

Engaged scholarship in the Anthropocene

Eric Lambin

UCLouvain & Stanford University
Group of Chief Scientific Advisors to the EC



Spain and Portugal suffering driest climate for 1,200 years, research shows

Effects of human-caused global heating are blocking vital winter rains, with severe implications for farming and tourism

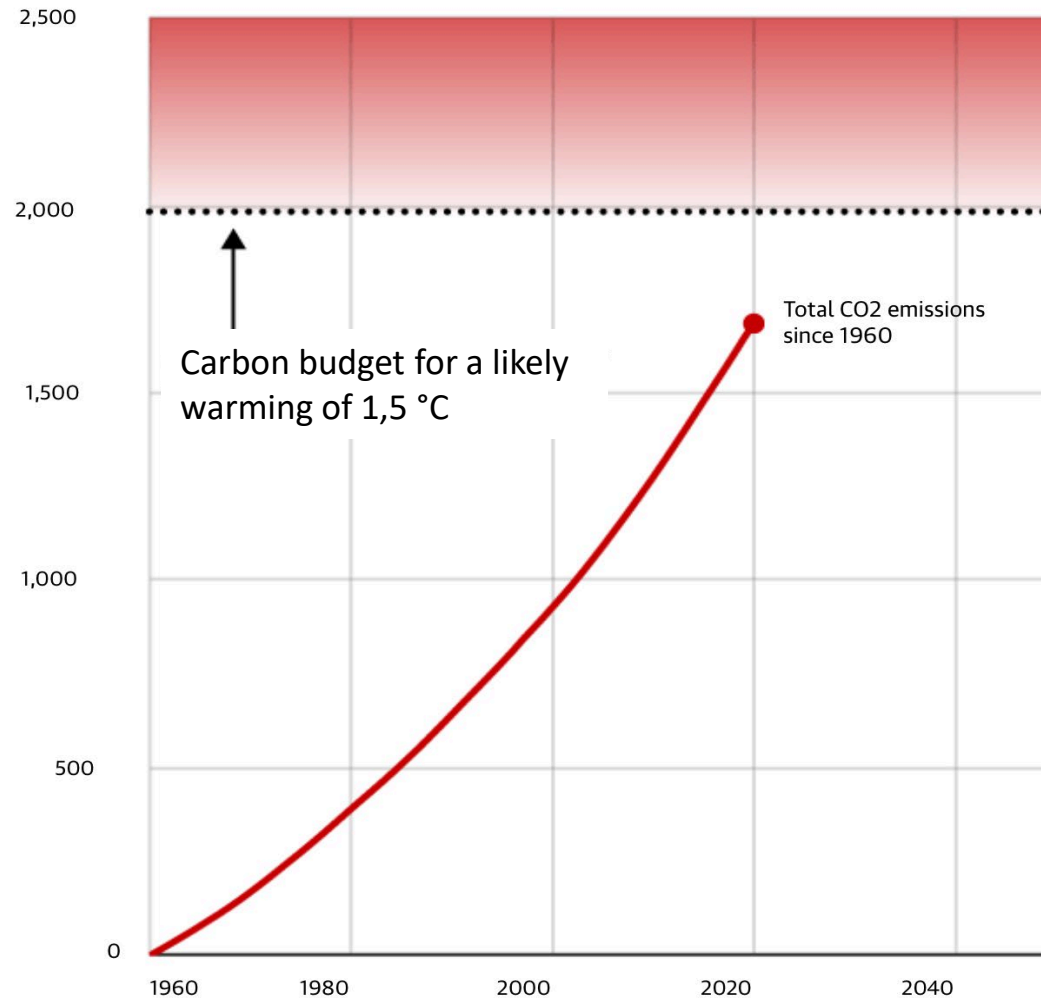


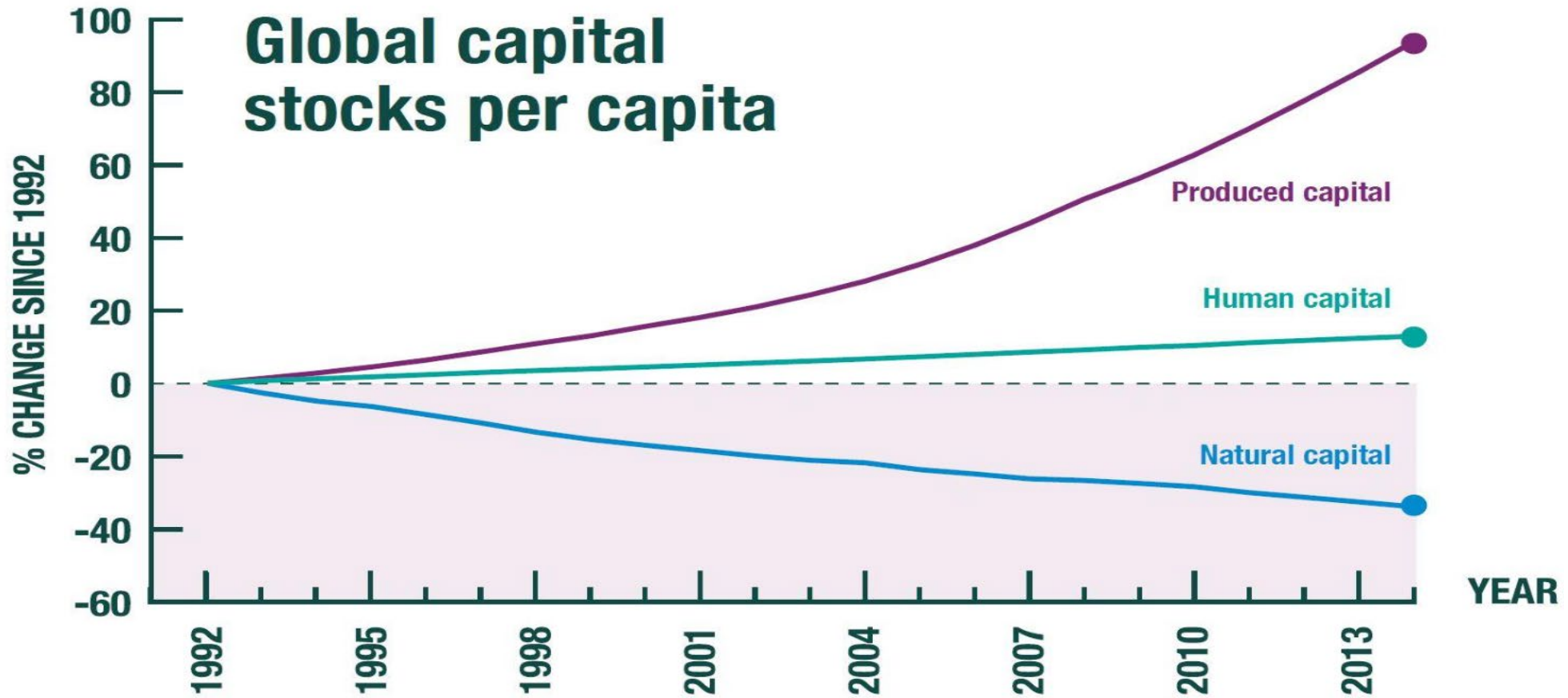
Drought emergency declared in northern Italy



Global CO₂ emissions since 1960

(Gigatonnes)





