



August - September 2023

Your bi-monthly climate connection is here!

In light of the UN Climate Ambition Summit and the UNGA session in New York, demands for reforms to the global financial institutions and climate finance mechanisms needed to alleviate the impacts of the climate crisis are growing stronger.

As declared by WMO, the world witnessed the hottest three months on record with WHO officials also warning that the climate crisis is now becoming a public health crisis with the possibility of unknown and unheard of diseases surfacing.

Some rays of hope during these dark times are that simple changes can achieve long lasting transformations such as indicated by a recent study which estimates that work-from-home models could potentially reduce emissions. Some parts of the world are prioritising the phase out of fossil fuels by gearing up production of electric vehicles and renewable sources of energy. While the transition to renewables is encouraging, it is important to ensure that the transition is achieved through a just and rights-based system which upholds human rights.

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



Climate activists and environmentalists all over the world are demanding to end fossil fuels. As our planet faces the growing threat of climate emergency, the shift towards renewable energy has become more critical than ever. The transition to renewable energy is not only important for environmental reasons, but also for promoting social and economic development. However, it is important to ensure that the energy transition process respects and upholds human rights, preventing the perpetuation of existing inequalities or the creation of new ones. Shankar Prakash, CAG, explains more.

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From the corners of the country



The State of Tamil Nadu is close to reaching its goal of becoming the Electric Vehicle (EV) capital of India. This year India witnessed the sale of about 10 lakh EVs country wide, of which Tamil Nadu accounted for the sale of 4 lakh EVs. Following the release of a State EV policy, the government is expecting about INR 50,000 crore investment in EV manufacturing by 2025. The government has identified 4 major cities to be developed as EV hubs. Tamil Nadu is planning to capture 30% of manufacturing of all EVs in India and also increase global exports. The government has also made an ambitious statement that Tamil Nadu is setting its sights on becoming the world's EV capital. While the EV manufacturing is exploding in the state, it is also important to ensure that the energy for these EVs comes from clean sources.

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From around the world



Work from home to do your part towards climate action? According to a study published in PNAS, working from home one day a week reduced emissions by just 2% while 2-4 days at home reduced emissions by as much as 29%. However, reduced carbon emissions from remote working is a nuanced argument and actual savings could depend on a number of factors from commuting patterns, building energy consumption, vehicle emissions to non-commute-related travel and the use of renewable energy. While these findings are specific to the USA, modelling and trends are likely to be replicable in Europe.

