

Climate change – present and future extremes

IPCC Update: Selected Assessments and Regional Differences

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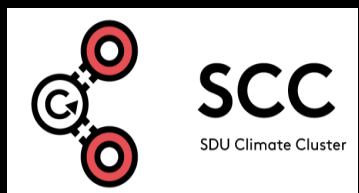
Head of SDU Climate Cluster, University of Southern Denmark (SDU)

IPCC Lead Author, AR6 (2018–2023)

IPCC Contributing Author, AR5 (2009–2013)

SDU 







A Changing Climate System is about:

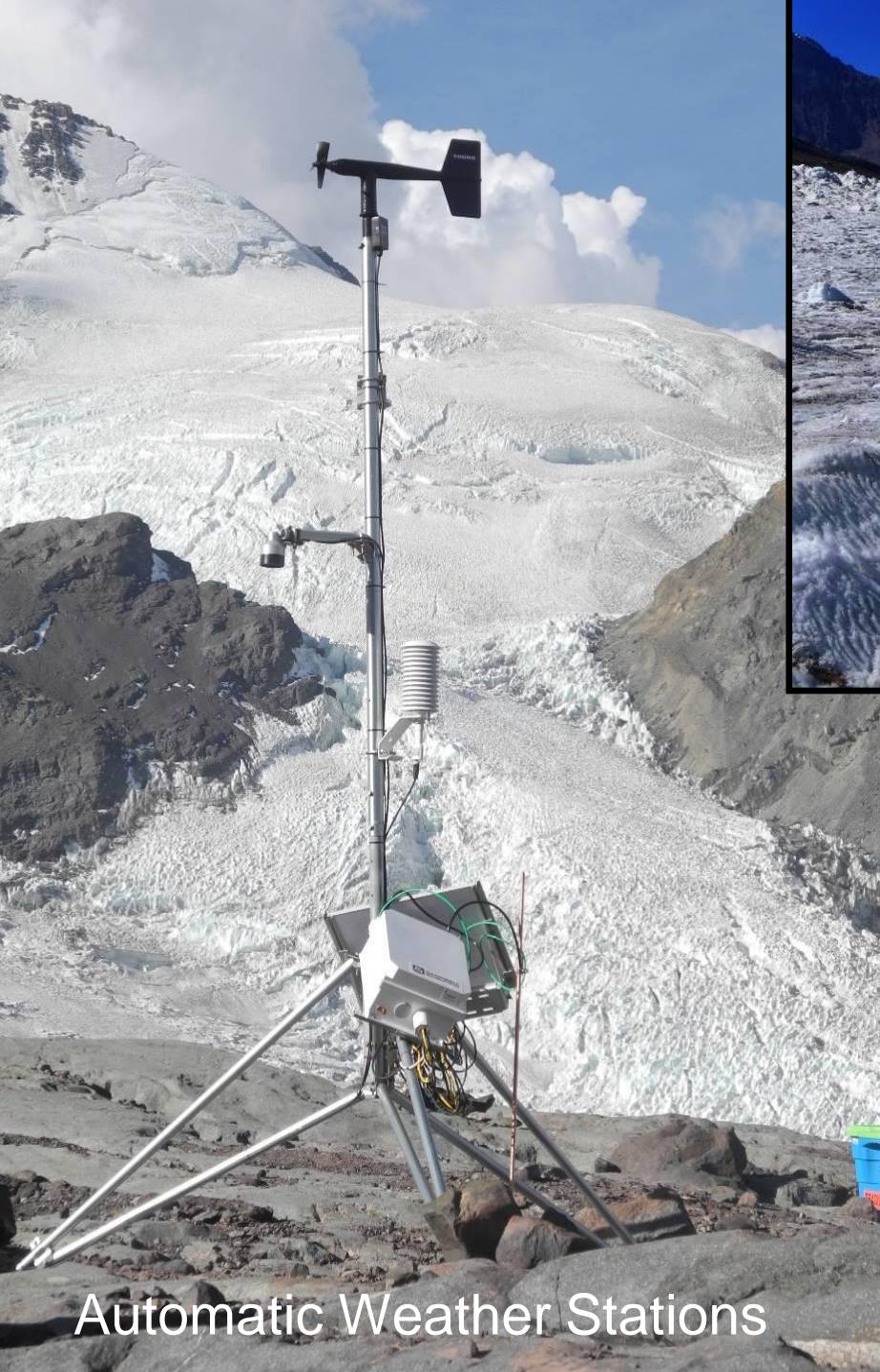
- The Global Carbon Cycle
- The Radiation and Energy Balances
- The Water Balance



A Changing Climate System is about:

- Trends
- Variations/Oscillations
- Extremes (frequency, intensity, duration, space, and links to coupled events)

In the field



Automatic Weather Stations

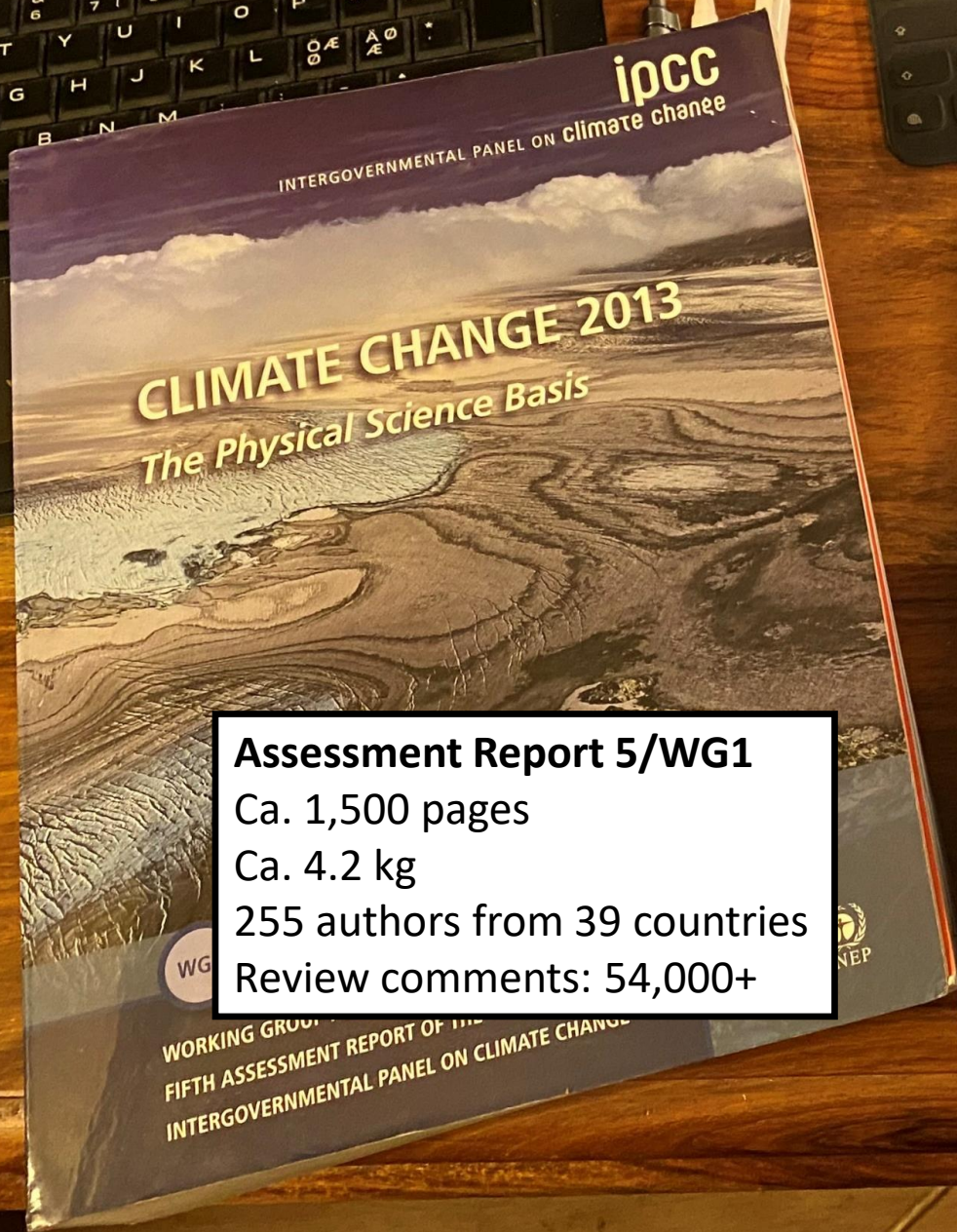


WORKING GROUP I CONTRIBUTION TO THE IPCC SIXTH ASSESSMENT REPORT

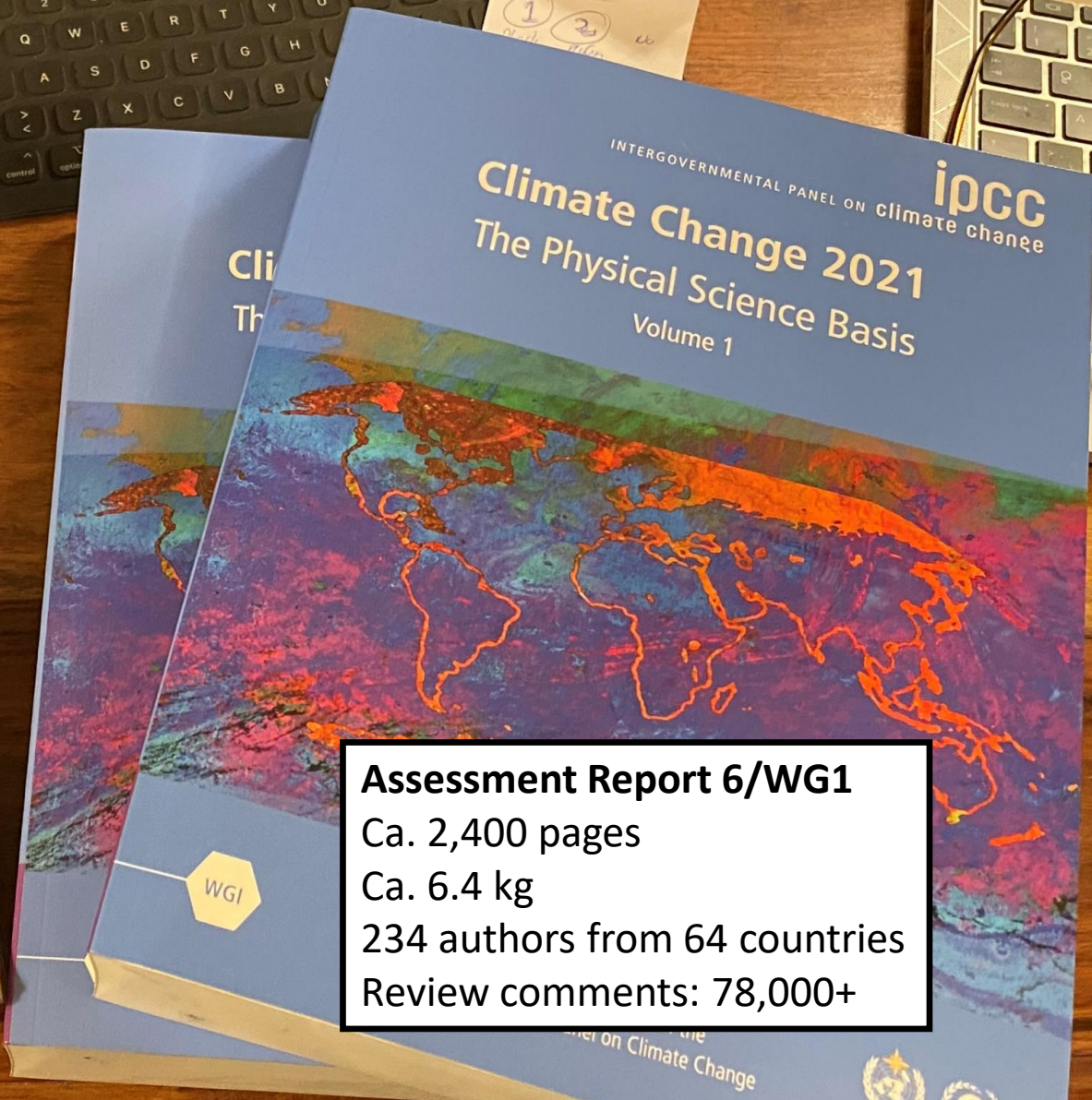
FIRST LEAD AUTHOR MEETING

GUANGZHOU, CHINA, 25-29 JUNE 2018





Assessment Report 5/WG1
Ca. 1,500 pages
Ca. 4.2 kg
255 authors from 39 countries
Review comments: 54,000+



Assessment Report 6/WG1
Ca. 2,400 pages
Ca. 6.4 kg
234 authors from 64 countries
Review comments: 78,000+



