

*Plenary keynote talk*

# Low Carbon Cities: Knowledge and Action Gaps

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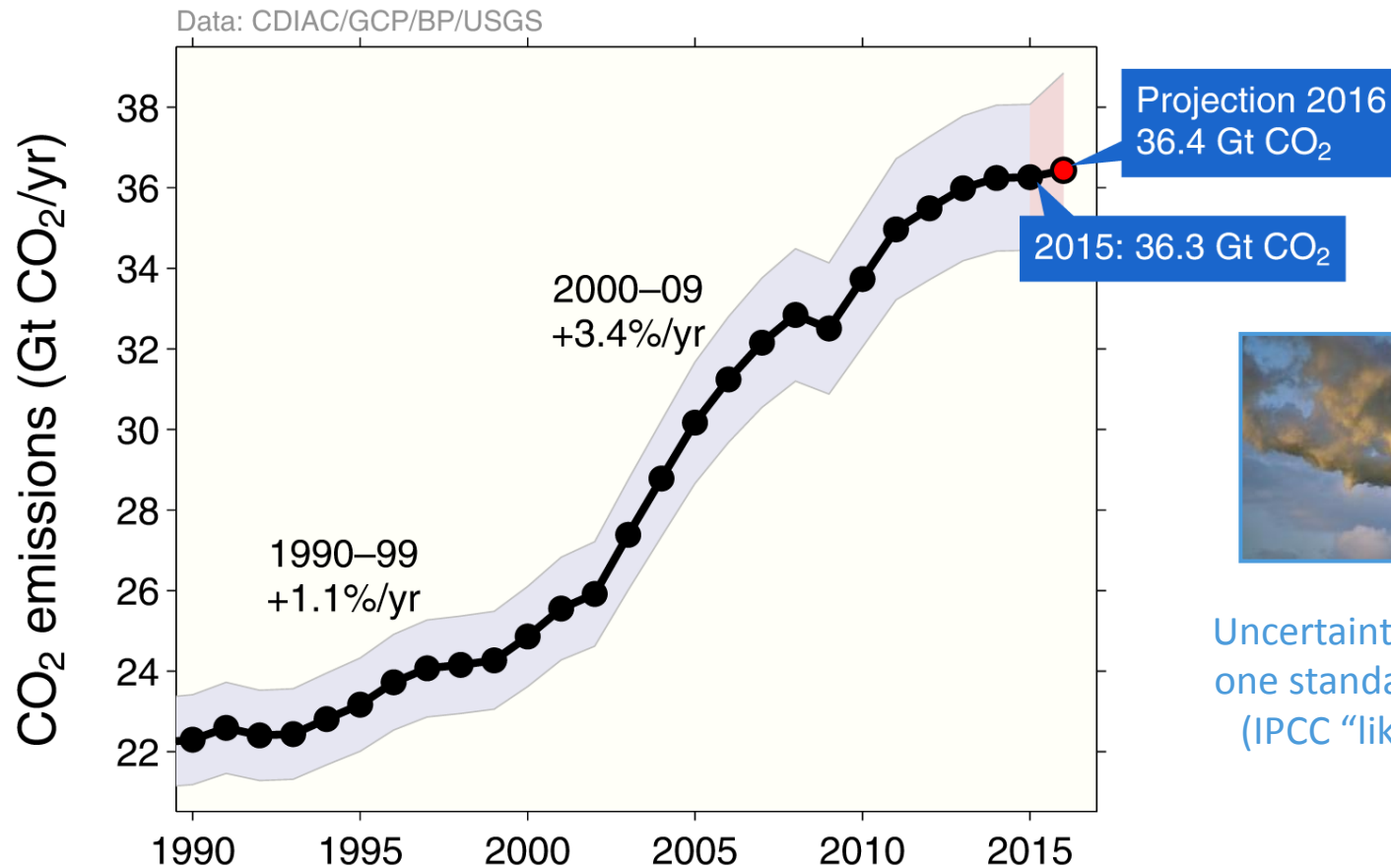


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# Emissions from fossil fuel use and industry

Global emissions from fossil fuel and industry:  $36.3 \pm 1.8$  GtCO<sub>2</sub> in 2015, 63% over 1990

● Projection for 2016:  $36.4 \pm 2.3$  GtCO<sub>2</sub>, 0.2% higher than 2015

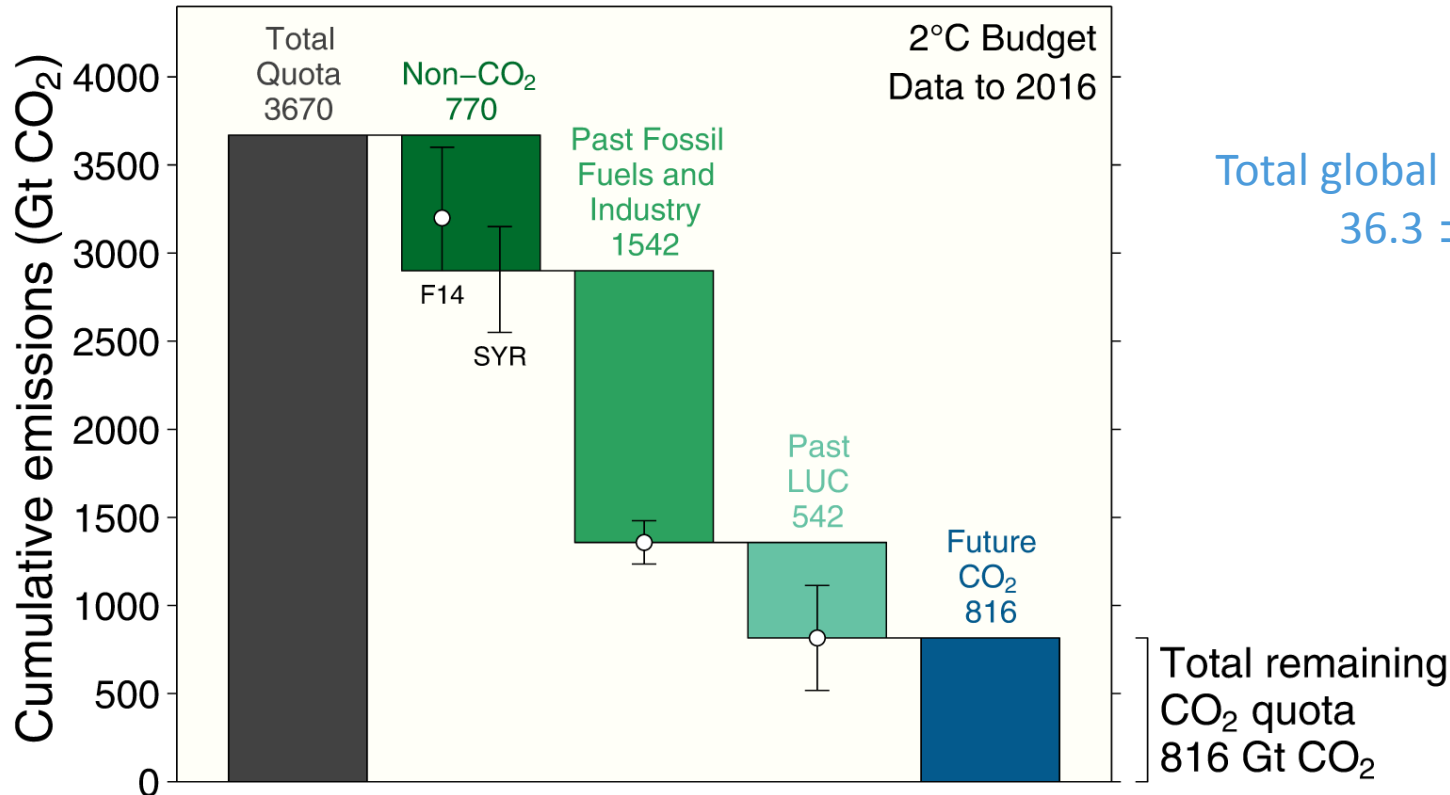


Uncertainty is  $\pm 5\%$  for one standard deviation (IPCC “likely” range)

# Carbon quota for a 66% chance to keep below 2°C

The total remaining emissions from 2017 to keep global average temperature below 2°C (800GtCO<sub>2</sub>) will be used in around 20 years at current emission rates

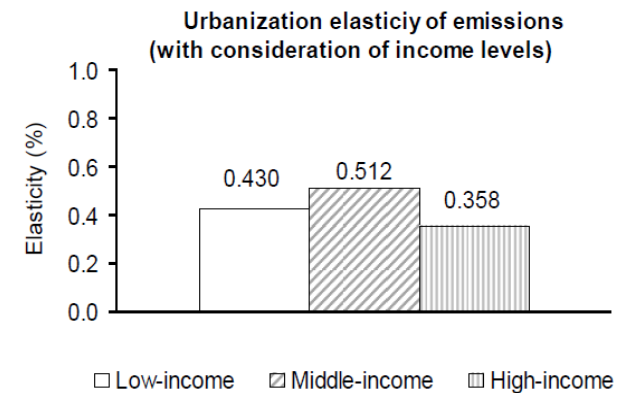
Data: IPCC/CDIAC/GCP/Peters et al. 2015



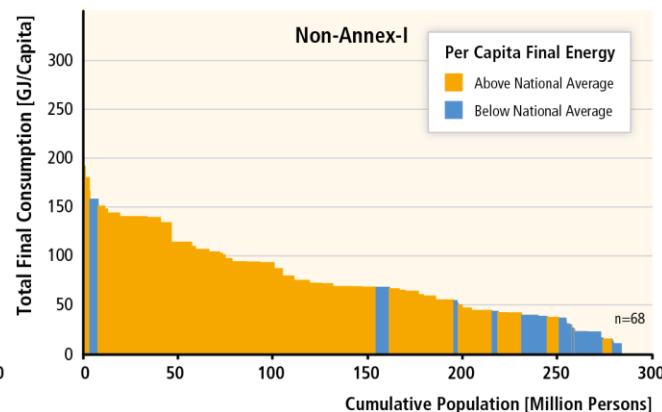
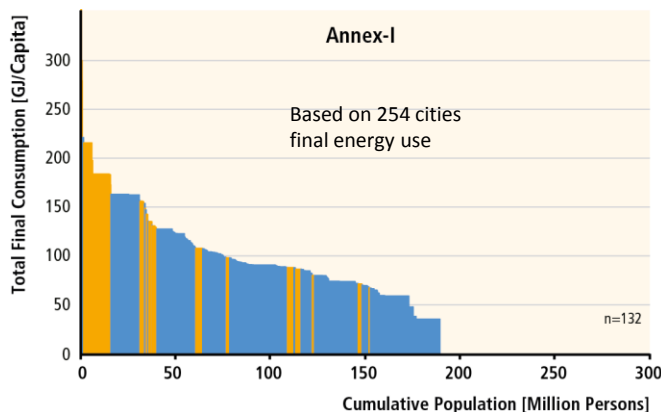
Total global emissions in 2015:  
36.3 ± 1.8 GtCO<sub>2</sub>

