



The CLIMATE CRISIS **- from a child perspective**

Climate change and the
impact on children's
rights

The climate crisis and children

climate change – children – child rights



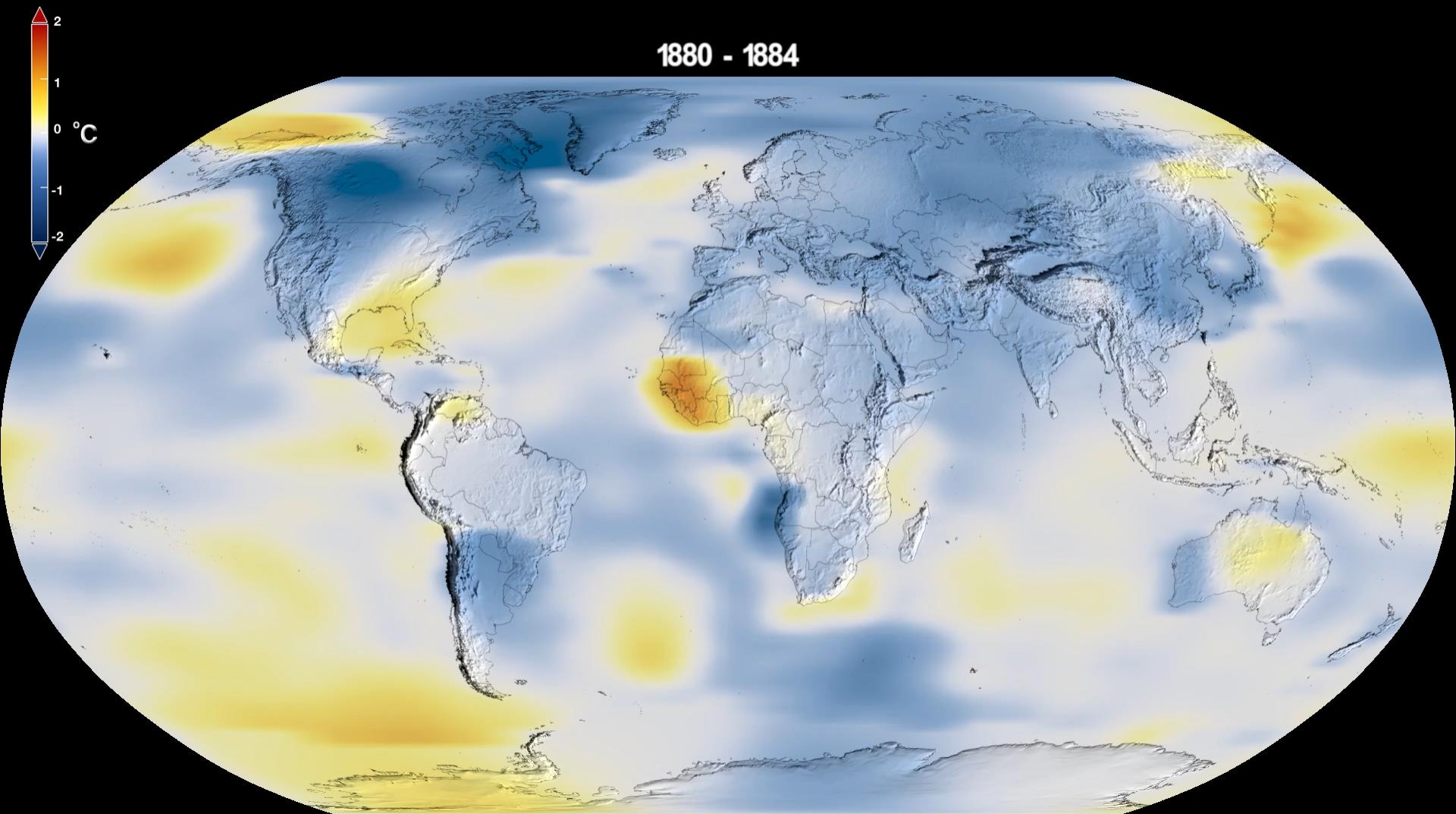
We'll cover:

- What is climate change?
- What is climate change doing to the world?
- Who is causing the problem and who is suffering the impacts?
- Why focus on children? What do children say?
- How is climate change impacting children's rights?
- How is climate change affecting children?
- Response options and examples

