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## **Emission Pathways and System Transitions in Asia:**

**Lessons from IPCC Special Report on  
'Global Warming of 1.5°C'**

**Presented in:**

**Low Carbon Asia Research Network (LoCARNet)**

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# Understanding Global Warming of 1.5°C



## Where are we now?

Since pre-industrial times, human activities have caused approximately 1°C of global warming.

- Already seeing consequences for people, nature and livelihoods
- At current rate, would reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052
- Past emissions alone do not commit the world to 1.5°C

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# Projected Climate Change, Potential Impacts and Associated Risks

## Impacts of global warming 1.5°C

At 1.5°C compared to 2°C:

- Less extreme weather where people live, including extreme heat and rainfall
- By 2100, global mean sea level rise will be around 10 cm lower but may continue to rise for centuries
- 10 million fewer people exposed to risk of rising seas
- Up to several hundred million fewer people exposed to climate-related risk and susceptible to poverty by 2050



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## Impacts of global warming 1.5°C

At 1.5°C compared to 2°C:

- Lower impact on biodiversity and species
- Smaller reductions in yields of maize, rice, wheat
- Lower risk to fisheries and the livelihoods that depend on them
- Global population exposed to increased water shortages is up to 50% less

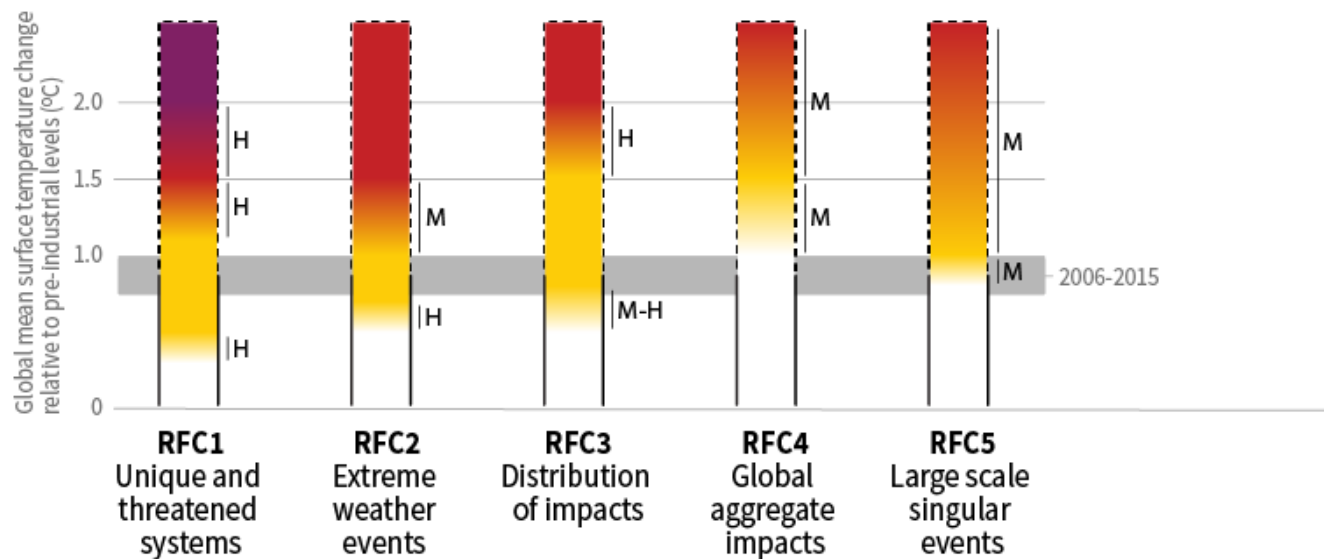


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# SPM2

How the level of global warming affects impacts and/or risks associated with the Reasons for Concern (RFCs) and selected natural, managed and human systems