CLIMATE CHANGE 2023

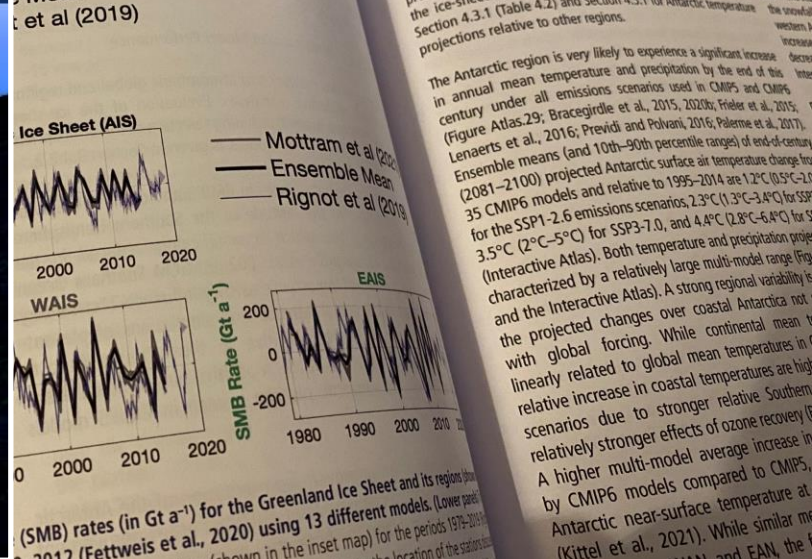
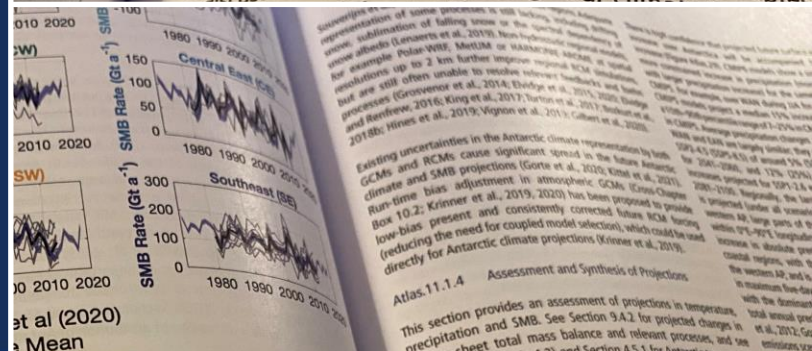
Synthesis Report

Summary for Policymakers

A Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change



Antarctic climate variability is influenced by the Southern Mode (SAM) and regionally by other modes, including ENO, South American pattern, Pacific Decadal Variability (PDV), Indian Dipole and Zonal Wave 3 (Annex IV). Climate change in the ice sheet, ocean, sea ice and atmosphere (Sections 9.4.1 and 9.4.2; Meredith et al., 2019). In addition to Chapter 9 discussed across the report: global climate...



...statistically significant... (Figure 2.11b). There is high confidence in the trend at the AP and WAN, and by regional climate models of the reanalyses (Figure Atlas.30; van Wessem et al., 2017).

According to the ice-core reconstructions (Meredith et al., 2019), the AP has likely increased during the 20th century at 5.4 ± 2.9 Gt yr⁻¹ per decade (1900–2016), while the WAN has decreased at 1.5 ± 0.8 Gt yr⁻¹ per decade (WAN excluding AP, during 1957–2000). Significant spatial heterogeneity in SMB trends is observed over AP and WAN:

- Western AP has likely experienced a significant decrease beginning around 1930 and accelerating after 2000, which is outside of the natural variability over the last 300 years (Thomas et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2019);
- eastern AP has no significant SMB trend (low confidence, observations limited by interannual variability) (Thomas et al., 2017);
- overall WAN SMB (excluding AP) was relatively stable but exhibited high regional variability with significant increases (5–15 mm per decade) to the east of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet and significant decreases (–1 to –5 mm per decade during 1957–2000) to the west (Thomas, 2019; Wang et al., 2019).

The SMB of EAN increased during the 20th century at 1.1–2.0 Gt yr⁻¹ (medium confidence) (Medley et al., 2019). EAN SMB changes during the 20th century...

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

Evidence of **observed changes in extremes** e.g. heatwaves, heavy precipitation, droughts, and tropical cyclones

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**

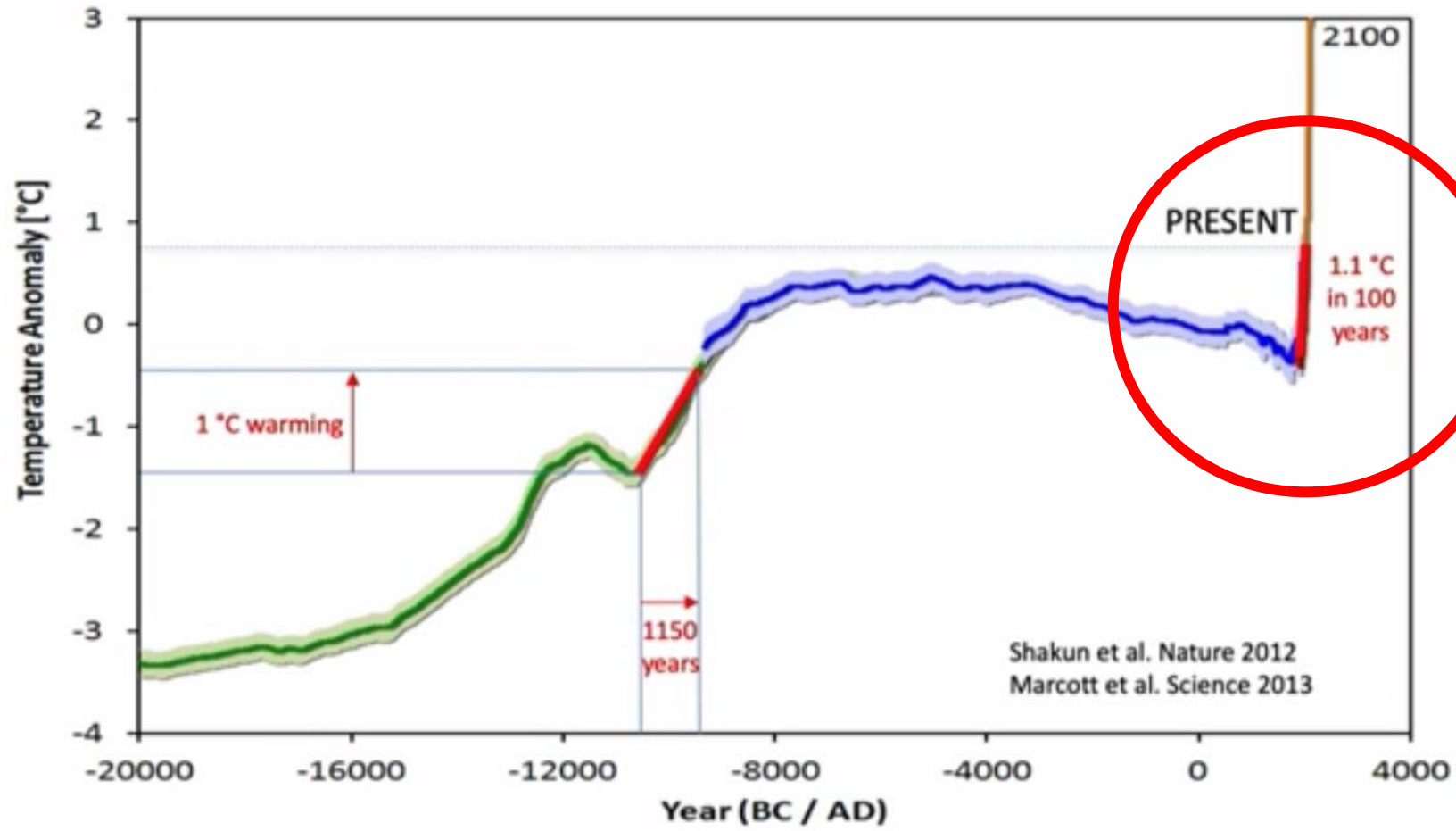
Our climate is changing – Temperatures!



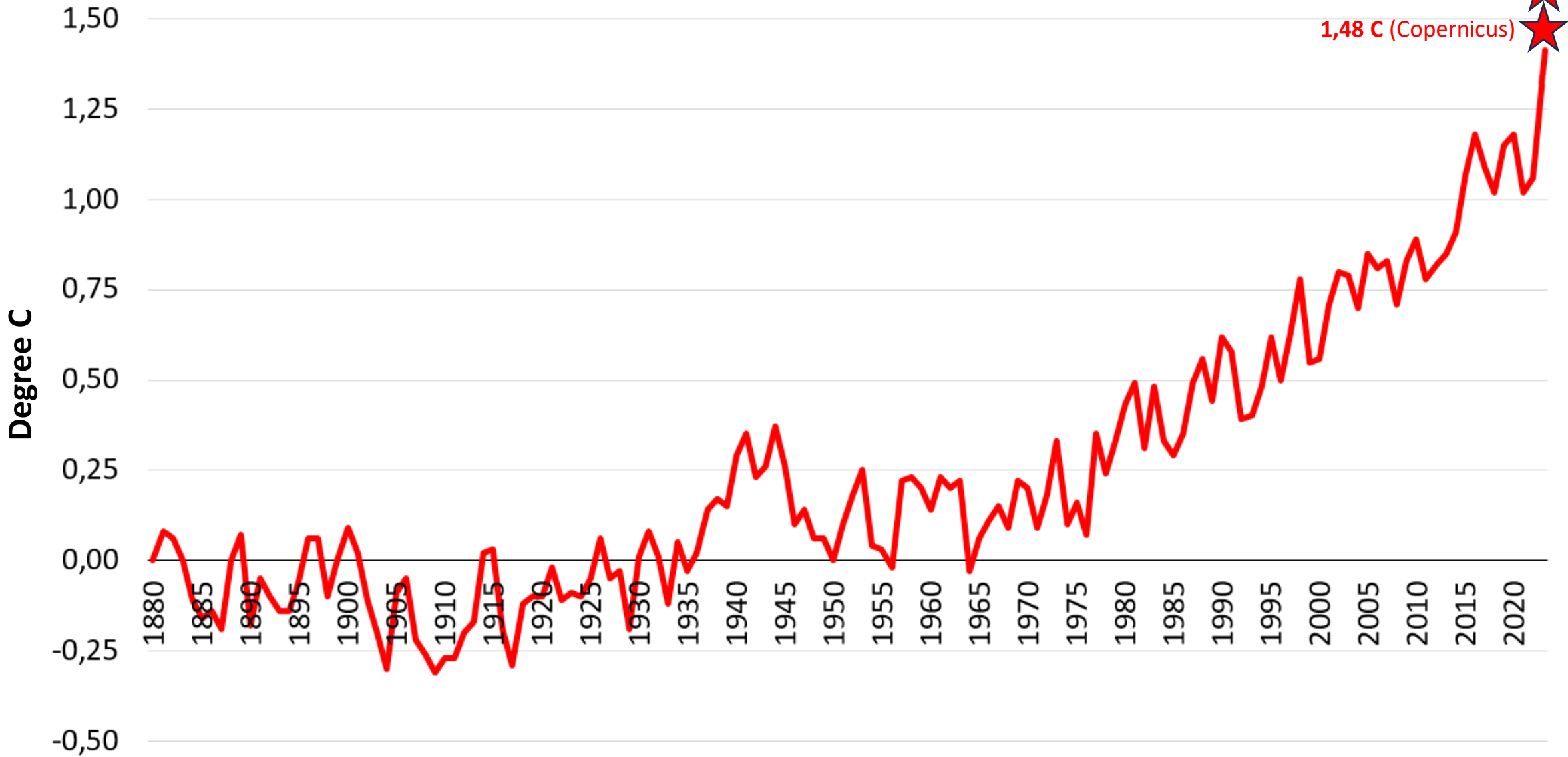
Our climate is changing – Water!