point 1

Climate change is **not (only) a challenge for the distant future**

141 years of warming in 30 secs

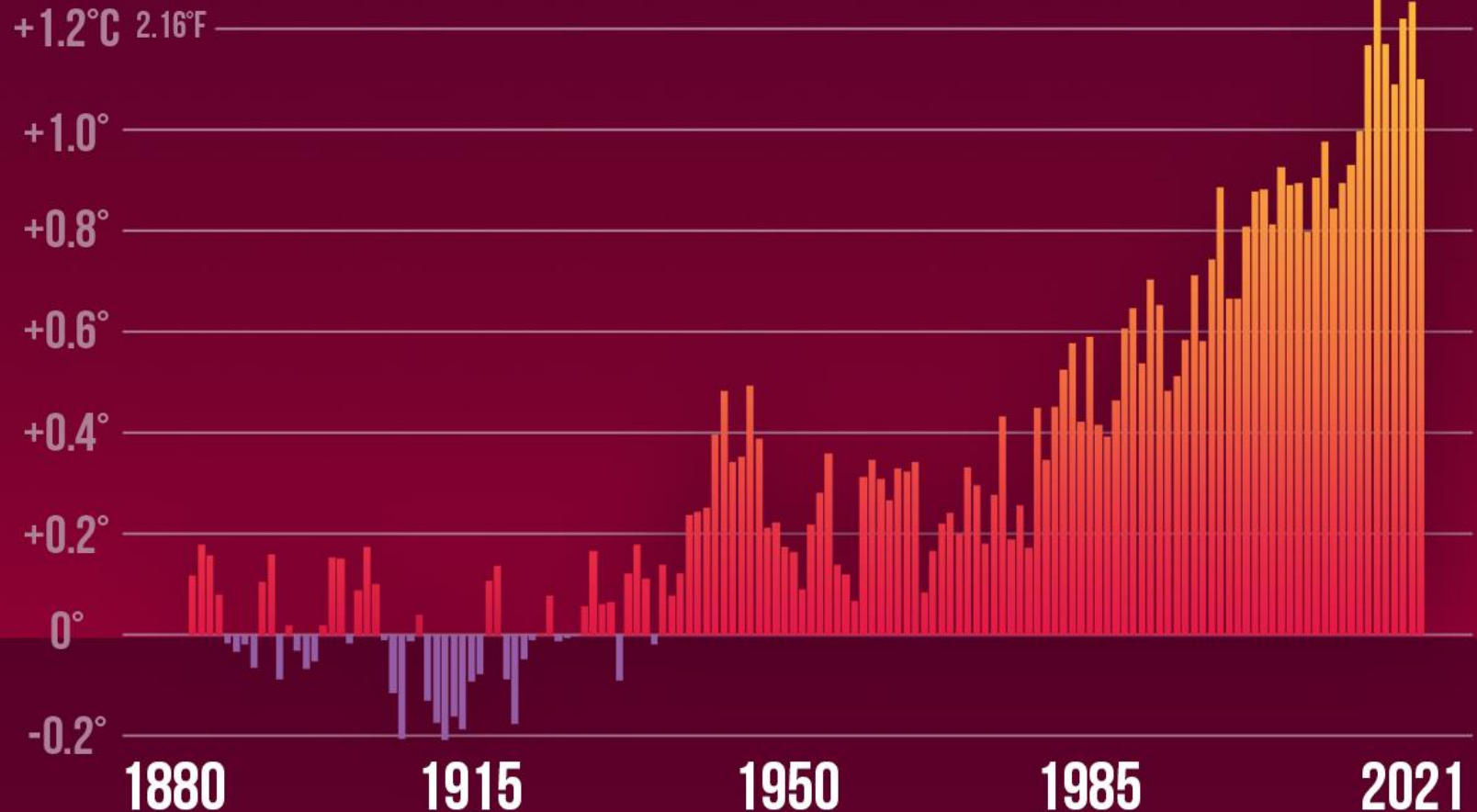


fact

It's getting hotter

GLOBAL TEMPERATURE

DEPARTURE FROM 1881-1910 AVERAGE



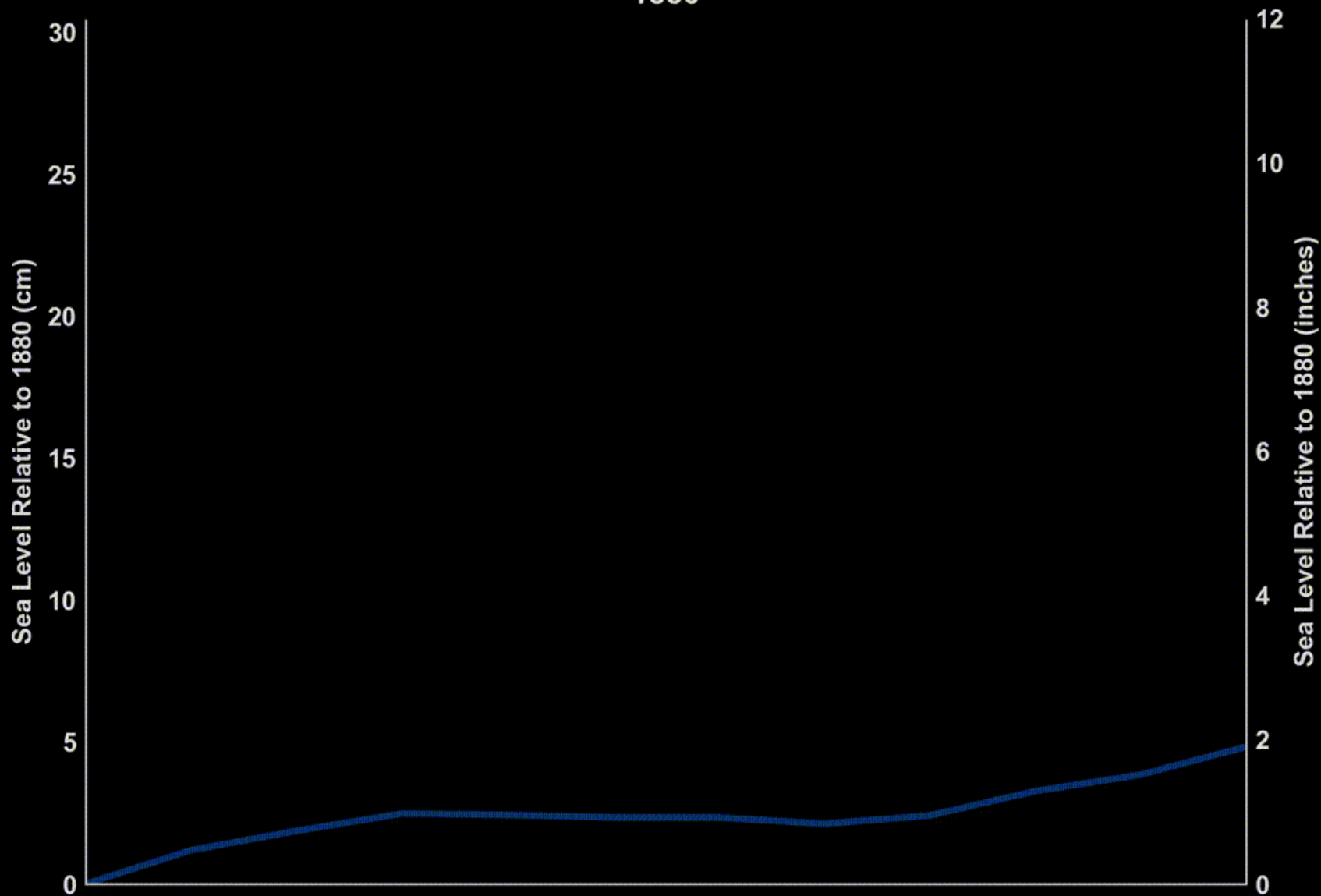
Source: NASA GISS & NOAA NCEI global temperature anomalies averaged and adjusted to early industrial baseline (1881-1910). Data as of 1/13/2022.