## Impacts and risks associated with the Reasons for Concern (RFCs)

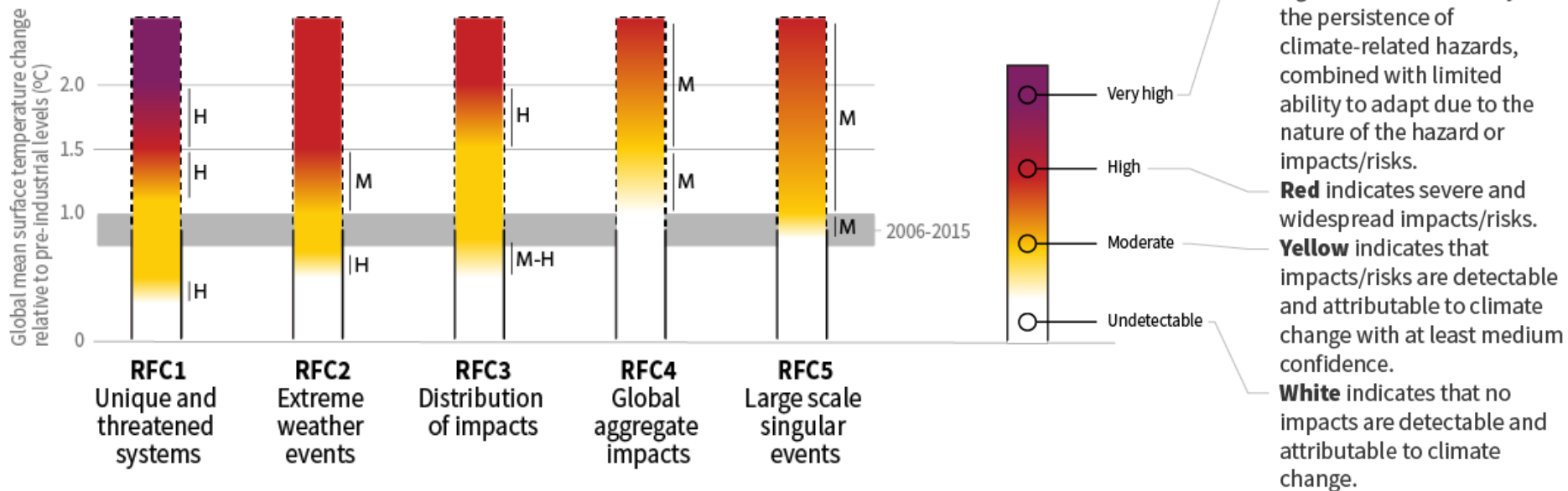


Confidence level for transition: L=Low, M=Medium, H=High and VH=Very high

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## Impacts and risks associated with the Reasons for Concern (RFCs)



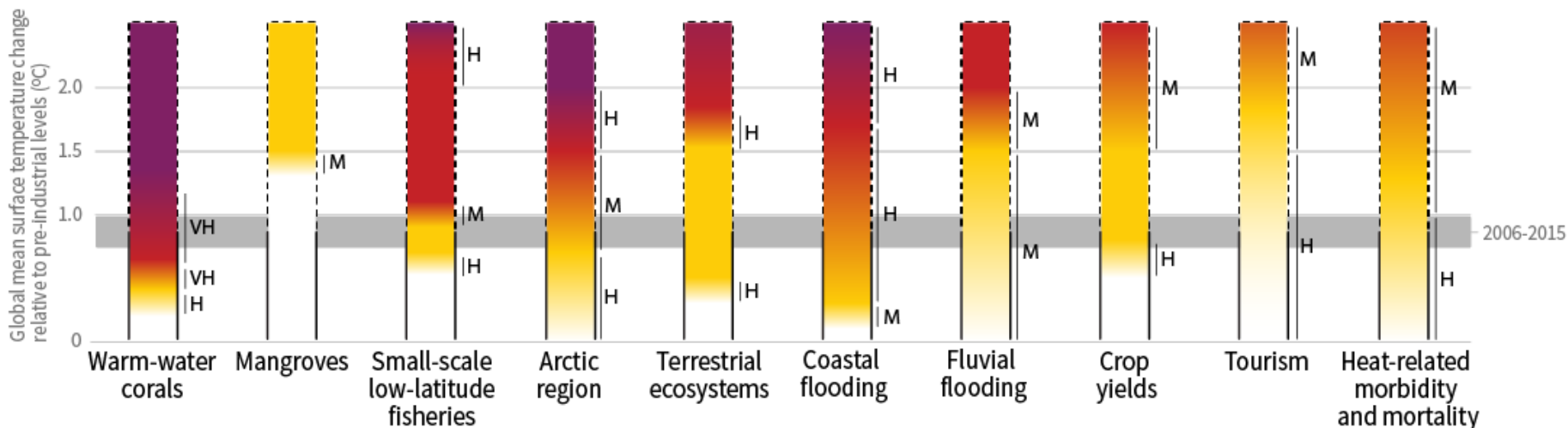
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# SPM2

