



“CONTRACTION AND CONVERGENCE” [C&C] in a Nutshell

1. C&C is the science-based, global climate-policy framework, proposed to the United Nations since 1990 by the Global Commons Institute (GCI).
2. The objective of safe and stable greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere and the principles of precaution and equity, as already agreed in the “United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change” (UNFCCC), provide the calculating basis of the C&C framework that proposes: -
 - A full-term contraction budget for global emissions consistent with stabilising atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases (GHGs) at a pre-agreed concentration maximum deemed to be safe, following IPCC WG1 carbon cycle modelling.
 - The international sharing of this budget as ‘entitlements’ results from a negotiable rate of linear convergence to equal shares per person globally by an agreed date within the timeline of the full-term contraction/concentration agreement.
 - Negotiations for this at the UNFCCC should occur between regions of the world, leaving negotiations between countries within their respective regions, such as the European Union, the Africa Union, the US, etc. The inter-regional, inter-national and intra-national tradability of these entitlements in a currency such as International Energy Backed Currency Units [EBCUs] is appropriate.
 - Scientific understanding of the relationship between an emissions-free economy and concentrations develops, so rates of C&C can evolve under periodic revision.

C&C is science-guided, rights-based, simple and easy to understand. It turns a problem into a democratic solution. It answers, [1] the US demand for all-country inclusion, [2] the developing country demand for equity over emissions historically accumulated in the atmosphere and [3] the emissions-trading prerequisite of capping. It turns argument into agreement, the certainty of principle into practice.

Achieving the objective of UN Climate Framework Convention on Climate Change, [UNFCCC], “*inevitably requires ‘contraction and convergence’*,” [UNFCCC Secretariat December 2003].

C&C has much international support. There is also now strong support for C&C amongst political parties.

Britain hosts this year’s G-8 Summit. The agenda is climate change and Africa.

C&C has been Africa’s position on climate change since since the Africa Group led it in Kyoto in 1997. The Summit is a unique global chance for Britain to be the G-8’s first among equals, advocating C&C for the common good and future generations.

Find out more: <http://www.gci.org.uk/briefings/ICE.pdf>

[http://www.gci.org.uk/images/CC_Demo\(pc\).exe](http://www.gci.org.uk/images/CC_Demo(pc).exe)

‘Zoom-view’ at: http://www.gci.org.uk/images/C&C_Bubbles.pdf

