

# Metrology for Climate Action: agreed outcomes and next steps from the BIPM-WMO Workshop



**WMO OMM**

World Meteorological Organization  
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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# World Meteorological Organization



WORLD  
METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATION

- UN Specialized Agency on weather, climate & water
- 193 Members, HQ in Geneva
- 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest UN Agency, 1950- (IMO 1873)
- Coordinates work of 1000s of national experts from meteorological & hydrological services, academia & private sector
- Co-Founder and host agency of IPCC (1<sup>st</sup> World Climate Conference)

# WMO Convention

## PART II

### ARTICLE 2

#### Purposes

The purposes of the Organization shall be:

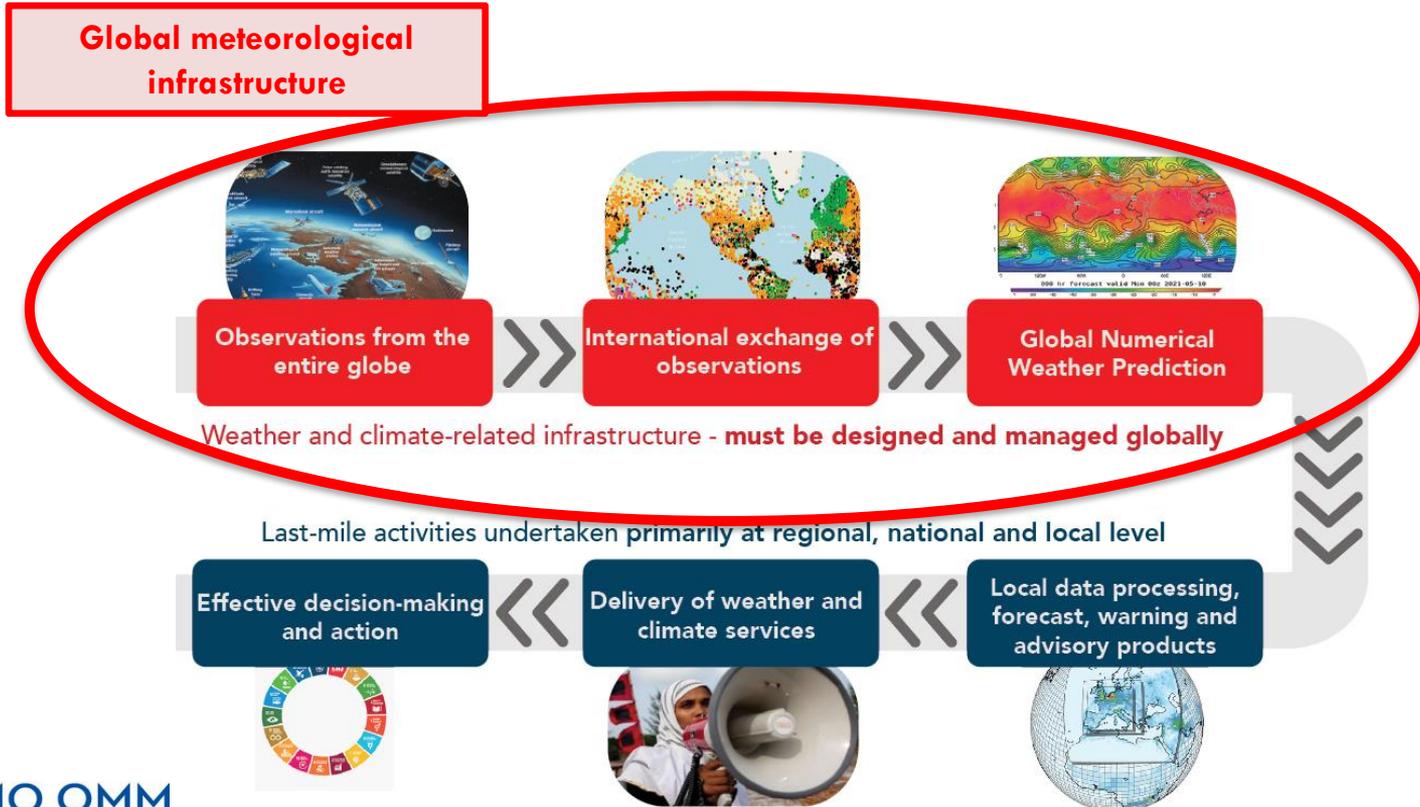
(a) To facilitate worldwide cooperation in the establishment of networks of stations for the making of meteorological observations as well as hydrological and other geophysical observations related to meteorology, and to promote the establishment and maintenance of centres charged with the provision of meteorological and related services;

(b) To promote the establishment and maintenance of systems for the rapid exchange of meteorological and related information;

(c) To promote standardization of meteorological and related observations and to ensure the uniform publication of observations and statistics;



# Successful application of weather and climate services depend on a functioning meteorological value chain



# WMO Vision, Mission, Objectives and Strategy

## VISION 2030

By 2030, we see a world where all nations, especially the most vulnerable, are more resilient to the socioeconomic consequences of extreme weather, climate, water and other environmental events; and underpin their sustainable development through the best possible services, whether over land, at sea or in the air *(and in space)*

