

CUGH Webinar, July 13, 2017

Implications of U.S. withdrawing from Paris Climate Accord, and Proposed U.S. Federal Budget Cuts

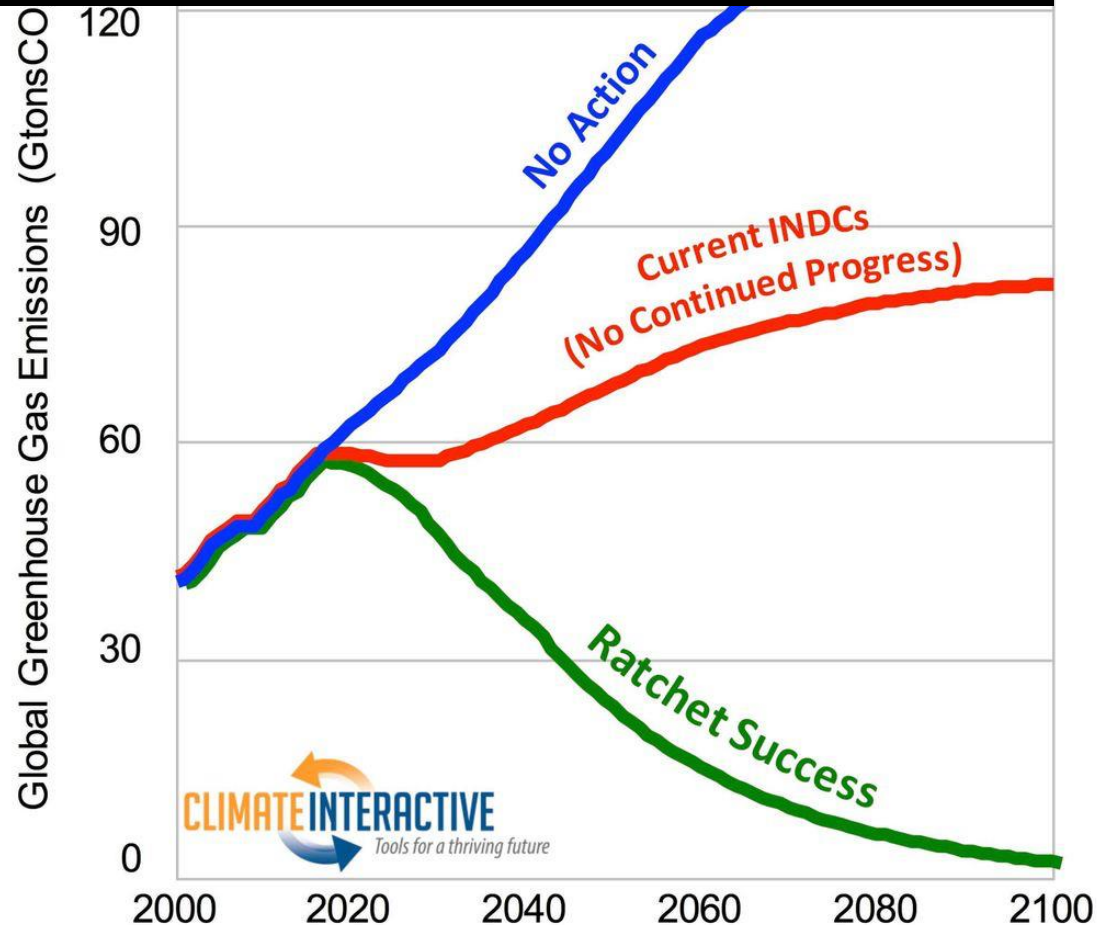


Jonathan Patz, Professor & Director
Global Health Institute
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Projections for COP21

IMPORTANCE OF THE HEALTH FRAME

- Need for immediate and substantial actions



Estimated
2100 temp:

4.5°C
8.1°F

3.5°C
6.3°F

1.8°C
3.2°F

Opportunities for Health

1. Energy Sector



2. Food Systems



3. Transportation/ Urban Planning



Current health impacts of fossil fuel combustion (main cause of climate change)

- **Outdoor air pollution** → 3.7 million deaths/yr – mostly from urban exposures
- **Indoor air pollution** → 4.3 million deaths/yr – mostly from inefficient biomass and coal cookstoves



