

# Climate Change and Human Health: From Threat to Opportunity

*“Ensuring that the health of a child born today  
is not defined by a changing climate”*

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Dr Nick Watts | Executive Director @Watts\_Nick



# Climate Change and Human Health: From Threat to Opportunity

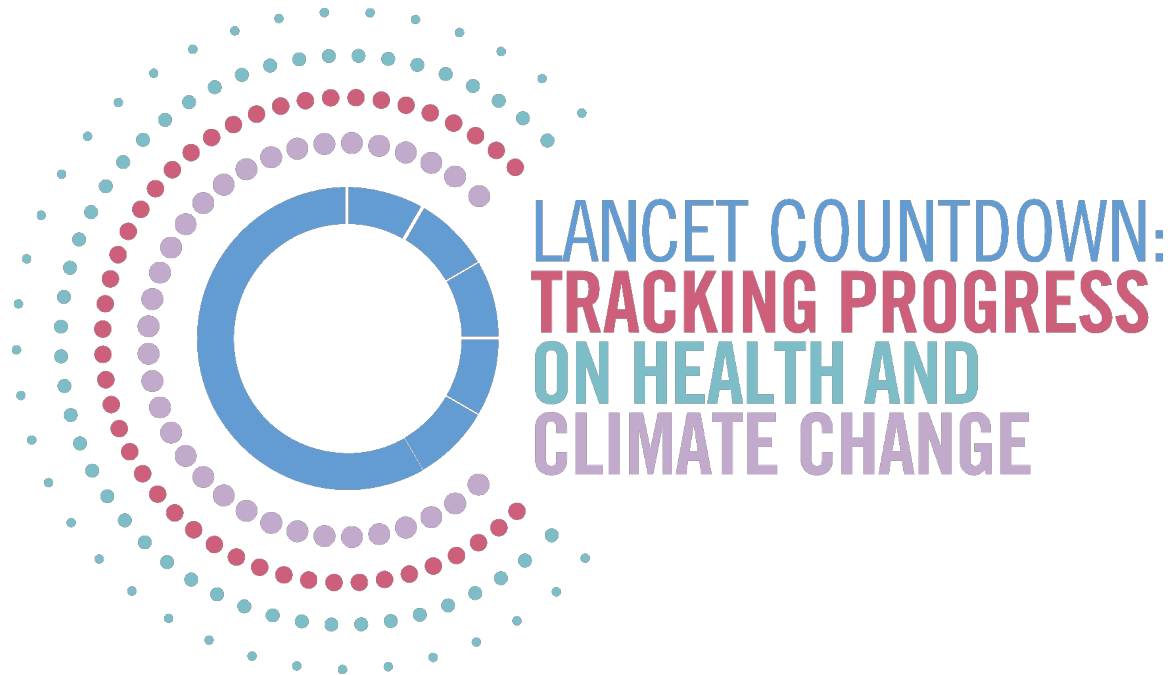
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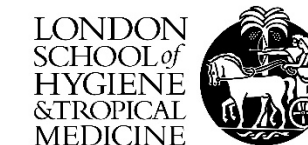
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# Health, Climate Change, and The Lancet



# Lancet Countdown Partners



“The life of every child born today  
will be profoundly affected by  
climate change...

Without accelerated intervention,  
this new era will come to define  
the health of people at every stage  
of their lives.”





