



Put simply, planetary health is the health of human civilization and the state of the natural systems on which it depends.



Centre on
Climate Change &
Planetary Health

Andy Haines



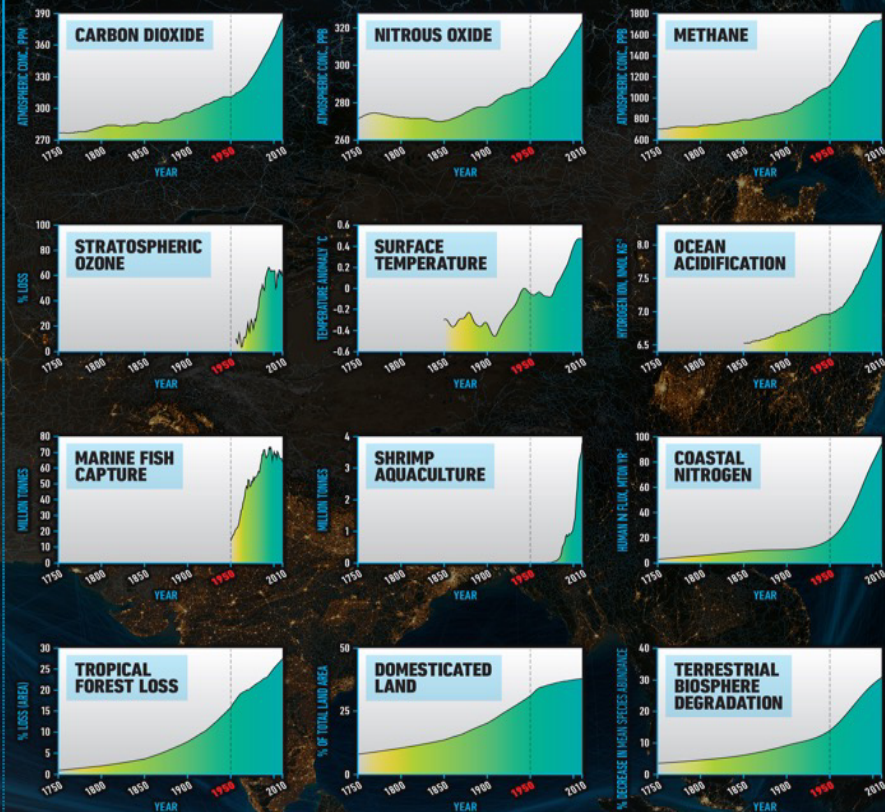
LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE

