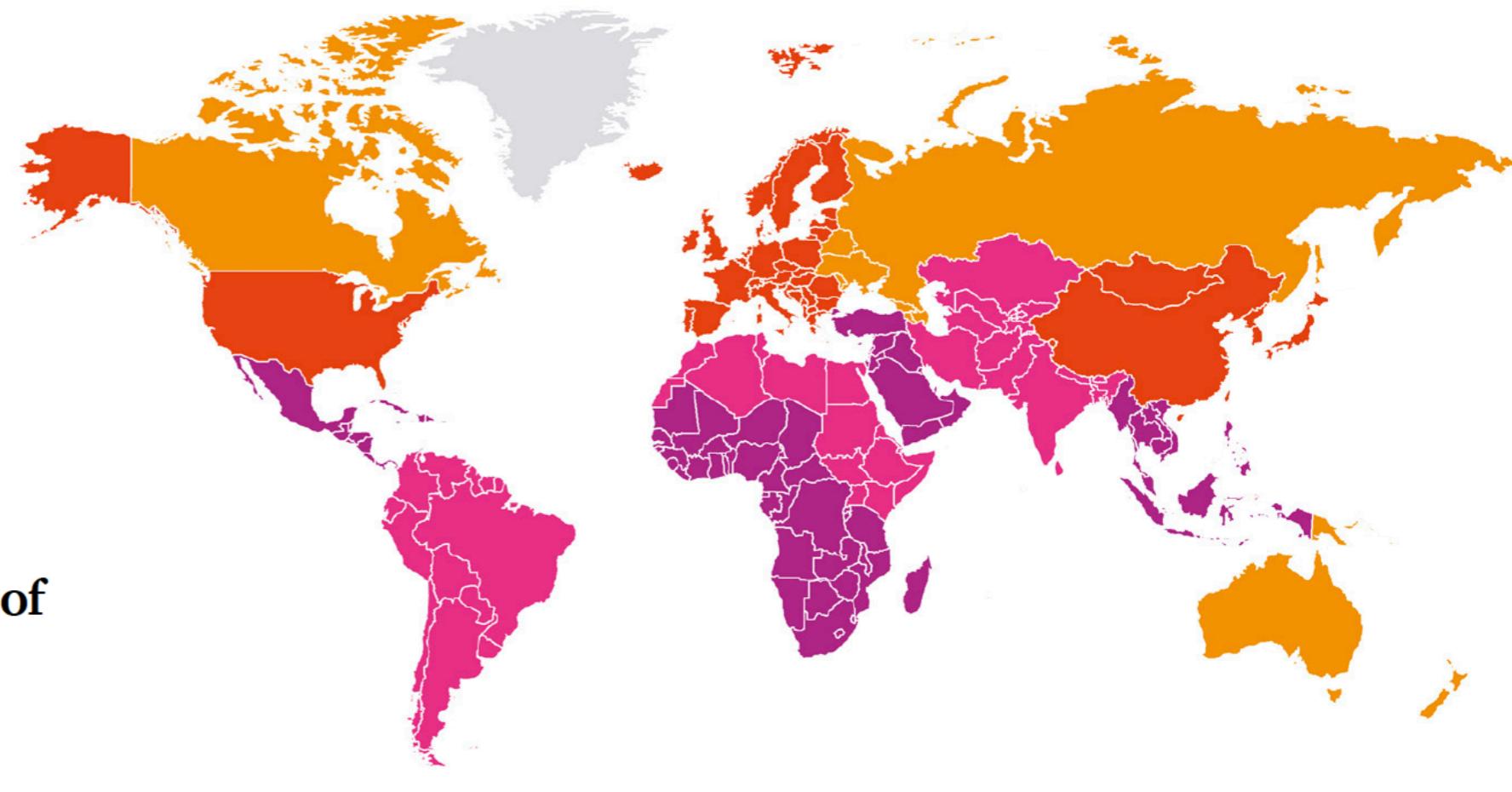
Shaded area represents the lower and upper estimates of the given impact.
Solid line represents the central estimate.

Extreme Heat - Current Trajectory

Regional impacts, 2040: proportion of population experiencing major heatwaves each year
(Major heatwaves are comparable to the most extreme historic heatwaves)

By 2050, more than 70 per cent of people in every region will experience heatwaves each year.

Urban areas will suffer the greatest challenges of workability and survivability.



20-30% 30-40% 40-50% 50-60%

The emergence of heat and humidity too severe for human tolerance

Colin Raymond^{1,2*}, Tom Matthews³, Radley M. Horton^{2,4}



Humans' ability to efficiently shed heat has enabled us to range over every continent, but a wet-bulb temperature (TW) of 35°C marks our upper physiological limit, and much lower values have serious health and productivity impacts. Climate models project the first 35°C TW occurrences by the mid-21st century. However, a comprehensive evaluation of weather station data shows that some coastal subtropical locations have already reported a TW of 35°C and that extreme humid heat overall has more than doubled in frequency since 1979. Recent exceedances of 35°C in global maximum sea surface temperature provide further support for the validity of these dangerously high TW values. We find the most extreme humid heat is highly localized in both space and time and is correspondingly substantially underestimated in reanalysis products. Our findings thus underscore the serious challenge posed by humid heat that is more intense than previously reported and increasingly severe.

nature
geoscience

ARTICLES

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41561-021-00695-3>



Projections of tropical heat stress constrained by atmospheric dynamics

Yi Zhang¹✉, Isaac Held¹ and Stephan Fueglistaler^{1,2}

Extreme heat under global warming is a concerning issue for the growing tropical population. However, model projections of extreme temperatures, a widely used metric for extreme heat, are uncertain on regional scales. In addition, humidity needs to be taken into account to estimate the health impact of extreme heat. Here we show that an integrated temperature-humidity metric for the health impact of heat, namely, the extreme wet-bulb temperature (TW), is controlled by established atmospheric dynamics and thus can be robustly projected on regional scales. For each 1°C of tropical mean warming, global climate models project extreme TW (the annual maximum of daily mean or 3-hourly values) to increase roughly uniformly between 20° S and 20° N latitude by about 1°C. This projection is consistent with theoretical expectation based on tropical atmospheric dynamics, and observations over the past 40 years, which gives confidence to the model projection. For a 1.5°C warmer world, the probable (66% confidence interval) increase of regional extreme TW is projected to be 1.33–1.49°C, whereas the uncertainty of projected extreme temperatures is 3.7 times as large. These results suggest that limiting global warming to 1.5°C will prevent most of the tropics from reaching a TW of 35 °C, the limit of human adaptation.

One billion face heat-stress risk from 2°C rise

Author: Grahame Madge

00:01 (UTC) on Tue 9 Nov 2021



Areas where $TW > 32^\circ\text{C}$ for > 10 days per year at 4°C warming

Canadian inferno: northern heat exceeds worst-case climate models

Source
[Mann Podcast](#)

Scientists fear heat domes in North America and Siberia indicate a new dimension to the global crisis

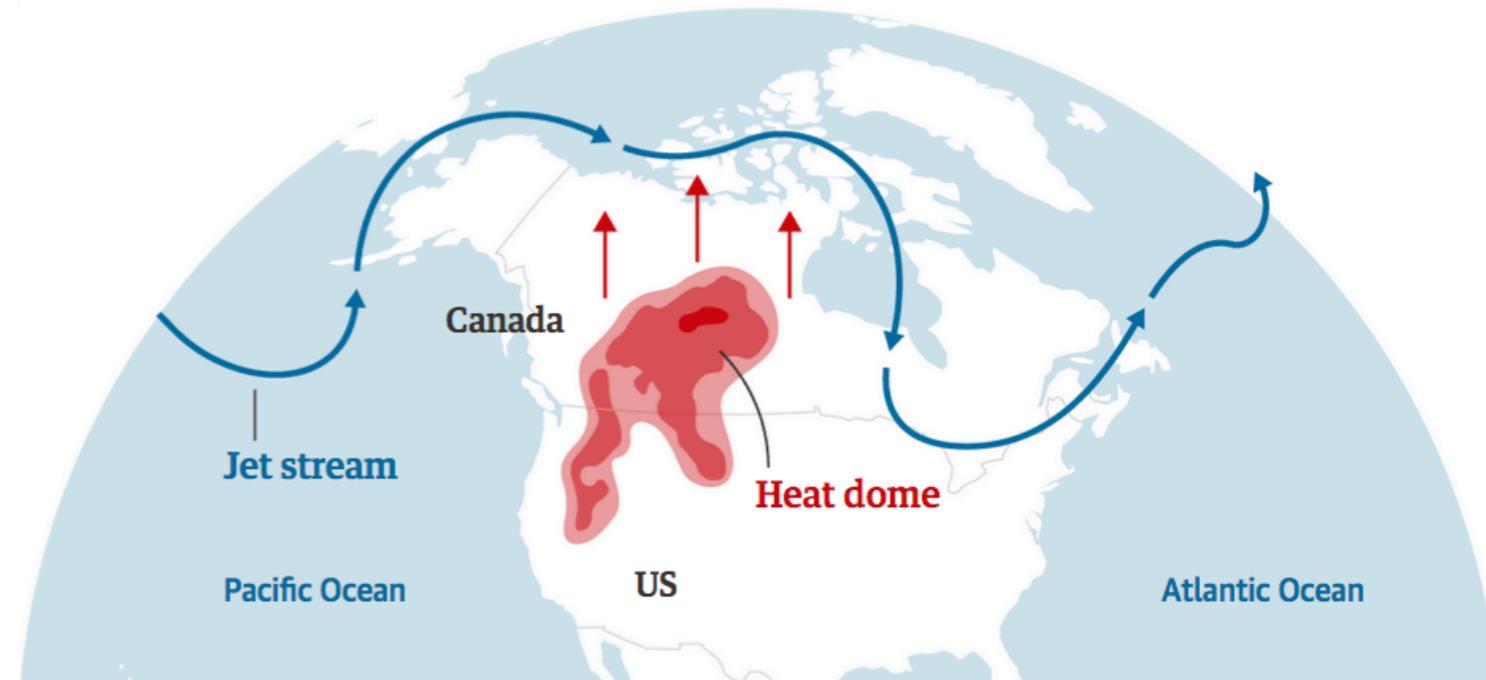
Jonathan Watts

 @jonathanwatts

Fri 2 Jul 2021 16.28 BST

“[T]here is something else going on with this heatwave, and indeed, with many of the very persistent weather extremes we’ve seen in recent years in the US, Europe, Asia and elsewhere, where the models aren’t quite capturing the impact of climate change.”

- Michael Mann



“The recent extreme weather anomalies were not represented in global computer models that are used to project how the world might change with more emissions.”

- Johan Rockström

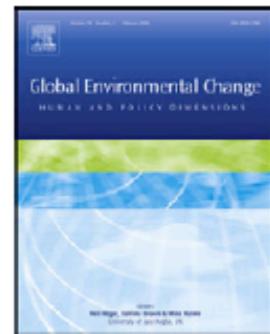
[Fisher et al. \(2021\)](#)
[McSweeney \(2019\)](#)



Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

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Climate change prediction: Erring on the side of least drama?

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^bHistory and Science Studies, University of California, San Diego, United States

^cDepartment of Sociology, College of St. Benedict/St. John's University, United States

^dDepartment of Geosciences and Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, United States

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ABSTRACT

Over the past two decades, skeptics of the reality and significance of anthropogenic climate change have frequently accused climate scientists of "alarmism": of over-interpreting or overreacting to evidence of human impacts on the climate system. However, the available evidence suggests that scientists have in fact been conservative in their projections of the impacts of climate change. In particular, we discuss recent studies showing that at least some of the key attributes of global warming from increased atmospheric greenhouse gases have been under-predicted, particularly in IPCC assessments of the physical science, by Working Group I. We also note the less frequent manifestation of over-prediction of key characteristics of climate in such assessments. We suggest, therefore, that scientists are biased not toward alarmism but rather the reverse: toward cautious estimates, where we define caution as erring on the side of less rather than more alarming predictions. We call this tendency "erring on the side of least drama (ESLD)." We explore some cases of ESLD at work, including predictions of Arctic ozone depletion and the possible disintegration of the West Antarctic ice sheet, and suggest some possible causes of this directional bias, including adherence to the scientific norms of restraint, objectivity, skepticism, rationality, dispassion, and moderation. We conclude with suggestions for further work to identify and explore ESLD.

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Seville, Spain

August 2021: A billboard shows 47C (117F)



Crop Failures

Badghis, Afghanistan

September 2021: A farmer holds a handful of failed wheat from his crop

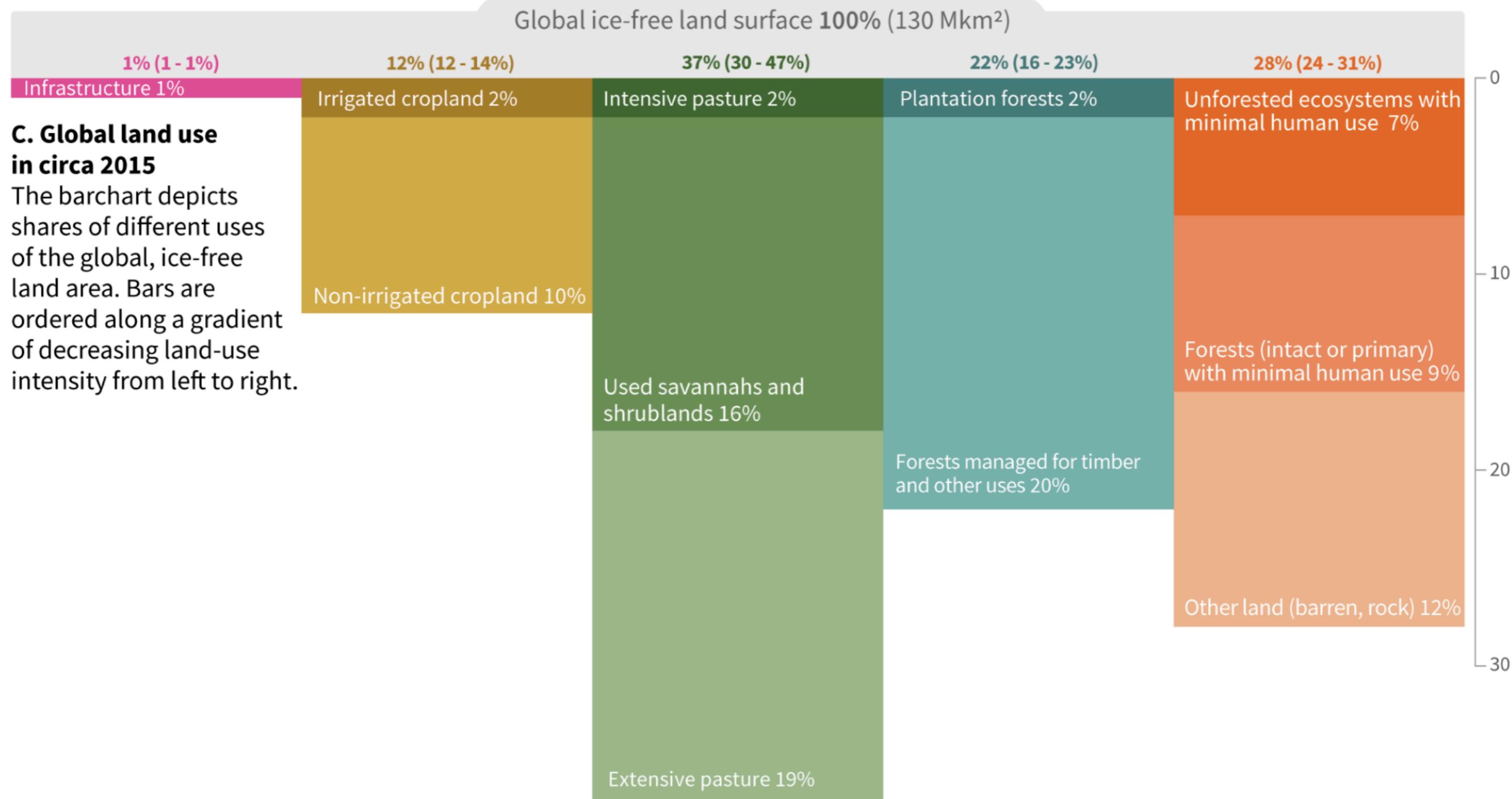


Extreme Heat



[Source](#)

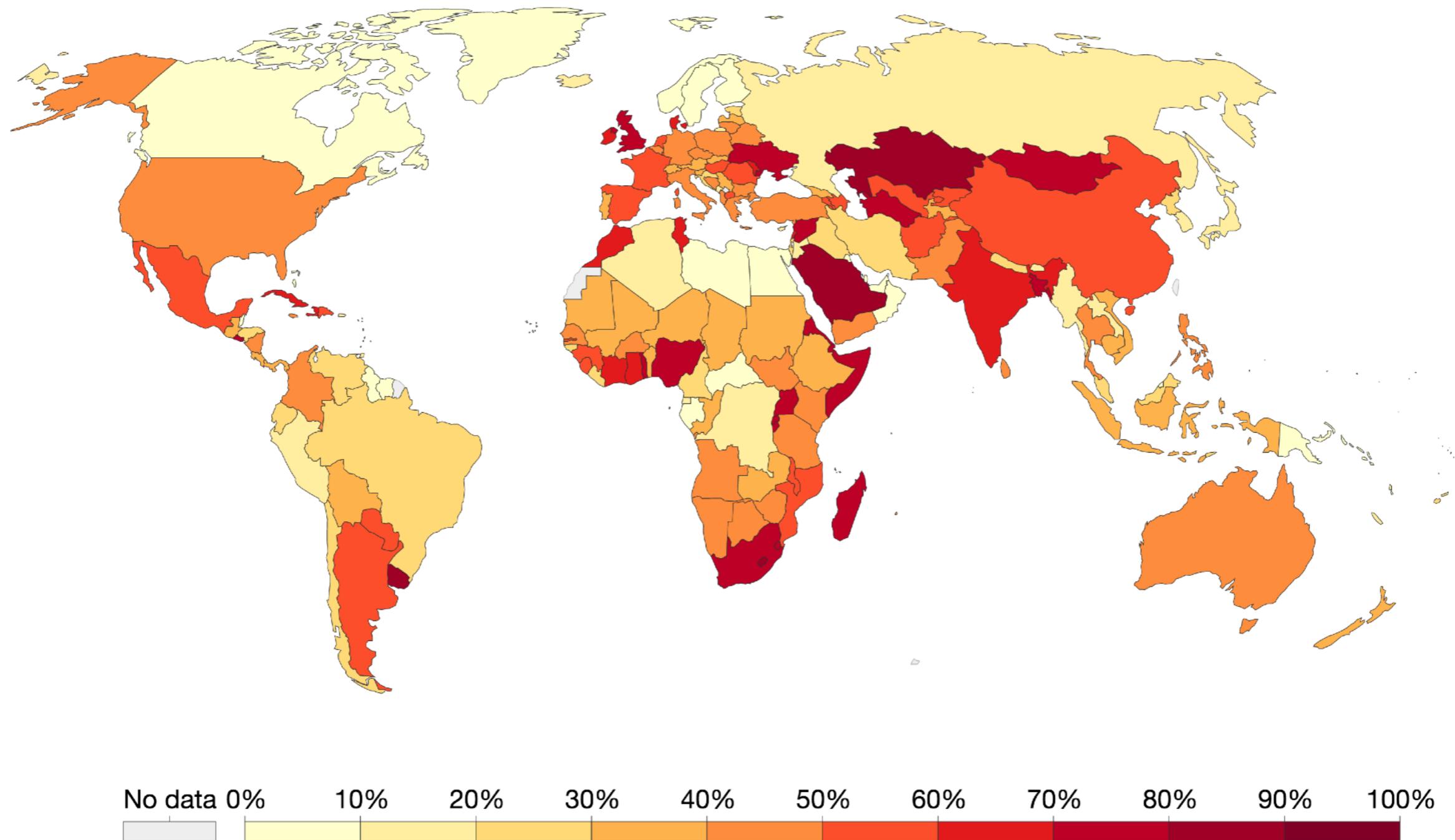
Land Use



Share of land area used for agriculture, 2018

The share of land area used for agriculture, measured as a percentage of total land area. Agricultural land refers to the share of land area that is arable, under permanent crops, and under permanent pastures.

Our World
in Data



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (via World Bank)
OurWorldInData.org/yields-and-land-use-in-agriculture/ • CC BY

Source

Severe drought devastates Washington state's wheat crop



ABC NEWS

A drought in eastern Washington state that is the worst since 1977 has devastated what is normally the fourth largest U.S. wheat crop

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS Associated Press

11 August 2021, 20:46 • 4 min read

'Worst year I've ever witnessed': Drought withers Western Canada's spring wheat

'Some are harvesting about 25 per cent of what they would typically expect. The conditions are terrible'

Laura Brehaut

Aug 19, 2021 • August 19, 2021 • 8 minute read • 72 Comments

NATIONAL POST

News | Climate Change

Mexico water supply buckles on worsening drought, crops at risk

Weather forecasts warn of high temperatures portending crop damage and water supply shortages.



ALJAZEERA

2 Jul 2021

Record-breaking drought in Chile offers bountiful proof of climate change

- Science Minister Andres Couve said the steady decline in the country's water reserves because of climate change was now a 'national priority'
- 'The weather events are happening with a frequency and intensity that makes it very easy for people to see', he said

REUTERS **Reuters in Santiago** + FOLLOW
Published: 3:46pm, 11 Aug, 2021 ▾

Brazil, Besieged by Covid, Now Faces a Severe Drought

Brazilians are paying more for electricity, dealing with the possibility of water rationing and expecting a destructive fire season in the Amazon in the worst dry spell in at least 90 years.

Published June 19, 2021 Updated June 21, 2021

The New York Times

Thursday, July 8, 2021

Record Droughts Plague Latin America

By Chase Harrison and Katie Hopkins

Abnormally dry conditions in Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and Paraguay threaten water reserves and economic recovery.

Jordan facing 'one of the most severe' droughts in its history



Experts say Jordan is now in the grip of one of the most severe droughts in its history, but many warn the worst is yet to come.

6 May 2021

COMMODITIES

OCTOBER 13, 2021 / 1:59 PM / UPDATED 2 DAYS AGO

Iran buying record volume of wheat after worst drought in 50 years – sources



REUTERS

'The challenge for us now is drought, not war': livelihoods of millions of Afghans at risk

Tue 21 Sep 2021 10.36 BST

The
Guardian

At least 1m people facing starvation as Madagascar's drought worsens

People eating termites and clay as UN says acute malnutrition has almost doubled this year in south

Mon 10 May 2021 06.00 BST

Drought puts 2.1 million Kenyans at risk of starvation

National disaster declared as crops fail after poor rains and locusts, while ethnic conflicts add to crisis

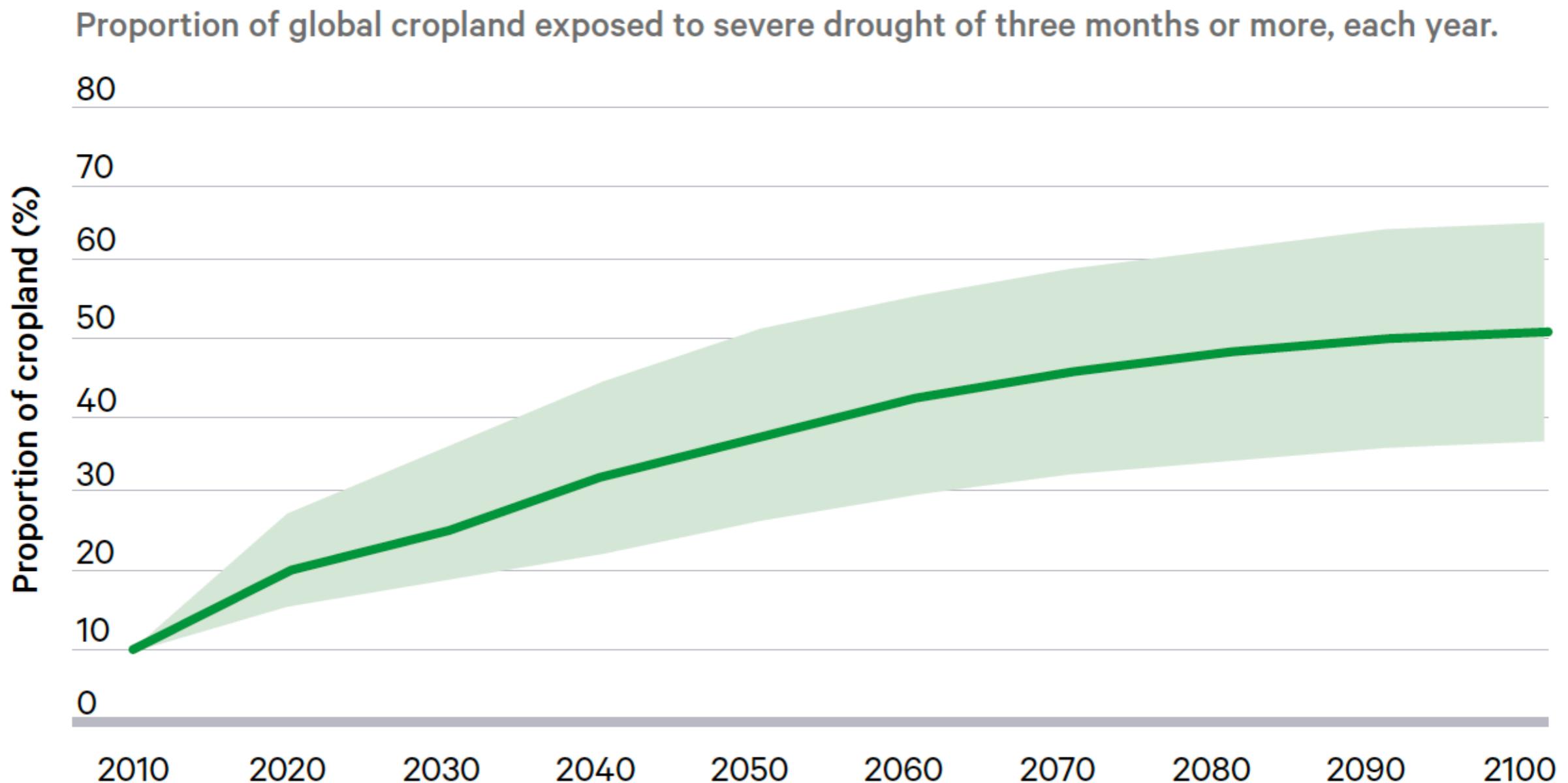
Wed 15 Sep 2021 07.00 BST

Angola: Millions facing hunger, as thousands flee their homes as drought ravages the south of Angola

July 22, 2021 2:00 am



Agriculture - Current Trajectory



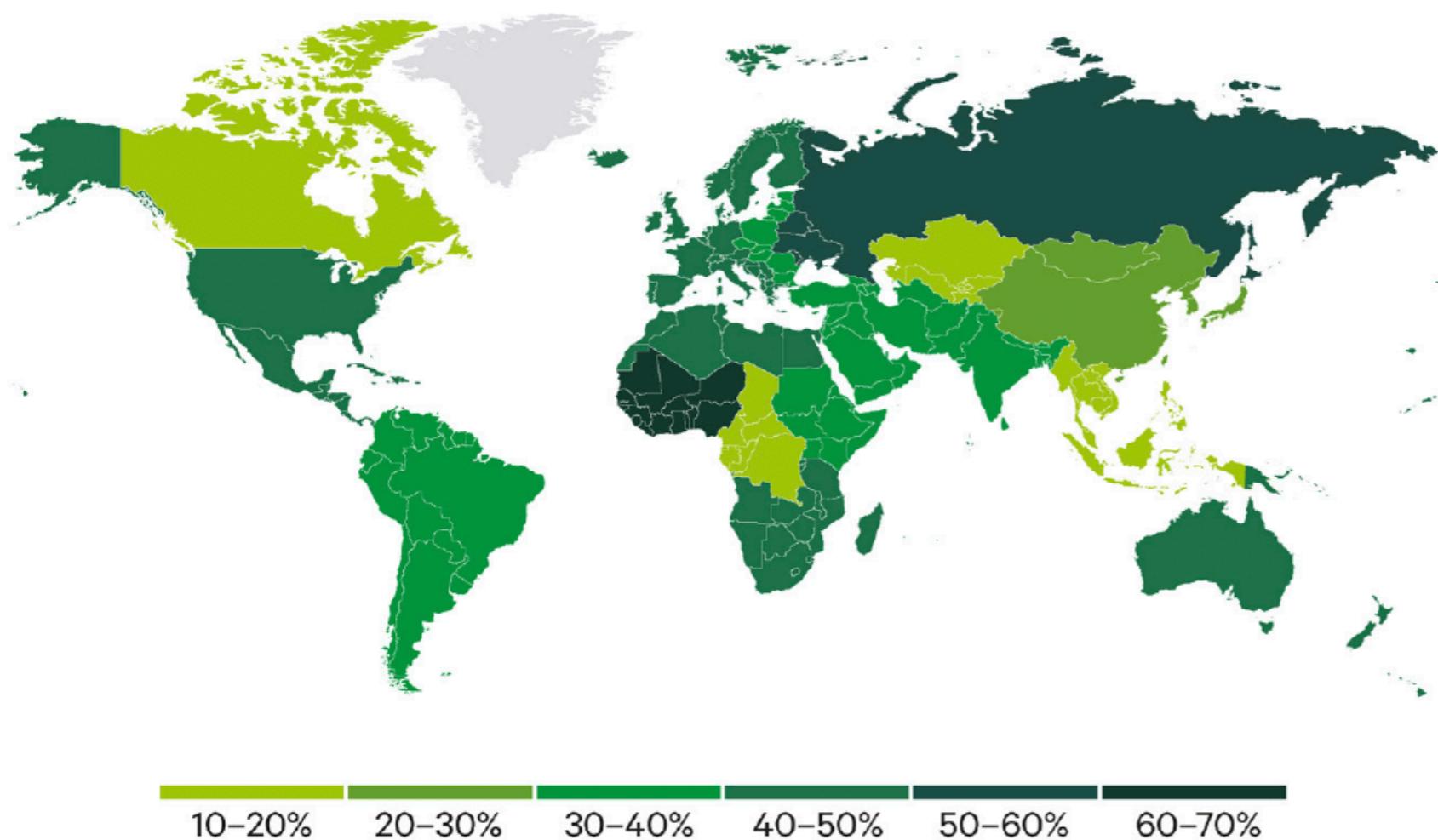
Shaded area represents the lower and upper estimates of the given impact.

Solid line represents the central estimate.

Agriculture - Current Trajectory

Regional impacts, 2050: proportion of cropland exposed to severe drought each year

(Severe drought is equivalent to that experienced in Central Europe in 2018)



Farmers in the worst-affected areas (including the critical breadbasket regions of **southern Russia** and the US) are likely to experience severe agricultural drought impacting 40 per cent or more of their cropland area every year during the 2050s.

During the 2040s there is a 50% chance of synchronous crop failure

Baird (2021)

Arnell et al. (2019)

Seville, Spain

August 2021: A billboard shows 47C (117F)



Crop Failures

Badghis, Afghanistan

September 2021: A farmer holds a handful of failed wheat from his crop



Extreme Heat

[Source](#)

TIPPING POINTS

Nine climate “tipping points” where rising global temperatures could push parts of the Earth system into irreversible change





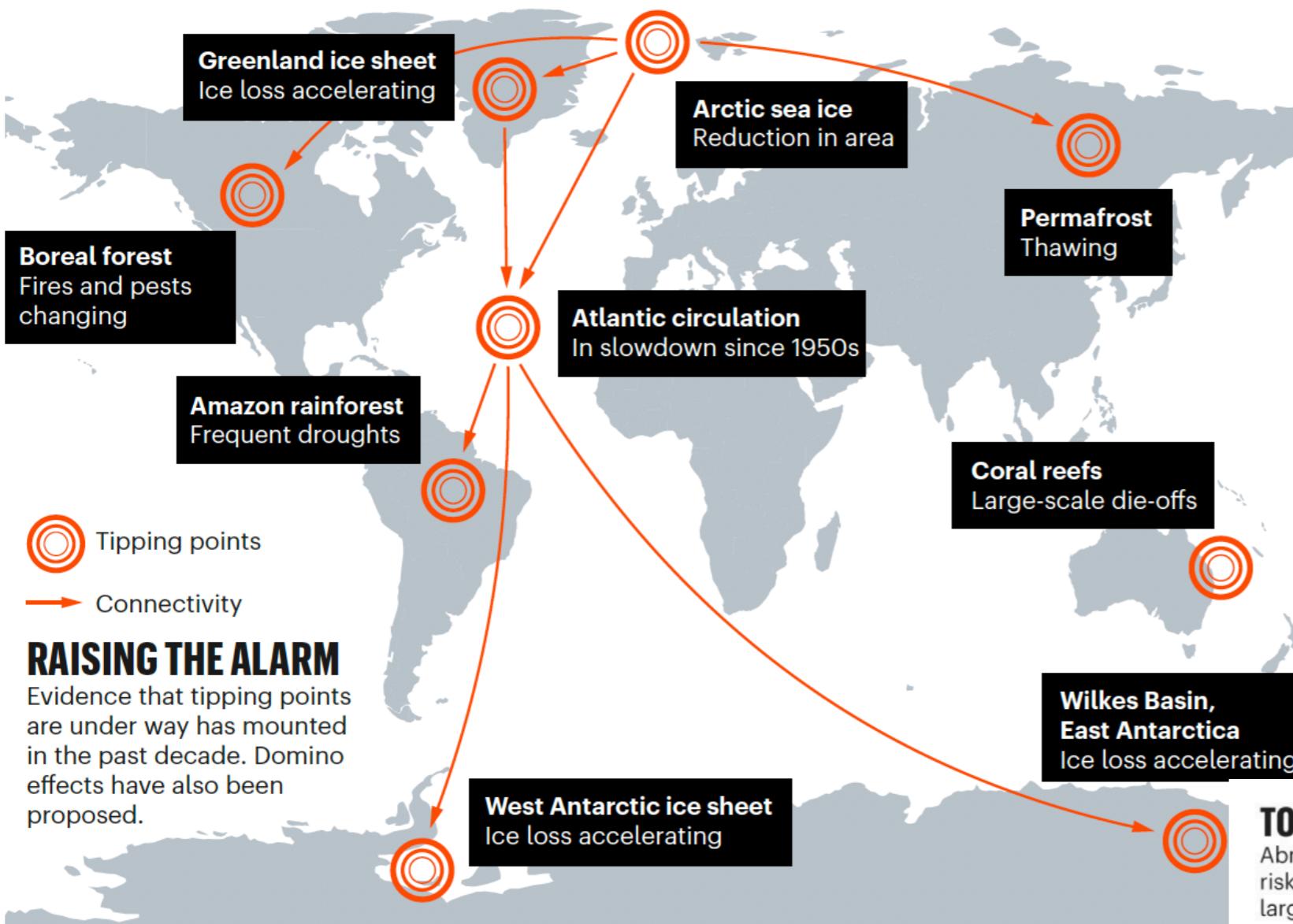
Past abrupt changes, tipping points and cascading impacts in the Earth system

Victor Brovkin^{ID 1,2}✉, Edward Brook³, John W. Williams^{ID 4}, Sebastian Bathiany⁵, Timothy M. Lenton^{ID 6}, Michael Barton⁷, Robert M. DeConto^{ID 8}, Jonathan F. Donges^{ID 9,10}, Andrey Ganopolski⁹, Jerry McManus¹¹, Summer Praetorius^{ID 12}, Anne de Vernal¹³, Ayako Abe-Ouchi^{ID 14}, Hai Cheng^{ID 15}, Martin Claussen^{ID 1,16}, Michel Crucifix¹⁷, Gilberto Gallopín¹⁸, Virginia Iglesias^{ID 19}, Darrell S. Kaufman²⁰, Thomas Kleinen^{ID 1}, Fabrice Lambert^{ID 21}, Sander van der Leeuw²², Hannah Liddy^{ID 23}, Marie-France Loutre^{ID 24}, David McGee^{ID 25}, Kira Rehfeld^{ID 26}, Rachael Rhodes^{ID 27}, Alistair W. R. Seddon²⁸, Martin H. Trauth^{ID 29}, Lilian Vanderveken¹⁷ and Zicheng Yu^{ID 30,31}

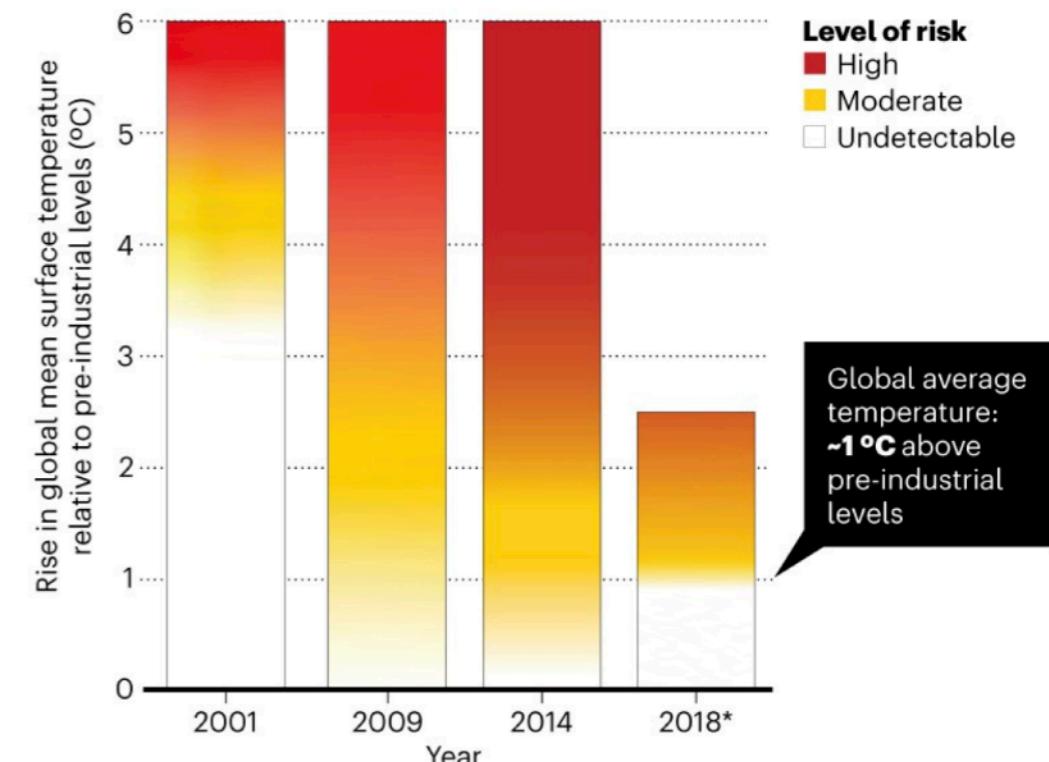
The geological record shows that abrupt changes in the Earth system can occur on timescales short enough to challenge the capacity of human societies to adapt to environmental pressures. In many cases, abrupt changes arise from slow changes in one component of the Earth system that eventually pass a critical threshold, or tipping point, after which impacts cascade through coupled climate-ecological-social systems. The chance of detecting abrupt changes and tipping points increases with the length of observations. The geological record provides the only long-term information we have on the conditions and processes that can drive physical, ecological and social systems into new states or organizational structures that may be irreversible within human time frames. Here, we use well-documented abrupt changes of the past 30 kyr to illustrate how their impacts cascade through the Earth system. We review useful indicators of upcoming abrupt changes, or early warning signals, and provide a perspective on the contributions of palaeoclimate science to the understanding of abrupt changes in the Earth system.

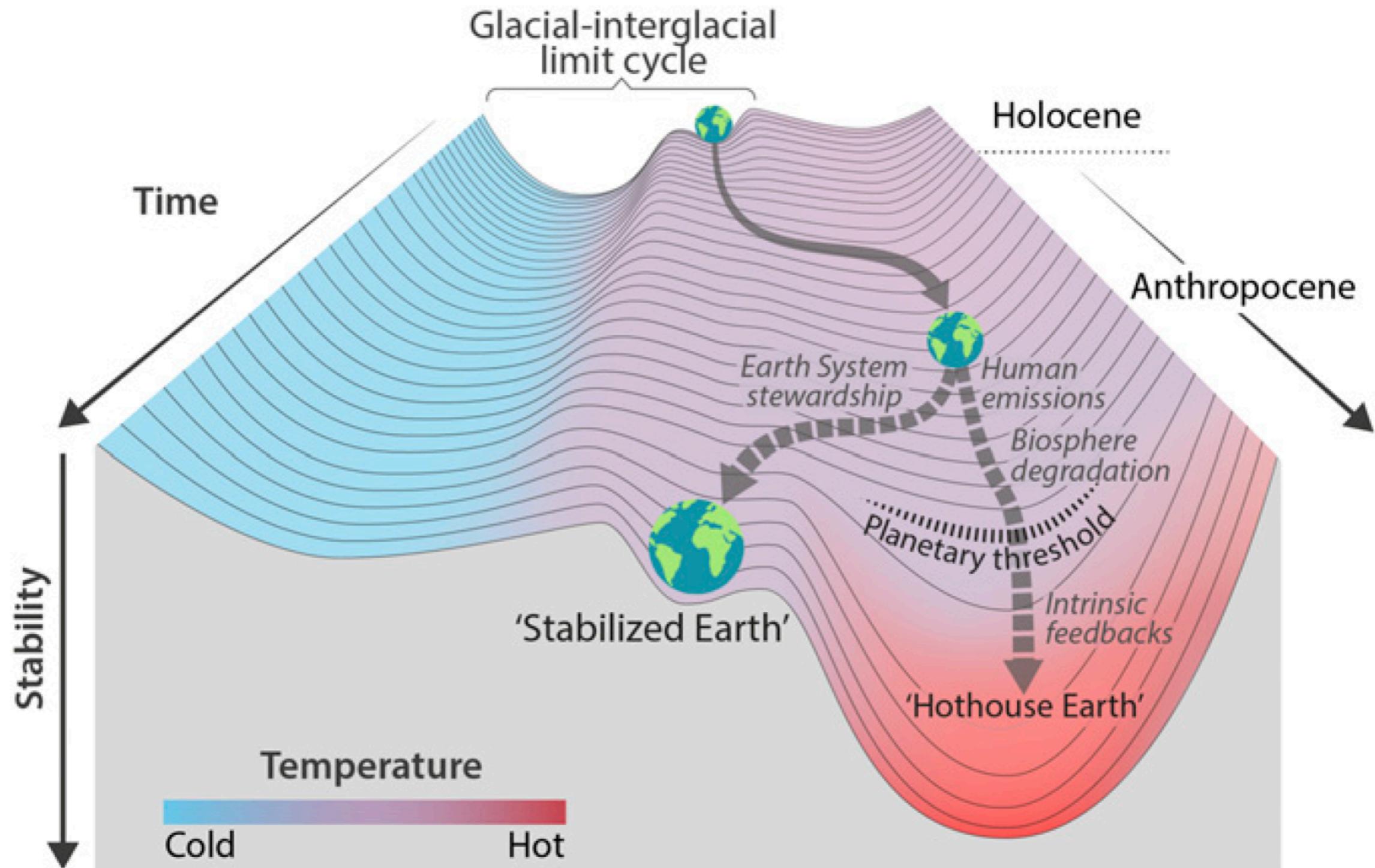
[Tipping Point Panel](#)

[Jonathan Donges Talk](#)

**TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT**

Abrupt and irreversible changes in the climate system have become a higher risk at lower global average temperature rise. This has been suggested for large events such as the partial disintegration of the Antarctic ice sheet.



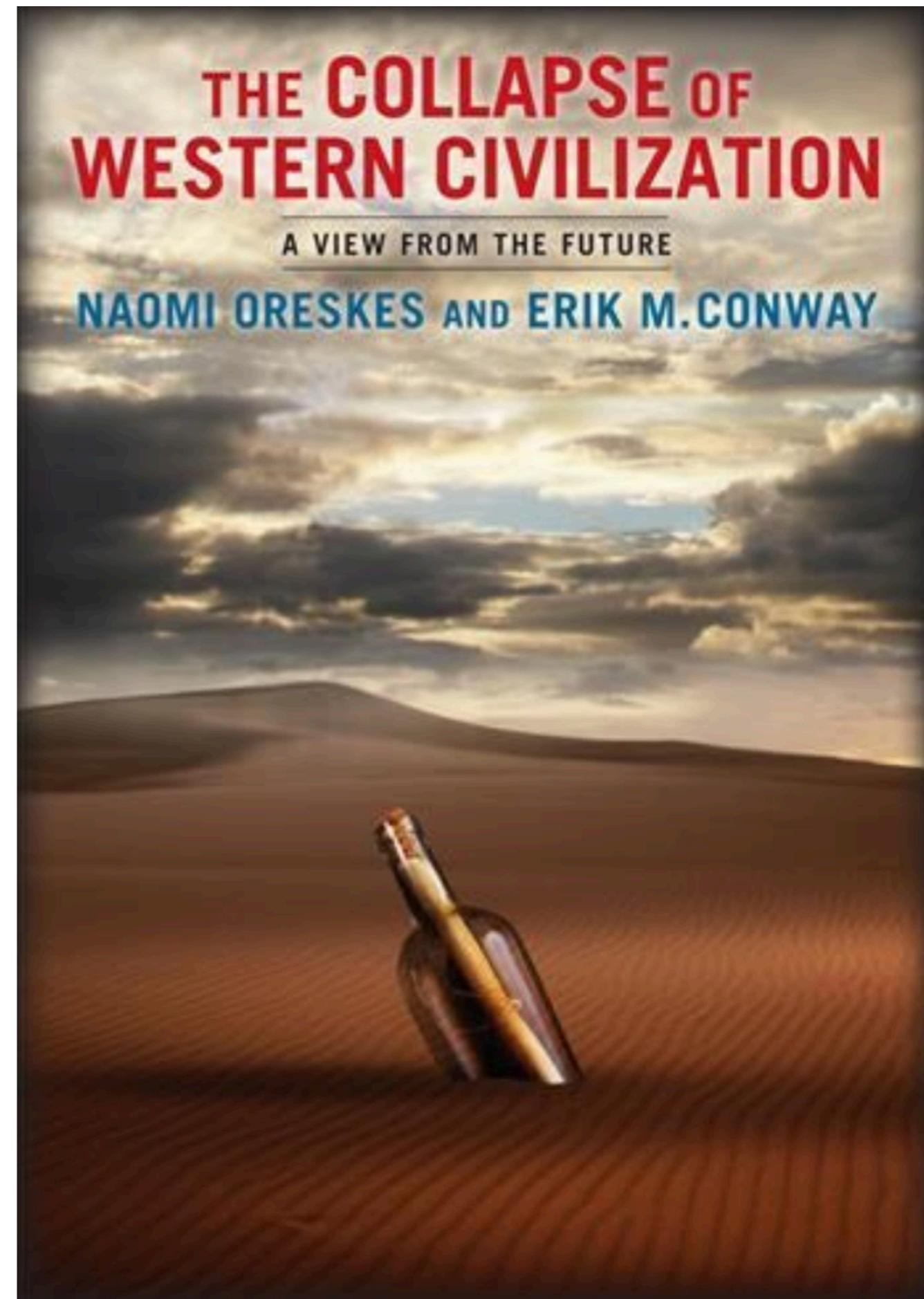


[Steffen Podcast](#)
[Rockström Podcast](#)

“ I think we have more than a 5% chance of succeeding but it is definitely less than 50%, in my view. But what is the option? If we have a final chance to save our culture and our civilisation, I am just compelled to do it. ”

John Schellnhuber

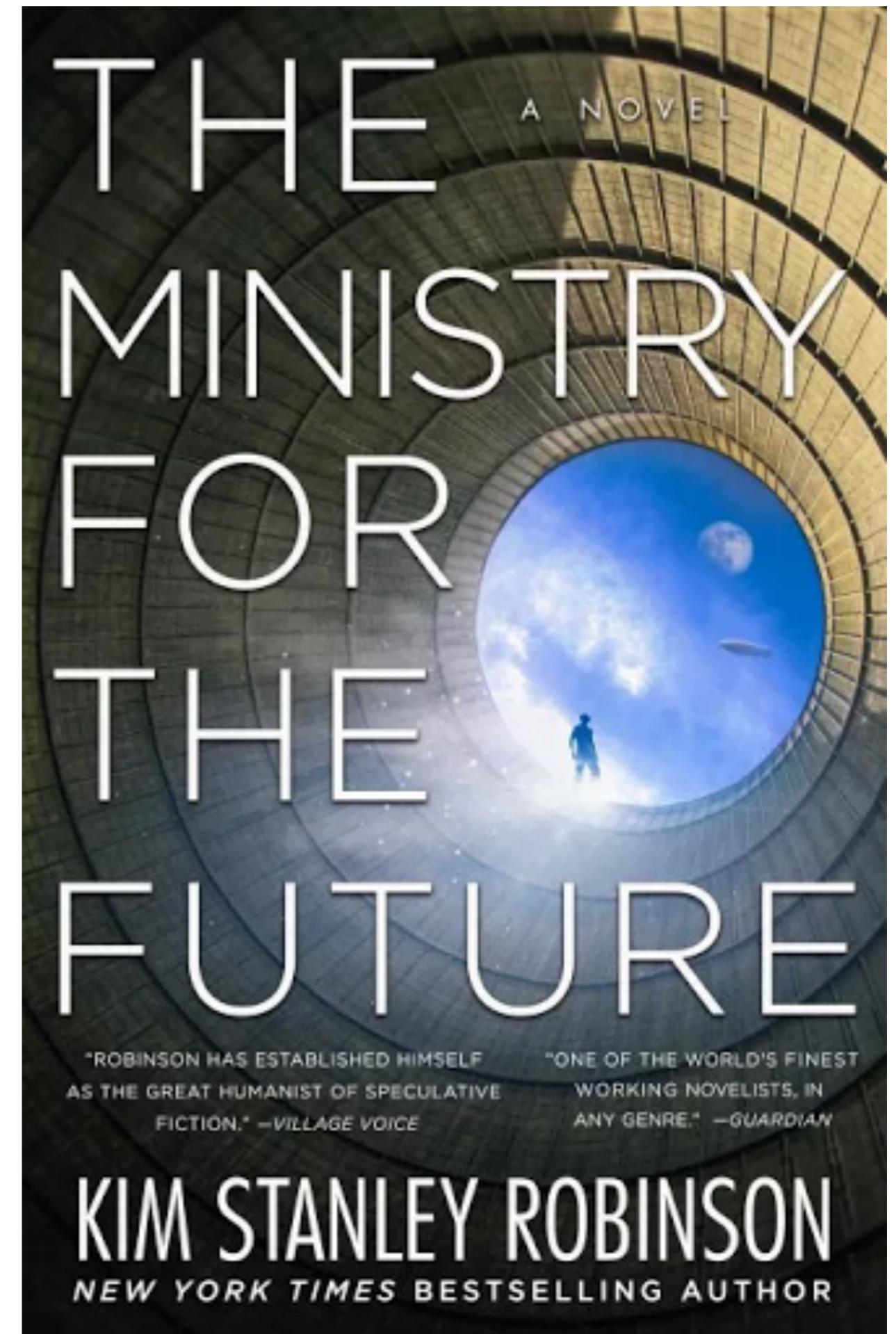
Founding Director
Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research



“ I think we have more than a 5% chance of succeeding but it is definitely less than 50%, in my view. But what is the option? If we have a final chance to save our culture and our civilisation, I am just compelled to do it. ”

John Schellnhuber

Founding Director
Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research





“I wish the Ring had never come to me. I wish none of this had happened.”



