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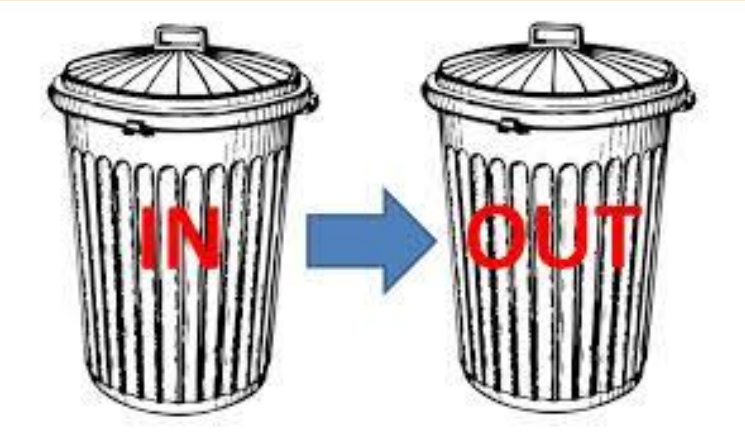
Advising Greentech companies to help maximize growth

# Data Don't Lie People Do


**The goal of the climate movement is to reduce carbon and greenhouse gas emissions.**

**What better way to assess COP's impact than to review global emissions from COP's inception. To that end I examined the available data from 1995 to 2022.**

# Garbage in, garbage out



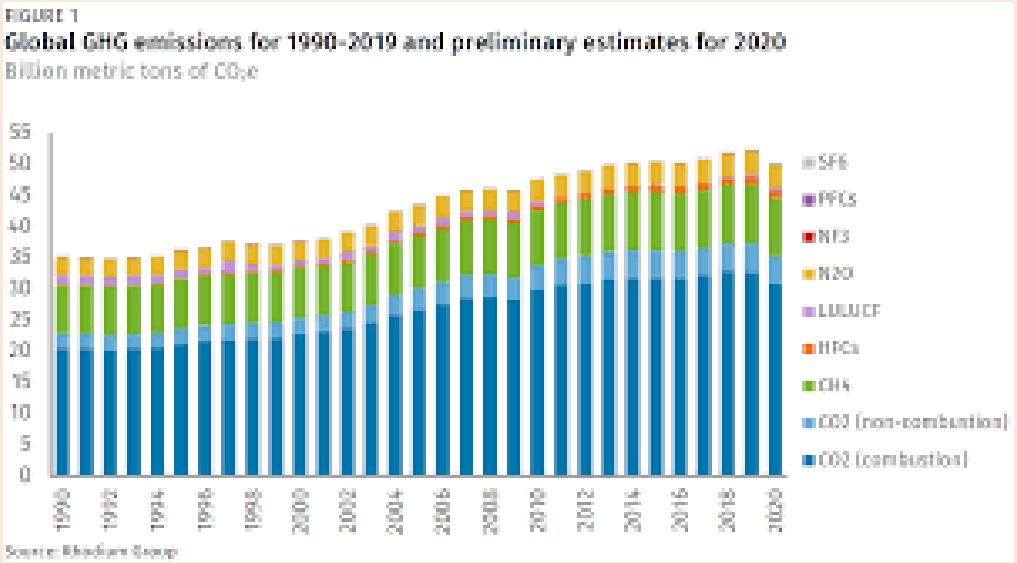

- As the title of this post points out, data doesn't lie, people do. One of the ways people "lie" is to cherry pick data that support their views. I try to avoid that by using the most credible – and hopefully – unbiased sources I can locate (for free).
- I also try to identify multiple sources to compare and contrast.
- The data sources for this post are:
    - Our World in Data
    - International Energy Agency
    - Statistica


**During that reviewed period, annual emissions increases have remained consistently inconsistent.**

**Relative to COP's influence, the increases from 2017 are consistent with increase in prior years.**

**In other words, COP doesn't appear to have had any impact on emission patterns.**

# Intermittent, but unsustained progress




- Over the last 15 years both carbon and overall GHG emissions have declined four time: 2009, 2015, 2019 and 2020.
  - Three of the declines – 2009, 2019, 2020 – are attributable to massive economic disruptions ( Great Recession and Covid).
  - Only 2015 is attributable to other factors.
- Prior to COP – from 1980 to 1998 – emissions also declined four times for much the same reasons.


