

# Water , climate and disaster activities of WMO

Prof. Petteri Taalas  
WMO Secretary-General

- Early warnings for all
- Km-scale climate modelling
- New reports: climate, water, energy

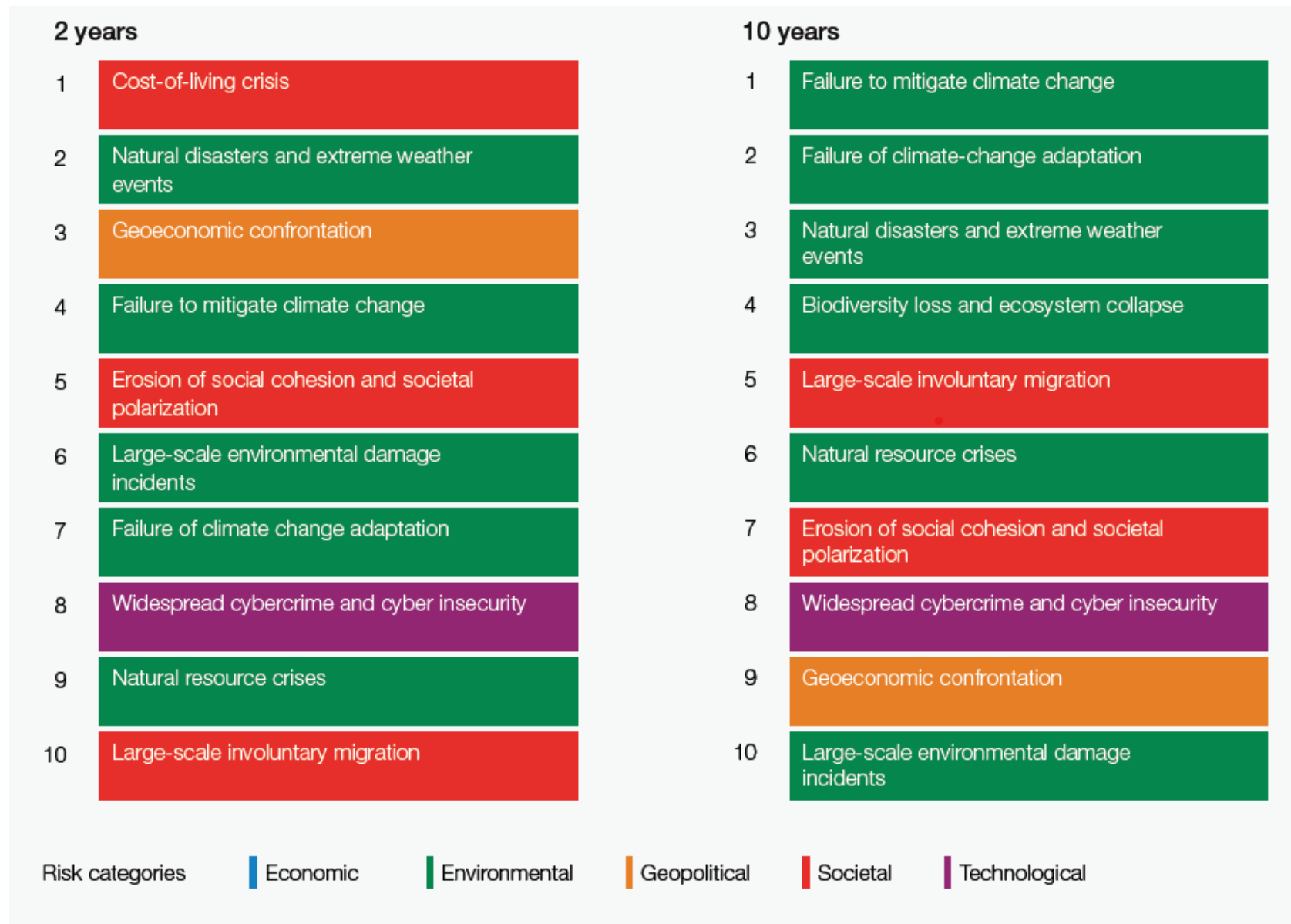


WMO OMM

World Meteorological Organization  
Organisation météorologique mondiale

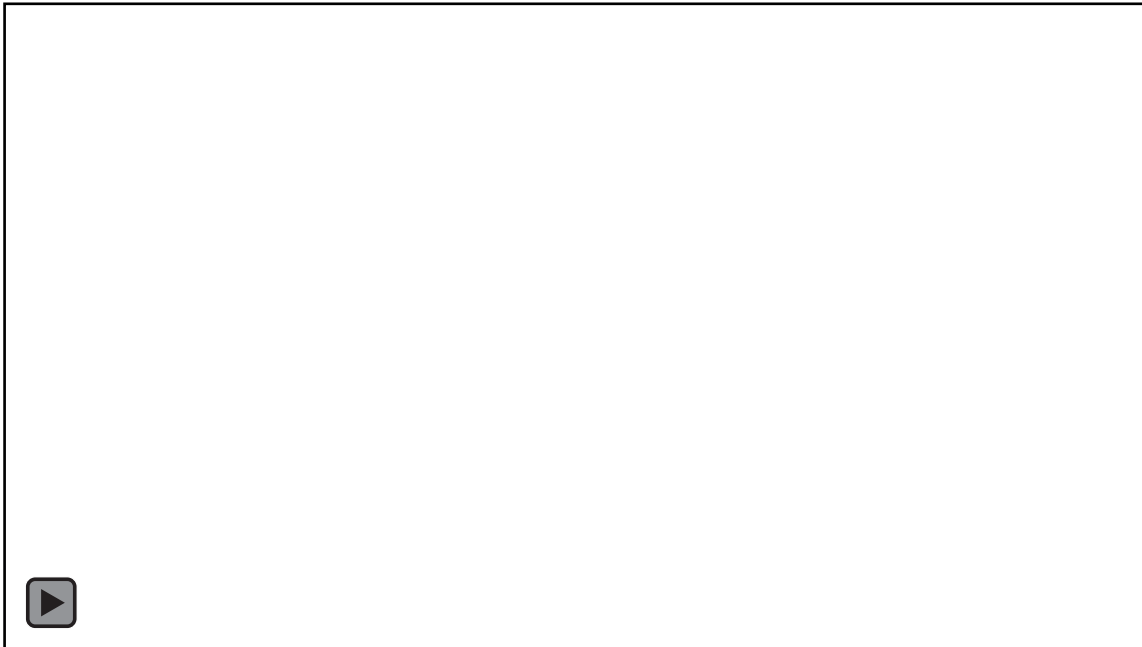
# Biggest Global Economic Risks 2023 – 2033 (source: WEF 2023)

WMO strategic priority:  
“Enhancing preparedness and reducing loss of life, critical infrastructure and livelihood from hydrometeorological extremes”



# Early Warnings for All

- The UN Global Early Warning Initiative for the Implementation of Climate Adaptation



Today I announce the United Nations will spearhead new action to ensure every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years. I have asked the World Meteorological Organization to lead this effort and to present an action plan at the next UN climate conference, later this year in Egypt.



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on World Meteorological Day 23 March 2022

# Current State of MHEWS Globally

- An enhanced data collection campaign (the **WMO Performance Monitoring System**) conducted since March 2022 shows that significant MHEWS gaps remain globally
- A **composite Early Warning Index** will be developed with Members and key partners in the months ahead.

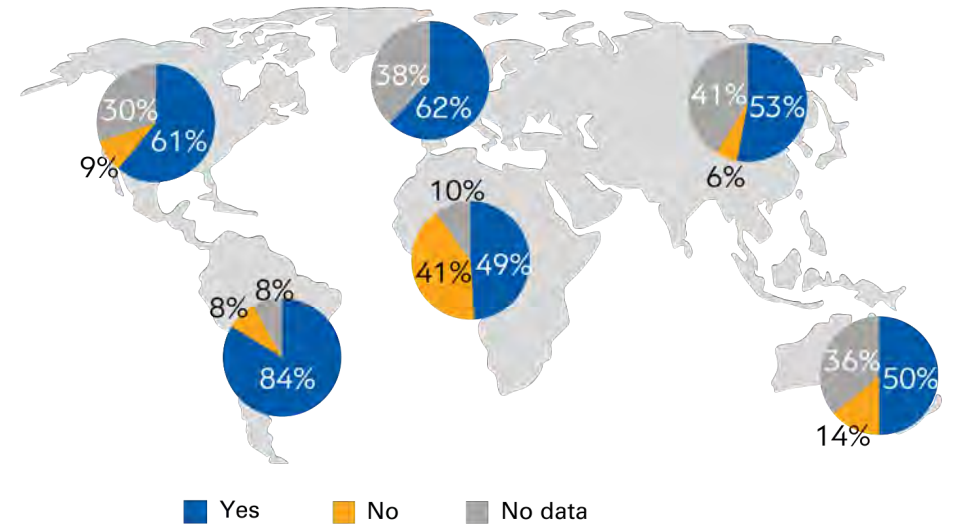
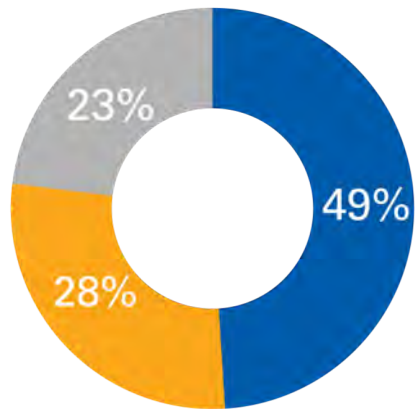
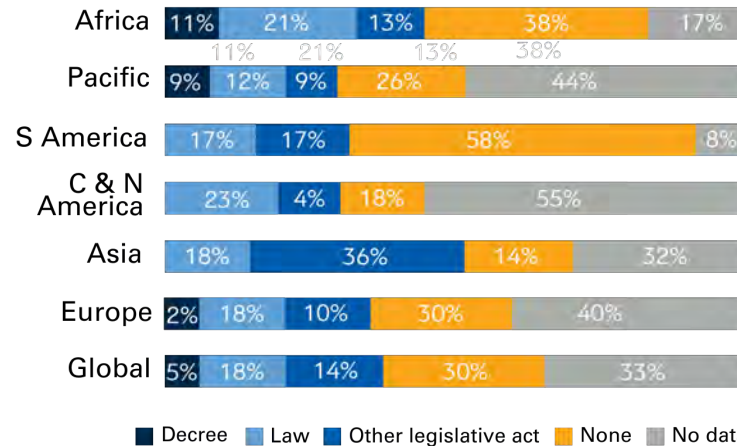


