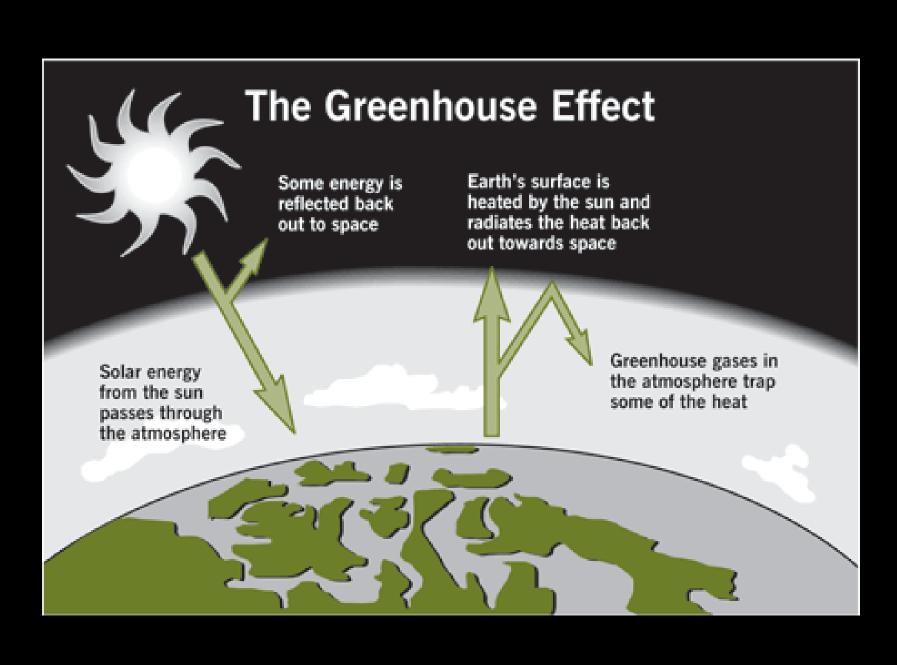
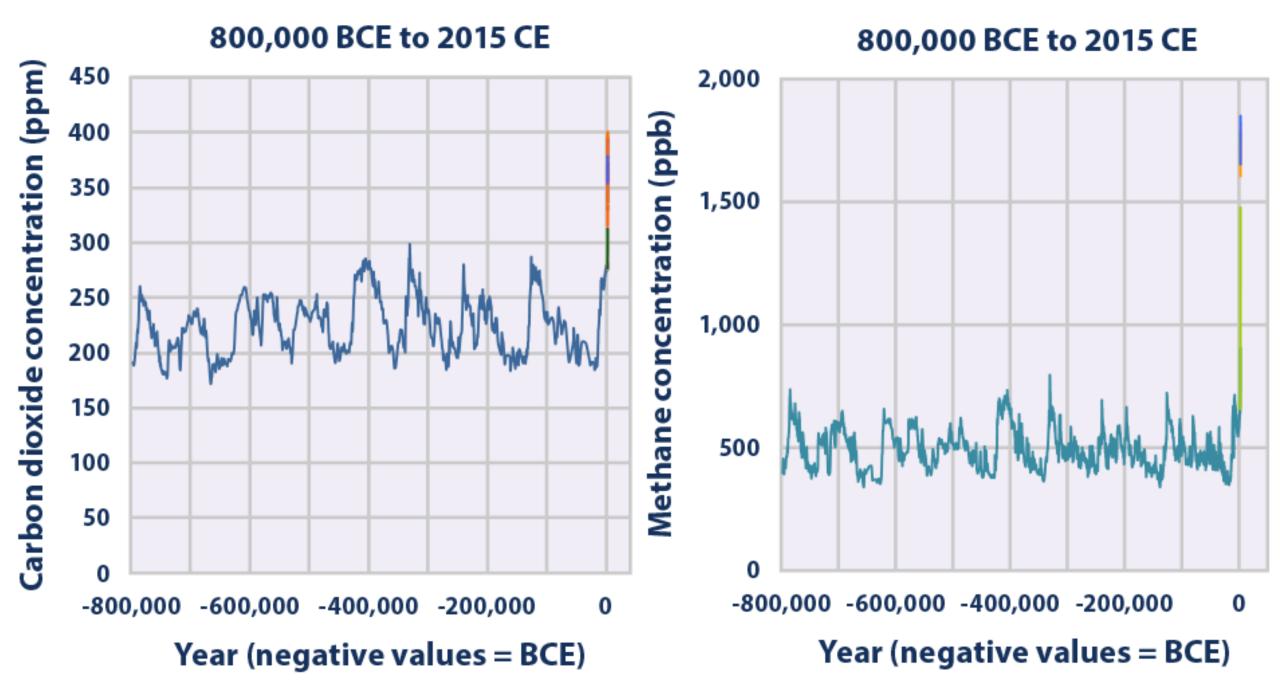
Integrating Justice With Climate Policy: Some Challenges and Lessons Learned

