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October-November 2024

Your bi-monthly climate connection is here!

The reality of the climate crisis is an undeniable truth. Average global temperatures are increasing due to emissions of greenhouse gases released by human activities. Rising temperatures bring with them increasingly frequent and severe weather events like droughts, wildfires and storms, devastating the natural world, people's lives, and their livelihoods. The verdict is in, and the science is clear: we must take bold action to protect our world from the worst effects of climate change. And yet, many conversations about the climate crisis are still stuck in a different reality, where urgency is minimised, and the science is called into question. This is in part because of climate disinformation. The new Global Initiative for Information Integrity on Climate Change aims to promote and defend information integrity on climate change, address disinformation, and enhance climate change awareness and action.

At the COP 29 meeting, India raised concerns on behalf of developing countries and rejected the deal of \$300 billion a year, saying it did not reflect the priorities of developing nations. Calling the proposed amount an "optical illusion", India said that it wouldn't address the real climate challenges

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



Source: Earth.org

The Bonn Climate Talks of 2024 laid the groundwork for COP29 but revealed significant challenges. Discussions on the Global Stocktake emphasized the urgent need to update Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with ambitious emission-reduction targets by 2025, though stark divides persist between developed and developing nations over priorities such as fossil fuel phase-outs and financial aid. The contentious New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) also saw limited consensus, with developing nations demanding dedicated funding for loss and damage, which wealthier nations opposed. Similarly, adaptation strategies under the Global Goal on Adaptation made little headway, leaving vulnerable countries waiting for critical support. These unresolved matters highlight the pressure on COP29 to foster decisive action.

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From the corners of the country



India rejected the \$300 billion annual climate finance package proposed at COP29, calling it insufficient and unfairly implemented. India and allies like Nigeria and Bolivia criticised the amount as far short of the \$1.3 trillion needed by 2030 for the global south to combat climate change. The deal was also denounced for sidelining developing nations' input and for disproportionately shifting responsibility to private actors. This rejection underscores the growing divide between developed and developing countries over climate finance obligations. India's strongly worded objection at COP29 was also regarded as significant because it sends a strong signal "that a deal cannot be done" without countries being heard. The critical voices, not just of India but also other countries should be a wake-up call for rethinking the UNFCCC [process] and how it can truly deliver cooperative action.

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From around the world



The report from Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES) Council highlights the urgent need for advancing LDES technologies to achieve global climate targets. The LDES Council suggests a fifty fold increase in LDES deployment, from the current 0.22 terawatts (TW) to an ambitious 8 TW by 2040. These systems are essential to support renewable energy integration, ensuring grid stability, and reducing dependency on fossil fuels. Challenges include high costs, limited investments, and the need for policy incentives to scale deployment. It also made clear that we will not achieve our decarbonisation targets without LDES. Accelerated innovation and supportive frameworks are critical to meet rising energy demands sustainably and enable a fair and inclusive transition.

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Global warnings



Information Integrity on Climate Change is crucial for combating misinformation and ensuring accurate dissemination of climate-related data. It supports informed decision-making, fosters trust in climate science and enhances public understanding of environmental challenges. Addressing false narratives empowers governments, organizations, and communities to act effectively against climate change. Reliable information is essential for global cooperation, policy formulation, and achieving climate goals. Keeping this in mind The Global Initiative for Information Integrity on Climate Change was launched at the G20 Leaders' Summit in Rio de Janeiro on November 19, 2024, spearheaded by Brazil, the UN, and UNESCO. The initiative includes a fund administered by UNESCO, targeting \$10-15 million over three years, to support NGOs researching climate disinformation, creating strategic communication plans, and raising public awareness.

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CLIMATE CHANGE IS THE GREATEST THREAT TO HEALTH

BUT TACKLING IT IS THE BIGGEST PUBLIC HEALTH OPPORTUNITY

WHO IS AT RISK?

All populations, but some are more vulnerable than others



Children



Elderly



Those already ill



Those living in poverty

CLIMATE CHANGE RISK FACTORS FOR OUR HEALTH



UV Radiation



Animal or plant allergens



Ozone, particulate matter



Heat



Animals: vector, reservoir animals



Environmental media: food, water

Non-communicable diseases

Communicable diseases

PHASING OUT POLLUTING FOSSIL FUELS IN FAVOUR OF CLEAN AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

Healthy energy without coal power, swift decarbonisation for health, stopping of subsidies for fossil fuels.

MORE EFFICIENT & HEALTHIER BUILDINGS

Put health at the heart for renovating and climate proofing the EU's existing building stock

CHANGED FOOD PRODUCTION AND DIETS

Decrease the risk for cardiovascular disease and cancer through reduced meat consumption, which also leads to less climate-harming emissions from agriculture.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION: WALKING AND CYCLING

Prioritise walking & cycling and other measures that will boost health. Diesel cars are not a healthy solution.



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Actions from the health sector

Health sector and health decision makers have to sit at the table whenever policy proposals and measures on climate change, energy, transport, agriculture etc. are negotiated and decided. Tackling social and health inequalities should be a priority.



Health professionals should get involved and speak up about the health effects of climate change and the opportunities for mitigation.



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Climate change is widely recognized as the greatest global threat to human health, with profound and far-reaching consequences. It exacerbates existing health risks and creates new challenges, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations.

Rising temperatures increase the prevalence of heat-related illnesses, including heatstroke and cardiovascular stress. Worsening air quality, driven by fossil fuels burning, exacerbates respiratory diseases such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

[Know more](#)

Nugget



Do you know that the share of power capacity in the BRICS group fueled by coal, oil, and gas could fall below 50% by the end of this year? The reason behind this is wind and utility-scale solar capacity in development outnumber power projects fueled by coal, oil, and gas by two to one in the BRICS.

[Know more](#)

Climate Action Month 2024



Climate Action Month 2024 was an incredible success, reaching over 20,000 individuals, including students and the general public. Throughout August, a series of engaging events took place across schools, colleges, public parks, and other venues. These events creatively conveyed the urgent message of climate change through a variety of artistic expressions, such as music performances, mime acts, flash mobs, and puppetry. The month served as a powerful platform for raising awareness and inspiring action on climate issues.

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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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