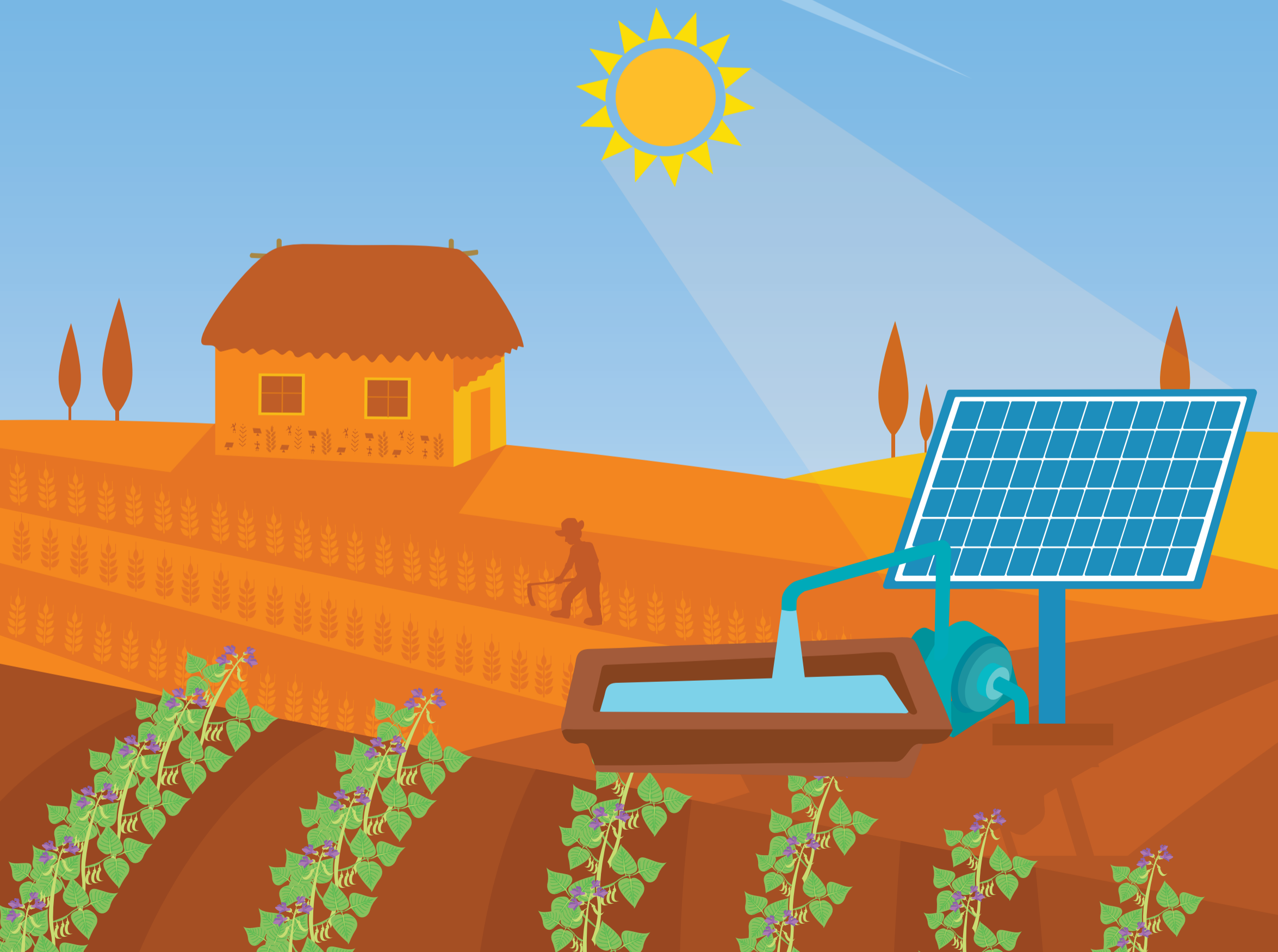


WITNESS^{3.18}

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Dr. Kshithij Urs
Executive Director,
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EDITORIAL

As the new Executive Director of Greenpeace India and the Honorary Executive Director of Greenpeace Environment Trust, I am pleased to address Greenpeace India supporters through our quarterly magazine. Although the leadership has changed, Greenpeace values and convictions remain steady, and as an organisation we endeavour to incorporate these value systems in all the work that we do.