GLOBAL TEMPERATURE SINCE THE LAST ICE AGE

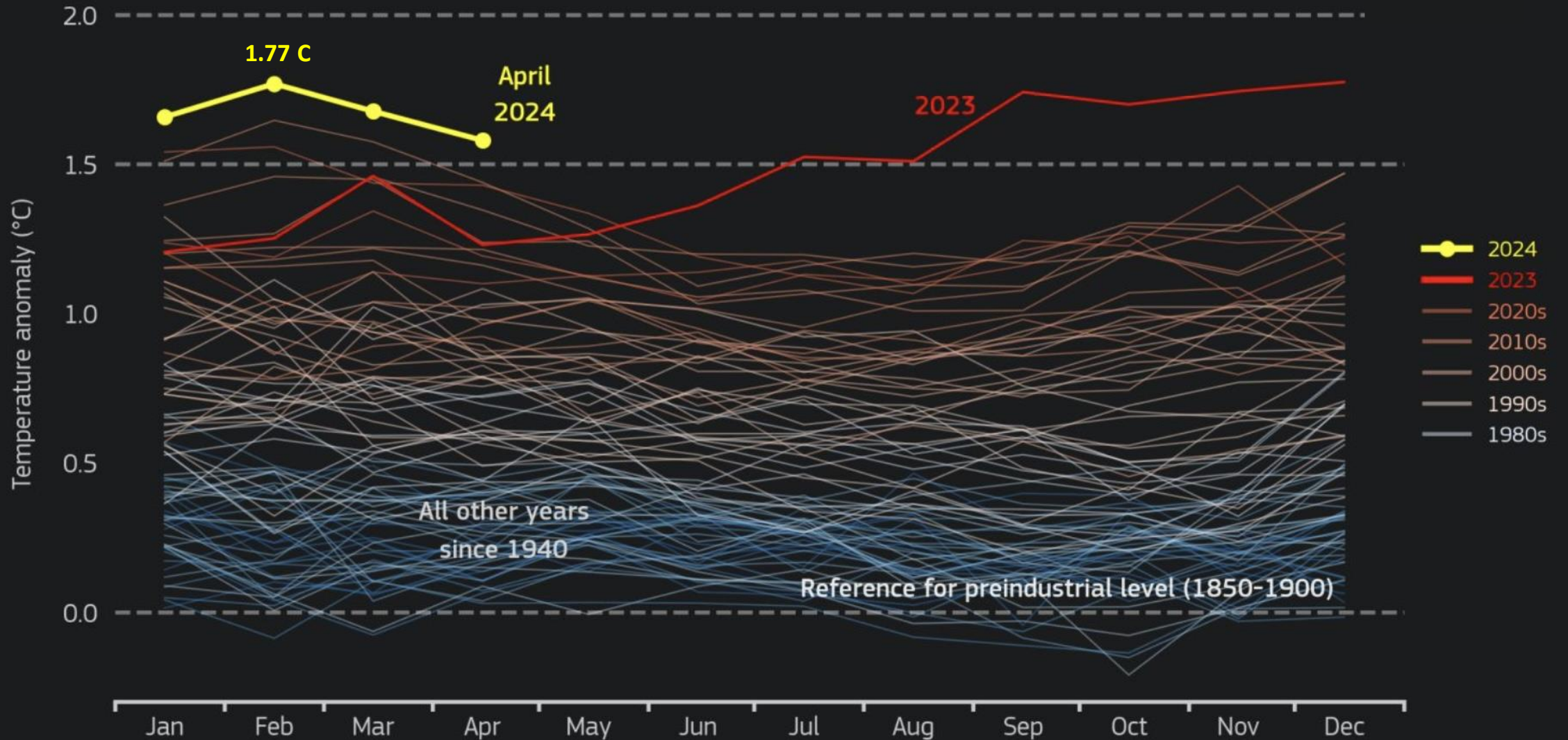


Global Mean Surface Air Temperature, 1880–2023



Monthly global surface air temperature anomalies

Data: ERA5 1940-2024 • Reference period: 1850-1900 • Credit: C3S/ECMWF



PROGRAMME OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION



IMPLEMENTED BY



Climate
Change Service
climate.copernicus.eu

Annual J-D

L-OTI(°C) Change 1958-2023

1.11

Annual J-D

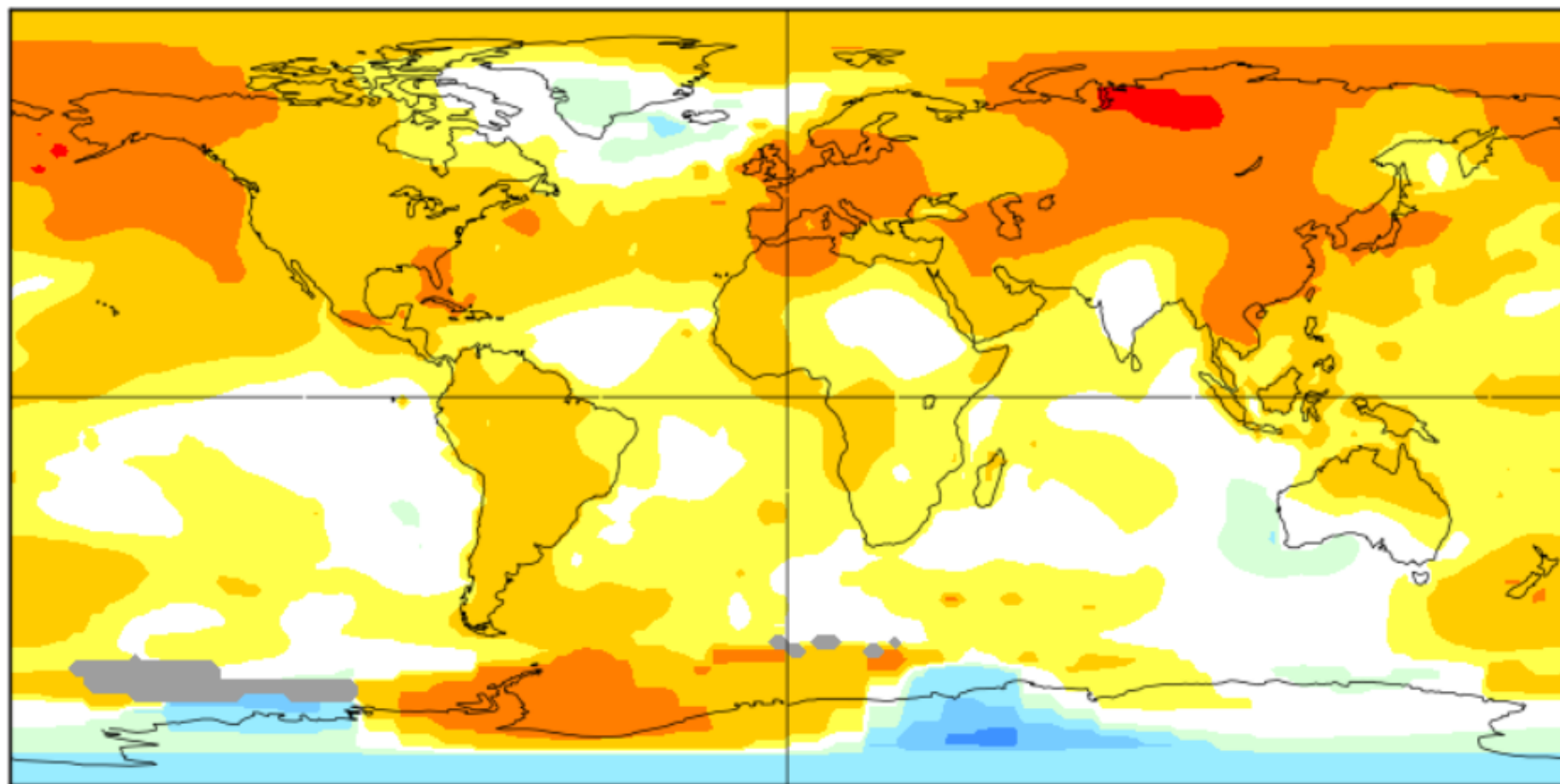
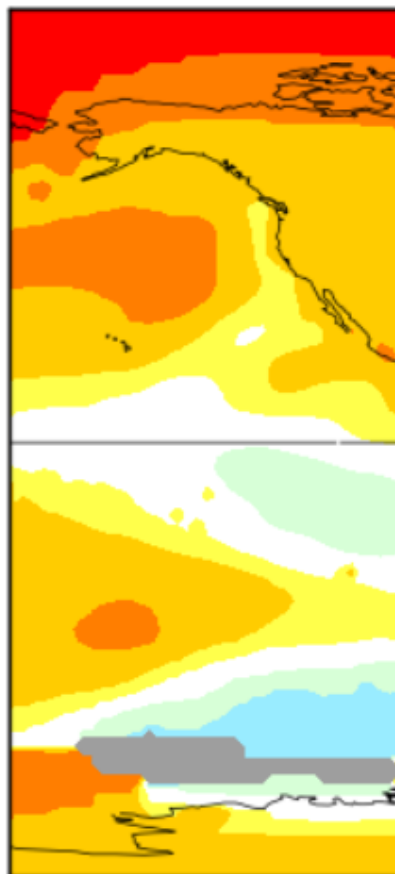
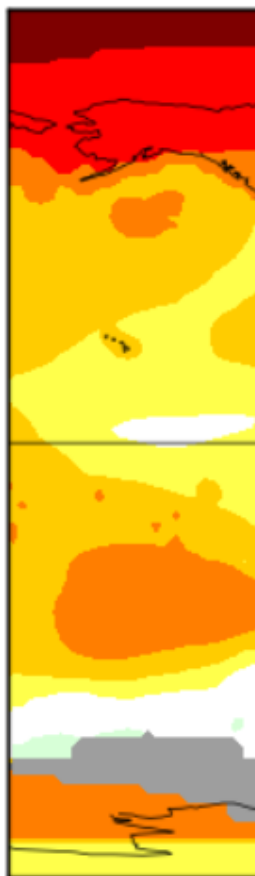
L-OTI(°C) Change 1993-2023

0.70

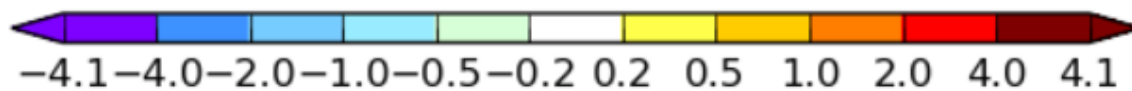
Annual J-D

L-OTI(°C) Change 2008-2023

0.48



-4.1



Global warming reached an estimated **0.85°C** in **December 2009**.

If the 30-year warming trend leading up to then continued, global warming would reach **1.5°C** by **September 2050**.

December 2009

September 2050

1.5°C

2°C

Global warming reached an estimated **1.13°C** in **December 2019**.

If the 30-year warming trend leading up to then continued, global warming would reach **1.5°C** by **July 2036**.

December 2019

July 2036

1.5°C

2°C

Global warming reached an estimated **1.27°C** in **February 2024**.

If the 30-year warming trend leading up to then continued, global warming would reach **1.5°C** by **August 2033**.

February 2024

August 2033

1.5°C

1.27°C

2°C

1°C

0.5°C

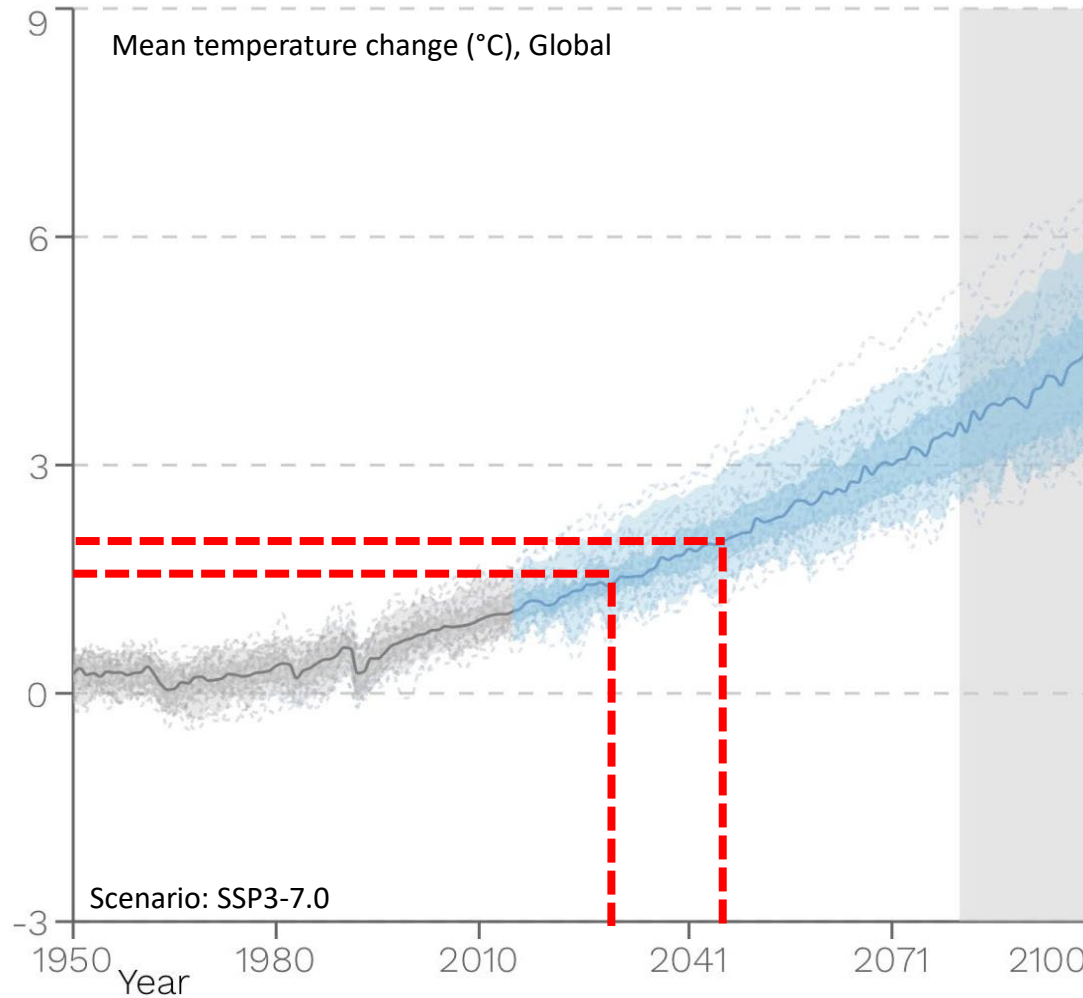
0°C

1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2020 2030 2040 2050 2060

Generated using Copernicus Climate Change Service information 2024.

