

# An update from the Sustainability Initiative

Wikimeet India 2021



SUSTAINABILITY  
INITIATIVE

# Our planet is dying.<sup>1</sup>



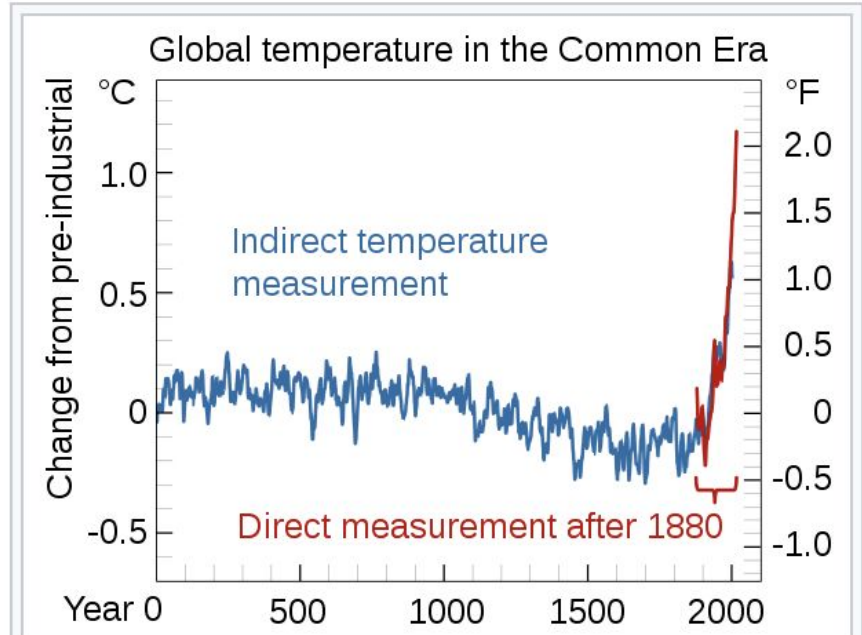
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# Just look it up on Wikipedia.



## Climate change

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Global surface temperature reconstruction over the last millennia using proxy data from tree rings, corals, and ice cores in blue.<sup>[19]</sup> Observational data is from 1880 to 2019.<sup>[20]</sup>

And we are  
part of the problem.

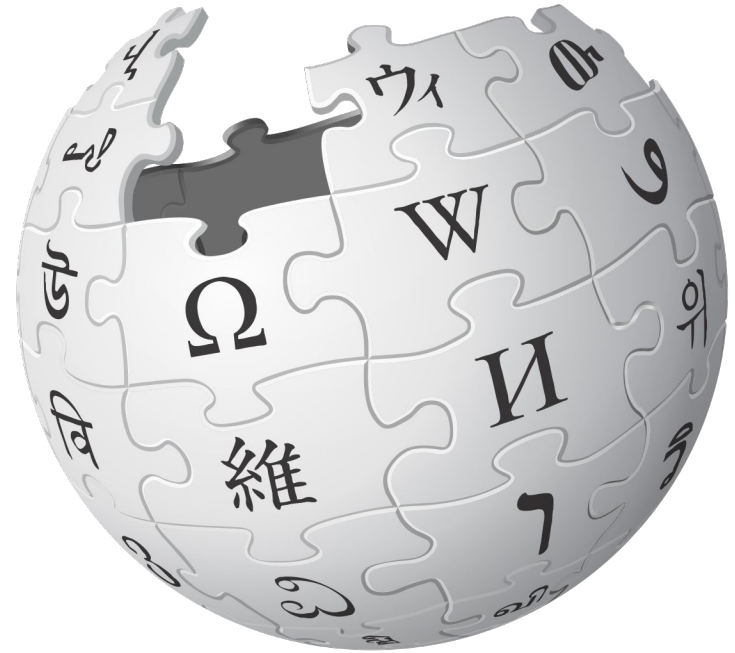


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**But we are also  
part of the solution.**



**We have a  
powerful  
brand.**



**SUSTAINABILITY  
INITIATIVE**

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



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



**SUSTAINABILITY  
INITIATIVE**



# What can we do?

- Make a green energy commitment
- Use green energy for Wikipedia's data centres
- Encourage remote participation at conferences
- Adopt a sustainable investment strategy



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# Resolution:Environmental Impact

← Resolutions

Resolution: Environmental Impact

Errors? →

This was approved on February 24, 2017 by the Board of Trustees.