Recent scientific investigations suggest that we are at the brink of an irreparable climate change phenomena and as the days go by we are barely making any progress in terms of definitive implementable policies. Policy making in a climate change era is not easy and as an environmental organisation, Greenpeace India believes that a progressive change cannot be achieved in isolation but through a consolidated effort from civil society organisations like ours working together with the government.

While the climate change related agreements from the Paris climate conference have now been reneged by the USA, a new study titled 'Trajectories of the Earth System in the Anthropocene,' suggests that the Paris targets have to be advanced even further. The study suggests that we need to meet the Paris Accord targets well before the planned dates failing which the temperature rise would be an irreversible phenomenon. India too is way behind in meeting our solar targets, as well as in reducing our carbon footprint. I strongly believe that such policies cannot be implemented without a coordinated approach between the government and the larger civil society. We should be working together with immediate steps towards mitigating the effects of climate change and have ambitious targets towards becoming the largest carbon neutral country in the world.

FROM HOUSES TO PUMPS, SOLAR FINDS ITS WAY

Greenpeace India has been campaigning on renewable energy issues since 2010. Last year, in 2017, after having campaigned for a Solar Policy and Net Metering Regulations in the state of Delhi, we ran a campaign on encouraging solar rooftop installations - asking households and commercial spaces to go solar and transition from the conventional methods of power consumption.

Greenpeace India has been able to install a whopping 2,235 kwp of solar rooftop in and around Delhi, from World Environment Day 2017 up until mid July 2018, and there are many such installations that are in the pipeline. However, the overall uptake of solar has been slow, which raises the question of whether India can actually achieve its solar rooftop target by 2022, when the overall capacity installed as of March 2018 was only 2.4 gw of the total rooftop capacity. However, there is another ray of hope, a ¹Greenpeace India, Gujarat Energy Research Management Institute (GERMI) and IWMI-Tata Water Policy Program analysis finds that if solar pumps were to replace traditional water pumps in farms across the country, India could surpass its solar target of 100 GW by 2022.

The analysis was released at a roundtable conference in Gandhinagar attended by leading think-tanks, farmer groups, policy advocacy, research groups, and solar pumps and microgrid businesses. It discussed steps necessary for the successful implementation of KUSUM (Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahaabhiyan) – a central government scheme promoting solar irrigation pumps.

This scheme will not only help us achieve the renewables target and solve erratic power supply problem but also help the farmers earn extra money. Net metered if sized adequately, can result in excess power that can be fed into the grid; farmers can then earn money for the power injected into the grid. Although government announced the plan in the union budget 2018-2019, the scheme is yet to see the light of the day, due to bottlenecks in fund allocations, further pushing the timelines. But pushing deadlines is not an option anymore, losing KUSUM to deadlines might end the solar revolution, before it could practically take off. It is crucial that we demand the Ministry of Finance to release funds for solar pump installations to empower India's farmers, and we can't do it alone.



TAKE ACTION

¹[Read more here](#)

TO BE OR NOT TO BE

Maharashtra has been facing degrading air quality over past years, which is a major factor resulting in various severe respiratory diseases, heart diseases, cancer and even nervous disorders, apart from jeopardising the economy and overall health. A Right to Information query by Greenpeace India has highlighted the immediate need for Maharashtra to step up its efforts for combating air pollution on National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). Maharashtra is home to 25 cities with alarmingly high levels of air pollution above permissible levels. Out of these 25 cities 17 have been identified as **Non-attainment cities by CPCB (Central Pollution Control Board) in 2016**. They are known as ‘non-attainment cities’ as the pollution levels (PM10) in these cities have been constantly above 60 µg/m³ over past years.



Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) mentions that even though seven out of the 17 cities in Maharashtra submitted their action plans these plans have been asked to be revised and to be re-submitted. Additionally, the rest of the 10 cities are yet to submit their plans.

