

Towards a more environmentally sustainable Wikimedia Movement

Lukas Mezger, Bodhisattwa

Wikimania 2021



An aerial photograph of a forest fire. The fire is spreading through a dense forest of evergreen trees. Thick white smoke is rising from the fire, partially obscuring the trees. The sky is filled with a hazy, orange-brown glow from the fire. A white rectangular box is overlaid on the top left of the image, containing text.

The New York Times

A Hotter Future Is Certain, Climate Panel Warns. But How Hot Is Up to Us.

Some devastating impacts of global warming are now unavoidable, a major new scientific report finds. But there is still a short window to stop things from getting even worse.

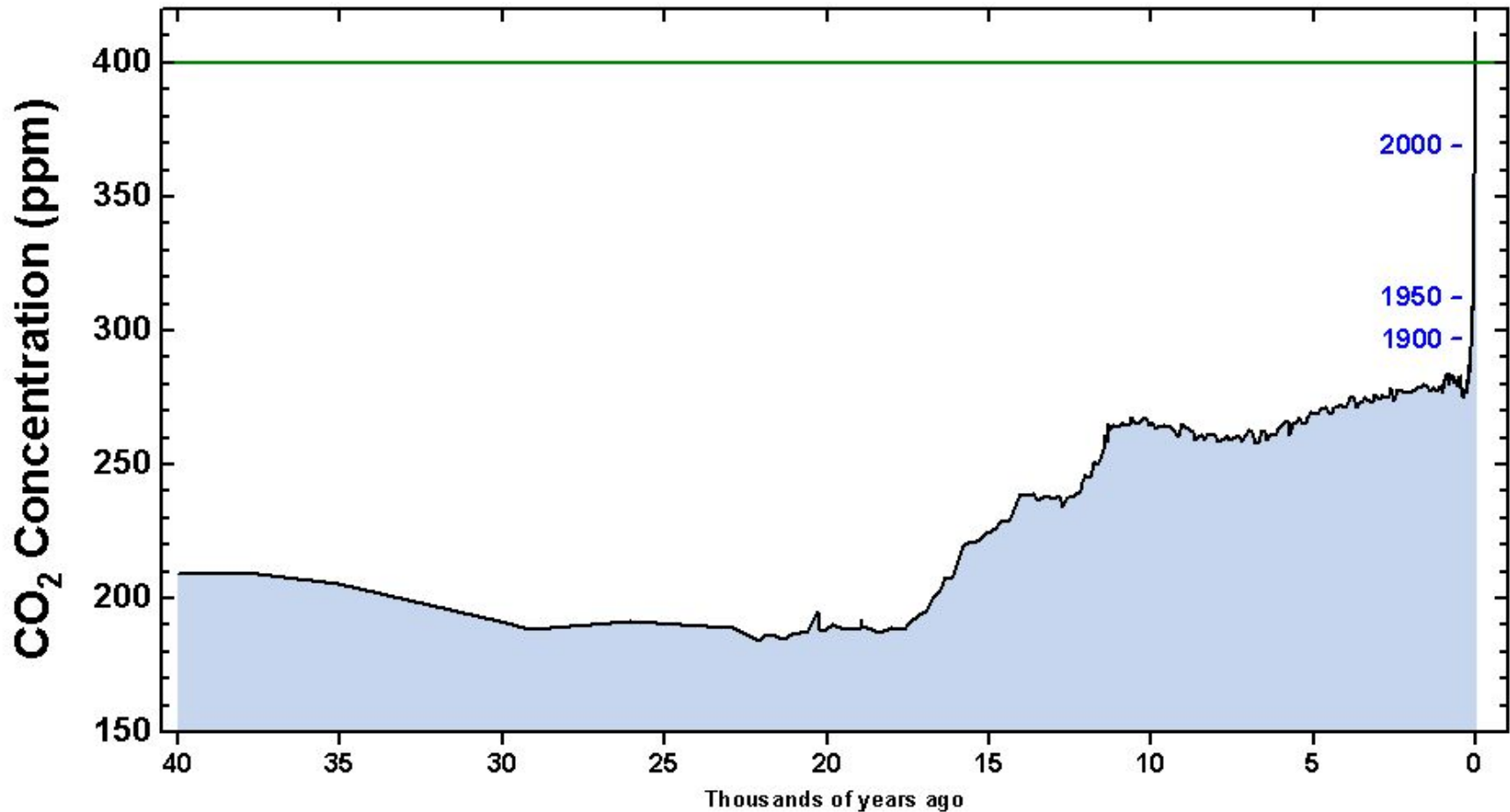


जागरण



भारत के ये शहर 2100 तक 3 फीट समुद्री जल में समा सकते हैं-
नासा ने पेश की रिपोर्ट





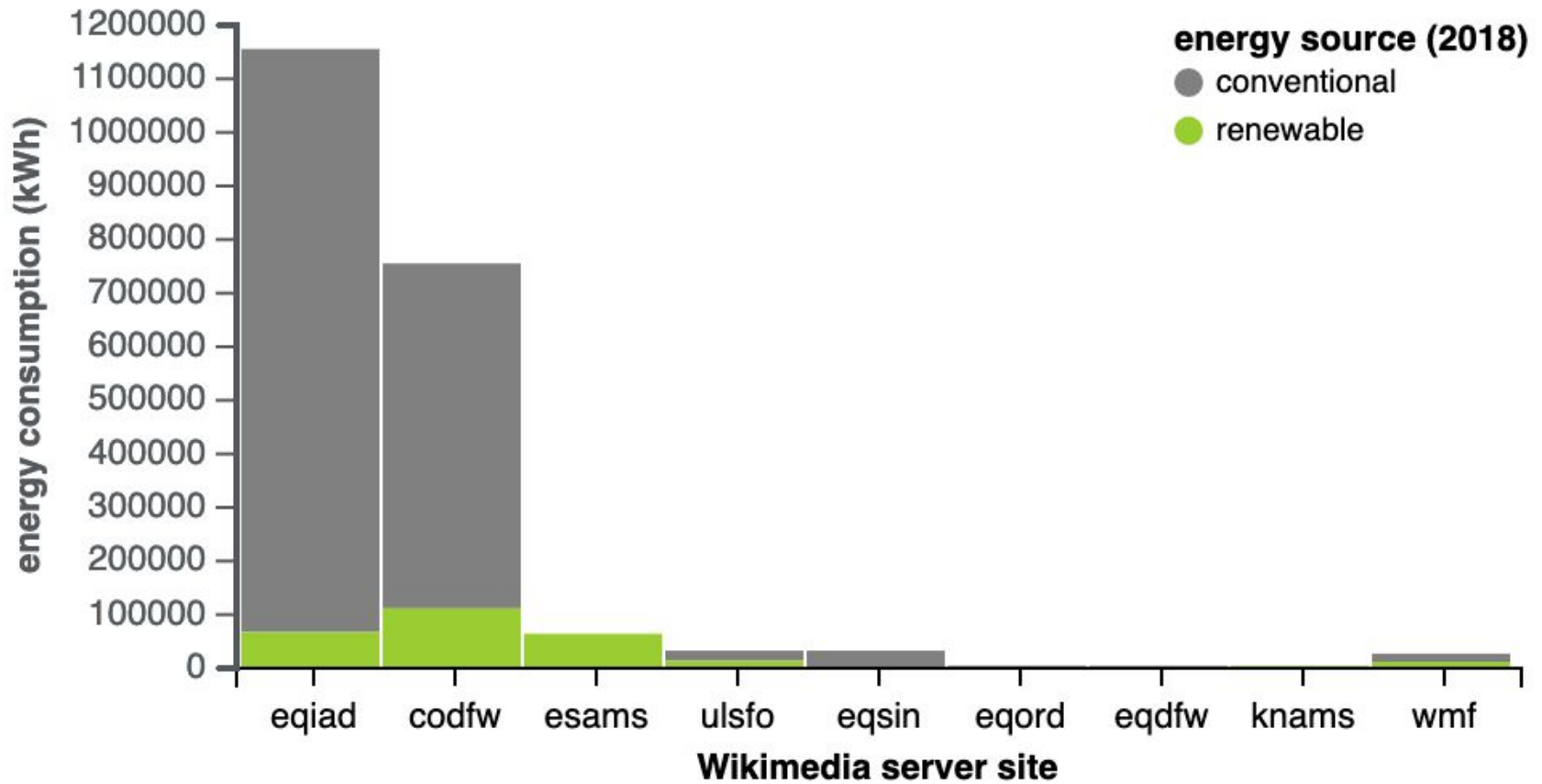
**Life on our planet is dying.
We must act now.**



And we are part of the problem.



