

**Ecologic Institute**  
Science and Policy  
for a Sustainable World



# **Mitigation in the EU, globally and in the spirit of the upcoming UN Climate Conference in New York**

**Matthias Duwe**  
**Ecologic Institute, Berlin**  
**17 September 2019**

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## What I will cover

- Global action – where do we stand?
- Next steps – review under the “NDC Cycle”
- The EU situation

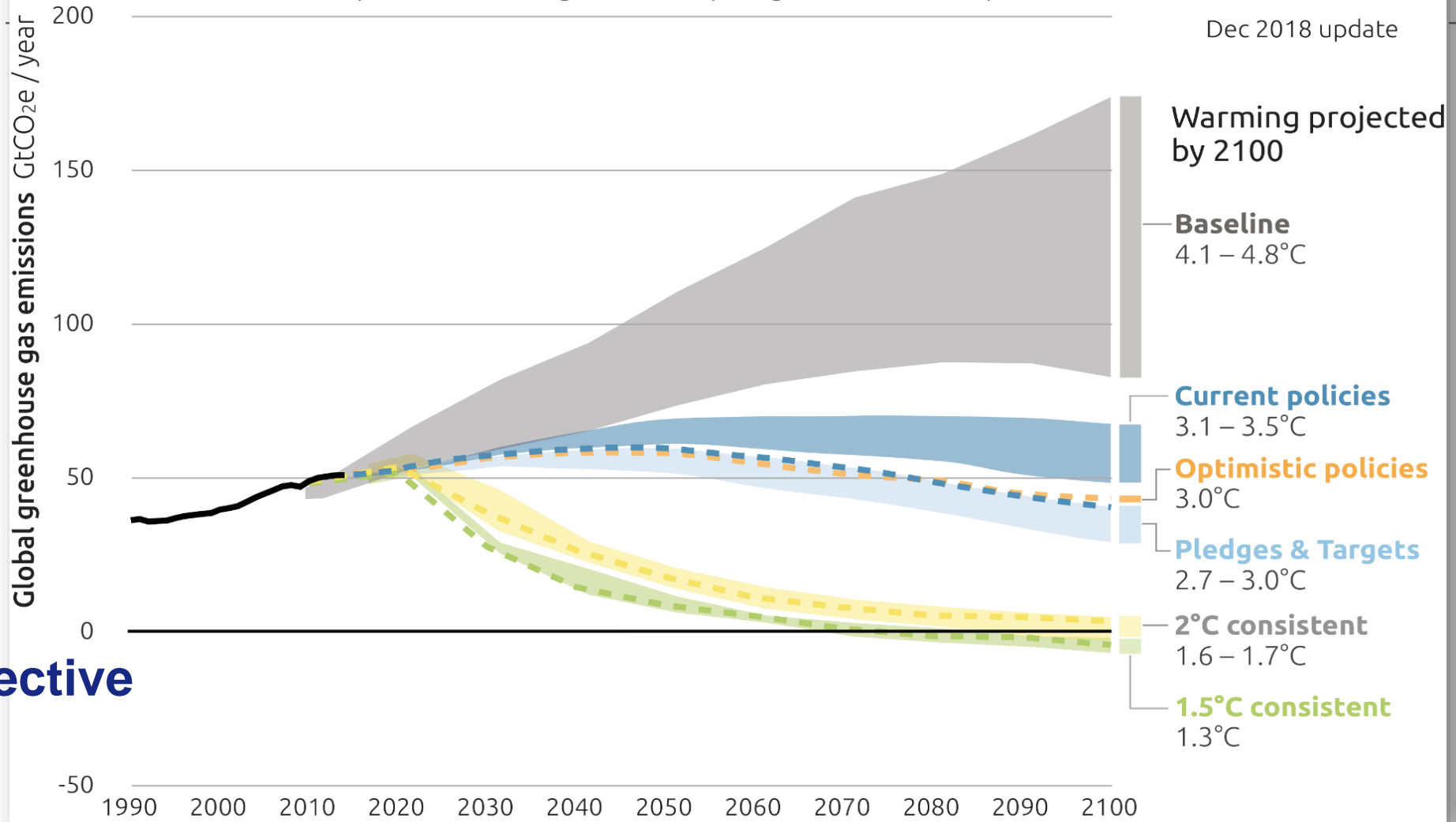


## 2100 WARMING PROJECTIONS

Emissions and expected warming based on pledges and current policies



Dec 2018 update

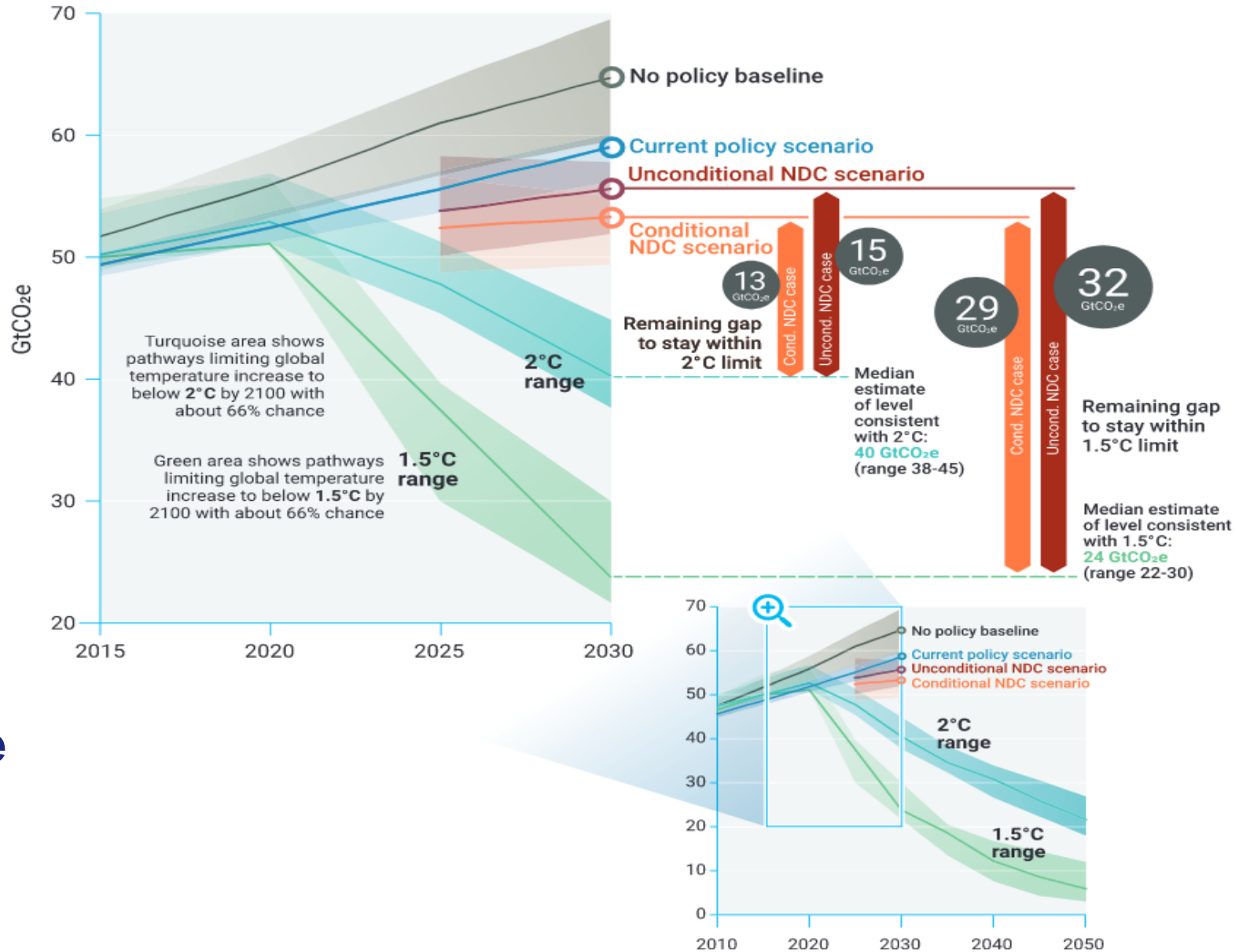


Where do we stand?