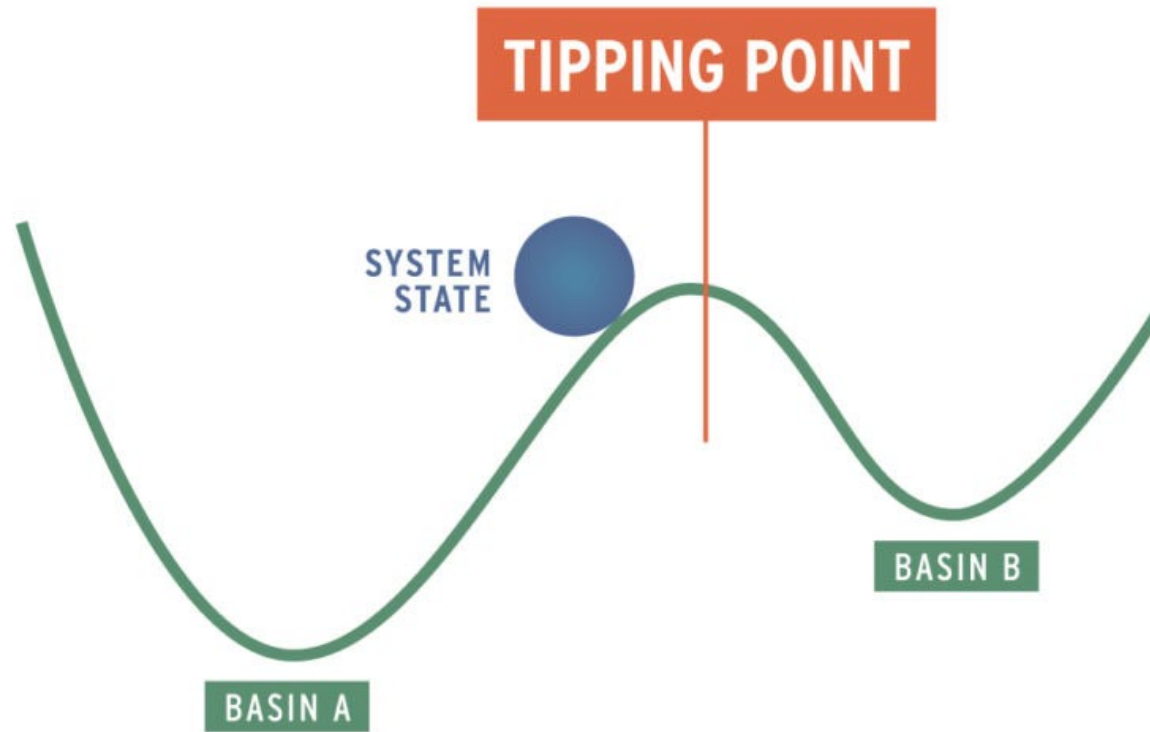
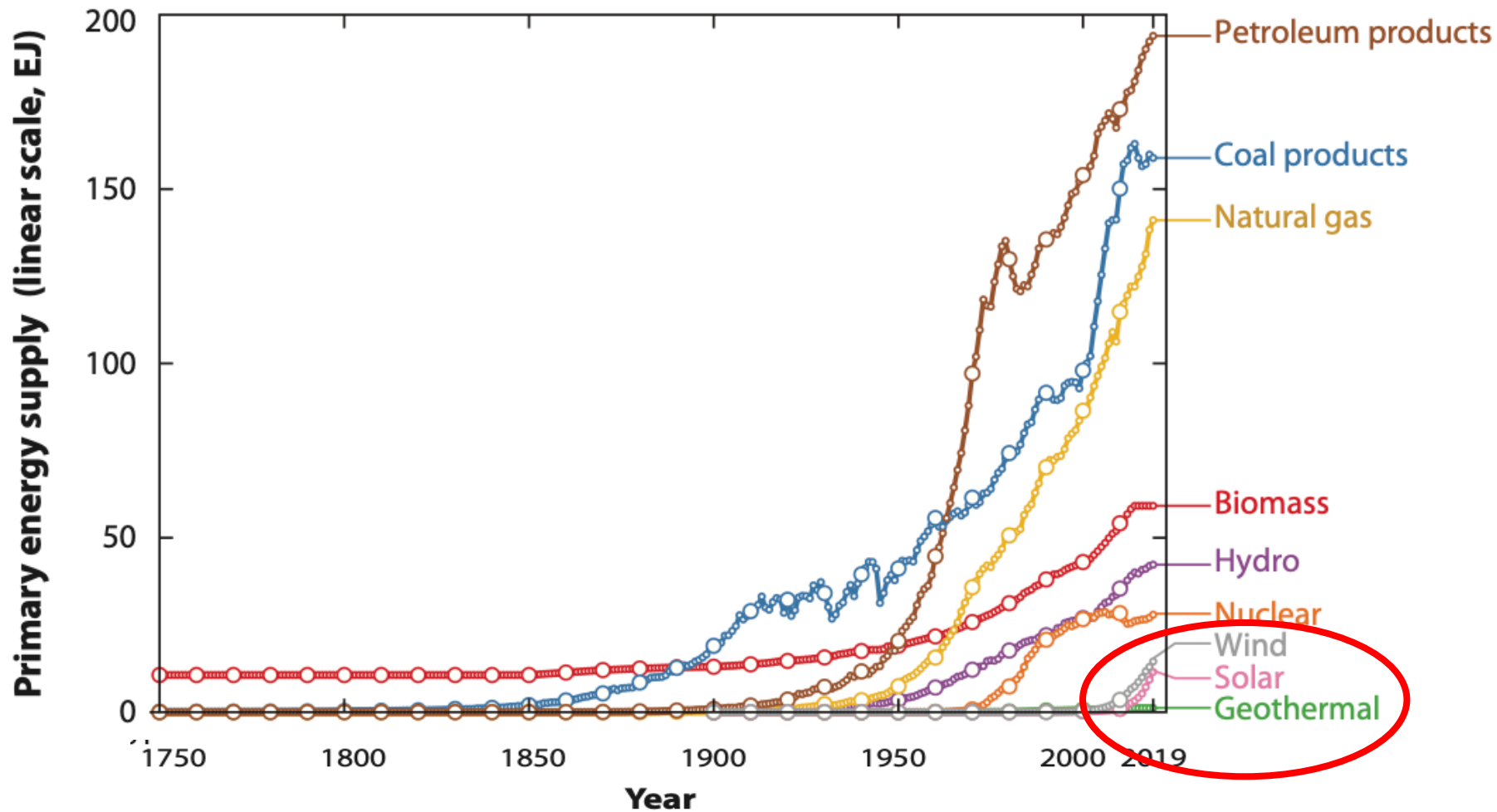
