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METEOROLOGISKA INSTITUTET  
FINNISH METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

# Climate change

WEATHER – SEA – CLIMATE – SPACE

6.10.2025 Prof Petteri Taalas, Director General



# Petteri Taalas

**Secretary General of the WMO 2016-19, 2020-23, 193 Members**  
**Director at the WMO Development & Regional Activities 2005-7**

**Director General of the Finnish Meteorological Institute 2002- 760 staff, ~100 M€/year**

**Professor & scientist 1986-2002: climate, atmospheric chemistry, satellites, Arctic/Antarctica**

## Climate expertise

- Leader of science programs of European Commission, NASA, EUMETSAT, Finnish Academy
- IPCC delegate of Finland, chair of IPCC group 2008-2015
- Opening speaker at COP 22-27
- European of the year 2021/Readers Digest: climate science communication

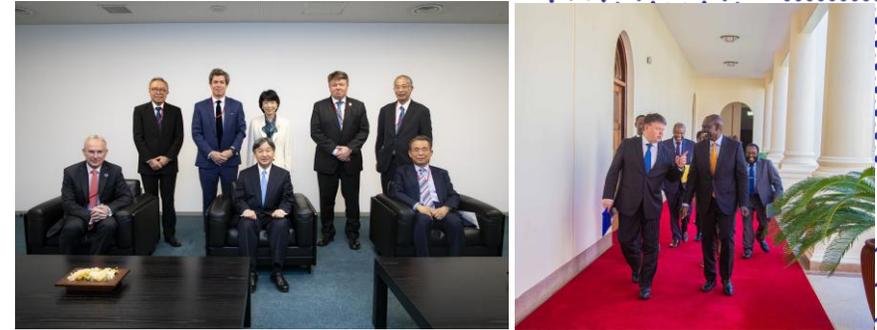
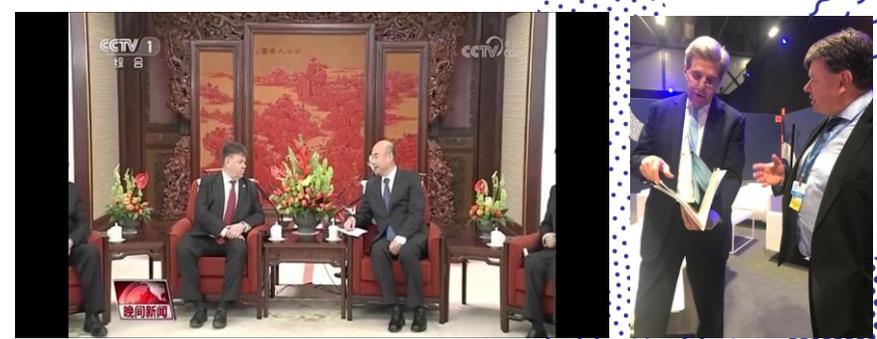
**Chairman of EUMETSAT Council 2010-, 500 staff, ~400 M€/year**

**Univ. of Eastern Finland, Chairman of the Board 2009-15, 2800 staff, 15000 students, 260 M€**

**Fortum energy company, board member 2014-16, advisory board 2011**

**PhD & MSc Helsinki Univ., management training Uni. Pierre & Marie Curie etc.**

**Member of Finnish Science Academy and Academy of Technical Sciences**



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WMO EUMETSAT



UNIVERSITY OF  
EASTERN FINLAND



# Organization & budget

**DIRECTOR  
GENERAL'S OFFICE**  
PETTERI TAALAS

**Communications group**  
Nina Kukkurainen

**Research Coordination group**  
Jari Liski

**METEOROLOGICAL  
AND MARINE RESEARCH  
PROGRAMME**  
SAMI NIEMELÄ

**Meteorological Research**  
Anders Lindfors  
**Marine Research**  
Laura Tuomi  
**Weather and Climate  
Change Impact Research**  
Hilppa Gregow

**CLIMATE RESEARCH  
PROGRAMME**  
HANNELE KORHONEN

**Climate System Research**  
Annalea Lohila  
**Atmospheric  
Composition**  
Antti Hyvärinen  
**Atmospheric Research  
Centre of Eastern Finland**  
Sami Romakkaniemi

**SPACE AND EARTH  
OBSERVATION CENTRE**  
JOUNI PULLIAINEN

**Earth Observation  
Research**  
Johanna Tamminen  
**Space Research and  
Observation Technologies**  
Ari-Matti Harri  
**Arctic Space Centre**  
Jyri Heilimo

**OBSERVING AND  
INFORMATION SYSTEMS  
CENTRE**  
TARJA RIIHISAARI

**Observation Services**  
Vesa Kurki  
**ICT and Data  
Production**  
Matti Keränen  
**Service Development**  
Mikko Visa

**WEATHER, SEA AND  
CLIMATE SERVICE CENTRE**  
JUHANA HYRKKÄNEN

**Weather and  
Safety Centre**  
Anssi Vähämäki  
**Customer Services**  
Jaakko Nuottokari  
**Expert Services**  
Harri Pietarila

**ADMINISTRATION**  
MARKO VILJANEN

**Financial**  
Janna Karasjärvi  
**Personnel**  
Minna Laatikainen  
**Administrative  
Services**  
Jaana Palmunoksa

**Quality Manager**  
Sanna Mäkinen

**Risk Management Manager**  
Sanna Matikainen

**Chief Architect**  
Mikko Rauhala

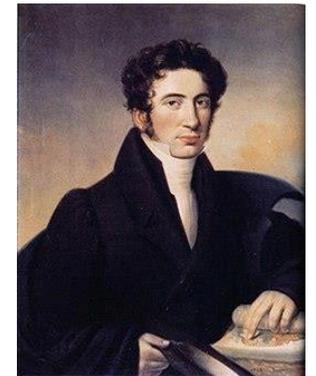
**Production Manager**  
Anu Petäjä

**Information Security Manager**  
Simo Poskiparta

**Security Manager**  
Veli-Pekka Rautava

**Preparedness Manager**  
Ari-Juhani Punkka

- FMI is a **government service and research institute** responsible for atmospheric, marine and space observations & services, modelling and research in Finland
- **Security authority**, responsible for defense sector forecasting and observing services
- **760 employees** (30% PhD's), > 350 peer-reviewed publications annually
- **Annual budget ~100 M€**, 55 M from government, 45 M services & research funds



# FMI: Wide range of 24/7 services

**New service concepts by using AI/ML under development**

**Road, railroad and pedestrian safety**

**Marine safety, ice services**

**Civil & military aviation**

**Emergency & safety authorities**

**Private sector: energy, agriculture, businesses**

**Media, general public**



## RESULTS AND QUALITY

RESULT 2024

TARGET 2024

Stakeholder satisfaction (scale 1-5)

4.34

4.0

Forecast accuracy (combination), %

-

-

Ranking in the accuracy of temperature forecasts compared to the Swedish and Norwegian meteorological institutes.

1

1

Accuracy of 1 day temperature forecast %

90.2

90

Wind warning accuracy (land areas) 1-2 days, %

81

80

Aerodrome forecast (TAF) accuracy, %

92.3

91

Number of citations in web of science database

27,911

27,900

Peer-reviewed articles (number)

397\*

370

## EFFICIENCY

Cost recovery of public law services, %

97

100

Cost recovery of commercial services, %

111

102

Cost recovery of co-funded projects, %

72

60

Amount of external research funding, 1,000 €

26,312

19,000

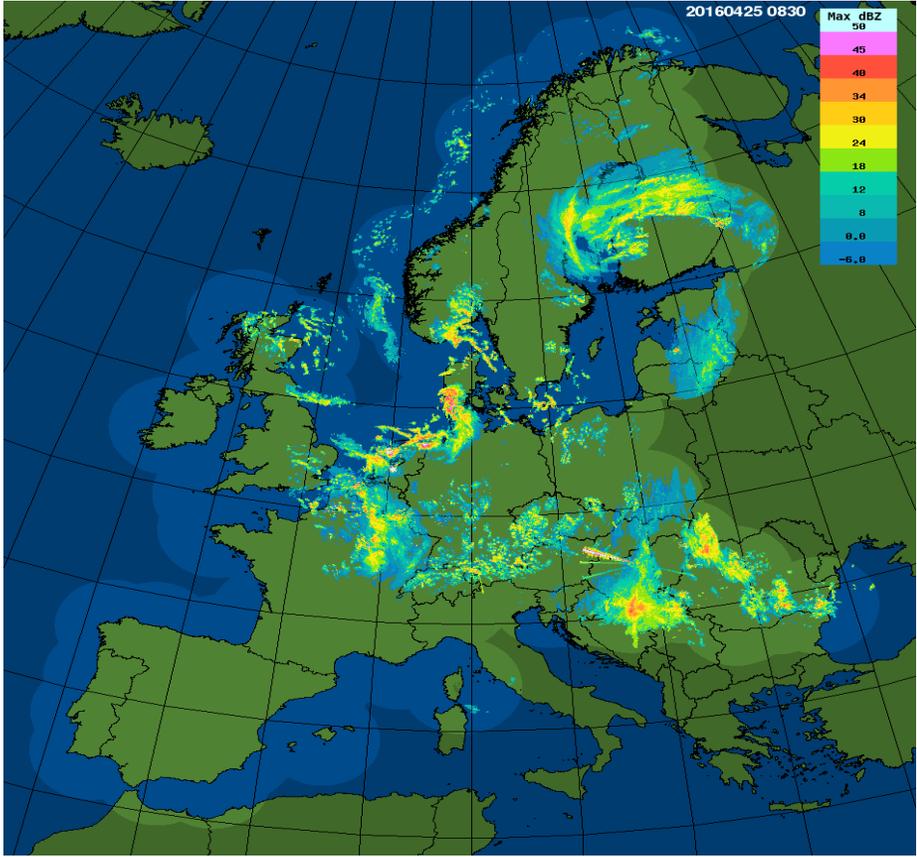
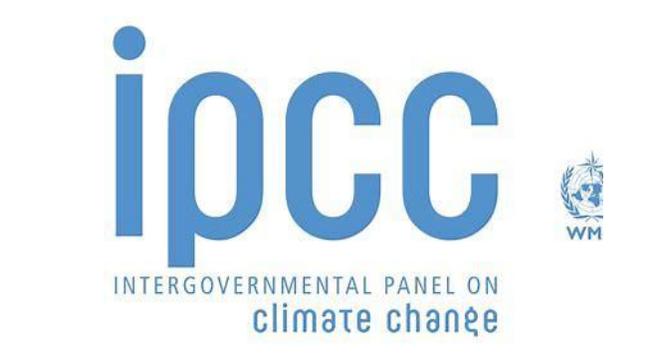
Research activity (publications/staff year)

1.28

1.35

\*The number of articles is from Justus publication registry

# International cooperation: ECMWF, EUMETSAT, WMO, IPCC



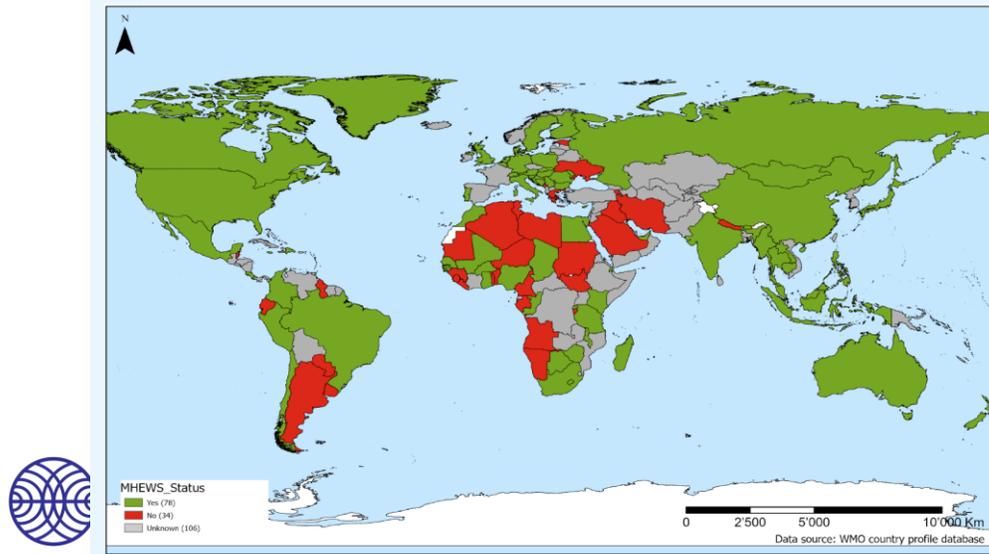
# Early warnings for all initiative for COP-27



"....Early warnings and action save lives. To that end, today I announce the United Nations will spearhead new action to ensure every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years. I have asked the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to lead this effort and to present an action plan at the next United Nations climate conference, later this year in Egypt...." UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres 23 March 2022

