



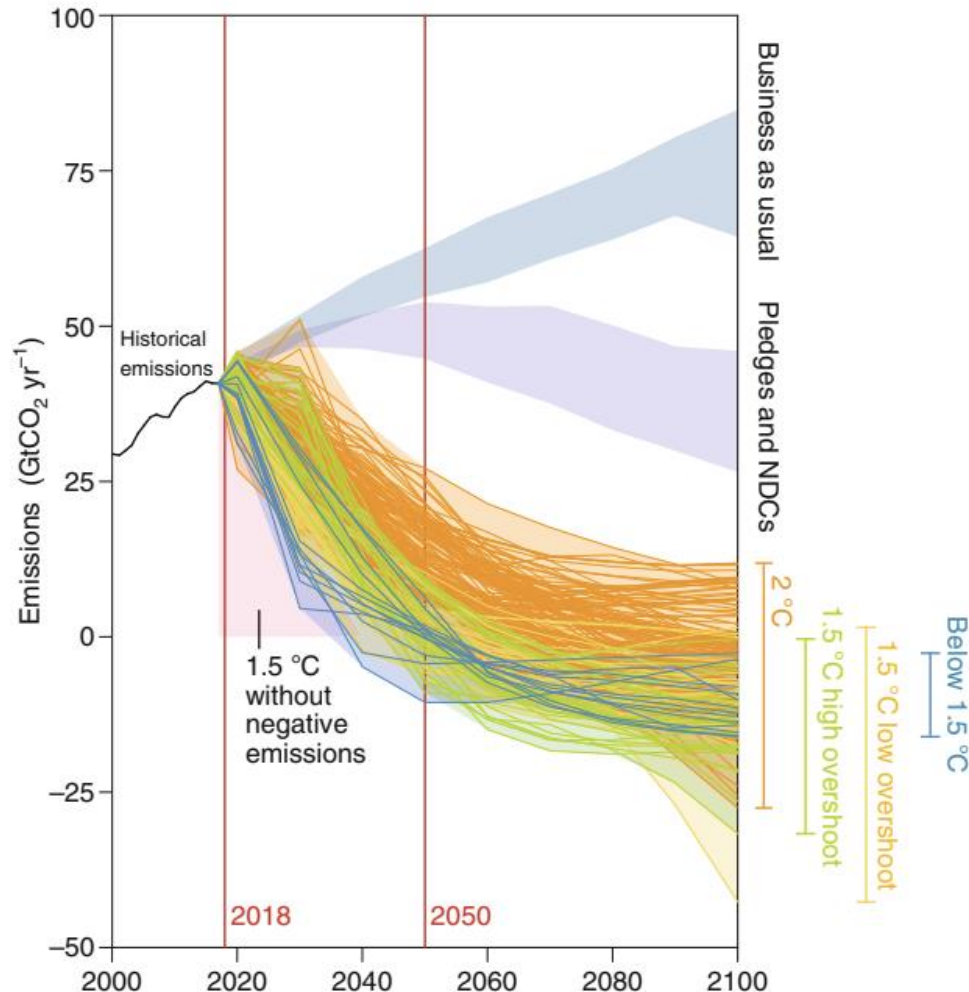
Land use and Climate

Michael Obersteiner

Director ECI | Oxford University

Achieving net Zero: The Role of Land, Tuesday 28 February 2020

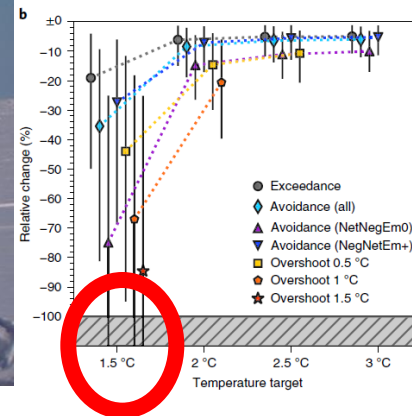
BAU, Pledges and Climate target



- Countries are not ambitious enough
- Timing of Zero Net depends on
 - Climate target
 - Degree of Over-/Undershooting emissions
 - Earth system

