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Dear Reader,

Two pieces stand out prominently this time in the context of the world in general, and Pakistan in particular, saving itself from the ill-wind that presently prevails and besieges us, undermining our collective confidence and putting us squarely on the back foot in our search for survival and kick-starting the economic recovery process.

The first one by **Roger Martin** deals with avoiding the strategic peril of entropy, and makes the bold and audacious claim that confident companies do less. "A confident company does less because it has confidence in what it is doing." He argues that every time you are tempted to do more things, recognize that it is most likely a sign of lack of confidence, not a manifestation of confidence. In short, it doesn't pay to have your finger in every pie.

The other piece, equally if not more important, is by **Katrine Tjoelsen** and concerns goal-setting. It gets into the eight most common blunders one can make in this regard in the workplace. My favorite, if one can or should have a favorite blunder, is reaching too high. A goal that is impossible doesn't "recruit enough of the autonomic nervous system to make pursuit of that goal likely," she says, quoting Prof. Andrew Huberman. Then there is low-balling, or having goals that are too easy, and which also don't activate the autonomic nervous system as much as moderately lofty goals.

There is another piece worth a read in this issue about 8 Acronyms that you see every day without giving a second thought to, and explains what they mean.

Bringing up the rear is our regularly scheduled roundup on the environment with a mix of both good and bad news in the spirit of balanced journalism. Sultan al-Jaber, chief executive of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) is president COP28, and the new adaptation cost is \$1 trillion annually. Go figure.

May Allah look upon your sacrifice with pleasure, ameen

Eid-ul-Azha Mubarak!



*Articles curated from online content by JJ highlighting professional and expert knowledge on 'Managing People, Business and Yourself'

INSIDE:



Confident Companies Do Less

By **Roger Martin** | 12 min read



8 Acronyms You See Every Day and Their Meanings

By **Interesting Facts** | 8 min read



The Eight Most Common Goal-Setting Blunders in the Workplace

By **Katrine Tjoelsen** | 5 min read

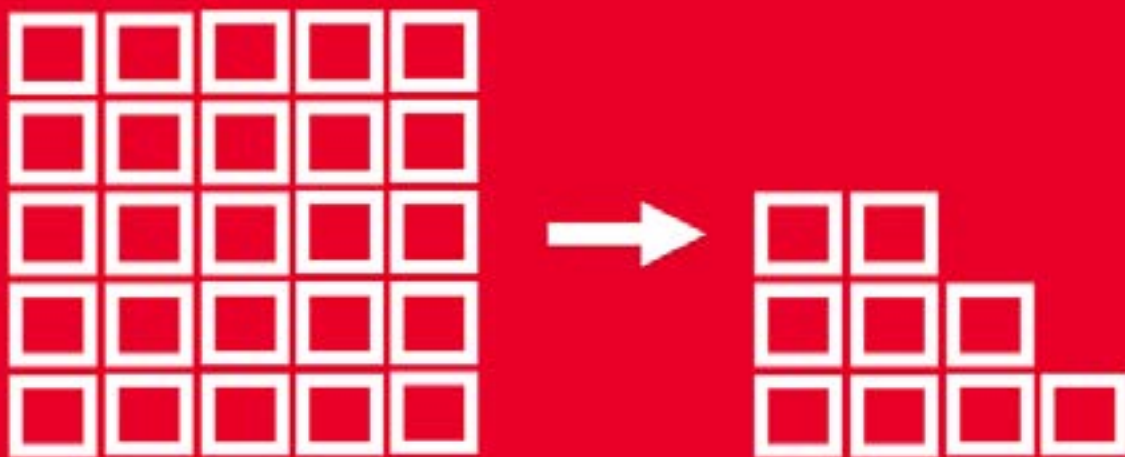


Nature Calling for ACTION STATIONS!