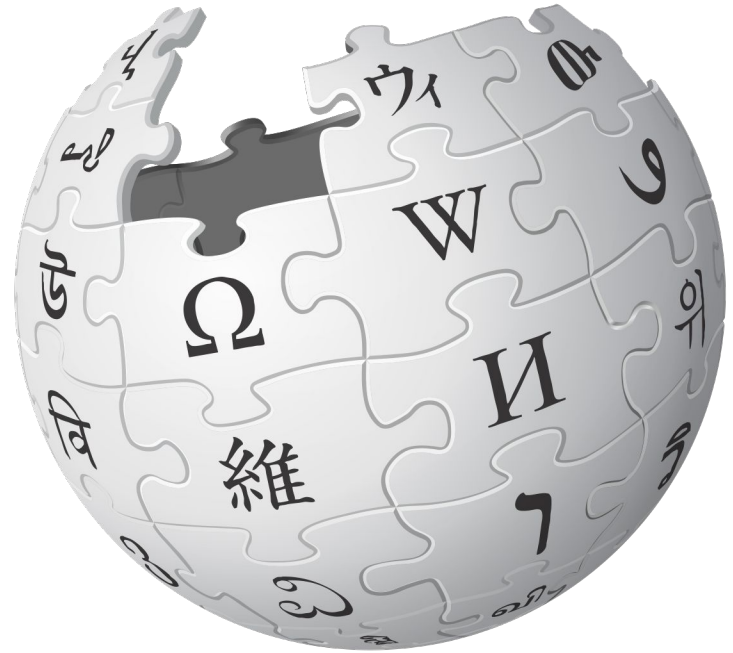
Wikimedia data centre power sources



**But we are also
part of the solution.**



**We have a
powerful
brand.**



**And we are a
movement
that can make
great things happen.**





WIKI
SDGs



The Community is covering the scientific reality of a climate crisis.

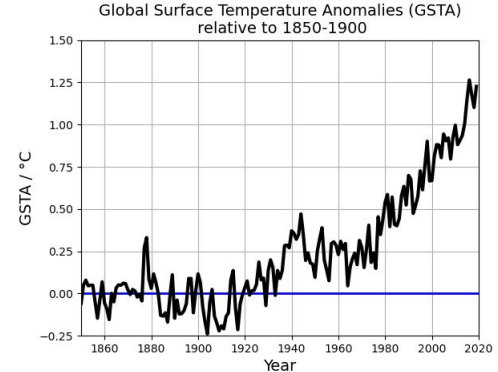


تقرير التقييم السادس للجنة الدولية للتغيرات المناخية

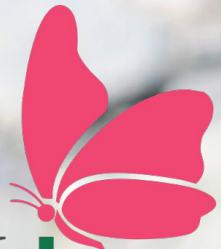
من ويكيبيديا، الموسوعة الحرة

تقرير التقييم السادس (AR6) من الفريق الحكومي الدولي المعني بتغير المناخ (IPCC) التابع للأمم المتحدة، هو التقرير السادس في سلسلة من التقارير تهدف إلى تقييم المعلومات العلمية والتقنية والاجتماعية والاقتصادية المتعلقة بتغير المناخ. ساهم عالمًا في هذا التقرير النهائي.^[1]