## 1.1.3 & 4: Exposure of Vulnerable Populations to Heatwaves

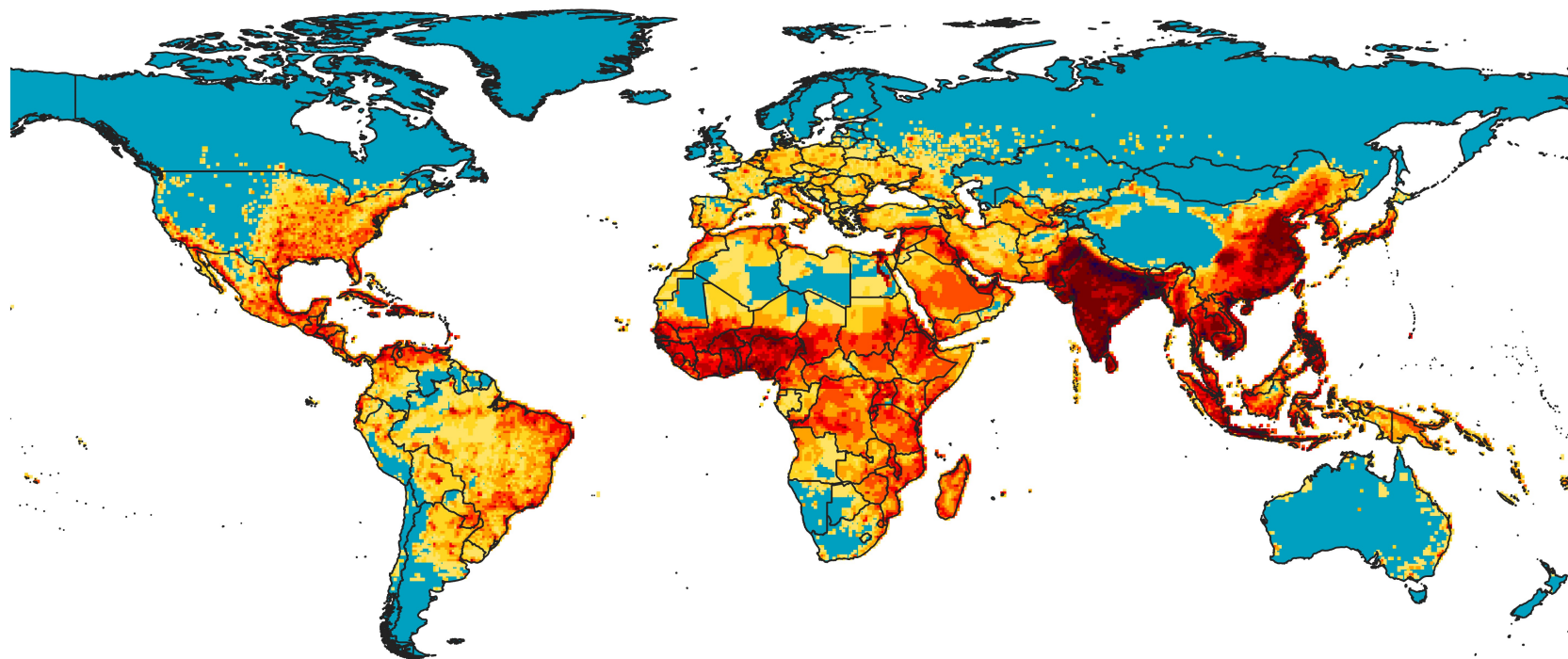
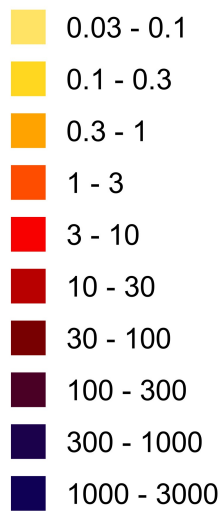
### Headline Finding:

2018 saw 220 million additional vulnerable people exposed to extremes of heat

### Headline Finding:

In 2018, 133 billion of potential work hours were lost due to rising temperatures – 45 billion hours more than in 2000.

