

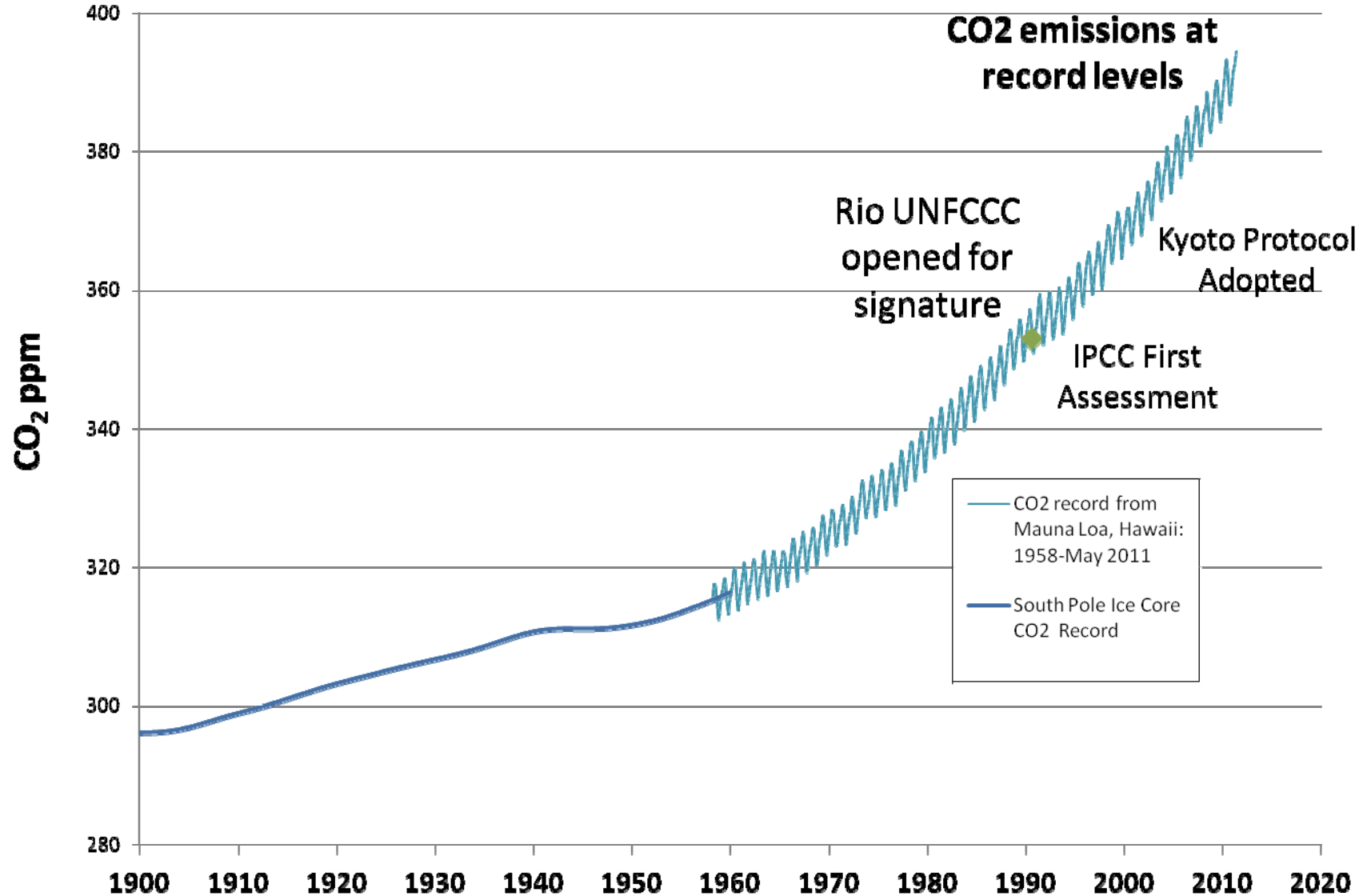


**Clarification of pledges: assessing
the scale of the ambition gap
through common accounting rules**

AWG-LCA 15

