

Climatic change is still very much
with us...
despite what the skeptics say!

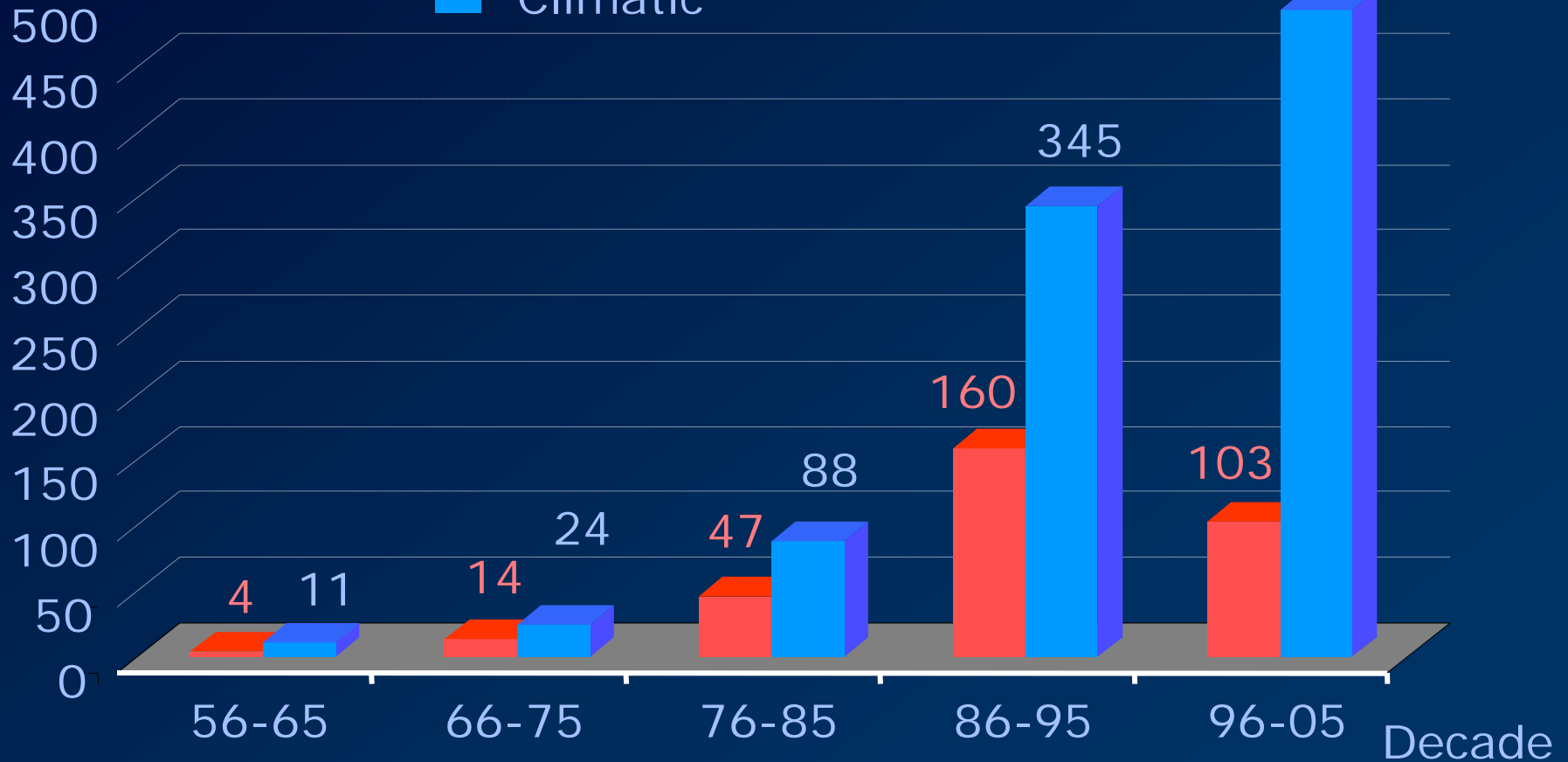
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Even in today's world, climate is a
costly business

