

The Programme

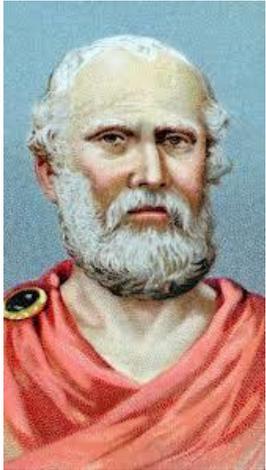
- 1 - Weather & Climate- 20th Jan
- 2 - Temperature - 27th Jan
- 3 - The IPCC & The Paris Accord - 3rd Feb**
- 4 - Climate Modelling - 10th Feb
- 5 - A Look at the Media Messages + Discussion - 17th Feb
- 6 - Consequences of Climate Change Act - 24th Feb
- 7 - Wrap-up Discussion - 3rd Mar

I will start by...

Looking at a very brief history of some environmental concerns

And go on to look at the organisations that are central to the climate debate today, how they came to be established, and their declared purpose.

Earlier concerns about man-made environmental effects



Plato and Aristotle discussed the ideal size for a city-state in the 3rd and 4th centuries BC, and Confucius preceded them in the 5th century BC with warnings about excessive growth.

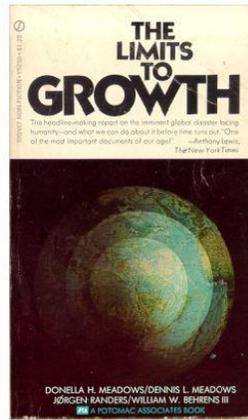


Predictions of population outgrowing resources received a boost by the speculations of Thomas Malthus in 1798 with his work *An Essay on the Principle of Population*.

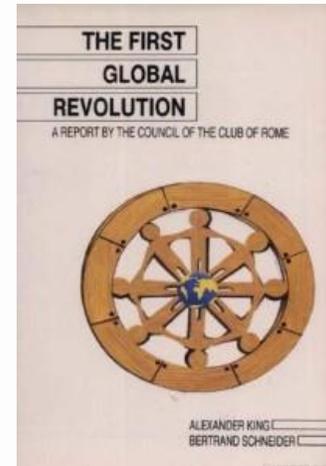
Modern concerns about man-made environmental effects



Club of Rome founders Alexander King [left] and Aurelio Peccei [right] were both unapologetic Malthusians who sought to establish the language of 'systems analysis' to prove that mankind was condemned to destruction unless world government and population reduction were not made global policy



1972



1991

Modern concerns about man-made environmental effects

Club of Rome - The First Global Revolution, p75

In searching for a common enemy against whom we can unite, we came up with the idea that pollution, the threat of global warming, water shortages, famine and the like, would fit the bill. In their totality and their interaction, these phenomena do constitute a common threat which must be confronted by everyone together. But in designating these dangers as the enemy, we fall into the trap, which we have already warned readers about, namely mistaking symptoms for causes. All these dangers are caused by human intervention in natural processes, and it is only through changed attitudes and behaviour that they can be overcome. The real enemy then is humanity itself.

Club of Rome and the United Nations



Maurice Strong.

In his own words - ‘a socialist in ideology, a capitalist in methodology’

(1971) Only One Earth: The Care and Maintenance of a Small Planet

The Involvement of the UN

1972 United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Strong at the head it

Maurice Strong quote as Head of UNEP

‘Our concepts of ballot-box democracy may need to be modified to produce strong governments capable of making difficult decisions, particularly in terms of safeguarding the global environment that this transition will require and whose results are often not immediately apparent.’

Isn't the only hope for the planet that the industrialized nations collapse? Isn't it our responsibility to bring this about'?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or IPCC as it's more generally known, was formed from the UNEP and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), in 1988.

Primary Aim "...to assess on a comprehensive, objective, open and transparent basis the scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to understanding **the scientific basis of risk of human-induced climate change**, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation. IPCC reports should be neutral with respect to policy, although they may need to deal objectively with scientific, technical and socio-economic factors relevant to the application of particular policies."

