## Global warming

In the coming years, all nations must start to consider global warming as a challenge as well as an opportunity. Global warming can be met with innovations and with market-based solutions that will increase the economy worldwide and create well-paid jobs for the next generation – as well as "green-collar" jobs.



Photo: Obwalden; Oliver Imfeld

Global warming represents a severe challenge and an opportunity to our way of life and healthy environment. Our planet or more precisely human beings are going to be destroyed if there is no change.

In 2011, Japan suffered one of the largest earthquakes in its history of nuclear power. The energy accident at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant was initiated primarily by the tsunami following the earthquake. Despite the efforts of firefighters and engineers, three reactors were overheated. The insufficient cooling led to hydrogen-air explosions and the release of radioactive material.



Some people argue that coal power stations should replace nuclear power plants, which releases contaminants. Others recommend making use of solar cells for roof renovation. How many kilometres of solar cell roofs and other areas would be necessary to guarantee electricity supply?

Shadowing is the inevitable result of solar cells, which has a negative impact on plants and vegetation. Whatever TECHNICAL solution we might think of, global warming remains a challenge.



Photo: Solar panels; wix



Photo: Lithium: recharging the batteries increases electricity consumption; wix

Many people are too quick to think that a viable alternative to fuel is electric battery. It is true that electric battery facilitates work on construction sites and the like (no cable clutter, direct access and mobility). Furthermore, cars generate less noise in the neighbourhood and reduce  $CO_2$  emissions. However, recharging the batteries increases electricity consumption. The production of these batteries overseas by itself is disastrous for the environment and its inhabitants like in Chile. The energy and mass of water used for gaining lithium is in contradistinction to responsible dealing with natural resources and protecting life, human beings and their home.

The conclusion is shocking: to protect our environment we damage foreign environment.

We need a positive change of LIFESTYLE – now. For example: eating local products and seasonal fruits, using more public transport and/or the bicycle, avoiding shopping tourism on weekends in London or Milan, keeping the house and flat under 25 degree C, having dogs and cats for farm usage only – thus we are limiting tons of pets food provided by intensive livestock farming causing  $CO_2$  emissions.

If we do not change our way of life, our planet is going to perish – and we are going to perish with it.



Photo: Obwalden; Oliver Imfeld