Costs related to natural hazards

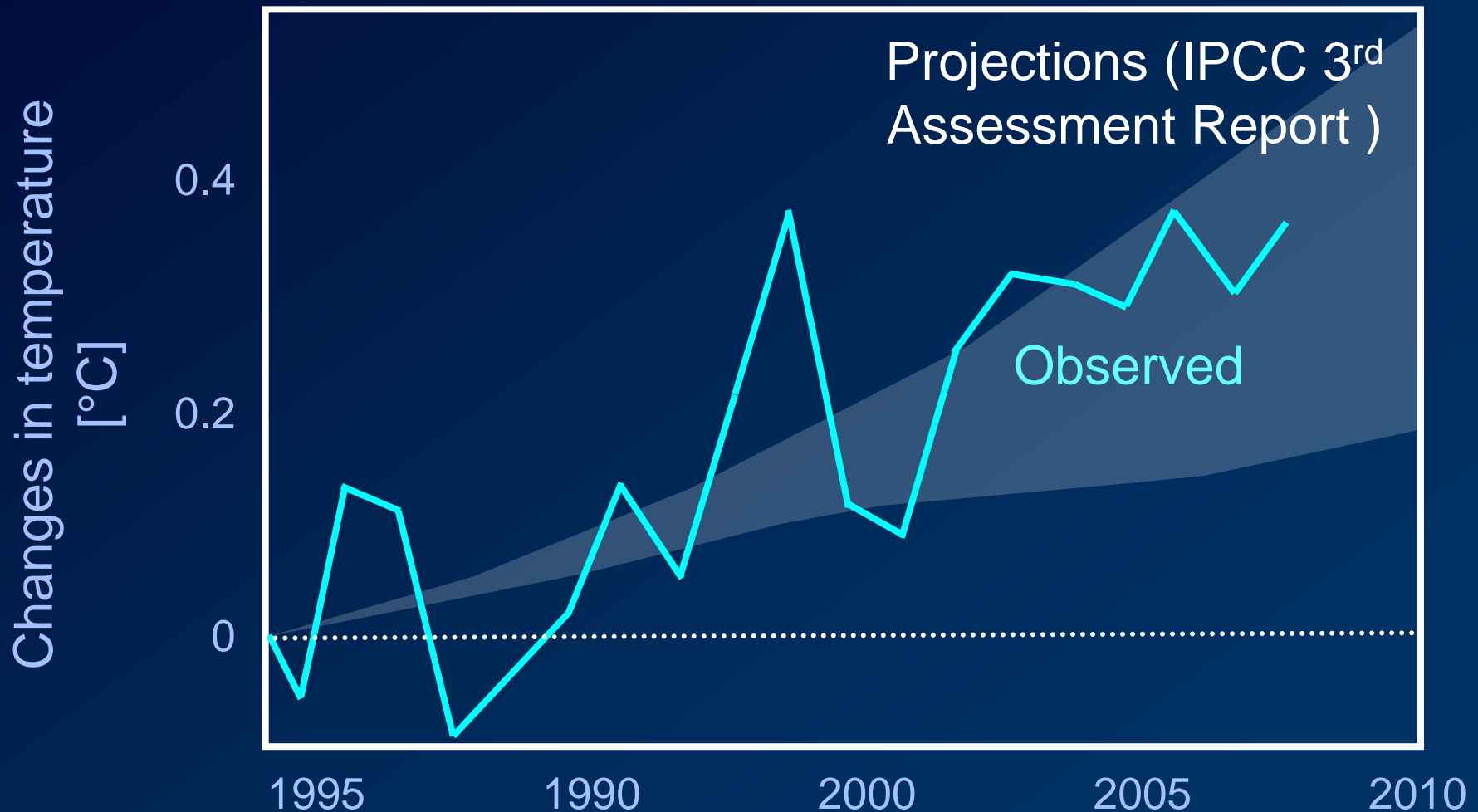
Billions of USD/decade

Geologic
Climatic



Since the 2007 IPCC reports,
climate has shown signs of
accelerated change...