Sunil Dahiya, Senior Campaigner, Greenpeace India said “Despite Maharashtra having the highest number of non-attainment cities, lack of even one implementable action plan raises grave concerns about the government’s preparedness to mitigate air pollution crisis and fight the health emergency the state faces due to hazardous air pollution levels.”

Adding further Dahiya said, “Delay by the central government in announcing a comprehensive NCAP with time bound targets is also another concern and is proving to be a hindrance in providing the necessary support and resources for state government to come up with plans in timely manner.”

Records from 2017 suggest, that the action plans which have been submitted by various cities are merely responses to CPCB directions sent out to Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) in July 2016.

NCAP Progress Check: Status of City-Wise Action Plans for Maharashtra with CPCB

Action Plan Not Received	Requested for Revised Action Plan
Akola, Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Nagpur, Nashik, Navi Mumbai, Sangli, Solapur, Ulhasnagar	Amaravati, Aurangabad, Jalna, Kolhapur, Latur, Mumbai, Pune

[Read more here](#)

SAMSUNG WALKS ON THE PATH TO RENEWABLES



Samsung Electronics, one of the biggest players in the electronics market officially announced to commit to 100% renewable energy in the United States, Europe and China by 2020. This comes after months of campaigning and global protests to set a clear renewable energy goal for its operations as well as its supply chain. So here are the three most important steps that Samsung has decided to take:

- A 100% renewable energy commitment in the US, China and Europe by 2020, where the company has 17 of its 38 global manufacturing factories, offices and buildings (including all its own manufacturing factories).
- Onsite installation of solar and geothermal energy in Korea, near its Hwaseong, Pyongtaek, and Suwon semiconductor plants. Samsung also supports the government's national strategic plan to increase the country's renewable energy use by 20% by 2030.
- Join the Carbon Disclosure Project's (CDP) supply chain program next year, which helps to identify and manage climate change risks, to lead change in their supply chain.

Greenpeace has been campaigning on Samsung Electronics to show its leadership and commit to 100% renewable energy, following other major IT brands like Apple which committed to renewables in 2012. Since December 2017, activists called out Samsung to 'Stop Fuelling Climate Change' through a series of actions in Seoul, London, Berlin, New York and Taipei, aimed at challenging the tech giant to take immediate action and publicly commit to 100% renewables.

"Samsung Electronics is the first electronics manufacturing company in Asia to set a renewable energy target. This commitment could have an enormous impact in reducing the company's massive global manufacturing footprint, and shows how critical industry participation is in reducing emissions and accelerating the transition to renewable energy. More companies should follow suit and set renewable energy targets, and governments should promote policies that enable companies to procure renewable energy easily," said Insung Lee, IT Campaigner at Greenpeace East Asia.

Samsung has taken the step in right direction but we believe they can do much more and become true pioneer for renewables.

Just recently **Facebook announced that by 2020 all of its global operations will be powered by 100% renewable energy**, this clearly shows that together we can make an impossible task a possibility. So let's continue to try our best in making renewable powered world a reality.

[Read more here](#)

A GLOBAL 'WAVE OF RESISTANCE'



Known all over the world for its rich and biologically diverse marine life, the Salish Sea is home to the Southern Resident orca. However, the overall population of orcas in this coastline has been shrinking by the day. In fact now, the Salish Sea has no more than 74 orcas which have been declared endangered.

Dwindling food supplies, increased marine traffic and climate change have been instrumental in decreasing the population of orcas in this coastline. But currently the Trans Mountain Expansion Project (TMEP) is the biggest threat that could push them over the edge. The Canadian government plans to buy tar sand pipelines from Kinder Morgan, one of the largest energy infrastructure companies in North America. Tar sands are a mixture of clay, sand, water and bitumen and are notoriously responsible for some of the dirtiest, costlier and most polluting oil in the world.

The pipeline expansion could also turn the home of the 75 remaining orcas into a tar sands tanker superhighway – bringing over 400 tankers through their critical habitat every year. The noise from a sevenfold increase in tanker traffic would also interfere with the orca's ability to find what little food there is left to eat.

Not just the orcas, but any spill, would undermine the access to clean water to 17 million people. According to a Greenpeace USA report, a diluted bitumen spill remains a risk for coastal communities all along the Pacific Coast – from British Columbia to Washington to Oregon to California.