Fig. 1 | Global net anthropogenic CO₂ emission pathways in BAU, 2 °C and 1.5 °C model scenarios. The 2 °C (132 model runs, orange lines), 1.5

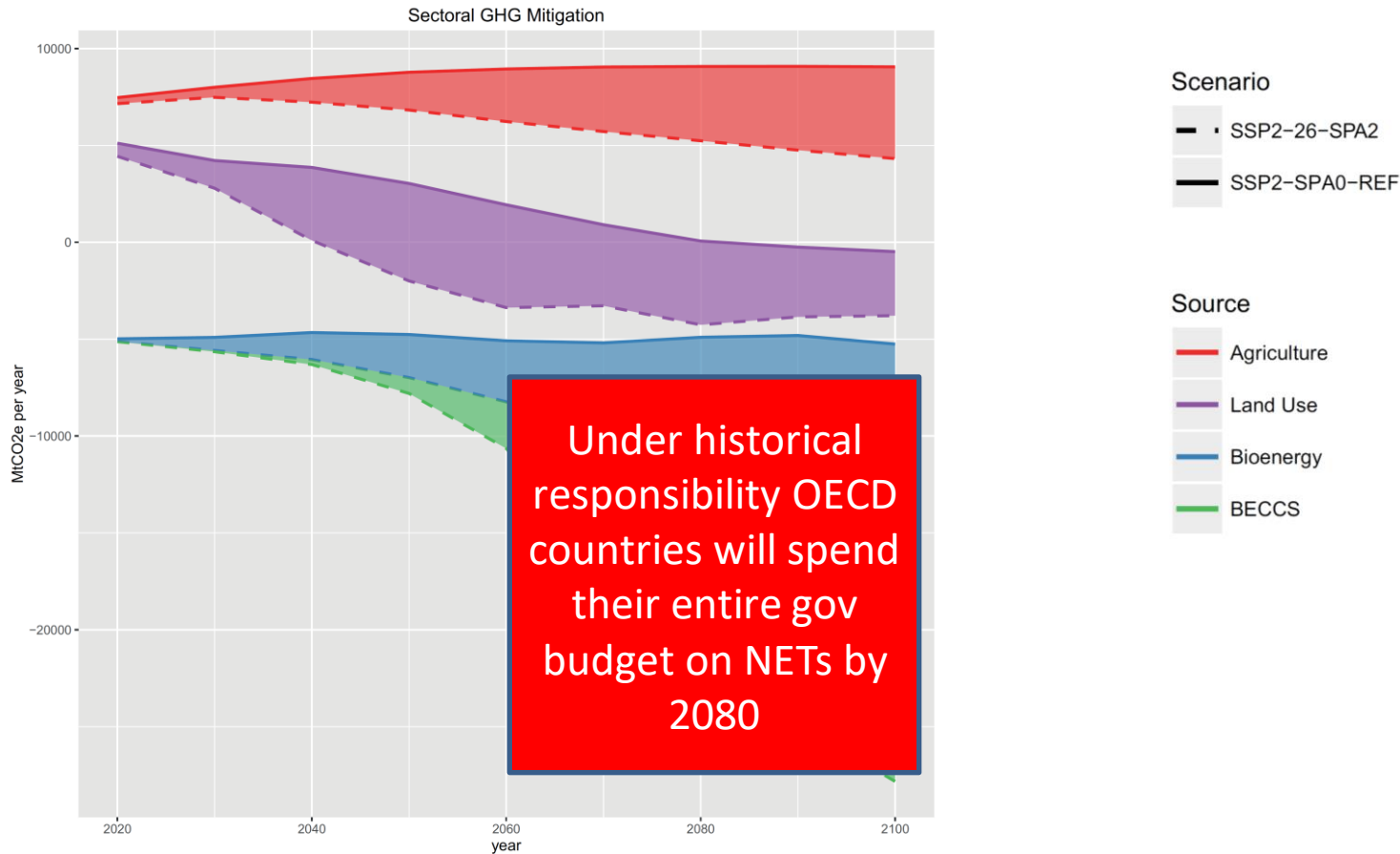
Emissions from thawing permafrost



Accounting for additional emissions from permafrost there is a 5% chance that the remaining carbon budget for 1.5C is zero – today!

