



## Conservation and Climate Change

Originally Discussed: April 2023

Description: What does 'climate change' mean and whose responsibility is it, if anyone?

Estimated time: 1.5 hours

### (1) Getting acquainted and comfortable

**5 min.**

#### Welcome

- Thank you for coming...
- We are a part of The Great Reset, which was born out of a shift we're seeing in our country. We have been in a place where we don't tend to speak 'beyond our bubbles' and across perspectives. The Great Reset has been opening up a grey space for such conversations since 2018. You are now part of keeping the conversation going and we thank you.

#### The Pillars of The Great Reset

- To share our own thoughts and perspectives with humility
- To learn from others and listen with respect

#### Ground Rules

- Every comment is valid and deserving of respect
- We show respect by speaking one at a time, putting our phones on silent and staying engaged, even when we are not speaking
- In the interest of time, I may cut in to ask you to 'top-line' something if we need to move on. This means simply offer up a synopsis of your thoughts and speak in bullets, not paragraphs

#### Confidentiality

I would like a verbal from everyone that you are here of your own volition and out of respect for one another I would ask you to keep what others say in this room unless they give you permission otherwise. (go around and get verbal agreement). Further, you agree to adhere to the principles outlined already: to deliver your perspectives bound to the principles of respect, to **listen with humility and offer grace to others who are sharing this space.**

**\*\*Remind everyone we're recording but we won't use any clips without their approval\***



### Personal Introductions

Please share your name and where are you from?

(2) What does “Climate Change” mean to you? **10 minutes**

(3) Have you noticed any changes in the environment in your lifetime? **10 minutes**

(4) Do you know anyone personally affected by Climate Change? **10 minutes**

(5) Do you think Climate Change is the natural course of the world or an impact of human actions /industry? **10 minutes**

### **Note to Moderator:**

**30 minutes**

**Share this graphic with participants, if possible, while reading the bolded text below. This will show how many things are inter-connected in our goal toward a sustainable world.**

**The text will illustrate an organized effort (such as the example of what the United Nations is doing, or a national effort such as what the US and the EPA is doing to decrease emissions) We’ll discuss this further in Q7 where we ask, ‘what can you do?’**



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



**According to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals yearly report, increased heat waves, droughts and apocalyptic wildfires and floods are already affecting billions of people around the globe and causing potentially irreversible damage to the Earth’s ecosystems. For example, continuing ocean acidification and rising water temperatures are endangering marine species, including coral reefs, which are considered the “rainforests of the sea” for the biodiversity they support. To avoid the worst effects of climate change, as set out in the Paris Agreement, global greenhouse gas emissions will need to peak before 2025 and then decline by 43 per cent by 2030, falling to net zero by 2050. Instead, under current voluntary national commitments to climate action, greenhouse gas emissions will rise by nearly 14 per cent by 2030.**

**Energy-related CO2 emissions increased 6% in 2021 reaching highest level ever  
Plastic pollution is choking the ocean 17+ million metric tons of plastic entered the ocean in 2021 projected to double or triple by 2040**

**10 Million hectares of forest are destroyed every year**

**When the EPA was created in 1970, there were no regulations on where companies could dispose of toxic wastes, dumping raw sewage into rivers was common practice, rivers caught on fire, smog smothered cities, and lead was a common ingredient in gas and paint.**

**Their mission is to protect human health and the environment, no matter the cost.**

**Through creating and enforcing regulations they have addressed those concerns and outlawed commonly used chemicals such as Asbestos, hexavalent chromium, and lead in drinking water.**

(7) Who can or should be addressing climate change, and what can they really do to make a meaningful impact?

- Individuals (reduce, reuse, recycle...)
- Businesses (rules about dumping, plastic bag usage...)
- Governments (Environmental Protection Agency, national and state laws...)
- World organizations (UN, NGOs, environmental groups, etc)

(8) Closing: Will you change your habits or expect the government or an organization to? In what way?

Resources:

- UN Sustainable Development Goals (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>)
- History of EPA: <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/happy-50th-birthday-epa>
- <https://climate.nasa.gov/effects/>