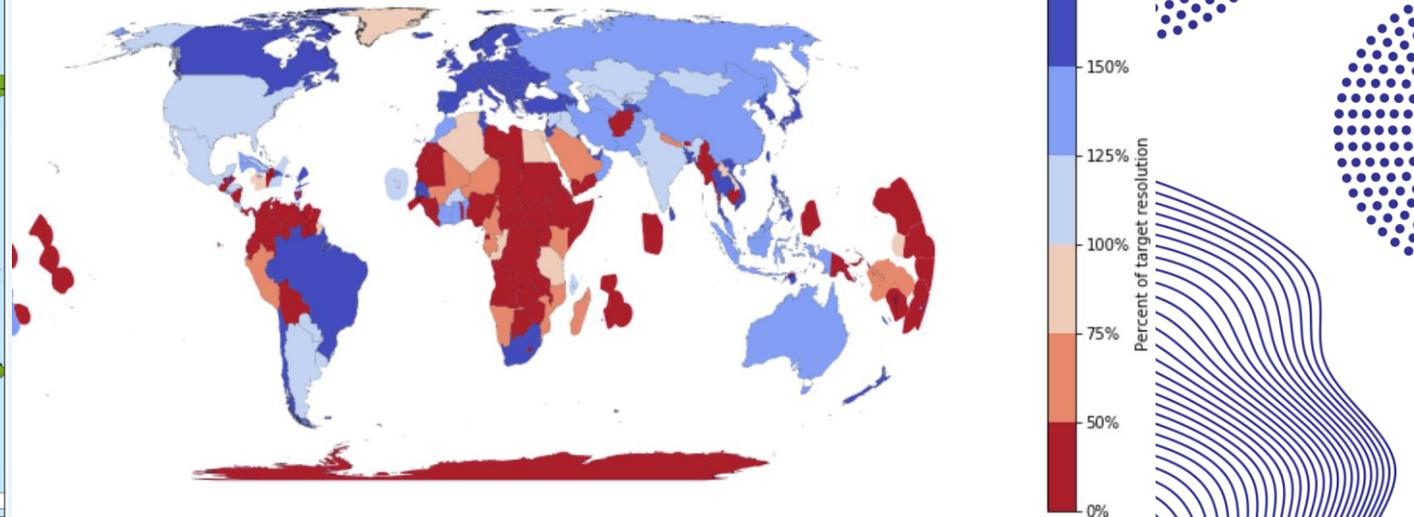
## Poor early warning services

Global Status of Early Warning System Coverage



## Gaps in basic observing systems

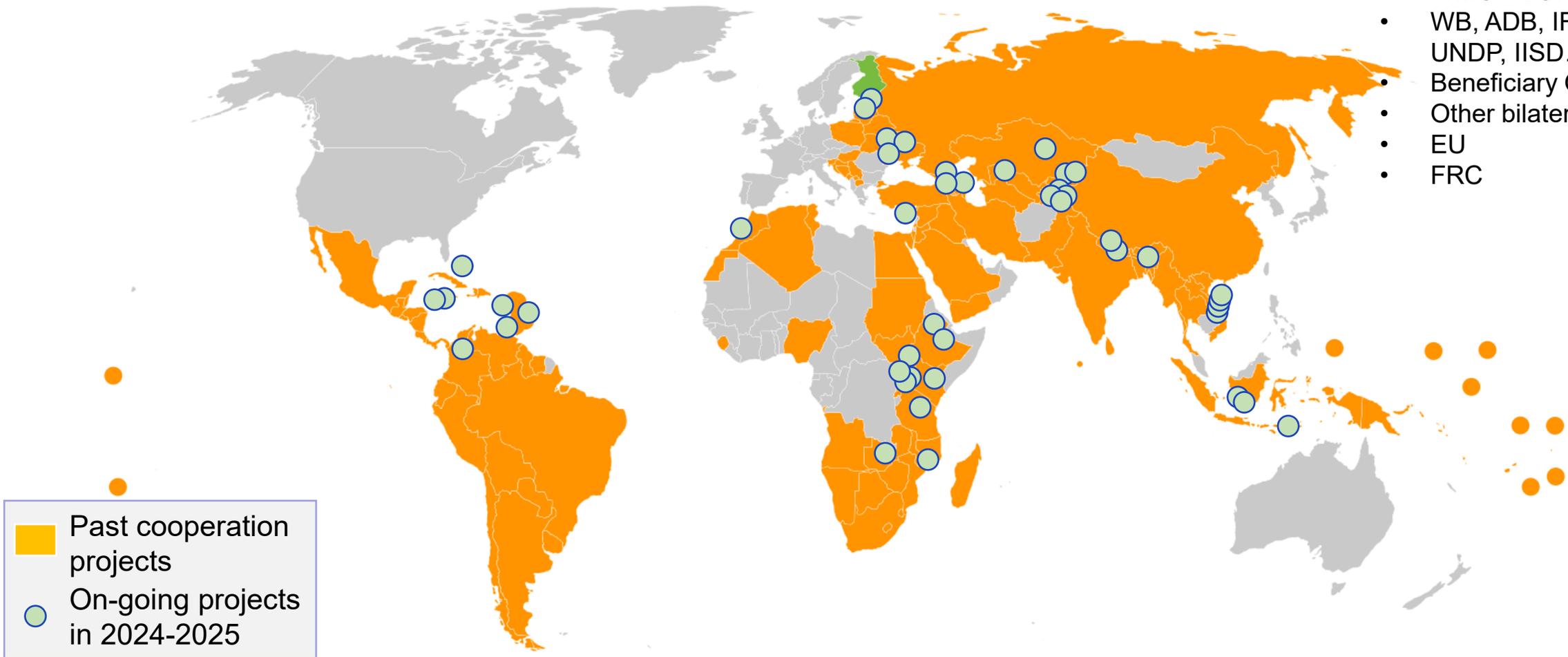
Surface Reporting Horizontal Resolution by Country and EEZ



# Consultancy projects of FMI in more than 100 countries

## Funding sources:

- MFA - ICI and PIF
- WMO - SOFF & CREWS
- WB, ADB, IFAD, UNEP, UNDP, IISD...
- Beneficiary Governments
- Other bilateral ODA
- EU
- FRC





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# Research infrastructures ACTRIS and ICOS

**ACTRIS** – Aerosol, Clouds and Trace Gases  
Research Infrastructure

**ICOS** – Integrated Carbon Observation System  
infrastructure



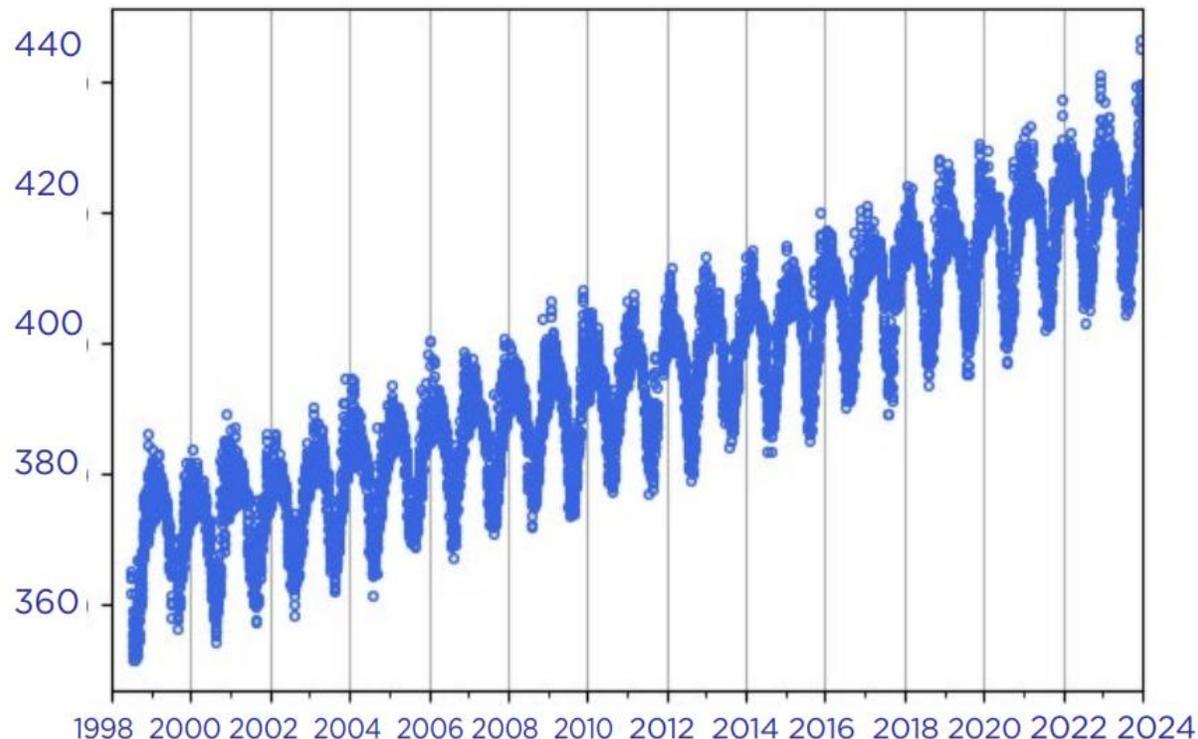
**ICOS** | INTEGRATED  
CARBON  
OBSERVATION  
SYSTEM



