





## Now is the time to act

## Carbon budget is depleting within the next two decades

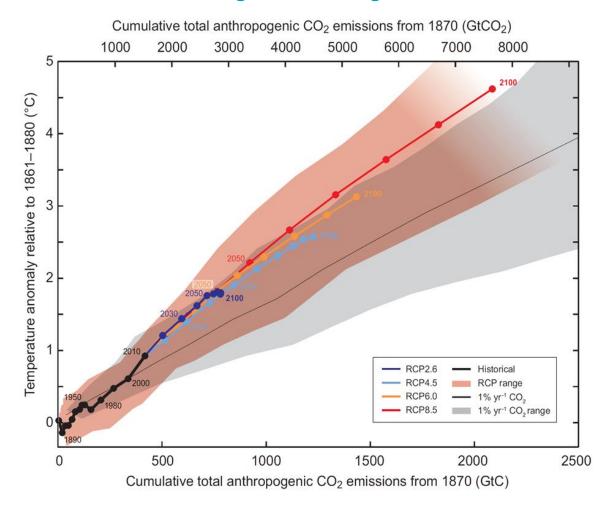
#### Remaining carbon budget

- > For 2 °C:  $1000Gt CO_{2e}$  ~25 years
- > For 1.5 °C:  $400Gt CO_{2e}$  ~10 years

#### Real limits to growth

- > Existing infrastructure embodies 650Gt
- > Infrastructure plans embody 200Gt

# Linear relationship between cumulative GHG emissions and global warming



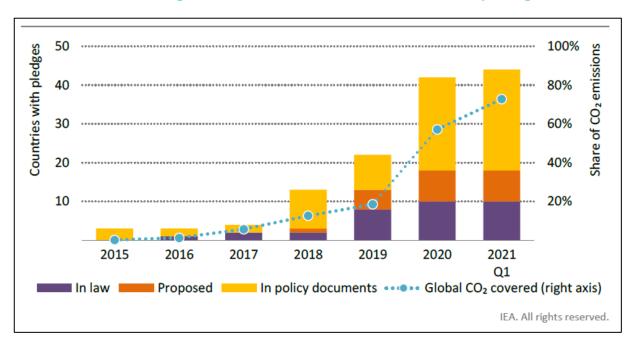
Sources: IPCC fifth assessment (2014) and 1.5-degree report (2018)

## The inevitable policy response

## No longer a question if the future is low-carbon, but when and how

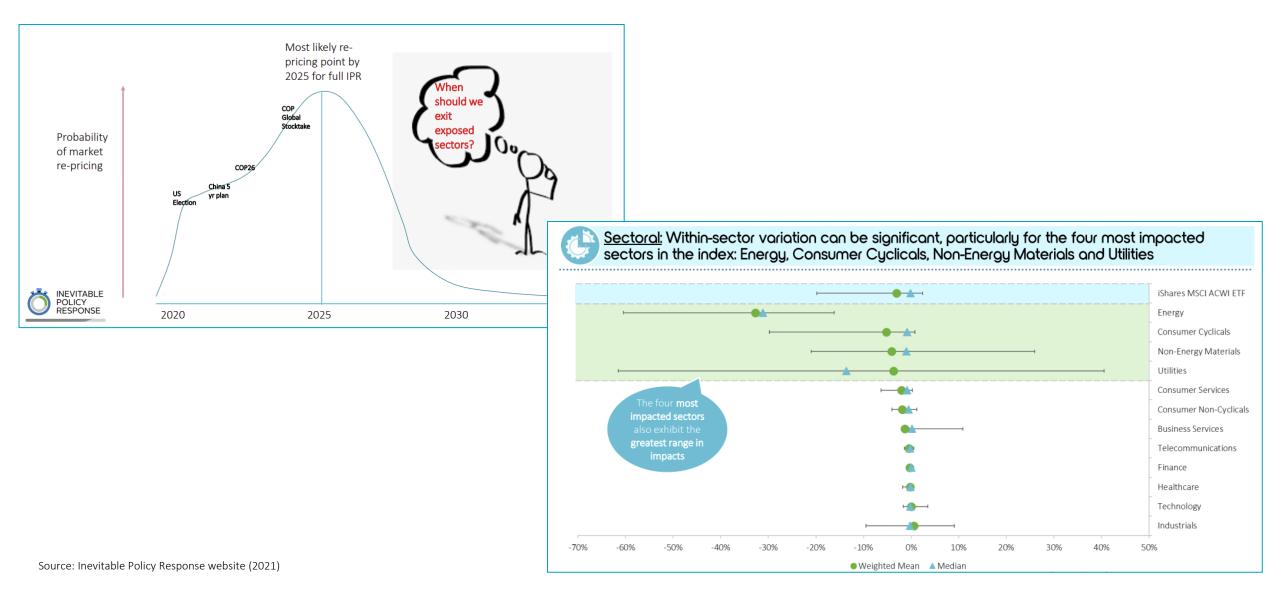
- > ~70% of global GDP and global emissions are subject to a commitment to net zero by 2050
- > Current climate policies will only lead to 0.5% emission reduction by 2030, whereas 50% reduction is required
- > The ambition gap is hundredfold a policy response is inevitable, in the next few years

