

# WNA Worldwide Overview on: Nuclear's Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) Issues and Challenges

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*URAM-2009*





















*Vienna, Austria*

*June 22-26, 2009*



# Qualitative Overview of HSE Issues

## Front-End

	Mining			Milling	Conversion	Enrichment
	Open Pit	U/G mine	ISL			
	U ore	U ore	U solution	U sol/U conc	U form	U form
 <b>Occupational H&amp;S</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazard</li> <li>- Conventional</li> <li>- Chemical</li> <li>- Radioactive</li> <li>- Criticality</li> </ul>	 -  -	  - -	- - - -	  -	  -	 - 
 <b>Environment</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footprint</li> <li>• Hazard</li> <li>- Chemical</li> <li>- Radioactive</li> <li>- Heavy Metals</li> </ul>	 - 	- - - -	-   	  	-   - -	-   - -
 <b>Waste</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLW</li> <li>• ILW</li> <li>• HLW</li> <li>• UNF</li> </ul>	  na na na	 na na na	 na na na	  na na na	- na na na	- na na na

H&S - Health & Safety  
 U/G mine - Underground mine  
 U sol - Uranium solution; U conc - Uranium concentrate  
 LLW - Low level waste  
 ILW - Intermediate level waste  
 HLW - High level waste  
 UNF - Used Nuclear Fuel

# Qualitative Overview of HSE Issues

## Front-End

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### Occupation H&S

- Conventional risk and radiation risk higher for underground mines

### Environment

- Chemical risk higher for conversion and enrichment

### Waste

- LLW amounts higher for open-pits and mill tailings

# Qualitative Overview of HSE Issues

## Nuclear Fuel, Nuclear Power and Back-End

	Fuel Fabrication	Nuclear Power	Reprocessing/Recycling
	UO <sub>2</sub>	U fuel	UNF
<b>Occupational H&amp;S</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazard               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conventional</li> <li>- Chemical</li> <li>- Radioactive</li> <li>- Criticality</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -
<b>Environment</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footprint</li> <li>• Hazard               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chemical</li> <li>- Radioactive</li> <li>- Heavy Metals</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -
<b>Waste</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LLW</li> <li>• ILW</li> <li>• HLW</li> <li>• UNF</li> </ul>	- na na na	- - na na	- - na na

# Qualitative Overview of HSE Issues

## Nuclear Fuel, Nuclear Power and Back-End

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### Occupation H&S

- Radiation risk higher for nuclear power and reprocessing/recycling

### Environment

- Nothing particular

### Waste

- Risk higher for used nuclear fuel (though not a waste) and for HLW

# HSE Issues Outlook

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**No key HSE issues are foreseen for the global expansion of nuclear fuel cycle and power**

- Greater performance is expected from plant upgrades and new plants

**Overcoming a few key HSE challenges would greatly facilitate this expansion**

# HSE Challenges

## 1. World Challenge on Environmental-Health Protection

- a) Reality check: Main HSE Drivers
- b) Reality check: Energy->Climate Change->HSE
- c) Overall protection benefits from nuclear energy in this challenge

## 2. Reposition already safe nuclear technologies as the Main Driver for the deployment of nuclear energy

- No need for *a priori* set safety criteria that unduly challenge technologies beyond the notion of protection

## 3. Convey integrated HSE management - including an harmonized and integrated set of IAEA safety standards

# HSE Challenges

## 4. Fix imbalanced RP policies for public exposure at very low doses (<1mSv/y)

- RP stringency for nuclear industry only is not sound

## 5. Clearer Communications on:

- Major nuclear accident
- Radiation risk
- Nuclear waste
- Non-proliferation

There are high public expectations that nuclear industry management can clearly articulate “easy to understand” views on these topics

## 6. Better address new uranium projects in countries without sufficiently developed regulatory regimes



# HSE Challenges

## 1a. Reality Check: Main HSE Drivers

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1. **Climate change**

2. Air pollution (all kinds)

3. Water pollution (all kinds)

4. Intense industrial activities (chemical, oil/gas, agriculture, fishery, forestry, etc.)

5. Urban developments

...

100 th? **Exposure to radiation** => localised and inconsequential

'n' th? **Nuclear waste management and disposal** => “ “ “ “

# HSE Challenges

## 1b. Reality Check: Energy & Climate Change-HSE

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What do you know about the world challenge on **Energy & Climate Change**, and the related planet-wide public health and environmental protection consequences?

- Clearer views, especially on the realistic orientations to take on board for progressing, is paramount
- Due to the urgency to act, cannot afford to hide behind dogma, or to only offer ambiguous and superficial views

# The **Biggest** Broad Challenge

A new challenging era

We are in a new era where growing

**Energy needs**

**Environmental &  
Health Issues**

are the key challenges...

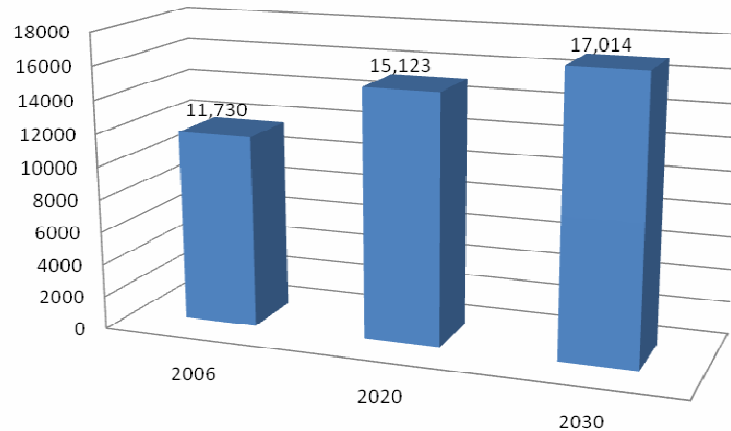
...the two are closely interconnected...

... Energy & Climate Change and  
Environmental-Health Issues  
must be tackled together

# The **Biggest** Broad Challenge

Securing energy and electricity generation supplies over the long term

**Total Primary Energy Demand (Mtoe)**



Average growth (2006-2030)  $\approx$  1.6% per year

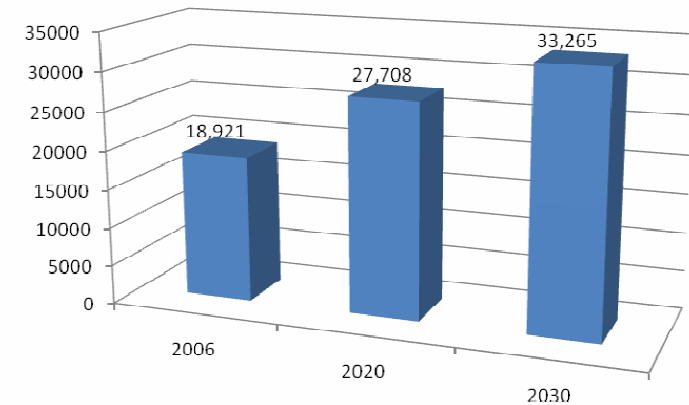
**+45% over 2006-2030 from  $\approx$  12,000 to 17,000 Mtoe**

**World population:**

**1950: 2.5 billions; 2009: 6+ billions; 2050: 9 billions**

Mtoe - Million tonnes of oil equivalent  
TWh - Terawatt hour

**World Electricity Generation (TWh)**



Average growth (2006-2030)  $\approx$  2.5% per year

**+75% over 2006-2030 from  $\approx$  19,000 to 33,000 TWh**

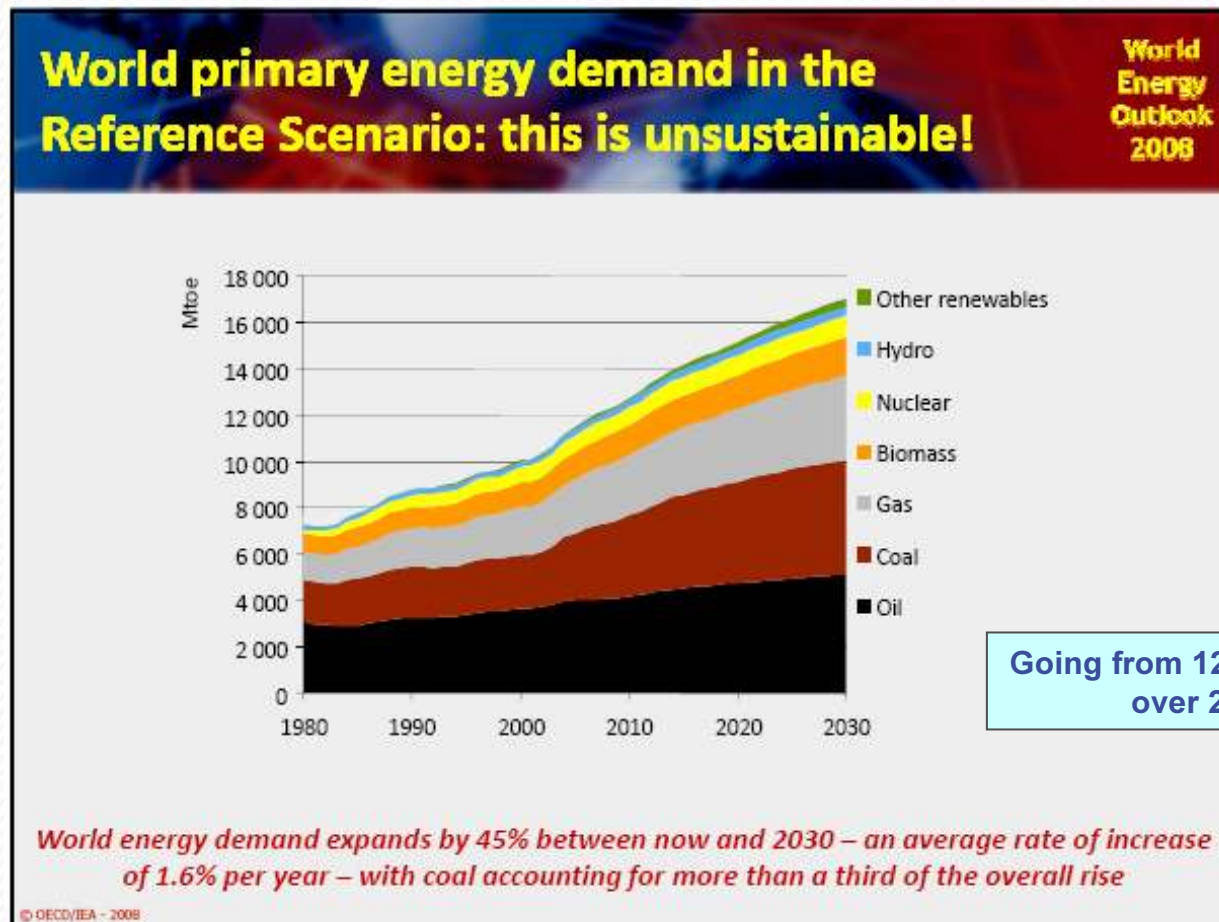
Source: International Energy Agency (IEA) 2008, Reference Scenario



