PLANETARY COUNCIL

https://PlanetaryCouncil.org

FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS WELCOME

Link to Google Doc: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xD_D_1Jp4SxjnWeOBICVHNXfuTjUQRRfHB_2Qb3Qlyo/edit?usp=sharing

UPDATE: Tuesday 26th October 2021 - final revisions before COP26

1. Reset allowances + subsidies

2. (unified) Emission trading system

3. Accounting for CO$_2$ across the supply chain

4. Land use + Food system + Animal farming

5. Global Energy Grid

6. Universal Basic Income

7. New consensus

8. Big Tech integration

9. Media support

10. Transparent government spending

Introduction

COVID gave us so much hope, **radical change is possible**.

The policies are practical, attainable, easy to understand, and most of all - politically feasible.

1. Reset allowances + subsidies

"End fossil fuel subsidies and reset the economy for a better world - IMF head"[1]

For example in the EU[2]

> *However, some free allowances are available to modernise the power sector in some Member States.*
>
> *Airlines continue to receive the large majority of their allowances for free in the period 2013-2020.*

Prices provide information and the market is able to adapt.

If the price does not reflect the associated cost, markets are inefficient.

World Economic Forum (Davos) is pushing the agenda of **The Great Reset**

There is loads of value in this meme, **resetting allowances and subsidies**.

This will automatically establish a **market price for CO_2**

> *"We are paying a price for fossil fuels, but that price is not paid by those that burn the fossil fuels – we need to change that"[3]*

Please don't call it *"carbon tax"* - market price is much more socially and politically acceptable. In the next points we will also describe Media Support - all the changes will need to be easily understood by the citizens of the world.

2. (unified) Emission trading system

1 person = 1 unit

1 person = 1 unit is politically and morally acceptable. It is easy to explain. It shows global solidarity.

So called "egalitarian principle"

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[1] https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/end-fossil-fuel-subsidies-economy-imf-georgieva-great-reset-climate/

[2] https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/ets/allowances_en

[3] https://ourworldindata.org/carbon-price

Current system uses grandfathered allowances[4]:

> *"Grandfathering allocates these budgets proportionally according to emissions at a particular base year, and has been used under international regimes such as the Kyoto Protocol and the early phase of the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS). This principle is often favoured by developed countries, as it allocates larger emissions budgets to them."*

Already developed countries already had their emissions - their economies are developed - they have economic output to purchase allowances from developing countries who need capital for investment.

3. Accounting for CO_2 across the supply chain

Avoiding carbon leakage[5]:

> *"Carbon leakage occurs when there is an increase in greenhouse gas emissions in one country as a result of an emissions reduction by a second country with a strict climate policy."*

There is some progress in this area[6]

> *"The European Union has released details of its long-proposed carbon tariff, inelegantly known as a carbon border adjustment mechanism."*

> *"Businesses are expected to face reporting obligations from 2023, with the costs starting in 2026."*

We suggest using CO_2 figures as primary metric in all trade / shipping / transport documents.

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These three policies are the most impactful:

1. Reset allowances + subsidies
2. (unified) Emission trading system
3. Accounting for CO2 across the supply chain

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[4] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon_budget
[5] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon_leakage
[6]
https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/jul/15/what-does-the-eus-carbon-tariff-proposal-mean-for-australia

We genuinely believe that they provide the best chance for humanity to survive in the long run. Market forces and incentives combined with behavioural economy and media support will make it politically feasible to implement in practice.

All the remaining policies are also extremely impactful but 1 + 2 + 3 provide the baseline.

4. Land use + Food system + Animal farming

UN-backed study[7]:

> *"Food systems account for over one-third of global greenhouse gas emissions"*

UK-backed study[8]:

> *The new food strategy for England, commissioned by the government, lays out in stark detail the damage the current food and farming system wreaks on the environment, as well as our health. It is the biggest destroyer of nature and a major source of climate warming, it says.*
>
> *The report takes aim at overconsumption of meat. "Our current appetite for meat is unsustainable," it says. "85% of farmland is used to feed livestock and we need some of that land back."*

Opportunity cost of using land to grow crops to farm animals is huge - that is why we recommend declaring animal farming illegal.

"Do not kill" is the basis of every religion and legal system. But if you cannot prevent killing, you can make it more difficult to come alive.

There are various laws against animal cruelty and being artificially inseminated can be seen as cruel - the working name for this new law is AID - Artificial Insemination Directive.

There are loads of benefits of a plant based diet. Preventing animal farming will force the market to adjust.

It is totally possible to change existing land use, change human behaviour. For example COVID lockdowns, for example Victory Gardens[9]:

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[7] https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1086822

[8] https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/jul/15/food-strategy-for-england-calls-for-big-cut-in-meat-consumption

[9] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victory_garden

Victory gardens, also called war gardens or food gardens for defense, were vegetable, fruit, and herb gardens planted at private residences and public parks in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and Germany during World War I and World War II. In wartime, governments encouraged people to plant victory gardens not only to supplement their rations but also to boost morale.

