CONTRIBUTING TO THE CLIMATE MOVEMENT

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AGENDA

- INTRO
- BACKGROUND
- DEFINING THE CHALLENGE
- IDENTIFYING A SOLUTION
- VISION STATEMENT
- IMPLEMENTING CHANGE
- MEASURING IMPACT
- PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER
- CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS
- GET INVOLVED!

INTRODUCTION

One of the key goals of the international climate movement is for our planet to not surpass a global temperature rise greater than 1.5 degrees Celsius. For that to happen, action is required at all levels, from global to individual. But how can individuals get started? How can they continue and scale their action efforts? We will begin with an overview on climate change, and later discuss action & project planning, challenges young people face in getting and remaining involved in the climate movement, solutions to that, and ways you can get involved in the climate movement.

BACKGROUND

According to the United Nations, **climate change** refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns. Now, human activities are the main driver of climate change, primarily due to burning fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas.

Greenhouse gas concentrations are at their highest levels in 2 million years. The Earth is now about 1.1°C warmer than it was in the late 1800s. The last decade (2011-2020) was the warmest on record.

Climate-sensitive health risks are disproportionately felt by the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, including women, children, ethnic minorities, poor communities, migrants or displaced persons, older populations, and those with underlying health conditions.

BACK GROUND

Limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C would help us avoid the worst climate impacts and maintain a livable climate. Yet based on current national climate plans, global warming is projected to reach around 3.2°C by the end of the century. The 100 least-emitting countries generate 3 per cent of total emissions. The 10 countries with the largest emissions contribute 68 per cent.

VOCABULARY

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

Climate change is a **collective action** issue that requires all of us to work together.

VOCABULARY

- The **UNFCCC** entered into force on 21 March 1994. Today, it has near-universal membership. The 197 countries that have ratified the Convention are called Parties to the Convention. Preventing “dangerous” human interference with the climate system is the ultimate aim of the UNFCCC.
- To tackle climate change and its negative impacts, world leaders at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris reached a breakthrough on 12 December 2015: the historic **Paris Agreement**, which sets long-term goals to guide all nations.
- The Agreement is a legally binding international treaty. It entered into force on 4 November 2016. Today, 193 Parties (192 countries plus the European Union) have joined the Paris Agreement.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER: FROM IDEAS TO ACTION

Please see the Ideas to Action Planning Guide by the Aspen Institute: (separate attachment)

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The outline for SMARTIE Goals here:

https://www.managementcenter.org/resources/smartie-goals-worksheet/

CHALLENGES

- financial need + limited resources → unpaid jobs and internships, shorter term funding
- emotional challenges → burnout, eco-anxiety, climate grief, bravery
- difficulty in finding like-minded people/ a community to do action with instead of doing it alone
- limited or no access to mentors to share opportunities with and guide young leaders on their journey
- difficulty in finding a “champion of youth” to advocate for youth in various institutions
- limited network and/or networking opportunities
- not knowing how to get started or how to learn about how to get started

CHALLENGES

- a lack of youth seats/voices at decision-making tables (with meaningful engagement)
- low diversity in mainstream narratives → amplifying the voices of those most vulnerable to harm
- equating of less experience as incapability or doubting of skills
- low diversity in the field esp. leadership positions
- a lack of opportunities to gain relevant knowledge and skills
- missed opportunities for highlighting green job pathways
- how entities describe themselves/jobs (motivating mission)
- description of climate change as a problem for future generations
- (internet/computer/phone access, language barriers)

SOLUTION SITES

- Please see this Google Doc with links to various opportunity sites and resources; copy the Google Doc to your drive
- https://docs.google.com/document/d/130RhW_gIpJ30HQP9rU-fpfw3mvhJEGOcrJMOwSeyXTs/edit?usp=sharing

END OF PRESENTATION

THANK YOU