Adil Ahmad | 10 min read

CONFIDENT COMPANIES DO LESS

Confident Companies Do Less



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Source: Roger L. Martin, 2023

By Roger Martin | 12 min read

Four times in the past two weeks I have uttered the same four words — Confident Companies Do Less — and clients found the phrase to be both provocative and helpful. The companies varied widely — business software, health products, beauty products, and hospitality. The wide dispersion caused me to believe that the idea may have broad appeal. So, I decided (with credit to Darren for a gentle push) to write my 28th Year III Playing to Win Practitioner Insights (PTW/PI) piece is on Confident Companies Do Less: Avoiding the Strategic Peril

of Entropy. You can find the previous 138 PTW/PI [here](#).

THE PERIL OF ENTROPY

Competitive success derives from investment, from the application of resources to a particular business purpose. The resources may be time, money, natural resources, or some combination thereof. But if you don't invest some combination and quantity of these resources, you won't succeed. Obviously, you can't invest in everything because if you did, you would invest too little

in each thing to be successful in anything.

If your enterprise is in business today, it is because at some point in the past, you invested enough resources, and invested them smartly enough, to create a viable and (thus far) sustainable business. That meant investing in a specific Where-to-Play (WTP) with a particular How-to-Win (HTW). That initiative got you into the game.

If you chose to invest in a meritorious WTP/HTW pair — i.e., a reasonably attractive WTP and a HTW that is more than just a how-to-play — you will spin off more cash than is necessary to replace your investments as they depreciate. That leaves a very important question: What will you do with the cash that is over and above the replacement requirement?

One obvious use is to reinvest the excess cash in the exact WTP that got you the excess cash in the first place. The investment thesis for this choice would be to deepen and/or strengthen the HTW in the existing WTP. The other obvious use is to invest it in another WTP — in pursuit of some sort of HTW in that new WTP. The new WTP may be close to the existing WTP or further from it, but it is a different WTP from the original choice. The investment thesis for this choice could be one of two. It could be that the new WTP is more attractive than the existing WTP — i.e., its underlying growth is faster than the current WTP or it is more structurally attractive than the current WTP. (Alternatively, the theory could be that adding a different WTP would diversify risk but that is almost always a bogus argument so I am acknowledging it and then ignoring it.)

Both obvious uses can make lots of sense in any particular situation. One is not always or in every way better than the other. But there is a really big peril in choosing to invest in another WTP at the expense of the current

WTP. That peril is entropy. It is the dissipation of investment energy which becomes less concentrated as it is spread across a wider territory.

The peril is that the investment energy in the new business (or businesses) isn't sufficient to get from just playing over the hump to winning, while at the same time the original WTP/HTW source of the excess cash that enabled the broadening is starved for investment energy.

The peril is doubly dangerous because as and when this happens, the starting point for any attempted revivification of the business is a weakened position in the original business and weak position(s) in the new business(es) — and the need for an increased quantum of investment to spread across all the weak or tenuous competitive positions.

WHAT IS CONFIDENCE IN BUSINESS?

In business, the prevailing view is that doing more things is a clear sign of confidence. The notion is that it is really bold to say that not only can we do what we are currently doing; we are so confident that we can do other things too. Only if we lacked confidence would we stick to the thing we are currently doing! While I wouldn't go far as to argue that this is never a valid sentiment, in my experience, doing more things is almost always a sign of lack of confidence.

It was lack of confidence at the business software company mentioned above. Its core offering is awesome — super-valuable enterprise software that is perfectly suited for big companies facing a certain set of circumstances that while not ubiquitous are relatively common (I am being careful to not reveal its identity). Yet the company spends enormous resources selling to

smaller companies who buy stripped-down versions at low prices and insist on extensive customization. And the coup de grace is that these are the least satisfied customers whose meagre level of satisfaction does little to advance the reputation of the company with the larger customers.

Why on earth spend resources to serve these customers with those stripped-down offerings? It is because the company isn't sufficiently confident that if it repurposed those resources to increasing penetration of its best segment, it would increase revenues and profitability — even though current penetration was pretty darn low.

It was lack of confidence at the health products company. It has a fantastic next-generation product that has been selling well and growing quickly. But it also has an extremely broad lineup of other products, many of which are undermining the brand reputation of that fantastic next-generation product. However, by offering a broad range of products, some with zero advantage, others with some advantage, it feels it has a better chance of selling more products and earning a higher return.

