Sustainability Matters

Compiled and published by Ray Skinner, FCA

Business achieving a tomorrow for tomorrow's children



www.vecteezy.com

COP26 Insights Report

"We have an important part to play in protecting our planet and it was a great honour to represent Aotearoa as part of the delegation led by Climate Minister James Shaw at the COP26 summit in Glasgow.

"The COP26 Insights Report, produced by The Warehouse Chief Sustainability Officer and summit delegate, David Benattar, provides a broad view of the role of public policy, business, finance and technology to achieve Net Zero. It includes contributions by fellow Kiwi delegates and leaders in climate action.

Other contributors include Andy Blair (geothermal), David Rouse (entrepreneur), Craig Weise (NZGIF) and Kate Wilson Butler (SBC) More:

www.thewarehousegroup.co.nz/sustainability/planet/co p26-insights 50 pages, 2.12Mb

Source: David Benattar, 9th December 2021

Editor: A collection of perspectives from a NZ view point. Well worth looking at, mulling over and acting upon.

Just Transition – Human Rights

"As we reflect on pledges made by world leaders to reduce methane, phase out coal, or set net zero targets surrounding COP26, it is clear it is not just the political, technological, and environmental aspects of transitioning which need attention, but people are at the very heart of the challenge ahead.

"In our latest blog, Yadaira Orsini, Principal Consultant at ERM, reminds us, like the myriad human rights issues which have long been associated with the fossil fuel industry, human rights risks are also associated with renewables. Putting human rights due diligence at the heart of business strategies will be critical to implementing the just transition required.

More: www.sustainability.com/thinking/human-rights-at-thecenter-of-the-energy-transition/

Source: The SustainAbility Institute, 10th Dec. 2021.

Just Transition – Community Engagement

- "This fall, the state of Illinois passed the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) into law – one of the most comprehensive pieces of climate legislation ever. It includes a path to 100% carbon-free energy by 2045 and an unprecedented focus on workers and equity.
- "The passage of this game-changing law is a remarkable feat in a state where just a decade ago, less than 2% of its power came from renewable energy sources. So you might be wondering: how did they do it?
- "The answer could provide a roadmap for other states seeking to accelerate the shift to clean energy: they built it from the ground up. A broad coalition of groups - from businesses and organised labour to faith-based organisations and youthled climate groups – went deep into communities across the state to ask, 'What do you want to see out of this transition?'
- "Their efforts produced a sea change in how Illinois will power itself moving forward

More: <u>www.nrdc.org/stories/illinois-shows-us-what-road-</u> <u>clean-energy-should-look</u>

Source: NDRC, 10th December 2021

Editor The learnings could be applicable to other topics and places including New Zealand. O

ESG Book Aims to Shape the Future of **Sustainability Data**

"An alliance of leading financial institutions and companies including HSBC, the International Finance Corporation, Climate Bonds Initiative and Swiss Re have backed ESG Book, a new environment, social and governance (ESG) data platform launched on Wednesday [8th Dec] to shape the future of the market with a free 'public good' service for companies and investors.

- "The platform has been developed by asset manager Arabesque, and run according to principles from the United Nations (UN) Global Compact, which encourages companies to adopt sustainable policies.
- "Companies can also report against guestionnaires based on established reporting frameworks including the Global Reporting Initiative, Sustainability Accounting Standards Board and the Taskforce Climate-Related Financial Disclosures.
- "ESG Book makes sustainability data available and comparable for all stakeholders. It provides framework-neutral information promoting transparency', Sanda Ojiambo, chief executive of the UN Global Compact, said.
- "Companies can use the tool to disclose, manage and keep their ESG data in real-time. ESG data will be 'readily accessible for all stakeholders', to promote greater transparency, according to Arabesque.
- "Getting consistent data on sustainability scores and performance measures remains a difficult task even with the presence of about 160 major data vendors, each with their own definitions and methodologies on materiality, intentionality and additionality. Most of the data required is self-reported which has led to companies cherry-picking information that flatters their sustainability performance. ...

