

Technical summary

Book or Report Section

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1 Introduction

2
3 The Working Group I (WGI) contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Sixth
4 Assessment Report (AR6) assess the physical science basis of climate change. As part of that contribution,
5 this Technical Summary (TS) is designed to bridge between the comprehensive assessment of the WGI
6 Chapters and its Summary for Policymakers (SPM). It is primarily built from the Executive Summaries of
7 the individual chapters and atlas and provides a synthesis of key findings based on multiple lines of evidence
8 (e.g., analyses of observations, models, paleoclimate information and understanding of physical, chemical
9 and biological processes and components of the climate system). All the findings and figures here are
10 supported by and traceable to the underlying chapters, with relevant chapter sections indicated in curly
11 brackets.

12
13 Throughout this Technical Summary, key assessment findings are reported using the IPCC calibrated
14 uncertainty language (Chapter 1, Box 1.1). Two calibrated approaches are used to communicate the degree
15 of certainty in key findings, which are based on author teams' evaluations of underlying scientific
16 understanding:

- 17 (1) Confidence¹ is a qualitative measure of the validity of a finding, based on the type, amount, quality
18 and consistency of evidence (e.g., data, mechanistic understanding, theory, models, expert judgment)
19 and the degree of agreement; and
- 20 (2) Likelihood² provides a quantified measure of confidence in a finding expressed probabilistically
21 (e.g., based on statistical analysis of observations or model results, or both, and expert judgement by
22 the author team or from a formal quantitative survey of expert views, or both).

23
24
25 Where there is sufficient scientific confidence, findings can also be formulated as statements of fact without
26 uncertainty qualifiers. Throughout IPCC reports, the calibrated language is clearly identified by being
27 typeset in italics.

28
29 The context and progress in climate science (TS.1) is followed by a Cross-Section Box TS.1 on global
30 surface temperature change. TS.2 provides information about past and future large-scale changes in all
31 components of the climate system. TS.3 summarises knowledge and understanding of climate forcings,
32 feedbacks and responses. Infographic TS.1 uses a storyline approach to integrate findings on possible climate
33 futures. Finally, TS.4 provides a synthesis of climate information at regional scales.³ The list of acronyms
34 used in the WGI Report is in Annex VIII.

35
36 The AR6 WGI report promotes best practices in traceability and reproducibility, including through adoption
37 of the Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable (FAIR) principles for scientific data. Each chapter
38 has a data table (in its Supplementary Material) documenting the input data and code used to generate its
39 figures and tables. In addition, a collection of data and code from the report has been made freely-available
40 online via long-term archives. ([URL to access WGI data to be added by 30 June])

41

¹ In this Technical Summary, the following summary terms are used to describe the available evidence: limited, medium, or robust; and for the degree of agreement: low, medium, or high. A level of confidence is expressed using five qualifiers: very low, low, medium, high, and very high, and typeset in italics, e.g., *medium confidence*. For a given evidence and agreement statement, different confidence levels can be assigned, but increasing levels of evidence and degrees of agreement are correlated with increasing confidence (see Chapter 1, Box 1.1 for more details).

² In this Technical Summary, the following terms have been used to indicate the assessed likelihood of an outcome or a result: *virtually certain* 99–100% probability, *very likely* 90–100%, *likely* 66–100%, *about as likely as not* 33–66%, *unlikely* 0–33%, *very unlikely* 0–10%, *exceptionally unlikely* 0–1%. Additional terms (*extremely likely*: 95–100%, *more likely than not* >50–100%, and *extremely unlikely* 0–5%) may also be used when appropriate. Assessed likelihood is typeset in italics, e.g., *very likely* (see Chapter 1, Box 1.1 for more details). Throughout the WGI report and unless stated otherwise, uncertainty is quantified using 90% uncertainty intervals. The 90% uncertainty interval, reported in square brackets [x to y], is estimated to have a 90% likelihood of covering the value that is being estimated. The range encompasses the median value, and there is an estimated 10% combined likelihood of the value being below the lower end of the range (x) and above its upper end (y). Often the distribution will be considered symmetric about the corresponding best estimate, but this is not always the case. In this report, an assessed 90% uncertainty interval is referred to as a '*very likely range*'. Similarly, an assessed 66% uncertainty interval is referred to as a '*likely range*'.

³ The regional trackback matrices that provide the location of the assessment findings synthesized in TS.4 are in the Supplementary Material (SM) for Chapter 10.

1 These FAIR principles are central to the WGI Interactive Atlas, an online tool that complements the WGI
2 Report by providing flexible spatial and temporal analyses of past, observed and projected climate change
3 information. ([URL to access WGI data to be added by 30 June]).
4

5 Regarding the representation of robustness and uncertainty in maps, the method chosen for the AR6⁴ differs
6 from the method used in the Sixth Assessment Report (AR5). This choice is based on new research in the
7 visualization of uncertainty and on user surveys.
8
9

10 [START BOX TS.1 HERE]
11

12 **Box TS.1: Core Concepts Central to This Report**

13
14 This box provides short descriptions of key concepts which are relevant to the AR6 WGI assessment, with a
15 focus on their use in the Technical Summary and the Summary for Policymakers. The Glossary (Annex VII)
16 includes more information on these concepts along with definitions of many other important terms and
17 concepts used in this Report.
18

19 **Characteristics of Climate Change Assessment**

20
21 **Global warming:** Global warming refers to the change of global surface temperature relative to a baseline
22 depending upon the application. Specific global warming levels, such as 1.5°C, 2°C, 3°C or 4°C, are defined
23 as changes in global surface temperature relative to the years 1850–1900 as the baseline (the earliest period of
24 reliable observations with sufficient geographic coverage). They are used to assess and communicate
25 information about global and regional changes, linking to scenarios and used as a common basis for WGII and
26 WGIII assessments. (TS.1.3, Cross-Section Box TS.1) {1.4.1, 1.6.2, 4.6.1, Cross-Chapter Boxes 1.5, 2.3, 11.1,
27 and 12.1, Atlas.3-Atlas.11, Glossary}
28

29 **Emergence:** Emergence refers to the experience or appearance of novel conditions of a particular climate
30 variable in a given region. This concept is often expressed as the ratio of the change in a climate variable
31 relative to the amplitude of natural variations of that variable (often termed a ‘signal-to-noise’ ratio, with
32 emergence occurring at a defined threshold of this ratio). Emergence can be expressed in terms of a time or a
33 global warming level at which the novel conditions appear and can be estimated using observations or model
34 simulations. (TS.1.2.3, TS.4.2) {1.4.2, FAQ 1.2, 7.5.5, 10.3, 10.4, 12.5.2, Cross-Chapter Box Atlas.1,
35 Glossary}
36

37 **Cumulative carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions:** The total net amount of CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere as a
38 result of human activities. Given the nearly linear relationship between cumulative CO₂ emissions and
39 increases in global surface temperature, cumulative CO₂ emissions are relevant for understanding how past
40 and future CO₂ emissions affect global surface temperature. A related term – remaining carbon budget – is
41 used to describe the total net amount of CO₂ that could be released in the future by human activities while
42 keeping global warming to a specific global warming level, such as 1.5°C, taking into account the warming
43 contribution from non-CO₂ forcings as well. The remaining carbon budget is expressed from a recent specified
44 date, while the total carbon budget is expressed starting from the pre-industrial period. (TS.1.3, TS.3.4) {1.6.3,
45 5.5, Glossary}
46

47 **Net zero CO₂ emissions:** A condition that occurs when the amount of CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere by
48 human activities equals the amount of CO₂ removed from the atmosphere by human activities over a specified
49 period of time. Net negative CO₂ emissions occur when anthropogenic removals exceed anthropogenic
50 emissions. (TS.3.3) {Box 1.4, Glossary}

⁴ The AR6 figures follow either one of the following approaches. For observations, the absence of ‘x’ symbols shows areas with statistical significance (while the presence of ‘x’ indicates non-significance). For model projections, the method offers two approaches with varying complexity. In the simple approach, high agreement (≥80%) is indicated with no overlay, and diagonal lines (//) shows low agreement (<80%); In the advanced approach, areas with no overlay display robust signal (≥66% of models show change greater than the variability threshold and ≥80% of all models agree on the sign of change), reverse diagonal lines (\\) shows no robust signal, and crossed lines show conflicting signals (i.e., significant change but low agreement). Cross-Chapter Box Atlas.1 provides more information on the AR6 method for visualizing robustness and uncertainty on maps.

Human Influence on the Climate System

Earth's energy imbalance: In a stable climate, the amount of energy that the Earth receives from the Sun is approximately in balance with the amount of energy that is lost to space in the form of reflected sunlight and thermal radiation. 'Climate drivers', such as an increase in greenhouse gases or aerosols, interfere with this balance, causing the system to either gain or lose energy. The strength of a climate driver is quantified by its effective radiative forcing (ERF), measured in W m^{-2} . Positive ERF leads to warming and negative ERF leads to cooling. That warming or cooling in turn can change the energy imbalance through many positive (amplifying) or negative (dampening) climate feedbacks. (TS.2.2, TS.3.1, TS.3.2) {2.2.8, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, Box 7.1, Box 7.2, Glossary}

Attribution: Attribution is the process of evaluating the relative contributions of multiple causal factors to an observed change in climate variables (e.g., global surface temperature, global mean sea level change), or to the occurrence of extreme weather or climate-related events. Attributed causal factors include human activities (such as increases in greenhouse gas concentration and aerosols, or land-use change) or natural external drivers (solar and volcanic influences), and in some cases internal variability. (TS.1.2.4, TS.2, Box TS.10) {Cross-Working Group Box: Attribution, 3.5, 3.8, 10.4, 11.2.4, Glossary}

Committed change, long-term commitment: Changes in the climate system, resulting from past, present and future human activities, which will continue long into the future (centuries to millennia) even with strong reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Some aspects of the climate system, including the terrestrial biosphere, deep ocean and the cryosphere, respond much more slowly than surface temperatures to changes in greenhouse gas concentrations. As a result, there are already substantial committed changes associated with past greenhouse gas emissions. For example, global mean sea level will continue to rise for thousands of years, even if future CO_2 emissions are reduced to net zero and global warming halted, as excess energy due to past emissions continues to propagate into the deep ocean and as glaciers and ice sheets continue to melt. (TS.2.1, Box TS.4, Box TS.9) {1.2.1, 1.3, Box 1.2, Cross-Chapter Box 5.3}

Climate Information for Regional Climate Change and Risk Assessment

Distillation: The process of synthesizing information about climate change from multiple lines of evidence obtained from a variety of sources, taking into account user context and values. It leads to an increase in the usability, usefulness, and relevance of climate information, enhances stakeholder trust, and expands the foundation of evidence used in climate services. It is particularly relevant in the context of co-producing regional-scale climate information to support decision-making. (TS.4.1, Box TS.11) {10.1, 10.5, 12.6}

(Climate change) risk: The concept of risk is a key aspect of how the IPCC assesses and communicates to decision-makers about the potential for adverse consequences for human or ecological systems, recognising the diversity of values and objectives associated with such systems. In the context of climate change, risks can arise from potential impacts of climate change as well as human responses to climate change. WGI contributes to the common IPCC risk framing through the assessment of relevant climate information, including climatic impact-drivers and low-likelihood, high impact outcomes. (TS.1.4, TS.4.1, Box TS.4) {Cross-Chapter Boxes 1.3 and 12.1, Glossary}

Climatic impact-drivers: Physical climate system conditions (e.g., means, events, extremes) that can be directly connected with having impacts on human or ecological systems are described as 'climatic impact-drivers' (CIDs) without anticipating whether their impacts are detrimental (i.e., as for hazards in the context of climate change risks) or provide potential opportunities. A range of indices may capture the sector- or application-relevant characteristics of a climatic impact-driver and can reflect exceedances of identified tolerance thresholds. (TS.1.4, TS.4.3) {12.1-12.3, FAQ12.1, Glossary}

Storylines: The term storyline is used both in connection to scenarios (related to a future trajectory of emissions or socio-economic developments) or to describe plausible trajectories of weather and climate conditions or events, especially those related to high levels of risk. Physical climate storylines are introduced in AR6 to explore uncertainties in climate change and natural climate variability, to develop and communicate integrated

1 and context-relevant regional climate information, and to address issues with deep uncertainty⁵, *including low-*
2 *likelihood, high-impact outcomes.* (TS.1.4, Box TS.3, Infographic TS.1) {1.4.4, Box 10.2, Glossary}

3
4 **Low-likelihood, high impact outcomes:** Events whose probability of occurrence is low or not well known (as
5 in the context of deep uncertainty) but whose potential impacts on society and ecosystems could be high. To
6 better inform risk assessment and decision-making, such low-likelihood outcomes are considered if they are
7 associated with very large consequences and may therefore constitute material risks, even though those
8 consequences do not necessarily represent the most likely outcome. (TS.1.4, Box TS.3, Figure TS.6) {1.4.4,
9 4.8, Cross Chapter Box 1.3, Glossary}

10
11 **[END BOX TS.1 HERE]**

12
13
14 As part of the AR6 cycle, the IPCC produced three Special Reports in 2018 and 2019: the Special Report on
15 Global Warming of 1.5°C (SR1.5), the Special Report on Oceans and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate
16 (SROCC), and the Special Report on Climate Change and Land (SRCCL).

17
18 The AR6 WGI Report provides a full and comprehensive assessment of the physical science basis of climate
19 change that builds on the previous assessments and these Special Reports and consider new information and
20 knowledge from the recent scientific literature⁶, including longer observational datasets, new scenarios and
21 model results.

22
23 The structure of the AR6 WGI report is designed to enhance the visibility of knowledge developments and to
24 facilitate the integration of multiple lines of evidence, thereby improving confidence in findings. The Report
25 has been peer-reviewed by the scientific community and governments (Annex X provides the Expert
26 Reviewer list). The substantive introduction provided by Chapter 1 is followed by a first set of chapters
27 dedicated to large-scale climate knowledge (Chapters 2–4), which encompasses observations and
28 paleoclimate evidence, causes of observed changes, and projections, and are complemented by Chapter 11
29 for large-scale changes in extremes. The second set of chapters (Chapters 5–9) is orientated around the
30 understanding of key climate system components and processes, including the global cycles of carbon,
31 energy and water; short-lived climate forcers and their link to air quality; the ocean, cryosphere and sea level
32 change. The last set of chapters (Chapters 10–12 and the Atlas) is dedicated to the assessment and distillation
33 of regional climate information from multiple lines of evidence at sub-continental to local scales (including
34 urban climate), with a focus on recent and projected regional changes in mean climate, extremes, and
35 climatic impact-drivers. The new online Interactive Atlas allows users to interact in a flexible manner
36 through maps, time series and summary statistics with climate information for a set of updated WGI
37 reference regions. The Report also includes 34 Frequently Asked Questions and answers for the general
38 public. [URL to access FAQs to be added by 30 June]

39
40 Together, this Technical Summary and the underlying chapters aim at providing a comprehensive picture of
41 knowledge progress since the WGI AR5. Multiple lines of scientific evidence confirm that the climate is
42 changing due to human influence. Important advances in the ability to understand past, present, and possible
43 future changes should result in better-informed decision-making.

44
45 Some of the new results and main updates to key findings in AR6 WGI compared to AR5, SR1.5, SRCCL,
46 and SROCC are summarized below. Relevant Technical Summary sections with further details are shown in

⁵ Although not a core concept of the WGI Report, deep uncertainty is used in the Technical Summary in the following sense: ‘A situation of deep uncertainty exists when experts or stakeholders do not know or cannot agree on: (1) appropriate conceptual models that describe relationships among key driving forces in a system; (2) the probability distributions used to represent uncertainty about key variables and parameters; and/or (3) how to weigh and value desirable alternative outcomes’ (Lempert et al., 2003). Lempert, R. J., Popper, S. W., and Bankes, S. C. (2003). *Shaping the next one hundred years: New methods for quantitative long-term strategy analysis (MR-1626-RPC)*. Santa Monica, CA: The RAND Pardee Center.

⁶ The assessment covers scientific literature accepted for publication by 31 January 2021.

1 parenthesis after each bullet point.
2

3 Selected Updates and/or New Results since AR5 4

- 5 • **Human influence⁷ on the climate system is now an established fact:** The Fourth Assessment
6 Report (AR4) stated in 2007 that ‘warming of the climate system is unequivocal’, and the AR5
7 stated in 2013 that ‘human influence on the climate system is clear’. Combined evidence from across
8 the climate system strengthens this finding. It is unequivocal that the increase of CO₂, methane
9 (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O) in the atmosphere over the industrial era is the result of human
10 activities and that human influence is the principal driver of many changes observed across the
11 atmosphere, ocean, cryosphere and biosphere. (TS.1.2, TS.2.1)
- 12 • **Observed global warming to date:** A combination of improved observational records and a series
13 of very warm years since AR5 have resulted in a substantial increase in the estimated level of global
14 warming to date. The contribution of changes in observational understanding alone between AR5
15 and AR6 leads to an increase of about 0.1°C in the estimated warming since 1850–1900. For the
16 decade 2011–2020, the increase in global surface temperature since 1850–1900 is assessed to be
17 1.09 [0.95 to 1.20] °C.⁸ Estimates of crossing times of global warming levels and estimates of
18 remaining carbon budgets are updated accordingly. (TS.1.2, Cross-Section Box TS.1)
- 19 • **Paleoclimate evidence:** The AR5 assessed that many of the changes observed since the 1950s are
20 unprecedented over decades to millennia. Updated paleoclimate evidence strengthens this
21 assessment; over the past several decades, key indicators of the climate system are increasingly at
22 levels unseen in centuries to millennia and are changing at rates unprecedented in at least the last
23 2000 years. (Box TS.2, TS.2)
- 24 • **Updated assessment of recent warming:** The AR5 reported a smaller rate of increase in global
25 mean surface temperature over the period 1998–2012 than the rate calculated since 1951. Based on
26 updated observational datasets showing a larger trend over 1998–2012 than earlier estimates, there is
27 now *high confidence* that the observed 1998–2012 global surface temperature trend is consistent
28 with ensembles of climate model simulations, and there is now *very high confidence* that the slower
29 rate of global surface temperature increase observed over this period was a temporary event induced
30 by internal and naturally forced variability that partly offset the anthropogenic surface warming
31 trend over this period, while heat uptake continued to increase in the ocean. Since 2012, strong
32 warming has been observed, with the past five years (2016–2020) being the hottest five-year period
33 in the instrumental record since at least 1850 (*high confidence*). (TS.1.2, Cross-Section Box TS.1)
- 34 • **Magnitude of climate system response:** In this Report, it has been possible to reduce the long-
35 standing uncertainty ranges for metrics that quantify the response of the climate system to radiative
36 forcing, such as the equilibrium climate sensitivity (ECS) and the transient climate response (TCR),
37 due to substantial advances (e.g., a 50% reduction in the uncertainty range of cloud feedbacks) and
38 improved integration of multiple lines of evidence, including paleoclimate information. Improved
39 quantification of effective radiative forcing, the climate system radiative response, and the observed
40 energy increase in the Earth system over the past five decades demonstrate improved consistency
41 between independent estimates of climate drivers, the combined climate feedbacks, and the observed
42 energy increase relative to AR5. (TS.3.2)
- 43 • **Improved constraints on projections of future climate change:** For the first time in an IPCC
44 report, the assessed future change in global surface temperature is consistently constructed by
45 combining scenario-based projections (which the AR5 focused on) with observational constraints
46 based on past simulations of warming as well as the updated assessment of ECS and TCR. In
47 addition, initialized forecasts have been used for the period 2019–2018. The inclusion of these lines
48 of evidence reduces the assessed uncertainty for each scenario. (TS.1.3, Cross-Section Box TS.1)

⁷ Human influence on the climate system refers to human-driven activities that lead to changes in the climate system due to perturbations of the Earth’s energy budget (also called anthropogenic forcing). Human influence results from emissions of greenhouse gases, aerosols and tropospheric ozone precursors, ozone-depleting substances, and land-use change.

⁸ Throughout the WGI report and unless stated otherwise, uncertainty is quantified using 90% uncertainty intervals. The 90% uncertainty interval, reported in square brackets [x to y], is estimated to have a 90% likelihood of covering the value that is being estimated. The range encompasses the median value and there is an estimated 10% combined likelihood of the value being below the lower end of the range (x) and above its upper end (y). Often the distribution will be considered symmetric about the corresponding best estimate, but this is not always the case. In this report, an assessed 90% uncertainty interval is referred to as a ‘*very likely range*’. Similarly, an assessed 66% uncertainty interval is referred to as a ‘*likely range*’.

- 1 • **Air quality:** The AR5 assessed that projections of air quality are driven primarily by precursor
2 emissions, including methane. New scenarios explore a diversity of future options in air pollution
3 management. The AR6 WGI reports rapid recent shifts in the geographical distribution of some of
4 these precursor emissions, confirms the AR5 finding, and shows higher warming effects of short-
5 lived climate forcers in scenarios with the highest air pollution. (TS.1.3, TS.2.2, Box TS.7)
- 6 • **Effects of short-lived climate forcers on global warming:** The AR5 assessed the radiative forcing
7 for emitted compounds. The AR6 has extended this by assessing the emission-based effective
8 radiative forcings (ERFs) also accounting for aerosol–cloud interactions. The best estimates of ERF
9 attributed to sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and CH₄ emissions are substantially greater than in AR5, while
10 that of black carbon is substantially reduced. The magnitude of uncertainty in the ERF due to black
11 carbon emissions has also been reduced relative to AR5.
- 12 • **Global water cycle:** The AR5 assessed that anthropogenic influences have *likely* affected the global
13 water cycle since 1960. The dedicated chapter in the AR6 WGI (Chapter 8) concludes with *high*
14 *confidence* that human-caused climate change has driven detectable changes in the global water
15 cycle since the mid-20th century, with a better understanding of the response to aerosol and
16 greenhouse gas changes. The AR6 WGI further projects with *high confidence* an increase in the
17 variability of the water cycle in most regions of the world and under all emissions scenarios (Box
18 TS.6)
- 19 • **Extreme events:** The AR5 assessed that human influence had been detected in changes in some
20 climate extremes. A dedicated chapter in the AR6 (Chapter 11) concludes that it is now an
21 established fact that human-induced greenhouse gas emissions have led to an increased frequency
22 and/or intensity of some weather and climate extremes since 1850, in particular for temperature
23 extremes. Evidence of observed changes and attribution to human influence has strengthened for
24 several types of extremes since AR5, in particular for extreme precipitation, droughts, tropical
25 cyclones and compound extremes (including fire weather). (TS.1.2, TS.2.1)

26 Selected Updates and/or New Results Since AR5 and SR1.5

- 27 • **Timing of crossing 1.5°C global warming:** Slightly different approaches are used in SR1.5 and in
28 this Report. SR1.5 assessed a *likely* range of 2030 to 2052 for reaching a global warming level of
29 1.5°C (for a 30-year period), assuming a continued, constant rate of warming. In AR6, combining
30 the larger estimate of global warming to date and the assessed climate response to all considered
31 scenarios, the central estimate of crossing 1.5°C of global warming (for a 20-year period) occurs in
32 the early 2030s, ten years earlier than the midpoint of the *likely* range assessed in the SR1.5,
33 assuming no major volcanic eruption. (TS.1.3, Cross-Section Box TS.1)
- 34 • **Remaining carbon budgets:** The AR5 had assessed the transient climate response to cumulative
35 emissions of CO₂ to be *likely* in the range of 0.8°C to 2.5°C per 1000 GtC (1 GtC = 1 PgC = 3.667
36 GtCO₂), and this was also used in SR1.5. The assessment in AR6, based on multiple lines of
37 evidence, leads to a narrower *likely* range of 1.0°C–2.3°C per 1000 GtC. This has been incorporated
38 in updated estimates of remaining carbon budgets (see TS.3.3.1), together with methodological
39 improvements and recent observations. (TS.1.3, TS.3.3)
- 40 • **Effect of short-lived climate forcers on global warming in coming decades:** The SR1.5 stated
41 that reductions in emissions of cooling aerosols partially offset greenhouse gas mitigation effects for
42 two to three decades in pathways limiting global warming to 1.5°C. The AR6 assessment updates the
43 AR5 assessment of the net cooling effect of aerosols and confirms that changes in short-lived
44 climate forcers will *very likely* cause further warming in the next two decades across all scenarios
45 (TS.1.3, Box TS.7)
- 46 • **COVID-19:** Temporary emission reductions in 2020 associated with COVID-19 containment led to
47 small and positive net radiative effect (warming influence). However, global and regional climate
48 responses to this forcing are undetectable above internal climate variability due to the temporary
49 nature of emission reductions. (TS.3.3)

50 Selected Updates and/or New Results Since AR5, SRCCL and SROCC

- 51 • **Atmospheric concentration of methane:** SRCCL reported a resumption of atmospheric methane

1 concentration growth since 2007. WGI AR6 reports a faster growth over 2014–2019 and assesses
2 growth since 2007 to be largely driven by emissions from the fossil fuels and agriculture (dominated
3 by livestock) sectors. (TS.2.2)

- 4 ● **Land and ocean carbon sinks:** SRCCL assessed that the persistence of the land carbon sink is
5 uncertain due to climate change. WGI AR6 finds that land and ocean carbon sinks are projected to
6 continue to grow until 2100 with increasing atmospheric concentrations of CO₂, but the fraction of
7 emissions taken up by land and ocean is expected to decline as the CO₂ concentration increases, with
8 a much larger uncertainty range for the land sink. AR5, SR1.5 and SRCCL assessed carbon dioxide
9 removal options and scenarios. WGI AR6 finds that the carbon cycle response is asymmetric for
10 pulse emissions or removals, which means that CO₂ emissions would be more effective at raising
11 atmospheric CO₂ than CO₂ removals are at lowering atmospheric CO₂. (TS.3.3, Box TS.5)
- 12 ● **Ocean stratification increase⁹:** Refined analyses of available observations in the AR6 lead to a
13 reassessment of the rate of increase of the global stratification in the upper 200 m to be double that
14 estimated in SROCC from 1970 to 2018. (TS.2.4)
- 15 ● **Projected ocean oxygen loss:** Future subsurface oxygen decline in new projections assessed in WGI
16 AR6 is substantially greater in 2080–2099 than assessed in SROCC. (TS.2.4)
- 17 ● **Ice loss from glaciers and ice sheets:** since SROCC, globally resolved glacier changes have
18 improved estimates of glacier mass loss over the past 20 years, and estimates of the Greenland and
19 Antarctic Ice Sheet loss have been extended to 2020. (TS.2.5)
- 20 ● **Observed global mean sea level change:** new observation-based estimates published since SROCC
21 lead to an assessed sea level rise estimate from 1901 to 2018 that is now consistent with the sum of
22 individual components and consistent with closure of the global energy budget. (Box TS.4)
- 23 ● **Projected global mean sea level change:** AR6 projections of global mean sea level are based on
24 projections from ocean thermal expansion and land ice contribution estimates, which are consistent
25 with the assessed equilibrium climate sensitivity and assessed changes in global surface temperature.
26 They are underpinned by new land ice model intercomparisons and consideration of processes
27 associated with *low confidence* to characterise the deep uncertainty in future ice loss from
28 Antarctica. AR6 projections based on new models and methods are broadly consistent with SROCC
29 findings. (Box TS.4)
- 30
- 31

⁹ Increased stratification reduces the vertical exchange of heat, salinity, oxygen, carbon, and nutrients. Stratification is an important indicator for ocean circulation.

1 TS.1 A Changing Climate

2
3 This section introduces the assessment of the physical science basis of climate change in the AR6 and
4 presents the climate context in which this assessment takes place, recent progress in climate science and the
5 relevance of global and regional climate information for impact and risk assessments. The future emissions
6 scenarios and global warming levels, used to integrate assessments across WGI AR6, are introduced and
7 their applications for future climate projections are briefly addressed. Paleoclimate science provides a long-
8 term context for observed climate change of the past 150 years and the projected changes in the 21st century
9 and beyond (Box TS.2). The assessment of past, current and future global surface temperature changes
10 relative to the standard baselines and reference periods¹⁰ used throughout this Report is summarized in
11 Cross-Section Box TS.1.

14 TS.1.1 Context of a Changing Climate

16 AR6 WGI assesses new scientific evidence relevant for a world whose climate system is rapidly changing,
17 overwhelmingly due to human influence. The five IPCC assessment cycles since 1990 have comprehensively
18 and consistently laid out the rapidly accumulating evidence of a changing climate system, with the Fourth
19 Assessment Report (AR4) in 2007 being the first to conclude that warming of the climate system is
20 unequivocal. Sustained changes have been documented in all major elements of the climate system: the
21 atmosphere, land, cryosphere, biosphere and ocean (TS.2). Multiple lines of evidence indicate the recent
22 large-scale climatic changes are unprecedented in a multi-millennial context, and that they represent a
23 millennial-scale commitment for the slow-responding elements of the climate system, resulting in continued
24 worldwide loss of ice, increase in ocean heat content, sea level rise and deep ocean acidification (Box TS.2;
25 Section TS.2). {1.2.1, 1.3, Box 1.2, 2.2, 2.3, Figure 2.34, 5.1, 5.3, 9.2, 9.4-9.6, Appendix 1.A}

27 Earth's climate system has evolved over many millions of years, and evidence from natural archives
28 provides a long-term perspective on observed and projected changes over the coming centuries. These
29 reconstructions of past climate also show that atmospheric CO₂ concentrations and global surface
30 temperature are strongly coupled (Figure TS.1), based on evidence from a variety of proxy records over
31 multiple time scales (Box TS.2; TS.2). Levels of global warming (see Core Concepts Box) that have not
32 been seen in millions of years could be reached by 2300, depending on the emissions pathway that is
33 followed (TS.1.3). For example, there is *medium confidence* that, by 2300, an intermediate scenario¹¹ used in
34 the report leads to global surface temperatures of 2.3°C–4.6°C higher than 1850–1900, similar to the mid-
35 Pliocene Warm Period (2.5°C–4°C), about 3.2 million years ago, whereas the high CO₂ emissions scenario
36 SSP5-8.5 leads to temperatures of 6.6°C–14.1°C by 2300, which overlaps with the Early Eocene Climate
37 Optimum (10°C–18°C), about 50 million years ago. {Cross-Chapter Box 2.1 and 2.4, 2.3.1, 4.3.1.1, 4.7.1.2,
38 7.4.4.1}

41 [START FIGURE TS.1 HERE]

43 **Figure TS.1: Changes in atmospheric CO₂ and global surface temperature (relative to 1850-1900) from the**
44 **deep past to the next 300 years.** *The intent is to show that CO₂ and temperature covary, both in the*
45 *past and into the future, and that projected CO₂ and temperatures are similar to those only from many*
46 *millions of years ago.* CO₂ concentrations from millions of years ago are reconstructed from multiple
47 proxy records (grey dots are data from 2.2.3.1, Figure 2.3 shown with cubic-spline fit). CO₂ levels for
48 the last 800,000 years through the mid-20th century are from air trapped in polar ice; recent values are

¹⁰Several baselines or reference periods are used consistently throughout AR6 WGI. Baseline refers to a period against which anomalies (i.e., differences from the average value for the baseline period) are calculated. Examples include the 1750 baseline (used for anthropogenic radiative forcings), the 1850–1900 baseline (an approximation for pre-industrial global surface temperature from which global warming levels are calculated) and the 1995–2014 baseline (used for many climate model projections). A reference period indicates a time period over which various statistics are calculated (e.g., the near-term reference period, 2021–2040). Paleo reference periods are listed in Box TS.2. {1.4.1, Cross-Chapter Box 1.2 and 2.1}

¹¹ Please refer to Section TS.1.3.1 for an overview of the climate change scenarios used in this report.

from direct air measurements (Figure TS.9). {1.2.1.2, 2.2.3, Figures 1.5, 2.4, 2.5} Global surface temperature prior to 1850 is estimated from marine oxygen isotopes, one of multiple sources of evidence used to assess paleo temperatures in this report. {2.3.1.1.1, Cross-Chapter Box 2.1, Figure 1} Temperature of the past 170 years is the AR6 assessed mean (Cross-Section Box TS.1). {2.3.1.1} CO₂ levels and global surface temperature change for the future are shown for three SSP scenarios (TS.1.3) through 2300 CE, using Earth System Model emulators calibrated to the assessed global surface temperatures. {4.7.1, Cross-Chapter Box 7.1} Their smooth trajectories do not account for inter-annual to inter-decadal variability, including transient response to potential volcanic eruptions. {Cross-Chapter Box 4.1} Global maps for two paleo reference periods are based on CMIP6 and pre-CMIP6 multi-model means, with site-level proxy data for comparison (squares and circles are marine and terrestrial, respectively) (Box TS.2). {Cross-Chapter Box 2.1, Figure 7.13} The map for 2020 is an estimate of the total observed warming since 1850-1900. {Figure 1.14} Global maps at right show two SSP scenarios at 2100 (2081-2100) {4.5.1} and at 2300 (2281-2300; map from CMIP6 models; temperature assessed in 4.7.1). A brief account of the major climate forcings associated with past global temperature changes is in Cross-Chapter Box 2.1.

[END FIGURE TS.1 HERE]

Understanding of the climate system's fundamental elements is robust and well established. Scientists in the 19th century identified the major natural factors influencing the climate system. They also hypothesized the potential for anthropogenic climate change due to carbon dioxide (CO₂) emitted by combustion of fossil fuels (petroleum, coal, natural gas). The principal natural drivers of climate change, including changes in incoming solar radiation, volcanic activity, orbital cycles, and changes in global biogeochemical cycles, have been studied systematically since the early 20th century. Other major anthropogenic drivers, such as atmospheric aerosols (fine solid particles or liquid droplets), land-use change and non-CO₂ greenhouse gases, were identified by the 1970s. Since systematic scientific assessments began in the 1970s, the influence of human activity on the warming of the climate system has evolved from theory to established fact (see also TS.2). The evidence for human influence on recent climate change strengthened from the IPCC First Assessment Report in 1990 to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report in 2013/14, and is now even stronger in this assessment (TS.1.2.4, TS.2). Changes across a greater number of climate system components, including changes in regional climate and extremes can now be attributed to human influence (see TS.2 and TS.4). {1.3.1 - 1.3.5, 3.1, 11.2, 11.9}

[START BOX TS.2 HERE]

Box TS.2: Paleoclimate

Paleoclimate evidence is integrated within multiple lines of evidence across the WGI report to more fully understand the climate system. Paleo evidence extends instrument-based observations of climate variables and climate drivers back in time, providing the long-term context needed to gauge the extent to which recent and potential future changes are unusual (TS.2, Figure TS.1). Pre-industrial climate states complement evidence from climate model projections by providing real-world examples of climate characteristics for past global warming levels, with empirical evidence for how the slow-responding components of the climate system operate over centuries to millennia – the time scale for committed climate change (Core Concepts Box, Box TS.4, Box TS.9). Information about the state of the climate system during well-described paleoclimate reference periods helps narrow the uncertainty range in the overall assessment of Earth's sensitivity to climate forcing (TS.3.2.1). {Cross-Chapter Box 2.1, FAQ 1.3, FAQ 2.1}

Paleoclimate reference periods. Over the long evolution of the Earth's climate, several periods have received extensive research attention as examples of distinct climate states and rapid climate transitions (Box TS.2, Figure 1). These paleoclimate reference periods represent the present geological era (Cenozoic; past 65 million years) and are used across chapters to help structure the assessment of climate changes prior to industrialization. Cross-Chapter Box 2.1 describes the reference periods, along with a brief account of their climate forcings, and lists where each is discussed in other chapters. Cross-Chapter Box 2.4 summarizes

1 information on one of the reference periods, the mid-Pliocene Warm Period. The Interactive Atlas includes
2 model output from the World Climate Research Programme Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 6
3 (CMIP6) for four of the paleoclimate reference periods.
4
5

6 **[START BOX TS.2, FIGURE 1 HERE]**
7

8 **Box TS.2, Figure 1: Paleoclimate and recent reference periods, with selected key indicators.** *The intent of this*
9 *figure is to list the paleoclimate reference periods used in the WGI report, to summarize three key*
10 *global climate indicators, and compare CO₂ with global temperature over multiple periods. (a)*
11 *Three large-scale climate indicators (atmospheric CO₂, global surface temperature relative to*
12 *1850-1900, and global mean sea level relative to 1900), based on assessments in Chapter 2, with*
13 *confidence levels ranging from low to very high. (b) Comparison between global surface*
14 *temperature (relative to 1850-1900) and atmospheric CO₂ concentration for multiple reference*
15 *periods (mid-points with 5–95% ranges). {2.2.3, 2.3.1.1, 2.3.3.3, Figure 2.34}*
16

17 **[END BOX TS.2, FIGURE 1 HERE]**
18
19

20 **Paleoclimate models and reconstructions.** Climate models that target paleoclimate reference periods have
21 been featured by the IPCC since the First Assessment Report. Under the framework of CMIP6-PMIP4
22 (Paleoclimate Modelling Intercomparison Project), new protocols for model intercomparisons have been
23 developed for multiple paleoclimate reference periods. These modelling efforts have led to improved
24 understanding of the climate response to different external forcings, including changes in Earth's orbital and
25 plate movements, solar irradiance, volcanism, ice-sheet size, and atmospheric greenhouse gases. Likewise,
26 quantitative reconstructions of climate variables from proxy records that are compared with paleoclimate
27 simulations have improved as the number of study sites and variety of proxy types have expanded, and as
28 records have been compiled into new regional and global datasets. {1.3.2, 1.5.1, Cross-Chapter Boxes 2.1
29 and 2.4}

30
31 **Global surface temperature.** Since AR5, updated climate forcings, improved models, new understanding of
32 the strengths and weaknesses of a growing array of proxy records, better chronologies, and more robust
33 proxy data products have led to better agreement between models and reconstructions. For global surface
34 temperature, the mid-point of the AR6-assessed range and the median of the model-simulated temperatures
35 differ by an average of 0.5°C across five reference periods; they overlap within their 90% ranges in four of
36 five cases, which together span from about 6°C [5–7]°C colder during the Last Glacial Maximum to about
37 14 [10 to 18] °C warmer during the Early Eocene, relative to 1850–1900 (Box TS.2, Figure 2a). Changes in
38 temperature by latitude in response to multiple forcings show that polar amplification (stronger warming at
39 high latitudes than the global average) is a prominent feature of the climate system across multiple climate
40 states, and the ability of models to simulate this polar amplification in past warm climates has improved
41 since AR5 (*high confidence*). Over the past millennium, and especially since about 1300 CE, simulated
42 global surface temperature anomalies are well within the uncertainty of reconstructions (*medium*
43 *confidence*), except for some short periods immediately following large volcanic eruptions, for which
44 different forcing datasets disagree (Box TS.2, Figure 2b). {2.3.1.1, 3.3.3.1, 3.8.2.1, 7.4.4.1.2}

45
46
47 **[START BOX TS.2, FIGURE 2 HERE]**
48

49 **Box TS.2, Figure 2: Global surface temperature as estimated from proxy records (reconstructed) and climate**
50 **models (simulated).** *The intent of this figure is to show the agreement between observations and*
51 *models of global temperatures during paleo reference periods. (a) For individual paleoclimate*
52 *reference periods. (b) For the last millennium, with instrumental temperature (AR6 assessed*
53 *mean, 10-year smoothed). Model uncertainties in (a) and (b) are 5-95% ranges of multi-model*
54 *ensemble means; reconstructed uncertainties are 5-95% ranges (medium confidence) of (a)*
55 *midpoints and (b) multi-method ensemble median. {2.3.1.1, Figure 2.34, Figure 3.2c, Figure 3.44}*
56

1 [END BOX TS.2, FIGURE 2 HERE]
2
3

4 **Equilibrium climate sensitivity.** Paleoclimate data provide evidence to estimate equilibrium climate
5 sensitivity (ECS¹²) (TS.3.2.1). In AR6, refinements in paleo data for paleoclimate reference periods indicate
6 that ECS is *very likely* greater than 1.5°C and *likely* less than 4.5°C, which is largely consistent with other
7 lines of evidence and helps narrow the uncertainty range of the overall assessment of ECS. Some of the
8 CMIP6 climate models that have either high (> 5°C) or low (< 2°C) ECS also simulate past global surface
9 temperature changes outside the range of proxy-based reconstructions for the coldest and warmest reference
10 periods. Since AR5, independent lines of evidence, including proxy records from past warm periods and
11 glacial-interglacial cycles, indicate that sensitivity to forcing increases as temperature increases (TS.3.2.2).
12 {7.4.3.2, 7.5.3, 7.5.6, Table 7.11}

13
14 **Water cycle.** New hydroclimate reconstructions and model-data comparisons have improved the
15 understanding of the causes and effects of long-term changes in atmospheric and ocean circulation, including
16 monsoon variability and modes of variability (Box TS.13, TS.4.2). Climate models are able to reproduce
17 decadal drought variability on large regional scales, including the severity, persistence and spatial extent of
18 past megadroughts known from proxy records (*medium confidence*). Some long-standing discrepancies
19 remain, however, such as the magnitude of African monsoon precipitation during the early Holocene,
20 suggesting continuing knowledge gaps. Paleoclimate evidence shows that, in relatively high CO₂ climates
21 such as the Pliocene, Walker circulation over the equatorial Pacific Ocean weakens, supporting the *high*
22 *confidence* model projections of weakened Walker cells by the end of the 21st century. {3.3.2, 8.3.1.6,
23 8.4.1.6, 8.5.2.1, 9.2}

24
25 **Sea level and ice sheets.** Although past and future global warming differ in their forcings, evidence from
26 paleoclimate records and modelling show that ice sheet mass and global mean sea level (GMSL) responded
27 dynamically over multiple millennia (*high confidence*). This evidence helps to constrain estimates of the
28 committed GMSL response to global warming (Box TS.4). For example, under a past global warming levels
29 of around 2.5°C–4°C relative to 1850–1900, like during the mid-Pliocene Warm Period, sea level was 5–25
30 m higher than 1900 (*medium confidence*); under past global warming levels of 10°C–18°C, like during the
31 Early Eocene, the planet was essentially ice free (*high confidence*). Constraints from these past warm
32 periods, combined with physical understanding, glaciology and modelling, indicate a committed long-
33 term GMSL rise over 10,000 years, reaching about 8–13 m for sustained peak global warming of 2°C and to
34 28–37 m for 5°C, which exceeds the AR5 estimate. {2.3.3.3, 9.4.1.4, 9.4.2.6, 9.6.2, 9.6.3.5}

35
36 **Ocean.** Since AR5, better integration of paleo-oceanographic data with modelling along with higher-
37 resolution analyses of transient changes have improved understanding of long-term ocean processes. Low-
38 latitude sea-surface temperatures at the Last Glacial Maximum cooled more than previously inferred,
39 resolving some inconsistencies noted in AR5. This paleo context supports the assessment that ongoing
40 increase in ocean heat content (OHC) represents a long-term commitment (see Core Concepts Box),
41 essentially irreversible on human time scales (*high confidence*). Estimates of past global OHC variations
42 generally track those of sea surface temperatures around Antarctica, underscoring the importance of
43 Southern Ocean processes in regulating deep-ocean temperatures. Paleoclimate data, along with other
44 evidence of glacial-interglacial changes, show that Antarctic Circumpolar flow strengthened and that
45 ventilation of Antarctic Bottom Water accelerated during warming intervals, facilitating release of CO₂
46 stored in the deep ocean to the atmosphere. Paleo evidence suggests significant reduction of deep-ocean
47 ventilation associated with meltwater input during times of peak warmth. {2.3.1.1, 2.3.3.1, 9.2.2, 9.2.3.2}

48
49 **Carbon cycle.** Past climate states were associated with substantial differences in the inventories of the
50 various carbon reservoirs, including the atmosphere (TS.2.2). Since AR5, the quantification of carbon stocks
51 has improved due to the development of novel sedimentary proxies and stable-isotope analyses of air trapped
52 in polar ice. Terrestrial carbon storage decreased markedly during the Last Glacial Maximum by 300–600

¹² In this report, equilibrium climate sensitivity is defined as the equilibrium (steady state) change in the surface temperature following a doubling of the atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) concentration from pre-industrial conditions.

PgC, possibly by 850 PgC when accounting for interactions with the lithosphere and ocean sediments, a larger reduction than previously estimated, owing to colder and drier climate. At the same time, the storage of remineralised carbon in the ocean interior increased by as much as 750–950 PgC, sufficient to balance the removal of carbon from the atmosphere (200 PgC) and terrestrial biosphere reservoirs combined (*high confidence*). {5.1.2.2}

[END BOX TS.2 HERE]

TS.1.2 Progress in Climate Science

TS.1.2.1 Observation-based products and their assessments

Observational capabilities have continued to improve and expand overall since AR5, enabling improved consistency between independent estimates of climate drivers, the combined climate feedbacks, and the observed energy and sea level increase. Satellite climate records and improved reanalyses are used as an additional line of evidence for assessing changes at the global and regional scales. However, there have also been reductions in some observational data coverage or continuity and limited access to data resulting from data policy issues. Natural archives of past climate, such as tropical glaciers, have also been subject to losses (in part due to anthropogenic climate change). {1.5.1, 1.5.2, 10.2.2}

Earth system observations are an essential driver of progress in our understanding of climate change. Overall, capabilities to observe the physical climate system have continued to improve and expand. Improvements are particularly evident in ocean observing networks and remote sensing systems. Records from several recently instigated satellite measurement techniques are now long enough to be relevant for climate assessments. For example, globally distributed, high-vertical-resolution profiles of temperature and humidity in the upper troposphere and stratosphere can be obtained from the early 2000s using global navigation satellite systems, leading to updated estimates of recent atmospheric warming. Improved measurements of ocean heat content, warming of the land surface, ice sheet mass loss, and sea level changes allow a better closure of the global energy and sea level budgets relative to AR5. For surface and balloon-based networks, apparent regional data reductions result from a combination of data policy issues, data curation/provision challenges, and real cessation of observations, and are to an extent counter-balanced by improvements elsewhere. Limited observational records of extreme events and spatial data gaps currently limit the assessment of some observed regional climate change. {1.5.1, 2.3.2, 7.2.2, Box 7.2, Cross-Chapter Box 9.1, 9.6.1, 10.2.2, 10.6, 11.2, 12.4}

New paleoclimate reconstructions from natural archives have enabled more robust reconstructions of the spatial and temporal patterns of past climate changes over multiple time scales (Box TS.2). However, paleoclimate archives, such as tropical glaciers and modern natural archives used for calibration (e.g., corals and trees), are rapidly disappearing owing to a host of pressures, including increasing temperatures (*high confidence*). Substantial quantities of past instrumental observations of weather and other climate variables, over both land and ocean, which could fill gaps in existing datasets, remain un-digitized or inaccessible. These include measurements of temperature (air and sea surface), rainfall, surface pressure, wind strength and direction, sunshine amount and many other variables dating back into the 19th century. {1.5.1}

Reanalyses combine observations and models (e.g., a numerical weather prediction model) using data assimilation techniques to provide a spatially complete, dynamically consistent estimate of multiple variables describing the evolving climate state. Since AR5, new reanalyses have been developed for the atmosphere and the ocean with various combinations of increased resolution, extended records, more consistent data assimilation and larger availability of uncertainty estimates. Limitations remain, for example, in how reanalyses represent global-scale changes to the water cycle. Regional reanalyses use high-resolution, limited-area models constrained by regional observations and with boundary conditions from global reanalyses. There is *high confidence* that regional reanalyses better represent the frequencies of extremes and variability in precipitation, surface air temperature and surface wind than global reanalyses and provide

1 estimates that are more consistent with independent observations than dynamical downscaling approaches.
2 {1.5.2, 10.2.1.2, Annex I}

5 *TS.1.2.2 Climate Model Performance*

7 Developments in the latest generation CMIP6 climate and Earth system models, including new and better
8 representation of physical, chemical and biological processes, as well as higher resolution, have improved
9 the simulation of the recent mean climate of most large-scale indicators of climate change (*high confidence*,
10 Figure TS.2) and many other aspects across the Earth system. Projections of the increase in global surface
11 temperature, the pattern of warming, and global mean sea level rise from previous IPCC Assessment Reports
12 and other studies are broadly consistent with subsequent observations, especially when accounting for the
13 difference in radiative forcing scenarios used for making projections and the radiative forcings that actually
14 occurred. While past warming is well simulated by the new generation of models, some individual models
15 simulate past surface warming that is either below or above that observed. The information about how well
16 models simulate past warming, as well as other insights from observations and theory, are used to assess
17 projections of global warming. (see Cross-Section Box TS.1). Increasing horizontal resolution in global
18 climate models improves the representation of small-scale features and the statistics of daily precipitation
19 (*high confidence*). Earth system models, which include additional biogeochemical feedbacks, often perform
20 as well as their lower-complexity global climate model counterparts, which do not account for these
21 additional feedbacks (*medium confidence*). {1.3.6, 1.5.3, 3.1, 3.5.1, 3.8.2, 4.3.1, 4.3.4, 7.5, 8.5.1, 9.6.3.1}

24 Climate model simulations coordinated and collected as part of the World Climate Research Programme's
25 Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 6 (CMIP6), complemented by a range of results from the
26 previous phase (CMIP5), constitute a key line of evidence supporting this Report. The latest generation of
27 CMIP6 models have an improved representation of physical processes relative to previous generations, and a
28 wider range of Earth system models now represent biogeochemical cycles. Higher-resolution models that
29 better capture smaller-scale processes are also increasingly becoming available for climate change research
30 (Figure TS.2, Panels a and b). Results from coordinated regional climate modelling initiatives, such as the
31 Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment (CORDEX) complement and add value to the
32 CMIP global models, particularly in complex topography zones, coastal areas and small islands, as well as
33 for extremes. {1.5.3, 1.5.4, 6.2.1.2, 6.3.6, 8.5.1, 10.3.3, Atlas.1.4}

35 Projections of the increase in global surface temperature and the pattern of warming from previous IPCC
36 Assessment Reports and other studies are broadly consistent with subsequent observations (*limited evidence*,
37 *high agreement*), especially when accounting for the difference in radiative forcing scenarios used for
38 making projections and the radiative forcings that actually occurred. The AR5 and the SROCC projections of
39 GMSL for the 2007–2018 period have been shown to be consistent with observed trends in GMSL and
40 regional weighted mean tide gauges. {1.3.6, 9.6.3.1, Figure TS.3}

42 For most large-scale indicators of climate change, the simulated recent mean climate from CMIP6 models
43 underpinning this assessment have improved compared to the CMIP5 models used in AR5 (*high confidence*).
44 This is evident from the performance of 18 simulated atmospheric and land large-scale indicators of climate
45 change between the three generations of models (CMIP3, CMIP5, and CMIP6) when benchmarked against
46 reanalysis and observational data (Figure TS.2, Panel c). Earth system models, characterized by additional
47 biogeochemical feedbacks, often perform at least as well as related, more constrained, lower-complexity
48 models lacking these feedbacks (*medium confidence*). {3.8.2, 10.3.3.3}

49 The CMIP6 multi-model mean global surface temperature change from 1850–1900 to 2010–2019 is close to
50 the best estimate of the observed warming. However, some CMIP6 models simulate a warming that is below
51 or above the assessed *very likely* range. The CMIP6 models also reproduce surface temperature variations
52 over the past millennium, including the cooling that follows periods of intense volcanism (*medium*
53 *confidence*). For upper air temperature, an overestimation of the upper tropical troposphere warming by

1 about 0.1°C per decade between 1979 and 2014 persists in most CMIP5 and CMIP6 models (*medium*
2 *confidence*), whereas the differences between simulated and improved satellite-derived estimates of change
3 in global mean temperature through the depth of the stratosphere have decreased. {3.3.1}

4 Some CMIP6 models demonstrate an improvement in how clouds are represented. CMIP5 models
5 commonly displayed a negative shortwave cloud radiative effect that was too weak in the present climate.
6 These errors have been reduced, especially over the Southern Ocean, due to a more realistic simulation of
7 supercooled liquid droplets with sufficient numbers and an associated increase in the cloud optical depth.
8 Because a negative cloud optical depth feedback in response to surface warming results from ‘brightening’
9 of clouds via active phase change from ice to liquid cloud particles (increasing their shortwave cloud
10 radiative effect), the extratropical cloud shortwave feedback in CMIP6 models tends to be less negative,
11 leading to a better agreement with observational estimates (*medium confidence*). CMIP6 models generally
12 represent more processes that drive aerosol–cloud interactions than the previous generation of climate
13 models, but there is only *medium confidence* that those enhancements improve their fitness-for-purpose of
14 simulating radiative forcing of aerosol–cloud interactions. {7.4.2, FAQ 7.2, 6.4}

15
16 CMIP6 models still have deficiencies in simulating precipitation patterns, particularly in the tropical ocean.
17 Increasing horizontal resolution in global climate models improves the representation of small-scale features
18 and the statistics of daily precipitation (*high confidence*). There is *high confidence* that high-resolution
19 global, regional and hydrological models provide a better representation of land surfaces, including
20 topography, vegetation and land-use change, which can improve the accuracy of simulations of regional
21 changes in the terrestrial water cycle. {3.3.2, 8.5.1, 10.3.3, 11.2.3}

22
23 There is *high confidence* that climate models can reproduce the recent observed mean state and overall
24 warming of temperature extremes globally and in most regions, although the magnitude of the trends may
25 differ. There is *high confidence* in the ability of models to capture the large-scale spatial distribution of
26 precipitation extremes over land. The overall performance of CMIP6 models in simulating the intensity and
27 frequency of extreme precipitation is similar to that of CMIP5 models (*high confidence*). {Cross-Chapter
28 Box 3.2, 11.3.3, 11.4.3}

29
30 The structure and magnitude of multi-model mean ocean temperature biases have not changed substantially
31 between CMIP5 and CMIP6 (*medium confidence*). Since AR5, there is improved consistency between recent
32 observed estimates and model simulations of changes in upper (<700 m) ocean heat content. The mean zonal
33 and overturning circulations of the Southern Ocean and the mean overturning circulation of the North
34 Atlantic (AMOC) are broadly reproduced by CMIP5 and CMIP6 models. {3.5.1, 3.5.4, 9.2.3, 9.3.2, 9.4.2}

35
36 CMIP6 models better simulate the sensitivity of Arctic sea ice area to anthropogenic CO₂ emissions, and
37 thus better capture the time evolution of the satellite-observed Arctic sea ice loss (*high confidence*). The
38 ability to model ice-sheet processes has improved substantially since AR5. As a consequence, we have
39 *medium confidence* in the representation of key processes related to surface-mass balance and retreat of the
40 grounding-line (the junction between a grounded ice sheet and an ice shelf, where the ice starts to float) in
41 the absence of instabilities. However, there remains *low confidence* in simulations of ice-sheet instabilities,
42 ice-shelf disintegration and basal melting owing to their high sensitivity to both uncertain oceanic forcing
43 and uncertain boundary conditions and parameters. {1.5.3, 2.3.2, 3.4.1, 3.4.2, 3.8.2, 9.3.1, 9.3.2, 9.4.1, 9.4.2}

44
45 CMIP6 models are able to reproduce most aspects of the spatial structure and variance of the El Niño-
46 Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and Indian Ocean Basin and Dipole modes of variability (*medium confidence*).
47 However, despite a slight improvement in CMIP6, some underlying processes are still poorly represented.
48 Models reproduce observed spatial features and variance of the Southern Annular Mode (SAM) and
49 Northern Annular Modes (NAM) very well (*high confidence*). The summertime SAM trend is well captured,
50 with CMIP6 models outperforming CMIP5 models (*medium confidence*). By contrast, the cause of the
51 Northern Annular Mode (NAM) trend towards its positive phase is not well understood. In the Tropical
52 Atlantic basin, which contains the Atlantic Zonal and Meridional modes, major biases in modelled mean
53 state and variability remain. Model performance is limited in reproducing sea surface temperature anomalies
54 for decadal modes of variability, despite improvements from CMIP5 to CMIP6 (*medium confidence*) (see

1 also TS.1.4.2.2, Table TS.4). {3.7.3-3.7.7}

2
3 Earth system models simulate globally averaged land carbon sinks within the range of observation-based
4 estimates (*high confidence*), but global-scale agreement masks large regional disagreements. There is also
5 *high confidence* that the ESMs simulate the weakening of the global net flux of CO₂ into the ocean during
6 the 1990s, as well as the strengthening of the flux from 2000. {3.6.1, 3.6.2}

7
8 Two important quantities used to estimate how the climate system responds to changes in GHG
9 concentrations are the equilibrium climate sensitivity (ECS) and transient climate response (TCR¹³). The
10 CMIP6 ensemble has broader ranges of ECS and TCR values than CMIP5 (see TS.3.2 for the assessed
11 range). These higher sensitivity values can, in some models, be traced to changes in extratropical cloud
12 feedbacks (*medium confidence*). To combine evidence from CMIP6 models and independent assessments of
13 ECS and TCR, various emulators are used throughout the report. Emulators are a broad class of simple
14 climate models or statistical methods that reproduce the behaviour of complex ESMs to represent key
15 characteristics of the climate system, such as global surface temperature and sea level projections. The main
16 application of emulators in AR6 is to extrapolate insights from ESMs and observational constraints to
17 produce projections from a larger set of emissions scenarios, which is achieved due to their computational
18 efficiency. These emulated projections are also used for scenario classification in WGIII. {Box 4.1, 4.3.4.,
19 7.4.2, 7.5.6, CCB7.1, FAQ7.2}

20
21
22 **[START FIGURE TS.2 HERE]**

23
24 **Figure TS.2: Progress in climate models.** *The intent is to show present improvements in climate models in*
25 *resolution, complexity and representation of key variables.* (a) Evolution of model horizontal
26 resolution and vertical levels (based on Figure 1.19); (b) Evolution of inclusion of processes and
27 resolution from CMIP Phase 3 (CMIP3) to CMIP6 (Annex II). (c) Centred pattern correlations
28 between models and observations for the annual mean climatology over the period 1980–1999.
29 Results are shown for individual CMIP3 (cyan), CMIP5 (blue) and CMIP6 (red) models (one
30 ensemble member is used) as short lines, along with the corresponding ensemble averages (long
31 lines). The correlations are shown between the models and the primary reference observational data
32 set (from left to right: ERA5, GPCP-SG, CERES-EBAF, CERES-EBAF, CERES-EBAF, CERES-
33 EBAF, JR-55, ERA5, ERA5, ERA5, ERA5, ERA5, ERA5, AIRS, ERA5, ESACCI-Soilmoisture,
34 LAI3g, MTE). In addition, the correlation between the primary reference and additional observational
35 data sets (from left to right: NCEP, GHCN, -, -, -, ERA5, HadISST, NCEP, NCEP, NCEP, NCEP,
36 NCEP, NCEP, ERA5, NCEP, -, -, FLUXCOM) are shown (solid grey circles) if available. To ensure a
37 fair comparison across a range of model resolutions, the pattern correlations are computed after
38 regriding all datasets to a resolution of 4° in longitude and 5° in latitude. (Expanded from Figure
39 3.43; produced with ESMValTool version 2).

40
41 **[END FIGURE TS.2 HERE]**

42 43 44 *TS.1.2.3 Understanding Climate Variability and Emerging Changes*

45
46 Observed changes in climate are unequivocal at the global scale and are increasingly apparent on regional
47 and local spatial scales. Both the rate of long-term change and the amplitude of year-to-year variations differ
48 between regions and across climate variables, thus influencing when changes emerge or become apparent
49 compared to natural variations (see Core Concepts Box). The signal of temperature change has emerged
50 more clearly in tropical regions, where year-to-year variations tend to be small over land, than in regions
51 with greater warming but larger year-to-year variations (*high confidence*) (Figure TS.3). Long-term changes
52 in other variables have emerged in many regions, such as for some weather and climate extremes and Arctic
53 sea ice area. {1.4.2, Cross-Chapter Box 3.1, 9.3.1, 11.3.2, 12.5.2}

¹³ In this report, transient climate response is defined as the surface temperature response for the hypothetical scenario in which atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) increases at 1% yr⁻¹ from pre-industrial to the time of a doubling of atmospheric CO₂ concentration.

1 Observational datasets have been extended and improved since AR5, providing stronger evidence that the
2 climate is changing and allowing better estimates of natural climate variability on decadal time scales. There
3 is *very high confidence* that the slower rate of global surface temperature change observed over 1998–2012
4 compared to 1951–2012 was temporary, and was, with *high confidence*, induced by internal variability
5 (particularly Pacific Decadal Variability) and variations in solar irradiance and volcanic forcing that partly
6 offset the anthropogenic warming over this period. Global ocean heat content continued to increase
7 throughout this period, indicating continuous warming of the entire climate system (*very high confidence*).
8 Hot extremes also continued to increase during this period over land (*high confidence*). Even in a continually
9 warming climate, periods of reduced and increased trends in global surface temperature at decadal time
10 scales will continue to occur in the 21st century (*very high confidence*). {Cross-Chapter Box 3.1, 3.3.1, 3.5.1,
11 4.6.2, 11.3.2}

12
13 Since AR5, the increased use of ‘large ensembles’, or multiple simulations with the same climate model but
14 using different initial conditions, supports improved understanding of the relative roles of internal variability
15 and forced change in the climate system. Simulations and understanding of modes of climate variability,
16 including teleconnections, have improved since AR5 (*medium confidence*), and larger ensembles allow a
17 better quantification of uncertainty in projections due to internal climate variability. {1.4.2, 1.5.3, 1.5.4, 4.2,
18 Box 4.1, 4.4.1, 8.5.2, 10.3.4, 10.4}

19
20 Changes in regional climate can be detected even though natural climate variations can temporarily increase
21 or obscure anthropogenic climate change on decadal time scales. While anthropogenic forcing has
22 contributed to multi-decadal mean precipitation changes in several regions, internal variability can delay
23 emergence of the anthropogenic signal in long-term precipitation changes in many land regions (*high*
24 *confidence*). {10.4.1, 10.4.2, 10.4.3}

25
26 Mean temperatures and heat extremes have emerged above natural variability in almost all land regions with
27 *high confidence*. Changes in temperature-related variables, such as regional temperatures, growing season
28 length, extreme heat and frost, have already occurred, and there is *medium confidence* that many of these
29 changes are attributable to human activities. Several impact-relevant changes have not yet emerged from the
30 natural variability but will emerge sooner or later in this century depending on the emissions scenario (*high*
31 *confidence*). Ocean acidification and deoxygenation have already emerged over most of the global open
32 ocean, as has a reduction in Arctic sea ice (*high confidence*). {9.3.1, 9.6.4, 11.2, 11.3, 12.4, 12.5, Atlas.3-
33 Atlas.11}

34
35
36 [START FIGURE TS.3 HERE]

37
38 **Figure TS.3: Emergence of changes in temperature over the historical period.** *The intent of this figure is to*
39 *show how observed changes in temperature have emerged and that the emergence pattern agrees with*
40 *model simulations.* The observed change in temperature at a global warming level of 1°C (top map),
41 and the signal-to-noise ratio (the change in temperature at a global warming level of 1°C, divided by
42 the size of year-to-year variations, bottom map) using data from Berkeley Earth. The right panels
43 show the zonal means of the maps and include data from different observational datasets (red) and the
44 CMIP6 simulations (black, including the 5-95% range) processed in the same way as the observations.
45 {1.4.2, 10.4.3}

46
47 [END FIGURE TS.3 HERE]

1 *TS.1.2.4 Understanding of Human Influence*

2

3 The evidence for human influence on recent climate change has strengthened progressively from the IPCC
4 Second Assessment Report to the AR5 and is even stronger in this assessment, including for regional scales
5 and for extremes. Human influence in the IPCC context refers to the human activities that lead to or
6 contribute to a climate response, such as the human-induced emissions of greenhouse gases that
7 subsequently alter the atmosphere's radiative properties, resulting in warming of the climate system. Other
8 human activities influencing climate include the emission of aerosols and other short-lived climate forcers,
9 and land-use change such as urbanisation. Progress in our understanding of human influence is gained from
10 longer observational datasets, improved paleoclimate information, a stronger warming signal since AR5, and
11 improvements in climate models, physical understanding and attribution techniques (see Core Concepts
12 Box). Since AR5, the attribution to human influence has become possible across a wider range of climate
13 variables and climatic impact-drivers (CIDs, see Core Concepts Box). New techniques and analyses drawing
14 on several lines of evidence have provided greater confidence in attributing changes in regional weather and
15 climate extremes to human influence (*high confidence*). {1.3, 1.5.1, Appendix 1A, 3.1-3.8, 5.2, 6.4.2, 7.3.5,
16 7.4.4, 8.3.1, 10.4, Cross-Chapter Box 10.3, 11.2-11.9, 12.4, TS.3}

17
18 Combining the evidence from across the climate system increases the level of confidence in the attribution of
19 observed climate change to human influence and reduces the uncertainties associated with assessments based
20 on single variables.

21
22 Since AR5, the accumulation of energy in the Earth system has become established as a robust measure of
23 the rate of global climate change on interannual-to-decadal time scales. The rate of accumulation of energy is
24 equivalent to the Earth's energy imbalance and can be quantified by changes in the global energy inventory
25 for all components of the climate system, including global ocean heat uptake, warming of the atmosphere,
26 warming of the land, and melting of ice. Compared to changes in global surface temperature, the Earth's
27 energy imbalance (see Core Concepts Box) exhibits less variability, enabling more accurate identification
28 and estimation of trends.

29
30 Identifying the human-induced components contributing to the energy budget provides an implicit estimate
31 of the human influence on global climate change. {Cross-Working Group Box: Attribution, 3.8, 7.2.2, Box
32 7.2 and Cross Chapter Box 9.1, TS.2, TS.3.1}

33
34 Regional climate changes can be moderated or amplified by regional forcing from land use and land-cover
35 changes or from aerosol concentrations and other short-lived climate forcers (SLCFs). For example, the
36 difference in observed warming trends between cities and their surroundings can partly be attributed to
37 urbanization (*very high confidence*). While established attribution techniques provide confidence in our
38 assessment of human influence on large-scale climate changes (as described in TS.2), new techniques
39 developed since AR5, including attribution of individual events, have provided greater confidence in
40 attributing changes in climate extremes to climate change. Multiple attribution approaches support the
41 contribution of human influence to several regional multi-decadal mean precipitation changes (*high*
42 *confidence*). Understanding about past and future changes in weather and climate extremes has increased due
43 to better observation-based datasets, physical understanding of processes, an increasing proportion of
44 scientific literature combining different lines of evidence, and improved accessibility to different types of
45 climate models (*high confidence*) (see TS.2, TS.4). {Cross-Working Group Box: Attribution, 1.5, 3.2, 3.5,
46 5.2, 6.4.3, 8.3, 9.6, 10.1, 10.2, 10.3.3, 10.4.1, 10.4.2, 10.4.3, 10.5, 10.6, Cross-Chapter Box 10.3, Box 10.3,
47 11.1.6, 11.2-11.9, 12.4}.

48 49 50 *TS.1.3 Assessing Future Climate Change*

51

52 Various frameworks can be used to assess future climatic changes and to synthesize knowledge across
53 climate change assessment in WGI, WGII and WGIII. These frameworks include: (i) scenarios, (ii) global
54 warming levels and (iii) cumulative CO₂ emissions (see Core Concepts Box). The latter two offer scenario-

1 and path-independent approaches to assess future projections. Additional choices, for instance with regard to
 2 common reference periods and time windows for which changes are assessed, can further help to facilitate
 3 integration across the WGI report and across the whole AR6 (see TS.1.1). {1.4.1, 1.6, Cross-Chapter Box
 4 1.4, 4.2.2, 4.2.4, Cross-Chapter Box 11.1}

7 *TS.1.3.1 Climate Change Scenarios*

9 A core set of five scenarios based on the Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSPs) are used consistently
 10 across this report: SSP1-1.9, SSP1-2.6, SSP2-4.5, SSP3-7.0, and SSP5-8.5. These scenarios cover a broader
 11 range of greenhouse gas and air pollutant futures than assessed in earlier WGI reports, and they include high-
 12 CO₂ emissions pathways without climate change mitigation as well as new low-CO₂ emissions pathways
 13 (Figure TS.4). In these scenarios, differences in air pollution control and variations in climate change
 14 mitigation stringency strongly affect anthropogenic emission trajectories of SLCFs. Modelling studies
 15 relying on the Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) used in the AR5 complement the assessment
 16 based on SSP scenarios, for example at the regional scale. A comparison of simulations from CMIP5 using
 17 the RCPs with SSP-based simulations from CMIP6 shows that about half of the increase in simulated
 18 warming in CMIP6 versus CMIP5 arises because higher climate sensitivity is more prevalent in CMIP6
 19 model versions; the other half arises from higher radiative forcing in nominally corresponding scenarios
 20 (e.g., RCP8.5 and SSP5-8.5; *medium confidence*). The feasibility or likelihood of individual scenarios is not
 21 part of this assessment, which focuses on the climate response to a large range of emissions scenarios.
 22 {1.5.4, 1.6, Cross-Chapter Box 1.4, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6, 6.6, 6.7, Cross-Chapter Box 7.1, Atlas.2.1}

24 Climate change projections with climate models require information about future emissions or
 25 concentrations of greenhouse gases, aerosols, ozone depleting substances, and land use over time (Figure
 26 TS.4). This information can be provided by scenarios, which are internally consistent projections of these
 27 quantities based on assumptions of how socio-economic systems could evolve over the 21st century.
 28 Emissions from natural sources, such as the ocean and the land biosphere, are usually assumed to be
 29 constant, or to evolve in response to changes in anthropogenic forcings or to projected climate change.
 30 Natural forcings, such as past changes in solar irradiance and historical volcanic eruptions, are represented in
 31 model simulations covering the historical era. Future simulations assessed in this report account for projected
 32 changes in solar irradiance and for the long-term mean background forcing from volcanoes, but not for
 33 individual volcanic eruptions. Scenarios have a long history in IPCC as a method for systematically
 34 examining possible futures and allow to follow the cause-effect chain: from anthropogenic emissions, to
 35 changes in atmospheric concentrations, to changes in the Earth's energy balance ('forcing'), to changes in
 36 global climate and ultimately regional climate and climatic impact-drivers (Figure TS.4; see TS.2;
 37 Infographic TS.1). {1.5.4, 1.6.1, 4.2.2, 4.4.4, Cross-Chapter Box 4.1, 11.1}

40 [START FIGURE TS.4 HERE]

42 **Figure TS.4: The climate change cause-effect chain:** from anthropogenic emissions, to changes in atmospheric
 43 concentration, to changes in the Earth's energy balance ('forcing'), to changes to changes in global
 44 climate and ultimately regional climate and climatic impact-drivers. Shown is the core set of five SSP
 45 scenarios as well as emission and concentration ranges for the previous RCP scenarios in year 2100;
 46 CO₂ emissions (GtCO₂ yr⁻¹), panel top left; CH₄ emissions (middle) and SO₂, NO_x emissions (all in
 47 Mt yr⁻¹), top right; concentrations of atmospheric CO₂ (ppm) and CH₄ (ppb), second row left and
 48 right; effective radiative forcing for both anthropogenic and natural forcings (W m⁻²), third row;
 49 changes in global surface air temperature (°C) relative to 1850–1900, fourth row; maps of projected
 50 temperature change (°C) (left) and changes in annual-mean precipitation (%) (right) at GWL 2°C
 51 relative to 1850–1900 (see also Figure TS.5), bottom row. Carbon cycle and non-CO₂ biogeochemical
 52 feedbacks will also influence the ultimate response to anthropogenic emissions (arrows on the left).
 53 {1.6.1, Cross-Chapter Box 1.4, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.6.1, 4.6.2}

54 [END FIGURE TS.4 HERE]

1 The uncertainty in climate change projections that results from assessing alternative socio-economic futures,
2 the so-called scenario uncertainty, is explored through the use of scenario sets. Designed to span a wide
3 range of possible future conditions, these scenarios do not intend to match how events actually unfold in the
4 future, and they do not account for impacts of climate change on the socio-economic pathways. Besides
5 scenario uncertainty, climate change projections are also subject to climate response uncertainty (i.e., the
6 uncertainty related to our understanding of the key physical processes and structural uncertainties in climate
7 models) and irreducible and intrinsic uncertainties related to internal variability. Depending on the spatial
8 and temporal scales of the projection, and on the variable of interest, the relative importance of these
9 different uncertainties may vary substantially. {1.4.3, 1.6, 4.2.5, Box 4.1, 8.5.1}

10
11 In this report, a core set of five scenarios is used to explore climate change over the 21st century and beyond
12 (Section TS.2). They are labelled SSP1-1.9, SSP1-2.6, SSP2-4.5, SSP3-7.0, and SSP5-8.5¹⁴, and span a wide
13 range of radiative forcing levels in 2100. Scenarios in AR6 cover a broader range of emissions futures than
14 considered in AR5, including high CO₂ emissions scenarios without climate change mitigation as well as a
15 low CO₂ emissions scenario reaching net zero CO₂ emissions (see Core Concepts Box) around mid-century.
16 These SSP scenarios offer unprecedented detail of input data for ESM simulations and allow for a more
17 comprehensive assessment of climate drivers and responses, in particular because some aspects, such as the
18 temporal evolution of pollutants, emissions or changes in land use and land cover, span a broader range in
19 the SSP scenarios than in the RCPs used in the AR5. Modelling studies utilizing the RCPs complement the
20 assessment based on SSP scenarios, for example, at the regional scale (Section TS.4). Scenario extensions
21 are based on assumptions about the post-2100 evolution of emissions or of radiative forcing that is
22 independent from the modelling of socio-economic dynamics, which does not extend beyond 2100. To
23 explore specific dimensions, such as air pollution or temporary overshoot of a given warming level, scenario
24 variants are used in addition to the core set. {1.6.1, Cross-Chapter Box 1.4, 4.2.2, 4.2.6, 4.7.1, Cross-Chapter
25 Box 7.1}

26
27 SSP1-1.9 represents the low end of future emissions pathways, leading to warming below 1.5°C in 2100 and
28 limited temperature overshoot over the course of the 21st century (see Figure TS.6). At the opposite end of
29 the range, SSP5-8.5 represents the very high warming end of future emissions pathways from the literature.
30 SSP3-7.0 has overall lower GHG emissions than SSP5-8.5 but, for example, CO₂ emissions still almost
31 double by 2100 compared to today's levels. SSP2-4.5 and SSP1-2.6 represent scenarios with stronger
32 climate change mitigation and thus lower GHG emissions. SSP1-2.6 was designed to limit warming to below
33 2°C. Infographic TS.1 presents a narrative depiction of SSP-related climate futures. No likelihood is attached
34 to the scenarios assessed in this report, and the feasibility of specific scenarios in relation to current trends is
35 best informed by the WGIII contribution to AR6. In the scenario literature, the plausibility of some scenarios
36 with high CO₂ emissions, such as RCP8.5 or SSP5-8.5, has been debated in light of recent developments in
37 the energy sector. However, climate projections from these scenarios can still be valuable because the
38 concentration-levels reached in RCP8.5 or SSP5-8.5 and corresponding simulated climate futures cannot be
39 ruled out. That is because of uncertainty in carbon-cycle feedbacks which in nominally lower emissions
40 trajectories can result in projected concentrations that are higher than the central concentration-levels
41 typically used to drive model projections {1.6.1; Cross-Chapter Box 1.4; 4.2.2, 5.4; SROCC; Chapter 3 in
42 WGIII}.