# The **Biggest** Broad Challenge

Securing energy and electricity generation supplies over the long term

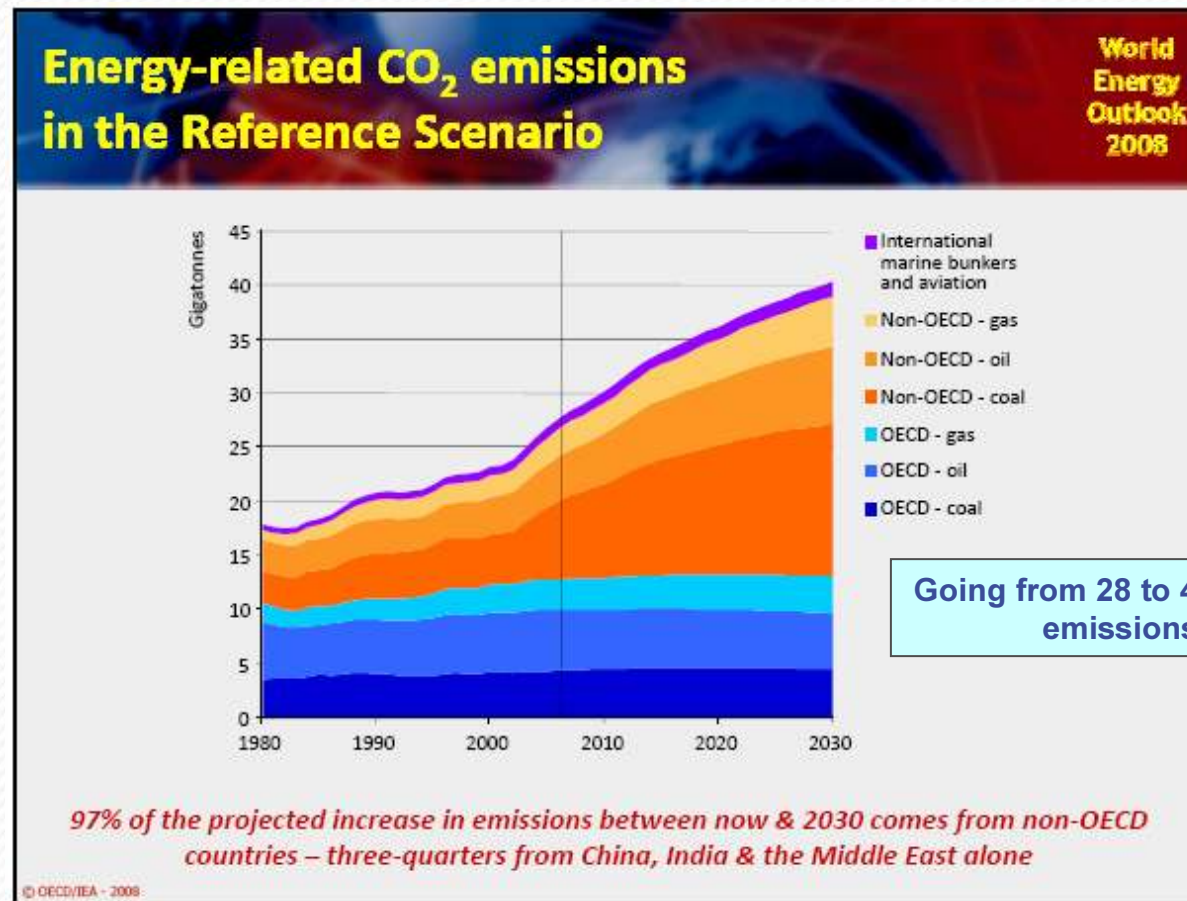
International Energy Agency's Press Presentation: 4/12/08



# The **Biggest** Broad Challenge

Securing energy and electricity generation demands over the long term

IEA's Presentation to Press: 4/12/08



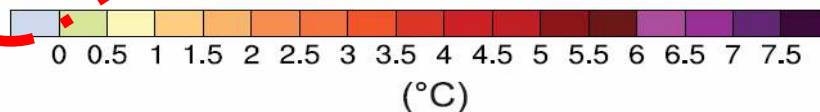
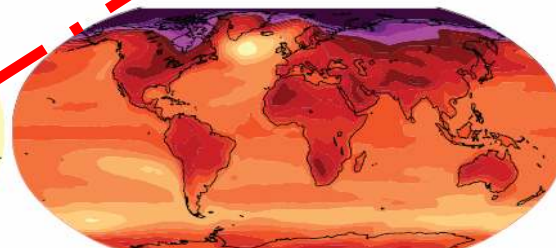
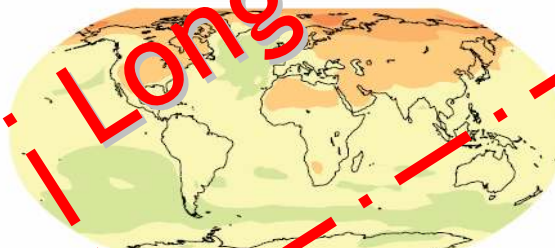
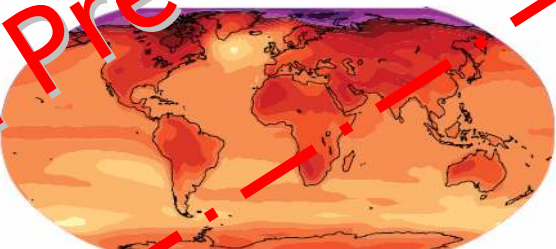
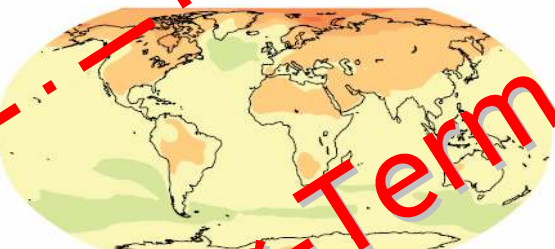
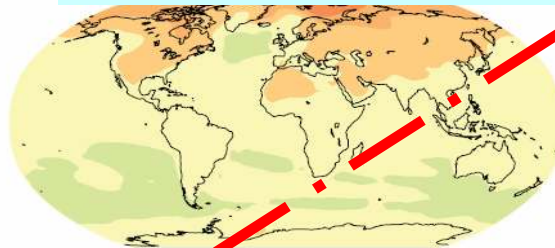
# The **Biggest** Broad Challenge

## Long-term Climate Change Consequences from Greenhouse Gases

### PROJECTIONS OF SURFACE TEMPERATURES

2020 – 2029 ≈ current

2090-2099 ≈ 100 years



Scenario B1



Scenario A1B

Scenario A2

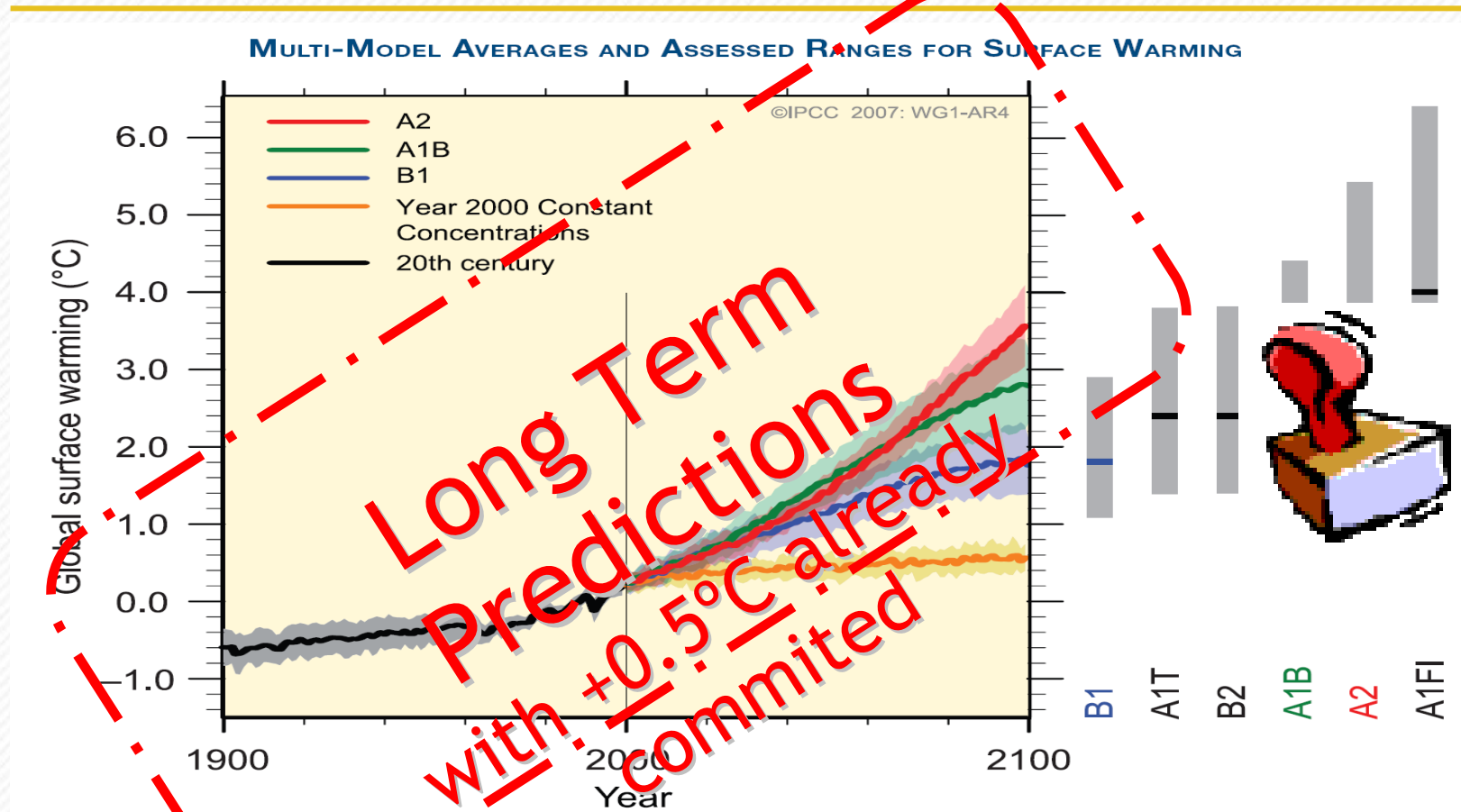
©IPCC 2007: WG1-AR4



Long-Term Predictions

# The **Biggest** Broad Challenge

## Long-term Climate Change Consequences from Greenhouse Gases



Source: IPCC AR4



# In the nearer term, let's also not forget air quality

Already quite deteriorated in many major cities (1 - 10+ M people)

Frequent heavy smog that can just get worse if GHG continue growing



A reminder of history: London 1954 Big Smog due to heavy coal combustion (1+ M people)

Just 4 days of a cold big smog  
8,000 fatalities in the following weeks and months

Already occurred

# World Challenge on Energy & Environment-Health

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At the core of this **World Challenge**:

1. Choices in low-carbon Energy Sources

2. Climate Change

3. Environmental and Health Protection

International organisations such as the **UN** and the **OECD** as well as governments are urged to act/help

- **UN/IAEA** and **OECD/NEA** are of particular relevance for nuclear energy

UN - United Nations

IAEA - UN's International Atomic Energy Agency

OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

NEA - OECD's Nuclear Energy Agency



# World Challenge on Energy & Environment-Health

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## Main outcomes of the:

- **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**
  - Series of comprehensive studies
  - <http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/assessments-reports.htm>
- **International Energy Agency (IEA)**
  - World Energy Outlook 2008
  - <http://www.worldenergyoutlook.org/>

Recognizing that such comprehensive knowledge is fundamental to overall efficiency in planet-wide human health and environmental protection