It is apparent that studying natural causes of climate change is not the main focus.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)



Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Main Reports (*AR = Assessment report*)

AR1 1990

AR2 (SAR) 1995/96

AR3 (TAR) 2001

AR4 (FAR) 2007

AR5 2013/2014

AR6 2021/22

These are several thousands of pages long, though the most recent one is smaller

Special Reports Most recent - SP1.5 2018 (~500 pages)

Each has a Summary for Policy Makers (SPM) - about 25-40 pages

These are the ones that most people read

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

IPCC Reports and the Summary for Policy Makers (SPM)

IPCC authors only *draft* these summaries

The next week is spent *re-writing* the summary drafted by scientists

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

SPM Review



Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Following the release of the Summary for Policy Makers for SP1.5 2018, the main report drafts were then changed to match it! **So the process is...**

Step 1: experts write a report

Step 2: experts *draft* a summary

Step 3: third parties (non-experts such as lawyers and diplomats representing UN recognized nations) attend secret, off-limits-to-the-media meetings where the summary gets *re-written* (the *Summary for Policymakers*)

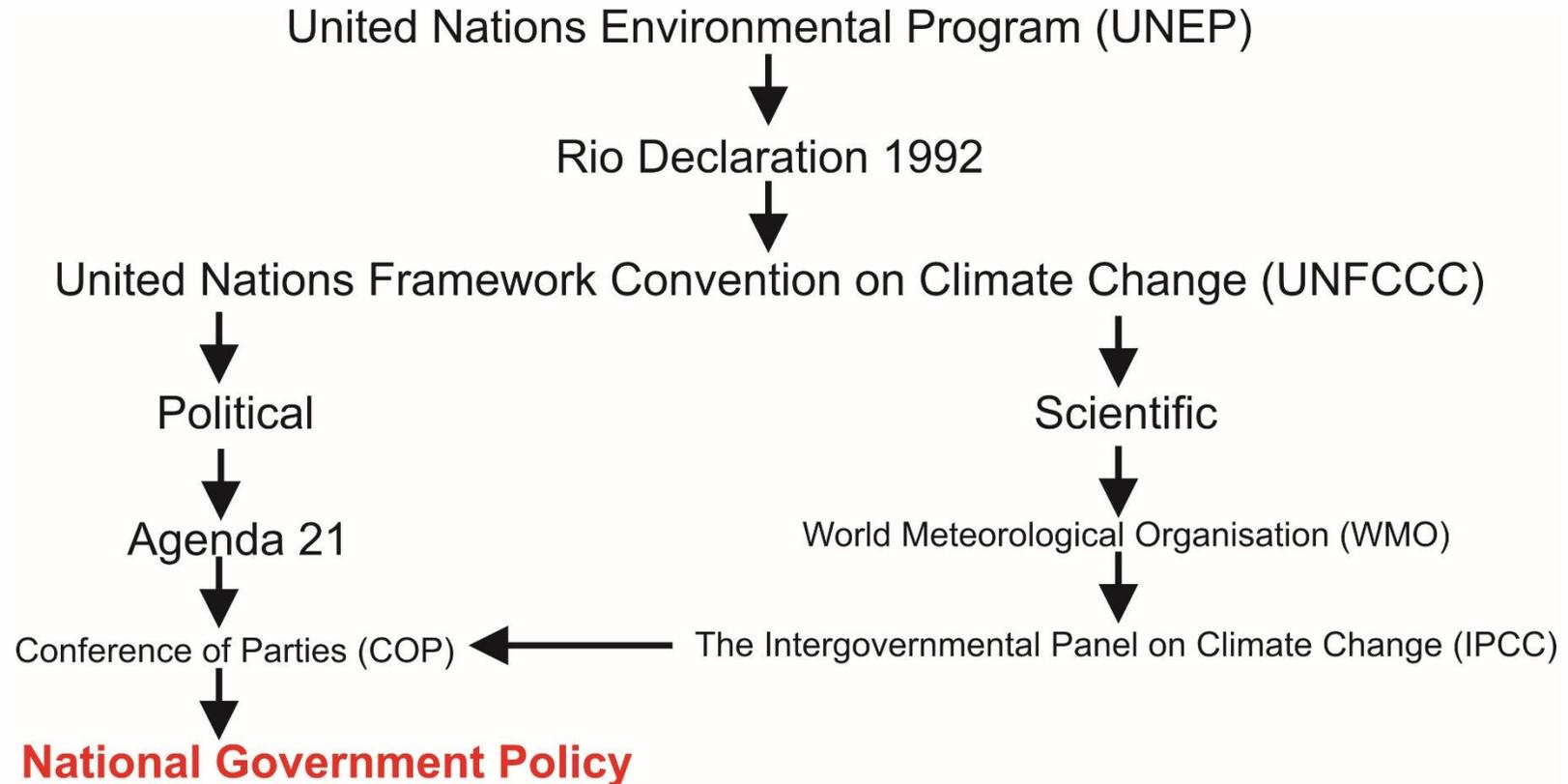
Step 4: these same third parties vote to “approve” their re-write, thereby giving it official status

Step 5: the re-write is released to the world at a press conference

Step 6: officials revisit the original, full-length document and make 16 pages worth of changes - begging the question...

Is it OK for politically-determined definitions, decided in secret, to supersede those written by actual scientists?