Million potential labour hours lost

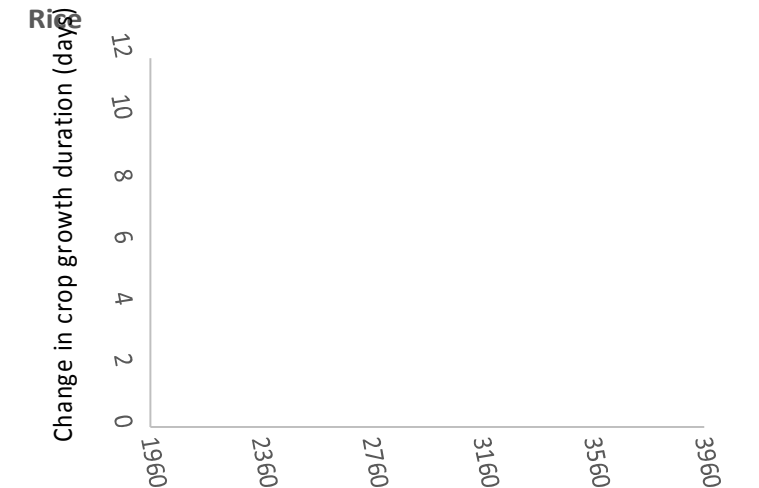
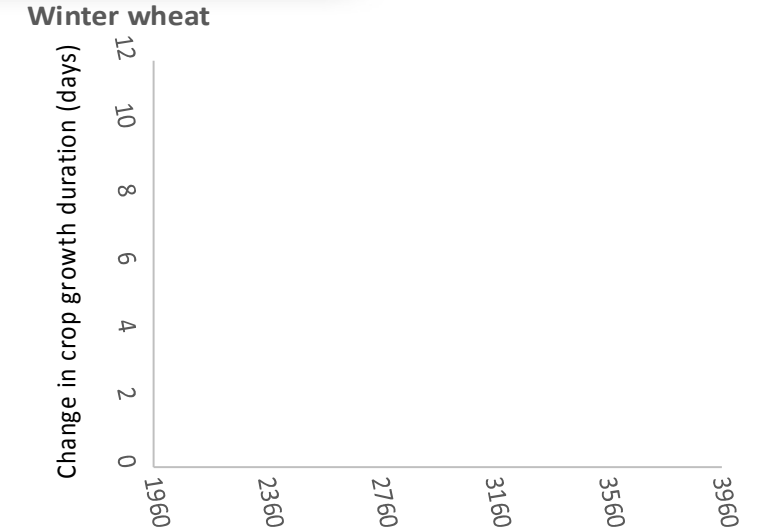
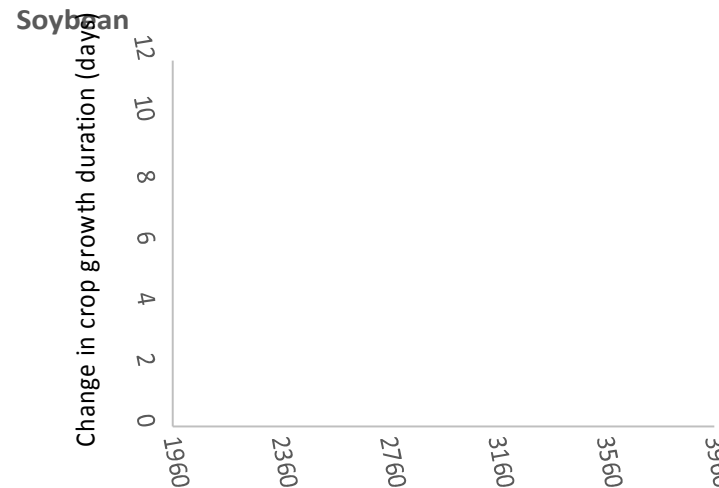
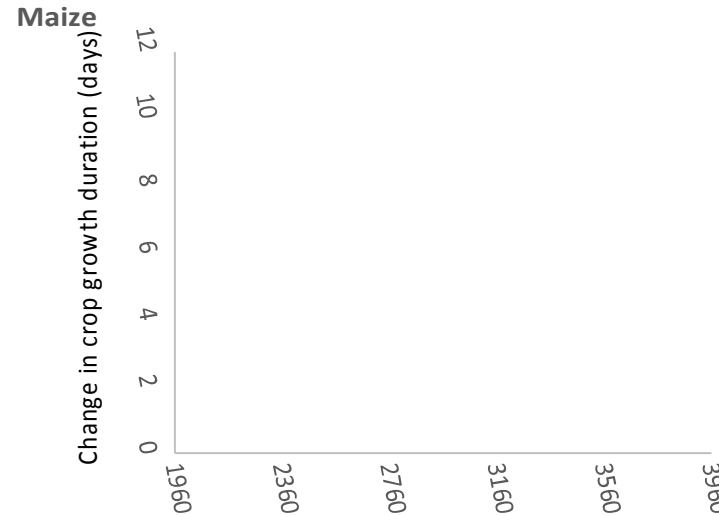




## 1.5.1: Terrestrial Food Security and Undernutrition

### Headline Finding:

A changing climate has seen global yield potential reduce by 2.9% for maize, 3.8% for winter wheat and 3.1% for soybean crops from 1988 to present day, with concerning implications for global undernutrition.