نشرت مجموعة العمل 1 *The Physical Science Basis of Climate Change* الأساس العلمي الفيزيائي لتغير المناخ) في 9 أغسطس 2021، والذي ذكر إنه إذا جرى تخفيض انبعاثات غازات الاحتباس الحراري إلى النصف بحلول عام 2030 لتصل إلى صافي الصفر بحلول عام 2050، فيمكن إيقاف ظاهرة الاحتباس الحراري.^[2] اعتمد مؤلفو التقرير البالغ عددهم 234^[3] على أكثر من 14000 ورقة علمية ثم وافقت عليها 195 حكومة.^[4] صيغ الملخص الخاص بصانعي السياسات من قبل العلماء وجرت الموافقة عليه سطرًا بسطرًا من قبل الحكومات خلال الأيام الخمسة التي سبقت 6 أغسطس 2021.^[3]







WIKI **loves**
butterfly



**So let's reduce
the environmental impact
of the Wikimedia Movement.**





“[W]e will also align our practices to support the environmental sustainability of our planet.”

Movement Strategy Recommendation #1.8, May 2020





Abbad (he/him)



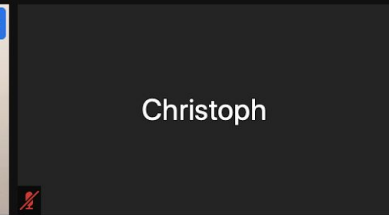
Mehrdad (he/him)



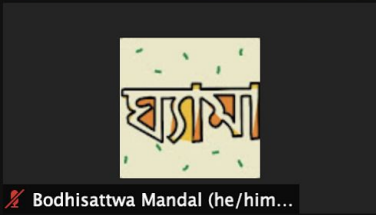
deb tankersley (she/her)



DrMel Ganus (z/zer)



Christoph



Bodhisattwa Mandal (he/him...)



Ming



Alex Stinson



Revital Poleg



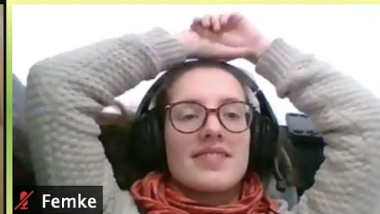
Ryan Merkley (he/him)



Ben Vershbow (he/him)



Phoebe Ayers



Femke



Lukas Mezger



Lydia Hamilton (she-her)



(silent) Butch Bustria (he/him)



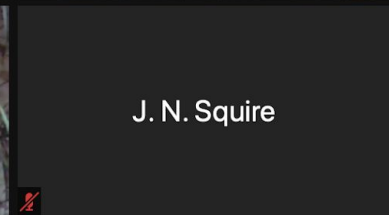
Agustín Peña



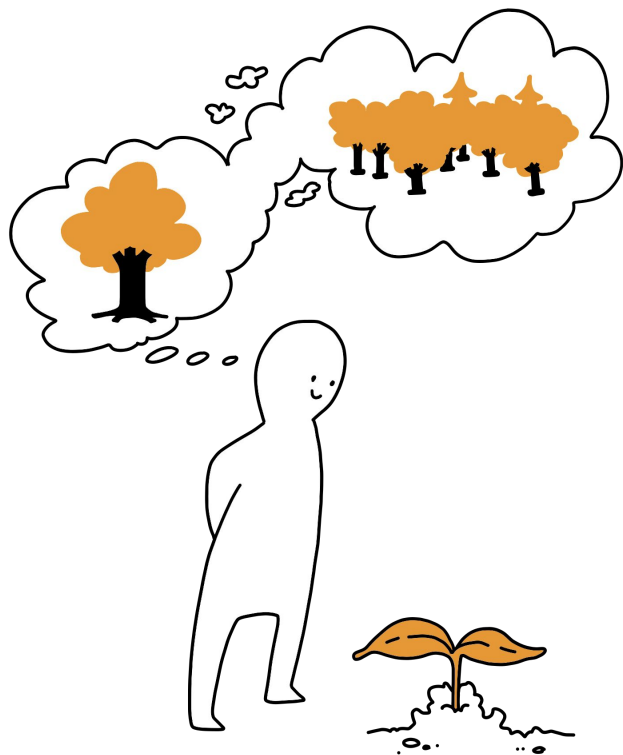
Marajozkee



Blech



J. N. Squire



- A **carbon-neutral Wikimedia movement** by 2030: moving to carbon-neutral data centers, providing infrastructure for virtual meetings
- Provide reliable and accessible **information about the climate crisis**: identify content gaps and create partnerships to close them