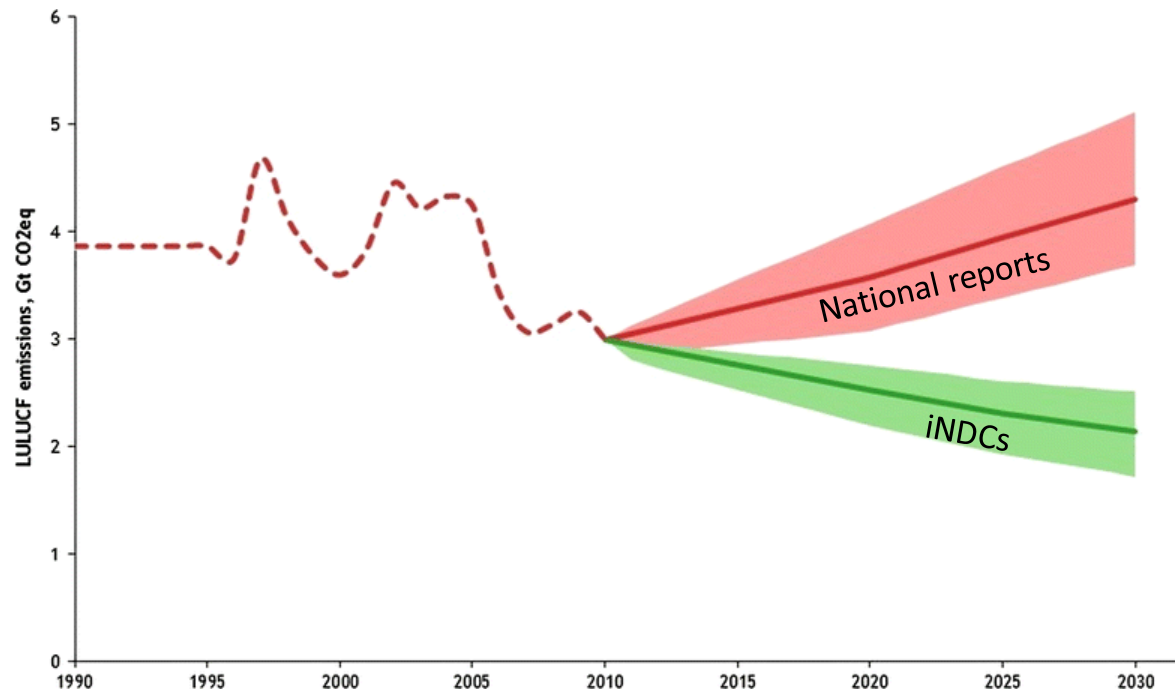
Land use sectors contribution to mitigate for 2°C