Figure 4: Percentage of countries reporting to have Standard Alerting Procedures (SAPs)



■ Yes ■ No ■ No data

Percentage of WMO Members reporting to have MHEWS



■ Decree ■ Law ■ Other legislative act ■ None ■ No data

Percentage of Members reporting to have legislation on MHEWS

Ongoing data collection to coordinate with WMO data: **The UNDRR Sendai Framework Monitoring System**, as part of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 **Mid-Term Review**

# Flood and Drought Forecasting: 193 WMO Members

Flash Flood Forecasting | Around 40% of Members provide this forecasting



Riverine Flood Forecasting | More than half of Members provide this forecast

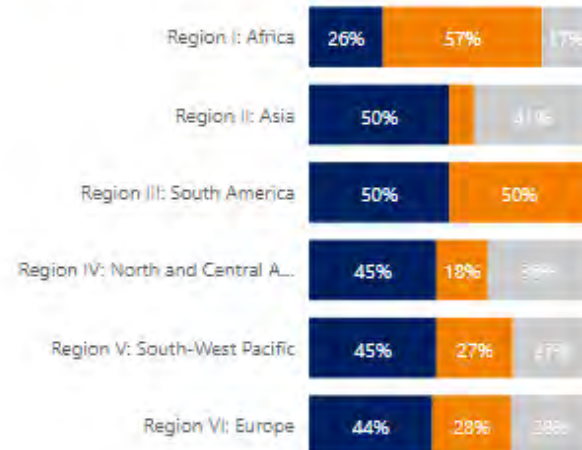


Drought Forecasting | More than one third of members provide drought forecasting



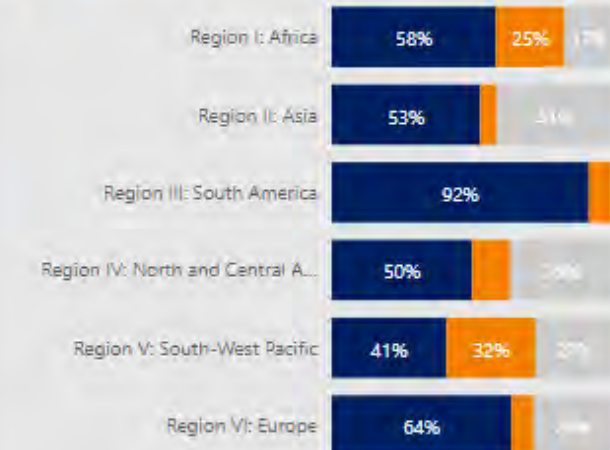
Flash Flood Forecasting | In Region I (Africa) the provision is lowest, applying only to a quarter of Members

● yes ● no ● answer not provided



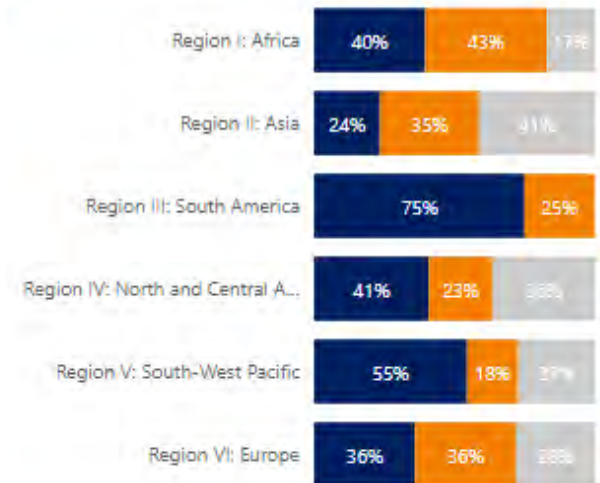
Riverine Flood Forecasting | Only in Region V (South-West Pacific) less than half of Members have it in place

● yes ● no ● answer not provided



Drought Forecasting | In Region II (Asia) only a quarter of members provide this

● yes ● no ● answer not provided



# Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM)

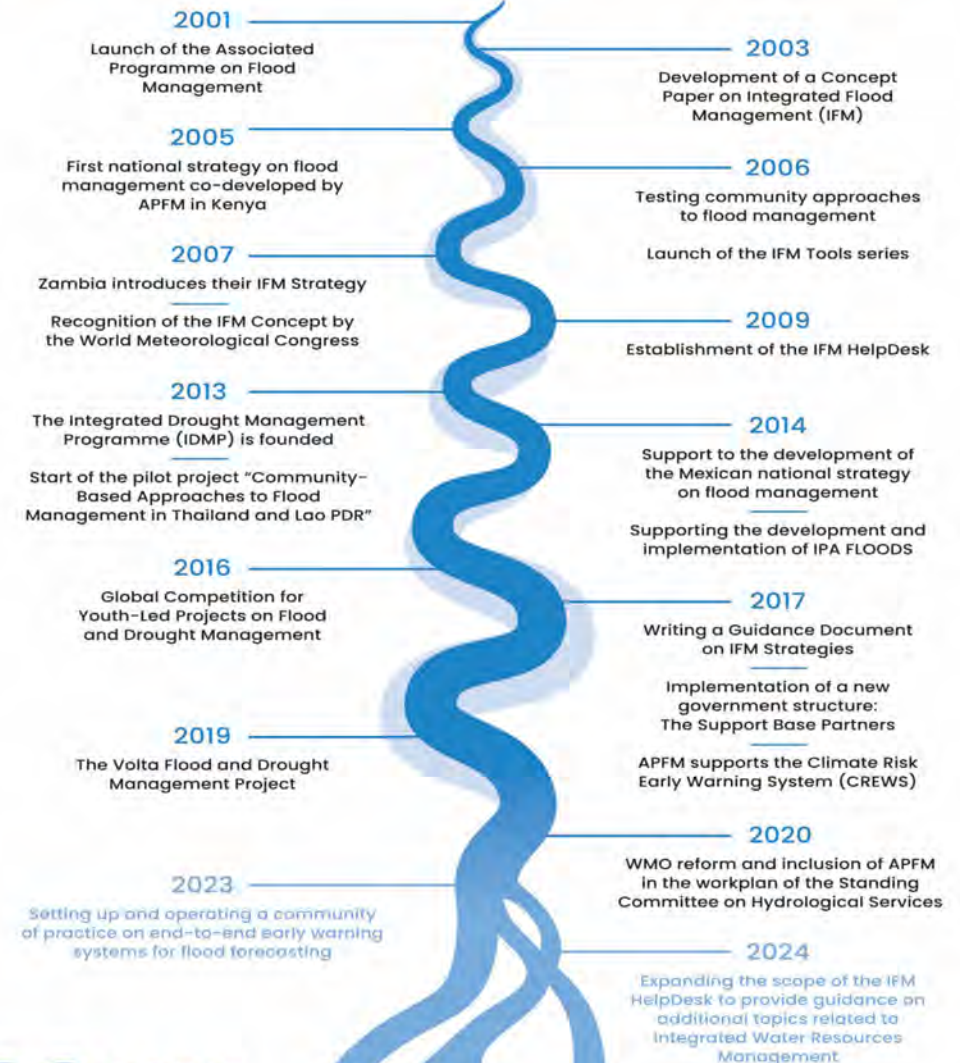
Last 20 years, WMO promotes the concept of Integrated Flood Management (IFM)



IFM integrates **land use** and **water resources** in a river basin, in accordance with Integrated Water Resources Management, with the objective of **maximizing net benefits** derived from the use of floodplains and **minimizing loss of life** due to flooding. IFM keeps in consideration environmental preservation, balancing development needs with **flood risk** towards **sustainable development**

<http://www.floodmanagement.info>

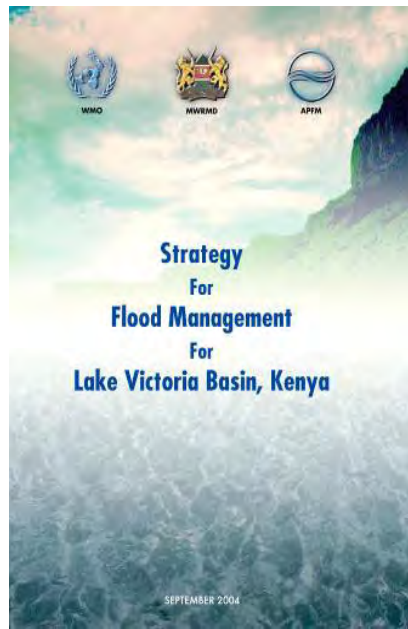
## Milestones of the Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM)



# IFM Capacity Building and Training

- Training of Specific topics and contact with experts :
  - Integrated flood management,
  - urban flood management,
  - community-based approaches
- Development of National Strategies that apply the IFM concept

Training &  
Capacity  
Building



IFM for flood  
hazard mapping,  
Japan



National strategy on IFM, Lao PDR



# PPE - 30+ Support Base Partners including Japan

Specialized institutes in various disciplines relevant for IFM

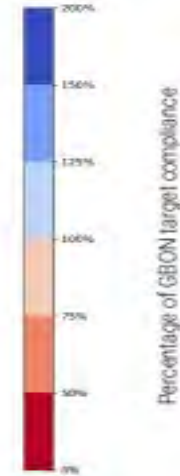
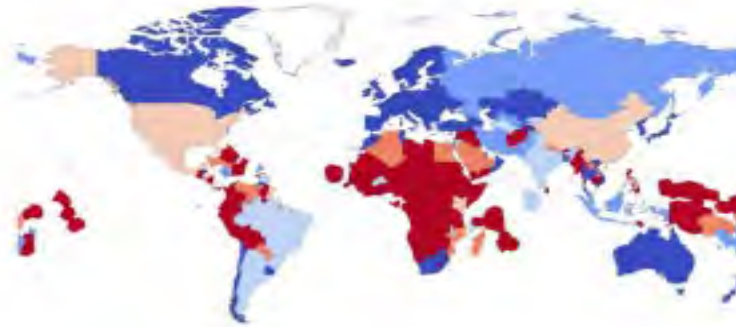




