Climate governance for 1.5 C

Mikael Karlsson
Associate Professor Environmental Science
Uppsala University

Out precarious situation

WMO, 30 October 2017:

"the current levels of CO2 correspond to an "equilibrium" climate last observed… 3–5 million years ago… a climate that was 2-3° C warmer.. [with] sea levels that were 10–20 m higher than those today."


Potential reasons for gaps to environmental goals

Numerous theories in various scientific disciplines:

- Lack of scientific knowledge and uncertainties
- Institutional inertia and technological lock-in
- Insufficiently operational goals and targets
- Social dilemmas and controversies
- Weak or ineffective regulation
- Lack of cost internalization
- Lobbyism…
- …

An ideal (?) picture
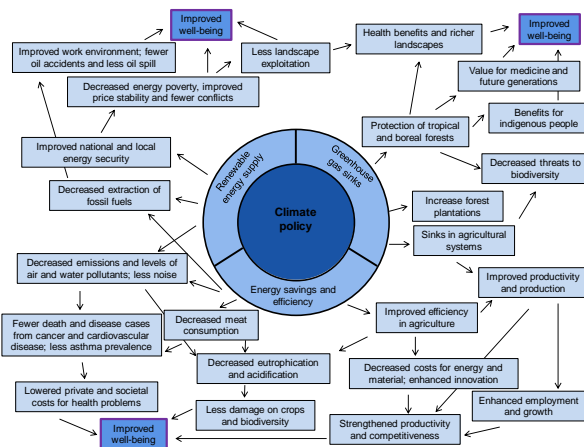
SCIENCE → POLICY

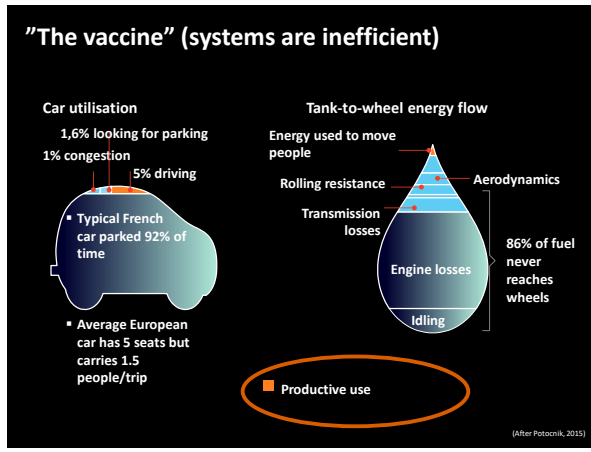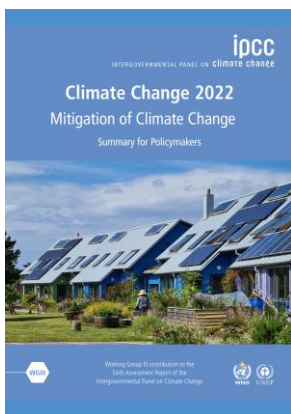## A framework for analysis of delay mechanisms
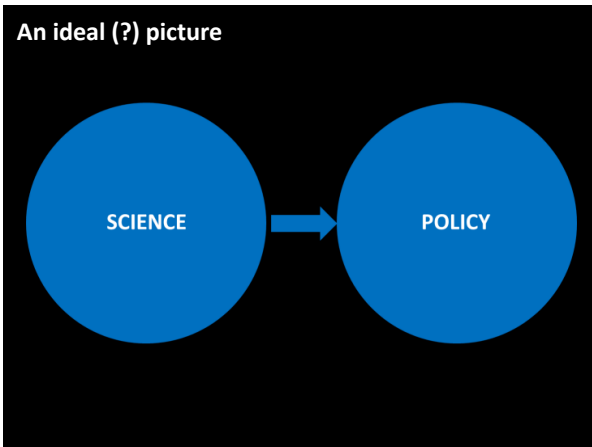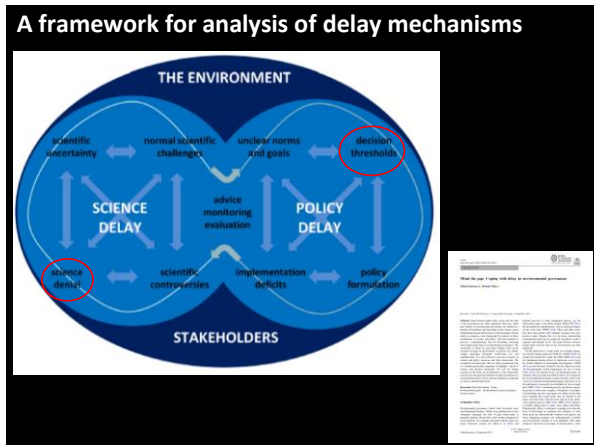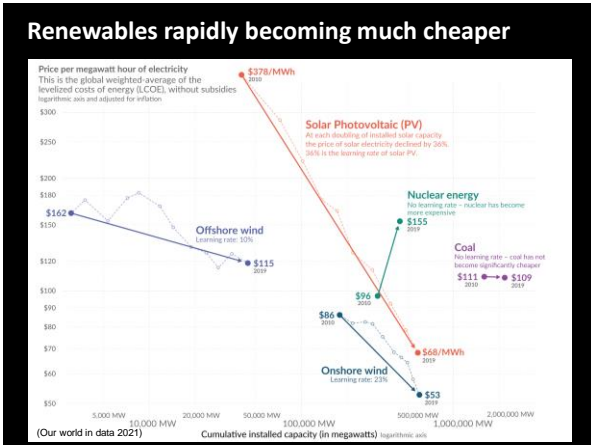

