



# International Climate Governance

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Arun Singh, [asingh25@mit.edu](mailto:asingh25@mit.edu)

# Quick recap from previous sessions...

- Fundamentals of Climate Science and Global Climate System and Climate Modeling
- Economics and Policy of Climate Change

# Learning Objectives

By the end of this session, I hope you'd be able to answer the following questions:

- Why is an internationally agreeable process needed to address Climate Change?
- Which are the main international bodies responsible for international climate governance?
- What is the history of international climate negotiations?
- What are some of the important underlying principles dictating international climate negotiations?
- What are the important features of current international agreement (the Paris Agreement) on climate change?
- Where do we stand today and what are the challenges in implementing Paris Agreement?

# Why do we want an *international* agreement?

- Scientific reasons
  - CO<sub>2</sub> is a stock pollutant — doesn't matter where it's emitted
- Tragedy of the commons
  - “commons” problem requires coordinated, collective action
  - action is in no one's best interest individually, but everyone's collectively

# Both the treaty process and the final agreement matter...

The goal here is environmental improvement by means of an international agreement on climate action.

But what are the mechanisms by which we get there?

## The three 'C's

- increase government **concern** for an issue
- enhance the **contractual environment**
- build national **capacity**

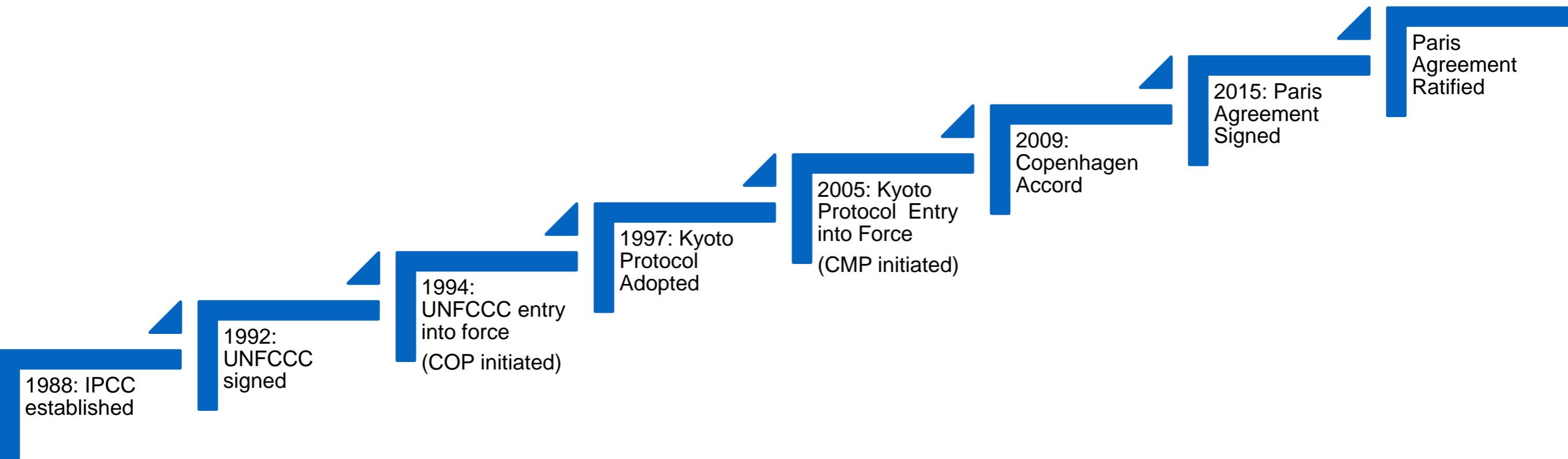




# **International Climate Governance**

## History of the UNFCCC

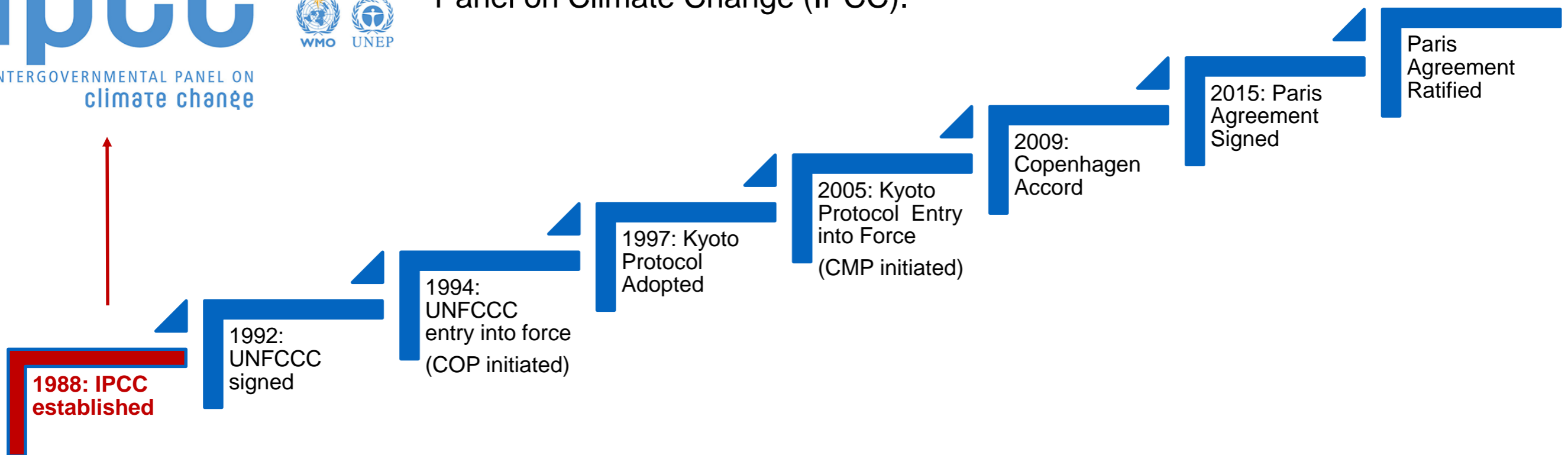
# Timeline



# 1988: IPCC established



In 1988, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

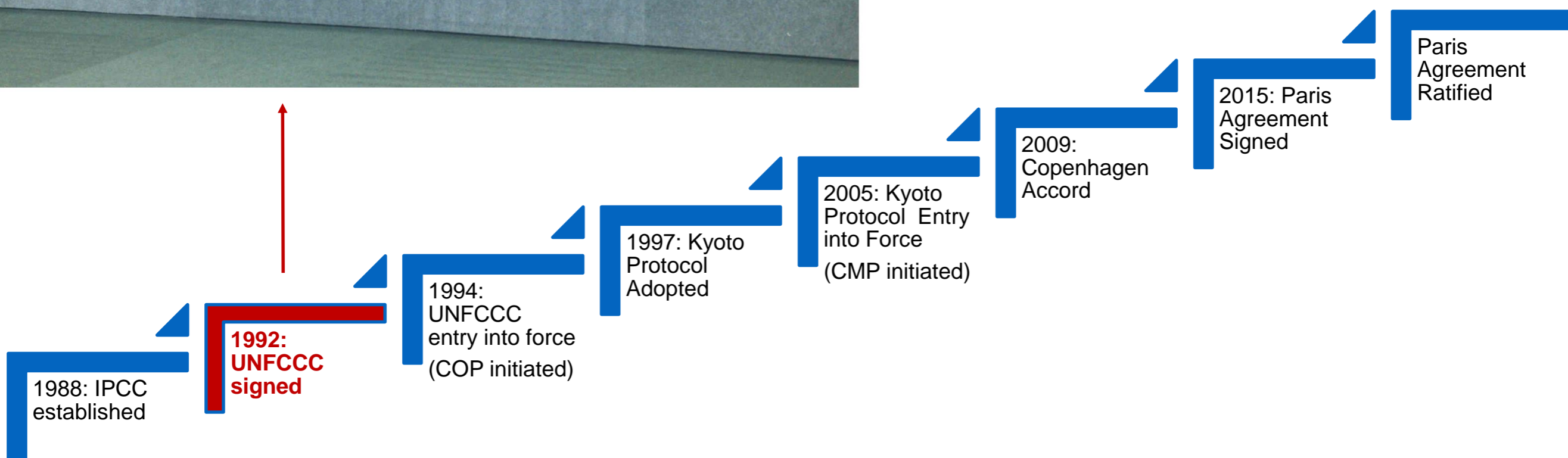




# 1992: UNFCCC signed



The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is a treaty under which its **196 member countries** negotiate agreements on international climate governance.



# The 196 member countries can be divided into many categories— let's go over a few.

**Developed countries** = industrialized countries (e.g. United States, European Union)

**Rapidly developing countries** = countries with economies that are growing quickly (e.g. China, India)

**Developing countries** = countries with economies that are still developing that are especially vulnerable to all effects of climate change (e.g. Uganda, Bangladesh)

**Small island developing countries** = countries especially vulnerable to climate change due to extreme weather and sea level rise (e.g. Marshall Islands, St. Lucia)



# What is the goal of the UNFCCC?

*“The ultimate objective of this Convention and **any related legal instruments** that the **Conference of the Parties** may adopt is to achieve... stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a **level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference** with the climate system.”*

**COP: Conference of the Parties**

2°C

1.5°C

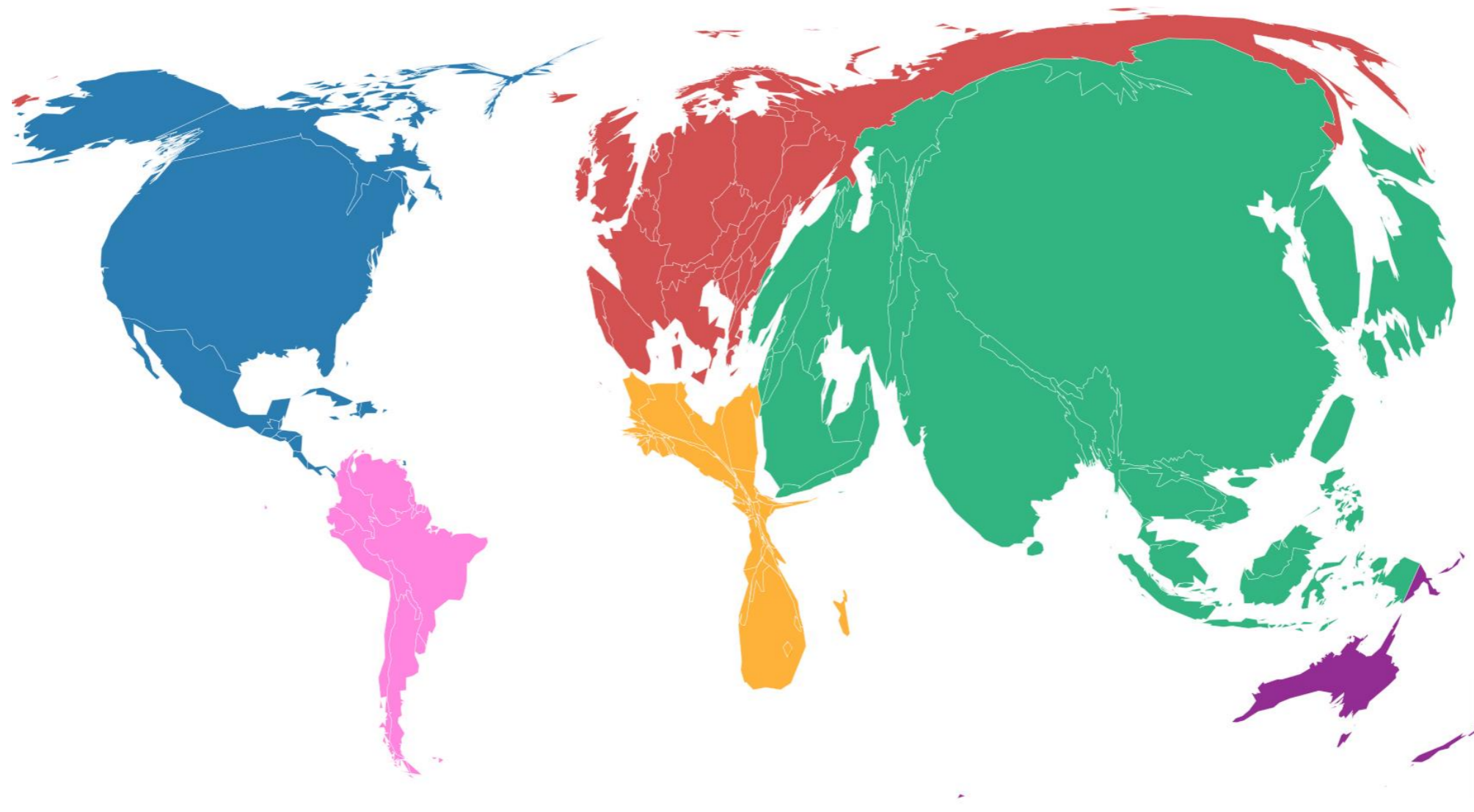
# What principles guide the UNFCCC?

