

Climate Change and Impacts!

Sebastian H. Mernild

Ph.D. & Dr. Scient., Professor in Climate Change and Glaciology
Head of SDU Climate Cluster, University of Southern Denmark (SDU)

IPCC Lead Author, AR6 (2018–2023)

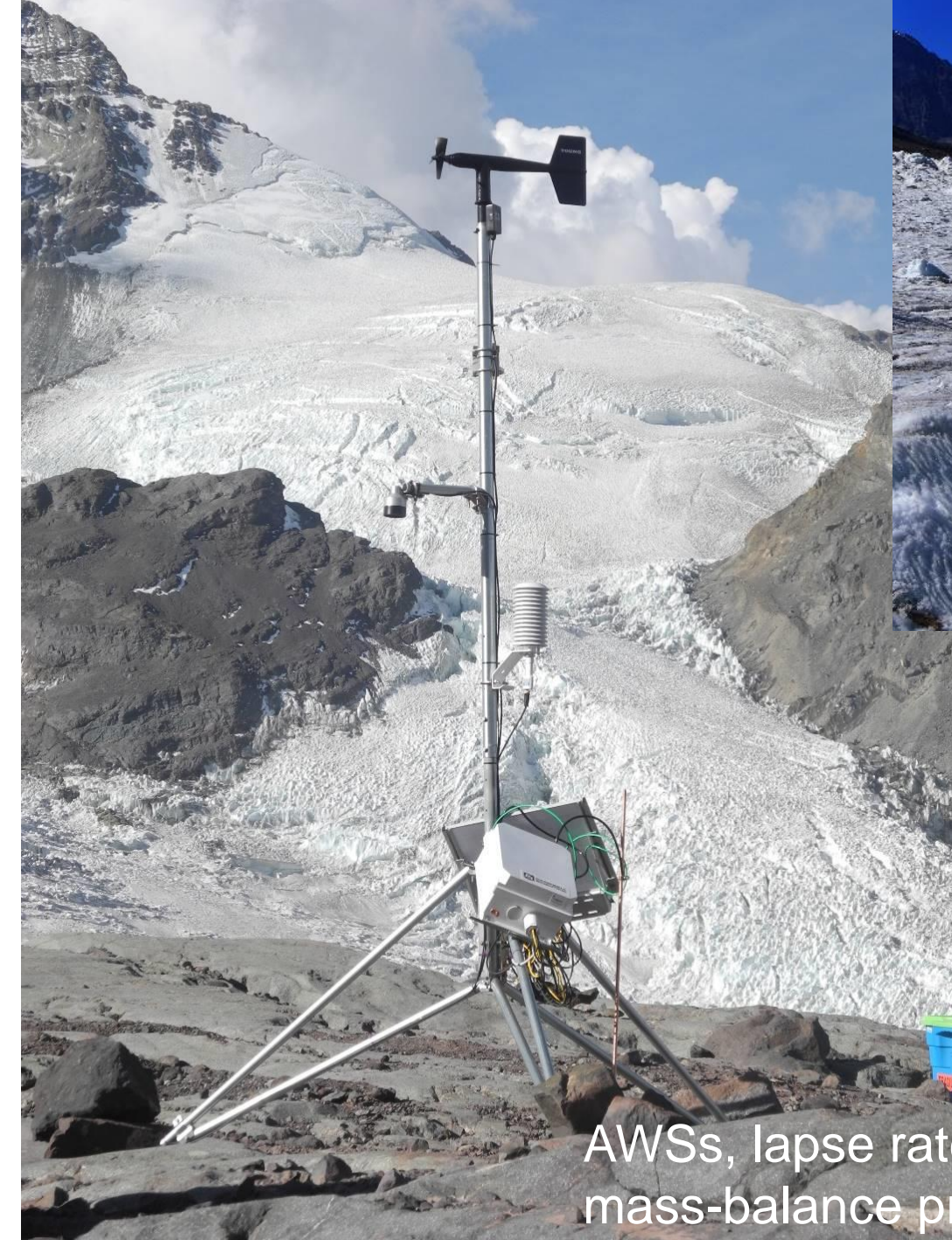
IPCC Contributing Author, AR5 (2009–2013)

SDU 

ipcc
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON
climate change
 



Hvem er vi og
hvad arbejder
vi med?



AWSs, lapse rate, and
mass-balance program

Meteorological data



Water flow



Surface albedo, debris



Photo: S. H. Mernild

Surface albedo, algae



Photo: S. H. Mernild

River runoff



Photo: S. H. Mernild

Water flow



Photo: M



Ice thickness



Photo: E. Hanna

Snow density, temperature, and structure



Glacier net balance



Photo: E. Hanna

Glacier winter balance



Photo: N. T. Knudsen

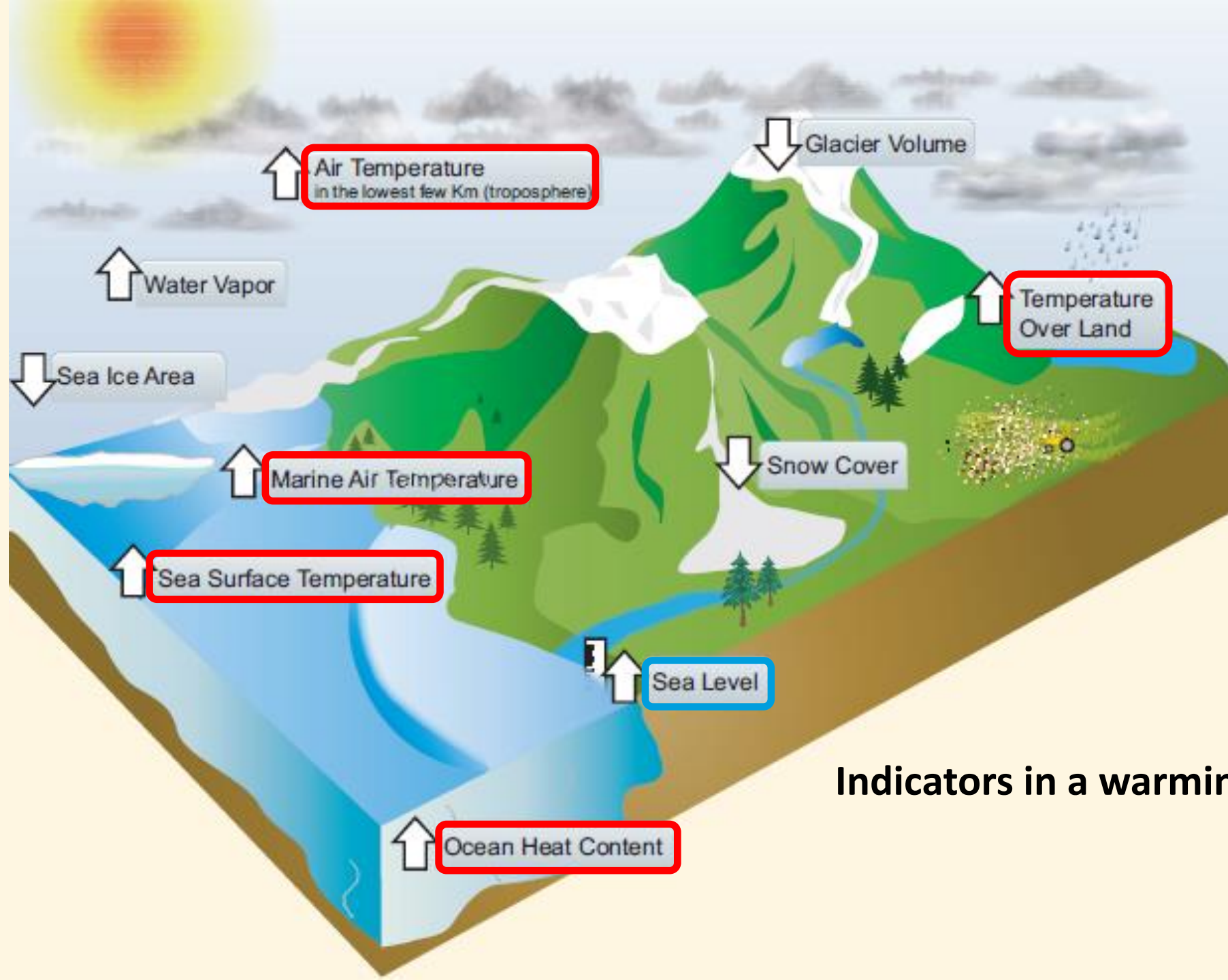
WORKING GROUP I CONTRIBUTION TO THE IPCC SIXTH ASSESSMENT REPORT

FIRST LEAD AUTHOR MEETING

GUANGZHOU, CHINA, 25-29 JUNE 2018

Hvem er vi og
hvad arbejder
vi med?





Indicators in a warming climate

- 
- What climate changes have we seen, since 1850?
 - Natural variability and impacts from El Nino/La Nina
 - When will we hit a temperature rise of 1.5 or 2.0 degrees (Paris Agreement)?
 - How much CO2 can we emit to sustain below 1.5 or 2.0 degrees?
 - Consequences?

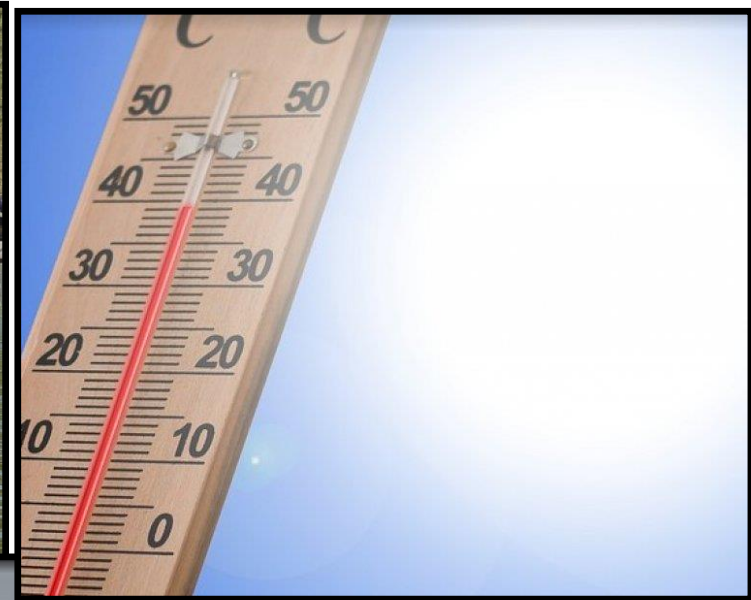
Vores klima er i forandring – også i Europa



Vores klima er i forandring – også i Europa



Vores klima er i forandring – også i Danmark



AR6 Synthesis Report: Climate Change 2023

The IPCC finalized the Synthesis Report for the Sixth Assessment Report during the Panel's 58th Session held in Interlaken, Switzerland from 13 - 19 March 2023.

[READ THE REPORT](#)

[CORE WRITING TEAM](#)

REPORT



CO₂ concentration is today higher than at any time in at least **2 million years**

Cumulative net CO₂ emissions: **About 42%** occurred between 1990–2019

Human activities have unequivocally caused global warming of **1.1°C** since 1850–1900

Surface temperature has **increased fast** since **1970**, looking back 2000 years

Human-caused climate change is **affecting extremes** in every region across the globe

Human influence was *very likely* the main driver of **sea level rise** increases, since at least 1971

There are gaps

between projected emissions from implemented policies and those from NDCs

If climate goals are to be achieved, both adaptation and mitigation **financing would need to increase many-fold**

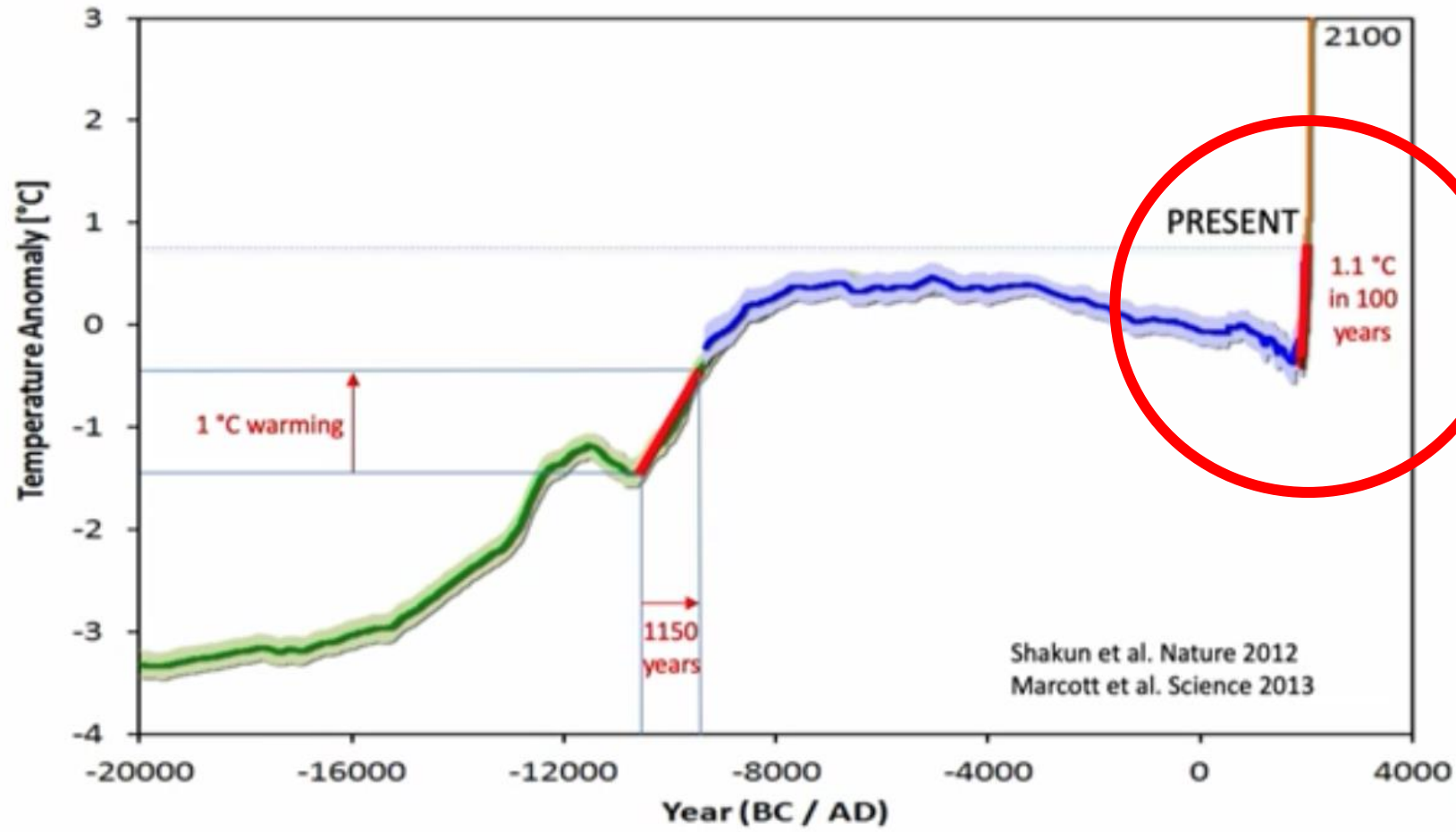
Limit warming to 1.5°C (>50%) with no/limited overshoot, **global GHG emissions are reduced by 43% by 2030**, relative to 2019

