

gcca

global campaign for climate action



ensuring a strong and just Copenhagen Agreement

>> what?

The Global Campaign for Climate Action (GCCA) is a bold, new initiative involving a growing number of national and global organizations in support of a single goal: to mobilize civil society and to galvanize public opinion in support of transformational change and rapid action to save the planet from dangerous levels of climate change. We envision a future where the earth's climate has stabilized at levels safe for the thriving of humanity and protection of ecosystems, and where a transformed, low-carbon economy has averted the threat of catastrophic climate change and helped end the injustices of global poverty and inequality. A historic shift has begun in the structure of the global economy and the earth's climate. Our actions now will determine its direction.

>> who?

GCCA emerged from conversations involving internationally respected campaigners and advocates from environmental and development groups. It has since grown to include diverse organizations such as the Union of Concerned Scientists, Pew Environment Group, Oxfam International, Greenpeace International, Christian Aid, World Council of Churches, World Wildlife Fund, 350, Avaaz, E3G, Global Humanitarian Forum, Global Call to Action against Poverty, and leading NGOs in over thirty nations. The GCCA is supported by a small international staff with a Secretariat based in Montreal (Canada).



>> why?

The climate crisis is reaching its peak. Recent scientific studies indicate that the pace of climate change is exceeding the worst case scenarios produced by the IPCC and that we have only a short time to prevent catastrophic impacts from global warming. At the February, 2009 meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, new studies sparked increased concern. Christopher Field, founding director of the Carnegie Institution's Department of Global Ecology at Stanford University and a member of the IPCC said that "We are basically looking now at a future climate that's beyond anything we've considered seriously in climate model simulations." Climate change is affecting every region of the world with the poorest nations being hit first and hardest. Places like Bangladesh, Sudan, and Tuvalu are being worst hit. Entire Pacific atolls are being forced into discussions about abandoning their homelands while having contributed an infinitesimal amount to global warming emissions. Against this backdrop, officials representing 192 countries will meet throughout 2009 in preparation for climate treaty negotiations in Copenhagen at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 15) scheduled for December. This treaty must establish new mechanisms and binding targets for the reduction of global warming emissions in order to minimize the risks for the most vulnerable amongst us. Despite the current economic recession we have a unique opportunity to build the foundations for a prosperous low carbon future.



The Copenhagen Conference is a pivotal moment in the global fight against climate change. In 2007 at COP 13, the UNFCCC adopted the Bali Road Map committing governments to reaching agreement for a “secure climate future” by COP 15 in Copenhagen. Non-governmental organizations must continue to play a major role in demanding a comprehensive, ambitious and binding agreement. The stakes have never been higher. The complexity of the agreement, the scientific imperative, and the economic context in which the treaty will be negotiated will require a substantially more ambitious and coordinated response than civil society has mustered to date.

>> objectives

To demonstrate irresistible public demand for a fair and strong post 2012 UN agreement in Copenhagen through a series of coordinated public actions at key moments in 2009;

To identify, empower and amplify the human voices most profoundly affected by climate change and bring them directly to the decision makers;

To communicate the urgent need for action and the opportunity and hope associated with a Copenhagen agreement through a sophisticated communications campaign;

To utilize existing and new online tools to engage millions of citizens in online and offline actions focused on Copenhagen;

To connect the intelligence gathering and sophisticated advocacy provided by numerous NGOS in order to target and maximize the collective impact of groups on every continent.

GCCA will create the winning global conditions for a fair and ambitious Copenhagen agreement. In the coming months, it will:

- Engage in major actions in Bonn, New York and Copenhagen, timed to coincide with high-level gatherings of Copenhagen decision-makers and Heads of State. Events will include inside briefings and advocacy as well as outside mobilization to demonstrate a public mandate for an effective and fair Copenhagen agreement.
- Facilitate a series of local, national and global events to amplify the testimony of communities and individuals already affected by climate change directly to the attention of Heads of State, Copenhagen negotiators, and the media.
- Join together with a common symbol and communications effort designed to communicate and leverage the power of millions of concerned citizens in the North and in the South.
- Based on sound political strategies generate public pressure within key countries to influence important decisions taken at the national and regional levels.



Seizing this Historic Moment:

We are at a critical moment in the fight against climate change. GCCA has the power to make a huge difference. It needs your help. For information on joining the campaign, contact:

Jean-Marc Mangin
 Executive Director
 Global Campaign for Climate Action
 555 René Lévesque Blvd West, Suite 500
 Montreal, Canada, H2Z 1B1
 jean-marc.mangin@tcktck.org
<http://www.gc-ca.org>
 Tel: +1 514-287-9704

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