

The Earth Tribune

ArcticNet/CSBQ, Winnipeg/Montréal

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Our house is burning

Climate change vs biodiversity topics coverage in the media

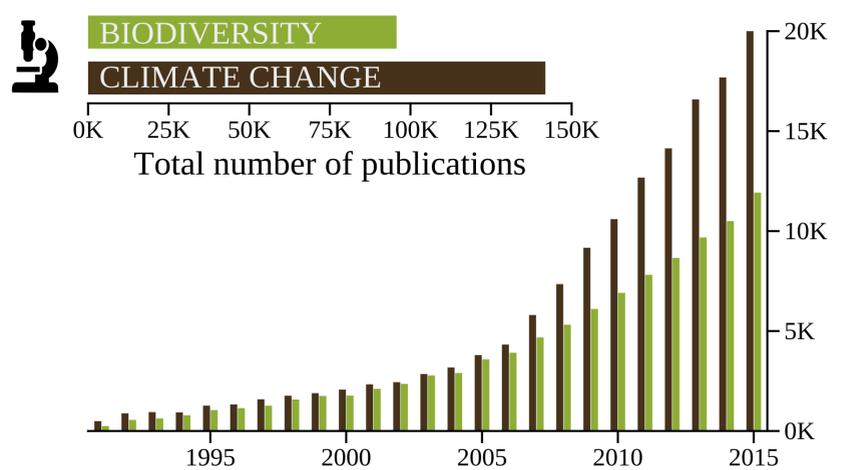
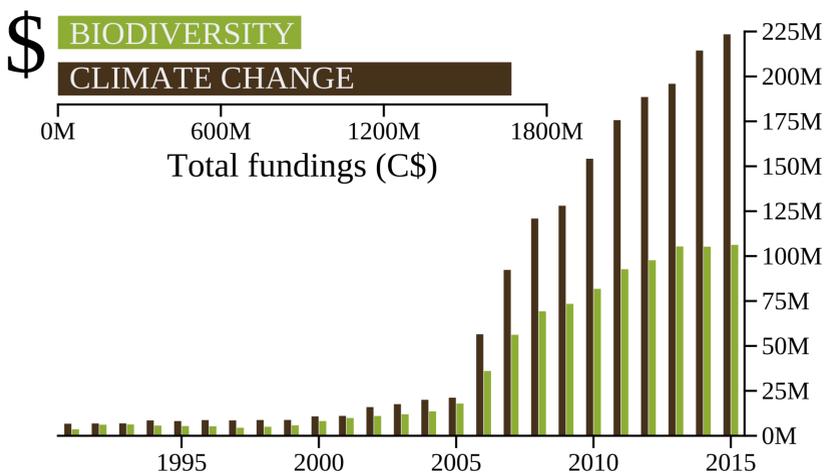
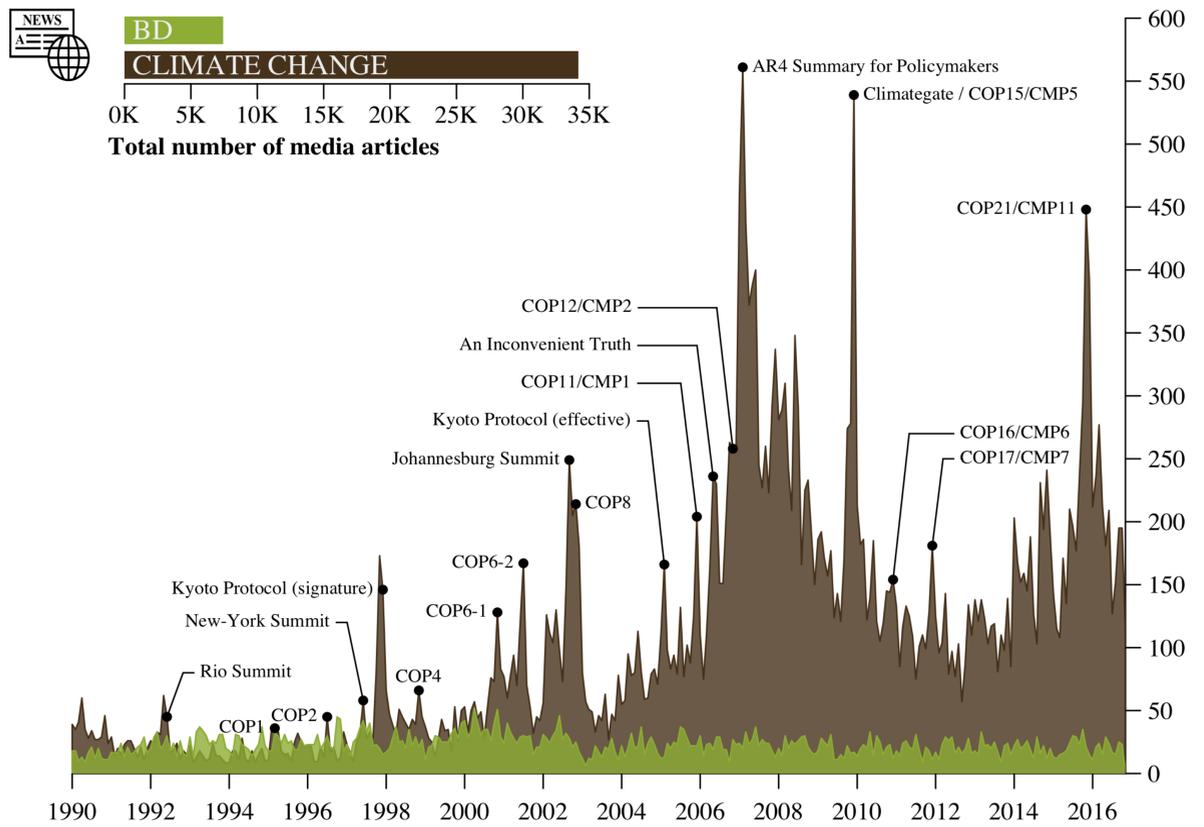
Since the mid-20th century, climate change and biodiversity loss have been identified as major consequences of anthropological pressures. Both are irreversible and have already transgressed safe limits¹, therefore, international cooperation is crucial to address them. The success of intergovernmental initiatives² merging the scientific communities with the stakeholders relies on different actors, to prioritize and implement solutions to these global issues. Scientists communicate findings through peer-reviewed scientific journals, the media popularize scientific research to inform the public on environmental issues and politicians implement legislations and make decision about funding. But are the communication and funding channels between these various actors as effective for both climate change and biodiversity loss issues?

