Why Aren’t You Scared? The State of Climate Change in our Province and the World

Oliver Baker

A little bit about me

- Grade 12 at NKEC
- French Immersion Student
- Sports, music
- Environmental
  - Science Fair Projects

WHY AM I HERE?

What is a COP?

- Conference of Parties
  - All states in the Convention are represented
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
  - 27th conference
  - COP27 is for climate change

COP27

SHARM EL-SHEIKH

EGYPT 2022



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- Initiative of **TakingItGlobal**
- Climate Change Education
- High school students globally
- Initiatives within schools

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What was **COY17**?

- Climate Change Conference of the Youth
- Pre-event
- Workshops
- Artwork



COY17 - Conference of Youth

- Presentations
- Connections
  - Climate Science



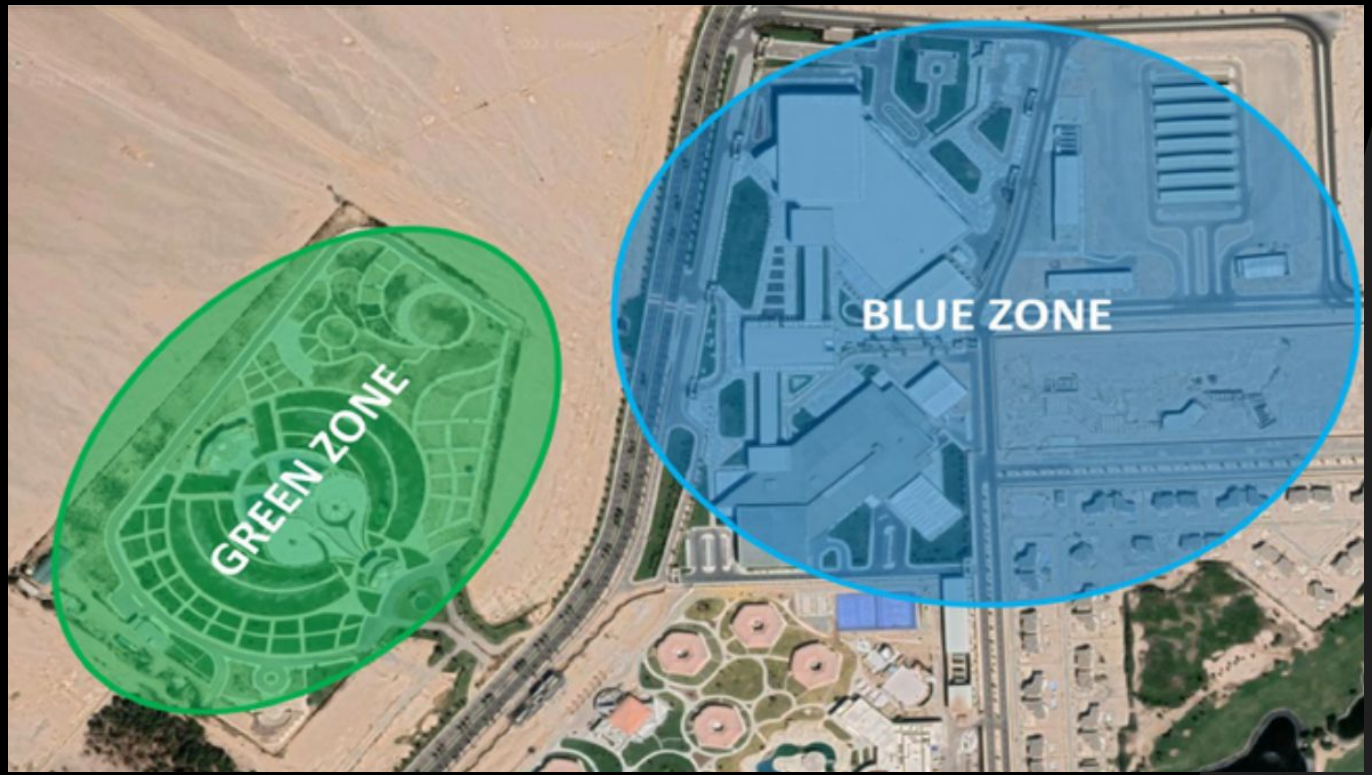


Climate Science

- Climate education - theme of COP
- **Duolingo**, but for climate change
  - Peer-reviewed courses
  - Difficulty levels
  - Quizzes



