

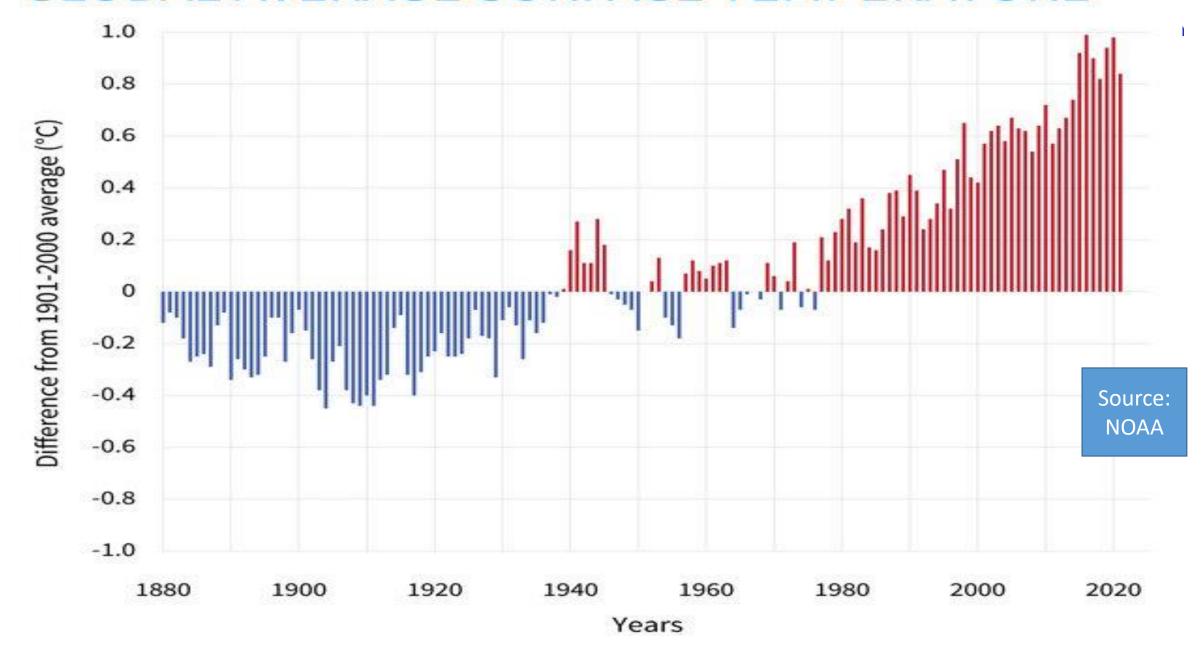


An actuarial perspective on climate change and social insurance

Simon Brimblecombe, CTA and Head of Regional Actuarial Services Unit, ILO Bangkok

June 8th 2023

GLOBAL AVERAGE SURFACE TEMPERATURE





- More extreme & erratic weather: temperatures, tropical storms, flooding, sea level rise, flooding, wild fires, landslides
- Falling agricultural yields & aggravation of existing crises:
 coastal regions particularly vulnerable
- Resource scarcity & environmental degradation compounds challenges
- 'Secondary' impacts
 - Increased social unrest & political instability
 - Disruption to health services & new channels for disease transmission
 - Migration and climate refugees (250 million 1 billion by 2050)
- Asia and the Pacific particularly vulnerable
 - Region with highest flood-related losses (USD 30bn p.a.)
 - Total economic losses from disasters of USD 60 billion p.a.

Role of actuaries

International Labour Organization

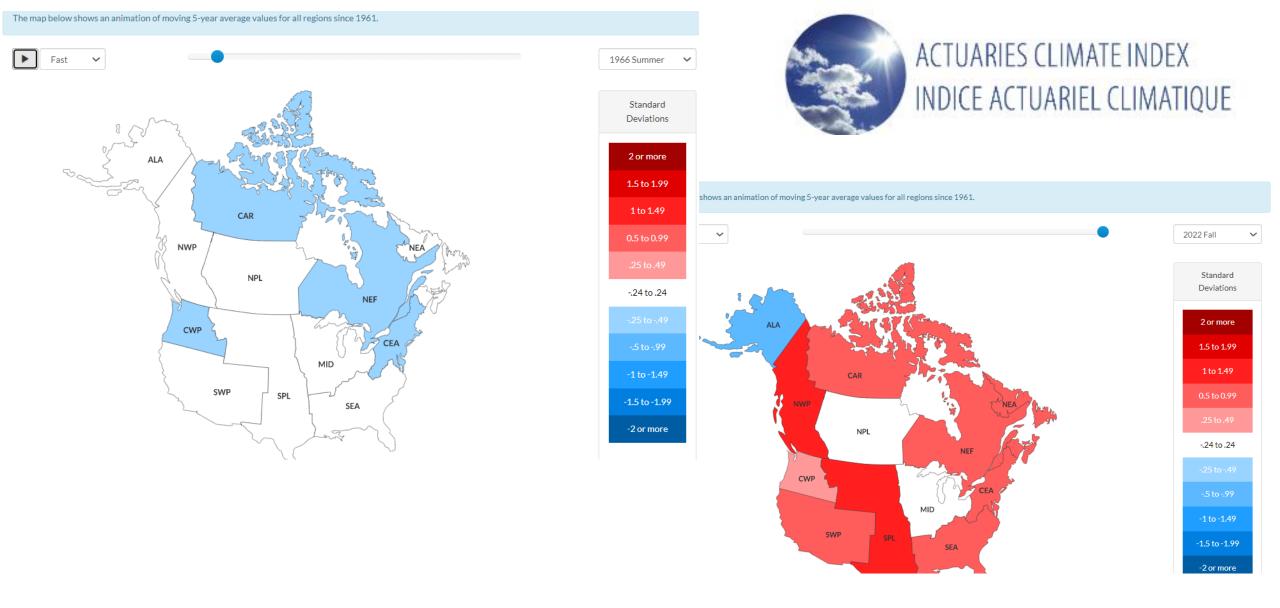
- Effective response to climate change needs to be driven by risk management
- Actuaries assess and project future impacts of risk events
 - Frequency of events how often they will happen
 - Severity of events financial impact
- Particularly relevant for climate change
 - Insurers and re-insurers
 - Social security
- For example:
 - Impact on mortality and morbidity?
 - Claims for unemployment?
 - Contributory capacities?



