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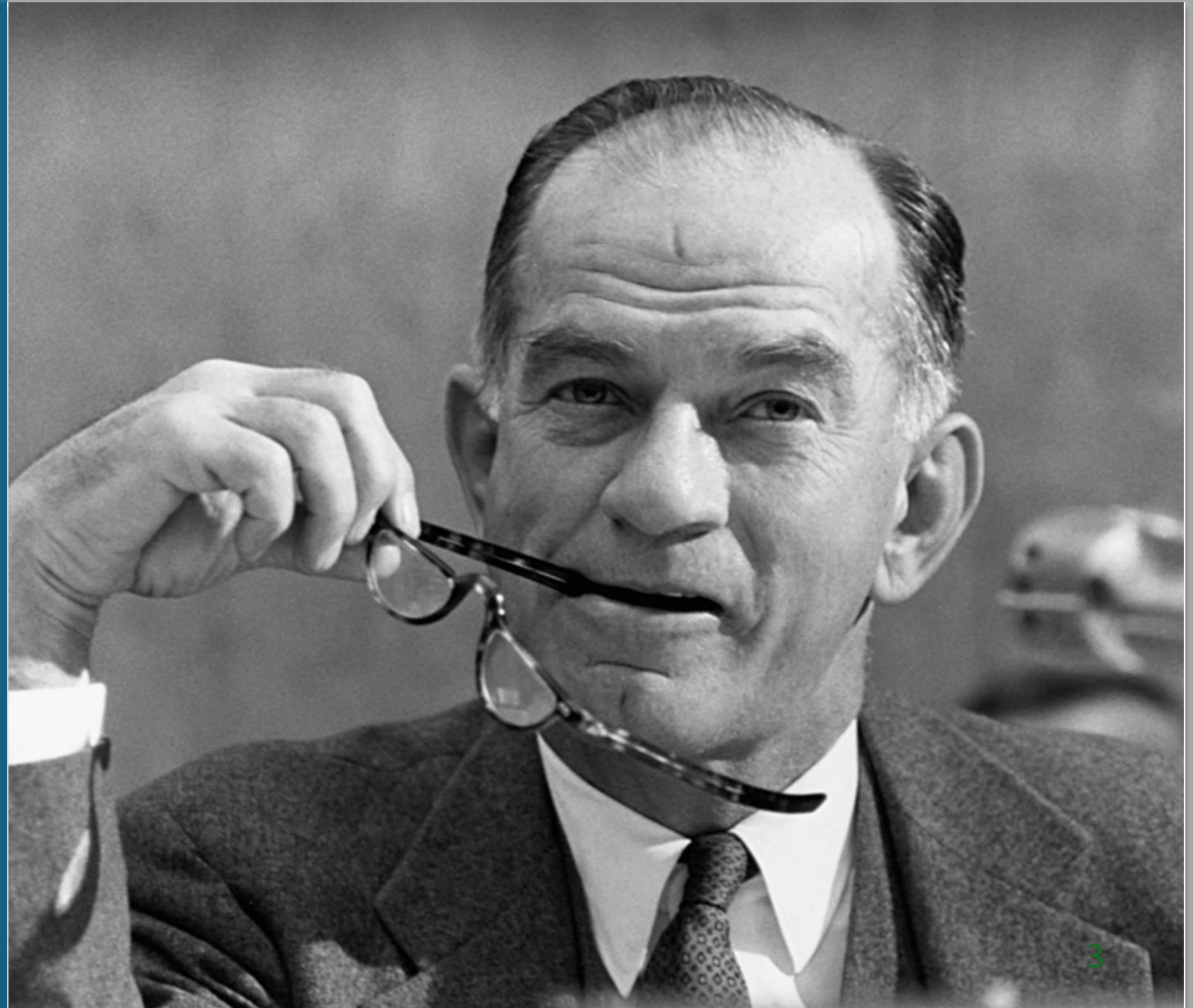
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“

Educational exchange can turn nations into people, contributing as no other form of communication can, to the humanizing of international relations.

To this purpose I believe the Council on International Educational Exchange is dedicated.

– Senator J. William Fulbright





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LEADING CHANGE
IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

THE SCIENCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ART OF TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION

ALAN MASTERS



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Climate Impacts Group

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Conservation International Botswana

Dominican Mission to UN in Rome

Global Solutions 4U

Institute for Advanced
Architecture of Catalonia

John Cabot University

Korea University Institute
for Sustainability

Miami Dade College

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Scripps Institution of Oceanography

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University of Wisconsin

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Mikaela Loach

AUTHOR AND CLIMATE JUSTICE ORGANISER,
AWETHU SCHOOL OF ORGANISING



GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE

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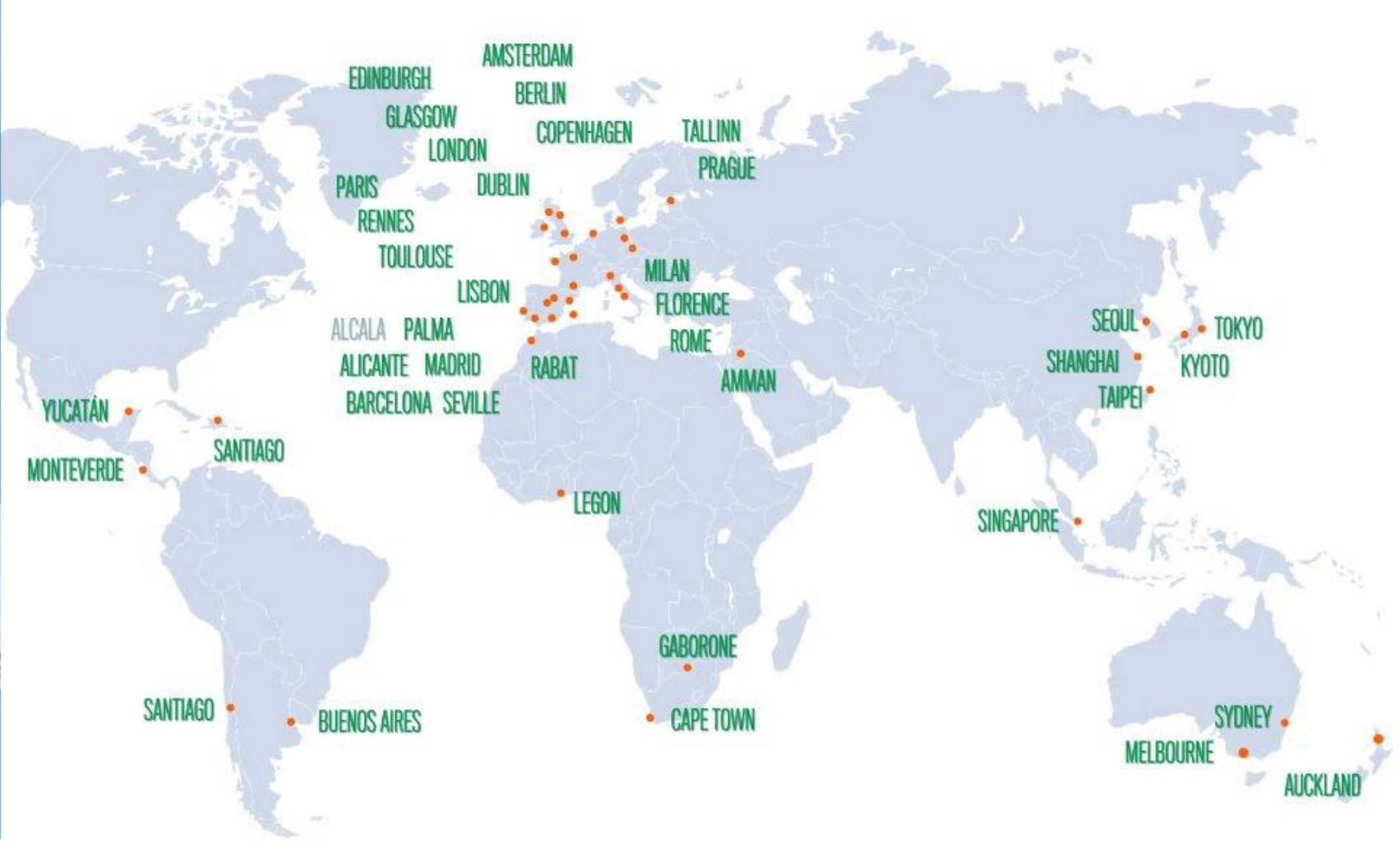
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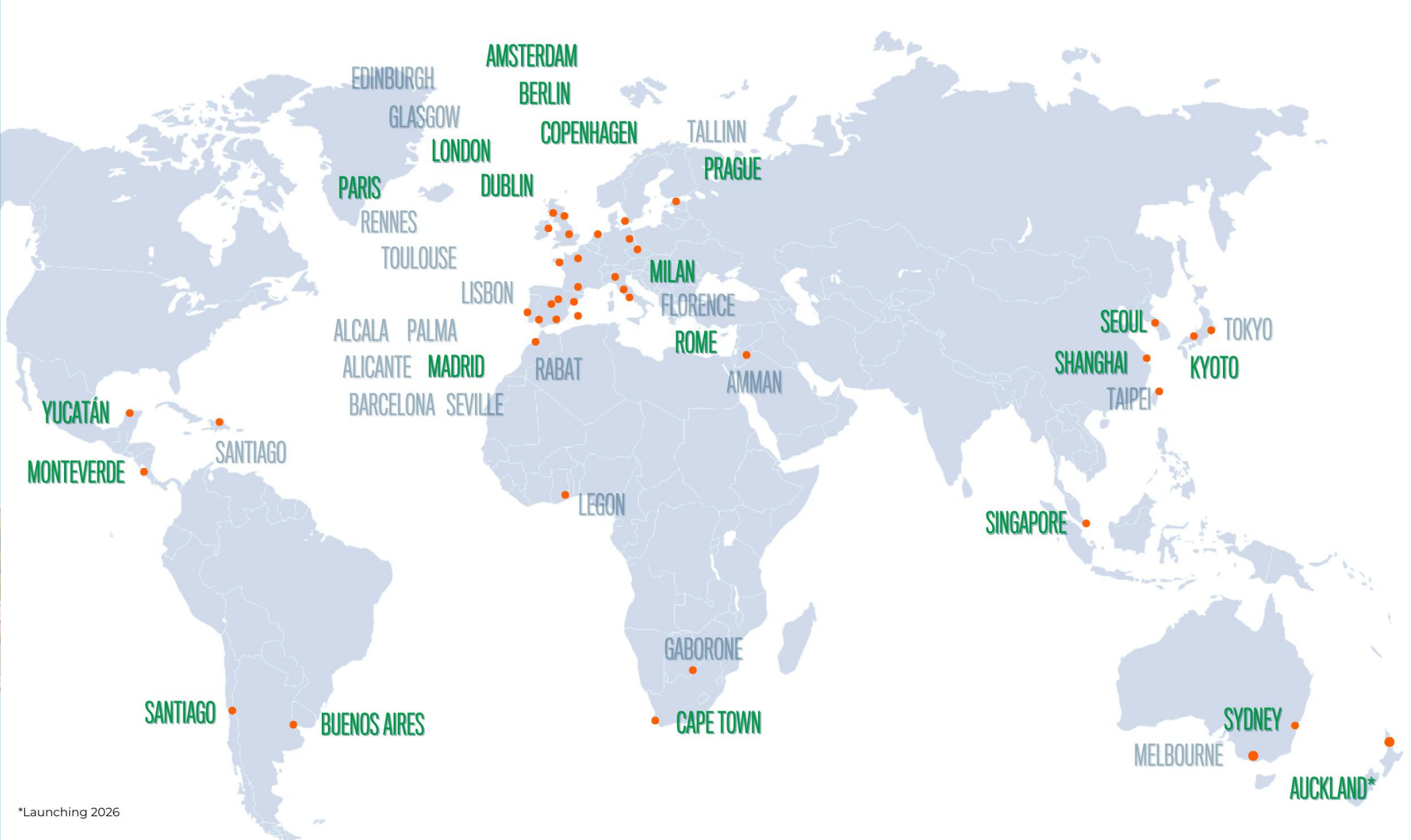
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21 Cities




