Your Opinions on Environmental Problems -Free text

Feel free to write comments on any topic of environmental problems. If there are any items that relate to your opinion in the list of "Environmental issues to be taken into account" below, please tick the box next to the item. You may select multiple items. If you select "12. Others," please write the details in the space below.

Environmental issues to be taken into account

	1. Climate Change		4. Pollution / Contamination		7. Food		10. Environment and Economy
	2. Biodiversity		5. Water Resources		8. Lifestyles		11. Environment and Society
	3. Land Use		6. Population		9. Global Warming Measures		12. Others

"12. Others" :

Note) The written statements of the answers posted below are opinions of the individual respondents; and they don't necessary represent the views of our Foundation. We have included the name, country, and our identification number along with the comments, unless the respondent requested anonymity.

Opinions

The need is to shift the way people view the Earth, our beautiful blue planet. How can we help everyone see alive and full of beauty and that we must completely change the way we understand the gift we have been gi•beauty that we are living in and that it is the most sacred thing we have. As the world becomes covered in cot people endlessly shop for more stuff and we throw away mountains of trash and plastic each day -this is a pr heart and mind of people and this is what we must help change. It is not enough that we do carbon trades or I technology will save us or recycle our bottles. It is much deeper than that. I hope you will take a moment to watch this film that describes so well what I am saying. https://vimeo.com/1 18787240
It is not just about saving ourselves, WE, US, it is also about respecting all of life, the plants the animals all e what we can see and what we cannot see.
We need to support and help those who are able to impart this message so beautifully- Llewellyn Vaughan-Dr. Suzuki, Dr. Vandana Shiva, Mrs. Hanne Strong and alternative communities such as Crestone, Findhorn, Em Vaughan-Lee of the Spiritual Ecology Fellowship http://www.spiritualecologyfcllowship.org/ This group of: can lead the way. Thich Naht Hanh, Joanna Macy of the Spiritual Ecology movement www.spiritualccology.
The blog of Beltaine Cottage in Ireland and to see the work of one woman who transformed three acres of deamonoculture land into a garden of Eden with thousands of fruit trees, flowers for the birds and bees, berries. 1 self-sustaining and soul enriching. Also, the work of Charles Eisenstein is well worth following. We also need and care for the indigenous people of the Earth, who are in danger of being wiped out. They still know how t Earth, to the natural world. To respect and show gratitude. Western civilization has forgotten how to live in grembrace consumerism and if we look around at the world we have created we will see that this cannot con tin dire consequences. Our physical bodies are poisoned from the food, the water, the air and we are plagued wit children, animals, young people. Our unnatural way of life has now led to our mental and emotional break do people around the world taking their own precious lives because there is no longer any deep meaning to life t have not taught them the real purpose of being human, of this celebration of life, of love for and from the Ea and from each other. We don't even know how to listen to the Earth. Many women that come to our meetings, women of deep spirhave told us clearly of their dreams, their visions and ability to hear the Earth crying ...yet, humans have forgot to her wisdom, to include her in this conversation. Even at COP21 in Paris it was all about US. How will WE what will happen to US if we don't. We think that we can do it by ourselves, even though we are the last to a ancient planet, and even though in our childish behavior and so arrogantly take put ourselves in the highest p we should control everything and be in charge of all the resources. We have destroyed almost every ecosystem we need to grow up and listen the our mother the Earth once more, if we are to survive and not kill off all the this planet that has a right to live. It is a spiritual dilemma and if we truly fell in love with and respected the E would never treat her as we do, and we would eat more simply, shop much less, stop throwing everything aw earth is a garbage dump, and stop emptying the oceans of every last fish, as if we have the right to have a gau each day. Something is so off balance and we have forgotten the true purpose of what it means to be human. Needs our love, our songs, our prayers and chants, that is what brings her happiness, and we need her, her cro her rivers of living clean water, the rain the sun. All is an interconnected dance that works so well when we r sacredness of it all, instead of thinking of ourselves at the center. There are small pockets of this new way of the world that I have witnessed and it may take 20 30 or more years before it is more visible. We need to wa more people, more species will disappear and more of the Earths fragile and beautiful ecosystems will die. answer, but can only continue to try to wake people up to the magic that is all around us. Take time to be alo Use less, simplify life so that we have time to be with family and community and have time for art, music, re not be lost in the hectic life of a story that is only going to end.
"It is through the heart that a real connection is made, even if we first make it in our feet and hands. Do we relf as a part of this beautiful and suffering planet, do we sense its need? Then this connection comes alive, athat flows from our heart as it embraces all of life. Then every step, every touch, will be a prayer for the Earth remembrance of what is sacred."_ Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee from the book Spiritual Ecology: The Cry of the Earth.
[12. Other(If we are to restore the balance in our world, we need to go beneath the surface to heal the split between spin and help bring the sacred back into life."-Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee All our outward actions are having little effect. We need to again regard nature as sacred.)]

Marianne Marstrand, USA, 001

The pollution caused by war, plus the pollution caused by burning outdated armaments is significant.
Global terrorism will keep military expenditures elevated, and will add significant CO2 to the atmosphere.
[12. Other?(WAR/Global Terrorism)]

David Schweidenback, USA, 002

The biggest issue is getting the problem to be informed accurately when many vested interests fight to destroy or elude the truth about climate change.
[-]

Allan Dodds Frank, USA, 003

There are too many people living on a fragile planet. We are polluting our natural gift of clean air, water, soil, to the extent

that they and the other living species they sustain are being impacted genetically, so biodiversity declines and any resultant new species lack the complexity and resilience of what went before.
Perhaps most alarming at the plans of planetary scientists seeking to explore other worlds by using robots and missiles to penetrate their atmosphere and surfaces to find out about the origins of the universe – no problem with that. But what do they leave behind? Space debris, used equipment, and rubbish to permanently pollute another planet or star. Very, very wrong. Explore as science dictates but don't leave waste and pollute other ecosystems.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy,12. Other]

Diane Wiesner, AUSTRALIA, 006

Global warming and water availability are the two critical issues, and both are made much worse by climate change.
[-]

USA, 007

The most pressing issue facing global security is that of wasteful and inefficient consumption. This is the root of many of the problems we face as human beings – from climate change to pollution of the seas.
[-]

CANADA, 011

Taking a serious approach to climate change could make a real difference for future generations. Unlike other issues, there is no turning back for climate change.
[-]

USA, 012

Climate change is the single largest problem humankind has ever faced. We have entered the sixth mass extinction event, and we are the cause. As the result of runaway climate change, there exists even the possibility of human extinction.
[-]

Dahr Kelly Jamail, USA, 013

Climate issues extremely serious over next 50 years, with affected water resources also at high risk. Important to further strengthen Dec. 2015 Paris Agreement. Private sector continued and strengthened leadership critical. Next U.S. president also important to maintain current momentum.
[-]

USA, 014

Overpumping of groundwater is affecting natural desert vegetation.
[-]

USA, 015

Political agendas: passing degrees of internal national agendas that act to invalidate desirable agendas within issues within issues 1 through 11.
[-]

Allen W Hatheway, USA, 016

Environment and Economy
Unless we are willing to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and consumer convenience in general, our societies will fail. Our carbon footprint is atrocious, and we design our communities around this small-minded practice. We have the technology and capabilities to develop environmentally thoughtful societies and cities, we must make this a priority now.
[10. Environment and Economy]

Jesse Hardman, USA, 017

1-12: Natural energy resource extraction – fracking, goal, nuclear.
Opinions:
7., 3. In Illinois, GMO production continues apace without regard for individual choice or right to know.
5., 10., 12., Fracking remains on the docket, as does nuclear energy, despite recent leaks into groundwater and rivers.
[3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy,12. Other]

USA, 020

My state has strong pressures to continue using coal, to the detriment of growth in the clean energy economy, meanwhile, public awareness of climate change problems stays low due to climate deniers' influence in state politics here in Ohio.

[-]

USA, 021

I know that my comments are really political. But it is essential that those politicians who generally are concerned for the future need to express those concerns in a way the public will really understand. For instance, greater acidification of say, the Great Barrier Reef will eventually impact badly on ALL Pacific fisheries; Sydney, Australia, will find vegetables which rely on a cold winter will become more expensive as winter moves south; or wine production nation will possibly see their industry decline as warmer season see an end to their grape growing. Some of these changes will have a major impact on life.
[7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

PHILLIP H. COLMAN, AUSTRALIA, 022

1-12: Uptake of renewable energy
2-12: Renewable energy and social software
Although the status quo was built upon admirable and noble efforts from our predecessors, it is now well past the time that humans resumed behaviors and attendant philosophies more appropriate to this millennium. Perhaps unavoidably there is so much momentum in our species' developmental trajectories that change is painfully slow. However, if carefully managed, global society could be fundamentally realized towards a more sustainable future for planet Earth (at the very least…).
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Timothy Barker, UK, 023

I consider that global climate change exacerbated by human population are acting in concordance to adversely impact the planet and reduce biodiversity. And the situation is inexorably getting worse.
[-]

UK, 025

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1. Climate change is headed towards severe problems (flooding and other environmental problems), and yet there is very little to combat such change.
2. Too many people, most of them consuming resources at an alarming rate, is a neglected mega-problem. Yet essentially no attention is being given to these problems.
3. Problem in water supplies are more urgent in some places than others. But such problems are growing. Yet very little is being done to alleviate these growing difficulties.

[1. Climate Change]

Lord May of Oxford OM AC Kt FRS, UK, 026

The most serious environmental problem facing Brazil is the deforestation of the Amazonia forest which has in reality been unleashed. In the past – until the end of the 20th century – the exhaustion of deforestation was justified by the need to expand the agricultural area mainly for the introduction of cattle and soybean production.
That cycle is completed. There is enough area in use and cattle production was using approximately 1 hectare per head, which is uneconomic. The progressive of cattle is actually is requiring less area from the 200 million hectares in use, making area available for other cultures.
[-]

JOSE GOLDEMBERG, BRAZIL, 027

Climate change is the most urgent but limited concern that already threatens humanity. Biodiversity is the foundation of nature and our life-support system that is continually destroyed by humans and abusive humanity. That still is not much known and lost species and vital species in global communities are still much unknown with continued expansion of the human population. That is not much we could do about as long as "sustainable development" motto is put in practice.
To reduce the horrendous destruction of our life support system, the earth ecosystem, we in effect change lifestyles and approaches to all natural resources and global ecosystem structure/function soon. Otherwise, our future is quite gloomy forever.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Ke Chung Kim, USA, 028

Climate change is the most serious problem we face. Given the potential for rapid irreversible (in the span of thousands of years) change once we pass tipping points (e.g. ice sheet collapses, permafrost melts), and for positive climate feedbacks, the most urgent task facing humans is to accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy. Done right, that can bring many other co-benefits such as reducing pollution and boosting economic growth and opportunities.

[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures]

John Carey, USA, 029

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1. We are doing nothing to effectively change the trajectory of climate change. Future generations will wonder why.
2. Species are being lost at an alarming rate due to human impact. Humans are self-serving without regard to other species.
3. Population is already passed the pint of planetary sustainability. Huge migration of populations is ongoing all over the world. It will continue and bring wars and conflict over resources that remain.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population]

Kent Blacklidge, USA, 031

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1. Based in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, our region faces the highest relative rates of sea level rise in the world, because of land subsidence and sea level rise due to climate change, combined. We lose an area of wetlands equivalent to a U.S. football field every 30 minutes.
9. Many Louisiana coastal communities already face decisions about relocating their homes and businesses due to sea level rise, increasing frequency of severe storms, and regular flooding.
11. Many Louisiana residents do not know nor comprehend the dire predictions here.
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, 032

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1. Climate change: This has affected many activities in the countries that are affected, this occurs due to misuse of environmental resources wisely. Such deforestation, release of harmful gases in the atmosphere, floods and impredictable lessons.
3. Land use: Land use keep on changing due to development and civilization population increase that will demand employment, food, clothing, housing, etc. so you find that proper land management have been changing from one form to another, depending with the requirements.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use]

PHILIP K. LIITAHI, KENYA, 033

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10. It is obvious that the current economic framework does not support resource efficiency since it promotes an increase of resource usage. We need a new economic framework that supports efficiency, ecology, and equality.
[10. Environment and Economy]

Daniel Skog, SWEDEN, 034

While the public is concerned and aware of climate change, biodiversity, and pollution, the effects of endocrine disorders are poorly known, though very important. Low fertility and impotency with various disorders due to endocrine systems seem to rise silently.
[-]

UK, 035

Enhance the participation of civil society on a massive scale by the method, “citizen’s report with planning cells” to come up with suitable and acceptable measures for the planetary society.
[9. Global Warming Measures]

Wolfgang Scheffler, GERMANY, 038

The rapid increase of the world’s population must be a major future concern. It will probably lead to a shortage of food and accelerate climate change due to increase of CO2 in the atmosphere.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 7. Food]

DAVID KEITH BUTT, UK, 039

These subjects will need to be taught to all levels of society and population many of the serious problems are caused because of ignorance and some from illegal, criminal manipulation. Governments should beheld responsible and kept to the COP 21 and even more.
The people worldwide are aware of the dangers and suffering that will be caused they will suppoort positive and responsible governance and control of the destructive entities.
Awareness raising must start with the little ones and include all the population, everyone suffers so all need to act and be helped to make the difference they need. The Planet needs this and all who live on it.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society.Climate Change,12. Other(Renewable energies, stop fossil fuels.)]

Nicola Spafford Furey, SWITZERLAND, 040

Environmental problems are very serious, locally and nationally in New Zealand as our current neo-liberal National government puts the economy ahead of any other issue and the environment is being managed unsustainably. This issue is more widespread than New Zealand, as greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise and climate change is very apparent with extreme weather events experienced in many countries, including New Zealand. The COP 21 Paris Accord must be actioned urgently by all countries to avoid major catastrophe for present and particularly future generations of humans and the many ecological systems that we absolutely depend on for our welfare.
[-]

ALAN FRANCIS MARK, NEW ZEALAND, 041

I am extremely concerned about acceleration of climate change, loss of biodiversity and deterioration of land use. My choices in number 1 were determined by current urgency. Obviously, all of these topics are interconnected.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

GENE E. LIKENS, USA, 042

Global warming cuts across every issue listed and many more. It has unquestionably begun and will have devastating effects.
[-]

Curtis A. Moore, USA, 043

Climate change has drastically affected agriculture. The prolonged drought brought about by El Niño has devastated crops. Thousands of farmers have not been able to earn their living and have asked the government to provide them with food and other basic needs.
[-]

VIRGINIA S. CARINO, PHILIPPINES, 044

All seven of the above issues are urgent, and related. In Australia, we are the highest per capita emitter of greenhouse gas pollution, yet our coalition government, at federal and state level (NSW), are doing nothing effective to address the problems. The federal government is relying on planting trees as the main way to reduce emissions (whose emissions? Australia's or global?), and refuses to put a price on carbon or support clean energy, while trying hard to start new coal mines (e.g. the Galilee Basin, QLD). The coalition state government in QLD (now voted out) allowing land clearing of 300,000 he vast areas by changing the laws – NSW now wants to do the same – cancelling any benefits from federal tree planting! Biodiversity is ignored, threatened species levels are high, Australia's carbon pollution levels are climbing (+82 mt in 2015), at the percent of electricity produced by coal is also on the rise compared with 2012 – 2014 levels (when the previous "Clean Energy Future" legislation was in force. It was repeated by the coalition government in 2014!).
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Harry Creamer, AUSTRALIA, 045

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1. "12. Others." The continued stagnation of the Jamaican economy has failed to provide adequate opportunities for our growing labor force. Long-term unemployment of our youth has resulted in our trained graduates obtaining employment overseas. Others "hustle" for a living.
2. "Employment and society": Poverty and governance are the key factors which contribute to the inability of our economy to grow; for the past twenty five years, growth has been only 1%. Under the leadership of successful business leaders, we hope to achieve 5% growth in the next 4 years.
3. "Climate change": Droughts, torrential rains and flooding are having a devastating effect on our farmers. Failure to supply consistent supplies of food has resulted in high prices which poor people cannot pay. Wildlife disappears. Hopefully hurricanes won't come. We all need to master the relevant knowledge and skills needed so we can act to protect our manmade and natural environment.
[1. Climate Change, 11. Environment and Society]

ROYES, VERONICA IRENE JOY, JAMAICA, 046

One scripture – "one right step… and the world becomes your open canvas for a lasting legacy, but one wrong move towards the enemy leads to a treacherous end." We need to do something to save our planet. No money can assure us a breathable climate, fresh air and escape from induced calamities unless all agree on time – space sound plan for action at our earliest meeting. Blue Planet Prize lectures copy may please be sent.
[12. Other(Check and Save)]

A. SETHU NARAYANAN, INDIA, 047

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6. There are already far too many people on this planet and numbers continue to grow. Coupled with human greediness, the

result is unsustainable pressure on nature and resources. Many of the root causes of “climate change” are found in these underlying issues.
[3. Land Use, 6. Population]

UK, 048

The major problem facing the Oceania is the the impact of climate change. This is already visible through the frequency and devastating impacts of cyclones. There is coastal erosion, flooding, salt water incursions, pest and diseases,high intensity rainfalls, even tsunamis.
Unless there is emission control on GHG from the developed world and the larger developing countries, Pacific Is Countries will continue to suffer. In the long term some of the Micronesian Islands like FSM, Marshalls, Kiribati and Tuvalu may just disappear under the sea.
For the PICs global warming and all other related issues is the major issue. The greatest impact will be on the food and nutrition security and environmental impact .
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

MOHAMMED UMAR, SAMOA, 050

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1. The climate is changing. The Earth is warming up, and there is now overwhelming scientific consensus that it is happening and human-induced.
2. Global warming on the increase and species and their habitats on the decrease, changes for ecosystems to adapt naturally are diminishing.
3. Transformative land and soil governance need to take power imbalance into account.
4. Carbon dioxide emissions are fueling more verdant landscape around the globe, but the potentially temporary greening doesn’t mean global warming is good.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

V. J. GEORGE, INDIA, 053

The prevailing water crisis in India has overtaken all other environmental crises, while absence of population control is accentuating resource problems principally water and food.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

NALNI DHAR JAYAL, INDIA, 054

To halt climate change, a foremost priority should be to switch to green/clean power, without generating more environmental poisons in the air, water, or on land. In the USA the industrial/military power brokers who control and/or heavily influence our legislators and legislation, prefer producing and increasing the more the more profitable “clean” nuclear power with its dirty waste material, and they are now proliferating nuclear power. So while the USA may meet its carbon reduction commitment deadline – I hope so – it may continue to poison the environment. I am not very optimistic.
[11. Environment and Society]

Shimon Schwarzschild, USA, 055

Political accountability of countires for negative environmental impacts to each other through global bodies such as the UN is essential to enable progress.
[-]

USA, 056

With “economic growth” being the only aim in front of most countries, “environmental conservation” is offered only a lip service by most governments. Decisions are taken by those who neither know enough about the environment nor care about it. Globalization also has played a major role in destroying the environment: what a developed economy did is blindly followed by a developing economy.
All the issues mentioned in Table 1 are relevant and are interrelated. It was difficult to select any three out of them.
3. All of the world, towns and cities are expanding and agriculture is becoming more intensive and industrialized. Less and less space is left for other species.
[-]

RAJESH BHAT, INDIA, 057

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6. Population: 9:01 – 12:00
Pressure from demography is for me cause and impacts of global concern. There is a self-censorship about this in the United Nations and in most of national politics. Most research excludes this driver.

7. Food: 6:01 – 9:00
This is as important for Southern or for Northern countries, developed or developing countries.
11. Environment and Society: 6:01 – 9:00
It is an ethical, educational issue.
[6. Population, 7. Food, 11. Environment and Society]

MARC-ANTOINE MARTIN, FRANCE, FP01

Surface waters are now receiving excessively high input of nitrogen and phosphorus through atmospheric deposition, a problem more rapidly rising in India. Being more widespread than any other source, this has serious concern for policymakers and water resource managers.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

Prof. Jitendra Pandey, INDIA, 058

The integration and interplay between all these factors makes it difficult to choose which are most pressing. Their synergistic interactions make their overall environmental impact greater than the summer of the issues impacts individually. In addition, we are largely overlooking an emerging issue that might affect and potentiate many other problems on your list: the large-scale increase in levels of anthropogenic electromagnetic radiation (EMR). The deleterious consequences of this exponential growth in EMR have already shown up in increased human cancer rates and electrosensitization cases, as well as in thousands of peer-reviewed studies. However, these consequences have barely been considered in the public policy arena – likely because telecom and high tech are now our biggest drivers of economic activity. This is one more stress on environmental balance, which has the potential for widespread effects, including on biodiversity in particular. There is an urgent need to examine what we are doing in this sector.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society.Climate Change,12. Other(Electromagnetic radiation)]

USA & CANADA, 059

The possible introduction of fracking is very concerning to the people of Florida, USA.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

Bradley T Weller, USA & CANADA, 061

Current issues with the Mekong & Nile are the tip of climate-induced water problems. Climate change will make land-use issues worse. Excessive consumption, population growth, and ever-increasing pollutants will impact the environment that we leave for our children and grandchildren.
We need serious action by governments, and need governments to take the long-term view.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

AUSTRALIA, E002

The publuc is not sufficiently educated about these issues to ensure political opinion and action is truly evidence based. Environmerntal issues have become the play thing of the rich asnd famous while the 2 billion people living in poverty are ignored.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Public opinion pressures political opinion and action, but public opinion usually represents advocacy rather than positions based on science. So in this field I believe we are rapidly heading away from Albert Einstein towards Disneyland. Not much anyone can do about it.)]

Grahame Webb, AUSTRALIA, E008

The issue of climate change poses serious challenge to progress already made in economic development and poverty alleviation. Its impacts on food and the society is of serious concern to me
[1. Climate Change, 7. Food, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, E010

Plus the political powers continue to favor their cohorts while pushing short-termism and even no-termism for continuing the destructive economic policies which have created the problems in the first place.
An example:last summer the government in Madrid passed a law allowing any previously protected lands to be developed if there had been a fire (effectively destroying the reasons for protected status). Unsurprisingly, there followed an immediate spike in the number of wildfires across the country.
The other issues are all interwoven, and must be solved in concert. Some are more causal, others more symptomatic, but each can act in either form (similar to particle versus wave in quantum physics). We should not be treating these in a hierarchical manner, but as a system where each is influenced by the others while at the same time influencing them itself.
Start where the need is most evident, or the opportunities most obvious, but eventually the entire system requires transforma-

tion as a whole.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Broken system of governance which intentionally alienates the people from the decision making and legal processes. This creates barriers between everyday people and their systems for community management (local and national government), prevents the building of collaborative efforts and trust.)]

Erik van Lennep, SPAIN, E014

Most fashionable. It does not depend on what rich countries do (or fail to do), but rather on what all the countries (signatories of the FCCC) do. Paradoxically, stricter commitments of a group of countries (such as e.g. Annex I) may deteriorate rather than improve the situation.
[1. Climate Change]

Tomasz Zylicz, POLAND, E015

Climate change is one of the biggest problem at present. It leads hunger for human kind due to drought and flood and also changing weather pattern to prevent this hazard and therefore We are protecting mangroves in Sri Lanka. It is all island programme to reduce CO2 .Mangrove are the highest carbon deposit trees in the tropics. in Sri lanka we have more than 15000ha mangroves and over 16000ha of associated mangroves. we are building world first mangrove museum in Sri Lanka in association with 1500 community organizations. In next five years period we hare deploying 15000 community members to protect mangroves. In addition though our mangrove museum , we will build up awareness among all the school children in coastal belt to protect mangroves. July 26 of each year had been declared as Mangrove day in the world by UNESCO. Each year we are planning to replant 500000 mangrove seedlings in association of 1500 community organizations AND PROTECT THE MANGROVES WITH Forest Department and Wild life Department. In next five years period to strength the community participation in mangrove conservation, livelihood development programme implementing through micro-finance for all the 15000 members who work as guardian for mangroves. On our studies we have realized that 1ha of Mangroves absorbed the carbon of 2million liters of diesel and deposit with their root system. One ha of Mangroves provides 8 jobs of fishing and 168kg of fish. Therefore our main thrust is to protect and conserve mangroves with community participation and provide livelihood opportunities to protect this valuable resources. Bio diversity in mangroves are also so very rich. Recorded 65 mangrove species of the world, Sri Lanka has recorded 22 species. And also mangrove ecosystem is the fish breeding ground and shelter for fruit bats and wide range of birds. During Indian ocean tsunami in 2004 East coast of Sri Lanka devastated and only village were safe where the mangroves are existed. And therefore with the second generation of the country and community who living near by coastal areas and lagoon system of the country deployed to protect mangroves. For this purpose Sri Lanka Government and Seacology of USA provide a great assistance legally and financially.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Anuradha Wickramasinghe, SRI LANKA, E017

I am concerned that the way of living in the western countries and the catching up on lifestyle in other regions of the world will threaten the survival of humans and other forms of life. Policy making does not adequately address the topics of lifestyle in a way that is free from industry lobbyism and thus is a weak policy. In addition to this, I am concerned that the decision making process often is heavily influenced by populism on the side of politicians, the public, and media.
[8. Lifestyles]

ICELAND, E020

The main threat to planet earth is scarcity of food and water. Population growth and unclean energy are the main factors in addition to over consumption of these resources. The big conventions need to persuade governments to convert talk and pledged into action!!!
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food]

USA, E022

Modernisation is having a huge impact on the ecological footprint of the population.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

MALAYSIA, E023

After consideration, I think the most useful opinion I can give is to provide the text of a recent article I wrote. I hope this is helpful, but please feel free to ask me any questions.
COMING BACK FROM THE BRINK
Simon Stuart

Headline figures from 'state of the planet' reviews suggest show that extinction risks are growing. According to the Red List Index, some species are in sharp decline (corals, cycads, amphibians); others are faring somewhat better though still deteriorating (e.g., birds). There are also regional variations: mammal declines are worst in Southeast Asia; amphibians in Central and South America are most at risk.

These overarching trends might be taken to suggest that conservation is not working, but the opposite is, in fact, true.

When the California Condor was near-extinct in 1987, the remaining wild birds were brought into captivity: now the population is increasing, with over 100 adult birds in the wild. There are many similar examples. Scientists at BirdLife International have shown that 16 bird species would probably have become extinct between 1994 and 2004 had it not been for well-conceived conservation action.

The Chatham Island Black Robin, which had declined to just five individuals in 1980, saw a rise in numbers to over 230 adult birds by 2011 due to careful management. There were only four Asian Crested Ibis adults in 1981: populations recovered to over 500 birds by 2006 due to a focused conservation programme in China. Other success stories include the Short-tailed Albatross, Bermuda Petrel, Whooping Crane, Mauritius Kestrel, Pink Pigeon and Rodrigues Warbler.

So conservation works, and not just for birds. The Greater One-horned Rhino was heading for extinction in 1900 with fewer than 200 animals remaining, but under strict conservation populations increased: well over 3, 000 can be found in the wild today in India and Nepal, despite combined pressures of habitat loss and the illegal wildlife trade. The story of the Southern White Rhino is even more spectacular. From possibly fewer than 50 animals in 1900 in South Africa the number has risen to over 20, 000 today, even despite recent poaching pressure.

There are success stories from South America as well. The Vicuña in the Andes had decreased to a few tens of thousands of animals by the mid-1960s, but subsequently increased to almost 350, 000 by 2008. Another spectacular recovery has been that of the Arabian Oryx, which became extinct in the wild in 1972. As a result of captive breeding and reintroductions, there are over 1, 000 animals in the wild today in the Arabian Peninsula.

There are also marine examples, one of the most spectacular being the Humpback Whale, hugely reduced by commercial whaling until the 1960s, but subsequently recovering rapidly to over 60, 000 animals by 2008. Species as diverse as Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle, several species of crocodilian, fish, invertebrates and plants are all making strong recoveries due to well-managed conservation initiatives.

A study in 2010 by IUCN and its partners showed that, at a global level, at least 68 species of birds, mammals and amphibians are on the road to recovery as a result of conservation activity. Recent studies by the IUCN Species Survival Commission Reintroduction Specialist Group have shown that many well-designed projects to return species to the wild to places from which they had been lost are often successful. Recent successes have included the Large Blue Butterfly in the United Kingdom, Slimy Sculpin (a freshwater fish) in the United States, European Mudminnow in Hungary, Romer's Treefrog in Hong Kong, Hermann's Tortoise in France, Longmen County Magnolia in China, Indus Delta Mangroves in Pakistan, Loop-root Mangrove in the United Arab Emirates, and Corunna Daisy in Australia.

So conservation works: despite depressing headline figures we can point to many examples of successes on the ground and in the water. But is the story just one of a few isolated successes among a general backdrop of doom and gloom? Well even that might be a little too pessimistic.

A lot of conservation efforts have not yet caused species to recover (or even get back from the brink), but they do stop things from getting worse. So although species on average are becoming more threatened, what would happen to them if current conservation efforts were stopped? Surprisingly enough, no-one had really considered this question until recently when a group of scientists in the IUCN Species Survival Commission looked at 235 species of ungulate (a diverse group of mammals including whales deer, antelopes, rhinos and horses) to determine what would have happened to them if conservation had stopped in 1996. The results were dramatic, and showed that at least 152 of these species (that is 65 per cent of those considered) would have deteriorated seriously in the absence of ongoing conservation efforts. One of these species, the Javan Rhinoceros would almost certainly have become extinct, and four others might have been lost in just a 12-year period.

Here's another way to look at it. In reality the Red List Index for ungulates declined by 0.2 per cent, per year between 1996 and 2008. However, if there had been no conservation measures for ungulates after 1996, the Red List Index for these species would have declined by 21 per cent, per year. In other words, conservation is making a massive difference to these species by slowing down their annual rates of decline by two orders of magnitude. To put these declines in perspective, they equate to 151 ungulate species deteriorating by one IUCN Red List category between 1996 and 2008 compared with 21 species that actually did.

What this shows us is that conservation can be having a positive impact even when it is not bringing species back from the brink. It is becoming increasingly common to hear questions being raised as to whether conservation investments are worth the money, given their lack of success. However, the findings of recent studies seem to indicate the opposite: that conservation is remarkably successful. The main problem with conservation is not that it doesn't work; rather it is that we simply don't do anything like enough of it, and efforts are seldom maintained for the long periods of time necessary to ensure recovery. When species are brought back from the brink, it is almost always the result of long-term conservation programmes, such as those for the Golden Lion-Tamarin in Brazil, or several species of bird on Mauritius.

There has been much discussion in recent years about the values we bring to the conservation endeavour. Do we do conservation because nature (species and ecosystems) has an intrinsic right to exist? Or do we do conservation because nature is

good for human wellbeing and livelihoods? Or do we do conservation for both reasons? This discussion is a major one in the conservation movement right now – is the fundamental ethic of conservation "intrinsic" or "utilitarian", or can it actually be both? Or do we have a conservation strategy based on "intrinsic value", but to achieve our targets do we feel free to use "utilitarian approaches" at least in part?
This is an important discussion, but if we look at how seriously the world treats nature, we have to question whether society at large, or governments, in the current neoliberal economic paradigm take either the "intrinsic" or "utilitarian" values of nature seriously. The total global spending on nature conservation is probably a few tens of billions of US dollars annually, which is almost negligible in terms of the global economy. Compared with expenditure on defence, trade, agriculture, health, or social security, it is essentially invisible. The amount spent each year through government subsidies to destroy nature massively outweighs the amount spent to conserve nature.
Given all of this, it is remarkable how much positive impact the tiny conservation investment actually has. If we paid what it really takes to stop extinctions (perhaps a 100-fold increase in expenditure, which would still be very small in global economic terms), we would certainly see dr
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 8. Lifestyles]

Simon Stuart, UK, E024

We are in a rural area with a low population. But the environment is being eroded for industry and holiday homes. Industry here is small-scale but it can still encroach on fragile habitats.
On all species the biggest problem is lack of awareness as people are more focused on their own needs. Much of the information people get is media led and this can be influenced by governments/organisations.
For example, internationally the illegal wildlife trade is always focused on elephants, rhinos, tigers, etc. However trade in otters is huge - for every tiger skin found there are at least 10 otter skins and one haul in Tibet had 778 otter skins. In S India otters make up 20-30% of the illegal trade and they are disappearing rapidly. But this information is difficult to get out to the public.
We have become a celebrity-led society and so unless an organisation has a celebrity to speak for them their voice will not be heard.
Also most funds are put into human-related projects. In the UK we have various fundraising events - Sports Relief, Comic Relief, etc - and they all raise funds for human projects. Yes, of course it is important to help people but the balance is so one-sided.
Raising funds for wildlife projects is becoming increasingly more difficult. At a guess I would say that 95% charity donations are human-related. Out of the remaining 5% I would say that 4% goes on domestic animals. That leaves just 1% for wildlife and as I said most of that will go for tigers, elephants etc. Yes of course they are at extreme risk but so are other species and they are just overlooked.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

SCOTLAND, E025

I see that the awareness of high educated youngsters are increasing on these 11 global issues and that they seek for and are working on solutions within multidisciplinary partnerships. These partnerships require a central petal force. However this high educated fore front runners are ignored by the largest part of the global population who are less educated and or less interested. They are often driven by a central fugal force and look towards creating radical solutions that leads chaos and extremism.
[(An increasing lack of historical awareness of large part of next generation population on local and global issues related to the environment and the sustainable development goals)]

THE NETHERLANDS, E026

It is rather contrived to rank these environmental issues when they are all linked. Climate change can cause or exacerbate water shortages with attendant food shortages which are amplified by population pressures, which are usually accompanied by increased pollution. The resulting economic problems can then lead to civil unrest and violent conflict, leading to migration/refugee problems which currently seem to be beyond the capacity of the richer part of the world to deal with. The most worrying prime driver though seems to be climate change.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 12. Others(Refugees and terrorism. I believe these issues are related to the above environmental factors. Either caused or in other cases exacerbated.)]

AUSTRALIA, E027

Bangladesh (a large delta) is highly populated country and most of its environmental problem rooted to high population density including pollution, water crisis, biodiversity loss and climatic impact.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Mofizur Rahman , BANGLADESH, E029

Since the hydrological cycle is so intricately linked to the climate system, any change in climate impacts the water cycle in terms of change in precipitation patterns, melting of snow and ice, increased evaporation, increased atmospheric water vapor and changes in soil moisture and run off. Consequently, climate change could result in floods in some areas and droughts in others resulting in varying availability and the quality of water affects the quality of life, food security and also health security.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Monowarul Islam, BANGLADESH, E031

When addressing these issues in education, much more emphasis should be put on individual sensitization, and the harmonic personal (mental and emotional) development of individual students. However, current trends of making education more resource-efficient, doing somewhat isolated and strongly topic-related project-work without overarching pedagogical processes prevents this. Without stronger emphasis on mental hygiene of teachers and students, using opportunities for intergenerational and person-to-person mutual learning (e.g. via situated learning involving collaboration between formal education and local communities), there is a risk of developing a mentally and ethically unstable generation that is not sensible enough for sustainability values and that is easy to influence.
[-]

HUNGARY, E038

Often politics does not allow to take decisions in the long term, as politicians usually are interested short term, in whichever System we live.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

Ruebel, SWITZERLAND, E039

There seems to be a lot of information on climate change.
However there is very little information on what an individual can do to take action. What is it that families can do? What can communities do? Is there an enviromental central where information for lcoal action can be diseeminated? Evaluated? and Action recognised and accredited? Could we not have a regular enviromental report together with the daily weather report. Up dates on why small actions to save the world are most effective. Who is doing them and why. There is no need to wait for the governments or big organisations to get their act together. Local action should be possible. Why are we not giving out information on self help for nature. If we had a nature self help day
We may reap the benefits of reducing or eliminating pollution.
Let us not forget the power of individual action to start.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(*Information on current situation *Actions needed to be taken *Annual goals and results *How will our actions help *Who is measuring them how? *HOW IS THE INFORMATION DISEMINATED AND EVALUATED.)]

ENGLAND, E040

Extreme weather has become even more extreme due to global warming and domino effects of climate shifts caused by human intervention. Until we figure out a way to make it economically desirable to improve our environment, the situation will continue to deteriorate.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(invasive species)]

USA, E042

Despite the general understanding of the need for strong climate change mitigation action, practical decicions in all levels, from governments to local administrations, organizations and private citizens very rarely take it into account. Usually it is not economic, technical, scientific or practical problem. Although it still for many an educational problem, the main problem is psychological. Simple mental fixation into traditions and business as usual prevents action, whether it is about everyday purchases or long-term policies.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

SWEDEN, E045

All of these issues are important, but the big engines driving most of the other problems are human population growth and lifestyles. they have now driven environmental destruction to the breaking point, with Climate Change simply being the most ubiquitous and dramatic example. We must learn to restrain our numbers and our destructive way of living, fast. I believe it is already too late to avert planetary disaster, but what happens in the next geologic era--post this extinction crisis--may depend on what we learn now.
[-]

USA, E047

Growing population is using more and more land, in particular with the current and foreseeable lifestyles.
[3. Land Use, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles]

SWITZERLAND, E048

The primary factor driving all other environmental problems is global human overpopulation, which can only be successfully remediated by increased voluntary use of contraception. Anthropogenic climate change is a consequence and symptom of this overpopulation. The single most dangerously overpopulated nation is the USA, because (a) it has one of the absolutely largest populations (>300 million), multiplied by (b) the most affluent and wasteful per-capita lifestyle -- hence the largest per-capita ecological footprint. However, its population growth is due mainly to immigration; so more energy-efficient, less wasteful lifestyles in the USA need to be accompanied by increased use of contraception in nations that still have fertility rates in excess of replacement level. The necessary goal is to achieve a gradually declining global population during this century, until it reaches a size in accord with the carrying capacity of the Earth, and therefore indefinitely sustainable at a standard of living compatible with human dignity. In no other way can the living standard of the poor be raised (making them, obviously, greater consumers) at the same time as the aggregate environmental impact of humanity is lessened. Both of these latter outcomes are moral as well as practical imperatives.
[-]

Daryl Domning, USA, E049

The human population size is the ultimate cause of all our environmental problems. Unless we solve the problems of overpopulation, all other solutions will be partial fixes. Partial fixes may be able to keep the earth habitable by humans but not by all the rest of the life forms that have evolved to live on earth and that contribute to the maintenance of a functional, habitable planet.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population]

Roger A Powell, USA, E050

I believe that most of the concerns in regards to the environment relate back to the human growing human population.
[-]

USA, E051

Increased attention should be paid to the prevention of the extinction of species.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Endangered species.)]

USA, E052

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Human Rights & Rights of All Life Forms. We must see ourselves as stewards, not owners, of our planet.)]

Alfredo Quarto, USA, E053

Canada which has an economy that to date is very dependant on fossil fuels for its health, is facing a major challenge as the world, by necessity, transitions to a renewable energy economy. All of the Environmental Problems listed are a concern to Canadians to one degree or another, but the need to take drastic action to reduce carbon emissions and achieve appropriate targets is the problem of immediate concern to our citizens.
[10. Environment and Economy]

CANADA, E054

Political leaders and social leaders are avoiding the population issue and have had their heads in the sand for the last 3 decades. Because of this, it will not only be one of the most harmful impacts on our planet, but also our survival. It will also cause conflict within human populations, which will be a very sad reality.
Seems like our current economic philosophy has a lot to do with the continual destruction of our life support systems. Until the environment, human wellbeingness/happiness instead of elite wealth are taken into account, we will continue to drive ourselves into extinction along with many other species. Economists, country financial leaders need to change how they account for the damage they are doing to the planet.
Both the above highly influence land use. Even in low density, wealthy countries like Australia, we still see politicians allowing development of the best agricultural land for housing, without any thought to the fact they are driving up food prices, because they are pushing our farmers on less productive land, they have not taken into consideration climate change, which will ensure more and more farmers will fail in these marginal lands....it is so stupid...it is just hard as an ordinary citizen to

see such stupid, greedy and short termed decisions being made by our leadership...
This is maybe the topic missing above....leadership! Right now there is so little reliable and trustworthy leaders in any country, it makes it hard for citizens to be behind governments.
[3. Land Use, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy]

debby cox, AUSTRALIA, E055

Environment is becoming more critical at a time when public opinion is being overwhelmed by other pressing issues like the economic gap between rich and poor, terrorism, education equality, immigration, and social justice. Environment is often a driver to many of these other issues bu the link is not often made either by the public or policy makers. Unless this is turned around, these issues will be neglected and little or no action will be taken. Awareness and action are inextricably linked.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, (Community Resilience)]

Keith A Wheeler, USA, E058

I am extremely concerned about the loss of pollinators due to environmental issues. I am also worried about extremely unsustainable lifestyles, especially in emerging markets where environmental programs are not yet implemented but also in economies like the US. We live on one planet. Everyone will be affected by what everyone else is doing. Without water, there is no life. I do not think hat we have the technology ready to produce it at a low enough cost. If we run out of water, there will be war. And there will be no food and no animals in the long run.
[-]

AUSTRALIA, E059

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in order to continue the development- as a whole-of the planet and all of its people there is a great concern how we can manage our planet. This has to do with the raise of ocean/sea levels. The reduction of glaciers and the flooding of rivers. These and some other aspects are a great threat or mankind as a whole- but more seriously for the emerging countries that cannot yet protect themselves against the events described.
Apart from fossil fuels WATER will be the main cause for discussins between people in the near future. The sources are limited and often in hand of foreign powers. In case of disputes water can be shut off and can force others to fight. Only 2-3 days without some water is the maximum for an individual to survive. No food can be produced without water- no cattle can live without H2O.If in the near future there will be no stable structure between environment and economy there will be a disbalance and this can cause great discomfort- up to ars ending in a great ”kladaradatsh” the big bang foreseen by Marx
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

gerard baars, THE NETHERLANDS, E060

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (Our propensities for violence and our xenophobia. General science illiteracy, especially how science works and how scientists think about issues.)]

Edward Hessler, USA, E061

After many decades of scientific advice, environmental problems continue to ignored by big business, decision makers, politicians and lawmakers, and ignored in favor of economic development and the of nations economy
This greed clearly needs to stop if we are to have any future on this planet. As a scientist, I have no idea how to achieve this...
[-]

JAPAN, E062

After the top three (climate change, biodiversity, and water resources), I see the next big issue being #10, the environment and the economy. The threat I see is that increasing income inequality spills over into further deterioration of the environment. Reversing income inequality will help us move toward a more sustainable economy.
[10. Environment and Economy]

USA, E063

We know there are multiple problems in terms of the planetary boundaries etc. The issue now is where do the solutions lie? for this, consumption per head, and unpriced impacts on our life support system are key issues. Hence I prioritise consumption and an economy which recognises what are currently non-market values properly.
[-]

AUSTRALIA, E065

Nowadays, it seems that air pollution has been becoming worse and worse than ever before in some parts of China, especially in East China. The pollution results from various reasons, such as industrial burning and increasing private vehicles.

Although China goverment has begun to take measures to control the pollution. However, it has a long way to go for most people to reside in a clean enviroment.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, E066

Of course, all of these topics are interwoven but without dealing with the spread of the consumer culture, combined with a lessening awareness of our dependence on Earth for our survival, then we will not successfully deal with the environmental crisis.
But these are harder to address and quite frankly, climate change may so suddenly cause chaos and catastrophe that these other deeper systemic issues become no longer relevant, or at least unable to be prioritized because of the rapid economic, social, and ecological shifts that take place. Hence, why I put climate change first (even if we can't successfully solve it without changing economic, social and cultural realities).
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Erik Assadourian, USA, E068

Anthropogenic climate change if allowed to continue unabated through ongoing use of fossil fuel and deforestation and degradation threatens to transform Earth's environment in ways that will cause human misery and mass species extinctions along with loss of ecosystem services.
Meeting the challenge of climate change will require transformations in our energy systems, modes of production and consumption, and in how we use the land and sea. It will require, therefore, both a social and economical revolution.
Furthermore, it will require that all peoples and nations begin to act with a sense of universal responsibility for the welfare of future generations and the greater community of life. International relations therefore will also have to be transformed. The current dominant paradigm of international relations is one of war readiness and narrowly defined national short interest. It is hard to see how we can solve the climate change problem without these transformations of our social, economic and international relations systems.
The alternative is to allow climate change to proceed in rampant ways with impacts that exceed our adaptive capacities, leaving our children to inherent a far more volatile, unhealthy and dangerous planet.
[1. Climate Change, 12. Others(Genetically modified organisms and synthetic biota)]

Brendan Mackey, AUSTRALIA, E069

The three options selected are interactive and synergistic. All need a high level of attention by world leaders.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population]

AUSTRALIA, E070

All these problems are inter-related and must be treated in a holistic way. Climate change is a manifestation of too many people using too many resources, and the wrong kind of resources. Food insecurity is another manifestation of overpopulation. Water resources are closely related to food security. India, for instance, is already facing a huge freshwater shortage. We in the wealthier countries need to reduce consumption and ourt environmental footprint. The current situation with climate change is critical and threatens to overwhelm us. Urgent action on that is required - we must change to a society based on renewables, not fossil fuels, and we must change our behaviour to live much simpler lives.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Jenny Goldie, AUSTRALIA, E071

Environment is an integrated and inter dependent system in which any impact on any one part would definitely affect the other parts. In Sri Lanka, lands are cleared haphazardly for settlement and other development purposes. In so doing pristine forests are cleared drying up of water resources, increasing surface runoff, facilitating sedimentation and deepens ground water levels. It also affects biodiversity and has a greater impact on the climate change.
When the settlements are created, the sellers further encroach into the remaining forest areas tapping into the forest resources. They pollute water and their activities contaminate the water further. Forests once cleared, remains cleared forever. Exploding populations will eventually destroy the natural systems that support their sustenance.
[3. Land Use]

SRI LANKA, E072

People from less developed countries in Asia and Africa must be apprised of the environmental issues of concern.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

Ashwani Kumar Thukral, INDIA, E073

While the existing problems are widely and increasingly recognized, still to little priority is givne in the everday policies

and economic framework to bring about the necessary changes. There is a clear need for more political will by governments to take bold and decisive action to halt the loss of biodiversity, stop climate change and implement the Agenda 2030, while adressing key pressures such as infinite growth on a finite planet.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Friedrich Wulf, SWITZERLAND, E075

The degradation of environment and food resources limitation were originated by human population growth. The great number of human population contribute a lot of problem that we can't control them.
[6. Population]

MALAYSIA, E078

The compounding effect of climate change on biodiversity loss is creating a lose lose situation. Addressing biodiversity loss and climate change should not be seen as alternative approaches but as things that need to be done simultaneously.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity]

AUSTRALIA, E081

It is important to wage a more serious campaign targeting general people to make them understand the correlation between environmental welbeing and physical welbeing.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food]

Ritumbra Manuvie, INDIA, E084

Poor land use practices in developing countries is a major factor for several environmental issues which we are facing currently. The increasing in human population and the demand for more space to accommodate the growing need of the people has severely affected the natural ecosystem. this has lead to the destruction of natural resources for construction and developmental activities thereby affecting the regional climate. The daily sewage generated from house hold activities and from urban area and industrial effluent which are discharge directly to the rivers without proper treatment has reduce the water quality by increasing the pollution level thereby severely affecting the aquatic ecosystem. This polluted river water use to discharge the into lakes and oceans which increase the water pollution. As a result of it, the water available for drinking and house hold activities has decrease. As a number of Population is developing countries depend on lake water for consumption, the polluted water causes severely health issues due to bio accumulation of pesticides thereby resulting in hormonal changes. The destruction of forest and water bodies has resulted in change of climatic pattern resulting to the change in regional climate thereby helping in global climate change. This issues and problem call for awareness among the local people and proper land use practices for a sustainable world.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Rajiv Das Kangabam, INDIA, E085

We feel that although the issues highlighted are very serious the governments are taking it very lightly. The information flow to the public are kept to a minimum; thus their engagement/participation/commitment in solving the problem is not there.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination]

MALAYSIA, E087

As a consequence of industry revolution, human being has enjoyed rich life however produced too mush pollution which is too far to be cleaned by the nature. It is widely accepted by the society that human being has superior to other features in the planet, and take advantage of human's tarent. Actually human has over estimated its own tarent to work with other feature and nature as a whole. It is foundemental problem of the human being to be part of the earth.
[4. Pollution / Contamination]

Liu Jinlong, CHINA, E092

Climate change is here and hard to deny, even for the politicians. Not only are extreme weather events affecting humanity, the less well studied and insidious impacts on the ecosystems on land and at sea going to lead to a catastrophic collapse eventually that will not be seen coming by the vast majority of people. The impacts on biodiversity can also be put down to climate change but also to unchecked development. With 30 years of experience working with industry I can categorically say that industrial development is very rarely stopped, usually poorly managed and monitored and they are rarely held to account for the damage they do to the environment. When the price of a commodity falls the responsibility of industry to Safety and the environment evaporates and the accountants dictate environmental policy and commitment. This must stop, environmental management and monitoring must be rigorously supported for the life of a project, not just the first few years of construction. If impacts are detected they must be mitigated . Industry must not be allowed to commit to environmental protection only if human safety is not pout at risk or "where practicable". If the former is an issue the project should not be approved in the first place, if the latte the lawyers will always find a way around the commitments.

Water resources, we are running out of clean fresh water and will lead to major social issues eventually.
The impact of light on the melatonin system must be acknowledged, along with the impacts on human health., The upsurge in the use of blue rich LED lights must be stopped and the LEDS modified to exclude short wavelength blue light. The health impacts on children (vision) and adults (obesity, cancer, depression, heart disease etc) require more research support. The impacts on wildlife, astronomy and heritage, security and social issues will continue to grow. Exposure to light at night, and the specific damage caused by blue light will eventually be recognized for the impact on human health in the same way smoking emerged into our collective consciousness as a bad thing.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, (Light pollution.)]

AUSTRALIA, E093

After 30 years of the war we had now the country is getting "Developed". Politicians are still not trying to do it sustainable way. many shrublands and forest patches are being cleared and heat is so high.
The spiritual connection with Mother Nature is no among them and when we try to explain no listing. Very pathetic condition.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Kanchana Weerakoon, SRI LANKA, E095

Drying up water sources is one of the major environmental threat in the Himalayas. Since, most of the population are relying on agriculture, less availability of water is creating social conflicts as well as forcing people to out migrate from their native place.
[-]

NEPAL , E096

The major environmental issue Bhutan has started facing is scarcity of water resources. Sustainable drinking water, quality drinking water, water for agriculture, water for revenue generation with Hydro power is becoming challenging everyday. Agriculture productivity is dwindling, people's interest in agriculture is declining with poor harvest and food security is becoming worse in the country.
Climate conditions are changing, seasons are becoming more unpredictable and non reliable. Magnificent portion of Bhutanese farmers depend on seasonal rain for agriculture, Change in climatic conditions and seasonal variations is impacting the local communities the most.
Small country like Bhutan, an only carbon negative state in the planet with 51.4% of total geographical area under protection and with 81.27% of area under forest cover is facing impact of climate change equally as that of most industrialized countries in the world. The issue here is, how can Bhutan be spared form such discriminatory consequences and how can communities in Himalayas adapt to such impacts. How will the life Himalayan sustain in future?
With increasing food scarcity, the biological diversity is be exploited for food. The resources are shrinking and population is increasing, What will be the consequences of such phenomena.
Time has call for sustainability, coexistence and conservation. Conservation and sustainable use of natural resources would be one way but integrated and holistic approach, addressing all environmental issues would be only way forward for long term
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

Rebecca Pradhan, BHUTAN, E097

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if everyone realise and practices, deterioration will slow down and may recover to a certain level.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Self awareness Constant educating oneself and others.)]

MALAYSIA, E100

Climate is a serious threat to the global environment. It has enormous impacts on the land use as well as food chain. Water resources are also vulnerable to changes in the climate.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

ASHFAUE AHMED SOOMRO, PAKISTAN, E103

Climate Change:
Fiji Islands experienced its worst Tropical Cyclone Winston on 20/21 February, 2016 where 44 deaths were recorded and thousands left homeless and infrastructures destroyed like schools, medical facilities, marine jetties and roads/bridges. The Hurricane season for Fiji is from November to April each year and people are fearful that another Cyclone may come again before the season is over. The same type of climate experienced before TC Winston like high humidity is being experienced now. Climate Change for Fiji and Oceania is for REAL and we are extremely concerned.

Environment and Economy

Fiji has launched A Green Growth Framework for Fiji whereby the environment must be taken into account in any Economic Development. Sustainable Development that appreciates the wealth of nature and works to conserve or enhance is encouraged. Economic development must not deplete the environment but work hand in hand with it for the sustainable benefits to the communities.

Landuse

Better contro; of landuse is called for. Deforestation is still a major problem.The relationship of people actions to the environment is critical and that is where Environment and Society activities must be stepped up and momentum kept going. Conserving the Environment must become a Lifestyle for the all the people in the world.

[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Economy]

Leba C. HALOFAKI-Mataitini, FIJI ISLANDS, E104

Everything is like a chain, one another is related. Land use changes and pollutions are increasing, whereas water resources are decreasing. These are all due to increasing population. More people, more pollution, more land use changes (from forests to houses etc.) more needs in water resources. Environment is degraded. Increasing people awareness is needed, government laws and regulations should be redesigned and be re-enforced.

[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

INDONESIA, E105

It is crucial now, post-Paris, to develop and implement a "Just Transition" to a sustainable future. Failure to do so will prevent movement to a <2 Celsius degrees outcome. It is not optional - an unjust transition that only further concentrates wealth will not finally be sustainable.

[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures]

SWITZERLAND, E106

Environmental consequences of our actions, which will be passed through time to affect the future generations, would leave them a poor cultural and historical legacy. The people with no history. I believe that Environmental issues such as climate change and pollution, not only affect the present and future ability to access non-market goods such as clear air and land, but also affects our cultural and historical roots by damaging the historical monuments and sweeping cultural expressions in the areas affected by environmental issues.

Environmental issues, which are direct and indirect consequences of the human actions, would deprive the present and future generation of their rights and ability to have a decent life.

[12. Others(Environmental degradation which is affecting cultural diversity and historical monuments. We, the Human Race, are based on our cultural and historical roots, without these roots, we are empty living organisms that must try hard to refill ourselves with cultural and historical contents.)]

Asli Abbasi, IRAN, E108

Focusing on impending doom will not get anywhere. We need to promote more action oriented initiatives that empower citizens to actively participate in the decisions that take place. Proper ESD does not simply imply proving information. It requires educational institutions to reorient their programmes to help learners (irrespective of age) develop, skills, attitudes and values that prompt them to action.

[Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)]

Paul Pace, MALTA, E109

Current situation on climate change, rate of biodiversity loss and food insecurity are alarming, with poor people at the bottom of the pyramid, facing the brunt of it.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Sejuti Basu, INDIA, E111

Climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution/contamination, to mention a few, are manifestations of underlying drivers of how humans live and consume resources on earth. It's about time that concern for the environment begin to focus on the drivers of these manifestations. They are only symptoms of an underlying problem that are actually related to lifestyles, how human view the relations between environment and economy, and environment and society. Come on please stop treating symptoms! Please treat the diseases causing those symptoms.

[8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Mohd Nordin Hasan, MALAYSIA, E112

Similar concerns are rising from emerging use of synthetic biology. We don't know much about effect of these two fields on

human health, ecosystems and biodiversity. More effort has to be put in place to evaluate these two escalating issues and develop standards and frameworks to deal with them. Right now it the best time to act, since these two problems are not enormously big yet.
Have a look at my piece for the World Economic Forum: http://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/02/what-is-nanowaste-and-how-will-it-affect-us and my brief for UN Global Sustainable Development Report 2016: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/9539GSDR_Nano_brief%204.pdf
I am a scholar who among other things is trying to tackle these two issues. Please let me know if you require any further information.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 12. Others(Nanotechnology and synthetic biology. Nanotechnology is a growing field that brings many opportunities, but also many challenges. Growth of nanotechnology; like any other industry; brings issue of by products and waste. We don't know how to utilize it, or recycle it.)]

Bartlomiej Kolodziejczyk, USA, E114

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uncontrollable and increasing population will be dangerous for environment and natural resources, because every people needs food and place of life.
[6. Population, 11. Environment and Society]

Bambang Hery Mulyono, INDONESIA, E115

Climate in the South Pacific has already changed. Rainfall patterns have altered, somtimes flooding, sometimes drought. El Nino has caused corals to bleach and giant clams to die very quickly (in a few days). Extreme weather events, such as cyclones, are stronger.
The changing weather patterns have caused many trees to die, and important seabird species to go elsewhere ~ although this seems to be temporary, and as the lagoon cools down again they should return to nest.
The oceans are full of plastic: this washes ashore on our very remote atolls, leaving us with no choice but to burn the debris, even though this exacerbates greenhouse gas emissions. The consumer world needs to wake up to the true impacts of its life-style. It needs a rapid shift away from a carbon-intensive paradigm to something much more eco-friendly.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination]

Dr Michael White, COOK ISLANDS, E117

Information on biodiversity, the species, its distribution and abundance are lacking. In addition, information on ecosystem process are also lacking.The details pertained to biodiversity, the people's role in conservation, the dependence and the level of sustainability also need urgent attention.It is important to promote research with specific objectives involving scientific community wherever they are placed. The prioritisation of natural areas, based on certain criteria also require attention.
Water Resources have become scarce and need management at various levels; the sources, the use and the threats based on scientific information.
There should be enough stress on the environment and society, the crucial role played by the different components of the environment on the society.
There is also the need for conservation awareness programmes especially among the local community, policy makers and the implementing agencies. Important to empower credible NGOs for various activities with the people and also in generating relevant information.
[2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

Dr P S Easa, INDIA, E118

The root cause of our environmental problems is population. There are too many people on the earth to be supported in a sustainable way. I have seen credible estimates that the earth could support 1 billion people sustainably. We currently have 9 billion and are still adding more. We have no global policy to encourage a gradual reduction in population. Many national policies encourage further population growth. We need to move to a global goal of a stable population of ~1 billion.
Global climate change is the latest manifestation of the impact of too many people. Technical approaches to reduce climate change are possible, but mankind refuses to address the problem in any substantive way. We have no serious carbon tax; we are shutting down our nuclear plants; we subsidize inefficient "renewable" energy sources. We need a strategy to move to a zero-carbon energy economy.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy]

Kenneth R. Schultz, USA, E119

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Community participated mangrove management should be undertaken in mangrove rich countries for enhancing fishery resources of estuary areas. This is to make sure that the lives and livelihoods of coastal and fishermen community are protected from cyclones, storms and tsunamis.)]

Ravishankar Thupalli, INDIA, E121

Human population management, perhaps the biggest issue for mankind, is hardly mentioned or talked-about by anybody. Many other issues are solvable or can be managed or lessened through good science and policy that is accepted. However, superstition seems to rule even the most powerful leaders.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, E122

Loss of biodiversity, soil erosion and water availability due to invasive deer Rusa
Loss of biodiversity and soil erosion due to nickel mining
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

NEW CALEDONIA, E123

The greatest area of concern is global inequality, in part driven by environmental factors, but mostly driven by first world greed, ignorance and lack of concern for others not in direct connection with our own society.
[11. Environment and Society]

AUSTRALIA, E124

The population problem can be solved within a human rights framework. However, many leaders assume the problem is lack of access to contraception. However, it is clear that the primary barrier to use of family planning is people wanting bigger families. The other top reasons are misinformation about safely and effectiveness of contraception, male opposition, religious objection, and personal opposition. It is clear that providing contraceptive services alone will not solve the population problem. The tradition of large families is a deciding factor in fertility rates in much of sub-Saharan Africa. For example, the 2013 Demographic and Health Survey in Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, found that the average ideal number of children for married women was 7.1. For married men, it was 9.3. The fertility rate in Nigeria is 5.5 children per woman, which is below what people say they actually want.
Changing this situation takes more than provision of family planning services. It requires helping people understand the personal benefits in health, wealth, and family harmony of limiting and spacing births. It also involves role modeling family planning use and overcoming fear that contraceptives are dangerous or that planning one's family is unacceptable. It requires getting husbands and wives to talk to each other about use of family planning – a key step in the process to begin using contraceptives. Delaying marriage and childbearing until adulthood and educating girls are critical as well.
As shown by the work of Population Media Center, use of entertainment mass media is useful for creating drama programs in which key characters gradually evolve into positive role models for the audience for small family norms, daughter education, stopping child marriage, child spacing, and use of family planning methods.
[6. Population, (It has become increasingly difficult to discuss the population issue, making it more difficult to address it.)]

William N. Ryerson, USA, E125

Governance issues. Despite being democratic countries, governance in New Zealand and Australia is unduly influenced by non-democratic lobby groups working for major polluters, notably fossil fuel companies and industrial agriculture, among others. It remains locked to an ''infinite economic growth'' model with scant regard for the looming environmental, societal and indeed economic impacts, in our finite world. This has resulted in a) continuing perverse subsidies for polluting industries; b) legislative changes that favour these, at the expense of the environment and fail to support clean renewable forms of energy, agriculture and transport; and c) very weak greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. Despite their recent climate change platitudes, governments here, and elsewhere, are actually in denial as to the real costs of continuing with ''business as usual'', and continue to ''lead'' us down the wrong path, away from a sustainable future. In this respect, I am extremely concerned about the positive feedbacks and tipping points in the climate system, notably albedo loss from the polar regions, permafrost melt and release of methane, and the release of methane clathrates (ice gas) from continental shelves. These are all happening now, and without drastic, rapid transformation of our energy, agricultural and indeed economic systems, will drive our climate and ocean chemistry into states unknown during the brief history of our species on this planet. And these governance issues are occurring in relatively wealthy ''well educated, developed, first world'' nations that should be at the forefront of the urgently-needed transformation of our energy, agricultural and transport systems, among other sectors.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(There are strong synergisms among most of these issues that compound thier individual impacts.)]