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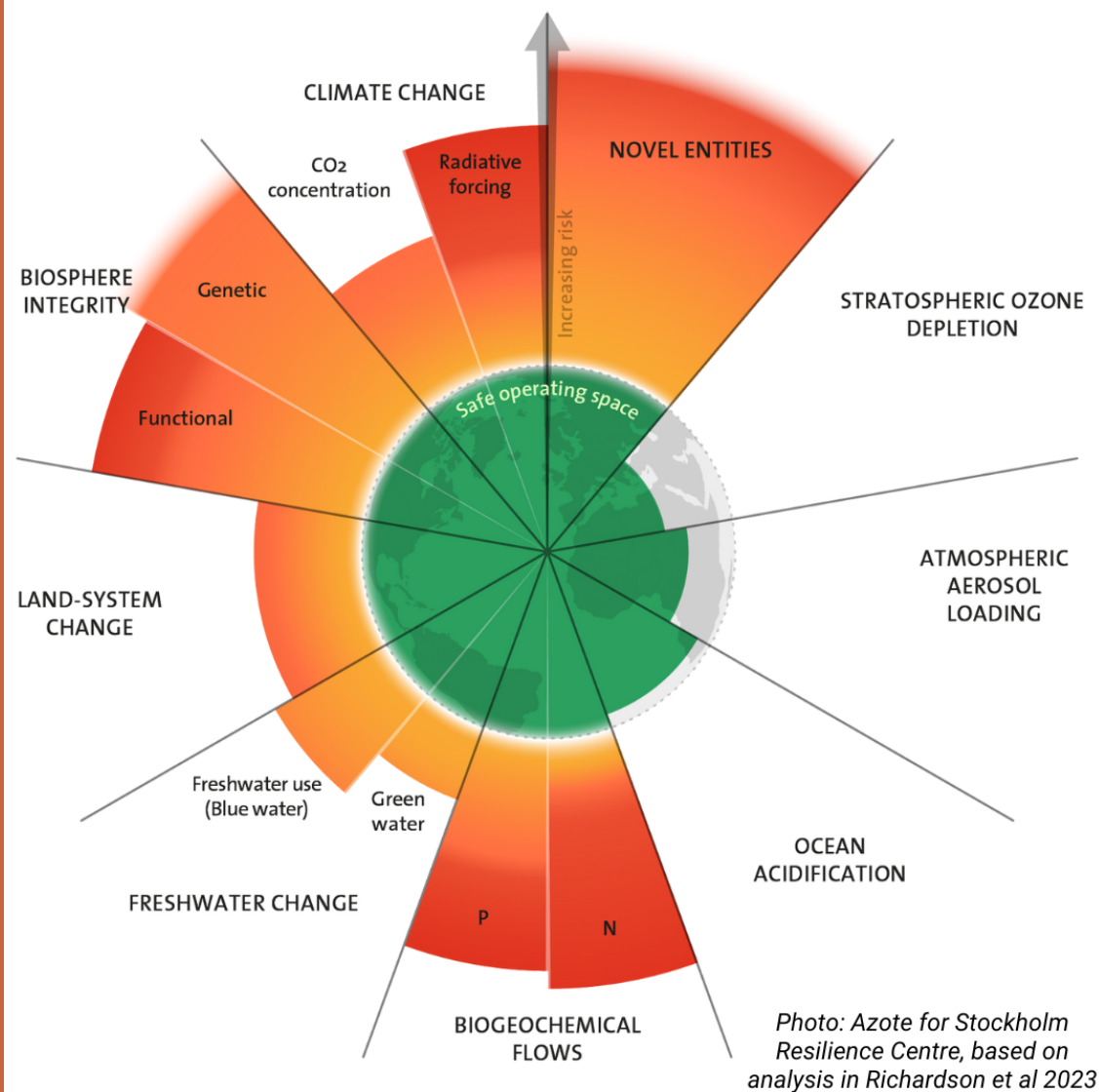
Global warnings



Officials at the UNGA session warned that the climate crisis is increasingly becoming a public health crisis. Calling for better training, research, and resilience measures, the spotlight was cast on the twin priorities of climate crisis and public health crisis at the UNGA. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), an additional 250,000 people are projected to die each year due to climate change, while statistics show that one in four deaths can be attributed to preventable environmental causes. WHO's special envoy for climate change and health affirmed that it is fossil fuels that are driving the climate change which is killing us. To highlight the interconnectedness of health and climate change, COP 28 will have an exclusive day for ministerial discussions on the theme of climate and health.

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In a nutshell



The concept of planetary boundaries is a set of 9 boundaries whose threshold needs to be maintained, failure of which would result in the uncertainty of the survival of the human race. The latest study by the Stockholm Resilience Centre shockingly reveals that impacts caused by human activities have resulted in 6 of the 9 planetary boundaries to have crossed the safe operating space. While we may not experience its consequences overnight, the cumulative effect of our transgressions could be fatally devastating and make it impossible to maintain the Paris Agreement.