2000 2003 2006 2009 2012 2015 2018 2021 Mar 2023 Jun 2023 Sep 2023 Dec 2023

— Temperature trend — Observed temperature change since pre-industrial times — IPCC "likely" estimate — IPCC projections



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**

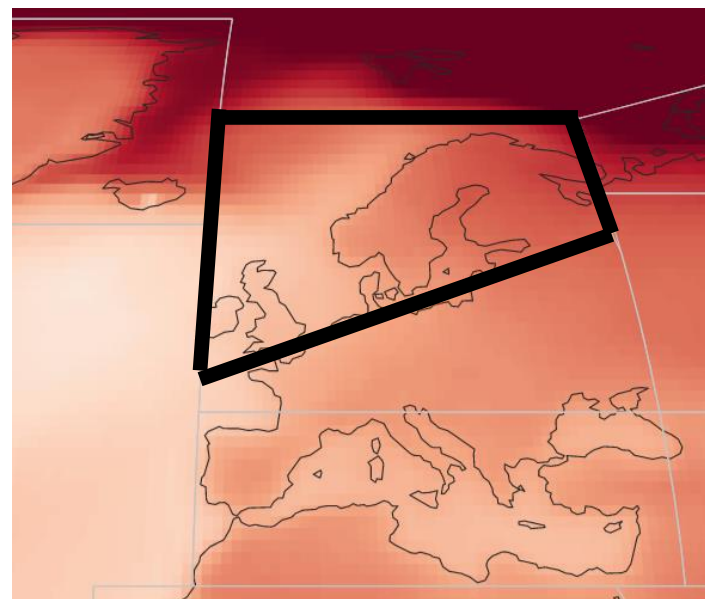


1.5 C

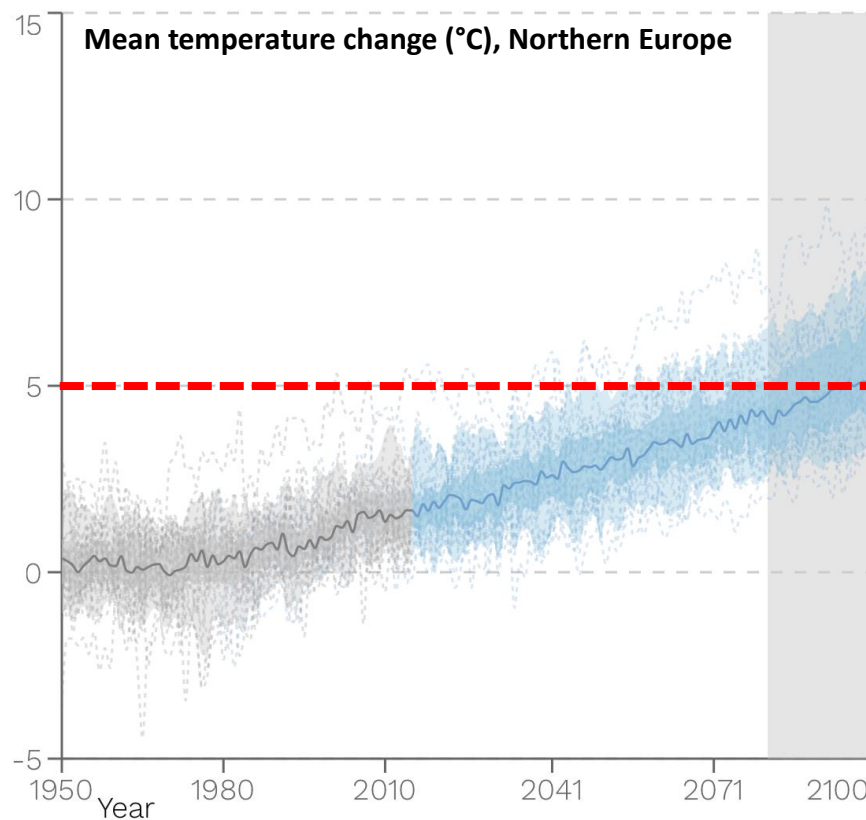


2.0 C

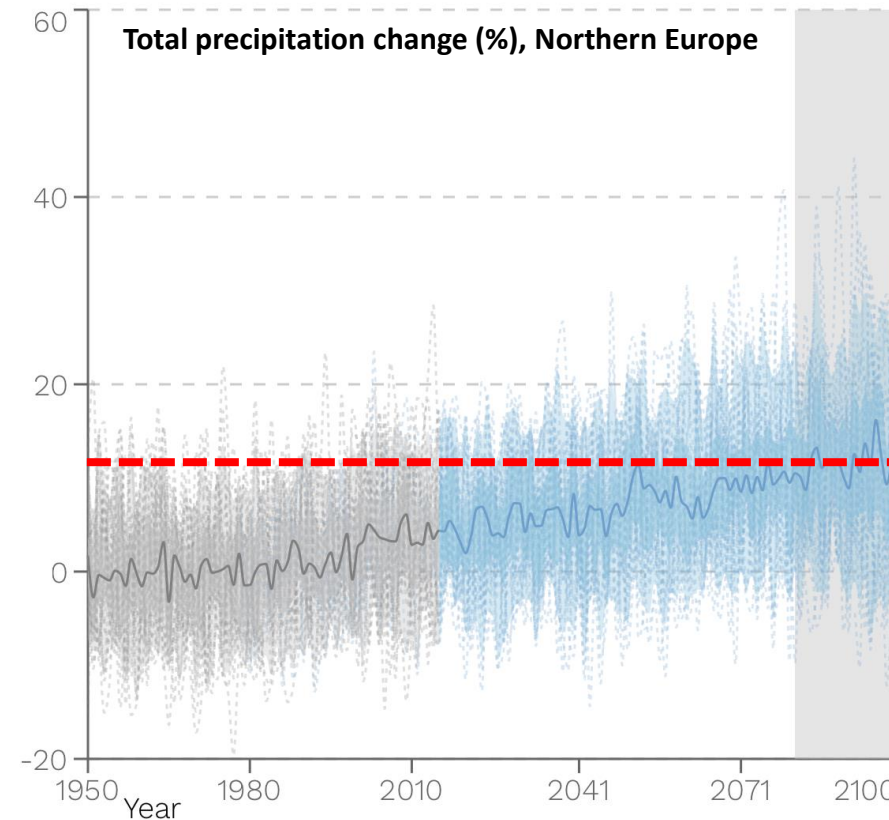
Region: Northern Europe



Scenario: SSP3-7.0

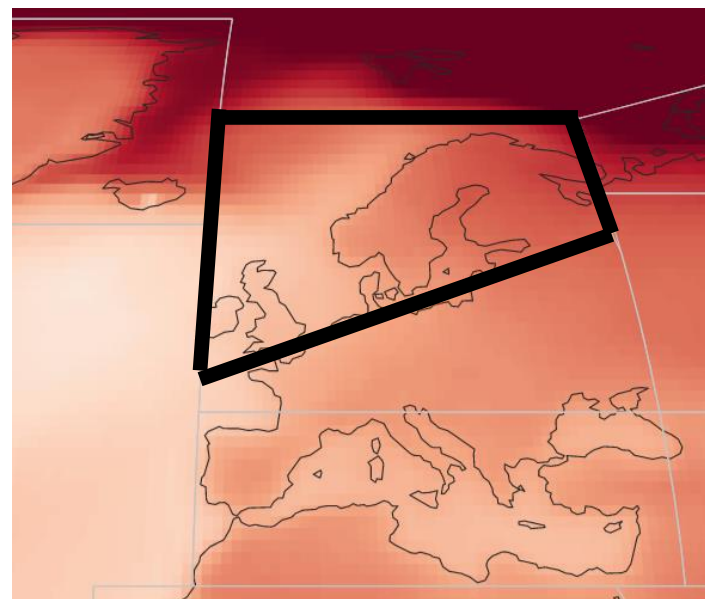


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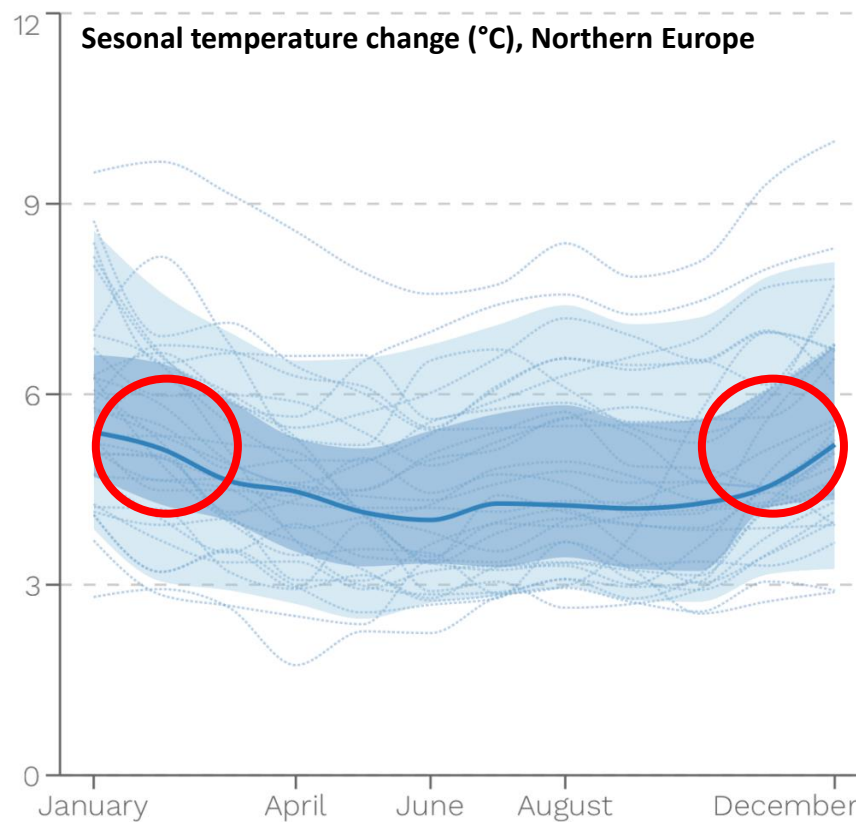


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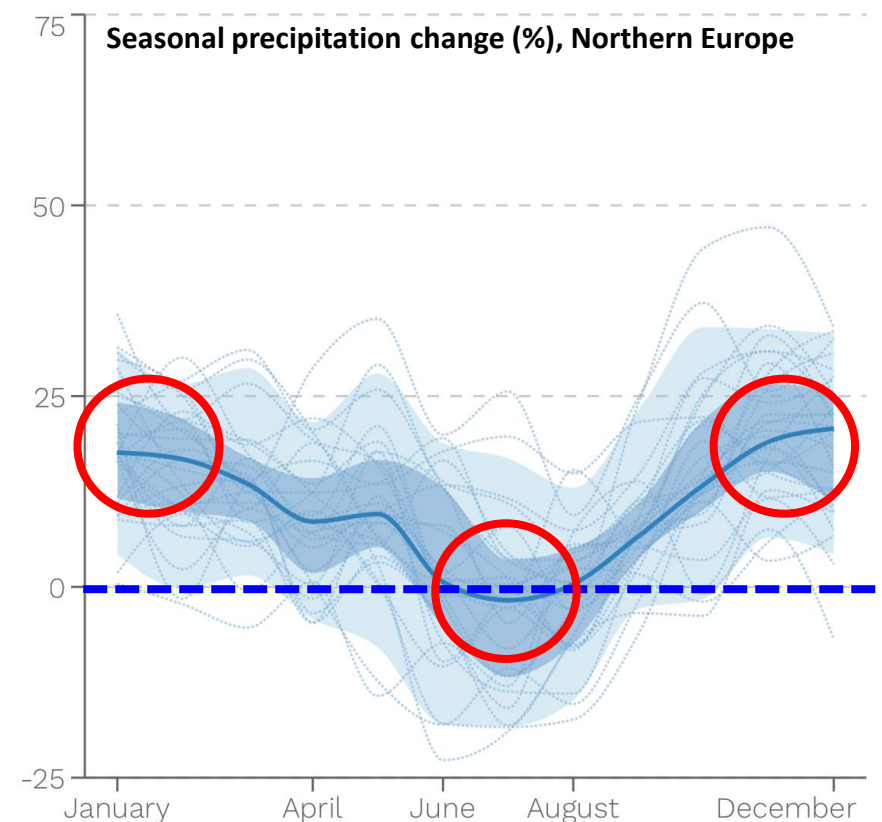
Region: Northern Europe



Scenario: SSP3-7.0

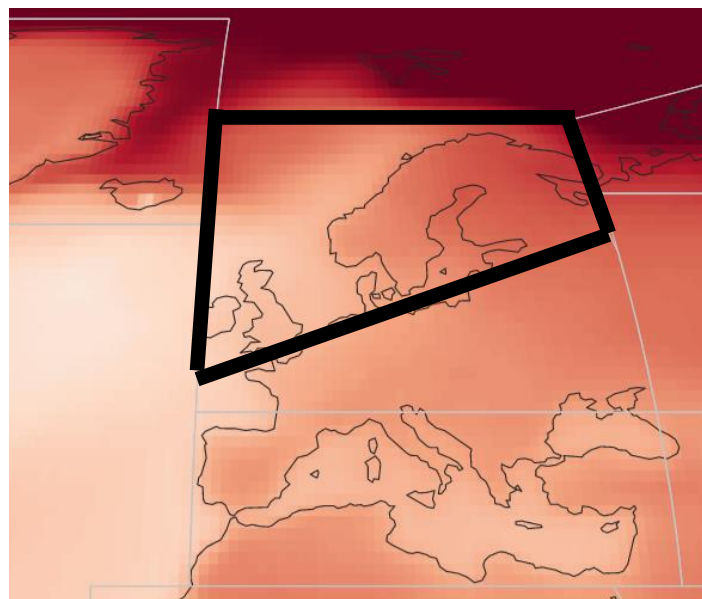


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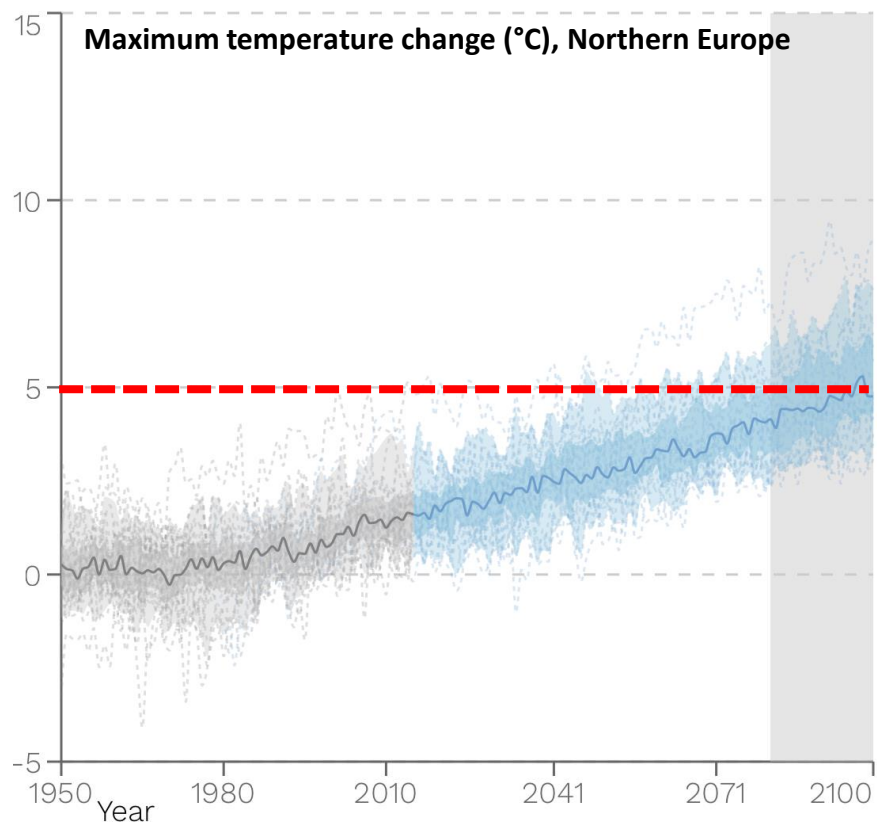