THE GREAT ACCELERATION

SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRENDS

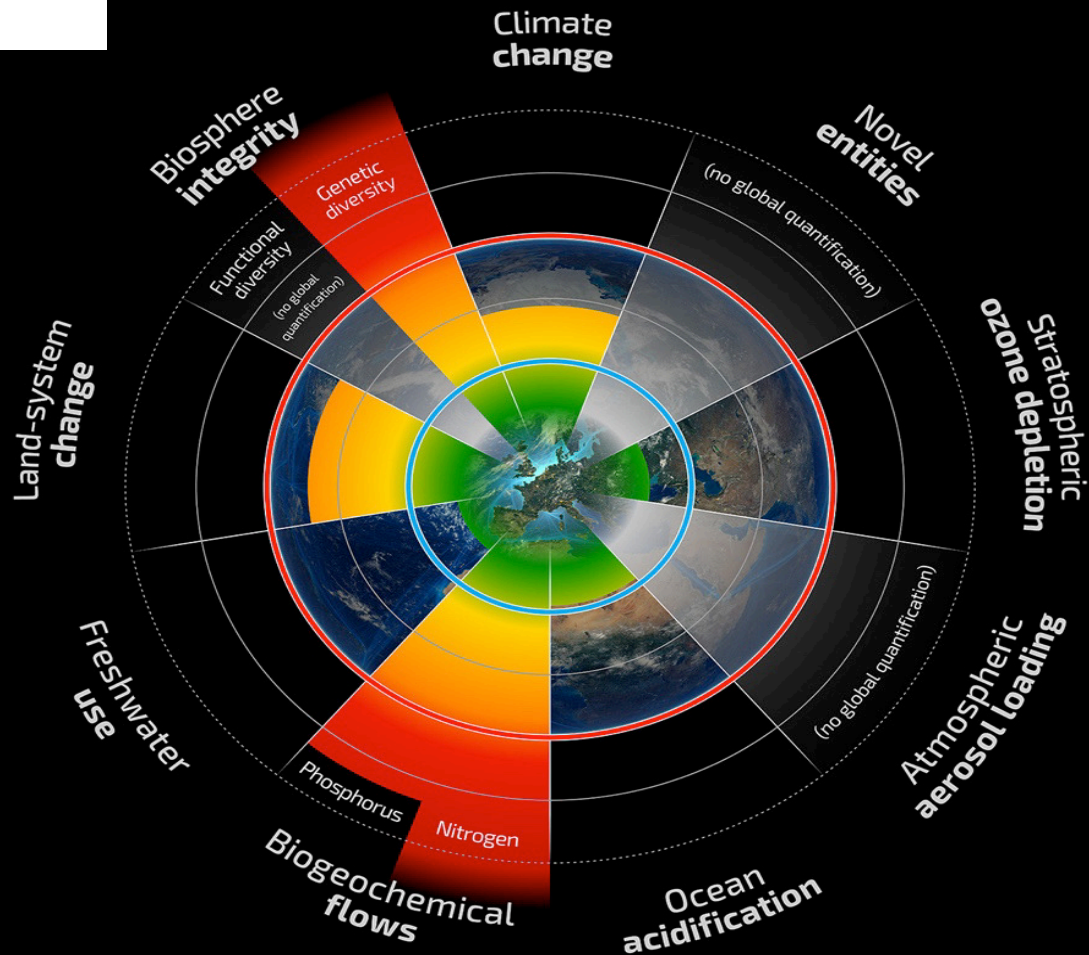


EARTH SYSTEM TRENDS

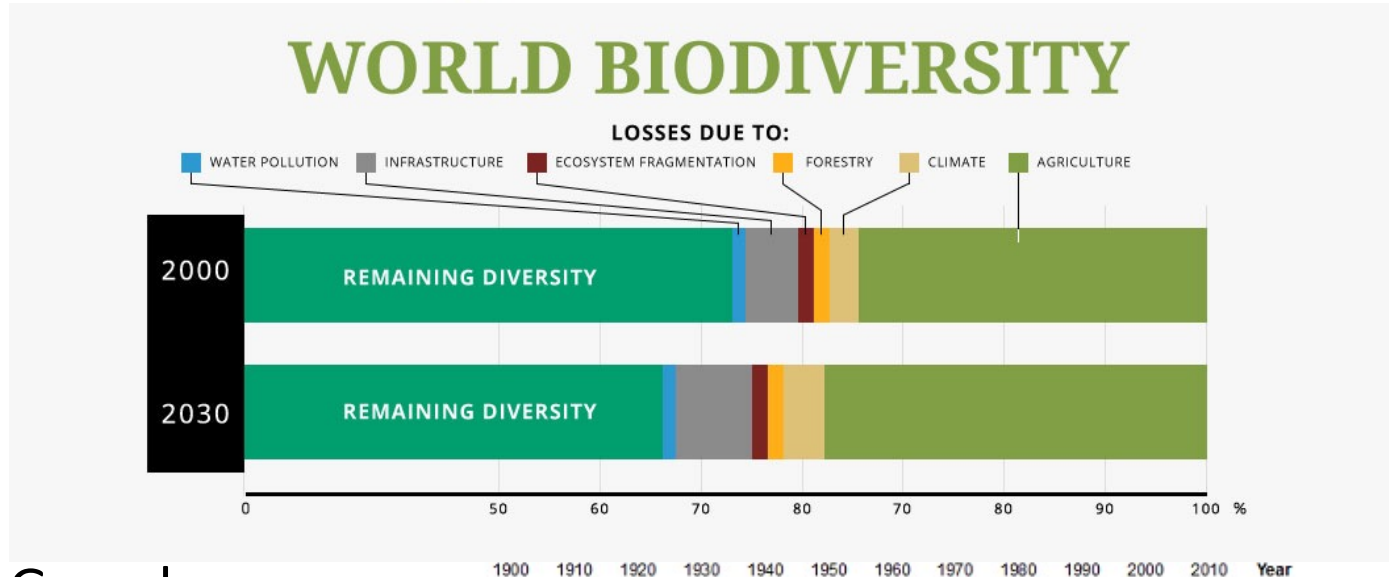


Planetary boundaries

(Steffen et al Science 2015)



Impacts of the food system on the environment

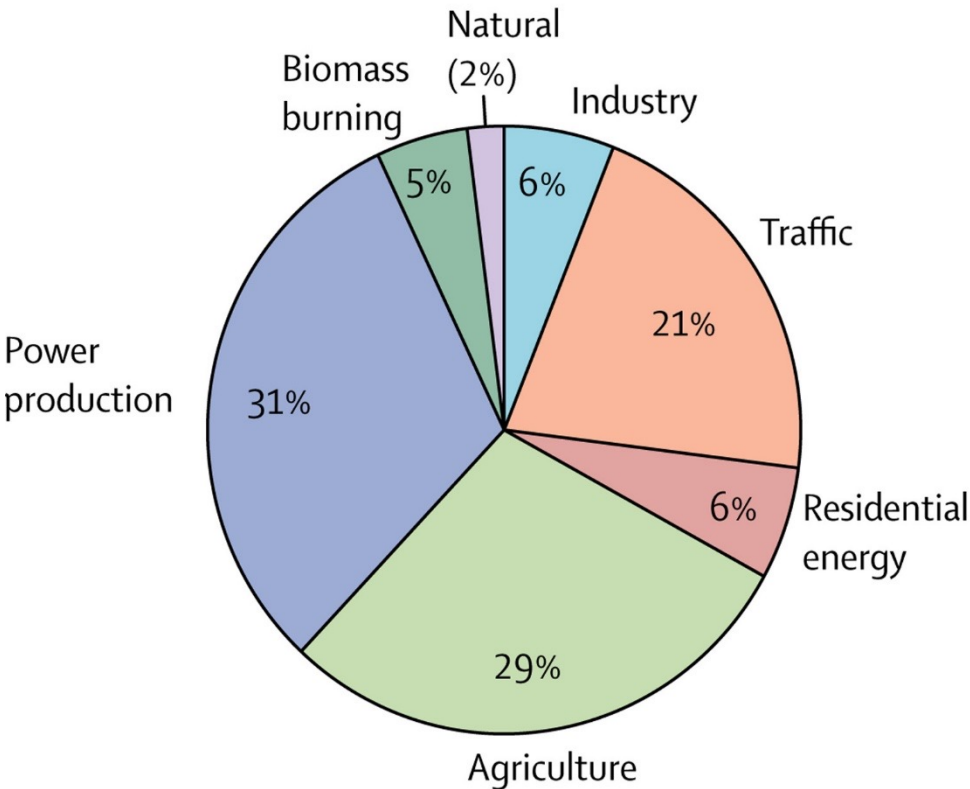


- Greenhouse gases
- Water
- Soil degradation and erosion
- Land use change and habitat loss

