

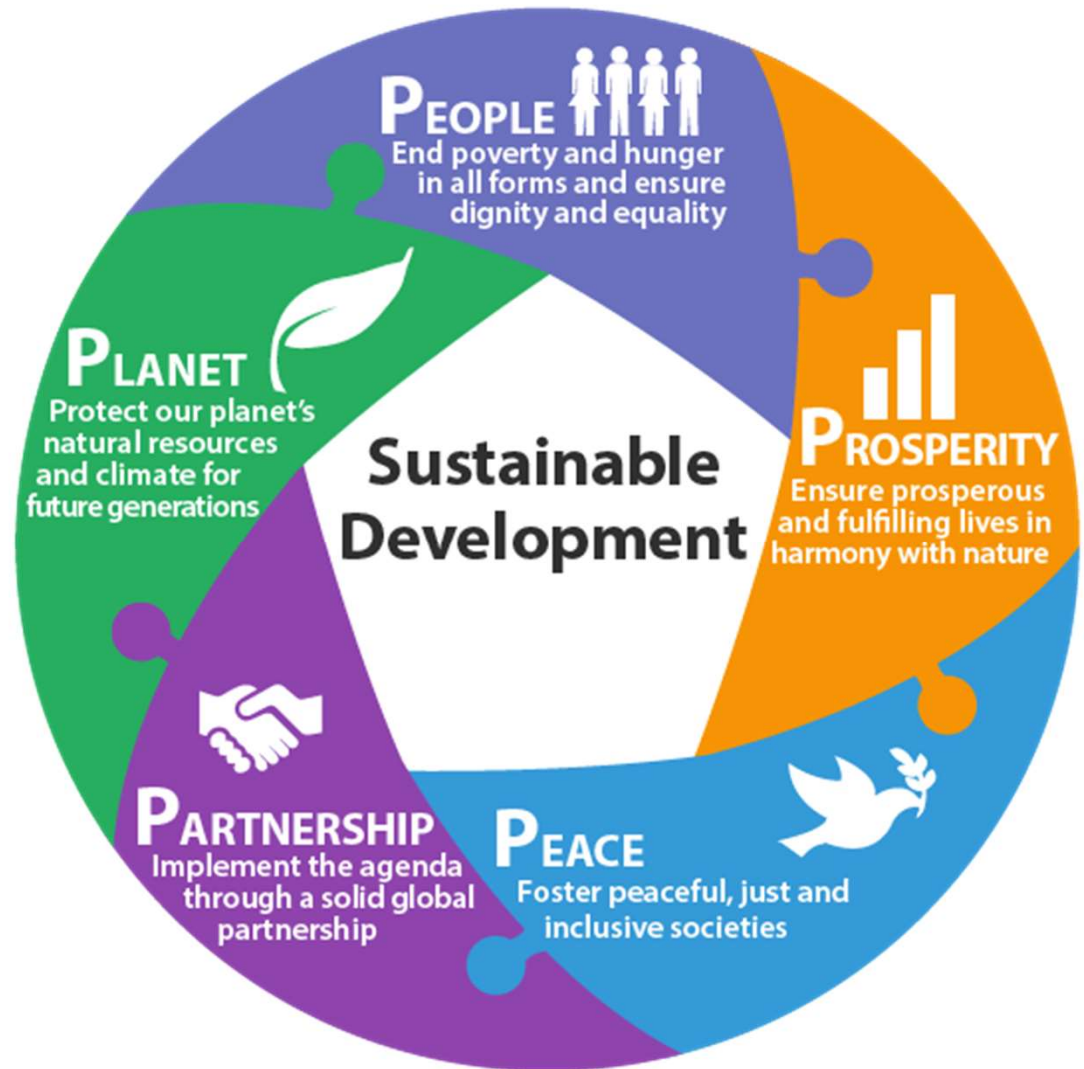


The United Nations & Sustainable Action: from global to workplace and personal actions