Lyndon DeVantier, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, E126

[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (The issue of climate change impacts every other issue, from water and resources to biodiversity, to the economy. This has become a moral imperative at every level.)]

USA, E127

Human population increase is by far the most critical. There are just too many of us, unsustainable for our planet.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 11. Environment and Society]

Lorraine Cairnes, AUSTRALIA, E128

This part of the world polpulation explosion plays a vital role in damaging the environment.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Prakash Mardaraj, INDIA, E130

All of the issues are related to the population. The carrying capacity of the world is at or beyond its limit. Modern societies waste resources without any understanding on what they are doing. The overuse of carbon fuels can only lead to disaster.
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USA, E132

Working now in SE Asia with Fulbright I see huge damage to the environment and especially the biodiversity of the region. The populations are just too overwhelming and all are demanding a bigger piece of the pie. It seems to me that conservation awareness and population controls are critical.
[2. Biodiversity]

MYANMAR, E133

We stand in a predicament caused by our addiction to endless growth on a fintie planet. Children can tell you this will not work, yet governments and business continue to assume that growth is not only possible but good - when in fact it is the cause of unsustainability. Two thirds of life is at risk of extinction by the end of this century, yet most dont know this or deny the risk. We need to break our addiction to an endless growth economy, breakthrough denial, and move to a steady state economy. That means accepting the endless growth is the cause of our problems and overpopulation and overconsumption are the key drivers of the environmental crisis.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(Denial of reality is our greatest problem since most societies continue to ignore the environmental crisis. Another problem is the equating of sustainability with a ''sustainable development'' based on endless growth. The key problems of overconsumption and overpopulation continue to be ignored.)]

Haydn Washington, AUSTRALIA, E134

Sea-level rise (not mentioned in your list) seems to be accelerating. It is conceptually simple and devastating to millions of people. Should be made more visible as a central issue of climate change by climatologist and geologist experts. Calculation of expected damage should be comparatively simple and very impressive for those with an interest in the economy. Essentially uninsurable.
[1. Climate Change]

USA, E136

We may knew about pollution or contamination which happening in Indonesia. Lately, tropical rainforest in Indonesia extremely damaged because forest fires, illegal logging, and many others. Because of the forest caught on fire, made Indonesia be covered by smoke and impact to human health. Not only in Indonesia region like Sumatra or Kalimantan but also impact to neighboring countries such as Singapore, Malaysia, and Brunei. This is a very important issue to be investigated. We have to cooperate between government and community or society. For human rights, for human health, forest fire and illegal logging must be invetigated.
[4. Pollution / Contamination]

Novia Liza Rahmawaty, INDONESIA, E137

In Pakistan specifically and in Asia the population increase and the accurate data not available regarding the population. due to this following planning is not possible
1. Basic needs can't be planned like meal, shelter, health and education etc.
2. Due to miscalculation not possible to provide required infrastructure for public movement and public transport etc.
3. Extra ordinary increase in population cause to damage the existing systems. and available resources can't be justifiably distributed
Due to these issues, communities become more and more deprived and the development not possible as per the mark suggested that the administration should strictly calculate the population to avoid any further big loss
[6. Population]

Mian Mohammad Asim, PAKISTAN, E138

[12. Others(The worlds oceans have the capacity to address the key challenges affecting human society such as food security. At present management of marine resources and ecosystem is ineffective in many regions of the world. We need to develop and implement effective ecosystem-based management globally.)]

UK, E146

The environment takes a hard hit in a country like Finland, in a current state of economic regression. The politicians support a policy advocated by economic stakeholders to gain economic growth by any cost, regardless the impacts on the environment. Shortsighted policy making by reducing the resources (by funding, legislation an re-organisations) to governmental environmental protection is a frightening trend in our country.
[10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

FINLAND, E150

If we dont see human population stablisation, much of what we do so save people and the planet will be outweighed by the increased magnitude of human impacts (such as habitat destruction, climate change, water pollution, air pollution etc).
In the meantime, we are seeing unprecedented heating events in Australia, which is causing unprecented marine heatwaves. This is leading to major episodes of marine habitat degradation and loss on both the West Coast and the East Coast - the northern Great Barrier Reef on the East Coast is experiencing its first mass bleaching as I write this survey response (24 March, 2016). In 2010-11, coastal Western Australian reefs experienced their first mass bleaching, with 10 weeks of above average temperature anomalies of 2-4C. We also saw up to 90% of sea grass wiped on in Shark Bay, in coastal western Australia. Shark Bay has historically held the third largest sea grass meadow in the world.
It seems to me that we have now reached a devastated tipping point in terms of the effects of extreme thermal events on marine ecosystems. Since the frequency and magnitude of these events is projected to increase as the climate warms and CO2 and methane increase in concentration, causing the added stressor of ocean acidification, I am EXTREMELY concerned.
[6. Population]

AUSTRALIA, E152

Over-population is the key and principal driver of our environmental crisis. In your explanation above that says ”Population growth beyond what the Earth can support; aging of the population” you need to remove ”aging of the population” as these are two different issues and ”aging of the population”, while of concern to current generations for other reasons, is irrelevant. We can do all that we can to improve biodiversity, enlarge protected areas and their management, reduce consumption and energy use, etc. However, everything we do is nullified as human population pressure continues to increase. I recently listened to a speech given at the Rio conference by Severn Cullis-Suzuki who said that the world had 5 billion people and the environmental situation was critical. This was in 1992. We are now 2016, the population is at 7.4 billion and still growing, and the environmental situation is even worse. We have very little time left. No conservation organisation or government is willing to address this fundamental issue since it is politically too hard and financially suicidal. But until population growth is checked and reduced, we as conservationists are fiddling while Rome burns.
[6. Population]

Wendy Strahm, SWITZERLAND, E154

It is extremely difficult to rank these issues, because they are all inter-connected.
[-]

SWEDEN, E156

While all of the 11 options presented have impacted the planet to some degree, I believe that some of the most pervasive and destructive issues are tied with human population growth, land use, and lifestyles in developed countries. All of these affect biodiversity, and will likely be aggravated by the effects of climate change. More sustainable land use, that is wildlife-friendly and promotes a more frugal lifestyle is needed in order to ensure the sustainability of our societies and the planet's biodiversity. Particularly in Europe, agriculture remains one of the most pressing issues to address, as it cover a very significant portion of Europe's area. Less intensive agricultural practices should be encouraged, and greening measures implemented at a wider scale. Nature-based solutions should be sought to address environmental problems, and promote better connectivity between urban environments and the wider landscape.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles]

BELGIUM, E157

The core problem is the fundamental disconnect between the (global) economy, driven by extreme short-termism (quarterly reporting) and global issues such as biodiversity and climate change, where impacts are felt (and do aggregate) over much longer time-scales (decades). Therefore, internalization (i.e. valuation) of known externalities (such as biodiversity loss and

climate change) in the (global) economic system does not take place.
But the problem does not solely exist on the macro level, it is the micro (single small transaction) level where consumers are either not aware, not educated enough, most often simply willingly ignorant (i.e. selfish) to take any wider perspective into account in their daily purchases (i.e. decision-making) - how else could one buy most of the clothing produced today, not to say anything about food.
[1. Climate Change, 10. Environment and Economy]

SWITZERLAND, E158

I am a South African living in Europe for the duration of my doctoral studies. I find that the issues of greatest concern here are linked to lifestyles.
Although all other issues remain important globally (climate change, biodiversity loss, decrease in water resources, pollution & contamination) it is the excessive lifestyles of the West, coupled with the booming populations of the South and East which are the source of all of the aforementioned problems. Until population size and excessive lifestyles are actually addressed globally, we will simply be treating symptoms.
There seems to be a pretty good awareness of environmental issues in Western Europe, although I am not sure how proliferate these are in all cultures/societal groups. I am also not sure whether this awareness is shared by Americans, the other "gluttonous" power of the West.
[6. Population, 8. Lifestyles]

BELGIUM, E160

I work mainly on land-use planning and environmental managament. All the above issues are intertwined and can not be separated from my perspective.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others]

Halldora Hreggvidsdottir, ICELAND, E164

All these issues are interconnected and they all form part of one big complex system where the single parts interact in many different ways. It is important to develop strong analytical tool to focus on the understanding of complex systems in the environment, taking into consideration the ecological, economic and social aspects.
I consider the current economy to be a major and underlying environmental issue. The current way of thinking in economy is one of the main driving forces for all the other issues.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

ITALY, E165

You are mixing processes (land use change, climate change, environment and society, environment and economy, pollution/ contamination, lifestyles) with resources (land, water, biodiversity, population) which is not a very useful way of looking at the world.
The global economic model is fairly clearly not working - both because of the environmental consequences (which include GHG emissions as well as failure to be resilient but also include land use change) - the reason the economic model is inappropriate is because of the way in which environment and society is structured - e.g., how decisions are taken to benefit the empowered while disenfranchising the weak (who often are more desperate and closer to the environment)
I am not sure how useful the survey can be without being based on a heuristic model of understanding of how the world works to actually identify the key underlying drivers
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Infrastructure and social and environmental context)]

USA, E167

Trees in the woods and the cities for a fast profit are cut down. Rare species of animals and plants disappear. Rather the Doomsday would come, people on this planet superfluous.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources]

Andrey Buzykin, KAZAKHSTAN, E169

Many of these subject areas are linked. I think climate change is most pressing because I fear that feedback mechanisms will kick in to accelerate the rate of warming, such as liberation into the atmosphere of extensive submarine liquid methane at a variety of threshold temperatures. However, global collapse of biodiversity, while its effects are difficult to predict, is also upon us and can only be exacerbated by the climate change issue. None of these issues is going to go away while we fail to even accept that population control is necessary; population is the greatest issue in terms of its ultimate influence but it is not

perhaps so directly pressing.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population]

Tim Pankhurst, UK, E170

With reference to the city of Genova and Liguria Region main concerns are related to:
Land use: overuse and flood risks;
Biodiversity loss: especially in relation to overfishing activities;
Pollution: air pollution and Waste Management.
In Genova the % of waters with less than good ecological status or potential is between 50 and 70% (EEA 2012). Biodiversity in surface water is of concern. On relation to Waste management Past experiences and coming development related to the implementation of the Regional Waste Management Plan foresees valorisation of the organic part of waste also, mainly by exploiting better management of retrieval in areas with low population density, an interesting field of application for Smart City related technologies. Reuse of organic mixes including food waste and sewage sludge may be pursued. Near future will see Bio-gas and bio-methane produced from the organic fraction of waste. This, in combination with anaerobic waste treatment. Key technologies applied involve alkaline Scrubbing. For all related technologies a strong technical and technological background (e.g. Regional Innovation Hubs) has been already tested in R&D Projects and is available for implementation.
http://www.bluescities.eu latest analisys EC funded project BlueSCities
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Stefano Gianazzi, ITALY, E171

The evidence of climate change is irrefutable and with it the implications for biodiversity and water resources are dire. Impoverished people will be the victims of droughts, food shortages and extreme weather events.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources]

Nikita Lopoukhine, CANADA, E175

The world's biodiversity is collapsing and climate change will have severe impacts on human well fair as well as biodiversity. The other listed issues all have their impacts in varying degrees depending partially on local context. However one thing is clear humans are exceeding the carrying capacity of the planet. Nature has a way to redress in due time. I expect a human population collapse at some point, as I do not think we are intelligent enough to stop the present overexploitation decisively and timely.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity]

Allard Blom, USA, E176

Accounting for present and future environmental cost in our economic modeling and business plan should be a priority of governement. Regulation imposing similar accounting reporting metrics for private sector could be a game changer.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 10. Environment and Economy]

CANADA, E183

[12. Others(Protracted or permanent alteration to ecosystem structure, functioning and stability)]

USA, E185

Rational discussion of population growth is still subject to an absurd, irresponsible and deeply damaging taboo. As our Patron Sir David Attenborough says, "Every problem becomes harder - and ultimately impossible - to solve with ever more people".
Ref 1 above - Climate Change: Research we commissioned from the University of Lancaster last year suggested that the cost of abating a ton of carbon by investing in family planning and women's empowerment programmes (reducing future energy demand rather than increasing future supply) was well under $2 per ton. (Standard offsets vary from $12-$24 per ton).
Contraception is also a one-off cost needing no later maintenance or replacement; and the benefits multiply in perpetuity via each never-existing person's never-existing descendants. Furthermore, by reducing the size of future populations, the same dollar has much wider benefits: improving food (7 above) and water (5 above) security; reducing soil degradation and desertification (3 above); helping prevent civil conflict and mass migration (11 above); protecting biodiversity (2 above); empowering women; improving health (4 above); stimulating economic development (10 above); and reducing unemployment, poverty and emergency aid (8 above).
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Roger Martin, UK, E186

There is a complex linkage between most of the topics above, so separating out a subset is difficult. A key driving factor, however, is climate change and the concomitant changes in sea level and ocean circulation (immutably linked to climate). Society is not doing enough to plan for the changes that will come. Rising sea level (and increased storm events) will heavily impact major population/economic zones (e.g. New York city, Bangladesh, Pacific Islands, ...), with impacts on national

economies and a forced and major relocation of populations away from impacted areas. Potential changes in ocean circulation (e.g. resetting of the global conveyor belt) will further compound changes to climate, which will also impact growing zones and food production (e.g. areas of good growth weather may shift to areas of poor soil). All of the above will enhance friction within and between nations in ways that we cannot easily predict. Associated mass migrations away from areas of drought or flooding will further exacerbate tension (and have synergistic effects with migrations driven by warfare and terrorism). A bleak picture for sure.
That is not to say that we should give up hope :). Much good has happened over the past decade or so - enhanced public awareness of the problems ahead, progress in technologies related to alternate energy production and more efficient food production (including a greater awareness of the value of eating food produced closer to home) - all are helping lead the way to a more positive future. We can adapt - but must have the will (political and personal) to do so and to accept the challenges that come with adaptation. Highly developed western civilizations may have much less; poorly developed third world populations must have more. It will be challenging, but we must succeed so that future generations will flourish.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy]

CANADA, E187

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1. Replace fossil energy by Clean and Permanent Energy Sources (CPES, wrongly named renewable).
2. Change life style and philosophical background of human society, first of all in industrial countries.
3. Establish a global Task Force for rapid forest fire suppression.
4. Global warming is likely to be well above 5°C by 2100.
5. See my novel "Heisszeit" (hot time) published 2015 i Passagen Verlag Vienna
6. Global society reacts too slow for preventing climate disasters by far.

[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society, (Global vegetation fires make up to 25% of CO2 Emissions, of which 1/3 are supressable. See y concept 100 Gton CO2, avoided in 95 years: http://www.pdf-ins-internet.de/wp-content/uploads/2014/allgemein/245/FOREST%20for%20CLIMATE.pdf)]

Andreas Speich, SWITZERLAND, E188

Capitilism has driven our societies to adopt unsustainable social, environmental and economic habits. Quick and massive changes in our lifestyle is critical to avoid environmental changes due to climate change, habitat fragmentation or alteration that will have catastrophic long term socio-economic impacts which will adversely affect the livelyhood of all humans for many generations.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Ugo Lapointe, CANADA, E191

Portugal's famed green countryside is ravaged each year by forest fires, and the problem has worsened markedly in recent years – it's estimated that ninety percent are caused by human activity, whether it's arson or carelessness with cigarettes, bonfires and barbecues. Matters aren't helped by the country's timber industry, which has replaced native tree species with the highly flammable eucalyptus and pine. Peak fire season is midsummer, but in drought years forest fires break out as early as January and as late as November. You don't need to drive through central and northern Portugal for long before seeing the evidence of past fires – hillsides burned black and torched trees – or the telltale plumes of thick smoke from the latest conflagration. On the worst days, ash falls to the streets in distant towns and cities, and major train lines and motorways are closed. Current policies based only in reducing the number of ignitions by suppressing fires, will not reduce the extension of the area burnt in large, catastrophic fires. Firefighters can extinguish most of the fires, but when there is one out of the extinction capacity, it burns larger areas than when fire-exclusion policies were not as powerful as today. Fire-exclusion policies have to be inevitably complemented with fuel-reduction techniques and fire prevention management of the forest. Strategic areas with different fuel loads would probably help in the extinction of large wildfires and might help to prevent catastrophic events to occur as frequently as they have been occurring in the Mediterranean basin in the last 20 years.
Fire suppression is currently prioritized over fire prevention. However, the fire problem is rooted in the socioeconomic factors behind fire occurrence (namely land use conflicts) and in the prevalence of unmanaged and flammable vegetation types. Forest and land management and civil protection have different objectives and both need to be tackled for effective mitigation of wildfire impacts. Managing vegetation to induce higher fire-resilience and changing human behaviour are needed and must be fully encouraged and supported. It follows that the current relative allocation of resources should shift from fire suppression to fire prevention under an integrated fire management philosophy. Mitigation of the wildfire problem depends on institutional stability and persistence in following a coherent fire management policy.
[3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 12. Others(Portugal has a problem with forest wildfires. Through out the years, the number of fires and area burned has increased.)]

PORTUGAL, E192

All of these listed matters are of concern in a rapidly changing world where the dominant political and economic leaders show little concern for the rest of humanity or other species and seem unwilling to contemplate acting in ways that take the future seriously.
Obviously climate change aggravates most other matters, and biodiversity is necessary to keep evolutionary options open in the face of rapid human induced change.
The precautionary principle applies in that keeping options open is the key to both human and non-human flourishing in the future, but understanding that we are drastically changing the contexts for most large forms of life is crucial to appropriate political action in coming decades.
Discussing this in terms of the Anthropocene, and hence an open future yet to be shaped by human action is probably helpful, but the urgency of the task should not be underestimated.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Simon Dalby, CANADA, E193

There is a strong relation betw. water issues and climate change. As water sources in glaciers and other ice diminish, the availability of fresh water will decline. Major problem areas include S. America, as glaciers diminish in Andes, and much of Asia as the rivers that arise from the Tibet plateau lose flow. So water problems will arise from climate change.
Population growth will put pressure on both of these areas.
Reluctance [or inability] of countries to reduce their carbon dioxide emissions will slow the response to warming, and also burning of fuels will contribute to pollution of air and water, as well as land.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

USA, E195

Is this survey about the fate of humanity as a whole or just the world/society we are living in?
Looking back in 30 years time, we will have caused the loss of 50% of biodiversity, the loss of 80% of ecosystems and the dwindling of many of Earth's resources (water, food, land). We will have changed the climate for good and will face ongoing environmental degradation. All this is inevitable. Humans will suffer, differently in various parts of the globe, but we will survive as species and we will continue exploiting the planet and each other. So, from this perspective no need to worry or reason to despair, depending of what one values most.
Will future generations have the same feeling of loss? Probably not. Because they wont miss what they have never known. But they will find themselves in a more insecure, violent and unfair world as compared to today.
All the environmental problems listed above, climate change, loss of biodiversity, pollution, land use, water and food shortages, are ultimately the result of a growing human population and the increasingly unsustainable life style of a growing part of it members. For this, I find it hard to prioritize one problem over the other. Addressing environmental problems is impossible without societal changes to tackle the root of the problem and cause a significant reduction our consumption of resources. To achieve this, slowing, halting and eventually reversing the growth of human population is necessary. While this is going to happen, the process is too slow to contribute to a solution that benefits us now. Addressing the per-capita consumption of resources has therefore to be the main tool to protect our environment. I am pessimistic, however, that any relevant progress will be made in this respect for the inability of our political systems to instigate necessary change. As such, its going to be a hard landing.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

AUSTRALIA, E197

We arrived at a critical threshold where we have to choose if we want our society to survive or not. Too many people are concerned, or appear to be concerned by the economical problem where, in fact, all economical and ecological problems are linked. We are now facing the situation where our societies have to change to adapt to the new condition of our "finished" world and it is not the path we are walking on. I think indeed that a lot of, if not every, of our environmental problems have and economical and, moreover, social solution, but we are still acting as if both sciences weren't linked by the facts.
We should now begin to re-think our way of making environmental science to include social science and economical science. We just have to invent something new if we want to solve that new problem.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

NEW CALEDONIA, E200

All of these things relate and amplify, it is not so much that one or the other is more important, we need to holistically resolve them.
We cannot solve contamination issues by increasing GHG emissions, we cannot empower women without also changing our economic system. The relation of these problems is as important as the problem themselves. In ecology, no being acts in

isolation, as does society.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Nathaniel Maynard, USA, E201

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the climate change and pollution are the foremost problems in this region.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 11. Environment and Society]

INDIA, E202

The biggest challenge is, in my opinion, that have produced a negligence and acceptance of contradiction that society has become incredibly passive regarding environmental threats.
On the one hand, amazingly, 190 states have agreed to very clear goals - never to exceed 2 Degrees C, or even 1.5.
But I can see only few, if any meaningful, public policy reaction that translates this into action. This goal would mean being out of fossil fuel use latest by 2050. And this would require immediate investment into decarbonization.
Yet, I have not yet seen any discernible effort by governments to prepare this massive transition - or even meaningfully talk about it.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Overall resource demand compared to the Earth's ability to regenerate is the overarching challenge we need to address. This is a necessary (but not sufficient) condition.)]

Mathis Wackernagel, USA, E203

Environmental issues are so severe, interconnected and interdependent that it is necessary to find a way how to address them simultaneously.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Human Rights)]

Ivana Savic, SERBIA, E204

Against the background of climate change (a drop of the water level in the wetland) in my country there is a reduction in the biodiversity. There is a depletion of fertile lands. In total, these factors significantly reduce the standard of living of the population.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

Petro Gorlov, UKRAINE, E205

It is important to understand environmental issues using a systems thinking approach. This helps to capture the interconnections between land use, climate change, biodiversity, food security, pollution, economy, and society. This is not an "either/or" proposition.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy, (Invasive species and global trade)]

John Waugh, USA, E206

The main reasons for felling of forests in Ukraine: 1) War in Eastern Ukraine. A lot of forest cut down on the territory military forest farm property. 2) the gas crisis and the difficult economic situation. The population goes to heating houses cheap solid fuel (wood). People violating the law, cut trees for firewood. This is large scale in villages that are located within the boundaries of forests.A large number of trees cut down within large forest areas Ukrainian Carpathians and Polissya. This cut down large trees older than 100 years. Consequently destroyed habitats of rare species. Primarily affected large predators (lynx, bear, wild cat), large birds (golden eagle, black stork, wood grouse, eagle owl) and artiodactyls (bison, red deer, elk) and others. Deforestation on the territory of military private farms is the official and authorized by the government, given the difficult economic situation and the war in the country. So to stop the total deforestation in Ukraine, requires an international response to the problem. Only then can we stop the destruction of habitats of rare species and preserve biodiversity in Eastern Europe.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 12. Others(Between 1990 and 2000, Ukraine gained an average of 23, 600 hectares of forest per year. The amounts to an average annual reforestation rate of 0.25%. Between 2000 and 2005, the rate of forest change decreased by 46.3% to 0.14% per annum.The scale deforestation is very large in Ukraine today.)]

UKRAINE, E207

Every one of the 10 topics given is dependent on population size. Overpopulation is the single cause of all of the environmental problems outside of earthquakes, celestial intrusions, of major weather catastrophes. Solving overpopulation is the only long-term solution to a higher quality of life.
[6. Population]

Whit Gibbons, USA, E209

[1. Climate Change, (Climate change will be our biggest challenge. The issue of significantly decreasing the extinction rate and increasing conservation is also a huge concern. lastly, water for the environment and humans will probably be our number 1 commodity issue.)]

USA, E210

[4. Pollution / Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, (The economy is affected by finite resources and causes stress and pollution and contamination of the earth, air and water resources.)]

Gary Lim @ Khaeril Zach, MALAYSIA, E211

Land use: in the U.S. we are quickly converting our native plant communities into unnatural communities, meaning they are becoming dominated by non-native species or significant elements of the native community are being lost. fortunately, we have secured many prime natural areas for conservation, but these are at risk politically because of greed as well as ignorance of ecological science.

[3. Land Use, (Unregulated pet trade along with ecological ignorance are resulting in the import and release of non-native species (e.g., Burmese pythons). Uninformed agricultural interests import exotic species and messing with genetic engineering (e.g., wild rice). Global trade inadvertently transports exotics.)]

Michael R. North, USA, E212

All of these things are related and all must be taken into account when we talk about environmental concerns and what we can do to mitigate. Growing world population means higher resource demand, higher pollution, higher food demand, increased land use, etc. With increased land use we see drops in biodiversity as we destroy natural habitats of creatures crucial to the balance of ecosystems. Low biodiversity causes an imbalance of natural relationships and populations suffer. We must move forward efficiently, with the least environmental impact possible. Zero net losses.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, E213

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4. I live in a city where the buildings are old, factories have been shut down, and there are large levels of contamination in the soil, air, and water. Children have been particularly impact by lead contamination.

5. Although we have an abundant water supply in Western New York (near the Canadian border), our city's history of contamination has led to problems with water quality. Public access to lakes and rivers often has to be limited due to potential adverse health effects. This problem is compounded by contamination from non-point source pollution including farms and deforested watersheds.

1. Climate change is a pressing problem that our lawmakers simply don't feel to be urgent. Although we see present effects of climate change in this region with variability in weather and pest outbreaks, lawmakers don't make the connection to climate change and have been slow to take action.

[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Jessica Owley, USA, E214

The difficulty with this and other efforts to assess the urgency of our global environmental and social challenges is that they are all connected; every issue impinges on the other in its causes and effects. All the problems we can list are interrelated and systemic, and will require systemic responses. The tragic part of this is that degradation in one dimension invariably has negative effects in other dimensions (e.g. rapid climate change exacerbates biodiversity loss and vice versa). The positive aspect of this, if there is any, is that solutions to one problem usually serve to address the others. Systemic problems require systemic solutions. We need to proceed with that understanding in mind.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources]

Curt Meine, USA, E215

In fact, all these issues are interconnected. With continuous population growth, we need more resources such as water and food. To do so, we modify lands for agriculture and therefore destroy habitats and decrease biodiversity. to be able to produce more, we continue to rely on fossil fuels, which leads to climate change. Because of our lifestyles, we still deny that we need drastic measures to combat climate change. With push for economic development (despites the new Sustainable Development Goals) as it is still business as usual, we push for growth of the economy at the expense of the environment. This leads to greater pollution, climate change and depletion of water resources and biodiversity. The only way to change would be to understand that in fact everything is interconnected and only with an ecosystem approach for governance, things may improve. But this would require changing the current basis on which countries value their health and wellbeing.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food,

8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Liette Vasseur, CANADA, E219

It's hard to disentangle the suite of interrelated threats to the survival of the human species and the ecosystems on which it relies. Population growth accelerates food diminution per capita; land use affects food production as well as biodiversity prospects and ecosystem functioning; climate change depends on degree of global warming measures and will directly affect water resources and food production.
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USA, E220

All of this ecological issues and human responses are inextricably linked. Climate change is driving changes in land use, which is resulting in habitat conversions that are impacting biodiversity. There fortunately seems to be an increasing understanding in Canada by decision-makers on the need for a low-carbon economy and the importance of nature in helping us adapt to climate change. Both an increase in the amount of protected areas, support for sustainable land use and better integration of natural capital/ ecosystem services are needed to support the shift towards sustainability, conservation and well-being.
[–]

Dan Kraus, CANADA, E221

Human-caused climate change is accelerating the effects of other human impacts to the environment, and we can expect this trend to continue and strengthen. Continued population growth and consumerism, if unabated, threaten to magnify the dimensions of these impacts, which include the rapid diminishing of biodiversity, and the exponential decrease in capacity for the earth to sustain natural systems including human societies, as we face shrinking available land and water resources, and increasingly polluted air and water. Without systemic change reinforced by government policies and shifts in social behavior, we can expect continued escalation of environmental crises and increased conflicts over access to diminishing resources.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Andrew Alm, USA, E222

We continue to delude ourselves that our economic metrics are sufficient to mobilize global action. We are at a crisis of risk to core values which relate to the survival of humanity on the planet. It is critical to identify the core values which we seek to sustain and to use a suite of indicators which allow us to measure progress towards them. Regrettably our current decision systems tend to give all the weight to a few simple economic measures and we continue the deception that "progress" is economic progress.
The current activity to identify UN sustainable development goals and devise a range of measures to report on progress towards them is a good step - but we can succeed only when the headlines include not just current GDP numbers but also feature as prominently news on full range of measures of social values, ecological changes and governance which are critical to overall sustainability of humanity on the planet.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Edward Manning, CANADA, E225

[(climate change is already well advanced, in large part be because vested interests have payed professional skeptics to deny it. The physics and chemistry of climate change will unfortunately continue to advance now for many decades whether we begin to act responsibly or not.)]

USA, E226

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climate is the overarching issue; fall out includes water, food, biodiversity, etc. Probably we are beyond some tipping points with little real inclination to do what is necessary to terminate the use of fossil fuels. Obama doing what he can but in general, world lacks a real sense of urgency and/or willingness to go beyond symbolic actions. There is always some level of uncertainty as no human has a crystal ball. But I don't think it is exaggeration to say that the environmental doomsday clock is edging precariously close to 11:59+
[1. Climate Change]

USA, E227

[10. Environment and Economy, (Ecological economics seems to hold the greatest promise in mitigating our impact on the Earth. Accounting for biodiversity-, land- and resource-loss through measures of externalities is important to move humans towards action. It has the potential to drive action.)]

USA, E228

[12. Others(Unplanned influx of people from other countries, often exacerbated by unsustainable population growth, conflicts,

poverty, and/or lack of opportunities in their country of origin.)]

AUSTRALIA, E229

Biodiversity loss is among the crucial issues the world is facing, today not only the key stones species required conservation but also the species which are locally seen also facing challenges and my not survive in future. If the situation continues it become curse to the mankind.
The number of reasons are responsible for biodiversity loss viz Deforestation Pollution, Population, Urbanization, Industrialization are some of highlights.
For sustainable development biodiversity conservation should be priorities of the nations around the world.Because If we conserve nature, nature will conserve us....
[2. Biodiversity]

Nihal Gujre, INDIA, E231

Unsustainable population growth and consumption are in my opinion the key drivers of biodiversity loss and other environmental problems. Unfortunately, very few organisations dare to address the population increase.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 12. Others(Invasive species are one of the key drivers of biodiversity loss.)]

UK, E232

Society (especially from economic and political viewpoints) mostly ignores (through myopia and short-term expediency) the importance of having functional and productive ecosystems to support human needs and overall biotic productivity. Embracing the concept of ”Ecological Intensification” (FAO 2013) (but beyond agriculture) suggests a wiser way forward that has hitherto been generally acknowledged.
The present approaches to environmental problems are not synthetic enough to really address the problems themselves, nor the overarching issue (see Box 12 above). By approaching environmental problems piece-meal (even if the pieces (elements) are huge!), each element detracts from each other element so that a possibly newer, wiser and more holistic approach becomes difficult by dilution. It is time for a paradigm shift to a broader approach to addressing problems through considering the ways life interacts with the physical environment and with itself, and vice versa. Within that all-inclusive scope, the centrality of human beings must be acknowledged from both negative and positive viewpoints.
[12. Others(Overarching issues of Biodiversity, Climate Change and Land Use problems come down to the need to change human behaviour.)]

Peter Kevan, CANADA, E233

Unless land and resources rights and human rights over these resources are taken into account, CC mitigation and adaptation measures will not be effective and/or will be too expensive to implement. These are all interlinked problems. Fact that govts. are increasingly recognizing rights in reforms is good. implementation slow, and too much consumption/extraction still by countries who see this as ticket to economic growth and wellbeing.
Lifestyle of developed countries still extremely based on extraction -- new technology can help solve this but requires lifestyle change, cntrol of corporate and individual greed and more rights-based development/movement to greater equality in society.
Biodiversity is shifting due to CC and changes in land use. Will require greater people involvement in conservation and more attention to indigenous peoples knowledge and practice as well as respect for those living in and around and owning areas of high biodiversity.
[1. Climate Change, (Land tenure and Forest tenure and rights including indigenous peoples)]

USA, E234

[12. Others(While energy production and use is primarily reflected in climate change and other impacts, the issue of access to clean and affordable energy is an issue that may merit its own category.)]

Karl Rabago, USA, E235

Loss of healthy & vibrant populations of all species is my primary concern, not just extinction of species. Humans treat the natural world like a colony, rearranging it and exploiting it to suit their purposes, causing enormous destruction.
Biodiversity loss is a symptom of that colonization and to halt biodiversity loss this relationship of domination must be dismantled. Human population needs to be drastically reduced and human consumption as a whole drastically lowered. These are root causes and without addressing them the biological impoverishment of the Earth will continue. Direct protection of other species in large, connected protected areas is extremely important. But these areas cannot survive continued growth in the human footprint.
Conservationists, however, rarely address root causes and focus on treating symptoms. This includes both advocates and scientists. They also lack political incfluence, which explains why 2010 CBD goals were not met, and why it’s unlikely 2020 goals will be met, weak and vague as they are.

[12. Others(Consumption is a serious cause of degrdation of the environment and destruction of biodiversity. Virtually all modern societies are organized around constant material growth. If growth slows or stops the economy starts to fall apart like a pyramid scheme. It is like a cancer.)]

David Johns, USA, E236

I work in remote Africa, backwoods US, and reside in Europe. The problems seem to be the same albeit on different scales.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(Education. Without the education, outreach, and clear communication of these threats, they will remain threats. The laymen are often the ones that can actually make a difference.)]

DENMARK, E237

[4. Pollution / Contamination, (Plastic pollution and the associated persistent pollutants entering the marine food-webs is a growing concern of global importance and human health implications)]

David Hyrenbach, USA, E242

There is a need to introduce climate change resistant livelihood systems and infrastructure in the rural areas to effectively and efficiently transport farm productions to the market.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Adaptation measures against climate change.)]

PHILIPPINES, E244

[10. Environment and Economy, (Our government has become dominated by short-term financial interest. It is no longer possible to make short-term sacrifices in order to achieve long-term sustainability.)]

USA, E245

Climate, Land use, Forest/Biodiversity and Water are the most importance and intregated issues, not a single issues therefore it can not solve in seperate. Economic and Social development are the real issues that make the world loss the natural Resources, biodiversity, food and healthy livelihood, if every country can not control to use by recognize the sustainable way and balance of nature, the world will loss everything include human. At that time money and wealthy are no need and no one use.
When we would like to solve this problem, we should fair to do and work together to evaluate the issues that occure and write the World environmental and sustainable development plan.
And Also, developed country should take a lead action to solve the problem with the sincere mind and the developing country should also coordinate to helping to do and no need to say who destroy the world.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Ratana lukanawarakul, THAILAND , E246

The world is in a downward spiral and leaders are not addressing the issues
[11. Environment and Society, (Economic and lifestyle choices are not addressing the gravity of the situation of human survival)]

Jeffrey Sayer, AUSTRALIA, E249

Items 1-5 and 7 are consequences of items 6, 8, 10 and 11 so I have not ranked them as highly. The basic issues are a lack of sufficiently wide acknowledgment among the general public and their decision-makers of the necessity for changing economic, social and lifestyle factors fundamentally, in order to address the above items. Such change is inherently difficult since it goes against basic features of human nature.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Alan Tye, MAURITIUS, E253

Forest fire or burning of other agricultural waste in one country can become serious air pollution problem in other countries. Despite the continued effort to curb this problem, people are still affected by this haze every same time of the year.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, (Transboundary haze)]

THAILAND, E254

The need for the United States to take definitive action is paramount.
[1. Climate Change]

Michael Hill, USA, E255

The nexus between material development and environmental pollution had been well known in the Indian philosophy. Therefore ancient text pleaded for minimum and sustainable consumption of natural resources with least environmental harm. But the adoption of arbitrary exploitation of natural resources led the various kinds of environmental problems including pollution or contamination. Pollution is of various kinds water pollution, air pollution, land pollution and soil pollution etc. The Indian Parliament enacted various laws to tackle such problems which are as under:

1. The water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
2. The Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
3. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Besides these legislation's, the Indian Government formulated various policies to implement the decision taken at the global level.

However, the close scrutiny of the situation it reveals that condition is not much appreciable. The Environmental laws suffer from a number of inherent weakness. The enforcement authorities constituted under the anti-pollution laws are not much professionally competent to discharge their duties. But, it is a matter of great satisfaction that the Indian judiciary has not only wisely adopted the international environmental principles but also evolved new principles of environmental protection. The establishment of National Green Tribunal is a welcome step. The functioning of the Tribunal created a new hope of environment protection in general and prevention and control of pollution in particular.

[4. Pollution / Contamination]

HARIBANSH SINGH, INDIA, E257

While i feel that each one of these issues needs to be addressed quickly I do believe that shifting the motivation and perspectives of society and the business sector will address and touch the rest of these topics. Until we have leaders of industry and underprivileged people all on the same page it will be a struggle to truly make progress in any of these areas.

[1. Climate Change, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Environmental Education and education in general will have a huge impact in supporting efforts in all the other categories.)]

Leah Laramee, USA, E259

Land use - the ongoing conversion of habitat is the single greatest driver of biodiversity loss, and therefore of major concern. However, this is reversible if humanity decides to stop or reverse it.

Biodiversity loss - we are already losing (and have lost) many species - this is irreversible for extinct species and therefore of greatest concern

Climate change - we have already put a quantity of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere that will cause irreversible change to our global climate, with consequences for both humans and biodiversity. These changes can be mitigated and greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced or even (with extreme measures) reversed, although this will take decades to centuries and significant resources and political will

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

Rachel Neugarten, USA, E260

Regardless of how/why our climate is changing, adaption is very important especially as our world population increases. Terrorism can take center stage because it is ''now'' and effects the current population's lives and lifestyles. Biodiversity problems are becoming ''interesting animal stories'' from other countries - the accent on one species, filming and personalities not on the problems affecting the ecosystem. People enjoy watching them and most are probably not as concerned as they should be about what is happening. We work on saving individual species and not enough on ecosystems. In Australia it would probably be best to spend 75% of all conservation money on controlling pest species rather than trying to save and then protect individual species.

We have still not worked out a way to give ''credit'' for rain forest or other necessary habitat that offers a way to preserve or gives livelihood to local inhabitants. There needs to more work on creating more sustainable forest businesses for local inhabitants.

We should be supporting primary school based environmental learning in developing countries.

We should be spending more money on replenishing underground water storage systems.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(I believe terrorism could now be a factor that distracts from environmental attention and action)]

Peter Clark, AUSTRALIA, E262

It is difficult to separate many of these issues - i.e. population would not be a problem if consumption was moderate and economies were not focused on unsustainable levels of growth. Similarly, climate change would not be a problem if we did not have high population levels with complex societies and economic systems. However, in combination we have a critical problem. Climate change is created by unsustainable population and economic growth trends, which in turn is vulnerable to catastrophic shocks caused by climate change.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Quentin Hanich, AUSTRALIA, E264

In my country, climate change is observed by the change of rain period and quantity. It affects directly productivity index and the population because most of the people are a farmer.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food]

MADAGASCAR, E266

Climate change is the global problem, which impinges to not only social- economic development, but also the biodiversity and ecosystem. Its issues in frequency/intensity of natural hazards, human securities, economic development, etc, . have been proved. Annually, reports of the climate change related impacts become more seriously. Cop 21 witnessed the agreement of nations on the effort to reduce total of Green House Gases emmissions, however, many still doubt that is this effort good enough?

In this century, the problem of water resource becomes more available. To specify, in developing countries, more and more water resource is polluted by human activities. In addition, every year, millions people lack drinking water due to impact of climate change. Question of how to manage the transboundary water/river is debated in many conference. When each action which impact on the water resource can impact to millions people. The water security become more seriously in Gaza region and MeKong delta region.

Actually, the perspective of society can influence on environments. Maybe, beside solutions of policy, technology, investment, etc solution of changing social perpective could be the best answer regarding solving conflict between the soci- economic development and the environment.

[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

VIETNAM, E267

[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 7. Food, (Climate change has resulted in less food production and hance food shortages looming this year. In most parts of the country land has become a thorn issue and conflicts are common.)]

BOTSWANA, E268

Humans are the problem. They could be the solution but there are too many of us, doing too little, too late. The problems are exponential and we are still thinking mostly about our own reproductive success, what the sports score is, and what's on the screen. Climate change is now in a positive feedback loop. Temperatures will rise faster than predicted. We are destroying the biodiversity of the earth. No longer just one species at a time, but hundreds as each habitat is degraded, burned or tilled. Though the technology exists to slow climate change, the powers that be care more about short-term profits than the future of their own grandchildren's life on this planet.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

Noel Rowe, USA, E269

Whilst the Paris agreements have been a welcome result of our long struggle for sustainability and for transitioning into more meaningful ways of living, there is an enormous slowness about the ways in which nations and their governments and institutions react... not to speak about those who make enormous amounts of money out of the ways in which wealth is created. Their resistance against meaningful change has historically been obvious and even now, when it has become clear that without meaningful change those profits are also not sustainable, many just do not want to abandon the relatively easy money they are still making from ''business as usual''... So I have to say that my hopes for the rapid change we require to avoid a dramatic collapse in our ecological realities are slim... I have been in the ''battle'' for so long and the fake reasons too often given for not committing to the necessary changes have been increasingly obvious and disheartening.

As well, humans have lost many of the skills we will need for sustaining the kinds of relocalised economies and social relationships necessary for our survival; our rampant self-centredness, our violence reaching from the private spheres to our public domains, the deepening inequalities and injustices which often are responded to by mutual violence by those discriminated against and by those who are charged with keeping the public order... so we too often enter into a deepening spiral of violence or which terror is only the most visible and commented upon part; indeed, it's the tip of the tip of the iceberg, leaving - as we know - 6/7 of the iceberg invisible...

So really, unless a new wave of collective enlightenment breaks out and reaches not only our heads but also our hearts and souls, I have ever greater difficulty imagining a worthwhile future for my children and grandchildren... our responsibilities are overwhelming and our willingness to take them up seems to not be there for the majority of global citizens, especially not for those of us who should know and who have been historically most responsible for getting the world in the mess we're in... Sometimes I wish I could give us all a shake...

As I said, unless we massively start to redirect our attentions to relocalisation, simple living and restoring our relational capabilities, I have little hope that humanity has a great and long future on our once-beautiful planet....

[1. Climate Change, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Jacques Boulet, AUSTRALIA, E270

My opinion is that all these environmental issues need to be taken into account; particularly those that have consequences on the environment but more generally on the people's economy, social structure etc. For islands, IAS are a major problem and action against the threat they represent for local biodiversity must remain a priority. For example, the progressive eradication of invasive predators such as rats and cats from islands where they are still present is essential to recreate sanctuaries, save rare endemic species from extinction and allow the recovery of ecosystems in general (see more details in: ROCAMORA, G. & HENRIETTE E. (2015). Invasive Alien Species in Seychelles. Why and how to eliminate them? Identification and management of priority species. Island Biodiversity & Conservation center, University of Seychelles. Biotope, Mèze; Museum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris [Inventaires & Biodiversité series] 384 p.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Alien Invasive Species also needs to be taken into account, especially for islands where it represents the major threat to biodiversity, before habitat destruction and degradation (the main threat elsewhere and globally). It is a transversal threat that affects also economy & public health.)]

ROCAMORA, SEYCHELLES, E275

Pollution of waterways in South Africa is a real threat to human and animal health. Unchecked dumping of untreated waste water and limited capacity to inspect facilities and enforce legislation mean that industrial dumping of heavy metals, pesticides, fertilizer and acid water from mining activities go largely undetected. Biodiversity is a concern since the pressure on habitat is unrelenting trough the drive to own land in South Africa. Habitat for wild fauna and flora is shrinking and poaching for food and income as well as illegal activities is ever increasing. The rising levels of rhino poaching is proof that biodiversity in South Africa is facing serious threats and it is not only rhino that is being poached a variety of plant and animal life including illegal trade in reptiles is rampant.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination]

SOUTH AFRICA, E276

I am worried about the impact of climatic condition on animals and wildlife. I fear thet climatic changes can reduce survival and decrease reproduction rates and have an effect on health status, even through the emereging of new threats and pathogens. At the same the level of anvironmental contaminats and pllutants can impact of survival of many species thus reducing biodiversity.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

ITALY, E277

Am glad that Ugandans are now facing the real impact of climate change, before i would educate the community about global warming but they would give a deaf ear, but today as the rains delay to come in it's known season and temperatures increase society are beginning to appreciate that global warming is real like a tooth ache. There is massive loss of biodiversity due to Bush burning and this affected our water sources and the water catchment as a whole.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

Gertrude Ogwok, UGANDA, E278

Pollution and humanity existence couldn't be separated .It is clear that the existence of humanity will bring pollution....The challenge now is to control the pollution and to find ecological solution to protect biodiversity and ecosystems.
[4. Pollution / Contamination]

TUNISIA, E280

[5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Concerned about recent social conflicts (including terrorism), many of them grounded around the control of natural resources (firstly, oil and gas))]

ITALY, E282

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (Tourism 17% of GNP. Natural resources depleted: elephants, rhinos poached for ivory, horns, wild animals for bush meat, cattle overpopulation overgrazing, intrusion in parks, dynamite fishing, overfishing, human-wildlife conflicts, rapid unchecked population growth, land grabbing, land speculation)]

TANZANIA, E284

As a resident of northern Botswana living on the edge of the Okavango delta I witness extreme of poverty in the local population AND the extreme wealth of international tourists. This discrepancymust be addressed notonly by the government of our

country but also of the Okavango-Cubango basin. This world heritage site is an enormous ntural assest to Botswana but is dependant on the careful management of the catchment in Namibia and Angola.Whilst the lower end of the delta might still receive its annual flood (as climate change exerts its affect) the rest of Botswana and the whole of Namibia may very likely see more extreme hot and dry conditions. Eyes willl turn to the water of delta. Angola's emerging economy has been driven by oil exploitation but their people need to feed themselves. If development of peoples continues in the trditional way the poor will spread into the wilder reaches of the highlands clearing land, exploiting the peat to farm. The next wave of farmers seeing the bounty will use machinery, apply pestiides and later, fertilizers as the soil losese its fertility.
Ther is nominal contact between the governments of the three riparian states, the Okavango delta is very important to Botswana but of marginal interest to the Angolans. The namibians wold like to use the waters either for Hydro-power or irrigation but have been persuaded not to develop these notions by the cost effectiveness .... to date.
The issues are numerous and although Ihave hinted at their depth i do not feel qualifid to expound further.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

BOTSWANA, E286

Overpopulation still is the main global problem - all others are derivatives thereof. Pollution/Contamination would have been my No 3 concern - if the risks generated nuclerar waste were mentioned explicitly.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Lauri Kahanpää, FINLAND, E287

Climate change is already happening--in a big way. And it affects all the other items in the list.
As much as I value biodiversity for its own intrinsic value, in the end the concern is about the services that biodiversity and ecosystems provide to society. This touches on most of the other items in the list.
Human perception of the size of the Earth and its ability to provide sustainable services lags behind the reality of the current situation. This leads to a belated response--a particular problem where the lead time for a response to take effect is years or decades (or more for climate change).
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity]

Gary Geller, SWITZERLAND, E288

Having moved to my current house only seven years ago, I have noticed an alarming drop in local biodiversity, a pattern which seems to be repeated more widely. Insect pollinators do not seem to be as abundant, nor butterflies, and some birds of agricultural land such as partridges have disappeared completely. It is difficult to know whether this is just a local phenomenon or is caused by recent changes in climate, agricultural practice or the use of some pesticides. Clearly more local monitoring in a systematic way would be welcome, which would be an excellent focus for citizen science. Literally everyone could be involved if given the tools to participate.
[2. Biodiversity]

UK, E289

There is a need of large communication and education for full transparency on Extractive industries and oil at all levels. Their real impacts on renewable natural resources, on local social life and even on economic benefits in the long run at local level where lay the majority of the population in Africa must be deepened urgently. With the overconsuming lifestyles, extractive industries bring now the most threats in Africa on Climate change, land use, water resources, contamination and pollution, biodiversity, food and global warming. Very important and urgent actions are needed
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Rasoarimanana Vololoniaina, GUINEA BISSAU, E290

IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report clearly provided evidence for increasing concentration of CO2 being the reason for global warming; atmospheric disposal of CO2 (and other climate-damaging substances) should be charched with a state tax; the revenues of CO2-taxes should be used, based on a world-wide agreement, for sustainable economic development, eradication of poverty and for mitigation and adaptation measures; fostering of environmental awareness at the individual and societal levels is a prerequisite condition for achieving environmental progress;
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Pleschko, AUSTRIA, E291

Human being are the great threat to himself. If we will controll our greediness of collecting minerals and oil and for comfort we are using vehicle doing lot of construction activities and polluting environment and water plus we are cutting trees. we are also using weapons in army including Nitroen, Atom, Hydrogen bomb, this is changing compelete environment and biodiversity. Human being wants development on the cost of environment in long term not only wild life will suffer but human being

survival will also be QUESTION?
This is right time to wake up and all the countries joint the hand and work out some thing concrete to save Environment and SAVE OUR SELF.
THANKS.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Temperature rises due to these problems: Vehicle pollution, Air conditioning pollution, Fire for destroying garbage, fire crackers use for marriage and other function celebration, cooking by fire woods. Water pollution are commonly done by Industries by mixing polluted water to river pond.)]

Dr. R.K.Sahu, INDIA, E292

[4. Pollution / Contamination, (Numerous chemicals are put into our ecosystems without having ever been studied for their effects on wildlife or human health. We therefore do not know what we do not know.)]

USA, E293

In South Africa, while we should be concerned about climate change, it is within the context of failing water resource and land resource security. Water and land are completely undervalued and so are treated accordingly. Until the full economic implications of changing water quality and quantity, and changing land-use options are fully appreciated we will lose the battle. Only when we get the fundamentals right can we concern ourselves with climate change.
Understanding the problems requires technical insight. Solving the problems requires social and economic insights. It is about how society interacts with its environment.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

SOUTH AFRICA, E294

A growing population is increasingly demanding land and resources. Without changes to how environment is regarded (namely as fundamental for sustainable development) and adjustments are made in lifestyles and decision making taking its importance for society and economy into account, expressed by good governance and proper planning (e.g. corridors, (marine) protected areas) supported by a strong public opinion, the region will continue to loose critical natural assests - esp. biodiversity due to the (irreversible) loss of habitats/ ecosystems. Climate change, deterioration of water sources, wildlife trade and (nutrient, chemical, air) pollution will put further stress on the system and exacerbate the current situation.
[6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

KENYA, E299

My biggest concern in Australia is that facts no longer seem to matter and political games and powerplays override any common sense or logical approaches. This comes at the expense of urgently needed action.
[12. Others(Politics - Environmental and social issues being made political footballs and not being addressed because of political powerplays and games, even though the evidence clearly warrants need for action.)]

AUSTRALIA, E301

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, (Poverty)]

AUSTRIA, E303

Classification of poor countries is totally based on economic parameters. We do NOT need to use strong references to emphasizes that economic performance result is the consequence of governance of Social, natural and Human resources. The same, weakness of the national economy lead to faster destruction of non-direct economy currency goods such as Biodiversity. The value of an endemic species is not yet its economic value currency. So, because of food issue, population in poor countries see biodiversity as easy access resources to allow them to fight hunger (Bushmeat, slash and burn, internal low value ornemental plant trade, uwe wildlife as kid's pets, ...). So the RISK of extinction of rare species is very HIGH. The DANGER is POVERTY. The consequence will surely go beyond coutries boundary.
Something has to be done (NON PHILANTHROPIC)to address poverty. Poverty is a humanity challenge NOT a country or a continent challenge. Now it's time. We cannot wait for time to solve spontaneously the problem. we need to fix it before it's too late.
Also, there is the impact of the development of rich countries themselves to the others: amoral Mining companies, oil, GHG, Wars, ocean exploitation, dangerous wastes dumping, ...
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

Johny Rabenantoandro, MADAGASCAR, E304

The biggest challenge is the government planning horizon. Most governments in South East Asia have a planning horizon of

about 5 years only. There is little effort made to look back or to look forward in the planning process. This has to change and if governments don't do this, we will have huge environmental problems in the future. Most governments in South East Asia do not, and will not, have the resources to address huge environmental problems - the economy, natural capital, human wellbeing and many other aspects will suffer.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Rebecca D'Cruz, MALAYSIA, E306

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society, (EThoughtless exploitation of our oceans in the deep waters which are a terra incognita.)]

Sandra Kloff, SPAIN, E307

Reduce population (growth) and lifestyle, improvements in all other fields would follow automatically
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles]

Heller, GERMANY, E308

Despite their importance, environmental problems lack recognition in most societies. This has the double affect of reducing public participation in actions aimed at facing those problems, and also inhibiting serious progress in the political sphere, as politics usually reflects each society's concerns and aspirations. Even amongst the environmental and conservation movements there is much disagreement, if not about the relevance of the problems, certainly about the best measures to address them. In that sense, the message from experts and organisations must reflect the existing consensus regarding the proposed solutions. Also, several important topics that play major parts in the contemporary environmental crisis, continue to be ignored at the political and legal levels. Exemples include population control, specially in the form of family planning, programmed obsolescence, and effective land use planning.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

Andre Olavo Leite, FRANCE, E309

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in my country, the major environnemental concern is linked to lost of biodiversity. every day, a quantitiy of flora and fauna species is disapearing due to lost of habitats (forests) for agricultural purposes.
Nevertheless, there is no strong actions from decisions makers to try to inverse this process.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination]

Malan, CÔTE D'IVOIRE (IVORY COAST), E310

One needs to distinguish between long-term and short-term environmental problems, and between technical measures/solutions and societal behaviour/action. The latter in both cases seem more important but the current emphasis is on the former.
[-]

UK, E311

Every day we learn about catastrofies affecting different parts of the world. Some distructive procesess are irriversible, for example draught.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Ximena Abogabir, CHILE, E312

Proper land use practices and planned developmental activities is necessary to both protect a countries biodiversity and water resources. Other climatic factors affect water resources and biodiversity, however resilience can be built if lands are developed in a planned and sustainable manner. Additionally the development of lands should not be impacting on the rivers and streams. There is a need there proper land management to reduce the impact on land and offshore.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 12. Others(Water availablilty is a concern. This affect by landuse practices. Some species that live in the sea have a portion of their live cycle in rivers/streams, some species in the sea get freshwater when the flushing of reivers and the human population could lose portable water if it is not protected.)]

JAMAICA, E314

In my opinion all the environmental problem is basically societal problems. We could not solve any environmental problem without appropriate societal changes. Societal changes also needed for economical changes, as economy is just a part of the society and economy works according to rules created by the society. We could adapt to the changes in our natural environment only if we could manage changes in our society. Therefore environmental knowledge itself is not enough for tackle environmental problems, we need to know how to transform the life of society (including economy) into a more environmental friendly way.
[10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Attila Varga, HUNGARY, E315

The growth of population, associated with the high level of energy & resources needs of current modern technology, has led to an unsustainable way of living in the Earth, consuming more and more Land and Water resources and destroying biodiversity. The solutions should include new ways of living and producing, in a new paradigm of ethics and equity of all Humankind. Smarter and efficient cities are needed, as the population concentrates in urban areas all over. Problems are arising but Time is getting shorter!

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

MIQUEL RAFA, SPAIN, E316

Environmental problems have much to do with inequality in development . This is not only an economic or poverty issue. Therefore the solution should be linked to a system of comprehensive incentives based on the three pillars of sustainable development. Find a real involvement of society in the search for solutions , it would be another target. For which we should not be afraid to seek modernization legislation and seeking funding for the whole society to participate. Many times , certain groups of people do not participate because they find it more urgent to eat at least once a day. Also, in many opportunities source of income has little to do with sustainable activities for the poor and much less for the environment

Then you should be wagered to display and empowerment of environmental impoverished

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society, (The lack of agreements for the distribution patterns of environmental debt and beneficts for contributions to environmental care. This, leads to situations of environmental inequality)]

ARGENTINA, E317

We have in this moment a drought caused by "el Niño"

[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

COLOMBIA, E318

$. Pollution / Contamination: I am very concerned about sublethal toxicity of chemicals such as endocrine disruptors. These often are not accounted for in environmental testing and regulatory processes. Their effects can be profound over the long term, yet barely noticeable with standard monitoring practices. They can have severe impacts botyh on food webs and on human health.

6. Population & 8. Lifestyles: While not really a concern for my part of the world, the population explosion has not subsided and the world simply cannot provide the resources required to maintain high population levels, especially when much of the world is transitioning from poorer classes to the middle class, which the accompanying resource and energy consumption and waste production.

1. Climate change & 11. Environment and Society: Failure to adapt to climate change will ultimately lead to population upheaval and political instability. These human catastrophes wil then lead to conflict.

[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

CANADA, E319

More disasters, less well being. environmental health decline.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

Arturo Curiel, MEXICO, E320

Since my point of view all the environmental problems are determined by only one thing: the growing of human population. As morally and technically we can not say who can reproduce and who do not, in the long term the environmental problems are an issue that can not be solved. We need to find a new way to produce energy to feed all the humans and meet their basic needsc; in other way we are on the way to a human and environmental catastrophe.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Raúl Ortiz-Pulido, MEXICO, E321

In New Zealand one of the most pressing concerns is how we deal with agricultural emissions, pollutants in our waterways and how this affects our native freshwater species. Unfortunately, we probably we have the worst record in the OECD. We have many issues of sedimentation from excessive land use, habitat destruction, and urban development plus we have the key issues of eutrophication, nutrient leaching, and algal blooms in our freshwater-bodies. Until we address and regulate the issues that have been created by our agricultural sector we will continue to have polluted waterways, a loss of freshwater diversity, and a high carbon footprint. Strangely, the agricultural sector has been left out of our emissions trading scheme, and yet they contribute to almost 50% of our countries carbon emissions. We need to do more to protect our freshwater streams and waterways.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Craig Morley, NEW ZEALAND, E324

Climate Change is an existential problem requiring greater meaningful political commitment to solutions, coherent policies and involvement of individuals, communities and civil society in addressing the emerging challenge.
Unsustainable land use practices threaten food security, biodiversity conservation, pollute waterways and the oceans and increase the risk of disasters.
Fresh water quality and availability threaten society at all levels, but disproportionally so for the poor and vulnerable.
Unsustainable production and consumption patterns contribute to depletion of natural resources, particularly those on which the poor and underprivileged depend for survival.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 12. Others(Public access to environmental information, meaningful involvement in environmental decision-making and environmental justice.)]

Bishnunarine Tulsie, SAINT LUCIA, E326

The use of fossil fuels is not only destructive of climate, but it causes pollution and hinders the development of renewable energy science and technology- particularly solar. Australia has enormous economic potential for generating solar energy but it is hindered by short-term policies of our Commonwealth Government.
Human population combined with wasteful living styles is exceeding the capacities of our biosphere. The problem is population, not copulation.
Development should be ecologically [not just economically] sustainable.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Graeme Kelleher. AO, AUSTRALIA, E328

Biodiversity is the basis of life on earth and we routinely favour looking at symptoms (climate change) or simplicity (iconic animals). We need to do more to embrace the complexity of biodiversity and make small changes in our net impact, we don't all need to be climate smart but we all need to do our bit to conserve biodiversity.
[2. Biodiversity]

Angus Middleton, NAMIBIA, E330

It is very important in the developing countries like Thailand to concern about environment problems. Recently, the most emergency problem for Thailand to solve is drought. According to the Climate Change matters, it makes the season changing and the government has not an appropriate plan or any measure to cope with the problems. That is why Thailand have to face more severe drought in every year. Moreover, the government focus on the economic development rather than environment. It announces 7 areas to be a special economic zone (SEZs) to encourage the economic development. Some SEZs are in a protected area, then this policy is very dangerous for the plentiful biodiversity of Thailand. Furthermore, the government allows the construction of polluting factories in restricted areas, regardless of city-planning codes. That will be affect the public health and environment in Thailand certainly.
The policy of the government is focusing on economic development without concerning about the adverse impact to the environment and biodiversity. The environmental situation is very worrisome because of the government policies.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

THAILAND, E331

Climate change as in many other part of the world, is a serious concern.The system is being altered for many reasons, including infrastructure development and other human activities. Resources are really being misused for human needs.
Environment and economy a serious area which demands proper policy development, proper coast benefit analysis should be there in every human intrusions to the natural environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

DHANEESH BHASKAR, INDIA, E332

Living in the Caribbean has never been more challenging as it is today. The talk is real when it comes to climate changes and its effect on Small Islands Development(SID) and future sustainability. It is imperative that the global community of leaders/ ecologists/environmentalists/businesses and the general population do what they can and must, so as to not only preserve what currently exists, but to also work assiduously and collectively in reversing the trends of global warming which if not done will lead to catastrophic destruction for the world in general.More seriousness and awareness need to be fostered as the most challenging aspect is getting people to really understand the magnitude of the crisis. One only need to look around and you will see massive changes to our environment from a few years back. From complete lack of certain pollinators to total loss of coral reefs from bleaching and water rise you have to be completely blind to not see it.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global

Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Vaman Ramlall, VIRGIN ISLANDS, E334

The overriding problem on Earth is the unsustainable size of the human population. The progress towards cleaner and more efficient use of the natural resources is undermined by the increasing populations. Inequality and ignorance, which are part of the same problem makes it increasingly difficult to set a new green agenda in those countries where it matters the most.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles]

Anders Barfod, DANMARK, E335

In many cases, local governments leave out local communities (native/indigenous people) from consultative processes from the ground level on framing policies that could have long term impacts on human and natural environment. It, therefore, is imperative that governments should be asked to gather people's views before going directly to final drafts on important policies affecting people and environment. Local communities need to be sensitized and empowered to have their right of say in policy framing and/or drafting. This would be one of the means to finding solutions to myriad problems and issues on environmental crisis worldwide.
[3. Land Use, 11. Environment and Society]

Salam Rajesh, INDIA, E338

Germany/western europe seems to not have these ovbvious issues with global warming, land use, contamination etc. However, our security in food, lifestyle etc. is based on exploiting the resources (including people) of other countries, so we are causing issues in other parts of the world. In relation to western europe, I see the conditions of animal farming (mass farming, genetic modifications, pollution etc.) as a great issue.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

GERMANY, E339

Some points:
-Recent paper on the shutdown of the AMOC: this could have dramatic consequences, including extreme weather events and a shutdown of the global ocean conveyor. This is not taken into account in IPCC modellings
-Loss of biodiversity: Earth is undergoing a 6th mass extinction and this is not being reduced fast enough. Protected areas need to be multiplied hundred fold, on land and on the ocean. This is a huge task
-Overpopulation: no government or UN agency tackles this problem. This needs to be addressed, as population is expected to reach 11 billion by 2100
-Consumption and lifestyles: ''greening'' the economy isn't reducing our reliance on materials and ''stuff'' we don't actually need. We are merely justifying it now saying it is OK. This is the greatest hypocrisy.
-Desertification leads to food insecurity, migration and conflict, this needs to be addressed as rich countries are facing hundreds of millions of migrants (IOM projects 200 million by 2050)
-The current governance system doesn't fit to the situation, it is far too inefficient, slow and fragmented. The UN needs to be reformed and improved. Resources, intelligence and wealth needs to be redistributed in accordance to need, not historical reasons. Nations need to come together, as the people wants this.
-An emergency summit must be organized as soon as possible otherwise billions will probably perish
-The global economy needs to be stopped and reshaped. Capitalism isn't the solution. Mankind needs a greater goal, only through science and space exploration will we manage to advance. Once everyone on the same level (a huge task), this should be the primary goal and role of governments.
Overall, we need to continue on our path but faster, as we simply have no time for more negotiations, and talks and drafting texts. Now is the time to act, and we need more than a miracle, especially if the planet suddenly emits tons of methane. This could have atmospheric, and also geological consequences that would go way beyond warming, but could annihilate life on the planet.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

UK, E340

Changing scenario in form of global change which addressed in form of climate change, biodiversity loss, land use and land cover change, habitat loss, biological invasion and water crisis are some of the examples concerned globally in amalgamation with social and economic change. Linking of social and natural components would be one of the better sustainable development options for future which need to be promoted.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 11. Environment and Society, (In wake of rising population demand and infrastructure biodiversity in general receding at very fast rate globally. Conservation efforts required tremendous opportunity to address sustainable issues of biodiversity. Interdisciplinary, multidimensional and trans-boundary approaches would be better.)]