Courtesy: D. Campbell-Lendrum, WHO

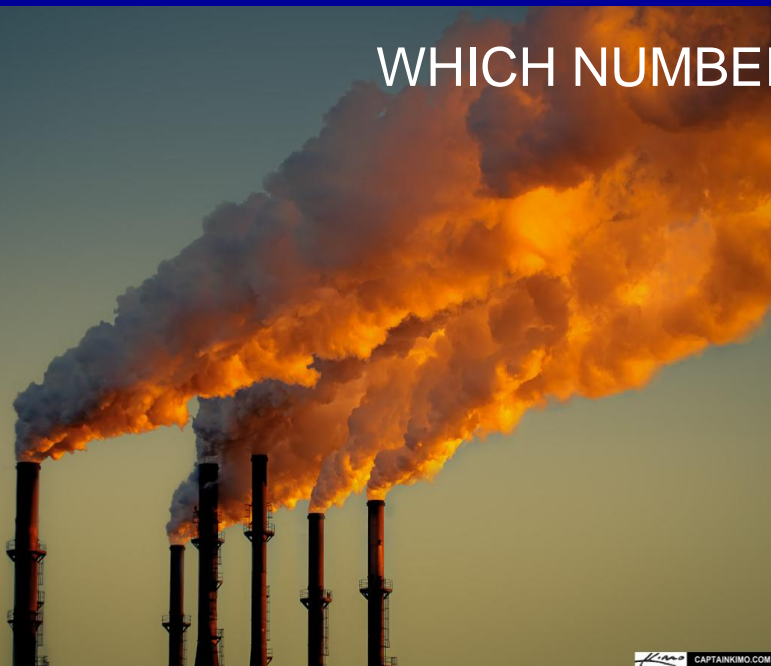
- ***Cost of cleaner energy:***

< \$30/ tCO₂

- ***Benefits of cleaner energy:***

- ***\$200*/ tCO₂***

WHICH NUMBER IS BIGGER???



(* Range: \$50 to \$380)

For E. Asia, co-benefits are **10 to 70 times** greater

West et al. 2013

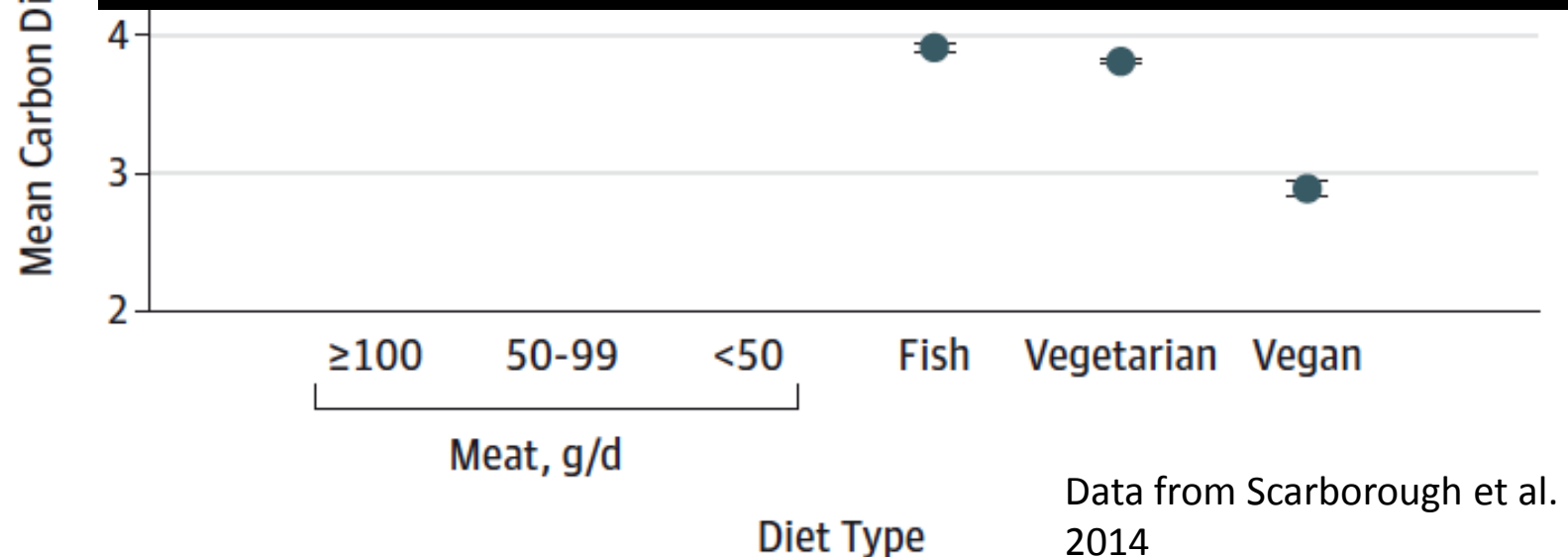
Diet and GHG Emissions

In UK, if halve meat consumption:

