

EQUILIBRI

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Al lettore 219

Parigi 2015. Conferenza sul Clima

APERTURA

La difficile strada che passa per Parigi
di Carlo Carraro e Marinella Davide 233

Gli obiettivi nazionali di riduzione delle emissioni
di Francesca Romanin Jacur 233

Per la cura della casa comune. Un'Enciclica che guarda a Parigi?
di Simone Morandini 239

Ventiquattro anni di negoziati sul clima
di Viridiana Ammendola e Jacopo Crimi 247

PROPOSTE

Fare rete. Fare presto. Obiettivi più vicini per lo sviluppo sostenibile
di Sabina Ratti 255

Il ruolo chiave del settore privato nelle politiche sul clima
di Georg Kell. Intervista di Irene Hell 260

Elementi fondamentali per il successo della COP21
di Sustainable Development Solutions
Network Leadership Council 266

Paradossi, rischi e speranze del negoziato sul clima
di Francesco Rutelli 275

Gli impegni internazionali sul clima del settore oil&gas di Rosanna Fusco e Luigi Sampaolo	282
Accesso all'energia e lotta al cambiamento climatico per uno sviluppo economico inclusivo e sostenibile di Carlo Carraro e Marinella Davide	287
BUONE PRATICHE	
Nexus. Acqua, energia, cibo di Isabella Alloisio	299
Una gestione virtuosa dell'acqua per un sistema agroalimentare a prova di cambiamenti climatici di Aurora D'Aprile	311
Finanza per il clima. Un laboratorio innovativo di Barbara Buchner	320
GRANDE INTERVISTA	
Una politica dell'avvenire. Conversazione con Bruno Latour di Stefania Ferrando	335
Abstracts	347
Hanno collaborato	355

Il tempo scade. Non c'è più molto tempo. A fine novembre si aprirà a Parigi la Conferenza sul Clima, nota anche come COP21, il cui obiettivo è di raggiungere un accordo universale per contenere il riscaldamento climatico globale entro i 2°C.

La presa di coscienza del carattere antropico del cambiamento climatico e del suo intensificarsi – come indicato dalla comunità scientifica e *in primis* nei rapporti dell'IPCC – ha guadagnato terreno nell'opinione pubblica più attenta, nei governi e nelle imprese. Queste ultime – e in particolare i principali gruppi energetici europei – hanno raccolto la sfida lanciata nei loro confronti da Ban Ki-moon, il Segretario Generale dell'ONU, impegnandosi nella lotta contro il cambiamento climatico. Un passo importante, vera novità rispetto al passato, una conferma del lavoro svolto dalle varie conferenze sul clima di questi ultimi anni – e dall'evidenza dei dati empirici raccolti – per un'economia sostenibile e senza carbonio.

Questa presa di coscienza mondiale della necessità di frenare il processo di riscaldamento del Pianeta puntando su modi di produzione e consumo più sostenibili suscita molte attese. La Conferenza di Parigi dovrà dare indicazioni affidabili e vincolanti, tutte «politiche», a sostegno dell'obiettivo mondiale di riduzione dei gas serra (del 40-70% entro il 2050, come suggerisce l'IPCC), sulla durata e sulla natura giuridica dell'accordo, sugli impegni presi dai vari paesi (INDC), sull'entità delle risorse necessarie per raggiungere gli obiettivi di mitigazione e sulla loro distribuzione (Fondo Verde per il Clima) e sul trasferimento di tecnologie verdi ai paesi in via di sviluppo. Tecnologie da sviluppare ulteriormente per garantire la riduzione degli inquinanti e l'adattamento climatico anche dei paesi più sviluppati. Di qui la centralità della questione finanziaria e l'importanza del coinvolgimento diretto delle imprese: per loro una catastrofe climatica sarebbe anche una catastrofe economica.

I vari contributi presenti nel numero affrontano in modo documentato questi problemi, avanzando proposte e suggerendo possibili soluzioni. Si commenta pure la recente Enciclica di Papa Francesco e il suo invito alla

conversione, cioè al cambiare rotta, ad assumere uno «sguardo diverso» sul vivente. Non manca la presentazione di alcune «buone pratiche» nello spirito dell'«Agenda di soluzioni», l'iniziativa complementare all'accordo ufficiale – introdotta per la prima volta in occasione di COP21 – che coinvolge attori non statali sollecitandoli a sviluppare azioni a supporto degli impegni sottoscritti dagli stati per raggiungere gli obiettivi di mitigazione.

