

WHAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED AT COP-21?

An Insider Perspective on the 2015 UN Climate Conference

11/30-12/12/2015, Paris, France

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OCB 2016 Summer Workshop—07/27/2016





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Pre-COP21 voices and agreements



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UN Framework Convention on Climate Change--UNFCCC

History and Structure

UNFCCC: One of 3 “Rio Conventions” adopted at 1992 Rio Earth Summit

“bound member states to act in the interests of safety even in the face of scientific uncertainty”

COP: Conference of the Parties to the Convention

COP 1: 1995 (Berlin) to COP 21: 2015 (Paris) -- with COP 22: 2016 (Morocco) in the wings

Under the umbrella of the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA)

SBSTA supports the work of the COP through the provision of timely information and advice on scientific and technological matters as they relate to the Convention or its Kyoto Protocol.

Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI)

The SBI supports the work of the COP through the assessment and review of the effective implementation of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) collaborates closely with the SBSTA



The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

The IPCC was founded in 1988 under auspices of the World Meteorological Organization and the UN Environment Programme

"...to assess on a comprehensive, objective, open and transparent basis the scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to understanding the scientific basis of risk of human-induced climate change..."

The IPCC at its forty third session in April 2016 decided to include the following products in its sixth assessment cycle:

A Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas (GHG) emission pathways (due 2018)

A Special Report on climate change and oceans and the cryosphere

Meanwhile, back in Paris...





Photo: *The New Yorker*

IceWatch-Paris: Glacial installation at Pantheon 12/2015 : Week 1





Photo H. Goldstone





Photos: J. Fenwick

IceWatch-Paris: Glacial installation at Pantheon 12/2015 : Week 2

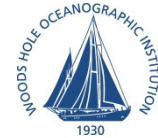




Photo H. Goldstone

IceWatch-Paris: Glacial installation at Pantheon 12/2015 : Week 2





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100s of bicycles dramatically entered Paris climate march 12 December, much red clothing, banners



© 2015 Gary Braasch/World View of Global Warming

Photo: Gary Braasch





A Message of Freedom and 100% Renewable Energy from Paris Photo by Yann Arthus-Bertrand / Spectral Q



Back at Le Bourget...



BLUE Zone: Entry for delegations and observers



The 21st Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change COP 21 – by the numbers

UNFCCC Participants	States/Orgs #	Registered
Total Parties + observer States	198	23,161
UN Secretariat units/bodies/special agencies	56	1,091
Intergovernmental organizations	71	1,226
Non-governmental organizations	1,109	7,094
Total observer organizations *	1,236	9,411
Registered media	1,366	3,704
Total participation		36,276

* WHOI is registered observer





Blue Zone: Plenary hall for Opening Day Leaders' Event 11/30/15





Blue Zone: Opening Day Leaders' Event 11/30/15: David Cameron and Prince Charles entering (top); Barak Obama (left); Angela Merkel and Vladimir Putin waiting to give speeches (right)

Photos: IISD.org





Le Bourget: On the way to the GREEN Zone and silent wind tree





Le Bourget: Entry to the GREEN Zone: Exhibitions and talks for the public





Photo: J. Fenwick

COP 21 GREEN Zone: Lauren Mullineux (WHOI) presents at an IOC, UNESCO, and Ocean-Climate Platform-sponsored side event on the impacts of climate change on the ocean and coasts.

Audience members left to right (with backs to the camera) include
 Dr. Vladimir Ryabinin, Exec. Sec. of IOC
 Dr. Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General of WMO





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UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21-CMP11

