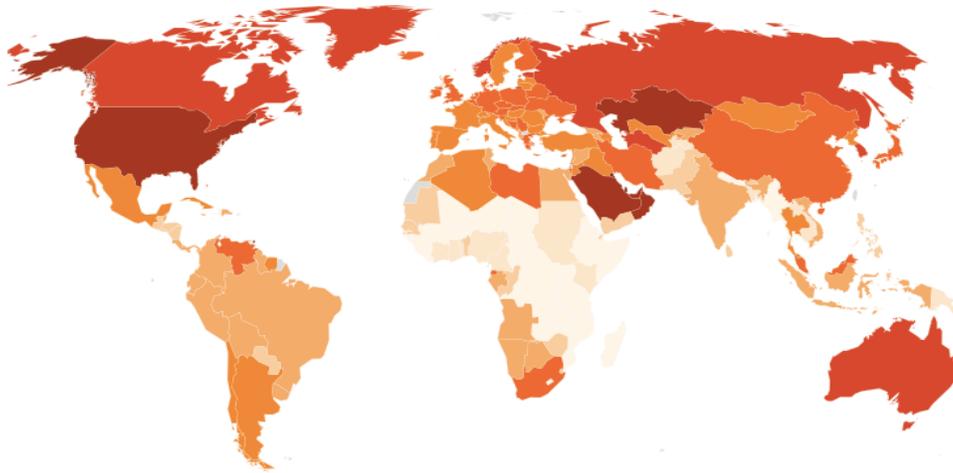


GLOBAL CLIMATE MANIFESTO



A pragmatic summary of climate change and
a call to action to citizens and our politicians

Please take a few minutes to read this message

It is important that we all understand climate change, because it has catastrophic consequences for life as we know it, for hundreds of thousands of people in developing countries already, and for millions of people around the world in the future.

Too many people in the media, including well-known commentators, have either not read, or have not understood, the scientific data about climate change, and yet they have a communications platform affecting what many people think about it.

This is a very dangerous state of affairs.

I hope that you find this short explanation of climate change understandable, because your understanding is a critical step in avoiding the fatal consequences of climate change – both environmental and economic.

We can not just leave it to the politicians. Though they have it in their power to resolve the problems, they require to hear our voice, to help them to make the tough decisions that they need to make on our behalf.

I hope that not only will we better appreciate the science and data of climate change, but also that we will take action. In particular I hope that each of us will make contact with our national representative politician to demand that they engage on our behalf with the rational Global Climate Manifesto that is outlined at the end of this summary. Such a global manifesto is necessary to avert the worst consequences of climate change.

Please read this summary about fossil fuels, global warming and climate change, and then email or post it to the politician who represents you in your national government. Also, ask him or her to organise regular meetings with your community, at least once a year, to keep you all informed about the government's progress on eliminating fossil fuels, global warming and climate change.

Also, please forward this short document to your family, friends and neighbours as soon as possible, so that they may do likewise.

Do this so that the voices of reason can be heard above the vested interests of fossil fuels and those voices who irrationally deny climate change.

If enough of us act together in this way, which is positive, rational and sane, our politicians may take seriously enough the worldwide elimination of fossil fuels, global warming and climate change, to save millions of lives in the future.

Regrettably and shamefully, it is already too late to save hundreds of thousands of people in developing countries around the world.

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GLOBAL CLIMATE MANIFESTO

The burning of fossil fuels by humans causes global warming

The burning of fossil fuels – mostly coal, oil and gas – generates carbon dioxide, which sits in the Earth's atmosphere like a blanket and causes global warming.

Relatively small increases or decreases in our planet's average global temperature create large changes in the Earth's climate. For example, in a glacial period, when the average global temperature is only about 7°C lower than it is currently, North America is covered in ice which is more than one mile thick.

Consequences of global warming on the climate – not just in the future

One of the consequences of global warming is that the world's ice caps start to melt. Where this ice is located on land, such as in Greenland and in Antarctica, the melt water runs into the ocean, raising sea level worldwide, which is a serious problem in the long term. Global warming also leads to warmer air which creates more and larger storms, flash floods and droughts, which is a serious problem now. Climate change is not just about the consequences in the future.

Such extreme climate phenomena cause catastrophic events that sweep away homes, schools, farms, factories and hospitals, and hundreds of thousands of people. Normally you won't see many of the photographs or videos of such in the traditional media, as it is regarded as too horrific to show to a mass audience.

These catastrophes are visited on developing countries who did not cause global warming and climate change. It has been caused by burning fossil fuels in the developed world, such as UK, USA, Europe, Russia & Japan, over the past 200 years or so, during the industrial revolution, and latterly also by China and India.

The Earth's natural cycle of global warming and cooling

Global warming, climate change and the raising of sea level worldwide has also happened several other times over the past 400,000 years, not as a result of burning fossil fuels but as a result of the natural variations in the orbit of the Earth as it travels around the Sun.