*“The Parties should protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind, on the basis of **equity** and in accordance with their **common but differentiated responsibilities**\* and respective capabilities.”*

*\* This has been modified to Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC), adopted in Lima negotiations in 2014*

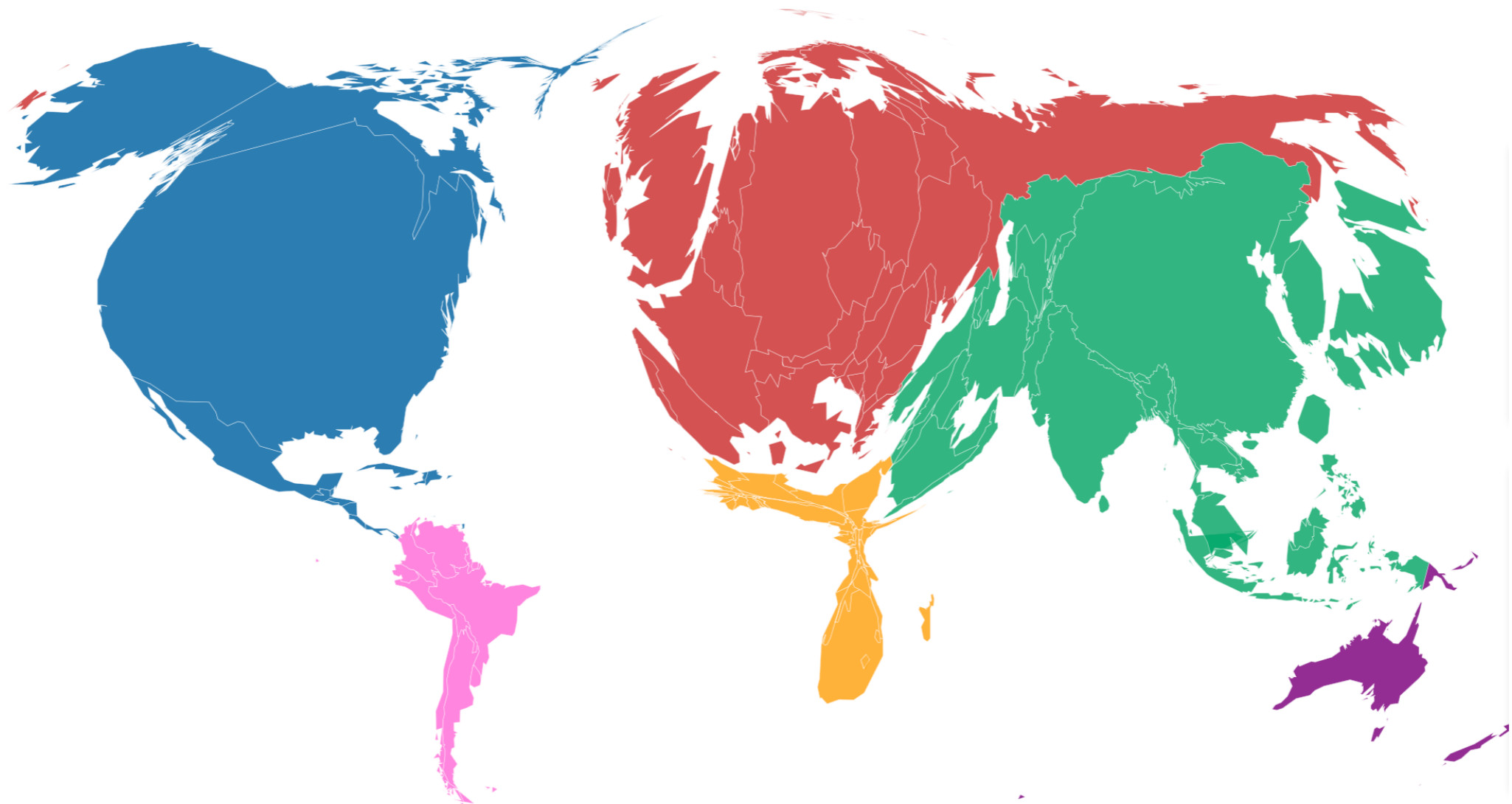


# Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC)



Annual CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions, 2013

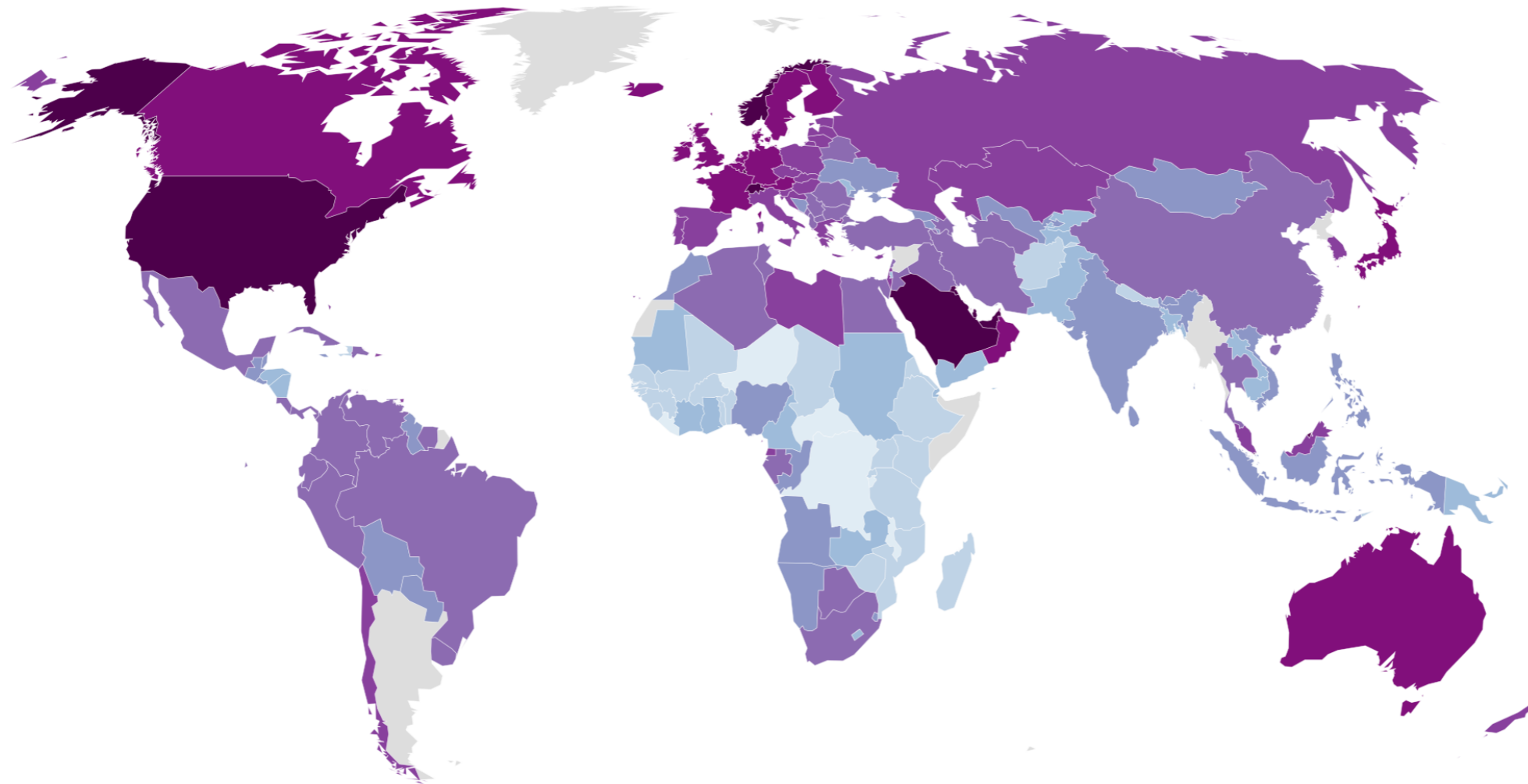
# Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC)