The Great Carbon Undershoot



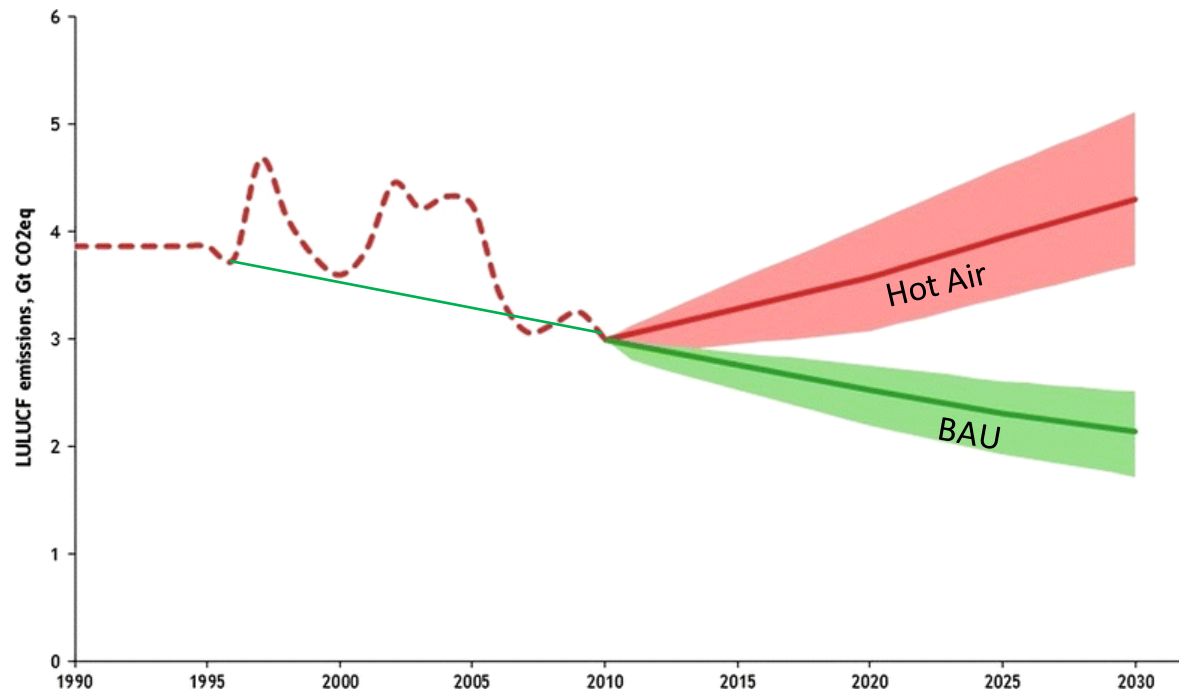
Are countries doing their
homework in the land use sector?

