



CLEAN AIR  
TASK FORCE

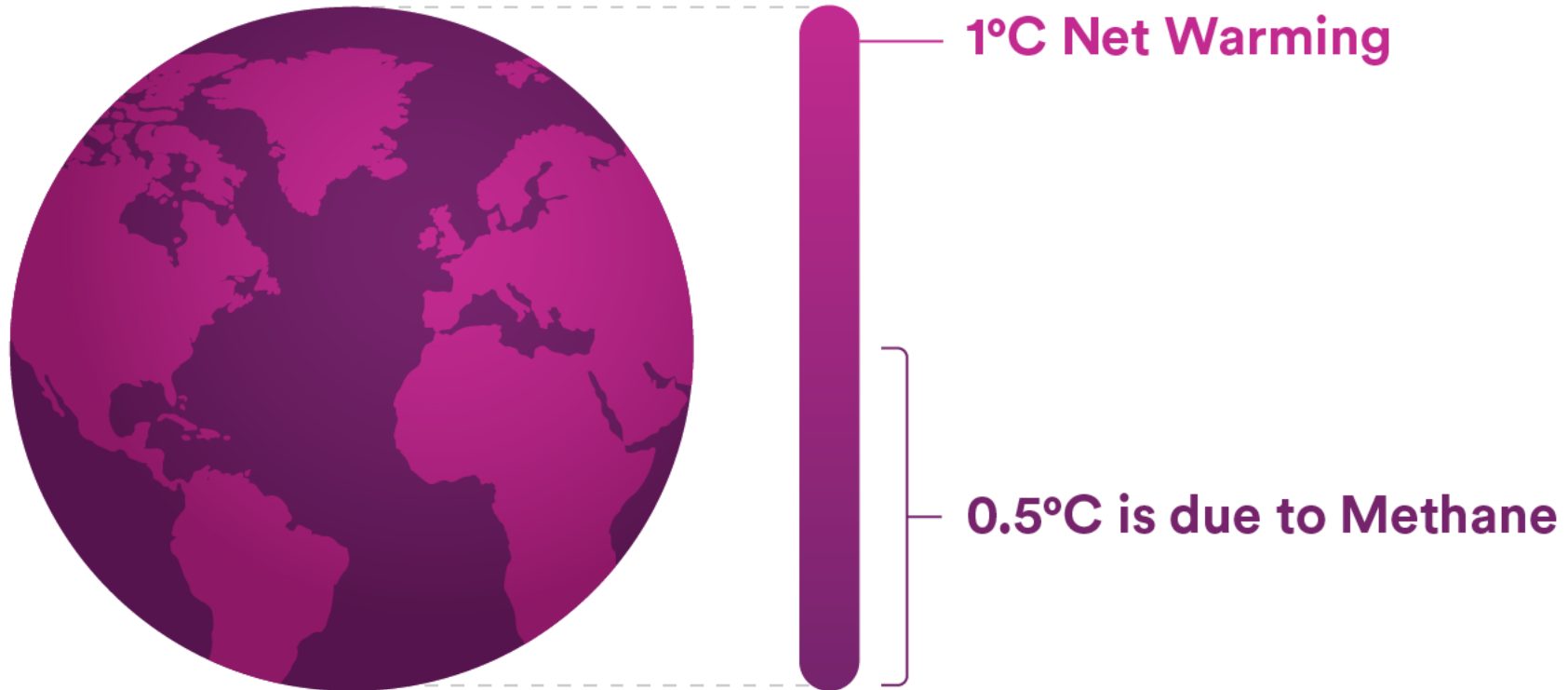
# State of Play: International Initiatives Targeting Methane Emissions Reductions

Felicia A. Ruiz (Ms.)