More: www.eco-business.com/news/esq-book-aims-toshape-the-future-of-sustainability-data/ plus www.esgbook.com/news/ 0

Source: eco-Business.com, 8th December 2021.

Why the Lustre on Once-Vaunted 'Smart **Cities' Is Fading**

"Jim Robbins examines the prospects for the world's muchtouted 'smart cities', which recently have lost some of their lustre. From Masdar City in Abu Dhabi to Songdo in South Korea, these cities — built from scratch and designed to use high technology to monitor and control energy, transportation, and other aspects of a sustainable city - are facing financial problems and having difficulty finding businesses and people who want to move there. As Robbins explains, some critics argue rather than grafting new cities onto the landscape, it is better to integrate high technology into existing ones, as is already happening in metropolises such as London and Barcelona.

More: https://e360.yale.edu/features/why-the-luster-isfading-on-once-vaunted-smart-cities

Source: Yale Environment 360, 3rd Dec. 2021.

Editor: As a result of being 'artifices' they may also lack a sense of spontaneity, randomness and chaos as in nature.

We Will Only Recommend Appliances which Will Last

- "In the biggest change in our product testing since the 1960's, Consumer are incorporating a lifetime performance score to help shoppers buy appliances they know will last.
- "It's no longer good enough for products to just perform well when they're new. We're the first international consumer organisation to only recommend durable appliances which work well for a long time.
- "We've tested products for more than 50 years. That testing shows many modern appliances work well when they're new, but some of them aren't built to last. This change doesn't mean we've thrown out our heritage – we still assess 'as-new' performance. However, we're now including measures of reliability, owner satisfaction and repairability.

"In the first quarter of 2022, the new scoring will be rolled out to other products, starting with large appliances. **More:** <u>www.consumer.org.nz/articles/with-lifetime-scoring-</u>

we-will-only-recommend-appliances-that-last

Source: Consumer, 11th December 2021

Editor: See the interesting reader and staff comments.

The Art of Irritation

"Burls share commonalities with pearls – both fascinating irritations, both natural treasures, both grown under duress."

"For a raw reconsideration of the tree burl, read this special new web exclusive, *The Art of Irritation*, by Ayla Samli. **More:** <u>https://orionmagazine.org/article/the-art-of-irritation/</u> **Source:** Orion, 4th December 2021.

Filtering Micro-plastics from Water Using Acoustic Waves

"Filtering micro-plastics from polluted water using acoustic waves is the new solution to cleaning up our oceans, according to new research.

- "Micro-plastics are released into the environment as cosmetics, clothing, industrial processes, and plastic products like packaging, break down naturally. The plastic pollutants then make their way into rivers and oceans, endangering marine life.
- "Filtering and removing these particles from water is a difficult and timely task, but using acoustic waves may provide a solution to this impenetrable task. ...
- "Each plastic was filtered with different efficiency, but all were above 56% efficient in pure water and a further 59% efficient in seawater....

"The group is now studying how acoustic waves may impact marine life if the wave frequency is in the audible range.

More: www.goodnewsnetwork.org/institut-teknolog-sepuluhnopember-ocean-clean-acoustic-waves/ plus https://asa.scitation.org/doi/abs/10.1121/10.0007630

Source: *OD Action News*, 3rd December 2021.

This Colorado 'Solar Garden' is Literally a Farm Under Solar Panels

"A Colorado farmer has managed to turn around his family's struggling 24-acre farm. He installed 3,200 solar panels on the farm, which traditionally grew hay, and can now grow a variety of vegetables on the unused land under the solar panels. With the vegetables under the solar panels needing less water, and the electricity produced being sold back to the grid, the farm is now efficient and profitable. This may be a model which many farms could implement.

More: <u>www.carbonees.com/single-post/snippets-for-2-</u> <u>december-2021</u>

Source: *SnippETS*, 2nd December 2021

Editor: The burgeoning industry is known as agrivoltaics.