Deep, rapid, and sustained reductions in GHG emissions would lead to a **discernible slowdown in global warming** within around two decades...and

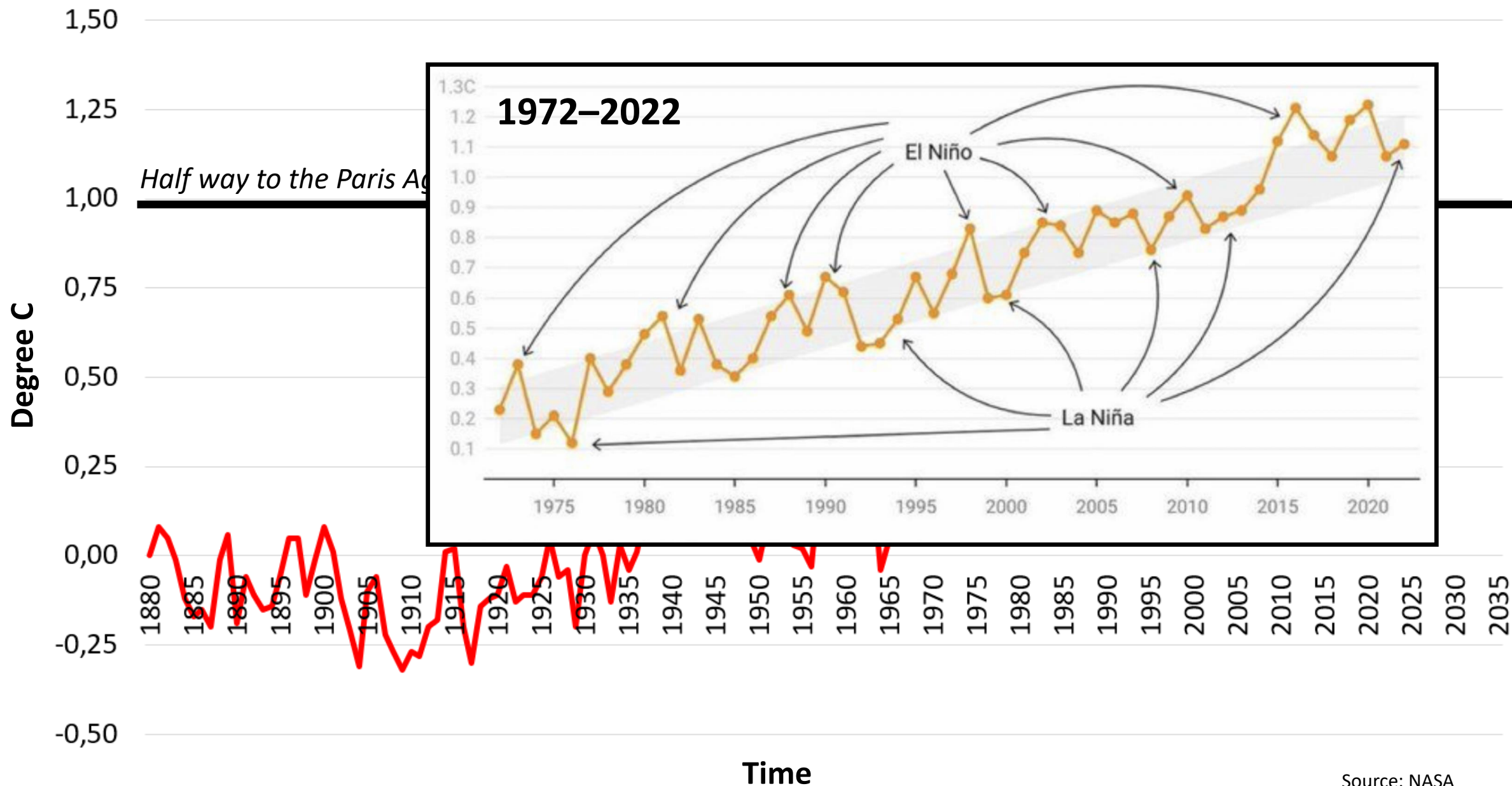
Overshooting 1.5°C will result in **irreversible adverse impacts** on certain ecosystems with low resilience

....would **reduce projected losses and damages** for humans and ecosystems

GLOBAL TEMPERATURE SINCE THE LAST ICE AGE



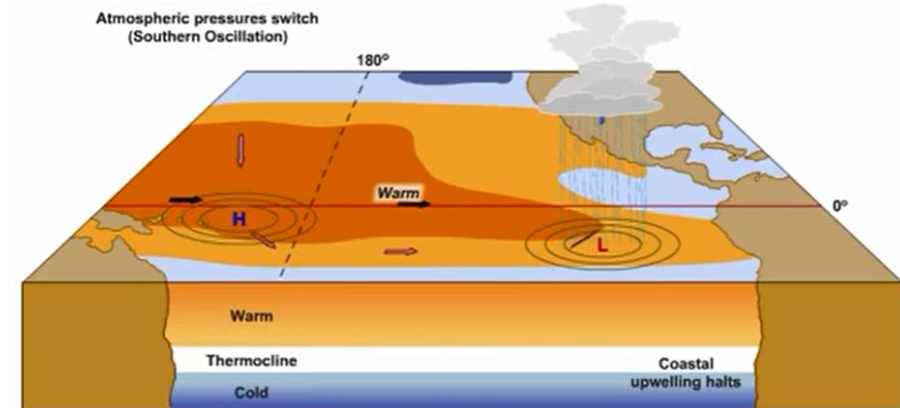
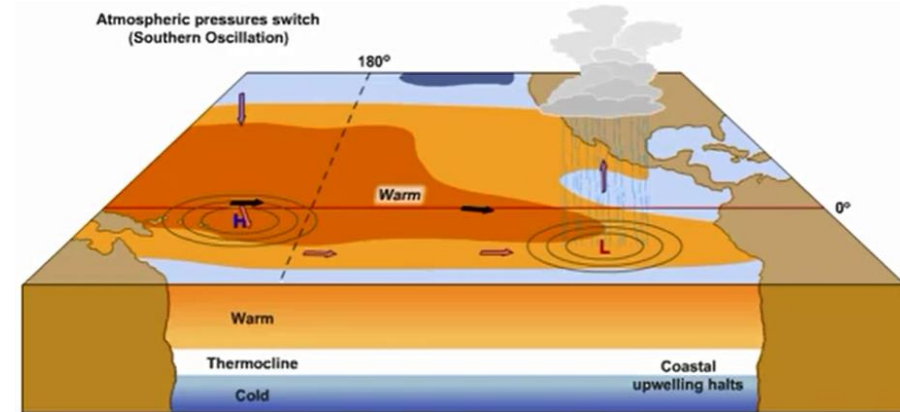
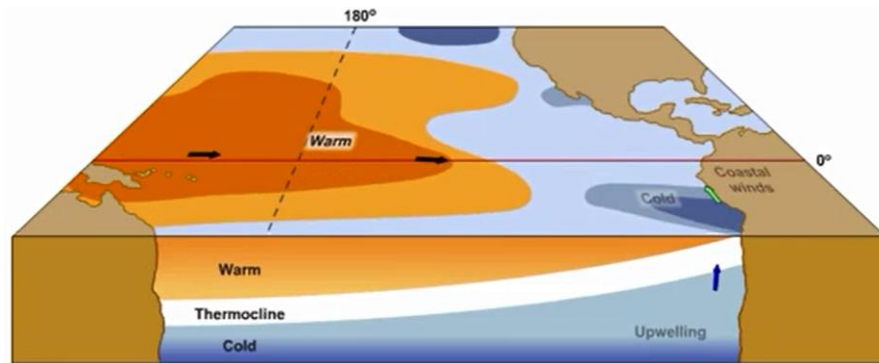
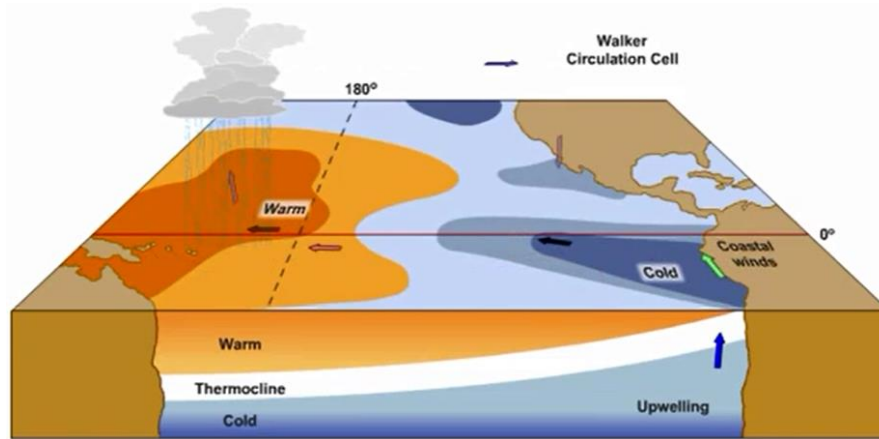
Global Mean Surface Air Temperature, 1880–2022



El Nino conditions in the Pacific Ocean

Climate Change

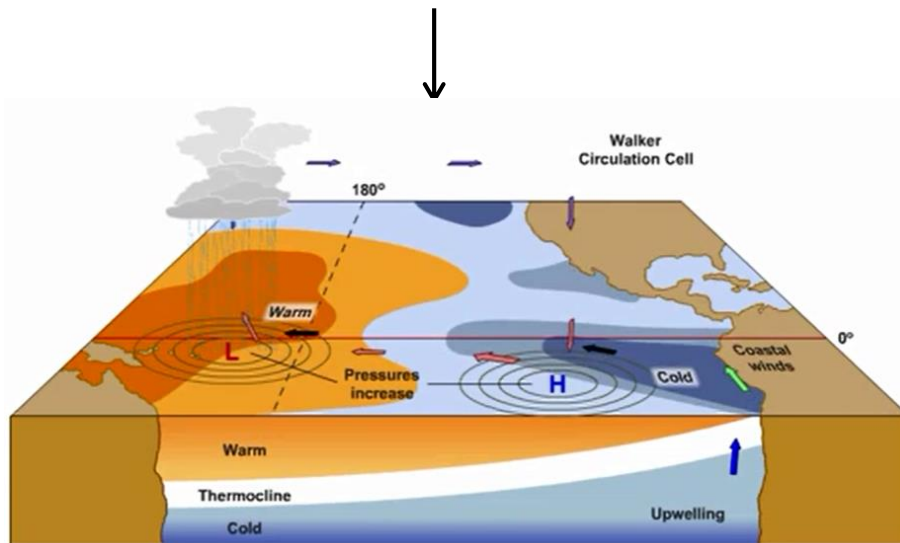
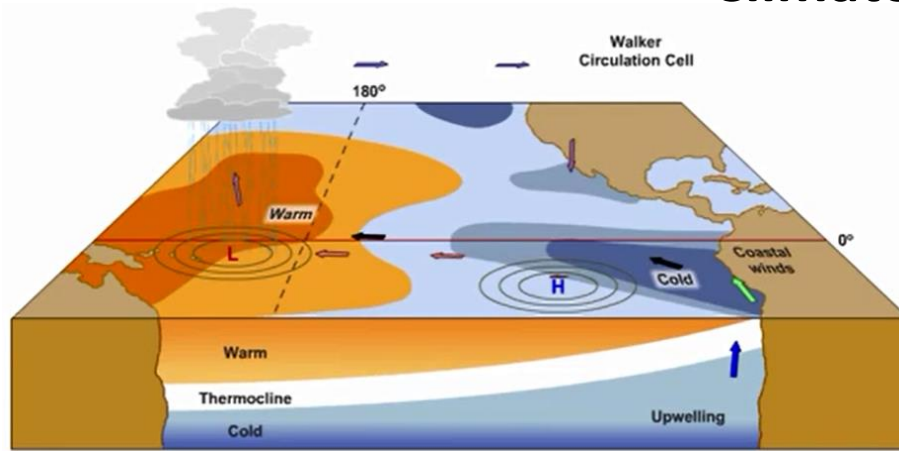
Climate Change and Climate Polity Course