1. Science denial

2. Environmental policy and decision-making thresholds

Co-benefits large – but poorly explored

Many solutions – the best ones available at negative costs

"The vaccine" (systems are inefficient)

Renewables rapidly becoming much cheaper

Businesses increasingly on board

Business opprtunities and survival

"If you are not transitioning, no one will buy your products, no one will want to work for you and no one will want to invest in your company. This is about survival."

Henrik Henriksson
CEO Scania

We underestimate opportunities

- Sweden according to EU-Kyoto (1990-2008/12)   + 4 %

- Klimatkommittén (governmental inquiry)   - 2 %

- Parliament's decision   - 4 %

- Result 2012   - 16 %

- Today   - 37 %

Positive political understanding

Conférence sur les Changements Climatiques 2015
COP21/CMP11
Paris, France

New geo-political situation
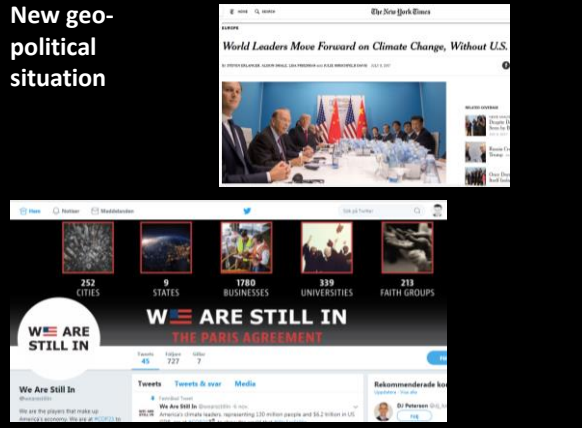
Broad global understanding of the risks at hand

The big players are moving

"This is Europe's man on the moon moment."

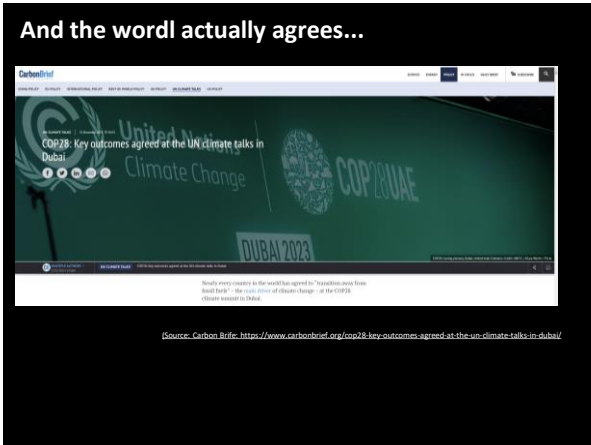## And the wordl actually agrees...

