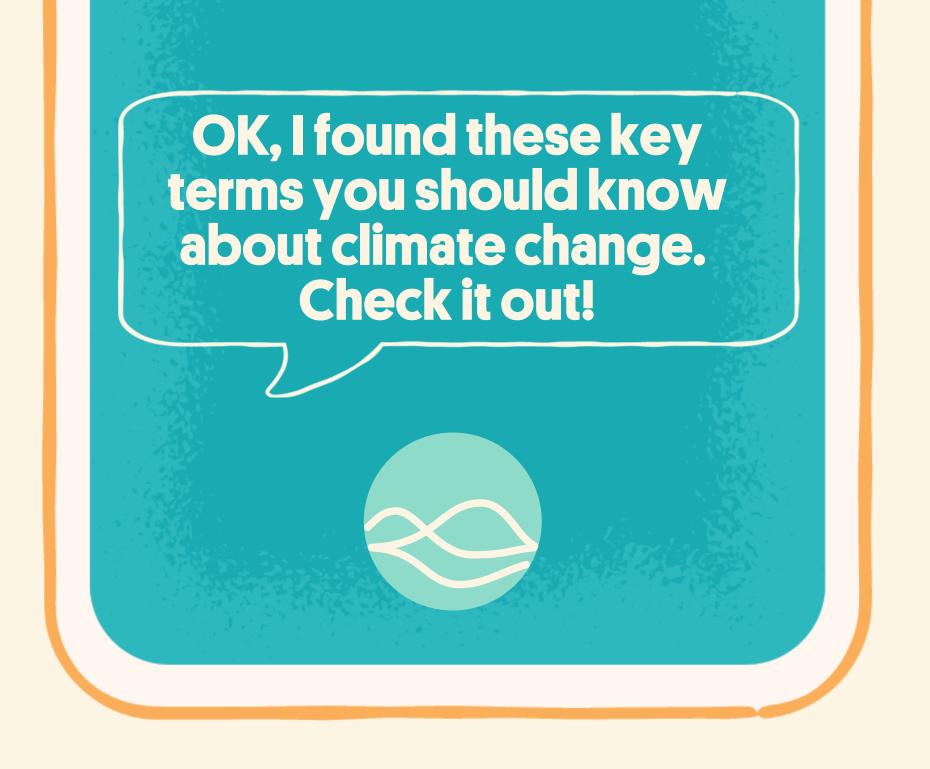


Hey, Seari

What are the key terms I should know about climate change?







Thanks to Seari, we've gathered key terms that will help you understand climate change better.

Swipe through to learn your lingo!



CLIMATE CHANGE

Describes a change in the average conditions — such as temperature and rainfall — in a region over a long period of time. The present one we're experiencing is caused by too much greenhouse gases (GHGs) trapping too much heat in the atmosphere for too long.



CARBON SINK

Anything that absorbs more carbon than it releases, such as a tree, the entire forest, or the ocean. Carbon sinks use a process called sequestration, which removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and stores them in ocean, soil, and plants.



GREENHOUSE GASES (GHGs)

Gases in our atmosphere that trap heat and sustain life, such as ozone, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and chlorofluorocarbons. Too much of these GHGs can cause Earth's atmosphere to trap more and more heat, making the Earth too hot to handle.



FOSSIL FUELS

Coal, crude oil, and natural gas formed from the fossilized remains of plants and animals that lived millions of years ago. When we burn them for energy, we release GHGs.



RENEWABLE ENERGY

Energy that is generated from sources that naturally replenish themselves. These include solar, wind, geothermal, ocean energy, biomass, and hydropower. These are sometimes referred to as "clean energy" because they don't contribute to global warming.

THE PARIS AGREEMENT

It's a landmark global framework that aims to keep global average temperatures below 2°C and strengthen countries' ability to deal with climate change impacts and support them in their efforts. It was adopted at the climate conference in Paris in December 2015.





CARBON FOOTPRINT

Unlike a footprint, a carbon footprint doesn't leave a mark on the ground -- it's the amount of GHG emissions released into the atmosphere from various activities and products we use, like the way our clothes are made, how we travel, or what we eat.



GLOBAL WARMING

It's the Earth's fever, i.e., the increase in Earth's average temperature. Over the past 50 years, the average global temperature has increased at the fastest rate in recorded history. If the average global temperature rises 1.5 degrees Celsius more, scientists say global warming could be irreversible.



MITIGATION

Climate change mitigation's mission is to avoid and reduce GHG emissions to prevent more global warming. It's anything we can do to make our carbon footprint smaller, like planting more trees, using renewable energy, and protecting more of our seas.



ADAPTATION

Climate change adaptation's mission is to adjust to the actual or expected impacts of climate change. It's anything we can do to minimize damage, like planting drought-tolerant crops and ensuring that our infrastructure can withstand typhoons.



SEA LEVEL RISE (SLR)

SLR is the increase of the average global sea level. It's linked to three factors: thermal expansion (all that water expands when it warms!); melting glaciers; and melting ice sheet. SLR has devastating impacts on coastal habitats and communities!



OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

The ocean is becoming more acidic because it's absorbing a lot more carbon dioxide. You know how acids can cause damage to certain surfaces? Similarly, acidic water can cause damage to shells of oysters and clams, and can cause corals to grow slower or become weaker.



Thanks Seari! Can you tell me how we can deal with climate change?

OK, I found this on the web. Check it out!





CHANGE THE CURRENT

A SEATIZEN'S GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING THE CLIMATE CRISIS IN THE PHILIPPINES



