

Climate Change: The Role of Food and Agriculture

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LAND AND LAND USE CONTRIBUTE TO CLIMATE CHANGE, AND CAN HELP SOLVE IT

Part of the problem



DEFORESTATION



AGRICULTURE

Solutions



NATURAL
CLIMATE
SOLUTIONS

Amplifiers



WILDFIRE

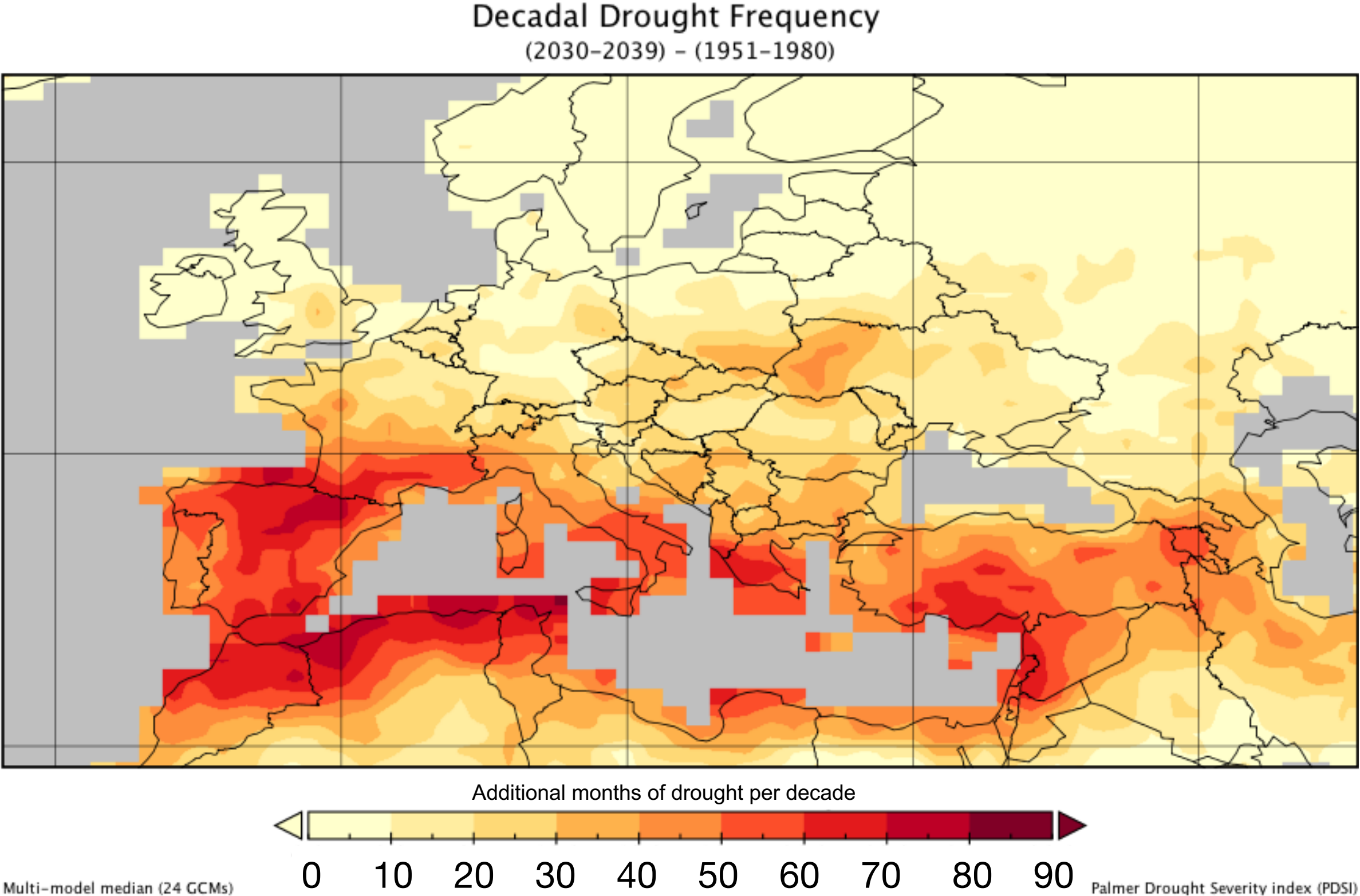


PERMAFROST
THAW

DESERTIFICATION: IT'S A THING

The Sahara Desert will effectively cross the Mediterranean Sea.