Sonja Klinsky

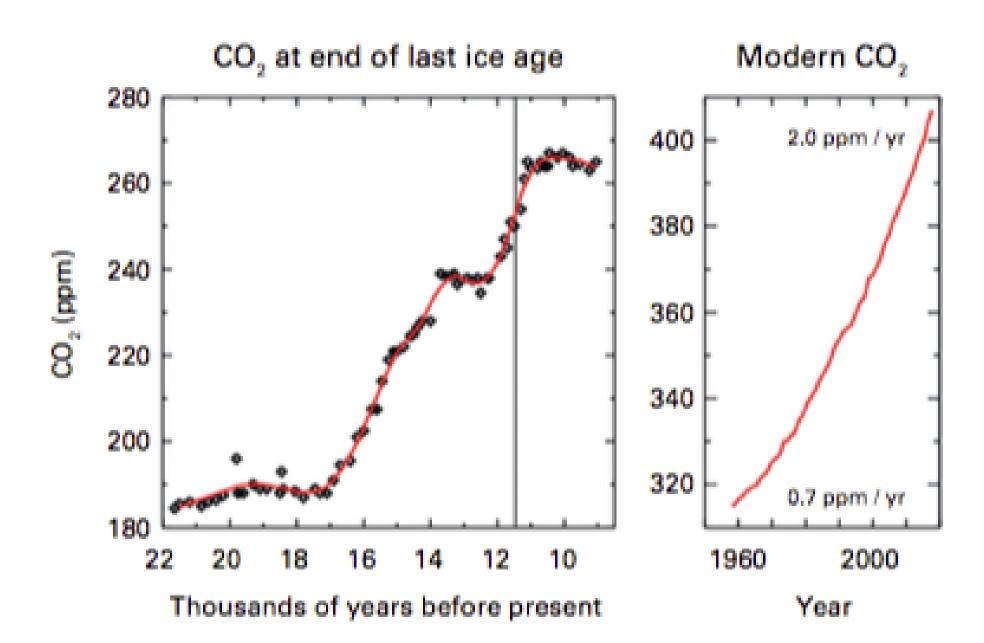
Associate Professor School of Sustainability







Source: USA EPA 2016



But Why Is Justice Important for Climate Change Policy Scholarship?

Why Do Scholars Do Policy Research At All?

