

October - November 2023

Your bi-monthly climate connection is here!

As impacts of climate change intensify, the need for immediate and strong climate action become more and more imperative every day. The climate crisis can't be viewed in isolation, as merely an environmental issue. The causes and impacts of climate change crosscut many areas such as technology, health, energy, livelihoods, etc.

Countries have started taking action to mitigate and adapt to climate change, albeit slowly. Numerous reports continue to highlight the need for drastic action to limit fossil fuels. However, many countries seem to lack the political will to phase out fossil fuels and also a strategy to ensure just transition to cleaner energy.

Studies are showing worrisome results that our existing efforts to mitigate climate change will not be sufficient to meet the Paris goal. With COP28 just around the corner, the future of the planet and the survival of humankind is hanging in the balance.

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



In a rapidly changing world, the challenges of climate change intertwine in unimaginable ways with other critical areas. Cybersecurity is one of them. While research shows that climate change can result in loss of livelihoods on a large scale, it is interesting to correlate the economic theory of crime which suggests that when faced with economic hardship, some individuals may turn to illegal activities if the perceived benefits outweigh the costs. Although the connection between climate change and cybersecurity may not be immediately apparent, these issues are intricately connected in various ways, creating interrelated challenges that require coordinated solutions. Mala Balaji, CAG, reveals how this complex interrelationship impacts our society, economy and ecology.

From the corners of the country



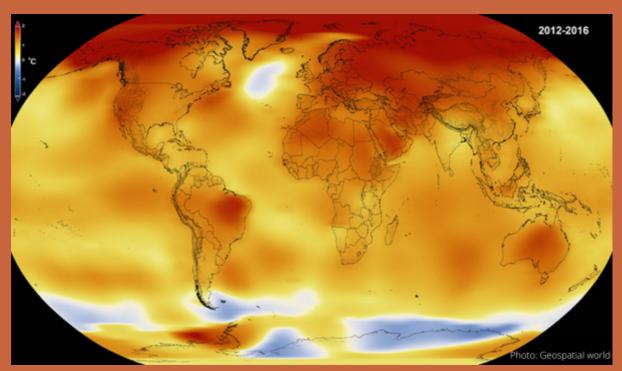
India's climate action efforts range from protecting glaciers, greening railways, reducing single-use plastic, and producing clean cooking fuel to citizen-centric movements like the LiFE movement. While India's involvement in international partnerships including the G7's Just Transition Energy Partnership is a welcome step, the domestic policy framework is yet to include a just transition approach to phase out coal. India's current NDC claims to achieve 50% total installed electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel energy sources, but we are yet to see a strategy to phase out fossil fuel sources. Here is an explainer on what climate change impacts India faces, the policy efforts taken by the government, how it funds climate action and what its role is in international climate diplomacy.

From around the world



The UN's Early Warnings for All is a great initiative to ensure that by the end of 2027, everyone on Earth is protected from hazardous weather, water, or climate events through life-saving early warning systems. The UN Climate Change Technology Executive Committee has joined forces with the Group on Earth Observation (GEO) community to assist vulnerable countries in using Earth observations technology for the design of climate policies and adaptation projects. Earlier this month, the GEO community endorsed a new strategy to better respond to the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, as well as land degradation, deforestation and environmental disasters. This is expected to play a crucial role in informing strategic climate decisions.

Global warnings

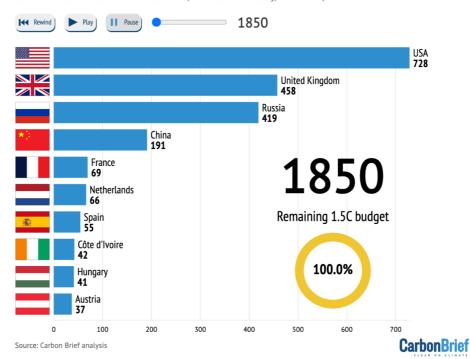


The summer of 2023 broke temperature records globally by a wide margin and these record-breaking temperatures continued through to September, making this the hottest year in history as per the data going back to 1940. The last time Earth experienced a similar concentration of CO2 was 3-5 million years ago when the temperature was 2-3°C warmer than now. The current level of GHG concentrations puts us on the pathway of an increase in temperatures well above the Paris Agreement targets by the end of this century. WMO Secretary-General woefully remarked that 'despite decades of warnings from the scientific community and dozens of climate conferences, we are still heading in the wrong direction'. Despite knowing where to start - phasing out fossil fuels - our words continue to speak louder than our actions.

In a nutshell

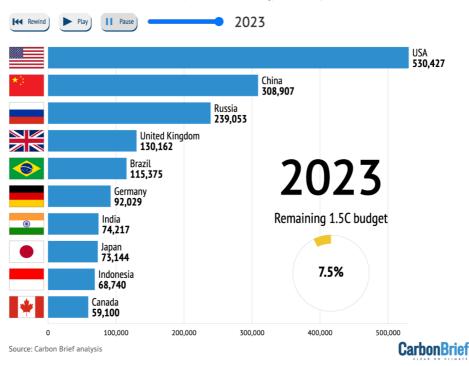
How colonial rule radically shifts historical responsibility for climate change

Cumulative CO2 emissions from fossil fuels, land use and forestry, 1850-2023, million tonnes



How colonial rule radically shifts historical responsibility for climate change

Cumulative CO2 emissions from fossil fuels, land use and forestry, 1850-2023, million tonnes



Colonialism is deeply related to climate from its very onset. Under the veil of 'development projects' and carbon offsetting, western countries and companies continue to pollute. This first-of-its-kind analysis by Carbon Brief offers a thought-provoking fresh perspective on questions of climate justice and reveals how colonial rule radically shifts historical responsibility for climate change.

Know more

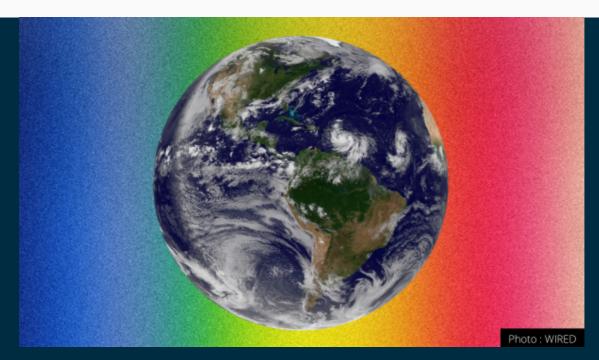
Make it happen!



Time and time again experts, academicians, scientists and UN officials have been warning that fossil fuels are the primary driver of the climate crisis and without immediate action on that front, we will face much more devastating consequences than we are currently experiencing now. With COP28 right around the corner, there is no better time to demand immediate action on phasing out fossil fuels and accelerate just transition to cleaner energy. Sign this petition calling on the UAE President of COP28 to address these issues immediately and appropriately!

Know more

Nugget



Did you know that, as per data from a study by Carbon Brief, 71 percent of all extreme weather events studied in the past 20 years were made more likely or more severe by human-caused climate change, including 93 percent of extreme heat events?

Know more

Resources from CAG



Article 6 of the UNFCC convention highlights the importance of communicating with the general public and engaging stakeholders about climate change and its effects, to ensure public access to information and to promote public participation in addressing the issue. This report is the summary of our month-long campaign "Climate Action Month", aimed at raising awareness of climate change among school and college students, corporate employees and the general public.



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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