# CO<sub>2</sub> ja CH<sub>4</sub>, Longest time series in the Arctic

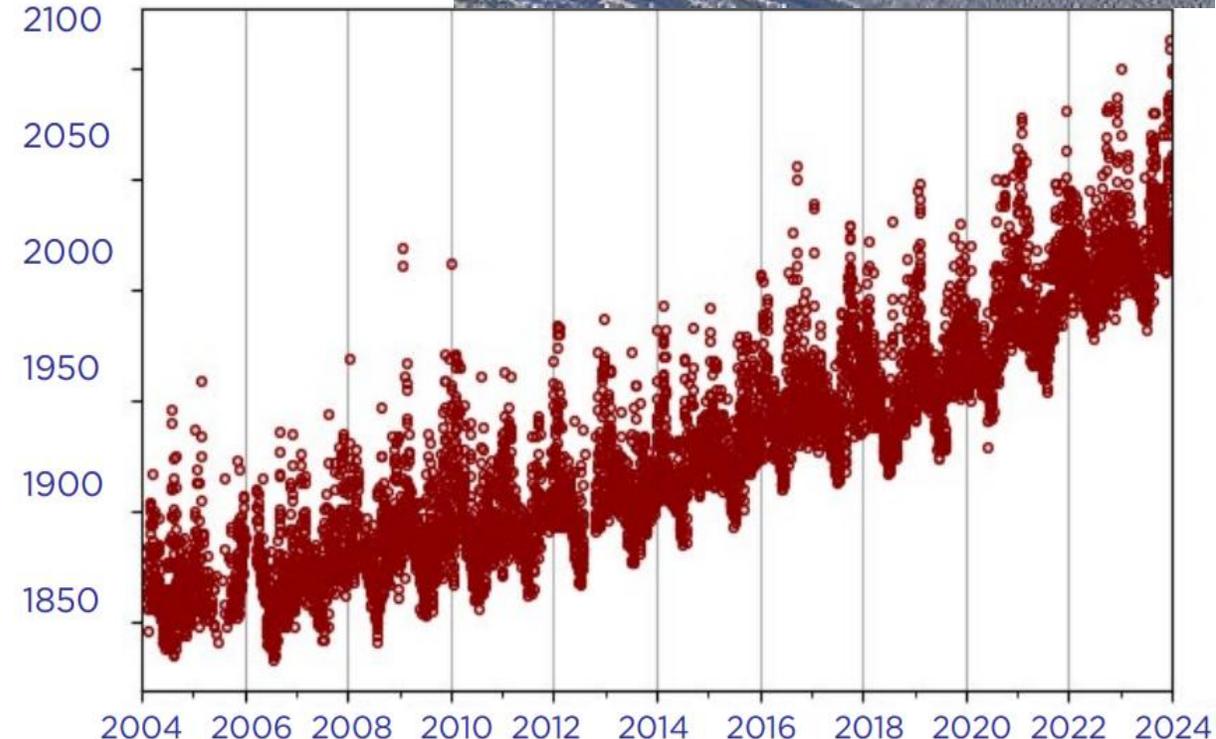
## PALLAS - SAMMALTUNTURI

hiilidioksidi (CO<sub>2</sub>), ppm

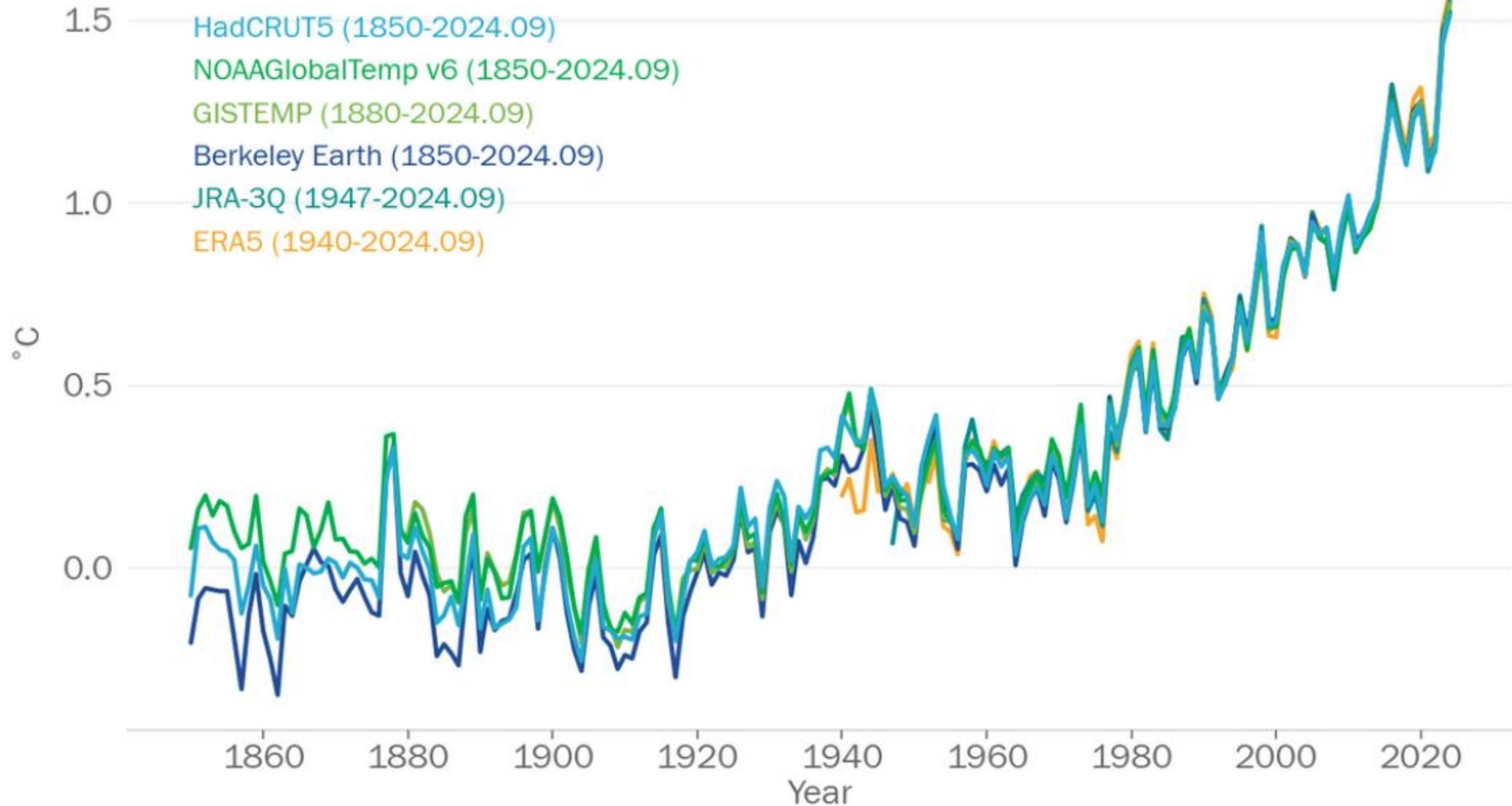


## PALLAS -

metaani (CH<sub>4</sub>), ppb

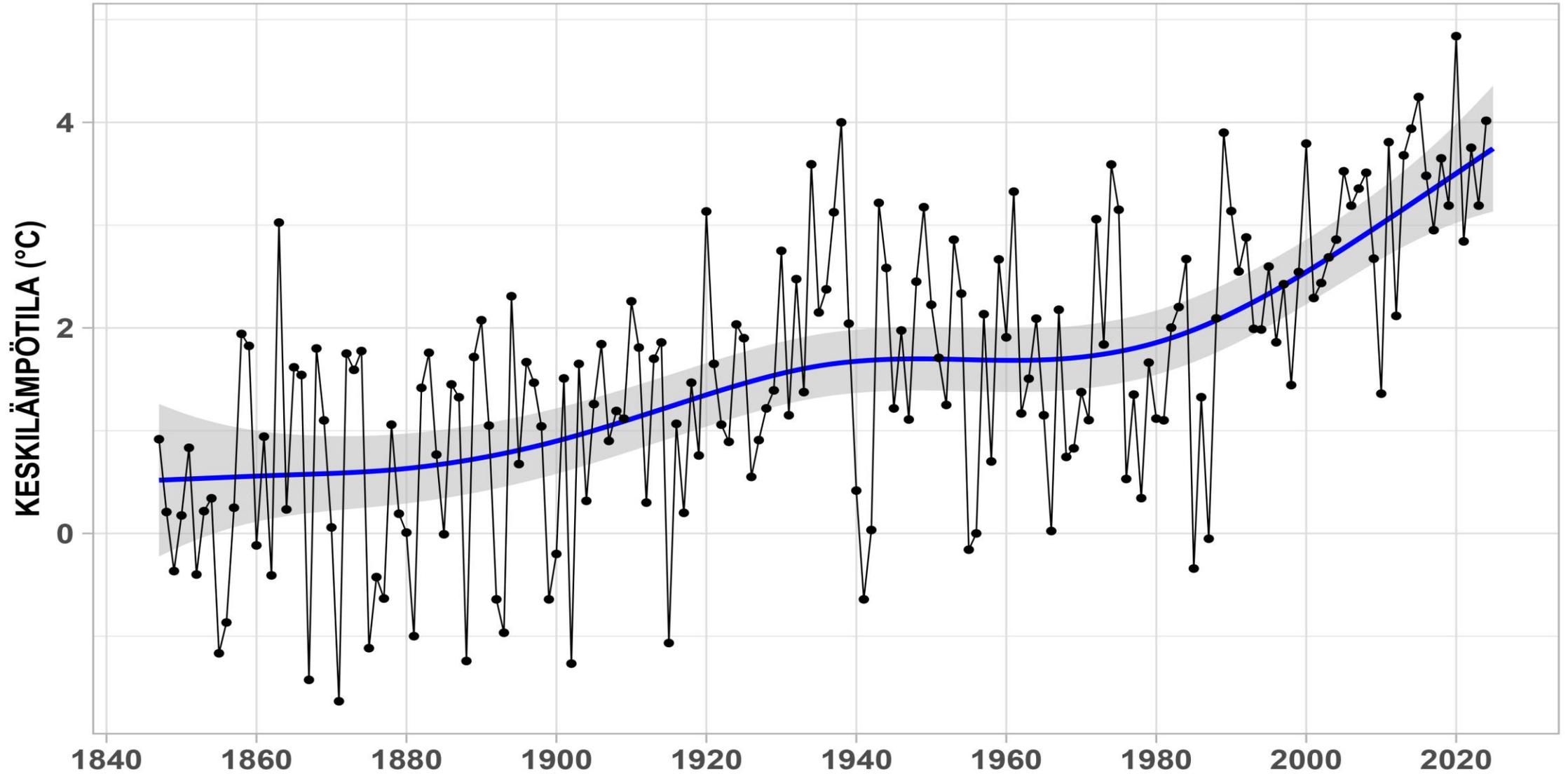


# 2024 record warm, 1.55 C reached

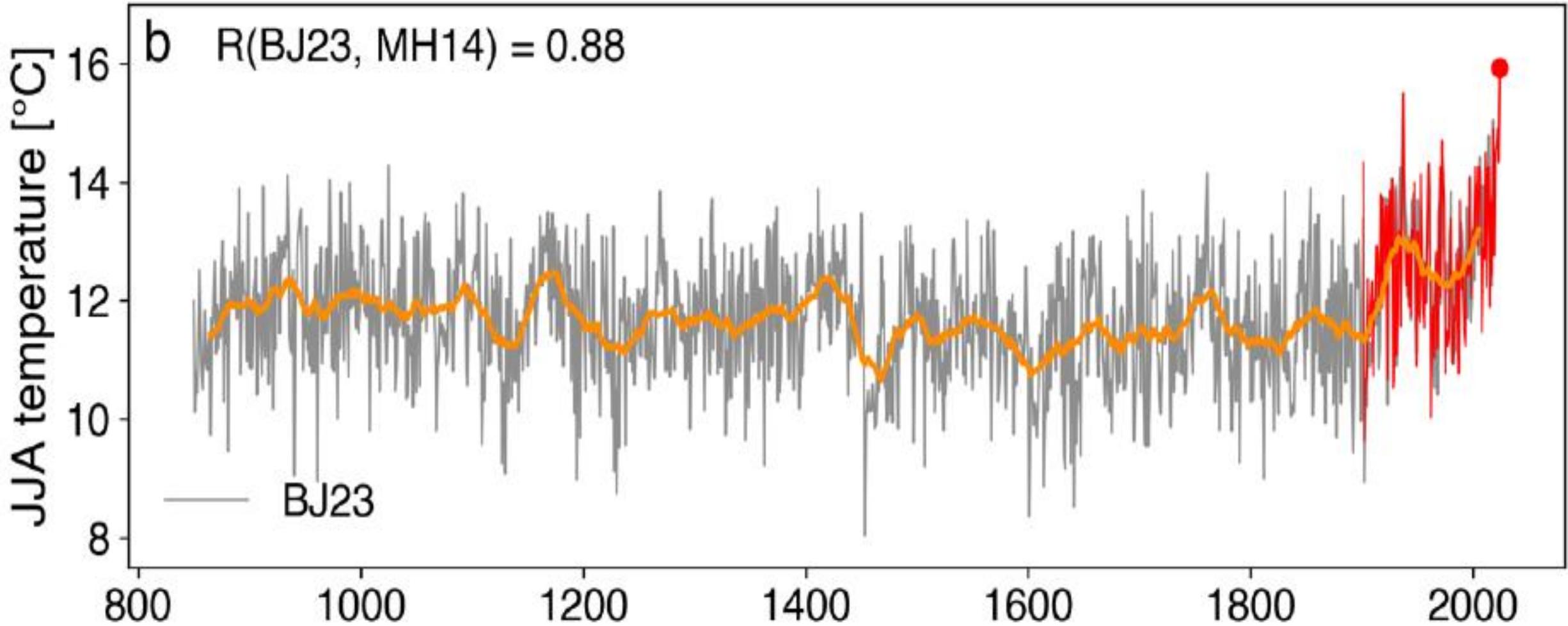


# Annual temperature in Finland 0.5 => 3.7 C 1850-2024

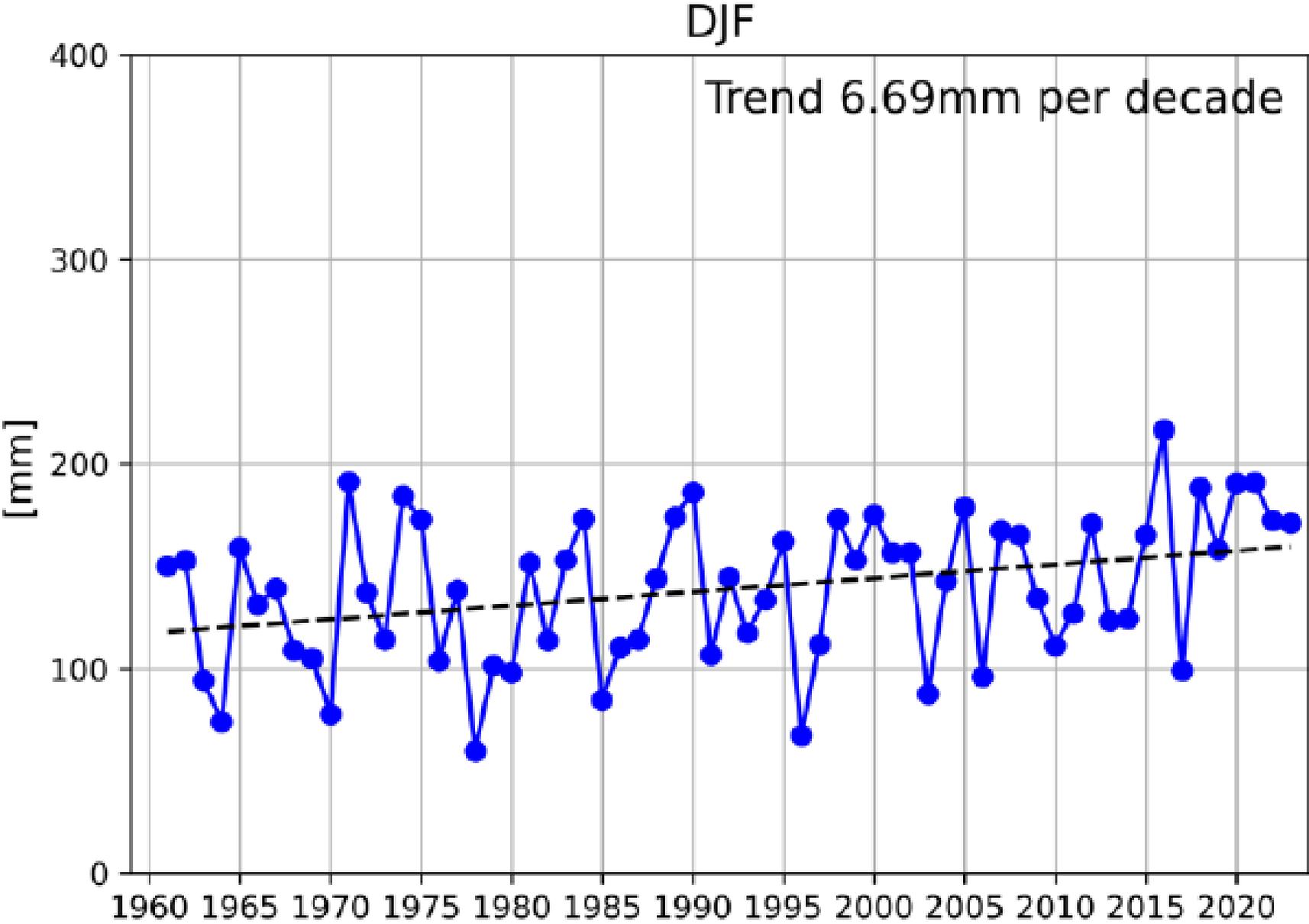
## LÄMPÖTILOJEN VUOSIKESKIARVOT SUOMESSA



