

SUPPLY CHAIN SUSTAINABILITY

**SCHOOL**

# SSEN Climate Academy #1 An Overview of Climate Change & Carbon

James Cadman,  
Action Sustainability





# SSEN Climate Academy

- This is the first of six sessions in the SSEN Climate Academy:

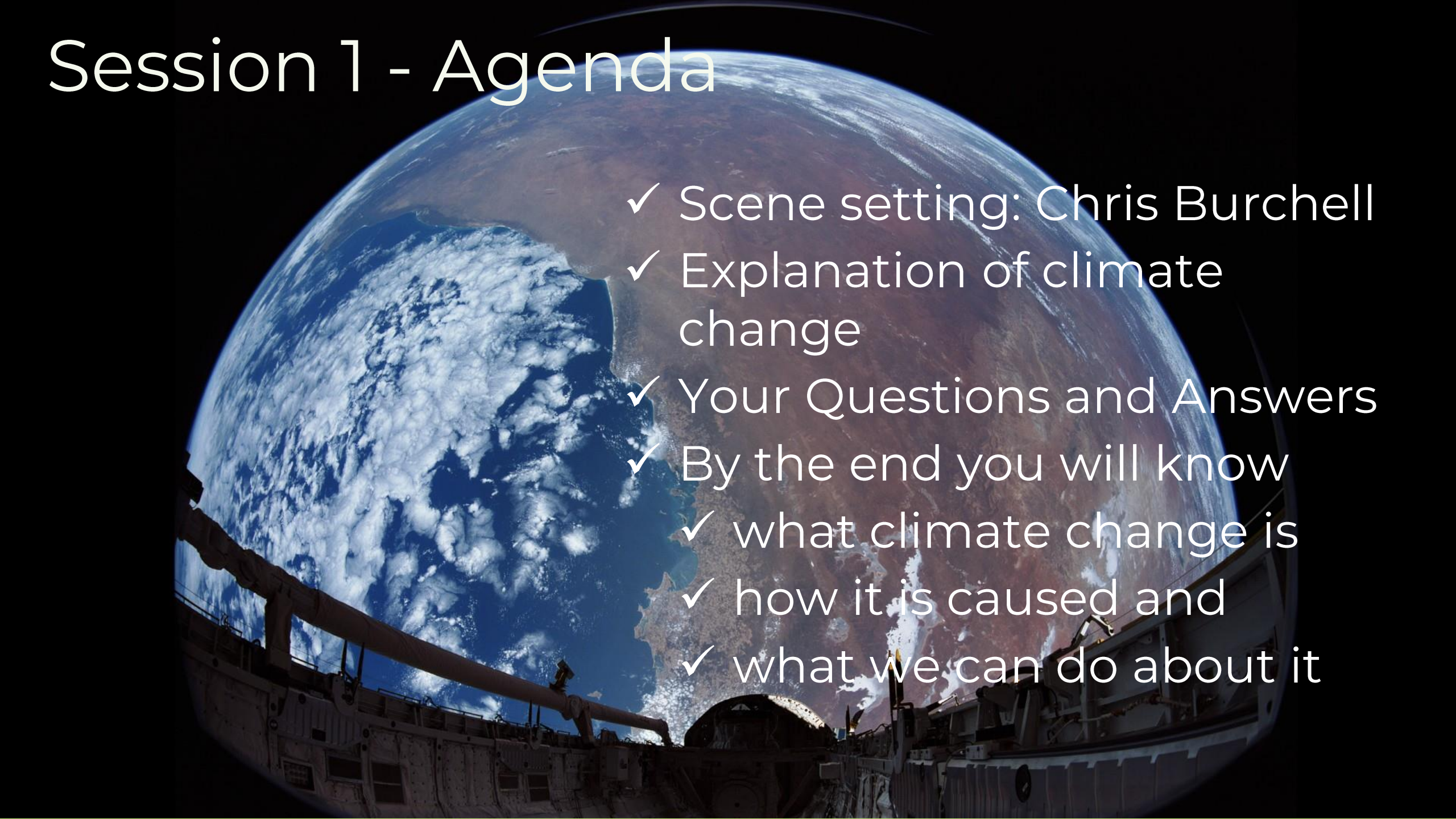
- *An Overview of Climate Change & Carbon*

There are five more *Climate Change* sessions:

- *Net Zero – 2<sup>nd</sup> February*
- *Climate Adaptation – 9<sup>th</sup> February*
- *Climate and Nature – 16<sup>th</sup> February*
- *Climate and People – 23<sup>rd</sup> February*
- *Climate and Resource Efficiency – 2<sup>nd</sup> March*



# Session 1 - Agenda



- ✓ Scene setting: Chris Burchell
- ✓ Explanation of climate change
- ✓ Your Questions and Answers
- ✓ By the end you will know
  - ✓ what climate change is
  - ✓ how it is caused and
  - ✓ what we can do about it



# HOUSE RULES

-  • Use the chatbox for questions
-  • Share your feedback
-  • Slides will be shared