La soglia da non superare è nota. Farlo significherebbe sconvolgere l'esistenza delle future generazioni e minacciare la loro stessa sopravvivenza. L'opinione pubblica percepisce tutto questo perché avverte che il clima è cambiato. Ma la rappresentazione che ha di tale cambiamento è ancora fluida perché le relazioni tra le varie dimensioni – ambientale, economica, geopolitica – non sono immediate e fatica a integrarle. La saggezza raccomanda prudenza e chiede non solo maggiori informazioni, ma un percorso che, organizzandole, aiuti a orientarsi. È ciò che questo numero di «Equilibri» si è proposto di fare in vista della Conferenza di Parigi. Uno sguardo e una consapevolezza diversi per pensare e costruire un mondo abitabile.

2015 PARIS CLIMATE CONFERENCE

OPENING

The Bumpy Road to Negotiations Passes through Paris, *Carlo Carraro and Marinella Davide*

Expectations on the upcoming Paris Conference on climate change are high and, at the same time, difficult to realize. If on one side, all major emitters are required to effectively contribute to a global emissions reduction effort, on the other side, further elements will play a crucial role. Among them, the availability of financial and technical resources to support both mitigation and adaptation actions in developing countries, the need to harmonize the different contributions and how to address equity issues will be key in shaping the ambition of the future deal and the success of the whole UNFCCC process.

Keywords: Climate Change, Paris Conference

The Intended Nationally Determined Contributions to Emission Reductions, *Francesca Romanin Jacur*

Climate change negotiations in the framework of the UNFCCC are expected to lead to the adoption of an international agreement at the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties in Paris at the end of 2015. To operationalize the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, the future agreement will most likely combine a top-down approach, setting internationally agreed ground-rules and deadlines, with bottom-up elements, such as «Intended nationally determined contributions» (INDC) to reduce emissions by States Parties on the basis of their respective national circumstances. To ensure the sound functioning of this regulatory system, adequate monitoring, reporting, and verifica-

tion procedures will need to be established. If the international community wants to achieve ambitious and real climate objectives, it should build a solid and inclusive global agreement that is capable of further developing appropriate rules. The creation of a transparency framework that enhances coherence, comparability between countries and accountability is crucial to ensure the effectiveness, the environmental integrity and the legitimacy of the whole system.

Keywords: Climate Change, Paris Conference, Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC)

Laudato si': On Care for our Common Home – an Encyclical Looking to Paris?, Simone Morandini

The Encyclical *Laudato si': on care for our common home* devotes ample and documented attention to the climate issue and to the need for efficient mitigation action. One may wonder whether the proximity and relevance of the COP21 meeting in Paris contributed to speeding up the publication of a text that originates from a broad and in-depth eco-theological meditation inspired by Francis of Assisi.

Keywords: Climate Change, *Laudato si'* Encyclical

Twenty-five Years of Climate Negotiations, Viridiana Ammendola and Jacopo Crimi

FEEM has been a key actor in the climate change arena for more than 20 years in a number of different important venues. First, through its important scientific contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) process since 1995, especially within the working group dealing with the possible pathways for mitigation of greenhouse gases and related costs. Second, through its steady contribution to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiation

process, always supporting the Italian Ministry of the Environment when participating in formal climate negotiations.

Keywords: Climate Change, Climate Negotiations

PROPOSALS

The Time to Network is Now. Sustainable Development Goals are Getting Closer, *Sabina Ratti*

This year will mark a turning point for international commitment on climate change. 2015 is the year in which the commitments made in 2000 for the Millennium Development Goals will end, and although not all of the goals have been achieved, good progress has been made. This year the United Nations will launch new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved over the next fifteen years. The SDGs will be based on a proposal set forth by a 30-member Open Working Group composed of a broad number of public and private entities. The proposal, developed according to a science-based approach, highlights «the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions». Negotiations will culminate in the 21st Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change that will be held in Paris this December. Our hope is that they will lead to favorable solutions to deal with the great issues raised by climate change.

Keywords: Climate Change, Sustainable Development, Networking

Business to Play a Key Role in Climate Policies, Georg Kell. An Interview by Irene Hell

One thousand companies as well as investment powerhouses such as BlackRock and BT Pension and the Rockefeller and Rothschild funds are pushing for a global carbon deal. UN Global Compact founder Georg Kell tells us why.

Keywords: Climate Change, Climate Policies, Global Carbon Deal

Key Elements to Achieve Success at COP21, Sustainable Development Solutions Network Leadership Council

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) highlights eight key criteria for ensuring that an agreement at the COP21 in Paris avoids highly dangerous climate change. The focus is on mitigation and climate finance required in order to respect the 2°C upper limit. The SDSN does underscore, however, that a Paris agreement will need to cover a broader agenda, including adaptation to climate change, technology transfer, accountability, transparency, differentiation, and the appropriate legal form of an agreement.