43
44 The socio-economic narratives underlying SSP-based scenarios differ in their assumed level of air pollution
45 control. Together with variations in climate change mitigation stringency, this difference strongly affects
46 anthropogenic emission trajectories of SLCFs, some of which are also air pollutants. SSP1 and SSP5 assume
47 strong pollution control, projecting a decline of global emissions of ozone precursors (except methane) and
48 of aerosols and most of their precursors in the mid- to long term. The reductions due to air pollution controls
49 are further strengthened in scenarios that assume a marked decarbonization, such as SSP1-1.9 or SSP1-2.6.
50 SSP2-4.5 is a medium pollution-control scenario with air pollutant emissions following current trends, and
51 SSP3-7.0 is a weak pollution-control scenario with strong increases in emissions of air pollutants over the
52 21st century. Methane emissions in SSP-based scenarios vary with the overall climate change mitigation

¹⁴ Throughout this report, scenarios are referred to as SSPx-y, where “SSPx” refers to the Shared Socioeconomic Pathway or “SSP” describing the socio-economic trends underlying the scenario and “y” refers to the approximate target level of radiative forcing (in W m⁻²) resulting from the scenario in the year 2100.

1 stringency, declining rapidly in SSP1-1.9 and SSP1-2.6 but declining only after 2070 in SSP5-8.5. SSP
2 trajectories span a wider range of air pollutant emissions than considered in the RCP scenarios (see Figure
3 TS.4), reflecting the potential for large regional differences in their assumed pollution policies. Their effects
4 on climate and air pollution are assessed in Box TS.7. {4.4.4, 6.6.1, Figure 6.4; 6.7.1, Figure 6.19}

5
6 Since the RCPs are also labelled by the level of radiative forcing they reach in 2100, they can in principle be
7 related to the core set of AR6 scenarios (Figure TS.4). However, the RCPs and SSP-based scenarios are not
8 directly comparable. First, the gas-to-gas compositions differ; for example, the SSP5-8.5 scenario has higher
9 CO₂ but lower methane concentrations compared to RCP8.5. Second, the projected 21st-century trajectories
10 may differ, even if they result in the same radiative forcing by 2100. Third, the overall effective radiative
11 forcing (see Core Concepts Box) may differ, and tends to be higher for the SSPs compared to RCPs that
12 share the same nominal stratospheric-temperature-adjusted radiative forcing label. Comparing the
13 differences between CMIP5 and CMIP6 projections (Cross-Section Box TS.1) that were driven by RCPs and
14 SSP-based scenarios, respectively, indicates that about half of the difference in simulated warming arises
15 because of higher climate sensitivity being more prevalent in CMIP6 model versions; the remainder arises
16 from higher ERF in nominally corresponding scenarios (e.g., RCP8.5 and SSP5-8.5; *medium confidence*)
17 (see TS.1.2.2). In SSP1-2.6 and SSP2-4.5, changes in effective radiative forcing also explain about half of
18 the changes in the range of warming (*medium confidence*). For SSP5-8.5, higher climate sensitivity is the
19 primary reason behind the upper end of the CMIP6-projected warming being higher than for RCP8.5 in
20 CMIP5 (*medium confidence*). Note that AR6 uses multiple lines of evidence beyond CMIP6 results to assess
21 global surface temperature under various scenarios (see Cross-Section Box TS.1 for the detailed assessment).
22 {1.6, 4.2.2, 4.6.2.2, Cross-Chapter Box 7.1}

23
24 Earth system models can be driven by anthropogenic CO₂ emission ('emissions-driven' runs), in which case
25 atmospheric CO₂ concentration is a projected variable; or by prescribed time-varying atmospheric
26 concentrations ('concentration-driven' runs). In emissions-driven runs, changes in climate feed back on the
27 carbon cycle and interactively modify the projected CO₂ concentration in each ESM, thus adding the
28 uncertainty in the carbon cycle response to climate change to the projections. Concentration-driven
29 simulations are based on a central estimate of carbon cycle feedbacks, while emissions-driven simulations
30 help quantify the role of feedback uncertainty. The differences in the few ESMs for which both emission and
31 concentration-driven runs were available for the same scenario are small and do not affect the assessment of
32 global surface temperature projections discussed in Cross-Section Box TS.1 and Section TS.2 (*high*
33 *confidence*). By the end of the 21st century, emission-driven simulations are on average around 0.1°C cooler
34 than concentration-driven runs reflecting the generally lower CO₂ concentrations simulated by the emission
35 driven ESMs, and a spread about 0.1°C greater reflecting the range of simulated CO₂ concentrations.
36 However, these carbon cycle–climate feedbacks do affect the transient climate response to cumulative CO₂
37 emissions (TCRE¹⁵), and their quantification is crucial for the assessment of remaining carbon budgets
38 consistent with global warming levels simulated by ESMs (see TS.3). {1.6.1, Cross-Chapter Box 1.4, 4.2,
39 4.3.1, 5.4.5, Cross-Chapter Box 7.1}

40 41 42 *TS.1.3.2 Global Warming Levels and Cumulative CO₂ Emissions*

43
44 Quantifying geographical response patterns of climate change at various global warming levels (GWLs),
45 such as 1.5 or 2°C above the 1850–1900 period, is useful for characterizing changes in mean climate,
46 extremes and climatic impact-drivers. GWLs are used in this report as a dimension of integration
47 independent of the timing when the warming level is reached and of the emissions scenario that led to the
48 warming. For many climate variables the response pattern for a given GWL is consistent across different
49 scenarios. However, this is not the case for slowly responding processes, such as ice sheet and glacier mass
50 loss, deep ocean warming, and the related sea level rise. The response of these variables depends on the time
51 it takes to reach the GWL, differs if the warming is reached in a transient warming state or after a temporary
52 overshoot of the warming level, and will continue to evolve, over centuries to millennia, even after global
53 warming has stabilized. Different GWLs correspond closely to specific cumulative CO₂ emissions due to

¹⁵ The transient surface temperature change per unit of cumulative CO₂ emissions, usually 1000 GtC;

1 their near-linear relationship with global surface temperature. This report uses 1.0°C, 1.5°C, 2.0°C, 3.0°C,
2 and 4.0°C above 1850–1900 conditions as a primary set of GWLs. {1.6.2, 4.2.4, 4.6.1, 5.5, Cross-Chapter
3 Box 11.1, Cross-chapter Box 12.1}

4
5 For many indicators of climate change, such as seasonal and annual mean and extreme surface air
6 temperatures and precipitation, the geographical patterns of changes are well estimated by the level of global
7 surface warming, independently of the details of the emission pathways that caused the warming, or the time
8 at which the level of warming is attained. GWLs, defined as a global surface temperature increase of, for
9 example, 1.5°C or 2°C relative to the mean of 1850–1900, are therefore a useful way to integrate climate
10 information independently of specific scenarios or time periods. {1.6.2, 4.2.4, 4.6.1, 11.2.4, Cross-Chapter
11 Box 11.1}

12
13 The use of GWLs allows disentangling the contribution of changes in global warming from regional aspects
14 of the climate response, as scenario differences in response patterns at a given GWL are often smaller than
15 model uncertainty and internal variability. The relationship between the GWL and response patterns is often
16 linear, but integration of information can also be done for non-linear changes, like the frequency of heat
17 extremes. The requirement is that the relationship to the GWL is broadly independent of the scenario and
18 relative contribution of radiative forcing agents. {1.6, 11.2.4, Cross-Chapter Box 11.1}

19
20 The GWL approach to integration of climate information also has some limitations. Variables that are quick
21 to respond to warming, like temperature and precipitation, including extremes, sea ice area, permafrost and
22 snow cover, show little scenario dependence for a given GWL, whereas slow-responding variables such as
23 glacier and ice sheet mass, warming of the deep ocean and their contributions to sea level rise, have
24 substantial dependency on the trajectory of warming taken to reach the GWL. A given GWL can also be
25 reached for different balances between anthropogenic forcing agents, such as long-lived greenhouse gas and
26 SLCF emissions, and the response patterns may depend on this balance. Finally, there is a difference in the
27 response even for temperature-related variables if a GWL is reached in a rapidly warming transient state or
28 in an equilibrium state when the land–sea warming contrast is less pronounced. In this Report the climate
29 responses at different GWLs are calculated based on climate model projections for the 21st century (see
30 Figure TS.5), which are mostly not in equilibrium. The SSP1-1.9 scenario allows assessing the response to a
31 GWL of about 1.5°C after a (relatively) short-term stabilization by the end of the 21st century. {4.6.2,
32 9.3.1.1, 9.5.2.3, 9.5.3.3, 11.2.4, Cross-Chapter Box 11.1, Cross-chapter Box 12.1}

33
34 Global warming levels are highly relevant as a dimension of integration across scientific disciplines and
35 socio-economic actors and are motivated by the long-term goal in the Paris Agreement of ‘holding the
36 increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts
37 to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels’. The evolution of aggregated impacts
38 with temperature levels has also been widely used and embedded in the WGII assessment. This includes the
39 ‘Reasons for Concern’ (RFC) and other ‘burning ember’ diagrams in IPCC WGII. The RFC framework has
40 been further expanded in the SR1.5, the SROCC and SRCCL by explicitly looking at the differential impacts
41 between half-degree GWLs and the evolution of risk for different socio-economic assumptions. {1.4.4, 1.6.2,
42 11.2.4, 12.5.2, Cross-chapter Box 11.1, Cross-Chapter Box 12.1}

43
44 SR1.5 concluded, ‘climate models project robust differences in regional climate characteristics between
45 present-day and global warming of 1.5°C, and between 1.5°C and 2°C’. This report adopts a set of common
46 GWLs across which climate projections, impacts, adaptation challenges and climate change mitigation
47 challenges can be integrated, within and across the three WGs, relative to 1850–1900. The core set of GWLs
48 in this Report are 1.0°C (close to present day conditions), 1.5°C, 2.0°C, 3.0°C, and 4.0°C. {1.4, 1.6.2, Cross-
49 Chapter Box 1.2, Table 1.5, Cross-chapter Box 11.1}

50 51 **Connecting Scenarios and Global Warming Levels**

52
53 In this report, scenario-based climate projections are translated into GWLs by aggregating the ESM model
54 response at specific GWL across scenarios (see Figure TS.5 and Figure TS.6). The climate response pattern
55 for the 20-year period around when individual simulations reach a given GWL are averaged across all

1 models and scenarios that reach that GWL. The best estimate and *likely* range of the timing of when a certain
 2 GWL is reached under a particular scenario (or ‘GWL-crossing time’), however, is based not only on CMIP6
 3 output, but on a combined assessment taking into account the observed warming to date, CMIP6 output and
 4 additional lines of evidence (see Cross-Section Box TS.1). {4.3.4, Cross-Chapter Box 11.1, Atlas.2,
 5 Interactive Atlas}

6
 7
 8 **[START FIGURE TS.5 HERE]**

9
 10 **Figure TS.5: How scenarios are linked to global warming levels (GWLs), and examples of the evolution of**
 11 **patterns of change with global warming levels.** Left: Illustrative example of GWLs defined as
 12 global surface temperature response to anthropogenic emissions in unconstrained CMIP6 simulations,
 13 for two illustrative scenarios (SSP1-2.6 and SSP3-7.0). The time when a given simulation reaches a
 14 GWL, e.g., +2°C, relative to 1850-1900 is taken as the time when the central year of a 20-year
 15 running mean first reaches that level of warming. See the dots for +2°C, and how not all simulations
 16 reach all levels of warming. The assessment of the timing when a GWL is reached takes into account
 17 additional lines of evidence and is discussed in Cross-Section Box TS.1. Right: Multi-model, multi-
 18 simulation average response patterns of change in near-surface air temperature, precipitation
 19 (expressed as percentage change) and soil moisture (expressed in standard deviations of interannual
 20 variability), for three GWLs. The number to the top right of the panels shows the number of model
 21 simulations averaged across including all models that reach the corresponding GWL in any of the 5
 22 SSPs. See TS.2 for discussion. (See also Cross-Chapter Box 11.1)

23
 24 **[END FIGURE TS.5 HERE]**

25
 26
 27 Global warming levels are closely related to cumulative CO₂ (and in some cases CO₂-equivalent) emissions.
 28 This report confirms the assessment of the WGI AR5 and SR1.5 that a near-linear relationship exists
 29 between cumulative CO₂ emissions and the resulting increase in global surface temperature (Section TS.3.2).
 30 This implies that continued CO₂ emissions will cause further warming and associated changes in all
 31 components of the climate system. For declining cumulative CO₂ emissions (i.e., if negative net emissions
 32 are achieved), the relationship is less strong for some components, such as the hydrological cycle. The WGI
 33 report uses cumulative CO₂ emissions to compare climate response across scenarios and provides a link to
 34 the emission pathways assessment in WGIII. The advantage of using cumulative CO₂ emissions is that it is
 35 an inherent emissions scenario characteristic rather than an outcome of the scenario-based projections, where
 36 uncertainties in the cause–effect chain from emissions to temperature change are important (Figure TS.4), for
 37 example, the uncertainty in effective radiative forcing (ERF) and transient climate response (TCR).
 38 Cumulative CO₂ emissions can also provide a link to the assessments of mitigation options. Cumulative CO₂
 39 emissions do not carry information about non-CO₂ emissions, although these can be included with specific
 40 emission metrics to estimate CO₂-equivalent emissions. (TS.3.3) {1.3.2, 1.6, 4.6.2, 5.5, 7.6, 8.4.3}

41 42 43 **TS.1.4 From Global to Regional Climate Information for Impact and Risk Assessment**

44
 45 The WGI AR6 has an expanded focus on regional information supported by the increased availability of
 46 coordinated regional climate model ensemble projections and improvements in the sophistication and
 47 resolution of global and regional climate models (*high confidence*). Multiple lines of evidence can be used to
 48 construct climate information on a global to regional scale and can be further distilled in a co-production
 49 process to meet user needs (*high confidence*). To better support risk assessment, a common risk framework
 50 across all three Working Groups has been implemented in AR6, and low-likelihood but high-impact
 51 outcomes are explicitly addressed in WGI by using physical climate storylines (see Core Concepts Box).
 52 Climatic impact-drivers are physical climate system conditions (e.g., means, events, extremes) that affect an
 53 element of society or ecosystems. They are the WGI contribution to the risk framing without anticipating
 54 whether their impact provides potential opportunities or is detrimental (i.e., as for hazards). Many global and
 55 regional climatic impact-drivers have a direct relation to global warming levels (*high confidence*). {1.4.4,
 56 1.5.2-1.5.4, 4.8, 10.1, 10.5.1, **11.2.4, 11.9**, 12.1-12.3, 12.6, Atlas.1.3.3-1.3.4, Atlas.1.4, Atlas.1.4.4, Boxes

10.2 and 11.2, Cross-Chapter Boxes 1.3, 10.3, 11.1, 12.1 and 12.2}

Climate change is a global phenomenon, but manifests differently in different regions. The impacts of climate change are generally experienced at local, national and regional scales, and these are also the scales at which decisions are typically made. Robust climate change information is increasingly available at regional scales for impact and risk assessments. Depending on the climate information context, geographical regions in AR6 may refer to larger areas, such as sub-continent and oceanic regions, or to typological regions, such as monsoon regions, coastlines, mountain ranges or cities, as used in TS.4. A new set of standard AR6 WGI reference regions has also been included in this report (Fig. TS.6 bottom panels). {1.4.5, 10.1, 11.9, 12.1-12.4, Atlas.1.3.3-1.3.4}

Global and regional climate models are important sources of climate information at the regional scale. Since AR5, a more comprehensive assessment of past and future evolution of a range of climate variables on a regional scale has been enabled by the increased availability of coordinated ensemble regional climate model projections and improvements in the level of sophistication and resolution of global and regional climate models. This has been complemented by observational, attribution and sectoral-vulnerability studies informing, for instance, about impact-relevant tolerance thresholds. {10.3.3, 11.9, 12.1, 12.3, 12.6, Atlas.3-Atlas.11, Interactive Atlas}

Multiple lines of evidence derived from observations, model simulations and other approaches can be used to construct climate information on a regional scale as described in detail in TS.4.1.1 and TS.4.1.2. Depending on the phenomena and specific context, these sources and methodologies include theoretical understanding of the relevant processes, drivers and feedbacks of climate at regional scale, trends in observed data from multiple datasets, and the attribution of these trends to specific drivers. Furthermore, simulations from different model types (including global and regional climate models, emulators, statistical downscaling methods, etc.) and experiments (e.g., CMIP, CORDEX, and large ensembles of single-model simulations with different initial conditions), attribution methodologies as well as other relevant local knowledge (e.g., indigenous knowledge) are utilized. (see Box TS.11). {1.5.3, 1.5.4, Cross-Chapter Box 7.1, 10.2, 10.3-10.6, 11.2, Atlas.1.4, Cross-Chapter Box 10.3}

From the multiple lines of evidence, climate information can be distilled in a co-production process that involves users, related stakeholders and producers of climate information, considering the specific context of the question at stake, the underlying values, and the challenge of communicating across different communities. The co-production process is an essential part of climate services, which are discussed in TS.4.1.2. {10.5, 12.6, Cross-Chapter Box 12.2}

[START FIGURE TS.6 HERE]

Figure TS.6: A graphical abstract for key aspects of the Technical Summary related to observed and projected changes in global surface temperature and associated regional changes in climatic impact-drivers relevant for impact and risk assessment. Top left: a schematic representation of the likelihood for equilibrium climate sensitivity (ECS), consistent with the AR6 assessment (see Chapter 7; TS.3). ECS values above 5°C and below 2°C are termed low-likelihood high warming (LLHW) and low-likelihood low warming, respectively. Top right: Observed (see Cross-Section Box TS.1) and projected global surface temperature changes, shown as global warming levels (GWL) relative to 1850-1900, using the assessed 95% (top), 50% (middle) and 5% (bottom) likelihood time series (see Chapter 4; TS.2). Bottom panels show maps of CMIP6 median projections of two climatic impact-drivers (CIDs) at three different GWLs (columns for 1.5, 2 and 4°C) for the AR6 land regions (see Chapters 1, 10, Atlas; TS.4). The heat warning index is the number of days per year averaged across each region at which a heat warning for human health at level 'danger' would be issued according to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) (NOAA HI41, see Chapter 12 and Technical Annex VI). The maps of extreme rainfall changes show the percentage change in the amount of rain falling on the wettest day of a year (Rx1day, relative to 1995-2014, see Chapter 11) averaged across each region when the respective GWL is reached. Additional CIDs are discussed in TS.4.

1 **[END FIGURE TS.6 HERE]**
 2
 3

4 With the aim of informing decision-making at local or regional scales, a common risk framework has been
 5 implemented in AR6. Methodologies have been developed to construct more impact- and risk-relevant
 6 climate change information tailored to regions and stakeholders. Physical storyline approaches are used in
 7 order to build climate information based on multiple lines of evidence, and which can explicitly address
 8 physically plausible, but low-likelihood, high-impact outcomes and uncertainties related to climate
 9 variability for consideration in risk assessments (see Figure TS.6). {4.8, 12.1-12.3, 12.6, Box 9.4, 10.5, Box
 10 10.2, Box 11.2, Cross-Chapter Box 1.3, Glossary}

11
 12 The climatic impact-driver framework developed in AR6 supports an assessment of changing climate
 13 conditions that are relevant for sectoral impacts and risk assessment. Climatic impact-drivers (CIDs) are
 14 physical climate system conditions (e.g., means, extremes, events) that affect an element of society or
 15 ecosystems and are thus a potential priority for providing climate information. For instance, the heat index
 16 used by the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA HI) for issuing heat warnings is
 17 a CID index that can be associated with adverse human health impacts due to heat stress (see Figure TS.6).
 18 Depending on system tolerance, CIDs and their changes can be detrimental (i.e., hazards in the risk framing),
 19 beneficial, neutral, or a mixture of each across interacting system elements, regions and sectors (aligning
 20 with WGII Sectoral Chapters 2–8). Each sector is affected by multiple CIDs, and each CID affects multiple
 21 sectors. Climate change has already altered CID profiles and resulted in shifting magnitude, frequency,
 22 duration, seasonality and spatial extent of associated indices (*high confidence*) (see regional details in
 23 TS.4.3). {12.1-12.4, Table 12.1, Table 12.2, Technical Annex VI}

24
 25 Many global- and regional-scale CIDs, including extremes, have a direct relation to global warming levels
 26 (GWLs) and can thus inform the hazard component of ‘Representative Key Risks’ and ‘Reasons for
 27 Concern’ assessed by AR6 WGII. These include heat, cold, wet and dry hazards, both mean and extremes;
 28 cryospheric hazards (snow cover, ice extent, permafrost) and oceanic hazards (marine heatwaves) (*high*
 29 *confidence*) (Figure TS.6). Establishing links between specific GWLs with tipping points and irreversible
 30 behaviour is challenging due to model uncertainties and lack of observations, but their occurrence cannot be
 31 excluded, and their likelihood of occurrence generally increases at greater warming levels (Box TS.1, TS.9).
 32 {11.2.4, Box 11.2, Cross-Chapter Boxes 11.1 and 12.1}

33
 34
 35 **[START CROSS-SECTION BOX TS.1 HERE]**
 36

37 **Cross-Section Box TS.1: Global Surface Temperature Change**

38
 39 This box synthesizes the outcomes of the assessment of past, current and future global surface temperature.
 40 Global mean surface temperature (GMST) and global surface air temperature (GSAT) are the two primary
 41 metrics of global surface temperature used to estimate global warming in IPCC reports. GMST merges sea
 42 surface temperatures (SSTs) over the ocean and 2 m air temperature over land and sea ice areas and is used
 43 in most paleo, historical and present-day observational estimates. The GSAT metric is 2 m air temperature
 44 over all surfaces and is the diagnostic generally used from climate models. Changes in GMST and GSAT
 45 over time differ by at most 10% in either direction (*high confidence*), but conflicting lines of evidence from
 46 models and direct observations, combined with limitations in theoretical understanding, lead to *low*
 47 *confidence* in the sign of any difference in long-term trend. Therefore, long-term changes in GMST/GSAT
 48 are presently assessed to be identical, with expanded uncertainty in GSAT estimates. Hence the term global
 49 surface temperature is used in reference to both quantities in the text of the TS and SPM. {Cross-Chapter
 50 Box 2.3}

51
 52 Global surface temperature has increased by 1.09 [0.95 to 1.20] °C from 1850–1900 to 2011–2020, and the
 53 last decade was *more likely than not* warmer than any multi-centennial period after the Last Interglacial,
 54 roughly 125,000 years ago. The *likely* range of human-induced warming in global surface temperature in
 55 2010–2019 relative to 1850–1900 is 1.07 [0.8 to 1.3] °C, encompassing the observed warming, while the

change attributable to natural forcing is only -0.1°C to $+0.1^{\circ}\text{C}$. Compared to 1850–1900, average global surface temperature over the period 2081–2100 is *very likely* to be higher by 1.0°C – 1.8°C in the low CO_2 emissions scenario SSP1-1.9 and by 3.3°C – 5.7°C in the high CO_2 emissions scenario SSP5-8.5. In all scenarios assessed here except SSP5-8.5, the central estimate of 20-year averaged global surface warming crossing the 1.5°C level lies in the early 2030s, which is about ten years earlier than the midpoint of the *likely* range (2030–2052) assessed in the SR1.5. It is *more likely than not* that under SSP1-1.9, global surface temperature relative to 1850–1900 will remain below 1.6°C throughout the 21st century, implying a potential temporary overshoot of 1.5°C global warming of no more than 0.1°C . Global surface temperature in any individual year, could exceed 1.5°C relative to 1850–1900 by 2030 with a likelihood between 40% and 60% across the scenarios considered here (*medium confidence*). A 2°C increase in global surface temperature relative to 1850–1900 will be crossed under SSP5-8.5 but is *extremely unlikely* to be crossed under SSP1-1.9. Periods of reduced and increased GSAT trends at decadal time scales will continue to occur in the 21st century (*very high confidence*). The effect of strong mitigation on 20-year global surface temperature trends would be *likely* to emerge during the near term (2021–2040), assuming no major volcanic eruptions occur. (Figure TS.8; Cross-Section Box TS.1, Figure 1), {2.3, 3.3, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6, 7.3}.

Surface Temperature History

Dataset innovations, particularly more comprehensive representation of polar regions, and the availability of new datasets have led to an assessment of increased global surface temperature change relative to the directly equivalent estimates reported in AR5. The contribution of changes in observational understanding alone between AR5 and AR6 in assessing temperature changes from 1850–1900 to 1986–2005 is estimated at 0.08 [-0.01 to 0.12] $^{\circ}\text{C}$. From 1850–1900 to 1995–2014, global surface temperature increased by 0.85 [0.69 to 0.95] $^{\circ}\text{C}$, and to the most recent decade (2011–2020) by 1.09 [0.95 to 1.20] $^{\circ}\text{C}$. Each of the last four decades has in turn been warmer than any decade that preceded it since 1850. Temperatures have increased faster over land than over the ocean since 1850–1900, with warming to 2011–2020 of 1.59 [1.34 to 1.83] $^{\circ}\text{C}$ over land and 0.88 [0.68 to 1.01] $^{\circ}\text{C}$ over the ocean. {2.3.1, Cross-Chapter Box 2.3}

Global surface temperature during the period 1850–1900 is used as an approximation for pre-industrial conditions for consistency with AR5 and AR6 Special Reports, whilst recognizing that radiative forcings have a baseline of 1750 for the start of anthropogenic influences. It is *likely* that there was a net anthropogenic forcing of 0.0 – 0.3 Wm^{-2} in 1850–1900 relative to 1750 (*medium confidence*), and from the period around 1750 to 1850–1900 there was a change in global surface temperature of around 0.1°C (*likely* range -0.1 to $+0.3^{\circ}\text{C}$, *medium confidence*), with an anthropogenic component of 0.0°C – 0.2°C (*likely* range, *medium confidence*). {Cross-Chapter Box 1.2, 7.3.5}.

Global surface temperature has evolved over geological time (Figure TS.1, Box TS.2). Beginning approximately 6500 years ago, global surface temperature generally decreased, culminating in the coldest multi-century interval of the post-glacial period (since roughly 7000 years ago), which occurred between around 1450 and 1850 (*high confidence*). Over the last 50 years, global surface temperature has increased at an observed rate unprecedented in at least the last two thousand years (*medium confidence*), and it is *more likely than not* that no multi-centennial period after the Last Interglacial (roughly 125,000 years ago) was warmer globally than the most recent decade (Cross-Section Box TS.1, Figure 1). During the mid-Pliocene Warm Period, around 3.3–3.0 million years ago, global surface temperature was 2.5°C – 4°C warmer, and during the Last Interglacial, it was 0.5°C – 1.5°C warmer than 1850–1900 (*medium confidence*). {2.3.1, Cross-Chapter Box 2.1 and 2.4}

[START CROSS-SECTION BOX TS.1, FIGURE 1 HERE]

Cross-Section Box TS.1, Figure 1: Earth's surface temperature history and future with key findings annotated within each panel. *The intent of this figure is to show global surface temperature observed changes from the Holocene to now, and projected changes.* (a) Global surface temperature over the Holocene divided into three time scales. (i) 12,000 to 1000 years ago (10,000 BCE to 1000 CE) in 100-year time steps, (ii) 1000 to 1900

CE, 10-year smooth, and (iii) 1900 to 2020 CE (mean of four datasets in panel (c)). Median of the multi-method reconstruction (bold lines), with 5% and 95% percentiles of the ensemble members (thin lines). Vertical bars are 5th to 95th percentile ranges of estimated global surface temperature for the Last Interglacial and mid Holocene (*medium confidence*) (Section 2.3.1.1). All temperatures relative to 1850–1900. (b) Spatially resolved trends ($^{\circ}\text{C}$ per decade) for (upper map) HadCRUTv5 over 1981–2020, and (lower map, total change) multi-model mean projected changes from 1995–2014 to 2081–2010 in the SST3-7.0 scenario. Observed trends have been calculated where data are present in both the first and last decade and for at least 70% of all years within the period using OLS. Significance is assessed with AR(1) correction and denoted by stippling. Hatched areas in the lower map show areas of conflicting model evidence on significance of changes. (c) Temperature from instrumental data for 1850–2020, including annually resolved averages for the four global surface temperature datasets assessed in Section 2.3.1.1.3 (see text for references). The grey shading shows the uncertainty associated with the HadCRUTv5 estimate. All temperatures relative to the 1850–1900 reference period. (d) Recent past and 2015–2050 evolution of annual mean global surface temperature change relative to 1850–1900, from HadCRUTv5 (black), CMIP6 historical simulations (up to 2014, in grey, ensemble mean solid, 5% and 95% percentiles dashed, individual models thin), and CMIP6 projections under scenario SSP2-4.5, from four models that have an equilibrium climate sensitivity near the assessed central value (thick yellow). Solid thin coloured lines show the assessed central estimate of 20-year change in global surface temperature for 2015–2050 under three scenarios, and dashed thin coloured lines the corresponding 5% and 95% quantiles. (e) Assessed projected change in 20-year running mean global surface temperature for five scenarios (central estimate solid, *very likely* range shaded for SSP1-2.6 and SSP3-7.0), relative to 1995–2014 (left y-axis) and 1850–1900 (right y-axis). The y-axis on the right-hand side is shifted upward by 0.85°C , the central estimate of the observed warming for 1995–2014, relative to 1850–1900. The right y-axis in (e) is the same as the y-axis in (d).

[END CROSS-SECTION BOX TS.1, FIGURE 1 HERE]

Current Warming

There is *very high confidence* that the CMIP6 model ensemble reproduces observed global surface temperature trends and variability since 1850 with errors small enough for detection and attribution of human-induced warming. The CMIP6 multi-model mean global surface warming between 1850–1900 and 2010–2019 is close to the best estimate of observed warming, though some CMIP6 models simulate a warming that is outside the assessed *very likely* observed range. {3.3.1}

The *likely* range of human-induced change in global surface temperature in 2010–2019¹⁶ relative to 1850–1900 is 1.07 [0.8 to 1.3] $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (Figure Cross-Section Box TS.1, Figure 1), encompassing the observed warming for that period of 1.06 [0.88 to 1.21] $^{\circ}\text{C}$, while change attributable to natural forcing is only -0.1 to $+0.1^{\circ}\text{C}$. This assessment is consistent with an estimate of the human-induced global surface temperature rise based on assessed ranges of perturbations to the top of the atmosphere (effective radiative forcing), and metrics of feedbacks of the climate response (equilibrium climate sensitivity and the transient climate response). Over the same period, well-mixed greenhouse gas forcing *likely* warmed global surface temperature by 1.0°C to 2.0°C , while aerosols and other anthropogenic forcings *likely* cooled global surface temperature by 0.0°C to 0.8°C . {2.3.1, 3.3.1, 7.3.5, Cross-Chapter Box 7.1}

The observed slower global surface temperature increase (relative to preceding and following periods) in the 1998–2012 period, sometimes referred to as ‘the hiatus’, was temporary (*very high confidence*). The increase

¹⁶ Assessment of human-induced warming took place before 2020 data were available and hence concludes in 2019.

1 in global surface temperature during the 1998–2012 period is also greater in the data sets used in the AR6
2 assessment than in those available at the time of AR5. Using these updated observational data sets and a like-
3 for-like consistent comparison of simulated and observed global surface temperature, all observed estimates
4 of the 1998–2012 trend lie within the *very likely* range of CMIP6 trends. Since 2012, global surface
5 temperature has warmed strongly, with the past five years (2016–2020) being the hottest five-year period
6 between 1850 and 2020 (*high confidence*). {2.3.1, 3.3.1, 3.5.1, Cross-Chapter Box 3.1}

8 **Future Changes in Global Surface Temperature**

9
10 The AR6 assessment of future change in global surface temperature is, for the first time in an IPCC report,
11 explicitly constructed by combining new projections for the SSP scenarios with observational constraints
12 based on past simulated warming as well as the AR6-updated assessment of equilibrium climate sensitivity
13 and transient climate response. Climate forecasts initialized from the observed climate state have in addition
14 been used for the period 2019–2028. The inclusion of additional lines of evidence has reduced the assessed
15 uncertainty ranges for each scenario (Cross-Section Box TS.1, Figure 1). {4.3.1, 4.3.4, Box 4.1, 7.5}

16
17 During the near term (2021–2040), a 1.5°C increase in global surface temperature, relative to 1850–1900, is
18 *very likely* to occur in scenario SSP5-8.5, *likely* to occur in scenarios SSP2-4.5 and SSP3-7.0, and *more likely*
19 *than not* to occur in scenarios SSP1-1.9 and SSP1-2.6. The time of crossing a warming level here is defined
20 here as the midpoint of the first 20-year period during which the average global surface temperature exceeds
21 the level. In all scenarios assessed here except SSP5-8.5, the central estimate of crossing the 1.5°C level lies
22 in the early 2030s. This is about ten years earlier than the midpoint of the *likely* range (2030–2052) assessed
23 in the SR1.5, which assumed continuation of the then-current warming rate; this rate has been confirmed in
24 the AR6. Roughly half of the ten-year difference arises from a larger historical warming diagnosed in AR6.
25 The other half arises because for central estimates of climate sensitivity, most scenarios show stronger
26 warming over the near term than was estimated as ‘current’ in SR1.5 (*medium confidence*). (Cross-Section
27 Box TS.1, Table 1) {2.3.1, Cross-Chapter Box 2.3, 3.3.1, 4.3.4, BOX 4.1}

28
29 It is *more likely than not* that under SSP1-1.9, global surface temperature relative to 1850–1900 will remain
30 below 1.6°C throughout the 21st century, implying a potential temporary overshoot of 1.5°C global warming
31 of no more than 0.1°C. If climate sensitivity lies near the lower end of the assessed *very likely* range,
32 crossing the 1.5°C warming level is avoided in scenarios SSP1-1.9 and SSP1-2.6 (*medium confidence*).
33 Global surface temperature in any individual year, in contrast to the 20-year average, could by 2030 exceed
34 1.5°C relative to 1850–1900 with a likelihood between 40% and 60%, across the scenarios considered here
35 (*medium confidence*). (Cross-Section Box TS.1, Table 1) {4.3.4, 4.4.1, BOX 4.1, 7.5}

36
37 During the 21st century, a 2°C increase in global surface temperature relative to 1850–1900 will be crossed
38 under SSP5-8.5 and SSP3-7.0, will *extremely likely* be crossed under SSP2-4.5, but is *unlikely* to be crossed
39 under SSP1-2.6 and *extremely unlikely* to be crossed under SSP1-1.9. For the mid-term period 2041–2060,
40 this 2°C global warming level is *very likely* to be crossed under SSP5-8.5, *likely* to be crossed under SSP3-
41 7.0, and *more likely than not* to be crossed under SSP2-4.5. (Cross-Section Box TS.1, Table 1) {4.3.4}

42
43 Events of reduced and increased global surface temperature trends at decadal timescales will continue to
44 occur in the 21st century, but will not affect the centennial warming (*very high confidence*). If strong
45 mitigation is applied from 2020 onward as reflected in SSP1-1.9, its effect on 20-year trends in global
46 surface temperature would *likely* emerge during the near term (2021–2040), measured against an assumed
47 non-mitigation scenario such as SSP3-7.0 and SSP5-8.5. All statements about crossing the 1.5°C level
48 assume that no major volcanic eruption occurs during the near term (Cross-Section Box TS.1, Table 1).
49 {2.3.1, Cross-chapter Box 2.3, 4.3.4, 4.4.1, 4.6.3, Box 4.1}

50
51 Compared to 1850–1900, average global surface temperature over the period 2081–2100 is *very likely* to be
52 higher by 1.0°C–1.8°C in the low CO₂ emissions scenario SSP1-1.9 and by 3.3°C–5.7°C in the high CO₂
53 emissions scenario SSP5-8.5. For the scenarios SSP1-2.6, SSP2-4.5, and SSP3-7.0, the corresponding *very*
54 *likely* ranges are 1.3°C–2.4°C, 2.1°C–3.5°C, and 2.8°C–4.6°C, respectively. The uncertainty ranges for the
55 period 2081–2100 continue to be dominated by the uncertainty in equilibrium climate sensitivity and

transient climate response (*very high confidence*) (Cross-Section Box TS.1, Table 1). {4.3.1, 4.3.4, 4.4.1, 7.5}

The CMIP6 models project a wider range of global surface temperature change than the assessed range (*high confidence*); furthermore, the CMIP6 global surface temperature increase tends to be larger than in CMIP5 (*very high confidence*). {4.3.1, 4.3.4, 4.6.2, 7.5.6}

[START CROSS-SECTION BOX TS.1, TABLE 1 HERE]

Cross-Section Box TS.1, Table 1: Assessment results for 20-year averaged change in global surface temperature based on multiple lines of evidence. The change is displayed in °C relative to the 1850–1900 reference period for selected time periods, and as the first 20-year period during which the average global surface temperature change exceeds the specified level relative to the period 1850–1900. The entries give both the central estimate and, in parentheses, the *very likely* (5–95%) range. An entry n.c. means that the global warming level is not crossed during the period 2021–2100.

	SSP1-1.9	SSP1-2.6	SSP2-4.5	SSP3-7.0	SSP5-8.5
Near term, 2021–2040	1.5 (1.2, 1.7)	1.5 (1.2, 1.8)	1.5 (1.2, 1.8)	1.5 (1.2, 1.8)	1.6 (1.3, 1.9)
Mid-term, 2041–2060	1.6 (1.2, 2.0)	1.7 (1.3, 2.2)	2.0 (1.6, 2.5)	2.1 (1.7, 2.6)	2.4 (1.9, 3.0)
Long term, 2081–2100	1.4 (1.0, 1.8)	1.8 (1.3, 2.4)	2.7 (2.1, 3.5)	3.6 (2.8, 4.6)	4.4 (3.3, 5.7)
1.5°C	2025–2044 (2013–2032, n.c.)	2023–2042 (2012–2031, n.c.)	2021–2040 (2012–2031, 2037–2056)	2021–2040 (2013–2032, 2033–2052)	2018–2037 (2011–2030, 2029–2048)
2°C	n.c. (n.c., n.c.)	n.c. (2031–2050, n.c.)	2043–2062 (2028–2047, 2075–2094)	2037–2056 (2026–2045, 2053–2072)	2032–2051 (2023–2042, 2044–2063)
3°C	n.c. (n.c., n.c.)	n.c. (n.c., n.c.)	n.c. (2061–2080, n.c.)	2066–2085 (2050–2069, n.c.)	2055–2074 (2042–2061, 2074–2093)
4°C	n.c. (n.c., n.c.)	n.c. (n.c., n.c.)	n.c. (n.c., n.c.)	n.c. (2070–2089, n.c.)	2075–2094 (2058–2077, n.c.)

[END CROSS-SECTION BOX TS.1, TABLE 1 HERE]

[END CROSS-SECTION BOX TS.1 HERE]

TS.2 Large-scale Climate Change: Mean Climate, Variability and Extremes

This section summarizes knowledge about observed and projected large-scale climate change (including variability and extremes), drivers and attribution of observed changes to human activities. It describes observed and projected large-scale changes associated with major components of the climate system: atmosphere, ocean (including sea level change), land, biosphere and cryosphere, and the carbon, energy and water cycles. In each subsection, reconstructed past, observed and attributed recent, and projected near- and long-term changes to mean climate, variability and extremes are presented, where possible, in an integrated way. See TS.1.3.1 for information on the scenarios used for projections.

TS.2.1 Changes Across the Global Climate System

In addition to global surface temperature (Cross-Section Box TS.1), a wide range of indicators across all components of the climate system is changing rapidly (Figure TS.7), with many at levels unseen in

1 millennia. The observed changes provide a coherent picture of a warming world, many aspects of which
 2 have now been formally attributed to human influences, and human influence on the climate system as a
 3 whole is assessed as unequivocal for the first time in IPCC assessment reports (Table TS.1, Figure TS.7). It
 4 is *virtually certain* that global surface temperature rise and associated changes can be limited through rapid
 5 and substantial reductions in global GHG emissions. Continued GHG emissions greatly increase the
 6 likelihood of potentially irreversible changes in the global climate system (Box TS.3), in particular with
 7 respect to the contribution of ice sheets to global sea level change (*high confidence*). {2.3, 3.8, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7,
 8 7.2-7.4, 9.2-9.6, CCB 7.1}

9
 10 Earth system model (ESM) simulations of the historical period since 1850 are only able to reproduce the
 11 observed changes in key climate indicators when anthropogenic forcings are included (Figure TS.7). Taken
 12 together with numerous formal attribution studies across an even broader range of indicators and theoretical
 13 understanding, this underpins the unequivocal attribution of observed warming of the climate system to
 14 human influence (Table TS.1). {2.3, 3.8}

15
 16
 17 [START FIGURE TS.7 HERE]

18
 19 **Figure TS.7:** Simulated and observed changes compared to the 1995–2014 average in key large-scale
 20 indicators of climate change across the climate system, for continents, ocean basins and globally
 21 up to 2014. Black lines show observations, orange lines and shading show the multi-model mean and
 22 5–95th percentile ranges for CMIP6 historical simulations including anthropogenic and natural
 23 forcing, and green lines and shading show corresponding ensemble means and 5–95th percentile ranges
 24 for CMIP6 natural-only simulations. Observations after 2014 (including, for example, a strong
 25 subsequent decrease of Antarctic sea-ice area that leads to no significant overall trend since 1979) are
 26 not shown because the CMIP6 historical simulations end in 2014. A 3-year running mean smoothing
 27 has been applied to all observational time series. {3.8, Figure 3.41}

28
 29 [END FIGURE TS.7 HERE]

30
 31
 32 [START TABLE TS.1 HERE]

33
 34 **Table TS.1:** Assessment of observed changes in large-scale indicators of mean climate across climate system
 35 components, and their attribution to human influence. The colour coding indicates the assessed
 36 confidence in / likelihood of the human contribution as a driver or main driver (specified in that case)
 37 where available (see colour key). Otherwise, explanatory text is provided in cells with white
 38 background. The relevant chapter section for more detailed information is listed in each table cell.
 39
 40

Change in indicator	Observed change assessment	Human contribution assessment
Atmosphere and water cycle		
Warming of global mean surface air temperature since 1850-1900	{2.3.1, CCB2.3}	<i>Likely</i> range of human contribution (0.8°C–1.3°C) encompasses observed warming (0.9°C–1.2°C) {3.3.1}
Warming of the troposphere since 1979	{2.3.1}	Main driver {3.3.1}
Cooling of the lower stratosphere	Since mid-20th century {2.3.1}	Main driver 1979 - mid-1990s {3.3.1}
Large-scale precipitation and upper troposphere humidity changes since 1979	{2.3.1}	{3.3.2, 3.3.3}
Expansion of the zonal mean Hadley Circulation since the 1980s	{2.3.1}	Southern Hemisphere {3.3.3}
Ocean		
Ocean heat content increase since the 1970s	{2.3.3, 2.3.4, 9.2.1, CCB 9.1}	Main driver {3.5.1}
Salinity changes since the mid-20th century	{2.3.3, 2.3.4, 9.2.2}	{3.5.2}
Global mean sea level rise since 1970	{2.3.3, 9.6.1}	Main driver {3.5.3}

Cryosphere		
Arctic sea ice loss since 1979	{2.3.2, 9.3.1}	Main driver {3.4.1}
Reduction in Northern Hemisphere spring snow cover since 1950	{2.3.2, 9.5.3}	{3.4.2}
Greenland Ice Sheet mass loss since 1990s	{2.3.2, 9.4.1}	{3.4.3}
Antarctic Ice Sheet mass loss since 1990s	{2.3.2, 9.4.2}	Limited evidence & medium agreement {3.4.3}
Retreat of glaciers	{2.3.2, 9.5.1}	Main driver {3.4.3}
Carbon cycle		
Increased amplitude of the seasonal cycle of atmospheric CO ₂ since the early 1960s	{2.3.4}	Main driver {3.6.1}
Acidification of the global surface ocean	{SROCC, 5.3.2, CCB 5.3}	Main driver {3.6.2}
Land climate (extremes, see Table TS.12)		
Mean 2-m land warming since 1850–1900 (about 40% larger than global mean warming)	{2.3.1}	Main driver {3.3.1}
Synthesis		
Warming of the global climate system since preindustrial times	{2.3.5}	{3.8.1}

see text description	medium confidence	likely / high confidence	very likely	extremely likely	virtually certain	fact
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[END TABLE TS.1 HERE]

Future climate change across a range of atmospheric, cryospheric, oceanic and biospheric indicators depends upon future emissions pathways. Outcomes for a broad range of indicators increasingly diverge through the 21st century across the different SSPs (TS.1.3.1; Figure TS.8). Due to the slow response of the deep ocean and ice sheets, this divergence continues long after 2100, and 21st century emissions choices will have implications for GMSL rise for centuries to millennia. Furthermore, it is *likely* that at least one large volcanic eruption will occur during the 21st century. Such an eruption would reduce global surface temperature for several years, decrease land precipitation, alter monsoon circulation and modify extreme precipitation, at both global and regional scales. {4.3, 4.7, 9.4, 9.6, Cross-Chapter Box 4.1}

[START FIGURE TS.8 HERE]

Figure TS.8: Observed, simulated and projected changes compared to the 1995–2014 average in 4 key indicators of the climate system through to 2100 differentiated by SSP scenario pathway. Past simulations are based on the CMIP6 multi-model ensemble. Future projections are based on the assessed ranges based upon multiple lines of evidence for (a) global surface temperature (Cross-Section Box TS.1) and (b) global ocean heat content and the associated thermosteric sea level contribution to Global Mean Sea Level (GMSL) change (right-hand axis) using a climate model emulator (Cross-Chapter Box 7.1), and CMIP6 simulations for (c) Arctic September sea ice and (d) Global land precipitation. SSP1-1.9 and SSP1-2.6 projections show that reduced GHG emissions lead to a stabilization of global surface temperature, Arctic sea ice area and global land precipitation over the 21st century. SSP1-2.6 shows that emissions reductions have the potential to substantially reduce the increase in ocean heat content and thermosteric sea level rise over the 21st century but that some increase is unavoidable. {4.3, 9.3, 9.6, Figure 4.2, Figure 9.6}

[END FIGURE TS.8 HERE]

Observational records show changes in a wide range of climate extremes that have been linked to human influence on the climate system (Table TS.2). In many cases, the frequency and intensity of future changes in extremes can be directly linked to the magnitude of future projected warming. Changes in extremes are widespread over land since the 1950s, including a *virtually certain* global increase in extreme air

1 temperatures and a *likely* intensification in global-scale extreme precipitation. It is *extremely likely* that
 2 human influence is the main contributor to the observed increase (decrease) in the likelihood and severity of
 3 hot (cold) extremes (Table TS.2). The frequency of extreme temperature and precipitation events in the
 4 current climate will change with warming, with warm extremes becoming more frequent (*virtually certain*),
 5 cold extremes becoming less frequent (*extremely likely*) and precipitation extremes becoming more frequent
 6 in most locations (*very likely*). {9.6.4, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.6, 11.7, 11.8, 11.9, Box 9.2}

9 [START TABLE TS.2 HERE]

11 **Table TS.2:** Summary table on observed changes in extremes, their attribution since 1950 (except where stated
 12 otherwise), and projected changes at +1.5°C, +2°C and +4°C of global warming, on global and
 13 continental scale. Warm/hot extremes refer to warmer and/or more frequent hot days and nights and
 14 warm spells/heat waves, over most land areas. Cold extremes refer to warmer and/or fewer cold days
 15 and nights, and cold spells/cold waves, over most land areas. Drought events are relative to a
 16 predominant fraction of land area. For tropical cyclones, observed changes and attribution refer to
 17 categories 3-5, while projected changes refer to categories 4-5. Tables 11.1 and 11.2 are more detailed
 18 versions of this table, containing in particular information on regional scales. In general, higher
 19 warming levels imply stronger projected changes also for indicators where the confidence level does
 20 not depend on the warming level and the table does not explicitly quantify the global sensitivity. {9.6,
 21 Box 9.2, 11.3, 11.7}

Change in indicator	Observed (since 1950)	Attributed (since 1950)	Projected at GWL (°C)		
			+1.5	+2	+4
Warm/hot extremes: Frequency or intensity	↑	✓ Main driver	↑	↑	↑
Cold extremes: Frequency or intensity	↓	✓ Main driver	↓	↓	↓
Heavy precipitation events: Frequency, intensity and/or amount	↑ Over majority of land regions with good observational coverage	✓ Main driver of the observed intensification of heavy precipitation in land regions	↑ in most land regions	↑	↑ in most land regions
Agricultural and ecological droughts: Intensity and/or duration	↑ for predominant fraction of land area	✓ for predominant fraction of land area	↑ for predominant fraction of land area	↑ for predominant fraction of land area	↑ for predominant fraction of land area
Precipitation associated with tropical cyclones	↑	✓	↑ Rate +11%	↑ Rate +14%	↑ Rate +28%
Tropical cyclones: Proportion of intense cyclones	↑	✓	↑ +10%	↑ +13%	↑ +20%
Compound events: co-occurrent heat waves and droughts	↑ (Frequency)	✓ (Frequency)	↑ (Frequency and intensity increases with warming)		
Marine heatwaves: Intensity & frequency	↑ (since 1900)	✓ (since 2006)	↑ Strongest in tropical and Arctic Ocean		
Extreme sea levels: Frequency	↑ (since 1960)	✓	↑ (Scenario-based assessment for 21st century)		

medium confidence
likely / high confidence
very likely
extremely likely
virtually certain

27 [END TABLE TS.2 HERE]

TS.2.2 Changes in the Drivers of the Climate System

Since 1750, changes in the drivers of the climate system are dominated by the warming influence of increases in atmospheric GHG concentrations and a cooling influence from aerosols, both resulting from human activities. In comparison there has been negligible long-term influence from solar activity and volcanoes. Concentrations of CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O have increased to levels unprecedented in at least 800,000 years, and there is *high confidence* that current CO₂ concentrations have not been experienced for at least 2 million years. Global mean concentrations of anthropogenic aerosols peaked in the late 20th century and have slowly declined since in northern mid-latitudes, although they continue to increase in South Asia and East Africa (*high confidence*). The total anthropogenic effective radiative forcing (ERF) in 2019, relative to 1750, was 2.72 [1.96 to 3.48] W m⁻² (*medium confidence*) and has *likely* been growing at an increasing rate since the 1970s. {2.2, 6.4, 7.2, 7.3}

Solar activity since 1900 was high but not exceptional compared to the past 9000 years (*high confidence*). The average magnitude and variability of volcanic aerosols since 1900 has not been unusual compared to at least the past 2500 years (*medium confidence*). However, sporadic strong volcanic eruptions can lead to temporary drops in global surface temperature lasting 2–5 years. {2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.8, CCB4.1}

Atmospheric CO₂ concentrations have changed substantially over millions of years (Figure TS.1). Current levels of atmospheric CO₂ have not been experienced for at least 2 million years (*high confidence*, Figure TS.9a). Over 1750–2019, CO₂ increased by 131.6 ± 2.9 ppm (47.3%). The centennial rate of change of CO₂ since 1850 has no precedent in at least the past 800,000 years (Figure TS.9), and the fastest rates of change over the last 56 million years were at least a factor of 4 lower (*low confidence*) than over 1900–2019. Several networks of high-accuracy surface observations show that concentrations of CO₂ have exceeded 400 ppm, reaching 409.9 (± 0.3) ppm in 2019 (Figure TS.9c). The ERF from CO₂ in 2019 (relative to 1750) was 2.16 Wm⁻². {2.2.3, 5.1.2, 5.2.1, 7.3, Box TS.5}

By 2019, concentrations of CH₄ reached 1866.3 (± 3.3) ppb (Figure TS.9c). The increase since 1750 of 1137 ± 10 ppb (157.8%) far exceeds the range over multiple glacial-interglacial transitions of the past 800,000 years (*high confidence*). In the 1990s, CH₄ concentrations plateaued, but started to increase again around 2007 at an average rate of 7.6 ± 2.7 ppb yr⁻¹ (2010–2019; *high confidence*). There is *high confidence* that this recent growth is largely driven by emissions from fossil fuel exploitation, livestock, and waste, with ENSO driving multi-annual variability of wetland and biomass burning emissions. In 2019, ERF from CH₄ was 0.54 Wm⁻². {2.2.3, 5.2.2, 7.3}

Since 1750, N₂O increased by 62.0 ± 6.0 ppb, reaching a level of 332.1 (± 0.4) ppb in 2019. The increase since 1750 is of comparable magnitude to glacial-interglacial fluctuations of the past 800,000 years (Figure TS.9c). N₂O concentration trends since 1980 are largely driven by a 30% increase in emissions from the expansion and intensification of global agriculture (*high confidence*). By 2019 its ERF was 0.21 Wm⁻². {2.2.3, 5.2.3}

[START FIGURE TS.9 HERE]

Figure TS.9: Changes in well-mixed greenhouse gas (WMGHG) concentrations and Effective Radiative Forcing. a) Changes in CO₂ from proxy records over the past 3.5 million years; b) Changes in all three WMGHGs from ice core records over the Common Era; c) directly observed WMGHG changes since the mid-20th century; d) Evolution of ERF and components since 1750. Further details on data sources and processing are available in the associated FAIR data table. {2.2, Figures 2.3, 2.4 and 2.10}

[END FIGURE TS.9 HERE]

1 Halogenated gases consist of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs),
2 hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and other gases, many of which can deplete stratospheric ozone and warm the
3 atmosphere. In response to controls on production and consumption mandated by the Montreal Protocol on
4 Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and its amendments, the atmospheric abundances of most CFCs
5 have continued to decline since AR5. Abundances of HFCs, which are replacements for CFCs and
6 HCFCs, are increasing (*high confidence*), though increases of the major HCFCs have slowed in recent years.
7 The ERF from halogenated components in 2019 was 0.41 W m^{-2} . {2.2.4, 6.3.4, 7.3.2}

8
9 Tropospheric aerosols mainly act to cool the climate system, directly by reflecting solar radiation, and
10 indirectly through enhancing cloud reflectance. Ice cores show increases in aerosols across the Northern
11 Hemisphere mid-latitudes since 1700, and reductions since the late 20th century (*high confidence*). Aerosol
12 optical depth (AOD), derived from satellite- and ground-based radiometers, has decreased since 2000 over
13 the mid-latitude continents of both hemispheres, but increased over South Asia and East Africa (*high*
14 *confidence*). Trends in AOD are more pronounced from sub-micrometre aerosols for which the
15 anthropogenic contribution is particularly large. Global carbonaceous aerosol budgets and trends remain
16 poorly characterised due to limited observations, but black carbon (BC), a warming aerosol component, is
17 declining in several regions of the Northern Hemisphere (*low confidence*). Total aerosol ERF in 2019,
18 relative to 1750, is $-1.1 [-1.7 \text{ to } -0.4] \text{ W m}^{-2}$ (*medium confidence*), and *more likely than not* became less
19 negative since the late 20th century, with *low confidence* in the magnitude of post-2014 changes due to
20 conflicting evidence (TS.3.1). {2.2.6, 6.2.1, 6.3.5, 6.4.1, 7.3.3}

21
22 There is *high confidence* that tropospheric ozone has been increasing from 1750 in response to
23 anthropogenic changes in ozone precursor emissions (nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, non-methane
24 volatile organic compounds, and methane), but with *medium confidence* in the magnitude of this change, due
25 to limited observational evidence and knowledge gaps. Since the mid-20th century, tropospheric ozone
26 surface concentrations have increased by 30–70% across the Northern Hemisphere (*medium confidence*);
27 since the mid-1990s free tropospheric ozone has increased by 2–7% per decade in most northern mid-latitude
28 regions, and 2–12% per decade in sampled tropical regions. Future changes in surface ozone concentrations
29 will be primarily driven by changes in precursor emissions rather than climate change (*high confidence*).
30 Stratospheric ozone has declined between 60°S – 60°N by 2.2% from 1964–1980 to 2014–2017 (*high*
31 *confidence*), with the largest declines during 1980–1995. The strongest loss of stratospheric ozone continues
32 to occur in austral spring over Antarctica (ozone hole), with emergent signs of recovery after 2000. The
33 1750–2019 ERF for total (stratospheric and tropospheric) ozone is $0.47 [0.24 \text{ to } 0.71] \text{ W m}^{-2}$, which is
34 dominated by tropospheric ozone changes. {2.2.5; 6.3.2., 7.3.2, 7.3.5}

35
36 The global mean abundance of hydroxyl (OH) radical, or ‘oxidising capacity’, chemically regulates the
37 lifetimes of many short-lived climate forcers (SLCFs), and therefore the radiative forcing of methane, ozone,
38 secondary aerosols and many halogenated species. Model estimates suggest no significant change in
39 oxidising capacity from 1850 to 1980 (*low confidence*). Increases of about 9% over 1980–2014 computed by
40 ESMs and carbon cycle models are not confirmed by observationally constrained inverse models, rendering
41 an overall *medium confidence* in stable OH or positive trends since the 1980s, and implying that OH is not
42 the primary driver of recent observed growth in CH_4 . {6.3.6, CCB5.2}

43
44 Land use and land-cover change exert biophysical and biogeochemical effects. There is *medium confidence*
45 that the biophysical effects of land-use change since 1750, most notably the increase in global albedo, have
46 had an overall cooling on climate, whereas biogeochemical effects (i.e., changes in GHG and volatile
47 organic compound emissions or sinks) led to net warming. Overall land use and land cover ERF is estimated
48 at $-0.2 [-0.3 \text{ to } -0.1] \text{ W m}^{-2}$. {2.2.7, 7.3.4, SRCCL 2.5}

49
50 The total anthropogenic ERF (Figure TS.9) in 2019 relative to 1750 was $2.72 [1.96 \text{ to } 3.48] \text{ W m}^{-2}$ (Figure
51 TS.9), dominated by GHGs (positive ERF) and partially offset by aerosols (negative ERF). The rate of
52 change of ERF *likely* has increased since the 1970s, mainly due to growing CO_2 concentrations and less
53 negative aerosol ERF. {2.2.8, 7.3}

1 **TS.2.3 Upper Air Temperatures and Atmospheric Circulation**

2
3 The effects of human-induced climate change have been clearly identified in observations of atmospheric
4 temperature and some aspects of circulation, and these effects are *likely* to intensify in the future.
5 Tropospheric warming and stratospheric cooling are *virtually certain* to continue with continued net
6 emissions of greenhouse gases. Several aspects of the atmospheric circulation have *likely* changed since the
7 mid-20th century, and human influence has *likely* contributed to the observed poleward expansion of the
8 Southern Hemisphere Hadley Cell and *very likely* contributed to the observed poleward shift of the Southern
9 Hemisphere extratropical jet in summer. It is *likely* that the mid-latitude jet will shift poleward and
10 strengthen, accompanied by a strengthening of the storm track in the Southern Hemisphere by 2100 under
11 the high CO₂ emissions scenarios. It is *likely* that the proportion of intense tropical cyclones has increased
12 over the last four decades and that this cannot be explained entirely by natural variability. There is *low*
13 *confidence* in observed recent changes in the total number of extratropical cyclones over both hemispheres.
14 The proportion of tropical cyclones which are intense is expected to increase (*high confidence*) but the total
15 global number of tropical cyclones is expected to decrease or remain unchanged (*medium confidence*). {2.3,
16 3.3, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 8.3, 8.4, 11.7}

17
18 The troposphere has warmed since at least the 1950s, and it is *virtually certain* that the stratosphere has
19 cooled. It is *very likely* that human-induced increases in GHGs were the main driver of tropospheric warming
20 since 1979. It is *extremely likely* that anthropogenic forcing, both from increases in GHG concentration and
21 depletion of stratospheric ozone due to ozone-depleting substances, was the main driver of upper
22 stratospheric cooling since 1979. It is *very likely* that global mean stratospheric cooling will be larger for
23 scenarios with higher atmospheric CO₂ concentrations. In the tropics, since at least 2001 (when new
24 techniques permit more robust quantification), the upper troposphere has warmed faster than the near-surface
25 (*medium confidence*) (Figure TS.10). There is *medium confidence* that most CMIP5 and CMIP6 models
26 overestimate the observed warming in the upper tropical troposphere over the period 1979–2014, in part
27 because they overestimate tropical SST warming. It is *likely* that future tropical upper tropospheric warming
28 will be larger than at the tropical surface. {2.3.1, 3.3.1, 4.5.1}

29
30
31 **[START FIGURE TS.10 HERE]**

32
33 **Figure TS.10: Observed and projected upper air temperature and circulation changes.** Upper panels: Left:
34 Zonal cross-section of temperature trends for 2002–2019 in the upper troposphere region for the ROM
35 SAF radio-occultation dataset. Middle: Change in the annual and zonal mean atmospheric temperature
36 (°C) in 2081–2100 in SSP1-2.6 relative to 1995–2014 for 36 CMIP6 models. Right: the same in SSP3-
37 7.0 for 32 models. Lower panels: Left: Long-term mean (thin black colour) and linear trend (colour)
38 of zonal mean DJF zonal winds for ERA5. Middle: multi-model mean change in annual and zonal
39 mean wind (m s⁻¹) in 2081–2100 in SSP1-2.6 relative to 1995–2014 based on 34 CMIP6 models. The
40 1995–2014 climatology is shown in contours with spacing 10 m s⁻¹. Right: the same for SSP3-7.0 for
41 31 models. {2.3.1, 4.5.1, Figures 2.12, 2.18, and 4.26}

42
43 **[END FIGURE TS.10 HERE]**

44
45
46 The Hadley Circulation has *likely* widened since at least the 1980s, predominantly in the Northern
47 Hemisphere, although there is only *medium confidence* in the extent of the changes. This has been
48 accompanied by a strengthening of the Hadley Circulation in the Northern Hemisphere (*medium confidence*).
49 It is *likely* that human influence has contributed to the poleward expansion of the zonal mean Hadley cell in
50 the Southern Hemisphere since the 1980s, which is projected to further expand with global warming (*high*
51 *confidence*). There is *medium confidence* that the observed poleward expansion in the Northern Hemisphere
52 is within the range of internal variability. {2.3.1, 3.3.3, 8.4.3}

53
54 Since the 1970s near-surface average winds have *likely* weakened over land. Over the ocean, near-surface
55 average winds *likely* strengthened over 1980–2000, but divergent estimates lead to *low confidence* thereafter.