# Role of cities in global GHG mitigation is enormous

- Urbanization-income nexus → higher urban incomes correlated with higher energy and GHG emissions (Poumanyvong and Kaneko, 2010; IPCC 2014, GEA 2012)
- Bottom up analyses show that Cities in developing countries have, generally, higher per capita final energy use and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions than respective national averages — majority of new urbanization will be in these countries



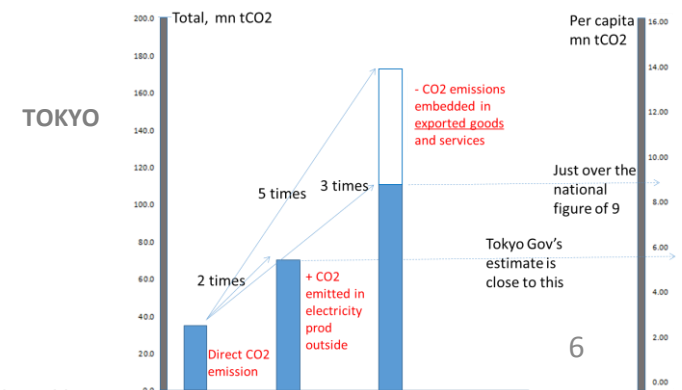
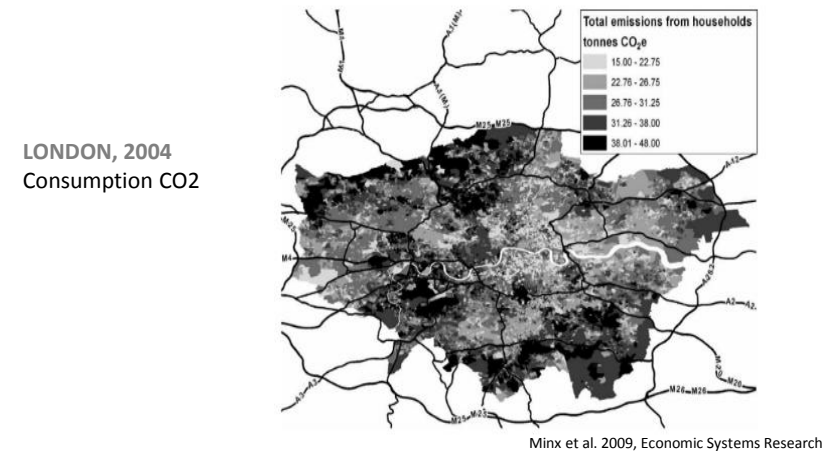
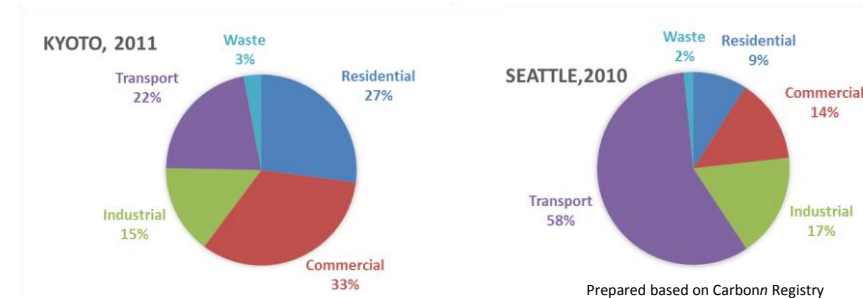
Stochastic Impacts by Regression on Population, Affluence and Technology (STIRPAT) model and a sample of 88 countries for the period 1975–2005  
Poumanyvong and Kaneko, 2010, Ecological Economics.



Source: GEA, 2012; Grubler et al., 2012; IPCC, 2014

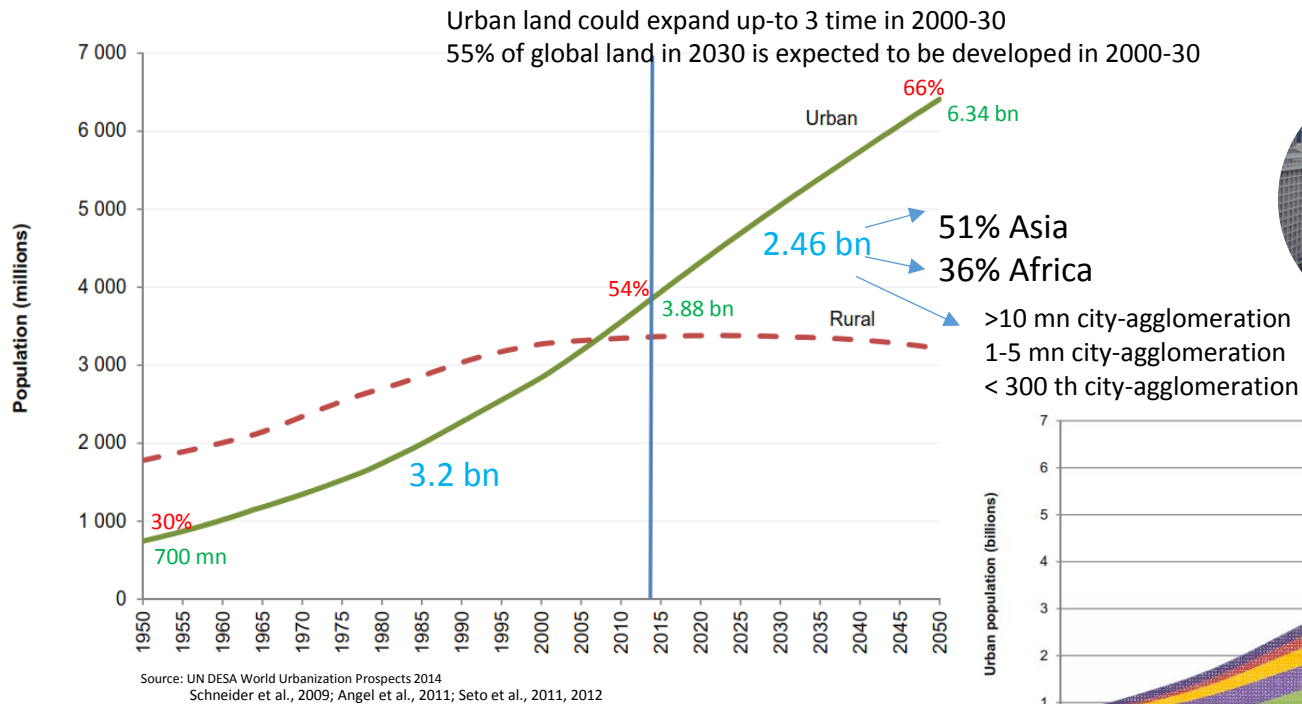
# Role of cities in global GHG mitigation is enormous

- 71-76% of energy-related global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are from energy use in cities (IPCC, 2014; GEA 2012; WEO 2008)
- Consumption driven upstream emissions makes cities even more important—e.g. over two-times in Tokyo and London
- Emissions and contribution of sources vary greatly across cities – direct comparison often does not tell us much - cities are different from nation states



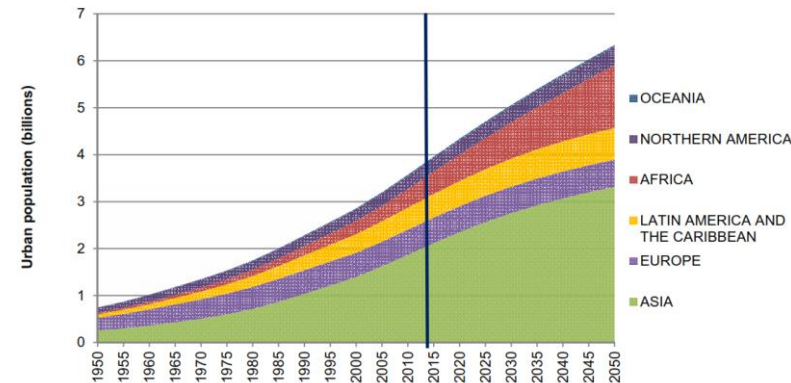


# Global urbanization trends

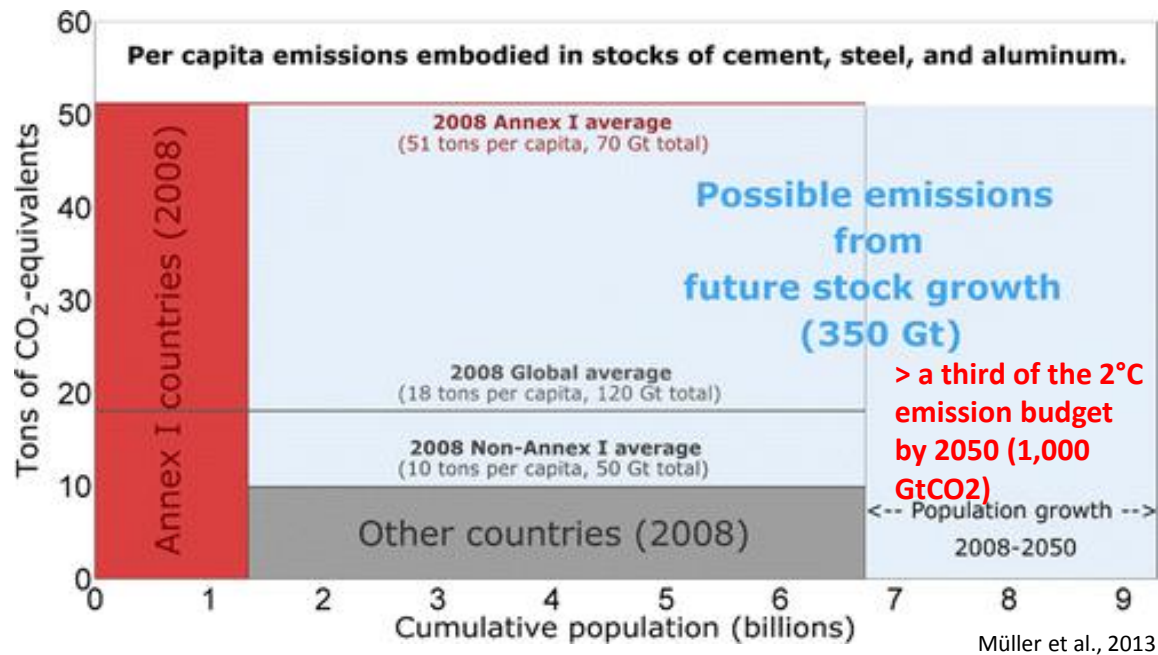


Within city

Outside city



# Infrastructure demands large emissions



- The existing infrastructure stock
  - Average Annex-I resident is 3 times that of the world average
  - About 5 times higher than average non-Annex I resident