“So do all who live to see such times,
but that is not for them to decide.

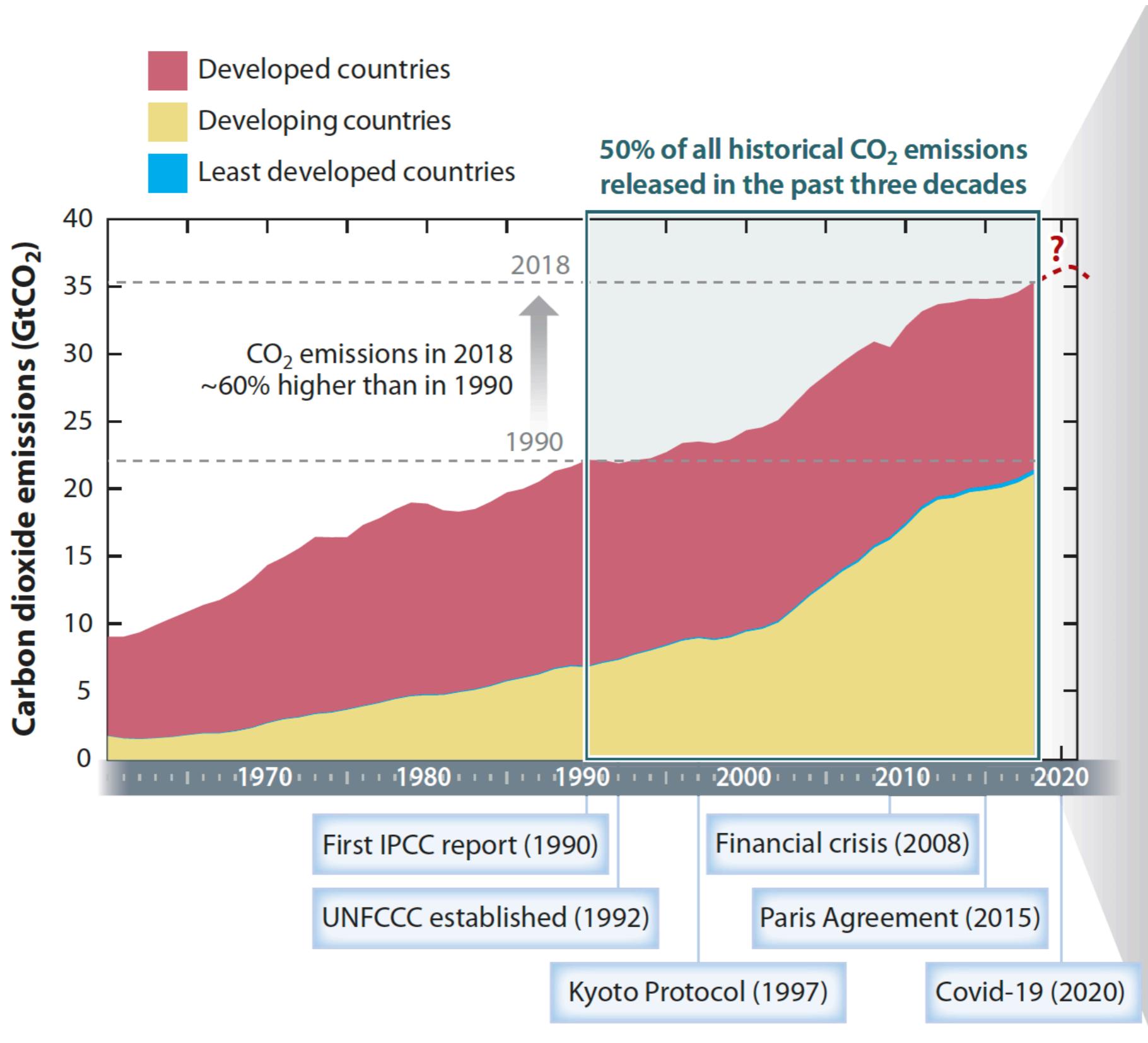
All we have to decide is what to do
with the time that is given to us.”

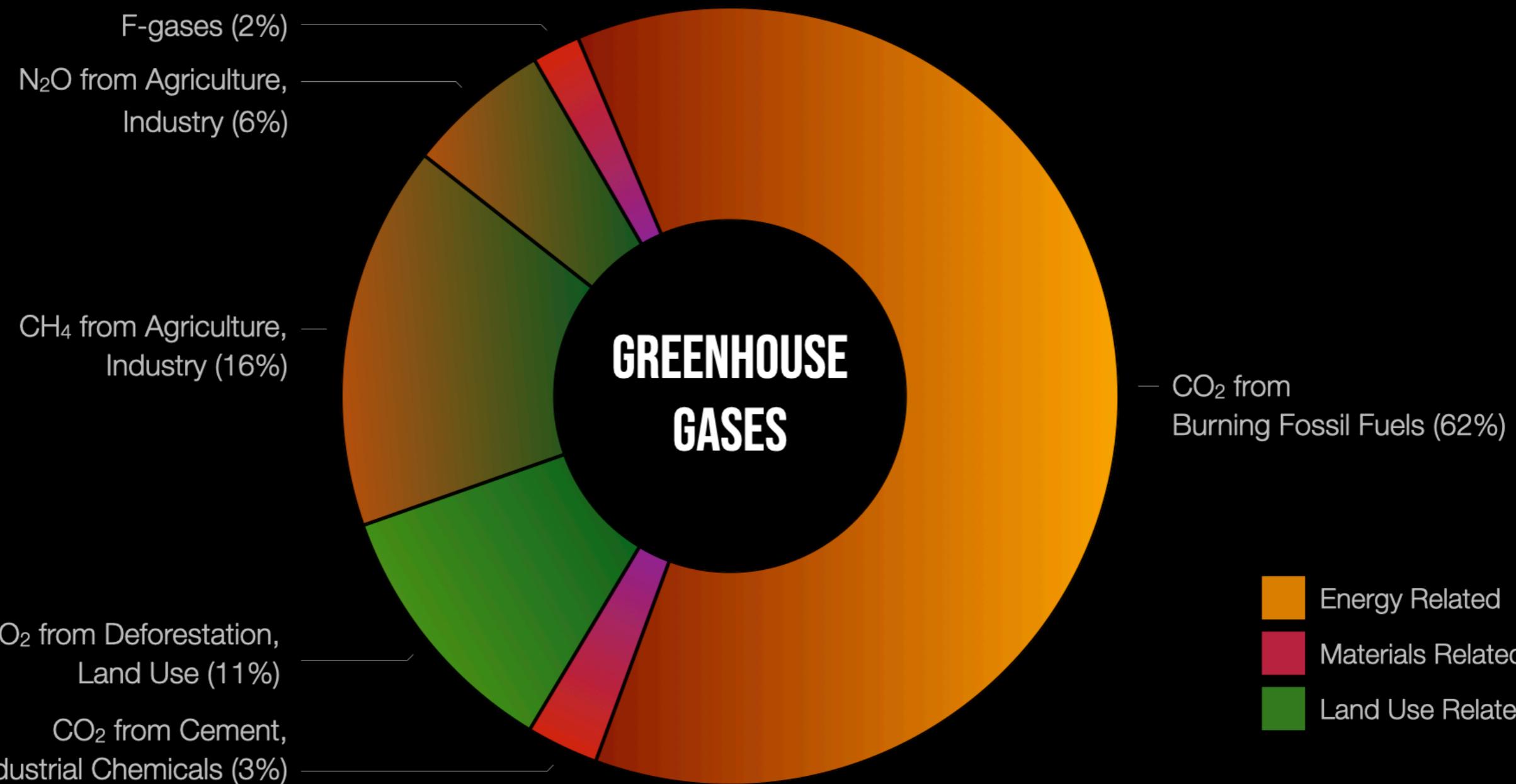
Pause

Part III:

Why Have We Failed So

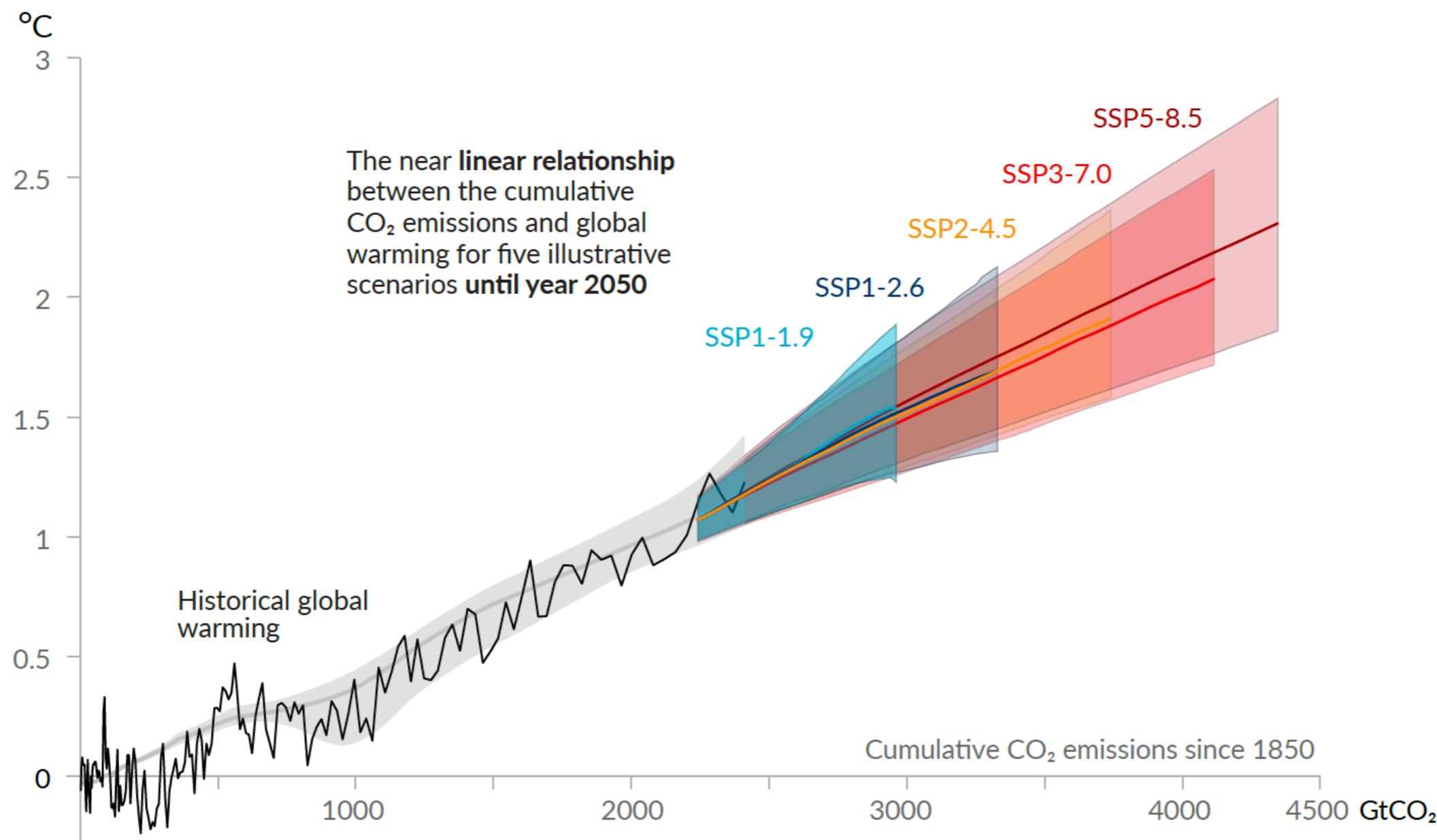
Far?





Every tonne of CO₂ emissions adds to global warming

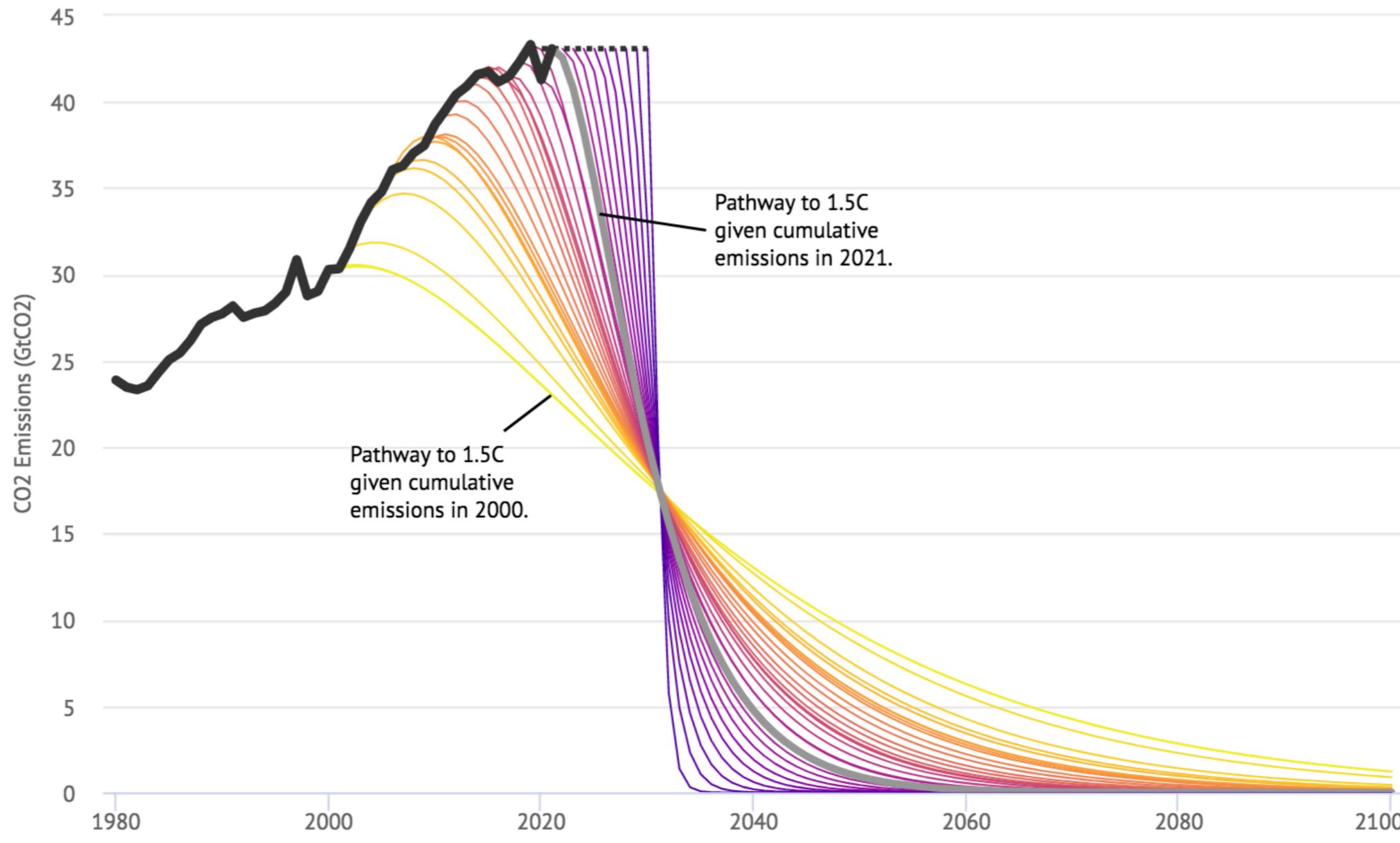
Global surface temperature increase since 1850-1900 (°C) as a function of cumulative CO₂ emissions (GtCO₂)



Global warming between 1850–1900 and 2010–2019 (°C)	Historical cumulative CO ₂ emissions from 1850 to 2019 (GtCO ₂)
1.07 (0.8–1.3; <i>likely</i> range)	2390 (\pm 240; <i>likely</i> range)

Approximate global warming relative to 1850–1900 until temperature limit (°C)* ⁽¹⁾	Additional global warming relative to 2010–2019 until temperature limit (°C)	Estimated remaining carbon budgets from the beginning of 2020 (GtCO ₂)					Variations in reductions in non-CO ₂ emissions*(3)
		17%	33%	50%	67%	83%	
1.5	0.43	900	650	500	400	300	Higher or lower reductions in accompanying non-CO ₂ emissions can increase or decrease the values on the left by 220 GtCO ₂ or more
1.7	0.63	1450	1050	850	700	550	
2.0	0.93	2300	1700	1350	1150	900	

Limiting warming to 1.5C is increasingly difficult without large-scale negative emissions



Three Decades of Climate Mitigation: Why Haven't We Bent the Global Emissions Curve?

Annual Review of Environment and Resources

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Davos Cluster

International Climate
Governance

Vested Interests of the
Fossil Fuel Industry

Geopolitics &
Militarism

Enabler Cluster

Economics &
Financialization

Mitigation Modelling

Energy Supply System

Ostrich Cluster

Inequity

High-Carbon Lifestyles

Social Imaginaries

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Fossil Fuelled Lies

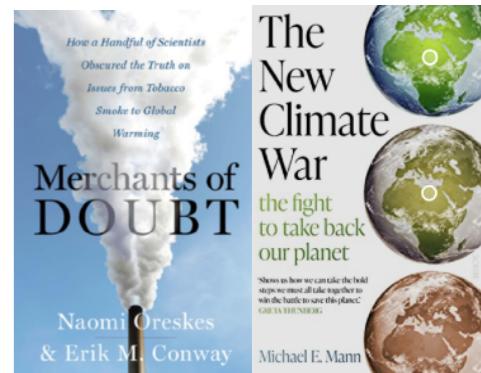
[Franta Talk](#)
[Franta Interview](#)
[The Corporation](#)

Society's Understanding & Actions

Big Oil's Understanding & Actions



[Franta \(2018a,b\)](#); [Franta \(2021a,b\)](#); [Farrell \(2016\)](#); [Supran & Oreskes \(2017,2021a,b\)](#);
[McKibben \(2015\)](#); [Bonneuil et al. \(2021\)](#); [Franta & Supran \(2017\)](#)

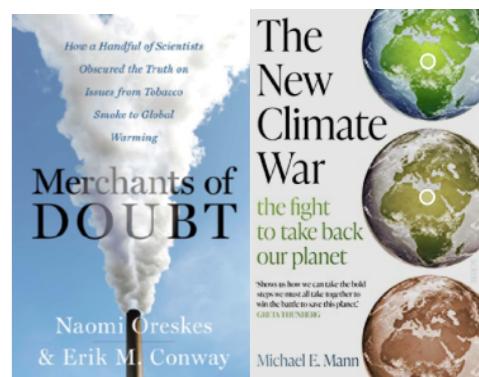


Fossil Fuelled Lies

Society's Understanding & Actions

- 1960: Keeling shows increase in CO₂
- 1965: Environmental Report Lyndon Johnson
- 1970s: Cooling or Warming? Warming!
- 1988: Hansen testifies before Congress
- 1988: IPCC forms
- 1992: UNFCCC
- 1997: Kyoto Protocol signed
- 2015: Paris Agreement

Big Oil's Understanding & Actions



Fossil Fuelled Lies

Franta [Talk](#)
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Society's Understanding & Actions

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- 1988: Hansen testifies before Congress
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- 1992: UNFCCC
- 1997: Kyoto Protocol signed
- 2015: Paris Agreement

Big Oil's Understanding & Actions

- 1959: Edward Teller warns Big Oil
- 1965: President of API warns Big Oil
- 1979-83: Exxon internal research programme
- 1980: API argues for tripling coal
- 1987: IPIECA Strategy meeting
 - Emphasise uncertainties
 - Stress the cost of action
 - Focus on policies that do not threaten fossil fuels
 - Insist on 'detection before action'
- 1989-2002: Global Climate Coalition
- 2000-now: Greenwashing



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Mitigation Modelling

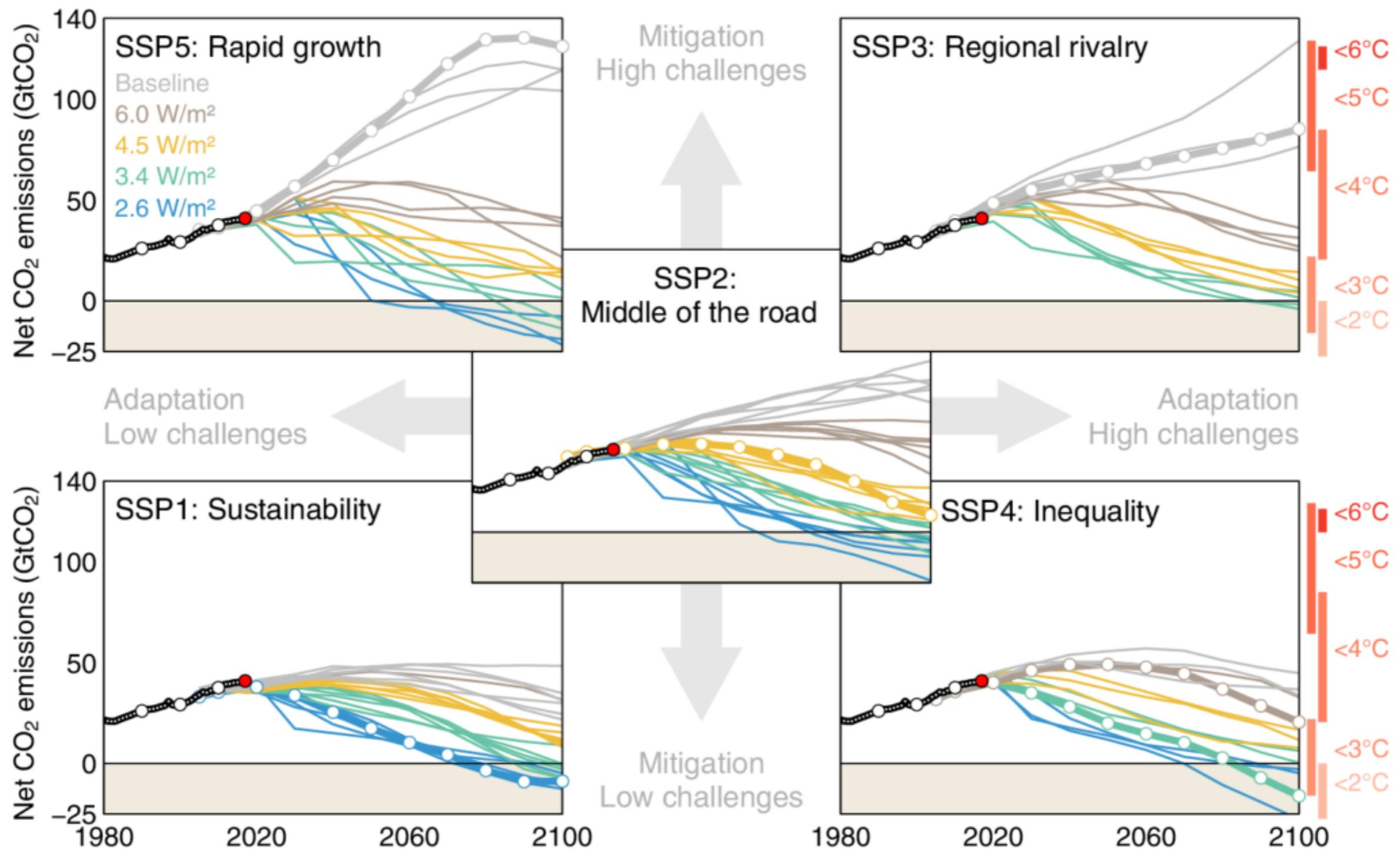
Energy Supply System

Ostrich Cluster

Inequity

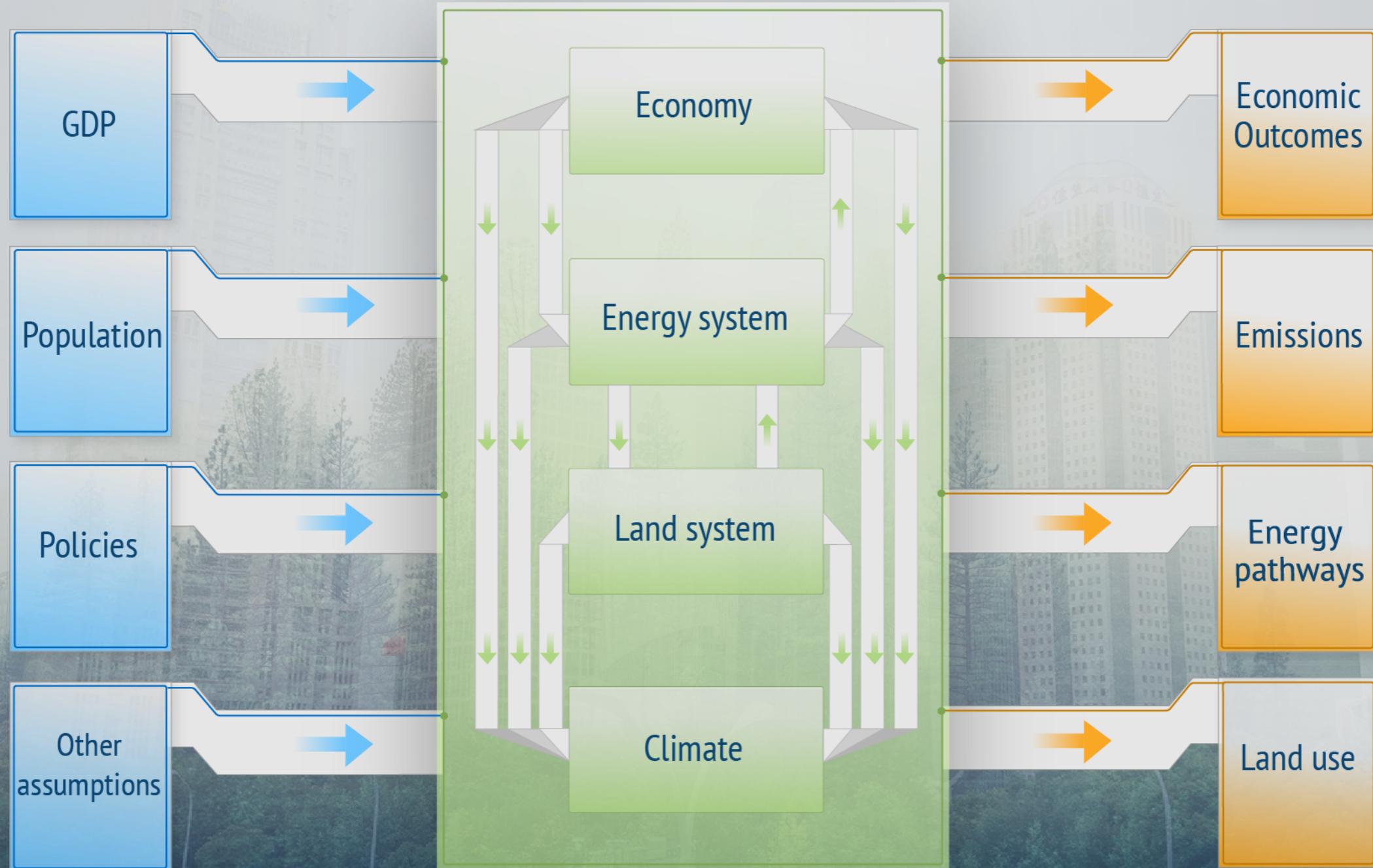
High-Carbon Lifestyles

Social Imaginaries



Global Carbon Project

How do Integrated Assessment Models work?



CarbonBrief
CLEAR ON CLIMATE

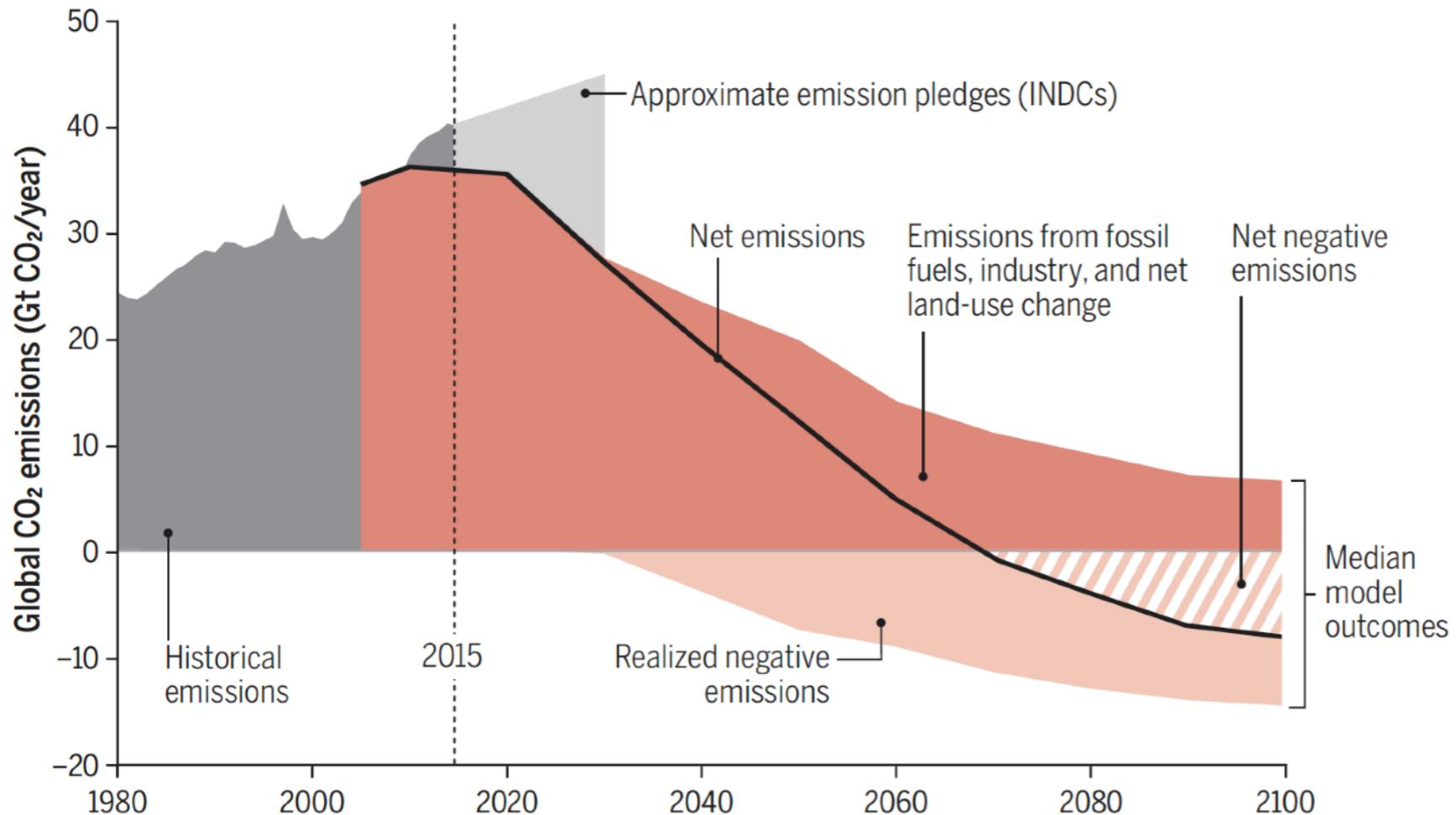
Integrated Assessment Models

- Based on neoclassical economics
 - Rational agents, full information
 - Markets work, no wasted investments, no unemployment
 - Reduction in economic activity by definition a cost
 - Economic growth can be decoupled from emissions (“green growth”)
- Discount rate
 - Weigh near-time costs more heavily than those in the future
 - Action today is more costly than action tomorrow
- Under-predicted the fall in the cost of renewables
 - Overstated the cost of rapid decarbonisation
- Focus on market-based solutions (e.g., carbon price)
- Focus on technological innovation such as large-scale negative emissions technology

No quick fixes

Modelers generally report net carbon emissions, unintentionally hiding the scale of negative emissions. Separating out the positive CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion, industry, and land-use change reveals the scale of negative CO₂ emissions in the model scenarios (16). INDCs, Intended Nationally Determined Contributions.

[Peters Talk](#)
[Anderson Talk](#)
[Anderson Interview](#)



“Negative-emission technologies are not an insurance policy, but rather an unjust and high-stakes gamble.”

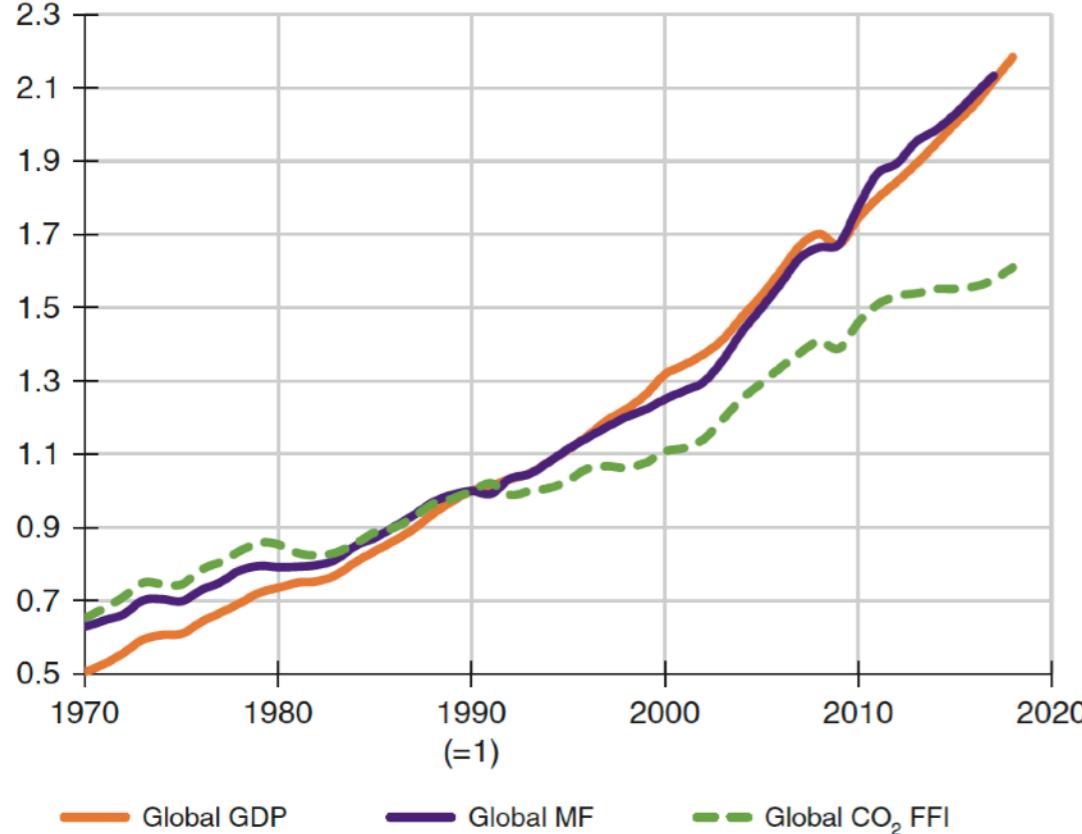
- Anderson & Peters (2016)

Hickman (2016)

Sen & Dabi (2021)

Carbon Brief



**ECONOMICS**

Unraveling the claims for (and against) green growth

Can the global economy grow indefinitely, decoupled from Earth's limitations?

By Tim Jackson¹ and Peter A. Victor²

Comment | Published: 04 August 2021

Urgent need for post-growth climate mitigation scenarios

Jason Hickel , Paul Brockway, Giorgos Kallis, Lorenz Keyßer, Manfred Lenzen, Aljoša Slameršak, Julia Steinberger & Diana Ürge-Vorsatz

Nature Energy 6, 766–768 (2021) | Cite this article

2218 Accesses | 1476 Altmetric | Metrics

PAPER • OPEN ACCESS

A systematic review of the evidence on decoupling of GDP, resource use and GHG emissions, part II: synthesizing the insights

Helmut Haberl¹ , Dominik Wiedenhofer^{1,9} , Doris Virág^{1,9} , Gerald Kalt¹ , Barbara Plank¹ , Paul Brockway² , Tomer Fishman³ , Daniel Hausknost⁵ , Fridolin Krausmann¹ , Bartholomäus Leon-Gruchalski⁴ , Andreas Mayer¹ , Melanie Pichler¹ , Anke Schaffartzik^{1,6} , Tânia Sousa⁷ , Jan Streeck¹ and Felix Creutzig⁸ — Hide full author list

Published 11 June 2020 • © 2020 The Author(s). Published by IOP Publishing Ltd

[Environmental Research Letters, Volume 15, Number 6](#)

Citation Helmut Haberl et al 2020 Environ. Res. Lett. 15 065003

Is Green Growth Possible?

Jason Hickel^a and Giorgos Kallis^b

^aAnthropology, Goldsmiths, University of London, London, UK; ^bICREA and ICTA-UAB, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain

ABSTRACT

The notion of green growth has emerged as a dominant policy response to climate change and ecological breakdown. Green growth theory asserts that continued economic expansion is compatible with our planet's ecology, as technological change and substitution will allow us to absolutely decouple GDP growth from resource use and carbon emissions. This claim is now assumed in national and international policy, including in the Sustainable Development Goals. But empirical evidence on resource use and carbon emissions does not support green growth theory. Examining relevant studies on historical trends and model-based projections, we find that: (1) there is no empirical evidence that absolute decoupling from resource use can be achieved on a global scale against a background of continued economic growth, and (2) absolute decoupling from carbon emissions is highly unlikely to be achieved at a rate rapid enough to prevent global warming over 1.5°C or 2°C, even under optimistic policy conditions. We conclude that green growth is likely to be a misguided objective, and that policymakers need to look toward alternative strategies.

KEYWORDS

Sustainable development; ecological economics; green growth; degrowth; decoupling

Climate Change Policy: What Do the Models Tell Us?

Robert S. Pindyck

JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC LITERATURE
VOL. 51, NO. 3, SEPTEMBER 2013
(pp. 860-72)

Abstract

Very little. A plethora of integrated assessment models (IAMs) have been constructed and used to estimate the social cost of carbon (SCC) and evaluate alternative abatement policies. These models have crucial flaws that make them close to useless as tools for policy analysis: certain inputs (e.g., the discount rate) are arbitrary, but have huge effects on the SCC estimates the models produce; the models' descriptions of the impact of climate change are completely ad hoc, with no theoretical or empirical foundation; and the models can tell us nothing about the most important driver of the SCC, the possibility of a catastrophic climate outcome. IAM-based analyses of climate policy create a perception of knowledge and precision, but that perception is illusory and misleading.

The appallingly bad neoclassical economics of climate change

Steve Keen 

Institute for Strategy, Resilience and Security, University College London, London, UK

ABSTRACT

Forecasts by economists of the economic damage from climate change have been notably sanguine, compared to warnings by scientists about damage to the biosphere. This is because economists made their own predictions of damages, using three spurious methods: assuming that about 90% of GDP will be unaffected by climate change, because it happens indoors; using the relationship between temperature and GDP today as a proxy for the impact of global warming over time; and using surveys that diluted extreme warnings from scientists with optimistic expectations from economists. Nordhaus has misrepresented the scientific literature to justify the using a smooth function to describe the damage to GDP from climate change. Correcting for these errors makes it feasible that the economic damages from climate change are at least an order of magnitude worse than forecast by economists, and may be so great as to threaten the survival of human civilization.

KEYWORDS

Climate change; neoclassical economics; William Nordhaus

Keen (2020)

Pindyck (2013)

Evans, Pidcock, & Yeo (2017)

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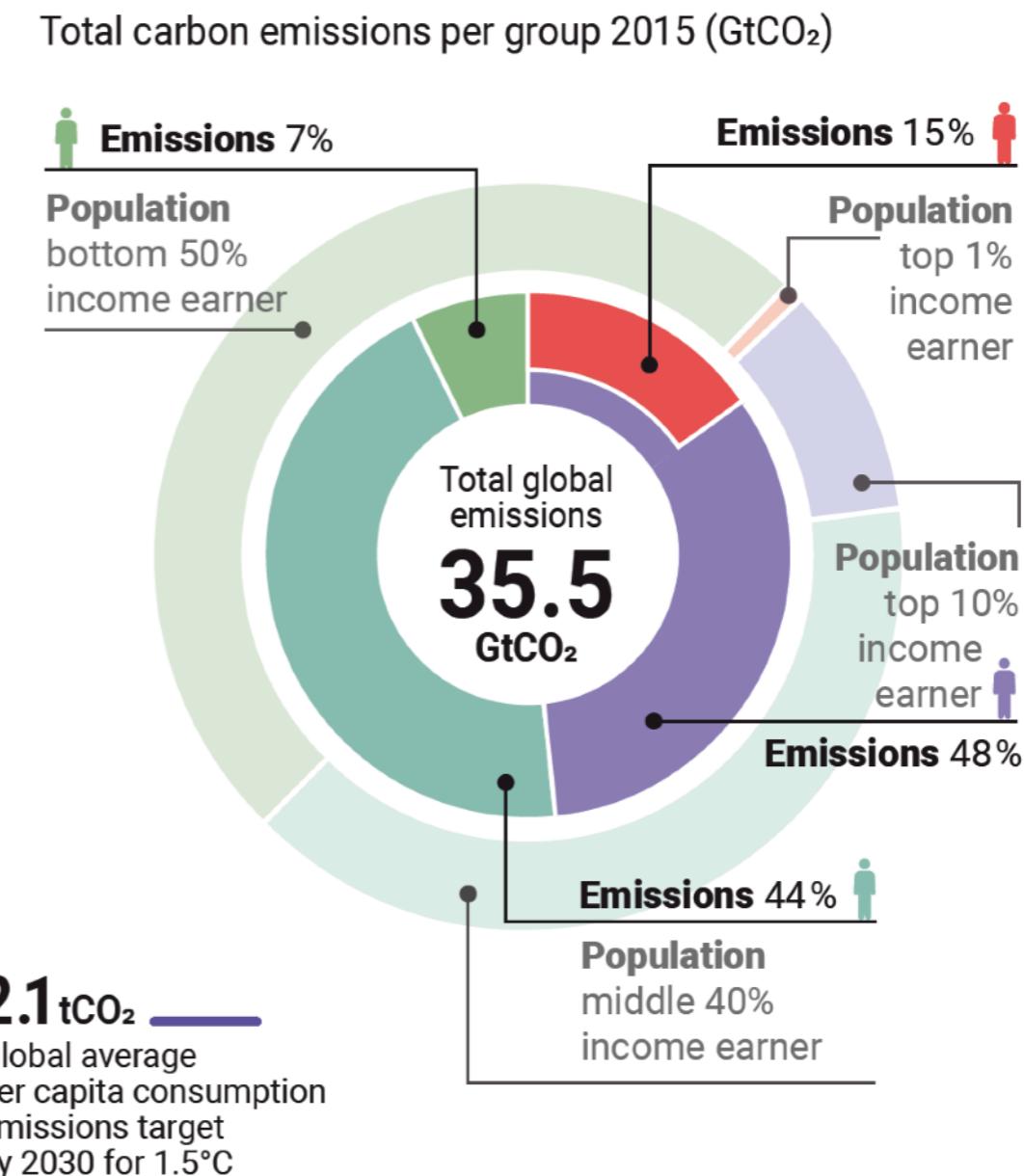
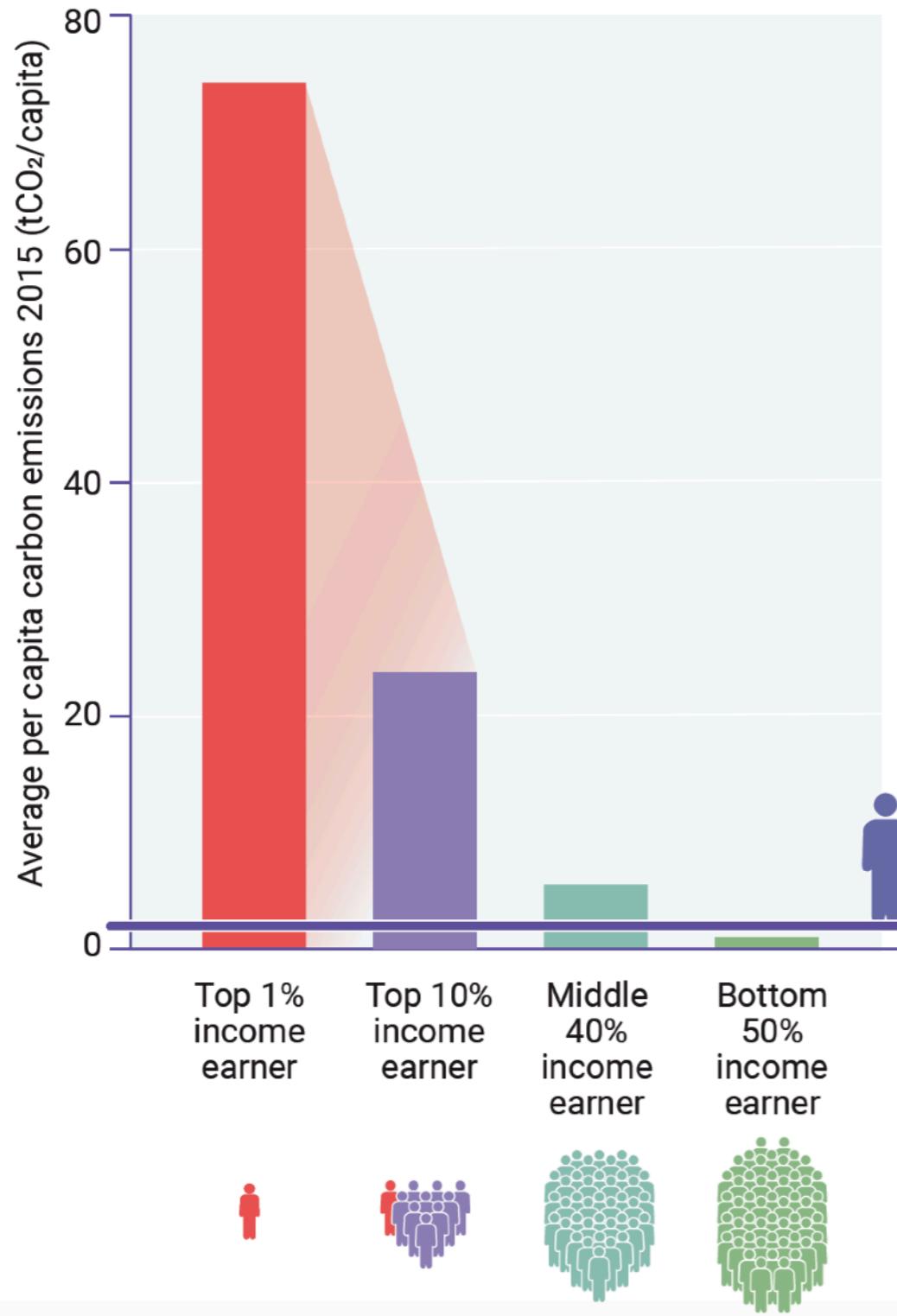
Ostrich Cluster

Inequity

High-Carbon Lifestyles

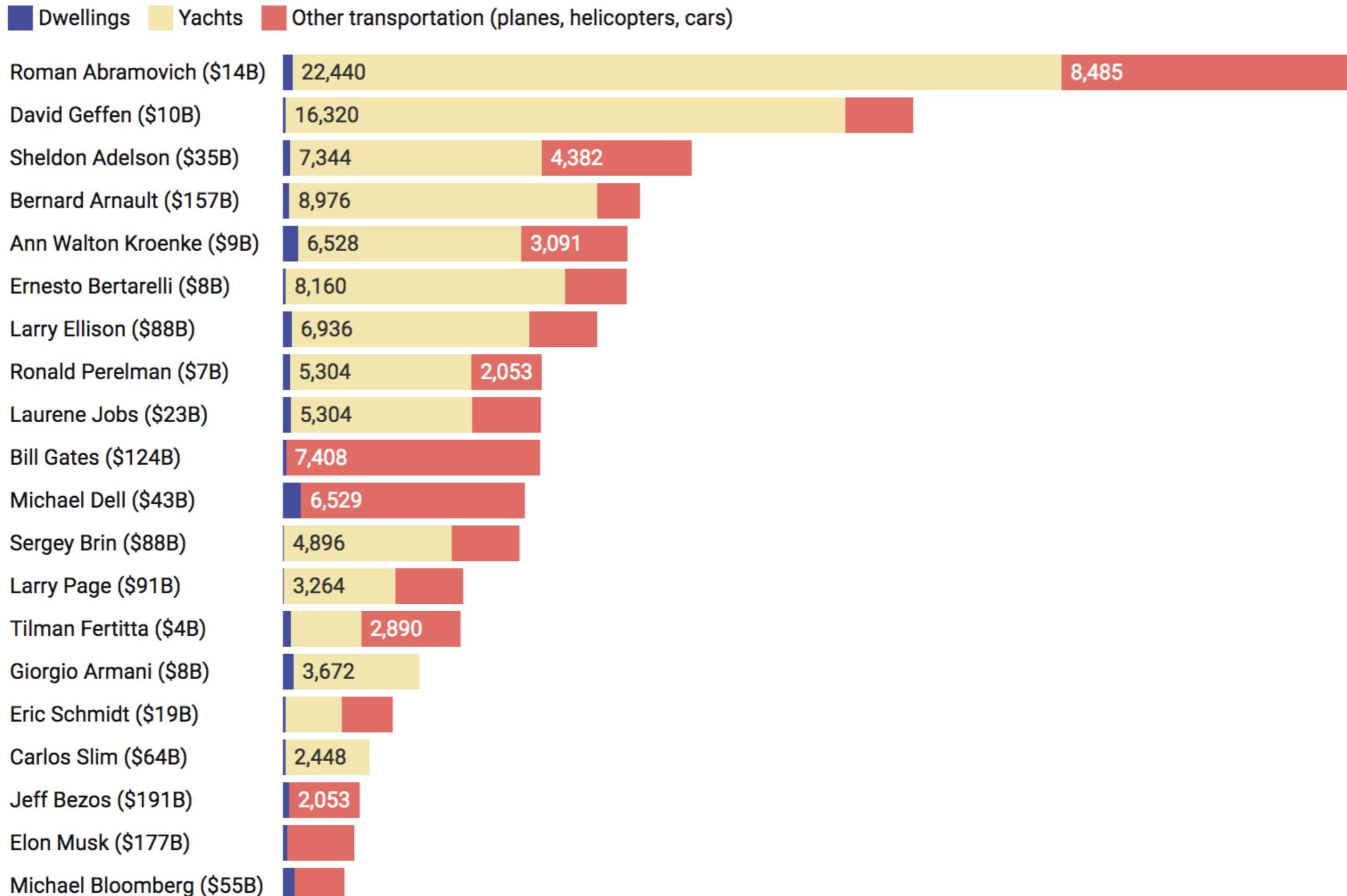
Social Imaginaries

Carbon Inequality



Top 1% : > 94,000 € / year
Top 10%: > 32,800 € / year

Billionaire Emissions



Estimates of wealth are based on Feb. 15 data, according to Forbes, except for Sheldon Adelson, who died in January.

