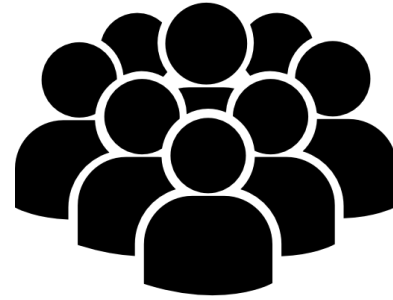


# SMART AND FAST WAYS TO SAVE ENERGY AND CUT EMISSIONS

Italy-2023

# WHAT CAN WE DO?



Our world is slowly dying, and we are the only ones capable of restoring it to its original state.

The main damages to our planet come from non-renewable energies and massive amounts of greenhouse gases: the way we live, how we eat and the choices we make every day contribute to the direction in which the state of Earth is going.

We have the right to live on a healthy planet, so we must live in a sustainable way to prevent further damages to our home.

The most important things we can focus on are: an increasing use of renewable energies, our individual lifestyle and our carbon footprint.





# WHAT IS THE "CARBON FOOTPRINT"?

The *carbon footprint* is a certain amount of gaseous emissions that are relevant to climate change and associated with human production or consumption activities.



In 2014, the global average annual carbon footprint per person was about 5 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>

Calculating the carbon footprint of businesses or entire States is complicated, but it is useful to realize how much humans are destroying the planet to pursue their interests.

Similarly, knowing our personal carbon footprint or the one of our household, is essential to understand where is needed to work more to reduce our environmental impact.



## WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?



# HOW CAN WE REDUCE OURS?



It is often believed that it is the State or the industries that have to change first, but in reality it is us too, and by using little tricks we can change our impact on nature.

You can start by calculating your impact using the carbon footprint, thanks to the small steps shown on this site:

**[CALCULATE YOUR IMPACT HERE](#)**





## WHY SHOULD WE SAVE ENERGY?






On the environmental side, saving energy reduces air and water pollution and helps maintaining natural resources, which with time, creates a healthier environment for people to live everywhere.

At the same time, on the economic side, efficiency saves money reducing individual bills and creates jobs for people.




But how do Italy and Spain create and save energy?

# DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ITALY AND SPAIN

## ITALY

1. Hydroelectric power (12,8%); 
  2. Solar power 
  3. Bioenergy
  4. Wind energy 
- } 16,3 %

## SPAIN

1. Wind energy (23,21%); 
2. Hydroelectric power (10,99%); 
3. Solar power (9,69%) 

# SOME TIPS WE CAN ADOPT



Good practices to adopt in everyday life to reduce greenhouse gases:

- Reduce air travel: ✈️ (airplanes are the most polluting means of transport and emit more CO<sub>2</sub> than trains and cars)
- Prefer electric or hybrid cars 🚗 : less emissions for our daily trips.
- The separate waste collection. ♻️
- Reduce meat consumption 🍖 and prefer a plant-rich diet.
- Choose foods at Km0, they are tastier and good for the environment.
- Don't waste energy: turn off electrical appliances completely when they are not in use, and use low energy light bulbs. 💡
- Adopt the philosophy of the three "R": *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle*.



The Kyoto Protocol was an international agreement to fight global warming. The countries that have adhered to it were committed to reduce their greenhouse gases emissions.

The goal for each country was to reduce its emissions until they were the same or lower than the ones in 1990. To do this, each country had to implement a system to monitor greenhouse gases emissions. Every year, this system and the measures taken to reduce emissions had to be updated.



The Kyoto Protocol was adopted on 11 December 1997, but it entered into force on 16 February 2005. It ended on 31/12/2012.

# THE "KYOTO PROTOCOL"

# GREENHOUSE GASES



Greenhouse gases are gases in Earth's atmosphere that trap heat. The surface of the Earth absorbs a part of the sun's energy, and the rest is reflected back into space.

Natural processes ensure that the amount of incoming and outgoing energy is equal, keeping the planet's temperature stable. However, human activity is resulting in the increased emission of these gases (GHGs) which remain trapped in the atmosphere. This energy returns to the surface, where it is reabsorbed.