# What drives cities' emissions?

- No single factor explains per-capita emissions across cities
- Key factors include income, population dynamics, urban form, locational factors, development stage, economic structure, history, policies, and governance
- Key urban form related drivers of emissions are complex inter-mix of density, land use, connectivity and accessibility
- What combination of drivers leads into which city-emission trajectories are yet elusive

# City emissions-data challenge !!

- Lack of bottom-up emissions and basic driving-factor data
- Methodological diversity- IPCC, GPC, and others
- Limited scope/boundaries of emissions
- Incomplete coverage- Gases, sectors
- Data-partnerships
  - ICLEI Carbonn Registry
  - C40/CDP self-reporting system
  - EU Covenant of Mayors

# Effort to standardize: GPC 2.0 users -- expected GHG data- Not yet !!

Partners

Authors:



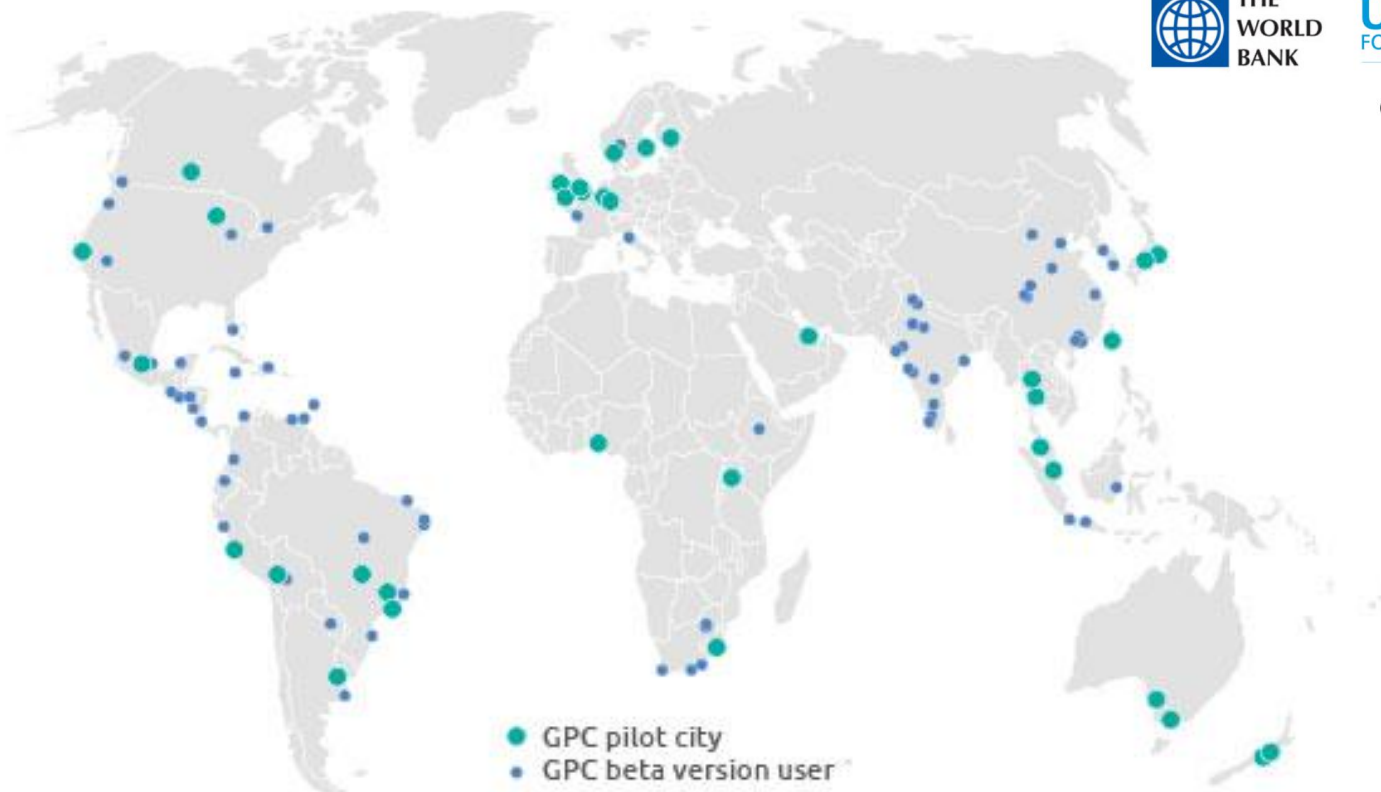
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# Benchmarking exercises

- Global Energy Assessment- Urban energy data
- 46 cities emissions benchmarking for World Bank (2010)
- Ongoing emission benchmarking – about 400 cities aimed – 224 global cities

Country	City Name	City definition	Year	Primary Protocol	CO2e (10 <sup>6</sup> tons)	Year	GDP (10 <sup>9</sup> USD)	Year	Population (10 <sup>6</sup> person)	Area
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	City Administration	2012	GPC	5.04	2014	4.00	2008	3.38	527.00
Jordan	Amman	Greater Amman Municipality	2013	2006 IPCC	7.22	2014	15.09	2015	3.60	700.00
Nigeria	Lagos	City/Municipality	2014	GPC	29.43	2015	136.60	2016	21.00	999.60

Different Accounting Methodologies					
	GPC	ICLEI	2006 IPCC	OTHER	TOTAL
Africa	5	1	1.00		7.00
East Asia	2		3.00	21.00	26.00
Europe	8		4.00	89.00	101.00
Latin America	12		4.00		16.00
North America	16	35.00	3.00	10.00	64.00
South Asia and Oceania	6		10.00	1.00	17.00

# Benchmarking exercise

City/ Source	Energy	Electrical line losses	Gasoline Use from sales data	Gasoline use scaled	Gasolines use from model or traffic count	Aviation: all fuels loaded at airports	Aviation: all domestic; intl LTO only	Marine: all fuels loaded at port	Marine: inland or near-shore (12 mile) only	Railways	Biofuels	Industrial processes	AFOLU	WASTE	Landfill: scaled from national data	Landfill: EPA WARM model	Landfill: total yield gas	First Order Decay	Waste water	Upstream fuels	Embodied food or materials
<b>Africa</b>																					
<b>Kennedy and others 2009</b>																					
Cape Town	X	X	X			X		X													
<b>Asia</b>																					
<b>T.V. Ramachandra and others 2015</b>																					
Delhi	X	X			X								X	X					X		
Greater Mumbai					X			X					X	X					X		
Kolkata					X			X					X	X					X		
Chennai					X			X					X	X					X		
Greater Bangalore					X								X	X					X		
Hyderabad					X								X	X					X		
Ahmedabad					X								X	X					X		
Bangkok	X	X			X									X			X				
<b>Dhakai 2009</b>																					
Beijing	X	X	X																		
Shanghai	X	X	X																		

# Benchmarking exercise

## Appendix D – Gases, Scopes and Sectors of CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions Inventory

Mn tonsCO<sub>2</sub>e

Country	City Name	Gases Included	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Stationary Energy	Transport	Waste	IPPU	AFOLU	TOTAL
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	3.71	0.00	1.34	1.71	2.27	0.80	0.01	0.25	5.04
Jordan	Amman	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	3.32	3.89	0.00	4.75	2.27	0.19	0.00	0.00	7.22
Nigeria	Lagos	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.43
South Africa	Cape Town	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	9.78	12.86	1.29	14.39	7.12	2.42	0.00	0.00	23.94
South Africa	Durban	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	7.32	2.44	4.77	2.88	11.27	0.29	0.00	0.09	14.53
South Africa	Johannesburg	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	6.99	8.56	0.00	8.34	7.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.54
South Africa	Pretoria - Tshwane	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , SF <sub>6</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	1.20	11.98	0.00	7.79	4.09	1.30	0.00	0.00	13.18
China	Beijing	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	105.40	49.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	155.00
China	Chongqing	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	125.28	18.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	144.00
China	Dalian		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	59.00
China	Hengshui		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.00
China	Nanjing	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, CF <sub>4</sub> , C <sub>2</sub> F <sub>6</sub>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.43
China	Ningbo		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	56.00
China	Qingdao		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	55.00
China	Shanghai	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O	209.28	8.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	218.00
China	Shenyang		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	74.00



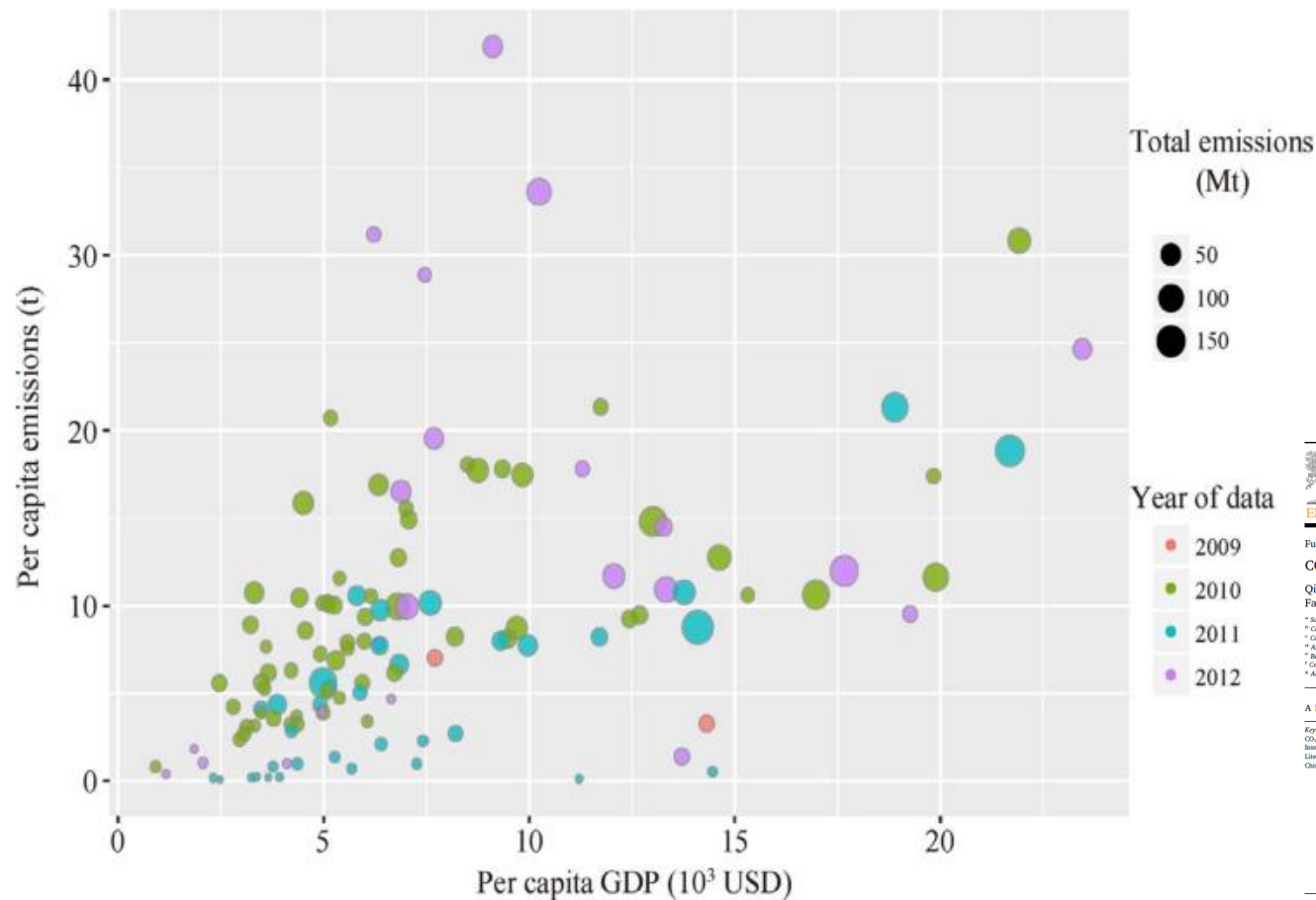
# Data availability, methodology and gaps in city emissions in China

