

Unconference on Philanthropy and Climate Change

WWF Switzerland & ClimateWorks Foundation

Both the expected impacts of climate change and the fast and complete decarbonization of our society are considered major or even the biggest challenges of our time. This view is shared by relevant scientists, industry representatives, and representatives of the wider civil society. Despite this high level of urgency and consensus, global greenhouse gas emissions still rise. Therefore, addressing climate change becomes a prerequisite to make progress or avoid regression in multiple dimensions like health, education, gender, poverty reduction, food agriculture, digitalization. An integrated view on these issues will become relevant both in philanthropy and impact investing.

The Unconference aims to shed light on this gap between action and general agreement. Which hurdles need to be addressed? What is the role of cooperation among different actors and philanthropy? Should the focus be on prevention and mitigation or just accept the ongoing reality and invest in adaptation and coverage of loss and damages? Which roles must be strengthened: Civil society, individuals, role of businesses, local, regional, national, multilateral politics? Ca. 50 people exchanged knowledge, questions, and ideas in this unconference on the role of philanthropy in the issue of climate change.

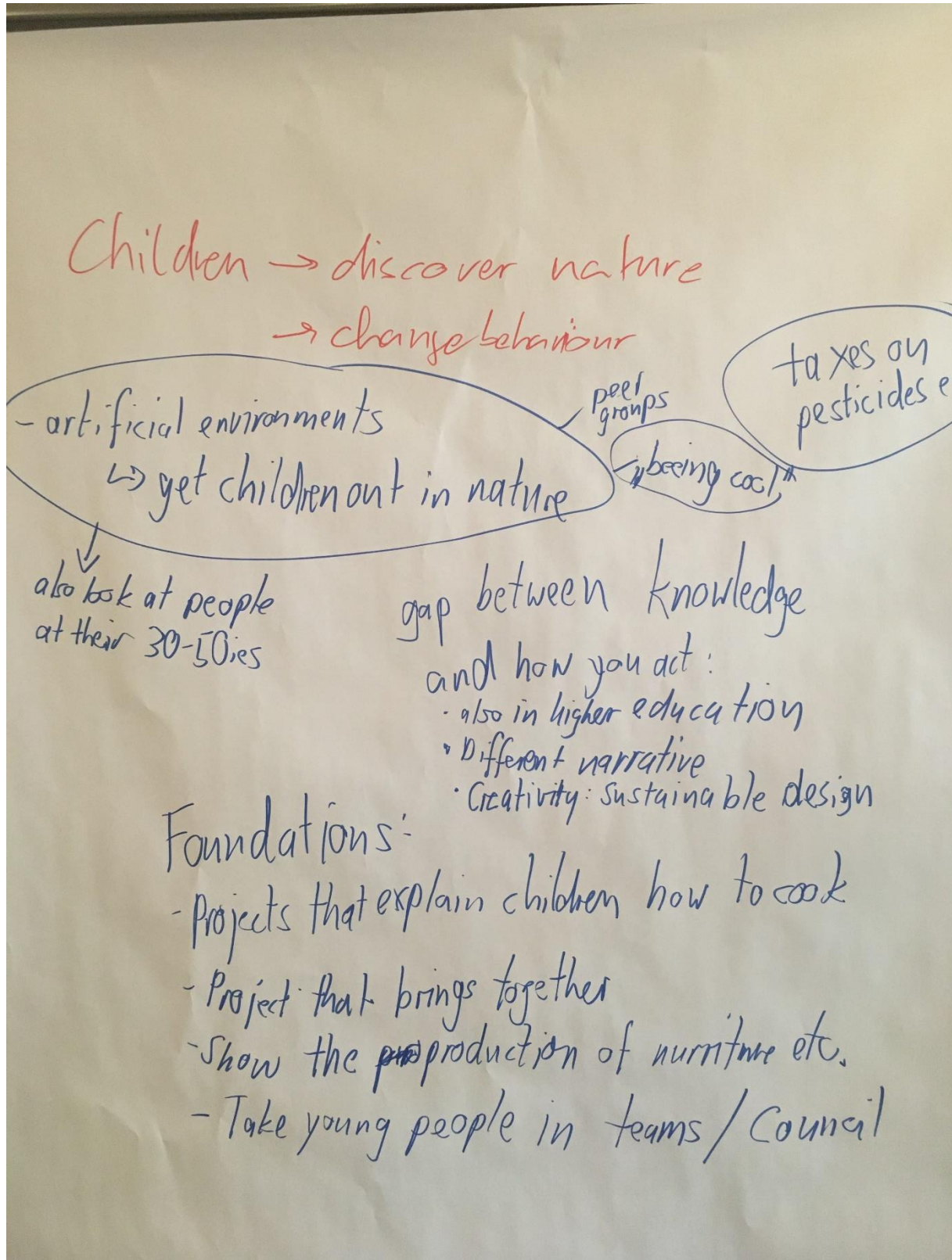
Suggested rounds of discussions:

1. How can a circular economy contribute to mitigating climate change?
2. How can we motivate foundations to invest their capital aligned to their mission and avoiding climate change exacerbation?
3. How can we instill closeness to nature into the next generation / children or young university students to become active against climate change?
4. How do collaborations work today – what is happening from on the ground projects to international coalitions at multi-stakeholder negotiations like COP etc.
5. The impact of climate change on health – and how the focus on health improvements could unlock investments and grants into climate change work?

Foto of topic 1 (pinwall) with the suggested ideas, to which the upfront inputs were added:

→ IDEA / TOPIC	→ NAME
How can we work with schools to inform kids about climate change and get them out of the classroom into nature to learn from reality?	Daniel Bartschi, NATURAMA
HOW CAN WE SUPPORT SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS - CREATE NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN LOW INCOME COUNTRIES TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE - CHANGE BEHAVIOURS? (P. WOODGREEN) VSO	How to support students in institutions of higher education who to act on climate change? Marianne Meusch
Discuss how to move from "climate change" towards change "climatic variances" → Less the cause, more the solution	How can we secure that foundations invest their capital in climate-friendly companies/funds/etc.? (Jon Holmstrom)
Given today's Toilet Day, Circular Sanitation can alleviate climate change	How can Renewable Energy be available for all, i.e. eradicate air pollution inside homes & waste collection?
Circular Economy as a lever to mitigate climate change	Collaborations at ground level, regional, national & international - how does it work?

TITLE OF TOPIC 1: how can we instill care for nature and our planet into children & young people?

