

GUIDE TO COP28



COP28
UAE

*COP stands for Conference of the Parties, which is basically a large-scale, high-level meeting of the countries that have ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on **Climate Change** (UNFCCC). Why the number 28? Because this will be the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties.*

When?

COP28 will take place from 30 November to 12 December.

Where?

Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Who?

Around 70,000 expected participants and more than 1,000 speakers.

Attendants include delegates from more than 198 countries, including the European Union (EU), non-governmental organisations, intergovernmental organisations, United Nations specialised agencies, private companies and media.

How?

Agenda: The agenda includes a world leaders' summit, panel discussions, roundtables, side events, press conferences, plenaries and negotiations.

Negotiations: Parties organise themselves into negotiating groups according to their interests and/or circumstances. Some of the most important negotiating groups are: the G77 and China, which includes developing countries; the Umbrella group, which represents several developed countries; and the EU.

WHAT IS THE UNFCCC?

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

The UNFCCC “is the United Nations entity tasked with supporting the global response to the threat of climate change”. Its aim: to **prevent “dangerous” human interference with the climate system.**

It entered into force in 1994 and has been ratified by **198 countries**, referred to as “Parties”.

Parties to the UNFCCC meet once a year to review progress and negotiate new action in so-called COPs: **Conference of the Parties.**

The UNFCCC is the parent treaty of the **Kyoto Protocol** (1997) and the **Paris Agreement** (2015).

THE PARIS AGREEMENT

The Paris Agreement’s goal is to limit global warming to well below **2° Celsius**, preferably to **1.5°C**, compared to pre-industrial levels. The treaty has been ratified by **195 countries.**

Parties to the Paris Agreement are obliged to prepare, communicate and commit to agreed goals known as **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).**

Every 5 years, countries are expected to update their climate action plans and make them more ambitious. This is done through a **Global Stocktake.**

COP28 is significant because it will be the second stocktake since the Paris Agreement and will measure each country’s progress on **mitigation, adaptation and climate finance.**

FOCUS OF COP28

Mitigation

Accelerating the transition to a net zero economy by working towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement targets and the Glasgow Pact. As well as continuing the progress of COP27 through the creation of a Loss and Damage mechanism.

Collaboration

Enhance and facilitate agreement in the negotiations to achieve tangible outcomes in line with the Paris Agreement.

Adaptation

Make progress on existing adaptation goals to support people and communities already affected by climate change.

Finance

Follow up on existing commitments and pledges. Make progress on climate finance, specifically on the annual goal of US\$ 100 billion to be provided by developed countries to developing countries.

OUR HOPES FOR COP28

- Transparency in the context of the **Global Stocktake** regarding the aims of the Paris Agreement and clear ambitions that will enhance National Determined Contributions (NDCs) with **ambitious 2030 and 2035 climate targets before COP30**
- Continue the momentum of COP27 on **Loss and Damage** by establishing a generous finance facility as well as a transparent mechanism as soon as possible.
- Significant subsidies be made available for **biodiversity-positive practices in agriculture** in addition to encouraging reforestation and ecosystem restoration.
- Ensure a **just transition** to renewable energy and green technologies that takes into account human and environmental rights in the extraction industry
- Mobilise the **promised \$100 billion USD yearly in climate finance** to developing countries and shift to policies that promote more sustainable economies like the European Green Deal.

TAKE PART!

The COP process might be happening on the other side of the world, but with #COP28@Home we want you to be informed and to take part:

- **Be informed:** bi-weekly in November and daily during the COP, we will be publishing a blog which will cover the major themes of the conference and news from the Jesuit delegation in Dubai.
- **Act:** We want to ensure that important issues such as food systems, climate finance, and just transition are on the COP agenda. Use our template to write to your elected representatives and demand change.
- **Reflect:** Our COP28 prayer guide is a tool to help you reflect on the issues which will come up at COP and pray for the conference's success.
- **Read:** A statement from the global Ignatian family stating our hopes and ambitions for COP28.

<https://jesc.eu/cop28athome/>

COP28 KEY TERMS

- **Adaptation:** Measures to reduce climate change risks on people and ecosystems.
- **Climate finance:** Financial assistance provided to developing countries to help them mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- **Loss and Damage:** The economic and non-economic destruction losses and damages caused by climate change, especially in developing countries.
- **Mitigation:** Actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs):** Climate action plans submitted by each country under the Paris Agreement.
- **Glasgow Pact:** An agreement reached at COP26 that calls for countries to accelerate their efforts to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change.
- **Global Stocktake:** A process that takes place every five years to assess the progress of countries in meeting their climate goals.
- **Net Zero:** Achieving a balance between human-caused greenhouse gas emissions and their removal from the atmosphere.

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