1 Extratropical storm tracks have *likely* shifted poleward since the 1980s. There is *low confidence* in projected
 2 poleward shifts of the Northern Hemisphere mid-latitude jet and storm tracks due to large internal variability
 3 and structural uncertainty in model simulations. There is *medium confidence* in a projected decrease of
 4 frequency of atmospheric blocking over Greenland and the North Pacific in boreal winter in 2081–2100
 5 under the SSP3-7.0 and SSP5-8.5 scenarios. There is *high confidence* that Southern Hemisphere storm tracks
 6 and associated precipitation have migrated polewards over recent decades, especially in the austral summer
 7 and autumn, associated with a trend towards more positive phases of the Southern Annular Mode (SAM)
 8 (TS.4.2.2) and the strengthening and southward shift of the Southern Hemisphere extratropical jet in austral
 9 summer. In the long term (2081–2100), the Southern Hemisphere mid-latitude jet is *likely* to shift poleward
 10 and strengthen under SSP5-8.5 scenario relative to 1995–2014, accompanied by an increase in the SAM
 11 (TS.4.2.2). It is *likely* that wind speeds associated with extratropical cyclones will strengthen in the Southern
 12 Hemisphere storm track for SSP5-8.5. There is *low confidence* in the potential role of Arctic warming and
 13 sea ice loss on historical or projected mid-latitude atmospheric variability. {2.3.1, 3.3.3, 3.7.2, 4.3.3, 4.4.3,
 14 4.5.1, 4.5.3, 8.2.2, 8.3.2, Cross-Chapter Box 10.1}

15
 16 It is *likely* that the proportion of major (Category 3–5) tropical cyclones (TCs) and the frequency of rapid TC
 17 intensification events have increased over the past four decades. The average location of peak TC wind-
 18 intensity has *very likely* migrated poleward in the western North Pacific Ocean since the 1940s, and TC
 19 forward translation speed has *likely* slowed over the contiguous USA since 1900. It is *likely* that the
 20 poleward migration of TCs in the western North Pacific and the global increase in TC intensity rates cannot
 21 be explained entirely by natural variability. There is *high confidence* that average peak TC wind speeds and
 22 the proportion of Category 4–5 TCs will increase with warming and that peak winds of the most intense TCs
 23 will increase. There is *medium confidence* that the average location where TCs reach their maximum wind-
 24 intensity will migrate poleward in the western North Pacific Ocean, while the total global frequency of TC
 25 formation will decrease or remain unchanged with increasing global warming (*medium confidence*). {11.7}

26
 27 There is *low confidence* in observed recent changes in the total number of extratropical cyclones over both
 28 hemispheres. There is also *low confidence* in past-century trends in the number and intensity of the strongest
 29 extratropical cyclones over the Northern Hemisphere due to the large interannual-to-decadal variability and
 30 temporal and spatial heterogeneities in the volume and type of assimilated data in atmospheric reanalyses,
 31 particularly before the satellite era. Over the Southern Hemisphere, it is *likely* that the number of
 32 extratropical cyclones with low central pressures (<980 hPa) has increased since 1979. The frequency of
 33 intense extratropical cyclones is projected to decrease (*medium confidence*). Projected changes in the
 34 intensity depend on the resolution of climate models (*medium confidence*). There is *medium confidence* that
 35 wind speeds associated with extratropical cyclones will change following changes in the storm tracks. {2.3.1,
 36 3.3.3, 4.5.1, 4.5.3, 8.3.2, 8.4.2, 11.7.2, 11.7.2}

37
 38
 39 **[START BOX TS.3 HERE]**

40 **Box TS.3: Low-Likelihood, High-Warming Storylines**

41
 42
 43 Future global warming exceeding the assessed *very likely* range cannot be ruled out and is potentially
 44 associated with the highest risks for society and ecosystems. Such low-likelihood, high-warming storylines
 45 tend to exhibit substantially greater changes in the intensity of regional drying and wetting than the multi-
 46 model mean. Even at levels of warming within the *very likely* range, global and regional low-likelihood
 47 outcomes might occur, such as large precipitation changes, additional sea level rise associated with
 48 collapsing ice sheets, or abrupt ocean circulation changes. While there is *medium confidence* that the Atlantic
 49 Meridional Overturning circulation (AMOC) will not experience an abrupt collapse before 2100, if it were to
 50 occur, it would *very likely* cause abrupt shifts in regional weather patterns and water cycle. The probability
 51 of these low-likelihood outcomes increases with higher global warming levels. If the real-world climate
 52 sensitivity lies at the high end of the assessed range, then global and regional changes substantially outside
 53 the *very likely* range projections occur for a given emissions scenario. With increasing global warming, some
 54 very rare extremes and some compound events (multivariate or concurrent extremes) with low likelihood in
 55 past and current climate will become more frequent, and there is a higher chance that events unprecedented

1 in the observational record occur (*high confidence*). Finally, low likelihood, high-impact outcomes may also
2 arise from a series of very large volcanic eruptions that could substantially alter the 21st century climate
3 trajectory compared to SSP-based Earth system model projections. {Cross-Chapter Box 4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 4.8,
4 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 8.6, 9.2, 9.6, Box TS.4, Box 9.4, Box 11.2, CCB 12.1}

5
6 Previous IPCC reports largely focused their assessment on the projected *very likely* range of future surface
7 warming and associated climate change. However, a comprehensive risk assessment also requires
8 considering the potentially larger changes in the physical climate system that are *unlikely* or *very unlikely* but
9 possible and potentially associated with the highest risks for society and ecosystems (Figure TS.6). Since
10 AR5, the development of physical climate storylines of high warming has emerged as a useful approach for
11 exploring the future risk space that lies outside of the IPCC *very likely* range projections. {4.8}

12
13 Uncertainty in the true values of equilibrium climate sensitivity (ECS) and transient climate response (TCR)
14 dominate uncertainty in projections of future warming under moderate to strong emissions scenarios
15 (TS.3.2). A real-world ECS higher than the assessed *very likely* range (2°C–5°C) would require a strong
16 historical aerosol cooling and/or a trend towards stronger warming from positive feedbacks linked to changes
17 in SST patterns (pattern effects), combined with a strong positive cloud feedback and substantial biases in
18 paleoclimate reconstructions – each of which is assessed as either *unlikely* or *very unlikely*, but not ruled out.
19 Since CMIP6 contains several ESMs that exceed the upper bound of the assessed *very likely* range in future
20 surface warming, these models can be used to develop low-likelihood, high warming storylines to explore
21 risks and vulnerabilities, even in the absence of a quantitative assessment of likelihood. {4.3.4, 4.8, 7.3.2,
22 7.4.4, 7.5.2, 7.5.5, 7.5.7}

23
24 CMIP6 models with surface warming outside, or close to, the upper bound of the *very likely* range exhibit
25 patterns of large widespread temperature and precipitation changes that differ substantially from the multi-
26 model mean in all scenarios. For SSP5-8.5, the high-warming models exhibit widespread warming of more
27 than 6°C over most extratropical land regions and parts of the Amazon. In the Arctic, annual mean
28 temperatures increase by more than 10°C relative to present-day, corresponding to about 30% more than the
29 best estimate of warming. Even for SSP1-2.6, high-warming models show on average 2°C–3°C warming
30 relative to present-day conditions over much of Eurasia and North America (about 40% more than the best
31 estimate of warming) and more than 4°C warming relative to the present over the Arctic (Box TS.3, Figure
32 1) in 2081–2100. Such a high global warming storyline would imply that the remaining carbon budget
33 consistent with a 2°C warming is smaller than the assessed *very likely* range. Put another way, even if a
34 carbon budget that *likely* limits warming to 2°C is met, a low-likelihood, high-warming storyline would
35 result in warming of 2.5°C or more. {4.8}

36
37 CMIP6 models with global warming close to the upper bound of the assessed *very likely* warming range tend
38 to exhibit greater changes in the intensity of regional drying and wetting than the multi-model mean.
39 Furthermore, these model projections show a larger area of drying and tend to show a larger fraction of
40 strong precipitation increases than the multi-model mean. However, regional precipitation changes arise
41 from both thermodynamic and dynamic processes so that the most pronounced global warming levels are not
42 necessarily associated with the strongest precipitation response. Abrupt human-caused changes to the water
43 cycle cannot be ruled out. Positive land surface feedbacks, involving vegetation and dust, can contribute to
44 abrupt changes in aridity, but there is only *low confidence* that such changes will occur during the 21st
45 century. Continued Amazon deforestation, combined with a warming climate, raises the probability that this
46 ecosystem will cross a tipping point into a dry state during the 21st century (*low confidence*). {4.8, 8.6.2,
47 Box TS.9}

48
49 While there is *medium confidence* that the projected decline in the Atlantic Meridional Overturning
50 Circulation (AMOC) (TS.2.4) will not involve an abrupt collapse before 2100, such a collapse might be
51 triggered by an unexpected meltwater influx from the Greenland Ice Sheet. If an AMOC collapse were to
52 occur, it would *very likely* cause abrupt shifts in the weather patterns and water cycle, such as a southward
53 shift in the tropical rain belt, and could result in weakening of the African and Asian monsoons and
54 strengthening of Southern Hemisphere monsoons. {4.7.2, 8.6.1, 9.2.3, Box TS.9, Box TS.13}

Very rare extremes and compound or concurrent events, such as the 2018 concurrent heatwaves across the Northern Hemisphere, are often associated with large impacts. The changing climate state is already altering the likelihood of extreme events, such as decadal droughts and extreme sea levels, and will continue to do so under future warming. Compound events and concurrent extremes contribute to increasing probability of low-likelihood, high-impact outcomes, and will become more frequent with increasing global warming (*high confidence*). Higher warming levels increase the likelihood of events unprecedented in the observational record. {Box 11.2, 9.6.4}

Finally, low likelihood storylines need not necessarily relate solely to the human-induced changes in climate. A low-likelihood, high-impact outcome, consistent with historical precedent in the past 2,500 years, would be to see several large volcanic eruptions that could greatly alter the 21st century climate trajectory compared to SSP-based Earth system model projections. {Cross-Chapter Box 4.1}

[START BOX TS.3, FIGURE 1 HERE]

Box TS.3, Figure 1: High-warming storylines. (a) CMIP6 multi-model mean linearly scaled to the assessed best global surface temperature estimate for SSP1-2.6 in 2081–2100 relative to 1995–2014, (b) mean across five high-warming models with global surface temperature changes warming nearest to the upper bound of the assessed very likely range, (c) mean across five very high-warming models with global surface temperature changes warming higher than the assessed very likely. (d-f) Same as (a-c) but for SSP5-8.5. Note the different colour bars in (a-c) and (d-f). {4.7, Figure 4.41}

[END BOX TS.3, FIGURE 1 HERE]

[END BOX TS.3 HERE]

TS.2.4 The Ocean

Observations, models and paleo-evidence indicate that recently observed changes in the ocean are unprecedented for centuries to millennia (*high confidence*). Over the past four to six decades, it is *virtually certain* that the global ocean has warmed, with human influence *extremely likely* the main driver since the 1970s, making climate change irreversible over centuries to millennia (*medium confidence*). It is *virtually certain* that upper ocean salinity contrasts have increased since the 1950s and *extremely likely* that human influence has contributed. It is *virtually certain* that upper ocean stratification has increased since 1970 and that sea water pH has declined globally over the last 40 years, with human influence the main driver of the observed ocean acidification (*virtually certain*). There is *high confidence* that marine heatwaves have become more frequent in the 20th century, and most of them have been attributed to anthropogenic warming since 2006 (*very likely*). There is *high confidence* that oxygen levels have dropped in many regions since the mid 20th century and that the geographic range of many marine organisms has changed over the last two decades. The amount of ocean warming observed since 1971 will *likely* at least double by 2100 under a low warming scenario (SSP1-2.6) and will increase by 4-8 times under a high warming scenario (SSP5-8.5). Stratification (*virtually certain*), acidification (*virtually certain*), deoxygenation (*high confidence*) and marine heatwave frequency (*high confidence*) will continue to increase in the 21st century. While there is *low confidence* in 20th century AMOC change, it is *very likely* that AMOC will decline over the 21st century (Figure TS.11). {2.3, 3.5, 3.6, 4.3, 5.3, 7.2, 9.2, 9.4, 9.6, Box 9.2, 12.4}

It is *virtually certain* that the global ocean has warmed since at least 1971, representing about 90% of the increase in the global energy inventory (TS.3.1). The ocean is currently warming faster than at any other time since at least the last deglacial transition (*medium confidence*), with warming extending to depths well below 2000 m (*very high confidence*). It is *extremely likely* that human influence was the main driver of ocean warming. Ocean warming will continue over the 21st century (*virtually certain*), and will *likely* continue until at least to 2300 even for low CO₂ emissions scenarios. Ocean warming is irreversible over centuries to millennia (*medium confidence*), but the magnitude of warming is scenario-dependent from about

1 the mid-21st century (*medium confidence*). The warming will not be globally uniform, with heat primarily
2 stored in Southern Ocean water-masses and weaker warming in the subpolar North Atlantic (*high*
3 *confidence*). Limitations in the understanding of feedback mechanisms limit our confidence in future ocean
4 warming close to Antarctica and how this will affect sea ice and ice shelves. {2.3.3, 3.5.1, 4.7.2, 7.2.2, 9.2.2,
5 9.2.3, 9.2.4, 9.3.2, 9.6.1; Cross-Chapter Box 9.1}

6
7 Global mean SST has increased since the beginning of the 20th century by 0.88 [0.68 to 1.01] °C, and it is
8 *virtually certain* it will continue to increase throughout the 21st century with increasing hazards to marine
9 ecosystems (*medium confidence*). Marine heatwaves have become more frequent over the 20th century (*high*
10 *confidence*), approximately doubling in frequency (*high confidence*) and becoming more intense and longer
11 since the 1980s (*medium confidence*). Most of the marine heatwaves over 2006–2015 have been attributed to
12 anthropogenic warming (*very likely*). Marine heatwaves will continue to increase in frequency, with a *likely*
13 global increase of 2–9 times in 2081–2100 compared to 1995–2014 under SSP1-2.6, and 3–15 times under
14 SSP5-8.5 (Figure TS.11a), with the largest changes in the tropical and Arctic ocean. {2.3.1, 9.2.1; Box 9.2;
15 12.4.8; Cross-Chapter Box 2.3}

16
17 Observed upper ocean stratification (0–200 m) has increased globally since at least 1970 (*virtually certain*).
18 Based on recent refined analyses of the available observations, there is *high confidence* that it increased by
19 $4.9 \pm 1.5\%$ from 1970–2018, which is about twice as much as assessed in the SROCC, and will continue to
20 increase throughout the 21st century at a rate depending on the emissions scenario (*virtually certain*). {2.3.3,
21 9.2.1}

22
23 It is *virtually certain* that since 1950 near-surface high-salinity regions have become more saline, while low-
24 salinity regions have become fresher, with *medium confidence* that this is linked to an intensification of the
25 hydrological cycle (Box TS.6). It is *extremely likely* that human influence has contributed to this salinity
26 change and that the large-scale pattern will grow in amplitude over the 21st century (*medium confidence*).
27 {2.3.3, 3.5.2, 9.2.2, 12.4.8}

28
29 The AMOC was relatively stable during the past 8,000 years (*medium confidence*). There is *low confidence*
30 in the quantification of AMOC changes in the 20th century because of *low agreement* in quantitative
31 reconstructed and simulated trends, missing key processes in both models and measurements used for
32 formulating proxies, and new model evaluations. Direct observational records since the mid-2000s are too
33 short to determine the relative contributions of internal variability, natural forcing and anthropogenic forcing
34 to AMOC change (*high confidence*). An AMOC decline over the 21st century is *very likely* for all SSP
35 scenarios; a possible abrupt decline is assessed further in Box TS.3 (Figure TS.11b). {2.3.3, 3.5.4, 4.3.2,
36 8.6.1, 9.2.3, Cross-Chapter Box 12.3}

37
38 There is *high confidence* that many ocean currents will change in the 21st century in response to changes of
39 wind stress. There is *low confidence* in 21st century change of Southern Ocean circulation, despite *high*
40 *confidence* that it is sensitive to changes in wind patterns and increased ice-shelf melt. Western boundary
41 currents and subtropical gyres have shifted poleward since 1993 (*medium confidence*). Subtropical gyres, the
42 East Australian Current Extension, the Agulhas Current, and the Brazil Current are projected to intensify in
43 the 21st century in response to changes in wind stress, while the Gulf Stream and the Indonesian
44 Throughflow are projected to weaken (*medium confidence*). All of the four main eastern boundary upwelling
45 systems are projected to weaken at low latitudes and intensify at high latitudes in the 21st century (*high*
46 *confidence*). {2.3.3, 9.2.3}

47
48 It is *virtually certain* that surface pH has declined globally over the last 40 years and that the main driver is
49 uptake of anthropogenic CO₂. Ocean acidification and associated reductions in the saturation state of calcium
50 carbonate – a constituent of skeletons or shells of a variety of marine organisms – is expected to increase in
51 the 21st century under all emissions scenarios (*high confidence*). There is *very high confidence* that present-
52 day surface pH values are unprecedented for at least 26,000 years and current rates of pH change are
53 unprecedented since at least that time. Over the past 2–3 decades, a pH decline in the ocean interior has been
54 observed in all ocean basins (*high confidence*) (Figure TS.11d). {2.3.3, 2.3.4, 3.6.2, 4.3.2, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.6.3,
55 12.4.8}

1 Open-ocean deoxygenation and expansion of oxygen minimum zones has been observed in many areas of
 2 the global ocean since the mid 20th century (*high confidence*), in part due to human influence (*medium*
 3 *confidence*). Deoxygenation is projected to continue to increase with ocean warming (*high confidence*)
 4 (Figure TS.11c). Higher climate sensitivity and reduced ocean ventilation in CMIP6 compared to CMIP5
 5 results in substantially greater projections of subsurface (100–600 m) oxygen decline than reported in
 6 SROCC for the period 2080–2099. {2.3.3, 2.3.4, Cross-Chapter Box 2.4, 3.6.2, 5.3.3, 12.4.8}

7
 8 Over at least the last two decades, the geographic range of many marine organisms has shifted towards the
 9 poles and towards greater depths (*high confidence*), indicative of shifts towards cooler waters. The range of a
 10 smaller subset of organisms has shifted equatorward and to shallower depths (*high confidence*). Phenological
 11 metrics associated with the life cycles of many organisms have also changed over the last two decades or
 12 longer (*high confidence*). Since the changes in the geographical range of organisms and their phenological
 13 metrics have been observed to differ with species and location, there is the possibility of disruption to major
 14 marine ecosystems. {2.3.4}

15
 16
 17 [START FIGURE TS.11 HERE]

18
 19 **Figure TS.11: Past and future ocean and ice sheet changes.** Observed and simulated historical changes and
 20 projected future changes under varying greenhouse gas emissions scenarios. Simulated and projected
 21 ocean changes are shown as CMIP6 ensemble mean, and 5-95% range (shading) is provided for
 22 scenario SSP1-2.6 and SSP3-7.0 (except in panel a where range provided for scenario SSP1-2.6 and
 23 SSP5-8.5). Mean and 5-95% range in 2100 are shown as vertical bars on the right-hand side of each
 24 panel. (a) Change in multiplication factor in surface ocean marine heatwave days relative to 1995-
 25 2014 (defined as days exceeding the 99th percentile in SST from 1995-2014 distribution). Assessed
 26 observational change span 1982-2019 from AVHRR satellite SST. (b) AMOC transport relative to
 27 1995-2014 (defined as maximum transport at 26°N). Assessed observational change spans 2004-2018
 28 from the RAPID array smoothed with a 12-month running mean (shading around the mean shows the
 29 12-month running standard deviation around the mean). (c) Global mean percent change in ocean
 30 oxygen (100–600 m depth), relative to 1995-2014. Assessed observational trends and *very likely* range
 31 are from the SROCC assessment, and spans 1970–2010 centered on 2005. (d) Global mean surface
 32 pH. Assessed observational change span 1985-2019, from the CMEMS SOCAT-based reconstruction
 33 (shading around the global mean shows the 90% confidence interval). (e), (f): Ice sheet mass changes.
 34 Projected ice sheet changes are shown as median, 5-95% range (light shading), and 17-83% range
 35 (dark shading) of cumulative mass loss and sea level equivalent from ISMIP6 emulation under SSP1-
 36 26 and SSP5-85 (shading and bold line), with individual emulated projections as thin lines. Median
 37 (dot), 17-83% range (thick vertical bar), and 5-95% range (thin vertical bar) in 2100 are shown as
 38 vertical bars on the right-hand side of each panel, from ISMIP6, ISMIP6 emulation, and LARMIP-2.
 39 Observation-based estimates: For Greenland (e), for 1972-2018 (Mouginot), for 1992-2016 (Bamber),
 40 for 1992-2020 (IMBIE) and total estimated mass loss range for 1840-1972 (Box). For Antarctica (f),
 41 estimates based on satellite data combined with simulated surface mass balance and glacial isostatic
 42 adjustment for 1992-2020 (IMBIE), 1992-2016 (Bamber), and 1979-2017 (Rignot). Left inset maps:
 43 mean Greenland elevation changes 2010-2017 derived from CryoSat-2 radar altimetry (e) and mean
 44 Antarctica elevation changes 1978-2017 derived from restored analog radar records (f). Right inset
 45 maps: ISMIP6 model mean (2093- 2100) projected changes under the MIROC5 climate model for the
 46 RCP8.5 scenario. {Box 9.2, 2.3.3, 2.3.4, 3.5.4, 4.3.2, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.6.3, 9.2.3, 9.4.1, 9.4.2, Box 9.2
 47 Figure 1, Figure 9.10, Figure 9.17, Figure 9.18}

48
 49 [END FIGURE TS.11 HERE]

50 51 52 **TS.2.5 The Cryosphere**

53
 54 Over recent decades, widespread loss of snow and ice has been observed, and several elements of the
 55 cryosphere are now in states unseen in centuries (*high confidence*). Human influence was *very likely* the
 56 main driver of observed reductions in Arctic sea ice since the late 1970s (with late-summer sea ice loss *likely*
 57 unprecedented for at least 1000 years) and the widespread retreat of glaciers (unprecedented in at least the
 58 last 2,000 years, *medium confidence*). Furthermore, human influence *very likely* contributed to the observed

1 Northern Hemisphere spring snow cover decrease since 1950. By contrast, Antarctic sea ice area experienced
2 no significant net change since 1979, and there is only *low confidence* in its projected changes. The Arctic
3 Ocean is projected to become practically sea ice-free in late summer under high CO₂ emissions scenarios by
4 the end of the 21st century (*high confidence*). It is *virtually certain* that further warming will lead to further
5 reductions of Northern Hemisphere snow cover, and there is *high confidence* that this is also the case for
6 near-surface permafrost volume. Glaciers will continue to lose mass at least for several decades even if
7 global temperature is stabilized (*very high confidence*), and mass loss over the 21st century is *virtually*
8 *certain* for the Greenland Ice Sheet and *likely* for the Antarctic Ice Sheet. Deep uncertainty persists with
9 respect to the possible evolution of the Antarctic Ice Sheet within the 21st century and beyond, in particular
10 due to the potential instability of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet. {2.3, 3.4, 4.3, 8.3, 9.3-9.6, Box 9.4, 12.4}

11
12 Current Arctic sea ice coverage levels (both annual and late summer) are at their lowest since at least 1850
13 (*high confidence*), and for late summer for the past 1,000 years (*medium confidence*). Since the late 1970s,
14 Arctic sea ice area and thickness have decreased in both summer and winter, with sea ice becoming younger,
15 thinner and more dynamic (*very high confidence*). It is *very likely* that anthropogenic forcing, mainly due to
16 greenhouse gas increases, was the main driver of this loss, although new evidence suggests that
17 anthropogenic aerosol forcing has offset part of the greenhouse gas-induced losses since the 1950s (*medium*
18 *confidence*). The annual Arctic sea ice area minimum will *likely* fall below 1 million km² at least once before
19 2050 under all assessed SSP scenarios. This practically sea ice-free state will become the norm for late
20 summer by the end of the 21st century in high CO₂ emissions scenarios (*high confidence*). Arctic summer
21 sea ice varies approximately linearly with global surface temperature, implying that there is no tipping point
22 and observed/projected losses are potentially reversible (*high confidence*). {2.3.2, 3.4.1, 4.3.2, 9.3.1, 12.4.9}

23
24 For Antarctic sea ice, there is no significant trend in satellite-observed sea ice area from 1979 to 2020 in both
25 winter and summer, due to regionally opposing trends and large internal variability. Due to mismatches
26 between model simulations and observations, combined with a lack of understanding of reasons for
27 substantial inter-model spread, there is *low confidence* in model projections of future Antarctic sea ice
28 changes, particularly at the regional level. {2.3.2, 3.4.1, 9.3.2}

29
30 In permafrost regions, increases in ground temperatures in the upper 30 m over the past three to four decades
31 have been widespread (*high confidence*). For each additional 1°C of warming (up to 4°C above the 1850–
32 1900 level), the global volume of perennially frozen ground to 3 m below the surface is projected to decrease
33 by about 25% relative to the present volume (*medium confidence*). However, these decreases may be
34 underestimated due to an incomplete representation of relevant physical processes in ESMs (*low confidence*).
35 Seasonal snow cover is treated in TS.2.6. {2.3.2, 9.5.2, 12.4.9}

36
37 There is *very high confidence* that, with few exceptions, glaciers have retreated since the second half of the
38 19th century; this behaviour is unprecedented in at least the last 2,000 years (*medium confidence*). Mountain
39 glaciers *very likely* contributed 67.2 [41.8 to 92.6] mm to the observed GMSL change between 1901 and
40 2018. This retreat has occurred at increased rates since the 1990s, with human influences *very likely* being
41 the main driver. Under RCP2.6 and RCP8.5, respectively, glaciers are projected to lose 18% ± 13% and 36%
42 ± 20% of their current mass over the 21st century (*medium confidence*). {2.3.2, 3.4.3, 9.5.1, 9.6.1}

43
44 The Greenland Ice Sheet was smaller than at present during the Last Interglacial period (roughly 125,000
45 years ago) and the mid-Holocene (roughly 6,000 years ago) (*high confidence*). After reaching a recent
46 maximum ice mass at some point between 1450 and 1850, the ice sheet retreated overall, with some decades
47 *likely* close to equilibrium (i.e., mass loss approximately equalling mass gained). It is *virtually certain* that
48 the Greenland Ice Sheet has lost mass since the 1990s, with human influence a contributing factor (*medium*
49 *confidence*). There is *high confidence* that annual mass changes have been consistently negative since the
50 early 2000s. Over the period 1992–2020, Greenland *likely* lost 4890 ± 460 Gt of ice, contributing 13.5 ± 1.3
51 mm to global mean sea level rise. There is *high confidence* that Greenland ice mass losses are increasingly
52 dominated by surface melting and runoff, with large interannual variability arising from changes in surface
53 mass balance. Projections of future Greenland ice-mass loss (Box TS.4, Table 1; Figure TS.11e) are
54 dominated by increased surface melt under all emissions scenarios (*high confidence*). Potential irreversible
55 long-term loss of the Greenland Ice Sheet, and of parts of the Antarctic Ice Sheet, is assessed in Box TS.9.

1 {2.3.2, 3.4.3, 9.4.1, 9.4.2, 9.6.3, Atlas.11.2}

2
3 It is *likely* that the Antarctic Ice Sheet has lost 2670 ± 530 Gt, contributing 7.4 ± 1.5 mm to global mean sea
4 level rise over 1992–2020. The total Antarctic ice mass losses were dominated by the West Antarctic Ice
5 Sheet, with combined West Antarctic and Peninsula annual loss rates increasing since about 2000 (*very high*
6 *confidence*). Furthermore, it is *very likely* that parts of the East Antarctic Ice Sheet have lost mass since
7 1979. Since the 1970s, snowfall has *likely* increased over the western Antarctic Peninsula and eastern West
8 Antarctica, with large spatial and interannual variability over the rest of Antarctica. Mass losses from West
9 Antarctic outlet glaciers, mainly induced by ice shelf basal melt (*high confidence*), outpace mass gain from
10 increased snow accumulation on the continent (*very high confidence*). However, there is only *limited*
11 *evidence*, with *medium agreement*, of anthropogenic forcing of the observed Antarctic mass loss since 1992
12 (with *low confidence* in process attribution). Increasing mass loss from ice shelves and inland discharge will
13 *likely* continue to outpace increasing snowfall over the 21st century (Figure TS.11f). Deep uncertainty
14 persists with respect to the possible evolution of the Antarctic Ice Sheet along high-end mass-loss storylines
15 within the 21st century and beyond, primarily related to the abrupt and widespread onset of Marine Ice Sheet
16 Instability and Marine Ice Cliff Instability. {2.3.2, 3.4.3, 9.4.2, 9.6.3, Box 9.4, Atlas.11.1, Box TS.3, Box
17 TS.4}

18
19
20 [START BOX TS.4 HERE]

21 22 **Box TS.4: Sea Level**

23
24 Global mean sea level (GMSL) increased by 0.20 [0.15 to 0.25] m over the period 1901 to 2018 with a rate
25 of rise that has accelerated since the 1960s to 3.7 [3.2 to 4.2] mm yr⁻¹ for the period 2006–2018 (*high*
26 *confidence*). Human activity was *very likely* the main driver of observed GMSL rise since 1970, and new
27 observational evidence leads to an assessed sea level rise over the period 1901 to 2018 that is consistent with
28 the sum of individual components contributing to sea level rise, including expansion due to ocean warming
29 and melting of glaciers and ice sheets (*high confidence*). It is *virtually certain* that GMSL will continue to
30 rise over the 21st century in response to continued warming of the climate system (Box TS.4, Figure 1). Sea
31 level responds to GHG emissions more slowly than global surface temperature, leading to weaker scenario
32 dependence over the 21st century than for global surface temperature (*high confidence*). This slow response
33 also leads to long-term committed sea level rise, associated with ongoing ocean heat uptake and the slow
34 adjustment of the ice sheets, that will continue over the centuries and millennia following cessation of
35 emissions (*high confidence*). By 2100, GMSL is projected to rise by 0.28–0.55 m (*likely* range) under SSP1-
36 1.9 and 0.63–1.02 m (*likely* range) under SSP5-8.5 relative to the 1995–2014 average (*medium confidence*).
37 Under the higher CO₂ emissions scenarios, there is deep uncertainty in sea level projections for 2100 and
38 beyond associated with the ice-sheet responses to warming. In a low-likelihood, high-impact storyline and a
39 high CO₂ emissions scenario, ice-sheet processes characterized by deep uncertainty could drive GMSL rise
40 up to about 5 m by 2150. Given the long-term commitment, uncertainty in the timing of reaching different
41 GMSL rise levels is an important consideration for adaptation planning. {2.3, 3.4, 3.5, 9.6, Box 9.4, Box
42 TS.9 Cross-Chapter Box 9.1, Table 9.5}

43
44 GMSL change is driven by warming or cooling of the ocean (and the associated expansion/contraction) and
45 changes in the amount of ice and water stored on land. Paleo-evidence shows that GMSL has been about 70
46 m higher and 130 m lower than present within the past 55 million years and was *likely* 5 to 10 m higher
47 during the Last Interglacial (Box TS.2, Figure 1). Sea level observations show that GMSL rose by 0.20 [0.15
48 to 0.25] m over the period 1901–2018 at an average rate of 1.7 [1.3 to 2.2] mm yr⁻¹. New analyses and paleo-
49 evidence since the AR5 show this rate is *very likely* faster than during any century over at least the last three
50 millennia (*high confidence*). Since the AR5, there is strengthened evidence for an increase in the rate of
51 GMSL rise since the mid-20th century, with an average rate of 2.3 [1.6–3.1] mm yr⁻¹ over the period 1971–
52 2018 increasing to 3.7 [3.2–4.2] mm yr⁻¹ for the period 2006–2018 (*high confidence*). {2.3.3.3, 9.6.1, 9.6.2}

53
54 GMSL will continue to rise throughout the 21st century (Box TS.4, Figure 1a). Considering only those
55 processes in whose projections we have at least *medium confidence*, relative to the period 1995–2014,

GMSL is projected to rise between 0.18 m (0.15–0.23 m, *likely range*) (SSP1-1.9) and 0.23 m (0.20–0.30 m, *likely range*) (SSP5-8.5) by 2050. By 2100, the projected rise is between 0.38 m (0.28–0.55 m, *likely range*) (SSP1-1.9) and 0.77 m (0.63–1.02 m, *likely range*) (SSP5-8.5) (Table 9.9). The methods, models and scenarios used for sea level projections in the AR6 are updated from those employed by the SROCC, with contributions informed by the latest model projections described in the ocean and cryosphere sections (TS.2.4 and TS.2.5). Despite these differences, the sea level projections are broadly consistent with those of the SROCC. {4.3.2, 9.6.3}

Importantly, *likely range* projections do not include those ice-sheet-related processes whose quantification is highly uncertain or that are characterized by deep uncertainty. Higher amounts of GMSL rise before 2100 could be caused by earlier-than-projected disintegration of marine ice shelves, the abrupt, widespread onset of Marine Ice Sheet Instability (MISI) and Marine Ice Cliff Instability (MICI) around Antarctica, and faster-than-projected changes in the surface mass balance and dynamical ice loss from Greenland (Box TS.4, Figure 1). In a low-likelihood, high-impact storyline and a high CO₂ emissions scenario, such processes could in combination contribute more than one additional meter of sea level rise by 2100. {Box TS.3, 4.3.2, 9.6.3, Box 9.4}

Beyond 2100, GMSL will continue to rise for centuries to millennia due to continuing deep ocean heat uptake and mass loss from ice sheets, and will remain elevated for thousands of years (*high confidence*). By 2150, considering only those processes in whose projections we have at least *medium confidence* and assuming no acceleration in ice-mass flux after 2100, GMSL is projected to rise between 0.6 m (0.4–0.9 m, *likely range*) (SSP1-1.9) and 1.4 m (1.0–1.9 m, *likely range*) (SSP5-8.5), relative to the period 1995–2014 based on the SSP scenario extensions. Under high CO₂ emissions, processes in which there is *low confidence*, such as Marine Ice Cliff Instability (MICI), could drive GMSL rise up to about 5 m by 2150 (Box TS.4, Figure 1a). By 2300, GMSL will rise 0.3–3.1 m under low CO₂ emissions (SSP1-2.6) (*low confidence*). Under high CO₂ emissions (SSP5-8.5), projected GMSL rise is between 1.7 and 6.8 m by 2300 in the absence of MICI and by up to 16 m considering MICI (*low confidence*). Over 2000 years, there is *medium agreement* and *limited evidence* that committed GMSL rise is projected to be about 2–3 m with 1.5°C peak warming, 2–6 m with 2°C of peak warming, 4–10 m with 3°C of peak warming, 12–16 m with 4°C of peak warming, and 19–22 m with 5°C of peak warming. {TS.1.3.1, 9.6.3}

Looking at uncertainty in time provides an alternative perspective on uncertainty in future sea-level rise (Box TS.4, Figure 1c). For example, considering only *medium confidence* processes, GMSL rise is likely to exceed 0.5 m between about 2080 and 2170 under SSP1-2.6 and between about 2070 and 2090 under SSP5-8.5. Given the long-term commitment, uncertainty in the timing of reaching different levels of GMSL rise is an important consideration for adaptation planning. {9.6.3}

At regional scales, additional processes come into play that modify the local sea level change relative to GMSL, including vertical land motion; ocean circulation and density changes and gravitational, rotational, and deformational effects arising from the redistribution of water and ice mass between land and the ocean. These processes give rise to a spatial pattern that tends to increase sea level rise at the low latitudes and reduce sea-level rise at high latitudes. However, over the 21st century, the majority of coastal locations have a median projected regional sea level rise within $\pm 20\%$ of the projected GMSL change (*medium confidence*). Further details on regional sea level change and extremes are provided in TS.4. {9.6.3}

[START BOX TS.4, FIGURE 1 HERE]

Box TS.4, Figure 1: Global mean sea level change on different time scales and under different scenarios. (a)

GMSL change from 1900 to 2150, observed (1900–2018) and projected under the SSP scenarios (2000–2150), relative to a 1995–2014 baseline. Solid lines show median projections. Shaded regions show *likely ranges* for SSP1-2.6 and SSP3-7.0. Dotted and dashed lines show respectively the 83rd and 95th percentile low-confidence projections for SSP5-8.5. Bars at right show *likely ranges* for SSP1-1.9, SSP1-2.6, SSP2-4.5, SSP3-7.0, and SSP5-8.5 in 2150. Lightly shaded thick/thin bars show 17th–83rd/5th–95th percentile *low-confidence* ranges in 2150 for SSP1-2.6 and SSP5-8.5, based upon projection methods incorporating structured expert judgement

and Marine Ice Cliff Instability. *Low-confidence* range for SSP5-8.5 in 2150 extends to 4.8/5.4 m at the 83rd/95th percentile. (b) GMSL change on 100- (blue), 2,000- (green) and 10,000-year (magenta) time scales as a function of global surface temperature, relative to 1850–1900. For 100-year projections, GMSL is projected for the year 2100, relative to a 1995–2014 baseline, and temperature anomalies are average values over 2081–2100. For longer-term commitments, warming is indexed by peak warming above 1850–1900 reached after cessation of emissions. Shaded regions show paleo-constraints on global surface temperature and GMSL for the Last Interglacial and mid-Pliocene Warm Period. Lightly shaded thick/thin blue bars show 17th–83rd/5th–95th percentile *low-confidence* ranges for SSP1-2.6 and SSP5-8.5 in 2100, plotted at 2°C and 5°C. (c) Timing of exceedance of GMSL thresholds of 0.5, 1.0, 1.5 and 2.0 m, under different SSPs. Lightly shaded thick/thin bars show 1th7–83rd/5th–95th percentile *low-confidence* ranges for SSP1-2.6 and SSP5-8.5.

[END BOX TS.4, FIGURE 1 HERE]

[END BOX TS.4 HERE]

[START BOX TS.5 HERE]

Box TS.5: The Carbon Cycle

The continued growth of atmospheric CO₂ concentrations over the industrial era is unequivocally due to emissions from human activities. Ocean and land carbon sinks slow the rise of CO₂ in the atmosphere. Projections show that while land and ocean sinks absorb more CO₂ under high emissions scenarios than low emissions scenarios, the fraction of emissions removed from the atmosphere by natural sinks decreases with higher concentrations (*high confidence*). Projected ocean and land sinks show similar responses for a given scenario, but the land sink has a much higher inter-annual variability and wider model spread. The slowed growth rates of the carbon sinks projected for the second half of this century are linked to strengthening carbon–climate feedbacks and stabilization of atmospheric CO₂ under medium-to-no-mitigation and high-mitigation scenarios respectively. {5.2, 5.4}

Carbon sinks for anthropogenic CO₂ are associated with mainly physical ocean and biospheric land processes that drive the exchange of carbon between multiple land, ocean and atmospheric reservoirs. These exchanges are driven by increasing atmospheric CO₂, but modulated by changes in climate (Box TS.5, Figure 1 c,d). The Northern and Southern Hemispheres dominate the land and ocean sinks, respectively (Box TS.5, Figure 1). Ocean circulation and thermodynamic processes also play a critical role in coupling the global carbon and energy (heat) cycles. There is *high confidence* that this ocean carbon–heat nexus is an important basis for one of the most important carbon–climate metrics, the transient climate response to cumulative CO₂ emissions (TCRE) (TS.3.2.1) used to determine the remaining carbon budget. {5.1, 5.2, 5.5, 9.2, Cross-Chapter Box 5.3}

Based on multiple lines of evidence using interhemispheric gradients of CO₂ concentrations, isotopes, and inventory data, it is unequivocal that the growth in CO₂ in the atmosphere since 1750 (see TS.2.2) is due to the direct emissions from human activities. The combustion of fossil fuels and land-use change for the period 1750–2019 resulted in the release of 700 ± 75 PgC (*likely* range, 1 PgC = 10¹⁵ g of carbon) to the atmosphere, of which about 41% ± 11% remains in the atmosphere today (*high confidence*). Of the total anthropogenic CO₂ emissions, the combustion of fossil fuels was responsible for about 64% ± 15%, growing to an 86% ± 14% contribution over the past 10 years. The remainder resulted from land-use change. During the last decade (2010–2019), average annual anthropogenic CO₂ emissions reached the highest levels in human history at 10.9 ± 0.9 PgC yr⁻¹ (*high confidence*). Of these emissions, 46% accumulated in the atmosphere (5.1 ± 0.02 PgC yr⁻¹), 23% (2.5 ± 0.6 PgC yr⁻¹) was taken up by the ocean and 31% (3.4 ± 0.9 PgC yr⁻¹) was removed by terrestrial ecosystems (*high confidence*). {5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.2.3}

The ocean (*high confidence*) and land (*medium confidence*) sinks of CO₂ have increased with anthropogenic emissions over the past six decades (Box TS.5, Figure 1). This coherence between emissions and the growth

1 in ocean and land sinks has resulted in the airborne fraction of anthropogenic CO₂ remaining at 44%±10%
2 over the past 60 years (*high confidence*). Interannual and decadal variability of the ocean and land sinks
3 indicate that they are sensitive to changes in the growth rate of emissions as well as climate variability, and
4 therefore also sensitive to climate change (*high confidence*). {5.2.1}

5
6 The land CO₂ sink is driven by carbon uptake by vegetation, with large interannual variability, for example,
7 linked to ENSO. Since the 1980s, carbon fertilization from rising atmospheric CO₂ has increased the strength
8 of the net land CO₂ sink (*medium confidence*). During the historical period, the growth of the ocean sink has
9 been primarily determined by the growth rate of atmospheric CO₂. However, there is *medium confidence* that
10 changes to physical and chemical processes in the ocean and in the land biosphere, which govern carbon
11 feedbacks, are already modifying the characteristics of variability, particularly the seasonal cycle of CO₂ in
12 both the ocean and land. However, changes to the multi-decadal trends in the sinks have not yet been
13 observed. {2.3.4, 3.6.1, 5.2.1, TS.2.3, TS.2.6}

14
15 In AR6, ESM projections are assessed with CO₂ concentrations by 2100 from about 400 ppm (SSP1-1.9) to
16 above 1100 ppm (SSP5-8.5). Most simulations are performed with prescribed atmospheric CO₂
17 concentrations, which already account for a central estimate of climate–carbon feedback effects. CO₂
18 emissions-driven simulations account for uncertainty in these feedbacks, but do not significantly change the
19 projected global surface temperature changes (*high confidence*). Although land and ocean sinks absorb more
20 CO₂ under high emissions than low emissions scenarios, the fraction of emissions removed from the
21 atmosphere decreases (*high confidence*). This means that the more CO₂ that is emitted, the less efficient the
22 ocean and land sinks become (*high confidence*), an effect which compensates for the logarithmic relationship
23 between CO₂ and its radiative forcing, which means that for each unit increase in additional atmospheric CO₂
24 the effect on global temperature decreases. (Box TS.5, Figure 1f.g). {4.3.1, 5.4.5, 5.5.1.2}

25
26 Ocean and land sinks show similar responses for a given scenario, but the land sink has a much higher inter-
27 annual variability and wider model spread. Under SSP3-7.0 and SSP5-8.5, the initial growth of both sinks in
28 response to increasing atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ is subsequently limited by emerging carbon–
29 climate feedbacks (*high confidence*) (Box TS.5, Figure 1f). Projections show that the ocean and land sinks
30 will stop growing from the second part of the 21st century under all emissions scenarios, but with different
31 drivers for different emissions scenarios. Under SSP3-7.0 and SSP5-8.5, the weakening growth rate of the
32 ocean CO₂ sink in the second half of the century is primarily linked to the strengthening positive feedback
33 from reduced carbonate buffering capacity, ocean warming and altered ocean circulation (e.g., AMOC
34 changes). In contrast, for SSP1-1.9, SSP1-2.6 and SSP2-4.5, the weakening growth rate of the ocean carbon
35 sink is a response to the stabilizing or declining atmospheric CO₂ concentrations. Under high CO₂ emissions
36 scenarios, it is *very likely* that the land carbon sink will grow more slowly due to warming and drying from
37 the mid 21st century, but it is *very unlikely* that it will switch from being a sink to a source before 2100.
38 Climate change alone is expected to increase land carbon accumulation in the high latitudes (not including
39 permafrost, which is assessed in TS2.5 and TS.3.2.2), but also to lead to a counteracting loss of land carbon
40 in the tropics (*medium confidence*). ESM projections show that the overall uncertainty of atmospheric CO₂
41 by 2100 is still dominated by the emission pathway, but carbon–climate feedbacks (see TS.3.3.2) are
42 important, with increasing uncertainties in high emissions pathways (Box TS.5, Figure 1e). {4.3.2, 5.4.1,
43 5.4.2, 5.4.4, 5.4.5, 11.6, 11.9, Cross-Chapter Box 5.1, Cross-Chapter Box 5.3, TS.3.3.2}

44
45 Under three SSP scenarios with long-term extensions until 2300 (SSP5-8.5, SSP5-3.4-OS, SSP1-2.6), ESMs
46 project a change of the land from a sink to a source (*medium confidence*). The scenarios make simplified
47 assumptions about emissions reductions, with SSP1-2.6 and SSP5-3.4-OS reaching about 400 ppm by 2300,
48 while SSP5-8.5 exceeds 2000 ppm. Under high emissions the transition is warming-driven, whereas it is
49 linked to the decline in atmospheric CO₂ under net negative CO₂ emissions. The ocean remains a sink
50 throughout the period to 2300 except under very large net negative emissions. The response of the natural
51 aspects of the carbon cycle to carbon dioxide removal is further developed in TS.3.3.2. {5.4.9, TS.3.3.2;
52 Figure Box TS.5f}

1 [START BOX TS.5, FIGURE 1 HERE]

2
3 **Box TS.5, Figure 1: Carbon cycle processes and projections.** Carbon cycle response to forcings. The figure shows
4 changes in carbon storage in response to elevated CO₂ (a, b) and the response to climate warming
5 (c, d). Maps show spatial patterns of changes in carbon uptake during simulations with 1% per
6 year increase in CO₂ {section 5.4.5.5}, and zonal mean plots show distribution of carbon changes
7 is dominated by the land (green lines) in the tropics and northern hemisphere and ocean (blue
8 lines) in the southern hemisphere. Hatching indicates regions where fewer than 80% of models
9 agree on the sign of response. (e) Future CO₂ projections: projected CO₂ concentrations in the SSP
10 scenarios in response to anthropogenic emissions, results from coupled ESMs for SSP5-8.5 and
11 from the MAGICC7 emulator for other scenarios {section 4.3.1}. (f) Future carbon fluxes:
12 projected combined land and ocean fluxes (positive downward) up to 2100 for the SSP scenarios,
13 and extended to 2300 for available scenarios, 5-95% uncertainty plumes shown for SSP1-2.6 and
14 SSP3-7.0 {section 5.4.5.4, 5.4.10}. The numbers near the top show the number of model
15 simulations used. (g) Sink fraction: the fraction of cumulative emissions of CO₂ removed by land
16 and ocean sinks. The sink fraction is smaller under conditions of higher emissions. {5.4.5, 5.5.1;
17 Figure 5.27; Figure 4.31; Figure 5.25; Figure 5.30; Figure 5.31}

18
19 [END BOX TS.5, FIGURE 1 HERE]

20
21
22 [END BOX TS.5 HERE]

23 TS.2.6 Land Climate, Including Biosphere and Extremes

24
25
26 Land surface air temperatures have risen faster than the global surface temperature since the 1850s, and it is
27 *virtually certain* that this differential warming will persist into the future. It is *virtually certain* that the
28 frequency and intensity of hot extremes and the intensity and duration of heat waves have increased since
29 1950 and will further increase in the future even if global warming is stabilized at 1.5°C. The frequency and
30 intensity of heavy precipitation events have increased over a majority of those land regions with good
31 observational coverage (*high confidence*) and will *extremely likely* increase over most continents with
32 additional global warming. Over the past half century, key aspects of the biosphere have changed in ways
33 that are consistent with large-scale warming: climate zones have shifted poleward, and the growing season
34 length in the Northern Hemisphere extratropics has increased (*high confidence*). The amplitude of the
35 seasonal cycle of atmospheric CO₂ poleward of 45°N has increased since the 1960s (*very high confidence*),
36 with increasing productivity of the land biosphere due to the increasing atmospheric CO₂ concentration as
37 the main driver (*medium confidence*). Global-scale vegetation greenness has increased since the 1980s (*high*
38 *confidence*). {2.3, 3.6, 4.3, 4.5, 5.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.9, 12.4}

39
40
41
42 Observed temperatures over land have increased by 1.61 [1.34–1.83] °C between the period 1850–1900 and
43 2011–2020. Warming of the land is about 45% larger than for global surface temperature, and about 80%
44 larger than warming of the ocean surface. Warming of the land surface during the period 1971–2018
45 contributed about 5% of the increase in the global energy inventory (TS.3.1), nearly twice the estimate in
46 AR5 (*high confidence*). It is *virtually certain* that the average surface warming over land will continue to be
47 higher than over the ocean throughout the 21st century. The warming pattern will *likely* vary seasonally, with
48 northern high latitudes warming more during winter than summer (*medium confidence*). {2.3.1, 4.3.1, 4.5.1,
49 Box 7.2, 7.2.2, Cross-Chapter Box 9.1, 11.3, Atlas 11.2}

50
51 The frequency and intensity of hot extremes (warm days and nights) and the intensity and duration of
52 heatwaves have increased globally and in most regions since 1950, while the frequency and intensity of cold
53 extremes have decreased (*virtually certain*). There is *high confidence* that the increases in frequency and
54 severity of hot extremes are due to human-induced climate change. Some recent extreme events would have
55 been *extremely unlikely* to occur without human influence on the climate system. It is *virtually certain* that
56 the further changes in hot and cold extremes will occur throughout the 21st century in nearly all inhabited

1 regions, even if global warming is stabilized at 1.5°C (Table TS.2, Figure TS.12a). {1.3, Cross-Chapter Box
2 3.2, 11.1.4, 11.3.2, 11.3.4, 11.3.5, 11.9, 12.4}

3
4 Greater warming over land alters key water cycle characteristics (Box TS.6). The rate of change in mean
5 precipitation and runoff, and their variability, increases with global warming (Figure TS.12e,f). The majority
6 of the land area has experienced decreases in available water during dry seasons due to the overall increase
7 in evapotranspiration (*medium confidence*). The land area affected by increasing drought frequency and
8 severity will expand with increasing global warming (*high confidence*; Figure TS.12c). There is *low*
9 *confidence* that the increase of plant water-use efficiency due to higher atmospheric CO₂ concentration
10 alleviates extreme agricultural and ecological droughts in conditions characterized by limited soil moisture
11 and increased atmospheric evaporative demand. {2.3.1, CCB 5.1, 8.2.3, 8.4.1, Box 11.1, 11.2.4, 11.4, 11.6}

12
13 Northern Hemisphere spring snow cover has decreased since at least 1978 (*very high confidence*), and there
14 is *high confidence* that trends in snow cover loss extend back to 1950. It is *very likely* that human influence
15 contributed to these reductions. Earlier onset of snowmelt has contributed to seasonally dependent changes
16 in streamflow (*high confidence*). A further decrease of Northern Hemisphere seasonal snow cover extent is
17 *virtually certain* under further global warming (Figure TS.12d). {2.3.2, 3.4.2, 8.3.2, 9.5.3, 12.4, Atlas 8.2,
18 9.2, 11.2}

19
20 The frequency and intensity of heavy precipitation events have increased over a majority of land regions
21 with good observational coverage since 1950 (*high confidence*, Box TS.6, Table TS.2). Human influence is
22 *likely* the main driver of this change (Table TS.2). It is *extremely likely* that on most continents heavy
23 precipitation will become more frequent and more intense with additional global warming (Table TS.2,
24 Figure TS.12 b). The projected increase in heavy precipitation extremes translates to an increase in the
25 frequency and magnitude of pluvial floods (*high confidence*) (Table TS.2). {Cross-Chapter Box 3.2, 8.4.1,
26 11.4.2, 11.4.4, 11.5.5, 12.4}

27
28 The probability of compound extreme events has *likely* increased due to human-induced climate change.
29 Concurrent heat waves and droughts have become more frequent over the last century, and this trend will
30 continue with higher global warming (*high confidence*). The probability of compound flooding (storm surge,
31 extreme rainfall and/or river flow) has increased in some locations, and will continue to increase due to both
32 sea level rise and increases in heavy precipitation, including changes in precipitation intensity associated
33 with tropical cyclones (*high confidence*). {11.8.1, 11.8.2, 11.8.3}

34
35 Changes in key aspects of the terrestrial biosphere, such as an increase of the growing season length in much
36 of the Northern Hemisphere extratropics since the mid-20th century (*high confidence*), are consistent with
37 large-scale warming. At the same time an increase in the amplitude of the seasonal cycle of atmospheric CO₂
38 beyond 45°N since the early 1960s (*high confidence*) and a global-scale increase in vegetation greenness of
39 the terrestrial surface since the early 1980s (*high confidence*) have been observed. Increasing atmospheric
40 CO₂, warming at high latitudes and land management interventions have contributed to the observed
41 greening trend, but there is *low confidence* in their relative roles. There is *medium confidence* that increased
42 plant growth associated with CO₂ fertilization is the main driver of the observed increase in amplitude of the
43 seasonal cycle of atmospheric CO₂ in the Northern hemisphere. Reactive nitrogen, ozone and aerosols affect
44 terrestrial vegetation and carbon cycle through deposition and effects on large-scale radiation (*high*
45 *confidence*), but the magnitude of these effects on the land carbon sink, ecosystem productivity and indirect
46 CO₂ forcing remains uncertain. {2.3.4, 3.6.1, 5.2.1, 6.4.5, 12.3.7, 12.4}

47
48 Over the last century, there has been a poleward and upslope shift in the distribution of many land species
49 (*very high confidence*) as well as increases in species turnover within many ecosystems (*high confidence*).
50 There is *high confidence* that the geographical distribution of climate zones has shifted in many parts of the
51 world in the last half century. SRCCL concluded that continued warming will exacerbate desertification
52 processes (*medium confidence*) and ecosystems will become increasingly exposed to climates beyond those
53 that they are currently adapted to (*high confidence*). There is *medium confidence* that climate change will
54 increase disturbance by, for example, fire and tree mortality across several ecosystems. Increases are
55 projected in drought, aridity, and fire weather in some regions (TS.4.3; *high confidence*). There is *low*

1 *confidence* in the magnitude of these changes, but the probability of crossing uncertain regional thresholds
 2 (e.g., fires, forest dieback) increases with further warming (*high confidence*). The response of
 3 biogeochemical cycles to the anthropogenic perturbation can be abrupt at regional scales, and irreversible on
 4 decadal to century time scales (*high confidence*). {2.3.4, 5.4.3, 5.4.9, 11.6, 11.8, 12.5, SRCCL 2.2, SRCCL
 5 2.5, SR1.5 3.4}

6
 7
 8 **[START FIGURE TS.12 HERE]**

9
 10 **Figure TS.12: Land-related changes relative to the 1850-1900 as a function of global warming levels.** a)
 11 Changes in the frequency (left scale) and intensity (in °C, right scale) of daily hot extremes occurring
 12 every 10- and 50-years; b) as a), but for daily heavy precipitation extremes, with intensity change in
 13 %; c) Changes in 10-year droughts aggregated over drought-prone regions (CNA, NCA, SCA, NSA,
 14 SAM, SWS, SSA, MED, WSAF, ESAF, MDG, SAU, and EAU; for definitions of these regions, see
 15 Atlas.2), with drought intensity (right scale) represented by the change of annual mean soil moisture,
 16 normalized with respect to interannual variability; d) Changes in Northern Hemisphere spring (March-
 17 April-May) snow cover extent relative to 1850-1900; e,f) Relative change (%) in annual mean of total
 18 precipitable water (grey line), precipitation (red solid lines), runoff (blue solid lines) and in standard
 19 deviation (i.e. variability) of precipitation (red dashed lines) and runoff (blue dashed lines) averaged
 20 over (e) tropical and (f) extratropical land as function of global warming levels. CMIP6 models that
 21 reached a 5°C warming level in the 21st century in SSP5-8.5 above the 1850-1900 average have been
 22 used. Precipitation and runoff variability are estimated by respective standard deviation after
 23 removing linear trends. Error bars show the 17-83% confidence interval for the warmest +5°C global
 24 warming level. {Figures 11.6, 11.7, 11.12, 11.15, 11.18, 9.24, 8.16, Atlas.2}

25
 26 **[END FIGURE TS.12 HERE]**

27
 28
 29 **[START BOX TS.6 HERE]**

30 **Box TS.6: Water Cycle**

31
 32
 33 Human-caused climate change has driven detectable changes in the global water cycle since the mid-20th
 34 century (*high confidence*), and it is projected to cause substantial further changes at both global and regional
 35 scales (*high confidence*). Global land precipitation has *likely* increased since 1950, with a faster increase
 36 since the 1980s (*medium confidence*). Atmospheric water vapour has increased throughout the troposphere
 37 since at least the 1980s (*likely*). Annual global land precipitation will increase over the 21st century as global
 38 surface temperature increases (*high confidence*). Human influence has been detected in amplified surface
 39 salinity and precipitation minus evaporation (P-E) patterns over the ocean (*high confidence*). The severity of
 40 very wet and very dry events increase in a warming climate (*high confidence*), but changes in atmospheric
 41 circulation patterns affect where and how often these extremes occur. Water cycle variability and related
 42 extremes are projected to increase faster than mean changes in most regions of the world and under all
 43 emission scenarios (*high confidence*). Over the 21st century, the total land area subject to drought will
 44 increase and droughts will become more frequent and severe (*high confidence*). Near-term projected changes
 45 in precipitation are uncertain mainly because of internal variability, model uncertainty and uncertainty in
 46 forcings from natural and anthropogenic aerosols (*medium confidence*). Over the 21st century and beyond,
 47 abrupt human-caused changes to the water cycle cannot be excluded (*medium confidence*). {2.3, 3.3, 4.3, 4.4,
 48 4.5, 4.6, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, 11.4, 11.6, 11.9}

49
 50 There is *high confidence* that the global water cycle has intensified since at least 1980 expressed by, for
 51 example, increased atmospheric moisture fluxes and amplified precipitation minus evaporation patterns.
 52 Global land precipitation has *likely* increased since 1950, with a faster increase since the 1980s (*medium*
 53 *confidence*), and a *likely* human contribution to patterns of change, particularly for increases in high-latitude
 54 precipitation over the Northern Hemisphere. Increases in global mean precipitation are determined by a
 55 robust response to global surface temperature (*very likely* 2–3% per °C) that is partly offset by fast
 56 atmospheric adjustments to atmospheric heating by GHGs and aerosols (TS.3.2.2). The overall effect of

1 anthropogenic aerosols is to reduce global precipitation through surface radiative cooling effects (*high*
 2 *confidence*). Over much of the 20th century, opposing effects of GHGs and aerosols on precipitation have
 3 been observed for some regional monsoons (*high confidence*) (Box TS.13). Global annual precipitation over
 4 land is projected to increase on average by 2.4% (−0.2% to 4.7% *likely* range) under SSP1-1.9, 4.6% (1.5%
 5 to 8.3% *likely* range) under SSP2-4.5, and 8.3% (0.9% to 12.9% *likely* range) under SSP5-8.5 by 2081–2100
 6 relative to 1995–2014 (Box TS.6, Figure 1). Inter-model differences and internal variability contribute to a
 7 substantial range in projections of large-scale and regional water cycle changes (*high confidence*). The
 8 occurrence of volcanic eruptions can alter the water cycle for several years (*high confidence*). Projected
 9 patterns of precipitation change exhibit substantial regional differences and seasonal contrast as global
 10 surface temperature increases over the 21st century (Box TS.6, Figure 1). {2.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.5.2, 4.3.1,
 11 4.4.1, 4.5.1, 4.6.1, Cross-Chapter Box 4.1, 8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.2.3, Box 8.1, 8.3.2.4, 8.4.1, 8.5.2, 10.4.2}

12
 13 Global total column water vapour content has *very likely* increased since the 1980s, and it is *likely* that
 14 human influence has contributed to tropical upper tropospheric moistening. Near-surface specific humidity
 15 has increased over the ocean (*likely*) and land (*very likely*) since at least the 1970s, with a detectable human
 16 influence (*medium confidence*). Human influence has been detected in amplified surface salinity and
 17 precipitation minus evaporation (P-E) patterns over the ocean (*high confidence*). It is *virtually certain* that
 18 evaporation will increase over the ocean, and *very likely* that evapotranspiration will increase over land, with
 19 regional variations under future surface warming (Box TS.6, Figure 1). There is *high confidence* that
 20 projected increases in precipitation amount and intensity will be associated with increased runoff in northern
 21 high latitudes (Box TS.6, Figure 1). In response to cryosphere changes (TS.2.5), there have been changes in
 22 streamflow seasonality, including an earlier occurrence of peak streamflow in high-latitude and mountain
 23 catchments (*high confidence*). Projected runoff (Box TS.6, Figure 1c) is typically decreased by contributions
 24 from small glaciers because of glacier mass loss, while runoff from larger glaciers will generally increase
 25 with increasing global warming levels until their mass becomes depleted (*high confidence*). {2.3.1, 3.3.2,
 26 3.3.3, 3.5.2, 8.2.3, 8.4.1, 11.5}

27
 28 Warming over land drives an increase in atmospheric evaporative demand and in the severity of drought
 29 events (*high confidence*). Greater warming over land than over the ocean alters atmospheric circulation
 30 patterns and reduces continental near-surface relative humidity, which contributes to regional drying (*high*
 31 *confidence*). A *very likely* decrease in relative humidity has occurred over much of the global land area since
 32 2000. Projected increases in evapotranspiration due to growing atmospheric water demand will decrease soil
 33 moisture (Box TS.6, Figure 1) over the Mediterranean region, southwestern North America, South Africa,
 34 southwestern South America and southwestern Australia (*high confidence*). Some tropical regions are also
 35 projected to experience enhanced aridity, including the Amazon basin and Central America (*high*
 36 *confidence*). The total land area subject to increasing drought frequency and severity will expand (*high*
 37 *confidence*), and in the Mediterranean, southwestern South America, and western North America, future
 38 aridification will far exceed the magnitude of change seen in the last millennium (*high confidence*). {4.5.1,
 39 8.2.2, 8.2.3, 8.4.1, Box 8.2, 11.6, 11.9}

40
 41 Land-use change and water extraction for irrigation have influenced local and regional responses in the water
 42 cycle (*high confidence*). Large-scale deforestation *likely* decreases evapotranspiration and precipitation and
 43 increases runoff over the deforested regions relative to the regional effects of climate change (*medium*
 44 *confidence*). Urbanization increases local precipitation (*medium confidence*) and runoff intensity (*high*
 45 *confidence*) (Box TS.14.). Increased precipitation intensities have enhanced groundwater recharge, most
 46 notably in tropical regions (*medium confidence*). There is *high confidence* that groundwater depletion has
 47 occurred since at least the start of the 21st century, as a consequence of groundwater withdrawals for
 48 irrigation in agricultural areas in drylands. {8.2.3, 8.3.1, 11.1.6, 11.4, 11.6, FAQ 8.1}

49
 50
 51 **[START BOX TS.6, FIGURE 1 HERE]**

52
 53 **Box TS.6, Figure 1:** Projected water cycle changes. Long-term (2081–2100) projected annual mean changes (%)
 54 relative to present-day (1995–2014) in the SSP2-4.5 emissions scenario for (a) precipitation, (b)
 55 surface evapotranspiration, (c) total runoff and (d) surface soil moisture. Top-right panel numbers

1 indicate the number of CMIP6 models used for estimating the ensemble mean. For other scenarios,
2 please refer to relevant figures in Chapter 8. Uncertainty is represented using the simple approach:
3 No overlay indicates regions with high model agreement, where $\geq 80\%$ of models agree on sign of
4 change; diagonal lines indicate regions with low model agreement, where $< 80\%$ of models agree
5 on sign of change. For more information on the simple approach, please refer to the Cross-Chapter
6 Box Atlas.1. {8.4.1, Figures 8.14, 8.17, 8.18, 8.19}

7
8 **[END BOX TS.6, FIGURE 1 HERE]**

9
10
11 Water cycle variability and related extremes are projected to increase faster than mean changes in most
12 regions of the world and under all emissions scenarios (*high confidence*). A warmer climate increases
13 moisture transport into weather systems, which intensifies wet seasons and events (*high confidence*). The
14 magnitudes of projected precipitation increases and related extreme events depend on model resolution and
15 the representation of convective processes (*high confidence*). Increases in near-surface atmospheric moisture
16 capacity of about 7% per 1°C of warming lead to a similar response in the intensification of heavy
17 precipitation from sub-daily up to seasonal time scales, increasing the severity of flood hazards (*high*
18 *confidence*). The average and maximum rain-rates associated with tropical and extratropical cyclones,
19 atmospheric rivers and severe convective storms will therefore also increase with future warming (*high*
20 *confidence*). For some regions, there is *medium confidence* that peak tropical cyclone rain-rates will increase
21 by more than 7% per 1°C of warming due to increased low-level moisture convergence caused by increases
22 in wind intensity. In the tropics year-round and in the summer season elsewhere, interannual variability of
23 precipitation and runoff over land is projected to increase at a faster rate than changes in seasonal mean
24 precipitation (Figure TS.12e,f) (*medium confidence*). Sub-seasonal precipitation variability is also projected
25 to increase with fewer rainy days but increased daily mean precipitation intensity over many land regions
26 (*high confidence*). {4.5.3, 8.2.3, 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 11.4, 11.5, 11.7, 11.9}

27
28 **[END BOX TS.6 HERE]**

29
30
31 **[START INFOGRAPHIC TS.1 HERE]**

32 **Infographic TS.1: Climate Futures.**

34 (top left) Annual emissions of CO₂ for the five core Shared Socio-economic Pathway
35 (SSP) scenarios (very low: SSP1-1.9, low: SSP1-2.6, medium: SSP2-4.5, high: SSP3-7.0,
36 very high SSP5-8.5). (bottom left) Projected warming for each of these emissions
37 scenarios. (top right) Response of some selected climate variables to 4 levels of global
38 warming (°C). (bottom right) The long-term effect of each global warming level on sea
39 level. See TS.1.3.1 for more detail on the SSP climate change scenarios.

1 a)

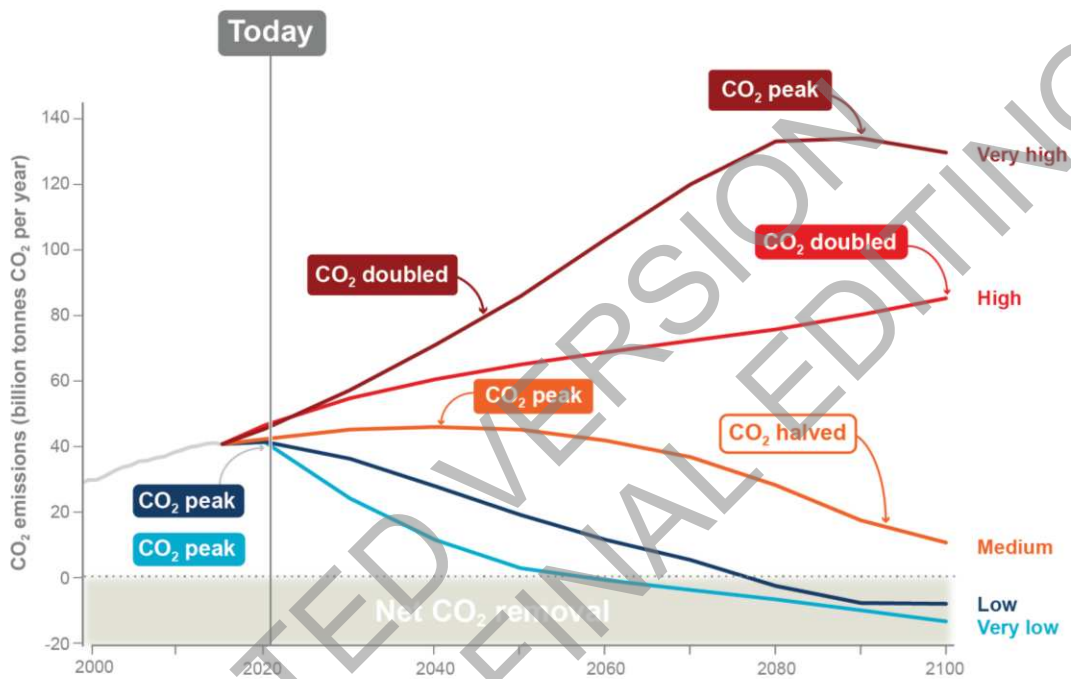
Climate futures

The climate change that people will experience this century and beyond depends on our **greenhouse gases emissions**, how much **global warming this will cause** and the **response of the climate system** to this warming.



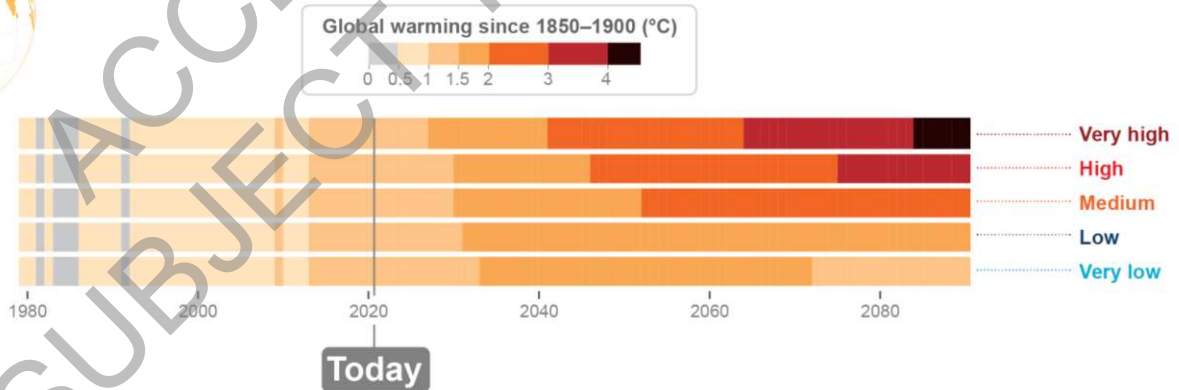
Emission pathways

Different social and economic developments can lead to substantially different future emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), other greenhouse gases and air pollutants for the rest of the century.



Effect on surface temperature

For temperature to stabilise, CO₂ emissions need to reach net zero.



Short-term effect: Natural variability

Over short timescales (typically a decade), natural variability can temporarily dampen or accentuate global warming trends resulting from emissions.

2
3
4

1 b)

Climate futures

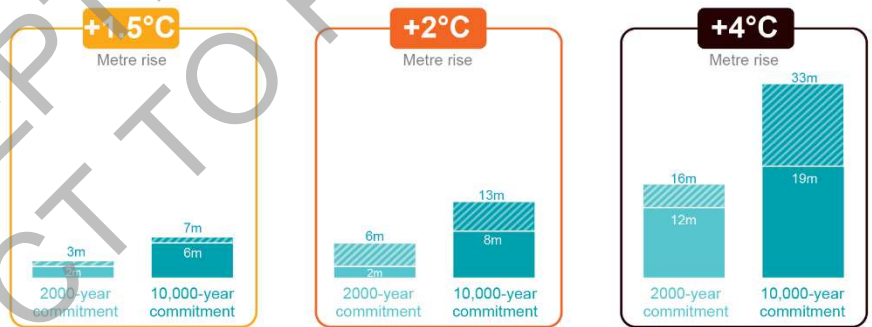
Response of the climate system relative to 1850–1900
 Many aspects of the climate system react quickly to temperature changes.
 At progressively higher levels of global warming there are greater consequences (min/max range shown).



Long-term consequences: Sea level rise

Today, sea level has already increased by 20 cm and will increase an additional 30 cm to 1 m or more by 2100, depending on future emissions.

Sea level reacts very slowly to global warming so, once started, the rise continues for thousands of years.



The future...

The climate we and the young generations will experience depends on future emissions. Reducing emissions rapidly will limit further changes, but continued emissions will trigger larger, faster changes that will increasingly affect all regions. Some changes will persist for hundreds or thousands of years, so today's choices will have long-lasting consequences.

[END INFOGRAPHIC TS.1 HERE]

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8

1 TS.3 Understanding the Climate System Response and Implications for Limiting Global Warming

2
3 This section summarizes advances in our knowledge of the Earth's energy budget, including the time
4 evolution of forcings and climate feedbacks that lead to the climate system responses summarized in TS.2. It
5 assesses advances since AR5 and SR1.5 in the estimation of remaining carbon budgets, the Earth system
6 response to carbon dioxide removal and quantification of metrics that allow comparison of the relative
7 effects of different forcing agents. The section also highlights future climate and air pollution responses due
8 to projected changes in short-lived climate forcers (SLCFs), the state of understanding of the climate
9 response to potential interventions related to solar radiation modification (SRM), and irreversibility, tipping
10 points and abrupt changes in the climate system.