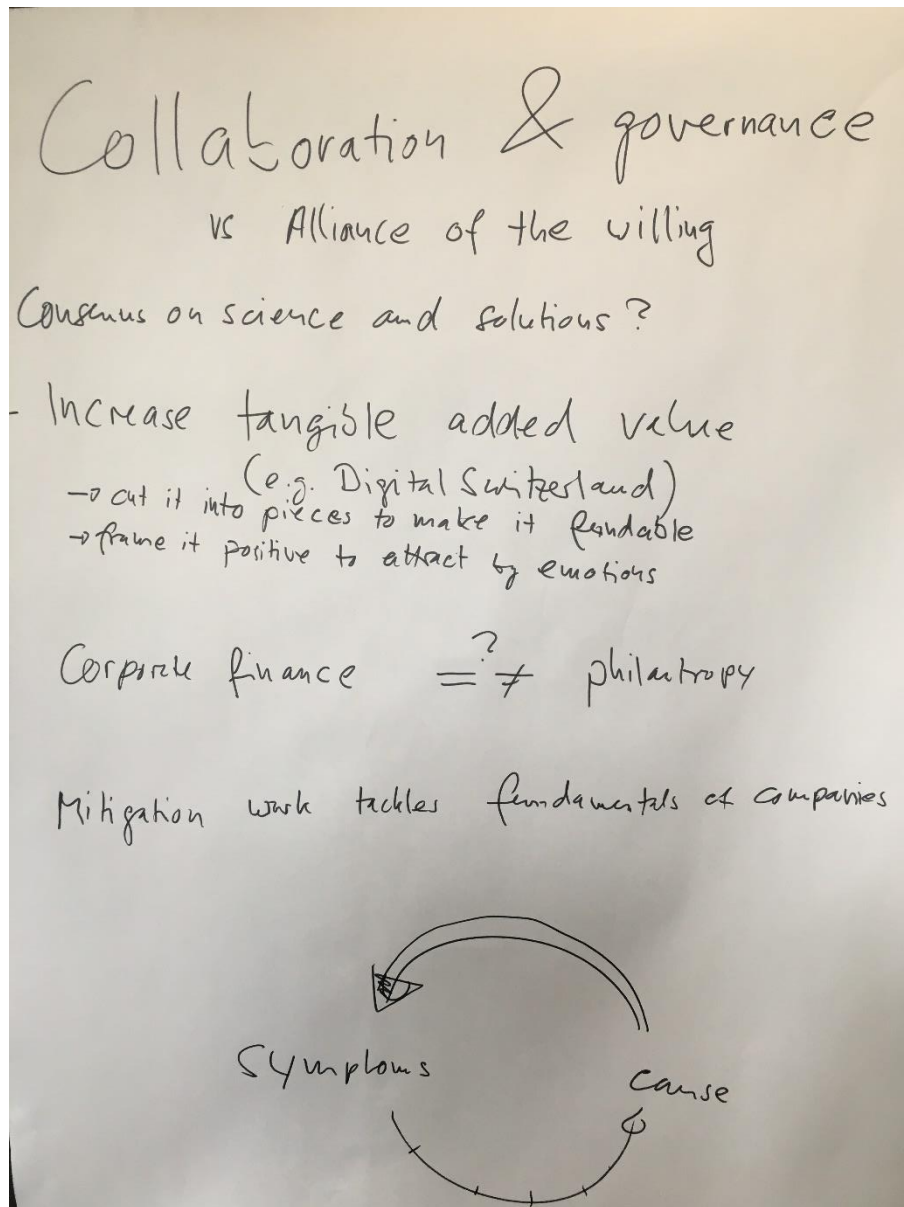


Key points:

- There is a clear gap between the level of knowledge available today, and the level of action every one of us is willing to take.
- Climate change is too abstract a concept – NGOs need to translate from the overwhelming concepts of tons of CO2 to what every individual can / must do to work towards a better outcome. (ideally making it simple and easy for me)
- The narrative should change from a negative one, to a positive tone (be cool, creative solutions will solve the problem...)
- The solutions to bringing the next generations closer to nature all focus on education, experiencing and involving younger society members.

TITLE OF TOPIC 2: Collaboration & Governance

Fotos of topic 2 (pinwalls)



Key points:

- Philanthropy will never generate enough money to solve the problem, therefore corporate finance must get involved. However, the two sources will fund very different projects. Advocacy, collaboration networks etc. will need philanthropic funding.
- Investments into climate change mitigation would address the root cause, rather than granting / investing large sums into the consequences or symptoms such as migration, displaced people,
- "Climate change" should not be at the center of communications, but rather replace this by activities with a concrete tangible outcome ("positive emotions")
- Split the "big" problem into smaller ones, that can gain more traction in trying to solve it, and generate impact that is visible, faster
- There are many underfunded networks for collaboration that would be attractive for philanthropy, e.g., Climate Action Network (CAN), Swiss Climate Alliance, KLUG, etc.

TITLE OF TOPIC 3: how can we motivate foundations to invest their capital according to a risk profile that eliminates contributing factors to climate change?

No notes were taken on the pinwalls

Key points:

- The hypothesis that climate friendly investments, or divestments from fossil fuels would lead to lower performance, still exists in the mind of many foundation board members and NGOs!
- Looking at full risk profiles and sustainability, plus the returns that can be generated today with non-fossil investments, this fear is unsubstantiated.

TITLE OF TOPIC 4: how can a circular economy contribute to reducing global warming / adapt to climate change?

No notes were taken on the pinwalls

Key points:

- A circular economy is a lever to mitigating climate change. The first (and biggest) challenge is the change of energy production through fossil fuels.
- It is more attractive to talk about circular business models and a circular economy, than about climate change, as this is way more concrete and tangible. This holds true for academia and for corporations.
- Corporations understand the potential of having closed loops / circular business models in which resources are used, recycled and reused to become more sustainable as industries.
- C&A foundation presented and explained several projects and concrete examples they have funded on this topic.

TITLE OF TOPIC 5: Climate change and health

No notes were taken on the pinwalls

Key points:

- Similar to “Climate Change”, “Health” is a problem so large in scale that effective collaboration is needed in order to come to solutions
- Philanthropy should focus on the positive narrative, less blame, more solutions
- Health and Climate Change have a lot of overlap and opportunities for win win scenarios, for example air pollution: reducing air pollution will have incredibly positive effects on people’s health, especially children AND positive results for reducing GHG emissions.
- Need to change narrative from “Climate Change” to “Pollution” to make it more tangible
- There was a feeling of confusion because of the many organisations involved in climate change. People don’t know where to start.
- Need the philanthropists in order to leverage scale from other sectors (public sector money for example)


