



# The Climate Connection

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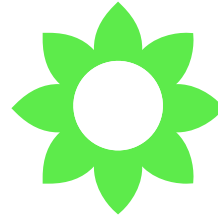
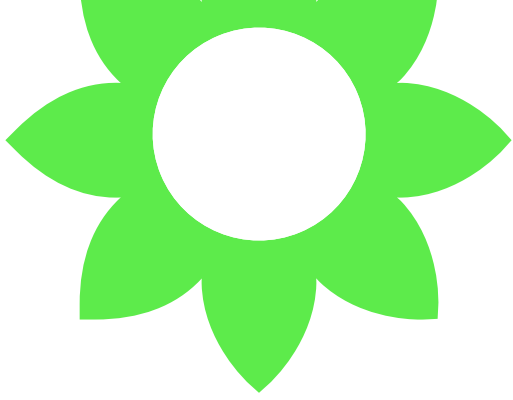
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#TheClimateConnection

# Green careers guide

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**I moved to Manchester in 2013 where I'd spend four very formative years of my life. To me it was the English Berlin, vibrant, grimy, diverse, down-to-earth and, as the birthplace of the industrial revolution, the ideal environment to get stuck into energy. I studied chemical engineering in pursuit of a career in oil and gas and even spent my third year working at a refinery, originally built as the first for the famous Brent oil.**

Short-sightedness and thoughts of the first pay cheque had me firmly set for a career in big O&G and it took the deep oil slump extending into 2016 to realise that this was a career without a future. Thinking that after this bust, there was maybe one boom left and there was nothing heroic being part of that one-last-hurrah.

So, I had to make a decision: Do I want to continue in an industry with limited shelf life or do I want to grow with an industry driven by radical innovation?

I concluded that marginally optimising a system to squeeze the last cents out, while (often unsuccessfully) trying to minimise damage to the environment, was not a safe career choice and certainly not a moral one. Current energy consumption is incompatible with any future scenario in which we have green trees and clean air.

Just within the sectors I worked in, throughout engineering, finance or management consulting but also in public policy, R&D or law, there are many levers you can pull to drive change. We will need a completely overhauled infrastructure for

power, heat, transport, chemicals and agriculture by scaling existing or deploying new technology. We will need a new legal and policy framework to enable this transition and to engage the public to gather broad support and change behaviour. We will need to enable financing, manage risks and ensure no one is left behind.

Due to the scale of the challenge, you do not need to compromise between career prospects, interest and societal impact – every helping hand is needed.

Florian Forster

Florian is a consultant focusing on energy topics, especially voluntary carbon markets, and currently private equity. Prior he worked in the energy trading unit of a large British utility in the UK and Denmark as a portfolio manager and originator for renewable energy.