**CHRIS BURCHELL, MANAGING DIRECTOR  
SSEN DISTRIBUTION**



**Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks**



# Audience Poll

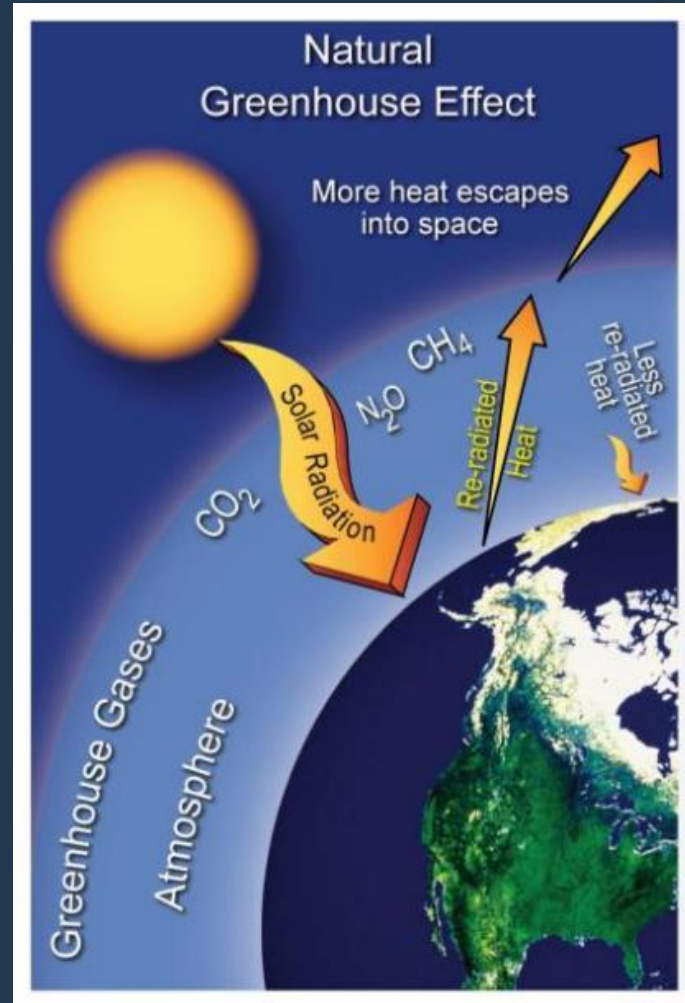


# SECTION 1: Understanding climate science and where carbon emissions come from

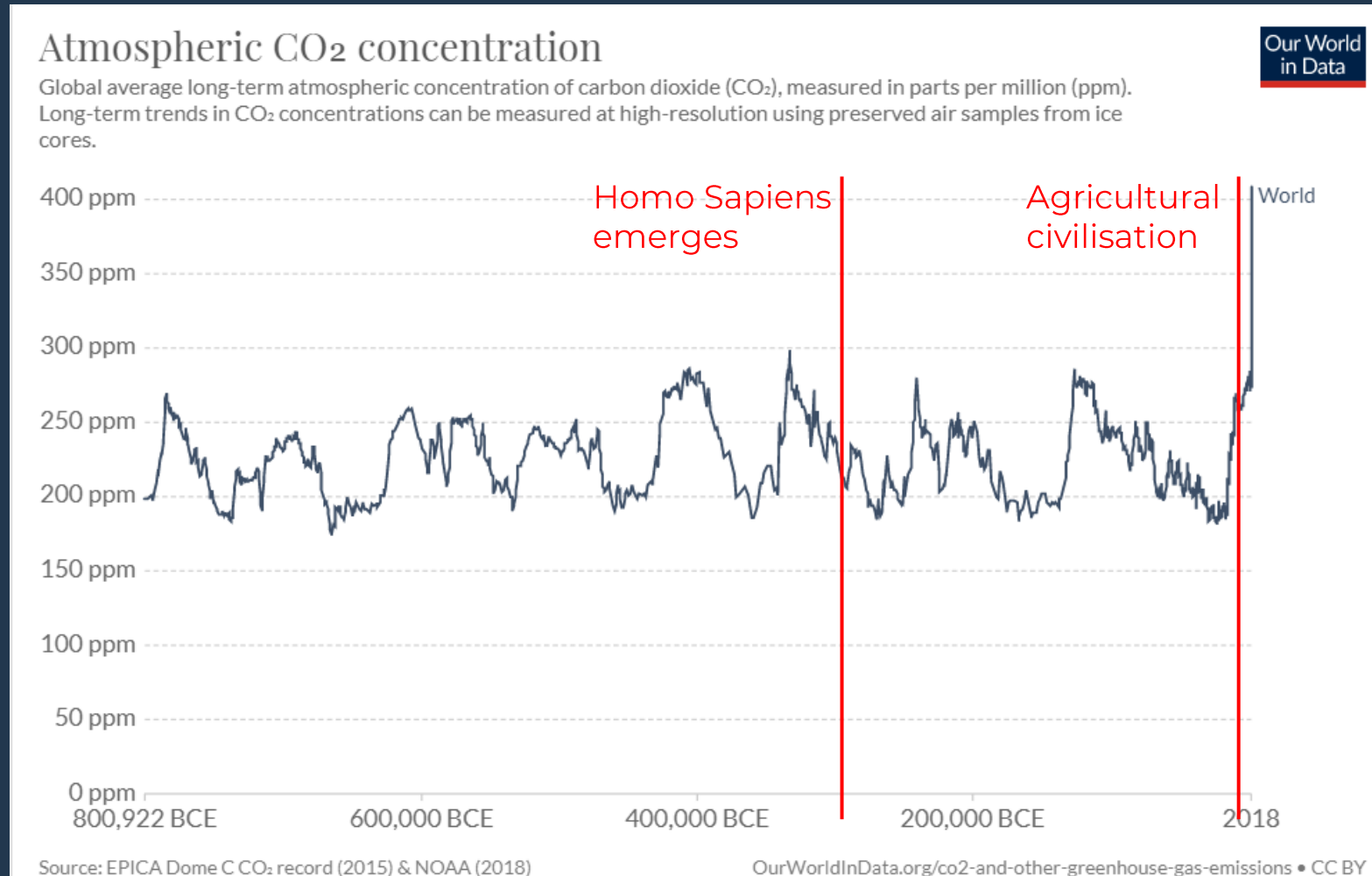




# Greenhouse Gas Effect



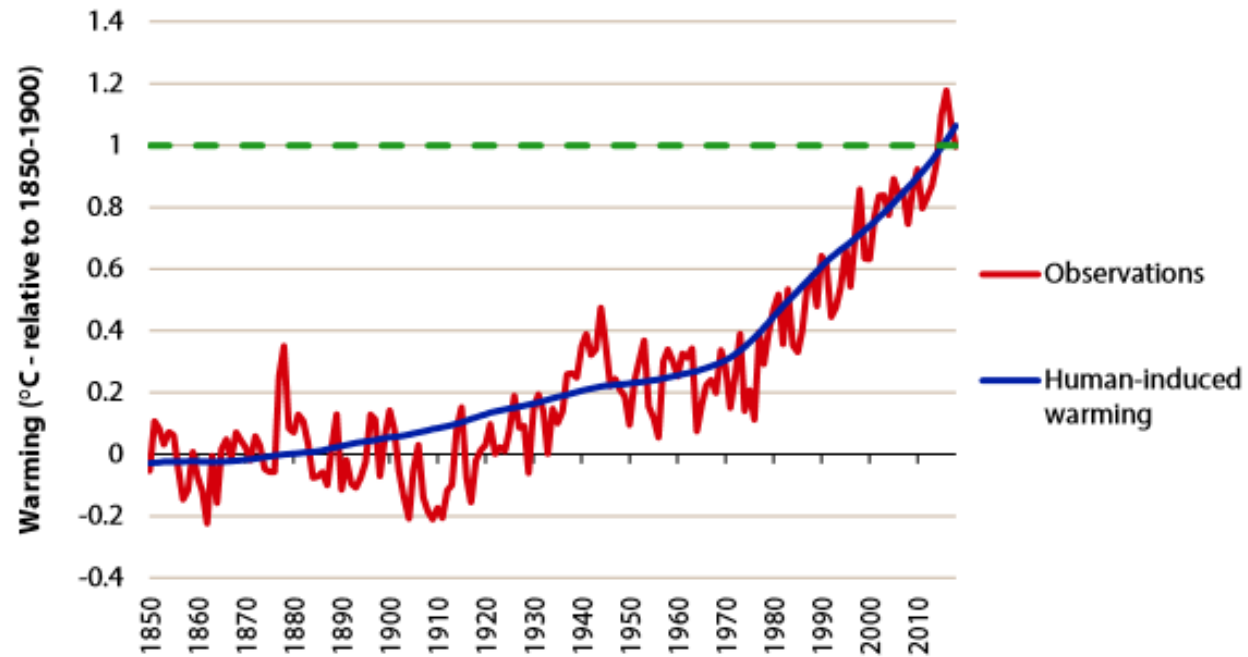
# Scene Setting: The last 800,000 years





# Scene Setting: The last 200 years

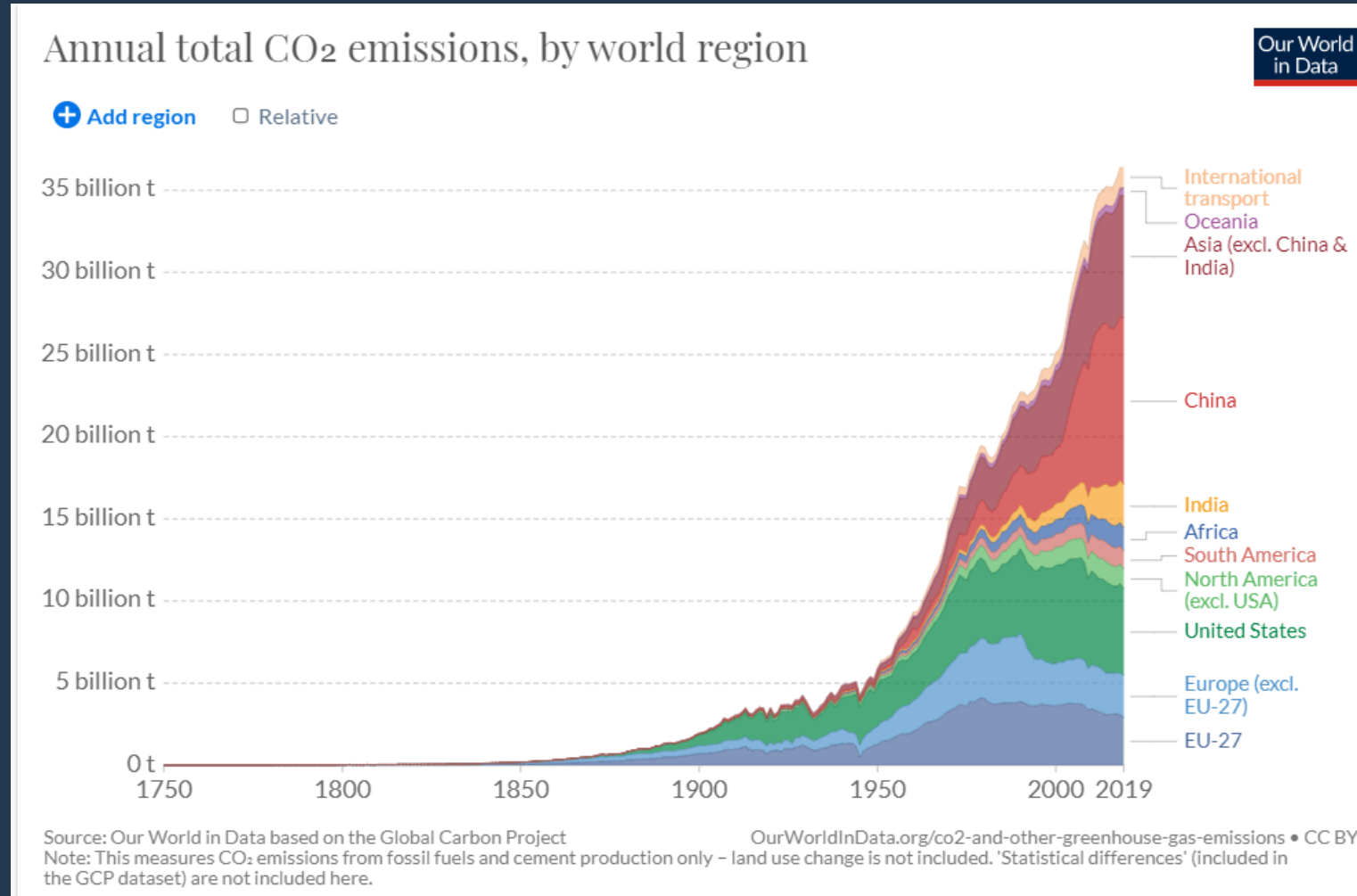
Figure 2.1. Observed and human-induced warming



Source: HadCRUT4, NOAA, NASA and Cowtan & Way datasets; IPCC (2018) *Chapter 1 - Framing and Context*.