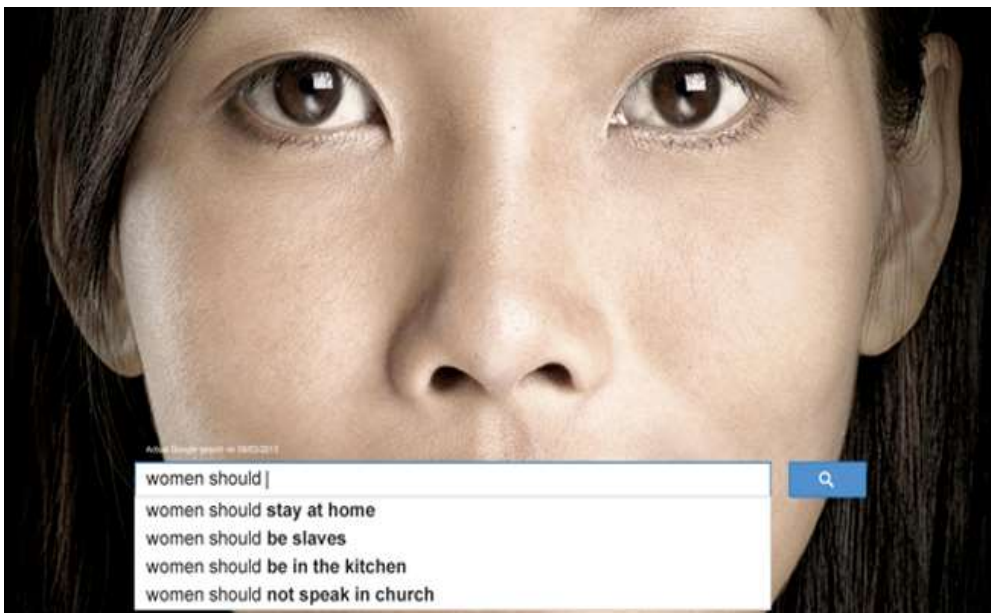
Violaine Haeringer



Sustainable Development is “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” – World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987