Unconference on climate change

Agenda	Lead	Time
Impulse on philanthropy & global climate change	Ulla Erhardt Patrick Hofstetter	12min
Discussion Round 1	All	45min
Change over	All	5min
Discussion Round 2	All	45min
Summary / Reporting back	Inez Colyn	5min

Philanthropy & Climate Change

Basel Convention on Philanthropy
November 19/20, 2018



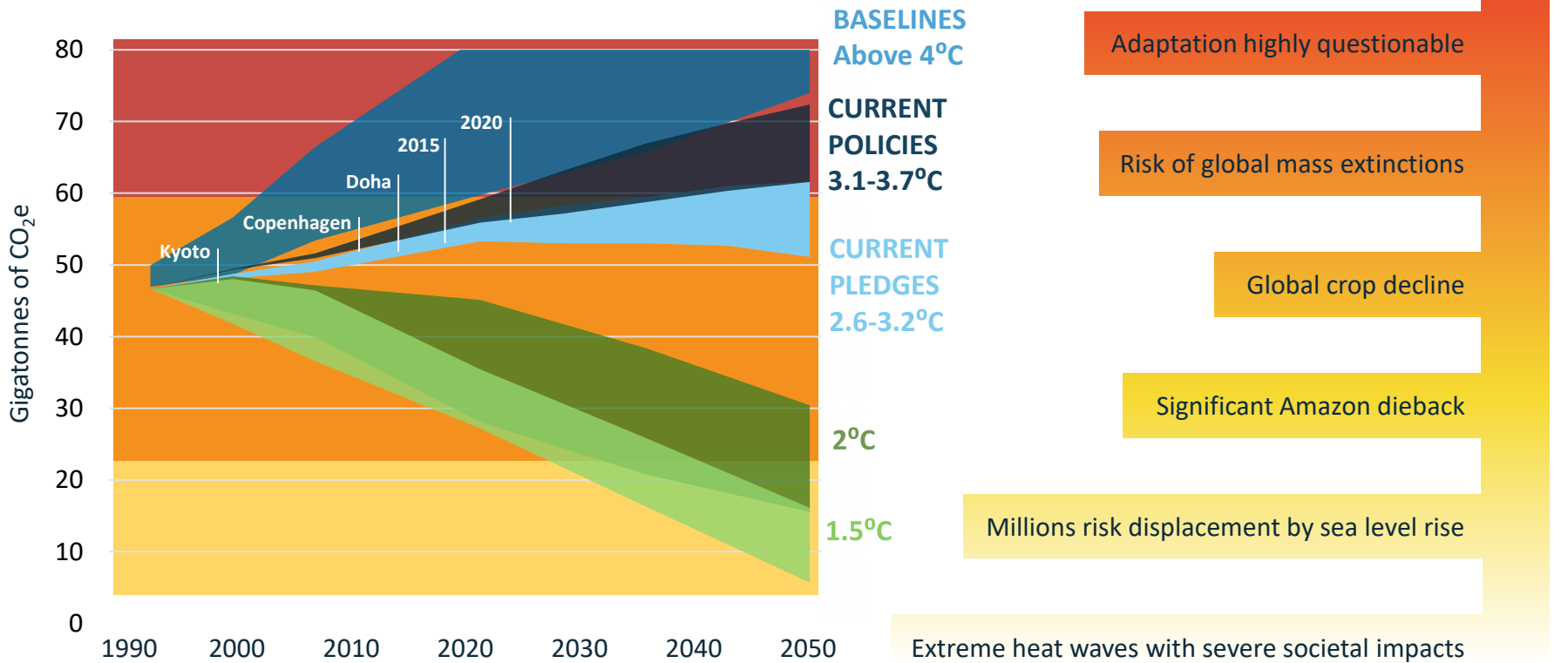


Climatologists say Syria is a grim preview of what could be in store for the larger Middle East...The Fertile Crescent—the birthplace of agriculture some 12,000 years ago—is drying out.

“The war and the drought, they are the same thing.”