CLIMATE  CENTRAL

fact

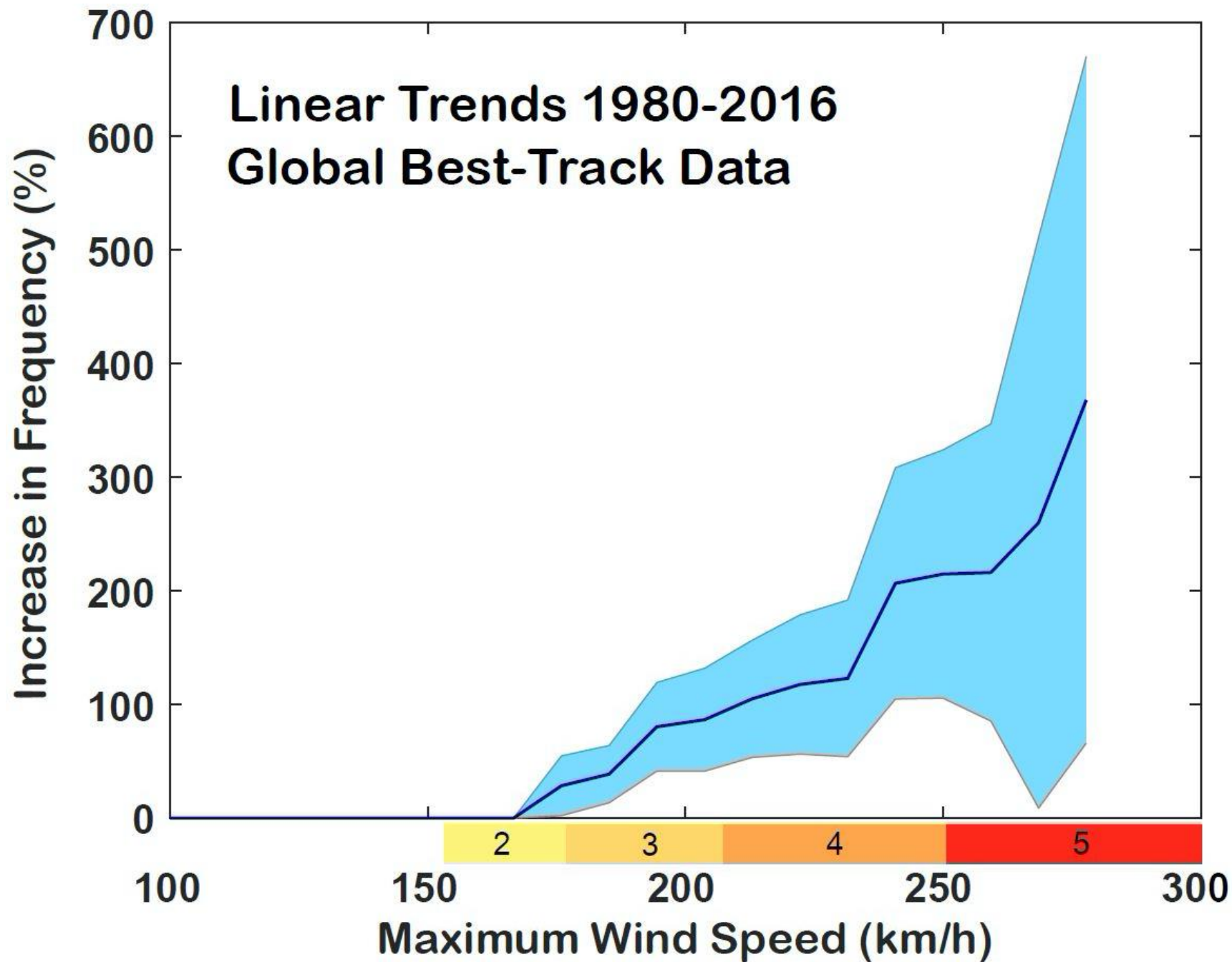
Sea levels are rising

1880



fact

**Extreme weather events are getting
more extreme**

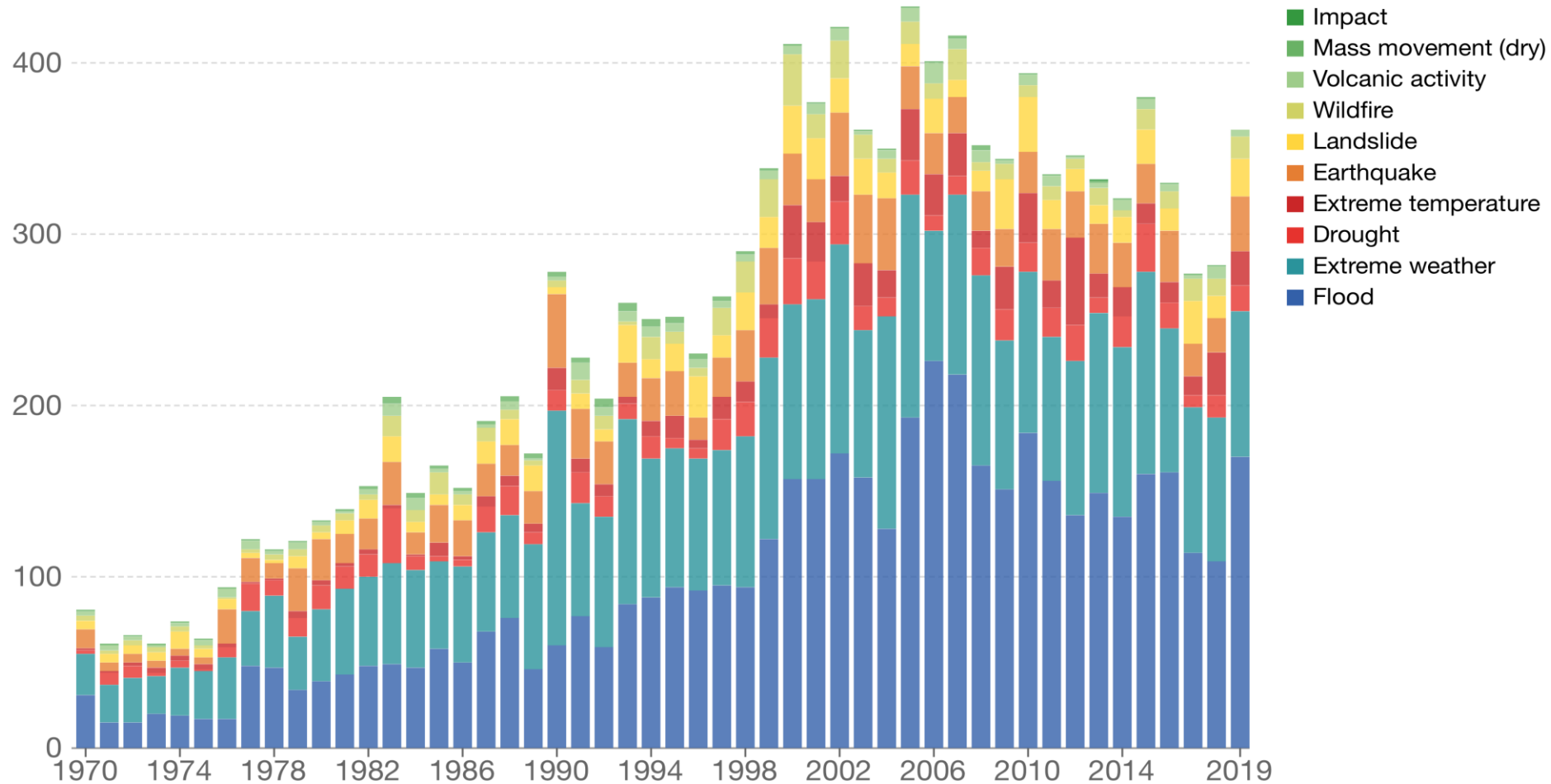


fact

And more frequent

Global reported natural disasters by type, 1970 to 2019

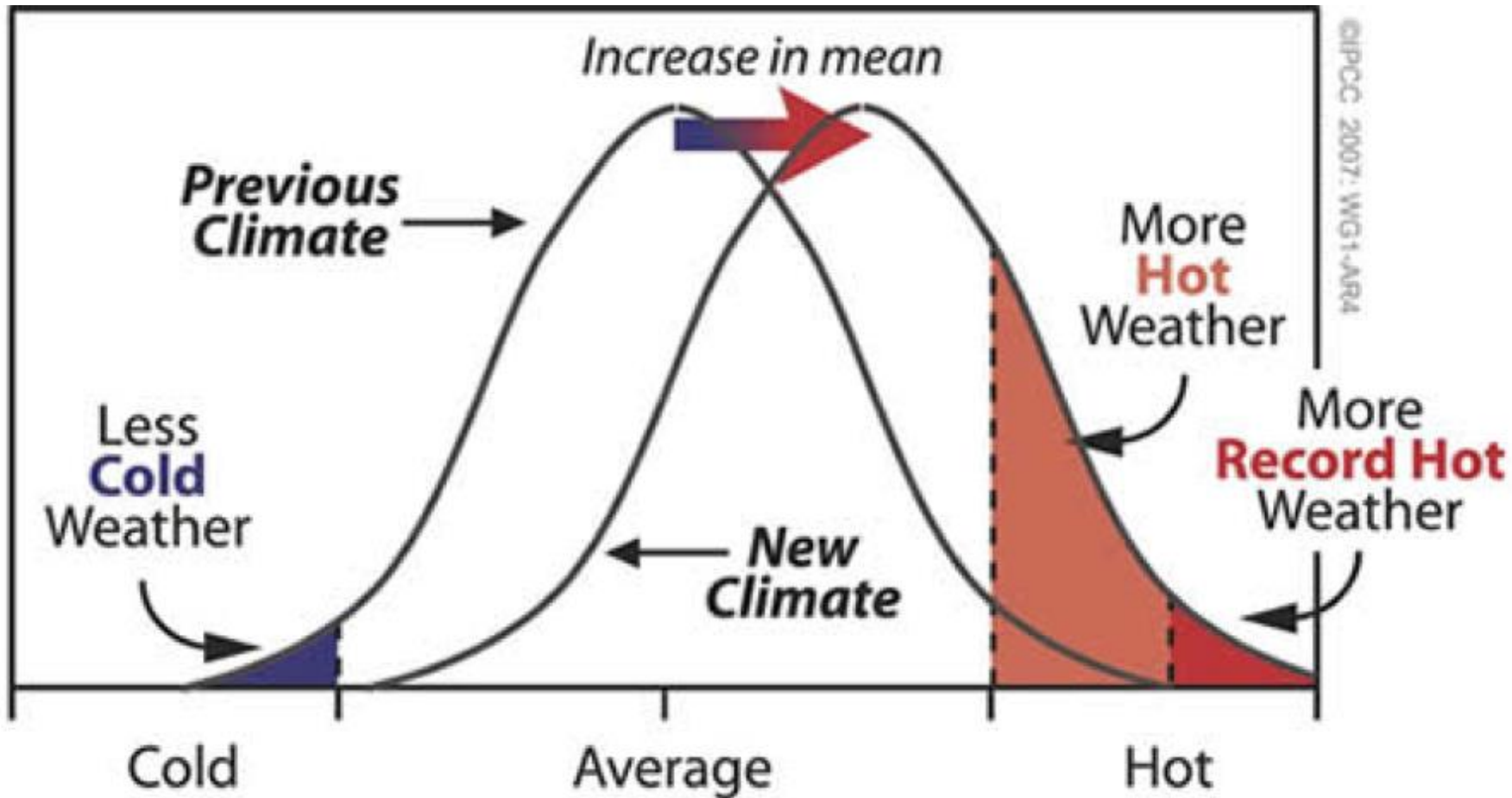
The annual reported number of natural disasters, categorised by type. This includes both weather and non-weather related disasters.



Source: EMDAT (2020): OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database, Université catholique de Louvain – Brussels – Belgium
OurWorldInData.org/natural-disasters • CC BY

point 2

The past is **no longer a reliable
indicator of the future**

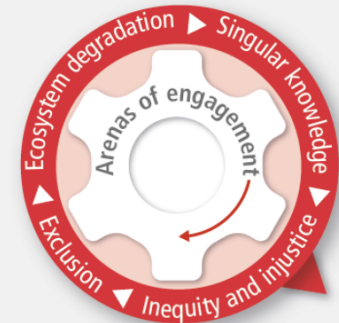


(a) Societal choices about adaptation, mitigation and sustainable development made in arenas of engagement

