

RELEASED: Wednesday November 25, 2015

## Foreign Correspondent: How to Save the World

**Monday November 30 at 8:30pm on ABC – a one-hour special**

As key climate talks get underway in Paris, Eric Campbell explores potential solutions to global warming – from thermal power in Costa Rican jungles to giant North Sea wind farms and California's solar start-ups.

**A preview of this one-hour special is available on request and Eric Campbell is available for interviews.**

**This is the first of four one-hour specials of *Foreign Correspondent* to air between November 30 and December 21 (more details about each of the special reports are at the end of this media release).**

---

It's easy to believe that the planet is frying and that nobody – not even the scores of world leaders who are about to descend on Paris for crucial climate negotiations – is doing anything about it.

Wrong. While Paris won't stop global warming, it can slow it – and around the world some extraordinary things are happening that kindle hope and optimism.

*"It isn't too late. Is the door closing? Absolutely. But when I look at a door and see a tiny little crack I'm like, well, we are walking through that crack"* - UN climate chief Christine Figueres

In this one-hour *Foreign Correspondent* special, Eric Campbell criss-crosses the continents to see not only what is at stake but also what is being done to cut carbon pollution.

He heads to **Costa Rica** which has made a virtue of oil and coal poverty and is re-branding itself as a deep green emerald of eco-tourism. It plans to be carbon neutral by 2021 and recently went 75 days straight using just renewable power - wind, solar, hydro and thermal.

*"We are very proud in Costa Rica to have a model that guarantees us our own energy"* – Elbert Hidalgo, Costa Rica state power company

In **Germany**, a *Foreign Correspondent* drone camera cruises among spectacular forests of wind turbines built on land and far out to sea. Germany has 22,000 turbines – Australia has fewer than 2000 - and consumers pay a renewables levy to ease the transition from coal and nuclear power.

*"Within 30, 35 years there's not a future for (coal) in Germany"* – Ingrid Nestle, senior energy official

In **Antarctica**, the epicentre of climate research, a British scientist uses a homespun explanation for the dramatic effect that melting land ice has on sea levels:

*"It's like putting more ice into your gin and tonic. If you put more ice into your gin and tonic the level goes up!" – Professor Peter Convey*

From a land of melting ice to a land of rising water: **Miami, USA** – where Campbell finds that waterfront property is still hot – despite projections that a lot of it will end up under water. Authorities build costly sea walls to protect real estate and roads from tidal flooding.

*"The cost of holding back the sea is enormous and it's going to increase dramatically over time" – Keren Bolter, geoscientist and Miami resident*

On America's western flank, in **California**, there's too little water. In the town of Porterville, drought has accentuated the race and class divide. Hispanics used to rely on wells that have long dried up; now they depend on donated bottles to drink and community showers to bathe. Mainly white residents still enjoy piped water.

But just a few hours away, California's Bay Area is abuzz with optimism as a new wave of young solar entrepreneurs mine ideas and connect them to cash. One venture installs solar power for Kenyan villagers who pay for what they use by phone, no bank account required. California plans to be 50 per cent renewable by 2030.

*"The solar industry has employed 55,000 Californians - more than Twitter, Google, Facebook and Apple combined" – Australian Danny Kennedy, co-founder of Sungevity in California*

**Eric Campbell reports on *How to Save the World* – a special one hour presentation of *Foreign Correspondent*, 8.30pm Monday November 30 on ABC.**

**Eric Campbell is available for interviews**

**This is the first of four one-hour *Foreign Correspondent* special reports to air between November 30 and December 21. Interviews and previews are available for each episode:**

**How to Save the World – Aired Monday November 30 at 8:30pm on ABC**

As key climate talks get under way in Paris, Eric Campbell explores potential solutions to global warming – from thermal power in Costa Rican jungles to giant North Sea wind farms and California's solar start-ups.

**#BlackLivesMatter – Aired Monday December 7 at 8:30pm on ABC**

Sally Sara takes to the streets of Baltimore and Chicago to investigate a new civil rights movement that's fighting to stop the killing of black Americans.

**Our Man in China – Aired Monday December 14 at 8:30pm on ABC**

In his farewell report for the ABC, correspondent Stephen McDonnell looks at the spectacular changes that have swept China during his 10 years there – and the untold sequels to some of the big stories he's covered.

**Digital Disruption – Aired Monday December 21 at 8:30pm on ABC**

Mark Corcoran reveals how the digital revolution is changing the way we get the news.

You can view previous episodes on **ABC iview** and online at: **[abc.net.au/foreign](http://abc.net.au/foreign)**

Join the conversation: **#ForeignCorrespondent**

Follow Foreign Correspondent on Twitter: **@ForeignOfficial**

Facebook: **ABCForeignCorrespondent**

---

For further information contact:

**Chris Chamberlin, News Publicist, ABC TV Publicity**

02 83333 2154 | 0404 075 749 | [chamberlin.chris@abc.net.au](mailto:chamberlin.chris@abc.net.au)

[@popculturechris](#)