

DUAL CITIZEN

How Can We Realize a 2020s Green Breakthrough?

2023 Survey Results

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1. Which region do you consider to be your primary residence?

North America	48%
Europe	22%
Africa	17%
Asia	8%
Latin America & Caribbean	3%
Oceania	2%

2. How would you describe the sector within which you are employed?

Private Sector	36%
Non-Profit/NGO	19%
Academia	17%
International Organization	14%
Government	9%
Other	5%

3. Which phrase best captures the state of the sustainability movement and global efforts to address the climate crisis in 2023?

Governments, business leaders, and investors are merely paying lip service to sustainability issues	28%
The climate crisis is communicating itself through weather extremes etc. Focus needs to be on proven solutions	18%
Only a bottom-up, people-driven revolution will change anything	16%
We are making incremental progress and this is the only way forward	15%
The fossil fuel lobby and other entrenched interests have captured control of the narrative	10%
Other	13%

4. Different actors influence debate and action around reorienting the global economy to a more sustainable pathway. Which of the following has been the most effective in realizing progress over the past decade:

Sub-national entities like cities, provinces/states and companies	23%
Grassroots NGOs and local communities	22%
National governments and regulations they enact	18%
Investors putting green criteria on companies as a condition for investment	17%
Intergovernmental bodies like the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP)	12%
Other	8%

5. Looking forward to the 2020s, which actors will play the most central role in reorienting the global economy to a more sustainable pathway?

Sub-national entities like cities, provinces/states and companies	25%
National governments and regulations they enact	23%
Investors putting green criteria on companies as a condition for investment	23%
Grassroots NGOs and local communities	13%
Intergovernmental bodies like the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP)	8%
Other	8%

6. The recent COP revealed limited new ambition to reduce country emissions, even though most countries are not on a 1.5C compatible trajectory. Given we are at the midpoint now between the Paris Climate Agreement (2015) & the target date of many Paris pledges (2030), why hasn't the process worked better?

Developed countries aren't stepping up with sufficient ambition and financing	37%
It was never binding in the first place so countries aren't taking it seriously	27%
Governments are limited in how much they can really transform domestic energy systems	13%
It is working well just in areas like loss & damage as opposed to reducing emissions	8%
Developing countries were given too much leeway in the timing of their peak emissions	6%
Other	9%

7. Looking forward to the 2020s, what new approach might make the COP process more effective?

Push for parallel negotiations for big emitters (i.e. China, United States, European Union, India)	31%
Establish an international climate tribunal or similar compliance mechanism	27%
Publish country progress towards their Paris NDC targets as part of the COP	13%
Reduce the presence of attendees representing fossil fuel interests	13%
Separate the government and civil society sections into two different conferences	7%
Other	9%

8. Global awareness of the climate crisis has increased significantly since the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement. Yet GHG emissions, environmental degradation and fossil fuel-driven pollution continue to worsen in this same period. This disconnect can best be described by:

Continued global population & economic growth are incompatible w/reducing emissions & protecting the environment	30%
The climate crisis poses a collective action dilemma that will be difficult to resolve	22%
Citizens care about climate change but they have more immediate political priorities	17%
Misinformation and social media have distorted the facts and politicized the issue	14%
Technology still needs to catch up to the scale of the problem	7%
Other	10%

9. Company "net-zero" targets have become commonplace since the Paris Climate Agreement. Yet most companies don't show year-on-year progress towards them and the definition of net-zero varies. The best approach to resolving this contradiction is:

Stakeholder pressure from employees, customers, and shareholders	29%
Standardized reporting	19%
Satellite-based data from third parties to hold companies accountable	18%
Net-zero targets are a stall tactic as they are mostly far in the future (i.e. 2040, 2050)	18%
Better data to track scope 1, 2, 3 emissions	6%
Other	10%

10. In the 2020s, renewable energy sources are overtaking coal as the primary source of electricity in many countries, yet carbon emissions continue to rise. The best approach to resolving this is:

Significantly reduce or eliminate fossil fuel subsidies	47%
Policy certainty favoring renewables	21%
Sub-national entities (cities, states/provinces, companies) can best resolve this problem	11%
Language at COP to commit countries to phasing out fossil fuels	10%
Grassroots activism targeting the negative externalities associated with fossil fuels	3%
Other	8%

11. Capital inflow to so-called “ESG investments” has surged since the Paris Climate Agreement. Yet fossil fuel-related financing has not decreased concurrently. The best approach to resolve this contradiction is:

Policies that disincentivize fossil fuel investments	55%
ESG ratings focusing on the climate impact of companies rather than climate risk related to their business	19%
Finance leaders taking a moral stand against fossil fuel investment, regardless of the consequences	13%
ESG should be more narrowly defined to focus only on environmental factors directly linked to GHG emissions	6%
Journalists and activists continuing to expose this contradiction to the public	2%
Other	5%

12. The COP15 UN Biodiversity Summit reaffirmed the ambition to conserve 30% of the world’s land and ocean by 2030. Yet biodiversity is declining at the fastest rate in human history. The best approach to reversing this trend is:

Mobilizing more financing for developing countries to preserve biodiversity and ecosystems	33%
Push for companies to better account for biodiversity and ecosystem health in their operations and supply chains	26%
Focus more on the interconnection between climate change and biodiversity	13%
Grassroots activism highlighting biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation	11%
Better leverage satellite-based imagery to track key biodiversity metrics	4%
Other	13%