

ENVS 3521/GEOG 4120

Climate Politics & Policy

University of Colorado-Boulder

Summer 2018
Wednesday, July 11



University of Colorado at Boulder

CU-Boulder ENVS

Environmental Studies Program





course logistics & updates

- co-facilitation sign ups
- Twitter updates = Tweets #1
- country assignments, voting bloc organization
- Canvas update
- pass me disability services special needs requests ASAP



roundtables

comment sheets (3 hrs before session via email listserv), **discussion co-facilitation**, **summary** (due the next day in class) & **peer assessment** (due the next day in class)

OR **reading question** (4-5 copies, your name on each)



- the 24th Conference of Parties (COP24) meeting of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), in Katowice, Poland
- objective: successfully agree to commitments that most closely align with your nation's interests, as situated in your specified voting blocs



UNFCCC



COP24 activity: loss & damage

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- **tomorrow**, pick country, caucus in blocs
- between **July 12** and **July 16** study up on the positions that your country has taken
- hand in (as hard copies) 1-2 page fact sheet /position paper on **July 16** with four main items
- on **July 18** you and your voting bloc share the main points and positions that you've identified
- between **July 18** and **July 27** → planning
- on **July 27**, your lead negotiator will present the 6-minute argumentation
- between **July 27** and **August 3** → planning/negotiate
- on **August 3**, final negotiations (until agreement)
- turn in confidential peer assessments **August 6**



- (A) What your country position has been on **loss and damage commitments**;
- (B) What your country position has been on **mitigation commitments** coming out of the Paris negotiations in 2015 (COP21);
- (C) What have been the **actual GHG emissions** from your country over the past decades; and
- (D) What are particular issues in climate change that your country has **prioritized** (e.g. sea level rise, drought, poverty, the economy) in past negotiations

[due July 16, hard copies for voting bloc members & me]



divide a pot of hypothetical loss & damage funding among countries; decide how funds might be allocated (assuming that compensation should be provided for loss and damage)

can be:

- non-economic losses (NELs);
- slow onset events (such as sea rise);
- comprehensive risk management;
- financial instruments;
- migration, displacement & human mobility

allocations could be based on the special needs of their countries, as well as the severity of the types of harm addressed; different problems require different amounts and types of funding



additional comments from the Executive Secretary:

- while these voting blocs may represent similar loss and damage interests, it is a mistake to expect that everyone in your voting bloc is your ally; ultimately you have been charged with the remit of getting the 'best deal' for your own country: so trust can be fleeting, ephemeral
- frame your arguments in the strongest terms politically and diplomatically palatable/appropriate
- the ordering of arguments will be announced by me on the day of each set of negotiation sessions
- parties to the negotiations may not walk away from negotiations or from an agreement; all envoys recognize that an agreement must be reached in some form by the conclusion of negotiations



Guests

- (1) Marilyn Averill = Friday July 20
- (2) Justin Farrell = Wednesday, August 1
- (3) Alice Madden = Monday, August 6
- (4) Jonathan Koehn = Wednesday, August 8

Midterm and Final Examinations

- closed-book and no-note exams
- the final exam will be cumulative
- content from the lectures as well as the required readings

Midterm – Wednesday July 25, during class time

Final Exam – Friday, August 10, during class time



Additional Course Logistics

- attendance and class participation is important (especially during a fast-moving summer session course)
- class technology policy: yes laptops (used for coursework)
no phones
- I cannot discuss grades over email
- pass me disability services special needs requests ASAP
- organize into discussion and/or study groups to get the most out of the materials, themes, and issues that are raised in the class meetings

Course Overview

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there will be
occasional
outside-of-class
opportunities
that relate to
climate politics
and policy
during the
summer term

Inaugural Global Town Hall for Global Governance Innovation and Reform

Let's get ready for the 2020 World Leaders' Summit on renewal, innovation and reform of the United Nations!

The Global Town Hall Project is launching, *"The Road to 2020"*, a series of Global Town Halls in support of a UN 2020 World Leaders' Summit on UN renewal, innovation and reform. Global Voice, CEUCE, One Earth Future, Workable Word Trust, World Federalist Movement - Institute for Global Policy, We, The World, and the UN Parliamentary Assembly Campaign will convene the Inaugural Global Town Hall, July 21-23, 2018 at the University of Colorado Boulder.

