

10 Key Insights from the Drawdown Review 2020

<p>1. Drawdown is Possible</p> <p>We can reach Drawdown before mid-century if we scale the climate solutions already in hand. Our analysis shows the world can reach Drawdown, if we make the best use of all existing climate solutions. Society is well-equipped to begin that transformation today.</p>	<p>6. Carbon Sinks are Critical</p> <p>We cannot reach Drawdown without simultaneously reducing emissions toward zero, and supporting nature’s carbon sinks. Many climate solutions involving ecosystems and agriculture have the double benefit of reducing emissions and absorbing carbon simultaneously.</p>
<p>2. We Need Them All</p> <p>Climate solutions are interconnected as a system, and we need them all. There is no “silver bullet”. Many climate solutions combine and cooperate, leveraging or enabling others for greatest impact. Electric vehicles charged with renewable energy, reduced meat consumption with support for carbon farming, and efficient buildings powered by a smart grid all require systemic change.</p>	<p>7. Who Knew?</p> <p>Some of the most powerful climate solutions receive comparably little attention, reminding us to widen our lens. Just as important as energy solutions are: Food Waste, Refrigerant Management, Forest Restoration and Education (especially for young girls).</p>
<p>3. They Improve Society</p> <p>Climate solutions can have other benefits that contribute to a better, more equitable world. Solutions that curb air pollution bring about better health. Many solutions also can create jobs, foster resilience to storms and droughts, bring biodiversity or safeguard water resources. For most, we would want to do them anyway.</p>	<p>8. Increase Adoption of Solutions</p> <p>Accelerators are critical to move solutions forward at the scale, speed, and scope required. Key accelerators can create the conditions for solutions to move forward with greater speed and wider scope. Some, such as changing policy and shifting capital, are closer in and have more direct impacts; others, such as shaping culture and building political power, are further out and more indirect in their effect.</p>
<p>4. Big Overall Savings \$</p> <p>The financial case for climate solutions is crystal clear, as savings significantly outweigh costs. Overall, net operational savings exceed net implementation costs four to five times over. So long as we ensure a just transition for those in sunset or outdated industries, such as coal, it’s clear that there is no economic rationale for stalling on climate solutions—and every reason to forge boldly ahead.</p>	<p>9. Everything Needs To Change</p> <p>The climate crisis requires systemic, structural change across our global society and economy. The reality of intervening in a complex system is that no one can do it all, and we have an opening to show up as problem-solvers and change-agents and contribute in significant ways, even when we feel small. It will take a whole ecosystem of activities and actors to create the transformation that’s required.</p>
<p>5. Reduce/Replace Fossil Fuels</p> <p>The majority of climate solutions reduce or replace the use of fossil fuels. We must accelerate these solutions, while actively stopping the use of coal, oil, and gas. A similar stop/start dynamic exists within food, agriculture, and land use: ending harmful practices (e.g. deforestation) and advancing helpful ones (e.g. methods of regenerative agriculture).</p>	<p>10. Working Together</p> <p>Immense commitment, collaboration, and ingenuity will be necessary to depart the perilous path we are on and realize the path that’s possible. But the mission is clear: make possibility reality. Together, we can build a bridge from where we are today to the world we want for ourselves, for all of life, and, most importantly, for generations yet to come.</p>