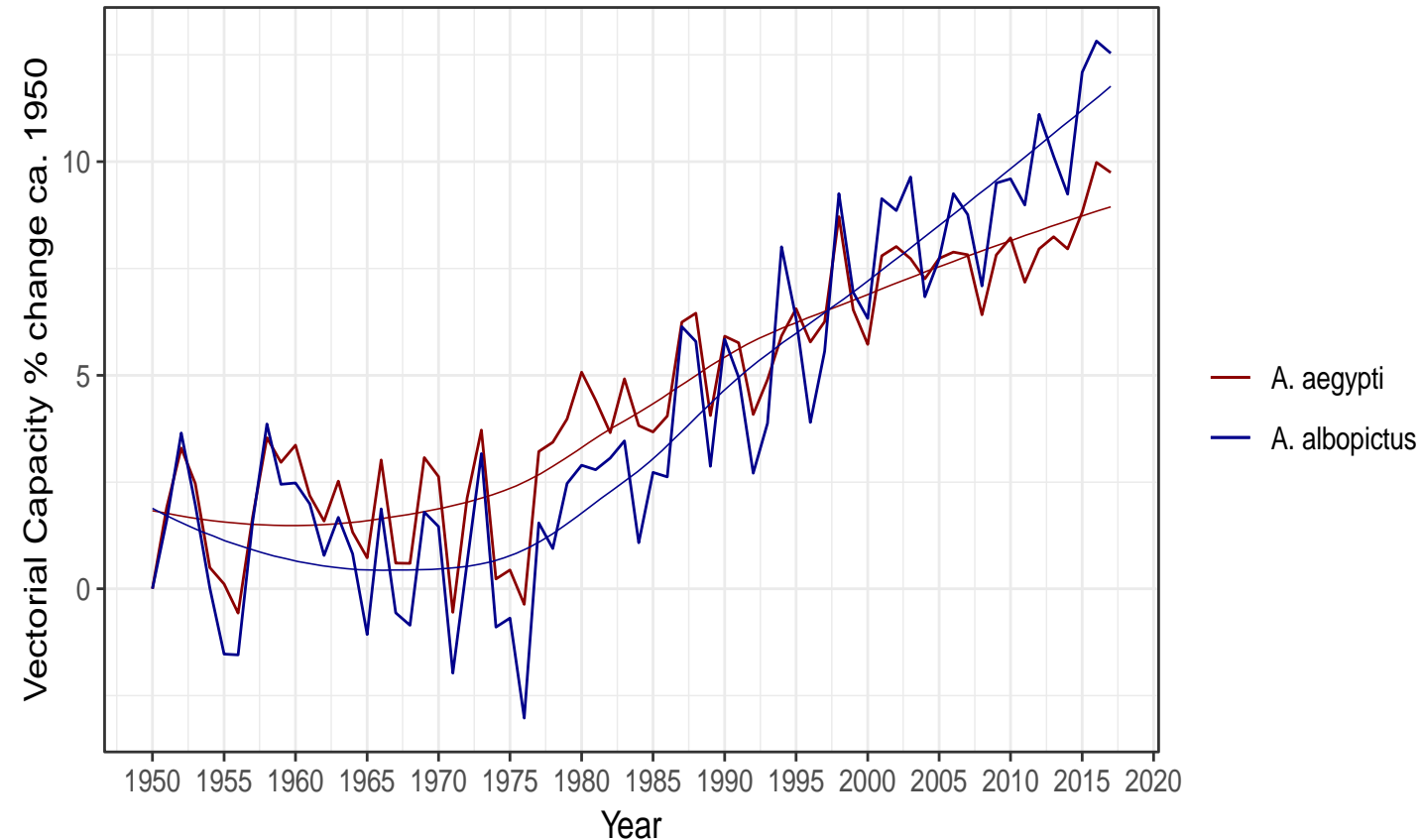


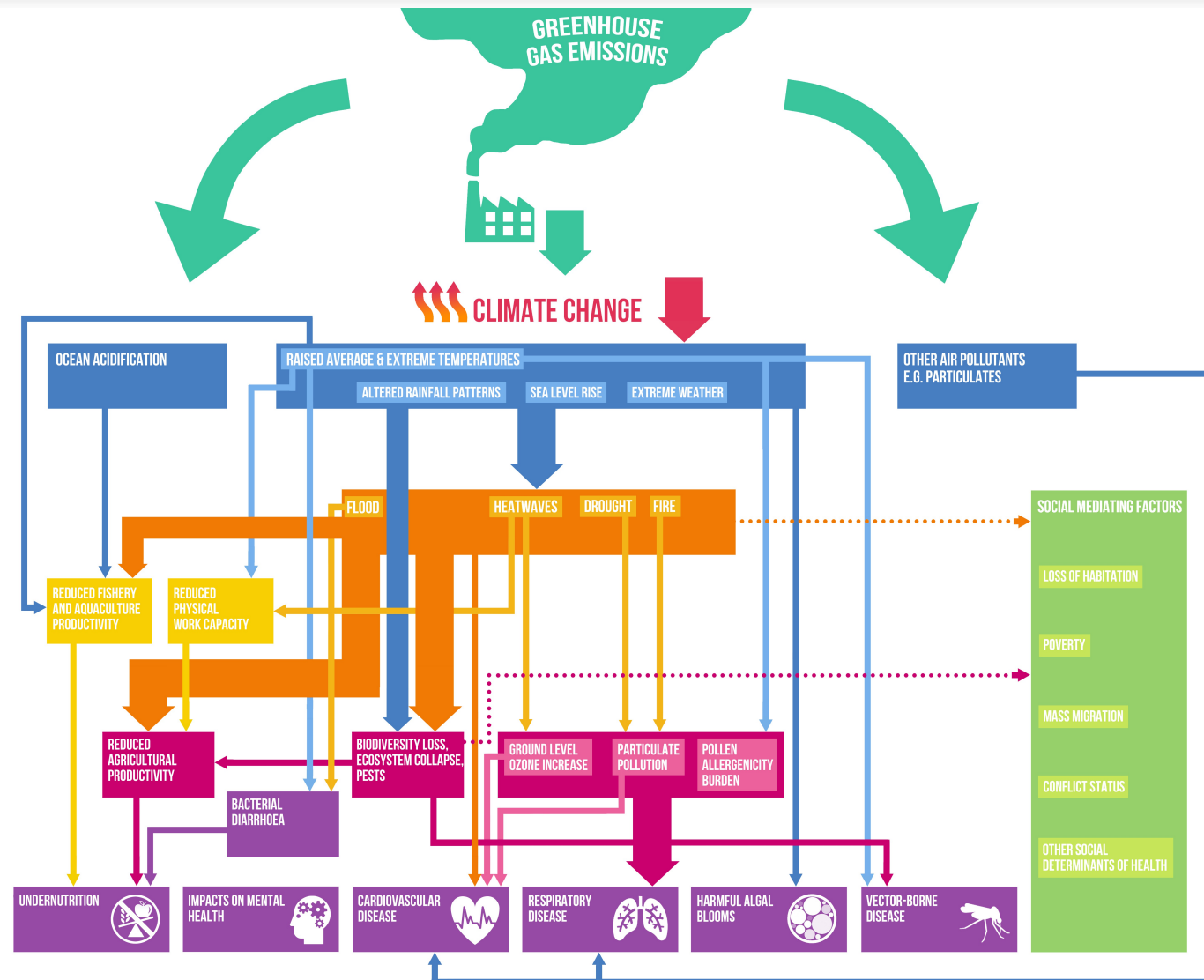
## 1.4.1: Climate Suitability for Infectious Disease Transmission

### Headline Finding:

Vectorial capacity for the transmission of dengue was the 2nd highest on record in 2017, with 9 of the 10 most suitable years occurring since 2000.