Sustainability - A Global Challenge



Over 60% of the world's hungry are women

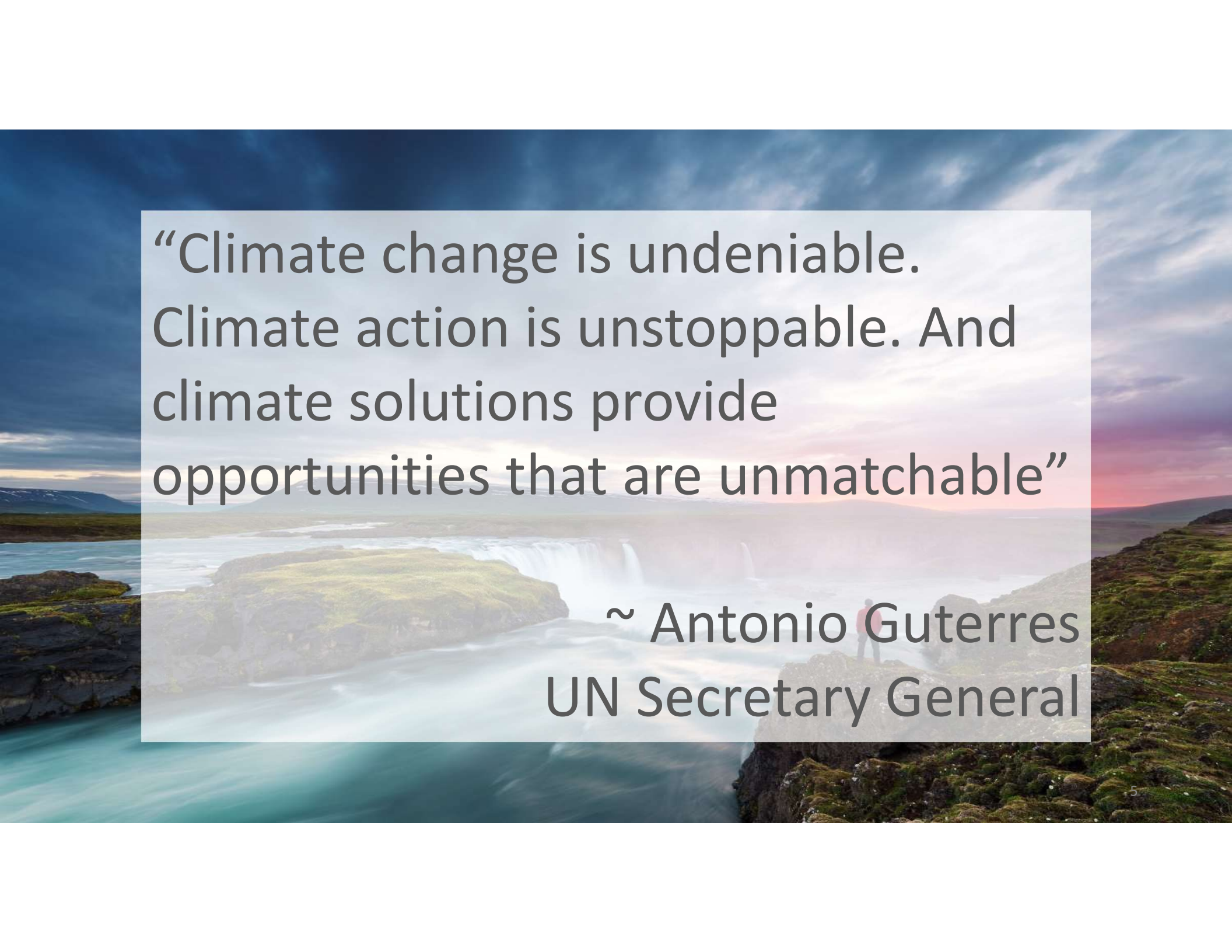


783 million people live on less than \$1.90 a day



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





“Climate change is undeniable.
Climate action is unstoppable. And
climate solutions provide
opportunities that are unmatched”

~ Antonio Guterres
UN Secretary General

Climate Change

Climate Change: Secretary-General
calls for global action

<https://youtu.be/VNe-jBVij-g>

Global Warming of 1.5°C

An IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty.



Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

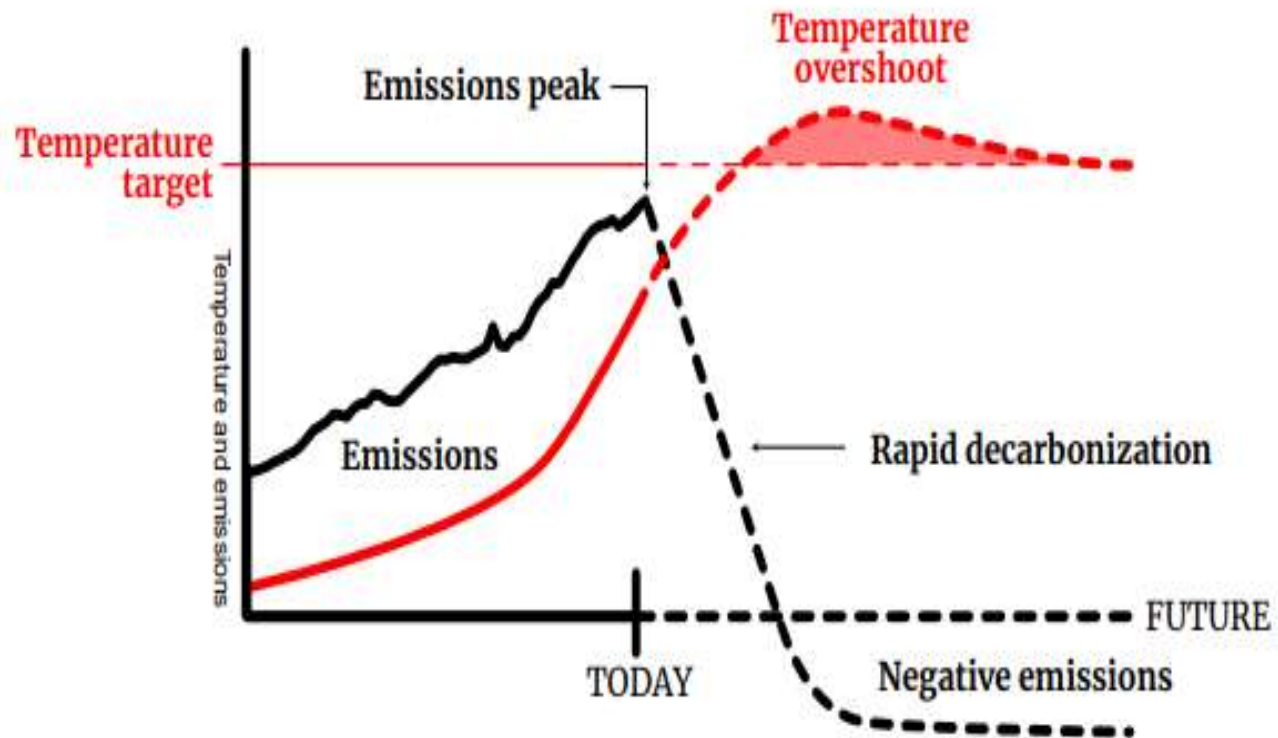
IPCC Key Findings

Current emission reduction commitments are insufficient to meet current goal

A temperature increase of 2°C instead of 1.5°C will result in exponentially worse climate effects