The heavily populated coast of Africa will be squeezed between the desert and the rising seas.



Source: Woods Hole Research Center

PUTTING
SCIENCE TO
WORK

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MANAGEMENT®



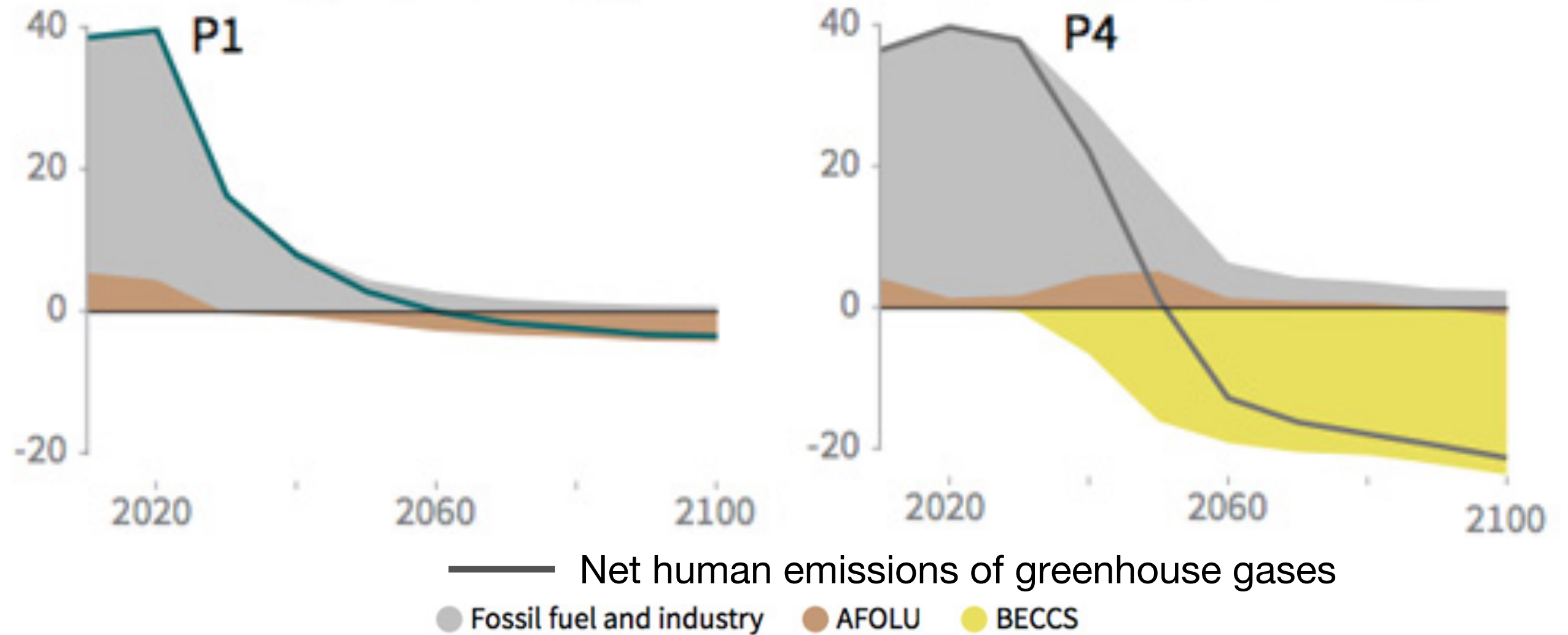
Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas
de la Cuenca Amazónica

NISKANEN
C E N T E R



URGENCY: WE NEED TO REDUCE GLOBAL EMISSIONS TO ZERO, OR LESS, SOON

Billions of tonnes CO₂ per year (GtCO₂/yr)



