

The Saners Strategic Plan

We need a Grand Strategy, along with some sub-strategies and tactics that support it, and to *enact the plan*. We are determined to save the world from climate ruin and establish a humane civilization that's in sync with Nature. These are our goals. They are lofty goals and we intend to achieve them. They are achievable, but it will take solid thinking and unwavering determination.

This is the first iteration of our plan.

The Grand Strategy

The big picture is this:

1. THE PROBLEM

The Earth is being damaged by the excessive use of fossil fuels worldwide and other abuses of Nature, and we risk total catastrophe in the relatively short-term. This is bad for everyone—including those who are promoting this destruction for personal power and profit. Our opponents are ignoring the fact that the planet they are ruining will be the planet that their children and grandchildren will need to live in.

The other problem is that the values, behaviors, laws, cultures as well as political and economic systems nearly everywhere *promote this destruction*, and also abuse and waste human lives on a huge scale. Despite "progress" and "labor-saving" devices, people nearly everywhere work long hours, producing—okay, let's say it—mostly shit—instead of living their lives as human being should. They waste nearly their entire lives serving plutocrats or dictators or other abusive overseers, when they should be spending time with loved ones, creating works of self-expression, immersing themselves in the glories of Nature, or simply reading.

We intend to protect Nature, and free humanity from the shackles of overproduction and stupidity. We to stop wasting so much time—and time IS life—and instead only produce enough healthy food, medicine and other necessities to provide for human needs. This avoidance of massive waste frees up our time. Our method of distribution is simple—everyone gets what they need to live a healthy life.

2. THE OBJECTIVES

We need to disempower the people and systems that are perpetuating the climate crisis, and (in essence) enslaving people for their personal gain. We also need to empower those

who see the problems and demand real solutions. Furthermore, we must identify, energize and organize experts (mostly climate scientists) to develop and manage a worldwide emergency climate program. Our success will be complete once we have a functioning worldwide emergency climate program that is producing tangible results and when people are largely free to live meaningful lives as friends, parents, children, creators, and lovers of Nature.

3. THE APPROACH

Our movement is completely non-violent and will use a series of actions to:

- empower and energize people who want to protect Nature and ensure better lives for their children, and for people everywhere
- find the weaknesses of the existing powers that threaten Nature and deter human well-being and exploit them
- find and work with existing structures, organizations and individuals to achieve our objectives
- grow the movement quickly
- instruct and train movement members on strategy—especially in nonviolence, and executing tactics effectively
- create a core committee to guide and support the overall movement, but also decentralize as much as possible—to make the movement unstoppable
- rotate leadership/management enough to prevent the accumulation of power and prevent the emergence of a self-interested "leader"

The Strategies

We have a series of sequential objectives and strategies, to be achieved using specific tactics, that will lead us to achieving our overall goals. The plan has distinct phases, although actions in each phase set the stage for the subsequent ones.

PHASE ONE: Growth, visibility, as the first effective actions

The initial phase will be focused on establishing ourselves as a visible and viable movement, growing in size and visibility. Early on, we want to make our objectives clear and begin to demonstrate effective action.

We are not mere protesters who can be ignored. Nor are we a small powerless group. Nor are we working within the structures and systems that favor our opponents. We are **activists** with a broad appeal that generates ever-growing numbers of supporters, and ever-larger and consequential actions. Toward that end, we need to accomplish the following early on:

1. Grow our movement
2. Identify and effectively harness the abilities of our members
3. Make ourselves and our demands visible
4. Begin to take control of the conversation
5. Go global

This first phase will be successful when we have at least 100,000 members worldwide—and possibly much, much more. The amount of growth required is hard to know, but we'd need at least 10s of thousands to proceed to the next phase. This is, in part, because only a small percentage of followers will be willing to take the most daring steps.