## OVERARCHING PRIORITIES

Preparedness for, and reducing losses from hydrometeorological extremes

Climate-smart decision-making to build resilience and adaptation to climate risk

Socioeconomic value of weather, climate, hydrological and related environmental services

## CORE VALUES

Accountability for Results and Transparency

Collaboration and Partnership

Inclusiveness and Diversity

## LONG-TERM GOALS

### 1 Services



Better serve societal needs

### 2 Infrastructure



Enhance Earth system observations and predictions

### 3 Science & Innovations



Advance targeted research

### 4 Member Services



Close the capacity gap

### 5 Smart Organization



Strategic realignment of structure and programmes

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

FOCUSED ON 2020-23

- Strengthen national multi-hazard early warning/alert systems
- Broaden provision of policy- and decision-supporting climate, water and weather services

- Optimize observation data acquisition
- Improve access to, exchange and management of Earth system observation data and products
- Enable access and use of numerical analysis and prediction

- Advance scientific knowledge of the Earth system
- Enhance science-for-service value chain to improve predictive capabilities
- Advance policy-relevant science

- Enable developing countries to provide and utilize essential weather, climate, hydrological and related environmental services
- Develop and sustain core competencies and expertise

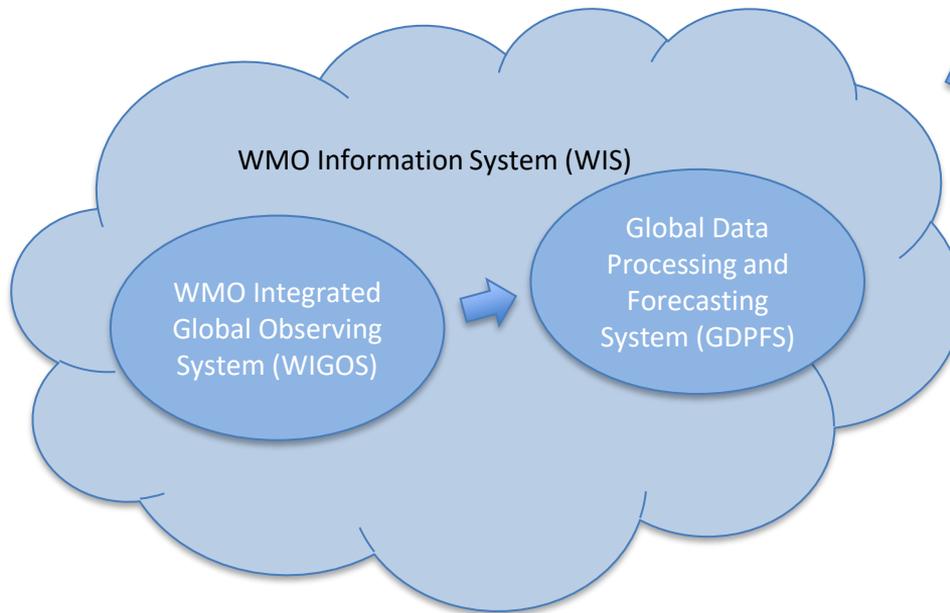
- Optimize WMO constituent body structure
- Streamline WMO programmes
- Advance equal, effective and inclusive participation



WMO OMM

See [https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice\\_display&id=21525](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=21525)

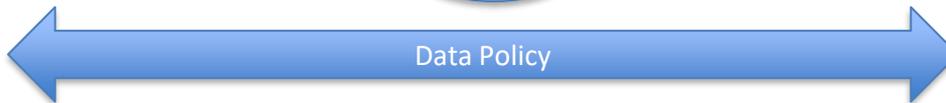
Reality  
(measurements  
and observations)



Data  
requirements  
from Members



Data  
(observations  
and products)  
to Members







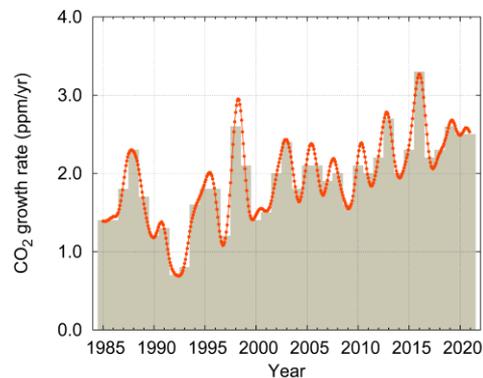
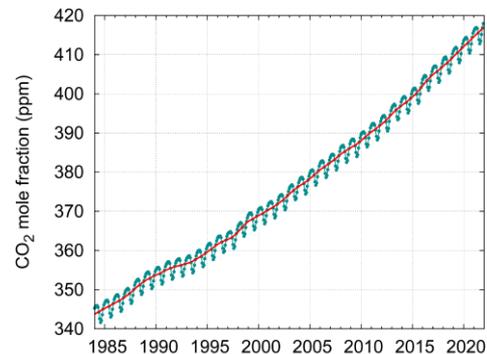
**COP27**