2100 perspective

Source: CAT (2018)

**Figure 3.1:** Global greenhouse gas emissions under different scenarios and the emissions gap in 2030 (median estimate and 10<sup>th</sup> to 90<sup>th</sup> percentile range).



Where do we stand?

2030 perspective

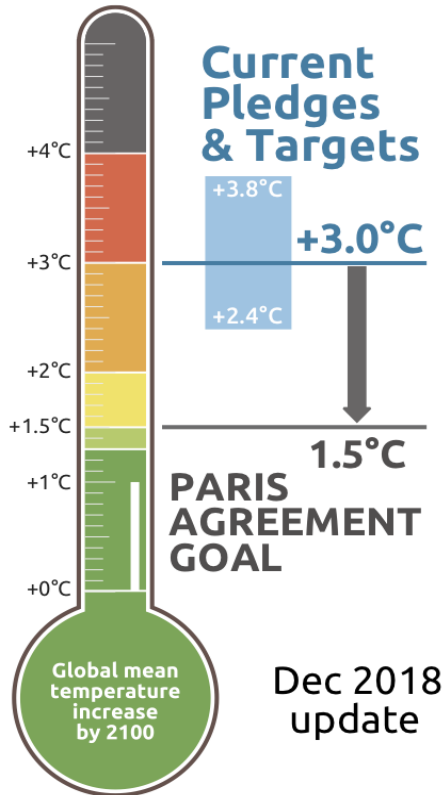
Source: UNEP (2018)  
Emission Gap Report

# Where do we stand? Who's doing what...

## Governments must strengthen their Paris targets

June 2019 Update 

Governments are scheduled to update their Paris Agreement targets (NDCs) by 2020 and must be ambitious. To keep the 1.5°C goal alive, they need to take radical steps and halve global emissions by 2030.