To limit the temperature increase to less than 1.5°C, **we have 12 more years to reduce our emissions by 45%** compared to 2010 levels

We must then reach net zero emissions by 2075



ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS

7 CLEAN
ENERGY



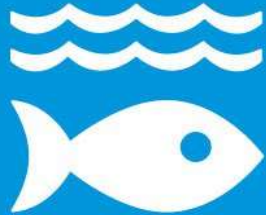
12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION



13 CLIMATE
ACTION



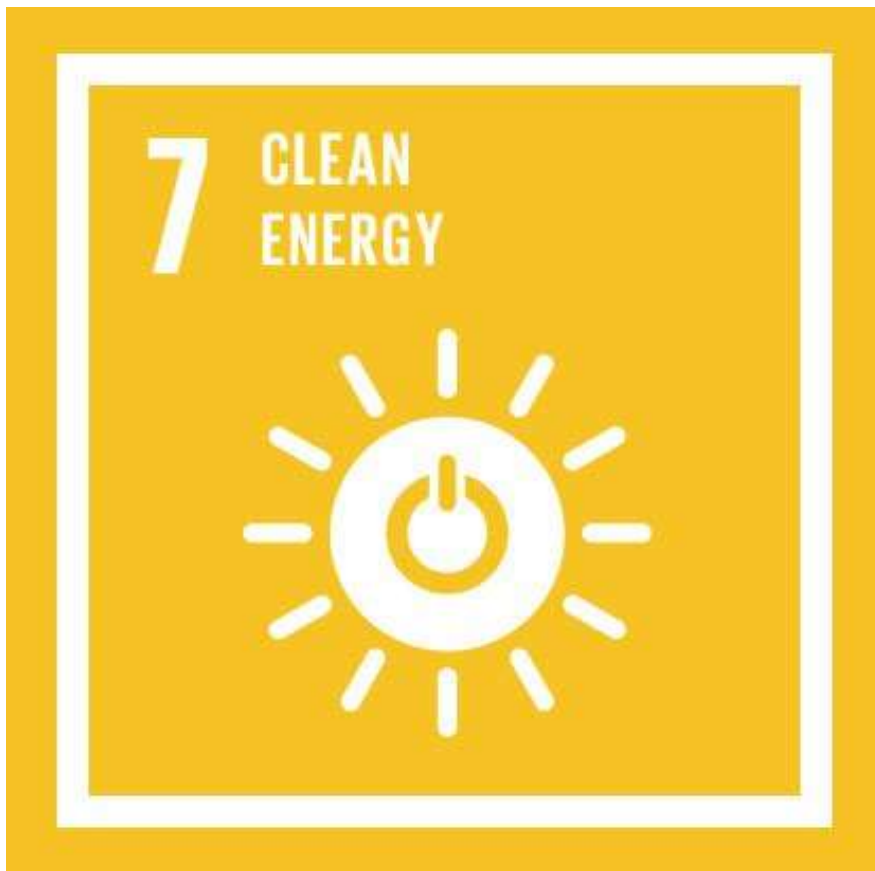
14 LIFE BELOW
WATER



15 LIFE
ON LAND



UNITED NATIONS



Energy is the dominant contributor to climate change, accounting for around 60% of total global greenhouse gas emissions.

UNDP supports governments as they transform their renewable energy markets and implement policies that catalyze investment in renewable energy technologies, and provides policy and program support to promote energy efficiency in households, public facilities, and commercial buildings.

YOU CAN:

- ☐ Turn lights and computers off
- ☐ Reduce monitor brightness
- ☐ Adjust a thermostat

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION



Should the global population reach the projected 9.6 billion by 2050, the equivalent of almost three planets would be required to provide the natural resources needed to sustain current lifestyles.

UNEP launched the Consumer Information Programme, a global platform which works to get consumers reliable, easily understandable information on the sustainability of products and services they buy.

YOU CAN:

- ☐ Buy from sustainable companies
- ☐ Reduce purchase of disposable items
- ☐ Reuse and repurpose as much as possible

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Each degree Celsius (2° F) increase in global mean temperature is estimated to reduce average global yields of wheat by 6%, rice 3.2% and corn 7.4%

UNDP, with funding from the Adaptation Fund, works with farmers on the ground, teaching them how to not only increase their yield but also adapt their farming to better withstand the negative impacts of climate change.

