

What might CH₄ control policies look like

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Anthropogenic emissions of methane



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Fossil fuel use in the scenarios

[A] – Baseline, MFR [B] – Low



UNECE (including North America) 250k Unit: PJ Biomass Gaseous fuels Liquid fuels A А A Coal 200k A B A A Α А Α А 150k B В 100k 50k 0 2010 2005 2015 2020 2025 2030 2035 2040 2045 2050





Global CH₄ mitigation potential estimates – 2050 (estimates of mitigation potential for 2030 are quite similar)



* Global Methane Assessment (UNEP, 2021)

Source: GAINSv4; Höglund-Isaksson et al., 2020 (https://doi.org/10.1088/2515-7620/ab7457)

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IAM average

(UNEP, 2021)*



Source: GAINSv4; Höglund-Isaksson et al., 2020 (https://doi.org/10.1088/2515-7620/ab7457)



New (not published yet) work on methane

Exploring potential for technical and non-technicalCH4 mitigation and its impacts *L. Hoglund-Issakson and Chris Smith*





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Exploring limits of technical and non-technical CH₄ mitigation options – scenario development:

Assumed order of mitigation adoption:

- **1. Technical"TechLow"**: technical < 20 \in /tCO2eq**"TechMed"**: technical 20-100 \in /tCO2eq**"TechHigh"**: technical >100 \in /tCO2eq(see Höglund-Isaksson et al., 2020)
- 2. "Explore": Technologies still in exploration (VAMOX in barns; Improved wood stoves in rich regions)
- 3. "Fossil": Complete (linear) phase-out of fossil fuels until 2050
- 4. "Behave": Limit "overconsumption" dairy & beef meat; Food waste -50% in all regions with electricity
- 5. "Fair": Increase dairy production and consumption in countries with low protein intake

6. "Develop":

Enhance resilience in pastoralist communities to reduce reliance on livestock herds for risk management;

Improve access to electricity to reduce food waste

Extend wastewater treatment to all urban areas

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Summary: CH₄ mitigation potentials by Region



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Climate impact analysis & uncertainty

GAINS CH_4 mitigation potentials 2020-2050 adapted to the activity drivers of 112 IPCC AR6 scenarios 2020-2100 (with full air pollution information available & fossil fuel drivers)

Temperature impacts assessed using the FAiR (Chris Smith) model (median levels)

Mid-century: Max \sim -0.10°C from technical Max \sim -0.20°C from technical+non-technical

End-century: Max \sim -0.15°C from technical Max \sim -0.30°C from technical+non-technical

But uncertainty high!

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Potential health benefits in the UNECE (excluding North America) of (global) ozone policies





Source: EMEP and GAINS models (MSC-W/CIAM);

Split of impacts from UNECE vs global NOx/VOC reductions preliminary and not yet available for 2015 to 2050CLE case

Summary

- Current baseline estimates show continued growth of global methane emissions with strong regional variation
- Energy transition decarbonization policies essential element of successful methane reduction strategy
- Undeniably mitigation potential exists and is well understood in some sectors, e.g., fossil fuel production and distribution, waste management
- Scope and cost of mitigation varies significantly across the regions, but energy, waste, and agriculture are always key
- Large uncertainties in estimates and feasibility of methane mitigation from agriculture sector
- Understanding of scope and costs of non-technical measures (including important regional sensitivities) appears high priority
- Current air pollution policies addressing ozone largely offset by global increase in methane
- Ambitious ozone reduction targets become more dependent on global cooperation to reduce ozone precursors, including methane