IPCC Projections with respect to Observations

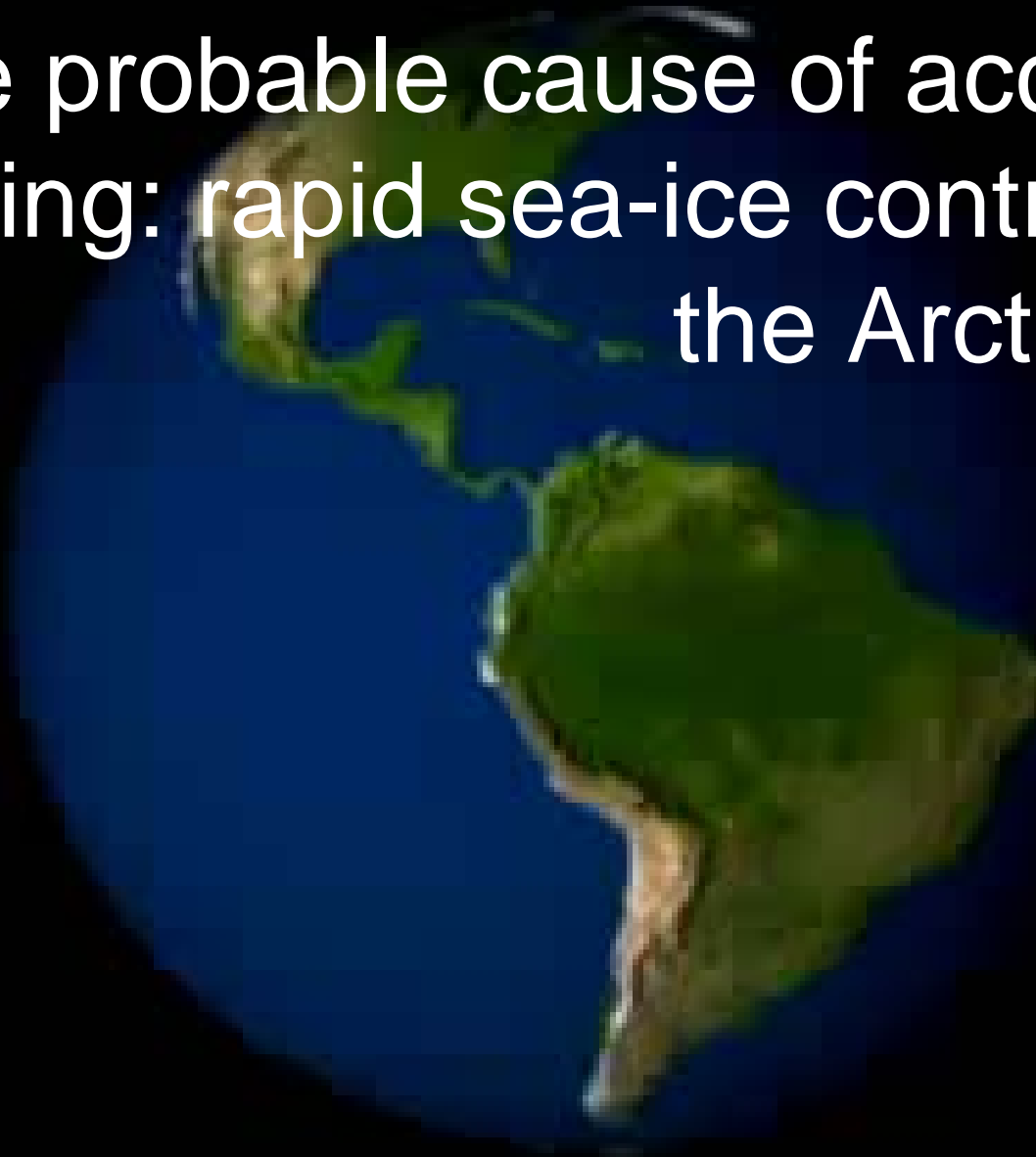


Feedback mechanisms stronger than expected

- Oceanic circulations
- Land-use changes
- Arctic processes



One probable cause of accelerated warming: rapid sea-ice contraction in the Arctic Ocean



Feedback mechanisms stronger than expected

- Certain irreversible thresholds may be reached earlier than expected...
- Whatever we achieve in terms of policy, climate is likely to warm by at least 2°C over 1990 baseline levels
- This is the upper bound of what the EU was aiming to impose at COP-15 in Copenhagen, last December

Some reasons to address issues related to climatic change quickly...