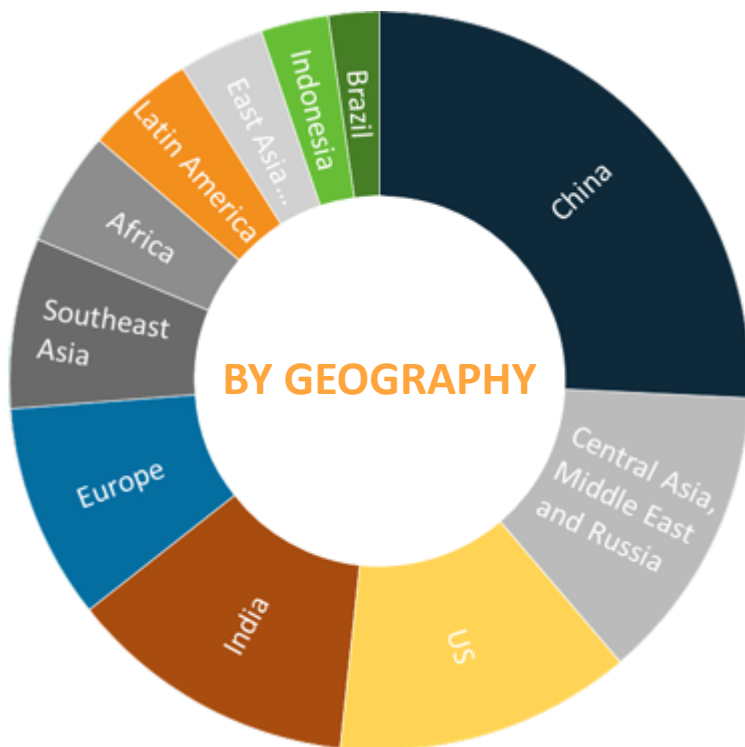
— Mustafa Abdul Hamid, a 30-year-old farmer from Azaz, near Aleppo.

