

NEWS RELEASE - IMMEDIATE

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WORLD SCIENTISTS AND A NEW FILM OUTLINE URGENT ACTION FOR SURVIVAL OF CIVILIZATION



News provided by [Stable Planet Alliance](#) and [Scientists Warning Europe](#) – Nov 12, 2021, 04:00 PT



[MOUNT VERNON, Wash., Nov. 12, 2021] – The nonprofits [Stable Planet Alliance](#) and [Scientists Warning Europe](#) (SWE) announced the pre-publication today of a new paper and accompanying film: the “[World Scientists’ Warning into Action](#)” paper - a solutions-oriented follow-up to the 2019 “[World Scientists’ Warning of a Climate Emergency](#),” and the accompanying short film “[Warnings to Action: Mobilizing Humanity](#).”

The new paper, to be published today by the journal *Science Progress* ([preprint DOI: 10.31219/osf.io/s93ve](https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/s93ve)), goes beyond the reach of traditional scientific papers, and even existing scientists’ warnings. It lays out concrete actions for leaders to take on specific timelines to avert the most dangerous climate change and ecosystem loss, without which our current trajectory will rapidly destabilize civilization. The paper briefly recaps impending risks, but mainly articulates what leaders must do to avoid them, by when, and at what levels.

It sets out a framework for solutions: specific, urgent, large-scale transformative actions and approaches to the multi-faceted planetary overshoot emergencies faced by humanity.

Addressed to leaders around the world at multiple scales -- from householders and community leaders to heads of state and the UN Secretary-General -- the paper is a collaboration of 15 top world scientists, economists, and governance specialists from the USA, Canada, UK, Italy, Nigeria, South Africa, and Australia.

"This paper shows the main ways that we can bend the needle on the climate and biodiversity crises, by systemic reforms at different levels," said co-lead author, [Professor Phoebe Barnard](#) of the University of Washington, who is also CEO of the Stable Planet Alliance. "We had identified in 2019 in our World Scientists' Warning of a Climate Emergency paper six issues for urgent action - Energy, Atmospheric Pollutants, Nature, Food Systems, Population Stabilization, and the Economy. In our new paper, we look at these issues at six scales of action: from individual and household levels through communities, cities, districts, nations and the United Nations. While most of our problems need systemic solutions, there are powerful opportunities for individuals and communities."

The paper has received wide airtime at COP26, and already prior to publication, has been co-signed by over 2,300 graduate specialists from 105 countries.

It is accompanied by the new film "[Warnings to Action: Mobilizing Humanity](#)" by director [Jonathan Clay](#), known for the 2021 Netflix film "[Breaking Boundaries: The Science of our Planet](#)" with Sir David Attenborough and Prof Johan Rockström.

"This film and paper tell the leaders and officials at COP26, and people around the world, what is needed to save humanity and our planet," says Managing Director of [Scientists Warning Europe](#), UK lawyer and local politician [Edmund Gemmell](#). "The paper offers concrete guidance for a wiser, sustainable civilization, and the film calls scientists, students, artists, faith leaders and others to step forward and work together to shape it."

"But we now have an extremely steep hill to climb," says co-lead author, Professor Emeritus William Moomaw of Tufts University. "Since leaders have delayed essential action for decades, we have now dramatically reduced the comfort and timeframe within which we can make changes."

The paper also highlights just how ill-equipped are our existing systems of governance – and their vulnerability to corruption - to facilitate rapid and transformative change on short timescales. Time is now so short that we cannot wait for reforms to be complete before we act. Temporary measures must be enabled for planning, policy and management, including corruption prevention, while this is done. As the paper concludes,

"Our challenges are less technical than social – taking the necessary actions quickly enough, in all nations and governance regimes – particularly democratic ones – while maintaining adequate social, economic and political stability to steer the ship of humanity safely into a wiser, more sustainable world order. This will require unprecedented global collaboration, social learning, and public awareness and pressure. This will profoundly challenge us all, and our systems of planning, cooperation and governance. (But) everything we know and love is at stake."

The **Stable Planet Alliance** is a new nonprofit global coalition of respected organizations collaborating to 'bend the curve on population and hyperconsumption,' Its members work through bottom-up public narrative shifts and top-down public policy shifts to stabilize both population and consumption in collaborative, planetary- and women's-justice-centered ways. For more information visit www.stableplanetalliance.org.

Scientists Warning Europe's mission is to protect the future of our planet, our children, and other creatures that share our world, through presenting and promoting science endorsed solutions which will lead to a just transition for our world to a sustainable and equitable future. It represents scientists who warn the world about the rapidly increasing dangers of climate change and destruction of the biosphere - specifically those scientists who issued and endorsed the 1992, 2017 and 2019 warnings to the world. Its mission is to bring about a great change in humanity's stewardship of the Earth in order to prevent irretrievable mutilation of our global home.

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