

It hopes to hold the increase in the global average temperature to below 2°C (3.6°F) 'and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C (2.7°F)'.

It seems the more ambitious goal of restricting global warming to 1.5°C (2.7°F) may be more important than ever, according to previous research which claims 25 per cent of the world could see a significant increase in drier conditions.

The Paris Agreement on Climate Change has four main goals with regards to reducing emissions:

- 1) A long-term goal of keeping the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels
- 2) To aim to limit the increase to 1.5°C, since this would significantly reduce risks and the impacts of climate change
- 3) Governments agreed on the need for global emissions to peak as soon as possible, recognising that this will take longer for developing countries
- 4) To undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with the best available science

Source: European Commission

Revealed: MailOnline dissects the impact greenhouse gases have on the planet - and what is being done to stop air pollution

EMISSIONS

Carbon dioxide

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is one of the biggest contributors to global warming. After the gas is released into the atmosphere it stays there, making it difficult for heat to escape - and warming up the planet in the process.

It is primarily released from burning fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas, as well as cement production.

The average monthly concentration of CO₂ in the Earth's atmosphere, as of April 2019, is 413 parts per million (ppm). Before the Industrial Revolution, the concentration was just 280 ppm.

CO₂ concentration has fluctuated over the last 800,000 years between 180 to 280ppm, but has been vastly accelerated by pollution caused by humans.