Staying below 2°C: Choices we Face



Deeper Reductions Needed by 2050 in all Regions and Sectors

Distribution of GHG Emissions Reductions Needed by 2050 to Limit Warming to 2°C



The Clean Trillion

What we have

\$330 billion

in clean energy
investments in 2017

What we need

\$1 trillion

in clean energy
investments annually

What we're fighting

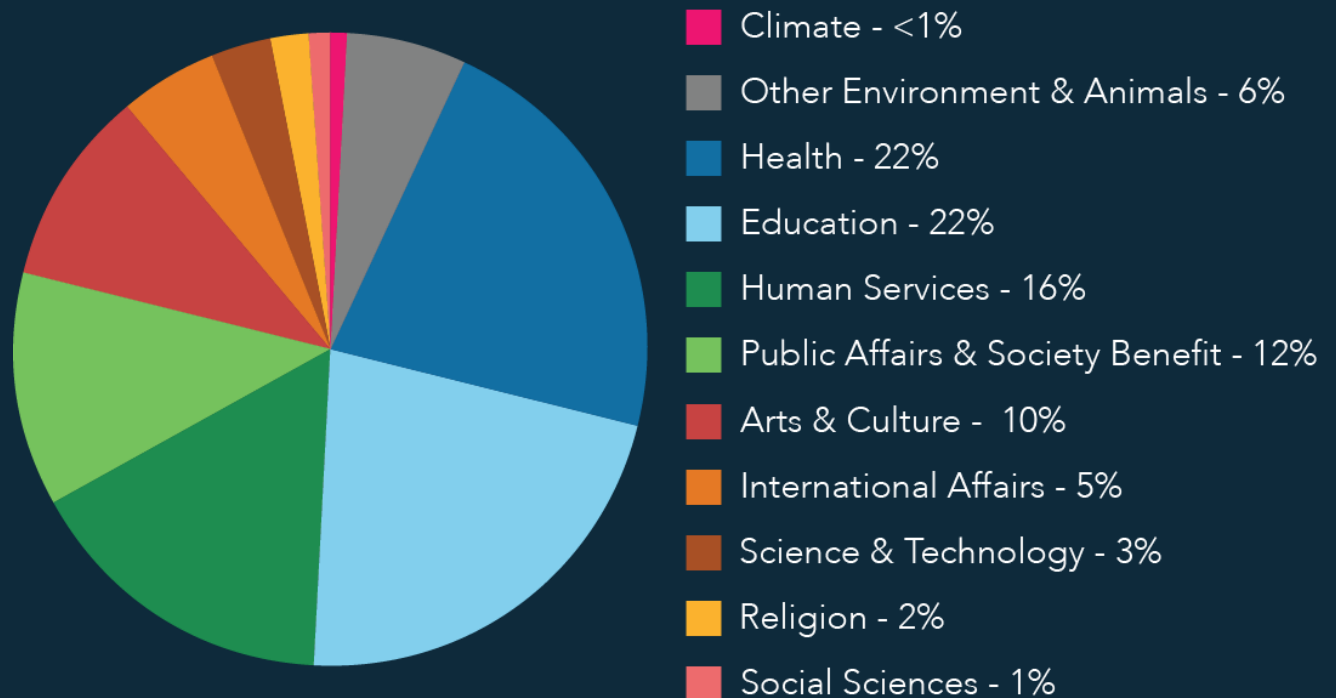
~\$800 billion

in fossil fuel investments in 2017

But Philanthropy is Not Yet at Scale Required

Climate philanthropy lags behind other sectors

Foundation Giving in the USA



AIR POLLUTION – THE SILENT KILLER



Every year, around
7 MILLION DEATHS
are due to exposure
from both outdoor
and household air
pollution.

Air pollution is a major environmental risk to health. By reducing air pollution levels, countries can reduce:



Stroke

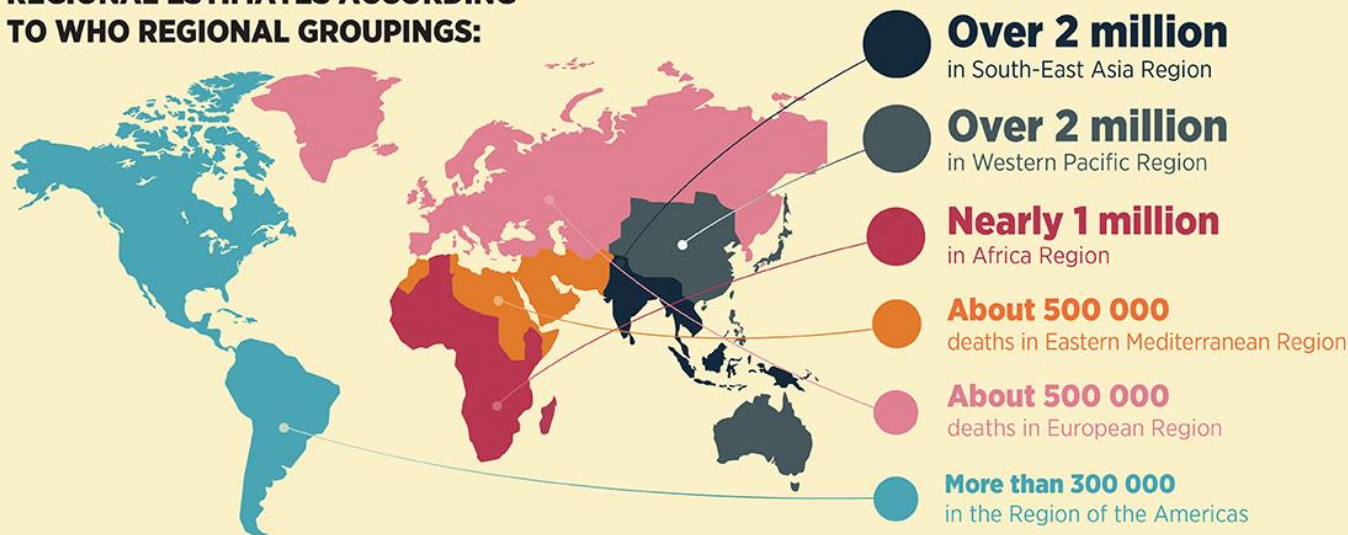


**Heart
disease**




**Lung cancer, and
both chronic and acute
respiratory diseases,
including asthma**

REGIONAL ESTIMATES ACCORDING TO WHO REGIONAL GROUPINGS:



SOLUTIONS





*Anything else you're
interested in is not going to
happen if you can't breathe
the air and drink the water.
Don't sit this one out. Do
something. You are by
accident of fate alive at an
absolutely critical moment
in the history of the planet.*

- Carl Sagan





“We have no room to build anything that emits CO2 emissions.”

Fathi Birol, IEA

Quelle: IEA, The Guardian, 13.11.18

How can Switzerland play a role in this equation?