- 177 studies; 80 studies in English and 97 in Chinese
- 45% of prefecture-level cities (out of 283) have some emission estimates with different levels → More than half of the Chinese cities lack publicly available CO2 emissions data
- Varying level of sectoral data used in estimates and several different methodologies-used → mostly focused on city energy consumption data only

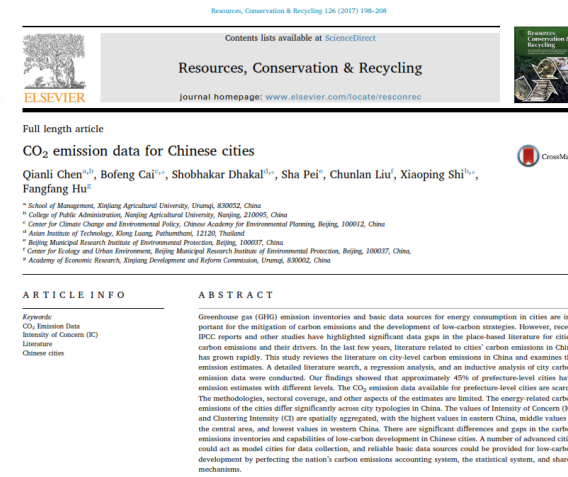
Sectoral coverage of data sources for different calculation methods.

Method type	Sectoral coverage of data sources						Scope			Proportion (%)
	Energy use	Industrial production	Land use	Waste disposal	Agricultural data	Others	Scope1	Scope2	Scope3	
Type1	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	13.56
Type2	√						√			49.25
Type3	√					√	√	√		37.19

# Data availability, methodology and gaps in city emissions in China



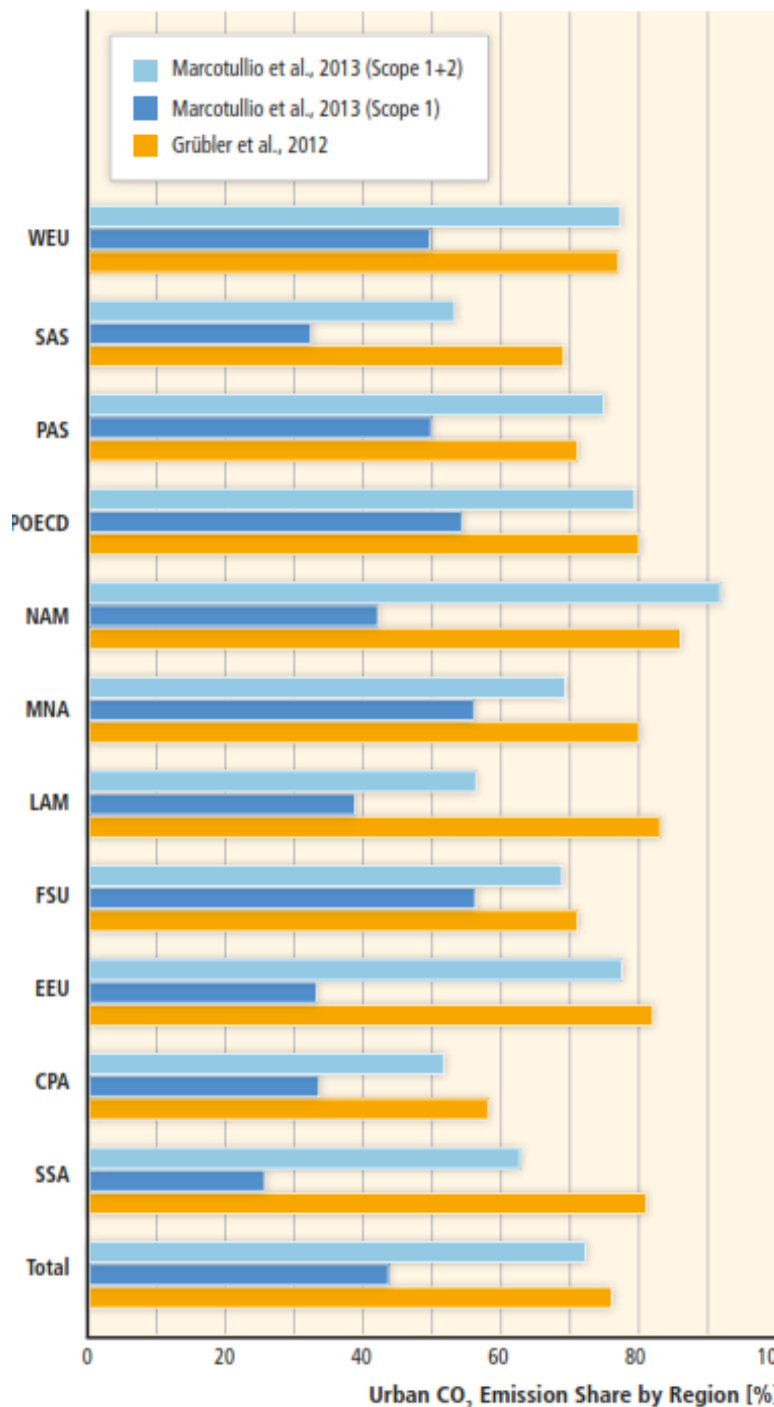
- Energy-related Carbon emissions data for 122 cities
- Shanghai (273 mn t CO<sub>2</sub>) to Xiangxi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture (0.23 mn tCO<sub>2</sub>)



Qianli Chen, Bofeng Cai, Shobhakar Dhakal, Sha Pei, Chunlan Liu, Xiaoping Shi, Fangfang Hu.(2017). CO<sub>2</sub> emission data for Chinese cities. *Resources, Conservation and Recycling* 126: 98–208

# Top-down emissions estimations and limitations

- Attraction: Lack of place-based emissions can be complemented from top-down (?)
- EDGAR-based analysis overlaying urban extent (remote-sensing products), MESSAGE-Downscaled (IIASA), nightlight intensity based
- Lily Parshall (2010), Peter Marcotullio (2012)
- Fine-scale CO2 resolution images by several researchers at regional scale, incl (Kevin Gurney, Philippe Cias, Mike Raupach etc.)
- Few emerging work in China building-on multiple-bottom-up datasets
- Snap-shot only; allocation of imported electricity is problem (CARMA Database v. 3.0 (<http://carma.org/>) used in some case)
- Proxy-based downscaling has poor or no representation of local conditions
- ‘Utility’ of top-down analysis needs a careful look !! Difficult to use for local purpose



Two top-down studies compared

# Urbanization's wedge in future emissions/ mitigation- what exist?

- WEO (2008) by IEA – urban CO2 emissions 76% by 2030 (energy related)
- Brian O’Niels et al.’s limited work, IAM are not addressing urban
- Karen Seto et al.’s work from urban land expansion
- Daniel Mueller’s work on infrastructure stock (2013)
- Felix et al ’s PNAS work on urban typology (2013)
- Estimation by SEI-USA for Michael Bloomberg’s initiative (2015)
- IEA (2016)
- Felix et al. (2016) work on 2040 mitigation potential<sup>19</sup>

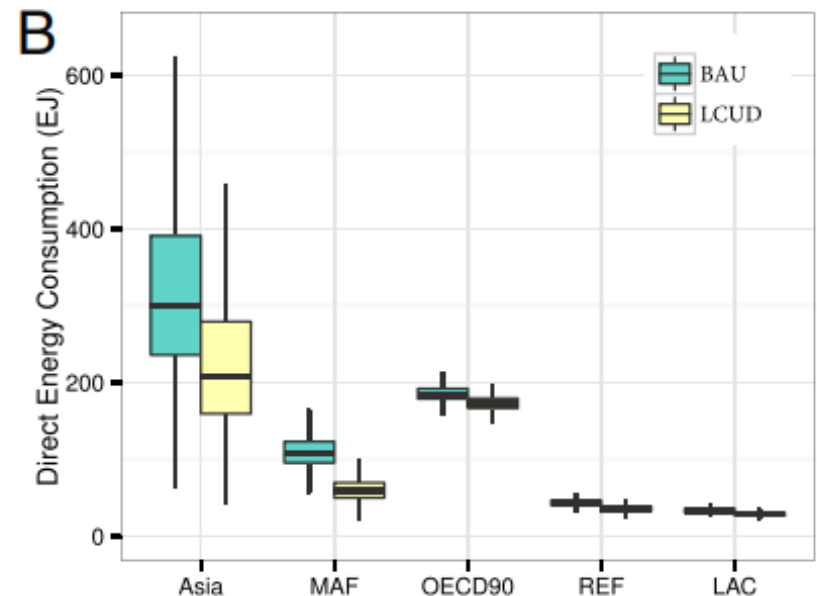
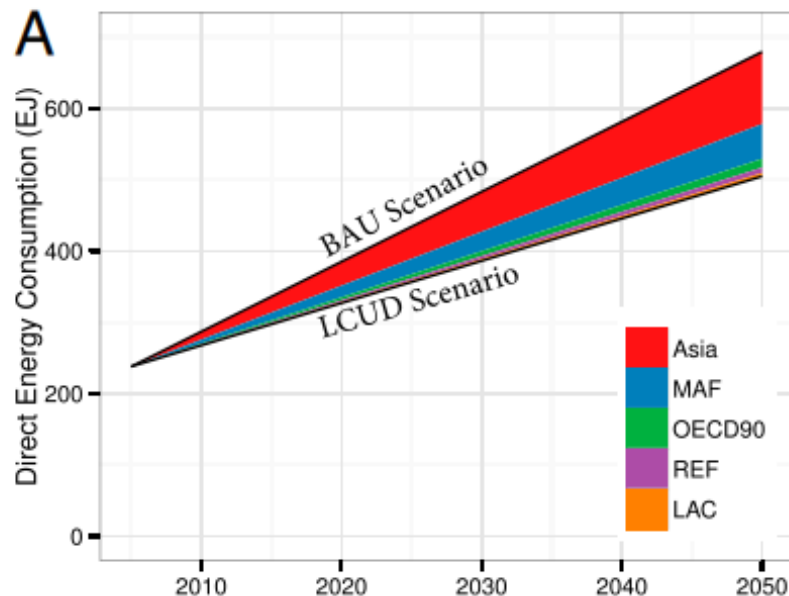
# Large window of opportunity for mitigation from spatial planning in next 2-3 decades