# The state ground-based and sounding stations

## Surface reporting density

Surface Reporting Horizontal Resolution

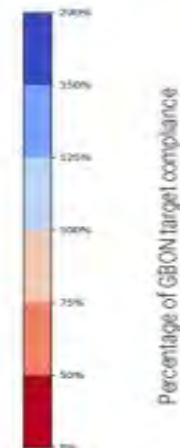
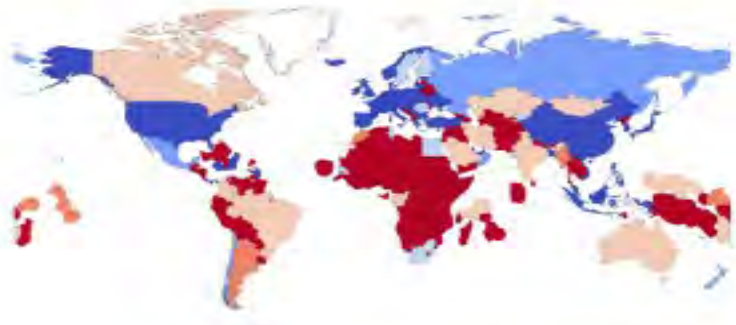


Percentage of GBON target compliance

Stations reporting 30% of GBON requirements at least 60% of times in Jan 2022

## Upper-Air reporting density

Upper-Air Reporting Horizontal Resolution



Percentage of GBON target compliance

Radiosondes Stations making 1-daily report at least 60% of times in Jan 2022

# More than half of the planet has been facing increase of heavy precipitation

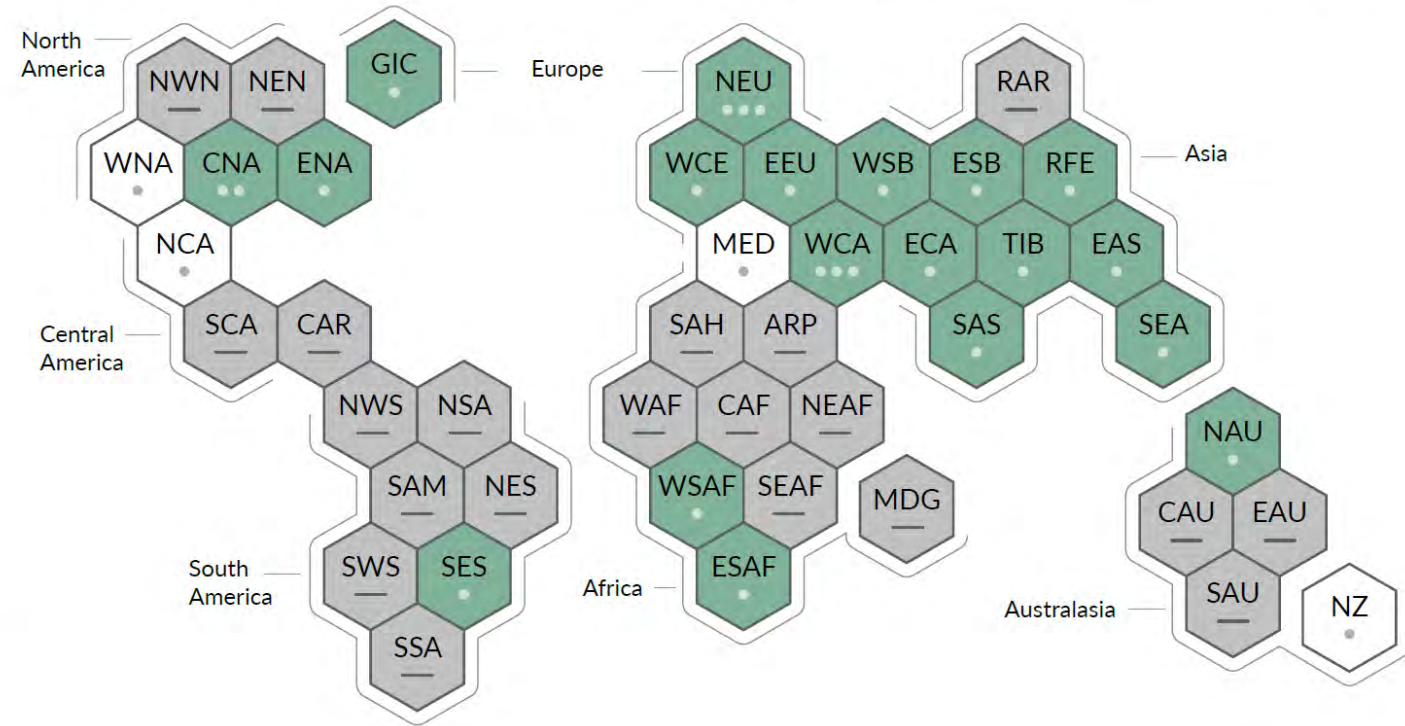
b) Synthesis of assessment of observed change in **heavy precipitation** and confidence in human contribution to the observed changes in the world's regions

Confidence in human contribution to the observed changes

- High confidence
- Medium confidence
- Low confidence
- No assessment

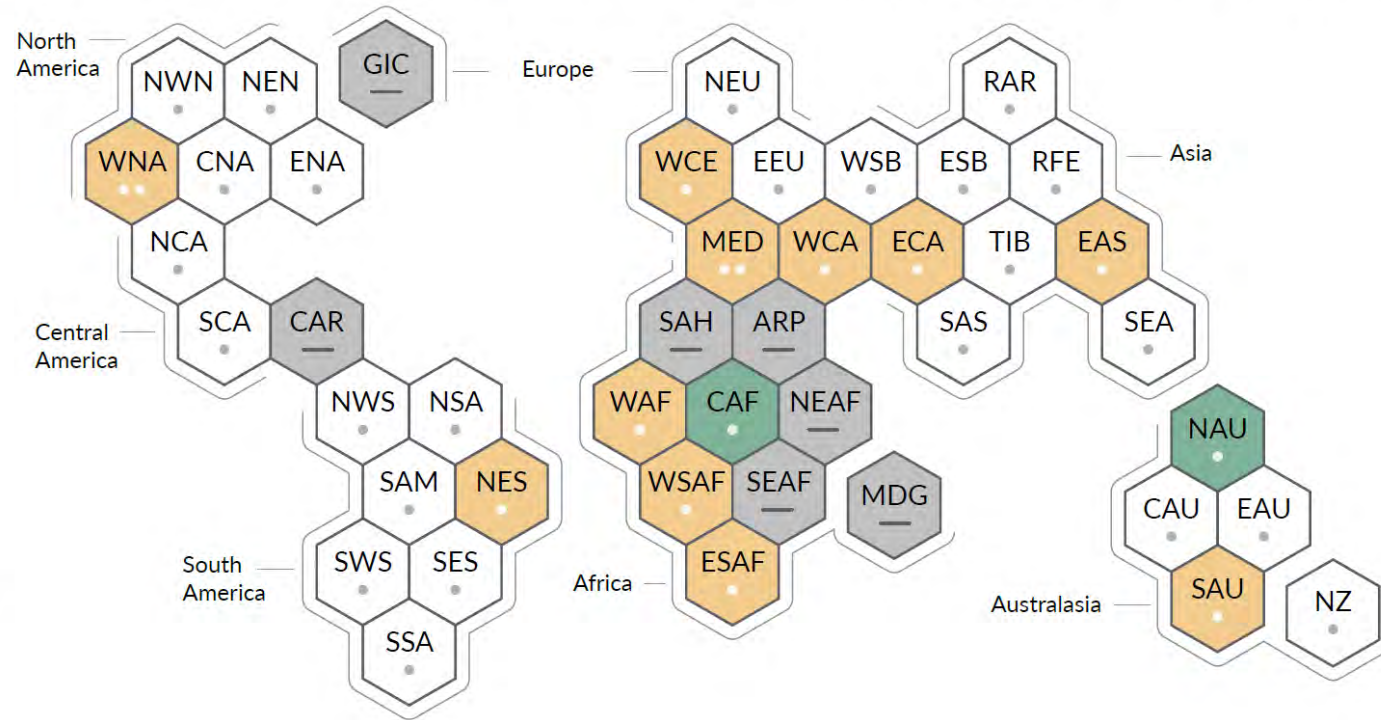
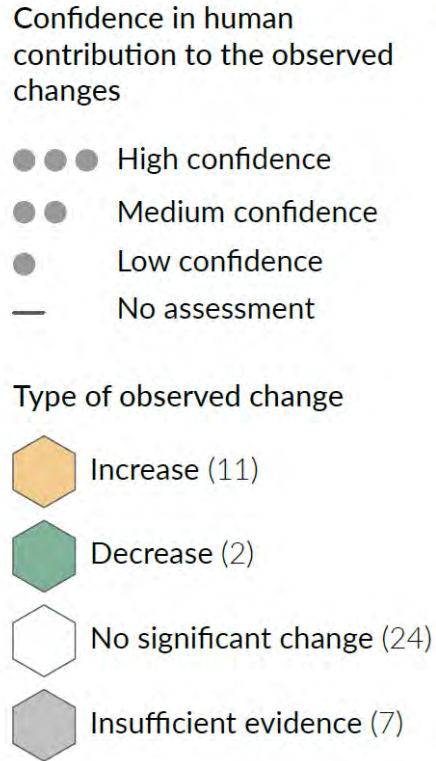
Type of observed change

- Increase (19)
- Decrease (0)
- No significant change (4)
- Insufficient evidence (21)



# Increase of agricultural drought has been observed in all continents

c) Synthesis of assessment of observed change in **agricultural drought** and confidence in human contribution to the observed changes in the world's regions

