



Down To Earth

THE NUMBERS BEHIND CLIMATE CHANGE

The imperative of equity for urgent and bold action
on combatting catastrophic climate change



CLIMATE SPECIAL

1-15 NOVEMBER, 2021

DownToEarth

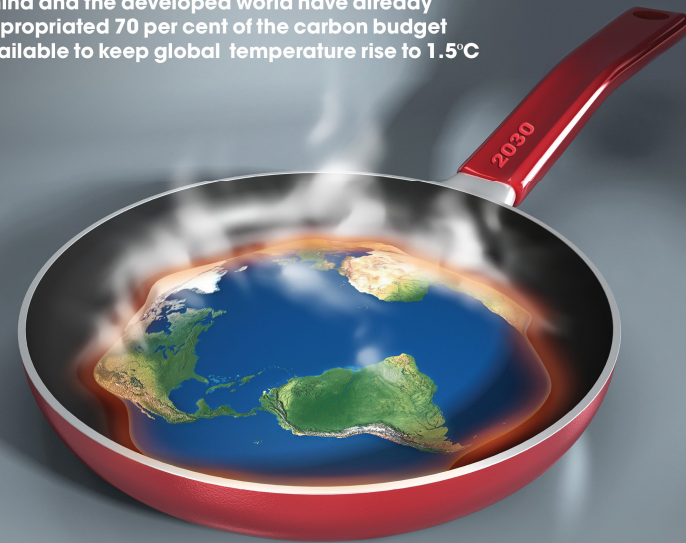
FORTNIGHTLY ON POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

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CARBON SPACE WAR

China and the developed world have already
appropriated 70 per cent of the carbon budget
available to keep global temperature rise to 1.5°C



EMISSIONS GAP FINDINGS

Fossil fuels set to
rise again **P23**

AGENDA FOR COP26

Eight items the world
must discuss **P27**

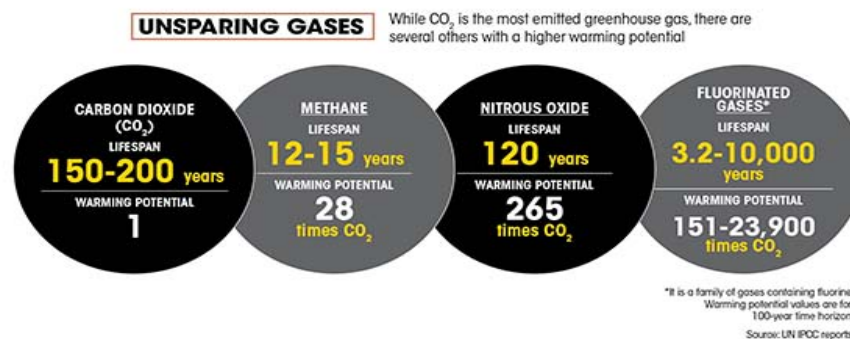
YOUNG CLIMATE ACTIVISTS

Refuse to inherit a
ruined world **P54**



The imperative of equity for urgent and bold action on climate change: the facts

1. Gases have long residence time in atmosphere: past matters
2. CO₂ emissions are linked to economic growth as we know it today; not just about sharing atmospheric space but growth
3. Emerging world will need space to grow; will add to emissions; add to the climate risks



Current emissions: 36.4 Gt/CO₂

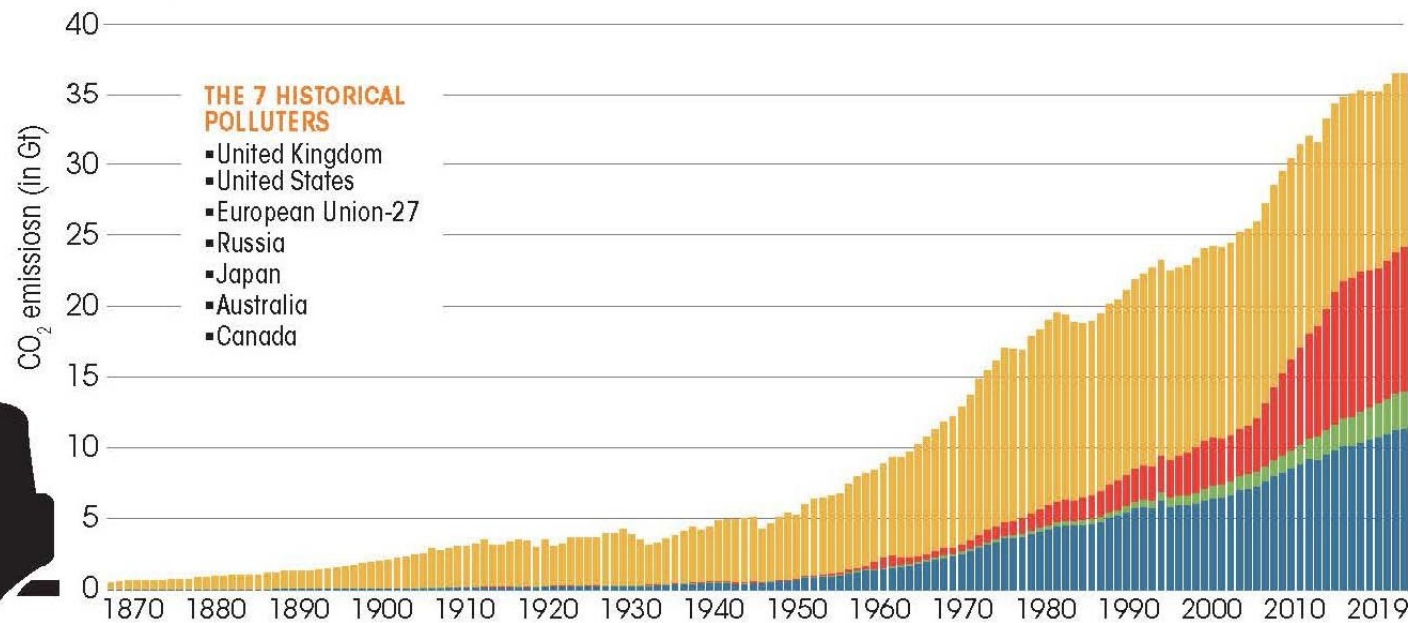
China, US, EU-27 currently emit 50 per cent of emissions

