



Paris Climate Agreement: Signing and the Way Forward

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Climate – Survival Issue

- We humans are causing global warming
- We are seeing bad impacts **NOW**
- Impacts **FAR WORSE** if we do not act (BAU)
- **No place to hide under BAU**
- **Disasters worse due to Climate Change:** Increased conflict (wars/national insecurity), water shortages, crop failures, intense fires, droughts, flooding, species extermination, disease increase, extreme weather, sea level rise, heat waves, precipitation changed, AND economic/finance disruption (breakdown) ...

Climate is a Justice / Ethics Issue

- Climate Justice:
 - Poor have the smallest effect on climate – hurt the worst
- Intergenerational Ethics: Our descendants
 - More humane and cheaper for preventive action now rather than disaster adaptive action by our descendants in the future

Sustainable Development Goals – All are tied to Climate Change #13



We CAN mitigate Climate Change

- Recognize/acknowledge problem extent
- **Climate Change Risk Management**
 - Long term solution vs. short term expediency
 - Need Change: All Deliberate Speed to renewables
 - Obstacles: Disinformation / Political Obstruction, Economic issues, Psychological...
- Action: All levels from local to global needed
 - No “silver bullet” solution exists
 - Individuals, NGOs, business, cities, governments
 - *International* climate agreement Paris 2015 =>