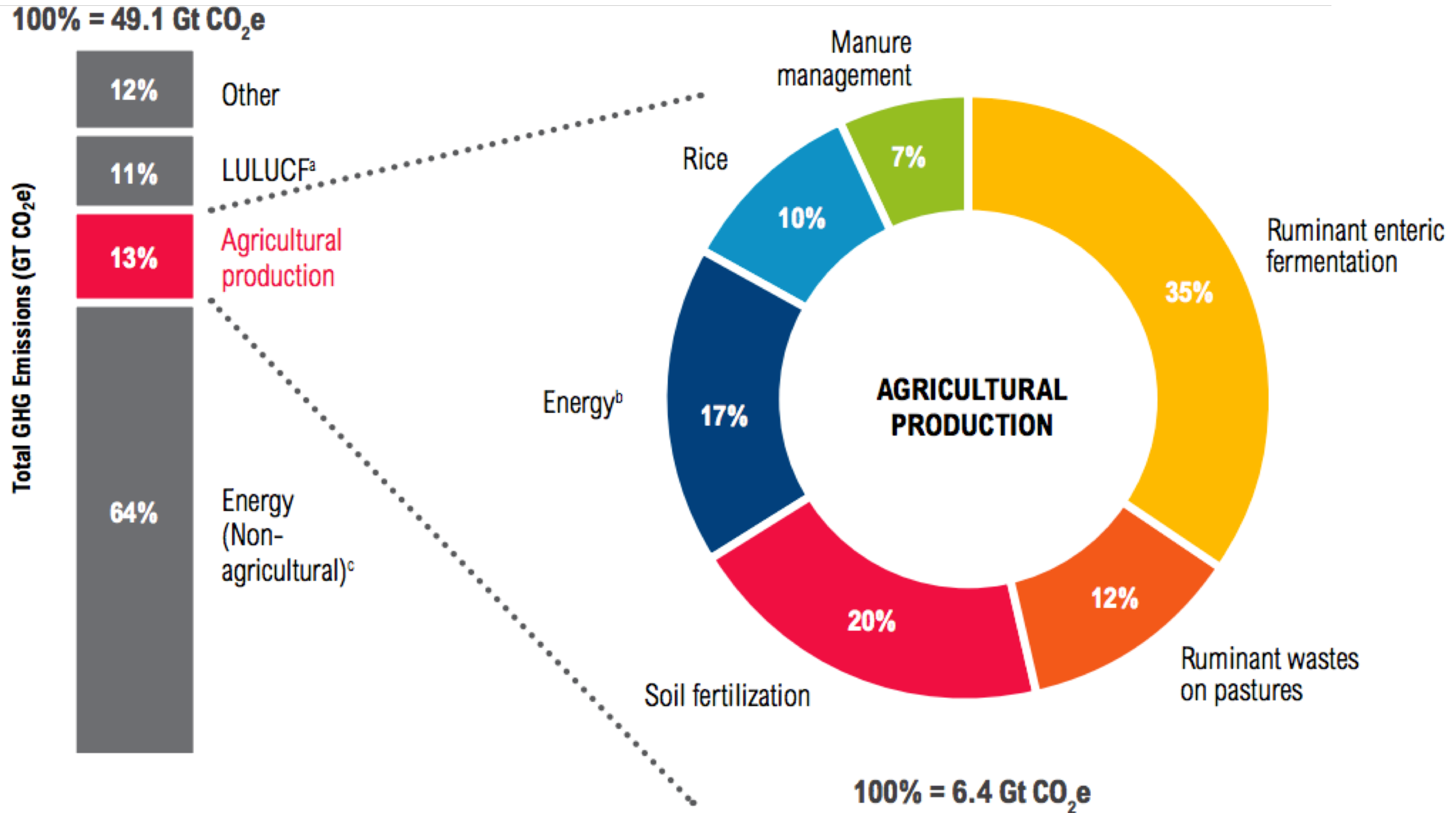
Two emissions trajectories which limit warming to 1.5°C