[Know more](#)

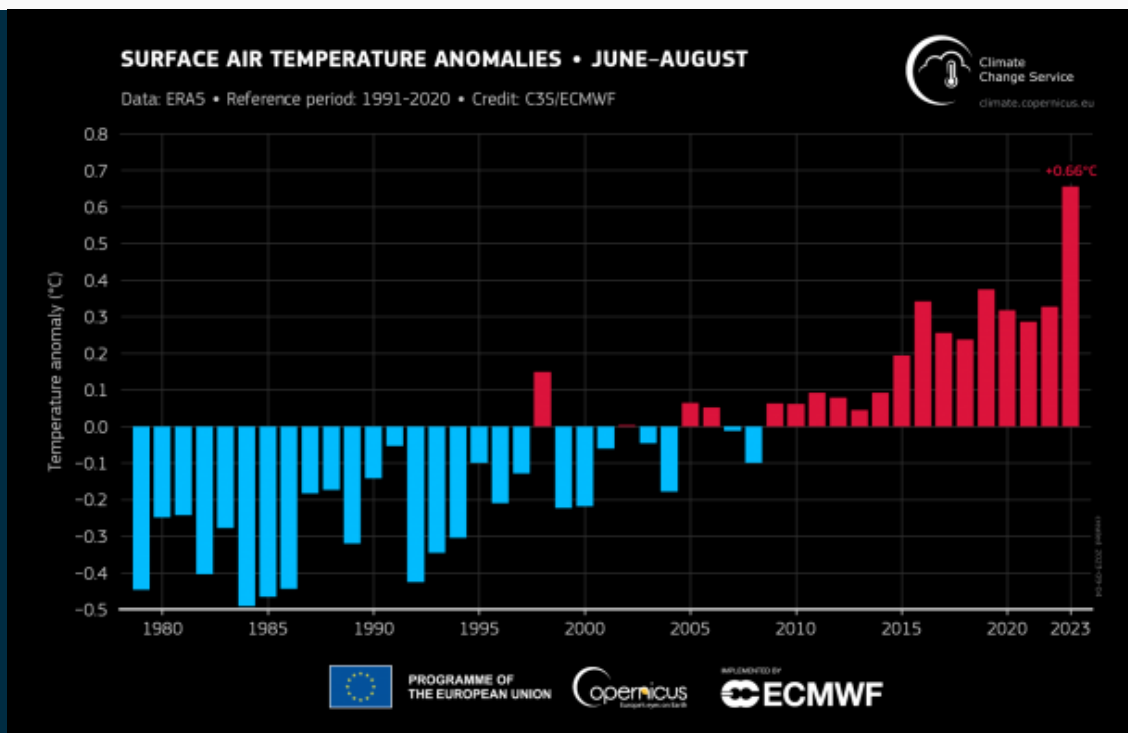
Make it happen!



The climate crisis exacerbates existing inequalities and global issues such as poverty, hunger, food & energy insecurity, etc. Those who suffer the most do not have the power to effect necessary systemic changes and those who do have the power have not yet effectively used it. To mitigate and adapt to the climate crisis, a global reform of financial institutions is needed to achieve climate justice. Global North countries need to do their part in the restitution of loss and damage. Sign this petition demanding the governments to walk the talk and make polluters pay!

Know more

Nugget



Did you know that as per the World Meteorological Organisation, the earth witnessed the hottest three months on record this year in July, August and September? We need to immediately act on the warning that the era of global boiling has arrived.

[Know more](#)