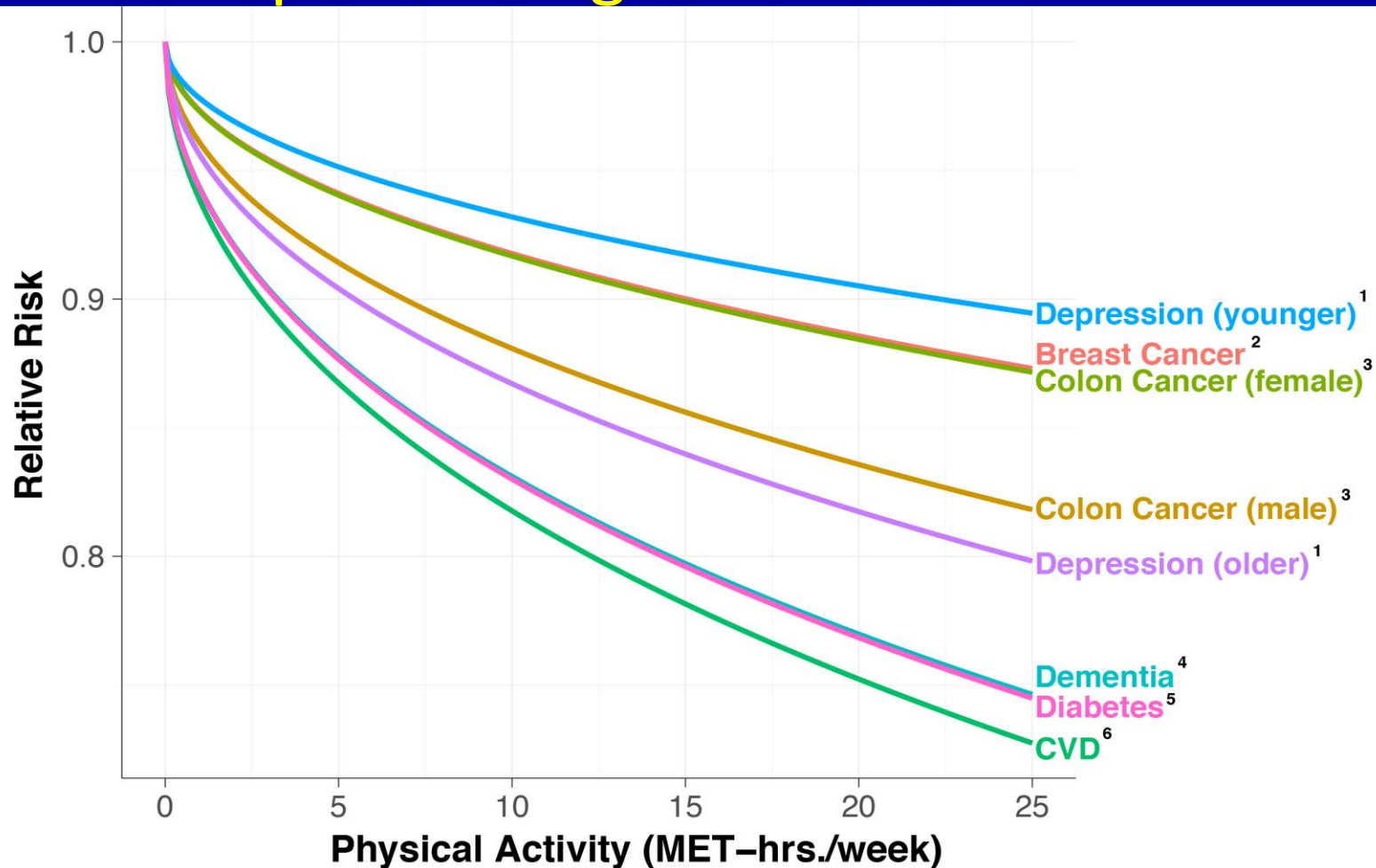
-- GHGs cut by 25–40%

-- Saturated fat falls by 40%

Westhoek, 2014



Based on Epidemiological Studies on Exercise



1 Woodcock J, Edwards P, Tonne C, Armstrong BG, Ashiru O, Banister D, et al. Public health benefits of strategies to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions: urban land transport. Supplementary webappendix. The Lancet. 2009;374:1930-1943.