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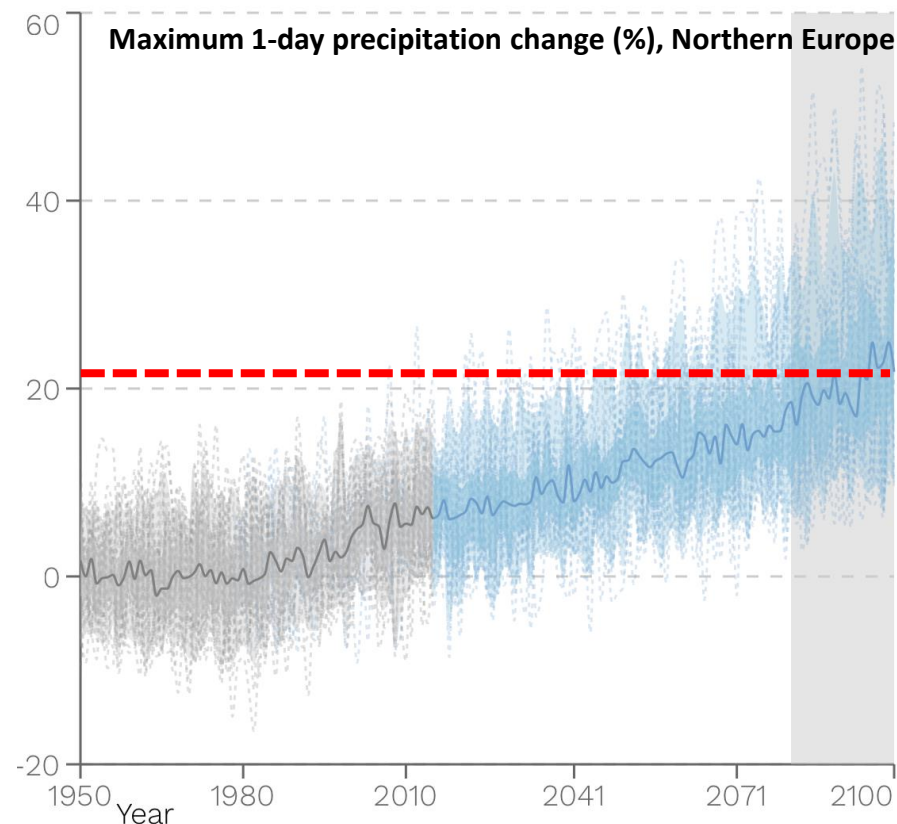
Region: Northern Europe



Scenario: SSP3-7.0



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Summary, Overview Table (changes from today and to 2100)

Region, Today–2100	Northern Europe	Central Europe	Southern Europe	Western US	Central US	Eastern US	SE South America	S South America	Southern Australia	New Zealand	East Asia
Mean temperature change (C)	2.5 to 3.5	2.5 to 4.0	2.5 to 3.5	3.0 to 4.5	3.5 to 5.5	3.5 to 4.5	2.5 to 3.5	1.5 to 2.5	2.0 to 3.0	2.0 to 3.0	3.0 to 4.0
Maximum temperature change (C)	2.5 to 3.5	3.0 to 4.0	3.0 to 4.0	3.0 to 4.5	3.5 to 5.0	3.5 to 4.5	2.5 to 3.5	1.5 to 2.5	2.0 to 3.0	2.0 to 3.0	3.0 to 4.0
Seasonal variability, temperature	W (++) S (+)	W (+) S (++)	W (+) S (++)	W (+) S (++)	W (+) S (++)	W (+) S (+)	W (+) S (+)	W (++) S (+)	W (++) S (+)	W (++) S (+)	W (+) S (+)
Total precipitation change (%)	5 to 8	-5 to 10	-10 to -20	7 to 15	-8 to 12	5 to 10	0 to 15	0 to 7	0 to -10	5 to -5	0 to 15
Maximum precipitation change (%)	8 to 18	10 to 20	4 to 9	10 to 20	10 to 25	10 to 25	10 to 20	10 to 20	10 to 20	15 to 25	15 to 25
Seasonal variability, precipitation	W (+) S (same)	W (+) S (-)	W (-) S (-)	W (+) S (-, same)	W (+) S (-)	W (+) S (-)	W (-) S (+)	W (+) S (-)	W (-) S (-)	W (same) S (same)	W (-, same) S (+)

OUR POSSIBLE CLIMATE FUTURES



+1.5°C

+2°C

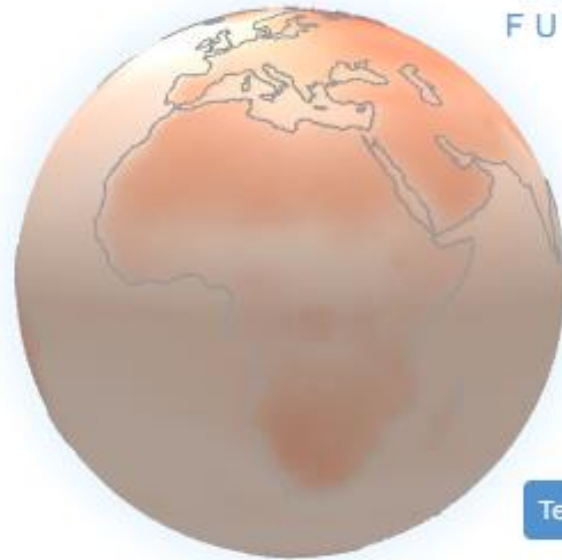
+3°C

+4°C

Temperature

Precipitation

OUR POSSIBLE CLIMATE FUTURES



+1.5°C

+2°C

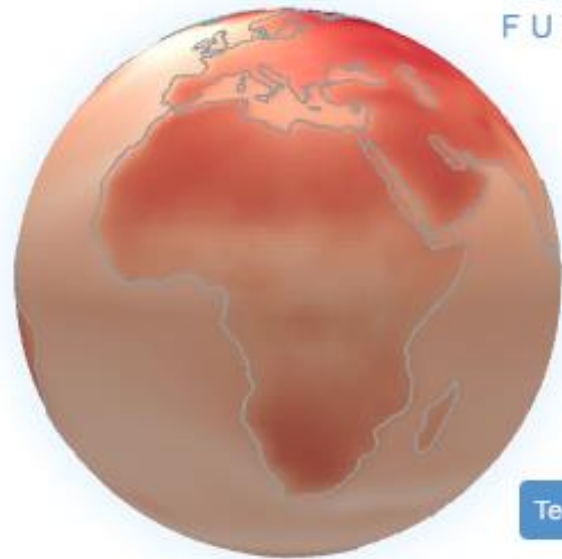
+3°C

+4°C

Temperature

Precipitation

OUR POSSIBLE CLIMATE FUTURES



+1.5°C

+2°C

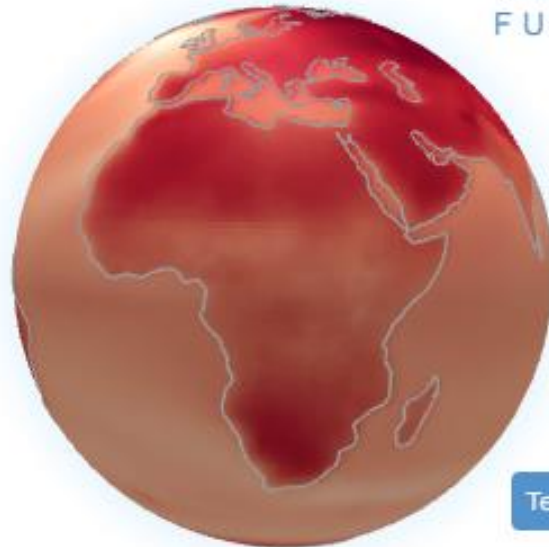
+3°C

+4°C

Temperature

Precipitation

OUR POSSIBLE CLIMATE FUTURES



+1.5°C

+2°C

+3°C

+4°C

Temperature

Precipitation

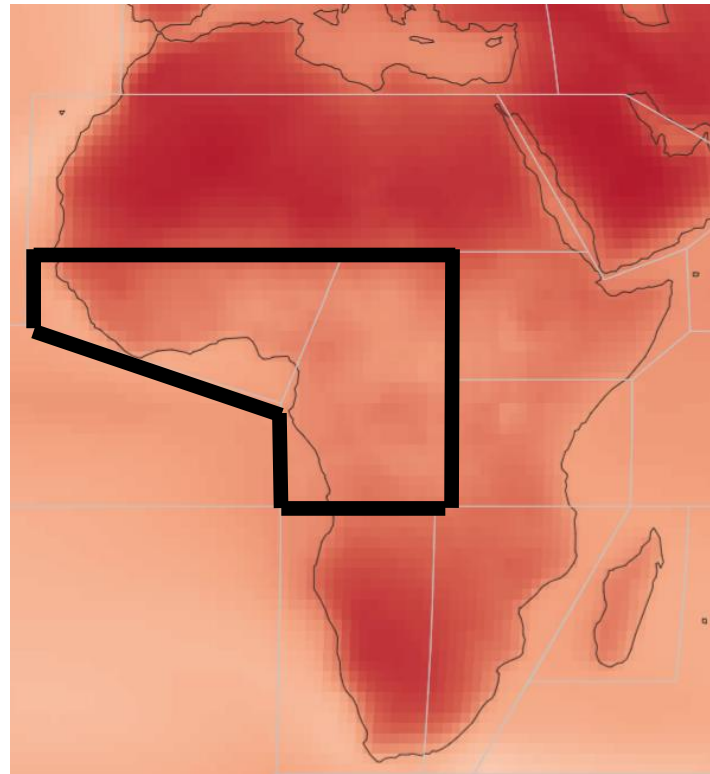
Region: Africa

Over most parts of Africa, **minimum temperatures have warmed more rapidly than maximum temperatures** during the last 50 to 100 years (medium confidence).

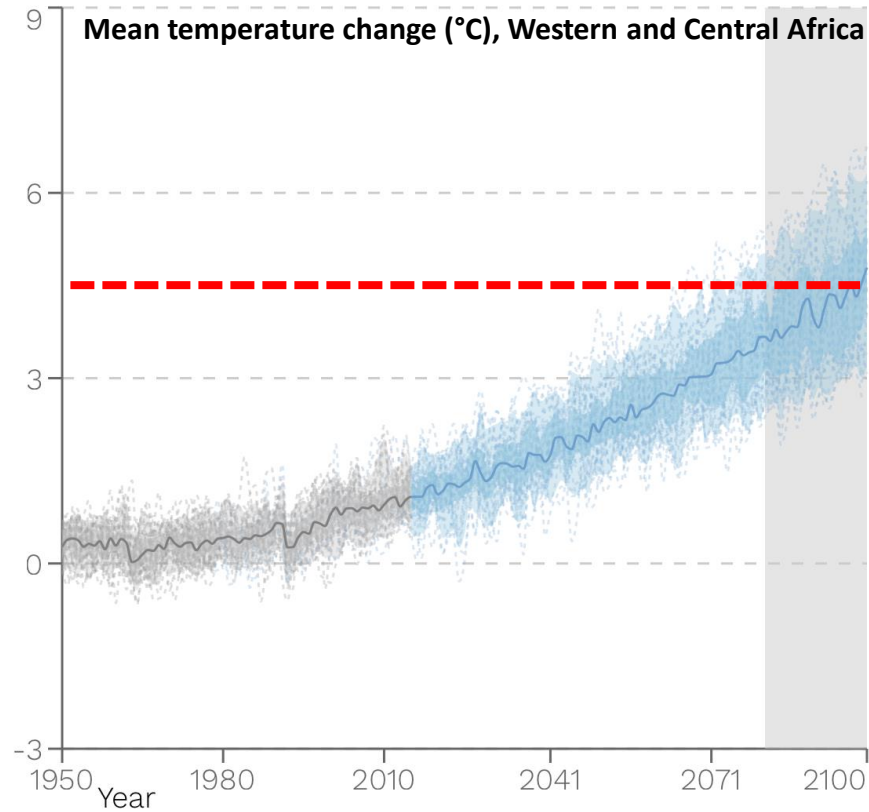
In the same period, **minimum and maximum temperatures have increased by more than 0.5°C** relative to 1850–1900 (high confidence).