Organic Sector Strategy Will Add Billions to NZ's GDP

"A landmark strategy to take New Zealand's fast-growing organic production sector to the next level has been launched. The strategy, 'Taking Action for a Better New Zealand', was commissioned by umbrella group Organics Aotearoa New Zealand (OANZ) and aims to contribute a cumulative \$4.7b to New Zealand's GDP by 2030 while reducing climate and environmental pollution.

"Growth in the organic sector is better growth for Aotearoa's environment, the New Zealand economy and for New Zealanders', says OANZ CEO Viv Williams. 'Organics provide an established international market and brand. When combined with the energy and vitality coming from the regenerative agriculture movement, organics can make a strong contribution to the future of farming as described in the Government's Fit for a Better World roadmap.

More: <u>www.fmcgbusiness.co.nz/organic-sector-strategy-will-</u> <u>add-billions-to-nzs-gdp/</u> plus <u>www.oanz.org/sector-</u> <u>strategy</u>

Source: SBN, 1st December 2021

Editor: Has some interesting statistics.

Constitutional 'Rights of Nature' Enforced to Safeguard Protected Forest

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"In an unprecedented case, the Constitutional Court of Ecuador has applied the constitutional provision on the 'Rights of Nature' to safeguard the Los Cedros cloud forest from mining concessions. The court voted seven in favour, with two abstentions.

"In the wake of the ruling, which was published 1st December, the Constitutional Court will develop a binding area of law in which the Rights of Nature, the right to a healthy environment, the right to water and environmental consultation must be respected.

"The court decided activities which threaten the rights of nature should not be carried out within the Los Cedros Protected Forest ecosystem. The ruling bans mining and all types of extractive activities in the protected area. Water and environmental permits to mining companies must also be denied

"The case is of great significance, both for Ecuador and the world, because it establishes important and influential **'Earth jurisprudence'** which will help guide humanity to be a benefit rather than a destructive presence within the community of life. The proposed mining is unlawful, the groups say, because it violates the rights of the Los Cedros Protective Forest as an ecosystem as well as the rights of the many members of that living community.

More: <u>https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-</u> releases/ecuadors-highest-court-enforcesconstitutional-rights-of-nature-to-safeguard-loscedros-protected-forest-2021-12-02/

Source: Center for Biological Diversity, 10th Dec. 2021.

New System Saves 2,900 Truck Tyres

"Fonterra has saved 2,900 tyres in a year by changing the way it monitors its rubber hitting the road. Fonterra has partnered with Carters Tyre Service to launch the National Transport Sustained Tyre Reduction project. ...

"Saving 2,900 tyres hasn't been the only achievement through our tyre journey – out of the 20,000 tyres purchased in FY2021, 13,000 were re-treads, meaning the Co-op only purchased 7,000 new tyres.

"In terms of sustainability achievements, we've been able to reduce 247 tonnes of CO2 emissions, additionally saving 75,000 litres of crude oil used to manufacture tyres. ... **More:** www.fonterra.com/nz/en/our-stories/articles/reaching-

new-sustainability-hights-by-saving-tyres.html

How to Avoid a Climate Disaster

"Bill Gates explains why he cares so deeply about climate change and what makes him optimistic that the world can prevent the worst impacts of the climate crisis. Gates says, 'we can work on a local, national, and global level to build the technologies, businesses, and industries to avoid the worst impacts of climate change'.

"His interest in climate change is a natural outgrowth of the efforts by his foundation to reduce poverty and disease. Climate change, according to Gates, will have the biggest impact on the people who have done the least to cause it. As a technologist, he has seen first-hand how innovation can change the world. By investing in research, inventing new technologies, and by deploying them quickly at large scale, Gates believes climate change can be addressed in meaningful ways.

"According to Gates, 'to prevent the worst effects of climate change, we have to get to net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases. This problem is urgent, and the debate is complex, but I believe we can come together to invent new carbonzero technologies, deploy the ones we have, and ultimately avoid a climate catastrophe'.