The Climate Change Adaptation Gap: An Actuarial Perspective

Climate Risk Task Force

May 2023



https://actuariesclimateindex.org/home/







Actuarial Work for Social Security





Ouick links: Home » The Actuary Issues » February 2016 »

Social security in a new climate

Tuesday 2nd February 2018 - updated 8.17pm, Wednesday 29th April 2020

Simon Brimblecombe looks at the role of social security in helping to deal with the effects of climate change around the world



Guideline 34. Actuarial input into the understanding of catastrophic risk

The social security institution seeks actuarial input in identifying relevant catastrophic risks and deepening the understanding of such risks.





Role of Social security actuaries

- 1. Assessing impacts
- 2. Adapting benefits to new realities
- 3. Climate ready administration, management & communication
- 4. Designing and financing an active role in mitigation

1: Assessing impacts

- Actuarial valuation
- Scenario testing
- Taking into account:
 - Mortality and morbidity assumptions
 - Inequalities in health & life expectancy
 - Migration flows
 - Unemployment insurance claims
 - Economic growth assumptions

2: Adapting Benefits to the new reality

- Costing increases in coverage
- Assessing if current benefit structures still appropriate:
 - Do they reflect number and frequency of future extreme events?
 - Duration of benefit payments if livelihoods destroyed?
- Design and financing
 - Fossil fuel subsidies ?
 - Role of workers, employers and Governments?

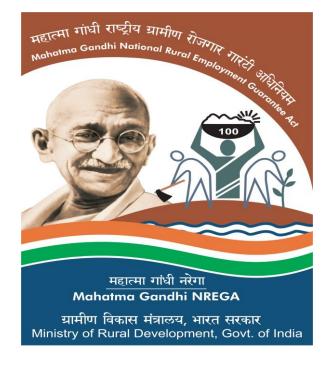
3: Administration and management

- Access to benefits
 - US SSA: Special hotlines, additional staff employed to expedite claims for death, survivor & disability benefits
 - Philippines SSS: Advanced grant of pensions, subsidised calamity loans, streamlined claiming
- Disaster recovery
 - Systems go down what happens next?
 - Communicating with members ?

Important that social security institutions have a risk management framework

4: Mitigation

- India: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment
 - Water conservation, drought prevention, flood control etc
- Brasil: Bolsa verde
 - Twin goals: poverty eradication & conservation
- Social security Fund Investment
 - What should be done?
 - Actuarial input to understand liabilities and quantify risks
 - Liquidity risk? Construction risk?





ESG



Infrastructure investment

Environmental

- Disinvestment from coal
- Investing in renewable energy
- Local economic transition

Social

- Avoiding use of child labour
- Companies who support institutions
- Reduce inequality

Governance

- Responsible pay and ownership
- Fosters good practice



Social security responses require actuarial input

Adapting contributions

Partial or temporary unemployment schemes

Economic transition measures

Risk Management framework

Emergency administration response procedures

Change investments of Reserve Funds

Increasing benefit level and duration temporarily



WWF Living Planet Report: Devastating 69% drop in wildlife populations since 1970



Posted on 13 October 2022

Wildlife populations - mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish - have seen a devastating 69% drop on average since 1970, according to WWF's Living Planet Report (LPR) 2022.



Dangers of invading nature become ever starker

Infections that jump from animals to people are on the rise, as Covid has shown



Why Is Everyone Talking About a Global Power Shortage?



China's newly consolidated ability to stop the river's flow to SE Asia points to an emerging new regional flashpoint

Thank you