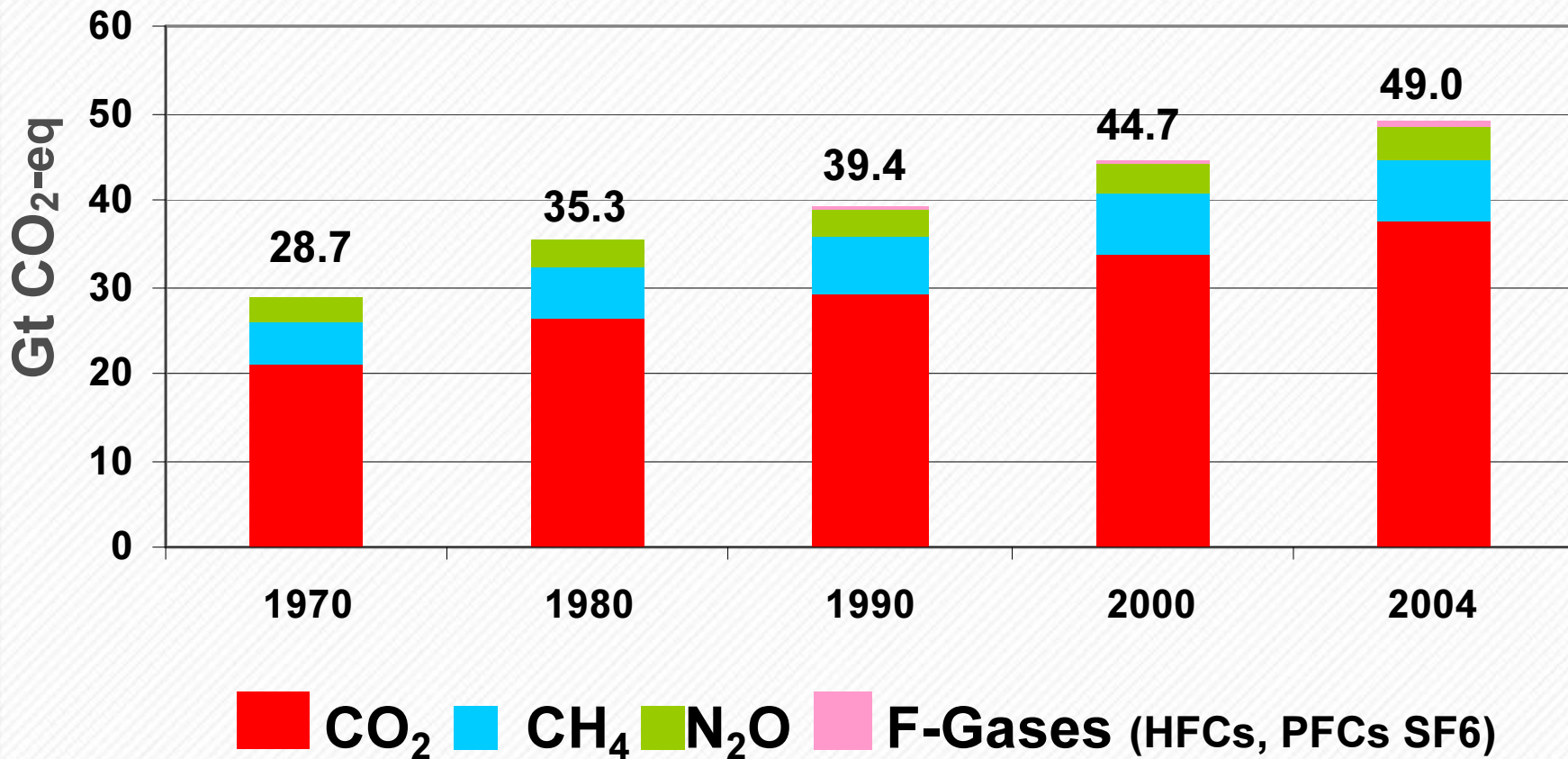
# IPCC Statements

## Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

### Over Two Decades, a Series of 4 Key IPCC Comprehensive Studies

- 1) **FAR 1990**: “*little* observational evidence of a *detectable anthropogenic influence* on climate”
- 2) **SAR 1995**: “The balance of evidence suggests a *discernible human influence* on the climate of the 20th century.”
- 3) **TAR 2001**: “There is new and stronger evidence that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is *attributable to human activities*.”
- 4) **AR4 2007**: “Warming of the climate system is *unequivocal*, as is now evident from observations of increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice, and rising global average sea level”.