#### Share of global emissions with a net zero pledge



## Disruptive change, increasing spreads

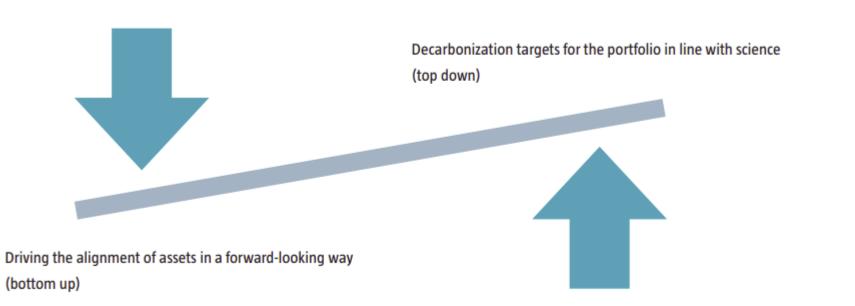
Investors need to enhance their capacity for forward-looking portfolio management



# Preparing for a low-carbon future The race to zero is on Corporates: ~100 new commitments per month to SBTi, Climate Pledge, etc. Asset managers: 87 signatories, \$37 trillion AUM Asset owners: 75 signatories, ~\$8 trillion AUM Robeco 2021 global climate survey 86% investors to put climate central in next 2 years (up from 33%) 52% investors to commit to net zero (up from 17%) ~20% of portfolios to be decarbonised (up from ~7%)

# Frameworks for Paris-aligned investing

The essence: a two-fold strategy for balancing portfolio outcomes with real-world change











## Portfolio decarbonisation targets (top down)

#### Scientific thresholds derived from the UN Climate Science Panel IPCC

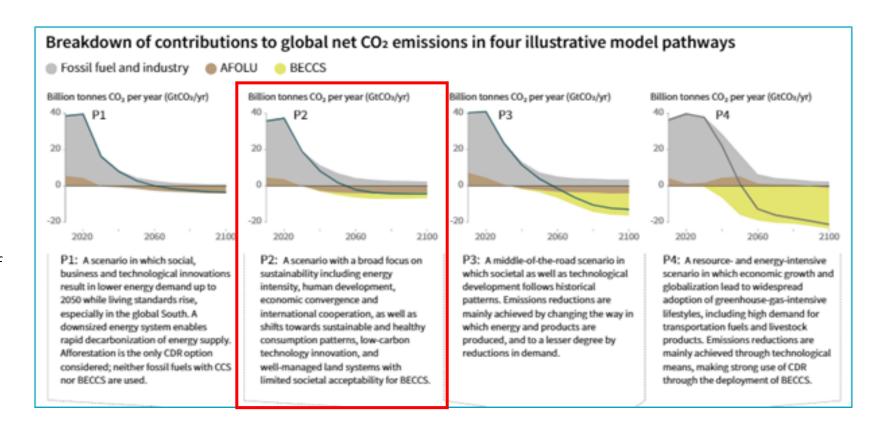
#### P2 emission pathway of the IPCC 1.5-degree report (2018)

Ambitious decarbonisation with limited temperature overshoot, while considering social objectives (SDGs)

#### **Emission trajectory**

- > Baseline 2010
- > -49% by 2030
- > -89% by 2050
- Net zero carbon emissions by 2050
- Net zero GHG emissions by 2070