17 May 2012

Convention agreed in 1992, but CO₂ concentrations still rising

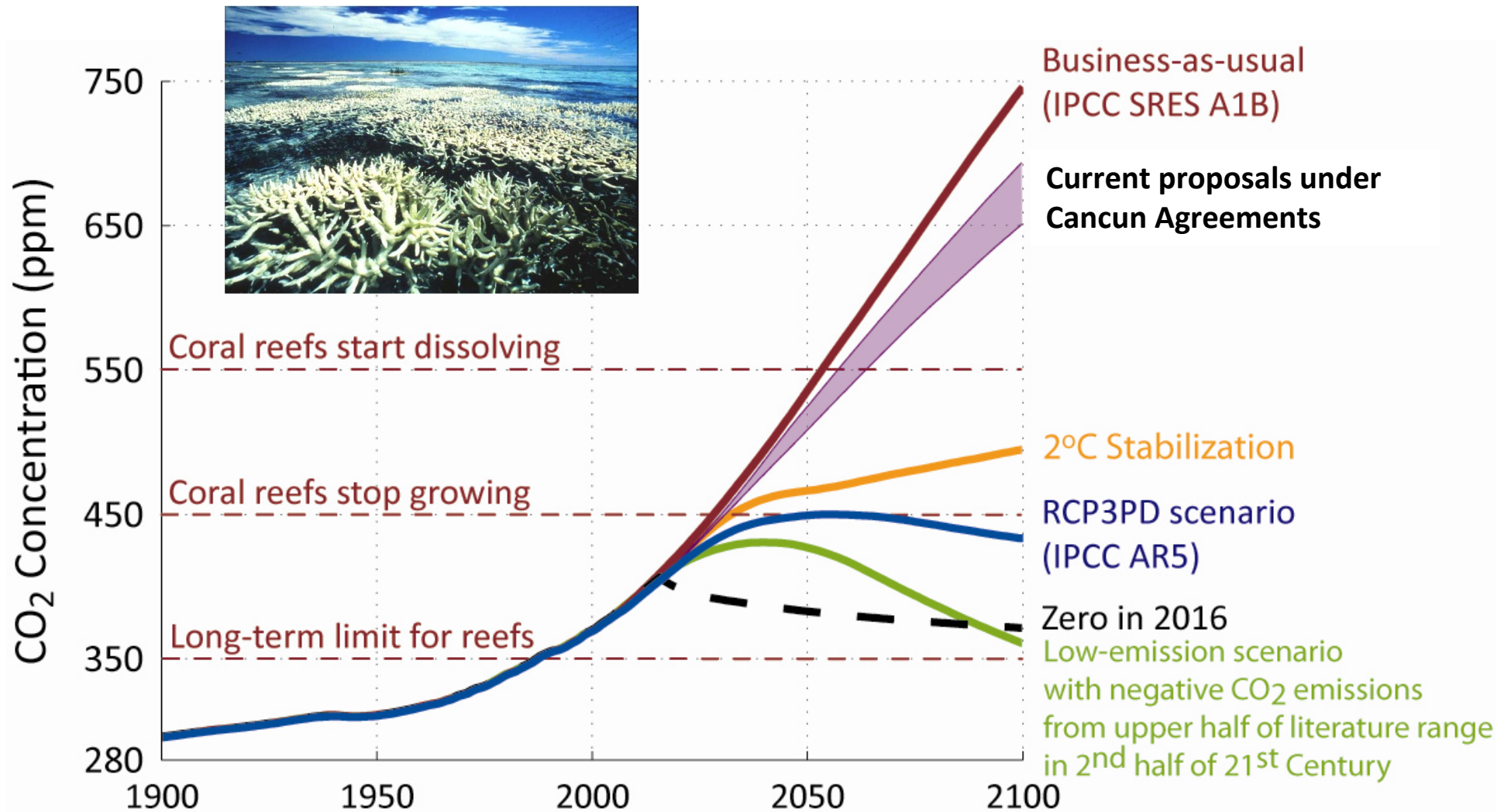


Climate change impacts are accelerating:



- Hotter temperatures
- Sea level rise and permanent land loss
- Coastal erosion
- Food security challenges
- Ocean acidification and coral bleaching
- Loss of biodiversity
- More intense extreme weather events

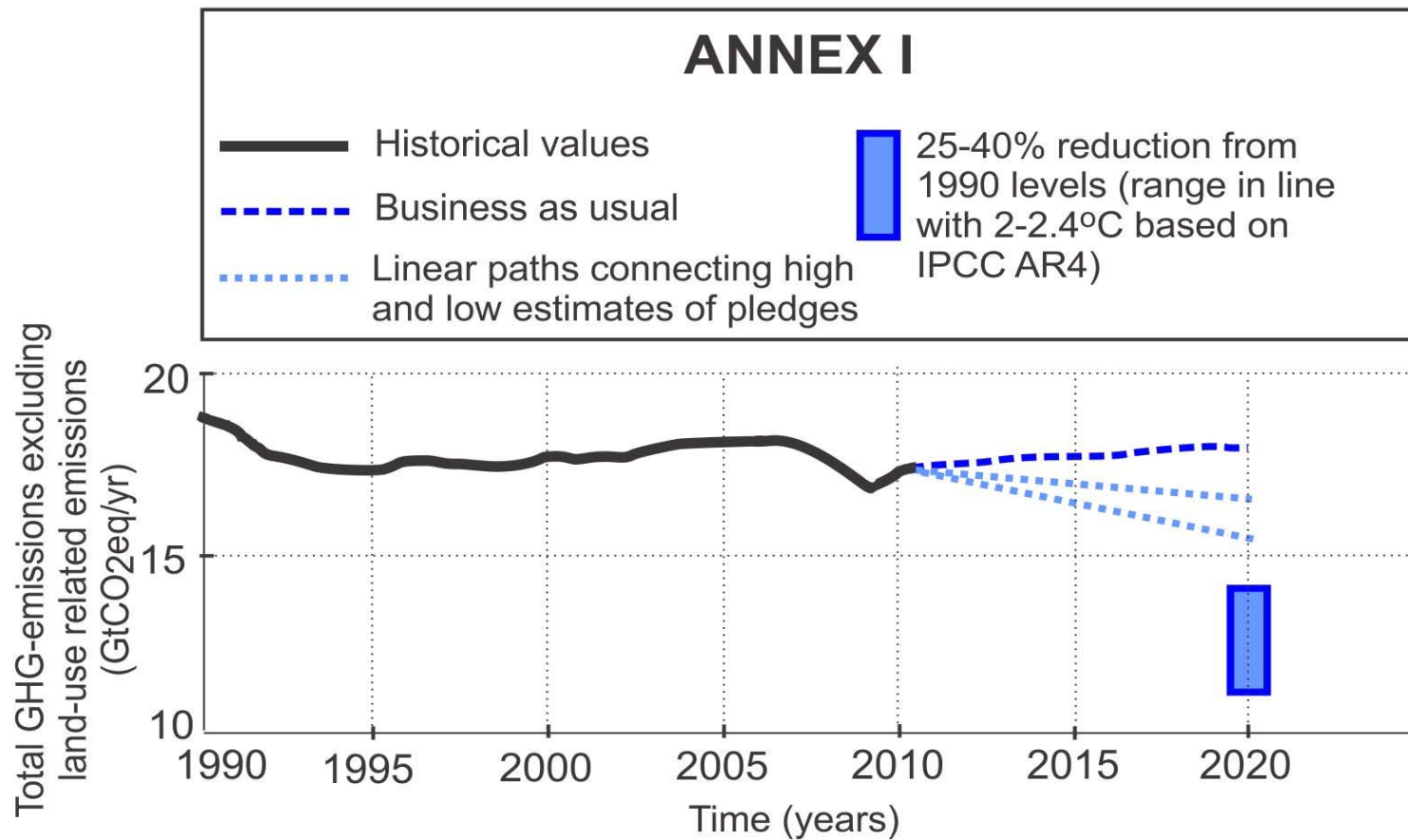
Increasing CO₂ concentrations threaten small island States