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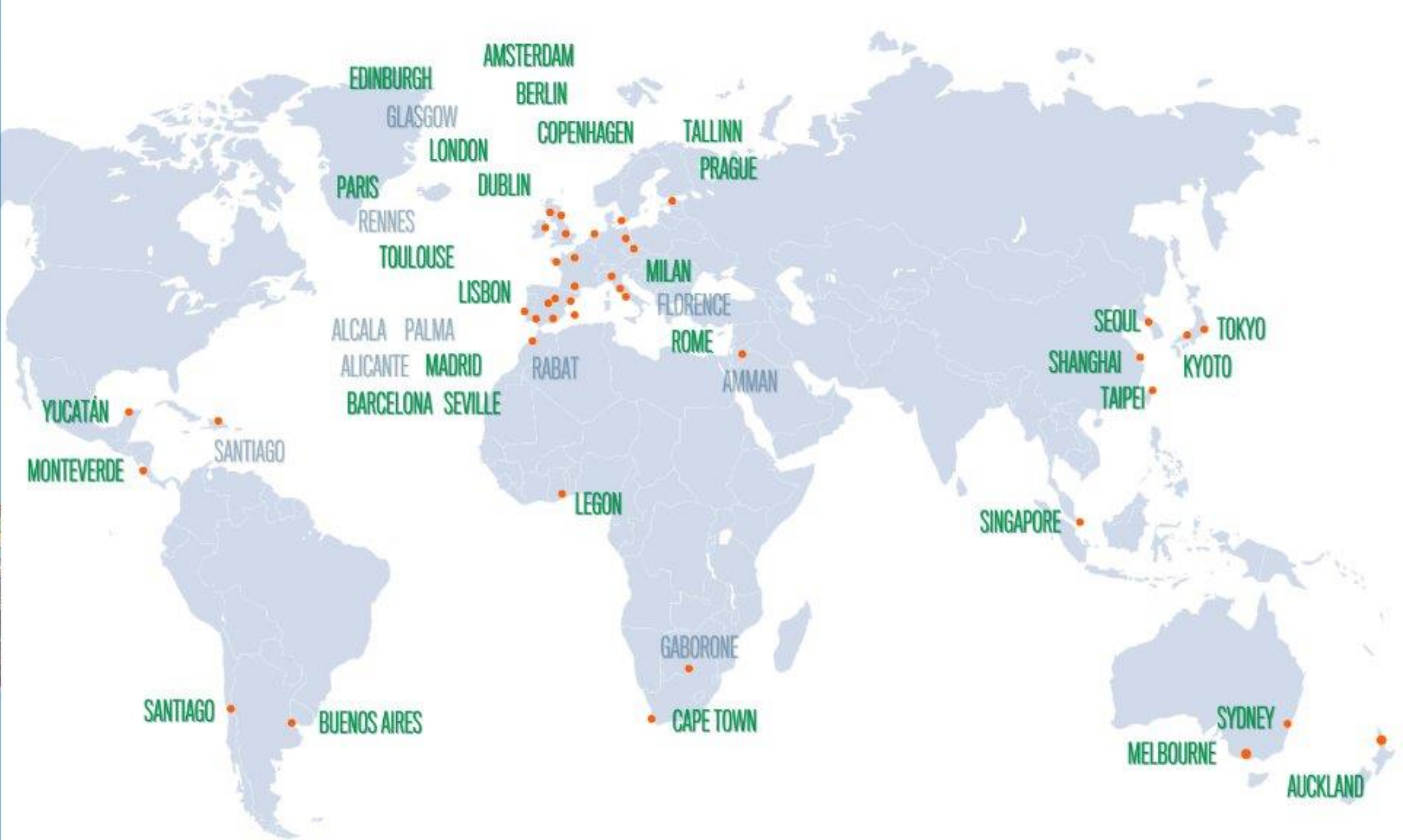
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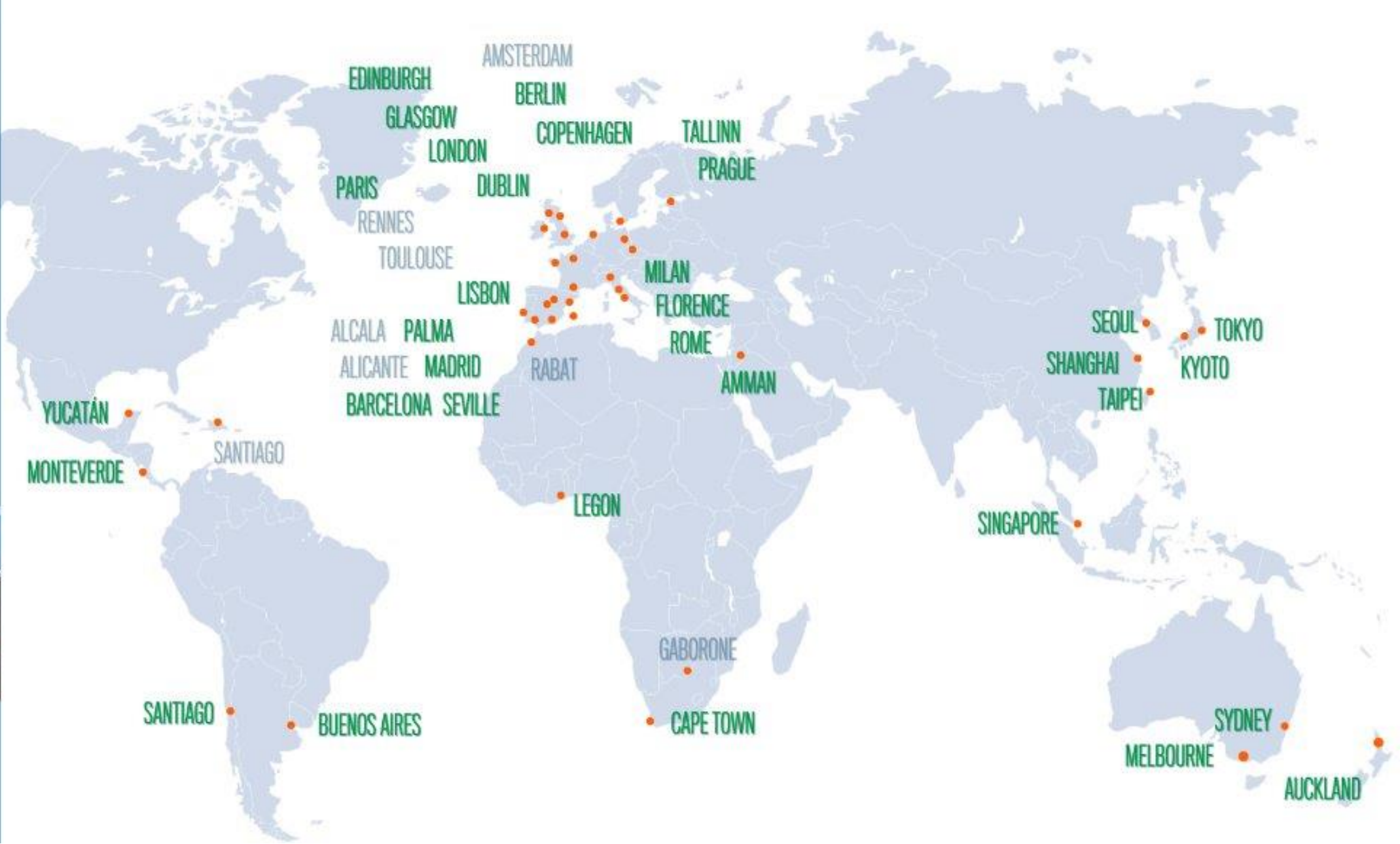
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CIEE Climate Programs: Where and What?



