

01-12 NOV 2021

GLASGOW

# COP26

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



AN OVERVIEW TO THE CONFERENCE AND WAYS TO PARTICIPATE





# COP26 INTRODUCTION

In November, the UK, together with partners Italy, will host an event many believe to be the world's best last chance to get runaway climate change under control.

**COP26 is the 2021 United Nations climate change conference.**

For nearly three decades the UN has been bringing together almost every country on earth for global climate summits – called COPs – which stands for 'Conference of the Parties'. In that time climate change has gone from being a fringe issue to a global priority.

This year will be the 26th annual summit – giving it the name COP26. With the UK as President, COP26 takes place in Glasgow.

In the run up to COP26 the UK has been working with every nation to reach agreement on how to tackle climate change. World leaders will arrive in Scotland, alongside tens of thousands of negotiators, government representatives, businesses and citizens for twelve days of talks.

Not only is it a huge task but it is also not just yet another international summit. Most experts believe COP26 has a unique urgency.

To understand why, it's necessary to look back to another COP.

## COP26 THE IMPORTANCE OF PARIS & NOW GLASGOW

COP21 took place in Paris in 2015.

For the first time ever, something momentous happened: every country agreed to work together to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees and aim for 1.5 degrees, to adapt to the impacts of a changing climate and to make money available to deliver on these aims.

The Paris Agreement was born. The commitment to aim for 1.5 degrees is important because every fraction of a degree of warming will result in the loss of many more lives lost and livelihoods damaged.

Under the Paris Agreement, countries committed to bring forward national plans setting out how much they would reduce their emissions – known as Nationally Determined Contributions, or ‘NDCs’.

They agreed that every five years they would come back with an updated plan that would reflect their highest possible ambition at that time.



**Glasgow is the moment for countries to update their plans.**

The run up to this year’s summit in Glasgow is the moment (delayed by a year due to the pandemic) when countries update their plans for reducing emissions.

But that’s not all. The commitments laid out in Paris did not come close to limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees, and the window for achieving this is closing.

The decade out to 2030 will be crucial.

So as momentous as Paris was, countries must go much further than they did even at that historic summit in order to keep the hope of holding temperature rises to 1.5 alive. COP26 needs to be decisive.

# COP26

## SO WHAT'S HAPPENING...

The main negotiations will take place in the Blue Zone.

**Blue Zone:** a UN managed space which hosts the negotiations – bringing together delegations from 197 Parties, alongside observer organisations to share their stories at panel discussions, side events, exhibits, and cultural events.

Links to: [Conference page](#), incl. [schedule overview](#) and [virtual COP26 Platform](#)

The COP26 Green Zone will be open to the public at the Glasgow Science Centre.

**Green Zone:** managed by the UK Government – a platform for the general public, youth groups, civil society, academia, artists, business and others to have their voices heard through events, exhibitions, workshops and talks that promote dialogue, awareness, education and commitments.

Links to: [Programme of events](#), [COP26 YouTube channel](#)



# COP26

## UK PRESIDENCY PROGRAMME & PAVILION

As part of the UK’s role as host and president of COP26, the UK has put together a **Presidency Programme** for the fortnight that will showcase momentum from the whole of society, and focus on key issues to drive ambition and action.

The themes are outlined below for Week One and on the next page for Week Two. A more detailed programme of the themes, the events & speakers on the specific days can be found [here](#) – the expectation is that this programme will be available/live streamed on the [COP26 YouTube channel](#).

The UK will also be hosting a **Presidency Pavilion** at COP26 to support the longstanding goals of the UK’s COP26 Presidency, as well as celebrating and sharing the lessons of UK climate leadership and successes. Following the same themes there is a detailed [events programme](#) with a stronger focus on activity in the UK.

Week One						
Sunday October 31st	Monday November 1st	Tuesday November 2nd	Wednesday November 3rd	Thursday November 4th	Friday November 5th	Saturday November 6th
<b>Procedural Opening of Negotiations</b>	<b>World Leader’s Summit</b> Welcoming world leaders to COP to put forward high level ambition and action towards securing global net zero and keeping 1.5 degrees in reach; adapting to protect communities and natural habitats; and mobilising finance.		<b>Finance</b> Mobilising public and private finance flows at scale for mitigation and adaptation.	<b>Energy</b> Accelerating the global transition to clean energy.	<b>Youth and public empowerment</b> Elevating the voice of young people and demonstrating the critical role of public empowerment and education in climate action.	<b>Nature</b> Ensuring the importance of nature and sustainable land use are part of global action on climate change and a clean, green recovery.