**Generally, the rate of annual emissions increase has remained relatively constant. However, there is one data point that indicates marginal progress:**

- **Between 1996 and 2010 the number of years where the increase was greater than 2% totaled seven.**
- **From 2011 to 2022, in only one year did emissions increase by greater than 2%.**

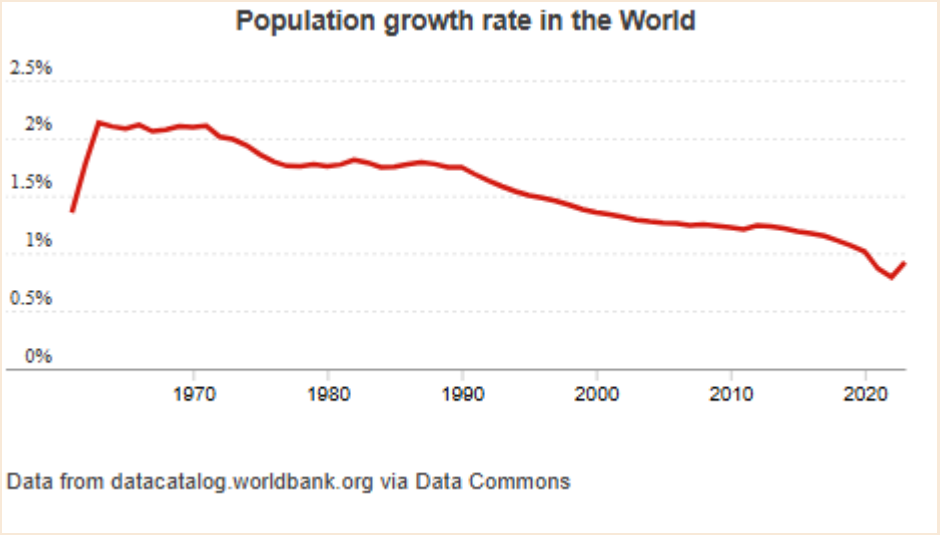
# The tiniest of green shoots

- Overall, emissions increases before and after COP are consistent.
- From 1980 to 1995 carbon emissions increased by almost 21%. The increase of GHG emissions was slightly less.
- From 1995 to 2010 emission spiked for both carbon (41%) and GHG (36%).
- From 2007 to 2022 the increase returned to pre-COP levels – carbon emissions increased about 18% and the GHG increase ranged from 14% to 20% depending on the data source.


**Given that the increase in emissions from 1980 to 2022 was generally consistent, when factoring in population growth, one could argue that COP has helped slow the rate of increase.**

**Except the grow rate has been declining and most of the population growth is in less developed countries with lower per capita carbon footprints.**

# But what about population growth?




- Per capita, carbon emissions declined about 7% from 1980 to 1995.
- From 1995 to 2010 per capita carbon emission increased by 17%.
- During the period approximately 10 years after the first COP (2007 to 2022) emissions per capita were flat.

29 years into the COP proces, there is scant evidence that it has had a material impact on carbon and GHG emissions.

Granted, the challenge is the environmental equivalent of turning an oil tanker, but I think a good captain should be able to redirect the proverbial oil tanker in 30 years.

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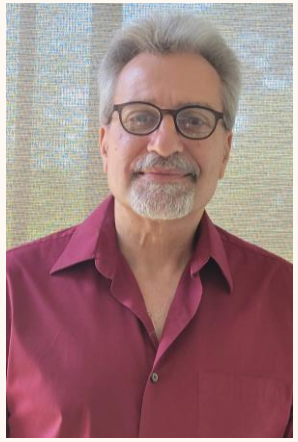

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## Unbiased and Unfiltered

- An honest assessment of the climate change effort.
- I cover what's working – but more important - the issues/roadblocks that the industry would prefer to ignore.
- A must-read for anyone with a desire to understand what's really going on with renewable energy and climate change.


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