Red dashed CO₂ concentration levels derived from Silverman et al (2009) "GRL **36**, L05606.
Veron et al (2009) Marine Pollution Bulletin 58(10): 1428-1436

Annex I targets not consistent with emission reduction pathways to achieve 1.5°C or even 2°C

→ more ambitious targets are essential

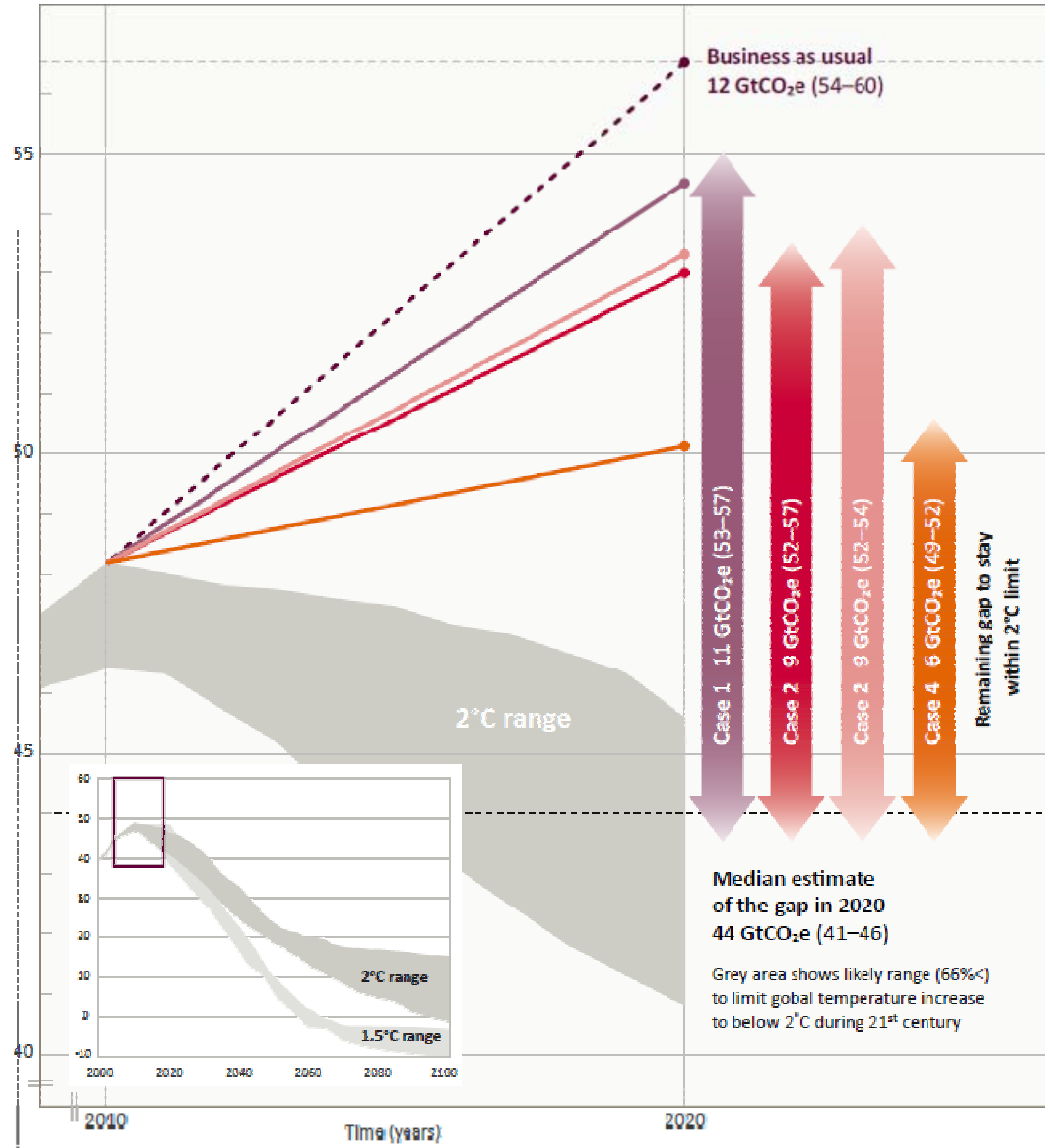


Bridging the Emissions Gap
A UNEP Synthesis Report



UNEP

UNEP Gap Report 2011 – The gap is not closing



Annex I targets are not transparent: No confidence adequate emission reductions will be achieved