Notes: 'Observations' are the average of the four datasets above as in IPCC-SR1.5 including for the full year of data for 2018.

# Sharp increase in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by global region





# Scene Setting: The last few years



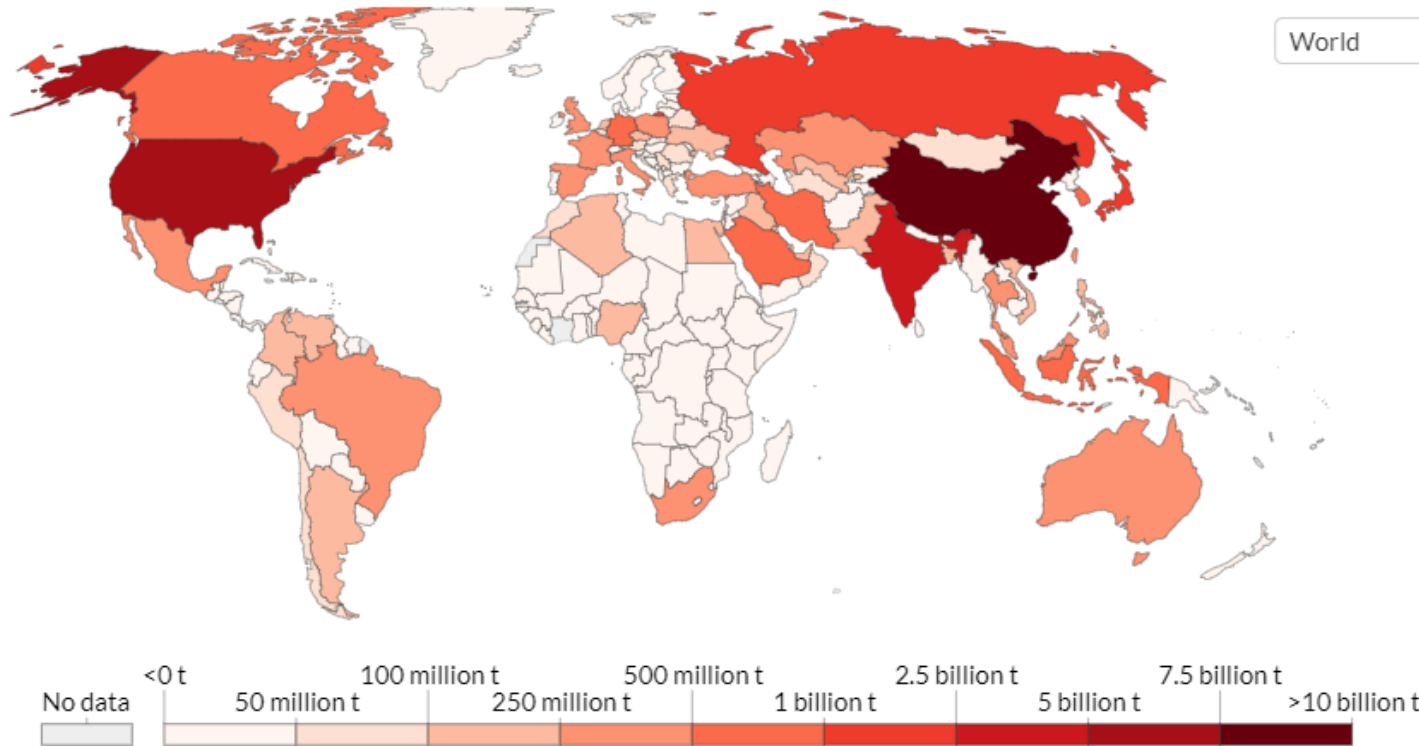
# Annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by country, 2019

## Annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, 2019

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from the burning of fossil fuels for energy and cement production. Land use change is not included.