Emissions from land



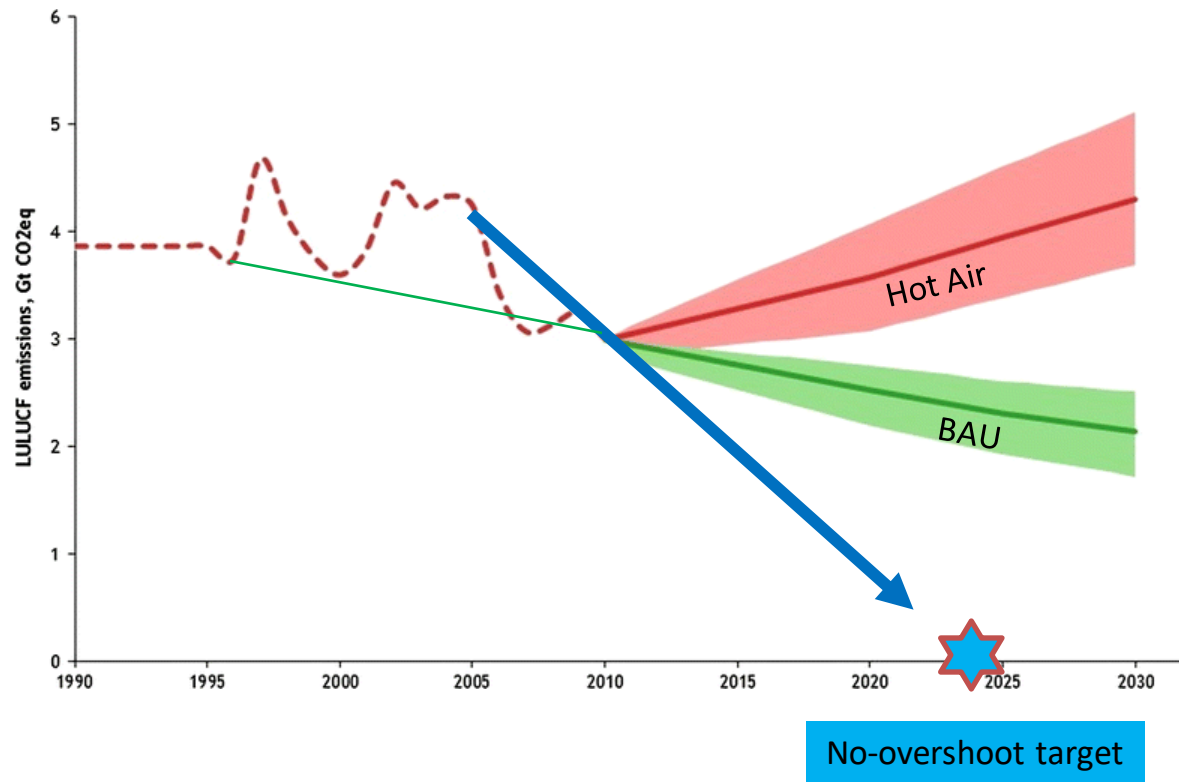
Source: Forsell et al. 2016

Emissions from land



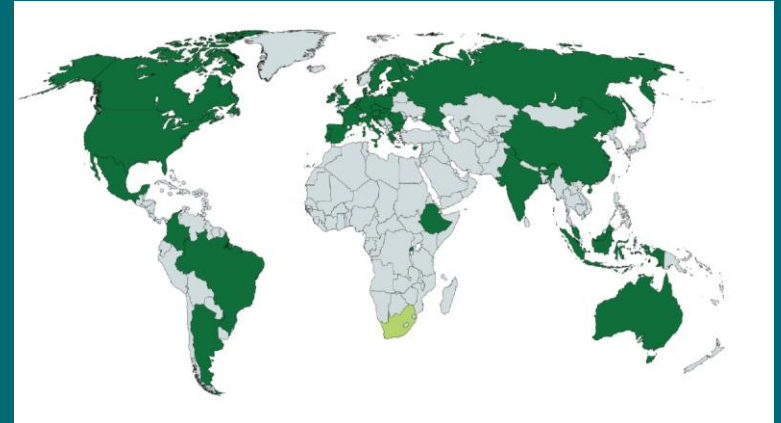
Source: Forsell et al. 2016

Emissions from land



*The Food, Agriculture, Biodiversity,
Land Use and Energy Pathways
(FABLE) Consortium*

Pathways to Sustainable Land-Use and Food Systems



The Food, Agriculture, Biodiversity, Land Use and Energy Pathways (FABLE) Consortium

FABLE in the UK



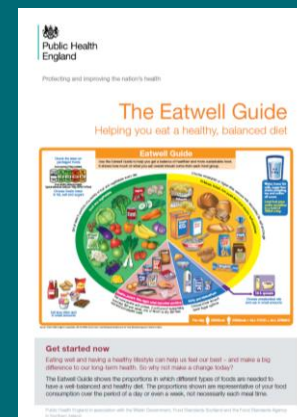
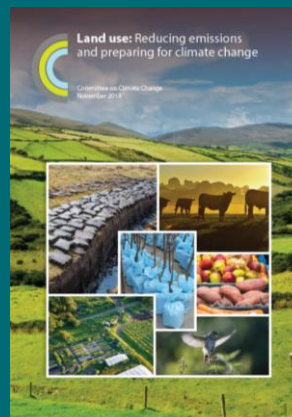
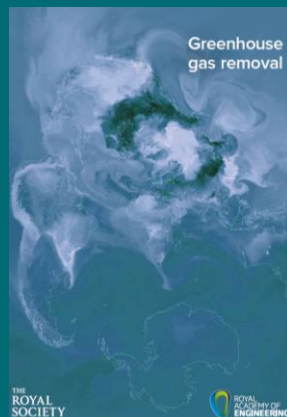
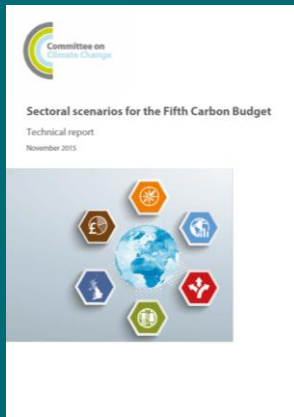
Environmental Change Institute