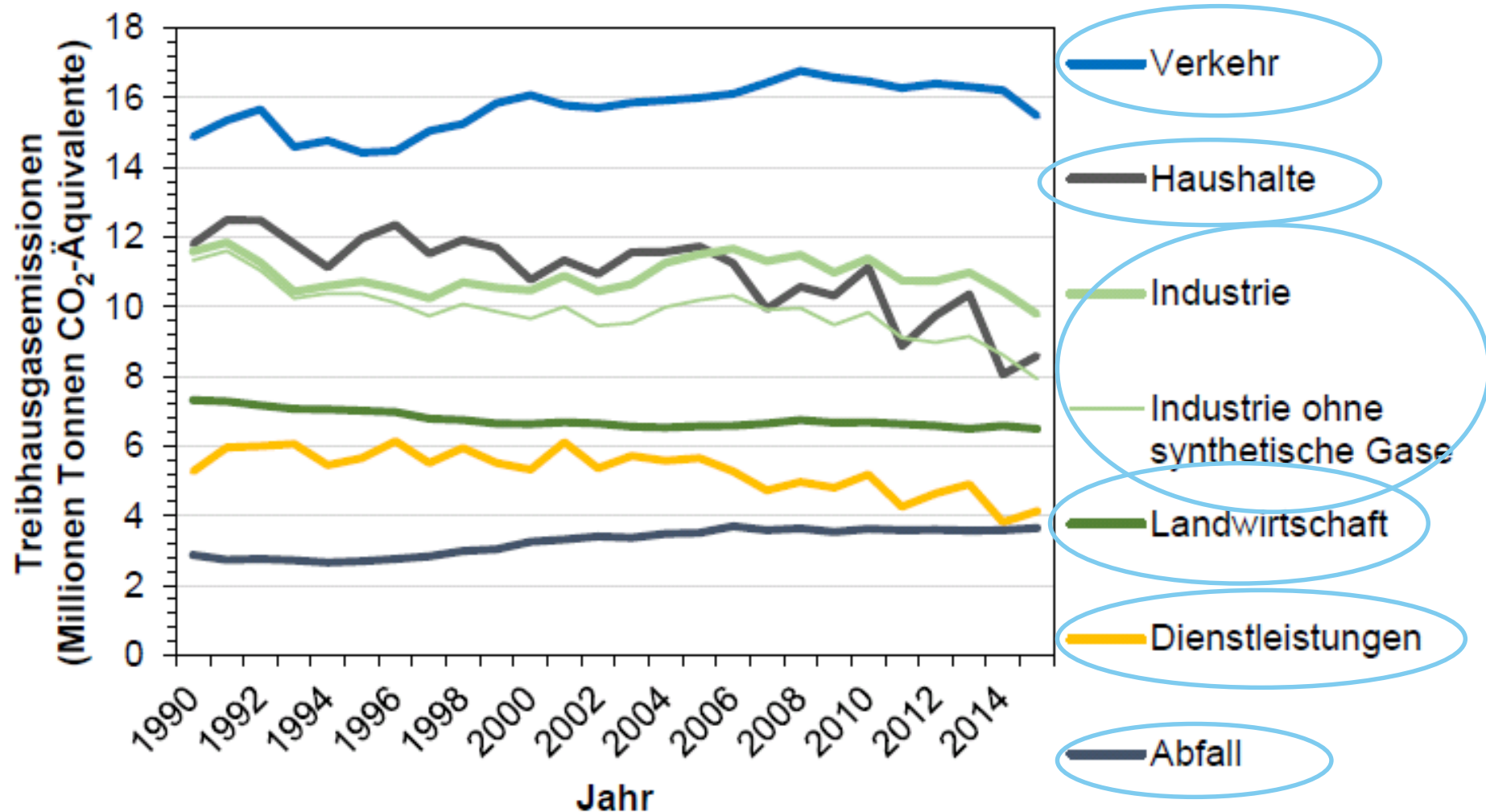
Small country, high standards of living, high tech companies and universities, high purchasing power and cash for investments, and solid governance ...

«All is fine?»