Chart: The Conversation, CC-BY-ND • Source: Forbes, Carbon Footprint, US Energy Information Administration, Carbon Independent, "The Yacht of 2030"

Monbiot column

New Zealand Escape

Comment | Published: 28 January 2019

Shift the focus from the super-poor to the super-rich

Ilona M. Otto , Kyoung Mi Kim, Nika Dubrovsky & Wolfgang Lucht

Nature Climate Change 9, 82–84 (2019) | [Cite this article](#)

4864 Accesses | 28 Citations | 1921 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

Perspective | [Open Access](#) | Published: 19 June 2020

Scientists' warning on affluence

Thomas Wiedmann , Manfred Lenzen, Lorenz T. Keyßer & Julia K. Steinberger

Nature Communications 11, Article number: 3107 (2020) | [Cite this article](#)

171k Accesses | 107 Citations | 4550 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

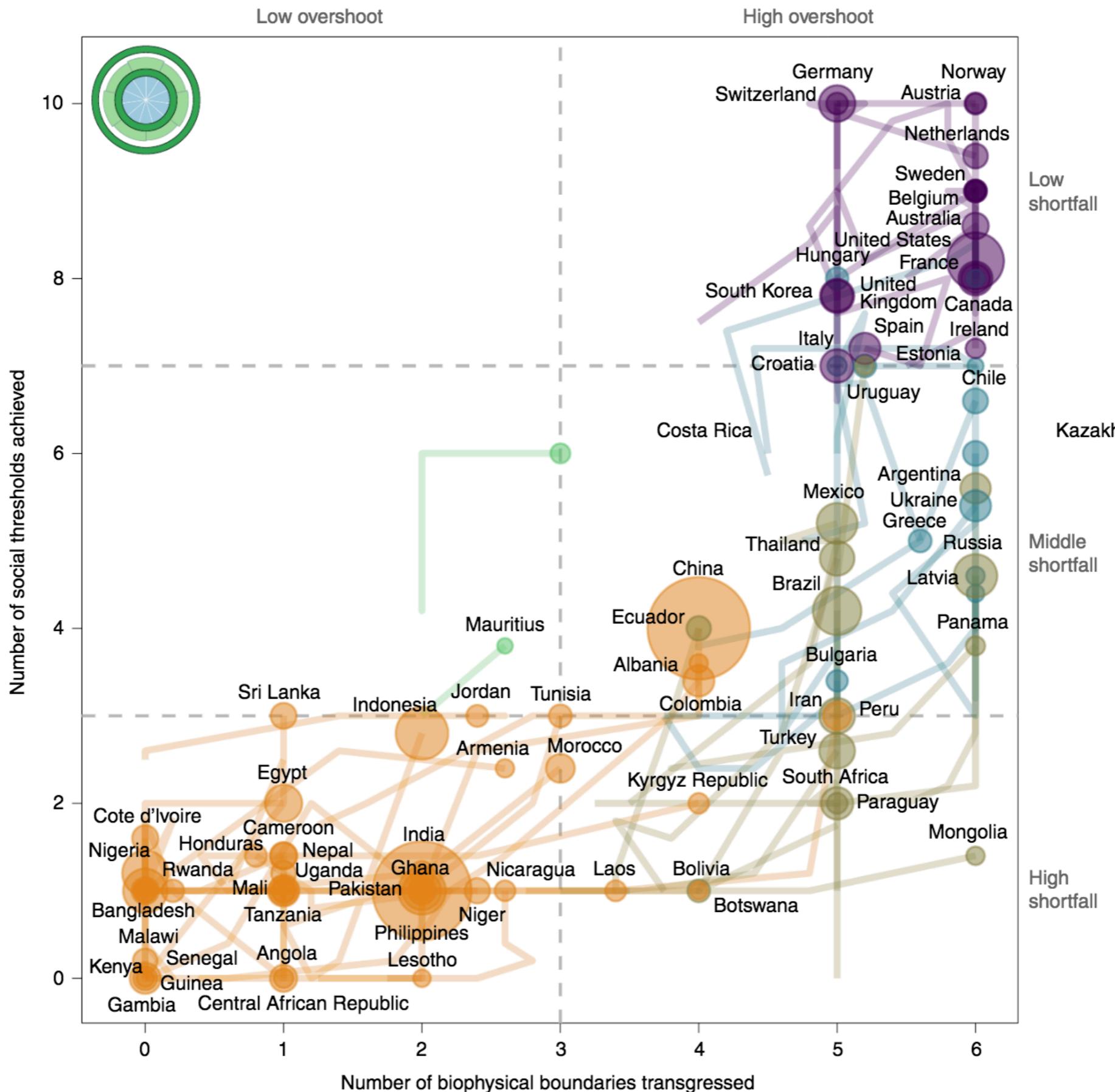
Perspective | Published: 30 September 2021

The role of high-socioeconomic-status people in locking in or rapidly reducing energy-driven greenhouse gas emissions

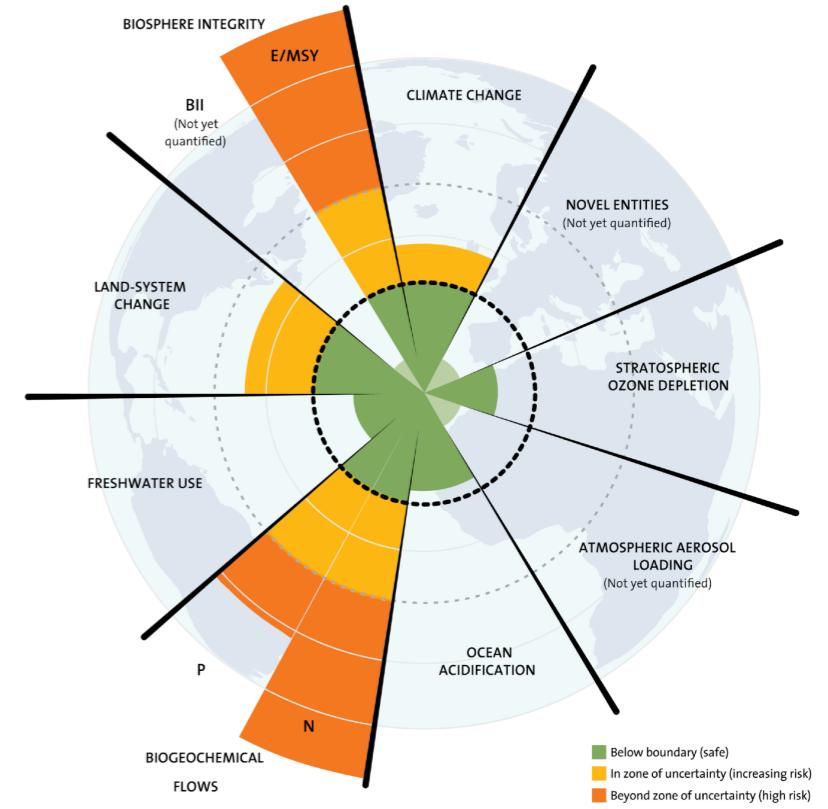
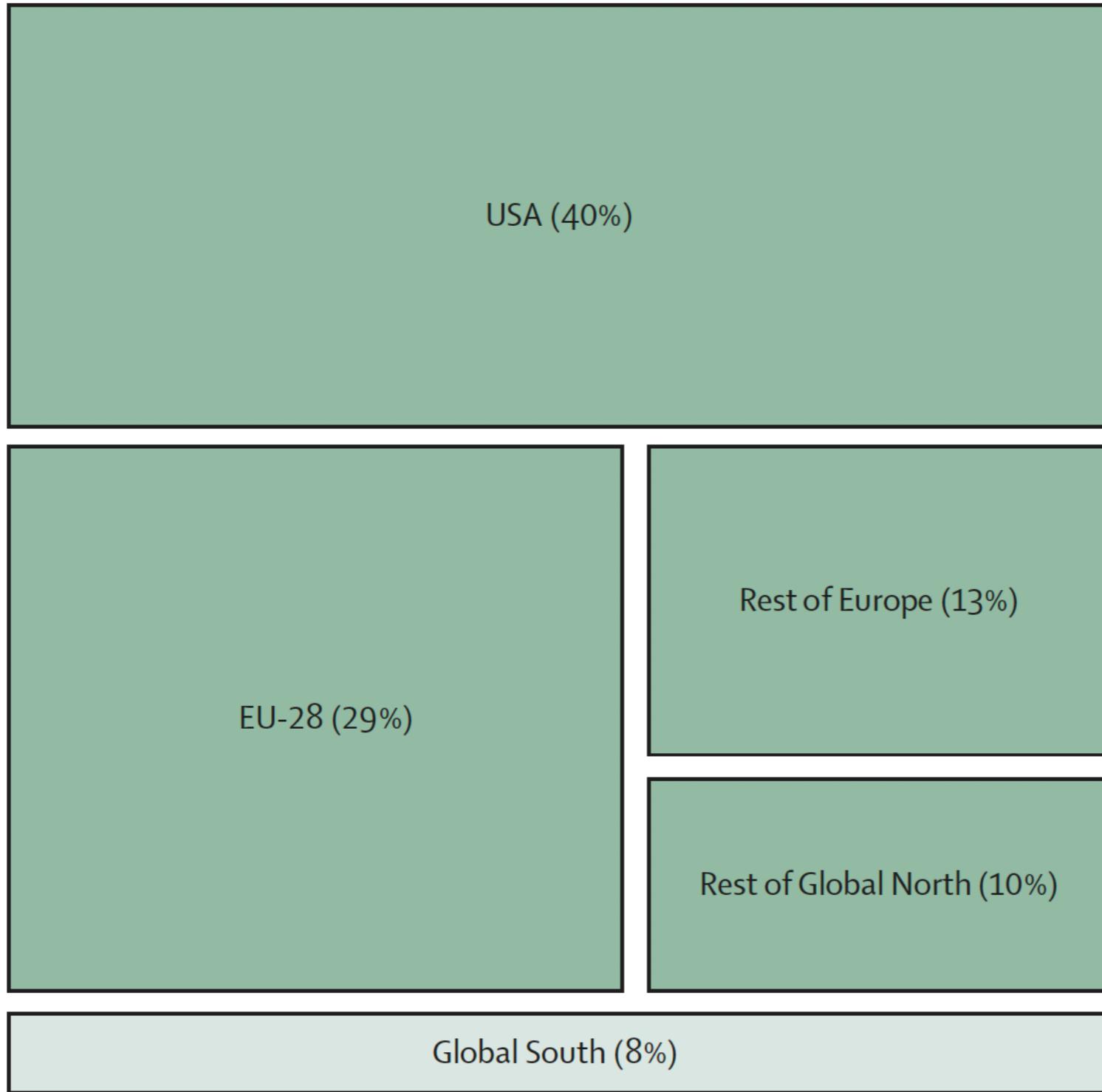
Kristian S. Nielsen , Kimberly A. Nicholas, Felix Creutzig, Thomas Dietz & Paul C. Stern

Nature Energy 6, 1011–1016 (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

12k Accesses | 671 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)



Responsibility for climate breakdown



TO COOK A CONTINENT

DESTRUCTIVE EXTRACTION
AND THE
CLIMATE CRISIS
IN AFRICA

NNIMMO BASSEY

CLIMATE COLONIALISM

Anuradha Mittal

Founder and Director of
Oakland Institute CA

Nnimmo Bassey

Former Chair of Friends of Earth International,
Director, Home of Mother Earth Foundation

Oxford Climate Society Online Events

Mon 25 Jan | 18:00 UTC | OCS YouTube Livestream



OXFORD CLIMATE SOCIETY



Mittal & Bassey Event
Climate Reparations
Learning From Ladakh

PEOPLE

4 October 2021 7:00

In-depth Q&A: What is 'climate justice'?



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“I've been there all along, and it had taken me too long to figure out what was happening. I wrote the first book about [climate change] and I kept writing more books, articles, and having symposiums on the theory that if we kept piling up enough data and reason eventually the powers that be would get to work — why wouldn't they?

- Bill McKibben

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I thought that we were in an argument. And it took me too long to figure out that we won the argument, but that that didn't mean anything. We won the argument — the science was entirely robust and clear. We were just losing the fight.

- Bill McKibben

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“I've been there all along, and it had taken me too long to figure out what was happening. I wrote the first book about [climate change] and I kept writing more books, articles, and having symposiums on the theory that if we kept piling up enough data and reason eventually the powers that be would get to work — why wouldn't they?

I thought that we were in an argument. And it took me too long to figure out that we won the argument, but that that didn't mean anything. We won the argument — the science was entirely robust and clear. We were just losing the fight.

Because the fight wasn't about data and reason, the fight was about money and power, which is what fights are always about.”

- Bill McKibben

Pause

Part IV:

What Can We Do

Today?

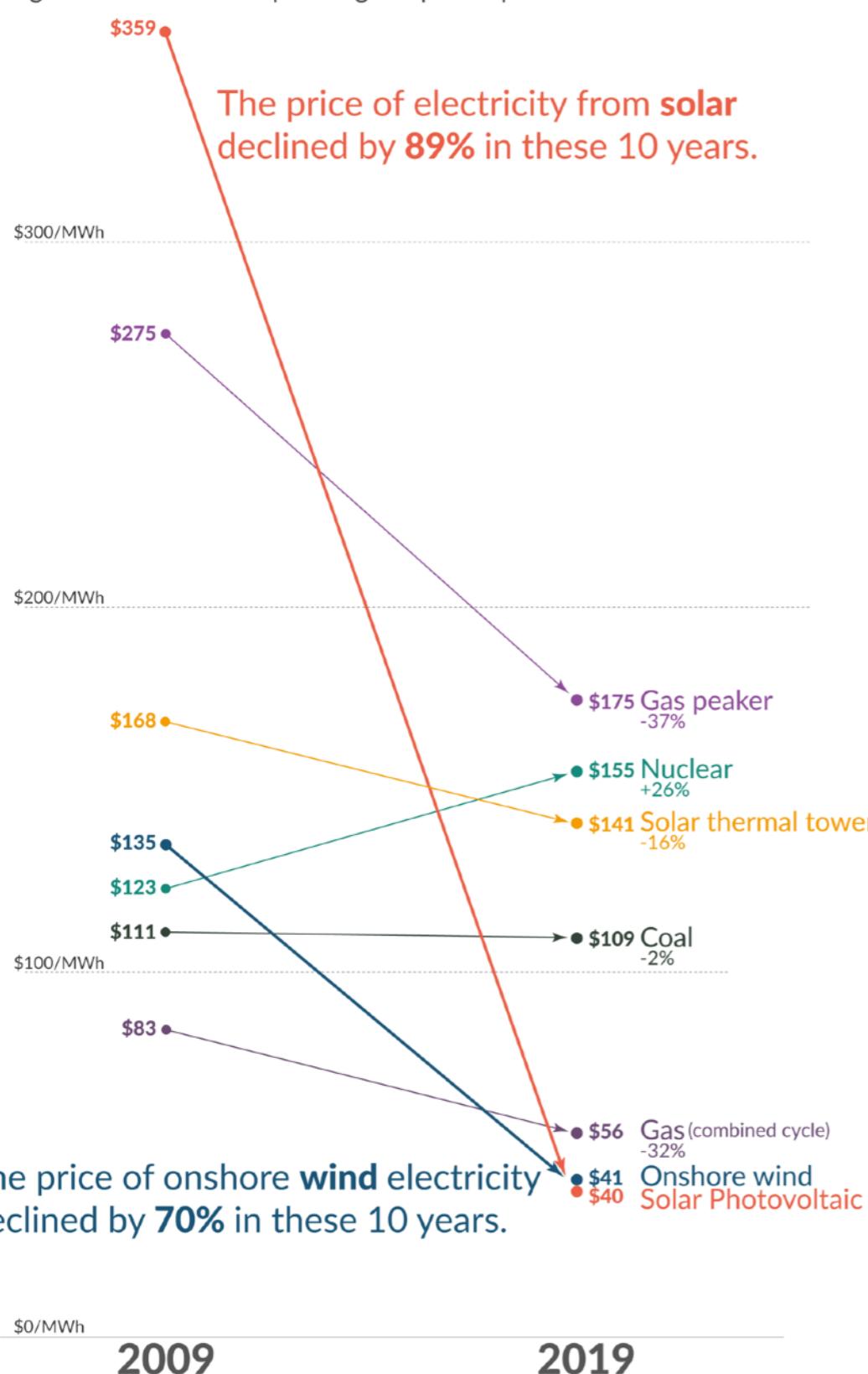
It's easy to feel pessimistic about the climate. But we've got two big things on our side

Bill McKibben

The price of electricity from new power plants

Electricity prices are expressed in 'levelized costs of energy' (LCOE). LCOE captures the cost of building the power plant itself as well as the ongoing costs for fuel and operating the power plant over its lifetime.

Our World
in Data



How to waste over half a trillion dollars

The economic implications of deflationary renewable energy for coal power investments



The sky's the limit

Solar and wind energy potential is 100 times as much as global energy demand



[Report I](#); [Report II](#)

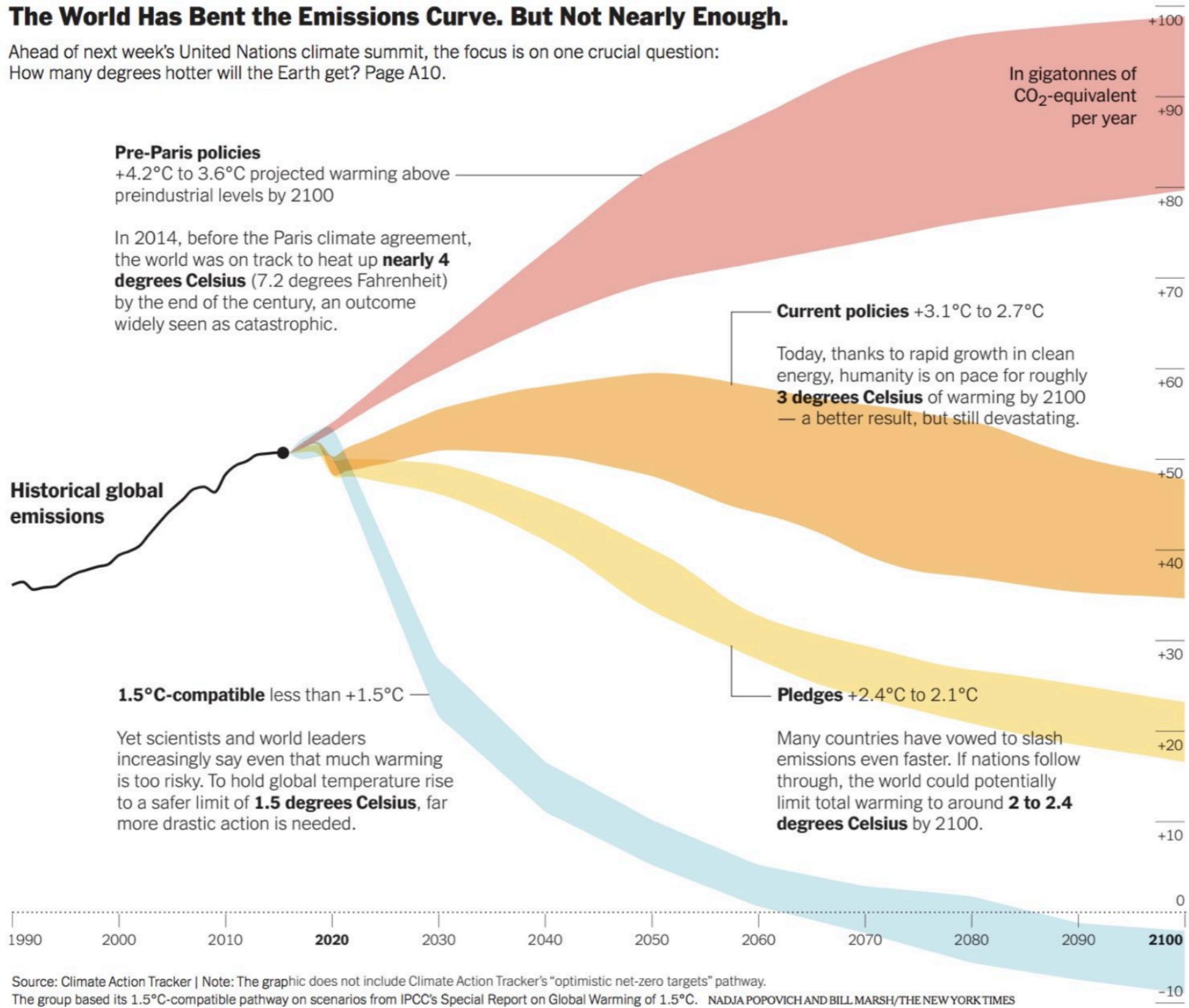
[Campanale Interview](#)

Way et al. (2021); Roser (2020)

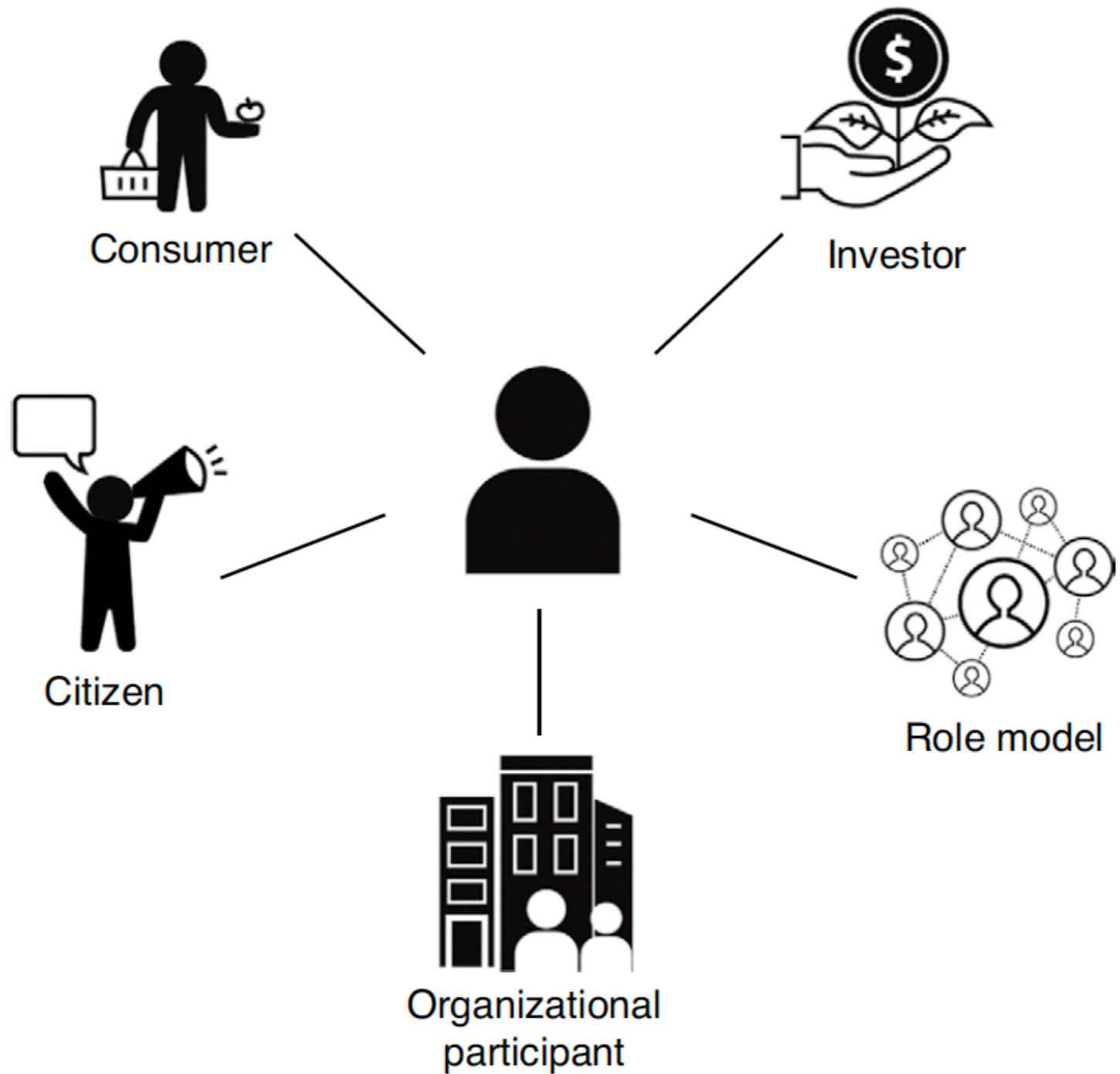


The World Has Bent the Emissions Curve. But Not Nearly Enough.

Ahead of next week's United Nations climate summit, the focus is on one crucial question: How many degrees hotter will the Earth get? Page A10.



Source: Climate Action Tracker | Note: The graphic does not include Climate Action Tracker's "optimistic net-zero targets" pathway. The group based its 1.5°C-compatible pathway on scenarios from IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C. NADJA POPOVICH AND BILL MARSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES





Carbon Footprint Reduction

- Stop or lower air travel
- Stop driving petrol cars
- Reduce your meat consumption, especially beef
- Talk about it!

An Audacious Toolkit: Actions Against Climate Breakdown (Part 3: I is for Individual)



Julia Steinberger Nov 26, 2018 · 15 min read



Your Personal Action Guide for the Environment

Solving our biggest environmental problems will require huge changes in policy and business practice. But it turns out that our personal actions can help too, if we focus on the right things. Here are some places to start.



Dr. Jonathan Foley [Follow](#) [Email](#)
Apr 22, 2020 · 14 min read ★





Investor



Organizational participant

- Divestment (Personal & Organizational)
- Donations to environmental organizations
- Influence through position / status



Organize lectures / workshops

High-level interventions

(Reduce meat in cafeteria, at parties,
disincentivize flights, etc.)

....

[Comment](#) | [Published: 15 March 2021](#)

Changing scientific meetings for the better

[Sarvenaz Sarabipour](#) [Aziz Khan](#), [Yu Fen Samantha Seah](#), [Aneth D. Mwakilili](#), [Fiona N. Mumoki](#), [Pablo J. Sáez](#), [Benjamin Schwessinger](#), [Humberto J. Debat](#) & [Tomislav Mestrovic](#)

[Nature Human Behaviour](#) 5, 296–300 (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

7822 Accesses | 4 Citations | 249 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

Sustainability at the UvA

We integrate sustainability into study programmes and conduct research on sustainability issues. We have also adopted a sustainable approach to our operations.





Citizen



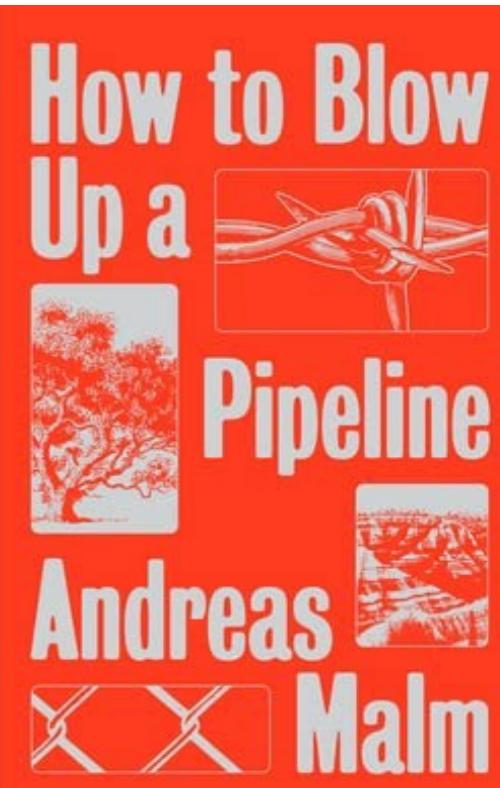
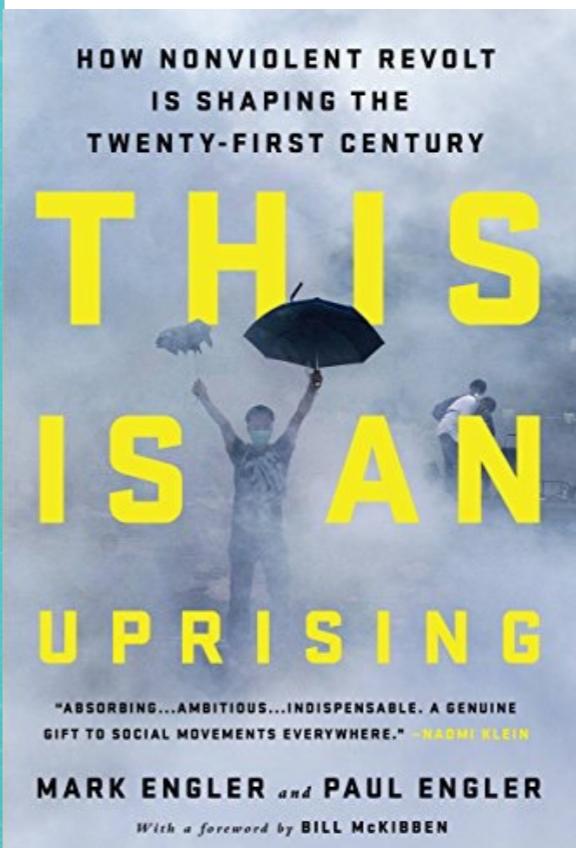
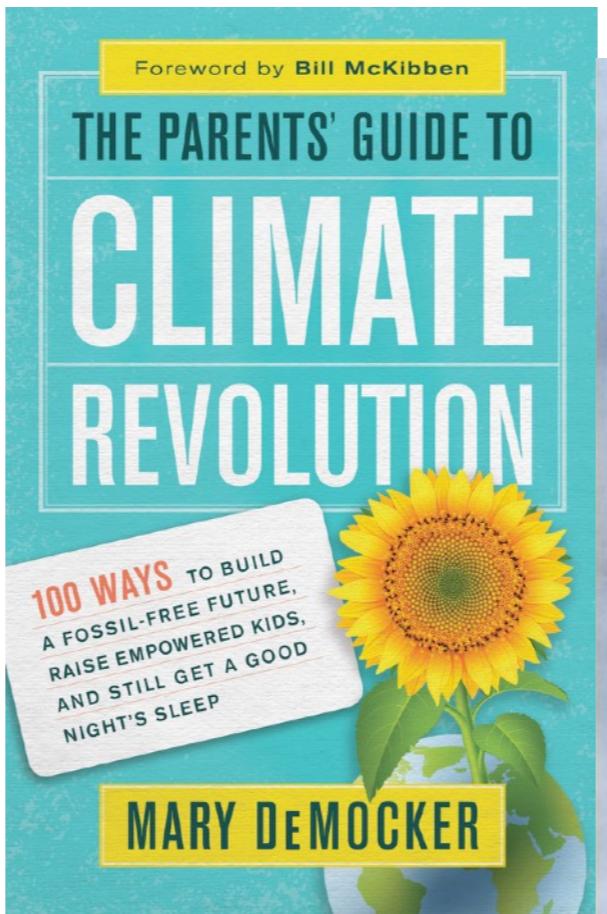
Role model

- Vote
- Talk about the climate crisis (urgency **and** agency)
- Contagion of low-carbon lifestyle (social norm shift)

[Monbiot Podcast](#)

[Monbiot Interview](#)

[Stop Line 3 Documentary](#)





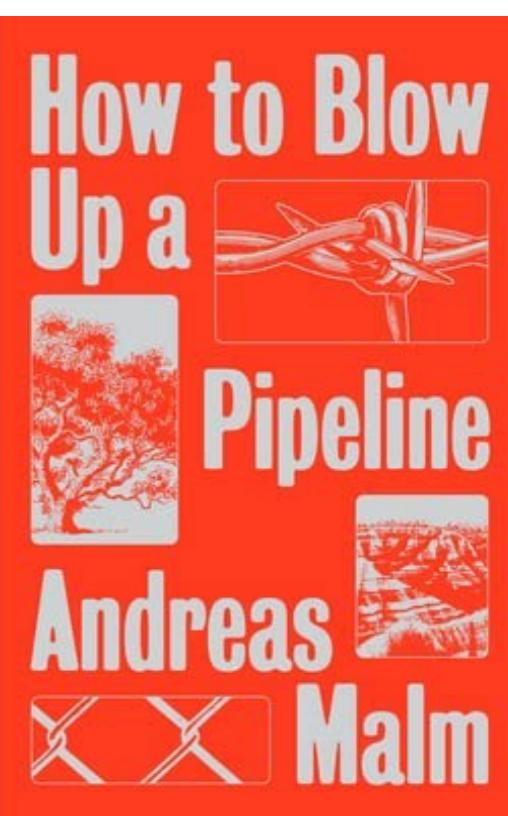
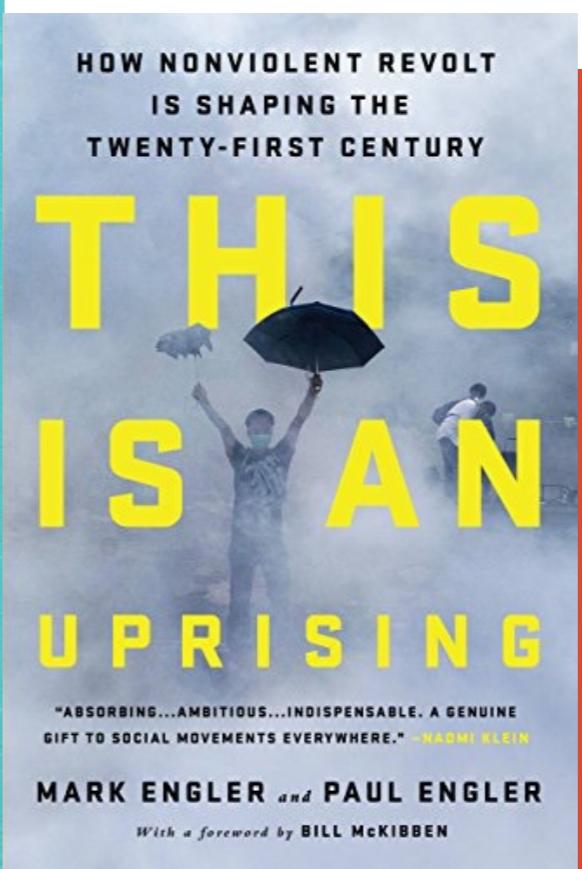
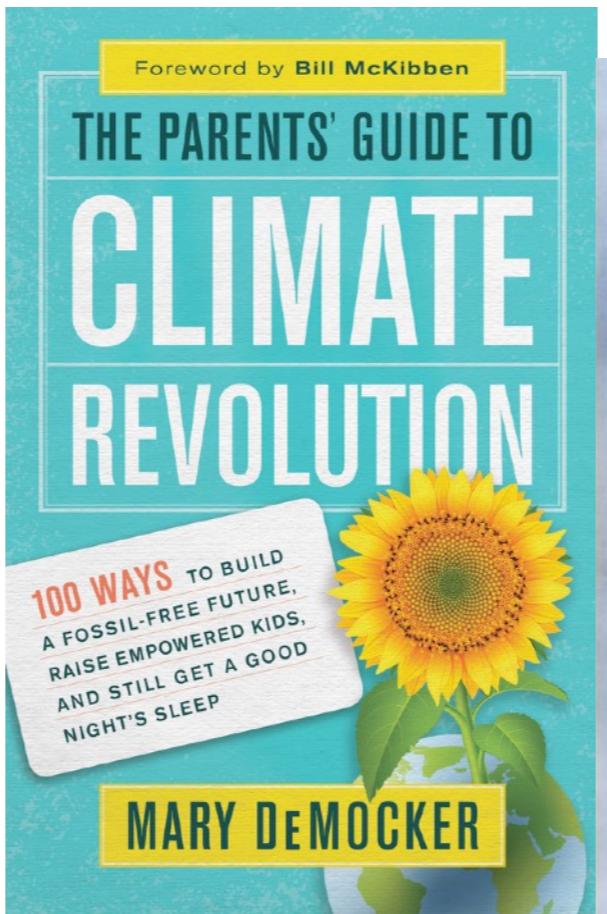
Citizen



Role model

- Vote
- Talk about the climate crisis (urgency **and** agency)
- Contagion of low-carbon lifestyle (social norm shift)

- Mobilize, mobilize, and mobilize
- Get together with other people and mobilize



[Monbiot Podcast](#)

[Monbiot Interview](#)

[Stop Line 3 Documentary](#)



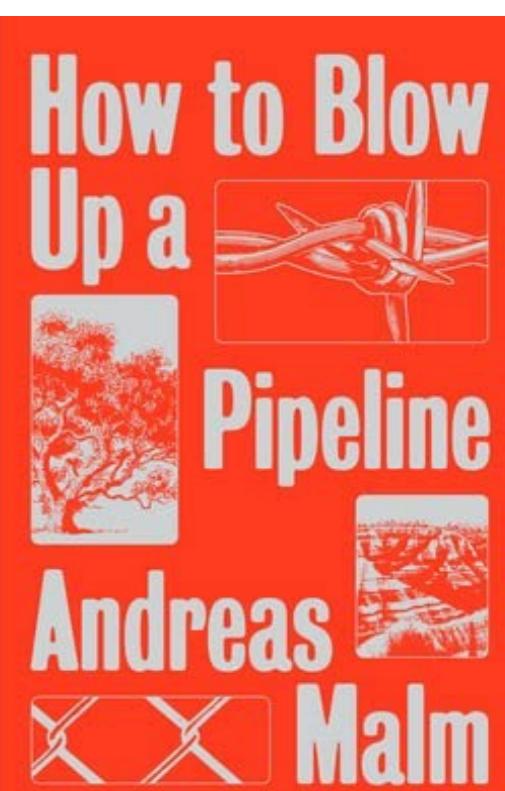
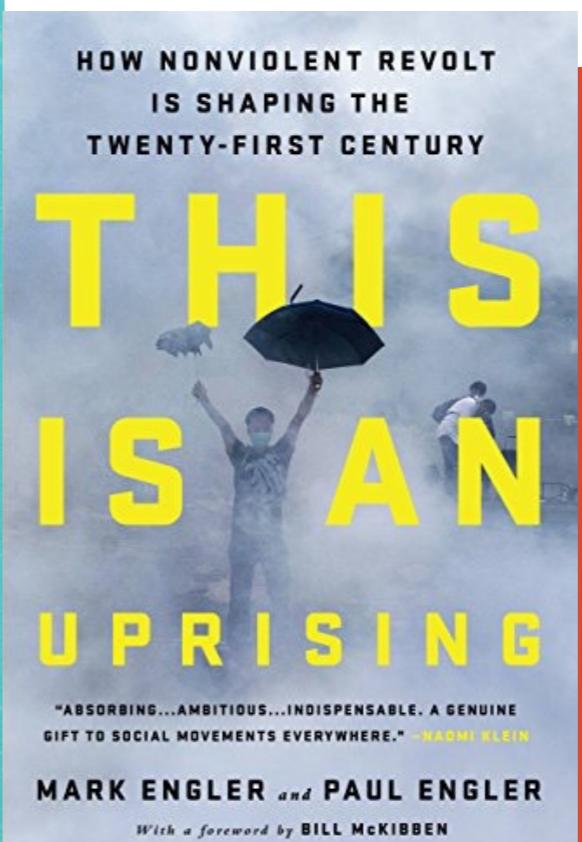
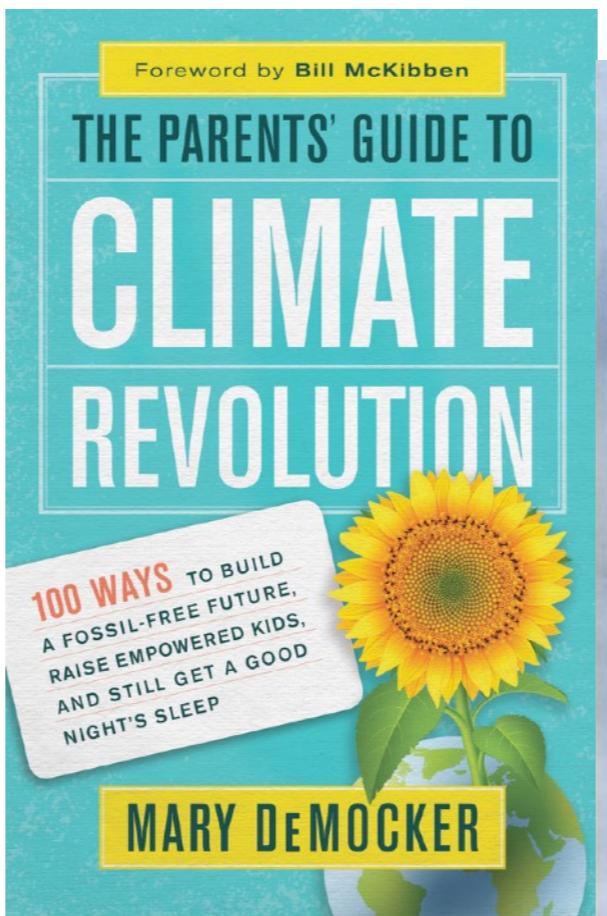
Citizen



Role model

- Vote
- Talk about the climate crisis (urgency **and** agency)
- Contagion of low-carbon lifestyle (social norm shift)

- Dedicate some time to change the world



[Monbiot Podcast](#)

[Monbiot Interview](#)

[Stop Line 3 Documentary](#)

Tipping positive change

Timothy M. Lenton

Sensitive intervention points in the post-carbon transition

We must exploit socioeconomic tipping points and amplifiers

By J. D. Farmer^{1,2,3}, C. Hepburn^{1,4}, M. C. Ives^{1,4}, T. Hale⁵, T. Wetzer^{1,6,7}, P. Mealy^{1,4,8}, R. Rafatay¹, S. Srivastav^{1,4}, R. Way^{1,4}

points") (3), such that a relatively small change can trigger a larger change that becomes irreversible (4), where nonlinear

Social tipping dynamics for stabilizing Earth's climate by 2050

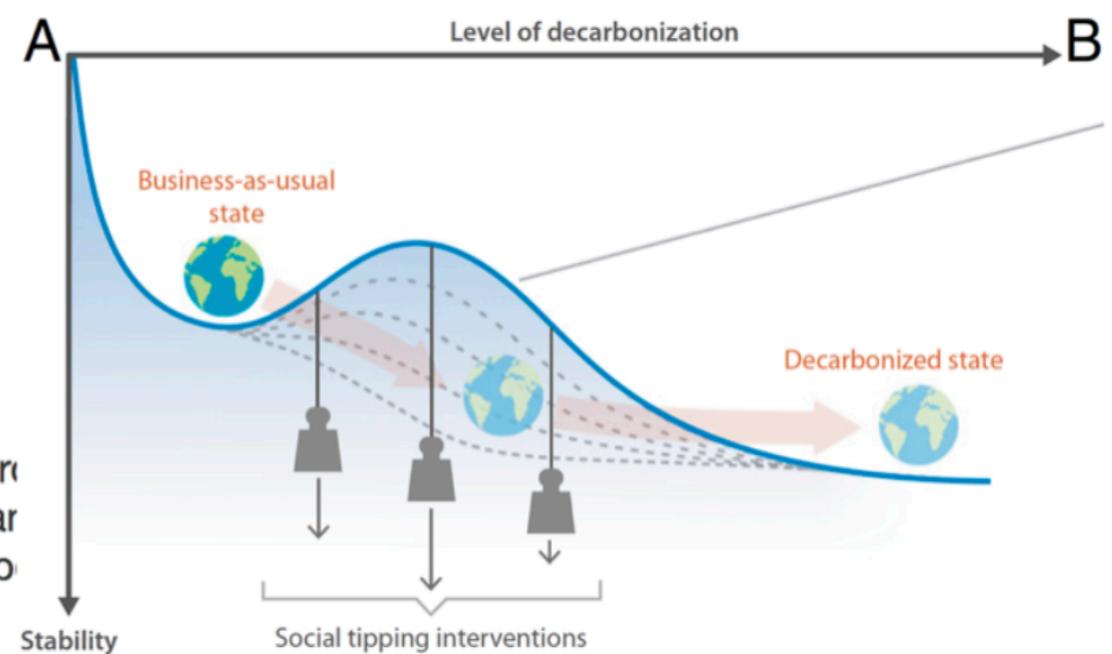
Ilona M. Otto, Jonathan F. Donges, Roger Cremades, Avit Bhowmik, Richard Wolfgang Lucht, Johan Rockström, Franziska Allerberger, Mark McCaffrey, Sylvan Alex Lenferna, Nerea Morán, Detlef P. van Vuuren, and Hans Joachim Schellnhub