RESOURCES FROM CAG



IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

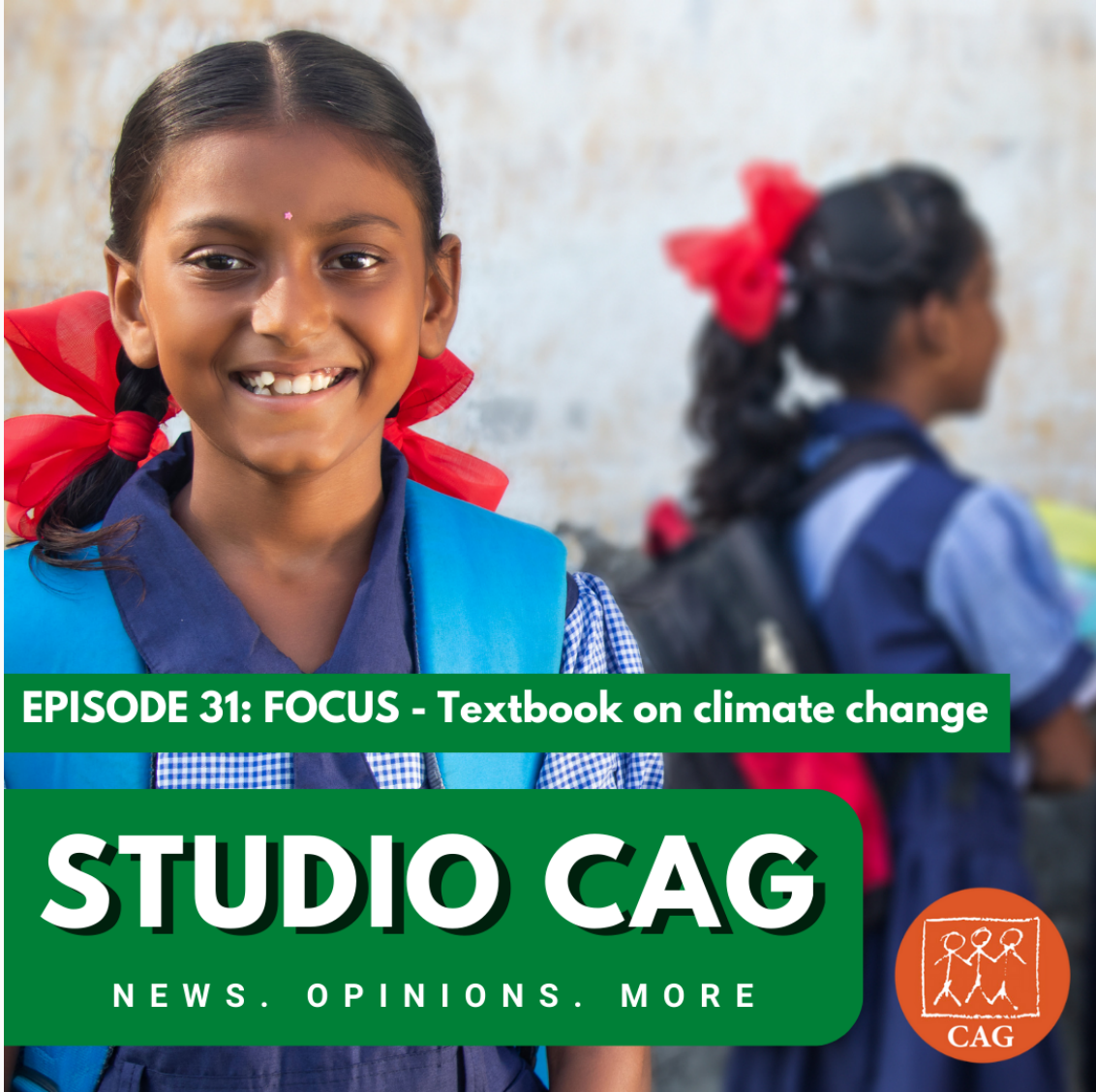
Pilot phase of introducing climate change as a curriculum in select schools in Chennai



CAG

Citizen consumer and civic Action Group

This Impact Assessment Report highlights how the pilot phase of 'FOCUS' - the climate change curriculum textbook developed by CAG - was introduced in select schools in Chennai. It measures project outcomes, analysing positive shifts in both students and teachers. The report provides concrete evidence of heightened student awareness, engagement, and empowerment, as well as innovative teaching methods and renewed enthusiasm among educators.



EPISODE 31: FOCUS - Textbook on climate change

STUDIO CAG

NEWS. OPINIONS. MORE



Hear the story of how the FOCUS textbook took shape after many months of research. The book has been designed to be used within the school curriculum, teaching children key facts on the science and the social sciences behind the climate crisis. The book aims to create thinking, caring, proactive students who will not shy away from the challenges of climate change.



CAG

Citizen consumer and civic Action Group

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.



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