Our World  
in Data

World



Source: Global Carbon Project; Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Centre (CDIAC)

Note: CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are measured on a production basis, meaning they do not correct for emissions embedded in traded goods.

OurWorldInData.org/co2-and-other-greenhouse-gas-emissions/ • CC BY

- 1. China:** 10.2 billion tCO<sub>2</sub>
  - 28%
- 2. USA:** 5.3 billion tCO<sub>2</sub>
  - 15%
- 3. India:** 2.6 billion tCO<sub>2</sub>
  - 7%
- 4. Russia:** 1.7 billion tCO<sub>2</sub>
  - 5%
- ...
- 18. UK:** 370 million tCO<sub>2</sub>
  - 1%
- 73. Ireland:** 37 million tCO<sub>2</sub>
  - 0.1%



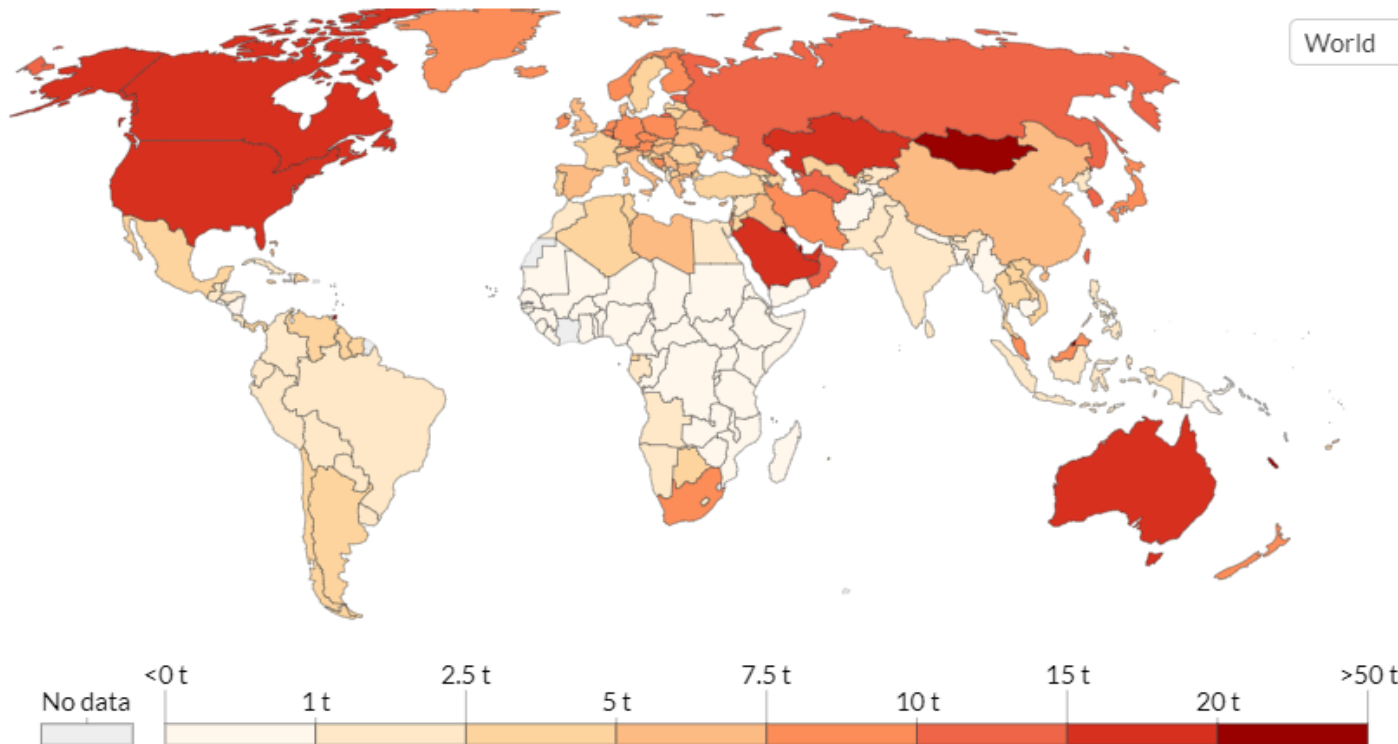
# Per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

## Per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, 2019

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from the burning of fossil fuels for energy and cement production. Land use change is not included.

Our World  
in Data

World



Source: Our World in Data based on the Global Carbon Project; Gapminder & UN  
Note: CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are measured on a production basis, meaning they do not correct for emissions embedded in traded goods.  
[OurWorldInData.org/co2-and-other-greenhouse-gas-emissions/](https://OurWorldInData.org/co2-and-other-greenhouse-gas-emissions/) • CC BY

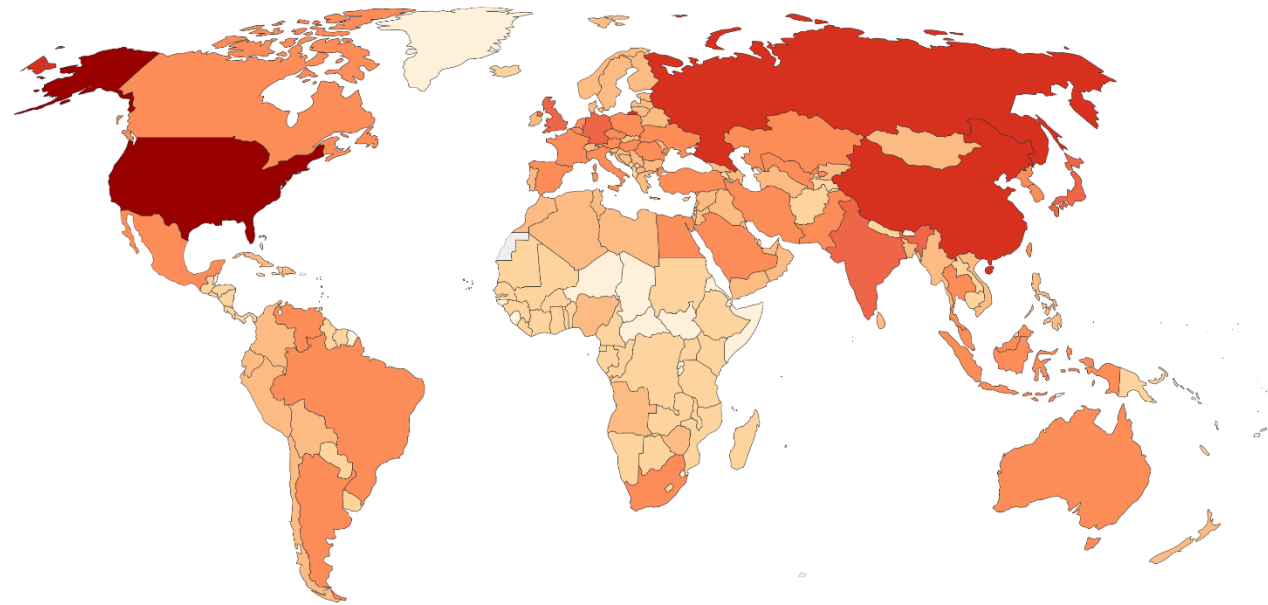
- **USA:** 16 tCO<sub>2</sub> pp
  - **Russia:** 11.5 tCO<sub>2</sub> pp
  - **Ireland:** 7.6 t CO<sub>2</sub> pp
  - **China:** 7.1 tCO<sub>2</sub> pp
  - **UK:** 5.5 tCO<sub>2</sub> pp
  - **India:** 1.9 tCO<sub>2</sub> pp
- But who's the highest?**
- **Qatar at 38.7 tCO<sub>2</sub> pp !!**

# Cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

## Cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Cumulative carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions represents the total sum of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced from fossil fuels and cement since 1750, and is measured in tonnes. This measures CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuels and cement production only – land use change is not included.