How the level of global warming affects impacts and/or risks associated with the Reasons for Concern (RFCs) and selected natural, managed and human systems

## Impacts and risks for selected natural, managed and human systems



Confidence level for transition: L=Low, M=Medium, H=High and VH=Very high

# **Emission Pathways and System Transitions Consistent with 1.5°C Global Warming**



## Carbon Budget (GtCO<sub>2</sub>)

- Using global mean surface temperature (GMST) methodology, the remaining carbon budget is **770 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>** for a **50% probability** of limiting warming to 1.5°C and **570 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>** for a **66% probability**
- The remaining carbon budget is being depleted by current emissions of **42<sub>±3</sub> Gt CO<sub>2</sub>** per year.
- Additional carbon release from future permafrost thawing and methane release from wetlands would reduce budgets by up to **100 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>**

Source: C1.3 SPM





## Greenhouse gas emissions pathways

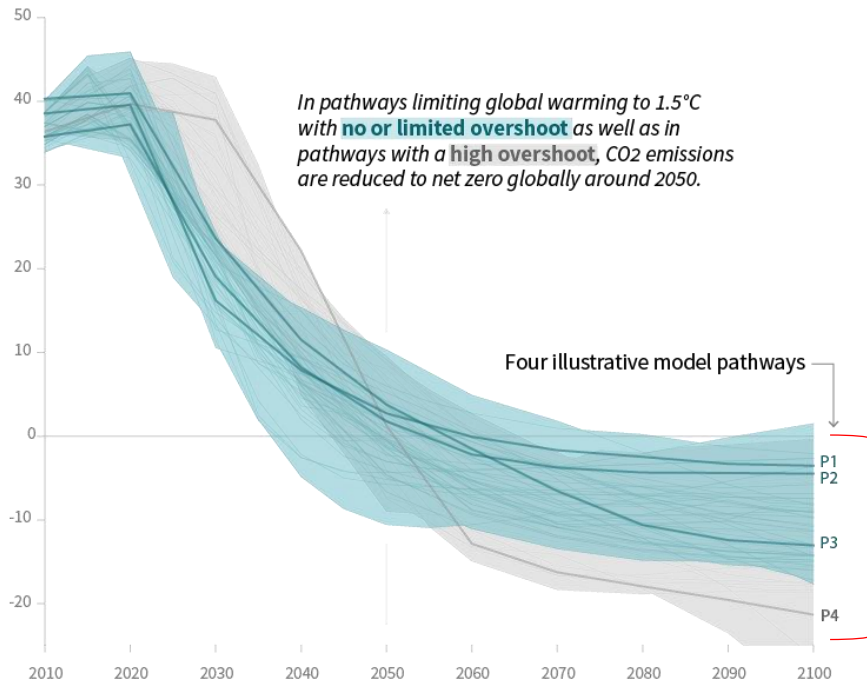
- To limit warming to 1.5°C, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions fall by about 45% by 2030 (from 2010 levels)
  - ↳ Compared to 20% for 2°C
- To limit warming to 1.5°C, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions would need to reach 'net zero' around 2050
  - ↳ Compared to around 2075 for 2°C
- Reducing non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions would have direct and immediate health benefits

Source: C1 SPM

# SPM3a | Global emissions pathway characteristics

## Global total net CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>/yr

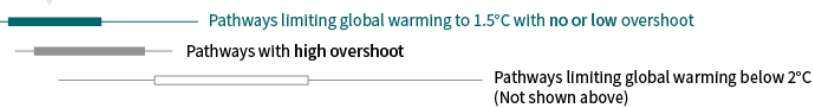


In pathways limiting global warming to 1.5°C with **no or limited overshoot** as well as in pathways with a **high overshoot**, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are reduced to net zero globally around 2050.