UNECE Group of Experts on CMM and JT: Methane Mondays

September 2023

# According to the IPCC methane is causing half of current warming

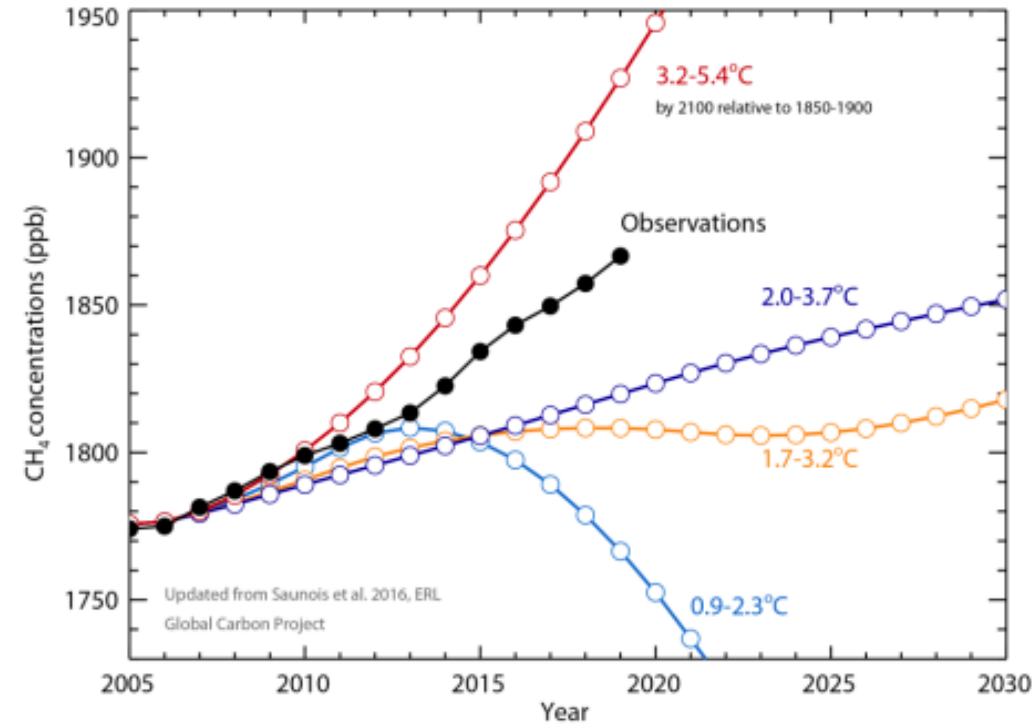


# Methane and Global Warming

- Methane concentrations have skyrocketed and are projected to continue rising through at least 2040
- Current concentrations are well above levels in the 2° C scenarios envisioned by the IPCC.

If the methane rise continues, meeting almost any climate goal **will not be possible**, even under *very* optimistic CO<sub>2</sub> scenarios.

Deep and rapid cuts to methane emissions are essential to limiting warming in the near term and reducing peak warming.



Sources: Saunois et al. 2020 ERL, Global Carbon Project; Observation line extended to reflect globally averaged marine surface annual mean data from NOAA .

# Early Action on Methane

1993: Natural Gas STAR & Coalbed Methane Outreach Program created

2000: First science on Short-lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP) like methane and black carbon.

2004: Methane to Markets (becoming Global Methane Initiative in 2010).

2004: UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane

2009: U.S. states and Canadian provinces require green completions or reduced emission completions (RECs) in response to shale gas boom.

2012: Climate and Clean Air Coalition created



# Growing Momentum on Methane Action

2013-2014: U.S. State and Canadian provincial regulations for leak detection and repair

2016: US national standards for methane at new sites, including LDAR for wells

2016: Mexico, U.S. and Canada agreed to cut methane emissions by 40-45% by 2025

2017: 21 countries signed the Marrakech Communiqué

2018: Canada and Mexico oil and gas regulations finalized

2019: Launch of the Global Methane Alliance (predecessor of the Global Methane Pledge)

# 2021 and Beyond

- **Global Methane Hub created in 2021**
- Colombia finalized regulations for oil and gas in 2022
- **UNEP's Met Coal Methane Partnership created in 2022**
- Nigeria plans to finalize this year
- U.S. methane fee (MERP) finalized
- New U.S. regulations by the end of this year
- Canada is launching a second round of regulations with a 75% reduction goal
- **EU methane regulations**
- Countries like the EU, Japan, South Korea are discussing import standards
- Ecuador, Argentina and Nigeria are also working on oil and gas regulations