11 12 13 *TS.3.1 Radiative Forcing and Energy Budget*

14
15 Since AR5, the accumulation of energy in the Earth system, quantified by observations of warming of the
16 ocean, atmosphere, land and melting of ice, has become established as a robust measure of the rate of global
17 climate change on interannual-to-decadal time scales. Compared to changes in global surface temperature,
18 the increase in the global energy inventory exhibits less variability, and thus better indicates underlying
19 climate trends. The global energy inventory increased by 435 [325 to 545] Zettajoules (ZJ, equal to 10^{21}
20 Joules) for the period 1971–2018 and 153 [100 to 206] ZJ for the period 2006–2018 (Figure TS.13), with
21 more than 90% accounted for by ocean warming. To put these numbers in context, the 2006–2018 average
22 Earth system heating is equivalent to approximately 20 times the rate of global energy consumption in 2018.
23 The accumulation of energy is driven by a positive total anthropogenic effective radiative forcing (ERF)
24 relative to 1750. The best estimate ERF of 2.72 W m^{-2} has increased by 0.43 W m^{-2} relative to that given in
25 AR5 (for 1750–2014) due to an increase in the greenhouse gas ERF that is partly compensated by a more
26 negative aerosol ERF compared to AR5. The greenhouse gas ERF has been revised due to changes in
27 atmospheric concentrations and updates to forcing efficiencies, while the revision to aerosol ERF is due to
28 increased understanding of aerosol–cloud interactions and is supported by improved agreement between
29 different lines of evidence. Improved quantification of ERF, the climate system radiative response and the
30 observed energy increase in the Earth system for the period 1971–2018 demonstrate improved closure of the
31 global energy budget (i.e., the extent to which the sum of the integrated forcing and the integrated radiative
32 response equals the energy gain of the Earth system) compared to AR5. (*high confidence*) {7.2.2, Box 7.2,
33 Table 7.1, 7.3.5, 7.5.2, FAQ7.1}

34
35
36 [START FIGURE TS.13 HERE]

37
38 **Figure TS.13: Estimates of the net cumulative energy change ($\text{ZJ} = 10^{21}$ Joules) for the period 1971–2018**
39 **associated with: (a) observations of changes in the Global Energy Inventory (b) Integrated**
40 **Radiative Forcing; (c) Integrated Radiative Response.** *The intent is to show assessed changes in*
41 *energy budget and ERFs. Black dotted lines indicate the central estimate with likely and very likely*
42 *ranges as indicated in the legend. The grey dotted lines indicate the energy change associated with an*
43 *estimated 1850–1900 Earth energy imbalance of 0.2 W m^{-2} (panel a) and an illustration of an assumed*
44 *pattern effect of $-0.5 \text{ W m}^{-2}\text{C}^{-1}$ (panel c). Background grey lines indicate equivalent heating rates in*
45 *W m^{-2} per unit area of Earth's surface. Panels (d) and (e) show the breakdown of components, as*
46 *indicated in the legend, for the Global Energy Inventory and Integrated Radiative Forcing,*
47 *respectively. Panel (f) shows the Global Energy Budget assessed for the period 1971–2018, i.e. the*
48 *consistency between the change in the Global Energy Inventory relative to 1850–1900 and the implied*
49 *energy change from Integrated Radiative Forcing plus Integrated Radiative Response under a number*
50 *of different assumptions, as indicated in the figure legend, including assumptions of correlated and*
51 *uncorrelated uncertainties in Forcing plus Response. Shading represents the very likely range for*
52 *observed energy change relative to 1850–1900 and likely range for all other quantities. Forcing and*
53 *Response timeseries are expressed relative to a baseline period of 1850–1900. {Box 7.2 Figure 1}*
54

55 [END FIGURE TS.13 HERE]

1 The global energy inventory change for the period 1971–2018 corresponds to an Earth energy imbalance
 2 (Box TS.1) of 0.57 [0.43 to 0.72] W m⁻², increasing to 0.79 [0.52 to 1.06] W m⁻² for the period 2006–2018.
 3 Ocean heat uptake is by far the largest contribution and accounts for 91% of the total energy change. Land
 4 warming, melting of ice and warming of the atmosphere account for about 5%, 3% and 1% of the total
 5 change, respectively. More comprehensive analysis of inventory components, cross-validation of satellite
 6 and in situ-based estimates of the global energy imbalance and closure of the global sea level budget have
 7 led to a strengthened assessment relative to AR5. (*high confidence*) { Box 7.2, 7.2.2, Table 7.1, 7.5.2.3,
 8 Cross-Chapter Box 9.1, 9.6.1, Table 9.5}

9
 10 As in AR5, the perturbations to the Earth’s top-of-atmosphere energy budget are quantified using ERFs (also
 11 see TS.2.2). These include any consequent adjustments to the climate system (e.g., from changes in
 12 atmospheric temperatures, clouds, and water vapour as shown in Figure TS.14), but exclude any surface
 13 temperature response. Since the AR5, ERFs have been estimated for a larger number of forcing agents and
 14 shown to be more closely related to the temperature response than the stratospheric-temperature adjusted
 15 radiative forcing. (*high confidence*) {7.3.1}

16
 17
 18 **[START FIGURE TS.14 HERE]**

19
 20 **Figure TS.14: Schematic representation of changes in the top-of atmosphere (TOA) radiation budget following**
 21 **a perturbation.** *The intent of the figure is to illustrate the concept of adjustments in the climate*
 22 *system following a perturbation in the radiation budget.* The baseline TOA energy budget (a)
 23 responds instantaneously to perturbations (b), leading to adjustments in the atmospheric meteorology
 24 and composition, and land surface that are independent of changes in surface temperature (c). Surface
 25 temperature changes (here using an increase as an example) lead to physical, biogeophysical and
 26 biogeochemical feedback processes (d). Long term feedback processes, such as those involving ice
 27 sheets, are not shown here. {adapted from Chapter 7 Figure 7.2, FAQ 7.2 Figure 1, and Figure 8.3}

28
 29 **[END FIGURE TS.14 HERE]**

30
 31
 32 Improved quantification of ERF, the climate system radiative response, and the observed energy increase in
 33 the Earth system for the period 1971–2018, demonstrate improved closure of the global energy budget
 34 relative to AR5 (Figure TS.13). Combining the *likely* range of ERF over this period with the central estimate
 35 of radiative response gives an expected energy gain of 340 [47 to 662] ZJ. Both estimates are consistent with
 36 an independent observation-based assessment of the global energy increase of 284 [96 to 471] ZJ, (*very*
 37 *likely range*) expressed relative to the estimated 1850–1900 Earth energy imbalance. (*high confidence*)
 38 {7.2.2, Box 7.2, 7.3.5}

39
 40 The assessed greenhouse gas ERF over the 1750–2019 period (TS.2.2) has increased by 0.59 W m⁻² over
 41 AR5 estimates for 1750–2011. This increase includes +0.34 W m⁻² from increases in atmospheric
 42 concentrations of well-mixed greenhouse gases (including halogenated species) since 2011, +0.15 W m⁻²
 43 from upwards revisions of their radiative efficiencies and +0.10 W m⁻² from re-evaluation of the ozone and
 44 stratospheric water vapour ERF. {7.3.2, 7.3.4, 7.3.5}

45
 46 For CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, and chlorofluorocarbons, there is now evidence to quantify the effect on ERF of
 47 tropospheric adjustments. The assessed ERF for a doubling of CO₂ compared to 1750 levels (3.9 ± 0.5
 48 Wm⁻²) is larger than in AR5. For CO₂, the adjustments include the physiological effects on vegetation. The
 49 reactive well-mixed greenhouse gases (methane, nitrous oxide, and halocarbons) cause additional chemical
 50 adjustments to the atmosphere through changes in ozone and aerosols (Figure TS.15a). The ERF due to
 51 methane emissions is 1.21 [0.90 to 1.51] W m⁻², of which 0.33 [0.25 to 0.41] W m⁻² is attributed to chemical
 52 adjustments mainly via ozone. These chemical adjustments also affect the emission metrics (Section
 53 TS.3.3.3). SO₂ emission changes make the dominant contribution to the ERF from aerosol–cloud interactions
 54 (*high confidence*). Over the 1750–2019 period, the contributions from the emitted compounds to global
 55 surface temperature changes broadly match their contributions to the ERF (*high confidence*) (Figure
 56 TS.15b). Since a peak in emissions-induced SO₂ ERF has already occurred recently (TS.2.2) and since there

1 is a delay in the full global surface temperature response owing to the thermal inertia in the climate system,
 2 changes in SO₂ emissions have a slightly larger contribution to global surface temperature change compared
 3 with changes in CO₂ emissions, relative to their respective contributions to ERF. {6.4.2, 7.3.2}

4
 5 Aerosols contributed an ERF of -1.3 [-2.0 to -0.6] W m⁻² over the period 1750 to 2014 (*medium*
 6 *confidence*). The ERF due to aerosol–cloud interactions (ERF_{aci}) contributes most to the magnitude of the
 7 total aerosol ERF (*high confidence*), and is assessed to be -1.0 [-1.7 to -0.3] W m⁻² (*medium confidence*),
 8 with the remainder due to aerosol–radiation interactions (ERF_{fari}), assessed to be -0.3 [-0.6 to 0.0] W m⁻²
 9 (*medium confidence*). There has been an increase in the estimated magnitude – but a reduction in the
 10 uncertainty – of the total aerosol ERF relative to AR5, supported by a combination of increased process-
 11 understanding and progress in modelling and observational analyses (Figure TS.15c). Effective radiative
 12 forcing estimates from these separate lines of evidence are now consistent with each other, in contrast to
 13 AR5, and support the assessment that it is *virtually certain* that the total aerosol ERF is negative. Compared
 14 to AR5, the assessed magnitude of ERF_{aci} has increased, while that of ERF_{fari} has decreased. {7.3.3, 7.3.5}

15
 16
 17 **[START FIGURE TS.15 HERE]**

18
 19 **Figure TS.15: Contribution to ERF and b) global surface temperature change from component emissions**
 20 **between 1750 to 2019 based on CMIP6 models and c) net aerosol effective radiative forcing**
 21 **(ERF) from different lines of evidence.** *The intent of the figure is to show advances since AR5 in the*
 22 *understanding of a) aerosol ERF from different lines of evidence as assessed in Chapter 7, b)*
 23 *emissions-based ERF and c) global surface temperature response for SLCFs as estimated in Chapter*
 24 *6. In panel a), ERFs for well-mixed greenhouse gases (WMGHGs) are from the analytical formulae.*
 25 *ERFs for other components are multi-model means based on ESM simulations that quantify the effect*
 26 *of individual components. The derived emission-based ERFs are rescaled to match the concentration-*
 27 *based ERFs in Figure 7.6. Error bars are 5-95% and for the ERF account for uncertainty in radiative*
 28 *efficiencies and multi-model error in the means. In panel b), the global mean temperature response is*
 29 *calculated from the ERF time series using an impulse response function. In panel c), the AR6*
 30 *assessment is based on energy balance constraints, observational evidence from satellite retrievals,*
 31 *and climate model-based evidence. For each line of evidence, the assessed best-estimate contributions*
 32 *from ERF due to ERF_{fari} and ERF_{aci} are shown with darker and paler shading, respectively. Estimates*
 33 *from individual CMIP5 and CMIP6 models are depicted by blue and red crosses, respectively. The*
 34 *observational assessment for ERF_{fari} is taken from the instantaneous forcing due to aerosol-radiation*
 35 *interactions (IRF_{fari}). Uncertainty ranges are given in black bars for the total aerosol ERF and depict*
 36 *very likely ranges. {Sections 7.3.3, 6.4.2. Cross-Chapter Box 7.1, Figures 6.12, 7.5 ; Table 7.8}*

37
 38 **[END FIGURE TS.15 HERE]**

41 **TS.3.2 Climate Sensitivity and Earth-System Feedbacks**

42 43 **TS.3.2.1 Equilibrium Climate Sensitivity, Transient Climate Response, and Transient Climate Response to** 44 **Cumulative Carbon-dioxide Emissions**

45
 46 Since AR5, substantial quantitative progress has been made in combining new evidence of Earth's climate
 47 sensitivity, with improvements in the understanding and quantification of Earth's energy imbalance, the
 48 instrumental record of global surface temperature change, paleoclimate change from proxy records, climate
 49 feedbacks and their dependence on time scale and climate state. A key advance is the broad agreement across
 50 these multiple lines of evidence, supporting a best estimate of equilibrium climate sensitivity (ECS) of 3°C,
 51 with a *very likely* range of 2°C to 5°C. The *likely* range of 2.5°C to 4°C is narrower than the AR5 *likely* range
 52 of 1.5°C to 4.5°C. {7.4, 7.5}

53
 54 Constraints on ECS and TCR (see Glossary) are based on four main lines of evidence: feedback process
 55 understanding, climate change and variability seen within the instrumental record, paleoclimate evidence,
 56 and so-called 'emergent constraints', whereby a relationship between an observable quantity and either ECS

1 or TCR established within an ensemble of models is combined with observations to derive a constraint on
2 ECS or TCR. In reports up to and including the IPCC third assessment report, ECS and TCR derived directly
3 from ESMs were the primary line of evidence. However, since AR4, historical warming and paleoclimates
4 provided useful additional evidence (Figure TS.16a). AR6 differs from previous reports in not directly using
5 climate model estimates of ECS and TCR in the assessed ranges of climate sensitivity. {1.5, 7.5}

6
7 It is now clear that when estimating ECS and TCR, the dependence of feedbacks on time scales and the
8 climate state must be accounted for. Feedback processes are expected to become more positive overall (more
9 amplifying of global surface temperature changes) on multi-decadal time scales as the spatial pattern of
10 surface warming evolves and global surface temperature increases, leading to an ECS that is higher than was
11 inferred in AR5 based on warming over the instrumental record (*high confidence*). Historical surface
12 temperature change since 1870 has shown relatively little warming in several key regions of positive
13 feedbacks, including the eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean and the Southern Ocean, while showing greater
14 warming in key regions of negative feedbacks, including the western Pacific warm pool. Based on process
15 understanding, climate modelling, and paleoclimate reconstructions of past warm periods, it is expected that
16 future warming will become enhanced over the eastern Pacific Ocean (*medium confidence*) and Southern
17 Ocean (*high confidence*) on centennial time scales. This new understanding, along with updated estimates of
18 historical temperature change, ERF, and energy imbalance, reconciles previously disparate ECS estimates.
19 {7.4.4, 7.5.2, 7.5.3,}

20
21 The AR6 best estimate of ECS is 3°C, the *likely* range is 2.5 to 4°C and the *very likely* range is 2 to 5°C.
22 There is a high level of agreement among the four main lines of evidence listed above (Figure TS.16b), and
23 altogether it is *virtually certain* that ECS is larger than 1.5°C, but currently it is not possible to rule out ECS
24 values above 5°C. Therefore, the 5°C upper end of the *very likely* range is assessed with *medium confidence*
25 and the other bounds with *high confidence*. {7.5.5}

26
27 Based on process understanding, warming over the instrumental record, and emergent constraints, the best
28 estimate of TCR is 1.8°C, the *likely* range is 1.4° to 2.2°C and the *very likely* range is 1.2° to 2.4°C. There is
29 a high level of agreement among the different lines of evidence (Figure TS.16c) (*high confidence*). {7.5.5}

30
31 On average, CMIP6 models have higher mean ECS and TCR values than the CMIP5 generation of models
32 and also have higher mean values and wider spreads than the assessed best estimates and *very likely* ranges
33 within this Report. These higher mean ECS and TCR values can, in some models, be traced to changes in
34 extratropical cloud feedbacks (*medium confidence*). The broader ECS and TCR ranges from CMIP6 also
35 lead the models to project a range of future warming that is wider than the assessed future warming range,
36 which is based on multiple lines of evidence (Cross-Section Box TS.1). However, some of the high-
37 sensitivity CMIP6 models (TS.1.2.2) are less consistent with observed recent changes in global warming and
38 with paleoclimate proxy records than models with ECS within the *very likely* range. Similarly, some of the
39 low-sensitivity models are less consistent with the paleoclimate data. The CMIP6 models with the highest
40 ECS and TCRs values provide insights into low-likelihood, high-impact futures, which cannot be excluded
41 based on currently available evidence (Cross-Section Box TS.1). {4.3.1, 4.3.4, 7.4.2, 7.5.6}

42
43 Uncertainties regarding the true value of ECS and TCR are the dominant source of uncertainty in global
44 temperature projections over the 21st century under moderate to high GHG concentrations scenarios. For
45 scenarios that reach net zero CO₂ emissions (TS.3.3), the uncertainty in the ERF values of aerosol and other
46 SLCFs contribute substantial uncertainty in projected temperature. Global ocean heat uptake is a smaller
47 source of uncertainty in centennial warming. {7.5.7}

48
49
50 **[START FIGURE TS.16 HERE]**

51
52 **Figure TS.16:** a) Evolution of equilibrium climate sensitivity (ECS) assessments from the Charney Report
53 through a succession of IPCC Assessment Reports to AR6, and lines of evidence and combined
54 assessment for (b) ECS and (c) transient climate response (TCR) in AR6. In panel (a), the lines of
55 evidence considered are listed below each assessment. Best estimates are marked by horizontal bars,

likely ranges by vertical bars, and very likely ranges by dotted vertical bars. In panel (b) and (c), assessed ranges are taken from Tables 7.13 and 7.14 for ECS and TCR respectively. Note that for the ECS assessment based on both the instrumental record and paleoclimates, limits (i.e., one-sided distributions) are given, which have twice the probability of being outside the maximum/minimum value at a given end, compared to ranges (i.e., two tailed distributions) which are given for the other lines of evidence. For example, the *extremely likely* limit of greater than 95% probability corresponds to one side of the *very likely* (5% to 95%) range. Best estimates are given as either a single number or by a range represented by grey box. CMIP6 ESM values are not directly used as a line of evidence but are presented on the Figure for comparison. {Sections 1.5, 7.5; Tables 7.13, 7.14; Figures 7.18}

[END FIGURE TS.16 HERE]

The transient climate response to cumulative CO₂ emissions (TCRE) is the ratio between globally averaged surface temperature increase and cumulative CO₂ emissions (see Glossary). This report reaffirms with *high confidence* the finding of AR5 that there is a near-linear relationship between cumulative CO₂ emissions and the increase in global average temperature caused by CO₂ over the course of this century for global warming levels up to at least 2°C relative to 1850–1900. The TCRE falls *likely* in the 1.0°C–2.3°C per 1000 PgC range, with a best estimate of 1.65°C per 1000 PgC. This range is about 15% narrower than the 0.8°C–2.5°C per 1000 PgC assessment of the AR5 because of a better integration of evidence across chapters, in particular the assessment of TCR. Beyond this century, there is *low confidence* that the TCRE alone remains an accurate predictor of temperature changes in scenarios of very low or net negative CO₂ emissions because of uncertain Earth system feedbacks that can result in further changes in temperature or a path dependency of warming as a function of cumulative CO₂ emissions. {5.4, 5.5.1, 4.6.2}

TS.3.2.2 Earth System Feedbacks

The combined effect of all climate feedback processes is to amplify the climate response to forcing (*virtually certain*). While major advances in the understanding of cloud processes have increased the level of confidence and decreased the uncertainty range for the cloud feedback by about 50% compared to AR5, clouds remain the largest contribution to overall uncertainty in climate feedbacks (*high confidence*). Uncertainties in the ECS and other climate sensitivity metrics, such as the transient climate response (TCR) and the transient climate response to cumulative CO₂ emissions (TCRE), are the dominant source of uncertainty in global temperature projections over the 21st century under moderate to high GHG emissions scenarios. CMIP6 models have higher mean values and wider spreads in ECS and TCR than the assessed best estimates and *very likely* ranges within this Report, leading the models to project a range of future warming that is wider than the assessed future warming range (TS.2.2). {7.1, 7.4.2, 7.5}

Earth system feedbacks can be categorised into three broad groups: physical feedbacks, biogeophysical and biogeochemical feedbacks, and feedbacks associated with ice sheets. In previous assessments, the ECS has been associated with a distinct set of physical feedbacks (Planck response, water vapour, lapse rate, surface albedo, and cloud feedbacks). In this assessment, a more general definition of ECS is adopted whereby all biogeophysical and biogeochemical feedbacks that do not affect the atmospheric concentration of CO₂ are included. These include changes in natural methane emissions, natural aerosol emissions, nitrous oxide, ozone, and vegetation, which all act on time scales of years to decades and are therefore relevant for temperature change over the 21st century. Because the total biogeophysical and non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedback is assessed to have a central value that is near zero (*low confidence*), including it does not affect the assessed ECS but does contribute to the net feedback uncertainty. The biogeochemical feedbacks that affect the atmospheric concentration of CO₂ are not included because ECS is defined as the response to a sustained doubling of CO₂. Moreover, the long-term feedbacks associated with ice sheets are not included in the ECS owing to their long time scales of adjustment. {5.4, 6.4, 7.4, 7.5, Box 7.1}

The net effect of changes in clouds in response to global warming is to amplify human-induced warming, that is, the net cloud feedback is positive (*high confidence*). Compared to AR5, major advances in the understanding of cloud processes have increased the level of confidence and decreased the uncertainty range

1 in the cloud feedback by about 50% (Figure TS.17a). An assessment of the low-altitude cloud feedback over
2 the subtropical ocean, which was previously the major source of uncertainty in the net cloud feedback, is
3 improved owing to a combined use of climate model simulations, satellite observations, and explicit
4 simulations of clouds, altogether leading to strong evidence that this type of cloud amplifies global warming.
5 The net cloud feedback is assessed to be $+0.42 [-0.10 \text{ to } 0.94] \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$. A net negative cloud feedback is
6 *very unlikely*. The CMIP5 and CMIP6 ranges of cloud feedback are similar to this assessed range, with
7 CMIP6 having a slightly more positive median cloud feedback (*high confidence*). The surface albedo
8 feedback and combined water vapour-lapse rate feedback are positive (Figure TS.17a), with *high confidence*
9 in the estimated value of each based on multiple lines of evidence, including observations, models, and
10 theory. {7.4.2, Figure 7.14, Table 7.10, Box TS.6}

11
12 Natural sources and sinks of non-CO₂ greenhouse gases such as methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O)
13 respond both directly and indirectly to atmospheric CO₂ concentration and climate change, and thereby give
14 rise to additional biogeochemical feedbacks in the climate system. Many of these feedbacks are only
15 partially understood and are not yet fully included in ESMs. There is *medium confidence* that the net
16 response of natural ocean and land CH₄ and N₂O sources to future warming will be increased emissions, but
17 the magnitude and timing of the responses of each individual process is known with *low confidence*. {5.4.7}

18
19 Non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedbacks induced from changes in emissions, abundances or lifetimes of SLCFs
20 mediated by natural processes or atmospheric chemistry are assessed to decrease ECS (Figure TS.17b).
21 These non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedbacks are estimated from ESMs, which since AR5 have advanced to
22 include a consistent representation of biogeochemical cycles and atmospheric chemistry. However, process-
23 level understanding of many biogeochemical feedbacks involving SLCFs, particularly natural emissions, is
24 still emerging, resulting in *low confidence* in the magnitude and sign of the feedbacks. The central estimate
25 of the total biogeophysical and non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedback is assessed to be $-0.01 [-0.27 \text{ to } +0.25]$
26 $\text{W m}^{-2} \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ (Figure TS.17a). {5.4.7, 5.4.8, 6.2.2, 6.4.5, 7.4, Table 7.10}

27
28 The combined effect of all known radiative feedbacks (physical, biogeophysical, and non-CO₂
29 biogeochemical) is to amplify the base climate response (in the absence of feedbacks), also known as the
30 Planck temperature response¹⁷ (*virtually certain*). Combining these feedbacks with the Planck response, the
31 net climate feedback parameter is assessed to be $-1.16 [-1.81 \text{ to } -0.51] \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$, which is slightly less
32 negative than that inferred from the overall ECS assessment. The combined water vapour and lapse rate
33 feedback makes the largest single contribution to global warming, whereas the cloud feedback remains the
34 largest contribution to overall uncertainty. Due to the state-dependence of feedbacks, as evidenced from
35 paleoclimate observations and from models, the net feedback parameter will increase (become less negative)
36 as global temperature increases. Furthermore, on long time scales the ice sheet feedback parameter is *very*
37 *likely* positive, promoting additional warming on millennial timescales as ice sheets come into equilibrium
38 with the forcing. (*high confidence*) {7.4.2, 7.4.3, Figure 7.14, Table 7.10}

39
40 The carbon cycle provides for additional feedbacks on climate owing to the sensitivity of land-atmosphere
41 and ocean-atmosphere carbon fluxes and storage to changes in climate and in atmospheric CO₂ (Figure
42 TS.17c). Because of the time scales associated with land and ocean carbon uptake, these feedbacks are
43 known to be scenario dependent. Feedback estimates deviate from linearity in scenarios of stabilizing or
44 reducing concentrations. With *high confidence*, increased atmospheric CO₂ will lead to increased land and
45 ocean carbon uptake, acting as a negative feedback on climate change. It is *likely* that a warmer climate will
46 lead to reduced land and ocean carbon uptake, acting as a positive feedback. {4.3.2, 5.4.1-5, Box TS.4}

47
48 Thawing terrestrial permafrost will lead to carbon release (*high confidence*), but there is *low confidence* in
49 the timing, magnitude and the relative roles of CO₂ versus CH₄ as feedback processes. An ensemble of
50 models projects CO₂ release from permafrost to be 3–41 PgC per 1°C of global warming by 2100, leading to
51 warming strong enough that it must be included in estimates of the remaining carbon budget but weaker than
52 the warming from fossil fuel burning. However, the incomplete representation of important processes, such

¹⁷ For reference, the Planck temperature response for a doubling of atmospheric CO₂ is approximately 1.2°C at equilibrium.

1 as abrupt thaw, combined with weak observational constraints, only allow *low confidence* in both the
 2 magnitude of these estimates and in how linearly proportional this feedback is to the amount of global
 3 warming. There is emerging evidence that permafrost thaw and thermokarst give rise to increased CH₄ and
 4 N₂O emissions, which leads to the combined radiative forcing from permafrost thaw being larger than from
 5 CO₂ emissions only. However, the quantitative understanding of these additional feedbacks is low,
 6 particularly for N₂O. These feedbacks, as well as potential additional carbon losses due to climate-induced
 7 fire feedback are not routinely included in Earth System models. {Box 5.1, 5.4.3, 5.4.7, 5.4.8, Box TS.9}

8
 9
 10 **[START FIGURE TS.17 HERE]**

11
 12 **Figure TS.17: An overview of physical and biogeochemical feedbacks in the climate system.** *The intent is to*
 13 *summarize assessed estimates of physical, biogeophysical and biogeochemical feedbacks on global*
 14 *temperature based on Chapters 5, 6 and 7. (a) Synthesis of physical, biogeophysical and non-CO₂*
 15 *biogeochemical feedbacks that are included in the definition of ECS assessed in this Technical*
 16 *Summary. These feedbacks have been assessed using multiple lines of evidence including*
 17 *observations, models and theory. The net feedback is the sum of the Planck response, water vapour*
 18 *and lapse rate, surface albedo, cloud, and biogeophysical and non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedbacks.*
 19 *Bars denote the mean feedback values and uncertainties represent very likely ranges; (b) Estimated*
 20 *values of individual biogeophysical and non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedbacks. The atmospheric*
 21 *methane lifetime and other non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedbacks have been calculated using global*
 22 *Earth System Model simulations from AerChemMIP, while the CH₄ and N₂O source responses to*
 23 *climate have been assessed for the year 2100 using a range of modelling approaches using simplified*
 24 *radiative forcing equations. The estimates represent the mean and 5-95% range. The level of*
 25 *confidence in these estimates is low owing to the large model spread. (c) carbon-cycle feedbacks as*
 26 *simulated by models participating in the C4MIP of CMIP6. An independent estimate of the additional*
 27 *positive carbon-cycle climate feedbacks from permafrost thaw, which is not considered in most*
 28 *C4MIP models, is added. The estimates represent the mean and 5-95% range. Note that these*
 29 *feedbacks act through modifying the atmospheric concentration of CO₂ and thus are not included in*
 30 *the definition of ECS, which assumes a doubling of CO₂ but are included in the definition and*
 31 *assessed range of TCRE. {Sections Box 5.1, 5.4.7, 5.4.8, 6.4.5, 7.4.2, Figure 5.29, Tables 6.9, 7.10}*

32
 33 **[END FIGURE TS.17 HERE]**

34 35 36 **TS.3.3 Temperature Stabilization, Net Zero Emissions and Mitigation**

37 38 **TS.3.3.1 Remaining Carbon Budgets and Temperature Stabilization**

39
 40 The near-linear relationship between cumulative CO₂ emissions and maximum global surface temperature
 41 increase caused by CO₂ implies that stabilizing human-induced global temperature increase at any level
 42 requires net anthropogenic CO₂ emissions to become zero. This near-linear relationship further implies that
 43 mitigation requirements for limiting warming to specific levels can be quantified in terms of a carbon budget
 44 (*high confidence*). Remaining carbon budget estimates have been updated since the AR5 with
 45 methodological improvements, resulting in larger estimates that are consistent with SR1.5. Several factors,
 46 including estimates of historical warming, future emissions from thawing permafrost, variations in projected
 47 non-CO₂ warming, and the global surface temperature change after cessation of CO₂ emissions, affect the
 48 exact value of carbon budgets (*high confidence*). {1.3.5, Box 1.2, 4.7.1, 5.5}

49
 50 Limiting further climate change would require substantial and sustained reductions of GHG emissions.
 51 Without net zero CO₂ emissions, and a decrease in the net non-CO₂ forcing (or sufficient net negative CO₂
 52 emissions to offset any further warming from net non-CO₂ forcing), the climate system will continue to
 53 warm. There is *high confidence* that mitigation requirements for limiting warming to specific levels over this
 54 century can be estimated using a carbon budget that relates cumulative CO₂ emissions to global mean
 55 temperature increase (Figure TS.18, Table TS.3). For the period 1850–2019, a total of 2390 ± 240 GtCO₂ of
 56 anthropogenic CO₂ has been emitted. Remaining carbon budgets (starting from 1 January 2020) for limiting

1 warming to 1.5°C, 1.7°C, and 2.0°C are estimated at 500 GtCO₂, 850 GtCO₂ and 1350 GtCO₂, respectively,
2 based on the 50th percentile of TCRE. For the 67th percentile, the respective values are 400 GtCO₂, 700
3 GtCO₂ and 1150 GtCO₂. The remaining carbon budget estimates for different temperature limits assume that
4 non-CO₂ emissions are mitigated consistent with the median reductions found in scenarios in the literature as
5 assessed in SR1.5, but they may vary by an estimated ±220 GtCO₂ depending on how deeply future non-CO₂
6 emissions are assumed to be reduced (Table TS.3). {5.5.2, 5.6, Box 5.2, 7.6}

7
8
9 **[START FIGURE TS.18 HERE]**

10 **Figure TS.18: Illustration of (a) relationship between cumulative emissions of CO₂ and global mean surface air**
11 **temperature increase and (b) the assessment of the remaining carbon budget from its**
12 **constituting components based on multiple lines of evidence.** Carbon budgets consistent with
13 various levels of additional warming are provided in Table 5.8 and should not be read from the
14 illustrations in either panel. In panel (a) thin black line shows historical CO₂ emissions together with
15 the assessed global surface temperature increase from 1850-1900 as assessed in Chapter 2 (Box 2.3).
16 The orange-brown range with its central line shows the estimated human-induced share of historical
17 warming. The vertical orange-brown line shows the assessed range of historical human-induced
18 warming for the 2010–2019 period relative to 1850-1900 (Chapter 3). The grey cone shows the
19 assessed *likely* range for the transient climate response to cumulative emissions of carbon dioxide
20 (TCRE) (Section 5.5.1.4), starting from 2015. Thin coloured lines show CMIP6 simulations for the
21 five scenarios of the WGI core set (SSP1-1.9, green; SSP1-2.6, blue; SSP2-4.5, yellow; SSP3-7.0, red;
22 SSP5-8.5, maroon), starting from 2015 and until 2100. Diagnosed carbon emissions are
23 complemented with estimated land-use change emissions for each respective scenario. Coloured areas
24 show the Chapter 4 assessed *very likely* range of global surface temperature projections and thick
25 coloured central lines the median estimate, for each respective scenario, relative to the original
26 scenario emissions. For panel (b), the remaining allowable warming is estimated by combining the
27 global warming limit of interest with the assessed historical human induced warming (Section
28 5.5.2.2.2), the assessed future potential non-CO₂ warming contribution (Section 5.5.2.2.3) and the
29 ZEC (Section 5.5.2.2.4). The remaining allowable warming (vertical blue bar) is subsequently
30 combined with the assessed TCRE (Section 5.5.1.4 and 5.5.2.2.1) and contribution of unrepresented
31 Earth system feedbacks (Section 5.5.2.2.5) to provide an assessed estimate of the remaining carbon
32 budget (horizontal blue bar, Table 5.8). Note that contributions in panel (b) are illustrative and are not
33 to scale. For example, the central ZEC estimate was assessed to be zero. {Box 2.3; Sections 5.2.1,
34 5.2.2; Figure 5.31}

35
36
37 **[END FIGURE TS.18 HERE]**

38
39
40 **[START TABLE TS.3 HERE]**

41 **Table TS.3: Estimates of remaining carbon budgets and their uncertainties.** Assessed estimates are provided
42 for additional human-induced warming, expressed as global surface temperature, since the recent past
43 (2010–2019), which *likely* amounted to 0.8° to 1.3°C with a best estimate of 1.07°C relative to 1850–
44 1900. Historical CO₂ emissions between 1850 and 2014 have been estimated at about 2180 ± 240
45 GtCO₂ (1-sigma range), while since 1 January 2015, an additional 210 GtCO₂ has been emitted until
46 the end of 2019. GtCO₂ values to the nearest 50. {Table 5.8, Table 3.1, Table 5.1, Table 5.7, 5.5.1,
47 5.5.2, Box 5.2}

Global surface temperature change since 2010–2019	Global surface temperature change since 1850–1900 *(1)	Estimated remaining carbon budgets starting from 1 January 2020 and subject to variations and uncertainties quantified in the columns on the right					Scenario variation	Geophysical uncertainties*(4)			
		Percentiles of TCRE*(2) GtCO ₂						Non-CO ₂ scenario variation *(3)	Non-CO ₂ forcing and response uncertainty	Historical temperature uncertainty*(1)	ZEC uncertainty
°C	°C	17th	33rd	50th	67th	83rd	GtCO ₂	GtCO ₂	GtCO ₂	GtCO ₂	GtCO ₂
0.43	1.5	900	650	500	400	300	Values can vary by at least ±220 due to choices related to non-CO ₂ emissions mitigation	Values can vary by at least ±220 due to uncertainty in the warming response to future non-CO ₂ emissions	±550	±420	±20
0.53	1.6	1200	850	650	550	400					
0.63	1.7	1450	1050	850	700	550					
0.73	1.8	1750	1250	1000	850	650					
0.83	1.9	2000	1450	1200	1000	800					
0.93	2	2300	1700	1350	1150	900					

*(1) Human-induced global surface temperature increase between 1850–1900 and 2010–2019 is assessed at 0.8–1.3°C (*likely* range; Cross-Section Box TS.1) with a best estimate of 1.07°C. Combined with a central estimate of TCRE (1.65 °C EgC⁻¹) this uncertainty in isolation results in a potential variation of remaining carbon budgets of ±550 GtCO₂, which, however, is not independent of the assessed uncertainty of TCRE and thus not fully additional.

*(2) TCRE: transient climate response to cumulative emissions of carbon dioxide, assessed to fall *likely* between 1.0–2.3°C EgC⁻¹ with a normal distribution, from which the percentiles are taken. Additional Earth system feedbacks are included in the remaining carbon budget estimates as discussed in Section 5.5.2.2.5.

*(3) Estimates assume that non-CO₂ emissions are mitigated consistent with the median reductions found in scenarios in the literature as assessed in SR1.5. Non-CO₂ scenario variations indicate how much remaining carbon budget estimates vary due to different scenario assumptions related to the future evolution of non-CO₂ emissions in mitigation scenarios from SR1.5 that reach net zero CO₂ emissions. This variation is additional to the uncertainty in TCRE. The WGIII Contribution to AR6 will reassess the potential for non-CO₂ mitigation based on literature since the SR1.5.

*(4) Geophysical uncertainties reported in these columns and TCRE uncertainty are not statistically independent, as uncertainty in TCRE depends on uncertainty in the assessment of historical temperature, non-CO₂ versus CO₂ forcing and uncertainty in emissions estimates. These estimates cannot be formally combined and these uncertainty variations are not directly additional to the spread of remaining carbon budgets due to TCRE uncertainty reported in columns 3 to 7.

*(5) Recent emissions uncertainty reflects the ±10% uncertainty in the historical CO₂ emissions estimate since 1 January 2015.

[END TABLE TS.3 HERE]

There is *high confidence* that several factors, including estimates of historical warming, future emissions from thawing permafrost, and variations in projected non-CO₂ warming, affect the value of carbon budgets but do not change the conclusion that global CO₂ emissions would need to decline to net zero to halt global warming. Estimates may vary by ±220 GtCO₂ depending on the level of non-CO₂ emissions at the time global anthropogenic CO₂ emissions reach net zero levels. This variation is referred to as non-CO₂ scenario uncertainty and will be further assessed in the AR6 Working Group III Contribution. Geophysical uncertainties surrounding the climate response to these non-CO₂ emissions result in an additional uncertainty of at least ±220 GtCO₂, and uncertainties in the level of historical warming result in a ±550 GtCO₂ uncertainty. {5.4, 5.5.2}

Methodological improvements and new evidence result in updated remaining carbon budget estimates. The assessment in AR6 applies the same methodological improvements as in SR1.5, which uses a recent observed baseline for historic temperature change and cumulative emissions. Changes compared to SR1.5 are therefore small: the assessment of new evidence results in updated median remaining carbon budget estimates for limiting warming to 1.5°C and 2°C being the same and about 60 GtCO₂ smaller, respectively, after accounting for emissions since SR1.5. Meanwhile, remaining carbon budgets for limiting warming to 1.5°C would be about 300–350 GtCO₂ larger if evidence and methods available at the time of the AR5 would be used. If a specific remaining carbon budget is exceeded, this results in a lower probability of keeping warming below a specified temperature level and higher irreversible global warming over decades to centuries, or alternatively a need for net negative CO₂ emissions or further reductions in non-CO₂ greenhouse gases after net zero CO₂ is achieved to return warming to lower levels in the long term. {5.5.2, 5.6, Box 5.2}

Based on idealized model simulations that explore the climate response once CO₂ emissions have been brought to zero, the magnitude of the zero CO₂ emissions commitment (ZEC, see Glossary) is assessed to be

1 *likely* smaller than 0.3°C for time scales of about half a century and cumulative CO₂ emissions broadly
2 consistent with global warming of 2°C. However, there is *low confidence* about its sign on time scales of
3 about half a century. For lower cumulative CO₂ emissions, the range would be smaller yet with equal
4 uncertainty about the sign. If the ZEC is positive on decadal time scales, additional warming leads to a
5 reduction in the estimates of remaining carbon budgets, and vice versa if it is negative. {4.7.1, 5.5.2}

6
7 Permafrost thaw is included in estimates together with other feedbacks that are often not captured by models.
8 Limitations in modelling studies combined with weak observational constraints only allow *low confidence* in
9 the magnitude of these estimates (TS.3.2.2). Despite the large uncertainties surrounding the quantification of
10 the effect of additional Earth system feedback processes, such as emissions from wetlands and permafrost
11 thaw, these feedbacks represent identified additional risk factors that scale with additional warming and
12 mostly increase the challenge of limiting warming to specific temperature levels. These uncertainties do not
13 change the basic conclusion that global CO₂ emissions would need to decline to net zero to halt global
14 warming. {Box 5.1, 5.4.8, 5.5.2}

15 TS.3.3.2 Carbon Dioxide Removal

16
17 Deliberate carbon dioxide removal (CDR) from the atmosphere has the potential to compensate for residual
18 CO₂ emissions to reach net zero CO₂ emissions or to generate net negative CO₂ emissions. In the same way
19 that part of current anthropogenic net CO₂ emissions are taken up by land and ocean carbon stores, net CO₂
20 removal will be partially counteracted by CO₂ release from these stores (*very high confidence*). Asymmetry
21 in the carbon cycle response to simultaneous CO₂ emissions and removals implies that a larger amount of
22 CO₂ would need to be removed to compensate for an emission of a given magnitude to attain the same
23 change in atmospheric CO₂ (*medium confidence*). CDR methods have wide-ranging side-effects that can
24 either weaken or strengthen the carbon sequestration and cooling potential of these methods and affect the
25 achievement of sustainable development goals (*high confidence*). {4.6.3, 5.6}

26
27 Carbon dioxide removal (CDR) refers to anthropogenic activities that deliberately remove CO₂ from the
28 atmosphere and durably store it in geological, terrestrial or ocean reservoirs, or in products. Carbon dioxide
29 is removed from the atmosphere by enhancing biological or geochemical carbon sinks or by direct capture of
30 CO₂ from air. Emission pathways that limit global warming to 1.5°C or 2°C typically assume the use of
31 CDR approaches in combination with GHG emissions reductions. CDR approaches could be used to
32 compensate for residual emissions from sectors that are difficult or costly to decarbonize. CDR could also be
33 implemented at a large scale to generate global net negative CO₂ emissions (i.e., anthropogenic CO₂
34 removals exceeding anthropogenic emissions), which could compensate for earlier emissions as a way to
35 meet long-term climate stabilization goals after a temperature overshoot. This Report assesses the effects of
36 CDR on the carbon cycle and climate. Co-benefits and trade-offs for biodiversity, water and food production
37 are briefly discussed for completeness, but a comprehensive assessment of the ecological and socio-
38 economic dimensions of CDR options is left to the WGII and WGIII reports. {4.6.3, 5.6}

39
40 CDR methods have the potential to sequester CO₂ from the atmosphere (*high confidence*). In the same way
41 part of current anthropogenic net CO₂ emissions are taken up by land and ocean carbon stores, net CO₂
42 removal will be partially counteracted by CO₂ release from these stores, such that the amount of CO₂
43 sequestered by CDR will not result in an equivalent drop in atmospheric CO₂ (*very high confidence*). The
44 fraction of CO₂ removed from the atmosphere that is not replaced by CO₂ released from carbon stores, a
45 measure of CDR effectiveness, decreases slightly with increasing amounts of removal (*medium confidence*)
46 and decreases strongly if CDR is applied at lower atmospheric CO₂ concentrations (*medium confidence*). The
47 reduction in global surface temperature is approximately linearly related to cumulative CO₂ removal (*high*
48 *confidence*). Because of this near-linear relationship, the amount of cooling per unit CO₂ removed is
49 approximately independent of the rate and amount of removal (*medium confidence*). {4.6.3, 5.6.2.1, Figure
50 5.32, Figure 5.34}

51
52 Due to non-linearities in the climate system, the century-scale climate–carbon cycle response to a CO₂
53 removal from the atmosphere is not always equal and opposite to its response to a simultaneous CO₂
54 emission (*medium confidence*). For CO₂ emissions of 100 PgC released from a pre-industrial from a state in

1 equilibrium with pre-industrial atmospheric CO₂ levels, CMIP6 models simulate that 27± 6% (mean ± 1
2 standard deviation) of emissions remain in the atmosphere 80–100 years after the emissions, whereas for
3 removals of 100 PgC only 23 ± 6% of removals remain out of the atmosphere. This asymmetry implies that
4 an extra amount of CDR is required to compensate for a positive emission of a given magnitude to attain the
5 same change in atmospheric CO₂. Due to *limited agreement* between models, there is *low confidence* in the
6 sign of the asymmetry of the temperature response to CO₂ emissions and removals. {4.6.3, 5.6.2.1, Figure
7 5.35}

8
9 Simulations with ESMs indicate that under scenarios where CO₂ emissions gradually decline, reach net zero
10 and become net negative during the 21st century (e.g., SSP1–2.6), land and ocean carbon sinks begin to
11 weaken in response to declining atmospheric CO₂ concentrations, and the land sink eventually turns into a
12 source (Figure TS.19). This sink-to-source transition occurs decades to a few centuries after CO₂ emissions
13 become net negative. The ocean remains a sink of CO₂ for centuries after emissions become net negative.
14 Under scenarios with large net negative CO₂ emissions (e.g., SSP5–3.4–OS) and rapidly declining CO₂
15 concentrations, the land source is larger than for SSP1–2.6 and the ocean also switches to a source. While the
16 general response is robust across models, there is *low confidence* in the timing of the sink-to-source
17 transition and the magnitude of the CO₂ source in scenarios with net negative CO₂ emissions. Carbon dioxide
18 removal could reverse some aspects climate change if CO₂ emissions become net negative, but some changes
19 would continue in their current direction for decades to millennia. For instance, sea level rise due to ocean
20 thermal expansion would not reverse for several centuries to millennia (*high confidence*) (Box TS.4). {4.6.3,
21 5.4.10, 5.6.2.1, Figure 5.30, Figure 5.33}

22
23
24 **[START FIGURE TS.19 HERE]**

25
26 **Figure TS.19: Carbon sink response in a scenario with net CO₂ removal from the atmosphere.** *The intent of this*
27 *figure is to show how atmospheric CO₂ evolves under negative emissions and its dependence on the*
28 *negative emissions technologies. It also shows the evolution of the ocean and land sinks. Shown are*
29 *CO₂ flux components from concentration-driven Earth system model simulations during different*
30 *emission stages of SSP1–2.6 and its long-term extension. (a) Large net positive CO₂ emissions, (b)*
31 *small net positive CO₂ emissions, (c) – (d) net negative CO₂ emissions, (e) net zero CO₂ emissions.*
32 *Positive flux components act to raise the atmospheric CO₂ concentration, whereas negative*
33 *components act to lower the CO₂ concentration. Net CO₂ emissions, land and ocean CO₂ fluxes*
34 *represent the multi-model mean and standard deviation (error bar) of four ESMs (CanESM5,*
35 *UKESM1, CESM2-WACCM, IPSL-CM6a-LR) and one EMIC (UVic ESCM). Net CO₂ emissions are*
36 *calculated from concentration-driven Earth system model simulations as the residual from the rate of*
37 *increase in atmospheric CO₂ and land and ocean CO₂ fluxes. Fluxes are accumulated over each 50-*
38 *year period and converted to concentration units (ppm). {5.6.2.1, Figure 5.33}*

39
40 **[END FIGURE TS.19 HERE]**

41
42
43 CDR methods have a range of side effects that can either weaken or strengthen the carbon sequestration and
44 cooling potential of these methods and affect the achievement of sustainable development goals (*high*
45 *confidence*). Biophysical and biogeochemical side-effects of CDR methods are associated with changes in
46 surface albedo, the water cycle, emissions of CH₄ and N₂O, ocean acidification and marine ecosystem
47 productivity (*high confidence*). These side-effects and associated Earth system feedbacks can decrease
48 carbon uptake and/or change local and regional climate and in turn limit the CO₂ sequestration and cooling
49 potential of specific CDR methods (*medium confidence*). Deployment of CDR, particularly on land, can also
50 affect water quality and quantity, food production and biodiversity (*high confidence*). These effects are often
51 highly dependent on local context, management regime, prior land use, and scale (*high confidence*). The
52 largest co-benefits are obtained with methods that seek to restore natural ecosystems or improve soil carbon
53 sequestration (*medium confidence*). The climate and biogeochemical effects of terminating CDR are
54 expected to be small for most CDR methods (*medium confidence*). {4.6.3, 5.6.2.2, 8.4.3, 8.6.3, Figure 5.36}

1 TS.3.3.3 Relating Different Forcing Agents

2
3 When including other GHGs, the choice of emission metric affects the quantification of net zero GHG
4 emissions and their resulting temperature outcome (*high confidence*). Reaching and sustaining net zero GHG
5 emissions typically leads to a peak and decline in temperatures when quantified with the global warming
6 potential over a 100-year period (GWP-100). Carbon-cycle responses are more robustly accounted for in
7 emission metrics compared to AR5 (*high confidence*). New emission metric approaches can be used to
8 generate equivalent cumulative emissions of CO₂ for short-lived greenhouse gases based on their rate of
9 emissions. {7.6.2}

10
11 Over 10- to 20-year time scales, the temperature response to a single year's worth of current emissions of
12 SLCFs is at least as large as that of CO₂, but because the effect of SLCFs decays rapidly over the first few
13 decades after emission, the net long-term temperature response to a single year's worth of emissions is
14 predominantly determined by cumulative CO₂ emissions. Emission reductions in 2020 associated with
15 COVID-19 containment led to small and positive global ERF; however, global and regional climate
16 responses to the forcing are undetectable above internal variability due to the temporary nature of emission
17 reductions. {6.6, Cross-Chapter Box 6.1}

18
19 The relative climate effects of different forcing agents are typically quantified using emission metrics that
20 compare the effects of an idealised pulse of 1 kg of some climate forcing agent against a reference climate
21 forcing agent, almost always CO₂. The two most prominent pulse emissions metrics are the global warming
22 potential (GWP) and global temperature change potential (GTP) (see Glossary). The climate responses to
23 CO₂ emissions by convention include the effects of warming on the carbon cycle, so for consistency these
24 need to be determined also for non-CO₂ emissions. The methodology for doing this has been placed on a
25 more robust scientific footing compared to AR5 (*high confidence*). Methane from fossil fuel sources has
26 slightly higher emission metric values than those from biogenic sources since it leads to additional fossil CO₂
27 in the atmosphere (*high confidence*). Updates to the chemical adjustments for methane and nitrous oxide
28 emissions (Section TS.3.1) and revisions in their lifetimes result in emission metrics for GWP and GTP that
29 are slightly lower than in AR5 (*medium confidence*). Emission metrics for the entire suite of GHGs assessed
30 in the AR6 have been calculated for various time horizons. {7.6.1, Table 7.15, Table 7.SM.7}

31
32 New emission metric approaches, such as GWP* and Combined-GTP (CGTP), relate changes in the
33 emission rate of short-lived greenhouse gases to equivalent cumulative emissions of CO₂ (cumulative CO₂-e
34 emissions). Global surface temperature response from aggregated emissions of short-lived greenhouse gases
35 over time is determined by multiplying these cumulative CO₂-e by TCRE (see TS.3.2.1). When GHGs are
36 aggregated using standard metrics such as GWP or GTP, cumulative CO₂-e emissions are not necessarily
37 proportional to future global surface temperature outcomes (*high confidence*) {Box 7.3, 7.6.1}

38
39 Emission metrics are needed to aggregate baskets of gases to determine net zero GHG emissions. Generally,
40 achieving net zero CO₂ emissions and declining non-CO₂ radiative forcing would halt human-induced
41 warming. Reaching net zero GHG emissions quantified by GWP-100 typically leads to declining
42 temperatures after net zero GHGs emissions are achieved if the basket includes short-lived gases, such as
43 methane. Net zero GHG emissions defined by CGTP or GWP* imply net zero CO₂ and other long-lived
44 GHG emissions and constant (CGTP) or gradually declining (GWP*) emissions of short-lived gases. The
45 warming evolution resulting from net zero GHG emissions defined in this way corresponds approximately to
46 reaching net zero CO₂ emissions, and would thus not lead to declining temperatures after net zero GHG
47 emissions are achieved but to an approximate temperature stabilization (*high confidence*). The choice of
48 emission metric hence affects the quantification of net zero GHG emissions, and therefore the resulting
49 temperature outcome of reaching and sustaining net zero GHG emissions levels (*high confidence*). {7.6.1.4,
50 7.6.2, 7.6.3}

51
52 As pointed out in AR5, ultimately, it is a matter for policymakers to decide which emission metric is most
53 applicable to their needs. This Report does not recommend the use of any specific emission metric as the
54 most appropriate metric depends on the policy goal and context (see Chapter 7, Section 7.6). A detailed

1 assessment of GHG metrics to support climate change mitigation and associated policy contexts is provided
2 in the WGIII contribution to the AR6.

3
4 The global surface temperature response following a climate change mitigation measure that affects
5 emissions of both short- and long-lived climate forcers depends on their lifetimes, their ERFs, how fast and
6 for how long the emissions are reduced, and the thermal inertia in the climate system. Mitigation, relying on
7 emission reductions and implemented through new legislation or technology standards, implies that
8 emissions reductions occur year after year. Global temperature response to a year's worth of current
9 emissions from different sectors informs about the mitigation potential (Figure TS.20). Over 10- to 20-year
10 time scales, the influence of SLCFs is at least as large as that of CO₂, with sectors producing the largest
11 warming being fossil fuel production and distribution, agriculture, and waste management. Because the
12 effect of the SLCFs decays rapidly over the first few decades after emission, the net long-term temperature
13 effect from a single year's worth of current emissions is predominantly determined by CO₂. Fossil fuel
14 combustion for energy, industry and land transportation are the largest contributing sectors on a 100-year
15 time scale (*high confidence*). Current emissions of CO₂, N₂O and SLCFs from East Asia and North America
16 are the largest regional contributors to additional net future warming on both short (*medium confidence*) and
17 long time scales (10 and 100 year) (*high confidence*). {6.6.1, 6.6.2, Figure 6.16}

18
19 COVID-19 restrictions led to detectable reductions in global anthropogenic NO_x (about 35% in April 2020)
20 and fossil CO₂ (7%, with estimates ranging from 5.8% to 13.0%) emissions, driven largely by reduced
21 emissions from the transportation sector (*medium confidence*). There is *high confidence* that, with the
22 exception of surface ozone, reductions in pollutant precursors contributed to temporarily improved air
23 quality in most regions of the world. However, these reductions were lower than that would be expected
24 from sustained implementation of policies addressing air quality and climate change (*medium confidence*).
25 Overall, the net global ERF from COVID-19 containment was likely small and positive for 2020 (with a
26 temporary peak value less than 0.2 W m⁻²), thus temporarily adding to the total anthropogenic climate
27 influence, with positive forcing (warming influence) from aerosol changes dominating over negative
28 forcings (cooling influence) from CO₂, NO_x and contrail cirrus changes. Consistent with this small net
29 radiative forcing, and against a large component of internal variability, Earth system models show no
30 detectable effect on global or regional surface temperature or precipitation (*high confidence*). {Cross Chapter
31 Box 6.1}

32
33
34 [START FIGURE TS.20 HERE]

35
36 **Figure TS.20: Global surface temperature change 10 and 100 years after a one-year pulse of present-day**
37 **emissions.** *This figure shows the sectoral contribution to present-day climate change by specific*
38 *climate forcers including CO₂ as well as SLCFs. The temperature response is broken down by*
39 *individual species and shown for total anthropogenic emissions (top), and sectoral emissions on 10-*
40 *year (left) and 100-year time scales (right). Sectors are sorted by (high-to-low) net temperature effect*
41 *on the 10-year time scale. Error bars in the top panel show the 5-95% range in net temperature effect*
42 *due to uncertainty in radiative forcing only (calculated using a Monte Carlo approach and best*
43 *estimate uncertainties from the literature). Emissions for 2014 are from the CMIP6 emissions dataset,*
44 *except for HFCs and aviation H₂O which rely on other datasets (see Section 6.6.2 for more details).*
45 *CO₂ emissions are excluded from open biomass burning and residential biofuel use. {6.6.2, Figure*
46 *6.16}*

47
48 [END FIGURE TS.20 HERE]

1 [START BOX TS.7 HERE]

2
3 **Box TS.7: Climate and Air Quality Responses to Short-lived Climate Forcers in Shared**
4 **Socioeconomic Pathways**
5

6 Future changes in emissions of short-lived climate forcers (SLCFs) are expected to cause an additional
7 global mean warming with a large diversity in the end-of-century response across the WGI core set of SSPs,
8 depending upon the level of climate change and air pollution mitigation. This additional warming is either
9 due to reductions in cooling aerosols for air pollution regulation or due to increases in methane, ozone and
10 HFCs. This additional warming is stable after 2040 in SSPs associated with lower global air pollution as long
11 as methane emissions are also mitigated, but the overall warming induced by SLCF changes is higher in
12 scenarios in which air quality continues to deteriorate (induced by growing fossil fuel use and limited air
13 pollution control) (*high confidence*). Sustained methane mitigation reduces global surface ozone,
14 contributing to air quality improvements and also reduces surface temperature in the longer term, but only
15 sustained CO₂ emission reductions allow long-term climate stabilization (*high confidence*). Future changes
16 in air quality (near-surface ozone and particulate matter, or PM) at global and local scales are predominantly
17 driven by changes in ozone and aerosol precursor emissions rather than climate (*high confidence*). Air
18 quality improvements driven by rapid decarbonization strategies, as in SSP1-1.9 and SSP1-2.6, are not
19 sufficient in the near term to achieve air quality guidelines set by the World Health Organization in some
20 highly polluted regions (*high confidence*). Additional policies (e.g., access to clean energy, waste
21 management) envisaged to attain United Nations Sustainable Development Goals bring complementary
22 SLCF reduction. {4.4.4, 6.6.3, 6.7.3, BOX TS.7 Figure 1, Box 6.2}

23
24 The net effect of SLCF emissions changes on temperature will depend on how emissions of warming and
25 cooling SLCFs will evolve in the future. The magnitude of the cooling effect of aerosols remains the largest
26 uncertainty in the effect of SLCFs in future climate projections. Since the SLCFs have undergone large
27 changes over the past two decades, the temperature and air pollution responses are estimated relative to year
28 2019 instead of 1995–2014.

29
30 **Temperature Response**

31 In the next two decades, it is *very likely* that SLCF emission changes will cause a warming relative to 2019,
32 across the WGI core set of SSPs (see TS.1.3.1), in addition to the warming from long-lived GHGs. The net
33 effect of SLFC and HFC changes in global surface temperature across the SSPs is a *likely* warming of
34 0.06°C–0.35°C in 2040 relative to 2019. This near-term global mean warming linked to SLCFs is quite
35 similar in magnitude across the SSPs due to competing effects of warming (methane, ozone) and cooling
36 (aerosols) forcers (Box TS.7, Figure 1). There is greater diversity in the end-of-century response among the
37 scenarios. SLCF changes in scenarios with no climate change mitigation (SSP3-7.0 and SSP5-8.5) will cause
38 a warming in the *likely* range of 0.4°C–0.9°C in 2100 relative to 2019 due to increases in methane,
39 tropospheric ozone and HFC levels. For the stringent climate change and pollution mitigation scenarios
40 (SSP1-1.9 and SSP1-2.6), the cooling from reductions in methane, ozone and HFCs partially balances the
41 warming from reduced aerosols, primarily sulphate, and the overall SLCF effect is a *likely* increase in global
42 surface temperature of 0.0°C–0.3°C in 2100, relative to 2019. With intermediate climate change and air
43 pollution mitigations, SLCFs in SSP2-4.5 add a *likely* warming of 0.2°C–0.5°C to global surface temperature
44 change in 2100, with the largest warming resulting from reductions in aerosols. {4.4.4, 6.7.3}

45
46 Assuming implementation and efficient enforcement of both the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol
47 on Ozone Depleting Substances and current national plans limit emissions (as in SSP1-2.6), the effects of
48 HFCs on global surface temperature, relative to 2019, would remain below +0.02°C from 2050 onwards
49 versus about +0.04°C–0.08°C in 2050 and +0.1°C–0.3°C in 2100 considering only national HFC regulations
50 decided prior to the Kigali Amendment (as in SSP5-8.5) (*medium confidence*). {6.6.3, 6.7.3}

51
52 **Air Quality Responses**

53 Air pollution projections range from strong reductions in global surface ozone and PM (e.g., SSP1-2.6, with
54 stringent mitigation of both air pollution and climate change) to no improvement and even degradation (e.g.,

1 SSP3-7.0 without climate change mitigation and with only weak air pollution control) (*high confidence*).
 2 Under the SSP3-7.0 scenario, PM levels are projected to increase until 2050 over large parts of Asia, and
 3 surface ozone pollution is projected to worsen over all continental areas through 2100 (*high confidence*). In
 4 SSP5-8.5, a scenario without climate change mitigation but with stringent air pollution control, PM levels
 5 decline through 2100, but high methane levels hamper the decline in global surface ozone at least until 2080
 6 (*high confidence*). {6.7.1}

7
 8
 9 **[START BOX TS.7, FIGURE 1 HERE]**

10
 11 **Box TS.7, Figure 1: Effects of short-lived climate forcers (SLCFs) on global surface temperature and air**
 12 **pollution across the WGI core set of Shared Socio-Economic Pathways (SSPs).** *The intent of*
 13 *this figure is to show the climate and air quality (surface ozone and PM_{2.5}) response to SLCFs in*
 14 *the SSP scenarios for near and long-term.* Effects of net aerosols, tropospheric ozone,
 15 hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) (with lifetimes less than 50 years), and methane are compared with
 16 those of total anthropogenic forcing for 2040 and 2100 relative to year 2019. The global surface
 17 temperature changes are based on historical and future evolution of Effective Radiative Forcing
 18 (ERF) as assessed in chapter 7 of this report. The temperature responses to the ERFs are calculated
 19 with a common impulse response function (R_T) for the climate response, consistent with the metric
 20 calculations in Chapter 7 (Box 7.1). The R_T has an equilibrium climate sensitivity of 3.0°C for a
 21 doubling of atmospheric CO₂ concentration (feedback parameter of $-1.31 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ °C}^{-1}$). The
 22 scenario total (grey bar) includes all anthropogenic forcings (long- and short-lived climate forcers,
 23 and land use changes). Uncertainties are 5-95% ranges. The global changes in air pollutant
 24 concentrations (ozone and PM_{2.5}) are based on multimodel CMIP6 simulations and represent
 25 changes in 5-year mean surface continental concentrations for 2040 and 2098 relative to 2019.
 26 Uncertainty bars represent inter-model ± 1 standard deviation. {6.7.2, 6.7.3, Figure 6.24}

27
 28 **[END BOX TS.7, FIGURE 1 HERE]**

29
 30 **[END BOX TS.7 HERE]**

31
 32
 33 **[START BOX TS.8 HERE]**

34
 35 **Box TS.8: Earth System Response to Solar Radiation Modification**

36
 37 Since AR5, further modelling work has been conducted on aerosol-based solar radiation modification (SRM)
 38 options such as stratospheric aerosol injection, marine cloud brightening, and cirrus cloud thinning¹⁸ and
 39 their climate and biogeochemical effects. These investigations have consistently shown that SRM could
 40 offset some of the effects of increasing GHGs on global and regional climate, including the carbon and water
 41 cycles (*high confidence*). However, there would be substantial residual or overcompensating climate change
 42 at the regional scales and seasonal time scales (*high confidence*), and large uncertainties associated with
 43 aerosol–cloud–radiation interactions persist. The cooling caused by SRM would increase the global land and
 44 ocean CO₂ sinks (*medium confidence*), but this would not stop CO₂ from increasing in the atmosphere or
 45 affect the resulting ocean acidification under continued anthropogenic emissions (*high confidence*). It is
 46 *likely* that abrupt water cycle changes will occur if SRM techniques are implemented rapidly. A sudden and
 47 sustained termination of SRM in a high CO₂ emissions scenario would cause rapid climate change (*high*
 48 *confidence*). However, a gradual phase-out of SRM combined with emission reduction and CDR would
 49 avoid these termination effects (*medium confidence*). {4.6.3, 5.6.3, 6.4.6, 8.6.3}.

50
 51 Solar radiation modification (SRM) refers to deliberate large-scale climate intervention options that are
 52 studied as potential supplements to deep mitigation, for example, in scenarios that overshoot climate
 53 stabilization goals. SRM options aim to offset some of the warming effects of GHG emissions by

¹⁸ Although cirrus cloud thinning aims to cool the planet by increasing longwave emissions to space, it is included in the portfolio of SRM options for consistency with AR5 and SR1.5. {4.6.3.3}

1 modification of the Earth's shortwave radiation budget. Following SR1.5, the SRM assessed in this report
2 also includes some options, such as cirrus cloud thinning, that alter the longwave radiation budget. SRM
3 contrasts with climate change mitigation activities, such as emission reductions and CDR, as it introduces a
4 'mask' to the climate change problem by altering the Earth's radiation budget, rather than attempting to
5 address the root cause of the problem, which is the increase in GHGs in the atmosphere. By masking only
6 the climate effects of GHG emissions, SRM does not address other issues related to atmospheric CO₂
7 increase, such as ocean acidification. The WGI report assesses physical understanding of the Earth system
8 response to proposed SRM and is based primarily on idealized climate model simulations. There are
9 important other considerations, such as risk to human and natural systems, perceptions, ethics, cost,
10 governance, and trans-boundary issues and their relationship to the United Nations Sustainable Development
11 Goals—issues that the WGII (Chapter 16) and WGIII (Chapter 14) reports address. {4.6.3}

12
13 SRM options include those that increase surface albedo, brighten marine clouds by increasing the amount of
14 cloud condensation nuclei, or reduce the optical depth of cirrus clouds by seeding them with ice nucleating
15 particles. However, the most commonly studied approaches attempt to mimic the cooling effects of major
16 volcanic eruptions by injecting reflective aerosols (e.g., sulphates) or their precursors (e.g., sulphur dioxide)
17 into the stratosphere. {4.6.3, 5.6.3, 6.4.6}

18
19 SRM could offset some effects of greenhouse gas-induced warming on global and regional climate, but there
20 would be substantial residual and overcompensating climate change at the regional scale and seasonal time
21 scales (*high confidence*). Since the AR5, more modelling work has been conducted with more sophisticated
22 treatment of aerosol-based SRM approaches, but the uncertainties in cloud–aerosol–radiation interactions are
23 still large (*high confidence*). Modelling studies suggest that it is possible to stabilize multiple large-scale
24 temperature indicators simultaneously by tailoring the deployment strategy of SRM options (*medium*
25 *confidence*) but with large residual or overcompensating regional and seasonal climate changes. {4.6.3}

26
27 SRM approaches targeting shortwave radiation are *likely* to reduce global mean precipitation, relative to
28 future CO₂ emissions scenarios, if all global mean warming is offset. In contrast, cirrus cloud thinning,
29 targeting longwave radiation, is expected to cause an increase in global mean precipitation (*medium*
30 *confidence*). If shortwave approaches are used to offset global mean warming, the magnitude of reduction in
31 regional precipitation minus evapotranspiration (P-E) (Box TS.5), which is more relevant to freshwater
32 availability, is smaller than precipitation decrease because of simultaneous reductions in both precipitation
33 and evapotranspiration (*medium confidence*). {4.6.3, 8.2.1, 8.6.3}.

34
35 If SRM is used to cool the planet, it would cause a reduction in plant and soil respiration and slow the
36 reduction of ocean carbon uptake due to warming (*medium confidence*). The result would be an enhancement
37 of the global land and ocean CO₂ sinks (*medium confidence*) and a slight reduction in atmospheric CO₂
38 concentration relative to unmitigated climate change. However, SRM would not stop CO₂ from increasing in
39 the atmosphere or affect the resulting ocean acidification under continued anthropogenic emissions (*high*
40 *confidence*). {5.6.3}

41
42 The effect of stratospheric aerosol injection on global temperature and precipitation is projected by models to
43 be detectable after one to two decades, which is similar to the time scale for the emergence of the benefits of
44 emissions reductions. A sudden and sustained termination of SRM in a high GHG emissions scenario would
45 cause rapid climate change and a reversal of the SRM effects on the carbon sinks (*high confidence*). It is also
46 *likely* that a termination of strong SRM would drive abrupt changes in the water cycle globally and
47 regionally, especially in the tropical regions by shifting the ITCZ and Hadley cells. At the regional scale,
48 non-linear responses cannot be excluded, due to changes in evapotranspiration. However, a gradual phase-
49 out of SRM combined with emissions reductions and CDR would avoid larger rates of changes (*medium*
50 *confidence*). {4.6.3, 5.6.3, 8.6.3}.

51
52 **[END BOX TS.8 HERE]**

1 [START BOX TS.9 HERE]
2

3 **Box TS.9: Irreversibility, Tipping Points and Abrupt Changes**
4

5 The present rate of response of many aspects of the climate system are proportionate to the rate of recent
6 temperature change, but some aspects may respond disproportionately. Some climate system components are
7 slow to respond, such as the deep ocean overturning circulation and the ice sheets. It is *virtually certain* that
8 irreversible, committed change is already underway for the slow-to-respond processes as they come into
9 adjustment for past and present emissions. The paleoclimate record indicates that tipping elements exist in
10 the climate system where processes undergo sudden shifts toward a different sensitivity to forcing, such as
11 during a major deglaciation, where one degree of temperature change might correspond to a large or small
12 ice sheet mass loss during different stages. For global climate indicators, evidence for abrupt change is
13 limited, but deep ocean warming, acidification and sea level rise are committed to ongoing change for
14 millennia after global surface temperatures initially stabilize and are irreversible on human time scales (*very*
15 *high confidence*). At the regional scale, abrupt responses, tipping points and even reversals in the direction of
16 change cannot be excluded (*high confidence*). Some regional abrupt changes and tipping points could have
17 severe local impacts, such as unprecedented weather, extreme temperatures and increased frequency of
18 droughts and forest fires. Models that exhibit such tipping points are characterised by abrupt changes once
19 the threshold is crossed, and even a return to pre-threshold surface temperatures or to atmospheric carbon
20 dioxide concentrations, does not guarantee that the tipping elements return to their pre-threshold state.
21 Monitoring and early warning systems are being put into place to observe tipping elements in the climate
22 system. {Box TS.2, Box TS.4, TS 3.3.2, 1.3, 1.4.4, 1.5, 4.3.2, Table 4.10, 5.3.4, 5.4.9, 7.5.3, 9.2.2, 9.2.4,
23 9.4.1, 9.4.2, 9.6.3, Cross-chapter Box 12.1}

24 Understanding of multi-decadal reversibility (i.e., the system returns to the previous climate state within
25 multiple decades after the radiative forcing is removed) has improved since AR5 for many atmospheric, land
26 surface and sea ice climate metrics following sea surface temperature recovery. Some processes suspected of
27 having tipping points, such as the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC), have been found to
28 often undergo recovery after temperature stabilization with a time delay (*low confidence*). However,
29 substantial irreversibility is further substantiated for some cryosphere changes, ocean warming, sea level rise,
30 and ocean acidification. {4.7.2, 5.3.3, 5.4.9, 9.2.2, 9.2.4, 9.4.1, 9.4.2, 9.6.3}
31

32 Some climate system components are slow to respond, such as the deep ocean overturning circulation and
33 the ice sheets. It is *likely* that under stabilization of global warming at 1.5°C, 2.0°C, or 3.0°C relative to
34 1850–1900, the AMOC will continue to weaken for several decades by about 15%, 20% and 30% of its
35 strength and then recover to pre-decline values over several centuries (*medium confidence*). At sustained
36 warming levels between 2°C and 3°C, there is limited evidence that the Greenland and West Antarctic Ice
37 Sheets will be lost almost completely and irreversibly over multiple millennia; both the probability of their
38 complete loss and the rate of mass loss increases with higher surface temperatures (*high confidence*). At
39 sustained warming levels between 3°C and 5°C, near-complete loss of the Greenland Ice Sheet and complete
40 loss of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet is projected to occur irreversibly over multiple millennia (*medium*
41 *confidence*); with substantial parts or all of Wilkes Subglacial Basin in East Antarctica lost over multiple
42 millennia (*low confidence*). Early-warning signals of accelerated sea-level-rise from Antarctica, could
43 possibly be observed within the next few decades. For other hazards (e.g., ice sheet behaviour, glacier mass
44 loss and global mean sea level change, coastal floods, coastal erosion, air pollution, and ocean acidification)
45 the time and/or scenario dimensions remain critical, and a simple and robust relationship with global
46 warming level cannot be established (*high confidence*). {4.3.2, 4.7.2, 5.4.3, 5.4.5, 5.4.8, 8.6, 9.2, 9.4, Box
47 9.3, Cross-Chapter Box 12.1}
48

49 For global climate indicators, evidence for abrupt change is limited. For global warming up to 2°C above
50 1850-1900 levels, paleoclimate records do not indicate abrupt changes in the carbon cycle (*low confidence*).
51 Despite the wide range of model responses, uncertainty in atmospheric CO₂ by 2100 is dominated by future
52 anthropogenic emissions rather than uncertainties related to carbon-climate feedbacks (*high confidence*).
53 There is no evidence of abrupt change in climate projections of global temperature for the next century: there
54 is a near-linear relationship between cumulative CO₂ emissions and maximum global mean surface air
55

1 temperature increase caused by CO₂ over the course of this century for global warming levels up to at least
2 2°C relative to 1850-1900. The increase in global ocean heat content (TS2.4) will likely continue until at
3 least 2300 even for low-emission scenarios, and global mean sea level rise will continue to rise for centuries
4 to millennia following cessation of emissions (Box TS.4) due to continuing deep ocean heat uptake and mass
5 loss of the Greenland and Antarctic Ice Sheets (*high confidence*). {2.2.3; Cross-Chapter Box 2.1; 5.1.1; 5.4;
6 Cross-Chapter Box 5.1; Figures 5.3, 5.4, 5.25, 5.26; 9.2.2; 9.2.4}

7
8 The response of biogeochemical cycles to anthropogenic perturbations can be abrupt at regional scales and
9 irreversible on decadal to century time scales (*high confidence*). The probability of crossing uncertain
10 regional thresholds increases with climate change (*high confidence*). It is *very unlikely* that gas clathrates
11 (mostly methane) in deeper terrestrial permafrost and subsea clathrates will lead to a detectable departure
12 from the emissions trajectory during this century. Possible abrupt changes and tipping points in
13 biogeochemical cycles lead to additional uncertainty in 21st century atmospheric GHG concentrations, but
14 future anthropogenic emissions remain the dominant uncertainty (*high confidence*). There is potential for
15 abrupt water cycle changes in some high-emission scenarios, but there is no overall consistency regarding
16 the magnitude and timing of such changes. Positive land surface feedbacks, including vegetation, dust, and
17 snow, can contribute to abrupt changes in aridity, but there is only *low confidence* that such changes will
18 occur during the 21st century. Continued Amazon deforestation, combined with a warming climate, raises
19 the probability that this ecosystem will cross a tipping point into a dry state during the 21st century (*low*
20 *confidence*). {TS3.2.2, 5.4.3, 5.4.5, 5.4.8, 5.4.9, 8.6.2, 8.6.3, Cross-chapter Box 12.1}

21
22 [END BOX TS.9 HERE]

23 24 25 **TS.4 Regional Climate Change**

26
27 This section focuses on how to generate regional climate change information and its relevance for climate
28 services; the drivers of regional climate variability and change, and how they are being affected by
29 anthropogenic factors; and observed, attributed and projected changes in climate, including extreme events
30 and climatic impact-drivers (CID), across all regions of the world. There is a small set of CID changes common
31 to all land or ocean regions and a specific set of changes from a broader range of CIDs seen in each region.
32 This regional diversity results from regional climate being determined by a complex interplay between the
33 seasonal-to-multidecadal variation of large-scale modes of climate variability, external natural and
34 anthropogenic forcings, local climate processes and related feedbacks.

