

April-May 2024

Your bi-monthly climate connection is here!

The climate crisis is intensifying at an unprecedented rate. While all of us experience this in different ways, some suffer more than others. It is important to calibrate our climate action initiatives so as to incorporate the considerations of justice and fairness which underly this crisis.

Although the governments, world leaders and industry possess the power and resources to take significant and effective climate action, for a long time the blame of climate inaction has fallen on citizens and their lack of awareness. New research shows an increasing awareness among citizens and their concern for the survivability of the planet and future generations in light of the climate crisis.

Our global carbon budget to adhere to the Paris agreement is shrinking and the clock is ticking. Inform yourselves, empower others and demand action now!

This is our bi-monthly dispatch of updates and insights on renewable energy, energy transition, climate change, and the environment in general. We hope you enjoy reading it!

Happenings from home



Photo: Canva

The disproportionality of the impacts of climate change are becoming more and more visible with each extreme weather event the world witnesses. This disproportionality is seen not only amongst people but also amongst various countries and their economic growth. The 55 most climate-vulnerable economies worldwide have already lost 20% of their GDP. For the economies and people to mitigate and adapt to the climate crisis, climate-vulnerable countries need to balance the urgent need for sustainable development with the financial resources required to implement transformative solutions. Mala Balaji, researcher at CAG, talks about blended finance as one of the tools in our climate crusade, which strategically uses development finance and philanthropic funds to mobilise private capital flows to emerging markets.

From the corners of the country



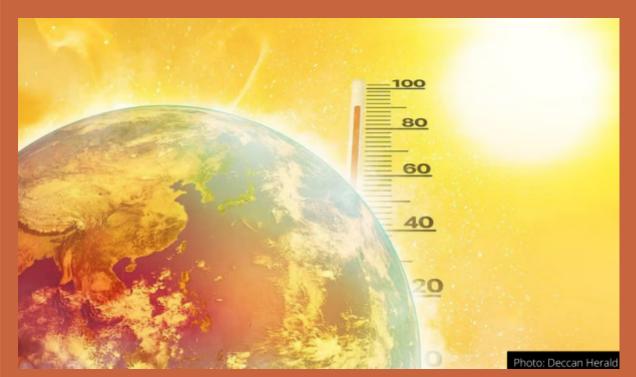
India is one of the countries most vulnerable to the impacts of the climate crisis with more than 80% of its population living in districts highly prone to extreme weather events. A lot of efforts by the government, civil society and other stakeholders have gone into raising awareness among citizens on the phenomenon of climate change and the need for climate action. The Yale Program on Climate Change Communication conducted a survey among 2178 Indian adults and examined public opinion, knowledge of global warming, perceived risks of climate change. The survey found that 85% of Indians say they are already experiencing impacts of climate change. It is encouraging to know that citizens are becoming increasingly concerned about the crisis as this is crucial in pushing for stronger policy action from the government.

From around the world



As a first in history, an international court has given its advisory opinion on the impact of climate change on the oceans. The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea is the apex court which resolves disputes pertaining to the United Nations Convention on the Law Of the Sea (UNCLOS). Following a request submitted by the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law, the Tribunal was asked to offer its advisory opinion on whether States have specific obligations to mitigate impacts of climate change on the ocean as under UNCLOS. This was the first time ever that the Court affirmed that anthropogenic GHG emissions constitutes 'pollution' as under UNCLOS. Therefore, States have a responsibility to mitigate impacts of climate change in the marine environment as under UNCLOS.

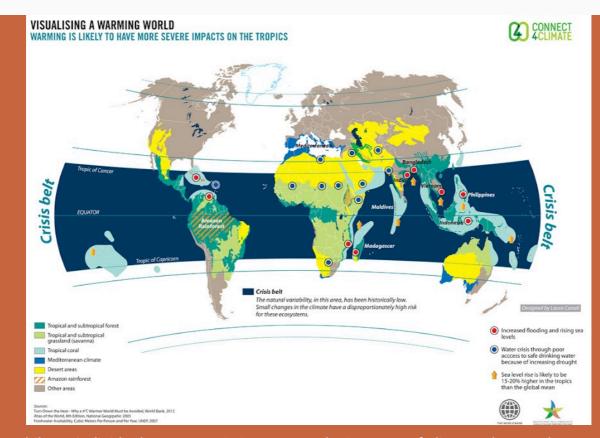
Global warnings



Repeatedly, scientists, civil society and intergovernmental organisations have flagged the causal link between anthropogenic emissions and climate change, particularly, the burning of fossil fuels at an unprecedented rate for various human needs and wants. A new research has revealed that global warming caused by humans is advancing at 0.26°C per decade, the highest rate since record-keeping began!

The Indicators of Global Climate Change report calculated the emission of greenhouse gases from anthropogenic sources minus the removals by the anthropogenic sinks. Scientists say that at this rate the remaining carbon budget, i.e how much carbon dioxide can be emitted before committing us to 1.5 °C of global warming, will only be around 200 billion tonnes, which is around five years' worth of current emissions.

In a nutshell



While no individual or country is immune to the impacts of climate change, there are certain groups of individuals and countries which will be disproportionately impacted. African, Latin American, South Asian and South East Asian countries are at a much higher risk than other regions. This is why the climate crisis is also a justice problem as those who contribute the least to global warming are the ones most impacted by it. Italian artist Laura Canali's visualisation of the 'crisis belt' in a warming world helps us understand this injustice better.

Know more

Make it happen!



Every generation deserves a safe and sustainable future. Youth are mobilising and organising themselves for the sake of their future and they are undoubtedly spearheading the fight against climate crisis across the world. Youth in Africa and Asia are at the highest risk of severe climate disruption despite contributing the least to it. They face considerable uncertainty concerning their survivability, quality of life, work, etc. With access to support, training and resources, young people can change the world. Sign this petition to be a part of the solution.

Know more

Nugget



Did you know that by 2050, more than 216 million people across six continents will be forcefully displaced from their homes, largely due to climate change? Check out the UN's World Migration Report 2024 to learn more about this.

Know more



Climate Connection is an initiative of Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG) to assist and inform local communities, grassroots NGOs, environment and consumer groups, village representatives and media representatives on how to embrace renewable energy, navigate energy transition, mitigate climate change, and protect the environment they live in. We create change by developing and disseminating information resources on air pollution, climate change, environment and policies surrounding these issues.









All content (that does not specify a third party source) is licensed for use under <u>CC-BY-NC-SA 4.0</u>

Contact
No.103, First Floor, Eldams Road, Teynampet, Chennai - 600018.
Phone: 044 - 24354458 / 044 - 24350387
Email: climateconnection@cag.org.in