

A DOCUMENTARY BY ULRICH EICHELMANN

CLIMATE CRIMES

Climate Change didn't even get a chance.
We got there first.

"This film will shake things up. Hopefully."

Christian Rathner, Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF)

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY: ULRICH EICHELMANN MUSIC: CÉSAR ROSÓN MUSIC RECORDING: ROSOUND STUDIO FRANKFURT
CAMERA: CHRISTOPH WALDER CHRISTIAN KUEN AGATA SKOWRONEK GFX: GERNOT SCHWENDINGER/MEDIA TIROL
VOICE RECORDING: SOUNDTRACK VIENNA/MARKUS POECHINGER SOUND MIX: LZSTUDIO

Mentrol Hermsen Stiftung
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Exposé

'They say they are protecting the climate. But in fact they just are destroying our nature!'

Mega dams in Amazonia and Mesopotamia; palm-oil plantations are destroying the last forests of orang-utans; corn monocultures are encroaching even upon nature reserves in Germany. The fight against global warming is supposed to save our planet. Instead, it is speeding up the destruction of our planet's last jewels.

Climate Crimes tells the story of unique landscapes, rare species, and humans living in harmony with nature. It is a journey to the dubious sources of green energies – with an alarming conclusion. It is a film about global greenwashing.

The fight against global warming is supposed to save our planet. Most importantly, the emission of carbon dioxide needs to be reduced. At the annual United Nation Climate Change Conference, politicians, economists, and representatives of the civil society discuss the best practice. In spite of many differences, they share one idea: in order to stop global warming, renewable energies need to be massively promoted. Future energies need to be clean, sustainable and green. A global change towards a 'green economy' is thought to facilitate perpetual economic growth AND a healthy natural environment.

Sounds reasonable – but is it really?
If we continue on this apparently green path,
where will it lead us?

In trying to answer these questions, 'Climate Crimes' had a closer look at so-called sustainable energy projects: hydropower in the Brazilian Amazon region and in Mesopotamia, palm-oil plantations for the production of bio-diesel in Indonesia, and the production of bio-gas in Germany, which are destroying even natural reserves. The film documents a journey to the dubious sources of green energies – with an alarming conclusion.

After more than 2.5 years of filming, one thing is more obvious to me than ever: climate conservation is misused as an advertising slogan in order to push through projects that would otherwise be difficult to get legal approval. What is sold to us as



Xingu River, Brazil: This is where the Belo Monte Dam is planned to be build. Photo: Ulrich Eichelmann

'green energy' is in fact speeding up the destruction of nature and biodiversity without actually helping the climate. This kind of false labelling has devastating consequences.

Key facts:

Running Time: 54 minutes

Quality: HDTV

Shooting Time: February 2010 to May 2012

Languages: German, English

Production, Concept, and Text: Ulrich Eichelmann

Camera: Agata Skowronek, Christian Kuen,

Christoph Walder

Music: César Rosón