



Climate and National Security

A perspective from Sandia National Laboratories



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[Sandia.gov/climate](https://sandia.gov/climate)

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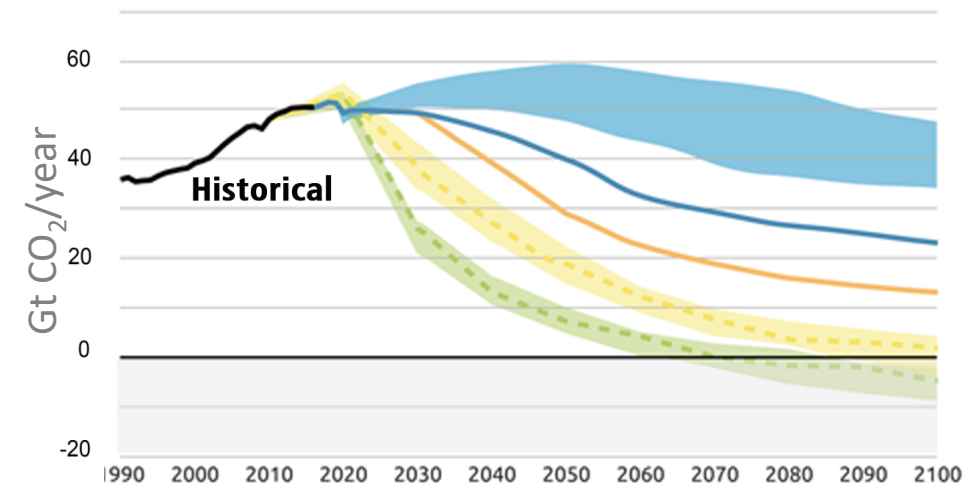
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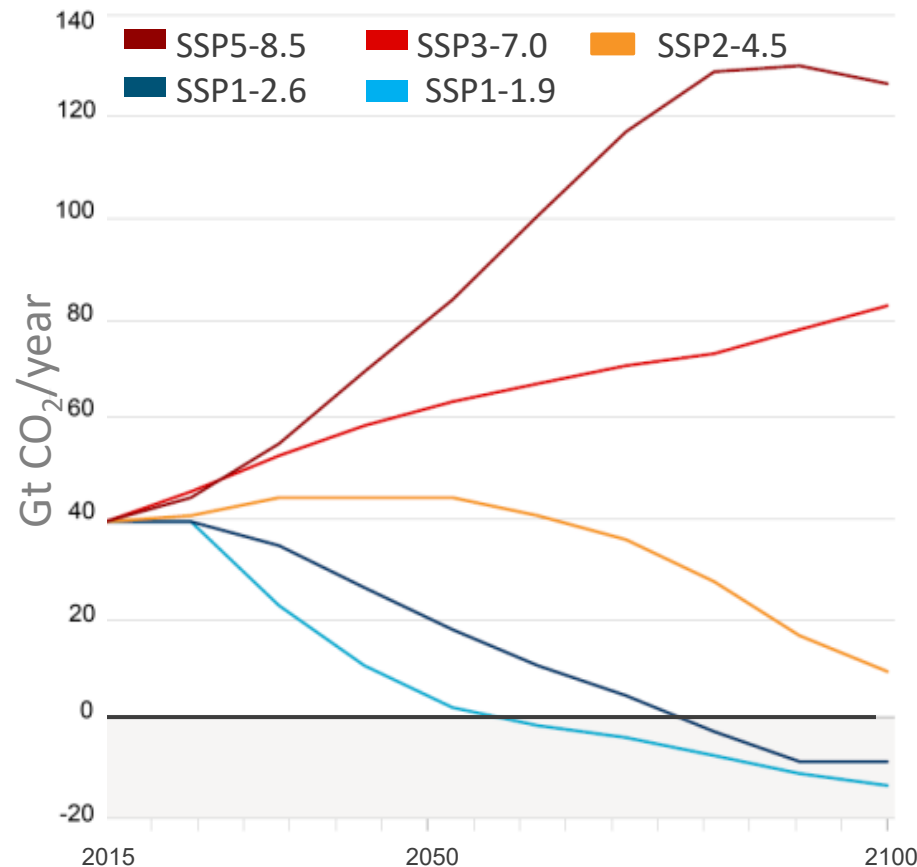
Every *likely* future this century will exceed 2.0°C