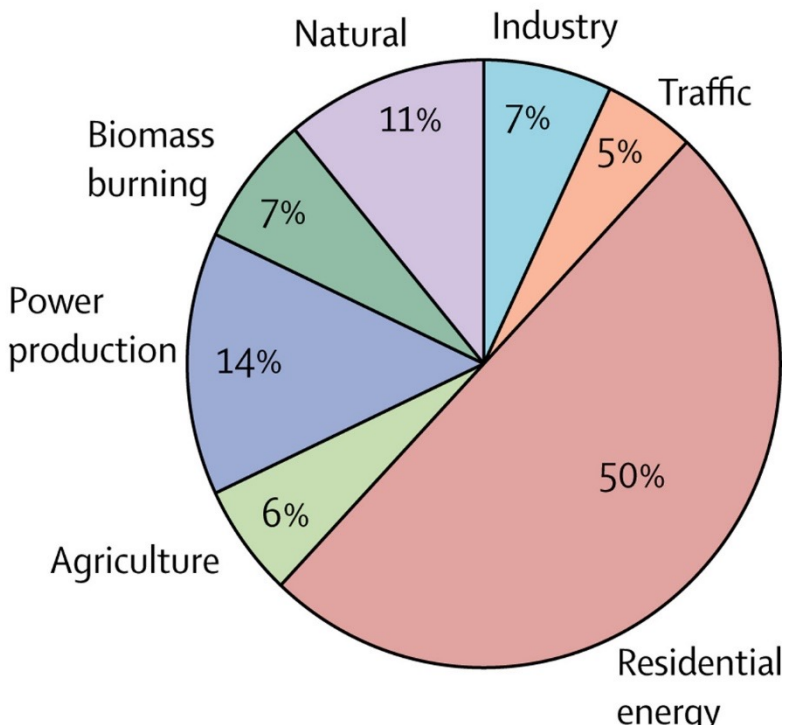
Sources of ambient air pollution deaths

(Lelieveld, Haines, Pozzer, Lancet Planetary Health 2018)