# 1970-2004: Anthropogenic GHG Emissions

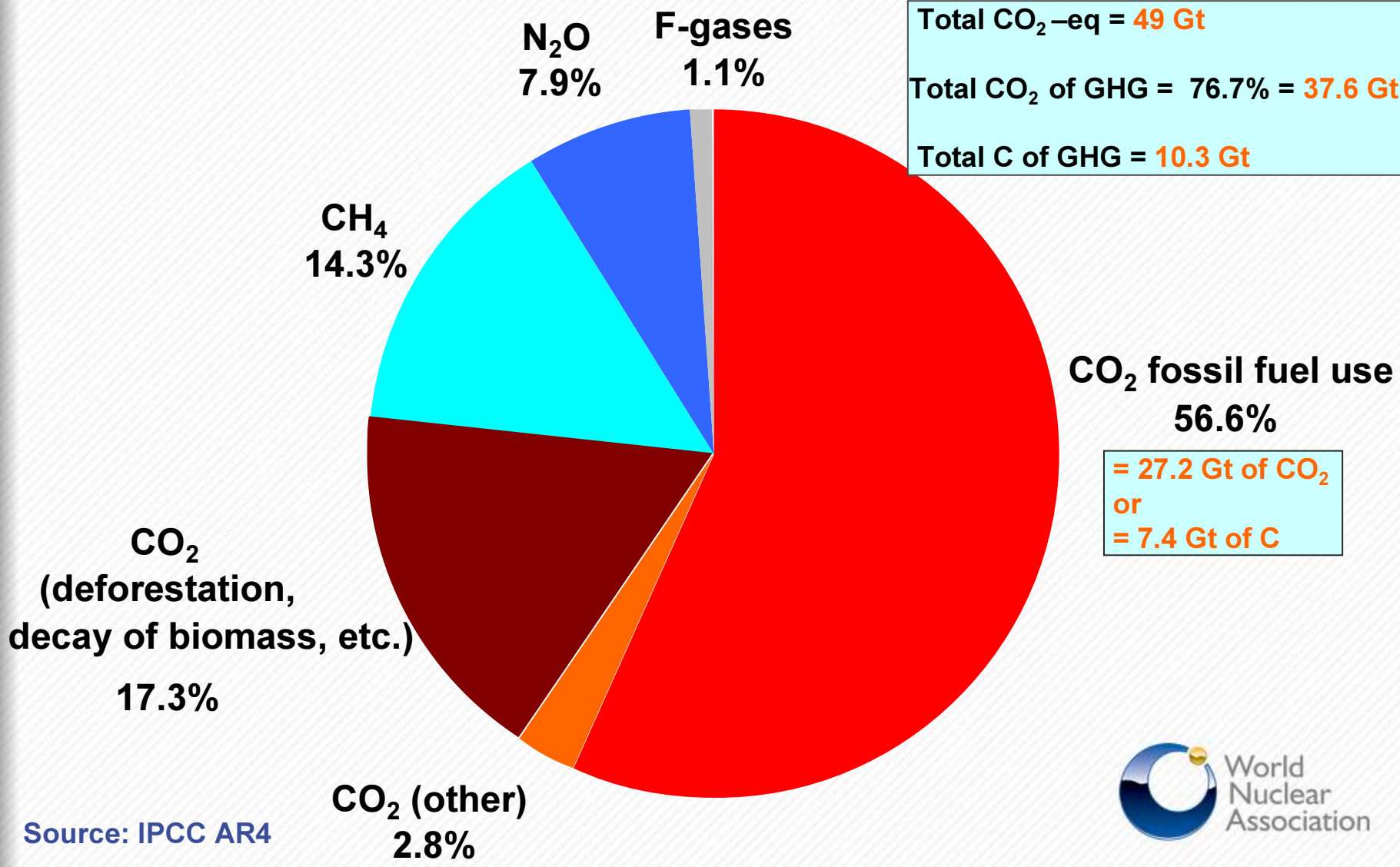


Gt : Gega tonnes = 1 billion tonnes; GHG: Greenhouse Gases

Source: IPCC AR4



# 2004 Anthropogenic GHG Emissions by GHG

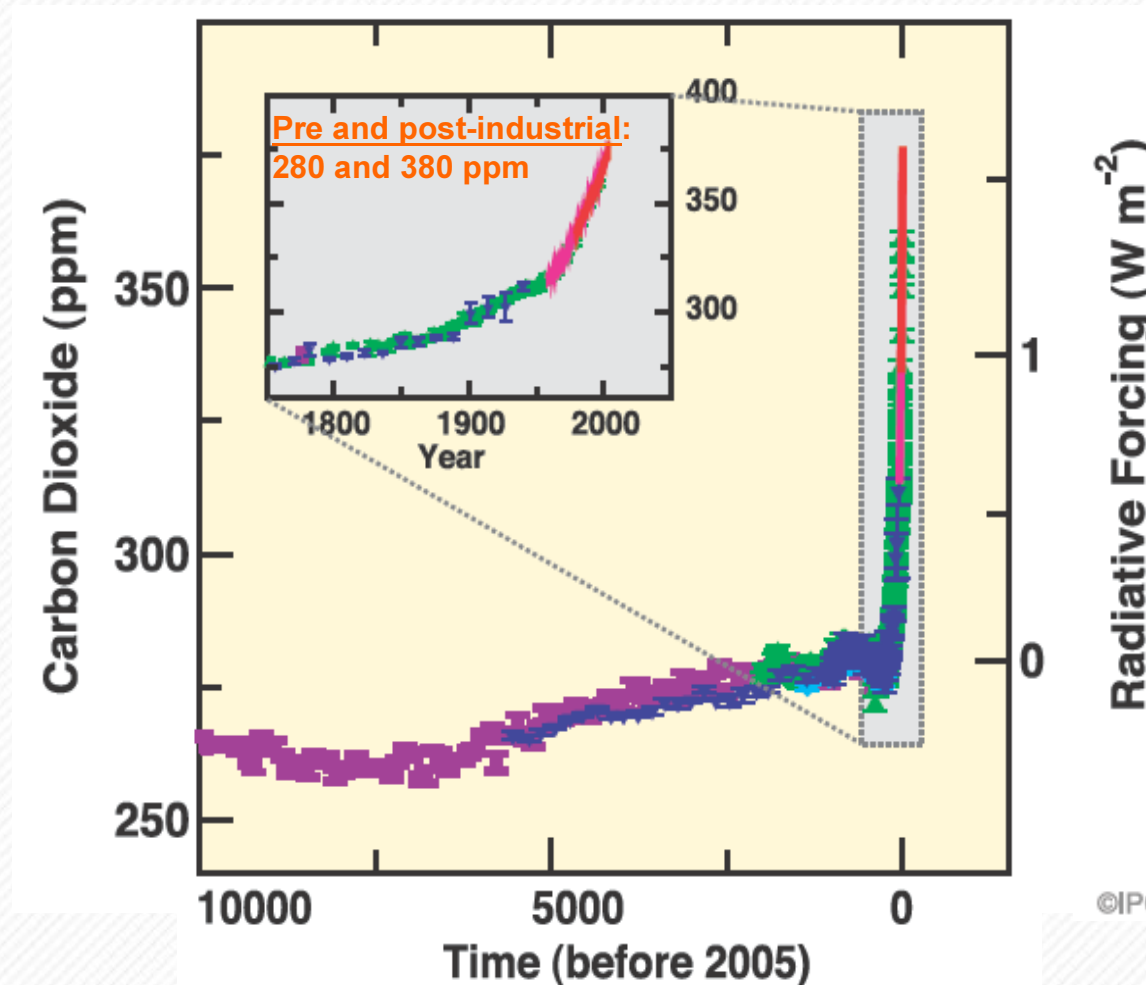


Source: IPCC AR4



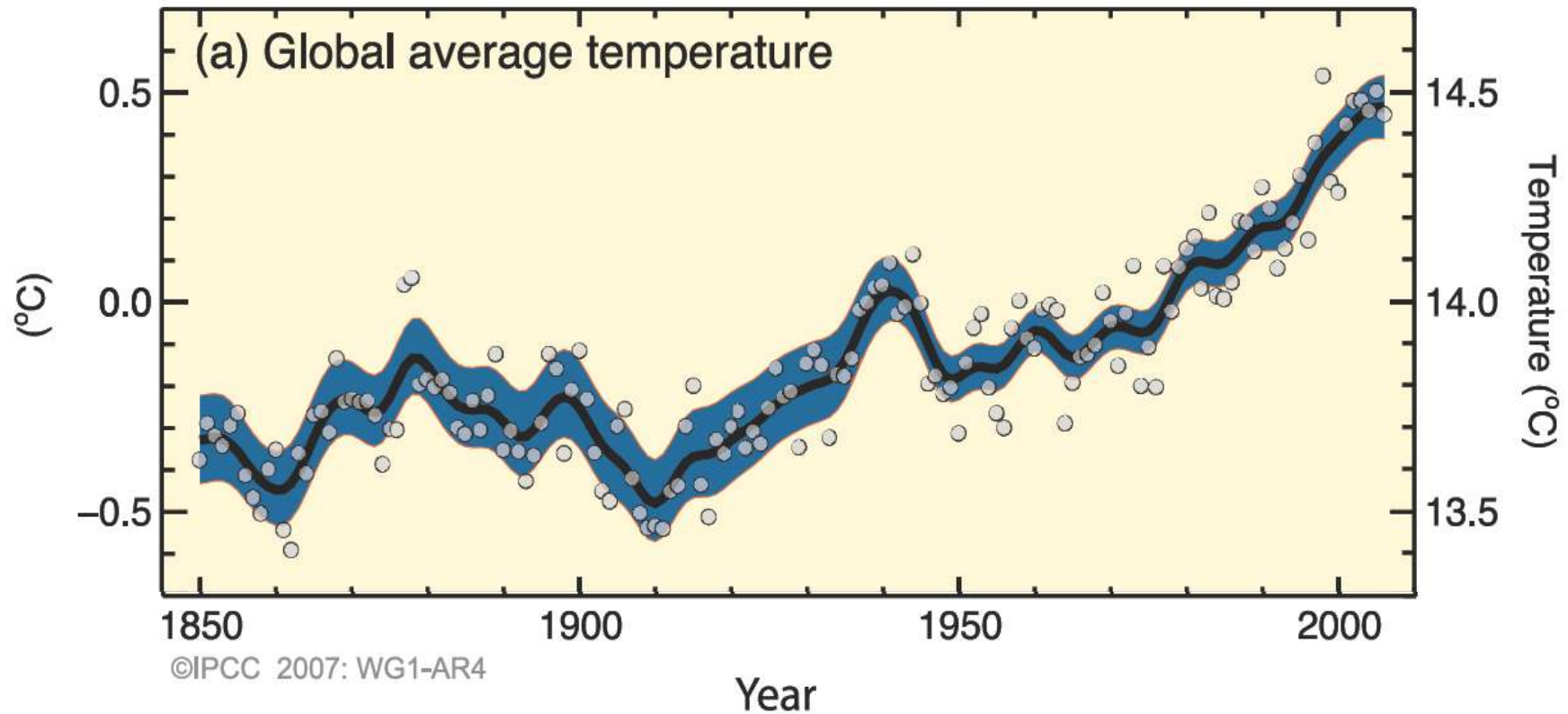
# Observed Trends: Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations

## Changes in CO<sub>2</sub> from ice core and modern data



©IPCC 2007: WG1-AR4

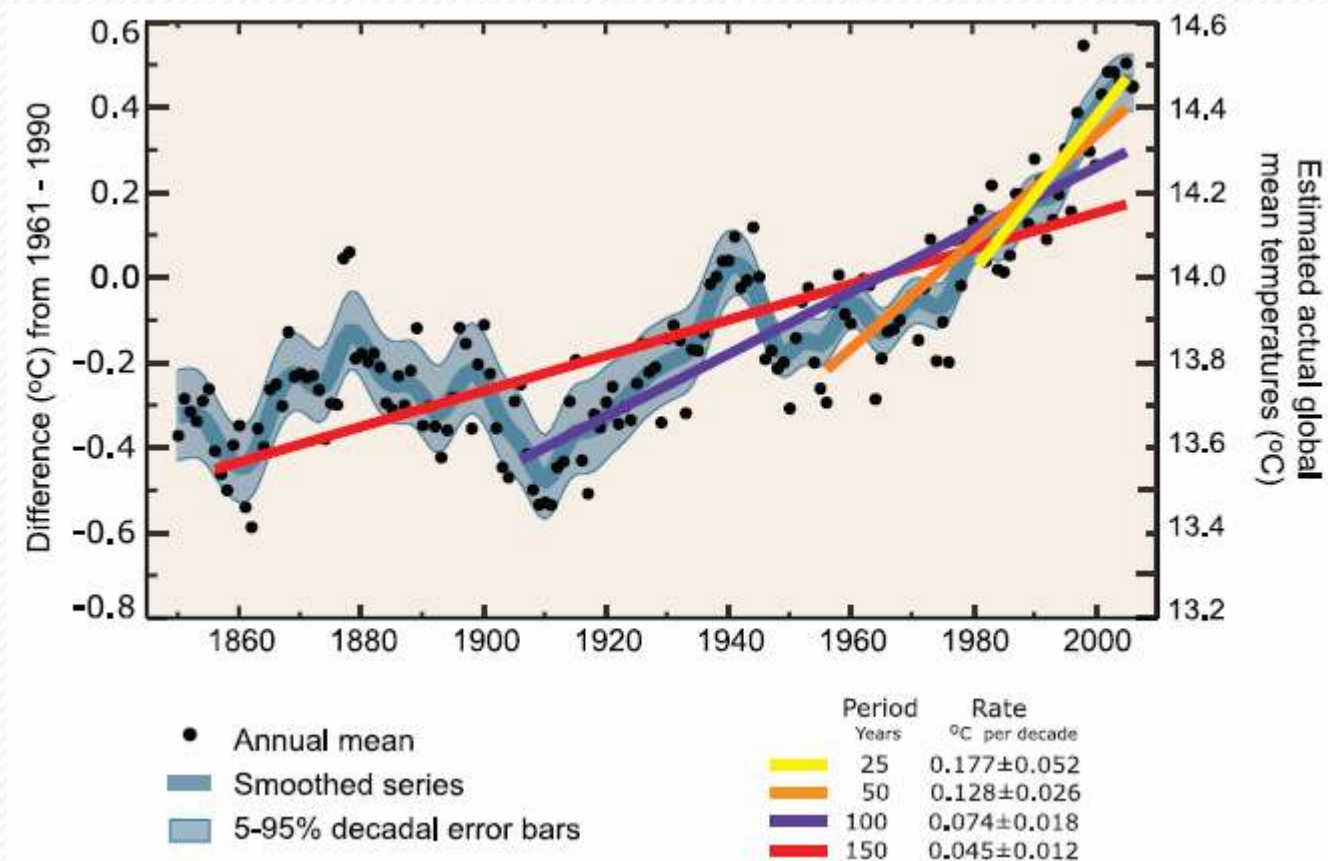
## Observed Trends: Global Average Mean Temperature



Approximate temperature increase since 1900  $\approx 0.7^{\circ}\text{C}$



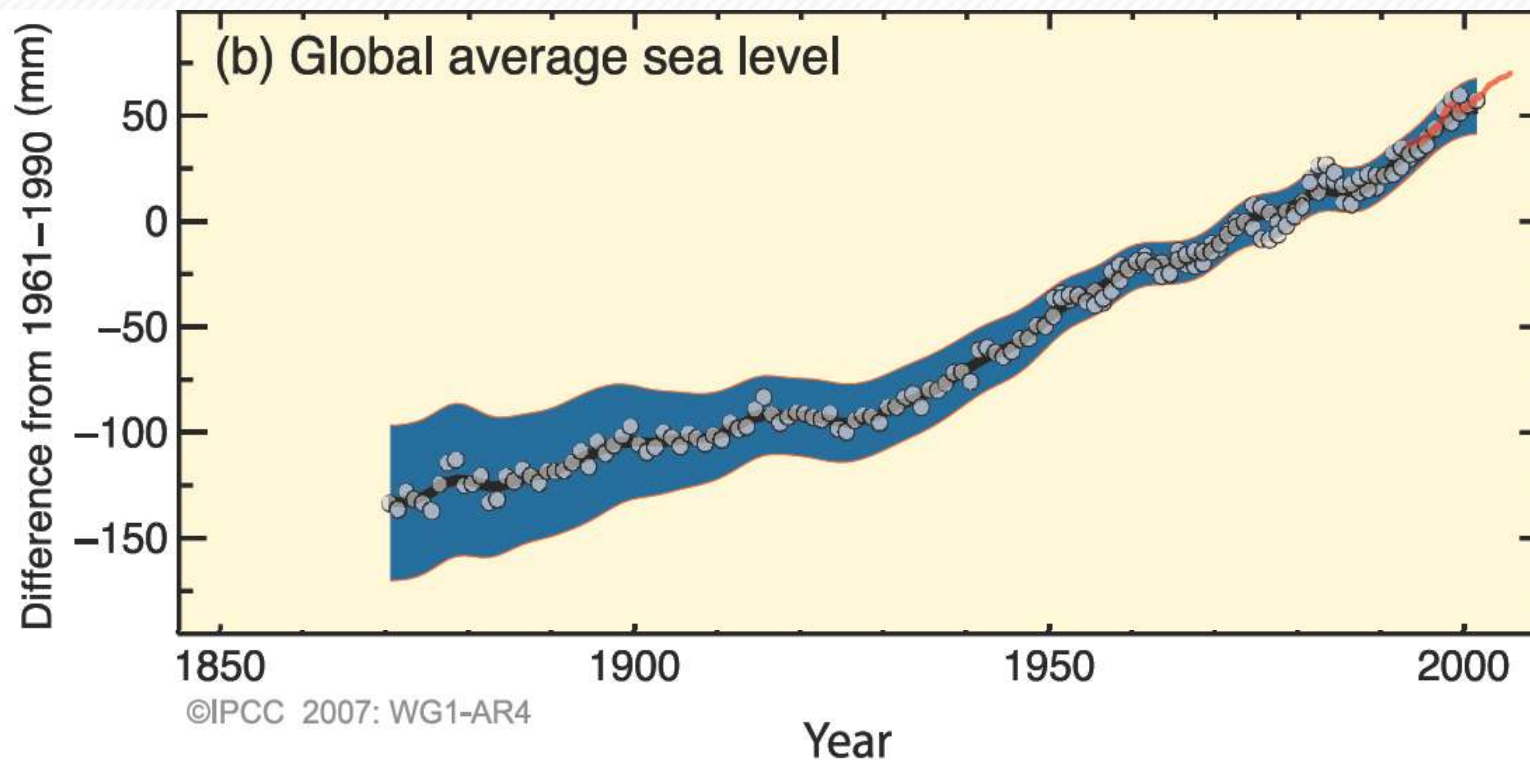
# Observed Trends: Global Average Mean Temperature



Rate of temperature increase (per decade) is much higher for last 25 years:

- Absolute increase of 0.5-0.6°C; increase rate now at 0.177°C per decade

## Observed Trends: Global Average Sea Level



20<sup>th</sup> century estimates show that global average sea level rose at a rate of **1.7 mm/yr**.