Dimensions that enable actions towards higher climate resilient development

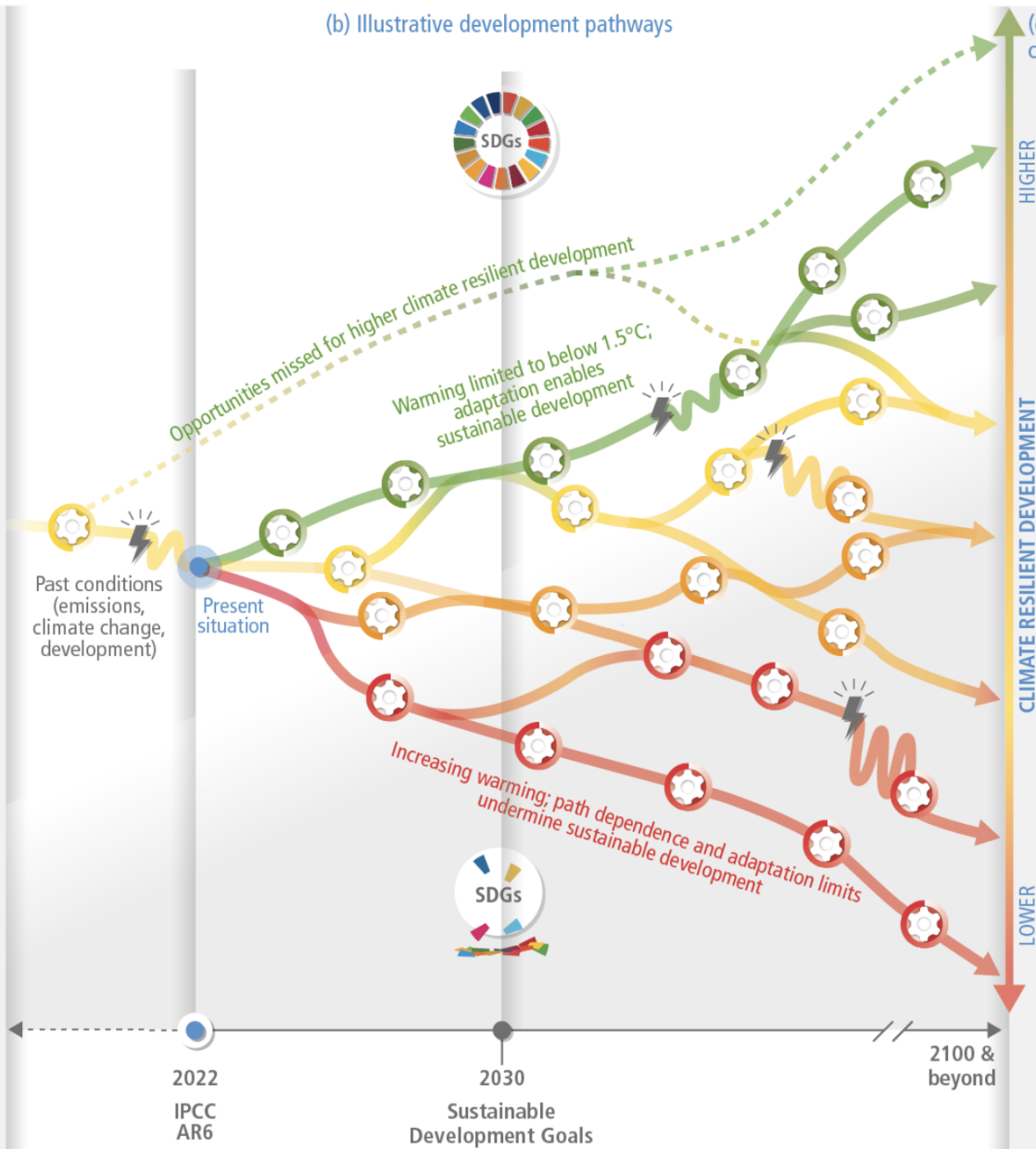


Arenas of engagement:
Community
Socio-cultural
Political
Ecological
Knowledge + technology
Economic + financial

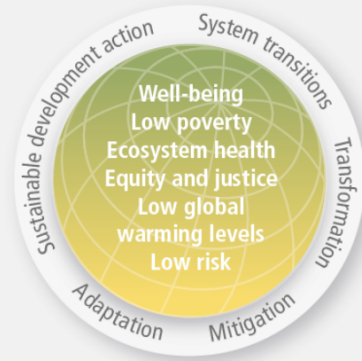


Dimensions that result in actions towards lower climate resilient development

(b) Illustrative development pathways



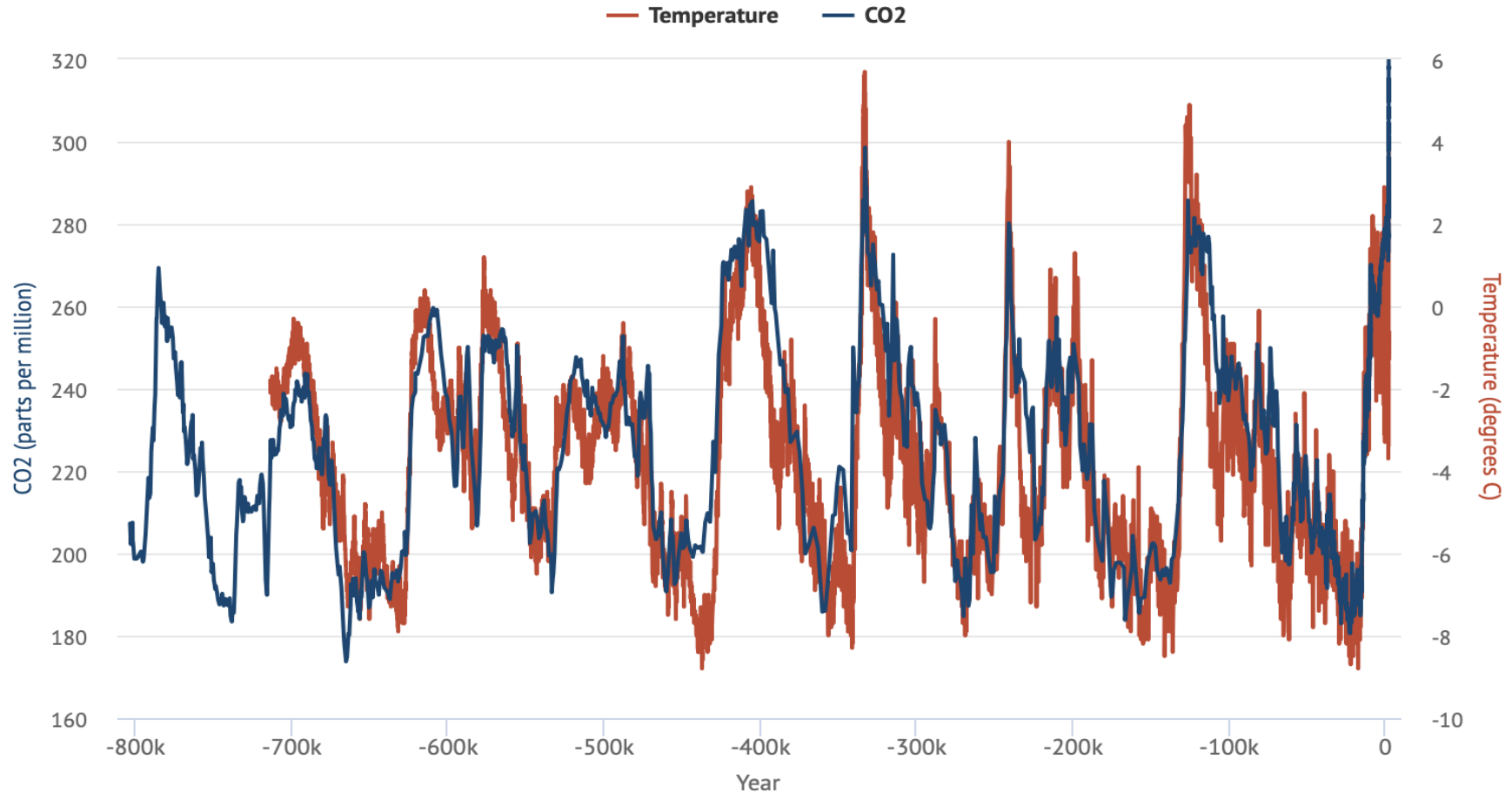
(c) Actions and outcomes characterizing development pathways