# Summer temperature in Lapland 800-2024

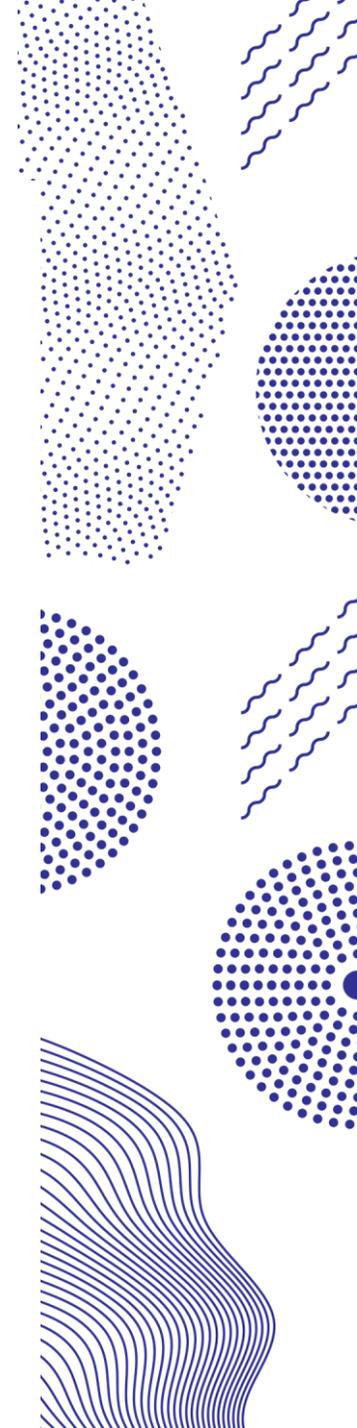
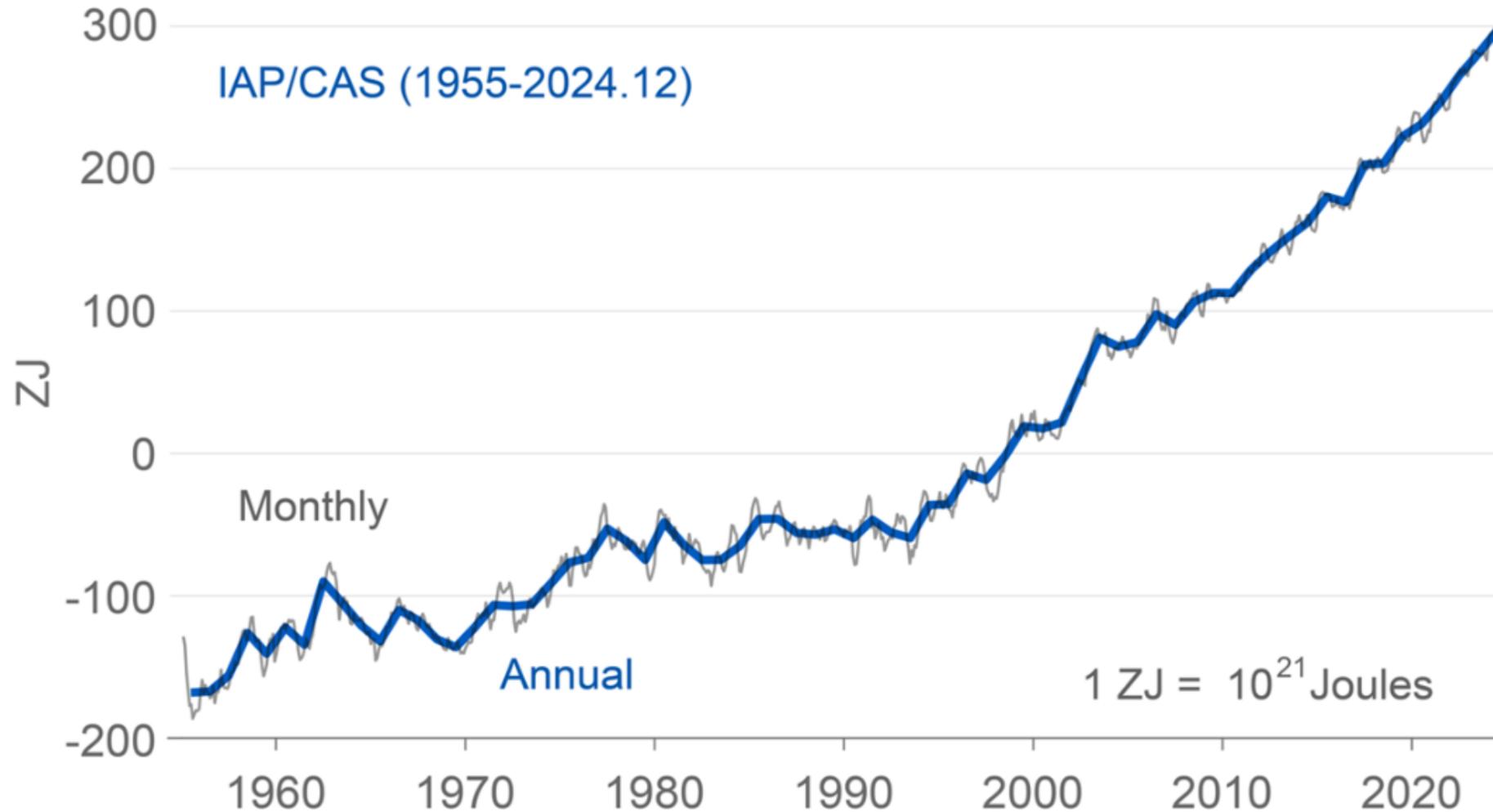


# Increase of winter rainfall by 30 % 1960-23



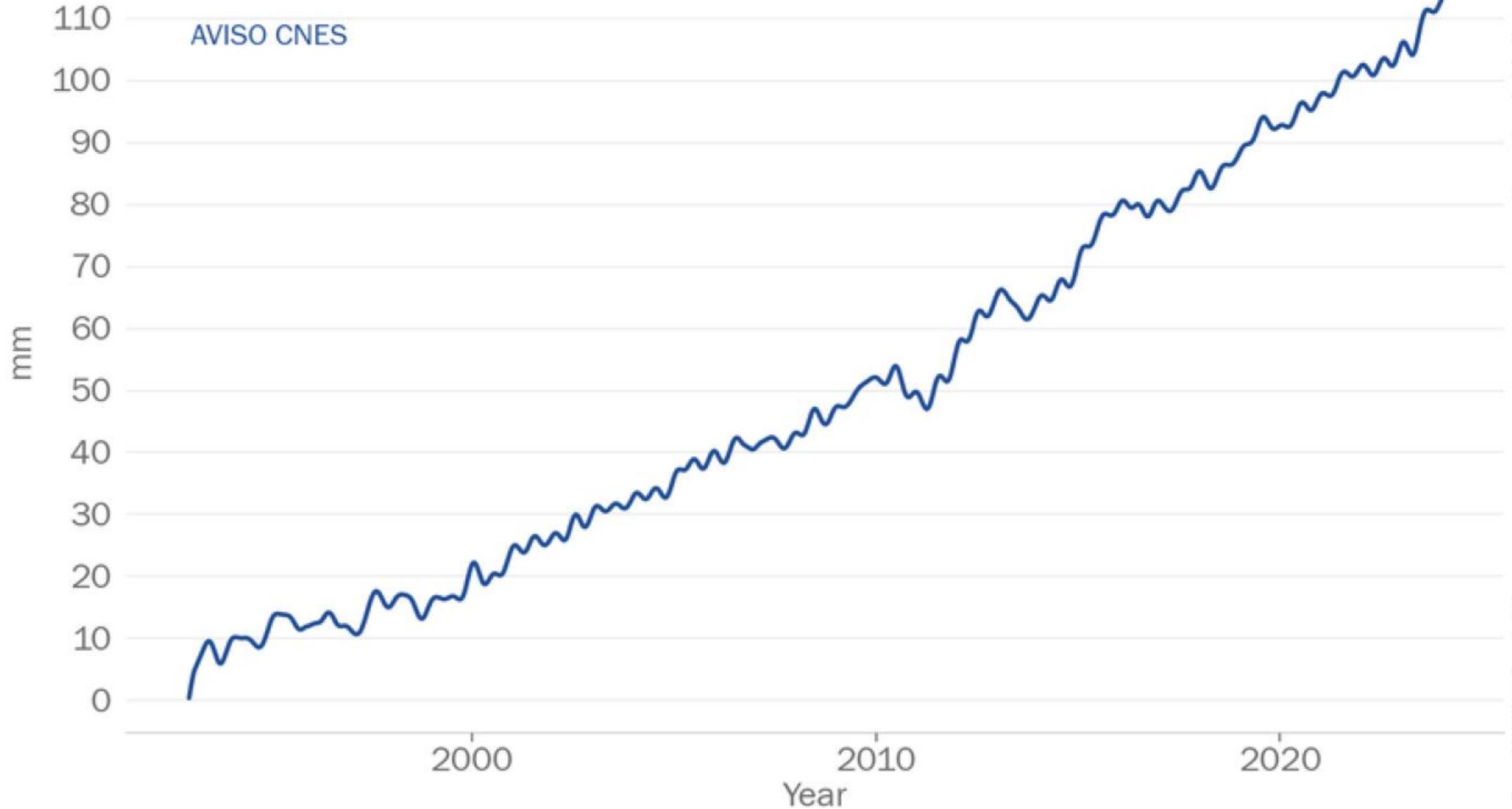
# > 90 % extra heat in oceans

Global upper 2000 m ocean heat content (OHC) change  
Difference from 1981-2010 average