Based on more global and accurate data, since 1993 sea level has been rising at a rate of **3 mm/yr**

# Predictions: Increased Global Mean Temperature

Best estimate and ranges = Function (GHG atmospheric concentration)

Equilibrium CO <sub>2</sub> -eq (ppm)	Temperature Increase (°C)		
	Best Estimate	<i>Very Likely</i> Above	<i>Likely</i> in the Range
350	1.0	0.5	0.6–1.4
450	2.1	1.0	1.4–3.1
550	2.9	1.5	1.9–4.4
650	3.6	1.8	2.4–5.5
750	4.3	2.1	2.8–6.4
1000	5.5	2.8	3.7–8.3
1200	6.3	3.1	4.2–9.4

**+2° C at 450 ppm, +3°C at 550 ppm**



# Predictions: Sea Level Rise

Function of global mean temperature (best estimate and ranges)

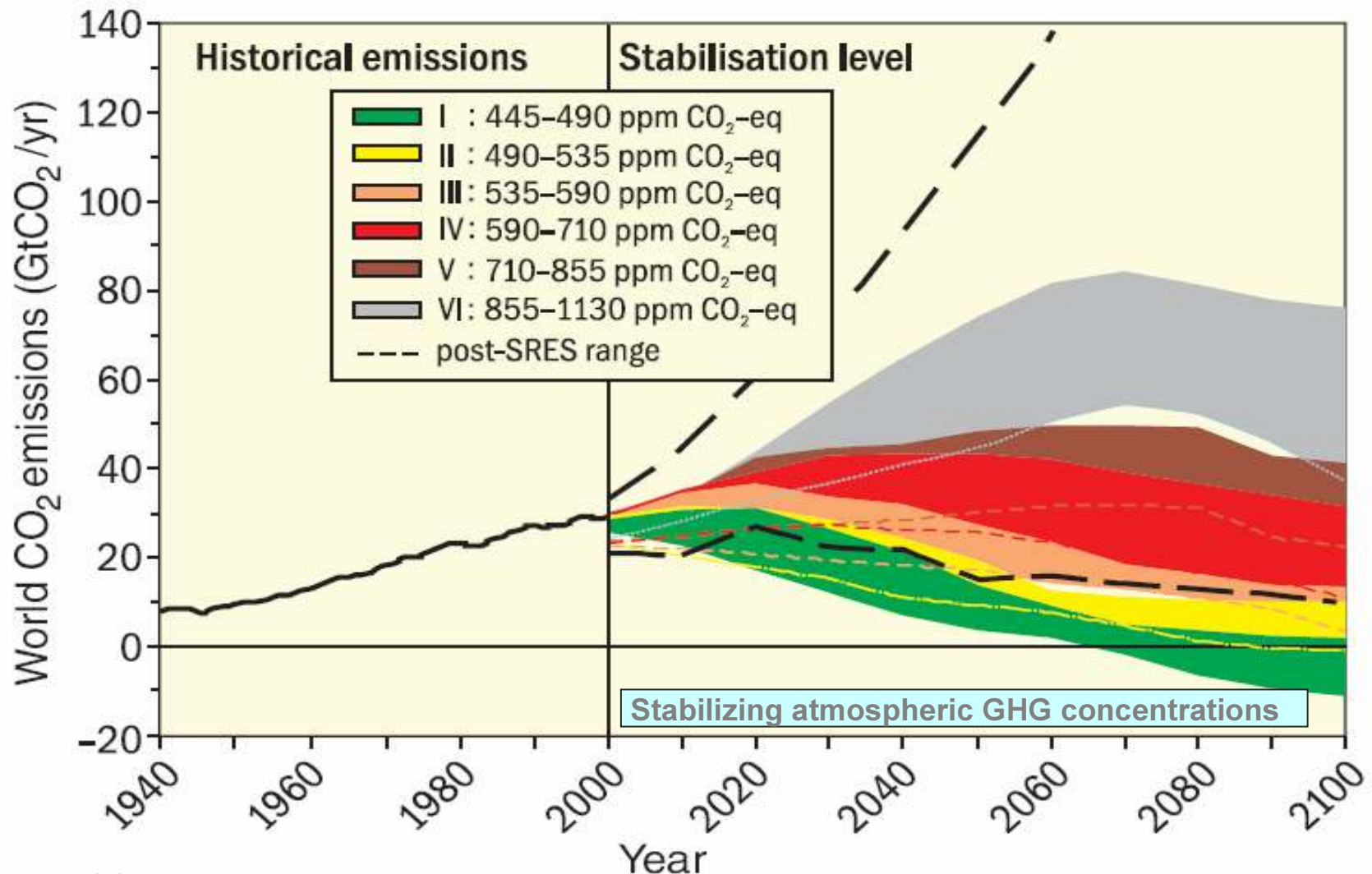
Case	Temperature Change (°C at 2090-2099 relative to 1980-1999) <sup>a</sup>		Sea Level Rise (m at 2090-2099 relative to 1980-1999)
	Best estimate	Likely range	Model-based range excluding future rapid dynamical changes in ice flow
Constant Year 2000 concentrations <sup>b</sup>	0.6	0.3 – 0.9	NA
B1 scenario	1.8	1.1 – 2.9	0.18 – 0.38
A1T scenario	2.4	1.4 – 3.8	0.20 – 0.45
B2 scenario	2.4	1.4 – 3.8	0.20 – 0.43
A1B scenario	2.8	1.7 – 4.4	0.21 – 0.48
A2 scenario	3.4	2.0 – 5.4	0.23 – 0.51
A1FI scenario	4.0	2.4 – 6.4	0.26 – 0.59

**+0.2 to 0.6 metres ( ≈ 100 years relative to currently)!**

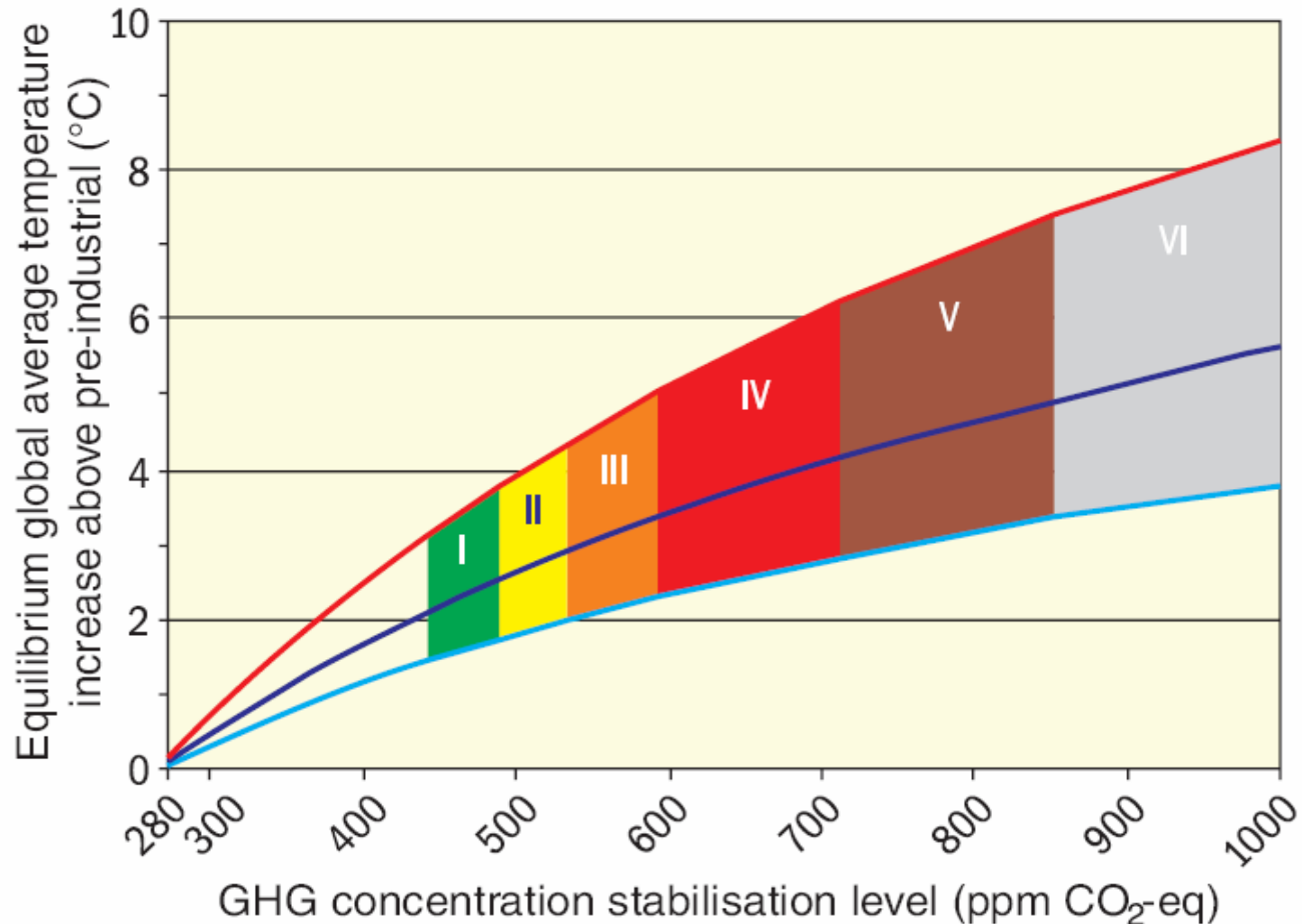
Source: IPCC AR4



# Past and Future CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Evolution Paths = Function (Atmospheric GHG Concentrations: CO<sub>2</sub> eq.)



# Predictions: Temperature Rise = Function (Atmospheric GHG Concentrations: CO<sub>2</sub> eq.)



# World Energy Outlook 2008

International Energy Agency - Press Presentation 4/12/08

*Future of human prosperity depends on how successful we tackle two central challenges*

- *Securing the supply of reliable and affordable energy*
- *Effecting a rapid transformation to a low-carbon, efficient and environmentally benign system of energy supply*

*Preserving catastrophic and irreversible damage to the global climate ultimately requires a major decarbonisation of the world energy*

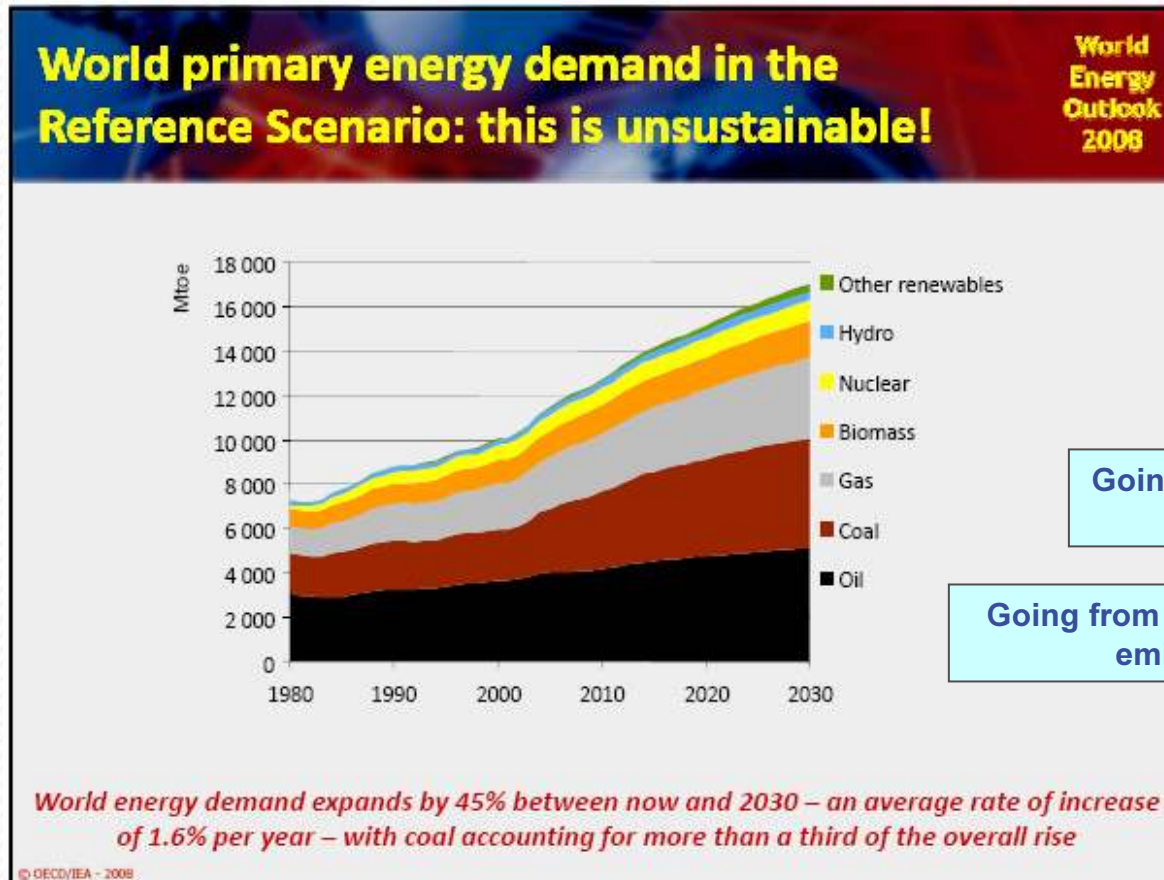
*The 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties, to be held in Copenhagen in November 2009 (Nov 30-Dec11), provides a vital opportunity to negotiate a new global climate-change policy regime for beyond 2012*