Africa and India both with 17% of world's population contribute 4 and 7%

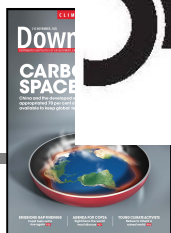
HISTORICAL DEFAULTERS

Developed countries (in orange) were responsible for almost entire CO₂ emissions till the 1980s...

■ The 7 historical polluters ■ China ■ India ■ Rest of the world



Source: Our World in Data

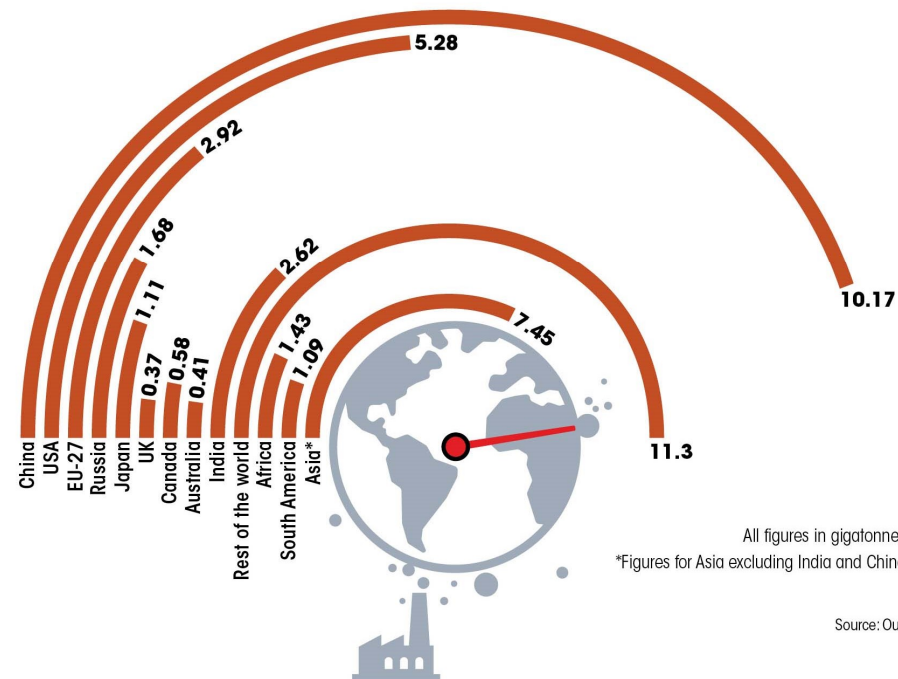


China: has leaped into the world of polluters: post 2004

Scale of difference between China, US and India is massive

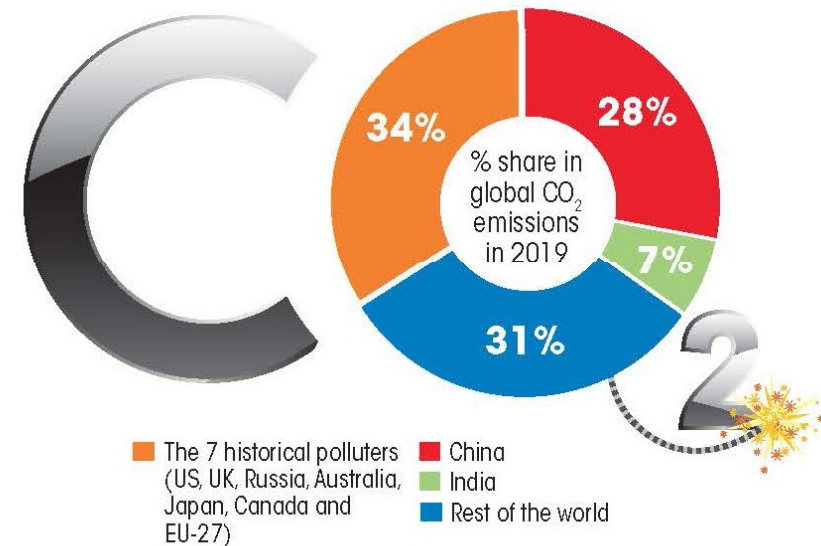
CO₂ EMISSIONS IN 2019

China was the world's prime emitter in 2019, releasing as much CO₂ as the US, EU-27, Russia and Japan



