CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING
Recap of COP26: Key Outcomes and What Comes Next
Briefing Series: What Congress Needs to Know in the Lead Up to COP26

Thursday, November 18, 2021
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Founded in 1984 by a bipartisan Congressional caucus as an independent (i.e., not federally-funded) non-profit organization

**NON-PARTISAN**
Source of non-partisan information on environmental, energy, and climate policies

**DIRECT ASSISTANCE**
In addition to a full portfolio of federal policy work, EESI provides direct assistance to utilities to develop “on-bill financing” programs

**SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES**
Focused on win-win solutions to make our energy, buildings, and transportation sectors sustainable, resilient, and more equitable
Policymaker Education

**Briefings and Webcasts**
Live, in-person and online public briefings, archived webcasts, and written summaries

**Climate Change Solutions**
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**Fact Sheets and Issue Briefs**
Timely, objective coverage of environmental, clean energy, and climate change topics

**Social Media (@EESIOnline)**
Active engagement on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube
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- **October 15**: Momentum on Climate Adaptation
- **October 20**: The Role of International Climate Finance
- **October 22**: The Negotiations: What’s on the Table
- **November 18**: Recap of COP26: Key Outcomes and What Comes Next

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COP26: Key outcomes agreed at the UN climate talks in Glasgow

The UN climate conference, COP26, finally took place in Glasgow, with expectations and tensions running high. Read More...
Figure 1 2030 emissions gap between NDC targets and levels consistent with 1.5°C.
What happened at COP26?

1. Pledges and the Paris ratchet
2. The “Glasgow Climate Pact”
3. Completing the Paris “rulebook”
Pledges and the Paris ratchet

- Ratchet: 151 countries updated NDC
- Coal: Vietnam, Indonesia, Poland, South Africa
- Deforestation: Glasgow Declaration; FACT Dialogue
- Global Methane Pledge
Figure 1 2030 emissions gap between NDC targets and levels consistent with 1.5°C.
Progress on near-term and long-term commitments

Warming in 2100 relative to preindustrial. 50th percentile temperature outcomes and uncertainties shown.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Degrees C</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Paris</td>
<td>3.5C</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2.6C</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2.1C to 3.3C</td>
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<td>Pre-COP26</td>
<td>2.4C</td>
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<td>1.9C to 3.0C</td>
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<td>COP26</td>
<td>2.3C</td>
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<td>1.8C to 2.9C</td>
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<td>Net-zero promises + 2030 commitments</td>
<td>2.0C</td>
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<td>1.6C to 2.6C</td>
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<td>COP26</td>
<td>1.8C</td>
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<td>1.5C to 2.4C</td>
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Glasgow Climate Pact

1. Not on formal agenda but accepted
2. Science front and centre
3. Faster ratchet “revisit and strengthen” in 2022
4. Glasgow Dialogue on loss and damage finance
5. Glasgow Sharm el-Sheikh work prog on adaptation goal
6. Coal “phase down”; phase out “inefficient” subsidies
20. **Reaffirms** the Paris Agreement temperature goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels;

21. **Recognizes** that the impacts of climate change will be much lower at the temperature increase of 1.5 °C compared with 2 °C and *resolves* to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C;

22. **Recognizes** that limiting global warming to 1.5 °C requires rapid, deep and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions, including reducing global carbon dioxide emissions by 45 per cent by 2030 relative to the 2010 level and to net zero around mid-century, as well as deep reductions in other greenhouse gases;

23. **Also recognizes** that this requires accelerated action in this critical decade, on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge and equity, reflecting common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty;
29. *Recalls* Article 3 and Article 4, paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 11, of the Paris Agreement and *requests* Parties to *revisit and strengthen the 2030 targets* in their nationally determined contributions as necessary to align with the Paris Agreement temperature goal *by the end of 2022*, taking into account different national circumstances;
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**, to take place in the first sessional period of each year of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, concluding at its sixtieth session (June 2024);
Adaptation goal “work programme”

Article 7

1. Parties hereby establish the global goal on adaptation of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Article 2.
Calls upon Parties to **accelerate the phasing-out of coal and subsidies for fossil fuels.**

Calls upon Parties to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies and the adoption of policies for the transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up clean power generation and accelerating the **phaseout of unabated coal power and inefficient subsidies** for fossil fuels.

Calls upon Parties to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies, and the adoption of policies, to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation and energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the phase-out of unabated coal power and inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, recognizing the need for support towards a **just transition.**

Calls upon Parties to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies, and the adoption of policies, to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation and energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the phase-out of unabated coal power and inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, recognizing the need for support towards a just transition.

**FINAL AGREED TEXT**

Calls upon Parties to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies, and the adoption of policies, to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation and energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the **phasedown of unabated coal power and phase-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies,** while providing targeted support to the poorest and most vulnerable in line with national circumstances and recognizing the need for support towards a just transition.
Paris “rulebook”: Transparency

“There are no penalties in the climate regime, there’s only naming and shaming...Having a functioning transparency regime is absolutely key to the whole system working.”