INDIA, E342

Russia is dealing with many problems - mainly economic and geopolitical. However, having good system of protected areas, significant amount of ecological organisations, some ecological education on different levels Russia does not pay high attention to he ecological problems. For instance, the development of the gathering of the oil in the Arctic can lead to very dangerous circumstances for the planet. The economic development, the use of resources, the garbage collection and storage do not correspond with the sustainable development. The problems in the political system can highly influence on the ecology because the authorities have mainly the business interests.
The oil and gas companies (the state ones are the biggest) do not have enough safety during their working process. Their activities are corrupted ant there is no much stress on the ecological side. The actions of ecological radicals like Greenpeace are not taken into consideration - just stopped in a very cruel way.
The hope is that with the low price of oil nobody will gather the oil in the Arctic because it is unprofitable. The ecological forces should influence the other spheres (now the military interests in the Arctic, for instance, are the most important). Ecology must not be the simulacrum - there is no strong green party in Russia yet. We have enough resources and many problems but we still must think in a European way and about the environment. I believe in evolution in this sphere - it is not political, so WWF, for example, is active and has good results comparing with other international organisations.
[10. Environment and Economy]

RUSSIA, E343

If one tries to find an "umbrella" field of action, that may take all these issues together and deal with them in a complex and interactive approach, I would identify a science based governance and public particpation as the leading fields of work.
One huge problem is the slow pace and poor effectivity of political decisions and policies to mitigate or avoid environmental damage. One very good but sad example of these problem are the international agreements on Climate Change control that in practice have been useles to deal with this growingly dangerous situation for human welfare.
I have studied carefully the potential of water management as a powerful tool to act upon other issues such as land use, biodiversity and collective action that are necessary to build a sustainable región, that should the final objective of society.
This conclusion implies that we must adopt a closer position to biocentrism, allowing us to see and understand ourselves as one more of the multiple species that constitute Earth's living network and share its geographical space with other creatures. To achieve this, it is necessary to build a new relationship between society and nature, based upon values such as respect, tolerance, austerity and generosity, going beyond ambition, superfluous consumption and greed, that have been the main drivers of the environmental destruction that we are witnessing. From this point of view, it is clear that human beings should not be considered as the center of the world, and as the only owner and beneficiary of its services and resources, setting limits to human development processes in order to reduce their impact on the health, capacities and services offered by the natural world.
Therefore, it implies understanding land and its processes as a social product resulting from the interaction of ecosystems and socio-ecosystems, and that the adequate functioning of the latter depends from the health of the former. In other words, a healthy natural world is a necessary condition to sustain the quality of life and social progress.
The land-society relation becomes then a complex creation, resulting from the interaction of many variables, natural and social processes, one of which is development. This approach implies new forms of democratic, cooperative and knowledge-based governance, stewardship and management that recognize the conservation of ecosystems and their services as a necessary condition for development. In other words, the base for achieving a sustainable development is that the land in which it takes place, must also be sustainable.
Last but not least, it is needed to say that sustainability is also a complex concept in which social, ecological and economic forces and variables converge and interact simultaneously, to form a healthy and productive area that maintains and adjusts these characteristics along time. Our duty as environmentalists is to help this happen, proposing and living within a new relation with nature, based upon long term views, knowledge, education and ethics.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (All these effects belong to the domain of complexity, as they are are interrelated and impact each other, in a space of growing uncertainty, originated mainly in Climate Change.)]

ERNESTO GUHL, COLOMBIA, E344

We live in the Anthropocene, where our dominance on earth is above the threshold of nature's equlibrium. We inherited the earth from our ancestors and we have a responsibility to hand over it to the next generation with out much damamge. But the crime we did was, we damaged planet earth beyond repair.We are at the tipping point. Still we have scope. The curretn environmental problems are actually moral problems. We are not willing others to live, grow and survive. We consumption pattern is so wasteful. We consume more that the earth can generate. It is high time to change our attitude and mind set. We have five star and seven star accommodation and we revel in it. At the same time millions of people are with out a place to rest their head. The division of the rich and poor are widening and we all are trying to become rich at any cost. but we celverly foprget that , that is beyond the carrying capacity of Planet Earth. So to resolve all the problems of the environment, that are

anthropogenic , it is high time we change - the people, the govt. the policy and the whole global community. We have to work for an equitable, just and peaceful world , where Man co exxist with other beasts and nature.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Shaju Thomas, INDIA, E346

Today, the human being generates alarming environmental threats, which added to the Change Cliimático cause a considerable loss of biodiversity, which over the years could increase and cause serious damage to food chains, ecosystems, and the resulting fragility of food security loss of ecosystem services.
That is why it is necessary to implement effective conservation tools, which are areas for breeding, shelter and migration of species, especially those of economic importance necessary to ensure and improve biological productivity. Among the main benefits that entails the use of these tools biodiversity conservation, we have:
1. Promote the generation of social and economic benefits through sustainable use of their resources.
2. It will be a catalyst for tourism in the area.
3. Contribute to address climate change and other adverse weather events at local and regional level.
4. Strengthen food security.
Therefore, we should be concerned today to incorporate in the conservation of biodiversity, issues such as "sustainable development", to thereby ensure conservation and in turn, multiple benefits of ecosystem services
[2. Biodiversity]

PERU, E347

The impacts of climate change are ever more directly felt by the population in Bolivia. In combination with land use changes (mainly deforestation in the lowlands for large scale agro export and cattle ranging)the seriously limit future living conditions, water scarcity being most urgent.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

BOLIVIA, E350

The root of environmental problem is likely to be incapability in governing the environment. As an ilustration, the government might not properly manage the resource and the environment due to incompentency in assessing the trade off and in quantifying uncertainty. Incapability to predict impact related to uncertainty might lead to poor environmental management. In addition, uncertainty might cause both the governmet and other parties incuding bussines counterpart to be sceptical as the impact is less tangible. This in return can shape ignorant government and bussines party that focus more on profit than precaurionary action to tackle intangible outcomes and uncertainty. Finally, interest to be on better position might better determine the outcome of environmental governance. If the government interest to be on better position is to balance economy and environmetal quality, a better management of environment will be positively embrace. In contrast, more environmetal degradation will be vissible, if goverment interest to be on better position is to accelerate economic growth at the expense of environmental quality.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Environmental governance is another essential issue to be considered. It affects resource use and conservation.)]

Marlon Arthur Huwae, INDONESIA, E353

Our society is not able organize the required changes. We have no adequate measures/methods in place to help society to move away from short-term thinking. Economic succes is linked in a negative way to the well-being of society and environment. Economic succes is most of the time only possible by causing damage to environment and society. Effects on environment and society are not included into the balance sheets in a realistic way. Economic growths is the highest value in our society, not the well-being of all parts of society. This mind-set and its negative impact is reflected by society, but there is no realistic strategy on how to change the governing parameter of our system.
In my opinion it is essential to make economy serve the common good. Political measures are required to achieve this. Only a profound reform of our democracy can put society in a position to make the required changes.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Heike Hoedt, GERMANY, E355

[2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(Wars kill people and destroy Enviroment and kills all way of living secured.)]

Haifaa Abdulhalim, BAHRAIN , E356

Climate change is a major driver of earth processes (including issues to do with biodiversity, water etc). The level of synergism

is greatly underestimated and the deterioration curve is thus probably a sharp logistic. Are we close to a global collapse? I do not know, but when it starts it will be unstoppable.
[1. Climate Change]

ISRAEL, E360

[7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, (7. Food yes, but not ''only'' reduction in production. It's the total food regime, in particular the counter-productive market mechanisms in the realm of food, that in my opinion should be no.2-)]

Marilyn Mehlmann, SWEDEN, E362

I feel very concerned about the fact that the Western world's consumption of the Earth's resources is completely incompatible with the finite resources that are available on this planet. I am shocked and numbed by the lack of awareness and concern that the general population exhibits.
[12. Others(Lack of awareness and action about overconsumption)]

SWITZERLAND, E365

The biggest challenge is to try and live within our environmental limits - at the moment, we are consuming the equivalent of two planets, so there is a need to reduce consumption to a more equitable level. This has to be done at the same time as reducing GHG emissions, as well as adapting to climate change. The way that we use our land is of paramount importance - not only to meet future food demands, but also to provide ecosystem services.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles]

UK, E366

[5. Water Resources, (From the point of view of inmediacy, my impression from decades of field work in the tropical forests as well as on temperate semideserts is that the contamination of water is more pressing than climate change or any other environmental problem.)]

Julian Monge Najera, COSTA RICA, E370

I am extremely concerned by climate change and its impacts on water resources, biodiversity and human populations (displacement due to reduction of food resources and water, hence increasing pressures on environment and increasing conflicts). In addition, the increased usage of pesticides, herbicides and chemicals during the last century has impacted our food resources and the environment to an unprecedented rate.
The combination of both issues have and will have dramatic impact on future generations. The authorities and government don't seem to be able to tackle efficiently the issues.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Christophe Tourenq, AUSTRALIA, E371

We must consider population evolution and application of sustainable developement goals in environmental issues
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 12. Others(Envirnomental policies)]

ALGERIA, E375

More environmental problems are being felt everywhere in the world. Everyone must have a participation in the mitigation for environment being implemented by the government or by any organization. We must contribute and take part in whatever improvement being done even in our small community. Our concern in the place we live in is very important and plays a crucial role.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

Nimfa C. Chen, PHILIPPINES, E376

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cont.
all of the above are of critical importance, and of course inter-linked. It is not possible to address any of them without addressing human population. It is also not useful to have categories of problems i.e 1-7, ann then solutions ie. 8-11 lumped together; these should be addressed seperately - it would provide much greater clarity if respondents were able to select what they belive to be the greatest problems in one section, and then whether and to what extent these are being successfully addressed in another section
[12. Others(all of the above are of critical importance, and of course inter-linked. It is not possible to address any of them without addressing human population. It is also not useful to have categories of problems i.e 1-7, ann then solutions ie. 8-11 lumped together; these should be addressed seperately)]

nicholas king, SOUTH AFRICA, E378

I believe climate change is a pressing issue but also a real opportunity to make our societies truly sustainable.
In Venezuela we have already lost 2/3 of natural vegetation cover and we are nowhere near to a healthy economy, so, what are we gonna wait to promote an economy based on renewable resources?
We need to strengthen our institutions to be eligible for international finance to adapt and mitigate climate change. This would allow us to invest and improve our economy without damaging what is left of our amazing natural resources.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

VENEZUELA, E379

My fundamental concern is with the global loss of biodiversity and of the functioning ecosystems that provide the ecosystem services upon which all life, including humankind, depends.
I have not included biodiversity in my top three environmental problems, however, because loss of biodiversity is a symptom rather than a cause in my view, and the environmental problems upon which we need to focus are those that cause biodiversity loss and ecosystem damage. Climatic change is the most pressing of these, because it is pervasive, global and already occurring. The excessive size of the human population comes next and land-use, in particular the destruction and fragmentation of natural ecosystems as a result of more and more land being used or managed by humankind, comes third. However, that is not to say that other factors are not important. In particular, pollution/contamination is a close fourth as a cause of ecological damage and hence is also a serious cause for concern.
Several of the other categories listed relate to measures that are designed to alleviate the problems caused by these causes - i.e. lifestyles, global warming measures, environment and economy, environment and society - however, to a large extent as presented these are about treating symptoms rather than root causes. As such I rank them much lower.
The remaining categories relate to resources used by the human population without apparent reference to the numerous other species with which we share this planet - i.e. water resources, food. As such I see them as selfish and offering little if anything that will contribute to conserving biodiversity or functioning natural ecosystems. I thus rank them lowest of all.
[-]

Huntley, UK, E380

Appreciation of the value of ecosystem services is still lacking. Sustainable exploitation of biodiversity helps to ensure continued ecosystem services but many countries are destroying biodiversity for direct short-term economic gains. An emerging problem is the ''Blue economy''. Some countries do not understand what the concept really is and interpret it as full exploitation of marine resources.
[2. Biodiversity]

Loke Ming CHOU, SINGAPORE, E382

The impacts of climate change look likely to be global game changers, whose impacts will be more severe the longer it continues. The impacts of climate change also look likely to swamp other efforts to preserve the biosphere. While vast improvements have been made regarding climate change awareness, the time for sufficient action is running out.
The biosphere faces the threat of climate change as well, but unlike climate change, there is a lack of global awareness of the rate, scale, or source of the loss of our shared biosphere. Further the majority of global citizens have not recognised their potential role of stewards of the biosphere. While losses accumulate on a dayly basis, there are far from sufficient action to avoid passing on a depauperate planet to future generations. While it does not seem to late to preserve the unique species and wildnerness areas of this planet, they do seem to likely to largely dissapear unless efforts increase exponentially soon.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity]

AUSTRALIA, E383

The concept of environmental ethics does not just provide opportunity for spirited debate on the value of sustainable development. It has played an important role in influencing the growth of ideas and opinions, representing something new in global governance that seek to express genuine beliefs and values that should ideally govern decision-making for the benefit of humans and the rest of the living world. The issues of environmental ethics are momentous and involve moral choices of enormous importance that we can make and even more, which we must make. Our moral responsibility to nature and to the future is of unprecedented significance and urgency, and it is a responsibility that we cannot escape. That is the essence of environmental ethics. To develop an ethics of environmental responsibility along these lines has the advantage of engaging with detrimental environmental impacts in the sphere of practical decision-making and action, and has the potential to move beyond endless debates about value differences. We can legitimately differ about the ultimate reasons why we are concerned about negative environmental impacts, but we will find that a working consensus can be found about the measures to take, within a particular context, to address specific negative impacts. However, it should also be borne in mind that an ethic of environmental responsibility will always be under pressure from different angles. Over the past few years, "Sustainable Development" (SD) has emerged as the latest development catch phrase. A wide range of nongovernmental as well as governmental organizations have embraced it as the new paradigm of development. A review of the literature that has sprung up around the

concept of SD indicates, however, a lack of consistency in its interpretation. More important, while the all-encompassing nature of the concept gives it political strength, its current formulation by the mainstream of SD thinking contains significant weaknesses. These include an incomplete perception of the problems of poverty and environmental degradation, and confusion about the role of economic growth and about the concepts of sustainability and participation. How these weaknesses can lead to inadequacies and contradictions in policy making is demonstrated in the context of international trade, agriculture, and forestry. It is suggested that if sustainable development is to have a fundamental impact, politically expedient fuzziness will have to be given up in favor of intellectual clarity and rigor.

The connotation of open environmental ethics includes a respect for nature, care for the individual human race, and respect for the development of future generations, which means giving consideration to natural values, individual and human race benefits and welfare across generations. The role of environmental ethics in sustainable development consists of cognition, criticism, education, inspiration, adjusting, legislation and promoting environmental regulations. The major problems in sustainable development are extensive resource exploration, fast population growth, irrational industrial structure, unfair welfare distribution and the twofold effects of science and technology development. The formulation of environmental ethics that aims at sustainable development, can not only harmonize the relationship of population, resource, environment and economic development, but also guide behavior selection, push social and political system transformation, strengthen the legal system, and raise environmental awareness of the public.

Thus, it is important to understand that sustainable environment is the need of the hour and we have to decide whether to leave in peace or in pieces. Contamination in water, air or soil will take the life to peril with no point of return.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(Air, Water And Soil in no case be developed in any of the laboratory in the world and need immediate attention for the honest and sincere protection and conservation for future generation. In order to get sustainable development a success development without destruction is the need of the hour.)]

DR. LAXMI KANT DADHICH, INDIA, E384

Climate in 2016 is showing signs of abnormal heat in the first quarter possibly due to climate change. We expect heavy rains during the months of May-Jun that might cause heavy floods.

Our biodiversity is under threat due to population expansion, tourism, fishing and illicit harvesting of natural environment assets. Some of these humble resources such as birds nests are even supplied to Japan.

Pollution and contamination of water resources is at an unprecedented level. The Kelani river is severely threatened by human and industrial pollution. Internal waterways too have been polluted and contaminated with chemicals and as a result CKD has increased to unbearable proportions in certain parts of the country. Illegal chemicals banned in other countries find their way into the Sri Lankan markets due to corruption of the system and ignorance. This has threatened the rural health.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

SRI LANKA, E385

The world has started to move on climate change, but we do not have guarantees temperatures will be held to 1.5-2C. Most countries are not adequately preparing for climate adaptation.

World is still moving to a high energy and materials lifestyle.

Lack clear widespread strategies for transition to an economy that can live within environmental resources.

Inadequate measures to align water demands with supply, especially with climate change.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Michael Keating, CANADA, E386

Title of proposal : My suggestion to start 40 New Refineries in Japan and 80 New Petrochemical Complex in Japan by Business Tycoons and Kings Families of Japan , Saudi Arabia , Abu Dhabi , (each petrochemical complex will have 24 new Petrochemical plants) , each petrochemical complex , Manufacturing (PP, PE, Polycarbonate , Amine , Ethoxylate, , Glycol , Organic fertilizers ++ ,) , at Village side lands of Japan and on Artificial lands at sea (Like in Abu Dhabi , his Majestic made in 2014), Its will provide 60 Lacks direct, Indirect Jobs =60, 00000 New Jobs to Fresh Graduate, B-tech , M Tech, Science , Engg graduate , civil engineers , Billions X Billions $ profit to Japan Economic per year plus can get an huge Amount jet fuel , petrol , Diesel , Wax, many Solvents like CIX , Remex, Kerosene , +++ LNG(Liq Natural Gas) LPG(Liq petroleum gas) + of billions X140 $(US) to sell plus Nations own use ++ free from all 40 New refineries plus many new modern cities , Home , Shops , mall , City centers by new construction all with zero Environmental Pollution at air , sea , land mean 99.99999% security for environmental , and My suggestion to start , 40+40 +20+20+15+30 +30+20+10 +10+5+5 New refineries in (Australia , Canada +UK +France +Kazakhstan +Russia + Venezuela +Brazil + New Zeeland +Denmark +Norway +Finland , and each will have 20 +20+++… New Petro chemical complex , plus Many new Modern smart Cities all these with 50% ownership of mention nations government (Japan, Australia , Canada +UK +France +Kazakhstan +Russia + Venezuela +Brazil + New Zeeland +Denmark +Norway +Finland ,) government Plus 50% Ownership of Saudi Arabia .UAE , founded by Japan , Saudi China , USA, EU, S. Korea experts (of refineries , petrochemical), Its will like Saudi Arabia did in Al Jubail

Industrial City , Yanbu , , Its can provide Trillions +Trillions+ Trillions $ profit =1000+1000+1000 X billions $ + , Its can provide 3xTrillions $ profit prospect fortune , development , Amount jet fuel , petrol , Diesel , Wax, many Solvents like CIX , Remex, Kerosene , +++ LNG(Liq Natural Gas) LPG(Liq petroleum gas) (Billions XXX liters per year) these nation will be NOT required to Buy petrol , diesel Jet oil ++ from other nation , save each year 800 Billions $ which will added in there economic per year , to there government citizens prospect , development, fortune , and 2 lacks jobs to other nations people , prospect fortune , development to all Mention Nations christens religion (Billions in Population) , Plus Saudi Arabia , UAE based Muslims religion (Arabic's Millions in Population) + 140 Lacks new jobs + Fresh Graduate, B-tech , M Tech Science , Engg graduate these mentions nations have average 8 %-13% Unemployed rate + will provide Trillions $+Trillions $ profit , to governments + there citizens , 50 lacks jobs (upper +lower level) direct , indirect Jobs to Constructions of many new Modern smart cities , modern villages near all these New Refineries , petrochemical complex , civil engineers ++ , workers of new plants , Home , Shops , mall , to other nations people as well direct and indirect jobs , Crude Oil for these All New refineries we will buy from Saudi Arabia, UAE , Iraq, Iran , Venezuela, UAE, Russia , Libya , Oman , Nigeria, Chad , Sudan , Angola , Via Oil Ships , it will make mention nations , Saudi Arabia as top powerful nation in Globe (it can be possible by Top Officers of Saudi Arabia , UAE +mention Nations private Oil gas government Companies , by taking money from world Bank , IMF, ADB , China Bank ++ The Mitsubishi Bank Ltd, The Bank of Tokyo- Mitsubishi UFJ , Ltd,)
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Dr Ruhel Chisty FRACI CChem A, MRSC CChem A, INDIA, E388

All the topics are interlinked. We need urgently holistic understanding to solve these interlinked challenges. To obtain those we need global network of integrated comprehensive continuous measurements / observations.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Markku Kulmala, FINLAND, E390

Our planetary health is getting sick. All countries must do the strongest measures to avoid a catasthropic events in next years. Every time passes is a big opportunity to make something to reverse environmental damages, mainly in the most corrupted countries. All scientists, policy makers, banks and the enterprises owners may act all together to cure our planet. Let us search the best solutions to happen and to be success. I would like to be optimistic about it.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

Alejandro Molina-Garcia, MEXICO, E393

In the states like Gujarat (India), Land-use change is one of the major factors responsible for loss of biodiversity. The conversion of Fellow land and non-reserved forest areas are continuously being converted to Industrial areas. Industries are coming up in the vicinity of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuary disturbing the heterogeneity of the Landscape.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population]

INDIA, E395

The combination of environmental issues is quite complex and unpredictable and the response is entirely insufficient. In addition, the Syrian civil way, terrorism in Europe and migration has placed enormous pressure on the European Union, which weakens the global economy and our ability to respond to environmental issues, as well as away from investing in environmental solutions and sustainable development. Security always seems to be prioritized over environmental issues, when in fact, there is a direct causal link between insecurity and environmental degradation.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 12. Others(Insecurity)]

Alex Moiseev, THAILAND, E396

The UK government is reducing it's commitment to ''green'' policies, subsidies for renewable energy etc. The current threat to our membership of the EU, where much good environmental legislation originates, is also significant, which could have wide long-term consequences for political institutions and governance of environmental issues in the region and beyond.
[10. Environment and Economy]

UK, E399

Climate change affects everything and needs to be foremost on our minds. Protecting biodiversity through protected areas solves many problems we face: mitigating and adapting to climate change, providing clean water and fresh air, species decline, etc. As our human population grows, demands for resources will diminish the delicate balance we have on our planet and needs to be an area of concern for us as well.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Éric Hébert-Daly, CANADA, E400

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society, (I would add Environment and Society as "fairly concerned" for the region of my origin.)]

Kuenda Laze, ALBANIA, E401

The increased population density throughout the universe is pressurizing the nature due to its' increasing demand for food, shelter and other natural resources. This in turn affecting the nature. The changes in land use pattern are the key factor for environmental degradation. Cutting of trees, destruction of forests and aquatic ecosystems leading to the edge of increasing global warming effects. Increase in population leads to increase in pollution as well as environmental degradation in the form of expansion of agricultural lands by erasing forests, urbanization, industrialization, infrastructural development activities, vehicles, power plants, use of insecticides and chemicals pollution. Decrease in the quantity of ground water is another threat to the nature. Wetlands are decreasing on a daily basis. The policies of the governments are most of the time against the nature. This must be monitored. The people are least concern about the nature.

Biodiversity loss is a burning question nowadays. Due to over exploitation, poaching, illegal trade and habitat destruction, the global biodiversity are in danger. This will create massive problems, if untreated. Damage to the nature degrading the atmospheric conditions. This in turn boost up the global warming as well as climate change. The increased heat is going to be intolerable day by day. We don't know, what will happen after 20 years.

We should think of the matters discussed above and take proper action altogether.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures]

Prof. Jyotirmoy Shankar Deb, INDIA, E402

Loss of Biodiversity is getting to unprecedented levels and major intervention is required if hundreds of species are to be saved. protected area management alone cannot save many species from extinction in light of growing populations.

[2. Biodiversity, 6. Population]

Mike Jordan, UK, E403

Purely from an observational point of view, the weather over the past couple of years has been so different year upon year and extreme. This year Lake Windermere flooded causing issues for many households and businesses around Cumbria, UK. Months later some businesses and household are still empty. This flooding event is meant to be a 1 in 100 year flood and has happened twice in the past 3 years.

Working on the shores of Lake Windermere and relying on its water, there has been a significant increase in the phosphate and nitrate levels as well as the use of the lake for tourism. Charities are working hard to clear up the lake and to change agricultural practices, but there has been a significant impact on the residence of the lake including the Arctic Charr and the now critically endangered Freshwater Pearl Mussel.

[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination]

Christopher Sturdy, UK, E406

Stop polluting reducing the global warming are now the obligation of all humanbeing.The action must be taken now before it's too late to restore the global climate.The government must take the lead.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, (The climate Change create varieties of issues that reflect life style of people such as the changing of weather condition heavy rain and snow, high temperature, flood and drought.The afore mentioned caused the hardship on human lives. Therefore we haveto stop the climate change now.)]

TAWEESAKDI MANAKUL, THAILAND, E410

PTES is concerned with the conservation of biodiversity and species at a population level around the world. It also has a strong focus on land management in the UK. The combination of the above issues are critical in ensuring that further loss of biodiversity does not occur here in the UK. All aspect of environment management and sustainability - from food production, through to energy consumption, road construction and habitat fragmentation - are essential to get right and prevent putting our wildlife further at risk.

In a country where mass deforestation, large scale road construction and urbanisation and loss of species has been happening over the past century, it's critical now to ensure the tides have changed. Some aspects of rural land management have improved and forest cover has begun to increase. However in the face of increasing housing pressure and drives to increase the economy, it is essential to ensure we prevent further loss of species populations and further fragmentation.

It is critical in a country that has a very unpredictable climate and erratic weather conditions to ensure that sufficient, diverse, connected habitat remains available for species to ensure food and shelter for species that are not particularly mobile.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

UK, E411

We are all aware of the myriad specific problems that affect our world, but we must address the over-arching challenges of Environment and Society, Environment and Economy, and Water Resources, specifically this last because water is indispensable do all aspect of human life, whatever, wherever, whenever. Without adequate water for burgeoning human population, we cannot survive -- as individuals, families, institutions, communities, regional economies, or nation states. We are organized around an obsolete global paradigm -- unlimited growth driven by consumption enabled by fossil fuels. The benefits of this system are now dramatically overwhelmed by the negative consequences, and resistance to change is grounded in vested interest and fear. What's next? We must move to a new paradigm: limited growth driven by sustainability enabled by water and the ocean -- by the global cycles of circulation and conveyance, from ocean to atmosphere to mountaintop to watershed to coast to ocean and back round again. This paradigm will determine immediate and authentic new systems of valuation, structural organization, societal and individual behavior, and universal social justice. This fundamental shift -- inevitable because of its urgency -- can be made now, using existing knowledge and technologies, only with amplified public awareness and consequent political will. Failure to act now to this end risks survival.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources]

Peter Neill, USA, E412

It is difficult to choose particular items of concern due to the inter-relationship between the various aspects under consideration. My 3 choices, for example, are closely related, one to the other, in terms of cause and effect. Climate change and biological diversity are largely dependent upon human population in a direct fashion, that is to say as human population has increased, the adverse effect upon climate and species diversity has become increasingly obvious. This could also be said in the sphere of land use, water resources, availability of food, pollution/ contamination, and so on.
Measures to combat the mostly negative impact of human population upon the environment and our resource base have been essentially ineffective. This is due, at least in part, to our failure to recognise the ills of population increase on the scale we have experienced. Any attempt to deal realistically with this issue has been met by misguided efforts to extol the value of human beings, rather than to look objectively at the damage we have done to our planet, to each other and to our fellow species. We cannot bring about real change until we are prepared to accept our glaring imperfection, then we may be able to alter the suicidal course on which we are bound.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

DAVID BLACK, ENGLAND, E413

To tackle the eleven issues effectively it should be made clear in computer graphics world maps in which areas (not countries) the extend of the specific issue is relevant.
In addition such computer graphics should be able to show in which span the present situation will evaluate without substantial efforts.
Also could be made clear the estimated amounts in millions of currencies per year necessary to evaluate to a higher level.
[12. Others(Proposal for the establishment of a graphical landscape of the world map per issue, not limited by country borders, designed in a computer dashboard scheme.)]

NETHERLANDS, E415

We must begin to live by the rule that any controllable change should be looked at against how it will affect several generations out. We live too much in the moment, focused on making money over all things.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, E417

Water Resources:
Balochistan is the largest province in Pakistan, yet it has the lowest population density, largely due to the scarcity of its water resources. Furthermore, the indiscriminate and unplanned use of groundwater resources to meet water requirements in Balochistan in general and in the Quetta Valley in particular has led in recent years to unsustainable overexploitation of groundwater. This has progressively depleted groundwater levels in Quetta, which has had serious socioeconomic impacts due to the resulting migration of rural residents to urban areas. All of this points to the urgent need for assessing and developing the groundwater resources of the Quetta Valley.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

Hameed Ullah Shah, PAKISTAN, E419

I believe that the IPAT formula, Impact = Affluence(lifestyle) x Technology explains what lies at the bottom of our environmental problems. And we have to deal with these items before we can restrain the damage we are doing to our environment.
[6. Population]

Peter, USA, E421

Uganda is one of the least developed countries in the world. As such the purchasing power of the citizens is very low. They are forced to import used items ranging from vehicles to electronics to clothes. These do not last long and they end up contaminating and polluting the environment. The population is almost 80% illiterate and therefore they have little care for the environment.All activities they do have an effect on the environment in terms of pollution and contamination.This is the same in all developed countries. And with population explosion, this will grow from bad to worse

[4. Pollution / Contamination]

Leodinous Mwebembezi, UGANDA, E422

By 2018 humanity will have built enough fossil fuel-burning infrastructures—cars, homes, factories, power plants, etc.—to exceed our carbon budget for a 2 degrees Celsius temperature rise. Never mind staying below a safer, saner 1.5°C of global warming.

This is based on "carbon commitment" studies such as one by Stephen Davis of University of California and co-author Robert Socolow of Princeton University: "Commitment accounting of CO2 emissions." published in 2014 in Environmental Research Letters.

For example a new coal plant will emit CO2 throughout its 40- to 60- year lifespan. That's called a carbon commitment. A new truck or car will mean at least 10 years of CO2 emissions. Davis and Socolow's study estimated how much CO2 will be emitted by most things that burn oil, gas, or coal, and it is the first to actually total up all of these carbon commitments. Based on their work, I estimated that if we continue to build new fossil fuel burning stuff at the average rate of the last five years, we'll make enough new carbon commitments to blow through our 2°C carbon budget sometime in 2018.

My article on this is here: http://theleap.thischangeseverything.org/a-hard-deadline-we-must-stop-building-new-carbon-infrastructure-by-2018/

[1. Climate Change]

Stephen Leahy, CANADA, E423

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1. and 9. Climatic change will have a major impact on Singapore

2. Loss of biodiversity has already affected the SE Asian region (and the rest of the world), but could be slowed down or stopped altogether if conservation was made a priority

6. Over-population is probably the biggest problem facing our planet

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures]

SINGAPORE, E426

All of the challenges listed are extremely important. We list "biodiversity" as the most severe, because biodiversity loss is the only issue on the list which is wholly irreversible.

[2. Biodiversity]

Thomas Brooks, SWITZERLAND, E427

Climate Change is a compelling issue for all on Earth and for survival of species across all ecosystems. The resistance in the United States, Canada, and Australia, is particularly of concern due to the economic and media interests that are controlling the conversation to a large extent. Scientists and public information specialists must be more engaged with this issue (and not just referring to atmospheric temperatures at 2 m above ground level, but all indications of warming/melting/hydrological cycle implications/acidification of oceans.

Land use is important because again economic drivers often view things short term while ecosystem changes are occurring generationally. Focusing on the 1 year time change reduces peoples' horizons. We need to find ways to encourage people and governments to focus on long-range planning.

Pollution and contamination is an environmental social justice issue worthy of increased scrutiny. The poor are the ones who suffer the most here, and that is blatantly unfair.

Water resources are being depleted in unrealistic ways; for a renewable resource to be exploited for commercial gains without protections for ecosystems, including protection of indigenous peoples' rights, is wrong. Crop selection should be done with local water resources in mind. Reduce waste and reduce consumption of bottled water in favor of creating effective ways to increase local supplies of potable water, and proper waste stream utilization of water.

[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, E428

In Canada, there is growing concern about the effects land use and water resource projects have on Aboriginal peoples. While they have been voicing these concerns for decades it is only after the botched leadership of our last government that much of their troubles are truly being recognized. We have had Supreme Court of Canada rulings for over 20 years affirming the rights of Aboriginal peoples and the Governments duty to work with them, however: the past governments have regularly ignored

Aboriginal peoples and cut their funding. The past neo-liberalism has lead our country to a breaking point for climate and social issues. There are over 126 drinking water contamination advisories in Aboriginal communities across the country. Yet government is selling water rights to corporations. Why does it cost more for a liter of bottled water than a liter of gas for the car? Canada holds over 1/3 of the worlds fresh water resources and yet we drink bottled water?
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

David Cook, CANADA, E429

We cannot solve solution, biodiversity as well as climate change problems without changing our way of life, especially in the rich countries. We are living in luxury at the costs of the poorer countries.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Dr. Johan H. Mooij, GERMANY, E431

We are at a point in time where we are collectively making significant changes to our natural environment as a result of our pursuit of economic development to a point where we are affecting our climate, depleting wildlife and fish species and their habitats as well as plant species and contaminating both fresh and marine water resources.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources]

Patrice LeBlanc, CANADA, E432

I am working on ecological and experimental studies on Marine algal populations at Visakhapatnam since 1980. I have reported 75 marine macro and micro algae along the coastal regions of Visakhapatnam during the period 1980 to 1986. The abundance, frequency of these algal forms was slowly declining and today I have reported only 40-45 species along the inter tidal rocky surfaces. Further the biomass of some species was reducing year by year and few species appear only two three months period. Depletion and reduction in biomass of these algal forms may be due to the climate change, Population growth, dumping of the sewage and industrial wastes into the sea waters.
[2. Biodiversity]

Dr.G.M.Narasimha Rao, INDIA, E433

[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures(Climate change presents many challenges, from coastal flooding of major cities, to shifts in cropland and critical habitat, that are worsened by the political resistance and corporate obfuscation of scientific fact and the international, complex nature of the required response.)]

David Todd, USA, E434

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2. Biodiversity. This is ignored in great part because humanity is a ravenous highly primitive animal (mammal) that basically considers nature to be something to convert to more members of its flock or village. If not blocked, by some greater village or flock wisdom, it will literally consume everything on the planet or replace everything with human consumables.
3. Population. Again, being a Pleistocene mammal, the basic human thinks only of reproducing itself, and is no longer balanced by the non-human mortality factors that kept humans to be a sort of "just another species" for several million years. Now, the human rat has taken over the planet, but each individual continues to reproduce as if it were a member of a 30-family Pleistocene village.
5. Water resources. Water has been a free good, almost entirely, throughout human evolution, but it is the most visible consumable as the population grows both in consumption and contamination, and will be THE resource most in scarce supply as we yet increase the global population again.
[2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Daniel Janzen, USA, E435

Climate change and other aspects of human use of the planet's resources directly threaten human civilization, and we are already seeing the beginnings of this. Chaos, war, water and food shortages, particularly in the Middle East are already destabilizing Europe and beyond. Food shortages will continue to worsen, with extreme weather and collapse of ocean fisheries. Rising prices of food and other essential goods will cause political unrest worldwide.
There might be some areas for optimism, suggesting that we might be able to change our ways in time. Examples include the beginnings of a major shift away from fossil fuels. But overall, we clearly see that our world leaders' attention is focused on security, which essentially means spending scarce resources on military and police instead of education, good governance and environmental sustainability.
The focus on battling terrorism (rather than its causes rooted in political and economic injustice) is the biggest obstacle standing in the way of human survival.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food]

CANADA, E436

I live in a country where one of the two major political parties does not believe that humans bear responsibility for climate change. I worry about the kind of planet that my grandchildren will inherit unless we change our behavior to more sustainable lifestyles. In California, where I live, water is a major concern as we experience long periods of drought and water consumption habits that will have to change.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

USA, E437

In spite of numerous scientific reports, pointing to the continued loss of biodiversity, and the impact it has on human wellbeing and the economy, progress on achieving global or regional biodiversity targets and legal obligations is too slow. A combination of overpopulation and large ecological footprint, lack of public awareness, and lack of political support makes it apparently very difficult to achieve the required results. Nevertheless, we see positive evolutions as well: we can see the postive effects from nature conservation legislation (such as the EU Birds and Habitats Directives), the role of nature conservation organisations, bottom-up initiatives, the role of courts, etc.
[2. Biodiversity]

An Cliquet, BELGIUM, E438

I believe all of these issues are of critical importance to the planet, but the most urgent issues have to do with stopping global warming before it progresses any further.
The world needs to act much, much faster to stop greenhouse gas emissions and move to a negative-carbon future; we are already guaranteed a turbulent 21st and 22nd century, but if we can halt further warming and just as quickly reverse it, the situation may be significantly less dire.
As we shift to a negative-carbon future, we must also prepare coastal regions for the sea-level rise that is guaranteed to come, so that the world's poorest can survive the changes to come.
Water shortages are similarly inevitable, but fortunately there are much-easier solutions at hand, if we can only waste less water (through appropriate pricing policies in developed nations in particular) and improve and deploy technologies to reuse, recycle, and desalinate the water we have.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

USA, E439

All these issues are so inextricably linked that choice of what is most urgent is almost impossible. I think on previous surveys I might have selected the problems themselves as most urgent, whereas now I see that the solutions suggested as in #10 and #11 could be seen as the most urgent. Thus in this question I have checked those that I did not choose in the previous question in order to indicate my extreme concern about those issues as well.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

USA, E440

It is overpopulation that causes all the the environmental problems that we have.
People need to look at nature as a resource we take with extreme caution and not something that is "mine to do of as I wish." How we solve this main cause I don't know but we can control the footprint that we use and leave.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, E442

I have picked these 3 topics because they are all inter related. Anthropogenic Climate Disruption (climate change) is created by human overpopulation, and both are the cause of accelerated species extinction rates. The root cause of ALL these problems is human overpopulation because without the uncontrolled explosion of the number of humans, we would not be facing any of these other issues. But ACD is becoming the most dire threat we (and all other living beings) face in the immediate future. Ocean warming, acidification and over fishing is causing the collapse of many ocean ecosystems and species. ACD caused glacial melting is causing rising sea levels which will result in the mass exodus from coastal areas, and human migration. Movements of human populations due to sea level rise, the loss of fresh water and farmland because of desertification and drought will lead to famine, conflict and war.Increase in the spread of diseases like Zika will take their toll. Our Planet, its climate and weather patterns, and all its life forms are part of an intricate web, and we humans have thrown this balance into a chaos that we are just beginning to understand, and have no way to put back. It is my opinion that the human race is headed for a time of turmoil and upheaval that we may not survive. My prediction of the survival of the human race in the long run is grim.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population]

Jennifer Kirkpatrick, USA, E443

I believe all the siloed issues are integrated and each impacts the other. Essentially, I believe the current model of continual growth and consumerism fuels all these issues. An interdisciplinary approach to transforming social values, economic structures

and environmental stewardship are required to successfully navigate the coming decades
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Thomas Schueneman, USA, E444

An important concern today related to climate change is the effect that HFCs= hydro-fluoro-carbons (a family of substances introduced to replace Ozone Depleting Substances [ODSs] that damage the stratospheric Ozone Layer) have on the climate. It turns out that the HFCs, that have an ODP (Ozone Depleting Potential value) of zero, do not affect the ozone concentrations in the stratosphere. However, many of the HFCs have a significant GWP (Global Warming Potential)value, and their global production and consumption, as well as their emissions into the atmosphere, are increasing now very rapidly.
HFCs are included in the basket of substances that need to be controlled listed in the UNFCCC (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change). However, no action has been taken so far by the UNFCCC to do control HFCs. There are intense negotiations going on within the 1987 Montreal Protocol (on the control of emissions of ODSs into the atmosphere) to apply the Montreal Protocol also to HFCs. To do so requires the amendment of the Protocol, and hopefully, such an amendment will be put in place by the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in 2017.
If no global action is taken to control consumption and production of the HFCs, their equivalent emissions are estimated to increase by 2030 to 11% of the emissions of CO2, and by 2050 to 37% of the emissions of CO2.
Reference: 2009, Velders G., Fahey D, Daniel J., McFarland M. & Andersen S.: The Large Contribution of Projected HFC Emissions for Future Climate Forcing, PNAS, Vol. 106(27), 7/7/2009, Washington DC: pp 10,949-54
[1. Climate Change]

Michael GRABER, ISRAEL, E445

The Climate Change, as expressed in our region, is linked to the issues selected above, since the temperature/ precipitation change affects various aspects of the environment (including biodiversity). These issues further impact the human population, for example the limitations to water resources have increased and are recently even more severe due to regional turbulence (e.g. Syrian crisis has impacted the environment in the neighboring countries and pressures the already limited water resources in these areas).
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CYPRUS, E447

Everything is connected. All the issues named above are related to a primary civilization paradigm in which humans consider themselves the most important species, who deserves the earth domain, chasing an idea of progress, modernity and comfort that is destroying the base planetary system life. I believe that vision is wrong because it is not only suicidal, but ecocide.
It has made a great destruction. Now we can only aspire to start stop the destruction, because its consequences will manifest themselves for centuries. Either way, we most make drastic cultural changes that respond to the level of seriousness of the problem that arises. Transforming our current believes, summon emotions more than rationality, could help to change the predatory way of life of this civilization. It is also necessary to reduce population growth significantly.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

Raquel Aparicio, MEXICO, E448

Our challenge ”Running against time”
”The era of inconsequential consumption came to an end.” (Ban Ki-moon).
Greenhouse effect and global warming can already be considered matters of the past before the avalanches of environmental destructions already committed in various ecosystems around the world.
Actor Leonardo DiCaprio during the meeting in New York said that a profound change is needed to curb climate change and abandon the use of fossil fuels. The question is whether people in their individuality are able or are willing to undergo a profound transformation in their life models. The world is addicted to oil. We need urgent action to reverse this situation.
We need action. What worries at this point is the slow implementation of the established and assumed goals of the Paris Agreement.
Overpopulation advances harms the environment in all regions of the planet. Demographic pressure deteriorates the quality of life over the bustle of the incontestable disorderly growth of cities. The drop in global agricultural production caused by climate change is worrying. Solar radioactive interference signaled that the planet will not produce enough food to satisfy demand, and waste.
Another worrying factor is the invasion of territories caused by the wars, and the emotional instability of families caused by economic crises in many countries. Additional factors provide us with the worsening situation. Studies indicate that rising temperatures over the next 20 years may increase the risk to the survival of humanity. We weaken the ozone layer. We have poisoned the seas, oceans and rivers. We have released tons of toxic gases into the atmosphere. Deserts expand everywhere. For the next decade it is expected to scary melting of Arctic glaciers, with unpredictable consequences.

We take short term initiatives if we want to save humanity from self-destruction. Our biggest challenge is to act fast if we want to save humanity from self-destruction. We cannot wait. The era of inconsequential consumption ”at the expense of nature” came to an end.
Ricardo Rocha de Sousa. Colaborador Associação Nascente Bela Vista - Divinópolis - Brasil
[3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles]

RICARDO ROCHA DE SOUSA, BRAZIL, E449

I am extremely concerned about the contamination of both fresh and saltwater resources, ranging from ocean acidification, to micro plastics in water, agricultural runoff, hypoxia, toxins and pharmaceuticals permeating our aquatic resources. Overall, there seems to be a huge disconnect between the human population and its near drastic impact on not only freshwater resources, but even our immense oceans. Industry has the upper hand in politics and too little is being done to ensure sustainable water resources. It is my hope that by communicating these concerns, more people will commit to stopping the degradation of these global resources.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

Greg Leatherman, USA, E450

Habitat destruction is of extreme concern. Deforestation, elimination of rainforests, are of utmost importance in conquering
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

USA, E451

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

AUSTRIA, E452

I am extremely concerned about the position of governments around the world, continuing to subsidise the industries that drive climate change, penalising those that provide a viable future. As we pass the point of 400ppm CO2 i see little future ahead other than rapid decline of biodiversity and the extreme deprivation for humans as a result. Climate refugees are not a thing of the future, they are here now - the situation in Syria is a result of drought caused by poor management and climate change. I am flabbergasted that governments do not see this and act rationally.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Rebecca Spindler, AUSTRALIA, E453

The loss of biodiversity is alarming, close connected with loss or degradation of habitats.
Various initiatives like the TTIP (trade agreement between Europe und US) might increase the pressure on the environment with consequences on biodiversity.
[2. Biodiversity, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

AUSTRIA, E456

The international (let alone Japanese Government) conversation still generally assumes that climate protection will be costly, so one must discuss cost, burden, and sacrifice—how much and who pays.
The big missing step in the conversation is to realise that saving fuel costs less than buying (let alone burning) fuel, so climate discussion is not costly but profitable. It’s much easier to talk about profits, jobs, and competitive advantage.
Until this shift occurs, Japan, like some other countries, will continue to pursue climate policies directly contrary to its economic interests.
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures]

USA, E457

TWO BIRDS, ONE AIM -- POLLUTION FREE RIVERS AND ORGANIC FARMING CAN GO TOGETHER, SAYS THE AUTHOR
Despite 3 to 4 decades intensive governmental efforts at all possible levels, the Ganga and other Indian rivers remain unclean as wastewaters generated from slums, unsewered poor-areas, etc., constituting around 55% of river-adjoining city’s total generated wastewaters, goes untapped only to reach the rivers to keep them significantly polluted in spite of even the best possible available wastewater-treatment (and/or with foreign-aided expertise) given to the tapped around 45% of the city’s total generated wastewaters. On the other hand, Indian farmers most often face drought-situations, a major cause for farmers suicides in India, only to be deprived of their water-needs for irrigation of their crops together with the non-availability of natural organic manure needed for the present craze for high profit giving organic-food grown only through organic-farming. On the contrary, the Indian farmers have lately been forced to use artificial fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides, etc. as part of the ‘green-revolution’ strategies which unfortunately proved to be the greatest bane (rather than the highly advocated boon) in

India because the mostly illiterate farmers made indiscriminate use of these chemicals in the greed for bumper crop yields of bigger vegetable-fruit sizes with zero damage by the insects and pests, as a result of which the excess unused (unlike humans, the plants and animals never over-feed themselves) chemical fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides entered the various Indian water resources only to turn them contaminated with toxicants apart from the menace of eutrophication that got initiated in lakes and ponds, thus accelerating a situation when there will be water and water all-around but not a drop of it will be fit enough to drink. May the God help as the Indian government is contemplating a 'super green revolution'. (futures@nature.com Thursday, 24 September, 2015)

All these problems of rivers getting polluted with unwanted sewage originating from domestic water-use and the farmers not getting the rain-water due to unwanted droughts while also starving for organic natural manure available abundantly in sewage are a mere management crisis and easily remedied in just one-stroke. The separate-sewerage system, suitable for Indian situations where rainfall is concentrated only for less than three months in a year, will collect only sewage, the wastewater coming from toilets/urinals only while the rest wastewaters, the so called 'sullage', flowing through open preferably covered drain/canal constructed parallel to the river can directly go into river's downstream city side while also trapping some unorganized wastewaters coming from unsewered and slum areas.The industrial complexes can have their own integrated system for disposal of their wastes. The sewage can thus be pumped for sale, at various points, to the farmers and as an alternative, the entire sewage or the left over sewage after its sale to the farmers can be led to a point some 3 or 4 km downstream of the city stretch of the river for giving it either zero-treatment or partial-treatment or full-treatment before its disposal into the river depending on the finances available with the municipal corporation of the city. The river thus polluted would naturally get self-purified before its arrival at the next urban downstream town. This strategy would, for sure, eliminate the need of pseudo-environmentalists taking technological decisions on water pollution control in India for the last 3 to 4 decades as also any need for a 'super green revolution'(futures@nature.com Thursday, 24 September, 2015)

Dr. Devendra S. Bhargava, the former environmental professor of IIT Roorkee & AIT Bangkok. Bhargava-Lane, Devpura, Haridwar-249401, UK, India; dsbhargava@yahoo.co.in, +91-9412074331

[4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

PROF.(ER).DR. DEVENDRA SWAROOP BHARGAVA #000044, INDIA, E458

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) in early 2000s popularized the concept of ecosystem services in four broad categories (i) Provisioning such as food and water production, (ii) Regulating such as climate changes, (iii) Cultural such as recreational and spiritual benefits from natural sites, and (iv) Supporting such as pollination and nutrient cycles. All these four services emanate from the native biological diversity or local ecology which often gets threatened because of proliferating alien species with a lot of aggression in their new locations. In this regard, the following five tenets about biodiversity can be worth considering:

{A} Native vegetation: It has greater capacity to provide ecosystem services under changing environmental conditions. Introduction of so many exotics (e.g. Lantana, Parthinium, Wattles, Eucalyptus, and numerous others) in Himalayan Forests including Protected Areas are diminishing the capacity of natural ecosystems. Diversity of indigenous spp. may decrease the probability of invasions of non-native species, many of which have had substantial economic, conservation and societal consequences.

{B} Biological Insurance: Emphasis on rare species conservation in Himalayas. It is scientifically proved that the extinctions of native species in temperate ecosystems causes a cascade of other extinctions, accelerating the rate of community change.

{C} Biodiverse systems, on average, store more carbon and do so more reliably.

{D} Biodiversity is multidimensional (livelihoods, spiritual, climate change, Carbon sequestration, etc).in a mountain ecosystem

{E} Thus, More functions and services need more local species.

If the indigenous biodiversity is compromised, we witness Collapse of Ecosystems: example of industrial waste killing wetlands, rivers; fumes into atmosphere killing plants, animals and resulting in air pollution.

[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Sanjeeva Pandey, INDIA, E461

The political as well as social science should be enforced to better achieve the environment protection objective;

Business's social/environment responsible should be highlighted and engaged;

Climate change has been over communicated;

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

VIETNAM, E466

Climate change is biggest worry for everybody now. In Mongolia, global warmth is observed much faster. We really see how seasons changed like short summer with few very hot days and less rain. We already observed plant growth period is getting late. Also because of less rain, our water resources facing alarming situation. Many river, spring and lake is drying out. It influence vegetation and pasture quality is getting worse. Same time livestock number is growing and desertification takes more more place every year. We need to take proper measure before we are too late.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Dashpurev Tserendeleg, MONGOLIA, E468

There is need for research and change into circular and social economy approaches
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society(Low carbon living)]

gavin melles, AUSTRALIA, E469

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serious concerns with growing commercialisation of wildlife for human consumption; habitat destruction etc everything is at a tipping point;;
Government agencies appear to defer to business or commercial interests even when managing protected areas or species ... ENGOs, CITES etc need support;
Empathy needs to be nurtured as a value amongst all people through schooling and governance, to ensure wise management for wildlife and natural habitats;
Legislation and government commitment is needed to ensure societies value nature and reduce consumption thus reversing issues related to decreasing biodiversity, damaging effects of climate change and pollution!
Nature only seems to be measured in economic value and the potential for eonomic benefits...intrinsic values need to be recognised;
Individual and country carbon (and other) footprints need to be reduced...cycling/biking/ reducing fossil fuel usage; hoem gardens/ community gardens; community conservation partnerships; eating local!!!
Refer George Monbiot; David Suzuki Suzuki FOundation; Professor Emeritus/Sir Alan Mark's WISE RESPONSE in NZ; and other ecologists' works for inspiration.
[2. Biodiversity]

NEW ZEALAND, E472

It is a that focuses on identifying and addressing the environmental, economic and social effects of climate change in the LMB, and on assisting highly exposed and vulnerable rural populations in ecologically sensitive areas to increase their ability to adapt to climate change impacts on water resources, agricultural systems, biodiversity, ecosystems, and livelihood options.
[1. Climate Change(Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change program in the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) is supported Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA our aims to increase the adaptation capacity and resilience of rural communities to the negative impacts of climate change.)]

Oudomxay Thongsavath, LAOS, E473

Many of these environmental issues are interlinked. Deforestation is the top concern with an annual rate exceeding 1%. Deforestation aggravates loss of biodiversity and impacts of climate change, water availability making the already prevailing problems worse. Further, water resources are getting contaminated through agricultural chemicals and industrial effluents putting human and environmental health in to jeopardy.
Inconsiderate lifestyles and excessive use of natural resources is one of the key concerns as a result of lack of environmental education among general public. In most of the time, people are more concerned about short time gains and do not foresee the repercussions of environmental issues in the longer run.
Still the country is unable to address waste management issues and invite more and more dirty industries including coal power. As a result of this unsustainable deal with the environment, the region is becoming more unliveable with extreme drought and heat, continuous and torrential rains, rapid loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society(Unsystematic solid waste management Air pollution)]

SRI LANKA, E474

In Thailand, growing population and economic means we need more land to produce foods. Suitable flat land has long been cleared and owned so the new generation move to clear cut forest in higher slope land, which result in other environmental problem such as biodiversity lost, flash flood, and drought.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Economy]

Nonn Panitvong, THAILAND, E479

Although this is not a major problem in western Europe, I think that population growth and the increase in per capita resource use are the main environmental problems. Everything else derives from this. There are are also major problems with land use change (deforestation in the topics) and biodiversity loss.Climate change is a proble, but I think is overrated given other more pressing and urgent problems.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food]

PORTUGAL, E480

I feel that climate change is the most urgent environmental challenge facing humanity. Our world is rapidly changing and dramatic changes in lifestyle, socioeconomic and politic systems are needed to lesson the impacts. As members of a global community, we must all share the burden.
[1. Climate Change]

Steve Wagstaff, NEW ZEALAND, E481

The main issue is to bring the different environmental issues together globally so that it will be interlinked with powerty reduction or health promotion, for example in One Health or EcoHealth approaches.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food]

SWEDEN, E482

The Himalayas are considered as the water towers of the region from where all perennial rivers arise from the snow capped mountains and glaciers. But the glaciers are receding fast and snow is melting. No fresh snow is there for years. Even rainfall is erratic and low intensity. Occasionaly when it rains it rains in high intensity in sporadic regions and causes massive losses as landslides and cloudbursts. the rivers are being dammmed for water and electricity and therefore down hill there is only trickle of water left. Parts of India is already experiencing drought and the Indo Gangetic plain which is one of the most populated region and also fertile region of Indian subcontinent is likely to end up in drought and water scarcity is likely to result in water related diseases and it is literally sitting on a time bomb which is sure and certain.
[5. Water Resources]

PAROMITA GHOSH, INDIA, E483

Biodiversity: the most important issues to be tackled. In Finland we need to protect our old growth forests and forest species in particular as we have a lot of forest. There is also a need to have better understanding of the importance of biodiversity amongst the general public and also amongst the decision-makers.
Land use: the need for more land, e.g. in cities, at the expense of nature and natural areas. This is a big issue. It seems that there is ever growing need for more land, more development and no understanding of the importance of nature and natural areas.
Climate change: An important issues in Finland as it affects our nature quite drastically. We are losing our arctic areas with expansion of southern flora and fauna which means less diversity.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

FINLAND, E484

It may be already too late to prevent many of the impacts of climate change. Nonetheless, since the problems will get exponentially worse if we don't act, there is still a great need to arrest the continued increase in greenhouse gas emissions. Failure to do this will result in unbearable costs to the human race, mass extinction of life forms, and possible extinction of mankind. Biodiversity is threatened not only by climate change, but also by changes in land use leading to the continued destruction and degradation of natural habitat.
The growth in the human population is a massive driver of the above problems, and will inevitably result in famine and a population crash. The unequal distribution of wealth is also a major problem, since the wealthy few are causing the most environmental damage.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population]

David Alan Edge, SOUTH AFRICA, E489

A full impact assessment should be undertaken for any use of scarce resources. The impact assessment should take into account both benefits and risks (to the environment and to ourselves) of any use of natural resources. We should replace technologies that pollute with those that have less impact. GM crops for example may pose risks, but they also probably impact positively on pollution and use of scarce resources. Use of plastics needs to be related to their impact on the environment as well as on the quality of our lives. Water may be scarce, and fracking may impact of availability and pollution of water supplies.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(1. Impact of use of agriculture for energy production rather than for food. 2. deforestation)]

Julian Kinderlerer, SOUTH AFRICA, E495

Non sustainable development is also one of unclear and no direction policy from the government that need to be more concentrate to protect the global natural resources.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Mr. Kittipan Sabkhoon, THAILAND, E497

Our human greed has also overlooked the environmental issues beyond our boundaries. Slowly, we are starting to realize the toll nature is taking without differentiating between poor and rich. However, with rising change, ultimately, it will be the poorer communities who are vulnerable with limited resources to adapt to any change.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

Dago Tshering, BHUTAN, E498

Two misunderstandings should be removed from from our minds
1. That all natural resources are meant only to mankind
2. Man is the most intelligent animal on earth
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

Gobind Sagar Bhardwaj, INDIA, E500

My answers have been given in the context of Delhi city. Pollution of air and contaminated municipal water supply are two very important issues plaguing the city. Water quality and supply is a bigger concern in informal settlements and slum colonies. The population has expanded beyond the level that can be supported by the infrastructure and the natural resources available. Either the population explosion should be curbed or we need policies and administration to better manage the population and convert it into an asset as many large, metropolitan cities of the world have done. Many traditional water resources, lakes and ponds have been lost in time and the sole river - River Yamuna - is in a state of horror which is not hidden from any citizen or policy maker. A very important parameter that is preached about often in the development sector is behaviour change and sustainable lifestyles. Energy, resource intensive and waste producing lifestyles need to be changed through action and setting an example.
[4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles]

Rashi Gupta, INDIA, E501

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1. Need for societal and economic action to remove subsidies for carbon emissions, stimulate rapidtake up and improvement of non carbon energy, and recognise the need to plan strategically to address "locked in" increases in Co2/ atmosphere and ocean temperatures.
3,5 and 7 Inextricably linked significantly under addressed issues are impacts and climate change impacts on soil/water and land sea linkages. Wild caught sea food has plateaued, a substantial protion of that is used for animal feed terrestrial or aqua-culture. Land sourced marine pollution, and fishing beyond sustainable levels are serious global clock issues because of the expectation that additional seafood will enable increased economic activity for a global human population of 9 billion plus
8, 10 and 11 similarly linked. Developed country resource wasteful lifestyles underpin economic activity and a model that expects continuous economic growth. Economics of the discount rate cannot take into account environmental processes. 5% discount rate effectively places no significant value on any process that takes more than 15 years.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(12 Much of the environmental debate is conducted through top-down biophysical knowledge. There is an urgent need for emphasis on social sciences and concepts of knowledge sharing to understand values, attitudes, issues and stakes in integrating environment, resource and economic decision making.)]