Source: CAT (2019)

4°C+ World	< 4°C World	< 3°C World	< 2°C World	< 1.5°C World	<< 1.5°C World
<b>CRITICALLY INSUFFICIENT</b>	<b>HIGHLY INSUFFICIENT</b>	<b>INSUFFICIENT</b>	<b>2°C COMPATIBLE</b>	<b>1.5°C PARIS AGREEMENT COMPATIBLE</b>	<b>ROLE MODEL</b>
RUSSIA	ARGENTINA	AUSTRALIA	BHUTAN	MOROCCO	0 Countries
SAUDI ARABIA	CHILE	BRAZIL	COSTA RICA	THE GAMBIA	2 Countries
TURKEY	CHINA	CANADA	ETHIOPIA		
UKRAINE	INDONESIA	EU	INDIA		
USA	JAPAN	KAZAKHSTAN	PHILIPPINES		
	SINGAPORE	MEXICO			
	SOUTH AFRICA	NEW ZEALAND			
	SOUTH KOREA	NORWAY			
	UAE	PERU			
		SWITZERLAND			
5 Countries	9 Countries	10 Countries	5 Countries		

June 2019 update

**The vast majority of countries have insufficient targets that must be improved**

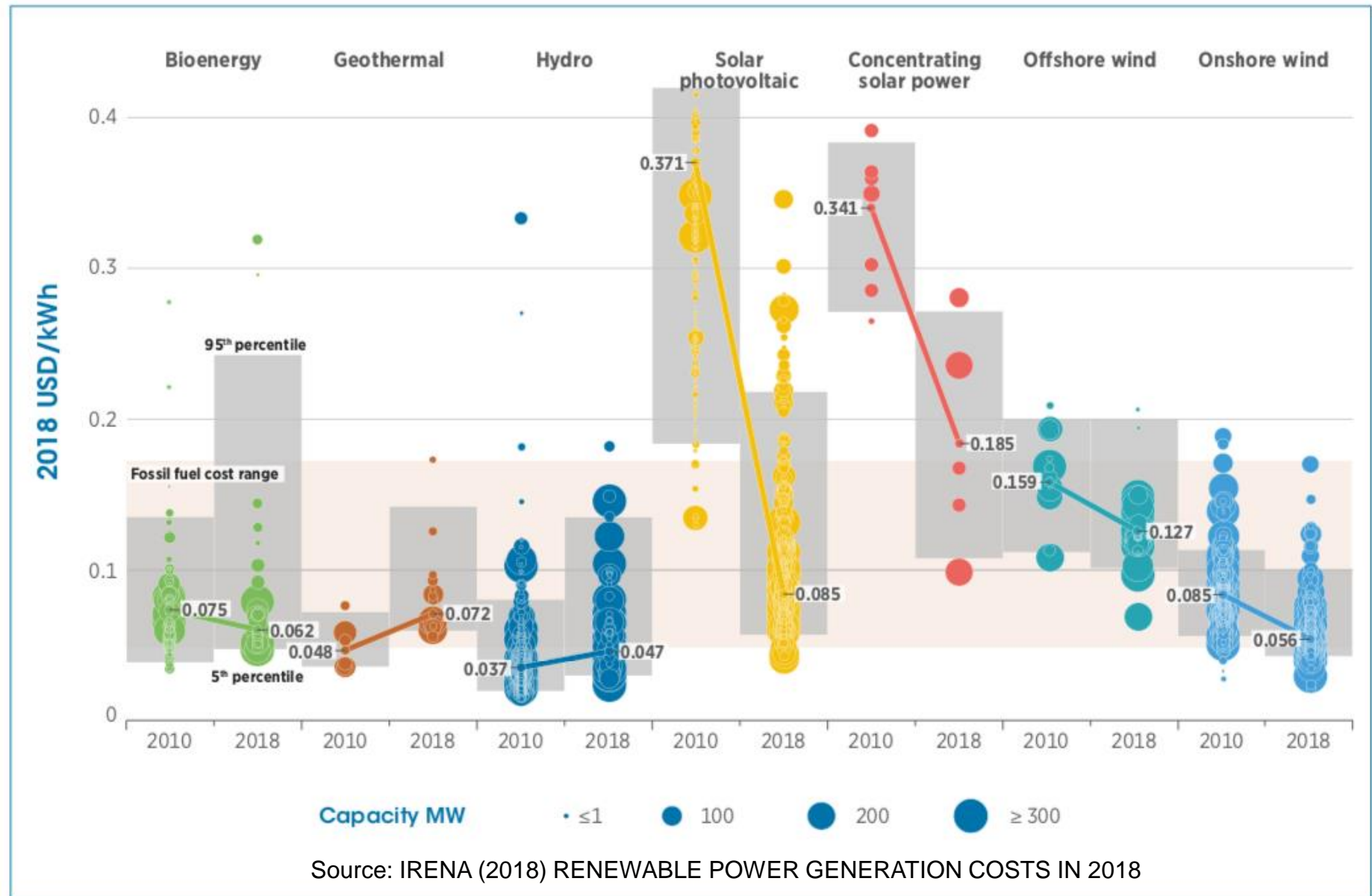
**Figure S.1** Global LCOE of utility-scale renewable power generation technologies, 2010–2018