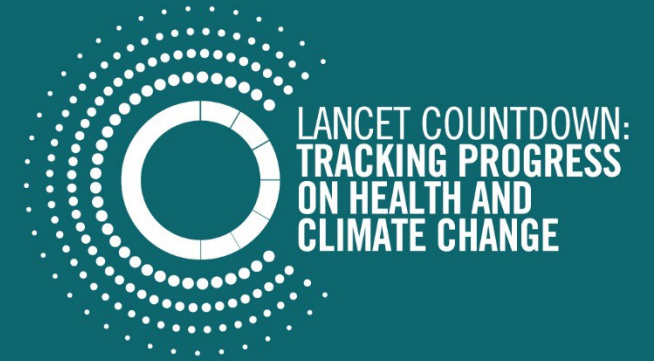
The global average increase above the 1950s baseline was 7.2% for *Aedes aegypti* and 9.8% for *A. albopictus*.







- “The delayed response to climate change over the past two decades has jeopardised human life and livelihoods.”

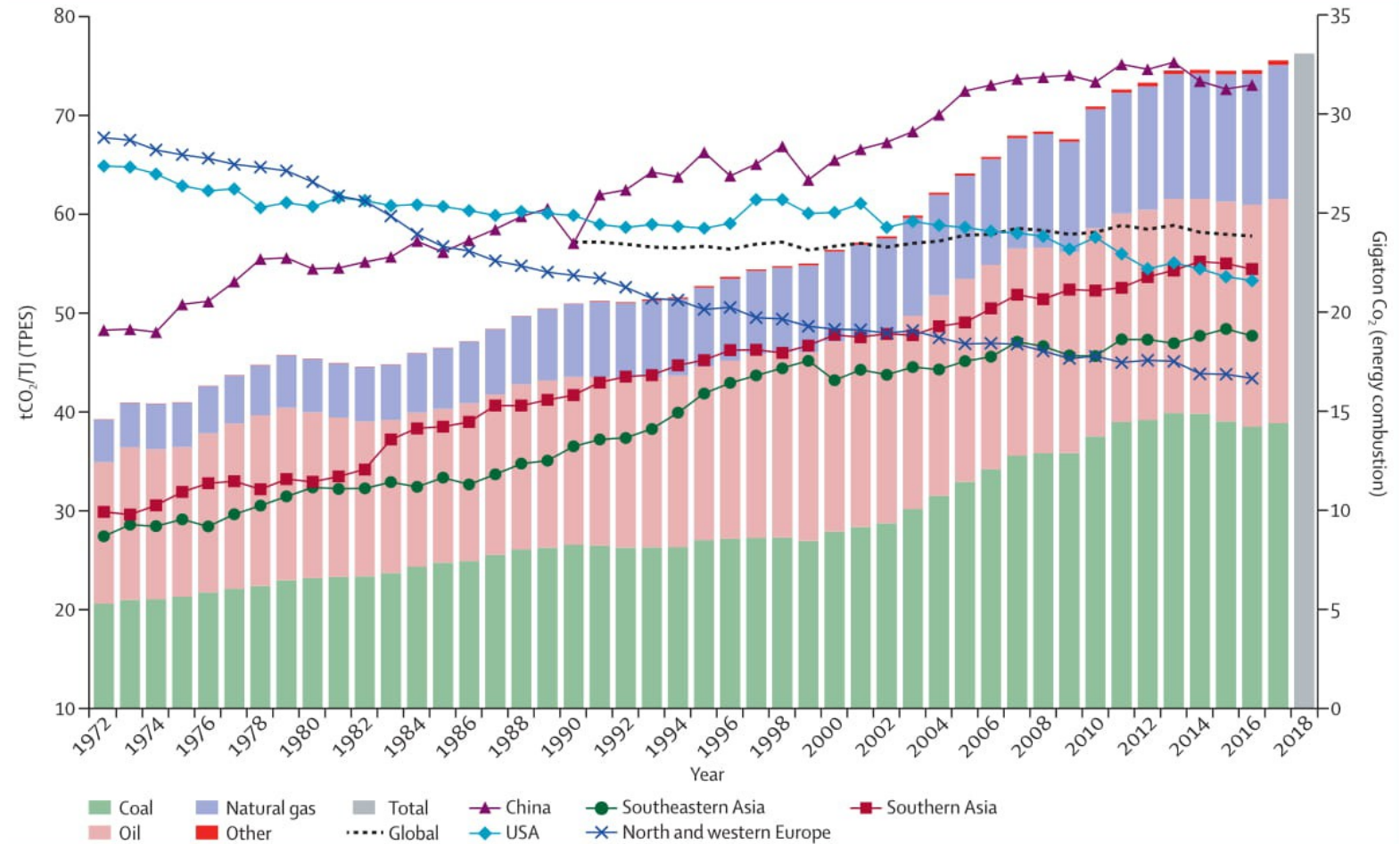