Overall Structure of UN 'Feeds' into Climate Issues



Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

COP meetings

Typical attendance is about 10,000

118 private jets were used to get some to COP 26 in Glasgow

Delegates provided with luxury transport

Total numbers reach 20,000+ with the jamboree of activist groups

Among other things they discuss is - What premium to set on air travel.

Evidence of The Political Objective

Some Quotes

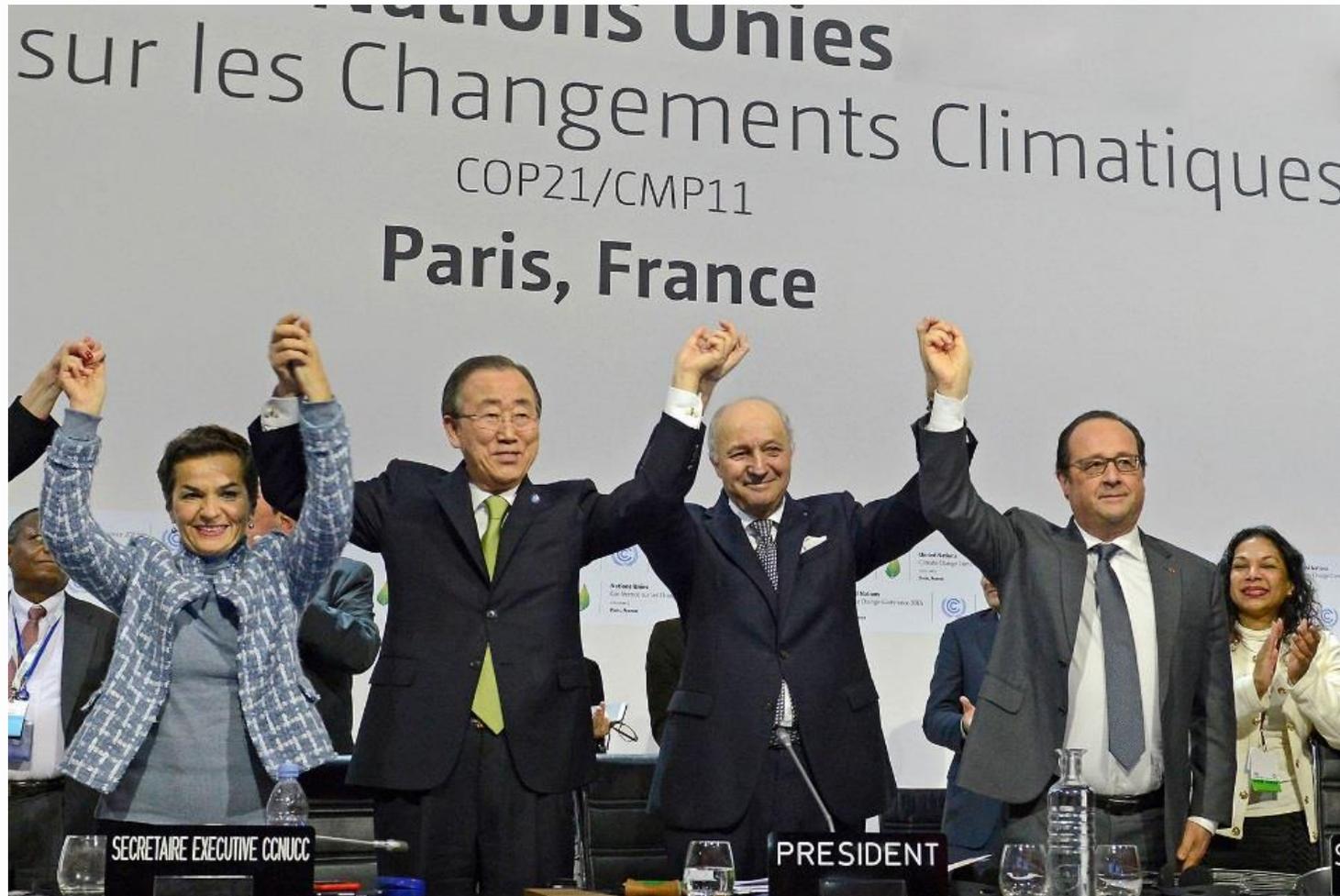
We've got to ride the global warming issue. Even if the theory of global warming is wrong, we will be doing the right thing... Senator Tim Wirth, 1993

One has to free oneself from the illusion that international climate policy is environmental policy... We redistribute de facto the world's wealth by climate policy. Ottar Edenhofer, Co-chair UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change working group on Mitigation of Climate Change (2008-2015)

This is the first time in the history of mankind that we are setting ourselves the task of intentionally, within a defined period of time, to change the economic development model that has been reigning for at least 150 years, since the Industrial Revolution. Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change (2010-2016)

No matter if the science of global warming is all phony... climate change provides the greatest opportunity to bring about justice and equality in the world. Christine Stewart, Minister of the Environment, Canada (1997-1999)

The Paris Agreement



Christiania Figueres

Ban Ki-moon

Laurent Fabius

François Hollande

The Paris Agreement

What it is

It is an agreement dealing with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation, adaptation and finance starting in the year 2020.