¹Steffen et al. Science. 2015

²IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) and IPBES (Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services)



Comparative study of press articles, research funding and scientific publications addressing climate change and biodiversity topics

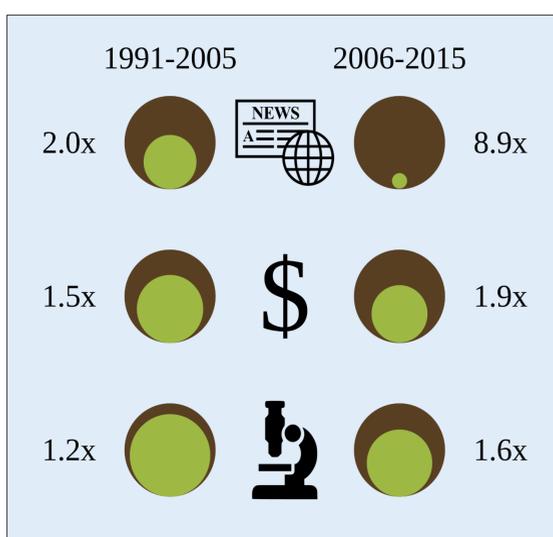


Data sources

Media (Canada): THE GLOBE AND MAIL, NATIONAL POST, TORONTO STAR, Winnipeg Free Press

Funding (Canada): NSERC, CRSNG

Scientific publications (Worldwide): WEB OF KNOWLEDGE, THOMSON REUTERS



Biodiversity science ≠ Climate change science
 in terms of media coverage

What could be done?
 Coming out in the media?
 Lobbying? Does biodiversity science need its own Al Gore?