Our World  
in Data



No data 0 t 50 million t 500 million t 5 billion t 50 billion t 100 billion t 250 billion t >400 billion t

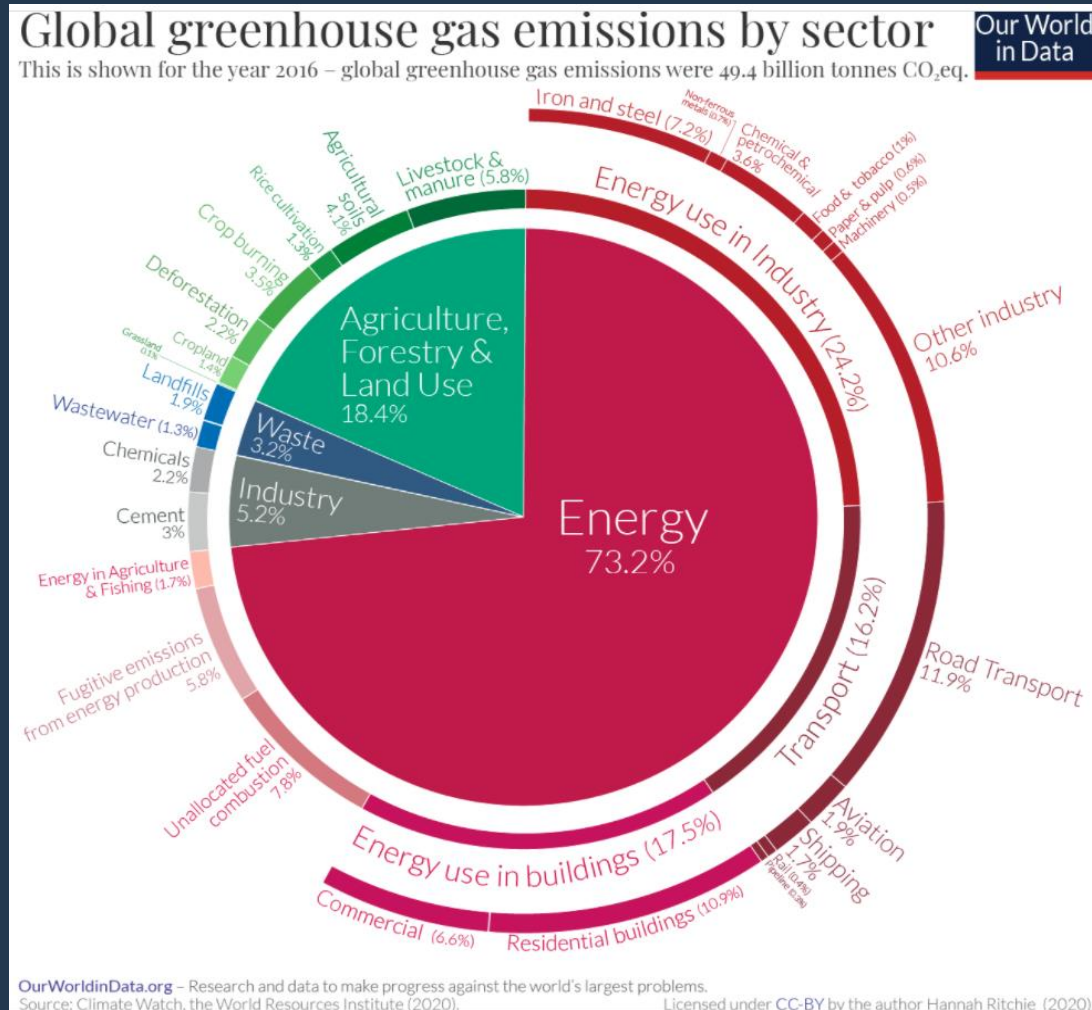
Source: Our World in Data based on the Global Carbon Project

[OurWorldInData.org/co2-and-other-greenhouse-gas-emissions/](https://OurWorldInData.org/co2-and-other-greenhouse-gas-emissions/) • CC BY

1. **USA: 400 GtCO<sub>2</sub> (25%)**
2. **EU-28: 370 GtCO<sub>2</sub> (22%)**
3. **China: 230 GtCO<sub>2</sub>**
4. **Russia: 115 GtCO<sub>2</sub>**
5. **Germany: 92 GtCO<sub>2</sub>**
6. **United Kingdom: 78 GtCO<sub>2</sub>**



# Where do GHG emissions come from?



- **Industry 29.4%**
- **Agriculture & Forestry 21.1%**
- **Buildings 17.5%**
- **Transport 16.2%**