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Where do we stand?

More is possible!  
Renewable energy prices going down



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## NDCs in the Paris Agreement

“Each Party shall **prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDC) that it intends to achieve.**”

(Art. 4.2)

“Each Party shall communicate a nationally determined contribution **every five years** (...) and be informed by the outcomes of the **global stocktake** referred to in Article 14.”

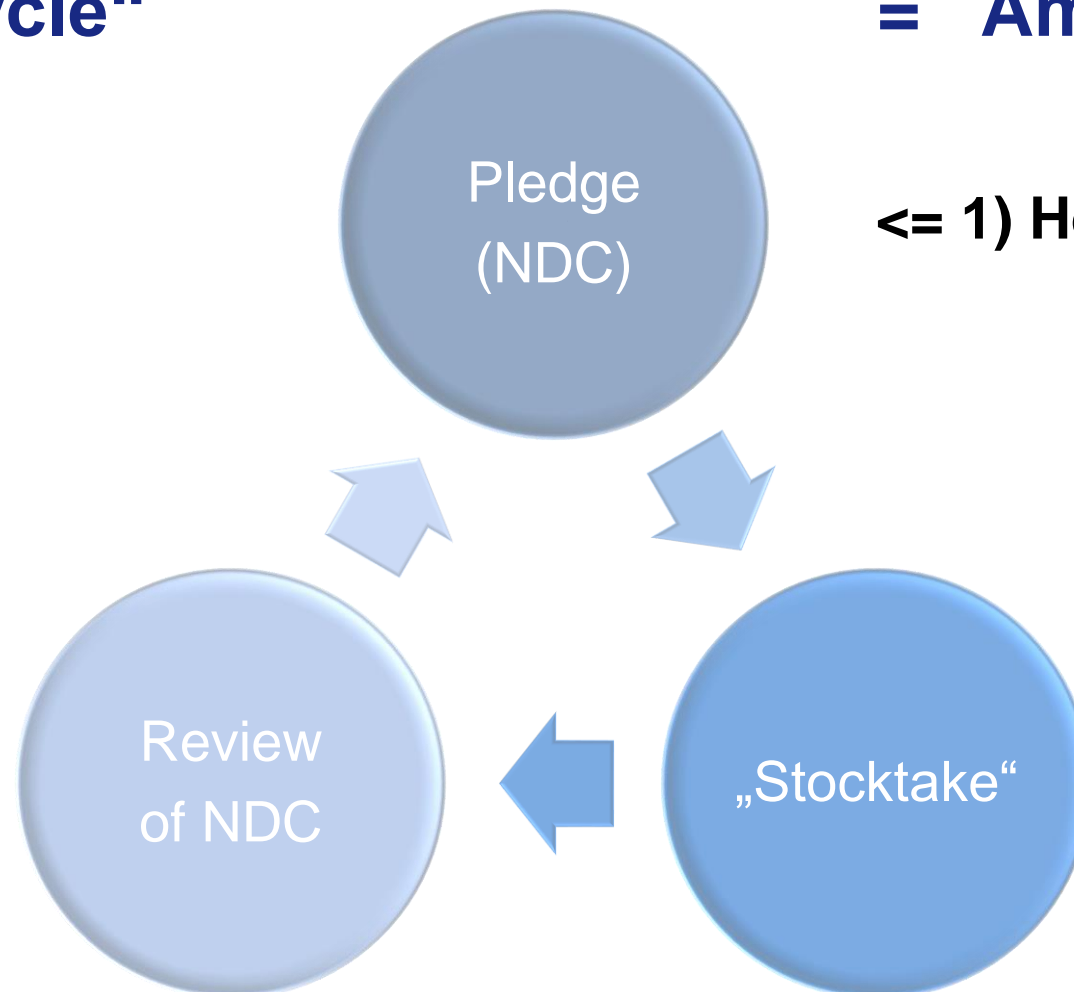
(Art. 4.9)