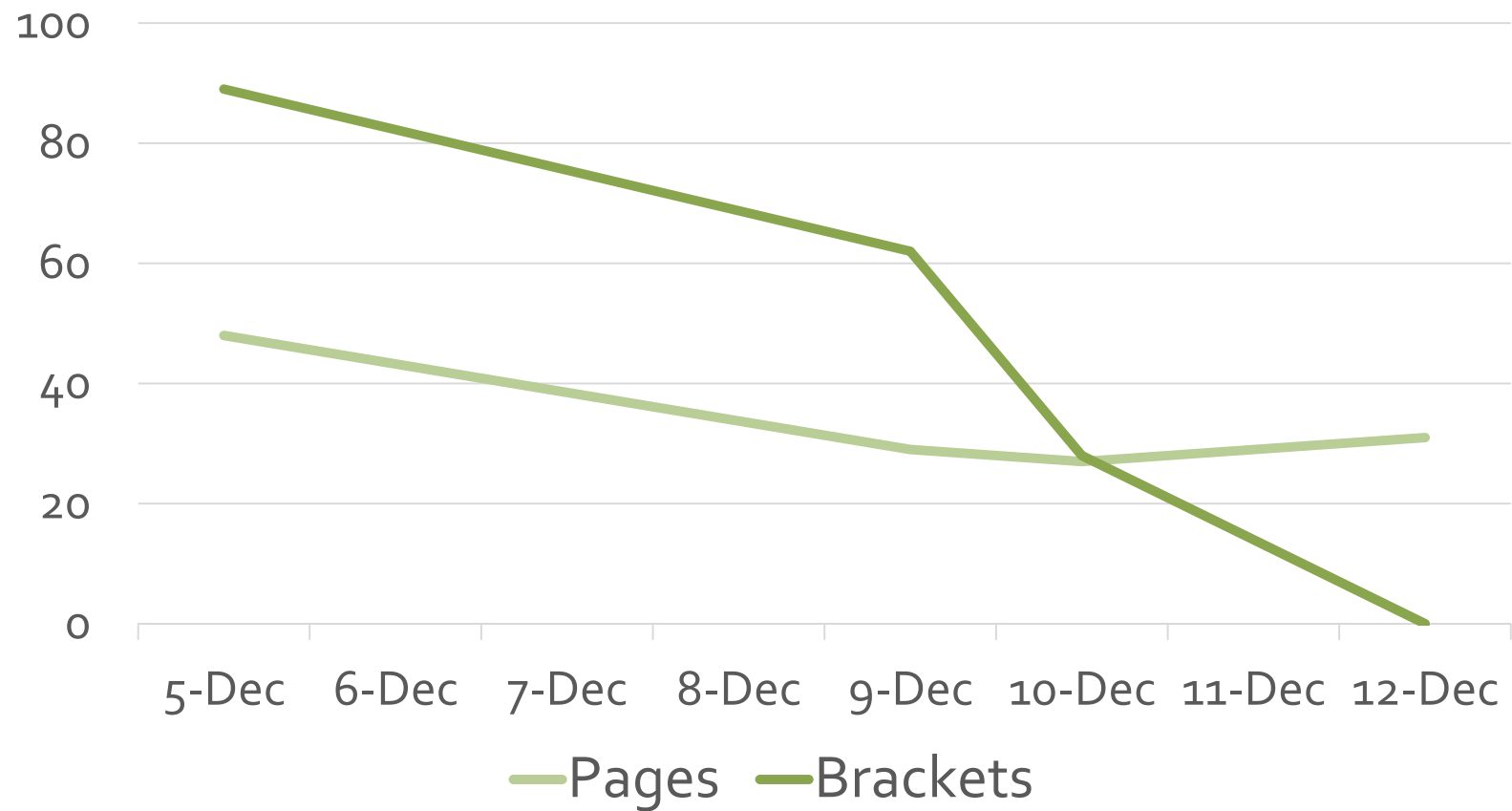






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Paris Agreement by the Numbers

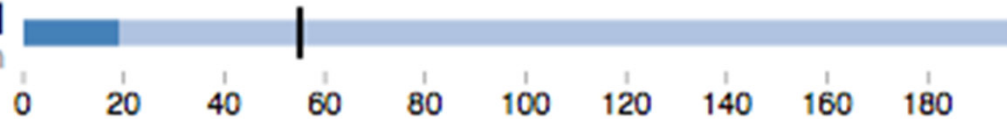
Blatantly plagiarized from
Phil Duffy (WHRC)



- 195 countries party to agreement
- 188 countries committed to emissions reductions through 2030
- 5 years – how often countries must update goals
- 2 years – how often countries must report emissions to U.N.
- 1.5C – target for maximum global warming
- 1 – number of times ‘ocean’ appears

55/55 Rule

20 Parties have ratified
of 197 Parties to the Convention



Accounting for 0.40%
of global GHG emissions



U.S. Commitments



26-28% below 2005 by 2025



\$3b to Green Climate Fund
\$800m in adaptation grants



John Holdren

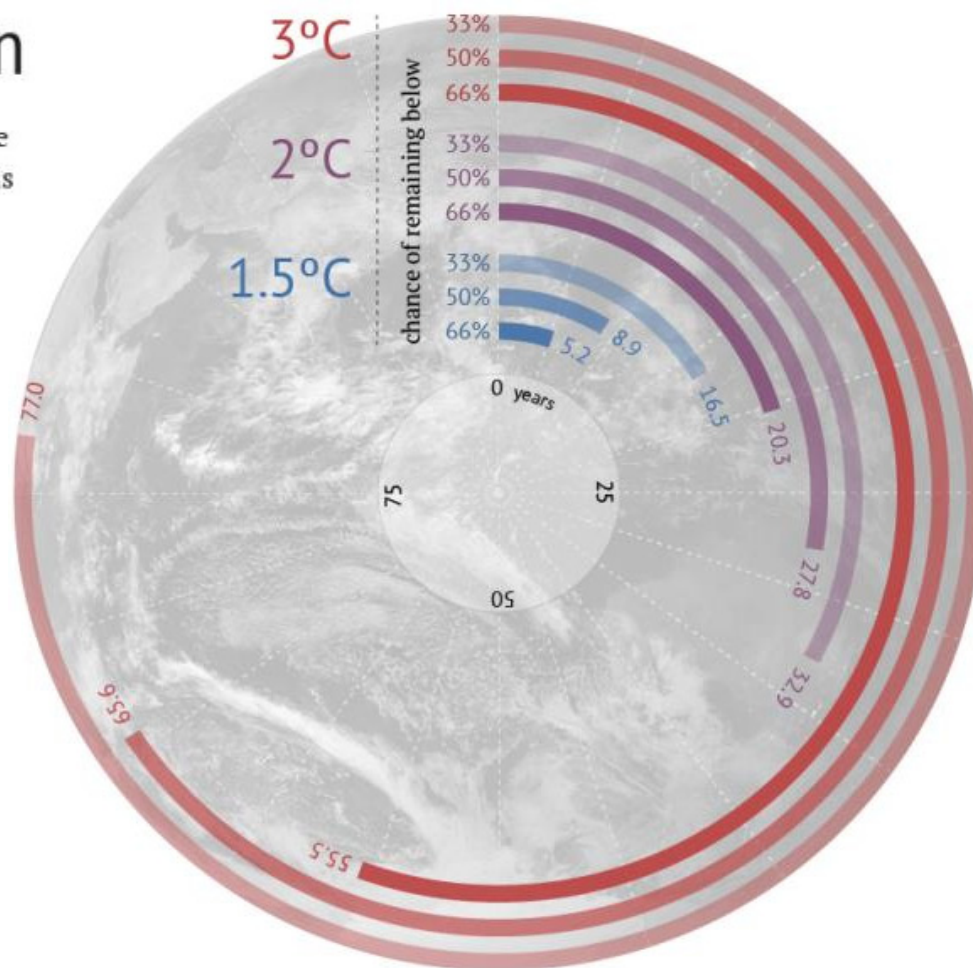
“It’s not enough. It was never meant to be. It’s an important first step.”





Carbon Countdown

How many years of current emissions would use up the IPCC's carbon budgets for different levels of warming?



CarbonBrief
CLEAR ON CLIMATE

Photo credit: NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
Stopwatch icon: T-Kot/Shutterstock.com



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Saudi Aramco CCS car

Boundary Dam CCS power plant. Photograph: SaskPowerCCS

Newlight Aircarbon chair

Recognizing the importance of the conservation and enhancement, as appropriate, of sinks and reservoirs of the greenhouse gases referred to in the Convention,

Noting the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including oceans, and the protection of biodiversity, recognized by some cultures as Mother Earth, and noting the importance for some of the concept of “climate justice”, when taking action to address climate change,







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