## 3.1.1: Carbon Intensity of the Energy System

### Headline Finding:

The carbon intensity of the global energy system has remained flat since 1990.

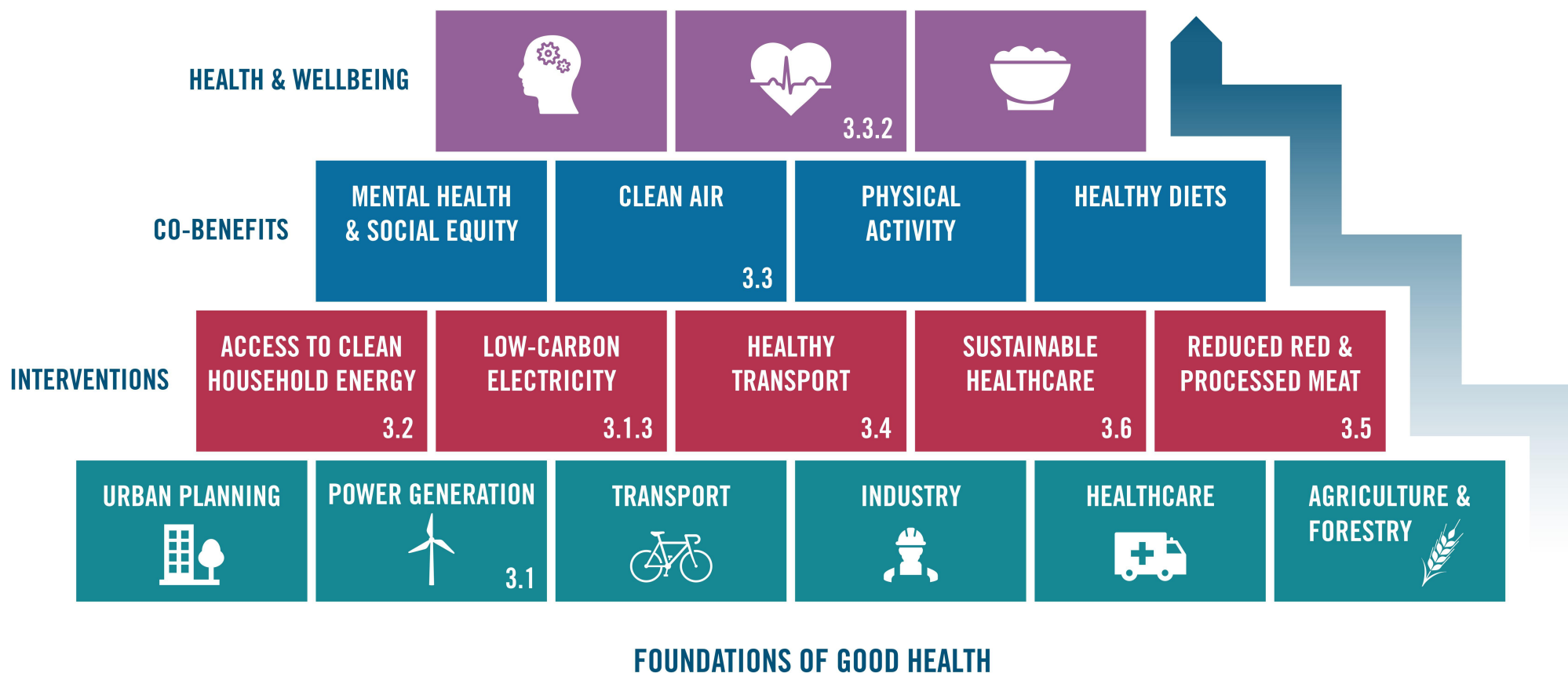




"A second path—which limits the global average temperature rise to “well below 2°C”—is possible, and would transform the health of a child born today for the better, right the way through their life.”



