

EPISODE 8

It's time to bring a climate lens to all of our activities



2 ANSWERS TO SCEPTICAL QUESTIONS

“I’ve heard about the changes in the Arctic, but how do these changes impact people and societies far from the polar region?”

The consequences of the rapid changes in the Arctic are not limited to the polar environment. These changes extend to ecosystem shifts, geopolitical implications, and infrastructure transformations. The inflow of warm water from the Atlantic is leading to the reduction of sea ice, shifts in oceanic temperatures and salinity, and the introduction of new species into the region, a phenomenon known as ‘Atlantification.’ As previously impassable northern sea routes open up, these changes may not only reshape trade routes but also lead to increased geopolitical tensions.

“Climate change is not my field of work. How should I, of all people, address this issue?”

It’s understandable to feel that climate change isn’t directly related to your everyday life or work. However, climate change is of concern for all people, and we can all make a difference by integrating a climate lens into our personal and professional activities. This involves considering the climate impact of our choices, from personal habits to business decisions and investments. By doing so, we contribute to minimising the speed of climate change and building resilience in the face of these transformative challenges.

3 FAST FACTS

2021

– the year Greenland’s summit witnessed rainfall for the first time in recorded history¹.

3 °C

– how much warmer the Arctic is on average compared to 1980².

< 2 %

of total philanthropic giving is dedicated to climate change mitigation³.

¹NASA Earth Observatory 2021, ²Bamber 2022, ³Desanlis et al. 2022

3 KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ▶ The Arctic is one of the fastest warming places on Earth.
- ▶ Change is occurring for ecosystems, human infrastructure and activity, and geopolitics.
- ▶ We must bring a climate lens to all of our activities, embedding climate action and resilience into our preparations and reactions to change.

3 ESSENTIAL RESOURCES

- ▶ This [article by CarbonBrief](#) concisely explains the ‘Atlantification’ of the Arctic Ocean.
- ▶ [Climate lens](#): What can you do about climate change? This graphic by psychologist Elise Amel shows many of the different dimensions in which engagement is possible.
- ▶ If you want to get active in climate funding, visit our [Climate Solutions Hub](#) for vetted funding opportunities.