## The „NDC Cycle“

= **Ambition Mechanism**

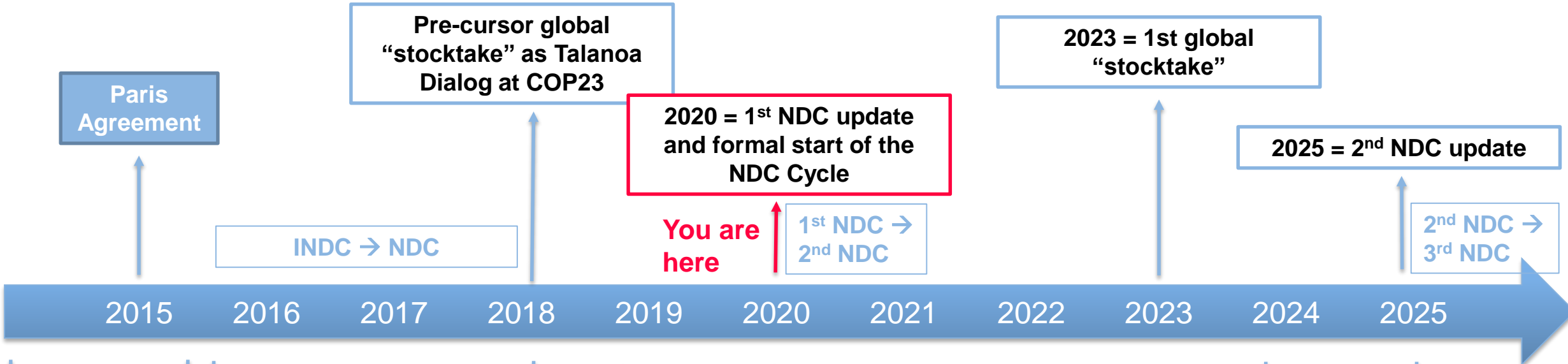
**<= 1) Here is what I can contribute!**

**3) Can I do more? =>**



**<= 2) Are we doing enough?**

# NDC timeline



Parties were invited to communicate **intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs)** in advance of COP 21.

Parties were invited to **communicate their first NDC no later than ratification time.**

Communicated **INDC became the first NDC**, unless Party decides otherwise.

Parties shall **submit their NDC for each cycle at least 9 to 12 months in advance** of the relevant session = early 2020...

Submission of 2<sup>nd</sup> NDC Update

*And so on ...*

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# The Paris Agreement is a gamble... has no guarantees

- How can it be made to work?
  - ▶ Step-by-step approach
  - ▶ Political nudging
  - ▶ Exchange experience, build capacity
  - ▶ Success stories: show it can be done...
  - ▶ Create political **opportunity moments**...

# UN Climate Action Summit 2019



# Who is willing to do more?

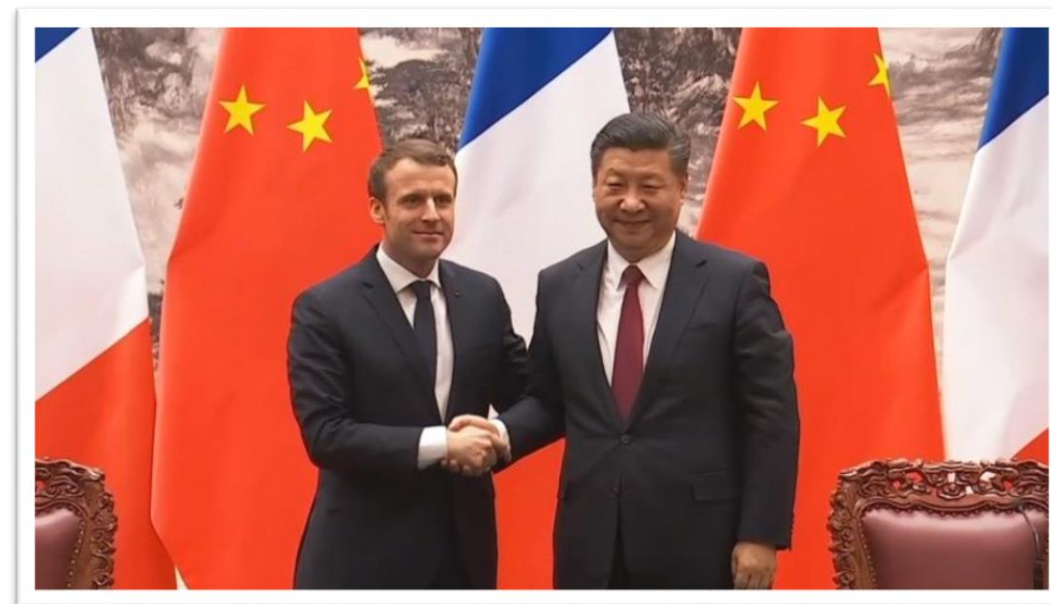


**India and France** “reaffirmed their commitment to update their nationally determined contributions in a manner representing a progression beyond the current one and reflecting their highest possible ambition.”