It was lack of confidence at the beauty products company. It had broadened its lineup to the point that it confused its customers. Stunningly, its smartest customers are pressuring the company to narrow its lineup to focus on its most appealing offerings. It is quite something when customers have to do that!

I pointed out to all three companies that the opposite was true. Doing more was a mark of the lack of confidence. They weren't confident enough in the thing at which they were excellent to stick to it and make the most of it. Hence, they felt they needed to do other things, even if there was no indication that they would be particularly good at those other things. They

hoped that it would turn out well. But as we all know, hope is not a strategy.

What does a confident company look like? It is one that does less because it has confidence in what it is doing.

Take for example, The Vanguard Group. It does two things. It sells index mutual funds and index exchange traded funds. And it sells \$7.2 trillion of them — more than any other fund company. Vanguard doesn't try to do everything. Far from it. It does almost nothing — selling two forms of the same thing. Why be so very narrow? It is because Vanguard is supremely confident. It believes in the thing that it is doing. Vanguard founder and legendary leader, the late Jack Bogle, had to have his [arm severely twisted](#) to broaden from traditional mutual funds to exchange traded funds — even though they were both forms of index funds.

Or take Southwest Airlines. It does one thing — fly short-haul, point-to-point flights featuring one class of service, flown on one type of aircraft, the Boeing 737. It used its confidence in that model to grow from a tiny, irrelevant Texas carrier to #1 in passenger-seat-miles in America. All of its now-smaller competitors do many more things than does Southwest.

Or take Procter & Gamble. In consumer-packaged goods, private label products are big business — on the order of 20% of industry volume, with some categories lower and others higher. It is such a big business that virtually all the branded players also sell private label versions of their products. They aren't confident that they can grow sales and profits without producing private label products — even if the existence of those directly comparable products is damaging for their branded versions. P&G never produces private label products because it is confident of doing less.

Or take Apple. It sells high-end smartphones featuring the closed iOS operating system. That isn't much. It is pretty narrow. Depending on the quarter, it means Apple only sells 15% of the world's smartphones. Android phones make up almost all the remaining 85%. Wouldn't it make sense for Apple to produce phones at the price point at which the majority of smartphones are sold, or even Android phones too to give it a bigger share of the market and better growth prospects? No, not really. With the one thing that it does, [Apple earns about an 80% share of the industry's gross profit](#). It has the confidence to do a little and prosper a lot. Every once in a while, Apple has let its confidence drop and it attempts to sell lower-end phones — and it fails, which seems to restore its confidence to do less and stick with high-end smartphones.

The hospitality company mentioned above does one thing and is by far and away the most successful company in its industry — because it has the confidence to do less. However, it is thinking about doing other things.

Based on the conversations with the business software company, health products company, and beauty company, the three companies made commitments to do less. I am highly confident that they will be rewarded for their confidence to do less. I cautioned the hospitality company to be careful not to let entropy damage its fabulously narrow strength.

PRACTITIONER INSIGHTS

Every time you are tempted to do more things, recognize that it is most likely a sign of lack of confidence, not a manifestation of confidence. When the temptation strikes, before jumping, ask why you are so underconfident in your current business that you feel the need to channel investment out of it into the new thing

— whatever that new thing is.

Don't just ask whether an investment in a new thing appears to be sensible. Ask whether it is definitively smarter than deepening your investment in your existing thing. Don't view the potential new thing investment in isolation but rather in comparison to incremental investment in your current WTP/HTW.

I am open to the possibility that the new thing is superior. Companies do find new and exciting fields in which it makes lots of sense to invest. For many years, I was on the board of one, Thomson Corporation (and later Thomson Reuters). It exited newspapers, university textbooks, North Sea oil, and European travel, and entered online subscription delivery of must-have information for legal, tax, accounting, communications, and media professionals. Had it stayed in the former four businesses, it would be worth a fraction of its current US\$58 billion.

But I think that Thomson is the exception, not the rule. The rule is that things that are treated as Cash Cows get driven slowly into the ground while the potential Stars that get the positive investment are generally the product of the 'grass is greener' phenomenon.