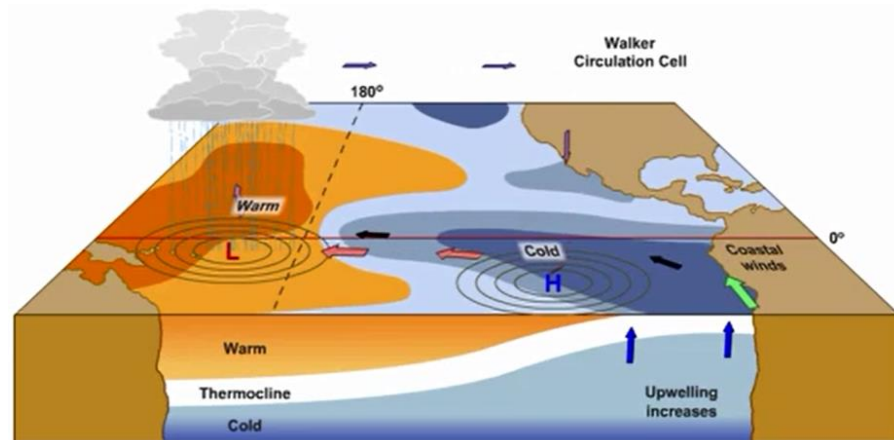
La Nina conditions in the Pacific Ocean

Climate Change

Climate Change and Climate Polity Course

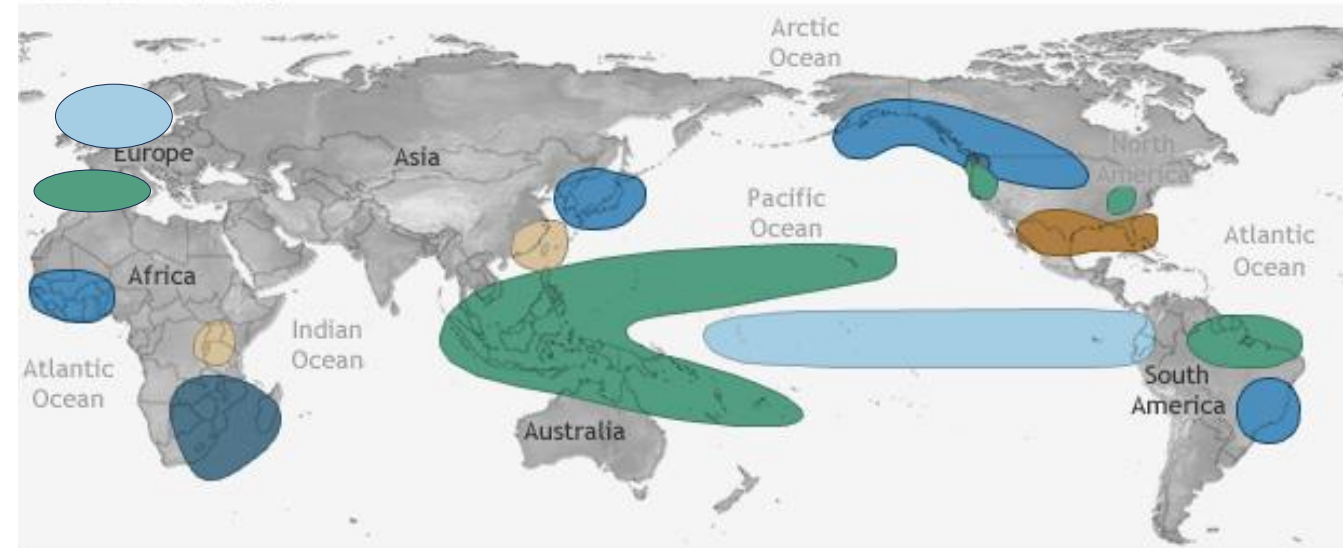


El Niño				La Niña		
Weak	Mod	Strong	Very Strong	Weak	Mod	Strong
1951-52*	1963-64	1957-58	1982-83	1950-51	1955-56	1973-74
1952-53	1986-87	1965-66	1997-98	1954-55	1970-71	1975-76
1953-54	1987-88*	1972-73	2015-16	1964-65	1998-99	1988-89
1958-59	1991-92			1967-68*	1999-00*	
1968-69*	2002-03			1971-72	2007-08	
1969-70	2009-10			1974-75	2010-11*	
1976-77				1983-84		
1977-78				1984-85		
1979-80*				1995-96		
1994-95*				2000-01		
2004-05				2011-12		
2006-07						

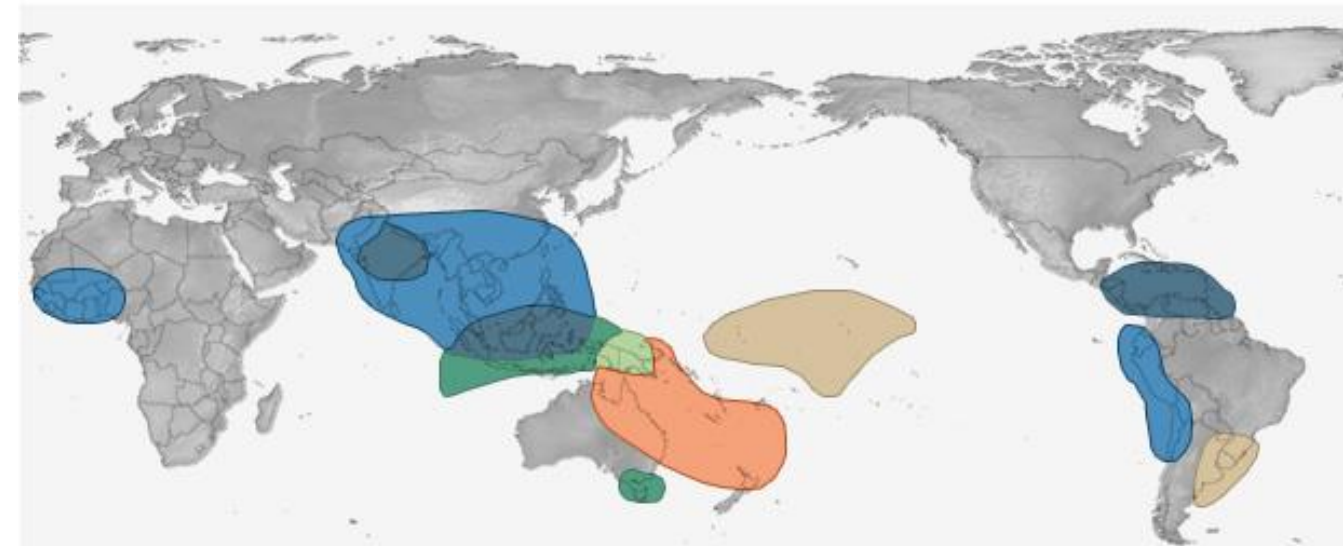


LA NIÑA CLIMATE IMPACTS

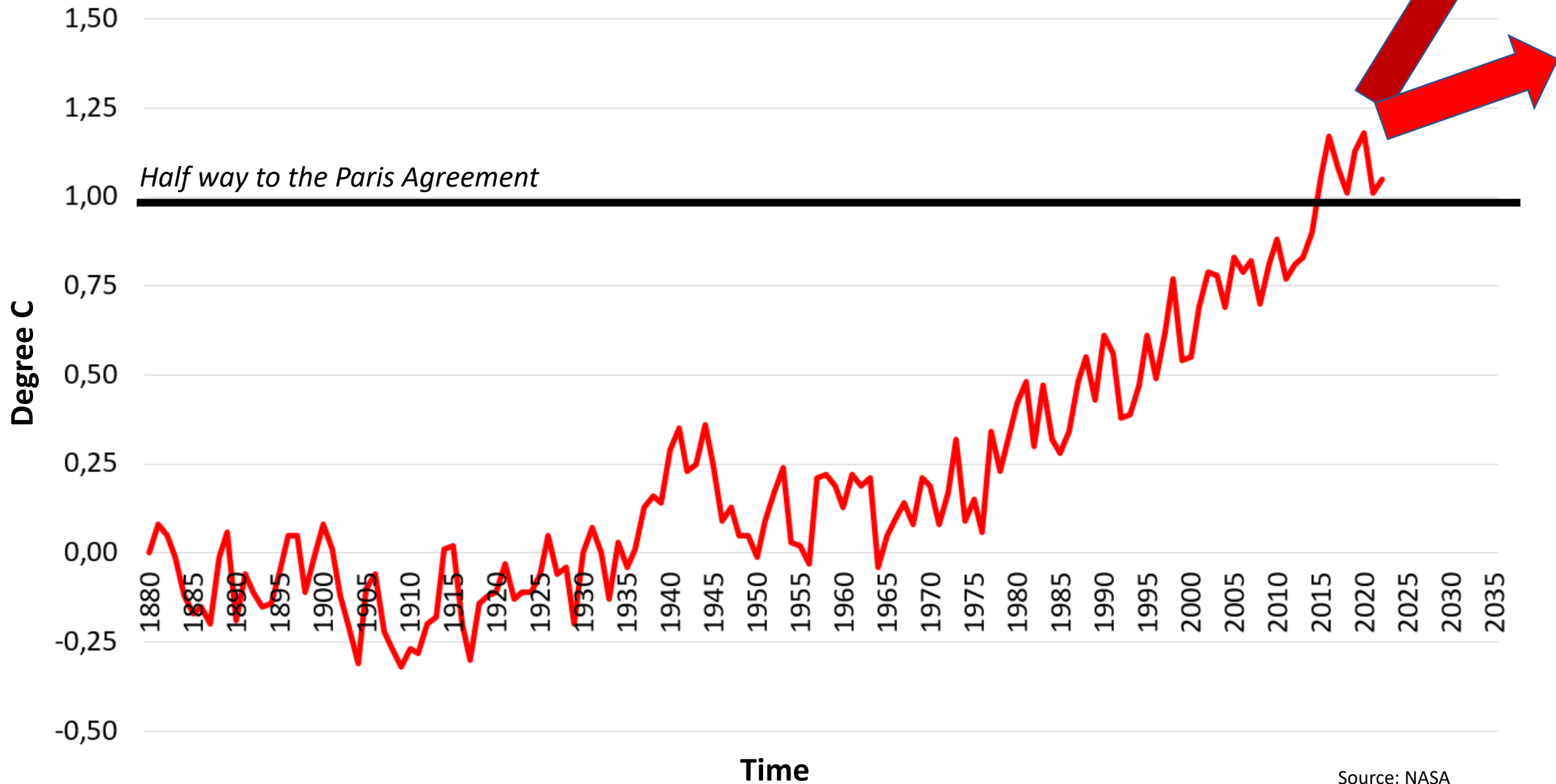
December-February



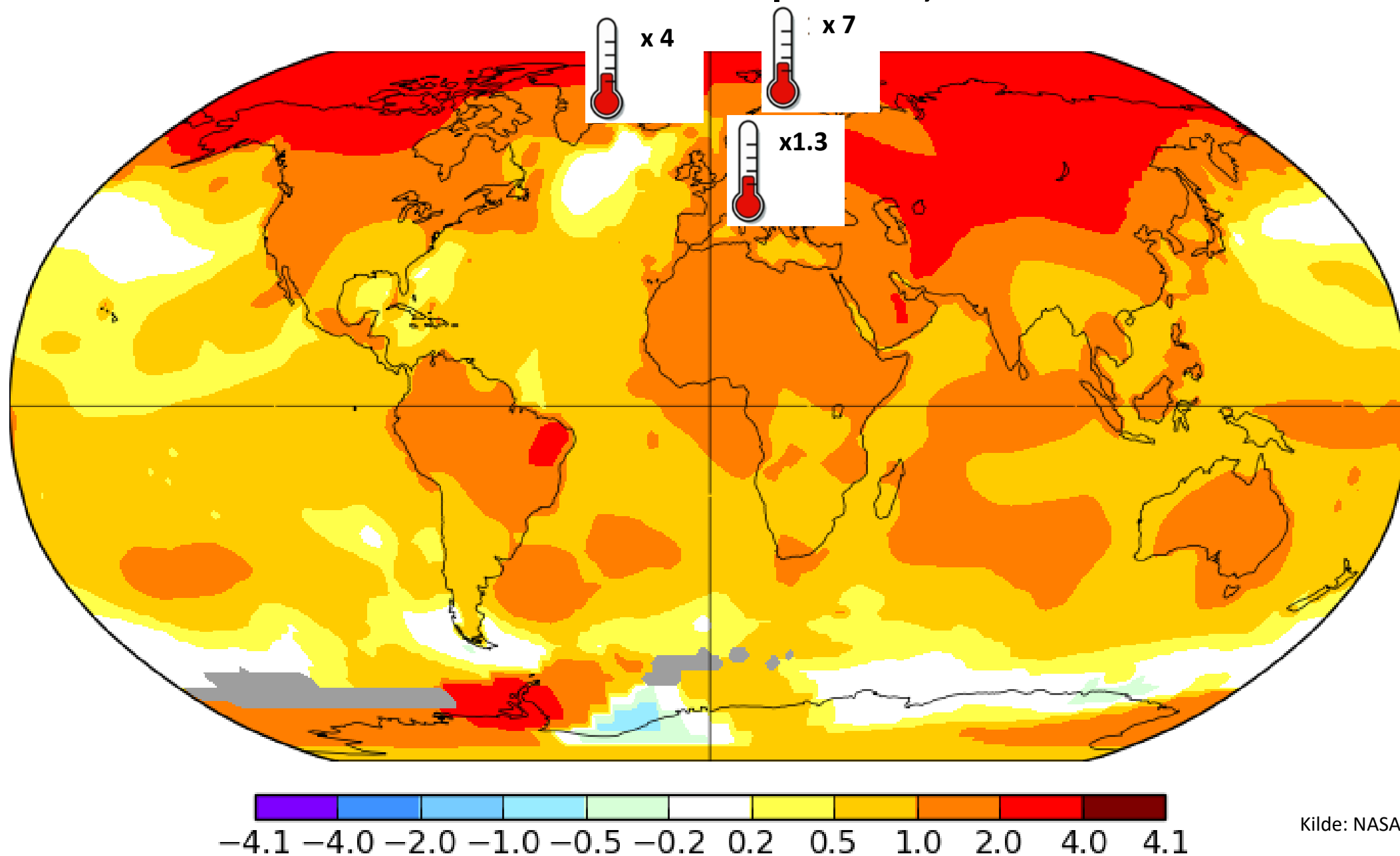
June-August

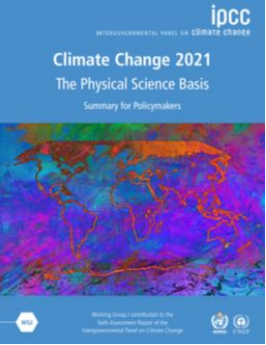


Global Mean Surface Air Temperature, 1880–2022



Global Mean Surface Air Temperature, 1880–2022

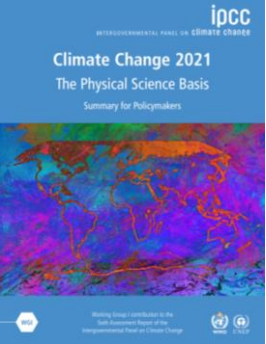




It is **unequivocal** that **human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land**. Widespread and rapid changes in the atmosphere, ocean, cryosphere and biosphere have occurred.

Global surface temperature was **1.09°C** higher in 2011–2020 than 1850–1900 (pre-industrial).