CURRENT CULPRITS

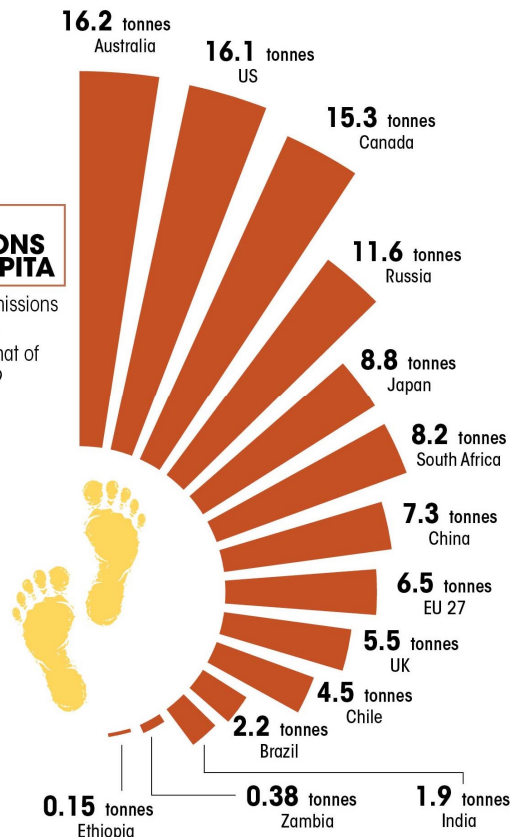
..Since 2000, China has been the foremost polluter



2019: per capita CO2 emissions makes for a highly inequitable and unjust world

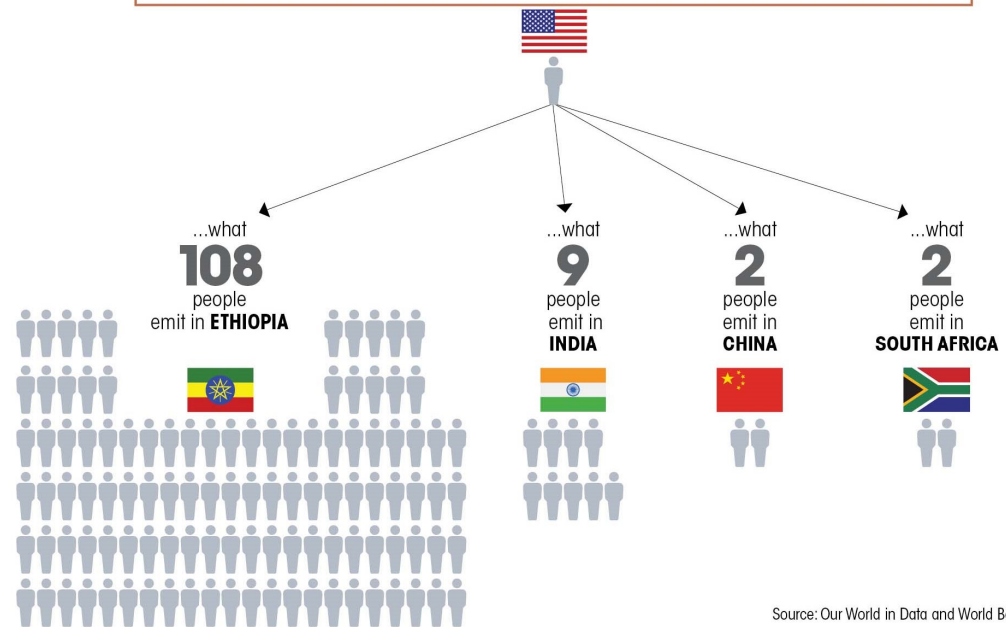
2019 EMISSIONS PER CAPITA

Per capita emissions of the US are eight times that of India in 2019



Source: Our World in Data and World Bank

WHAT ONE PERSON EMITS IN THE US IS EQUAL TO...