Surface air temperatures in Africa are projected to rise **faster than the global average increase** and are likely to increase by more than **2°C and up to 6°C by the end of the century**, relative to the late 20th century, if global warming reaches 2°C.

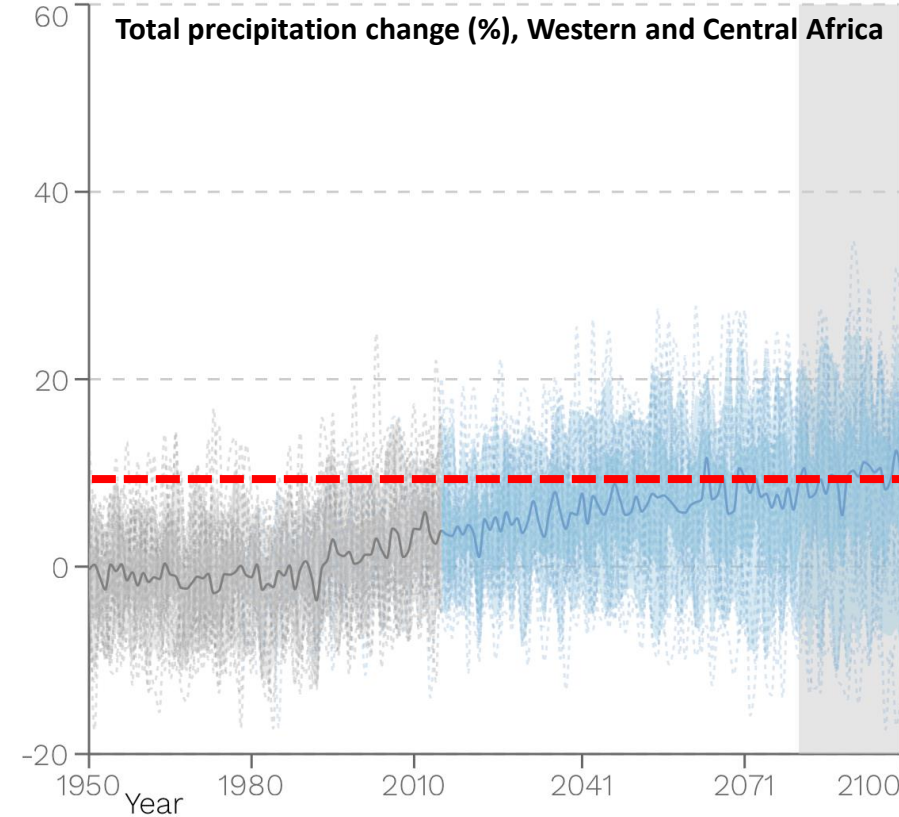
Region: Western and Central Africa



Scenario: SSP3-7.0

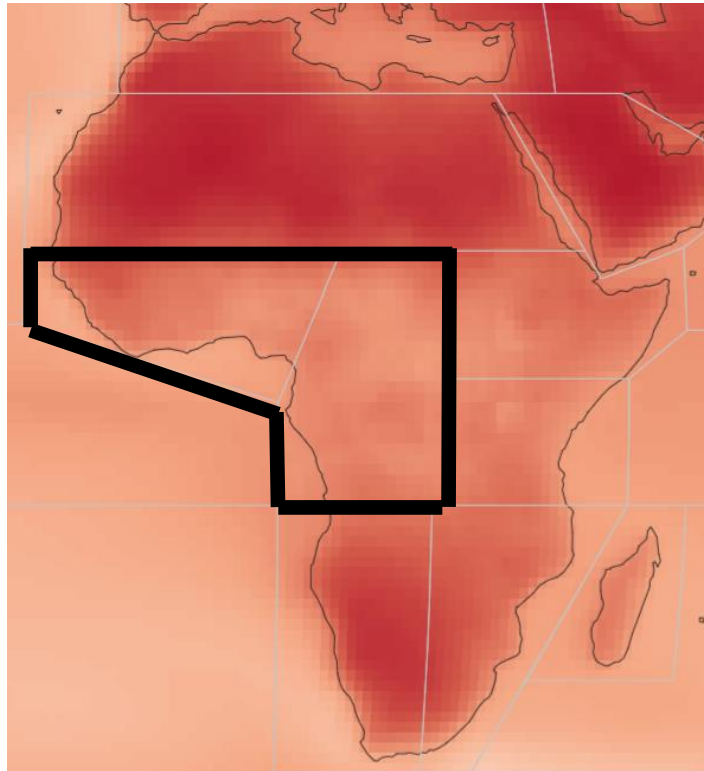


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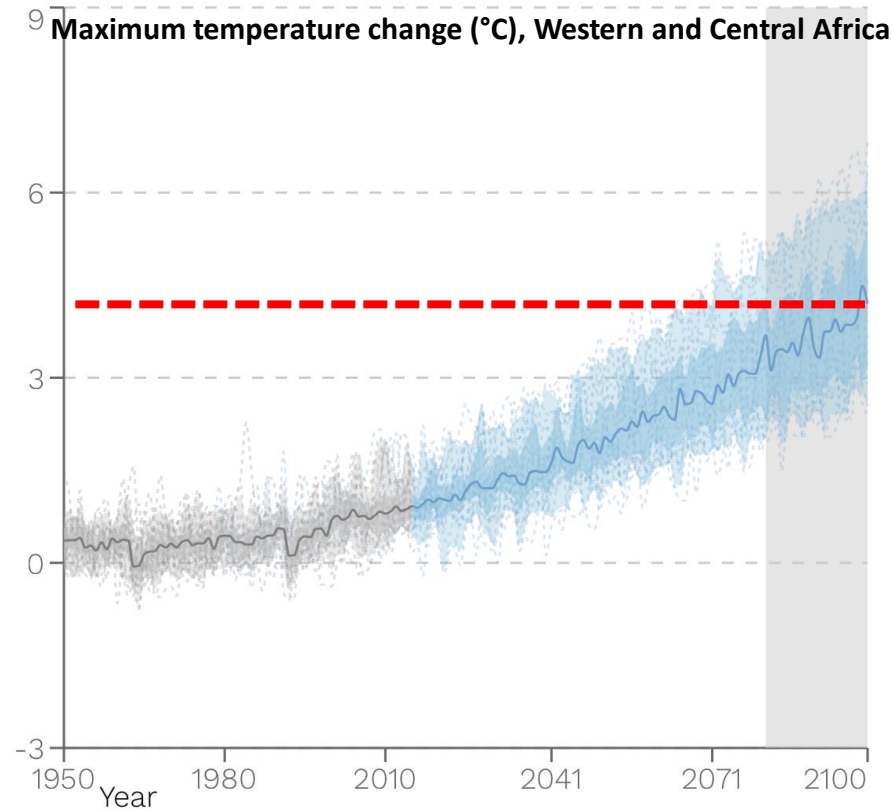


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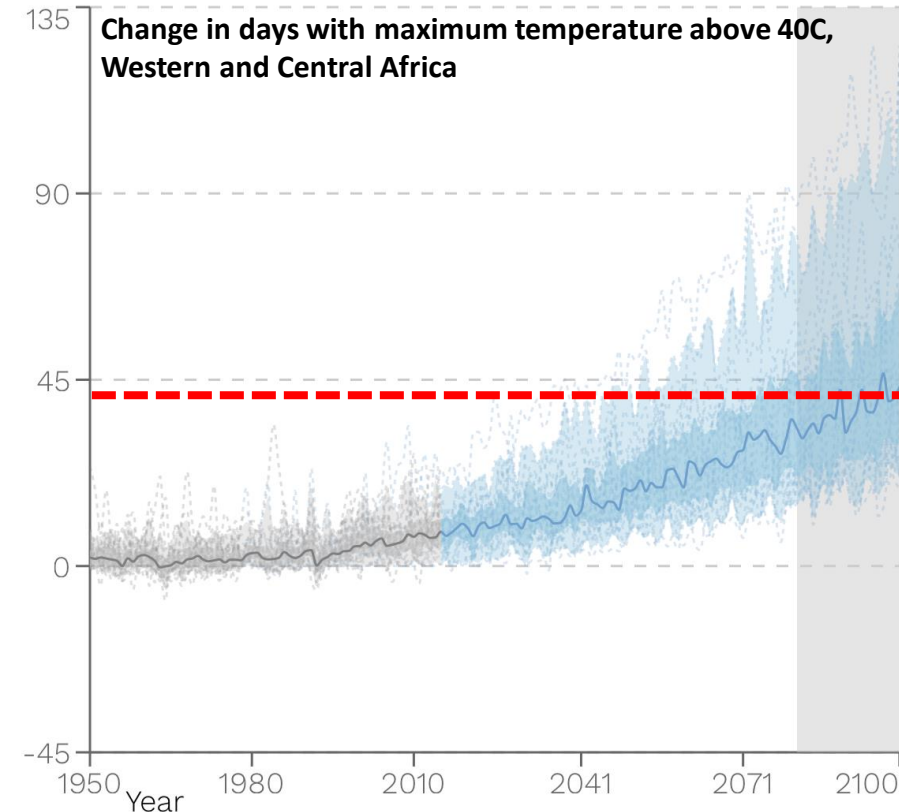
Region: Western and Central Africa



Scenario: SSP3-7.0

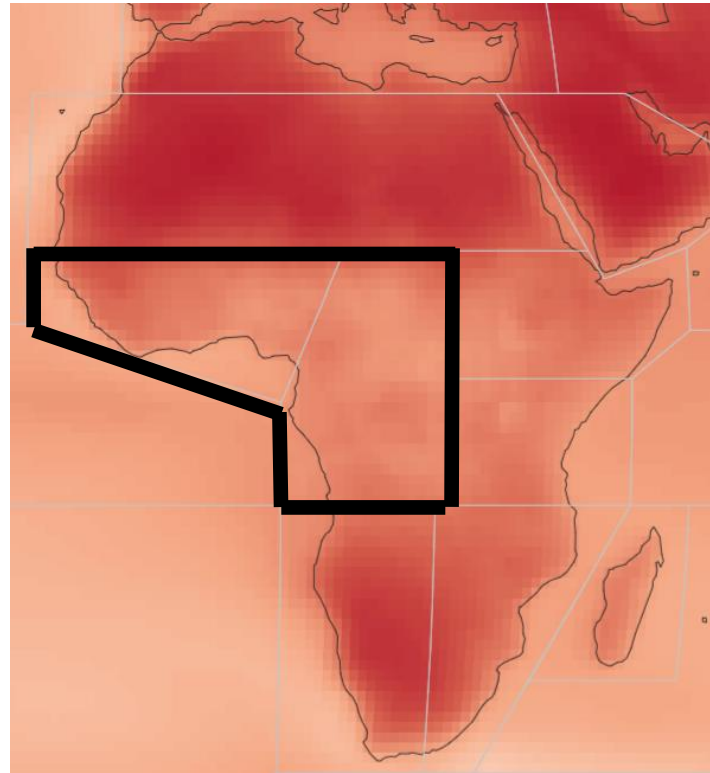


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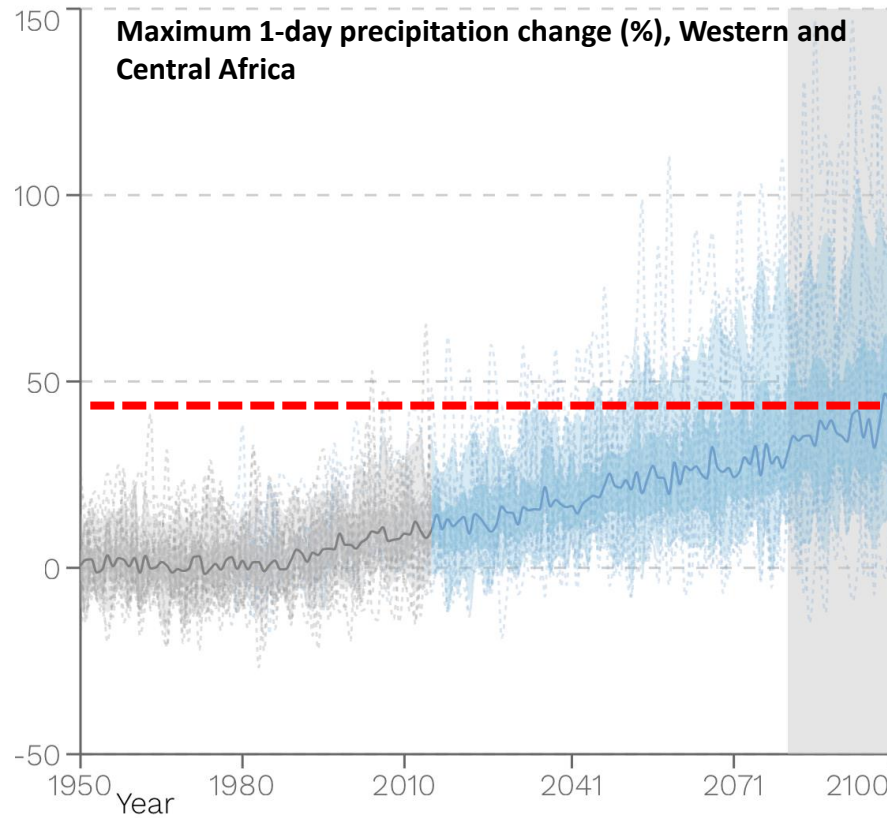