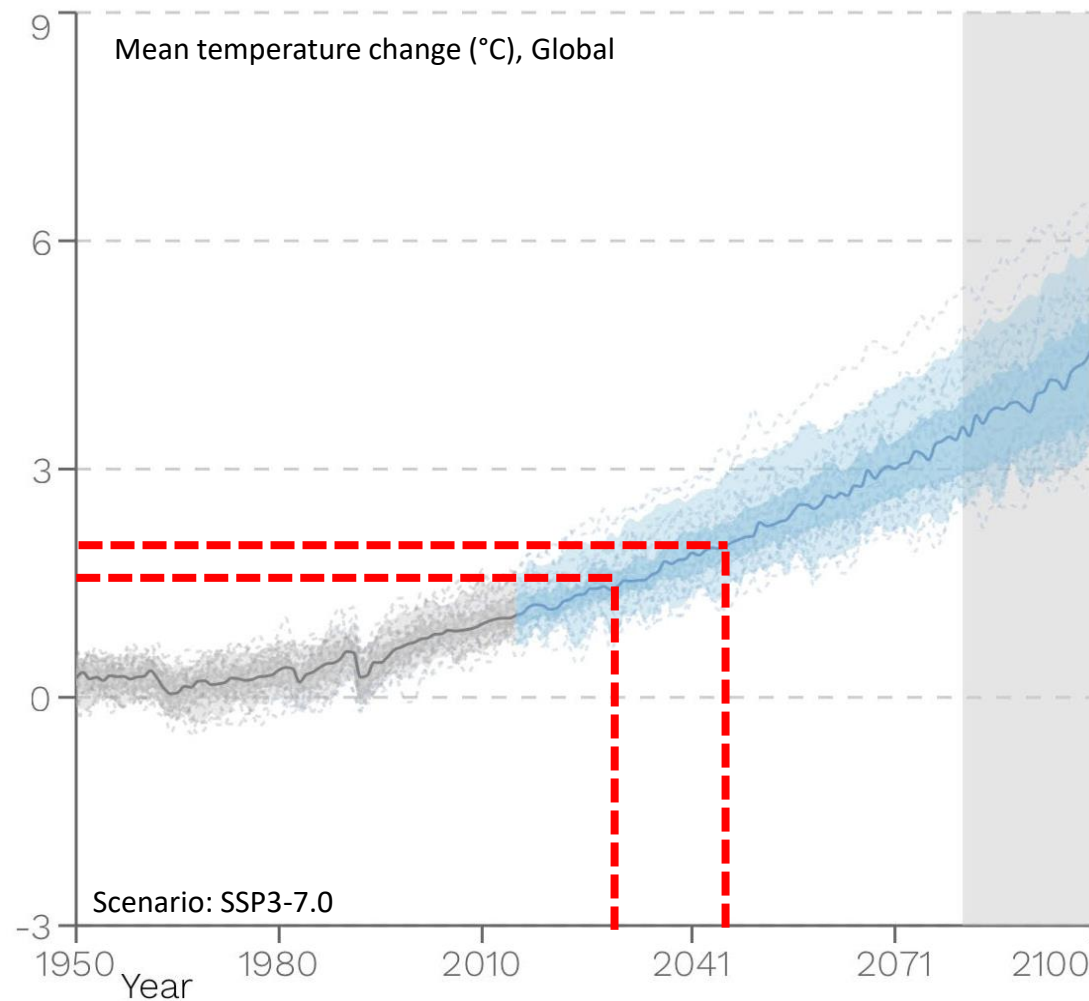
The *likely* range of total human-caused global surface temperature increase from 1850–1900 to 2010–2019, with a best estimate of **1.07°C**.



Global surface temperature has **increased faster since 1970** than in any other 50-year period over at least the last 2000 years.

It is *virtually certain* that **hot extremes** have become more frequent **and more intense** across most land regions since the 1950s, while cold extremes have become less frequent and less severe.

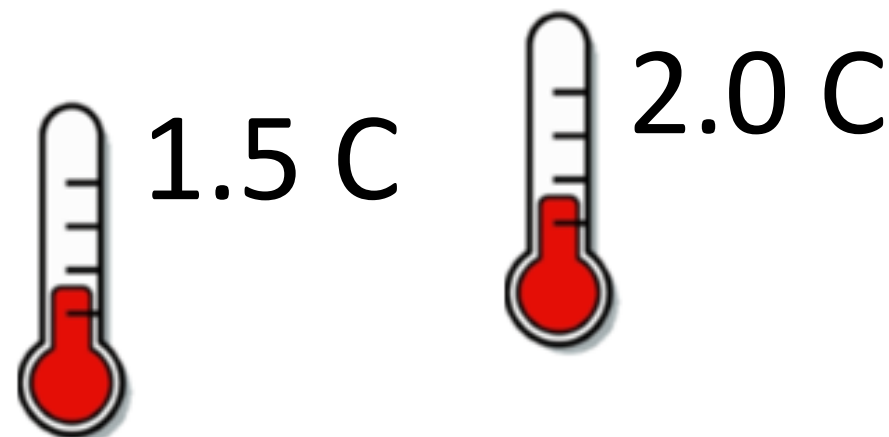
Some recent hot extremes observed over the past decade would have been *extremely unlikely* to occur without human influence on the climate system.



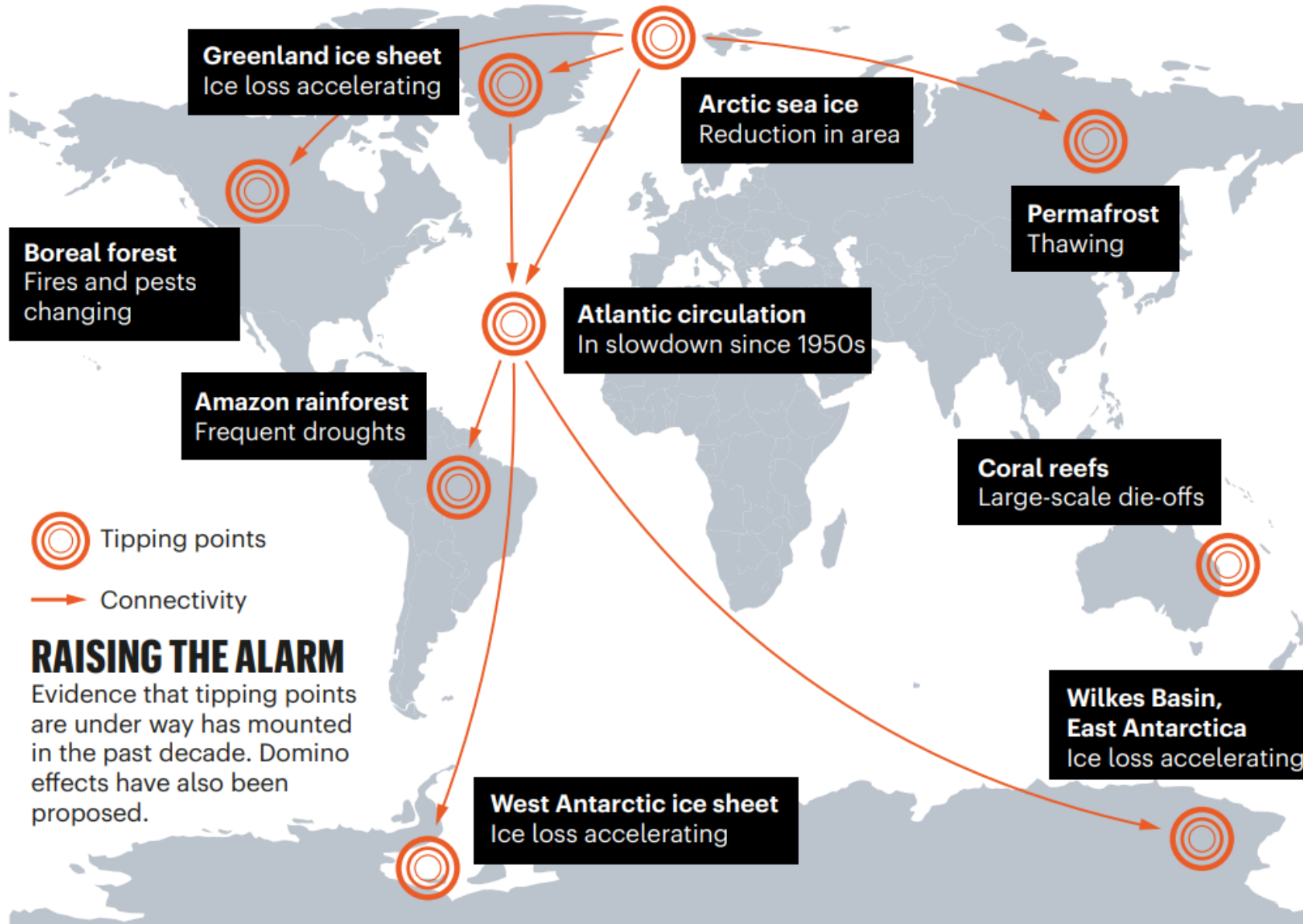
Dotted line: Model
Solid line: P50 (Median)
Gray shading: Selected period
Light / dark area: Spread P10-P90 / P25-75

Without a
strengthening of
policies, **global
warming of 3.2°C** is
projected by 2100:
Overshoot will occur

The best estimate of reaching 1.5°C of
global warming lies in the **first half of
the 2030s**

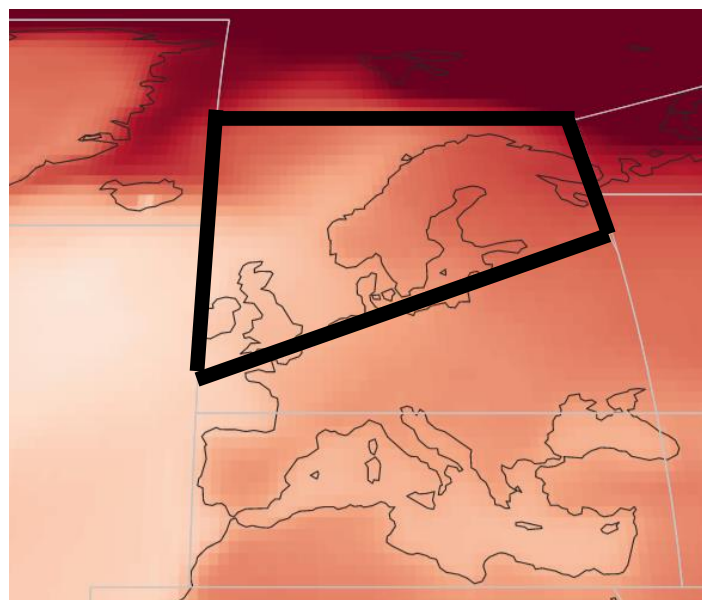


Evidence that tipping points are under way...

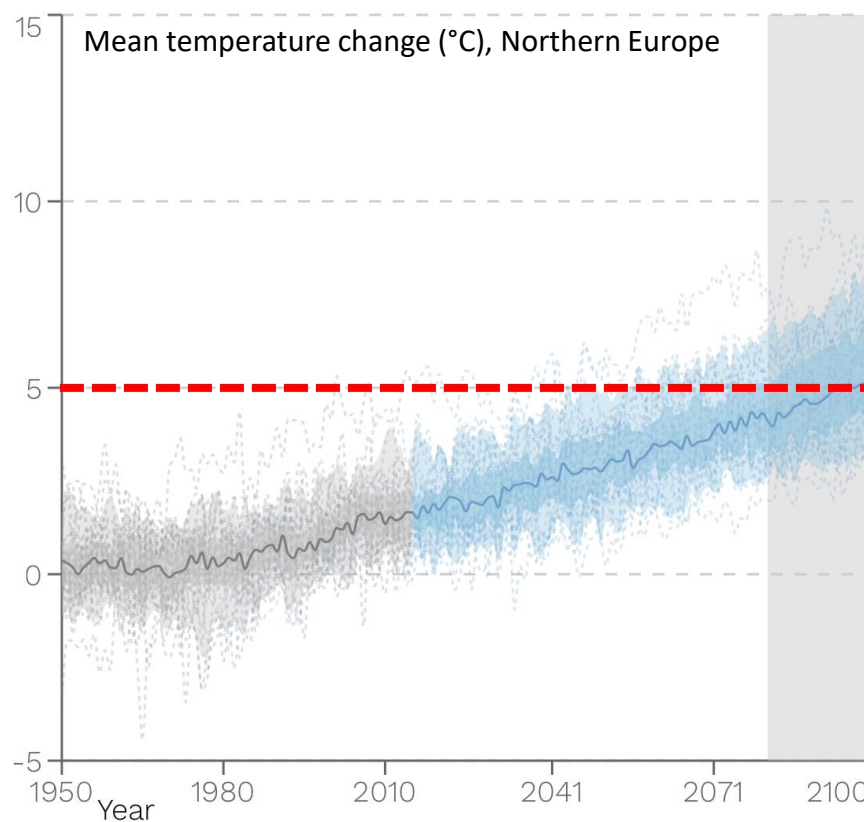


Risks associated with large-scale singular events or ***tipping points***, such as ice sheet instability or ecosystem loss from tropical forests, **transition to high risk between 1.5°C–2.5°C (medium confidence) and to very high risk between 2.5°C–4.0°C (low confidence).**

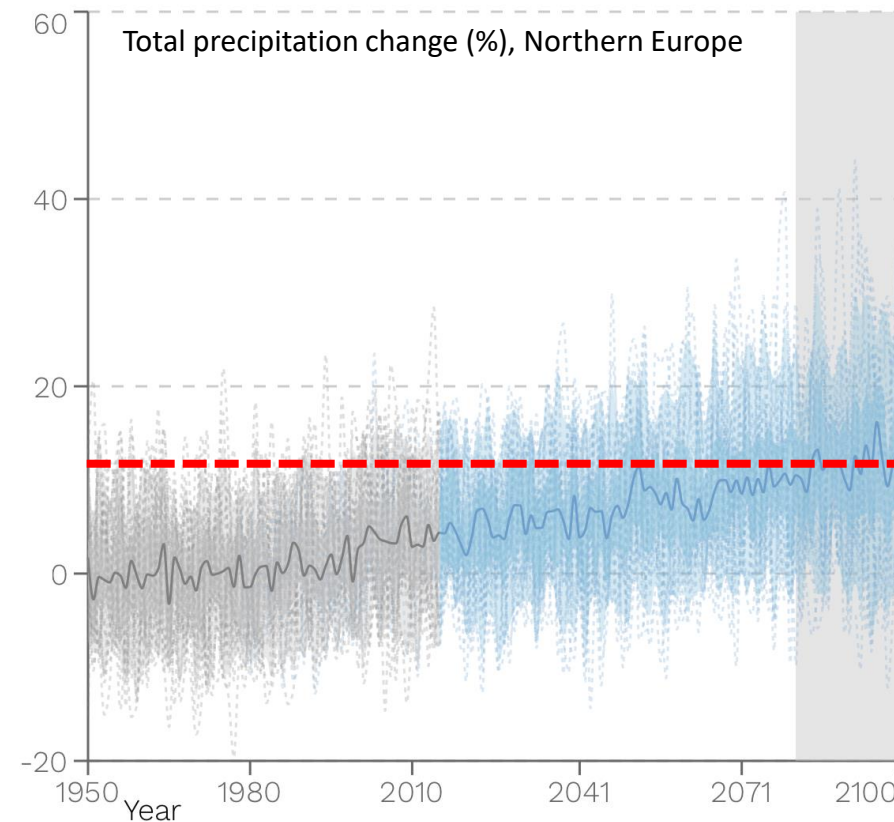
Region: Northern Europe



Realistic: SSP3-7.0

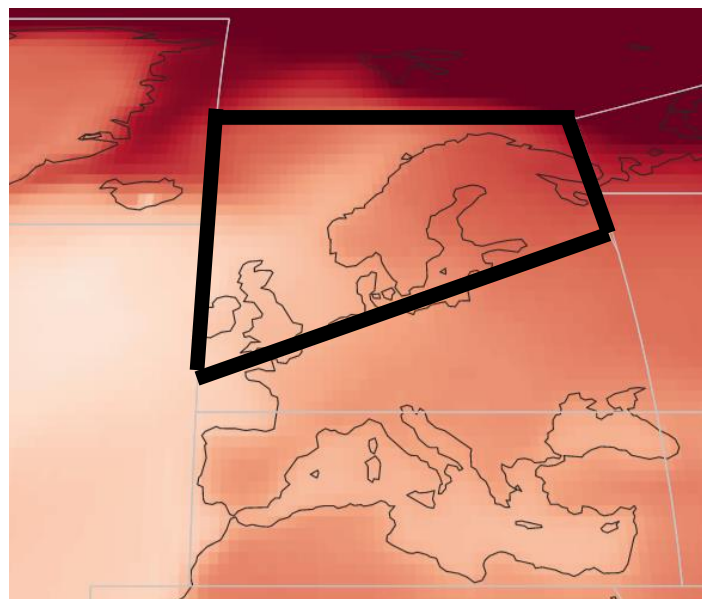


Dotted line: Model
Solid line: P50 (Median)
Gray shading: Selected period
Light / dark area: Spread P10-P90 / P25-75