2 Monninkhof EM, Elias SG, Vlems FA, et al. Physical activity and breast cancer: a systematic review. Epidemiology. 2007;18:137-157.

3 Harriss DJ, Atkinson G, Batterham A, et al. Lifestyle factors and colorectal cancer risk (2): a systematic review and meta-analysis of associations with leisure-time physical activity. Colorectal Disease. 2009;11:689-701.

4 Hamer M, Chida Y. Physical activity and risk of neurodegenerative disease: a systematic review of prospective evidence. Psycholical Medicine. 2009;39:3-11.

5 Jeon CY, Lokken RP, Hu FB, van Dam RM. Physical activity of moderate intensity and risk of type 2 diabetes: a systematic review. Diabetes Care. 2007;30:744-752.

6 Hamer M, Chida Y. Walking and primary prevention: a meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies. British Journal of Sports Medicine. 2008;42:238-243.

Announcement of U.S. withdrawing from

PARIS CLIMATE ACCORD

US Mayors urge Trump to recognise 'urgent' climate threat to cities



C40 city leaders insist they 'will not be slowed down' if new president fails to support climate change policy

WE ARE STILL IN

- **Climate Declaration Represents 120 Million Americans and \$6.2 Trillion of the U.S. Economy**
- **As of June 5, 1,219 governors, mayors, businesses, investors, and colleges and universities from across the U.S**
- **125 cities, 9 states, 902 businesses and investors, and 183 colleges and universities.**



Jonathan Patz @jonathanpatz

2h

China stepping up to defend the
[#ParisAgreement](#) on [#climatechange](#)

World Economic Forum @wef

Best of Davos: President Xi Jinping
on globalization and climate change.
wef.ch/2jPQazT

The Paris Agreement
is a hard-won
achievement... All
signatories should
stick to it rather than
walk away.

Xi Jinping
President of the People's Republic of China



World's largest floating solar array, China



Paris Climate Accord: U.S. stands alone

- The earliest possible date for the US to withdraw: **November 4, 2020** ... So still time to make some noise!
- At last month's G7 leading industrial economies, the six non-US members – Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the UK – publicly reaffirmed their “strong commitment to swiftly implement the Paris Agreement.” At last week's G20, US stood alone.
- Wind and solar power are projected to become a \$7 trillion market by 2040; China announce a \$360 billion investment in renewables over the next 3 years, creating 13 million new jobs.
- 70% of Americans support the Paris Agreement, and 65% feel that the nation should prioritize clean energy, according to Pew Research Ctr.

Former President of Ireland, Mary Robinson says,



"GOVERNMENTS WITH THE
RESOLVE TO HONOUR THE
VISION OF THE PARIS CLIMATE
AGREEMENT WILL BUILD A
WORLD POWERED BY
RENEWABLE ENERGY WHICH
**LIFTS MILLIONS OUT OF
POVERTY.**"