Sensitive intervention points to achieve net-zero emissions

Report of the Policy Advisory Group* of the Committee on Climate Change

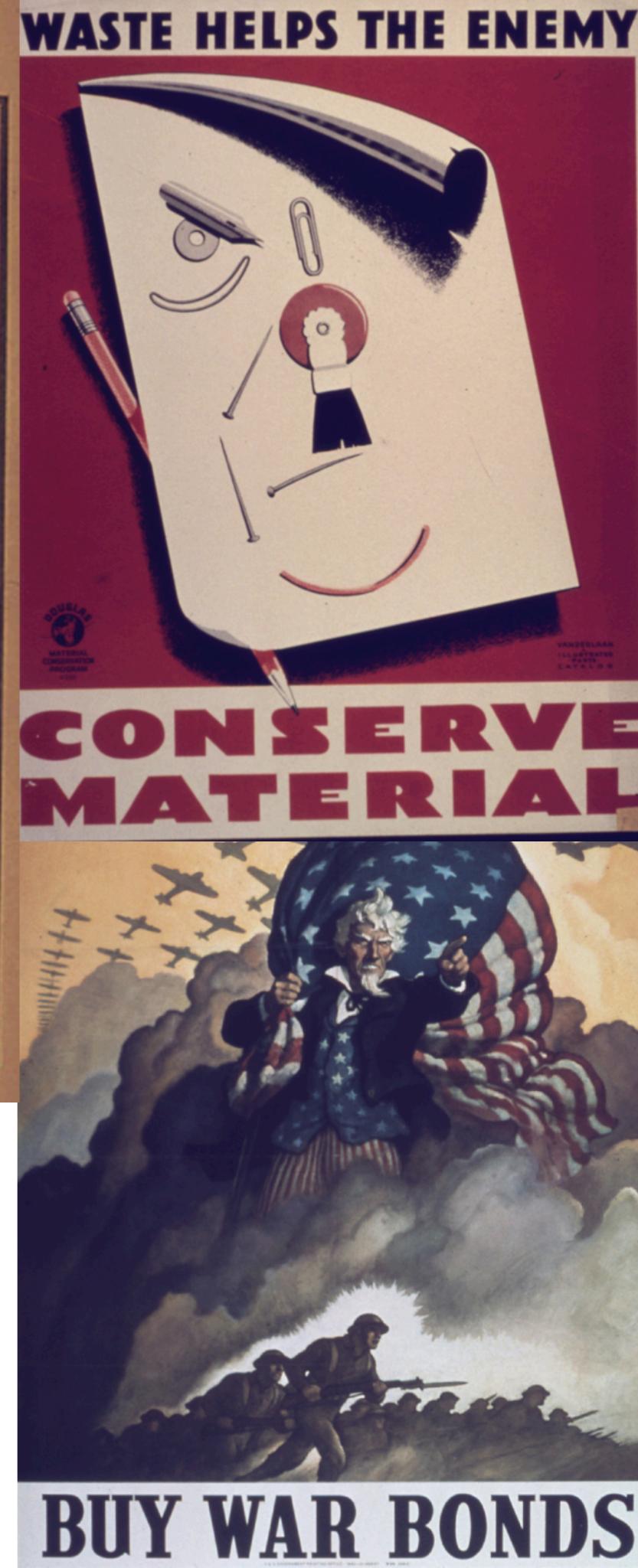
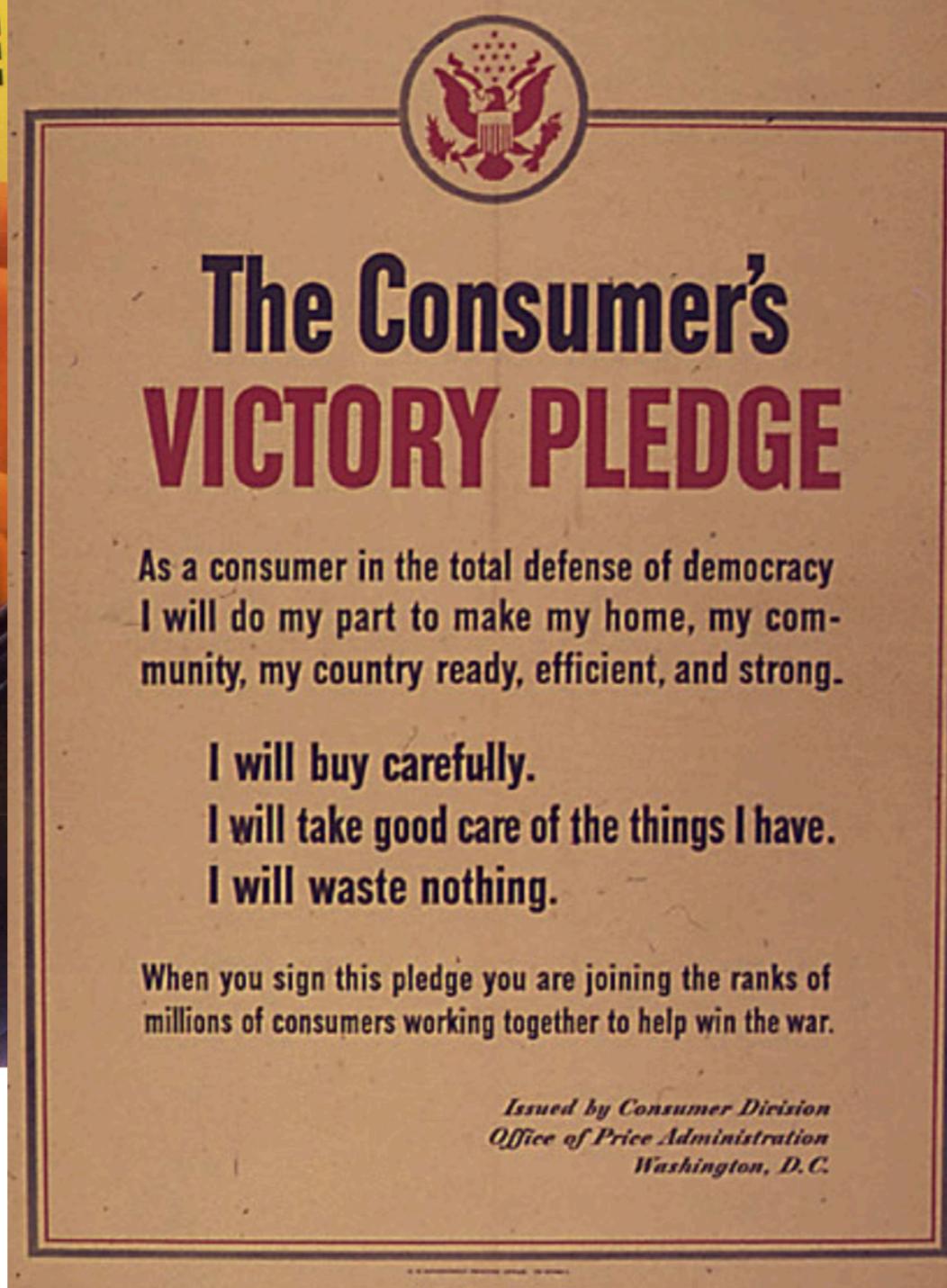
9 December 2020

Cameron Hepburn, Tera Allas, Laura Cozzi, Michael Liebreich, Jim Skea, Lorraine Whitmarsh, Giles Wilkes and Bryony Worthington





Source



Government spending rose 10 fold from 1940 to 1945
National speed limit of 35 mph to conserve fuel, car sharing
Manufacturing of cars, construction of new homes banned
Rationing of gasoline, meat, butter, sugar etc.
Income taxes of up to 94%



“We need a billion climate activists.”

- Peter Kalmus

We can despair and plunge into paralysis or we can become stubborn optimists with a fierce conviction that no matter how difficult, we must and we can rise to the challenge.

- Christiana Figueres

Pause

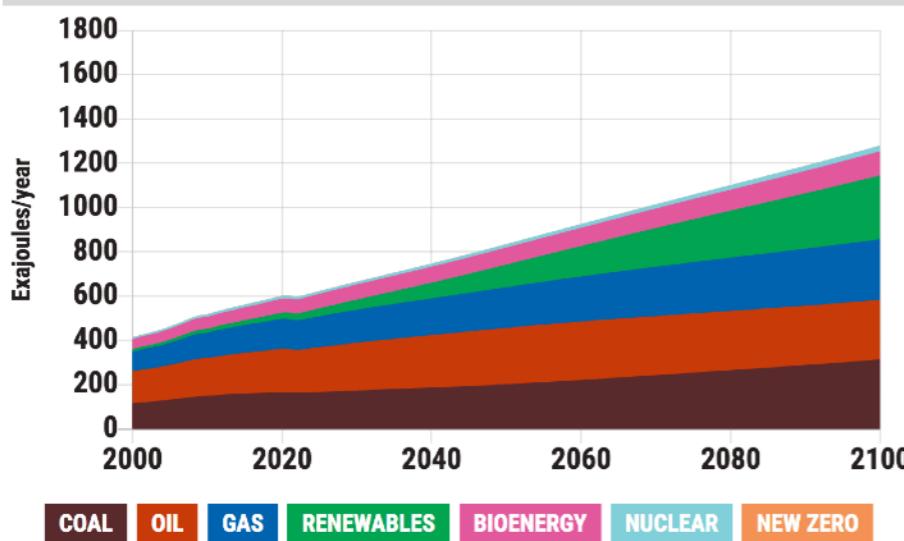
Part V:

Climate Action with

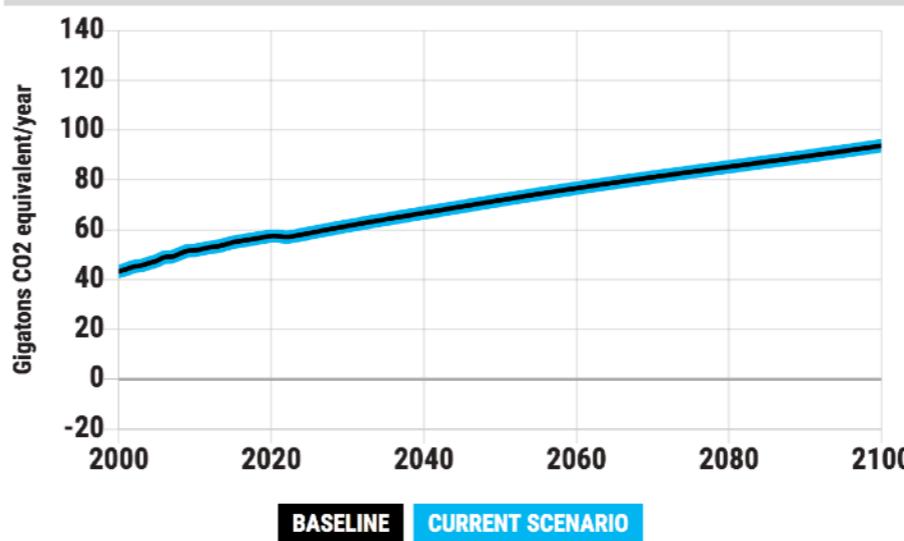
En-ROADS

Interactive Part

▶ Global Sources of Primary Energy



▶ Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions



+3.6°C

+6.5°F

Temperature
Increase by
2100

Energy Supply

Coal	⋮	Renewables	⋮
status quo	⋮	status quo	⋮

Oil	⋮	Nuclear	⋮
status quo	⋮	status quo	⋮

Natural Gas	⋮	New Zero-Carbon	⋮
status quo	⋮	status quo	⋮

Bioenergy	⋮	Carbon Price	⋮
status quo	⋮	status quo	⋮

Transport

Energy Efficiency	⋮	Electrification	⋮
status quo	⋮	status quo	⋮

Buildings and Industry

Energy Efficiency	⋮	Electrification	⋮
status quo	⋮	status quo	⋮

Growth

Population	⋮	Economic Growth	⋮
status quo	⋮	status quo	⋮

Land and Industry Emissions

Deforestation	⋮	Methane & Other	⋮
status quo	⋮	status quo	⋮

Carbon Removal

Afforestation	⋮	Technological	⋮
status quo	⋮	status quo	⋮

CLIMATE
INTERACTIVE

MIT
MANAGEMENT
Sustainability Initiative

Register Your En-ROADS Event

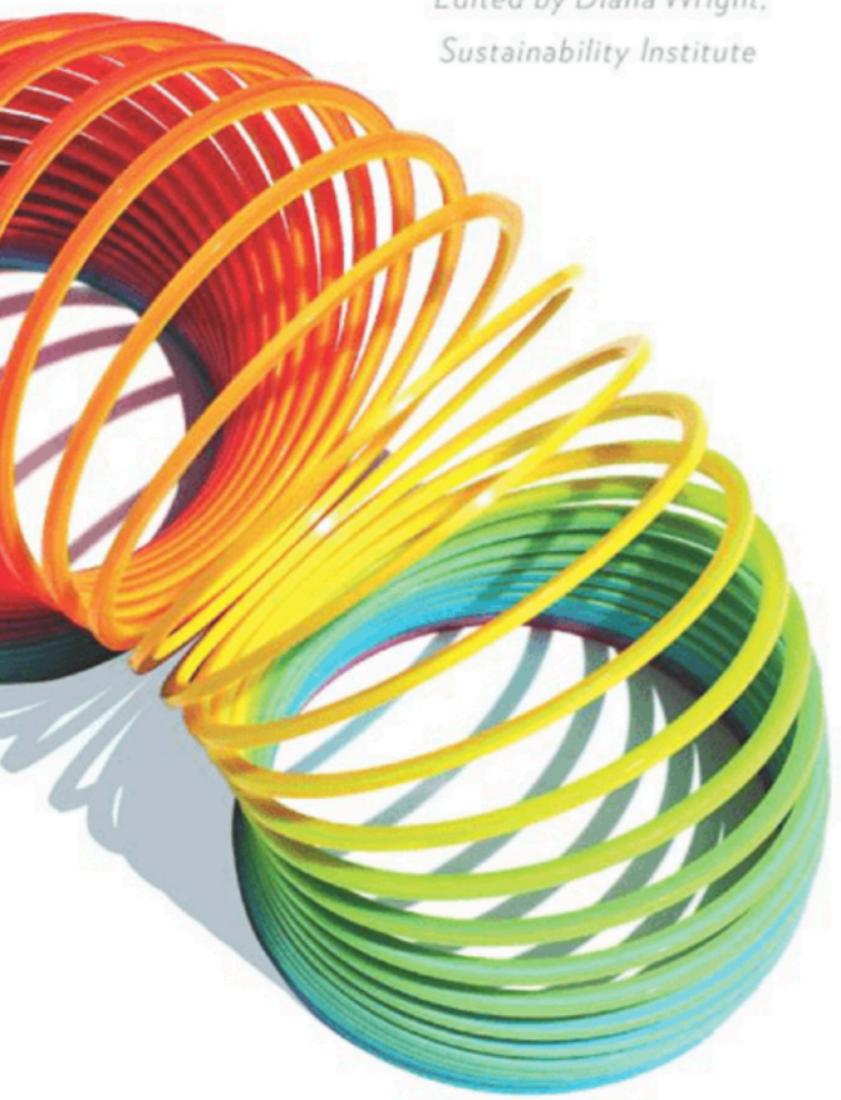
v21.10

Thinking in Systems

A Primer

Donella H. Meadows

Edited by Diana Wright,
Sustainability Institute



The Donella Meadows Project
Academy for Systems Change



System Dynamics Review
System Dynamics Review (2012)
Published online in Wiley Online Library
(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI: 10.1002/sdr.1474

NOTES AND INSIGHTS

Climate interactive: the C-ROADS climate policy model

John Sterman,^{a,b*} Thomas Fiddaman,^{b,c} Travis Franck,^{b,d} Andrew Jones,^b
Stephanie McCauley,^b Philip Rice,^b Elizabeth Sawin^b and Lori Siegel^b

Online Course

Syst. Dyn. Rev. (2012)

Appendix

Miscellaneous

Sustainability Resources

Fabian Dablander & Andrea Bacilieri

We recently started to curate a list of resources that we found useful and that we can recommend to others (including those outside the climate bubble). Note that the items are in no particular order, and that they need not necessarily express our views.

Online courses / Lecture series

- [Mastering En-ROADS by Climate Interactive](#)
- [Climate Solutions 101 by Project Drawdown](#)
- [Oxford School of Climate Change](#)
- [Oxford Climate Society YouTube Channel](#)
 - Especially the talks by [Noam Chomsky](#) as well as by [Nnimmo Bassey](#) and [Anuradha Mittal](#).

Books

- [Thinking in Systems](#)
- [The Future We Choose](#)
- [The New Climate War](#)
- [Merchants of Doubt](#)
- [Doughnut Economics](#)
- [This Changes Everything](#)
- [Designing Regenerative Cultures](#)
- [Think Like a Commoner](#)
- [Less is More](#)
- [The Divide](#)
- [To Cook a Continent](#)
- [Revolutions That Made the Earth](#)
- [Earth System Science: A Very Short Introduction](#)
- [Climate Change: A Very Short Introduction](#)
- [This Is an Uprising](#)
- [How to Blow Up a Pipeline](#)
- [The Ministry for the Future](#)
- [The Great Derangement](#)
- [The Collapse of Western Civilization](#)

Podcasts

- [Drilled](#)
- [The Climate Pod](#)
- [Sustain Ability - The Potsdam Dialogues](#)
- [The Sustainability Agenda](#)
 - Especially the episodes with Daniel Wahl, Rupert Read, Will Steffen, John Foley, Tim Lenton, Jason Hickel, Naomi Klein, Mark Campanale.

[View all 100+ items](#)

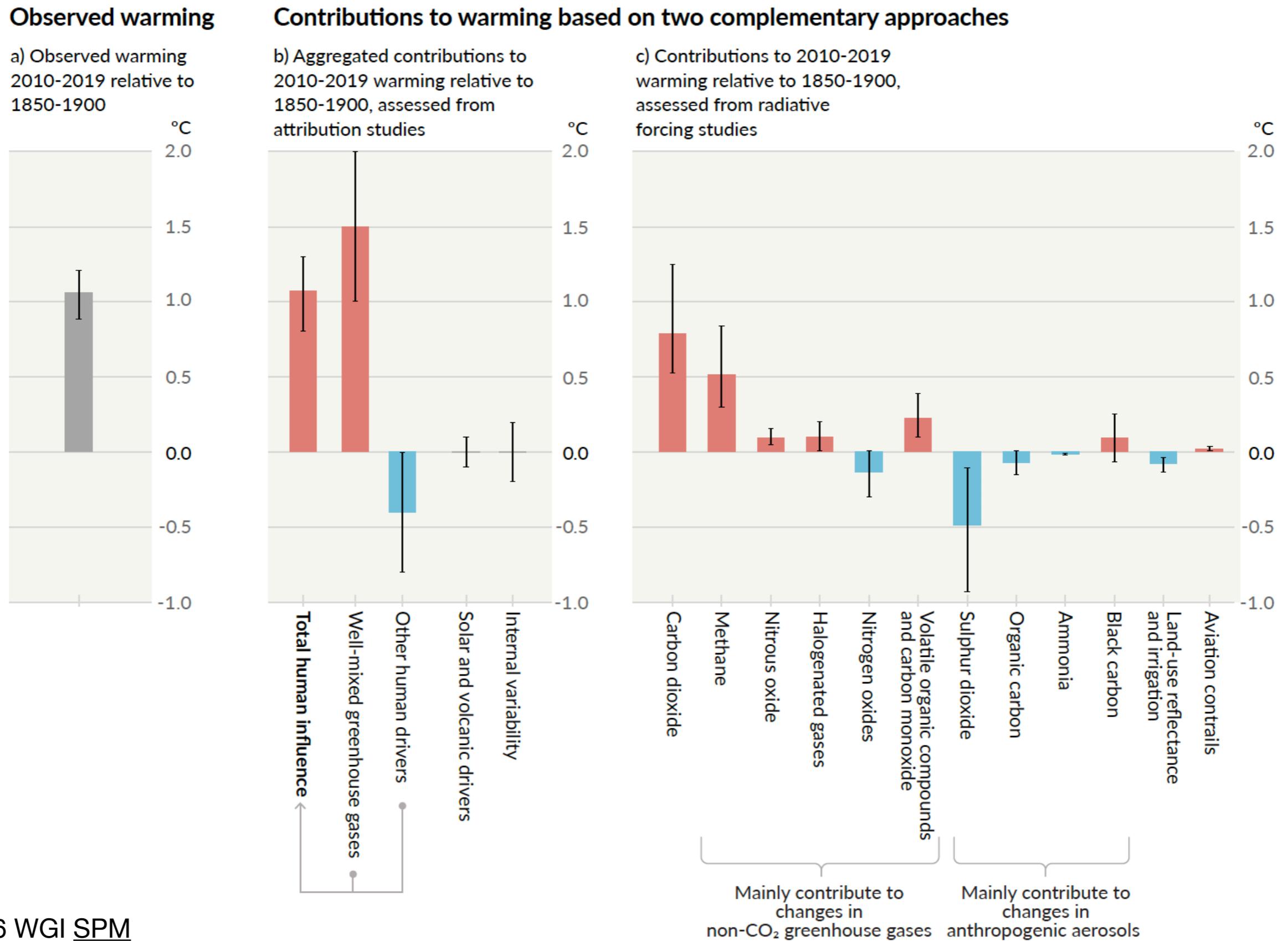
News / Newsletters

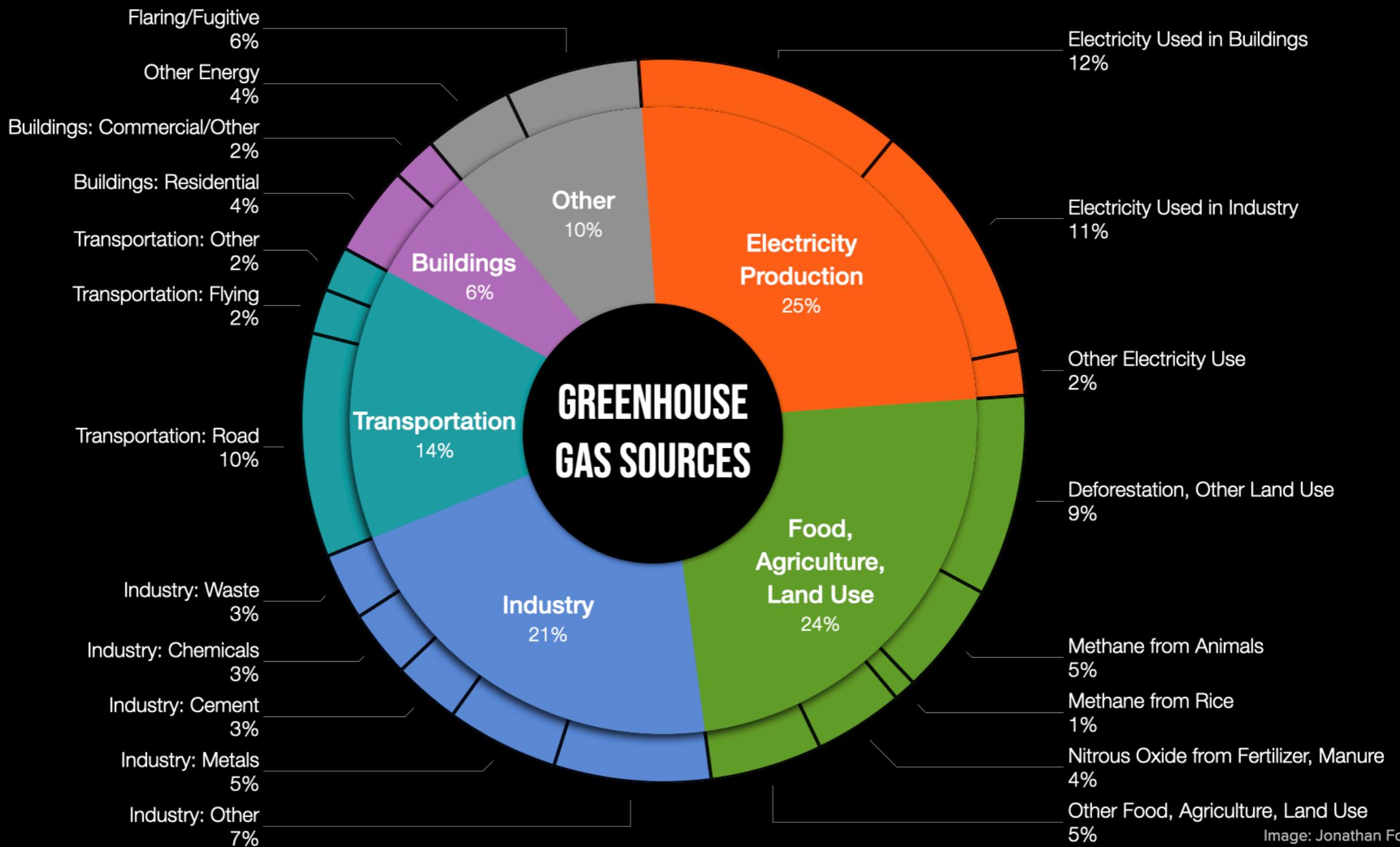
- [Carbon Brief](#)
- [Mongabay](#)
- [Inside Climate News](#)
- [Bill McKibben's Newsletter](#) [Superseded by his [Substack](#)]
- [George Monbiot's weekly columns at The Guardian](#)

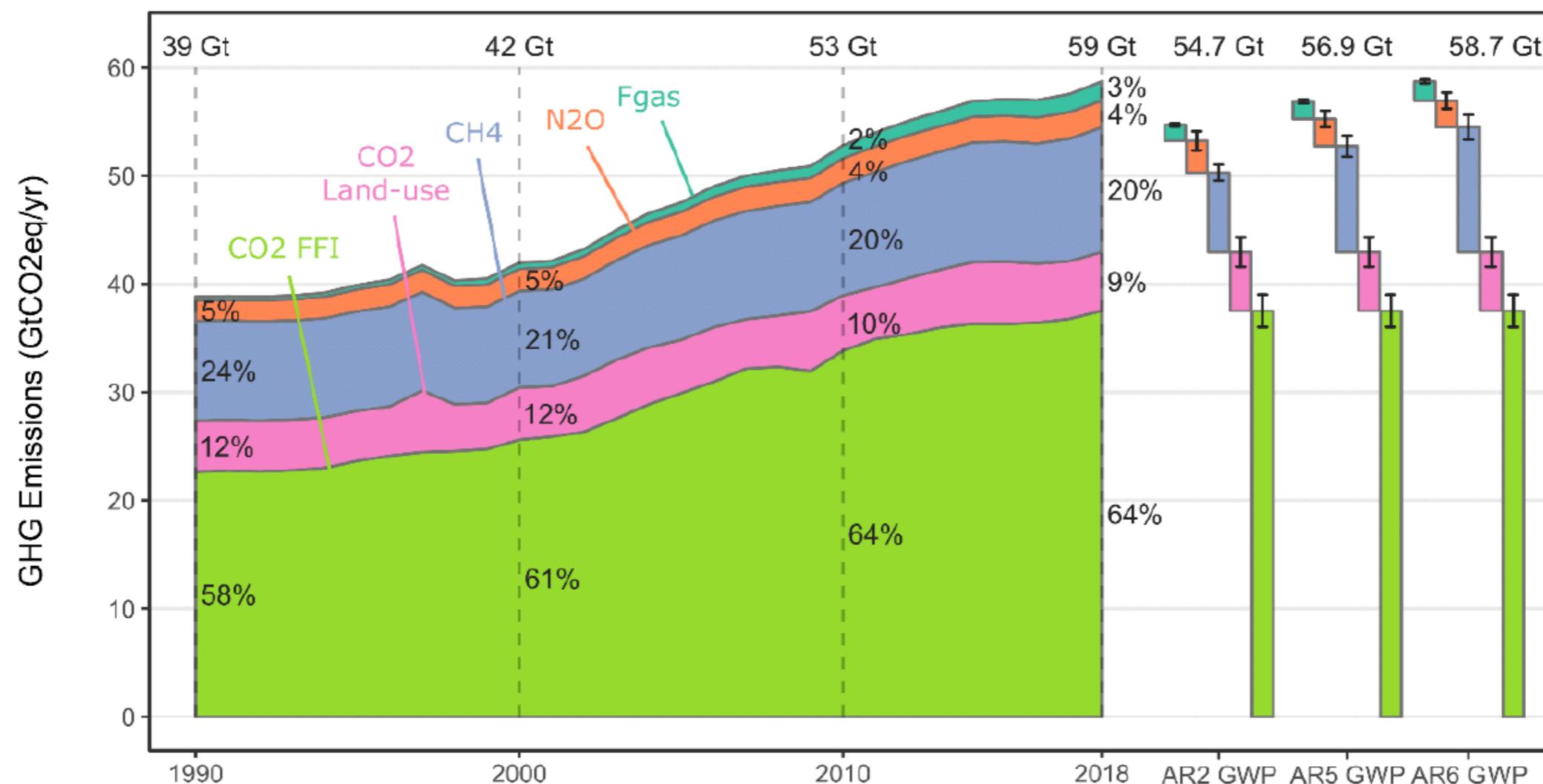
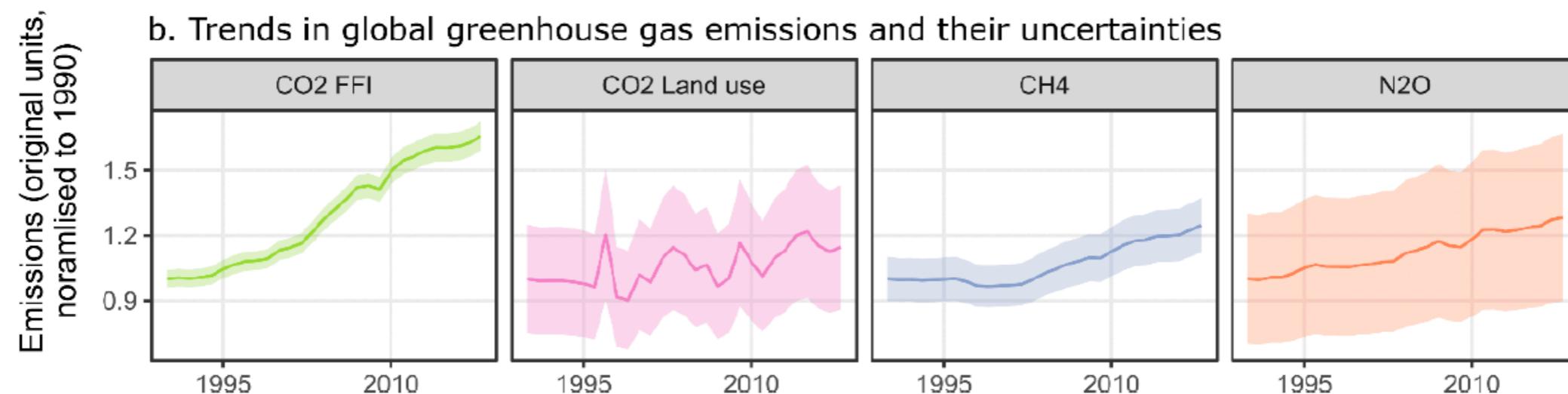
Documentaries

- [Breaking Boundaries](#)
- [David Attenborough: A Life on Our Planet](#)
- [Chasing Ice](#)
- [Chasing Coral](#)
- [Tomorrow](#)
- [How To Change the World](#)
- [The End of the Line](#)
- [Seaspiracy](#)
- [Cowspiracy](#)
- [Kiss the Ground](#)
- [The True Cost](#)
- [The End of Poverty?](#)
- [The Four Horsemen](#)
- [The Corporation](#)
- [Gasland](#)
- [The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money, and Power](#)
- [Ancient Futures: Learning from Ladakh](#)
- [LN3: Teachings of the Anishinaabe Resistance](#)

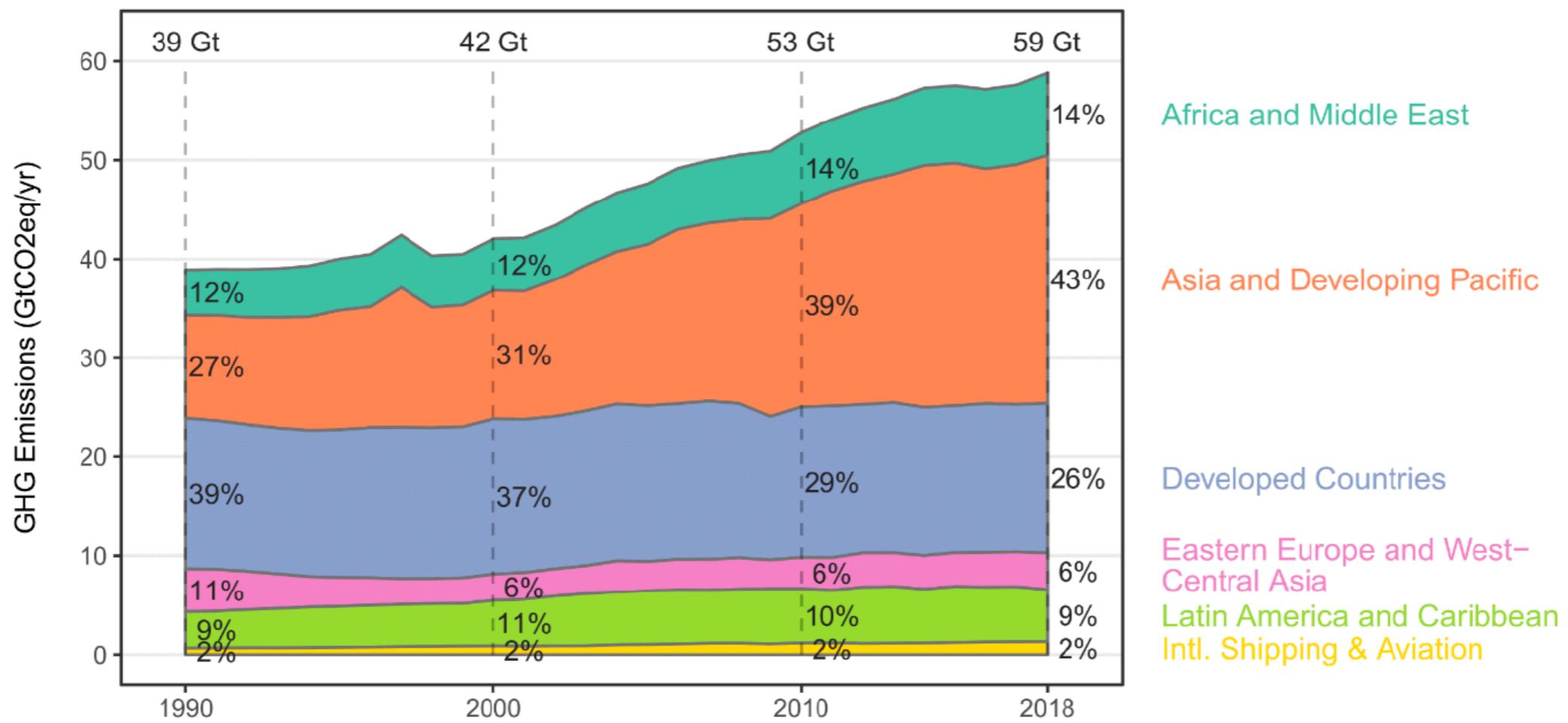
Observed warming is driven by emissions from human activities, with greenhouse gas warming partly masked by aerosol cooling



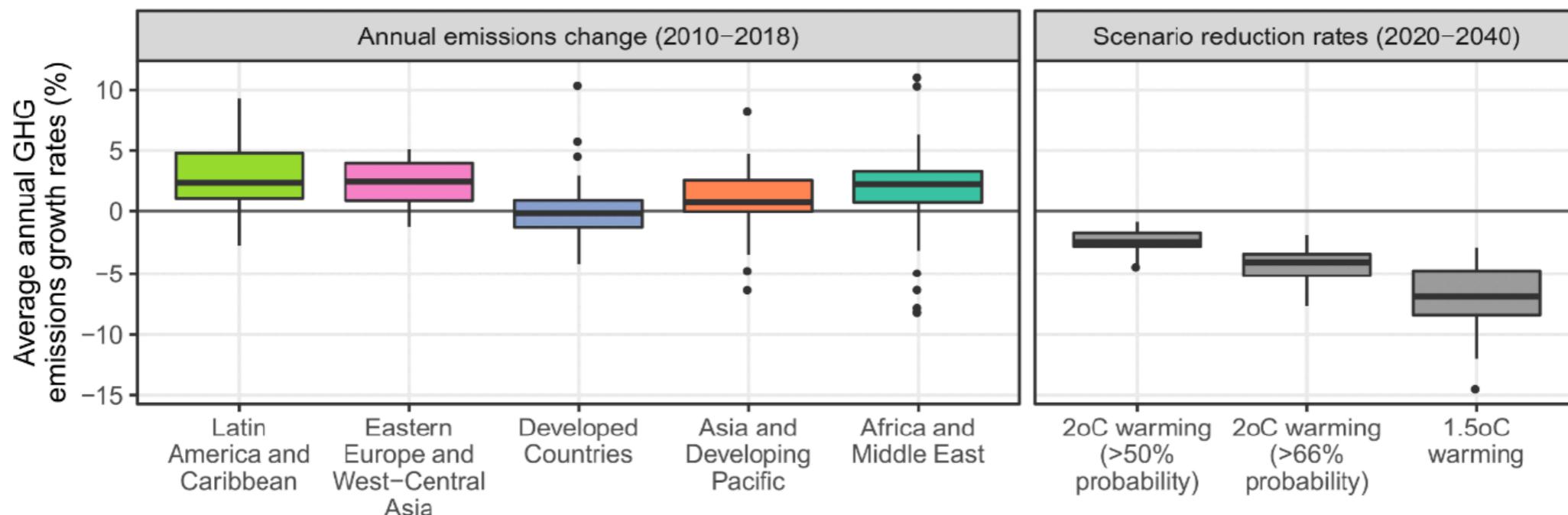


a. Trends in global greenhouse gas emissions and the impact of alternative GWP metrics**b. Trends in global greenhouse gas emissions and their uncertainties**

a. Trends in global and regional greenhouse gas emissions

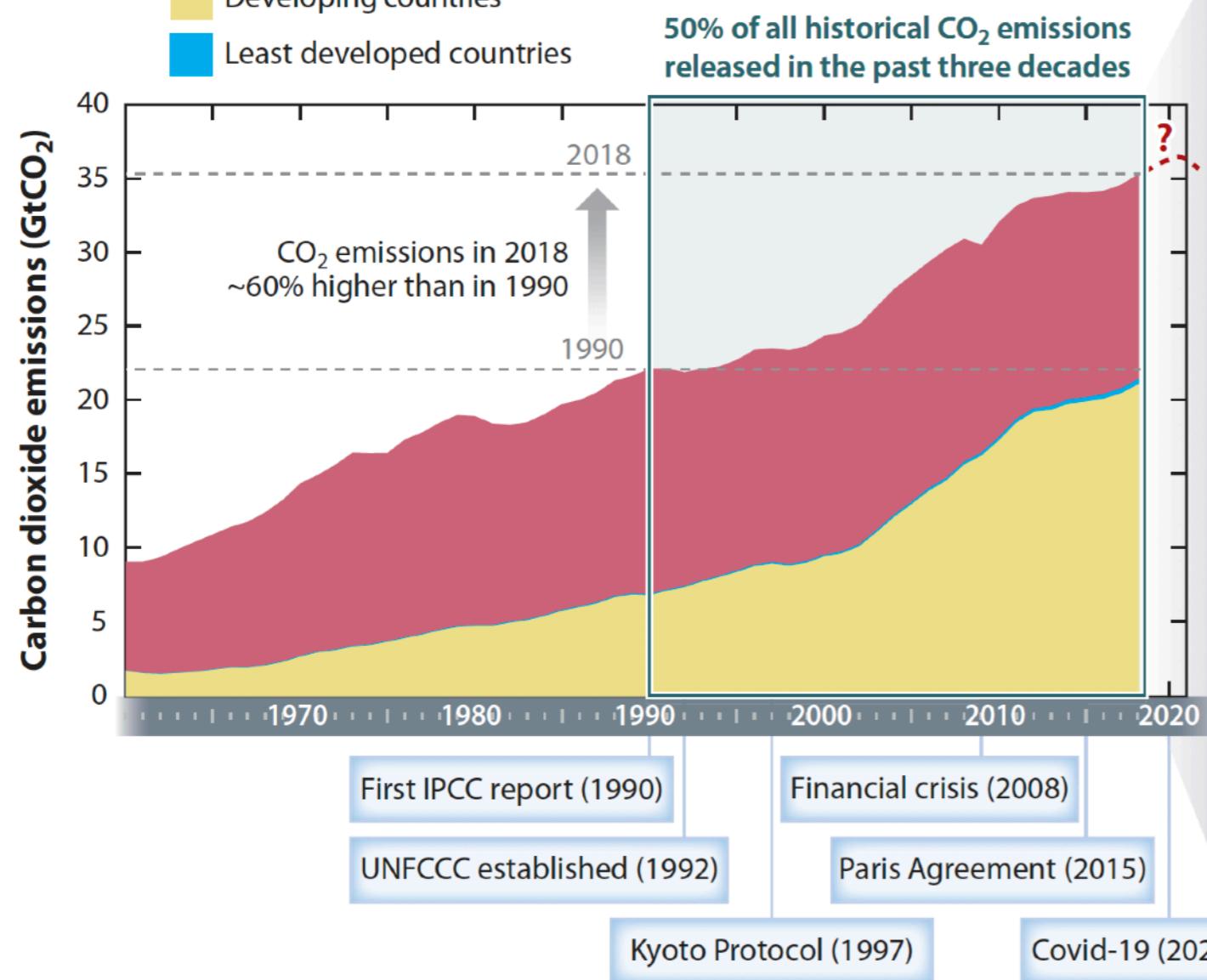


b. Recent emission change by region vs. rates compatible with warming targets

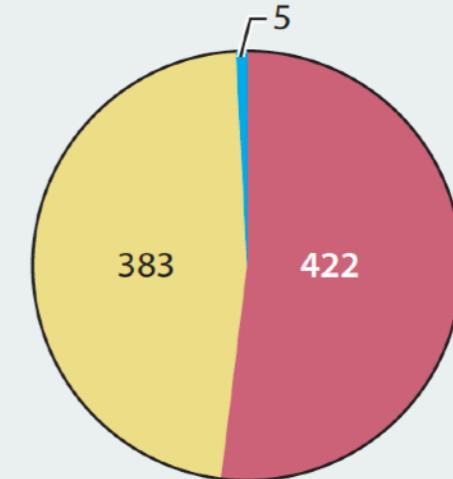


a Global carbon dioxide emissions*

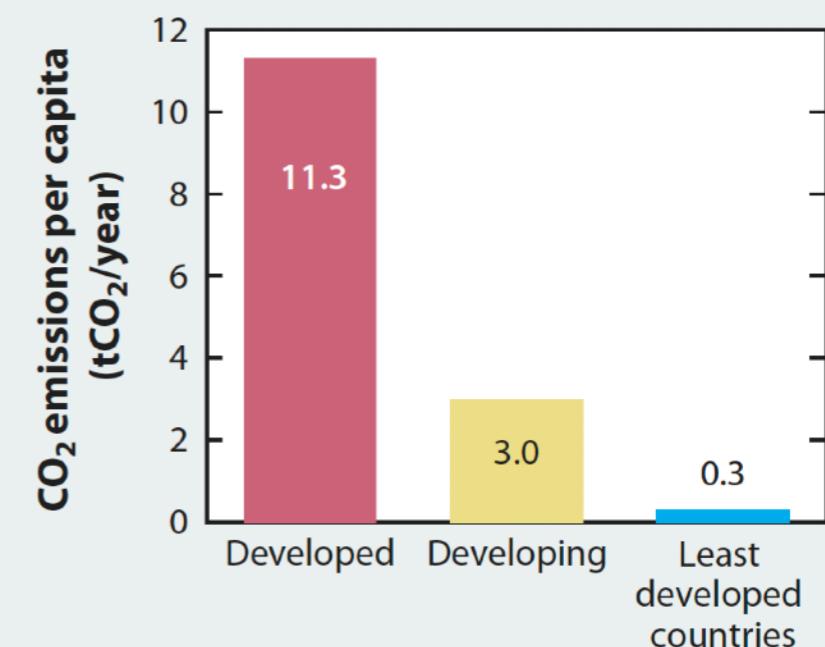
Developed countries
Developing countries
Least developed countries



b Cumulative carbon dioxide emissions 1990–2018 (GtCO₂)*



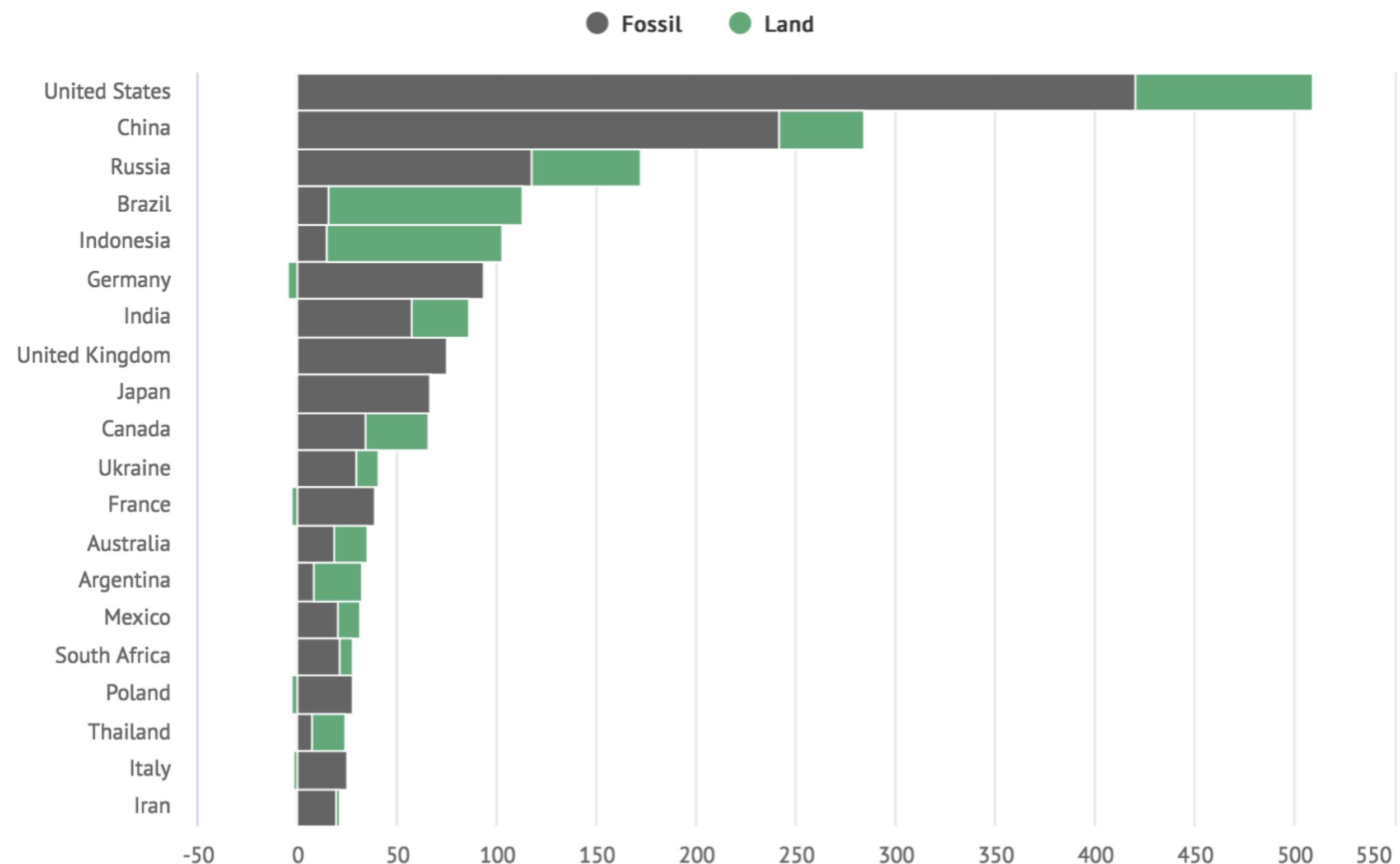
c Average annual carbon dioxide emissions per capita 1990–2018*



* Emissions from fossil fuels and cement only (excluding international aviation and shipping). Note that emissions from agriculture, forestry, and other land use are not part of the data.