- Unclear whether some targets will be achieved due to extensive conditionalities.
- Unclear what would be achieved due to wide ranges of possible reductions proposed by some Parties.
- Some proposed targets will not deliver emission reductions at all.
- “Clarification” exercise must identify transparent, single number, unconditional, emission reduction commitments for Annex I Parties.

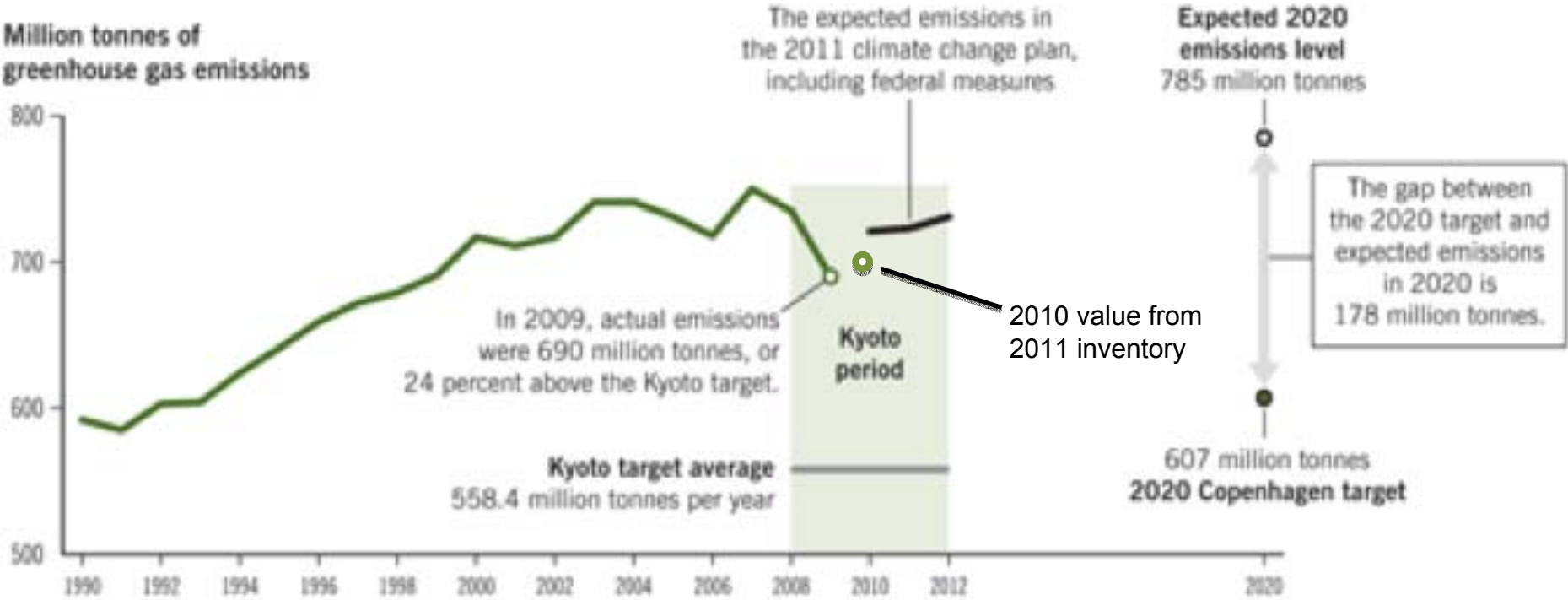
Will the Canadian pledge deliver?

