

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for gathering here today. We are facing an unprecedented challenge: climate change. The science is clear: global temperatures have risen by 1.1 degrees Celsius since the late 19th century. Our ice caps are shrinking, and sea levels are rising nearly 3.3 millimeters annually. This is not just about melting glaciers; it's an urgent, tangible threat to communities worldwide.

Consider this: more than 11% of the world's population are currently vulnerable to climate impacts such as hurricanes, droughts, and floods, and this number continues to grow. Yet, there is hope. Transitioning to renewable energy sources could reduce carbon emissions by over 70% by 2050. Investing in sustainable infrastructure creates jobs and boosts local economies, offering a brighter and healthier future.

Together, by pushing for policy change and committing to sustainable practices, we can alter the course. The time for action is now. Let's stand united for a sustainable, resilient future. Thank you.