It was negotiated by representatives of 196 parties at the 21st Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris and adopted by consensus on 12 December 2015. Currently, 197 UNFCCC members have signed the agreement.

It aims to respond to the global climate change threat by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

A copy of the Paris Agreement can be viewed/downloaded here - http://unfccc.int/files/home/application/pdf/paris_agreement.pdf

The Paris Agreement

What it says

In the agreement, each country determines, plans and regularly reports its own contribution it **should** make in order to mitigate global warming. These are called - **Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs** typically called **NDCs**). There is **no mechanism to force** a country to set a specific target by a specific date, but each target **should** go beyond previously set targets - a ratchet effect.

It considers that by these means we will: Increase the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production.

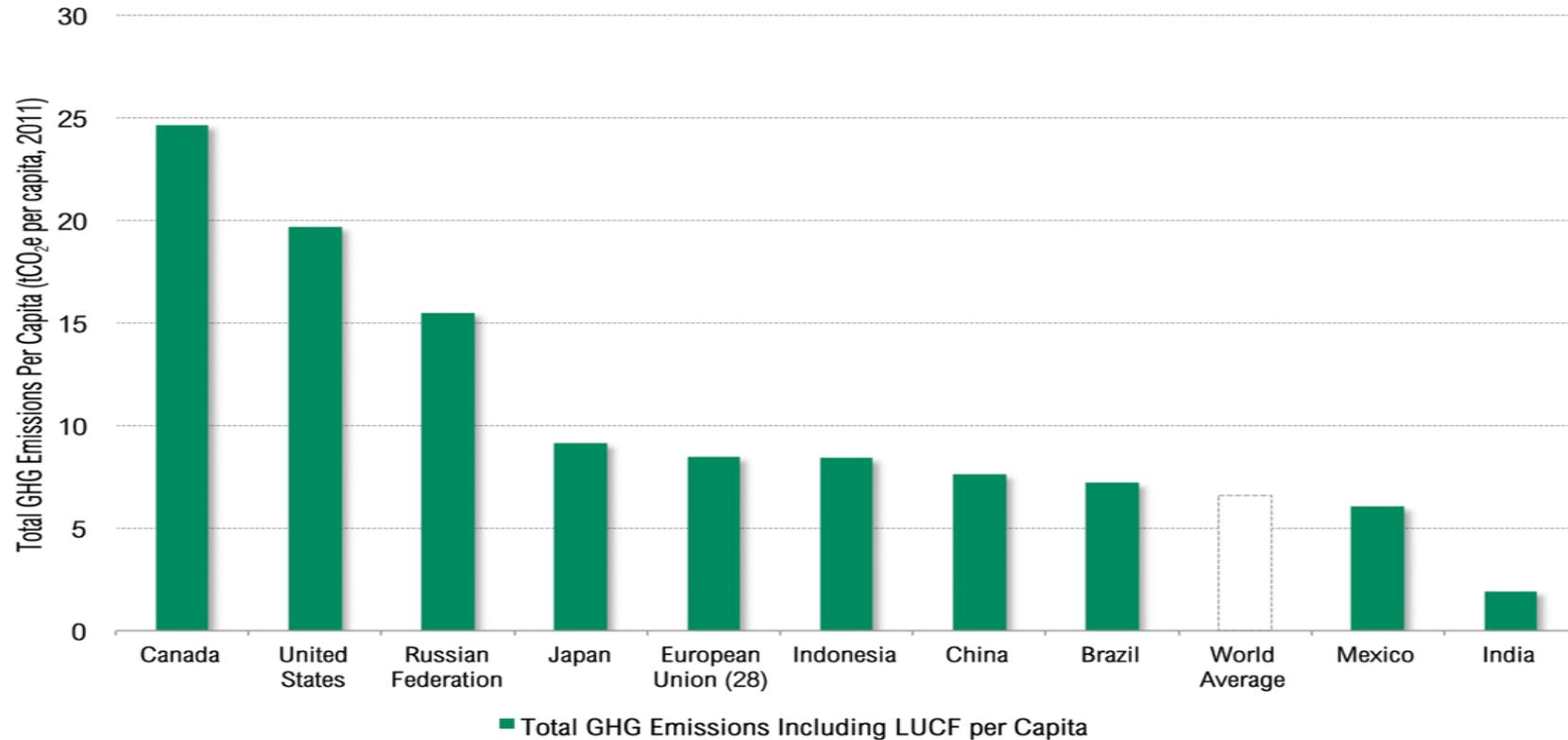
Make “finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.”