- *Joint statement, August 2019*

**China** committed to update its climate target “in a manner representing a progression beyond the current one”.

- *Press statement, June 2019*



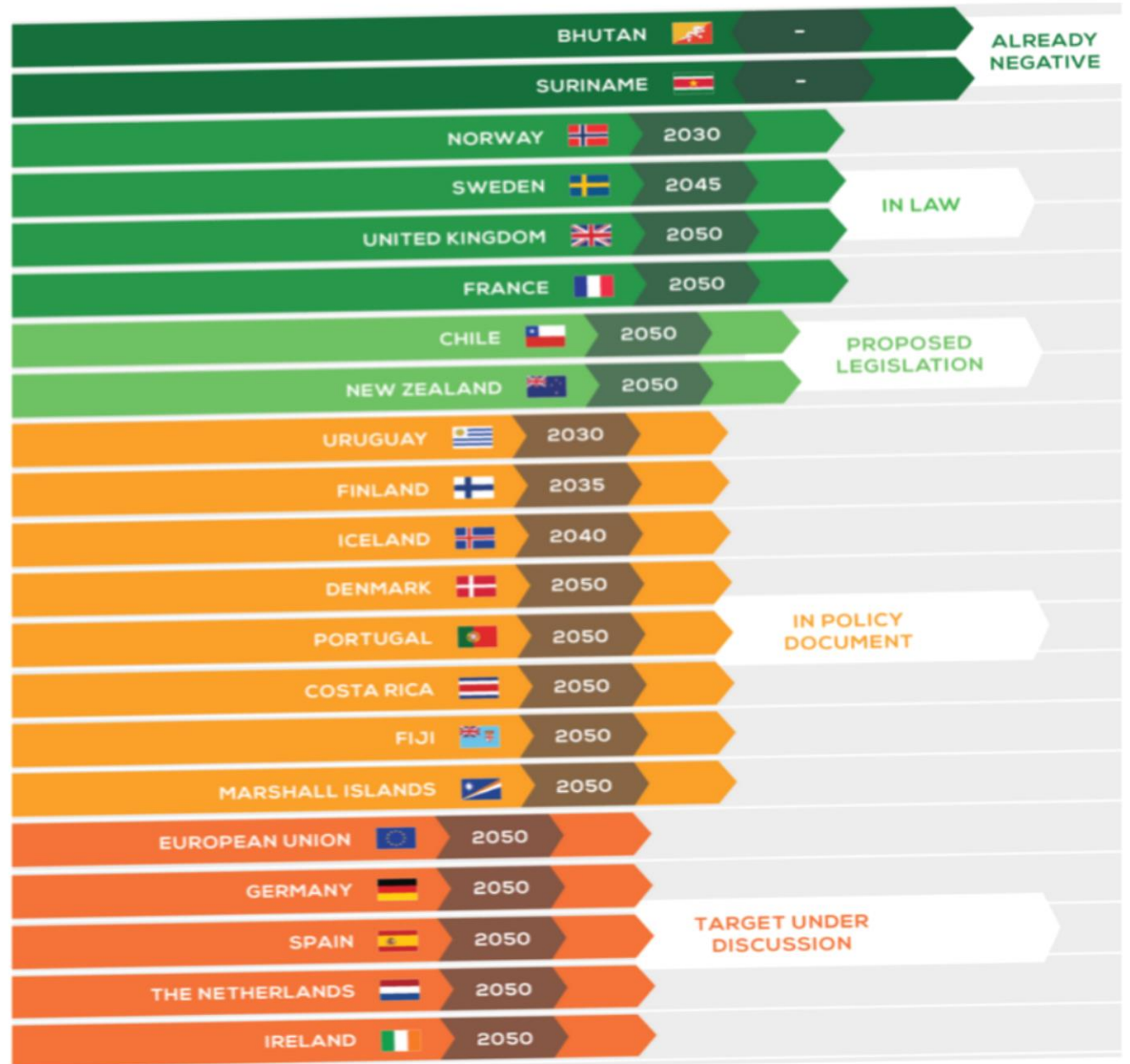
# Who is willing to do more?