Study	Scenario	Projected Urban Expansion to 2030 (km <sup>2</sup> )								% of projected urban land in 2030 to be built between 2000–2030
		Urban Land 2000 (km <sup>2</sup> )	Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America	North America	Oceania	Total (% increase from 2000)	
Seto et al. (2011)	SRES A1	726,943	107,551	1,354,001	296,638	407,214	73,176	16,996	2,255,576 (310)	76
	SRES A2	726,943	113,423	702,772	162,179	122,438	49,487	15,486	1,165,785 (160)	62
	SRES B1	726,943	107,551	1,238,267	232,625	230,559	86,165	18,106	1,913,273 (263)	72
	SRES B2	726,943	136,419	989,198	180,265	131,016	74,572	15,334	1,526,805 (210)	68
Seto et al. (2012)	> 75 % probability	652,825	244,475	585,475	77,575	175,075	118,175	9,700	1,210,475	65
		Urban Land 2000 (km <sup>2</sup> )	Africa	Asia	East Asia and the Pacific	Europe and Japan	Latin America and the Caribbean	Land Rich Developed Countries	Total (% increase from 2000)	
Angel et al. (2011)	0 % density decline	602,864	58,132	120,757	43,092	9,772	49,348	54,801	335,902 (56)	36
	1 % density decline	602,864	92,002	203,949	75,674	74,290	98,554	119,868	664,337 (110)	52
	2 % density decline	602,846	137,722	316,248	119,654	161,379	164,975	207,699	1,107,677 (184)	65



# Urbanization's energy wedge

Role of Asia is Paramount



**Potential of an urbanization wedge in energy use. (A) Urbanization wedge characterized by median business-as-usual (BAU) and low-carbon urban development (LCUD) scenarios.**

(B) Uncertainty in scenarios for the different world regions. *The centerline is the median, the top and bottom of the boxes are the 25th and 75th percentiles, and lines present overall range. OECD90, OECD countries in 1990; LAM, Latin America and the Caribbean; MAF, Middle East and Africa; REF, reforming economies of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.*

- Dataset of 274 cities
- Based on the clustering and scaling sample cities statistically
- If current trends in urban expansion continue, urban energy use will increase more than threefold, from 240 EJ in 2005 to 730 EJ in 2050
- Urban planning and transport policies can limit the future increase in urban energy use to 540 EJ in 2050 and contribute to mitigating climate change

## Advancing climate ambition: cities as partners in global climate action



**Cities can contribute significantly to bridging the global emissions gap – with emissions reduction potential of up to two-thirds the impact of recent national policies and actions:**

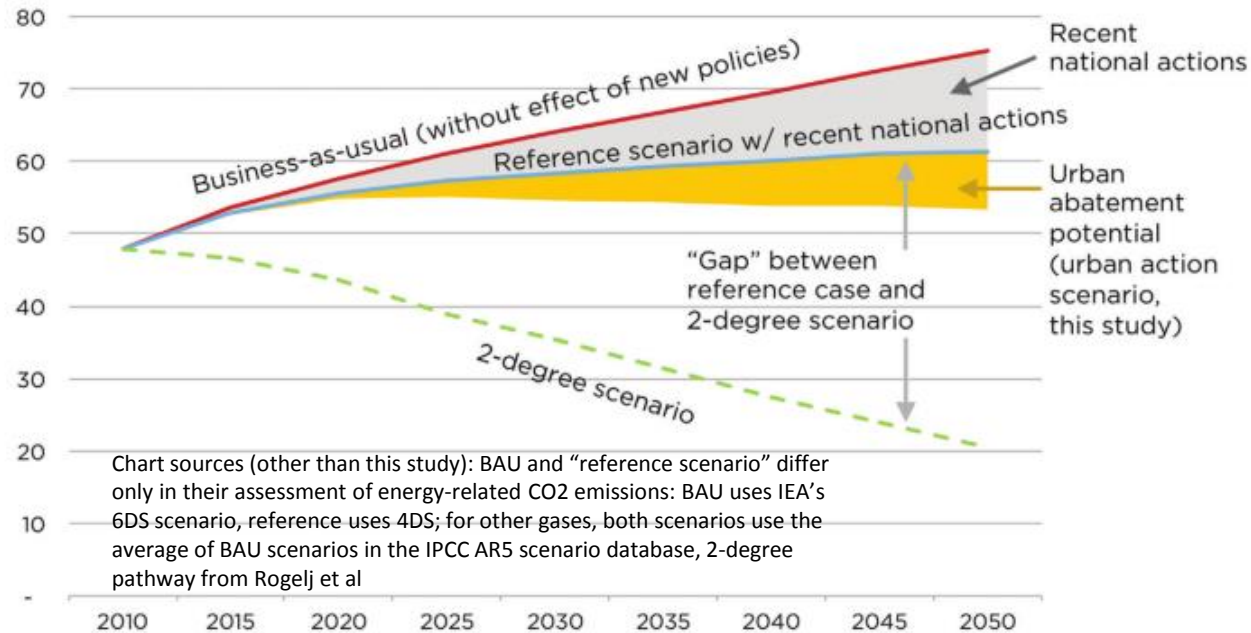
urban actions could decrease global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 3.7 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e below what national actions are currently on track to achieve in 2030, and by 8.0 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2050.

# Urban abatement by sector in the urban action scenario, 2030 and 2050

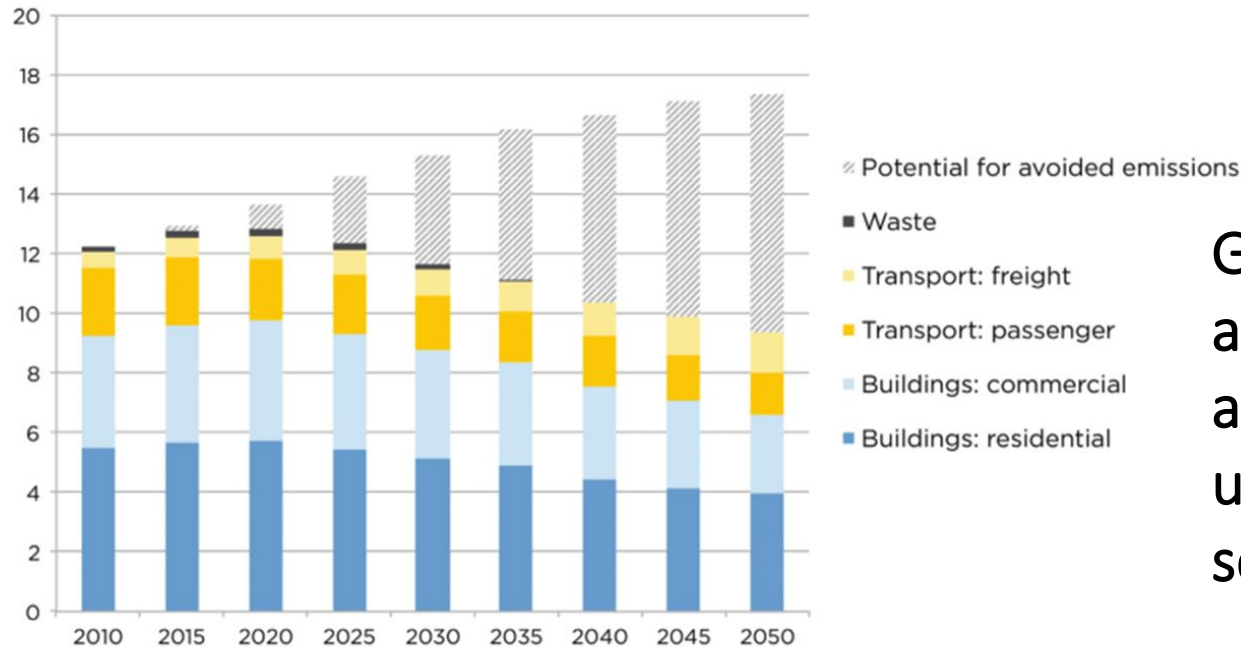
Sector	Action	Abatement, GtCO <sub>2</sub> e		Share of total Abatement, %	
		2030	2050	2030	2050
Buildings, residential	New building heating efficiency	0.6	1.2	16%	15%
	Heating retrofits	0.4	0.5	12%	7%
	Appliances and lighting	0.4	0.9	12%	11%
	Fuel switching / solar PV	0.1	0.2	3%	3%
Buildings, commercial	New building heating efficiency	0.3	0.5	7%	7%
	Heating retrofits	0.2	0.2	6%	3%
	Appliances and lighting	0.3	0.7	8%	8%
	Fuel switching / solar PV	0.1	0.2	3%	3%
Subtotal, buildings		2.4	4.5		
Transport, passenger	Urban planning—reduced travel demand	0.2	0.5	5%	6%
	Mode shift and transit efficiency	0.4	1.0	11%	12%
	Car efficiency and electrification	0.2	0.9	7%	11%
Transport, freight	Logistics improvements	0.1	0.2	2%	3%
	Vehicle efficiency	0.1	0.3	3%	4%
Subtotal, transport		1.0	2.9		
Waste	Recycling	0.2	0.3	4%	4%
	Landfill methane capture	0.0	0.3	0%	4%
Subtotal, waste		0.2	0.6		
Total		3.7	8.0		