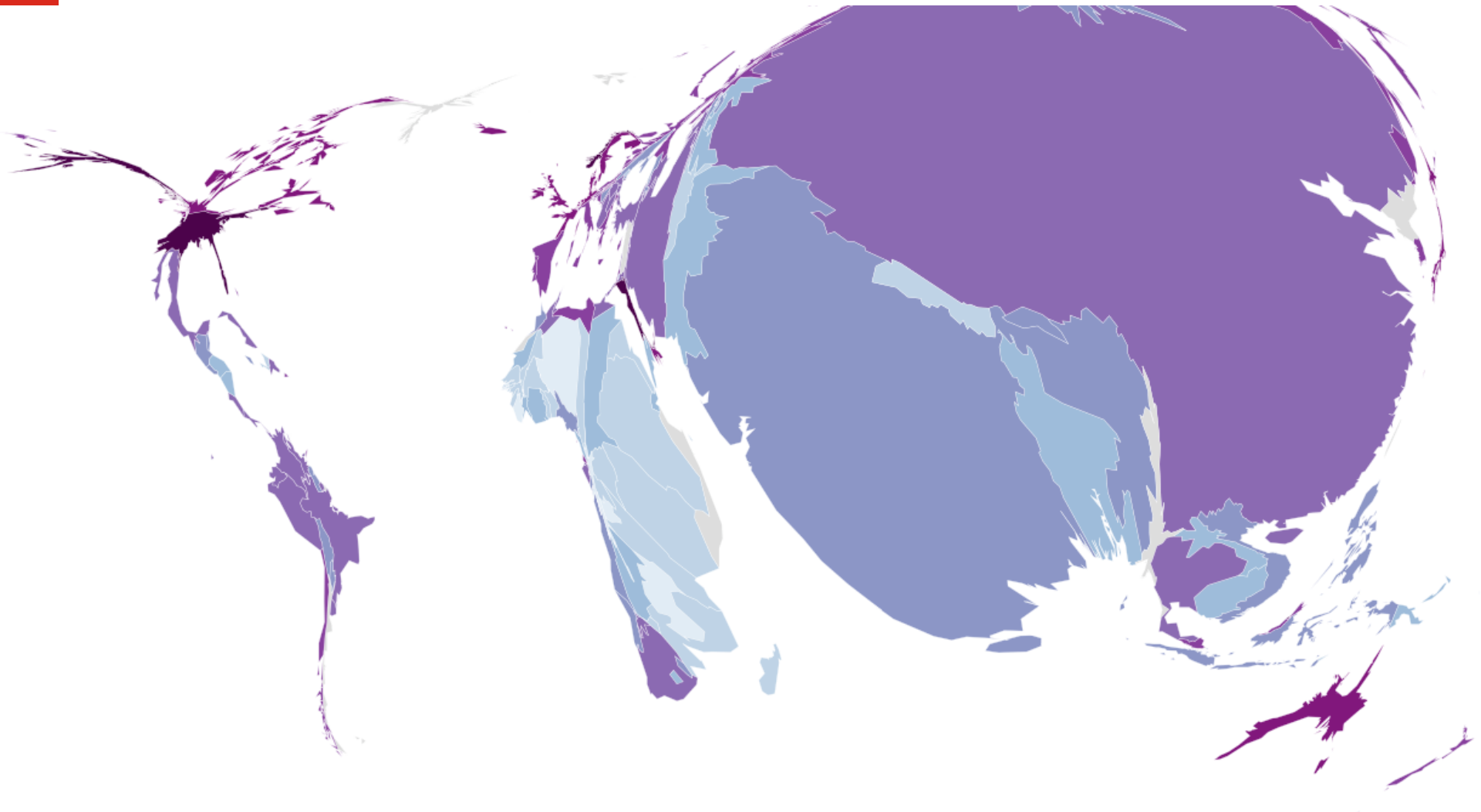
point 3

**It really is about CO₂, and it really is
caused by the rich countries
– at least so far**

CO2 saturation = temperature change

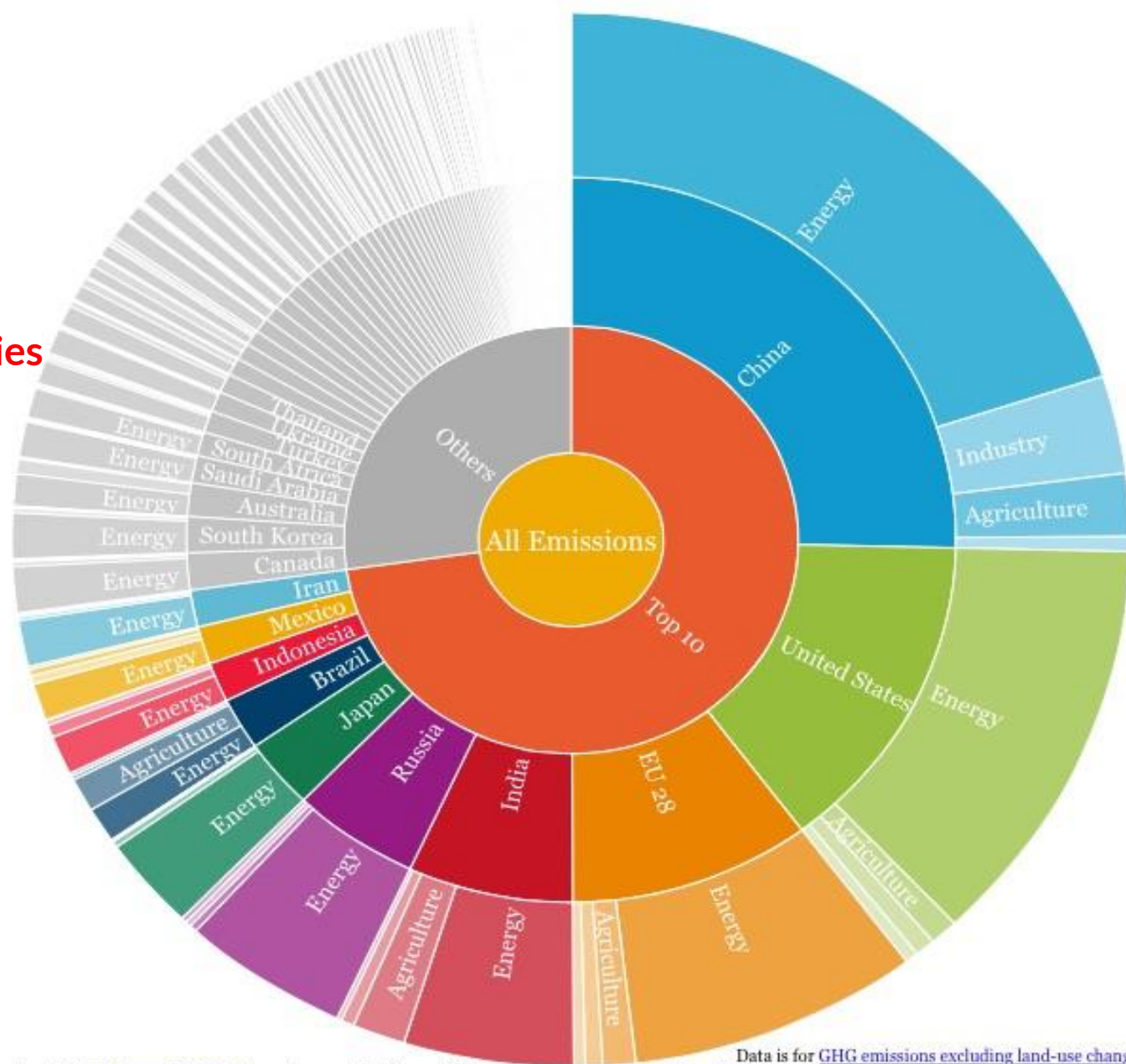


Climate change is not equitable



Around **two thirds**
of global emissions
come from **9 countries**
+ EU 28

Over **two thirds**
of their emissions
come from the
production and
consumption of
energy

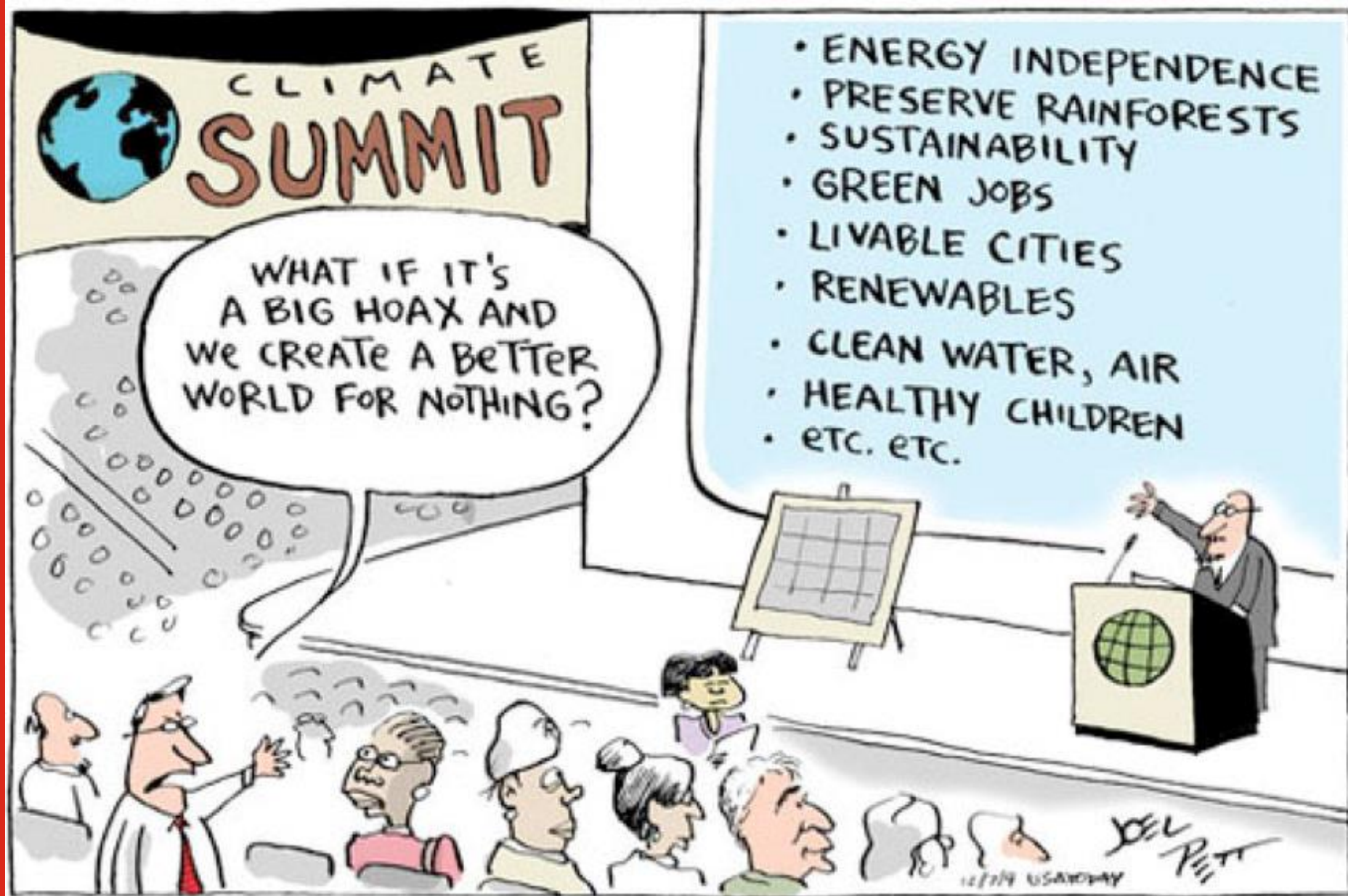


Graphic by [Johannes Friedrich](#) based on work by Duncan Clark, [Kiln](#), [Mike Bostock](#) and [Jason Davies](#). Thanks also to Jamie Cotta.