35 36 37 **TS.4.1 Generation and Communication of Regional Climate Change Information**

38
39 Climate change information at regional scale is generated using a range of data sources and methodologies.
40 Multi-model ensembles and models with a range of resolutions are important data sources, and discarding
41 models that fundamentally misrepresent relevant processes improves the credibility of ensemble information
42 related to these processes. A key methodology is distillation, combining lines of evidence and accounting for
43 stakeholder context and values, which helps ensure the information is relevant, useful and trusted for decision
44 making (see Core Concepts Box) (*high confidence*). Since the AR5, physical climate storylines have emerged
45 as a complementary approach to ensemble projections to generate more accessible climate information and
46 promote a more comprehensive treatment of risk. They have been used as part of the distillation process within
47 climate services to generate the required context-relevant, credible and trusted climate information. Since AR5,
48 climate change information produced for climate services has increased significantly due to scientific and
49 technological advancements and growing user awareness, requirements, and demand (*very high confidence*).
50 The decision-making context, level of user engagement and co-production between scientists, practitioners
51 and users are important determinants of the type of climate service developed and its utility in supporting
52 adaptation, mitigation and risk management decisions. {Box TS.1, 10.3, Cross-Chapter Box 10.3, 10.6, 12.6,
53 Cross-chapter Box 12.2, Box TS.3}

1 *TS.4.1.1 Sources and Methodologies for Generating Regional Climate Information*

2
3 Climate change information at regional scale is generated using a range of data sources and methodologies
4 (TS.1.4). Understanding observed regional climate change and variability is based on the availability and
5 analysis of multiple observational datasets that are suitable for evaluating the phenomena of interest (e.g.,
6 extreme events), including accounting for observational uncertainty. These datasets are combined with climate
7 model simulations of observed changes and events to attribute causes of those changes and events to large-
8 and regional-scale anthropogenic and natural drivers and to assess the performance of the models. Future
9 simulations with many climate models (multi-model ensembles) are then used to generate and quantify ranges
10 of projected regional climate responses. Discarding models that fundamentally misrepresent relevant processes
11 improves the credibility of regional climate information generated from these ensembles (*high confidence*).
12 However, multi-model mean and ensemble spread are not a full measure of the range of projection uncertainty
13 and are not sufficient to characterize low-likelihood, high-impact changes (Box TS.3) or situations where
14 different models simulate substantially different or even opposite changes (*high confidence*). Large single-
15 model ensembles are now available and provide a more comprehensive spectrum of possible changes
16 associated with internal variability (*high confidence*). {1.5.1, 1.5.4, 10.2, 10.3.3, 10.3.4, 10.4.1, 10.6.2, 11.2,
17 Box 11.2, Cross-chapter Box 11.1, 12.4, Atlas.1.4.1, TS.1.2.1, TS.1.2.3, TS.4.2}

18
19 Depending on the region of interest, representing regionally important forcings (e.g., aerosols, land-use change
20 and ozone concentrations) and feedbacks (e.g., between snow and albedo, soil-moisture and temperature, soil-
21 moisture and precipitation) in climate models is a prerequisite for them to reproduce past regional trends to
22 underpin the reliability of future projections (*medium confidence*). In some cases, even the sign of a projected
23 change in regional climate cannot be trusted if relevant regional processes are not represented, for example,
24 for variables such as precipitation and wind speed (*medium confidence*). In some regions, either geographical
25 (e.g., Central Africa, Antarctica) or typological (e.g., mountainous areas, Small Islands and cities), and for
26 certain phenomena, fewer observational records are available or accessible, which limits the assessment of
27 regional climate change in these cases. {1.5.1, 1.5.3, 1.5.4, 8.5.1, 10.2, 10.3.3, 10.4.1, 11.1.6, 11.2, 12.4,
28 Atlas.8.3, Atlas.11.1.5, Cross-Chapter Box Atlas.2, TS.1.2.2}

29
30 Methodologies such as statistical downscaling, bias adjustment and weather generators are beneficial as an
31 interface between climate model projections and impact modelling and for deriving user-relevant indicators
32 (*high confidence*). However, the performance of these techniques depends on that of the driving climate model:
33 in particular, bias adjustment cannot overcome all consequences of unresolved or strongly misrepresented
34 physical processes such as large-scale circulation biases or local feedbacks (*medium confidence*). {10.3.3,
35 Cross-Chapter Box 10.2, 12.2, Atlas.2.2}

36
37
38 **[START BOX TS.10 HERE]**

39 **Box TS.10: Event Attribution**

40
41
42 The attribution of observed changes in extremes to human influence (including greenhouse gas and aerosol
43 emissions and land-use changes) has substantially advanced since AR5, in particular for extreme
44 precipitation, droughts, tropical cyclones, and compound extremes (*high confidence*). There is limited
45 evidence for windstorms and convective storms. Some recent hot extreme events would have been *extremely*
46 *unlikely* to occur without human influence on the climate system. (TS.1) {Cross-Working Group Box:
47 Attribution, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.6, 11.7, 11.8}

48
49 Since AR5, the attribution of extreme weather events has emerged as a growing field of climate research
50 with an increasing body of literature. It provides evidence that greenhouse gases and other external forcings
51 have affected individual extreme weather events by disentangling anthropogenic drivers from natural
52 variability. Event attribution is now an important line of evidence for assessing changes in extremes on
53 regional scales. {Cross-Working Group Box: Attribution, TS.1, 11.1.4}

1 The regional extremes and events that have been studied are geographically uneven. A few events, for
2 example, extreme rainfall events in the UK, heat waves in Australia, or Hurricane Harvey that hit Texas in
3 2017, have been heavily studied. Many highly impactful extreme weather events have not been studied in the
4 event attribution framework, particularly in the developing world where studies are generally lacking. This is
5 due to various reasons, including lack of observational data, lack of reliable climate models, and lack of
6 scientific capacity. While the events that have been studied are not representative of all extreme events that
7 have occurred, and results from these studies may also be subject to selection bias, the large number of event
8 attribution studies provide evidence that changes in the properties of these local and individual events are in
9 line with expected consequences of human influence on the climate and can be attributed to external drivers.
10 {Cross-Working Group Box: Attribution, TS.4.1, 11.1.4, 11.2.2}

11
12 It is *very likely* that human influence is the main contributor to the observed increase in the intensity and
13 frequency of hot extremes and the observed decrease in the intensity and frequency of cold extremes on
14 continental scales. Some specific recent hot extreme events would have been *extremely unlikely* to occur
15 without human influence on the climate system. Changes in aerosol concentrations have *likely* slowed the
16 increase in hot extremes in some regions in particular from 1950–1980. No-till farming, irrigation, and crop
17 expansion have similarly attenuated increases in summer hot extremes in some regions, such as central North
18 America (*medium confidence*). {11.3.4}

19
20 Human influence has contributed to the intensification of heavy precipitation in three continents where
21 observational data are most abundant, including North America, Europe and Asia (*high confidence*). On
22 regional scales, evidence of human influence on extreme precipitation is limited, but new evidence from
23 attributing individual heavy precipitation events found that human influence was a significant driver of the
24 events. {11.4.4}

25
26 There is *low confidence* that human influence has affected trends in meteorological droughts in most regions,
27 but *medium confidence* that they have contributed to the severity of some specific events. There is *medium*
28 *confidence* that human-induced climate change has contributed to increasing trends in the probability or
29 intensity of recent agricultural and ecological droughts, leading to an increase of the affected land area.
30 {11.6.4}

31
32 Event attribution studies of specific strong tropical cyclones provide limited evidence for anthropogenic
33 effects on tropical cyclone intensifications so far, but *high confidence* for increases in precipitation. There is
34 *high confidence* that anthropogenic climate change contributed to extreme rainfall amounts during Hurricane
35 Harvey (2017) and other intense tropical cyclones. {11.7.3}

36
37 The number of evident attribution studies on compound events is limited. There is *medium confidence* that
38 weather conditions that promote wildfires have become more probable in southern Europe, northern Eurasia,
39 the USA, and Australia over the last century. In Australia a number of event attribution studies show that
40 there is *medium confidence* of increase in fire weather conditions due to human influence. {11.8.3, 12.4.3.2}

41 42 43 [START BOX TS.10, FIGURE 1 HERE]

44
45 **Box TS.10, Figure 1: Synthesis of assessed observed changes and human influence of hot extremes (panel a),**
46 **heavy precipitation (panel b) and agricultural and ecological drought (panel c) for the**
47 **IPCC AR6 regions (displayed as hexagons).** The colours in each panel represent the four
48 outcomes of the assessment on the observed changes: In Panel a): red – at least *medium*
49 *confidence* in an observed increase in hot extremes; blue – at least *medium confidence* in an
50 observed decrease in hot extremes; white – no significant change in hot extremes is observed for
51 the region as a whole; grey – the evidence in this region is insufficient (because of a lack of data
52 and/or literature) to make an assessment for the region as a whole. In panel b): green – at least
53 *medium confidence* in an observed increase in heavy rainfall; yellow - at least *medium*
54 *confidence* in an observed decrease in heavy rainfall; white – no significant change in heavy
55 rainfall is observed for the region as a whole; grey – the evidence in this region is insufficient

(because of a lack of data and/or literature) to make an assessment for the region as a whole. In panel c): yellow – at least *medium confidence* in an observed increase in agricultural and ecological drought; green - at least *medium confidence* in an observed decrease in agricultural and ecological drought; white – no significant change in agricultural and ecological drought is observed for the region as a whole; grey – the evidence in this region is insufficient (because of a lack of data and/or literature) to make an assessment for the region as a whole. Each panel represents in addition the synthesis of assessment of the human influence on the observed changes based on available trend detection and attribution and event attribution scientific publications. The level of confidence is indicated by a number of dots: *high confidence* (three dots), *medium confidence* (two dots), *low confidence* (one dot), and when no assessment is possible, due to insufficient evidence for the specific region (horizontal bar). For hot extremes, the evidence is mostly drawn from changes in metrics based on daily maximum temperatures, regional studies using other metrics (heatwave duration, frequency and intensity) are used in addition {11.9.2}. For heavy precipitation, the evidence is mostly drawn from changes in metrics based on one-day or five-day precipitation amounts using global and regional studies {11.9.3}. Agricultural and ecological droughts are assessed based on observed and projected changes in total column soil moisture, complemented by evidence on changes in surface soil moisture, water-balance (precipitation minus evapotranspiration) and metrics driven by precipitation and atmospheric evaporative demand. {11.9.3} All assessments are made for each AR6 region as a whole and for the timeframe from 1950 to present thus, more local or assessment made on shorter time scales might differ from what is shown in the figure. {11.9, Table TS.5}.

[END BOX TS.10, FIGURE 1 HERE]

[END BOX TS.10 HERE]

TS.4.1.2 Regional Climate Information Distillation and Climate Services

The construction of regional climate information involves people with a variety of backgrounds, from various disciplines, who have different sets of experiences, capabilities and values. The process of synthesizing climate information from different lines of evidence from a number of sources, taking into account the context of a user vulnerable to climate variability and change and the values of all relevant actors, is called distillation. Distillation is conditioned by the sources available, the actors involved and the context, which all depend heavily on the regions considered, and framed by the question being addressed. Distilling regional climate information from multiple lines of evidence and taking the user context into account increases fitness, usefulness, relevance and trust in that information for use in climate services (Box TS.11) and decision-making (*high confidence*). {1.2.3, 10.1.4, 10.5, Cross-Chapter Box 10.3, 12.6}

The distillation process can vary substantially, as it needs to consider multiple lines of evidence on all physically plausible outcomes (especially when they are contrasting) relevant to a specific decision required in response to a changing climate. Confidence in the distilled regional climate information is enhanced when there is agreement across multiple lines of evidence, so the outcome can be limited if these are inconsistent or contradictory. For example, in the Mediterranean region the agreement between different lines of evidence such as observations, projections by regional and global models, and understanding of the underlying mechanisms provides *high confidence* in summer warming that exceeds the global average (see Box TS.12). In a less clear-cut case for Cape Town, despite consistency among global model future projections, there is *medium confidence* in a projected future drier climate due to the lack of consistency in links between increasing greenhouse gases, changes in a key mode of variability (the Southern Annular Mode) and drought in Cape Town among different observation periods and in model simulations. {10.5.3, 10.6, 10.6.2, 10.6.4, Cross-Chapter Box 10.3, 12.4}

Since the AR5, physical climate storyline approaches have emerged as a complementary instrument to provide a different perspective on or additional climate information, to facilitate communication of the information or provide a more flexible consideration of risk. Storylines that condition climatic events and processes on a set of plausible but distinct large-scale climatic changes enable the exploration of uncertainties in regional climate projections. For example, they can explicitly address low-likelihood, high-impact outcomes, which would be

1 less emphasized in a probabilistic approach, and can be embedded in a user's risk landscape, taking account
2 of socio-economic factors as well as physical climate changes. Storylines can also be used to communicate
3 climate information by narrative elements describing and contextualising the main climatological features and
4 the relevant consequences in the user context and, as such, can be used as part of a climate information
5 distillation process. {1.4.4., Box 10.2, Box 11.2, 11.2, Cross-chapter Box 12.2}

6
7
8 **[START BOX TS.11 HERE]**

9 **Box TS.11: Climate Services**

10
11
12 Climate services involve providing climate information to assist decision-making, for example, about how
13 extreme rainfall will change to inform improvements in urban drainage. Since AR5, there has been a significant
14 increase in the range and diversity of climate service activities (*very high confidence*). The level of user-
15 engagement, co-design and co-production are factors determining the utility of climate services, while resource
16 limitations for these activities constrain their full potential. {12.6, Cross-Chapter Box 12.2}

17
18 Climate services include engagement from users and providers and an effective access mechanism; they are
19 responsive to user needs and based on integrating scientifically credible information and relevant expertise.
20 Climate services are being developed across regions, sectors, time scales and users-groups and include a range
21 of knowledge brokerage and integration activities. These involve identifying knowledge needs; compiling,
22 translating and disseminating knowledge; coordinating networks and building capacity through informed
23 decision-making; analysis, evaluation and development of policy; and personal consultation.

24
25 Since AR5, climate change information produced in climate service contexts has increased significantly due
26 to scientific and technological advancements and growing user awareness, requirements, and demand (*very*
27 *high confidence*). Climate services are growing rapidly and are highly diverse in their practices and products.
28 The decision-making context, level of user engagement and co-production between scientists, practitioners
29 and intended users are important determinants of the type of climate service developed and their utility for
30 supporting adaptation, mitigation and risk management decisions. They require different types of user-
31 producer engagement depending on what the service aims to deliver (*high confidence*), and these fall into three
32 broad categories: website-based services, interactive group activities and focused relationships.

33
34 Realization of the full potential of climate services is often hindered by limited resources for the co-design and
35 co-production process, including sustained engagement between scientists, service providers and users (*high*
36 *confidence*). Further challenges relate to the development and provision of climate services, generation of
37 climate service products, communication with users, and evaluation of their quality and socio-economic
38 benefit. {TS.4.1, 1.2.3, 10.5.4, 12.6, Cross-Chapter Box 12.2, Glossary}

39
40 **[END BOX TS.11 HERE]**

41
42
43 **[START BOX TS.12 HERE]**

44 **Box TS.12: Multiple Lines of Evidence for Assessing Regional Climate Change and the Interactive** 45 **Atlas**

46
47
48 A key novel element in the AR6 is the WGI Atlas, which includes the Interactive Atlas. The Interactive Atlas
49 provides the ability to explore much of the observational and climate model data used as lines of evidence in
50 this assessment to generate regional climate information. {10.6.4, Atlas.2, Interactive Atlas}

51
52 A significant innovation in the AR6 WGI report is the Atlas. Part of its remit is to provide region-by-region
53 assessment on changes in mean climate and to link with other WGI chapters to generate climate change
54 information for the regions. An important component is the new online interactive tool, the Interactive Atlas,

1 with flexible spatial and temporal analyses of much of the observed, simulated past and projected future
2 climate change data underpinning the WGI assessment. This includes the ability to generate global maps and
3 a number of regionally aggregated products (time series, scatter plots, tables, etc.) for a range of observations
4 and ensemble climate change projections of variables (such as changes in the CIDs summarized in Table TS.5)
5 from CMIP5, CORDEX and CMIP6. The data can be displayed and summarized under a range of SSP-RCP
6 scenarios and future time slices and also for different global warming levels, relative to several different
7 baseline periods. The maps and various statistics can be generated for annual mean trends and changes or for
8 any user-specified season. A new set of WGI reference regions is used for the regional summary statistics and
9 applied widely throughout the report (with the regions available, along with aggregated datasets and the code
10 to generate these at the ATLAS GitHub: <https://github.com/IPCC-WG1/Atlas>).

11
12 Box TS.12, Figure 1 shows how the Interactive Atlas products, together with other lines of evidence, can be
13 used to generate climate information for an illustrative example of the Mediterranean summer warming. The
14 lines of evidence include the understanding of relevant mechanisms, dynamic and thermodynamic processes
15 and the effect of aerosols in this case (Box TS.12, Figure 1a), trends in observational datasets (which can have
16 different spatial and temporal coverage – Box TS.12, Figure 1b, c), attribution of these trends and temperature
17 projections from global and regional climate models at different resolutions, including single-model initial-
18 condition large ensembles (SMILEs; Box TS.12, Figure 1d, e). Taken together, this evidence shows there is
19 *high confidence* that the projected Mediterranean summer temperature increase will be larger than in the global
20 mean with consistent results from CMIP5 and CMIP6 (Box TS.12, Figure 1e). However, CMIP6 results project
21 both more pronounced warming than CMIP5 for a given emissions scenario and time period and a greater
22 range of changes (Box TS.12, Figure 1d). {10.6.4, Atlas.2, Interactive Atlas}

23
24
25 **[START BOX TS.12, FIGURE 1 HERE]**

26
27 **Box TS.12, Figure 1:** **Example of generating regional climate information from multiple lines of evidence for the**
28 **case of Mediterranean summer warming, with indication of the information available from**
29 **the Interactive Atlas.** (a) Mechanisms and feedbacks involved in enhanced Mediterranean
30 summer warming. (b) Locations of observing stations from different datasets. (c) Distribution of
31 1960–2014 summer temperature trends (°C per decade) for observations (black crosses), CMIP5
32 (blue circles), CMIP6 (red circles), HighResMIP (orange circles), CORDEX EUR-44 (light blue
33 circles), CORDEX EUR-11 (green circles), and selected single Model Initial-condition Large
34 Ensembles - SMILEs (grey boxplots, MIROC6, CSIRO-Mk3-6-0, MPI-ESM and d4PDF). (d)
35 Time series of area averaged (25°N–50°N, 10°W–40°E) land point summer temperature
36 anomalies (°C, baseline period is 1995–2014): the boxplot shows long term (2081–2100)
37 temperature changes of different CMIP6 scenarios in respect to the baseline period. (e) Projected
38 Mediterranean summer warming in comparison to global annual mean warming of CMIP5
39 (RCP2.6, RCP4.5, RCP6.0 and RCP8.5) and CMIP6 (SSP1-2.6, SSP2-4.5, SSP3-7.0 and SSP5-
40 8.5) ensemble means (lines) and spread (shading). {Figure 10.20, Figure 10.21, Figure Atlas.8}

41
42 **[END BOX TS.12, FIGURE 1 HERE]**

43
44 **[END BOX TS.12 HERE]**

45 46 47 **TS.4.2 Drivers of Regional Climate Variability and Change**

48
49 Anthropogenic forcing, including GHGs and aerosols but also regional land use and irrigation have all affected
50 observed regional climate changes (*high confidence*) and will continue to do so in the future (*high confidence*),
51 with various degrees of influence and response times, depending on warming levels, the nature of the forcing
52 and the relative importance of internal variability. Since the late 19th century, major modes of variability
53 (MoVs) exhibited fluctuations in frequency and magnitude at multi-decadal time scales, but no sustained trends
54 outside the range of internal variability (Table TS.4). An exception is the Southern Annular Mode (SAM),
55 which has become systematically more positive (*high confidence*) and is projected to be more positive in all
56 seasons, except for December-January-February (DJF), in high CO₂ emissions scenarios (*high confidence*).

1 The influence of stratospheric ozone forcing on the SAM trend has been reduced since the early 2000s
2 compared to earlier decades, contributing to the weakening of its positive trend as observed over 2000–2019
3 (*medium confidence*). In the near-term, projected changes in most of the MoVs and related teleconnections
4 will *likely* be dominated by internal variability. In the long-term, it is *very likely* that the precipitation variance
5 related to El Niño–Southern Oscillation will increase. Physical climate storylines, including the complex
6 interplay between climate drivers, MoVs, and local and remote forcing, increase confidence in the
7 understanding and use of observed and projected regional changes. {2.4, 3.7, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 6.4, 8.3, 8.4, 10.3,
8 10.4, 11.3}

9 10 11 *TS.4.2.1 Regional Fingerprints of Anthropogenic and Natural Forcing*

12
13 While anthropogenic forcing has contributed to multi-decadal mean precipitation changes in several regions,
14 internal variability can delay emergence of the anthropogenic signal in long-term precipitation changes in
15 many land regions (*high confidence*). At the regional scale, the effect of human-induced GHG forcing on
16 extreme temperature is moderated or amplified by soil moisture feedback, snow/ice-albedo feedback, regional
17 forcing from land-use/land-cover changes, forcing from aerosol concentrations, or decadal/multi-decadal
18 natural variability. Changes in local and remote aerosol forcings lead to south-north gradients of the effective
19 radiative forcing (ERF) (hemispherical asymmetry). Along latitudes, it is more uniform with strong
20 amplification of the temperature response towards the Arctic (*medium confidence*). The decrease of SO₂
21 emissions since the 1980s reduces the damping effect of aerosols, leading to a faster increase in surface air
22 temperature that is most pronounced at mid- and high latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere, where the largest
23 emission reductions have taken place (*medium confidence*). {1.3, 3.4.1, 6.3.4, 6.4.1, 6.4.3, 8.3.1, 8.3.2, Box
24 8.1, 10.4.2, 10.6, 11.1.6, 11.3}

25
26 Multidecadal dimming and brightening trends in incoming solar radiation at the Earth's surface occurred at
27 widespread locations (*high confidence*). Multi-decadal variation in anthropogenic aerosol emissions are
28 thought to be a major contributor (*medium confidence*), but multi-decadal variability in cloudiness may also
29 have played a role. Volcanic eruptions affect regional climate through their spatially heterogeneous effect on
30 the radiative budget as well as through triggering dynamical responses by favouring a given phase from some
31 MoVs, for instance. {1.4.1, Cross-Chapter Box 1.2, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 3.7.1, 3.7.3, 4.3.1, 4.4.1, 4.4.4, Cross-Chapter
32 Box 4.1, 7.2.2, 8.5.2, 10.1.4, 11.1.6, 11.3.1}

33
34 Historical urbanization affects the observed warming trends in cities and their surroundings (*very high*
35 *confidence*). Future urbanization will amplify the projected air temperature under different background
36 climates, with a strong effect on minimum temperatures that could be as large as the global warming signal
37 (*very high confidence*). Irrigation and crop expansion have attenuated increases in summer hot extremes in
38 some regions, such as central North America (*medium confidence*). {Box 10.3, 11.1.6, 11.3, Box TS.6, Box
39 TS.14}

40 41 42 *TS.4.2.2 Modes of Variability and Regional Teleconnections*

43
44 Modes of Variability (MoVs) (Annex IV, Table TS.4) have existed for millennia or longer (*high confidence*),
45 but there is *low confidence* in detailed reconstructions of most of them prior to direct instrumental records.
46 MoVs are treated as a main source of uncertainties associated with internal dynamics, as they can either
47 accentuate or dampen, even mask, the anthropogenically-forced responses. {2.4, 8.5.2, 10.4, 10.6, 11.1.5,
48 Atlas.3.1}

49
50 Since the late 19th century, major MoVs (Table TS.4) show no sustained trends, exhibiting fluctuations in
51 frequency and magnitude at multi-decadal time scales, except for the Southern Annular Mode (SAM), which
52 has become systematically more positive (*high confidence*) (Table TS.4). It is *very likely* that human influence
53 has contributed to this trend from the 1970s to the 1990s, and to the associated strengthening and southward
54 shift of the Southern Hemispheric extratropical jet in austral summer. The influence of stratospheric ozone
55 forcing on the SAM trend has been reduced since the early 2000s compared to earlier decades, contributing to

1 the weakening of its positive trend observed over 2000–2019 (*medium confidence*). By contrast, the cause of
2 the Northern Annular Mode (NAM) trend toward its positive phase since the 1960s and associated northward
3 shifts of Northern Hemispheric extratropical jet and storm track in boreal winter is not well understood. The
4 evaluation of model performance on simulating MoVs is assessed in TS.1.2.2. {2.3.3, 2.4, 3.3.3, 3.7.1, 3.7.2}

5
6 In the near term, the forced change in SAM in austral summer is *likely* to be weaker than observed during the
7 late 20th century under all five SSPs assessed. This is because of the opposing influence in the near- to mid-
8 term from stratospheric ozone recovery and increases in other greenhouse gases on the Southern Hemisphere
9 summertime mid-latitude circulation (*high confidence*). In the near term, forced changes in the SAM in austral
10 summer are therefore *likely* to be smaller than changes due to natural internal variability. In the long-term
11 (2081–2100) under the SSP5-8.5 scenario, the SAM index is *likely* to increase in all seasons relative to 1995–
12 2014. The CMIP6 multi-model ensemble projects a long-term (2081–2100) increase in the boreal wintertime
13 NAM index under SSP3-7.0 and SSP5-8.5, but regional associated changes may deviate from a simple shift in
14 the mid-latitude circulation due to a modified teleconnection resulting from interaction with a modified mean
15 background state. {4.3.3, 4.4.3, 4.5.1, 4.5.3, 8.4.2}

16
17 Human influence has not affected the principal tropical modes of interannual climate variability (Table TS.4)
18 and their associated regional teleconnections beyond the range of internal variability (*high confidence*). It is
19 *virtually certain* that the ENSO will remain the dominant mode of interannual variability in a warmer world.
20 There is no consensus from models for a systematic change in amplitude of ENSO SST variability over the
21 21st century in any of the SSP scenarios assessed (*medium confidence*). However, it is *very likely* that rainfall
22 variability related to ENSO will be enhanced significantly by the latter half of the 21st century in the SSP2-
23 4.5, SSP3-7.0, and SSP5-8.5 scenarios, regardless of the amplitude changes in SST variability related to the
24 mode. It is *very likely* that rainfall variability related to changes in the strength and spatial extent of ENSO
25 teleconnections will lead to significant changes at regional scale. {3.7.3, 3.7.4, 3.7.5, 4.3.3, 4.5.3, 8.4.2, 10.3.3}

26
27 Modes of decadal and multidecadal variability over the Pacific and Atlantic Ocean exhibit no significant
28 changes in variance over the period of observational records (*high confidence*). There is *medium confidence*
29 that anthropogenic and volcanic aerosols contributed to observed temporal evolution in the Atlantic
30 Multidecadal Variability (AMV) and associated regional teleconnections, especially since the 1960s, but there
31 is *low confidence* in the magnitude of this influence and the relative contributions of natural and anthropogenic
32 forcings. Internal variability is the main driver of Pacific Decadal Variability (PDV) observed since the start
33 of the instrumental records (*high confidence*), despite some modelling evidence for potential external
34 influence. There is *medium confidence* that the AMV will undergo a shift towards a negative phase in the near-
35 term. {2.4, 3.7.6, 3.7.7, 8.5.2, 4.4.3}

36
37
38 **[START TABLE TS.4 HERE]**

39
40 **Table TS.4: Summary of the assessments on modes of variability (MoVs) and associated teleconnections.** (a)
41 Assessments on observed changes since the start of instrumental records, CMIP5 and CMIP6 model
42 performance, human influence on the observed changes, and near-term (2021–2040) and mid- to long-
43 term (2041–2100) changes. Curves schematically illustrate the assessed overall changes, with the
44 horizontal axis indicating time, and are not intended to precisely represent the time evolution. (b)
45 Fraction of surface air temperature (SAT) and precipitation (pr) variance explained at interannual
46 timescale by each MoV for each AR6 region (numbers in each cell; in percent). Values correspond to
47 the average of significant explained variance fractions based on HadCRUT, GISTEMP, BerkeleyEarth
48 and CRU-TS (for SAT) and GPCC and CRU-TS (for precipitation). Significance is tested based on F-
49 statistics at the 95% level confidence, and a slash indicates that the value is not significant in more than
50 half of the available data sets. The colour scale corresponds to the sign and values of the explained
51 variance as shown at the bottom. The corresponding anomaly maps are shown in Annex IV. DJF:
52 December-January-February. MAM: March-April-May. JJA: June-July-August. SON: September-
53 October-November. In (b), Northern Annular Mode (NAM) and El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO)
54 teleconnections are evaluated for 1959–2019, Southern Annular Mode (SAM) for 1979–2019, Indian
55 Ocean Basin (IOB), Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), Atlantic Zonal Mode (AZM) and Atlantic Meridional

1 Mode (AMM) for 1958–2019, and Pacific Decadal Variability (PDV) and Atlantic Multidecadal
 2 Variability (AMV) for 1900–2019. All data are linearly detrended prior to computation. {2.4, 3.7, 4.3.3,
 3 4.4.3, 4.5.3, Table Atlas.1, Annex IV, TS.1.2.2}

5 (a) Assessments on MoV

(a) Assessments on MoV

	NAM	SAM	ENSO	IOB	IOD	AZM	AMM	PDV	AMV
Past changes since the start of observations	{2.4.1.1}	{2.4.1.2}	{2.4.2}	Within proxy-inferred variability range {2.4.3}	Within proxy-inferred variability range {2.4.3}	Limited evidence {2.4.4}	Limited evidence {2.4.4}	Dominated by multidecadal fluctuations {2.4.5}	Dominated by multidecadal fluctuations {2.4.6}
CMIP5 and CMIP6 model performance	High performance {3.7.1}	High performance {3.7.2}	Medium performance {3.7.3}	Medium performance {3.7.4}	Medium performance {3.7.4}	Low performance {3.7.5}	Low performance {3.7.5}	Medium performance {3.7.6}	Medium performance {3.7.7}
Human influence on the observed changes	No robust evidence {3.7.1}	Contributed through GHG (all seasons) & ozone (DJF) {3.7.2}	Low agreement {3.7.3}	No robust evidence {3.7.4}	Not detected {3.7.4}	No robust evidence {3.7.5}	No robust evidence {3.7.5}	Not detected {3.7.6}	Contributed through aerosols {3.7.7}
Near-term future changes (2021–2040)	Internal variability dominates {4.4.3.1}	{4.4.3.1}	Internal variability dominates {4.4.3.2}	No robust evidence {4.4.3.3}	No robust evidence {4.4.3.3}	No robust evidence {4.4.3.4}	No robust evidence {4.4.3.4}	Limited evidence {4.4.3.5}	Phase shift from + to - {4.4.3.6}
Mid-to-long-term future changes (2041–2100)	Internal variability dominates {4.3.3.1; 4.5.3.1}	{4.3.3.1; 4.5.3.1}	{4.3.3.2; 4.5.3.2}	No robust evidence {4.5.3.3}	{4.5.3.3}	No robust evidence {4.5.3.4}	No robust evidence {4.5.3.4}	{4.5.3.5}	No changes {4.5.3.6}

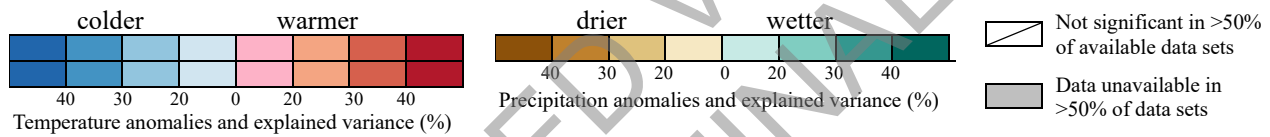
6 low confidence medium confidence high confidence more likely than no. likely very likely

7 (b) Regional climate anomalies associated with MoV

(b) Regional climate anomalies associated with MoV

Mode	NAM		SAM		ENSO		IOB		IOD		AZM		AMM		PDV		AMV		
Season	DJF		DJF		DJF		MAM		SON		JJA		JJA		annual		annual		
Variable	SAT	pr	SAT	pr	SAT	pr	SAT	pr	SAT	pr	SAT	pr	SAT	pr	SAT	pr	SAT	pr	
Africa	Sahara	58					14				10	19		12			9	12	25
	Western Africa	25				15	45				21		10				6	6	23
	Central Africa	19	8		10	14	50				13						10	14	11
	North Eastern Africa	19	7			14	36			32						7		7	
	South Eastern Africa					14	22	36			57		10				4	4	9
	West Southern Africa					49	26	27	16	8						4	12	5	
	East Southern Africa				13	75	34	35	7							4	6		
	Madagascar					24		24	7	11	10			9					5
Asia	West Siberia	45				7						9							11
	East Siberia	52														3			11
	Russian Far East	8	10			11		6										5	5
	West Central Asia							15			21						4		
	East Central Asia							38											
	Tibetan Plateau		15						15	7		11				6	5	9	
	East Asia					7	20		23			9					9	13	
	South Asia	9						12			8		8						5
	Southeast Asia					39	31	73	6		48					5	12		7
	Arabian Peninsula	32						10	24		20						5	13	7
Austral	Northern Australia				21	13	38			19			7		7	7			
	Central Australia			14		21	12	18		22	20		7		7	6	5		
	East Australia			22		20	11	18		9	8		7		7	8			

	Southern Australia						11			23	40		8				3		
	New Zealand			16															
Central & South America	Southern Central America				21	16	33			10	11			17		6		6	7
	Northwestern South America		7	14	16	82	17	54		18				13	16	7	8		
	Northern South America	7				56	58	61					22	17	24	9	12	7	
	Northeastern South America					25		58	19	9	12				8				
	South American Monsoon					54		31		22	7				6	7			
	Southwestern South America				10	16	14	17		10	16					8			
	Southeastern South America						21		13	21	10		12				5		6
	Southern South America				23					13	7								9
Europe	Mediterranean	28	58			7												19	
	Western & Central Europe	28	18						13	10						4			8
	Eastern Europe	35									7								6
	Northern Europe	53	32																
North America	North Central America			10	26	13	27	18				7	12	15	12		6	19	
	Western North America															4		6	5
	Central North America	17			12		17					8					3	9	6
	Eastern North America	12										11	9			4		9	4
	Northeastern North America	18	26									8					10	9	4
	Northwestern North America		14			10	8	17								8	4		
Small Islands	Caribbean			10	15	18	26	8			10			17	12	7			5
	Pacific																		
Polar/Terrestrial	Greenland/Iceland	42	8											7				44	
	Russian Arctic	25	10														6	11	8
	West Antarctica										8		21						
	East Antarctica			38															



TS.4.2.3 Interplay Between Drivers of Climate Variability and Change at Regional Scales

Anthropogenic forcing has been a major driver of regional mean temperature change since 1950 in many subcontinental regions of the world (*virtually certain*). At regional scales, internal variability is stronger, and uncertainties in observations, models and external forcing are all larger than at the global scale, hindering a robust assessment of the relative contributions of greenhouse gases, stratospheric ozone, and different aerosol species in most of the cases. Multiple lines of evidence, combining multi-model ensemble global projections with those coming from single-model initial-condition large ensembles, show that internal variability is largely contributing to the delayed or absent emergence of the anthropogenic signal in long-term regional mean precipitation changes (*high confidence*). Internal variability in ocean dynamics dominates regional patterns on annual to decadal time scales (*high confidence*). The anthropogenic signal in regional sea level change will emerge in most regions by 2100 (*medium confidence*). {9.2.4, 9.6.1, 10.4.1, 10.4.2, 10.4.3}

Regional climate change is subject to the complex interplay between multiple external forcings and internal variability. Time evolution of mechanisms operating at different time scales can modify the amplitude of the regional-scale response of temperature, and both the amplitude and sign of the response of precipitation, to anthropogenic forcing (*high confidence*). These mechanisms include non-linear temperature, precipitation and soil moisture feedbacks, slow and fast responses of SST patterns and atmospheric circulation changes to increasing GHGs. Land use and aerosol forcings and land-atmosphere feedback play important roles in modulating regional changes, for instance in weather and climate extremes (*high confidence*). These can also lead to a higher warming of extreme temperatures compared to mean temperature (*high confidence*), and possibly cooling in some regions (*medium confidence*). The soil moisture-temperature feedback was shown to be relevant for past and present-day heat waves based on observations and model simulations. {10.4.3, 11.1.6, 11.3.1}

1
2 Southeastern South America (SES) is one of the AR6 WGI reference regions (outlined with black thick contour
3 in Figure TS.21a) and it is used here as an illustrative example of the interplay between drivers of climate
4 variability and change at regional scale. Austral summer (DJF) precipitation positive trends have been
5 observed over the region during 1950–2014. Drivers of this change include MoVs, such as AMV, ENSO, and
6 PDV, as well as external forcing, like GHG increases and ozone depletion together with aerosols (as illustrated
7 in Figure TS.21a). MoVs and external forcing collectively affect climate phenomena, such as the Hadley cell
8 width and strength, Rossby waves activity emerging from the large-scale tropical SST anomalies, and the
9 Southern Hemisphere polar vortex, which are relevant for the region. In fact, local changes over SES in terms
10 of moisture convergence, ascending motion and storm-track locations depend on these climate phenomena,
11 and they are overall responsible for the observed precipitation trends. Projections suggest continuing positive
12 trends in rainfall over SES in the near-term in response to GHG emissions scenarios. Multi-model mean and
13 ensemble spread are not sufficient to characterise situations where different models simulate substantially
14 different or even opposite changes (*high confidence*). In such cases, physical climate storylines addressing
15 possible outcomes for climate phenomena shown to play a role in the variability of the region of interest can
16 aid the interpretation of projection uncertainties. In addition, single-model initial-condition large ensembles of
17 many realisations of internal variability are required to separate internal variability from forced changes (*high*
18 *confidence*) and to partition the different sources of uncertainties as a function of future assessed periods.
19 {10.3.4, 10.4.2, Figure 10.12a}

20
21
22 **[START FIGURE TS.21 HERE]**

23
24 **Figure TS.21: Example of the interplay between drivers of climate variability and change at regional scale to**
25 **understand past and projected changes.** *The figure intent is to show an illustrative pathway for*
26 *understanding past, and anticipating future, climate change at regional scale in the presence of*
27 *uncertainties.* (a) Identification of the climate drivers and their influences on climate phenomena
28 contributing through teleconnection to Southeastern South America summer (DJF) precipitation
29 variability and trends observed over 1950–2014. Drivers (red squares) include MoVs as well as
30 external forcing. Observed precipitation linear trend from GPCP is shown on continents (green-brown
31 colour bar in mm month⁻¹ per decade) and the SES AR6 WGI reference region is outlined with the
32 thick black contour. Climate phenomena leading to local effect on SES are schematically presented
33 (blue ovals). (b) Time series of decadal precipitation anomalies for DJF SES simulated from seven
34 large ensembles of historical + RCP8.5 simulations over 1950–2100. Shading corresponds to the 5th–
35 95th range of climate outcomes given from each large ensemble for precipitation (in mm/month) and
36 thick coloured lines stand for their respective ensemble mean. The thick timeseries in white
37 corresponds to the multi-model multi-member ensemble mean with model contribution being
38 weighted according to their ensemble size. GPCP observation is shown in the light black line with
39 squares over 1950–2014 and the 1995–2014 baseline period has been retained for calculation of
40 anomalies in all datasets. (c) Quantification of the respective weight (in percent) between the
41 individual sources of uncertainties (internal in grey, model in magenta and scenario in green) at near-
42 term, mid-term and long-term temporal windows defined in AR6 and highlighted in (b) for SES DJF
43 precipitation. All computations are done with respect to 1995–2014, taken as the reference period and
44 the scenario uncertainty is estimated from CMIP5 using the same set of models as for the large
45 ensembles that have run different RCP scenarios. {Figure 10.12a}

46
47 **[END FIGURE TS.21 HERE]**
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57

1 [START BOX TS.13 HERE]
2

3 **Box TS.13: Monsoons** 4

5 Global land monsoon precipitation decreased from the 1950s to the 1980s, partly due to anthropogenic
6 aerosols, but has increased since then in response to GHG forcing and large-scale multi-decadal variability
7 (*medium confidence*). Northern Hemispheric anthropogenic aerosols weakened the regional monsoon
8 circulations in South Asia, East Asia and West Africa during the second half of the 20th century, thereby
9 offsetting the expected strengthening of monsoon precipitation in response to GHG-induced warming (*high*
10 *confidence*). During the 21st century, global land monsoon precipitation is projected to increase in response to
11 GHG warming in all time horizons and scenarios (*high confidence*). Over South and Southeast Asia, East Asia
12 and the central Sahel, monsoon precipitation is projected to increase, whereas over North America and the far
13 western Sahel it is projected to decrease (*medium confidence*). There is *low confidence* in projected
14 precipitation changes in the South American and Australian-Maritime Continent monsoons. At global and
15 regional scales, near-term monsoons changes will be dominated by the effects of internal variability (*medium*
16 *confidence*). {2.3, Cross-Chapter Box 2.4, 3.3, 4.4, 4.5, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, Box 8.1, Box 8.2, 10.6}

17 **Global Monsoon** 18

19 Paleoclimate records indicate that during warm climates, like the mid-Pliocene Warm Period, monsoon
20 systems were stronger (*medium confidence*). In the instrumental records, global summer monsoon precipitation
21 intensity has *likely* increased since the 1980s, dominated by Northern Hemisphere summer trends and large
22 multi-decadal variability. Contrary to the expected increase of precipitation under global warming, the
23 Northern Hemisphere monsoon regions experienced declining precipitation from the 1950s to 1980s, which is
24 partly attributable to the influence of anthropogenic aerosols (*medium confidence*) (Box TS.13, Figure 1).
25 {2.3.1, Cross-Chapter Box 2.4, 3.3.2, 3.3.3}
26

27 With continued global warming, it is *likely* that global land monsoon precipitation will increase during this
28 century (Box TS.13, Figure 1), particularly in the Northern Hemisphere, although the monsoon circulation is
29 projected to weaken. A slowdown of the tropical circulation with global warming can partly offset the
30 warming-induced strengthening of precipitation in monsoon regions (*high confidence*). In the near term, global
31 monsoon changes are *likely* to be dominated by the effects of internal variability and model uncertainties
32 (*medium confidence*). In the long term, global monsoon rainfall change will feature a robust north-south
33 asymmetry characterized by a greater increase in the Northern Hemisphere than in the Southern Hemisphere
34 and an east-west asymmetry characterized by enhanced Asian-African monsoons and a weakened North
35 American monsoon (*medium confidence*). {4.4.1, 4.5.1, 8.4.1}
36

37 **Regional Monsoons** 38

39 Paleoclimate reconstructions indicate stronger monsoons in the Northern Hemisphere but weaker ones in the
40 Southern Hemisphere during warm periods, particularly for the South and Southeast Asian, East Asian, North
41 and South American monsoons, with the opposite occurring during cold periods (*medium confidence*). It is
42 *very likely* that Northern Hemispheric anthropogenic aerosols weakened the regional monsoon circulations in
43 South Asia, East Asia and West Africa during the second half of the 20th century, thereby offsetting the
44 expected strengthening of monsoon precipitation in response to GHG-induced warming (Box TS.13, Figure
45 1). Multiple lines of evidence explain this contrast over South Asia, with the observed trends dominated by
46 the effects of aerosols, while future projections are mostly driven by GHG increases. The recent partial
47 recovery and enhanced intensity of monsoon precipitation over West Africa is related to the growing influence
48 of GHGs with an additional contribution due to the reduced cooling effect of anthropogenic aerosols, emitted
49 largely from North America and Europe (*medium confidence*). For other regional monsoons, that is, North and
50 South America and Australia, there is *low confidence* in the attribution of recent changes in precipitation (Box
51 TS.13, Figure 1) and winds. {2.3.1, 8.3.1, 8.3.2, Box 8.1, 10.6.3}
52

53 Projections of regional monsoons during the 21st century indicate contrasting (region-dependent) and
54

1 uncertain precipitation and circulation changes. The annual contrast between the wettest and driest month of
 2 the year is *likely* to increase by 3–5% per degree Celsius in most monsoon regions in terms of precipitation,
 3 precipitation minus evaporation, and runoff (*medium confidence*). For the North American monsoon,
 4 projections indicate a decrease in precipitation, whereas increased monsoon rainfall is projected over South
 5 and Southeast Asia and over East Asia (*medium confidence*) (Box TS.13, Figure 1). West African monsoon
 6 precipitation is projected to increase over the central Sahel and decrease over the far western Sahel (*medium*
 7 *confidence*). There is *low confidence* in projected precipitation changes in the South American and Australian-
 8 Maritime Continent regional monsoons (for both magnitude or sign) (Box TS.13, Figure 1). There is *medium*
 9 *confidence* that the monsoon season will be delayed in the Sahel and *high confidence* that it will be delayed in
 10 North and South America. {8.2.2, 8.4.2.4, Box 8.2}

11 **Building the Assessment from Multiple Lines of Evidence**

12 Large natural variability of monsoon precipitation across different time scales, found in both paleoclimate
 13 reconstructions and instrumental measurements, poses an inherent challenge for robust quantification of future
 14 changes in precipitation at regional and smaller spatial scales. At both global and regional scales, there is
 15 *medium confidence* that internal variability contributes the largest uncertainty related to projected changes, at
 16 least in the near term (2021–2040). A collapse of the Atlantic Multidecadal Overturning Circulation (AMOC)
 17 could weaken the African and Asian monsoons but strengthen the Southern Hemisphere monsoons (*high*
 18 *confidence*). {4.4.4, Cross-Chapter Box 4.1, 4.5.1, 8.5.2, 8.6.1, 9.2.3, 10.6.3}

19 Overall, long-term (2081–2100) future changes in regional monsoons like the South and Southeast Asian
 20 monsoon are generally consistent across global (including high-resolution) and regional climate models and
 21 supported by theoretical arguments. Uncertainties in simulating the observed characteristics of regional
 22 monsoon precipitation are related to varying complexities of regional monsoon processes and their responses
 23 to external forcing, internal variability, and deficiencies in representing monsoon warm rain processes,
 24 organized tropical convection, heavy orographic rainfall and cloud–aerosol interactions. {8.3.2, 8.5.1, 10.3.3,
 25 10.6.3}

26 [START BOX TS.13, FIGURE 1 HERE]

27 **Box TS.13, Figure 1: Global and regional monsoons: past trends and projected changes.** *The intent of this figure*
 28 *is to show changes in precipitation over regional monsoon domains in terms of observed past*
 29 *trends, how greenhouse gases and aerosols relate to these changes, and in terms of future*
 30 *projections in one intermediate emission scenario in the near, medium and long terms. (a) Global*
 31 *(black contour) and regional monsoons (colour shaded) domains. The global monsoon (GM) is*
 32 *defined as the area with local summer-minus-winter precipitation rate exceeding 2.5 mm day⁻¹*
 33 *(see Annex V). The regional monsoon domains are defined based on published literature and*
 34 *expert judgement (see Annex V), and also accounting for the fact that the climatological summer*
 35 *monsoon rainy season varies across the individual regions. Assessed regional monsoons are*
 36 *South and Southeast Asia (SAsiaM, Jun-Jul-Aug-Sep), East Asia (EAsiaM, Jun-Jul-Aug), West*
 37 *Africa (WafriM, Jun-Jul-Aug-Sep), North America (NAmerM, Jul-Aug-Sep), South America*
 38 *(SAmerM, Dec-Jan-Feb), Australia and Maritime Continent Monsoon (AusMCM, Dec-Jan-*
 39 *Feb). Equatorial South America (EqSAmer) and South Africa (SAfri) regions are also shown, as*
 40 *they receive unimodal summer seasonal rainfall although their qualification as monsoons is*
 41 *subject to discussion. (b) Global and regional monsoons precipitation trends based on DAMIP*
 42 *CMIP6 simulations with both natural and anthropogenic (ALL), GHG only (GHG), aerosols*
 43 *only (AER) and natural only (NAT) radiative forcing. Weighted ensemble means are based on*
 44 *nine CMIP6 models contributing to the MIP (with at least 3 members). Observed trends*
 45 *computed from CRU GPCP, and APHRO (only for SAsiaM and EAsiaM) datasets are shown as*
 46 *well. (c) Percentage change in projected seasonal mean precipitation over global and regional*
 47 *monsoons domain in the near-term (2021–2040), mid-term (2041–2060), and long-term (2081–*
 48 *2100) under SSP2-4.5 based on 24 CMIP6 models. {Figure 8.11, Figure 8.22}*

49 [END BOX TS.13, FIGURE 1 HERE]

1 [END BOX TS.13 HERE]
 2
 3

4 **TS.4.3 Regional Climate Change and Implications for Climate Extremes and Climatic Impact-Drivers**
 5

6 Current climate in all regions is already distinct from the climate of the early or mid-20th century with respect
 7 to several climatic impact-drivers (CIDs), resulting in shifting magnitude, frequency, duration, seasonality,
 8 and spatial extent of associated climate indices (*high confidence*). It is *very likely* that mean temperatures have
 9 increased in all land regions and will continue to increase at rates greater than the global average (*high*
 10 *confidence*). The frequency of heat and cold extremes have increased and decreased, respectively. These
 11 changes are attributed to human influence in almost all regions (*medium to high confidence*) and will continue
 12 through the 21st century (*high confidence*). In particular, extreme heat would exceed critical thresholds for
 13 health, agriculture and other sectors more frequently by the mid 21st century with 2°C of global warming (*high*
 14 *confidence*). Relative sea level rise is *very likely* to *virtually certain* (depending on the region) to continue
 15 during the 21st century, contributing to increased coastal flooding in low-lying areas (*high confidence*) and
 16 coastal erosion along most sandy coasts (*high confidence*). Sea level will continue to rise beyond 2100 (*high*
 17 *confidence*). Every region of the world will experience concurrent changes in multiple CIDs by mid-century
 18 (*high confidence*). Even for the current climate, climate change-induced shifts in CID distributions and event
 19 probabilities, some of which have occurred over recent decades, are relevant for risk assessments. {Box TS.4,
 20 11.9, 12.1, 12.2, 12.4, 12.5, Atlas.3–Atlas.11}

21 An overview of changes in regional CIDs (introduced in TS.1) is given in Table TS.5, which summarizes
 22 multiple lines of evidence on regional climate change derived from observed trends, attribution of these trends
 23 and future projections. The level of confidence and the amplitude in the projected direction of change in CIDs
 24 at a given time-horizon depends on climate change mitigation efforts over the 21st century. It is evident from
 25 Table TS.5 that many heat, cold, snow and ice, coastal and oceanic CID changes are projected with *high*
 26 *confidence* in most regions starting from a global warming level (GWL) of 2°C, indicating worldwide
 27 challenges. Changes in many other regional CIDs have higher confidence later in the 21st century or at higher
 28 GWLs (*high confidence*), and another small subset are projected with *high confidence* for the 1.5°C GWL.
 29 This section focuses on the 2°C GWL and mid-century time period because the signal emerges from natural
 30 variability for a wider range of CIDs at this higher warming level. Figure TS.22 shows the geographical
 31 location of regions belonging to one of five groups characterized by a specific combination of changing
 32 climatic impact-drivers (CIDs). {Cross-Chapter Box 10.3, Box 11.1, 10.5, 11.1, 11.9, 12.1, 12.2, 12.4, 12.5}
 33
 34
 35

36 [START TABLE TS.5 HERE]
 37

38 **Table TS.5:** Summary of confidence for climatic impact-driver changes in each AR6 WG I reference region
 39 (illustrated in Figure TS.25) across multiple lines of evidence: observed, attributed and projected
 40 directional changes. The colours represent their projected aggregate characteristic changes for the
 41 mid-21st century, considering scenarios RCP4.5, SSP2-4.5, SRES A1B, or above (RCP6.0, RCP8.5,
 42 SSP3-7.0, SSP5-8.5, SRES A2), which approximately encompasses global warming levels of 2.0°C to
 43 2.4°C. Arrows indicate *medium to high confidence* trends derived from observations, and asterisks
 44 indicate *medium* and *high confidence* in attribution of observed changes. (North Africa is not an AR6
 45 WGI reference region, but assessment here is based upon the African portion of the Mediterranean
 46 reference region). {Tables 12.3–12.11 and Tables 11.4–11.21}
 47
 48

	Climatic Impact-Driver																														
	Heat and Cold				Wet and Dry					Wind			Snow and Ice			Coastal and Oceanic			Other												
	Mean air temperature	Extreme heat	Cold spell	Frost	Mean precipitation	River flood	Heavy precipitation and pluvial flood	Landslide	Aridity	Hydrological drought	Agricultural and ecological drought	Fire weather	Mean wind speed	Severe wind storm	Tropical cyclone	Sand and dust storm	Snow, glacier and ice sheet	Permafrost	Lake, river and sea ice	Heavy snowfall and ice storm	Hail	Snow avalanche	Relative sea level	Coastal flood	Coastal erosion	Marine heatwave	Ocean and lake acidity	Air pollution weather	Atmospheric CO ₂ at surface	Radiation at surface	
Africa																															
North Africa	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Sahara	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Western Africa	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Central Africa	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘	1.2																									
North Eastern Africa	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
South Eastern Africa	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
West Southern Africa	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
East Southern Africa	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Madagascar	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Asia																															
Arabian Peninsula	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
West Central Asia	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
West Siberia	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
East Siberia	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Russian Far East	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
East Asia	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
East Central Asia	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Tibetan Plateau	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
South Asia	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Southeast Asia	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Australasia																															
Northern Australia	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Central Australia	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Eastern Australia	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Southern Australia	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
New Zealand	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Central and South America																															
Southern Central America	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Northwestern South America	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Northern South America	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
South American Monsoon	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Northeastern South America	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Southwestern South America	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Southeastern South America	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Southern South America	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Europe																															
Mediterranean	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Western and Central Europe	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Eastern Europe	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Northern Europe	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
North America																															
North Central America	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Western North America	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Central North America	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Eastern North America	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Northeast North America	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Northwest North America	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Small Islands																															
Caribbean	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Pacific	↗	↗	↗	↗	↘																										
Polar Terrestrial Regions																															
Greenland and Iceland	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Arctic North Europe	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Russian Arctic	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Arctic Northwest North America	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
Arctic Northeast North America	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
West Antarctica	↗	↗	↗	↗																											
East Antarctica	↗	↗	↗	↗																											

Key for observational trend evidence

↗	Past upward trend (medium or higher confidence)
↘	Past downward trend (medium or higher confidence)

Key for level of confidence in future changes

Light purple	High confidence of increase (or more)
Medium purple	Medium confidence of increase
Dark purple	Low confidence in direction of change
Light blue	Medium confidence of decrease
Dark blue	High confidence of decrease (or more)
Grey	Not broadly relevant

Key for attribution evidence

***	High confidence (or more)
**	Medium confidence

	Climatic Impact-Driver					
	Mean ocean temperature	Marine heatwave	Ocean acidity	Ocean salinity	Dissolved oxygen	Sea ice
Oceans						
Arctic Ocean	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
South Pacific Ocean	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
Equatorial Pacific Ocean	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
North Pacific Ocean	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
South Atlantic Ocean	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
Equatorial Atlantic Ocean	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
North Atlantic Ocean	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
Equatorial Indian Ocean	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
South Indian Ocean	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
Arabian Sea	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
Bay of Bengal	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
Southern Ocean	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗

Key for level of confidence in future changes

↗	Past upward trend (medium or higher confidence)
↘	Past downward trend (medium or higher confidence)

Key for level of confidence in future changes

Light purple	High confidence of increase (or more)
Medium purple	Medium confidence of increase
Dark purple	Low confidence in direction of change
Light blue	Medium confidence of decrease
Dark blue	High confidence of decrease (or more)
Grey	Not broadly relevant

Key for attribution evidence

***	High confidence (or more)
**	Medium confidence

1

2

3

4

1 [END TABLE TS.5 HERE]

2
3
4 [START FIGURE TS.22 HERE]

5
6 **Figure TS.22:** (Panel a): shows the geographical location of regions belonging to one of five groups characterized by
7 a specific combination of changing climatic impact-drivers (CIDs). The five groups are represented by
8 the five different colours, and the CID combinations associated with each group are represented in the
9 corresponding ‘fingerprint’ and text below the map. Each fingerprint comprises a set of CIDs
10 projected to change with *high confidence* in every region in the group, and a second set of CIDs, one
11 or more of which are projected to change in each region with *high* or *medium confidence*. The CID
12 combinations follow a progression from those becoming hotter and drier (group 1) to those becoming
13 hotter and wetter (group 5). In between (groups 2–4), the CIDs that change include some becoming
14 drier and some wetter and always include a set of CIDs which are getting hotter. Tropical cyclones
15 and severe wind CID changes are represented on the map with black dots in the regions affected.
16 Regions affected by coastal CID changes are described by text on the map. The five groups are chosen
17 to provide a reasonable level of detail for each region-specific detail whilst not overwhelming the map
18 with a full summary all aspects of the assessment, which is available in Table TS.5. [Placeholder: This
19 summary is also represented visually in the Interactive Atlas.] The CID changes summarized in the
20 figure represent *high* and *medium confidence* changes projected if a level of 2°C of global warming is
21 attained around 2050. The bar chart in panel b) shows the numbers of regions where each CID is
22 increasing or decreasing with *medium* or *high confidence* for all land regions reported in the map of
23 panel a) and for the ocean regions. The regions coloured in the map comprise the WG I AR6 reference
24 regions, which include inhabited land areas and an additional non-continuous Pacific Islands region
25 labelled PAC. Definitions of the acronyms of the other regions are provided in Atlas.1 and the
26 Interactive Atlas. {Table TS.5, Figure TS.24}

27
28 [END FIGURE TS.22 HERE]

29
30
31 *TS.4.3.1 Common Regional Changes in Climatic Impact-Drivers*

32
33 **Heat and cold:** Changes in temperature-related CIDs such as mean temperatures, growing season length, and
34 extreme heat and frost have already occurred (*high confidence*), and many of these changes have been
35 attributed to human activities (*medium confidence*). Over all land regions with sufficient data (i.e., all except
36 Antarctica), observed changes in temperature have already clearly emerged outside the range of internal
37 variability, relative to 1850–1900 (Figure TS.24). In tropical regions, recent past temperature distributions
38 have already shifted to a range different to that of the early 20th century (*high confidence*) (TS.1.2.4). Most
39 land areas have *very likely* warmed by at least 0.1°C per decade since 1960, and faster in recent decades. On
40 regional-to-continental scales, trends of increased frequency of hot extremes and decrease of cold extremes
41 are generally consistent with the global-scale trends in mean temperature (*high confidence*). In a few regions,
42 trends are difficult to assess due to limited data availability. {2.3.1.1, 11.3, 11.9, 12.4, Atlas.3.1, Interactive
43 Atlas}

44
45
46 [START FIGURE TS.23 HERE]

47
48 **Figure TS.23:** Time period during which the signals of temperature change in observed data aggregated over
49 the reference regions emerged from the noise of annual variability in the respective aggregated
50 data, using a signal-to-noise ratio of 2 as the threshold for emergence. Emergence time is
51 calculated for two global observational datasets, (a) Berkeley Earth and (b) CRUTEM5. Regions in
52 the CRUTEM5 map are shaded grey when data are available over less than 50% of the area of the
53 region. {Figure Atlas.11, TS.1.2.4}

54
55 [END FIGURE TS.23 HERE]

1 Warming trends observed in recent decades are projected to continue over the 21st century and over most land
2 regions at a rate higher than the global average (*high confidence*). For given global warming levels, model
3 projections from CMIP6 show future regional warming changes that are similar to those projected by CMIP5.
4 However, projected regional warming in CMIP6 for given time periods and emissions scenarios has a wider
5 range with a higher upper limit compared to CMIP5 because of the higher climate sensitivity in some CMIP6
6 models and differences in the forcings. {Atlas}

7
8 Under RCP8.5/SSP5-8.5, it is *likely* that most land areas will experience further warming of at least 4°C
9 compared to a 1995–2014 baseline by the end of the 21st century, and in some areas significantly more. At
10 increasing warming levels, extreme heat will exceed critical thresholds for health, agriculture and other sectors
11 more frequently (*high confidence*), and it is *likely* that cold spells will become less frequent towards the end
12 of the century. For example, by the end of the 21st century, dangerous humid heat thresholds, such as the
13 NOAA Heat Index (HI) of 41°C, will be exceeded much more frequently under the SSP5-8.5 scenario than
14 under SSP1-2.6 and will affect many regions (*high confidence*). In many tropical regions, the number of days
15 per year where a HI of 41°C is exceeded would increase by more than 100 days relative to the recent past
16 under SSP5-8.5, while this increase will be limited to less than 50 days under SSP1-2.6 (*high confidence*)
17 (Figure TS.6). The number of days per year where temperature exceeds 35°C would increase by more than 150
18 days in many tropical areas by end of century for SSP5-8.5 scenario, such as the Amazon basin and South East
19 Asia under SSP5-8.5, while it is expected to increase by less than 60 days in these areas under SSP1-2.6 (except
20 for the Amazon Basin) (*high confidence*) (Figure TS.24). {4.6.1, 11.3, 11.9, 12.4, 12.5.2, Atlas}

21
22
23 **[START FIGURE TS.24 HERE]**

24
25 **Figure TS.24:** Projected change in the mean number of days per year with maximum temperature exceeding
26 35°C for CMIP5 (first column), CMIP6 (second column) and CORDEX (third column). The
27 map shows the median change in the number of days per year between the mid-century (2041–2060)
28 or end-century (2081–2100) and historical (1995–2014) periods for the CMIP5 and
29 CORDEX RCP8.5 and RCP2.6 and CMIP6 SSP5-8.5 and SSP1-2.6 scenarios ensembles. Stippling
30 indicates areas where less than 80% of the models agree on the sign of change. {Interactive Atlas}

31
32 **[END FIGURE TS.24 HERE]**

33
34
35 **Wet and dry:** Compared to the global scale, precipitation internal variability is stronger at the regional scale
36 while uncertainties in observations, models and external forcing are all larger. However, GHG forcing has
37 driven increased contrasts in precipitation amounts between wet and dry seasons and weather regimes over
38 tropical land areas (*medium confidence*), with a detectable precipitation increase in the northern high latitudes
39 (*high confidence*) (Box TS.6). The frequency and intensity of heavy precipitation events have increased over
40 a majority of land regions with good observational coverage (*high confidence*). A majority of land areas have
41 experienced decreases in available water in dry seasons due to human-induced climate change associated with
42 changes in evapotranspiration (*medium confidence*). Global hydrological models project a larger fraction of
43 land areas to be affected by an increase rather than by a decrease in river floods (*medium confidence*). Extreme
44 precipitation and pluvial flooding will increase in many regions around the world on almost all continents
45 (*high confidence*), but regional changes in river floods are more uncertain than changes in pluvial floods
46 because complex hydrological processes, including land cover and human water management are involved.
47 {Box 8.2, 8.2.2.1, 8.3.1, 10.4.1, 11.5, 11.6, 11.9, 12.4, 12.5.1, Atlas.3.1, Interactive Atlas}

48
49 **Wind:** Observed mean wind speed is decreasing over most land areas where observational coverage is high
50 (*medium confidence*). It is *likely* that the global proportion of major tropical cyclone (TC) intensities
51 (Categories 3–5) over the past four decades has increased. The proportion of intense TCs, average peak TC
52 wind speeds, and peak wind speeds of the most intense TCs will increase on the global scale with increasing
53 global warming (*high confidence*). {11.7.1}

54
55 **Snow and ice:** Many aspects of the cryosphere either have seen significant changes in the recent past or will
56 see them during the 21st century (*high confidence*). Glaciers will continue to shrink and permafrost to thaw in

1 all regions where they are present (*high confidence*). Also, it is *virtually certain* that snow cover will experience
 2 a decline over most land regions during the 21st century, in terms of water equivalent, extent and annual
 3 duration. There is *high confidence* that the global warming-induced earlier onset of spring snowmelt and
 4 increased melting of glaciers have already contributed to seasonal changes in streamflow in high-latitude and
 5 low-elevation mountain catchments. Nevertheless, it is *very likely* that some high-latitude regions will
 6 experience an increase in winter snow water equivalent due to the effect of increased snowfall prevailing over
 7 warming-induced increased snowmelt. {TS.2.5, Box 8.2, 8.2.2.1, 8.3.1, 9.4, 9.5.1, 9.5.2, 12.4, Atlas}

8
 9 **Coastal and oceanic:** There is *high confidence* that SST will increase in all oceanic regions, excepting the
 10 North Atlantic. Regional sea-level change has been the main driver of changes in extreme sea levels across the
 11 quasi-global tide gauge network over the 20th century (*high confidence*). With the exception of a few regions
 12 with substantial land uplift, relative sea-level rise is *very likely to virtually certain* (depending on the region)
 13 to continue along the 21st century, contributing to increased coastal flooding in low-lying areas (*high*
 14 *confidence*) and coastal erosion along most sandy coasts (*high confidence*) over the 21st century. In the open
 15 ocean, acidification, changes in sea ice and deoxygenation have already emerged in many areas (*high*
 16 *confidence*). Marine heatwaves (MWHs) are also expected to increase around the globe over the 21st century
 17 (*high confidence*). {TS.2.4, Box 9.2, 9.2.1.1, 9.6, 9.6.4, 9.6.4.2, 12.4}

18
 19 **Other variables and concurrent CID changes:** It is *virtually certain* that atmospheric CO₂ and oceanic pH
 20 will increase in all climate scenarios, until net zero CO₂ emissions are achieved (TS.2.2). In nearly all regions,
 21 there is *low confidence* in changes in hail, ice storms, severe storms, dust storms, heavy snowfall, and
 22 avalanches, although this does not indicate that these CIDs will not be affected by climate change. For such
 23 CIDs, observations are often short-term or lack homogeneity, and models often do not have sufficient
 24 resolution or accurate parametrizations to adequately simulate them over climate change time scales. The
 25 probability of compound events has increased in the past due to human-induced climate change and will *likely*
 26 continue to increase with further global warming, including for concurrent heat waves and droughts, compound
 27 flooding and the possibility of connected sectors experiencing multiple regional extreme events at the same
 28 time (for example, in multiple breadbaskets) (*high confidence*). {5.3.4.2, 11.8, Box 11.3, Box 11.4, 12.4}

31 TS.4.3.2 Region-by-Region Changes in Climatic Impact-Drivers

32
 33 This section provides a continental synthesis of changes in CIDs, some examples of which are presented in
 34 Figure TS.25.
 35

36 With 2°C global warming, and as early as the mid-21st century, a wide range of CIDs, particularly related to
 37 the water cycle and storms, are expected to show simultaneous region-specific changes relative to recent past
 38 with *high or medium confidence*. In a number of regions (Southern Africa, the Mediterranean, North Central
 39 America, Western North America, the Amazon regions, South Western South America, and Australia),
 40 increases in one or more of drought, aridity and fire weather (*high confidence*) will affect a wide range of
 41 sectors, including agriculture, forestry, health and ecosystems. In another group of regions (Northwestern,
 42 Central and Eastern North America, Arctic regions, Northwestern South America, Northern and Central
 43 Western Europe, Siberia, Central, South and East Asia, Southern Australia and New Zealand), decreases in
 44 snow and ice or increases in pluvial/river flooding (*high confidence*) will affect sectors such as winter tourism,
 45 energy production, river transportation, and infrastructure. {11.9, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5, Table 12.2}

46
 47
 48 **[START FIGURE TS.25 HERE]**
 49

50 **Figure TS.25: Distribution of projected changes in selected climatic impact-driver indices for selected regions**
 51 **for CMIP6, CMIP5 and CORDEX model ensembles.** Different indices are shown for different
 52 region: for east Europe and north Asia the mean number of days per year with maximum temperature
 53 exceeding 35°C, for Central America and the Caribbean, and the Arabian peninsula, western, southern
 54 and eastern Asia the mean number of days per year with the NOAA Heat Index exceeding 41°C, for
 55 Australasia, East Asia and Russia far East the average shoreline position change, for South America,

1 Europe and Africa the mean change in 1-in-100-years river discharge per unit catchment area (m³ s⁻¹
 2 km⁻²), and for North America the median change in the number of days with snow water equivalent
 3 (SWE) over 100 mm. For each box plot the changes or the climatological values are reported respect
 4 to, or compared to, the recent past (1995–2014) period for 1.5 °C, 2°C and 4°C global warming levels
 5 and for mid-century (2041–2060) or end-century (2081–2100) periods for the CMIP5 and
 6 CORDEX RCP8.5 and RCP2.6 and CMIP6 SSP5-8.5 and SSP1-2.6 scenarios ensembles {Figure
 7 12.5, Figure 12.6, Figure 12.9, Figure 12.SM.1, Figure 12.SM.2, Figure 12.SM.6}.

8 **[END FIGURE TS.25 HERE]**

9
 10
 11 *TS.4.3.2.1 Africa*

13 Additional regional changes in Africa, besides those described in TS.4.3.1, include a projected decrease in
 14 total precipitation in the northernmost and southernmost regions (*high confidence*), with West and East Africa
 15 each having a west-to-east pattern of decreasing-to-increasing precipitation (*medium confidence*). Increases in
 16 heavy precipitation that can lead to pluvial floods (*high confidence*) are projected for most African regions,
 17 even as increasing dry CIDs (aridity, hydrological, agricultural and ecological droughts, fire weather) are
 18 projected in the western part of West Africa, North Africa, South Africa and the Mediterranean regions
 19 (*medium to high confidence*). {8.4, 11.3, 11.6, 11.9, 12.4, Atlas.4}

20
 21 In addition to the main changes summarized above and in TS.4.3.1, additional details per CID are given below.

22
 23 **Heat and cold:** Observed and projected increases in mean temperature and a shift toward heat extreme
 24 characteristics are broadly similar to the generic pattern described in TS.4.3.1. {2.3.1.1.2, 11.3, 11.9, 12.4.1.1,
 25 Atlas.4.2, Atlas.4.4}

26
 27 **Wet and dry:** Mean precipitation changes have been observed over Africa, but the historical trends are not
 28 spatially coherent (*high confidence*). Northern East Africa, Eastern Southern Africa and Central Africa have
 29 experienced a decline in rainfall since about 1980 and parts of West Africa an increase (*high confidence*).
 30 Increases in the frequency and/or the intensity of heavy rainfall have been observed in Eastern and Western
 31 Southern Africa, and the eastern Mediterranean region (*medium confidence*). Increasing trends in river flood
 32 occurrences can be identified beyond 1980 in Eastern and Western Southern Africa (*medium confidence*) and
 33 West Africa (*high confidence*). However, Northern Africa and Western Southern Africa are *likely* to have a
 34 reduction in precipitation. Over West Africa, rainfall is projected to decrease in the Western Sahel subregion
 35 and increase along the Guinea Coast subregion (*medium confidence*). Rainfall is *likely* to reduce over the
 36 western part of East Africa but increase in the eastern part of the region (*medium confidence*). {8.3.1.6, 11.4,
 37 11.9, 12.4.1.2, Atlas.4.2, Atlas.4.5, Interactive Atlas}

38
 39 Precipitation declines and aridity trends in West Africa, Central Africa, Southern Africa and the Mediterranean
 40 co-occur with trends towards increased agricultural and ecological droughts in the same regions (*medium*
 41 *confidence*). Trends towards increased hydrological droughts have been observed in the Mediterranean (*high*
 42 *confidence*) and West Africa (*medium confidence*). These trends correspond with projected regional increases
 43 in aridity and fire weather conditions (*high confidence*). {8.3.1.6, 8.4.1.6, 11.6, 11.9, 12.4.1.2}

44
 45 **Wind:** Mean wind, extreme winds and the wind energy potential in North Africa and the Mediterranean are
 46 projected to decrease across all scenarios (*high confidence*). Over West Africa and South Africa, a future
 47 significant increase in wind speed and wind energy potential is projected (*medium confidence*). There is a
 48 projected decrease in the frequency of tropical cyclones making landfall over Madagascar, Eastern Southern
 49 Africa and East Africa (*medium confidence*). {12.4.1.3}

50
 51 **Snow and ice:** There is *high confidence* that African glaciers and snow have very significantly decreased in
 52 the last decades and that this trend will continue in the 21st century. {12.4.1.4}

53
 54 **Coastal and oceanic:** Relative sea level has increased at a higher rate than GMSL around Africa over the last
 55 3 decades. The present day 1-in-100-years Extreme Total Water Level (ETWL) is between 0.1 m and 1.2 m

1 around Africa, with values around 1 m or above along the South West, South East and Central East coasts.
2 Satellite-derived shoreline retreat rates up to 1 m yr⁻¹ have been observed around the continent from 1984 to
3 2015, except in Southeastern Africa, which has experienced a shoreline progradation (growth) rate of 0.1 m
4 yr⁻¹ over the same period. {12.4.1.5}

5 *TS.4.3.2.2 Asia*

6 Due to the high climatological and geographical heterogeneity of Asia, the assessment findings below are
7 summarised over five sub-continental areas comprising one or more of the AR6 WG I reference regions (Box
8 TS.12): East Asia (EAS+ECA), North Asia (WSB+ESB+RFE), South Asia (SAS+TIB), Southeast Asia (SEA)
9 and Southwest Asia (ARP+WCA).