COP27



Blue Zone vs Green Zone

Blue Zone

- Negotiations
- Country offices and pavilions
- Official exhibits

Green zone

- Exhibits
- Presentations

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Blue Zone Delegates

First Impressions of the Green Zone



First Impressions of the Green Zone



The Green Zone

- Exhibits
  - Egypt-related
  - Empty booths
  - Not busy
  - Nothing to buy

The Green Zone

- Presentations
  - Cancelled
  - No schedule
- One café
- App

Sum up the Green Zone

- The side-attraction
- Eye-opening

Greenwashing

- What is it?
  - Advertising and misinformation deceptively used to make it look like an organization or gov’t is green

Greenwashing

- How did it affect COP?
  - Less people
  - Postponed first day
  - Not set up
- Was it apparent?

Second Impressions of the Green Zone (Greenwashing)



Before and After COP





Renewable Energy



Side events

- Not affiliated with U.N.
- Same location

NYT Climate Forward Debate



NYT Climate Forward Debate

This house believes that fossil fuel expansion is a prerequisite for a just transition.

Extreme Hangouts

- “Giving Youth Changemakers a Voice”
- Panels
  - Making Farming Sexy
- Meet speakers, ask questions
- Share my perspective



Main Results of COP (Blue zone)

- “Loss and Damage” fund for vulnerable countries
- Canada reduce emissions by 75% by 2030
- Canada “fought hard” to limit 1.5° Celsius

Importance of this trip

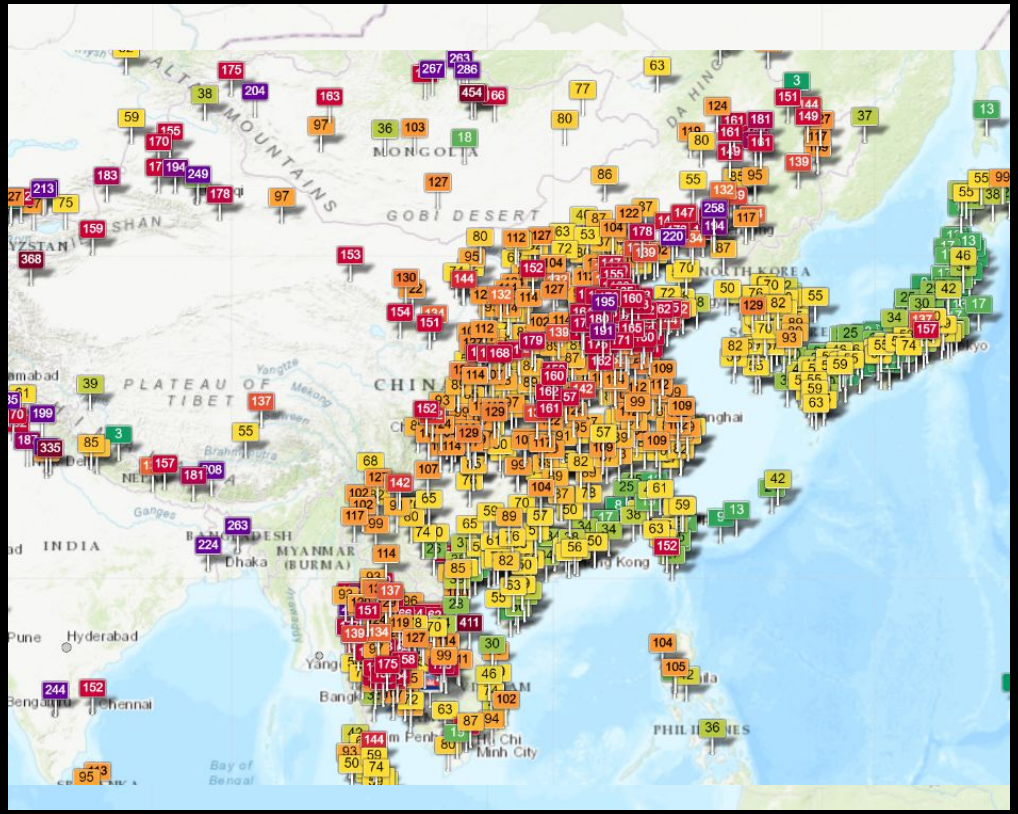
- Important conversations
- Youth are represented
  - I’m a child
  - Parents could be youth?
- Only children there
  - Because of Greta Thunberg

What does that tell us about here?