Four illustrative model pathways

P1  
P2  
P3  
P4

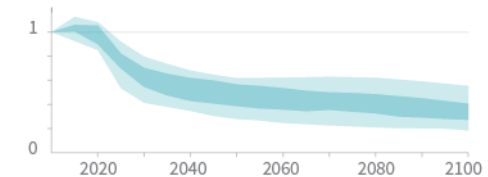
Timing of net zero CO<sub>2</sub>  
Line widths depict the 5-95th percentile and the 25-75th percentile of scenarios



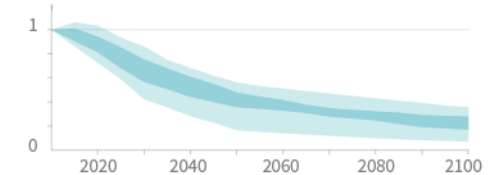
## Non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions relative to 2010

Emissions of non-CO<sub>2</sub> forcings are also reduced or limited in pathways limiting global warming to 1.5°C with **no or limited overshoot**, but they do not reach zero globally.

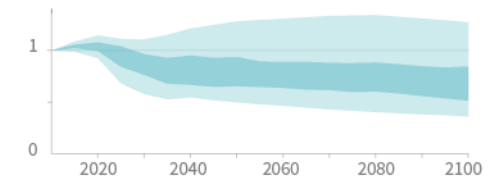
### Methane emissions



### Black carbon emissions



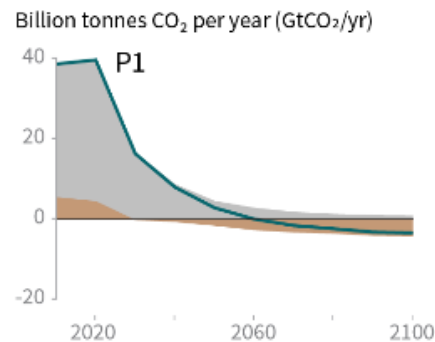
### Nitrous oxide emissions



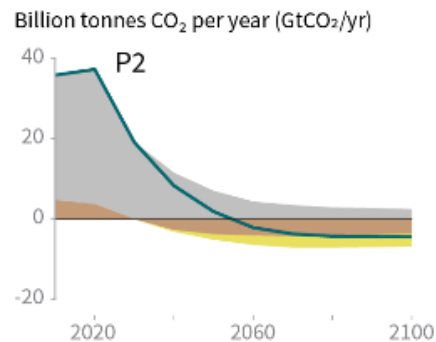
# SPM3b | Characteristics of four illustrative model pathways

## Breakdown of contributions to global net CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in four illustrative model pathways

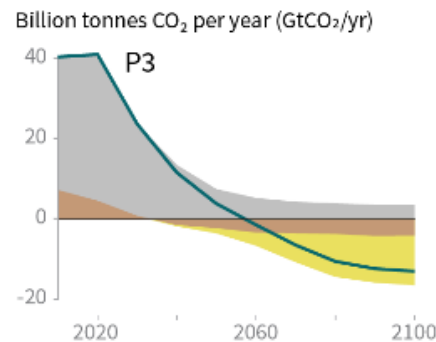
● Fossil fuel and industry ● AFOLU ● BECCS



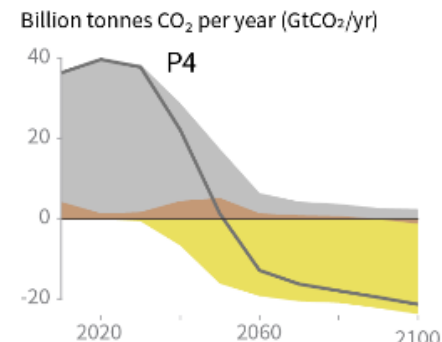
**P1:** A scenario in which social, business and technological innovations result in lower energy demand up to 2050 while living standards rise, especially in the global South. A downsized energy system enables rapid decarbonization of energy supply. Afforestation is the only CDR option considered; neither fossil fuels with CCS nor BECCS are used.



**P2:** A scenario with a broad focus on sustainability including energy intensity, human development, economic convergence and international cooperation, as well as shifts towards sustainable and healthy consumption patterns, low-carbon technology innovation, and well-managed land systems with limited societal acceptability for BECCS.



