



**Human Rights and Climate Change:  
The Way Forward to Sustainable Development**

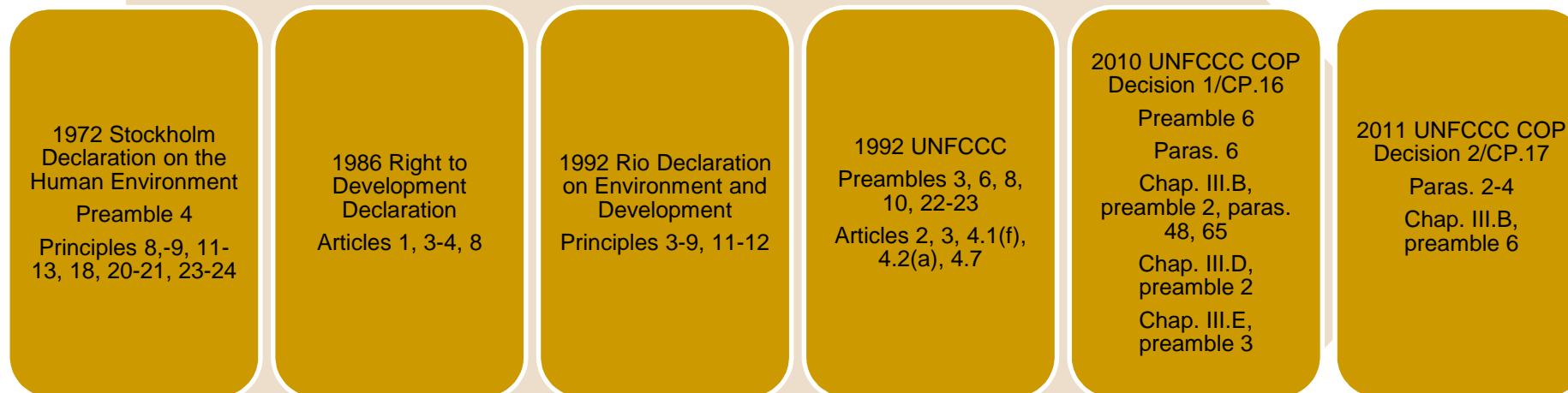
**Human Rights Council Seminar  
“Addressing the Adverse Effects of Climate Change on the  
Full Enjoyment of Human Rights”**

