

# CLIMATE POLICY IMPROVES AIR QUALITY AND SAVES LIVES

AN INTEGRATED POLICY PERSPECTIVE WILL PREVENT TECHNOLOGICAL LOCK-IN AND WILL MAXIMISE GAINS FOR GLOBAL CLIMATE AND LOCAL HEALTH

## Clean Air locally

Local air pollutants are particularly damaging for human health by affecting the functioning of lungs, heart and brain.

## Better health

Climate policy has co-benefits for air quality leading to lower mortality, reduced sickness and improved agricultural crop yields.

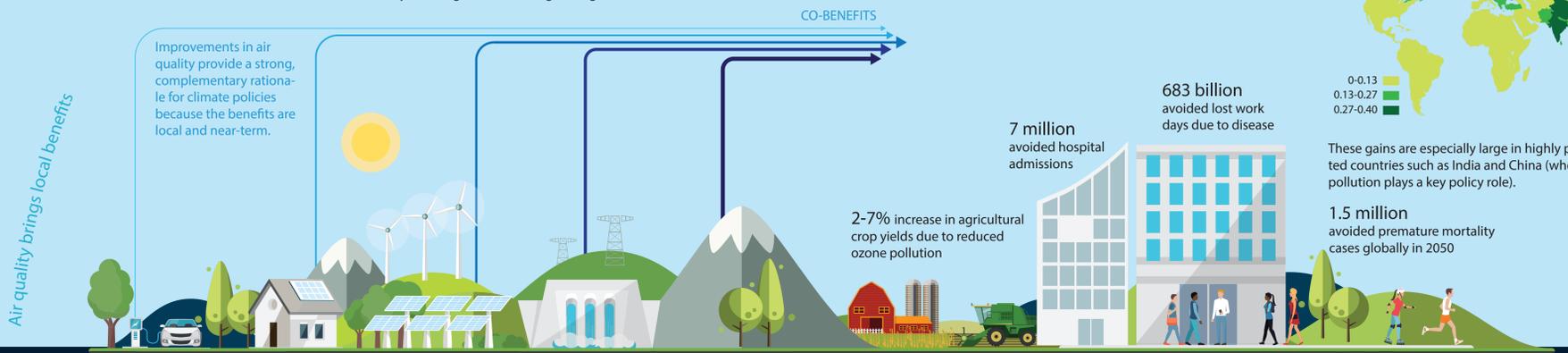
## Avoided premature mortality

Due to 2°C climate policy (per 1000 people in 2050)



These gains are especially large in highly polluted countries such as India and China (where air pollution plays a key policy role).

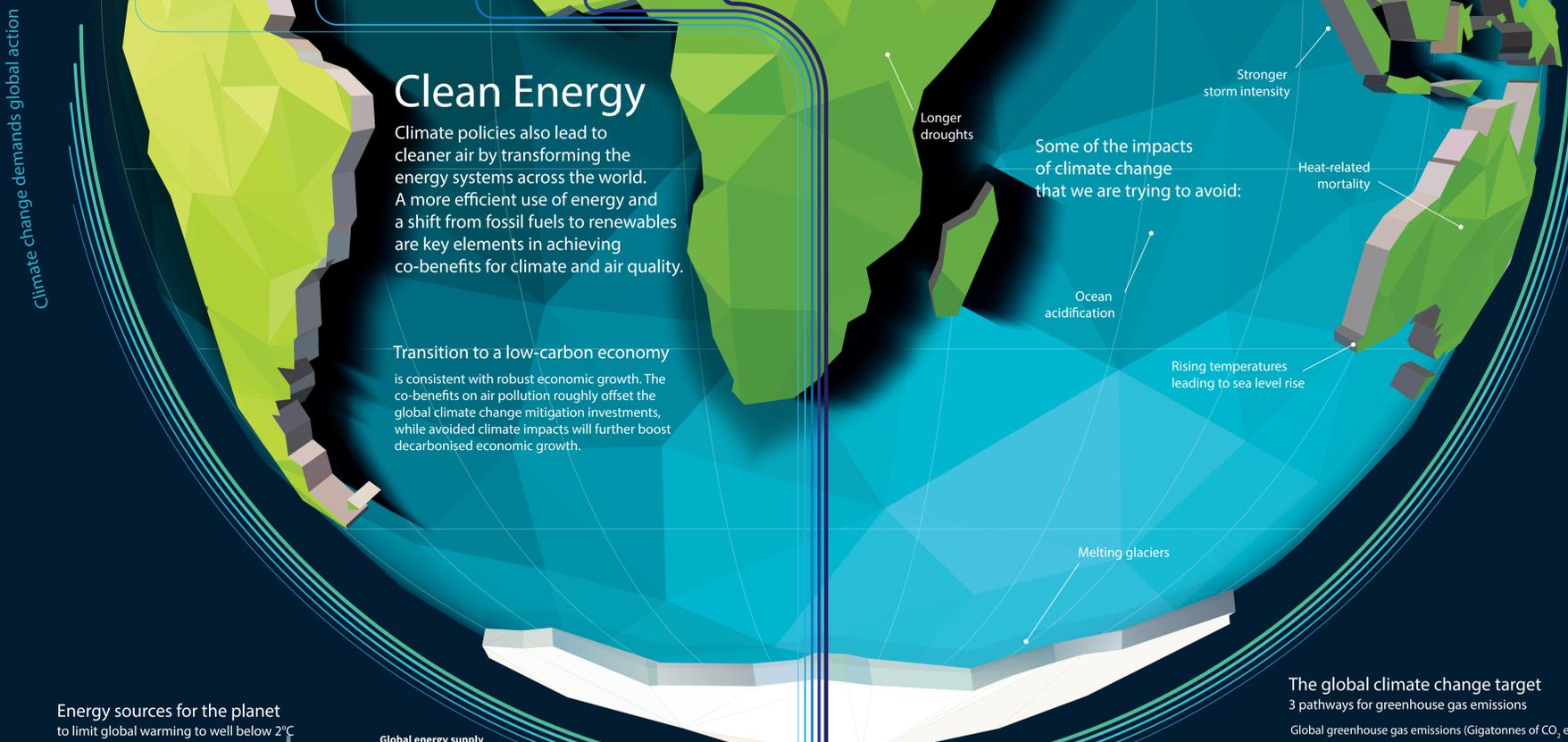
1.5 million avoided premature mortality cases globally in 2050



