

Climate-Aware Internet Governance: Integrating DeGrowth and Climate Justice with Engineering and Open Standards

<https://whatworksclimate.solutions/training/>

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Technical Internet standards organisations & Internet Governance bodies (IETF, RIPE, ICANN...) decide on technology built today & used in the future - without considering "Evidence-based climate policies for meeting the international climate goals".

I have been cross-connecting these technical communities with the Climate Justice movements, while facing many obstacles:

- I am neither an academic nor an engineer (any more)
- these two groups speak different languages
- both fields are too large

With your help, I want to answer: **How can we minimise the detrimental environmental impact of the Internet?**

There have been many attempts to answer these questions; I have collected a (huge) literature list (and the lists of lists ;-)) <https://wiki.techinc.nl/Sustainability>

Here are three recent reviews, from very different approaches:

"A review of Computing within Limits related terminology and practices", LIMITS '21 Paper by Marloes de Valk (academic, mapping) <https://doi.org/10.21428/bf6fb269.1e37d8be>

"Overview of Existing Standardization Work", November 2023 (slides, technical meeting presentation) <https://datatracker.ietf.org/meeting/118/materials/slides-118-eimpact-overview-of-existing-standardization-work>

Syllabus for a Seminar in Sustainable Networking, Spring 2024 <https://seminar-net.ethz.ch/>

What would be different in my project is: taking a higher-level view, and combining with other existing approaches: (such as DeGrowth, Collapsology, Just Transition, Feminist Internet, etc)

My objectives are: to get clarity on the actual environmental impact; give structure to the criteria for taking actions; determine what the focus of the actions should be on short, medium & long term; uncover the gaps in the existing research and produce a list of topics for the future research.

Methods:

I have been doing research & publishing articles & giving presentations on this topic for a long time, but I would love to add some more actual METHOD to what I'm doing!

Here are some examples of my previous work:

1) September 2023: "AI is Ecocide", 250-words article in Project Syndicate magazine: <https://www.project-syndicate.org/magazine/ai-climate-change-what-role-paris-targets-2023-09>

& my own page, with the version of text before editing & screenshots & links to references https://wiki.techinc.nl/User:Becha/AI_is_ecocide

2) June 2023: "Environmental Impact of Internet: Urgency, De-Growth, Rebellion" <https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/environmental-impact-of-internet-urgency-de-growth-rebellion/>

3) December 2022: "A Plea for Climate Justice - Report from the IAB Workshop on e-Impact" <https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/a-plea-for-climate-justice-report-from-the-iab-workshop-on-e-impact/>

4) a report from DeGrowth conference: <https://wiki.techinc.nl/>

File:9th_DeGrowth_Conference_Zagreb_August_2023_February_2024.pdf

5) proposal for IAB workshop: https://wiki.techinc.nl/images/b/b0/Internet_Infrastrucutre_and_Climate_Justice_IAB-v2.pdf

(unpublished, but submitted: https://wiki.techinc.nl/images/2/29/Vesna_IAB-BIAS-Workshop-Basic_Internet_And_Squirrels.pdf)

Some presentations I gave:

* Greening RIPE with Activism & Empathy - Bits und Bäume: video <https://media.ccc.de/v/bitsundbaeume-19907-greening-ripe-thought-activism-and-empathy-en-> & slides <https://www.ripe.net/about-us/press-centre/publications/presentations/2022/greening-ripe-with-activism-empathy-bits-und-baume/>

* Killing the Planet with Cat Videos - NOG.HR <https://www.ripe.net/about-us/press-centre/publications/presentations/2022/killing-the-planet-with-cat-videos-nog-hr-1/>

* Sustainability and Green Internet - SIGCAS Showcase 2022 <https://www.ripe.net/about-us/press-centre/publications/presentations/2022/panel-sustainability-and-green-internet-sigcas-showcase-2022/>

* Internet Governance, Climate Justice & “Scientist Rebellion” <https://www.ripe.net/about-us/press-centre/publications/presentations/2023/internet-governance-climate-justice-scientist-rebellion/>

and some much older writings:

2021: <https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/ripe-community-resilience-nature-is-healing/>

2012: <http://becha.home.xs4all.nl/hackers-philosophers-utopian-network-dec-2012-becha.pdf>

2014: https://wiki.techinc.nl/index.php/File:Nature-speaking-on-future_of_the_internet-RIPE69.pdf

Keywords: environmental sustainability, internet governance, degrowth, climate solutions, open standards, climate justice

Expected Outcomes:

After the review, I expect to publish:

- * a paper for Computing Within Limits conference
- * one (or more) article(s) on RIPE Labs: <https://labs.ripe.net>
- * contribute to one (or more) IETF draft(s)
- * make presentations at Network Operators Group events & other events