And even the breadth of things you are doing today is likely to unhelpfully distract you from doing more of what you do well and could grow more — but only if you invest energy behind it■

Source:

<https://rogermartin.medium.com/confident-companies-do-less-52e4b09bffa4>

8 Acronyms You See Every Day and Their Meanings

8 min read

Some words and letters are such a familiar part of everyday life that they almost fade into the background. From markings on your electronics, food packaging, and clothes to the words you see on water bottles and inside elevators, here are the meanings behind some mysterious letters you might see every day.

1 of 8 UL

The letters “UL” can be found on many things, including electric plugs, heaters, smoke alarms, and personal flotation devices. UL stands for “Underwriters Laboratories,” a company that’s been conducting product safety testing for more than a century. If an item meets UL’s safety standards, it earns the right to [bear](#) a “UL” mark.

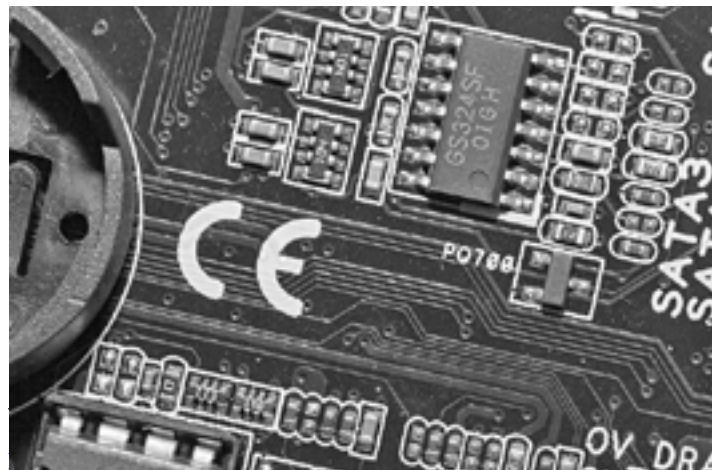
The man who founded what became UL, William Henry Merrill Jr., [got the idea](#) to set up an electrical testing laboratory after being dispatched to check fire risks at the Chicago World’s Fair in 1893. The Underwriters Electrical Bureau was founded in 1894, and Underwriters Laboratories was incorporated in 1901. UL began offering its label service to certify products it had tested in 1906.



Credit: We Shoot/ Alamy Stock Photo

2 of 8 CE

You may have spotted a “CE” on eyeglass frames, mobile phones (or their packaging), appliances, electronics, and more. CE stands for the French phrase “Conformité Européenne,” which means “European compliance.” The CE designation indicates an item has met the standards to be sold in the European Economic Area. The [certification](#) process ensures that products in specific categories adhere to safety, health, and environmental standards. Placing CE on things isn’t required outside of Europe, but plenty of manufacturers leave the CE mark on items that are sold both in Europe and elsewhere.



Credit: Chris Howes/Wild Places Photography/ Alamy Stock Photo

3 of 8 FCC

Mobile phones, earbuds, television stations, and other communication devices operate on radio frequencies. In the United States, the Federal Communications Commission checks to make sure these devices can function [with no harmful interference](#). The FCC also ensures a device won't overexpose users to radiofrequency (RF) energy, which is a [type of electromagnetic radiation](#).

After obtaining FCC approval, manufacturers will place an FCC logo on the device and/or its packaging. At first glance, this logo can appear as if it contains just an F and a C next to each other, but a closer look will reveal there's a second C hidden inside the first one.



Credit: David J. Green/ Alamy Stock Photo

4 of 8 OTIS

Maybe you study the insides of elevators to have something to do during your ascent or descent, or perhaps you get nervous and read every bit of elevator signage in search of reassurance it's working properly. If so, you've likely seen "OTIS" [emblazoned](#) on an elevator's floor, control panel, or elsewhere. This isn't an acronym or abbreviation — OTIS refers to the Otis Elevator Company.