Paris Accord relevant yearly
emission projections (1)



Emission scenarios: Projections of the
Representative Concentration
Pathways (2)



Global average surface
temperature anomaly from pre-
industrial (3)

Avg (5%, 95%)

4.4°C (3.3, 5.7)

3.6°C (2.8, 4.6)

2.7°C (2.1, 3.5)

1.8°C (1.3, 2.4)

1.4°C (1.0, 1.8)

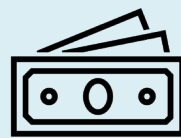
1 Zhongming, Z., et al. (2021). "Global update: Projected warming from Paris pledges drops to 2.4 degrees after US Summit: analysis." <https://climateanalytics.org/latest/global-update-projected-warming-from-paris-pledges-drops-to-24-degrees-after-us-summit-analysis/>

2 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2021). Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis: The Working Group I contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Figure SPM 4

3 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2021). Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis: The Working Group I contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Table SPM.1

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Resulting climate risks are multi-faceted, interconnected, and, in the globally connected world, multiply to create significant security threats...



Resulting climate risks are multi-faceted, interconnected, and, in the globally connected world, multiply to create significant security threats...



...Requiring a broad scope of activities and advances to address the climate crisis



Awareness

Monitor, Project, Assess

Evaluate the coupled climate-human system to support risk analyses and prioritize efforts



Coordination

Communicate, Negotiate, Regulate

Coordinate and inspire US, international, and personal actions to address environmental and social vulnerabilities equitably



Response

Adapt, Mitigate, Intervene

Implement scalable and effective technical and operational solutions to prevent and ameliorate the risks of climate change



Enforcement

Incentivize, Detect, Attribute, Counter

Encourage and ensure a multilateral, cooperative approach to minimizing the impacts of climate change

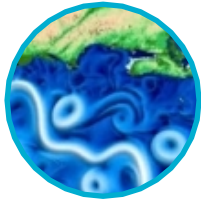
Scientific and engineering pursuits underpin these activities and advances to address the climate crisis



Awareness is a foundational task for the other activities and is achieved through:



Monitor: Collect observations to enhance knowledge of and projection accuracy for climate and human conditions



Project: Model climate and human systems to anticipate future impacts and response efficacy



Assess: Establish climate risk and empower decision-makers with response options



Technical & operational **responses** are composed of innovations and research in:



Adapt: Pro- and re-actively reduce susceptibility to climate impacts affecting both human and natural systems



Mitigate: Decrease the anthropogenic sources contributing to climate change



Intervene: Undertake deliberate, large-scale actions to modify the Earth's climate system

Scientific and engineering pursuits underpin these activities and advances to address the climate crisis



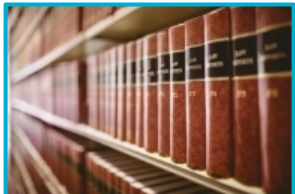
Effective **coordination** relies upon consensus scientific results with quantified uncertainty to enable:



Communicate: Convey the scientific results that are critical to a community with concise messaging



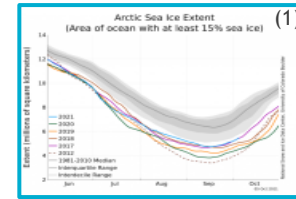
Negotiate: Prepare risk analyses establishing trade-offs between options



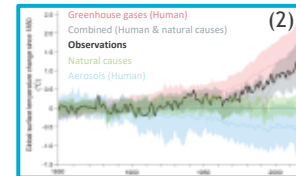
Regulate: Equip decision-makers with quantified returns and risks for given options



Multilateral and cooperative approaches are supported by **enforcement** capabilities achieved through:



Detect: Analyze observations to identify anomalous signatures designating a change



Attribute: Determine relative contribution of a particular factor to the measured change or impact



Incentivize/Counter: Technological and/or political responses capable of encouraging cessation of change-responsible factor, or negating/stopping the change-responsible factor

1 National Snow & Ice Data Center (2021). <http://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/2021/10/sepember-turning/>

2 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2021). Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis: The Working Group I contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Chapter 3. FAQ3.1, Figure 1