11 Additional regional changes in Asia, besides those features described in TS.4.3.1, include historical trends of
12 annual precipitation that show considerable regional differences (*high confidence*). East Asian Monsoon
13 precipitation has changed, with drying in the north and wetting in the south since the 1950s, and annual mean
14 precipitation totals *very likely* have increased over most territories of North Asia since the mid-1970s (*high*
15 *confidence*). South Asian summer monsoon precipitation decreased over several areas since the mid-20th
16 century (*high confidence*) but is *likely* to increase during the 21st century, with enhanced interannual
17 variability.

18
19 Increases in precipitation and rivers floods are projected over much of Asia; in the annual mean precipitation
20 in East, North, South and Southeast Asia (*high confidence*); for extremes in East, South, West Central, North
21 and Southeast Asia (*high confidence*) and Arabian Peninsula (*medium confidence*); and for river floods in East,
22 South and Southeast Asia and East Siberia (*medium confidence*). Aridity in East and West Central Asia is
23 projected to increase, especially beyond the middle of the 21st century and global warming levels beyond 2°C,
24 (*medium confidence*). Fire weather seasons are projected to lengthen and intensify everywhere except
25 Southeast Asia, Tibetan Plateau and Arabian Peninsula (*medium confidence*).

26
27 There is a large uncertainty in the future continuation of observed decreasing trends in surface wind speeds in
28 Asia (*high confidence*), with *medium confidence* that mean wind speeds will decrease in North Asia, East Asia
29 and Tibetan Plateau and that tropical cyclones will have decreasing frequency and increasing intensity overall
30 in Southeast and East Asia.

31
32 Over North Asia, increases in permafrost temperature and its thawing have been observed over recent decades
33 (*high confidence*). Future projections indicate continuing decline in seasonal snow duration, glacial mass, and
34 permafrost area by mid-century (*high confidence*). Snow-covered areas and snow volumes will decrease in
35 most regions of the Hindu Kush Himalaya during the 21st century and snowline elevations will rise (*high*
36 *confidence*) and glacier volumes are *likely* to decline with greater mass loss in higher CO₂ emissions scenarios.
37 Heavy snowfall is increasing in East Asia and North Asia (*medium confidence*) but with limited evidence on
38 future changes in hail and snow avalanches.

39
40 {2.3, 8.3, 8.4, 9.5, 9.6, 10.6, Box 10.4, 11.4, 11.5, 11.7, 11.9, 12.4.2, Atlas.3.1, Atlas.5, Atlas.5.2, Atlas.5.3,
41 Atlas.5.4, Atlas.5.5, Box TS.13}

42
43 In addition to the main changes summarized above and in TS.4.3.1, further details are given below.

44
45 **Heat and cold:** Over all regions of Asia, observed and projected increases in mean temperature and a shift
46 toward heat extreme characteristics are broadly similar to the generic pattern described in TS.4.3.1. Over
47 Southeast Asia annual mean surface temperature will *likely* increase by a slightly smaller amount than the
48 global average. {Atlas.5.4.4}

49
50 **Wet and dry:** Over East Asia, historical trends of annual precipitation show considerable regional differences
51 but with increases over northwest China and South Korea (*high confidence*). Daily precipitation extremes have
52 increased over part of the region (*high confidence*). Extreme hydrological drought frequency has increased in
53 a region extending from southwest to northeast China, with projected increases of agricultural and ecological
54 drought for 4°C GWL and fire weather for 2°C and above (*medium confidence*). {8.3.2, 8.4.2, 11.4.4, 11.4.5,

1 11.9, 12.4.2.2, Atlas.5.1.2}

2
3 Over North Asia, annual mean precipitation totals have *very likely* increased, causing more intense flooding
4 events, and there is *medium confidence* that the number of dry days has decreased. Concurrently total soil
5 moisture is projected to decline extensively (*medium confidence*). {8.3.1.3, 8.4.1.6, 11.4.5, 11.5.2, 11.5.5,
6 12.4.2.2, Atlas.5.2.2}

7
8 Over South Asia, the summer monsoon precipitation decreased over several areas since the mid-20th century
9 (*high confidence*), while it increased in parts of the western HKH and decreased over eastern-central HKH
10 (*medium confidence*) (Box TS.12). The frequency of heavy precipitation and flood events has increased over
11 several areas during the last few decades (*medium confidence*). {8.3.1.3, 8.3.2.4.1, 8.4.1.5, 8.4.2.4.1, 10.6.3.3,
12 10.6.3.5, 10.6.3.6, 10.6.3.8, Cross-Chapter Box 10.4, 11.4.1, 11.4.2, 11.4.5, 11.5.5, 12.4.2.2, Box 10.4, Atlas
13 5.3.2}

14
15 Over Southeast Asia, mean precipitation trends are not spatially coherent or consistent across datasets and
16 seasons (*high confidence*). Most of the region has experienced an increase in rainfall intensity but with a
17 reduced number of wet days (*medium confidence*). Rainfall is projected to increase in the northern parts of
18 Southeast Asia and decrease in areas in the Maritime Continent (*medium confidence*). {8.4.1, 11.4.2, 11.5.5,
19 11.9, 12.4.2.2, Atlas.3.1, Atlas.5.4.2, Atlas.5.4.4}

20
21 Over Southwest Asia, an observed annual precipitation decline over the Arabian Peninsula since the 1980s of
22 6.3 mm per decade is contrasted with observed increases between 1.3 mm and 4.8 mm per decade during
23 1960–2013 over the elevated part of eastern West Central Asia (*very high confidence*), along with an increase
24 of the frequency and intensity of extreme precipitation. {Figure 8.19, Figure 8.20, 8.3.1.6, 8.4.1.6, Table
25 11.2A, 11.9, 12.4.2.2, Atlas.5.5}

26
27 **Wind:** Over East Asia, the terrestrial near-surface wind speed has decreased and is projected to decrease
28 further in the future (*medium confidence*). Since the mid 1980's, there has been an increase in the number and
29 intensification rate of intense TCs (*medium confidence*), with a significant northwestward shift in tracks and a
30 northward shift in their average latitude, increasing exposure over East China, the Korean Peninsula and the
31 Japanese Archipelago (*medium confidence*). {11.7.1, 12.4.2.3}

32
33 Over North Asia there is *medium confidence* for a decreasing trend in wind speed during 1979–2018 and for
34 projected continuing decreases of terrestrial near-surface wind speed (*medium confidence*). {2.3.1.4.4,
35 12.4.2.3}

36
37 Over Southeast Asia, although there is no significant long-term trend in the number of TC, fewer but more
38 extreme TCs have affected the Philippines during 1951–2013. {11.7.4, 12.4.2.4}

39
40 **Snow and ice:** Over East Asia, decreases have been observed in the frequency and increases in the mean
41 intensity of snowfall in north-western, north-eastern and south-eastern China and the eastern Tibetan Plateau
42 since the 1960s. Heavy snowfall is projected to occur more frequently in some parts of Japan (*medium*
43 *confidence*). {12.4.2.4, Atlas.5.1.2}

44
45 Over North Asia, seasonal snow duration and extent have decreased in recent decades (*high confidence*), and
46 maximum snow depth *likely* has increased since the mid-1970s, particularly over south of the Russian-Far-
47 East. {2.3.2.5, 8.3.1.7.2, 9.5, 12.4.2.4, Atlas.5.2, Atlas.5.4}

48
49 Over South Asia, snow-cover has reduced over most of the HKH since the early 21st century, and glaciers
50 have thinned, retreated, and lost mass since the 1970s (*high confidence*) although the Karakoram glaciers have
51 either slightly gained mass or are in an approximately balanced state (*medium confidence*). {8.3.1.7.1, Cross-
52 Chapter Box 10.4}

53
54 Over Southwest Asia, mountain permafrost degradation at high altitudes has increased the instability of
55 mountain slopes in the past decade (*medium confidence*). More than 60% of glacier mass in the Caucasus is

1 projected to disappear under RCP8.5 emissions by the end of the 21st century (*medium confidence*). {9.5.1,
2 9.5.3, 12.4.2.4}

3
4 **Coastal and oceanic:** Over the last three decades, relative sea level has increased at a rate higher than GMSL
5 around Asia (*high confidence*). Gross coastal area loss and shoreline retreat has been observed over 1984–
6 2015, but with localized shoreline progradation in the Russian Far East, East and Southeast Asia. {12.4.2.5}

7
8 Projections show that regional-mean sea level continues to rise (*high confidence*), ranging from 0.4–0.5 m
9 under SSP1-2.6 to 0.8–1.0 m under SSP5-8.5 for 2081–2100 relative to 1995–2014 (median values). This will
10 contribute to more frequent coastal flooding and higher Extreme Total Water Level (ETWL) in low-lying areas
11 and coastal erosion along sandy beaches (*high confidence*). There is *high confidence* that compound effects of
12 climate change, land subsidence, and human factors will lead to higher flood levels and prolonged inundation
13 in the Mekong Delta and other Asian coasts. {9.6.1, 9.6.3, 12.4.2.5}

14 15 16 TS.4.3.2.3 Australasia

17
18 Additional regional changes in Australasia, besides those features described in TS.4.3.1, include a significant
19 decrease in April to October rainfall in southwest Western Australia, observed from 1910 to 2019 and
20 attributable to human influence (*high confidence*), which is *very likely* to continue in future. Agricultural and
21 ecological and hydrological droughts have increased over southern Australia (*medium confidence*), and
22 meteorological droughts have decreased over northern and central Australia (*medium confidence*). Relative
23 sea level has increased over the period 1993–2018 at a rate higher than GMSL around Australasia (*high*
24 *confidence*). Sandy shorelines have retreated around the region, except in southern Australia, where a shoreline
25 progradation rate of 0.1 m yr⁻¹ has been observed. In the future, heavy precipitation and pluvial flooding are
26 *very likely* to increase over northern Australia and central Australia, and they are *likely* to increase elsewhere
27 in Australasia for global warming levels (GWLs) exceeding 2°C and with *medium confidence* for a 2°C GWL.
28 Agricultural and ecological droughts are projected to increase in southern and eastern Australia (*medium*
29 *confidence*) for a 2°C GWL. Fire weather is projected to increase throughout Australia (*high confidence*) and
30 New Zealand (*medium confidence*). Snowfall is expected to decrease throughout the region at high altitudes
31 in both Australia (*high confidence*) and New Zealand (*medium confidence*), with glaciers receding in New
32 Zealand (*high confidence*). {11.4, Table 11.6, 12.3, 12.4.3, Atlas.6.4, Atlas.6.5}

33
34 In addition to the main changes summarized above and in TS.4.3.1, further details are given below.

35
36 **Heat and cold:** Observed and projected increases in mean temperature and a shift toward heat extreme
37 characteristics are broadly similar to the generic pattern described in TS.4.3.1. {11.9, 12.4.3.1, Atlas.6}

38
39 **Wet and dry:** There is *medium confidence* that heavy precipitation has increased in northern Australia since
40 1950. Annual mean precipitation is projected to increase in the south and west of New Zealand (*medium*
41 *confidence*) and is projected to decrease in southwest western Australia (*high confidence*), eastern Australia
42 (*medium confidence*), and in the north and east of New Zealand (*medium confidence*) for a GWL of 2°C. There
43 is *medium confidence* that river flooding will increase in New Zealand and Australia, with higher increases in
44 northern Australia. Aridity is projected to increase with *medium confidence* in southern Australia (*high*
45 *confidence* in southwest Western Australia), eastern Australia (*medium confidence*) and in the north and east
46 of New Zealand (*medium confidence*) for GWLs around 2°C. {11.4, Table 11.6, 11.9, 12.4.3.2, Atlas.6.2}

47
48 **Wind:** Mean wind speeds are projected to increase in parts of northeastern Australia (*medium confidence*) by
49 the end of the 21st century, under high CO₂ emissions scenarios. TCs in north eastern and north Australia are
50 projected to decrease in number (*high confidence*) but increase in intensity except for ‘east coast lows’ (*low*
51 *confidence*). {12.4.3.3}

52
53 **Snow and ice:** Observations in Australia show that the snow season length has decreased by 5% in the last
54 five decades. Furthermore, the date of peak snowfall in Australia has advanced by 11 days over the last 5

1 decades. Glacier ice volume in New Zealand has decreased by 33% from 1977 to 2018. {12.4.3.4, Atlas.6.2}

2
3 **Coastal and oceanic:** Observed changes in marine heat waves (MHWs) over the 20th century in the region
4 show an increase in their occurrence frequency, except along the south east coast of New Zealand, an increase
5 in duration per event, and the total number of MHW days per decade, with the change being stronger in the
6 Tasman Sea than elsewhere. The present day 1-in-100-year ETWL is between 0.5–2.5 m around most of
7 Australia, except the northwestern coast where 1-in-100-year ETWL can be as high as 6 m–7 m. {Box 9.1,
8 12.3.1.5, 12.4.3.5}

9
10
11 *TS.4.3.2.4 Central and South America*
12

13 Additional regional changes in Central and South America, besides those features described in TS.4.3.1,
14 include increases in mean and extreme precipitation in Southeastern South America since the 1960s (*high*
15 *confidence*) (TS.4.2.3). Decreasing trends in mean precipitation and increasing trends in agricultural and
16 ecological drought are observed over Northeastern South America (*medium confidence*). The intensity and
17 frequency of extreme precipitation and pluvial floods is projected to increase over Southeastern South
18 America, Southern South America, Northern South America, South American Monsoon and Northeastern
19 South America (*medium confidence*) for a 2°C GWL and above. Increases of agricultural and ecological
20 drought are projected in South America Monsoon and Southern South America, and fire weather is projected
21 to increase over several regions (Northern South America, the South American Monsoon, Northeastern South
22 America and Southwestern South America) (*high confidence*). {8.3, 8.4, 11.3, 11.4, 11.9, Table 11.13, Table
23 11.14, Table 11.15, 12.4.4.2, Atlas.7.1, Atlas.7.2}

24
25 In addition to the main changes summarized above and in TS.4.3.1, further details are given below.

26
27 **Heat and cold:** Observed and projected increases in mean temperature and a shift toward heat extreme
28 characteristics are broadly similar to the generic pattern described in TS.4.3.1. {11.3.2, 11.3.5, Table 11.13,
29 12.4.4.1, Atlas.7.1.2, Atlas.7.2.2, Atlas.7.2.4}

30
31 **Wet and dry:** Mean precipitation is projected to change in a dipole pattern with increases in Northwestern
32 and Southeastern South America and decreases in Northeastern and Southwestern South America (*high*
33 *confidence*) with further decreases in Northern South America and South Central America (*medium*
34 *confidence*). In Northern South America and South Central America, aridity and agricultural and ecological
35 droughts are increasing with *medium confidence*. Fire weather is projected to increase over Southern Central
36 America and Southern South America with *medium confidence*. {8.3.1.3, 8.4.2.4.5, 11.4.2, 11.9, Table 11.14,
37 Table 11.15, 12.4.4.2, Atlas.7.2.2, Atlas.7.2.4}

38
39 **Wind:** Climate projections indicate an increase in mean wind speed and in wind power potential over the
40 Amazonian region (Northern South America, South American Monsoon, Northeastern South America)
41 (*medium confidence*). {12.4.4.3}

42
43 **Snow and ice:** Glacier volume loss and permafrost thawing will *likely* continue in the Andes Cordillera under
44 all climate scenarios, causing important reductions in river flow and potentially high-magnitude glacial lake
45 outburst floods. {9.5.1.1, 12.4.4.4}

46
47 **Coastal and oceanic:** Around Central and South America, relative sea level has increased at a higher rate than
48 GMSL in the South Atlantic and the subtropical North Atlantic, and at a rate lower than GMSL in the East
49 Pacific over the last 3 decades. The present day 1-in-100-years ETWL is highest in Southern and Southwestern
50 South America subregions, where it can be as large as 5 to 6 m. Satellite observations for 1984–2015 show
51 shoreline retreat rates along the sandy coasts of Southern Central America, Southeastern South America and
52 Southern South America, while shoreline progradation rates have been observed in Northwestern South
53 America and Northern South America. Over the period 1982–2016, the coastlines experienced at least one
54 MHW per year, and more along the Pacific coast of North Central America and the Atlantic coast of

1 Southeastern South America. {12.4.4.5}

4 *TS.4.3.2.5 Europe*

6 Additional regional changes in Europe, besides those features described in TS.4.3.1, include observed
7 increases in pluvial flooding in northern Europe and hydrological and agricultural/ecological droughts in the
8 Mediterranean (*high confidence*), which have been attributed to human contribution with *high* and *medium*
9 *confidence*, respectively. Increased mean precipitation amounts at high latitudes in boreal winter and reduced
10 summer precipitation in southern Europe are projected starting from a 2°C GWL (*high confidence*). Aridity,
11 agricultural and hydrological droughts and fire weather conditions will increase in the Mediterranean region
12 starting from 2°C GWL (*high confidence*). Pluvial flooding will increase everywhere with *high confidence*
13 except for *medium confidence* in the Mediterranean; in Western and Central Europe this also applies to river
14 flooding starting from a 2°C GWL (*high confidence*). Most periglacial processes in Northern Europe are
15 projected to disappear by the end of the 21st century, even for a low warming scenario (*medium confidence*).
16 {8.3, 11.3, 11.9, 12.4.5, 12.5.2, Atlas.8.2, Atlas.8.4}

17
18 In addition to the main changes summarized above and in TS.4.3.1, further details are given below.

19
20 **Heat and cold:** Observed and projected increases in mean temperature and a shift toward heat extreme
21 characteristics are broadly similar to the generic pattern described in TS.4.3.1. {11.3, 11.9, 12.4.5.1, 12.5.2,
22 Atlas.8.2, Atlas.8.4}

23
24 **Wet and dry:** There is *medium confidence* that annual mean precipitation in Northern Europe, West and
25 Central Europe and Eastern Europe has increased since the early 20th century and *high confidence* for extreme
26 precipitation. In the European Mediterranean, the magnitude and sign of observed land precipitation trends
27 depend on time period and exact study region (*medium confidence*). There is *medium confidence* that river
28 floods will decrease in Northern, Eastern and Southern Europe for high warming levels. {8.3.1.3, 11.3, 11.9,
29 12.4.5.2, Atlas.8.2, Atlas.8.4}

30
31 **Wind:** Mean wind speed over land has decreased (*medium confidence*), but the role of human-induced climate
32 change has not been established. There is *high confidence* that mean wind speeds will decrease in
33 Mediterranean areas and *medium confidence* of such decreases in Northern Europe for GWLs exceeding 2°C.
34 The frequency of Medicanes (tropical-like cyclones in the Mediterranean) is projected to decrease (*medium*
35 *confidence*). {11.9, 12.4.5.3}

36
37 **Snow and ice:** In the Alps, snow cover will decrease below elevations of 1500–2000 m throughout the 21st
38 century (*high confidence*). A reduction of glacier ice volume is projected in the European Alps and Scandinavia
39 with *high confidence* and with *medium confidence* for the timing and mass change rates. {12.4.5.4, 9.5.2}

40
41 **Coastal and oceanic:** Over the last three decades, relative sea level has increased at a lower rate than GMSL
42 in the sub-polar North Atlantic coasts of Europe. The present day 1-in-100-years ETWL is between 0.5–1.5 m
43 in the Mediterranean basin and 2.5–5.0 m in the western Atlantic European coasts, around the United Kingdom
44 and along the North Sea coast, and lower at 1.5–2.5 m along the Baltic Sea coast. Satellite-derived shoreline
45 change estimates over 1984–2015 indicate shoreline retreat rates of around 0.5 m yr⁻¹ along the sandy coasts
46 of Central Europe and the Mediterranean and more or less stable shorelines in Northern Europe. Over the
47 period 1982–2016, the coastlines of Europe experienced on average more than 2.0 MHW per year, with the
48 eastern Mediterranean and Scandinavia experiencing 2.5–3 MHWs per year. {12.4.5.5}

49
50
51 *TS.4.3.2.6 North America*

52
53 Additional regional changes in North America, besides those features described in TS.4.3.1, include changes
54 in North American wet and dry CIDs, which are largely organized by the northeast (more wet) to southwest

(more dry) pattern of mean precipitation change, although heavy precipitation increases are widespread (*high confidence*). Increasing evaporative demand will expand agricultural and ecological drought and fire weather (particularly in summertime) in Central North America, Western North America and North Central America (from *medium* to *high confidence*). Severe wind storms, tropical cyclones, and dust storms in North America are shifting toward more extreme characteristics (*medium confidence*), and both observations and projections point to strong changes in the seasonal and geographic range of snow and ice conditions in the coming decades (*very high confidence*). General findings for relative sea level, coastal flooding and erosion will not apply for areas with substantial land uplift around the Hudson Bay and Southern Alaska. {8.4, 11.4, 11.5, 11.7, 11.9, 12.4, Atlas.9.4}

In addition to the main changes summarized above and in TS.4.3.1, further details are given below.

Heat and cold: Observed and projected increases in mean temperature and a shift toward heat extreme characteristics are broadly similar to the generic pattern described in TS.4.3.1. {11.3, 11.9, 12.4.6.1, Atlas.9.2, Atlas.9.4}

Wet and dry: Annual precipitation increased over parts of Eastern and Central North America during 1960–2015 (*high confidence*) and has decreased in parts of southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico (*medium confidence*). River floods are projected to increase for all North American regions other than north Central America (*medium confidence*). {8.4.2.4, 11.4, 11.5, 11.9, 12.4.6.2, Atlas.9.2, Atlas.9.4}

Agricultural and ecological drought increases have been observed in Western North America (*medium confidence*), and aridity is projected to increase in the southwestern United States and Northern Central America, with lower summer soil moisture across much of the continental interior (*medium confidence*). {8.4.1, 11.6.2, 12.4.6.2}

Wind: Projections indicate a greater number of the most intense TCs, with slower translation speeds and higher rainfall potential for Mexico's Pacific Coast, the Gulf Coast and the United States East Coast (*medium confidence*). Mean wind speed and wind power potential are projected to decrease in Western North America (*high confidence*), with differences between global and regional models lending *low confidence* elsewhere. {11.4, 11.7, 12.4.6.3}

Snow and ice: It is *very likely* that some high-latitude regions will experience an increase in winter snow water equivalent, due to the snowfall increase prevailing over the warming trend. At sustained GWLs between 3°C and 5°C, nearly all glacial mass in Western Canada and Western North America will disappear (*medium confidence*). {9.5.1, 9.5.3, 12.4.6.4, Atlas.9.4}

Coastal and oceanic: Around North America, relative sea level has increased over the last 3 decades at a rate lower than GMSL in the subpolar North Atlantic and in the East Pacific, while it has increased at a rate higher than GMSL in the subtropical North Atlantic. Observations indicate that episodic coastal flooding is increasing along many coastlines in North America. Shoreline retreat rates of around 1 m yr⁻¹ have been observed during 1984–2015 along the sandy coasts of Northwestern North America and Northern Central America, while portions of the United States Gulf Coast have seen a retreat rate approaching 2.5 m yr⁻¹. Sandy shorelines along Eastern North America and Western North America have remained more or less stable during 1984–2014, but a shoreline progradation rate of around 0.5 m yr⁻¹ has been observed in Northeastern North America. {12.4.6.5}

TS.4.3.2.7 Small Islands

Additional regional changes in Small Islands, besides those features described in TS.4.3.1, include a *likely* decrease in rainfall during boreal summer in the Caribbean and in some parts of the Pacific islands poleward of 20° latitude in both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. These drying trends will *likely* continue in coming decades. Fewer but more intense tropical cyclones are projected starting from a 2°C GWL (*medium*

1 *confidence*). {9.6, 11.3, 11.4, 11.7, 11.9, 12.4.7, Atlas.10.2, Atlas.10.4, Cross-Chapter Box Atlas.2}

2
3 In addition to the main changes summarized above and in TS.4.3.1, further details are given below.

4
5 **Heat and cold:** It is *very likely* that most Small Islands have warmed over the period of instrumental records,
6 and continued temperature increases in the 21st century will further increase heat stress in these regions.
7 {11.3.2, 11.9, 12.4.7.1, Atlas.10.2, Atlas.10.4, Cross-Chapter Box Atlas.2}

8
9 **Wet and dry:** Observed and projected rainfall trends vary spatially across the Small Islands. Higher
10 evapotranspiration under a warming climate can partially offset future increases or amplify future reductions
11 in rainfall resulting in increased aridity as well as more severe agricultural and ecological drought in the Small
12 Islands (*medium confidence*). {11.4.2, 11.9, 12.4.7.2, Atlas.10.2, Atlas.10.4, Cross-Chapter Box Atlas.1}

13
14 **Wind:** Global changes indicate that Small Islands will face fewer but more intense TCs, with spatial
15 inconsistency in projections given poleward shifts in TC tracks (*medium confidence*). {11.7.1.2, 11.7.1.5,
16 12.4.7.3}

17
18 **Coastal and oceanic:** Continued relative sea level rise is *very likely* in the ocean around Small Islands and,
19 along with storm surges and waves, will exacerbate coastal inundation with the potential to increase saltwater
20 intrusion into aquifers in small islands. Shoreline retreat is projected along sandy coasts of most small islands
21 (*high confidence*). {9.6.3.3, 12.4.7.4, Cross-Chapter Box Atlas.1}

22 23 24 TS.4.3.2.8 Polar

25
26 It is *virtually certain* that surface warming in the Arctic will continue to be more pronounced than the global
27 average warming over the 21st century. An intensification of the polar water cycle will increase mean
28 precipitation, with precipitation intensity becoming stronger and more *likely* to be rainfall rather than snowfall
29 (*high confidence*). Permafrost warming, loss of seasonal snow cover, and glacier melt will be widespread (*high*
30 *confidence*). There is *high confidence* that both the Greenland and Antarctic Ice Sheets have lost mass since
31 1992 and will continue to lose mass throughout this century under all emissions scenarios. Relative sea level
32 and coastal flooding are projected to increase in areas other than regions with substantial land uplift (*medium*
33 *confidence*). {2.3, 3.4, 4.3, 4.5, 7.4, 8.2, 8.4, Box 8.2, 9.5, 12.4.9, Atlas.11.1, Atlas.11.2}

34
35 In addition to the main changes summarized above and in TS.4.3.1, further details are given below.

36
37 **Heat and cold:** Changes in Antarctica showed larger spatial variability, with *very likely* warming in the
38 Antarctic Peninsula since the 1950s and no overall trend in East Antarctica. Less warming and weaker polar
39 amplification are projected as *very likely* over the Antarctic than in the Arctic, with a weak polar amplification
40 projected as *very likely* by the end of the 21st century. {4.3.1, 4.5.1, 7.4.4, 12.4.9.1, Atlas.11.1, Atlas.11.2}

41 **Wet and dry:** Recent decades have seen a general decrease in Arctic aridity (*high confidence*), with increased
42 moisture transport leading to higher precipitation, humidity and streamflow and a corresponding decrease in
43 dry days. Antarctic precipitation showed a positive trend during the 20th century. The water cycle is projected
44 to intensify in both polar regions, leading to higher precipitation totals (and a shift to more heavy precipitation)
45 and higher fraction of precipitation falling as rain. In the Arctic, this will result in higher river flood potential
46 and earlier meltwater flooding, altering seasonal characteristics of flooding (*high confidence*). A lengthening
47 of the fire season (*medium confidence*) and encroachment of fire regimes into tundra regions (*high confidence*)
48 are projected. {8.2.3, 8.4.1, Box 8.2, 9.4.1, 9.4.2, 12.4.9.2, Atlas.11.1, Atlas.11.2}

49
50 **Wind:** There is *medium confidence* in mean wind decrease over the Russian Arctic and Arctic Northeast North
51 America, but *low confidence* of changes in other Arctic regions and Antarctica. {12.4.9.3}

52
53 **Snow and ice:** Reductions in spring snow cover extent have occurred across the Northern Hemisphere since
54 at least 1978 (*very high confidence*). Permafrost warming and thawing have been widespread in the Arctic

1 since the 1980s (*high confidence*), causing strong heterogeneity in surface conditions. There is *high confidence*
2 in future glacier and ice sheet loss, permafrost warming, decreasing permafrost extent and decreasing seasonal
3 duration and extent of snow cover in the Arctic. Decline in seasonal sea ice coverage along the majority of the
4 Arctic coastline in recent decades is projected to continue, contributing to an increase in coastal hazards
5 (including open water storm surge, coastal erosion and flooding). {2.3.2, 3.4.2, 3.4.3, 9.4.1, 9.4.2, 9.5, 12.4.6,
6 12.4.9, Atlas.11.2}

7
8 **Coastal and oceanic:** Higher sea levels contribute to *high confidence* for projected increases of Arctic coastal
9 flooding and higher coastal erosion (aided by sea ice loss) (*medium confidence*), with lower confidence for
10 those regions with substantial land uplift (Arctic Northeast North America and Greenland). {12.4.9.5}

11 12 13 *TS.4.3.2.9 Ocean*

14
15 The Indian Ocean, western equatorial Pacific Ocean and western boundary currents have warmed faster than
16 the global average (*very high confidence*), with the largest changes in the frequency of marine heatwaves
17 (MHWs) projected in the western tropical Pacific and the Arctic Ocean (*medium confidence*). The Pacific and
18 Southern Ocean are projected to freshen and the Atlantic to become more saline (*medium confidence*).
19 Anthropogenic warming is *very likely* to further decrease ocean oxygen concentrations, and this deoxygenation
20 is expected to persist for thousands of years (*medium confidence*). Arctic sea ice losses are projected to
21 continue, leading to a practically ice-free Arctic in September by the end of the 21st century under high CO₂
22 emissions scenarios (*high confidence*). {2.3, 5.3, 9.2, 9.3, Box 9.2, 12.4.8}

23
24 In addition to the main changes summarized above and in TS.4.3.1, further details are given below.

25
26 **Ocean surface temperature:** The Southern Ocean, the eastern equatorial Pacific, and the North Atlantic
27 Ocean have warmed more slowly than the global average or slightly cooled. Global warming of 2°C above
28 1850–1900 levels would result in the exceedance of numerous hazard thresholds for pathogens, seagrasses,
29 mangroves, kelp forests, rocky shores, coral reefs and other marine ecosystems (*medium confidence*). {9.2.13,
30 12.4.8}

31
32 **Marine heatwaves:** Moderate increases in MHW frequency are projected for mid-latitudes, and only small
33 increases are projected for the Southern Ocean (*medium confidence*). Under the SSP5-8.5 scenario, permanent
34 MHWs (more than 360 days per year) are projected to occur in the 21st century in parts of the tropical ocean,
35 the Arctic Ocean and around 45°S; however, the occurrence of such permanent MHWs can be largely avoided
36 under SSP1-2.6 scenario. {Box 9.2, 12.4.8}

37
38 **Ocean acidity:** With the rising CO₂ concentration, the ocean surface pH has declined globally over the past
39 four decades (*virtually certain*). {2.3.3.5, 5.3.3.2, 12.4.8}

40
41 **Ocean salinity:** At the basin scale, it is *very likely* that the Pacific and the Southern Ocean have freshened
42 while the Atlantic has become more saline. {2.3.3.2, 9.2.2.2, 12.4.8}

43
44 **Dissolved oxygen:** In recent decades, low oxygen zones in ocean ecosystems have expanded. {2.3.4.2, 5.3.3.2,
45 12.4.8}

46
47 **Sea ice:** Arctic perennial sea ice is being replaced by thin, seasonal ice, with earlier spring melt and delayed
48 fall freeze up. There is no clear trend in the Antarctic sea ice area over the past few decades and *low confidence*
49 in its future change. {2.3.2.1.1, 9.3.1.1, 12.4.8, 12.4.9}

1 *TS.4.3.2.10 Other Typological Domains*

2
3 Some types of regions found in different continents face common climate challenges regardless of their
4 location. These include biodiversity hot spots that will *very likely* see even more extreme heat and droughts,
5 mountain areas where a projected raising in the freezing level height will alter snow and ice conditions (*high*
6 *confidence*), and tropical forests that are increasingly prone to fire weather (*medium confidence*). {Box 8.2,
7 8.4, 9.5, 12.3, 12.4}

8
9 Biodiversity hotspots located around the world will each face unique challenges in CID changes. Heat, drought
10 and length of dry season, wildfire weather, sea surface temperature and deoxygenation are relevant drivers to
11 terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems and have marked increasing trends. {12.3, 12.4.10.1}

12
13 Desert and semi-arid areas are strongly affected by CIDs such as extreme heat, drought and dust storms, with
14 large-scale aridity trends contributing to expanding drylands in some regions (*high confidence*). {12.3,
15 12.4.10.3}

16
17 Average warming in mountain areas varies with elevation, but the pattern is not globally uniform (*medium*
18 *confidence*). Extreme precipitation is projected to increase in major mountainous regions (*medium to high*
19 *confidence* depending on location), with potential cascading consequences of floods, landslides and lake
20 outbursts in all scenarios (*medium confidence*). {Box 8.2, 8.4.1.5, 9.5.1.3, 9.5.3.3, 9.5.2.3, Cross-Chapter Box
21 10.4, 11.5.5, 12.3, 12.4.1–12.4.6, 12.4.10.4}

22
23 Most tropical forests are challenged by a mix of emerging warming trends that are particularly large in
24 comparison to historical variability (*medium confidence*). Water cycle changes bring prolonged drought,
25 longer dry seasons, and increased fire weather to many tropical forests (*medium confidence*). {10.5, 12.3, 12.4}

26
27
28 **[START BOX TS.14 HERE]**

29
30 **Box TS.14: Urban Areas**

31
32 With global warming, urban areas and cities will be affected by more frequent occurrence of extreme climate
33 events, such as heatwaves, with more hot days and warm nights as well as sea level rise and increases in
34 tropical cyclone storm surge and rainfall intensity that will increase the probability of coastal city flooding
35 (*high confidence*). {Box 10.3, 11.3, 11.5, 12.3, 12.4}

36
37 Urban areas have special interactions with the climate system, for instance in terms of heat islands and altering
38 the water cycle, and thereby will be more affected by extreme climate events such as extreme heat (*high*
39 *confidence*). With global warming, increasing relative sea level compounded by increasing tropical cyclone
40 storm surge and rainfall intensity will increase the probability of coastal city flooding (*high confidence*). Arctic
41 coastal settlements are particularly exposed to climate change due to sea ice retreat (*high confidence*).
42 Improvements in urban climate modelling and climate monitoring networks have contributed to understanding
43 the mutual interaction between regional and urban climate (*high confidence*). {Box 10.3, 11.3, 11.5, 12.3,
44 12.4}

45
46 Despite having a negligible effect on global surface temperature (*high confidence*), urbanization has
47 exacerbated the effects of global warming through its contribution to the observed warming trend in and near
48 cities, particularly in annual mean minimum temperature (*very high confidence*) and increases in mean and
49 extreme precipitation over and downwind of the city, especially in the afternoon and early evening (*medium*
50 *confidence*). {2.3, Box 10.3, 11.3, 11.4, 12.3, 12.4}

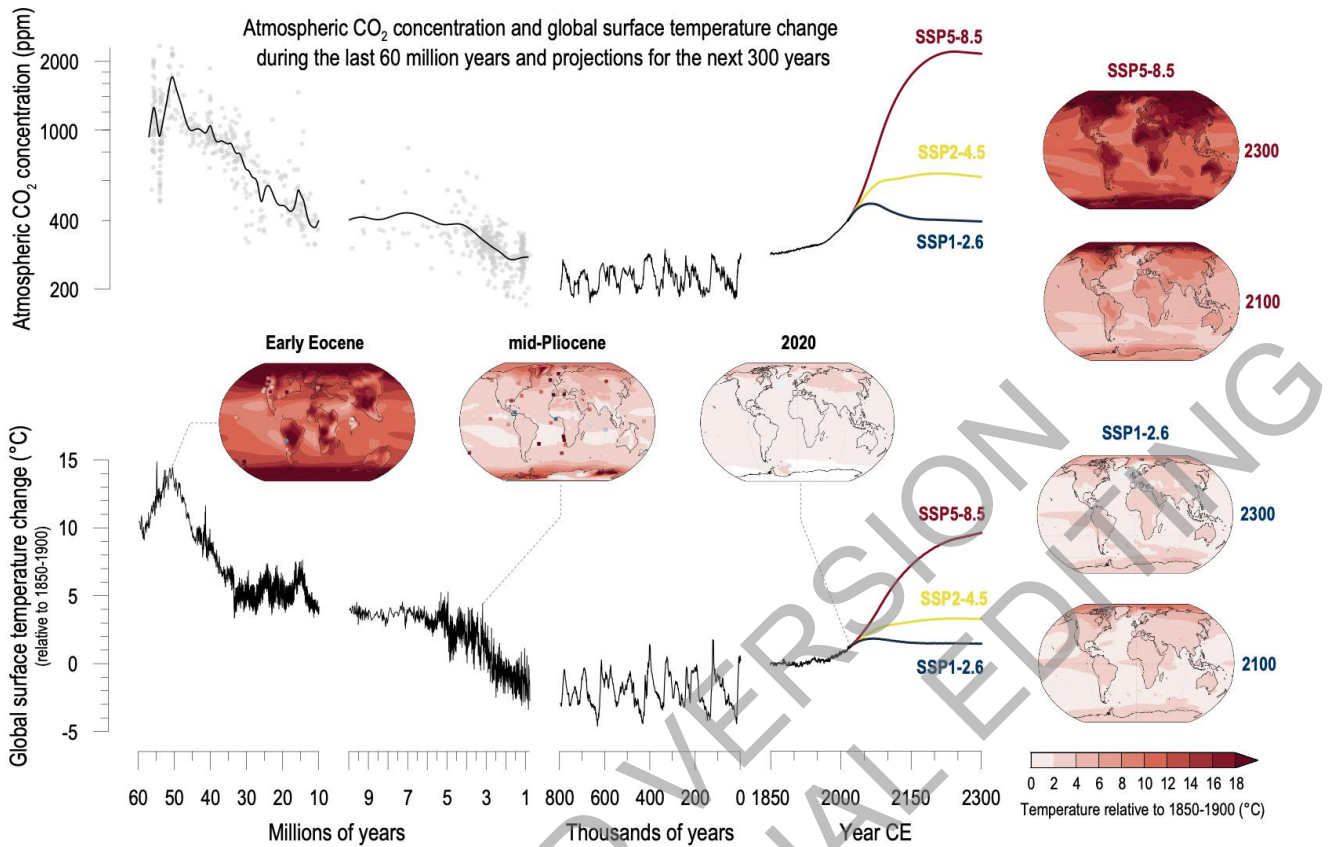
51
52 Combining climate change projections with urban growth scenarios, future urbanization will amplify (*very*
53 *high confidence*) the projected local air temperature increase, particularly by strong influence on minimum
54 temperatures, which is approximately comparable in magnitude to global warming (*high confidence*).

1 Compared to present day, large implications are expected from the combination of future urban development
2 and more frequent occurrence of extreme climate events, such as heatwaves, with more hot days and warm
3 nights adding to heat stress in cities (*very high confidence*). {Box 10.2, 11.3, 12.4}
4
5 Both sea levels and air temperatures are projected to rise in most coastal settlements (*high confidence*). There
6 is *high confidence* in an increase in pluvial flood potential in urban areas where extreme precipitation is
7 projected to increase, especially at high global warming levels. {11.4, 11.5, 12.4}
8
9 **[END BOX TS.14 HERE]**
10

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1 **Figures**

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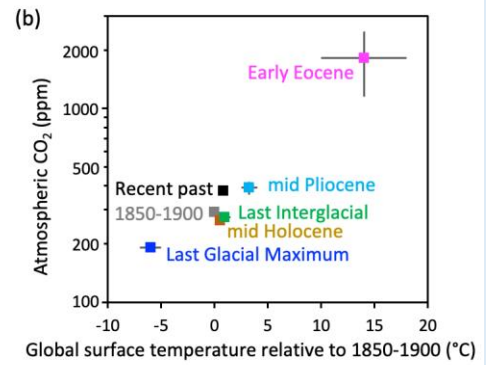
6 **Figure TS.1: Changes in atmospheric CO₂ and global surface temperature (relative to 1850-1900) from the**
 7 **deep past to the next 300 years.** *The intent is to show that CO₂ and temperature covary, both in the*
 8 *past and into the future, and that projected CO₂ and temperatures are similar to those only from many*
 9 *millions of years ago. CO₂ concentrations from millions of years ago are reconstructed from multiple*
 10 *proxy records (grey dots are data from 2.2.3.1, Figure 2.3 shown with cubic-spline fit). CO₂ levels for*
 11 *the last 800,000 years through the mid-20th century are from air trapped in polar ice; recent values are*
 12 *from direct air measurements (Figure TS.9). {1.2.1.2, 2.2.3, Figures 1.5, 2.4, 2.5} Global surface*
 13 *temperature prior to 1850 is estimated from marine oxygen isotopes, one of multiple sources of*
 14 *evidence used to assess paleo temperatures in this report. {2.3.1.1.1, Cross-Chapter Box 2.1, Figure 1}*
 15 *Temperature of the past 170 years is the AR6 assessed mean (Cross-Section Box TS.1). {2.3.1.1} CO₂*
 16 *levels and global surface temperature change for the future are shown for three SSP scenarios (TS.1.3)*
 17 *through 2300 CE, using Earth System Model emulators calibrated to the assessed global surface*
 18 *temperatures. {4.7.1, Cross-Chapter Box 7.1} Their smooth trajectories do not account for inter-annual*
 19 *to inter-decadal variability, including transient response to potential volcanic eruptions. {Cross-Chapter*
 20 *Box 4.1} Global maps for two paleo reference periods are based on CMIP6 and pre-CMIP6 multi-*
 21 *model means, with site-level proxy data for comparison (squares and circles are marine and terrestrial,*
 22 *respectively) (Box TS.2). {Cross-Chapter Box 2.1, Figure 7.13} The map for 2020 is an estimate of the*
 23 *total observed warming since 1850-1900. {Figure 1.14} Global maps at right show two SSP scenarios*
 24 *at 2100 (2081-2100) {4.5.1} and at 2300 (2281-2300; map from CMIP6 models; temperature assessed*
 25 *in 4.7.1). A brief account of the major climate forcings associated with past global temperature changes*
 26 *is in Cross-Chapter Box 2.1.*

27

Three selected global climate indicators covary across multiple paleoclimate reference periods

Reference period (*See Interactive Atlas for climate model output)	Age	CO ₂ (ppm)	Temperature (°C)	Sea level (m)
Recent past	1995-2014 CE	360 → 397	0.66 to 1.00	0.15 to 0.25
Approximate pre-industrial	1850-1900 CE	286 → 296	-0.15 to +0.11	-0.03 to 0.00
Last Millennium	850-1850 CE	278 to 285	-0.14 ~ 0.24	-0.05 to 0.03
Mid-Holocene*	6.5-5.5 ka	260 to 268	0.2 to 1.0	-3.5 to +0.5
Last Deglacial Transition	18-11 ka	193 → 271	not assessed	-120 → -50
Last Glacial Maximum*	23-19 ka	188 to 194	-5 to -7	-134 to -125
Last Interglacial*	129-116 ka	266 to 282	0.5 to 1.5	5 to 10
Mid-Pliocene Warm Period*	3.3-3.0 Ma	360 to 420	2.5 to 4.0	5 to 25
Early Eocene	53-49 Ma	1150 to 2500	10 to 18	70 to 76
Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Max	55.9-55.7 Ma	900 → 2000	10 to 25	not assessed

X to Y: very likely range (caveats in Figure 2.34)
 X → Y: start to end of period, with no stated uncertainty
 X ~ Y: lowest and highest values, with not stated uncertainty

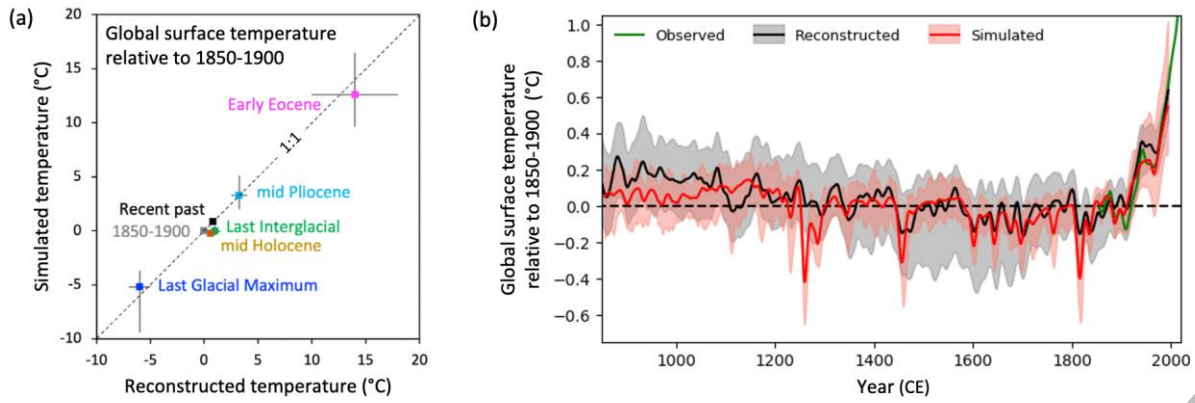



Box TS.2, Figure 1: Paleoclimate and recent reference periods, with selected key indicators. *The intent of this figure is to list the paleoclimate reference periods used in the WGI report, to summarize three key global climate indicators, and compare CO₂ with global temperature over multiple periods.* (a) Three large-scale climate indicators (atmospheric CO₂, global surface temperature relative to 1850-1900, and global mean sea level relative to 1900), based on assessments in Chapter 2, with confidence levels ranging from *low* to *very high*. (b) Comparison between global surface temperature (relative to 1850-1900) and atmospheric CO₂ concentration for multiple reference periods (mid-points with 5–95% ranges). {2.2.3, 2.3.1.1, 2.3.3.3, Figure 2.34}

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Proxy-based and model-simulated estimates of global surface temperature agree across multiple reference periods



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Box TS.2, Figure 2: Global surface temperature as estimated from proxy records (reconstructed) and climate models (simulated). The intent of this figure is to show the agreement between observations and models of global temperatures during paleo reference periods. (a) For individual paleoclimate reference periods. (a) For individual paleoclimate reference periods. (b) For the last millennium, with instrumental temperature (AR6 assessed mean, 10-year smoothed). Model uncertainties in (a) and (b) are 5-95% ranges of multi-model ensemble means; reconstructed uncertainties are 5-95% ranges (*medium confidence*) of (a) midpoints and (b) multi-method ensemble median. {2.3.1.1, Figure 2.34, Figure 3.2c, Figure 3.44}

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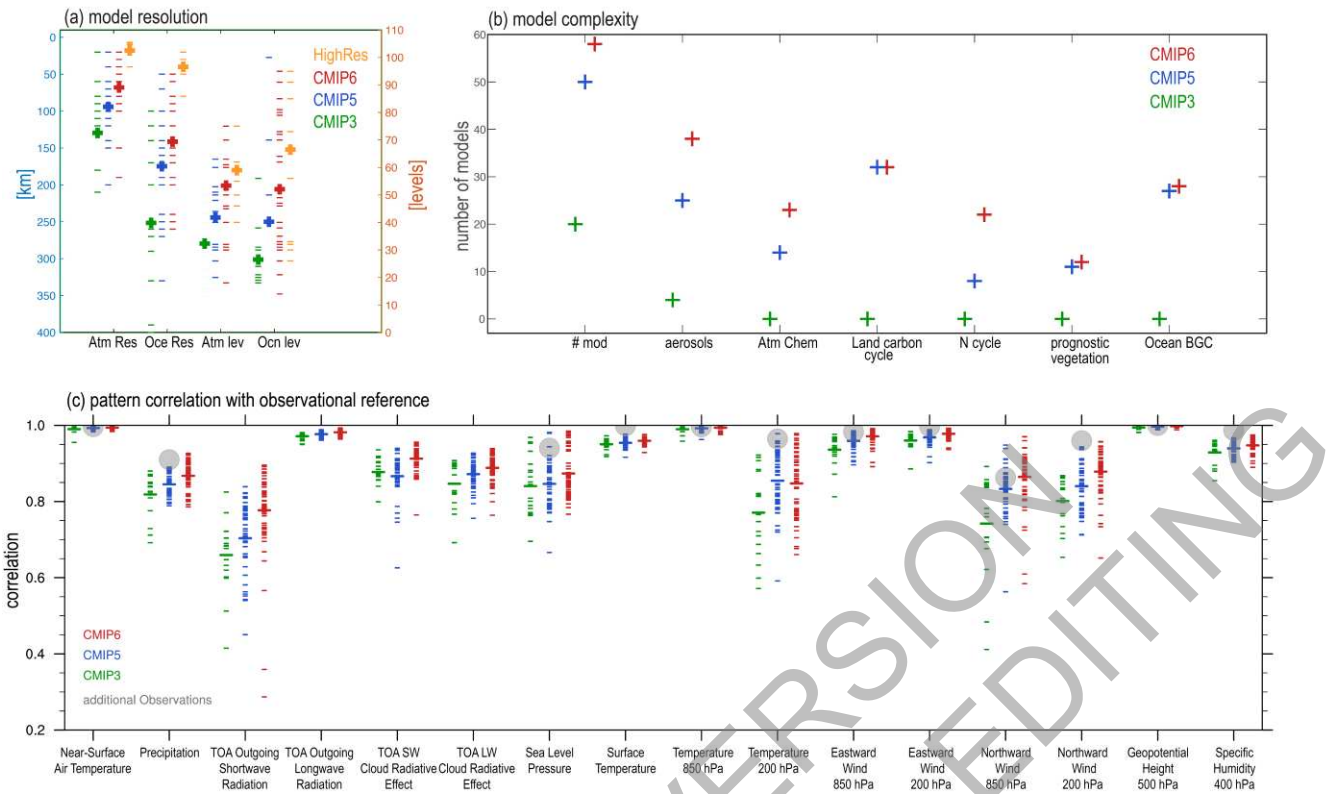


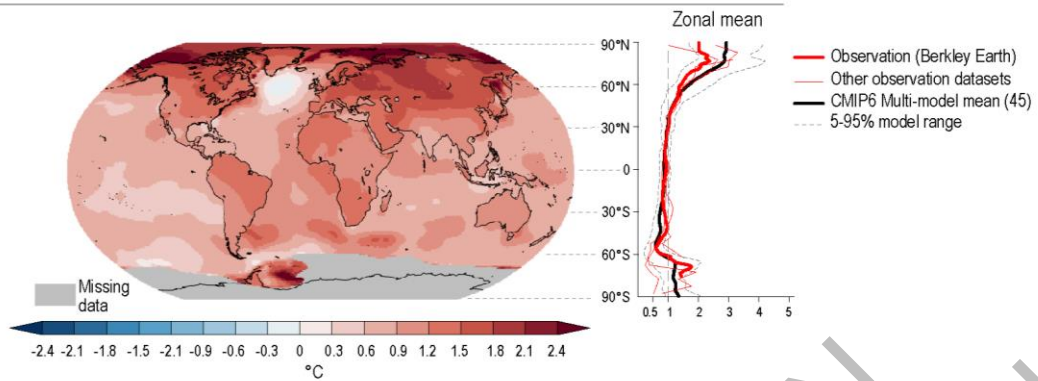
Figure TS.2: Progress in climate models. *The intent is to show present improvements in climate models in resolution, complexity and representation of key variables. (a) Evolution of model horizontal resolution and vertical levels (based on Figure 1.19); (b) Evolution of inclusion of processes and resolution from CMIP Phase 3 (CMIP3) to CMIP6 (Annex II). (c) Centred pattern correlations between models and observations for the annual mean climatology over the period 1980–1999. Results are shown for individual CMIP3 (cyan), CMIP5 (blue) and CMIP6 (red) models (one ensemble member is used) as short lines, along with the corresponding ensemble averages (long lines). The correlations are shown between the models and the primary reference observational data set (from left to right: ERA5, GPCP-SG, CERES-EBAF, CERES-EBAF, CERES-EBAF, CERES-EBAF, JR-55, ERA5, ERA5, ERA5, ERA5, ERA5, ERA5, AIRS, ERA5, ESACCI-Soilmoisture, LAI3g, MTE). In addition, the correlation between the primary reference and additional observational data sets (from left to right: NCEP, GHCN, -, -, -, -, ERA5, HadISST, NCEP, NCEP, NCEP, NCEP, NCEP, NCEP, ERA5, NCEP, -, -, FLUXCOM) are shown (solid grey circles) if available. To ensure a fair comparison across a range of model resolutions, the pattern correlations are computed after regridding all datasets to a resolution of 4° in longitude and 5° in latitude. (Expanded from Figure 3.43; produced with ESMValTool version 2).*

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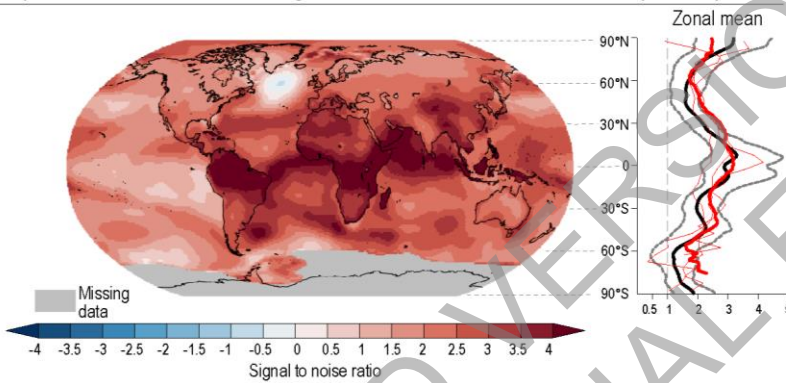
Emergence of changes in surface temperature

Annual mean temperature change and the change relative to year-to-year variations

(a) Change in temperature at a Global Warming Level of 1°C

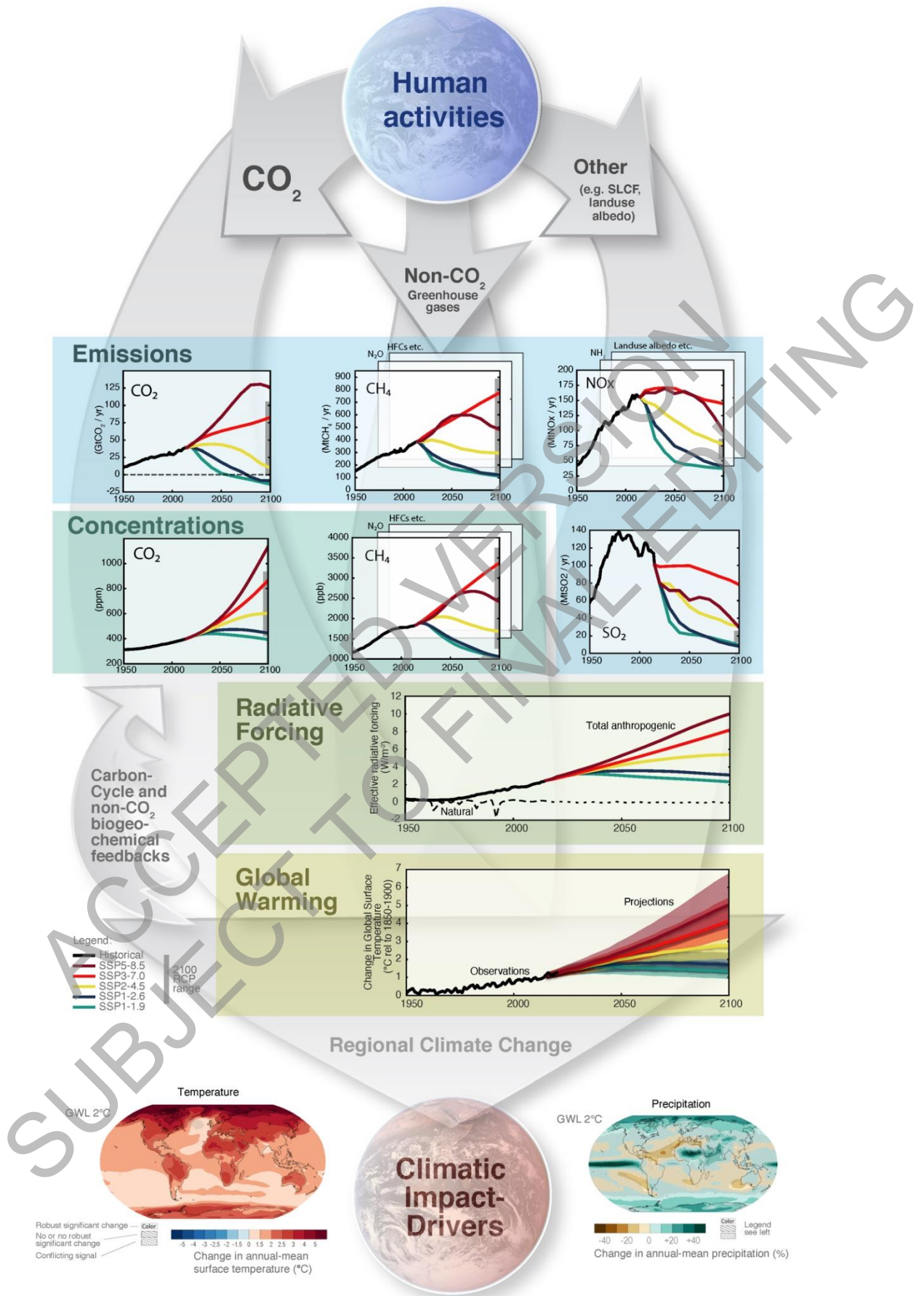


(b) Change in temperature at a Global Warming Level of 1°C relative to the size of year-to-year variations



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Figure TS.3: Emergence of changes in temperature over the historical period. *The intent of this figure is to show how observed changes in temperature have emerged and that the emergence pattern agrees with model simulations.* The observed change in temperature at a global warming level of 1°C (top map), and the signal-to-noise ratio (the change in temperature at a global warming level of 1°C, divided by the size of year-to-year variations, bottom map) using data from Berkeley Earth. The right panels show the zonal means of the maps and include data from different observational datasets (red) and the CMIP6 simulations (black, including the 5-95% range) processed in the same way as the observations. {1.4.2, 10.4.3}



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Figure TS.4: The climate change cause-effect chain: from anthropogenic emissions, to changes in atmospheric concentration, to changes in the Earth's energy balance ('forcing'), to changes to changes in global climate and ultimately regional climate and climatic impact-drivers. Shown is the core set of five SSP scenarios as well as emission and concentration ranges for the previous RCP scenarios in year 2100; CO₂ emissions (GtCO₂ yr⁻¹), panel top left; CH₄ emissions (middle) and SO₂, NO_x emissions (all in Mt yr⁻¹), top right; concentrations of atmospheric CO₂ (ppm) and CH₄ (ppb), second row left and right; effective radiative forcing for both anthropogenic and natural forcings (W m⁻²), third row; changes in global surface air temperature (°C) relative to 1850–1900, fourth row; maps of projected temperature change (°C) (left) and changes in annual-mean precipitation (%) (right) at GWL 2°C relative to 1850–1900 (see also Figure TS.5), bottom row. Carbon cycle and non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedbacks will also influence the ultimate response to anthropogenic emissions (arrows on the left). {1.6.1, Cross-Chapter Box 1.4, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.6.1, 4.6.2}

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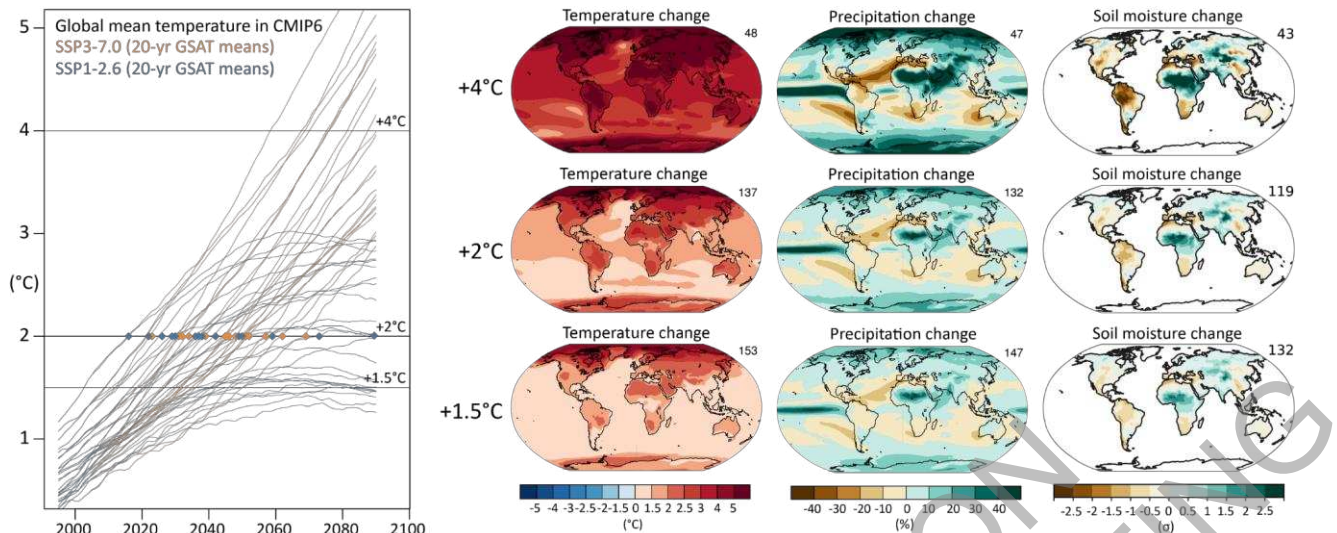
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Figure TS.5: How scenarios are linked to global warming levels (GWLs), and examples of the evolution of patterns of change with global warming levels. Left: Illustrative example of GWLs defined as global surface temperature response to anthropogenic emissions in unconstrained CMIP6 simulations, for two illustrative scenarios (SSP1-2.6 and SSP3-7.0). The time when a given simulation reaches a GWL, e.g., +2°C, relative to 1850-1900 is taken as the time when the central year of a 20-year running mean first reaches that level of warming. See the dots for +2°C, and how not all simulations reach all levels of warming. The assessment of the timing when a GWL is reached takes into account additional lines of evidence and is discussed in Cross-Section Box TS.1. Right: Multi-model, multi-simulation average response patterns of change in near-surface air temperature, precipitation (expressed as percentage change) and soil moisture (expressed in standard deviations of interannual variability), for three GWLs. The number to the top right of the panels shows the number of model simulations averaged across including all models that reach the corresponding GWL in any of the 5 SSPs. See TS.2 for discussion. (See also Cross-Chapter Box 11.1)

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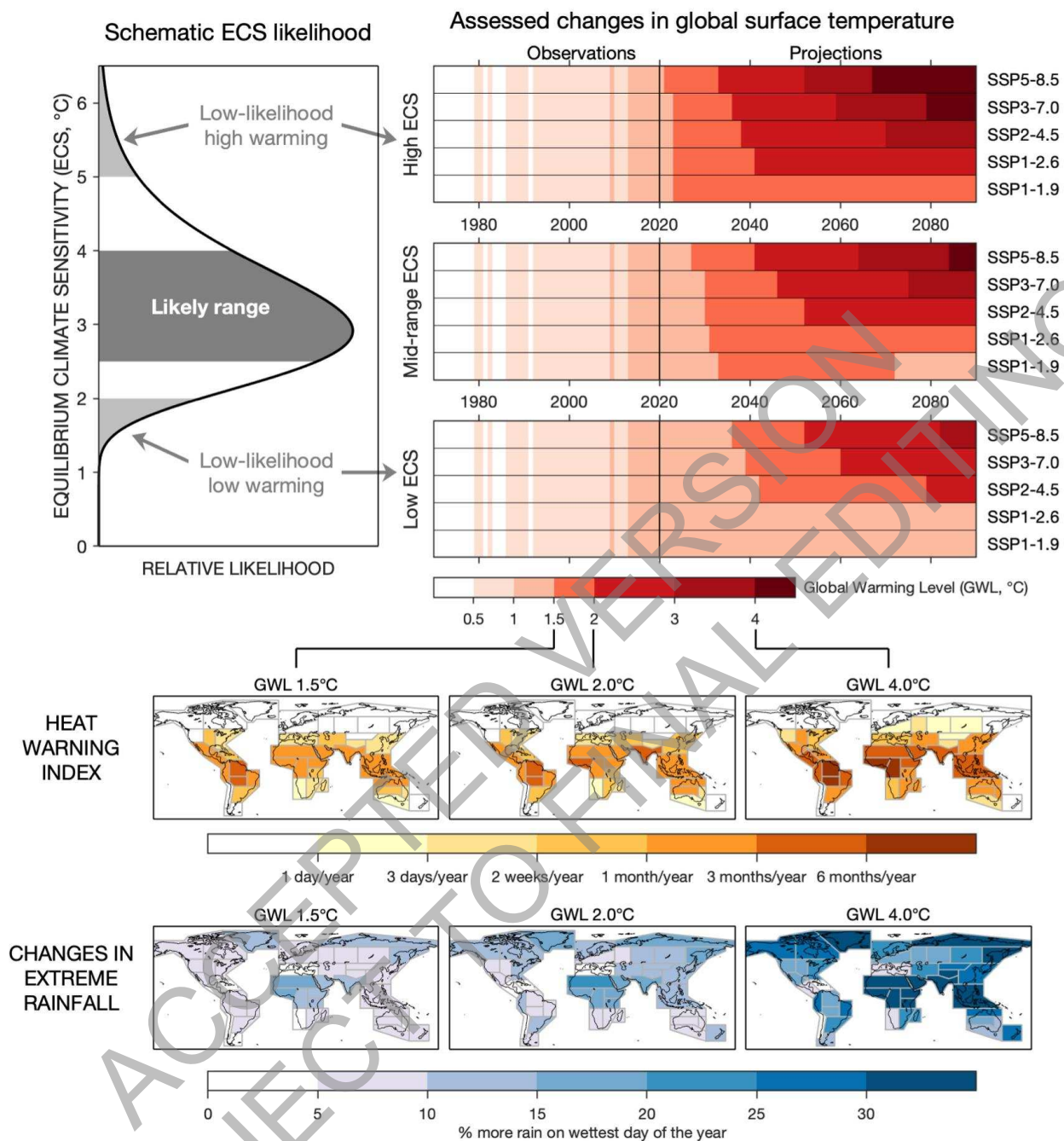


Figure TS.6: A graphical abstract for key aspects of the Technical Summary related to observed and projected changes in global surface temperature and associated regional changes in climatic impact-drivers relevant for impact and risk assessment. Top left: a schematic representation of the likelihood for equilibrium climate sensitivity (ECS), consistent with the AR6 assessment (see Chapter 7; TS.3). ECS values above 5°C and below 2°C are termed low-likelihood high warming (LLHW) and low-likelihood low warming, respectively. Top right: Observed (see Cross-Section Box TS.1) and projected global surface temperature changes, shown as global warming levels (GWL) relative to 1850-1900, using the assessed 95% (top), 50% (middle) and 5% (bottom) likelihood time series (see Chapter 4; TS.2). Bottom panels show maps of CMIP6 median projections of two climatic impact-drivers (CIDs) at three different GWLs (columns for 1.5, 2 and 4°C) for the AR6 land regions (see Chapters 1, 10, Atlas; TS.4). The heat warning index is the number of days per year averaged across each region at which a heat warning for human health at level ‘danger’ would be issued according to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) (NOAA HI41, see Chapter 12

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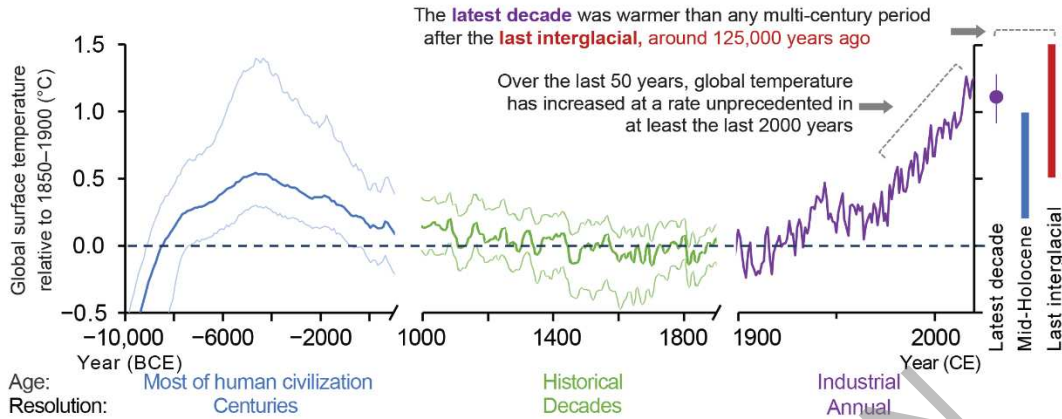
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and Technical Annex VI). The maps of extreme rainfall changes show the percentage change in the amount of rain falling on the wettest day of a year (Rx1day, relative to 1995-2014, see Chapter 11) averaged across each region when the respective GWL is reached. Additional CIDs are discussed in TS.4.