The Wikimedia Foundation is committed to seeking ways to reduce the impact of our activities on the environment. We aim to always act responsibly and sustainably as possible, including favoring renewable energy for our operations. We believe that a long-term commitment to sustainability is an essential component of our work towards the [Wikimedia mission](#) and [vision](#).

To this end, the Wikimedia Foundation makes the following commitments:

1. We will seek to minimize our overall impact on the environment;
2. We will consider sustainability as an important part of decisions around servers, operations, travel, offices, and other procurement;
3. We will use green energy where it is available and financially prudent; and
4. Starting in 2018, we will include an environmental impact statement in our annual plan.

## Approve

Christophe Henner (Chair), Maria Sefidari (Vice Chair), Dariusz Jemielniak, Kelly Battles, Jimmy Wales, Nataliia Tymkiv, and Alice Wiegand

Categories: [Resolutions](#) | [English](#) | [Resolutions passed in 2017](#)

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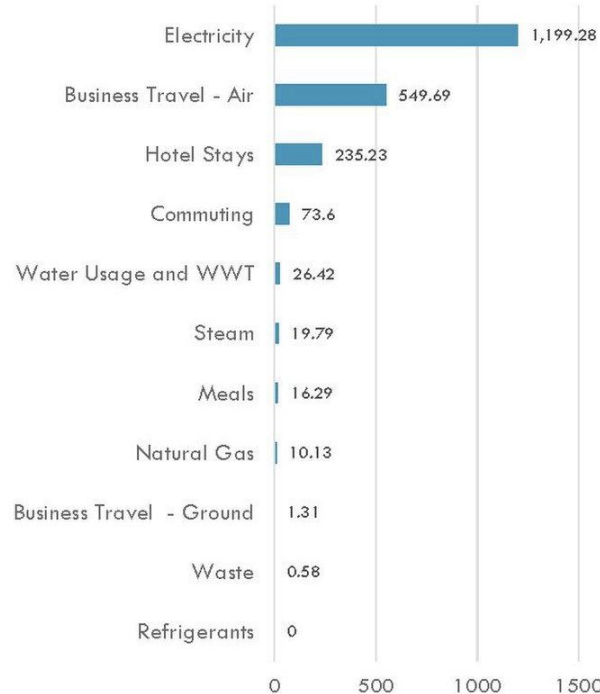
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Advisory Board

# WIKIMEDIA FOUNDATION SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT AND CARBON FOOTPRINT

Final Results  
June 7, 2019

Activity	tCO2-eq
Refrigerants	0
Waste	0.58
Business Travel - Ground	1.31
Natural Gas	10.13
Meals	16.29
Steam	19.79
Water Usage and WWT	26.42
Commuting	73.6
Hotel Stays	235.23
Business Travel - Air	549.69
Electricity	1,199.28