# COP26 PRESIDENCY PROGRAMME (WEEK TWO)

Week Two						
Sunday November 7th	Monday November 8th	Tuesday November 9th	Wednesday November 10th	Thursday November 11th	Friday November 12th	Saturday November 13th
Rest day ahead of the second week of negotiations	<b>Adaptation, Loss and Damage</b> Delivering the practical solutions needed to adapt to climate impacts and address loss and damage.	<b>Gender</b> Progressing gender equality and the full and meaningful participation of women and girls in climate action.  <b>Science and Innovation</b> Demonstrating that science and innovation can deliver climate solutions to meet, and accelerate, increased ambition.	<b>Transport</b> Driving the global transition to zero emission transport.	<b>Cities, Regions and Built Environment</b> Advancing action in the places we live, from communities, through to cities and regions.	Closure of Negotiations	



# COP26

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT & SCOTLAND'S CLIMATE AMBITION ZONE

The Scottish Government is co-hosting a multi-level **Action Pavilion** in the official COP Blue Zone to show case the vital role of states and regions in the international response to the climate crisis, as well as playing a prominent role in the Peatland, Nordic and Cryosphere Pavilions in the Blue Zone.

Scotland's enterprise agencies and partners are holding a series of virtual events during the UN Climate Change Conference COP26 from 1 to 11 November 2021.

It's an opportunity for Scotland and its companies to show the world we are leaders in sustainable and inclusive economic development. COP26 is also the perfect catalyst to inspire Scottish businesses to go further and faster towards a net zero transition.

**A full programme of virtual events** reflects the topics being discussed at COP26. The events cover a range of key issues including green skills, decarbonising heat, the circular economy and the critical role businesses have to play in a net zero future.

View the [events programme](#) and [sign up](#) now to attend.

Find out more about the net zero opportunities and discover how your business can be part of Scotland's journey towards a green and sustainable future.

[netzeronation.scot/business](https://netzeronation.scot/business)

[findbusinesssupport.gov.scot](https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot)



### Scotland's Climate Ambition Zone: online events programme

1 November - Zero Emissions: Heavy Duty Vehicles

2 November – Offshore renewables: wind

2 November - Offshore renewables: marine

2 November - Net zero and industry

3 November – Scotland's green investment showcase

4 November – Decarbonising heat

8 November – Circular economy

8 November – Green skills

8 November – Climate tech

10 November - Hydrogen

11 November – Net zero



## COP26 FRINGE EVENTS OF NOTE...

### World Climate Summit – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> November

Organised by World Climate Foundation, [World Climate Summit](#) – The Investment COP 2021 is the leading forum for business and investment-driven solutions to climate change, acknowledging the essential importance of collaboration and the “bottom-up” perspective in solving climate change. [Digital registration](#) and [World Climate Foundation YouTube channel](#).

### World Biodiversity Summit – 10<sup>th</sup> November

By convening leaders from government, business, international organisations, academia and civil society, this [Summit](#) will address the potential for science-based targets, ecosystem services, updated economic models and public-private partnerships to mitigate ecosystem degradation. [Event details](#) and [digital registration](#).

### Sustainable Innovation Forum 2021

For 11 years, Climate Action has been uniting heads of state and multilaterals, environment ministers, business leaders, investors, and NGOs alongside the UN Climate Change negotiations, convening the largest multi-stakeholder forum: [Sustainable Innovation Forum](#). The 12th edition takes place with a fully programmed hybrid event creating a virtual window into COP26. [Agenda](#) and [digital registration](#).

### OECD COP26 Virtual Pavilion

The OECD pavilion showcases a wide range of OECD analysis and data, from the role of cities and regions in mobilising climate action, to the contribution of tax policy towards net zero, the impact of trade agreements, net-zero transport systems, and the role of teachers and of youth. [Agenda](#) and [registration](#).

Climate Fringe Online – A home for events of all kinds in the run-up to, and during, COP26. [Events calendar](#).





UN CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
CONFERENCE  
UK 2021  
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## COP26 RACE TO ZERO

**Race To Zero** is a global campaign to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth.

The objective is to build momentum around the shift to a decarbonized economy ahead of COP26, where governments must strengthen their contributions to the Paris Agreement. This will send governments a resounding signal that business, cities, regions and investors are united in meeting the Paris goals and creating a more inclusive and resilient economy.

SOSE is encouraging all organisations in the South of Scotland to join the Race to Zero campaign by signing up to [The SME Climate Commitment](#) on the UK Climate Hub, or for larger businesses to sign up to [Business Ambition for 1.5C](#).

SOSE are then urging all organisations to reach out to them via [www.southofscotlandenterprise.com/contact-us](http://www.southofscotlandenterprise.com/contact-us) once they have signed up to the Race to Zero - as further help and support can be provided.