Richard Kenchington, AUSTRALIA, E502

Globally the meat industry generates nearly 1/5 of greenhouse gases (GHGs), more than the transport sector (FAO, 2006). In the EU livestock production is responsible for 15% of GHGs2 and particularly in the UK it's responsible for about 8.5% (FCRN, 2007). The picture can actually be even more alarming if we take into account emissions resulting from land-use change.
Agricultural corps are used to feed livestock with around 70% of the production of grain used for animals (SIWI, 2008). Water used for livestock production currently accounts for 15% of all irrigated water, but is projected to increase 50% by 2025 (FAO, 2006). Producing 1kg of beef requires 15 times as much land as producing 1kg of cereals, and 70 times as much land as 1kg of vegetables (Gerbens-Leenes et al. 2005).
With a growing world population and particularly asian countries shifting their diet towards a western style diet (heavily meat based), increasing the demand for meat production and distribution, there is simply no way the environment can afford it.
Additionally, Ocean depletion is far from being a myth.
[12. Others(Livestock production and meat consumption)]

Gonçalo M. Rosa, UK, E503

All the problems relate to a quickly expanding human population, and short term thinking about the consequences of all of the above mentioned issues
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Poaching (of animals and plants)Invasive species)]

Catherine King, SPAIN, E516

Pakistan's fragile biodiversity is under attack due to a range of factors: illegal hunting, poaching and smuggling of falcons to countries are a few of them. The Saker falcons are endangered according to the IUCN red list, but are still illegally netted in Pakistan despite several bans imposed in 1950's, in late 1980's and in 2005. However, the illegal trade of falcons is continuing in clandestine manner and there are confirm reports that the International market has been supplied by the Pakistani trappers. The trappers don't receive much finances of saker falcons, instead the financers/smugglers make a lot of business in the open market. Saker falcon is valued between Rs.01 to 10 million in the open market. Peshawar in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan is the largest black market of Saker Falcons. During illegal trapping and transportation of saker falcons to other places (smuggling), many birds suffer health problems. Unfortunately only two out of ten trapped falcons reach to the international market. Because of the legal restricting it cannot be transported /trafficked with proper safety standards. The smugglers used to hide/raped these birds in garments and put them in bags for three to four days during transit on the sea routes for exporting to international market in ships or boat, because of which many falcons (estimated 8 out of 10) birds either die due to suffocation or physically damaged such as broken wings before reaching to the destinations. Because of this reasons, the smugglers used to transport birds more in number than demand to tackle the wastage of birds. However, this resulted in the greater lose of birds in overall in number.

In the past 20 years there has been 50-75% decline in falcons' wild population. The Protection, conservation and management of saker falcon is needed. To avoid the illegal trading and irregularity, falcon registration with the authorities is a must. It requires information about the owner and his bird including sex, breed, country of origin, captive bred or wild and requires legal documents for any legal transit. There are no proper health facilities available in Pakistan for the treatment of saker falcons. Many birds expire of sickness renders them incapable to survive. Due to the illegal trade, the saker falcon is facing a perilous situation and is fighting a grim battle for its survival. There is a need to take more stringent measures to protect the endangered saker falcon.

The interventions shall be implemented in the form of a consortium among stakeholders in consultation with the local communities. Its objective should be promotion of sustainable use of wild resources by encouraging conservation of Saker Falcons and contributing to local community development. The purpose is to initiate a small-scale, village-based conservation and depredation alleviation initiatives aimed at protecting and conservation of saker falcons and associated biodiversity, while benefiting humans at the same time. Limited licenses shall be sold to trappers, with revenue from trapping fees returning to the communities. The yearly trapping saker falcons in Pakistan is anticipated to be highly valued by local communities and would act as a major economic and conservation incentive. The value of trapping in conservation is the fact that trappers are prepared to pay relatively large amounts of money for the privilege of trapping through saker falcons.

[2. Biodiversity, 10. Environment and Economy]

PAKISTAN, E517

In no part of the world, in no kind of society the need to protect and carefully use the natural basis of life is fully understood. Time to implement a global sustainable lifestyle is running out, while resources are abused and blown off.

[8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Global processes on megascale like artificial food production, genetic design and virtual reality lead away from basic needs of nature and mankind.)]

GERMANY, E518

There will be a serious global change caused by climate change in the next 100 years, and adaptation measures taking all 10 issues into account is needed in a major global and holistic effort

[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures]

DENMARK, E520

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very great problem in Italy, where 500,00 ha of agricultural land are destroyed every day to make room for construction, roads, inustriali areas, shopping malls.

86,000 people die every year in Italy for diseases caused by air pollution

the widespread ignorance on natural themes in Italy due to bad choices by public administrations and indifference in the population

[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination]

maurizio fraissinet, ITALY, E521

I could tick all boxes because they are all affecting the health of the biosphere. Human population size is of major concern. If we could reduce the number of people we also reduce the demand on resources. Unfortunately, many governments are concerned about population decline being bad for their economy or equally population growth being good for the economy. Both these positions ignore the benefits of lower populations as they focus only on a single aspect of society and they have a very narrow view of how an economy can operate. Allied to population size is the resource consumption per person. A change is needed in the way people live, especially in wealthier countries. People would benefit from becoming aware that they can make choices about their resource consumption. Our society has been educated to be consumers rather than citizens and that needs

to swing back so consumption is not the dominant part of our lives. This can be done by showing people that consumption is not central to living rewarding lives. It can also be done by pricing environmental costs into the price of products and services.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Rob Cross, AUSTRALIA, E525

I feel that overpopulation and the drive for ''economic growth'' i.e. exploitation of every conceivable resource on earth, is the underlying problem that is driving global warming and loss of species. We have to find ways of living within our means as some people have in the past.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population]

AUSTRALIA, E527

Rapid growth of oil palm industry in Malaysia in the past few decades has dominated the landscape of the country. This involves clearing lowlands forests, including ecologically sensitive areas like water resources. Suitable areas for oil palm plantation has diminished resulting in expansion in not suitable areas like hilly and steep terrains as what is happening in Sabah, East Malaysia. This has cause pollution of water resources. Not suitable soil and prone to fire like peat lands in Sarawak, East Malaysia, is also cultivated with oil palms. This has cause haze problem in Malaysia.There are other major concerns from palm oils mills, ie black smoke emission, discharge of effluents into the waterways, etc. This is not fully regulated in certain parts of the country, especially mills in remote areas. No doubt, this industry is a major contributor to the country's export earnings but the authority needs to strengthen its enforcement to ensure that oil palm companies comply to rules and regulations related to sustainable approach towards environmental management.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy]

MALAYSIA, E529

In my opinion the order of immediate action should be for:
1. Environment and Society
2. Water Resources
3. Biodiversity
Other things will gradually fit into management.
[2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

Lala Aswini Kumar Singh, INDIA, E530

Human population of large resource users has exceeded the ability of governance to meet the demands and this threatens social stability through inequity.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

CANADA, E531

All of these issues are greatly impacted by the introduction of harmful invasive species in these Pacific Islands. These invasive species change the ecological balance and remove native species' ability to compensate or adjust to environmental change.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

USA, E532

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 12. Others(Issues related to indigenous peoples and conservation and development decisions and the declining opportunities around indigenous management approaches and indigenous science to inform and guide land use.)]

CANADA, E533

The Environment IS The Economy. Climate Change will be the future unknown that will impact all models. Water IS Life.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

Lance Holter, USA, E534

Biodiversity is a critical issue on remote oceanic islands where plant and animal endemism and vulnerability to extinction are very high. Human impacts, particularly through the agency of land use, and invasive species are the main threats to island species and communities.
Climate change also is contributing to the biodiversity crisis on islands and its impacts will increase, not only through sea level rise and ocean acidification, but through changes in rainfall patterns.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

USA, E535

Proper management of potable water from the groundwater aquifers, combined with effective re-use of sewage effluent, will be critical to the future of sustainable agriculture in Hawaii.
[5. Water Resources]

USA, E536

As Climate Agreements are now in place, efforts should escalate Nation by Nation with an imperative to eliminate any further extraction of carbon based fuels by 2023. Seven years to stop. Alternatives to using fossil fuels are readily available and abundant, the financial markets are divesting and investing sizable capital into a clean energy future. Simultaneously, inspiring innovation to reduce biodiversity loss - reset the path for investing in nature, will bring health to people, lands, oceans and all living things on a fast track.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Mark McGufie, USA, E538

In the countries that matter, carbon emissions are a direct result of economic drivers and a fossil fuel driven lifestyle. Development of an alternative lifestyle absent carbon emissions, in which the economy grows better than now and improves people's lives visibly, is a no-brainer. There is more opportunity in the arena of "green energy" and "green industry" than there is for the current business model, some of whose technologies are a century or more old. Therefore, convincing China, India, and the United States to become "green" would likely be a highly significant contribution to both reversing climate change and a sustainable development of an economy in line with environmental needs.
[1. Climate Change, 10. Environment and Economy]

Hinrich Kaiser, USA, E539

Evolution will mock our tardy rage.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(War)]

R. M. Pyle, USA, E540

These issues(1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population) are all intermingled with one another. The most globally relevant terminally for the most pressing issues though are the three I have chosen above. As a global community, we are not concerned enough to press for changes against institutions that do not care to address these issues, and that will be our downfall because we will only respond when it is too late.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

USA, E541

From my perspective , important issues of concern are unabated modern lifestyle , climate change , increasing uncertianities about water and loss of biodiversity is getting worse , depsite all awareness and information available about all of these . Lifestyle to me is very important and most difficult to tackle . There are no technological fixes for pursuing a totally unsustainable lifestyle. Be it energy use , water use , waste production , pollution , grabbing more land for development all arise out of lifestyle that we all want to maintain. well we cannot have the cake and eat it too ... Without first learning to live within the biophysical limits set by the environment , I do not think any other measure would help.
Talking of paradigm change or even fantasising about one will not help. The world and every induviudal needs to act and act fast. Sustainable development or sustainability is not something that can be bought from a supermarket shelf . It is lifestyle change that is most needed . Investing and supporting education about all this is the need of the hour. mere lipservice and photo op with education would not work
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, E542

The system of land use in Kazakhstan has significant gaps. Firstly, despite the large amount of fallow land is still plowed virgin steppe. In this huge cultivation area, where almost can not survive on wild species. The ground water level is lowered, reduced land productivity, climate change, overexploitation and pollution occurs lands. Second, the protection zones of rivers and lakes are using to a high degree, which causes the degradation of riparian forests and shallowing of rivers and lakes. In addition, the number of game farms has increased significantly, it became a lot of private game farms and greatly increased poaching and overexploitation of natural resources. It is also a big factor in reducing biodiversity. Over the past two years because of economic problems is not to create new protected areas. This factor, along with the development of the mining industry affects the preservation of biodiversity. The rest of the problems noted above are also important.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Tatyana M. Bragina, KAZAKHSTAN, E544

There does not seem to be enough understanding in the US about the immediacy and urgency of climate change which is affecting and will continue to affect the health and livelihoods of the global population.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 9. Global Warming Measures]

USA, E546

Long ago, Aristotle described the soil as the stomach of the plant. Nearly 90 percent of the worlds food supply comes from crops or animals reared on the soil. According the FAO, our soils are in danger because of expanding cities, deforestation, unsustainable use, pollution, overgrazing and climate change. Thus the current rate of soil degradation endangers our capacity to achieve a balance between human numbers and the human capacity to produce food. The UN has therefore designated 2015 as the International Year of Soils. The focal theme for the year is "Healthy Soils for a Healthy Life". The Global Soil Partnership established by FAO in 2013 on my suggestion will monitor the progress of the steps taken during this year in improving soil healthcare and in conserving prime farm land for agriculture. Every nation should try to promote effective policies and action for the sustainable management of soil resources. In India, we will have to produce atleast 50 percent more food by 2030 from diminishing per capita land resources and expanding biotic and abiotic stresses including climate change. There is hence no time to relax on the soil health conservation movement.
Land acquisition has remained a controversial issue in our country. On December 31, 2014, the Government of India promulgated an ordinance to amend some provisions of the land acquisition law brought to Parliament by the earlier government
The amendments are designed to ensure the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement. The National Commission on Farmers had emphasised that serious steps should be taken to prevent the diversion of good farm land for non-farm purposes such as the establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZ). We had proposed that like SEZ, there should be Special Agriculture Zones (SAZ). While SEZ is for allocation of land for economic activity, SAZ should be for the conservation of good farm land for agriculture. For example, I had suggested, that the Indira Gandhi Canal Area of Rajasthan, the Kuttanad Below Sea Level Farming System of Kerala and similar important agricultural sites should not be allowed to be diverted for non-agricultural use. The earliest investigation of the soils of India date back to 1988 when four major soil groups viz., Indo-Gangetic Alluvium, Black cotton soil, Red soil and Laterite soil were recognised. Moreover, the immense variability and complexity of soil behaviour is also perceived by practicing farmers who recognize the differential response of the land to soil management and production inputs according to different soil types.
We should now establish in every Panchayat a Soil Health Conservation and Amelioration Centre which will provide farmers with Soil Health Cards and help them to not only maintain but enhance soil health. We have an excellent National Soil Survey and Land use Planning Institution at Nagpur under the umbrella of the Indian Council of Agriculture Research. Soil Survey data are useful at watershed, irrigation command area and farm levels for a variety of purposes such as crop planning and rainfed agriculture, depth and frequency of irrigation in command areas, and drainage arrangements. The National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land use Planning has developed methodologies for relating soil survey data to the choice of cropping and farming systems. The wealth of soil information available in soil survey reports and maps must be communicated to the farmers. Every Village Knowledge Centre should have adequate information on the strengths and weaknesses of the soil resources of the village and of methods of optimising agricultural production based on efficient soil management.
In particular the organic matter of content of tropical soils is low and building up soil organic matter is an urgent task. Organic farming helps to improve soil physics, soil microbiology, and soil nutrient status at the same time. Chemical agriculture on the other hand only attends to the nutrient status (like NPK) of the soil. Soil health literacy is important for emphasising the multiple roles of soil in terms of ecological, livelihood and food security. As earlier emphasised the world will have over 9 billion people in 2050, 2 billion more than today. Food production will have to grow by 60 percent to feed the larger population with better quality food.
Well managed soils also help to improve water management. In the heavy black soils of Madhya Pradesh, two crops can be taken provided a ridge and furrow method of planting is adopted. The furrow serves the purpose of inter-row water harvesting. Thus, a good crop like Soybean can be raised on the ridge during the Kharif season and another crop like wheat or corn or maize can be raised in the furrows during the Rabi season. Land use decisions are also water use decisions. Therefore, land use planning is exceedingly important both for irrigation water security and food security. It is to be hoped that the amended system of land acquisition will take into account the need not only for fair compensation to farmers but also the need to conserve land for raising the food and other crops which we need for human health security and for achieving the zero hunger challenge
[2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food(The recently published Fifth Assessment Report of IPCC, finds beyond reasonable doubt that Earth's climate is warming .The temperature projections for South Asia indicate that by the mid 21st century may exceed over 3°C, over higher latitudes under high emission Scenario.)]

INDIA, E550

The issue of sustainable consumption and production needs more attention. To feed the world population and fight hunger, it is important to change the lifestyles of many. Reducing post harvest losses, replacing red meat with white meat, utilizing legumes, urban agriculture, hydroponics and aquaponics will help in tackling poverty and malnutrition.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles(There is a need to address environmental problems caused by war/

conflict and the resulting influx of refugees.)]

PALESTINE, E553

Unsustainable land use and land use changes are affecting all the other issues. Therefore the Focus Needs to be there!
Biodiversity is eroding rapidly. Very often species and varieties are still there, but there populations are only a fraction of what they were before.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

Dr. Horst Korn, GERMANY, E555

The drivers of the majority of problems we face is the race for short terms profits and benefits and the way the economic functions (accumulation through inequalities). The myth of perpetual growth (be it green) seems very resilient, much more than ecosystems, with a high risk of a collapse for human societies in a short to medium term perspective.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy]

SWITZERLAND, E558

A worrying and salient example is the current trend and long-term impact of tourism on the current fishery supplies and stocks in Sabah. Increasingly juveniles are caught and sold to meet the increasing demand for fish and sea-products which are a prime attraction for the influx of tourists especially the China market.For many local consumers, especially coastal dwellers, fish once a cheap local protein staple has become expensive. The best fish and marine products now cornered by restaurants to meet tourism demand. Lack of enforcement and means to restrain sizes of catch and educate the operators in the whole production/harvesting process from catch, market and consumption seems to be a major problem. Sustainable development policies have been advanced, but implementation lags behind the manifold challenges of poverty, profiteering, and short-term vision in the current harvesting and consumption practices, largely externally induced.
Another environmental threat is related to land-use. Conversion of forested lands into agriculture especially to grow oil palm by small holders local communities who see the crop as a gold mine remains a major challenge. Mindsets have to be changed, but it remains a long-term process. Encroachment on riparian reserves and point source pollution from this crop and other upstream agriculture activities are contaminating river and fishery stocks in rivers and creating siltation plumes at the river-mouths and sea.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(General enforcement lacking for non-sustainable land and sea development practices and recognition of best development practices lacking despite good paper polices and supporting legislation. Impressive financial figures still overshadow long-term negative social and environmental impacts.)]

MALAYSIA, E559

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the lack of attention to the underlying econommic issues and externalities associated with current measurement mean that almost every other issue analysis is usually flawed. Without looking at more “steady state economics’’ and ’’wealth accounting’’ other measures will be limited in evidence.
Political will to develop methods to challenge current measures of ’’economic success’’. Without this the standard narrative will continue to be taken ’’as read’’.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others (environmental law and the important relationship to international economic law. Foregrounding climate change law not as another MEA but as something that requires ’’mainstreaming’’ into all national, regional and international law and its interpretation as part of General International law.....)]

UK, E560

LIFESTYLE-Consumption
Despite income constraints and the increase in unemployment rate, we do not know who to blame when we see new shopping Malls opening in a rapid style, esp. those with affordable and competitive prices let alone excessive and attractive ADs for unnecessary products, encouraging people to consume more and unwise - this results in mass waste and no awareness of RECYCLING. We have turned into super consumed society. This goes for natural resources as well, such as water, energy, agriculture, marine life, etc..
AWARENESS
Schools: Education curriculum at all levels does not spare a dedicated curriculum/unit relating to environment, there have been many calls to persuade Ministry of Education to add Environment subject as a separate curriculum to the school program, but with no avail. When education officials visit international bodies to have insight on their experience in this field, they should then return with an intention of implementation of such success stories in the field of environment awareness. I can say our society’s education in this regard is POOR.

DESERTIFICATION
My country used to be called: THE LAND OF MILLION PALM TREE and the LAND OF BLESSINGS - NOW, it's an ISLAND with no seas, a land with no agriculture, it has become a land of CEMENT, STONES and DUST
[3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 12. Others(ENERGY: Alternative source of Energy - despite being a hot sunny island, Bahrain lacks solar energy projects as an alternative solution, esp. that the country had cancelled Elec. subsidies from the citizens.)]

BAHRAIN, E562

The environmental aspects of sustainability are now understood quite well, policies are in place or being developed and many aspects of environmental management are already implemented. At present, economic (global crisis since 2008) and social situation (wars, migration, lack of perspective for young generations) pose a more urgent challenge to overall sustainability.
Environmental management on the global scale can be a driver of economic and social stability. The failure to achieve environmental sustainability so far contributes to the economic and social instability. Idea of green development shows promise, but should be implemented vigorously in order to strengthen all pillars of sustainability and to provide a more balanced set of expectations for human progress, which will not be linked to consumerism and material wealth, but to high quality of life including self fulfillment, health and social connectednes.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

Jernej Stritih, SLOVENIA, E564

Human interaction with the environment and natural resources is often largely determined by developments and decisions made on an economic- (trade and investment) and political (macro-economic policy, budget) level. Economic and financial arguments are often very effective in order to arrive at a more sustainable policy. In this field there is still much to wish for despite a stronger commitment and awareness by banks and corporates e.g. in the field of safeguards.
[10. Environment and Economy(Financial institutions and the corporate sector should do everything in their power to prevent their activities from having negative impacts on local people and the environment.)]

THE NETHERLANDS, E565

Climate change is threatening global food and nutritional security. Climate change is driven by massive land use pattern, deforestation, industrial and real estate development, increasing population and its migration to cities where basic amenities were very limited. This has huge implication to environmental pollution and intern affects people's health.
Over use of water in food production has serious consequences to future availability of water in future. Urbanization and industrial developments have adverse impact on the biodiversity.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures]

Gaya Prasad, INDIA, E566

I think that 10 and 11, Env + Economy, Env + Society encompass most of the other indicators.
[-]

UK, E569

I chose the top three concerns and their order based on what needs to happen in the United States to start addressing all of the environmental issues. Until our policy-makers begin making decisions based on science and a sustainable future, as opposed to the interests of the big industries, we cannot address climate change, pollution, land use, etc. in a meaningful, holistic approach. I live in a region where the coal industry dictates many of the decisions made by our state government. The coal industry has even dubbed a "war on coal" by President Obama to misdirect the conversation away from the real challenges with the declining amount of coal we have, the real environmental impacts it has, and the need for diversifying the economies of one of the poorest regions of the United States.
This shift also needs to happen on a personal level including our own choices. I work in the field of environmental education and it's a great tool to inform our next generation about the issues they will be facing.
[10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Vicki Fenwick-Judy, USA, E572

[4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population(Too many people, too much impact on our living system.)]

USA, E573

Although Climate Change is a global threat and challenge, I do think it occults many other problems and divert us from simple solutions that could be set up locally to tackle problems. Climate change is a problem out of reach for most of us, it is used by many governments and corporations as a scarecrow to proclaim a façade of commitment to the environment although not much is done in reality.

[1. Climate Change]

BELGIUM, E574

In my opinion climate change is overestimated as the source of global ecological crisis. The main issue is the population growth in conjuction with the western type lifestyle that encourages consumption of goods, energy depletion, overexploitation of resources, land use changes and the subsequent pollution, environmental degradation and climate change. Therefore the problem is mainly political and less scientific, as the western type economies constitute a model for developing world economies as well. The political system is reluctant in radically changing the market system and the socio-economic background, even more today that humanistic values are rapidly replaced by a purely economic moral. The solution is the rapid decrease of the human ecological footprint on the planet, all the other environmental problems are stemming from human-originated degradation. Biodiversity conservation, which is my main field of expertise cant benefit from any substantial progress through small-scale research or conservation projects, unless a radical political and socio-economic change takes place at global scale.
[-]

GREECE, E576

[12. Others(WAR & social conflicts including societal inequalities)]

USA, E578

For me, making smart land use choices that meets alls needs is the most important and challenging issue. This is where we ”make or break” the environment that maintains, sustains an entertains us (as well as every other living thing on earth). The key challenges to smart land use choices are climate change, population pressure, food security and human greed. All of these issues need to be address successfully in order to make smart choices. To do this we need to communicate and dialogue. From there anything is possible.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

USA, E579

The main threat in the Middle East is shortening of water resources and this will have big impact both on farming, biodiversity and human life. The main threath causing water shortening is the climate change, although not because of technology in the region.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

TURKEY, E581

Social aspects of degradation are often ignored. Rich are cause of degradation but the poor bear the brunt. Richer consume resources, which causes degradation but poor are most affected & it raises cost to poor.Improving the environment is directly linked to well fare of poor.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources(Poverty-)]

D P S VERMA, INDIA, E582

All of these concerns are connected in that each feeds into the larger environmental crises. Our lifestyles, including increasing populations, use of land and water, and food production, result in climate change, loss of biodiversity, pollution, and the degeneration of society and the economy long term. It seems to me to be problematic to separate out one concern or another, when in reality we need to address all these issues as one connected, systemic problem.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, E584

I think that humans are not valuing species or ecosystems until they become rare (or are particularly appealing). We need to celebrate large areas of things that are common, and species that are not necessarily appealing - that’s what gives us functioning and resilient biological systems that support us as humans. If we constantly focus on high profile species and small preserved areas, we will end up with a ”stamp collection” with little functional value.
But to change things, we need to understand people much better. Large scale biodiversity conservation of course needs zoologists, botanists, ecologists, etc, but more than ever conservation needs social scientists to help normal, decent humans become the protectors of natural systems, rather than largely inadvertent destroyers.
[2. Biodiversity, 11. Environment and Society]

Simon Garrett, UK, E585

It is challenging to choose between the issues and rank them as so many of them are so closely intertwined (e.g. food, water resources and population growth).
[-]

USA, E586

The earth has plenty to provide if we, as humans, can live within our means. In some areas, wildlife conservation efforts are tremendously successful. In others, a combative spirit and competing interests make it difficult to provide for our needs and manage the earth's resources effectively.
[Living within our means]

USA, E587

It is not just the mega-fauna loss but the base of food chains and at the top of trophic structure associated with food chains. We are attacking both ends of the biodiversity spectrum. . . loss of invertebrates and top predators.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 6. Population(habitat loss is critically important in reducing the impact on the loss of biodiversity. It ultimately comes down to population pressures!)]

John T. Tanacredi, USA, E588

The current big humanity's challenge will be to understand that economic development necessarily depends on the protection of natural resources, both in relation to sources of raw materials, as the reduction of pollution. The integration between economy and environment is essential, if we wish to guarantee a future for the next generations.
[10. Environment and Economy]

ARAUJO, JULIANO, BRAZIL, E589

Continuous deforestation of southeastern Brazil has lead to a hydrical crysis, increased by water pollution by poison from plantations, industries and cities sewer discharges, and mine actions. Such changes caused drought, break of rural areas production, and economical and human conflicts.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

BRAZIL, E590

In the US, the coal industry is very rich and powerful; people with vast wealth from coal are manipulating our elections. In addition, we have been at war for decades in the Middle East, largely to protect our access to oil. All of this (and much more) urges us to move to renewable sources of energy, in particular solar, wind, tides, waves, etc.
I am also very concerned about the oceans. Fisheries are being destroyed by overfishing. It is utterly incredible to me that Japanese people are still whaling!!! Crazy. Moreover, plastic is accumulating in vast masses in the oceans of the world. We must find a way to stop this.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, (Plastic in the ocean.)]

Daniel Moerman, USA, E591

It is difficult to rank the 11 issues as they are all so interlinked - demands of a growing population on water resources, land use, and food; continued intensification of development, agriculture and industry to meet a growing population, in turn adding to pollution and climate change. Within North America, despite regulations and much work since the 1960s, contaminants continue to be a pressing concern, and an issue that affects both surface water and groundwater (e.g., agricultural runoff, fracking). Climate change is the ultimate threat to biodiversity and human societies; perhaps less so in North America than in low-lying developing nations, but still a significant threat to our ecosystems and society as we know it. Given North America's level of development, knowledge, societal structure, and economic role in the world, development into an environmentally conscious economy and society (as indicated in #10 and 11 in Table 1) is critical. Education will be key to helping individuals, governments, and the economic world to understand and value ecosystem services.
[-]

USA, E592

We have too much environmental law and policies, but most of them can't be executed well. It is a serious problem that must be resolved soon, it is worse if laws can't be used than there are no them at all.
[Environmental Law and Policy enforcement]

CHINA, E593

Human Kind is sawing the branch it is sitting on. With the rate humans are changing and destroying ecosystems and ecosystem Services and as long as profit continues to come before sustainable management I give it another 20 generations until its extinction. Nature can live without us. But we cannot live without nature. We have not yet understood this.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

GERMANY, E595

The U.S. has not taken the impacts of climate change seriously and we are beginning to see its impacts in the form of severe storms, sporadic weather patterns and impacts on water resources. The political atmosphere in the US also is impacting the scientific community, particularly those who are part of environmental regulatory agencies. This is impacted morale within these agencies and impacting the ability to attract new scientific minds into positions.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

Todd Kuiken, USA, E596

The continued uncheck population growth around the world has place the largest strain and has been the number one impactful issue on all other aspects of our environmental quality, which in turn impacts food pollution, water resources, land use and biodiversity. Over 80% of the worlds biomass consists of man and his domestic animals, cattle, pigs, chickens, sheep and household pets. This lack of balance and resulting uncontrolled use of our natural resources is depleting the worlds natural ability to mitigate the misuse.
Continued uncontrolled population growth and the effects of a majority of disconnected people from nature will not allow the creation of legislative measures to curb misuse nor the few who work to protect the environment to make headway in any time of restoration.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food]

USA, E597

Indigenous peoples face serious difficulties such as cultural and legal discrimination on management of natural resources. Cooperation between government agencies and indigenous people should be essential to future policy and management of natural resources. There must also be an increase in public awareness and appreciation of indigenous cultural, spiritual and subsistence values. Over the last few years conservation at some of the highest levels has focused on a ”preservation” management which often is in direct conflict with cultural, spiritual and subsistence values that have evolved with these resources.
[11. Environment and Society]

USA, E601

One of the major problems that we have in the USA is that there is no accountability of the politicians for their decisions related to the environment because their terms of service are relatively short, and the scope of the environmental issues that need to be dealt with is long. They are not likely to pass legislation that will make a long-term difference for climate change or pollution because it is unpopular in the short term. Most of our population is aware of climate change and related environmental issues, but does not seem to be aware of the urgency (or feel that short-term livelihood is more important). Therefore the citizens do not pressure the politicians and government to take steps against climate change and towards better environmental practices. We are a major user of fossil fuels and politicians occasionally try to pass legislation to require better fuel efficiency (which we have the technology for), but there is also a very strong lobby presence for the automotive and oil industries which prevents this from happening. Greater public awareness of this issue as well as legislative support would make a big difference in reducing USA contribution to climate change.
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, E602

Transformation away from extravagant resource consumption and disposal is paramount. With a change of attitude, ethic and behavior other environmental issues may be more tractable.
[8. Lifestyles]

USA, E606

Adaptation in forestry is sustainable forest management that includes a climate change focus. Climate change over the next 100 years is expected to have significant impacts on forest ecosystems. The forestry community needs to evaluate the long-term effects of climate change on forests and determine what the community might do now and in the future to respond to this threat. Management can influence the timing and direction of forest adaptation at selected locations, but in many situations society will have to adjust to however forests adapt. Adapting to climate change in the face of the uncertain timing of impacts means we must have a suite of readily available options. A high priority will be coping with and adapting to forest disturbance while maintaining the genetic diversity and resilience of forest ecosystems. A framework for facilitating adaptation in forestry is discussed and a review of adaptive actions presented.
Mitigation. Forests currently absorb billions of tons of CO2 globally every year, an economic subsidy worth hundreds of billions of dollars if an equivalent sink had to be created in other ways. Concerns about the permanency of forest carbon stocks, difficulties in quantifying stock changes, and the threat of environmental and socioeconomic impacts of large-scale reforestation programs have limited the uptake of forestry activities in climate policies. With political will and the involvement of tropical regions, forests can contribute to climate change protection through carbon sequestration as well as offering economic, environmental, and socio-cultural benefits. A key opportunity in tropical regions is the reduction of carbon emissions from

deforestation and degradation.
Climate change can be addressed by mitigation (reducing the sources or enhancing the sinks of greenhouse gases) and adaptation (reducing the impacts of climate change). Mitigation and adaptation present two fundamentally dissimilar approaches whose differences are now well documented.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Natural resources, including renewable and non-renewable resources, ac compassing Forests currently absorb billions of tons of CO2 globally every year and have an impacts of large-scale reforestation programs have limited the uptake of forestry activities in climate policies.)]

Mehmet Metaj, ALBANIA, E609

While this is a regional survey and mine is the U.S., I believe the major problem for global conservation has to do with population growth and land use. These are not major issues in the U.S. right now in my opinion, but they are elsewhere. There are too many people and reproductive rates are too high and growing higher. As populations grow, their need for fuel, food and commerce end up in habitat destruction. Unless we can reign in population growth, there is little we can do to stop the effects that too many people bring.
[-]

USA, E612

Climate change - Human society's emissions from vehicles and industry is clearly affecting the atmosphere, causing warming. Huge costs to society is created by having to adjust lives in response to climate change.
Land use - We are felling so many forests that we are reducing earth's ability to absorb carbon dioxide. This will exacerbate climate warming, and greatly reduce earth's biodiversity.
Pollution/Water - Clean water is essential to our lives, and in many places that is no longer available.
Population - This is a huge issue, as human society is already taxing the limits of resource availability and sustainability in many places around the globe. This resource limitation will become ever stronger as population grows, and thus fueling competition (wars) between countries for scarcer resources. Every country seems to wish to have a larger population, and with that paradigm, it will ensure more violence as nations seek to get the resources that they need.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Joel Schmutz, USA, E613

Our ability to deal with the climate change crisis will define our future for the next 7 generations. If we find ways to deal with it globally, it will set the standard on how global challenges are perceived, understood and dealt with in the future. If we fails to find effective ways to deal with this global crisis, it will create an uncertain and very unprosperous future for us all.
[1. Climate Change]

CANADA, E614

I see no way that civilization as we know it can survive to mid-century. Warming and burning of boreal forests will defeat all measures to keep global temp. at a livable level.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society(Education of children preschool with concentration on nature and independent thinking.)]

Richard D. Estes, USA, E615

The issues are too entangled to consider realistically as separate entities since changing one can affect other aspects of the system that operates in the ''global commons''. However, to make the most efficacious decisions requires understanding the nature of human needs, economic realities, and then the impact on surroundings of different types of actions and reactions to change. While everyone has a common goal, decision makers must consider the ways of being and knowing that affect the ways different peoples live and interact in their environments and how such drives responses to different types of policy decisions.
[5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, E617

These are all inter-related concerns. Land use changes, continued population increases, and associated increases in pollution/ contamination, are for the most part the result of human action and lifestyle, ultimately resulting in climate change.
I view "climate change" as the collective capstone concern because it summarizes the likely result, a changed world that is likely to result in reduced biodiversity and from a human perspective, increased hardship for the world's population. I believe changes in lifestyles and our economic systems are necessary if we are to maintain a livable plant, or at least one in which we would choose to live.
Harmful land use patterns and water contamination, etc. are in part a result of the essentially unfettered capitalism or so-called

socialist approaches being practiced on much of the globe. An economic system which requires continued and unending increases in output cannot work in our closed system, i.e. the Earth. The desire to continue to do so without recognizing the potential consequences these actions have on the world's living resources could well result in an unlivable world. Besides taking action to arrest the causes of climate change, we would do well to find other worlds to rationally colonize as soon as possible.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Joseph A Uravitch, USA, E618

The biggest environmental challenges in the UK are land use, particularly intensive agricultre and non-sustainable development. This is driving biodiversity declines and degrading both ecosystem services and ecosystem functioning. The second biggest issue in my opinion is the complacency of society towards environmental issues. Research demonstrates that they are not a top 10 priority for the general population and just 10% of people recognise biodiversity declines as an issue and take action to reduce this. There is no point trying to give people more information about environmental issues until we can get them to appreciate the natural environment more highly. Research in environmental education demonstrates that information provision does not change behaviours and this is where the environment sector gets it wrong so often.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 11. Environment and Society]

Gareth Parry, UK, E620

The challenges of building and sustaining the political awareness, understanding, and will to take actions on issues whose effects are often most serious at the secondary and tertiary levels and separate in space and time from the individual are especially challenging. The mismatch between individuals and social institutions to deal with these "wicked" problems makes effective and timely resolution problematic. Effective environmental management is, at its core, a social-political issue, not a technical or biological matter and until our policies and programs recognize this, successful,outcomes are unlikely.
[11. Environment and Society]

USA, E624

In my opinion climate change is the single biggest threat to the environmental and society. There are so many feedback loops inherent in climate change it will touch almost everyone's life. Climate change isn't mutually exclusive from other threats. It will exacerbate the biodiversity crisis, strain water resources, lead to greater food insecurity, challenge peoples' livelihoods, etc. Climate change is a direct result of egregious human behavior and reliance on a petroleum based economy. The troubling part of the resistance humans have to changing their behavior to help mitigate the threat. I think there is general consensus that climate change is real, but there are many people in this world, particularly in the US, who feel it's not linked to human activities. Unfortunately, climate change will disproportionately affect the society's poorest - the implications of this have yet to be seen, but when it shows it's ugly head, the rich will feel it too.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society(Over consumption and food insecurity)]

USA, E626

I consider population to be the driving factor behind all of the other problems; in terms of peril for our survival, it is near the breaking point, mostly due to threats of war, insurgency, and civil crises - other factors are secondary if the world's governments collapse into anarchy or dictatorships.
[6. Population]

USA, E628

Many of these options overlap and one cannot be solved without also solutions/attention to the others. This is particularly true in the case of the critical issue of Climate Chaos (a better, more realistic term than Climate Change): without attention to human behavior and the environment (8, 11 & 12) we cannot solve the Climate Crisis.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Richard Cellarius, USA, E629

In addition to these, and I suppose going along with the category of "biodiversity", is issue of non-native, invasive animals destroying habitat and affecting native wildlife populations worldwide. One of the most significant examples of this is the domestic house cat, along with: goats, rats, and pigs, especially within island ecosystems. Humans have transported these harmful invasives to every corner of the planet, and most often have more empathy for them than they do native wildlife. That is a huge problem. With he significant rate of extinction, this problem just compounds other stessors. Misguided compassion for harmful, non-native, invasive species is second to habitat loss, in my opinion, as factors that affect biodiversity overall.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 6. Population]

Candee Ellsworth , USA, E630

Large environmental topics are great, but sometimes subtopics are missed. e.g. Biodiversity research, germplasm storage, recovery especially of rare plants are severely neglected and underfunded.Especially oceania, where high percentage of endemism exists on islands but almost no funding to do work.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, E631

India is a Developing country of one billion plus people. We are in the trajectory of development and environmental issues / concerns are seen as affecting the pace of development both economic and social and hence its importance.
[1. Climate Change, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Patrick Jasper, INDIA, E634

The transformation of aridlands in Chihuahua, México by agricultural practices by Mennonites and the increasing pecan orchards are an environmental issue to be taken into account, because of the excessive water requirements.
The settlements of the Mennonites in Chihuahua transformed the aridland to agricultural crops by extracting the subterranean water and using a lot of pesticides and chemical fertilizers. When the water is finish the people move to another place and the cycle continues, no remedies to the soil, they just leave the eroded soil. Some communities use strobe light in the night, which might put in risk the natural orientation of bats or insects.
The increasing pecan orchards in the desert is a time bomb for water supplies, because of the high demand of water required, in the long run the limited amount in aridland environment.
Other activities include mining industries and gas pipeline projects that are been develop in northwestern Mexico, some of these projects include some impacts in natural protected areas. This could be hard to understand because of the roll of the NPA, and the message that is been transmitted to the community. Our children will be confused by not been able to cope between conserving habitats for wildlife and the wellfare of humans and the power of energetic policies that rule, and in some cases dont care.
One pipeline project is been develop crossing between Ojinaga, Chihuahua to Topolobampo, Sinaloa, along aridlands and high sierras, where the Raramuri (Tarahumaran) people live. Is it fair? The Lifestyle of one of the most important cultural ethnic group of northern México might be in risk.
Some aridlands include habitats that are exclusive for fauna and flora, which will be lost. The environment in aridlands is fragile and the access by new roads may provoke the potential to be impacted by roadkills or/and extraction.
Also, the invasive species theme is an important concern because of the implications in zoonosis, wich might be increasing because of climate change. As well as the competitive reactions over the native species.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

MEXICO, E635

Living in the Horn of Africa, water is my primary concern, as a person. This threatens political stability in Africa and the Middle East already in the next ten years.
Water scarcity and water related conflict will severely impact on environment and society.
Climate change is something we in Africa can hardly influence. We will be impacted (already are a bit), but mainly in the medium term.
[5. Water Resources]

KENYA, E637

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land use is not managed in a standard manner that would offer better solutions
waste collection and reuse must become more integrated in the circular economy
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(better management of land use society should become better informed and get involved in environmental issues better management of biodiversity processing and control of municipal waste must be improved)]

STOICA DAN LAURENTIU, ROMANIA, E638

Change in Lifestyles in rich countries is a prerequisite for combatting global warming. The shortsightedness of both consumers and companies is reflected in political decision making processes.
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

GERMANY, E640

Important is to reflect on ''climate change/environment vulnerable populations living in poverty''. The poor & marginalised populations especially women, children & elderly are worst affected & impacted by the effects of climate change, environment degradation & natural disasters triggered due to global warming, deteriorating climate & environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 12.

Others(Another aspect that could be considered in the environmental issues is- natural disasters triggered due to global warming, deteriorating climate & environment degradation.)]

INDIA, E641

The pollution should be checked up. The ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation and other agencies should work together to control the urban pollution. The use of plastic bags, excessive operation of the old vehicles should be controlled
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, (The environment of the Capital, Kathmandu is very polluted, increased due to the huge number of vehicles, dusty roads and large population (Over 6 million inhabitants). This is exerting pressure on various resources (forest, water, ground water and transport). This should be controlled!)]

Rajendra, NEPAL, E642

The global loss of biodiversity is very rapid and we have not even explored and described all biodiversity on Earth. As long as the human population keeps growing, the human pressure on ecosystems and species will also grow and the extinction of species will continue. There is an urgent need for regulating human population growth and also a need for a comprehensive research programme to study the taxonomy, ecology, conservation status and trends of biodiversity.
[2. Biodiversity, 6. Population]

GERMANY, E643

[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy, (All of these issues are of paramount importance. If we only had to deal with one at a time - population, food, water, land use, climate change, pollution, overfishing, etc - then we could do so. The problem is taht they are all happening at once, and we need to deal with them all at once.)]

Fiona Harvey, UK, E645

The forests of Moldova belong to the first functional group, meaning their general function is a protective one, encompassing water and soil protection, climate stabilization, biodiversity conservation and social and scientific safeguarding functions. Water resources are vital for people who live in this country. Frequent draughts have had severe impacts on agricultural output, making of water management a priority concern. Moreover, excessive extraction of groundwater has caused water tables to drop. Hence, water shortage, soil erosion and flood disasters in association with forest degradation are extremely problematic in Moldova and have affected its economic growth. Nowadays, the main sources of drinking water supply are Nistru and Prut rivers, 700 springs, 4,888 artesian wells, and 136,000 wells. Almost all rural people are supplied from public and individual wells. The uneven distribution of water resources causes large differences in water consumption in different villages of the Republic. For example, an inhabitant consumes 64, 180 and 460 litres of water per day in Vulcanesti district, Orhei district and Chisinau city respectively. We hypothesize that both water quality and the number of wells depend on forest percentage cover. Moldova has at present only 325,400 ha of forests covering about 9.6% of the country and 0.01% from the world's forest area (139th place). A few centuries ago, forests covered up to 30% of this territory, which corresponds to today Europe's forest percentage cover. This paper first describes the dynamic of the forest cover and the management of forest estate, secondly the evolution of wells number and water quality, and thirdly the relationship between forest cover, watershed services and number of wells. Finally, based on existing studies, our main objectives and actions are driven by the need to restore forest quality and watershed services.
Because of its poorest feature in Europe (UNDESA 2013; Hugosson and Larnholt 2010; IMF 2013) in conditions of limited natural resources (Gulca, Deal 2010) and its economic growth based on consumption and on remittances (IMF 2013), the Republic of Moldova is affected in many aspects by the increasing shortage of water resources (Grec et al. 1994). Areas such as health, culture, social protection, and environmental protection are crucial for the country's sustainable development in the context of the National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020". Because of the impact on human health and sustainable livelihood, the topic of drinking water and sanitation facilities is becoming a seriously discussed issue among international organizations as well as developing agencies in industrialized countries (Hugosson and Larnholt 2010). When managing watersheds, human health can be seen as both an objective for management and an indicator of the overall state of the ecosystem (Parkes 2008). In that context, using the Human Development Index (HDI - a summary measure of average achievement in key dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and have a decent standard of living), we have found that the Republic of Moldova ranks 114 rank from 195 countries in 2013. In comparison, we can see in that source about HDI that the first 17 countries with very high human development indices have a large area covered by water or even they are surrounded by water, developed sanitation facilities and most of them have high forest percentage cover and mountains.
The country's leadership pays constant and increased attention with regard to the state of wells and springs and is not indifferent towards them, proposing to institutionalize concrete actions (Mihailescu 2008). As an example in 2004, a Presidential Decree was issued on the organization of the country's annual Clean Water Week, being promoted the century-old tradition of our nation which consists in preserving the sanctity of pure water and crystal water. In fact, there are more than 20 legislative and normative acts aimed at protecting aquatic resources listed in Neculiseanu et al. (2007), including many laws, water code, Strategy on water supply and sanitation to communities in Moldova (2007), etc. However, 73% of the rural population has no

access yet to safe drinking water (UNDESA 2013). The internet lists number of causes of illness and poisoning due to the use of water from wells: over 90% of the wells are polluted in the village Ocolina (district Soroca); because water is contaminated with nitrates and bacteria, each year the number of illnesses with gastric and intestinal diseases is increasing (31); in Calarasi district (there are 4000 wells), the water in more than 90% of the wells does not meet the parameters (32); in the village Lunga from Floresti district, the locals take out lamp oil from wells instead of drinking water (33); in the Draguseni commune (district Straseni) 23 children sickened after, according to the National Center for Public Health, they drank contaminated water from wells (34); water poisoning us, 80% of the wells contain high amounts of nitrates in the country (35).
The national legislation does not enforce clear duties to the authorities to guarantee quantitative and qualitative access to water (Guceac 2010). He emphasized "constitutionalization of the right to water, an essential prerequisite for access to water as source of life and dignity" and took as example the Constitution of South Africa (1996) by article 27 (1.2) "Health care, food, water and social security" where is mentioned that "Everyone has the right to have access to sufficient food and water". The author mentioned that the Republic of Moldova should analyse the legislation also from other countries like Kenya and Ethiopia. Thus, there is a well-established knowledge base around the link between land use or management practices and water quality and sedimentation (Smith et al. 2006). In many problems of watershed evaluation both forest and non-forest lands are involved (Duerr and Vaux 1953). In that context, the aim of the study is to stress the relationship between forest cover, watershed services, number of wells and water consumption in Moldova. The study is tackling important questions about the effects of logging across entire watersheds. And the care thinking of this investigation is if we can help to improve the quality and the quantity of water in the wells and the watershed services; what are barriers to that?
[5. Water Resources]

Vitalie Gulca, MOLDOVA, E647

Georgia is trying to join the EU, however their progress to reduce CO2 and to enforce minimum standards in building and construction (including ownership and public lands, which are being sold for profit by government), as well as traffic and automobile pollution in cities, parking on all public sidewalks, etc--reflects the low status of environmental issues for the population and the political ignorance or priority of environmental "time bombs". Fortunately there are local NGOs which are active, however they are kept in check by police forces, and only last week 10 were detained for demonstrating against new pharaonic projects proposed by the superrich. Casinos abound, while public walkways and parks are neglected except for a very superficial "tree planting" phase from time to time, very ineffective. Projects that will destroy the Botanical Gardens , the central park, areas near lakes, etc are easily "bought" by such as former PM Bidzina Ivanishvili now, and in previous Governments under Saakashvili, the same happened with his cronies. There needs to be serious rule of law enforcement in the field of the environment, with stronger input from international bodies, to which Georgia is quite sensitive and open, and which would support the public outcries against the unjust destruction of the Georgian environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(In Georgia the Environmental Ministry position is not considered important, and changes often...Environmental issues at the political level are swept under the rug as oligarchs and the wealth disobey laws--e.g. there are no construction laws, though they promise to pass laws soon.)]

Mary Ellen Chatwin, GEORGIA, E648

I totally like and happy to participate the survey by ASHAI Glass Foundation. It is a great opportunity to step-up about knowledge or concern to society regarding global warming and pollution control by taking necessary steps. As I am Sensor researchers, I try to develop chemical sensors idea and practical implementation to detect environmentally unfriendly chemicals discharges from the Research and Development section under industry and personal sectors. Basically I am involved to develop/prepare nano-materials (transition or semiconductor nonstructural materials under Nanotechnology plan) and potential utilizing them for the selective and sensitive chemical sensor development.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society, (We should keep our environment clean, green, and safer for lives by concerning several issues related climate change, contamination, water resources, lifestyle, unnecessary firing the weeds or grasses, reducing the CO2 from vehicles, etc.)]

Mohammed Muzibur Rahman, SAUDI ARABIA, E649

The pubik awareness about environmental problems is the main isssue to be stressed on in Germany, I beleive. Living around "average german citizens" convinced me that everybody have heard something about climate change and pollution (but peoples do not know exactly what does that mean), everybody crazy about "bio"-food products and afraids of "genetically modifyed organisms (but again, they do not understand whatever that means), and, almost nobody know about biodiversity problems. Therefore, me main problem is environmental education of the peoples, and it should starts at school on obligatory background. Because not all families visits public actions, nature museum or reading broshures. Lots of peoples just watching TV, eating cheapes, and drinking beeer on kids playground. Somebody have to tell their kids about plastic recycling, CO2 global level, food chains and so on.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 11.

Environment and Society]

GERMANY, E650

Climate change and biodiversity loss are huge issues for the world today and it seems that no governments are taking them seriously. With the exception of a few countries almost no countries seem to have any real concrete solutions and prefer to blame other countries and say they will wait to see what everybody else is doing.
Nearly all problems stem to some extent from the rising human population. It is imperative that all the major religions, in particular, address this issue and yet everybody is running away from it. It is going to make solving these problems extremely difficult.
We seem to around the world value the economy above everything else. However the economy will not solve any of these problems. If we want mankind and the environment to be around in 10,000 years then having economic growth every single year, on a planet of fixed resources apart from the sun, is unsustainable.We need to change how we value ourselves, the world and how we see our future. It can be done but it will take a global shift.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Ashley Vosper, AFGHANISTAN, E653

There are multiple interactions between the global to local aspects of the earth's environmental system. Rising population and lifestyles make the impacts on the environment increase and these in turn cause more impacts on society. It is a multidimensional system and cannot be addressed by simple one issue at a time approaches. The short term thinking of most makes the solutions that are used often inadequate. We need a global many generational approach across the issues and this approach is very difficult with the political short term thinking of most.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CANADA, E654

In my view climate change is the biggest issue the world is facing today. The frequency of natural disasters/ calamities has increased significantly in recent years as a result of climate change.
The major factors responsible for the climate change is the rapid and unplanned industrialization and irresponsible use of natural resources.
[1. Climate Change]

Danish Rashdi , PALESTINE, E657

Climate change causes glacier melt and additionally in lower altitudes the upcomming of invasive species including damaging insects and diseases for agriculture. Changes in agriculture tend to go to intensification and unique livestock and plants, which leads to a decrease of diversity in agriculture. This causes changes in the diversity rich cultural landscape.
Lifestyle needs a lot of resources. Knowledge about a better adapted lifestyle is not enough known in the public. Politics are influenced by industry.
Expecially not well adapted tourism in the alps causes a lot of environmental problems. On the other hand tourism is an important part of economy.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 12. Others(Agriculture: There is an ongoing process of intensification in the lower alpine areas and a abandonment of cultivation in the mountain regions. There shrubs and forest is growing, diversity of alpine meadows are in danger of extinction.)]

SWITZERLAND, E658

No serious, incisive, really effective measures are possible in the "market oriented" economic regimes, due to the fact that: 1) investors cannot operate in a decreasing economy scenario (caused by decrease in global resouces and thus decreased industrial output), 2) no private investor or business operator can act in a planned, "society-oriented", "common good" scenario, because this clashes - in most cases sooner or later - with the private company's main goal: increasing its private revenues and it's total capital. All minor measues taken up to now are not only too little and too slow and uneffective due to the fact that they are within the "market oriented" measues category, but these minor measures are taken - a part from their importance and entity - too late and too mildly, not to speek about their "voluntary" characteristics and the absence of any independent periodic verification and the absence of any sanction system for those that do not observe the "treaties" signed up to now. And the above are only some comments, taken at a first thought, without examining all the problems and issues.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(extended resource wars; agricultural crisis; Erosion of arable land; monocultures in agriculture depauperating land; industrial crisis due to resouces shortage; social crises due to unavailable services to lower classes; pollutants entering the alimentary chain; OGMs spreading uncontrollably;others.)]

Alberto Di Fazio, ITALY, E660

The greatest challenge is how people use land and natural resources, and how we consume. If it was done in a manner that properly understood the value of the natural resources required for production and consumption (such as clean land, air, water and the role of different species in maintaining ecosystem function...both globally and locally), then we would see a major and significant shift in how we live. Although idealistic, such a shift would enable humans to live sustainably on this planet. But the shift would need to be so extreme, and humans are so poor at making behaviour changes that require people to have less than before, and to loose access to things they used to enjoy (whether that is luxury items or even just choices), that it is very questionable whether we have the leadership, understanding, wisdom and means to make the required behavioural changes. This is why I emphasise the role of economics, but also law, social justice and science to drive change.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Economy]

UK, E661

It is still business as usual. Despite the grim scenario, the country is still planning to put up a lot of new coal-fired power plants, putting on the road new vehicles instead of improving the mass transport system, and allowing more products in the market that litter the environment or pollute the atmosphere and water systems.
[10. Environment and Economy]

Ronaldo R. Gutierrez, PHILIPPINES, E663

[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 11. Environment and Society, (Sludge reuse, Environment Law, Water transboundary, Water security, Environmental Diplomatic. Environmental Politics)]

JORDAN, E664

In my opinion Climate change is the biggest threat the world is facing today. Clearly the frequency of natural disasters/ calamities have increased significantly in recent years as a result of climate change/ global warming.
The major factors contributing to this climate change in my view are rapid and haphazard industrialization and unplanned/ unsustainable use of natural resources.
[1. Climate Change]

Syed Kamran Haider Naqvi , PAKISTAN, E665

Government should play active role to change policies and laws to over come these issues.
[7. Food(GMOs food are most serious issue in developing countries.According to latest research human are facing lot of diseases and tension adulteration in food also main problem.)]

PAKISTAN, E667

Environmental issues nowadays playing very crucial role to determine sustainable development. The future of mother earth and it's people will totally be depend on the quality of planning and it's execution. Specifically speaking in under-developed countries, poor planning and governance is a big issue and engulfing the future. Climate change is a reality now, and we all are going to be affected very badly because of the globalized economy, because any trespass without accurate planning with futuristic approach are enough to doom whole human race. Because of climate change, the untimely rain will affect a lot the yield of the crop and put nations on threat as far as food security is concerned. There are many bad and detrimental impacts/ effects which can be anticipated, if this trend remains continue..
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society, (Hydro power based development is threatening the survival of human being, as there is little of real affected people in the policy formulation as well as in implementation. along with this future is uncertain as far as food security is concerned.)]

Mohinder Slariya, INDIA, E670

We have been feeding the world by using non-renewable ground water. In the next 10 years agriculture will start to collapse in eastern Pakistan, western India, the Middle East, and California.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Steve Gorzula, USA, E672

All the issues are connected, driven by human population growth (not so fast in Europe, but globally a major and increasingly important issue) and economic development. In my opinion, world leaders have woken up too late to the threat of climate change and national interest and vested business interests (in fossil fuels) continue to obstruct change in reducing GHG emissions. The thawing of Arctic permafrost, melting of Arctic sea ice, glaciers worldwide and Antarctic ice shelves are evidence of a process that is now well out of our control. Even if all cars and power stations stopped working immediately, the effects will be seen for centuries - we have missed the boat and now have to adapt to address the consequences of rising sea levels,

ecological changes and dramatic changes in weather patterns such as increased storm severity and frequency, droughts and floods, etc. Controlling GHG emissions remains urgent and important however.
Land use change plays an underestimated role in global warming and climate change - the continuing, rapid loss of forest to land grabs for oil palm, soya bean, sugar cane, and other cash crops is a major contributor to these patterns and a massive driver of biodiversity loss. This is driven by corporate greed, weak governance and corruption (eg in Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia and Brazil). The solutions are stronger ethics in governance, greater public accountability, and transparency in financial reporting - so it becomes clear who REALLY benefits from such environmentally destructive activities.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

Richard Crawford Prentice, UK, E673

The current world population is too big for the planet output capacity, if we consider the needs of the industialized countires. The indutrialized world consumes far more than what it needs whereas the underindustrialized countires lack of many basic products needed for decent life condition.
Consumption at the level of the industrialized world is not sustainable.
There should be a reequilibration of needs between rich and poor countires with common goals between the various governement.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles]

ITALY, E675

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1. Climate change - clearly a global problem but without accurate forecasting of impacts is difficult to know whether species adaptability will facilitate their suvival or not.
2. Biodiversity - we are loosing species at an alarming rate with little coordination to stop the loss. Too little funding for species conservation and what little is available is hijacked for a small number of species or regions. Also human-centric projects are prioritised over species based conservation and this is not right. There are already many human-based projects being funded so the species conservation movement shouldn't be diluted by poverty alleviation or other human-based issues.
3. Land use - No planning and shrinking of protected areas. We must set aside vast tracts of land for ecosystem functioning and species conservation.
5. Water resources - stop damming and dumping. Freshwater ecosystems are horribly abused and species within them totally neglected and targeted for destruction by governments and business alike. We need greater regulation of use and increased protection of entire watersheds.
6. Population - the single biggest threat. We cannot sustain billions of people and human population needs to be reduced, not stabilised but reduced. All other environmental problems stem from overpopulation.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

UK, E676

In order to tackle climate change, we must live a simpler life. That will reduce economic activity. This may mean that we restructure and reorganize ourselves to better use resources and live in harmony with the environoment.
[8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

Caroline Wagner, USA, E677

Economy is of main concern in (still) developing countries, since if main societal problems (health, security, social development) are not solve appropriately, other issues of environmental concern will not be considered as priority for society. We have to strive to achieve the basic conditions for the living of mankind before we hear the echoes of global environmental issues.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

Alex Krusche, BRAZIL, E680

MAN AND ENVIRONMENT: ENEMIES OR FRIENDS ?
Everything on our planet is interconnected, and while the nature supplies us with valuable environmental services without which we cannot exist, we all depend on each other's actions and the way we treat natural resources.
As globalization continues and the earth's natural processes transform local problems into international issues, few societies are being left untouched by major environmental problems.
An essential problem of the 21st century is world pollution. Pollution is the result of progression and development that is occurring on a regular basis. With the growth of technology, more and more development is taking place in order to improve the quality of human life. Environmental pollution is causing a lot of distress not only to humans but also animals, driving many animal species to endangerment and even extinction.
The transboundary nature of environmental pollution makes it even more difficult to manage – you cannot build stone walls along the borders of your country or put customs cabins at every point of entry to regulate its flows into your country.
Nature is not an entity that exists separately from us; the nature is us, we are an inalienable part of it, and we should care for it in the most appropriate manner. Only then can we possibly solve the problem of environmental pollution.
SOURCES AND TYPES OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

Air pollution: Key contributing factors:
•Industry: Power-generating plants, petroleum refineries; petrochemical plants, production and distribution of fossil fuels , other manufacturing facilities
•Transport: Road transport (motor vehicles), shipping industry, etc.
•Agriculture (livestock farming) as the largest generator of ammonia emissions,
•Trading activities and residential sector: incineration of solid municipal waste, etc.
Water Pollution: Key contributing factors:
•Industry: heavy metals, chemical wastes, and others.
•Agriculture: Insecticides and herbicides, pollutants from livestock operations
•Food processing waste,
•Residential sector:soaps and detergents, etc.
Soil pollution or land pollution: Key contributing factors:
•Industry: hazardous wastes, heavy metals, chemical wastes, strip mining, and others.
•Agriculture: non-sustainable agriculture practice, use of inorganic pesticides, deforestation, pollutants from livestock operations
•Trading activities and residential sector: soaps and detergents, solid municipal waste that may end up in landfills or incinerators leading to soil contamination
•Human activities: Food processing waste, dumping and littering, etc
Noise pollution
Key contributing factors: Any kind of noise that is unpleasant to human ears; loud and hard sounds coming from factories, machinery, automobiles, trains, fire crackers, and explosives; some natural calamities like harsh winds and volcanic eruptions.
Radioactive Pollution
Key contributing factors: accidents in the nuclear power plants, improper disposal of nuclear waste, operations of uranium mining, etc.
Nano pollution: Nanotechnologies and problems of biosafety: possible risks for humans and animals
Many new inventions and introductions are causing a danger to human life as they are done artificially. This artificial and unsystematic way of generating high level of comforts is producing components that are inevitable to human life and can be dangerous.
ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION EFFECTS ON HUMANS, OTHER ANIMALS & PLANTS
Air pollution: Key consequences:
•Humans (and animals): a wide range of diseases, from viral infection to life threatening conditions such as heart attacks, asthma attacks, headaches and dizziness, disruption of endocrine, reproductive and immune systems, neurobehavioral disorders, cardiovascular problems, cancer, premature death, etc.
•Plants:
•Acid rains: kill trees, destroy the leaves of plants, infiltrate soil by making it unsuitable for purposes of nutrition and habitation
•Ozone holes in the upper atmosphere allow excessive ultraviolet radiation from the sun to enter the Earth causing damage to trees and plants
•Ozone in the lower atmosphere prevents plant respiration by blocking stomata (openings in leaves) and negatively affecting plants' photosynthesis rates which will stunt plant growth; ozone can also decay plant cells directly by entering stomata
Water Pollution:
As in case of air pollution, even the effects of water pollution on humans revolve around various health disorders.
•Water pollution may disrupt photosynthesis in aquatic plants and thus affecting ecosystems that depend on these plants.
•Terrestrial and aquatic plants may absorb pollutants from water (as their main nutrient source) and pass them up the food chain to consumer animals and humans
•Plants may be killed by too much sodium chloride (ordinary slat) in water
•Plants may be killed by mud from construction sites as well as bits of wood and leaves, clay and other similar materials Plants may be killed by herbicides and chemicals in water;
Soil Pollution:
•Can alter metabolism of microorganisms and arthropods in a given soil environment; this may destroy some layers of the primary food chain, and thus have a negative effect on predator animal species
•Small life forms may consume harmful chemicals which may then be passed up the food chain to larger animals; this may lead to increased mortality rates and even animal extinction
•May alter plant metabolism and reduce crop yields
•Trees and plants may absorb soil contaminants and pass them up the food chain
Noise Pollution Key consequences:
•Irritation, hearing problems, headache, sleep disturbance, mental illnesses,
•Extremely unpleasant sounds cause an increase in the cholesterol, constrict arteries, an increase in the flow of adrenaline, and also forces the heart to function at a faster pace. All these can be life threatening as these factors can lead to heart attacks

and strokes.
Radioactive Pollution Key consequences: Cancer, various kinds of birth defects, and many other serious health issues.
Nano pollution : Nano particles in the atmosphere can cause or aggravate such diseases as asthma, lung emphysema and others.
Nanotechnologies in medicine, cosmetics etc. can induce cancer etc. Pests are dangerous distributors of nanoparticles.
ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION EFFECTS ON WIDER ENVIRONMENT
Acid rain can corrode metals, damage surfaces of buildings and monuments, and cause soil acidification.
Pollution of water may cause oxygen depletion in marine environments and severely affect the health of whole ecosystems.
Nano particles in the atmosphere can influence on the Earth climate
WHAT IS THE WAY FORWARD?
How can science can help find solutions to serious environmental problems
•Observation
Scientific observation, such as measurements of the Earth's temperature or tracking endangered animals, allows scientists to understand environmental problems that need to be addressed.
•Policy
Scientific observations and records can help influence public policy in the creation of emission standards, the protection of wildlife habitats and the preservation of resources. Using accurate science is vital in influencing policy.
•Environmental Science
The field of environmental science is devoted to exploring environmental problems and looking for solutions. Encouraging students to get involved in this field can help to bring about creative ideas for solving environmental problems.
•Technology
The creation of technologies devoted to finding alternative fuel sources, such as solar and wind energy, is one way to attempt to solve serious environmental problems. Additionally, new technologies often are "green," or more environmentally friendly.
•Processes
Science influences the processes of creating and recycling products in the most efficient ways. Reducing waste through scientific knowledge is one way in which pollution and environmental problems can be solved.
CAN BUSINESS PROFITABLY HELP SOLVE THE WORLD'S BIG ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS?
Environmental management
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Vera Dmitrieva, RUSSIA, E681

Climate Change is a ever growing concern and will have major impacts on low elevation seaside populations and increasing desertification which will impact agriculture in the most populous states. We also need to evaluate longer term temperature cycles due to variations on solar activity which caused previous ice ages- our current 9 billion plus population would not be sustainable without major alternate energy sources.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

David Rdoier, CANADA, E682

[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 12. Others(The interrelated problems of climate change, energy scarcity, population, and environmental degradation will interact to profoundly impact society in this century. The current lifestyle of society is profoundly unsustainable. Major changes will be necessary and difficult.)]