– former UK chief negotiator Pete Betts
Faulty data imperils climate plans
A Post analysis of emissions reports reveals discrepancies in efforts to limit warming
# Article 13 of the Paris Agreement: transparency of action and support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting</th>
<th>Technical Expert Review</th>
<th>Facilitative Multilateral Consideration of Progress</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Parties (shall)</strong></td>
<td><strong>All Parties (shall)</strong></td>
<td><strong>All Parties (shall)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- National greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory report (\text{(Article 13.7(a))})</td>
<td>- Undertake technical expert review of information submitted under Articles 13.7 (\text{(Article 13.11)})</td>
<td>- Facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress with respect to efforts under Article 9, and its respective implementation and achievement of its NDC (\text{(Article 13.11)})</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Progress made in implementing and achieving nationally determined contribution (NDC) (\text{(Article 13.7(b))})</td>
<td>- Undertake technical expert review of information submitted under Articles 13.9 (\text{(Article 13.11)})</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>All Parties (should, as appropriate)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Developed country Parties (shall) and other Parties that provided support (should)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Climate change impacts and adaptation (\text{(Article 13.8)})</td>
<td>- Financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support provided and mobilized to developing country Parties under Article 9, 10 and 11 (\text{(Article 13.9)})</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Developed country Parties (should)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Developed country Parties (shall) and other Parties that provided support (may)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support needed and received under Articles 9, 10 and 11 (\text{(Article 13.10)})</td>
<td>- Undertake technical expert review of information submitted under Articles 13.9 (\text{(Article 13.11)})</td>
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*The transparency framework shall provide flexibility in the implementation of the provisions of this Article to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities \(\text{(Article 13.2)}\):*

*The transparency framework shall recognize the special circumstances of the least developed countries and small island developing States \(\text{(Article 13.3)}\):*
Paris “rulebook”: Article 6

After years of talks, COP26 finally agreed a deal on Article 6 carbon markets.

Negotiations since 2018 had seen the amount of disputed text [in brackets] ebb and flow.
IX. **Avoiding the use of emission reductions by more than one Party**

71. Where a host Party has authorized A6.4ERs for use towards the achievement of NDCs pursuant to chapter V.C above (Approval and authorization), it shall apply a corresponding adjustment for the first transfer of all authorized A6.4ERs, consistently with decision -/CMA.3.¹¹

X. **Use of emission reductions for other international mitigation purposes**

72. Where a host Party has authorized A6.4ERs for use for other international mitigation purposes pursuant to chapter V.C above (Approval and authorization) above, it shall apply a corresponding adjustment for the first transfer of all authorized A6.4ERs, consistently with decision -/CMA.3.¹²
Thanks for listening!

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H. Issuance

57. For the issuance of A6.4ERs, the designated operational entity shall submit to the Supervisory Body a request for issuance with the verification outcome and certification in accordance with the relevant requirements adopted by the Supervisory Body.

58. **Option A** A6.4ERs that are described in paragraphs 43 and 44 above that are authorized and require corresponding adjustments shall be issued as Paris Agreement Adjustment Units. [A6.4ERs described in paragraph 45 that are not authorized and therefore may only be used for other purposes which support the reduction of emissions levels in the host Party shall be issued as Paris Agreement Support Units].

59. If the Supervisory Body decides that the verification, certification and their outcome meet the relevant requirements adopted by the Supervisory Body, it shall approve the issuance of A6.4ERs.

60. The mechanism registry administrator shall, in accordance with the relevant requirements adopted by the Supervisory Body, issue the A6.4ERs into the mechanism registry.

61. **Option A** The mechanism registry shall distinguish A6.4ERs that are authorized for use towards the achievement of NDCs and/or for use for other international mitigation purposes pursuant to chapter V.C, including any specified uses for which the A6.4ERs are authorized.

**Option B** [The mechanism registry shall identify issued A6.4ERs that are authorized by the host Party for international transfer for use towards achievement of NDCs or authorized for other international mitigation purposes, in accordance with the host Party’s approval of the registered Article 6, paragraph 4, activities as referred to in chapter V.C above (Approval and authorization)].
B. [CER [transition] [use towards [first] NDCs]

77. Certified emission reductions (CERs) issued under the CDM may be used towards achievement of the [first or first updated] NDC by a CDM host Party [or by a participating Party] [in accordance with all of the following conditions:

(a) The CDM project activity or CDM programme of activities [was registered on or after [1 January [2013][2016]]][Achieved emission reductions or removals from and after [date] and those emission reductions were issued as CERs [by date]];

(b) The CERs were issued in respect of emissions reductions or removals achieved prior to or on 31 December 2020;

(c) The CERs are used towards achievement of the NDC [in accordance with paragraph 78 below] by no later than 31 December [[2023][2025][2030]];

(alternative option to (a) - (c) above)

(d) [Up to a maximum amount per Party, in accordance with a future decision of the CMA.]