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Geneva

## Development, Environment and Climate Change

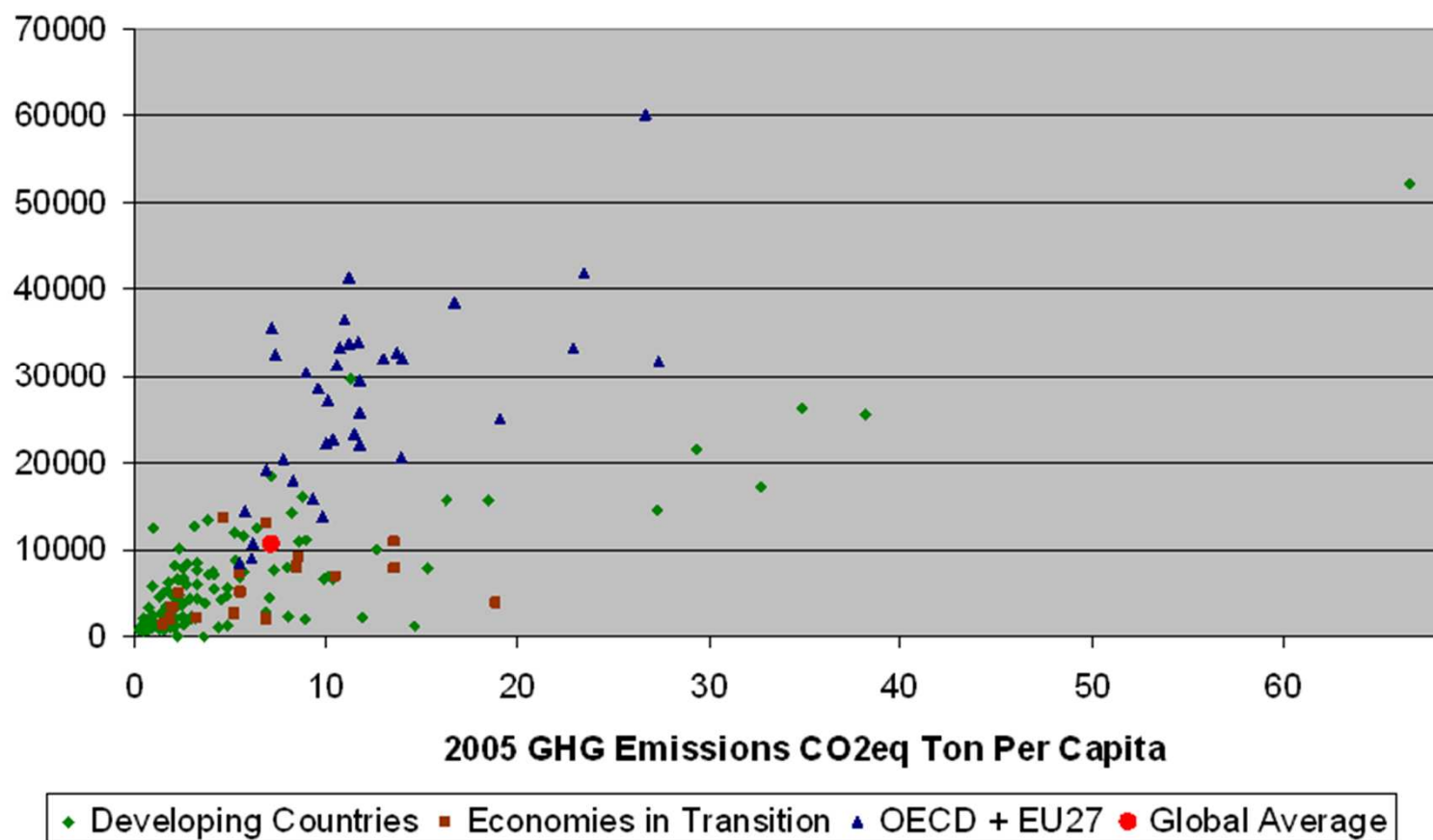
The linkage has long been recognized from 1972 to the present



How do we operationalize this linkage?

