Based on presentations by John Houghton of IPCC, Earthguage, the Met. Office and the Stern Review

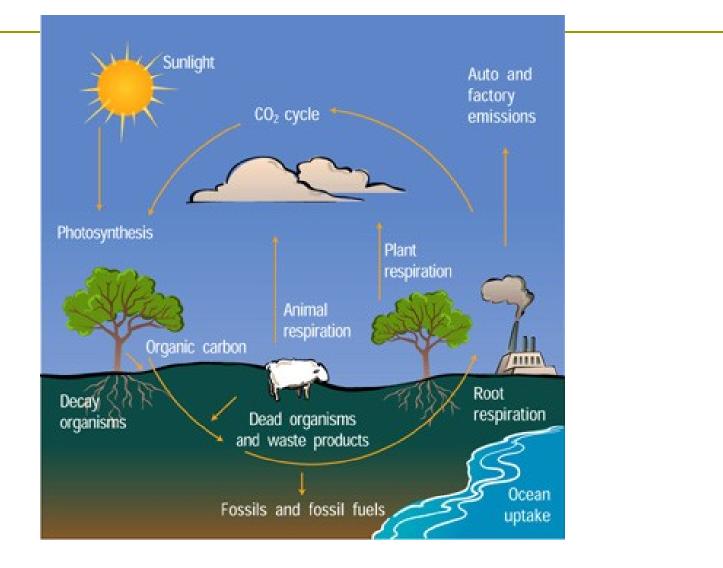
## Preparation for tomorrow

- Eagles: Cap and Trade
- Sloths: carbon tax
- Pandas: Cap and Share
- Kauri Trees: tradable quotas



- Read the sheet
- Think how it might affect a range of different people e.g. a pensioner, a global cement company, a local shop, a farm etc.

## The Carbon Cycle



#### Increasing greenhouse gases trap more heat

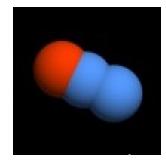
Outgoing longwave radiation

Greenhouse gases

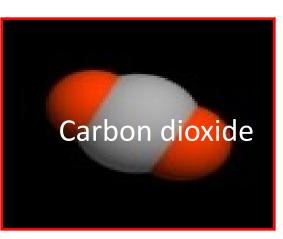
Surface longwave radiation Absorbed by surface