THE SCIENCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ART OF TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION

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The image features a woman in a blue denim shirt holding a white marker, positioned as if writing on a tablet. Overlaid on the scene is a futuristic digital interface with various climate-related icons: a globe, a wind turbine, a battery with a 75% charge indicator, a recycling symbol, a sun and cloud, a CO₂ molecule, and a plant growing from a factory. The text "THE SCIENCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE" is prominently displayed in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

THE SCIENCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

JOANNA CAREY
ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR OF
EARTH SCIENCE
BABSON COLLEGE

OUR CURRENT
CLIMATE
CRISIS,
THE BIG
PICTURE

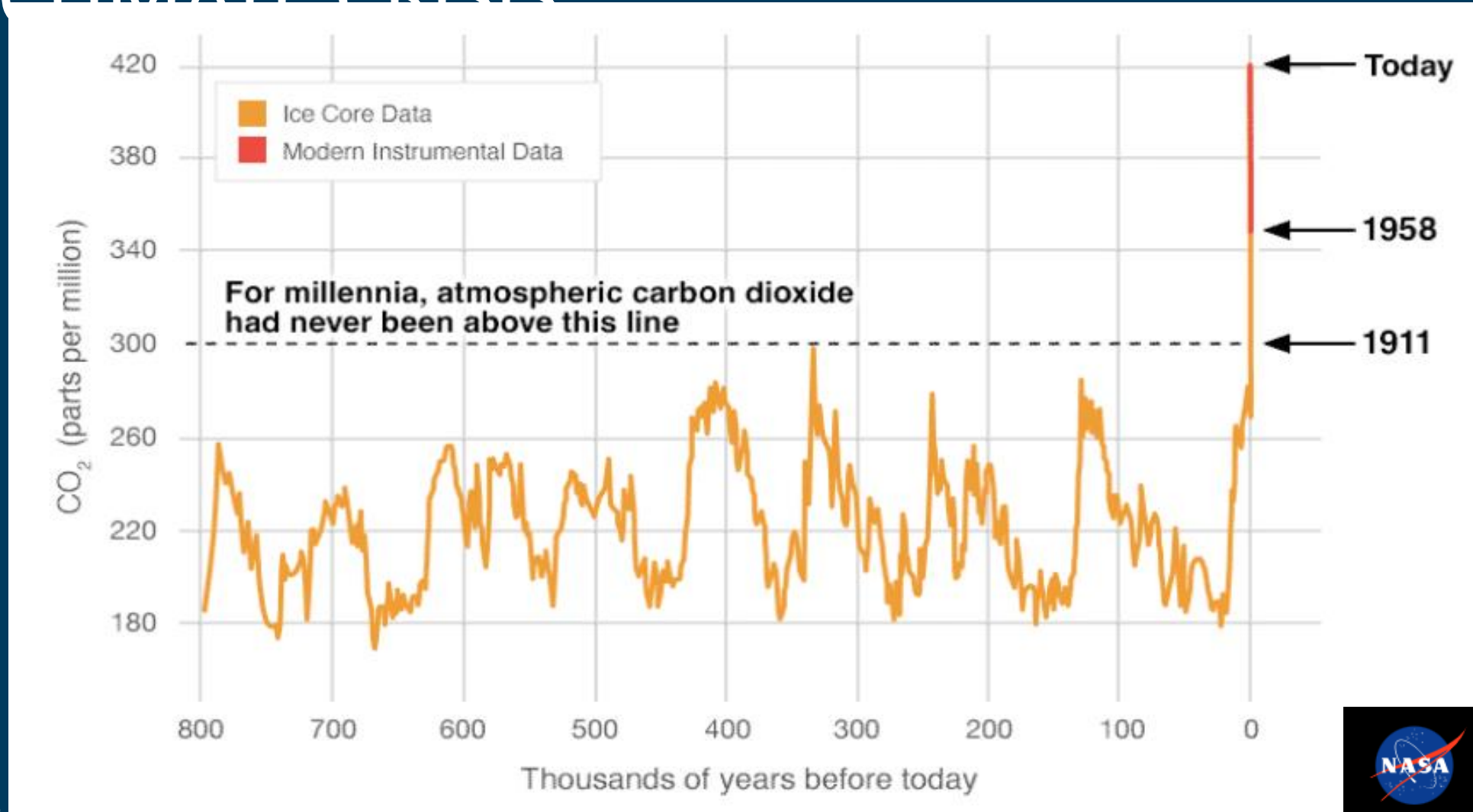
GEOLOGIC DATA PROVIDES CONTEXT FOR

~~CURRENT CLIMATE CRISIS~~

Notice the cyclical changes in CO₂ concentrations over past 800,000 years – compare that to the past 100 years

Rates of change are unprecedented

Typically takes 1000 years for CO₂ to change 40 ppm; we just did it in 20 years



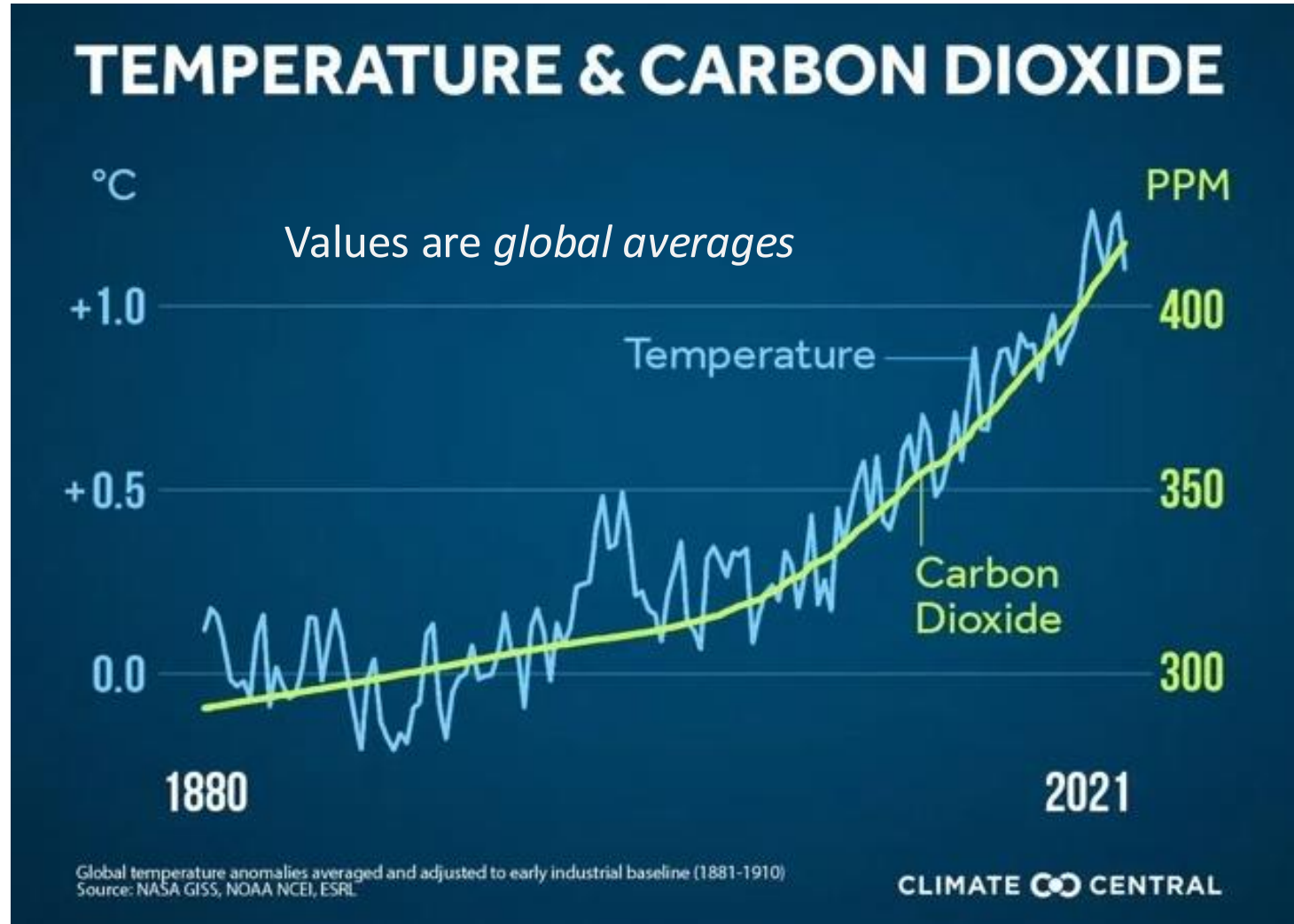
MORE CO₂ in ATMOSPHERE = HIGHER TEMPERATURE

2023 warmest year recorded

- 1.5 °C (2.8 °F) above pre-industrial baseline levels.

Past 10 years were the warmest recorded in human history.

Typically **1000** years for Earth's temperature to change 1°C. We just did that in **100** years.



