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Explaining Katowice COP24



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- Transparency is key to the Paris Agreement and much of this was agreed, paving the way for negotiations to focus on greater ambition and implementation
- Biannual reporting on emissions using the IPCC Inventory Guidelines (being updated in 2019) and progress on emission-reduction
 - debate on a searchable public registry
- Rules by and large will apply to both developed and developing countries – a key long-term Australian objective

Some implications

- Domestically we can now make decisions about accounting requirements in confidence that they meet international standards, potentially allowing more vigorous implementation of policy
- Need for R&D on emission-reduction options in non-energy sectors that can robustly be translated into the national emissions inventory
- Need for participatory research on adaptation
- Will require lots of capacity building in our region via collaboration and technical assistance

- New finance goal discussions put off till 2020
 - but a range of commitments made (World Bank, Germany, Norway)
- Climate finance reporting agreed but there is some ‘flexibility’ about the reporting arrangements
- Failed to agree on rules for voluntary carbon markets due to issues relating to ‘double-counting’
- Difficult area as financial interests can compete with environmental integrity of the Paris targets but potentially important for Australia

- Welcomed the timely completion but not the results of the Special Report which was described as an ‘ear-splitting wake-up call’
 - invites Parties to make use of the information contained in the report
- Concern and anger among the science community who felt they were taken for granted
- Gave massive publicity, reinforced messages and emphasised the vast majority support

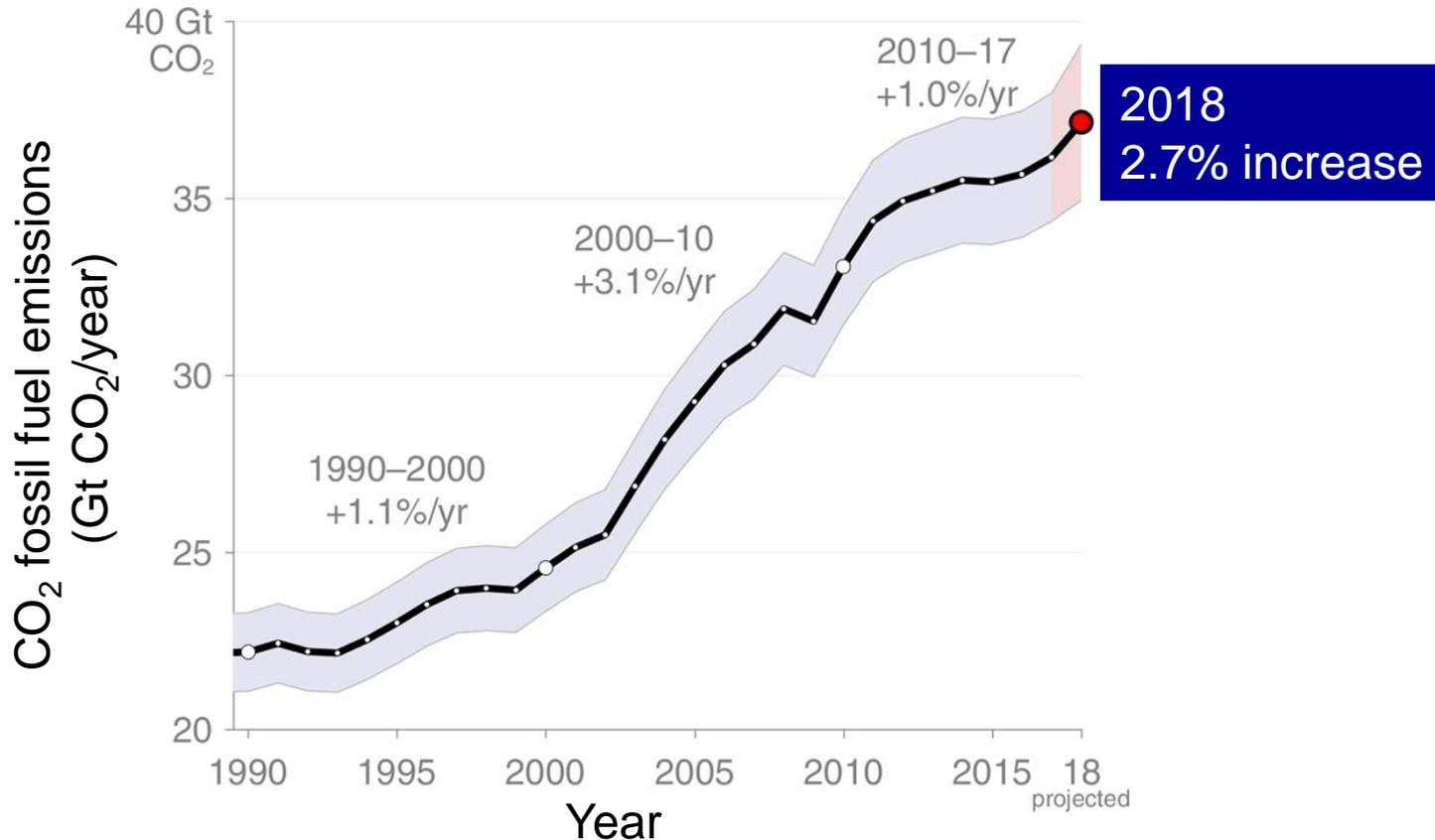


Next steps

- The process to review progress with implementation, and to tighten the targets
- Australia will be expected to do better, to commit to a stronger target with a robust implementation pathway
- Possible expectation for strategies for drastically lower emissions by 2050
- Global Climate Summit in New York, September 2019



CO₂ emissions rising again: record levels



- Urgent action needed
- Original level of ambition needs to be roughly tripled to meet 2°C and increased around fivefold for 1.5°C
- Australia projected to have third worst per capita emissions in the G20 in 2030 and not have in place the policies needed to achieve our Paris Agreement commitment
- Action by non-state and subnational actors (NSAs), including regional and local governments and businesses is key to implementing the NDCs

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Australia's role

- Negotiators made thoughtful and constructive contributions – walking the tightrope
 - participation in a US panel generated significant negative comment
- Minister Price was conspicuously (largely) absent from announcements, side events etc
- Concern re: long-term reputational damage



Other announcements

- *New High Ambition Coalition* – pledges for 2020
- *Powering Past Coal Alliance* – Sydney and Melbourne joined, following the ACT
- UK – net-zero heavy industry cluster funding
- *Maersk* – net-zero by 2050
- Sports and fashion industry getting on board
- *Shell* – linking executive pay to emissions reductions from 2020 onwards

- Young people emerged as the strongest moral voices
- *‘You are stealing your children’s future’*
- *‘You are not mature enough to tell it like is. Even that burden you leave to us children’*
- *‘You only speak of green eternal economic growth because you are too scared of being unpopular’*
- *‘You are never too small to make a difference’*





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Thankyou

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