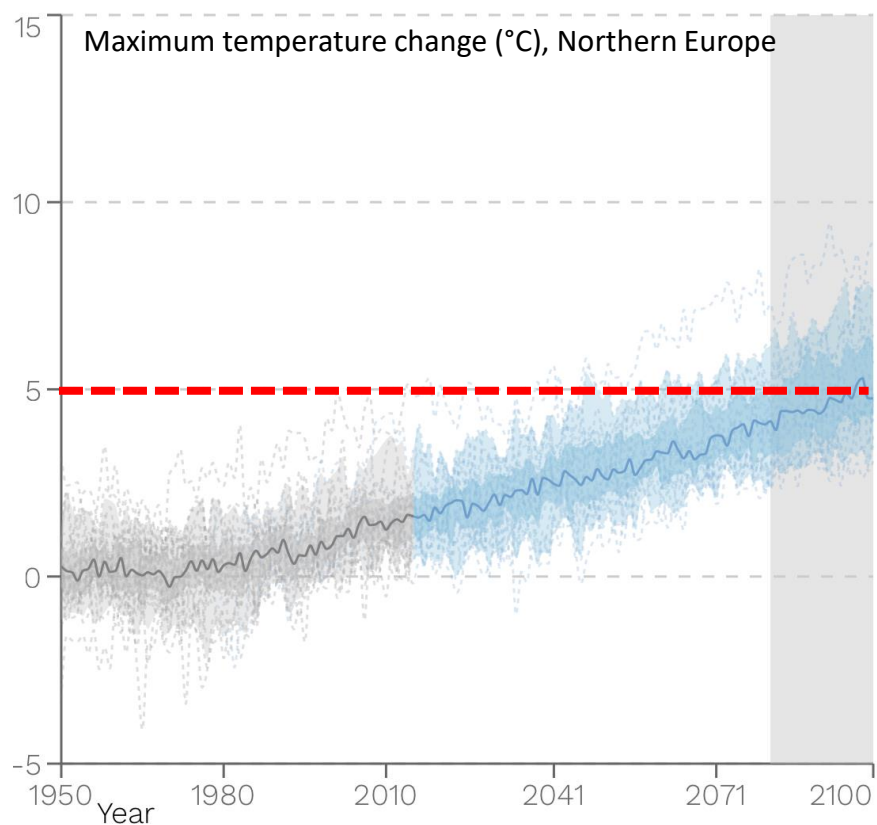


Dotted line: Model
Solid line: P50 (Median)
Gray shading: Selected period
Light / dark area: Spread P10-P90 / P25-75

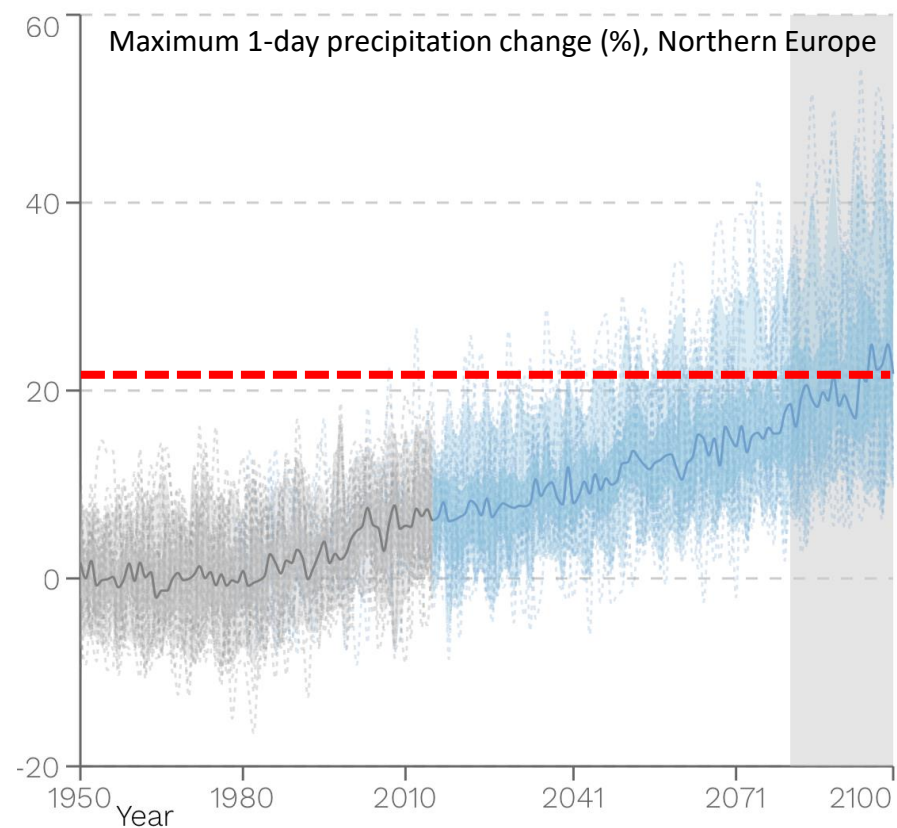
Region: Northern Europe



Realistic: SSP3-7.0

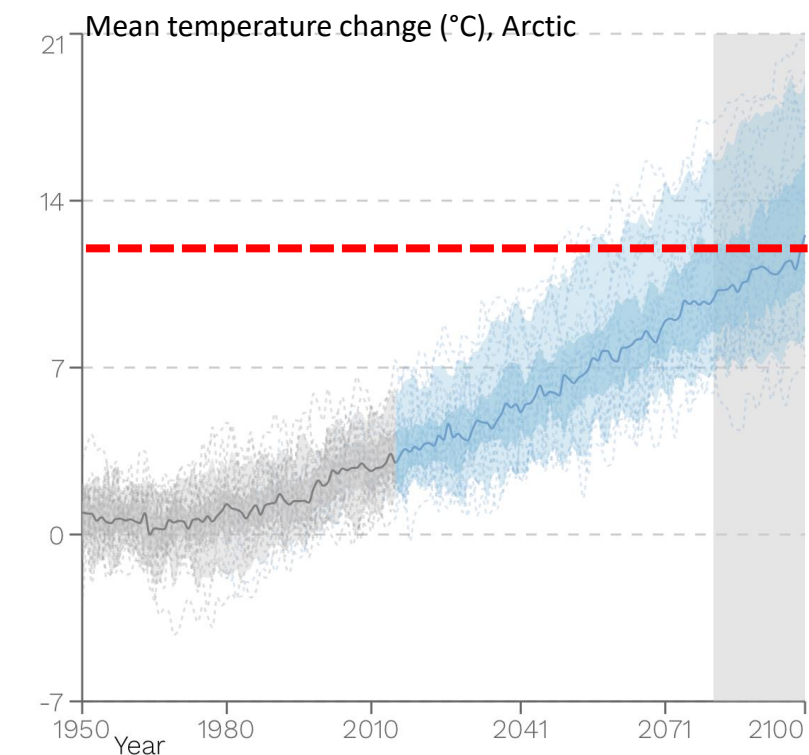
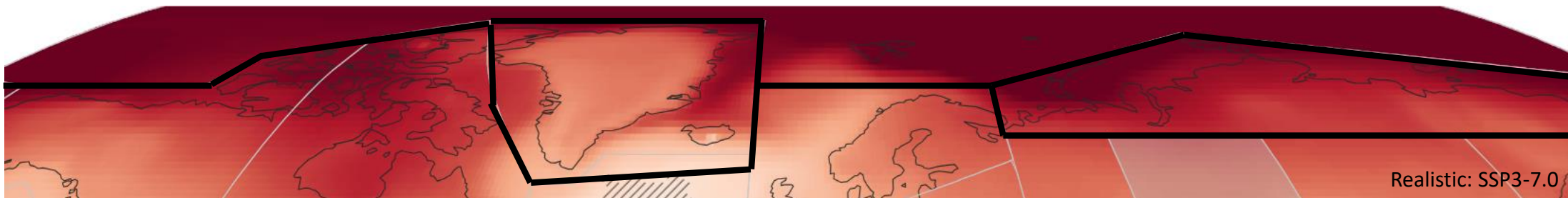


Dotted line: Model
Solid line: P50 (Median)
Gray shading: Selected period
Light / dark area: Spread P10-P90 / P25-75

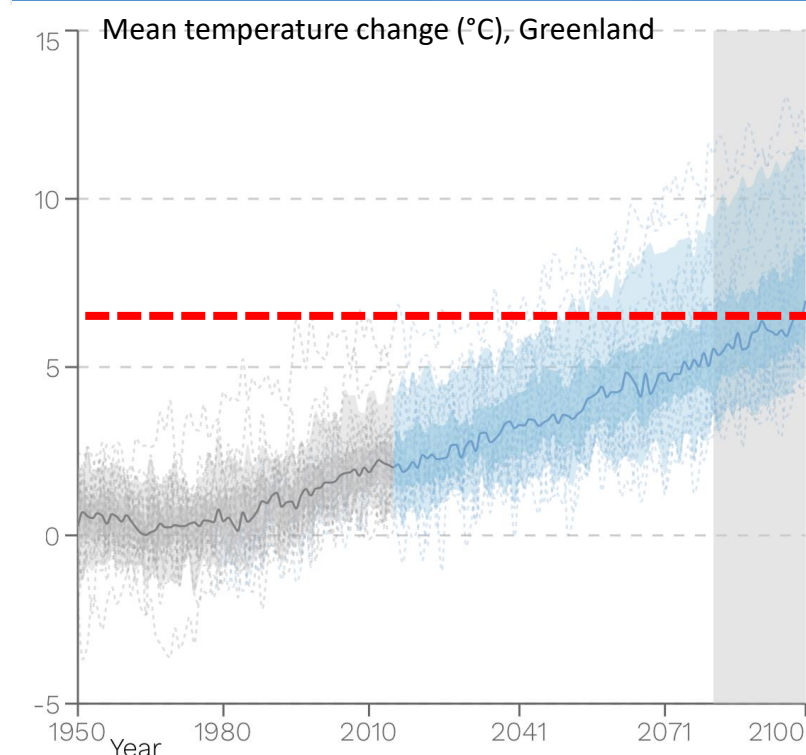


Dotted line: Model
Solid line: P50 (Median)
Gray shading: Selected period
Light / dark area: Spread P10-P90 / P25-75

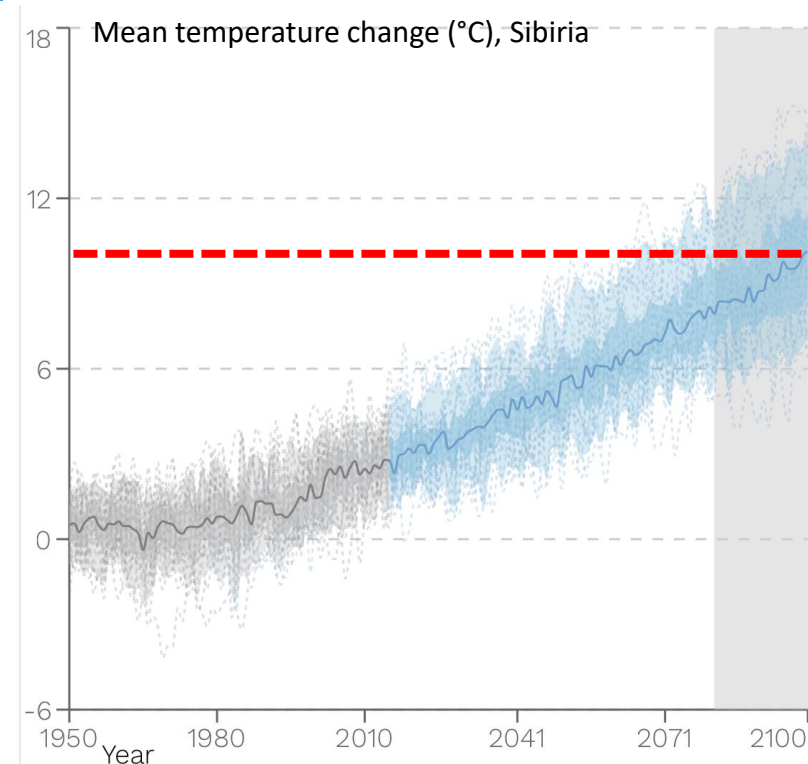
Region: Arctic, Greenland and Sibiria



Dotted line: Model
Solid line: P50 (Median)
Gray shading: Selected period
Light / dark area: Spread P10-P90 / P25-75



Dotted line: Model
Solid line: P50 (Median)
Gray shading: Selected period
Light / dark area: Spread P10-P90 / P25-75