John Day, USA, E683

Climate change is a very significant global issue, and we need to continue addressing it now. However, this problem has a very long time frame, and there are other issues that are more pressing that also need addressing.
[1. Climate Change]

USA, E684

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Soil degradation including erosion, salinization, cmeical detioration and compaction shuold be mentioned as well.)]

GERMANY, E685

I believe that all of the "Environmental issues to be taken into account" mentioned above are important. All of them are interlinked. There is no area that will remain uninfluenced by climate change. Its negative influence on biodiversity is growing fast. It will influence land use and food production but is also influenced by them. Emissions of GHG are a type of pollution, often accompanied by other pollutants with a direct influence on our health. Connections are everywhere we look. Therefore we cannot focus on solving one or two problems without solving others. What we need to learn is "multi-solving" - finding and introducing solutions that are an answer to many if not all of our problems.

Some of the abovementioned issues could include both problem and the solution. Example - current lifestyles that dominate in the developed world and which people from developing countries want to copy are a problem, but a change in lifestyles can be a big part of solutions needed also to solve other problems on the list.
Some of them, like Global Warming Measures, seem to be just solutions, but they also can go wrong way and cause more problems than they will be solving - like with a legislation that supported use of first-generation biofuels, that became a competition for food production and caused increase in deforestation. Geo-engineering solutions that are now being considered can cause a whole range of problems we are not capable of seeing now (or problems we see but choose to ignore).
At the same time there are good solutions available to us, answers we already know, technologies we invented... but we do not use them or the scale of using them is to low or the pace of introducing them is too slow, for various reasons. Most important of those reasons are: - huge power that we gave to the global corporations (which often have more to say about introduced policies that the governments and which are ruled mostly by a necessity to constantly increase profits); - governments making decisions based on what they believe will improve their chances in next elections (which translates to focus on short term planning and immediate gain); - low level of awareness of majority of world's population that translates to low level of support for the necessary solutions for all the problems mentioned).
Relations between environment, economy and society are very difficult to manage. It is hard to change views and approaches that were working for generations (or we just believed they were) and brought on a fast rate of development. But we have no choice.
We have to start viewing development as something else /something different than growth. We need to find a way to balance world's financial systems which became completely incompatible with available resources. We need to start measuring development by other indicators, not just GDP. We need circular zero-waste economy and post growth society. We need to at least partially rebuild self-sufficiency of local communities that now depend on import of fuels, food and other products. We need to develop local small-scale dispersed energy sources connected by local smart-grids. We need to relearn that there is nothing shameful in using something for many years or fixing something instead of throwing it away, etc. And we can still do all of it - only our psychology, our fear of changes and tendency to ignore uncomfortable or scary facts are stopping us.
Faced by a simple choice between air and money I believe we would choose air every time - because breathing is a more immediate necessity than buying something. But world is more complicated than that - and most of us are still choosing money most of the time because the effects of our choices are delayed and we refuse to see the links between them.
Undoubtedly the richest among us believe they will be able to buy air and anything else they need regardless of the situation...
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(We should worry about synergy effect of all the issues mentioned above - they will influence each other to increase the level of stress put on our civilization.We can also expect increase in military conflicts arising out of desperate fight for what's left of earth resources.)]

Urszula Stefanowicz, POLAND, E686

Overpopulation is the single biggest issue facing the Earth. If this could be addressed, all other problems (including climate change), would follow.
[6. Population]

USA, E687

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regarding biodiversity - we have an urgent 100 year window to make sure we don't lose ecosystems and species to solve this problem, we need to solve the problem of human consumption and population climate change is going to make all of this much harder
[2. Biodiversity]

Nick Salafsky, USA, E688

My research of IPCC data on climate change proves that the "scientific consensus" is wrong. The following is an excerpt from a multi page article in Thinking Highways (a UK tech magazine)which includes a HUGE graphic covering the previous 100 years. The complete article will be forwarded to the Asahi Glass Foundation as an email attachment.

Having been thus denied the direct route I noted that, after that mid-century, three decade long decline in global temperature, the temperature line seems to rise inexorably in tempo with the atmospheric CO2 readings from Mauna Loa. The IPCC and their acolytes view this as confirming that the CO2 is driving the global temperature, apparently without investigating the converse.

Such an investigation is, in fact, quite easy to do. Noting that cooling water can absorb more CO2 but that warming water releases CO2, we can focus on the IPCC reported ocean temperature rather than the combined land+ocean or the land alone. (Note that in all cases they are actually measuring the air temperature immediately above the land or the ocean.) We then note that whether the increasing CO2 is causing the ocean temperature to rise (the IPCC's position), or an increasing ocean temperature (driven by the increasing radiation from the Sun over the past 30 years) is causing a net release of CO2 to the atmosphere from the oceans, neither process produces an instantaneous change in the global average. There will be a lag of several months to a year or two. Thus the test of which of the two is 'driving' the other is to run three mathematical cor-

relations: the first is a same year correlation, in the next two correlations each parameter is 'lagged one year' (i.e. its value for each year is correlated with the value for the other in the following year). The parameter which is 'driving' the other will show a better correlation when it is 'lagged one year'. In our case the 'same year' correlation produced an Rsquared of 0.813. Lagging CO2 produced 0.804 (worse) and lagging Ocean temperature produced 0.817. To the lay person those differences are very small but to a scientist, taking all three together, the result is unequivocal: in total contradiction to the IPCC's position the increasing ocean temperature is 'driving' the increasing CO2.
[1. Climate Change]

Al Gullon, CANADA, E689

We are having a transitional government - vice-president Michel Temer's - that is replacing our impeached president Dilma Rouseff whose political party (Workers' Party - PT) left the country in chaotic bankruptcy after 13 years in power. The pressure Temer's government is suffering is caused by the short time it has to try to fix the problems left behind by PT. Michel Temer belongs to a party - PMDB - that is always side by side with whoever is in power; therefore, he is not to be trusted. However, this is the constitutional solution we have found so far. In spite of the fact that PT insists on propagating the idea that we had a coup d'etat, which is definitely not true, there has been support on recent measures the new government is taking. However, in Temer's team working plan, nothing has been mentioned about how to reverse or stop the destruction that these 13 years of PT have caused to our environment, one example being the building of too many hydroelectric plants in the Amazon.
As Eduardo Arraut & Miriam Marmotel show in the E-letter "Amazonian manatee threatened with extinction by massive dam-building plan in the Amazon" (Science, 27 April 2016), "the massive dam-building plan would partition the species into many small and confined populations. Each small population would suffer from inbreeding, loss of evolutionary potential and increased vulnerability to slaughter, especially during natural or dam-induced extreme droughts. The dynamics of flooding would be substantially controlled by the dams, and it is unreasonable to assume that biodiversity would be favored over energy production in years of extreme droughts or floods. Overall, habitat deterioration would hugely intensify, further impacting manatee survival. It is not hard to see that this would create a perfect setting for pervasive local extinctions of the small and confined Amazonian manatee populations. The natural outcome would be a second species-level population collapse, from which recovery would be unlikely given that local socio-economic-environmental conditions will also have deteriorated further. The Amazon without the iconic Amazonian manatee is as the Arctic without Polar bears or Savannas without African lions. The pursuit of economic growth by South America in general, and Brazil in particular, should not come at the expense of the extinction of the Amazonian manatee. More broadly, it is imperative and urgent to discuss ways of developing the region that appreciate the myriad values (monetary and non-monetary) of one of the greatest natural treasures that still exist on our planet". This blind emphasis on development at all costs is causing us to waste the possibility of building another project for this country, a project that combines development with social justice and a smart use of our immense resources.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(I am very concerned about the conflict between Brazil's most demanding problems - recession, inflation, unemployment, public debt, corruption - and the environment, since the emphasis is on economic development without much concern for a wise use of our country's resources.)]

Silvia Elizabeth Moraes, BRAZIL, E690

We are still currently highly reliant on fossil fuels for our energy source. Bigger & bolder steps must be taken to transition towards renewable energy, especially solar power.
We are also often neglecting the importance of remnant forests as key watersheds for our water supply needs, not to mention the habitat for thousands of plant and animal species.
Our lifestyles can & should change, so that each of us has a smaller carbon footprint.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Tzi Ming LEONG, SINGAPORE, E692

The expansion of agriculture in Brazil without control and conservation measures are destroying biodiversity. The expansion of soybean on Cerrado area is an example. Furthermore, the Brazilian government (deputies and senators) has changed environmental legislation allowing the unbridled exploitation of natural resources and biodiversity.
[3. Land Use]

BRAZIL, E693

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i do think the Paris negotiations marked a change for the better in political atmosphere, but nothing they did or anybody else does can prevent major environmental degradation and climate change over the next 25-50 years, which is already built-in. If our societies cannot handle that change, they will lose the capability to mitigate climate change and the game is lost.
[12. Others(I am sorry you did not mention the link between climate change, biodiversity collapse, and failed states, forced migration, and human trafficking. It would have been my second choice.)]

USA, E694

[5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(Right to health environment, right to public participation, right to information.)]

UKRAINE, E695

For decades I have watched conservation efforts fail, forests disappear, people dispossessed, deserts being created and landscapes devastated all over the globe. During my time at Oxford I was classified as an evolutionary ecologist, and spent two of those years working on a desert atoll studying its giant tortoises. While there I began to see, that the value of biodiversity, properly governed and reinvested, could not only conserve it but provide sustainable returns to all beneficiaries. The problem was that most Governments are neither capable of delivering this outcome nor, in most cases, interested unless it delivers personal benefit to those in power. So what delivery system might have a chance of succeeding? It seemed pointless to try and change human nature; what was essential was to use the nature of that species for the benefit of all. Thus my long adventure into the use of market-driven instruments and governance started nearly three decades ago.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, (Private sector partnership. Has the resources to do good but is treated sceptically by not-for-profits and Governments which have more power in the UN and internationally. Economic sustainability comes before environment sustainability.)]

Ian Swingland, UK, E698

Biodiversity: threats to many species and habitats due to degradation of environment and unsustainable use of natural resources.
Pollution / Contamination: relate mainly to the water resources and wetlands. Huge impact from oil and gas industry, sewage and dumps around settlements. High consuming and very poor recycling in Russia.
Environment and Society: the problem is that majority of Russian people are not well aware about environmental issues and ignore them. Therefore the Russian authorities give low priority for the nature conservation and wise use.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 11. Environment and Society]

RUSSIA, E699

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1. Climate change. Despite the Paris accords and lots of good words, the new federal government and the new Alberta governmment still want to support the Alberta oilsands and get product to the ocean via pipelines.In general, in Canada, as has been the case for the last 30 years, there are lots of words but little action, little real commitment to switching to a low-carbon or carbon-free energy system.
10 and 11. The above also applies more widely to a ''green'' economy. We still measure progress using the GDP, even though it is being increasingly criticised as a misleading indicator. We still want continued growth within a finite planet of limited resources, even though that is plainly impossible. There is no serious discussion of a steady-state, sustainable economy, of creating a ''one-planet'' economy and lifestyle.
[1. Climate Change, 10. Environment and Economy]

Trevor Hancock, CANADA, E700

Climate Change being a global issue my country especially the melting of Himalayan water towers is of big concern and knowledge on climate change among the local people are still inadequate to show the trends and relations
Biodiversity is a complex part of the system and is balancing is needed. for this is still do not see the political commitments....
Water resources not being exploring as its potential first to have hydro electricity and then supply clean drinking water to the people of the nation.
linking environment and society is todays concern if we believe to have safer and healthier environment, here again the knowledge among all the citizens are very necessary.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 11. Environment and Society]

NEPAL, E701

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (these are all interconnected. must be addressed as ecosystems rather than target isues.)]

william.burch, USA, E706

Progress on climate change, biodiversity, pollution, and human population growth are far too slow. We understand the problems yet are failing to act. Failure to act on each of these related items results in increasing complexity to respond in a meaningful and timely manner. We need to see clear action and in particular, greater focus on human population growth which is the root of the problem.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population]

CANADA, E710

Concerning 4 and 5: the availability of clean, potable, water is essential to human health.
Concerning 10: Changing economic incentives/disincentives affects human consumption and behavior in ways either beneficial or detrimental to resources and the environment.
[4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

Will Irwin, USA, E712

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we need a new economic model that truly includes the actual limits of natural resources and respect the fundamental environmental health conditions for our existence on the planet as a species.
[10. Environment and Economy]

Alexandre Bahia Gontijo, BRAZIL, E714

[3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles, (Consumption patterns are pushing ecosystem resilience to limits due to nonsense demandings on resourcers, fibers and even space to develop human infrastructure)]

Carlos Mauricio Herrera Gamba, COLOMBIA, E715

We are seeing significant effects of climate change in Canada, and this is becoming clear through droughts, forest fires, pest outbreaks and other phenomena.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources]

CANADA, E717

Issues all interrelated
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

USA, E718

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 12. Others(Acidification of the ocean Microplastics in the marine environment)]

Max-Olivier Bourcoud, SWITZERLAND, E720

As noted, Climate Change is extremely pressing in my opinion... For instance actions taken next two centuries may impact sea-level for coming 10+ millennia: and due to the lingering nature and resilience of CO2 perturbations, these gases emitted over just a few centuries may cause global warming for several millennia.
Also of great separate (and yet not wholly unrelated) concerns are Water Resources, and Biodiversity.
Clean energy is a seminal Solution - and it deserves far greater attention on my own opinion. That said I am involved personally in the clean energy arena (just to note) and so have a particular interest here.
Beyond that Population is not listed by me here because I feel we cannot do much about that (short of new legal restrictions) - but Family size does seem to trend smaller as countries grow richer.
Ocean acidification is vastly underestimated in my view, as is sea-level rise as areas of huge import ahead.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 9. Global Warming Measures, 12. Others(Climate Change is extremely pressing in my opinion... For instance actions taken next two centuries may impact sea-level for coming 10+ millennia: and due to resilience of CO2 perturbations, these may cause global warming for several millennia. Also of great concern are Water, Biodiversity.)]

Dr. Rob Wilder, USA, E722

In my humble opinion, in order to have access to international funding, major projects should undergo an environmental audit at all stages with regard to their compliance with procedures, environmental assessments and practices, i.e. during evaluations, start-up, operations, and abandonment or closure. The auditors should be independent, not local.
Moreover, for the states that receive benefits, international cooperation on environmental matters should be more stringent and require compliance with national and international standards regarding the management and monitoring of funds. International cooperation funds (e.g. UNDP, UNEP, GEF, etc.) cannot be allocated to a state to protect the wetlands (e.g., RAMSAR) if that very state is drying up the wetlands or going against the principle of non-regression.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Es una constante que en paices con cierto grado de subdesarrollo las autoridades ambientales terminen dictaminando con criterios políticos y no técnicos respecto a la factibilidad ambiental, sustentabilidad de proyectos. También la corrupción genera estragos en esta materia.)]

Alejandro Fioroni, URUGUAY, E724

Ultimately human development depends on raw materials which have traditionally been extracted in a linear fashion. However, the rise of recycling and other circular material flow mechanisms post an opportunity but still pose a dilemma in terms of how durable we should make goods to allow for their end-of-use recycling. Energy is the arbitrator in this dilemma in terms of conservation benefits of durability versus, material availability through recycled feed-stock for manufacturing without greater

need for raw extraction.
Tying together material cycles across spatial dimensions of resource availability and waste management schemes can be achieved through a social ecological interpretation of a circular economy. However, we are still left to consider the temporal dimension of resource extraction. Planned conservation and efficient cycling of wastes may extend our time horizon for depletion and perhaps give technology a greater opportunity to find alternatives. Ultimately, our only salvation in grappling with the durability and development dilemma will be in finding energy sources which can be developed most effectively with existing materials available within a circular economy. One of the key tenets of dialectical naturalism is that incremental change leads to "turning points." The long-term viability of a circular economy will ultimately depend on a turning point around efficient and effective energy availability. Such a turning point would allow for many of the other contradictions and imponderable elements of reconciling material flows and development challenges would also be addressed. However, there would need to be a global effort to ensure resources are most effectively channelled in this regard through improved governance systems for resource flows.
[5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(Mineral availability for ecological technologies.)]

Saleem Ali, AUSTRALIA, E726

Land use: main problems are going on in our country very recently in forests, including loss of many coniferous (especially spruce) forests due to infestation by bark-beatles. It is interconnected also with global warming, which worsened the problem.
Climate change: global warming is affecting our forests - leading to die off of spruce. Most of locations where it is going on, were not natural for spruce. Still, the extent of that habitat destruction is large: effects whole valleys, ridges, mountain ranges in mountains of both east, north and central part of the country.
Another effect of global warming: drought. Especially in some parts of East-Slovakian Lowlands, also in lowlands of Western Slovakia, loss of precipitation during last 2 years led to almost complete drying up of most natural marshes, in some areas more than 70% of marshes are now dry.
Biodiversity: especially species of coniferous forests and lowland wetland species are badly affected by very recent habitat changes. Also human interference contributed in forests to worsening of the problem. More forests were destroyed by foresters, as the situation would require, in other words: infestation of bark-beatles was a good reason for large-scale forest destruction in mountains. Some lowland wetland species declined in some regions seriously (e.g. Bittern Botaurus stellaris declined in Medzibodrozie region by more than 90% due to drying up of its breeding and feeding marsh-land habitats).
Water resources: attempts to build a high number of small dams on rivers would reach unsustainable extent and would be harmful to river ecosystems.
Further destrucion is going on recently in open county - trees and bushes growing along river courses and growing in open , unforested areas are being destroyed in unsustainable rate due to harmful subsidies.
Lifestyles: our unsustainable consumption of meat and thus the whole lifestyle of our population is high above the levels, which our Earth would be able to bare, in a long-term perspective. If we will not decrease dramatically our consumption of meat, sooner or later we will face shortage of food, because amount of domestic animals, we need for our survival in an existing rate of consumption will require still more and more land, money and other resources...
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

Samuel Pacenovsky, SLOVAKIA, E727

Climate change is the biggest threat we are facing. Apart from the weather variability which brings El Nino events more frequently, killing our coral reefs and reef flora and fauna, we also face sea level rise. Sea level rise is seen by the rapid erosion of our coastal areas. This erosion causes sediments to pollute our near-shore areas and prevent the sun from getting through. This also kills our reefs and its sedentary life forms. Sea level rise also threatens the viability of our islands to support its population. Fresh water lens come to the surface and get polluted and unusable. Our food gardens in the small islands get affected by salt water and die. Frequent cyclones bring a lot of damage to our properties, food gardens and infrastructure. All these because of climate change - a problem we inherit due to pollution and GHG emission from the big countries.
[1. Climate Change]

FIJI, E728

Urban sprawl is a key challenge to Caribbean countries. Land is being rapidly being converted from habitats and agricultural uses to housing. Expansion of road infrastructure and greenfield developments are supported by the political directorate more so that compact cities and brownfield development. Changing thinking in the urban sector is a challenge and is the main thrust of the Caribbean Network for Urban and Land Management.
[3. Land Use]

Perry Polar, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, E731

All of the topics you list are closely related and serious, but I see climate change as the most urgent and dangerous. It could lead to the complete breakdown of global human civilization in our lifetimes.
The problems were well anticipated in the 1960s and many answers have been known for nearly as long. The fossil fuel industry

knew the risks of global warming from fossil fuel burning back in the 1960s, and anticipated 400 ppm CO2 concentrations, as well as the profound ecological and social disruptions that would result. But industry covered up the information. Its behavior has been like the tobacco industry, actively promoting false information and hiding the negative impacts of its products.
As a reference, see this article:
"Oil industry knew of ''serious'' climate concerns more than 45 years ago:
Researchers warned American Petroleum Institute in 1968 that the release of carbon dioxide from fossil fuels could lead to 'worldwide environmental changes'"
http://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/apr/13/climate-change-oil-industry-environment-warning-1968
Meanwhile, many thinkers and activists, including people awarded by the Asahi Glass Foundation, like David Brower, have been proposing solutions for decades.
See this video from 1974 showing Buckminster Fuller presenting his views of the situation and solutions. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AVwCYKH8DqQ
A major factor in our current predicament, I believe, is excessive corporate influence on governments, especially through political donations.
It is becoming too late to prevent disastrous climate change. The social, ecological and economic costs are already enormous. Yet I hope that humanity can be wise enough to make the dramatic changes required to preserve our beautiful, blue planet, and for humanity to live in harmony with humanity and with the planet -- our only home in the universe.
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Randy Helten, CANADA, E733

Our systems for production and services are highly polluting and they are dependent on the degradation of the environment. We need new forms of production that consider the environment.
We must change our lifestyles and consumption habits. Applying an economic value to calculate the cost of environmental degradation caused by the production of goods and services is not enough.
We need to understand that the worst plague on the planet is humans. Life on earth is not at stake; our own species is at risk of extinction.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Emilio Cruz Sánchez, MEXICO, E734

[1. Climate Change, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(Ocean acidification and health of the oceans. Ocean acidification is irreversible (geological timescale) and will have profound but largely unknown impacts on the ocean ecosystems.)]

IRELAND, E735

The global mean level for April is 404ppm atmospheric CO2, closer to 450 than 350 and advancing. Some changes are now unavoidable, requiring adaptation. The only issue here directly related to equity & governance to manage outcomes and secondary impacts from global environmental change is ''11. Environment and society''. Mitigation is still vital but fear has not worked as a positive motivator for changes in human activities. Although it is hard to imagine a ''good anthropocene'' we must move to envision and plan for positive futures that include severe climate change impacts. We must plan to manage larger and more frequent natural disasters, increased population displacement, conflict for water rights, and feedbacks from disruptions of interrelated biophysical and socioeconomic systems. The doomsday clock does not address what happens after midnight, which is essentially a failure of imagination. Hollywood films and dystopian novels are the only keys to a future truly affected by global environmental change. What then is the role of society, governance, and science after midnight ?
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Issue 12, consider ''Adaptation'' to include interrelated biophysical and socioeconomic systems. See Rockstrom et al, 2009 in Nature. We can no longer only look at avoiding impacts. As we move away from a safe operating space we cannot ignore the need to adapt.)]

Liese Coulter, AUSTRALIA, E736

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(All these issues are interrelated and equally important like the components of an ecosystem.)]

Emmanuel C. Talag, PHILIPPINES, E737

In my opinion, it is essential important to take measures for the conservation and sustainable use of the world natural resource, include land, water and biodiversity. The natural resource is the base for human being survive. And human beings shall take the environment issues into consideration during economy and society development. There are still some areas are polluted in the world. Water and land pollution,soil contamination, air pollution are the threatens to the earth and human beings.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

WANG Jinpeng, CHINA, E739

Climate change is already happening, and disproportionately affecting the poor and marginallized sectors of society, as well as women and children. Global action from COP21, while laudable, is inadequate to limite climate change to 1.5 degrees C, or even 2 degrees C. It is not only governments that need to do more, but individuals and families too need to curb the emissions associated with their lifestyles. Businesses, cities, churches, schools and other organizations also need to step up to the issue of global climate change and to reduce their emissions to a sustainable level. Globally, the energy infrstructure should transition away from fossil fuels as soon as practical. The cost of preventing climate change, though large, is less than the cost of doing too little.
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles]

USA, E740

The battle to contain global warming is all but lost. Nothing can prevent a 2-degree increase. We must strive hard to prevent more than this.
The dangers of continuing human population increase is politically under-appreciated - indeed, many economists regard it as a good thing. It is at least partly responsible for global warming, and certainly for threats to biodiversity. There are two aspects: how to encourage people to limit family size, and how to make it possible for them to do so. How "development" is regarded is crucial - not just any old "development", but it is the empowerment of women that has been shown to encourage family limitation.
Biodiversity: the removal of natural vegetation alters climates and the weather, causes erosion, causes the extinction of species, impoverishes people who depend on forests and other natural formations, and strips away the basis for biological science.
In Australia, it is essential to preserve water resources, which are very scarce. The artesian basins are threatened by mining, and drained by agriculture.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Colin Groves, AUSTRALIA, E741

The Small Island Developing States (SIDS) of the Pacific such as my home of Fiji are at the forefront of climate change. Global warming through excessive anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions is raising the air and sea temperatures, leading to sea-level rise on our coasts and contamination of our freshwater resources through saltwater intrusion, especially for low-lying atolls. Increasing deforestation and removal of coastal mangrove areas for industrial and residential development is severely affecting biodiversity and fisheries resources, directly affecting the livelihoods of current and especially future generations of islanders. While SIDS can only try to adapt to climate change and hope for the best, it is up to the heavily industrialized nations of the world to take up their concerns and mitigate their emissions and use of fossil carbon fuels in order for the world to remain in natural equilibrium before the tipping point. It has been estimated that the tipping point for the demise of tropical coral reefs is 450 ppm atmospheric carbon dioxide, which could happen anytime soon based on current projections! Ocean acidification is also a major threat to our fisheries resources.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources]

Antoine De Ramon N"Yeurt, FIJI, E742

Timor-Leste is now experiencing serious deforestation due to rapidly increasing population. The deforestation rate is estimated at 1.7% annually. If proper measures are not taken, by 2071 all forest would be gone. The government of Timor-Leste is lack of know-how and funding to initiate a nation-wide tree planting scheme. It definitely needs donors to help the government of Timor-Leste implement a comprehnsive sustainable forest management plan.
[3. Land Use]

Sung-gil LEE, EAST TIMOR, E743

Climate change refers to the change in weather patterns such as temperature, precipitation and wind over a period of time, ranging from months to millions of years. Climate change is largely attributed to both natural and anthropogenic factors (IPCC, 1996, 2007b). Natural factors such as solar variations and volcanic activities occur beyond human involvement. Anthropogenic factors are human based activities causing changes in earth's atmosphere.
Climate change can have significant negative impacts on the natural environment including the loss of biodiversity and changes in ecosystems. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2007), any increase in global average temperature above the range of 1.5- 2.5°C is likely to result in significant alterations in the structure, function and geographical ranges of ecosystems, thus negatively influencing species distribution and survival.
Climate change is one of the most important global environmental phenomena that have received notable attention in recent times. It became certain that the risk of these changes can be up to a certain extent to the level of environmental and humanitarian disaster (Saber 2007, 2009).
Climatic changes affect rainfall regimes, changes in regional and local sea levels and patterns of wave action. The pattern and rate of coastal sediment transport are controlled by the prevailing wave characteristics (wave refraction, wave reflection, wave

height and periods), coastal relief, and nature of coastal formations (El-Bagori 2004 and El Shinnaway 2012).
Suez Canal Governorates have one of the country with the richest biodiversity in Egypt due to its diverse habitats (Coastal, wetlands and terrestrial). However, this biodiversity is faced with intense pressure resulting from increasing population pressures, overexploitation and conversion of habitats for other uses such as agriculture activities, aquaculture (fish farms) or urban development (Saber 2007).
Variation in sea level is one of the most effective parameters controlling coastline changes along the Mediterranean (El-shinnawy (2008). El-Raey et al. (1999b) evaluated the impact of sea level rise (SLR) on Port Said governorate and assessed its impact on the socioeconomic losses of the Nile Delta coast. Methods of adaptations were analyzed, most of stakeholders recommend protection actions and beach nourishment besides limited hard structures (El-shinnawy, 2012). Rising sea level provides a higher base for storm surges to propagate further inland, enabling weaker storms to affect coastal zone (El-Shahawi, 2004). Furthermore, anthropogenic factors, including quarrying sand from the beach and construction of shoreline protection measures may cause erosion problem along the coastal areas. Understanding the causes of shoreline changes is important to avoid building homes, structures, and infrastructure in high hazard coastal areas (EEAA,2010). Thorough analysis of long-term wave data, measurements of long-term shoreline changes, and understanding of coastal processes are essential for the rational design of coastal protection measures. The correct interpretation of shoreline change data can help in the delineation of the appropriate sites for the construction of these measures (Halim , 2004).
Biodiversity in Suez Canal Region is deteriorating at the level of ecosystems, species and populations; and, genetic diversity is also declining (EEAA, 2014) . The losses are due to a range of threats including habitat loss and fragmentation, overexploitation and unsustainable use of natural resources, pollution, invasive species and climate change. Limited human and financial resources have also contributed to the loss of biodiversity. These pressures are continuing to increase and are themselves driven by a range of socio-
economic drivers, mainly the growing population, urbanization sprawl and limited financial resources (Hegzay, et.al, 2010). Climate change will act synergistically with other threats with serious consequences for Suez Canal biodiversity (Soliman, 2005).
Water birds provide early warning signals and assist in detecting ecological changes in water bodies. They have therefore been used to investigate water quality status in Wetlands, particularly when previous data about their distribution patterns, species assemblages, presence/absence and IUCN red list statuses of such bird species (whether Vulnerable, Threatened, Critical, Rare, Endangered etc) are available in site specific wetlands (IUCN, 2008, 2015b). This is the reason why the Ramsar Convention (1971) initially gave prominence on wetlands as waterbird habitats before the shift towards embracing general 'wise-use' principle encompassing both biodiversity conservation and community livelihood support Direct habitat loss is a major threat to terrestrial, marine and coastal ecosystems; and, freshwater ecosystems are particularly severely affected by fragmentation and desertification. Land reclamation, urbanization, pollution and industrial activities destroy and alter critical natural habitats along with their plant and animal life (El- Bagori, 2008) and EEAA (2008b).
Overgrazing and over-fishing contribute to biodiversity degradation. Wildlife utilization is, for the most part, unregulated in Egypt and excessive hunting is endangering a number of wild animals as well as several species of resident and migratory birds. Major exploited groups include medicinal plants, mammals for wild meat and recreational hunting, birds for food and the pet trade, and amphibians for traditional medicine and food EEAA (2010).
Pollution causes deterioration of critical habitats and species loss. A concrete example is the Northern Delta wetlands. Excessive use and misapplication of pesticides also causes loss of rare species including those that act as pollinators and natural biological control agents (BioMAP ,2004 and EEAA (2008).
Invasive species (Fauna & Flora) according to EEAA, (2014) are (22 species) and continue to be a major threat to all types of ecosystems and species in both Egypt and Suez Canal Governorates (Shaltout, 2008) and .
Currently available information about invasive species in Egypt is still insufficient or is not readily available. Exerted efforts to control and eradicate existing invasive species and to prevent the introduction of new ones still limited in spite of the fact that invasive species represent real threat to Egyptian ecosystems, the economy and human health. Combating invasive species is beyond the country's current potential in terms of human, financial and technical resources, and requires participation of all concerned agencies (EEAA,2014).
Climate change impacts in coastal zones include changes in sea level, sea surface temperature, precipitation intensity and inland runoff, atmospheric and oceanic CO2 concentrations, and changes in wave dynamics (El-Raey.et.al 1997). These changes endanger culturally and economically valuable coastal ecosystems, infrastructure, and planned development. Sea level rise is particularly important given the intersection of Port Said's new and planned infrastructure with increasing climate risks, the current trajectory could unwittingly be headed towards disaster if planning does not take these risks adequately into account (El-Raey and Frihy, 1999).
Major threats to marine ecosystems in southern Suez Canal region (Suez) are unregulated tourism, exploitation of marine resources, overfishing and fishing in illegal areas (e.g. breeding grounds) and coastal pollution (Abou Zaid, 2000, et.al 2012 and Helmy et.al., 2014).
Agricultural cropland habitats have also been declining since the late 1980s. These declines are thought to be related to changes in land use and agricultural practices. Agricultural land continues to be lost to human settlements. It is estimated that some 47,700 feddans (1 feddan =1.038 ha) are lost every year. The intensification of crop and livestock production, along with the abandonment of rural areas for urban ones, has caused the loss of genetic diversity. This loss in genetic diversity may have

serious implications on food security; especially given Egypt's d
[12. Others(Emerging diseases and Human health Invasive species Habitat degradation)]

Atef Mohamed Kamel Ahmed, EGYPT, E749

Bangladesh Government has different environmental guidelines and policies and acts and rules but many bodies have been violating the laws. Recent government decision to establish a Coal Based Power Plant could harm the World Heritage Sundarban Mangrove forest, the single largest mangrove forest in the world. Now a days due to change of NGO policy and regulation many NGOs have been facing fund crisis to work for different development aspects. Employment opportunity has not been increasing in accordance with the demand of unemployed communities. Garments sectors has been contributing to achieve foreign income. Government has been trying to promote jute industry but yet to materialize. The agricultural farmers have been facing price crisis for their products, the production cost is significantly higher than that of selling price.
Killing of innocent men and women by miscreants and or culprits and so called Islamic Extremist has been rising day by day. Recently a Buddhist Monk at Bandarban killed by some vested groups.
I strongly believe that good governance and sustainable planning in all sectors could save our lives, livelihood, ecology and environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, (Population boom, indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers and insecticides and pesticides and agriculture and aquaculture intensification have been creating problems. Abuse of wetlands have been reducing the natural recharge and discharge characteristics of valuable wetlands)]

DR. TAPAN GHOSAL, BANGLADESH, E752

"The seas are dying, the forests are on fire and the climate may be changing'. These are grim and possibly final times for humanity...
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

Mark Robbins, UK, E754

Appropriate land use is key to environmental conservation. For example, it does not make a lot of sense to use land in arid regions for livestock production. Climate change dictates that warm area will get warmer and areas of low rainfall will get even less rain. Such land in Namibia, where food production is already marginal, due to low rainfall, is more suited to indigenous biodiversity production systems and suitable for land uses such as environmental conservation and tourism.
Land should therefore be used for uses that are most appropriate, require the least amount of human and financial input and that make use of their competitive advantage. E.g. the presence of wildlife to build on a conservation and tourism land use.
In Namibia the advantages of using land for conservation and tourism bring in an income that is almost five times as high as income delivered form livestock farming. In addition conservation and tourism is "kinder"on the land and leads to less environmental damage overall.
Higher income derived from conservation and tourism can then be used to purchase food and products produced from livestock farming from areas where this land use is more suited / practical. In addition food can be sourced from conservation and tourism areas by harvesting wildlife for consumptive use on a sustainable basis,
Reference:
http://www.the-eis.com/track.php?id=7926&action=download_file&url=data/literature/Namibia%20Pastoralism%20Article%20Namibian%20Land%20Use%202041-7136-2-22.pdf
[3. Land Use]

NAMIBIA, E756

These disaster (floods, droughts and wild fires) should be taken into account and risk reduction measures prioritised.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 12. Others(Disaster risks are increasing in frequency and intensity with drastic environmental impacts such as floods, droughts and wild fires)]

Johanes Belle, SOUTH AFRICA, E757

The human population in Oceania is a rapidly growing and overall is increasing in wealth. This is driving significant changes in land use to support the growing population, primarily to increase food production and meet changing dietary choices. Climate change will affect the weather dynamics with greater levels of droughts, cyclones and concomitant impacts on biodiversity, food supply and human well being.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 6. Population]

Professor Iain Gordon, AUSTRALIA, E758

Climate change affected our Asia region a lot particularly if we see in Pakistan the effects of Climate change in the shape of heavy floods, rains and droughts we can see bad impacts of climate change on our society. Due to this situation of climate

change the water sources have been short so due to the water shortage in Pakistan the agriculture has destroyed and forest degradation has increased. as you know that the forests were the most impressive source of income for rural life where from the people of Pakistan collected honey, woods, and other sources of the food of different trees and they never faced the hunger but now due to climate change not only the forests have destroyed but due to destruction of agriculture, the people of Pakistan are facing the lot of Hunger particularly the women has serious concerns with this climate change situation in Pakistan. They are facing the climate change effects on their physical and mental health. they are collecting water very far from their homes in situation of their bad health and in the summers hot days they collect water two times for not only drinking but for use of animals and home usage so they consumed 3 to 4 four hours in getting water for their use on daily basis.

Due to climate change and shortage of water resources the people have change their agriculture patterns and they are sowing the seeds of vegetables, banana and cotton and all these three items are giving bad impacts to women health. Because in these three agricultural crops have need of using pesticides a lot and ane women are use them full of pesticides crops without any cautions and care. So the women who are working in cotton and vegetable fields they are affected directly with pesticides and all affected by allergies, respiratory and reproductive health related diseases. I would like to share that in these fields mostly women are working of all age and due to working with pesticides the women have serious devilry complication during getting birth of child and gone to death in rural areas of Pakistan.

Due to climate change the food problem has increased on savior position. and due to lack of food the women are not provided the healthy food to make their health healthier but due to gender discrimination and lack of awareness the women are not giving nutritional food on their requirement and because of early age marriages these things are impacting women a lot because Pakistan has more identity of early age marriages comparative to other countries of the world and because of that the girl children has no capacity to deliver a child because they are already a child but due to gender discrimination she is not provided nutritional food in her early age and when she gets marriage in early age she is not capable to give birth to child according to their physical and mental condition.

I would like to say that due to shortage of water resources, the Pakistan is not able to drop fresh water in the sea so there has the coastal areas are destroyed and the mangrove forests have almost finished from Pakistan so due this shortage of fresh water the sea intrusion is happening in coastal areas of Pakistan and due to this the fishing resource of the communities has gone to low level now the poor fishermen could not take fish easily from the sea so they have lost their main source of income and now the fisher women also has involved to give their share in getting alternate livelihood resources and they are catching crabs and snakes from the bank of Indus river to sale in market to met their incomplete food and also they are involved in agriculture activities and due to working in agriculture full of pesticide they are in painful condition due to savior attacks of different diseases, so I am going to say that the women of rural Pakistan together with urban areas has affected with climate change situation they have lost their health, source of income and Human rights. she is now fully under the pressure of climate change which was already facing the male dominance and feudal system in Pakistan. if the word could not remove the climate change effects from the society the women would be going to a death situation.

[1. Climate Change]

Ghous Pirzado, PAKISTAN, E759

In my opinion, if population is so poor, they use biodiversity for surviving. So, their development train conservation of biodiversity.

[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

RAMANANTSOA Seheno, MADAGASCAR, E762

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1. The Paris conference finally got the majority of the world leaders on the same page, but none wanted to make tough choices. The USA and Brazil now have new sources of especially dirty fossil fuels and have made no effort to plan to leave the majority in the ground. No other major economies have either.

2. Each meeting of the CDB COP shows that extinctions continue unabated, although many governments have assumed CDB goals for slowing extinction rates.

3. In Brazil, the rural lobby controls Congress and the new Forest Law has done nothing to focus land use on degraded areas, rather than standing forest. The environmental agencies have suffered so many budget cuts that they are continually less effective and can only combat environmental offenders with army support.

4/5. In Brazilian Amazonia, waste management is nearly non-existent so that enormous amounts of solid and liquid waste go directly into the rivers, finally contributing to the islands of floating plastic in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

8. Governments continue to promote the fantasy that everyone can enjoy current First World lifestyles. This feeds back rapidly into land use change, pollution of land and water resources, etc. Without government pressure to counteract business marketing campaigns there is no light at the end of the tunnel.

11. The majority of society continues to be blissfully unaware that their personal lifestyle choices have continually growing impact on the environment. Even in a country with relatively small and localized population pressures, this needs to be addressed, but governments and civil society organizations have no plans to change educational curricula or any other policies to alert the society.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

Charles Roland Clement, BRAZIL, E763

According to the Ecosystem Approach, principle no. 1 is that the objectives of management of land, water and living resources are a matter of societal choice. In that sense, only humans are aware of environmental problems, and that their own environment is threatened by their actions. That is why I believe a focus on human wellbeing and lifestyles is the only logical way to address environmental issues. Only humans care whether they survive or not!
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Paul Goriup, UK, E764

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population, (The three issues (1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population) climate change, loss of biodiversity and the enormous population growth are closely related, linked to that is the life stryle and Land use. The measures and TEEB are remediation issues.)]

A.P.M. van der Zon, THE NETHERLANDS, E765

It is worth pointing out the interrelatedness of the selected environmental issues of importance (1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy) to the region in focus - southeastern Brazil. Repeated seasonal scarcity of water as a probable effect of climate change, made worse by environmental degradation from environmentally damaging land use practices, altogether affecting biodiversity and, ultimately, the economy.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

BRAZIL, E766

Biodiversity - The urgency is not ONLY that we are facing the sixth greatest SPECIES extinction crisis, but we also are losing the ABUNDANCES of animals and plants. It is the abundances of animals and plants that provide the "per capita" ecological benefits to people and all species. We should focus on conserving ALL species, not just the endangered ones, and preserve them across all landscapes.
[2. Biodiversity]

Fred W Koontz, USA, E767

All of the above (1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population) are related, but primarily derived from a rapidly expanding human population seeking unsustainable lifestyles. Current pressures to alter landscapes to favor use by humans are unprecedented, driving the disruption and simplification of natural ecosystems and the impoverishment of their species richness/diversity. Climate change will certainly alter biomes in unpredictable ways -- some possibly beneficial (for growing crops in previously unsuitable areas) -- but also driving extinction of species over broad geographical areas as habitats rapidly changs beyond the capacities of local species to adapt.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population]

USA, E770

[6. Population, (We require an economic paradigm that is not based on consumption requiring constant growth.)]

Rick Kunelius, CANADA, E771

Every issue (1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles) is linked, all are very important, but of course we need to develop a strategy , not all can be tackled at the same time.
It is also a problem of local and central governments, of multilateral organisations and of course citizens.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

Carlos Garcia-Saez, USA, E772

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1. The worst face of capitalism (which almost all countries of the world subscribe to now) is that it is based on making ever more consumer goods for ever more consumption, i.e. infinite growth which is unsustainable in the finite system that is our small planet. The result is over production of consumer goods, excess packaging, massive waste and consequent environmental degradation and pollution with chemicals and plastics as well, of course, of CO2 and other gaseous nasties. Capitalism is indivisibly dependent on population increase, which leads to 2 ...
2. The exponential increases in global human population in recent decades, and continuing, is clearly a planetary mortal disease for our planet. Endless accolades by world health bodies and politicians about decreased infant and other mortalities need to be matched by realistic approaches to birth control. This is the elephant in the room in all discussions on the Earth's environmental and ecological problems. Politicians simply will not acknowledge this.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

UK, E773

[1. Climate Change, (If we don't address this (1. Climate Change) the other points are moot.)]

Robert Glenn Ketchum, USA, E774

In our countries most of ours governments, bankers and economists does not have notice about the importance of planning the governmental policy taking point all the factors described in the top or probably they does not know the tools to implement a governmental policy based in a sustainable environmental economy.
For example in the latin american countries, we have many different legal or informal titles over the land, or different views about the environmental flow.
The governments has beginning to change because The Climate Change, and the "El Niño y La Niña" climatological phenomenon had caused a real crisis. I think that we leave the better moment to establish other practices and policies.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

PANAMA, E775

Climate change is apparent in the Cook Islands as we are currently observing record high rates of coral bleaching and giant clam mortality in the Northern Group Islands. We also experience increasing frequency and severity of cyclones.
Biodiversity is an important issue in the Cook Islands. Invasive species pose a number of threats. Some of our endemic birds existence depends on regular rat trapping/baiting. A number of our native or endemic plants are at risk of being lost. A number of marine lagoon species are extinct locally from either overfishing or climate-related impacts and the Cook Islands government is trying to sign additional purse seine licences to the EU's Spanish purse seiners who fish using FADs, which will catch huge amounts of bycatch and put increased pressure on bigeye tuna stocks, already near to collapsing (16% left of unfished stocks).
Marine pollution is also apparent, mostly on Rarotonga, but also some of the outer islands. The majority of lagoon fish are poisonous (ciguatera) to eat, the lagoons receive high amounts of phosphate and other chemicals from agricultural runoff and our main tourist beach (Muri) has a serious septic leakage problem from the many tourist accommodations on its shore, which has lead to a highly debated and publicised "algal bloom".
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 12. Others(We have a huge waste management problem here in the Cook Islands. Due to limited recycling opportunities and nowhere to process or ship our E-waste or Whiteware. Polystyrene containers are filling up our landfills as they are the standard takeaway container for food in the tourism industry.)]

Liam Kokaua, COOK ISLANDS, E777

The relationship between humans and the rest of the environment has enabled humanity to reach its current state. But it is now living far beyond what is sustainable. Because the population is excessive, new pressures are being put on land use, water resources, biodiversity, and food production. Solutions to these problems are sought through technologies that often make the problems worse, leading to pollution and contamination. Measures to address global warming are woefully inadequate, due especially to political factors when viable solutions (e.g., solar power) are readily available. Solutions will eventually be found, but they are likely to be painful unless societies are convinced that better solutions are ones that are based on sound science and basic humility that recognises that humans depend on healthy ecosystems for their survival and well-being.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Jeffrey A. McNeely, THAILAND, E778

Climate change is the largest threat ever to face the entire planet and the species that live in it, including humans.
In the Pacific, water resources seems to the be most immediate area of vulnerability and hardest hit sector for small island developing states. El Nino almost always causes drought through a lot of the PICs, covering a big area of the region. Water sector impacted, also impacts food security, livelihood of those hardest to reach - the outer island population. It therefore impacts the rate at which the environment, economy and society responds. Hence the most concerning and also the most immediate area of influence that humans can address is the environment and economy sector. Environment because Pacific islanders, who live in these remote islands, are extremely vulnerable, but they are also the ones that can save these islands from dying out altogether, if SLR has not already claimed islands, inundated and never to recover. Economy because development partners outside of the Pacific can assist the Pacific in this regard to save them from the adverse impacts of climate change. supported affluence in the pacific is key to adaptation, mitigation, and survival. A lot of work on the Economy by industrialized countries also needs to be addressed. global economy has an impact on the local economy, especially the SIDS economies. Here lies the solution and dismal dissolution of addressing and responding to climate change.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

SAMOA, E779

With the rapid growth of the Asia region and its emergence as the driver of global economic growth, the region is facing tremendous environment and related human well-being challenges. The adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals is

critical and timely to address this issue and provides considerable opportunity for us as IUCN on working on natural resource management at multiple scales, local, sub-national, national, sub-regional and regional level. IUCN is positioned as a unique network of Government and NGO members to drive positive change towards addressing these challenges.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

THAILAND, E781

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(We must think differently - renewables must be priority and the protection of everything which lives and what nourishes us, the circular economy is an absolute must.)]

AUSTRIA, E782

The problem of an aging population living in a natural hazard prone region with scarce resources is what Taiwan is facing. Urgent solutions need be found.
[6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

TAIWAN, E783

Energy consumption and water use in my country is non effective and much more in comparison with other European states. This is result of poor balance between desirable and sustainable Environment and Economy balance in my country.As consequences, we have comparatively high levels of pollution of air and water sources.
[5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Kukhar, UKRAINE, E784

Climate change and dropped amount of water available per person by more than half at the last years, in addition to a growing population all taken their toll on Iraq's natural environment. Iraq is considered to be one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change in the Arab region, and 54% more under threat from desertification, as well as frequent dust and sand storms are hitting the country and Drought as well as water resources shortages is a growing problem.
The environment issues also from are exacerbated by growing pressure on natural and water resources, meanwhile, agricultural land has suffer a reduction in cropped land – which means increasing food insecurity.
of the environmental priorities must be restore water systems and ensure country's share of water from the upstream countries and cleaned the possible pollution hot spots and waste sites.
Implementation of mitigation and adaptation programs with climate changes and determine the causes of the repeated sand and dust storms and take ways to minimize or reduction their effects.
Adoption of new technologies to treatment the desertified land and the cultivation of crops and plants resistant to drought, salinity and reduce dependence on natural resources.
Implementation of sustainable development on both ecosystems and resources of the land to ensure the principles of life and a clean environment free from hazards and pollution
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society, (Dust and sand storms are hitting the countries,Desertification and Drought, Weakness municipal Waste Management,till now uses the fuels are containing lead,many cities are crowded traffic area,natural disaster such as Flood, Forests Fires;Hurricanes and volcanoes,)]

MAITHAM ABDULAH SULTAN, IRAQ, E786

Much of the current problem resides in the fact that these issues are dealt with separately, both in science and in policy. Hence, we are actually hiding the extent and the gravity of the challenge behind GHG or water or energy or ... issues.
This is seriously jeopardizing the fact that the only way by which we can hope to avoid major calamities is by fundamentally changing our intellectual and moral positions, and actively changing the current economic/political structure that has let to the current situation.
I consider the ''crisis'' to be due to the accumulation of unintended consequences of our past history, particularly since the industrial revolution. By focusing on immediate and sectoral solutions we are continuing in that trajectory, and this is what should at all costs be avoided!
[11. Environment and Society, (I view the whole set of issues as aspects of one complex system, in which demography and pollution threaten land use, water, biodiversity and other issues.)]

USA, E787

The most important problem the environment is facing with, is the kind of social relations within the countries and the kind of international relations. There are enough resources in the world for nurturing the people of the world and supporting their life. But the social system does not let that to be done. In the year 1950, the world population was 2.5 Billion people. in 2016, i.e after 66 years, it is more than 7 billion. Population of the poor developing countries, population of wealthy Arab countries

and population of China should be controlled. Otherwise there will be no future for the majority of the people of the world and no future for the humanity as a whole and no future for world ecosystems. There are enough resources to help this control happen, but special interests groups prevent it. We are tackling with war, massive migration, crime, drug abuse etc all over the world. There is no hope in the world. You hardly can find an educated or academic person who is optimistic about the future. Last year I was in U.S. for a university course. I asked more than 20 professors if they were optimistic and just one of them responded yes. The people of the world, even in most developed countries, are hopeless. They can't do anything against those established powers who control everything. There is no justice. And what distributes resources correctly is justice.
Thank you for attending to this vital issue,
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others]

IRAN, E788

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we think that these four items(1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Economy) are related. The way we use land and our economic practices constitute serious factors of climate change.
That is why African countries should focus their current and future policies on these issues in order to fight against the loss of biodiversity and the effects of climate change
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Economy]

GADJI Abraham, COTE DIVOIRE, E791

Biodiversity, water ressources, climate change and land use are linked to each other. Demography is a supplementary factor of first importance
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Olivier Biber, SWITZERLAND, E792

Our area of northern VA/DC/MD is a highly urbanized region surrounding the magnificent Chesapeake Bay. Reducing the amount of nutrient runoff into the Bay is critical to keeping it producing food. Currently, invasive species such as blue catfish that are reducing numbers of native species are being harvested to feed people, but more efforts are needed.
Conversion of farmland to McMansion development is also a problem.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination]

USA, E793

Continuing growth of human population increases stress on the entire planet. These pressures appear to be driving our planet towards a sixth mass extinction, defined as when ≥75% of estimated species on Earth become extinct in a relatively short geological interval. Population growth is the root cause of all 10 other environmental issues listed above.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Millard F. Coffin, AUSTRALIA, E794

As a freshwater fish specialist I'm extremely concerned about the high extinction risk of native ichthyofauna as well as with the degradation of its habitats - mainly by dam construction, habitat destruction, water pollution and the increase (in intensity and duration) of the summer droughts due to climate change and inadequate water management.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination]

PORTUGAL, E795

[2. Biodiversity, (Recent studies (including from IUCN) of World Heritage Sites and elsewhere show that invasive species are among the most serious threats to biodiversity, a major driver of extinction, etc. I find it odd that you didn't include it as an example in your table. Hence my adding it to "other".)]

USA, E796

Extreme climate change can impact the changing environmental conditions for the species and changes in livelihoods and the provision of food supplies for the people in and around the forest, farmers and fishermen. These changes will encourage efforts towards natural resource exploitation are not sustainable because they can not manage livelihood planned.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 11. Environment and Society]

INDONESIA, E798

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Complicity by govt. and agencies in maintaining Extreme poverty originating in lack of land tenure and education is driving loss of biodiversity, pollution and

together with climate change are diminishing water resources and food security and dramatically limiting prospects for economic development)]

andy drumm, USA, E802

Climate change is a reality as one can see from the change in the rain fall and sun shine patterns and amounts.
Poor land use is a challenge to most local people, in my area this has increased the occurrences of human-wildlife conflict. Agricultural activities and animal herding is beginning to compete for cultivation and grazing land.
Water resource contamination is on the increase since raw sewage is being released into water bodies. Over fishing in lakes have drastically reduced the quantity and quality of fish in Uganda and thus the high market price. Water borne diseases like diarrhoea, cholera, typhoid and hepatitis still common in Uganda.
The Ugandan population is increasing and basic human services are being stressed. Good Health care , education , shelter and food is expensive and most of the population cannot afford. Some areas like Karamoja rely on World Food Program for food.
The change in human life style has ensured that there is over consumption of some resources like fish. The greed for oil exploration and other minerals is competing with natural resources/wildlife management.
All in all, climate change is affecting different aspects of our lives. Biodiversity distribution is being affected. Poor governess and poverty is forcing people to live on the natural environment and thus over usage. We need to control our population too.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

UGANDA, E804

All of these issues (1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others) are interrelated; they are complex and there are no easy solutions. Our education system is currently being measured ever more narrowly in terms of achievement in literacy and mathematics scores whereas it should be measured in terms of its relevance to supporting life on Earth. It is not simply a matter of content but a complete change in emphasis that is required. Once the priorities are in place, then curriculum, pedagogy and assessment should follow.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Linear mindsets - e.g. root metaphor of the world (and the economy) as a machine rather than a complex system.)]

Paul Vare, UK, E805

[1. Climate Change, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (invasive species such as pine beetle, bat disease; Aboriginal rights; food sovereignty)]

Agnes Pawlowska-Mainville, CANADA, E806

Population and lifestyle interact to create all the land use, water resource, pollution, biodiversity and climate change issues we face today.
Economy comes from our stewardship of our environment. Ultimately we (and future generations) will pay a lot more later for bad environmental decisions that continue to be made today.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles]

Cliff Wallis, CANADA, E807

The most pressing issue for India is its increasing population. People who can not take care for their generation such as poor and illiterate people breed more than literate people in India. This is the major cause where they fall in to a vicious cycle of poverty. This brings disproportionate availability of resources to poor and rich classes. This intern has major impact on the way our population utilizes our natural resources and pollute our environment.
On the top of this issue climate change plays havoc in our country. Poor people are getting affected more and more and their lives are left to nature.
The rich people on the other side also utilizes and waste other precious natural resources in the form of fuel and electricity.
Biodiversity in our country is subjected to onslaught by industrialization and poor people for their need.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population]

INDIA, E810

The most important evolution of EU policy has been recently to consider waste management in the more comprehensive context of Circular Economy, which will boost global competitiveness, foster sustainable economic growth and generate new jobs.
The proposed actions will contribute to ”closing the loop” of product lifecycles through greater recycling and re-use, and bring benefits for both the environment and the economy. The plans will extract the maximum value and use from all raw materials, products and waste, fostering energy savings and reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions. The proposals cover the full lifecycle: from production and consumption to waste management and the market for secondary raw materials.
[10. Environment and Economy]

SLOVAKIA, E812

It does appear in most parts of Africa, there is the appearance of land cartel, where even Ramsey sites, urban forest and farmlands are being seriously used for other developmental projects rather than food and conservation purpose. The remote and rural village that i come from,farm land is being sold for construction of stores and other structures at the expense of farming. What I think is this, that there is going to be a real confusion in the very near future, struggling and fighting to reclaim lands left for us by our great grand fathers would really bring confusion in the world of Africa. There must be a strategic intent thinking from Government and our Chiefs especially to salvage the farms lands and the forest that are now being use for small scale gold mining leading to pollution of the water bodies resulting in water borne diseases, and lack of food. Failure to act now means no future for the unborn and the present would suffer poverty to death.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Charles Bandari, GHANA, E813

The earth which is our home is continuously facing threats from the people who are inhabitants (especially from people with business interests and greedy people). Everyday, massive deforestation is happening worldwide. Many more destructive acts of men happens everyday that led to climate change, destruction of habitats, destruction of forest cover, destruction of watersheds, destruction of livelihoods, destruction of human behavior/culture, and ecological imbalances.
There are lots of initiatives now coming from environmentally aware individuals, organizations and corporations worldwide but are not enough to save our mother earth from the negative impacts of those people destroying our earth/our home. We know very well that when the earth reach its doomsday, all of us will be affected and there will be no exceptions (rich or poor alike). Thus we call on the global leaders to have strong political will and implement environment friendly or mother earth friendly policies, programs and projects.
This can be done by supporting and funding community-based environment and mother earth programs and projects on the ground being managed and sustained by the local and indigenous community people. At present, there is a disconnect about the global initiatives and programs in terms of environment. You can see and read big environmental programs and projects in billion dollars but very small programs and projects directly flowed to the ground where conservation efforts should be happening. There are lots of talks in the international level but less actions are funded on the local and indigenous communities. The present disconnect is the major problems which led to earth doomsday in the future. Unless this disconnect will be corrected, there will be no future for all of us who are living in the earth especially the life of the next generations to generations to come.
My recommendations are clear. First, global leaders must commit themselves for the protection, conservation and maintenance of the earth. Second, all leaders worldwide must designed and support a bottoms up environmental programs and projects (meaning, they should prioritize funding community-based environmental programs and projects in a longer term) where environmental issues are being solved by the people themselves. Third, people on the ground (indigenous peoples and local communities) must be involved in the planning, implementation, M&E, reporting and sustainability of the said programs and projects to make it very effective and successful. Fourth, modern and indigenous science should be maximized to come up with innovations in solving environmental problems and issues. Fifth, environmentally destructive projects of greedy businessmen and investors must be controlled by government worldwide without compromising with such big companies because of money in exchange of their approval and permits. Sixth, corruption in government should be eliminated to improve the living condition of the people to make conservation effective because you can not conserve biodiversity if people are hungry. Seventh, the Asahi Glass Foundation must continuously disseminate the result of their research regarding the Earth's Doomsday to raise the awareness of people worldwide about the upcoming doomsday if people will not change their habit, greediness and culture of destroying our mother earth/our home.
Let us not wait for the upcoming of the Earth's Doomsday, let us work together in conserving, protecting and sustaining our HOME, THE MOTHER EARTH OR ELSE ALL OF US WILL DIE IN VEIN! LET'S ACT NOW, ALL TOGETHER!
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, (Other environmental issues which affects the lives of indigenous peoples aside from food, climate change and biodiversity are land use and water resources. Because of limited food, land use will become major issues because people will tend to cut trees for slash and burn agriculture to get food.)]

DONATO B. BUMACAS, PHILIPPINES, E816

To my opinion, as long as the environment Will be considered separately from the financial balance, development goals, well-being conditions, etc., society as a whole won't place it at the top priority. However, few changes in agricultural / forest management practices/ water use/ consumption could make a big difference and have multiple co-benefits which are very important to measure and draw attention on.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Marsaud Julie, FRANCE, E818

Fragmemtation on habitat is the largest threat to Western Australian biodiversity and will drive extinction in the future. Native vegetation faces a death by a 100 cuts with no single development resonsible but together increasing urban sprawl and

increased infill of urban environment without appropriate protection of remaining remnant vegetation will cause significant extinction in the Perth metropolitan area.
In the Wheatbelt region the remnant vegetation is not adequately protected by clearing from farmers.It is highly fragmented and this causes many species to face increased risk of extinction in the future.
[2. Biodiversity]

AUSTRALIA, E819

Recognizing this reality, my organization conducts awareness campaigns for local communities in the protected areas, because in my country 90% of the population is illiterate, without access to the media. Stakeholders should consider this to be a threat to conservation efforts.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 7. Food, (lack of access to the information in our developing countries.)]

