

My involvement in dissemination, awareness, and/or implementation of actions on climate change as an « *informed* citizen »

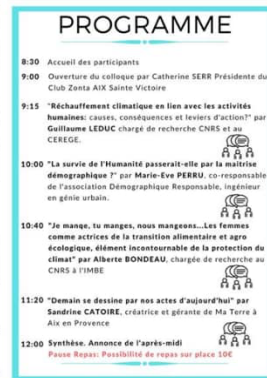
To keep in mind:

- I am a climate scientist (not really a regular citizen while discussing about climate change)
- We **MUST** consider scientific facts and individual opinions *differently* before stating anything on climate-related things
- I present my thoughts, on the basis of my own experience

... 3 examples followed by my conclusion on the difficulty to implement action



- My garden: every Saturday people living in my building meet and share coffee & vegetables (80% women > 60 years old)
- One lady asked whether I could help to organize a colloquium on « global climate changes and impact on women » => *general public talk*



- Another lady attending the colloquium asked me to give a talk for the « CENTRALE alumni association » (french engineering school) => *technical scientific talk*
- Following on this talk, one alumni attending it asked me to give a presentation for the municipal election => more « political talk », with discussion on a city's carbon footprint
- He contacted me again 2 weeks ago to present something somewhere, etc.

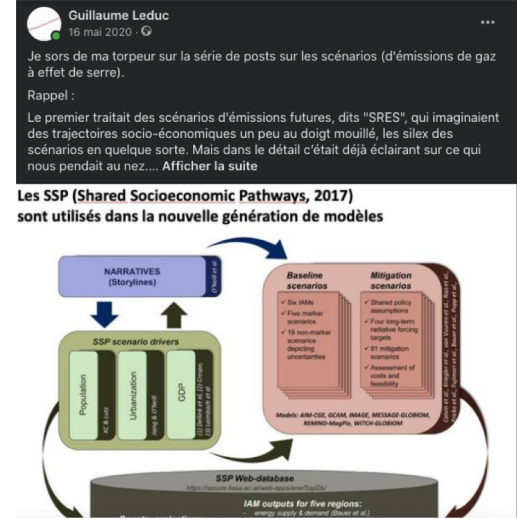
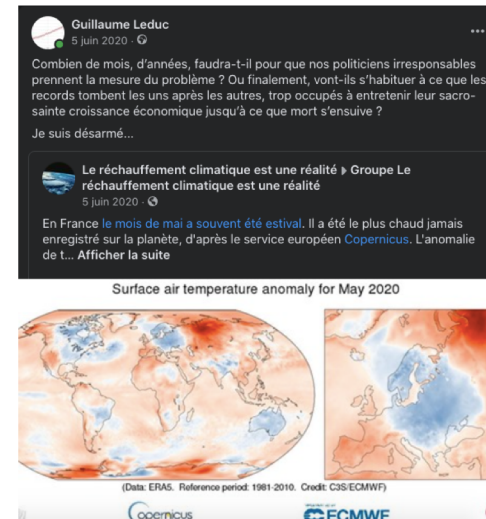
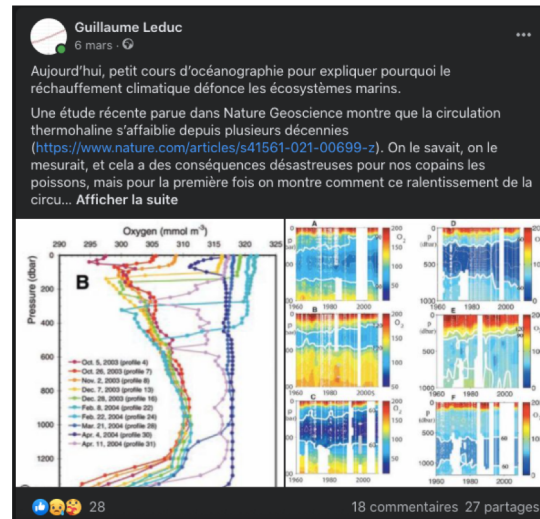
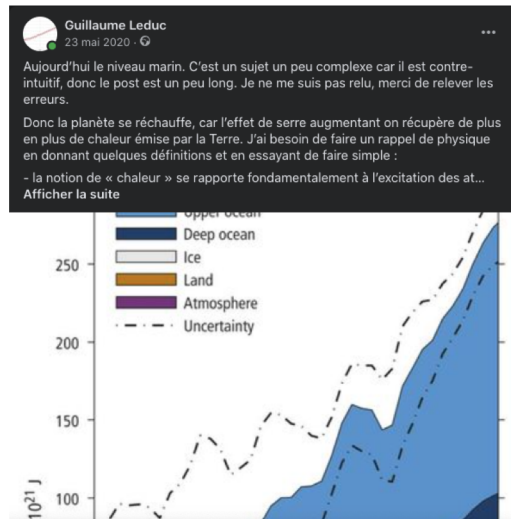
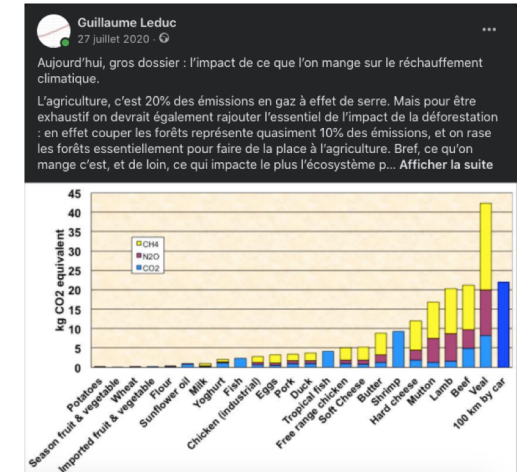
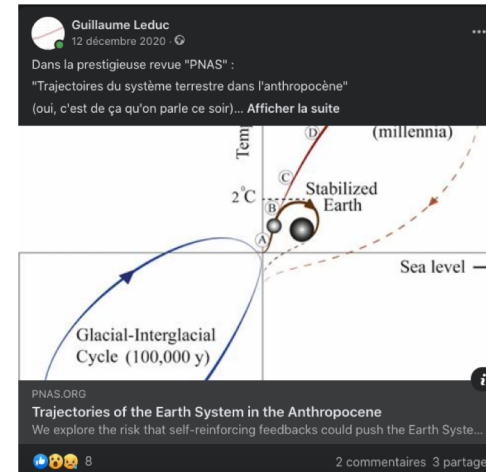
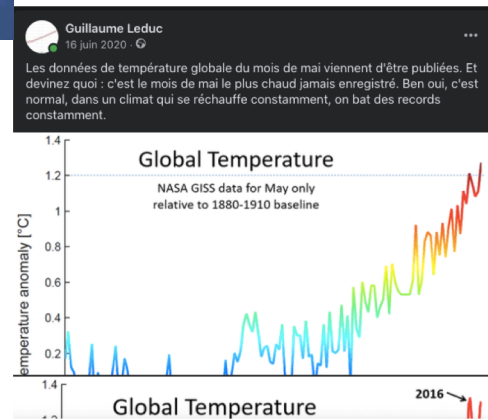
What did I learn from that example?

