

The Climate Catastrophe - How Can it Still be Prevented?

Timescale for “Irreversible Changes” on Earth’s Systems

Tipping Element	Transition Timescale
Indian summer monsoon	~ 1 year (rapid)
Arctic summer sea-ice	~ 10 years (rapid)
Amazon rainforest	~ 50 years (gradual)
Boreal forest	~ 50 years (gradual)
Atlantic thermohaline circulation	~ 100 years (gradual)
Greenland ice sheet	> 300 years (slow)
West Antarctic ice sheet	> 300 years (slow)

Source: T. M. Lenton, H. Held, E. Kriegler, J. W. Hall, W. Lucht, S. Rahmstorf, and H. J. Schellnhuber, **Tipping elements in the Earth’s climate system**, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, Feb. 2008

Source: Lecture by Mario José Molina, Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1995, at the 63rd Nobel Laureate Meeting in Lindau in 2013; <https://www.mediatheque.lindau-nobel.org/videos/31332/communicating-climate-change-science-2013/laureate-molina>

Nobel laureates and other scientists are interested in factual findings and provable facts. They are also aware of the consequences of their research. Just as Albert Einstein warned of the terrible consequences of uranium research and thus of the atomic bomb as early as 1939, today's researchers clearly outline the consequences of human inaction with regard to climate change. Today, many even openly and passionately plead for immediate and radical measures to avert a climate catastrophe.

Last but not least, these warnings have triggered the worldwide youth movement "Fridays for Future". Since the adult world and politics shy away from radical change, students are trying to force a climate change in politics, the economy and society.

Tasks

In a simulated "climate camp", divide the work and put together proposals and demands on what measures could be taken to save our world. At the end of this "mini-project", the results should be presented and discussed in plenary.

For this purpose, three working groups will be formed, which will develop proposals for their areas and present them later. This can be done in the form of posters or wall newspapers, as well as in a digital form. If possible, the proposals should not only consist of text, but should also be visualised.

- Working Group "Private Households"
- Working Group "Company"
- Working Group "Federal Policy"

The groups' proposals are presented and discussed in plenary after completion.

The work of the three working groups is flanked by a reporting group.

- Working Group "Reporting"

This reports continuously in text and pictures about the discussions, reflections and results of the working groups. This can take the form of newspaper reports and photos on a pin board.

Ideally, this will result in a complete documentation of the course and results of the "Climate Camp".

Do you need a jump-start for your group?

"Private households": One starting point could be to question one's own behaviour ("ecological footprint") and to look for savings of CO₂ emissions.

"Companies": A first consideration could be the CO₂ saving possibilities in the production of goods (e.g. steel production) and in the distribution of goods (lorry traffic).

"Federal policy": A first orientation could be the demands of environmental protection associations and the Fridays for Future movement.