

PLANETARY HEALTH

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Climate change poses a challenge to the health of the planet. Figure 1 shows that carbon emission contributions have historically been dominated by the more developed economies, disproportionately affecting about forty percent of world's population in less-developed countries in 2021. Southeast Asian countries need to be aware of their share of emissions as they continue growing their economies. This is especially pressing given that countries globally are currently not on track to keep their carbon emissions reductions targets, as part of their climate commitments. In addition to what countries have pledged, they will need to further cut down emissions by 11 to 14 giga (billion) tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions (GtCO₂e) to stay within 2°C limit, and by 19 to 22 GtCO₂e to stay within 1.5°C limit (Figure 2).

Figure 1: Current and Historical Contributions to Climate Change
(% share by countries or regions)

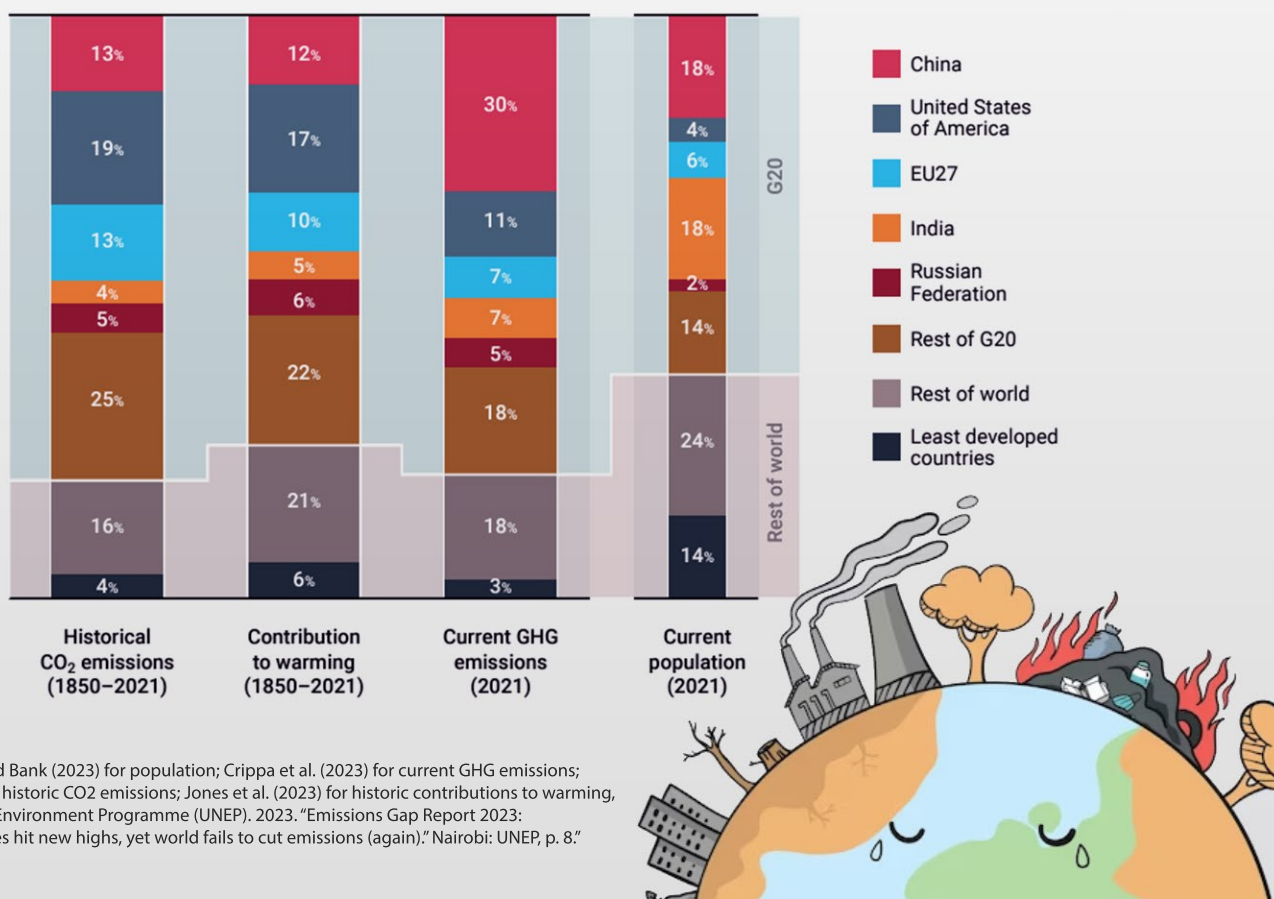


Figure 2: GHG emissions under different scenarios and the emissions gap in 2030 and 2035

Giga (billion) tonnes of CO₂ emissions (GtCO₂e)