Keywords: Climate Change, Sustainable Development, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

Paradoxes, Risks and Hopes in Climate Negotiations, Francesco Rutelli

The Climate Conference in Paris will surely produce an agreement. But what type of agreement? Will it represent the turning point everybody is expecting? Many countries will participate and not all of them at the same level. The agreement of last November between the US and China is a good starting point. However, there is still plenty of resistance and its five-year implementation is too long. The Fondazione Centro Futuro Sostenibile sets forth three proposals for the Paris meeting: to speed up the elimina-

tion of fluorine compounds (Protocol of Montreal); to face the challenges connected with forests, agriculture, landscape and food with greater determination; at the legal level, making the future Paris agreement the most effective and timely of all.

Keywords: Climate Change, Paris Conference

International Climate Commitments in the oil&gas Sector, *Rosanna Fusco and Luigi Sampaolo*

Business has always kept a low profile in the climate change debate. Over the past year, however, both the oil&gas sector and policymakers have changed their approach toward this issue. Awareness has arisen that the involvement of the energy sector, and not its demonization, is a key step toward a low-carbon economy. This is why the main European oil&gas companies, ENI, BG Group, BP, Royal Dutch Shell, Statoil, Total – have made known their position in a letter signed by their managing directors and addressed to the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, to the President of the UNFCCC COP and to the governments of countries all over the world. The aim of the letter is to support a global agreement and to request the introduction of global carbon-pricing systems in order to avoid competitive distortions and to create a clear, stable and ambitious legal framework.

Keywords: Climate Change, oil&gas Sector, Carbon-Pricing

Energy Access and Climate Change Policies for an Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Development, *Carlo Carraro and Marinella Davide*

Reducing energy poverty and tackling climate change are among the major challenges of our time. Addressing these issues jointly offers the opportunity to expand access to energy services while shifting consumption from traditional dirty fuels towards more efficient and clean energies, with substantial benefits for the economic development, sustainability and quality

of life in developing countries as well as in developed nations. In recent times, international initiatives, national policies and innovative local practices are emerging to tackle the different aspects of this dual challenge.

Keywords: Energy Access, Climate Change, Sustainable Economic Development

GOOD PRACTICES

The Water-Energy-Food Nexus, *Isabella Alloisio*

The Water-Energy-Food Nexus (WEF Nexus) addresses the interrelated nature of our global natural resource systems. The WEF Nexus is a key topic in the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, and it aims to tackle simultaneously different issues, such as food and water security, the connection between global warming and water scarcity, and between climate change and food production, as well as energy security, and the connection between energy production and water and land use. Global projections indicate that demand for freshwater, energy and food will increase significantly over the next decades under the pressure of population growth, economic development, urbanization, technological changes, and climate change. A series of solutions are proposed and some best practices at the international level on the coordinated use of water and energy are presented.

Keywords: Water-Energy-Food Nexus, Natural Resources

Efficient Water Management for a Climate Change-Proof Agri-Food System, *Aurora D'Aprile*

Is there enough water to feed a growing population over the next 50 years, or will we run out of it? Agriculture accounts for 70% of global freshwater

withdrawal. In 2050 food demand is predicted to increase by 70%, while the impacts of climate change are set to add further stress to water availability, leading water supply to become less reliable in several areas. Current water use systems and future perspectives require solutions to better use water and guarantee food security under changing climate conditions.

Keywords: Climate Change, Water, Agri-Food System

Climate Finance. An Innovative Laboratory, *Barbara Buchner*

Private investors – often supported by public policy and finance – are already channeling significant amounts of money into the low-carbon economy in many countries around the world. These projects are bringing energy to communities, improving agriculture yields for small farmers, spurring economic growth, and helping countries mitigate and adapt to climate change. However, much more investment is needed to tackle the scale of the climate challenge. The Global Innovation Lab for Climate Finance is a global initiative that aims to drive billions of dollars of private investment into climate change mitigation and adaptation in developing countries. The Lab supports the identification and piloting of cutting edge climate finance instruments that can drive this investment and unlock new opportunities for action.

Keywords: Climate Change, Climate Finance

THE INTERVIEW

Policy for the Future. Conversation with Bruno Latour, *Stefania Ferrando*

The work of Bruno Latour, French anthropologist, sociologist, and professor at Sciences Po Paris, aims at elaborating conceptual and instrumen-

tal tools to develop new policy practices for dealing with environmental change for which humans are mostly responsible.

Keywords: Policy, Future, Environmental Change