USA



India



Growing risks from Climate Change

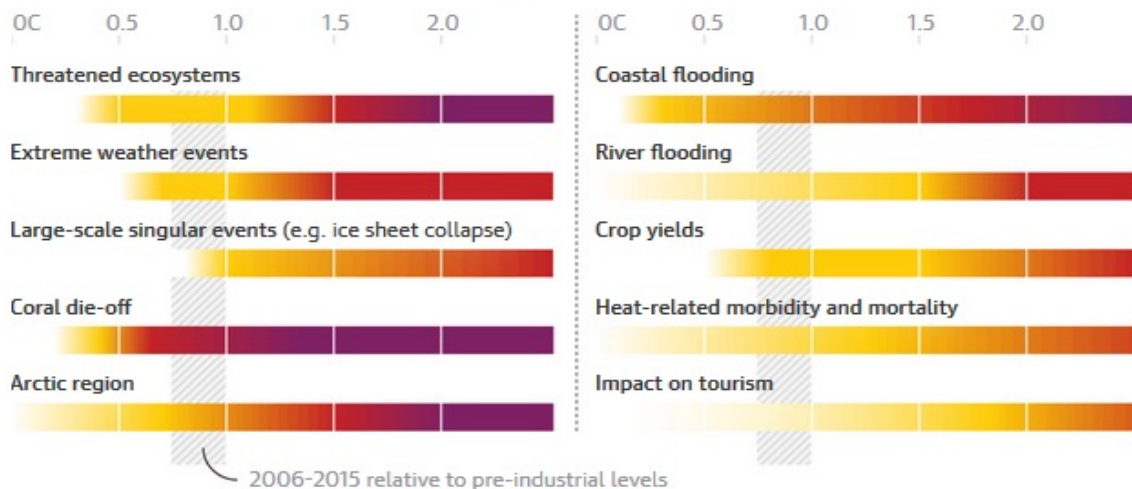
IPCC 1.5°C report 8 October 2018

Rising temperatures, rising risks

Key to impacts and risks

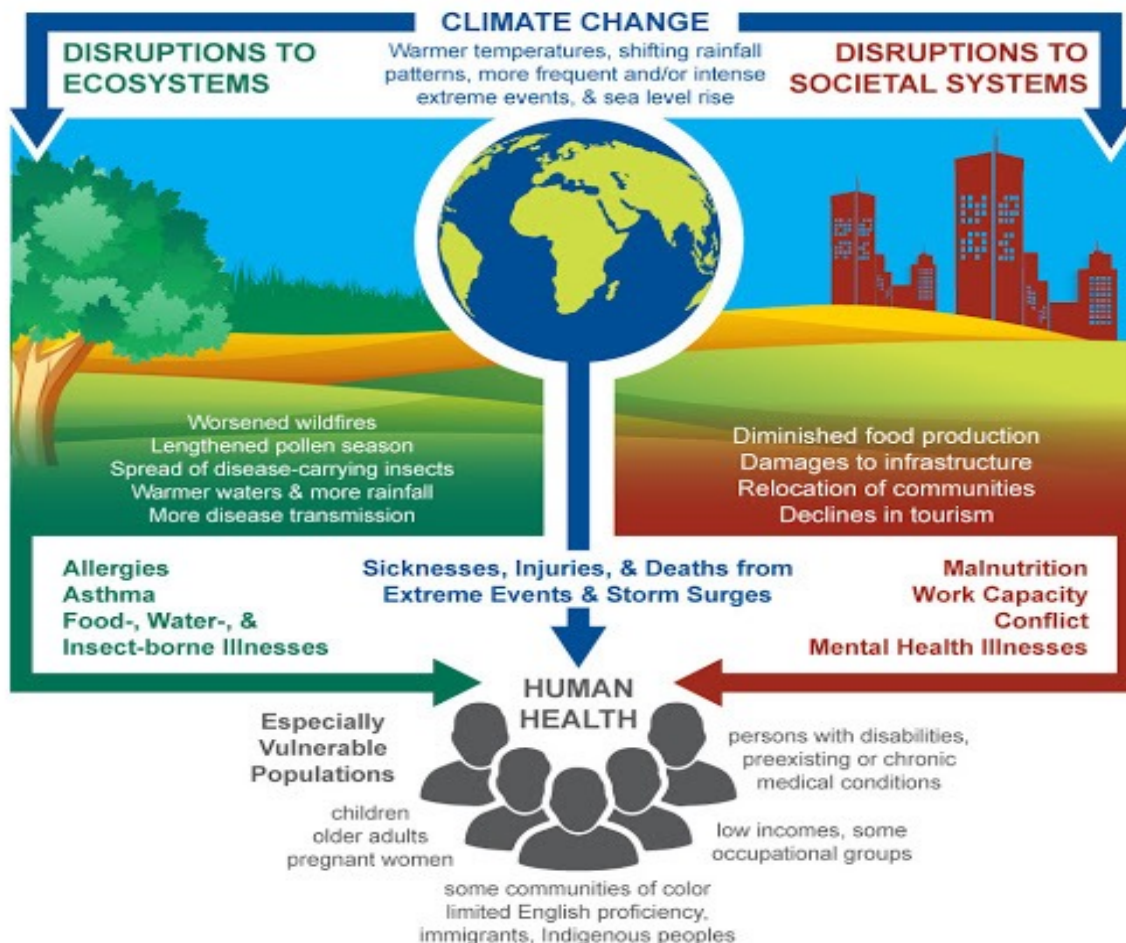


Global mean surface temperature change relative to pre-industrial levels, C

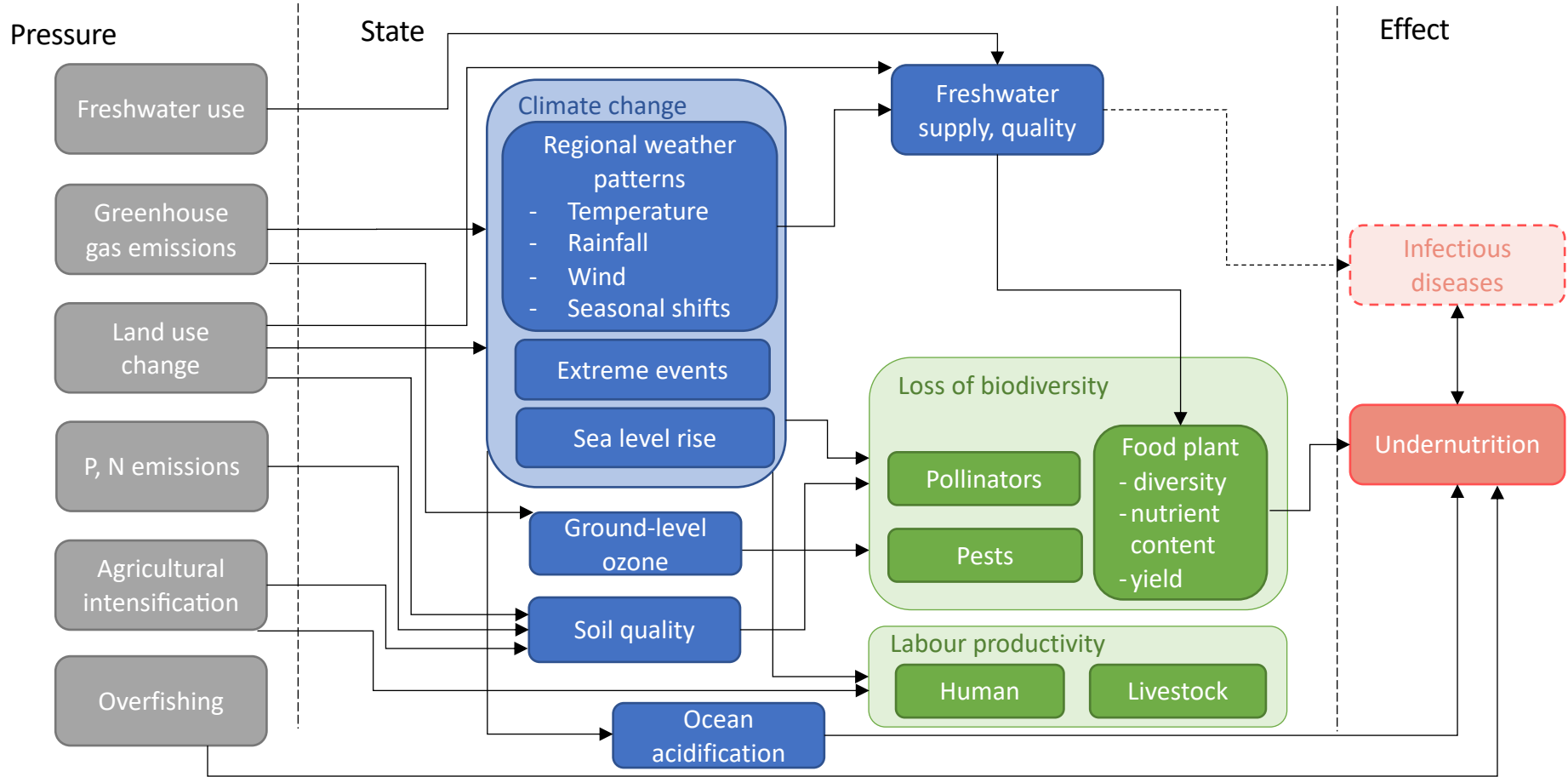


Guardian graphic. Source: IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5C

The Impacts of Climate Change on Human Health



Planetary Health and undernutrition

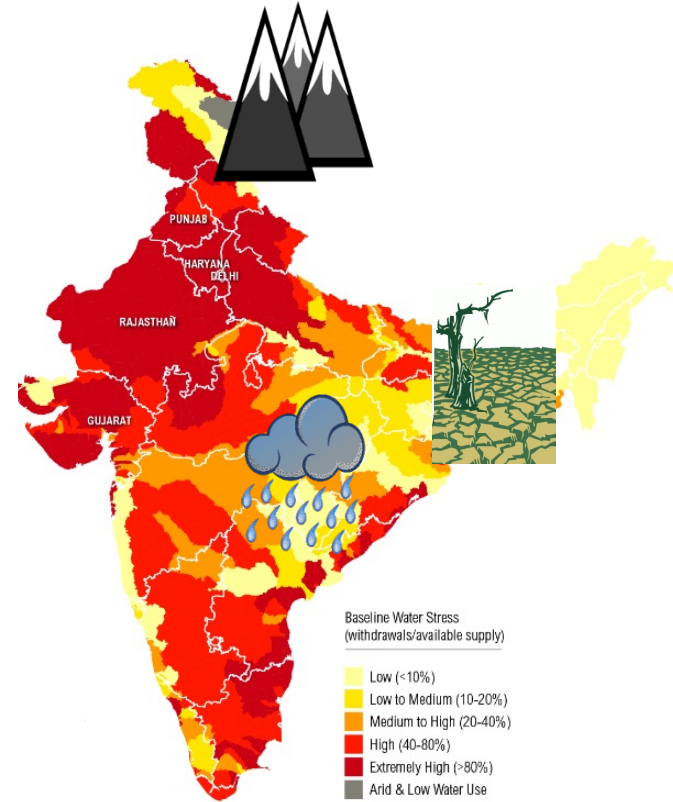


An example -Future food security challenges for India:

1. Population Growth
2. Dietary change
3. Groundwater depletion
4. Climate change

Adoption of **affluent diets by the whole population would result in increases of 19–36%** across GHG emissions, blue and green Water Footprints, and Land Use.