5. Global Energy Grid

Based on the Buckminster Fuller[10] concept:

> *"When Buckminster Fuller was asked by a 12 year old boy, How would you suggest solving international problems without violence? he answered: I always try to solve problems by some artifact, some tool or invention that makes what people are doing obsolete, so that it makes this particular kind of problem no longer relevant. My answer would be to develop a world energy grid, an electric grid where everybody is on the same grid.*
>
> *All of a sudden there would be no problems any more, no international troubles. Our new economic basis wouldn't be gold or dollars; it would be kilowatt hours."*

It encourages global cooperation and efficient use of resources.

An example project - Xlinks[11] cable between Morocco and the UK.

Employment aspect of Global Energy Grid

See example from the past Public Works Administration[12]:

> *It was created by the National Industrial Recovery Act in June 1933 in response to the Great Depression. It built large-scale public works such as dams, bridges, hospitals, and schools. Its goals were to spend $3.3 billion in the first year, and $6 billion in all, to provide employment, stabilize purchasing power, and help revive the economy.*

Large scale infrastructure projects will help with COVID economic recovery.

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[10] http://www.geni.org/globalenergy/library/newsletters/1995/buckminster-fuller-on-the-global-energy-grid.shtml

[11] https://twitter.com/xlinks_uk/status/1444905265455841280

[12] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_Works_Administration

6. Universal Basic Income

Speaking of jobs and employment, most of the jobs are pointless and the only purpose is to preserve them.

In the UK and US only 1% of the population works in agriculture. Another 10% work in critical infrastructure, education, healthcare. Most of the "shuffling papers" jobs can easily be replaced by software.

An average office job requires 5x supporting jobs:
- receptionist
- cleaning
- security
- building maintenance
- bus driver
- cafeteria
- physiotherapy (back problems)
- psychological counselling (low engagement, lack of purpose)

All these economic activities generate CO_2 in the process.

A big challenge remains of finding a replacement purpose, as employment is often a part of identity -

"In the year 2045, the world is gripped by an energy crisis and global warming, causing widespread social problems and economic stagnation. The primary escape for most people is a virtual universe called the OASIS"

7. New consensus

Single VETO across 200+ member states can be paralysing.

See the arguments about "note" vs "welcome" during COP24

> *"Climate change: COP24 fails to adopt key scientific report"*[13]

> *"Scientists and many delegates in Poland were shocked as the US, Saudi Arabia, Russia and Kuwait objected to this meeting "welcoming" the report."*

Similar issues with single VETO in the European Union?[14]

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[13] https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-46496967
[14] https://www.reuters.com/article/eu-budget-germany-merkel-idUSS8N2HJ0HN

HEALTHCARE   DECEMBER 9, 2020 / 9:03 AM / UPDATED 7 MONTHS AGO

Merkel: We're seeking way to lift Poland and Hungary's EU veto

By Reuters Staff   1 MIN READ   f   🐦

BERLIN, Dec 9 (Reuters) - German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Wednesday that the European Union was looking for a way to lift Hungary and Poland's veto of the European Union's budget while maintaining the rule of law mechanism.

Warsaw and Budapest, both under EU scrutiny for undermining judicial and media independence, are blocking the budget and the EU's recovery fund because they object to making the money conditional on respect for the rule of law and democratic norms.

8. Big Tech integration

These companies are more powerful than many of the countries[15]:

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[15] https://twitter.com/NorthmanTrader/status/1415242718729719816

> **Sven Henrich** ✔
> @NorthmanTrader
>
> 4 stocks, $AAPL, $AMZN, $GOOGL & $MSFT now have a combined market cap north of $8 trillion, equaling the size of the Fed's balance sheet & 37% of US GDP.
> Add $FB and you have $9 trillion in 5 stocks or 42% of US GDP.
>
> 20% of total US market cap is concentrated in 5 stocks.
>
> 10:32 AM · Jul 14, 2021 · Twitter Web App
>
> **315** Retweets   **53** Quote Tweets   **1,341** Likes

On a daily basis, these companies influence the lives of billions.

We need to work together.

We need to change the game from time on site, engagement metrics, advertising income, shareholders profit.

Change the business model, from extracting attention into mental health metrics - wellbeing and happiness.

9. Media support

Will need support of media - **TELL THE TRUTH**[16] - narrative that accurately presents the current state of human civilization.

Media support will be required to gain political support.

10. Transparent government spending

- Rebuilding trust in institutions.
- Reducing corruption.
- Allowing everyone to inspect the flow of money, find inefficiencies, suggest improvements.

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[16] https://tellthetruth.media

Summary

These are the most applicable policies that are acceptable on a political level.

List of collaborators

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- Brennen Hodge, Citizen DAO