

# Navigating the Presidential Climate Plan Cacophony

## Webinar Logistics



Everyone should be connected via Audio Broadcast upon entering the webinar. You do not need to call in & you are automatically muted



The presentation will be recorded and posted to our web site within one week



Please submit any questions you have for the presenter in the Q& A section



If you are having trouble with any aspect of the broadcast, use the Chat section to message the Host directly

# Moderator

## **Dr. Abi Abrash Walton**

Faculty, Department of Environmental Studies

Director, Master's Programs

Director, Advocacy for Social Justice & Sustainability

Master's Concentration,

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Community Resilience

Director, Conservation Psychology Institute



## Upcoming Webinars:

Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 12:00-1:00 PM ET

***Racial Diversity in the U.S. Climate Movement: Bridging the Cultural Gap on Climate Change***

<https://conta.cc/2VO73AD>

Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 12:00-1:15 PM ET

***Weathering Change: Climate Justice & Equitable Adaptation***

<https://bit.ly/39iYYb0>

Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET

***5 Principles of Co-Designing Conservation WITH (not for) the Community***

<https://conta.cc/2VDRr2g>



**Save the Date!**

Join us **Wednesday June 10<sup>th</sup>** for the first

***Environmental  
Advocacy Symposium***

Convened by Antioch University New England  
12th Annual Association for Environmental  
Studies and Sciences Conference  
Pace University, New York City

## Presenters:



Caitlyn Hatzell



Sara Lobdell

# **Navigating the Presidential Climate Plan Cacophony**

**March 2, 2020**

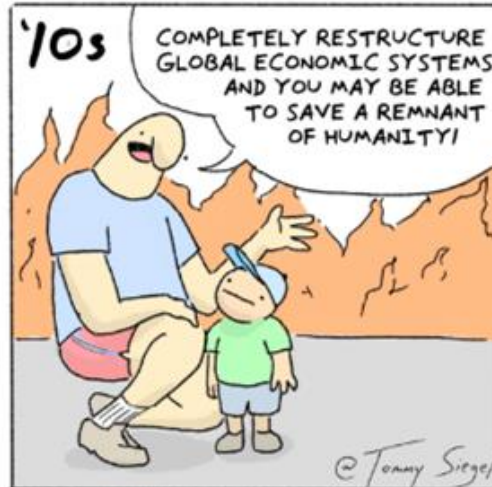
**Caitlyn Hatzell and Sara Lobdell**

# Overview

- Research Methodology
- Benchmarks Explained
  - Low and no-carbon energy production
  - Best practices for agriculture
  - Natural ecosystem restoration
  - Minimizing carbon emissions in current and future infrastructure improvements
  - Funding for climate research
  - Environmental/Climate Justice issues
- How to use the table
- Questions?



# IT'S THAT EASY!



## Climate Change

- Overwhelming issue
- Will require systemic change in the way we conduct our everyday lives
- Huge task!

Therefore-

- Next president's plan and actions are critical to keep us moving towards healthy communities and a healthy planet.

**Part of the Solution:**

# **Our Next President**

**Addresses the  
following**

**Benchmarks -->**

Year by which the plan aims to achieve net zero emissions

Candidate supports the continued use of nuclear power

Plan includes recommitting to the Paris Agreement

Plan prioritizes putting a price on carbon

Plan includes a carbon border fee adjustment

Plan ends subsidies to fossil fuel companies

Plan supports holding fossil fuel companies financially responsible

Candidate articulates how the plan will be paid for

Plan addresses transitioning workers from carbon-emitting energy sectors and promotes green jobs

Plan addresses best practices for agriculture

Plan addresses improvements in the transportation sector

Plan includes investment for public transportation

Plan addresses low and no-carbon energy production

Plan includes natural ecosystem restoration

Plan includes carbon capture

Plan rebuilds the US Environmental Protection Agency

Plan reverses rollbacks of the Clean Water Act

Plan promotes minimizing carbon emissions in current and future infrastructure improvements