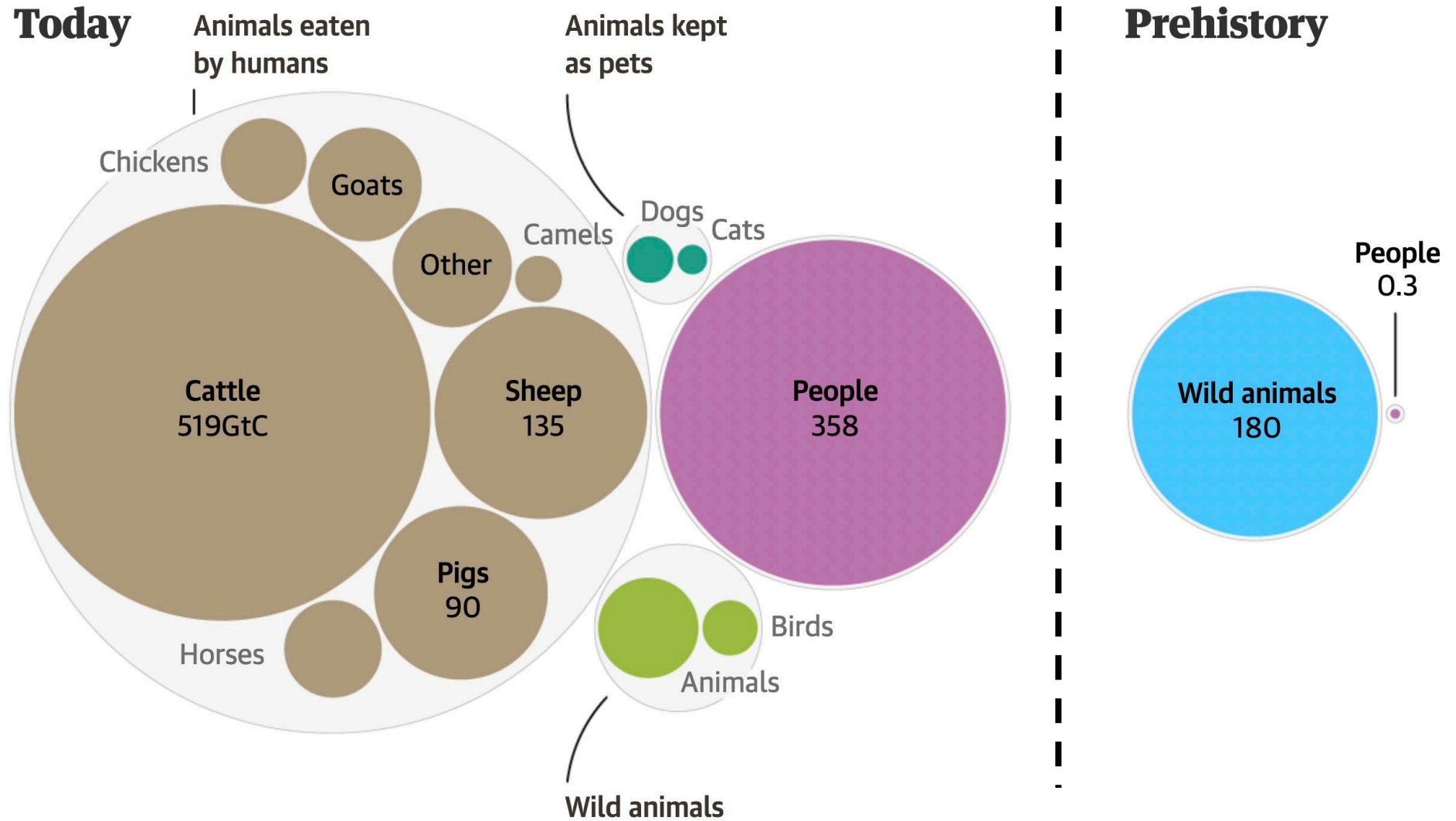