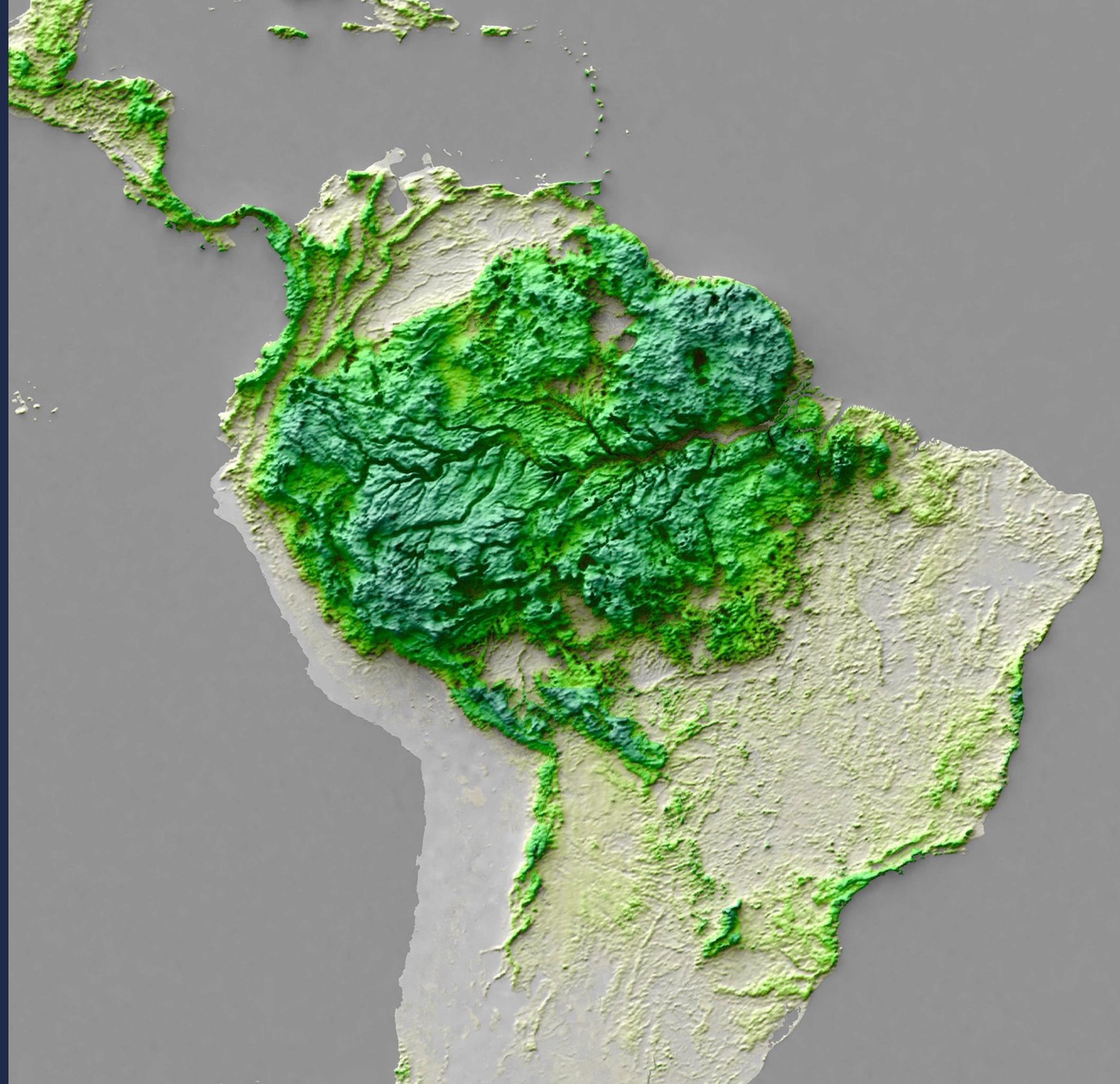
How does agriculture
affect climate change?



FOOD PRODUCTION IS PART OF THE PROBLEM...