We will need for our demands and our existence to be known to a large number of people—ideally, the media will be talking about us enough for the general public to be aware of us. We would also like our demand to be a regular subject of public discussion—displacing the public discourse that currently allows leaders everywhere to evade their climate responsibilities.

We will need an active membership in all major industrial countries and in climate-critical locations. We'd like these sub-groups to operate semi-autonomously, because local leaders will understand how to adapt the movement's Grand Strategy to local conditions.

Finally, we want there to be a large number of people who see our movement as viable and therefore worth supporting and joining. This is key to the rapid growth required to achieve our overall objectives. Ultimately, we want to appear to be not merely viable, but inevitable.

Just as the appearance of defeat nearly guarantees defeat, the appearance of success breeds success.

PHASE TWO: Strengthening the movement, weakening the opposition, and acceleration of actions

Here we have tactics designed to:

1. Strengthen the movement
2. Weaken the opposition

3. Accelerate getting the movement into the spotlight at center stage

This is where we *seize control of the initiative and begin to dominate the conversation*. We grow exponentially due to our visibility and viability. Cracks appear in the opposition, even as the opposition tries its best for a counter-attack. We want to generate panic in the opposition so they make mistakes. The counter-attack should either appear brutal and unjust—or just weak. In either case, the opponents lose both legitimacy and power.

At the end of this phase, the opponent is teetering but still dangerous. We need to be very careful and prepare for the knockout blow. And for victory.

PHASE THREE: Finishing off the opposition and establishing the new, humane and sustainable society

In this phase, we continue weakening the opposition. We never negotiate because we cannot. Nature obeys physical law, not human laws. We demand complete surrender but do not intend to humiliate the defeated opponent; indeed, we will protect them and their children so they, too, can enjoy the new society.

Tiered Democratic Governance, a bottom up power structure designed to flow from human needs, should begin functioning, having been introduced as a concept in the previous phase. The committee of climate scientists is now functioning and leading the worldwide emergency climate program.

This will be a wonderful but *very difficult phase*—because everything is new and we will be learning. We will make some mistakes, but we need to learn from them and correct course, and complete our mission for the sake of our species, and for all species that share the Earth with us.

Tactics

This is the most tentative part of our plan, and most subject to change. That said, tactics are selected and crafted with these things in mind:

- they must advance sub-strategies and move us closer to our objectives
- they should generally allow for participation to various degrees so large numbers of people can be actively involved or at least supporting the tactic
- they should be undertaken when we have a good chance of success so we can build a string of successes and gain momentum

TACTICS UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR EACH PHASE

Teams

Governance

This group will be in charge of developing, and modeling bottom-up grassroots governance structurally designed to be responsive to the needs of humans and Nature. Both government and economic systems will need revision and adjustment to be incompatible with exploitation and focused on a cooperative existence.

ECONOMIC SYSTEMS

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GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEMS

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Creative

This will consist of artists, writers, musicians and imagineers who will develop materials and attention-generating tactics to be used for: recruiting, strengthening the movement, weakening the opposition and developing other tactics in support of the Grand Strategy.

Finance

This group will raise and handle money in support of our various tactics. We will create and sell Saners products (which serve the dual purpose of financing the movement and recruiting/building identity). This committee will also form the legal entity so we can have a bank account. We should wary of raising large sums of money kept in reserve—this could lead to corruption and scandal. Instead, we should mostly raise funds as needed, especially in support of specific tactics.

Coordination

This group will prepare specific tactics for execution, and coordinate all the people and resources who will engage in that action. They will be guided by The Strategic Plan and whoever the current leaders of the movement are at any one time.

Leadership

The movement founder, Ray Katz, will chair the leadership committee and guide the movement through the various stages as needed. However, he aims to be guided by the leadership *committee* with (ultimately) rotating committee chairs to ensure that the movement does not become a personality cult. In any case, the Leadership committee has no actual enforcement mechanism, and all actions by Saners members are voluntary. We act because we care about and believe in the objectives and the need to work together to achieve them.