**Switzerland** is planning on enhancing its national climate objectives for 2030 to achieve climate neutrality by 2050.  
- *NZZ, August 2019*



**Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark** and Iceland signed a declaration, committing to step up climate ambition by 2020 and enhance their NDCs.  
- *Declaration on Nordic Carbon Neutrality, January 2019*

# Global Net Zero Targets



Source: ECIU (2019)

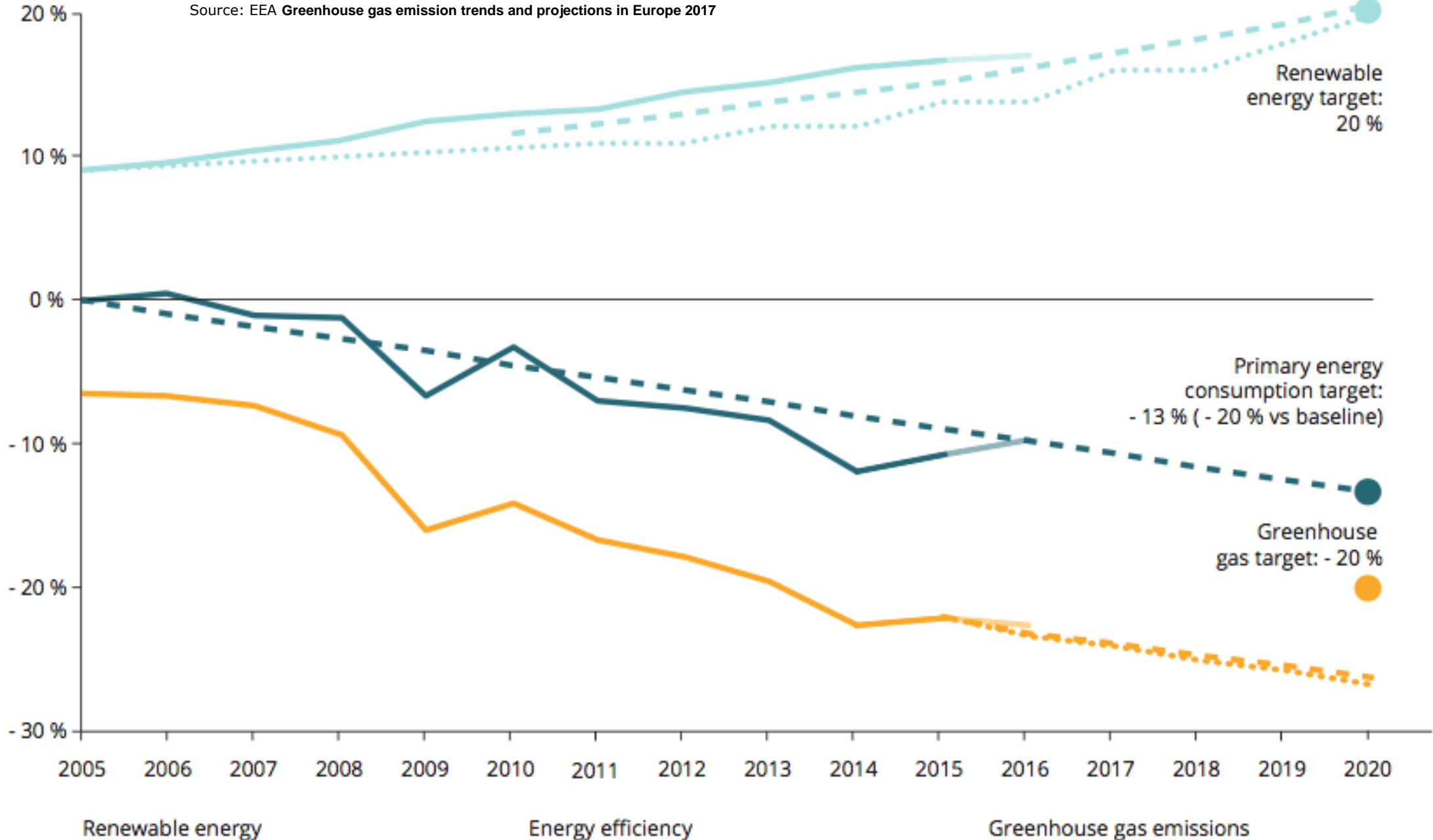
## The EU has been developing climate policy for 30 years

- EU started with climate change as a policy issue 30 years ago
- Linkages to UN level, often as a pioneer & influencer
- Regular target setting (2000, 2010, 2020, 2030... 2050)
- Emissions targets combined with renewables and efficiency
- TOOLBOX full of policies and measures developed