THE GLOBAL CLIMATE REGULATES EARTH'S LIFE-

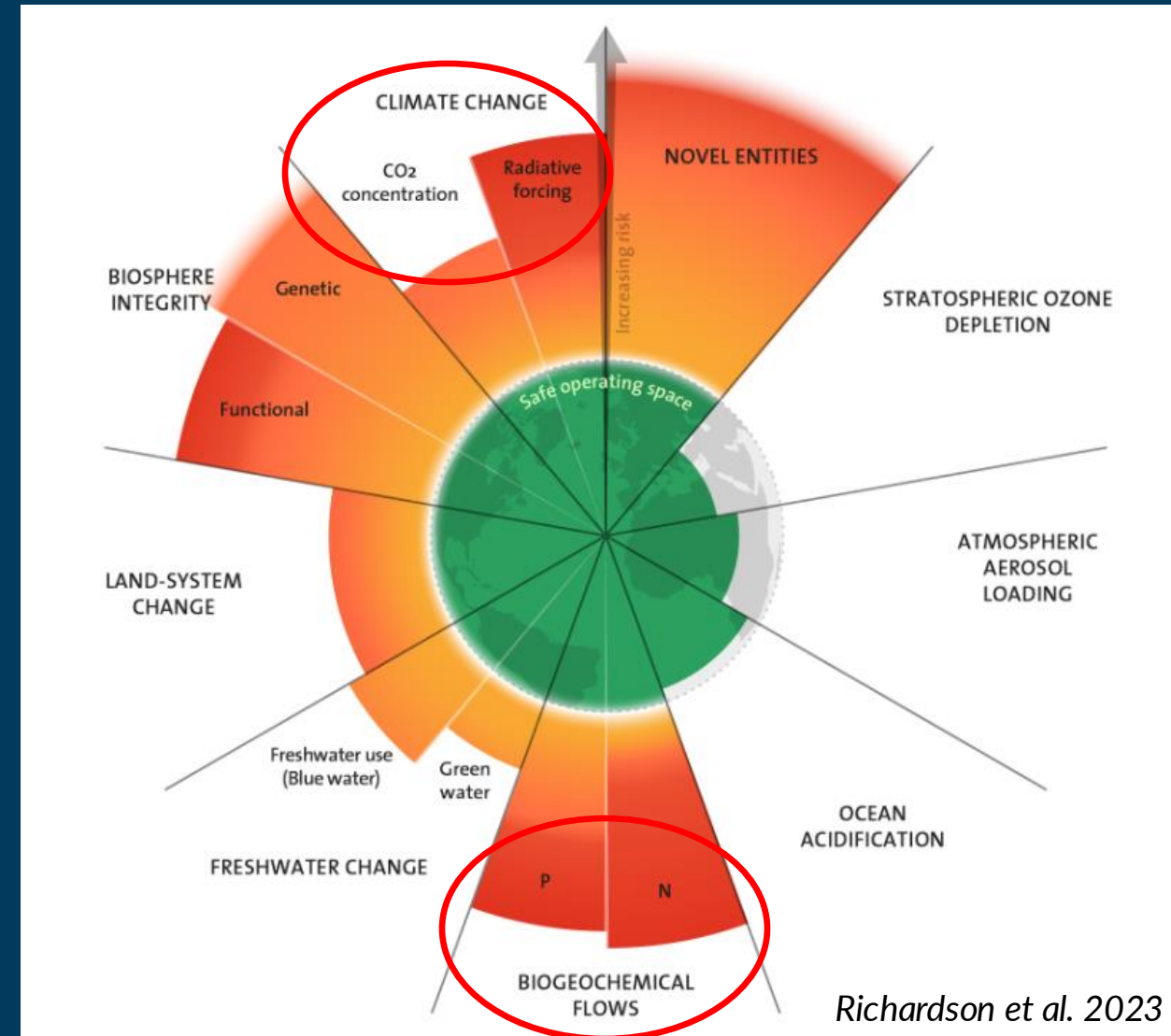
SUPPORTING PROCESSES

Planetary Boundaries – framework that identifies the *safe limits* for human pressure on critical processes that maintain a stable & resilient Earth system

We have already crossed out of the safe space for 6 out of the 9 boundaries, including climate change

Climate change is a **core boundary** that impacts all others

Crossing boundaries **increases risk** of generating large-scale abrupt or **irreversible** environmental changes



MY RESEARCH – WARMING AND SOIL RESPIRATION

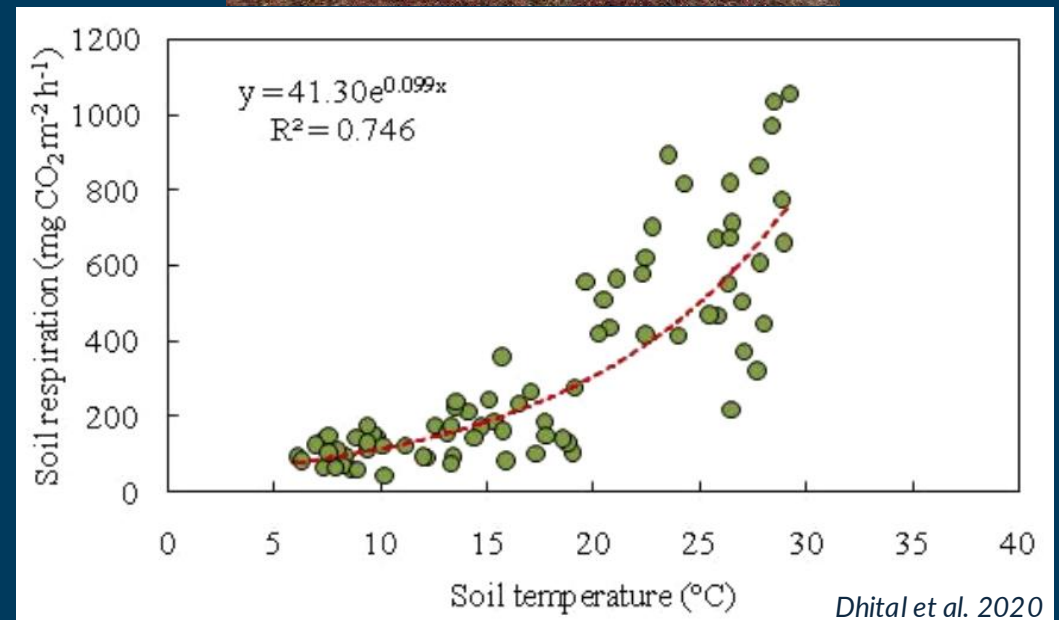
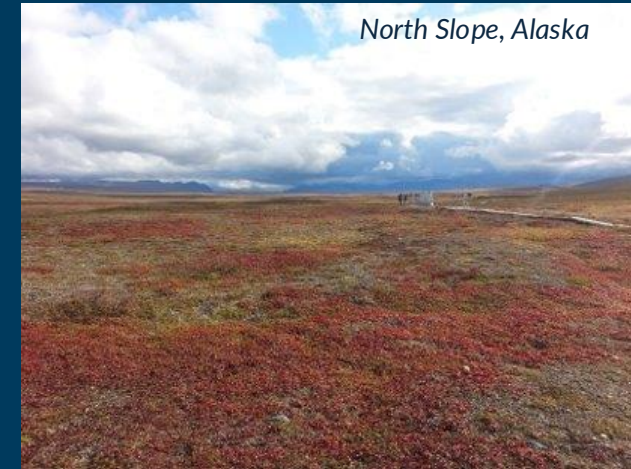
Soils naturally emit CO₂ through respiration and decomposition

I examine how rates of soil CO₂ efflux respond to warming – exponential relationship

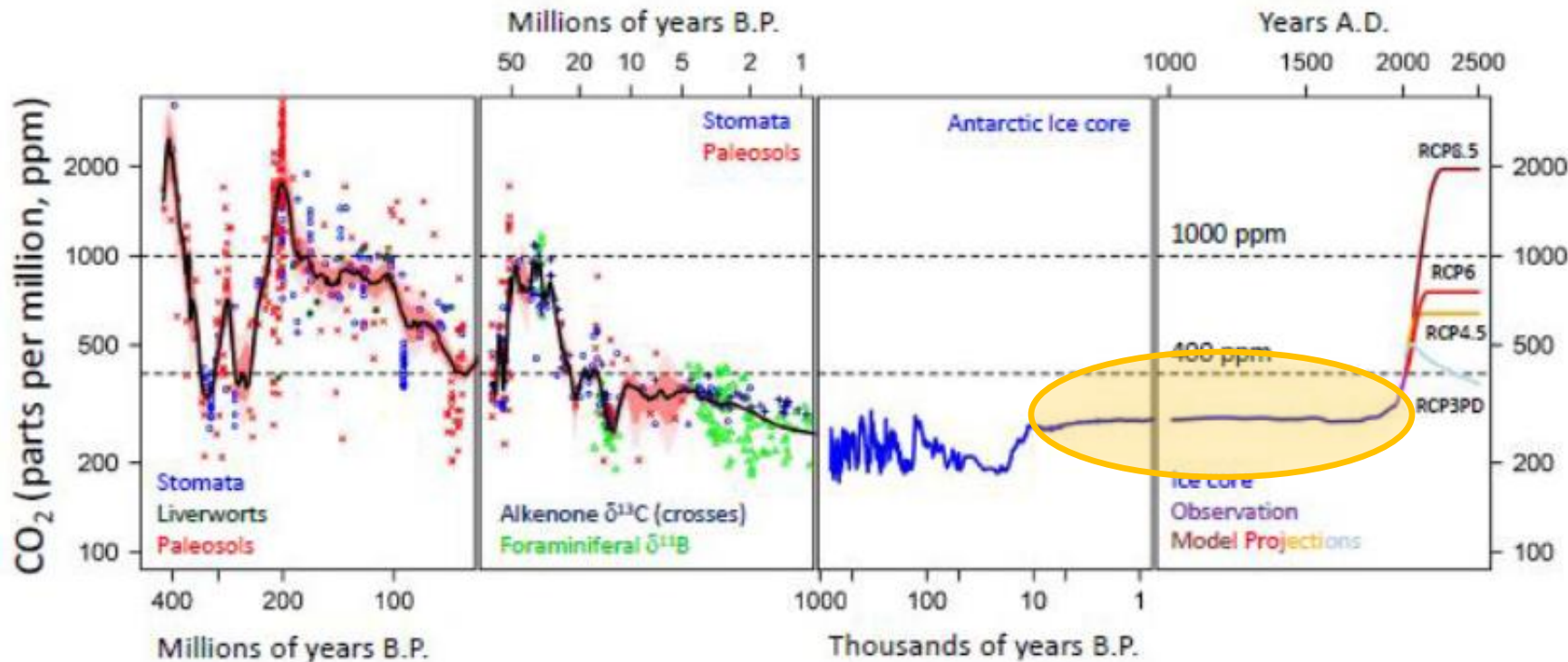
Non-linear reinforcing feedback to warming (among others)

