



Climate change is a systemic problem that requires a systemic solution. Climate change does not mean the end of planet Earth, but it is threatening our way of life and modern civilization. In addition, it threatens to render part of the planet unviable.

Global warming began with industrialization. Between 1800 and 2017, the world population multiplied sixfold while production increased 65- fold. The energy was produced and is still produced with cheap fossil fuels.

The climate-warming phenomenon of carbon dioxide has been known for over 150 years. There have been international climate negotiations since 1972. At the same time, greenhouse gas emissions have only continued to increase.

But now the carbon budget is shrinking and time is running out.

Mankind has not only caused climate change, but also a massive extinction: we are causing 90% of the extinction of species. Development is turning against people's well-being. "Protecting nature is also about protecting people"

For most of history people have lived in a circular economy and utilized all materials to the end. Over the past decades, we have moved to a wasteful linear economy. Now we have to move back to the circular economy.

Although climate change seems almost an insurmountable challenge, we already have a large number of solutions that need to be scaled rapidly around the world.

The richest 10% of people in the world cause (2015) about 50% of carbon emissions. This may sound scary, but it's also good news. The wealthiest 10%, who have used the atmosphere as a free landfill, can, through their own actions, significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Now we stand at the crossroads and the choice is ours: do we choose the path to "a systemic solution", Hothouse Earth and "ban economy" that may still be able to curb climate change to an acceptable level or shall we go straight to the hothouse room.

If we delay and decide to take action in 5 to 10 years, we will end up with an army-style ban economy, which has previously led to many societal problems.

In order to make the necessary decisions quickly and grandly, we should consider declaring an international climate emergency, or at least criteria for it. Many countries and regions with more than 200 million people (September 2019) have already declared a state of emergency.

No individual can alone control climate change, task is too large and the project too long. That is why we all have to take responsibility for leadership as much as we can within our own resources and influence.

I'm glad that libraries and their partners have understood that climate change mitigation requires leadership - of each of us. That is why it is important that MyGreenIdentity networkers want to take the lead in their communities, both at work and in their personal lives.

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