More: www.goodreads.com/book/show/52908942-how-toavoid-a-climate-disaster plus www.theguardian.com/books/2021/feb/17/how-toavoid-a-climate-disaster-by-bill-gates-review-whyscience-isnt-enough

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Source: David Benattar, 9th December 2021.

Thoughts on People, Planet, & Profit

"Founder of the responsible investing movement and one of *Time's* 100 Most Influential People, Amy Domini, explores how investors can inspire positive change in new book of essays. Mindy Lubber, CEO & President at Ceres, commented: 'Amy is truly a pioneer of responsible investing. She led the investment trend 30 years ago and finally, the world is waking up advancing her vision. Her new collection is a book about hope – when we collectively act with intention, we can do more together than we ever could alone.'

More: https://amydomini.com/book/ Thoughts on People, Planet, & Profit is a collection of essays about responsible investing from the field's pioneer. It's also a book about hope. Through short, thoughtful ruminations on everything from championing biodiversity to just saying 'no' to war, Amy Domini demonstrates when investors come together to care for the greater good, they can ensure both people and planet continue to thrive. Divided into three sections, Thoughts on People, Planet, & Profit reminds readers the secret to making an impact is small. As Amy writes, 'Together, we can each do something – and this, in the end, is everything.' November 2021, 55.57Mb 156 pages

Source: Ceres, 2nd December 2021

Editor: Looks like a 'must read'.

Count Us In

"Count Us In is a community of people protecting what they love from climate change before it is too late.

- "Our mission over the next decade is to mobilise 1 billion people to take practical steps that when aggregated, will make a significant impact in reducing carbon pollution and challenge leaders to act boldly to deliver global systems change.
- "We're asking citizens everywhere to take practical steps to reduce their carbon impact and persuade others to do the same.
- "It begins with everyone committing to one of our 16 steps; talking about it with their friends; keeping it up, and tracking their progress through our platform; and when they're ready, taking another.....

More: www.count-us-in.org/en-gb/about/

Source: edie, 2nd December 2021.

MPUniversity

"Thousands of people from across Australia are sharing why they want climate action, and we're building a critical mass of voices to show decision makers just how many of us care.

"Can you help raise ambition for climate action in Australia by taking these voices to your elected representatives?

"Lots of people care about solving climate change but aren't sure what to do. Influencing your Member of Parliament (MP) is a powerful way to make change.

"That's why we're launching MPUniversity – a short course supporting people to do just that! It consists of:

- Two information packs with everything you need to influence your elected representatives
- A coaching session by phone with a member of the ACF team, at a time of your choosing
- Access to up-to-date information on your electorate's demands for action that you can use to influence your MP

"With as little as two hours of preparation time, you can do so much to help secure a safe and healthy future for generations to come. Long-lasting and transformational outcomes come from a meeting with your MP – and it's one of the most powerful ways to participate in our democracy.

More: www.acf.org.au/su-mpuni

Source: ACF, 9th December 2021

Editor: The idea may be applicable to other countries and places.

'The Lawn is an Obsession, Like a Cult'

"If Bill Jacobs was a petty man, or a much less non secular one, he may look via the thicket of flowers, bushes and brambles which encircle his house and see enemies throughout. For to the North, and to the South, and to the West and East and all factors in between, stretch acres and acres of lawns.

"Lawns which might be mowed and edges trimmed with army precision. Lawns the place leaves are banished with roaring machines and which might be oftentimes doused with pesticides. Lawns which might be fastidiously manicured by landscapers like Justin Camp, Mr. Jacobs's neighbour subsequent door, who maintains his personal pristine blanket of inexperienced.

- "It takes a special kind of person to do something like that', Mr. Camp stated, nodding to wooded wilds of his neighbour's yard. 'I mow lawns for a living, so it's not my thing.'
- "People have to love the Earth before they save it', Mr. Jacobs stated. 'So love is the key. We don't do doomsday stuff.'
- "Mr. Jacobs, for his half, seems to be round in any respect the pristine lawns ('the lawn is an obsession, like a cult', he says) and sees ecological deserts which feed neither wildlife nor the human soul. 'This is a poverty that most of us are not even aware of', he stated. ...