Rates of warming will increase moving forward - the past does not dictate the future

The longer we wait to act, the harder it becomes to fix the problem



CLIMATE STABILITY CORRELATED WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN HUMAN ACTION IN HUMAN CIVILIZATION



Inglis et al. 2015

Climate has been unusually stable during the past ~11,000 years

This stability correlated with development of agriculture, scientific understanding, and human population growth and improved quality of life

Humans **need** a stable Earth system for survival

Our atmosphere has no boundaries – international cooperation is **paramount** to solving this crisis

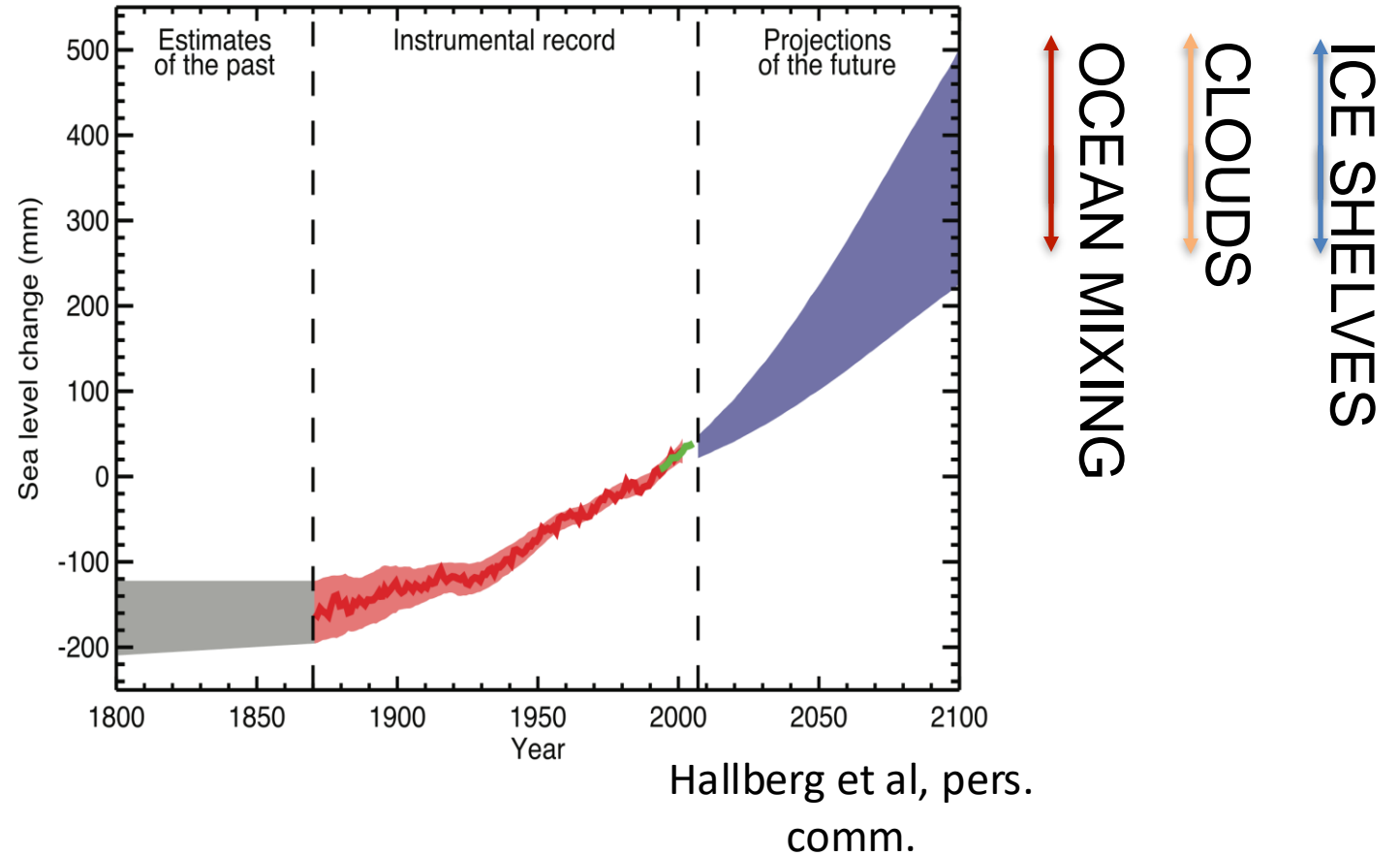
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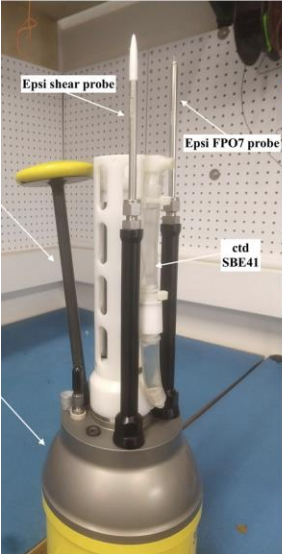
THE SCIENTIFIC CASE FOR HUMAN- CAUSED CLIMATE CHANGE

MODELS ARE NOT PERFECT

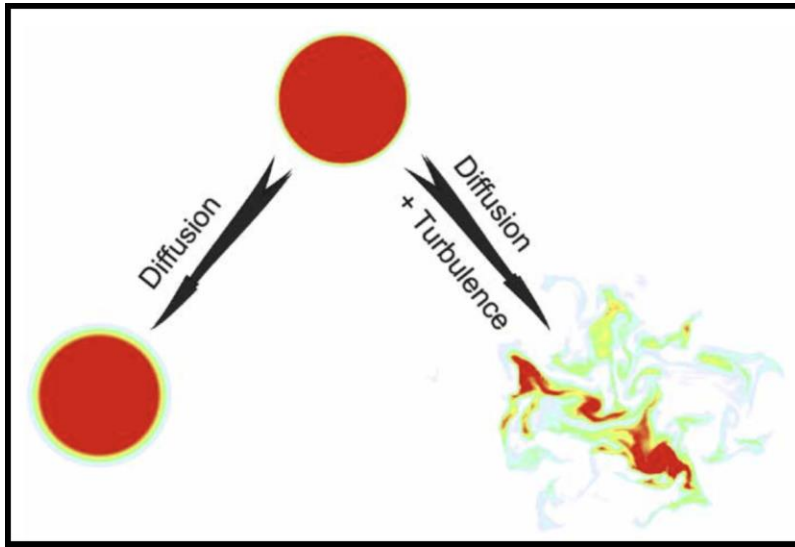
- First, we don't know what people will do about emissions.
- Even if we do, models don't resolve all the ocean's physics.
- That's what I do!
- The key to all of this is **error bars**.