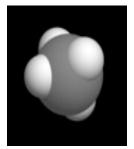
©The COMET Program

#### Greenhouse gases

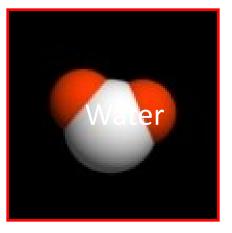


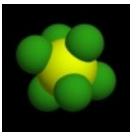
#### Nitrous oxides





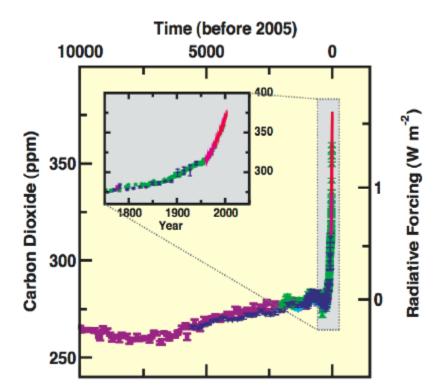
```
Methane
```



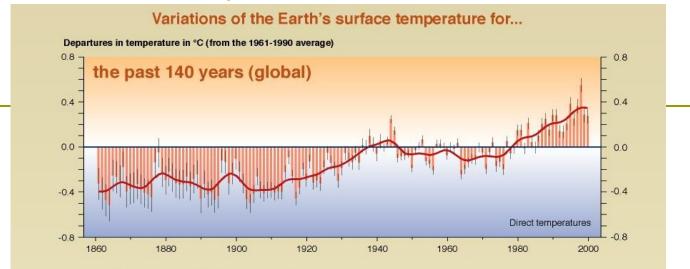


Sulphur hexaflouride Unprecedented human drivers of climate change

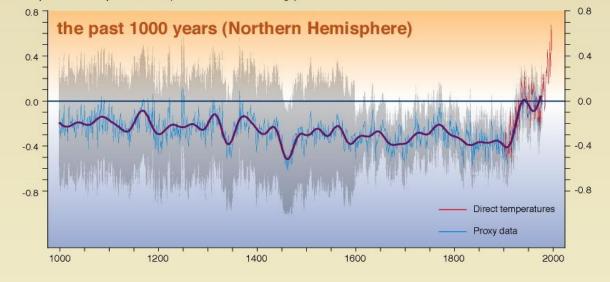
- Carbon dioxide: a critical greenhouse gas
- Dramatic increase in industrial era, 'forcing' climate change
- Higher concentration than for more than 600,000 years

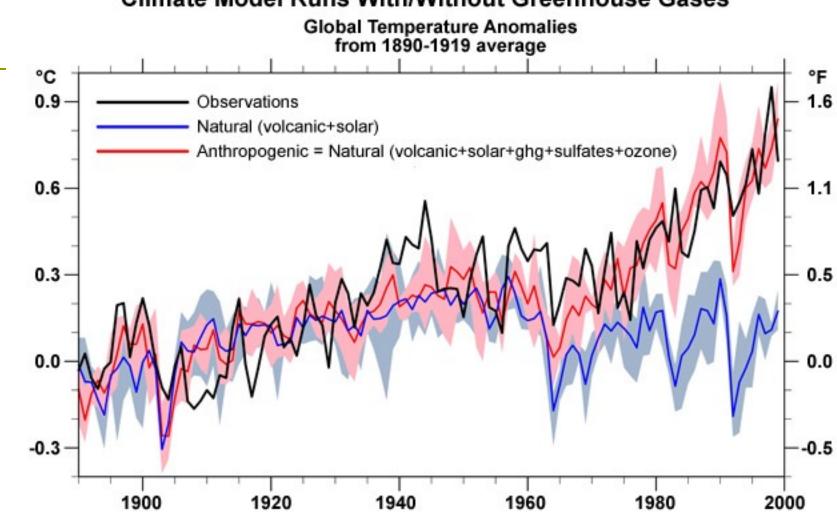


#### Global mean surface temperatures have increased



Departures in temperature in °C (from the 1961-1990 average)