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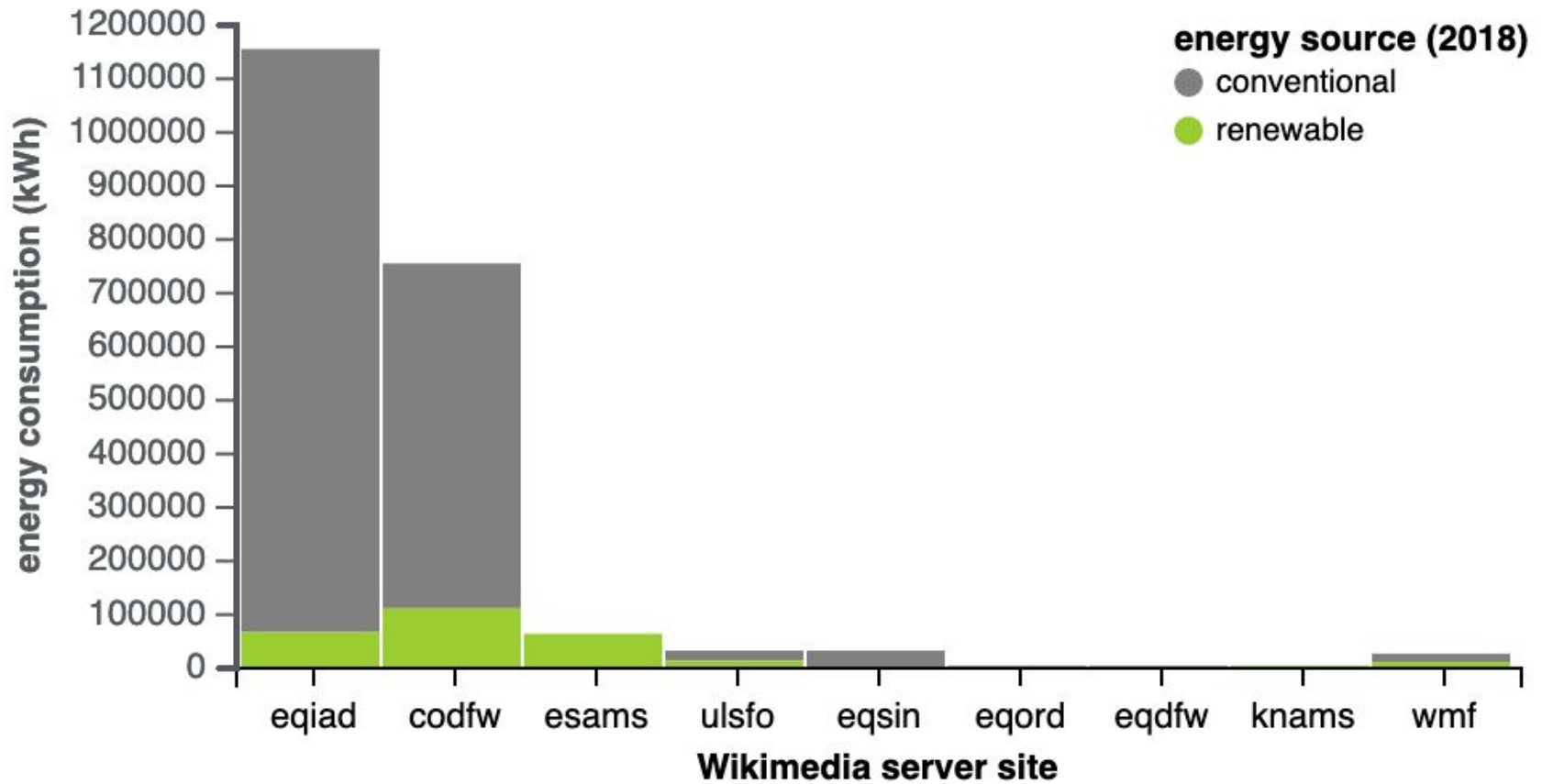


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# Wikimedia data centre power sources



*“identify carbon-reduction opportunities”*

WMF Strategic Sustainability Roadmap, December 2019

*“[Reducing the amount of carbon-powered electricity] is difficult to do and we are looking into several options for a new data center that uses sustainable energy”*