## Why Equity is Important in Addressing Climate Change and Sustainable Development

2005 GDP-CO<sub>2</sub>eq per Capita Matrix

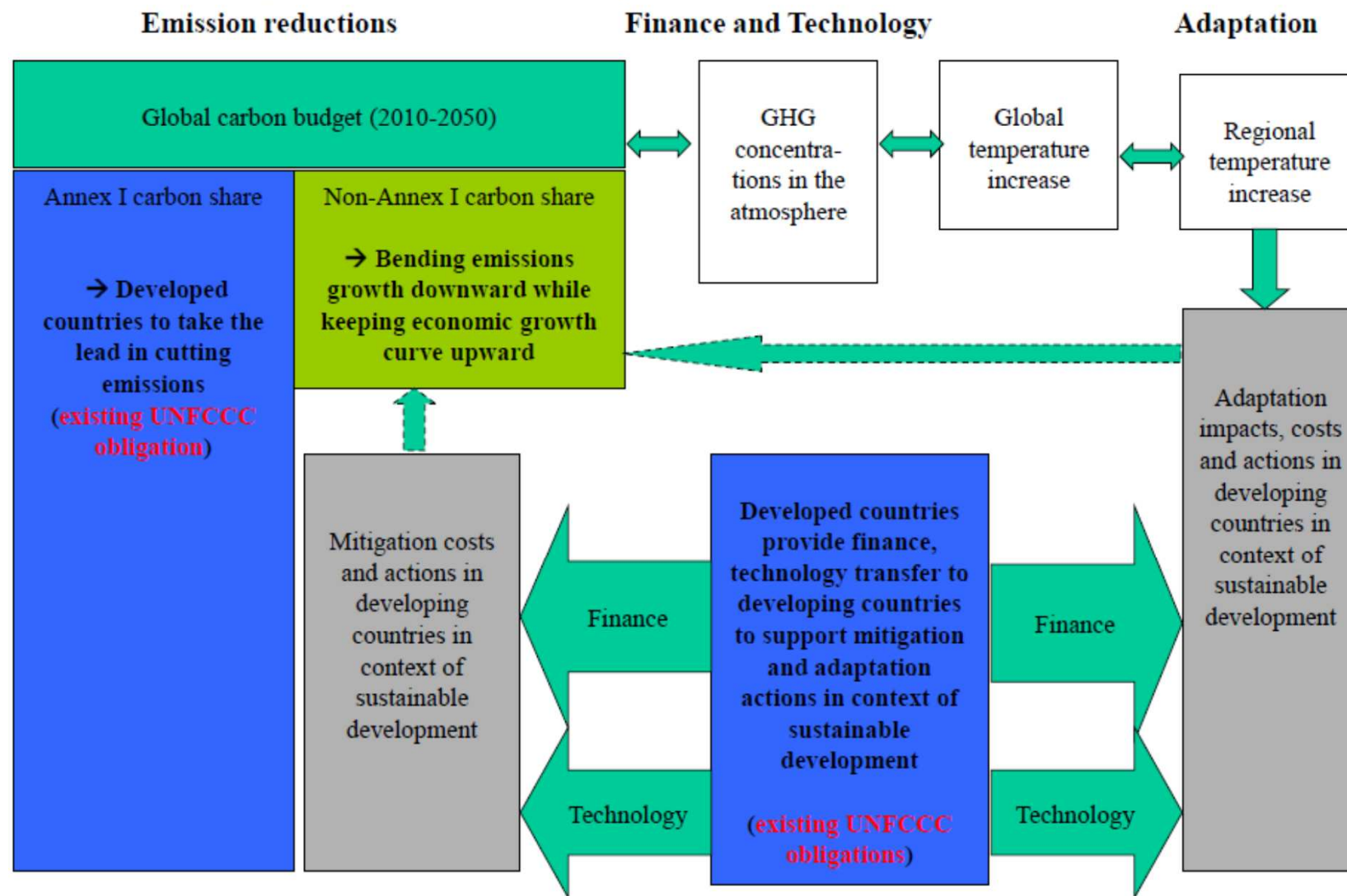


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**Stabilization is needed for human society to survive and human rights to be respected**

- 2C – the dividing line between dangerous and catastrophic (irreversible) climate change. We are now at around 0.7C above pre-industrial levels, with already serious adverse effects on developing countries, and most likely will exceed 2C at current levels of mitigation ambition from developed and developing countries
  - All countries must contribute equitably under the UNFCCC to achieving the global objective of stabilization of GHG atmospheric concentrations below dangerous levels within a timeframe that allows for natural ecosystem adaptation, food security, and sustainable development
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## Equity and Sustainable Development in the Context of Climate Change



## NA1 Per Capita Emission Cuts

Assuming:

- 50% global cut and 80% Annex 1 cut by 2050 relative to 1990
- UN-projected population growth to 2050
- Using IPCC SRES 2000 emission projections to 2050

Unit	NAI Per Capita Emissions 1990	NAI Per Capita Emissions Budget 2050	% Deviation from Per Capita 1990	% Deviation from BAU Per Capita IPCC A1B	% Deviation from BAU Per Capita IPCC A2	% Deviation from BAU Per Capita IPCC B1	% Deviation from BAU Per Capita IPCC B2
Ton C	0.71	0.34	<b>-52.2%</b>	<b>-77.33%</b>	<b>-75.71%</b>	<b>-69.10%</b>	<b>-59.03%</b>
Ton CO <sub>2</sub>	2.62	1.25					