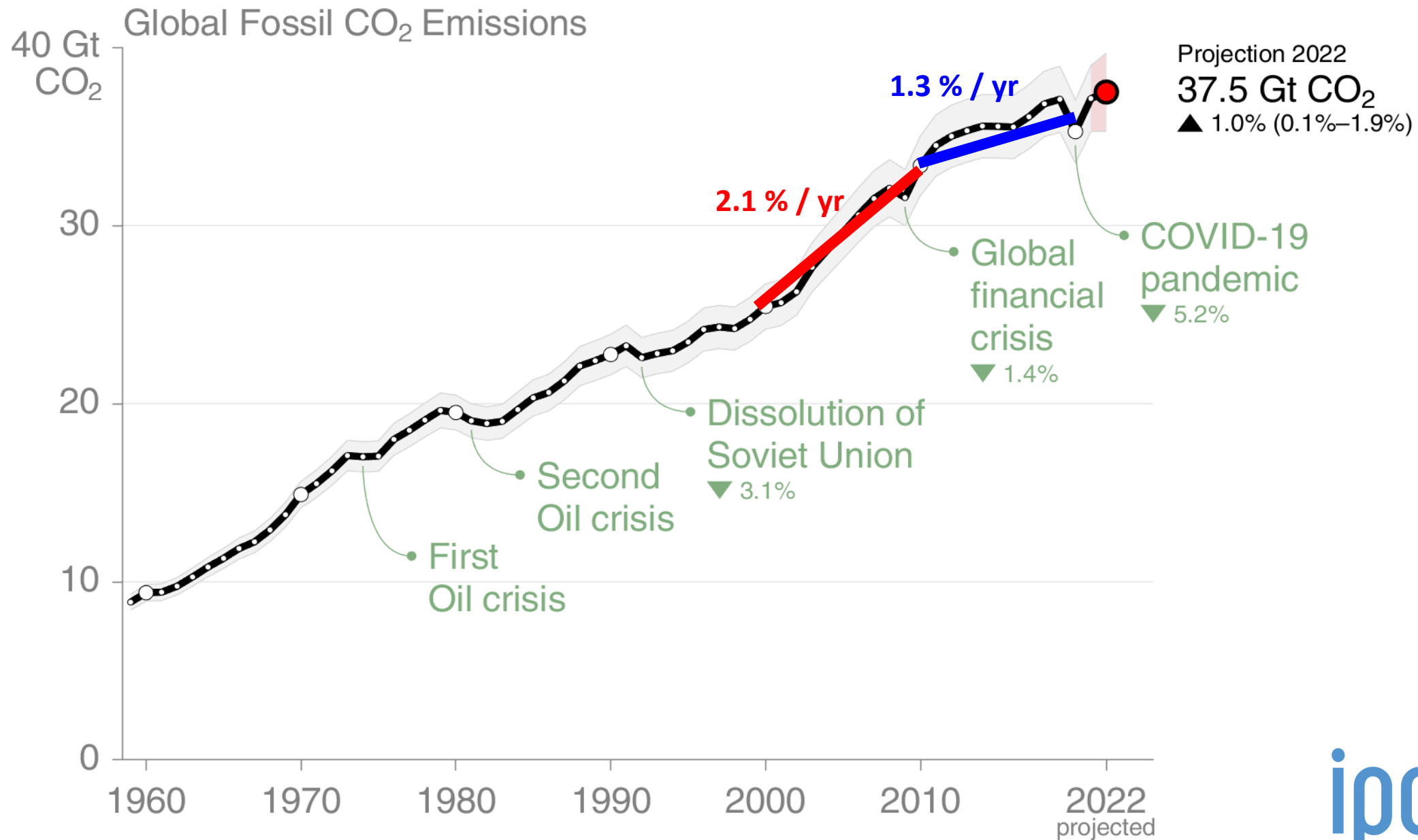


Dotted line: Model
Solid line: P50 (Median)
Gray shading: Selected period
Light / dark area: Spread P10-P90 / P25-75

AR6, WG1 (2021):

Estimated remaning carbon budgets from the beginning of 2020 (GtCO₂).....it is about likelihood!

Approximate global warming relative to 1850–1900 until temperature limit (°C) ^a		Estimated remaining carbon budgets from the beginning of 2020 (GtCO ₂)				
		<i>Likelihood of limiting global warming to temperature limit^b</i>				
		17%	33%	50%	67%	83%
1.5		900	650	500	400	300
2.0		2300	1700	1350	1150	900



LoV om klima

VI MARGRETHE DEN ANDEN, af Guds Nåde Danmarks Dronning, gør vitterligt:

Folketinget har vedtaget og Vi ved Vort samtykke stadfæstet følgende lov:

Kapitel 1

Fornål

§ 1. Formålet med denne lov er, at Danmark skal reducere udledningen af drivhusgasser i 2030 med 70 pct. i forhold til niveauet i 1990, og at Danmark opstår at være et klimaneutralt samfund i senest 2050 med Parisforpligtelsen medlignende om at begrænse den globale temperaturstigning til 1,5 grader Celsius for øje.

Så. 2. Danmark skal arbejde aktivt for Parisforpligtelsen medlignende om at begrænse den globale temperaturstigning til 1,5 grader Celsius.

Så. 3. Klimaministeriet skal ikke under hensyntagen til en række gode principper:

- 1) Klimamålsinddragelse er en global problemstilling. Derfor skal Danmark være et foregangsland i den internationale klimasamarbejde, som kan inspirere og påvirke resten af verden. Danmark har derfor leveret både et historisk og mennesk ansvar for at gå forrest.
- 2) Indførelsen af Danmarks klimamål skal ikke så omfattende og effektivt som muligt under hensyntagen til både den langsigtede grønne omstilling, bæredygtig erhvervsudvikling og dansk konkurrencekraft, særligt offentlige finanser og beskæftigelse, samt at dansk erhvervs liv skal udvikles og ikke afvikles.
- 3) Danmark skal vise, at det kan leve på en grøn omstilling og samtidig bibeholde et stærkt velfærdssamfund, hvor sammenhængskraften og den sociale balance sikres.
- 4) De ting, der skal ændres for at reducere udledningen af drivhusgasser, skal medføre reelle indenlandske reduktioner, men samtidig skal det sikres, at danske borgere ikke bliver flyttet hele drivhusgasudledningen uden for Danmarks grænser.

§ 2. Klima-, energi- og forsyningsministeren fastsætter mindst hvert femte år en national klimamålsstrategi med et 10-årigt perspektiv. En ny klimamålsstrategi må ikke være mindre ambitiøs end den senest fastsatte målsætning.

Så. 2. Klima-, energi- og forsyningsministeren offentliggør mindst hvert femte år og som minimum i forbindelse med fastsættelse af klimamålsstrategierne, jf. stk. 1, en klimamålsrapport med et 10-årigt perspektiv.

Kapitel 2

Klimarådet opgaver

§ 3. For at fremme vigtig rådgivning om klimaministeriets bistå klima-, energi- og forsyningsministeren af Klimarådet.

Så. 2. Klimarådet bistår klima-, energi- og forsyningsministeren ved fastsættelse af nationale klimamålsstrategier, jf. § 2, stk. 1.

§ 4. Klimarådet skal jf. afgive anbefalinger til klima-, energi- og forsyningsministeren om klimamålsstrategier. Klimarådet skal i anbefalingerne forholde sig til principperne nævnt i § 1, stk. 3.

Så. 2. Klimarådet skal i anbefalingerne endvidere vurdere, om regeringens klimamålsstrategi endrætteliggør, at klimamålsstrategierne, jf. § 1, stk. 1, og § 2, stk. 1, når.

Så. 3. Klimarådet skal i forbindelse med anbefalingerne give en status på Danmarks internationale klimamålsstrategier.

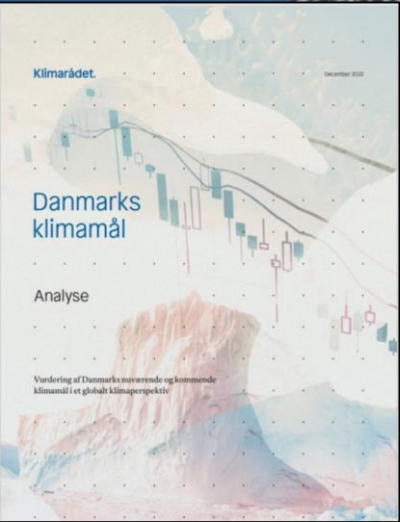
§ 5. Klimarådet skal kommentere den årlige klimastatus og -dramatisering, jf. § 6, og klima-, energi- og forsyningsministerens årlige klimaprogram, jf. § 7, stk. 1 og 2.

DECEMBER 2022

Regeringen

Ansvar for Danmark

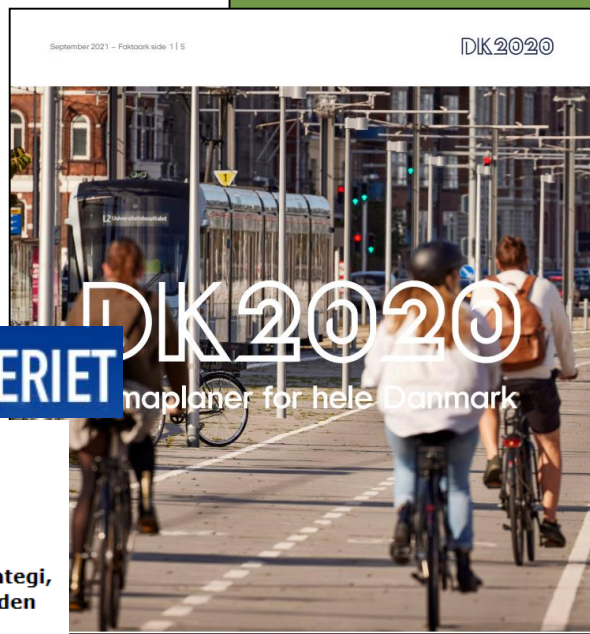
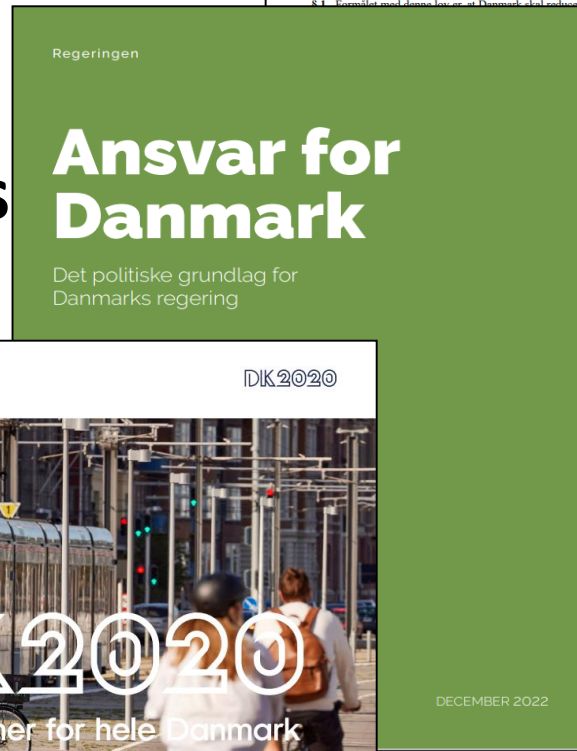
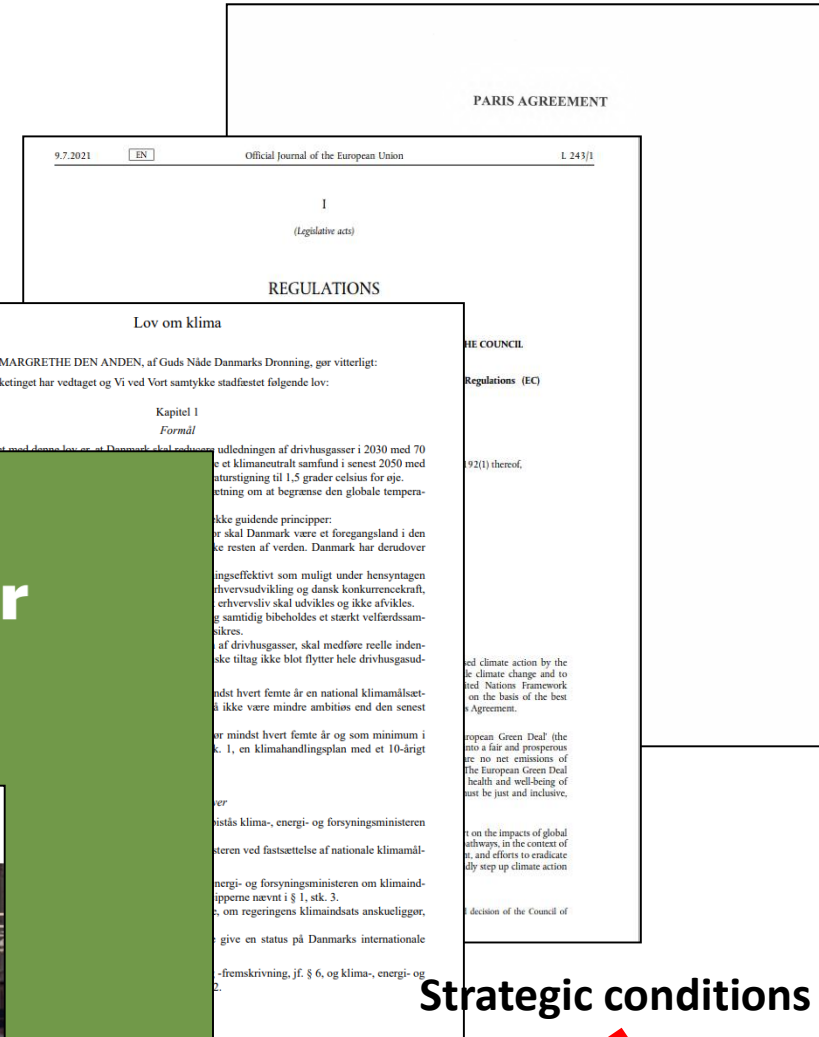
Det politiske grundlag for Danmarks regering



Klimarådet (2023–2050)	Mio tons CO2e	Global middeltemperaturstigning (hvis alle gør som Danmark)
Klimaloven (70% i 2030 ift 1990)	555	1,7 grader (2045–2050)
Regeringsgrundlaget (nettonul i 2045 og 110% i 2050)	473	1,7 grader (2045)
80% i 2030	458	1,6–1,7 grader (2040 –2045)
Nettonul i 2040	440	1,6 grader (2040)
80% i 2030 og nettonul i 2040	382	1,5–1,6 grader (2035–2040)

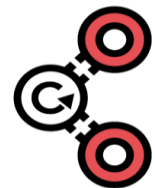
How to act among strategies?