Data is for GHG emissions excluding land-use change and forestry and excluding bunker fuels. The EU is considered an emitter for this graph. For more information visit our WRI blog.

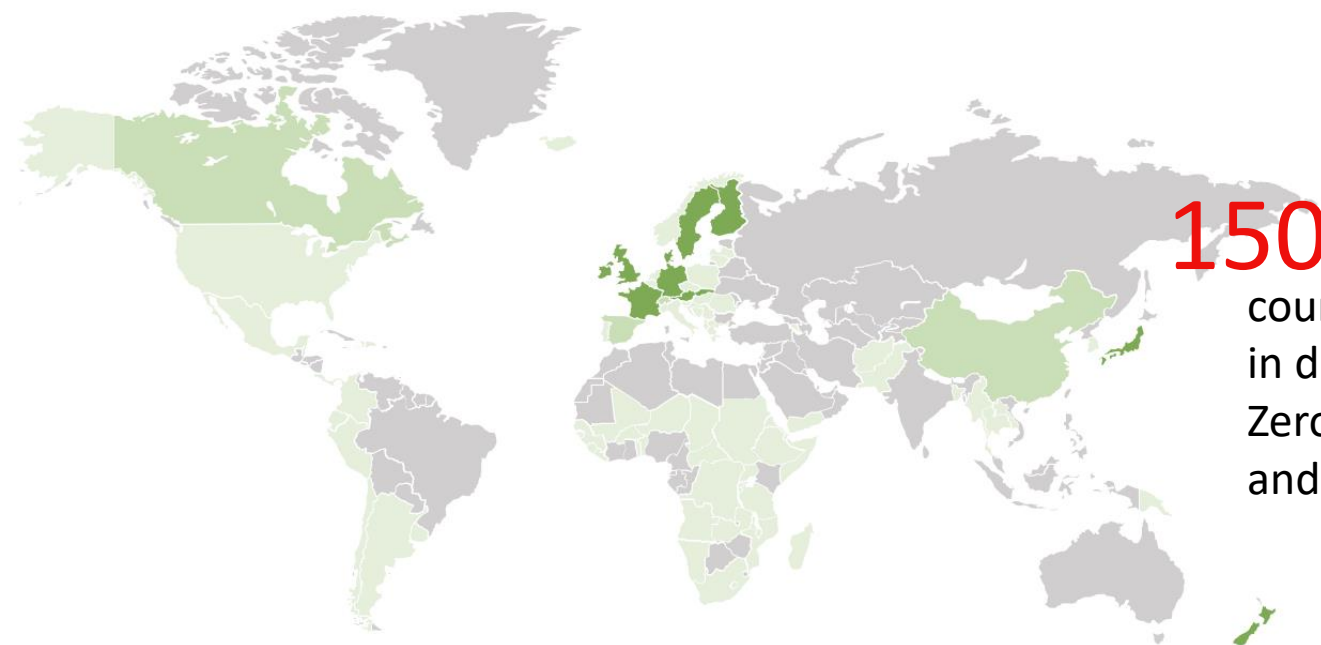
point 4

**Climate action is delayed
by vested interests**



point 5

Things are changing



150

countries have laws in place, laws in draft, or policy positions on Net Zero Emissions by between 2040 and 2060

Net Zero Commitments also from:

- 22 regions (inc. California)
- 452 cities
- 1,101 businesses (inc. BT, Meta, Ford, H&M, IKEA, Nike, Microsoft, Paypal, Unilever)
- 549 universities
- 45 of the biggest investors (inc. AXA, Swiss Re, Zurich)

Why focus on children?

Children are the least responsible for climate change, yet they will bear the greatest burden of its impact



The impact of climate change on children's rights

The Climate Crisis threatens child rights and will worsen inequality



SURVIVE

- More than **99% of deaths attributable to climate-related changes** occur in developing countries – over 80% are children¹
- A world with a medium-high climate change will have an additional 25.2 million malnourished children”²

LEARN

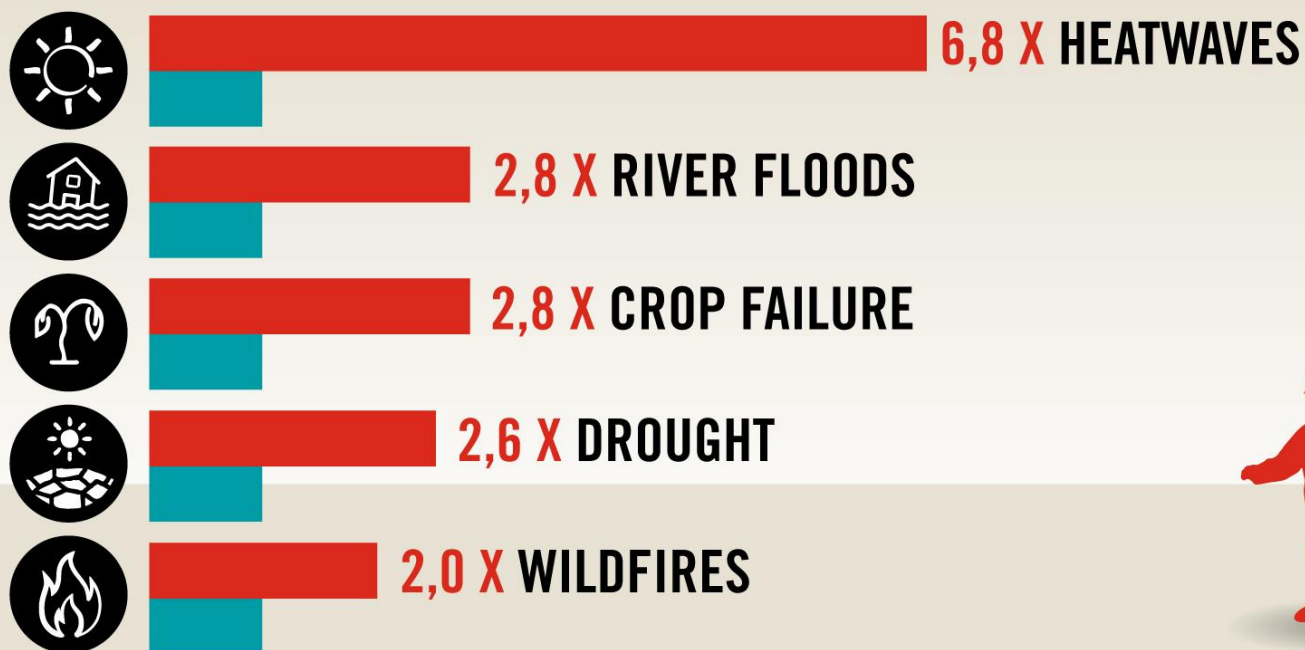
- In Africa, **school enrollment rates have declined 20%** in regions affected by drought
- Ca. 50% of children out of school is due to impacts of climate change . The education of around 38 million children is disrupted each year by the climate crisis³

BE PROTECTED

- By 2050, **143 million people** across Sub Sahara Africa, South Asia and LAC will be **forced to ‘permanently’ migrate** due to climate change⁴

