



Triple Planetary Crisis



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

Triple Planetary Crisis: The triple planetary crisis refers to the three main interlinked issues that humanity currently faces: **climate change**, **pollution** and **biodiversity loss**

- **Climate Change:** Long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns driven mainly by human activities (anthropogenic) altering ecosystems that support life on the planet. Under the **Paris Agreement**, countries agreed to keep long-term global average surface temperature well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit it to **1.5°C by the end of this century**.
- **Pollution:** is referred to as “toxic trail” of economic growth – air, soil, food, water...
- **Biodiversity Loss:** decline or disappearance of biological diversity (animals, plants and ecosystems) due to human-induced factors (ex: climate change, overfishing, deforestation, and desertification). For example, 90% of the world’s marine fish stocks are fully exploited, overexploited or depleted.

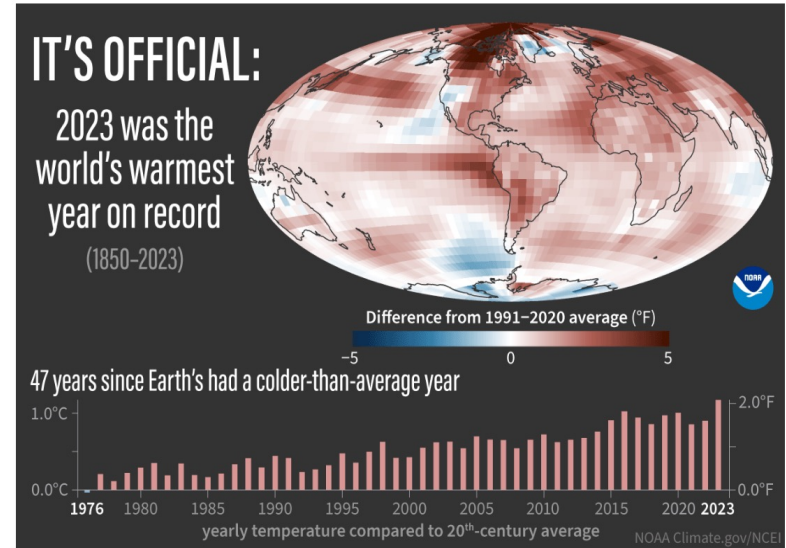
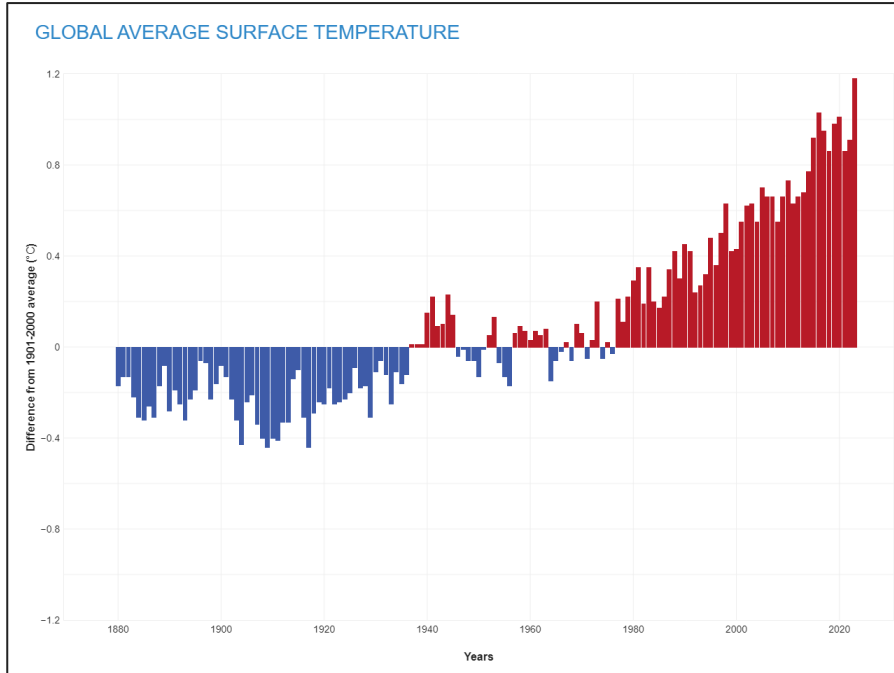