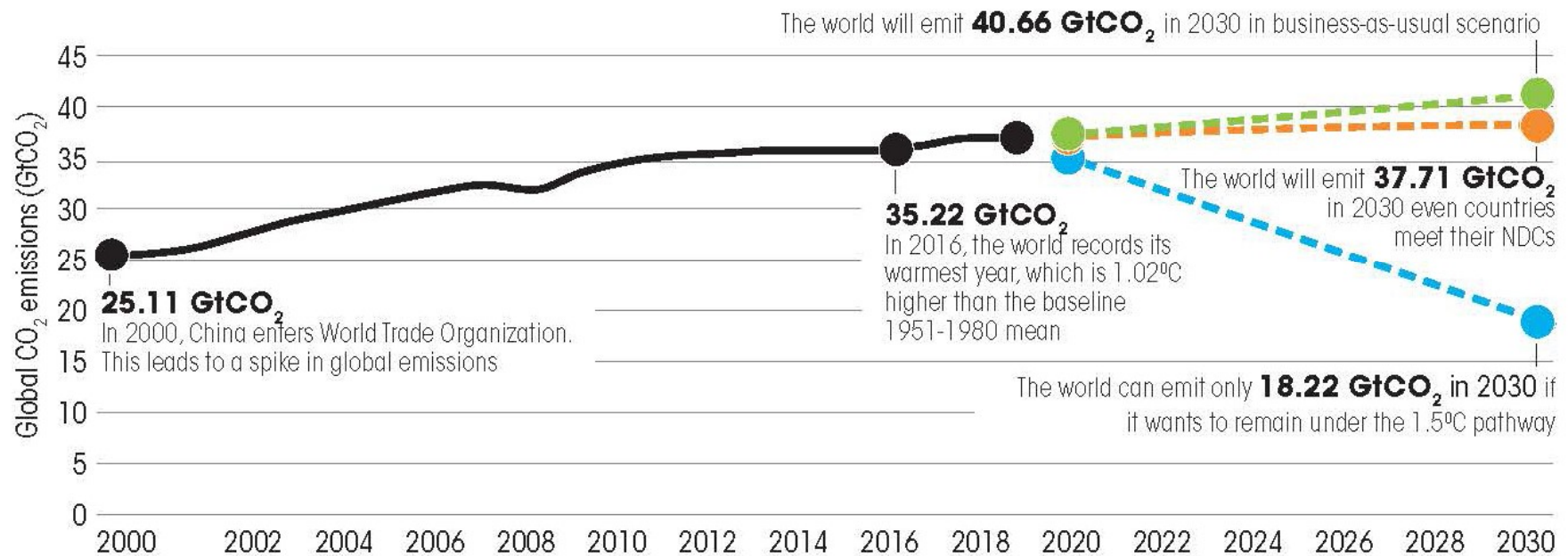
Source: Our World in Data and World Bank



Paris Agreement: Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) do not add up to much

NOT NEARLY ENOUGH

The world will cross the 1.5°C threshold by 2030 even if countries meet their enhanced nationally determined targets



Source: Analysis by *Down to Earth* and Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi, based on data from Climate Watch and Our World in Data



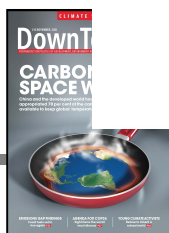
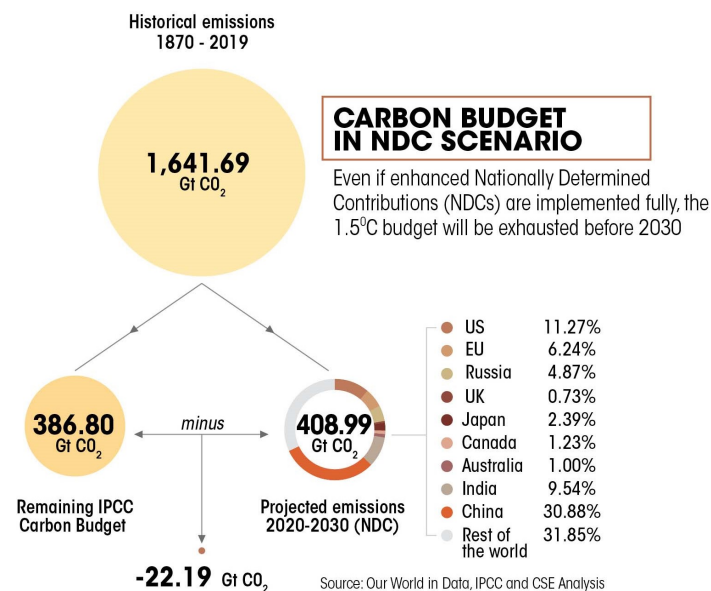
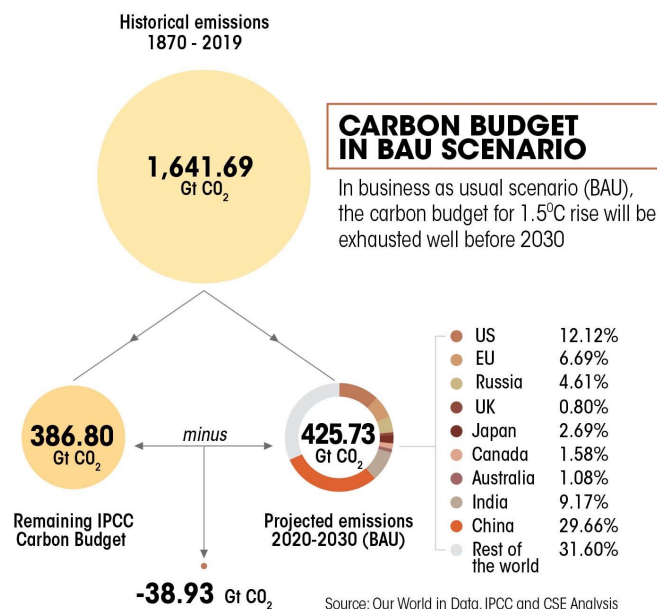
REMAINING CARBON BUDGET WILL BE EXHAUSTED IN THIS DECADE