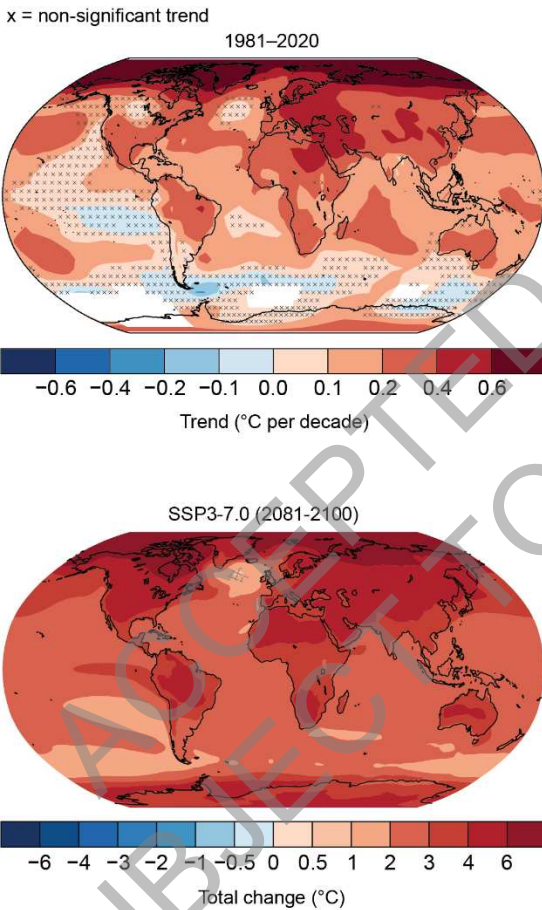
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Changes in surface temperature

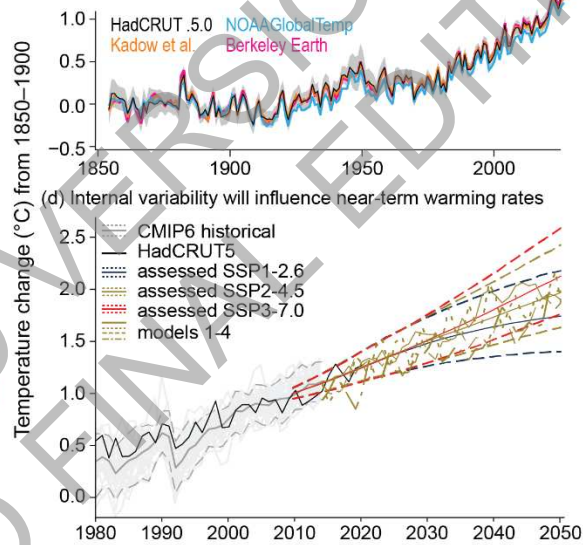
(a) Recent global temperatures are unprecedented in the era of human civilization



(b) Observed and projected warming are stronger over land than oceans, and strongest in the Arctic

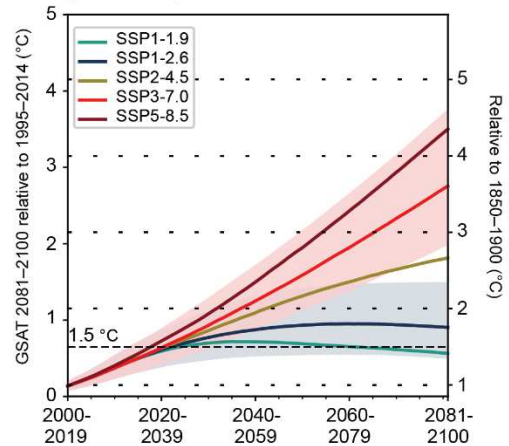


(c) Global surface temperature has risen more than 1°C from 1850-1900



(d) Internal variability will influence near-term warming rates

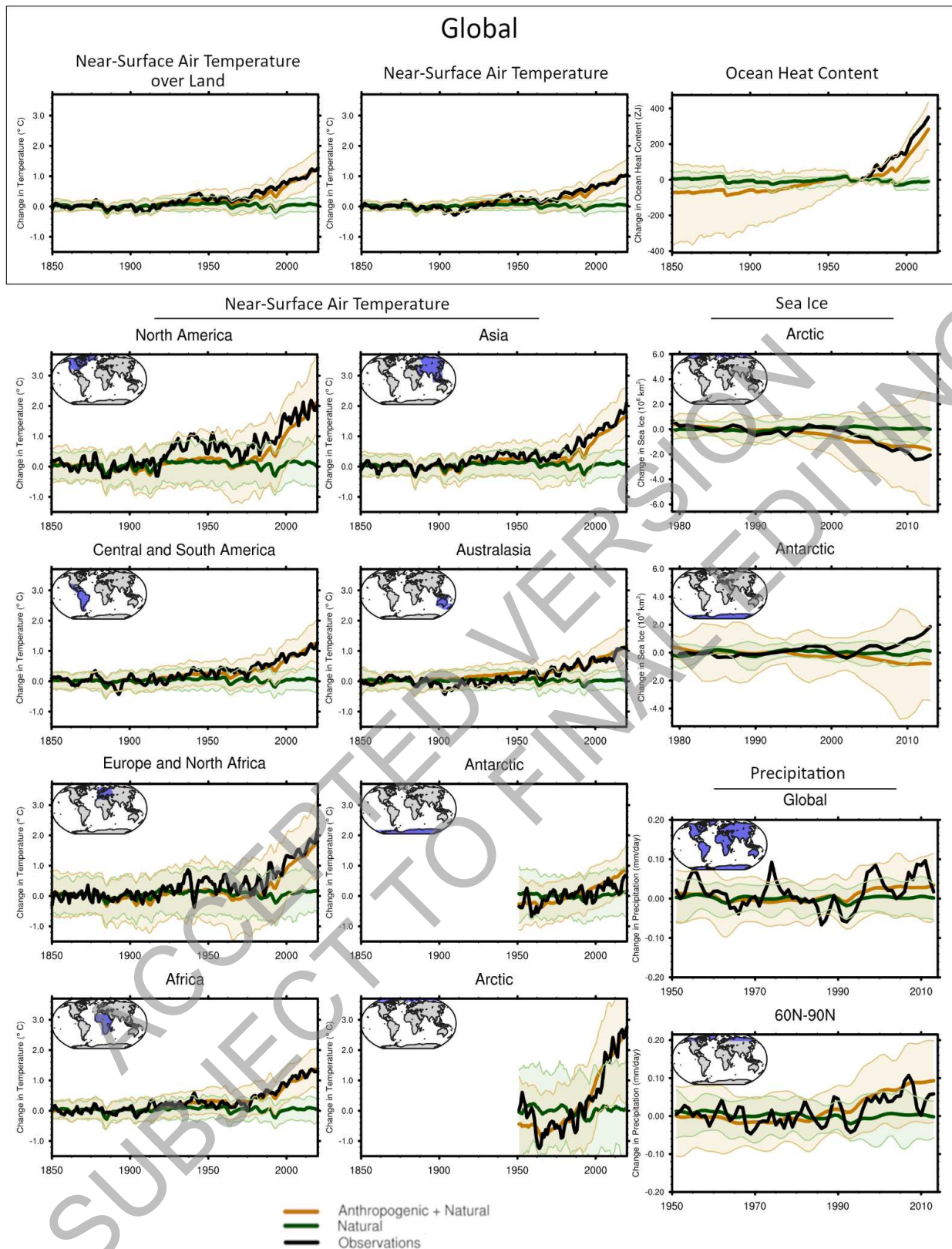
(e) Warming to 2100 depends on the scenario



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Cross-Section Box TS.1, Figure 1: Earth’s surface temperature history and future with key findings annotated within each panel. The intent of this figure is to show global surface temperature observed changes from the Holocene to now, and projected changes. (a) Global

1 surface temperature over the Holocene divided into three time scales. (i) 12,000 to
2 1000 years ago (10,000 BCE to 1000 CE) in 100-year time steps, (ii) 1000 to 1900
3 CE, 10-year smooth, and (iii) 1900 to 2020 CE (mean of four datasets in panel (c)).
4 Median of the multi-method reconstruction (bold lines), with 5% and 95% percentiles
5 of the ensemble members (thin lines). Vertical bars are 5th to 95th percentile ranges of
6 estimated global surface temperature for the Last Interglacial and mid Holocene
7 (*medium confidence*) (Section 2.3.1.1). All temperatures relative to 1850–1900. (b)
8 Spatially resolved trends ($^{\circ}\text{C}$ per decade) for (upper map) HadCRUTv5 over 1981–
9 2020, and (lower map, total change) multi-model mean projected changes from 1995–
10 2014 to 2081–2010 in the SST3-7.0 scenario. Observed trends have been calculated
11 where data are present in both the first and last decade and for at least 70% of all years
12 within the period using OLS. Significance is assessed with AR(1) correction and
13 denoted by stippling. Hatched areas in the lower map show areas of conflicting model
14 evidence on significance of changes. (c) Temperature from instrumental data for
15 1850–2020, including annually resolved averages for the four global surface
16 temperature datasets assessed in Section 2.3.1.1.3 (see text for references). The grey
17 shading shows the uncertainty associated with the HadCRUTv5 estimate. All
18 temperatures relative to the 1850–1900 reference period. (d) Recent past and 2015–
19 2050 evolution of annual mean global surface temperature change relative to 1850–
20 1900, from HadCRUTv5 (black), CMIP6 historical simulations (up to 2014, in grey,
21 ensemble mean solid, 5% and 95% percentiles dashed, individual models thin), and
22 CMIP6 projections under scenario SSP2-4.5, from four models that have an
23 equilibrium climate sensitivity near the assessed central value (thick yellow). Solid
24 thin coloured lines show the assessed central estimate of 20-year change in global
25 surface temperature for 2015–2050 under three scenarios, and dashed thin coloured
26 lines the corresponding 5% and 95% quantiles. (e) Assessed projected change in 20-
27 year running mean global surface temperature for five scenarios (central estimate
28 solid, *very likely* range shaded for SSP1-2.6 and SSP3-7.0), relative to 1995–2014
29 (left y-axis) and 1850–1900 (right y-axis). The y-axis on the right-hand side is shifted
30 upward by 0.85°C , the central estimate of the observed warming for 1995–2014,
31 relative to 1850–1900. The right y-axis in (e) is the same as the y-axis in (d).
32



1
 2 **Figure TS.7:** Simulated and observed changes compared to the 1995–2014 average in key large-scale
 3 indicators of climate change across the climate system, for continents, ocean basins and globally
 4 up to 2014. Black lines show observations, orange lines and shading show the multi-model mean and
 5 5–95th percentile ranges for CMIP6 historical simulations including anthropogenic and natural
 6 forcing, and green lines and shading show corresponding ensemble means and 5-95th percentile ranges
 7 for CMIP6 natural-only simulations. Observations after 2014 (including, for example, a strong

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subsequent decrease of Antarctic sea-ice area that leads to no significant overall trend since 1979) are not shown because the CMIP6 historical simulations end in 2014. A 3-year running mean smoothing has been applied to all observational time series. {3.8, Figure 3.41}

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Recent and Future change of 4 key indicators of the climate system
 Atmospheric temperature, Ocean heat content, Arctic summer sea-ice, and Land precipitation

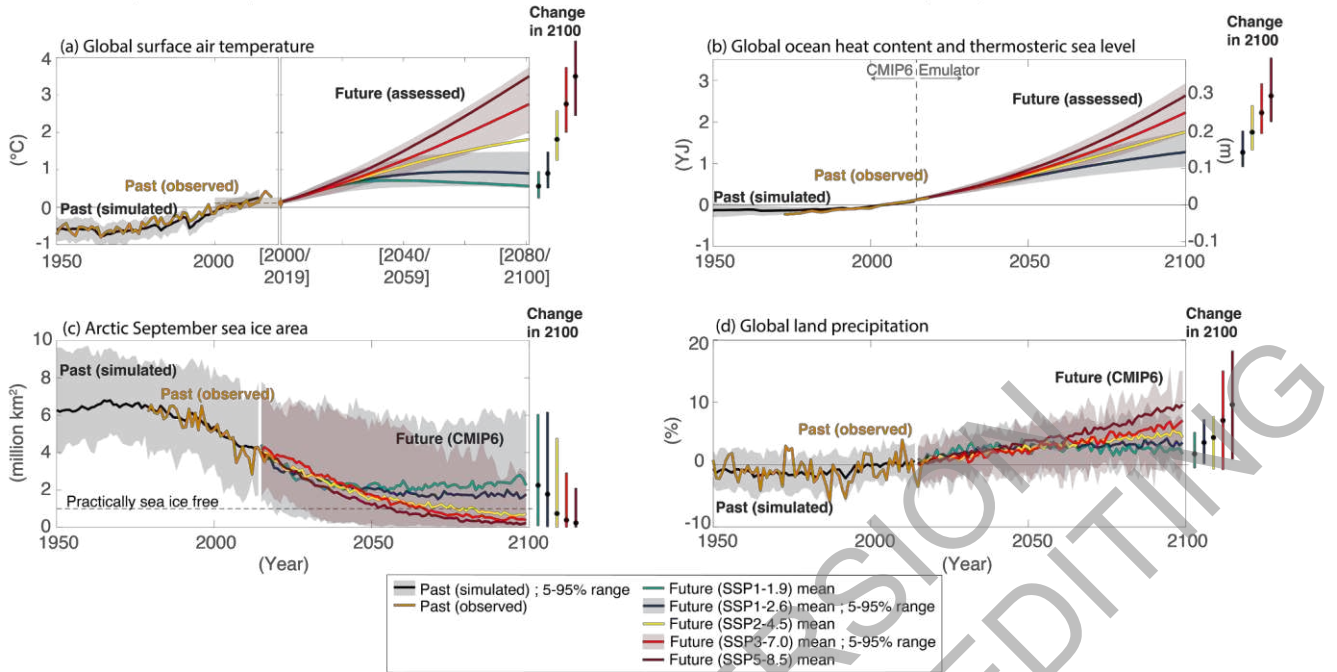
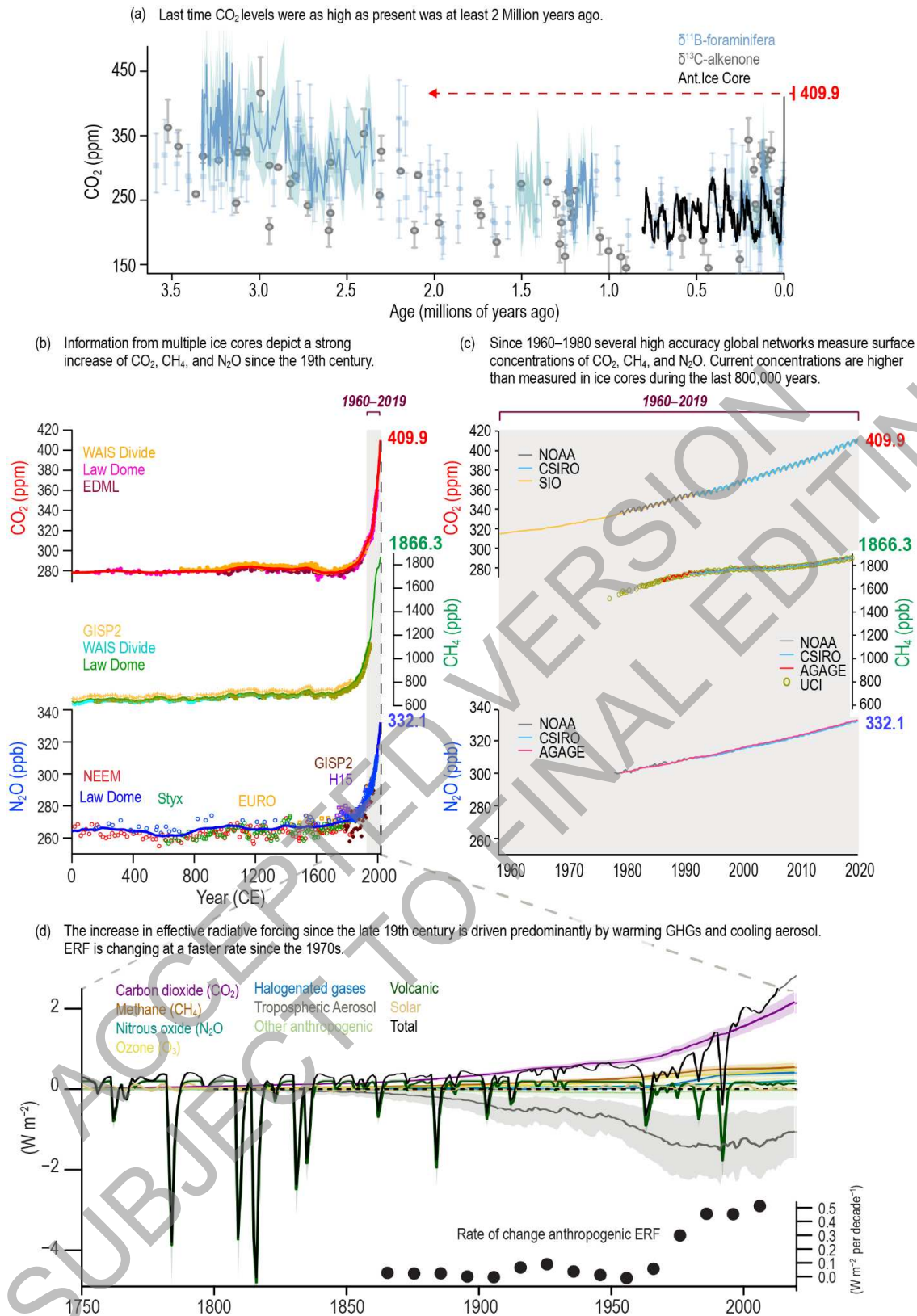


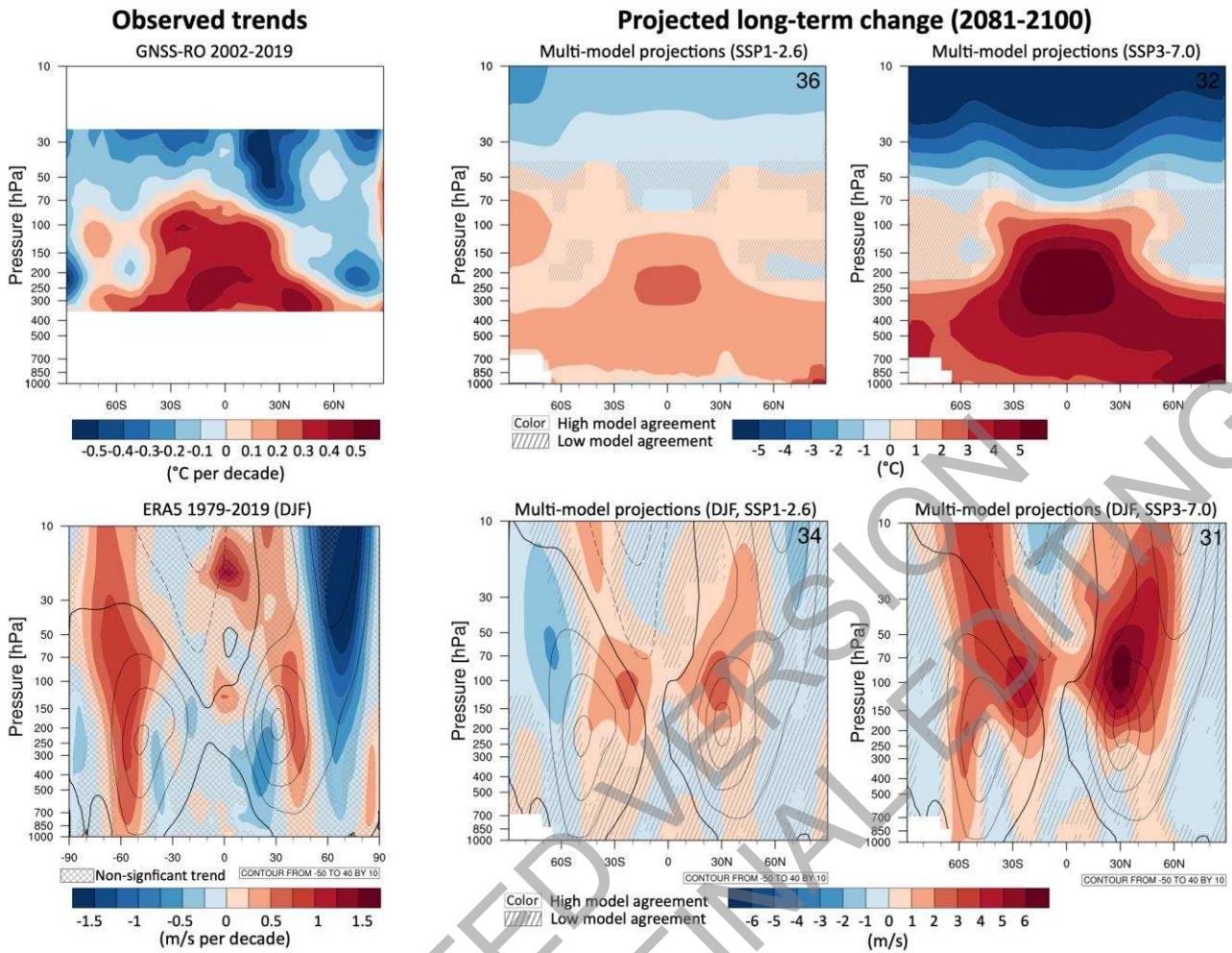
Figure TS.8: Observed, simulated and projected changes compared to the 1995–2014 average in 4 key indicators of the climate system through to 2100 differentiated by SSP scenario pathway. Past simulations are based on the CMIP6 multi-model ensemble. Future projections are based on the assessed ranges based upon multiple lines of evidence for (a) global surface temperature (Cross-Section Box TS.1) and (b) global ocean heat content and the associated thermosteric sea level contribution to Global Mean Sea Level (GMSL) change (right-hand axis) using a climate model emulator (Cross-Chapter Box 7.1), and CMIP6 simulations for (c) Arctic September sea ice and (d) Global land precipitation. SSP1-1.9 and SSP1-2.6 projections show that reduced GHG emissions lead to a stabilization of global surface temperature, Arctic sea ice area and global land precipitation over the 21st century. SSP1-2.6 shows that emissions reductions have the potential to substantially reduce the increase in ocean heat content and thermosteric sea level rise over the 21st century but that some increase is unavoidable. {4.3, 9.3, 9.6, Figure 4.2, Figure 9.6}

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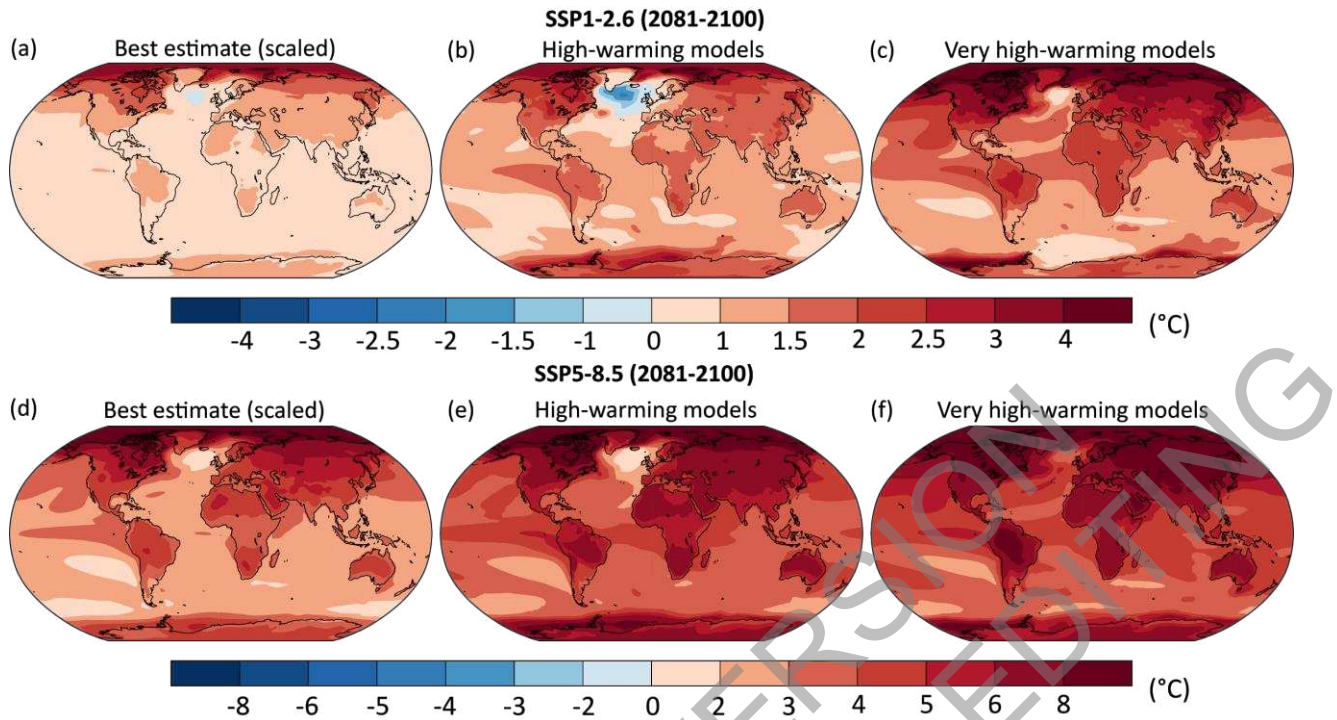
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Figure TS.9: Changes in well-mixed greenhouse gas (WMGHG) concentrations and Effective Radiative Forcing. a) Changes in CO₂ from proxy records over the past 3.5 million years; b) Changes in all three WMGHGs from ice core records over the Common Era; c) directly observed WMGHG changes since the mid-20th century; d) Evolution of ERF and components since 1750. Further details on data sources and processing are available in the associated FAIR data table. {2.2, Figures 2.3, 2.4 and 2.10}



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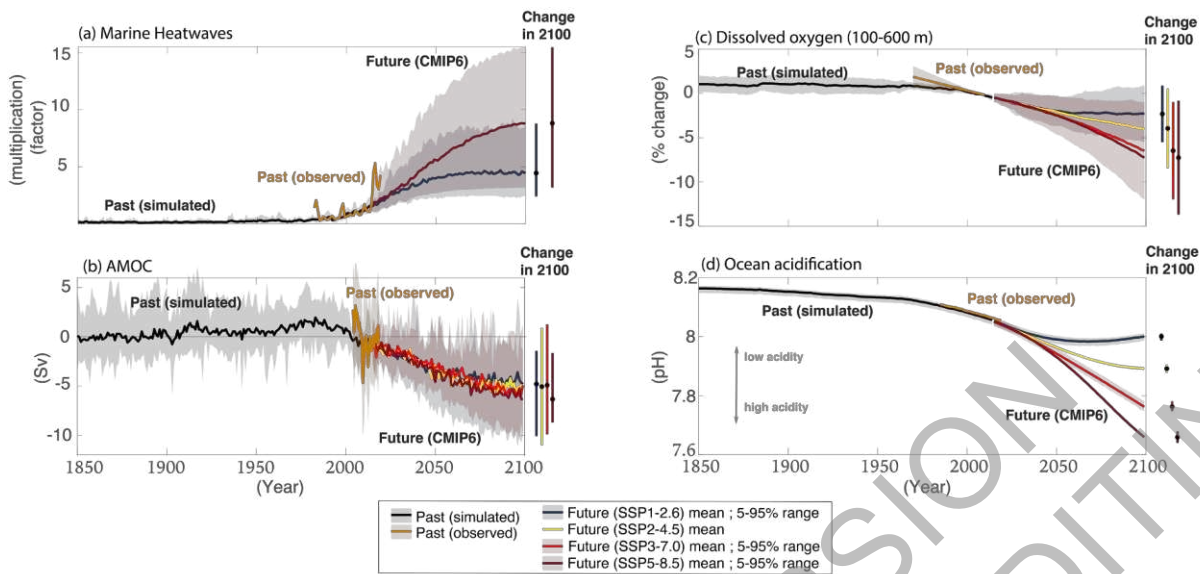
Figure TS.10: Observed and projected upper air temperature and circulation changes. Upper panels: Left: Zonal cross-section of temperature trends for 2002-2019 in the upper troposphere region for the ROM SAF radio-occultation dataset. Middle: Change in the annual and zonal mean atmospheric temperature (°C) in 2081-2100 in SSP1-2.6 relative to 1995-2014 for 36 CMIP6 models. Right: the same in SSP3-7.0 for 32 models. Lower panels: Left: Long-term mean (thin black colour) and linear trend (colour) of zonal mean DJF zonal winds for ERA5. Middle: multi-model mean change in annual and zonal mean wind ($m\ s^{-1}$) in 2081-2100 in SSP1-2.6 relative to 1995-2014 based on 34 CMIP6 models. The 1995-2014 climatology is shown in contours with spacing $10\ m\ s^{-1}$. Right: the same for SSP3-7.0 for 31 models. {2.3.1, 4.5.1, Figures 2.12, 2.18, and 4.26}

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Box TS.3, Figure 1: High-warming storylines. (a) CMIP6 multi-model mean linearly scaled to the assessed best global surface temperature estimate for SSP1-2.6 in 2081–2100 relative to 1995–2014, (b) mean across five high-warming models with global surface temperature changes warming nearest to the upper bound of the assessed very likely range, (c) mean across five very high-warming models with global surface temperature changes warming higher than the assessed very likely. (d-f) Same as (a-c) but for SSP5-8.5. Note the different colour bars in (a-c) and (d-f). {4.7, Figure 4.41}

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Recent and Future change in the ocean
 Marine heatwaves, AMOC, Dissolved oxygen, and pH



Recent and Future change in ice sheets
 Greenland and Antarctic ice sheet

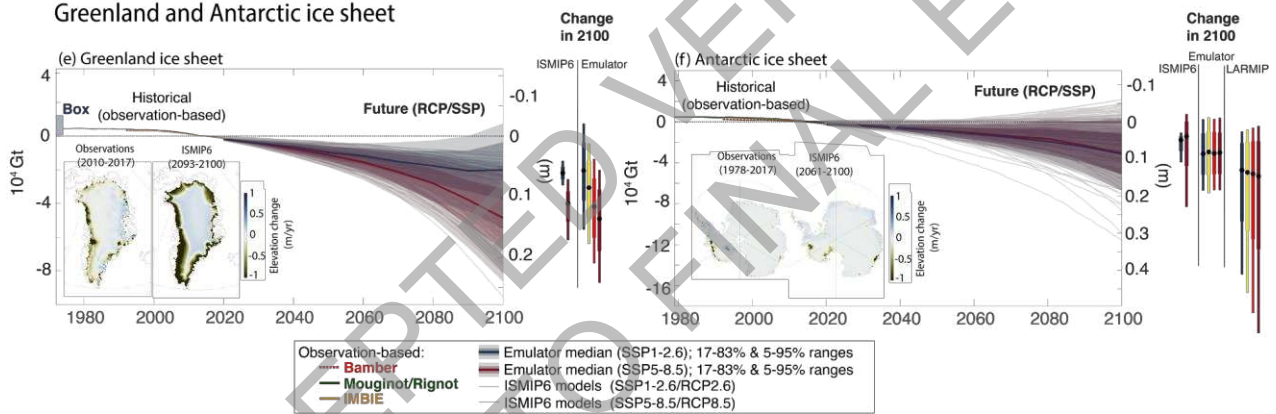
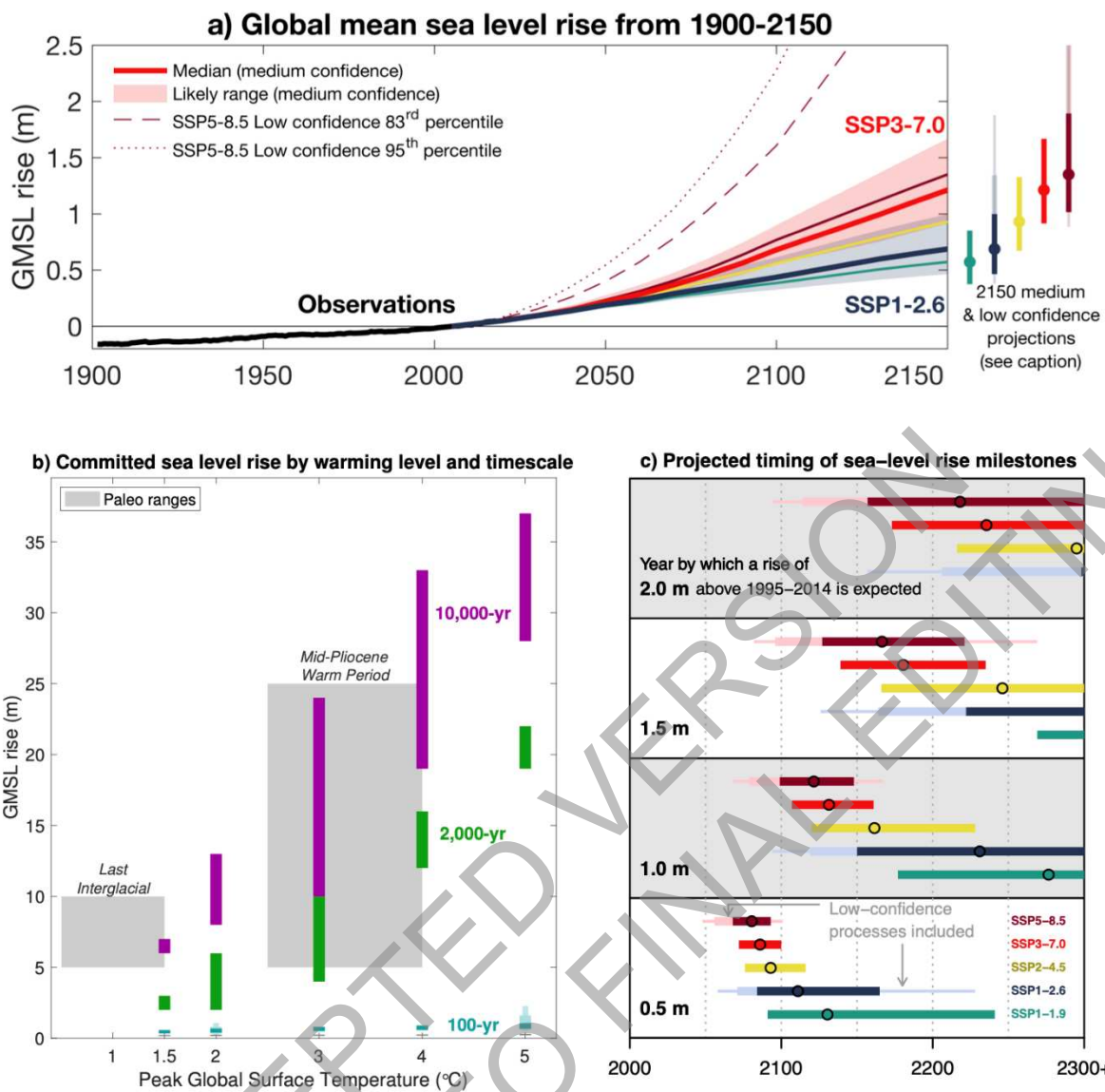


Figure TS.11: Past and future ocean and ice sheet changes. Observed and simulated historical changes and projected future changes under varying greenhouse gas emissions scenarios. Simulated and projected ocean changes are shown as CMIP6 ensemble mean, and 5-95% range (shading) is provided for scenario SSP1-2.6 and SSP3-7.0 (except in panel a where range provided for scenario SSP1-2.6 and SSP5-8.5). Mean and 5-95% range in 2100 are shown as vertical bars on the right-hand side of each panel. (a) Change in multiplication factor in surface ocean marine heatwave days relative to 1995-2014 (defined as days exceeding the 99th percentile in SST from 1995-2014 distribution). Assessed observational change span 1982-2019 from AVHRR satellite SST. (b) AMOC transport relative to 1995-2014 (defined as maximum transport at 26°N). Assessed observational change spans 2004-2018 from the RAPID array smoothed with a 12-month running mean (shading around the mean shows the 12-month running standard deviation around the mean). (c) Global mean percent change in ocean oxygen (100–600 m depth), relative to 1995-2014. Assessed observational trends and *very likely* range are from the SROCC assessment, and spans 1970–2010 centered on 2005. (d) Global mean surface pH. Assessed observational change span 1985-2019, from the CMEMS SOCAT-based reconstruction (shading around the global mean shows the 90% confidence interval). (e), (f): Ice sheet mass changes. Projected ice sheet changes are shown as median, 5-95% range (light shading), and 17-83% range (dark shading) of cumulative mass loss and sea level equivalent from ISMIP6 emulation under SSP1-26 and SSP5-85 (shading and bold line), with individual emulated projections as thin lines. Median (dot), 17-83% range (thick vertical bar), and 5-95% range (thin vertical bar) in 2100 are shown as vertical bars on the right-hand side of each panel, from ISMIP6, ISMIP6 emulation, and LARMIP-2. Observation-based estimates: For Greenland (e), for 1972-2018 (Mouginot), for 1992-2016 (Bamber), for 1992-2020 (IMBIE) and total estimated mass loss range for 1840-1972 (Box). For Antarctica (f),

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1 estimates based on satellite data combined with simulated surface mass balance and glacial isostatic
2 adjustment for 1992-2020 (IMBIE), 1992-2016 (Bamber), and 1979-2017 (Rignot). Left inset maps:
3 mean Greenland elevation changes 2010-2017 derived from CryoSat-2 radar altimetry (e) and mean
4 Antarctica elevation changes 1978-2017 derived from restored analog radar records (f). Right inset
5 maps: ISMIP6 model mean (2093- 2100) projected changes under the MIROC5 climate model for the
6 RCP8.5 scenario. {Box 9.2, 2.3.3, 2.3.4, 3.5.4, 4.3.2, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.6.3, 9.2.3, 9.4.1, 9.4.2, Box 9.2
7 Figure 1, Figure 9.10, Figure 9.17, Figure 9.18}
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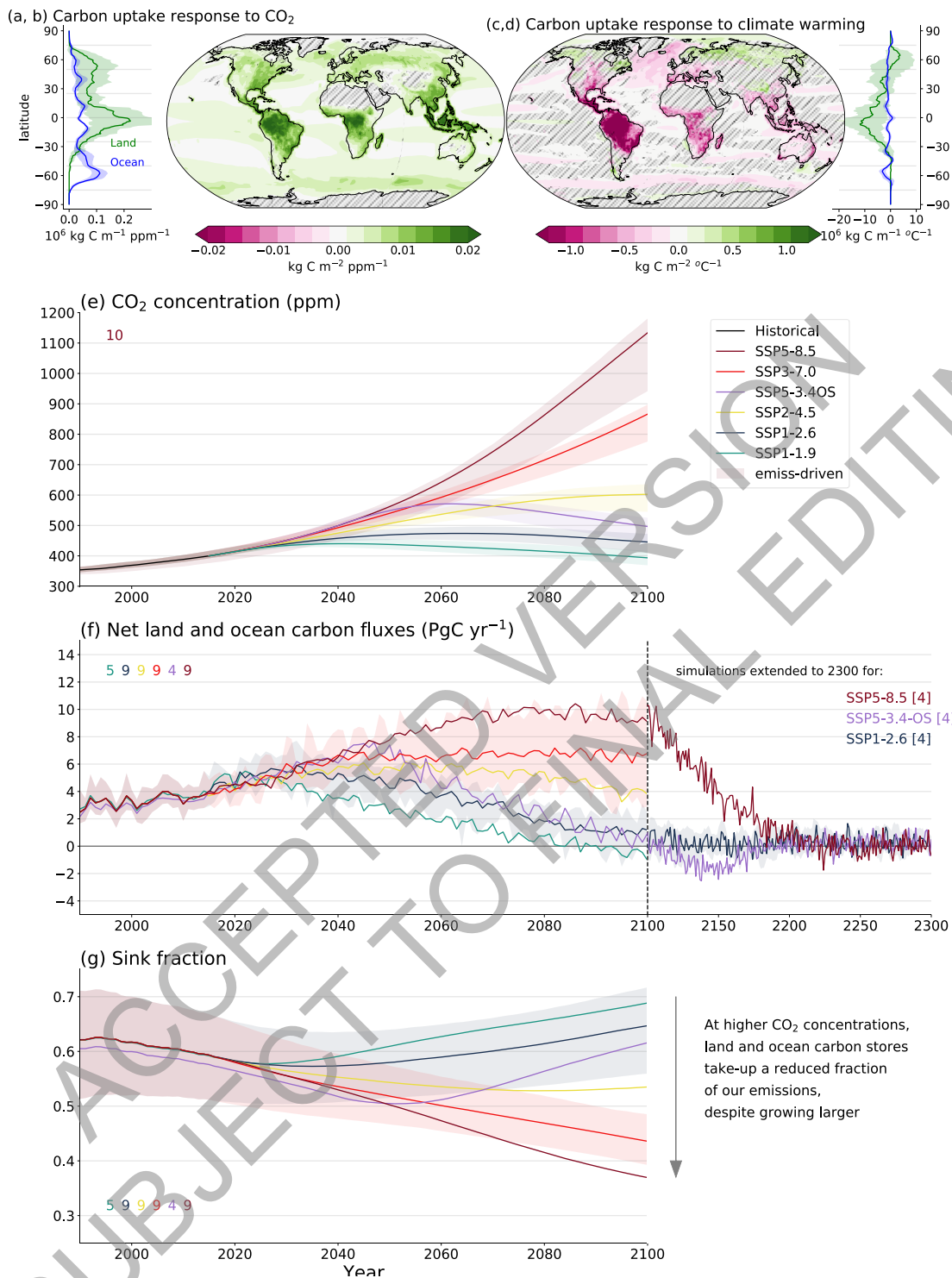
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Box TS.4, Figure 1: Global mean sea level change on different time scales and under different scenarios. (a) GMSL change from 1900 to 2150, observed (1900–2018) and projected under the SSP scenarios (2000–2150), relative to a 1995–2014 baseline. Solid lines show median projections. Shaded regions show *likely* ranges for SSP1-2.6 and SSP3-7.0. Dotted and dashed lines show respectively the 83rd and 95th percentile low-confidence projections for SSP5-8.5. Bars at right show *likely* ranges for SSP1-1.9, SSP1-2.6, SSP2-4.5, SSP3-7.0, and SSP5-8.5 in 2150. Lightly shaded thick/thin bars show 17th–83rd/5th–95th percentile *low-confidence* ranges in 2150 for SSP1-2.6 and SSP5-8.5, based upon projection methods incorporating structured expert judgement and Marine Ice Cliff Instability. *Low-confidence* range for SSP5-8.5 in 2150 extends to 4.8/5.4 m at the 83rd/95th percentile. (b) GMSL change on 100- (blue), 2,000- (green) and 10,000-year (magenta) time scales as a function of global surface temperature, relative to 1850–1900. For 100-year projections, GMSL is projected for the year 2100, relative to a 1995–2014 baseline, and temperature anomalies are average values over 2081–2100. For longer-term commitments, warming is indexed by peak warming above 1850–1900 reached after cessation of emissions. Shaded regions show paleo-constraints on global surface temperature and GMSL for the Last Interglacial and mid-Pliocene Warm Period. Lightly shaded thick/thin blue bars show 17th–83rd/5th–95th percentile *low-confidence* ranges for SSP1-2.6 and SSP5-8.5 in 2100, plotted at 2°C and 5°C. (c) Timing of exceedance of GMSL thresholds of 0.5, 1.0, 1.5 and 2.0 m, under different SSPs. Lightly shaded thick/thin bars show 1th–83rd/5th–95th percentile *low-confidence* ranges for SSP1-2.6 and SSP5-8.5.

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Box TS.5, Figure 1: Carbon cycle processes and projections. Carbon cycle response to forcings. The figure shows changes in carbon storage in response to elevated CO₂ (a, b) and the response to climate warming (c, d). Maps show spatial patterns of changes in carbon uptake during simulations with 1% per year increase in CO₂ {section 5.4.5.5}, and zonal mean plots show distribution of carbon changes is dominated by the land (green lines) in the tropics and northern hemisphere and ocean (blue lines) in the southern hemisphere. Hatching indicates regions where fewer than 80% of models agree on the sign of response. (e) Future CO₂ projections: projected CO₂ concentrations in the SSP scenarios in response to anthropogenic emissions, results from coupled ESMs for SSP5-8.5 and from the MAGICC7 emulator for other scenarios {section 4.3.1}. (f) Future carbon fluxes:

1 projected combined land and ocean fluxes (positive downward) up to 2100 for the SSP scenarios,
2 and extended to 2300 for available scenarios, 5-95% uncertainty plumes shown for SSP1-2.6 and
3 SSP3-7.0 {section 5.4.5.4, 5.4.10}. The numbers near the top show the number of model
4 simulations used. (g) Sink fraction: the fraction of cumulative emissions of CO₂ removed by land
5 and ocean sinks. The sink fraction is smaller under conditions of higher emissions. {5.4.5, 5.5.1;
6 Figure 5.27; Figure 4.31; Figure 5.25; Figure 5.30; Figure 5.31}
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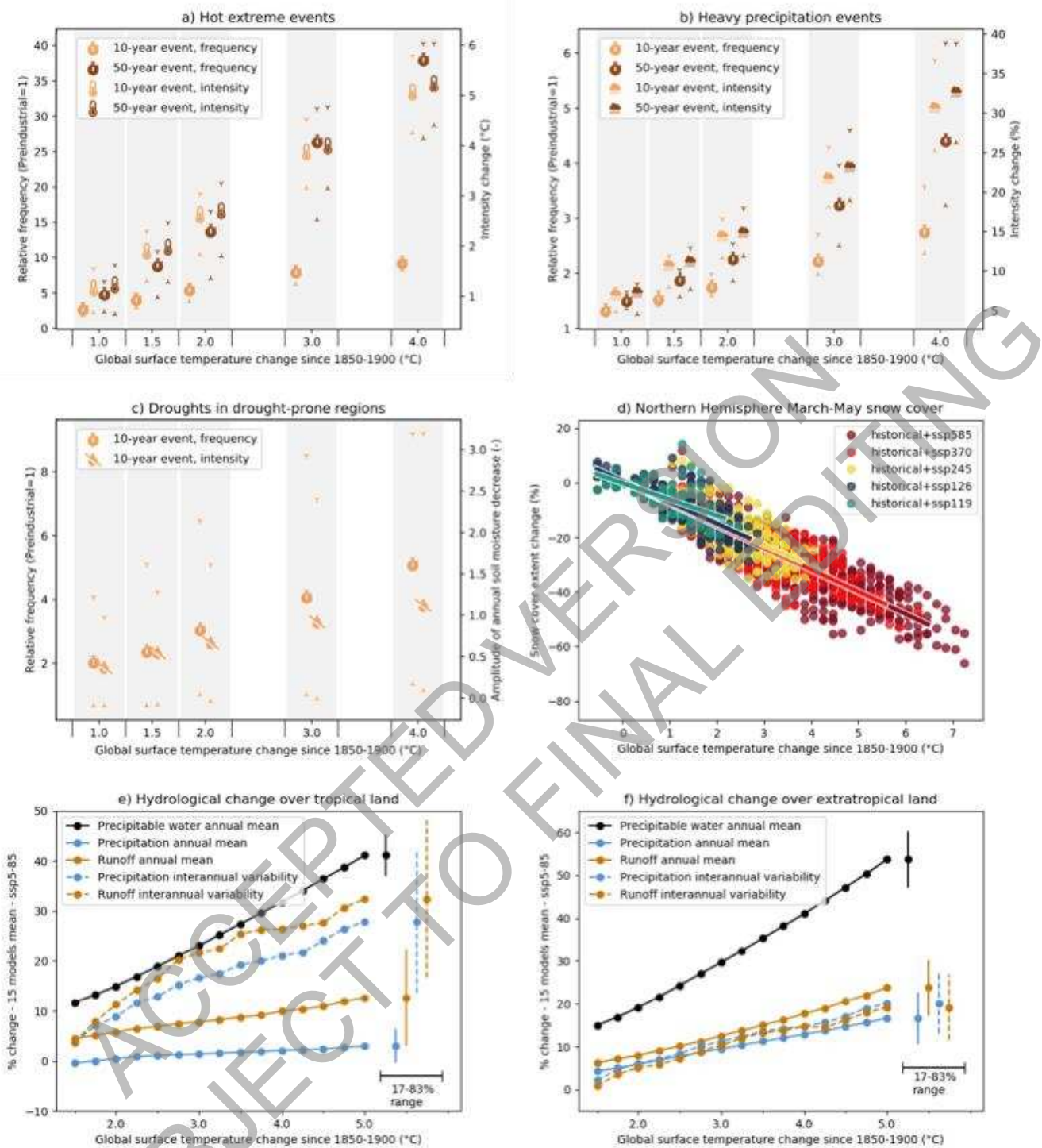


Figure TS.12: Land-related changes relative to the 1850-1900 as a function of global warming levels. a) Changes in the frequency (left scale) and intensity (in °C, right scale) of daily hot extremes occurring every 10- and 50-years; b) as a), but for daily heavy precipitation extremes, with intensity change in %; c) Changes in 10-year droughts aggregated over drought-prone regions (CNA, NCA, SCA, NSA, SAM, SWS, SSA, MED, WSAF, ESAF, MDG, SAU, and EAU; for definitions of these regions, see Atlas.2), with drought intensity (right scale) represented by the change of annual mean soil moisture, normalized with respect to interannual variability; d) Changes in Northern Hemisphere spring (March-April-May) snow cover extent relative to 1850-1900; e,f) Relative change (%) in annual mean of total precipitable water (grey line), precipitation (red solid lines), runoff (blue solid lines) and in standard deviation (i.e. variability) of precipitation (red dashed lines) and runoff (blue dashed lines) averaged over (e) tropical and (f) extratropical land as function of global warming levels. CMIP6 models that

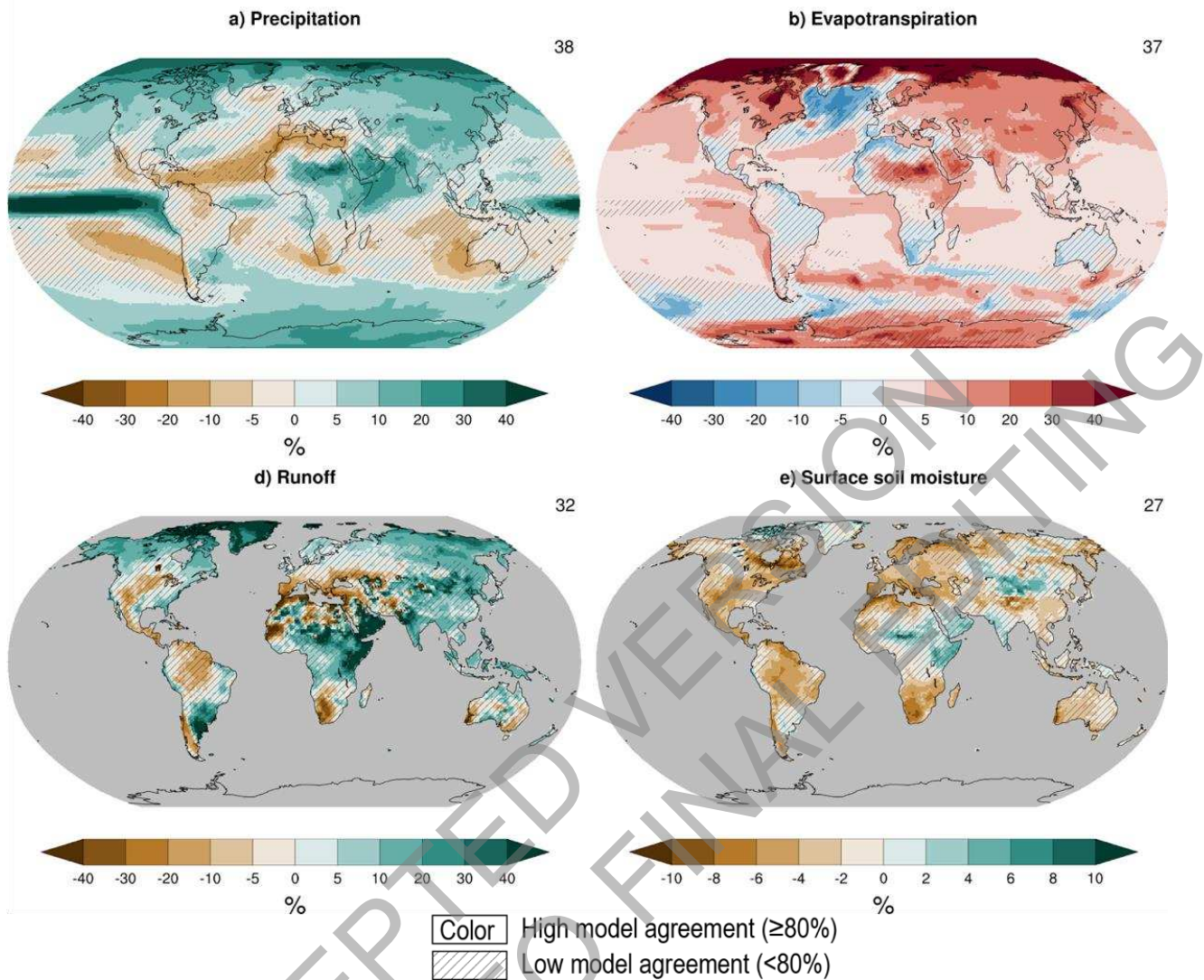
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reached a 5°C warming level in the 21st century in SSP5-8.5 above the 1850-1900 average have been used. Precipitation and runoff variability are estimated by respective standard deviation after removing linear trends. Error bars show the 17-83% confidence interval for the warmest +5°C global warming level. {Figures 11.6, 11.7, 11.12, 11.15, 11.18, 9.24, 8.16, Atlas.2}

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Long term water cycle variables changes for SSP2-4.5 (2081-2100 vs 1995-2014)



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Box TS.6, Figure 1: Projected water cycle changes. Long-term (2081-2100) projected annual mean changes (%) relative to present-day (1995-2014) in the SSP2-4.5 emission scenario for (a) precipitation, (b) surface evapotranspiration, (c) total runoff and (d) surface soil moisture. Top-right panel numbers indicate the number of CMIP6 models used for estimating the ensemble mean. For other scenarios, please refer to relevant figures in Chapter 8. Uncertainty is represented using the simple approach: No overlay indicates regions with high model agreement, where $\geq 80\%$ of models agree on sign of change; diagonal lines indicate regions with low model agreement, where $< 80\%$ of models agree on sign of change. For more information on the simple approach, please refer to the Cross-Chapter Box Atlas.1. {8.4.1, Figures 8.14, 8.17, 8.18, 8.19}

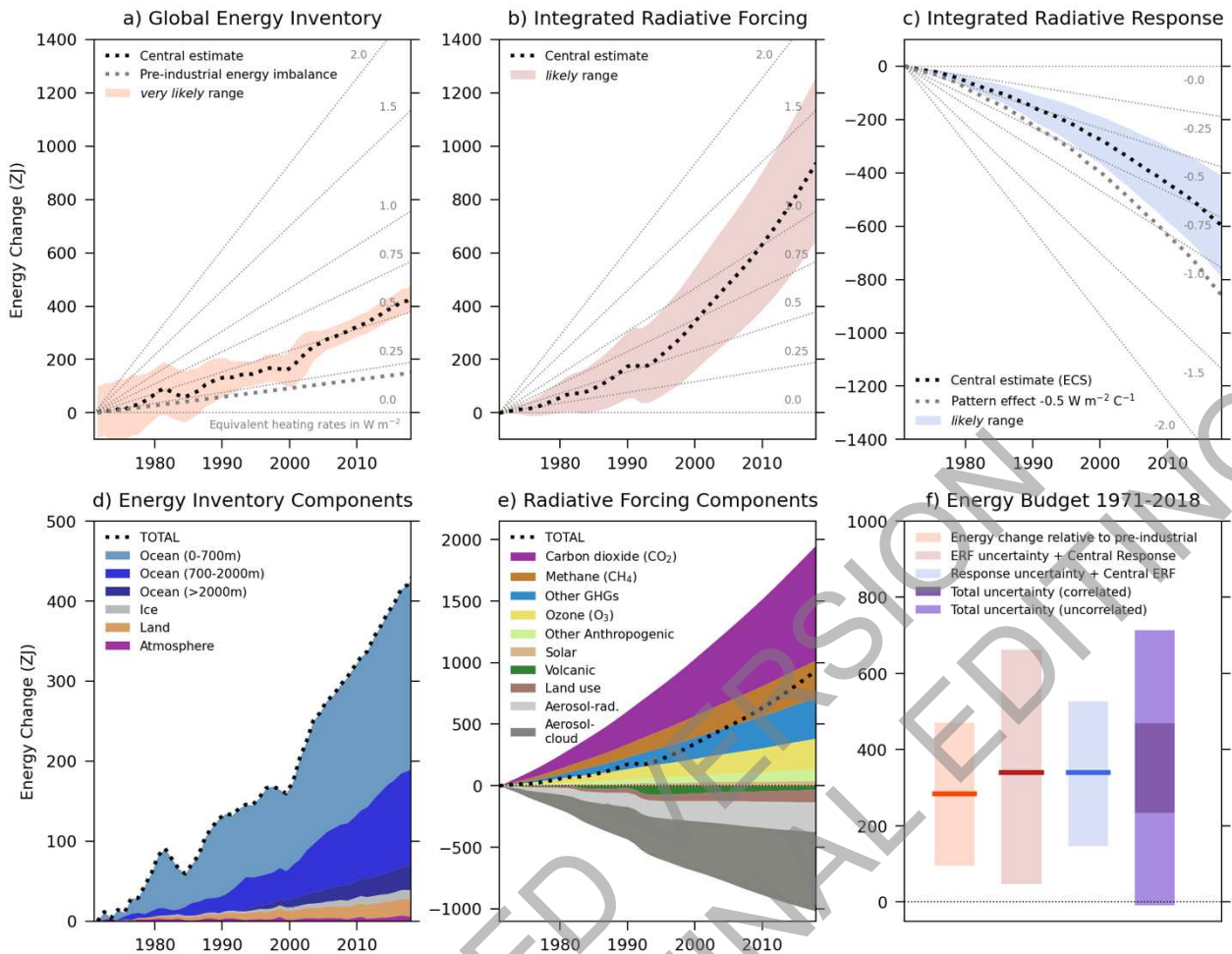
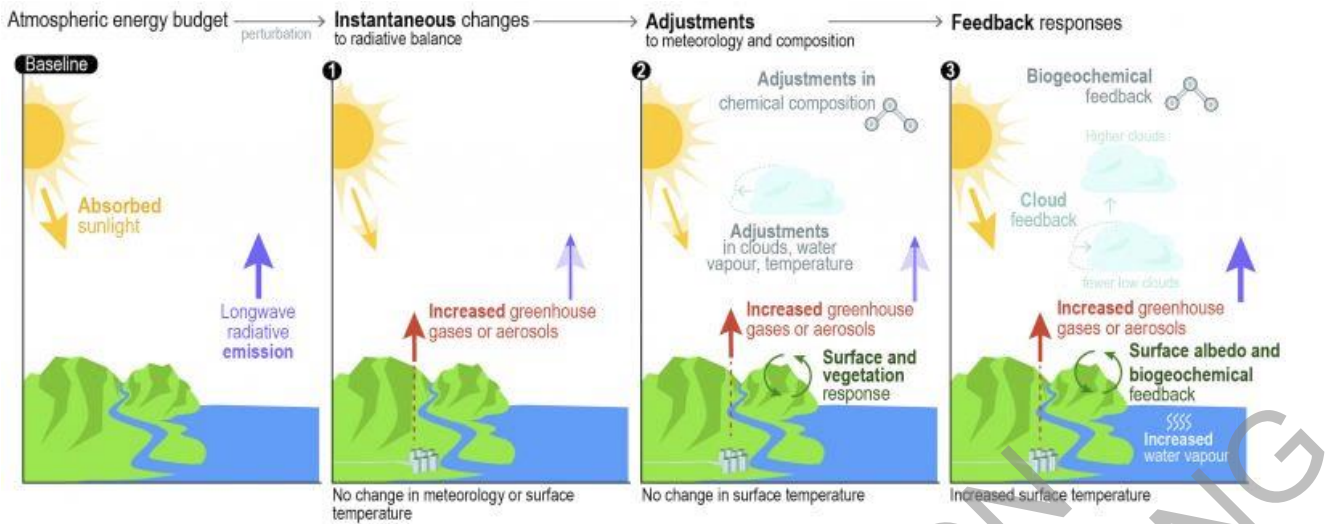


Figure TS.13: Estimates of the net cumulative energy change ($ZJ = 10^{21}$ Joules) for the period 1971–2018 associated with: (a) observations of changes in the Global Energy Inventory (b) Integrated Radiative Forcing; (c) Integrated Radiative Response. The intent is to show assessed changes in energy budget and ERFs. Black dotted lines indicate the central estimate with likely and very likely ranges as indicated in the legend. The grey dotted lines indicate the energy change associated with an estimated pre-industrial Earth energy imbalance of 0.2 W m^{-2} (panel a) and an illustration of an assumed pattern effect of $-0.5 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$ (panel c). Background grey lines indicate equivalent heating rates in W m^{-2} per unit area of Earth’s surface. Panels (d) and (e) show the breakdown of components, as indicated in the legend, for the Global Energy Inventory and Integrated Radiative Forcing, respectively. Panel (f) shows the Global Energy Budget assessed for the period 1971–2018, that is, the consistency between the change in the Global Energy Inventory relative to pre-industrial and the implied energy change from Integrated Radiative Forcing plus Integrated Radiative Response under a number of different assumptions, as indicated in the figure legend, including assumptions of correlated and uncorrelated uncertainties in Forcing plus Response. Shading represents the very likely range for observed energy change relative to pre-industrial and likely range for all other quantities. Forcing and Response timeseries are expressed relative to a baseline period of 1850–1900.

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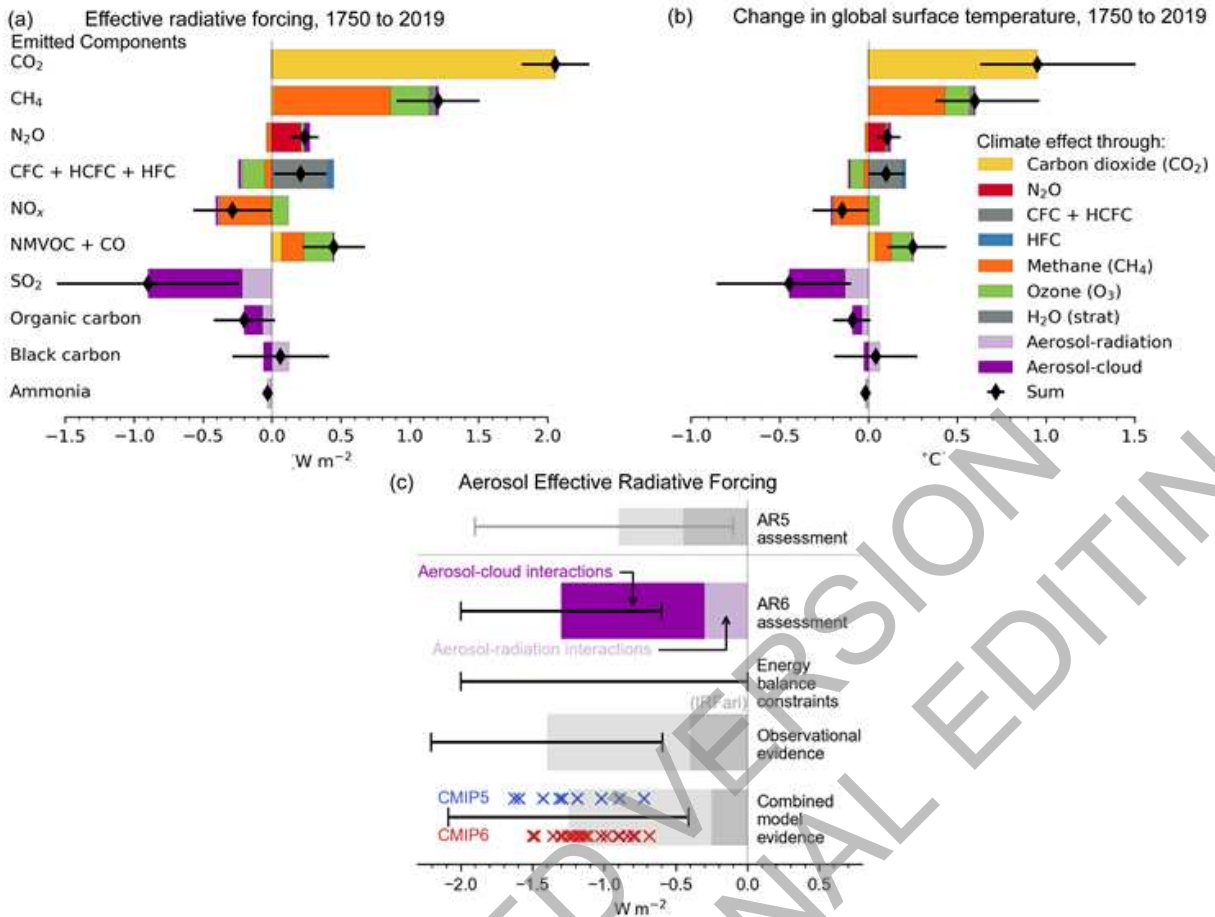


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Figure TS.14: Schematic representation of changes in the top-of-atmosphere (TOA) radiation budget following a perturbation. The intent of the figure is to illustrate the concept of adjustments in the climate system following a perturbation in the radiation budget. The baseline TOA energy budget (a) responds instantaneously to perturbations (b), leading to adjustments in the atmospheric meteorology and composition, and land surface that are independent of changes in surface temperature (c). Surface temperature changes (here using an increase as an example) lead to physical, biogeophysical and biogeochemical feedback processes (d). Long term feedback processes, such as those involving ice sheets, are not shown here. {adapted from Chapter 7 Figure 7.2, FAQ 7.2 Figure 1, and Figure 8.3}

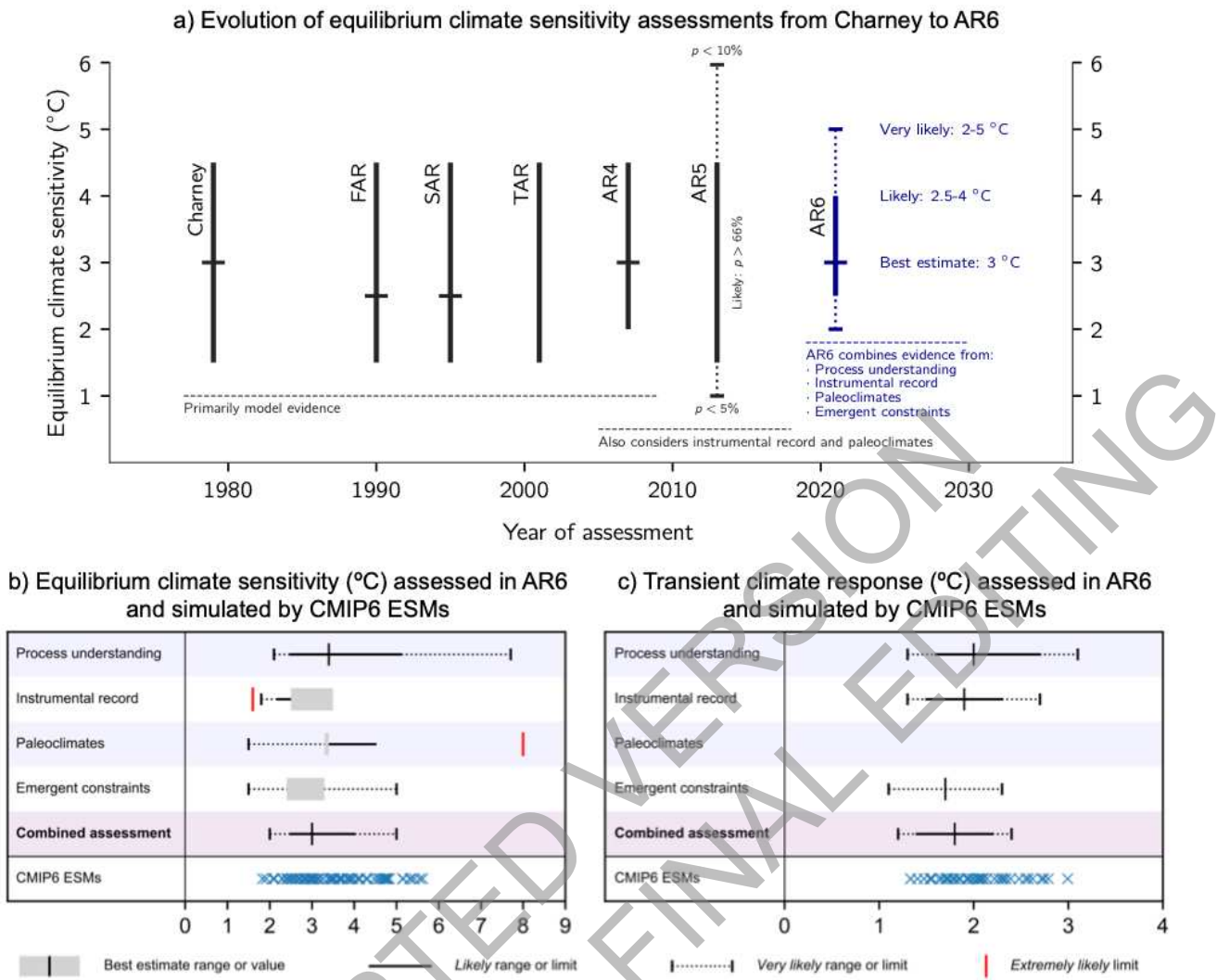
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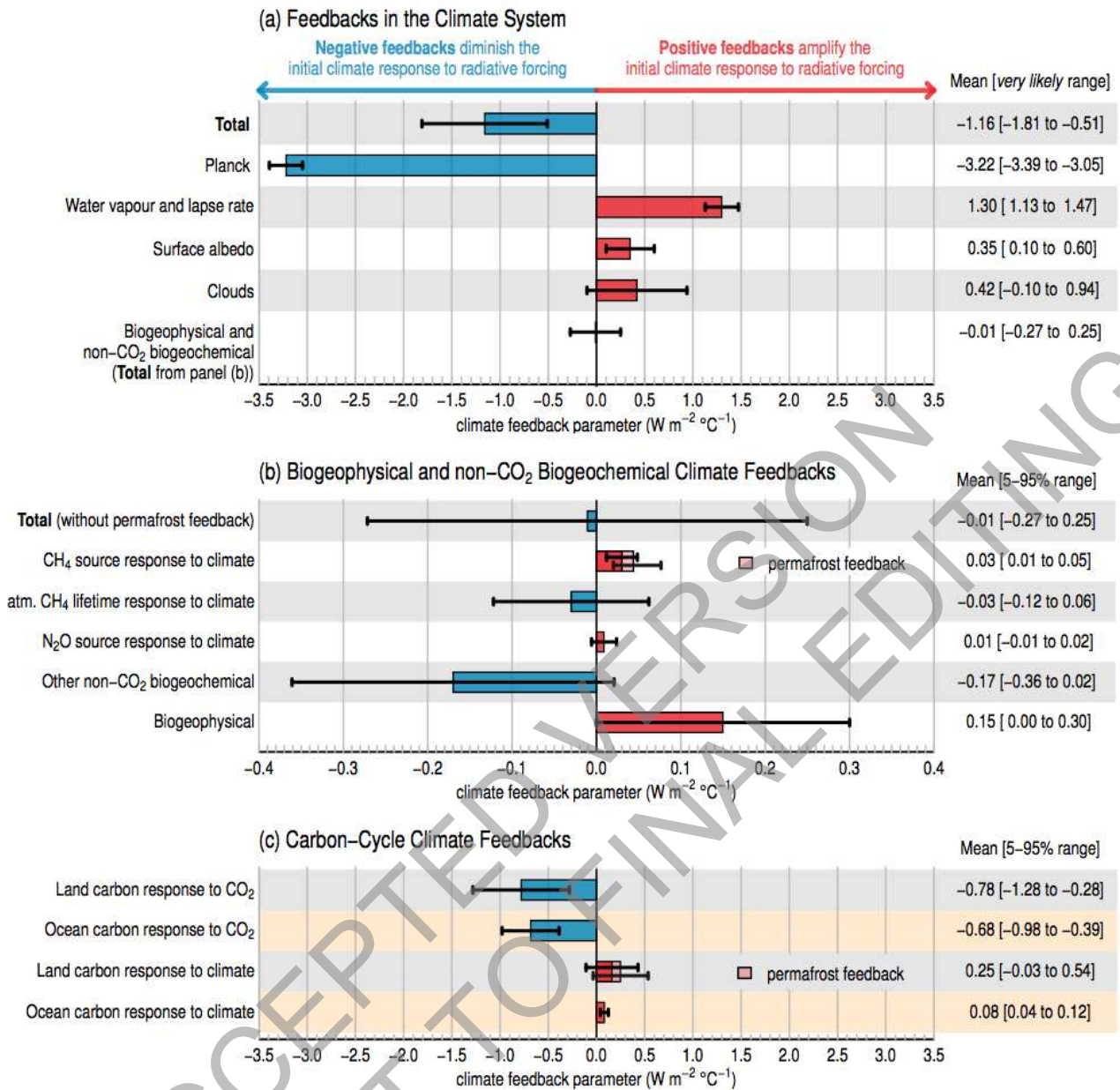
Figure TS.15: Contribution to ERF and b) global surface temperature change from component emissions between 1750 to 2019 based on CMIP6 models and c) net aerosol effective radiative forcing (ERF) from different lines of evidence. *The intent of the figure is to show advances since AR5 in the understanding of a) aerosol ERF from different lines of evidence as assessed in Chapter 7, b) emissions-based ERF and c) global surface temperature response for SLCFs as estimated in Chapter 6. In panel a), ERFs for well-mixed greenhouse gases (WMGHGs) are from the analytical formulae. ERFs for other components are multi-model means based on ESM simulations that quantify the effect of individual components. The derived emission-based ERFs are rescaled to match the concentration-based ERFs in Figure 7.6. Error bars are 5-95% and for the ERF account for uncertainty in radiative efficiencies and multi-model error in the means. In panel b), the global mean temperature response is calculated from the ERF time series using an impulse response function. In panel c), the AR6 assessment is based on energy balance constraints, observational evidence from satellite retrievals, and climate model-based evidence. For each line of evidence the assessed best-estimate contributions from ERF due to ERFari and ERFaci are shown with darker and paler shading, respectively. Estimates from individual CMIP5 and CMIP6 models are depicted by blue and red crosses, respectively. The observational assessment for ERFari is taken from the instantaneous forcing due to aerosol-radiation interactions (IRFari). Uncertainty ranges are given in black bars for the total aerosol ERF and depict very likely ranges. {Sections 7.3.3, 6.4.2, Cross-Chapter Box 7.1, Figures 6.12, 7.5 ; Table 7.8}*



The intent is to show a) the progression in ECS including uncertainty and the lines of evidence used for assessment, b) and c) show the lines of assessment used to assess ECS and TCR in AR6.