(Source: Carbon Brife: https://www.carbonbrief.org/cop28-key-outcomes-agreed-at-the-un-climate-talks-in-dubai/)

… even though much remains to be settled

The status of the COP28 negotiations

Number of agenda items that have no text, draft text or agreed text

(Carbon Brief: https://www.carbonbrief.org/interactive-tracking-negotiating-texts-at-cop28-climate-summit/)
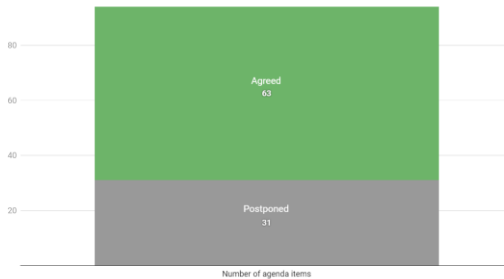
Global Stocktake: a late step in the right direction

28. *Further recognizes* the need for deep, rapid and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in line with 1.5 °C pathways and *calls* on Parties to contribute to the following global efforts, in a nationally determined manner, taking into account the Paris Agreement and their different national circumstances, pathways and approaches:

(a)   Tripling renewable energy capacity globally and doubling the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030;

(b)   Accelerating efforts towards the phase-down of unabated coal power;

(c)   Accelerating efforts globally towards net zero emission energy systems, utilizing zero- and low-carbon fuels well before or by around mid-century;

(d)   Transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner, accelerating action in this critical decade, so as to achieve net zero by 2050 in keeping with the science;

(e)   Accelerating zero- and low-emission technologies, including, inter alia, renewables, nuclear, abatement and removal technologies such as carbon capture and utilization and storage, particularly in hard-to-abate sectors, and low-carbon hydrogen production;

Stricter policies needed

"A clear, long term signal that the price of emissions will only go one way – up – would be the best path to put us on a trajectory towards zero emissions."

## Stricter policies positive from several viewpoints

'As globalisation continues and ever more techno-logically advanced countries compete over growth, employment and resources, the ability to serve green markets will be a crucial factor in **maintaining competitiveness.'**

"…the EU could realistically reduce the total material requirements of its economy by 17% to 24%, **boosting GDP and creating between 1.4 and 2.8 million jobs.**"
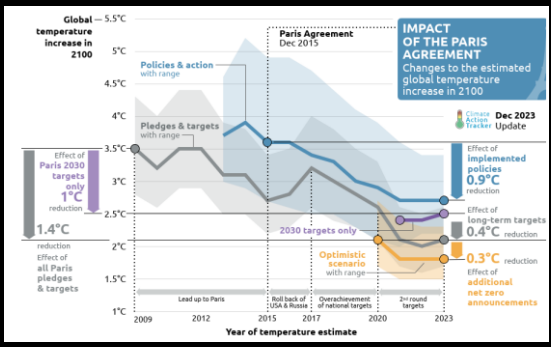
"Every percentage point reduction in resource use could therefore lead to up to 100,000 to 200,000 new jobs."

Since the Paris Agreement in 2015
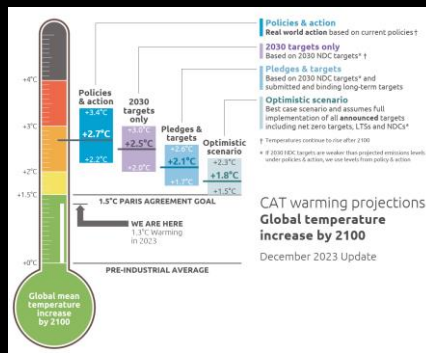
Positive development since the Paris Agreement

Thank you!

mikael.Karlsson@geo.uu.se