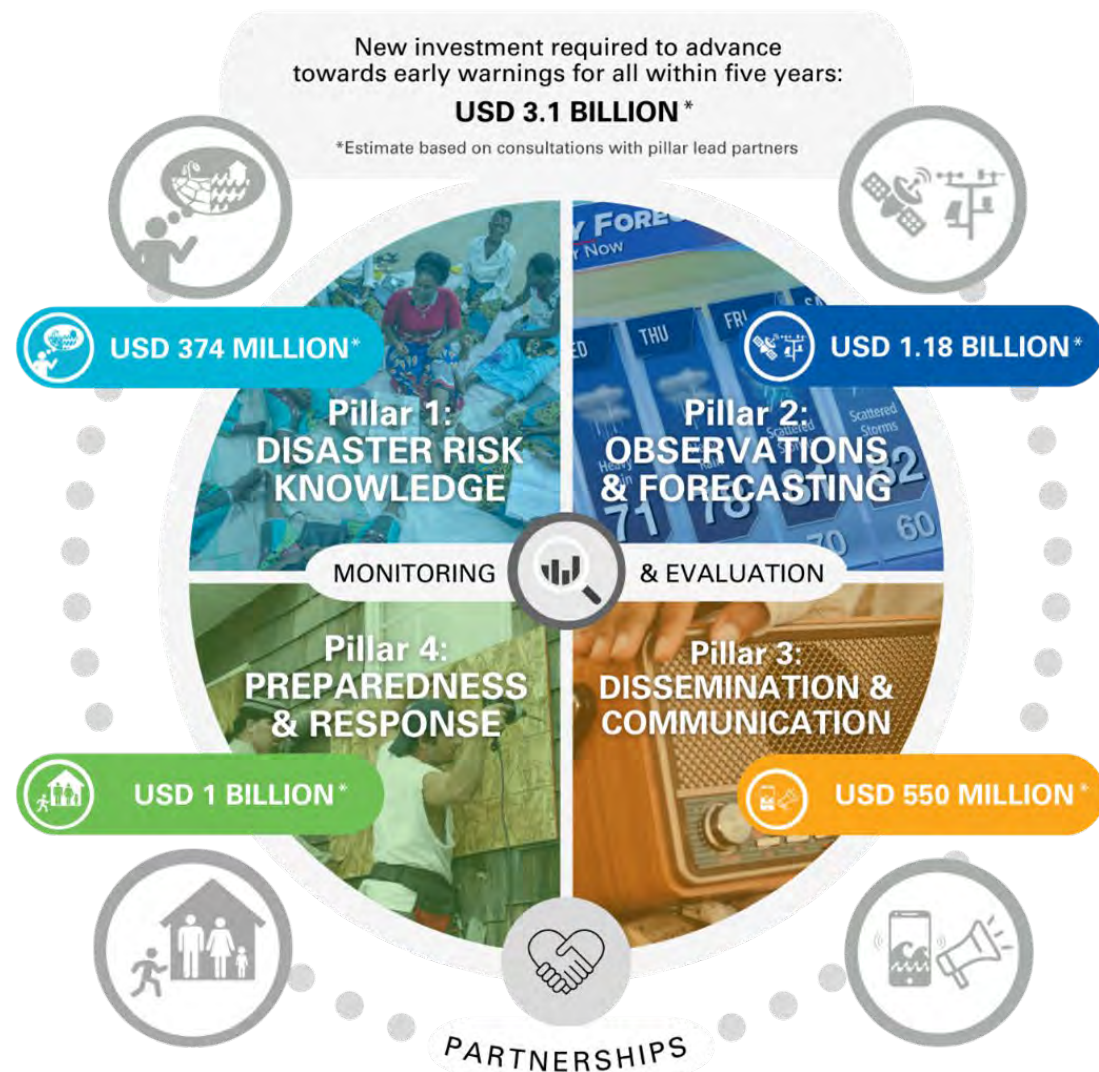


# EARLY WARNINGS FOR ALL

The UN Global Early Warning Initiative for the Implementation of Climate Adaptation

## Executive Action Plan 2023-2027

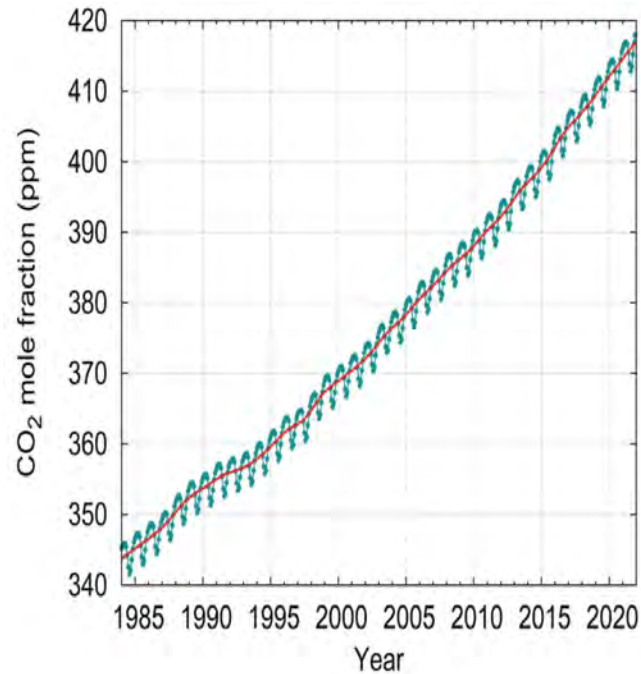
# Join us to make it happen!



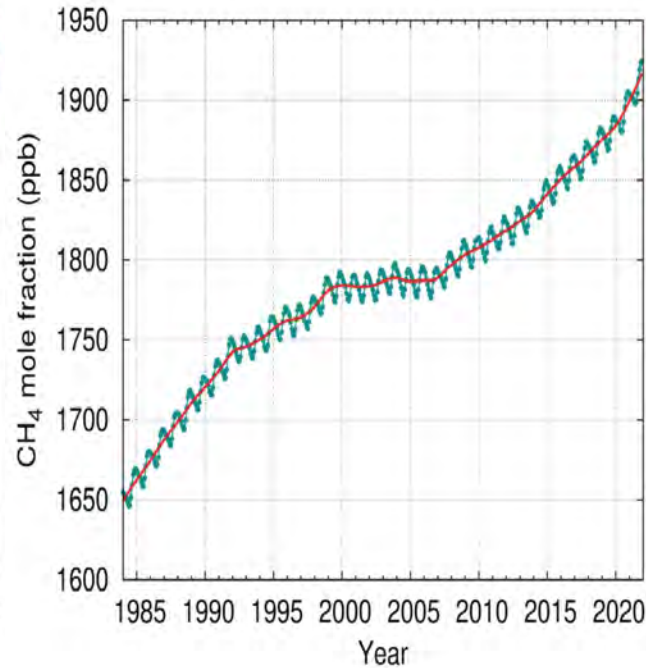
WEATHER CLIMATE WATER

Available at WMO [online library](#)

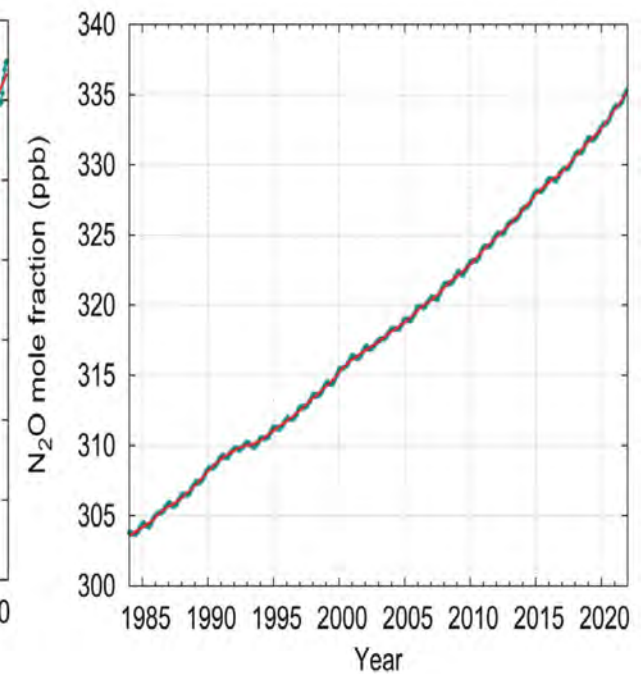
# Greenhouse gas concentrations (CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O) continue to rise to new record highs