Illustration by Andrew Bernier, adapted from Walker, B. & Salt, D. (2006) Resilience Thinking: Sustaining Ecosystems and People in a Changing World. Island Press: Washington, DC.



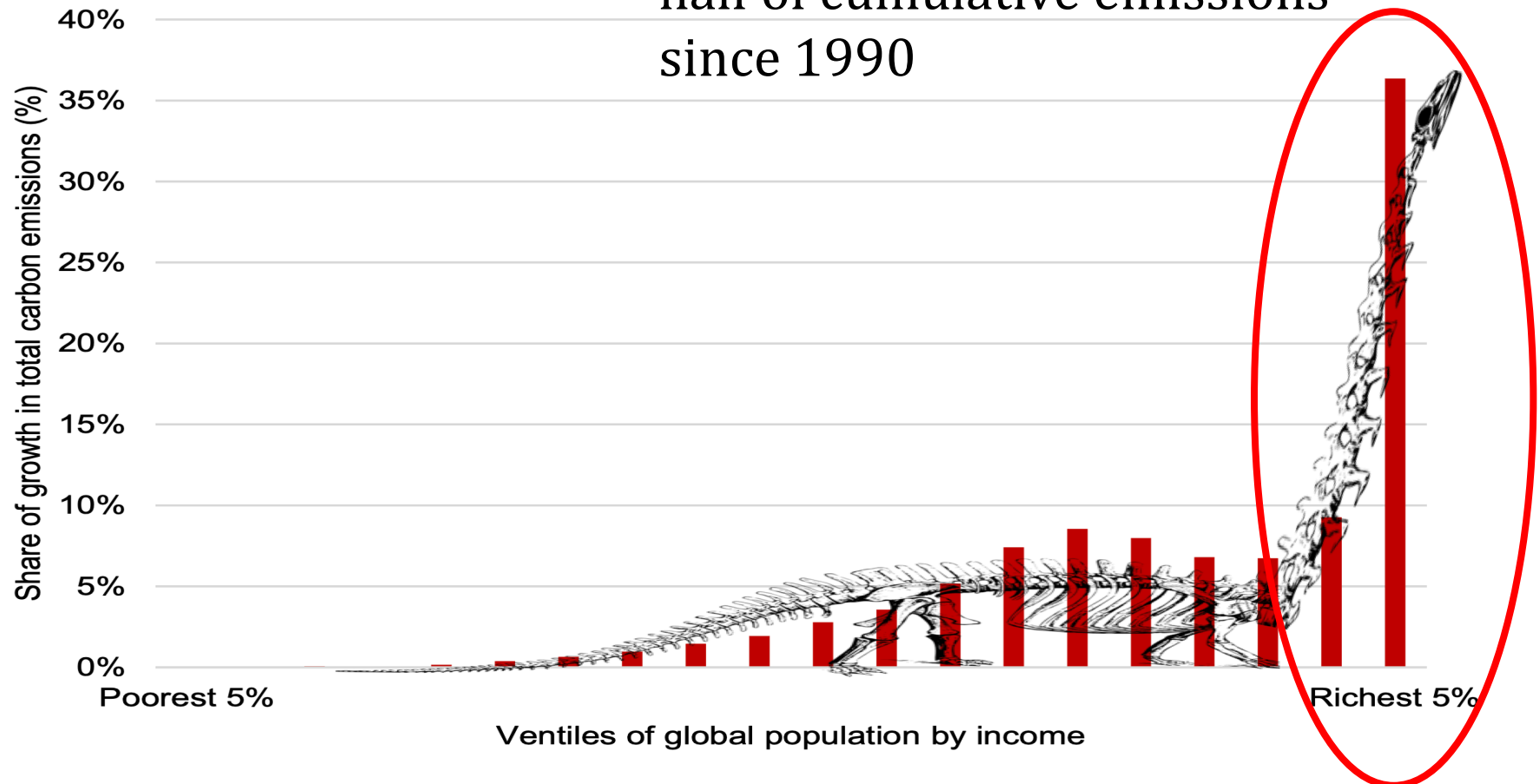
Stoddard et al. 2021, Annu. Rev. Enviro. Res.

