



Transform yourself
Transform our world

Date: **July 11, 2023**

To: **Global Climate Policy Makers**

Subject: **UN IPCC's Dangerously Misleading Emissions Accounting Conventions**

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (UN IPCC) is misleading global policymakers, and the public into advocating policies that will not solve the climate crisis and instead, will actually exacerbate it.

That's why I'm writing this open letter to you today, asking you to look into this matter in depth.

As you know, the UN IPCC is the scientific group that monitors and assesses all global science related to climate change. However, it is fatally flawed because it uses a consensus process by which the political representatives of nations override and veto scientific recommendations, potentially distorting the science.

Specifically, the Summary for Policymakers section of the UN IPCC reports is filtered through greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions accounting conventions that are dangerously misleading and could end up leading the world down a path of ecological annihilation.

In my professional assessment, the UN IPCC's emissions accounting conventions systematically minimize the impact of animal agriculture and maximize the impact of fossil fuel burning by using **NET** accounting for anthropogenic land use change data and **GROSS** accounting for fossil fuel use data.

At present, the vegetation and soil on land store an estimated **7883** Billion tons of CO₂ (carbon dioxide). Humans have cut down roughly half the trees on the planet over the past 10,000 years, while destroying the native vegetation and eroding the soil on more than half the ice-free land area of the planet. And yet, the UN IPCC's **NET** accounting (subtracting the CO₂ stored away by nature) assigns just **92** Billion tons of CO₂ emissions due to anthropogenic land use change over those 10,000 years.

In contrast, by using **GROSS** accounting, without subtracting the CO₂ stored away by nature, the UN IPCC calculates that fossil fuel burning has caused **1632** Billion tons of CO₂ emissions.

By mixing **NET** and **GROSS** emissions accounting, using an apples vs. oranges comparison, the UN IPCC is misleading policymakers and the public into advocating policies that will not solve the climate crisis and instead, will actually exacerbate it.

Sincerely,

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About the author: Dr. Sailesh Rao is a systems engineer by profession and he has been working on healing the earth's climate full-time since 2006. He is the author of the Animal Agriculture *Position Paper* that was published in the peer-reviewed *Journal of Ecological Society* in 2021. Prior to founding *Climate Healers* in 2007, Dr. Rao was mainly responsible for the transformation of early analog internet connections to more robust digital connections, while accelerating their speed ten-fold.