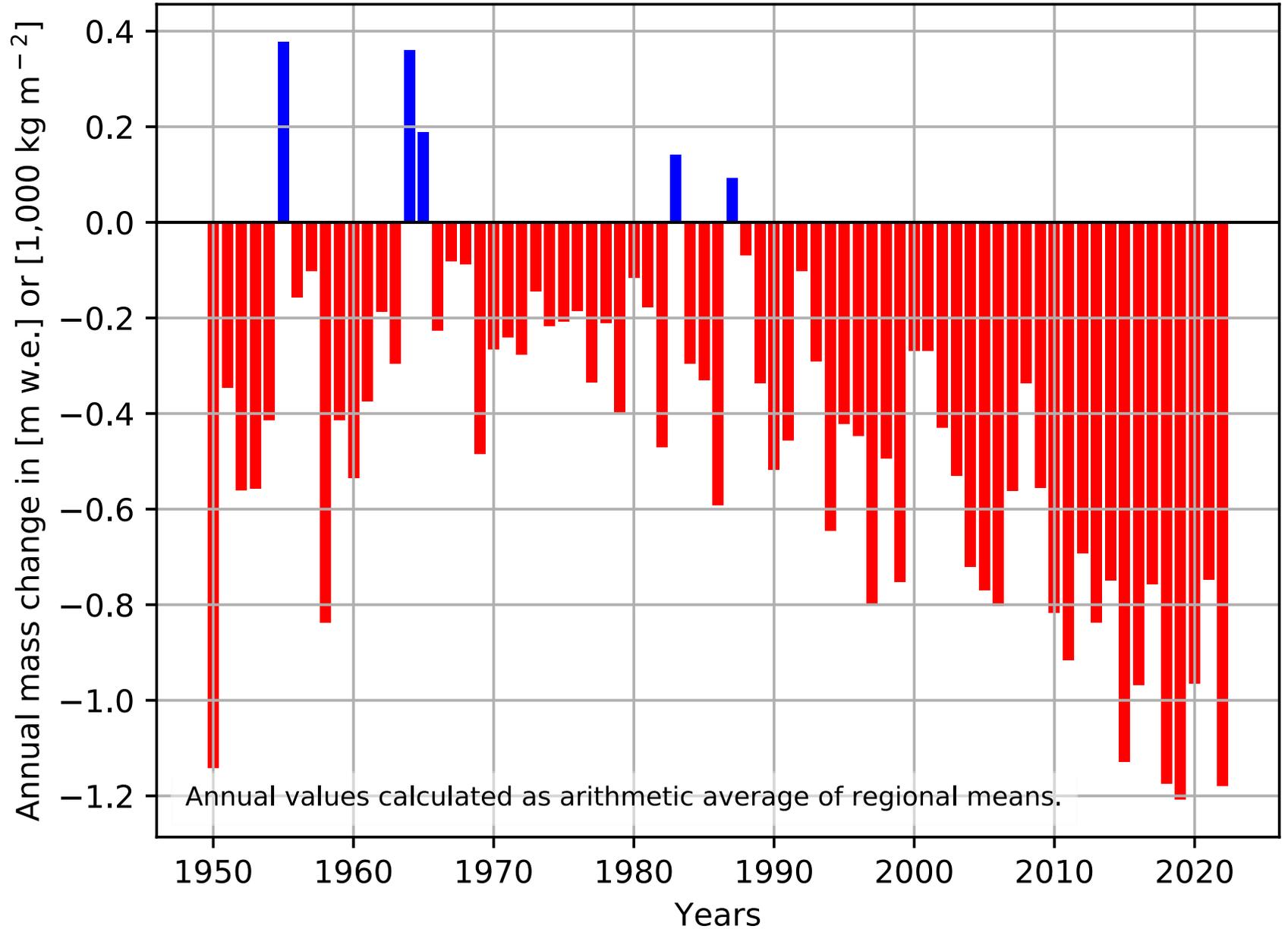
# Sea level rise doubled 1993-2024

**1993-2002 2.3mm/y, 2014-23 4.77 mm/y**



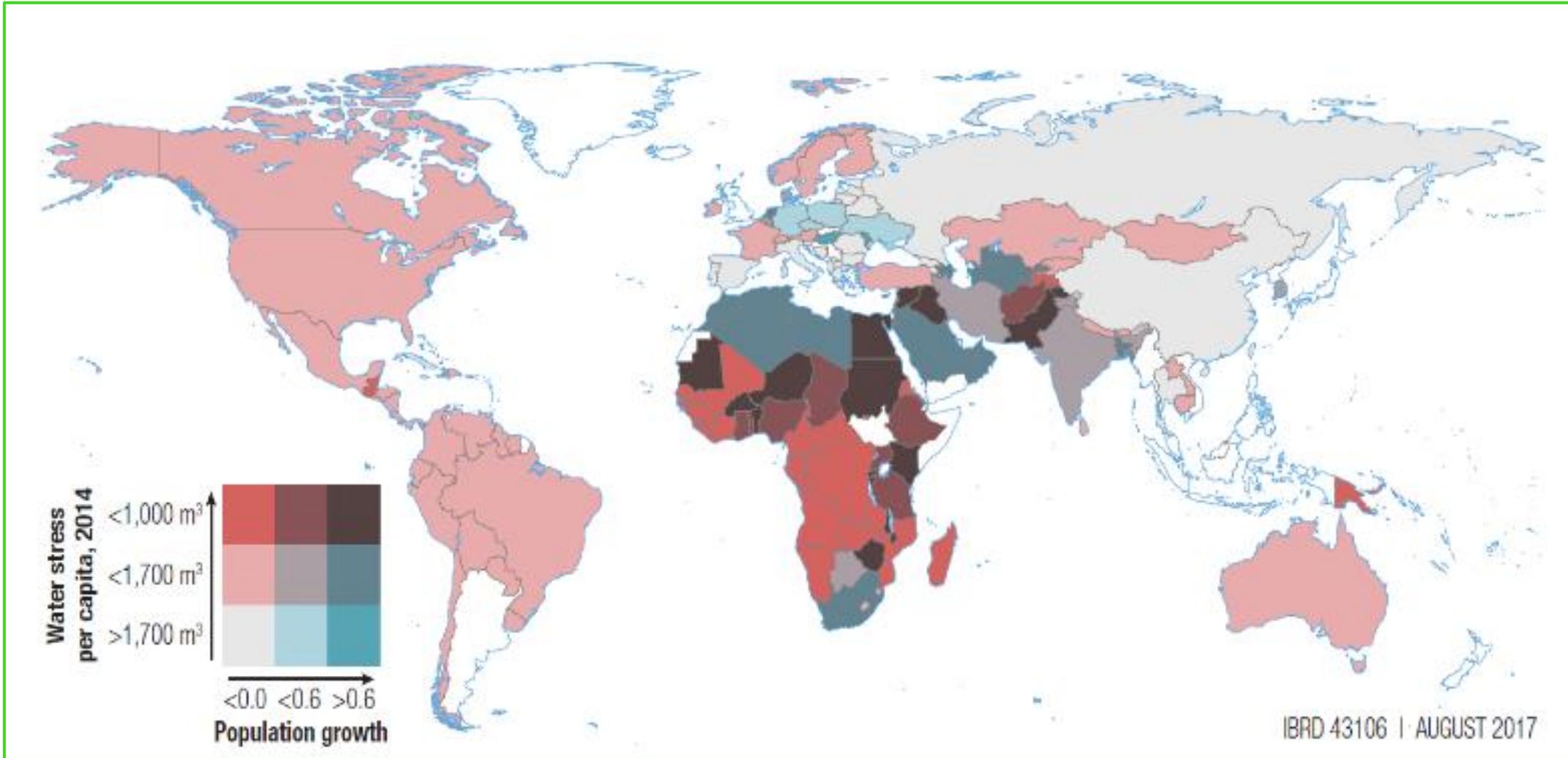
# Melting of glaciers 1950-2022

Global annual mass change of reference glaciers



1970-79: -0.25 m w.e.  
1980-89: -0.22 m w.e.  
1990-99: -0.49 m w.e.  
2000-09: -0.52 m w.e.  
2010-19: -0.92 m w.e.  
2013-22: -0.97 m w.e.  
2022 : -1.18 m w.e.

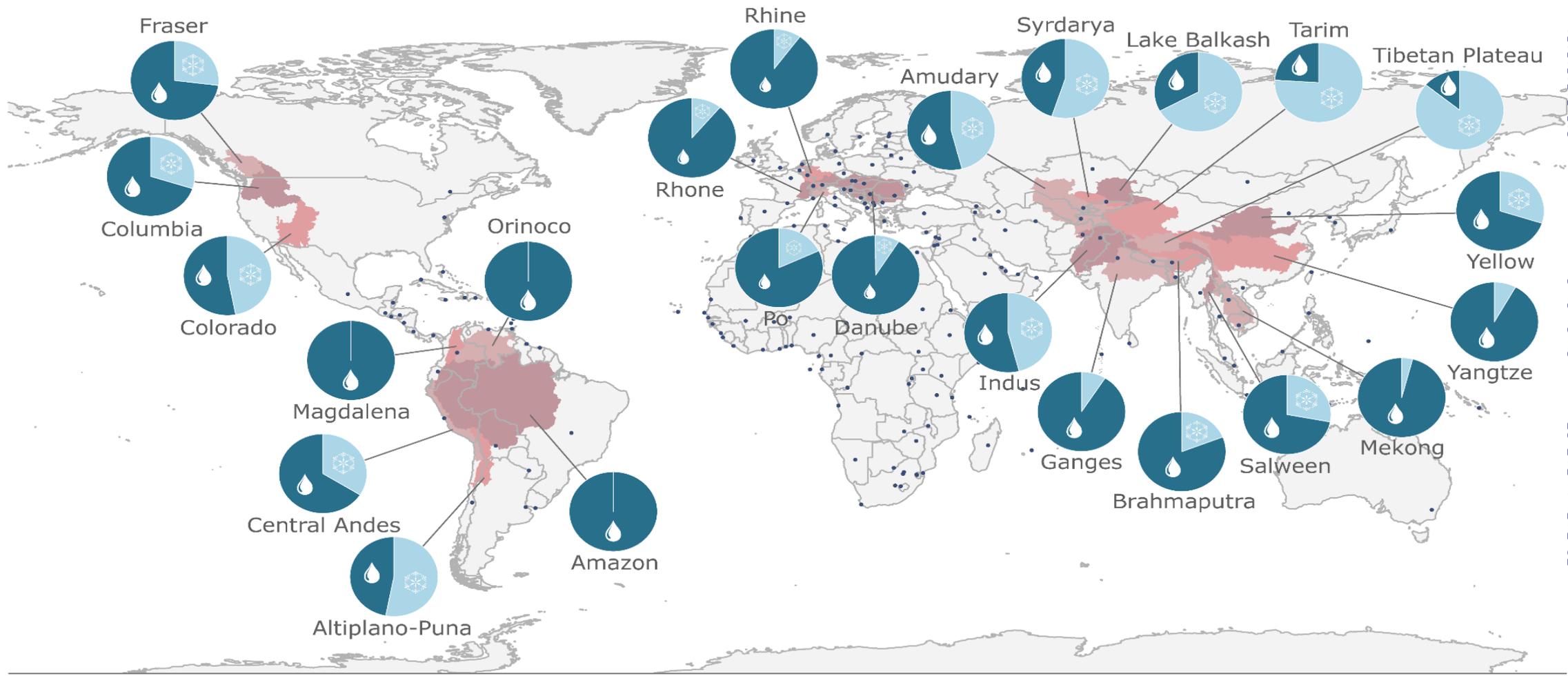
# Water scarcity and population growth 2050



About **4 billion people**, representing nearly two-thirds of the world population, experience **severe water scarcity** during at least **one month of the year**

# Water from glaciers and rainfall

**Contribution of the cryosphere to water availability** (in selected river basins of Asia, America and Europe)



■ Annual water contribution from snow & glacier mass loss  
■ Annual water contribution from rainfall

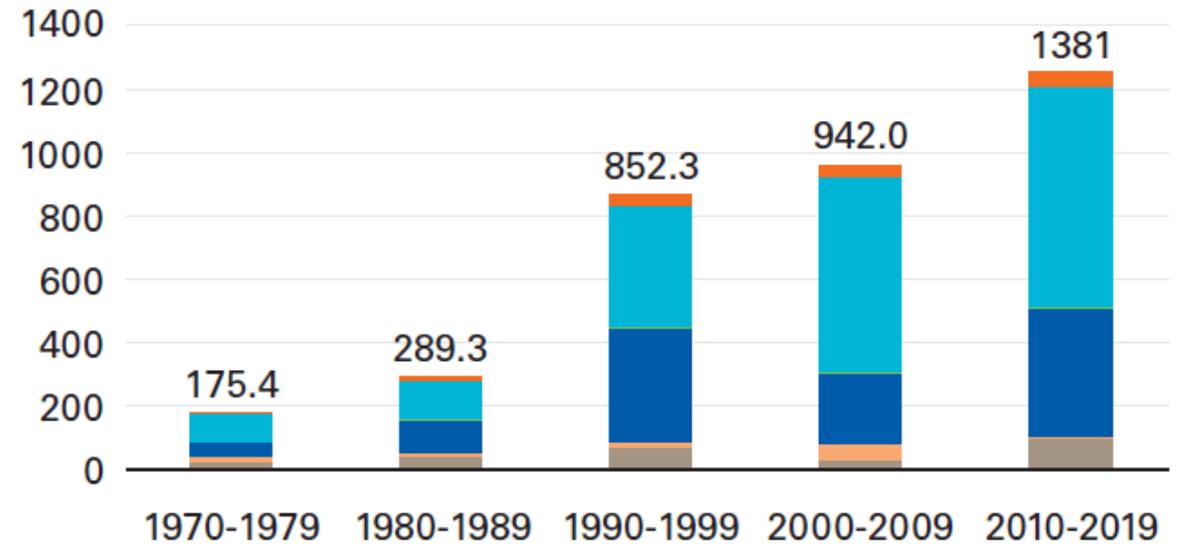
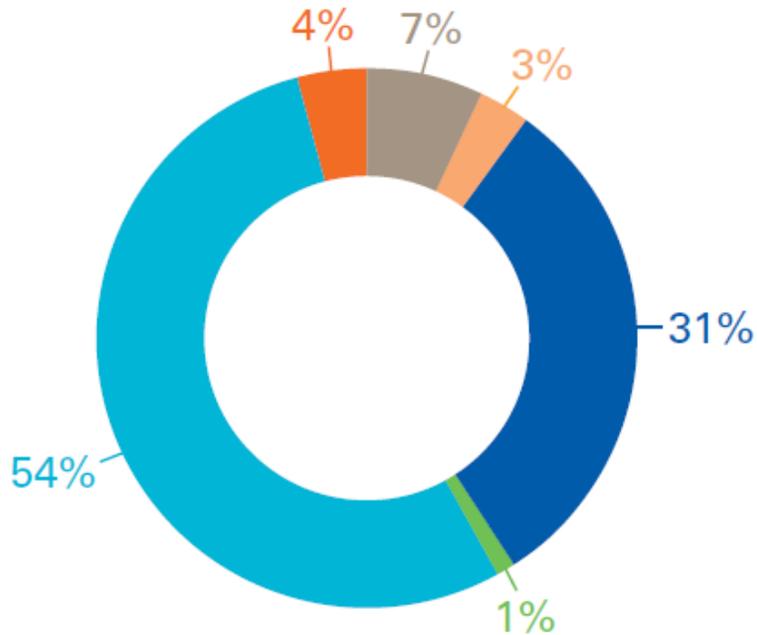
Administrative country borders  
▲▼ Mountain basins

• Capitals

Data in "Towards mountains without permanent snow and ice" by Huss et al., 2017 (Table 2 - period: from 1998 to 2012).

# Economic losses of weather extremes 1970-2019

(c) Reported economic losses in US\$ billion  
Total = US\$ 3.6 trillion



Drought

Extreme temperature

Flood

Landslide

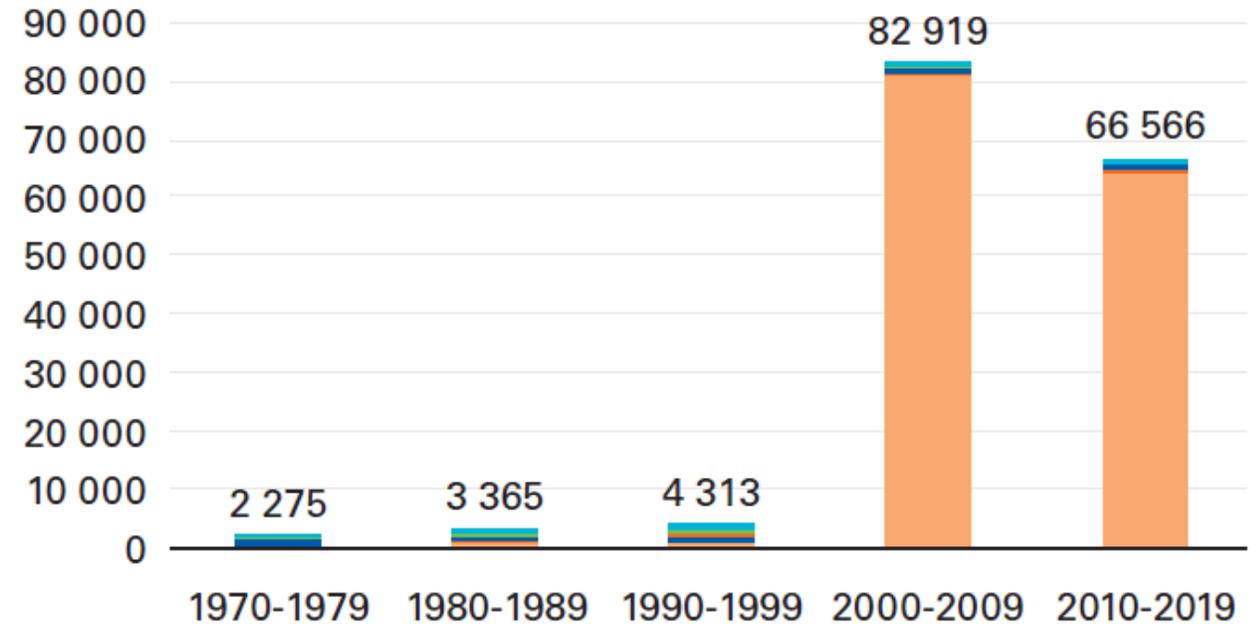
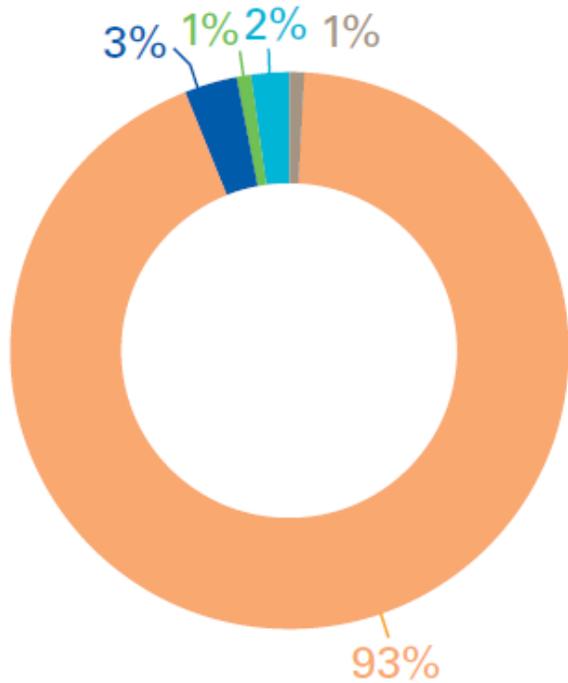
Storm