In the [1830s and '40s](#), passengers regularly died in elevators when lifting cables broke. Inventor Elisha Graves Otis created an elevator safety brake, and in 1853, showed off his invention at New York City's Crystal Palace Convention by ascending on an open platform, [cutting](#) the hoisting rope with an ax, and not falling thanks to the safety brake. Four years later, E.V. Haughwout and Company's department store in Manhattan became the first business to use elevators equipped with this special brake.

After the Otis Elevator Company was founded in 1853 and Otis patented his invention in 1861, Otis elevators helped transform cities. Today, the company continues to make elevators with the name "Otis" displayed inside. The safety mechanisms in present-day elevators even stick to the same [basic engineering principles](#) that Otis originally used.



Credit: Steve Russell/ Toronto Star via Getty Images

5 of 8 OU

People who don't keep kosher may have seen the letter "U" inside a circle on some food items and not have known this indicated the item was processed according to Jewish dietary laws. This letter "U" is actually inside an "O," not a circle; "OU" [stands](#) for "Orthodox Union Kosher." Some products may be marked with "[OU-D](#)" to indicate that they contain dairy or were made on equipment that handled dairy. "[OU-P](#)" tells people an item is kosher for Passover.

"OU" isn't the only way to signal that a food item is Kosher. A "K" inside a [circle](#) or a [star](#) are other well-known marks for kosher foods.



Credit: Justin Sullivan/ Getty Images News via Getty Images

6 of 8 PET

You can find the letters “PET” on many plastic bottles, including most of the ones that hold beverages. PET is an acronym for the plastic “polyethylene terephthalate,” which is part of the polyester family of polymers.

Above the word “PET” on these bottles, you’ll also usually see a 1 in a triangle made up of arrows. This is a recycling code. PET bottles can [successfully be recycled](#), so make sure to do this instead of throwing yours away.



Credit: Mameraman/ Shutterstock

7 of 8 USB

USB is such a familiar term that you may not be aware it’s an acronym for “universal serial bus.” USB really did live up to the “universal” part of its name. [Before USB](#), serial ports, parallel ports, and more were used to connect external devices like keyboards, mice, and printers. USB made it possible for these different devices to hook up to computers via the same connection.

USB technology was developed by a group of American businesses, notably [Intel](#), and first became available in 1996. When Apple’s iMac came out in 1998, it was a USB-only computer. USB is still popular today, as are USB-C ports on phones, tablets, and certain computers.



Credit: Remus Rigo/ Shutterstock

7 of 8 YKK

Zippers are part of our daily lives, whether on our jeans, coats, or bags, and as long as they work, they usually don’t receive intense scrutiny. However, a closer look at various zippers will likely reveal that many of them are inscribed with the letters “YKK.”

YKK stands for “Yoshida Kogyo Kabushikikaisha,” which roughly [translates](#) to “Yoshida Manufacturing Shareholding Company.” This company, founded in 1934, uses its own brass, polyester, threads, and even zipper machines. By controlling so much of the process, YKK can deliver high-quality zippers. The company also sells these zippers at reasonable prices. The combination has made YKK a go-to in the garment industry — and explains why half of the world’s zippers have YKK zippers ■