More:

https://minutenewsflash.com/index.php/2021/12/03/m eet-an-ecologist-who-works-for-god-and-against-lawns/

Source: Climate Fwd [NY Times], 9th December 2021.

CA ANZ Library – Sustainability Resources

"The CA ANZ library has compiled a list of 37 titles about business-focused environmental sustainability strategies including reporting and the circular economy.

More: <u>https://library.charteredaccountantsanz.com/cgibin/koha/opac-</u> <u>shelves.pl?page=1&sortfield=title&shelfnumber=2838&</u> <u>direction=asc&op=view</u>

Source: CA ANZ, 2nd December 2021

Editor: Although not up to date there are about 200 resources at <u>www.sustainbilitymatters.co.nz</u>

Youth Wins Prize for Providing Renewable Energy to 10,000 People

"Growing up in Sierra Leone, a young man who saw a problem and was determined to fix it has been awarded international prizes for excellence in innovation.

- "Jeremiah Thoronka invented a machine which delivers electricity to homes through absorbing kinetic energy from vehicles passing over roadways. The device powers 150 small homes, doesn't rely on changing weather patterns, and needs no battery or external power infrastructure.
- "Out of 3,500 contestants, Thoronka picked up the \$100,000 reward for his work at the Chegg.org Global Student Prize 2021. He also won the regional top student award from Commonwealth.org, and another £3,000 (\$4,000) to go with it.
- "At 17 he launched his startup, Optim Energy, to power homes via kinetic energy transfer. Once buried under a road it converts heat, pressure, and movement into electric currents without anyone being aware of it. ...
- "At a pilot program in his hometown of Makawo, Optim Energy successfully deployed two devices which powered 150 nearby homes and 15 schools, totaling services to more than 10,000 people, 9,000 of whom were students. He is currently looking to expand into the healthcare sector, presumably utilising the busy roads and walkways near hospitals to generate required power for vaccine refrigeration.
- More: www.goodnewsnetwork.org/optim-energy-wins-prizefor-renewable-energy-in-sierra-leone/ plus www.itv.com/news/tyne-tees/2021-11-11/hughjackman-awards-durham-student-global-prize-forenergy-poverty-project

Source: *OD Action News*, 1st December 2021.

NZ's First Green Hydrogen Plant Begins Production

"New Zealand's first 'green hydrogen' plant near Taupo has been officially opened marking an important step towards decarbonisation of the country's heavy freight industry.

Opened on 9th December and in development since 2018 the Halcyon Power Ltd plant is a 50/50 joint venture between Tūaropaki Trust and Obayashi Corporation of Japan.

- "Halcyon Power uses electricity generated by geothermal power to electrolyse water to produce green hydrogen.
- "It expects to begin wholesaling hydrogen domestically in January [2022] and will produce around 180 tonnes in the first year.
- "Normally electric fuel cell vehicles would require around 5kg to fill the tank, for a range of around 600-800km.

More: <u>https://transporttalk.co.nz/news/nzs-first-green-hydrogen-plant-begins-production</u>

Source: Carbon News, 13th December 2021.

A Monthly Ritual of Selflessness Has Transformed Rwanda

"On the last Saturday of every month, the people of Rwanda stop what they're doing and devote themselves to uplifting their neighbours, their communities and their country. It's called Umuganda, and it's often credited with helping Rwanda to emerge from years of conflict and become the liveable place it is today. Let's learn from their example....

More: https://reasonstobecheerful.world/umuganda-rwandacommunity-improvement-projects/

Source: reasons to be cheerful, 8th December 2021 Editor: This could be very useful in other communities including those in NZ; where for instance units of 50 households could help combat vaccine hesitancy.