Historical, Cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions, 1850-2011



# Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC)



Shade  
by

GDP per person

Gross domestic product per person based on PPP, 2013

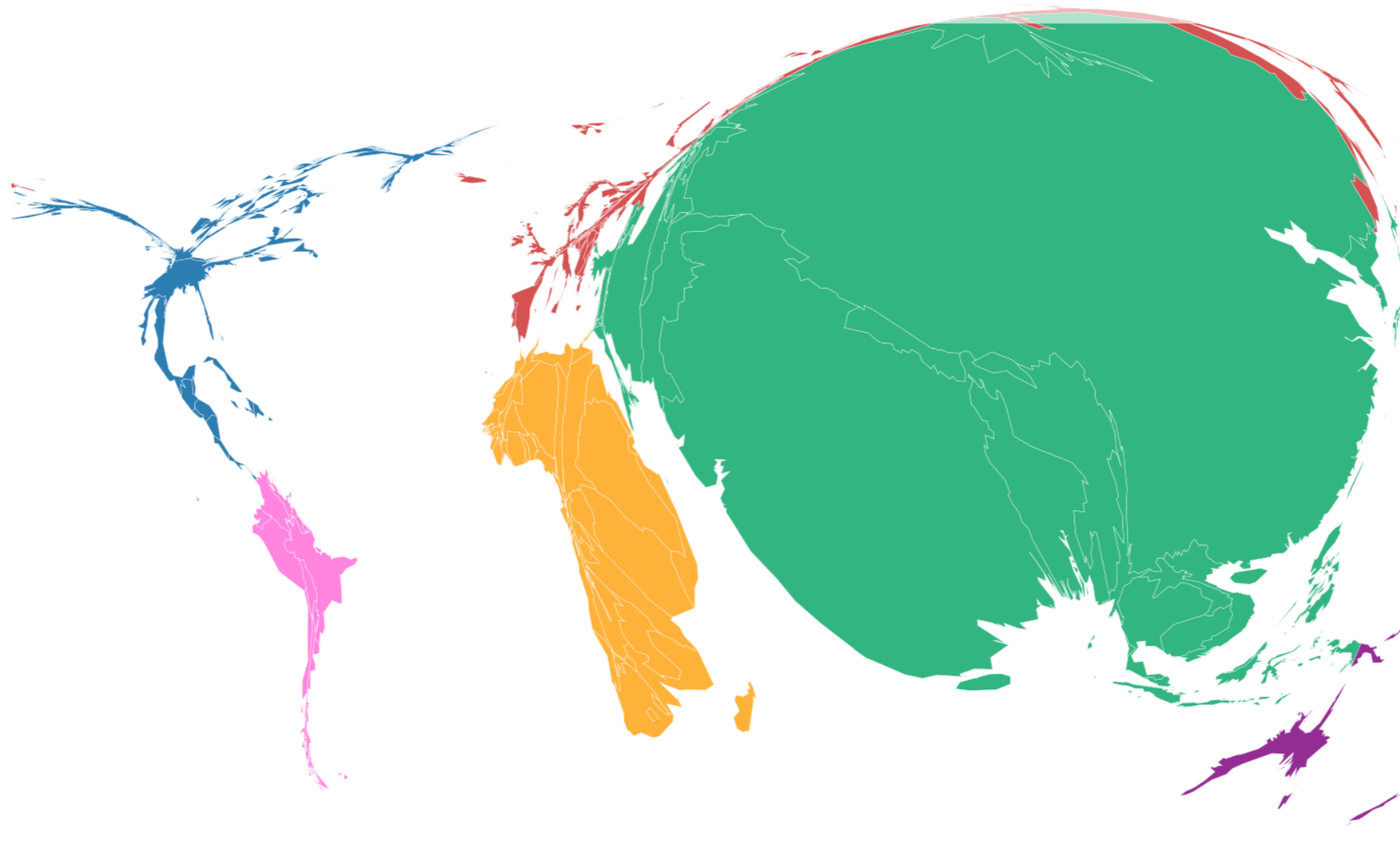
- < \$500
- \$500–1000
- \$1000–2500
- \$2500–5000
- \$5000–10000
- \$10000–20000
- \$20000–35000
- \$35000–50000
- > \$50000

**i** This map

This is the world as seen in one of the most common maps: the Robinson projection.

GDP Per Person in 2013

# Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC)



Vulnerability to Climate Change

Number of People Injured, Left Homeless, Displaced, or Requiring Emergency Assistance Due to Floods, Droughts, or Extreme Temperatures in a Typical Year

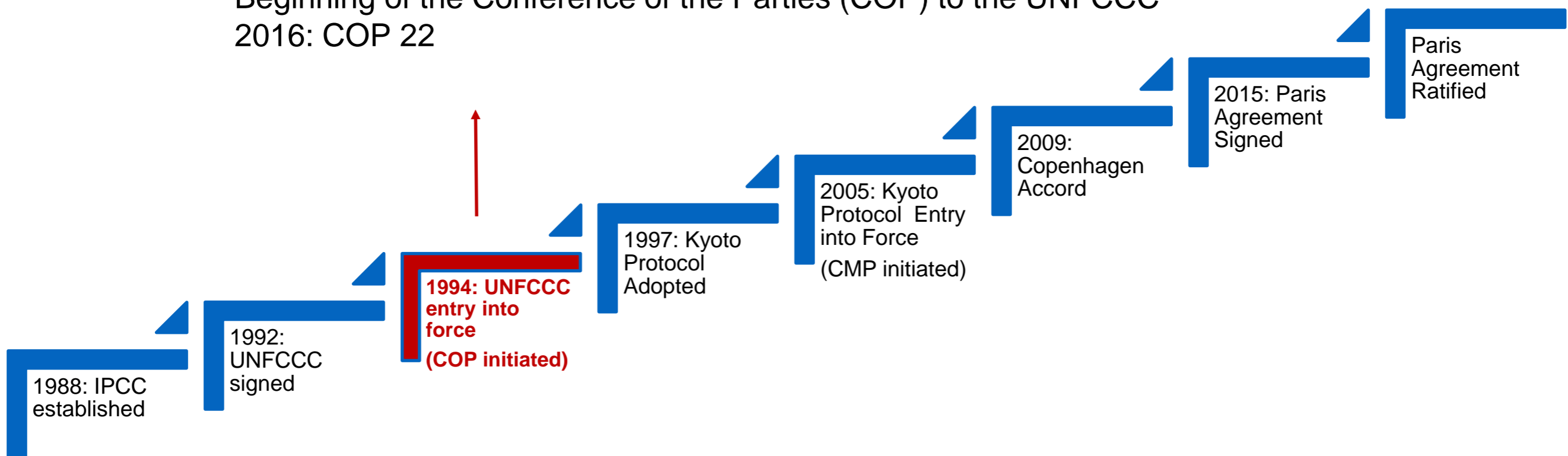
# Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC)

Who should mitigate their emissions?

