COP26

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What is COP26?

Is it something to be cynical or hopeful about?
What is COP? The basics

• Convention of Parties – governs the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
• Brings together world leaders, negotiators, government representatives, businesses and citizens for 12 days of talks
• Each COP is different
What is this COP about?

01-12 Nov 2021
Glasgow
COP26
In partnership with Italy
COP21 delivered the Paris Agreement

- First time all nations came together and made a legally binding agreement to limit global warming to below 2 degrees and preferably 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.
Why is it important to go for 1.5°C?

• We are already experiencing climate change
Why is it important to go for 1.5°C?

• We have experienced about 1.1 °C degrees of warming so far
• Increase in intense rainfalls and droughts, extreme heatwaves, are attributable to climate change
• +1.5°C world has fewer extremes compared to a +2°C world
• We also reduce the risk of biodiversity loss and crossing tipping points – let’s not stray too far into the unknown

Source: IPCC 1.5 degrees report Thirery et al 2021
How does the Paris Agreement work?

Ambition Mechanism in the Paris Agreement:

- 2018: Adoption of the Paris Rulebook
- 2019: Talanoa Dialogue
- 2020: Communicate new or updated NDCs
- 2023: Global stocktake
- 2025: Communicate new or updated NDCs
- 2028: Global stocktake
- 2030: Communicate new or updated NDCs
- 2050: Net-zero emissions & climate resilience
What is this COP about? Ambition
What’s the state of play on NDCs?
What is this COP about?

• Ramping up ambition, but also...
  • Negotiating details in the Paris Rulebook – market mechanisms, transparency and reporting
  • Commitments on climate finance – bridging the gap to $100bn per year of public finance to support developing countries
  • Ramping up the role of non-state actors
Are the outcomes of this COP important?

• Yes
  • We need global climate meetings
  • They set the tone
• And no
  • We know we need action and we need it now – this COP is about ambition not implementation
  • Regardless of the outcome - let’s go implement!
It’s an important moment for us

Let’s take this opportunity to find each other, to listen, to learn, connect up our capacities and do more to tackle climate change

https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/sustainability/cop26-festival/