Figures in GtCO₂

World CO ₂ emissions (Fossil fuel and cement)	1870-2019	1,641.69
	BAU 2020-2030	425.73
	NDC 2020-2030	408.99
Remaining IPCC AR6 budget to stay on the 1.5°C trajectory 2020 onwards*		386.80

*We assume that land-use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) emissions account for 3% of CO₂ emissions and reduce the 400Gt budget accordingly for this analysis;
BAU: business and usual; NDC: Nationally Determined Contributions

Source: Our World in Data, IPCC and CSE Analysis



NDC

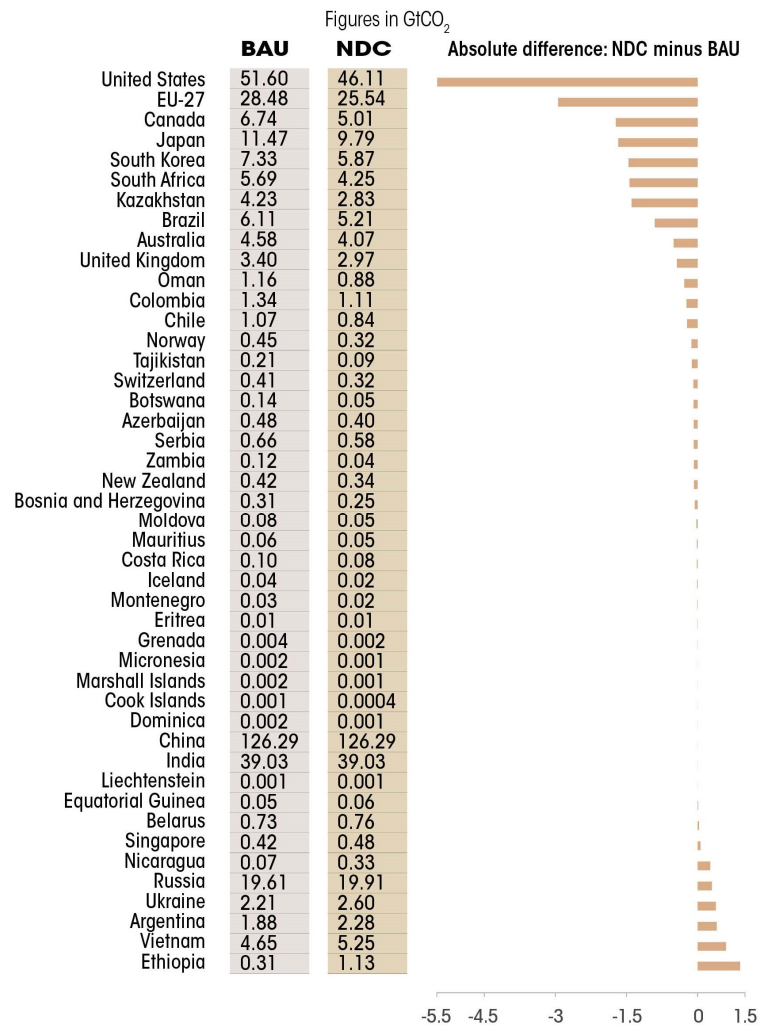
Not ambitious

Not fair

PROJECTED EMISSIONS FOR THE DECADE

2020-2030

While NDC of most countries will reduce their emissions, for some like Russia, they will lead to an increase



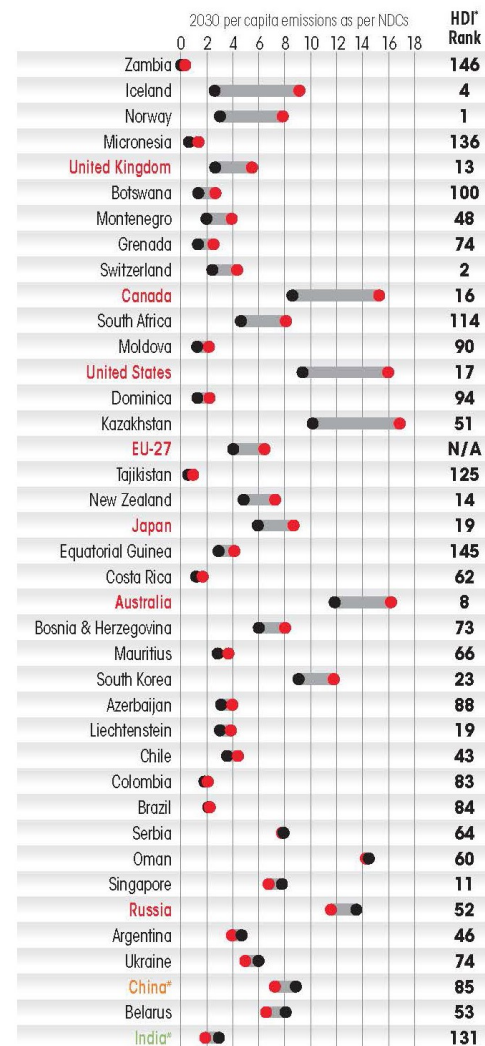
Note: We have assumed constant emissions in "business as usual" (BAU) and nationally determined contributions (NDC) scenarios in the case of China and India as these countries do not have quantified targets for reduction.