# Urban action could help deepen the aggregate, global ambition of current national pledges

Global GHG emissions  
(billion tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e)

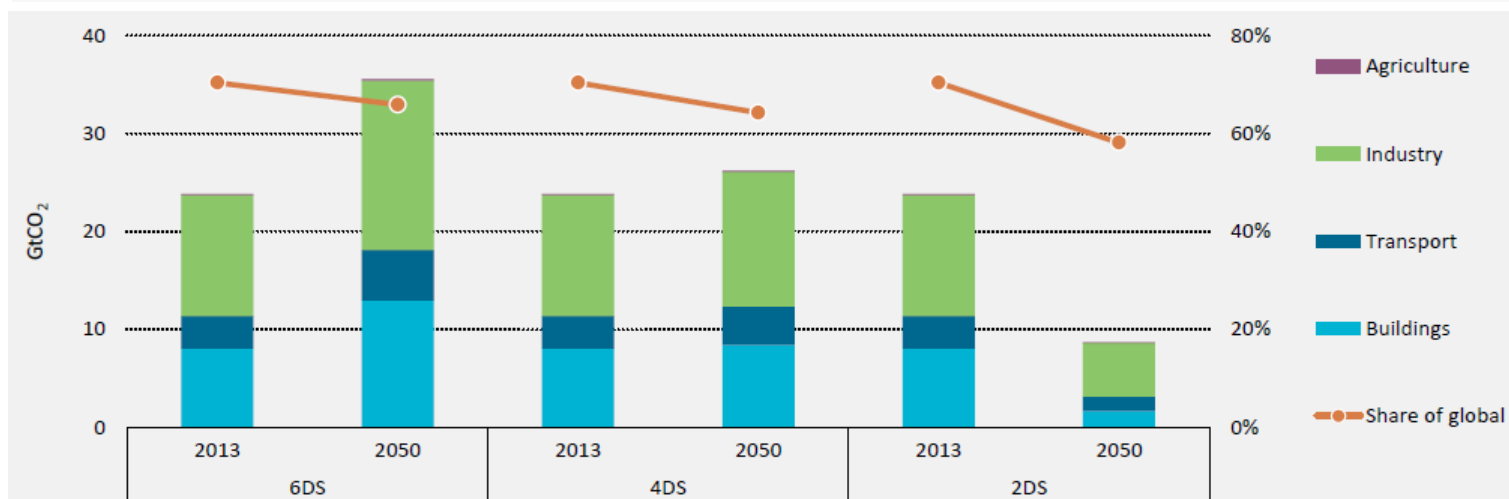
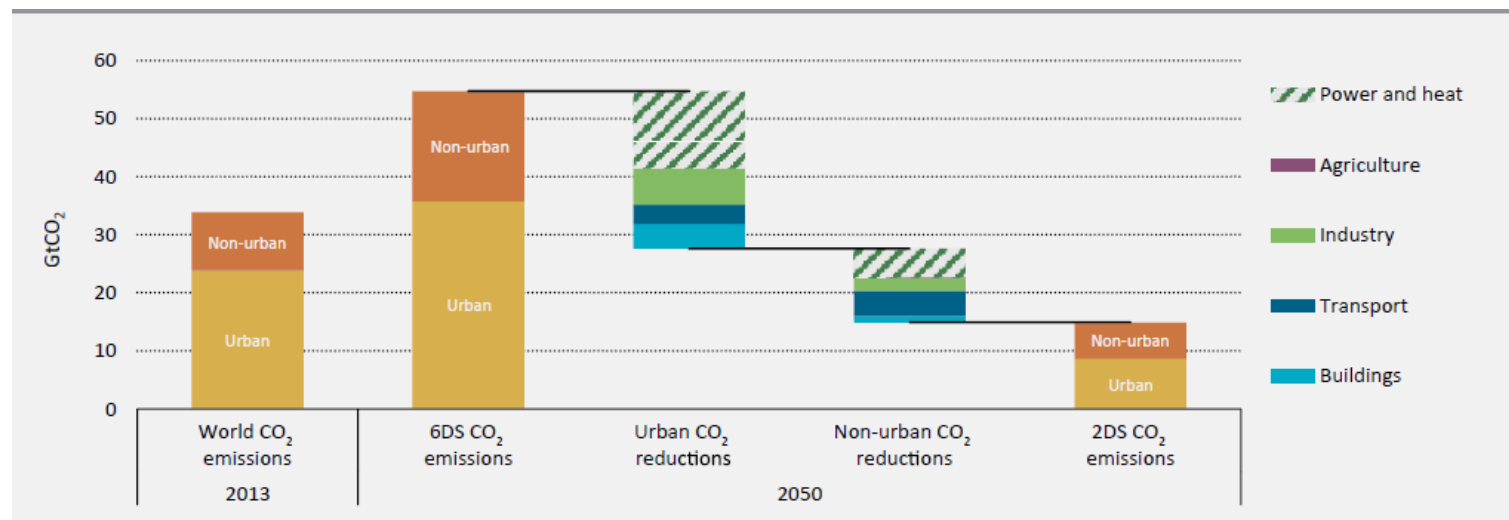


C40 (2015)- A report to the UN Secretary-General from the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, in partnership with the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group  
Advancing climate ambition: cities as partners in global climate action



GHG emissions and emissions avoided in the urban action scenario

# Urban carbon emissions reduction potentials, 2013-50

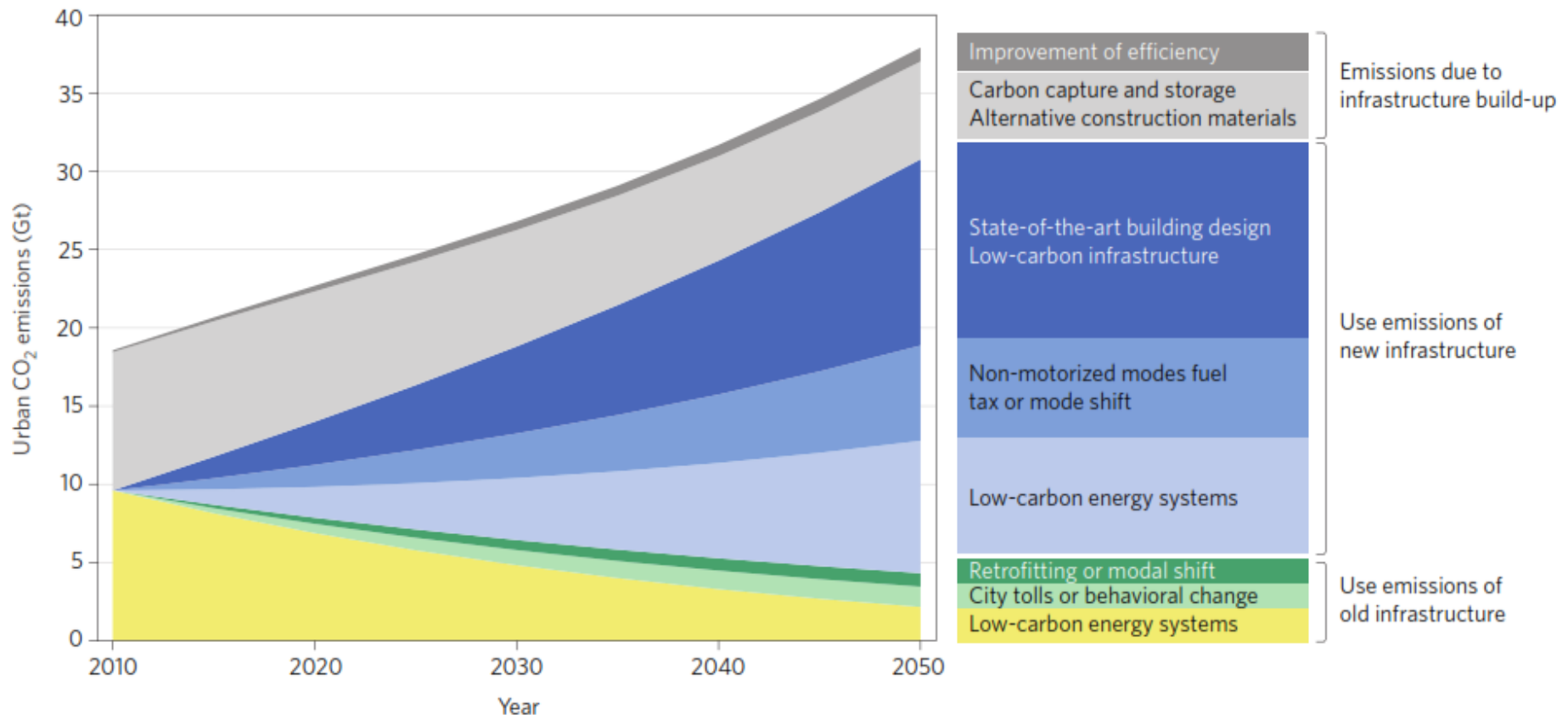


Note: CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the power sector are distributed to the end-use sectors proportional to their use of electricity and heat.

Under the 2DS, global urban CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be reduced by around 75% in 2050 compared with the 6DS.