Movement strategy implementation discussion, 7 February 2021



Introducing the Wikimedia Affiliates Environmental Sustainability Covenant



Wikimedia Affiliates Environmental Sustainability Covenant

The undersigned Wikimedia affiliates,

- Recognising the urgency of the climate crisis caused by anthropogenic global warming,
- Affirming that the Wikimedia Movement shares the global responsibility to limit climate change through drastic measures to reduce carbon emissions,
- Seeking to align the Wikimedia Movement with the goals of the [2016 Paris Agreement](#),
- Recognising that, in the spirit of the principle of climate justice, the more privileged must help carry the burden otherwise disproportionately borne by those less privileged and those experiencing the harshest effects of climate change (Most Affected People and Areas),
- Implementing the movement strategy recommendation "[Increase the Sustainability of Our Movement](#)", specifically the prioritised initiative no. 8, which calls on the entire Wikimedia Movement to "align our practices to support the environmental sustainability of our planet",
- In the spirit of the movement strategy recommendation "Evaluate, Iterate, and Adapt",
- Following the example set by the board of trustees of the Wikimedia Foundation in its 2017 [resolution](#) to reduce its environmental impact,
- Recognising the broad community support for climate action evidenced by the [Wikimedia Sustainability Initiative](#),
- Considering that the carbon footprint of the Wikimedia Movement is [predominantly](#) caused by flights taken by WMF and affiliate staff, representatives, and community members,
- Considering the role of the Wikimedia Movement allowing it to set an example for the ecosystem of free knowledge and the greater non-profit sector,

Agree as follows:

1. Affiliates commit to reducing their carbon footprint through a variety of measures, including but not limited to:

- drastically limiting the number of kerosene-based flights taken by affiliate staff and representatives and community members, through measures such as
 - caps for flights taken on behalf of the affiliate,
 - increased technical and organisational support for remote events,
 - travel policies that discourage flights over other means of transport and that encourage the use of public transportation, and/or
 - travel policies that require compensation for the environmental cost of air travel,
- switching to renewable energy for their electricity consumption, where possible,
- divesting their financial investments from carbon-intensive industries,
- when engaging in carbon offset programmes, supporting only the planting of native trees in uninhabited areas and not using offsets as an 'excuse' for their carbon emissions,
- implementing other practices listed below.

Affiliates related to Most Affected People and Areas shall only have limited responsibilities in this regard, and shall receive support from other affiliates to meet them.

2. Affiliates call on other Wikimedia Movement entities, including and especially the Wikimedia Foundation, to follow their example, specifically concerning the sustainable operation of the Wikimedia Foundation's data centres.
3. Affiliates commit to supporting initiatives aimed at improving the coverage of the climate crisis on Wikimedia projects.
4. Affiliates commit to regularly (at least yearly) sharing their experiences adhering to this covenant to inspire each other and others inside and outside of the Wikimedia Movement.

The undersigned Wikimedia affiliates,

- Recognising
- Affirming t
- Seeking to
- Recognising
- Implementing the movement strategy recommendation “Increase the Sustainability of Our Movement”, specifically the prioritised initiative no. 8, which calls on the entire Wikimedia Movement to “align o
- In the spiri
- Following the example set by the board of trustees of the Wikimedia Foundation in its 2017 resolution to reduce its environmental impact,
- Recognising
- Considering
- Considering the role of the Wikimedia Movement allowing it to set an example for the ecosystem of free knowledge and the greater non-profit sector.

Wikimedia Affiliates Environmental Sustainability Covenant

Affiliates commit to:

- reducing their carbon footprints
- improving sustainability topics on Wikimedia projects
- sharing stories and encouraging others

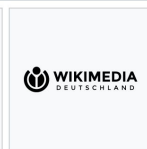
Agree as follows:

1. Affiliate

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Affiliates relat

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4. Affiliates commit to regularly (at least yearly) sharing their experiences adhering to this covenant to inspire each other and others inside and outside of the Wikimedia Movement.



ask your affiliate to join!