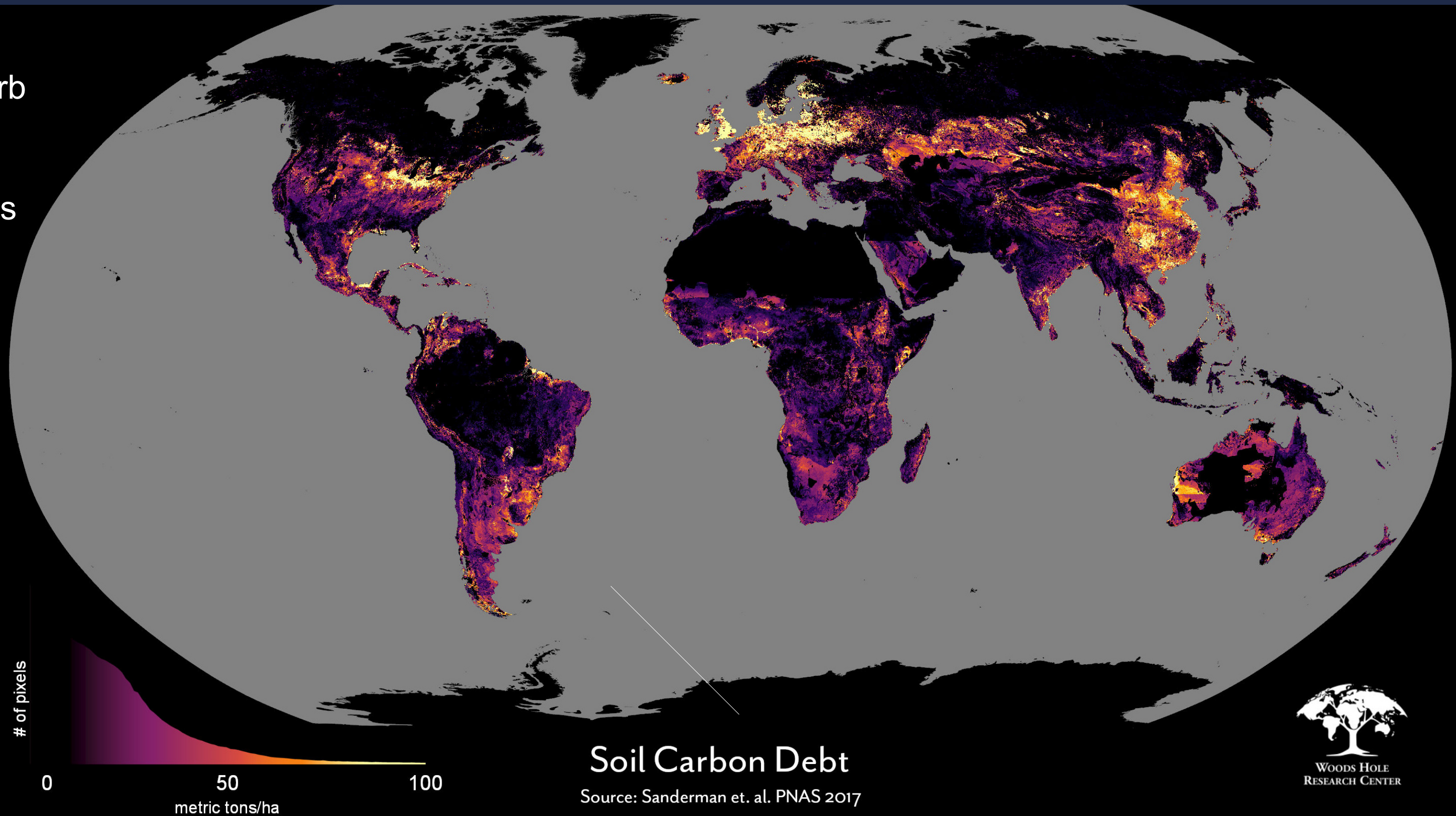


CLEARING OF
FOREST FOR
AGRICULTURE
CONTRIBUTES
TO CLIMATE
CHANGE



...BUT IT COULD BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Soil could absorb carbon equal to 13 years of global emissions





How does climate change
affect agriculture?



