

Making Sense of COP26

Reporting Back from the Field

November 1–12, 2021

Glasgow, Scotland



Agenda

- Introduction
- Overview of COP
- COP26 goals
- ACE
- A Day at COP26
- What happened - Glasgow Climate Pact
- What it means
- Individual Reflections
- What next?
- Questions from audience



Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy
**empowers individuals and their
communities** to engage in **solutions to
climate change**





WINDOW INTO COP26

international climate policy
for everyone



NOV.
01-12



Window Into COP Program

Why bring delegations to the COPs?

- Delegates represent voices that are important to elevate and share with the world.
- Delegates return activated and inspired to take sustained action.
- Delegates showcase diverse, multi-sector and ambitious leadership of Minnesota and beyond.
- Planning and attendance requires a high level of collaboration and partnership development that leads to long-lasting co-beneficial relationships
- Digest and social media followers are consistently highly engaged



This Year's Climate Generation Delegation



**BELLA
GARRIOCH**



**JULIETA
RODRIGO**



**BETSY
WILKENING**



**KYLE
HILL**



**ASHLEY
FAIRBANKS**



**NICOLE
DONAGHY**

bit.ly/cg-COP26



What is the UNFCCC?

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the United Nations body to provide a global response to climate change.



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



What is the COP?

UNFCCC Conference of the Parties – the decision making body of the Convention

- For more than two decades, the UNFCCC has organized annual meetings
- **COP Conference** – Annual, formal meeting of the Convention to assess progress and make decisions
- Thousands of delegates participate in these meetings



COP26: Key Things

What did we need to achieve at COP26?

1. COP26 is seen by many as the last credible opportunity to **limit planetary warming to 1.5°C**. This is also the first COP at which all countries must deliver new or enhanced climate plans.
2. **Climate justice is imperative- Loss & Damage** refers to situations where the climate impacts a country faces. **Climate finance** refers to the financial support that richer, high-emitting countries provide or mobilize to help less developed nations deal with climate change and build low-carbon societies.
3. Achieving action at this scale demands **a whole-of-society approach** to strengthen national capacities to tackle climate change, which is the spirit of the Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) agenda.



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



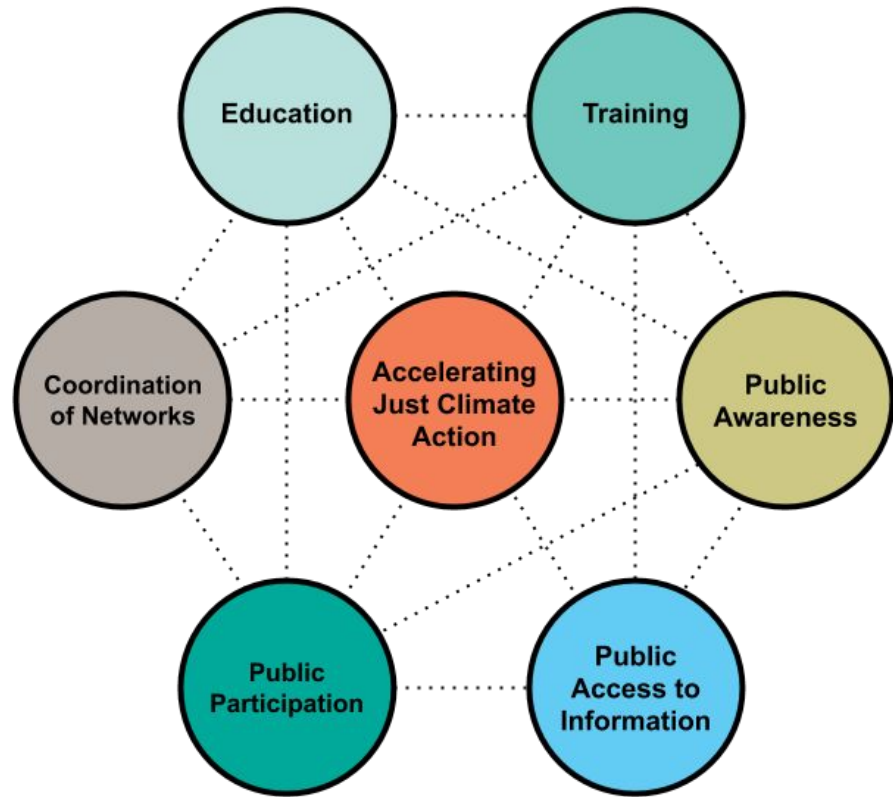
Why ACE at COP26?