# Health Benefits of Climate Action





## 4.2: Economic Costs of Air Pollution

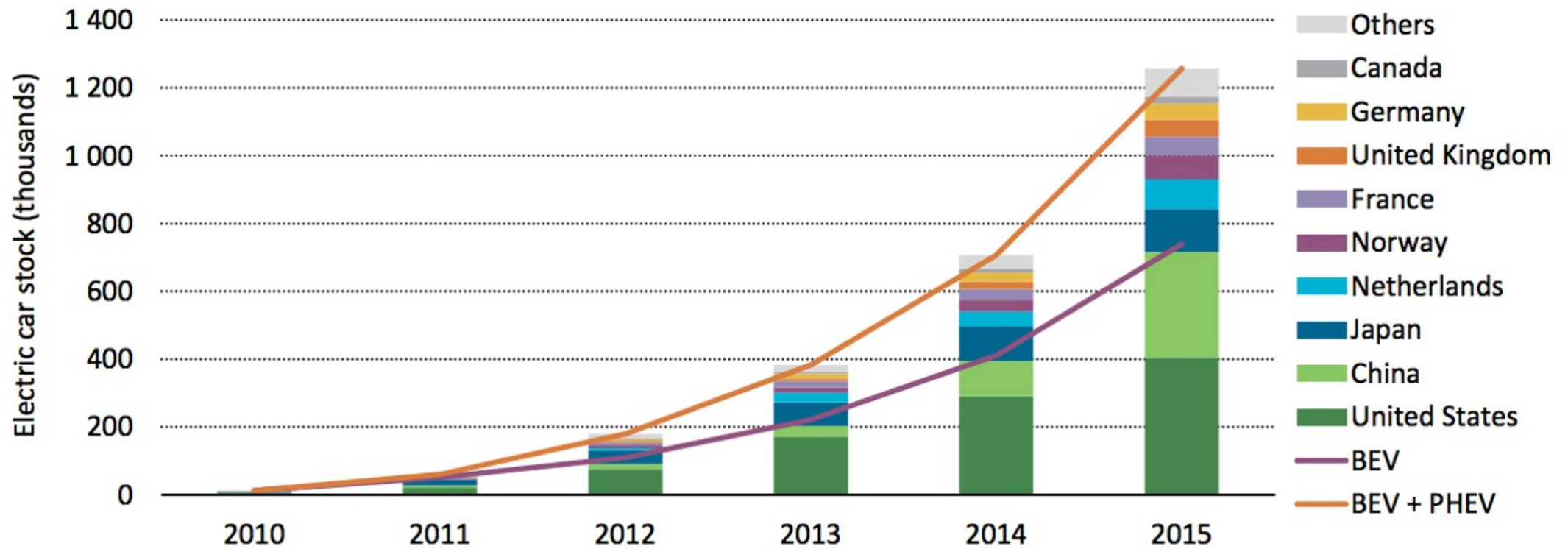
### Headline Finding:

In Europe improvements in particulate air pollution from human activity were seen from 2015 to 2016.

Sustaining this progress into the future would lead to an annual saving of €5.2 billion from reductions in Years of Life Lost.




**Figure 1 • Evolution of the global electric car stock, 2010-15**





# Healthcare and Climate Change

**NHS England and NHS Improvement**  @NHSEngland · Jan 25

With almost 700 people dying avoidably due to air pollution every week, we're facing a health emergency as well as an environmental crisis. Find out how we're working with NHS staff and climate experts to take immediate action for a [#GreenerNHS](https://www.england.nhs.uk/greenernhs/202...).  [england.nhs.uk/greenernhs/202...](https://www.england.nhs.uk/greenernhs/202...)





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THE LANCET