CLIMATE CHANGE REDUCES CROP YIELDS

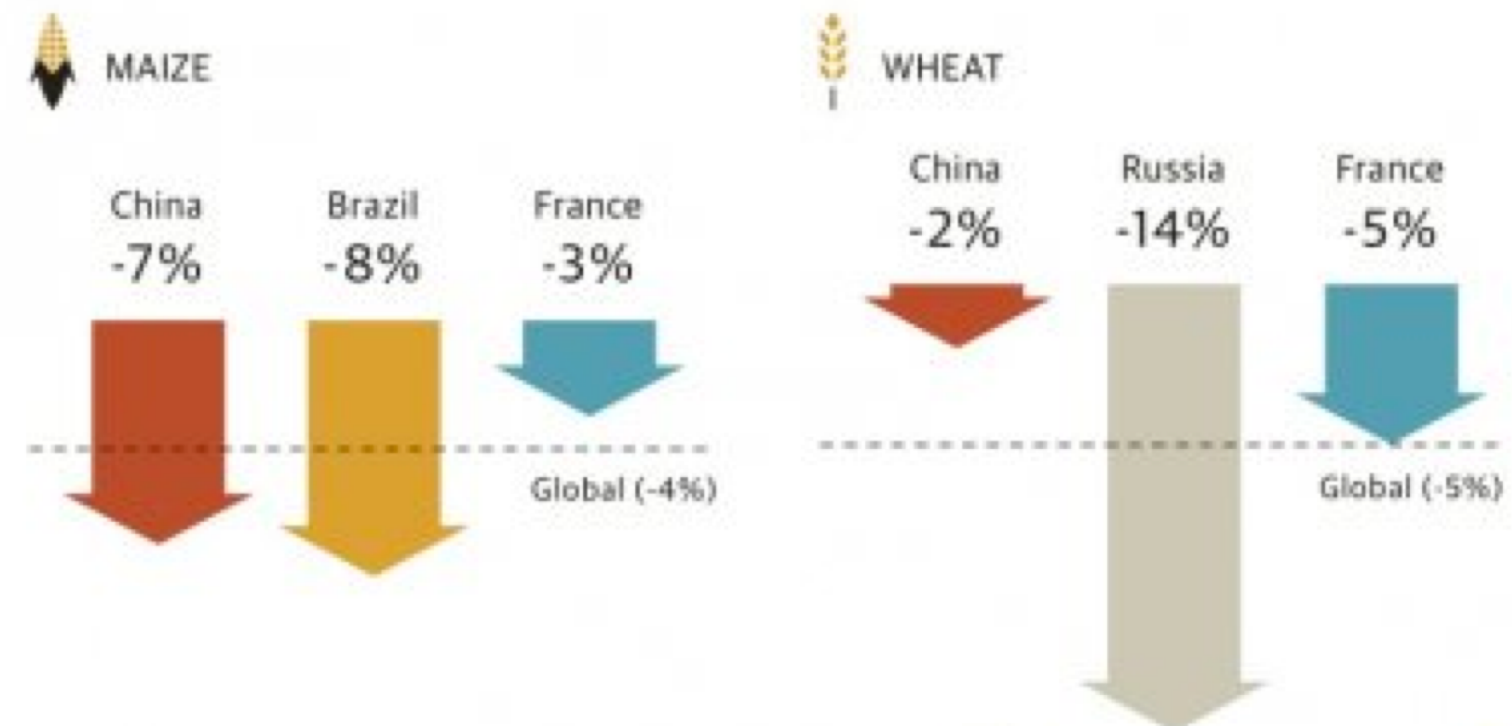
Effects of climate change on crop yields, 1980-2008

Climate change, food and farming: 2010s

According to the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC, climate change is affecting food and farming now

It is affecting crop yields

Maize and wheat yields show climate impacts



SOURCE: Lobell et al. 2011

IN A WARMER WORLD, SIMULTANEOUS MULTI-REGION CROP FAILURES ARE MORE LIKELY

Future warming increases probability of globally synchronized maize production shocks

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Country	Present-day climate, %		2 °C warming, %		4 °C warming, %	
	>10%	>20%	>10%	>20%	>10%	>20%
Top four producing*	0.0	0.0	6.1	0.0	86.6	48.1
Top four exporting [†]	0.0	0.0	6.9	0.1	86.1	45.8
Top export + import [‡]	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	68.9	21.2