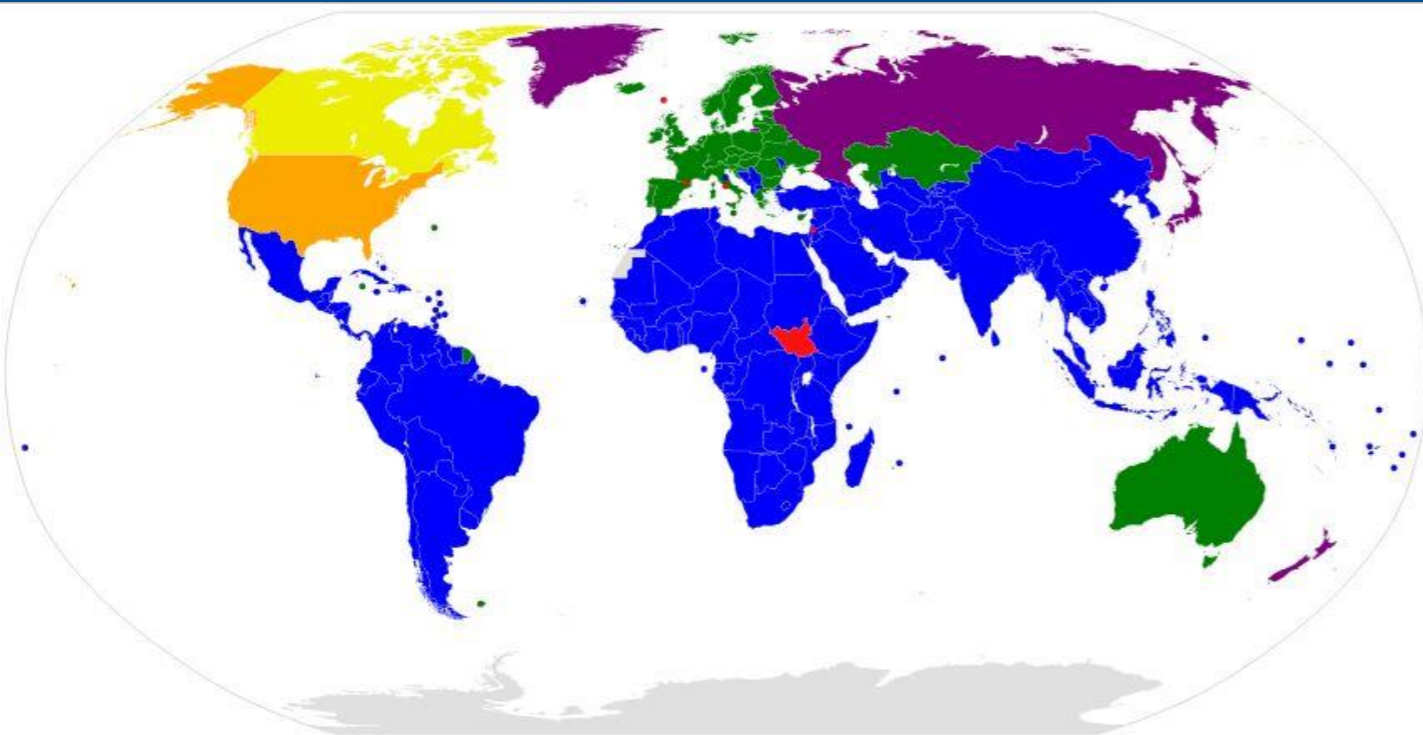
Who should pay for implementation?

# 1994: UNFCCC entry into force

Beginning of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC  
2016: COP 22



# 1997: Kyoto Protocol Adopted



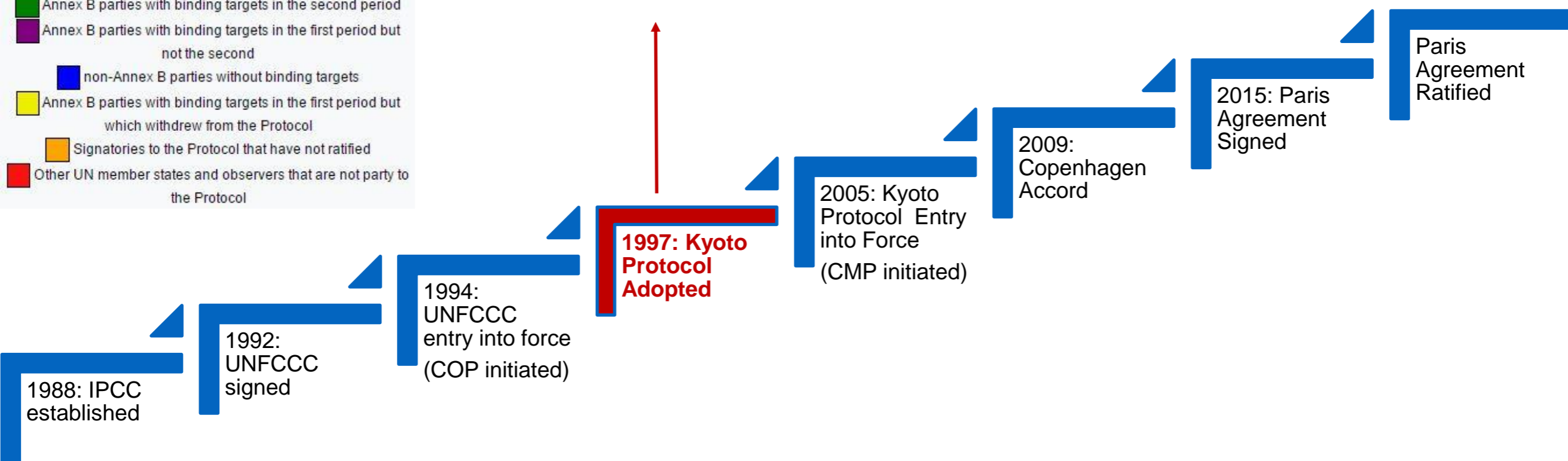
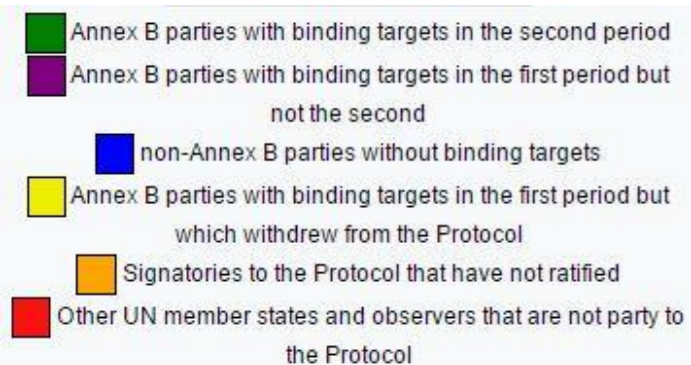
Choice between  
encouraging specific policies decided by individual countries