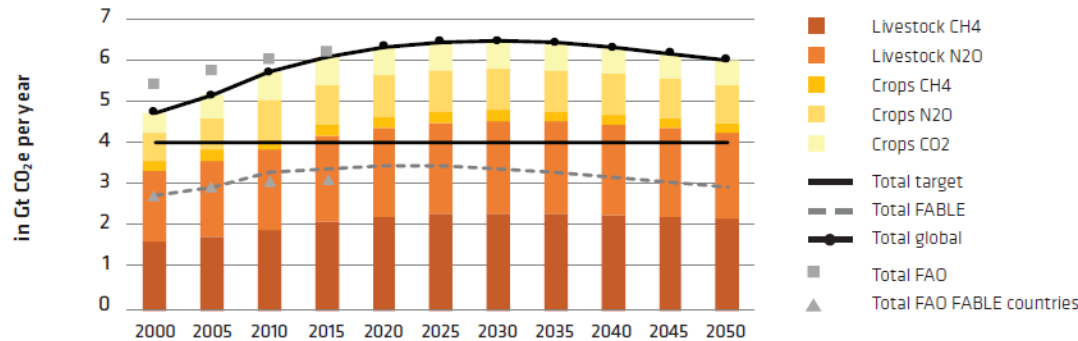
UK climate pathways

UK pathways based on:

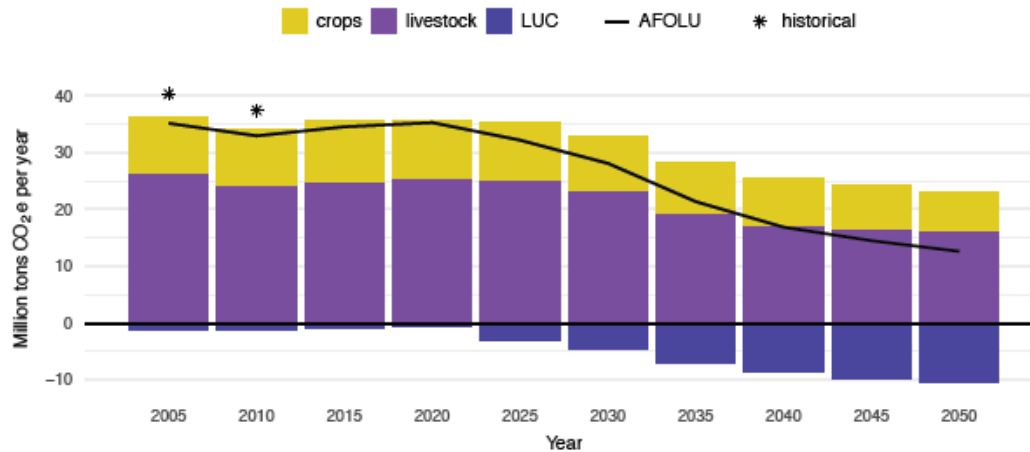
- [5th carbon budget set by the UK Committee on Climate Change \(CCC\)](#)
- Royal Society's report on "[Greenhouse gas removal](#)"
- CCC report on "[Land use: Reducing emissions and preparing for climate change](#)"
- Healthy diets based on governmental guidelines ([the Eatwell Guide](#)) and the [EAT-Lancet Commission Report](#)



Target: GHG emissions reduction from agriculture



✓ **Global target** of GHG emissions from agriculture < 4 GtCO₂e yr⁻¹ by 2050 is not met



✓ **UK target** of net zero GHG emissions by 2050 is not met

Conclusion

- A global Zero Net target by 2050 sounds ambitious, but appears key to hedge Earth system risks
- Nature based solutions require systemic transformation of the food and land use system
- Countries are not up to the challenge
 - Glasgow should not become a lost opportunity