Children will bear the greatest burden of climate change impacts

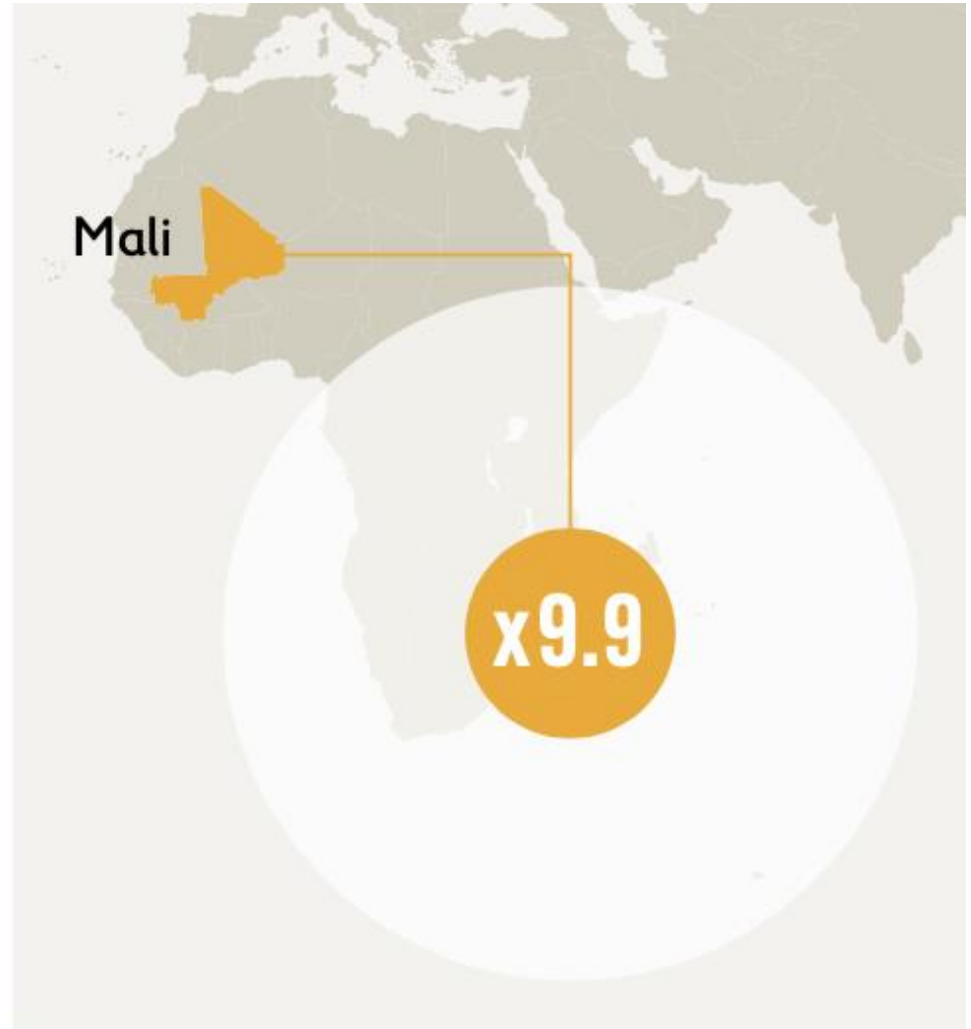
A CHILD BORN IN 2020 WILL EXPERIENCE THIS MANY MORE EXTREME EVENTS DURING THEIR LIFETIME, COMPARED TO **A PERSON BORN 1960.**



*Figures are based on NDC commitments to emission reduction made by states following the Paris Agreement.

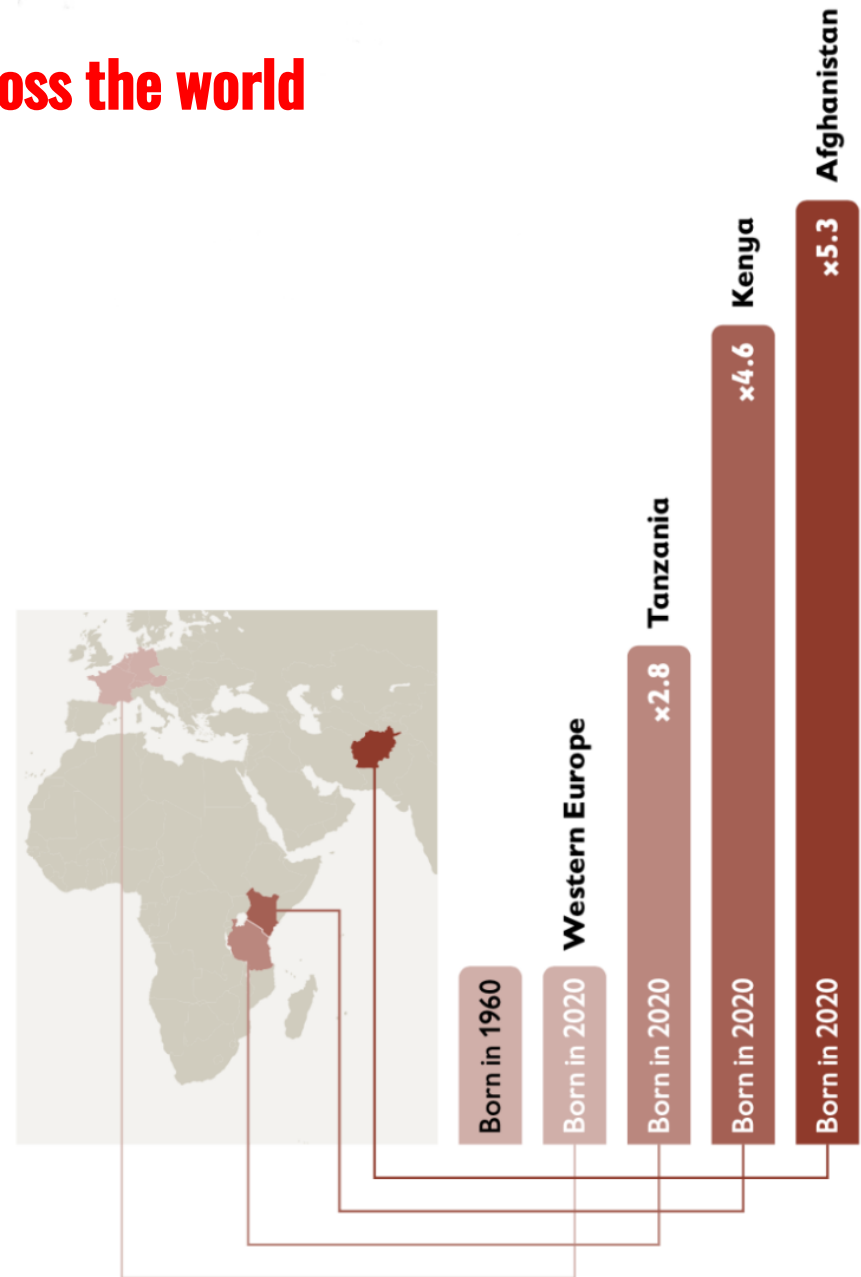
But the risk varies dramatically across the world

In Mali, newborns face the prospect of 9.9 times more crop failures



But the risk varies dramatically across the world

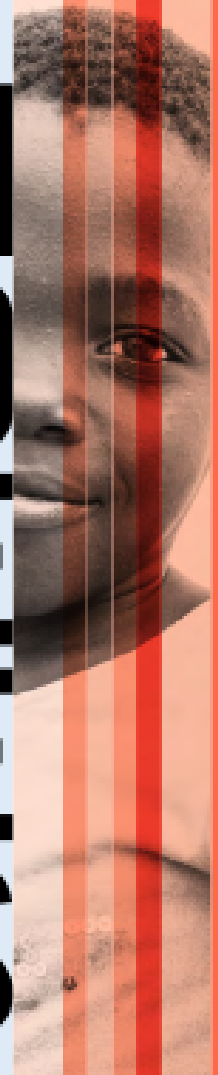
Children born in Afghanistan in 2020 will confront 5.3 times more droughts in their lifetimes and 18 times more extreme heatwaves



**“TODAY WE ARE AT RISK
AND WITHOUT ACTION
WE WILL NOT HAVE TOMORROW.”**

LAURA, 16, CHILE

BORN INTO THE CLIMATE CRISIS



<https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/document/born-climate-crisis-why-we-must-act-now-secure-childrens-rights/>

What do **children** say?

Children or poor families are the most affected negatively from climate change because they don't have the ability to handle the huge dangers- 14 year old, boy, Gaza City, urban

As a result of climate change, girls like us are being subjected to child marriage, trafficking and sexual abuse due to different problems and situations arises – 16-year-old girl, Bangladesh

The local government should promote a green environment by planting plants and trees in appropriate and available spaces. – 10-year-old boy, Nepal

Vulnerable groups, for example, those with disabilities or brown people (Afro-Peruvians) are more affected because they cannot raise their voices, or carry out campaigns to disseminate information, or funds to help them. – 16-year-old boy, Peru

I keep faith in humanity. If we just try, we can do it. – Child aged 14-16, Norway.

"For my future, I dream of having our rights respected and to live a dignified life"- 10 yr old girl, Guatemala

I plant flowers wherever I go. That is how I make my voice heard." - 13 yr old Syrian girl living in Türkiye

The impact on school attendance at the time of the floods. We cannot go to school and food is less due to changes in the climate. The result of not going to school will be the loss of education – Boy in Iraq