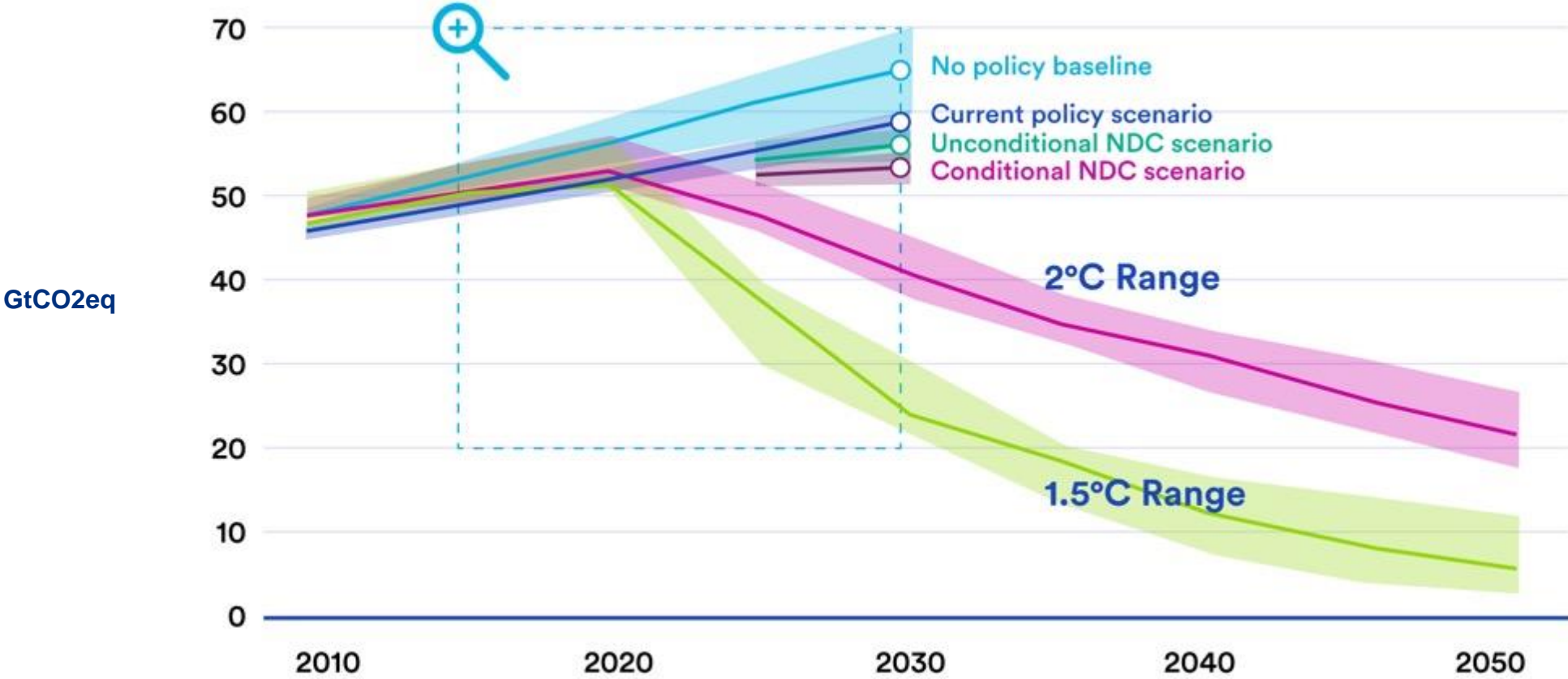


## 2021: Global Methane Pledge

- **The Pledge** was formally launched by heads of State at COP 26, with more than 100 countries participating. Now over 150 have joined.
- Commits the collective supporters to a 30% reduction below 2020 levels by 2030.
- Includes agriculture, waste, **coal**, and oil and gas.
- The Pledge is designed to bring high level political attention to methane. The next step though is moving from pledge to action.



# We are nowhere near on track to meet climate targets



Source: "Emissions Gap Report 2018," United Nations Environment Programme.



**SO, WHAT'S NEXT?**