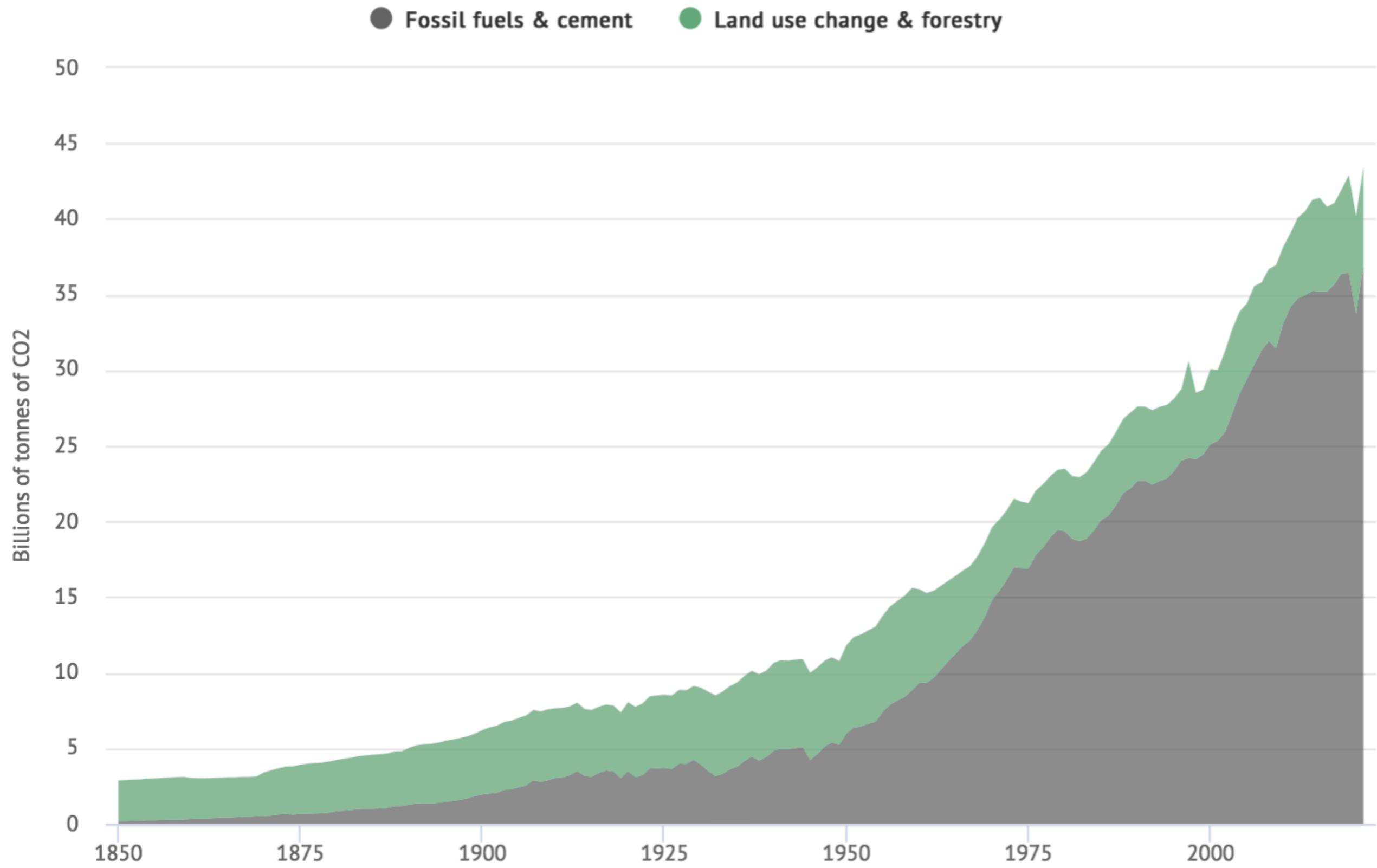
The countries with the largest cumulative emissions 1850-2021

Billions of tonnes of CO₂ from fossil fuels, cement, land use and forestry

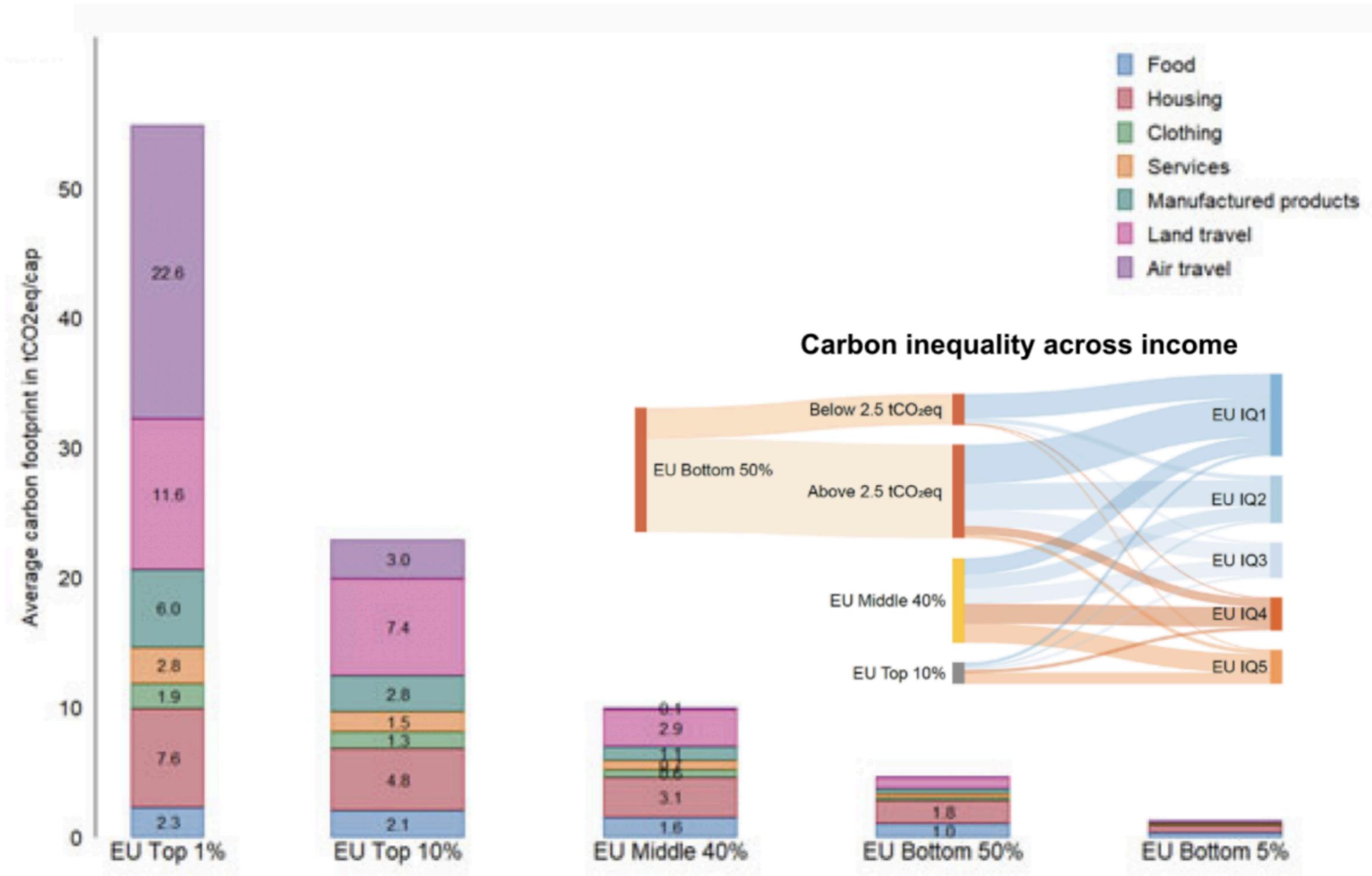


Fossil fuel CO₂ emissions have risen dramatically since 1950

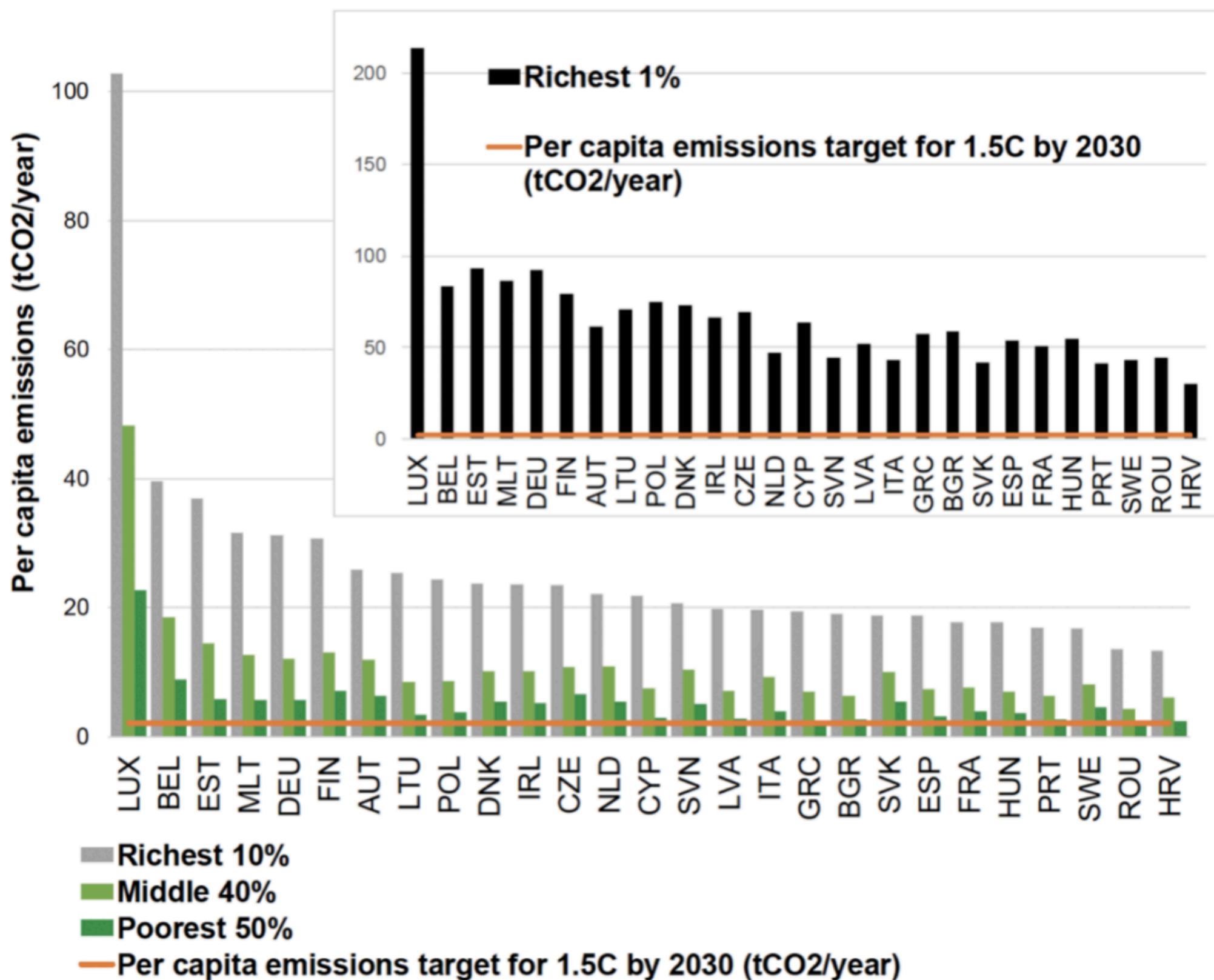
Until then, the largest source of CO₂ was land use and forestry

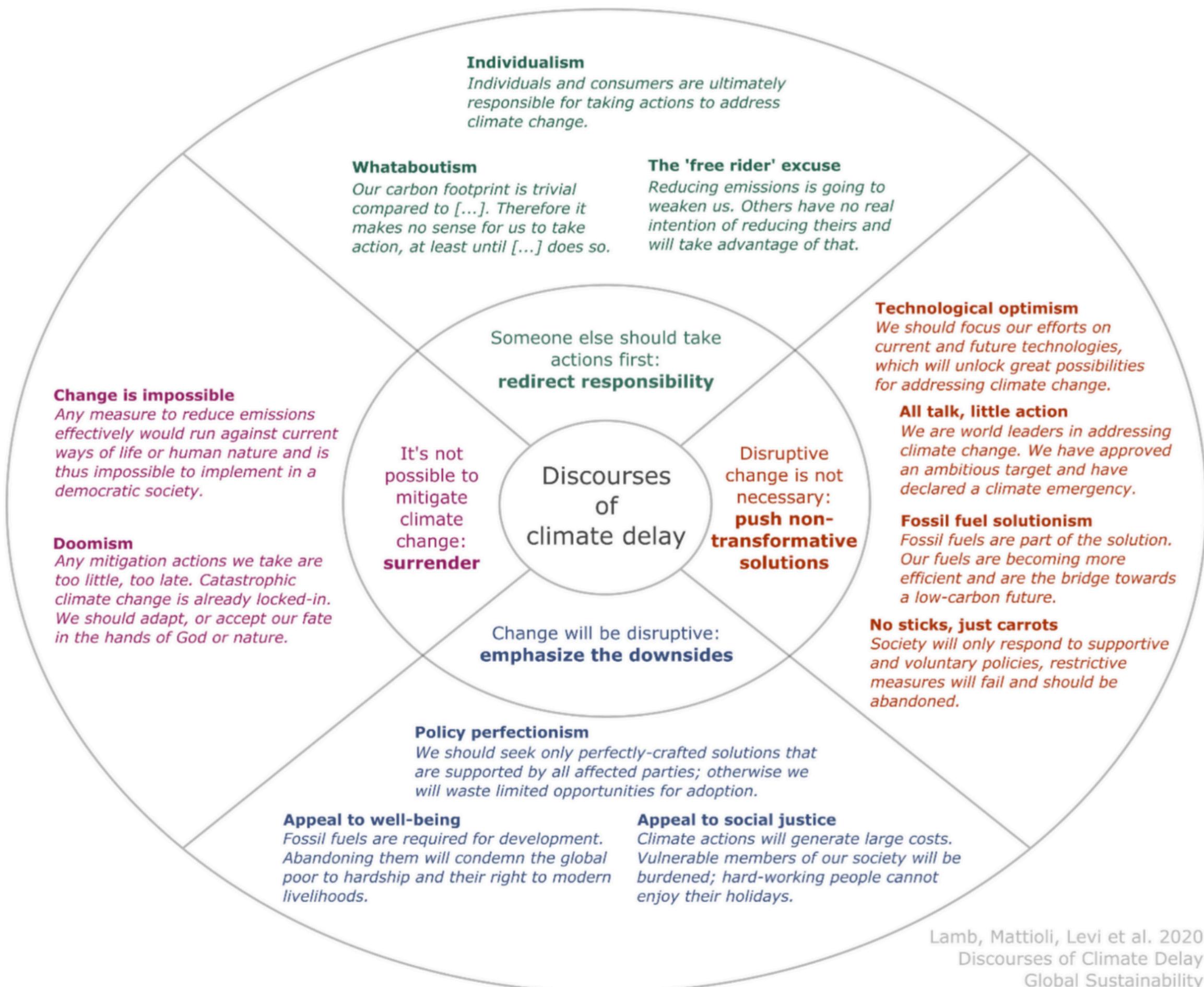


Carbon inequality across EU households

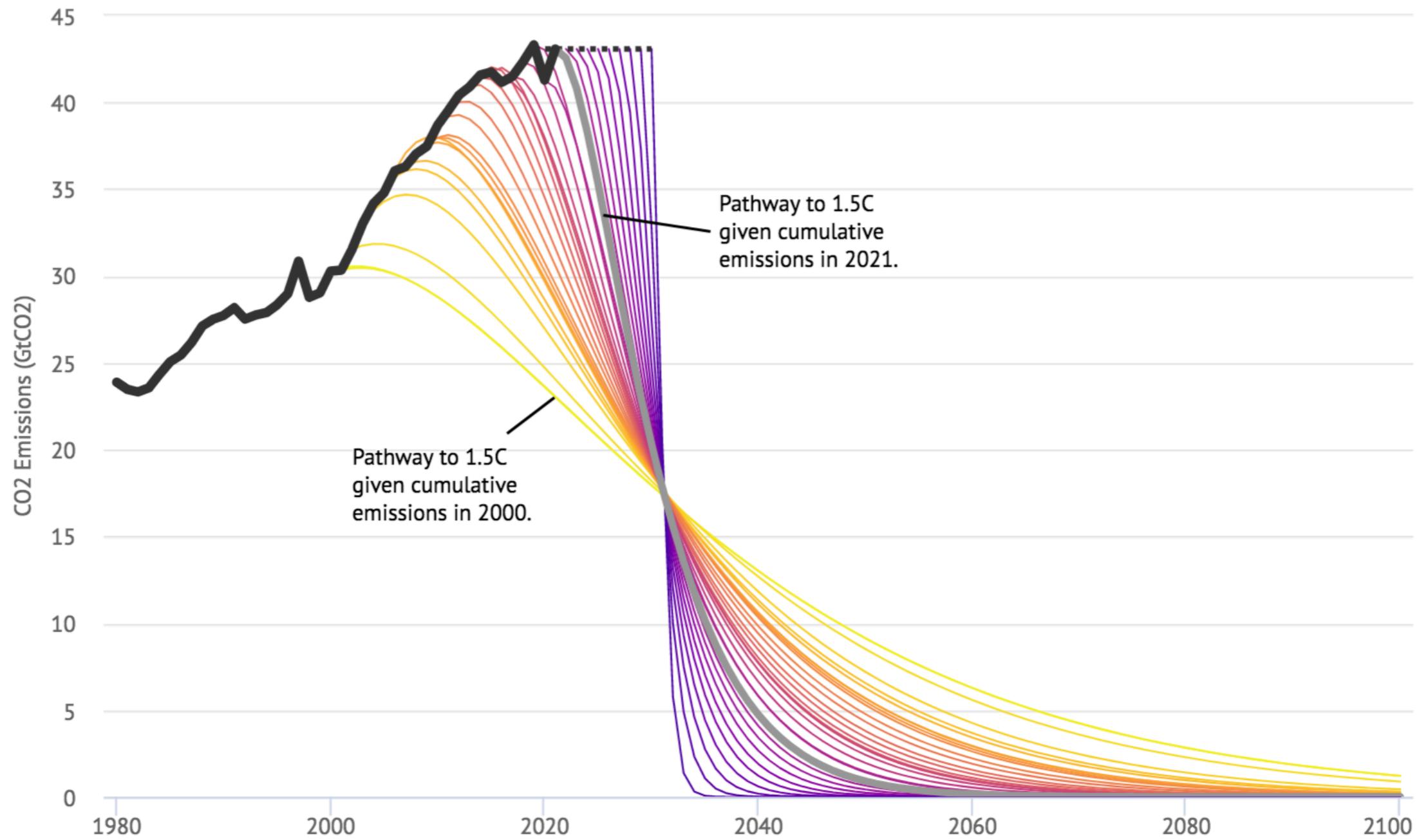


Carbon inequality across EU member states

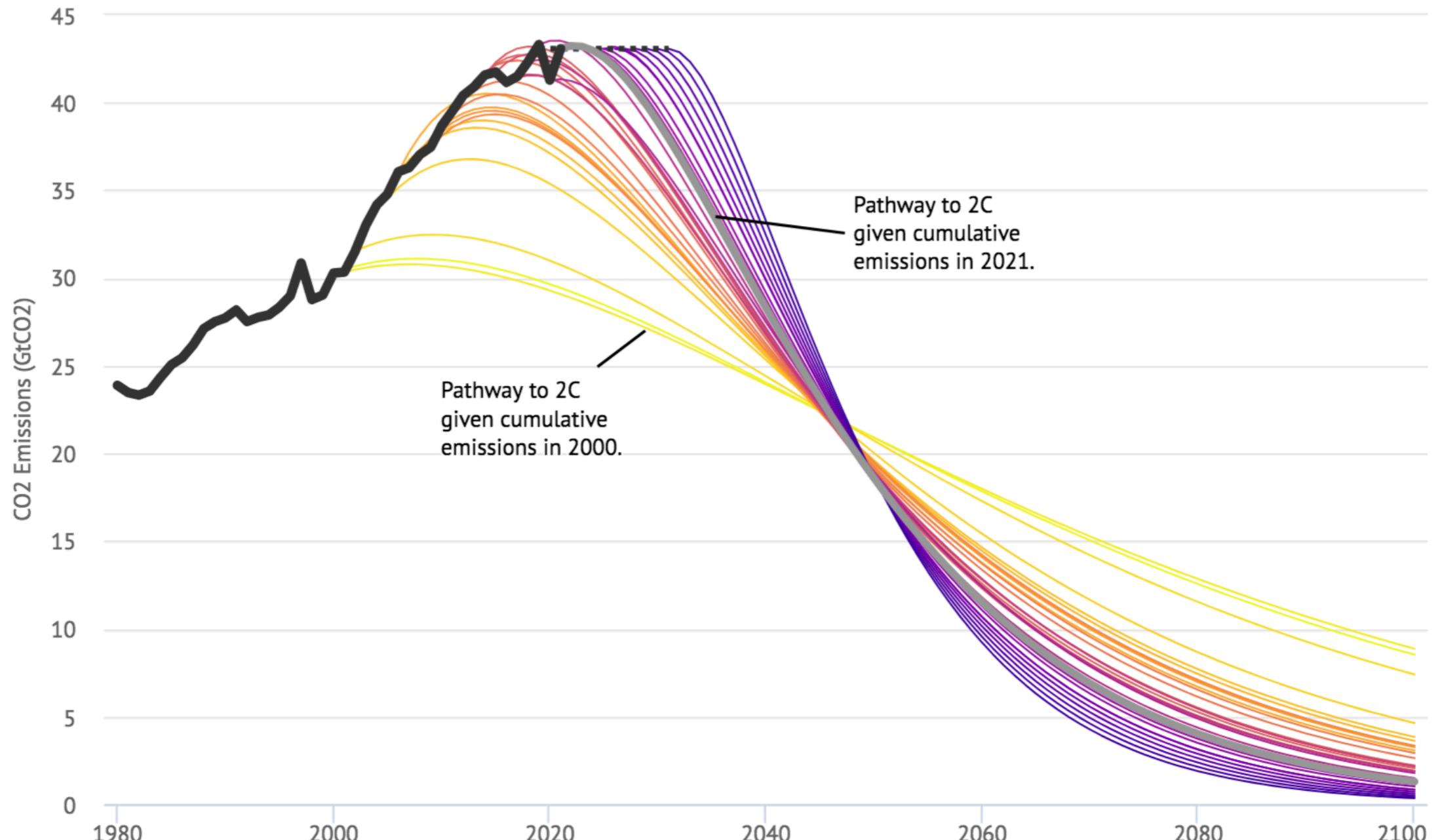




Limiting warming to 1.5C is increasingly difficult without large-scale negative emissions

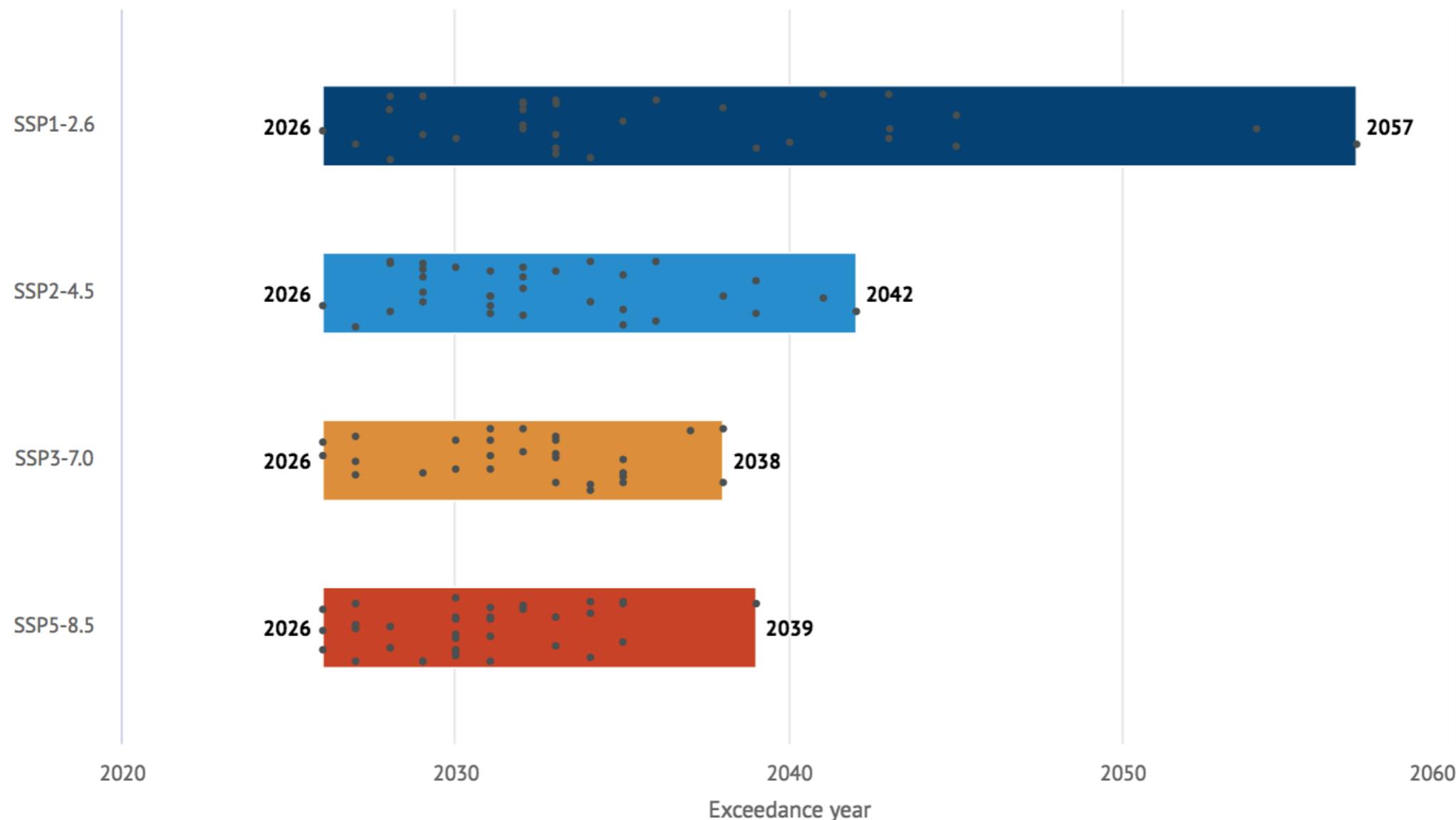


The later emissions peak the harder it is to limit warming below 2C



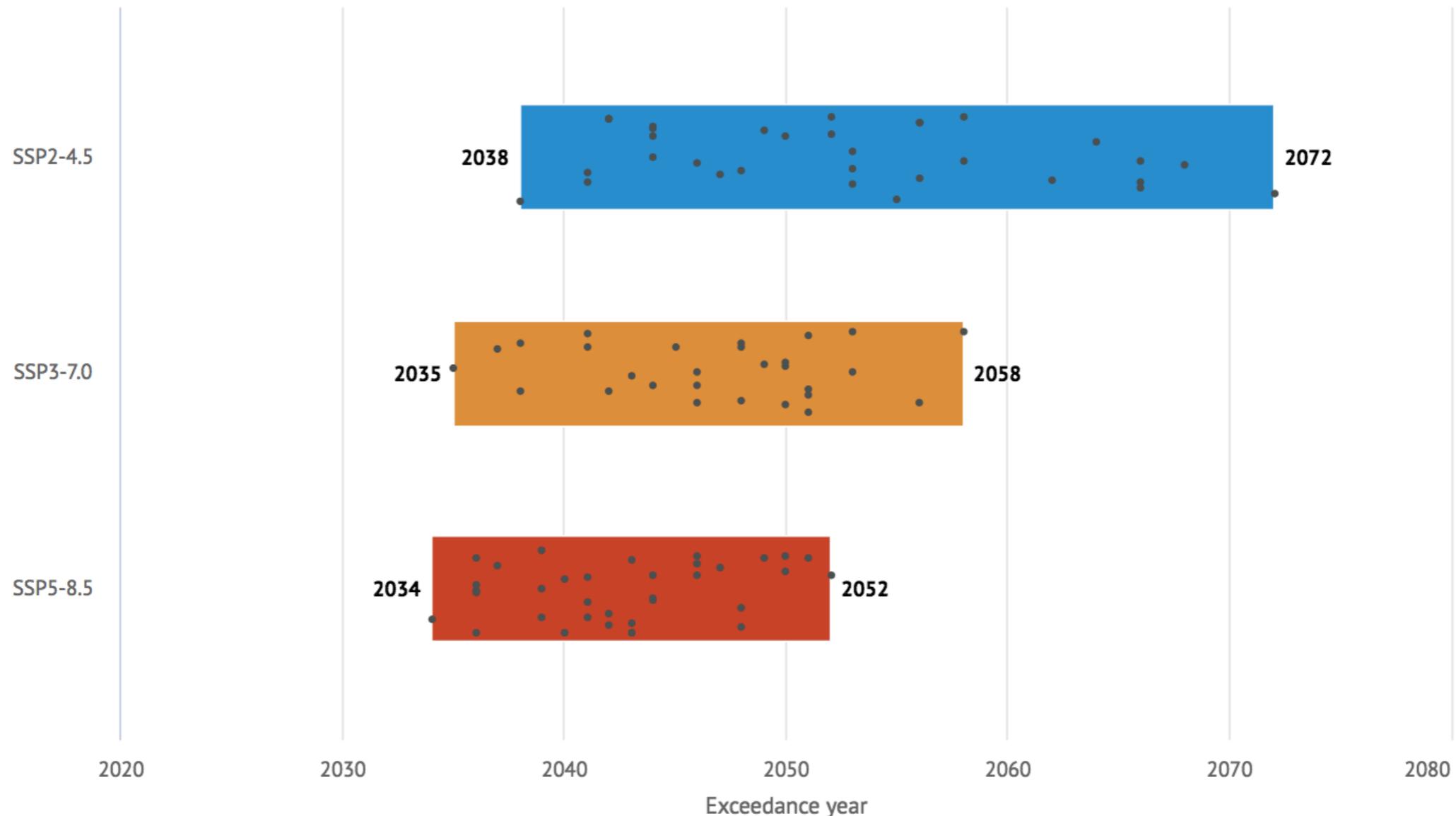
Year in which 1.5C is exceeded in CMIP6 models

Based on both historical temperatures through 2020 and subsequent smoothed CMIP6 data

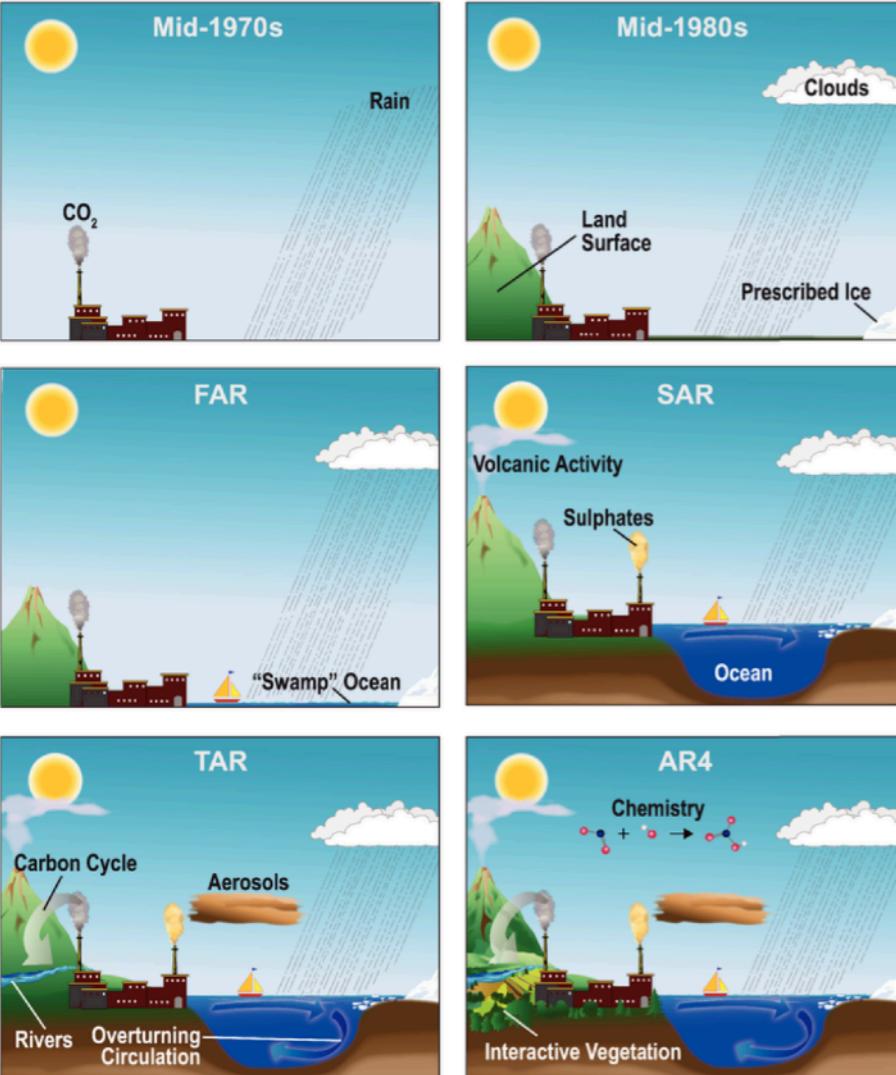


Year in which 2C is exceeded in CMIP6 models

Based on both historical temperatures through 2020 and subsequent smoothed CMIP6 data



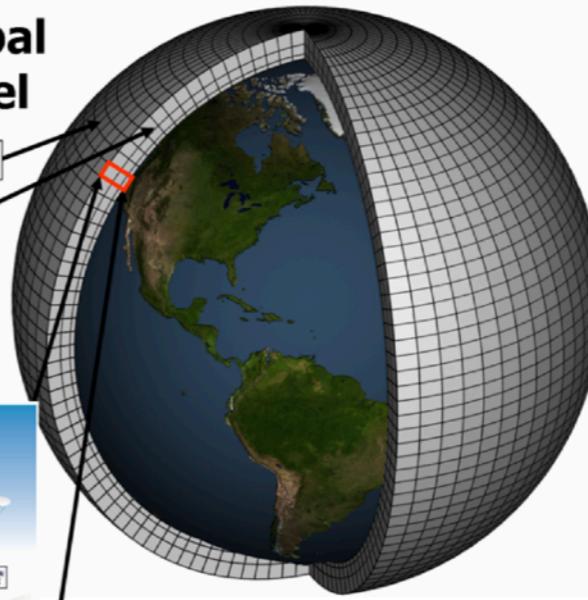
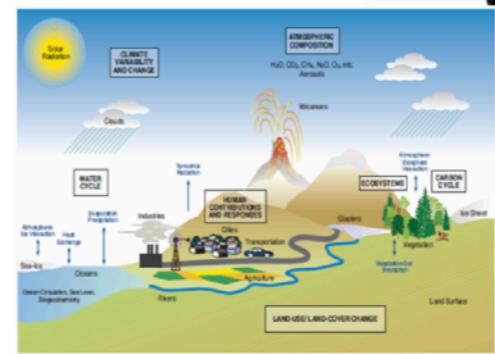
The World in Global Climate Models



Schematic for Global Atmospheric Model

Horizontal Grid (Latitude-Longitude)

Vertical Grid (Height or Pressure)



PERSPECTIVE

The scientific challenge of understanding and estimating climate change

by Tim Palmer and Bjorn Stevens

+ See all authors and affiliations

PNAS December 3, 2019 116 (49) 24390-24395; first published December 2, 2019; <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1906691116>

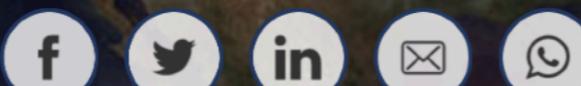
GLOBAL WARMING

Climate panel confronts implausibly hot models

Major IPCC report likely to curb near-term projections with measured warming trend

CLIMATE MODELLING | 15 January 2018 8:30

Q&A: How do climate models work?



Voosen (2021)

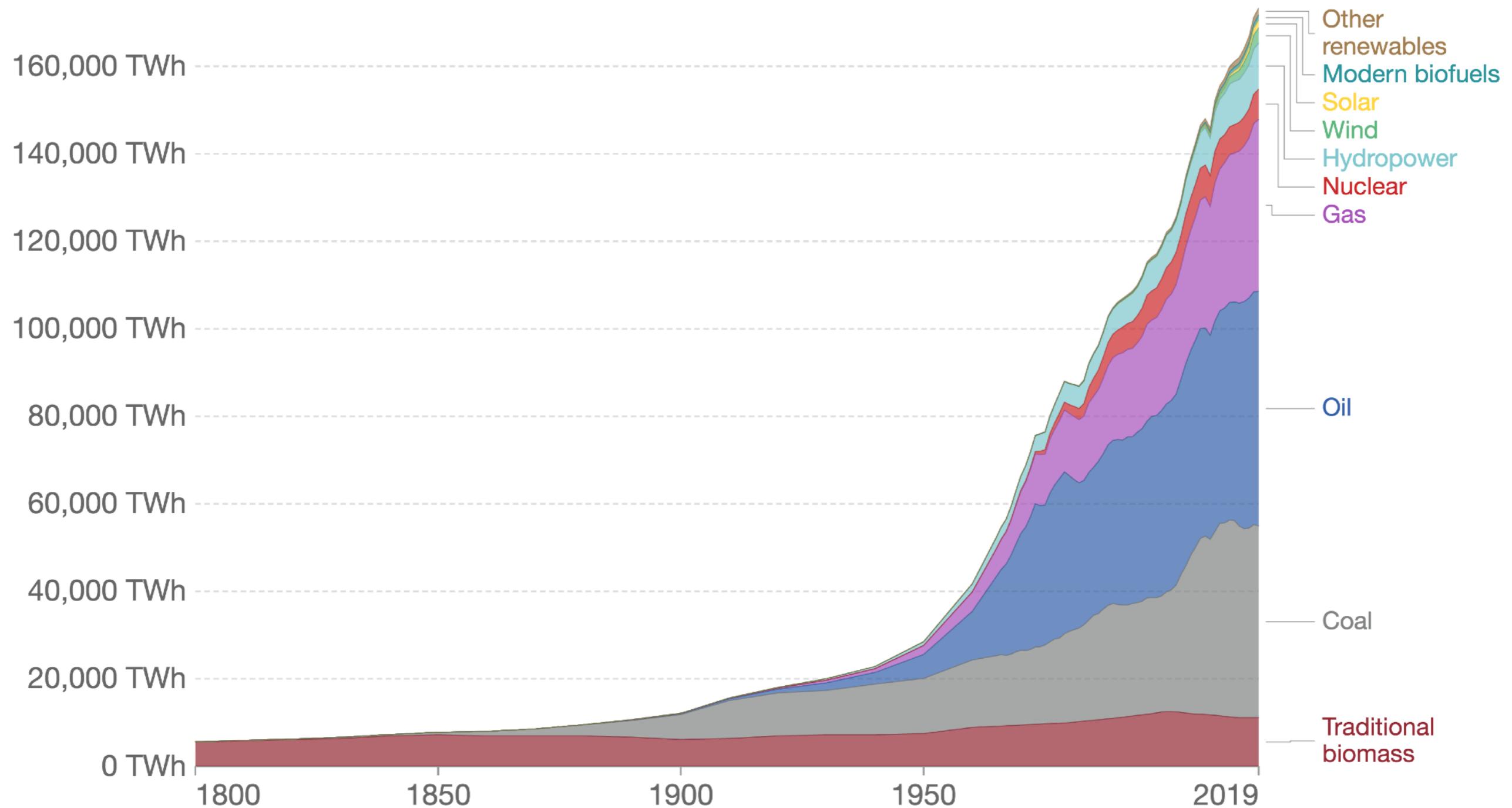
Palmer & Stevens (2019)

Philip Stier Talk

McSweeney & Hausfather (2018)

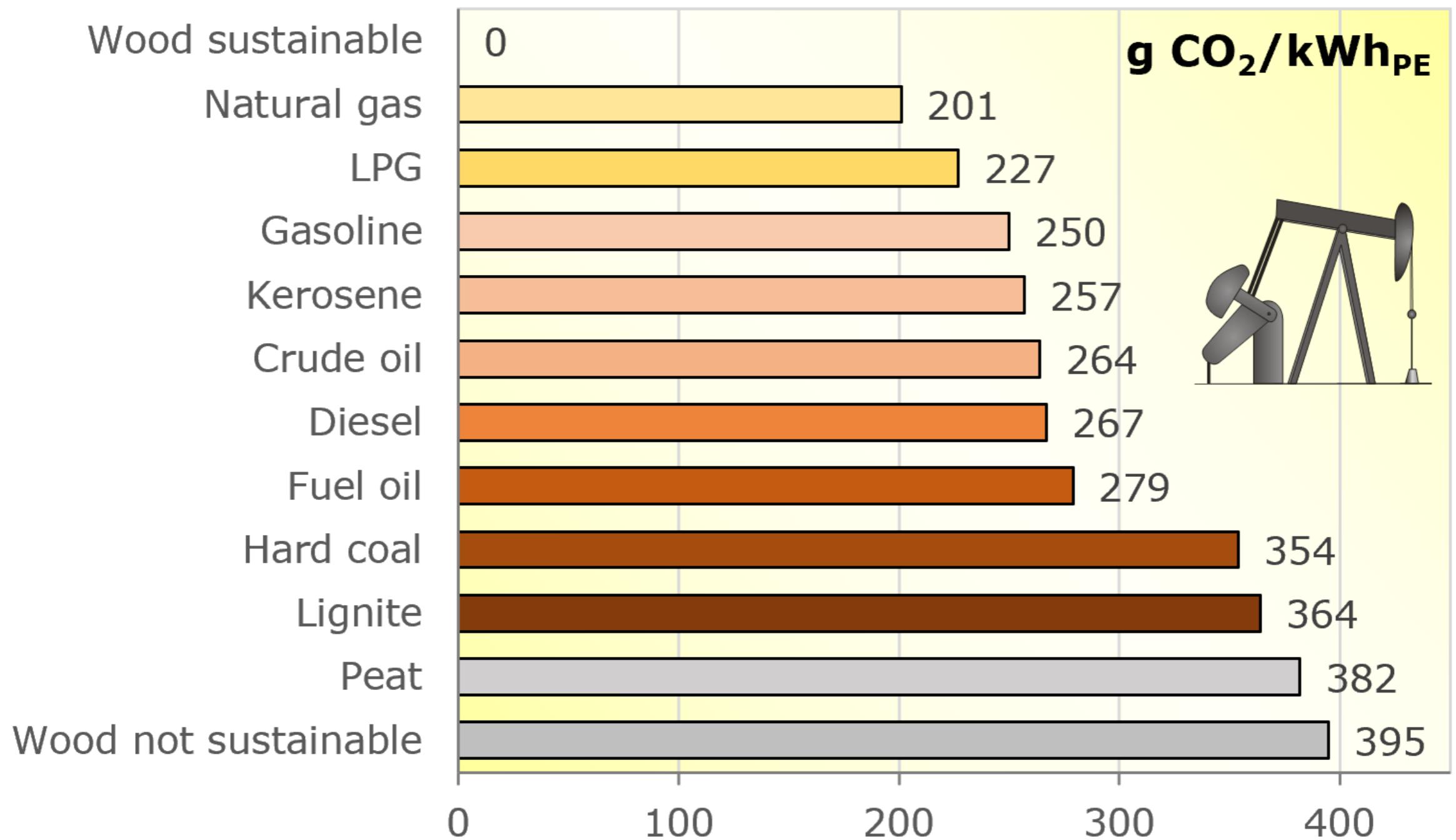
Energy Supply

Global primary energy consumption by source



Source: Vaclav Smil (2017) & BP Statistical Review of World Energy

OurWorldInData.org/energy • CC BY



www.volker-quaschning.de

Source

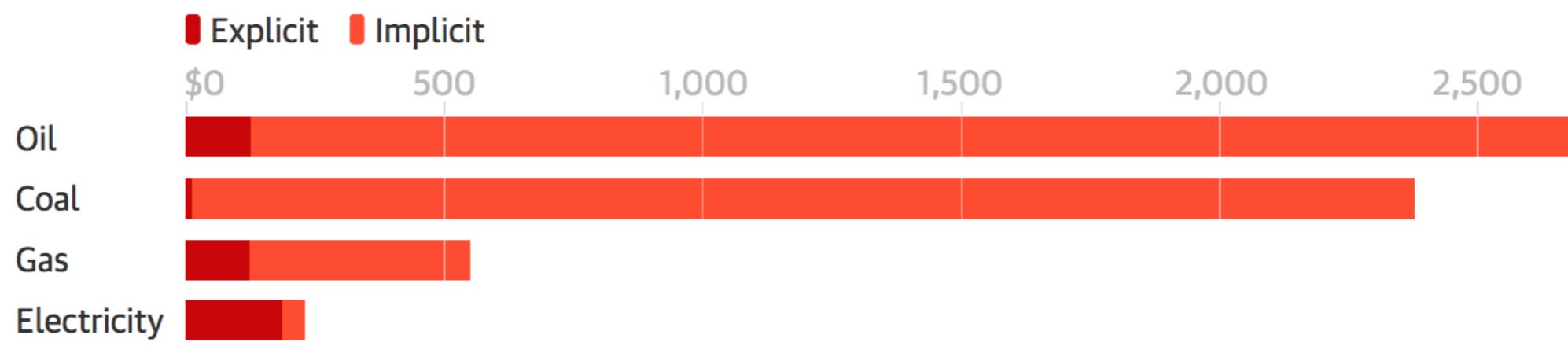
On Biofuels

Fossil fuel industry gets subsidies of \$11m a minute, IMF finds

Trillions of dollars a year are ‘adding fuel to the fire’ of the climate crisis, experts say

Fossil fuels benefitted from subsidies of \$5.9 trillion in 2020

Explicit price subsidies and implicit environmental, health and tax subsidies (\$ billion)



Guardian graphic | Source: IMF

Banking on **CLIMATE CHAOS**

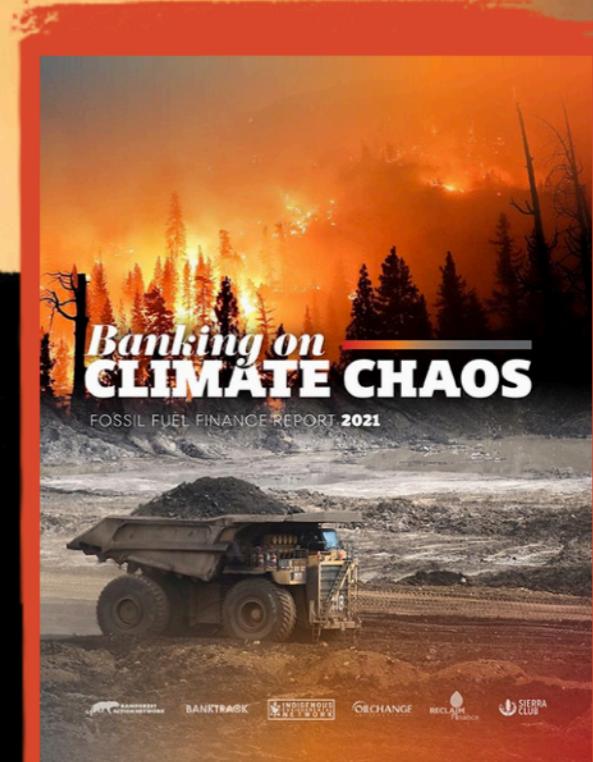
Key Facts & Impacts

How Does Your Bank Score?

Explore the Data

Take Action

Get in Touch



DOWNLOAD THE REPORT



ADDITIONAL DOWNLOADS

In the **5 years** since the Paris Agreement, the world's **60 biggest banks** have financed fossil fuels to the tune of **\$3.8 trillion**. Runaway funding for fossil fuel extraction and infrastructure **fuels climate chaos** and threatens the lives and livelihoods of millions.

US auctions off oil and gas drilling leases in Gulf of Mexico after climate talks



XR Cambridge
@xr_cambridge

...