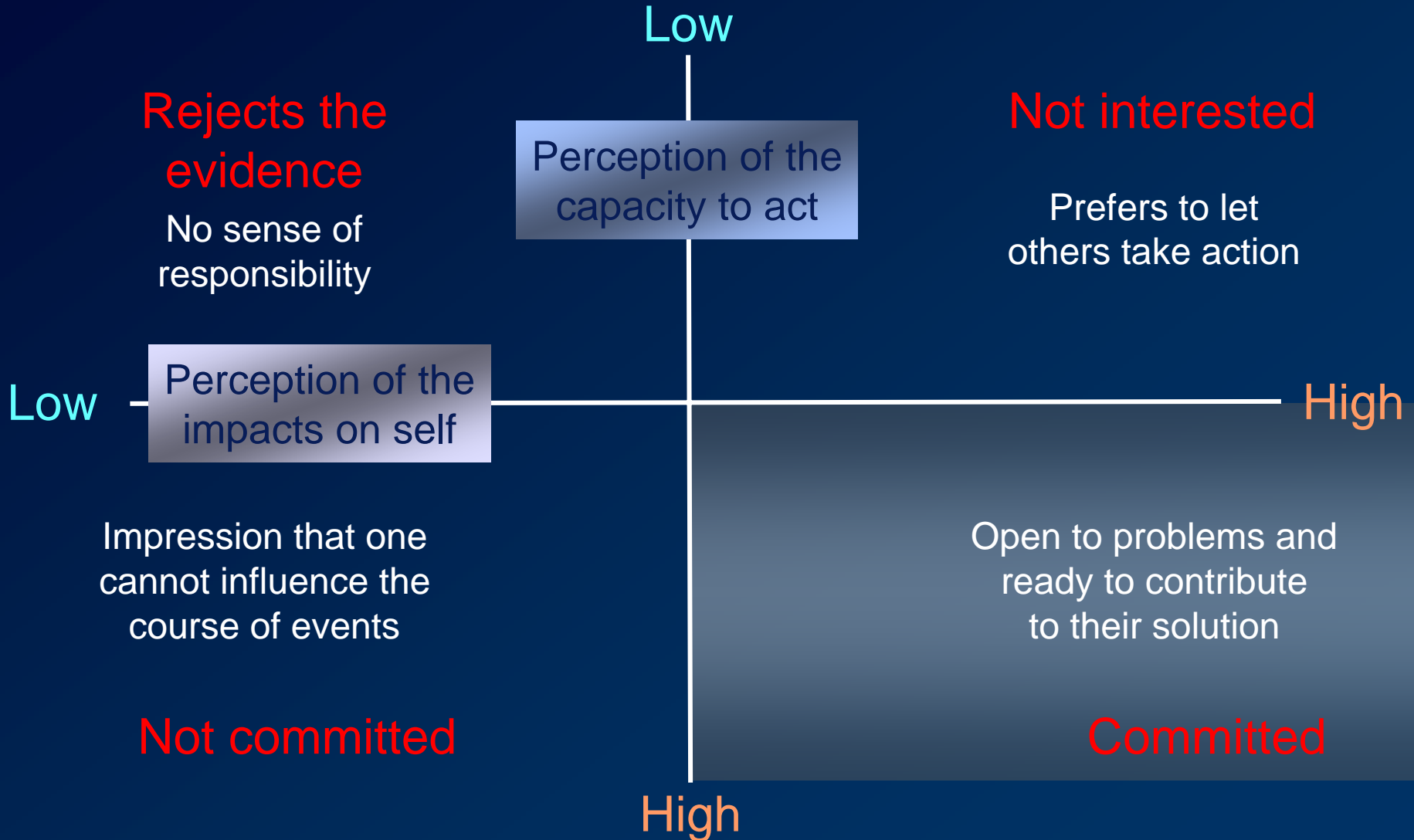
Climatic impacts...

ΔT compared to 1980-1999



Do people really care?

Perception regimes towards environmental issues



The way forward

Where we should be going...

- To efficiently move forward with addressing climatic change, we need to:
 - ◆ Encourage that the climate issue remains on the political agenda at the highest levels
 - ◆ Promote the engagement of civil society (e.g., awareness-raising, education)
- Climate change does raise ethical questions of equal access to resources, technologies, and education that also need to be addressed simultaneously...

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!

www.unige.ch/climate

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