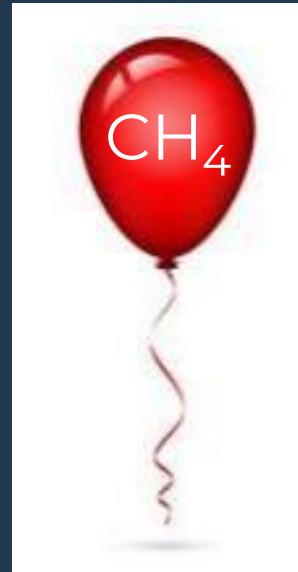
# SECTION 2: Carbon literacy



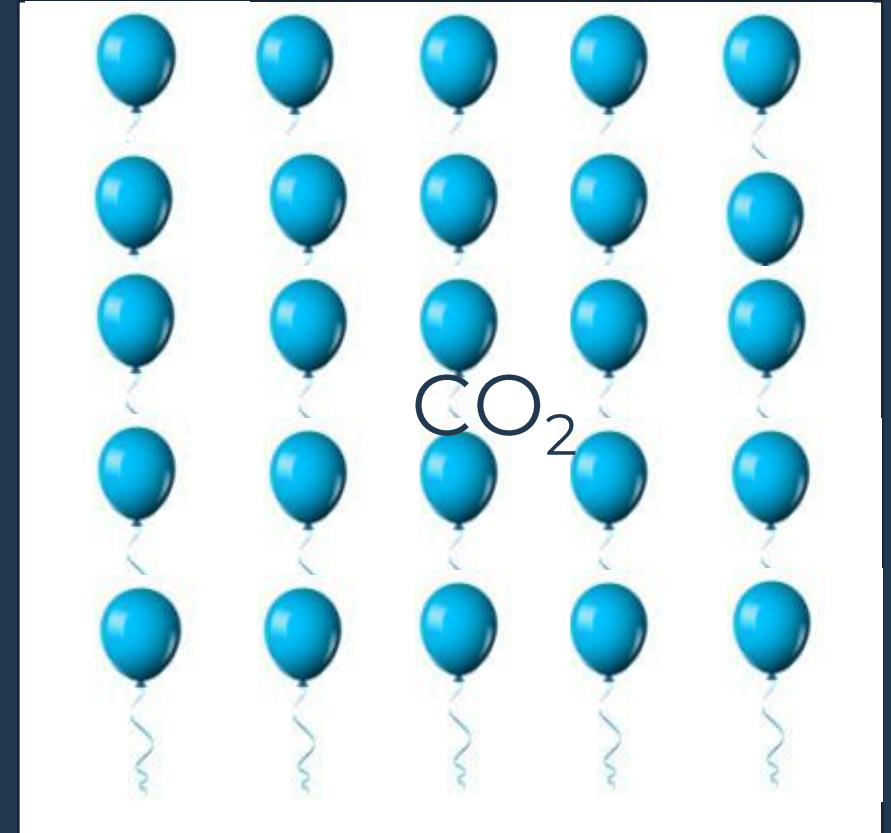


# Some fundamentals – Global Warming Potentials: GWP

- It's all relative...
  - CO<sub>2</sub>: 1
  - CH<sub>4</sub>: 28
  - N<sub>2</sub>O: 265
  - SF<sub>6</sub>: 23,500
  - HFCs: 4 – 12,400
  - PFCs: 6,630 – 11,100
  - NF<sub>3</sub>: 16,100
  - Expressed as “tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent”; tCO<sub>2</sub>e



=



# Comparing apples and pears: travel and food



500 p.km by  
train =  
18 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e

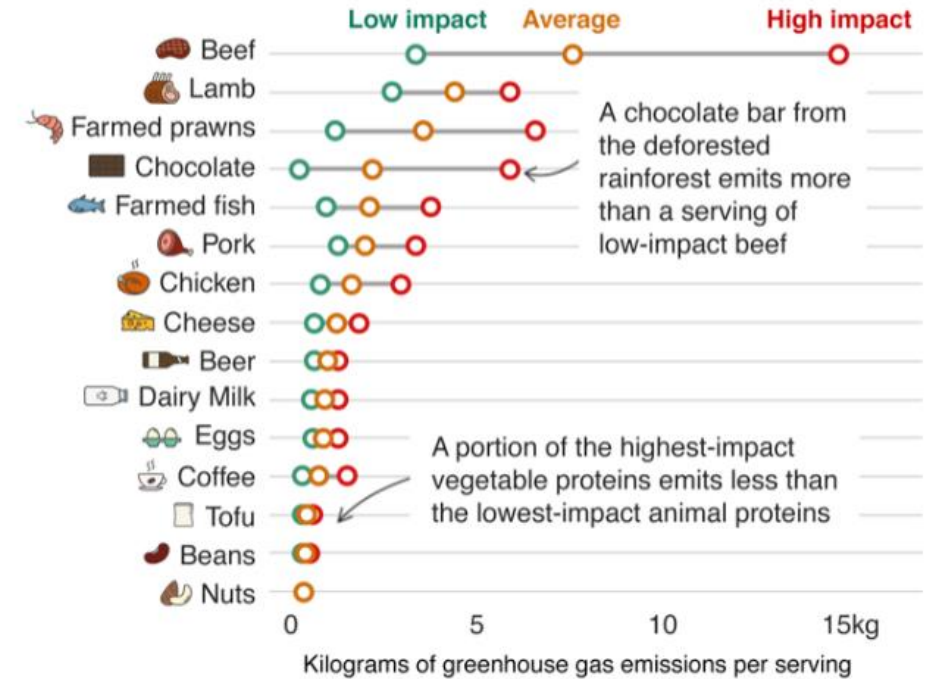


500 km by  
car =  
84 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e



500 p.km by  
airplane =  
122 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e

