

## TRANSCRIPTION OF THE PODCAST “CLIMATE CHANGE”

**Male:** “The origin of Earth goes back to 4.6 billion years. During this time it has been heated and cooled down successively. These variations in temperatures took thousands of years to occur and originated from natural causes: either by the activity of the sun, the eruption of volcanoes or variations in Earth's orbit. But for more than thirty years, the scientific community has warned of global warming at an unprecedented rate”.

**Female:** “Do you know how much the Earth's average temperature has risen in the last century? Almost 1 degree and 2016 was the hottest year, with 1.1 degrees above the average temperature we had in the pre-industrial era. According to experts, this increase in temperature, that we call climate change, is mainly caused by Man. So, what can we do from our part to change this trend?”.

**Male:** “Do not assume that everyone is clear. In addition, there are still those who deny climate change”.

**Female:** “The cause of the current climate change is the increase of the concentrations of certain gases in the atmosphere. These gases are classified as greenhouse gases, because they retain the Earth's heat, and although they have always been present in the atmosphere and have been essential for the development of life, the big problem is that in a short time, the balance has been broken”.

**Male:** “You must be wondering, what we have done to take the planet to this situation. Man's influence on climate began with the clearing of forests to convert them into cropland and grazing land. But it was with the industrial revolution that the process became worse. The start of burning of oil, coal and natural gas increased greenhouse gas emissions”.

**Expert:** “When economies grow and start burning coal, burning oil and burning gas, they start to emit more carbon into the atmosphere, the planet's vegetation cannot absorb carbon and carbon accumulates in the atmosphere and the Earth heats up”.

**Female:** “The main gas is carbon dioxide, followed by methane. The energy sector is mainly responsible for all emissions, with more than 75% of the total. The most important emissions are due to electricity generation and road transport, each of which is around 20%”.

**Male:** “Climate change is the biggest threat to our future. “But I am convinced that no challenge poses a greater threat to our future and future generations than a changing climate”. It is not a phrase of the ecologists. It was pronounced by the former President of the United States Barack Obama in 2015. For this reason, the international community via the Paris Climate Agreement has recognized the need to keep the warming of our atmosphere below 2°C”.

**Female:** “If we do not respect this commitment, do you know how our lives would be affected? Take note: There will be less access to water, greater food shortages, biodiversity will be damaged, as well as the environment and according to the UN, there will be famines and major human migrations away from coastal flooding. This last phenomenon would be produced by the melting of the glaciers and the consequent rise of sea levels. We will also experience extreme weather events more often, such as floods, heat waves and droughts”.

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**Male:** “We know what you must be thinking, when can we get to work and fight against climate change? What solutions can we bring? Here are a few ideas”.

**Female:** “We must all reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To do this, we need to change our traditional economic model, based on energy waste and raw materials. The Earth has an ecological deficit, meaning that each year it gives us more than it can replenish”.

**Male:** “The main ways to combat climate change are energy saving and efficiency, the use of renewable energy and the move towards true sustainable development, creating business opportunities and new jobs as different technological markets are generated”.

**Female:** “We must decarbonize the economy by replacing fossil fuels with clean electric energy for transportation, industries and households. Advance our technology for the use of renewable energy and increase an electric economy, developing networks and electrical infrastructure that eliminate CO2 emissions”.

**Male:** “With all being said, we must be optimistic, since the world has three years with economic growth of 3%, without the emissions of greenhouse gases having increased. Also, the European Union has managed to reduce them by about 4%. But is not only industry; agriculture, transport and traffic are called to fight against climate change”.

**Female:** “Exactly, because what we do in our day to day life is essential in that struggle. Every decision we make influences. How? Turning on less lights and using energy-saving light bulbs, putting the washing machine and dishwasher on full load, try not to waste water and, of course, not to abuse the air-conditioning devices. A temperature of 20 degrees in winter and 24 degrees in summer, is more than enough to live comfortably”.

**Male:** “What to eat or what to wear are also decisions that influence climate change. According to Greenpeace, every kilo of beef we consume means an emission of 13 kilos of CO2; while the textile industry is responsible for 10% of CO2 emissions. Fighting against climate change depends, ultimately, on the daily decisions of each of us. From the outset, we recommend to apply with more determination the three R's: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle”.

**Female:** “And finally, we leave you with: in 1854 the Seattle red-skinned chief responded to the US President's request for land purchase: Earth is not an inheritance of our parents, but a loan of our children. Do not forget it”.