John ndalabu Kadusi, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, E820

I could have ticked all 11 issues to express extreme concern, but what it all boils down to is Environment and Society - or the Environment and Economy. Our models of "growth" are simply not sustainable, and at some point world leaders are going to need to make the bold, but unpopular decision that endless economic and population growth are simply not possible on a planet with finite space and resources. If governments do not take the lead on this change in thinking, no change will occur, as market forces of supply and demand will simply maintain the status quo of endless growth, and few individuals or individual businesses will make sacrifices to their own personal comfort/financial well-being "for the greater good of the planet", without being forced to do so by government-led regulation. I am terrified that my children will become adults in a world without Panda's, polar bears and forest elephants. They are already growing up in a world where the beaches in the most remote corners of the globe where they have been lucky enough to live, are sadly covered with plastic waste of every kind that has been transported hundreds of miles from cities on rives,or transport vessels on the high seas. We owe more to our children and grandchildren.
[4. Pollution / Contamination, 6. Population, 11. Environment and Society]

THE NETHERLANDS, E821

Water is one of the main concern in India (Asia). Most of the water bodies in Urban areas are in the verge of decline and most of them are contaminated. Climate change has been another major factor in the depletion of freshwater bodies. Due to shift in rains or prolonged dry season most of the water bodies have been affected this year (2016).
Many villages are vacant due to water crisis this year, people are migrating to the cities. Most of the water bodies have started drying. Agriculture crops are impacted. Indian Premier League (IPL) Cricket matches were reschedule and matches in Maharashtra (Pune and Mumbai cities) were cancelled due to water crises as cricket grounds consume too much water.
Water supplies in societies were also impacted. Many societies in Mumbai are getting just 15 minutes to 1 hour of water supply per day. In the mountains regions of India there was hardly any snowfall throughout winter while there was some snowfall in the February and March.
All of these are alarming signs which are not only impacting the natural resources but also the livelihood of the people. Societies need to be more aware about use of natural resources especially water as citizens in the Urban Cities think that if they have the power of money they can buy everything but that is not the case. The impact of climate change on food security, energy supply and water will impact the people living in the cities about which they are not aware. At the end of the day you can't eat money. Therefore, its time to act and make cities climate smart and climate aware before its too late.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

Dr. Pradeep Mehta, INDIA, E822

The impacts of climate change in Zambia is evident in recent years' frequent droughts impacting on low ground water availability and poor agricultural productivity as 70% of community are on rain-fed type of production systems.
On the Copperbelt and part of North-western Zambia, the mining industry has low compliance levels to environmental regulations as evidenced in high pollutants in the ambient air and water resources.
The drought in the last few years has had a direct impact on hydro-power (95% of energy source is hydroelectricity). This has resulted in urbanized communities to use charcoal as source of heat energy for cooking consequently, the reported annual rate of deforestation of about 250,000 to 300,000ha (among the highest in the sub-region).
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food]

Freddie Sayi, ZAMBIA, E823

Time is running out - surgery required
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

INDIA, E824

Human activities have been the greatest cause of environmental challenges and problems that we face today. Every economic activity depends on materials from the environment and waste from economic production is discharged into the environment. All societies have become a throwaway society. Waste has engulfed a majority of cities and even some villages.
Anthropogenic activities must be regulated seriously to save our environment. Environmental resources are being depleted and degraded on a daily basis.Release of green house gas emissions from vehicles in the atmosphere is causing global warming and climate change. The Maker of Heaven and Earth had given Man the brain to develop technologically. Technological advancement is what will help us save the Earth from destruction. Can Man change his ways? Can Man design a technology that will make human activities less harmful to the Earth? Human lifestyle, use of environmental resources and technology development are key to the survival of the Earth.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

Redeemer Kowu, GHANA, E825

The reduction and extinction of biodiversity rapid and usually not detected until after it is locally extinct or extinct forever. The blackwater (peat swamp forest) fish species are highly vulnerable because they are stenotopic to specific habitat only. The issues are complex -
1. As forest are being cleared/logged for timber of other landuse which destroyed the fish habitats (and reduction of the fish population. This clearly shows the non-sustainable or compatible landuse for human & animals (biodiversity).
2. It is an issue of economic progress - for conservation of species OR to develop the country economy?
3. Climate change - global warming, extreme floods and droughts are causing havoc to wetlands. During drought, the peat swamps forest become dry (also impacted by excessive draining for crops, such as oil palm plantation, are susceptible to extensive forest fires, further change the swamp forest ecosystem, hence the fish population structure whic can lead to species extinction, such as Betta persephone, IUCN critically endangered species endemic in Malaysia and it is only found in one peat swamp forest area in southern Malaysia. The over-collection of wild fish for aquarium trade (unsustainable economic activities) worsen the situation.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 10. Environment and Economy]

MALAYSIA, E826

Water crises is the main issue in my area. About 5 years back the portable water table was merely 15 feet but now it has gone to 100-150 feet. Climate change and global warming also plays important role in it. But lack of awareness among the masses causes huge loss. Government supplies automatic drilling machine for water pumps and peoples also uses motors to drain water. Water loss is 70% more than its consumption.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

Dr Yash Paul Sharma, INDIA, E828

Climate change impacts are so evident nowadays. To be brief, let's mention only the extreme weather events that so many countries over the world are facing every year, if not several times within a year.
Climate change may have an impact on biodiversity and water resources. With the extreme dry events in some regions in Africa, several animal populations are suffering from lack of vegetation and water. Desertification is increasing, very fast in some countries (Sahel). Several human populations are urged to move to other areas, mainly the herders who are more concerned and for whom the future is very risky (pauperization).
Water resources are diminishing due to climate change and also to human land use. Lack of water resources may have an impact on food production and human well being. It is a precursor to wars between countries and it will be more in the near future.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources]

MOROCCO, E832

Despite all the possibilities media offers today environmental awareness raising is little visible. This only reflects that decision-makers still do not consider it relevant enough. E.g. for example the huge media fuss made about the exhaust values of the VW diesel vehicles in the US, whilst at the same time old cars and trucks with a massive exhaust production do not have to upgrade! To many of the steps towards a better management of the environment are little more than PR efforts and do not aim to change things at the larger scale.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, (General lack of environmental awareness, lack of supporting legislation and financial incentives towards a more responsible management of the natural resources.)]

USA, E835

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1. Climate change: evidence of climate change in my country abounds in erratic weather patters, increasing storms, less rainfall, diminution of surface water resources etc
2. Land use: my country has lost more than 90% of its forest resources from 1900 to present times; there is serious land deg-

radation, decrease in soil fertility,etc
3. Water resources: my country is experiencing diminution in its water resources; there is serious pollution of water bodies from illegal mining,use of chemical inputs for farming; disposal of waste into water bodies etc
4. Food: food production levels are falling seriously;food prices are always rising etc
5. Global Warming measures: very little is being done on global warming mitigation measures
6. Pollution/contamination: pollution from waste is a major problem in my country; there is no organized system of waste processing, recycling etc.
7. Environment and Economy: environmental concerns have yet to be proactively incorporated into national economic development activities, rendering many activities unsustainable.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

GHANA, E836

Unless there is a change of consumer lifestyle, little can be done to manage the environmental problems being faced by humanity
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

Carlos Aguirre-Bastos, PANAMA, E838

All are integrated with climate change of course but climate change is the dominating factor. World population growth is being ignored and causes the biggest threat to food production, water and peace.
Environmental Society is dependent partially on education availability and values of the group but is often of lower importance if basic survival is the issue.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

Syd Smith, AUSTRALIA, E839

1.The infrastructural development that compete for space. a good example is the construction of standard gauge railway in Kenya. This has interfered with the wildlife dispersal are and increased the emission of gasses
2. Increase in industries especially in developing countries has lead to emission of green house gases and this is another concern.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 12. Others(1. infrastructural development 2. Industrial growth)]

KENYA, E841

Global warming is very concerning and there are many sceptics that do not understand or want to acknowledge that it is a serious problem. the issue also is exacerbated by the fact that this warming is human induced. More education is required from the youngest generation as the older generations really are not ready and willing to learn.
Population growth and re-distribution can be a major issue especially with the refugee crisis. The main reasons for that taking place is because of corrupt and unstable governments who are led by selfish dictators and officials who are thinking of themselves and only for the short term.
Society needs to understand that we are in one world and that everyone has to do their bit to make it a better place. Education everyone of this basic fact should be a major undertaking of global bodies.
[6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

George Cho, AUSTRALIA, E843

All issues mentioned are to be taken into account. However these topics are also all strongly related. It is therefore very difficult to single any of the topics out.
Climate change (issue 1), loss of biodiversity (2)and lack of sufficient, healthy food (7) and shortage of clean water (5),in this following order, are the ultimate dangers that are threatening the future of humankind. However, these four issues are also related in many ways. They do not come alone, but in general all together.
The other issues listed are rather the causes: to start with ”Environment and economy” (issue 10)and the related lifestyles (8, landuse (3)and pollution and contamination (4). The still growing numbers of population (issue 6), in particular in South Asia and Africa, the lack of understanding in society (11: environment and society) and as a consequence the disappointing global warming measures (9) and even more disappointing implementation thereof, are the other line of causes of the four dangers I singled out above.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Hans van Ginkel, THE NETHERLANDS, E846

Despite UAE having ratified multiple international conventions (CBD, RAMSAR, CMS) and advertising on his efforts done to preserve the environment, the state of the environment and biodiversity continue to degrade, due to unrestrained develop-

ment (urbanization, industrialization, new roads creating penetration in previously difficult to access areas), mainly in coastal areas, but all over the country in general. A lot of funds, presumed to be allocated to environmental conservation, are spoiled in administration and show-off through organizations of International conferences, but not going to preserve the environment in the field. The status and trends of many species is poorly known, by lack of funding to collect data from the field, and established serious population monitoring programmes.
There are serious issues of water table depletion, due to an increasing population size, and huge irrigation network for "greening" the country. An important part of freshwater is supplied by desalinisation plants.
The climate of UAE being arid and habitats mainly desert, conditions aren't suitable for extensive development of agriculture, although lot of farms and plantations have been created. As a wealthy country, UAE mainly rely on import for food supply. Important food resources are fisheries, but fish stocks have been largely depleted due to overfishing, pollution (regular oil spill in the Gulf of Oman), and possibly raise of temperature in relation to climate change, killing corals.
The level of concern for environmental issues is poor, particularly among local Emirati (even if they count for only 10% of the overall UAE population), by lack of environmental education and awareness. There is a general lack of respect for the environment, and appreciation of its values. Littering everywhere is a calamity.
With one of the highest ecological footprint, lifestyle in UAE is in general unsustainable, with over-consumption of water, energy, food...associated with megalomaniac destructive development, and an increase of population, that the country can not naturally support in term of local productivity.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, E848

It is increasingly difficult to be optimistic about the chances for human society in the future because of lack of attention to and education about the root causes of the problems. Global population continues to explode with dire predictions of the consequences. Almost everything else relates back to this fact, yet even the doomsayers do not talk much about it society is not listening. We have created a global economy which only exacerbates the disparity between the haves and the have nots and accelerates the exploitation of global resources disproportionately for the benefit of the developed world. It will likely require a global catastrophe of some sort to get global attention to these problems as a matter of human survival. Parts of the world are already experiencing the impacts, but the global economic engine doesn't care. It will grind on, increasingly automated and under the control of a very few people in the global superpowers.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(The growing disparity in economic opportunity and particularly education are forcing the human population of the world into two broad groups: (1) those who have opportunity and education to see problems and to formulate solutions, and (2) those who are occupied with survival on a day-to-day basis.)]

USA, E850

I feel that almost all people have no idea what lies ahead. Vast resources are poured into activities that will become irrelevant to the future world yet so little is supporting activities that will make a difference.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 11. Environment and Society]

John Veron, AUSTRALIA, E851

This list of issues is difficult to discuss because the elements are of different orders. The major problem is the impact of people on the environment; this has two major dimensions, loss of biodiversity and changes in the climate (incerasing tempertaure & sea-jevel rise are two major ones). Population, land use, lie-styles and pollutions are important causes of these problems. 9, 10 & 11 are measures or domaines which need to be taken/taken into account in order to improve the situation.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Patrick Duncan, FRANCE, E854

Burgeoning population coupled with unsustainable lifestyle has jeopardized sustainable development. Humankind has far exceeded ecological footprint. Climate change is fast approaching 'tipping point'. Social and gender inequities as well as growing violence based on intolerance to different faiths and cultures threaten not just civilizations but very survival of humans and rest of life.
New technologies, particularly r-DNA technology in agriculture, have not been kind to soil, biodiversity and to human health. Only beneficiaries are the seed companies. It is proven beyond any iota of doubt that 'Roundup' transgenic crops having glyphosate as active principle are now proven carcinogens to humans. Because of greed and goal of monopolising the food security of the nations, the seed companies do not want to accept the facts regarding pesticide – producing crops. It is unbelievable that some scientists and most governments yet support them. The planet needs ecoagriculture, i.e. farming with nature. The pesticide companies may, however, not like this.

The humankind knows what needs to be done to rescue the planet at the crossroads particularly, in an era of climate change. Yet, the greed is so powerful that it would not let the humans do what is right.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

Prof. P.C. Kesavan , INDIA, E855

Loss of biodiversity posses severe threat to food security especially in an era of climate change which requires genes for a number of abiotic stresses such as drought, floods, submergence, etc. The preservation of seeds and propagules in cryogenic facilities or in the perma frost facility as in Svalbard Island is necessary. However, conservation is superior to preservation because of continued evolution through mutations and natural selection. Therefore, international support for in-situ on-farm conservation by the indigenous people in the rural areas of developing countries is essential.
Climate change will more directly impact agriculture than any other sphere of human activity. Climate change would not only reduce the productivity of crops, but also enhance their losses due to new pests and diseases. It will also adversely affect the rural livelihoods.
The need of the hour is to transform chemically intensive agriculture (eg. Green revolution) into a more sustainable agriculture. The evergreen revolution developed at the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation includes ecoagriculture and ecoenterprises in the rural areas for income generation. The cause of the malnutrition of over a billion people in the world today is largely due to lack of purchasing power (access to food and nutrition). Unless,the global agriculture is made sufficiently sustainable and productive, and the livelihood opportunities are substantially increased, the problem of hunger in the world would persists.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

M.S. Swaminathan , INDIA, E856

About wilderness and old growth forest...
What does ”wild”? - What do we feel at the thought of ”wilderness”? Loss of control? Unexpected ...? Infected in us still feel a ... terrifying ... ”wild nature”? Or do we understand more and more the great opportunity that is revealed to us in the experience of wilderness?
The most important task of national parks around the world - and thus also the Gesaeuse National Park - is the protection and preservation of unique natural landscapes, and the maintenance of dynamic processes with their specific landscape biodiversity. Protection of the momentum in national parks allows us to experience near-natural landscapes in their undisturbed development towards the wilderness.
Allow wilderness means to recognize the intrinsic value of nature and to ensure the protection of nature due to its own value in the center! The ability to fully develop in certain areas, it endorses this own right to existence, but also requires us to turn away from a classification into ”good” and ”evil”, or ”harmful” and ”useful”!
Are we willing to accept the ”disorder”? Can we manage really to deprive us from this feeling that ”anything is possible”? Or is not the desire to completely control our world really a ... ”wrong track”, which weighs us false sense of security? By allowing wilderness development, we also allow our thinking in a new direction ... nothing takes the place of the constant-making ... and connected there to, randomly and unplanned respect arisings!
Developing humility in the face of diverse encounters with plants, animals, structures and processes in wild nature - large and small, powerful as inconspicuous .... wonder at the non man-made .... all this allows us viewers a new value proposition in view of our ever short-lived modern environment! By looking at an old-growth forest we reach a different understanding of time ... accept that the processes in time and space in the wilderness correspond different laws .... and received perhaps impetus for our own lives again - ”slow down”, and to find a measure of time back, where patience is a positive feature!
Granted ... Accept windfalls or bark beetles, experiencing the wild dynamics and prospective developments without human intervention requires a change in our heads! But it also means to get ”new insights”! What do we really know because of wild, Central European nature? How is a forest with no human intervention and steering ..., especially in long-term perspective?
The future of our national parks and protected areas is a unique vehicle represents our knowledge to expand significant facts and perhaps also means having to throw traditional opinions overboard - Overall demanded it but also a little more confidence in the infinite regenerative capacity and the perfect rehearsed, thousands of years old interaction of flora and fauna!
Man is part of nature, of evolution that is going on and does not end with mankind. Protected areas as the National Park Gesäuse ensure that these evolutionary processes can run in the midst of a rich biodiversity continue in the future. We know that we are only one of several millions of species and should not forget that we are related phylogenetically with these all beyond. National Parks help us to expose ourselves from the center and we as part - to consider this development - and not as a center. Allowing wilderness and prospective nature ... and the deliberate disregard points of human needs and usage requirements for the benefit of natural processes and procedures will be understood by future generations as one of the greatest cultural achievements of the 21st century. But not allowing human intervention also means accepting a nature which is not aimed at preserving a pleasing actual condition, but dynamic - just allow unplanned processes! Each storm, any avalanche or squall can initiate a new development ....
Nature is one of the elementary needs of the people and yet our natural environment has undergone profound changes over the

last 50 years. However, to give us people and especially our children in the future sufficient natural experience opportunities, is one of the central tasks of the world's protected areas ...
From the feeling of emotional impressions we can create awareness of its own sustainability, learn tolerance and respect all otherness over and take responsibility for nature, the environment and, ultimately, our fellow human beings. A society that permits wilderness aware must be highly developed. She has accepted to concede nature an own right and give her a self-determination, which may sometimes lead to unforeseen developments.
"Let nature be nature" requires no more and no less than the tolerable allow and observing an environment in which the human being is not the center, but part of the ecosystem. "Allow" itself is not too difficult - the "profit" which seems to us to be possible as a visitor of such wilderness areas, is great!
Or - to put it in the words of Aldo Leopold ....
"I am glad I will not be young in a future without wilderness."
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles]

Martin Hartmann, AUSTRIA, E857

As the least developed country in the world, Cambodia focuses its development on using of existing natural resources in unsustainable manner. Forest lands were converted to agriculture and development, causing climate change, drought, flood and water source pollution, cause by pesticide use. The experience of global warming, killing thousands of people in India and Pakistan, the world should consider measure to reduce the crisis. This drought killed many domestic animals river fish in Tonle Sap Lake. We need to work together to to save our planet from growing burning.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CAMBODIA, E860

Contraception and family planning need to be encouraged. Women must be provided access to education and empowered to become self-sufficient. Food should be wholesome and produced in harmony with nature. Drastically reduce the use of pesticides, herbicides, toxic chemicals and preservatives, and GMOs.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population]

USA, E862

Africa is in the heart of the humanitarian and ecological drama but many of the most vulnerable worries about the survival or runaway sound towards the peaceful corners(places). Africa suffers from pollution, atmospheric many motorcycles, car individual a prestige..
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 11. Environment and Society]

Koffi HOUNDEBASSO, TOGO, E864

[2. Biodiversity, (Biodiversity is serious being affected by anthropocentric factors. In the marine environment fishing is the most serious threats to the coastal and offshore biodiversity. Some fishing operations such as trawling and gill netting are major threats. Pollution is also important factors.)]

Muhammad Moazzam Khan, PAKISTAN, E866

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Forest encroachment, land degradation of the Chure belt that extends from east to west of Nepal are a serious concerned. Extensive haphazard mining of rocks and sand in Chure have dis-balanced the ecosystem, water table have receded. Many villages face drought condition.)]

Prasanna Yonzon, NEPAL, E867

Naturally all environmental issues are interlinked to each other, Bahrain being an island is under threat due to many issues one of which is climate change, however, the natural mode of adaptation and mitigation (utilising mangroves, coral reefs and sea grass beds to combat sea level rise for example) are not as prevalent as 20 years ago due to unsustainable development practises such as land reclamation and dredging which has caused coastal alteration, destruction of habitats and thereby have caused loss of biodiversity. Land Use change has caused the shrinking of green areas that harboured rich biodiversity thereby removing agricultural lands for urban development causing a serious questioning of food security in Bahrain. Moreover, climate change, dredging and reclamation in addition to bad land use management, all have contributed towards the invasion of salt water into the underground water table which has caused lack of freshwater resources. many of the in land water resources have dried up due to high temperatures and also change of land use. Currently the country relies on desalination plants to meet its water demands however, this in turn has many impacts on marine environments. Fish stocks are officially outside the biological safe limits due to overfishing and destructive fishing practices. Lack of environmental awareness and education in the country contributes towards citizens not cooperating nor contributing towards solving environmental issues. Uninformed

decision makers is also a big problem in addition to those who advise them who still remain uninformed or if informed do not understand the severity of the problems all contributes towards accelerated environmental issues rather than finding solutions.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Lack of environmental awareness and education in the country contributes towards citizens not cooperating nor contributing towards solving environmental issues.)]

BAHRAIN, E870

[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, (The climate change has for the past years. Late rains and longer winters have changed attitudes. Pollution has affected both human beings and animals resulting in serious respiratory problems then death. There is still dire need for provision of clean drinking water for communities.)]

Virginia Phiri, ZIMBABWE, E871

To ascertain compensation and environmental sustainability in coastal environment protected areas, through mitigation of negative externalities at real estate projects, means to answer the question: what´s the value of environmental compensation due to this human intervention of great impact in the coastal ecosystems? It would be better suggestion to build a shopping center at the sandbank, the null hypothesis of existence value, turning it into a big paved road? Perhaps the sensible alternative is a re - naturalization, stabilizing and defining their boundaries and coastal areas promoting the rational occupation of degraded areas, preserving the remaining Atlantic Forest and the sandbank associated.
[1. Climate Change, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

SERGIO MATTOS FONSECA, BRAZIL, E874

Our world needs to become much more focused on land use as erosion and land degradation are now at alarming levels and soon this trend may become irreversible.In addition, deforestation is increasing and much soil is being lost into the sea where it causes little benefit and possibly much damage to marine ecosystems. The less fertile land is losing its capacity to feed an ever-increasing population. Moreover, the increasing population is forcing more pressure on unsustainable land use and greater use of marginal areas. Population is a major problem because such a high percentage of those being born, live in poverty.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 12. Others(Inequality of wealth and increasing poverty - the gap between the ''haves'' and the have not's' is increasing and more people are being born into poverty, many of whom are malnourished and living in squalid conditions, thereby resulting in pollution and causing greater social problems and challeng)]

FIJI, E875

Water Resources
Surface water are extremely unevenly distributed and are marked by significant perennial and seasonal dynamics. Current volume of river runoff in Kazakhstan seems to differ significantly from previous estimations and long-term averages. Reduced surface runoff provides evidence of climatic and anthropogenic effects on water resources and reflects the tendency towards reduction of surface water. For example, Central Kazakhstan has only 3% of total water resources. Western and South-Western regions are significantly water deficit. Balkhash-Alakol and Irtysh (Ertis) river basins in the East and North-East parts account for almost 75% of surface water resources generated within the Kazakhstan. About 90% of the runoff occurs in spring, exceeding reservoir storage capacity. More than 200 water reservoirs have been constructed. There are 19 large reservoirs, accounting for 95% of total capacity. Most reservoirs are designed for seasonal flow regulation, only about 20 reservoirs are regulated year-round. Most are multipurpose: hydropower production, irrigation and flood control. Collaboration between countries concerning water is important for Kazakhstan. After gaining independence, regional cooperation regarding water resources management needed strengthening. The most acute disagreement in the Syr Darya basin relates to the operation of the Toktogul reservoir in Kyrgyzstan, leading to a clash of interests between Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. Changes in the operations of the Toktogul reservoir have led for Kazakhstan to the following negative situations: worsening conditions for agriculture (insufficient water for irrigation); deteriorating social, economic and living conditions of the population; flooding of populated areas and agricultural land; worsening environmental and sanitary situation. Three rounds of negotiations have been held with China to discuss management of cross-border rivers. China is unilaterally beginning to implement plans to expand the use of water resources from the Ertis and Ile rivers and has declared its intent to accelerate full-scale development of western China.
Out of 44 water sources researched by the Kazakhstan's Hydrometeorology Service, only 9 rivers, 2 lakes and 2 reservoirs where considered to be clean water sources. In addition to industrial, extracting and refinery enterprises there are other polluters such as urban buildings, farms, irrigated fields, waste containers and storage facilities for liquid and solid wastes products. Studies showed that lack of water leads to the population becoming incapable of observing norms of sanitation and hygiene, resulting in increased morbidity. Income level in water deficient areas per capita is almost 2 times lower than the subsistence level.
Land Use (expansion of cultivated land; destruction of forests due to excessive development; desertification caused by overgrazing; agriculture and land use without regard for the environment).
The total economically active population are 8.7 mln, or 54% of the total population. The economically active population in

agriculture is 14% of total active population. An important factor of subsistence support is self-sufficiency in grain for the production of bread and for livestock forage. The national economy's priority is grain production, as basic subsistence of the population appears more problematic each year. Unsustainable land practices, non-rational use of natural resources and environmental pollutions have led to varying degrees of land degradation and desertification in all regions of Kazakhstan. The process of land degradation and desertification occurs in high extend in regions with unfavourable ecological conditions such as the Aral and Caspian Sea and Balhash Lake regions. The deterioration of land quality also is caused by the process of soils contamination with oil and oil products, particles of heavy metals, radio nuclides and other pollutants.

Environment and Economy

The country now faces an urgent need to address the ecological mismanagement. According to expert conclusions, environmental situation in several regions of the Kazakhstan is catastrophic. Structural changes have been made with a view to implementing integrated national policy in the regulation of the industrial complex development. Main objective is to assure agricultural growth (increasing of sales volume) in competitive branches of manufacture and to stabilize production of main types of plant. Kazakhstan also faces the problem of urban pollution, particularly in its eastern cities, which receive harmful emissions from lead and zinc smelters, a uranium-processing mill, and other industries.

Climate Change (warming; climatic aberrations – droughts, torrential rains and flooding, severe storms, heavy snow, abnormal temperatures, drying of rivers and lakes, desertification, etc.).

The climate is typically continental, with cold dry winters and hot dry summers. Precipitation is insignificant, except in the mountainous regions. About 70–85% of annual rainfall occurs between October and April. Summer rains are often combined with severe thunderstorms, which sometimes lead to flash flooding. The continental climate is characterized by a high evaporation level, which, together with low rainfall, makes irrigation a necessity in large parts of the country, notably in the south. Most of Kazakhstan is located in the arid zone, agriculture in these circumstances is extremely risky, and most grassland belongs to the desert or semi-arid type.

Biodiversity

Kazakhstan's wildlife is in danger of extinction due to the overall level of pollution. According to current estimates, some areas of the nation will not be able to sustain any form of wildlife. In the areas where pollution is the most severe, 11 species of mammals and 19 species of birds and insects are already extinct. 15 mammal species, 15 bird species, 5 types of freshwater fish, and 36 species of plant are listed as threatened.

Food

Recently, food safety issues have gained special attention. They have been the subject of numerous articles in the media, given the private sector's desire to push profits at all costs. Corporate agribusiness is increasingly shifting liability for food safety to consumers. The supply chain were not be strengthened through a trade agreements, resulting in a surge of cheap food imports. For example, today the majority of apple juice concentrate comes from China, a country notorious for its food safety problems. Pesticides used in fruit and vegetable production, animal feed and even inside factory farms has been linked to poisoning, infertility, birth defects, damage to the nervous system and potentially cancer. Organic standards are not food safety regulations.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

Roman Plokhikh, KAZAKHSTAN, E877

Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries due to climate change. We are the worst victim of climate change impacts, though we are not responsible for the cause of climate change. Bangladesh experiencing the erratic rainfall pattern, Increased extreme weather events like flood, drought, cyclone & storm surge, sea level rise and its impacts on salinity intrusion in the coastal areas, increased vector-borne disease, loss of biodiversity, negative impacts in agricultural production (including livestock and fisheries) and many other problems. Flood, cyclone & storm surge also impacts our infrastructure, food security, nutrition, livelihood support and many more. It also impacts our ecosystem and ecosystem services. Bangladesh experiencing 2-8% GDP loss due to negative impacts climate change. Ultimately it affects our poverty eradication, development and the sustainability of our efforts. To make the resilient and climate adaptive society Bangladesh needs to invest huge amount money by compromising the development of the country. According to government estimation up to 2030 Bangladesh needs at least 40 billion USD to meet our adaptation needs.

Due to erratic behavior of rainfall the cropping pattern of Bangladesh changed from rain fed aman rice crop to irrigation dependent boro crop. Due to population increase and the economic emancipation of the poor people the demand of cereal crop and other food items increased significantly. So we are now use increased agricultural inputs and irrigation water for extra production. However, we are not getting rain water in a balanced manner due to climate change; ultimately it puts extra pressure on ground water. Excessive rainfall in a limited time span could not allow extra time to recharge the water table. The water table of ground water in Bangladesh going down significantly. Due to excessive lower ground water table, in the winter season the shallow tube-well is not working well for drinking water and irrigation water. Simultaneously, industrialization in Bangladesh is progressing and industries like composite textile mills, garments and dying industry, leather and cement industry etc. use lot of ground water and the affluent of these industries ultimately polluting the surface water. Excessive use of ground water also makes the drinking water arsenic contaminated. Out of 64 districts the ground water of 61 districts are arsenic contaminated, the level of arsenic concentration is the above from the WHO prescribed level. Excessive iron contamination is also prevalent in the drinking water of Bangladesh. In the saline prone coastal areas ground water is excessively saline and

sweet drinking water is a dear commodity in those areas. In a nutshell, we can say source and availability of pure drinking water both for drinking and irrigation is gradually shirking.
Bangladesh is a land hungry country with around 160 million people in an area of 144 thousand kilometer. As we are developing and making some infrastructure such as roads and communication system, educational institutions, hospitals, office building and households etc. is the need to ensure the poverty education and to fulfill the basic needs of the common people. Furthermore, we are losing our fertile land due to salinity intrusion, river bank erosion and excessive use of fertilizer and other agricultural inputs. Excessive pressure of population and infrastructure, there is enormous pressure on our forest resources as well, though we are gradually increasing our forest coverage and it is a big challenge for us.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

BANGLADESH, E879

The concerns about climate change dominate all others because climate change affects everything. The climate is heating faster than anticipated and its effects - drought, tornadoes, warming oceans, excessive heat in India and Pakistan, etc. - are worsening. If climate change were removed from the equation, the next biggest problem is human over-population, which is the cause all the other problems, such as water and food shortages. More specific to the U.S. the population problem is made worse by the excessive lifestyles that many lead, expecting and using more than they need. That also complicates land-use issues because more people buy homes with more land than they need or use, or they buy second and third homes built on the more fertile land of river valleys that could be better put to use as farm land. Or they could just leave the land untouched. The fact that little land is left undeveloped contributes to the loss of wildlife and biodiversity. In the U.S., some of this stems from the fact that fewer people are taught that it is admirable to take only what they need and to value nature. In this regard, Europeans do a better job.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

USA, E880

A catastrophic, chronic, loss of biodiversity through forest clearance and conversion, lack of interest in environmental issues and a burgeoning car culture are all adding to an inadequate response by Malaysia to climate change.
Conversion of natural forest into monoculture plantations (rubber wood, oil palms and pulp wood) is affecting water tables and leading to increasingly polluted streams and rivers. Government agencies collude with the royal families to de-gazette state forest areas, and many of the industrial plantation companies defend their positions using barely credible, but carefully compiled, statistics indicating they are not one of the causes of biodiversity loss.
As Malaysia strives to become a developed country by 2020, the government is focused on economic growth.The increasing, mainly urban, human population is deeply entrenched in a culture of conspicuous consumption and object acquisition to satisfy their need for pleasure and social status. The most important factor for many Malaysians is money, and pursuit of wealth. Childrens' education and health are seen as important issues, but the environment is of minor, or no, interest. Haze (air pollution) from burning deforested areas does produce interest by mainstream media and at political levels, but the problem is portrayed as external pollution from Indonesia (Sumatra), with local fire events being un-monitored and un-reported.
Sustainability and environment issues are paid lip-service by the government, and largely ignored by the population who consider such things the role of government. A culture of secrecy within most government agencies means that decisions and information on the environment are largely unavailable to citizens, which reduces the likelihood of a broader environmental movement until severe (climate-related?) events impact individuals and produce a wider realization of the problems.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

MALAYSIA, E881

Scientific forecasts indicate that the Middle East region will suffer the impacts of climate change more seriously than many other parts of the world. In the absence of drastic countermeasures, the region will be inhabitable in long term.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Armed conflicts that are underway within several countries in the Trans-boundary and internal dust and sandstorms that are impacting large parts of Iran due to desiccation of wetlands.)]

IRAN, E882

I regard climate and environment concerns as a whole where everything interferes and is connected with everything else. Population growth together with consumption, life styles and politics are main reasons for environmental degradation, biodiversity loss etc. and must be addressed as a whole and by all. Need for much more focus population growth which makes the world more and more inhabitable for other species and also humans and leads to degradation of important resources, such as water, wars and conflicts etc.
Climate is a bit tricky since we do not know whether the measures we take actually lead to the desired effects - what is part of the natural cycle, and what is man made is difficult to ascertain but we need to act now and consistently to make sure that the earth remains habitable for all its living creatures. We need to think about climate together with environment and to work for

energy efficient production and consumption, better technology, sustainable energy sources and re-cycling/up cycling, cradle to cradle approaches and a more localised economy that demands much less transportation. We need to react on those factors which are especially important in terms of CO2. For example the consumption of beef and other food - these must become much more expensive and all public players should shift to mainly locally produced organic vegetarian food. Fuel for cars and flight should become much more expensive so that it is always cheaper to take the train rather than a flight for destinations which are less than for example 15 hours away. Every citizen should have access to a certain minimal amount of energy - if he chooses to use more (for example by insisting on having a car) this extra energy shall only be available at high prices.
The main political concern is how to make people around the world and especially in the South have fewer babies by influencing them with education, women's rights to their own bodies and contraception, knowledge, incentives and also in some cases negative consequences if a country, a church etc. does not support this goal. At the same time we also need much more education, knowledge and political coherence when it comes to biodiversity and the understanding that humans are not the only ones with a right to this earth and that we need to support the diversity of all creatures and plants as well as the resources that we all need to survive - buzz words include political action, incentives, education, advocacy, high taxes on e.g. petrol for cars and flghts, non organic foods, and environmentally harmful transport, limits to use of energy for both private people and businesses, fines, consequences for illegal action, regulations, sustainable production and consumption patterns, more and more difficult to produce, sell and buy tings which are harmful to the biodiverty and climate, prices reflect both real costs and environmental harmful effects, support to organic and other "green" producers, regulations for public expenditures and consumption to reflect environmental concerns (e.g. organic green foods in institutions), just to mention a few. Biodiversity should be part of all school curricula and a much higher part of each country's land, lakes, sea etc. should be dedicated to conservation which benefits biodiversity rather than citizens' hobbies
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Consumption and production)]

Charlotte Mathiassen, DENMARK, E883

Population growth is the root of all of these problems. The others are symptoms. Treating the symptoms may help in the immediate and short term. The only long term solution is population control to zero or negative growth
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

Fergusson, MOZAMBIQUE, E884

In South America, issues concerning to the environment and society, in particular those which relate to poverty, violence, education and precarious living conditions: lack of decent housing, sanitation, employment, etc., are serious barriers to environmental preservation.
Survival issues must be addressed and so the emergency is a step backwards and the possibility of loss of the few achievements that have occurred in the last 10 years.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

BRAZIL, E885

Besides the problems rising from capitalistic orientated governments worldwide, to me a major problem is the way most people in the richer parts of the world consume. If people would start buying less badly produced and environmental unfriendly goods/ foods consequently, companies would be forced to change their capitalistic way to produce goods.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

GERMANY, E887

It seems clear that most major so-called ''environmental problems'' are worsening despite decades of increasing public awareness and cascading scientific evidence.
Unfortunately, society tends to treat each ''problem'' -- e.g., climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification, land degradation, fisheries depletion, etc., etc. -- in isolation as if they were unrelated. In contrast, I would argue that these are actually related symptoms of what should be called ''gross human ecological dysfunction''.
Each symptom is the result of ''overshoot''. The demands of human society on the biophysical systems that support us either exceed the regenerative capacity of those systems (e.g., in the case of soil erosion, aquifer depletion, fisheries collapse) or their capacity to assimilate material wastes (e.g., climate change -- carbon dioxide is the single greatest waste product of industrial economies by weight -- and air, soils and water pollution).
We can also think of ''overshoot'' in these terms: Global society, at present average levels of consumption and waste generation, has already exceeded the long-term carrying capacity of Earth. This means the present growth and maintenance of the human system is being supported by the depletion of essential resources, the degradation of ecosystems and the over-filling of waste sinks.

This situation is inherently short-lived, i.e., unsustainable, since the resources/systems we are depleting are essential for the existence of civilization, their loss is often irreversible and there are no substitutes.
Regrettably, as noted, society treats each symptom in isolation, as a mere technical or economic problem. We therefore generally tend to search for technological or economic ''solutions'' which often merely exacerbate matters. For example, technological or economic efficiency gains or new technologies altogether, generally tend not to conserve resources as expected. Rather, they result in lower prices and higher incomes which, in turn, is followed by higher levels of consumption.
If we are to solve the problem of human ecological dysfunction, we must address it at is true source in fundamental human nature. H. sapiens, like all other species, has a natural tendency to: a) expand to occupy all accessible habitat and b) use up all available resources. Because of our high intelligence and cooperative social organization, we succeed in exercising these tendencies better than any other species. We occupy the entire planet, have displaced hundreds of other vertebrate species from their habitats, and are destroying with over-exploitation the very ecosystems that we need to survive.
To make matters worse, in the past century humans have developed a global economic philosophy and economy -- neoliberal economics -- based on the twin myths of continuous technological progress and unlimited material growth. We are in a dangerous predicament in which nurture (growth-based society) is reinforcing nature (the genetice predisposition to expand). In many way our intelligence is doing us in. While the populations and resource demands of other species are suppressed and held in check by systemic negative feedback (disease, resource and territorial competition, food scarcity, etc.) human technological ingenuity has historically succeeded in increasing the supply of economic resources (e.g., the energy needed to run society) and even space (high-rise dwellings) and in controlling/eliminating disease and food shortages. In other words, technology and abundant cheap energy have removed the ''negative feedback'' that normally keeps populations in check (i.e., within the carrying capacities of their ecosystems).
This has ''released'' the human population and global economy from natural constraints, allowing our species uniquely to exercise much of its full biological potential for growth -- exponential or geometric growth led to an unprecedented four-fold expansion of human numbers from 1.5 to 6.0 billion in the 20th Century alone and the population tops 7.3 billion today.
No major government or international development organization has yet diagnosed ''the problem'' in this way. All remain wedded to the perpetual growth model which is helping to drive the unsustainability conundrum. Little wonder conventional technical and economic solutions are failing.
The data from hundreds of studies suggest that we are at or beyond sustainable limits to growth even though millions of the human family have yet to share adequately in the material bounty of industrialization. This means that a business-as-usual trajectory may well lead to collapse of the human global human enterprise long before we have solved the poverty problem.
Human ecological dysfunction is not a technical or economic problem but a human behavioural and socio-political one. If we are to avoid the re-imposition of natural ''negative feedback'' (catastrophic climate change, food scarcity, resources shortages, geopolitical instability and war) by nature, then the international community must learn to devise and implement cultural forms of negative feedback, everything from programmed carbon and other pollution charges/taxes to population policies and the promotion of family planning.
The long-term goal should be the transition of our contemporary competition-based, inequitable growth-oriented national economies and global society toward more a more equitable, steady-state system of systems (no growth in material throughput) that can live well, securely and indefinitely within the restorative and assimilative means of nature.
[10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (Human ecological dysfunction is the major issue confronting global society. The human enterprise is in a state of ''overshoot'' -- economic demands on ecosystems now exceed both the productive and assimilative capacities of those systems. Specific ''problems'' such as climate change are mere symptoms.)]

William Rees, CANADA, E890

After the local military conflicts during which depleted uranium ammunition was used, an unpredictably wide territory has been contaminated by aerosols, and later water and ground natural resources. From the air, the particles fall very slowly and contaminate the ground and grass, vegetables, fruit, entering the alimentary chain. From the rain, those particles could penetrate the earth and enter springs and subterranean waters.
Military uses of depleted uranium may have a significant impact on the environmental equilibrium of the uranium isotopes. Every change that is high enough to modify the ionic, magnetic, or temperature Earth's equilibriums, depends on the natural default globe properties and tends to reach this equilibrium again. It has been reported recently that a thousand tons of depleted uranium that have been used since its first military use in the Persian Gulf in 1991 to date, have changed sufficiently the Earth's natural equilibrium in terms of default activity of natural uranium in the Earth's crust and have triggered the visible otput(s)
Simultaneous monitoring of natural phenomena on Earth and in the atmosphere has revealed an exceptional parallelism between the phenomena in the environment and in the living world: increased number of earthquakes, elevated humidity in the environment, increased number of forest fires, and increased extreme weather events during the last 20 years.
The radiation has, almost since its discovery, about 120 years ago, been used not only to provide energy, or for medical purposes. Nowadays, radiation is the most powerful weapon, the ideal, invisible killer, which, in case of the military use of depleted uranium, has already irreversibly changed all natural resources, contributed to mass migration of population, destruction of social relations, and in vivo experimentation with the health of human population and the overall living world.
From: Zunic, S and Rakic, Lj. Depleted Uranium Induced Petkau Effect: Chalneges for the Future, Nova Science Publishers,

New York, 2016.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Others(Due to the uncontrolled military use of high amounts of depleted uranium, numerous unusual environmental physical manifestations were recorded in the last three decades.)]

Svetlana Zunic, SERBIA, E891

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (Water resources have decreased over the years. It caused by several factors: unplanned or not well-planned land use, increase of population, a push of economic growth without reasonable limit, increasing needs for food due to increase of population, pollution caused by people.These are all related.)]

THAILAND, E893

Revive the criticality of forests and other common lands and locate inter-linkages with the associated production systems at a land scape level, thereby highlighting the value of forests (especially for water) and the necessity for conservation action. Establish institutional design principles and mechanisms that provide spaces for the poor and for enabling village communities to access, share, and conserve common lands and water bodies.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, (Collective Property Rights)]

Dinesh Reddy, INDIA, E894

Although China faces to severe air pollution in recent years, i.e. "Fog-Haze", this situation will be improved in some ten years, because it is an air pollution mainly of secondary fine particulate matter (sulfates, nitrates and water soluble hydro-carbons) which mainly cause long term impacts on human health. And China is now carrying strict measures to control this new kind air pollution. However, China is facing both severe water pollution and soil pollution. Water pollution and water availability will soon become No 1 environmental problem in China. Water pollution exists in all river segments that pass though cities. And in northern and northwest, water scarcity are also serious.
China is much too populous. Many difficulties are related to this population. For example, China is the No 1 CO2 emitter. One of the reasons is that China is No 1 coal consumer. The coal consumption is 4 times as that of US. However, China's population is also 4 times as that of US. On the other hand, oil and gas, China burns much less than that by US. There is more, historically ...
This is related to climate change mitigation, "common and differentiated responsibilities".
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

CHINA, E895

Your question regards my country. As part of a peaceful and wealthy part of the world we are exposed to the global danger levels, but for the time being can buy our way out. Hence my low worry scores. We are however meeting the consequences of destroyed biodiversity and climate change in the form of failed states elsewhere. Globally Climate change, biodiversity loss, and population growth is at the 1145level, but in the short term that does not register here.
Since only a few percent of our land area is arable, the present population, even though small in a global context, cannot maintain the same diet without imports. Even with the current agricultural policy that protects small farmers, feedstock is imported. In the longer term, global food supply will become more scarce- this can be met through population and nutrition policy or by simply paying more for imports.
Our national environmental impact is relatively low compared with other European countries due to a large land area and a small population. Apart from our oil extraction, most of the impact from our lifestyle occurs abroad where the products that we consume are produced. I have chosen to regard lifestyle combined with population growth as a major worry, but not catastrophic for our country in the short term.
[6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

paul hofseth, NORWAY, E896

In my country, climate change is characterized by irregular seasons, droughts, torrential rains and flooding. We can also face abnormal températures. This is for me the most important environmental issue as we all relay here on traditional agriculture, very dépendent of regular seasons.
The second most important issue is Environment and economy, as industries are poorly concerned about environment issues. This is translated into high deforestation for timbers exploitation, dam construction on very sensitive waterfalls, the non treatment of waste water especially from food industries, the non or poor implementation of environmental measures proposed by environmental impact studies. The result is a serious threat to biodiversity and important biodiversity loss.
The last important issue is the poor governance, characterized by the laxness of rulers in front of some environmental delinquency.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy]

GHOGUE Jean Paul, CAMEROON, E898

[2. Biodiversity, (I think that in my country environmental protection and conservation of forests should become a priority for the government. For this area the policy and strategies should bring more money to the Environmental Ministry in order to conserve protected areas.)]

ROMANIA, E899

Biodiversity loss: as a megadiverse country with many species in extinction or threatened, this is a pressing issue. Measures for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are being implemented, but not at the desirable rate and according to the national biodiversity targets established based on the Aichi targets.
Water resources: despite its abundant water supply, Brasil has faced important water crisis situations since 2014.
So many factors in the list above play a role in both these issues and, in the end, are mostly interconnected. The rapid growth of population and urbanizationan, global warming (affecting rainfall), land use, pollution. Therefore, all these issues are pressing and an integrated analysis and action plan on all of them is necessary.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

BRAZIL, E901

Earth is a complex ecosystem where it is difficult to separate one environmental issue from another. Market principles play a dominant role in what happens in the United States. Consequently, I rated our inability to appropriately value environmental damage and environmental assets as the most important issue. We are better equipped to value and act to correct certain environmental issues such as those that affect pollution/contamination, water and food supply, land use, and endangered species. We do not do as well on issues where there is greater uncertainty about the consequences of our actions or inactions. That is why I ranked climate change as the second most important issue. We do not know how rapidly change will occur and how severe the consequences will be. We already see clear affects with major financial implications but are not acting in an economically rational way. We prefer to view clear climate changes as anomalies rather than the new normal. If climate change occurs slowly over time, we will be able correct our expectations and behavior, but if not, we will face high costs. Areas with resources will be better able to adapt, exacerbating tensions between those with access to resources and those without.
Lastly, I think we have identified technology that supports attractive, less consumptive lifestyles but we have not given priority to making these lifestyles accessible to more people across different socio-economic strata. Would people really choose to sit in traffic for many hours each day breathing polluted air if there was an alternative?
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

USA, E903

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unstinable development leads to serious air and water even soil pollution in developing countries,it is more expensive to tackle these promlems, therefore, it i sextremely important for all countries to work together to find ways.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, (lifestyles is closely related to our environments)]

CHINA, E904

Awareness raising should be there in use of public transport and fuel consumption. Mass transit transport should be focus with best facilities so that private commuter can switch to public transport. This will reduce traffic burden on roads.
Water resources are depleting and underground water bed level is further increasing which is resulting in drinking water availability issues. Projects about awareness raising for efficient use of water resources are required in Urban areas.
Glaciers are melting due to change in weather pattern. This will raise sea level and can result in many other environmental issue. Government should be proposed policy initiatives for forests and glaciers.
[5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 12. Others(Pakistan is developing country and transport sector is not as per international standards. One of the causes of air pollution is transport in Pakistan. Apart from this Noise pollution and increase in depression in population is result of public transport condition and increase in private vehicles.)]

Khalid Zia, PAKISTAN, E905

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degradation of natural resources due to unsustainable human usage of forests and rangelands and excessive level of using wildlife. Over Hunting and fishing using unfriendly practices is a big issue to be needed.
[3. Land Use]

SYRIA, E906

Global warming has become a big issued that people needs to pay urgently and highly attention to address an issue because it is an issue of everybody caused by undisputed about our current livelihoods. Climate changes like global warming is the result that occurred by human practices and lifestyle like emission of Greenhouse gases that are made by people itself is one of the fact of environmental problem. People are facing a weather of new and challenging envrionmental problems where they

are and also every day. Environmental problems are problems caused by changes in the environment resulting from global warning and human activities in their lifestyle. To be understood that global wanring has changed people mindset and have grown to acknowledge that environmental problems do not only affects human, animals but also endangers in our lifestyle and ecosystem of this planet.
[4. Pollution / Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures]

THAILAND, E907

Nanabush is a Nishnaabeg mythical cultural hero, a transformer who initially travels around the world in part human and animal form to become "knowing". On his second trip, he travels with wolf as companion as a matter of restitution. Throughout Canada, and for many years, forests have been managed by forest industries and government agencies with license to exclude Aboriginal peoples and their intelligence. Overlooking Aboriginal customary law and the ecological management systems they embraced has resulted in rapid changes to both forest ecosystems and forest livelihoods. Although exclusion is no longer legally or socially accepted, efforts to adopt Aboriginal traditional expertise and move towards a new forest landscape in both democracy and law have been slow in coming. This case study explores the parallel stories of Nanabush, Eastern wolves (C. lyacaon) and the Algonquins of the Ottawa River basin in the context of forest management and ecosystem services. The intent is to engage stories and intelligence that transform current forest and associated wildlife planning practices into new 'social contracts' and forest economies in co-existence. This transformation will require new planning and decision making structures that provide meaningful integration of Aboriginal laws and traditional ecological values (TEV). This body of work provides solutions and scenarios that link evolving environmental, economic, climate and social
bjectives of forest and wildlife conservation, Forest Stewardship Certification (FSC) and international agreements to the resurgence of Nanabush and Nishnaabeg customary law within the current Canadian forestry management paradigm.
[2. Biodiversity, (www.algonquineastern wolf.com)]

Rosanne Van Schie, CANADA, E908

As a explanation of my choice:
I'd like to begin from 3 - Land Use: Armenia is a small mountainous country with dense human' population and long-term history of land use. Noticeable part of country's territory is uncomfortable for use, thus the rest rather comfortable part is under over-pressure of different kinds of human activities. Being country with so-called "economics in transition" (which means, actually, "wild capitalism") Armenia at all the levels of human population is passing the period when profit is only thing taken into account; so, land use is just use - for profit above mentioned... As a result, degradation and destruction of ecosystems are widespread in the country;
2 - Biodiversity loss is quite result of land use; I'm not sure if it is necessary to make special comments here;
8 - Lifestyles - in this therm I'm using common social practice which is actually some kind of "enclosure" analogous to Medieval England with redistribution of land in favour of powerful and reach persons. Ecological problems are not in the focus of their attention...
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles]

ARMENIA, E912

I am living in a country that faces increasing population with no concern about our environment that we live in. Because the lack of proper management, the vitality of our natural resources are declining.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

IRAN, E914

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land use: in Europe, expecially Italy, land is limited and land use is crucial for the biodiversity conservation.
Another very important issue is FOOD, and Food-security: there is a big councern on antimicrobal use, antimicrobial-bacterial resistance in the food making process. This problem is a EU concern
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 7. Food]

Nicola Pussini, ITALY, E916

In the order, the top environmental issues that concern me the most are (1) the exponential population growth, (2) climate change, and (3) water resources, as a direct corollary of issues (1) and (2). Am afraid that, unless and until we come to grips with issue No.1, and with the diffuse violence and poverty it breeds, it will be practically impossible to get a handle on issues (2) and (3) - or on all other environmental issues for that matter.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Stefano Burchi, ITALY, E917

There is no issue facing the world today more important than environmental protection. From the perspective of those living 500 years from today, there is no work more important today that they will care about more in terms of what we do today for

them than environmental protection: what we do to give them clean air, clean water, a stable climate, cities free from toxics and pollution, and a thriving diversity of wild lands and wild species. That is our responsibility today, and that is what I have devoted my professional life to accomplish. Climate change may be the greatest single challenge ever faced by humanity, and its urgency cannot be overstated. But it is not the only challenge of urgent environmental concern, since human populations will not survive if our oceans die, children will not thrive if they are exposed to lead and other toxics in our cities, no one can survive without adequate clean and healthy fresh water, and our resources will be exhausted if we don't address the excessive consumption and waste. We have the capacity to find solutions to these problems -- and we will if we insist that our leaders, domestically and globally, prioritize those solutions by allocating the funding and political attention necessary.
But there is no longer time to waste. We must act now. The Paris Accord last December was an essential beginning. But it is only the beginning.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, (Ocean noise pollution is a growing international problem that threatens the fabric of our oceans and everything in it -- caused by military and industrial noise sources, like commercial shipping, oil exploration, and military training. It can be remedied if we have the political will to do so.)]

joel reynolds, USA, E918

Biodiversity
The loss of biodiversity in species variety as well as in total volume (biomass) is very serious. Hundreds of species of plants and animals have already been loss, many agricultural crop cultivars have become extinct even in my life time, and many are facing endangerment due to Climate and Man's action.
The rainfall pattern in this region has become totally unpredictable and unreliable to the extent that long periods of droughts are common especially since the 1980s. Because of lack of annual recharge from rainfall, underground water resources have seriously depleted. In areas where three different regimes of aquifers were exploited, these have been totally depleted and boreholes now yield from the last aquifers. Rivers do not flow even to the 30% of their volumes and many dams are totally dry. Major known water-basins being the major source of fresh water for towns and cities and protected by Protected Areas such as Forest Reserves, Game Reserves and Sanctuaries are now being excessively deforested for charcoal production, cultivation and over-grazing. A typical example of this in Nigeria is exemplified by the Falgore/Lame Burra Game Reserves basin that holds most of the freshwater from the Jos Plateau and channels to the drier Northern States of Kano, Jigawa, Bauchi, Yobe and Borno. Everything downstream is now suffering as a result of the destruction in this basin.
The general condition of the West Africa sub-region stretching through Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Chad and beyond is being exacerbated by incessant droughts and desertification due to Climate Change, Biodiversity loss and Water shortages.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, (The role human population, averaging 3-5% plays in this region is inimical to the survival of biodiversity and the factors that trigger Climate Change. The serious shortage of potable water for humans and their animals is directly correlated to biodiversity degradation and Climate Change.)]

Lawan B. Marguba, NIGERIA, E919

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we should change our lifestyle and be more natural and consume less to avoid degradation of our country and world.
[In Mauritius the very rapid rate of development, including industrial development, public infrastructure , tourism development, life style change have changed the environment adversely and contribute to climatic change and environmental degradation.]

SOOKHAREEA, MAURITIUS, E920

In the region of central and east Europe, in the past year, the most pressuring issues were the immigration (human displacement due to war conflict in the Middle East and the depleting resources in the war zones). Some more pressing socio-economic drivers as well as political and religious processes put a pressure on migrants to enter Europe. One of the "gates" for Europe is the Balkan peninsula. Greece, Bulgaria, Macedonia has already entered the world headlines due to the human migration pressure on their borders. Unprecedented humanitarian crisis in Greece due to the extremely unfavourable economic crisis and humanitarian crisis from immigrants and refugees created pressure inside Greece which reflected the bi-lateral connections with Republic of Macedonia and Bulgaria. Turkey, on the other side, as a non-EU member state but a NATO country, has lost control of the humanitarian crisis which created unprecedented pressure on the Bulgarian-Turkish border urging the Bulgarian government to build a wall to stop the immigration. The British prime minister D. Cameron has also personally inspected the border control during his visit in Bulgaria which highlights the importance of the issue for West European countries and UK in particular. The climate change impacts during last years are reflected in several scientific papers from national scientists which trace the pattern of the changes looking back at historical climate data record. However, longer and more reliable projections to the future are regularly produced by www.ecmwf.int and DG JRC of the European Commission. To my knowledge a local improved version of their models has not been prepared so far so the publicly available reports at the above mentioned institutions as well as the IPCC are considered more accurate. In the 2016 the economic situation remains critical in Bulgaria. Socio-economic and political stagnation are marking 2016 "stable" in terms of no development and improvement. Up to the World Bank analysts, the planned yearly development rate is too low to consider the Bulgarian economy to be out of the crisis. This makes Bulgaria an unique state, along with Greece, which makes no or very little progress to get out

of the economic crisis. However, if such a comparison is possible, while Greece is plunging into the depths of economic crisis since 2008, Bulgaria has been in unstable and insecure crises (one after the other) since the onset of the democratic reforms in 1989 leading the country to a point of ''digging the seafloor''. To leverage off the economic and social impacts from the last economic crisis the Bulgarian government issued nearly 8 billion Euro new external debt which generates no visible and expected improvement in the economy and society because no reforms have been either planned or performed - jeopardizing the country to enter a spiralling debt. This is to happen in the years to come while the praised by the populist government protagonists ''reforms'' which are visible nowhere but in the massive accusations of corruption are now coined ''successful'', ''stable'', and ''going to the plan''.
The depopulation of Bulgaria due to the emigration and old population and low birth rates with one of the world's highest death birth rates in 2016 becomes blunt. This is due to the incompetence of the government (one of the many in a row) to cope with the financial, social, demographic, and political crisis leaving the country to roll down the slope with no future prospects to improve in any of the crisis aspects.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution / Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

BULGARIA, E921

Biodiversity is one of environmental issues and become of my top priority concern by looking at the current rate of the species extinction. Beside of habitat disturbance, species may go extinct due to poaching especially in South East Asia. Countries that hold species of which many are listed as endangered species, poaching activities are still widespread. For example, poaching is one of the reason that cause Sumatran Rhino, a critically endangered species, declined so rapidly. The species were poached for its horn due to high demand for traditional illness treatment purpose. Since 1990s, Indonesia and Malaysia, which considered a range state to hold the last remaining population of Sumatran Rhino have been a targeted for rhino poaching.
I hope that international and regional communities to take necessary step to stop further losses of species due to human activities.
[2. Biodiversity]

MALAYSIA, E923

Changing human's behaviour towards a sustainable lifestyle taking environmental problems into account is very important. Every single person can make a difference and e.g. influence the country's demand on certain products, reaching from clean energy and organic, locally produced food to fairly produced clothing etc. People's behaviour is more powerful than often thought.
But also stakeholders or decision makers should take sustainable development, climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation (e.g. related to agricultural practices) more seriously.
[8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

GERMANY, E924

After many decades of scientific advice, environmental problems continue to ignored by big business, decision makers, politicians and lawmakers, and ignored in favor of economic development and the of nations economy
This greed clearly needs to stop if we are to have any future on this planet. As a scientist, I have no idea how to achieve this...
[-]

JAPAN, E062

Climate change is the most urgent but limited concerns that already threatens humanity. Biodiversity is the foundation of nature and our life-support system that is continually destroyed by humans and abusive humanity. That still is not much known and lost species and vital species in global communities are still much unknown with ontinued expansion of human population. That is not much we could do about as long as "sustainable development" motto is put in practice. To reduce the horrendous destruction of our life-support system, the earth cosystem, we in effect change life styles and approaches to all natural resources and global ecosystem structure and function soon. Otherwise, our future is quite GLOOMY forever."
[-]

Ke Chung Kim, USA, 028

Concern regarding the growing prominence of socially informed, politically marketed "science".
[-]

Jeffrey A. Gritzner, USA, 062

[10. Environment and Economy, 12. Others(The problem of environment conservation concerns the survival of the humankind. We can change our economy for the green economy, but still there is not enough people who understand the demands for our future survival. The global changes of the environment causes degradation of ecosystem.)]

Anna Belousova, RUSSIA, E925

Environmental problems have a clear social origin. It is crucial that we contain population growth and adopt more eco-friendly behaviours and lifestyles, particularly in the more developed societies.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

Ricardo de Castro, SPAIN, S001

Environmental problems change depending on the area of the planet where one lives. However, the global origins of the environmental problems have their roots in the actions and failures of Western societies or those societies with greater economic power and influence over natural resources. Contamination, either due to an excess of CO2 or the pollution of rivers and oceans, is the main problem from which many others derive. There is a lack of social awareness, although progress has been made in this regard. I believe we need to rethink our way of life, but this is rather unlikely to happen as long as the economic powers dominate government decisions. We must try to return to a culture of the earth as a support, promoting sustainable rural societies. We still have time.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society,]

Jorge Cassinello, SPAIN, S003

If the human population continues to grow, nothing will prevent its collapse.
[6. Population]

CHILE, S004

It is vital to adapt in order to mitigate climate change. Continue demanding that the government makes countries that have had a negative impact on climate change aware of their actions. In addition, demanding the application of current regulations to encourage, at the local level, practices and activities with the population such as reforestation, family gardens, watershed management, soil and water conservation works and the creation of incentives for good practice to adapt to climate change.
Updating national regulations, which are in accordance with international conventions.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (Major changes in metamorphosis or mutations of diseases and vectors that transmit these diseases.)]

