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Case Study VI Climate Change

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Planets and atmospheres

Mars Thin atmosphere (Almost all CO₂ in ground) Average temperature : - 50°C

> Earth 0,03% of CO₂ in the atmosphere Average temperature : + 15°C

> > Venus Thick atmosphere containing 96% of CO₂ Average temperature : + 420°C



Sources: Calvin J. Hamilton, Views of the solar system, www.planetscapes.com; Bill Arnett , The nine planets, a multimedia tour of the solar system, www.seds.org/billa/inp/nineplanets.html

The Greenhouse effect

A T M O S P H E R E

Some solar radiation is reflected by the atmosphere and earth's surface Outgoing solar radiation: 103 Watt per m² Some of the infrared radiation passes through the atmosphere and is lost in space

Not optgoing infrared radiation: 200 Ved per m"

S

GREENHOUSE GASE

Solar radiation passes through the clear atmosphere. Incoming solar radiation: 343 Watt per m²

 \mathbf{G}

Some of the infrared radiation is absorbed and re-emitted by the greenhouse gas molecules. The direct effect is the warming of the earth's surface and the troposphere.

> Surface gains more heat and infrared radiation is emitted again

Solar energy is absorbed by the earth's surface and warms it... 168 Watt per m²

... and is converted into heat causing the emission of longwave (infrared) radiation back to the atmosphere

Sources: Okanagan university college in Canada, Department of geography, University of Oxford, school of geography; United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Washington; Climate change 1995, The science of climate change, contribution of working group 1 to the second assessment report of the intergovernmental panel on climate change, UNEP and WMO, Cambridge university press, 1996.

The Greenhouse Effect

E. Boeker, Environmental Physics

[#]updated for 2005 ann.average CO2 conc. CDIAC

Gas	conc. ppm	GWP factor	G. Warming		
			(°K)		
H ₂ O	5000	0.2	20.6		
\tilde{CO}_2	380#	1	7.2		
O_3	0.03	3900	2.4		
N ₂ O	0.3	310	0.8		
CH ₄	1.7	21	0.8		
HFC-134	~ 0.03	1000	0.6		
		То	otal 32.4		
Technik & Umwelt			Arnulf Grübler		

Reconstructed Paleoclimate



Greenhouse Gases

	H ₂ O	CO ₂	CH ₄	N ₂ O	CFC-11 CFC-12	O ₃
Residence time years	short	5-200	12	114	45— 130	<0.1
100 year GWP (note caveats!)	?	1	23	296	4600 10600	
% contribution to natural greenhouse effect (30°K)	70%	23%	2%	2%	0	3%
Anthropogenic since 1750 (2°K)	??	60%	20%	6%	14%	??
Concentration in 1800	3000 ppm?	280 ppm	.7 ppm	.270 ppb	0	
Concentration in 2000	3000 ppm	370 ppm	1.75 ppm	.314 ppb	268—533 ppt	
Increase, absolute	???	1.5 ppm	0.007 ppm	0.8 ppb	-1.4—4.4 ppt	
Increase, %	???	0.4%	0.4% (~0% currently)	0.25%	-0.15%- 0.8%	

Source IPCC TAR WG I TS:38 and Ch 4:244



Water Vapor News from IPCC AR4, 2007

Surface – lower troposphere

a) Column Water Vapour, Ocean only: Trend, 1988-2004

Figure 3.20. Linear trends in precipitable water (total column water vapour) in % per decade (top) and monthly time series of anomalies relative to the 1988 to 2004 period in % over the global ocean plus linear trend (bottom), from RSS SSM/I (updated from Trenberth et al., 2005a).

Upper troposphere

Stratosphere

???

Increase stopped since 1996

Source trends ill understood

Implications: cooling to warming?



Figure 3.21. The radiative signature of upper-tropospheric moistening is given by upward linear trends in T2–T12 for 1982 to 2004 (0.1 °C per decade; top) and monthly time series of the global-mean (80°N to 80°S) anomalies relative to 1982 to 2004 (°C) and linear trend (dashed; bottom). Data are from the RSS T2 and HIRS T12 (Soden et al., 2005). The map is smoothed to spectral truncation T31 resolution.

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GLOBAL MEAN RADIATIVE FORCINGS

The cooling factors



Sources: Radiative forcing of climate change, the 1994 report of the scientific assessment working group of IPCC, summary for policymakers, WMO, UNEP; L.D. Danny Harvey, Climate and global environmental change, Prentice Hall, pearson Education, Harlow, United Kingdom, 2000.

Comparison between modeled and observations of temperature rise since the year 1860





EU Regional Climate Variability: Observations (b) modeled for present (c) and future (d) conditions.

Note 2003 heat wave being far outside both observational and model range.

IPCC uncertainty terminology (adopted from Schneider and Moss) : <1% probability ="exceptionally unlikely" (but 2003 happened!)



Current CC Impacts: 80 meters thinning of Pasterze glacier, Austria

But... uncovering 5000 yr old vegetation



Sources: Center for climatic research, Institute for environmental studies, university of Wisconsin at Madison; Okanagan university college in Canada, Department of geography; World Watch, November-December 1998; Climate change 1995, The science of climate change, contribution of working group 1 to the second assessment report of the intergovernmental panel on climate change, UNEP and WMO, Cambridge press university, 1996.

Atmospheric CO₂ Concentration at Mauna Loa



Source : Scripps institution of oceanography (SIO), University of California, 1998.

Current Carbon Cycle

atmospheric increase =

- + industrial emissions
- + net land-use change
- ocean uptake
- Residual (missing sink)

In GtC (mean over 1990-2000):

3.3 (±0.2) =

- + 5.5 (±0.5)
- + 1.1 (0-2.8)
- 2.0 (±0.8)
- 1.3 (0-3.3)

Net Uncertainty range Gross 2424 Coal Oil (fuels) 2285 Oil (feedstocks) 324 Gas 1135 Cement 157 Gas flaring 60 Industrial 6061 6385 5800 - 7000Fuelwood^b 530 Traditional biofuels^b 630 **Biofuels^b** 1160 ?? - 1600Savannah fires^c 1660 Other biomass ??-1700 Tropical forests^d 1100 Temperate forests^d 0 Land-use change^b 1100 $0 - 2800^{e}$ Total 6061 8645 5800 - > 13100

Table 1 Global carbon emissions as estimated for 1990 per major source category and uncertainty ranges (in Tg C year⁻¹)^a

^a Emission categories that are not balanced by (uncertain) biospheric carbon sinks or that are not released to the atmosphere in the same year are listed as gross emissions, all others as net emissions (see text). For land-use change related emissions, the net biospheric flux as estimated by IPCC (1995) for the 1980s (the latest period for which global estimates are available) and the uncertainty range as estimated by Houghton (1999) for the same period are given. (Data source: see text.)

^b Emissions of biofuels and land-use change not necessarily entirely additive.

^c Andreae (1991). Not included in total gross emissions.

^d Estimated net biospheric flows (IPCC, 1995).

^e Upper range for net biospheric flux due to land-use change (Houghton, 1999), no estimates of gross emissions available.

Atmospheric CO₂ Concentration at Mauna Loa



Source : Scripps institution of oceanography (SIO), University of California, 1998.

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Current Carbon Cycle

atmospheric increase = industrial emissions

- + net land-use change emissions ocean uptake
- residual (missing sink)

 $3.3(\pm 0.2) = 5.5(\pm 0.5)$

 $+ 1.1(0-2.8) - 2.0(\pm 0.8)$

- 1.3(0-3.3)

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Contributions to CO₂ Concentration Increase since 1800 by Source



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Cumulative Carbon Emissions by Source and Region 1850-2005 (320 GtC)

Data source: http://cdiac.ornl.gov/products.html



North -- South

- Responsibility: Mostly in Annex-I
- Vulnerability: Mostly in "South"
- Adaptation capacity: Mostly in Annex-I
- Future emission growth: Mostly in "South"
- Near-term mitigation potential: highest in Annex-I
- Near-term mitigation costs: lowest in "South"

Per Capita GHGs by Region vs. Population in 2004 Source: IPCC AR4, 2007



Agricultural Impacts for Alternative Climate Change Scenarios.



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Reducing CC Vulnerabilities

- Economic & Social Development un-targeted and asymmetrical poverty vulnerability: affluence vulnerability: +
- <u>Adaptation</u> targeted to CC
- <u>Emissions reduction (mitigation)</u> lowering CC but not eliminating it

Vulnerability to CC by 2050 (IPCC AR4 WG2 2007)



Panel A A2 current adaptive capacity



the lowest returns advectory stream

12200 Managara Likestedy and Colomba Descently

Panel B Improved adaptive capacity



Mitigation Options

- Demographic change
- Economic development
- Social behavior
- Efficiency Improvements
- Low carbon intensity
- Zero carbon (solar, nuclear)
- Carbon removal
- End deforestation
- Sink enhancements
- "geo-engineering"

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Technology as Source and Remedy of Climate Change:

IPCC Baselines and 550 ppmv Stabilization Scenarios (in GtC), Source: IIASA, 2002.



Σ: With "frozen" efficiency and technology improvements emissions grow "through the roof". Even with continued improvements, additional emission reduction is needed for climate stabilization

Emission Reduction Measures Riahi et al. TFSC 2007



Σ: Technological change in Baseline best hedging against target uncertainty

Emission Reduction Measures Riahi et al TFSC 2007



RF = Robustness factor of options across scenario uncertainty is highest for: F-gases and N2O reduction, energy conservation & efficiency, and biomass+CCS "wildcard" (if feasible)

Energy Carbon and Climate: How far to go?

- Energy: ÷ 20 (5% exergy efficiency)
- Carbon: Zero (H2-economy)
- Damages: committed warming (>1.5 C?)
- Non-linear (catastrophic) change: ???
- "Collateral damages"
 - -- Geoengineering, e.g. aerosol cooling (white sky)
 - -- sequestration (leakage, marine ecology)
 - -- biomass (soil carbon, biodiversity, agriculture)
 - -- solar (albedo changes)

Energy Intensities (PE/GDP)



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WORLD-Exergy Efficiency (as percent of primary exergy)



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Carbon Intensity of Energy



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Improvements in Efficiency and Decarbonization: Diverse Paths



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Policy Conundrums

- Equitable quantitative targets at odds with economics or infeasible
- Cost optimal emission reduction: Start with inefficiencies in DCs but requires new instruments (CDM+)
- Separation of equity and efficiency (e.g. via tradable permit allocation) might be politically infeasible (unprecedented N-S resource transfers)
- Uncertainties cannot be ignored (soil C, avoided deforestation)
- Mitigation technology innovation "recharge" chain broken (declining R&D)

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UNFCC Annex-I GHGs Emissions (global cost minimum scenarios)



Climate stabilization: 700 ppm by 2100 (2.5°C) 500 ppm by 2100 (<2°C)

Developing Countries (global cost minimum scenarios)



ENERGY RELATED CO2 : OECD vs DCs

ENERGY RELATED CO₂ : OECD vs DCs



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Costs to Address Enegy Issues: Zero-order Estimates in billion \$/year over 20 years

- Efficient stoves to 2 billion ~\$10
- Modern fuels for cooking ~\$15
- PV costs until competitive >\$10
- FC costs until competitive >\$20
- Electrification of rural areas ~\$50

How to strike a balance between intra- and intergenerational transfers?

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