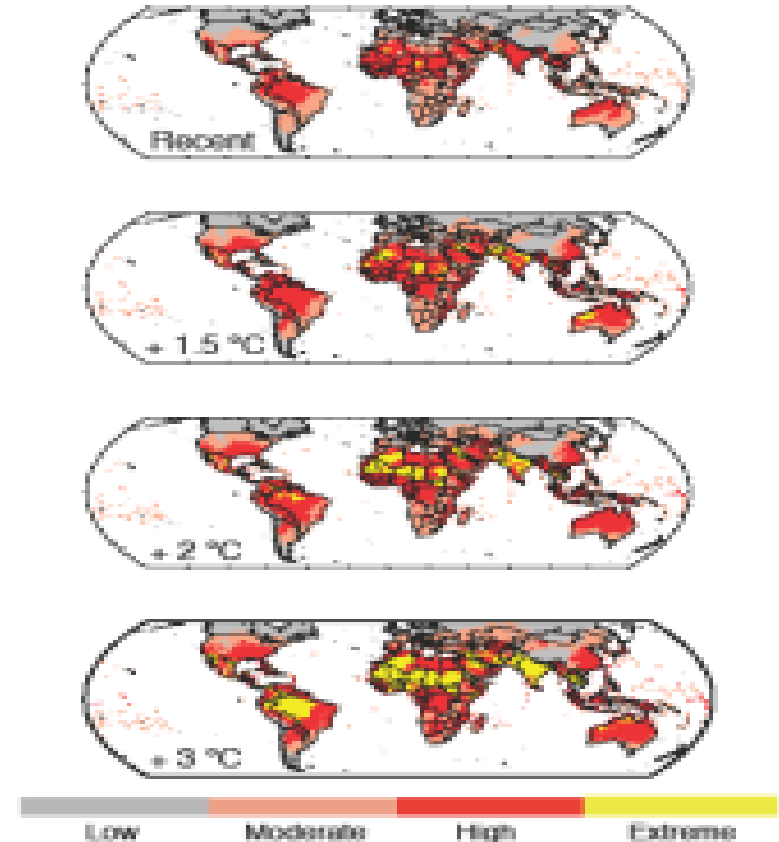
with regional variations (Aleksandrowicz, et al 2019)



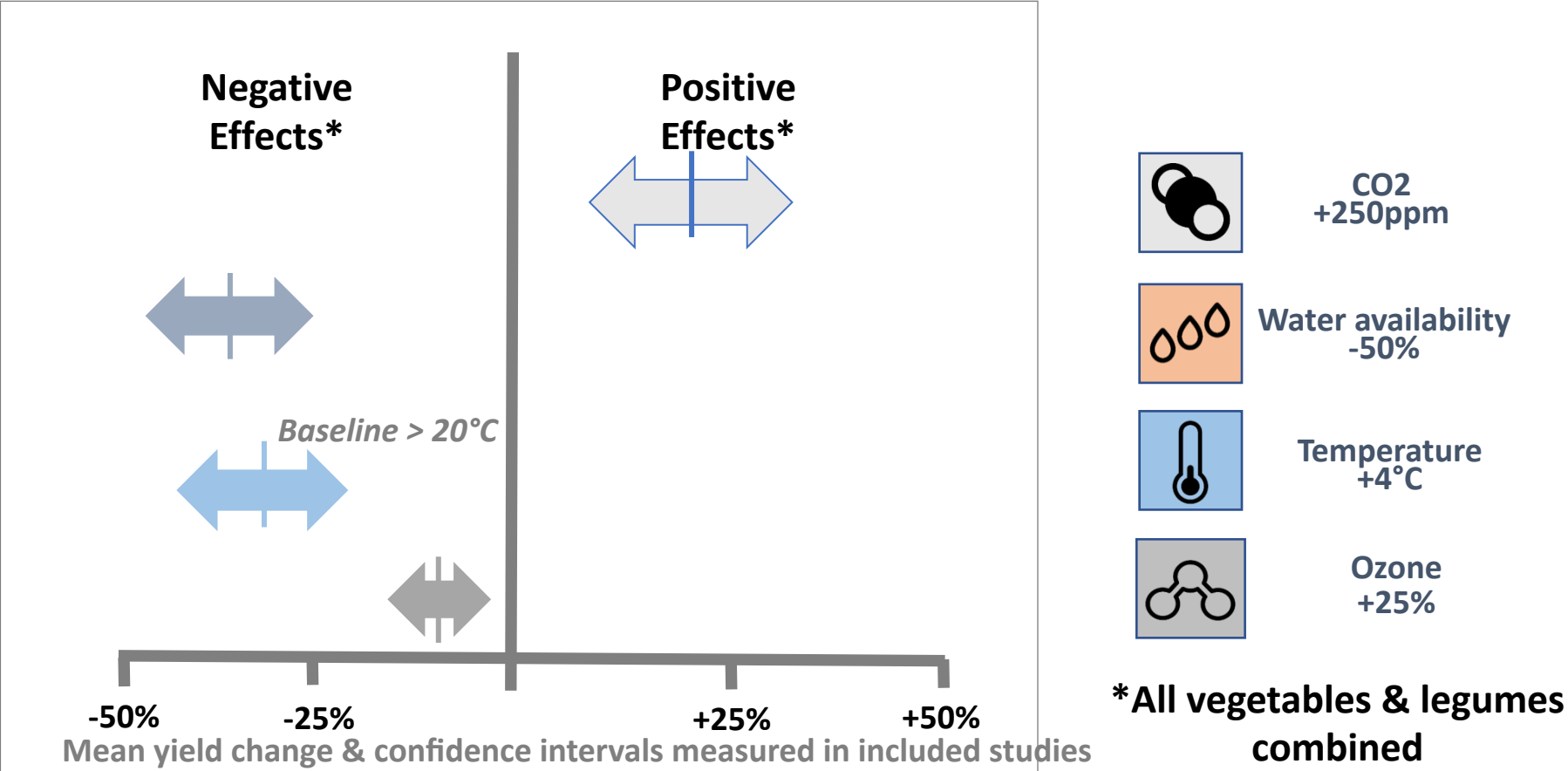
~1 billion people exposed to extreme heat preventing moderate physical labour in the hottest month after global temperature >2.5°C above pre-industrial levels.