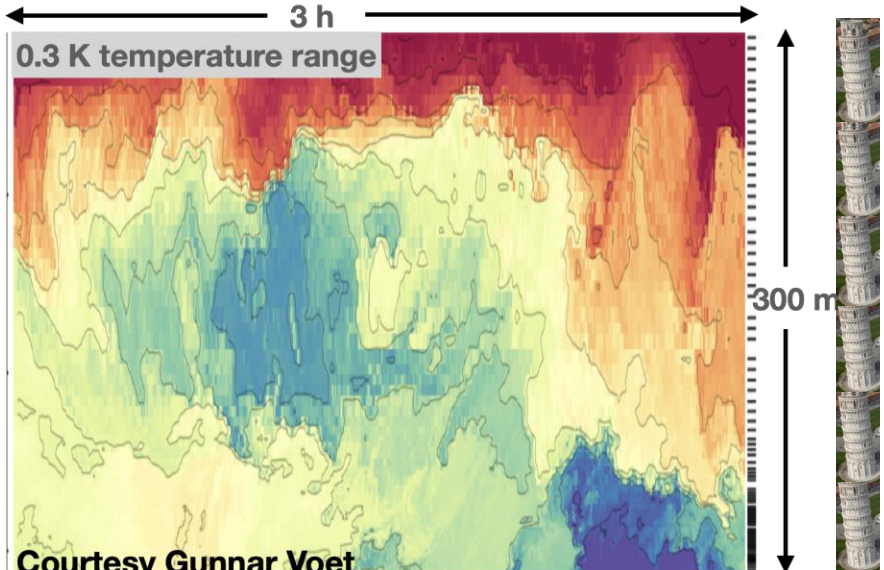
MEASURING OCEAN MIXING



Wacky gadgets



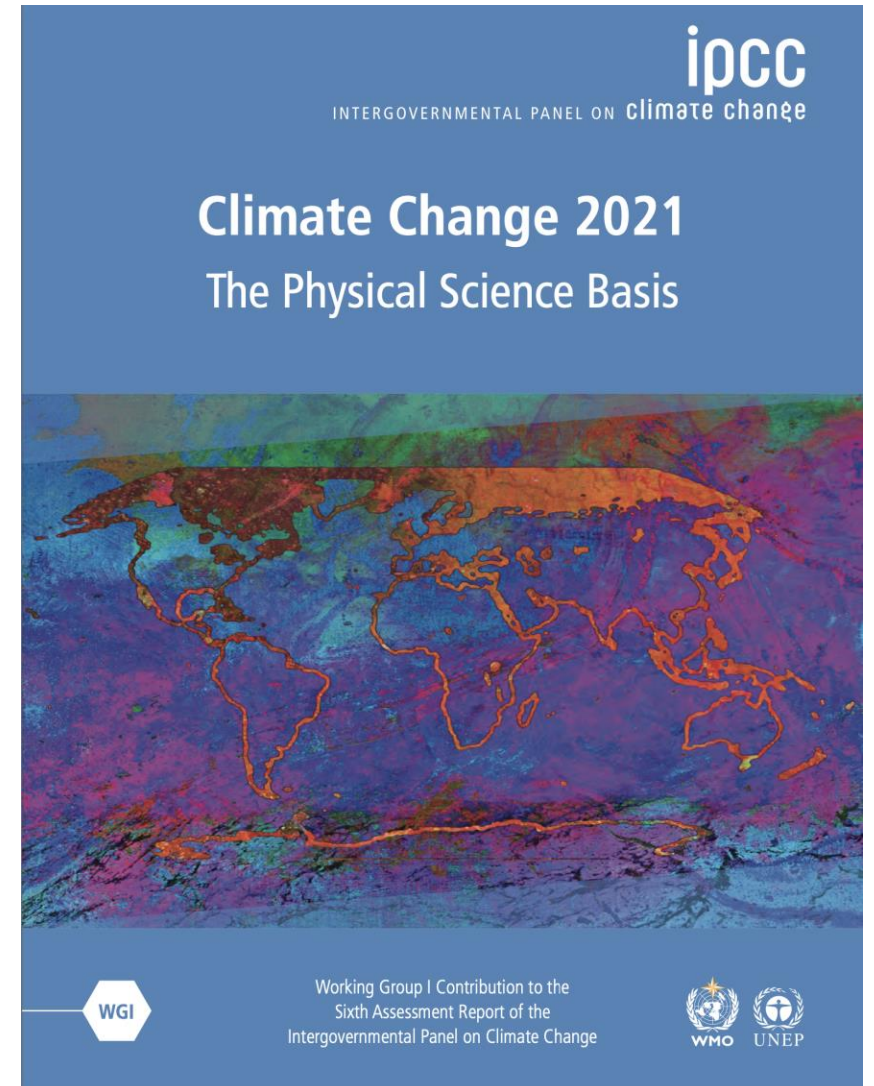
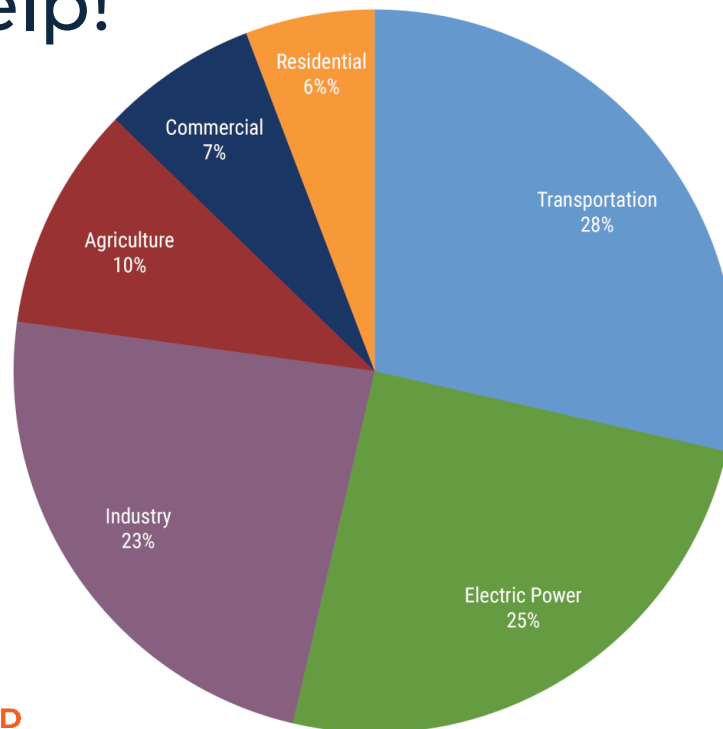
How turbulence mixes the ocean



Courtesy Gunnar Voet
Breaking waves 2000 m below the sea

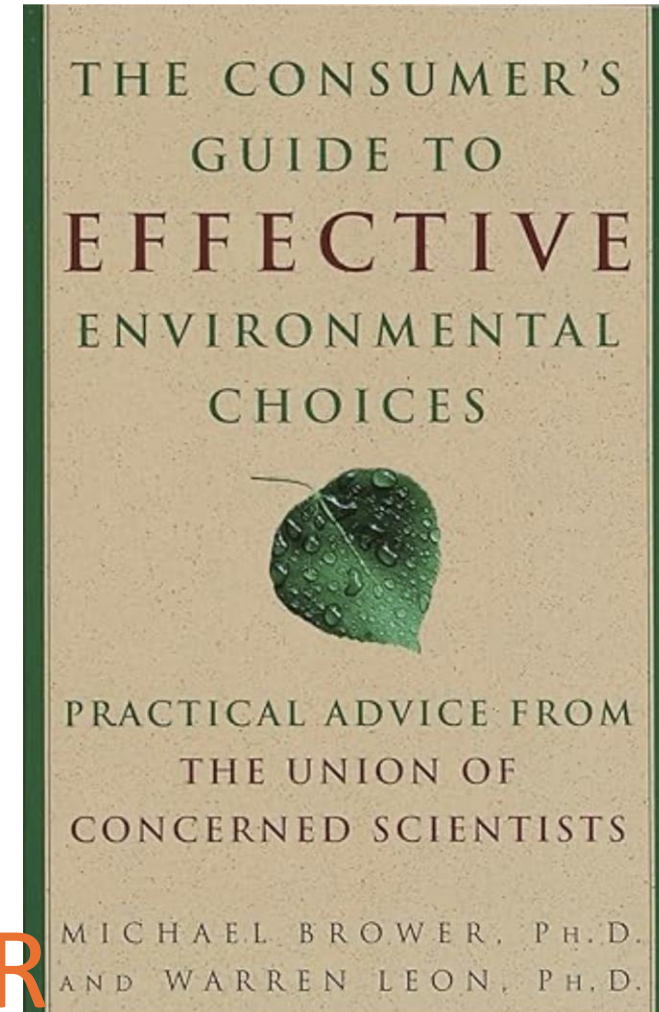
THE SOURCES OF CO₂

- Bad news: fixing one thing won't solve the problem.
- Good news: there are lots of ways to help!



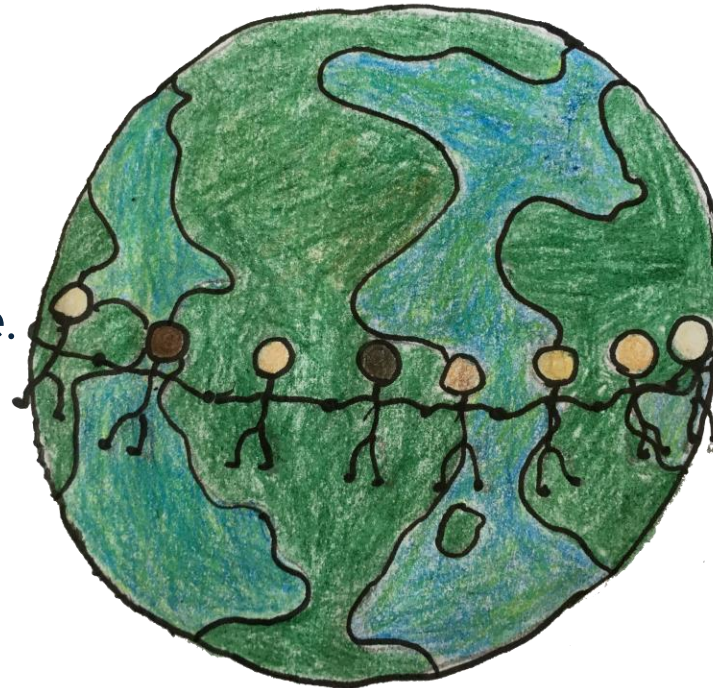
DECARBONIZATION

- Nearly every action we take in the US has a CO2 price tag. Exceptions: walking on the beach, enjoying Nature, being kind to each other.
- Examples: purchases that require manufacturing (does that mean I can't buy the things I want anymore?).
- Food (does that mean I need to be vegan?).
- Transportation (does that mean I can't fly anymore? Do I have to buy an EV?).
- Individual actions versus group change



A CASE FOR CLIMATE KINDNESS

- Be kind to each other.
- Be kind to the Earth.
- Use knowledge to help choose actions.
- Be careful of your sources of knowledge.
- Let's never shame anyone.
- Climate change will be unkind, and unfair. We'll get through it - together.