Carbon dioxide levels **+149%**



Methane levels **+262%**



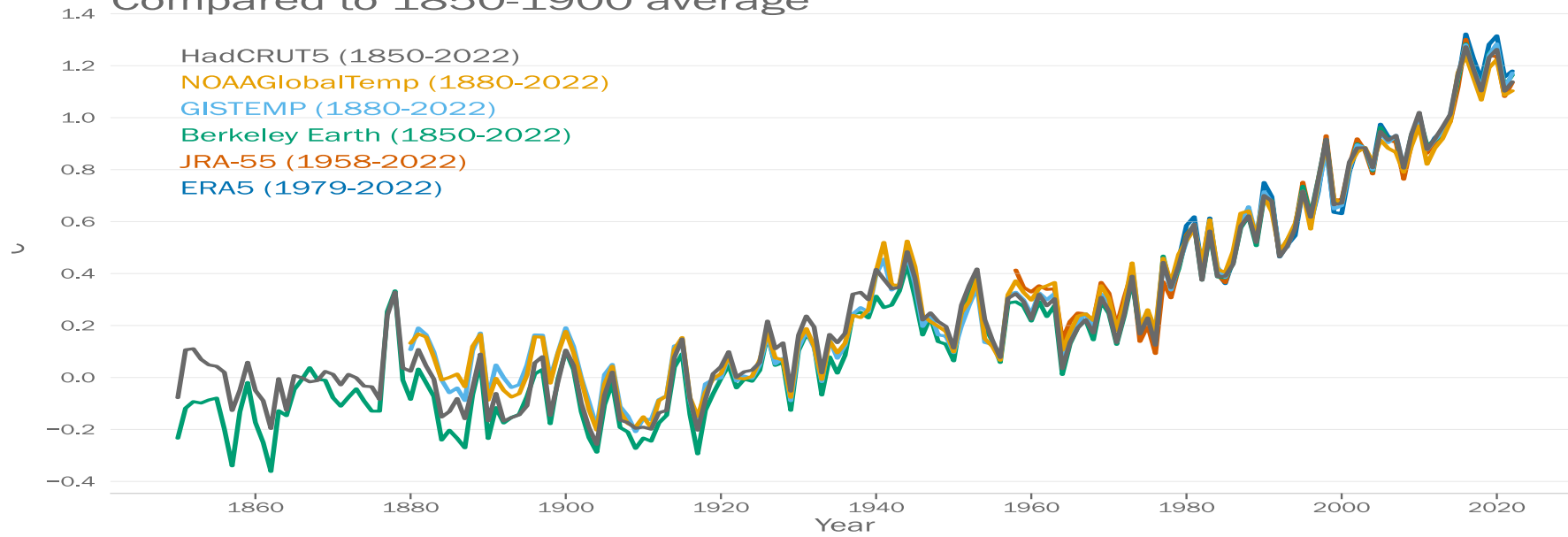
Nitrous oxide levels **+124%**

*of pre-industrial levels (before 1750)*

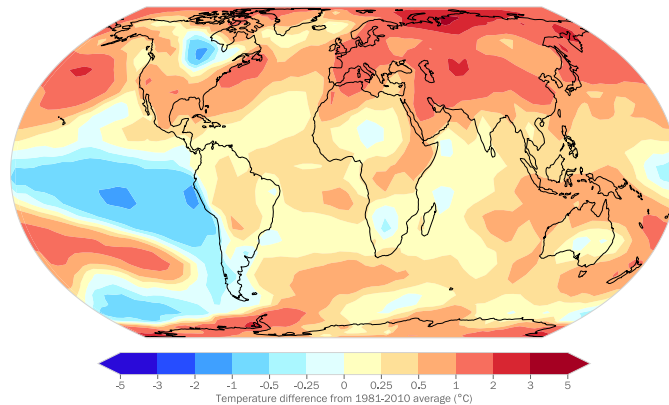


# Global temperature & ENSO

## Global mean temperature Compared to 1850-1900 average

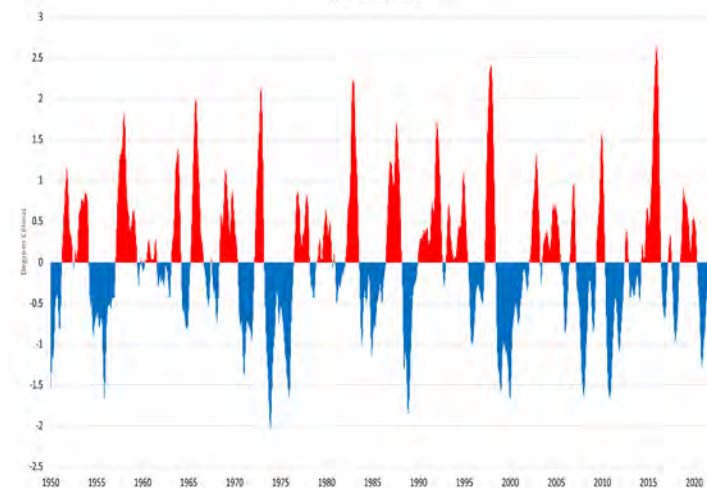


Annual Temperature Anomalies 2022

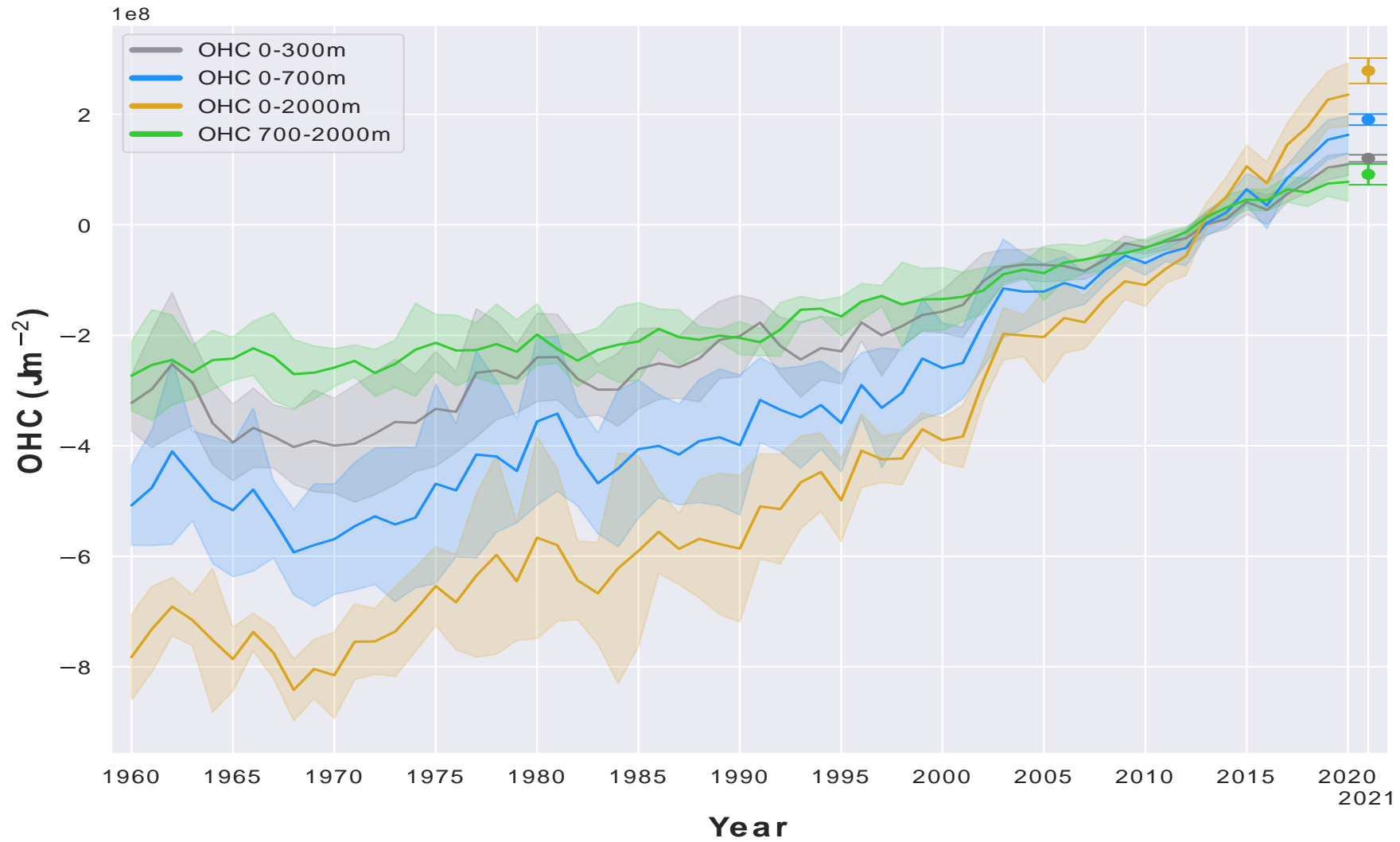


Berkeley Earth to 2022-09, ERA5 to 2022-09, GISTEMP to 2022-09, HadCRUT5 to 2022-08, JRA-55 to 2022-09, NOAA GlobalTemp to 2022-09