In recognition of the pressing need for civil society and world leaders to organize a global response to the escalating existential threats to humanity and our planet, the [Commission on Global Security, Justice and Governance](#) (co-chaired by former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former Nigerian Foreign Minister and UN Undersecretary-General for Political Affairs Ibrahim Gambari) has recommended the convening of a **2020 World Summit on Global Security, Justice and Governance**.

This two-year Road to 2020 will begin by assessing selected UN revitalization recommendations of Climate, Sustainable Development, Global Economic Security, Violence and Atrocity Prevention and the Rise of the Global Citizen. We will hear from and engage leading experts in group sessions to set foundations that define and bring forth workable steps toward meeting perilous world concerns.

Not able to make it to Boulder? Livestream and video recording will be available for the majority of sessions. During the registration process, please indicate your intention to attend virtually.

We wish to recognize significant financial and in-kind service contributions by the University of Colorado, the One Earth Future Foundation, the Workable World Trust, the Colorado European Union Center of Excellence, Global Voice, the World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy, Citizens for Global Solutions and Santa Fe World Affairs Forum.

Details

When

Saturday, July 21, 2018 - Monday, July 23, 2018

Register here <http://events.cu.edu/events/inaugural-global-town-hall-for-global-governance-innovation-and-reform/event-summary-6a90187f36a740be80c5d70225dd74d7.aspx>