Art credit: Zoë Clementine
Geller Alford



Climate Kindness,
Ocean Ambassadors
Tristaca McCray
nerdsruleinc.org

MAX BOYKOFF

PROFESSOR

UNIVERSITY OF
COLORADO – BOULDER

ADAPTATION,
MITIGATION
AND SOCIETAL
TRANSFORMAT
ION

WE ARE THE PROBLEM AND THE SOLUTION

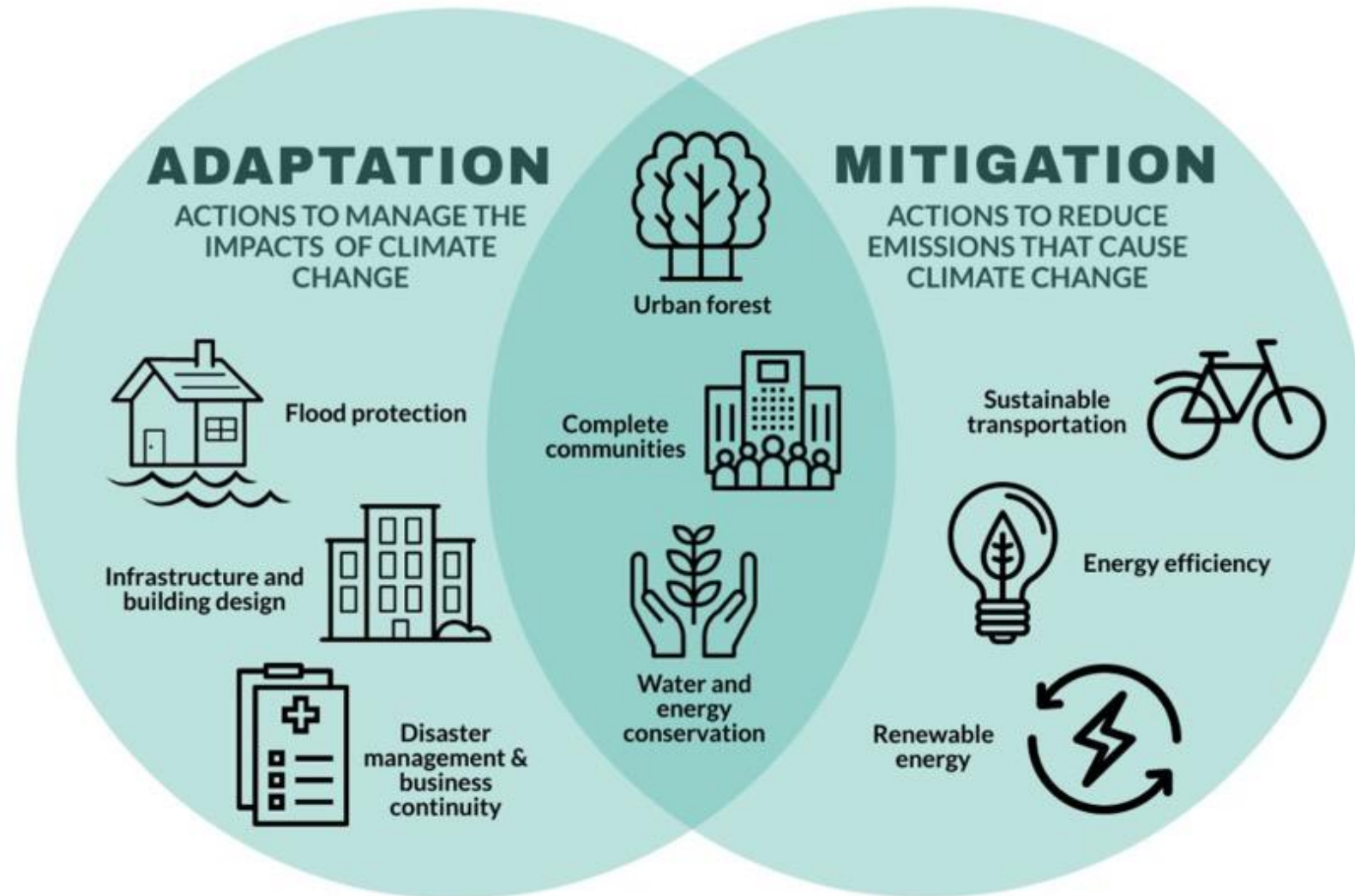
Interventions & solutions include innovations in rules, behaviors, economics, technologies, social norms and more:

- Personal transformations
- Societal transformations
- Global transformations

adaptation = adjustments to suit changing conditions

mitigation = actions to reduce GHG emissions and remove GHGs

education = ways learning, knowing & acting, literacies & competencies



INDIVIDUALS EMBEDDED IN SYSTEMS

- **Climate change creates intersecting sets of challenges – threat multipliers – that weave through related issues**
- Contributions are made by individuals, and also corporations, governments etc.
- **Human-caused climate change is a collective action problem and requires collective solutions**
- We live with many climate change-related contradictions, yet we work to support & empower culturally-aware future leaders & positive change makers



Ways to Help End Climate Change
—Ben Abbott, PWS

Change your method of transportation
100 people could travel by bicycle for the same amount of energy it takes to drive one car.

Adjust your diet
Vegans reduce their agricultural carbon footprint by 73%. Try eating less meat and dairy.

Support Systematic Changes
Your personal changes support systematic changes.

An infographic with a light brown background. It features a large number '100' on the left, a bicycle icon, a large brown footprint, a smaller green footprint, and a row of dominoes on the right. The text is arranged around these icons. In the top right corner, there is a logo for 'COLLEGE OF LIFE SCIENCES' with a DNA helix icon.

DOMINANT SCIENTIFIC PATHWAYS OF KNOWING



“providing information and filling knowledge gaps is at best necessary but rarely sufficient to create active behavioral engagement.” ~ Susanne Moser

MY RESEARCH: EXPANDING PATHWAYS OF AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES

JACK JOHNSON
THE MUSICIAN IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT HOME – AND ON THE ROAD

Over the years, Johnson has implemented green touring practices. "We invite roughly 10 local nonprofit partners to be part of every show. Building a relationship and supporting these groups allows the positive energy from the music to create ripples that last long after the show is done," Johnson, 48, tells Us, adding that it's important to make changes at home as well. "The easiest starting point is using a reusable water bottle. Once that becomes a habit, you could also start carrying a reusable utensil set. It becomes a fun challenge."

NIKKI REED
THE ACTRESS IS SERIOUS ABOUT ECO-FRIENDLY LIVING

As the founder of BiYou with Love, a jewelry line made from sustainably sourced materials, Reed is extremely passionate about living a greener life. "The best tip I have is to hold ourselves accountable. If you decide you want to reduce your waste, then monitor how much trash you're producing, set a goal and work your way towards that goal," the *Twilight* alum, 35, tells Us, noting that small changes can go a long way. "It can be as simple as turning off your water while you're brushing your teeth instead of just letting it run."

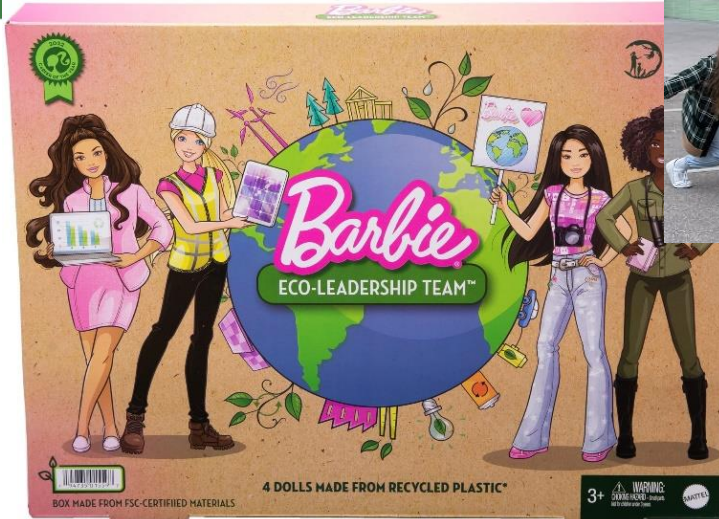
PHARRELL WILLIAMS
THE GRAMMY WINNER IS CURSING CLIMATE CHANGE WITH HIS MUSIC

In 2017, Williams recorded the song "100 Years," which is set to be released in 2037. The catch? The track — a statement about the negative effects humans can have on the environment — is being stored in a clay vessel that will be destroyed if the sea level continues to rise. "I want to be really clear that I am not a tree hugger," Williams, 50, has said. "I think it's important that every human being always has a sense of terrestrial awareness. That's what it boils down to."

ARTICLE
40 | APRIL 15, 2024

THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

- 1 NO POVERTY
- 2 ZERO HUNGER
- 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
- 4 QUALITY EDUCATION
- 5 GENDER EQUALITY
- 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
- 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
- 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
- 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
- 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
- 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
- 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
- 13 CLIMATE ACTION
- 14 LIFE BELOW WATER
- 15 LIFE ON LAND
- 16 PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS
- 17 PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOAL

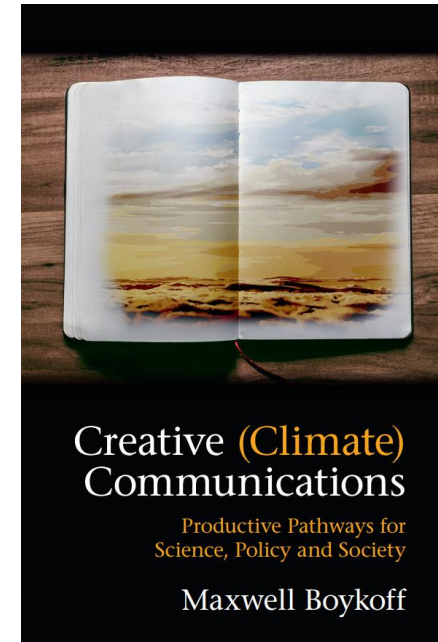


"Facts are, by themselves, voiceless" - Rush Holt



be authentic
be aware
be accurate
be imaginative
be bold

meeting each other where
we are and enacting positive
change



find common ground
emphasize here and now
focus on benefits of engagement
creatively empower people
smarten up