- Paris Agreement (Global)
- EU Regulations 'Fit for 55' (Union)
- Climate Law (National)
- DK2020 Plan (KL-regi)
- Municipalities/Regions/companies



Thank you for your attention...

mernild@sdu.dk



SCC
SDU Climate Cluster





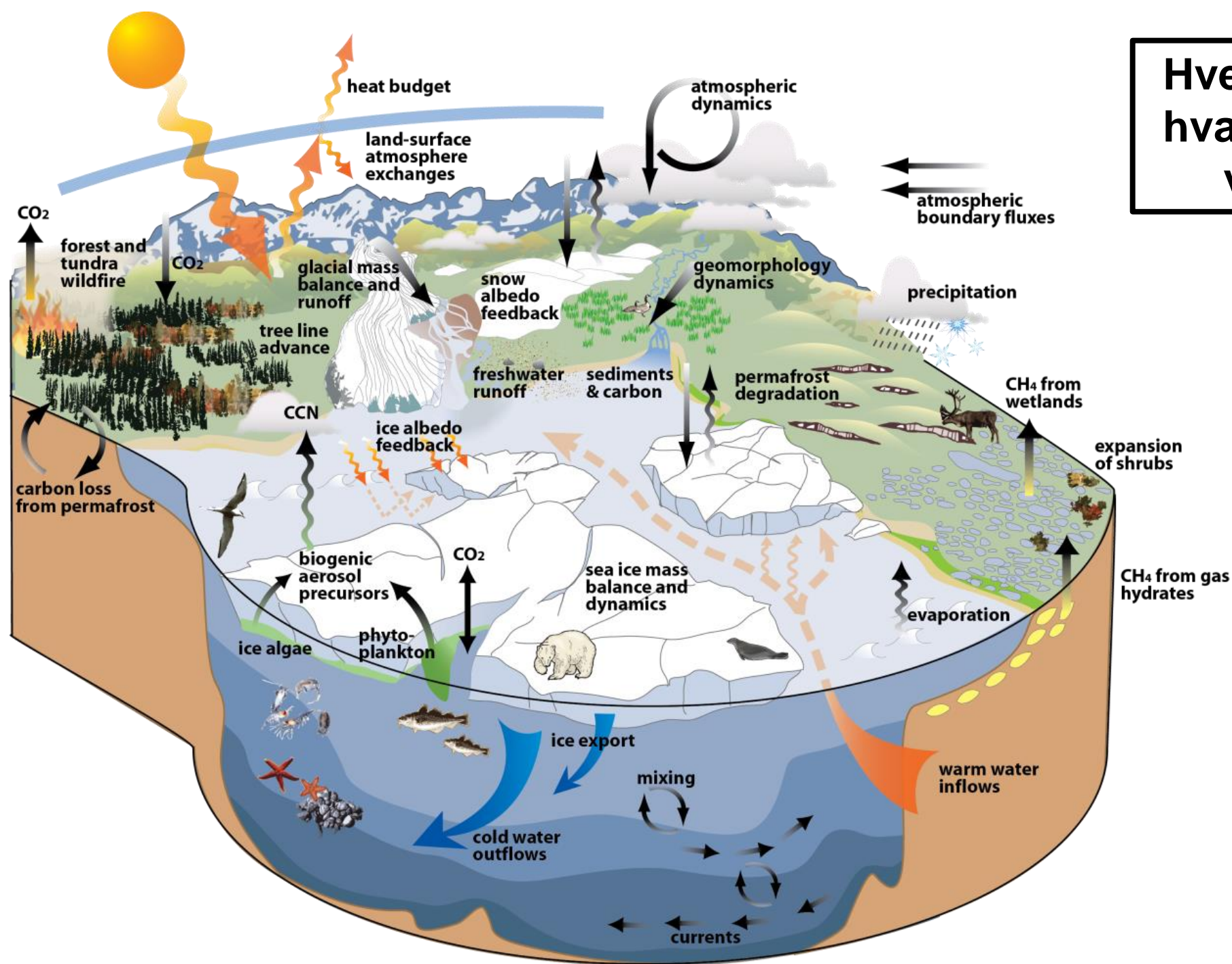
Application deadline 1 September 2023

Research infrastructure

The instrument must be used for co-financing of research infrastructure purchases in order to carry out interdisciplinary climate-related research supporting the mission of the SDU Climate Cluster to contribute to climate neutrality by 2050.

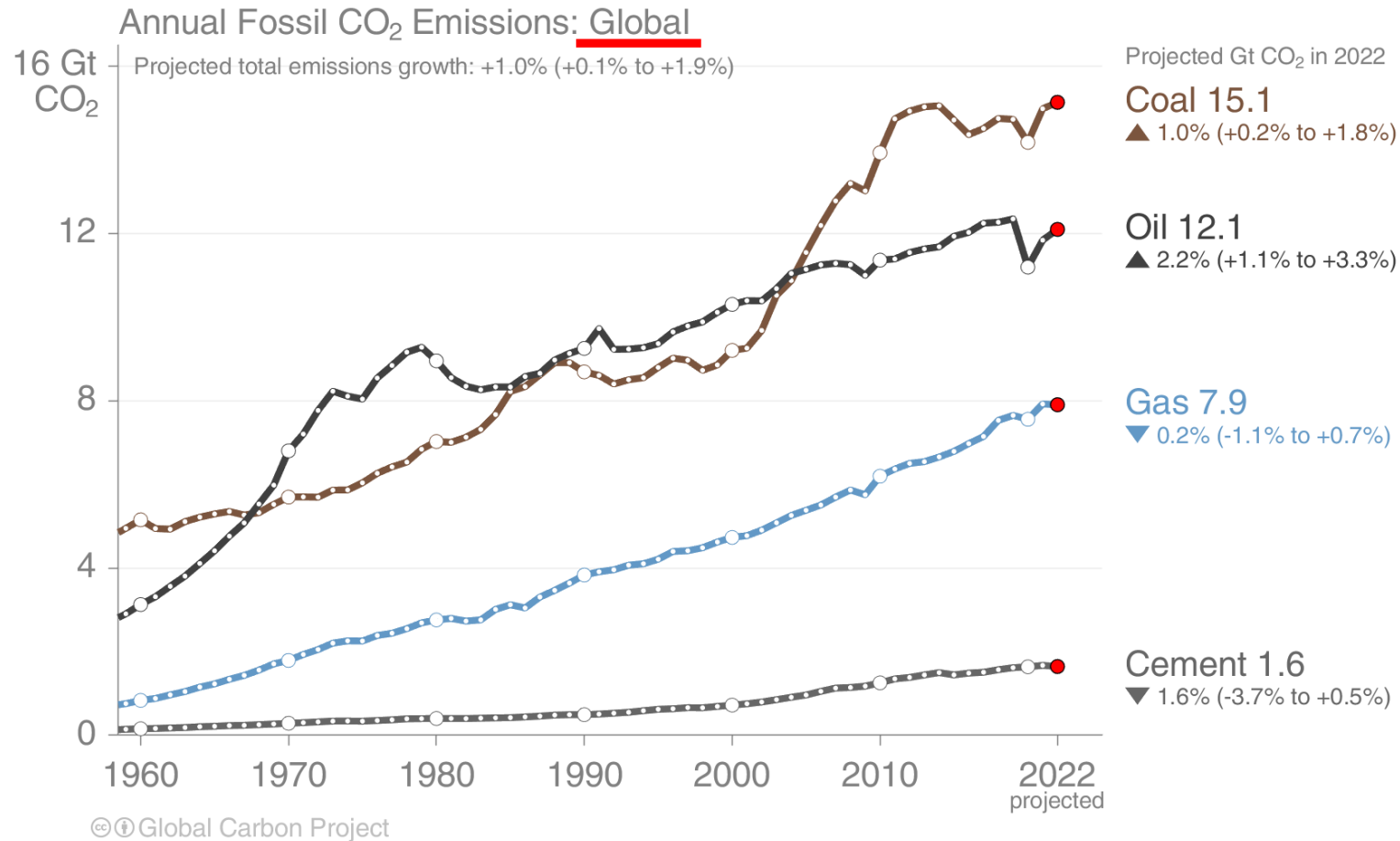
→ [Read more](#)

Hvem er vi og
hvad arbejder
vi med?



Fossil CO₂ Emissions by source

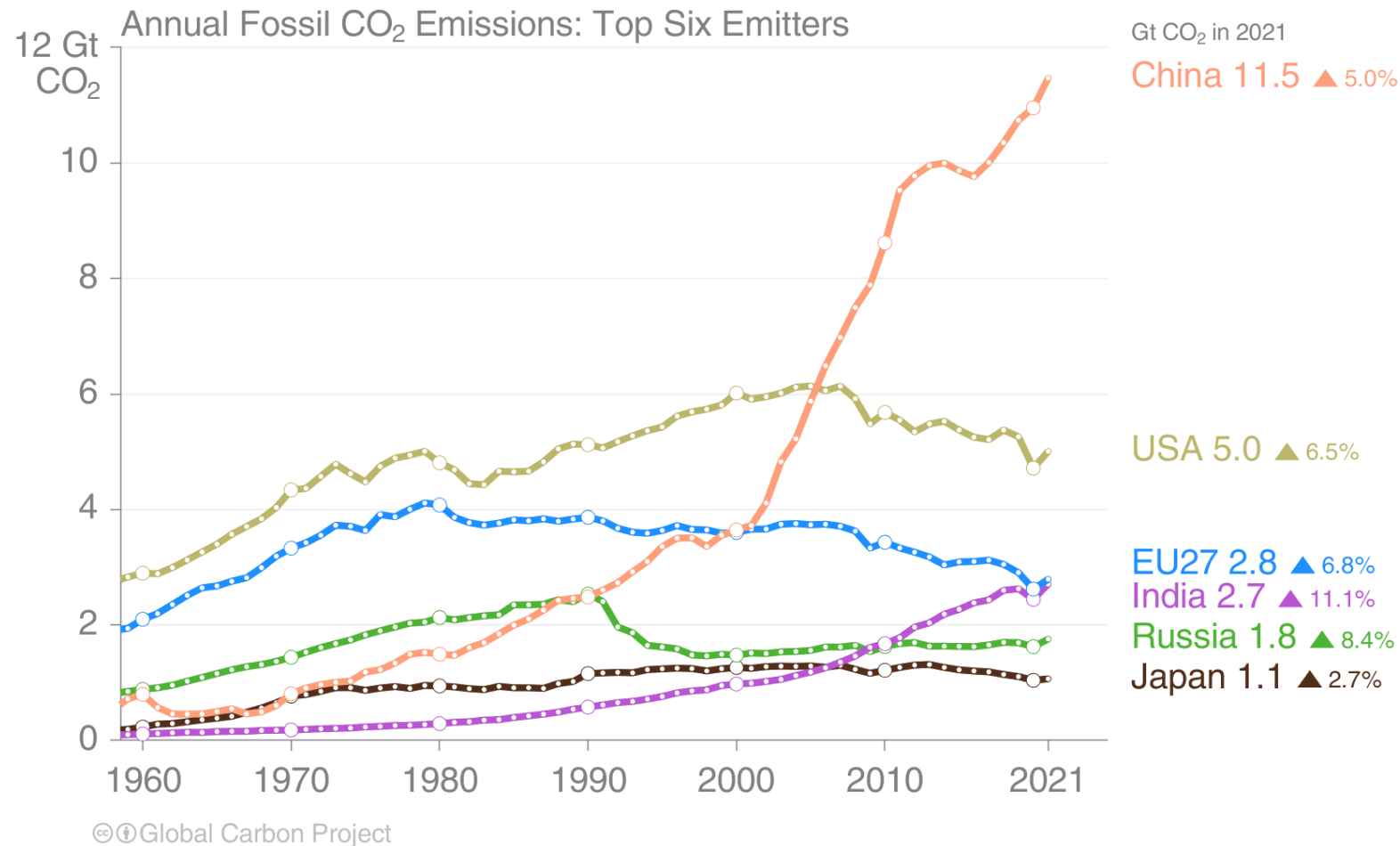
Share of global fossil CO₂ emissions in 2021: coal (40%), oil (32%), gas (21%), cement (5%), flaring and others (2%, not shown)
 Projection by fuel type is based on monthly data (GCP analysis)



Source: [Friedlingstein et al 2022](#); [Global Carbon Project 2022](#)

Top emitters: Fossil CO₂ Emissions to 2021

The top six emitters in 2021 covered 67% of global emissions
China 31%, United States 14%, EU27 8%, India 7%, Russia 5%, and Japan 3%

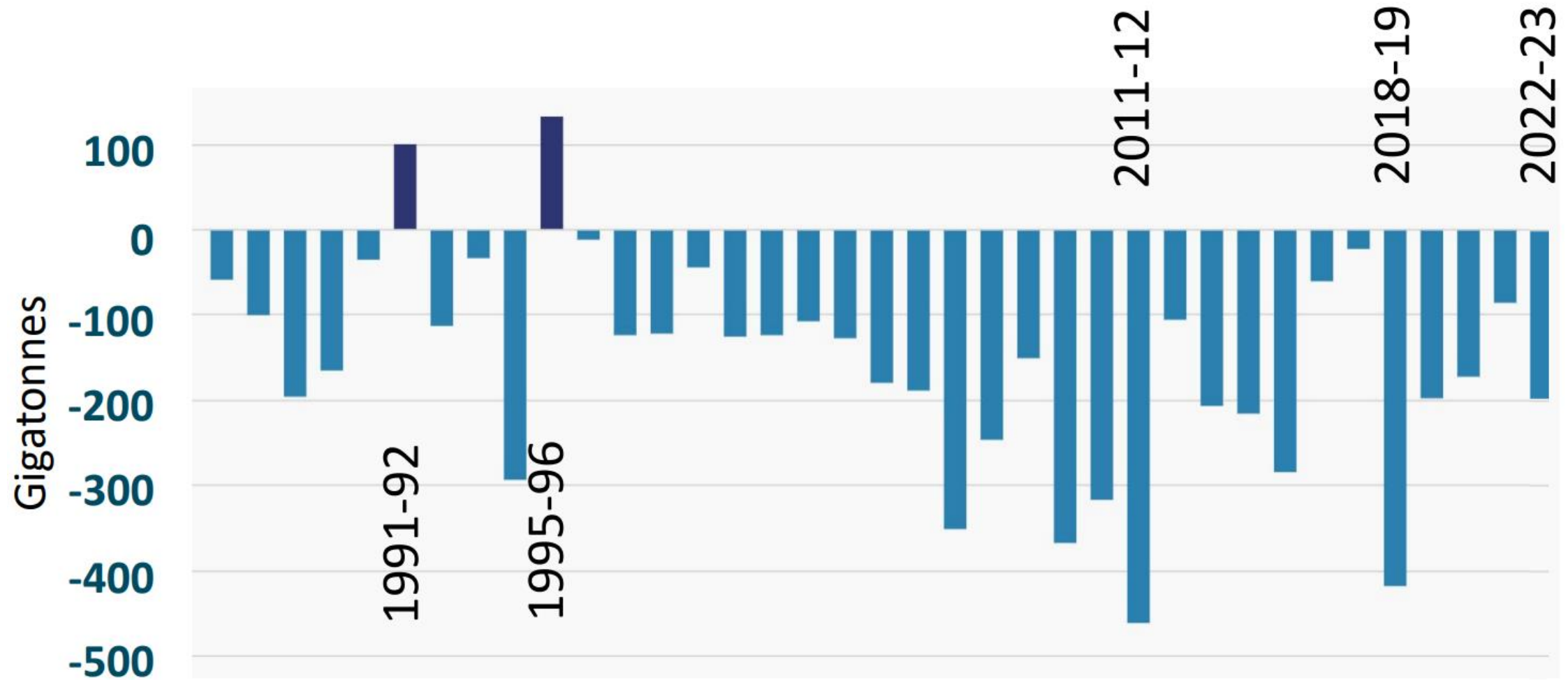


International aviation and maritime shipping (bunker fuels) contributed 2.8% of global emissions in 2021.

