

# Explore More · Climate Justice

We've organized some further materials by topic, so you can easily follow up on particular issues or events of interest from this unit.

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## BACKGROUND

- The UN's **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change** (IPCC) recently released [its 5th set of reports](#) on the science, the impact, and mitigation strategies around climate change. Thousands of scientists and 195 member countries are involved preparing these reports which are based on the most recent scientific, technological, and socio-economic data.
  - Check out renowned climate scientist [James Hansen's TED talk](#) about his work on climate change.
  - Calculate your **carbon footprint** using one of these [carbon calculators](#). There are calculators for younger folks, as well as for individuals and households around the world. What can you do to lower your carbon footprint?
  - What's the data on **carbon footprints of different countries** around the world? These maps allow you to [explore and compare national footprints](#) based on carbon, fossil energy, land and water.
  - The US National Academies offers a short video to explain the **difference** between ["climate" and "weather"](#).
  - Discovery's quick [slide show summarizes](#) the expected **10 worst effects of global warming** based on observation and scientific modeling.
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## GREENHOUSE GASES

- What do you know about **greenhouse gases**? USA Today's [article](#) and illustrations on the subject will bring you up to speed quickly.
- Check out the [Worldmapper site](#) for lots of data about the world; see especially the **map** for per capita [greenhouse gas emissions](#).

- The US **Environmental Protection Agency** page provides a [wealth of information about greenhouse gases](#); if you are in the US, be sure to check out the state-by-state info tool for emissions from individual facilities.
  - **National Geographic** has a great interactive map on what your country would look like if all the ice melted. [Take a look at where you live.](#)
  - The documentary [Extreme Ice](#) follows photographer James Balog as he works to produce compelling **artistic visualizations** of ice loss. There is also a [TED talk](#) about his efforts.
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## IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

- [Key international treaties on climate change](#) are **The United Nations Framework Convention** and **The Kyoto Protocol** that legally binds developed countries to emission reduction targets. The Kyoto Protocol commitments were extended through 2020 via the December 2013 Doha Amendment. Other important documents and dates can be accessed [here too](#).
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## WHAT DO WE OWE TO FUTURE GENERATIONS?

- In this podcast from an Oxford University seminar, **Henry Shue**, Professor of Politics and International Relations, talks about "[Climate Failure and Future Generations](#)" and **Simon Caney**, Professor in Political Theory, "[Climate Change and Intergenerational Justice](#)". (The audio takes a few seconds to start.)
- **Mary Robinson**, a former President of Ireland and a former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, argues the climate change ought to be seen as a matter of **justice**. Her [Foundation for Climate Justice](#) provides a host of resources and a platform for education and advocacy for and with the world's most vulnerable people who will bear the impact of climate change despite their lack of causal responsibility.
- Climate change and its mitigation often affects the **most vulnerable** people of the world; education and discussion of strategies to overcome this fact were the focus of a recent public symposium, "[Tackling Global Injustice in a World of Climate Change: Punishing the Innocent](#)".
- Rather than arguing backward from the bad consequences that result from the use of energy resources, philosopher and policy guy **Benjamin Hale** argues that we should develop good moral arguments for the right use and distribution of remaining energy resources, based in part

on recognizing what we owe to others who will be affected by the way energy resources are used or shared. His article is pretty philosophical, but he does provide [context and background for the argument](#) he is making.[This article is made available for a limited time on behalf of *The Monist* by the Philosophy Documentation Center. We thank them for their generous cooperation.]

- Read Madison Power's review of John Broome's book on climate change [here](#).
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## CLIMATE CHANGE MIGHT AFFECT WHOLE POPULATIONS

- The **UN High Commissioner for Refugees** offers current news, video, and text documents on environmental refugees and [climate change](#).
  - Listen to the **Hague Debate** on human displacement and climate change, "[When Home Gets Too Hot](#)".
  - Resources from **Oxford University's Refugee Studies Centre** explore [forced migration due to climate change](#).
  - The **World Bank** reports on what a temperature increase of 4 degrees Celsius will mean for different regions in its report, "[Turn Down the Heat](#)".
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## HOW DOES WHAT I EAT AFFECT CLIMATE CHANGE?

- Every year 30% of global food production is lost after harvest or wasted by institutional or individual consumers. This [short video](#) from the UN's **Food and Agriculture Organization** highlights the [impact food production and wastage](#) has on global climate change.
  - The **World Bank** is focused on [climate smart agriculture](#).
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## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Want to learn more?** There are a wealth of resources available online; here are links to just a few important organizations working on climate change to get you started:

- [United Nations Climate Change resources](#) and [United Nations Environmental Programme](#)
- [World Bank on Climate Change](#)

- [European Commission on Climate Action](#)
- [World Resources Institute Climate resources](#)
- [US National Academy of Sciences Climate resources](#)