Source: Analysis by the Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi, based on data from Climate Watch and Our World in Data

LOW ON AMBITION

Developed countries have pledged lower emissions reduction by 2030 than many developing countries

● 2030 per capita emissions as per NDCs
● 2019 per capita emissions



*For China and India, business-as-usual scenario has been used
*Human Development Index rates countries on the basis of life expectancy, education, and per capita income indicators; Source: Analysis by Down to Earth and Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi, based on data from Climate Watch and Our World in Data



PAST PRIVILEGE

The developed world grew on unfettered fossil fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions since the 1870s, leaving little carbon space for the rest of the world

	% of total emissions for BCC (1870-1989)	% of total emissions for AC (1990-2019)	% of total emissions for BCC + AC (1870-2019)	% share in the world population in 2019
US	31.26	19.32	24.92	4.28
EU-27	23.21	12.06	17.29	5.83
Russia	8.31	5.72	6.94	1.88
UK	7.18	1.80	4.32	0.87
Japan	3.59	4.24	3.93	1.65
Canada	2.17	1.88	2.02	0.49
Australia	0.94	1.25	1.11	0.33
7 historical polluters	76.66	46.28	60.53	15.33
+ China	5.11	20.72	13.40	18.21
7 historical polluters + China	81.77	67.00	73.93	33.54
Rest of world (excluding China)	18.23	33.25	26.07	66.46

of which

India	1.36	4.76	3.16	17.81
South Africa	1.08	1.42	1.26	0.76
South Korea	0.38	1.62	1.04	0.67
Brazil	0.58	1.23	0.92	2.75
Vietnam	0.09	0.33	0.22	1.26

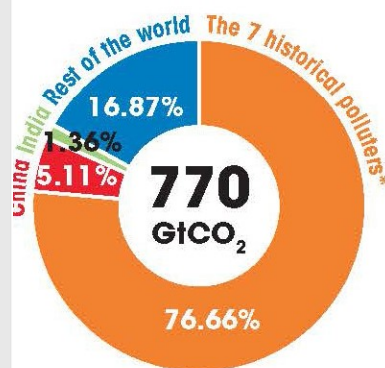
World Emissions in gigatonnes

World	769.92	871.78	1641.69	-
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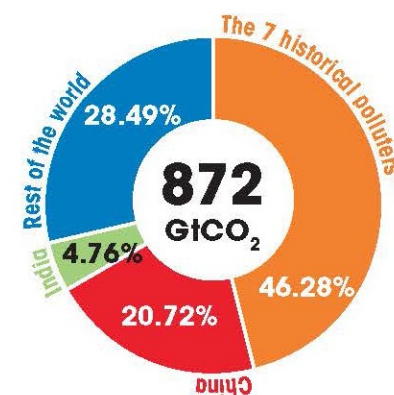
Source: Analysis by Down to Earth and Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi, based on data from Climate Watch and Our World in Data

Historical, cumulative and current**1870-1989****1990-2019****1870-2019****PROBLEMATIC TWO**

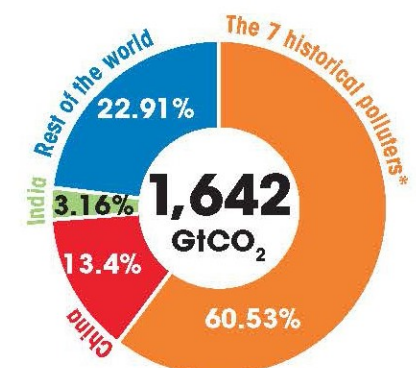
The developed countries and China are responsible for over 70 per cent of CO₂ emissions so far



1870 - 1989
Before Climate Convention



1990 - 2019
After China



1870 - 2019
Before Climate Convention + After China

US, UK, Russia, Australia, Japan, Canada and EU-27

Source: Analysis by Down to Earth and Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi, based on data from Climate Watch and Our World in Data

PERPETUAL GAP

Even in NDC scenario, developed countries and China will continue to emit almost 60 per cent of future CO₂ emissions

