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Working for Liberty

Civil Society Report on Climate Change

The Civil Society Report on Climate Change shows that Kyoto 2 is the wrong solution. Such a treaty would harm billions of poor people: it would make energy and energy-dependent technologies, such as clean water, more expensive, and would perpetuate poverty.

- Cutting greenhouse gas emissions in the coming two decades is not a cost-effective way to address climate change.
- Deaths from climate related natural disasters have fallen dramatically since the 1920s, as a result of economic growth and technological development. With continued economic growth, the death rate is likely to continue to fall regardless of climate change. (The number of reported natural disasters has increased continuously since 1900 for various reasons, including population growth and improvements in communication; climate change is most likely not one of them.)
- There is no evidence that climate change has caused an increase in disease. If the main causes of diseases such as diarrhoea and malaria are properly addressed, climate change will not increase their incidence.
- Agricultural production has outpaced population growth in the past 50 years. With continued technological improvements, this trend will continue to 2100, even if the global mean temperature rises by 3°C.
- Water scarcity is a problem in many countries, but with better management and modern technologies, more water can be made available to all.
- Millions of people in poor countries currently die unnecessarily due to a lack of wealth and technology. These problems have generally been exacerbated — not alleviated — by foreign aid, which has supported unaccountable governments that have oppressed their citizens, denying them the ability to improve their lot.
- Global restrictions on greenhouse gases would undermine the capacity of people in poor countries to address the problems they face today as well as in the future by retarding economic growth and general economic development. Instead of pushing emissions restrictions and failed 'aid' policies, governments should focus on reducing barriers to economic growth and adaptation — e.g. removing trade barriers and decentralising management of water and land.

Read the entire report (106 pages, pdf):

[Civil Society Report on Climate Change](#)

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