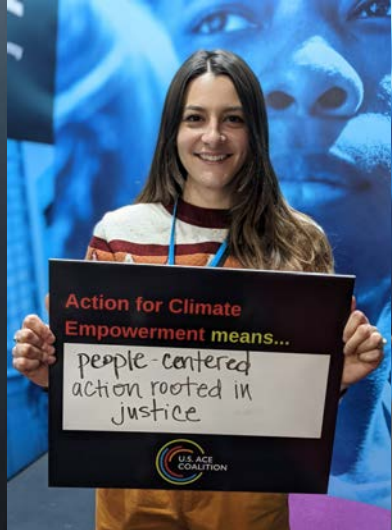
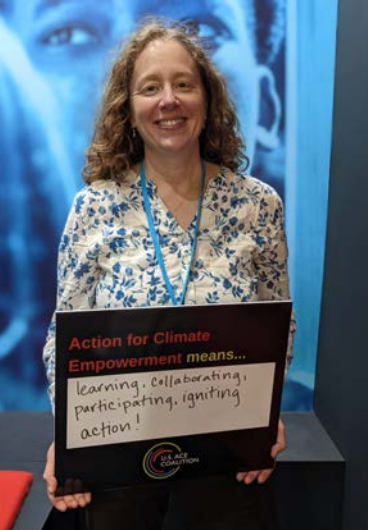
Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) is a term adopted by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to denote work under Article 6 of the Convention (1992) and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement.

The overarching goal of ACE is to **empower all members of society to engage in climate action, through education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information, and international cooperation on these issues.**

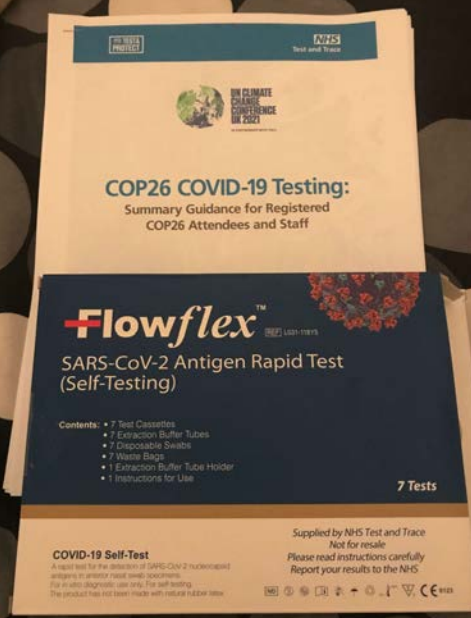


Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) Elements





A Day at COP26 Queuing and COVID



A Day at COP26

Glasgow 1884-2020

#ShowYourStripes





Webinar to Teach Climate Network



U.S. Climate
Action Center
#ALLINATCOP26



**Join the U.S. Action for Climate
Empowerment Coalition | U.S. Climate
Action Center at COP26**



**U.S. Climate Action Center at COP26 |
Change is Here: Youth Leading Climate
Action in the U.S.**



**U.S. Climate Action Center at COP26 |
Indigenous Led Resistance on Minnesota's
Line 3 Pipeline**



Climate Justice on Turtle Island and the role of Indigenous leadership and reconciliation for the land



