



Innovating to zero!

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At TED2010, Bill Gates unveils his vision for the world's energy future, describing the need for "miracles" to avoid planetary catastrophe and explaining why he's backing a dramatically different type of nuclear reactor. The necessary goal? Zero carbon emissions globally by 2050.

About the speaker



Bill Gates
Technologist, philanthropist

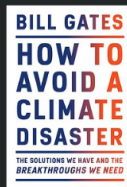
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Bill Gates warned that we weren't ready for a global pandemic in a talk at TED2015. Now he's working to make sure the world is better prepared next time around.

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How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need

Bill Gates | Knopf (2021)



This talk was presented at an official TED conference. TED's editors chose to feature it for you.

▶ 04:17

First, we've got population. The world today has 6.8 billion people. That's headed up to about nine billion. Now, if we do a really great job on new vaccines, health care, reproductive health services, **we could lower that by, perhaps, 10 or 15 percent.** But there, we see an increase of about 1.3.

▶ 04:39

The second factor is the services we use. This encompasses everything: the food we eat, clothing, TV, heating. These are very good things. Getting rid of poverty means providing these services to almost everyone on the planet. And it's a great thing for this number to go up. In the rich world, perhaps the top one billion, we probably could cut back and use less, but every year, this number, on average, is going to go up, and so, overall, that will more than double the services delivered per person. Here we have a very basic service: Do you have lighting in your house to be able to read your homework? And, in fact, these kids don't, so they're going out and reading their schoolwork under the street lamps.

▶ 05:27

Now efficiency "F" the energy for each service -- here, finally we



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