

What will it take to change the world?

Our Earth is on an unsustainable path. But we can change it. And here's how:

Climate change is widespread, rapid and intensifying.

Estimates suggest we are already consuming the natural resources of 1.6 Earths.¹ Since 1970, temperatures have risen more rapidly than in any other 50-year period over the past 2,000 years.²

But we have the power to stop the clock and learn to live in a changed world.

So what can we do to choose a different future?

Decarbonisation is one answer. It needs to happen fast.

Collective action to leave carbon in the past will slow rising temperatures. It could even stop them.

The EU aims to be the first 'climate-neutral continent' by 2050. And China has pledged carbon neutrality by 2060.

Companies, more and more, are committing to net zero. In 2019, there were 500. In 2020: 1,500.³

Radical decarbonisation is driving that change. We're scaling up renewable strategy. It's also about electrification instead of relying on fossil fuels, and demand for clean technology.

Countries and companies are coming on board. And now, so are investors.

It also means resilience in a changed world.

Mitigating emissions is essential. But we can't ignore the need to adapt – to transform our lives to cope with climate change.

It means regenerative agriculture, energy-efficient architecture and public infrastructure that's resistant to things like heat waves and flash floods.

Our behaviours and our decisions drive these initiatives. We can encourage actions that acknowledge the irreversible effects of climate change.

So that our world is more resilient, and better equipped to survive and to thrive.

¹ The Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review, February 2021

² Climate Change 2021 – The Physical Science Basis, Summary for Policymakers, IPCC, August 2021

³ Accelerating Net Zero, Data-Driven EnviroLab and the NewClimate Institute, September 2020

It's about investment, innovation and ambition.

Government policies will push companies to become more sustainable, while consumers and financial markets will reward those leading the sustainability revolution.

The US government's US\$1tn infrastructure bill includes US\$73bn for clean energy. The European Green Deal plans to mobilise €1tn to 2030.

The work to mitigate and adapt will create new opportunities in things like renewables, smart buildings, electric transport and carbon capture.

Investors can support the innovators and the trailblazers. And reward those whose businesses, actions and strategies are part of the solution.

To find out more about investing in a sustainable future and our other top investment trends, read our latest Investment Outlook.