That implies ~7% year-on-year decarbonisation and an interim target of around -25 to 30% by 2025



# Driving the alignment of companies and countries (bottom up)

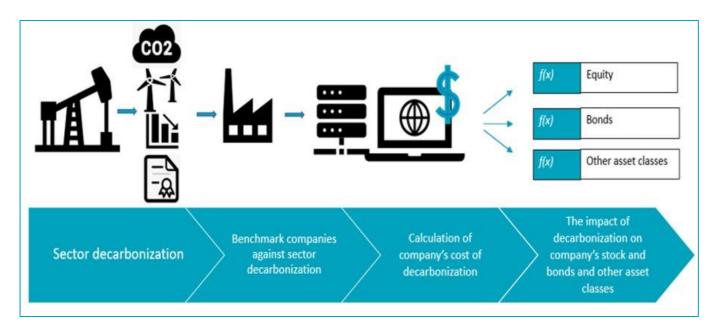
Based on a forward-looking assessment of "transition-readiness"

#### **Assessment**

- > For companies: carbon performance, target-setting, business strategy, capex, governance
- > For countries: carbon performance, key sector performance, climate policies

#### Usage

- > Integration in investment cases, valuation models "investing in the carbon winners of tomorrow"
- > Company engagement & voting, for example:
  - 1 Companies that are aligned
  - Companies that are aligning
  - 3 Companies that are committed to align
  - 4 Companies that are not aligning



Source: Robeco

## Impact on portfolios

## Initial stage of decarbonisation has limited impact

- Carbon footprints are highly skewed: for broad market indices you can reach 50% reduction by excluding 3-5% of the index
- > The main challenge is with passive and semi-passive strategies (tracking error <1% before ~2025, tracking error <2% before ~2030)
- > The big unknown is decarbonisation of the benchmark itself

Footprint reduction	MSCI World	MSCI EM	MSCI AC
-30%	1%	1%	1%
-50%	3%	3%	2%

## Some considerations

## On your route to Paris

- There are multiple routes to Paris. Be clear and transparent about your choices and assumptions.
- 2. Build the road as you walk it. Revision of targets with a 5-year cycle, as per the Paris Agreement itself.
- 3. Get started. Legislation on Paris alignment can be expected in the next few years.
- 4. This is about restricting carbon budgets, therefore choice for Carbon Footprint (EVIC) as leading metric.
- 5. Data is a challenge, but the 80-20 rule brings us a long way. Most climate impact is in a dozen of sectors and a few hundred companies.



### A final reflection

## Key levers for decarbonisation – not merely technology

#### Pre-2030

- Maximise efficiencies
- 2. Carbon-neutral energy

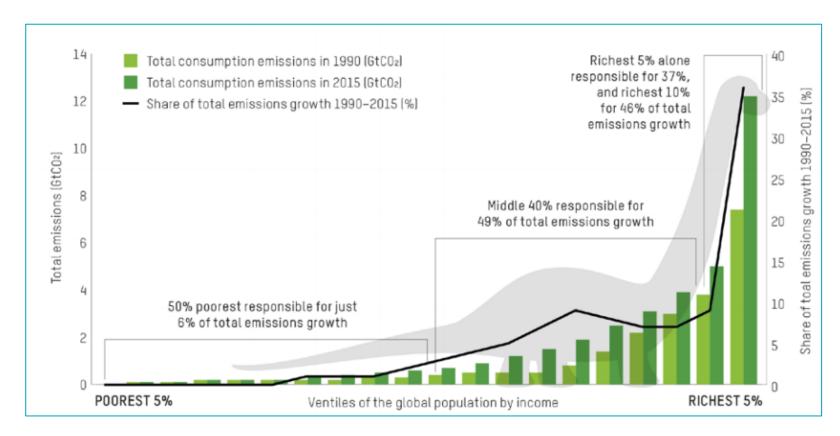
#### Post-2030

- Carbon-neutral heavy transport and industry
- Carbon removal

# The elephant in the room – or the dinosaur?

5. Change of lifestyle: diets and demand destruction

#### Skewed distribution of GHG emissions by income group



Source: Oxfam, Confronting Carbon Inequality (2020)

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