Where

University of Colorado Boulder
Boulder, Colorado 80309
USA

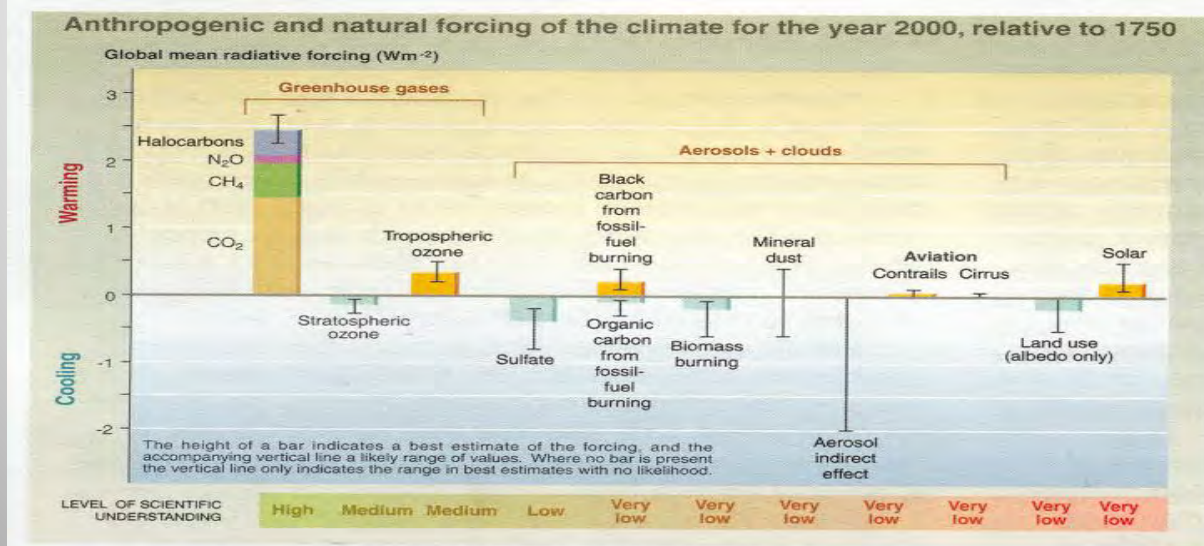
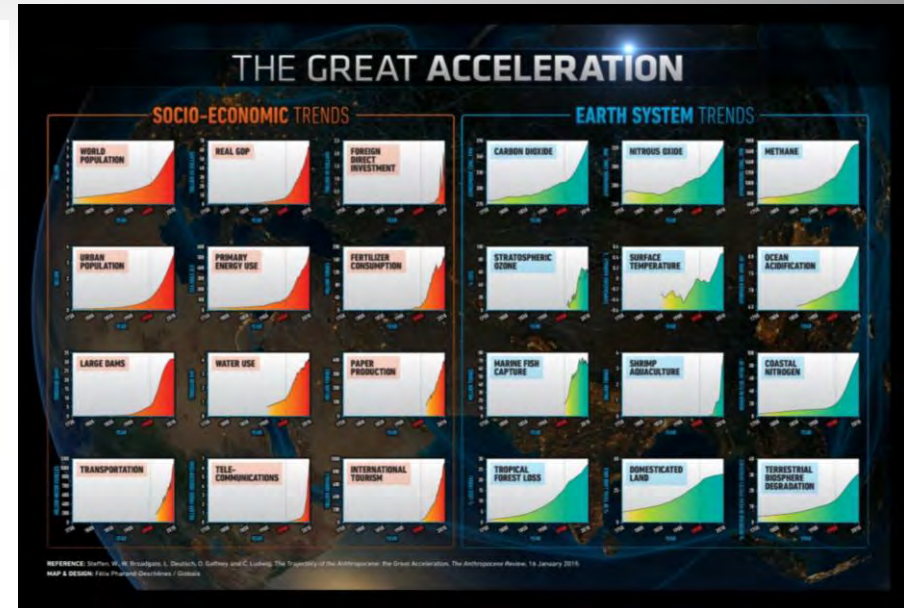
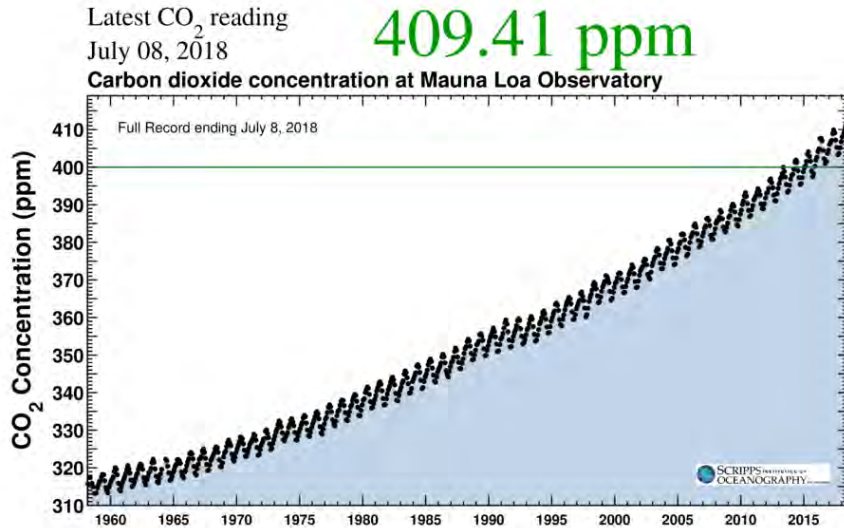


Add to
Calendar



Get Driving
Directions

course overview



IPCC (2001)



Politics

- the management & contestation of policies, through social relations infused w/ power, authority & varying perspectives
- involve proposals, ideas, intentions, decisions & behaviors, with a focus on processes that prop up, challenge, lurk behind, support & resist explicit actions

Policy

- a statement of principles, intentions, mandates about who gets what, when & how
- a guide for decision making about human management of environment, & a spectrum of possible courses of permissible actions

The Policy Process



POLICY ENVIRONMENT:

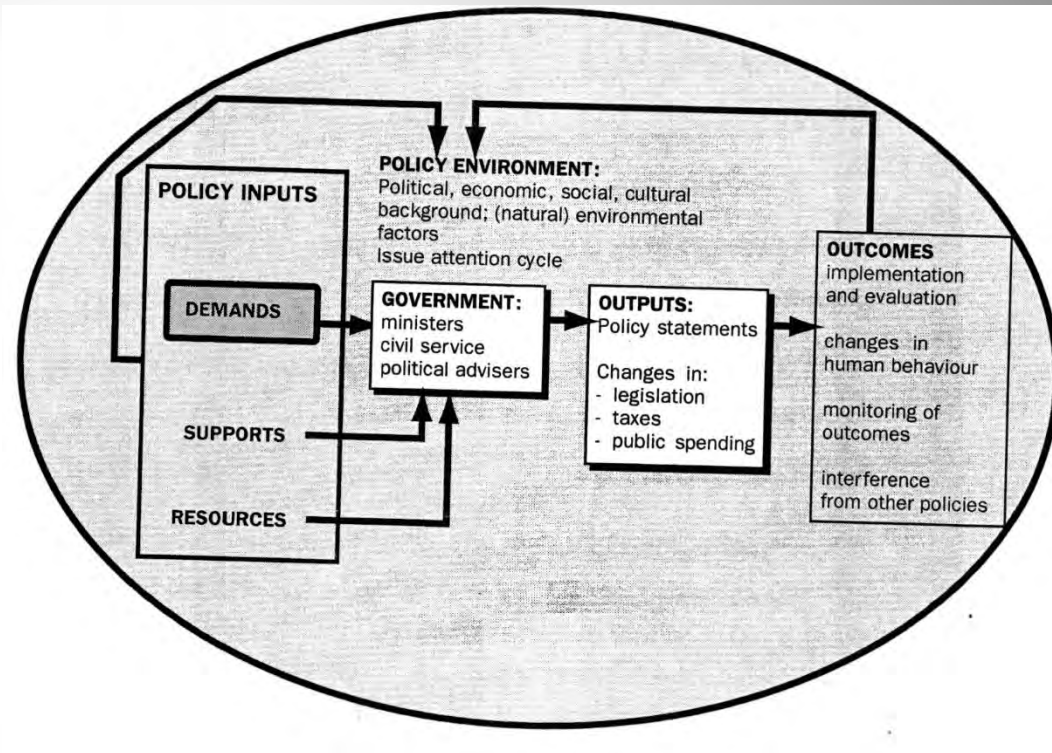
at a given time, the context in which a policy system is operating

types of INPUTS:

1. demands
2. supports
3. resources

government & non-nation-state actors (NNSAs):

- elected government leaders
- appointed government leaders
- political advisors
- lobbyists
- private organizations (e.g corporations)
- non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- media
- public citizenry