Climate change - Increase in Global Average Surface Temperature



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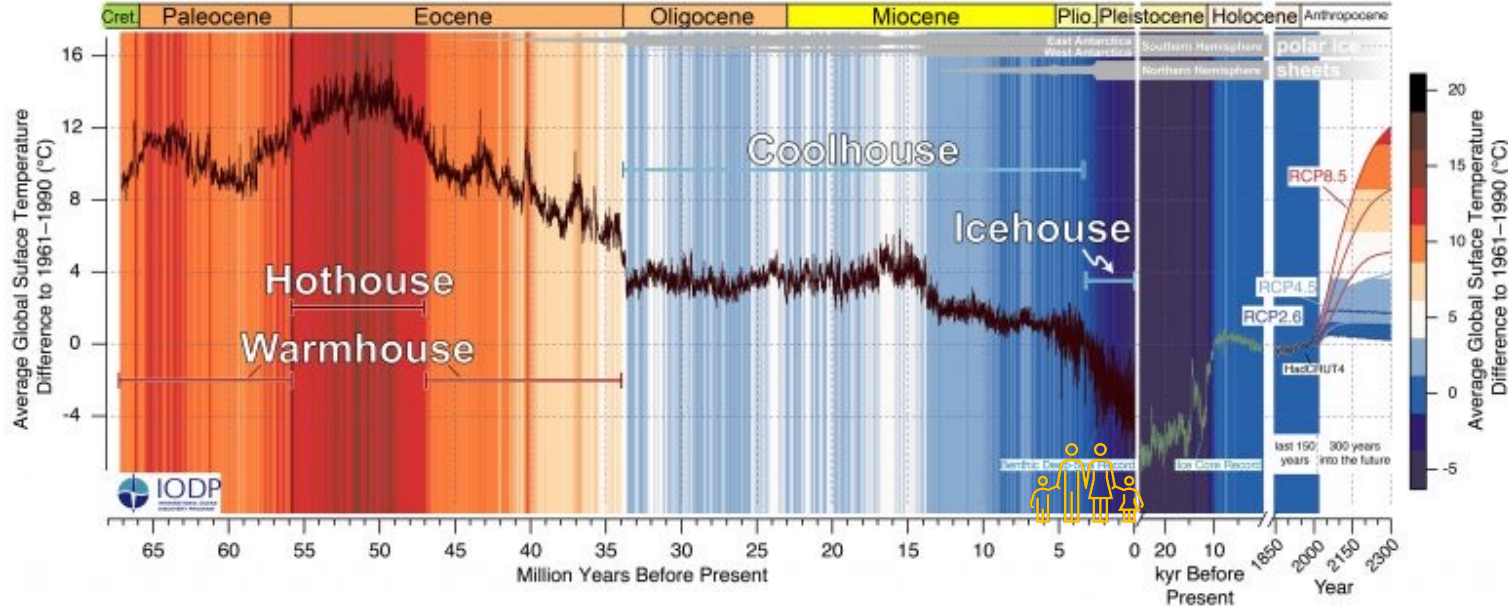


Increase in Global Average Surface Temperature



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- IPCC projections for 2300 in the 'BaU' scenario potentially bring global temp. back to 50 million years ago



GHG Emissions and a Just Energy Transition



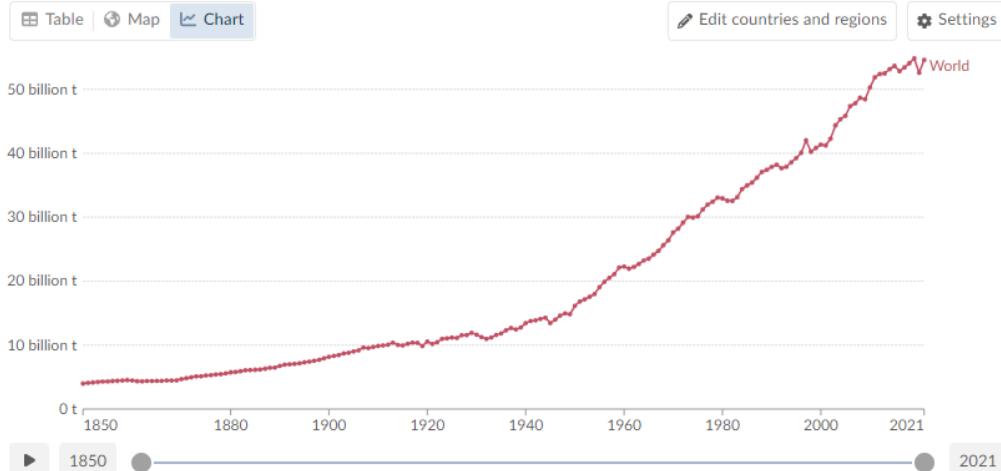
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Greenhouse gas emissions

Greenhouse gas emissions include carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide from all sources, including land-use change. They are measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide-equivalents over a 100-year timescale.

Our World in Data



Data source: Jones et al. (2023) - [Learn more about this data](#)

Note: Land-use change emissions can be negative.

OurWorldInData.org/co2-and-greenhouse-gas-emissions | CC BY

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Global greenhouse gas emissions by sector

This is shown for the year 2016 – global greenhouse gas emissions were 49.4 billion tonnes CO₂eq.

Our World in Data