# World Energy Outlook 2008

IEA Presentation to Press: 4/12/08

Primary energy demand and CO<sub>2</sub> energy-related emissions are unsustainable

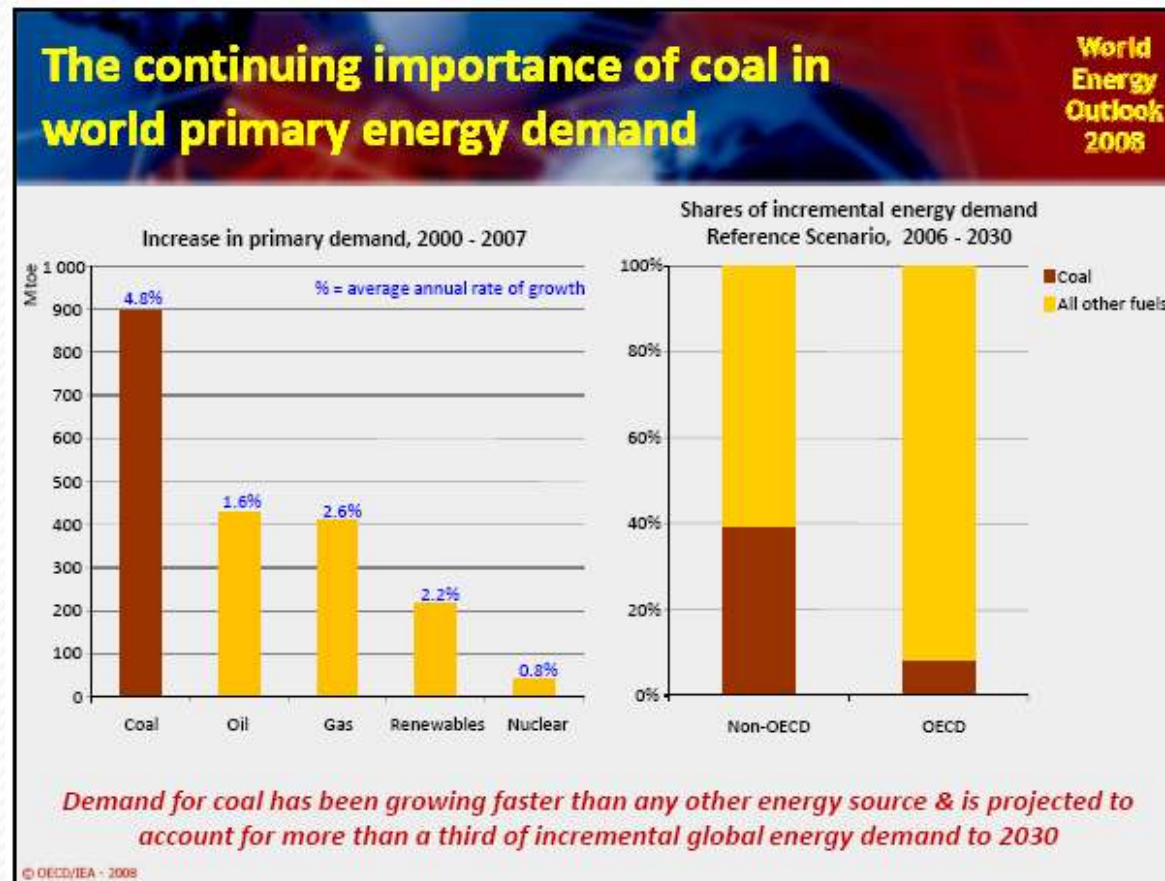




# World Energy Outlook 2008

IEA Presentation to Press: 4/12/2008

Increase in primary energy demand:  
=> Coal and Non-OECD countries prevail



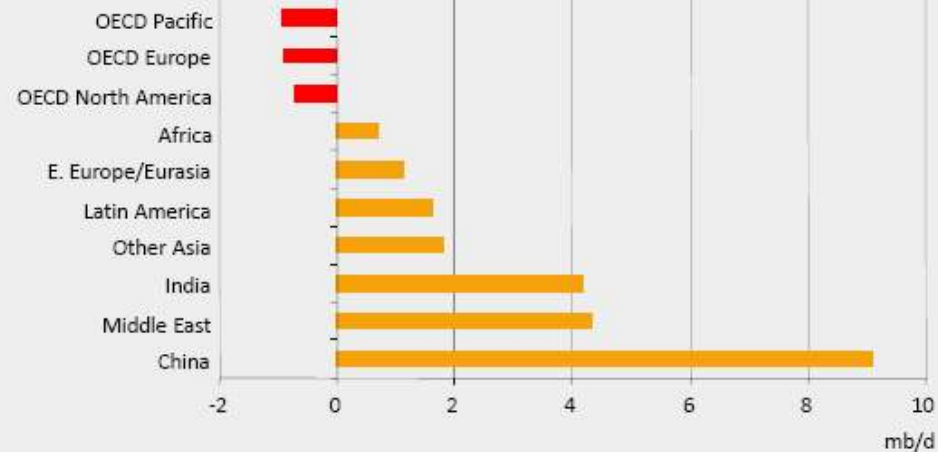
# World Energy Outlook 2008

IEA Presentation to Press: 4/12/2008

## Oil demand driven by China, Middle East and India

### Change in oil demand by region in the Reference Scenario, 2007-2030

World  
Energy  
Outlook  
2008



*All of the growth in oil demand comes from non-OECD, with China contributing 43%, the Middle East & India each about 20% & other emerging Asian economies most of the rest*

© OECD/IEA - 2008

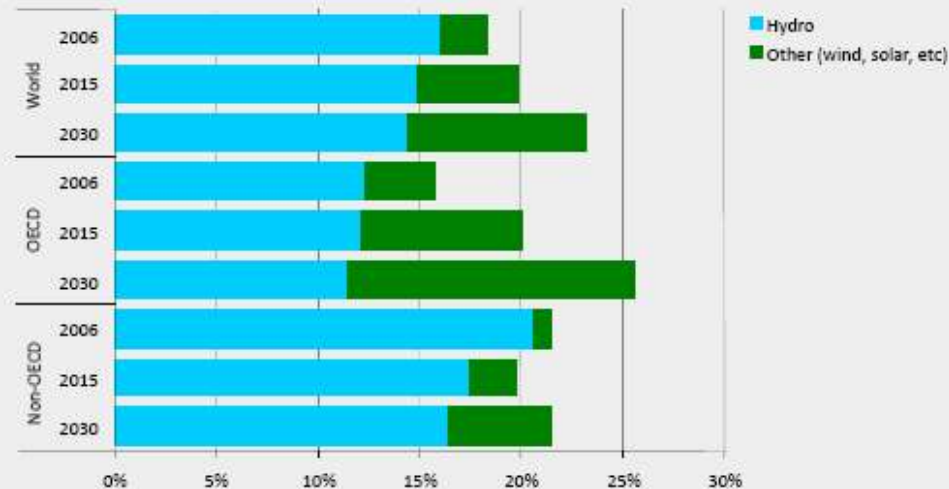
# World Energy Outlook 2008

IEA Presentation to Press: 4/12/2008

Renewable: Most of it is hydro (10-20% of electricity generation) and the rest is much smaller (<<10%)

## Share of renewables in electricity generation in the Reference Scenario

World Energy Outlook 2008



*Soon after 2010, renewables become the 2<sup>nd</sup>-largest source of electricity behind coal, thanks to government support, prospects for higher fossil-fuel prices & declining investment costs*

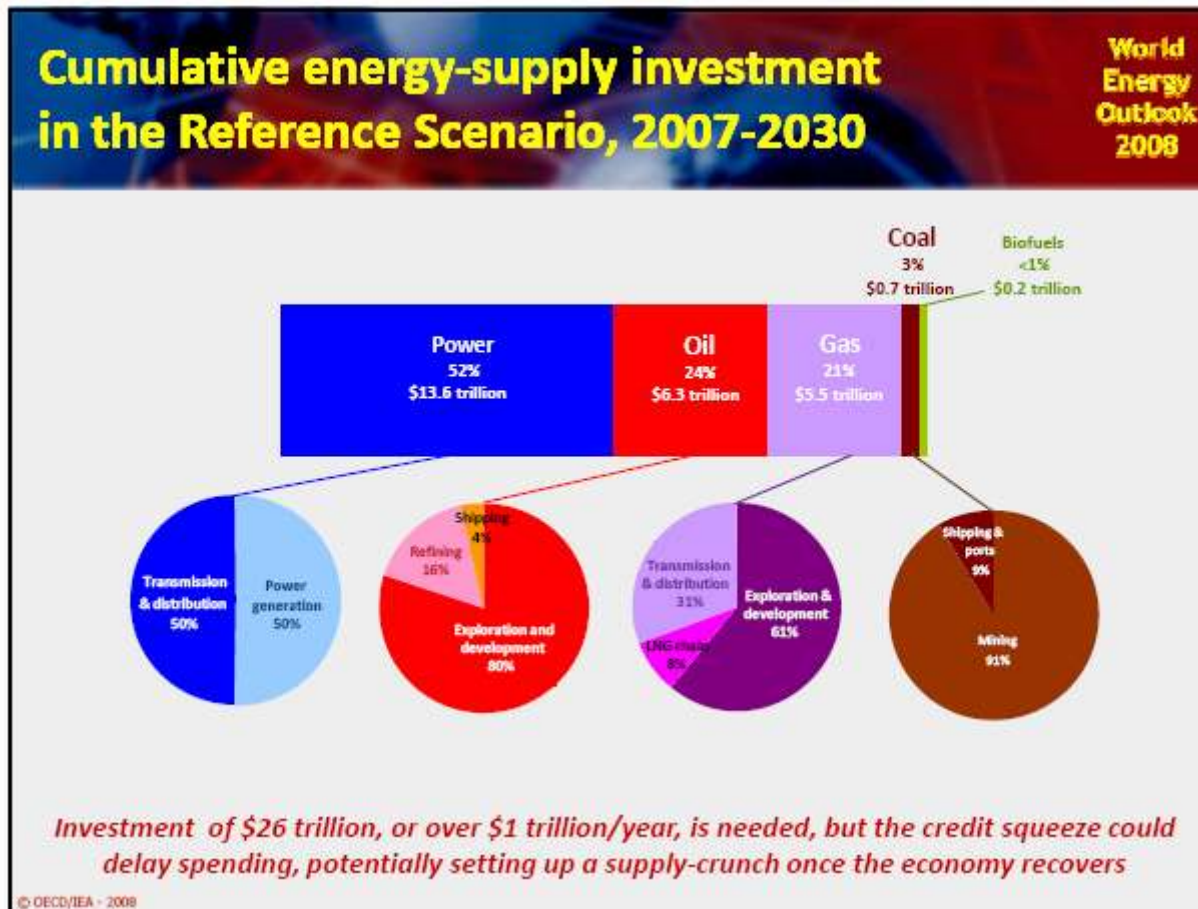
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# World Energy Outlook 2008