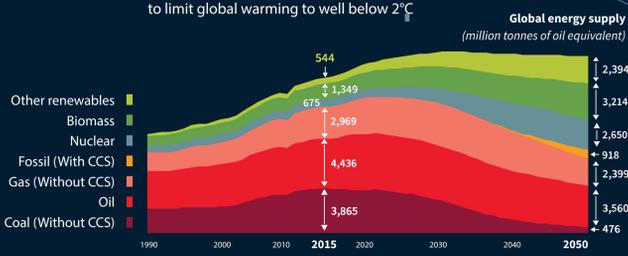
## Clean Energy

Climate policies also lead to cleaner air by transforming the energy systems across the world. A more efficient use of energy and a shift from fossil fuels to renewables are key elements in achieving co-benefits for climate and air quality.

Transition to a low-carbon economy is consistent with robust economic growth. The co-benefits on air pollution roughly offset the global climate change mitigation investments, while avoided climate impacts will further boost decarbonised economic growth.



## Energy sources for the planet to limit global warming to well below 2°C



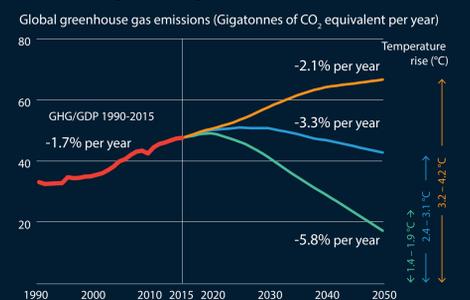
Global energy supply (million tonnes of oil equivalent in the figure above) has been expanding over the past decades. Bringing the world onto a pathway consistent with global warming well below 2°C can be reconciled with meeting growing energy demand up to 2030 and stabilising afterwards, but requires a shift from fossil fuels without carbon capture and storage (CCS) to low-carbon energy sources.

## Reducing greenhouse gases

An integrated policy perspective unlocks the potential to achieve multiple goals simultaneously.

## The global climate change target

3 pathways for greenhouse gas emissions



Currently implemented policies imply a more rapid decarbonisation of the global economy (rate of decrease of greenhouse gases per aggregated Gross Domestic Product in the figure above) than observed in the past 25 years but lead to 3.2 - 4.2°C warming by 2100.

**INDC**  
The Paris pledges or Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) change the historic course of emissions but are insufficient to reach the climate target.

**Below 2°C**  
Limiting global warming to well below 2°C leads to an early peak of global emissions and requires substantial decoupling of greenhouse gas emissions and economic growth.



## Climate policies

International cooperation to reach GLOBAL CLIMATE GOALS



Paris Agreement 2015