**SHARM EL-SHEIKH  
EGYPT 2022**

## **WMO at COP27:**

- State of Climate
- Early Warning Systems for all
- GHG Monitoring Infrastructure
- GCOS Implementation Plan
- Numerous side events

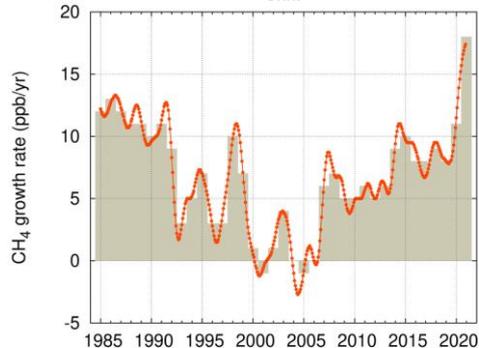
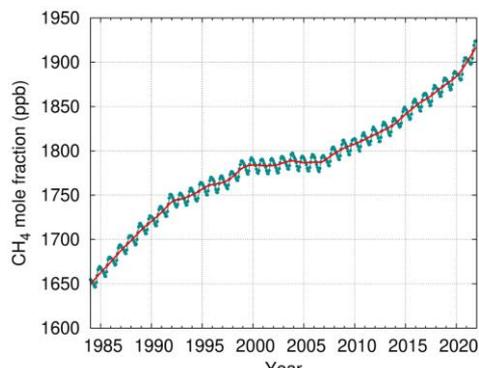
# New record levels of greenhouse gases. Methane annual increase highest on record



**Carbon Dioxide**

**415.7 ± 0.2 ppm**

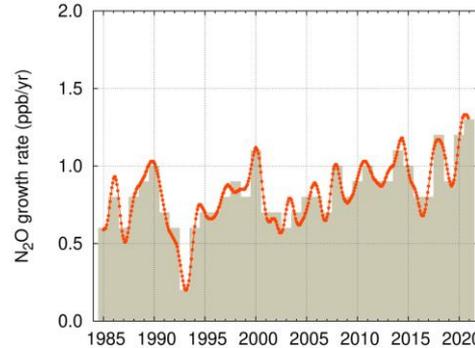
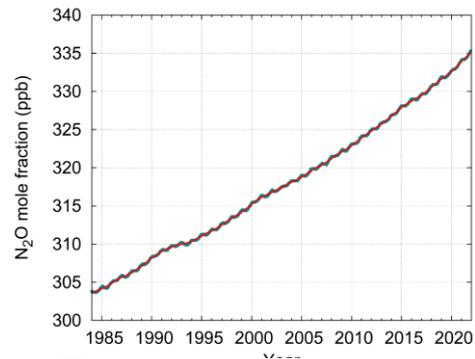
**149% of preindustrial**



**Methane**

**1908 ± 2 ppb**

**262% of preindustrial**



**Nitrous Oxide**

**334.5 ± 0.1 ppb**

**124% of preindustrial**



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The year 1750 is used for pre-industrial concentrations

WMO GAW

# Past eight years (2015-2022) set to be eight warmest years on record

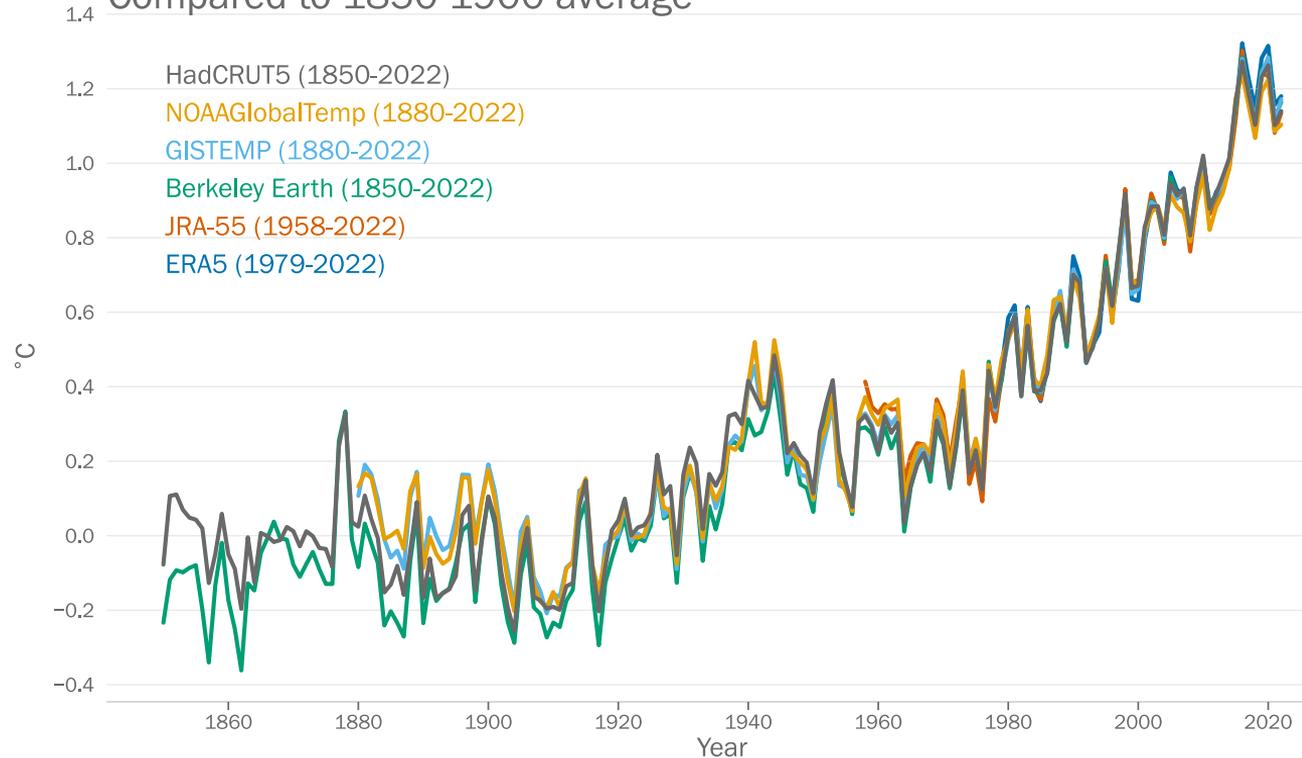
2022 based on data to September from 6 data sets

