The Climate Crisis: When ‘doing good’ is actually doing harm

Governing the catastrophic impacts of warming over 1.5°C requires understanding the interdependence and interconnection of carbon reduction strategies. This is only to empower local solutions and to ensure long-term systemic change.

FUNDING FOR FALSE PROMISES IS GROWING: FALSE PROMISES AND STRATEGIES THAT:

- Are often cost-prohibitive and do not scale, yet those who push them are the most influential corporations.
- Are being sold as ‘mapping carbon’ or ‘increasing community accountability’.
- Perpetuate pollution by not accounting for the economic system that supports it.
- Are misleading, attracting investment to activities that miss the mark.

Examples of false promises:

- Commodity agriculture and REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest degradation).
- GMOs geoengineering “nature-based solutions”.
- ‘CCS’ (carbon capture and storage).
- ‘Direct options’ (enhanced weathering, carbon mineralization, direct air capture).
- ‘GDOs’ (geoengineering the ocean) - CO2 injection.

Direct resistance of extractive industries can result in whose carbon shared to the amount held in the world’s forests.

The majority of climate funding is going to top-down, market-based strategies.

DOING HARM

- False promises are strategies that:
  - Fail to address power imbalances.
  - Treating the earth’s climate crisis as economic.
  - Treat the earth as an economic system that must be treated.
  - Are the majority of climate funds going to top-down, market-based strategies.

To reflect on whether a strategy is a ‘false promise’ of climate action, consider these 4 questions:

1. Who makes the decisions?
2. Who benefits?
3. Who faces the costs?
4. Who is marginalized?

To learn more about investing in high-impact, grassroots movements globally, visit www.climasolutions.org

0.5°C
1°C
1.5°C
2°C
2.5°C
3°C

To the right of the curve, the climate crisis will not be solved.

To the left of the curve, we have a little more time to act.

The people closest to the problems will know best what the solutions should look like. How does the solution acknowledge the marginalized and diverse communities? How will this be built on skills and knowledge about the changes needed to address power imbalances? How can we involve the people most impacted by resource and labor extraction? Will the strategies reach the people most impacted by resource and labor extraction? Will the strategies support the human rights of the peoples affected? How does the solution consider how resources are allocated? How can we involve the people most impacted by resource and labor extraction? Will the strategies recognize that political action that favors one sector over another? How does the solution consider the historical and address power imbalances? How can we involve the people most impacted by resource and labor extraction? Will the strategies recognize that political action that favors one sector over another? How does the solution consider the historical and address power imbalances?


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