YOU CAN:

- ☐ Green your commute
- ☐ Eat more meat-free meals
- ☐ Offset your remaining carbon emissions through [Climate Neutral Now](#)



More than **8 million tons** of plastic leak into the ocean each year – equal to dumping a **garbage truck of plastic every minute**

UN Environment launched an unprecedented global campaign to eliminate major sources of marine litter: microplastics in cosmetics and the excessive, wasteful usage of single-use plastic by the year 2022

YOU CAN:

- ☐ Drink from reusable bottles
- ☐ Reduce purchase of plastic
- ☐ Clean and properly recycle all plastic

#CleanSeas Breakup with Plastic

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7oyO4eofJrY>



Due to drought and desertification, 12 million hectares are lost each year (23 hectares per minute). Within one year, 20 million tons of grain could have been grown.

United Nations' Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD) was launched in 2008 and is currently supporting 40 countries as they develop national forest monitoring systems.

YOU CAN:

- ☐ Support forest restoring efforts
- ☐ Go paperless
- ☐ Look for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification on wood and wood products

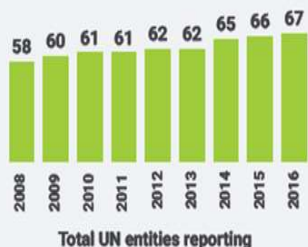
**GREENING
THE BLUE.**



UN Climate Neutrality strategy

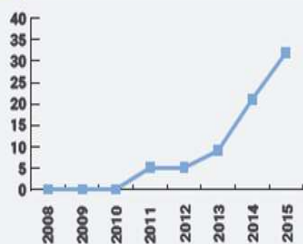
Progress 2007-2017

MEASURE



Total UN entities reporting

OFFSET BY 2020



Number of climate neutral entities

REDUCE

Data collected in recent years suggests that **nearly half of the 67 reporting entities** have consistently reduced greenhouse gas emissions in facilities, travel, or both.



Reduced emissions from facilities (per area) Reduced emissions from travel (per capita) Reduced emissions from travel and facilities

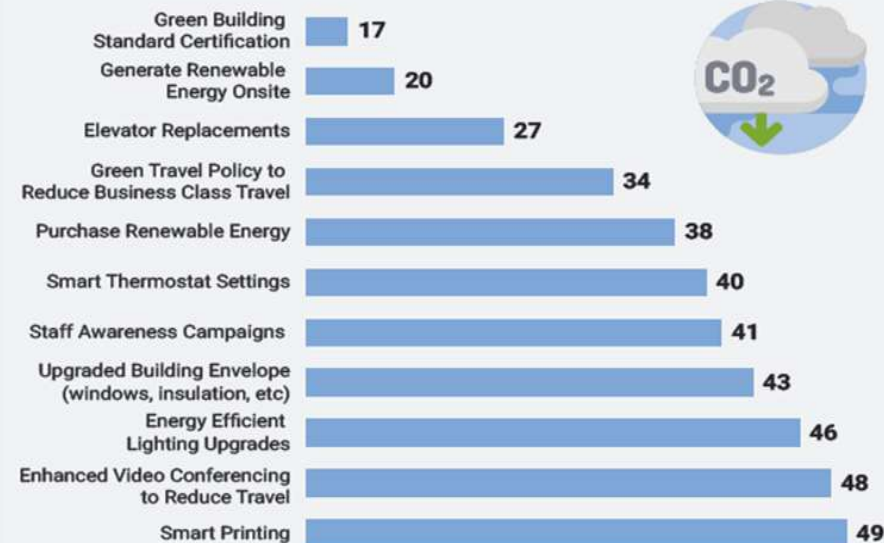
Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals



*Source: 2008-2017 UN GHG emissions inventories

Emission Reduction Measures

A 2017 UN Environment survey identified the top emission reduction measures undertaken in headquarters locations by the 67 entities reporting in the UN GHG emissions inventory.