2022 most likely 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> warmest at this point despite ongoing La Niña

2022 1.15 [1.02 to 1.28] °C above 1850-1900 average

10-year average 2013-2022 1.14 [1.02 to 1.27] °C

## Global mean temperature Compared to 1850-1900 average



# Early warning/climate adaptation initiative for COP-27

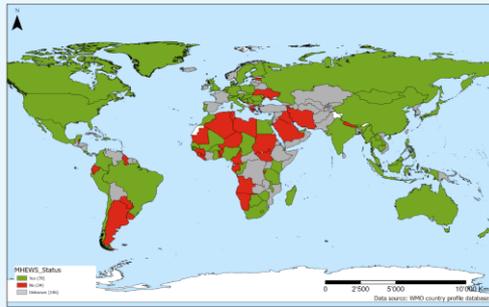
*"Today I announce the United Nations will spearhead new action to ensure every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years.*

*I have asked the World Meteorological Organization to lead this effort and to present an action plan to achieve this goal at the next UN climate conference, later this year in Egypt."*

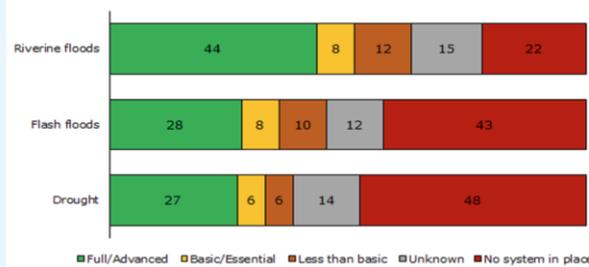
*António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, 23rd March 2022*



Global Status of Early Warning System Coverage



Capacities are particularly lacking for the creation of drought and flash flood warnings, despite these hazards being the deadliest and most costly events, respectively, after storms (1970-2019).

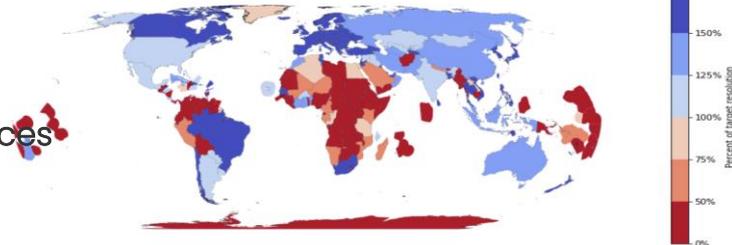


**53% of Members have no basic flash flood warning system**

**54% of Members have no basic drought warning system**

- Systematic Observation Financing Facility
- Investments in hydrological infrastructures
- Multi-Hazard, Impact-based early warning services
- Partnerships with WB, GCF, UNDP etc.