--User:DTankersley (WMF), 25 November 2020





# What can we do?

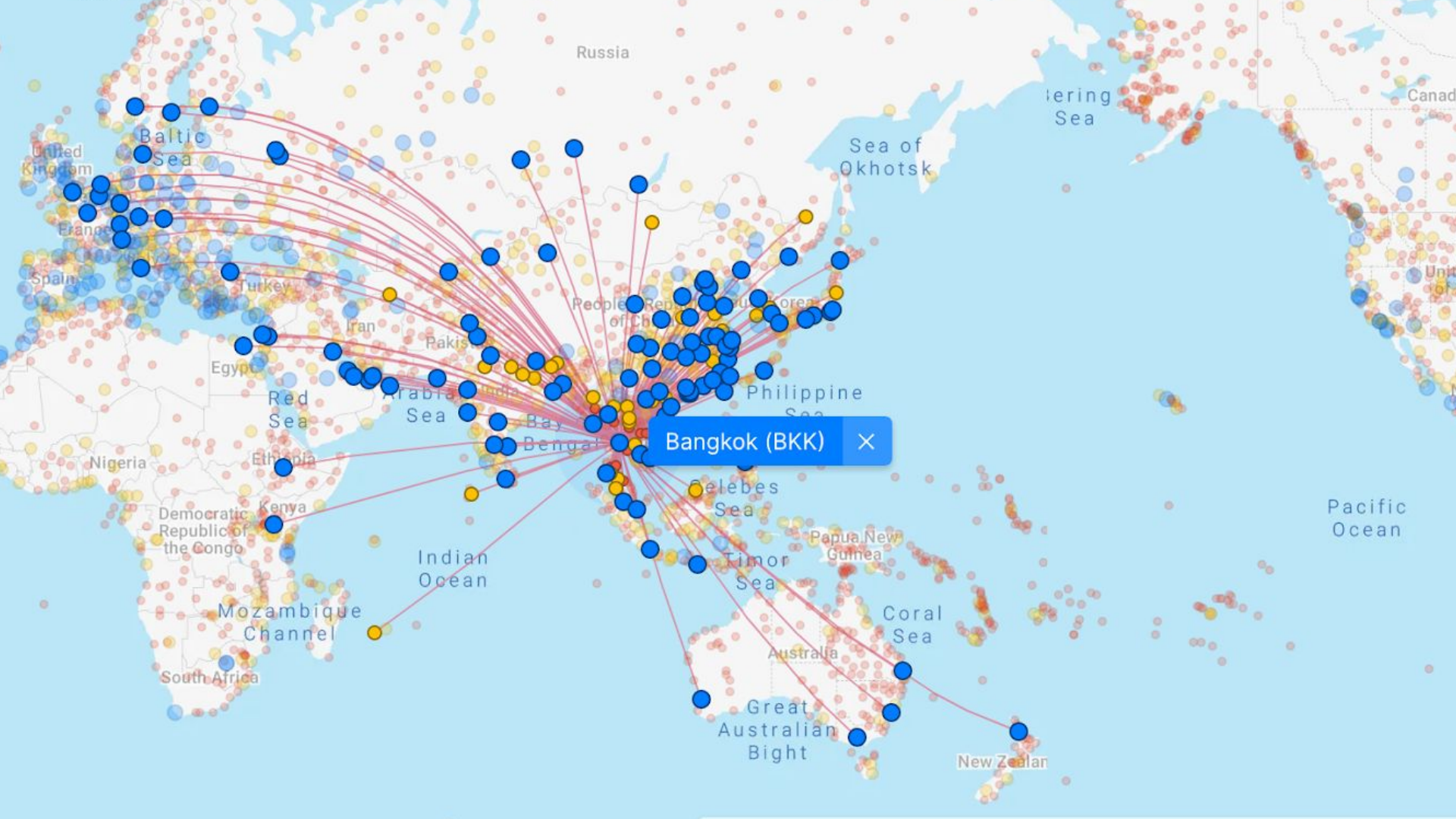
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*“develop guidelines for remote [event] participation,  
including [...] virtual participation”*

WMF Strategic Sustainability Roadmap, December 2019

*“We can't really restrict travel of staff  
(other than in times of a global pandemic)”*

--User:DTankersley (WMF), 25 November 2020



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*“The endowment is 100% invested in funds that have been carefully screened for [...] environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors.”*