Policy-making Under Pressure: Rethinking the Policy Process in New Zealand

"Public policy-making in Aotearoa New Zealand has a patchy track record. In many policy sectors New Zealand performs no worse than other advanced democracies, and in some it is recognised as world leading. But it is clear the system is under pressure, confronted with an endless conveyor belt of problems. By international standards, New Zealand ranks poorly in some sectors, notably child poverty, affordable housing, youth suicide, water pollution and obesity. To better serve the 'team of five million', how can the public policy process be improved?

"Drawing upon these first-hand accounts and linking them to classic theories of public policy-making, Mazey and Richardson explain in an accessible way why government 'stuff-ups' happen, and suggest practical steps the policy establishment could take to improve policy-making in New Zealand.

More: www.canterbury.ac.nz/engage/cup/new/policymaking-under-pressure-rethinking-the-policy-processin-aotearoa-new-zealand.html 316 pages Nov 2021, plus www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetonoon/audio /2018822464/why-does-government-policy-sometimesfail-to-deliver 15:55 min and

www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PO2111/S00264/is-the-teamof-5-million-well-governed.htm

Source: Clare Feeney, 30th November 2021. 6

Bringing Back the Caring Society

- "I met a woman from East Germany who had emigrated to New Zealand. A Kiwi was asking her about her experience. The question was: 'What's it like to be living in freedom after all those years trapped in a Communist regime?' The response was interesting
- "Until I came here, I had never paid for medical care, dental care, education fees, or public transport. I think you have been drinking some Kool-Aid about what it is to live under Socialism.
- "Jacinda Adern is doing what she can to redress the disparities between our richest citizens and the rest of us. We have become an appallingly self-interested and self-centred mob, and the Government is trying to turn us back into a community in which we all care for each other. It is not overdramatising to say that unless we re-establish a sense of community we are going to go extinct. Until recently that sort of idea was unthinkable.

"But now, in the present day, we are faced with adverse climate changes that we also have caused, and mutating diseases that might wipe us off the face of the earth.

"What's the old saying? Nature bats last.

Letter writer: Bruce Rogan, Mangawhai Heads **Source:** *NZ Herald*, page A32, 15th December 2020.

A Giant Leap for Life on Earth

"8 years. 96 months. Or just short of 3,000 days. That's how long scientists say we have to cut carbon emissions by more than half, end the extinction crisis, and avoid an all-out ecological collapse. We need a total transformation of our societies - but there's a way we can do it ...

"A Harvard University team has found a golden 'rule' ...

More: See attachment to this edition of the newsletter **Source:** Avaaz, 14th December 2021.

Editor: In particular see the link to the BBC article The '3.5% rule': How a small minority can change the world' of 14th May 2019 at https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20190513-it-onlytakes-35-of-people-to-change-the-world

Contributions and feedback are welcomed. Send your news items, handy hints, case studies, suggestions, comments and questions to Ray Skinner, eMail: ray@sustainabilitymatters.co.nz, Phone: +64 (9) 443 0773, Web: www.sustainabilitymatters.co.nz Apologies for any breach of copyright; it would be accidental and not intended. Donations are always welcome and appreciated - the bank account is: 12 3011 0249104 00



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A Giant Leap for Life on Earth



Dear friends,

8 years. 96 months. Or just short of 3,000 days.

That's how long scientists say we have to cut carbon emissions by more than half, end the extinction crisis, and avoid an all-out ecological collapse.

We need a total transformation of our societies -- but there's a way we can do it...

A Harvard University team has found a golden 'rule' for creating social transformation: any non-violent cause that mobilises just 3.5% of a population reaches a tipping point where change is virtually guaranteed.

And with almost 70 million members globally, representing almost 1% of the world population, alongside thousands of other organisations and movements, together we could be inching toward the precious threshold of 3.5% of the world engaged in this urgent transformation!

But time is running out, and we need to grow, fast. We need more staff in more places, working to mobilise more Avaaz members, and unite movements, Indigenous people, youth activists and parents, on everything from climate change to political campaigning and human rights, all in a thundering global effort to help save life on Earth.

