



Virtual Launch Event

OECD Report

Climate Tipping Points: Insights for Effective Policy Action

Losses and Damages from Climate Change and Horizontal Project on Climate and Economic Resilience

2 December 2022, 15:30 – 17:00 (CET) via Zoom

Registration link:

<https://meetoe.cd1.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0ld-upqTgoEtUQzDI8wAQTxYN9xndc20B->

A new OECD report reviews evidence that overshooting 1.5°C may push the earth over several tipping points, leading to irreversible and severe changes in the climate system. If triggered, tipping point impacts will rapidly cascade through socio-economic and ecological systems, leading to severe effects on human and natural systems and imposing important challenges for human adaptation. Of particular concern are the likely collapse of the West Antarctic and Greenland ice sheets and the abrupt melting of permafrost grounds in the Arctic, which would result in additional sea-level rise and greenhouse gas releases, leading to more warming.

Based on the most recent science and consultations with renowned experts, *Climate Tipping Points: Insights for Effective Policy Action* argues that it is no longer appropriate to consider the risk of crossing tipping points as low-probability. Overshooting 1.5°C may likely lead to irreversible and severe impacts, which must be avoided, heightening the urgency to drastically reduce emissions within this decade. The report calls for a shift in how tipping points are treated in climate policy today and provides recommendations on how climate risk management strategies can better reflect the risks of tipping points in the areas of mitigation, adaptation and technological innovation.

Agenda

Opening remarks

- **Jo Tyndall**, Director of Environment Directorate, OECD

Panel discussion

Speakers

- **Tim Lenton**, Professor of Climate Change and Earth System Science, University of Exeter
- **Simon Dietz**, Professor Grantham Research Institute and Dept. of Geography and Environment, LSE | CESifo Research Network Fellow
- **Kate Raworth**, Co-founder of Doughnut Economics Action Lab
- **Norbert Gorißen**, Deputy Special Envoy for International Climate Action, Federal Foreign Office of Germany

Moderator

- **Andrew Prag**, Coordinator of the Horizontal Project on “Building Climate and Economic Resilience in the Transition to a Low-Carbon Economy” at the OECD Environment Directorate

Concluding remarks by OECD

- **Jo Tyndall**, Director of Environment Directorate, OECD

BIOGRAPHIES



Jo Tyndall is Director of the Environment Directorate at the OECD where she oversees the implementation of the Directorate’s programme of work, covering a broad range of environmental issues, including: green growth; climate change; biodiversity; quality of ecosystems; eco-innovation; circular economy; and, resource productivity. She was, most recently, New Zealand High Commissioner (Ambassador) to Singapore from February 2019 to September 2022. Prior to that, Jo served as New Zealand’s Climate Change Ambassador, commencing this role in June 2010.



Kate Raworth (‘Ray-worth’) is an Ecological Economist focused on making economics fit for 21st century realities. She is the creator of the Doughnut of social and planetary boundaries and author of the best-selling book, *Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think like a 21st Century Economist*, which has been translated into more than 20 languages. Kate is also the co-founder of Doughnut Economics Action Lab, which is putting these ideas into action with communities, cities, businesses, and educators.



Tim Lenton is founding Director of the Global Systems Institute and Chair in Climate Change and Earth System Science at the University of Exeter. He has over 20 years of research experience in studying the Earth as a system, and developing and using models to understand its behaviour. His award winning work identifying tipping points in the climate system has led him to examine positive tipping points within our social systems which could help accelerate progress towards a sustainable future.



Simon Dietz is an Environmental Economist with particular interests in climate change and sustainable development. Simon is based at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), where he is Professor of Environmental Policy in the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, and the Department of Geography and Environment. He has published research on a wide range of issues, including on the integration of climate tipping points in economic models. He also works with governments, businesses and NGOs on topics such as carbon pricing, institutional investment, and insurance.



Norbert Gorißen is Director for Climate and International Energy Politics in the Federal Foreign Office of Germany. He oversees units working on international climate action, UNFCCC, climate finance, bilateral climate cooperation, climate and security, international environment and energy politics and serves as the deputy to the Special Envoy for International Climate Action in the Foreign Office. Previously (until January 2022) he was deputy Director General in the Federal Ministry for the Environment (BMU) for international policy. In this ministry, he held various positions for more than 22 year. Since 2008, he was responsible for the International Climate Initiative with a budget of about 600 Mio €. For the EU he negotiated the finance provisions in the Paris Agreement.



Andrew Prag is currently Senior Advisor in the OECD Environment Directorate where, among other roles, he leads the OECD's cross-cutting work on mainstreaming net-zero and climate resilience across the organisation's policy analysis. With 20 years' experience across the energy and environment fields, he has previously been Head of the Environment and Climate Change Unit at the International Energy Agency (IEA), and has led diverse research projects at the OECD related to energy, climate change, trade and waste policy. He has also been closely involved with the UN climate change negotiations (UNFCCC) for many years, advised the G7 and G20 processes, and has worked extensively on carbon pricing.
