

15 SDG13 Climate Action

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Career/Experiment:

Chief, Applied Climate Services at the World Meteorological Organization

World Meteorological Organization

- United Nations agency for weather, climate, hydrology and water resource and related environmental issue

Overview

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1. Brief Description of the SGD 13: Summary of targets & indicators and links to other SDGs

Q1a: What is SDG 13 and why it matters?

- Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- UK Met Office's¹ Data about Global mean temperature (°C) difference from 1850-1900
 - Global temperature has a upper and upper trend Since mid 1970s
 - It included 6 different analyzes, one of them are researched by skeptics
 - All of them agree that temperature nowadays is higher than before, and something is happening in the climate.

Q1b: What does it entail in terms of targets & Indicators?

- Targets:
 - 13.1: strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate related disasters
 - ◆ For example, forecasting tropical cyclone

¹ Youtube's auto-generated subtitle mistake its name for "UK med office"

- 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
 - ◆ For example, helping developing countries to develop their weather system so they can warn each other
- 13.3: Build knowledge and capacity to meet climate change
 - ◆ **Mitigation:** how to stop the emissions
 - ◆ **Adaptation:** how to adapt to climate change if we can't stop it.
- 13.a: Implement the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
 - ◆ Since 1992, There will be a conference of the parties (so called COP) in every November or December.
 - ◆ Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement are all tied back to the convention
- 13.b: Promote mechanisms to raise capacity for planning and management²
- Indicators:
 - **13.1.1:** Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population
 - **13.1.2:** Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

2. Current State of implementation, progresses, and an example of good practice where youth are active

- Number of **Reported Disasters**³: According to the chart, it kept increasing from 1970 to 2010, but it dropped in last 10 years.
- Number of **Reported Deaths**:
 - Due to the integration of national forecast system, civil defense and disaster management organization, it dropped dramatically since 1990s.
 - Bangladesh, a country in South Asia, suffered heavy casualties because of a cyclone in 1970s. However, since 1980s, they got about 10% less death every time cyclone strike.

3. Key issues & challenges related to the achievement of this Goal

² According to UN's official website, these two Targets' name are 13.a and 13.b, but speaker's PPT call them 13.4 and 13.5

³ Course record damaged from 16:05 to 16:55, so we don't know what exactly speaker said in lecture, sorry.

- It is hard to identify if death is caused by crisis (like war) or natural disaster
- For example:
 - ◆ Meteorological and humanitarian agencies sound alert on East Africa
 - ◆ Ukraine War exacerbates the situation in East Africa since humanitarian agencies are harder to get wheat and corn from both Ukraine and Russia now
- Reported Economic Losses (\$US Billions):
 - ◆ As world become more developed, more infrastructure gets built. However, it also increases the chance that natural disasters damage it
 - ◆ That is the reason economic losses caused by disaster increase all the time

4. Practice example in implementing SDG13

- WMO Project in Papua New Guinea (a least developed country near Australia)
- As a member of World Meteorological Organization, speaker was involved in the project
- Trying to develop a drought warning system
- not only local weather service but Australia weather service, which have a lot of young scientist, joined the project

5. Suggested action areas for the youth to engage and contribute

- Find a Goal 13 charity you want to support. Any donation, big or small, can make a difference!
- Recycle paper, glass, plastic, metal and old electronics.
- Compost. Composting food scraps can reduce climate impact while also recycling nutrients.
- Choose reusable products. Use an eco-bag for shopping and a reusable water bottle or a cup to reduce your plastic waste.
- Buy eco-friendly products. Read the packaging to see if products are produced in an eco-friendly way.
- Bike, walk or take public transport. Save the car trips for when you've got a big group.
- Consume less meat and become vegetarian for one day a week. The meat production industry has a huge impact on the environment.
- Reduce your use of paper. Avoid printing and substitute it with electronic devices or carriers. Don't shop for pets!
- Visit your local animal shelter and adopt an animal there.
- Offset your carbon emissions. You can calculate your carbon footprint and purchase climate credits from Climate Neutral Now.