Enable countries to reach "global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible."

The Paris Agreement

Per Capita Emissions for Top 10 Emitters

Some Data

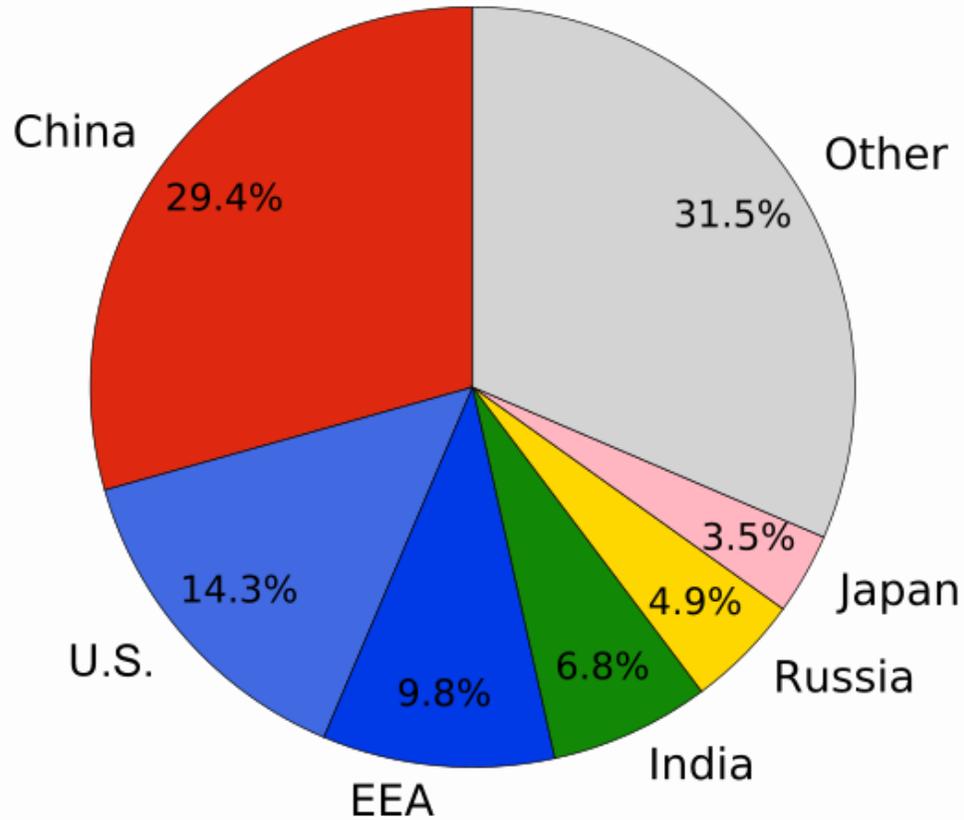


<http://bit.ly/11SMpJA>

 WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

The Paris Agreement

Some Data



Share of total GHG emissions

The Paris Agreement

Funding

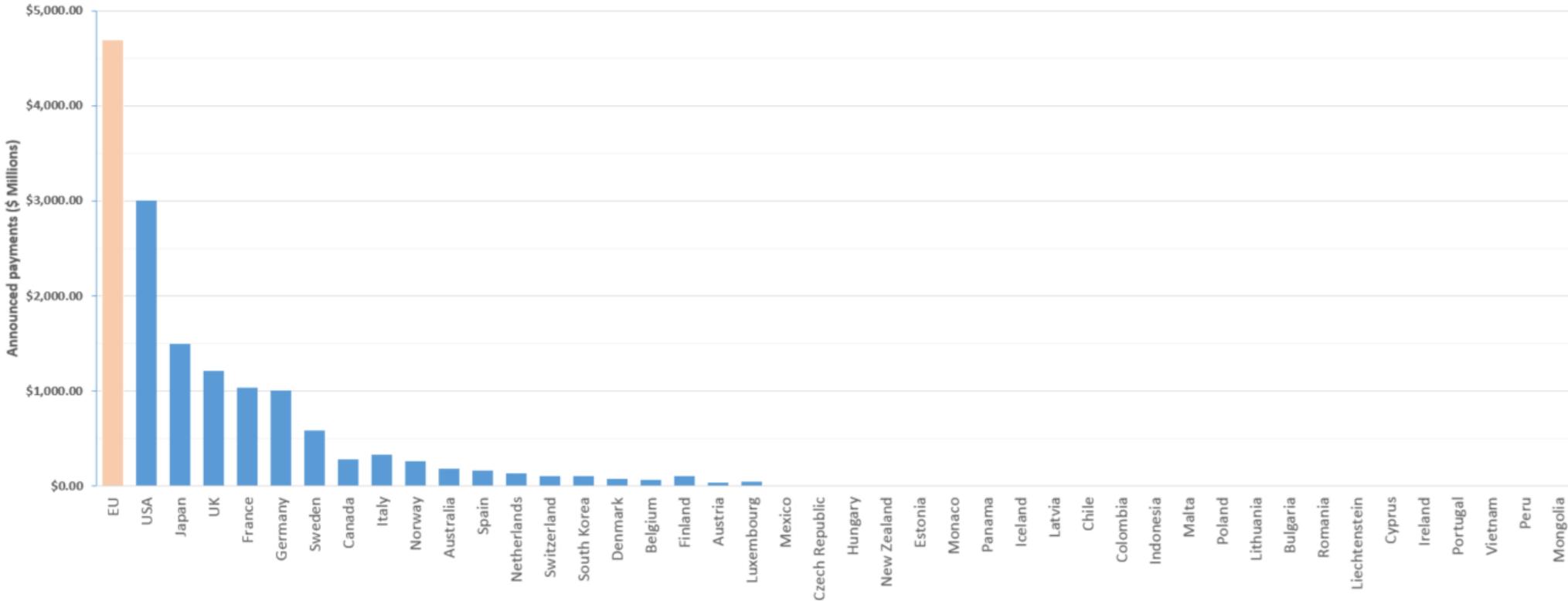
One goal of the Paris Agreement was to raise \$100bn (£77.7bn) a year by 2020 to support climate action in developing countries. The money would be used to help poorer countries invest in green energy and renewable technology.

The Green Climate Fund is one mechanism set up to raise money to reach that annual target.

Which countries have pledged the most to that scheme?

- US - \$3bn (£2.3bn)
- Japan - \$1.5bn (£1.2bn)
- UK - \$1.2bn (as of end of 2020)
- France - \$1bn (£776m)
- Germany - \$1bn (£776m)

Green Climate Fund Contributions by Country



As at 30/7/20, total pledged is \$10.3bn, total confirmed \$8.3bn. The EU contributions shown is the sum of individual countries

The Paris Agreement

Funding

The UK has pledged about \$1.2bn into the fund as of end 2020.

According to the Green Climate Fund's tracker, the US pledge amounts to just over \$9 (£7) a person. Sweden's pledge represents almost \$60 (£47) per person, the highest out of any country (total = \$0.6bn). The UK has proposed almost £15 a person.

India and China have not put forward any cash into the Green Climate Fund.

The US has pledged more than any other \$3bn; \$1bn to date.

But China has pledged ~\$3.2bn for a different fund to help developing countries combat climate change.

The fund is called the - South-South Climate Cooperation Fund (SSCCF)

It sits outside of the UNFCCC structure; so is not transparent and monitoring it is difficult/impossible.

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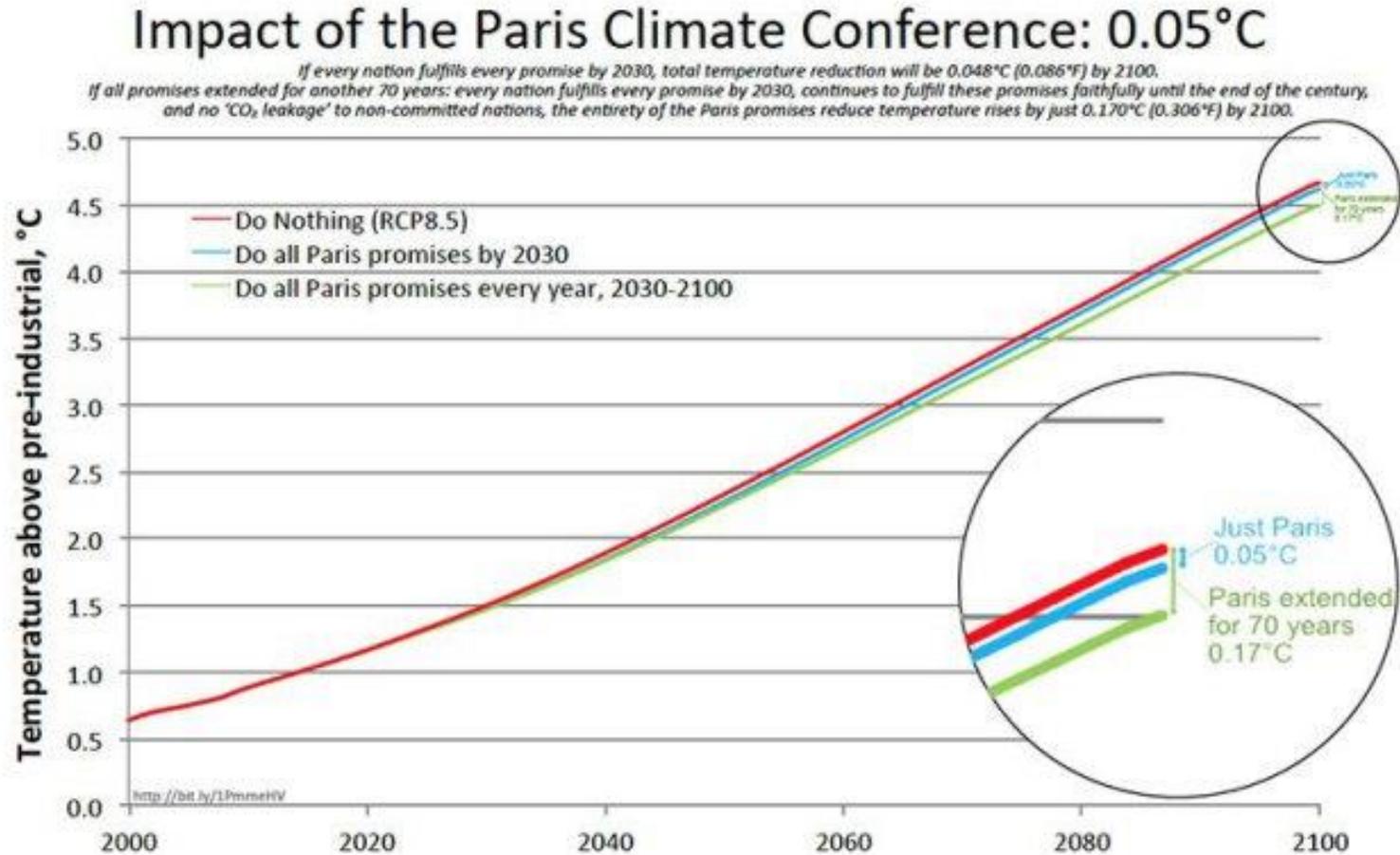
Some Analysis

Bjorn Lomborg, a political science professor and statistician, in a peer reviewed paper, has calculated (using IPCC models) that the Paris Agreement will make about 0.05 °C difference in global temperatures compared to ‘business as usual’.

<http://www.lomborg.com/press-release-research-reveals-negligible-impact-of-paris-climate-promises>

His published paper can be viewed/downloaded from the website

The Paris Agreement



Bjorn Lomborg's Graph

The Paris Agreement

The NDCs from the developing countries typically have a fair sprinkling of ‘best endeavours’, ‘we will increase our GHG emissions’ and ‘we will need lots of funding from developed countries’

NDCs can be seen here -

<http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/Pages/All.aspx>

And a copy of the Paris Agreement can be downloaded here -

http://unfccc.int/files/home/application/pdf/paris_agreement.pdf

The Paris Agreement

Some Excerpts from NDCs

Nepal

...is one of the least contributors to the emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs). And Nepal's greenhouse gas (GHG) emission is only around 0.027% of total global emissions.

So why bother with INDCs, one wonders? It becomes clear here -

Nepal will need technical and financial supports from development partners to provide relevant technologies, and build its capacity to be cleaner and greener while flourishing as one of the top tourism destinations in the world.

And here -

*Nepal will make efforts to implement its INDC and contribute to the global efforts of reducing GHGs emissions and helping life and life-support systems to adapt and build resilience to climate change impacts. **However, Nepal requires bilateral and multilateral grant support in the following priority areas to meet both qualitative and quantitative targets as mentioned above.***

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Some Excerpts from NDCs

Malaysia

...intends to (notice not 'will') reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030 relative to the emissions intensity of GDP in 2005. This consist of 35% on an unconditional basis and a further 10% is conditional upon receipt of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building from developed countries.

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Some Excerpts from NDCs

Nigeria

- *Improved enforcement of gas flaring restrictions*
- *Development of Gas-to-Power Plants at Gas Flare Sites (micro grid)
Blending 10% by volume of Fuel-Ethanol with Gasoline (E10) and 20%
by volume of Biodiesel with Petroleum Diesel (B20) for Transportation Fuels.*

Followed by

The implementation of the full contribution is conditional on the availability of adequate financing for investment in the mitigation actions contained therein.

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Some Excerpts from NDCs

Pakistan

Future projections for the period 2015-30 show a steady increase in emissions due to the ambitious plans of the present government to spark economic activity through large-scale investments in energy, communication and industrial infrastructure.

...And, as usual, it's all about money:

In consideration of projected future emissions and potential for mitigation, Pakistan offers different options as part of its INDC for emission reduction, subject to the availability of Finance, Technology Development & Transfer and Capacity Building by the international community.