If just 10,000 of us make a small weekly donation, in 2022 we can launch a plan to do just that, **going all out to create a turning point for life on Earth**. We can still save our future -- but we MUST act now.

Devastating floods and blazing infernos are a sure sign that **we are edging ever closer to planetary tipping points** -- when sudden, violent changes shake earth's life-support systems to the core. But everyday they are being matched by literally thousands of people joining the great battle for life on earth.

The 3.5% rule relies on deeply engaged citizens uniting in common cause, and all over the world, we're seeing exactly that: a steady march to **a crescendo of people power**, **reaching social tipping points that could radically, beautifully transform our world.** Because it's not just climate change, we also need to overcome increasing social polarisation, billions can't access life-saving covid vaccines, and global inequality is rocketing.

If there was ever a moment for people to change the course of history, it is now. So we urgently need Avaaz to grow even bigger, both in our own work and our support for others, and if we raise enough we will:

- **Supercharge our campaigning firepower** by supporting ground-breaking legal cases and mobilising millions of people to hold leaders accountable in real-time;
- Elevate the voices of Indigenous people, frontline defenders, youth activists, and parents' coalitions in global summits and in the corridors of power;
- **Defend democracies everywhere** by further exposing the toxic impacts of disinformation, and launch an advocacy blitz to hold Big Tech accountable;
- **Hire dozens of staff in new parts of the world**, recruiting millions of people in additional languages to rapidly expand our movement, especially in the Global South;
- **Partner with other inspiring movements**, scientists, and public health experts to turbocharge our combined power for maximum impact.

The plan is ambitious, but there is simply <u>nothing</u> more important. Our future is on the line, and we are the last generation that can still save it. **Let's give it everything we've got:**



2021 has been another tumultuous year. But from our impact at the climate talks in Glasgow, to our extraordinary fight to stop the corrosive, even lethal, impacts of social



media, to the millions we've granted to other movements and activists, Avaaz has been a blazing force for good. Without doubt, we are changing the world -- but we need to do it faster. Let's make 2022 a giant leap for humanity and the planet. So strap on your boots, lift your face to the sky, and get ready for a year like no other!

With fierce hope and determination, always,

Marigona, Mike, Martyna, Anneke, Mouhamad, Bert and the whole team at Avaaz

More information:

- U.N. warns world set for 2.7C rise on today's emissions pledges (Reuters)
- The '3.5% rule': How a small minority can change the world (BBC)
- <u>The climate disaster is here</u> (The Guardian)
- <u>COVID vaccines: Widening inequality and millions vulnerable</u> (UN News)

Avaaz is a 69-million-person global campaign network that works to ensure that the views and values of the world's people shape global decision-making. ("Avaaz" means "voice" or "song" in many languages.) Avaaz members live in every nation of the world; our team is spread across 18 countries on 6 continents and operates in 17 languages. Learn about some of Avaaz's biggest campaigns <u>here</u>, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, or <u>Instagram</u>.

You became a member of the Avaaz movement and started receiving these emails when you signed "Stop the Climate-Wrecking at Bali" on 2007-12-12 using the email address ray@sustainabilitymatters.co.nz.

To ensure that Avaaz messages reach your inbox, please add avaaz@avaaz.org to your address book. To change your email address, language settings, or other personal information, contact us, or simply go here to unsubscribe.

To contact Avaaz, please do not reply to this email. Instead, write to us at www.avaaz.org/en/contact .



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Contributions and feedback are welcomed. Send your news items, handy hints, case studies, suggestions, comments and questions to Ray Skinner, eMail: <u>ray@sustainabilitymatters.co.nz</u>, Phone: +64 (9) 443 0773, Web: <u>www.sustainabilitymatters.co.nz</u> Apologies for any breach of copyright; it would be accidental and not intended. Donations are always welcome and appreciated – the bank account is: 12 3011 0249104 00