Over this previous 400,000 years there have been four previous warm periods and four intervening glacial periods.

In these previous warm periods, the average global temperature of the Earth was only about 2°C warmer than it is now, with sea level about 5 metres higher than it is now, due to the melting of some of the land-based ice.

Coincidentally, we are now in the next naturally warm period, so the carbon dioxide that we are releasing into the atmosphere is particularly harmful – by burning fossil fuels now we are creating additional global warming at a time when the Earth is already in a warming phase of its natural cycle of climate change.

Natural and man-made global warming are adding together

In this current warming period there are billions of humans on the Earth, which wasn't so in any previous warm period. Considering the fact that hundreds of millions of people now live in major cities which are located at or near sea level (historically for good reasons of access and trade), we should be taking the threat and the consequences of climate change and 5 metres rise in sea level, much more seriously.

This is especially so, when we consider that we have already caused more than 0.5°C rise in average global temperature, while adding about 100 parts per million of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, since the beginning of the industrial revolution. In the past 400,000 years the planet has never before seen this level of additional carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

We have most likely already released enough additional carbon dioxide into the atmosphere to cause significantly more of a rise in the average global temperature than we have measured so far.

Furthermore, if we carry on burning as much coal, oil and gas worldwide as we are currently, we will cause enough global warming to melt most of the land-based ice in Greenland and Antarctica. This vast amount of melt water will cause not just 5 metres rise in sea level, but over 50 metres rise in sea level.

To put that in context, in London for example that's up to the clock face of Big Ben – a permanent rise in sea level that would last for thousands of years.

And don't forget the political & economic consequences of fossil fuels

In the meantime, coal and oil and gas are not only fossil fuels that are causing environmental catastrophe, they are also finite resources, so they are running out.

Furthermore, the data shows that if we are to keep global warming below the danger limit of 2°C then most of the remaining fossil fuels should be left in the ground. This in itself will cause unprecedented trouble economically, politically and socially, as they become increasingly scarce, unless it is properly managed.

We have already seen wars caused by the need to secure supplies of fossil fuels at a price and availability that is acceptable to developed countries.

Long before we see the full extent of the environmental catastrophe, local and regional devastations, environmental and especially economic, around the world, will change life as we know it for everyone, unless we act more responsibly.

In January 2016, the World Economic Forum said that a catastrophe caused by climate change was the biggest potential threat to the global economy. In our globalised world, the consequences of catastrophe travel fast – but we act mostly like we're not listening about these serious, existential threats to our planet's climate and to the global economy.

A CALL TO ACTION TO CITIZENS AND OUR POLITICIANS

In order to prevent the worst effects of global warming, and the most catastrophic consequences – environmentally, economically, socially and politically – it makes sense for politicians to adopt the following Global Climate Manifesto on behalf of all humans, not just those of us living now, but also for our future generations:

- 1 Eliminate fossil fuels because they just create even more global warming**
- 2 Increase use of renewables because that doesn't create global warming**
- 3 Remove the additional carbon dioxide from out of the atmosphere**
- 4 Invest sufficiently to make nuclear energy safe and economical**

We must achieve these goals as soon as possible, across the world as a whole, and quicker than the timetable negotiated by the politicians in Paris at the UN Climate Conference. Their agreed danger limit of 2°C of warming will itself cause catastrophic climate change. It should not be regarded as acceptable. We can not negotiate with the laws of Physics.

If politicians do not endorse the Global Climate Manifesto, their policies for the economy, jobs, welfare, health, education, social cohesion and national security, will all become increasingly distressed, especially since the economic consequences of climate change will bite at an early stage.

Environmental and economic catastrophes are already evident in those parts of the world which are on the front line of the consequences of climate change. In these areas they are already seeing massive storms which are 1,000 km from side to side, with winds of 200 km/hr and ocean storm surges of 5 metres high, devastating the communities on which they are visited. Other areas are already seeing unprecedented droughts and floods, which decimate the local economies.

If these catastrophes were happening in developed countries, citizens and politicians would already be taking the more radical action required to eliminate fossil fuels, global warming and climate change.

Already it is too late for those hundreds of thousands of people, men and women like ourselves and their children, who have been swept off the face of the Earth by these extreme climate events. As citizens and politicians, it is to our shame that such devastation and injustice continues, fueled as it is by our own ignorance and indifference. If we allow it to continue, our attitude will also inevitably lead to more environmental disasters and more economic troubles, unless we engage our politicians to focus on the Global Climate Manifesto.

The call to action is clear, necessary and urgent – Work with your politician to deliver the Global Climate Manifesto. Too soon it will be too late to save millions more people, all over the world, from the climate catastrophes and economic disasters that will be visited on us all.