

ISSUE NO. 1 // VOLUME NO. 1 // OCTOBER 2017

GREENLAND

THE UPCYCLING MAGAZINE



JUST THE BASICS

We release only electronically and the trees are loving us for that



EU Environment Strategy 2020

Even though we may do not realize it, our every day actions have a huge impact on the environment we live in, we play a very important part in improving it's quality. Due to human impact on the environment, we are losing out biodiversity and we are exhausting our resources much faster than they are being replenished. Until we realize that our natural resources are our lifeline, we can not push for actual changes to happen.

Let's take a look at the European Union's Seventh Environmental Action Programme, adopted in November 2013 and set to guide policy until 2020.

The programme lists nine priority objectives such as protecting nature, using resources in a more efficient way, creating a low carbon economy and safeguarding human health from environmental pressures. Other four objectives focus on how the European Union and its members should act to reach these goals, the last but definitely not least two of the nine objectives are horizontal and target global cooperation and a better urban environment.

Europeans can and should live well, but they need to know that at the same time they have to respect the planet's ecological limits.

The 10 commandments of a low impact life

We all live in a society where over consumption seems to be the habit. Buy, buy, throw away, buy again and so on, going in vicious circles all the time. As we all know, habits are not that easy to change, but not that difficult either. Replacing the bad habits can help a lot, with just baby steps in the beginning.

So, what about starting with recycling, reusing and reducing waste?

So, here are some ways to reduce, reuse and recycle:

1. Avoid buying the things that are overpacked, keep it simple when comes about packaging. If possible, buy bulk products, as they use less packing plus that you can save some money.

2. Donate your old clothes to the charity, sell them or do some colourful rugs out of them.

3. Have you ever went to a second hand shop? You may find some very nice and cheap things to give a new life.

4. Be inventive, reuse the stuff from your house or workplace.

5. All your unwanted goods - put them on freecycle websites or give to them charity.

6. Always try to buy only local fruits and vegetables and even choose the loose ones, from your farmer's market. This way you get better quality and help your community.



7. Be vegetarian at least 1 day per week(it takes up to 2, 500 gallons of water to produce 1 pound of beef.

8. Don't throw away plastic, paper or the glass. These can easily be recycled or reused.

9. Switch your bath to a shower! While bathing you use almost double the amount of water compared to showering.

10. Brushing your teeth? Turn off the tap while doing it.

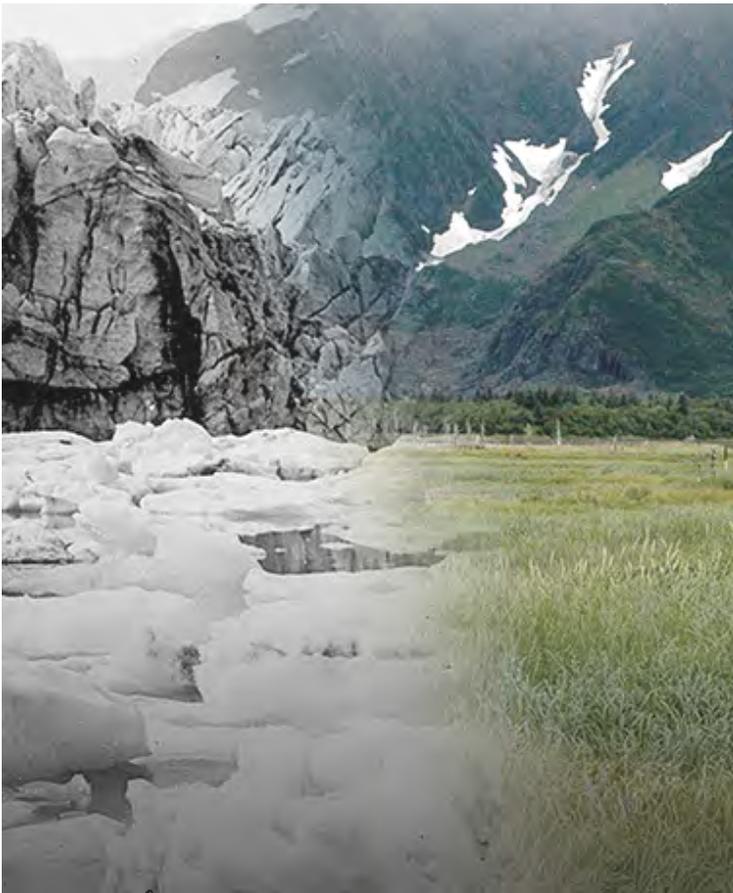
DID ANY CLIMATE POLICY CHANGE?

Climate change is a serious problem nowadays for the environment, with the possibility that in the future it could have even a bigger impact on daily life than all past wars combined. It is predicted that the icecap will melt and some extensive areas will be flooded. This means that population from these areas have to move, at a significant cost. The increase of hurricanes and tornadoes are consequences of this. But climate action has never had enough priority in the political rhetoric. Entering into force in 2005 and remaining in force since then, the Kyoto protocol introduced a new control system for greenhouse gas emissions. Countries adopting the protocol committed to reduce their emissions by 5% between 2008 and 2012.

Flexibility mechanisms such as emissions trading -i.e. carbon market- to reduce global emissions as well as the clean development mechanism and joint implementation to support emissions trading were implemented.

Acknowledging that each country would make different contribution, depending on it's capacity, the idea for the nationally appropriate mitigation actions- which specifies the efforts countries would make to reduce greenhouse gas emissions- was introduced in the 2007 Bali conference

A consensus was reached at the 2009 Copenhagen conference, setting a target of not more than a 2° C increase, through the ongoing joint efforts by countries to reduce emissions.





EDITOR'S PICK

WHERE ARE WE IN THIS CLIMATE CONUNDRUM?

Human activity is related directly to the climate change. Our modern civilization makes uncontrollable exploitation of the nature. Huge forest areas are destroyed in order to create urban facilities. The outcome of this is the depletion of natural resources as well as the reduction of oxygen in the atmosphere. Moreover, industrialization with the industrial waste cause huge consequences to climate change. Human activities are also responsible for almost all of the increase of greenhouse gases. Greenhouse gas emissions are from fossil fuels, electricity, heat and transportation. Thus, human activity has to be change in order to protect our environment and save our world as immediately as possible.