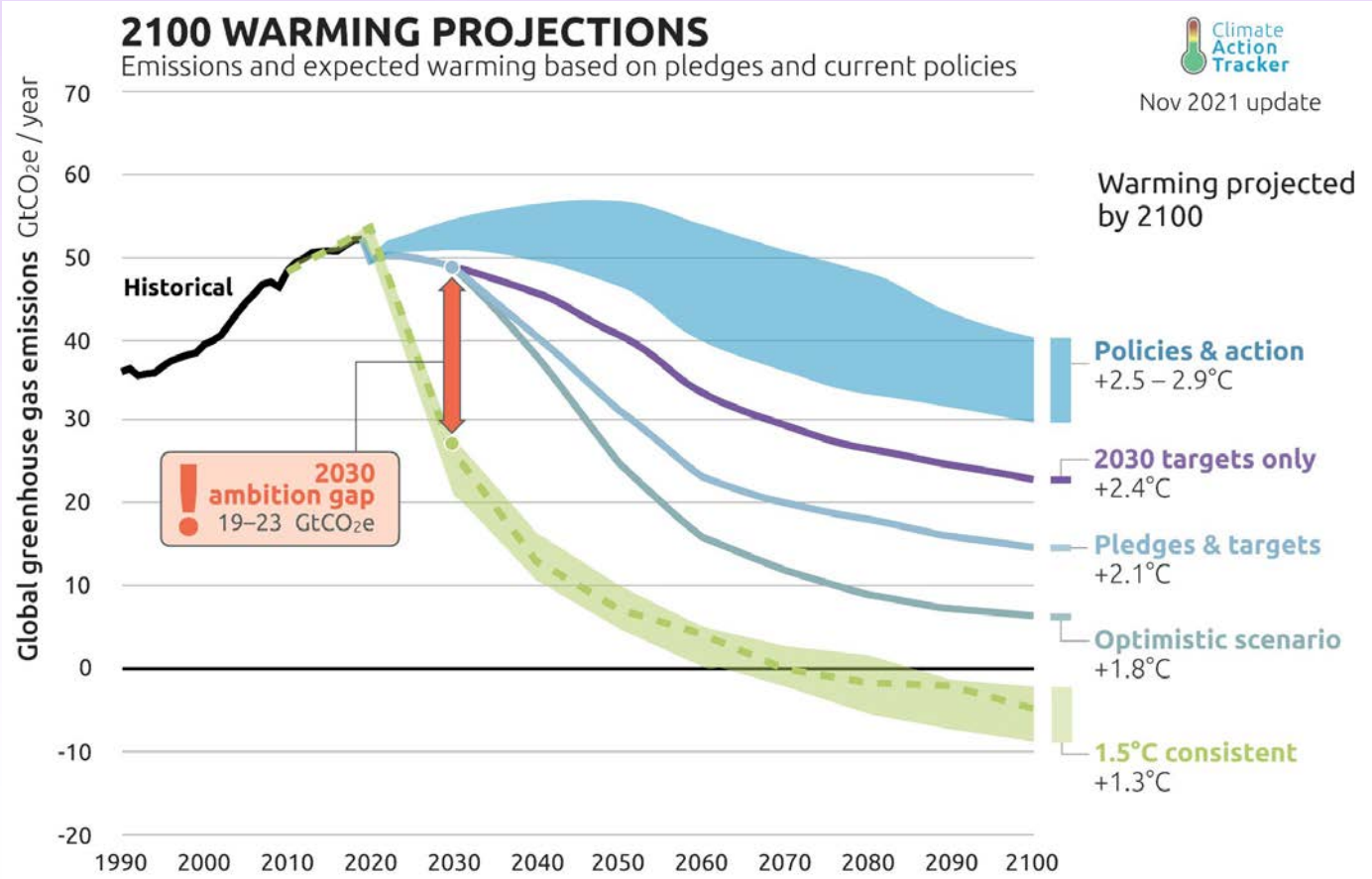


Glasgow Climate Pact

What happened at COP26? - Limit planetary warming to 1.5°C.

This is also the first COP at which all countries must deliver new or enhanced climate plans.

[Climate Action Tracker](#)



Glasgow Climate Pact

What happened at COP26? - Climate Finance

“V. Finance, technology transfer and capacity-building for mitigation and adaptation

44. *Notes with deep regret* that the goal of developed country Parties to mobilize jointly USD 100 billion per year by 2020 in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation has not yet been met, and *welcomes* the increased pledges made by many developed country Parties and the *Climate Finance Delivery Plan: Meeting the US\$100 Billion Goal* and the collective actions contained therein;”



Glasgow Climate Pact

What happened at COP26? - Loss & Damage

“VI. Loss and damage

61. *Acknowledges* that climate change has already caused and will increasingly cause loss and damage....

62. *Also acknowledges* the important role of a broad range of stakeholders at the local, national and regional level, including indigenous peoples and local communities, in averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change;”



Glasgow Climate Pact

What happened at COP26? - Loss & Damage

“VI. Loss and damage

63. *Reiterates* the urgency of scaling up action and support, as appropriate, including finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, for implementing approaches for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change in developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to these effects;

66. *Welcomes* the further operationalization of the Santiago network.....

73. *Decides* to establish the Glasgow **Dialogue** between Parties, relevant organizations and stakeholders to discuss the arrangements for the funding of activities to avert, minimize and address loss and damage associated with the adverse impacts of climate change...”



Tuvalu Pavilion artwork showing link between melting glaciers and sea level rise in small island nations

Glasgow Climate Pact

What happened at COP26? - ACE

VIII. Collaboration

91. Urges Parties to swiftly begin implementing the Glasgow work programme on **Action for Climate Empowerment**, respecting, promoting and considering their respective obligations on human rights, as well as gender equality and empowerment of women;

92. Also urges Parties and stakeholders to ensure meaningful **youth participation** and representation in multilateral, national and local decision-making processes, including under the Paris Agreement;



93. Emphasizes the important role of **indigenous peoples'** and local communities' culture and knowledge in effective action on climate change, and urges Parties to actively involve indigenous peoples and local communities in designing and implementing climate action;



Education

What happened at COP26?

