‘People’

Climate justice politics

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‘Effects of Climate Change on the Triple Bottom Line’
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cartoons by Zapiro
Durban’s COP17
‘Conference of Polluters’
28 Nov-9 Dec 2011
International Convention Centre
World Summit on Sustainable Development
Johannesburg, 31 August 2002: 30,000 protested
UN ‘type-two partnerships’, privatisation of water, emissions trading, neoliberalism
A TIMETABLE TO REDUCE EMISSIONS?! 
..NOT UNTIL THERE'S MORE EVIDENCE OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE!
A gift from the corporate world!

Johannesburg World Summit 2002
Copenhagen Accord, COP 15, December 2009

• Jacob Zuma (SA)
• Lula da Silva (Brazil)
• Barack Obama (USA)
• Wen Jiabao (China)
• Manmohan Singh (India)

“they broke the UN!” (Bill McKibbon, 350.org)

non-binding! 4 degree increase!
world’s biggest polluter
lead US climate negotiator Todd Stern, on demand for recognising climate debt?

'The sense of guilt or culpability or reparations – I just categorically reject that'

Stern thus rejects core principle: ‘polluter pays’

is Stern welcome in Durban?

WikiLeaks revealed (Feb ‘10) Stern/Pershing bribery and bullying:

Ethiopia, Maldives, Bolivia, Ecuador
who owes? who caused climate change?
GHG/capita by country, 1950-2000

Canada
USA
EU
Australia
Russia
who loses from climate change?

a ‘Climate Demography Vulnerability Index’

main losers:
Central America,
central South America,
the Arabian Peninsula,
Southeast Asia and
much of Africa

Geographic disparities and moral hazards in the predicted impacts of climate change on human populations

J. Samson\textsuperscript{1}, D. Berteaux\textsuperscript{2}, B. J. McGill\textsuperscript{3} and M. M. Humphries\textsuperscript{4}
Cancun COP 16 revived market fix

in theory, yes, as a ‘castle in the sky’… but in reality relying upon carbon markets is like building that castle atop quicksand – given the market’s corruption, fraud, thievery, stagnation and speculation
carbon trading gimmick: US vice-president Al Gore (later a carbon trader) pushed for Kyoto to include emissions markets, in exchange for Washington’s promised support ... promise soon broken

Gore: ‘The European Union has adopted this US innovation and is making it work effectively there.’
(An Inconvenient Truth, p. 252)
emissions market’s five major crashes, 2006-09, 2010 stagnation, 2011 theft-closure, 2012 denouement?

does EU carbon trading ‘work effectively’?

impossible to finance renewable energy with such low carbon prices
Durban, South Africa: $15 million CDM pilot

Bisasar Road conversion of methane-to-electricity at environmentally-racist toxic dump

Africa’s largest landfill placed in black residential suburb (Clare Estate) by apartheid; municipality refused to close it thanks to World Bank 2002 investment hype: Prototype Carbon Fund credits

Sajida Khan’s family home

*project went ahead in 2008-09 and currently CDM is paid just €14/tonne*
what is ‘climate justice’?
core principles from Rights of Mother Earth conference, Cochabamba, Bolivia (April 2010)

• 50 percent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2017
• stabilising temperature rises to 1°C and 300 Parts Per Million
• acknowledging the climate debt owed by developed countries
  • full respect for Human Rights and the inherent rights of indigenous people
  • universal declaration of Mother Earth rights to ensure harmony with nature
  • establishment of an International Court of Climate Justice
• rejection of carbon markets, and REDD’s commodified nature and forests
  • promotion of change in consumption patterns of developed countries
  • end of intellectual property rights for climate technologies
  • payment of 6 percent of developed countries’ GDP for climate change

Evo Morales
Climate Change, Carbon Trading and Civil Society

Negative Returns on South African Investments

With climate change posing perhaps the gravest threat to humanity in coming decades, and with free market economics still hegemonic, it is little wonder so much effort has gone into creating a carbon market, no matter how much evidence has recently emerged about its flaws.

South Africa, a revealing pilot site, has initiated carbon trading projects with adverse economic, environmental and social impacts. South Africa pollutes at a rate twenty times higher than even the United States of America, measured by CO₂ emissions generated by each GDP dollar per person, so the idea of trading for carbon reductions is seductive – and potentially lucrative. Current state policy is supportive and a former environment minister is a market promoter, alongside the World Bank, the Dutch government and big oil companies.

Editors Patrick Bond, Rehana Dada and Graham Erion of the University of KwaZulu-Natal and the TransNational Institute have assembled this cutting-edge collection to highlight the urgent situation.

‘The most destructive effect of the carbon offset trade is that it allows us to believe we can carry on polluting. This crucially-needed book provides ample evidence of the trade’s other dangers to “beneficiaries”, with case studies of fraud, accounting tricks and maltreatment of people and the environment.’

George Monbiot, Guardian columnist and author of Heat

‘As representatives of people’s movements and independent organisations, we reject the claim that carbon trading will halt the climate crisis. This crisis has been caused more than anything else by the mining of fossil fuels and the release of their carbon to the oceans, air, soil and living things. This excessive burning of fossil fuels is now jeopardising Earth’s ability to maintain a liveable climate.’

‘Climate Justice Now! The Durban Declaration on Carbon Trading’
Durban’s COP17
‘Conference of Polluters’
28 Nov-9 Dec 2011
International Convention Centre
join us: alternative civil society ‘climate indaba’ summit at the Durban University of Technology

Satyagraha centre
Climate Justice Now! SA opposes emissions, privatised electricity, Eskom coal and nuclear, carbon trading: demands conservation/renewables and electricity-as-a-right to avoid this danger:

Hopes for the World Summit

...to save the environment!

...to uplift the poor!

...to keep exploiting the environment AND the poor while they fight it out!

Development

Johannesburg 2002