## NA1 Aggregate Emission Cuts by 2050 Relative to IPCC SRES 2000 as BAU Projections

Unit	NAI Aggregate Emissions Budget 2050 (50% Global less 80% Annex I)	NAI Aggregate Emissions 1990		IPCC SRES 2000 Emission Scenarios for 2050							
		Difference from 1990	% Deviation from 1990	A1B		A2		B1		B2	
				Difference from BAU	% Deviation from BAU	Difference from BAU	% Deviation from BAU	Difference from BAU	% Deviation from BAU	Difference from BAU	% Deviation from BAU
GTC	2.72	-0.25	<b>-8.4</b>	-9.25	<b>-77.28</b>	-8.44	<b>-75.63</b>	-6.12	<b>-69.23</b>	-3.88	<b>-58.79</b>
GTCO2	9.97	-0.92		-33.92		-30.95		-22.45		-14.23	

Required calculated deviation for developing countries based more recent BAU emission projection studies would be even steeper – e.g. **-83%** from BAU under IEA WEO 2009 projections; **-94%** from BAU under 2008 Garnaut Review

## Defining Global Peak Year Defines When Developing Countries Peak



Global Peak Year	Annex 1 Reduction Level by 2020	Projected Developing Country Peak Year
<b>2015</b> (39% chance of exceeding 2C above pre-industrial temperature by 2050)	Cancun lower (11% below 1990)	<b>2015</b>
	Cancun higher (16% below 1990)	<b>2016</b>
	G77 minimum demand (40% below 1990)	<b>2018</b>
<b>2017</b> (49% chance of exceeding 2C above pre-industrial temperature by 2050)	Cancun lower (11% below 1990)	<b>2023</b>
	Cancun higher (16% below 1990)	<b>2023</b>
	G77 minimum demand (40% below 1990)	<b>2021</b>
<b>2020</b> (61% chance of exceeding 2C above pre-industrial temperature by 2050)	Cancun lower (11% below 1990)	<b>2025</b>
	Cancun higher (16% below 1990)	<b>2025</b>
	G77 minimum demand (40% below 1990)	<b>2024</b>



## **Economic Implications of Emission Cuts for Developing Countries**

Historically, in the period 1990 to 2005, per capita GDP-emissions correlation for developing countries was 0.74

**1% GDP per capita growth = 0.74% emissions per capita growth**

Assuming:

- Historical per capita GDP and emission growth rates from 1990 to 2005 and correlation for developing countries
- Current levels of energy technology in developing countries
- High financing requirements of developing countries for mitigation and adaptation, but without adequate technology transfer and financing being provided to developing countries (as is currently the case and seems likely to be the case despite Cancun and Durban decisions re technology transfer and GCF)

**Imposing limits to developing countries' per capita emissions growth could mean imposing limits to developing countries' GDP per capita growth**

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**Human Rights and Climate Change:  
Ensuring Human Rights and Climate Adaptation through Sustainable Development**

- Human rights protection, effective climate adaptation, and increased climate resilience can be best ensured through **achievement of sustainable development**.
  - Achieve the right to sustainable development in the context of climate change by linking of 1972 Stockholm Declaration principles, 1986 RTD Declaration, 1992 Rio Declaration principles, through **effective implementation of UNFCCC**, ensuring human rights are protected in the process and reflecting equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities
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## Human Rights and Climate Change: Ensuring Human Rights and Climate Adaptation through Sustainable Development

- There is continuing need for international solidarity and cooperation under UNFCCC:
  - **Developed countries take the lead in higher mitigation ambition** – to change long-term trends including in changing consumption patterns
  - **Developing countries to contribute to mitigation appropriately in the context of their sustainable development** priorities and circumstances (including macroeconomic development and industrial policy goals and objectives), to be supported by:
    - **Climate financing from developed countries** at scales more than \$30B from 2010-2012 and up to \$100B/yr by 2020 – e.g. UNDESA WESS 2011 estimated US\$1.1 Trillion/year for investments in mitigation, adaptation, food security, sustainable development in developing countries from 2010 to 2050 (less than the annual cost of military expenditures from 2002-2010, or the total bailouts from the 2008 financial crisis)
    - **Technology transfer from developed countries** (including financing) – for technology infrastructure shift and endogenous technology development (facilitative mechanisms and elimination of barriers)
    - **Adaptation support from developed countries** for developing countries linked to development objectives
    - **Developing an enabling and supportive international policy environment** – coherent approaches to international trade, finance, intellectual property, ODA policies to support sustainable development in developing countries

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