	% of total emissions for BCC + AC (1870-2019)	% of total emissions if NDCs are met 2020-2030	% of total emissions for BCC+AC+NDC (1870-2030)
US	24.92	11.27	22.20
EU-27	17.29	6.24	15.09
Russia	6.94	4.87	6.52
UK	4.32	0.73	3.60
Japan	3.93	2.39	3.63
Canada	2.02	1.23	1.86
Australia	1.11	1.00	1.08
7 historical polluters	60.53	27.73	53.98
China	13.40	30.88	16.89
7 historical polluters + China	73.93	58.60	70.87
Rest of world (excluding China)	26.07	41.40	29.13
of which			
India	3.16	9.54	4.44
South Africa	1.26	1.04	1.22
South Korea	1.04	1.44	1.12
Brazil	0.92	1.27	0.99
Vietnam	0.22	1.28	0.43

Source: Analysis by Down to Earth and Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi, based on data from Climate Watch and Our World in Data

Future inequity maintained



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1870-2019

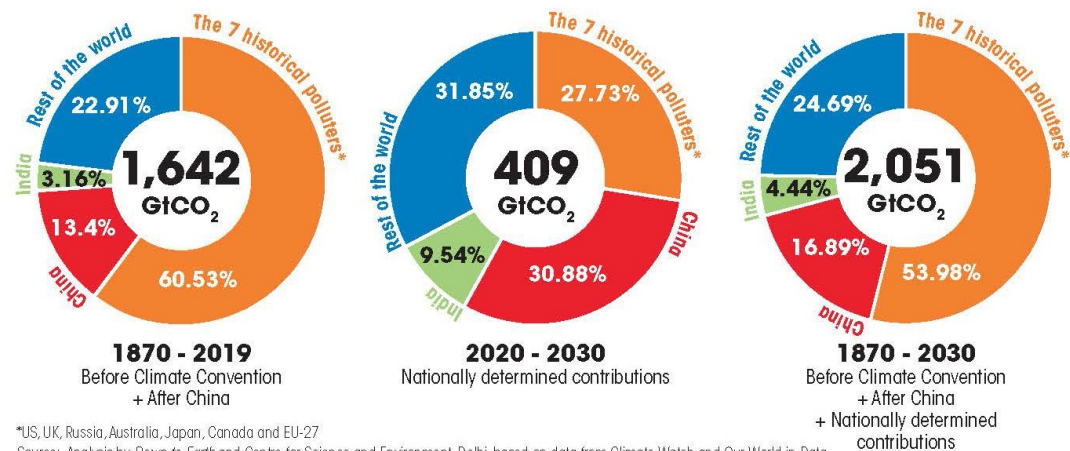
2020-2030

1870-2030

66 per cent of world population is left with **30 per cent** of the share of emissions

UNCHANGED FUTURE

China and the developed world are likely to account for almost 70 per cent CO₂ emissions from 1870 to 2030



CO₂ BUDGET: LIMITED AND APPROPRIATED

Historical contribution of countries and their future plans

Country	% of IPCC AR5 budget exhausted by 2019	% of IPCC AR6 budget exhausted by 2030 (BAU)	% of IPCC AR6 budget exhausted by 2030 (NDC)
US	18.18%	13.33%	11.91%
EU-27	12.61%	7.36%	6.60%
Russia	5.06%	5.07%	5.14%
UK	3.16%	0.88%	0.77%
Japan	2.87%	2.96%	2.53%
Australia	0.81%	1.18%	1.05%
Canada	1.47%	1.74%	1.29%
China	9.78%	32.63%	32.63%
India	2.31%	10.09%	10.09%
Rest of the world	43.75%	24.76%	27.98%

As the world exceeds the budget, we have taken it as a % of the contribution
 AR5 Budget - 2250 GtCO₂ (between 1870-2100)
 AR6 Budget - 400 GtCO₂, adjusted to 387 GtCO₂ (2020 onwards)
 Source: Our World in Data, IPCC and CSE Analysis



Carbon budget

Per capita

Inequity frozen

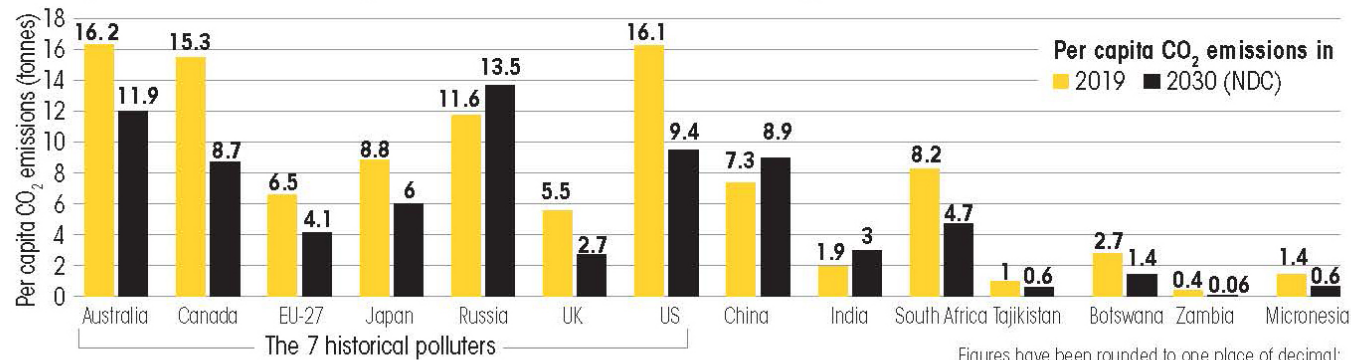
Climate apartheid

But worse, what happens now

Need space for growth?