Probability of 10% or 20% yield decreases

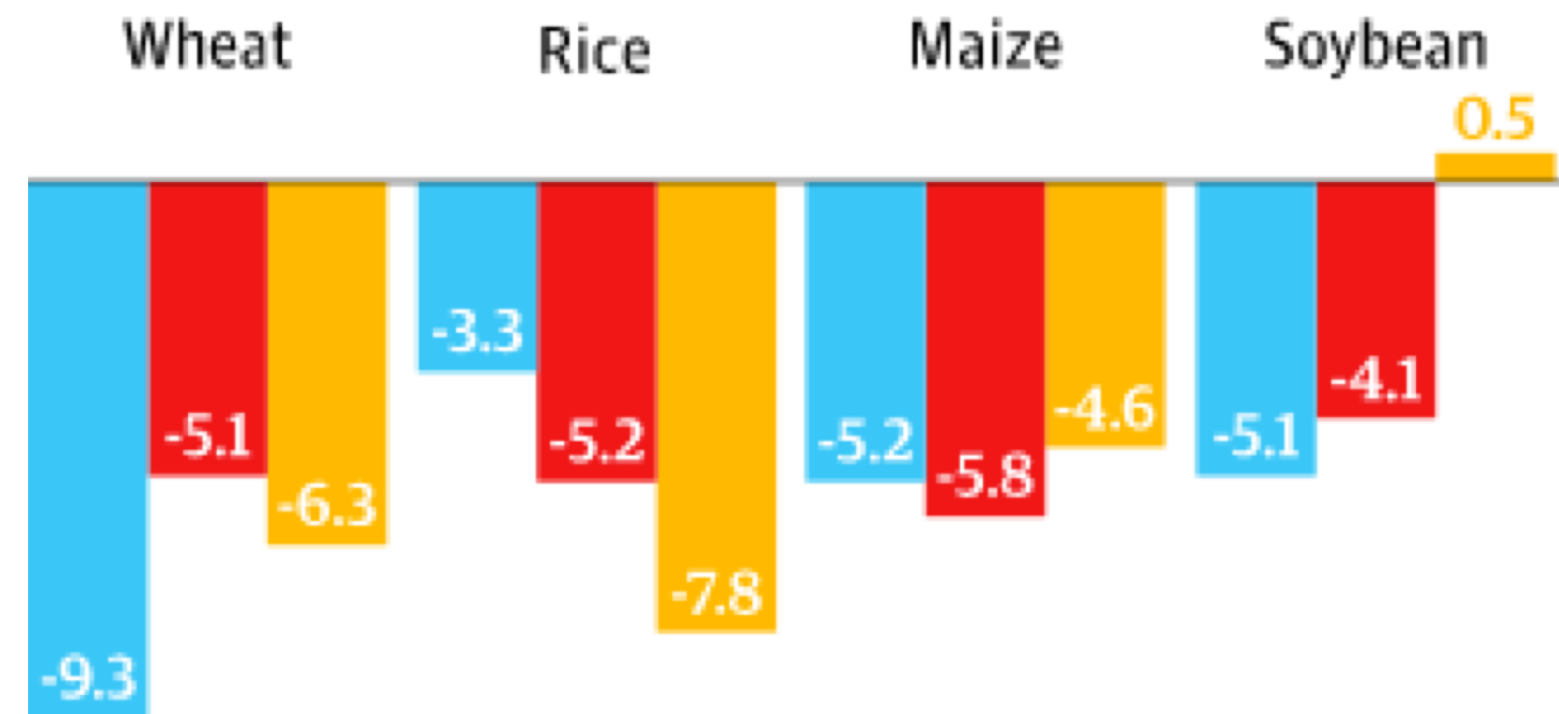
HIGHER CO₂ REDUCES CROP NUTRIENT CONCENTRATIONS

