Advancing climate mitigation policy solutions with health co-benefits in G7 countries

Call overview

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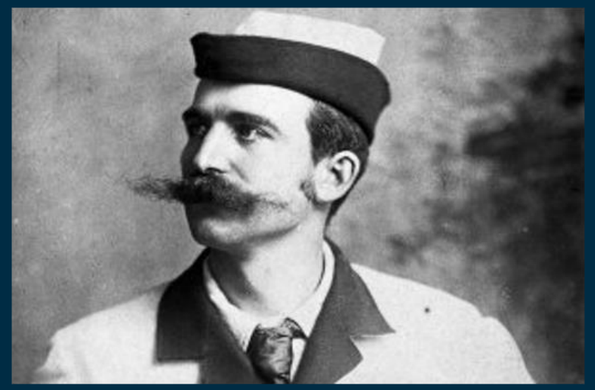
Wellcome



Founded in 1936 by Sir Henry Wellcome

Wellcome is a politically and financially independent global charitable foundation, funded by a £38.2 billion investment portfolio. Based in London, UK, we dispense ~£1bn per year in support of our mission.

Vision:

Science to solve the urgent health challenges facing everyone.

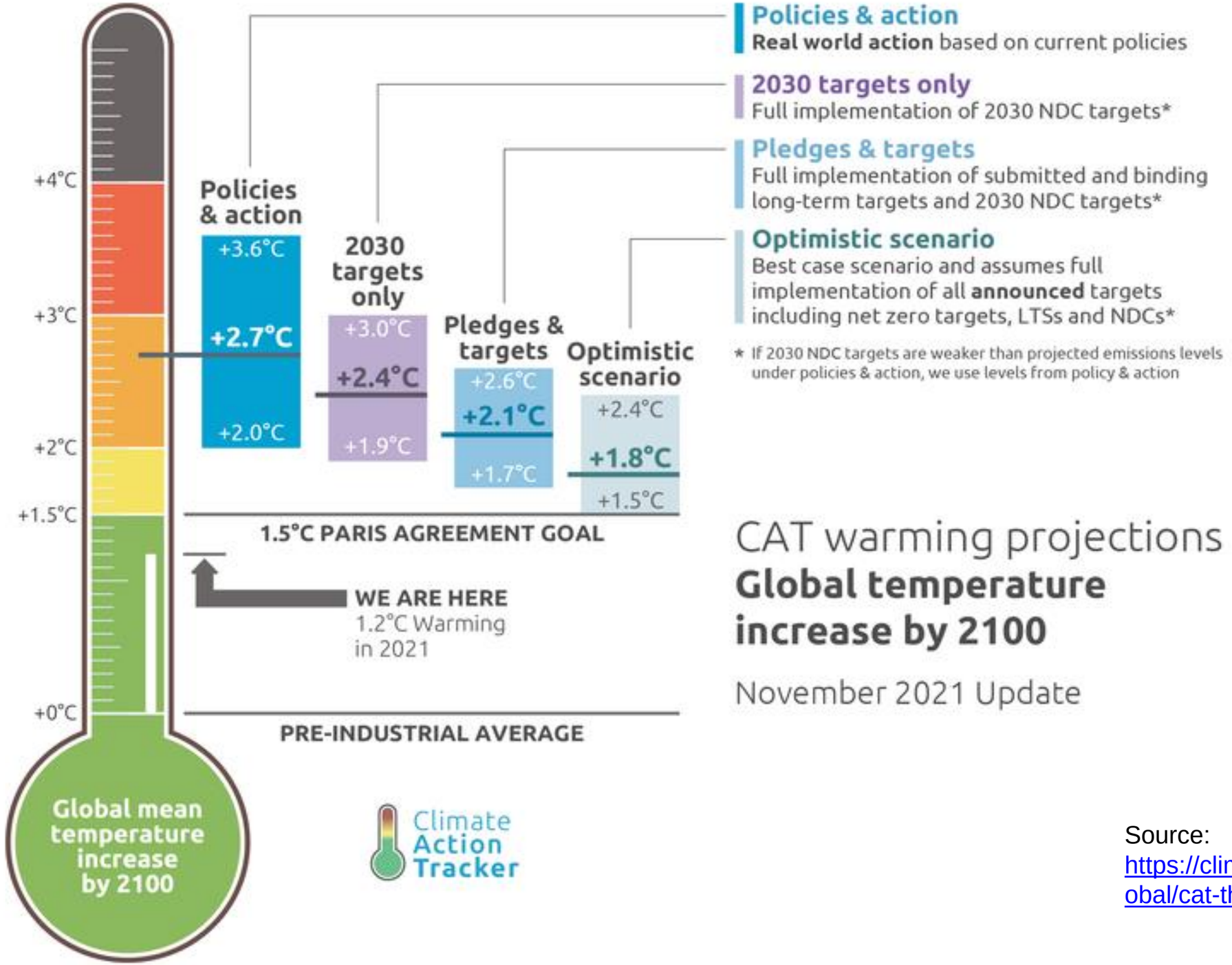
Mission:

We support discovery research into life, health and wellbeing, and we’re taking on three worldwide health challenges: mental health, infectious disease and climate and health.