--User:DTankersley (WMF), 25 November 2020

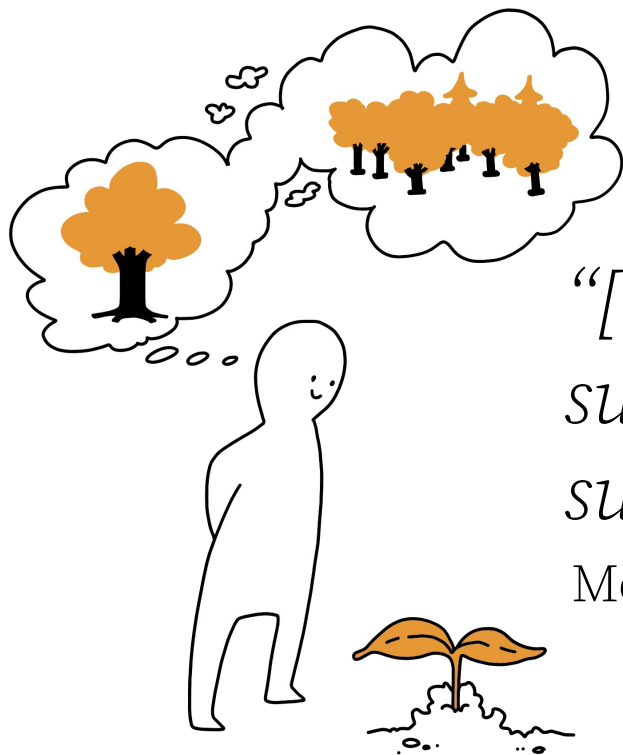


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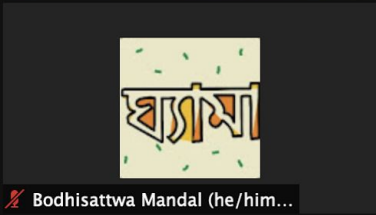
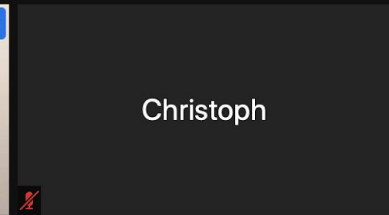


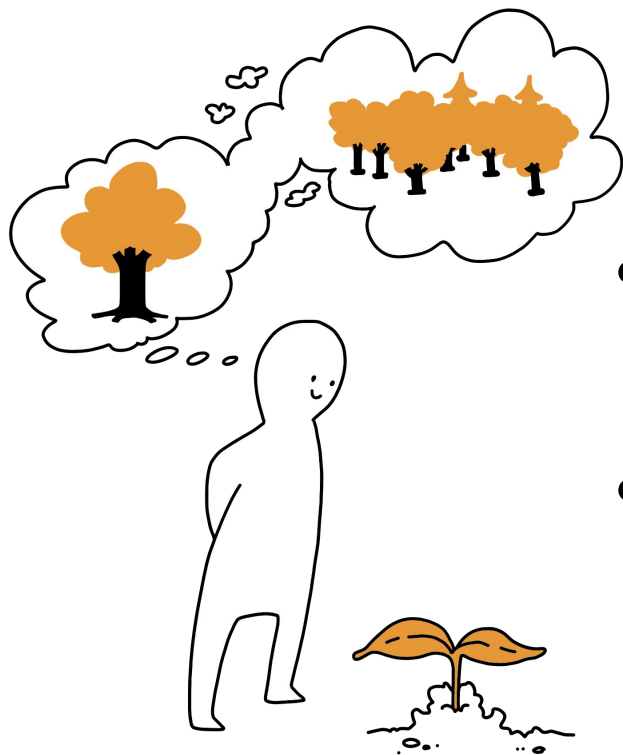


*“[W]e will also align our practices to support the environmental sustainability of our planet.”*

Movement Strategy Recommendation #1.8, May 2020







- 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*





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# Effects of climate change on South Asia

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



This article needs to be **updated**. Please update this article to reflect recent events or newly available information. *(May 2019)*

The **effects of climate change on South Asia** are significant, and are expected to intensify as global temperatures rise due to [climate change](#). In the 2017 edition of [Germanwatch's](#) *Climate Risk Index*, two countries in [South Asia](#) — [Bangladesh](#) and [Pakistan](#) — ranked sixth and seventh respectively as the countries most affected by climate change in the period from 1996 to 2015, while another — India — ranked fourth among the list of countries most affected by climate change in 2015.<sup>[1]</sup> The region, home to 1.947 billion people,<sup>[2]</sup> is one of the most vulnerable regions globally to a number of direct and indirect effects of climate change, including [sea level rise](#), cyclonic activity, and changes in [ambient temperature](#) and precipitation patterns. Ongoing sea level rise has already submerged several low-lying islands in the [Sundarbans](#) region, displacing thousands of people.

Among the countries of [South Asia](#), [Bangladesh](#) is likely to be the worst affected by climate change. This is owing to a combination of geographical factors, such as its flat, low-lying, and delta-exposed [topography](#),<sup>[3]</sup> and socio-economic factors, including its high [population density](#), levels of [poverty](#), and dependence on agriculture.<sup>[4]</sup> Its sea level, temperature, and evaporation are increasing, and the changes in precipitation and cross-boundary river flows are already beginning to cause drainage congestion. There is a reduction in freshwater availability, disturbance of morphological processes, and a higher intensity of flooding.

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# An update from the Sustainability Initiative

Wikimeet India 2021



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# Thank you.

**Sign the call to action:**

[[Sustainability Initiative]]

**Get involved:**

[[Strategy/Wikimedia movement/2018-20/  
Transition/Discuss/Cluster G]]



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Jasmina El Bouamraoui and Karabo Poppy Moletsane, CC0