



COP26 EXPLAINED

WHAT IS COP26?

COP26 (Conference of the Parties) is the 2021 United Nations Climate Change conference. This year marks the 26th annual summit, which will be held in Glasgow. The 196 countries that signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change will be present (UNFCCC).

The key task for the COP is to review the effects of climate measures and progress toward the Convention's ultimate goal.



GOALS OF COP26

These are the main goals that will be reviewed at COP26 on how to achieve them.

1. Secure global net zero by mid-century and keep 1.5 degrees within reach.



2. Adapt to protect communities and natural habitats.

3. Mobilise finance at least \$100bn in climate finance per year by 2020 support developing countries.



4. Work together to deliver action on climate crisis and the Paris Agreement.



WHY IS COP26 IMPORTANT?

During COP21 in Paris 2015, the Paris agreement was made where every country agreed to work towards reducing global warming by 2 degrees and aim towards 1.5 degrees. COP26 will be the first year of the 5-year cycle to come up with an updated plan that reflects their maximum potential ambition at the moment.



What if we don't reach our goals?

Intensive flooding seasons



Species extinction increase



Mortality rates increase



Equatorial regions become uninhabitable



Economic losses increase

With the commitments made in Paris, we are not on track to meet the 1.5 degree target, and the window for achieving this is closing. The decade out to 2030 will be crucial. COP26 needs to be decisive.



STUDENT CLIMATE ACTION

Ideas on how you can get involved!!! From our latest survey, 90% are concerned about climate change. As a young person there are so many ways too get involved to make difference!

1. LEARN

It is critical to understand climate change and global warming so that the adjustments we make are effective and sustainable. You will also be able to educate others via climate conversations.

2. ACT

Your students' union will undoubtedly have an influence on the environment on your campus as many strive to Go Green! You will be able to participate in activities, events and campaigns. Outside of your SU, you can also become involved with your local council or charities.

3. LEAD

There are personal actions you may be able to take to adjust your lifestyle to be more sustainable, as suggested, being more conscious of food and transportation options. Alternatively, using renewable energy in your homes. Some of these adjustments may be difficult to implement, and some can do more than others, so do what feels right for you, such as meat-free Mondays or eating locally and seasonally.

COP26 EVENTS With COP26 approaching, here are several COP26 fringe events and webinars that you can participate in.

CLIMATALK - educate students on critical climate policy ideas through articles or youth-led projects. They also present university courses with an environmental focus (at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels).

COP26 COALITION - on 6 November: join them in actions across the world as people mobilise across cities to demonstrate their outcry. During COP26 week you can join online or in-person in Glasgow to discuss, learn and strategize for system change.

COP26 Youth Hub - will be running a full roster of online events for activists across the world. Some of these will be workshops, and others will be social events.

VIRTUAL CLIMATE MARCH - is running a virtual action to pressure leaders to act now on the climate crisis and inequality.

COP26 - If you get the opportunity to visit Glasgow, there are several events happening at COP every day! There is also the option to volunteer!

RESOURCES

- [National Grid - COP26](#)
- [UNFCCC - COP](#)
- [UKCOP26](#)
- [Exploring Climate Justice](#)
- [Our Climate Our Future](#)



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