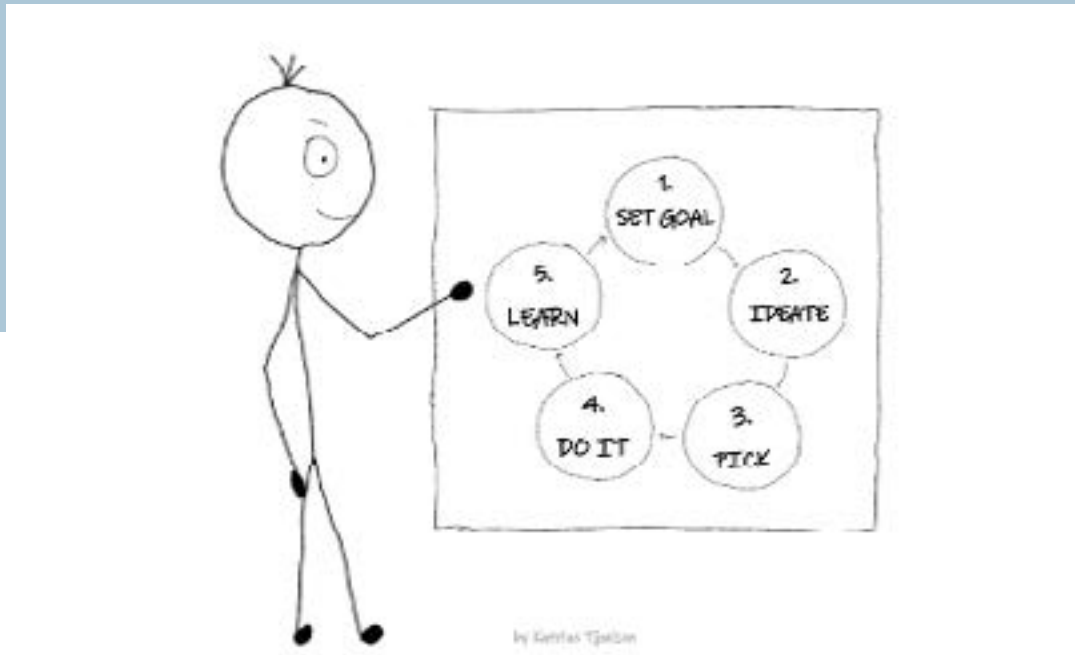
Credit: Mark Collinson/ Alamy Stock Photo

Source:

<https://www.interestingfacts.com/acronyms-meanings/Ydjw2E7cAQAHtnb3>

THE EIGHT MOST COMMON GOAL-SETTING BLUNDERS IN THE WORKPLACE

And what to do instead.



By Better Humans | 5 min read

Goal setting is the first step to peak performance work.

Lousy.

That's what it feels like to work in a team with poorly set goals. If you don't know the destination, how can you possibly figure out the directions?

Having the right goals, however, set you up for success. I saw it as a consultant with McKinsey & Company, as a leader of a team of product managers at a tech scale-up, and in the Stanford MBA program.

Luckily, you don't need to be a manager to influence your team's goals. Sometimes, all it takes is a well-placed question to improve your goals a notch.

So whether you're a manager or not — if you want to set winning goals, avoid these eight blunders.

Blunders to Avoid:

1. Reaching too high

Tempting to aim for the stars, eh? I've fallen for this trap over and over.

I thought that even if my team didn't reach the goal, we'd still achieve more than if we had set a lower goal.

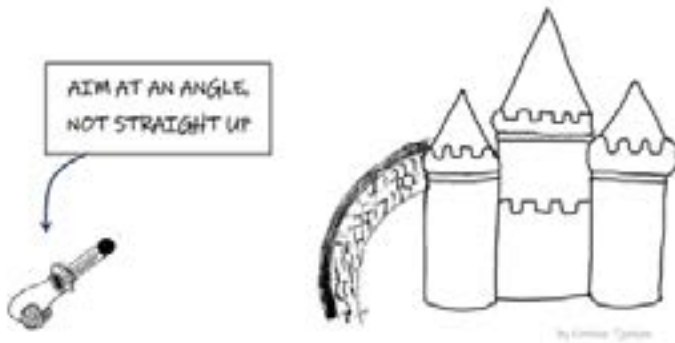
But even if you're trying to shoot a cannonball, you wouldn't aim for the stars. You'd aim with an angle:

A goal that's impossible doesn't "recruit enough of the autonomic nervous system to make pursuit of that goal likely," says Prof. Andrew Huberman.

If our goals are **too lofty**, we **don't feel motivated** to pursue them.

2. Low-balling

On the flip side, goals that are too easy also don't activate the autonomic nervous system as much as moderately lofty goals.



Without a sense of challenge, it can **feel like there's no point in even trying**.

3. Confusing outputs for outcomes

"Having an updated website" is an **output**.

"Increased signups" is an **outcome**.

Outcomes hold value. They can be top level business metrics, like sales, or leading indicators, like the number of initial sales calls booked.

Great goals focus on outcomes.

4. Skipping the 'why'

The point of a goal is to **guide action**. How effectively will a goal guide action if the 'why' isn't understood?

5. Remaining vague

Great goals are **specific**.