Rutilio Antonio Parada Galan, EL SALVADOR, S006

I believe that the biggest issue in dealing with the problems arising from human activities and their negative consequences (loss of biodiversity, global warming, resource depletion, etc.) is the enormous resilience of societies and governments to make the cultural, economic and technological changes necessary to address these problems. The paradigm of consumerism and continued growth remains dominant in the political class and its economic advisers, and is strongly rooted in societies as synonymous with progress.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society,]

Juan Pablo Julia, ARGENTINA, S007

Central American and Caribbean countries, although their contribution is low or negligible in relation to greenhouse gases and climate change (Costa Rica produces barely 0.03% of global emissions) are a vulnerable region when it comes to the impact associated with climate change (CC), the effect of El Niño (ENSO) and natural hazards. The expected scenarios identified loss of land and cities on the coasts, extinction, adaptation or migration of species from the lower lying areas to the upper altitudinal parts and a loss of biological diversity; the invasion of pests, changes in the structure and distribution of species in forests, etc. The high vulnerability and the presence of CC in the region make adaptation the only option for combating CC. However, little is being done on a practical level to respond to these impacts on nature. There should be a program, financial resources and permanent technicians to educate the population on how to adapt to CC. There must be investment made in research into adapting to CC.
The education programs are too technical (knowledge-based) and are not focused on how to adapt to the environment. They meet the needs of the export models and the demands of the free trade agreements (FTAs) based on unbridled capitalism and consumerism. How many FTAs have been signed by our countries in order to improve their economic situation? Many.... yet every day we become more dependent and poor....!!! Costa Rica, under the influence of businessmen-politicians, has signed more than 10 FTAs. The question is, how do we compete on an equal footing with countries where farmers receive subsidies when we do not allow state aid to ours? How can four million people (poor and lower middle class, including one million Nicaraguan migrants) compete with 1,200 million Chinese and more than 600 million Americans, etc? And what comparative advantages do we have in the production and export of products? Why have countries like Thailand and those in Central America deforested their forests and lost their biodiversity in order to plant African palms, bananas and pineapples, etc. or plants for biodiesel or first-world tourist resorts?
Access to technology and packages meets the interests and profits of big corporations, but not the local or regional needs linked with the promotion of development and new lifestyles. The effects of technology and the lack of legal controls promote new

forms of illicit enrichment and increase corruption, theft, prostitution, non-payment of taxes, etc.
The businessmen-politicians respond to import models and external consumption, and decision makers and the legal framework favor the interests of big businessmen and importers of goods and services. All legal, but immoral. Increasingly more wealth is concentrated in a few countries or with a few entrepreneurs or corporations that dominate the energy, cereal and meat markets, etc. and control food security, making people more dependent on the market leaders. Costa Rica has no army, but a war or drought in China, USA or Canada brings down the market or the supply of basic grains such as corn or wheat, which triggers a negative effect and raises the prices of other derivatives such as chicken meat, milk, bread, etc., which affects food security, malnutrition, and health, and strengthens the businesses of a few who speculate with people's hunger.
The lack of strategic planning and the lack of adoption of long-term plans result in short-term decisions based on political patronage every four years. There is no continuity in environmental policies; hydrographic basins and rivers are saturated with dams and hydroelectric projects that affect the migration of aquatic species and the connectivity between protected wild areas, which does not guarantee the conservation of biological diversity.
Finally, the biggest problem is the lack of adequate comprehensive planning; land use planning and the continuity of sustainable development actions in the short, medium and long terms, not only at governmental level, but throughout Central America and globally.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (Savage capitalism, neoliberal policies and the business of war.)]

COSTA RICA, S008

THE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES WILL DETERMINE CHANGES GLOBALLY AND REGIONALLY, WITH A PARTICULAR IMPACT ON THE QUALITY OF SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES, THUS DETERMINING GLOBAL CHANGES IN CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources]

JOSE MIGUEL RAMIREZ, SPAIN, S010

[12. Other, (The unsustainability of urban-rural relationships focused on the imbalance of urban energies and taking into account the patterns of strong migration to the cities.)]

Luiz Felipe Guanaes Rego, BRAZIL, S011

I think that the population growth linked to the dominant lifestyle has an excessive influence on land use and the reduction of forests, the pollution of watercourses, seas, the atmosphere and others. All this contributes to climate change.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles]

ECUADOR, S012

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1. It is reflected in climate variability.
2. The increase in the number of endangered species.
3. The expansion of agricultural frontiers.
4. It is evident in the existing carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere.
5. It is evident in the reduction of the amount of water in the aquifer.
6. It is evident in the increase in the population.
10. It is evident in the execution of the consumerist model per se by the inhabitants.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy]

Patricio Lozano, ECUADOR, S013

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1. In our case, the effects of climate change have wreaked havoc this year with heavy surges, heavy rains in desert areas that have caused landslides resulting in people dying and the destruction of houses and infrastructure, the increased temperature of the seas and the invasion of warm water species in the areas of the Humboldt current, among many other disasters that have become evident.
2. Biodiversity has been extensively and significantly affected in general on the planet, with many species having disappeared and others in constant danger of extinction, without the necessary measures for their protection being taken or met by those with the power and those committed to meeting citizens' demands in this regard.
4. Pollution in the cities with large populations continues its inexorable march toward a sustained increase, mainly due to the indiscriminate increase in mobile sources that cause vehicular congestion and the subsequent emission of particulate matter into the environment, either visibly or by photochemical smog, affecting people's health. But this has also spread to other cities, and its origin is clearly defined by the use of plant biomass as an element for food preparation or heating, which in turn results in deforestation that together with rain causes soil erosion due to the ground not being held together by the trees, which together with the rains and runoff causes floods and landslides affecting those same populations. Both situations lack political will or sufficient awareness from the citizens themselves. If this is not emphasized, the consequences will be that the

few mitigation measures available, implemented belatedly, will be inadequate.
9. Current measures against global warming will be absolutely ineffective if indeed there is no willingness of governments to respect the agreements generated. If the proposed goals and the implementation of mitigation measures and adaptability are not met, the effects of this process will be irreversible and it will endanger all species on the planet, especially those who have caused the problem without assuming its consequences, implying that the human race will suffer the same fate as the rest of the biosphere because this will disappear first, causing food shortages and thus famines and destructive wars, or because human beings will not be able to withstand resist the substantial increase in the temperatures on Earth.
11. One of the biggest problems, which in my opinion is in the genesis of all environmental problems, is forgetting the practice of ethics and the lack or deliberate omission of the is-ought consideration in each of the actions we undertake, on both renewable and non-renewable natural resources, considering these as if they were elements from an inexhaustible and neverending source without any scruples to apply the same procedures to our congeners. The lack of respect for ourselves and our environment by failing to establish parameters for its protection (we need to be aware that if it does not exist, we will suffer the same fate) is a principle that has not been properly addressed at any stage of the discussions, much less considered as it deserves to be in any of the discussions at any level of political decision-making: globally, nationally or locally. If we fail to apply ethics in environmental education as part of training in awareness of the problems caused by creating an artificial, invasive and destructive environment and not a harmonious one, the overcoming of poverty will not be achieved (more technocracy will not solve anything) and governments will squander their resources in efforts that will not have positive results because they are not planting in the fertile ground of human behavior.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society,]

JUAN CARLOS ARAYA, CHILE, S015

Something that currently has a significant impact on all processes of climate change is the change of land use, where in order to meet the economic demands of both immigrants and large corporations, different habitats are deforested significantly and extensively, which causes the loss of soil and forests, causing a great loss of biodiversity. This is particularly the case in the jungles and on the coastlines.
Regarding the Andes, both the sources of watersheds and the Andean wetlands are sources of numerous resources, and the vast majority are used for mining, both legal and illegal. They are therefore in the process of destruction. This, in return, endangers glaciers, sources of watersheds, relict forests and high Andean wetlands. Pitifully, the vast majority of the species are critically endangered and recognized as such by national and international authorities; their survival is at risk.
It is very sad to witness the huge amounts of money spent on coordination meetings regarding this issue of climate change when the only achievement was the invention of the sacred phrase: adaptation to climate change.
Our institution and all the partners and the huge number of beneficiaries (local and native communities) seek the best results and want to implement conservation strategies; these actions help to minimize climate change processes, so we believe in massive reforestation and the protection of areas as the immediate actions to implement, thus gaining time so that we can continue to find formulas and strategies that allow us not just to wait and adapt to climate change.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use,12. Other(Mining)]

Constantino Aucca Chutas, PERU, S016

Overpopulation, lifestyles based on unlimited consumption: Generates pollution and increases contamination, which results in the scarcity of resources and fighting over them, with an increasing arms race, wars and the mass migration of refugees.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, (Overpopulation, lifestyles based on unlimited consumption: Generates pollution and increases contamination, which results in the scarcity of resources and fighting over them, with an increasing arms race, wars and the mass migration of refugees.)]

Freddy Miranda Castro, COSTA RICA, S017

I believe that the greatest ecological problem is the change of land use because it causes the destruction of the natural environment, its alteration and a rise in pollution and population growth in some major centres.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

JOAQUIN ARROYO-CABRALES, MEXICO, S018

Really, all the problems are related synergistically and based on the assumption of the unsustained growth of the population that affects all the other problems by producing an increase in unsustainable land use and the overexploitation of natural and water resources for food, which puts pressure on biodiversity. All this is precipitated by an economic system based on infinite growth at all costs that affects lifestyles and governance. But all these problems, like climate change, could be solved with solutions based on mitigation and adaptation, with serious effects on humanity of course, but without causing its extinction. However, I think that the greater threat to humanity is environmental pollution, especially synthetic elements and in particular the global spread of drugs, affecting all human populations (and the rest of biodiversity) since the second half of the twentieth century. I believe this is the greatest risk because there may be no ability to adapt if a threshold value for toxicity is exceeded. So that will raise physiological problems (for example, chemical compounds with active hormones spread globally in water

and the air with effects on the functioning of organisms and ecosystems) and health problems (for example, the resistance of bacteria to antibiotics by overall exposure to them in water and the environment). In this sense, this situation has never previously occurred throughout history, so we cannot know whether we will be able to overcome this crisis, while the rest have been overcome as a species (climate changes, civilization crises due to resource depletion, etc.). Similarly, the growth of populations and consequently the excessive exploitation of the use of land and its resources could produce an increase in global conflicts with serious consequences thanks to the ability to use mass destruction measures with global capability (such as never before in history) based on the despair of the most disadvantaged populations and the need of the most privileged populations for self-defence.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Jose Rafael Garrido Lopez, SPAIN, S019

The problem of population growth and consumption levels exacerbates the other problems. The higher number of human beings means higher deforestation for food production, higher pollution of water resources and their associated resources, and a higher level of emissions of greenhouse gases. These factors put pressure on natural biodiversity and the shift patterns are very fast, so biodiversity adaptation and the processes associated with planet changes become impossible. Contamination, overexploitation, destruction and depletion of the planet's resources will generate serious conflicts over access to natural resources that could mean the annihilation of all life forms on the planet.
As citizens of the world, we must react by changing behaviours, customs, practices, policies and institutions that are not currently working. We need to create penalties and taxes, i.e. pay the value and not the price for what we are destroying, so that we will have a better perception of what it means to consume natural resources at the current rate.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Victor Roberti Vera Monge, PARAGUAY, S020

Basic water resources for every living creature. Unfortunately, societies in general do not admit their importance, let alone their value. In some countries, like Guatemala, the problem is not the amount of fresh water available; it is the lack of resource management together with the high contamination rates of rivers and other water sources.
A very important factor in our country is the lack of regulations that rule on the use and exploitation of water resources. It is therefore urgently needed to take corrective and preventive actions so that we can guarantee their quality for future generations, avoiding fresh water reduction. These actions shall be framed within an integral management approach to water resources. Coordinated efforts from all parties, local and central governments, the private sector, educational institutions and civil society shall prioritise the quality and quantity of water for human consumption and other uses through education, investments, mitigation of the negative impacts and the provision of regulations and tools so that all Guatemalans can contribute to achieving this target.
[5. Water Resources,]

GUATEMALA, S021

Climate change is not the main cause of environmental problems, rather it is the most notorious and shocking consequence on the environment. The primary causes of environmental disorders are malpractices of food production, land use changes, irrational extraction of groundwater, reduction of habitats and destruction of biodiversity.
These points are increased by the lack of political will, since the decision makers are guided more by subsidiary policies and short-term impact policies, without taking into account the negative impact on the natural ecosystems.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

MEXICO, S023

The environmental crisis that currently exists and that we have been carrying with us since last century is caused by excessive and disorderly growth without considering that we live in a finite space that is attempting to support this pace of life. Small continued aggressions can cause the collapse of the system. It is like the theory of the rivets of an airplane: if a plane loses a screw, it is almost certain that nothing will happen; if it loses two, it is probably the same, but what if it loses one thousand screws? It is possible that some of these thousand screws, or many of them, are essential for the operation of the aircraft. Well, let's swap the screws for species and the plane for the planet, and we have a perfect simile. However, the planet and its operation go beyond the number of species. There are also geophysical processes that are essential for the adequate thermoregulation of the earth and abiotic components, etc. Accordingly, development without taking all these factors into account is causing a biodiversity crisis that may affect the habitability of the planet.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

SPAIN, S024

Because of our human nature, we perceive what acts on our senses. For this reason, we are able to perceive only the environmental problems that occur in our immediate surroundings, such as our city or the places to which we travel.
However, we only perceive what affects the global environment when its effects are felt in our region or our immediate en-

vironment.
The environmental problems are produced by the sum of all the small actions of each member of humanity: actions that at first glance seem appropriate because we do not notice any immediate effect. However, all these numerous actions added up over time cause serious and deep damage to the global environment.
The continued population growth, its progressive concentration in large urban centres and industrial development cause more environmental problems every day. The presence of substances (waste, pesticides, sewage) of human origin in the environment causes alterations in the structure and functioning of ecosystems.
Another major cause of environmental contamination is air pollution caused by motor vehicles. Environmental contamination is extremely important for human survival, which is being affected by various pollutant factors that generate high-risk consequences for our planet and kill our resources without consideration every day.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures,12. Other(Cycles of phosphorus and nitrogen - ocean acidification - thinning of the ozone layer - deforestation)]

Norberto Ovando, ARGENTINA, S025

Climate change is today's most profound issue. It is an indicator of the need for a systemic approach once determined by the model of economic development, consumer lifestyles, indiscriminate use of fossil fuels and toxic agriculture, the way societies are organised and land use. Fighting climate change is essential to human life. The planet will continue, but the human race is in danger.
Biodiversity is a consequence of climate imbalance. A forest without animals is sick, and its days are numbered. The question of pollination is related to food for humans. Nature needs half the world.
Birth rates are still very high. It is not possible to have good quality food and water resources for billions of people whilst maintaining continuous growth. The poorest have the largest number of children, heading into a future of hunger and suffering. Education still continues to be the most dignified and humane way to determine the number of children related to the economic system and the services with which nature provides us.
Lifestyles need to contemplate nature, that is, the future of the coming generations.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

BRAZIL, S026

At present, and possibly throughout history, the main concern of human society regarding the environment is not the survival of our race and much less of what is believed in our population growth. The greatest concern is represented by the ambition of power and wealth: a matrix that can only be developed on the contempt and unlimited exploitation of nature and our fellow man. As a result, the present and future sustainability of human society on the planet is closely linked to the mitigation and reduction of ambition as a motor of history.
If we are able to limit incest to a negligible minimum and if we are able to share knowledge of current human socialization, then we will also be able to set limits on our particular interests and promote the common good.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Fernando Ardura, Fundacion Habitat y Desarrollo, ARGENTINA, S027

We live in a very difficult era. Global warming is more evident every day, and the part of the world living in the so-called “comfort zone” seems not to understand.
The political situation is very tense, and it seems that soon serious conflicts will begin between countries as a result of the decrease in water resources.
We hope that the oil era will come to an end, and that in a few years we will start to see new sources of more harmonious renewable energy.
We must join forces among all the people who are aware of what is happening. In our organization, we called the action “The power of one.”
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

Luis Diego Marin Schumacher, COSTA RICA, S028

Our planet is at risk due to the primacy of the countries in a concept of a development-based economy, with no regard for the exhaustion of natural ecosystems and the overuse of natural resources, unaware of their reproductive cycle and ecological value. It is worrying that our governments look to the planet or territory without considering the limits and exhaustion of natural resources. Accordingly, the extinction of biodiversity, the intensive progress of land use and climate change are the obvious consequences of the current rulers' systems.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 11. Environment and Society, (Compliance with environmental measures)]

Vidal Rondan Ramirez, PERU, S031

In Latin American countries, the ENVIRONMENT is not normally on the agenda, and therefore it is not given due attention

(limited financial and human resources). As a result, the degradation of ecosystems and the devaluation of their importance are observed in many countries. In the case of Venezuela, the environmental institutions have unfortunately been lost in recent years. As a result, environmental laws are not respected, such as those that indicate the obligation to carry out environmental impact studies for development projects. Currently, the national government (Decree 2248, Official Gazette 40,855 dated February 24, 2016) aims to develop a mining megaproject covering an area of approx. 111,000 square kilometres that includes several protected areas. If you check the mining macro-project in Orinoco's Arch online, you can verify the amount of information that currently exists that opposes this project.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food]

VENEZUELA, S033

Agribusiness invaded the world, and it is wreaking havoc on nature, denaturing society for money thanks to the appetite for seeking more gain at any price.
[3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society,12. Other(Use of agrochemicals, hybrid and transgenic seeds (technological package of agribusiness))]

Urbelinda Ferrufino Arnez, BOLIVIA, S034

It is important to recognize that we are facing a major problem, and a major solution is required. We must change our lifestyles in order to ensure that the current components of our environment (biodiversity, soil, water, etc.) do not continue to be affected, or at least to reduce the rate of deterioration so that future generations can continue not only to appreciate these components, but also to sustain life.
For now, these measures should already be focusing on mitigation and adaptation. Unfortunately, there are places where mitigation is not possible or mitigation must be undertaken elsewhere because the effects of climate change are everywhere, particularly in more vulnerable countries where there are oceans, wetlands, deserts, high mountains, high concentrations of people, glaciers etc., for example in Chile. Although we are not big emitters of CO2, we receive the impact of these consequences. Not only at the global or regional level, this also happens at the local level, where small actions such as changing land use for urban extension, for example, which causes the filling of several hectares per year of wetlands in our inter-commune (formed by 10 communes) and heavy rain, restricted in time and accentuated by global climate change, affect communities locally through flooding, as there is no infiltration or runoff.
It is time for policies at the local, regional, national and global level to change and shift toward sustainable development. Not understood as the interrelation of the economy, society and the environment, but the environment or nature must form the basis for the development of society and the economy.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHILE, S035

The loss of biodiversity on our planet is the result of the sum of all the negative actions that man has undertaken to promote growth and economic development.
Land use, and especially the change in land use, promoting the alteration of forests from protection and conservation into areas of agricultural use or urban development constitutes a major adverse effect on the loss of biodiversity. It is also one of the main causes of environmental deterioration and ecological degradation suffered by our regions, and consequently our planet. This situation is one of the main effects that have caused climate change and many other environmental conflicts that directly affect the health of the planet.
The environment and the economy is one of the combinations that have been helping to solve and have collaborated in the adaptation and mitigation of the effects precipitated by climate change. It is important, in view of the seriousness of the crisis affecting our natural resources, that society can identify, value and gain awareness of the ecosystem services provided by natural ecosystems.
The measures against global warming that are available to us are mainly related to adaptation aspects to the phenomena that result from such warming. Mitigation factors also help, however they cannot reverse the problem.
Water resources are greatly affected by global warming, population growth, land use, and the significant loss of biodiversity. It is not only about the exhaustion or decrease of resources, but also their contamination.
[,2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

YUBER RODRIGUEZ SANTAMARIA, COSTA RICA, S036

All items (1 to 11) are correlated and show the results of the same situation from different angles. I would emphasize the source of the problem, a real lack of political will to change.
[12. Other(Real governmental policies with conservation targets)]

Veronica Cirelli, ARGENTINA, S037

Climate change severely affecting the highlands of Arequipa. Formerly, villagers knew when the rain or frost seasons would

occur. That has now changed. It affects the productive activities of the people in both the agricultural and the livestock sectors. Another problem is the effects that climate change has on the daily lives of people, for example in high areas, temperatures in winter are very low, reaching -10 degrees Celsius, while in the lowlands radiation levels continue to rise, reaching an ultraviolet radiation index of 16. Two years ago, the government in our country initiated activities to prevent and combat the effects of climate change. But this process is very slow.
[1. Climate Change]

Julio Contreras, PERU, S039

The first three items (1, 2, and 3) are linked to each other because they are basically very synergistic. The change of land use destroys or modifies habitats that are highly significant for species, so a reduction in their numbers occurs. This modification of land use is brought about by urban and recreational development linked to an increased population with the consequent demand for resources and the resulting industrial and urban contamination, which in turn requires more water due to the loss of water resources by over-exploitation (especially industrial mining activities and extensive forestry activities, among others). Finally, one might note that the rate of these changes has increased significantly, and that they are related to our consumerist lifestyles.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

Juan Carlos ORTIZ, CHILE, S041

I live in the city of Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil. In this city, the main problem is pollution and contamination of the city piping system. As Manaus is a city with little greenery, the weather is very hot, causing headaches, forcing us to remain indoors in air conditioned premises. Added to this is the fact that we are now suffering the consequences of El Niño.
Although there is strong environmentalist legislation, this does not discourage people from deforesting to occupy natural areas for the construction of their homes.
The government encourages people to have more children to earn an allowance called the family bag. More people have a greater impact on natural resources.
In short, from my perspective there should be a strong birth control program. We must work hard in education to restore the link between man and nature. Environmental problems must be addressed from early childhood so that we create citizens who are conscious of their responsibilities to the planet. In this regard, work must be undertaken in environmental education, ecological literacy and science education in the early years of education in school.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society, (Corruption, bribery - Permits for pharaonic works in the Amazon without due compliance with environmental laws)]

BRAZIL, S043

Agricultural and mineral products, which are commodities traded on major stock markets around the world, point to the growing and sustained deterioration of the environment.
[,2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Esteban O. Lavilla, ARGENTINA, S044

I have pointed out the problems resulting from our lifestyles, which are closely linked to the economic model of the exploitation and management of natural resources. If we do not urgently apply new, more sustainable models regarding the use and consumption of resources, the very existence of the human race on the biosphere is in danger.
Undoubtedly, one of the priorities of action is to educate and encourage the different social actors to be participants and protagonists of this change. In this regard, it is crucial that education taught in universities incorporates these approaches. University students will be the leaders of tomorrow, and will decide on the future of the world. This is why all students of all faculties: economics, law, medicine, engineering, etc., must receive basic training in sustainability.
[8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Javier Benayas, SPAIN, S045

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1. The changes in the cycle of the seasons greatly affect the flora and fauna cycle; consequently, production and productivity suffer as well.
2. If we do not stop the extinction of species on the planet, we will struggle to ensure our own survival as human beings. Although we do not stress this enough, our lives depend not only on other human beings, but on the interaction between all the planet's biodiverse elements.
3. Economic rationality based solely on the accumulation of monetary wealth by the exploitation of natural resources is leading to the destruction of the planet, because we are forcing nature to implement inadequate changes, so the result will be desertification, and we will not survive in these deserts.
4. There have been many products invented that help us to improve living conditions in principle, but we have forgotten to "invent" strategies that, whilst improving our living conditions, do not destroy the material conditions that guarantee our existence.
5. Water is a vital nutrient, and it is necessary to establish a strong and strategic policy for the management of resources. It is necessary to reassess and recover the ancestral knowledge of peoples who have exploited this resource sustainably before the

ambition for enrichment from the unbridled exploitation of natural resources leads us to extinction. No water, no life.
6. Strategic planning for demographic distribution on the planet is necessary, and it means breaking through territorial barriers.
7. In a globalized world, there is the possibility of sharing food diets that do not overexploit certain products, thereby diversifying production and consumption.
8. Political and environmental education to generate new lifestyles is required.
9. It is essential to share the experiences of mitigation and adaptation in order to replicate them worldwide and obtain the assistance of everyone to address climate change.
10. Facing the consequences of climate change requires not only environmental awareness and changes in attitudes and lifestyles. It is also necessary to perform economic/financial investments to develop mitigation and adaptation practices, for which national states should identify their costs and the corresponding financial compensation for all.
11. National states should include in their social policies the environmental variable for all to become aware of CC, and to be able to make decisions with equality and equity from an engendered and intercultural perspective.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Yolanda Ramirez Villacorta, PERU, S046

Climate change: This phenomenon is affecting southern Honduras. Its effects are evident in the loss of beaches, recurrent episodes of drought and high temperature levels. Farmers and fishermen obtain less food, exacerbating food insecurity problems. State assistance and programs are not aimed at providing sustainable solutions.
Biodiversity: Protected areas are under strong pressure from industry and monocultures. Many species are being displaced and their habitats are being destroyed to make way for shrimp farms and extractive industries.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

Saul Montufar, HONDURAS, S047

As indicated by the EEM, the degradation of ecosystems is the main environmental problem facing the planet, and it generates a snowball effect catalysing climate change, food insecurity and lack of fresh water, etc.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources]

Lindsay Canet Desanti, COSTA RICA, S048

The terms of environmental issues such as biodiversity loss (genes, species and ecosystems), climate change, processes of soil degradation, deforestation and pollution of the air, rivers and oceans, have also generated interrelated economic and social problems.
The deterioration of ecosystems in vast regions of the planet is the result of industrialization processes and technological development under paradigms that support contemporary societies, particularly under the rationality of the capitalist production model.
In addition, in most “developing” countries there are huge inequalities; we live in an increasingly uncaring and deeply unequal world, where those who have less barely survive, while those who have more consume most of the planet's resources.
Contemporary humans, more than at any stage of our history, has disconnected from our status of “humanity.” Human beings are seen as the means rather than as the ends of production.
The highest expressions of humanism and culture in our societies are obscured and degraded by the most aberrant expressions of that same humanity: human trafficking, child abuse, disguised slavery, forced prostitution and poverty, etc.
All of these conditions of global ecological problems, plus the degradation of human societies, are a complex problem that makes it difficult to visualize a brighter future for our race.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Beatriz Romero, MEXICO, S049

Despite the efforts, these(climeta change, biovidersity, water resource) remain isolated.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources]

MEXICO, S050

I understand that the environmental problem is not an isolated item, but everything is related. My idea is that from this relationship established between the different items, I indicate which ones I am more concerned about.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources,12. Other]

Maria Inmaculada Romero Bujan, SPAIN, S051

The change in land use, promoted by monocultures (e.g. the cultivation of the African palm) and extractive activities such as mining, have put forests and associated environmental services seriously at risk. These activities have led to the contamination of many water sources, limiting local communities' access to these resources. Negative effects on communities are also reflected in changes in their lifestyles and lack of food sovereignty.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

GUATEMALA, S053

I worry about all these problems that are linked to a lack of vision and control of the direction that humanity must take and the lack of compromise that the economic and governmental sectors still show by refusing to consider the environment as a natural asset. Instead, they keep betting above all on economic growth and the exploitation of resources, and in particular maintaining low standards of education and the preparation of society and maintaining structural problems of poverty to continue perpetuating the current economic model.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

MEXICO, S054

I believe that in the country, the problem of water resource depletion continues to worsen, caused by the loss of forests (deforestation), changes in land use and pollution, among other things.
This situation leads to the accelerated loss of ecosystems and resources, thereby increasing poverty and diseases.
We need changes in the lifestyles of the population, production and consumption.
[-]

EL SALVADOR, S055

The actions on climate change are barely visible.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

Danilo Salas, PARAGUAY, S058

As president of the Foundation for Nature and Mankind, I am worried about the general loss of biodiversity and the deterioration of the environment. We are causing the destruction of natural habitats and the extinction of thousands of species by abandoning traditional skills, such as animal husbandry and agriculture, and by exploiting natural resources on a large scale.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles]

SPAIN, S056

The items show related environmental changes. A change in any one of these will directly influence one or many of the others. For this reason, an integral approach is needed to address them, taking into account their impact on the different elements of the system.
Sustainability, which seems to solve those problems long term, must be evaluated within the context of constant population growth and an economical model that proposes continuous and infinite growth. Both variables make the implementation of sustainability and its viability a very difficult solution.
Thus, the implementation of an economical system that reflects the environmental and social costs that stem from environmental problems is vital to taking action that transforms the current world view.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

MEXICO, S057

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3. What worries me the most is the changes in land use, as this modification of the natural cover of the territory has been caused by urban growth, the need to devote more areas for food production, pastures for cattle and the need to allocate new areas of tourism development on the coastlines and on sites of natural and cultural interest.
1. Climate change. The effects of climate change are of concern in coastal and inland areas due to rising sea levels; stronger hurricanes affecting the tropical East Pacific (Baja California Peninsula) and prolonged droughts in these desert areas. Mangroves and dunes, natural systems that dampen these weather events, are being modified and rapidly destroyed, leaving vulnerable coastal communities.
5. Mexico's aquifers are being over-exploited at a greater rate, and therefore they are doomed to be subject to saltwater intrusion in coastal areas and to be destroyed, even though they are the most important natural resource for human development.
4. General contamination is also a concern that is increasing every day and reverts to a minimum percentage.
[-]

Antonio Cantu Diaz Barriga, MEXICO, SP01

Water:
This resource will be subject to disputes at the national and international levels in the medium term.
Population:
Due to the differences in birth rates, it will be difficult to avoid conflicts.
Climate Change:
There is much effort in this direction because it implies the sale of technology (this is not bad), and in the end we will adapt.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Ramon ALVARADO QUIRÓS, PANAMA, SP02

I believe global warming is a consequence of climate change, reflected in higher temperature levels caused by the greenhouse effect. This effect is triggered by the rising amount of emissions released to the atmosphere.
[1. Climate Change]

Tom Orbe , ECUADOR, SP03

One concern that must be considered is land consumption with regard to borrow sites, in particular for road projects and the construction of other large structures.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures]

BOKO S. Jacques-Marie, BENIN, F001

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1. Hunger is dehumanizing. Humanity should ensure that there are no men, women and especially children who are dying of hunger (preventing wars, bad policies and bad leaders…)
Ensure the equitable distribution of wealth.
2. The Western world and developed countries must therefore change their lifestyles. There is too much waste in the North, while people are starving to death in the South.
Economic (the markets) and social policies that widen the gap between the rich and the poor even further.
3. The developed, rich and polluting countries should reward at fair value the efforts of countries with forests that ensure the preservation of biodiversity and carbon segregation.
[7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, F002

In addition to the first three environmental problems mentioned, here we must add pollution and contamination (encompassing lifestyle and nutritional problems) and actions concerning global warming (including anthropogenic impacts of population).
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures]

GUINEA, F003

We are in a very difficult period with regard to environmental problems. We must become aware of the destruction of our habitat resulting from the mishandling of assets. We must think of the future and bequeath the property received from our ancestors to our descendants, thereby changing our way of life today to adopt principles and habits that allow positive evolution in a healthy environment. This realization will enable our children to have a better future.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Other]

CAMEROON, F004

The biggest current problems lie in the fact that population growth is rapid, and also in the lack of space. There is therefore a direct impact on all living things (erosion of biodiversity) and space (abiotic) which leads to extremely disturbing global changes such as climate change, the exodus of refugees and other factors.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

Mourad Ahmim, ALGERIA, F005

Very engaged in aspects related to the fight against global warming through the IPCC and COP21, I am aware of the advances made by the Paris Agreement but am extremely concerned that the measures envisaged by various countries are far from adequate in relation to the 2°C objective (and much less with respect to 1.5°C). I am also extremely concerned by biodiversity, whose loss, which is already very worrying, is at risk of being exacerbated by global warming.
[-]

FRANCE, F006

There is almost a 1:1 correlation between population increase and ambient CO2 levels. Before failure of a species, population levels often rise & then resources run out, & another species takes over
[6. Population]

FRANCE, F008

As a citizen of a Sahelian country, I think that climate change issues are of the utmost concern. We are suffering the consequences of the actions of developed polluting countries.
In these Sahelian countries, which rely mainly on agriculture, livestock and fisheries, no one can control what will happen tomorrow. We must act very quickly if we wish to save life in this area of the world, this part of humanity.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food]

Famory Jean Baptiste KAMISSOKO, MALI, F009

Although they cut across all these environmental problems, questions of deficits in knowledge and actors' capacities, the new generation of reliable knowledge in connection with the problems to be addressed, and the learning and appropriation of good practices must also not be hidden in the search for solutions.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

BURKINA FASO, F010

I think that the abovementioned problems sufficiently raise the concerns of our communities. However, it is important for us that the emphasis is placed on land degradation and the desertification of our forests, which are real concerns here in Mali.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 12. Other(land degradation)]

Ali M. BOCOUM, MALI, F011

There are cases in which the countries that are victims of the exploitation of their resources fail to counteract international mining firms. It is necessary to establish an international environmental advocacy to support these developing countries in the fight against these mining firms.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, (Industrial and artisanal mining)]

Patrick RANIRISON, MADAGASCAR, F012

The problems relating to the environment are closely linked to mankind and its way of managing resources. There is a lot of wastage and wanton loss of resources. The stakes are huge at a global level and have repercussions at the regional, national and local levels. Politics is dominant and creates differences between countries, and the future of humanity is threatened by the overexploitation of resources. If governments do not implement the decisions taken at world conferences, the danger will increase and the harm to the future of humanity will become irreparable. Wisdom must prevail to the detriment of politics mishandled by countries' leaders.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

MOROCCO, F013

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Other(We must consider the importance of oceans for our survival; for the overall balance of the planet, as a solution to new industries, provided that the development that follows is sustainable.)]

VALLETTE Philippe, FRANCE, F014

This opinion relates to the case of the DRC, a country where I have worked since 2013. The most pressing environmental problems confronting the DRC can be analyzed, in my opinion, in terms of pollution/contamination of land, land use, environment and society, and finally climate change.
Firstly, the country has an abundance of mineral resources, which attracts thousands of mining companies that exploit these riches without respecting the specifications imposed to protect the environment. Moreover, the controversial project that exploits the oil in the Virunga National Park raises fear of the heavy pollution and contamination of this protected space.
There is also strong pressure on land due to the fact that armed gangs control parts of the territory, in particular the eastern part (Katanga, North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri), preventing people from peacefully managing land under their control. Consequently, land that is not under the control of the armed gangs is subject to extremely intensive use.
Similarly, environmental education is essential to make people understand the major environmental challenges facing the DRC. A clear environmental policy on the part of leaders cannot be seen.
The final challenge is analyzed in terms of global warming, which adversely affects the distribution of rainfall over time and space.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 11. Environment and Society]

SOMDA Joel, BURKINA FASO, F015

My concern is largely related to the health of the marine environment. Marine biodiversity is threatened by overfishing and pollution, but sources of food for humans are also at risk due to the disappearance of some fish species.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, 12. Other(Overfishing Coastal construction)]

FRETEY Jacques, FRANCE, F016

In the case of our country, there is a strong interdependence between biodiversity and land use. As a result of the significant needs of the population (primary needs: food, shelter, …), biodiversity is an easy resource to exploit and use. The political

problem accentuates this fact, thus leading to a rapid degradation of biodiversity. Poverty in our country is mainly linked to politicians.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

MADAGASCAR, F020

It is man himself who creates environmental problems. Natural resources and biodiversity can exist without man. In other words, they do not need man, but man needs them. Climate change is a major concern because its impact can reach a global scale.
In my opinion, the local economy in areas with sensitive natural environments must be developed (e.g. creation of infrastructure, roads, …) to manage environmental problems.
It is always the weak, the destitute and the poor who are the victims of environmental problems. I find that unfair.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

MADAGASCAR, F021

In the case of Burundi, there are demographic explosion which is accompanied by the scarcity of resources (undernourishment of the population). Also the phenomena of climate changemments are not controlled.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 7. Food]

Athanase Mbonimpa, BURUNDI, F022

In addition to its abundance of rosewood, Madagascar is almost entirely covered with different types of precious stones. On this large island, the law is not being enforced, hence the reason for the rampant and unlawful operations in the country. No sanctions have been applied. As a result, many forest formations have been destroyed. On top of climate change, this will have significant and unavoidable consequences for biodiversity, the population, agriculture and farming, nutrition and the economy. In addition, resources for taking action against global warming do not exist. This will create a major challenge for our country.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society, (Rampant and unlawful mining operations)]

MADAGASCAR, F024

Climate change, land deterioration (farmland, pastoral areas, etc.) and the reduction of surface water resources in the Sahel region are among the current environmental issues.
In addition to these environmental issues and also as a consequence of climate change, the region is experiencing an increase in extreme rainfall conditions. This rise in extreme rainfall is linked to risks and natural disasters such as increasingly recurrent floods.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

Mahamadou Bahari, NIGER, F025

In recent decades, we have observed a staggering rise in the number of invasive plant and animal species that are invading territories foreign to them. They are thriving at the expense of local species. The introduction of these generally harmful species can cause significant ecological risks, because their presence alters the normal functioning of the ecosystem.
This phenomenon is mainly due to the globalization of trade, which, since its existence, has led to the spread of many plant and animal species throughout the world.
The growth in international trade and tourism is also responsible for the introduction of some exotic species.
Finally, today we can say that global warming encourages the presence of invasive species. It can also be seen as a major cause of the geographical movement of both plant and animal species. In fact, animals and plants are fleeing their native habitats, which are being modified due to climate change.
This scourge, which at first glance appears banal, represents the third cause of the decline and extinction of species, after the destruction of their habitat and the excessive extraction and overexploitation of resources.
In the Mediterranean Sea, a total of 1,000 non-native species can be identified. These species represent 13 phyla. Molluscs are the largest phylum (216 species), followed by fish (127 species), plants (124 species) and crustaceans (106 species).
Non-native species in the Mediterranean belong to all groups: fish, invertebrates, algae…
Some of these species are causing irreversible damage and are even responsible for the disappearance of native species.
[12. Other(Invasive species)]

SEDDIK Mohamed nejib, TUNISIA, E430

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6. Population
Pressure from demography is for me cause and impacts of global concerns, then is a self-censorship about this issue in United Nations and in most of national politics. Most researches exclude this driver.
7. Food
This is as important for Southern or as for Northern countries developed or developing countries.

11. Environment and Society
It is ethical, educational issues.
[-]

Martin Mare-Antonie, FRANCE, FP01

Personal opinion
Management is about anticipation, hence the environmental problems stated above are key problems in my country. Climate change is a major and crucial challenge. This is coupled with biodiversity, which is a niche, an asset for a society and contributes efficiently to socio-economic development through eco-tourism, the appreciation of natural resources and many other advantages with which some countries are overflowing. However, this biodiversity is faced with threats and is diminishing more and more. Measures must be taken to stop or otherwise reduce these harmful effects. Consequently, an environmental awakening among individuals and society is required, in addition to progress in environmental education, by providing the means necessary.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 10. Environment and Economy]

Parait Charleston, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, FP02

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2. Biodiversity: We need to maintain biodiversity.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 7. Food]

CHINA, C-002

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4. Environmental Pollution: I hope we can pay special attention to the environment and protect it.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-003

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4. Environmental Pollution: All countries must enhance their efforts to prevent environmental pollution and cannot leave it to chance.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Wang Liyong, CHINA, C-004

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4. Environmental pollution: all countries need to enhance their efforts against environmental pollution and shall not count on luck.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-005

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4. Environmental Pollution: The environment is polluted because of human activities and everyone should increase their awareness about protecting the environment.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 7. Food]

CHINA, C-006

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4. Environmental Pollution: The environment is polluted because of human activities and everyone should increase their awareness about protecting the environment.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-007

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7. Food: Chinese people are continuing a slow suicide by manufacturing unnatural food.
[7. Food]

CHINA, C-008

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4. Environmental Pollution: Everybody is responsible for protecting the environment.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-009

Increased measures are necessary to protect the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Yang You, CHINA, C-011

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11. Environment and Society: We should strengthen legislation that mandates people's behavior.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 11. Environment and Society]

Xia Tian, CHINA, C-014

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4. Environmental Pollution: More efforts are needed to protect the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

Zhang Tong, CHINA, C-015

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4. Environmental Pollution: It is crucial to communicate the importance of environmental problems.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

CHINA, C-017

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4. Environmental Pollution: There are too many habits that pollute the environment, which also harms humans.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-018

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11. Environment and Society: Humans and the environment are continuously interacting, which results in environmental problems.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Ma Le, CHINA, C-019

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11. Environment and Society: The government should place strict controls on businesses creating pollution.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-021

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11. Environment and Society: Everybody is responsible for protecting the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-025

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4. Environmental Pollution: Protect the environment and use ecological knowledge to regain clean air and water resources that benefit sustainable development.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-028

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4. Environmental Pollution: It is closely related to everyone's life.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food]

CHINA, C-029

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4. Environmental Pollution: It is mainly caused by the pollution created by businesses, which shall be solved first.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-030

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4. Environmental Pollution: It is mainly caused by the pollution created by businesses, which shall be solved first.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-031

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11. Environment and Society: Strengthen legislation and be strict with law enforcement.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-035

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3. Land Utilization: The reasonable utilization of land is also important, because of severe desertification, a dense population, and industrial land and control on the land shall be reinforced;
4. Environmental Pollution: I think environmental pollution is very extreme now and has threatened the health and lives of the people;
5. Water Resources: Water resources have always been an important environmental problem and fresh water resources have always been insufficient. I think everyone should save water and the government should work harder to promote the importance of saving water.

[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-038

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11. Environment and Society: Create a good social environment and construct a harmonious people-oriented society.
[11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-039

They are all closely related to human activities.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-040

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4. Environmental Pollution: Now the natural environment is being damaged in an unprecedentedly way by humans and we should work together to protect our home.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-042

Water pollution is first, then environmental pollution is next.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-044

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8. Lifestyle: Lifestyle might have a huge impact, and most of which is negative.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-045

It is imperative to protect the environment and there is no time to delay.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

Ren Deling, CHINA, C-046

The key is the environmental pollution, the source of other problems, so we need to address the cause.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Chen Limin, CHINA, C-048

It is the duty and responsibility of everyone to protect the environment and we should start with the small things.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-050

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5. Water Resources: Drinkable water resources are becoming smaller and smaller.
[5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-051

Each family plays an important role in human progress and social change and is its driving force. Therefore, we should improve the general conditions of each family and allow them to realize their practical significance and great influence on environmental protection. Each family shall work together and be encouraged to improve their habits in all aspects of their lives, to conserve energy and to protect the environment through their actions.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-052

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10. Environment and Economy: Economic development shall depend on sustainable development paths, rather than treatment after control. We should coexist with the environment and nature.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-053

Everybody should do their part confronting environmental problems.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 7. Food]

CHINA, C-057

Population, water, and weather are interacting with each other. The environmental elements are very important, requiring urgent protection and control.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population]

Yue Yue, CHINA, C-058

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8. Lifestyle: Protect the environment and let the laws of nature play their part.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

CHINA, C-060

Stop all activities that are damaging the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-064

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1. Climate Change: China's sandstorms are very severe, which seriously affects the mental and physical health of people and require urgent improvement.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-065

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4. Environmental Pollution: The pollution is extensive and everybody is responsible for the environmental problems.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-069

Humans should be responsible for environmental problems.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-072

There is so much garbage.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 6. Population]

CHINA, C-073

I hope effective monitoring methods can be made, which will prevent, to a large degree, businesses from damaging the environment.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-074

We should ask the entire world to protect the environment and preserve life.
[1. Climate Change, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-080

People damage the environment, without any protection from reprucussions, resulting in global warming and air pollution. Furthermore, food is becoming worse. All of these things make people very worried about the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food]

Xie Fan, CHINA, C-082

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6. Population: Population quality and unbalanced development leads to difficulties in solving environmental problems.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food]

CHINA, C-083

Everybody is responsible for protecting the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-087

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11. Environment and Society: We hope to improve the environment and increase punishments for violating relevant laws and regulations.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-091

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6. Population: Low population quality and unbalanced development make it difficult to solve environmental problems.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-092

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4. Environmental Pollution: We should implement great ecological construction efforts and environmental improvement projects to effectively curb the trands in ecological and environmental deterioration.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-094

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4. Environmental Pollution: We should wisely dispose of waste created from urban businesses and recycle natural resources.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-095

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5. Water Resources: Serious water pollution damages not only the environment but also the life source of humanity. We should take the following concrete measures to change the current situation: First, perfect related laws and regulations; second, strengthen the protection on the sources of drinking water; third, establish urban waste water treatment systems; and last, strengthen the planning and management of water resources.
[5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-096

People are reluctant to protect the environment. Even though they know the meaning of environmental protection, they do not think their behaviors have a significant influence, but most daily behavoirs do damage the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-099

I am not sure whether environmental changes are the side-effect of economic development and if protecting the environment is the only solution.
[10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-100

People should care about environmental problems.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-101

People should care about environmental problems.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-103

Environmental protection shall rely on comprehensive legislation.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-104

Protect the environment and use low-carbon travel.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-108

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5. Water Resources: Water source pollution.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-109

We should really pay close attention to this issue.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

CHINA, C-110

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11. Environment and Society: Environmental pollution is a serious problem and it is necessary to improve the quality of everything.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-112

The root problem in China is not the lack of laws and regulations, but weak executive power.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-113

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4. Environmental Pollution: Protect the environment.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

CHINA, C-114

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4. Environmental Pollution: It is caused by humans pursuing economic growth that greatly damages the environment. If we want to improve the environment, we need to start with large- and medium-sized enterprises and spare no effort with environmental monitoring. We want both fortune and forests.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-115

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4. Environmental Pollution: We need to love our homeland from the bottom of our hearts.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-118

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11. Environment and Society: The main reason is that the laws are not perfect and cannot be fully implemented. If we want to completely change the situation, we should change the people's mindset by reading more books and newspapers to improve awareness about environment protection.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-120

Environmental Pollution: Advocate for green travel.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food]

Mr. Li, CHINA, C-121

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4. Environmental Pollution: The environmental problems should be solved with our joint efforts.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-122

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4. Environmental Pollution: We should adopt related measures to prevent environmental pollution.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-123

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4. Environmental Pollution: Protect the environment
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources]

Wang Hua, CHINA, C-124

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4. Environmental Pollution: Perhaps we should have more new energy vehicles.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

CHINA, C-125

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4. Environmental Pollution: We should pay attention to and attempt to tackle the obvious influences.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-130

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11. Environment and Society: We should vigorously advocate for awareness about protecting the environment.
[11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-131

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4. Environmental Pollution: We should strengthen supervision and governance.

[4. Pollution /Contamination]

Duan Benle, CHINA, C-132

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4. Environmental Pollution: Everybody is responsible for protecting the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-133

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1. More efforts to advocate for the importance of environmental protection are needed. We should start with the education of people, improving their ideological understandings as well as basic qualities that will help them grow important awareness about sustainable development and green agriculture. Only in pollution-free ecological environments can we produce green food and ensure people's health and economic development. Modernization has to include both living environments and ecology and we need to realize the strategic value of comprehensive measures against environmental pollution in our modernization efforts.
2. We must develop laws and regulations. Counties and towns should form concrete policies and regulations with the aimof portecting people's health and environments, such as regulations to standardize environmental health, residential land, water quality protection, and the central treatment of waste water. We should strictly enforce laws and against pollution and request related departments to thoroughly implement and supervise them. Related departments should make intermittent inspections and investigate those responsible for polluting the soil and water, destroying the forests and vegetation and nip these problems in the bud.
3. Curb pollution at its source. We should adopt the necessary measures to prevent the use of white plastic foam and the disposal and burying of pesticide containers, make waste disposal harmess to humans, animals, etc., construct cesspools and biogas digesters and establish waste water treatment stations in rural areas. In short, we should classify garbage and recycle it, produce fertilizers using organic waste, classify inorganic waste in order to recycle waste with value and simplify the treatment of garbage that cannot be recycled.
4. We should enhance the management of insecticides. Special warehouses should be set up to store pesticide for large area of lands and special staff should be appointed to monitor the status of pests. Meanwhile, we should gradually manage insects using their natural enemies and gently pursuade people to reduce the pollution caused by using too many pesticides.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

Jiao Dongjian, CHINA, C-134

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5. Water Resources. First, we should save water; second, we should actively deal with polluted water sources; third, we should recycle waste water resources; fourth, we should use water resources resonably.
[5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-135

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3. Land Utilization. First, we should make publicity to educate people; second, we should perfect the laws and regulations; third, we should strengthen our technical research; fourth, we should accelerate changes in the industrial structure.
[3. Land Use]

CHINA, C-136

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4. Environment
China’s environmental pollution has drawn the attention of many parties, but what damage will be caused to the environment by the things we are doing now? Do the masses still not know what concrete things can be done to protect the environment? On one hand, businesses do not know the consequences of producing pollution and what kind of technologies can solve that. On the other hand, most people do not know they can do, or what kind of alternative products can be used to help reduce environmental pollution. For example, we say that batteries will pollute the environment, but how many people exactly know this? Even if some people know, how will they deal with batteries? This is a problem for many people. Therefore, I think popularizing environmental knowledge is very important, including causes of environmental pollution and how to avoid or to improve them, general knowledge and specialized knowledge. For example, current Chinese businesses would like to learn advanced foreign concepts and technologies, but most could not identify the exact kind of technologies necessary to learn. They say that they would like to learn everything that is advanced, which is too vague.
12. Energy
Currently the world consumes a lot of energy. What kind of alternative energy can be used after coal and gas are depleted? Wind energy, tidal power and solar energy seem to be great, but reality is cruel. When there are no alternative energy sources available and we still want to pursue energy conservation and emission reduction, in many cases this seems to conflict. How could we strike a balance with this issue?
Duansheli, which means to stop buying things that are not needed, throwing away redundancies, and giving up control to others, is a recent popular concept, but it is in conflict with economic developments. Unnecessary things are produced and people are encouraged to buy them for the purpose of showing economic growth in statistics, which is also bad for the environment. Driven by the pursuit of their own interests, how many people can stop and think about this situation? Environmental policies

will definitely be better in the future than what it is now. Everybody misses the green water, blue sky and the flavor of food from their childhood. I hope more and more people will pay their attention to this issue and put their ideas into practice. I believe that most people would like to sacrifice a little to improve the environment if this environmental knowledge is popularized.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 12. Other]

Chen Shujie, CHINA, C-137

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8. Lifestyle: Increase the price of energy in oil producing counties to reduce energy waste and CO2 emissions.
10. Environment and Economy: Advocate for new lifestyles and an awareness about environmental protection. Develop technologies that work with environmental pollution to promote a green economy.
3. Land Utilization: Prevent desertification and develop desert control technologies to make the desert become green.
[3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-138

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4. Enhance publicity and education, perfect laws and regulations, formulate strict standards for environmental protection, and develop green industries.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-139

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1. To respond to climate change, especially global warming, we first need credible research to show that human activities, including greenhouse gas emissions, are the primary reason for global warming, which helps to form a global consensus.
[1. Climate Change]

CHINA, C-140

I hope the environmental pollution can be reduced and the quality of the nations can be improved, so rubbish will not be thrown away everywhere and zero greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced. I also hope that all kinds of environmental pollution caused by businesses can be controlled, the population numbers can be reduced and urban green areas can be increased.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-141

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1. We should start with children to foster an awareness of environmental protection and the environmental crisis.
2. The government should form political links between economic and environmental developments.
3. We should strictly punish enterprises or individuals that pollute the environment to share the cost of damaging the environment (including methods such as credit investigation).
[Environmental disruption caused by wars and unbalanced environments resulting from technologically altered species]

CHINA, C-142

Global warming and environmental pollution are exerting an obvious influence on our daily lives, which is also caused by some of our thoughtless actions. I hope there can be related measures to share this awareness and protect our homeland.
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CHINA, C-143

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5. Water Resources: The pollution of water resources is one of the important reasons why water resources are scarce. In recent industrial development, many countries are faced with industrial pollution problems in the water resources, to different extents. During the industrialization of most developing countries, in particular, due to a lack of the support with environmental technologies, finances and little awareness of environmental protection, they are faced with more severe problems of water pollution. To tackle this, people first need to be educated about environmental protection. During industrial development, water resources shall be protected and saved. Secondly, most developing countries undergoing industrialization are faced with more severe industrial water pollution, which most developed countries have experienced. Their precious experience in successfully solving these problems could provide developing countries withguidance about future industrial development. Controlling industrial water pollution is important for developing countries, which are undergoing industrialization, and paying close attention to water pollution and the financial and technological support of developed countries are also of great importance.
[-]

CHINA, C-144

To treat environmental pollution, there is the difficult situation in which economic development co-exists with pollution in major developing countries, which means that if they make more efforts to develop the economy, the pollution will be more severe. We can start with the following points. First, make reasonable plans to perfect urban living. We should follow ecological laws and start with urban environmental capacities and the resource assurance abilities to formulate and implement the overall urban plans and rationally determine the scale and development direction of all cities. Besides, we should adjust the

urban industrial structure and layout, gradually solving the problem of mixed urban areas, accelerate the construction of urban environmental facilities and improve the urban ecological environment. Second, deal with urban water pollution. All cities should make plans to improve water quality and pay special attention to protect urban drinking water resources. We should adopt measures, such as reducing pollution, treating pollution, dredging water sources, ensuring urban water use from lakes and rivers, accelerating waterflow and maintaining urban wetlands, to enable the urban surface water to reach the standards for different functions. We should promote urban water conservation, cleaning and recycling polluted water and establishing water conservation in cities while comprehensively adopting measures such as the price, administrative , technological and engineering measures. We also should strictly control the exploitation of underground water and ban over-exploitation. Third, control urban air pollution. We should improve the proportion of urban clean energy sources as well as the energy structure. Large- and medium-sized cities should construct restricted zones that are highly polluted from fuel and gradually phase out coal burning in densely populated downtowns. We should make more efforts to develop public transportation, encourage the development and use of vehicles powered by clean energy, and gradually improve and strictly implement pollution emission standards for motor vehicles. Large- and medium-sized cities and mixed urban areas should comprehensively control the interaction with urban air pollution. According to ecological requirements, we should cultivate, beautify and strengthen cities, enhance environmental management in building operations and transportation and effectively control desertification. We should also form systems for daily reports about urban air quality and forecasts for urban air quality in key cities.
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CHINA, C-145

Everyone in China has witnessed environmental pollution related to the air, water and soil. Furthermore, the food crisis caused by this is making more people feel insecure. The government should strengthen the enforcement of its policies.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 7. Food]

CHINA, C-146

Environmental protection: People can do nothing regarding natural disasters or climate change. The key is that we should be committed to those areas where we can make some difference. There are a lot of people on earth and the changes necessary to benefit the environment would be huge. As they say, "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." For society and the nations, all countries should formulate countermeasures for climate change. Especially those developed countries which are dominant on the global industrial structure. They should shoulder more responsibilities to pay for their economic behavior. Meanwhile, we should actively advocate for awareness of environmental protection to create these kinds of ideas in society.
[8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-147

The daily food necessary to maintain basic survival should be far less than what we are currently everyday. If people can reach a consensus on this point, control unnecessary food waste and the manufacturing and consumption of food, we can make contributions to protect the environment.
[7. Food]

CHINA, C-148

Currently China's rural areas are also faced with an economic recession and environmental pollution. Educational levels in rural areas is decreasing and people are not paying enough attention to that. The consolidation of the classes has weakened the hope of rural people changing their lives through education, and would rather to spend their efforts on jobs which would bring them instant benefits. Therefore, the rural population flows into cities in large groups. In China's current economic case, less labor forces naturally results in a rural economic recession. Those who have to stay in rural areas for whatever reasons would sacrifice the land and the environment in exchange for income, resulting in the deterioration of the rural environment.
[11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-149

The issue of environmental pollution is the most urgent one in mainland China. It comes with economic growth and is an inevitable problem in China's economic development. The Chinese government has always emphasized that it should not follow the path of solutions after pollution, but actually it is not doing a diligent job of controlling pollution. Presently it might be one solution to realize the transformation of economic structure. The Chinese government has always played an important role in the guidance of its economic development. It should not rely on the free market, but the strength of the government to realize this transformation. Besides, the government should perfect related laws and regulations about environmental management and improve the enforcement of laws and regulations.
At the same time, education is also indispensable. Environmental pollution could be decreased at the source only by improving awareness about protecting the environment throughout the whole population. In China's current political system, the government should shoulder the major responsibilities in managing environmental pollution.

