



# G20 Climate Risk Atlas

## Why in News

Recently, a report named **G20 Climate Risk Atlas** from the **Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change** (CMCC) has said that [G20 \(Group of 20\) countries](#) including the wealthiest like the US, European countries, and Australia will bear extreme impacts of [climate change](#) over the coming years.

- The **first study of its kind**, it provides climate scenarios, information, data and future changes in climate across the G20 countries.
- The report came two days ahead of the [G20 summit in Rome](#) at the end of October 2021.

## Key Points

### ▪ Impact on G20 Countries:

#### ◦ Heatwaves:

- [Heatwaves](#) could last at least ten times longer in all G20 countries, with heatwaves in Argentina, Brazil and Indonesia lasting over 60 times longer by 2050.
- In Australia, [bushfires](#), [coastal floods](#) and [hurricanes](#) could raise [insurance](#) costs and reduce property values by 611 billion Australian Dollars by 2050.

#### ◦ GDP Loss:

- [GDP \(Gross Domestic product\)](#) losses due to climate damage in G20 countries increase each year, rising to at least 4% annually by 2050. This can reach over 8% by 2100, equivalent to twice the bloc's economic losses from [Covid-19](#).
- Some countries will be even worse hit, such as Canada, which could see at least a 4% decrease in its GDP by 2050 and over 13% by 2100.

#### ◦ Sea Level Rise:

- The [sea level rise](#) could wreck coastal infrastructure within 30 years, with Japan set to lose 404 billion euro and South Africa 815 million euro by 2050, on a high emissions pathway.

#### ◦ Flooding

- Expected annual damages from [riverine flooding](#) by 2050 are estimated to be **376.4 billion Euro** under a low emissions scenario and rise to 585.6 billion EUR under a high emissions scenario.

### ▪ Impact on India:

#### ◦ Emission Scenarios:

- **Low Emission** (emissions lower than in present):

- Projected **temperature** variations will remain contained **under 1.5 degree celsius , both by 2050 and 2100.**
- **Medium Emission** (same as present):
  - Between 2036 and 2065, the maximum temperature of the warmest month in India could **rise by at least 1.2 degree celsius in a medium emission pathway.**
- **High Emission** (higher than present):
  - By 2050 under a high emission scenario **average temperature could rise to 2 degree celsius.**
- **Rainfall:**
  - **Annual rainfall** is likely to record **a steep increase by 2050 with an 8% to 19.3% increase in all emission scenarios.**
- **Economic Impact:**
  - In India, declines in **rice and wheat** yields due to climate change could lead to economic losses between 43 and 81 billion EUR (or 1.8-3.4% of (GDP) by 2050.
  - **Water demand for agriculture is likely to rise** around about 29% by 2050 – meaning yield losses are likely to be underestimated.
- **Heatwaves:**
  - Heatwaves in India will last 25 times longer by 2036-2065 if emissions are high (4°C), over five times longer if global temperature rise is constrained to about 2°C, and one and a half times longer if emissions are very low and temperature rise only reaches 1.5°C.
- **Agricultural Drought:**
  - On a pathway to 4°C global heating, **agricultural drought will become 48% more frequent** by 2036-2065.
  - On a 2°C pathway (the maximum temperature agreed by the **Paris Agreement**) this drops to 20% more frequent, and constraining temperature rise to 1.5°C (the aspirational goal of the Paris Agreement), agricultural drought will still be 13% more frequent.
- **Flooding:**
  - Under **18 million Indians could be at risk of river flooding** by 2050 if emissions are high, compared to 1.3 million today.
- **Labour:**
  - Total **labour is expected to decline by 13.4%** under a low emissions scenario by 2050 due to the increase in heat, and by 24% under a medium emissions scenario by 2080.
- **Food Security:**
  - In India, **declines in rice and wheat production could spark economic losses** of up to Euros 81 billion by 2050 and a loss of 15% of farmers' incomes by 2100.

## Way Forward

- The window to act is closing fast. As the **G20 countries incentivize economic recovery from Covid-19** and prepare climate plans ahead of COP26, they face an urgent choice to protect the global economy and make a rapid transition to a **low-carbon future**; or derail the global economy by pursuing polluting policies.
- It's time for the **G20 to make its economic agenda a climate agenda. Rapid action is needed to tackle emissions** and adapt to climate change will limit the severe impacts of climate change.
- G20 governments should listen to science and put the world on a path to a **better, fairer and**

**more stable future.**

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/g20-climate-risk-atlas>