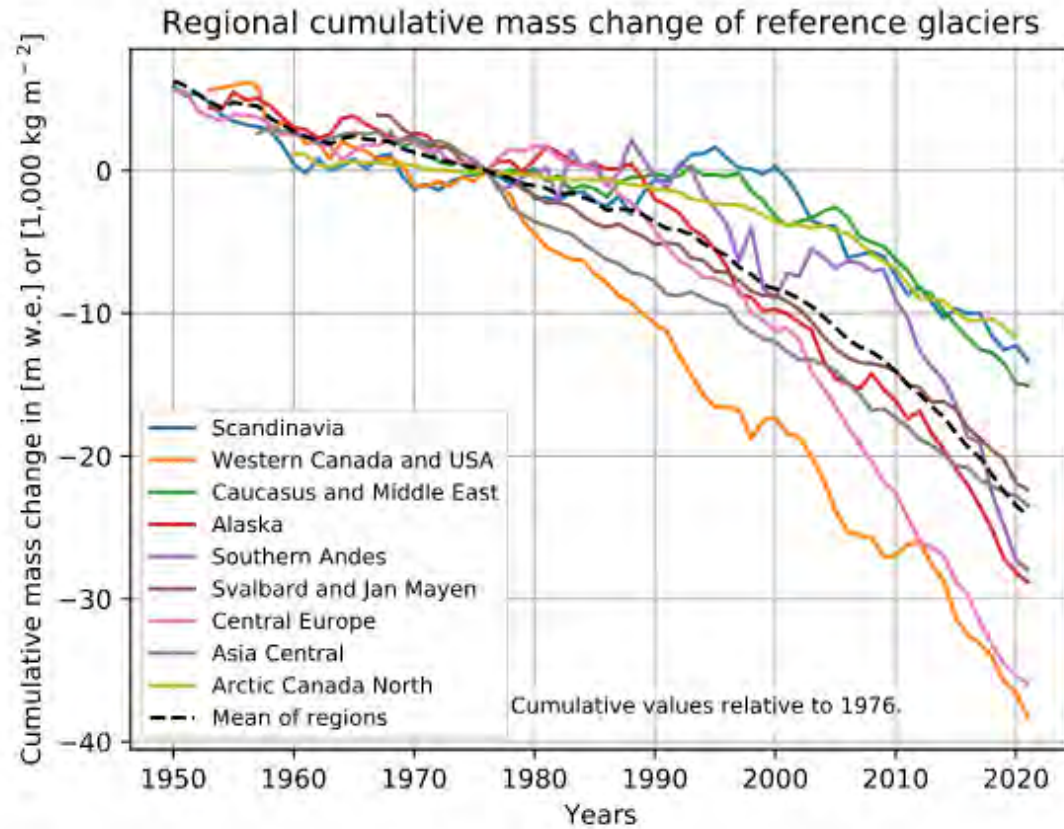
Oceanic Niño Index



# Ocean heat content at record high levels



# Cryosphere Water Resources

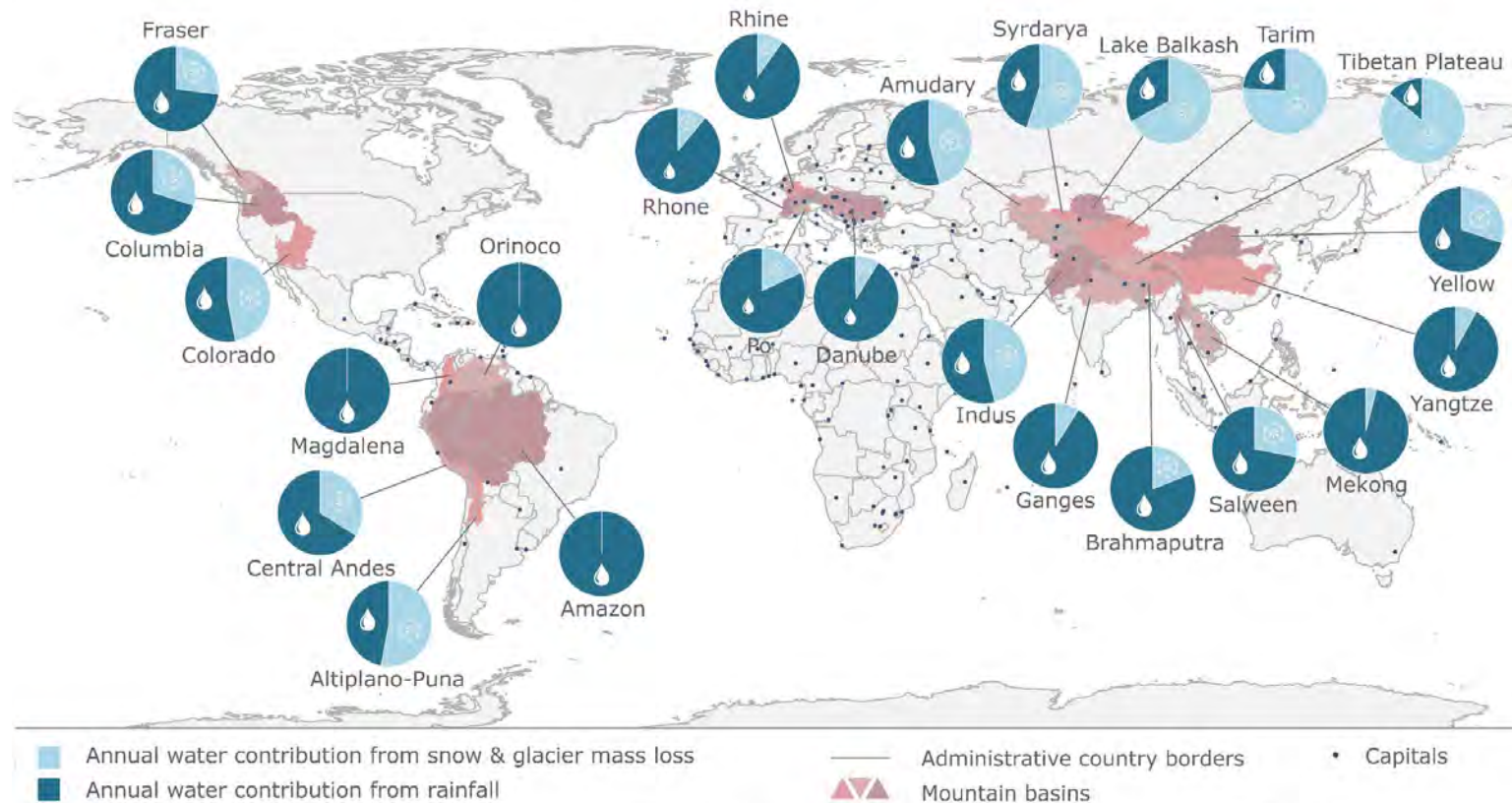


Source: World Glacier Monitoring Services, Global Glacier State, accessed 26 Sept 2022



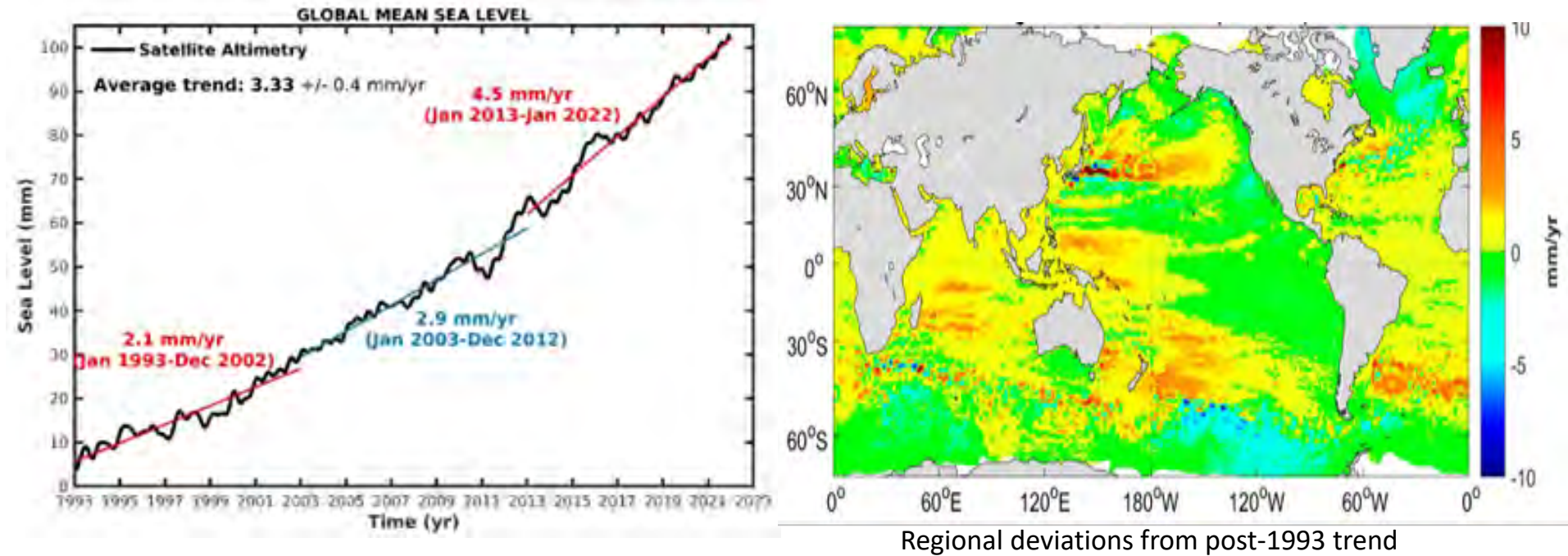
# Cryosphere Water Resources

**Contribution of the cryosphere to water availability** (in selected river basins of Asia, America and Europe)



Data in "Towards mountains without permanent snow and ice" by Huss et al., 2017 (Table 2 - period: from 1998 to 2012).

# Global sea level rising at an increasing rate

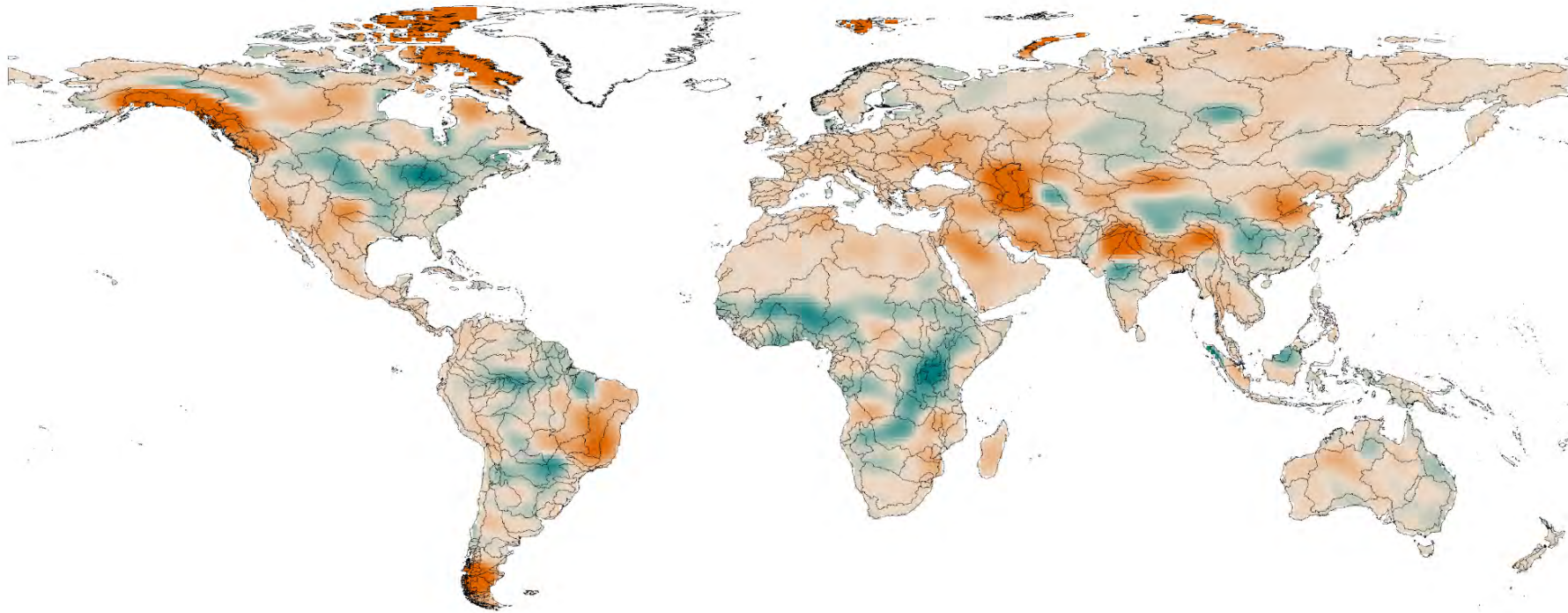


Sea level rise from ice sheet loss:

Greenland: 0.8 mm/yr

Antarctica: 0.4 mm/yr

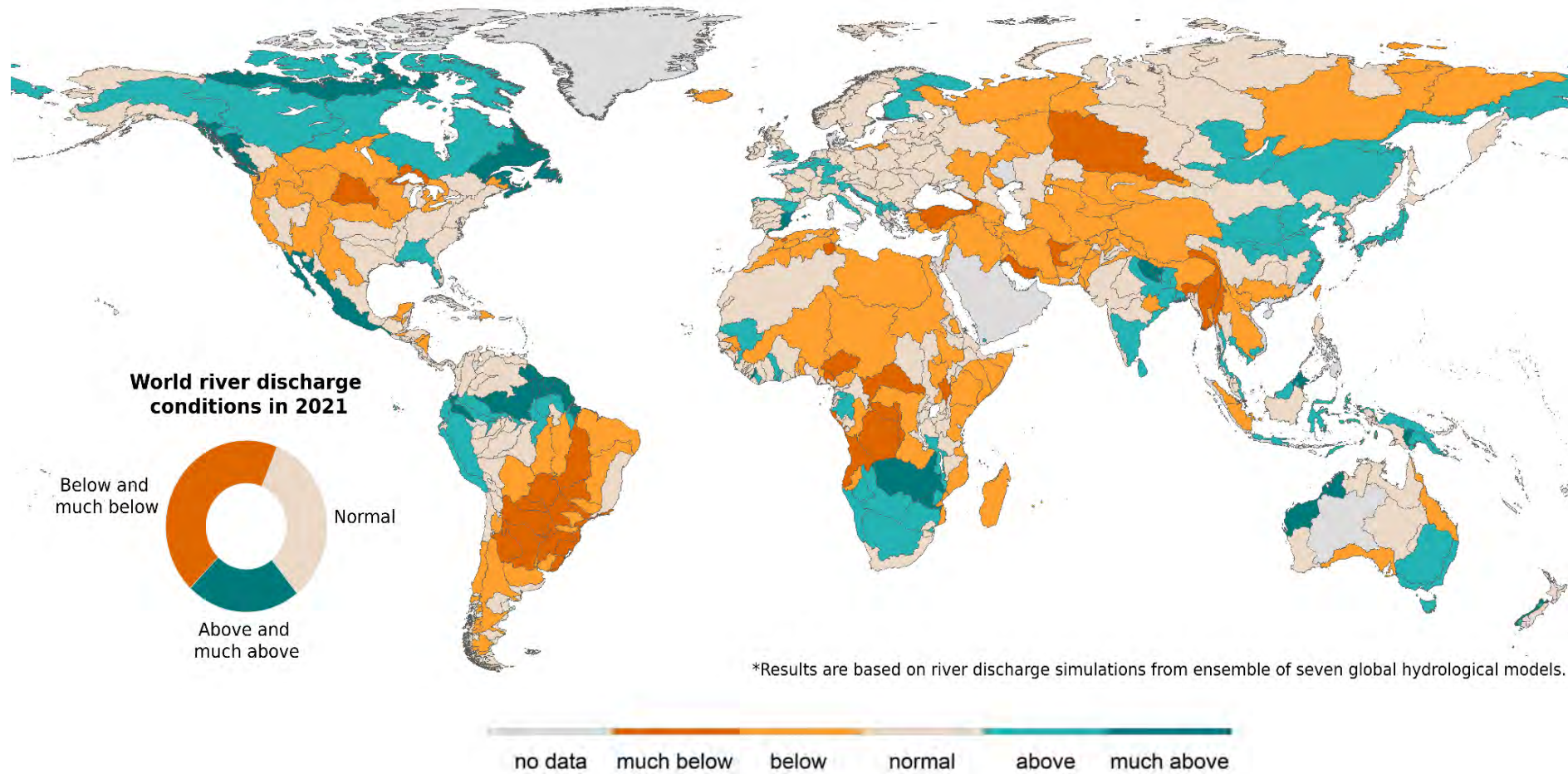
# Total Water Storage Trends 2002-2021



Total water storage anomaly

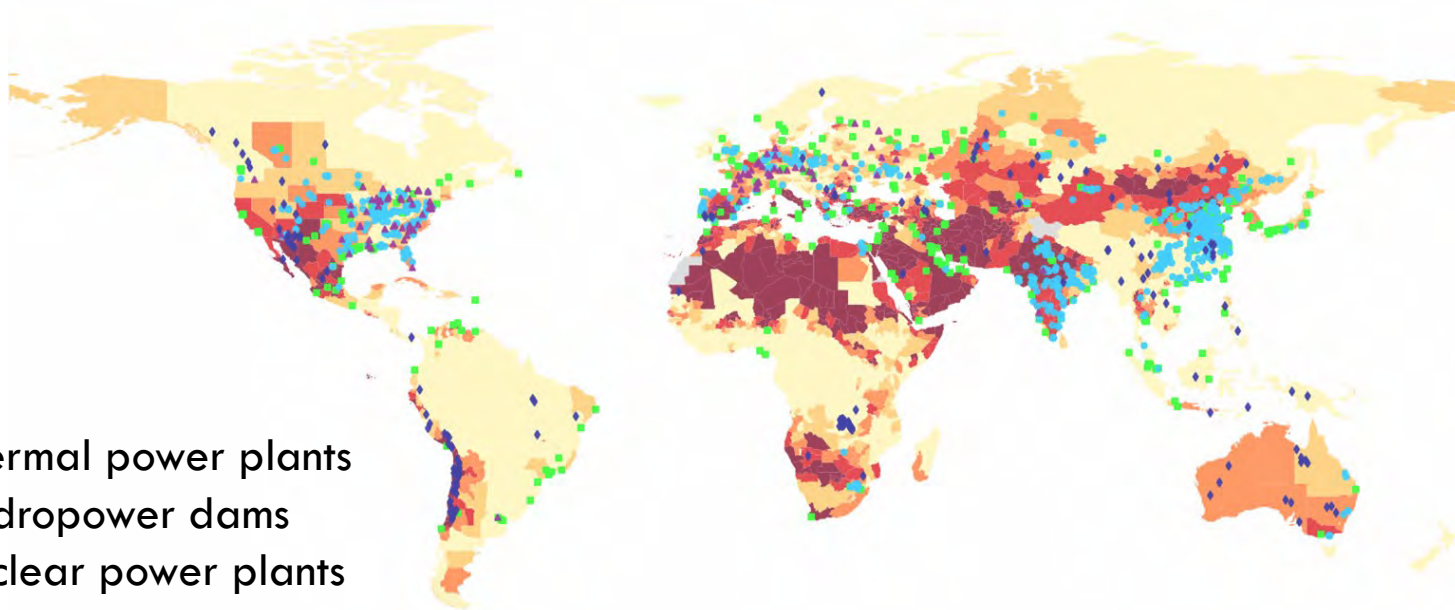


# Streamflow 2021



**Streamflow in 2021 w.r.t. the hydrological normal for 515 basins  
(calculated based on 30 years historic data)**

# Climate change is a challenge for energy



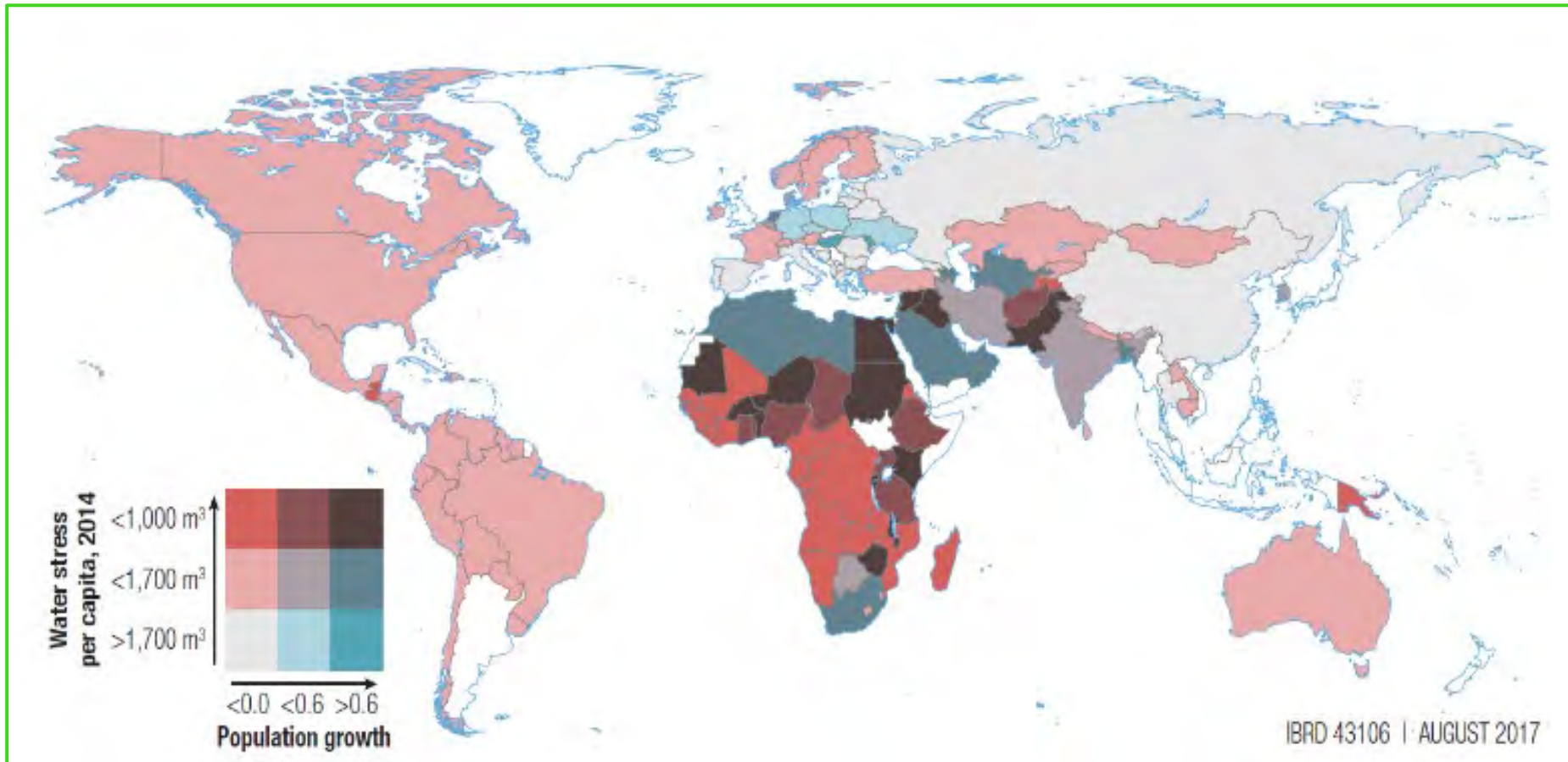
**33%** of thermal power plants  
**26%** of hydropower dams  
**15%** of nuclear power plants

located in **high water stress areas**

Low (< 10%) Low-medium (10-20%) Medium-high (20-40%) High (40-80%) Extremely high (> 80%)  
Thermal power plants Nuclear power plants Refineries Copper mines

(IEA, IAEA)

# Water availability & population growth 2050

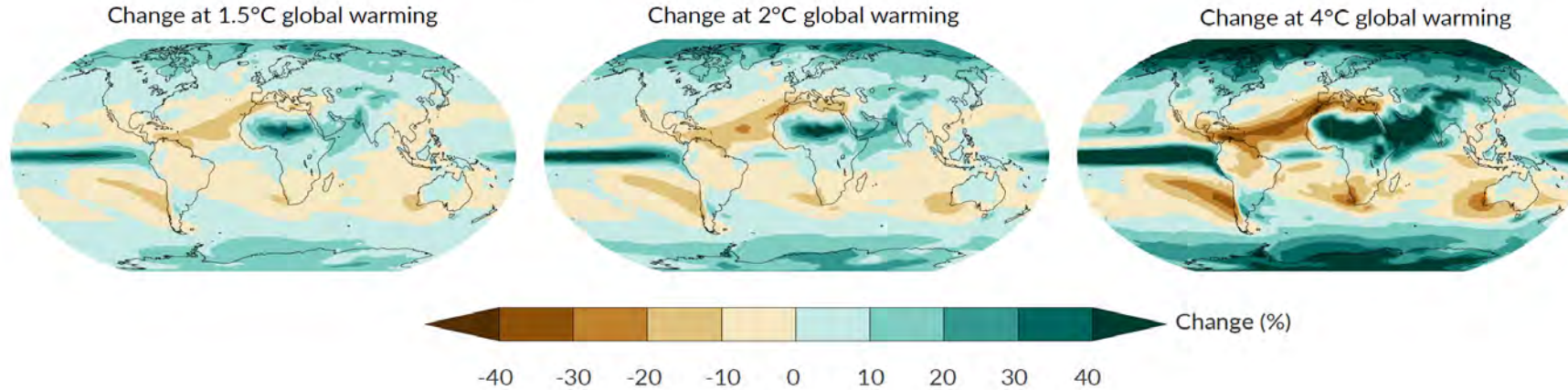


About **4 billion people**, representing nearly two-thirds of the world population, **experience severe water scarcity** during at least **one month of the year**

# Rainfall & soil moisture versus future warming

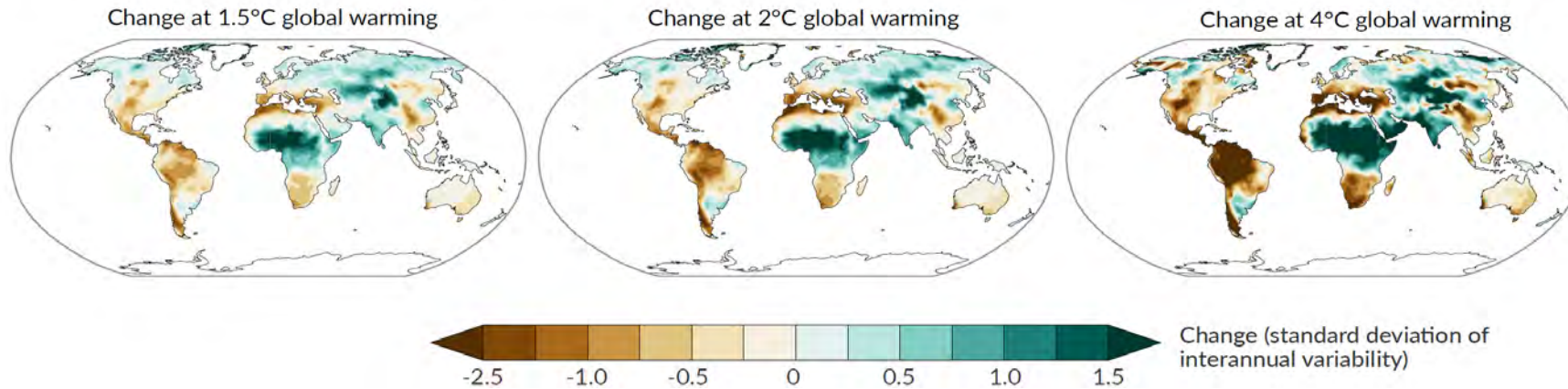
c) Annual mean precipitation change (%) relative to 1850-1900 at three global warming levels

Precipitation increases over high latitudes, tropical oceans and parts of the monsoon regions but decreases over parts of the subtropics.

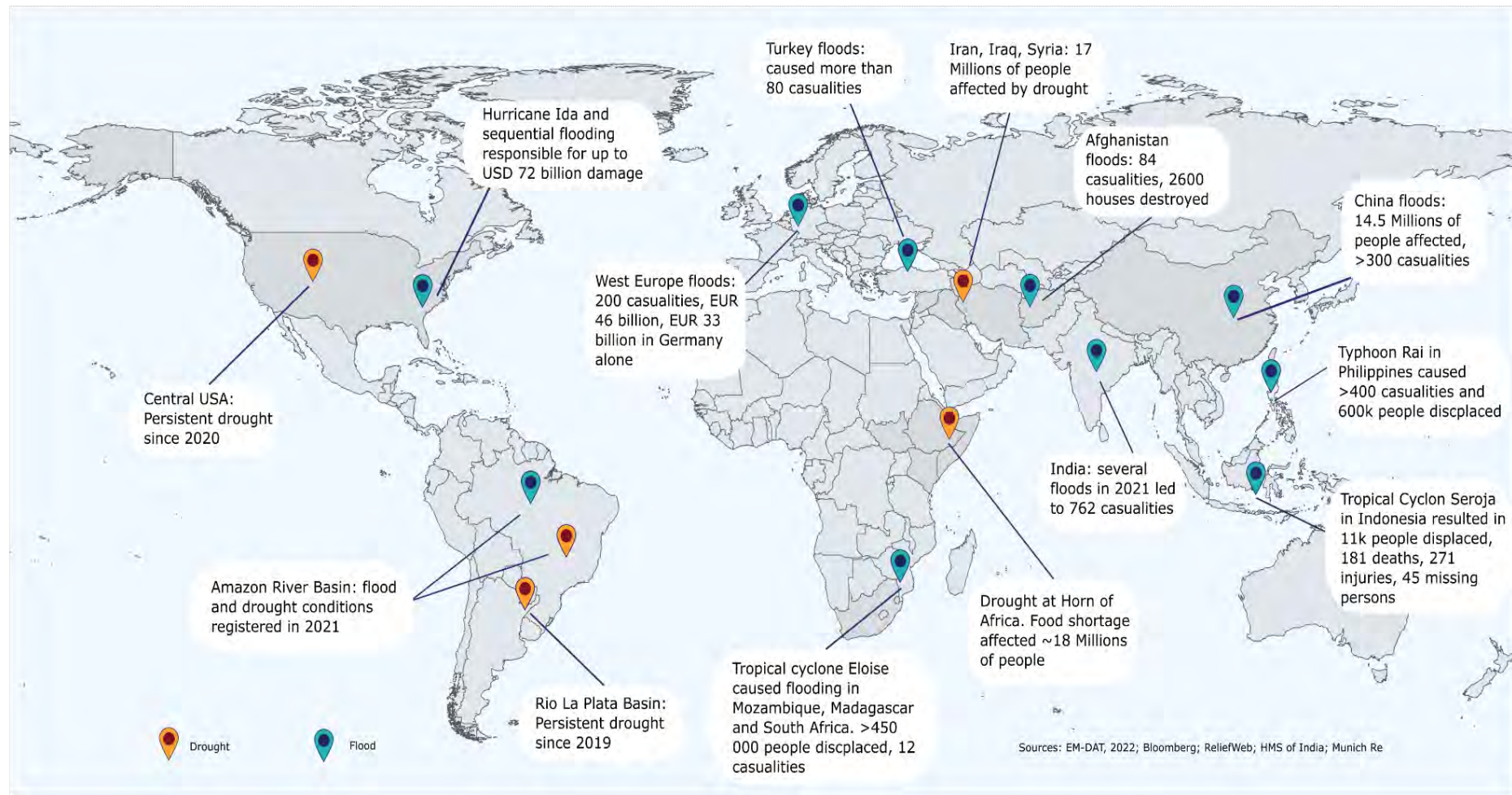


d) Annual mean soil moisture change (sd) (standard deviation of interannual variability) relative to 1850-1900 at three global warming levels

Across warming levels changes in soil moisture largely follow changes in precipitation but also show some differences due to the influence of evapotranspiration.



# High Impact Water Events 2021



Information on the events was collected from EM-DAT



# Think big and model small



## Ambitious partnership needed for reliable climate prediction

Current global climate models struggle to represent precipitation and related extreme events, with serious implications for the physical evidence base to support climate actions. A leap to kilometre-scale models could overcome this shortcoming but requires collaboration on an unprecedented scale.

Julia Slingo, Paul Bates, Peter Bauer, Stephen Belcher, Tim Palmer, Graeme Stephens, Bjorn Stevens, Thomas Stocker and Georg Teutsch

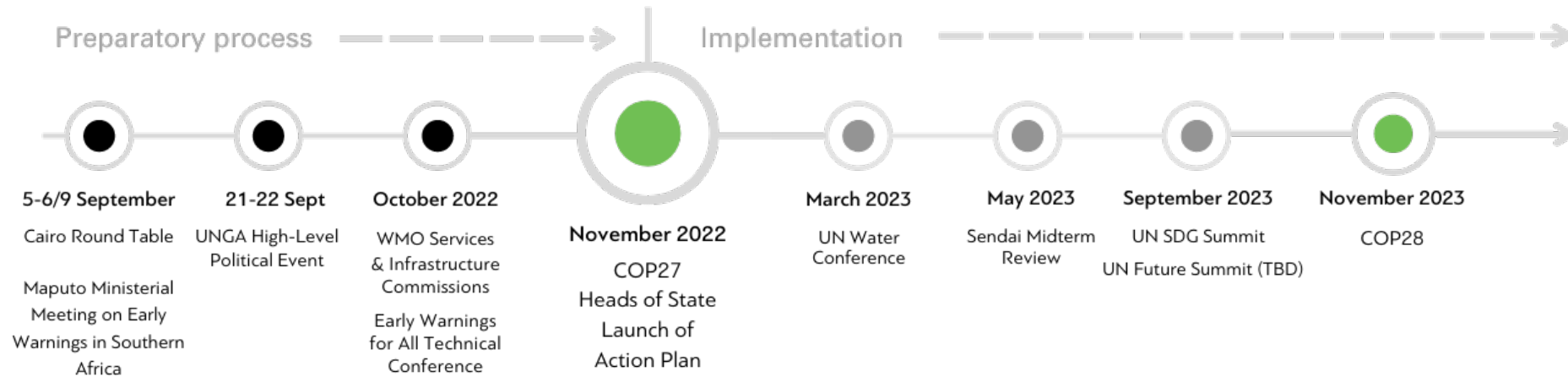


Water is Earth's life blood and fundamental to our future. Hydro-meteorological extremes (storms, floods and droughts) are among the costliest impacts of climate change, and changes in the seasonality and natural variability of precipitation can have profound effects on many living systems, in turn threatening our food security, water security, health and infrastructure investments. Yet the current generation of global climate models struggles to represent precipitation and related extreme events, especially on local and regional scales<sup>1,2</sup>. The model precipitation biases are substantial in both space and time, and in the tropics they overwhelm the projected signal of climate change<sup>3</sup>. Despite decades of enormous efforts by the community, these biases have remained stubbornly intractable<sup>1,2</sup> (Box 1). Consequently, future scenarios of precipitation remain very uncertain in the IPCC assessments so far<sup>4</sup>. As water is an essential resource for humans



**Fig. 1 | The realism of k-scale global climate modelling.** Snapshot of clouds from a simulation with a global k-scale climate model, showing the detailed structures of tropical clouds, mid-latitude storms and evidence of MCSs across West Africa and the US Great Plains<sup>10</sup>. Base map provided by NASA's Earth Observatory.

# Milestones to COP27 and beyond



# Summary & conclusions

- Implementation of the Early warning services for all is a major opportunity to improve impact-based MHEWS & integration of hydrometeorological services of ~100 Members 2023-27
- There is a need to invest in hydrological observing infrastructures and promote free exchange of data
- There is a need for km-scale climate modelling to improve cloud physics, hydrological cycle and weather extremes scenarios





Thank you

ありがとう

شكرا لكم

Thank you

Gracias

Merci

Спасибо

谢谢



WMO OMM

World Meteorological Organization  
Organisation météorologique mondiale