With economic development, people from all walks of life with certain economic strengths and influences should also pay attention to this problem. Non-governmental groups could not only influence the government's decisions, but what's more important, as the opinion leaders, they could influence the ideas of the masses on environmental protection.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-150

Urbanization is an irresistible trend in human development and the urbanization in developing countries often accompanies a large scale of industrialization, which results in unbalanced land utilization and pollution. The changes in consumption patterns and lifestyles have caused many conflicts between the environment and society, which would cause environmental change and should be observed with importance. Based on this we should explore new types of urbanization.
[3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-151

Environmental pollution: I lived by the sea when I was young and I could only see dirty seawater; I went to another coastal city when I entered university, and I still could not see clean seawater and obviously feel the air quality is decreasing year by year.
Land Utilization: I always see news about the outburst of smog in the north, which tells me that the condition of land desertification has not been improved.
Environment and Society: I think the improvement of environmental conditions still relies on individuals and society. The current education on the environment is not enough. If everyone in society can have an active and healthy awareness about protecting the environment, starting with oneself, the environment would be improved and nature would be protected.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-152

I suggest paying more attention to air and water pollution.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-153

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9. Global Warming: Natural changes, including changes in the sea, land, volcanic activity and solar activity, as well as human factors that play a larger part, have caused global warming, with industrial factors being the most influential. We should pay more attention to developing fine chemical engineering and use it as an effective measure to adjust the structure of the chemical industry, improve the additional value of products as well as international competitiveness. Fine chemical engineering is developing rapidly and its industrial concentration is being further improved. In the 21st century, the obvious characteristics of its development are industrial clusters, clean techniques, energy conservations, product diversification and specialization and high performance.
[9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-154

Businesses should take more social responsibilities and avoid developing the economy at the expense of the environment. I suggest that China should refer to the food security standards in Japan.
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CHINA, C-155

More protective measures should be taken.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-156

The government should do a diligent job.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food]

CHINA, C-158

We should strengthen the enforcement of laws.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-160

Environmental problems are actually problems with supervision. Due to local protections for pursuing economic benefits, the government will do nothing for the environment. The supervision will be changed because of the rights of NGOs if the system is not reformed. The rights of NGOs should be improved to enhance their fight against environmental pollution.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Zhang Weiguo, CHINA, C-161

People's destructive behavior has caused irreversible effects on the environment.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-162

People's destructive behavior has caused irreversible effects on the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-163

People are asking for too much from nature.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-164

Everyone should do something.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

CHINA, C-165

Both water and air are not clean and food safety is a concern.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-166

Enhance punishments on breaking the law.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-167

Endeavour to advocate for environmental protection and enhance supervision. Also, create related laws and regulations with an emphasis on environmental problems.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-170

Reduce pollution and plant more trees.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-171

Each country should boost its efforts to protect the environment.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-172

I hope the environment will be improved gradually.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

CHINA, C-174

Treatment schemes.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-175

I have little understanding about this issue.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-176

On one hand, the government should construct a systematic legal framework to protect the environment. On the other hand, all people should have the awareness to do that.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-179

People are recklessly damaging nature and excessively exploiting resources and they will be punished sooner or later.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-180

I have little understanding about this issue.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

CHINA, C-182

Countries worldwide are interacting and these problems are not independent, but interrelated. Dealing with environmental pollution is not a temporary and isolated effort, but needs the combined efforts of people around the globe.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-183

Everybody is responsible for protecting the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-185

Environmental pollution is becoming increasingly serious.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-187

Environmental pollution is becoming increasingly serious.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-188

Environmental pollution is becoming increasingly serious.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

CHINA, C-189

Environmental problems are closely related to humans.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-190

We should conserve resources and protect the environment from inconsequential things.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food]

Yang Yang, CHINA, C-191

Strengthen efforts to advocate for environmental protection.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-192

Sustainable development.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-193

The environment is vital to human existence and we should protect it.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

CHINA, C-194

Make laws.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-195

We should not only care about economic interests, but reasonably use natural resources and punish the businesses causing severe pollution until they shut down.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-196

With environmental pollution becoming more severe, we have no clean air, water and land any more. All living things on earth

will no longer be able to survive and disease and other disasters will be more frequent.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-199

Effective energy conservation and emission reduction.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 8. Lifestyles]

CHINA, C-200

Spend more effort to advocate for environmental protection.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Li Rui, CHINA, C-201

Saving water, sustainable development, and environmental protection.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-202

All people should care about the environment to protect our living space.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-203

Saving water, sustainable development, and environmental protection.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-204

All people should care about the environment to protect our living space.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-205

Environmental problems are becoming more severe and are worried about their lives. We hope the government will vigorously communicate the importance of protecting the environment. We should start to protect our shared homeland.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-206

Every time I pass by a coating factory, I can smell a bad odor, especially at night.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-207

The growing population causes the deterioration and downsizing of our living environment, the sharp reduction and stubbornness in food, and the warming and extreme abnormity of the global climate, like the butterfly effect, with one causing another. Resources on earth are finite and one day they will be exhausted. The over-exploitation and pollution from humans will be paid back. Balanced, stable and sustainable development is the key to people's survival and reproduction.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

CHINA, C-208

We should do our best to protect our homeland.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-210

We should strictly control the things that are producing pollution.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-213

Air
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

Qiao Jinmin, CHINA, C-215

It should not be pollution first, treatment later. Economic development and environmental protection should be coordinated.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-216

The moral bottom line of domestic manufacture is worrying.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food]

CHINA, C-217

We should start with ourselves.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-218

Urbanization results in less land and a shortage of resources.
[3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-219

Everyone should carefully examine their words and habits.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-222

The government should strengthen the management and control over businesses and the masses should report businesses that are polluting the environment to the related governments.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-224

It is imperative to communicate the sense of urgency.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-226

I hope more and more people will be concerned about the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Fang Xi, CHINA, C-227

The air quality needs to be improved continuously.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 7. Food]

Zhang Qingyu, CHINA, C-230

The environmental problems are caused by irrational activities. Developed countries have an obligation to shoulder more responsibilities to help developing countries to manage the environment. Developed countries should not only be guided by their own interests while ignoring environmental protection.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-231

The pollution caused by human activities is unprecedented.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-232

The serious haze needs to be eliminated once and for all and gas emissions should be reduced.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-233

Everybody is responsible for protecting the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food]

Zhang Bo, CHINA, C-234

I hope more trees can be planted.
[2. Biodiversity, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

CHINA, C-236

It is imperative to avoid the pollution of underground water to achieve sustainable development of the economy and the environment and to advocate low-carbon lifestyles.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-237

Pollution co-exists with development and should not be ignored. We should care for the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-240

I think global warming is the main reason.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-243

The concept of whoever causes pollution is responsible for its treatment should be strictly followed. Businesses should pay enough guarantee money in advance to avoid shouldering responsibility for the pollution after shut-downs.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-245

We should protect the environment while developing the economy.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-246

We should understand the damage caused by environmental pollution and we should not develop the economy at the expense of the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-247

The government should reinforce publicity about environmental laws and regulations and provide guidance about behavior that protects the environment.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

Jiang Yefei, CHINA, C-249

Environmental pollution is mainly caused by the overexploitation and destruction of people.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-250

It is imperative to improve people's awareness about environment protection.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-254

Everybody is responsible for protecting the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 7. Food]

CHINA, C-255

Conserve traditionally-produced energy and develop clean energy.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-256

Environmental pollution is really shocking in developing countries and we should strike a balance between developing the economy and protecting the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-257

People should use resources in a rational way.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Shan Yi, CHINA, C-264

The government must pay more attention.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy]

Shen Jinping, CHINA, C-265

Everybody is responsible for this.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-268

Management by the government should be enhanced.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHINA, C-271

Reduce the use of cars to save energy.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

CHINA, C-275

Strengthen the development of green energy.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

CHINA, C-277

It would be fine if the laws were followed.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-278

All people should work together to respond to environmental pollution.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHINA, C-280

The government should apply more effort in management.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-281

The state gives guidance, which should be managed and controlled by the masses.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

Zhu Shun, CHINA, C-282

If we do not achieve greater efforts of governance, it will generate huge problems for humans and their living environment.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-284

It would be fine if the government releases new policies and the masses could be part of that.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

Zhang Shan, CHINA, C-286

Energy conservation
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-214

Air
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

Qiao Jinping, CHINA, C-215

Everyone should carefully examine their words and deeds.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-220

Serious pollution
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-221

Environment
[5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-225

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careful about all
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-239

Strengthening education
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

CHINA, C-270

Water pollution
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHINA, C-285

We are constantly facing food security issues in Taiwan. More and more food is being polluted and becoming inedible. We should reduce pollution while cutting energy consumption and carbon emissions to preserve our environment.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 7. Food]

KU TA-CHUN, TAIWAN, T-001

Reduce the destruction of nature and prevent the large-scale loss of wildlife.
[2. Biodiversity, 9. Global Warming Measures]

CHEN HSUAN-HUNG, TAIWAN, T-002

Climate abnormalities have become more frequent in recent years, and this is taking its toll on our quality of life, potentially leading to a vicious cycle. Taiwan should increase the costs and reduce the amount of natural resources used, or make it more inconvenient to use natural resources to reduce their consumption. Meanwhile, we should invest more in research on smart, eco-friendly solutions and related products as well as green technologies. Economic activities that are detrimental to the environment must be penalized.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 9. Global Warming Measures]

WANG I-TING, TAIWAN, T-003

Developed countries must come up with policies to reduce the extremely high levels of carbon emissions, both in gross and per capita terms, and take the lead in their implementation. From the perspective of economic development and global sustainability, it is not fair to compel developing countries and non-Annex I parties with conventions and treaties to cooperate in reducing carbon emissions. Policies such as CDM and NAMAs are mostly profit-generating tactics and have little positive impact on climate change.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

TAIWAN, T-004

The intensely debated issue of nuclear power in Taiwan should be left to the experts to undertake their analysis and assessments. Over-reliance on sentimental and irrational arguments might not be the best way to deal with this issue. Given the absence of any alternative that could replace nuclear power, we need to deliberate more carefully before deciding on its future. After all, nuclear power is still one of the greenest forms of energy today. When discussing whether or not we should stick with nuclear energy, discussing how we can improve our nuclear technology and its level of security might be a solution.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 9. Global Warming Measures]

TAIWAN, T-005

The Fukushima nuclear disaster following the Great East Japan earthquake in 2011 shows that the overall costs of nuclear energy are in fact extremely high. We have not taken into account the consumable materials needed over the life cycle of a nuclear power plant, the huge expenses in the event of an accident, the need to build the highest level of security mechanisms, the disposal of nuclear waste and the difficulty in finding the land for disposal, etc. Besides, the land where the plant is built has to be left unused for years after a disaster. Should a disaster occur, we will have to pay a dear price. Taiwan should promptly pass legislation to compulsorily increase the use of alternative energy and gradually phase out nuclear power.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

TAIWAN, T-006

In the future, developing countries such as China, India, Brazil, and African countries should put a cap on the intensity of their development and reduce carbon emissions and energy consumption in order to ameliorate increasingly harsh climate change and prevent global natural disasters caused by the excessive melting of polar ice caps.
Developed countries in the West should generously export technologies for renewable energy to developing countries to help ameliorate climate change. As for Taiwan, the government should effectively limit the number of economic areas, reduce undesirable development, and promote conservation and recovery of land.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

YU CHIH-WEI, TAIWAN, T-007

Cutting carbon emissions is essentially incompatible with economic development, and it is quite difficult to square the circle. It really depends on the government's policy, which will not be effective unless it is consistent. If developed countries cannot effectively reduce carbon emissions, it will be more challenging for developing countries to do so. Developed countries should provide developing countries with credible and effective carbon reduction technologies and set up a good example to show that it can be done.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures]

TSAI I-LUNG, TAIWAN, T-008

To reduce dramatic climate change and the greenhouse effect, we need to start by cutting energy consumption and carbon emissions. For instance, we can drive less and use public transport or car pooling instead to reduce gas emissions, switch off lights when we don't need them, sort the trash for recycling, etc. We can save our planet through these simple actions. We should also use more renewable energy such as solar power. The government can use subsidies and other policy tools to encourage companies to switch to solar panels and other green energy systems, to reduce emissions and the use of non-renewable energy.
The Fukushima nuclear crisis following the Great East Japan earthquake has awakened the international community to the issues of nuclear power security and nuclear waste disposal. As society progresses and becomes more dependent on electronic goods, we consume more electricity as a result. While enjoying the convenience of electricity, we also need to learn how to decompose and filter piled-up nuclear waste after power generation and recycle it for productive use.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 9. Global Warming Measures]

SU LAI-SHOU, TAIWAN, T-009

Land development will continue in the next decade from the point of view of land use, and less land will be available for agriculture and forestry. Urbanization, the depletion of food, land transformation, etc. will directly affect our environment and society.
We should therefore restrict the industrial use of land and curb unnecessary land transformation to preserve our land and the environment.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources]

CHANG YI-FANG, TAIWAN, T-010

Strengthen auditing and reporting on pollution and impose harsh penalties for illegal practice. Establish a mechanism where the polluter must bear the consequence, such as introducing green costs.
Carry out environment assessment, reduce excessive development, promote the reduction of energy consumption and carbon emissions, and develop renewable energy.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

TENG YU-CHI, TAIWAN, T-011

Promote the reduction of energy consumption and carbon emissions; consume less meat.
[7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures]

HUANG CHIEN-HUNG, TAIWAN, T-012

Politics is getting in the way of policy implementation, making it impossible to tackle the issues.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

SU I-WEI, TAIWAN, T-013

Excessive urbanization and the destruction of forests are impacting on the habitat of animals and plants, creating an imbalance in nature's capacity to sustain itself. We should vigorously reclaim land for forestry and limit the scale of urbanization to prevent excessive development and preserve a bio-friendly environment.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

CHANG CHEN-HSIU, TAIWAN, T-014

Excessive human intervention has led to the destruction of our environment, resulting in an increase in climate abnormalities and sporadic natural disasters. We should monitor the factors that impact on our environment more closely while raising environmental awareness to achieve a comprehensive result.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures]

LI YU-WEI, TAIWAN, T-015

Education on the environment should start with our children, and the entire population needs to take environmental issues seriously. We need to be optimistic while developing new technologies and solutions that go beyond conventional thinking.
There has been an ongoing debate on the use of nuclear power versus renewable energy in Taiwan, while policies aimed at cutting carbon emissions have not been successful. Policies and guidelines issued by the executive branch need to be followed promptly by action plans at the various departmental levels responsible for their implementation. The government also needs to hold national energy conferences in a timely fashion to establish a national consensus on the goals of energy policies in the future and carbon reduction policies, to make these policies more efficient.
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures]

LIN CHUNG-JUNG, TAIWAN, T-016

Newly emerging economies can learn from the experience of developed countries when structuring their industrial capacities. They should promote a low-carbon economy and develop green industries to be financed by international funds. They also need to control their urban population and should not prioritize industrialization over people's livelihoods for the sake of economic incentives.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

TAIWAN, T-017

Educate people about the right way to use water and the impact of climate change to raise their environmental awareness.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources]

LI KAI-CHING, TAIWAN, T-018

Industrialization impacts on the environment, so guidelines for industrial development should take environmental challenges into account as well, in addition to economic considerations.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

TAIWAN, T-019

We need a more robust energy policy to prevent water crises and natural disasters as a result of the greenhouse effect. We should provide subsidies and incentives to encourage the use of eco-friendly home electronics, the use of public transport, and the reduction of carbon emissions.
We also need to research and popularize alternative energy, raise environmental awareness, and inform the public of the simple things they can do in their lives to save energy.
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

WANG HSIN-JOU, TAIWAN, T-020

When tackling the issues it is facing, a civilized society with highly sophisticated technology needs to focus on action and the cultivation of knowledge.
[1. Climate Change, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

LIN YING-TUNG, TAIWAN, T-021

We should raise our environmental awareness through education and change our lifestyle. More actions need to be taken to protect our environment. We need to cultivate our awareness of environmental issues through learning and change our lifestyle through knowledge. We must also curb excessive land development.
[3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

TAIWAN, T-022

We need a more robust energy policy to encourage the use of eco-friendly home electronics and public transport. We should also provide manufacturers with subsidies and incentives to cut their carbon emissions.
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

TAIWAN, T-023

Only by raising the global awareness of the impending environmental crisis can we be motivated to change our lifestyle and curb the deterioration of our environment.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

TAIWAN, T-024

We need to have better plans for the use of land and put old and disused buildings to good use, rather than simply letting property developers build new buildings.
Only when we respect nature and preserve our tradition can we coexist with the planet in prosperity.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use]

TAIWAN, T-025

Land use is essential for economic development and policy making. We need to take pollution and ecological preservation more seriously when deliberating policies.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

TAIWAN, T-026

While insisting on the reduction of carbon emissions by threatening economic sanctions on developing countries, developed countries keep shifting their high-energy and high-emission capacities to emerging economies (the controversial eighth naphtha-cracking plant in Taiwan by Kuokuang Petrochemical Technology, traditional manufacturing, etc.). Those conventions and treaties should be applied to developed countries first.
The construction of the eighth naphtha-cracking plant at the seaside in Changhua County not only poses a threat to the Chinese white dolphin, but also breeds major environmental disasters such as the depletion of biodiversity, air pollution, and cancer. Cutting energy consumption and carbon emissions becomes a joke. We need to work with international organizations such as Greenpeace as well as animal protection societies to vehemently oppose the construction of this plant.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

TAIWAN, T-027

Taiwan's economy can no longer afford to rely on its manufacturing sector. We need to make an effort to shift to a high-tech and green economy. Corporations must take on more social responsibility; the government needs to enforce relevant regulations to phase out high-pollution capacities.
Nature provides everything we need, but we give nothing in return. The planet is getting sick because of our greed. Our only hope is to change our heart. For that, we need the power of faith and the education of the mind.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy]

TAIWAN, T-028

We have not been able to achieve a balance between economic development and environmental protection. Global warming has put this conflict under the spotlight. To solve this issue, the government must take a stand with tough policies and tackle this issue from a macroscopic perspective on the national level, rather than engaging in empty talks and deceiving itself with numbers.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

TAIWAN, T-029

Increasingly severe pollution has dealt an irredeemable blow to our environment including the air, water and soil, causing significant loss of life, health and property. We need to find a balance between economic development and environmental protection soon, and build a sustainable economy.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHEN YEN-CHIEH, TAIWAN, T-030

The government needs to increase people's awareness and knowledge of laws and regulations related to the environment, promote and cultivate the idea of sustainable development, and strengthen the relevant legislation.
The consequences of pollution are immense, and its damaging effects reach far and wide. Pollution threatens our livelihood and is difficult to tackle. We need to work on each step of environmental protection and adopt a comprehensive policy that

prioritizes prevention over mere management, to achieve harmony between environmental protection and the sustainable development of our economy and society.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

KUO KUN-CHU, TAIWAN, T-031

We need to deepen people's general understanding of environmental issues and educate our children on the subject. We also need to impose harsher penalties on companies that are polluting the environment. The effects of pollution reach far and wide, including the extinction of wildlife and a threat to our health. We should also reward companies that contribute to the protection of our environment.
[2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

CHEN CHUNG-HSUN, TAIWAN, T-032

Environmental issues are vital for our livelihood. We need to cut energy consumption and carbon emissions in our life and use recyclable materials to reduce the wasteful use of the planet's resources.
We should recycle used goods and materials and avoid using disposable products. We can reduce the waste of resources by increasing the rate of recycling.
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles.Lifestyles.Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

LIN CHUAN-TSUNG, TAIWAN, T-033

None of the current policies in Taiwan helps the issues of climate change and global warming. All this calling for building low-carbon cities and cutting energy consumption and carbon emissions is barely touching the surface and amounts to nothing but a publicity stunt, and it needs to be put into practice. On an individual level, we also need to change our habits and become more environmentally aware.
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles]

HUANG CHIA-CHIEN, TAIWAN, T-034

Global warming has contributed to the spread of infectious disease by making it easier for viruses to propagate. More sophisticated technology has also increased the likelihood of physical contact, which accelerates the spread of diseases such as SARS and influenza years ago.
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures]

TAIWAN, T-035

International cooperation to eradicate the gap between the rich and the poor and other policy initiatives.
[7. Food]

TAIWAN, T-036

Repair our ecosystem by increasing the number of natural reserves and passing legislation to prohibit illegal land appropriation and wildlife killing in the designated habitats.
[2. Biodiversity]

CHEN KUN-LIANG, TAIWAN, T-037

We should engage in sustainable production and living, and take issues such as the environment, ecology, and food self-sufficiency into account when deciding on our mode of development.
[7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

TAIWAN, T-038

Developed countries should help other countries around the world to formulate eco-friendly measures and policies.
[11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-039

We need to gradually phase out nuclear energy.
The actual costs of nuclear power are extremely high. We haven't taken into account the huge expenses in the event of an accident and the costs of building high-level security mechanisms. As humans, our capacity for judgement and management is limited and flawed. We should stop using nuclear power because nuclear accidents are intolerable.
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures]

TAIWAN, T-040

Raise environmental awareness, formulate stricter regulations, step up inspections on the treatment of the environment.
Prevent the wasteful use of natural resources, implement more robust basic education for the public, establish the idea of the

planet as our only living space.
[11. Environment and Society]

HUNG PO-TA, TAIWAN, T-041

Environmental pollution needs to be tackled from a macroscopic perspective, that is to say the government needs to formulate better laws and regulations to protect and improve our environment. All measures such as protection, management, and penalization should have a legal basis. A robust legal framework should also be paired with tough inspections and the implementation of the rules, which in turn induces compliance. Corporations and individuals engaging in pollution should be penalized accordingly, which serves as a warning to others. Finally, we need to promote the importance of environmental protection and the consequences of pollution by education to raise the public's environmental awareness through education and the media. Environmental challenges are best tackled by prevention.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 11. Environment and Society]

CHI WEI, TAIWAN, T-042

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1. Cut energy consumption and carbon emissions.
2. Use common chopsticks for shared dishes and plant more trees.
3. Save water.
4. Love our planet and protect the environment.
5. Use more renewable energy.

[5. Water Resources, 11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-043

Taiwanese people lack crisis awareness. We need to take the initiative in saving energy and cutting carbon emissions.
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures]

TAIWAN, T-044

The pace of climate change is picking up, and at this point we can do little to change the climate. This is mainly due to industrial pollution and excessive land development. The best remedy is to restrict the responsible financial conglomerates. Only in this way can we slowly improve our environment and curb climate change.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

HUANG FU-YI, TAIWAN, T-045

The management of land development is one of the most common policy tools. A lack of effective control on land development will affect our environment and its natural resources. Failure to protect water, forests, energy sources and other natural resources due to land development will negatively affect Taiwan's environment, society and economy. We need to formulate plans at a national level and stipulate the guiding principles for the management and use of land. We also need elaborately planned inspections on the use of natural resources as well as assessments of the potential impact. This will alleviate the impact of land development on the environment in the future.
[3. Land Use]

TAIWAN, T-046

Global warming is a serious challenge. I suggest that the government lay down regulations on pollution and produce more promotional films to raise environmental awareness.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 9. Global Warming Measures]

TAIWAN, T-047

Some countries need to step up their measures to protect the planet, but so far it is uncertain whether the situation is improving. Our environment will become better if more countries subscribe to the idea of sustainable development.
[11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-048

We need strict controls on the release of waste gas and waste water, and we need to lay down the criteria and impose hefty fines on those who fail to comply.
The media needs to report on companies that fail the public to raise awareness and understanding of environmental issues.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy]

TAIWAN, T-049

The international community needs to enter into treaties to provide the legal basis for the management and regulation of climate change as a global issue.

The government needs to protect other forms of natural environment in addition to national reserves, demand equipment inspection for potentially polluting industries, and impose severe penalties for illegal practice. Penalized entities also need to be reviewed within a short period of time.
[1. Climate Change]

TAIWAN, T-050

We need to face environmental challenges head on and provide incentives to encourage the public to save energy by using renewable energy.
Regardless of size, all regions need to take environmental issues seriously and solve them in collaboration.
[11. Environment and Society]

CHANG CHIA-FENG, TAIWAN, T-051

If we continue to exploit nature without limits, humanity will soon face extinction. We need to strike a balance between development and the environment and develop our economy effectively within certain boundaries.
Local populations have the right to discuss and decide whether to develop their communities. This should not be left to the decision of already developed communities.
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TAIWAN, T-052

Raise awareness of environmental protection.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

TAIWAN, T-053

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1. The Department of Environmental Protection and other governmental agencies need to clamp down on companies that are polluting our air and water.
2. Better promotion of water recycling and cultivation of strong awareness.
[5. Water Resources, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-054

The environmental protection technologies we have can fully support eco-friendly development. The problem is that these technologies have not been applied to our economy due the lack of economic policy and effective scrutiny.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-055

Taiwan's environmental awareness has been growing in recent years, but we need more action to tackle the various challenges rather than indulging in empty talks. Although we cannot avoid consuming energy as technology progresses, we need to think about how to make our energy last longer or even increase the amount of available energy. These are the issues we need to look into.
[11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-056

The major environmental challenge for Taiwan right now is natural disasters caused by extreme global warming. Taiwan's climate policies for the construction sector are still inadequate, and the government needs structural policies to strategically cope with climate change and the release of greenhouse gases. Urban renewal projects are relying overwhelmingly on the redistribution of assets, and we need to exploit the differentiation between the new and old sectors to solve this issue. The renewal of old property should consider the maintenance and extension of the property's lifespan and focus on renewal and repairs. We also need to focus on the assessment and prevention of risks when managing risks associated with land management.
[1. Climate Change]

TAIWAN, T-057

We need to deal with the dense population first.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy]

TAIWAN, T-058

The management of climate change is built on the understanding and management of risks. We need to assess the risks of climate change and the costs of its impact, and have a clear idea of the invested capital, measures, and policies needed to prevent natural disasters caused by climate change. National plans should clearly indicate the guiding principles and the various aspects of the issue.
We should also incorporate concepts such as cutting energy consumption and carbon emissions, green buildings, and biodi-

versity into our facilities and development plans.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity]

TAIWAN, T-059

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1. Increase taxation (construction of environment, green state).
2. Water recycling.
3. Collective action nationwide.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

TAIWAN, T-060

Global warming and the imbalance of our ecosystem are becoming more prominent. This is due to the era of technology that creates the changes on our planet. We need to reflect on how to develop and shift to green energy, rather than merely scratching the surface. Although we are seeing a trend towards sustainability in consumer electronics, the effects are limited. It appears that our technology cannot catch up with the rapid changes in the planet's ecosystem. We therefore need short, medium, and long term policy making, moving from the promotion of energy saving and research on green energy to sustainable development. By doing so, it will be easier to curb the deterioration of the planet's environment.
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-061

We need to start from basic environmental education to better understand the various challenges we face and their impact on our life. We must raise the public's environmental awareness and change our lifestyle, embrace sustainable development, and preserve our natural resources for posterity.
[8. Lifestyles]

TAIWAN, T-062

The landmass in coastal areas is gradually shrinking due to rising sea levels, and the greenhouse effect is causing severe floods and droughts, not only threatening human life but also damaging local agriculture. This might lead to price fluctuations and even an economic crisis.
[9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

HUANG MEI-CHAI, TAIWAN, T-063

We can frame our guidelines and strategies in terms of our short, medium, and long term goals.
In the short term, we need to focus on promoting energy saving, establish promotional measures and adjust the bearing of energy costs.
In the medium term, we need to quantify the use of energy, assess the amount of energy that individuals, households, and companies are allowed to consume, and levy energy tax on the excessive use of natural resources and energy.
In the long term, as our consumer electronics become more sophisticated and we become more dependent on energy consumption, we need to invest more into research on alternative energy and make our consumer electronics more sustainable, gradually moving towards a self-sufficient economy. We must shift to sustainable energy that can be harvested from nature, such as solar energy and hydrogen power.
[11. Environment and Society,12. Other(Alternative energy and energy tax)]

PENG JUI-HSIANG, TAIWAN, T-064

Our planet's ecosystems are interactive, and the various environmental issues have an interactive effect on each other. The progress of our civilization is bound to create environmental challenges and conflicts, but we are gradually beginning to embrace the idea of sustainability when developing our technology and culture. We need to remain optimistic and learn to coexist with our environment in prosperity.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

HUANG CHI-TUNG, TAIWAN, T-065

Understand the meaning of biodiversity and the threats that it is facing.
Preserve more green space and plant more trees. Be concerned with and learn about the environment we live in and the life inhabiting it. Learn how to pick the right fish to eat and lead a healthy life.
Vigorously promote the idea of biodiversity to encourage more people to change their own actions and ask the same from others as well. Restaurant owners can choose sustainable fishery products to minimize the impact on biodiversity.
Whether at home, work, school, or in public spaces, we need to effectively cut energy consumption and carbon emissions, reduce the consumption of non-recyclable products such as disposable chopsticks, cups, plates, etc., and carry our own utensils and water bottles with us.
We also need to show more interest in public policy and voice our concerns on behalf of the other creatures sharing the planet

with us.
[2. Biodiversity]

LIN HSIN-YI, TAIWAN, T-066

Strictly prohibit unethical land sales when planning and regulating urban projects.
Effectively limit the number of development areas and put a cap on the capacity of development.
Restrict land development and loans for new property and shift to renewal and repairs; improve loan priorities and legislation with a focus on repairs and improvements for facilities; limit the area of new development.
[3. Land Use]

YANG CHUN-LANG, TAIWAN, T-067

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1. The public should raise their environmental awareness. This applies to everyone, not just a few individuals.
2. Each country needs to impose harsh penalties on polluting companies.
3. Periodically provide updates on improvements to the public.
[11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-068

Technological advances in industry, agriculture, and other fields are generating pollution, resulting in many environmental challenges that cannot be resolved immediately.
We can start from small things in our life that may seem insignificant but can eventually bring about big changes. For instance, use less air-conditioning in the summer, use public transport more to cut gas emissions, have more contact with nature, replace air-conditioning with natural wind, etc.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-069

The intensely debated issue of nuclear power in Taiwan should be left to the experts to undertake their analysis and assessments. Over-reliance on sentimental and irrational arguments might not be the best way to deal with this issue. Given the absence of any alternative that could replace nuclear power, we need to deliberate more carefully before deciding its future. After all, nuclear power is still one of the greenest forms of energy today. When discussing whether or not we should stick with nuclear energy, discussing how we can improve our nuclear technology and its level of security might be a solution.
[12. Other(The issue of electricity by nuclear power)]

TSENG HSIANG-TSUN, TAIWAN, T-070

If carbon reduction becomes part of the conditions for mutually beneficial trading partnerships, countries around the world will in practice be pressing for low-carbon production. This should be the most effective way of lowering carbon dioxide density in the atmosphere and curbing the deterioration of the planet's environment.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

KUO TUNG-YING, TAIWAN, T-071

All unethical practices should be treated as criminal offences. Step up inspections and the reporting of illegal practices, and impose incrementally harsher penalties for repeat offences. Educate those who comply with the rules on the subject as well to prevent illegal practices in the future.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

TAIWAN, T-072

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1. Measures for tackling global warming around the world are ineffective and most of them have become empty talks, while natural and man-made disasters continue to plague us.
2. We need an effective international sanction regime to achieve a balance between economic development and environmental protection.
[9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy]

CHANG HUI-CHI, TAIWAN, T-073

In terms of land development, property developers appropriate large amounts of agricultural land and indulge in large-scale building projects out of their private interest, resulting in acute food shortages.
In terms of pollution, a hazardous malicious cycle leads to drastic climate change that alternates between extremely cold and hot weather. This poses harm to all life on this planet, and in some cases even threatens their existence.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

TAIWAN, T-074

We seem to have little concern over the lack of water resources, and it is quite common for us to use water thoughtlessly. Isn't it the government's job to increase revenue, cut spending, and recycle water resources? Among the desert countries, Israel attaches great importance to the development and recycling of water resources, achieving a water recycling rate of 75%, which allows them to develop their agriculture regardless of the climate. As for measures for tackling global warming, as temperatures rise due to climate change, we need to consider how to develop green energy and cut energy consumption and carbon emissions. In Germany, children are educated at school about environmental issues, and the government has passed legislation to facilitate the development of renewable energy. Solar, wind, biomass, and gas energy is now widely harvested across the country. Why can't we follow these examples?
[5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

TAIWAN, T-075

I hope that environmental assessments can bring about genuinely peaceful and ecological residential areas. We also need to educate our children about the importance of protecting our ecosystem.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

TAIWAN, T-076

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1. Countries around the world should establish effective reward and penalty schemes and implement them rigorously.
2. Start at an individual level and raise our environmental awareness through learning.
[11. Environment and Society]

LI WEN-FA, TAIWAN, T-077

In terms of climate change, excessive carbon emissions and warmer ocean currents have led to droughts, floods, rainstorms, dried-up rivers, melting icebergs, and the deterioration of our environment. Chemical pollutants produced by our industrial society are released into oceans and rivers, causing heavy pollution and gravely damaging our ecosystem. More rivers and dams are being polluted and are drying up, resulting in an acute water shortage. This also affects our ecosystem and leads to the depletion of food resources on land and in the sea. Countries are drawn into conflicts because of food and water scarcity brought about by climate change.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources]

TAIWAN, T-078

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1. Stringent limits on air pollution.
2. Harsh penalization for illegal polluters.
[9. Global Warming Measures]

CHEN YEN-NIEN, TAIWAN, T-079

The current water management regime is primarily based on a scheme where users bear the costs. However, the costs of using and managing water resources are often incommensurate with the actual costs of managing them, which results in the unbalanced management of water reserves and the uneven distribution of resources. In the future, we need to understand the impact of climate change on our water resources, assess the associated risks and costs, and establish a proper platform to manage water resources more effectively.
[5. Water Resources]

TAIWAN, T-080

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4. In terms of pollution, our convenient modern life is the cause of heavy pollution as well. Pollutants such as PM 2.5 particles are not only harming us but also our next generation.
9. In terms of measures to tackle global warming, we are reaping the benefits of natural resources without knowing how to preserve them. The earth is becoming a greenhouse due to the excessive felling of forests and high levels of carbon dioxide.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures]

TAIWAN, T-081

Global warming has led to El Nino around the world. Despite heavy pollution, we have only a faint grasp of the consequence of PM 2.5 particles, and not enough people are concerned about the issue. PM 2.5 particles are damaging our health and are the cause of various diseases.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

TAIWAN, T-082

Educate our children about the importance of environmental protection and saving electricity.
[4. Pollution /Contamination, 8. Lifestyles]

TAIWAN, T-083

Heavy pollution has resulted in climate change around the world and global warming, which is very worrying.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 9. Global Warming Measures]

TAIWAN, T-084

The main culprit of most environmental issues is pollution. We will be able to solve most of the challenges if we succeed in significantly reducing pollution.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

TAIWAN, T-085

We need contingency plans for climate change as well as more research in the field to help the government formulate coping strategies to alleviate the impact of natural disasters. We also need to educate our children about the basics of energy and help the public to become mentally prepared for environmental changes and natural disasters through promotional campaigns.
[1. Climate Change, 11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-086

The lack of green space is a tricky issue for cities still undergoing large-scale development. Entire cities are immersed in dynamic and sporadic construction projects and lack a safe, lasting environment for green space. Existing green space may also be affected by new rounds of development.
We need to address the discrepancy between urban and rural areas as well as issues such as excessive land development and disregard for environmental assessments.
We also have to change our reliance on cars in the city and respect the rights of pedestrians, urban biodiversity, and the average green space for each person.
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TAIWAN, T-087

Taiwan is experiencing an acute water shortage, and global warming is further highlighting the importance of water resources. The government should prioritize water for civilian use and properly monitor the industrial use of water, encouraging companies to recycle water resources and cut the amount of waste water to zero.
[5. Water Resources, 9. Global Warming Measures]

LIANG WEI-YUN, TAIWAN, T-088

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1. Strengthen the idea and institutions of environmental protection.
2. Enforce the necessary laws.
3. The government needs to establish an example and execute proper scrutiny.
[11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-089

Curb excessive land development caused by our economic activity, for instance by providing incentives to encourage organic farming or by providing subsidies to companies researching eco-friendly products as well as consumers buying them.
[3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Economy]

SHIH HUNG-WEI, TAIWAN, T-090

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1. Heavier penalties.
2. More inspections.
3. Government's determination to enforce the rules.
[11. Environment and Society]

TAIWAN, T-091

Carbon emissions by aircraft are a major contributor to global warming, yet Taiwan is still allowing more cheap airlines to pop up. Air travel is cheaper and more people are now travelling abroad, resulting in higher carbon emissions.
We need to think about how to protect our environment and reduce carbon when promoting economic development and cultural exchange.
[9. Global Warming Measures]

TAIWAN, T-092

We should incorporate concepts such as cutting energy consumption and carbon emissions, green buildings, and biodiversity into our facilities and development plans.
My concrete suggestions are as follows:

1. Central and local government agencies need to be involved in local communities as well as urban and non-urban regions. We also need to reframe our current legislation.
2. Promptly prohibit the unethical development of mountainous and coastal areas.
3. Rebuild rural and urban landscapes.
4. Move pipes and cables under urban roads to pedestrian walks.
5. Return the rights of ground-level commercial areas in front of buildings and pedestrian walks to citizens and pedestrians.
[-]

TAIWAN, T-093

Nothing is meaningful unless there is widespread awareness of environmental problems.
There must be widespread awareness that our lives are connected to environmental problems.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 7. Food]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K002

Government regulations are more important than individuals' efforts. Individuals cannot solve the problems on their own.
[1. Climate Change]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K003

The International community must take collective actions by recognizing the problems. Households, workplaces, communities and nations must join forces.
Each individual needs to recognize environmental problems and find a way to help reduce them. It would be desirable to gather power through political actions.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K004

Measures are necessary to recognize problems regarding biodiversity preservation and climate change through higher awareness of the problems.In particular, by rasing awareness of low-age group through education, political problems can be resolved in the future.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K005

As people's lifestyle is a key contributor to global warming, people need to recognize the problem and change their lifestyle. Without increasing proportion of natural or environmentally-friendly and energy sources, problems won't be solved.
Each country should cooperate to come up with measures and make utmost efforts to draw changes towards eco-friendly life.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K009

Revival of FIT, regional energy production policies and mandatory envrionment education
Policies for environment education are necessary for daily lives, education and politics to be linked together.
[1. Climate Change, 10. Environment and Economy]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K010

Political and economic paradigms must change to resolve macroscopic environmental problems. Changes in people's lifestyle must go along with global cooperation. Education to raise awareness must be conducted and desirable lifestyles must be suggested and applied.
Earth is becoming a less frineldy place for living creastures to survie. The last moment is coming in an accelerated pace. Actions must be taken before it is too late.
[2. Biodiversity]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K011

This issue must be handled as one of the most important state affairs of a country leader and be resolved with coopeation of the piblic just like during a wartime.
Values of environment are overshadowed by individual desire and anxiety due to overflowing new liberalism. Environmental problems cannot be solved without serious reflection by each individual. Big changes and resolutions come from thinking citizens.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 7. Food]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K012

Environmental problems are becoming serious due to reckless consumption. I wonder if there is such a thing as environmentally-

frinendly consumption. Shoudn't we consider reducing production beyond consumption for environment protection? Problems seem to occur at a point where demand exceeds supply.
[3. Land Use]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K014

Regulations are required to make changes for pollutants resulting from our lifestyle and economic activities.
The government, businesses and NGOs need to have policy discussion to bring changes to the environment.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 8. Lifestyles]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K015

If problems of climate change is actually felt by people, political actions need to be taken to facilitate the efforts.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K016

As "environmental" problems, especially pollution, are consequences of all human behaviors, there must be environment awareness in our daily lives and economic activities. From a long-term perspective, it is important to raise awareness and take small things into action.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 10. Environment and Society]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K019

It won't be effective to lecture on resource saving to people of modern society who are already accustomed to consumption. Technologies that have less impact on the environment and are less inconvenient need to be widely used so that lifestyles that damage nature can gradually change.
As industries consume much more energy and resources compared to individuals, there is more room for them to reduce pollution. It is important for individuals to have awareness and make environmental efforts, but there must be regulations on or support for companies.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 8. Lifestyles]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K020

Small things that we need to implement for the environment in our daily lives need to be shared. From childhood, there should be eduction for natural learning and implementation of such activities by forming social atmosphere.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K021

Chages in lifestyle
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K022

Systematic education is necessary for wider recognition of environment problems.
[3. Land Use, 11. Environment and Society]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K024

Although environmental awareness has been raised compared to the past, there is still ecocentric attitude of people who think it is not their problem. As roles of each individual are most important, environment education from childhood must be conducted as mandatory.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K025

Education on and implemention of environment protection and sustainability were seriously insufficient due to rapid growth of the society. It is better to take actions now by rasing awareness through campaings or others than to hand over the problems to the next generation.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K026

Many environmental problems arise from our habits that we are not very conscious of.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K030

Solar energy, electric cars, CO2 reducing technolgy and other environmental technologies for sususstainable development are the best ways to resolve environment prolbems of our future.

[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K031

As political and economic policies are based on high awareness of the right direction, we must focus on rasing awareness.
[2. Biodiversity, 3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K034

Climate change is partly due to individuals' lifestyle, but without changes in corporate activities, real changes cannot be attained. To draw changes and achieve goals of greenhouse gas reduction, sustainble development plans must be included in the economic policies.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 8. Lifestyles]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K036

Since greenhouse gases are generated from businesses and it is a global matter, countries need to come up with measures through cooperation.
[1. Climate Change, 8. Lifestyles]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K037

As resources become abundant and diverse, our lives became more convenient. Since we became used to such lifestyle and take it for granted, a serious crisis is about to come. We have utilized our envirobment for better life but need to look back on our lifestyle and start changing it little by little. In that regard, #3 is one of the ways and education for right understanding of the current environment, resulting changes and implementation activities are necessary.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K039

Beyond individual efforts, the government and businesse need to cooperate to come up with legal measures for environmtal policies such as taxation on environmental costs.

[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 8. Lifestyles]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K041

Environment and economy cannot go separately. Numerous disasters resulting from environmental problems are directly connected to economic situations.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 10. Environment and Economy]

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, K042

We must transition to a low energy consumption lifestyle.
[8. Lifestyles]

JAPAN, 008

Efforts by individuals and corporations are insufficient and cannot be counted on to accomplish results. Strong leadership at the government level is indispensable. At the same time, we must promote the development of new businesses related to these endeavors through policies like tax incentives, and implement strategies to prevent excuses and breakdowns rooted in economic reasons.
[10. Environment and Economy]

JAPAN, 009

In looking at the environment primarily through living beings, I wish that their decline were reflected in a higher sense of crisis in the economic world. I believe that the deterioration of the environment will have a greater and greater effect on the economy and our society. I think that the value of the environment should be recognized as having an economic value.
[2. Biodiversity, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

JAPAN, 011

• The various categories of environmental problems (biodiversity, land use, environmental contamination, water resources, population, food supply, global warming, etc.) are not isolated problems, but rather are interrelated. What these various problems have in common, and their root cause, is the desire for an illusory and excessive economic development.
• There remain regions and classes of people who need substantive improvements in their quality of life, but many in economically developed countries advocate economic development solely for the purpose of pursuing profits. And in this pursuit of economic activities, that don't contribute to the improvement of material quality of life, we waste resources, destroy the

environment, and worsen inequality among regions and among classes.
• While individual measures against each problem is also necessary, it is even more important to deepen the discussions on this fundamental problem. I hope that the Asahi Glass Foundation also concentrates its efforts on this problem.
[5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

Ninomiya Kouzou, JAPAN, 018

I believe that the effects of natural disasters (earthquakes, typhoons, the eruptions of volcanoes) will become an increasing threat to the survival of mankind and the Earth's environment, both for Japan and for the world as a whole. In addition, the spread of various infectious diseases, the outbreak of which have thus far been contained, will also have interactions with other categories and become extremely serious problems that threaten the survival of mankind and the Earth's environment.
[-]

Kondou Mituo, JAPAN, 020

Many educational programs (ESD) have been developed, but data and surveys need to be collected and their results published so that there is more information that can be used to evaluate the results of these programs.
[11. Environment and Society]

JAPAN, 021

Environmental problems are not caused by "external factors." It is rooted in the mechanisms of economies that internalize the existence of such "external factors."
[-]

Arayama Hiroyuki, JAPAN, 030

In order for global warming countermeasures to succeed, we need to create systems in which countries seriously engage in these programs. At the same time, on a domestic level we must show citizens a comprehensive picture that integrates the environment, the economy, and society towards a low carbon society and encourage their cooperation. To ask people to respond to environmental problems when they are already burdened with the uncertainties about the economy and society is to ask the impossible. There needs to be objectives and a vision that people can not only feel at ease with but would want to participate in.
[-]

JAPAN, 034

Japan is beginning to experience depopulation, with a polarization in the distribution of the population. What I find problematic is uncontrolled development centered in urban areas and the surrounding suburbs. Particularly in areas surrounding urban centers where diverse species inhabit, valuable areas are visibly turned into factory sites or residential land. On the other hand, rural areas are experiencing increasing depopulation. At first glance, there seems to be a balance in the land mass that are habitable or usable, but once nature is destroyed, it does not return to a pre-development state as soon as people stop using it. Therefore, the government must create guidelines for the development of land that is rich in nature. The recent attempts by government ministries to move a portion of their operations to rural areas can be one such breakthrough; I hope that there will be more ways to effectively use lands that have been depopulated, if possible.
[1. Climate Change]

JAPAN, 045

While effects on a global scale are materializing, I feel only a mounting sense of crisis and frustration towards the realities in Japan, a country that has not been able to hammer out a solid policy as a country despite being economically and technologically advanced.
[9. Global Warming Measures]

Hanada Mariko, JAPAN, 049

The three factors of water, food supply, and land use are deeply interrelated and are significant issues for the survival of mankind. But unfortunately, they have yet to receive international attention. How countries are able to deftly control these three issues while the world population continues to grow is the most important question for sustainable development.
[3. Land Use, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food]

Nishikawa Satoru, JAPAN, 052

The world has reached a phase requiring a large transformation from the economic framework to date, which has had a reliance on fossil fuels that have been the reason for global warming. As history has shown, and consistent with the words "necessity is the mother of invention," human wisdom will no doubt be able to overcome this difficult problem. Scientific invention, technological innovation, the worldwide proliferation of environmental education, and international policies and cooperation at a global level in the political arena are musts. For 13 years, I have supported and cooperated with environmental small- to

medium- businesses, and their owners in our country. But the environmental industry in our country is still far off from being the primary industries in our country. That is because we have yet to see a level of seriousness among citizens, businessmen, bureaucrats, educators, and politicians. I believe it is correct to say that whether the Earth progresses on a path towards its destruction or that movement is stopped depends on if people who have had this realization have the courage to move forward with policies. Now is the time to hold not just a view of our own country but rather to have a view of the world, and transition away from the thinking that has guided us till now. I believe it is the mission and role of those of us living in the present to leave a rich Earth to our children and grandchildren.
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

Yokoyama Naofumi, JAPAN, 062

There isn't sufficient understanding for how climate change is related to an extremely large number of other fields. There is a strong tendency to "simply point out the phenomenon of global warming, and be finished once those policies are put in place," (also called adaptive strategies in recent years). But I doubt that this alone will result in people changing their lifestyles. If we can deepen these discussions, maintaining the perspective of climate change but showing that a much wider series of issues are affected, like the state of healthcare, public health environments, food, development and management of land, and disaster policy, I believe that many more people would become more interested in climate change itself.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 9. Global Warming Measures, 11. Environment and Society]

Iwasaka Masanobu, JAPAN, 072

There is some level of recognition for the deterioration and lack of food and water supplies that accompany population increases. What I feel is the most pressing issue now is the improvement of the modern lifestyle, in which people have become accustomed to an abundant and wasteful consumption, and consumption beyond their needs. "Mottainai" (the Japanese concept of preventing waste) is a keyword.
[8. Lifestyles]

Umezaki Terunao, JAPAN, 084

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1. The frequent occurrence of torrential rains and floods, the lack of water resources, the decline of production of major crops are all rooted in abnormal climate conditions caused by global warming. Countries need to share in this sense of crisis, and have a strong recognition that global warming policies constitute a pressing issue for the survival of mankind.
2. The earthquake zone around the Pacific is known as a nest of earthquakes, constituting 90% of the earthquakes of the world. Areas around Japan in particular have experienced large earthquakes frequently, with enormous losses in life and environmental destruction. Where and when earthquakes erupt has yet to be sufficiently understood. Japan, which is both a developed country and a center of earthquakes, needs to lead the education of researchers as well as research and development, allocating sufficient funds to this study.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures,12. Other(Environmental destruction caused by the earthquake, etc.)]

Ohgushi Nobumasa, JAPAN, 085

Climate change has given birth to many environmental effects (burdens), including global warming. Among the countermeasures are amelioration strategies and adaptation strategies to climate change (global warming), but what is needed among amelioration strategies is self-responsibility, and local production, local consumption for adaptation. Within the self-responsibility category, people should assume responsibility for "eco-house conversion," "implementation of energy conservation devices," and the "implementation of renewable energy devices" and show initiative towards assuming accountability by internalizing global warming strategies. In addition, of the "local production, local consumption" strategies, taking waste materials resulting from one's own production (such as domestic waste) is one of the measures most easily accomplished. For example, electricity generation using fermentation heat, and electricity generation using the heat from burning would also fall under "self-responsibility."
[1. Climate Change, 9. Global Warming Measures]

Ueda Ryuichi, JAPAN, 087

In Japan, there is concern for the decline in labor in agricultural regions, the increase in crop abandonment in agricultural regions due to the price differential between domestic and foreign farm products, and the decline in the ability to accept the effects of climate change due to the increase in under-managed resources (including land) in agricultural areas. On the other hand, the prices of farm products from countries like China, which is increasing the exports of those goods to Japan, only reflects the low cost of labor, and does not reflect the fragile land resource and the diminution in water resources, leading to low prices and the lowering of capacity to absorb the effects of climate change. As quality of life improves in China and the demand for animal proteins like beef and pork increases, there is the likelihood of accelerating the predatory forms of agriculture whereby the diminution of land resources is the trade-off. There is a need to formulate pricing for agricultural products that internalizes these environmental costs (the costs required to recover without the deterioration in environmental quality)

and develop trade based on such pricing (a wider concept than fair trade).
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 7. Food, 10. Environment and Economy]

JAPAN, 092

• Solar power: It is dangerous to incorporate solar energy (it raises the temperature of the Earth excessively). This must be done in moderation.
• I believe that fossil fuels and bio-energy are all derived from plants that have absorbed solar energy. I think that we need to accurately understand how much carbon dioxide can be emitted and returned to the atmosphere through, for example, their burning.
• We need to urgently undertake the advocacy and establishment of lifestyles with a small environmental burden.
• I am concerned that superior agricultural flatlands will be converted for residential purposes. I think land use needs to be more planned.
[3. Land Use, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures,12. Other(The development of appropriate land use planning)]

JAPAN, 094

The arrival of a crisis in the food supply is anticipated with the population explosion in developing countries. But the food supply crisis is not a problem that is limited to developing countries; it is increasingly becoming a problem concerning low incomes associated with income inequality in developed countries. Access to food for the poor (low incomes) is becoming increasingly difficult. In particular, the loss of food to waste is becoming a systemic problem in the supply chain in developed countries. In reality, a third of food that is produced is not utilized and instead is thrown away. In the production - distribution - consumption life cycle, this is occurring with 1. disposal that accompanies price adjustments to prevent the collapse of prices from an abundant harvest; 2. disposal due to products that are damaged during transportation; 3.disposal in distribution caused by excessive procurement and products left unsold; 4. excessive importance placed on freshness, and excessive purchases leading to products being disposed without being touched; in other words, disposal is taking place at all stages in the life cycle. In addition, the problem is made more complex through counterfeit food products that disguise safety and to prevent disposal. Moreover, there are other problems, like 1. misshapen vegetables; 2.virtual water and other environmental problems in exporting countries because of the high foreign dependence and low self-sufficiency rates of food in our country; 3. the decline of soil capacity (fertility). To counter the coming food crisis, we need to explore new food supply rules and lifestyles. Instead of the "food recycling law" that regulates the disposal and recycling of food, what is needed is social innovation towards laws based on the 3Rs of food (reduce, reuse, recycle) in which all people participate, like the use of food banks and doggie bags (U.S.), laws against the disposal of food (France), vegetable factories that conserve water and aims for a stable supply and efficient production.
[7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

Gunzima Takashi, JAPAN, 102

Being that the Earth is a closed environment, there is a limit to the amount of life that it can support. The fact that one large species has dominated this habitat to this degree is pushing the limits itself, and I believe that we have reached the limits. As international conflict increases, they will be conflicts about the distribution of resources and energy, and there is no doubt that the fundamental cause behind such conflicts is that there is an excessive number of organisms called humans against the amount of resources available. Population decline should lead to the resolution of various problems, and should be the most effective measure. I believe that beginning to reduce the population urgently to pre-modern levels will lead to the reduction of wars and the fundamental resolution of resource, energy, and environmental problems.
[3. Land Use, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population]

Fuzimura Yumiko, JAPAN, 106

Without significant economic and technological involvement of advanced industrial countries in the development of developing countries, it seems that overcoming the crisis facing mankind would be very difficult.
[1. Climate Change, 2. Biodiversity, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 5. Water Resources, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles, 9. Global Warming Measures, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

JAPAN, W003

No matter what, it seems that the population is too high compared to sustainable resources.
[Resource]

JAPAN, W004

I believe that many of the current global environmental problems in the end are rooted in the limited nature of the Earth's resources, and how despite its limited capacity, population continues to increase. Even if the energy consumption of each individual in developed countries declined through measures like lifestyle transformation, the population in developing countries will increase at a rate that surpasses that reduction, as well as their energy consumption due to improvements in quality of

life. Estimates by the Club of Rome forecast that the global population would soon reach its peak; what happens to this figure is a phenomenon that should be closely watched.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

JAPAN, W008

As long as economic development is considered an inevitability and continues to be measured quantitatively in GDP, phenomena that are unfavorable to the Earth's environment will continue to occur. As long as we do not use measurements that allow us to prevent the occurrence of such unfavorable phenomena, I believe that global environmental problems and the problem of species conservation will not move towards improvement.
[1. Climate Change, 6. Population, 10. Environment and Economy]

Kusuda Tetuya, JAPAN, W011

Japan is a country with abundant water resources suitable for drinking. These water resources are becoming increasingly valuable and increasingly scarce in the world this century. In order to prevent their decline (depletion), it is important to appropriately manage regional resources like forests, rivers, and agricultural lands. And to achieve this, the continuation (sustenance) of regional forestry and fisheries will produce the best cost performance. And what is also necessary is a society that recognizes these values as a matter of course, and requires all citizens to rethink their own lifestyles.
[5. Water Resources, 8. Lifestyles]

Ito Fusao, JAPAN, W020

In order to advance global warming policies, it is necessary to take an approach with a perspective that balances the three factors of energy security, economic performance, and environmental preservation. I am concerned that discussions without this balance are moving forward.
In particular, I have serious doubts about the excessive expectations placed on renewable energies as well as discussions about nuclear power generation that disregard the probability of accidents.
In addition, innovative technological development with a long-term perspective is most important in global warming policies. I hope for the transformation of economic and societal systems that is based on future, innovative technologies.
[9. Global Warming Measures]

JAPAN, W036

If human desires continue this way, I believe it will one day surpass the limits of the Earth's environment.
Even with this sense of crisis, people have been unable to suppress their desires. I believe we must continue our efforts in imparting the universal philosophy that our current way of life has limits. I believe that science can be the answer. Now is the time for science to show its potential, instead of being utilized in nuclear power or conflicts.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy]

Morishima Akira, JAPAN, W038

There is excessive food in relatively wealthy societies, and a lack of food in impoverished ones. There is an intensification in the unequal availability of food that cannot be solved even with the free trade of agricultural products.
[7. Food]

JAPAN, W043

Climate change, seen as being caused by global warming, carries with it a sense of urgency, that it cannot wait. Climate change causes droughts and torrential rain, or enormous typhoons, and disasters at scales never before seen. In addition, global warming, seen as being caused by climate change, has resulted in the disappearance of icebergs and polar ice, raising the possibility of accelerated change. These are changes that are not seen in the short-term, and is said that beyond a certain point will lead to extreme and sudden change. The effects on agriculture and fisheries are a cause for concern in the medium and long term, and is thought of as threatening the survival of mankind. Therefore, ceaseless efforts by each country, with a comprehensive strategy under an international cooperative framework becomes indispensable. Energy policy is one such example. There can be support for renewable energies and, at the same time, the raising of taxation for fossil fuels. I believe it will be important to package a number of policies together.
[1. Climate Change, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures]

JAPAN, W047

It is difficult to consider policies to counter future environmental problems and imagine a picture of the future that we should aim for beyond these measures without considering the problem of people's value systems. In particular, I believe that the preservation of biodiversity might be the problem that poses a clash in people's value systems and boundaries.
[2. Biodiversity]

Ide Shinji, JAPAN, W053

The agreement forged in Paris last December can be evaluated favorably because most countries of the world set forth their self-established goals and agreed to undertake them, thereby representing progress in global warming policy. However, it is insufficient as there is a wide discrepancy between those goals and the greenhouse gas reduction goals thought of as being necessary to prevent global warming. Reviewing each country's reduction strategies and strengthening them in the future is indispensable. In doing so, I believe it will be important to maintain the framework in which all parties participate, as in the Paris Agreement, all the while developing a method to secure the alignment between the reduction in global emissions needed to reach the long term reduction goals indicated by the IPCC report and the reduction goal of each country. First and foremost, it is important for the IPCC, an organization that amasses the knowledge of scientists to urgently deliberate, then for countries to agree to respect those results and put them into action.
[9. Global Warming Measures]

Yamaguchi Tutomu, JAPAN, W062

The effects that humankind have had on the environment comes primarily from activities related to land use. Contamination that comes from the use of harsh nitrogen and phosphorus represents the destruction of agricultural production and the forest, which is the foundation of water filtration, and are related to the depletion of water resources, the uneven production of food, and population problems. The cause of climate change is the consumption of fossil fuels, but in its background is the destruction of forests. The transformation of lifestyles from the use of fossil fuels to renewable energies, and sustainable development through the restructuring and regional revitalization of associated land use (especially in rural agricultural villages) are key policy areas. Excessive land use by humankind is also the cause of the decline in biodiversity. Not only land development, but monoculture in agriculture and improvements in productivity are leading to a loss in resources that future humankind do not yet even know about. I believe we should rethink the environment, economy, and society from the standpoint of land use, and consider the development of scientific technology for the efficient and sustainable use of land.
[3. Land Use]

Toda Hiroto, JAPAN, W066

Specific endeavors and awareness to protect the environment can only come about upon a foundation of a peaceful everyday life. I feel that there has been en expansion of unstable factors in recent world events. In Japan, attitudes and commentary among those in the government and media that would stoke people's fears have been noticeable. Indeed, "the environment is politics itself."
[11. Environment and Society]

Banno Miwako, JAPAN, W069

The economic growth of developing countries has grown rapidly, and there is a possibility that they too will have similar types of environmental problems that developed countries once experienced. Particularly because China has a very large population, it poses a concern as the scale of its economy is also large. In addition, because of global warming, it is possible that the growth is interrupted of foodstuff that fed us till today, resulting in problems of the food supply.
[2. Biodiversity, 7. Food, 9. Global Warming Measures]

JAPAN, W071

I believe that population problems are a very significant root cause of other problems. It is probably also the case that our mentality cannot keep up with the progress of civilization; whereas we need to have an awareness of who we are, we are only able to think about things within the realm that we can see Perhaps this is the limit for mankind, or, humans as living beings. The fact that we only act when the threat is visible, may also mean that we do act as soon as we recognize the threat. But it may be that we are too late and lose the battle, still, perhaps the world will change if we begin to share the basics of scientific literacy where we can view things objectively.
[6. Population]

Misonou Taku, JAPAN, W087

Because each country has implemented various strategies to deal with environmental contamination, I think that in this area, the problem has shown a certain level of results. However, chemical substances that are difficult to see, and contamination by nano-particles smaller that PM 2.5 continue to pose problems. Although various measures have been put into place by countries, I think that there may need to be a framework to comprehensively manage the Earth's environment as one collective body, like the Paris Agreement for the problem of climate change. This is because there is no question that there is a greater degree of international movement of substances, and as for the atmosphere, they are also having an effect as they circulate throughout the globe.
I feel that recently in particular, politics is skewing towards the subject of the economy. It is the same tendency in every country. Once the environment is destroyed, there are many problems for which we cannot turn back the clock. Although the attention is turned only on international economic problems, what we need is a framework in which environmental problems

are seriously raised once again, like the Rio Summit in 1992.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination]

JAPAN, W090

It has been five years since the accident in Fukushima, but we have yet to see the shape of a resolution to the problem. Without a technological solution to the environmental contamination that is radiation, we must consider the continuation of mankind and in parallel to the climate change problem, renew our awareness.
[4. Pollution /Contamination]

Teramoto Yoshiki, JAPAN, W096

Consumption and the extinction of species. In particular, in Japan, we need to deepen our understanding and take measures to counter the destruction of forest species due to the importation of wood and the depletion of water resources.
[2. Biodiversity]

JAPAN, W098

In countries that are experiencing an increase in population growth and in others where depopulation is taking place, there has been a growing concentration of the population in urban areas, which is leading to the deterioration of the Earth's environment, making necessary measures to prevent population concentration.
[3. Land Use, 6. Population, 8. Lifestyles, 11. Environment and Society]

JAPAN, W123

The environmental problems currently of concern are each issues that can be grappled with, and if dealt with appropriately it is anticipated that they will not lead to situations more serious than what we are currently in.
However, if too many people become too complacent, there will not be continuous and systematic policies and there is the danger of inviting a catastrophic situation. At the same time, we also cannot fan the sense of crisis by bringing to the foreground a improbable crisis as that will only lead to greater stress, pessimism, and a lower sense of happiness, which may result in the inability to lead to a effective policy. What is important is the appropriate balance between pessimism and optimism.
[-]

Oki Taikan, JAPAN, W127

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8. Lifestyle
Governmental policies are not sufficient for the resolution of environmental problems; it is because various organizations need to proactively and aggressively act.
10. Environment and economy
11. Environment and society
I believe that we need to use natural resources in the economy for as long as possible and with as little waste, and pursue programs that lighten the environmental burden as much as possible and improve the quality of circulation.
[8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

JAPAN, W130

Speaking from my field of expertise, one of the risks of climate change and global warming would be the expression, "to drink sewer water." Indirect recycling of treated sewer water for drinking has been conducted in various locations in the world. In contrast, the direct recycling of treated sewer water for drinking has only been done to date in Namibia. After that, the second case of direct recycling of water for drinking was done in 2013 in Texas, which today, has become a hot spot in the field. In addition, other countries like South Africa, Australia, and the arid regions of the United States are also considering the direct recycling of water for drinking in the near future, with cases slowly increasing. In my lectures as well, I have been saying that "we are approaching an era in which we will begin drinking sewer water because of climate change."
[5. Water Resources]

JAPAN, W135

When we deal with environmental problems as individuals, we are limited in the specific actions we can take. What is immediately apparent is energy conservation, resource conservation, in other words, the transformation of our lifestyles. Whether or not we consume more electricity, gasoline, food, various materials than we need to.
It is a problem that people equate the elimination of wastefulness as being miserly. We must educate the public that energy and resources are not limitless. Although some have the opinion that miserly behavior leads to a negative effect on economic growth, this is an area where we need to change people's thinking.
Turn energy conservation and resource conservation towards the next technological development, and towards the next economic growth — the logic is simple. We should consider a framework in which this can be ensured.
[8. Lifestyles, 10. Environment and Economy]

Koike Kiyoshi, JAPAN, W140

Climate change develops into food problems as well as other environmental and societal issues.
Within environment and society, religion is also a factor. Uneven systems of governance leads to ethnic issues and mass migrations, augmenting societal uncertainties, inviting regional conflict.
[1. Climate Change, 11. Environment and Society, 12. Other(Regional domination / power system; when the country has been developed into developing countries → more developed country → area affected countries, form of government and economic system is at or going to affinity with the neighboring countries is the key, and affinity can not be obtained, friction is generated, resulting in a developed into a regional conflict.)]

JAPAN, W154

The lessons from the Great East Japan Earthquake of five years ago and the ensuing nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Plant has not been heard at all. I am particularly concerned that domestic energy policies have been left increasingly far behind from international trends.
[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 10. Environment and Economy, 11. Environment and Society]

JAPAN, W155

Unregulated urbanization leads to environmental destruction, which then threatens the existence of life.
[3. Land Use]

JAPAN, W158

International global warming policies have difficulties moving forward because of the profit/loss relationships between countries. It is concerning that this condition will continue into the future, or alternately, that economic development would be prioritized and there is a possibility that measures to fight global warming will revert back to the past.
[9. Global Warming Measures]

JAPAN, W159

I believe that there is an increasing importance for policies that ease or resolve societal uncertainties towards natural disasters, crimes, and conflicts related to threats to life.
[11. Environment and Society]

Ishida Kenji, JAPAN, W165

I am concerned that there will be local reductions in the food supply caused by climate change. While it may not reach the level of a food crisis, I believe it will be important for Japan to become involved in the food security of the world.
[1. Climate Change, 3. Land Use, 7. Food]

JAPAN, W168

There are almost no discoveries of new species; I am most concerned by the loss of biodiversity caused by reckless overdevelopment.
[2. Biodiversity]

JAPAN, W171

Developed regions, including Japan, constitute societies that consume a massive amount of resources and energy. Without reconsidering various lifestyles, I don't think that we will be able to sustain these societies.
[1. Climate Change, 5. Water Resources, 6. Population, 7. Food, 8. Lifestyles]

Miyazato Naoki, JAPAN, W174

Population explosion, the unsustainable use of land from wanton forms of agriculture, and lifestyles reliant on limited fossil fuels are difficult to correct quickly, and it must be said that stopping the progression of environmental deterioration so that it becomes possible for humankind to survive is extremely challenging. At the current pace, it is highly likely that we will consume all that is left within a span of hundreds of years.
[8. Lifestyles]

Imoto Hiroshi, JAPAN, W177

[12. Other(Strategies for the deforestation of natural forests. With the decline of natural forests, we will be unable to store that amount of CO2, which will have an effect on the Earth's climate. There will be a polarization between dry regions and those that will struggle with water damage. Biodiversity will be vulnerable, and people who benefited from the forest will no longer be able to live there.)]

JAPAN, W198

[1. Climate Change, 4. Pollution /Contamination, 6. Population, 7. Food, 12. Other(The depletion of non-renewable energies (mineral resources, fossil fuels) due to excessive industrialization). This problem is closely linked to other global scale environmental problems.)]

Oshitani Hajime, JAPAN, W199

Regional conflict represents a direct form of environmental destruction. China's foray into the Spratly Islands comprises significant environmental destruction. Moreover, the intensification of conflict between countries will lead to the mutual weakening of interest towards solving environmental problems.

[12. Other(Intensification of regional conflicts and conflict between countires)]

Kondou Hiroaki, JAPAN, W251
