Fiji/Bonn Climate Conference COP23

NGOCSD–NY
Nov 2017

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Climate Change = Survival, Justice Issue

- **Science:**
  - We are causing recent climate change, global warming

- **Survival Issue:**
  - We are seeing bad impacts **NOW**
  - Impacts **FAR WORSE** if we do not act
  - Disasters are made worse due to climate change

- **Justice and Ethics Issue:**
  - Poor and vulnerable - smallest effect on climate change, but are hurt the worst by climate change
  - More humane and cheaper for preventive action now, rather than disaster adaptation by our descendants if we do not act robustly now
Climate Action: Justice and Survival
SDGs - All tied to Climate Action #13
ACTIONS: We CAN mitigate Climate Change

- **Climate Change Risk Management**
  - Change: All Deliberate Speed to renewables
  - Action: All levels - local to global - needed
    - Individuals, NGOs, businesses (private sector), cities, states, national, *international*
2015 Paris Climate Agreement
Paris NDCs if fulfilled gives +3.5°C by 2100, better than BAU, but FAR above 2°C goal
Emissions all countries – must decrease by 2050 if +2°C in 2100
Fiji / Bonn Conference 2017

COP23 Fiji

UN Climate Change Conference
The Fiji/Bonn 2017 Climate Conference continued along the long road toward resolving problems that global warming/climate change poses for humanity.

The main problem is staying below the carbon budget necessary for a livable world, along with economic development and equity.
• The objective of **more ambition** is the main conference conclusion.

• While the US federal government is currently mired in an ignorant dinosaur stance, **sub-national US entities** are stepping up vigorously, possibly enough to fulfill the US NDC commitment under the Paris Agreement.
• Investors are stimulating business to calculate climate risk and act to mitigate that risk.

• The concept of risk management of climate change in the presence of uncertainties is becoming more understood and accepted.
The transition to a distributed renewable energy economy, necessary for climate change mitigation and with gigantic economic opportunities is: underway, unstoppable, difficult.

Fossil fuel companies with stranded assets, powerful contrarian ideologues, right-wing media spreading climate disinformation are big obstacles.
Climate Politics

- Positive presence of Bloomberg, Brown
  - Unofficial US pavilion (no US govt. pavilion)
  - Trump threat: US out of Paris Agree. in 2020

- Future of International Climate Action
  - Climate leadership - now China, EU
  - India and the energy equity issue
  - Competing national agendas
  - Steady progress is being made
  - Next year’s conference COP24 in Poland
Positive: Sub-national US action
Talanoa Dialogue: “make wise decisions for the collective good”
WHAT CAN WE DO?

- **INCREASE OUR CLIMATE ACTION!!**
- Support climate action by cities, states, businesses, NGOs
- U.S. Public Opinion – LTE, legislature call/fax…
  - Urge: Paris Agreement goals for YOUR city/state
  - Urge: “Hands off the CPP, EPA, NASA, NOAA”
  - Urge: Price on Carbon (Fee + Dividend)
- We should be optimistic (there is no alternative)
- “Somebody else” won’t do it alone

- **You** can help
Thank You