Education Back Home

- Students don't know
  - When were they taught?
  - Thinking their actions won’t have an impact
  - Or that climate change won’t impact them?
  - **Emotional education** as climate education

Air Quality Index



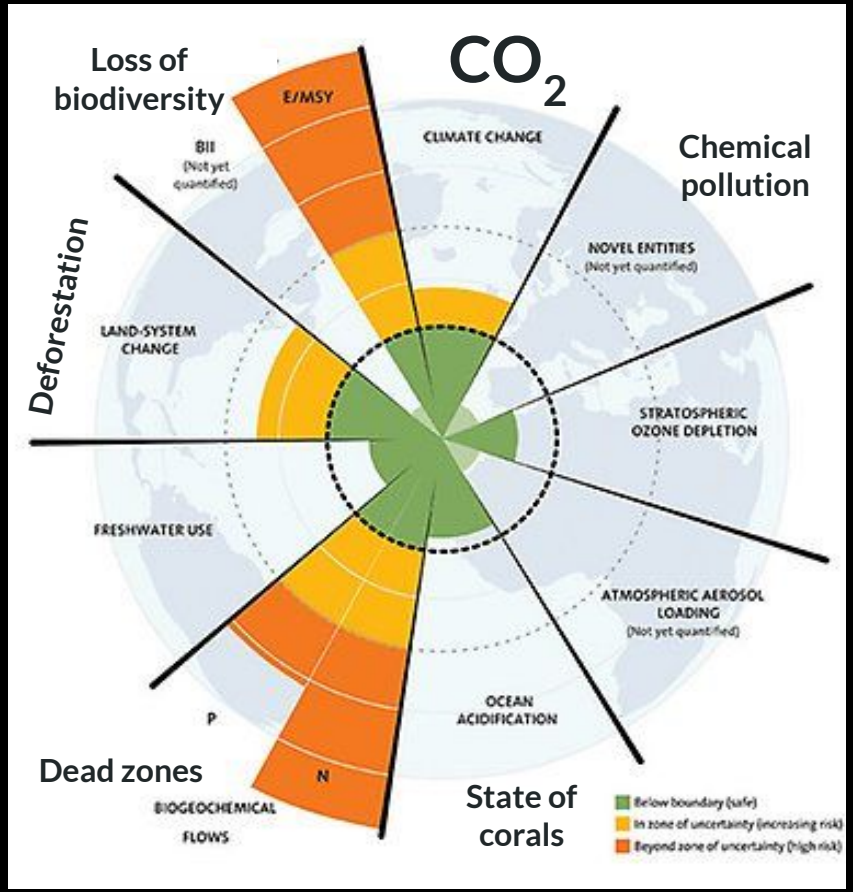
Good	Moderate	Unhealthy for sensitive groups	Unhealthy	Very Unhealthy	Hazardous

What happens if we don't limit to 1.5°C?

Planetary boundaries

- Humans in control of change
  - Losing our brakes
- Boundary is danger zone
  - Non-linear change
- Tipping points
  - Risk of destabilizing

Planetary boundaries



(J. Lokrantz/Azote based on Steffen et al. 2015.)

Planetary boundaries

- There is hope!
- Science turns on headlights

Tipping points are important

- Earth is interconnected
- One tipping point leads to another

What can be done?

What can we do?

- There is no one solution
- Requires global collaboration
- Whatever helps, helps
  - Positive > Negative ?
  - There should not be a negative

What can we do?

- Individual action
  - Reduce
    - **Carbon footprint**
    - Water footprint
    - Plastic consumption
  - Encourage friends/family

Did I accomplish my goal?

- ❑ Bring the Nova Scotia perspective to the big table
- ❑ Engage with other youth changemakers and officials
  - ❑ Build connections
- ❑ Become more aware
  - ❑ Find out what needs to be done and why it isn’t being done

Takeaways

- From COP
  - Fossil fuel debate
  - Representing children
  - Necessary conversations
- Tipping points
- Solutions
  - Reduce your carbon footprint
  - Educate, emotionally

Thank you.
Questions?

Homework: Breaking Boundaries on Netflix