NOT on a path to meet its target

Emissions in 1990: **589 MtCO₂e**
Projected emissions in 2020: **785 MtCO₂e**

Pledge:
 -17%
 below 2005
 equivalent to
 4% above 1990

Expected emissions in 2020:
 33%
 above 1990



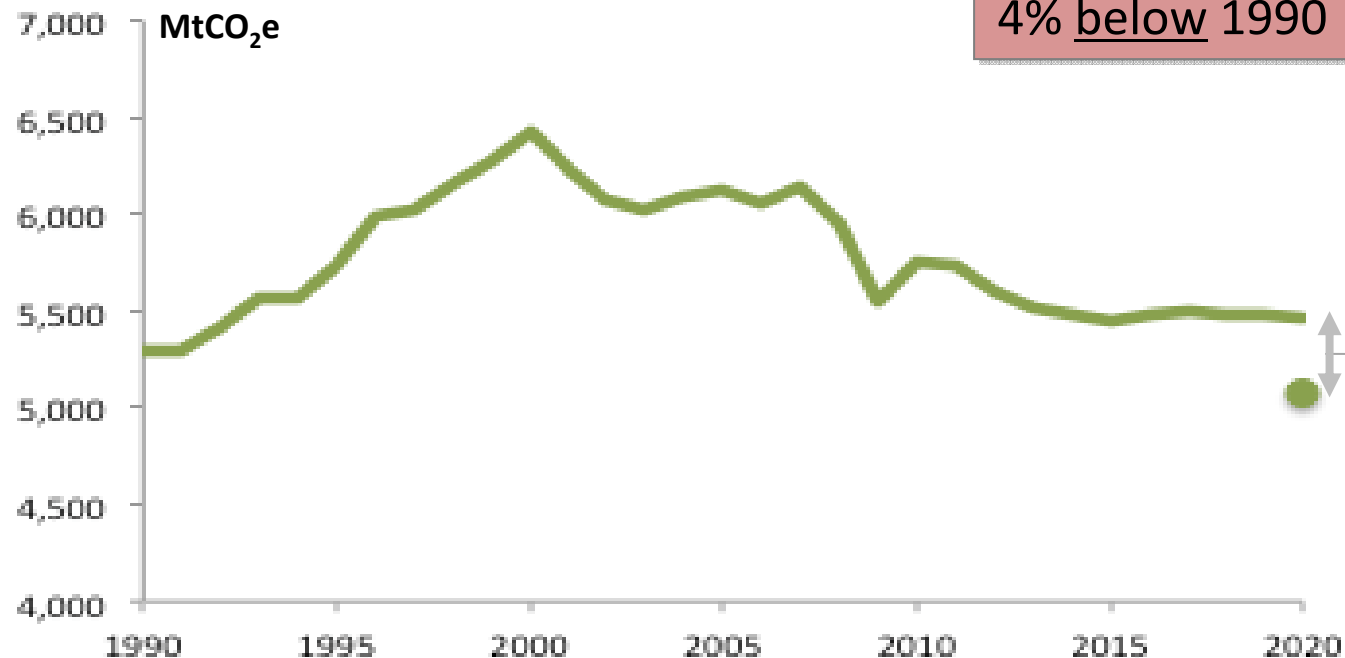
Will the US pledge deliver?

Policies required to implement the target

Emissions in 1990: **5,293 MtCO₂e**
Projected emissions in 2020: **5,463 MtCO₂e**

Pledge:
17%
below 2005
equivalent to
4% below 1990

**Estimated
emissions in
2020:**
3% above
1990



The gap between the 2020 target and expected emissions in 2020 is 384 MtCO₂e

Source: based on US EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2012 (Pre-release)
Land use based on CRF 2012

