

Semi-final draft June 15, 936 am

## Climate Justice for Future Generations

### Climate Justice

What is 'justice'? Justice is giving everyone what they deserve.

Do the future generations deserve the Earth and the climate we are giving them?

If they do not, what can we do today?

The list is long, and time is short, very short.

### Climate Crisis

The Earth has high fever. The symptoms are the clear and present dangers of extreme weather events, super-typhoons, forest fires, droughts, flooding, rising sea levels, acidic sea, and more.

Yes, the Earth's fever is rising, and is reaching a state of convulsion and delirium.

### Mind-shift Moment

In the evening of December 12, 2015, almost 200 countries finally agreed that:

1. The climate is in crisis.
2. The cause is (the excessive burning by pyromaniac) humans.
3. The time for talk is over.

It took an entire generation for supposedly-wise humans to finally accept the truth, and to decide to take action. "That is the difference between the obscure and the obvious is that the obscure is figured out sooner or later. It is the obvious that takes a lot longer."<sup>i</sup>

The Paris Agreement says that we will try to keep the Earth's fever from rising too high, only to somewhere between 1.5 to 2.0 degrees Celsius. Imagine the human body which has an average temperature of 37 degrees Celsius. Imagine that tomorrow, the fever will rise to 39 degrees, permanently. What happens to the body?

At best, the Paris Agreement is an aspiration, and almost impossible dream. How the world will get there – a world severely infected by the virus of consumption - is unclear and is the great big challenge. What is certain is that it will not happen by



itself, nor will it happen because of the good graces of short-sighted governments and fickle political leaders.

It will be done only by the committed and collective actions of those who dare to care. That's *US* -- the People whose life and well-being are at stake -- especially the young of today who will suffer the full impact of the climate crisis. *WE* will make it happen!

### Think Global, Act Local

Sure, change must happen. But real change must begin in each and every one of us—every man, woman, and child.

Simple changes in personal behavior like turning off lights, gadgets, and appliances when not in use, not wasting water, being mindful of what we buy, what we throw away, and of what we eat.

Those things may seem small and simple. But by doing that, we will experience first-hand what the world needs to do – become less wasteful. By doing that, we become living examples of the “change that we seek to see in the world.”<sup>ii</sup> By doing that, we stop bellyaching about the problem, and begin to become the solution.

When change has happened within, then we are better placed to seek change in the outside.

### Outer Changes

There are three movements for outer change that can spark a series of actions leading to the end-goal of the change that we seek. They will have the ‘biggest bang for the buck.’

1. Road Sharing
2. Edible Landscaping
3. ICJ Movement

### Discussion

1. Road Sharing

The motor vehicle – in its entire life-cycle -- is the cause of most of the hot gases released into the Air. This life-cycle is the manufacturing process that includes the mining of ore and the making of steel, the mining of oil to make gasoline, plastics, and asphalt, the mining of rocks to make roads, the clearing of natural forests to make rubber tires, the heat-intensive making of cement, the use of the super-hot gas (HFCs) for car air-conditioning, and the poisonous gases released from the tail-pipes of these metal monsters. It also



includes the searing heat that radiates from the heat-absorbing steel and concrete in our surroundings.

## Road Sharing

The Roads Sharing movement has two simple objectives:

1. To improve public transportation (and thus significantly reduce the burning of oil and the number of motor monsters); and
2. Provide spaces for people to walk, to bike, and to plant edible landscapes.

The Road Sharing Movement seeks to transform roads now crowded crazy with cars to become public spaces for efficient public transportation, and for spaces for people to walk, to bike, and to plant edible landscapes.



## Edible Landscapes and Rain Gardens

The goal of Edible Landscapes and Rain Gardens is to solve food-hunger and flooding. Added benefits include cooling the air and restoring social interaction. With food plants and vegetable readily available nearby, there will be no need to transport food from faraway farms to our dining tables, thereby reducing the carbon footprint of food chain. Of course, the leaves of the edible plants will capture carbon dioxide from the air and process it into food. Yes, Mother Nature has given us all what we need. We only need to listen.