Bad goals are vague.

For example:

- Bad: "Simplify user onboarding"
- Good: "Decrease user onboarding time by 50% in the next 3 months"

Such specific goals let you **measure progress** and **celebrate** when a goal is achieved.

6. Trying to parallelize

Fewer goals create **focus**.

If your energy is spread amongst multiple goals, no goal will progress much. But if you **align your effort** behind fewer goals, progress is fast and massive.

If your manager is asking you to do too much at once, explain that you can pursue goals **sequentially** instead of in parallel.

(Personal note: "Do as I say, not as I do." I have six different goals in parallel and should cut down...)

7. Setting & forgetting

Put in place **structures** to remember the goals.

It could be:

- A sticky note on your desk
- On a whiteboard in your team area
- An automated, daily Slack message in your team channel

If goals are forgotten, it might be a sign that they're utterly unrealistic.

8. Lacking ownership

If we want colleagues to **commit** to company or team goals, we need to **involve** our colleagues in creating them.

"When we choose for ourselves, we are far more committed to the outcome (almost by a factor of five to one),"

wrote Dewar and Kellar in [The irrational side of change management](#).

If goals are imposed on your team — try this:

"I appreciate the intention of goal-setting. Could my team and I also have an opportunity to discuss them with you and provide input?"

Achieving goals also requires ideation, selection, execution, and learning. Read more in my article [5-Step Framework For Superior Work Performance](#) ■

Source:

<https://betterhumans.pub/the-eight-most-common-goal-setting-blunders-in-the-workplace-721888d11a8c>

NATURE CALLING for ACTION STATIONS (NCfAS#16)

BIPARJOY REVISITED

Nature on the Warpath! Great Escape by Skin of Teeth



We missed the heavy brunt of cyclone Biparjoy as it veered off towards India at pretty much the last moment, sparing Karachi, the mega-metropolis on the Arabian Sea with an estimated 30 million strong and weak.

What Biparjoy did succeed in doing was scrambling the denizens of Karachi onto a war footing in preparing for imminent disaster. It brought neighborhoods alive in devising joint fronts to combat Nature's seaborne assault on those who would pollute oceans and muck up the air.

Nature bristles with anger and frustration at the beyond wayward behavior of those whom the Lord created in His image and appointed His vice-regents on Earth. When Nature bristles the environment turns hot, quite literally, and the heat waves that emanate send folk scurrying for cover, and in an alarmingly increasing number of cases, to their graves.

SHERRY BLOWS BUGLE FOR BATTLE STATIONS!

Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) Alert!

Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Senator Sherry Rehman has emphasized the need for vigilance and precautionary measures among district administrations, local organizations, and communities as temperatures in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) are expected to rise by 4-6 degrees Celsius above normal, as reported by APP in The News International dated Friday, Jun 23, 2023.

The minister underscored the utmost importance of prioritizing safety, particularly as the upcoming week aligned with the celebration of Eidul Azha, a time when an influx of tourists was expected in the northern regions due to the holidays.

"Pakistan holds the distinction of having the most

extensively glaciated areas in the world outside of the Polar Regions due to its geographical location at the confluence of three mountain ranges, the Himalayas, Karakoram, and Hindukush." Alarming scientific warnings have surfaced concerning the future of these glaciers, indicating a projected substantial reduction of 75 percent in their volume by the conclusion of this century.

Ten of the most vulnerable glaciers are being closely monitored by the Space & Upper Atmosphere Research Commission, the executive and national space agency of Pakistan, to assess their susceptibility to the GLOFs and share early warnings.

"It is high time for this forum (COP28) to introduce a mechanism of political, diplomatic and economic sanctions to involve stakes of rich nations if they fail to fulfill their commitments" – Zile Huma, University of Oxford graduate in Public Policy

FOSSIL FUEL ON FRONT FOOT AT COP28

Sultan al-Jaber, chief executive of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) is president COP28

The annual Climate Change Conference (COP28) under the United Nations Framework Convention will be held in the UAE at the end of 2023 to steer the global efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change to the next level, writes Zile Huma (The News International, Sunday, Jun 18, 2023).