- Start in your garden
- Never dismiss > 60 years old people, they are willing to help
- Never dismiss upper-class engineers (« boomers »), they are willing to help



You really reach people already convinced,
it's only an educational lever

I convinced ONE
« friend » climato-
sceptic that climate
change is real and
dangerous



What did I learn from facebook?

- You convince people already convinced (most of the time)
- You generate never-ending debates
- It's time-consuming when you start replying people



- Invitation to give a talk to the **very CO₂-emitting** merchant navy school

... radical talk but appreciated, and followed by two subsequent invitations:

Small city's city hall (general public)



Discussion abruptly ended after several people left, crying while I was commenting IPCC reports

Marseille's veteran association



Conference on climate change and geopolitical risks of conflicts... postponed because of COVID

What did I learn from that example?

- Try to reach people that may not know how urgent the problem is (they have to learn)
- Try to reach people that may not share your opinions (they may listen to you)
- Be radical, NOT extremist: tell the truth and go back to basics

Problems faced while attempting to take action:

Level 1: People just don't know, there's a lack of basic scientific education. There is an urgent need to learn and communicate about climate science. It is highly complex and counter-intuitive.

Level 2: People just don't understand how to fix climate change. There is an urgent need to learn and communicate about carbon footprint calculation. It is highly complex and counter-intuitive.

Take-home messages:

- Consider who you're talking to
- Try to reach everyone
- Start locally (your parents!) and now: you won't change the world, just part of it
- Understand your anti-capitalism facebook post won't help
- Go back to basics with scientifically non-educated people and translate them the scientific message using simple words
- Start counting your carbon footprint every single time you do something using reliable scientific information
- NEVER GIVE UP (no, the modern society is far for « collapsing » despite what more and more people think)