78. [CERs that meet the conditions of paragraph 77 above [that are available to the Party for use and that the Party intends to use in with accordance with this chapter XI] shall be transferred to the [reserve] account of that Party in the CDM registry [or Annex I Party registry] established pursuant to decision 3/CMP.1, by no later than [date], in accordance with the process set out in decision X/CMP.16 (CDM).]

79. Where CERs are used pursuant to this chapter XI.B:
7. *Decides* that the objectives of the work programme should be to, inter alia:

(a) Enable the full and sustained implementation of the Paris Agreement, towards achieving the global goal on adaptation, with a view to enhancing adaptation action and support;

(b) **Enhance understanding of the global goal on adaptation**, including of the methodologies, indicators, data and metrics, needs and support needed for assessing progress towards it;

(c) Contribute to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation as part of the global stocktake referred to in Article 7, paragraph 14, and Article 14 of the Paris Agreement with a view to informing the first and subsequent global stocktakes;

(d) Enhance national planning and implementation of adaptation actions through the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans and through nationally determined contributions and adaptation communications;

(e) Enable Parties to better communicate their adaptation priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions, including through adaptation communications and nationally determined contributions;

(f) Facilitate the establishment of robust, nationally appropriate systems for monitoring and evaluating adaptation actions;

(g) Strengthen implementation of adaptation actions in vulnerable developing countries;

(h) Enhance understanding of how communication and reporting instruments established under the Convention and the Paris Agreement related to adaptation can complement each other in order to avoid duplication of efforts;
All pathways to 1.5°C include very rapid cuts in coal emissions this decade.
Glasgow COP 26 beyond the headlines: An international perspective

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Cop26 ‘literally the last chance saloon’ to save planet – Prince Charles

Prince of Wales urges G20 to set aside differences and build sustainable economy

John Kerry says Glasgow COP26 is the last best hope for the world

10 October

COP26: Boris Johnson to warn world leaders of climate countdown as summit gets under way - ‘it’s one minute to midnight’

At the COP26 opening ceremony, the prime minister will say humanity has ‘long since run down the clock on climate change’, warning that if we don’t get serious today, ‘it will be too late for our children to do so tomorrow’.

As it happened: ‘If Glasgow fails, whole thing fails’, says Johnson

31 October 2021

Can COP26 really save the planet? | A simple guide to COP26

COP26: Sir David Attenborough warns world leaders must act now or ‘it'll be too late' for planet

The veteran broadcaster has been a vocal critic of those who deny climate change, and warned world leaders ahead of Glasgow’s climate conference that they must act.

Megan Baynes

COP26: 'Moment of truth' as world meets for climate summit

COP26
A dose of realism

• Challenging context: Covid-19, geopolitics
• Limits to the role of the COP
• Consensus decision-making

“If it is a good negotiation, all the parties are uncomfortable”. John Kerry
(Relatively) positive & collegiate atmosphere
Growing consensus over urgency, 1.5°C & deep 2030 emission cuts

I. Science and urgency

3. **Expresses alarm and utmost concern** that human activities have caused around 1.1 °C of warming to date, that impacts are already being felt in every region, and that carbon budgets consistent with achieving the Paris Agreement temperature goal are now small and being rapidly depleted;

5. **Stresses** the urgency of enhancing ambition and action in relation to mitigation, adaptation and finance in this critical decade to address the gaps in the implementation of the goals of the Paris Agreement;
Key role of U.S. engagement
Paris Agreement “ratchet mechanism” is starting to work
Wave of net zero targets

Around Glasgow: India (2070), Nigeria (2060), Vietnam (2050), Nepal (2045), Brazil (2050), Saudi Arabia (2060), Russia (2060), Turkey (2053)
Sharpening focus on methane

Launch by United States, the European Union, and Partners of the Global Methane Pledge to Keep 1.5°C Within Reach

37. *Invites* Parties to consider further actions to reduce by 2030 non-carbon dioxide greenhouse gas emissions, including methane;
Critical role of finance & support

- Towards the missed $100 billion
- New collective finance goal for 2025
- Loss and damage “funding arrangements”
- Ending of international support for fossil fuels, redirection of funds to cleaner energy
- “Bespoke”, targeted arrangements (eg South Africa)
- Opportunities under Article 6 & its market mechanisms
Delivering on the Glasgow “wins”

- Financial package (100 billion; new 2025 goal; loss and damage)
- Encouraging countries with weak 2030 emission targets to “revisit” these by COP 27
- Following through on side-declarations: methane, ending international fossil fuel financing; deforestation ++
- Key role for U.K. & U.S. diplomacy...
- ...founded on DOMESTIC ACTION
Nicole Donaghy
North Dakota Native Vote
STOP KILLING US
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Materials will be available at:
www.eesi.org/111821cop26

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