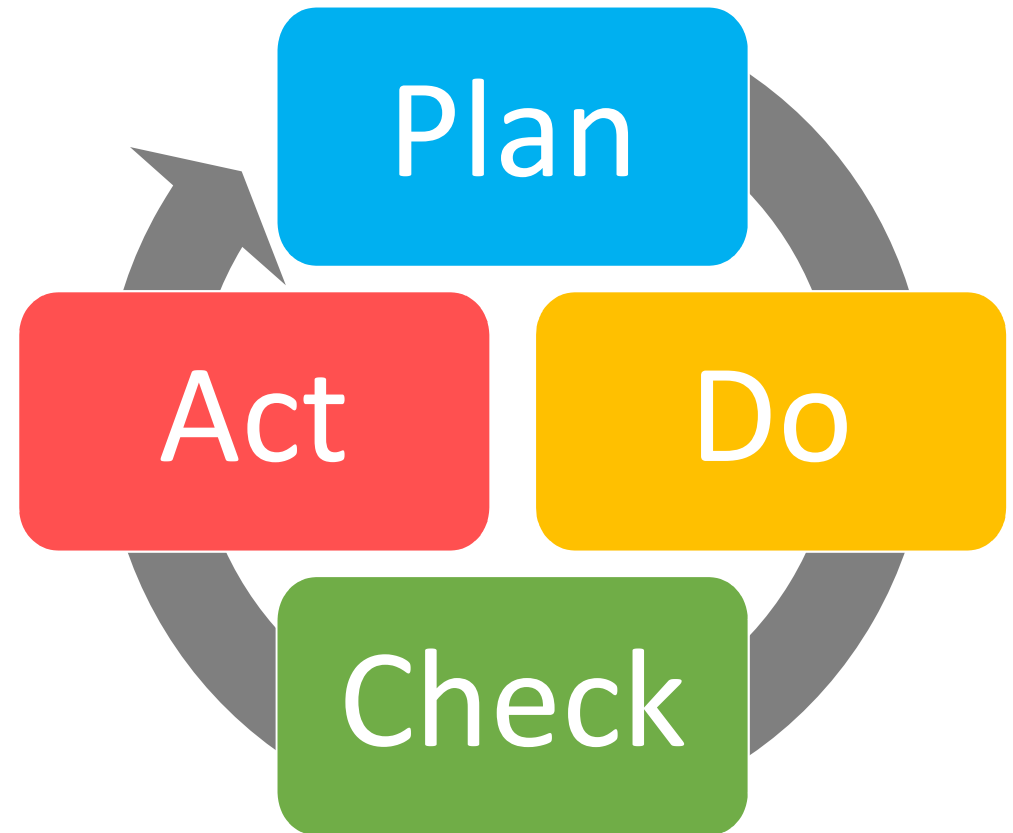


Number of entities reporting measures taken

Environmental Management System

*A structured system for
organizations to manage
the environmental
impact of their activities*

ISO 14001



EMS & UN Headquarters

Priorities

Facility energy use and emissions to air

Water usage and waste water

Paper usage

Waste generation and management

Electronic waste

Hazardous waste

Input and use of materials: food, furniture and consumables

Land use and management of buildings

Critical

Appearance, noise and light / Local issues

Ground transportation

Air travel

Hosting visitors

Purchasing of products and services

Environmental competence, training and awareness

Environmental aspects with beneficial impact

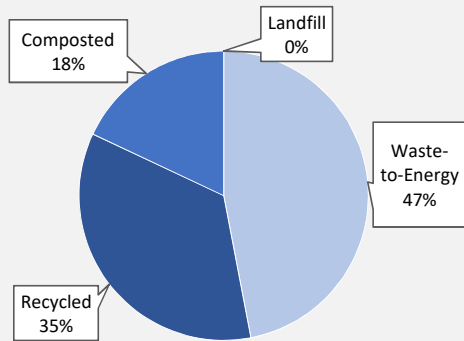
Emergency situations and abnormal situations

Not critical but opportunities for quick wins

EMS & UN Headquarters

Results 2017-2018

No Waste to Landfill



Plastic Reduction

427,000
plastic containers and stirrers
eliminated per year

Ban
on plastic straws

Reuse Program

121,000

Pounds of
unneded
office supplies
and furniture
donated

180

Schools,
nonprofit, and
government
organizations
benefited

Centralized waste stations

Introduced in pilots,
common areas and in

**All remodelled
office floors**

Paper towel removal Pilot

Pilot program to
reduce use of over

10 Million
paper towels annually

FANTASTIC!
NO MORE SINGLE-USE
PLASTIC COMING SOON @UNHQ

**GREENING
THE BLUE.** 



ACT NOW

Appreciation to CulinArt for their continuous support.

VIEW THE WORLD...

...THROUGH A GREEN LENS



Additional Resources



[UN Environment](#)



[Greening the Blue](#)

CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT
2019



[ActNow](#)