Kilograms of greenhouse gas emissions per serving



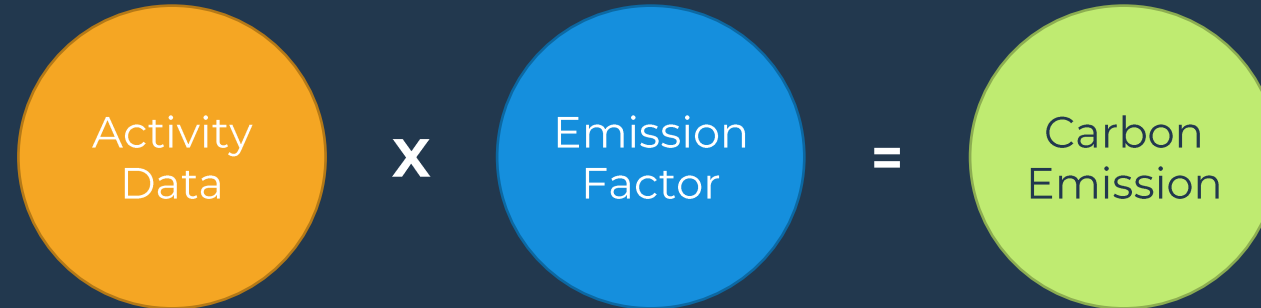
Source: Poore & Nemecek (2018), Science





# How to calculate a carbon footprint

- **A carbon footprint is**



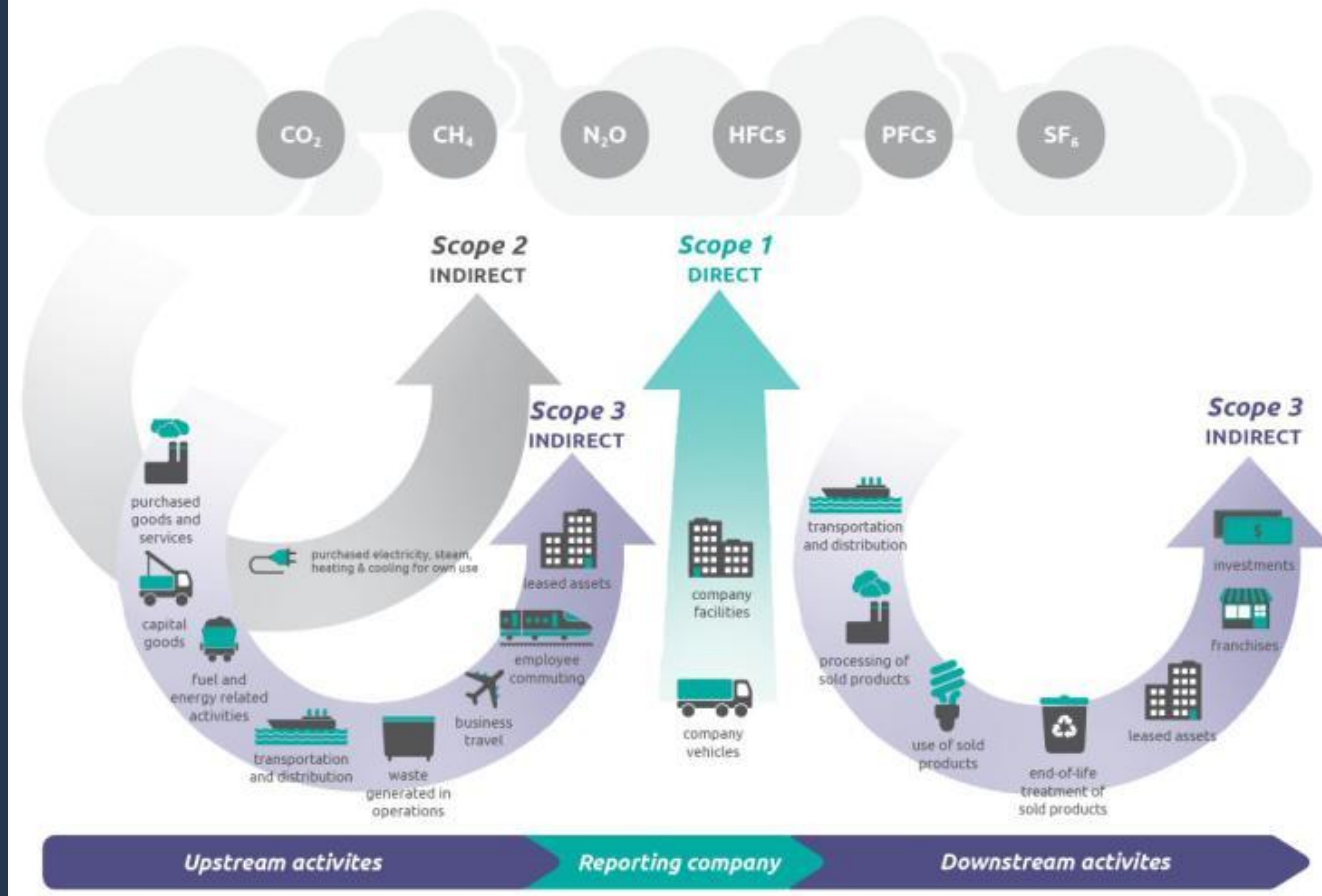
- **For example**



- **KgCO<sub>2</sub>e (“equivalent”)** takes into account all the main GHGs emitted: CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O, etc.

# Operational Boundaries – Scopes

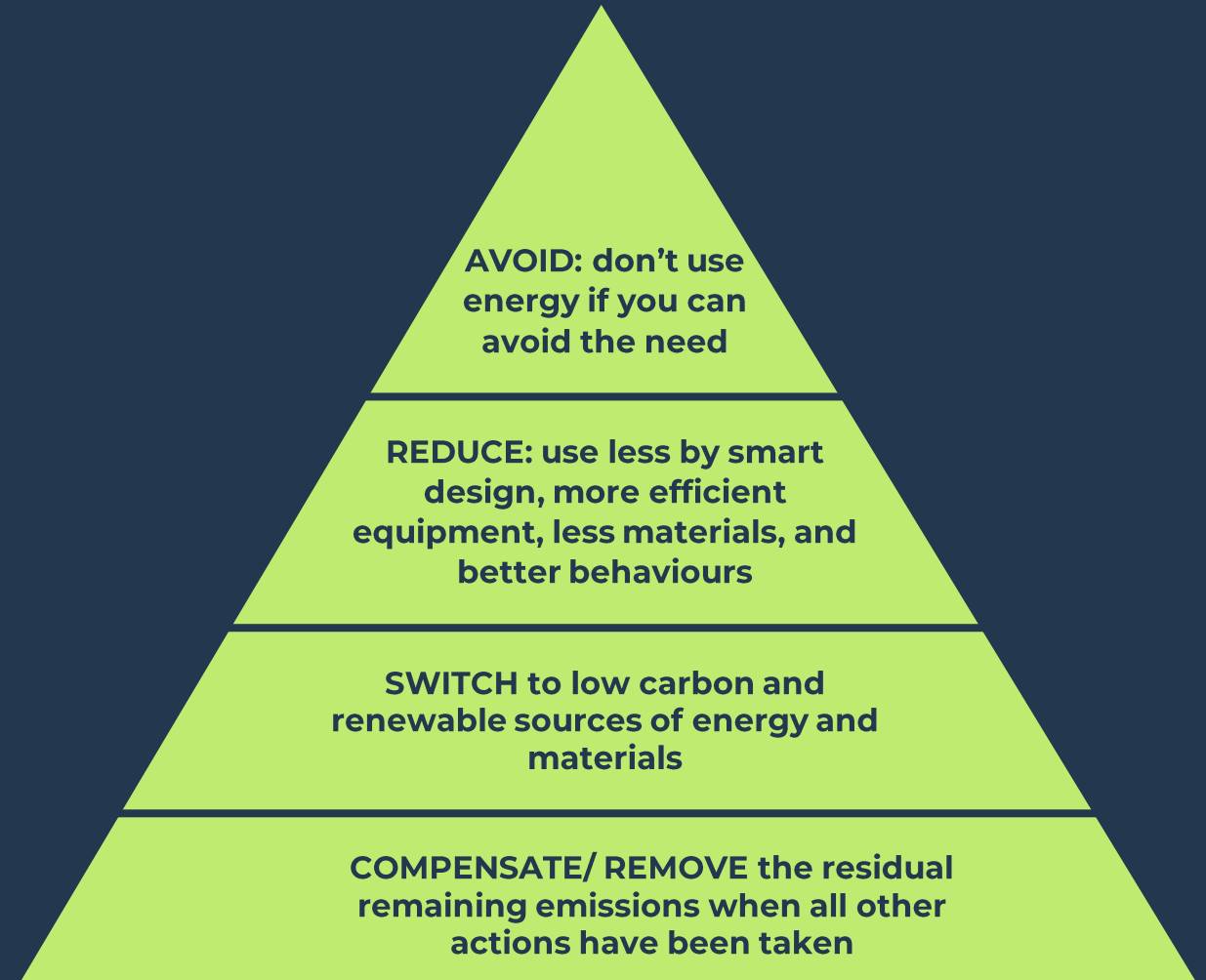
Figure [1.1] Overview of GHG Protocol scopes and emissions across the value chain



- **Direct emissions** are emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the reporting company
- **Indirect emissions** are emissions that are a consequence of the activities of the company but occur at sources owned or controlled by another company



# Use the Carbon & Energy Hierarchy





SECTION 3: Taking action: from global cooperation to individual behaviour





Global Cooperation

# The backstory...



**The Brundtland Report**

3

- In 1987: The Brundtland Commission (*Our Common Future*) which coined what has become the most often-quoted definition of sustainable development as development that

