

## FUTURE CALLING - The Avenue of Justice and Compassion

A few years ago Christian Aid ran a series of posters challenging us to adjust our lifestyles to help our brothers and sisters in lands that are being severely affected by climate change. One of the posters depicted a Bangladeshi woman wading through flood waters, with the caption, "Be a sweetie – turn the heating down."

Our lifestyles adversely affect people in distant lands. Already people in sub-Saharan Africa are suffering major famine – exacerbated by civil wars, but the underlying cause is abnormal drought conditions.

The Solomon Islanders are seriously threatened by rising sea levels and coastal areas in Bangladesh are already having to adapt as the waters rise.



You can listen to Isabel Guerrero, regional vice-president for South Asia, explaining what the impact of a 2 degree or 4 degree temperature rise would have on her region here: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2013/06/19/warming-climate-to-hit-bangladesh-hard-with-sea-level-rise-more-floods-and-cyclones-world-bank-report-says> and you can read more at <http://climatechange.worldbank.org>

You can see an overview of the issues affecting poorer countries as temperatures rise at the National Geographic: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/12/151201-datapoints-climate-change-poverty-agriculture/>

### Into Action

Desmond Tutu has said:

*"Who can stop climate change? We can. We have a responsibility to do so that began when God commanded the earliest human inhabitants of the Garden of Eden to 'till it and keep it'. To keep it; not to abuse it, not to destroy it."*

Choose a poorer country and do some online research into its needs and which charities are trying to help. Pledge to donate yourself, and/ or run a fund-raising event.

***If you decide to explore this Avenue further, record this on the 'Future Calling - My Commitments' sheet.***

***With thanks to Valerie Morris for preparing these notes***