# Greening HTA? Do we need to rethink our approach to value in the Anthropocene?

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#### Greening HTA? Presentation overview



- Climate change: textbook example of a negative externality in economics
- Textbook solution: internalise the externality but should this be ex ante or ex post?
- What does this mean for HTA and the move toward 'greening HTA'?
- Things that will be helpful generally
- Things that are generally unhelpful



## Climate Change: textbook externality



- An externality occurs when the actions of individuals or firms have side effects on third parties that are not reflected in market prices.
- These can be positive (e.g. vaccinations) or negative (e.g. pollution).
- GHG emissions cause: rising temperatures; extreme weather; biodiversity loss; health impacts; rising sea levels
- But these **costs are not borne by the emitter**, nor priced into goods or services.
- Result: Market failure overproduction of emissions and underinvestment in clean alternatives.

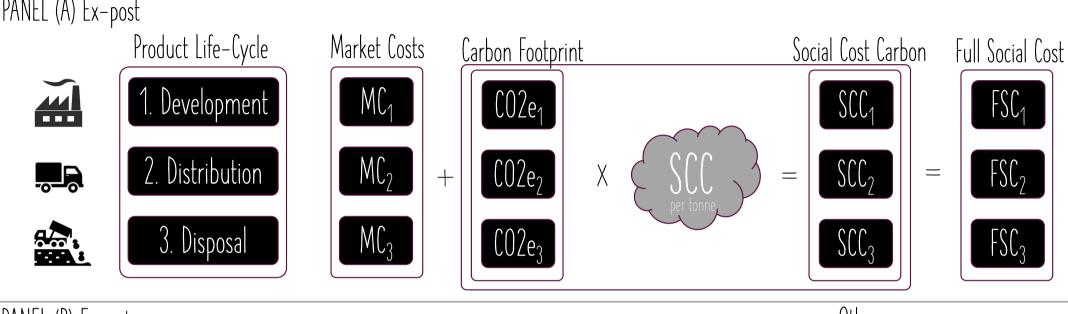


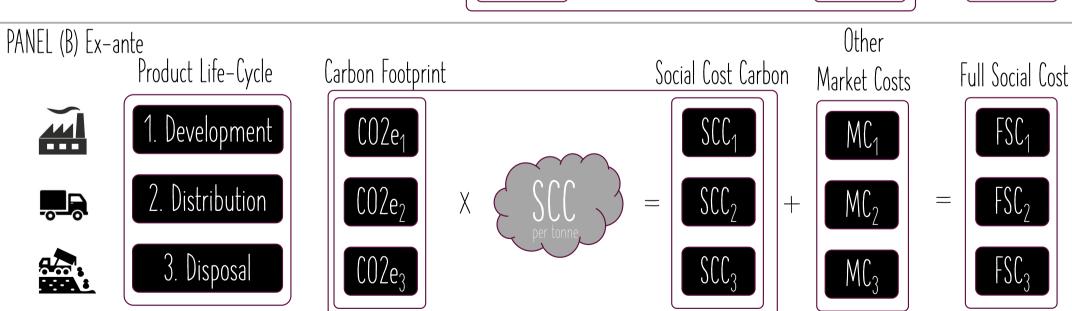
# Internalise the externality: textbook solution





#### PANEL (A) Ex-post

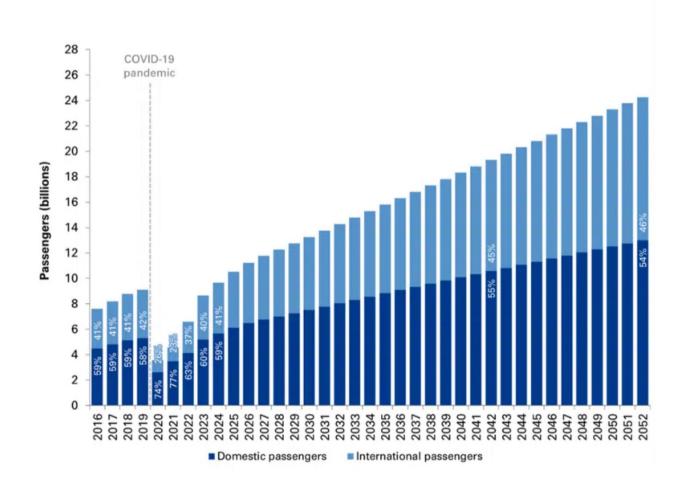




# The aviation industry (2.5% global GHG emissions)



Long-term international and domestic passenger traffic (2016–2052)





# Three Scopes of GHG Emissions



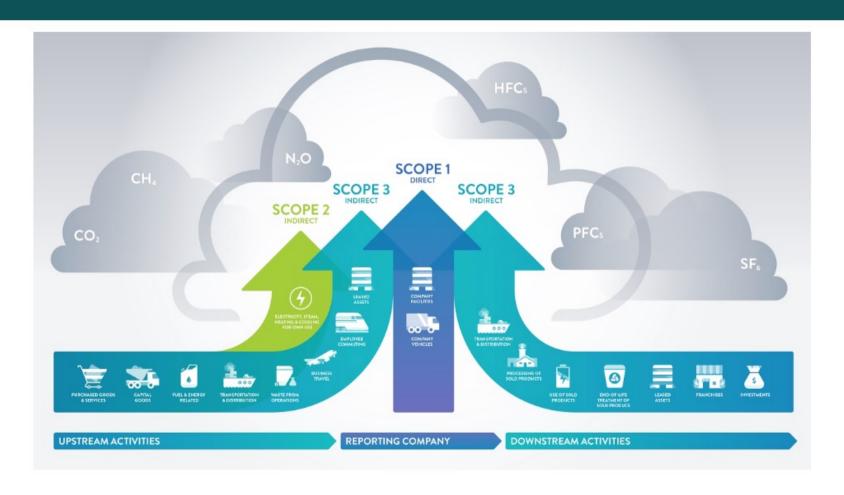




Image courtesy of Greenhouse Gas Protocol; https://ghgprotocol.org/

# Three Scopes for HTA?







SCOPE 3 (INDIRECT)



#### Things that will help generally



- Better estimates of the SCC
- Level playing field intersectorally
- Discount rates that don't undervalue the next generation
- Equity analyses that recognize the burden of climate change
  - Geographically
  - Intergenerationally
- Reframing SCC as health benefits forgone



Rennert, K., Errickson, F., Prest, B.C. et al. Comprehensive evidence implies a higher social cost of CO<sub>2</sub>. Nature 610, 687-692 (2022).



## Things that are generally unhelpful



- MCDA with health service decision makers and / or public
  - Problem demands an intersectoral solution
  - How can the next generations values be included?
- Life-Cycle Analysis layered onto HTA
  - LCA is potentially important but not for HTA
  - Consider a CBA of layering LCA onto every HTA submission?
- ICFER and ICFCRs
  - How can increasing the number of ratio statistics lead to better decision making?



#### Concluding statement



In confronting climate change, our commitment must be matched by humility. Well-intentioned haste to green our HTA methods risks overreach and could exacerbate the very issues we aim to resolve