OR

**negotiating top-down specific deadlines for national level emissions reductions**

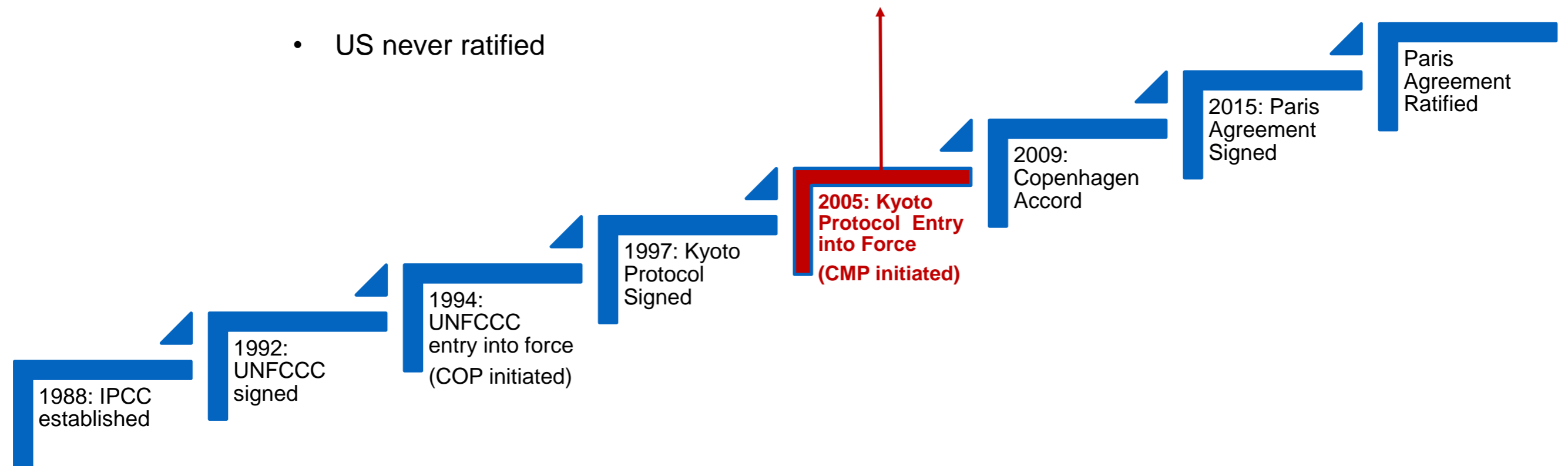
Also

Only developed countries to take emissions reduction targets



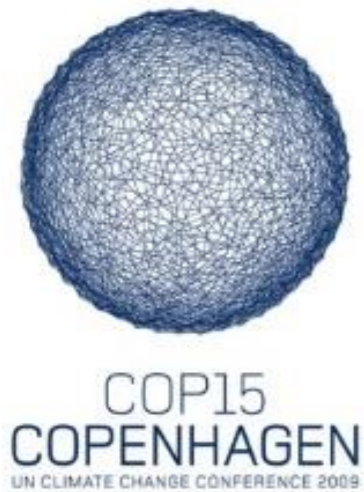
# 2005: Kyoto Protocol Entry into Force

- *Ratification process*: Protocol enters into force on the **90<sup>th</sup> day** after at least **55 countries** accounting for at least **55% of the total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for 1990 of Annex-1 countries** ratify
- Ratification by Russia on 18 November 2004 satisfies the 55% clause and brings the treaty into force effective **16 February 2005**
- First commitment period **2008-2012**
- Canada withdraws from the protocol in 2011
- US never ratified

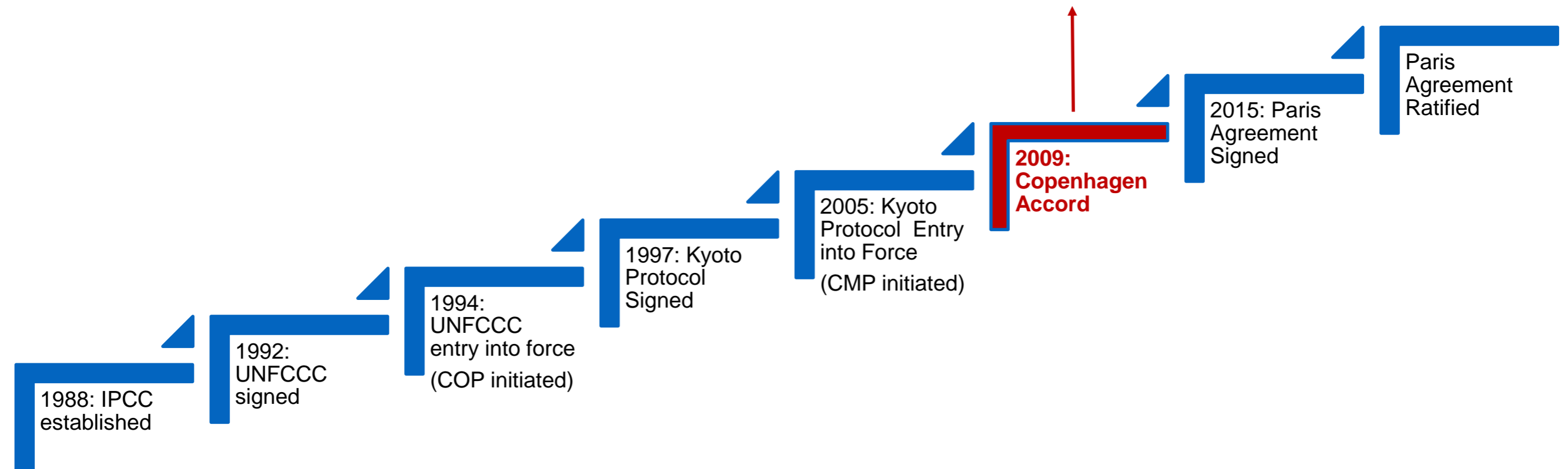




# 2009: Copenhagen Accord



- *Objective: To establish global climate agreement for the period from 2012.*
- Background: dissatisfaction with no commitments from major developing countries
- Emphasis on moving to a system with individual commitments
- **Pledge and Review process**: Countries to “**publicly** state their **emissions reduction goals**, however construed, and then allow **progress** toward those claims to be **periodically evaluated** by the **international community**” (Source: [Brookings Institution](#))
- **Doha (2012)**: Decide successor agreement to Kyoto Protocol by 2015, to be implemented starting 2020 -- buildup to Paris Agreement