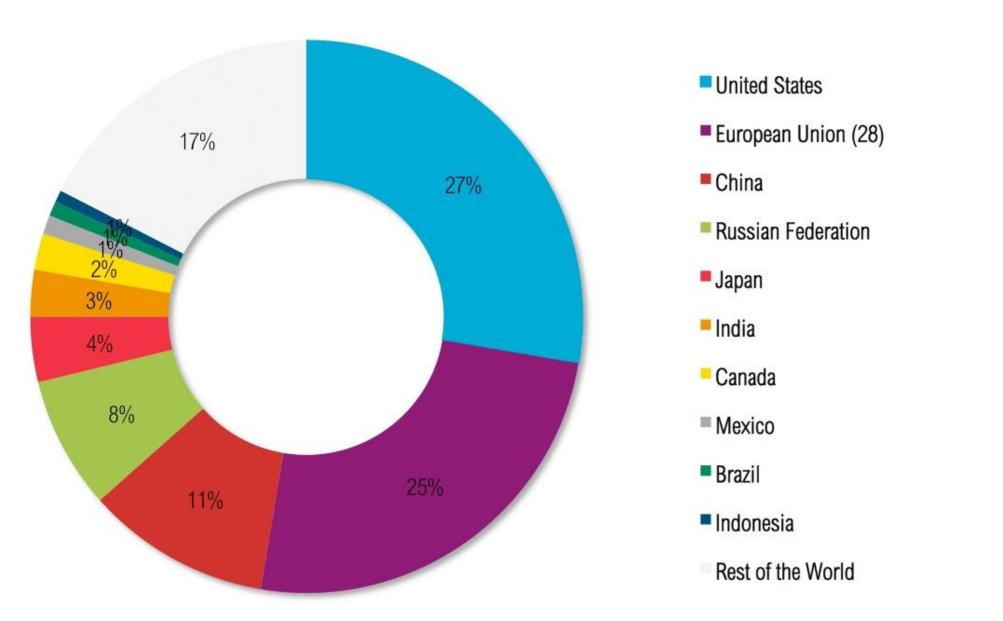
- Want to work on issues that are central to human wellbeing
- Want to understand core social, economic and ecological processes
- Provide analyses of trade-offs and implications of policy decisions
- Contribute to social, political, economic and ecological change

Unavoidable Justice Dimensions

- Differences in historical responsibility for the problem
- Highly uneven climate impacts
- Background dynamics of inequality and persistent poverty
- All of these interact across time and space at all scales

 Politically Contentious: Actors WILL and HAVE ALREADY used justice arguments to shape policy responses and policy making processes