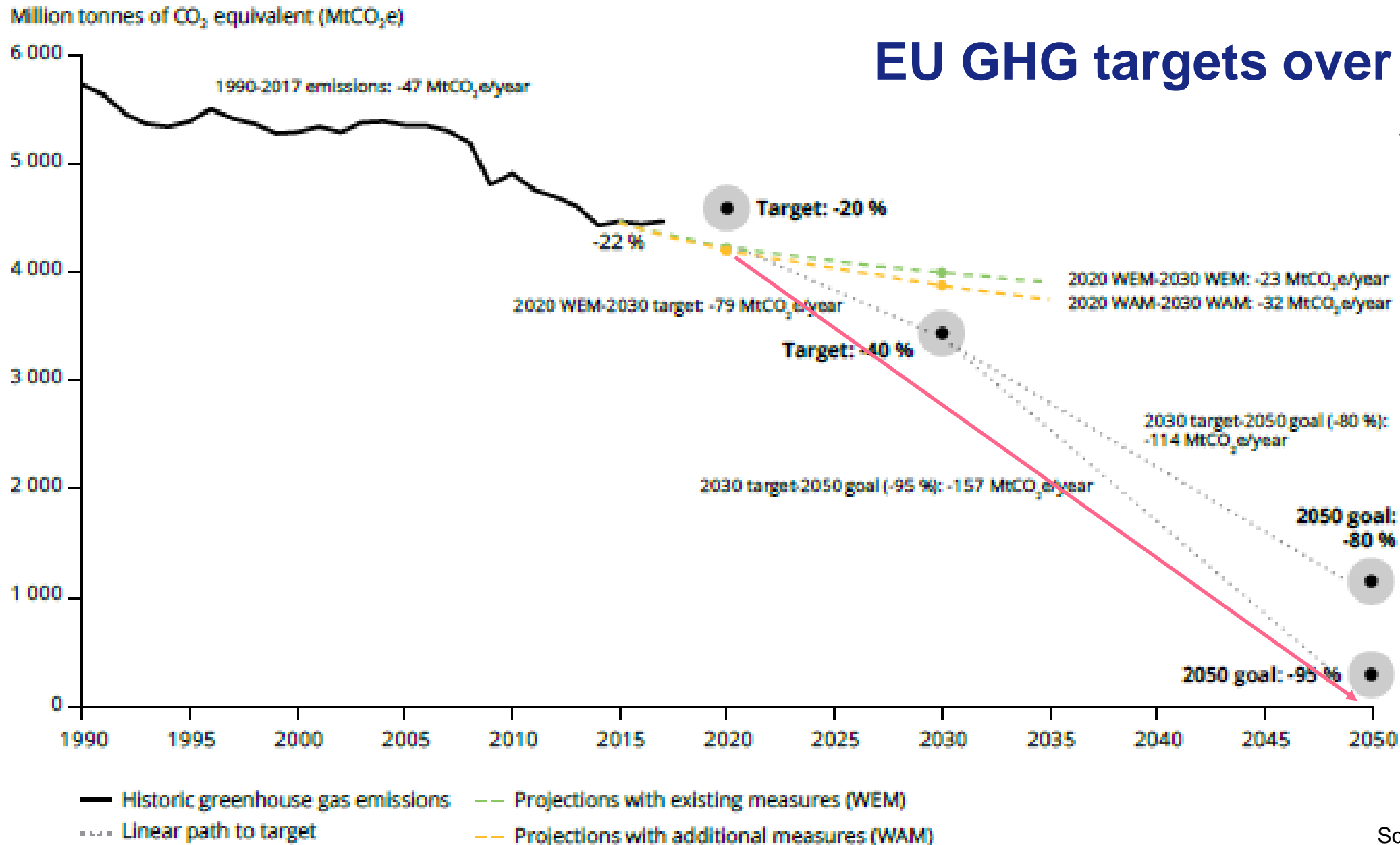


**Figure ES.1 EU progress towards 2020 climate and energy targets**

Source: EEA Greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe 2017



# EU GHG targets over time



Source: EEA 2018

# Who is willing to do more?

The **European Parliament** and a **number of EU member states** have already called for increasing the 2030 target to a 55% reduction.

– *EP, May 2019*



“Along with our climate-neutrality commitments for 2050, we have to be more ambitious when it comes to our 2030 emission reduction target. **This should increase to at least 50% by 2030, up from the 40% currently agreed.**”

Mission letter on “Green New Deal” by Ursula von der Leyen, President-elect of the European Commission

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## Essential messages

- The current level of global climate action is **insufficient** to stay below 2C
- More is possible, as **renewable energy becomes cheaper** than other sources
- The Paris Agreement provides a **framework** for continuous improvement
- Political **nudging** and incentives needed to get countries to do more
- **Signals exists** already from around the world for additional action
- **Support is growing** for an increase in ambition in the EU

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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

**Ecologic Institute**

**Pfalzburger Str. 43/44**

**10717 Berlin**

**Germany**

**Tel. +49 (30) 86880-0**

**[ecologic.eu](http://ecologic.eu)**