Biden administration launching auction of more than 80m acres for fossil fuel extraction that experts call 'incredibly reckless'



[Source](#)

Article | Published: 08 September 2021

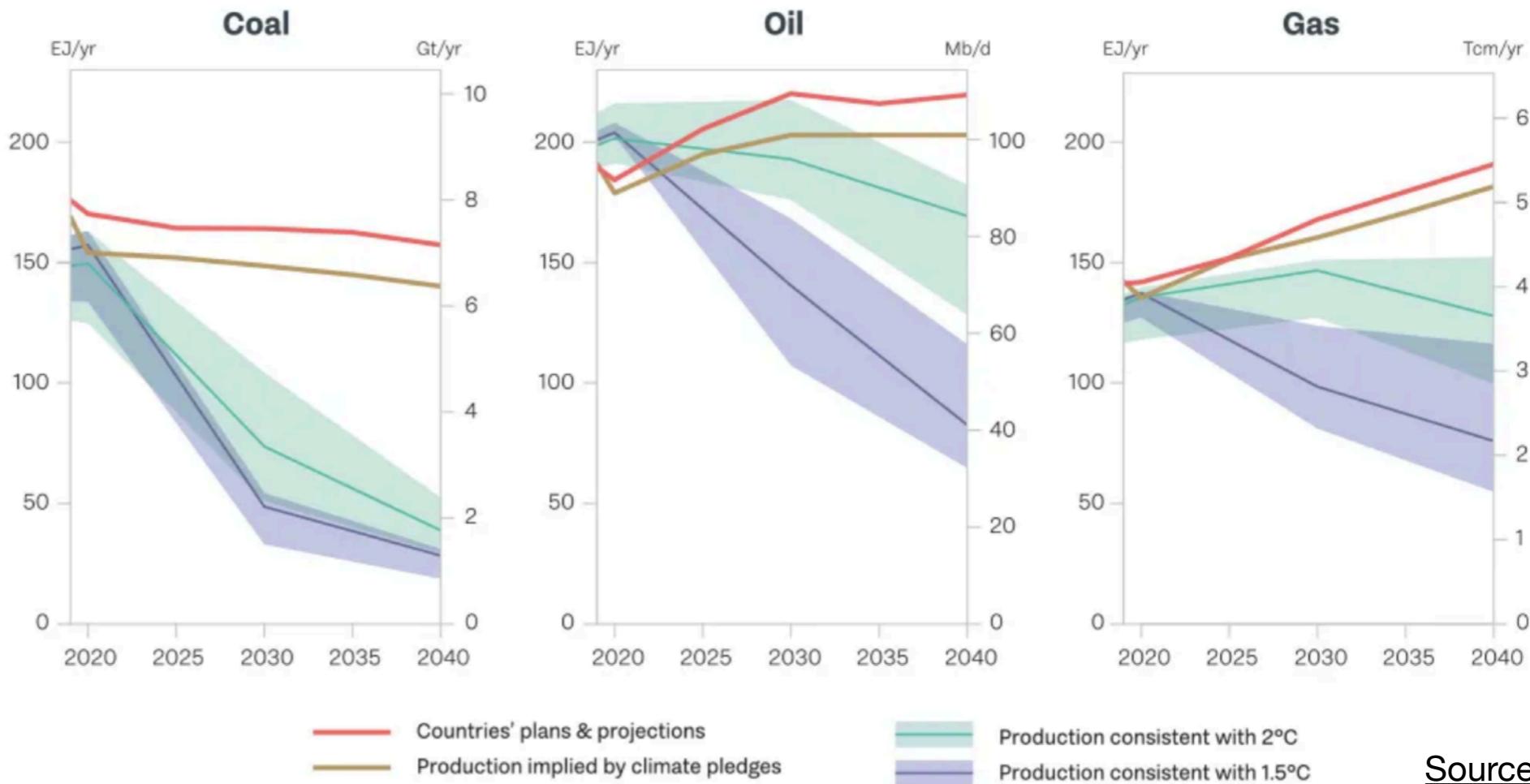
Unextractable fossil fuels in a 1.5 °C world

Dan Welsby , James Price, Steve Pye & Paul Ekins

[Nature](#) 597, 230–234 (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

52k Accesses | 7 Citations | 4550 Altmetric |

[Source](#)



Governments' planned fossil fuel production remains dangerously out of sync with Paris Agreement limits

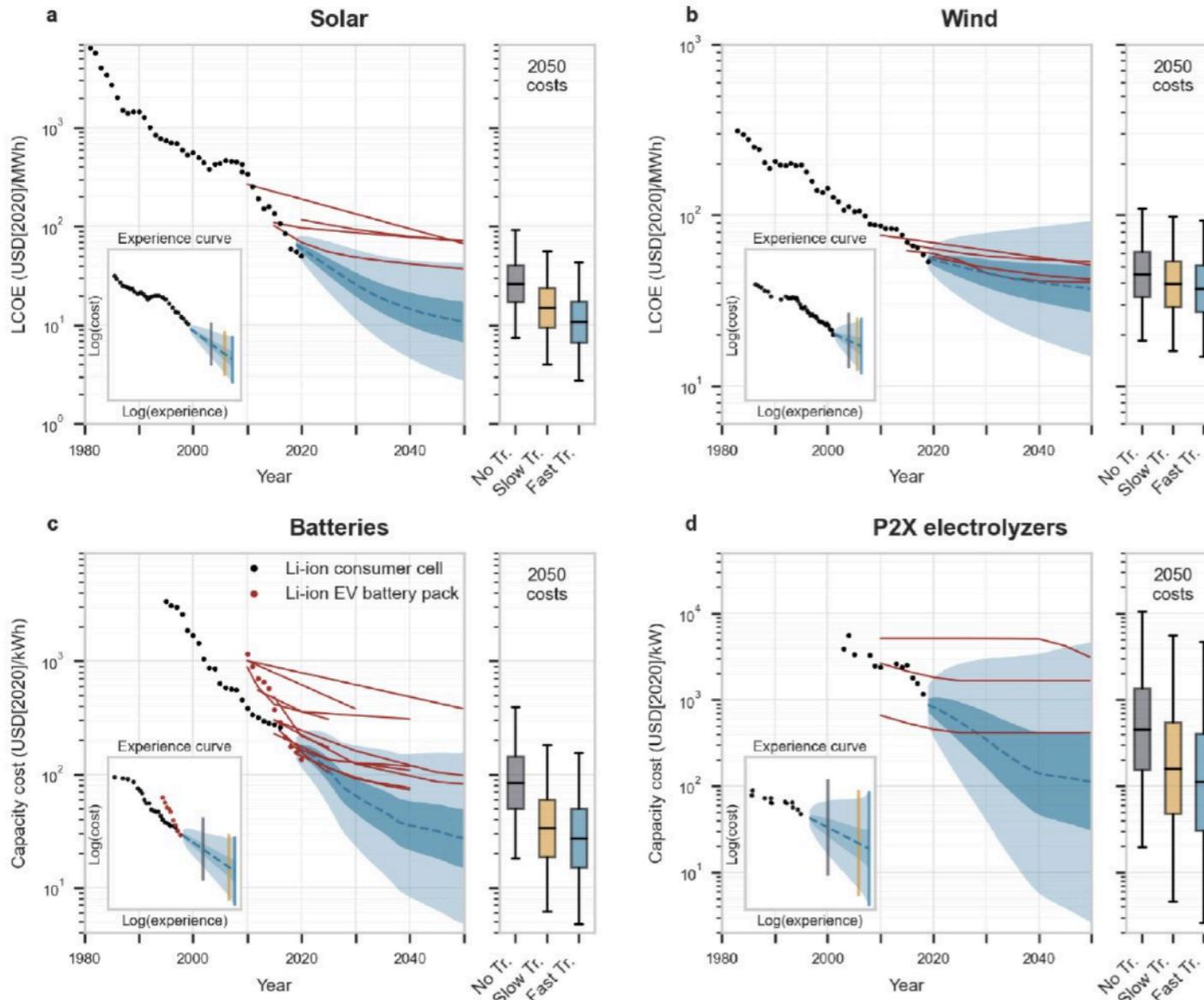
— Countries' plans & projections
— Production implied by climate pledges

— Production consistent with 2°C
— Production consistent with 1.5°C

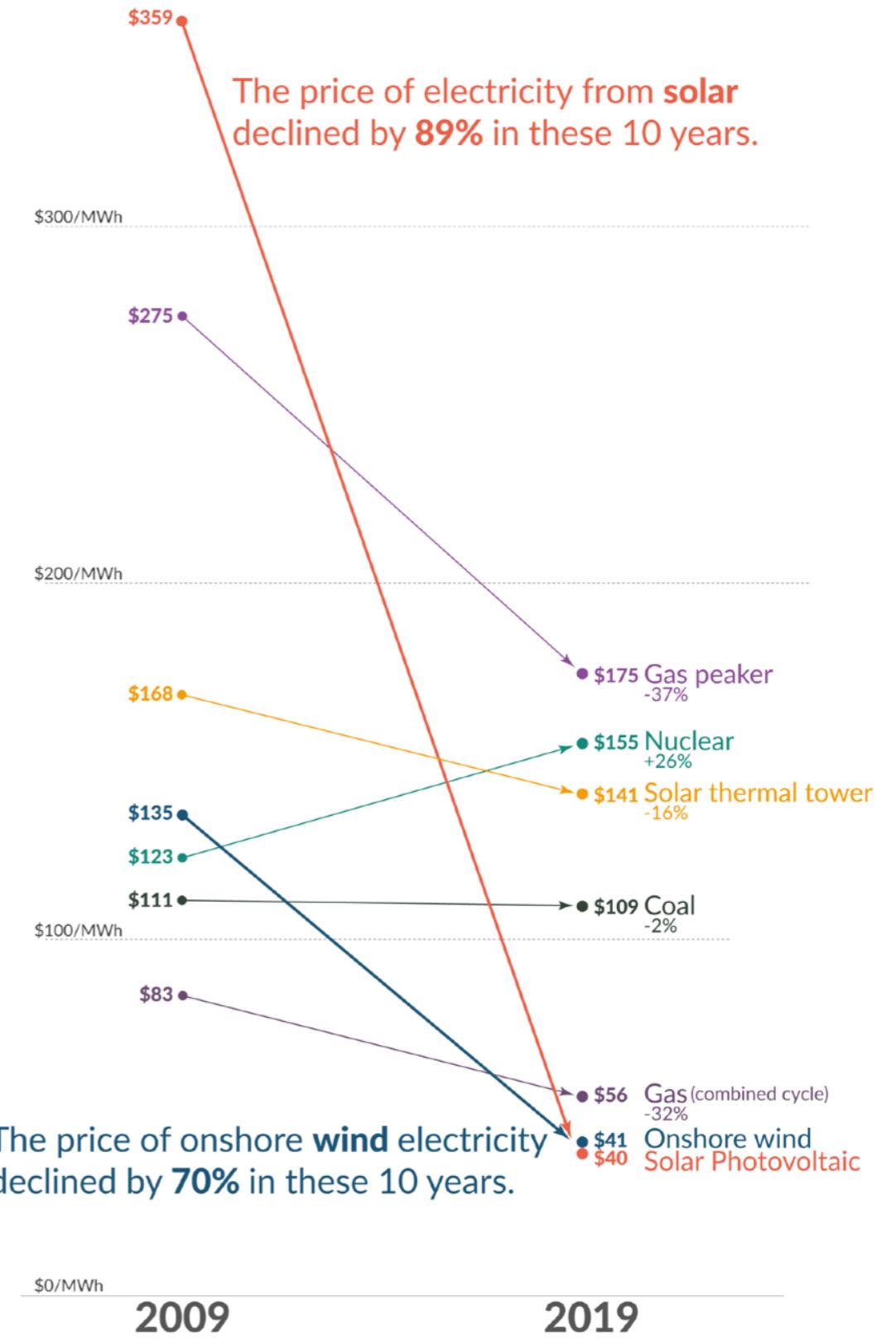
[Source](#)

The price of electricity from new power plants

Electricity prices are expressed in 'levelized costs of energy' (LCOE).
LCOE captures the cost of building the power plant itself as well as the ongoing costs for fuel and operating the power plant over its lifetime.



- Observed global average technology costs
- Probabilistic Wright's law forecast under Fast Transition scenario (median, 50% C.I. and 95% C.I.)
- High progress IAM or IEA cost projections
- Probabilistic AR(1) forecast (median, 50% C.I. and 95% C.I.)



How to waste over half a trillion dollars

The economic implications of deflationary renewable energy for coal power investments



Key findings

New investments in renewables are cheaper than new investments in coal in all major markets today.

It could be cheaper to build renewables than run coal in all major markets by 2030.

Over half of coal plants operating today cost more to run than building new renewables.

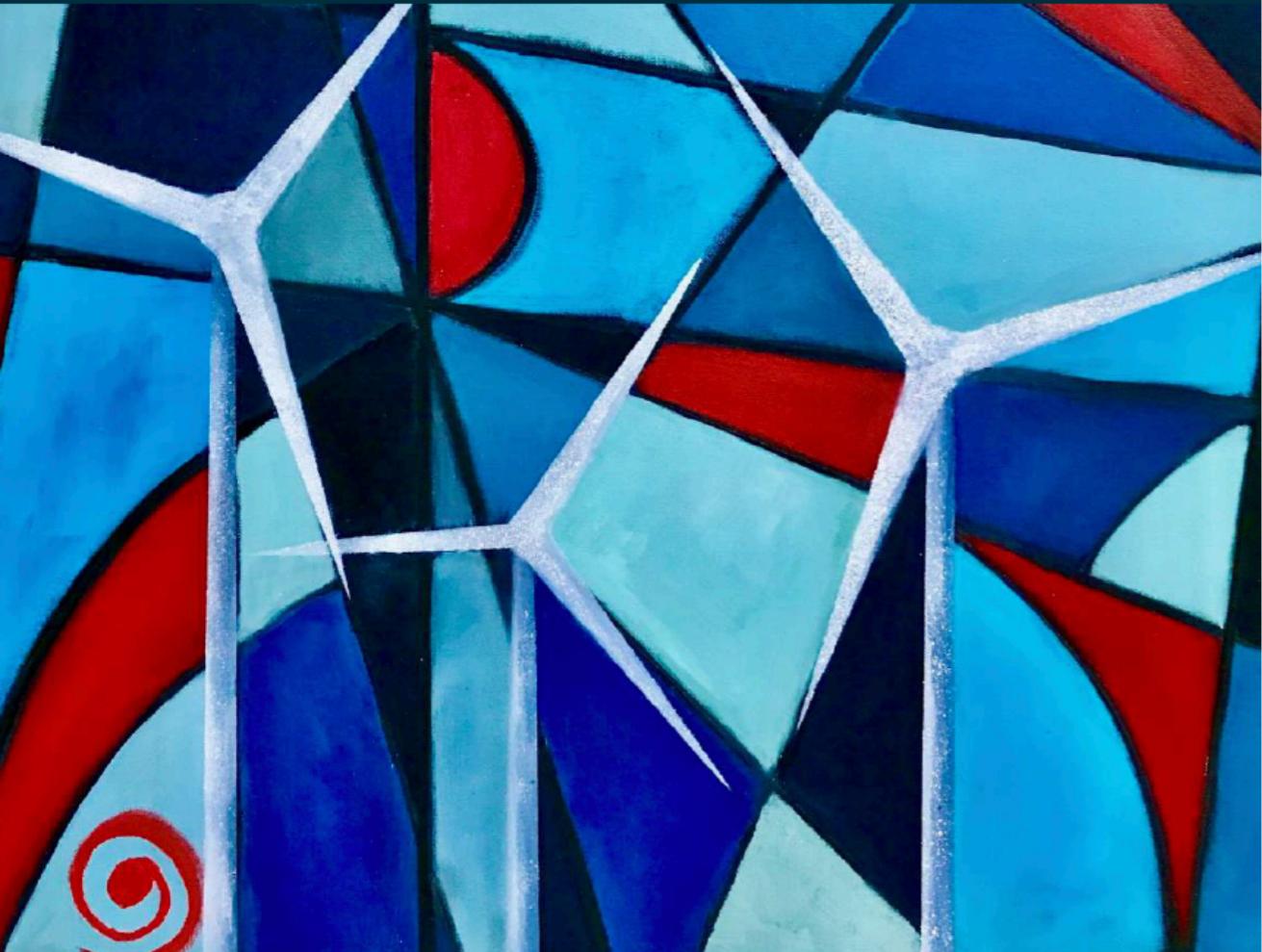
Governments and investors should cancel coal power projects or risk wasting over \$600 bn in capital costs.

March 2020

 Carbon Tracker
Initiative

The sky's the limit

Solar and wind energy potential is 100 times as much as global energy demand



Report

April 2021

1 Key findings

There is a huge new cheap energy resource available. With current technology and in a subset of available locations we can capture at least 6,700 PWh p.a. from solar and wind, which is more than 100 times global energy demand.

The opportunity has only just been unlocked. The collapse in renewable costs in the last three years means that half of this solar and wind technical potential now has economic potential, and by the end of the decade it will be over 90% of it.

Land is no constraint. The land required for solar panels alone to provide all global energy is 450,000 km², 0.3% of the global land area of 149 million km². That is less than the land required for fossil fuels today, which in the US alone is 126,000 km², 1.3% of the country.

People will take advantage of the cheap energy. Humans specialise in extracting cheap energy, and fast, as witnessed by the rapid development of shale gas. Now the opportunity has been unlocked, **expect continued exponential growth of solar and wind deployment.**

The tide is coming in fast. The technical and economic barriers have been crossed and the only impediment to change is political. Sector by sector and country by country the fossil fuel incumbency is being swamped by the rapidly rising tide of new energy technologies.

The fossil fuel era is over. The fossil fuel industry cannot compete with the technology learning curves of renewables, so demand will inevitably fall as solar and wind continue to grow. At the current 15-20% growth rates of solar and wind, **fossil fuels will be pushed out of the electricity sector by the mid 2030s and out of total energy supply by 2050.**

There are four key groups of countries. They range from those with superabundant renewables potential, more than 1,000 times their energy demand like Namibia, all the way down to those with stretched potential of less than 10 times their demand like South Korea.

Poor countries are the greatest beneficiaries. They have the largest ratio of solar and wind potential to energy demand, and stand to unlock huge domestic benefits. The continent of **Africa for example is a renewables superpower, with 39% of global potential.**

Germany is a special case. Germany has the third lowest solar and wind technical potential in the world relative to its energy demand. The troubles faced by Germany are therefore highly unusual, and if they can solve them then so can everyone else.

We enter a new era. The unlocking of energy reserves 100 times our current demand creates new possibilities for cheaper energy and more local jobs in a more equitable world with far less environmental stress.

Carbon Pricing

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH
LETTERS



CrossMark

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TOPICAL REVIEW

Does carbon pricing reduce emissions? A review of ex-post analyses

Jessica F Green

Political Science, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

E-mail: Jf.green@utoronto.ca**Keywords:** carbon markets, carbon pricing, climate change, cap and trade, carbon tax

Abstract

Carbon pricing has been hailed as an essential component of any sensible climate policy. Internalize the externalities, the logic goes, and polluters will change their behavior. The theory is elegant, but has carbon pricing worked in practice? Despite a voluminous literature on the topic, there are surprisingly few works that conduct an *ex-post* analysis, examining how carbon pricing has actually performed. This paper provides a meta-review of ex-post quantitative evaluations of carbon pricing policies around the world since 1990. Four findings stand out. First, though carbon pricing has dominated many political discussions of climate change, only 37 studies assess the actual effects of the policy on emissions reductions, and the vast majority of these are focused on Europe. Second, the majority of studies suggest that the aggregate reductions from carbon pricing on emissions are limited—generally between 0% and 2% per year. However, there is considerable variation across sectors. Third, in general, carbon taxes perform better than emissions trading schemes (ETSs). Finally, studies of the EU-ETS, the oldest ETS, indicate limited average annual reductions—ranging from 0% to 1.5% per annum. For comparison, the IPCC states that emissions must fall by 45% below 2010 levels by 2030 in order to limit warming to 1.5 °C—the goal set by the Paris Agreement (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 2018). Overall, the evidence indicates that carbon pricing has a limited impact on emissions.

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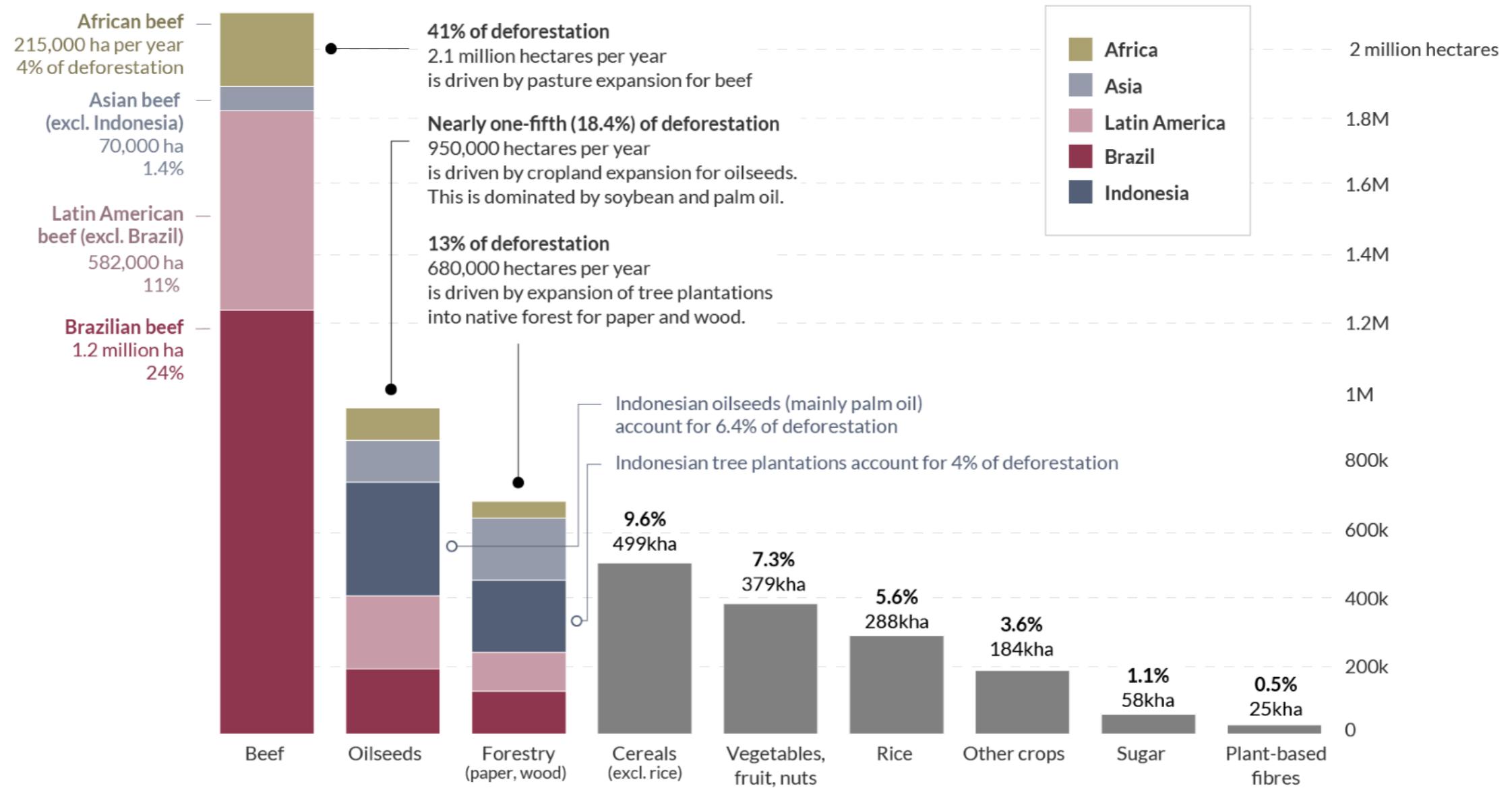
Deforestation and Afforestation

Deforestation

What are the drivers of tropical deforestation?

Our World
in Data

Nearly all of global deforestation occurs in tropical and subtropical countries. 70% to 80% is driven by conversion of primary forest to agriculture or tree plantations. Shown is the breakdown of these drivers averaged over the years 2005 to 2013. Further observations since 2013 suggest that drivers have not changed substantially over this period.

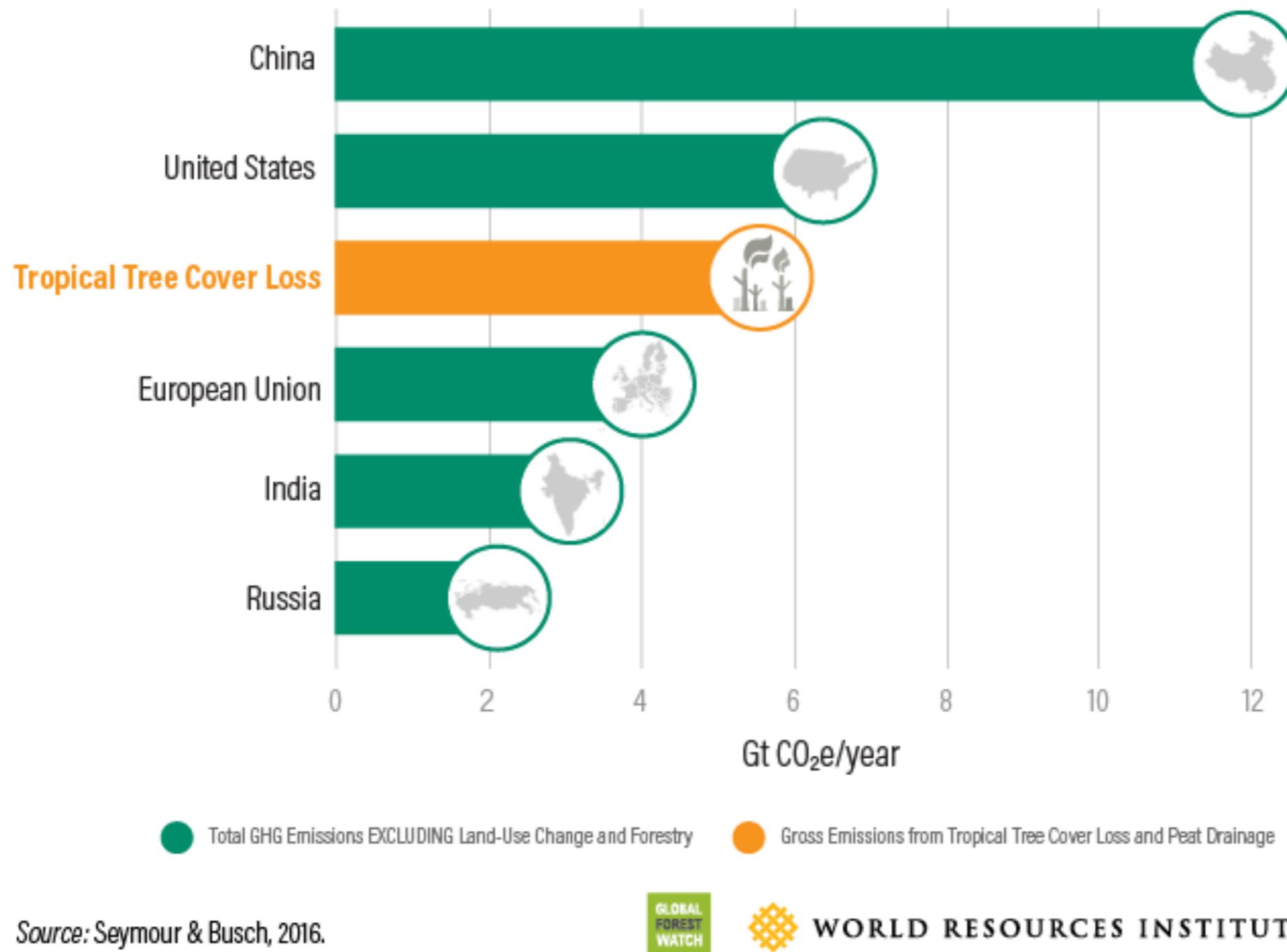


Data source: Florence Pendrill et al. (2019). Deforestation displaced: trade in forest-risk commodities and the prospects for a global forest transition.

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If Tropical Deforestation were a Country, it Would Rank Third in CO₂e Emissions



Source: Seymour & Busch, 2016.



WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Afforestation

Pitfalls of Tree Planting Show Why We Need People-Centered Natural Climate Solutions FREE

Forrest Fleischman ✉, Shishir Basant, Ashwini Chhatre, Eric A Coleman, Harry W Fischer, Divya Gupta, Burak Güneralp, Prakash Kashwan, Dil Khatri, Robert Muscarella ... Show more

BioScience, Volume 70, Issue 11, November 2020, Pages 947–950, <https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/biaa094>

Published: 16 September 2020

- (1) Ecosystems, not tree planting campaigns, capture and store carbon
- (2) Preventing ecosystem destruction is the most cost-effective natural climate solution
- (3) Forests can regrow on deforested land without tree planting
- (4) Tree plantations sequester less carbon, less securely, than naturally regenerated forests
- (5) Tree plantations in grasslands, shrublands, and peatlands destroy biodiversity
- (6) Trees can reduce water availability
- (7) Trees can warm the atmosphere
- (8) Perverse financial incentives lead to rushed planting and high tree mortality
- (9) Tree planting threatens rural livelihoods
- (10) Tree planting targets the Global South to capture emissions from the Global North

Technological Carbon Removal

Ten options for negative emissions technologies

1 Direct air capture (DAC)

Sucking carbon dioxide out of the air and either burying it underground or using it in chemical processes to make anything from plastic to fuel.

2 Cloud treatment to increase alkalinity

Adding alkali to clouds or the ocean to enhance the reaction that sees CO₂ dissolve in water, removing it from the air.

4

Enhanced ocean productivity

Adding iron or nitrogen to the ocean to increase the rate at which tiny microscopic plants photosynthesise, thus accelerating their take up of atmospheric CO₂.

3

Enhanced weathering

Spreading pulverized rocks onto soils and/or the ocean to ramp up the natural rock weathering process that takes up CO₂ from the atmosphere and eventually sees it washed into the ocean as bicarbonate.

5

'Blue carbon' habitat restoration

Conservation and restoration of degraded coastal and marine habitats, such as salt marshes, mangroves, and seagrass beds, so they continue to draw CO₂ out of the air.

6

Afforestation and reforestation

Planting trees where there were previously none (afforestation) or restoring areas where the trees have been cut down or degraded (reforestation).

8

Building with biomass

Using plant-based materials in construction, storing carbon and preserving it for as long as the building remains standing.



7

Bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS)

Farming bioenergy crops, which extract CO₂ from the atmosphere as they grow, and then burning them for energy and sequestering the resulting emissions underground.



9

Biochar

Burning biomass to create biochar and adding it to soils where it holds on to its carbon for hundreds or thousands of years.



10

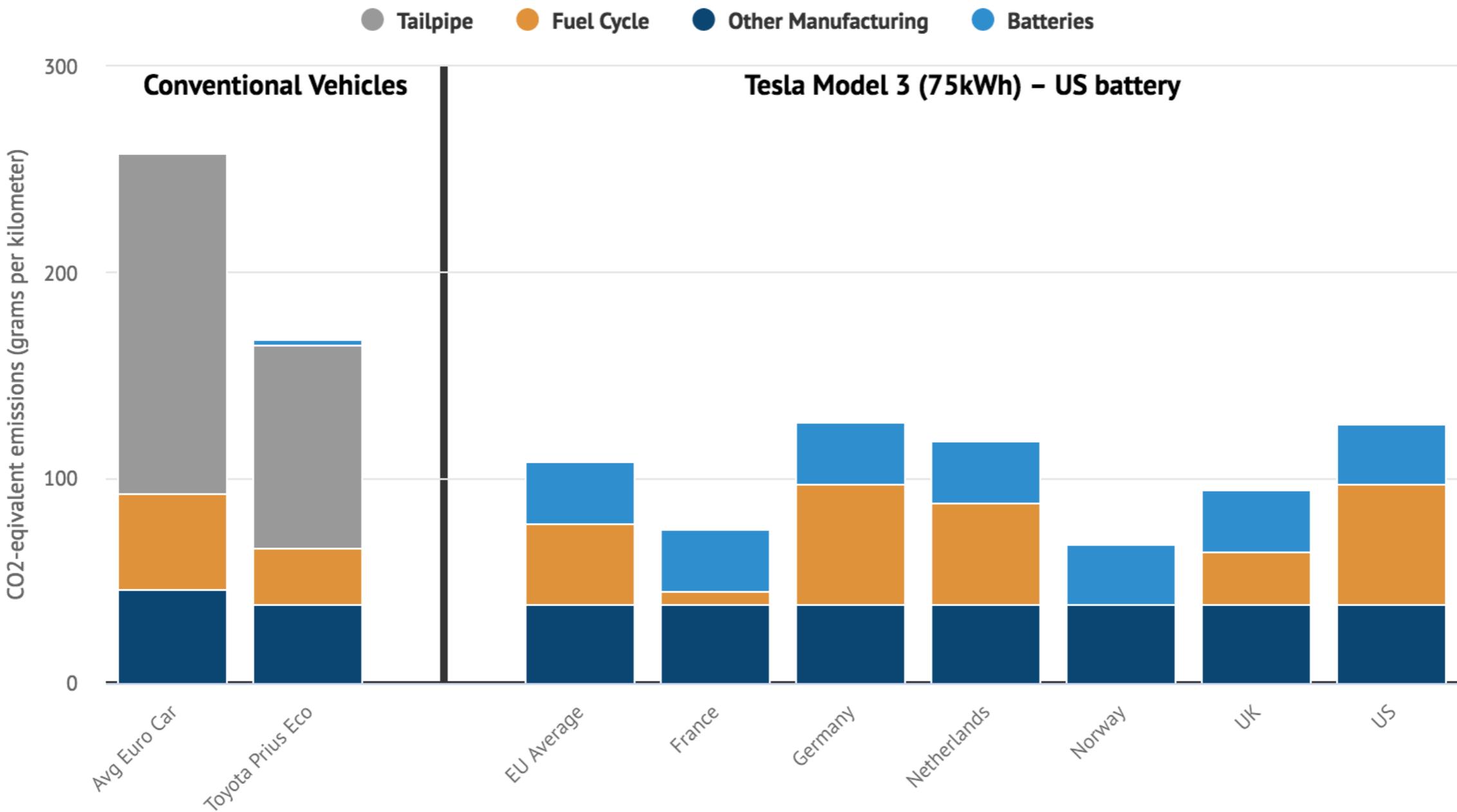
Soil carbon sequestration

Using measures, such as modern farming methods, grassland restoration and creation of wetlands and ponds, to reverse past losses of soil carbon and sequester CO₂.



Transport

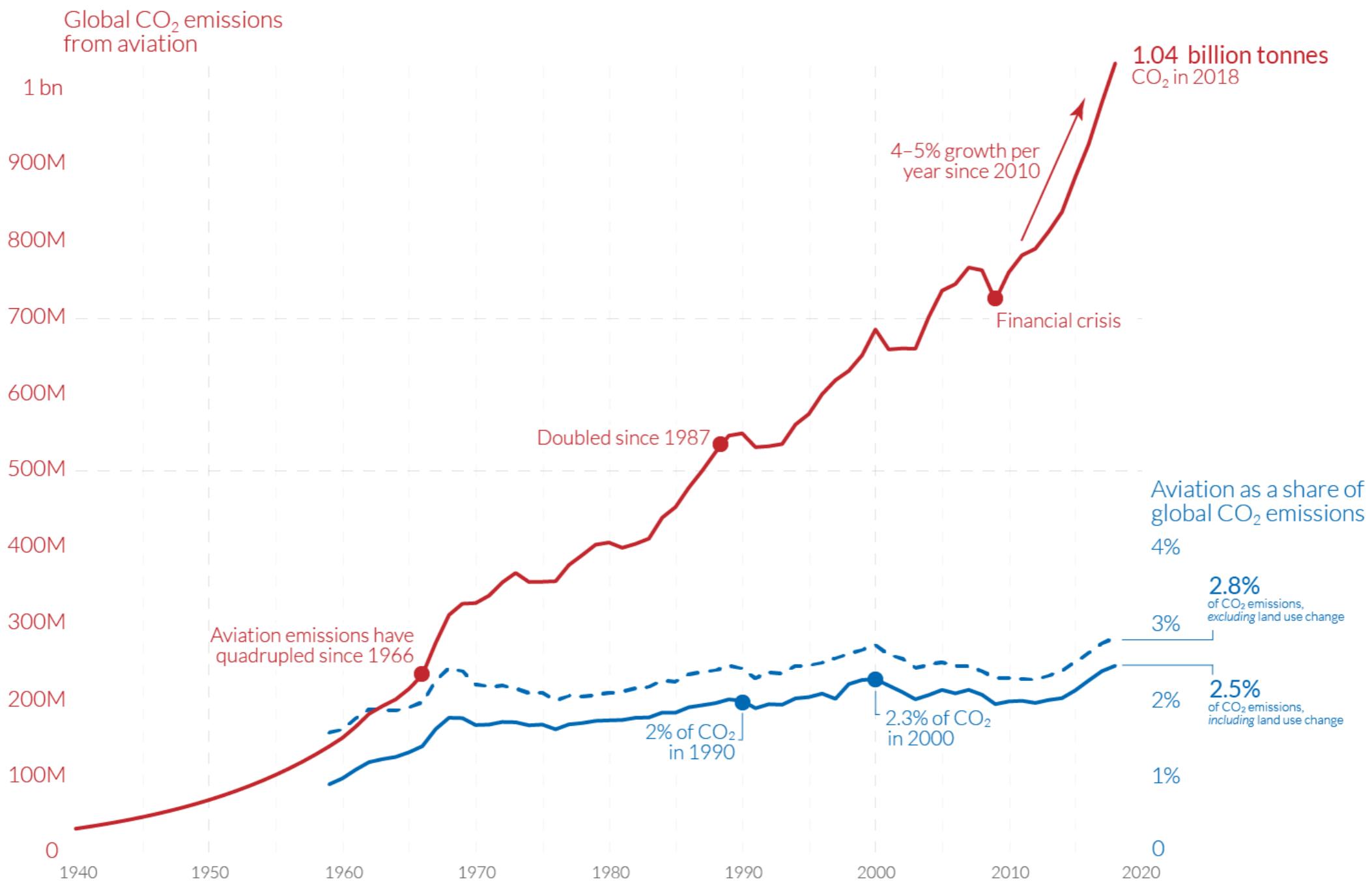
Lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions: conventional v Tesla (US battery)



Global carbon dioxide emissions from aviation

Aviation emissions includes passenger air travel, freight and military operations. It does not include non-CO₂ climate forcings, or a multiplier for warming effects at altitude.

Our World
in Data

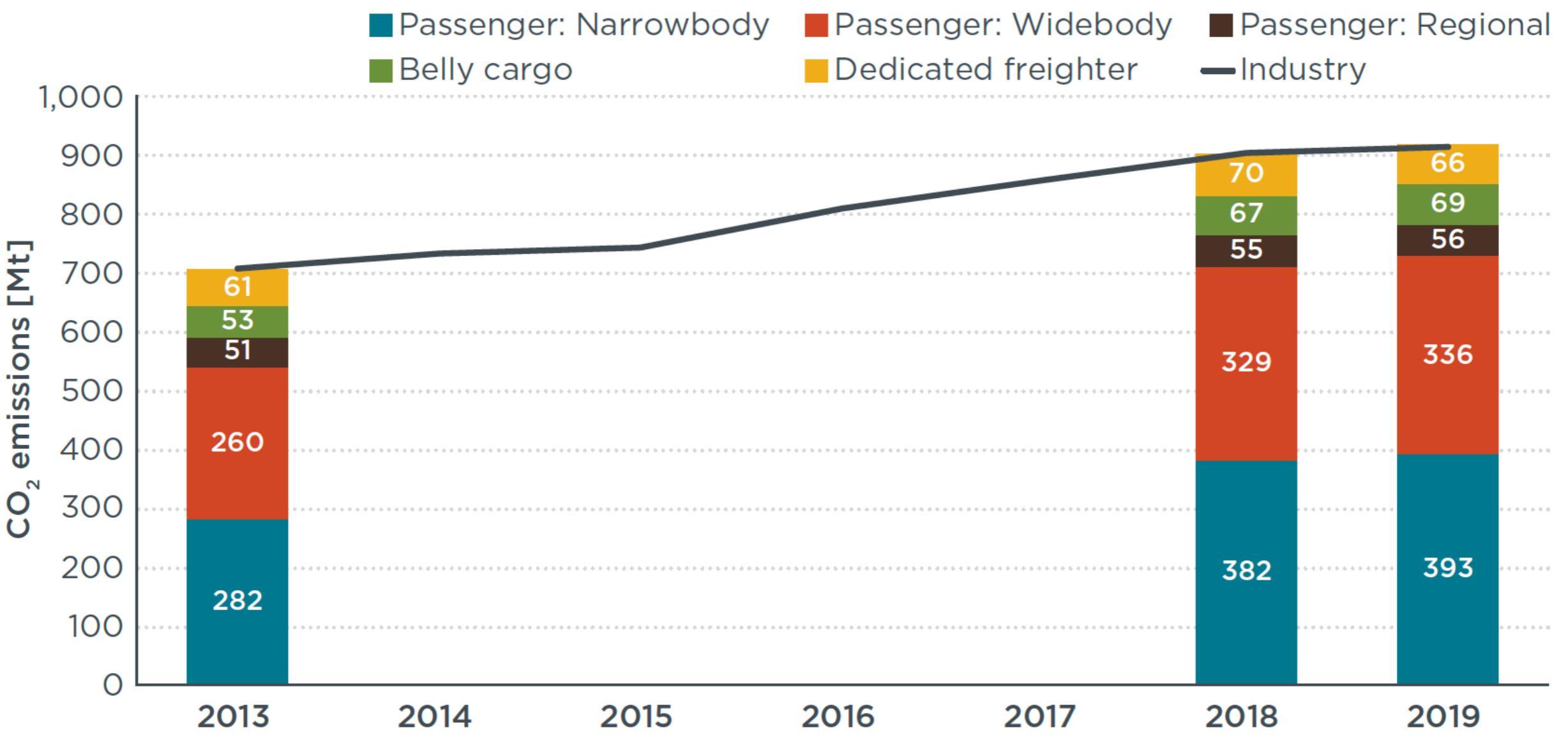


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Source: Lee et al. (2020). The contribution of global aviation to anthropogenic climate forcing for 2000 to 2018; based on Sausen and Schumann (2000) & IEA.

Share of global emissions calculated based on total CO₂ data from the Global Carbon Project.

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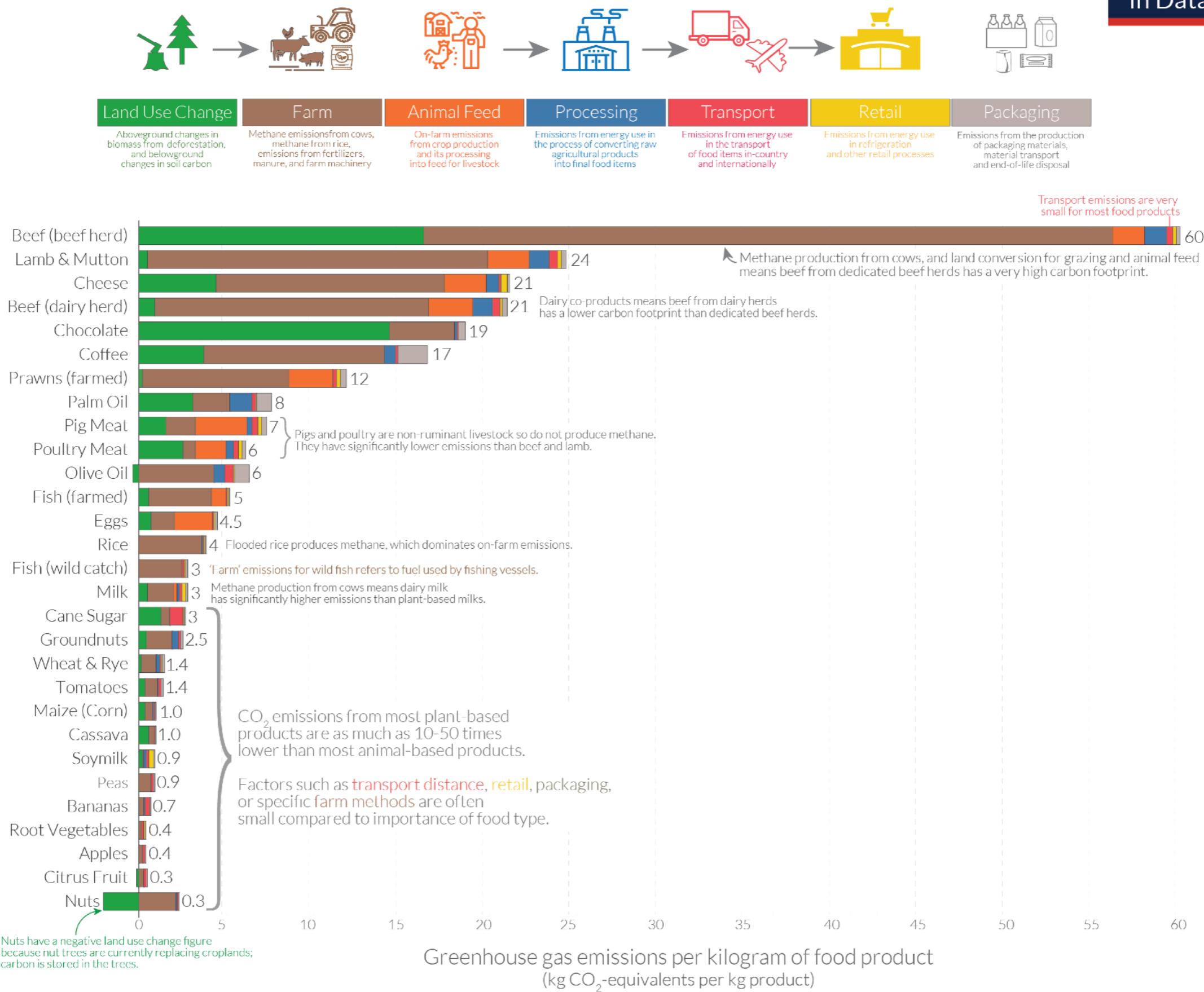


Food

Breadbaskets of the four major crops and their respective contributions to global production			
<i>Maize</i>	<i>Rice</i>	<i>Soybean</i>	<i>Wheat</i>
USA (34%)	China (28%)	USA (34%)	Europe (24%)
China (23%)	India (21%)	Brazil (30%)	China (18%)
Europe (10%)	Indonesia (10%)	Argentina (17%)	India (13%)
Brazil (8%)	Bangladesh (7%)	China (4%)	Russia (9%)
Argentina (4%)	Vietnam (6%)	India (3%)	USA (8%)

Supplementary Table 1. Contribution of top five production-based breadbaskets to global maize, rice, soybean, and wheat production based on 2013-2017 global crop production from the Food and Agricultural Organization. Europe includes all European countries except Russia.

Food: greenhouse gas emissions across the supply chain



Note: Greenhouse gas emissions are given as global average values based on data across 38,700 commercially viable farms in 119 countries.