WGIII IPCC 2014 Chapter 5

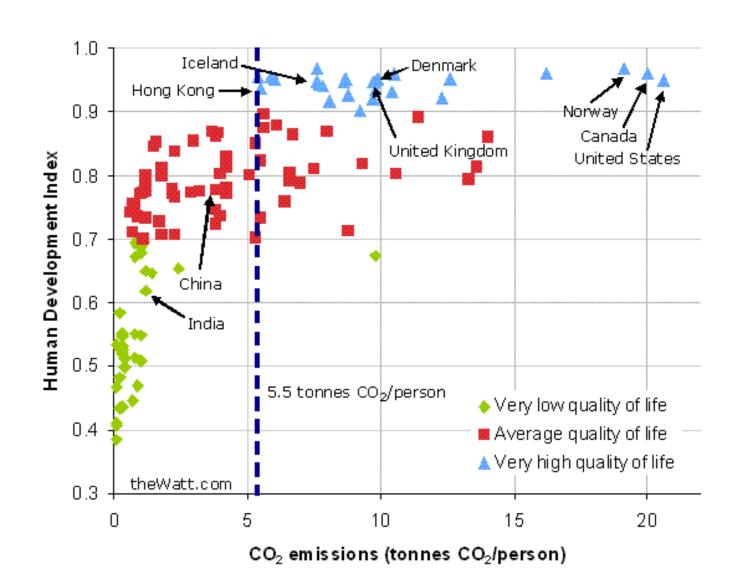


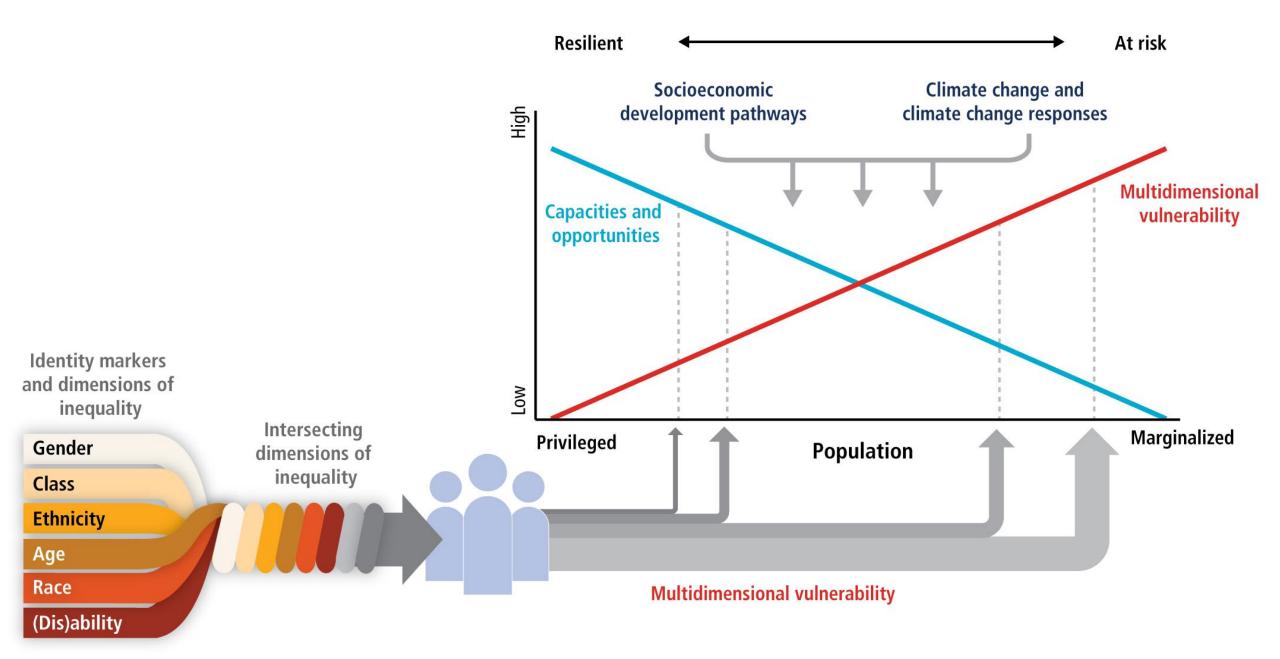
CAIT Explorer: WRI 2011



"In solidarity with my countrymen who are now struggling for food back home, and with my brother who has not had food for the last three days ... I will now commence a voluntary fasting for the climate" Yeb Sano, 2012.

HDI and Emissions





Why Include Justice In Climate Policy Studies?

- It IS and WILL be a central dynamic shaping human wellbeing
- Need to understand justice dimensions of climate change in order to understand social, economic, political processes
- Cannot trade-offs in policy decisions without an account of justice
- If aiming for social change, justice is an unavoidable issue in the climate context

Essential but Not Easy: Some Challenges

Multi-Dimensional Frames

 Each community frames the challenge differently and tends to use and accept different forms of analysis