(Andrews et al 2018 Lancet Planetary Health)



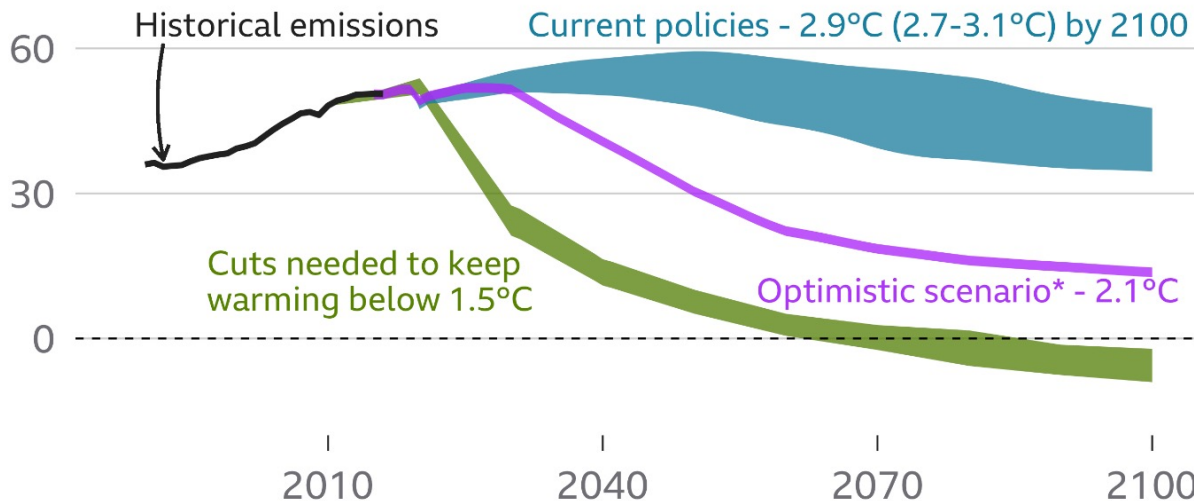
Systematic review of impacts of environmental exposures on vegetable/legume yields (Scheelbeek et al PNAS 2018)



The imperative of rapid climate action --- capitalizing on the health co-benefits from climate change mitigation

Greenhouse gas emissions projections

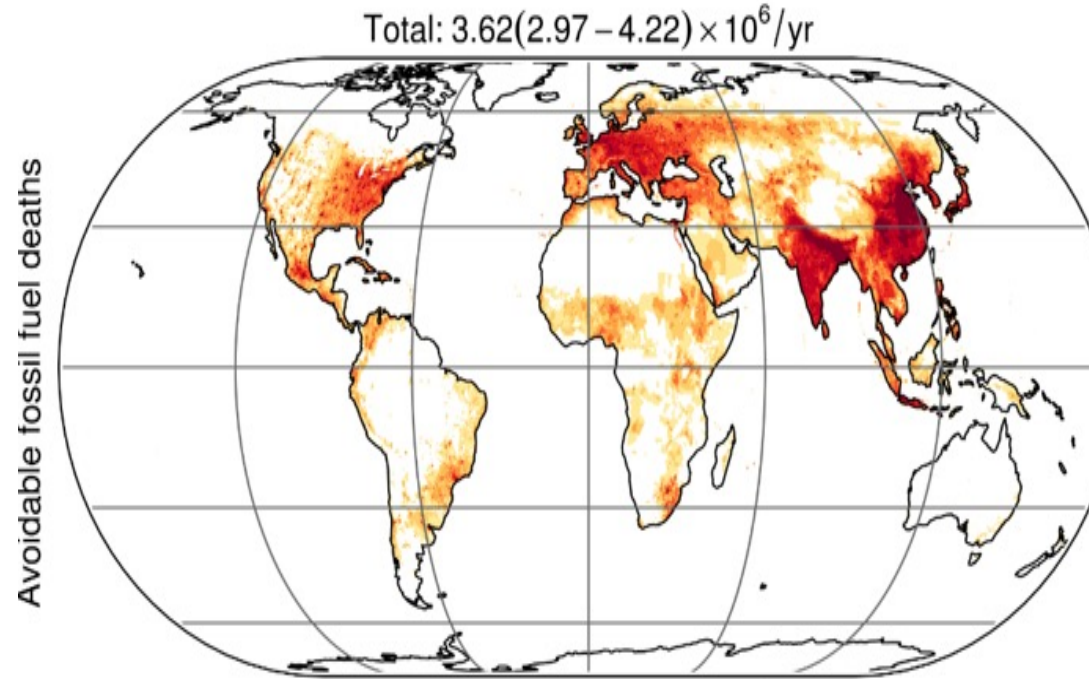
Gigatonnes of global CO₂ equivalent emissions per year



*Based on new long term promises by China, US, EU and others

Source: Climate Action Tracker

Phasing out fossil fuel burning could avert ~3.6 million deaths annually from ambient air pollution and increase rainfall over critical food growing areas (additional benefits from cutting other sources of air pollution) (Lelieveld, Klingmüller Pozzer, Burnett, Haines, Ramanathan PNAS 2019)



Reducing short lived climate pollutants (black carbon, ozone and methane) saves lives and protects crops (Shindell et al 2012)



Annual benefits

From large-scale mitigation by 2030


Climate



Avoided warming


Reduced disruption of weather patterns


Reduced rate of melting


Reduced rate of sea-level rise by ~20% by 2050

Health



2.4 million


Avoided premature deaths annually from outdoor air pollution

Reduced air pollution:
world's largest environmental health risk

Crops



52 million

Tonnes of avoided crop losses from 4 major staples year

Reducing food loss and waste and promoting healthy sustainable diets



Nearly 30% of the world's total agricultural land is used to produce food that is never eaten.