Increases risk of nutritional deficiencies

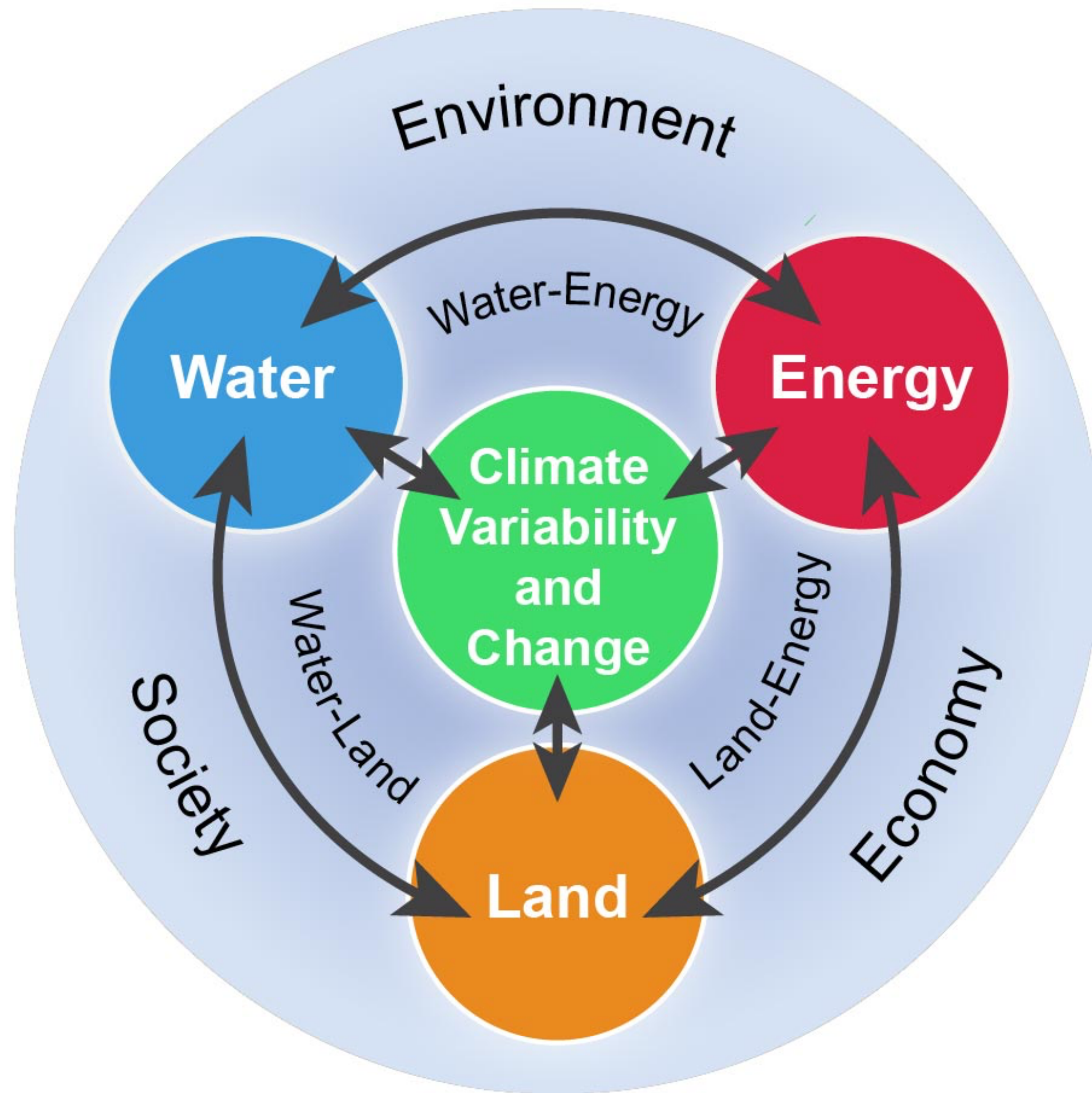
High CO₂ cuts crop nutrients

Percentage under CO₂ levels expected in 2050,

■ Zinc ■ Iron ■ Protein



SOURCE: NATURE



An aerial photograph of a vast mountain range, likely the Sierra Nevada, with a stylized, semi-transparent world map overlay on the right side. The map is rendered in a light blue/white color, showing the continents. The background is a deep blue sky with a thin white line representing the horizon or a cloud layer.

Thank you.

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