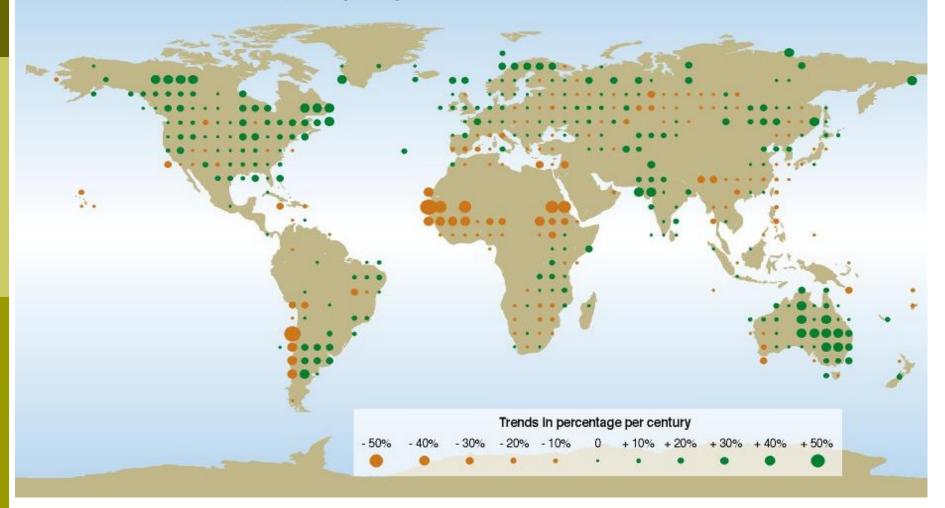




#### Climate Model Runs With/Without Greenhouse Gases

#### Precipitation patterns have changed

Annual precipitation trends: 1900 to 2000



# Consequences of sea-level rise

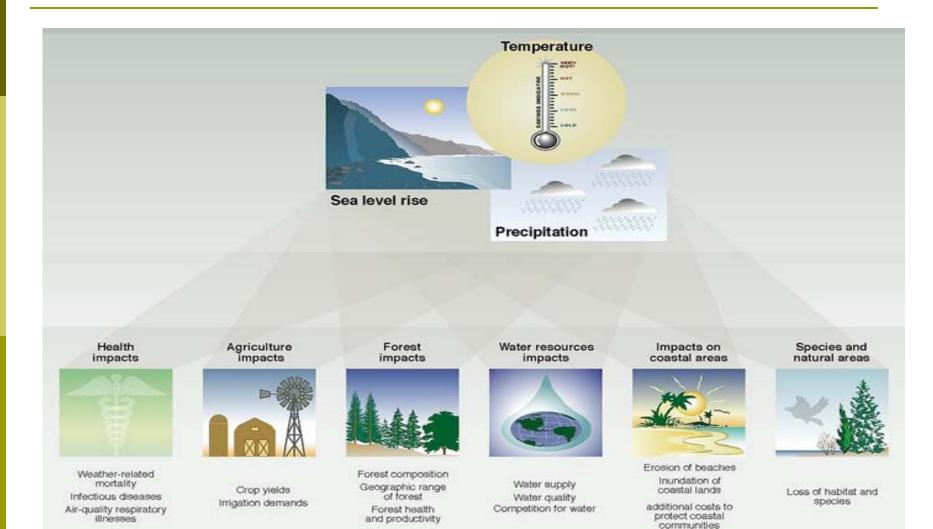
#### A rise of 5 metres would result in significant land loss

#### GOODBYE TO THE LOW COUNTRIES

A 5-metre sea-level rise would submerge large parts of north-west Europe



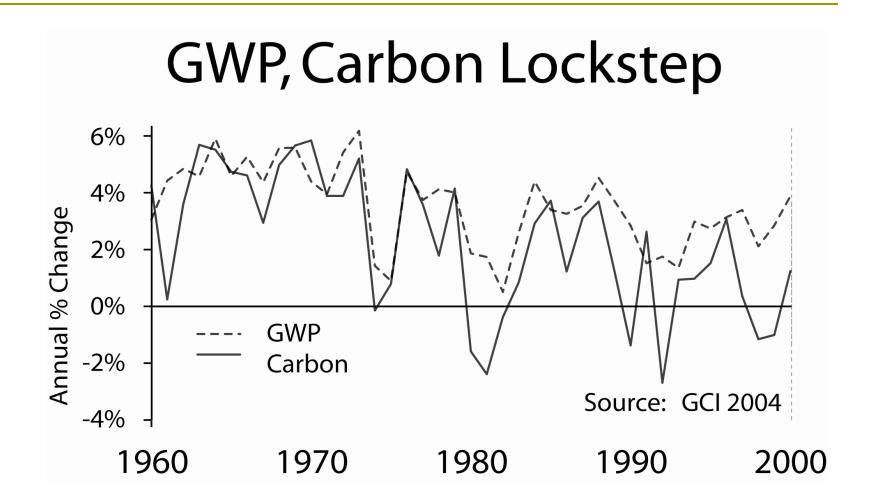
# Impacts on biological and social systems



## Time for thought . . .

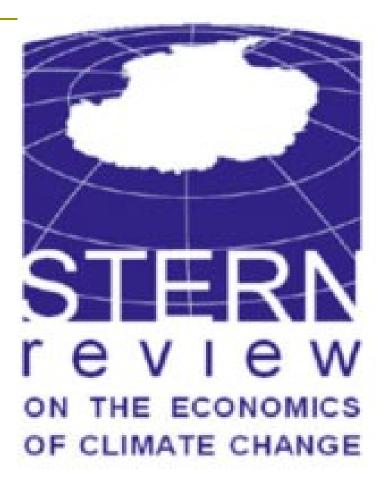
- How much of this is about your personal behaviour and how much about how the economy is structured?
- How much is your responsibility and how much is the government's? Or is it the responsibility of business?
- What do you think? What does your neighbour think?

What does this have to do with business?