Edible landscaping and edible rain gardens are like a couple of pebbles that we throw into a pond, whose ripples will go far **beyond**. (\_\_. Make a link on the word 'beyond' (now in green) to the previous section on Edible Landscapes)



Edible landscaping on the roadsides



Edible Rain Gardens

## The ICJ Movement

This Movement seeks to:

1. Stir up global action and cooperation, especially among the youth, to prod and support strong and sustained actions to address the climate crisis.
2. Clarify and amplify the long-term legal duties of short-term governments to protect its people and humankind in general from the ongoing and worsening climate-caused disasters.

### ICJ

Means Intergenerational Climate Justice (ICJ). This seeks to ask the simple question: Are we doing justice to future generations with the kind of climate our generation is leaving behind?

ICJ also means to the Inter-national Courts of Justice (ICJ). These are the courts of law where the question on intergenerational climate justice will be raised by the young, representing themselves and future generations. The hyphenated word 'inter-national' is deliberate and refers to both national and international courts and tribunals.

The movement is not an organization. It is also not a project nor a funded program. It is a movement of people like us – of grown-ups who care for our children, and of children who care for their future. More important, it is a movement of people around the world -- connected only by a shared passion - and who dare to take action.

Yes, the time for talk is over.

## Action Plan

### Hold Public Hearings

We will go on a listening-and-storytelling tour around the five UN regions of the world to:

1. Listen to their stories of how the climate crisis is affecting them.
2. Listen to what they (and their governments) are doing.
3. Together, take action, and do something fun together!



For those who want to do something, we can do three hands-on exercise during our visit to the regions:

1. Road sharing
2. Edible landscaping
3. Action in the International Court/s of Justice

## ICJ Petition

The plan is to ask for an advisory decision from the International Court of Justice on the question:

“What are the duties of States to protect humankind of the present and future generations from the climate crisis?”

To get there, we must secure a United Nations General Assembly resolution to authorize the request. This is where the fun begins. We will mobilize the youth of the world to request their governments to support the resolution.



The youth of the world will petition their governments to pass a UN General Assembly resolution to ask inter-national courts and tribunals a simple question:  
**Do they and future generations deserve the climate and the Earth we are leaving behind?**

## Indicative Time Line

Short term – 180 days:

Sept 5 –	ICJ Moot Court exhibition (World Conservation Congress), Hawaii
Sept 13-30 –	Reach out to UN Missions, Action Planning, Climate Justice Experts Meeting and dry-run of the Public Hearing (story-telling), UN-HQ, New York
October 11-16	-- Kigali, Rwanda
November 8-10	-- Asia (ASEAN)
November 13-29	– Pacific Island Nations (New Zealand)
December 1-12	-- Middle East (Morocco)

During these visits, we will plan for the world-wide listening-and-storytelling visits for the next 1,000 days. To enliven the visits to the regions, and to better prepare for the road sharing and edible landscaping adventures, we will reach out to bicycling groups, garden clubs, and youth groups.

Medium and Long Term: 2000 Days of Action, Fun and Friendship

2017	–	Propose the UN Gen. Assembly Resolution
2018 - 2019	--	UN General Assembly Resolution
2019 - 2022	–	Submission to and hearing in the Inter-national Court/s of Justice

## Who are We?

“We” refers to each and every one of us. This especially includes you, dear friend, who took the time and effort to read this.

“There is no heart stronger than that of a volunteer.”<sup>iii</sup>



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If you volunteer to help, together we can make this movement come alive. It is a movement of friends – of people of shared passions.

Together, we will roam the world to ask a couple of questions:

1. Do the future generations deserve the Earth we are leaving behind?
2. What must we do -- especially our governments who stand as the good parents of the family of man -- to protect the present and future generations from the climate crisis?

***If you want to be heard,  
Tell a story;  
If you want to touch the heart,  
Sing a song;  
If you want to start a revolution,  
Ask a question.***

June 14, 2016  
SEA CAMP  
Bantayan Island, Cebu

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- i Source of quote on 'obscure and obvious' is unknown.
  - ii Quote attributed to Mohandas Gandhi.
  - iii Quote on volunteer from the movie "Pearl Harbor".