The Policy Process

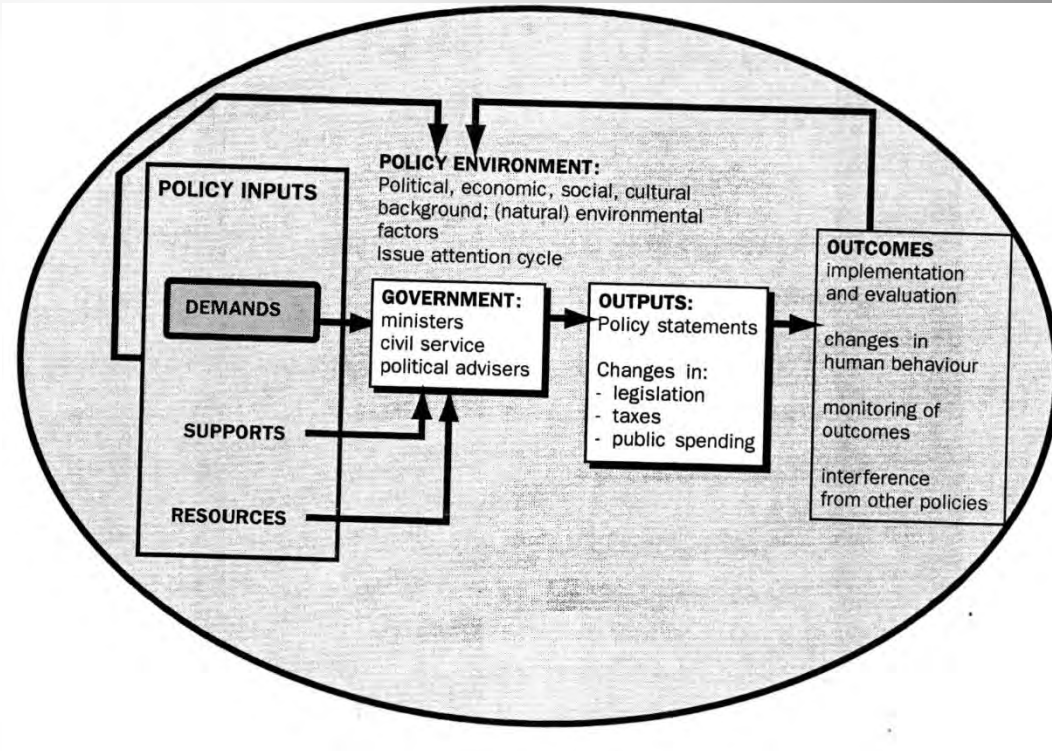


OUTPUTS: policy
statements & instruments
to change behaviors

→ sticks & carrots

1. Laws & Regulations

2. Economic Instruments



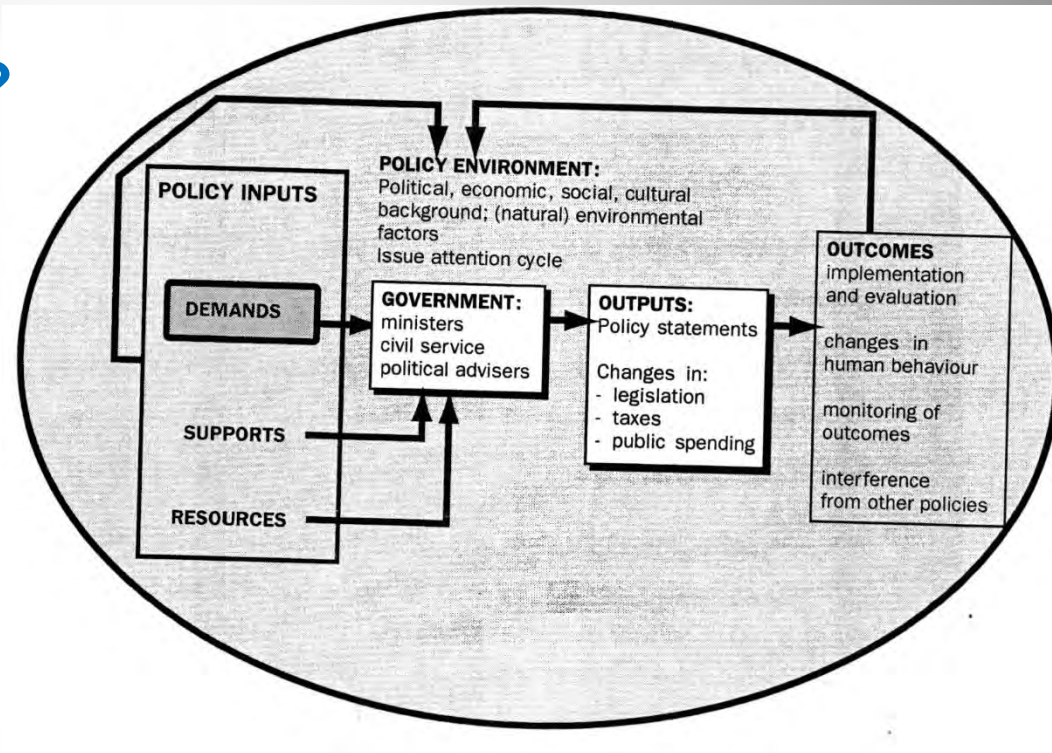
Policy OUTCOMES:
impact of actions/policy

The Policy Process



what makes a policy valid?

1. reflects values of society involved in the process
2. accounts for existing social situations
3. able to resolve problems and issues through established processes



what are some key challenges to effective regulation?

- A. imperfect information
- B. undue political influence



Leggett– Chapters 1, 2 & 3



- Carbon Tracker: to keep below “intended two-degree ceiling, full 80% of existing fossil fuel reserves would have to stay in the ground unburned (pp. 3-4)
- carbon bubbles & stranded assets (p. 4)
- toxic arguments (p. 17) & time demands (p. 19)
- couching things in terms of risk (p. 27)

“everyone is looking at everyone else to make the first move. And nobody does” (p. 8)



Problem Orientation

*a strategy for framing
thought/action guiding analysis,
interpretation and resolution of a
problem*