IEA Presentation to Press: 4/12/2008

**+\$26 trillion of investment ( $\approx$  50% in power)**



# World Energy Outlook 2008

## IEA Presentation to Press: 4/12/2008

### Three scenarios considered over 2006-2030:

- 1) fossil-fuel “business as usual” energy growth
- 2) 550 and 450 ppm: stabilization of atmospheric CO2 concentrations

	Reference Scenario	550 ppm Scenario	450 ppm Scenario
Primary energy demand (2006-2030)	+1.6%/y	+1.2%/y	+0.8%/y
Temperature increase (->2100)	Up to +6°C	+3°C	+2°C
CO2 energy-related emissions by 2030	41 Gt	33 Gt	26Gt
Carbone capture and storage (CCS) by 2030	negligible	160 Gw	350 Gw

# World Energy Outlook 2008

IEA Presentation to Press: 4/12/2008

Two scenarios considered to stabilize CO<sub>2</sub> atmospheric concentrations: ie. **550** and **450 ppm**

## Key results of the post-2012 climate-policy analysis

World  
Energy  
Outlook  
2008

### 550 Policy Scenario

- Corresponds to a c.3°C global temperature rise
- Energy demand continues to expand, but fuel mix is markedly different
- CO<sub>2</sub> price in OECD countries reaches \$90/tonne in 2030
- Additional investment equal to 0.25% of GDP

### 450 Policy Scenario

- Corresponds to a c.2°C global temperature rise
- Energy demand grows, but half as fast as in Reference Scenario
- Rapid deployment of low-carbon technologies – particularly CCS
- Big fall in non-OECD emissions
- CO<sub>2</sub> price in 2030 reaches \$180/tonne
- Additional investment equal to 0.6% of GDP

# World Energy Outlook 2008

IEA Presentation to Press: 4/12/2008

A major decarbonisation of the world's energy system is needed. The Copenhagen conference (Nov-Dec 09) must deliver a credible post-2012 climate regime

## Summary & conclusions

World  
Energy  
Outlook  
2008

- Current energy trends are patently unsustainable — socially, environmentally, economically
- Oil will remain the leading energy source but...
  - > *The era of cheap oil is over, although price volatility will remain*
  - > *Oilfield decline is the key determinant of investment needs*
  - > *The oil market is undergoing major and lasting structural change, with national companies in the ascendancy*
- To avoid "abrupt and irreversible" climate change we need a major decarbonisation of the world's energy system
  - > *Copenhagen must deliver a credible post-2012 climate regime*
  - > *Limiting temperature rise to 2 °C will require significant emission reductions in all regions & technological breakthroughs*
  - > *Mitigating climate change will substantially improve energy security*
- The present economic worries do not excuse back-tracking or delays in taking action to address energy challenges

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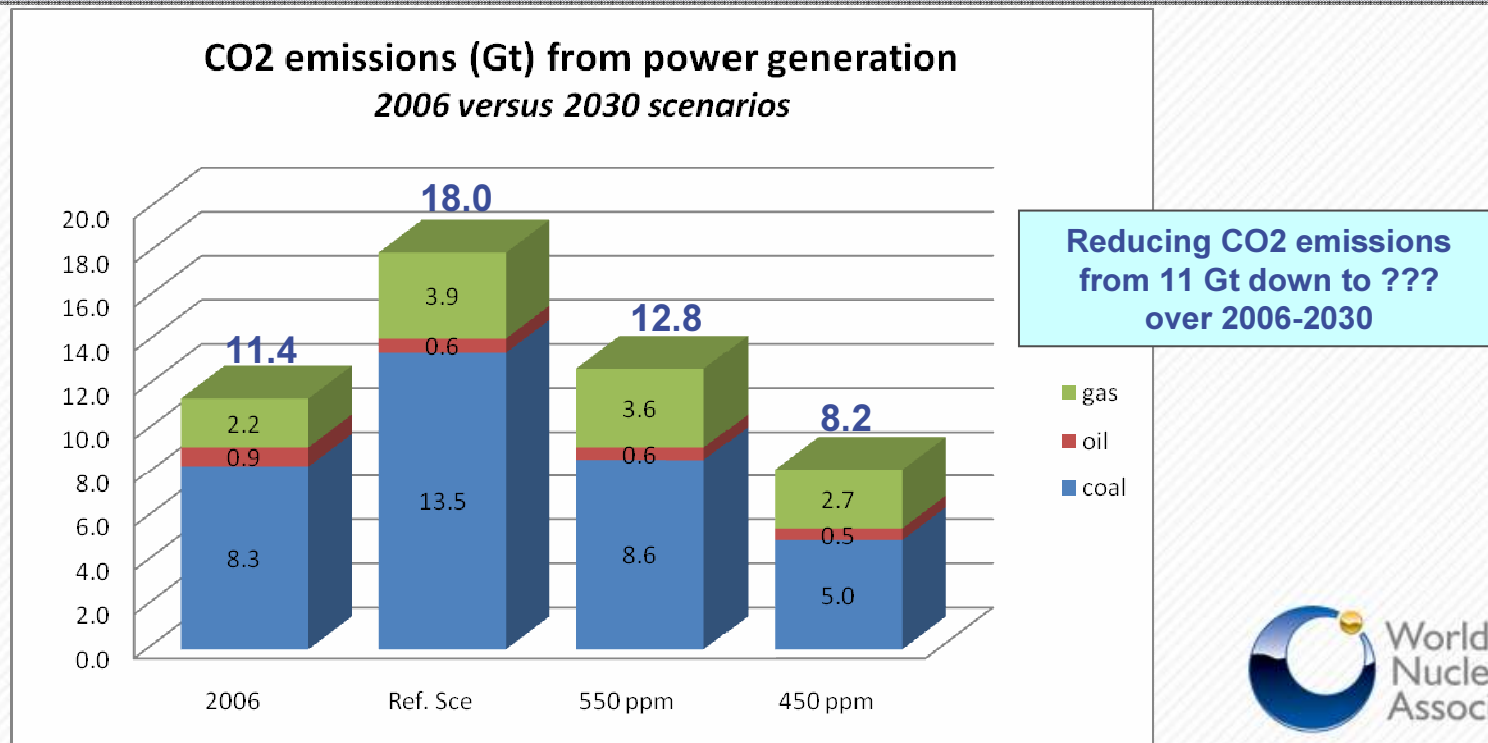


# World Energy Outlook 2008

## Power generation - CO2 emissions

With 41% of CO2 energy-related emissions (2006), power generation mix offer CO2 reduction opportunities

In short, this change means more renewable and nuclear, with less fossil fuel (CCS equipped)



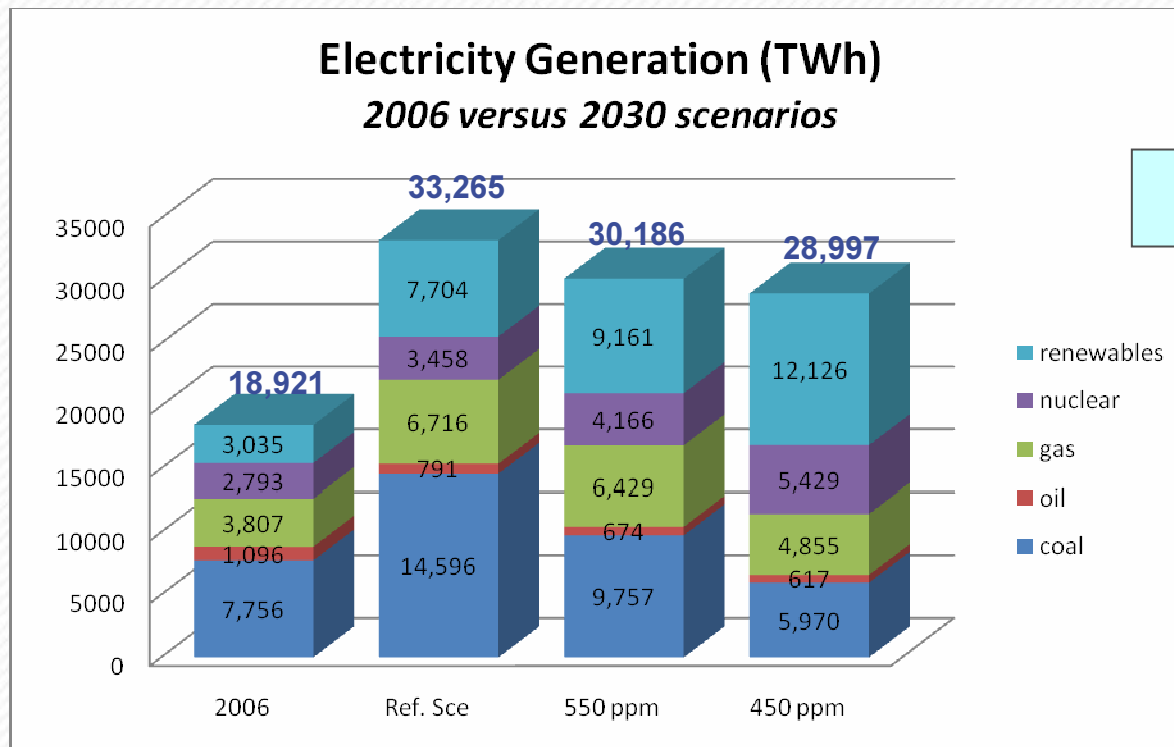


# World Energy Outlook 2008

## Power generation - Delivered

To achieve CO2 reduction by 2030, nuclear and renewable will increase, and fossil fuel will stay flat or decrease

The upside is more limited for hydro than nuclear



Going from  $\approx 19,000$  to  $30,000$  TWh over 2006 to 2030

Over 2006-2030:  
 Renewable  $\approx \times 4$   
 Nuclear  $\approx \times 2$   
 Fossil fuel  $\approx$  flat