Wildfire



# Human losses in Europe 1970-2019

(b) Number of reported deaths  
Total = 159 438 deaths



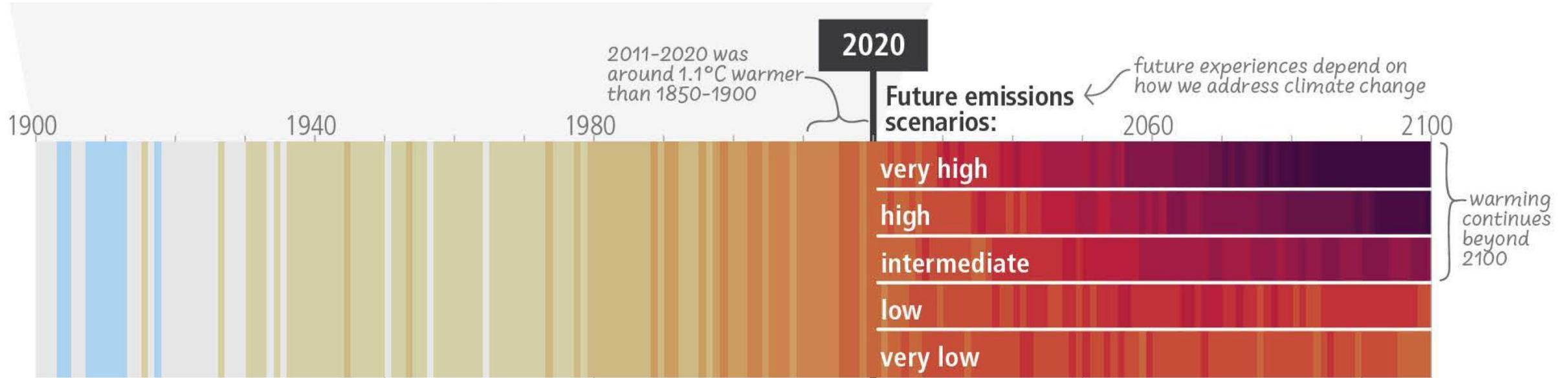
■ Drought   ■ Extreme temperature   ■ Flood   ■ Landslide   ■ Storm   ■ Wildfire

# Human casualties in Europe 1970-2019

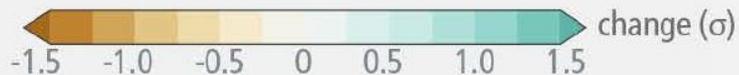
(a)	Disaster type	Year	Country	Deaths
1	Extreme temperature	2010	Russian Federation	55 736
2	Extreme temperature	2003	Italy	20 089
3	Extreme temperature	2003	France	19 490
4	Extreme temperature	2003	Spain	15 090
5	Extreme temperature	2003	Germany	9 355
6	Extreme temperature	2015	France	3 275
7	Extreme temperature	2003	Portugal	2 696
8	Extreme temperature	2006	France	1 388
9	Extreme temperature	2003	Belgium	1 175
10	Extreme temperature	2003	Switzerland	1 039



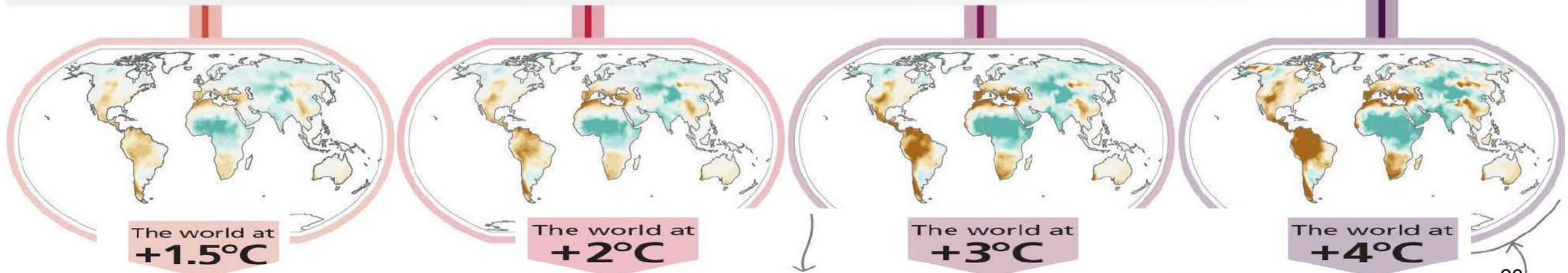
# Future temperature and soil moisture



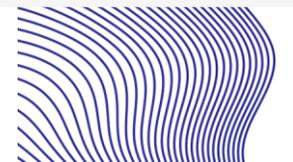
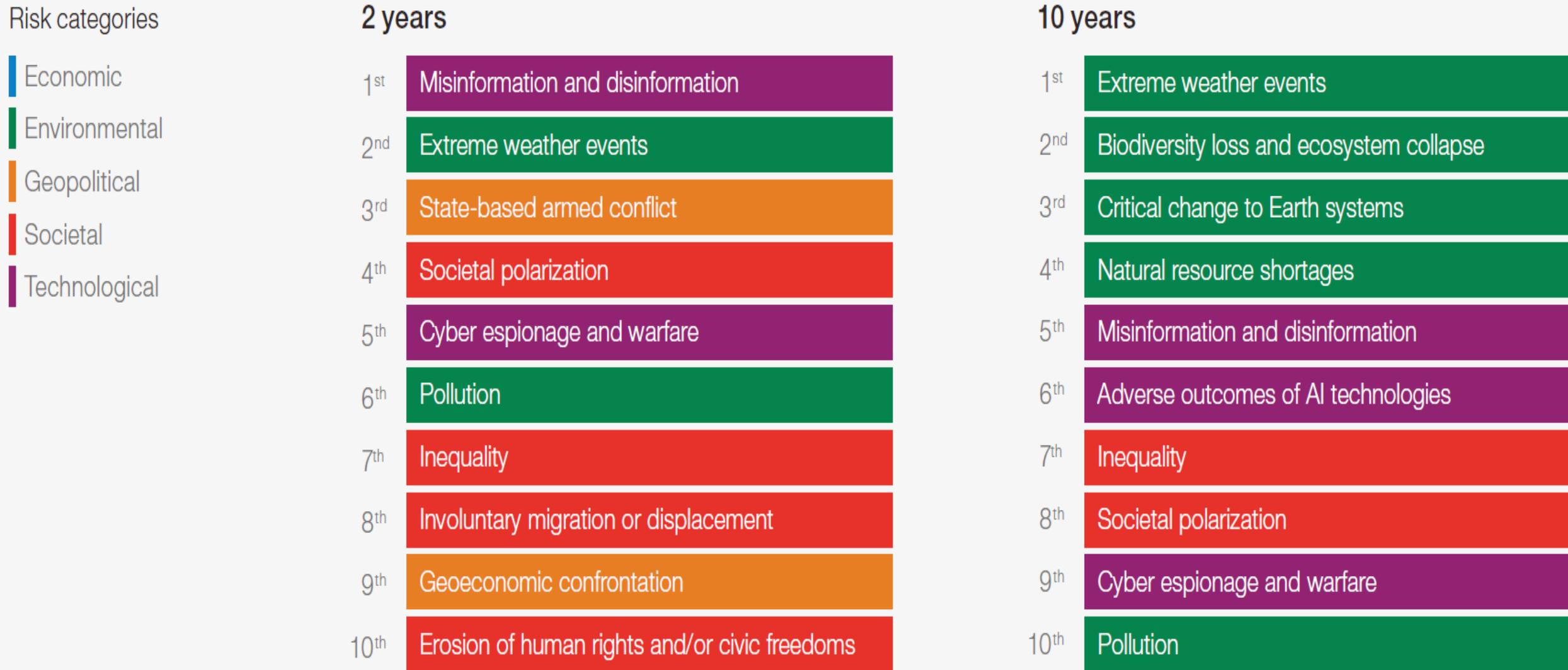
## b) Annual mean total column soil moisture change



Projections of annual mean soil moisture largely follow projections in annual mean precipitation but also show some differences due to the influence of evapotranspiration.



# Biggest risks for the World economy, WEF 2025



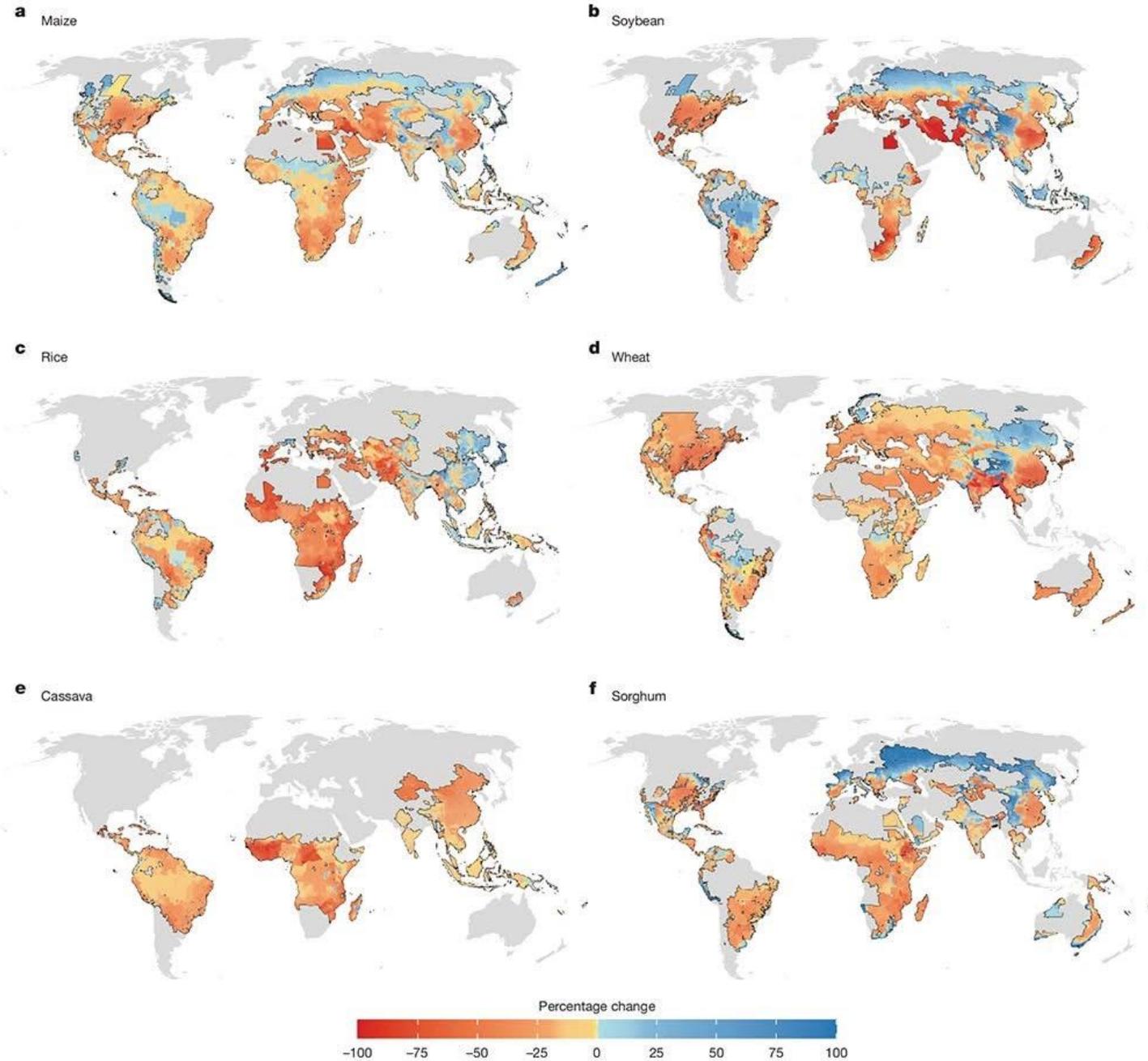


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# Impact of climate change on agriculture