**P3:** A middle-of-the-road scenario in which societal as well as technological development follows historical patterns. Emissions reductions are mainly achieved by changing the way in which energy and products are produced, and to a lesser degree by reductions in demand.



**P4:** A resource- and energy-intensive scenario in which economic growth and globalization lead to widespread adoption of greenhouse-gas-intensive lifestyles, including high demand for transportation fuels and livestock products. Emissions reductions are mainly achieved through technological means, making strong use of CDR through the deployment of BECCS.



## Systemic Changes for 1.5 °C-Consistent Pathways

- Energy System Transitions
- Land and Ecosystem Transitions
- Urban and Infrastructure System Transitions
- Industrial System Transitions
- Adaption Options for Transitions
- Short-lived Climate Forcers
- Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR)
- Solar Radiation Modification (SRM)

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## Changes at Unprecedented Scale

- Limiting warming to 1.5°C would require changes on an unprecedented scale
  - Rapid and far-reaching transitions all sectors
  - A range of technologies
  - Behavioural changes
  - Increased investment in low carbon options

Source: C3 SPM



## Feasibility Indicators for '1.5°C' Consistent Pathways

Characteristics	Indicators to Assess Feasibility of Mitigation Options
Economic	Cost-effectiveness; Absence of distributional effects; Employment & productivity, enhancement potential
Technological	Technical scalability; Maturity; Simplicity; Absence of risk
Institutional	Political acceptability; Legal & administrative feasibility Institutional capacity; Transparency & accountability potential
Socio-cultural	Social co-benefits (health, education); Public acceptance, Social & regional inclusiveness; Intergenerational equity, Human capabilities
Environmental/ Ecological	Reduction of air pollution; Reduction of toxic waste Reduction of water use; Improved biodiversity
Geophysical	Physical feasibility (physical potentials); Limited use of land; Limited use of scarce (geo)physical resources; Global spread

Source: Table 4.10



## Aligning Ambition and Actions

- Progress in renewables would need to be mirrored in other sectors.
- The solutions required to limit warming to 1.5°C are available. What is required is to speed and scale up implementation.
- These solutions confer synergies with sustainable development



## Paris Agreement and 1.5°C Ambition

- Current national pledges on mitigation and adaptation are not enough to stay below the Paris Agreement temperature limits and achieve its adaptation goals.
- Transitions in energy efficiency, carbon intensity of fuels, electrification and land use change are underway in various countries.
- But limiting warming to 1.5°C will require a greater scale and pace of change to transform energy, land, urban and industrial systems globally.

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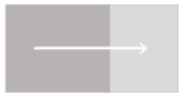
## Systemic Change & Sustainable Development

- Limiting warming to 1.5°C would require transformative systemic change, integrated with sustainable development.
- Such change would require the upscaling and acceleration of the implementation of far reaching, multi-level and cross-sectoral climate mitigation and addressing barriers.
- Systemic change would need to be linked to complementary adaptation actions, including transformational adaptation, especially for pathways that temporarily overshoot 1.5°C

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# SPM4 | Indicative linkages between mitigation and sustainable development using SDGs (the linkages do not show costs and benefit)