Figure TS.16: a) Evolution of equilibrium climate sensitivity (ECS) assessments from the Charney Report through a succession of IPCC Assessment Reports to AR6, and lines of evidence and combined assessment for (b) ECS and (c) transient climate response (TCR) in AR6. In panel (a), the lines of evidence considered are listed below each assessment. Best estimates are marked by horizontal bars, likely ranges by vertical bars, and very likely ranges by dotted vertical bars. In panel (b) and (c), assessed ranges are taken from Tables 7.13 and 7.14 for ECS and TCR respectively. Note that for the ECS assessment based on both the instrumental record and paleoclimates, limits (i.e., one-sided distributions) are given, which have twice the probability of being outside the maximum/minimum value at a given end, compared to ranges (i.e., two tailed distributions) which are given for the other lines of evidence. For example, the *extremely likely* limit of greater than 95% probability corresponds to one side of the *very likely* (5% to 95%) range. Best estimates are given as either a single number or by a range represented by grey box. CMIP6 ESM values are not directly used as a line of evidence but are presented on the Figure for comparison. {Sections 1.5, 7.5; Tables 7.13, 7.14; Figures 7.18}

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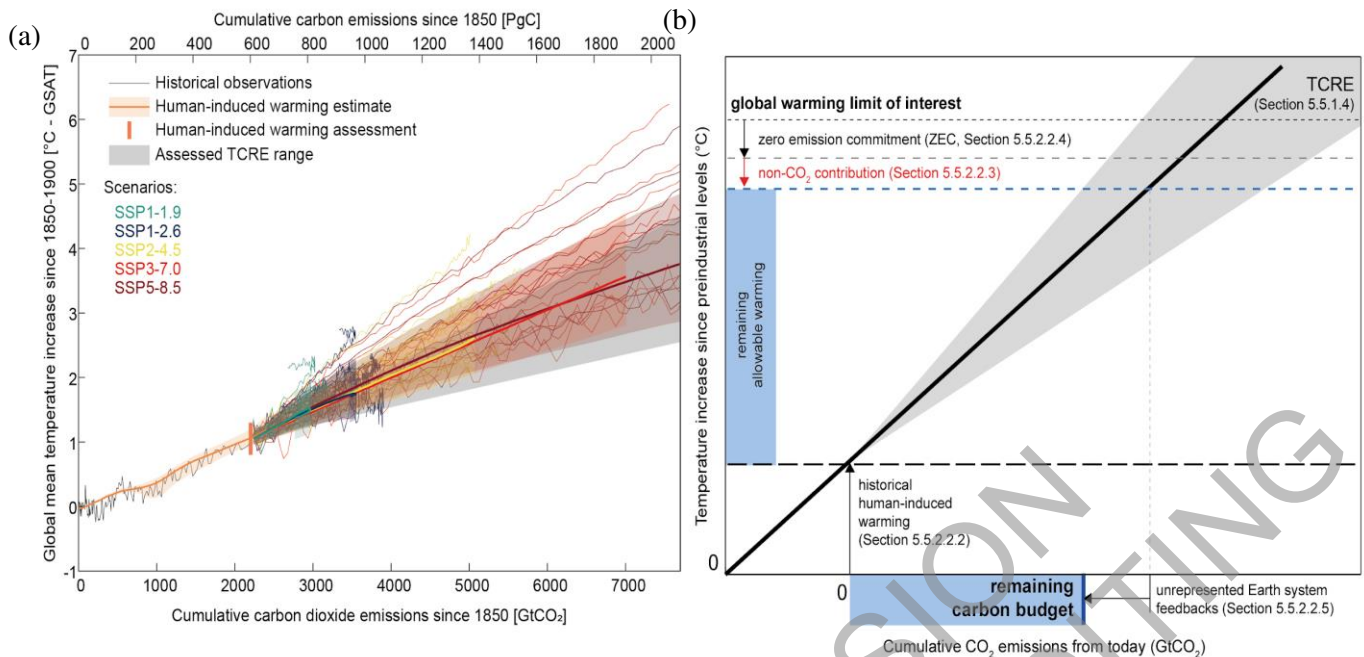


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Figure TS.17: An overview of physical and biogeochemical feedbacks in the climate system. The intent is to summarize assessed estimates of physical, biogeophysical and biogeochemical feedbacks on global temperature based on Chapters 5, 6 and 7. (a) Synthesis of physical, biogeophysical and non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedbacks that are included in the definition of ECS assessed in this Technical Summary. These feedbacks have been assessed using multiple lines of evidence including observations, models and theory. The net feedback is the sum of the Planck response, water vapour and lapse rate, surface albedo, cloud, and biogeophysical and non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedbacks. Bars denote the mean feedback values and uncertainties represent *very likely* ranges; (b) Estimated values of individual biogeophysical and non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedbacks. The atmospheric methane lifetime and other non-CO₂ biogeochemical feedbacks have been calculated using global Earth System Model simulations from AerChemMIP, while the CH₄ and N₂O source responses to climate have been assessed for the year 2100 using a range of modelling approaches using simplified radiative forcing equations. The estimates represent the mean and 5-95% range. The level of confidence in these estimates is *low* owing to the large model spread. (c) carbon-cycle feedbacks as simulated by models participating in the C4MIP of CMIP6. An independent estimate of the additional positive carbon-cycle climate feedbacks from permafrost thaw, which is not considered in most C4MIP models, is added. The estimates represent the mean and 5-95% range. Note that these

1 feedbacks act through modifying the atmospheric concentration of CO₂ and thus are not included in
2 the definition of ECS, which assumes a doubling of CO₂, but are included in the definition and
3 assessed range of TCRE. {Sections Box 5.1, 5.4.7, 5.4.8, 6.4.5, 7.4.2, Figure 5.29, Tables 6.9, 7.10}

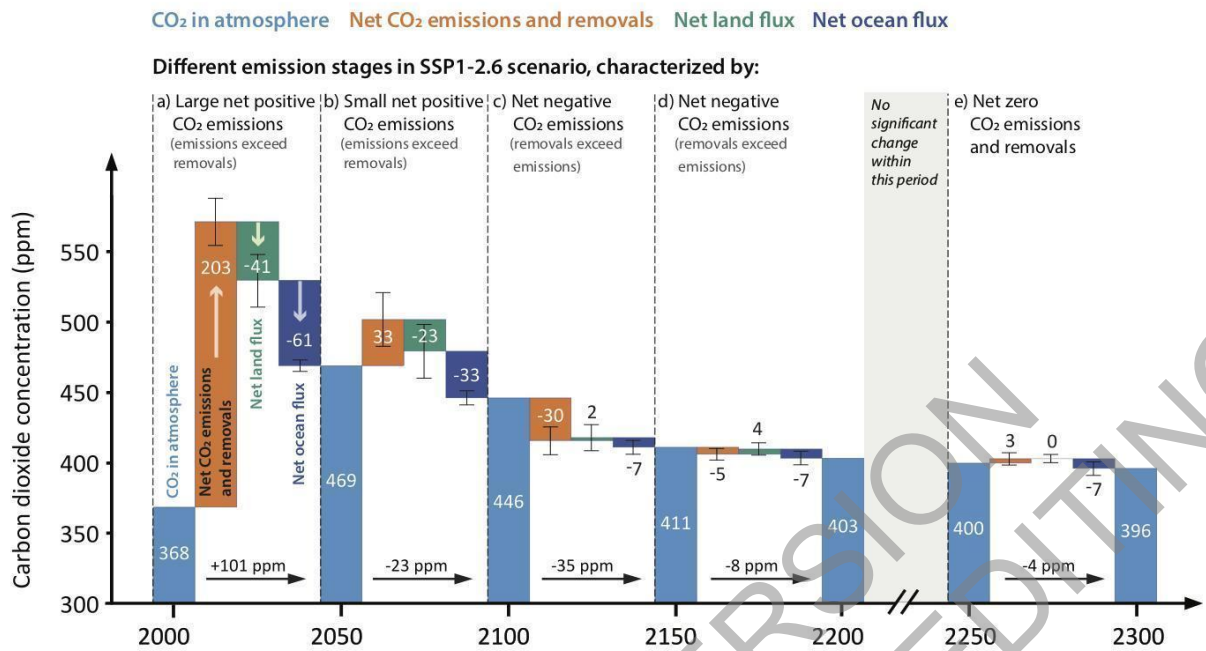
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The intent is to show the proportionality between cumulative CO₂ emissions and global surface air temperature in observations and models (left) as well as the assessed range of TCRE and the right-hand panel shows how information is combined to derive remaining carbon budgets consistent with limiting warming to a specific level.

Figure TS.18: Illustration of (a) relationship between cumulative emissions of CO₂ and global mean surface air temperature increase and (b) the assessment of the remaining carbon budget from its constituting components based on multiple lines of evidence. Carbon budgets consistent with various levels of additional warming are provided in Table 5.8 and should not be read from the illustrations in either panel. In panel (a) thin black line shows historical CO₂ emissions together with the assessed global surface temperature increase from 1850-1900 as assessed in Chapter 2 (Box 2.3). The orange-brown range with its central line shows the estimated human-induced share of historical warming. The vertical orange-brown line shows the assessed range of historical human-induced warming for the 2010–2019 period relative to 1850-1900 (Chapter 3). The grey cone shows the assessed *likely* range for the transient climate response to cumulative emissions of carbon dioxide (TCRE) (Section 5.5.1.4), starting from 2015. Thin coloured lines show CMIP6 simulations for the five scenarios of the WG1 core set (SSP1-1.9, green; SSP1-2.6, blue; SSP2-4.5, yellow; SSP3-7.0, red; SSP5-8.5, maroon), starting from 2015 and until 2100. Diagnosed carbon emissions are complemented with estimated land-use change emissions for each respective scenario. Coloured areas show the Chapter 4 assessed *very likely* range of global surface temperature projections and thick coloured central lines the median estimate, for each respective scenario, relative to the original scenario emissions. For panel (b), the remaining allowable warming is estimated by combining the global warming limit of interest with the assessed historical human induced warming (Section 5.5.2.2.2), the assessed future potential non-CO₂ warming contribution (Section 5.5.2.2.3) and the ZEC (Section 5.5.2.2.4). The remaining allowable warming (vertical blue bar) is subsequently combined with the assessed TCRE (Section 5.5.1.4 and 5.5.2.2.1) and contribution of unrepresented Earth system feedbacks (Section 5.5.2.2.5) to provide an assessed estimate of the remaining carbon budget (horizontal blue bar, Table 5.8). Note that contributions in panel (b) are illustrative and are not to scale. For example, the central ZEC estimate was assessed to be zero. {Box 2.3; Sections 5.2.1, 5.2.2; Figure 5.31}

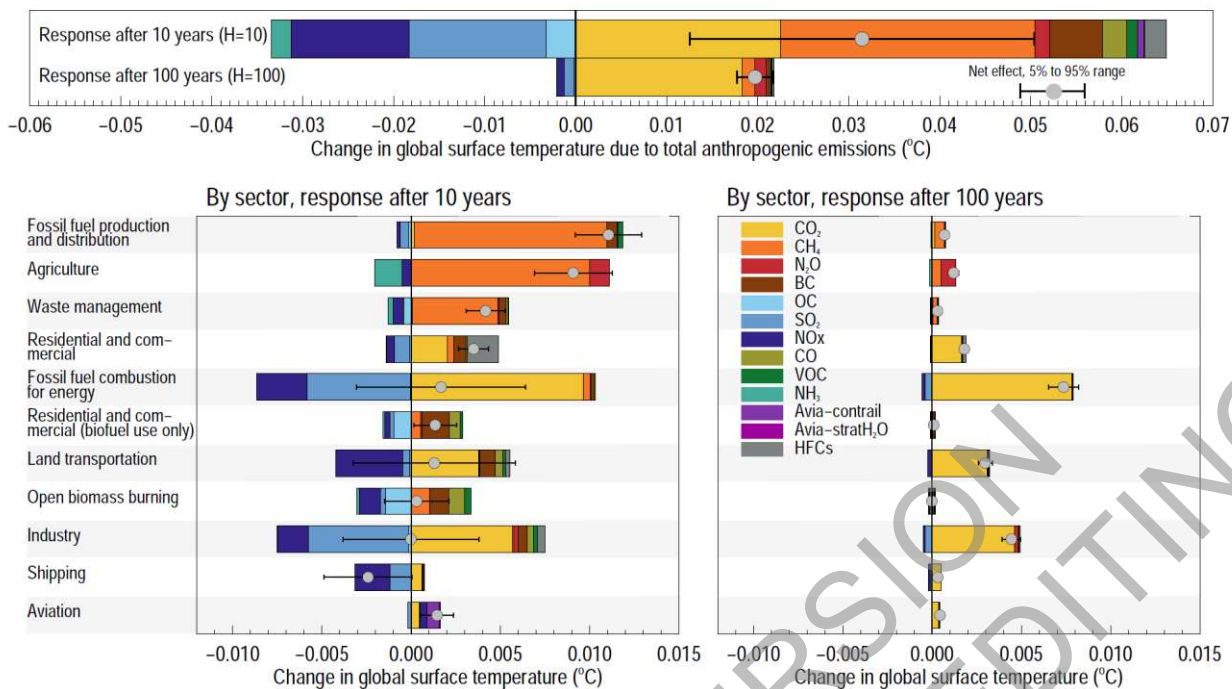
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Figure TS.19: Carbon sink response in a scenario with net CO₂ removal from the atmosphere. . The intent of this figure is to show how atmospheric CO₂ evolves under negative emissions and its dependence on the negative emissions technologies. It also shows the evolution of the ocean and land sinks. Shown are CO₂ flux components from concentration-driven Earth system model simulations during different emission stages of SSP1–2.6 and its long-term extension. (a) Large net positive CO₂ emissions, (b) small net positive CO₂ emissions, (c) – (d) net negative CO₂ emissions, (e) net zero CO₂ emissions. Positive flux components act to raise the atmospheric CO₂ concentration, whereas negative components act to lower the CO₂ concentration. Net CO₂ emissions, land and ocean CO₂ fluxes represent the multi-model mean and standard deviation (error bar) of four ESMs (CanESM5, UKESM1, CESM2-WACCM, IPSL-CM6a-LR) and one EMIC (UVic ESCM). Net CO₂ emissions are calculated from concentration-driven Earth system model simulations as the residual from the rate of increase in atmospheric CO₂ and land and ocean CO₂ fluxes. Fluxes are accumulated over each 50-year period and converted to concentration units (ppm). {5.6.2.1, Figure 5.33}

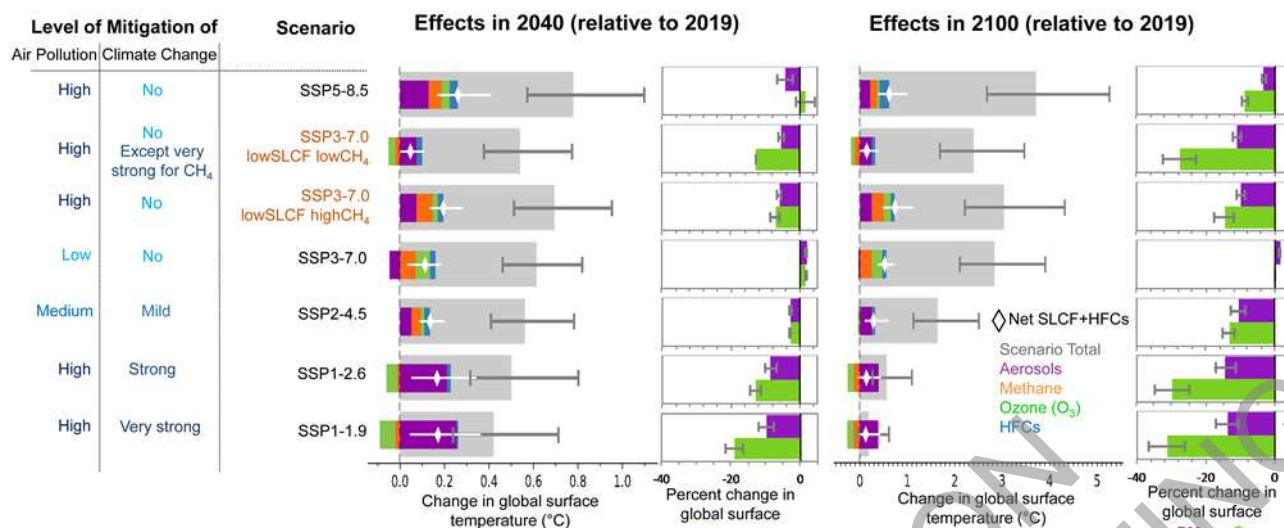
Effect of a one year pulse of present-day emissions on global surface temperature



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Figure TS.20: Global surface temperature change 10 and 100 years after a one year pulse of present-day emissions. This figure shows the sectoral contribution to present-day climate change by specific climate forcers including CO₂ as well as SLCFs. The temperature response is broken down by individual species and shown for total anthropogenic emissions (top), and sectoral emissions on 10-year (left) and 100-year time scales (right). Sectors are sorted by (high-to-low) net temperature effect on the 10-year time scale. Error bars in the top panel show the 5-95% range in net temperature effect due to uncertainty in radiative forcing only (calculated using a Monte Carlo approach and best estimate uncertainties from the literature). Emissions for 2014 are from the CMIP6 emissions dataset, except for HFCs and aviation H₂O which rely on other datasets (see Section 6.6.2 for more details). CO₂ emissions are excluded from open biomass burning and residential biofuel use. {6.6.2, Figure 6.16}

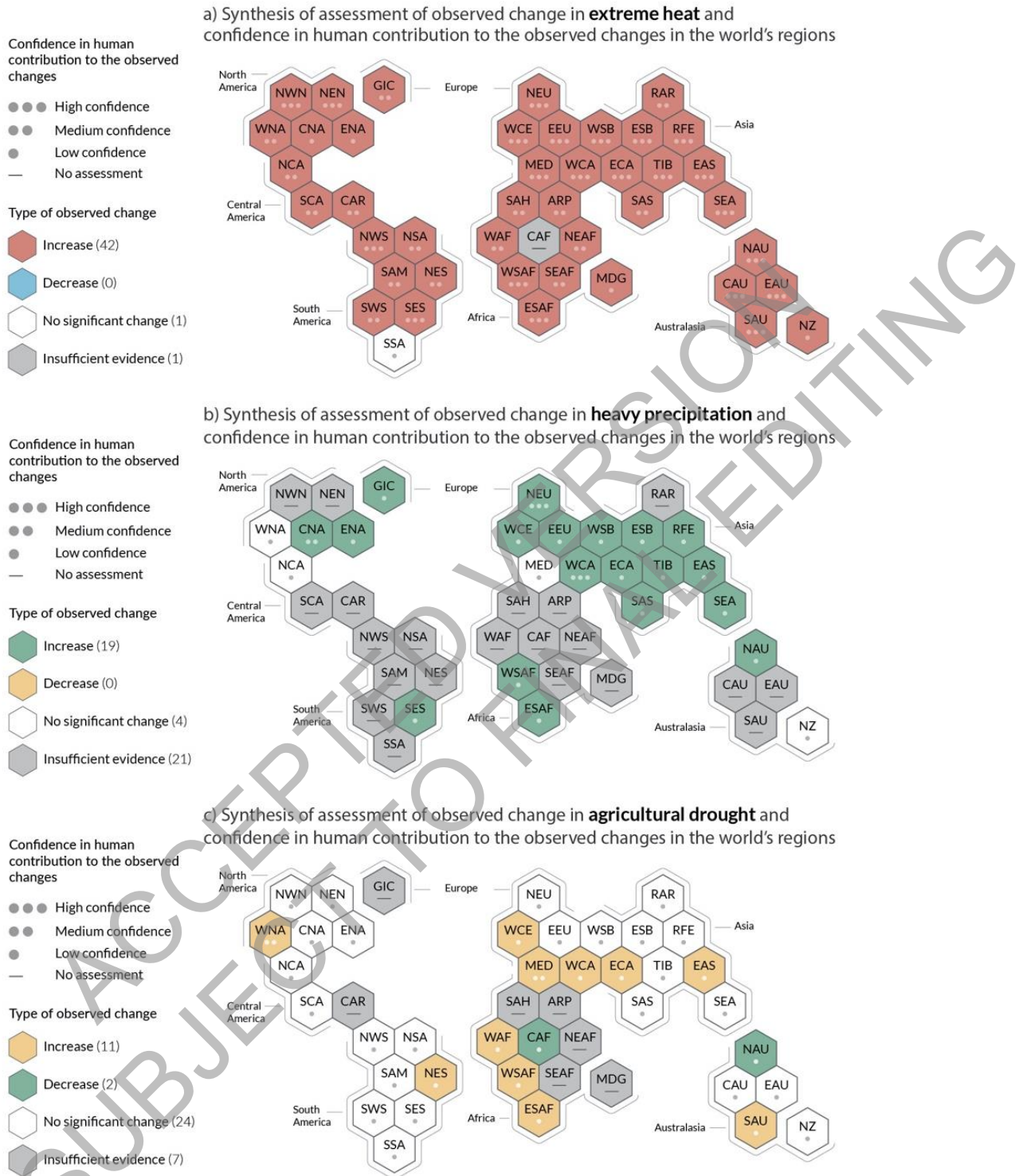
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Box TS.7, Figure 1: Effects of short-lived climate forcers (SLCFs) on global surface temperature and air

pollution across the WG1 core set of Shared Socio-Economic Pathways (SSPs). *The intent of this figure is to show the climate and air quality (surface ozone and $PM_{2.5}$) response to SLCFs in the SSP scenarios for near and long-term. Effects of net aerosols, tropospheric ozone, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) (with lifetimes less than 50 years), and methane are compared with those of total anthropogenic forcing for 2040 and 2100 relative to year 2019. The global surface temperature changes are based on historical and future evolution of Effective Radiative Forcing (ERF) as assessed in chapter 7 of this report. The temperature responses to the ERFs are calculated with a common impulse response function (R_T) for the climate response, consistent with the metric calculations in Chapter 7 (Box 7.1). The R_T has an equilibrium climate sensitivity of 3.0°C for a doubling of atmospheric CO_2 concentration (feedback parameter of $-1.31 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$). The scenario total (grey bar) includes all anthropogenic forcings (long- and short-lived climate forcers, and land use changes). Uncertainties are 5-95% ranges. The global changes in air pollutant concentrations (ozone and $PM_{2.5}$) are based on multimodel CMIP6 simulations and represent changes in 5-year mean surface continental concentrations for 2040 and 2098 relative to 2019. Uncertainty bars represent inter-model ± 1 standard deviation. {6.7.2, 6.7.3, Figure 6.24}*

Climate change is already affecting every region across the globe with many observed changes in extremes attributable to human activity

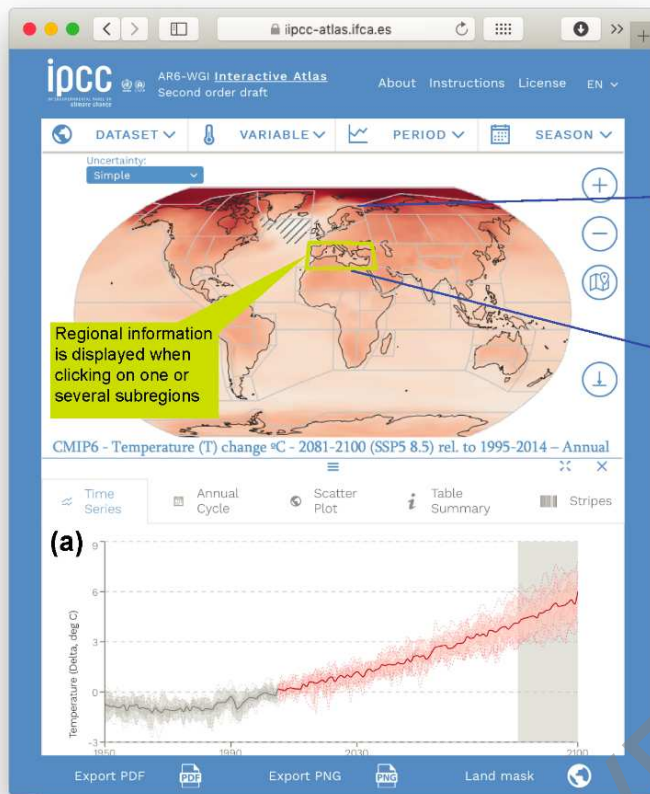


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Box TS.10, Figure 1: Synthesis of assessed observed changes and human influence of hot extremes (panel a), heavy precipitation (panel b) and agricultural and ecological drought (panel c) for the IPCC AR6 regions (displayed as hexagons). The colours in each panel represent the four outcomes of the assessment on the observed changes: In Panel a): red – at least *medium confidence* in an observed increase in hot extremes; blue – at least *medium confidence* in an observed decrease in hot extremes; white – no significant change in hot extremes is observed for

1 the region as a whole; grey – the evidence in this region is insufficient (because of a lack of data
2 and/or literature) to make an assessment for the region as a whole. In panel b): green – at least
3 *medium confidence* in an observed increase in heavy rainfall; yellow - at least *medium*
4 *confidence* in an observed decrease in heavy rainfall; white – no significant change in heavy
5 rainfall is observed for the region as a whole; grey – the evidence in this region is insufficient
6 (because of a lack of data and/or literature) to make an assessment for the region as a whole. In
7 panel c): yellow – at least *medium confidence* in an observed increase in agricultural and
8 ecological drought; green - at least *medium confidence* in an observed decrease in agricultural
9 and ecological drought; white – no significant change in agricultural and ecological drought is
10 observed for the region as a whole; grey – the evidence in this region is insufficient (because of a
11 lack of data and/or literature) to make an assessment for the region as a whole. Each panel
12 represents in addition the synthesis of assessment of the human influence on the observed
13 changes based on available trend detection and attribution and event attribution scientific
14 publications. The level of confidence is indicated by a number of dots: *high confidence* (three
15 dots), *medium confidence* (two dots), *low confidence* (one dot), and when no assessment is
16 possible, due to insufficient evidence for the specific region (horizontal bar). For hot extremes,
17 the evidence is mostly drawn from changes in metrics based on daily maximum temperatures,
18 regional studies using other metrics (heatwave duration, frequency and intensity) are used in
19 addition {11.9.2}. For heavy precipitation, the evidence is mostly drawn from changes in metrics
20 based on one-day or five-day precipitation amounts using global and regional studies {11.9.3}.
21 Agricultural and ecological droughts are assessed based on observed and projected changes in
22 total column soil moisture, complemented by evidence on changes in surface soil moisture,
23 water-balance (precipitation minus evapotranspiration) and metrics driven by precipitation and
24 atmospheric evaporative demand. {11.9.3} All assessments are made for each AR6 region as a
25 whole and for the timeframe from 1950 to present thus, more local or assessment made on
26 shorter time scales might differ from what is shown in the figure. {11.9, Table TS.5}.
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The Interactive Atlas allows for flexible spatial and temporal analyses of essential climate variables, extreme indices and climatic impact-drivers including multiple lines of evidence to support the assessment of regional climate change:

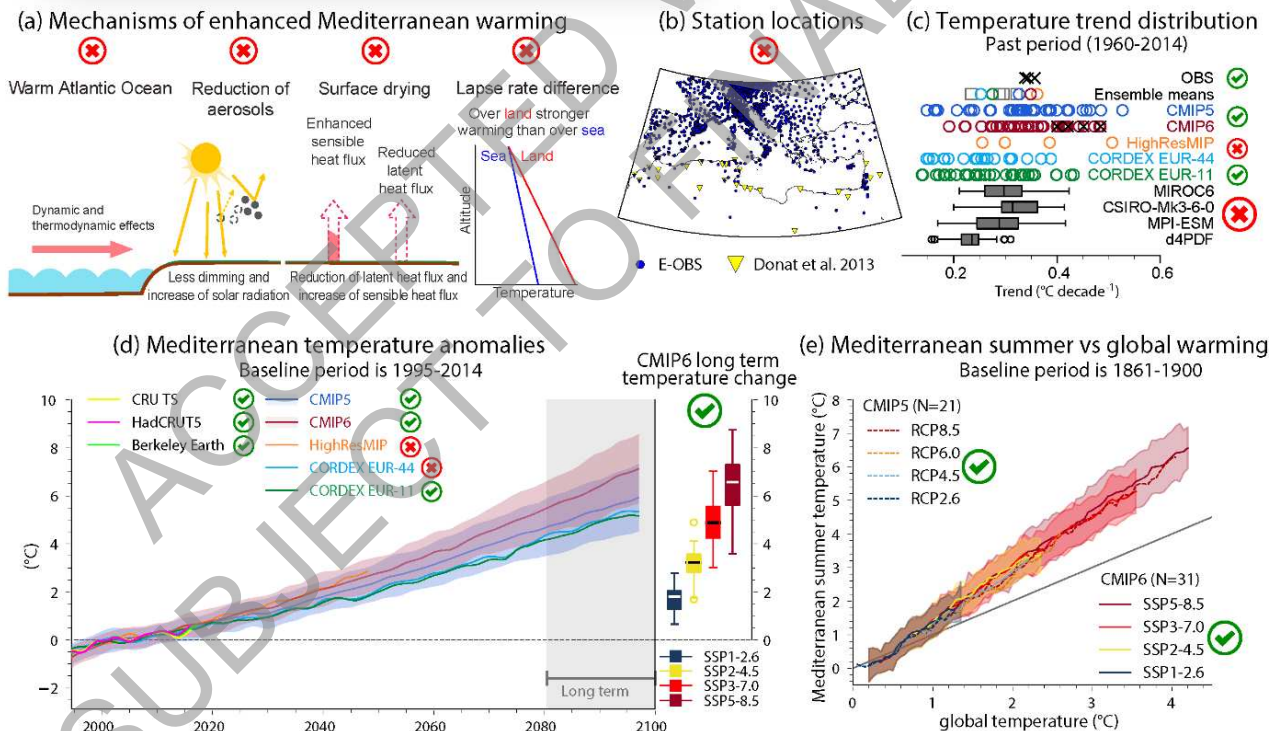
- Observations
 - CMIP5
 - CMIP6
 - CORDEX
- CORDEX is available for 12 continent-wide domains.

Regional (aggregated) information for reference and typological regions:

- (a) Time series
- (b) Stripes
- (c) Annual cycle plots
- (d) Summary tabular information.
- (e) Scatter plots (e.g. precip. vs temp.)

Dimensions of analysis include time periods across scenarios and global warming levels (1°C, 2°C, 3°C and 4°C).

- ✔ Available in the Interactive Atlas
- ✘ Not available from the Interactive Atlas.



Box TS.12, Figure 1: Example of generating regional climate information from multiple lines of evidence for the case of Mediterranean summer warming, with indication of the information available from the Interactive Atlas. (a) Mechanisms and feedbacks involved in enhanced Mediterranean summer warming. (b) Locations of observing stations from different datasets. (c) Distribution of 1960–2014 summer temperature trends (°C per decade) for observations (black crosses), CMIP5 (blue circles), CMIP6 (red circles), HighResMIP (orange circles), CORDEX EUR-44 (light blue

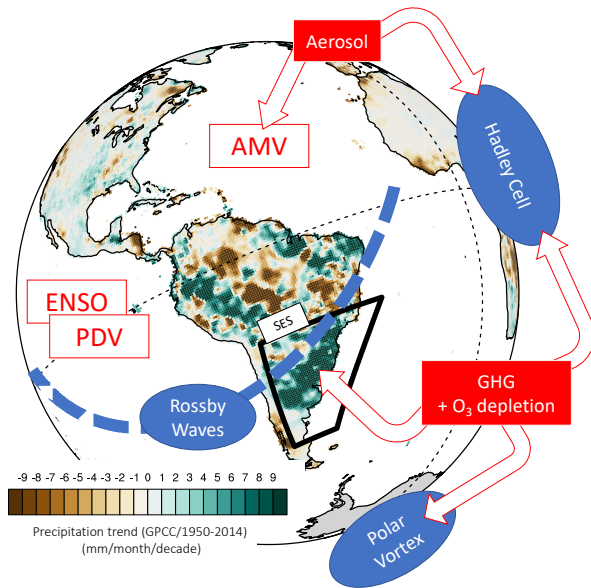
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1 circles), CORDEX EUR-11 (green circles), and selected single Model Initial-condition Large
2 Ensembles - SMILEs (grey boxplots, MIROC6, CSIRO-Mk3-6-0, MPI-ESM and d4PDF). (d)
3 Time series of area averaged (25°N–50°N, 10°W–40°E) land point summer temperature
4 anomalies (°C, baseline period is 1995–2014): the boxplot shows long term (2081–2100)
5 temperature changes of different CMIP6 scenarios in respect to the baseline period. (e) Projected
6 Mediterranean summer warming in comparison to global annual mean warming of CMIP5
7 (RCP2.6, RCP4.5, RCP6.0 and RCP8.5) and CMIP6 (SSP1-2.6, SSP2-4.5, SSP3-7.0 and SSP5-
8 8.5) ensemble means (lines) and spread (shading). {Figure 10.20, Figure 10.21, Figure Atlas.8}
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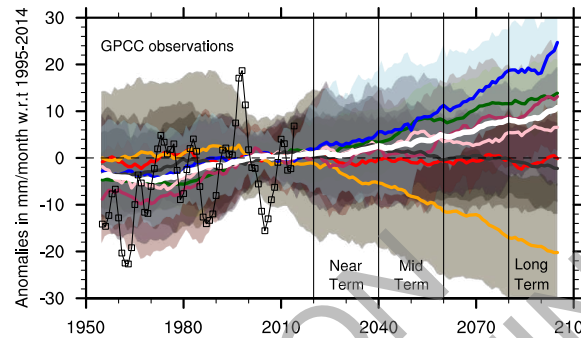
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**Pathway to understanding past and assessing future climate changes at regional scale
The southeastern South America (SES) case study**

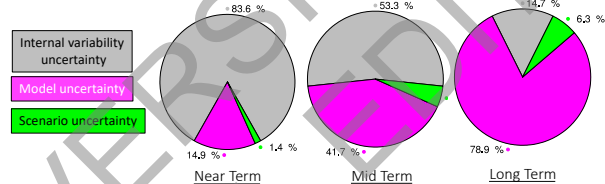
a. Identification of **climate drivers** and **phenomena** for interpreting SES observed precipitation trend and variability in austral summer (DJF)



b. Models simulations/evaluation of SES DJF precipitation over the historical period and 21st century based on 7 large ensembles

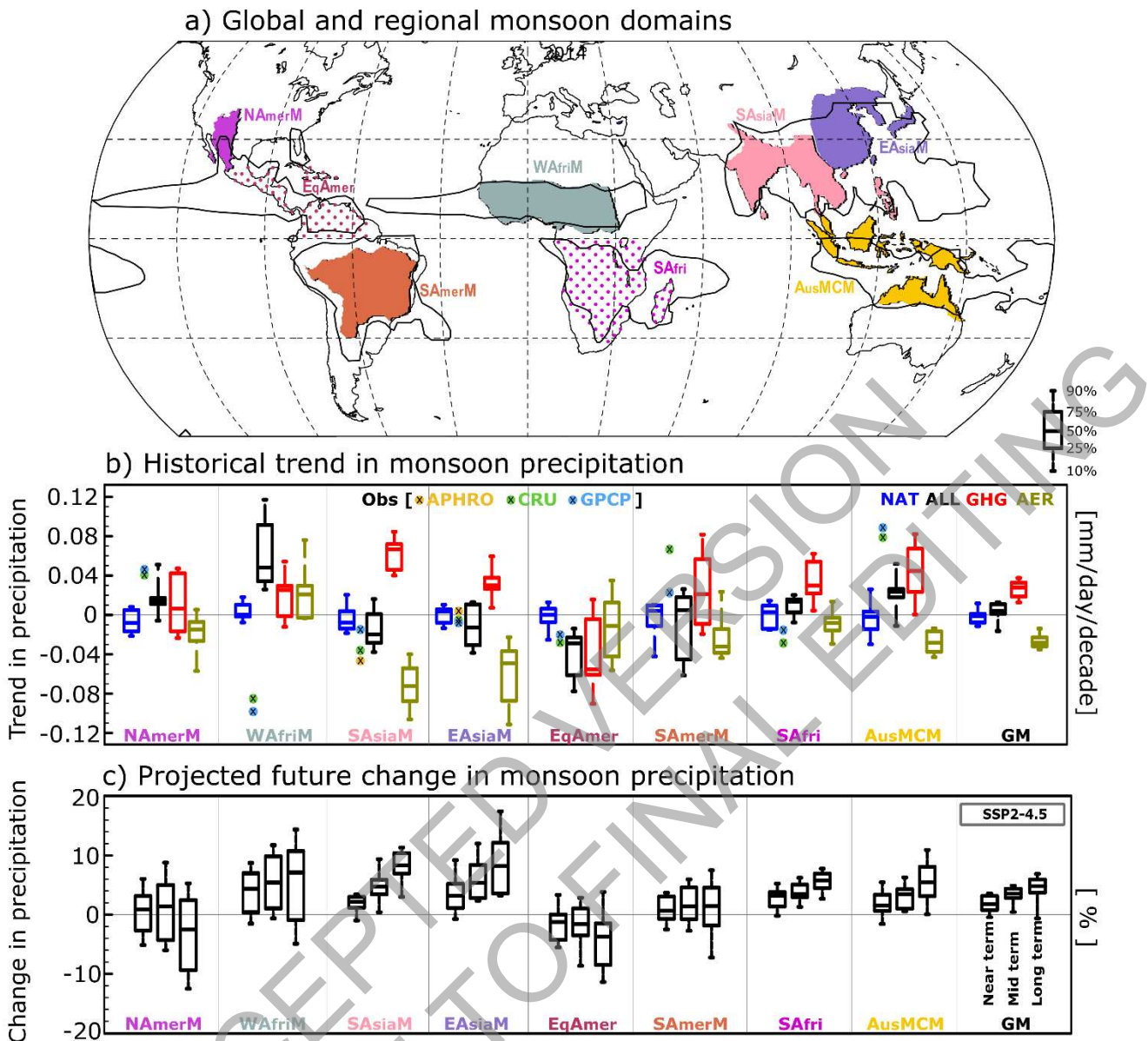


c. Quantification of the respective weight of uncertainties as a function of future assessed periods



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Figure TS.21: Example of the interplay between drivers of climate variability and change at regional scale to understand past and projected changes. *The figure intent is to show an illustrative pathway for understanding past, and anticipating future, climate change at regional scale in the presence of uncertainties.* (a) Identification of the climate drivers and their influences on climate phenomena contributing through teleconnection to Southeastern South America summer (DJF) precipitation variability and trends observed over 1950–2014. Drivers (red squares) include MoVs as well as external forcing. Observed precipitation linear trend from GPCCC is shown on continents (green-brown colour bar in mm month⁻¹ per decade) and the SES AR6 WGI reference region is outlined with the thick black contour. Climate phenomena leading to local impact on SES are schematically presented (blue ovals). (b) Time series of decadal precipitation anomalies for DJF SES simulated from seven large ensembles of historical + RCP8.5 simulations over 1950–2100. Shading corresponds to the 5th–95th range of climate outcomes given from each large ensemble for precipitation (in mm/month) and thick coloured lines stand for their respective ensemble mean. The thick timeseries in white corresponds to the multi-model multi-member ensemble mean with model contribution being weighted according to their ensemble size. GPCCC observation is shown in the light black line with squares over 1950–2014 and the 1995–2014 baseline period has been retained for calculation of anomalies in all datasets. (c) Quantification of the respective weight (in percent) between the individual sources of uncertainties (internal in gray, model in magenta and scenario in green) at near-term, mid-term and long-term temporal windows defined in AR6 and highlighted in (b) for SES DJF precipitation. All computations are done with respect to 1995–2014, taken as the reference period and the scenario uncertainty is estimated from CMIP5 using the same set of models as for the large ensembles that have run different RCP scenarios. {Figure 10.12a}



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 2 **Box TS.13, Figure 1: Global and regional monsoons: past trends and projected changes:** *The intent of this figure*
 3 *is to show changes in precipitation over regional monsoon domains in terms of observed past*
 4 *trends and related attribution, and in terms of future projections in one intermediate emission*
 5 *scenario in the near, medium and long terms. (a) Global (black contour) and regional monsoons*
 6 *(color shaded) domains. The global monsoon (GM) is defined as the area with local summer-*
 7 *minus-winter precipitation rate exceeding 2.5 mm day⁻¹ (see Annex V). The regional monsoon*
 8 *domains are defined based on published literature and expert judgement (see Annex V), and also*
 9 *accounting for the fact that the climatological summer monsoon rainy season varies across the*
 10 *individual regions. Assessed regional monsoons are South and Southeast Asia (SAsiaM, Jun-Jul-*
 11 *Aug-Sep), East Asia (EAsiaM, Jun-Jul-Aug), West Africa (WAfriM, Jun-Jul-Aug-Sep), North*
 12 *America (NAmerM, Jul-Aug-Sep), South America (SAmerM, Dec-Jan-Feb), Australia and*
 13 *Maritime Continent Monsoon (AusMCM, Dec-Jan-Feb). Equatorial South America (EqSAmer)*
 14 *and South Africa (SAfri) regions are also shown, as they receive unimodal summer seasonal*
 15 *rainfall although their qualification as monsoons is subject to discussion. (b) Global and regional*
 16 *monsoons precipitation trends based on DAMIP CMIP6 simulations with both natural and*
 17 *anthropogenic (ALL), GHG only (GHG), aerosols only (AER) and natural only (NAT) radiative*
 18 *forcing. Weighted ensemble means are based on nine CMIP6 models contributing to the MIP*
 19 *(with at least 3 members). Observed trends computed from CRU GPCP, and APHRO (only for*
 20 *SAsiaM and EAsiaM) datasets are shown as well. (c) Percentage change in projected seasonal*
 21 *mean precipitation over global and regional monsoons domain in the near-term (2021–2040),*

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mid-term (2041–2060), and long-term (2081–2100) under SSP2-4.5 based on 24 CMIP6 models.
{Figure 8.11, Figure 8.22}

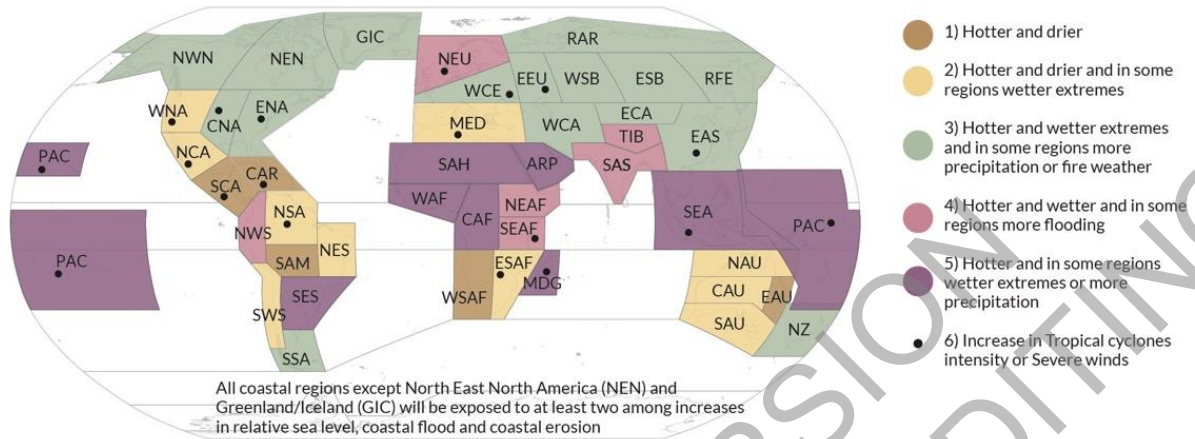
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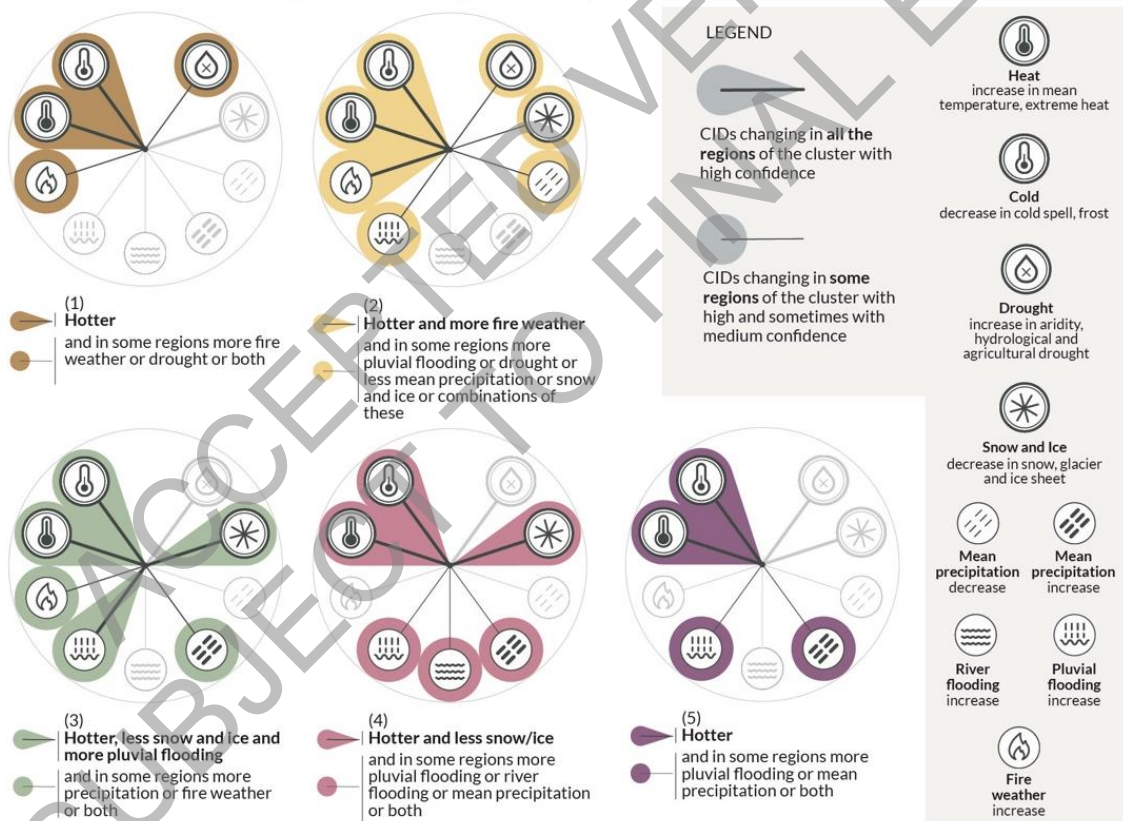
While changes in climatic impact-drivers will happen everywhere, there is a specific combination of changes each region will experience

World regions grouped into five clusters, each one based on a combination of changes in climatic impact-drivers

Reference period: Mid 21st century or 2oC GWL compared to a climatological reference period included within 1960-2014



Combinations of future changes in Climatic Impact-Drivers (CIDs)



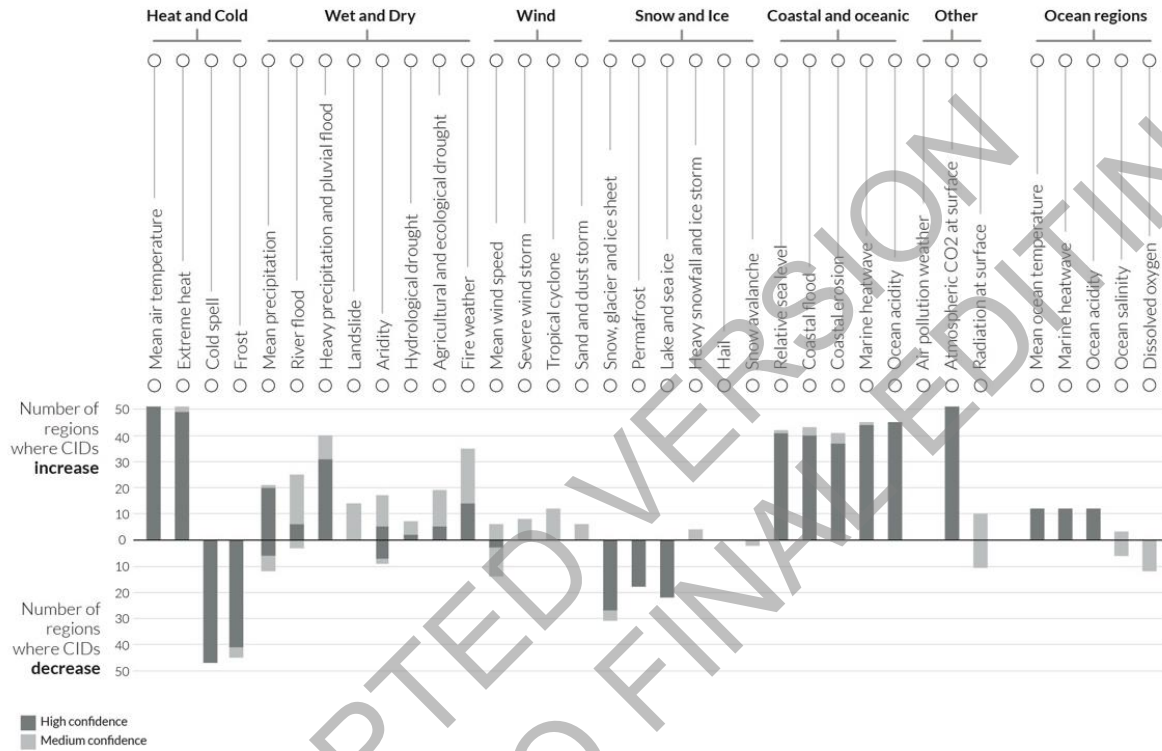
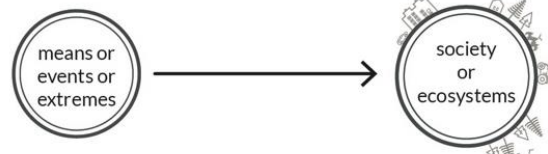
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1 b)

Number of regions where climatic impact-drivers are increasing or decreasing with high or medium confidence

Reference period : Mid 21st century or 2oC GWL compared to a climatological reference period included within 1960-2014

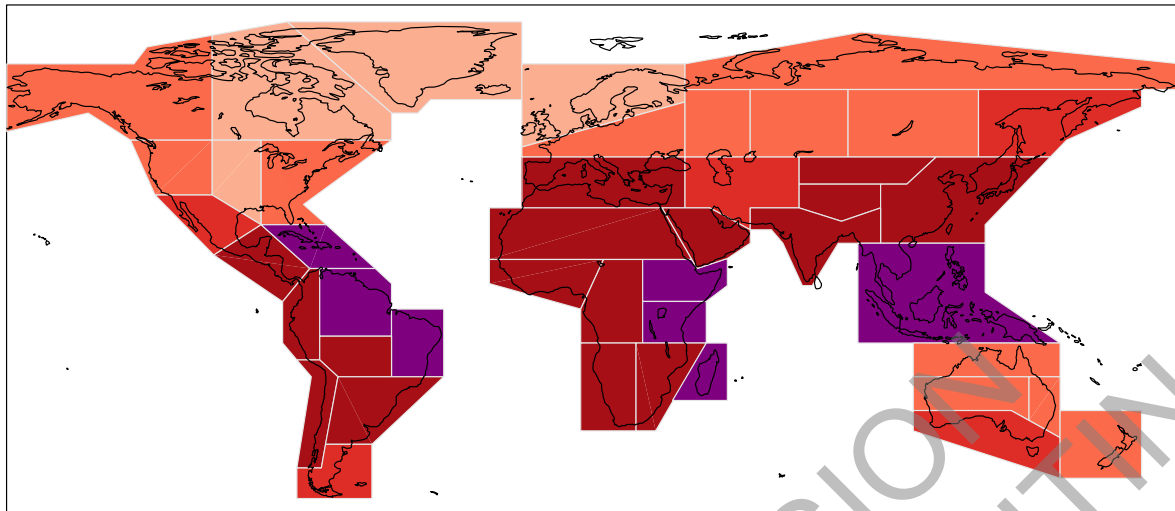
Climatic impact-drivers (CIDs) are physical climate system conditions (means, events, extremes) that affect an element of society or ecosystems



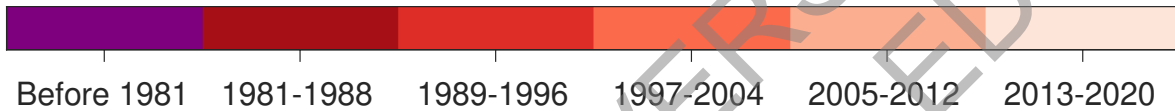
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Figure TS.22: (Panel a): shows the geographical location of regions belonging to one of five groups characterized by a specific combination of changing climatic impact-drivers (CIDs). The five groups are represented by the five different colours, and the CID combinations associated with each group are represented in the corresponding ‘fingerprint’ and text below the map. Each fingerprint comprises a set of CIDs projected to change with high confidence in every region in the group, and a second set of CIDs, one or more of which are projected to change in each region with high or medium confidence. The CID combinations follow a progression from those becoming hotter and drier (group 1) to those becoming hotter and wetter (group 5). In between (groups 2–4), the CIDs that change include some becoming drier and some wetter and always include a set of CIDs which are getting hotter. Tropical cyclones and severe wind CID changes are represented on the map with black dots in the regions affected. Regions affected by coastal CID changes are described by text on the map. The five groups are chosen to provide a reasonable level of detail for each region-specific detail whilst not overwhelming the map with a full summary all aspects of the assessment, which is available in Table TS.5. [Placeholder: This summary is also represented visually in the Interactive Atlas.] The CID changes summarized in the figure represent high and medium confidence changes projected if a level of 2°C of global warming is attained around 2050. The bar chart in panel b) shows the numbers of regions where each CID is increasing or decreasing with medium or high confidence for all land regions reported in the map of panel a) and for the ocean regions. The regions coloured in the map comprise the WG I AR6 reference regions, which include inhabited land areas and an additional non-continuous Pacific Islands region labelled PAC. Definitions of the acronyms of the other regions are provided in Atlas.1 and the Interactive Atlas. {Table TS.5, Figure TS.24}

Year of significant emergence of changes in temperature over land regions (S/N>2)

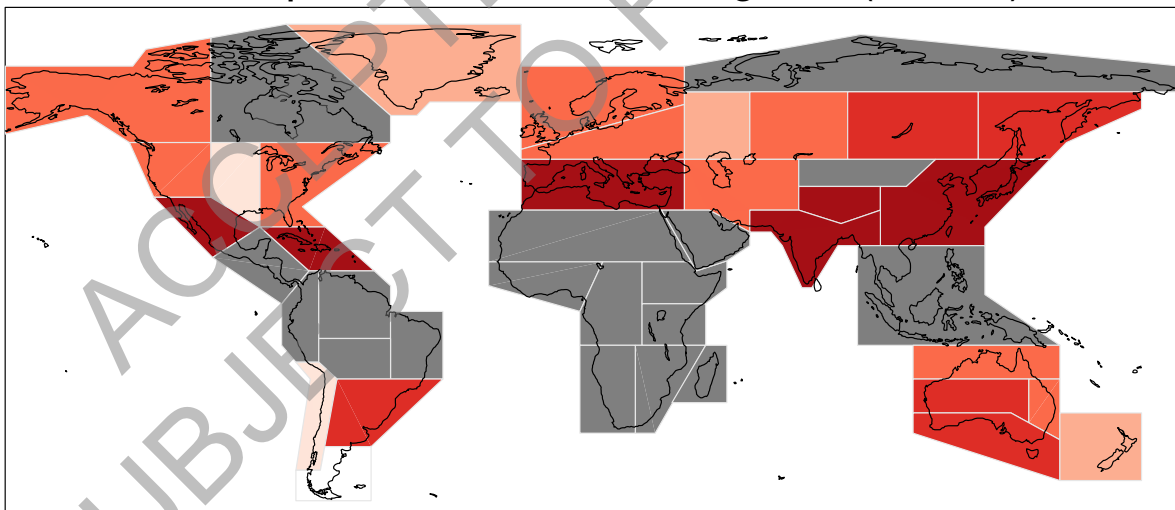


Dataset: Berkeley Earth. Temperature changes relative to 1850-1900.

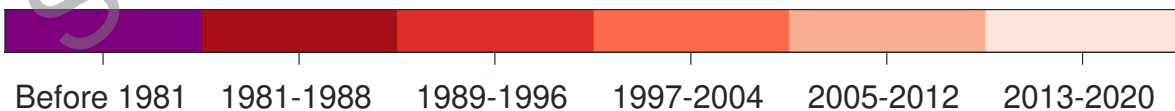


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Year of significant emergence of changes in temperature over land regions (S/N>2)



Dataset: CRUTEM5. Temperature changes relative to 1850-1900. Grey: not enough data.



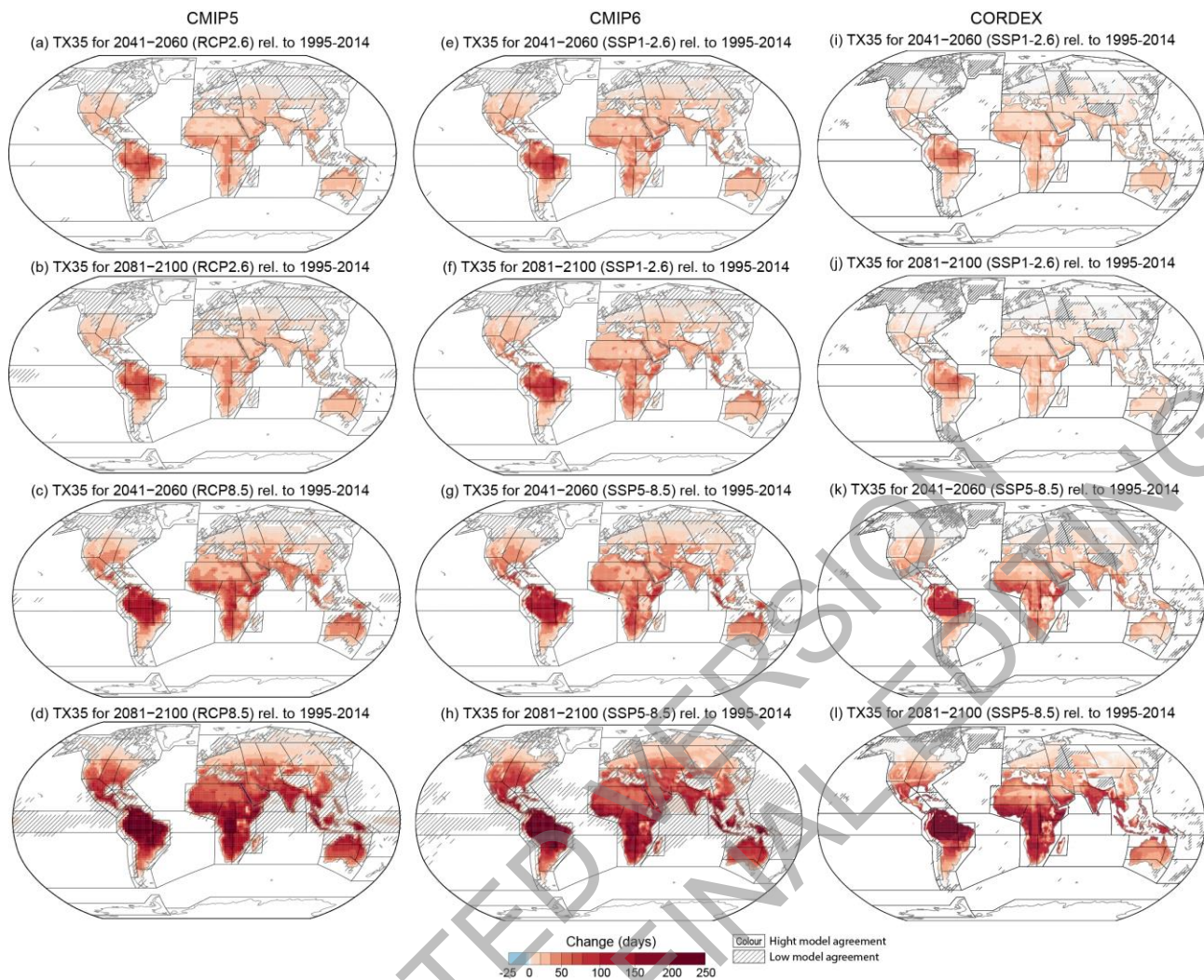
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Figure TS.23: Time period during which the signals of temperature change in observed data aggregated over the reference regions emerged from the noise of annual variability in the respective aggregated data, using a signal-to-noise ratio of 2 as the threshold for emergence. Emergence time is

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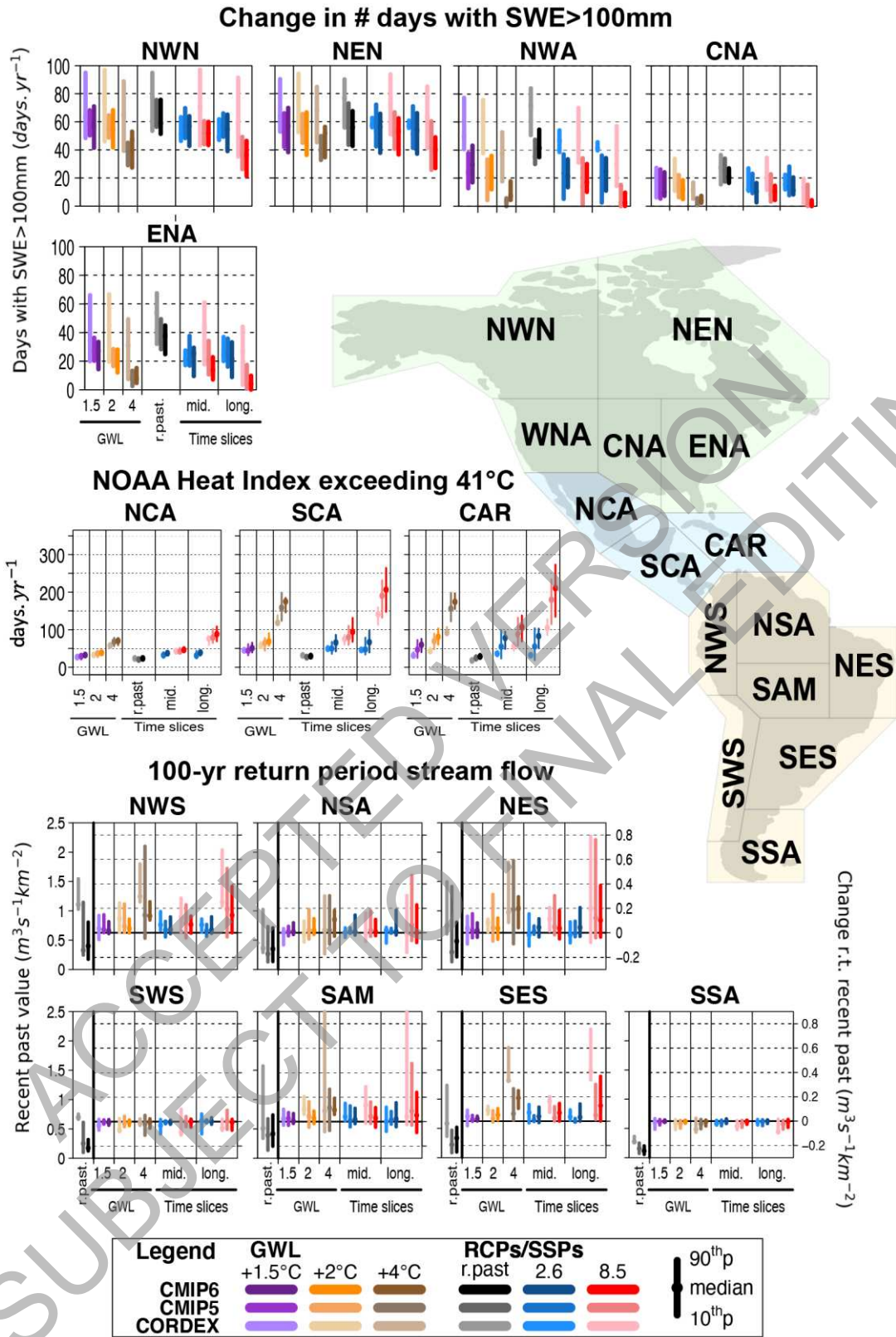
calculated for two global datasets (a) Berkeley Earth observations and (b) HadCRUT5 observations. Regions in the HadCRUT5 map are shaded grey when data are available over less than 50% of the area of the region. {Figure Atlas.11, TS.1.2.4}

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3 **Figure TS.24: Projected change in the mean number of days per year with maximum temperature exceeding**
4 **35°C for CMIP5 (first column), CMIP6 (second column) and CORDEX (third column).** The
5 map shows the median change in the number of days per year between the mid-century (2041–2060)
6 or end-century (2081–2100) and historical (1995–2014) periods for the CMIP5 and
7 CORDEX RCP8.5 and RCP2.6 and CMIP6 SSP5-8.5 and SSP1-2.6 scenarios ensembles. Stippling
8 indicates areas where less than 80% of the models agree on the sign of change. {Interactive Atlas}
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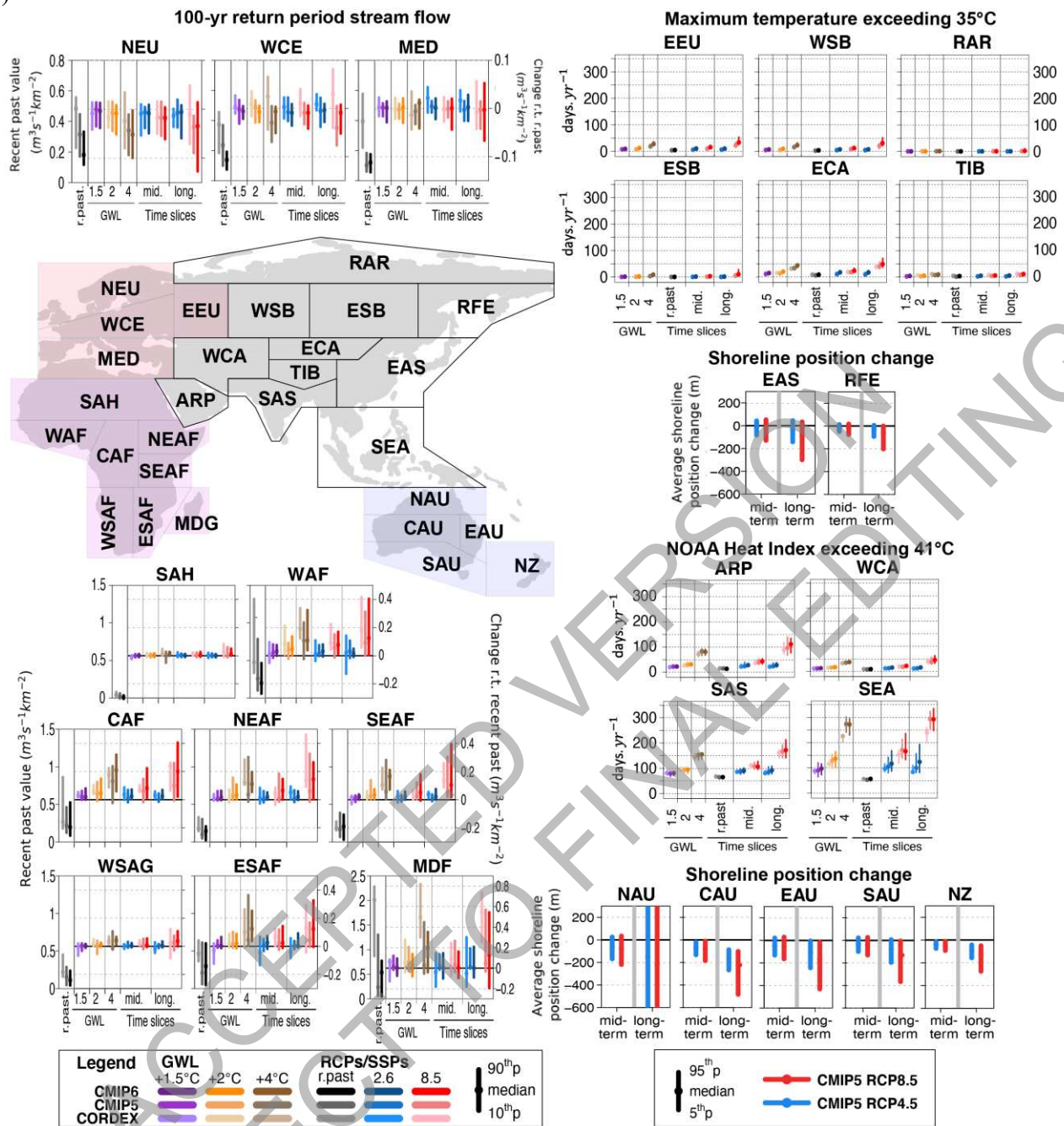


Figure TS.25: Distribution of projected changes in selected climatic impact-driver indices for selected regions for CMIP6, CMIP5 and CORDEX model ensembles. Different indices are shown for different region: for east Europe and north Asia the mean number of days per year with maximum temperature exceeding 35°C, for Central America and the Caribbean, and the Arabian peninsula, western, southern and eastern Asia the mean number of days per year with the NOAA Heat Index exceeding 41°C, for Australasia, East Asia and Russia far East the average shoreline position change, for South America, Europe and Africa the mean change in 1-in-100-years river discharge per unit catchment area ($m^3 s^{-1} km^{-2}$), and for North America the median change in the number of days with snow water equivalent (SWE) over 100 mm. For each box plot the changes or the climatological values are reported respect to, or compared to, the recent past (1995–2014) period for 1.5 °C, 2°C and 4°C global warming levels and for mid-century (2041–2060) or end-century (2081–2100) periods for the CMIP5 and CORDEX RCP8.5 and RCP2.6 and CMIP6 SSP5-8.5 and SSP1-2.6 scenarios ensembles {Figure 12.5, Figure 12.6, Figure 12.9, Figure 12.SM.1, Figure 12.SM.2, Figure 12.SM.6}.