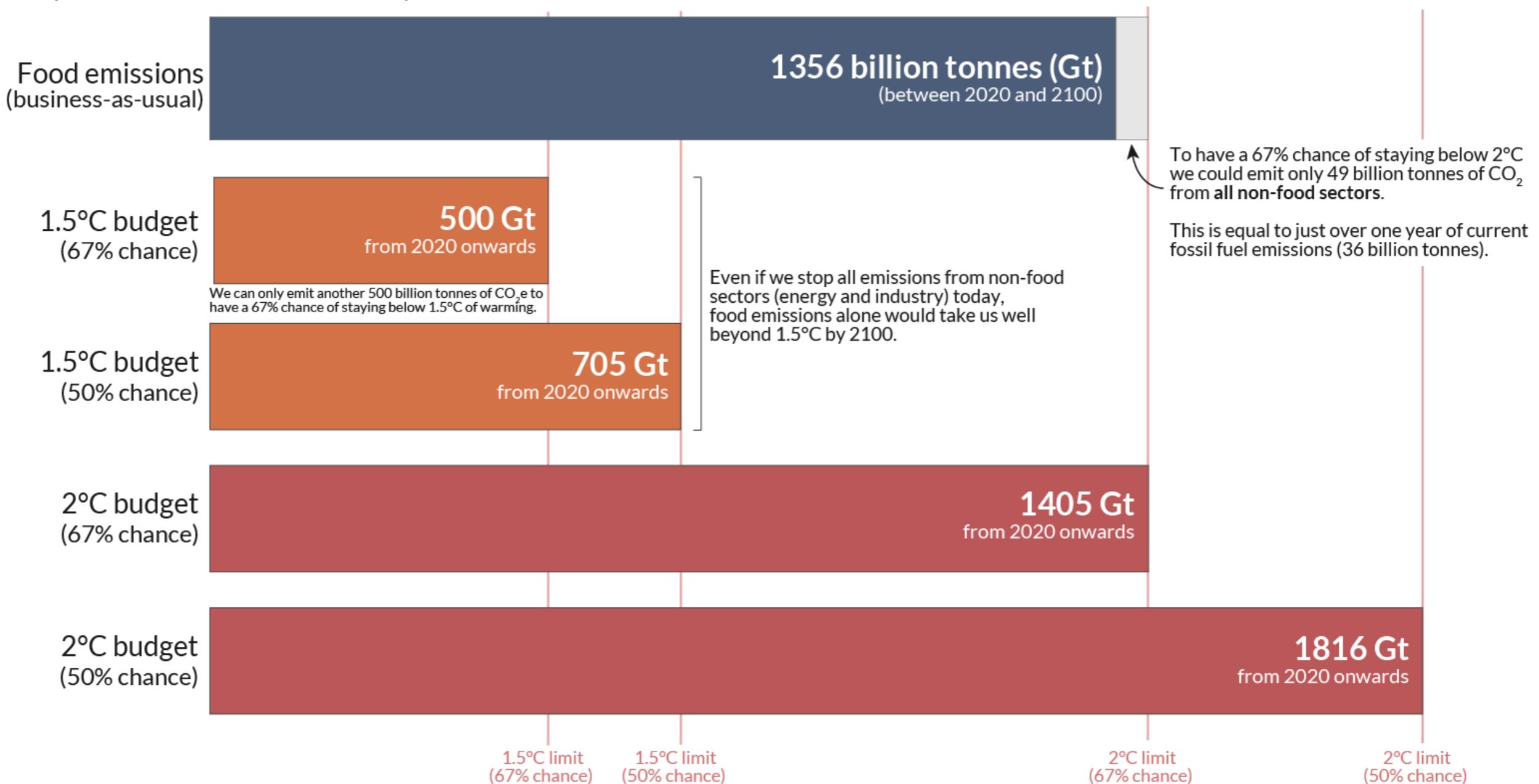
Data source: Poore and Nemecek (2018). Reducing food's environmental impacts through producers and consumers. *Science*. Images sourced from the Noun Project.

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Food emissions could consume most of our 1.5°C or 2°C carbon budget

Show are estimates of cumulative greenhouse gas emissions from food production from 2020 to 2100 based on population, dietary and agricultural trends in a business-as-usual scenario. This is shown relative to total cumulative emissions to keep global average temperature rise below 1.5°C or 2°C by 2100.



Note: This is measured in global warming potential (GWP*) CO₂ warming-equivalents (CO₂-we).

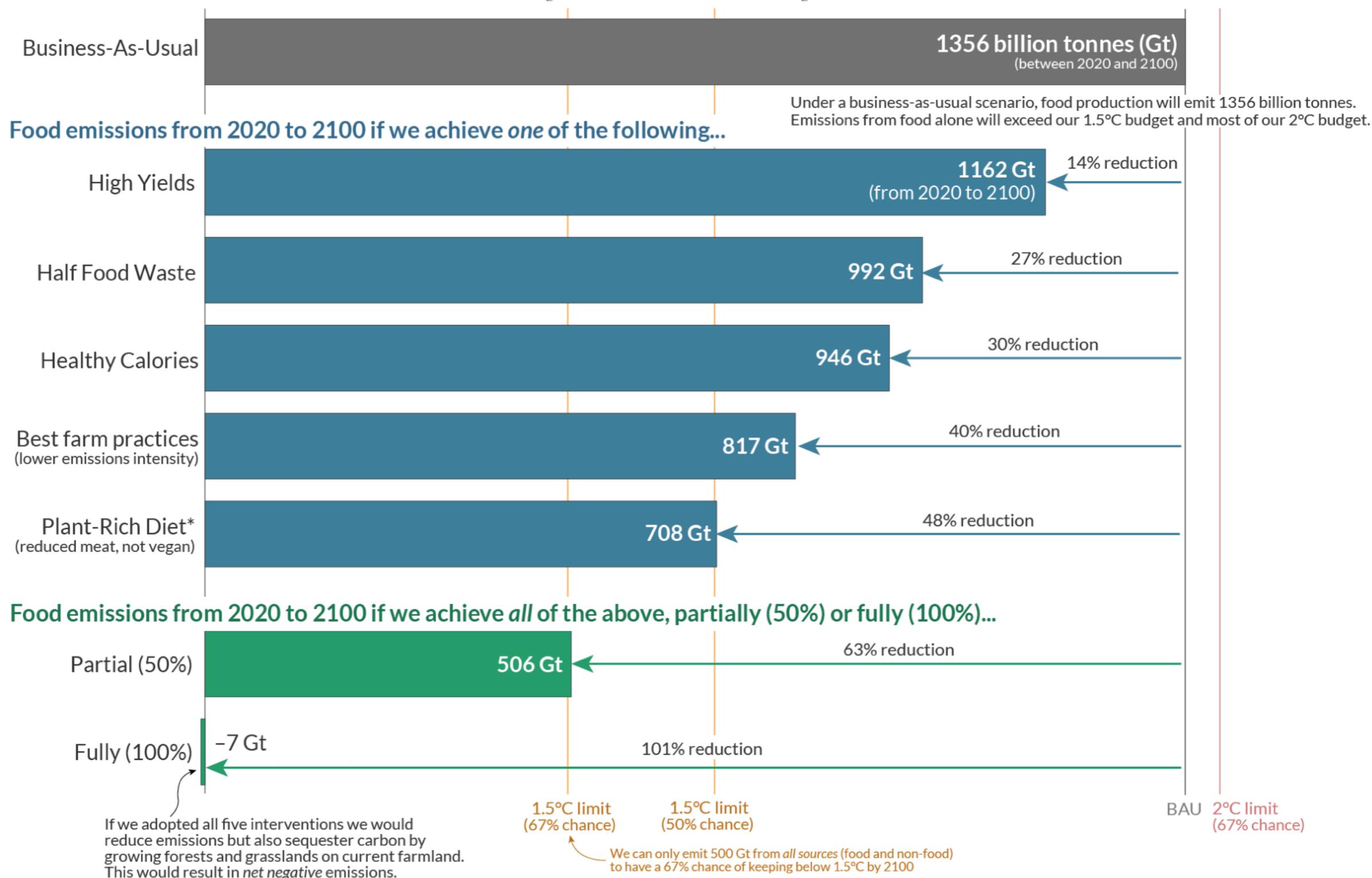
Source: Michael Clark et al. (2020). Global food system emissions could preclude achieving the 1.5° and 2°C climate change targets. *Science*.

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How can we reduce global greenhouse gas emissions from food?

Shown are estimates of cumulative greenhouse gas emissions from food production from 2020 to 2100 under a business-as-usual scenario, and five interventions to reduce emissions.
This is measured in global warming potential (GWP*) CO₂ warming-equivalents (CO₂-we).



*Based on the EAT-Lancet Planetary Health diet which includes reduces but does not eliminate meat or dairy consumption.

Source: Michael Clark et al. (2020). Global food system emissions could preclude achieving the 1.5° and 2°C climate change targets. *Science*.

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Economics

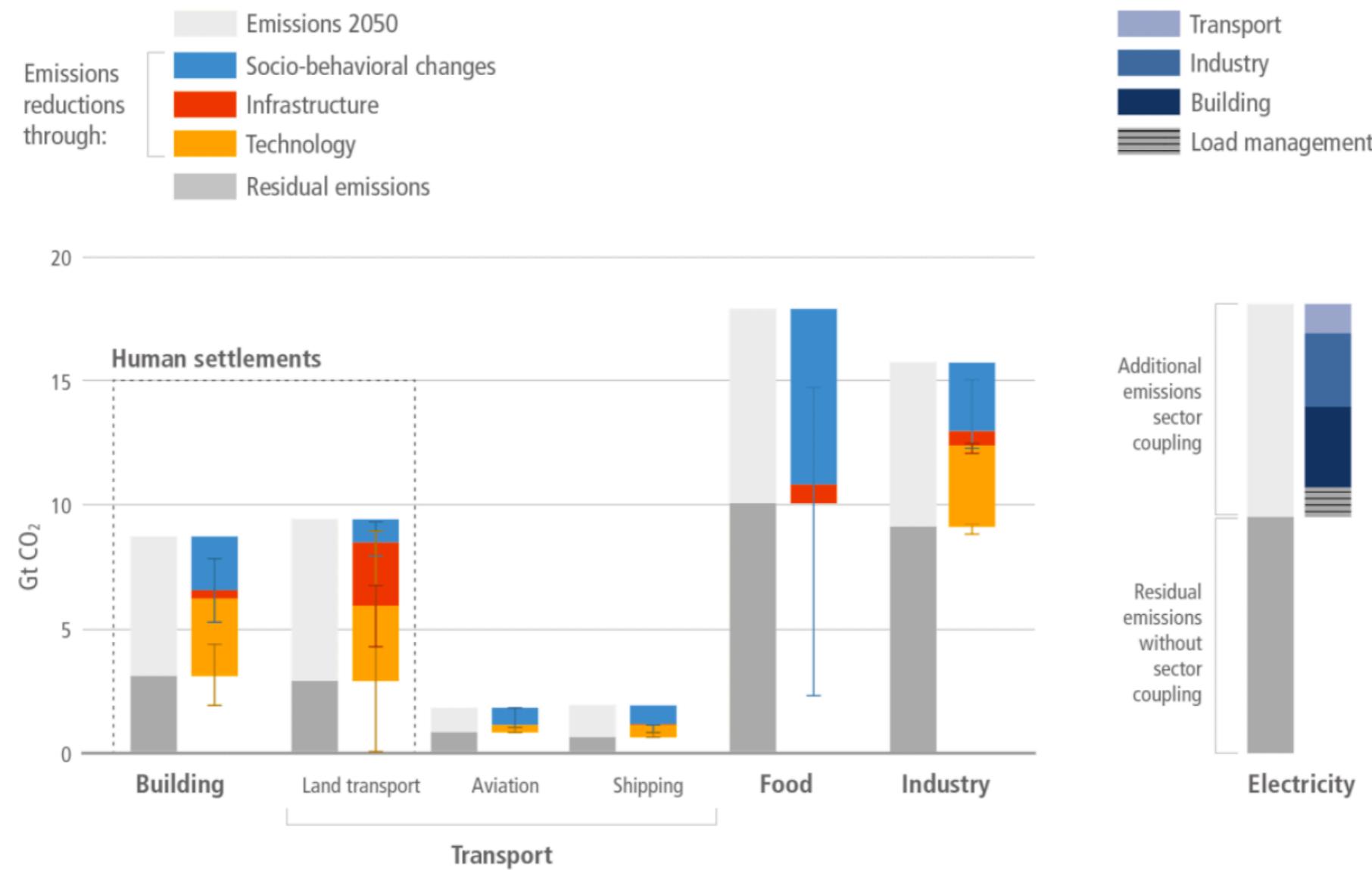
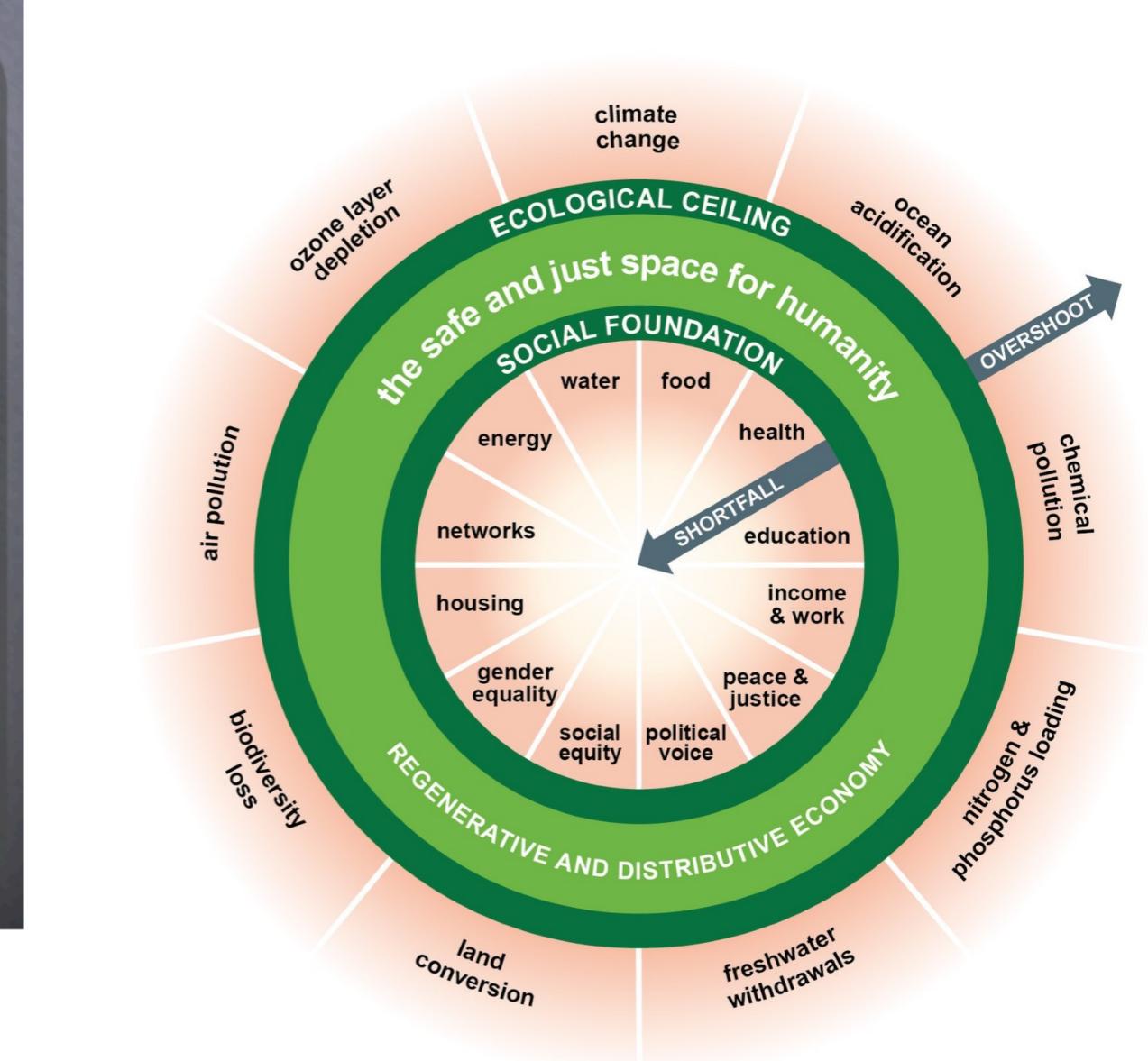
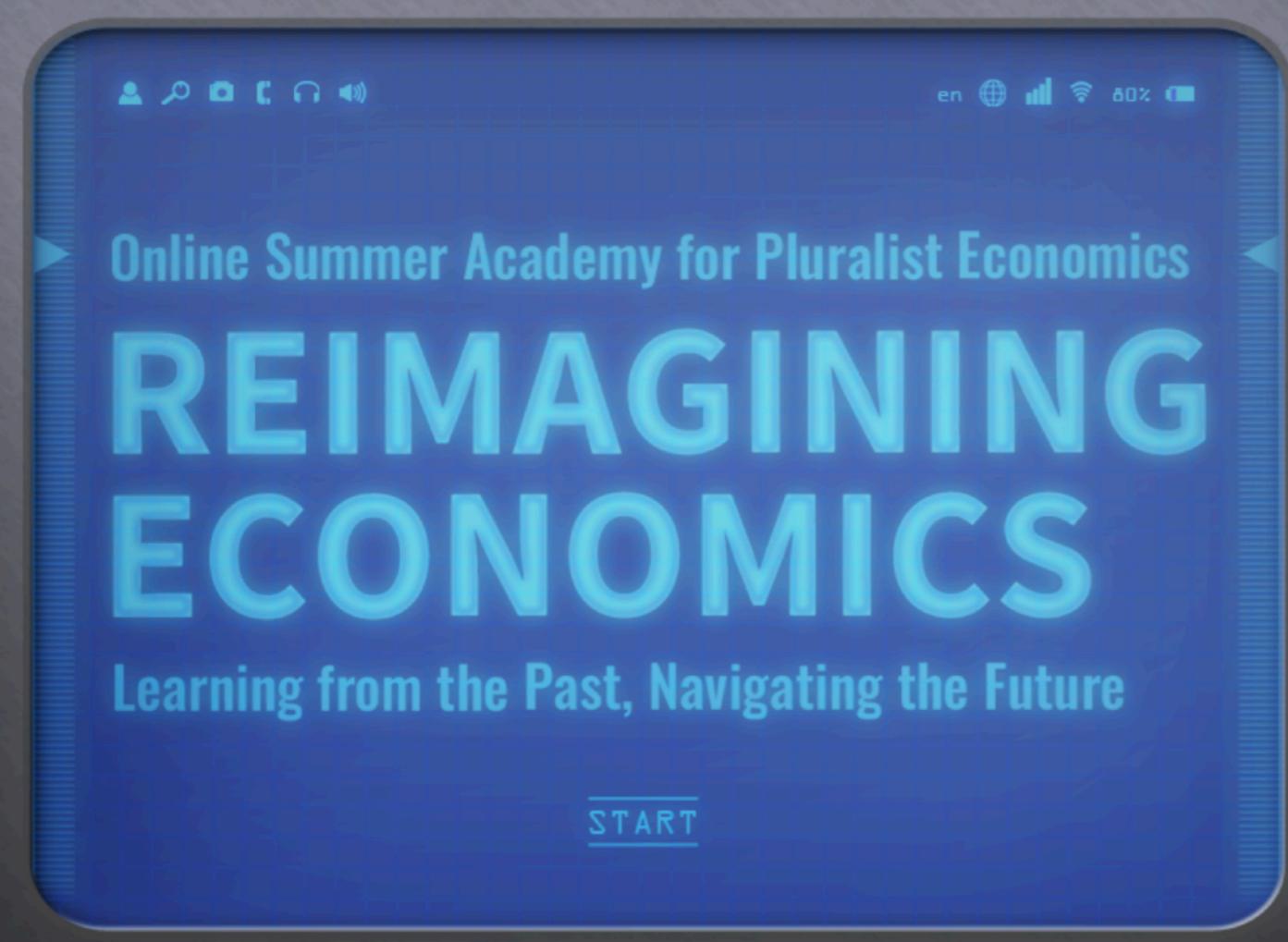


Figure SPM.8 | Climate change mitigation potentials classified in socio-behavioural, infrastructural, and technological options can reduce GHG emissions by 50-80% in end-use sectors by 2050. Drawing on the full potential requires changes in social norms, the provision in low-carbon infrastructures, and wide-range adoption of granular efficient end-use technologies. Electrification of transport, building and industry sector increases the demand on the electricity sector and associated indirect emissions, while demand side measures and load management compensate for this increased load. Based on review of studies estimating demand-side



Equitable Downscaling to Address the Climate Crisis with a focus on Europe

Policy Brief¹

Andrea Bacilieri, Fabian Dablander, Rayssa Ferrari, Sophie Reisinger, Federico Sibaja, Mara Strenger

System Transformations

STATE OF CLIMATE ACTION 2021

Systems Transformations Required
to Limit Global Warming to 1.5°C



FOREWORD

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CHAPTER 1. SNAPSHOT OF A CHANGING CLIMATE

CHAPTER 2. METHODOLOGY FOR ASSESSING PROGRESS

CHAPTER 3. POWER

CHAPTER 4. BUILDINGS

CHAPTER 5. INDUSTRY

CHAPTER 6. TRANSPORT

CHAPTER 7. TECHNOLOGICAL CARBON REMOVAL

CHAPTER 8. LAND USE AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER 9. AGRICULTURE

CHAPTER 10. FINANCE

CHAPTER 11. EQUITY AND JUST TRANSITION

CONCLUSION

iv

Launch Event

1

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24

40

52

64

86

120

127

150

168

184

189



Exponential change possible



Exponential change possible



Exponential change unlikely



ON TRACK



STAGNANT



OFF TRACK



WRONG DIRECTION



WELL OFF TRACK



INSUFFICIENT DATA



ON TRACK: Change is occurring at or above the pace required to achieve the 2030 targets

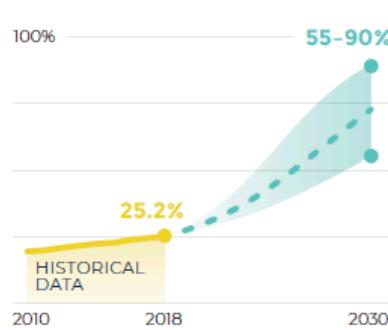
None



OFF TRACK: Change is heading in the right direction at a promising, but insufficient pace

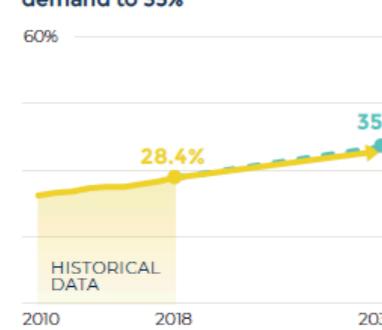
POWER ⚡ N/A

Increase the share of renewables in electricity generation to 55-90%



INDUSTRY ⚡ 1.1x

Increase the share of electricity in the industry sector's final energy demand to 35%



TRANSPORT ⚡ N/A

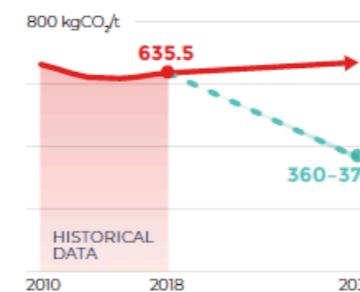
Increase the share of electric vehicles to 75-95% of total annual light duty vehicle sales



STAGNANT: Change is stagnating, and a step change in action is needed

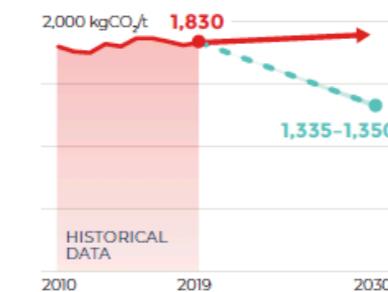
INDUSTRY ⚡ N/A

Reduce carbon intensity of global cement production by 40%, relative to 2015



INDUSTRY ⚡ N/A

Reduce carbon intensity of global steel production by 25-30%, relative to 2015



FINANCE ⚡ N/A

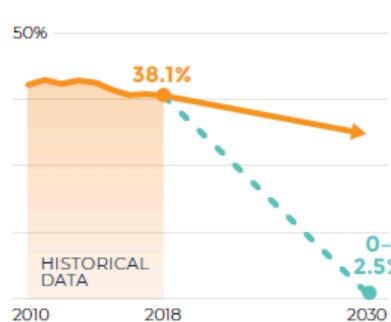
Ensure that a carbon price of at least \$135/tCO2e covers the majority of the world's GHG emissions



WELL OFF TRACK: Change is heading in the right direction, but well below the required pace

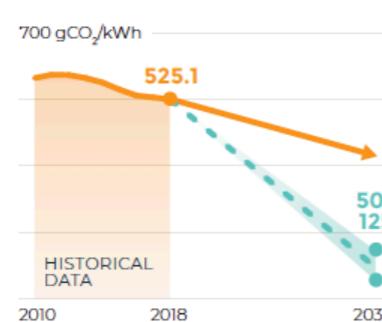
POWER ⚡ 5.2x

Lower the share of unabated coal in electricity generation to 0-2.5%



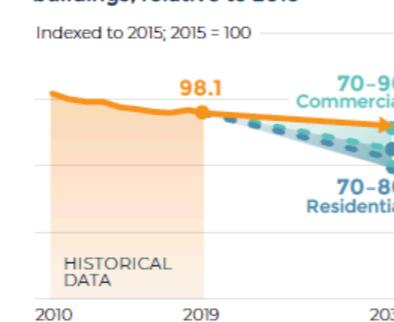
POWER ⚡ 3.2x

Reduce carbon intensity of electricity generation to 50-125 gCO2/kWh



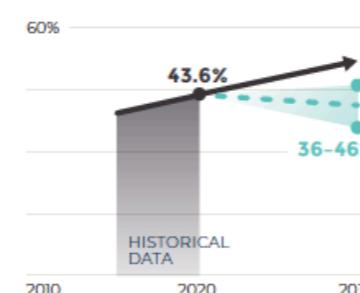
BUILDINGS ⚡ 2.7x^d

Decrease the energy intensity of operations in key countries and regions by 20-30% in residential buildings and by 10-30% in commercial buildings, relative to 2015



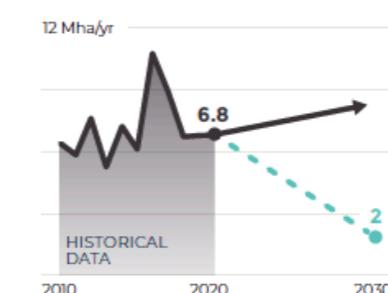
TRANSPORT ⚡ N/A

Reduce the percentage of trips made by private light duty vehicles to between 4% and 14% below BAU levels



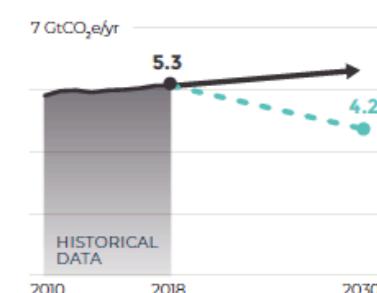
LAND USE AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ⚡ N/A

Reduce the rate of deforestation by 70%, relative to 2018



AGRICULTURE ⚡ N/A

Reduce agricultural production emissions by 22%, relative to 2017



INSUFFICIENT DATA: Data are insufficient to assess the gap in action required for 2030^a

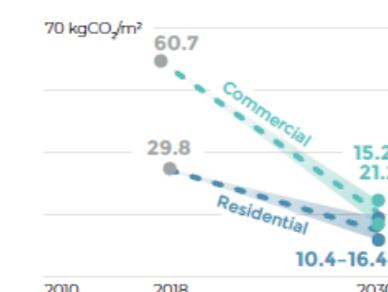
BUILDINGS ⚡ Ins. data

Increase buildings' retrofitting rate to 2.5-3.5% annually



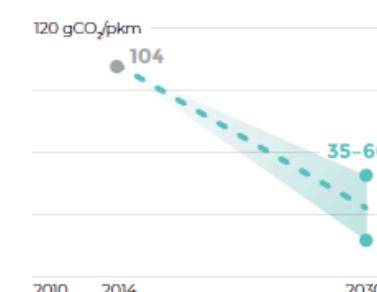
BUILDINGS ⚡ Ins. data

Reduce the carbon intensity of operations in select regions by 45-65% in residential buildings and by 65-75% in commercial buildings, relative to 2015 (kgCO2/m2)



TRANSPORT ⚡ Ins. data

Reduce the carbon intensity of land-based passenger transport to 35-60 gCO2/pkm



Exponential change possible



ON TRACK



Exponential change possible



OFF TRACK



Exponential change unlikely



WELL OFF TRACK



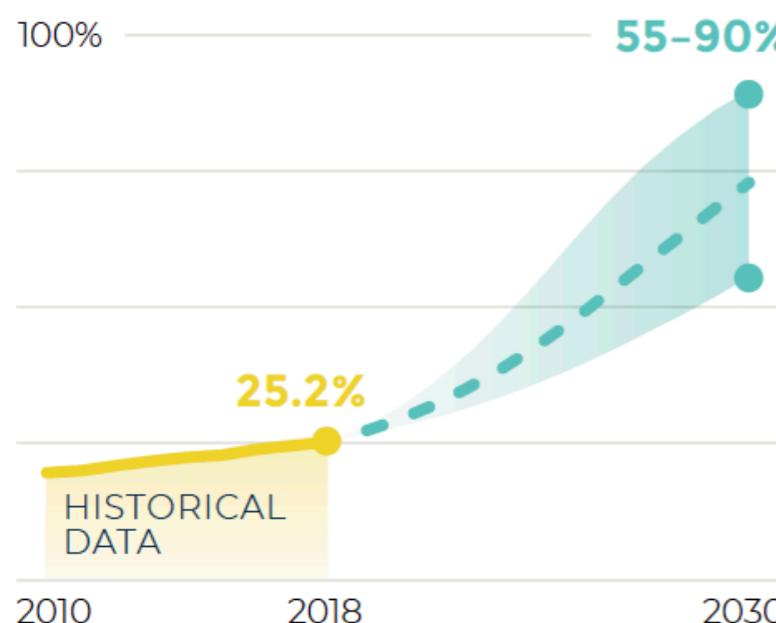
INSUFFICIENT DATA

Power



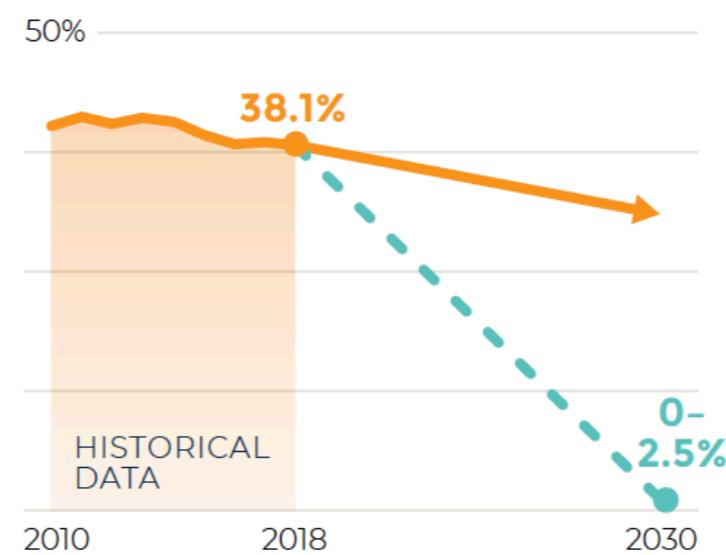
POWER  N/A

Increase the share of renewables in electricity generation to 55–90%



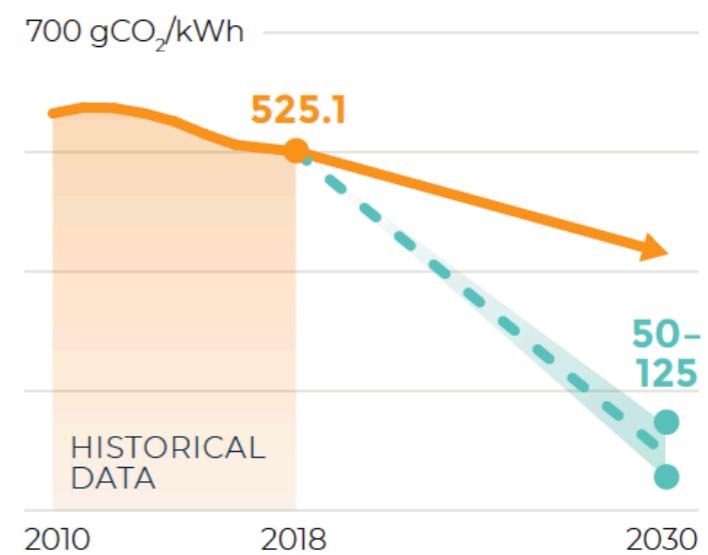
POWER  5.2x

Lower the share of unabated coal in electricity generation to 0–2.5%



POWER  3.2x

Reduce carbon intensity of electricity generation to 50–125 gCO₂/kWh

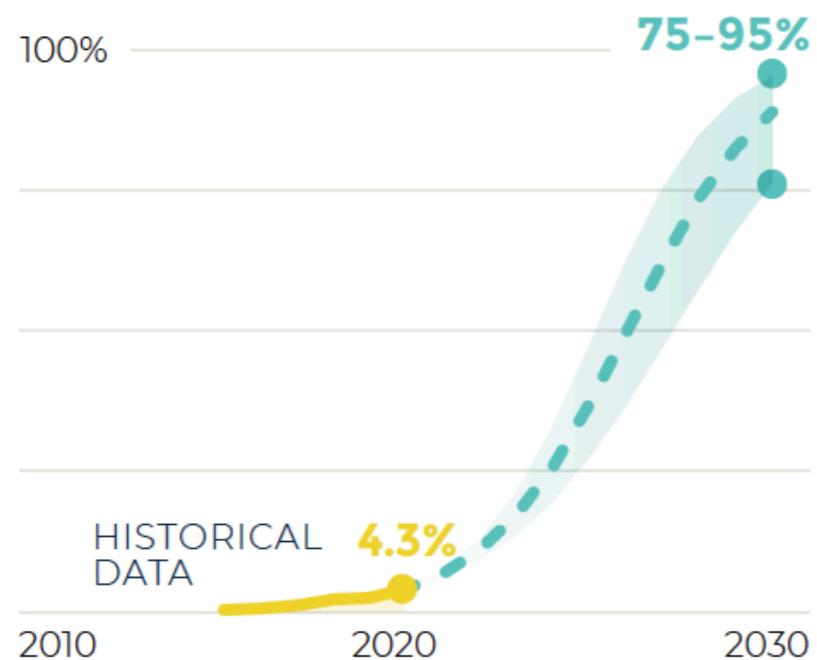


Transport



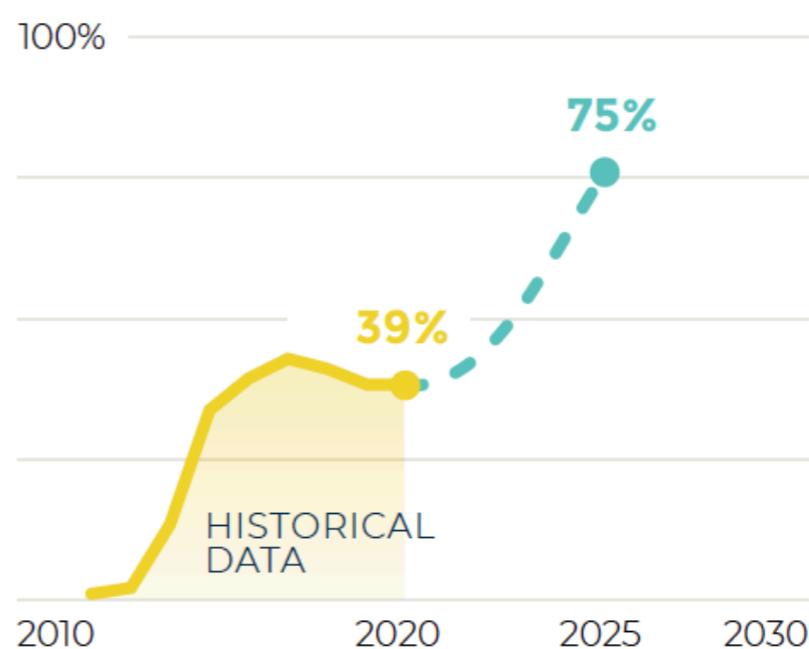
TRANSPORT  N/A

Increase the share of electric vehicles to 75–95% of total annual light duty vehicle sales



TRANSPORT  N/A^a

Boost the share of battery and fuel cell electric vehicles to reach 75% of global annual bus sales by 2025

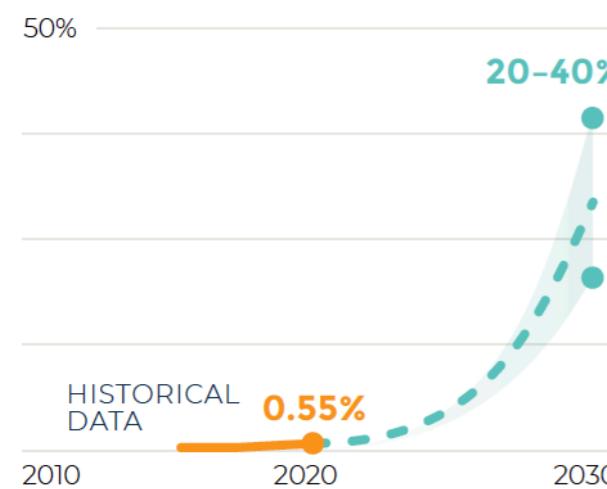


Transport



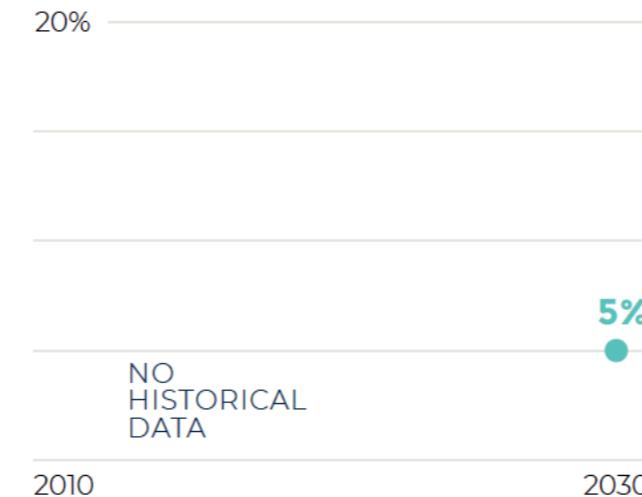
TRANSPORT  N/A^f

Expand the share of electric vehicles to account for 20-40% of total light duty vehicle fleet



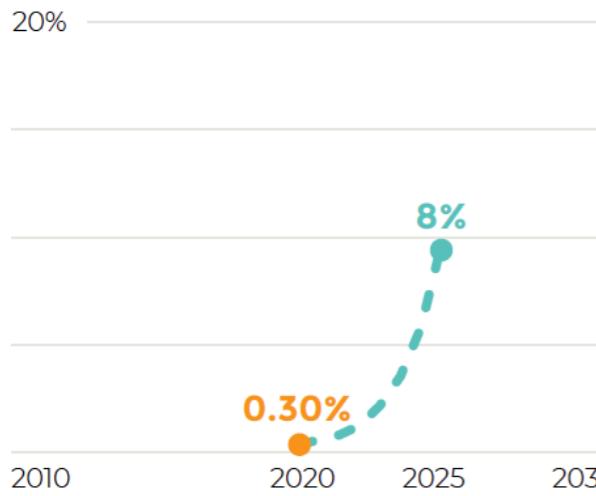
TRANSPORT  N/A

Raise zero-emissions fuel's share of international shipping fuel to 5%



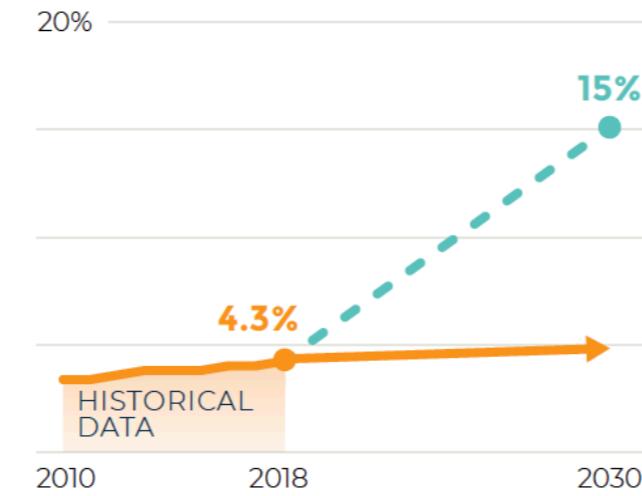
TRANSPORT  N/A

Increase the share of battery and fuel cell electric vehicles to 8% of global annual medium- to heavy-duty vehicle sales by 2025



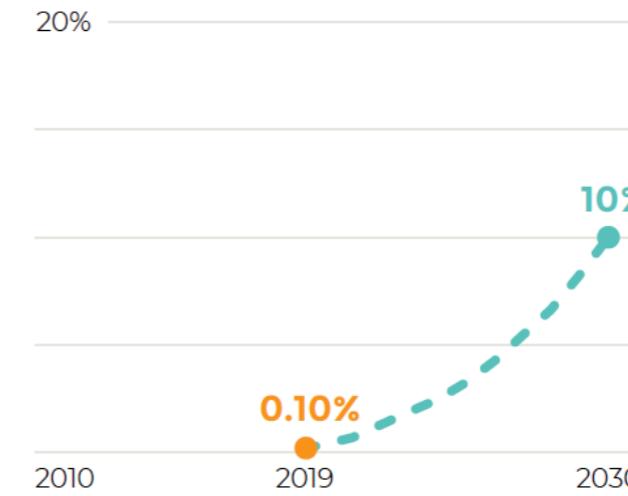
TRANSPORT  12x

Raise the share of low-emissions fuels in the transport sector to 15%



TRANSPORT  N/A

Increase sustainable aviation fuel's share of global aviation fuel supply to 10%

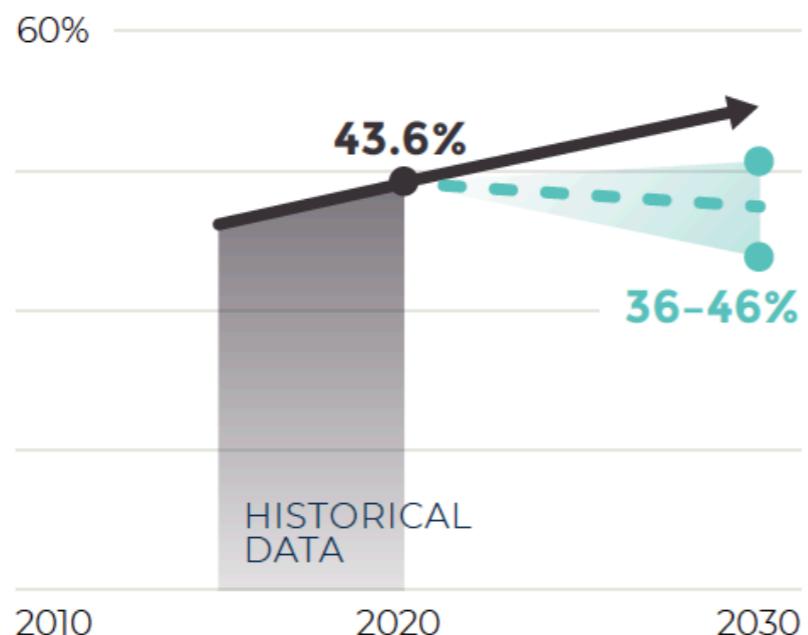


Transport



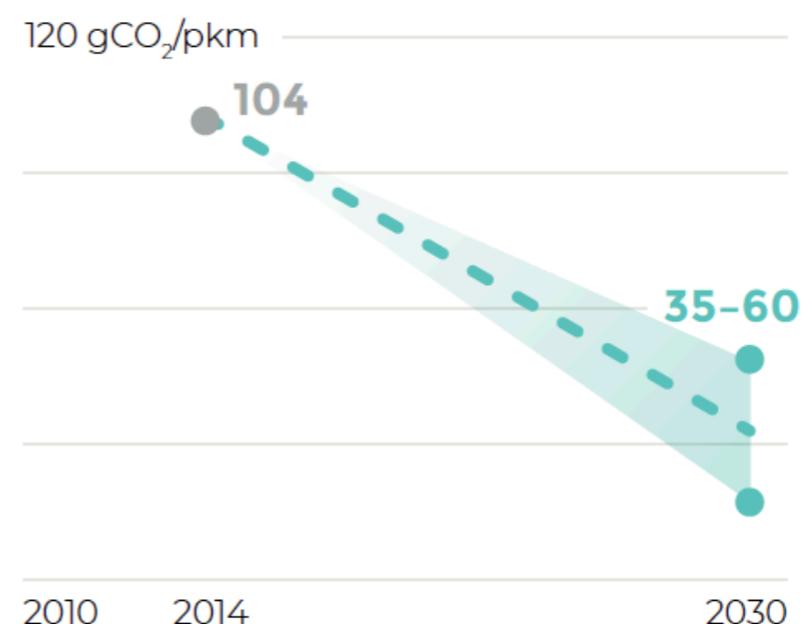
TRANSPORT N/A

Reduce the percentage of trips made by private light duty vehicles to between 4% and 14% below BAU levels



TRANSPORT Ins. data

Reduce the carbon intensity of land-based passenger transport to 35-60 gCO₂/pkm



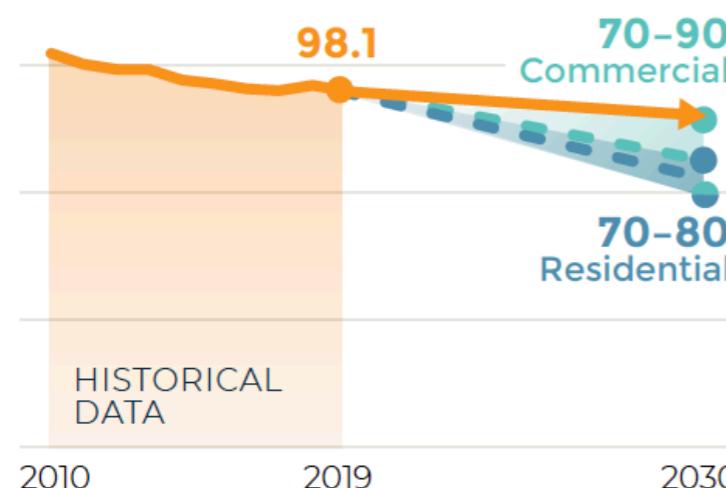
Buildings



BUILDINGS **2.7x^d**

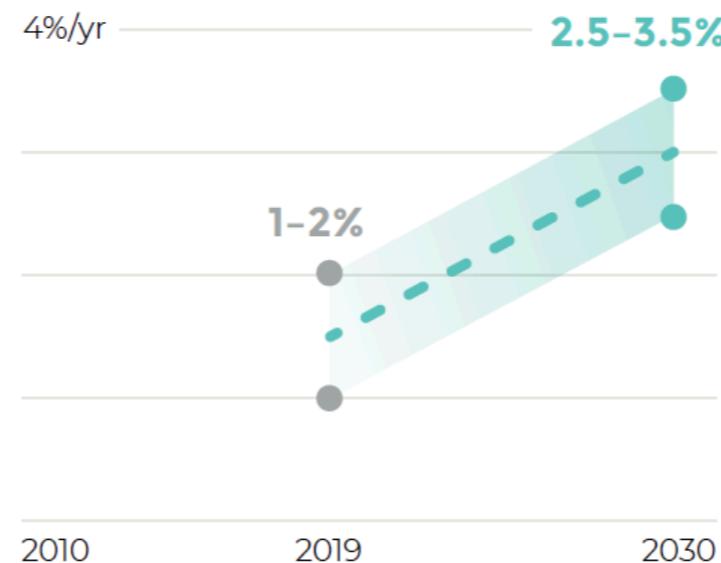
Decrease the energy intensity of operations in key countries and regions by 20–30% in residential buildings and by 10–30% in commercial buildings, relative to 2015

Indexed to 2015; 2015 = 100



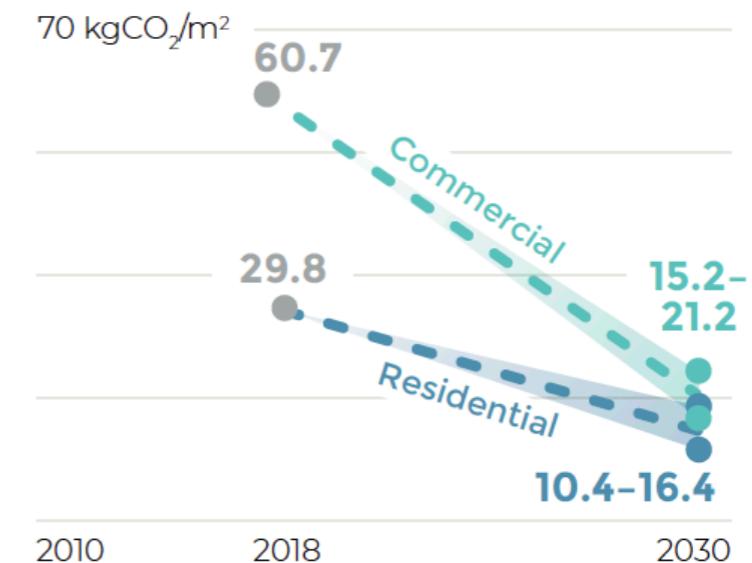
BUILDINGS **Ins. data**

Increase buildings' retrofitting rate to 2.5–3.5% annually



BUILDINGS **Ins. data**

Reduce the carbon intensity of operations in select regions by 45–65% in residential buildings and by 65–75% in commercial buildings, relative to 2015 (kgCO_2/m^2)