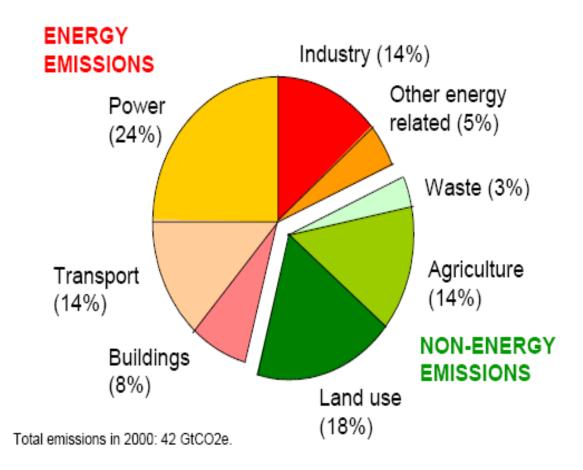


#### Stern Review

- The Stern Review was the first significant consideration by an economist of the environmental consequences of climate change
- Sir Nicholas Stern admitted he had only known about climate change for two years!



#### Greenhouse gas emissions in 2000 by source



#### Headlines

- What we do now can have only a limited effect on the climate over the next 40 or 50 years; what we do in the next 10 or 20 years can have a profound effect on the climate in the second half of this century and in the next.
- By investing 1% of GDP now (the next 10-20 years) we will avoid losing 20% of GDP later (40-50 years)
- Markets for low-carbon energy products are likely to be worth at least \$500bn per year by 2050, and perhaps much more. Individual companies and countries should position themselves to take advantage of these opportunities.

## Main findings of the review

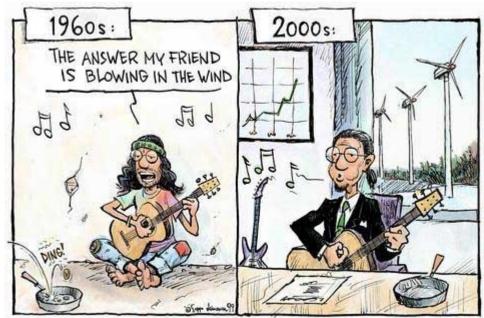
- CO2 emissions are caused by economic growth but policy to tackle climate change is not incompatible with economic growth;
- Favours the transition to a 'low carbon economy' which will 'bring challenges to competitiveness but also opportunities for growth';
- Policy to reduce emissions should be based on three essential elements:
  - carbon pricing
  - technology policy and subsidies for renewable sectors
  - removal of barriers to behavioural change

#### Country comparisons of emissions, 2009

Country	MTCO <sub>2</sub> per capita	Rank	Total MTCO <sub>2</sub>	Rank
Luxembourg	27.9	1	12.7	36
Australia	25.8	2	525.4	10
USA	24.4	3	7,241.5	1
Russian Federation	14.9	8	2,132.5	3
Czech Republic	14.2	9	145.6	16
Germany	12.1	15	1,001.5	5
United Kingdom	10.9	19	657.4	7
Japan	10.6	21	1,359.9	4

## Problems for policy-makers

- Uncertainty
- Credibility: Tax take?
- Impracticality: labour-intensive and thus costly on the public purse
- Impersonality: what is our personal incentive?



ww.seppo.net

#### Upstream or Downstream?

- Upstream with producers is simpler, e.g. when the fossil fuel comes out of the ground
- How can we be sure this will be passed on to consumers?
- Downstream is complex and costly
- But downstream i.e. with consumers does impose individuality responsibility
- Downstream is also educational

## Putting a price on carbon

- Applying a price to emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs), not just carbon dioxide (CO2 does make up 80% of GHGs)
- Both carbon tax and cap-and-trade system are examples of carbon pricing
- Polluter pays principle: stop treating the atmosphere as a free dumping ground
- Including this cost gives an incentive for polluters to invest in using less energy and using cleaner energy (EE and RE): especially strong for heavy industry

#### Market-based policies: carbon offsetting

- You have a high-carbon lifestyle
- You pay somebody with a low-carbon lifestyle to compensate for your emissions
- Clean Development Mechanism allowed countries to do this
- Carbon offsetting companies allow you to do this for flights
- How do you cost the global atmosphere?
  - London to Sydney return flight =3.56T
  - = £35.60 = Kč 1,000

#### Cheat neutral