Terrestrial-vertebrate-weight, gigatonnes of carbon



Guardian graphic. Source: National Food Strategy analysis based on: Bar-On, Y. M., Phillips, R., & Milo, R. (2018). The biomass distribution on Earth, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

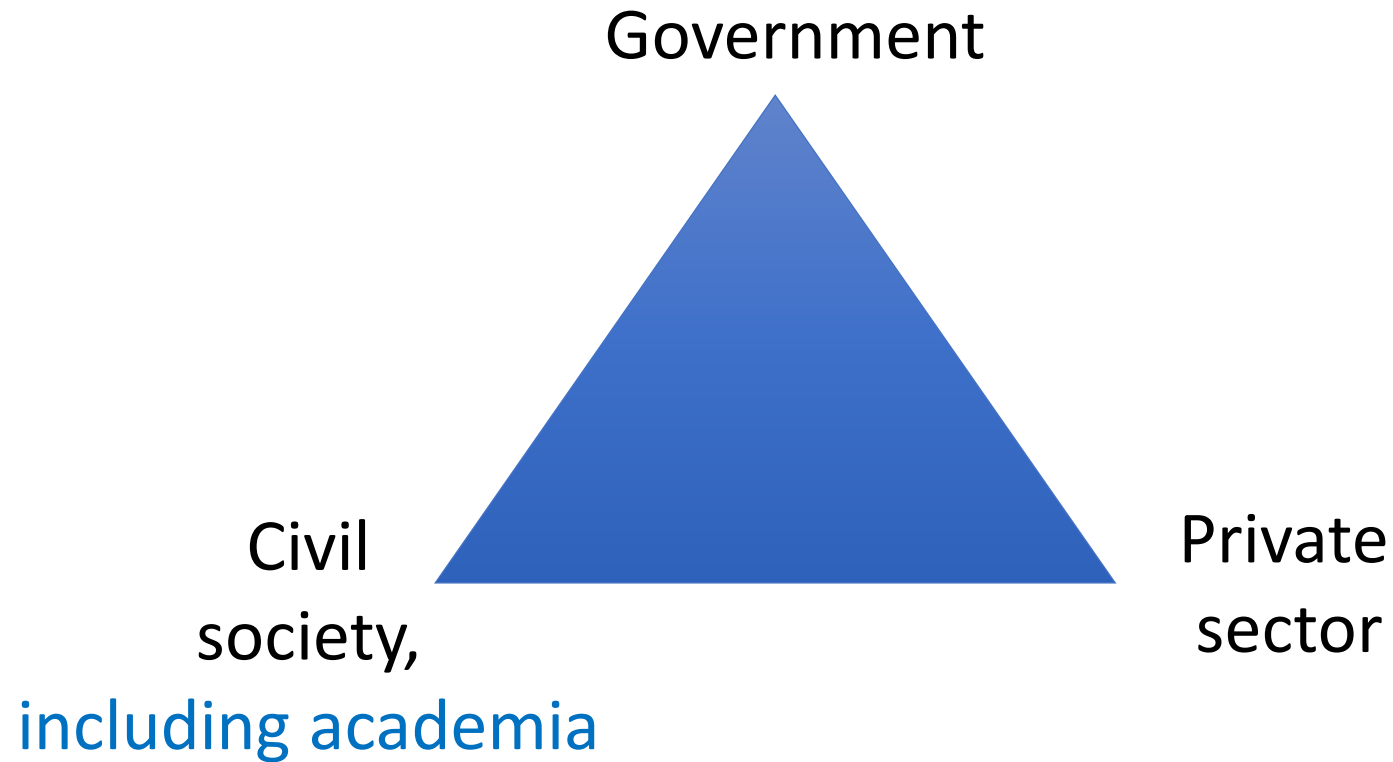
Richest 10% responsible for half of cumulative emissions since 1990



Realizing change in an organisation



Change through partnerships



Role of science in these partnerships

- Independence, objectivity
- Inform, not dictate
- Expand the scope of choice available to decision-makers
- Inspire critical thinking in public and political dialogue