

# Mitigation of Climate Change and the Prevention of Allergic Diseases

Nicolas Joly\*

*Editorial Office, Journal of Climatology & Weather Forecasting, London, United Kingdom*

## EDITORIAL

The reluctance to combating global warming is a major problem for climate change mitigation. Mr. Scott Pruitt, the Administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency and a climate change sceptic, indicated in an interview with CNBC that he does not believe carbon dioxide is a cause of global warming. He also called the Paris Agreement, in which 190 countries pledged to work together to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, a poor deal. More than 20 non-profit organisations backed him and contributed more than \$88 million to disseminate climate science misinformation through think tanks and advocacy groups, mostly from fossil fuel interest groups, following the example of Big Tobacco's efforts to derail anti-tobacco legislation. Despite this, a significant amount of scientific evidence indicates that the burning of fossil fuels is the primary cause of climate change. The use of renewable energy sources for electricity and heat generation, such as solar, wind, ocean, biomass, and geothermal resources; to replace traditional fossil fuel burning is an essential strategy. For reforestation, afforestation, and desertification prevention, global and well-coordinated activities are required. China, for example, is transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy, with related investments increasing from US\$3 billion in 2005 to US\$127 billion in 2017, more than the United States and the European Union combined. Another example is India's Forest Rights Act, which uses legal reinforcement to create a balance between agriculture, urbanisation, and forest protection. This statute protects grasslands and national parks from unlicensed agricultural activities, guarantees livestock is fed in defined locations, and prohibits unlicensed deforestation through legal means.

The United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) formed an intergovernmental panel on climate change, which is now the international scientific collaborative network concentrating on a multinational approach to climate change mitigation. Reduced energy consumption necessitates efficient energy utilisation. New house insulation solutions are now available that can assist minimise space heating and cooling needs while maintaining a comfortable indoor temperature without consuming additional energy. Lighting that

uses light-emitting diodes or compact fluorescent lights uses less than a fifth of the energy of standard incandescent light bulbs and lasts far longer. Furthermore, skylights lower the amount of energy necessary to achieve the same degree of illumination, and they are becoming more often used in architectural designs.

Low-carbon living is a way of life that uses the 4Rs of environmental preservation to emit less carbon dioxide: reduce, reuse, recycle, and replace. It is becoming a more important refrain that is heard more frequently.

Here are some practical examples: choose more vegetables and less meat, more organic and fresh foods rather than processed foods, local production rather than imported foods, purchase and prepare food according to actual need to avoid wastage or leftovers, or avoid accumulating too much food that cannot be consumed before the expiration date. Bring reusable storage bags with you and avoid places that serve food with throwaway utensils and crockery like wooden chopsticks, plastic plates, and plastic bowls. Before food expires, donate excess products to food banks, cook with less oil (e.g., avoid deep frying); recycle as much food waste and packaging as feasible. When it comes to transportation, take public transportation rather than driving your own automobile. Choose less polluting modes of transportation such as the liquefied petroleum gas-powered Mass Transit Railway, trams, or light buses. If the location is close by and is healthful and environmentally beneficial, walk or cycle there; avoid idling a car engine without turning it off; when travelling abroad, consider an airline that participates in "carbon neutral" programmes. In terms of energy efficiency, go for grade 1 electrical appliance, as defined by the government's Energy Efficiency Labeling Scheme. Rather than using the standby mode, turn off computer screens, laptops, and televisions totally. When the temperature rises above 26°C, turn on the air conditioner and set the temperature to around 25.5°C.

Individually, lifestyle and behavioural modifications remain the most essential strategies. For environmental protection, public stakeholders should be supplied with educational and incentive programmes. Because the incidence of allergy disorders is linked to global warming, better mitigating significant climatic changes will aid in reducing the progressive rise in allergic disease prevalence.

**Correspondence to:** Nicolas Joly, Editorial Office, Journal of Climatology & Weather Forecasting, London, United Kingdom, E-mail: climatology@epubjournals.com.

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