Environmental Impact

Estimated relative differences compared to current diets

Aleksandrowicz et al., PLoS ONE 2016

	Healthy dietary guidelines	Vegetarian diets
Greenhouse gas emissions	12% reduction	31% reduction
Land use	20% reduction	51% reduction
Water Use	6% reduction	37% reduction

Current research...

Rice intensification:

Could climate change interventions
help African malaria elimination?

27 months (from July 2019)



Jo Lines
Jeff Waage
Kallista Chan



AfricaRice

Kazuki Saito
Elliott Dossou-Yovo

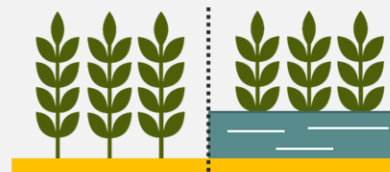
IRRI

Abdelbagi Ismael
Setegn Gebeyehu



“Our Planet, Our Health”

Scientists from the rice sector &
the public health sector have
independently developed:

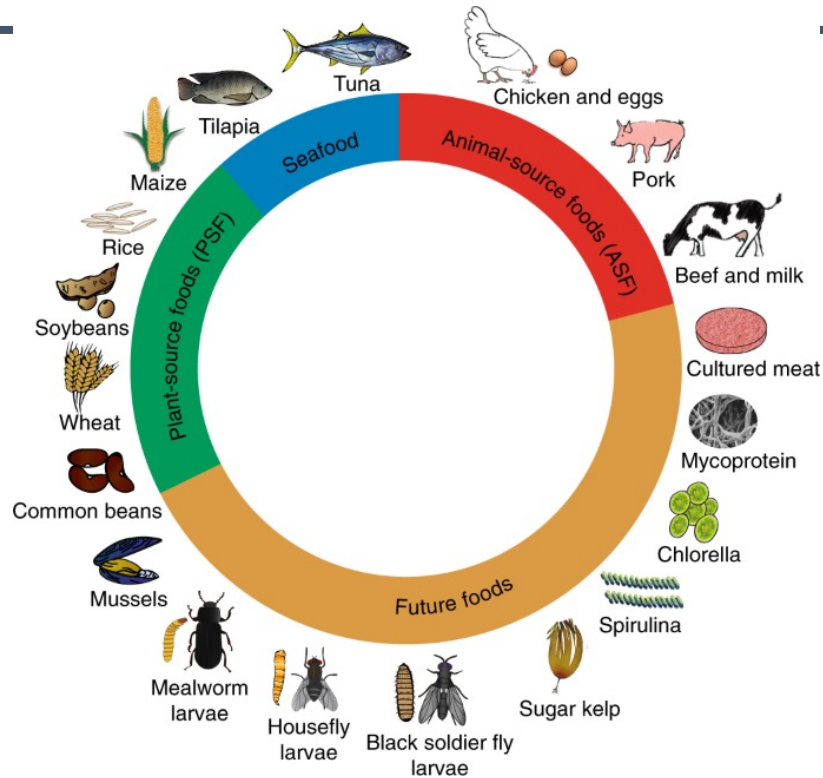


Alternate wetting
and drying

vs.

intermittent irrigation

Future foods



‘The complete array of essential nutrients in the mixture of future foods makes them good-quality alternatives for current animal-source foods compared to plant-source foods. Moreover, future foods are land-efficient alternatives for animal-source foods, and if produced with renewable energy, they also offer greenhouse gas benefits’

Optimising biomass use for health

(Muscat et al Systematic review of food-feed-fuel competition. Global Food Security 2020)



Image Credit: JONATHAN BURTON

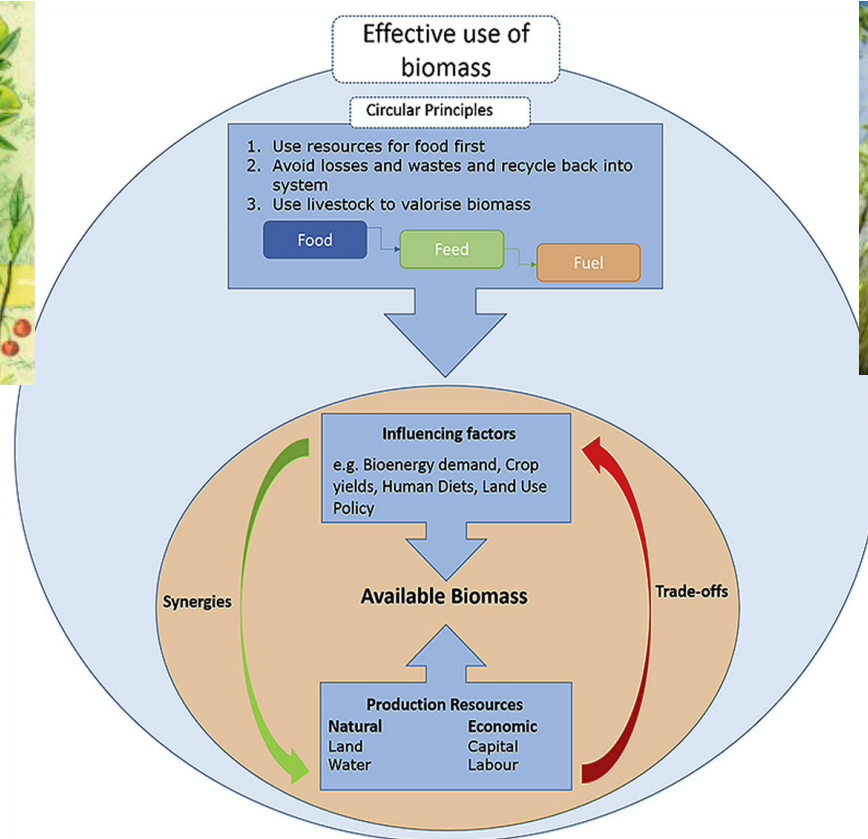


Image Credit: GETTY IMAGES

Nature-Based Solutions can provide over one-third of the cost-effective climate mitigation needed between now and 2030 to stabilize warming to below 2 °C (Griscom et al, PNAS 2017)

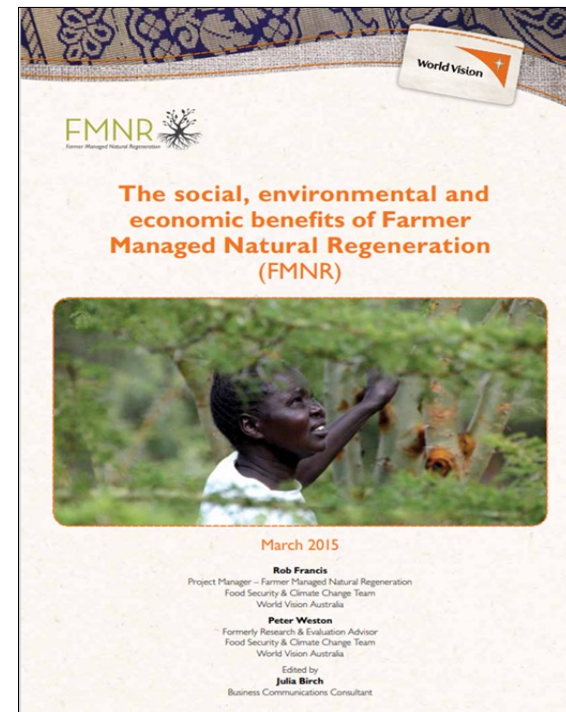
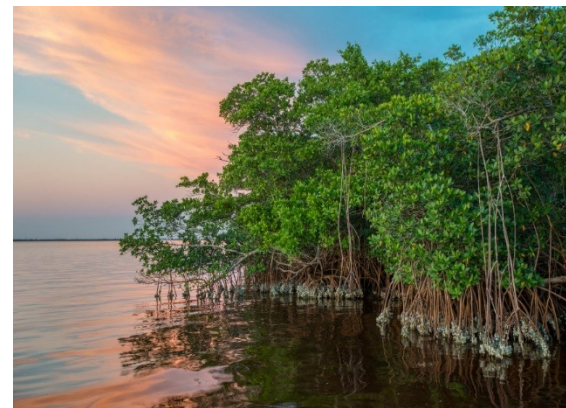


Bauch et al PNAS 2014

Forest conservation reduces disease risks in the Brazilian Amazon

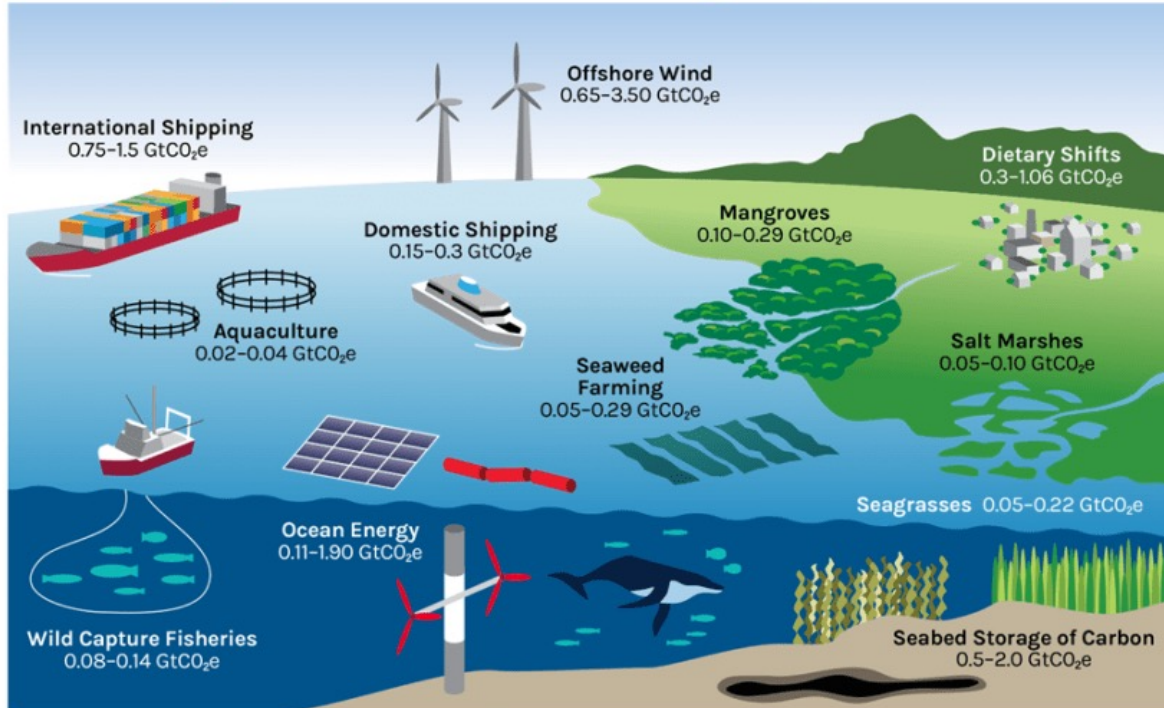
- Decreased Malaria transmission
- Reduced air pollution and fewer Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI)
- Cleaner water--- Less diarrhoeal disease

Restoring ecosystems regulates freshwater quantity and quality and provides flood protection (wetlands and mangroves)



Ocean-based mitigation –potential health effects

Ocean-based mitigation options explored in *The Ocean as a Solution to Climate Change* and associated annual mitigation potential in 2050



Solutions?

- Agricultural and behavioural



- Climate, trade, equity policies....

Integrating health into the Nationally Determined Contributions of GHG reductions under the Paris Agreement