Surface Reporting Horizontal Resolution by Country and EEZ

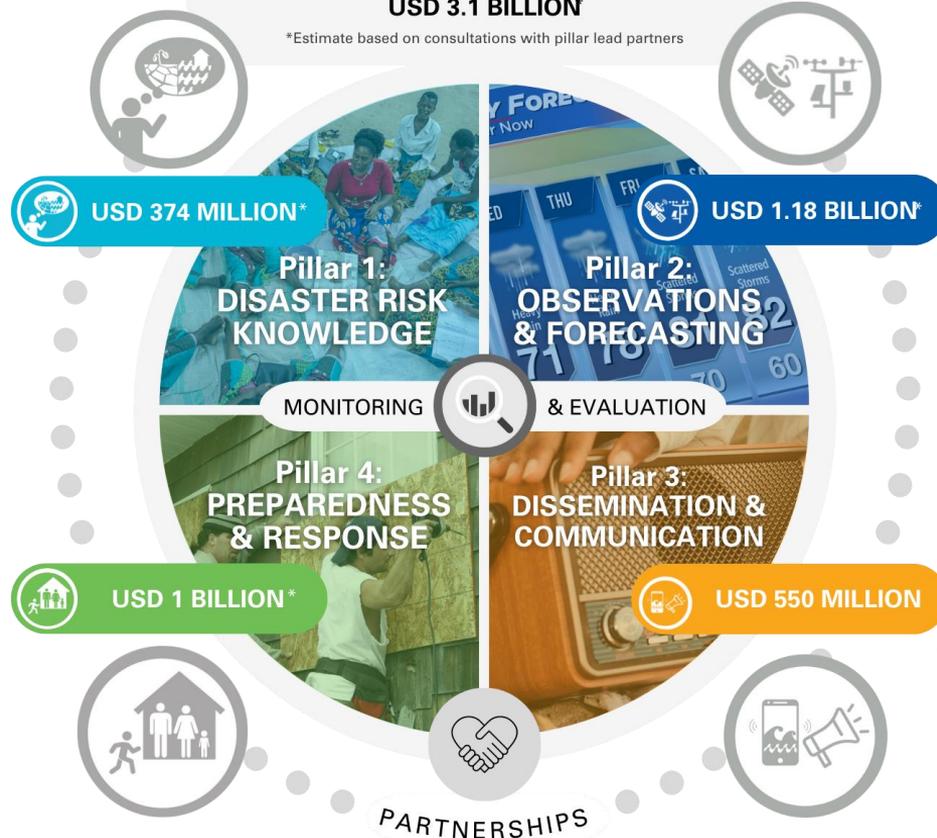


**WMO OMM**

New investment required to advance towards early warnings for all within five years:

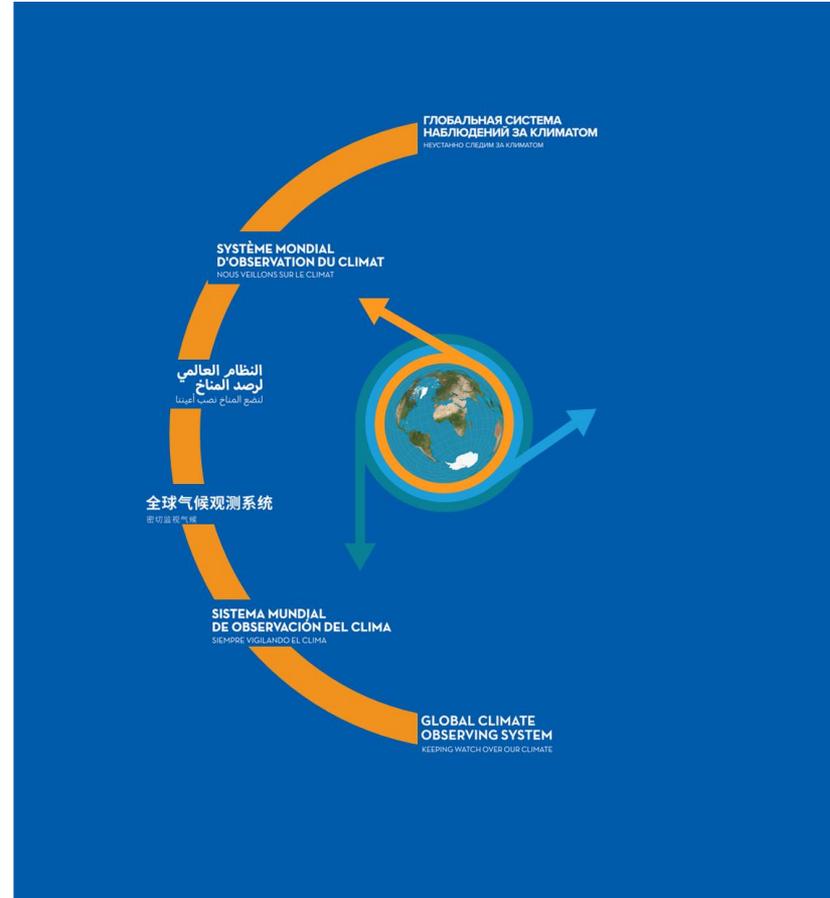
**USD 3.1 BILLION**

\*Estimate based on consultations with pillar lead partners

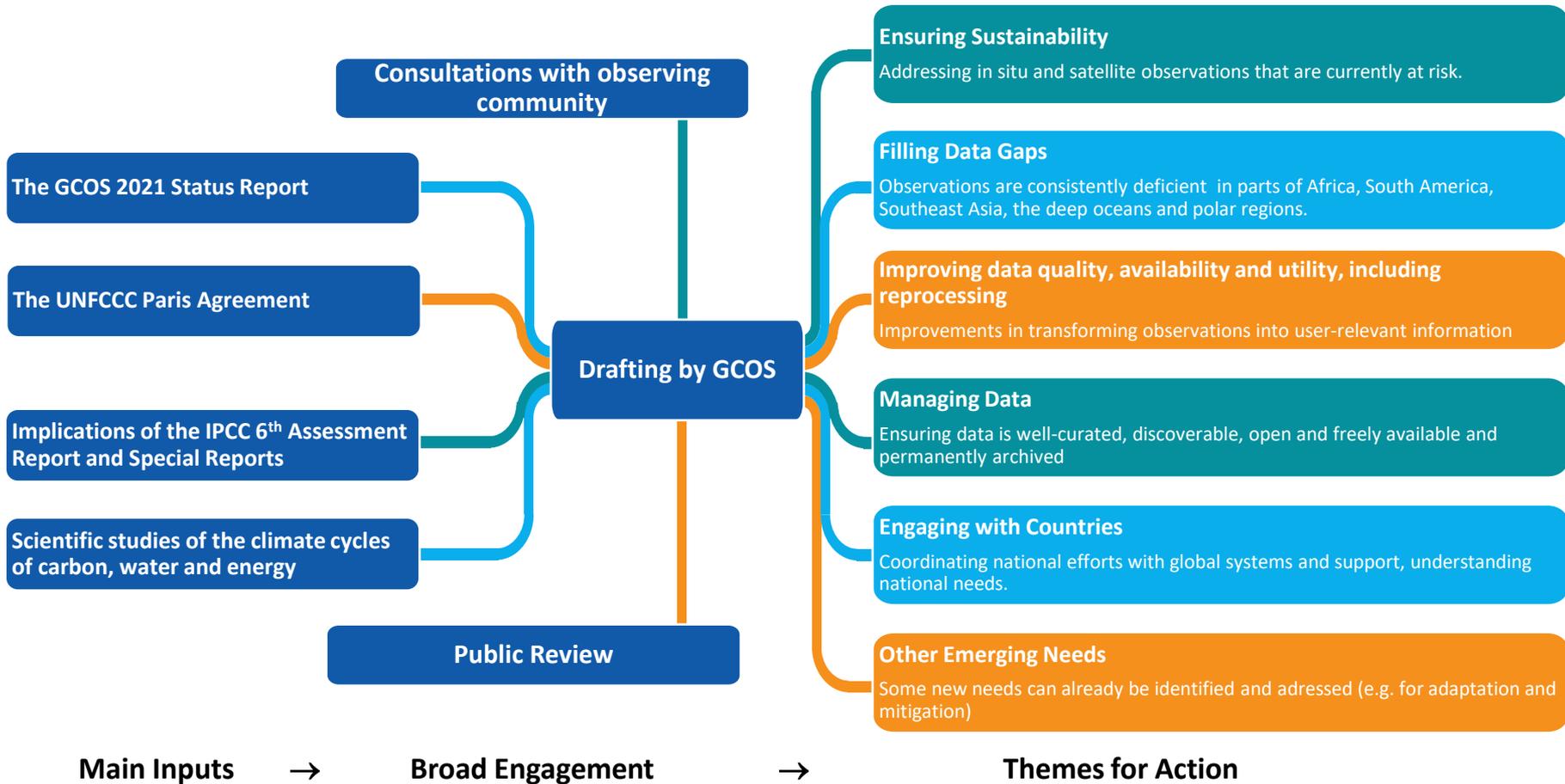


# GCOS Implementation Plan

- Produced every 5-6 years, GCOS Implementation Plans:
  - Are submitted to UNFCCC and the GCOS sponsors.
  - Provide recommendations for a sustained and fit for purpose Global Climate Observing System.
  - Cover climate monitoring needs over the entire Earth system from the atmosphere to the oceans, from the cryosphere to the biosphere.
  - Encompass the water, energy and carbon cycles.
- This 2022 GCOS Implementation Plan has a different form to earlier plans, it has:
  - Fewer, more focused, and integrated actions.
  - Clearer means of assessment.
  - Clearer identification of the stakeholders who need to respond to the actions.
  - The updated ECVs requirements are presented in a separate document - *The 2022 GCOS ECVs Requirements* ([GCOS 245](#)).



# Wide range of views and inputs condensed into 6 themes



# Greenhouse Gas Monitoring Infrastructure – Problem Statement

Anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases (primarily CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O) are the primary drivers of climate change;

In response, the Paris Agreement was approved in 2015, aiming to hold the increase in global mean temperature well below 2.0° C (preferably 1.5°), via reduction of GHG emissions;

This is not a simple and straightforward proposition!