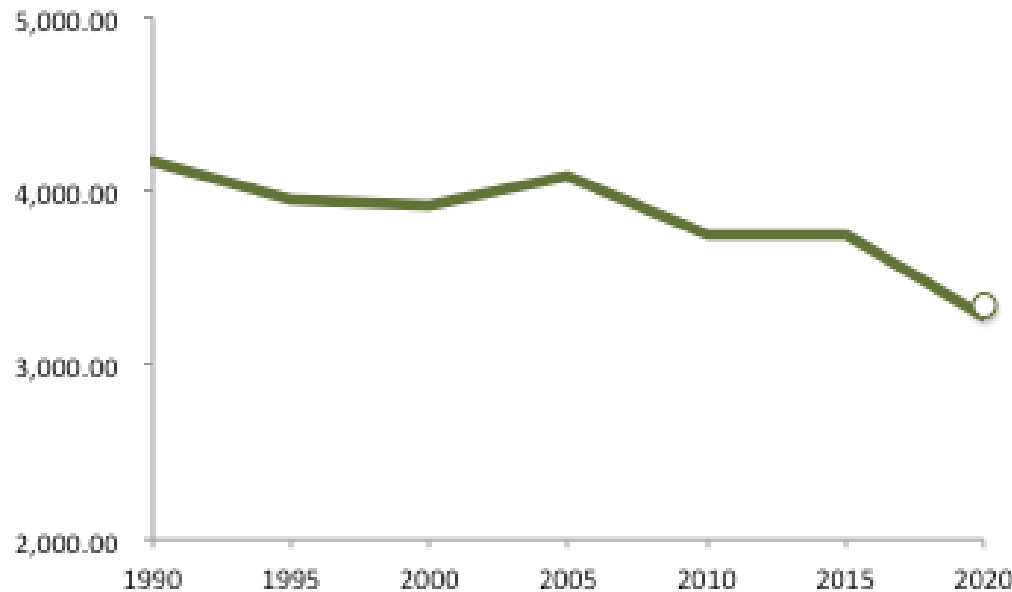
Will the EU pledge deliver?

More effort needed

Emissions in 1990: **4,127 MtCO₂e**
Projected emissions in 2020: **3,280 MtCO₂e**

Pledge for 2020:
-20%
below 1990

Expected reductions in 2020:
-22%
below 1990



Actual emissions in 2020 are expected to be 57 MtCO₂e below pledge

Source: Energy roadmap 2050
Current Policy Scenario

➡ **-30% is feasible and economically beneficial to the EU**

Some countries have presented targets that will not result in emission reductions and will generate new surpluses:

- Ukraine
- Belarus
- Russia

Common accounting rules

- Application of a common set of accounting rules at the international level is essential to deliver an assessment of the *scale* of the mitigation gap, in order to enable *closure* of this gap.
- Identifying the scale of the gap will facilitate an appropriate policy response at all levels

Clarification of pledges must deliver ambitious, transparent and comparable commitments to close emissions gap

- Annex I must demonstrate leadership:
 - Present unconditional economy wide quantified emission reduction commitments
 - Expressed as a single number, with 1990 base year
 - Move to top of their pledged emission reduction ranges and increase ambition.
- Apply agreed Common Accounting Rules:
 - KP Parties account for LULUCF based on the Durban rules
 - Non-KP parties account for LULUCF with internationally agreed rules
 - Apply KP eligibility rules for access to the KP mechanisms.
 - Similar stringent eligibility rules must be applied to any new mechanism under Convention.
- No credits from bilateral and other non-multilaterally agreed mechanisms
 - Would undermine environmental integrity and the global carbon market.

Why common accounting rules?

- Track progress toward global goals:
 - Assess the scale of the ambition gap; what is needed to limit warming to below 1.5°
- Comparability of effort:
 - Compare commitments among all Annex I Parties
- No "pick and choose" approach:
 - Need common base years, common methodologies and common accounting rules
- Underpin robust, international carbon markets:
 - Build confidence that tonne is a tonne
 - Monitor trade in internationally-recognized units.

Next steps

- Bangkok session
 - Assess scale of mitigation ambition gap using one set of Common Accounting Rules.
 - Consider Common Accounting Rules for Annex I Parties based on KP
- Decision in Doha:
 - Increase pre-2020 ambition in line with science and gap assessment
 - Adopt Common Accounting Rules for Annex I Parties, based on the KP
 - AOSIS submission FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/MISC.1/Add.2
 - Express targets for non-KP Parties based on agreed Common Accounting Rules