- First ever meeting - Joint Event of Education and Environment Ministers Summit - Together for Tomorrow: Education and Climate Action
- Invest in teachers, develop climate education with youth, integrate across curriculum. It should provide a pathway for future jobs.
- Education Minister Video Pledges
[Part 1](#) & [Part 2](#)
- US not represented



[Photo Credit](#) - Lancashire News

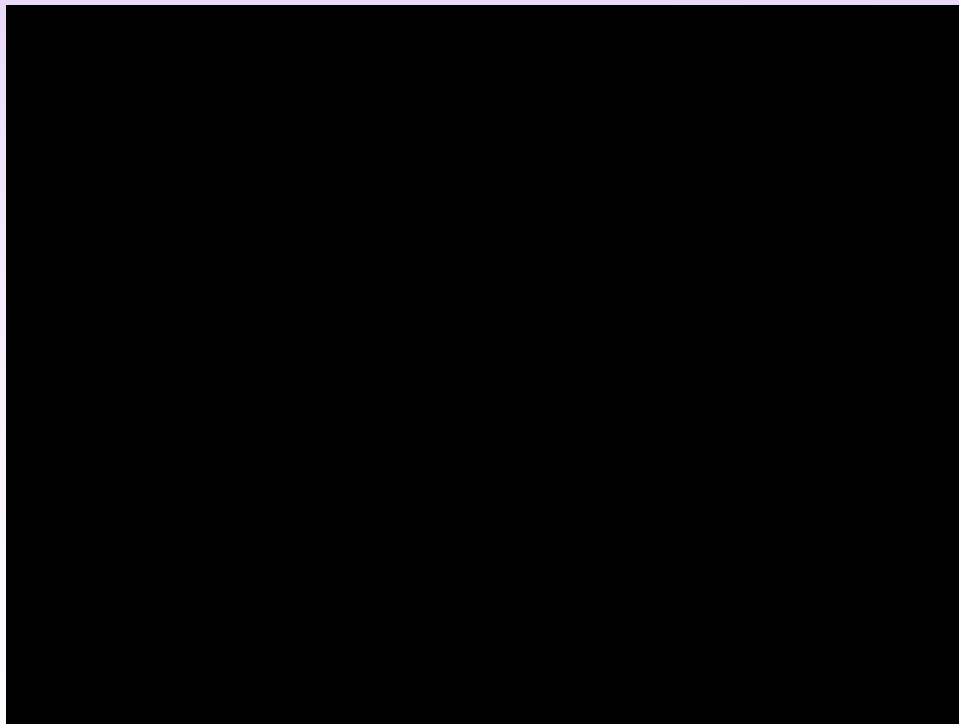


Good

- The need to end fossil fuels is explicitly called out
- 130 countries vowed to halt deforestation by 2030
- 105 countries joined a methane pledge led by the European Union and the United States to reduce methane emissions 30 percent by 2030
- 23 countries committed to making national climate change education pledges including net-zero schools and putting climate at the heart of their national curriculums
- ACE work program



Bad



Ugly: Whose Voice?



- If the fossil fuel lobby were a country delegation at COP it would be the largest with 503 delegates – two dozen more than the largest country delegation.
- Over 100 fossil fuel companies were represented at COP with 30 trade associations and membership organisations also present.
- Fossil fuel lobbyists dwarf the UNFCCC's official indigenous constituency by around two to one.
- The fossil fuel lobby at COP is larger than the combined total of the eight delegations from the countries worst affected by climate change in the last two decades — Puerto Rico, Myanmar, Haiti, Philippines, Mozambique, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Pakistan.





Reflections





What's Next?





Questions?



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Wakelet Resources
<https://wke.lt/w/s/-umj-6>

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Resources



COP Educator Toolkit



CLIMATEGENERATION
A WILL STEGER LEGACY

This toolkit contains a summary of background information on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Conference of the Parties (COP), as well as links to videos made at COPs to give students a sense of what they are like. Background information is followed by a progression of activities to provide students with a global understanding of the problem of climate change and mechanisms that have been developed internationally to tackle climate change.

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[Window into COP26](#)

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- Global lens--impacts and actions
- Background information
- Highlights from previous COP events
- Inside look at COP26 proceedings
- COP26 live events
- Activities
- Resources to further explore global climate change efforts

A Day at COP26



Outside the Blue Zone