Our strategy

Diversity and Inclusion and Research Culture will be embedded into the work we fund and do.

Rationale for the call

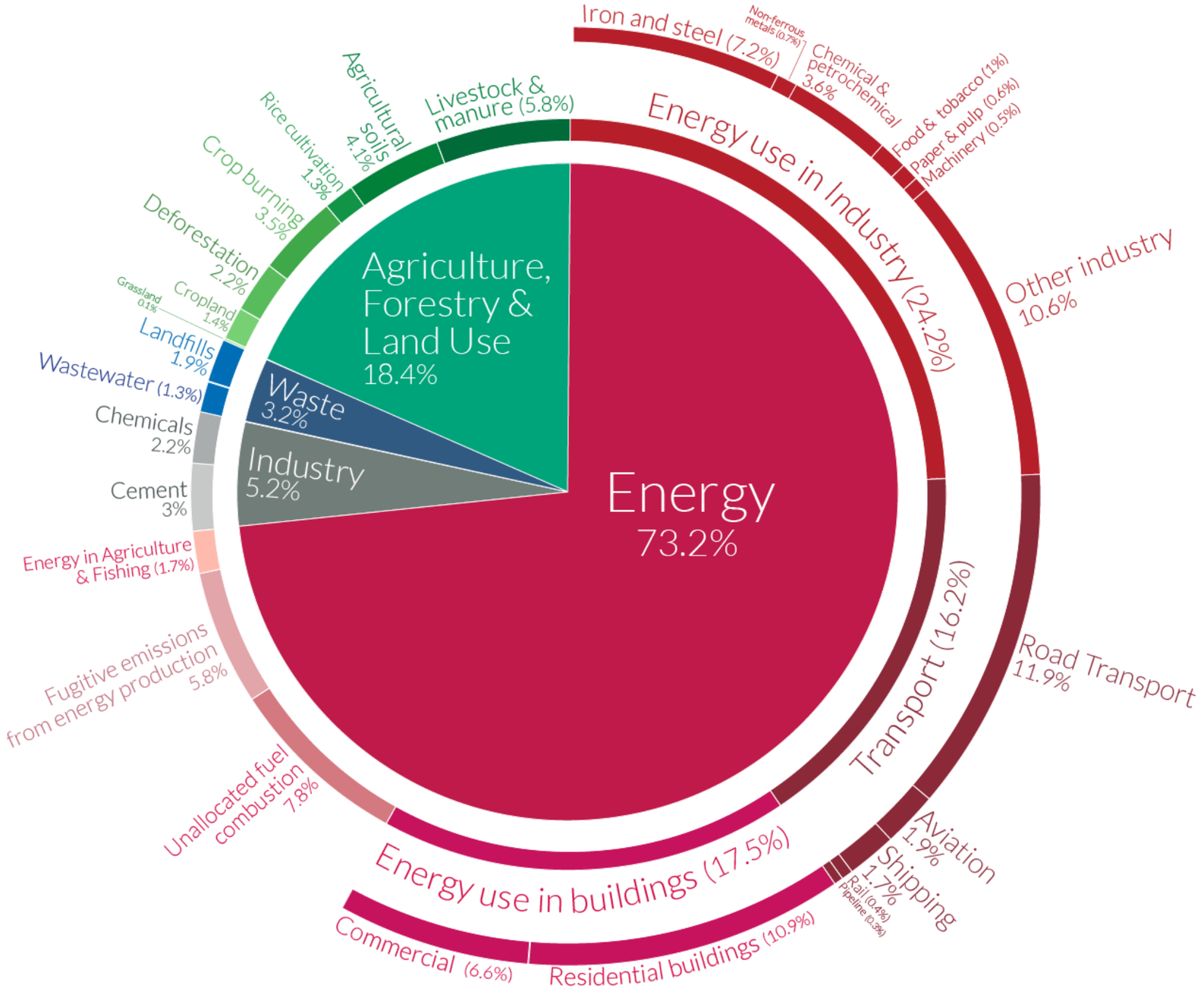


Source: https://climateactiontracker.org/global/cat-thermometer/

Global greenhouse gas emissions by sector

This is shown for the year 2016 – global greenhouse gas emissions were 49.4 billion tonnes CO_2eq.