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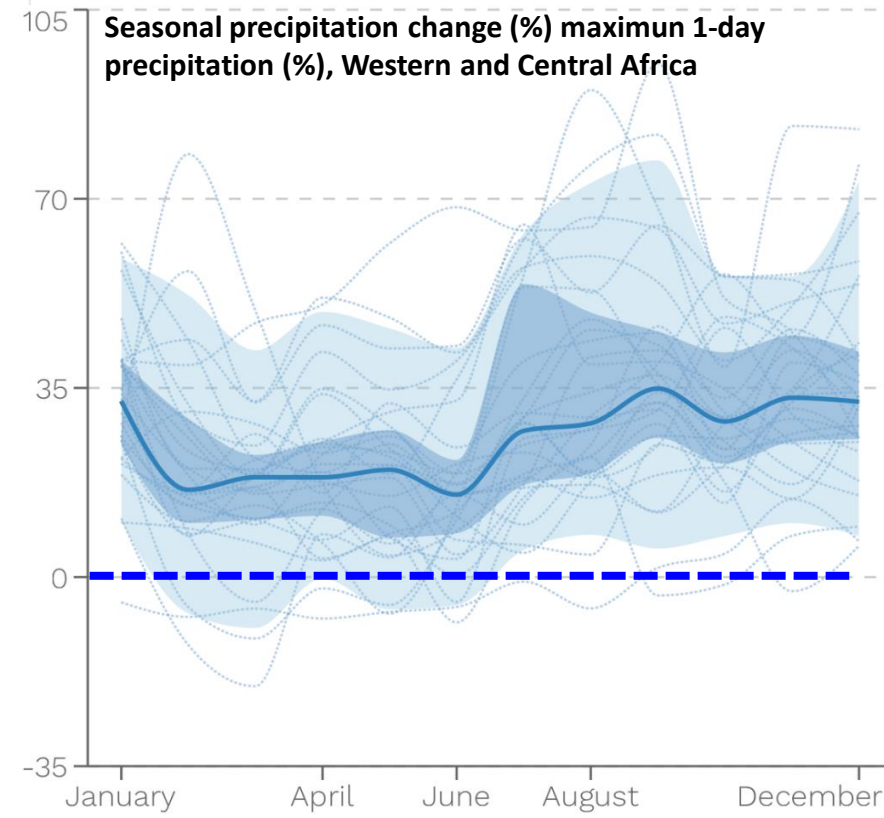
Region: Western and Central Africa



Scenario: SSP3-7.0

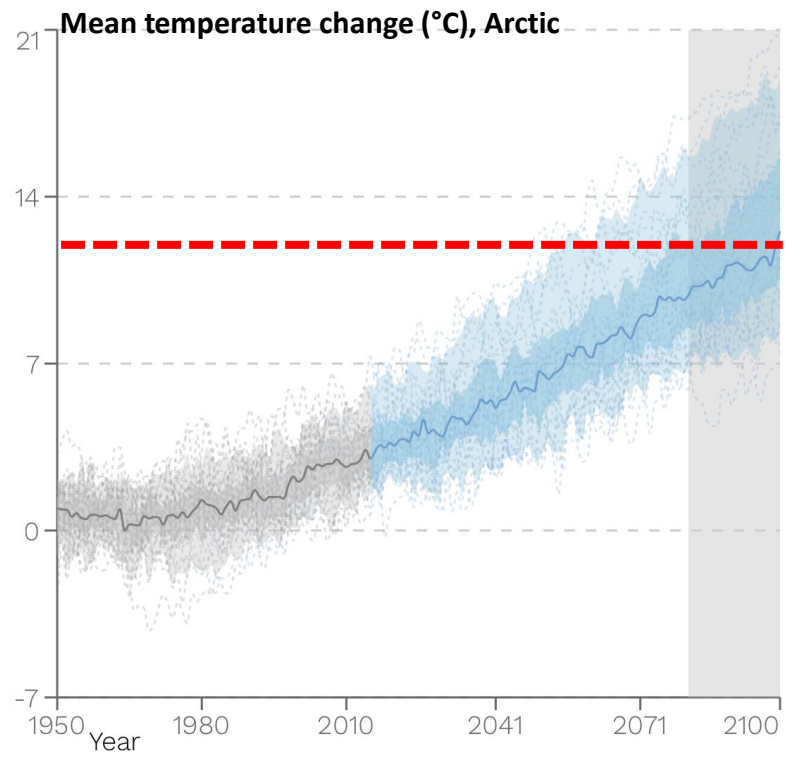


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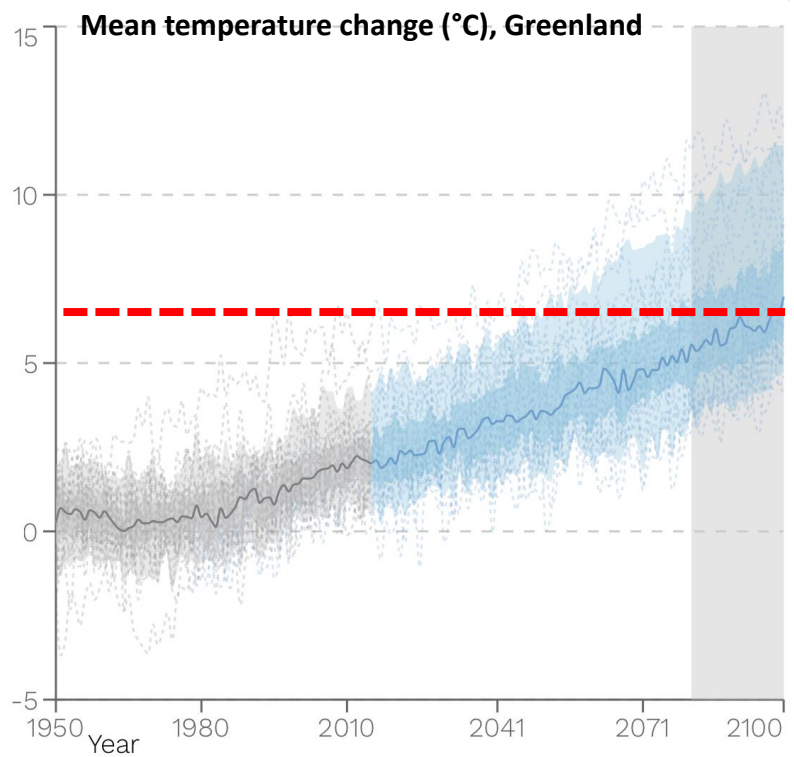


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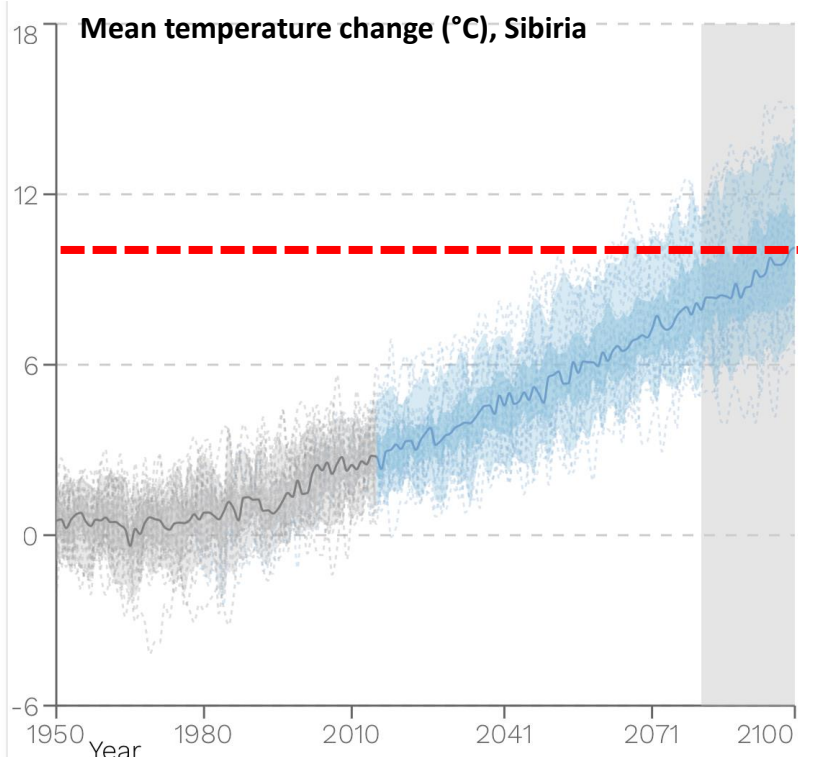
Region: Arctic, Greenland and Sibiria



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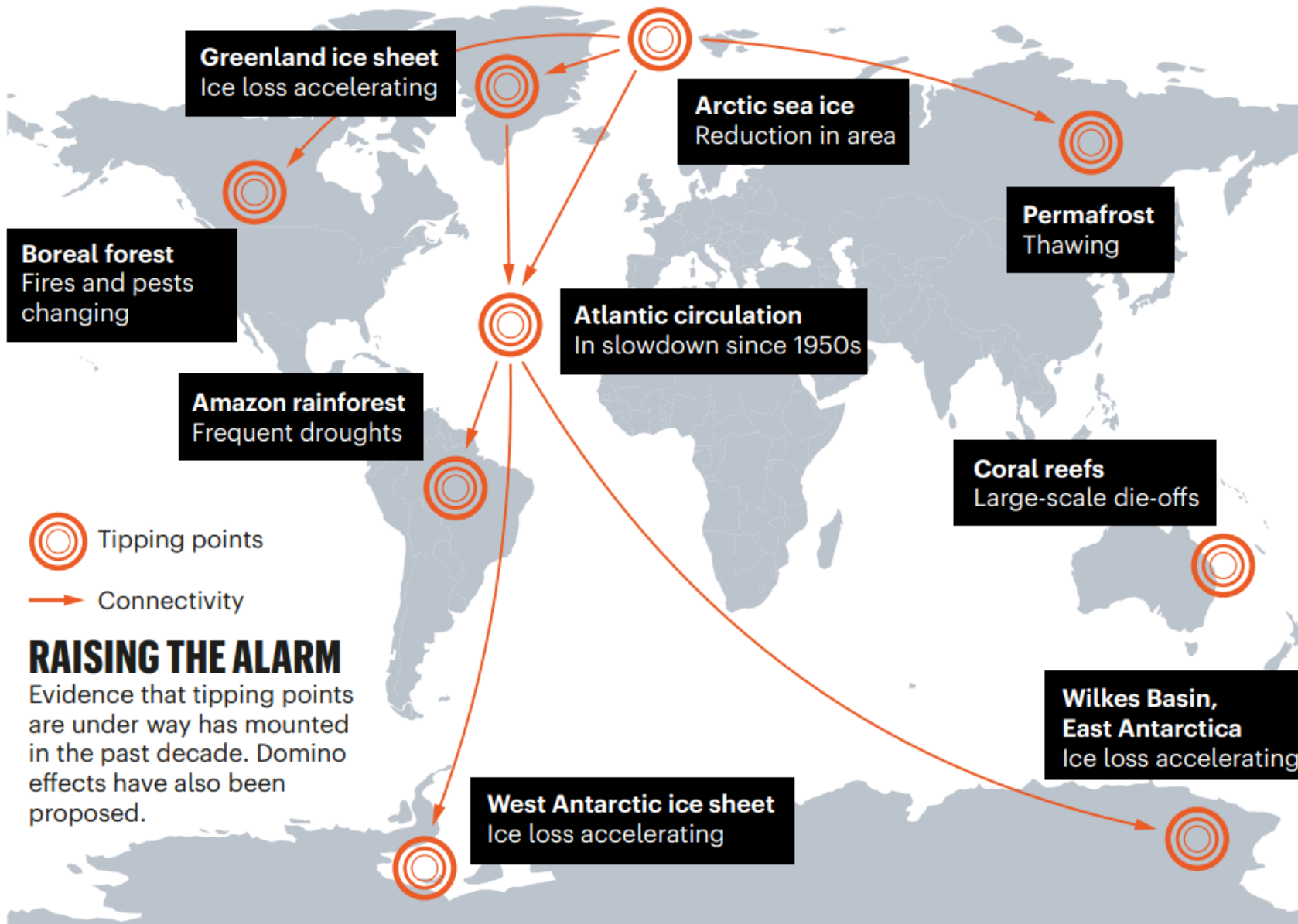


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Evidence that tipping points are under way...