Plan includes funding for climate research

Plan emphasizes Environmental/Climate Justice issues

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**Ranking system:**

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\_\_\_ : Plan does not include

x: Plan mentions with no detail

xx: Plan includes benchmark with detail

xxx: Plan addresses benchmark with extreme detail

**Candidates in blue are Democrats**

**Candidates in red are Republicans**

**All candidate names are hyperlinked to their climate plans.**

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# The Table:

Benchmarks*	Biden	Bloomberg	Gabbard	Klobuchar	Sanders	Warren	Trump**	Weld
Year by which the plan aims to achieve net zero emissions	2050	2050	2035	2050	2050	2030	None	None
Candidate supports the continued use of nuclear power	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Plan includes recommitting to the Paris Agreement	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Plan prioritizes putting a price on carbon	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Plan includes a carbon border fee adjustment	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Plan ends subsidies to fossil fuel companies	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Plan supports holding fossil fuel companies financially responsible	XX	X		XX	XXX	XXX		
Candidate articulates how the plan will be paid for	XXX		XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		
Plan addresses transitioning workers from carbon-emitting energy sectors and promotes green jobs	XX	X	XXX	X	XXX	XXX		
Plan addresses best practices for agriculture	XX			XX	XXX	XX		
Plan addresses improvements in the transportation sector	XXX		X	X	XXX	XX		
Plan includes investment for public transportation	XX		X	XX	XXX	XX		
Plan addresses low and no-carbon energy production	X	X	XXX	XX	XXX	XXX		X
Plan includes natural ecosystem restoration	X				XX	X		
Plan includes carbon capture	XX			X	XX			
Plan rebuilds the US Environmental Protection Agency	X	XXX		X	XX	XX		
Plan reverses rollbacks of the Clean Water Act		XXX			X	XXX		
Plan promotes minimizing carbon emissions in current and future infrastructure improvements	XXX		X	XX	XXX	XXX		X
Plan includes funding for climate research	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XXX		
Plan emphasizes Environmental/Climate Justice issues	X	XX	XX	XX	XXX	XXX		

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

# DRAWDOWN

THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE  
PLAN EVER PROPOSED TO  
REVERSE GLOBAL WARMING  
EDITED BY PAUL HAWKEN

<https://www.drawdown.org/>

Nonprofit of scholars, scientists, entrepreneurs and advocates gathering current solutions to global warming.

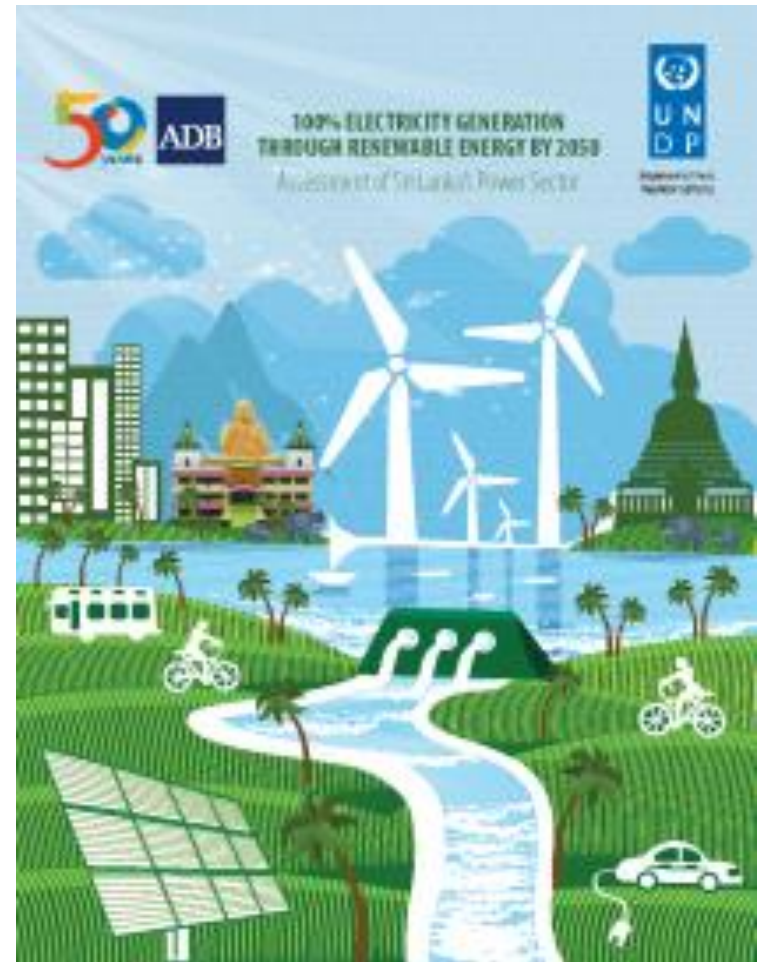
Model atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, net cost, and savings over time of each solution with the goal of reaching drawdown - the point at which greenhouse gases in the atmosphere decline yearly (2050).



Rank	Solution	Sector	TOTAL ATMOSPHERIC CO2-EQ REDUCTION (GT)	NET COST (BILLIONS US \$)	SAVINGS (BILLIONS US \$)
1	<a href="#">Refrigerant Management</a>	Materials	89.74	N/A	\$-902.77
2	<a href="#">Wind Turbines (Onshore)</a>	Electricity Generation	84.60	\$1,225.37	\$7,425.00
3	<a href="#">Reduced Food Waste</a>	Food	70.53	N/A	N/A
4	<a href="#">Plant-Rich Diet</a>	Food	66.11	N/A	N/A
5	<a href="#">Tropical Forests</a>	Land Use	61.23	N/A	N/A
6	<a href="#">Educating Girls</a>	Women and Girls	51.48	N/A	N/A
7	<a href="#">Family Planning</a>	Women and Girls	51.48	N/A	N/A
8	<a href="#">Solar Farms</a>	Electricity Generation	36.90	\$-80.60	\$5,023.84
9	<a href="#">Silvopasture</a>	Food	31.19	\$41.59	\$699.37
10	<a href="#">Rooftop Solar</a>	Electricity Generation	24.60	\$453.14	\$3,457.63

# Benchmarks Explained

- **Plan addresses low and no-carbon energy production**
- **Gabbard: HR 3671 OFF Fossil Fuels Act**
  - Transition to 100% clean energy by 2035. Solar, onshore/offshore wind, geothermal, ocean tidal.
- **Sanders:**
  - Solar, wind, geothermal. Grid modernization, energy storage/transport.
- **Warren:**
  - Solar, wind. Grid modernization, energy storage/transport.



# Benchmarks Explained

## FOOD

Biochar  
Clean Cookstoves  
Composting  
Conservation Agriculture  
Farmland Irrigation  
Farmland Restoration  
Improved Rice Cultivation  
Managed Grazing  
Multistrata Agroforestry  
Nutrient Management  
Plant-Rich Diet  
Reduced Food Waste  
Regenerative Agriculture  
Silvopasture  
System of Rice Intensification  
Tree Intercropping  
Tropical Staple Trees

- Plan addresses best practices for agriculture

## 5 Core Principles of REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE



<https://www.generalmills.com/en/Responsibility/Sustainability/Regenerative-agriculture>



# Benchmarks Explained

## ● Plan includes natural ecosystem restoration

12	Temperate Forests	Land Use	22.61	N/A	N/A
13	Peatlands	Land Use	21.57	N/A	N/A
15	Afforestation	Land Use	18.06	\$29.44	\$392.33
35	Bamboo	Land Use	7.22	\$23.79	\$264.80
38	Forest Protection	Land Use	6.20	N/A	N/A
39	Indigenous Peoples' Land Management	Land Use	6.19	N/A	N/A
51	Perennial Biomass	Land Use	3.33	\$77.94	\$541.89
52	Coastal Wetlands	Land Use	3.19	N/A	N/A

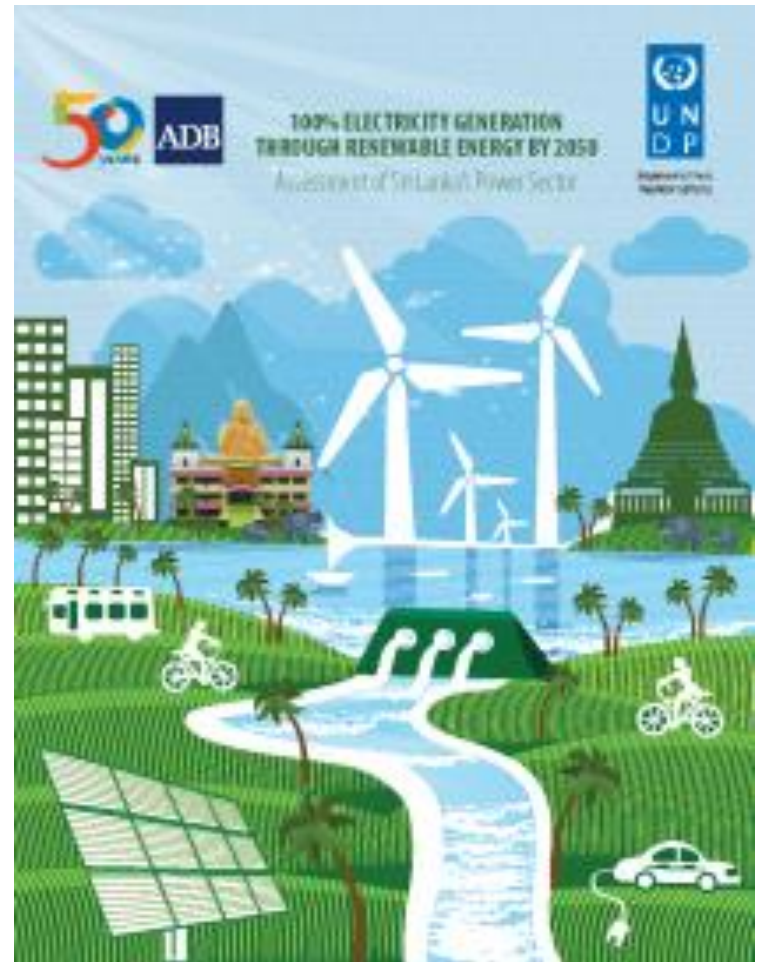


### wetland restoration

Wetland restoration along the Târnava Mică (Tîrnava Mică) River in Romania. A former gravel mine (left) was transformed into a functional wetland (right).

# Benchmarks Explained

- Plan promotes minimizing carbon emissions in current and future infrastructure improvements
- Plan includes funding for climate research
  - All Democratic candidates strongly addressed climate research across multiple sectors.



# Benchmarks Explained

- Plan emphasizes Environmental/Climate Justice issues



STAND WITH FRONTLINE COMMUNITIES IN OUR FIGHT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AGAINST THE RAVAGES OF TOXIC CHEMICALS AND CLIMATE CHANGE.

# Benchmarks Explained

- Plan prioritizes putting a price on carbon
- Plan includes a carbon border fee adjustment

**Energy Innovation and  
Carbon Dividend Act**  
The Bipartisan Climate Solution

H.R. 763

## How does it work?



### 1. Carbon Fee

This policy puts a fee on fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas. It starts low, and grows over time. It will drive down carbon pollution because energy companies, industries, and consumers will move toward cleaner, cheaper options.

### 2. Carbon Dividend

The money collected from the carbon fee is allocated in equal shares every month to the American people to spend as they see fit. Program costs are paid from the fees collected. The government does not keep any of the money from the carbon fee.

### 3. Border Carbon Adjustment

To protect U.S. manufacturers and jobs, imported goods will be assessed a border carbon adjustment, and goods exported from the United States will receive a refund under this policy.

<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/energy-innovation-and-carbon-dividend-act/>

# Benchmarks Explained

- **Plan ends subsidies to fossil fuel companies**
- **Plan supports holding fossil fuel companies financially responsible**
- **Candidate articulates how the plan will be paid for**





# Benchmarks Explained

- Plan rebuilds the US Environmental Protection Agency
- Plan reverses rollbacks of the Clean Water Act

THE LONG SLOW FIGHT TO CLEAN UP OUR WATER



M. WUERKER

POLITICO  
Andrew McMeel

# How to use the table:

Inform your vote:

- March 3 Primary - Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia (Democratic)
- March 10 Primary - Idaho, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota (Democratic), Washington
  - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/us/elections/2020-presidential-election-calendar.html>

**Please share [the table](#) with everyone!**

# What more can WE do?

- Join/help an organization working on climate change
  - Citizen Climate Lobby, 350.org, League of Conservation Voters, Mothers Out Front. . .
- Contact your local/state/federal public officials
  - Letters, phone calls, social media, in-person meetings
- Write a Letter to the Editor
- Encourage your university/college to divest from fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy
- Share your knowledge with the people around you **and** encourage them to get involved
- Continue to educate yourself
- Vote!



## DESPERATE PEOPLE



## MAKE IDEAL WORKERS



## AND DISTRACTED CITIZENS



Perspective:

**“Democracy is  
not something  
we have. It is  
something we  
do.”**

Doris “Granny D” Haddock



Image source:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/12/us/12haddock.html>

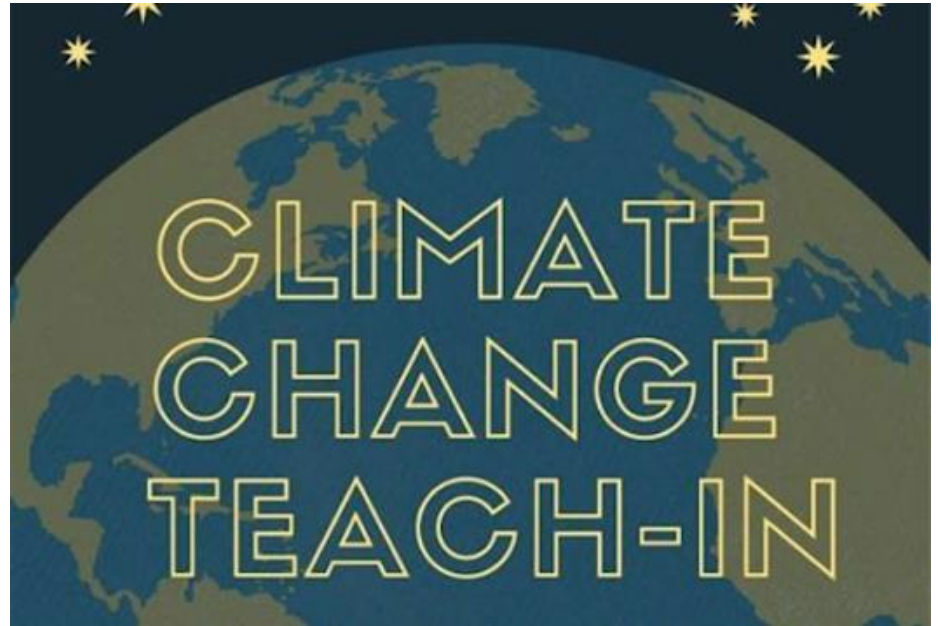
# Next Step: Solve Climate by 2030

April 7, 2020

Community conversation/virtual teach-in about climate solutions by 2030.

University-sponsored, state-level webinars on state-specific climate solutions -

[www.solveclimateby2030.org](http://www.solveclimateby2030.org)



# Questions?

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Caitlyn Hatzell - [chatzell@antioch.edu](mailto:chatzell@antioch.edu)