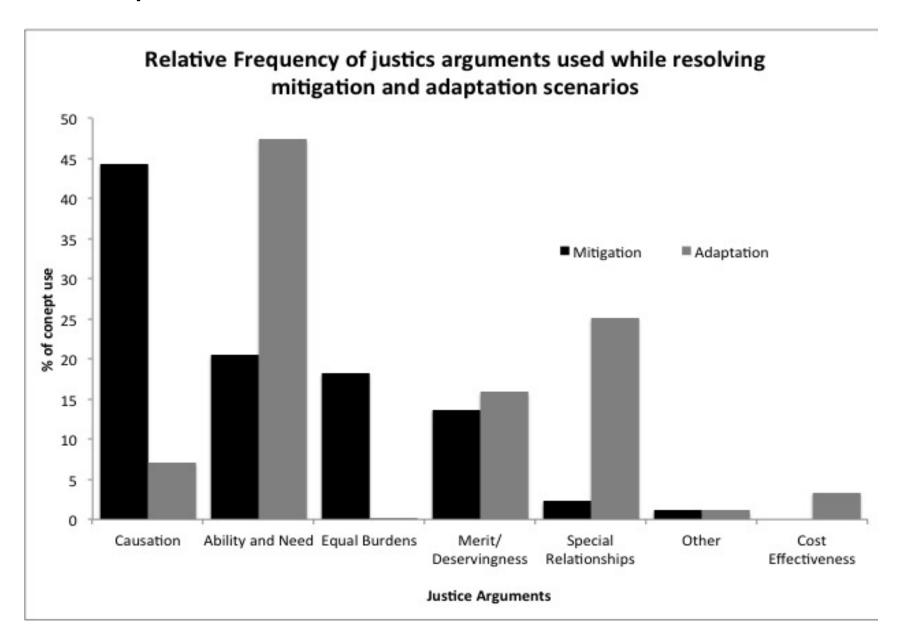
 What frame you use shapes your analysis, the stakeholders you engage with, the communication of your work



Cuts Across Scales and Ambiguously Bounded

Household	Village/ Close Community	City	National	International	Tele-coupled Systems
Gender Abilities Income	Social marginalization (including caste, ethnicity another other forms), income disparity, etc.	Urban planning, building codes, transportation access: all intersecting with drivers of marginalization and accumulation of advantage	Boundary between domestic inequality drivers and international drivers, navigating all sets of issues	Relationship amongst countries, embedded in other global issues of capitalism, colonialism	Decisions geographically removed have enormous implications (resource extraction, linkages through capital, labour market changes etc)

Perceptions of Justice are Variable



Justice Embedded in Analytical Strategies

- Any given policy tool has built in biases that privilege certain groups and kinds of considerations and inhibit the characterization of others.
- E.g. IAMs unable to represent many dimensions of equity, including

Building equity in: strategies for integrating equity into modelling for a 1.5°C world

Klinsky Sonja¹ and Winkler Harald²

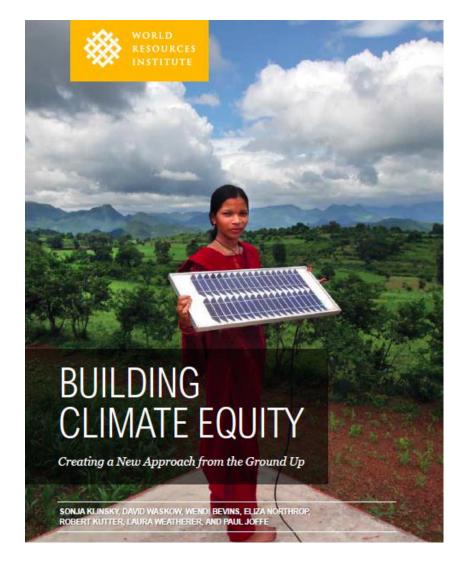
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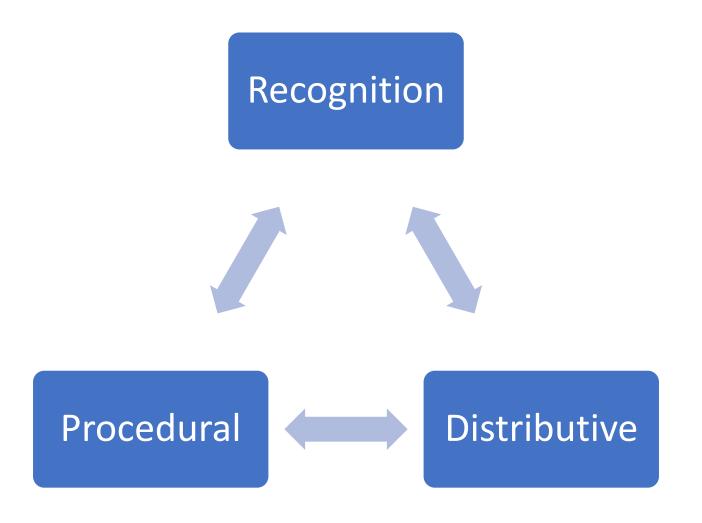
Inherently Political and Raise Solidarity Issues

- Because decisions are necessarily politicized, impossible to do neutral and policy relevant work
 - Even if you try to be neutral, your work WILL be used in a political context
- As a scholar need to think about how you are positioned in relation to others
 - What scale, issues, communities etc. are you best positioned to work with?