Source: [Friedlingstein et al 2022](#); [Global Carbon Project 2022](#)

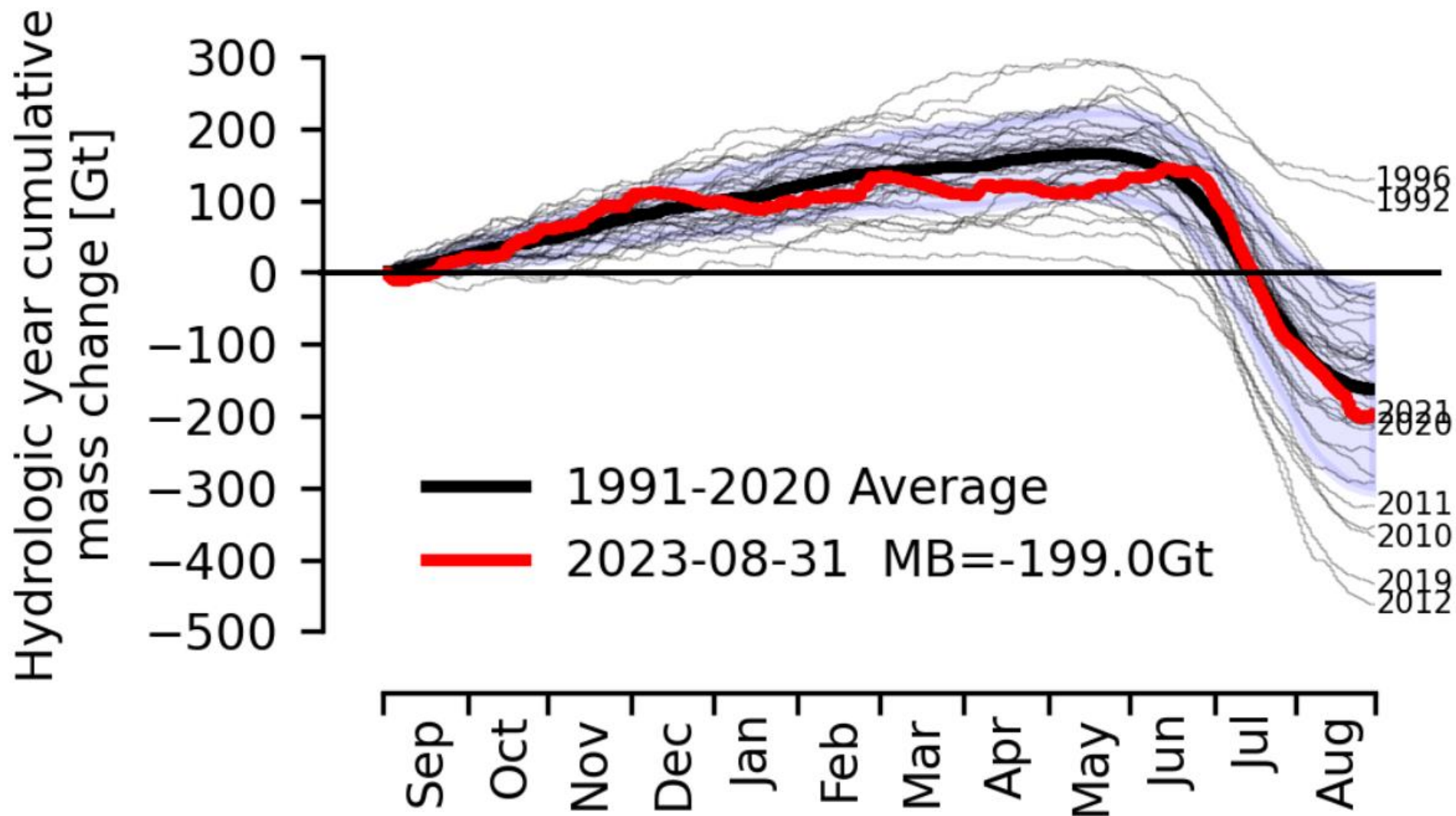
Total mass balance 1986-2023

PROMICE | GC-NET



Total mass balance

PROMICE | GC-NET

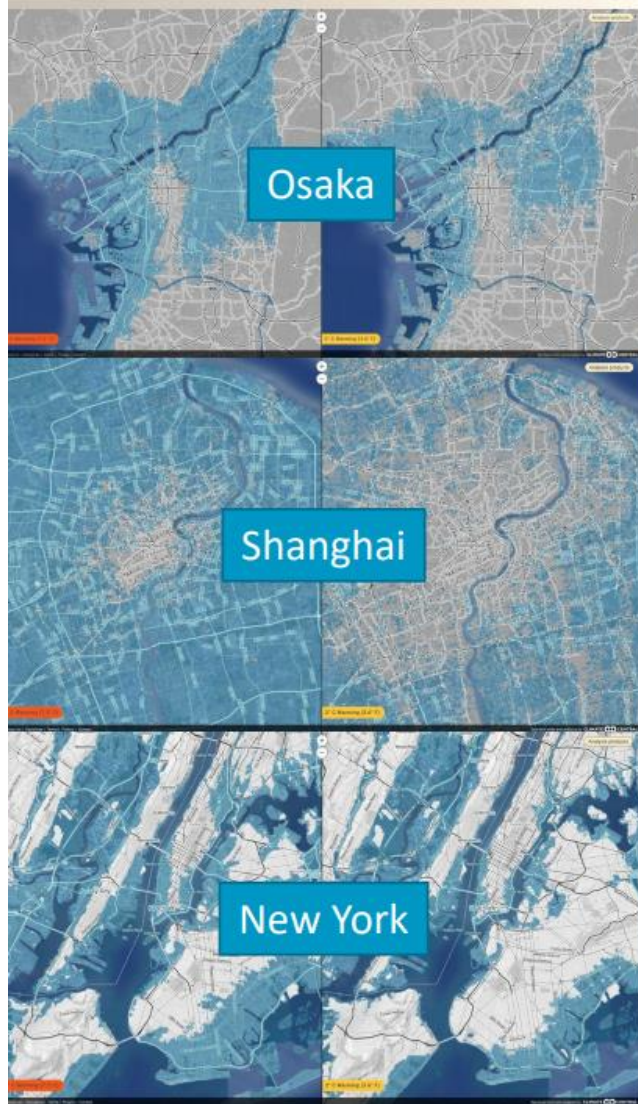


Scenarios (Strauss et al., 2015)

4 °C vs. 2 °C

Why monitor the Greenland ice sheet?

- Sensitive to climate change
- The Arctic warming 3-4 x faster
- Planning requires numbers
- Policymaking requires knowledge
- Scenarios depend on models



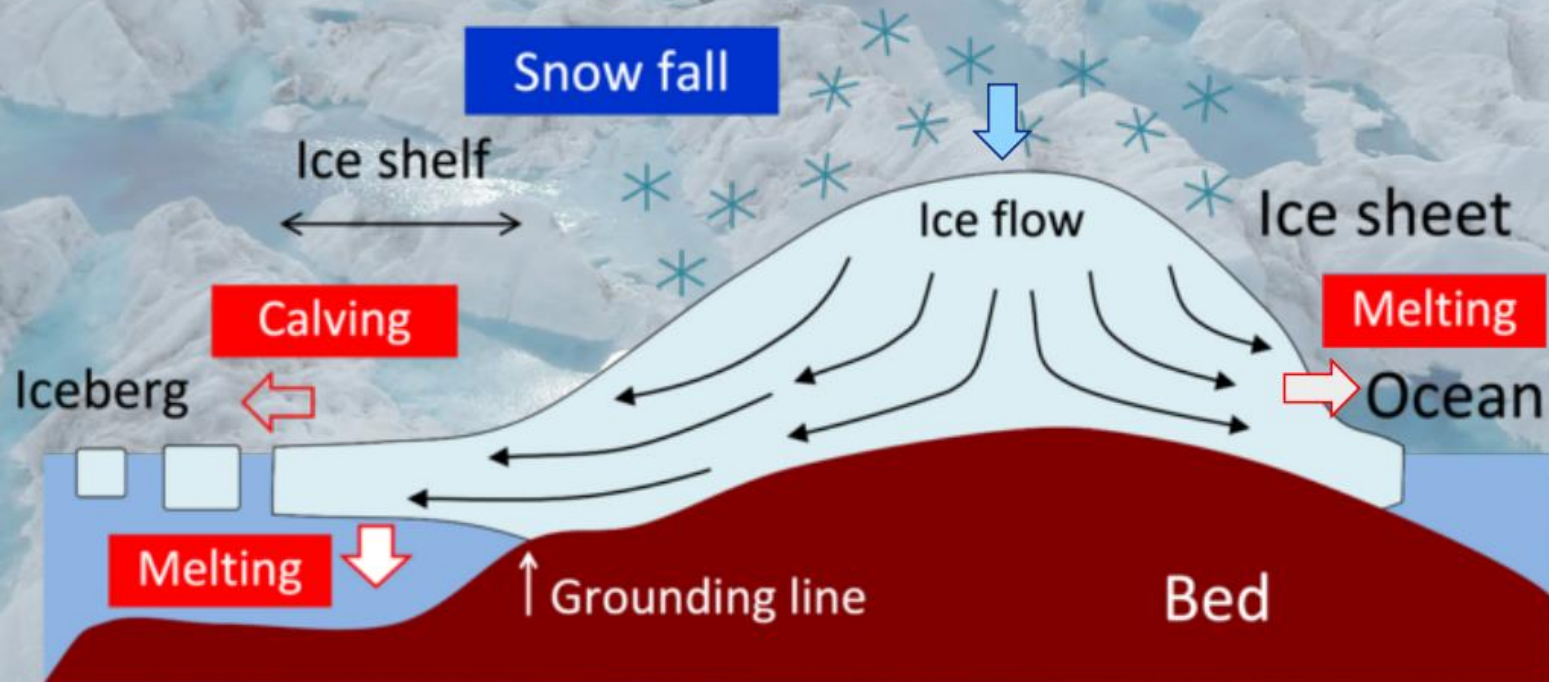
Copenhagen
Danish Coastal Authority
Risk Management Plan

Map of flooding and
economical risk by 2115

Hvem er vi og
hvad arbejder
vi med?

What is ice sheet mass balance?

Climate.....



Mass balance of an ice sheet

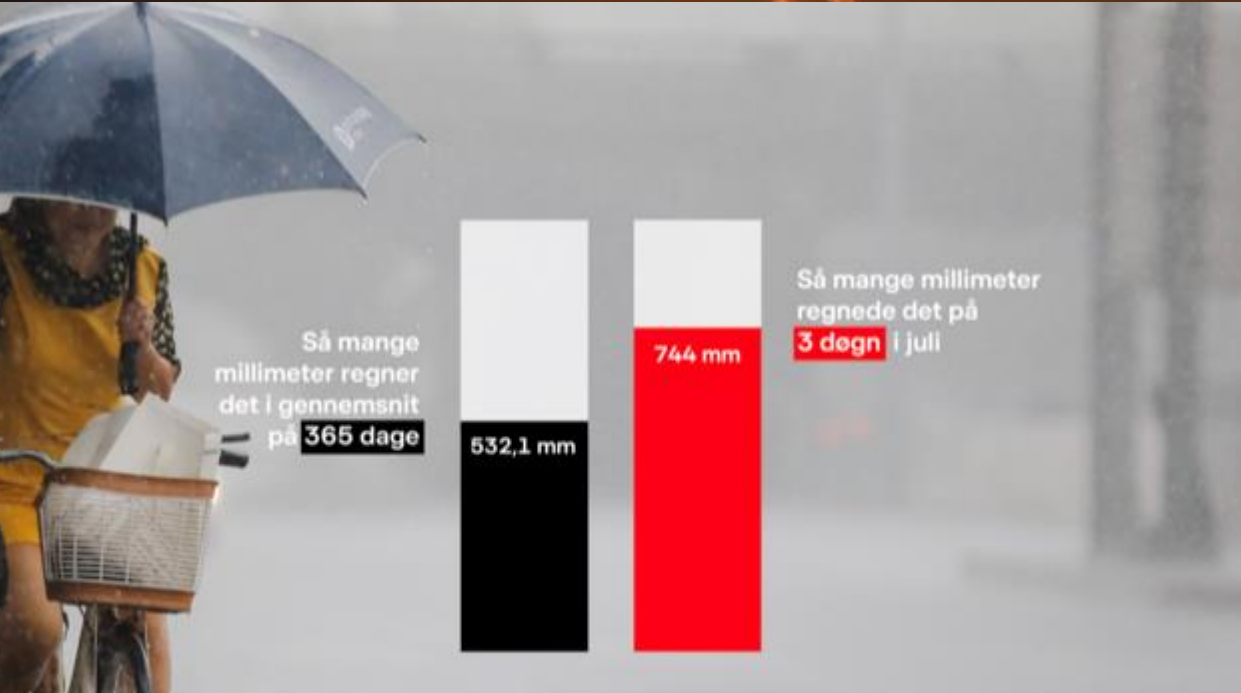
Hvem er vi og
hvad arbejder
vi med?







Brande. Regn. Oversvømmelser.



Normal conditions in
the Pacific Ocean

Climate Change

Climate Change and Climate Polity Course