Our World in Data



Source: https://ourworldindata.org/emissions-by-sector

Aim and objectives of the call

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Aim: To generate evidence which will support policymakers in G7 countries to advance transformative health-centred changes in the food systems, energy, transport and housing sectors.

Objectives are to:

- Support policies with the potential to lead to transformational advances towards health-centred, net zero-aligned mitigation solutions.
- Generate actionable evidence on the measured or modelled health effects and wider socioeconomic outcomes of mitigation solutions.
- Ensure the evidence generated is linked to an existing or anticipated policy opportunity with the potential for transformational change.
- Provide evidence of sufficient demand for the proposed research from policy or implementation partners.
- Undertake integrated analyses of one or more of the eligible sectors.

Who can apply

Eligibility

You can apply to this scheme if you are a transdisciplinary research team who:

- are from climate, health and relevant disciplines
- are led or co-led by an applicant that is hosted at an institution based in the G7 country of the policy that is being assessed.
- involve relevant collaborating partners from policy or implementation in a process of co-production
- promote a diverse, inclusive and supportive research environment.

Host organisation

Host organisation can be one of the following:

- higher education institution
- research institute
- non-academic healthcare organisation
- not-for-profit organisation

The team

- A strong track record of research in climate change mitigation and health.
- A strong track record of working in collaboration with policy or implementation partners
- Inclusion of relevant in-country policy or implementation partners in a process of co-production

Projects we will support

Studies that are in scope

In scope
• Studies that include researchers from a broad range of disciplines
• Studies which are co-created and for which there is evidence of a clear demand from policy or implementation actors
• Studies of mitigation solutions which focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
• Studies which assess the health effects and trade-offs of mitigation solutions in the food, energy, transport or housing sectors
• Studies which respond to the urgency for mitigation action
• The primary focus of policy influence for studies must be a G7 country. However, studies where the evidence has an opportunity influence a related policy, such as in the EU, will also be in scope.

Studies that are out of scope

Out of scope
• Studies which do not generate new data as a primary objective
• Studies which are not linked to a particular ‘live’ policy opportunity or demand from policy or implementation partners
• Studies which do not integrate research users from policy or implementation as part of the process
• Studies of mitigation solutions which address greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sinks
• Mitigation solutions outside of food, energy, transport or housing sectors.
• Studies of interventions which do not address urgency and scale and are unlikely to lead to transformative change
• Studies outside of G7 countries

Research questions and activities to support policy engagement and research uptake

- Studies that generate new data on the scale of the problem
- Research to assess which policy interventions or levers are effective in advancing health and wider outcomes
- Studies to explore the nature of transformational, systems-wide change
- Qualitative research approaches
- Policy studies to understand barriers and obstacles to advancing health-centred mitigation policies
- While they may not be the sole focus of proposals, decision-support tools may be included where they support translation and uptake of evidence

Outcomes we are interested in

Health outcomes

- Changes in intermediate health-related risk factors: e.g. diet, physical activity, air quality
- Changes in health conditions: e.g. birthweight, cognitive and lung development in children, non-communicable diseases e.g. obesity, heart disease, diabetes

Climate outcomes

- Changes in greenhouse gas emissions

Wider socio-economic outcomes

- Examples of associated wider outcomes include equity and social distribution, productivity, economic costs, healthcare costs, and unintended consequences

We are particularly interested in analyses which explore new ways of looking at the issue e.g. by focusing on outcomes in children or other under-explored groups.

Co-production

- Wellcome expects research supported by this funding opportunity to be designed and planned with policy or implementation partners in order to be responsive to their needs and increase the likelihood of policy influence and research uptake.

- The policy or implementation partners can either be involved as co-applicants who are core members of the research team and commit a minimum of 10% of their time, or collaborators who are essential to the delivery of the project (there is no minimum time-commitment for collaborators).

- The transdisciplinary partnerships should be underpinned by equitable partnership principles.

Assessment criteria breakdown

Criteria	Weighting
Methods, transdisciplinary approach and co-production	30%
Equity, diversity and inclusion and the research environment	10%
Novelty of approach	20%
Anticipated impact	20%
Feasibility – capacity to execute the project	20%

Call timeline

- Full applications deadline: Monday 31st October 2022 17:00 GMT
- Panel meeting: Week commencing 13th February 2023
- Decision: February 2023

Thank you

To apply and for further information visit
https://wellcome.org/what-we-do/climate-and-health

Email questions to: mitigationandhealth@wellcome.org