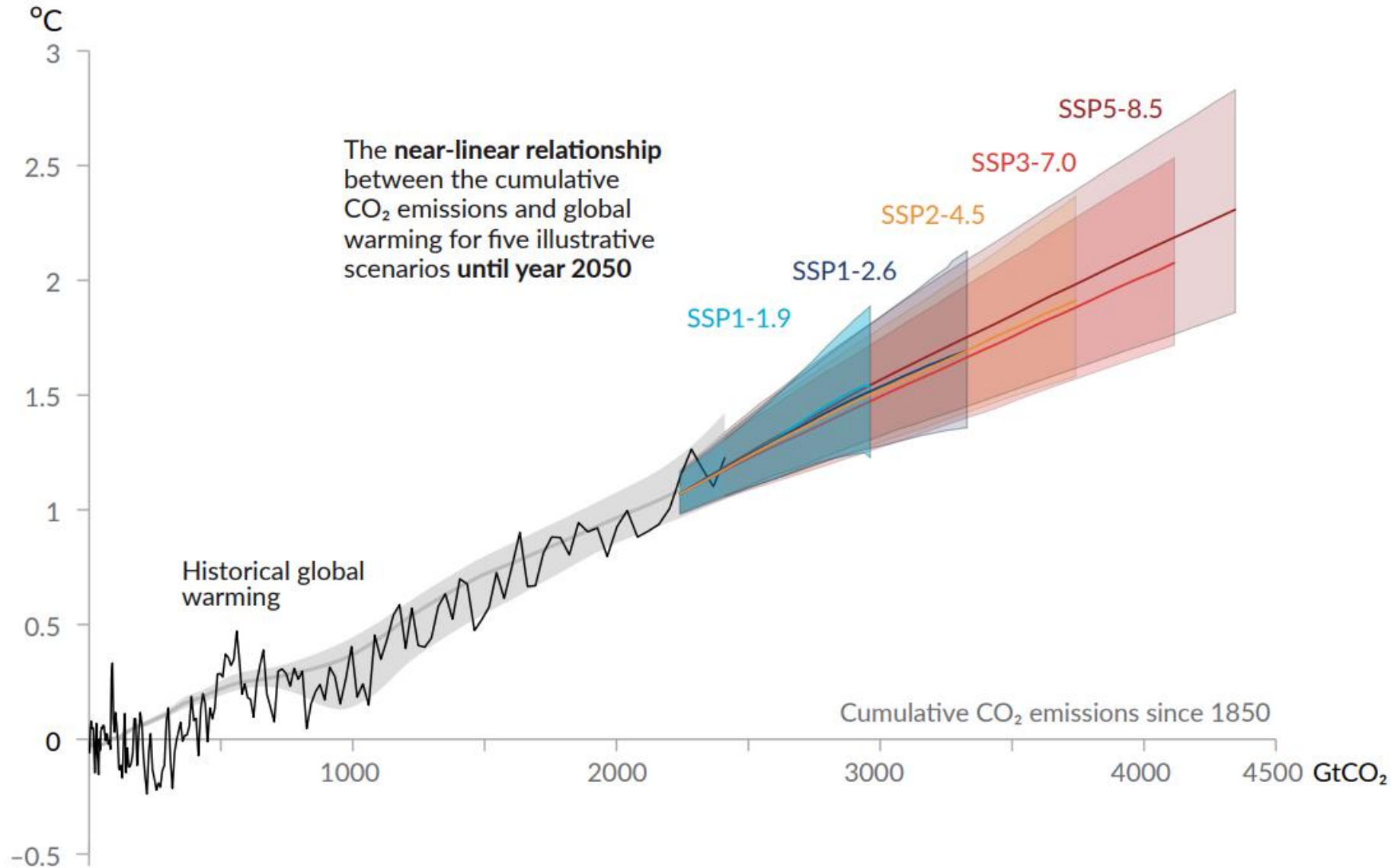
RAISING THE ALARM

Evidence that tipping points are under way has mounted in the past decade. Domino effects have also been proposed.

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).**

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)

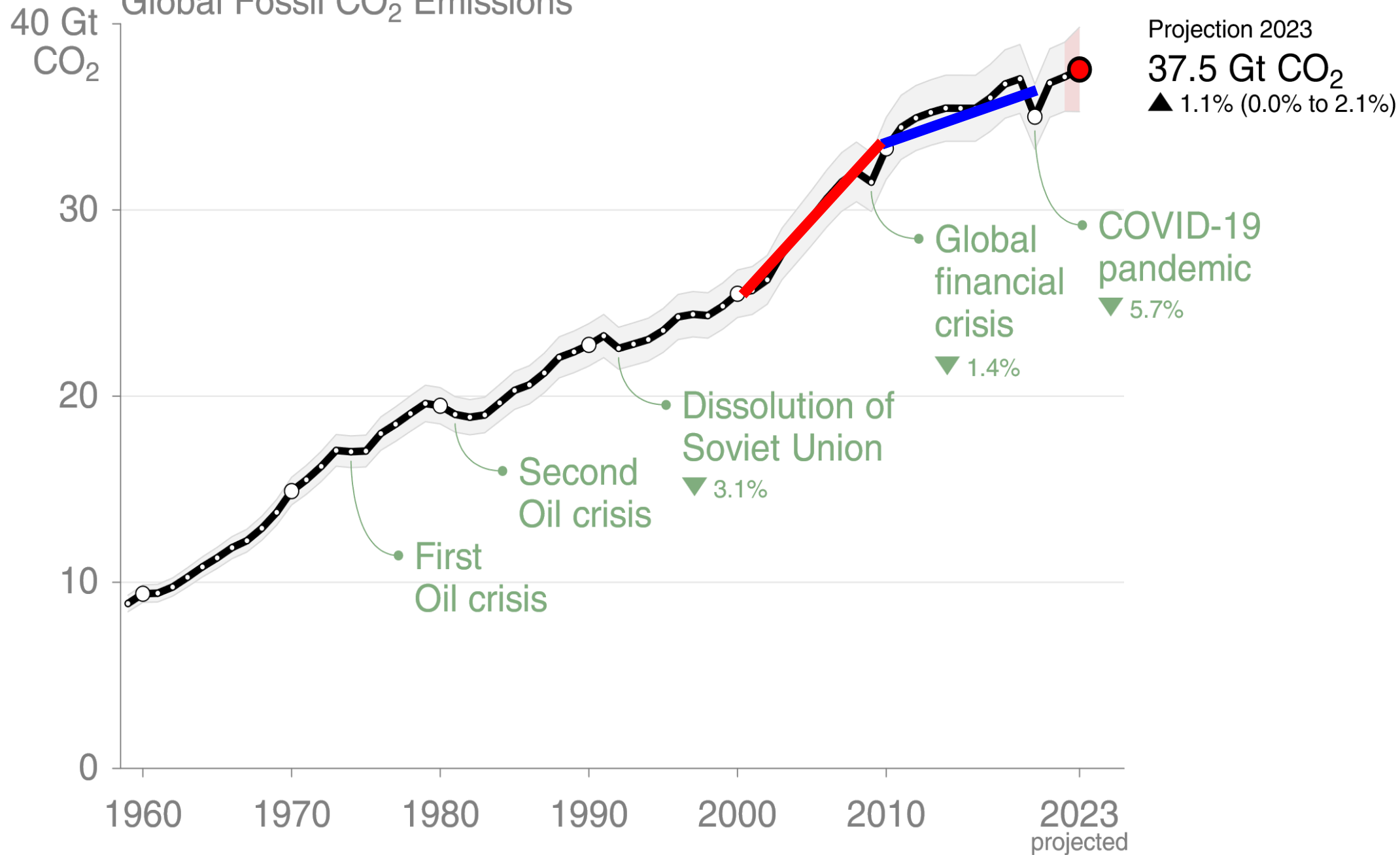


AR6, WG1 (2021):

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

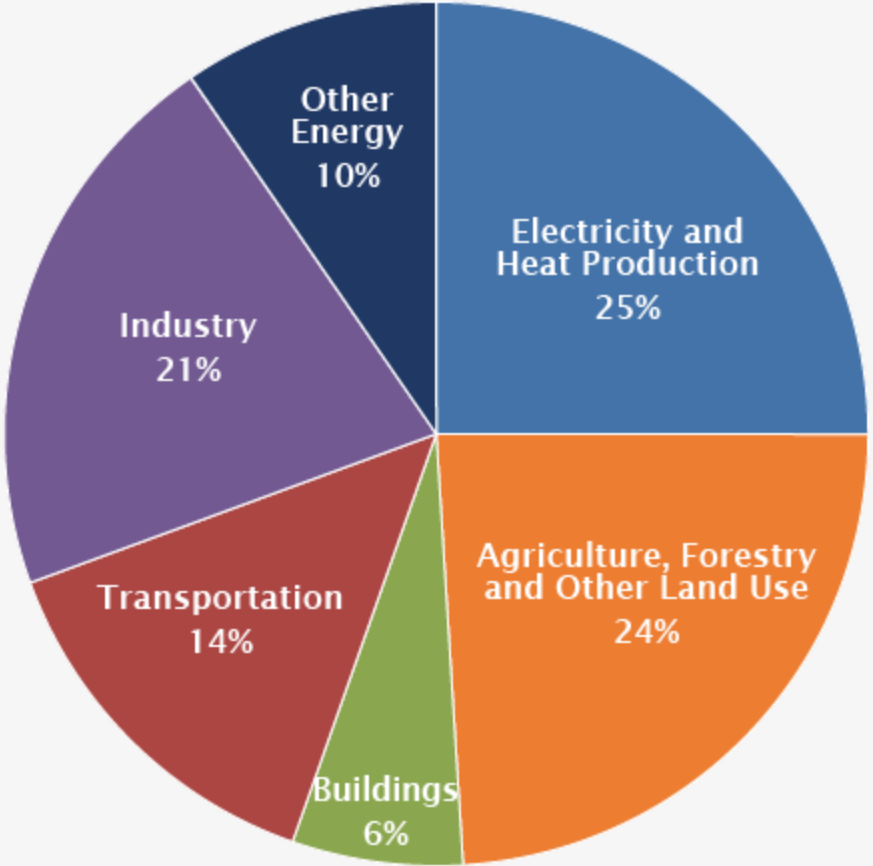
		Estimated remaining carbon budgets from the beginning of 2020 (GtCO ₂)				
		<i>Likelihood of limiting global warming to temperature limit^b</i>				
Approximate global warming relative to 1850–1900 until temperature limit (°C) ^a		17%	33%	50%	67%	83%
1.5		900	650	500	400	300
2.0		2300	1700	1350	1150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

Global Fossil CO₂ Emissions





Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Economic Sector

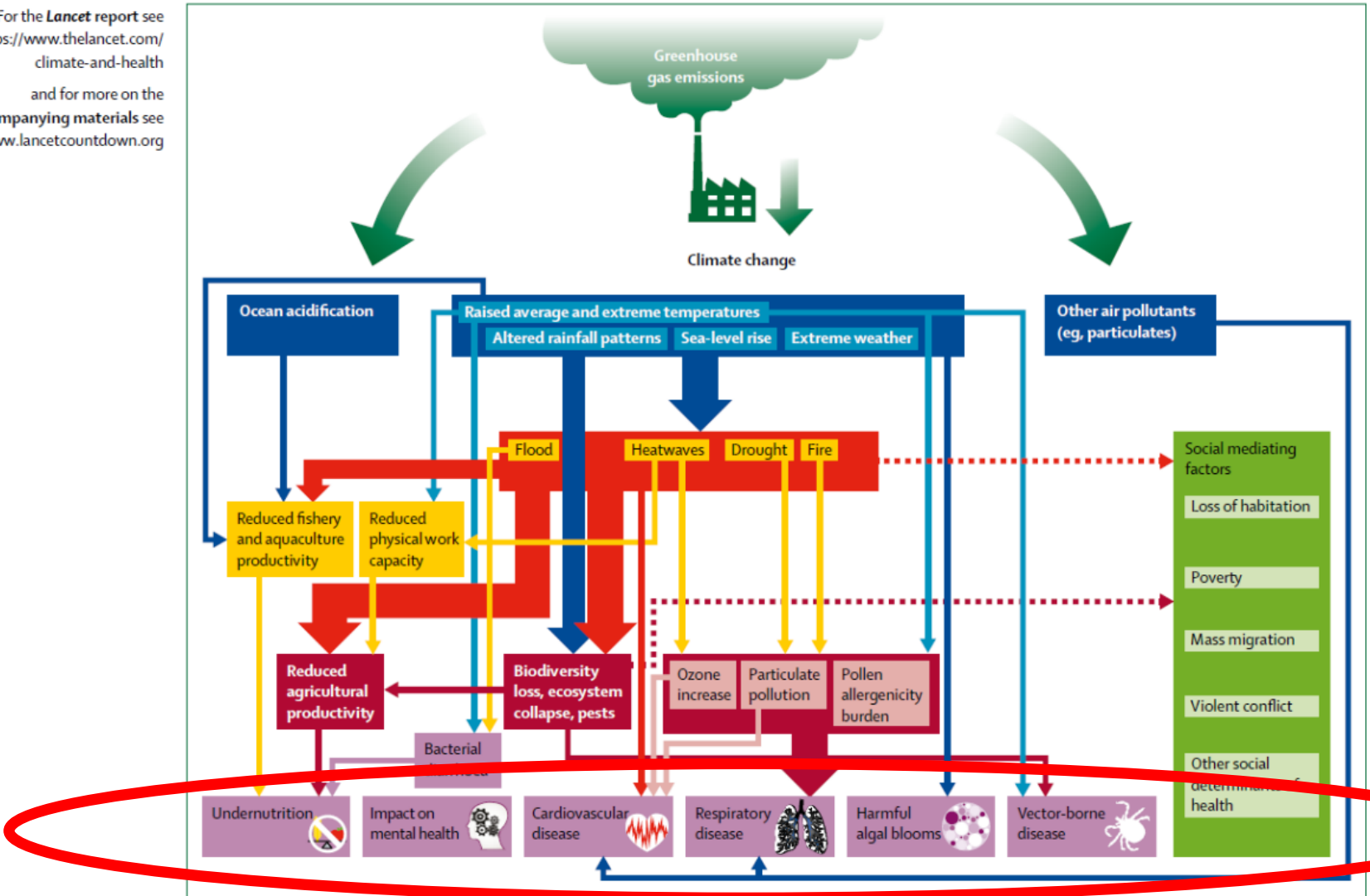




Impacts of Climate Change on Human Health

The Lancet Countdown Report, 2019

For the *Lancet* report see <https://www.thelancet.com/climate-and-health>
and for more on the accompanying materials see www.lancetcountdown.org



- **Undernutrition**
- **Impact on mental health**
- **Cardiovascular disease**
- **Respiratory disease**
- **Harmful algal blooms**
- **Vector-borne disease**

Figure 1: The pathways between climate change and human health

Thank you for your attention...

mernild@sdu.dk