STARK CONTRAST

Per capita emissions of developed countries and China will remain high even in 2030



Figures have been rounded to one place of decimal;
 Source: Analysis by *Down to Earth* and Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi, based on data from Climate Watch and Our World in Data

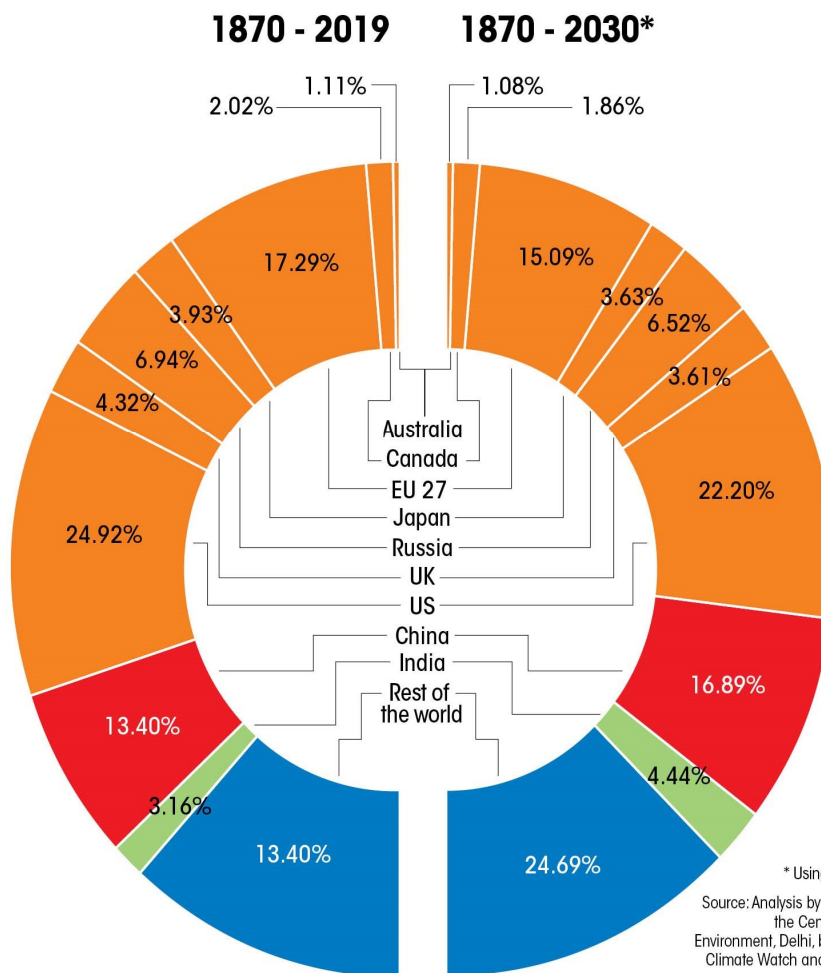


APPROPRIATION OF WORLD EMISSIONS

% of total world emissions for the given period



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FOR SCIENTIFIC POLICY AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



* Using NDC assumptions

Source: Analysis by *Down to Earth* and the Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi, based on data from Climate Watch and Our World in Data



Agenda for COP26

- 1. **Climate justice** has to be bedrock of action; cannot dilute it or erase historical emissions (as done in Paris agreement)
- Vast numbers in the world (roughly 70 per cent) population needs access to carbon space for development; cannot be told not to grow. But question is how will this growth happen without CO2 emissions?
- 2. **China** has to be in the spotlight: It has not given any CO2 reduction targets; will take up 33 per cent of remaining carbon budget in this decade. India needs to be de-hyphenated from China; China needs to be de-hyphenated from G-77
- 3. **Not net-zero but emissions cuts by 2030** needs to be in focus. Front-loading of emissions of the 7+1 so that there is space for the rest to grow

Agenda: COP26

- 4. **Finance**: crucial; but also needs transparency to measure how much and for what (many NDC targets are conditional and so if finance is not provided will not be met)
- 5. **Market and nature-based solutions**: must be for transformational action/not cheap credits
- 6. **Loss and damage**: Paris Agreement is deeply flawed as it says this cannot be taken as compensation or liability. Needs to be reworked
- 7. **Adaptation Goal**: needs more than networking and information. It needs finance. Real and urgent.

Agenda: India

- 4th highest contributor (3rd highest without EU)
- Quantum of historical, current and even future is not comparable to big polluters in the world
- But reality is that world has run out of carbon budget; run out of time
- Also we are victims of climate change: will suffer as we are most vulnerable
- **Need to act; in our self-interest**
- Our climate change strategy has to be based on co-benefits
- Not net-zero but low-carbon growth strategy for every sector; measure and count the difference; require world to pay the high-cost options through the market-instrument