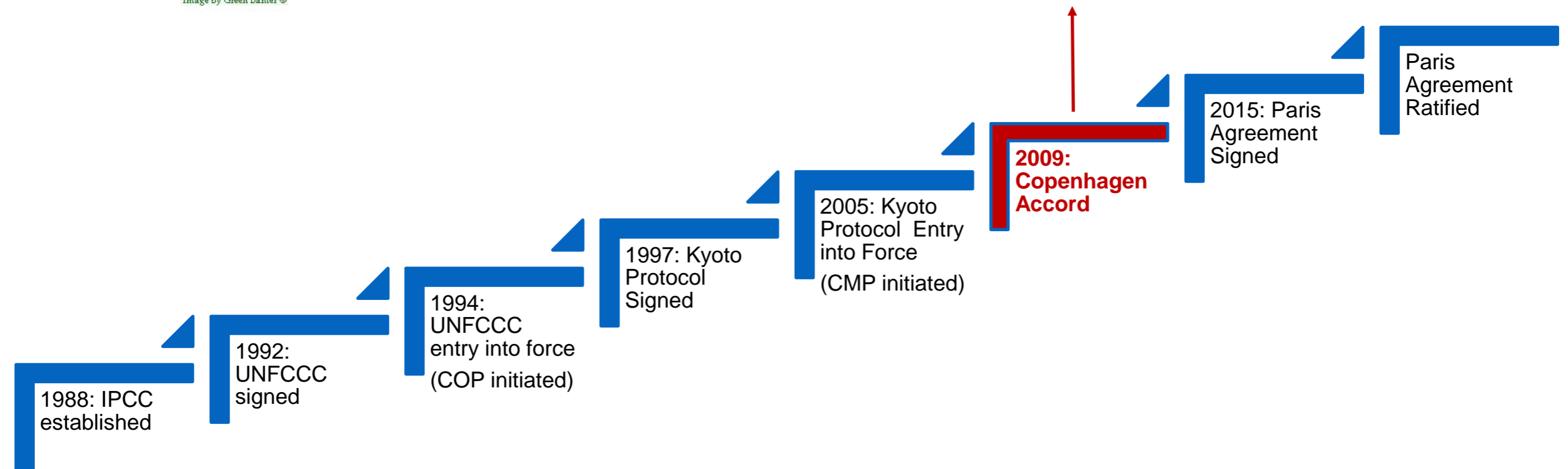
# 2009: Copenhagen Accord



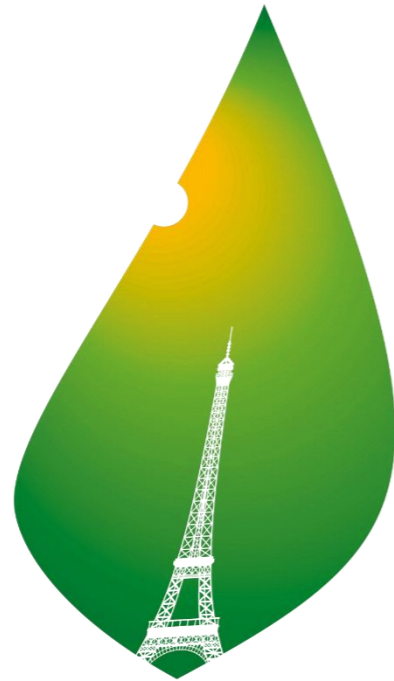
COP-OUT  
COPENHAGEN  
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2009

Image by Green Banter ©

## Failure or Success?



# 2015: Paris Agreement



COP21 • CMP11  
**PARIS 2015**  
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

## Key Components

### 5 year cycles

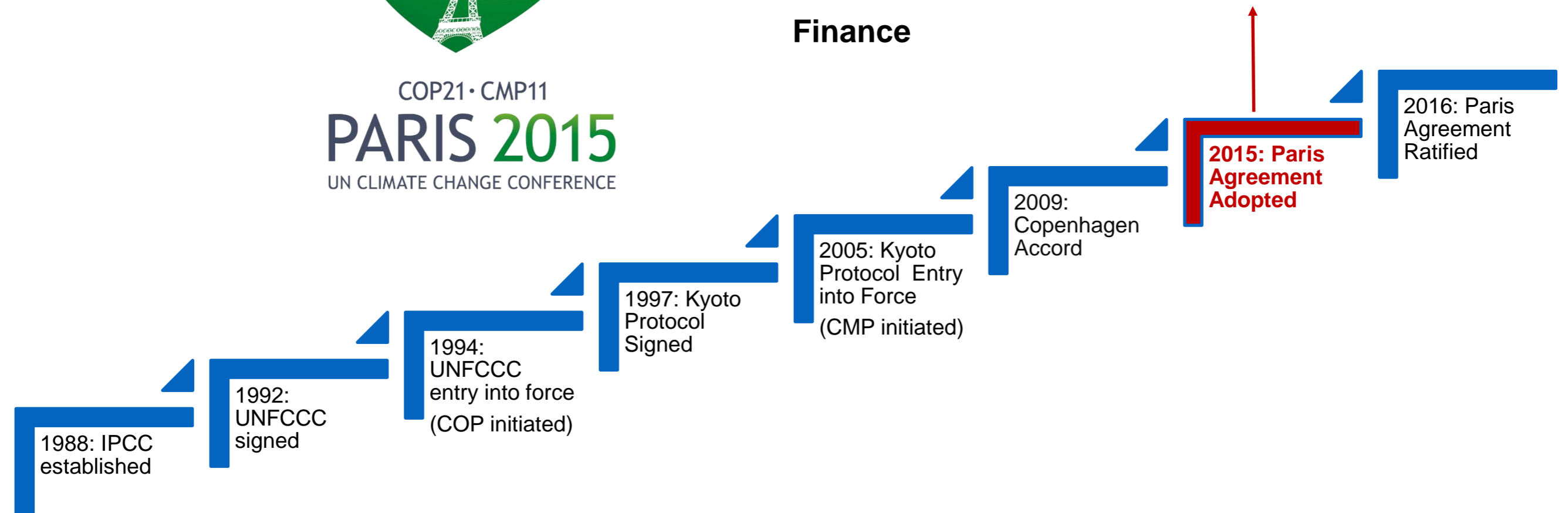
- Nationally Determined Contributions
- Global Stocktake (starting in 2023)

### Transparency

- Biennial review of progress on NDCs

### Loss and Damage

### Finance



# 2016: Paris Agreement Ratified



127 Parties have ratified of 197 Parties to the Convention

On 5 October 2016, the threshold for entry into force of the Paris Agreement was achieved. The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016. The first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1) took place in Marrakech, Morocco from 15-18 November 2016.