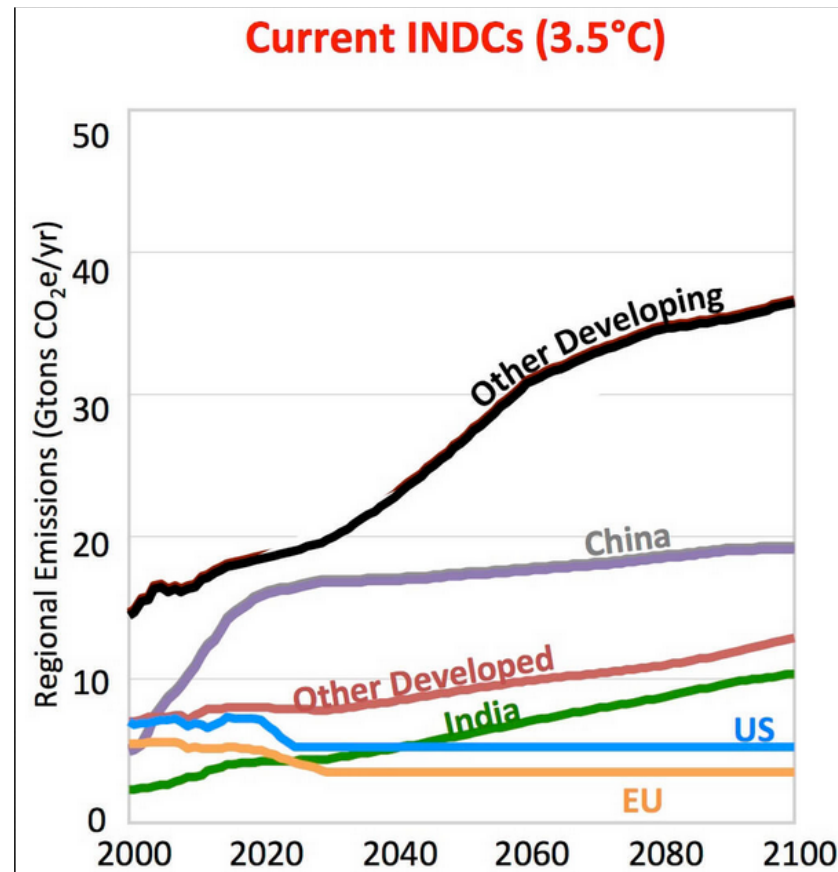
2015 Paris Climate Change Conference



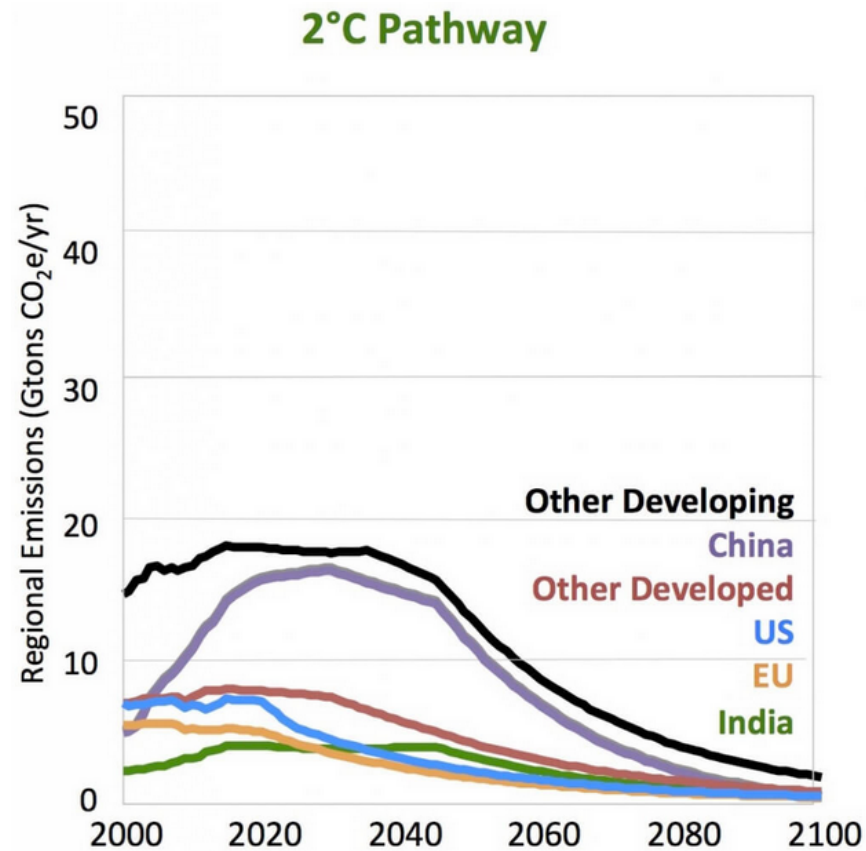
(Intended) Nationally Determined Contributions INDCs at Paris

- INDCs – VOLUNTARY, not top down
 - Emissions reductions by each country
 - All countries now have INDCs
- US INDC: Cut emissions by 26-28% below 2005 levels by 2025
 - Also China, Europe, Brazil, South Africa ...
 - India – more coal, more solar

Paris INDCs if fulfilled gives +3.5°C by 2100, better than BAU, still much too hot



Emissions +2°: developing countries must peak, decrease (leapfrog)



Bottom Line: What did Paris deliver?

- Solid Agreement. Better than expected.
- All countries compromised
- Goal - keep below +2 degrees C (+1.5°C)
- **BUT: NOT enough for +2°C target**
- **Need future stronger INDCs**

Paris Agreement II

- Measurement, Reporting, Verification
- Review every 5 years, increase “ambition”
- Green fund to developing countries
 - \$100B/yr or more by 2020 from developed countries
- Loss and damage – some language
- Hybrid legal structure - complicated
 - Some parts binding, some not binding
 - Agreement is a new International treaty
 - BUT NOT a new national treaty for US
 - Implements existing UNFCCC treaty (1992)

U.S. + 170 other countries signed Paris Agreement on Earth Day 4/22



Next Step on Way Forward: Ratification

- U.S. – Executive Order, Obama will sign
- China – Plans to ratify by fall 2016
- All ahead of schedule
- Paris Climate Agreement becomes effective once [55+ countries ratify] with [55% + GHG emissions]

Business getting on board

- CERES
 - Investors with \$13 Trillion
- 100+ Businesses <http://lowcarbonusa.org/>
 - Support Paris Agreement
 - Support Clean Power Plan
 - Support Low Carbon Economy
- Task Force for Climate Financial Disclosure Reporting = New initiative
 - Risks/Opportunities climate change

WHAT CAN WE DO NOW?

- **PARIS PLEDGE FOR ACTION: NGO SIGN!**
 - Public Opinion – LTE, legislature contacts ...
 - Urge Price on Carbon (Fee + Dividend)
 - Urge stronger more ambitious U.S. INDC
 - Form a Climate Action Team (CAT) in your NGO
 - We must be optimistic (no alternative)
 - “Somebody else” won’t do it alone
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- **You can help**

Thank You