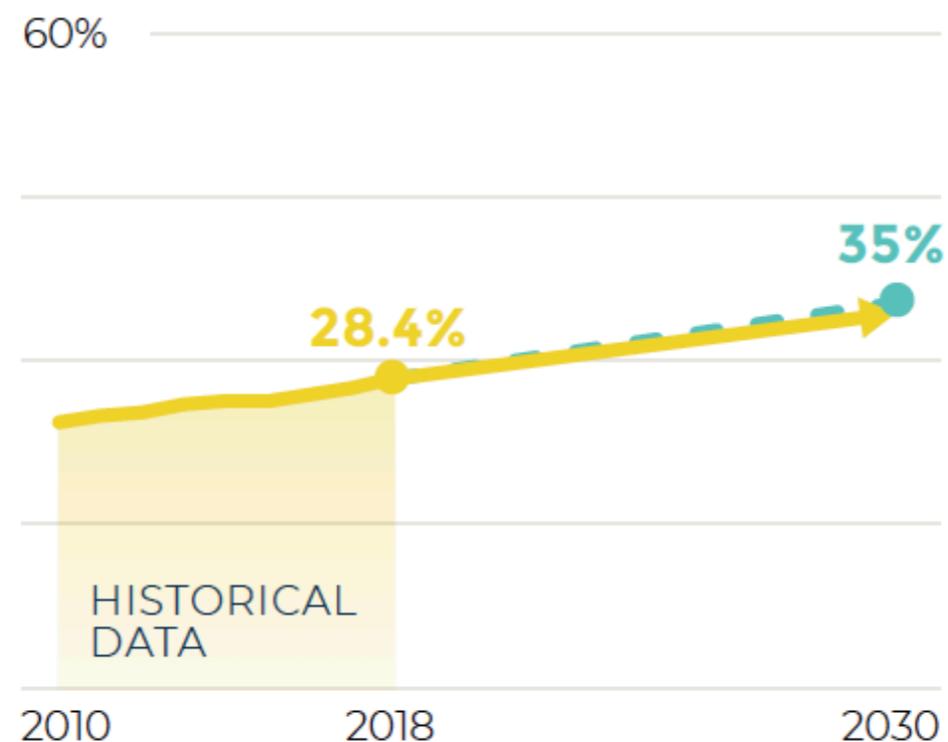


Industry

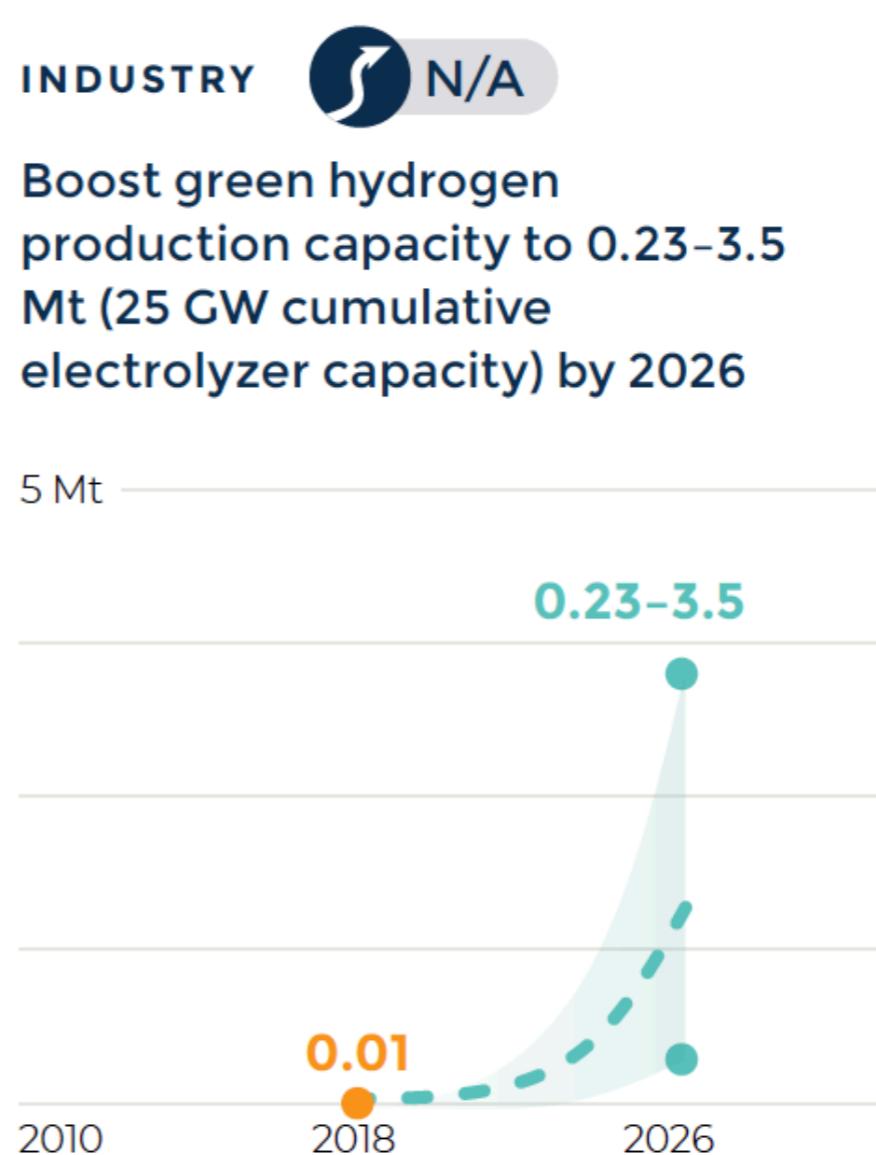
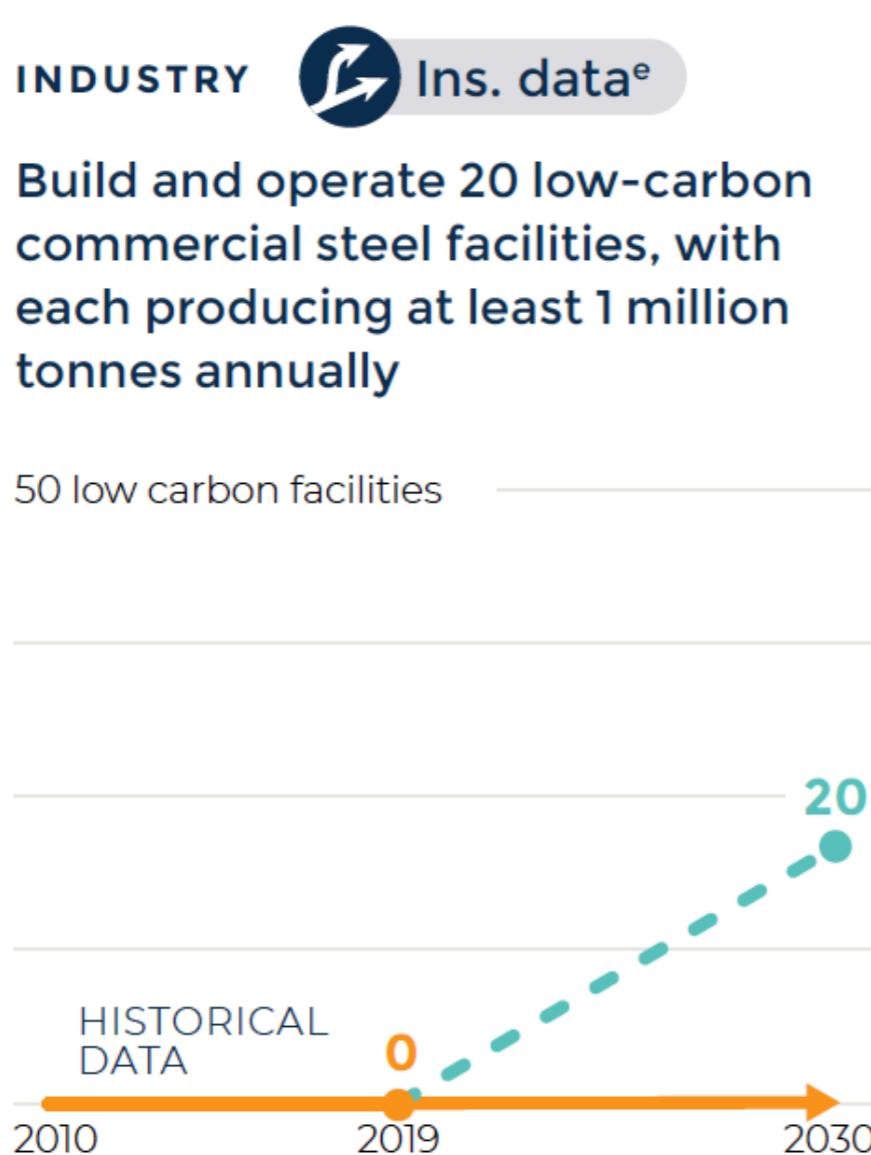


INDUSTRY  1.1x

Increase the share of electricity in the industry sector's final energy demand to 35%



Industry

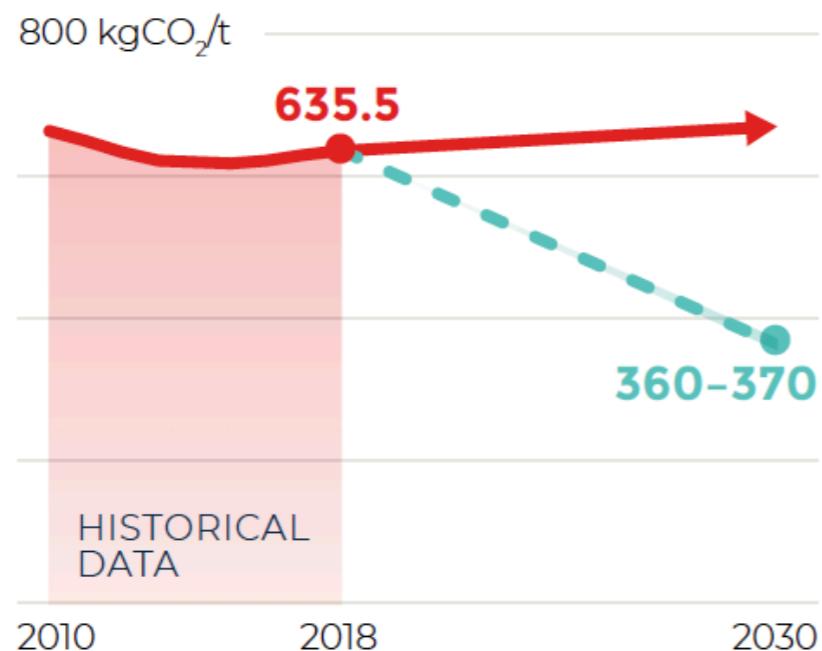


Industry



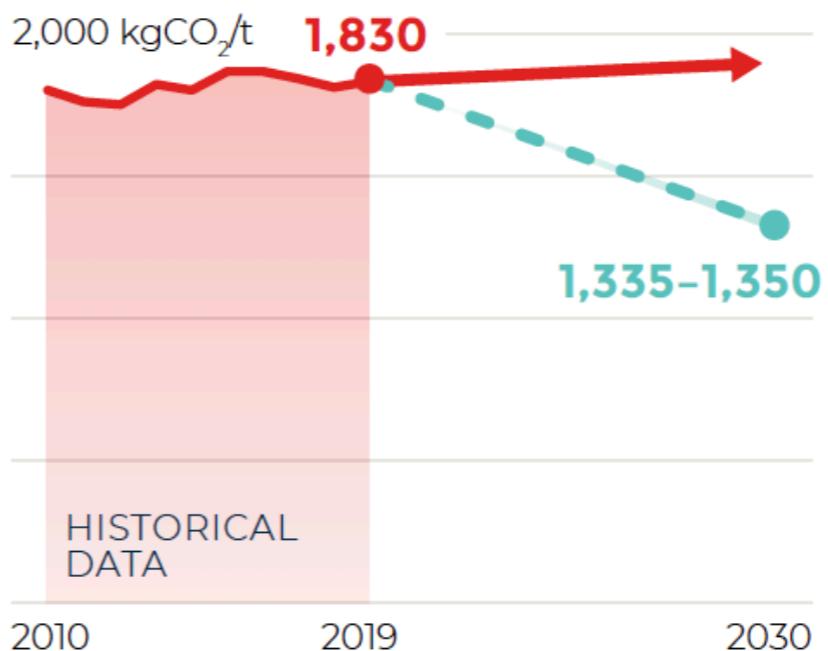
INDUSTRY  N/A

Reduce carbon intensity of global cement production by 40%, relative to 2015



INDUSTRY  N/A

Reduce carbon intensity of global steel production by 25-30%, relative to 2015



Land Use & Coastal Zone Management

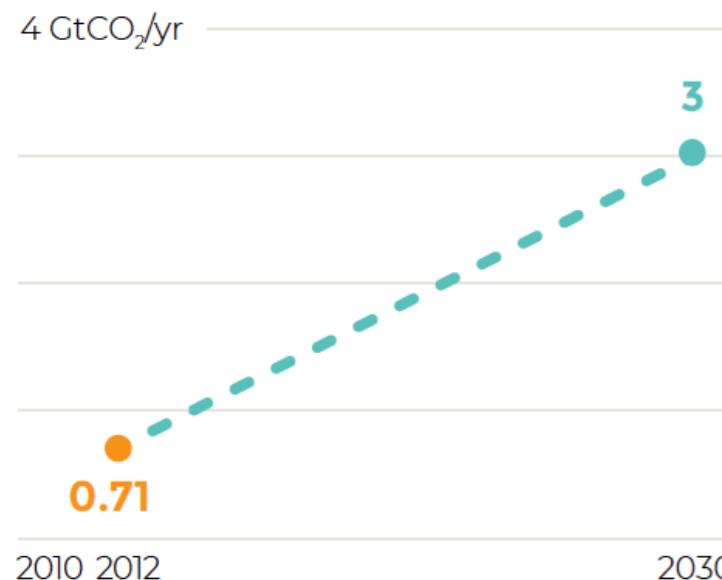


LAND USE AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT



4.2x

Remove 3.0 GtCO₂ annually through reforestation

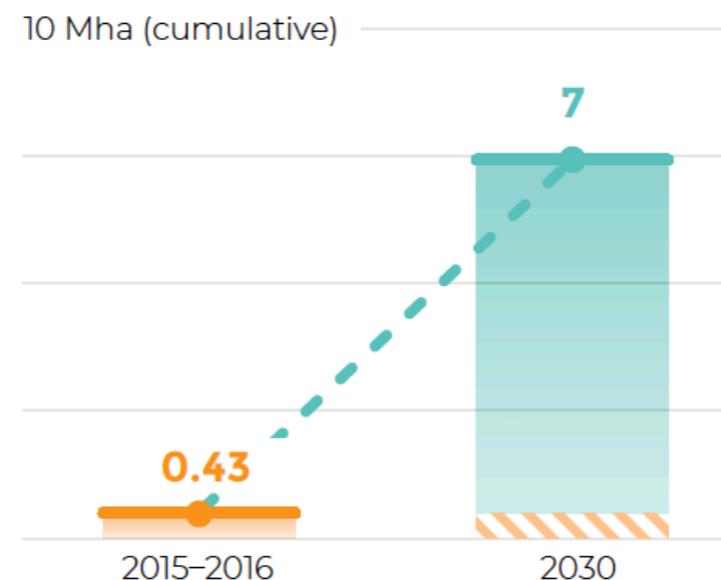


LAND USE AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT



2.7x

Restore 7 Mha of coastal wetlands, relative to 2018

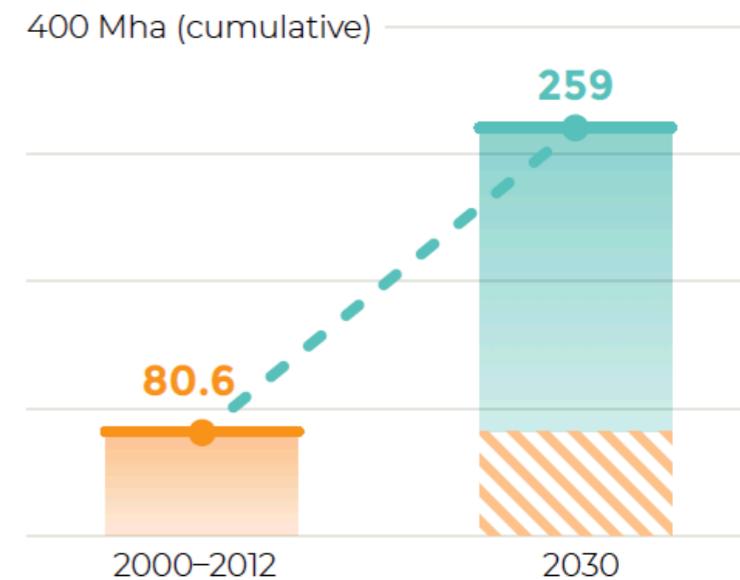


LAND USE AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT



3.2x

Reforest 259 Mha of land, relative to 2018

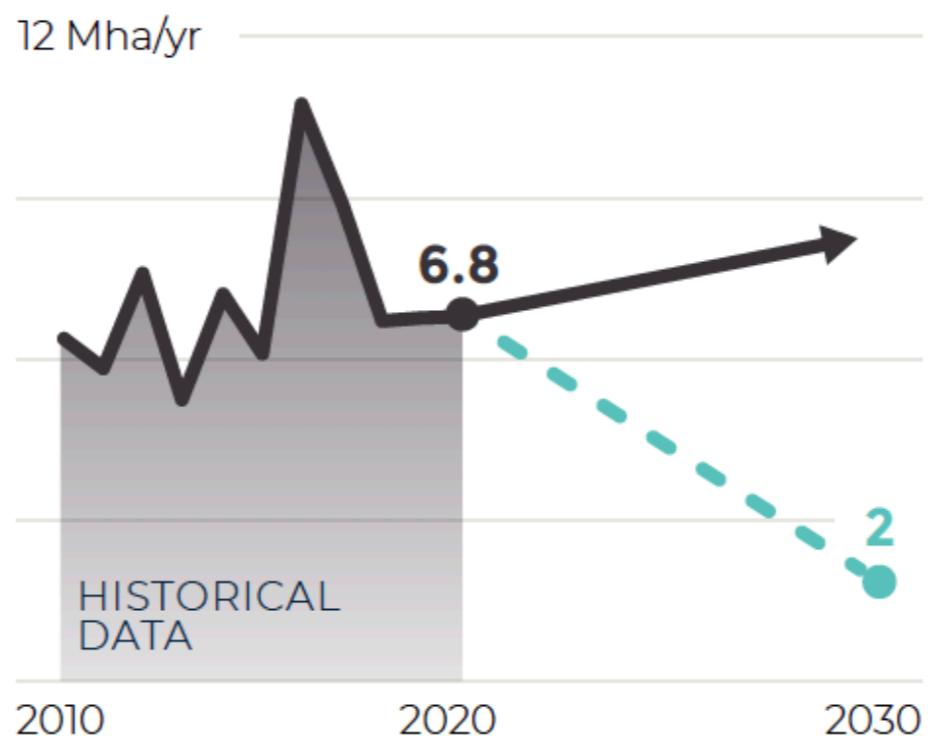


Land Use & Coastal Zone Management



LAND USE AND
COASTAL ZONE
MANAGEMENT  N/A

Reduce the rate of deforestation by
70%, relative to 2018



Land Use & Coastal Zone Management

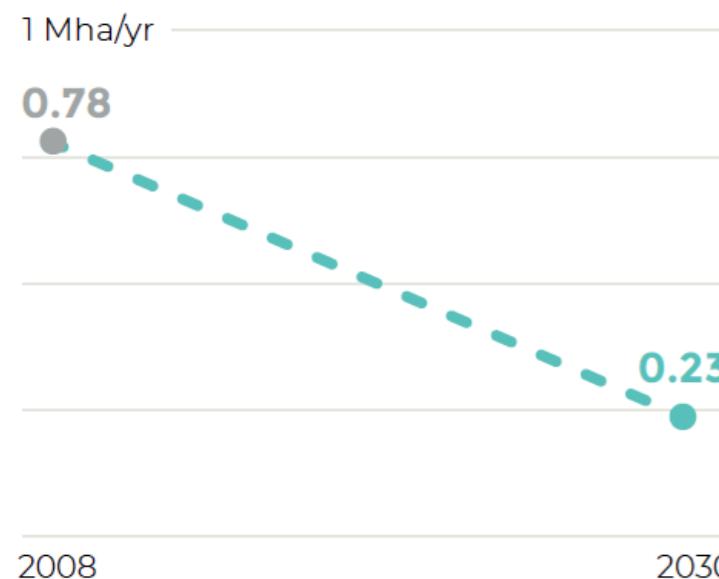


LAND USE AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT



Ins. data

Reduce degradation and destruction of peatlands by 70%, relative to 2018

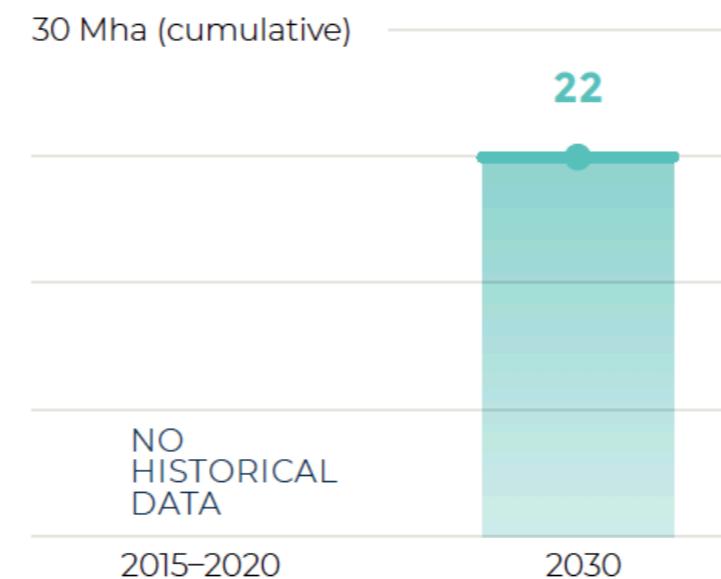


LAND USE AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT



Ins. data

Restore 22 Mha of peatlands, relative to 2018

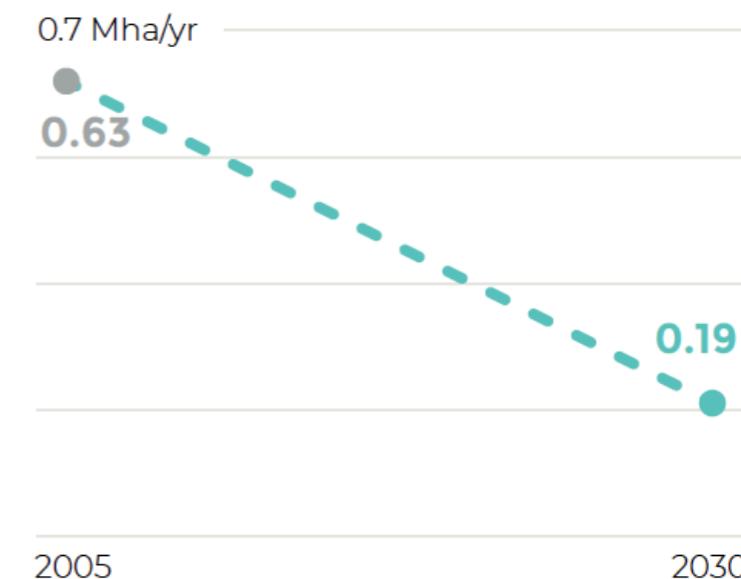


LAND USE AND COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT



Ins. data

Reduce the conversion of coastal wetlands by 70%, relative to 2018

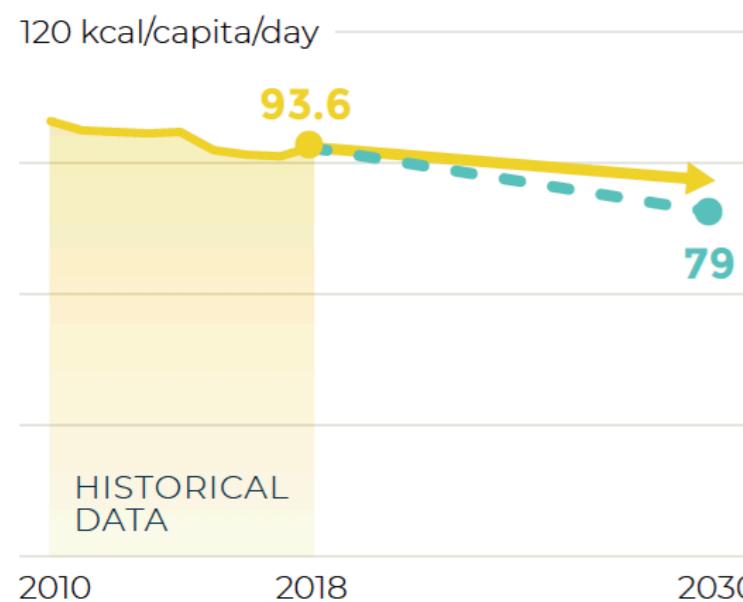


Agriculture



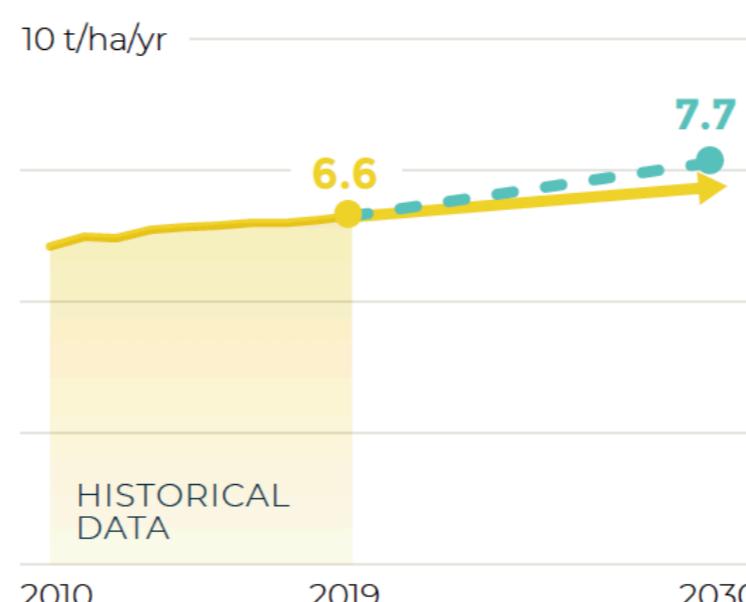
AGRICULTURE 1.5x

Reduce ruminant meat consumption in high-consuming regions to 79 kcal/capita/day by 2030^b



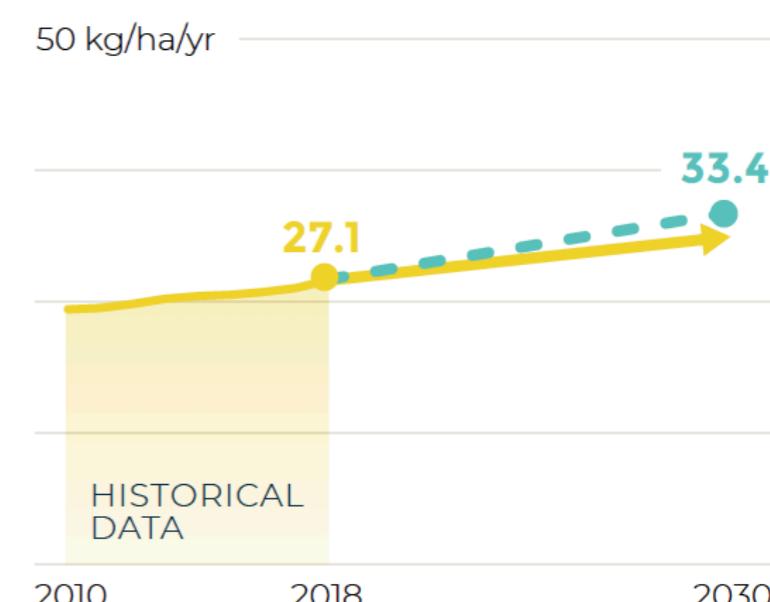
AGRICULTURE 1.9x

Increase crop yields by 18%, relative to 2017



AGRICULTURE 1.6x

Increase ruminant meat productivity per hectare by 27%, relative to 2017



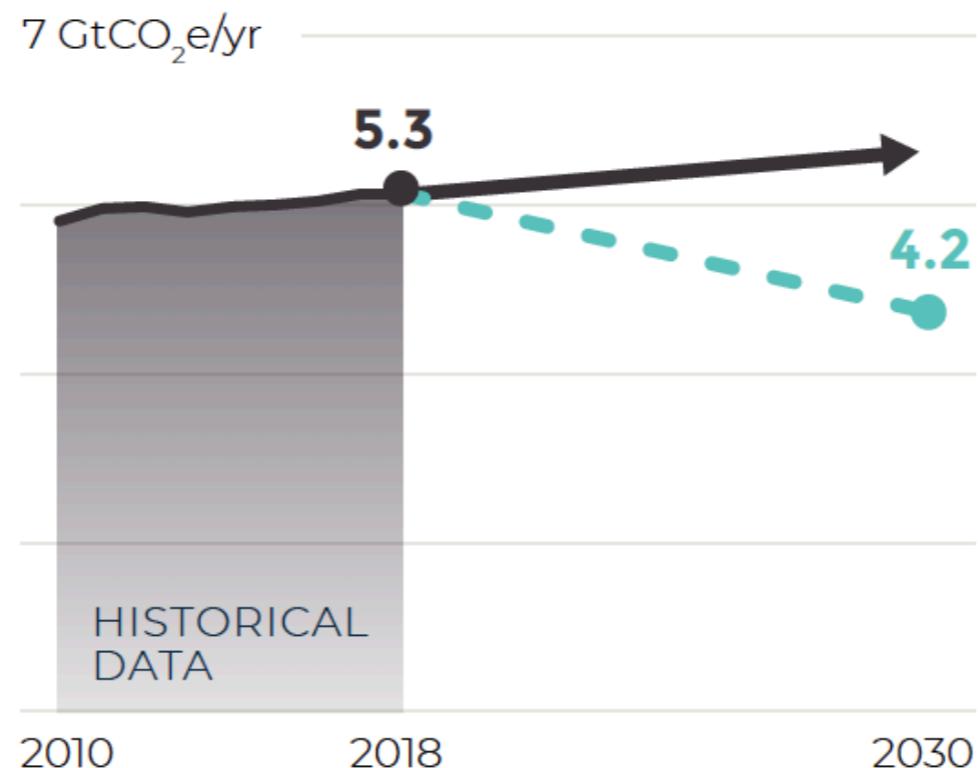
Agriculture



AGRICULTURE



Reduce agricultural production
emissions by 22%, relative to 2017

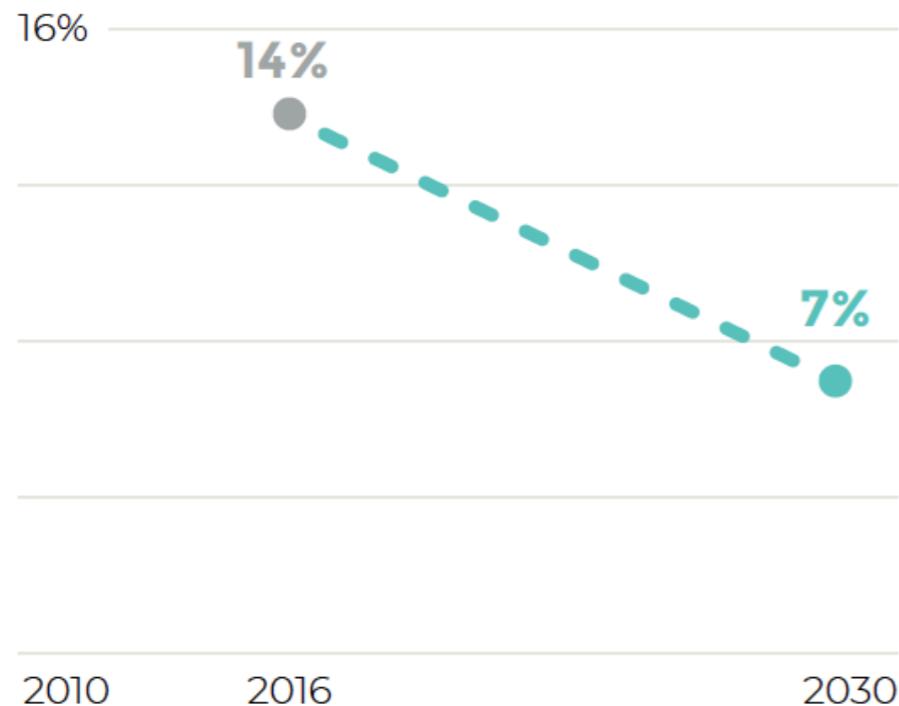


Agriculture



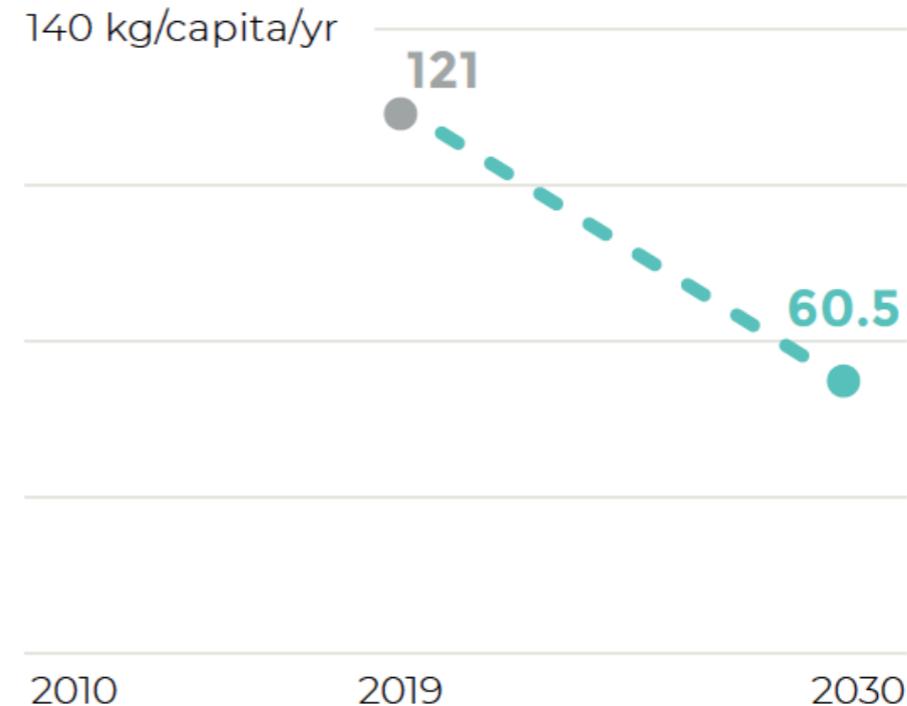
AGRICULTURE Ins. data

Reduce share of food loss by 50%, relative to 2016



AGRICULTURE Ins. data

Reduce per capita food waste by 50%, relative to 2019



Technological Carbon Removal

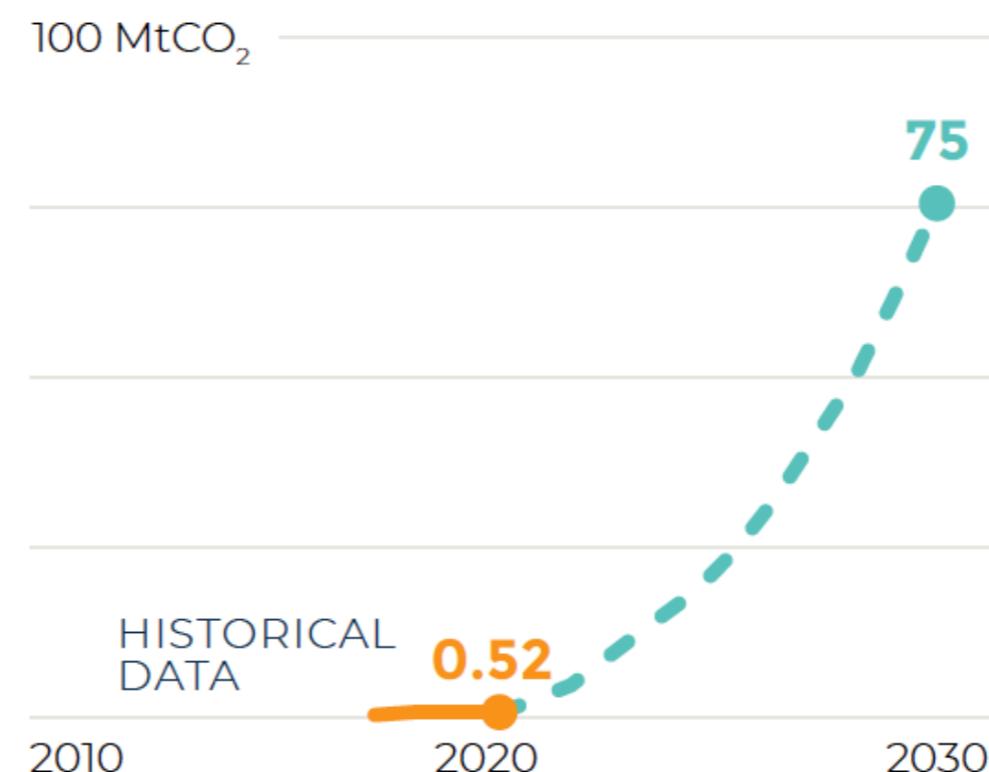


TECHNOLOGICAL
CARBON REMOVAL



N/A

Scale up technological carbon removal to 75 MtCO₂ annually

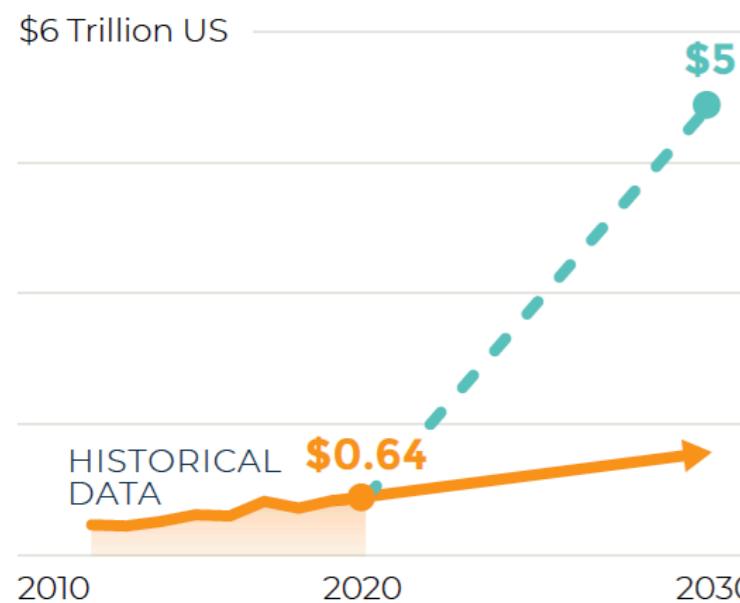


Finance



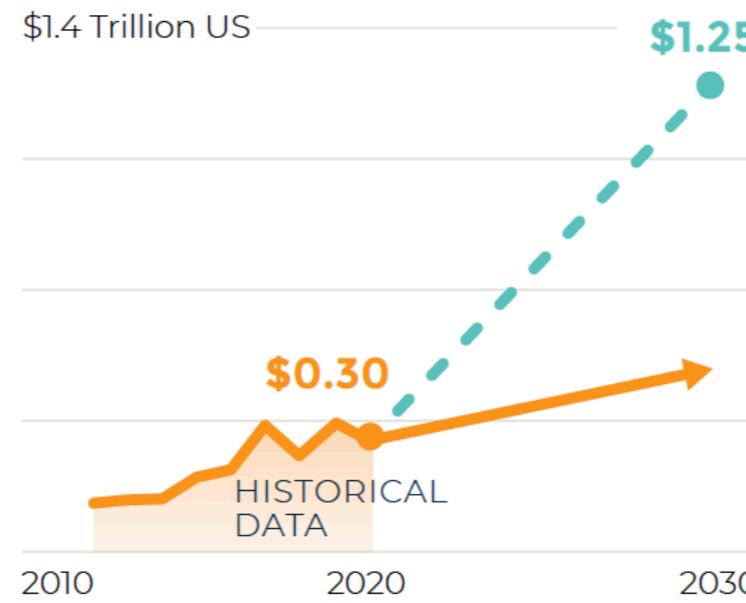
FINANCE 13x

Increase total climate finance flows to \$5 trillion per year



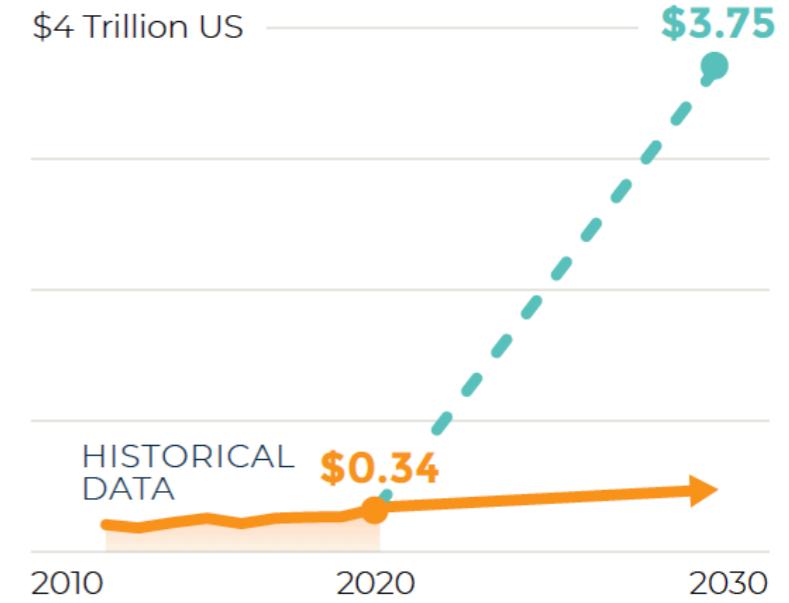
FINANCE 5x

Raise public climate finance flows to at least \$1.25 trillion per year



FINANCE 23x

Boost private climate finance flows to at least \$3.75 trillion per year

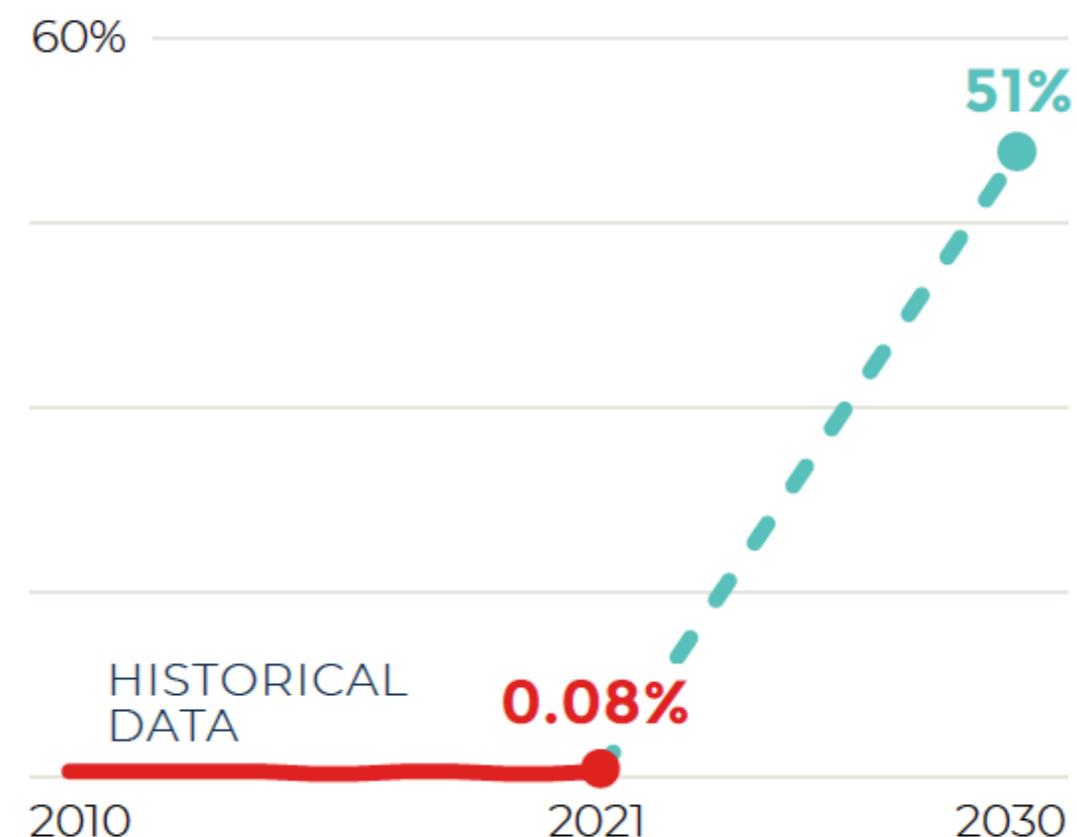


Finance



FINANCE N/A

Ensure that a carbon price of at least \$135/tCO₂e covers the majority of the world's GHG emissions



Finance

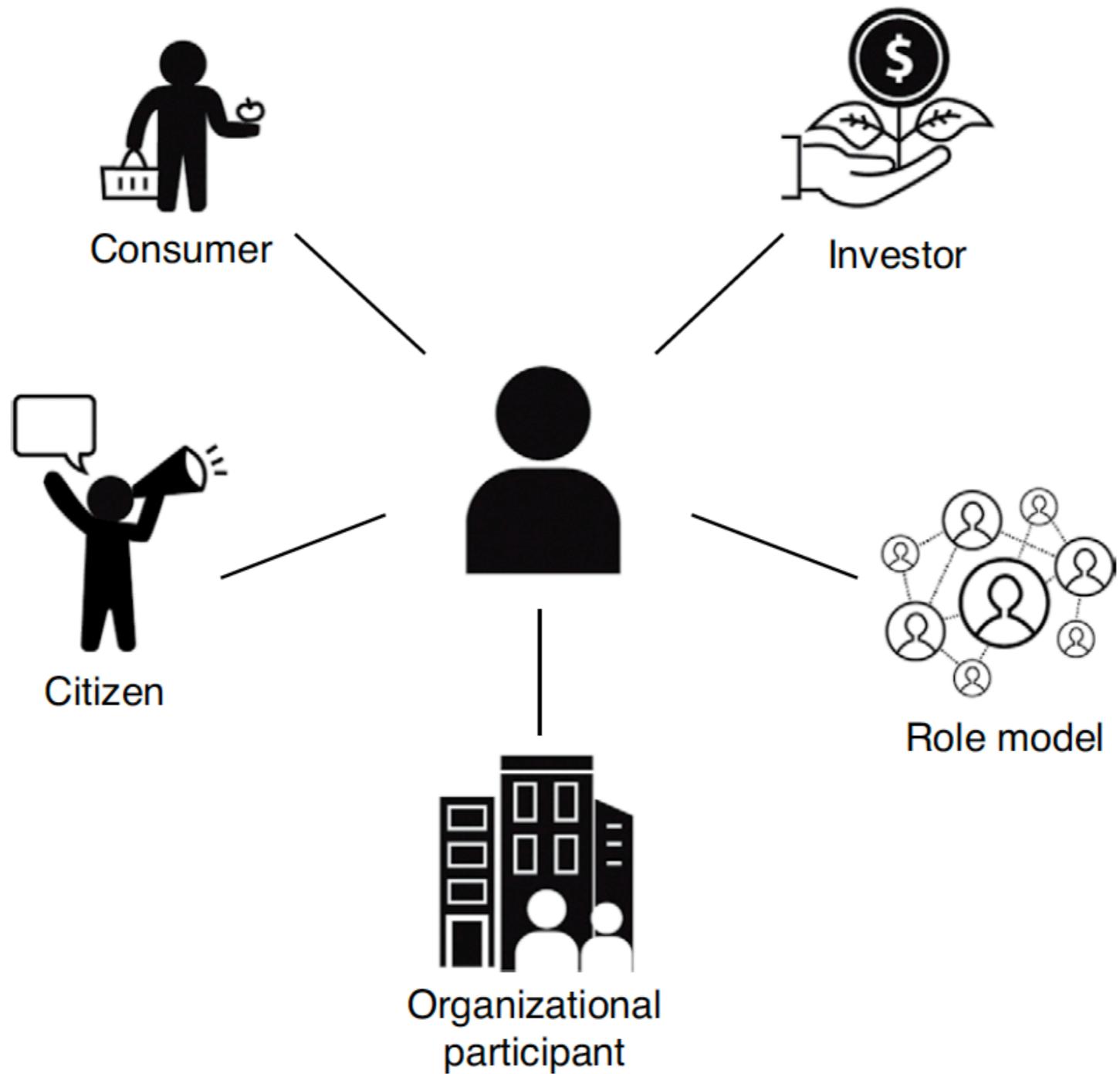


FINANCE



Ins. data

Jurisdictions representing three-quarters of global emissions mandate TCFD-aligned climate risk reporting, and all of the world's 2,000 largest public companies report on climate risk in line with TCFD recommendations



Thank You!