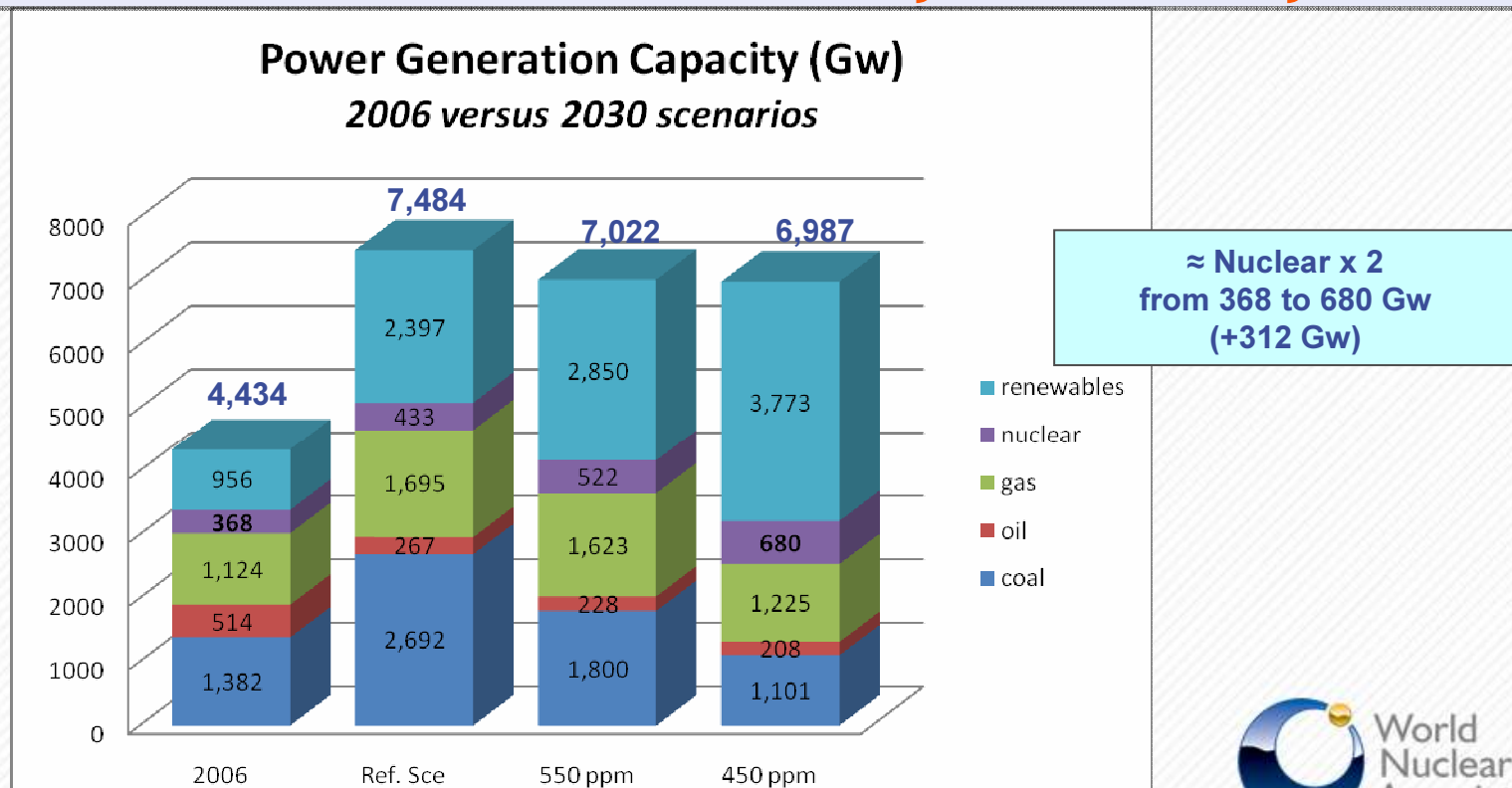


# World Energy Outlook 2008

## Power generation - Capacity

To achieve CO2 reduction by 2030, nuclear and renewable will increase, and fossil fuel will stay flat or decrease

**An extra 312 Gw of nuclear is already foreseen by IEA**



# World Energy Outlook 2008

## Electricity generation and CO2 emissions

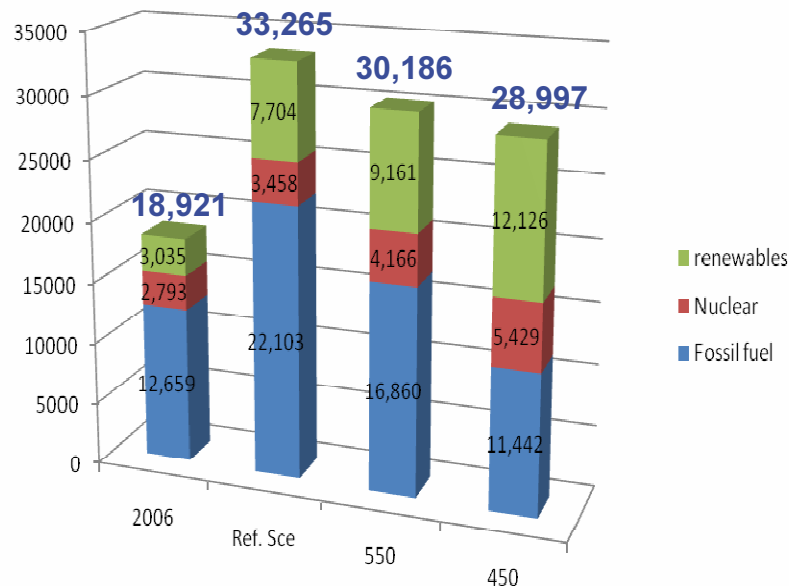
What if the challenges of CCS for fossil fuel and of the great expansion of renewable cannot be met in time? Is 'ready-to-deploy' nuclear sufficiently accounted for?

Going from  $\approx 19,000$  to  $30,000$  TWh over 2006 to 2030

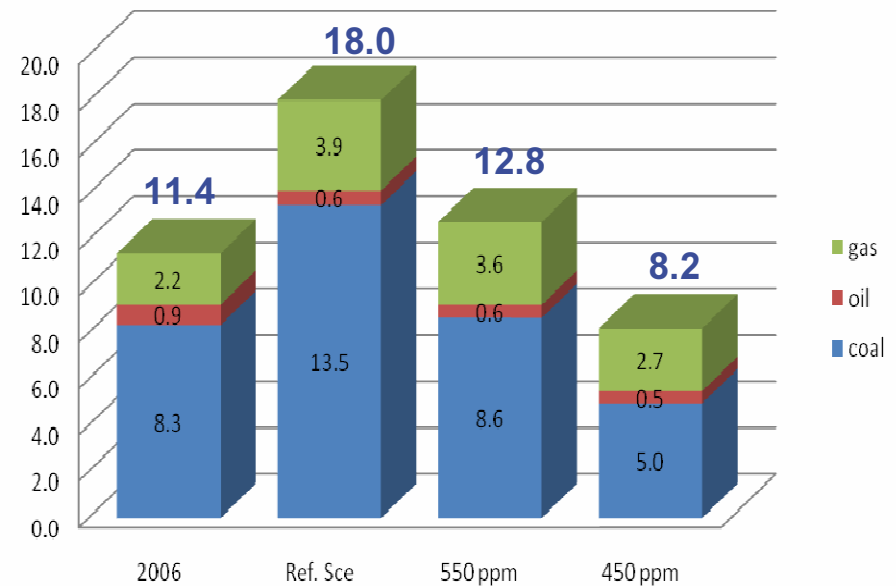
Over 2006-2030:  
 Renewable  $\approx \times 4$   
 Nuclear  $\approx \times 2$   
 Fossil fuel  $\approx$  flat

Reducing CO2 emissions from 11 Gt down to ??? over 2006-2030

Electricity generation (TWh)  
 2006 versus 2030 scenarios



CO2 emissions (Gt) from power generation  
 2006 versus 2030 scenarios



# HSE Challenges

## 1c. Overall protection benefits from nuclear energy

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Already, an **extra 312 Gw** of nuclear power by 2030 would help meeting the world CO<sub>2</sub> reduction goal (450 ppm)

- The expected rate of new nuclear build is **8 to 13 NPP/y**
- This would save **2.5 Gt of CO<sub>2</sub>** emissions per year

In comparison to further deploying nuclear, the greatest challenges are:

- Developing and widely applying CCS to fossil fuel energy
- Considerably expanding renewable energy (hydro and others)

Achieving this within two decades adds to the challenge

# New nuclear build: Overall protection benefits

The option of further increasing 'ready-to-deploy' nuclear energy beyond **680 Gw** (5,400 TWh) by 2030 is key: e.g.

Potential extra savings from nuclear energy		
TWh	Gt CO2	Gw
1,000	1	125
2,000	2	250
3,000	3	375

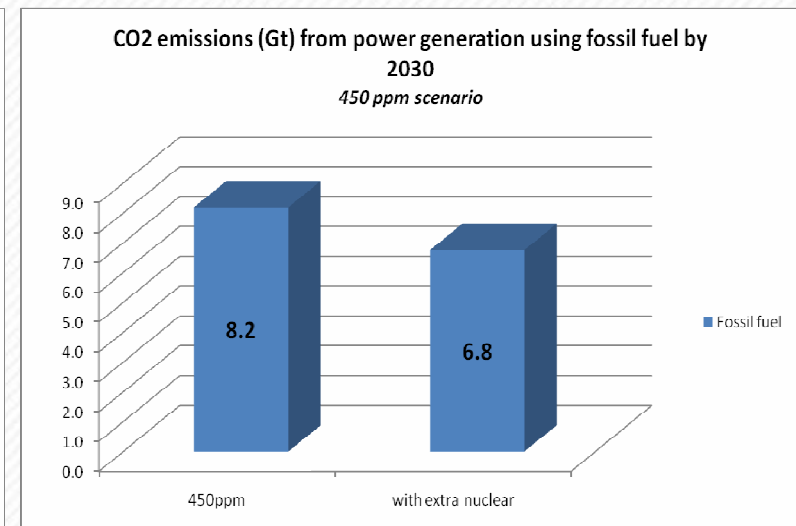
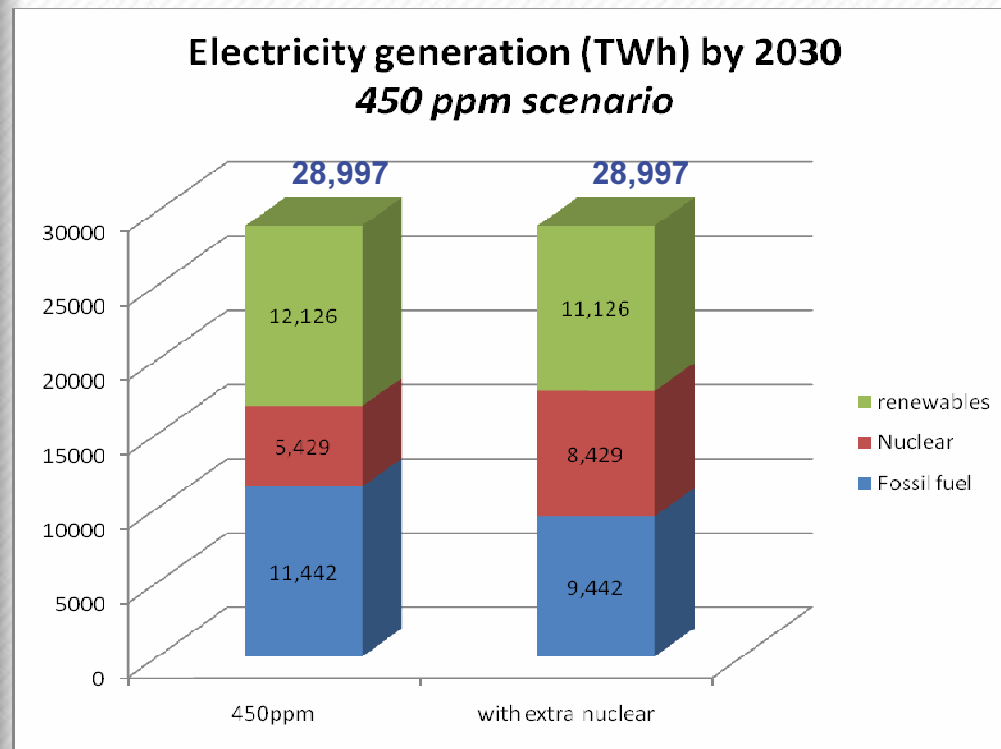
An extra 10 to 15 new NPPs/y over 2006-30

Would allow to overcome shortcomings concerning CCS for fossil fuel energy and the expansion of renewable energy

# New nuclear build: Overall protection benefits

What would be the energy mix and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions if an extra **3,000 TWh (+375 Gw)** of nuclear is added by 2030:

- Total nuclear : 8,500 TWh (1,055 Gw: 680 + 375)
- Equivalent reduction of 2,000 TWh from fossil fuel and of 1,000 TWh from renewable



# New nuclear build: Overall protection benefits

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## Climate Change & Environmental-Health Protection

As CO<sub>2</sub> reduction targets should not be missed, by 2030, nuclear energy can reach up to **1,000 Gw (8,000 TWh)**

- With **8 Gt of CO<sub>2</sub>** emission savings

This would help to overcome any shortcomings in developing CCS and in expanding renewable energies

# Towards a major decarbonisation =>nuclear power

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Aiming for a more balanced mix of electricity generation by 2030: fossil fuel, renewable and nuclear (each 10,000 TWh)

Post-2030, decarbonisation will continue to augment with steadily increasing energy and power generation demands

Accounting for diverse clean-energy needs (electricity, heating, desalination, hydrogen, etc.), nuclear energy upside can be:

- 4,000 GW by 2050, and 8,000 Gw by 2100

•WNA Nuclear Century Outlook:

[http://www.world-nuclear.org/outlook/clean\\_energy\\_need.html](http://www.world-nuclear.org/outlook/clean_energy_need.html)

Thank you for your attention  
Questions?

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