MARY ROBINSON, PRESIDENT,
MARY ROBINSON FOUNDATION - CLIMATE JUSTICE



U.S. Energy and Employment Report

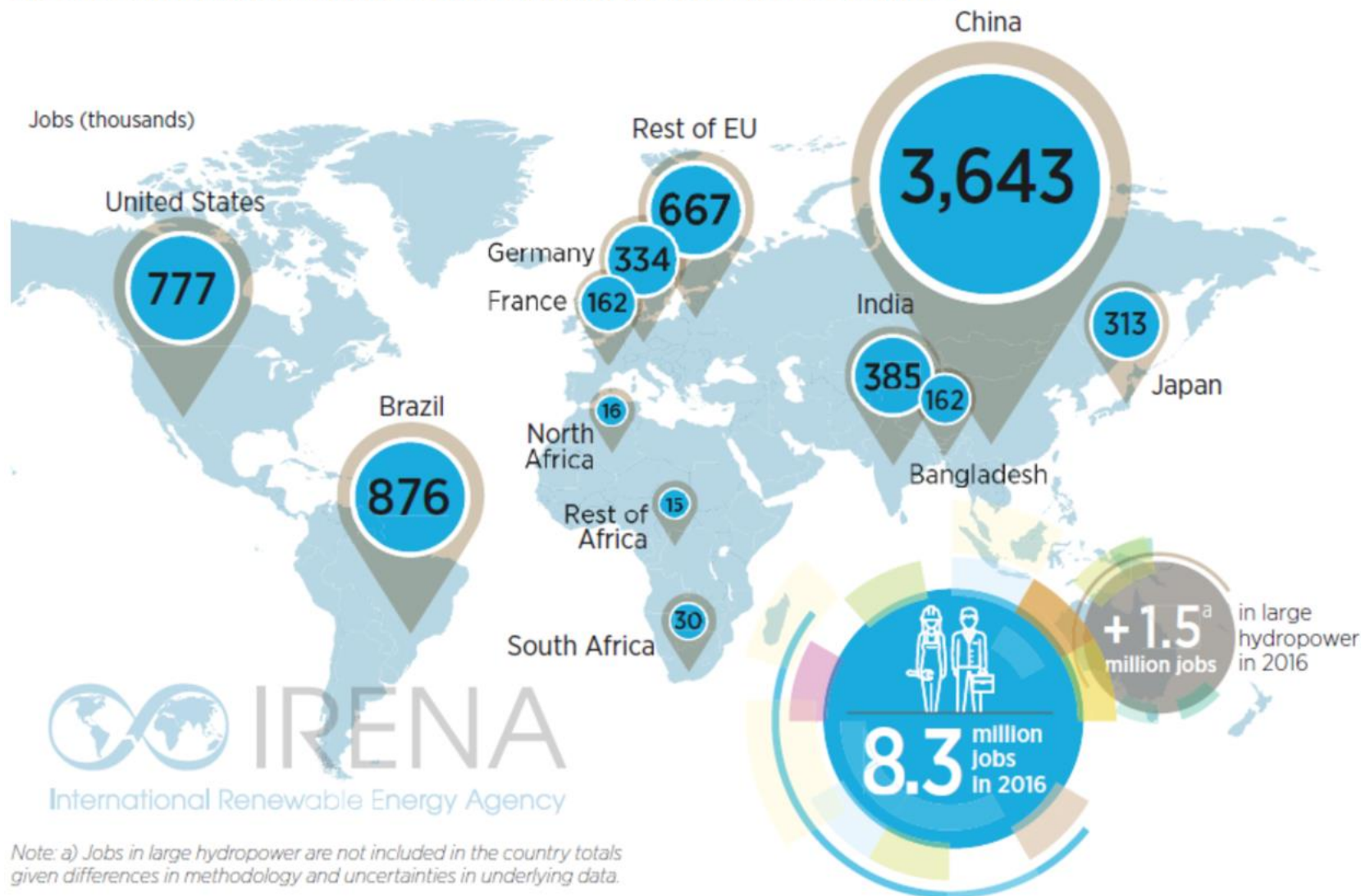


January
2017

Jobs and income => Health

- 1 million Americans are working near- or full-time in the energy efficiency, solar, wind, and alternative vehicles sectors, or **~5X current employment in the fossil fuel electric industry**, which includes coal, gas, and oil workers.
- If add part-time worker, the number jumps to 3 million American workers in the energy efficiency, solar, and wind sectors. That's 14 times the current employment in the fossil fuel electric industry.

FIGURE 5: RENEWABLE ENERGY EMPLOYMENT IN SELECTED COUNTRIES



10 Primary data are collected through correspondence with government entities and industry representatives. Secondary data are referenced from a review of a wide range of national, regional and global studies.

Draft U.S. Federal Budget

**CUTS TO E.P.A.
AND TO H.H.S.**

Proposed Budget Cuts: U.S.

- **US EPA** (31% cut overall, including 25% of workforce)
 - 80% cut, “**Diesel Emissions Reduction**” program
 - 86% cut, “Greenhouse Gas Reporting” (formerly “**Climate Protection Program**”)
 - i.e., ENERGY STAR & Ctr. Corporate Climate Leadership
 - 61% cut to research on, “**Sustainable and Healthy Communities**”
- Eliminate **Cross-Agency** “**Global Change Research Program**”

Proposed Budget Cuts: U.S. (cont)

- **Dept. Health & Human Services (HHS)** 18% overall cut
 - Elimination of the **Fogarty International Center**
 - 23% cut to National Institute of Environmental Health (**NIEHS**)
 - **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**
 - Elimination of “**Climate and Health**” program;
-Impact Wisconsin’s BRACE efforts
 - 28% cut in **Environmental Health** activities (health threats similar to Flint, MI)
 - 41% cut to **Global Health** collaboration
 - \$222.3 million cut in **Chronic Disease Prevention** and Health Promotion

Anyone against healthy places and people?



Therefore, assigning a price on carbon is the right choice, whether or not someone understands the science of climate change.

Thank you very much!



TWITTER: @jonathanpatz

<http://ghi.wisc.edu/>



Global Health Institute
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON