

CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT

AUGUST 2024



An industrial facility, possibly a refinery or power plant, is shown at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. Several smokestacks are visible, with some emitting dark smoke. The facility's lights are on, and the scene is reflected in a body of water in the foreground. A large white diagonal shape overlaps the right side of the image, containing the text.

PARIS AGREEMENT

2016

- Aim: to hold the global temperature increase to well below 2°C and pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.
- Target 1: 50% reduction in GHG (Greenhouse Gas) emissions by 2030
- Target 2: Net zero GHG emissions by 2050
- 196 countries agree: all develop NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions)

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- We're losing Arctic sea ice at a rate of almost 13% per decade, and over the past 30 years, the oldest and thickest ice in the Arctic has declined by a stunning 95%. (WWF)

SO WHERE ARE WE GOING?

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- We are dangerously close to the tipping points which mean global warming becomes uncontrollable.

THE IPCC POLL OF MAY 2024

- Almost 80% of respondents from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, foresee at least 2.5°C of global heating. Almost half are concerned that temperatures would rise to at least 3°C, with only 6% thinking the internationally agreed 1.5°C limit is still possible.
- 52% of respondents under 50 expected a rise of at least 3°C.
- 49% of female scientists believe that global temperature will rise to at least 3°C, compared with 38% of male scientists.

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- Significant loss of species.

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- Two human factors when facing challenges
 - Denial (23 Republican senators, 100+ Representatives)
 - Avoidance

HOW ABOUT NEW ZEALAND?

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- National government’s strategy recently released
 - Focus away from mitigation and onto adaptation.
 - “NZ is backsliding on its climate policies” (Guardian Weekly)

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?

- Mitigation is the key to making adaptation possible. Without mitigation we will have a planet to which we cannot adapt.
 - Need to lower emissions. “The coal, oil and gas extracted over the lifetime of already producing and planned mines and fields would wipe out almost the whole remaining carbon budget for 2°C.” (UN EP)
 - Every ev bought instead of an ICE-vehicle saves 300,000kms/ 12 years of emissions from that vehicle.

ALL IS NOT LOST

- New NDCs are due in 2025. An opportunity.
 - Chance to include air travel, sea travel and military activity
 - We are developing new technologies for methane mitigation, carbon capture
 - Vehicle transport becoming increasingly electrified
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- It's a race against time.