[More information](#)



1988: IPCC established

1992: UNFCCC signed

1994: UNFCCC entry into force (COP initiated)

1997: Kyoto Protocol Signed

2005: Kyoto Protocol Entry into Force (CMP initiated)

2009: Copenhagen Accord

2015: Paris Agreement Adopted

2016: Paris Agreement Ratified



# **The Paris Agreement**

## **Components and Challenges Ahead**

# Paris Agreement: Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

*Note: Exhibit removed as the work is not publish ready*



# Paris Agreement: 5-Year Global Stocktake Cycles



# Paris Agreement: Transparency Framework (the legally binding part)

- All countries required to report on GHG emissions and implementation efforts at least every two years.
- Undergo expert review, technical analysis, peer review
- Developed countries to provide information on financial, technology transfer, and capacity building support

Modalities, procedures, and guidelines for these processes to be decided

# Paris Agreement: Finance

1. Developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention.
4. The provision of scaled-up financial resources should aim to achieve a **balance between adaptation and mitigation**, taking into account country-driven strategies, and the priorities and needs of developing country Parties, especially
7. Developed country Parties shall provide **transparent and consistent** information on support for developing country Parties provided and mobilized **through public interventions biennially** in accordance with the modalities, procedures and guidelines to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the **meeting of the Parties to this Agreement, at its first session**, as stipulated in Article 13, paragraph 13. Other Parties are encouraged to do so.



# 2016: Marrakesh COP 22

**Objective of COP22, 23, 24: decide work plans on implementing the Paris Agreement.**

## **Marrakesh: Several Names**

- “COP of Action”
- “COP of Implementation”
- “COP of Adaptation”
- “COP of Finance”
- “The African COP”

## **Discussion Issues:**

- Transparency and Global Stocktake
- Finance
- Adaptation
- Capacity Building
- Technology Transfer
- Loss and Damage

**Day 1:**



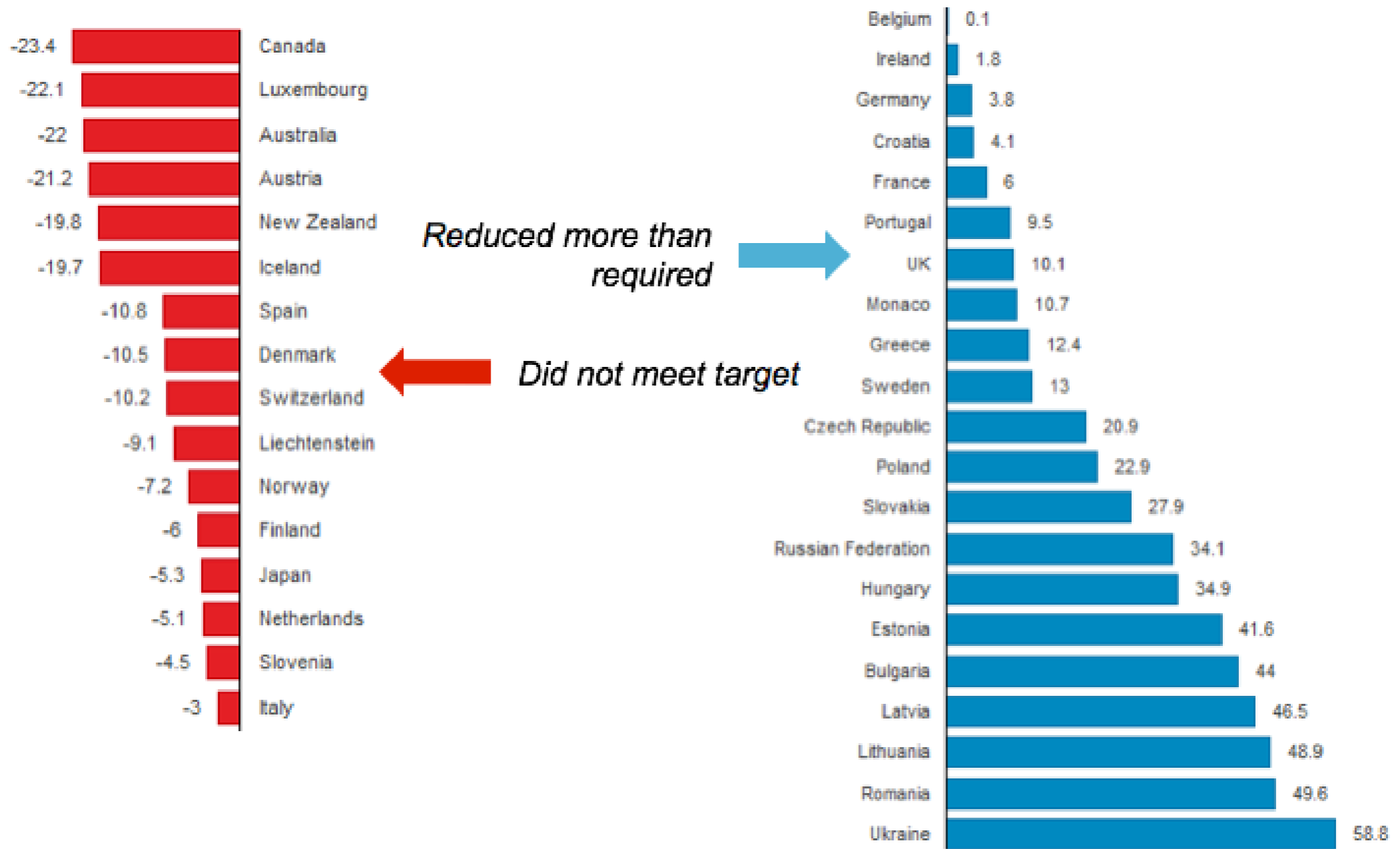
**Day 2:**



**Questions?**

# Extra Slides

# Results of Kyoto Protocol (2012)





# Copenhagen Accord



- Last minute political agreement between leaders of US, EU, China, India, Brazil, South Africa
- “Pledge and review”
  - pledge domestic commitments with review to hold states accountable
  - monitoring and verification for all countries
  - submissions cover ~80% of 2005 global emissions
- Finance pledges (\$100 bn/yr by 2020) for mitigation, and commitment to fund adaptation
- Not adopted officially by conference (blocked by Bolivia, Cuba, Nicaragua, Venezuela, and Sudan)