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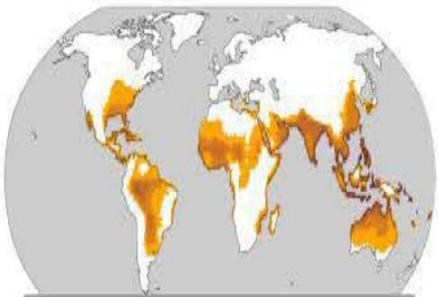
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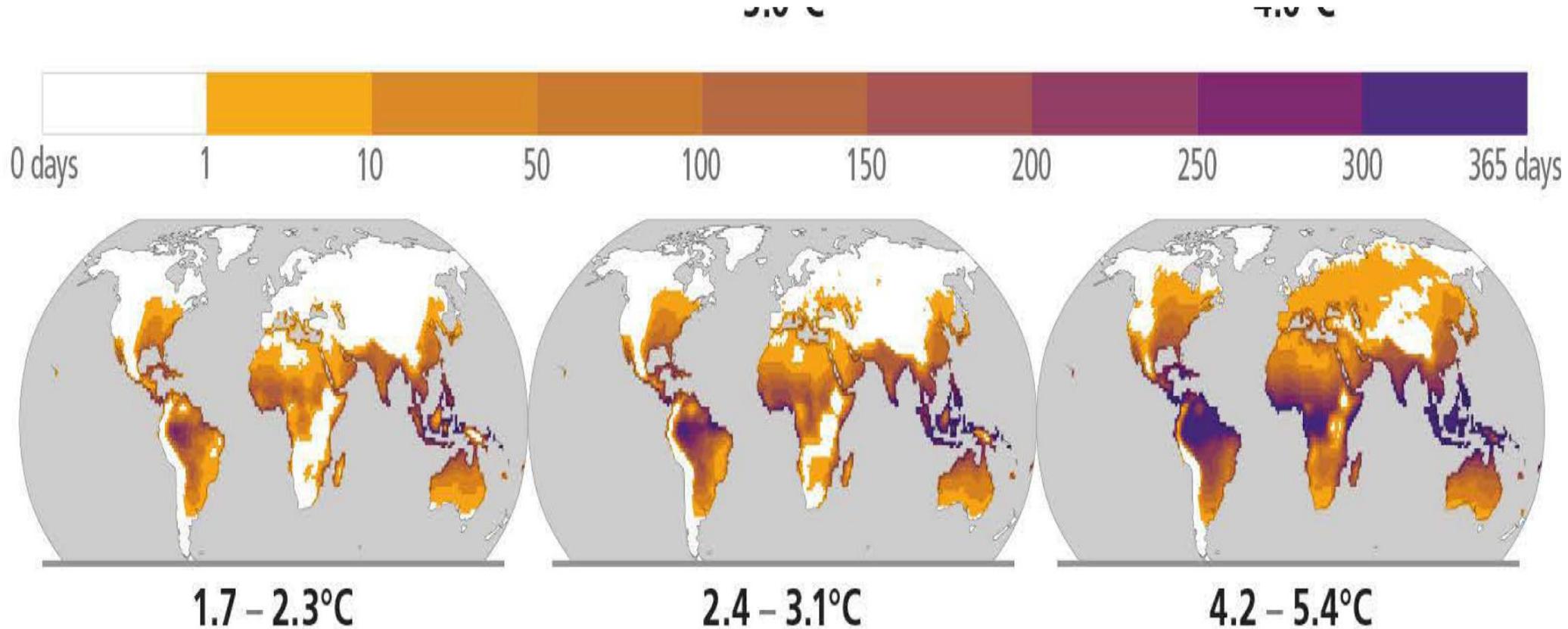
# Heat-humidity impacts on health



## Heat-humidity risks to human health



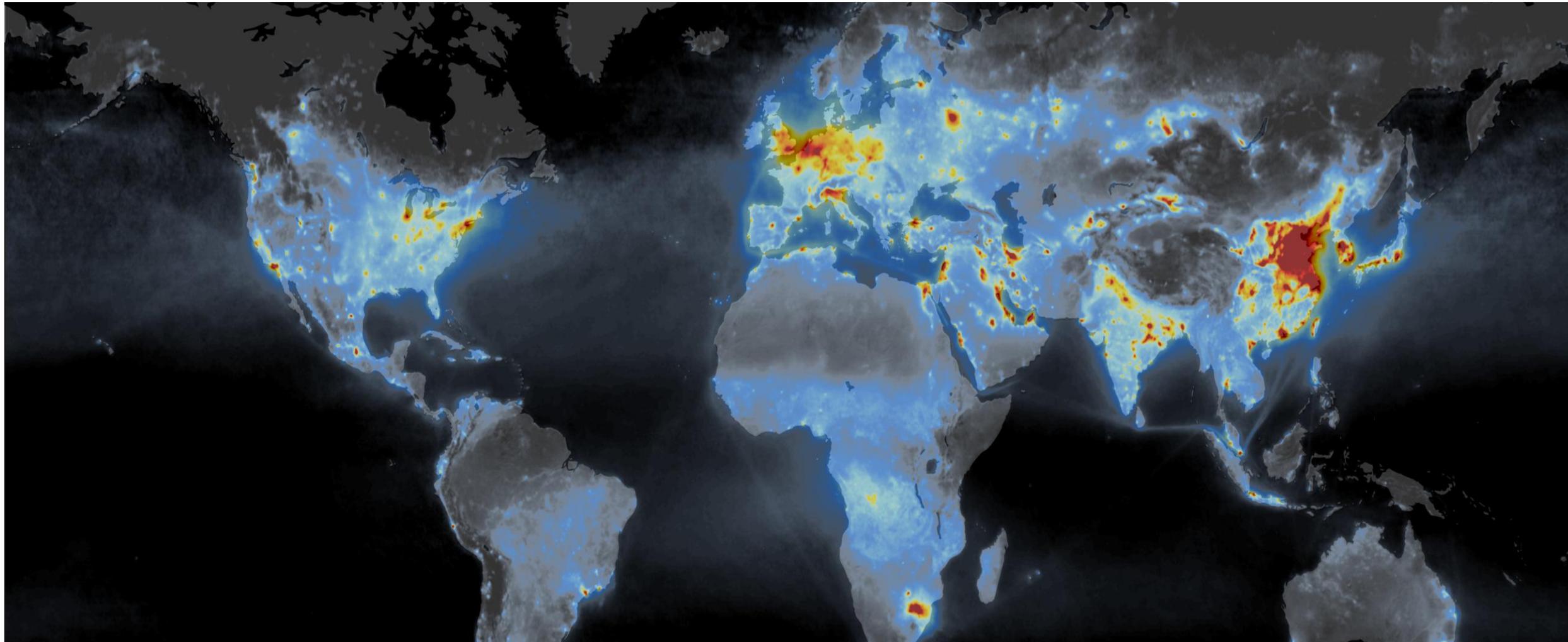
Historical 1991–2005



Days per year where combined temperature and humidity conditions pose a risk of mortality to individuals<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>Projected regional impacts utilize a global threshold beyond which daily mean surface air temperature and relative humidity may induce hyperthermia that poses a risk of mortality. The duration and intensity of heatwaves are not presented here. Heat-related health outcomes vary by location and are highly moderated by socio-economic, occupational and other non-climatic determinants of individual health and socio-economic vulnerability. The threshold used in these maps is based on a single study that synthesized data from 783 cases to determine the relationship between heat-humidity conditions and mortality drawn largely from observations in temperate climates.

# Air quality (NO<sub>2</sub>) monitored by the NASA OMI



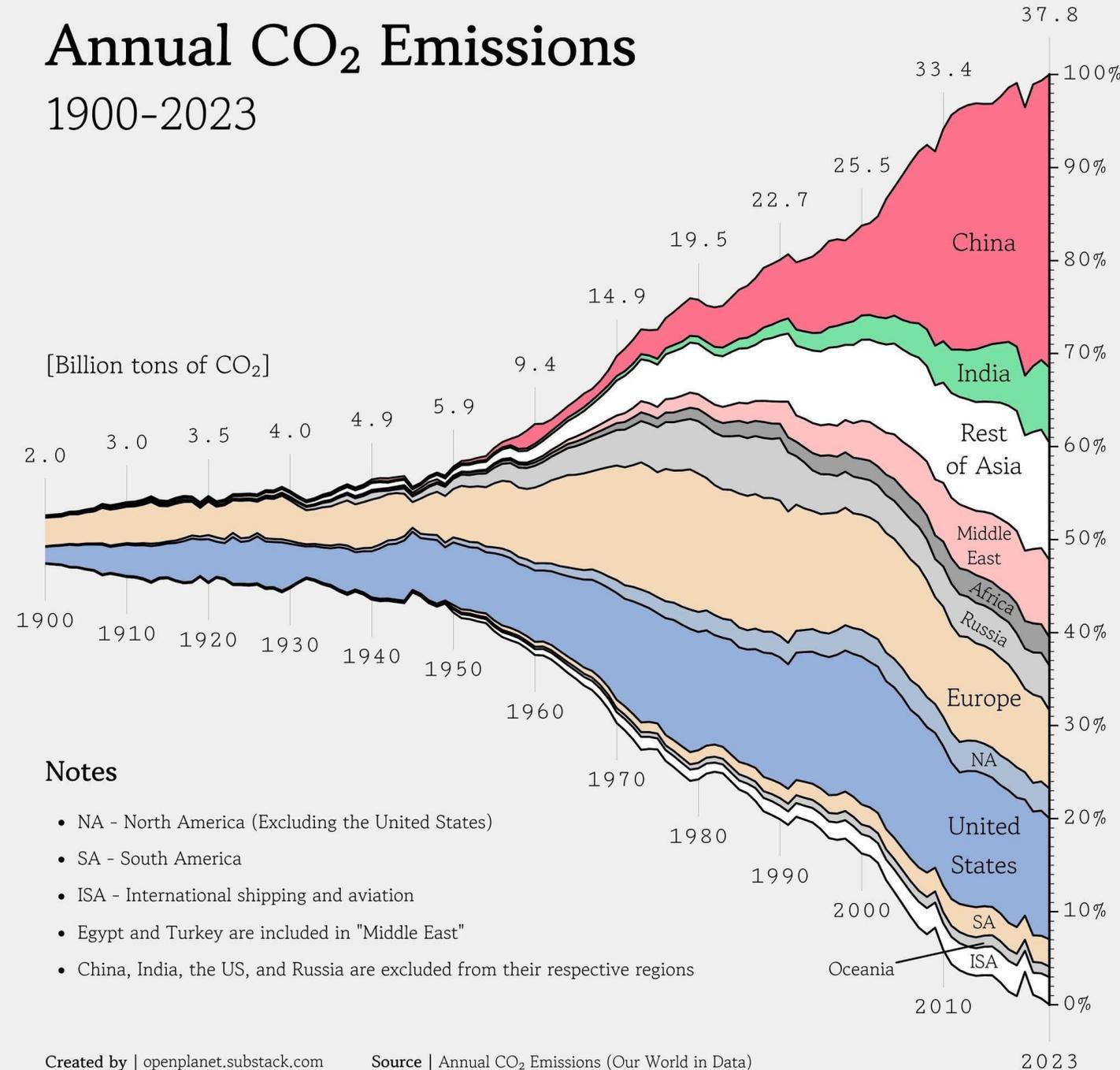


# CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

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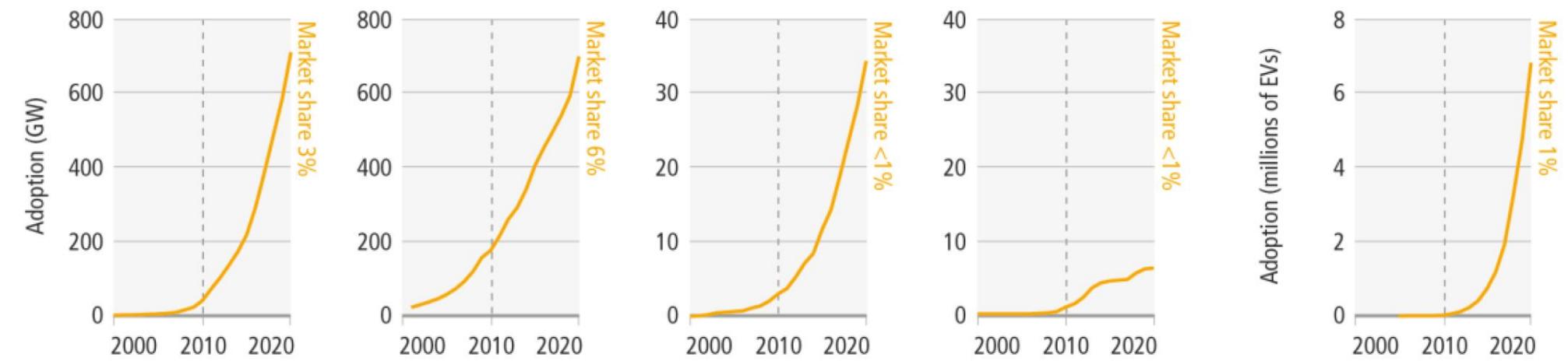
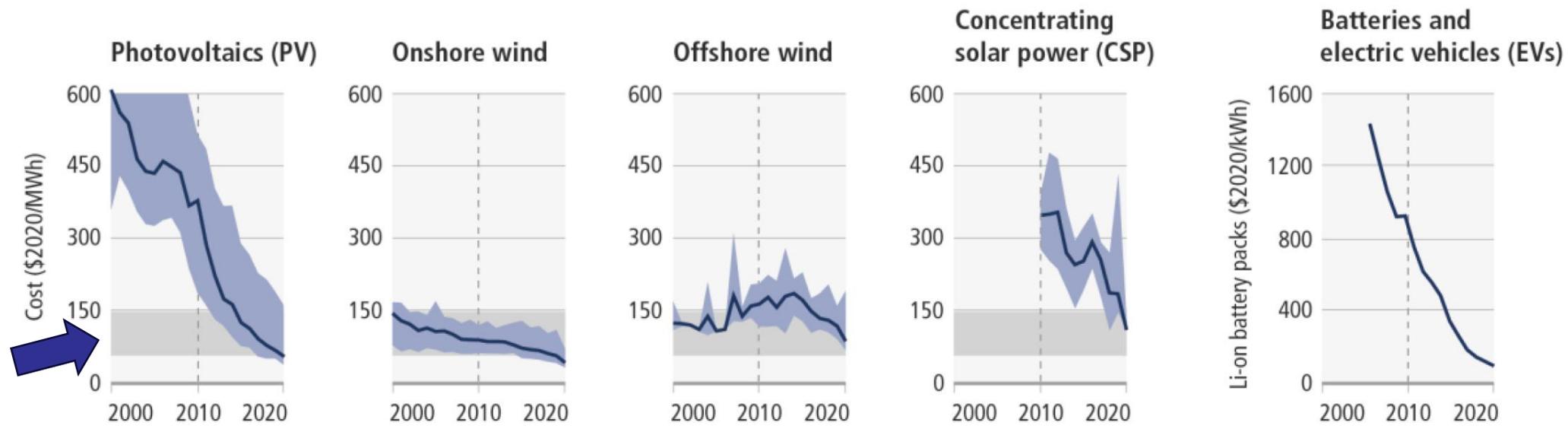
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## Annual CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 1900-2023