RISHI SUGLA

Climate Resilience Scientist
with Climate Impacts Group
University of Washington

CLIMATE ADAPTATION, SOCIAL IMPACTS, AND THE ROLE OF CULTURE

CLIMATE IMPACTS ON COMMUNITIES



Warming
and extreme
heat



Increasing
risk of fire



Less snow and
precipitation in key
seasons



Ocean acidification
and sea level rise



Species range
shift



Ongoing natural
variability

UNDERLYING DRIVERS



Access to local foods



Age and health care

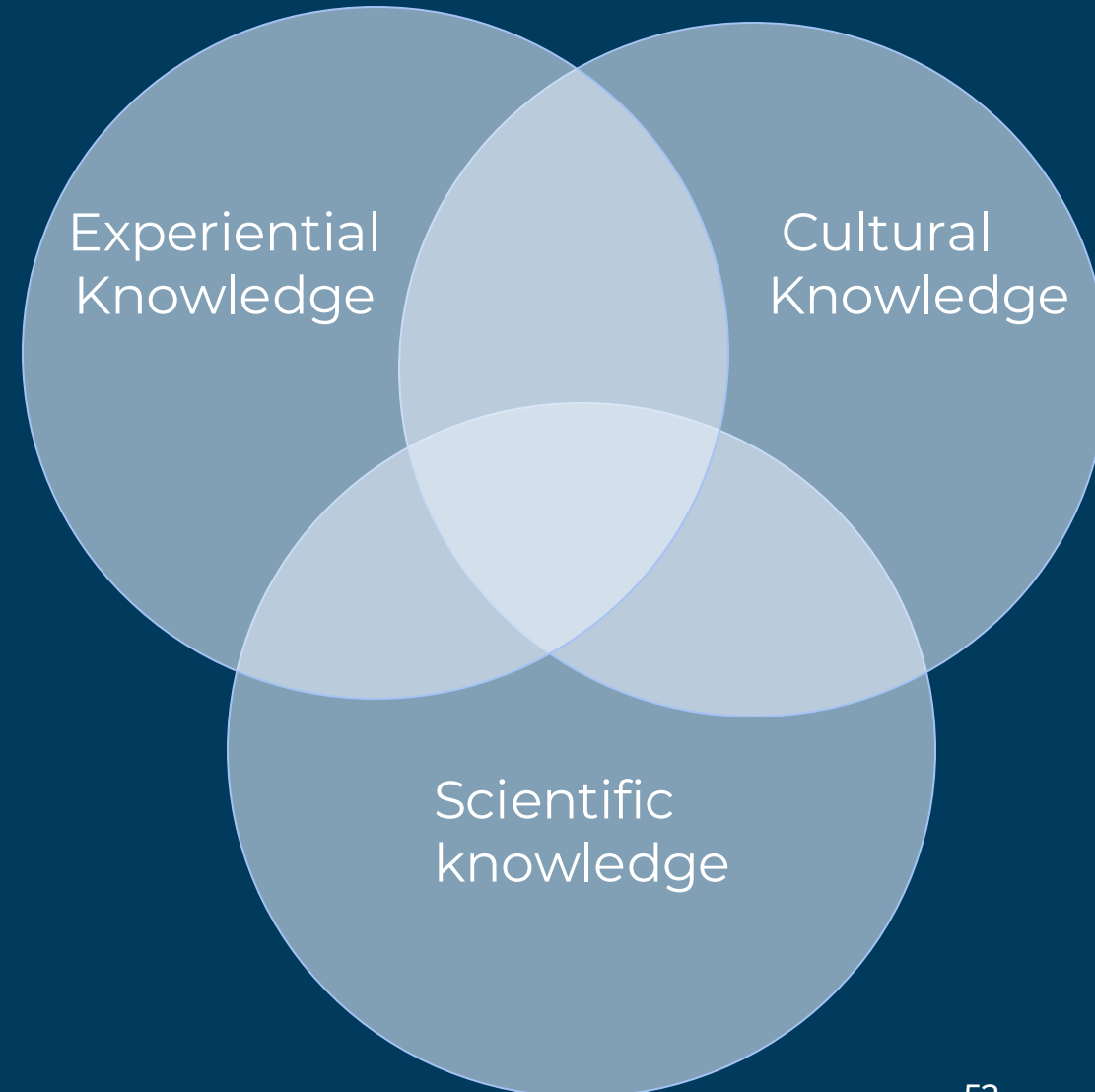


Fighting polluting industries

BRINGING TOGETHER DIVERSE

KNOWLEDGE

- Frontline communities are critical knowledge and solution holders in our efforts to address impacts of climate change
- The best solutions are found when we equitably bring together different types of knowledge and expertise in search of solutions



STORYTELLING TO WEAVE TOGETHER KNOWLEDGES



STORYTELLING TO CO-DESIGN:



Digital media libraries
owned by local
communities



Stewardship
and
Sustainability
Initiatives



Intergenerational
Connections



Identify
synergies
across activism,
research, and
practice



Research
questions and
directions

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ENVIRONMENTAL
STUDIES

LEGAL AND
POLICY
RESPONSES TO
CLIMATE
IMPACTS

REGULATORY INSTRUMENTS FOR CLIMATE

ACTION



Command-and-Control Approaches

Mandate specific limits or standards, typically accompanied by penalties for non-compliance.



Emissions Standards Implementation

Setting specific thresholds for emissions to control industries and ensure significant reductions over time.



Regulatory Frameworks

Incorporate effective oversight and regular assessments to adapt to evolving environmental conditions.

MARKET-BASED APPROACHES TO CLIMATE

CHANGE



Carbon Pricing

Assign a cost to carbon emissions, creating an economic incentive to reduce greenhouse gas output.



Cap-and-Trade

Governments cap total emissions and allow industries with low emissions to sell their extra allowances to larger polluters.



Economic Incentives

Subsidies to encourage greener alternatives, while minimizing market distortions and perverse incentives.

AGRICULTURAL ADAPTATION POLICIES

Sustainable Farming Practices: Integrating resilience practices such as crop rotation, conservation tillage, and organic farming.

Subsidies for Climate-Resilient Crops: Reinforce food security and sustain agricultural livelihoods.

Land-Use Policies: To optimize land productivity and improve ecological outcomes, balancing agricultural needs with environmental conservation.

Agroecological Approaches: Fostering biodiversity to enhance ecosystem services and resilience.



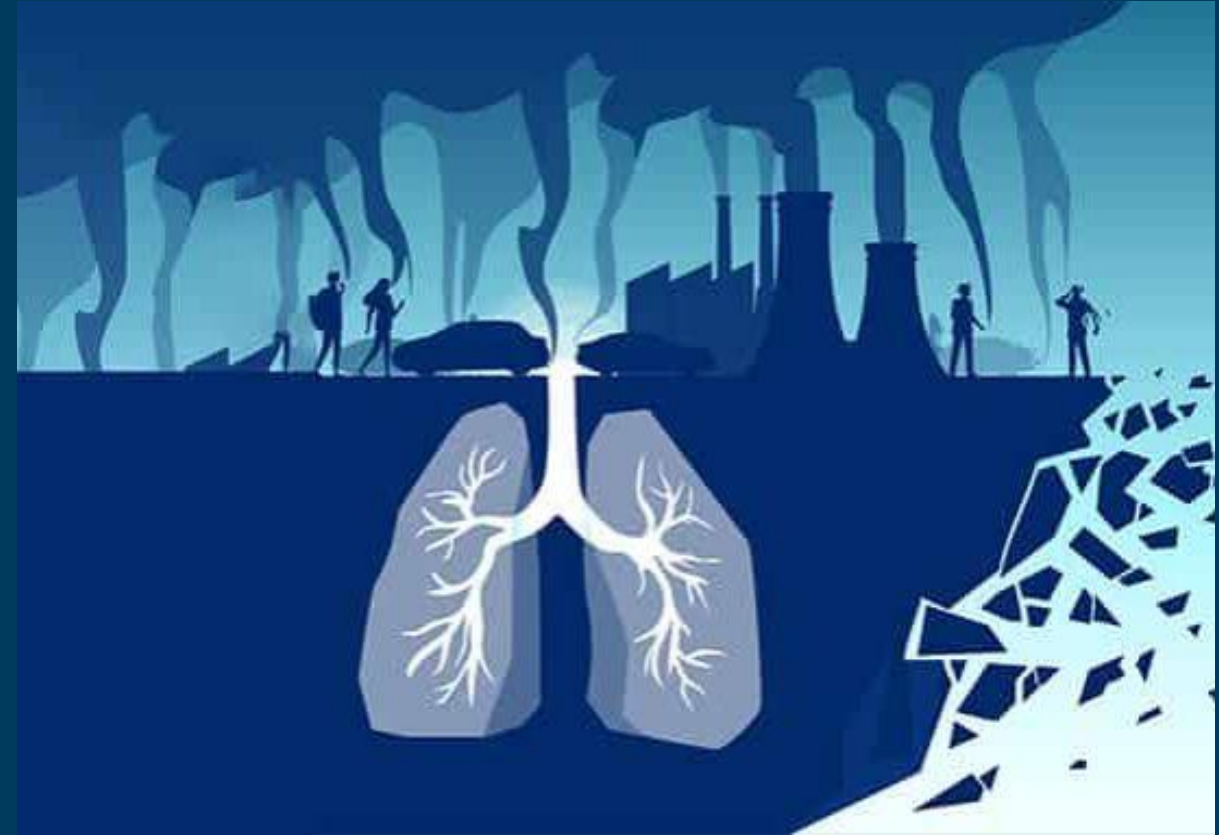
HEALTH ADAPTATION POLICIES

Regulatory Frameworks: Address climate-related risks to safeguard public well-being and environmental integrity.

Access to Healthcare: Ensure timely treatment and support to mitigate climate-induced health risks.

Environmental Health Policies: Reduce vulnerabilities by targeting reductions in pollution and improving living conditions.

Community-Based Health Initiatives: Integrate community knowledge and resources can enhance resilience and empower populations facing climate challenges.



ECOSYSTEM ADAPTATION POLICIES

Protected Areas: Safeguard ecosystems and biodiversity impacted by climate change.

Environmental Impact Assessments: Identify and mitigate potential environmental harms.

Ecosystem-Based Management: Preserve and enhance ecosystem services impacted by climate change while balancing human needs.



A person with blonde hair in a ponytail is seen from behind, holding a wooden stick with a white cardboard sign. The sign has the word "NO" written in large, red, hand-painted letters, and "PLANET B" written in smaller, green, hand-painted letters below it. The background is a large, out-of-focus crowd of people at an outdoor event under a clear blue sky.

NO
PLANET B


THE ART OF
TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION

QUESTIONS?

OUR
HOUSE
IS ON
FIRE!!!

There is
NO
PLANET B

SYSTEM
CHANGE



NOT
CLIMATE
CHANGE!

EY
i



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