

What fundamental economic and political change, if any, is needed for an effective response to climate change?

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Climate change is one of the biggest environmental challenges in the world. According to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), from 2006 to present, carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels in the air has been grown to 412 parts per million and it is conditioned by human activities such as deforestation and burning fossil fuels. Also, natural processes such as respiration and volcanic eruptions have an impact on climate change. Global surface temperature significantly changed. The year of 2016 was the warmest on record after 2001. Arctic ice minimum dropped to 12.8% in a decade. National Geographic's new polls show that global warming worries are raised in people but there still remains a huge gap between awareness and an adequate response. Because of the expected danger risks, fundamental economic and political response is necessary from the governments of states and international organizations.

Increasing of public transport consumption - most people prefer going to work by their own car than by a public transport, because they suppose that most public transports are uncomfortable and messy. The governments of countries should improve conditions in public transports in order to increase its consumption. The best example is Georgia, which started developing of this sphere by replacing old buses and trains with new ones in 2018. Also, the government of Georgia periodically replaces petrol driven buses with electric buses and plans to give up petrol driven buses completely in the near future.

Replacing of petrol driven vehicles with hybrid and electric vehicles – petrol driven vehicles are the main sources of fossil fuels and air pollution, so replacing of them with electric vehicles is essential. International organizations and economic ministries at national level should pursue a policy by which they will help people to replace their old cars with ecologic ones. Ministries of economy can cooperate with local banks and suggest them to increase loan percents on petrol-driven cars and decrease percents on electric driven cars. These reforms are necessary in order to popularize electric vehicles.

Using of clean energy– wind, wave, tidal and solar energy sources can minimize the amount of greenhouse gases in the upper atmosphere. Economic sectors should increase and support investments in the sphere of clear energy. China is a country, which has the biggest solar energy capacity in the world and beside its environmental efforts, it has huge economic profits.

Renewable power technologies are increasingly least-cost and its market grows quickly when costs decline. So, clean energy has positive environmental and economic impacts.

Implementing of international standards in building constructions – in most of developing countries, ecological building norms and regulations do not exist. Regulations would oblige personal builders and companies to build constructions with heat-retaining building materials. Non-standard houses and constructions, which cannot retain heating inside in winter, have a great role in global warming. If national parliaments implement these norms, global warming index will decrease.

Fighting against deforestation – according to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), in 50 years, 17% of Amazon forests has been lost. Deforestation is an easily solvable problem if its solution is in the interests of government. Strict regulations and regular monitoring of forests can change the situation. Also, more and more should be spent on forestation projects by international organizations and local governments. Singapore is a good example. This country has prioritized the environmental policy and has conducted a large-scale environmental study in a country. As a result, Singapore reached the best rate in environmental policy. Before reaching this rate, the government of Singapore worked on growing awareness in the population.

Rising of awareness in population – unfortunately, most people still have not information about climate change and danger risks related to it. Growing of awareness is very important, because only government is not able to overcome environmental challenges while citizens are cutting trees and actively use petrol driven vehicles. Cooperation with local media companies will help governments to grow awareness in their people. Beside media, implementation of ‘Environmental Policy’ as a major subject at universities - is a good idea. Ministries of economy can grow awareness, if they oblige local manufacturing companies to denote time on product, in which its package disappears in nature.

Fortunately, there are several international organizations, which help countries globally to protect the environment. The United Nations has its environmental policy and plans to reduce greenhouse gas by 45% over the next decade and by 100% for 2050. Climate change is an acute problem for the whole world and we should not ignore it. We should realize that taking care of the nature is not an incentive, it is an obligation!