# Prices of renewable energy, batteries & cars dropping

Fossil energy price



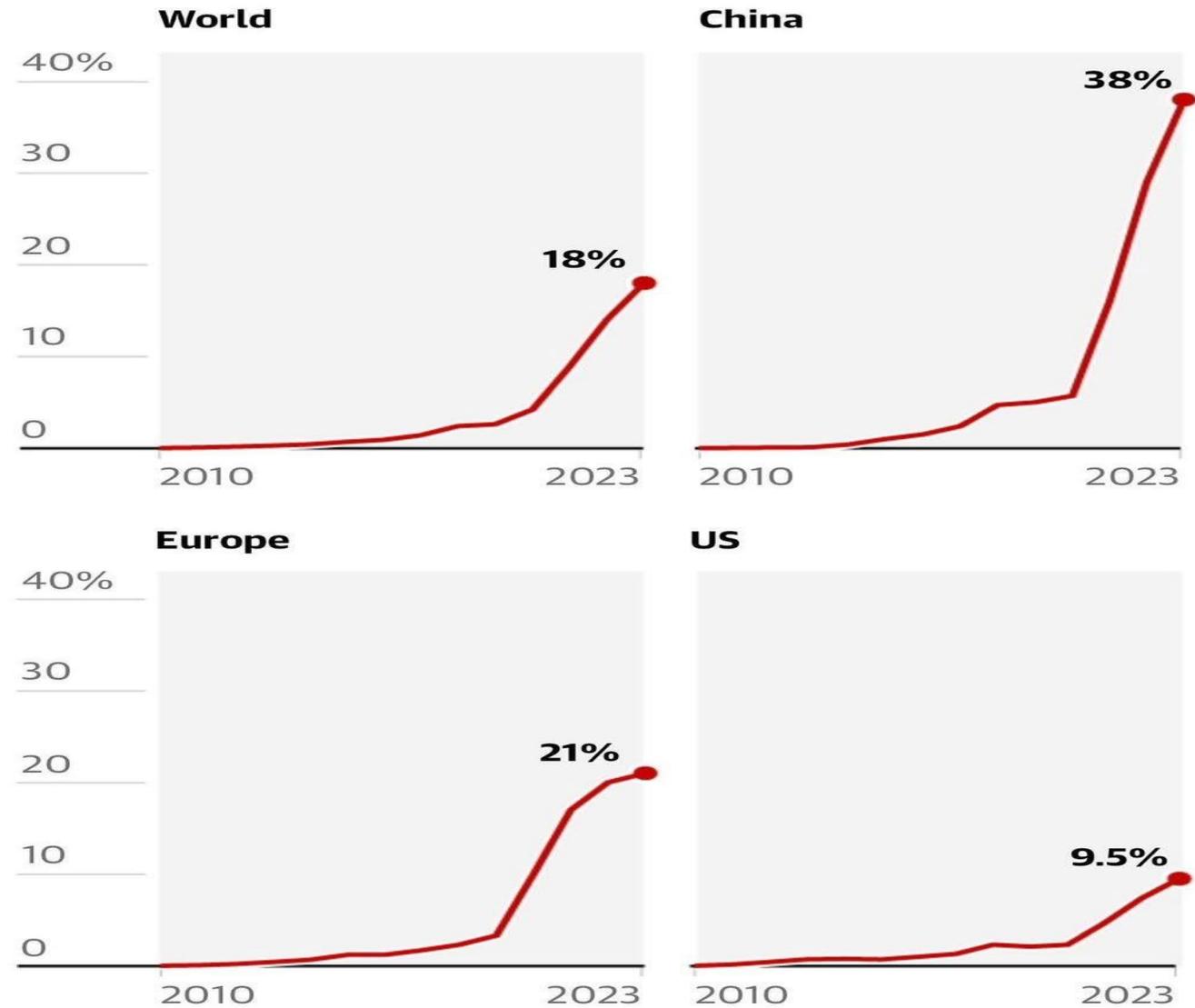
— Market cost  
— Adoption (note different scales)  
 AR5 (2010)  
 Fossil fuel cost (2020)



# Sales of electric cars

## Electric vehicles accounted for 18% of worldwide car sales and 38% in China

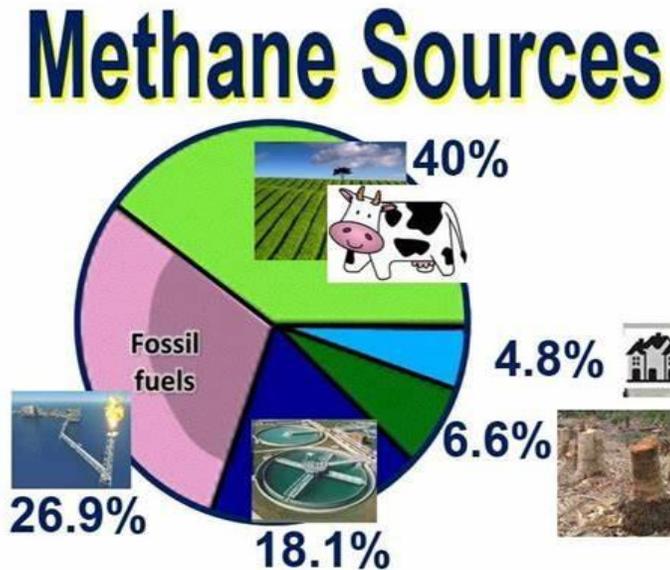
Electric vehicle sales as % of car sales



Guardian graphic. Source: IEA Global EV Outlook 2024

# How to solve the climate problem?

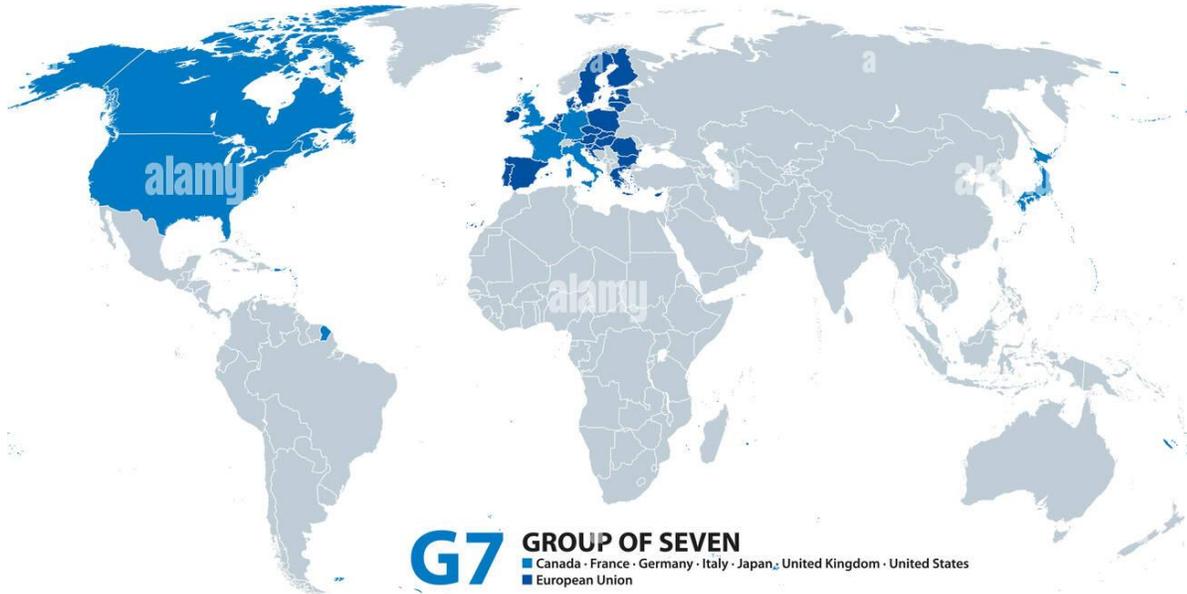
- **Stop use of fossil fuels** (1. Coal, 2. Oil ja 3. Natural gas) = 2/3 of the problem
- Second biggest challenge is **methane from tropical soils, cattle, rice paddies & oil/gas production**. The lifetime of CH<sub>4</sub> is 11 y, CO<sub>2</sub> thousands of years.
- Thirdly we should **stop deforestation on non-renewable tropical rain forests** (Amazon, Central Africa and Southeastern Asia)



# Emissions from G7+EU and G20

- **G20-countries produce 80 % of the global emissions.** Out of those the G7 and EU are responsible for 30 % of the global emissions, and have made commitments for 1.5 C target
- **The rest of the G20, which are responsible for 50 % of global emissions have not made similar commitments.** (E.g. China, Brazil, Argentina, India, Russia, Saudi-Arabia, South-Africa and Indonesia). Without rise of the ambition level in those countries the 2050/1.5 C will not be reached.

~30 % of global emissions



~80 % of global emissions



alamy

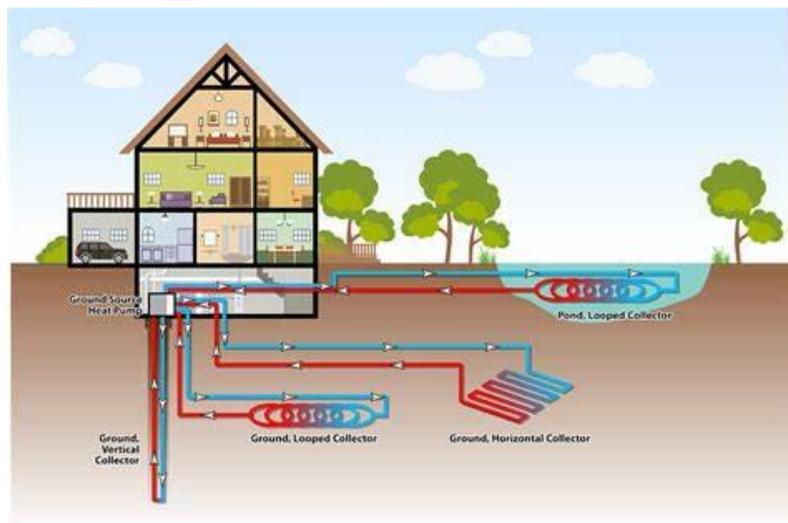
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www.alamy.com

alamy

Image ID: P5YTHY  
www.alamy.com

# Potential of consumers?

- Also **consumers** may contribute through **transport means**, **diets**, **heating/cooling of premises** and through **avoiding buying goods produced by fossil energy**



# Wide security implications of climate change

## 1. Lower soil moisture, change of precipitation patterns, lack of fertilizers & disappearance of most mountain glaciers

- Threat for global food security
- Massive refugee potential from Africa

## 2. Climate mitigation

- If successful, major impacts on Russian, Middle East etc. economies => instability consequences

## 3. Melting of Arctic sea ice

- Growth of military and transport interests, new players like China, India, Japan onboard

## 4. World economy/regional economy

- WEF: Weather extremes biggest risk for world economy from 2030's onwards
- Regional losses, like Mediterranean countries may lose agricultural capacity and tourism



# Health dimensions of climate change

1. **More weather extremes:** heat waves, humidity, drought, heavy rain & tropical storms
2. **Water availability a special challenge:** change of rain patterns, more evaporation & melting of glaciers => impact on **global nutrition**, combined with population growth
3. **Vector-borne diseases**, like malaria, dengue fever, cholera or Lyme disease are weather dependent. **Tick and mosquito** prevalence & related disease risks are expected to change.
4. Often **combined impact of high temperatures & poor air quality leads to death (ozone, particles)**
5. Besides weather extreme mortality sometimes the **aftermath has led to higher mortality rates** due to **destruction of the healthcare infrastructure** (e.g. Puerto Rico)
6. Risk of climate change is also a **mental challenge among especially young people**





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**Thank you!**  
**Kiitos!**  
**Tack!**