Oil spill disasters have been one of the major concerns of the marine world for a long time now. They are commercial and environmental catastrophes. The Gulf War oil spill, the Atlantic Empress disaster, the ABT Summer, are just a few examples of some of the biggest marine disasters. Coastal communities that rely on fishing and tourism have already suffered billions of dollars in economic damages following such catastrophes.

Following such revelations, Greenpeace launched a campaign called the Wave of Resistance. Using this, Greenpeace participated in global actions to stop destructive tar sand pipelines and to call on banks to not fund such projects.

Greenpeace campaigned and took actions against some of the most renowned entities and personalities, across the world including Justin Trudeau, JP Morgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon, Barclays, BBVP.

And while it's a wrap for now, Greenpeace is globally working to build the pressure on banks and Justin Trudeau, to put an end to toxic sand tar pipelines.



TAKE ACTION

WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY DAY

“If your photographs are not good enough, you aren’t close enough” -Robert Capa

Although the art of photography has evolved over the centuries, the visual impact of photographs continue to be visceral. Photography has acted as a medium and a tool for bearing witness. And as we globally celebrated World Photography Day on August 19th, here are some pictures from the Greenpeace archive, that have inspired and motivated hundreds and thousands across the world.



Whale secured alongside the Yushin Maru No.2 catcher ship from the Japanese whaling fleet. (2006). © Greenpeace / Kate Davison



Chlorine Action Atochem Blockade – France (1993). © Greenpeace / Michael Jackson © Greenpeace International



Big river boat trapped on a sand bank East of Barreirinha, during one of the worst droughts ever recorded in the Amazon, (2005)

© Daniel Beltrá / Greenpeace



Logger in Cameroon, (1999). © Steve Morgan / Greenpeace

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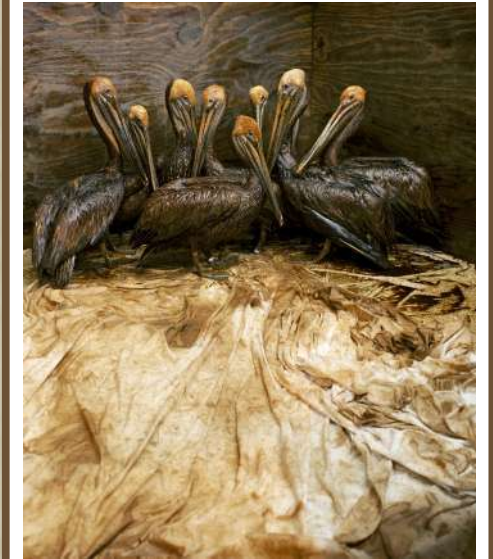


Chernobyl in the Ukraine became the site of the most infamous nuclear disaster accident of all. In 1986 the explosion of the nuclear reactor affected the lives of millions in Western Russia, Belarus and the Ukraine, (2005).

© Robert Knoth / Greenpeace



Rescue workers and local volunteers attempt to clean up the oil spill at Ao Phrao beach in Ko Samet, Rayong Province, (2013). © Roengrit Kongmuang / Greenpeace
© Ivan Donchev / Greenpeace



Oiled Brown Pelicans in Louisiana, (2010).

© Daniel Beltrá / Greenpeace

[Read more here](#)

EVENTS

On the 8th of Sept, Greenpeace India along with its allies, organised an event in Kolkata, on Solar revolution. While India has been pushing for solar rooftop revolution since the Paris Agreement, the overall uptake has been really low.

This reluctance could be attested to lack of awareness, inhibitions around solar and understanding of how photovoltaic cells work, amongst others.

The event was specially designed to break the myths around solar. Greenpeace India, their donors along with its ally Sunfund, met in a cozy cafe to discuss and enlighten each other on the solar revolution.

The audience although small, were an eclectic group who had come together from various walks of life. Some donors also took the opportunity to address the audience and share their expertise as well as inhibitions - like policies of West Bengal, brand awareness, etc.

Such events not only help us to talk about our campaigns but also gives a voice to our supporters.



GREENPEACE

ग्रीनपीस

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