# Urban infrastructure choices structure climate solutions

Felix Creutzig, Peter Agoston, Jan C. Minx, Josep G. Canadell, Robbie M. Andrew, Corinne Le Quéré, Glen P. Peters, Ayyoob Sharifi, Yoshiki Yamagata and Shobhakar Dhakal

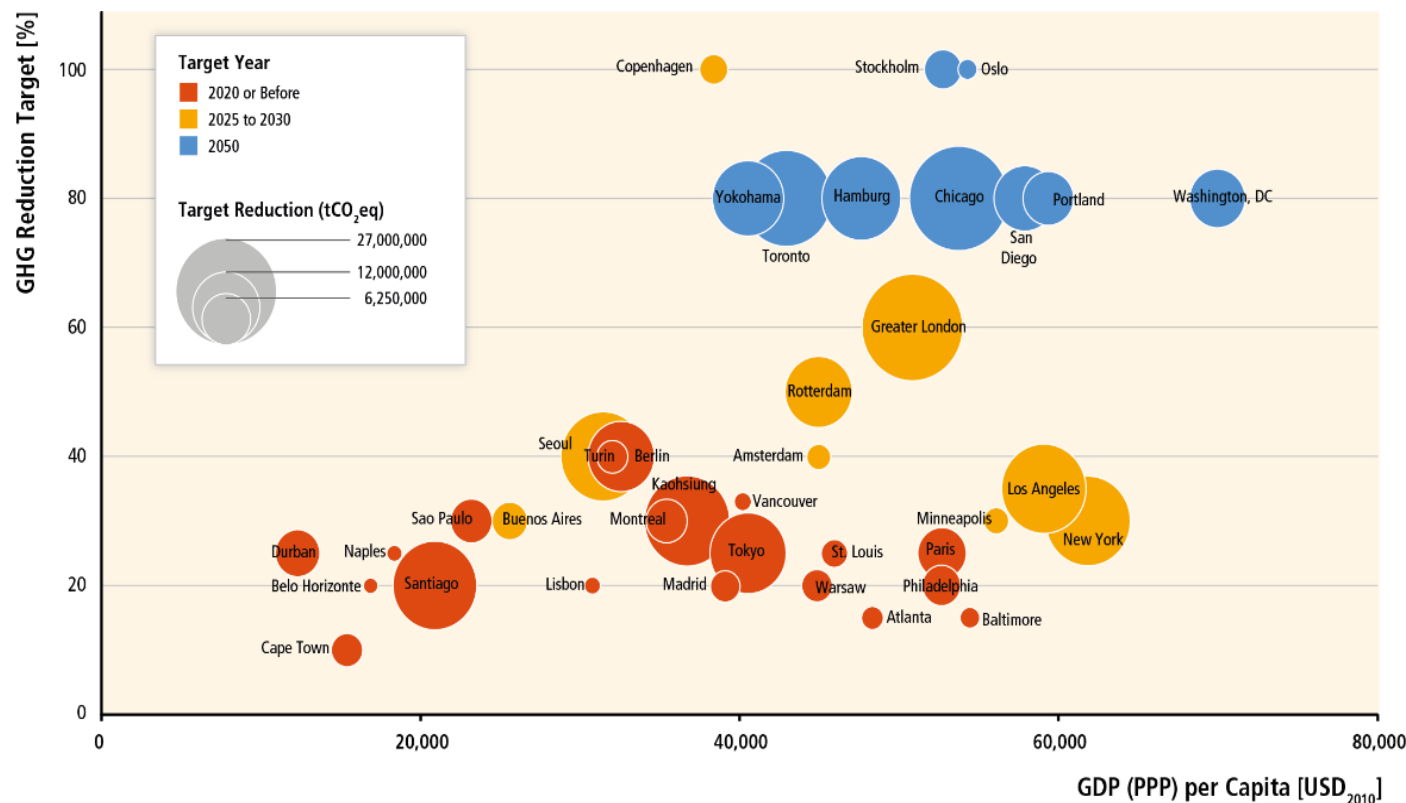


NATURE CLIMATE CHANGE | VOL 6 | DECEMBER 2016 |

We can cut global emission by half by 2040 if we build smarter cities



# Thousands of cities are undertaking Climate Action Plans and mitigation commitments



Sources: Baseline emissions, reduction targets, and population from self-reported data submitted to Carbon Disclosure Project (2013). GDP data from Istrate & Nadeau (2012). Note that the figure is illustrative only; data are not representative, and physical boundaries, emissions accounting methods and baseline years vary between cities. Many cities have targets for intermediate years (not shown).

**Yet, their aggregate impact on urban emissions is uncertain**

- Little systematic assessment on their level of implementation & the extent to which reduction targets are being achieved
- Focused largely on energy efficiency
- Limited consideration to land-use planning strategies and other cross-sectoral, cross boundary measures



# Knowledge gaps (AR5)

1. Lack of consistent and comparable emissions data at local scales
2. Little scientific understanding of the magnitude of the emissions reduction from altering urban form, and the emissions savings from integrated infrastructure and land use planning.
3. Lack of consistency and thus comparability on local emissions accounting methods
4. Few evaluations of urban climate action plans and their effectiveness.
5. Lack of scientific understanding of how cities can prioritize climate change mitigation strategies, local actions, investments, and policy responses that are locally relevant
6. Large uncertainties as to how urban areas will develop in the future

# What all these mean for Asia?

- Window of opportunities immense
- Science based action planning and tracking progress necessary
- Late-comer's advantage, large co-benefits
- Capacity/governance constraints – small and mid-size cities

# In summary

- Cities are crucial elements of global deep de-carbonization- next 2-3 decades is 'window of opportunities'
- Bottom-up city emissions inventories must be built, standardized and tracked despite having complexities – too few emission data
- 'Within-cities' and 'outside cities' emission implication are key, particularly infrastructure and cross-boundary emissions management
- Emission drivers and city-typology research must progress to inform climate solutions
- Future cities' mitigation potential assessment are in infancy stage
- Mitigation-achieved from climate actions must be paid a close attentions – ambition vs. outcomes
- 1.5 Degree vision needs systemic 'transformative pathways' as opposed to 'incremental' one – new avenues must be explored for cities

# IPCC WGIII AR6 Approved Chapter 8: Urban systems and other settlements

Drivers

- Demographic perspectives, migration, and urbanisation trends
- Consumption, lifestyle, and linkages between urban and rural areas

Emissions  
analyses

- Urbanisation wedge in future emissions and mitigation at global and national levels
- City emissions and drivers analysis, city typologies

Options  
analyses

- Urban emissions and infrastructure lock-in
- Urban mitigation options and strategies
- Low-carbon city scenarios, options and costs

# IPCC WGIII AR6 Approved Chapter 8: Urban systems and other settlements

- 
- Options analyses
    - Urban form, design, and role of spatial planning
    - Urban technologies, including disruptive technologies, the use of information and communication technologies, involving use of data
    - Waste and waste water management, material recycling
  - Experiences, lessons and how to do?
    - Innovative strategies and climate actions, urban experimentation, city networks and coalitions
    - Urban mitigation governance – levels, barriers, and opportunities
    - Policy instruments and infrastructure investments
    - Rural settlements: leapfrogging opportunities

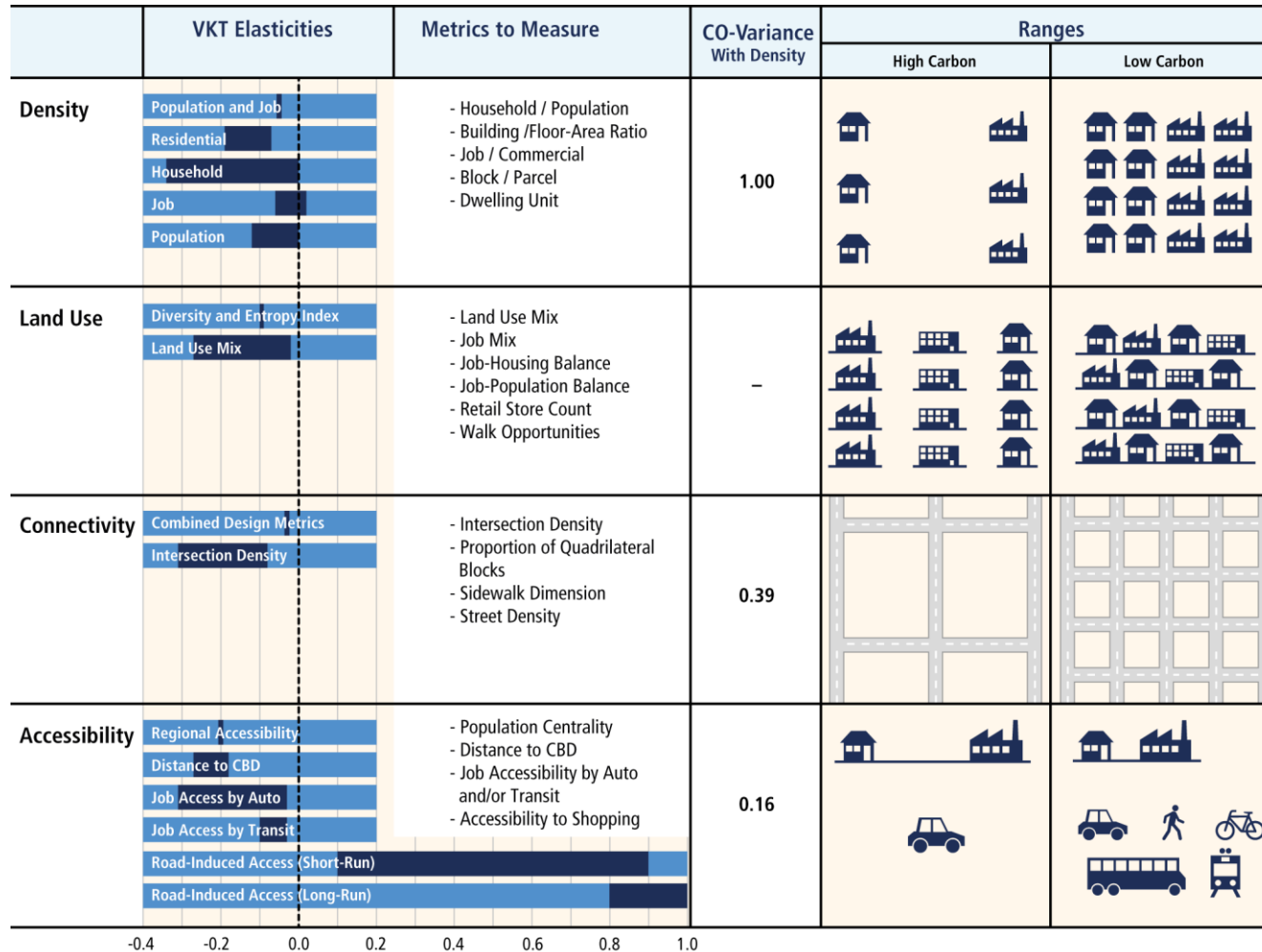
Thank you

[shobhakar.dhakal@gmail.com](mailto:shobhakar.dhakal@gmail.com)



# Key findings of AR5

# Key drivers for emissions from urban form are density, land use, connectivity and accessibility



Higher density leads to less emissions (i.a. shorter distances travelled).

Mix of land-use reduces emissions.

Improved infrastructural density and design (e.g. streets) reduces emissions.

Accessibility to people and places (jobs, housing, services, shopping) reduces emissions.