*"meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."*

**OUR COMMON FUTURE**  
THE WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT



# Paris Climate Change Agreement

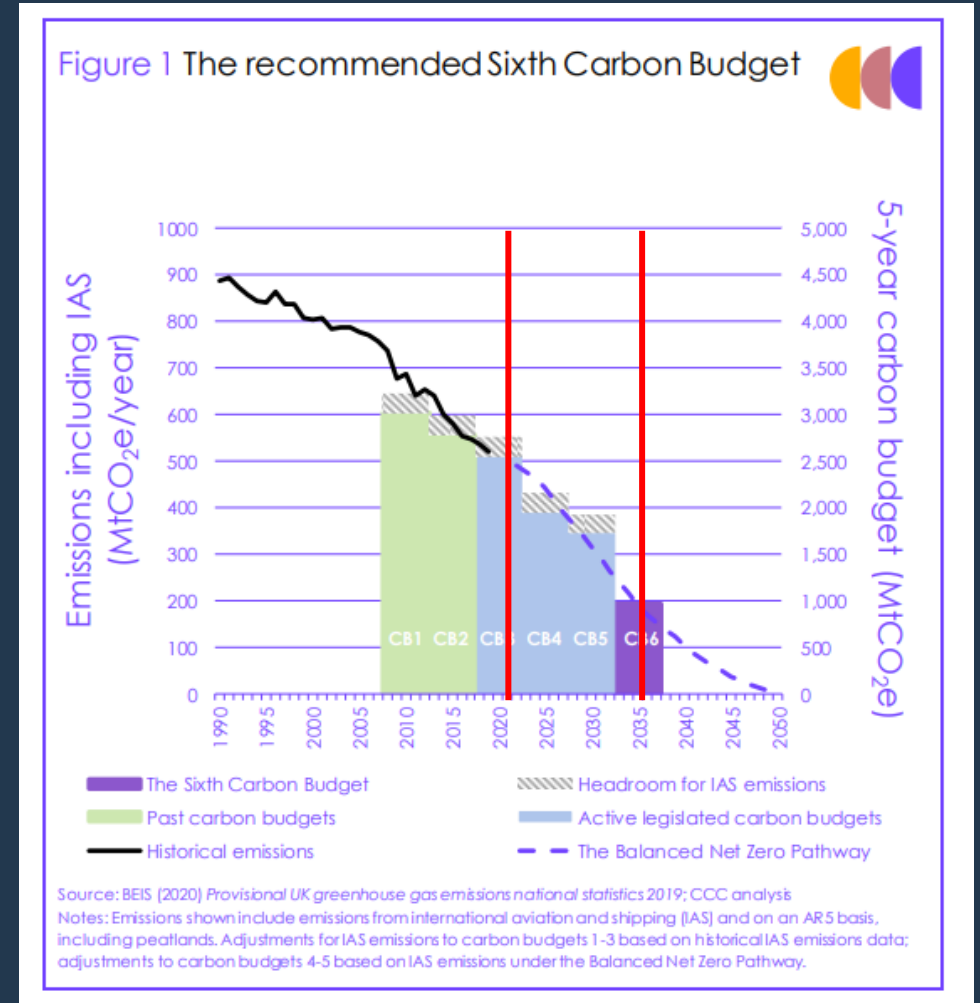
- Significant progress on Kyoto
- Global engagement
- Nationally Determined Contributions
  - UK's is 68% reduction by 2030 vs 1990





# The Law!

- UK Climate Change Act target of 100% reduction by 2050 – ‘net zero’
- Scotland has legislated to hit net-zero by 2045
- Wales’ target to reduce by 95% by 2050 but aiming for net zero
- Ireland has legislated to hit net-zero by 2050
- New intermediate target for UK of 78% by 2035 vs 1990 baseline





Individuals

# Carbon Reduction Actions – at Home

## At home

- Keep an eye on the thermostat – wear a jumper in winter!
- Insulate your house: attic, walls, windows and doors
- Switch to a provider of renewable energy such as SSE Airtricity, OVO, Good Energy or Ecotricity
- Use your equipment as efficiently as possible – eco modes

## Diet

- Eat less meat and dairy; try other options
- Reduce food waste – only buy and cook what you need
- If you can, compost any food waste you do make

## Travel

- Work from home, if you can, even if only part of the week
- Get public transport as much as you can
- Use a more efficient car – better mpg, or hybrid or even EV!
- Drive more smoothly and maintain your car
- Fly less often – get the train where you can: New network of sleeper trains planned:  
<https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2021/jun/22/new-network-of-european-sleeper-overnight-trains-planned>

## At the shops

- Buy efficient equipment that can be maintained for a long lifetime, e.g. washing machine
- Don't always buy the latest model – think of the materials and waste as well as carbon
- Resist fast fashion – put it in the wardrobe and the fashion will come around again in 25 years!
- Avoid unnecessary packaging wherever you can, and recycle as much as you can







*Some of  
your  
DoNation  
pledges*



Peter Major pledged Tap it  
24th Jun 2021

At the moment, I buy roughly 4 bottles of water a week. Over the next two months, I pledge to reduce my bottle buying by half, and instead drink from a reusable bottle.

Pledge status

7kg of CO<sub>2</sub> pledged



Ian Barfoot pledged Just hanging  
23rd Jun 2021

I tend to use a tumble dryer from time to time, and I do about 15 washes a week. For the next two months, I pledge to hang dry my washing instead.



Ross Ford pledged Walk on  
25th Jun 2021

I usually travel around by scooter or moped. I pledge to switch to walking for 5 journey(s) a week over the next two months. For each journey, I'll be walking (I may also skip on sunny days) for about 40 minutes.

Pledge status

9kg of CO<sub>2</sub> pledged

22 days left



Laura Hain pledged Tintin  
7 days ago

I pledge to become a recycling ninja for the next two months, and master my recycling habits. At the moment I recycle only when I can be bothered.

Pledge status

6kg of CO<sub>2</sub> pledged

53 days left

Pledge confirmed



Rachael Robbins pledged Degrees cooler  
6 days ago

For the next two months, I will turn down my heating by 1°C.

Pledge status

53kg of CO<sub>2</sub> pledged

54 days left

Pledge confirmed



Deborah Lauder pledged Eat up  
1st Jul 2021

Currently, I throw away a lot of food. Over the next 2 months, I will minimize the food waste for 3 people in my home.

Pledge status

245kg of CO<sub>2</sub> pledged

40 days left

Pledge confirmed

## Our collective impact

**5,451**

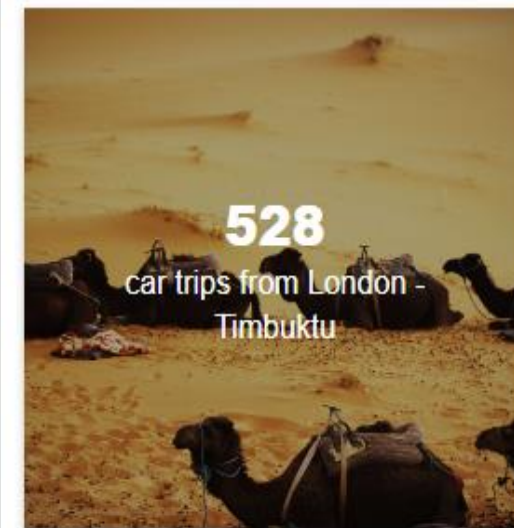
pledges

**1,592**

supporters

**373,212kg**

CO<sub>2</sub> pledged ?



The end of the training... for now...



...but the beginning of your carbon reduction plans!...





# Audience Poll

# Questions, Answers and Feedback



# Thank you!

James Cadman

- Lead Consultant at Action Sustainability
- [james@actionsustainability.com](mailto:james@actionsustainability.com)
- [www.actionsustainability.com](http://www.actionsustainability.com)
- @Action\_Sustain