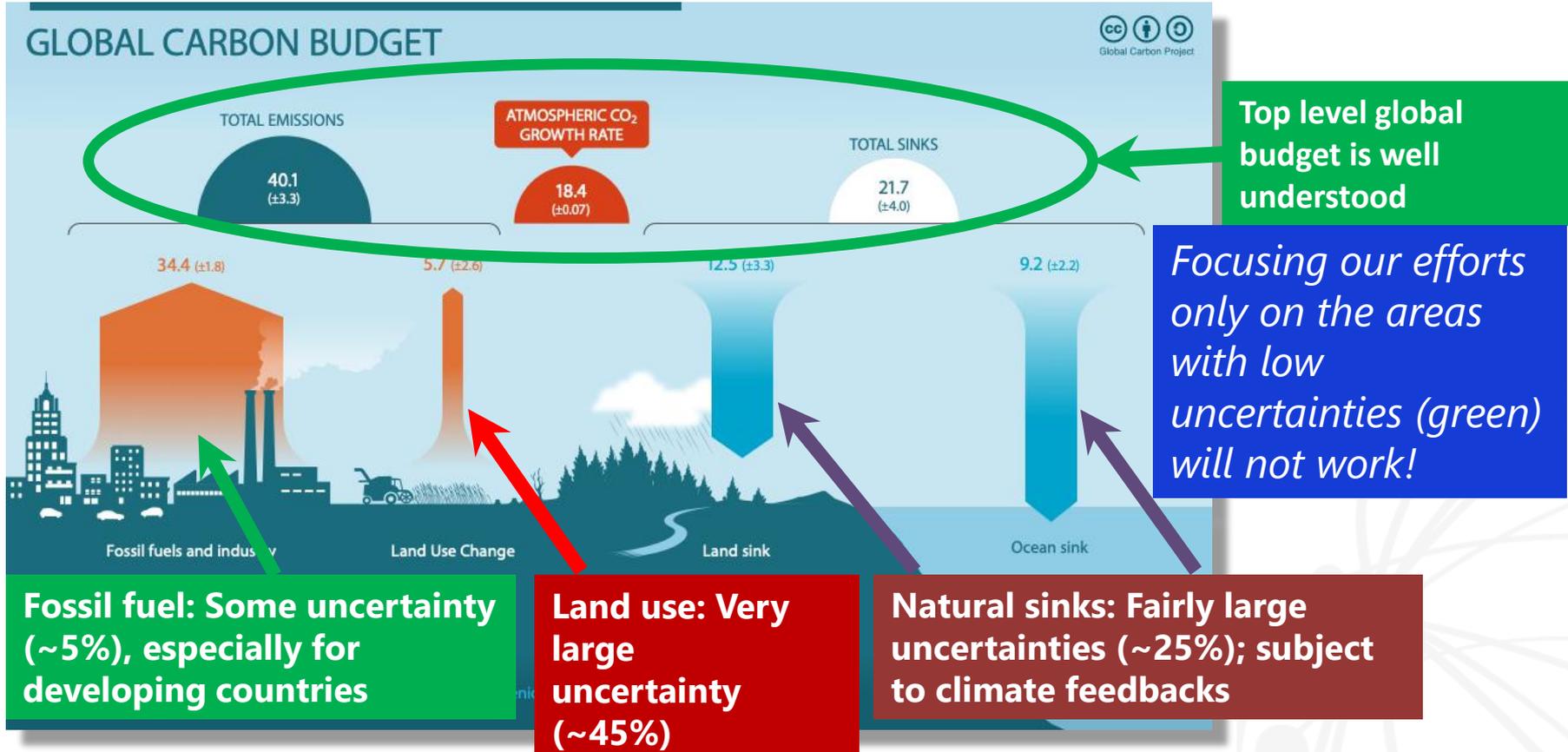
*HE Amb. Carlos Fuller, former SBSTA Chair (WMO Climate Policy Advisors Meeting, 2022): “What matters for climate is not how much carbon humans pump into the atmosphere; what matters is how much of it remains there at any given time!”*

*This means that successful mitigation requires monitoring and understanding of all GHG fluxes, natural as well as anthropogenic.*



# How well do we understand the CO<sub>2</sub> budget ?

(Graphic by the Global Carbon Project)



# How can we improve our understanding of GHG cycles?

*By using the approach that has proven immensely successful for weather prediction and climate monitoring:*

- **Integrated global GHG observing system** as a WIGOS component;
- **Timely international exchange of all GHG observations**, both from satellite and surface;
- **Routine GHG modeling and assimilation**, converting observations into *coherent, global estimates of greenhouse gas concentrations and fluxes*;
- Framework for **direct comparison** and independent verification **of model output**.



*Greenhouse gas monitoring using the World Weather Watch as paradigm*

# Collaboration between WMO and BIPM

- WMO signed the CIPM Mutual Recognition Arrangement in 2010 and designated 3 laboratories.
- Three conferences were co-organized between WMO and BIPM in 2010, 2015 and 2022
- WMO taking part in CCPR and CCQM
- Several NMI experts are members of WMO Expert Teams, and chairing some of them.
- Stronger collaboration is welcomed.