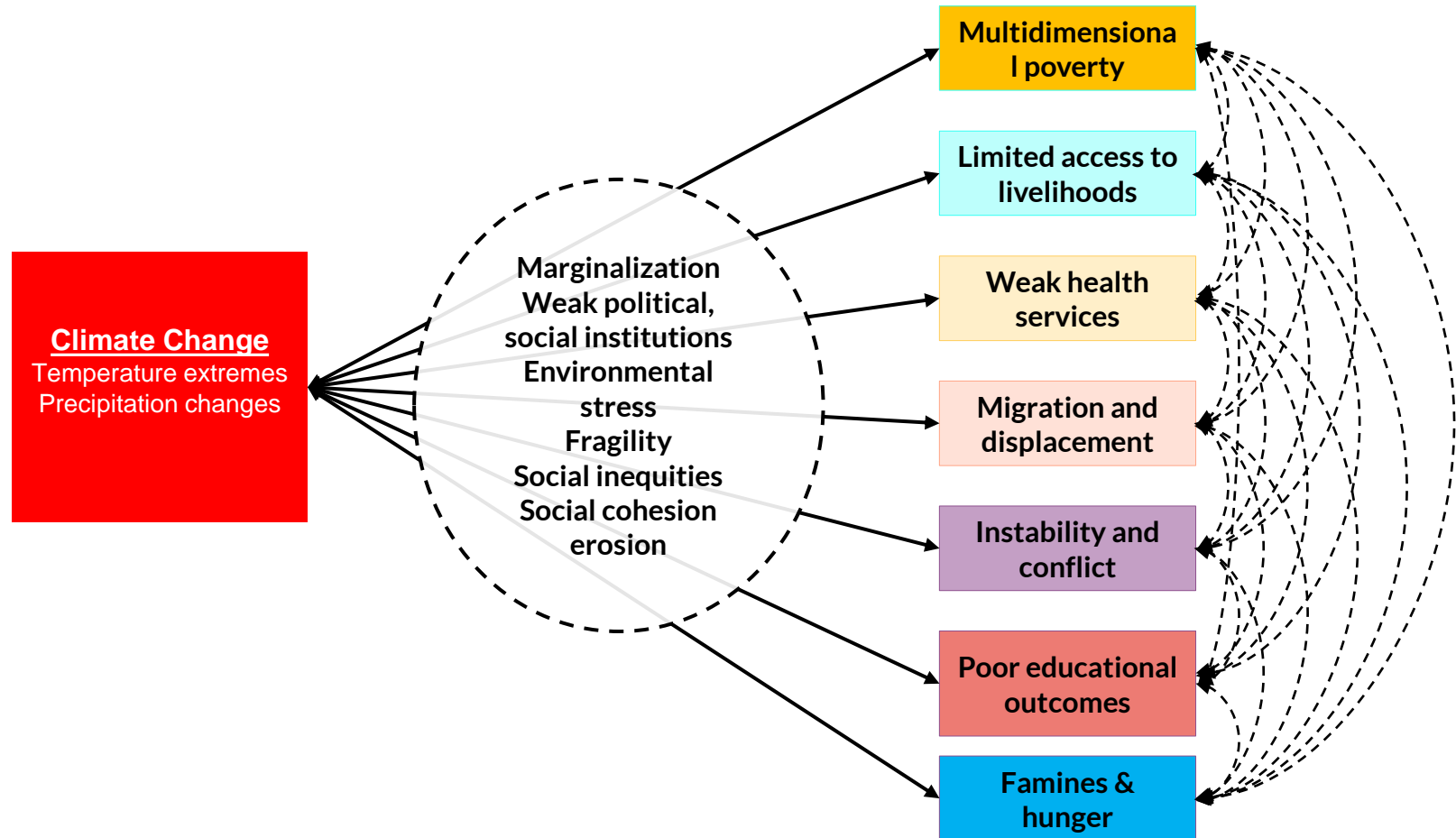
There should be a small package of assistance to ultra-poor households so that children from such homes should be able to go to school and finish their education – 12 yr old girl, Malawi

How is climate change affecting children

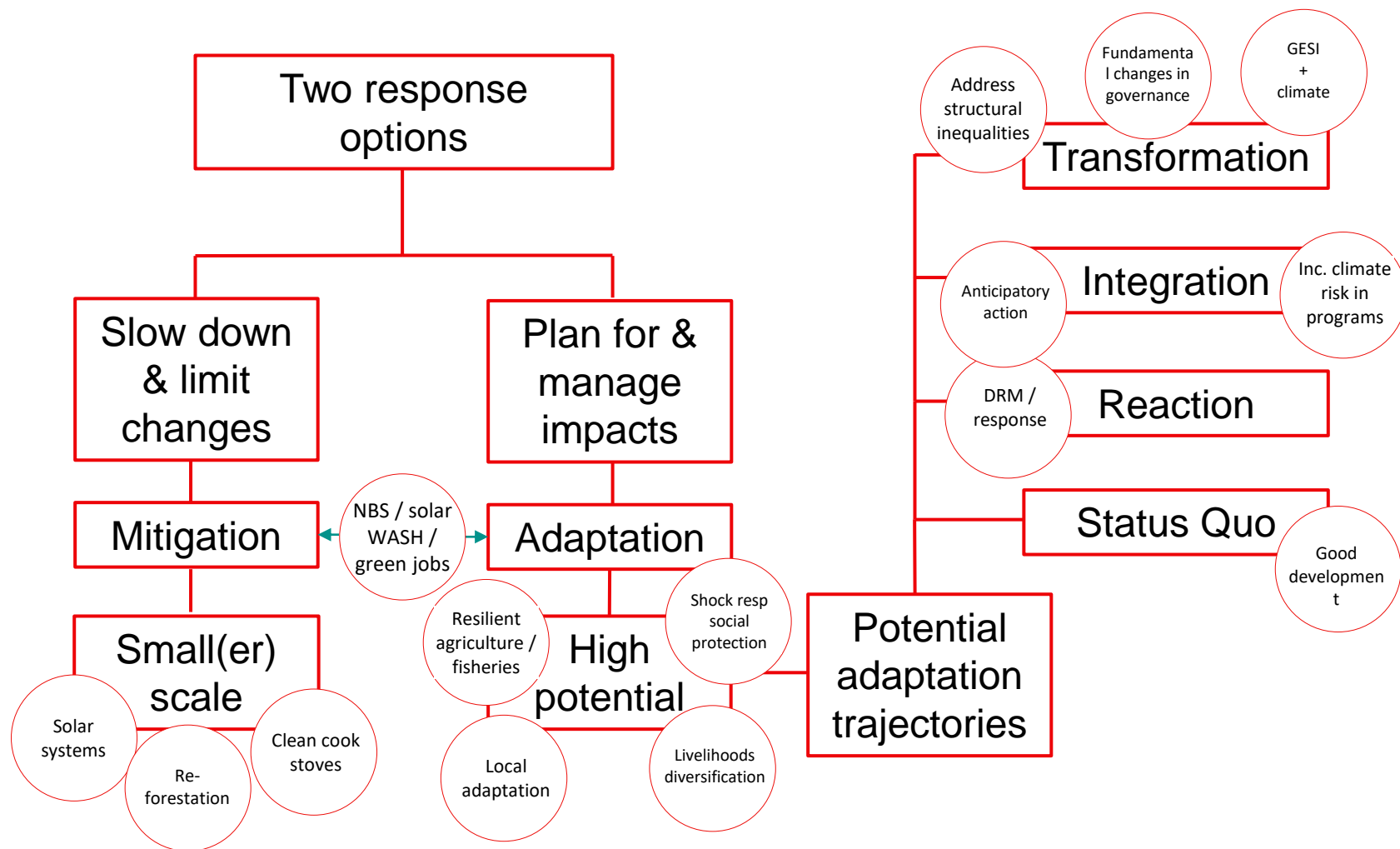
Children and adolescents are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, being at a critical point of their life course in their own biological, emotional and social development, and due to the fact that they face the burden of worsening adverse impacts of climate change throughout their lifetime.



Climate and non-climate change drivers: **connecting the dots**



How can we respond to climate change?



What can you do?

Follow the six 'A's



1. **Assess** – are there climate change risks to the work you do (the answer is always 'yes'!)
2. **Analyze** – include climate analysis in strategy and proposal development
3. **Address** – Include climate risk reduction / resilience building / mitigation activities in your logframe / strategy (and budget!)
4. **Adjust** – the climate context will continue to shift over the life of a project, our responses need to be flexible
5. **Advocate** – with colleagues, donors, governments, communities → there's always more to do
6. **Ask** – for help if you need it!

Our distinctive role & added value in climate change



- **Children's voices** – to influence change - especially those experiencing inequality and discrimination
- **Making the climate crisis a child right's crisis** - child rights on the climate agenda
- **Bring to scale** - reaching millions with child-centred climate change adaptation and education
- **Holding states to account** - strategic litigation and international accountability mechanisms
- **Influencing climate change financing** - to be child-sensitive
- **Leveraging partnerships** – with communities, local and national government and international institutions

Child Focused Climate Programming in Save the Children



HEALTHY START IN LIFE

Strengthen health & climate resilience

Understand CC impacts on child health

Climate Resilient Health Systems and Communities

Enhanced health and nutrition through nature based solutions



SAFE BACK TO SCHOOL & LEARNING

Ensure Education continuity, climate change education and skills development

Green and safe schools

Resilient education systems & EiE

Education for Climate

ECCD Resilience



LIVE FREE FROM VIOLENCE

Climate-informed and responsive children protection systems

Protection from climate induced conflict displacement and migration

Protection from climate-related family impacts & coping strategies including child marriage

Improve MHPSS for children



SAFETY NETS & RESILIENT FAMILIES

Improve and protect food security and livelihoods

Cash + for Climate Adaptation

Green Jobs

Sustainable Food Systems

Greening Cities for Children

Climate resilient and environmentally friendly WASH for communities, schools and health facilities

Adaptive and shock responsive social protection

Anticipatory Action – linked to forecasting climate impacts

Community Based Adaptation – locally led and flexible

Children's Voices for Climate Action - Advocacy and Campaigning for and with Children

Gender Equality, women's and girls empowerment and gender sensitive and transformative programming



THANK YOU