They will exploit their coal resources - while we ban ours

Improving the efficiency of planned coal-based power generation could lead to GHG mitigation. This measure is particularly important in view of plans for developing Pakistan's coal resources and significantly increasing the fuel's importance in domestic electricity generation.

Our emissions aren't that bad anyway

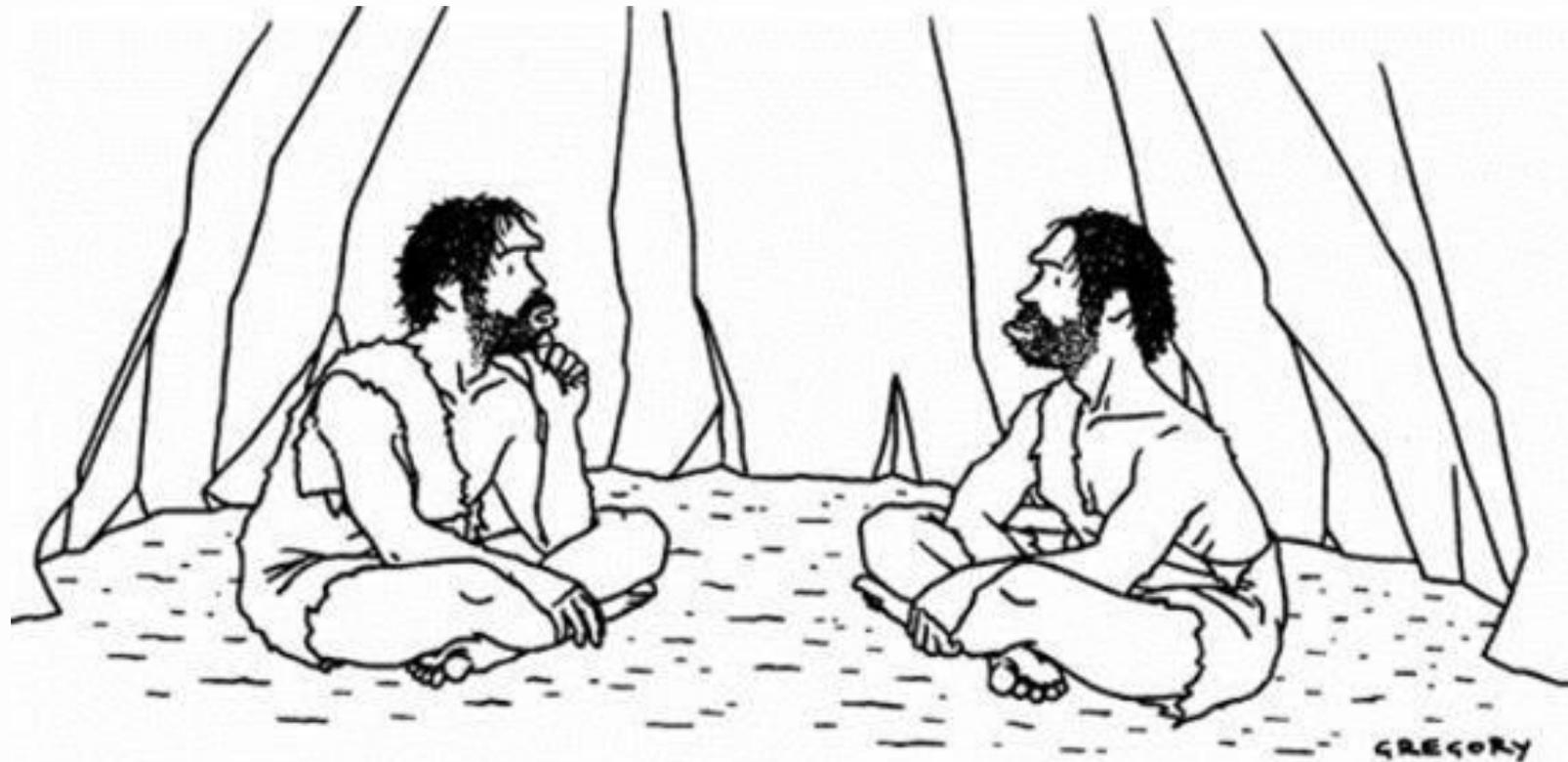
Pakistan's contribution to the global GHG emissions is miniscule. According to the Global Economy rankings, the share of Pakistan in total global GHG emissions is merely 0.8 percent and it is ranked as 135th in the list of global emitters on a per capita basis.

Interesting that 0.8% of the world's GHG emissions are described as minuscule. If so, what's the UK's hang-up with its 1.2% contribution (and falling)

Summary

Significant message drivers of catastrophic man-made climate change are:
Global politics and government
Environmentalism

End of Session 3



"Something's just not right—our air is clean, our water is pure, we all get plenty of exercise, everything we eat is organic and free-range, and yet nobody lives past thirty."