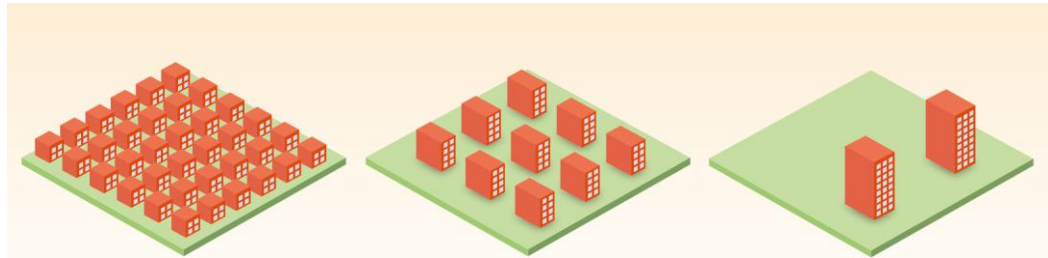
## Low carbon cities need to consider urban land use mix



 Residential  Park  Commercial

Manaugh and Kreider, 2013

## Density is necessary but not sufficient condition for lowering urban emissions



Adapted from (Cheng, 2009)

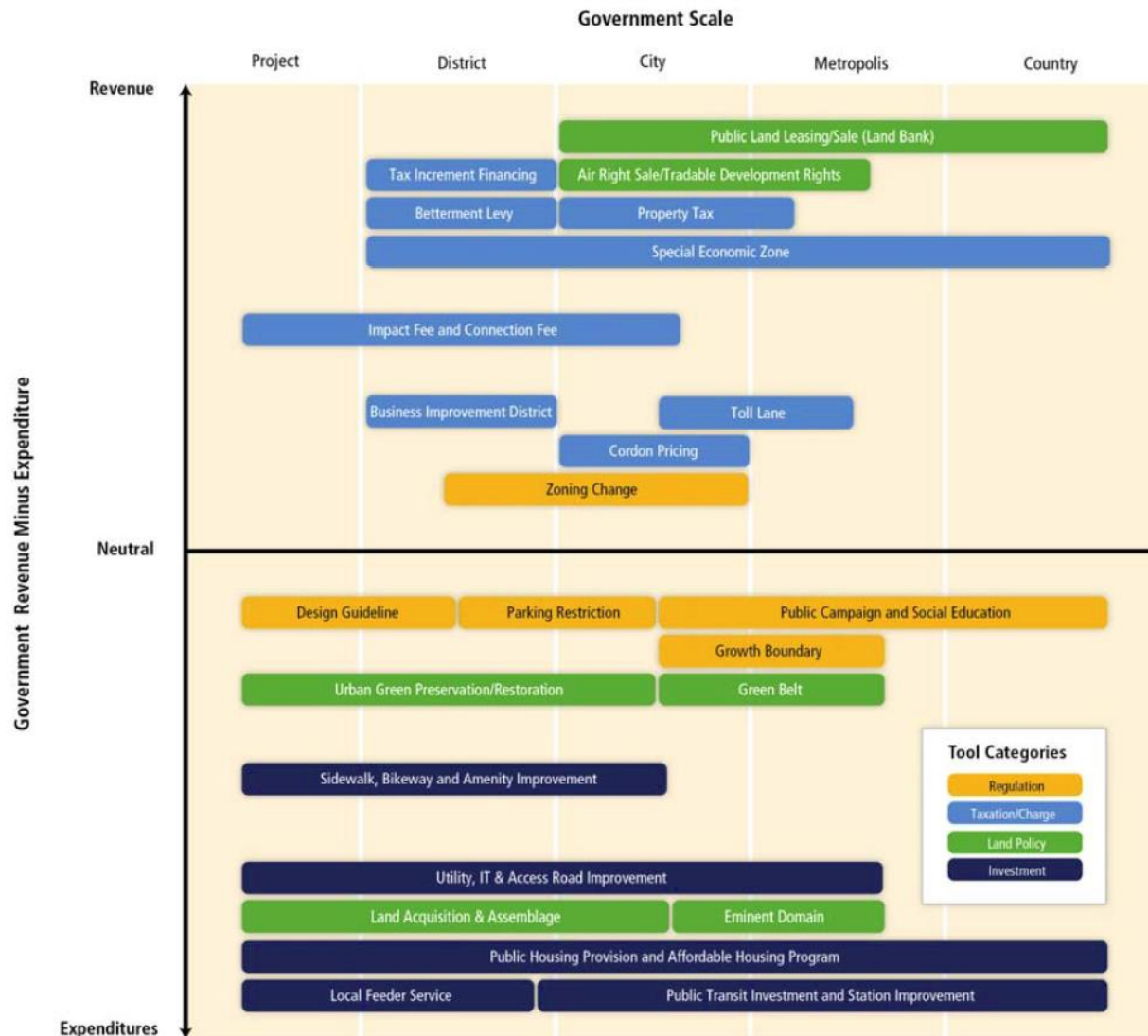
Mitigation options in urban areas vary by urbanization trajectories and are expected to be most effective when policy instruments are bundled

**The largest mitigation opportunities with respect to human settlements are in rapidly urbanizing areas with**

- Small and mid-size cities**
- Developing regions of the world**
- Economical growing regions**
- Infrastructure is being built and yet not locked-in**

**But these are often the places where limited financial and institutional capacities persist**

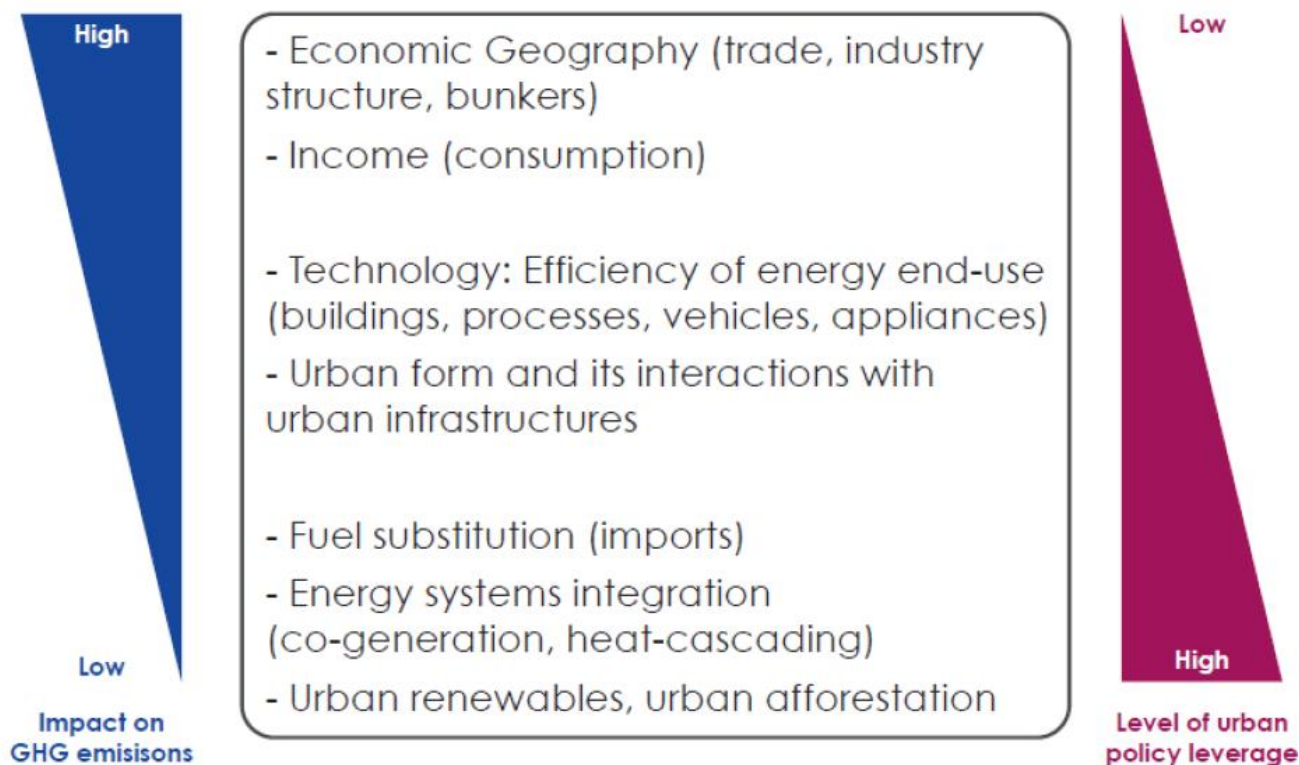
# The feasibility of spatial planning instruments for climate change mitigation is highly dependent on a city's financial and governance capability



Sources: Bahl and Linn (1998); Bhatt (2011); Cervero (2004); Deng (2005); Fekade (2000); Rogers (1999); Hong and Needham (2007); Peterson (2009); Peyroux (2012); Sandroni (2010); Suzuki et al. (2013); Urban LandMark (2012); U.S. EPA (2013); Weitz (2003).

# In decisions making, the policy leverages do not often match with the largest mitigation opportunities

Stylized Hierarchy of Urban Energy/GHG Drivers and Policy Leverages



**Systemic changes have more mitigation opportunities but hindered by policy fragmentation**

# Successful implementation of urban-scale climate change mitigation strategies can provide health, economic and air quality co-benefits

- Urban areas continue to struggle with challenges, including ensuring access to energy, limiting air and water pollution, and maintaining employment opportunities and competitiveness
- Action on urban-scale mitigation often depends on the ability to relate climate change mitigation efforts to local co-benefits**

Mitigation measures	Effect on additional objectives/concerns		
	Economic	Social (including health)	Environmental
Compact development and infrastructure	↑ Innovation and productivity <sup>1</sup> ↑↑ Higher rents & residential property values <sup>2</sup> ↑ Efficient resource use and delivery <sup>5</sup>	↑ Health from physical activity <sup>3</sup>	↑ Preservation of open space <sup>4</sup>
Increased accessibility	↑ Commute savings <sup>6</sup>	↑ Health from increased physical activity <sup>3</sup> ↑ Social interaction & mental health <sup>7</sup>	↑ Air quality and reduced ecosystem/health impacts <sup>8</sup>
Mixed land use	↑ Commute savings <sup>6</sup> ↑↑ Higher rents & residential property values <sup>2</sup>	↑ Health from increased physical activity <sup>3</sup> ↑ Social interaction and mental health <sup>7</sup>	↑ Air quality and reduced ecosystem/health impacts <sup>8</sup>



# ‘Governance paradox’ and need for a comprehensive approach

- ‘Systemic changes’ in urban areas have large mitigation opportunities but hindered by current patterns of urban governance, policy leverages and persisting policy fragmentation
- Governance and institutional capacity are scale and income dependent, i.e., tend to be weaker in smaller scale cities and in low income/revenue settings
  - However, the bulk of urban growth momentum is expected to unfold in small- to medium-size cities in non-Annex-I countries
  - The largest opportunities for GHG emission reduction might be precisely in urban areas where governance and institutional capacities to address them are weakest
- The feasibility of spatial planning instruments for climate change mitigation is highly dependent on a city’s financial and governance capability
- For designing and implementing climate policies effectively, institutional arrangements, governance mechanisms, and financial resources all should be aligned with the goals of reducing urban GHG emissions