LOSS & DAMAGE REPARATIONS

A big goal achieved during COP27 was the establishment of the Loss and Damage Fund

“What Biparjoy did succeed in doing was scrambling the denizens of Karachi onto a war footing in preparing for imminent disaster” – Adil Ahmad, Author

thanks to the very intelligent and untiring efforts of Pakistan's Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Senator Sherry Rehman.

The Loss and Damage Fund was a demand made by developing and underdeveloped nations from rich countries for the reparations of damages faced

by developing nations due to climate disasters caused by the unchecked carbon emissions of the developed world. It was decided in COP27 to set 2023 as a timeline for the operationalization of the newly established Fund.

Moral policing with clout

Only moral policing through repeated reminders to rich polluters to meet their targets of zero carbon emissions is not enough to ensure that the targets are achieved within the given timeline, says Zile Huma. “It is high time for this forum to introduce a mechanism of political, diplomatic and economic sanctions to involve stakes of rich nations if they fail



“There is a need for vigilance and precautionary measures among district administrations, local organizations, and communities as temperatures in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) are expected to rise by 4-6 degrees Celsius above normal” – Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Senator Sherry Rehman

to fulfill their commitments.”

According to the Green Climate Fund, \$12 billion have been collected and 216 projects have been initiated. Out of these 216 projects, 80 per cent are being implemented, making 912.4 million people climate-resilient.

New adaptation cost \$1 trillion annually

But the initial goal to collect \$100 billion annually in the Green Climate Fund is still far from reality, which is a major financial barrier for vulnerable countries to escape climate-led disasters. “The COP28 president-designate, Dr Sultan Al-Jaber has already expressed his concern on the delay in the delivery of \$100 billion pledged in 2009 and its diminished value after 14 years,” wrote Aisha Khan, chief executive of the Civil Society Coalition for Climate Change, who minced no words in her piece in Dawn (May 16, 2023). “The estimated new adaptation cost of \$1 trillion annually will not be an easy commitment to secure.”

Other items on the COP28 agenda include climate justice, gender sensitivities and the role of youth in fighting against climate change.

Boosting crisis financing for low-income states

Meanwhile, the World Bank will ease financing for countries hit by natural disasters, says a Reuters report (Dawn Business, Friday, June 23, 2023). The International Monetary Fund also announced that it had hit its target of making \$100 billion in special drawing rights available for vulnerable nations.

The two announcements were made at a gathering in Paris of some 40 leaders, including about a dozen from Africa, China’s prime minister and Brazil’s president that aims to give impetus to a

new global finance agenda. It aims to boost crisis financing for low-income states and ease their debt burdens, reform post-war financial systems and free up funds to tackle climate change by getting top-level consensus on how to promote a number of initiatives struggling in bodies like the G20, COP, IMF-World Bank and United Nations.

Greta graduates high school!

Will Strike & Strive On!

Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg marked her last “school strike” as she graduated high school, but said she would continue partaking in weekly protests, reports AFP in The News International (June 10, 2023).

“Today, I graduate from school, which means I’ll no longer be able to school strike for the climate. This is then the last school strike for me,” Thunberg said in a post on social media. Thunberg, who spearheaded the global Fridays for Future movement, also said she didn’t plan on giving up the protests completely.

“I’ll continue to protest on Fridays, even though it’s not technically ‘school striking’. We simply have no other option than to do everything we possibly can,” said the 20-year-old, adding “the fight has only just begun.”

Greta Thunberg was only 15 when she began her “School strike for climate” in front of the Sweden parliament in Stockholm. “When I started striking in 2018 I could never have expected that it would lead to anything,” she said in a statement. Together with a small group of youths she founded the Fridays for Future movement, which quickly became a global phenomenon.

“During 2019, millions of youth struck school for the climate, flooding the streets in over 180 countries,” Thunberg said. In addition to her climate strikes, the young activist regularly lambasts governments and politicians for not properly addressing climate issues. At the end of March, she condemned what she called an “unprecedented betrayal” from leaders after the publication of the latest report by the IPCC, the UN’s climate advisory panel ■