

# Climate Change Cure Demands Action, Not Just Policy

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- Climate change a serious threat for survival of all on this planet.

Thesis: Policies are important but real progress requires action at global, national and community level.

## 2. CONTEXTUALIZING THE RISING THREAT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

## 3. WHY POLICY ALONE FAILS TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

3.1 Policy commitments through agreements remain unfulfilled

→ Despite Paris Agreement, warming of 2.5-2.9°C predicted by 2100 (Climate Action Tracker)

3.2 Many climate policies remain non-binding, with weak enforcement

→ US unilaterally withdrew from Paris agreement in 2017 (Climate Foresight)

3.3 Mechanisms like carbon trading are counterproductive, leading to more damage.

→ Leads to practice of green washing by corporate sector (The Guardian)

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3.4 Loopholes within policies often exploited by other nations

- Kyoto protocol voluntary for developing states, leading to freedom over emissions (Reuters report)

#### 4. ACTIONS NEEDED TO CORE CLIMATE CHANGE

4.1 Reduced use of fossil fuel

- Shift toward EV's and hybrid vehicles

4.2 Large scale afforestation and reforestation efforts

- Replicating initiatives like Billion Tree Tsunami.

4.3 Accelerating shift towards Renewable energy sources

- Adopting solar/wind energy as cheaper alternative

4.4 Cutting Greenhouse Gas emissions

- Use of catalytic converter in vehicles

- Methane capture from landfills

4.5 Green Industry practices

- waste management and circular economy practices.

4.6 Sustainable cities and Infrastructure

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- Energy efficient buildings
- Walkable cities to reduce vehicle use

#### 4.7 Sustainable Agriculture practices

- Ban on stubble burning
- Biofertilizer use adoption.

### 5. CASE STUDY: RENEWABLE ENERGY SHIFT BY COSTA RICA

### 6. CONCLUSION

- Climate change impacts not only current, but future generations as well.
- Through collective efforts, one can tackle the challenge of climate change.

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• ~~the~~ case :

"We are the first generation to feel the full effects of climate change, and the last generation that can do something about it." This quote by Barack Obama

~~remarks~~ highlights the serious threat of climate change, that impacts survival of all human beings. Policy commitments made on this part, alone, fails to solve the problem.

The Paris Agreement committed to curb global temperature rise to below 2°C on average average. However, such pledges not followed through, primarily due to the non-binding nature of majority agreements. Similarly, policies regarding Carbon Trading were introduced. This inadvertently

led to greater emissions and greenwashing practices by organizations. In contrast, practical actions are needed to effectively deal with climate change. Reducing the use of fossil fuels by shift towards electric and hybrid systems is an important step. Similarly, afforestation efforts, with involvement of the community, needs to be initiated. Replication

of initiative like Billion Tree Tsunami is a potential example. Furthermore, sustainable practices need to be undertaken in agriculture and industry sectors. waste management

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and use of natural fertilizers pose a possible action towards sustainability. Finally, increase in uptake of renewable energy sources needs to be initiated, highlighting a move for cleaner and lasting energy use. Through such actions, impacts of climate change can be dampened.

Policies are important, but real progress requires action at global, national and community level.