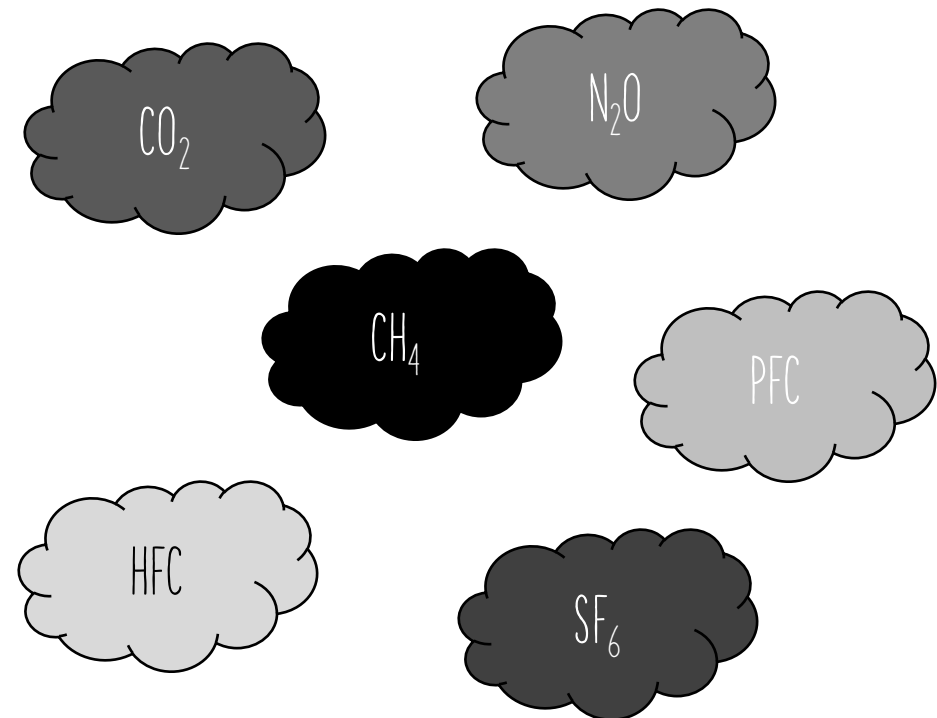
Because more energy enters than exits the planet, surface temperature increases. This change has long-term, adverse effects on climate, and affects a myriad of natural systems.

Effects include increases in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events - like flooding, droughts, wildfires and hurricanes - that affect millions of people and causes trillions in economic losses.

The climate-altering gases (GHGs – GreenHouse Gases) that we were trying to reduce were (but still are):

- CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide), produced by the use of fossil fuels in all energy and industrial activities as well as in transport;
- CH<sub>4</sub> (methane), produced by waste dumps, livestock farms and rice crops;
- N<sub>2</sub>O (nitrous oxide), produced in the agricultural sector and in chemical industries;
- HFC (hydrofluorocarbons), used in chemical and manufacturing industries;
- PFC (perfluorocarbons), used in chemical and manufacturing industries;
- SF<sub>6</sub> (sulphur hexafluoride), used in chemical and manufacturing industries.

# WHAT GASES HAD TO BE REDUCED, ACCORDING TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL?

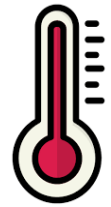


# THE "PARIS AGREEMENT"

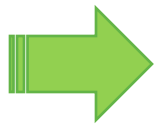
After the end of the Kyoto Protocol, another agreement was instituted: the Paris Agreement was adopted in 2015 and ratified in 2016.

Differences with the Kyoto Protocol:

- Not legally binding (flexible)
- Goal: keeping global warming below 2°C
- Communication within countries



How is it going?



CLIMATE CHANGE INDEX







# AT THIS POINT, WHAT IS OUR ROLE?

We have talked about the many agreements that big States established, but how can we, individual human beings, make a difference?

**“Anyone who thinks that they are too small to make a difference has never tried to fall asleep with a mosquito in the room.”**

**— The Dalai Lama**

We have to start from ourselves to save the world, no action is too small or insignificant for change.

So here are 10 simple rules to follow to reduce your impact on climate-change:

1. Reduce the use of disposable.
2. Leave the car at home when possible.
3. Turn off the heating/cooling.
4. Buy less clothes and of higher quality.
5. Eat less industrial meat.
6. Trow every waste in its place.
7. Use more echo products.
8. Replace the replaceable with environment-friendly options.
9. Don't buy what you don't need.
10. Inform yourself!



HOW CAN WE  
HELP?



**TIPS TO POLLUTE LESS**