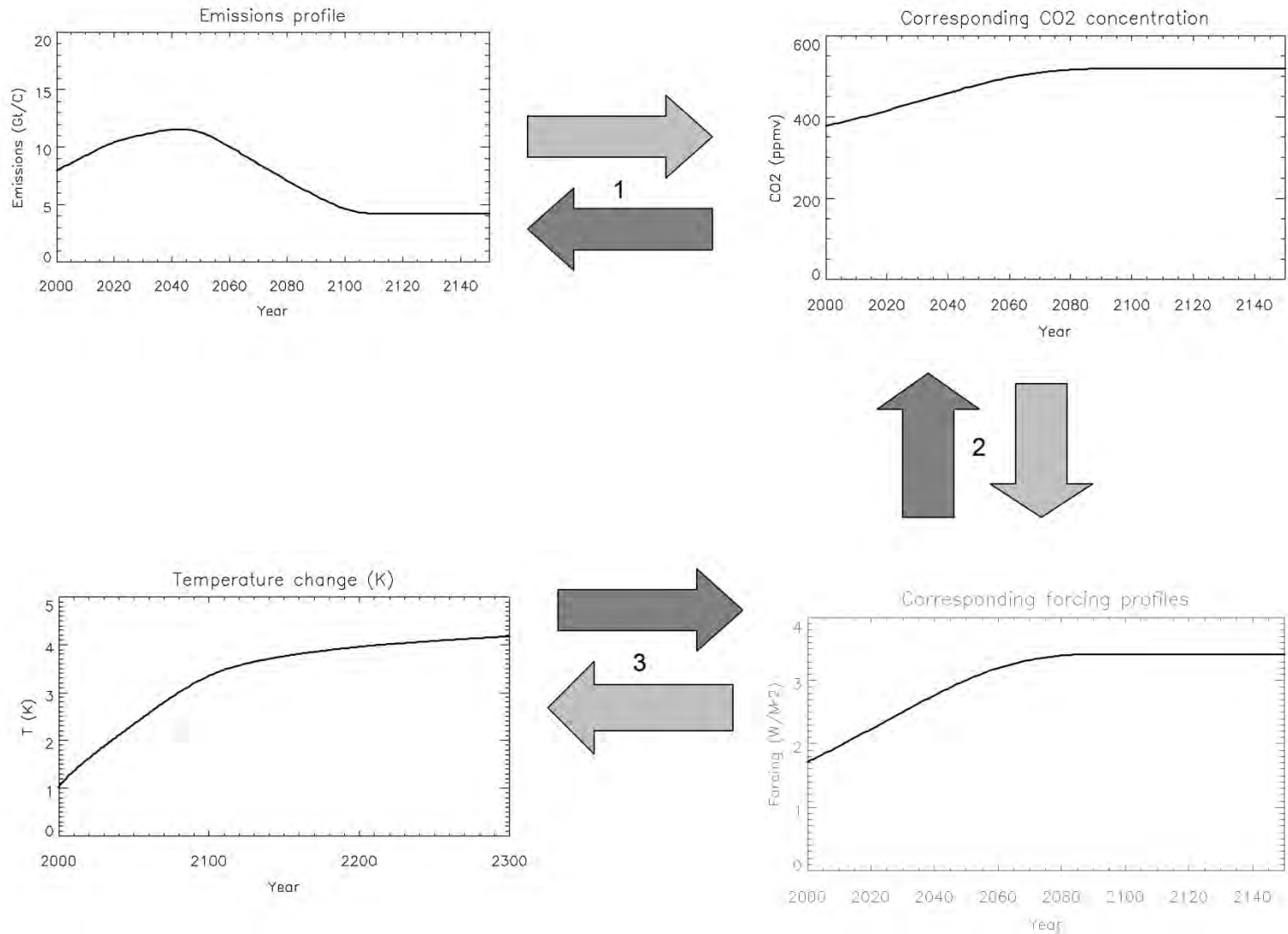
- (1) clarify the goals
- (2) describe the trends
- (3) analyze the conditions
- (4) project future change
- (5) develop & evaluate
alternatives



Harold Lasswell
(1902-1978)



the 2°C temperature target





ongoing negotiations considered along lines of ‘two great conflicts’:

- (1) between the USA & the rest of the world** – over nature of the commitments and types of governance instruments
- (2) global North-South conflicts** – issues of development, justice, adaptation

Okereke (2009)

“global governance of the climate is probably the most complex environmental diplomacy ever undertaken by the global political community”
~ Okereke (2009)