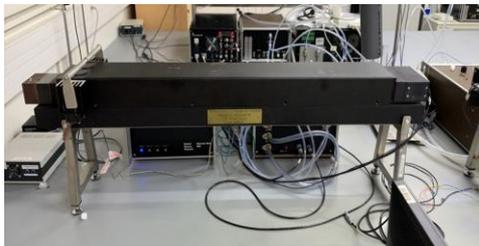
# WMO participation in the CIPM MRA

**WMO designated laboratories (since 2010): NOAA/ESRL, EMPA and PMOD/WRC**

Comparison	Description	Measurement	Pilot institute	WMO Laboratory
BIPM.QM-K1	Ozone at ambient level	2007 -	BIPM	EMPA
CCQM-K68.2019	Nitrous oxide in air	2019 - 2020	BIPM	NOAA/ESRL
CCQM-K82	Methane in air	2012	BIPM	NOAA/ESRL
CCQM-K120	Carbon dioxide in air	2017	BIPM	NOAA/ESRL
EURAMET.PR-S6	Total solar irradiance	2015	PMOD/WRC(CH)	PMOD/WRC(CH)

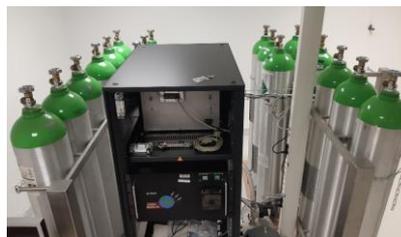
## Participation in currently active/planned comparisons:

### Surface Ozone Standards



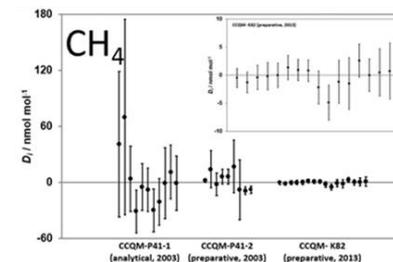
BIPM.QM-K1

### CO<sub>2</sub> in Air Standards



CCQM-P225 BIPM.QM-K2,5

### Methane in Air Standards



CCQM-K82.2023



## **Theme 1: Metrology in support of the physical science basis of climate change and climate observations**

- Atmospheric chemistry and physics
- Oceans and hydrology
- Earth Energy Balance
- Biosphere monitoring
- Cryosphere Monitoring

## **Theme 2: Metrology as an integral component of operational systems to estimate greenhouse gas emissions based on accurate measurements and analyses**

- Accuracy requirements for atmospheric composition measurements across economic sectors, and temporal and spatial scales
- State of play in integrated approaches for advanced GHG emission estimates and the way forward to operational services
- Novel GHG concentration and flux methods and sensors
- Strengthening the linkage of remote sensing GHG concentration measurements to emission fluxes



- 1078 registered participants
- 145 draft recommendations
  - 99 for Theme 1
  - 46 for Theme 2



Many opportunities for future WMO-BIPM collaboration

- Participants' comments on draft recommendations finished on 4. Nov.
- Additional work will be required by the Steering Committee to harmonize the style of the recommendations
- Some topics are recurring across the various sub-themes
  - Vocabulary
  - ...

# Some areas for future work/collaboration

## based on draft recommendations of Workshop on Metrology for Climate Action

- Vocabulary related to metrology
  - Critical for increased collaboration
  - This topic was already identified at time of 2010 BIPM-WMO workshop, and now reiterated by most topic areas.
  - WMO INFCOM-2 (Oct. 2022) agreed on the need to develop a WMO standard vocabulary
    - Respecting other internationally recognized vocabularies (such as the VIM)
  - Strong collaboration between experts of BIPM/NMIs and WMO will be needed
- Training material on metrological principles
  - WMO INFCOM has a team working on this, contribution from more metrology experts would be welcome.
- Development of guidance material for traceability of new Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) products
- Update of WMO guidance material reflecting new and innovative measurement methods

# Some areas for future work/collaboration

based on draft recommendations of Workshop on Metrology for Climate Action

- Developing uncertainty methods relating in-situ and space measurements.
  - Disagreement between satellite and in-situ measurements are frequently not understood (even for well metrologically characterized measurements)
- Characterization of impact of siting on measurement uncertainty budget
  - Significant, if not major, part of the uncertainty budget comes from the siting rather than measurement method and
- Implementation of tiered network concept (GSRN, BSRN, GAW,...)
- Traceability of water vapor measurements (radiosonde intercomparisons)
- Traceability of ozone concentration

# Some areas for future work/collaboration

## based on draft recommendations of Workshop on Metrology for Climate Action

- Greenhouse Gas Initiative
  - Expansion of network (including for lower tiers)
  - Continue collaboration between WMO and BIPM/NMIs on GAW
  - IG3IS
  - Advance understanding of bias and uncertainties in GHG observations and data
- Replacement of radiation scales (WRR, WISG) by SI-traceable reference (Tentatively around 2027)
- Replacement of total column ozone and aerosol optical depth relative measurements to SI-traceable measurements
- Improve traceability of Earth Observation data used by WMO
  - While a significant fraction of in-situ and ground-based measurement networks could provide fully traceable data (e.g. datum, U95, coverage factor), uncertainty information is generally not shared with the measurements.
- WMO expresses strong support to SI-Traceable Satellites, such as TRUTHS and CLARREO

# Final remarks

- How to engage in WMO Expert Teams (ETs):
  - WMO expert teams are usually established for a 4-year duration.
  - Call for experts usually takes place before ETs are established.
  - BIPM Secretariat can nominate experts to take part in / contribute to work of ETs.
  - Nominations are reviewed by ET Chairs and relevant higher body leadership.



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