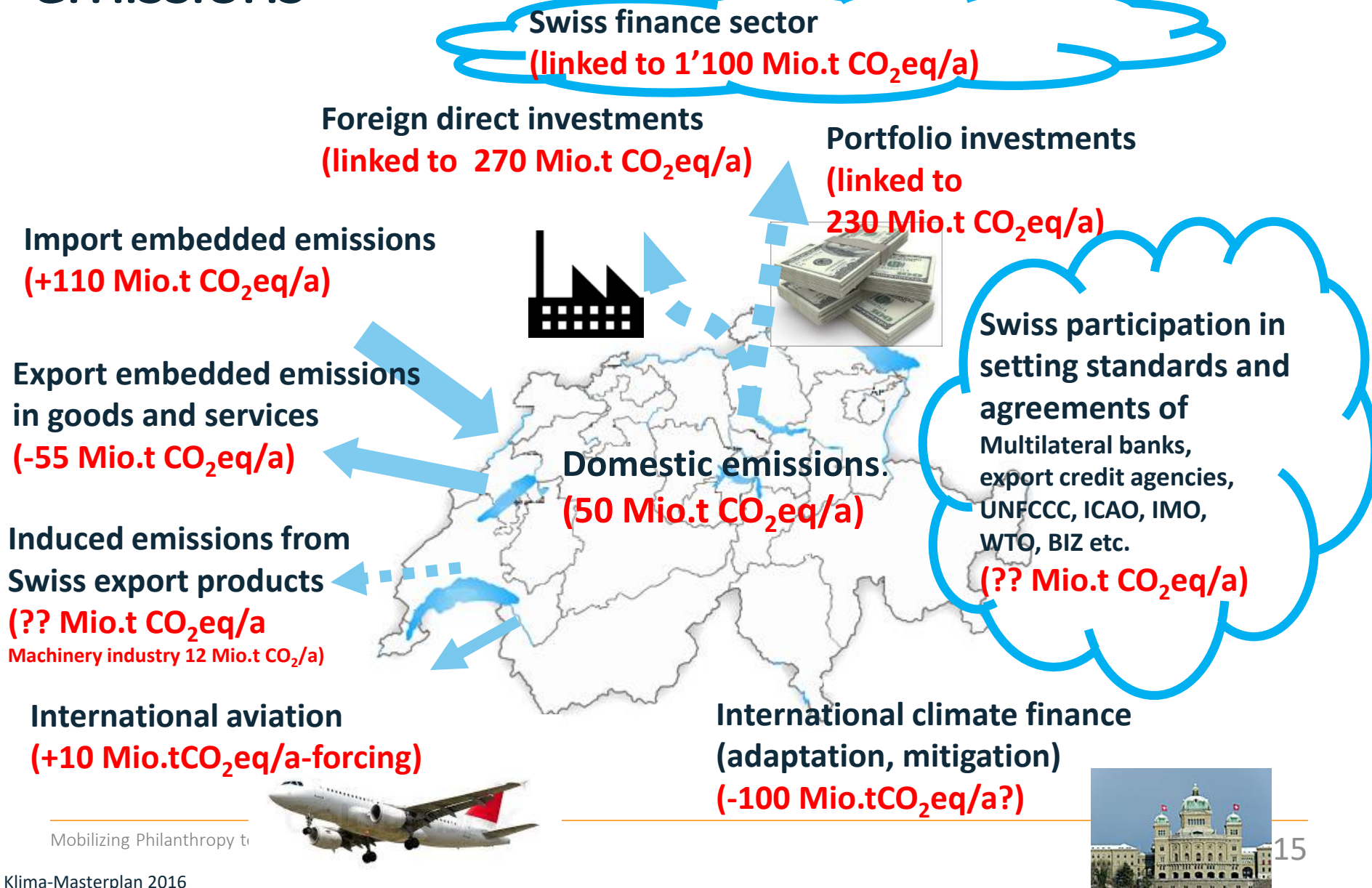
«What we do here does not matter?»

Or not...





















Sectoral emission trends follow regulation



Switzerland: Climate levers beyond domestic emissions



Top-CO₂-Emitters

Country	CO ₂ emissions (kt)
 China	10,540,000
 United States	5,334,000
 India	2,341,000
 Russia	1,766,000
 Japan	1,278,000
 Germany	767,000
International Shipping	624,000
 Iran	618,000
 South Korea	610,000
 Canada	565,000
 Brazil	501,000
 Saudi Arabia	494,000
International Aviation	492,000
 Mexico	456,000
 Indonesia	452,000
 United Kingdom	415,000
 Australia	409,000
 South Africa	392,000
 Turkey	353,000
 Italy	337,000
 France	323,000
 Poland	298,000



Rank 6



**1'100'000 kt CO₂eq
(including emissions linked with the
Swiss finance sector)**

Suggested discussion topics

Round 1: 45min

Round 2: 45min

Booth
1

Changing investment
strategies as a lever

Collaborations – on the
ground, national and
internationally

Booth
2

Circular Economy as a
solution to climate change

Open for inputs

Booth
3

The governance lever –
how does it work?

Open for inputs