Length shows strength of connection

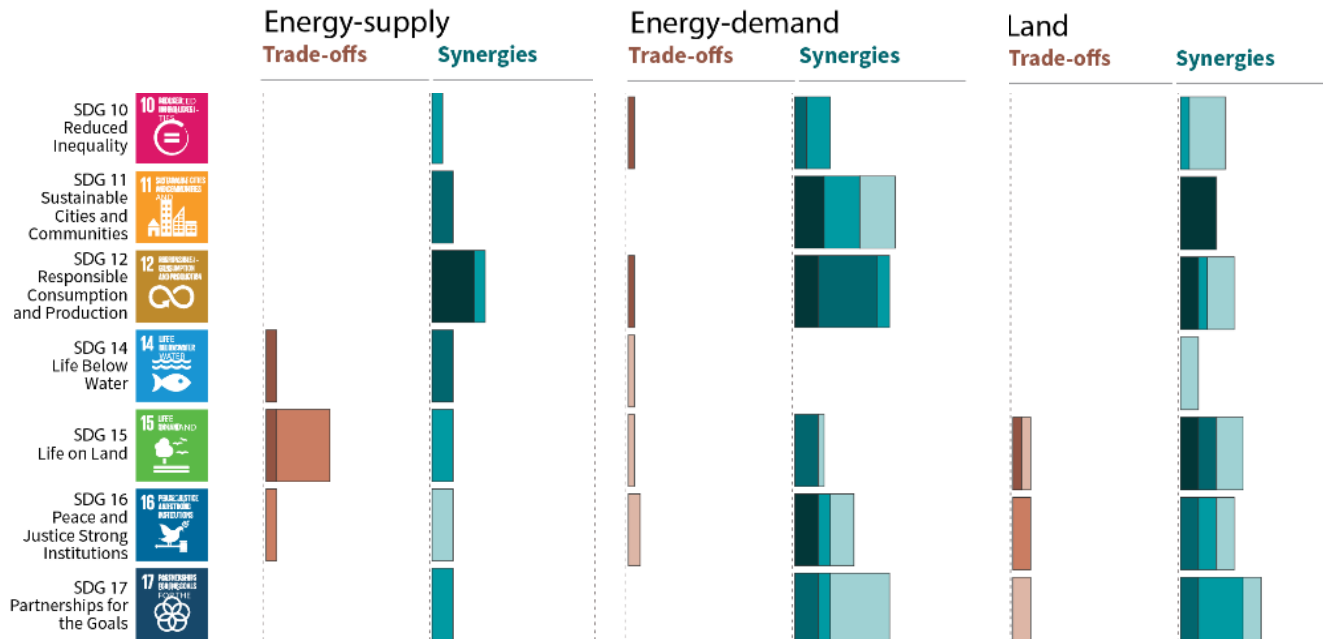


The overall size of the coloured bars depict the relative for synergies and trade-offs between the sectoral mitigation options and the SDGs.

Shades show level of confidence



The shades depict the level of confidence of the assessed potential for Trade-offs/Synergies.

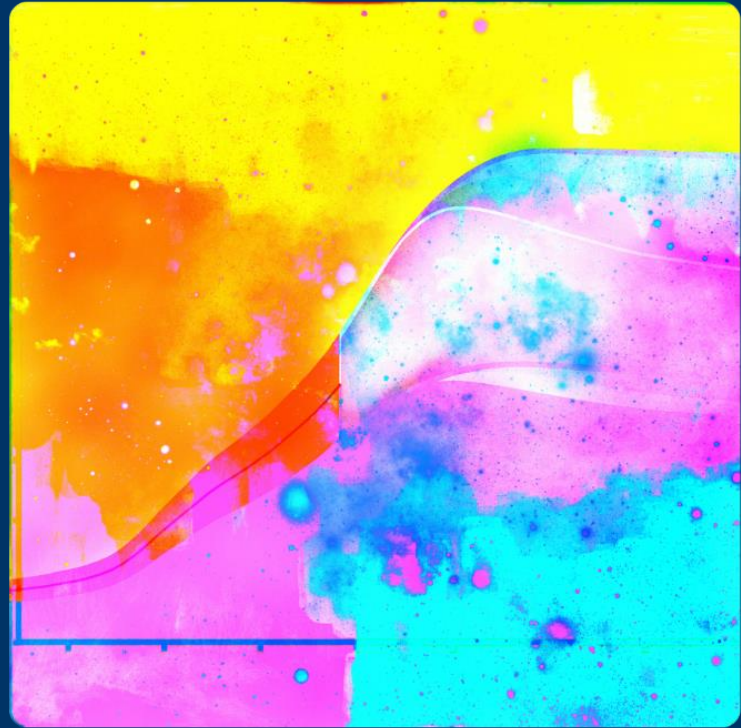




## Raising Ambition, Resources and Capabilities

- To strengthen the global response, almost all countries would need to significantly raise their level of ambition.
- Developing countries and vulnerable communities will need additional resources and adaptation finance to adapt to 1.5°C.
- Implementation of this raised ambition would require enhanced institutional capabilities in all countries, including building the capability to utilize Indigenous and local knowledge.

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Questions?