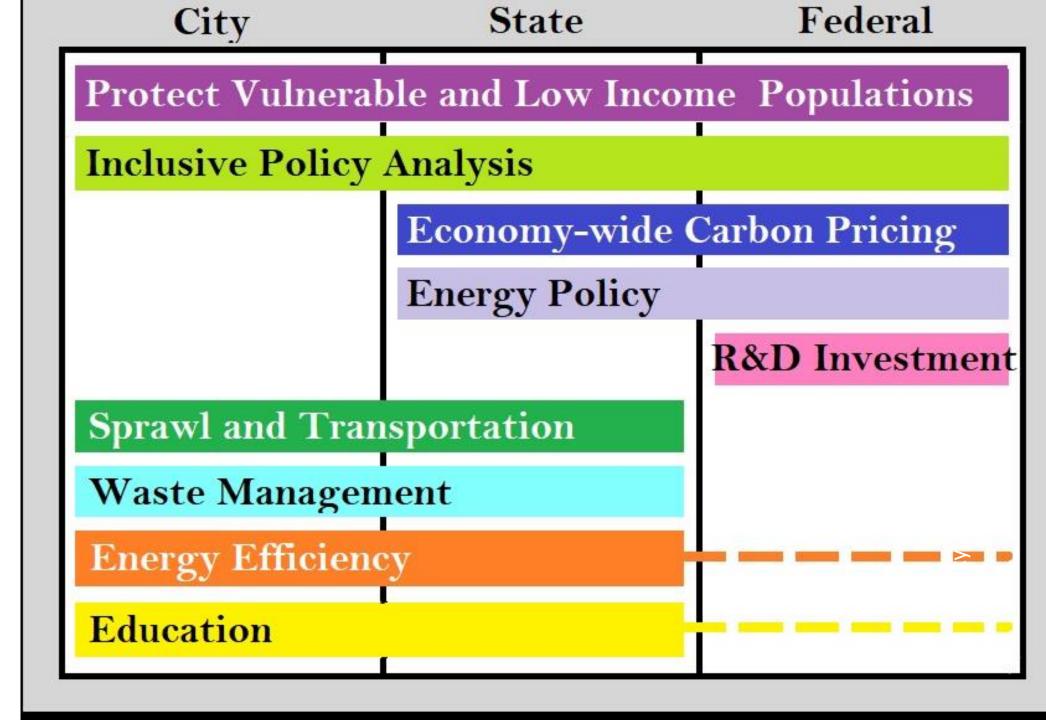


Some Strategies and New Directions?

Multi-Dimensional Justice Frameworks



Topics Across Scales



Personal Reflections for a Contested Arena

- Which issues am I "seeing" and which am I not?
- Which groups should I engage with, and why?
- Where can I use my capacities most effectively within this system?
- What do I hope to achieve with any collaboration?
- What do my collaborators hope to achieve?
- And who will benefit or be harmed by my actions?

So Much Space for New Work!

- Climate and justice work is just starting across a wide range of sectors
 - All sectors of vulnerability studies
 - Increasingly recognized within climate mitigation work (and all sectors there: built environment, urban form, energy, water management, waste management etc)
- Increasing interest in 'non-naïve' research that focuses on key actors (i.e. fossil fuel companies or other central actors)
- Ongoing effort to try to integrate justice into existing tools of analysis so that it is not an "add on"
- Efforts needed to integrate "snapshots" of inequality with scholarship on the dynamics of (in)justice

Please Reach Out!

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