

COP26 Cheat Sheet for Youth Workers

WHY SHOULD YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUTH WORKERS BE INTERESTED IN COP26?

COP26 is a **unique opportunity** for young people in Scotland to engage with the climate crisis on a **global scale**. With global political and business leaders descending on Glasgow for the conference, all eyes will be on Scotland and the UK to set an example of the kind of leadership and action we need in order to limit warming to **below 1.5°C**. Young people will be able to gain a global perspective on the climate crisis through watching the negotiations happen, as well as learning from the young activists coming to Glasgow from all over the world. There are also **amazing opportunities** for young people to get involved in the decision-making process, for example by submitting a youth statement to the **Conference of Youth**, taking part in the **School Strikes** or visiting the **Green Zone**.

JARGON BUSTING

COP26

COP stands for **Conference of Parties** and is the **United Nations'** 26th annual conference on climate change. These are hosted by a different country every year. This year it takes place in **Glasgow** on the **1st-12th November**.

COY stands for **Conference of Youth** and is the **youth constituency of the United Nations'** 16th annual conference on climate change. The main outcome is a **Youth Policy Document** which is presented to the global leaders at COP. This year the dates are **28th-31st October**.

COY16

1.5°C

The **global average temperature change** that scientists have deemed safe for humanity. Warming beyond this risks **irreversible ecosystem collapse** and catastrophic consequences for people all over the world. Global average temperatures have already warmed by **slightly more than 1°C** since 1880 so we don't have far to go.

The global agreement signed by **191 parties** at **COP21** in Paris in **2015**. They agreed to limit warming to '**well below 2°C**' as well as making efforts to keep it below 1.5°C.

Paris Agreement

NDC

As part of the Paris Agreement, each country had to set its own **Nationally Determined Contributions** (NDCs) which dictated how emissions would be reduced in that country. These were to be **reviewed every 5 years** and tightened if necessary. COP26 is the 5th COP since Paris, so the NDCs will be under review.

WHAT DOES COP26 HOPE TO ACHIEVE?

- 1** Secure global net-zero by mid-century and keep 1.5 degrees within reach
- 2** Adapt to protect communities and natural habitats
- 3** Mobilise finance
- 4** Work together to deliver

THEMES OF THE CONFERENCE

Each day of the negotiations is based around a different theme, which are set by the UK as **Presidents of COP26**. The themes are also reflected in the Green Zone activities for the day as well as activists' mobilisations.

WEEK ONE						
SUNDAY OCTOBER 31ST	MONDAY NOVEMBER 1ST	TUESDAY NOVEMBER 2ND	WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 3RD	THURSDAY NOVEMBER 4TH	FRIDAY NOVEMBER 5TH	SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6TH
PROCEDURAL OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS	WORLD LEADERS SUMMIT 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.	FINANCE Mobilising public and private finance flows at scale for mitigation and adaptation.	ENERGY Accelerating the global transition to clean energy.	YOUTH AND PUBLIC EMPOWERMENT Elevating the voice of young people and demonstrating the critical role of public empowerment and education in climate action.	NATURE Ensuring the importance of nature and sustainable land use are part of global action on climate change and a clean, green recovery.	
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	ADAPTATION, LOSS AND DAMAGE Delivering the practical solutions needed to adapt to climate impacts and address loss and damage.	GENDER Progressing gender equality and the full and meaningful participation of women and girls in climate action. SCIENCE AND INNOVATION Demonstrating that science and innovation can deliver climate solutions to meet, and accelerate, increased ambition.	TRANSPORT Driving the global transition to zero emission transport.	CITIES, REGIONS & BUILT ENVIRONMENT Advancing action in the places we live, from communities, through to cities and regions.	CLOSURE OF NEGOTIATIONS	

HOW YOUNG PEOPLE CAN GET INVOLVED IN COP26

In Glasgow:

- Attend **Green Zone** events
- Attend **School Strikes** and **Global Day of Action**



Not in Glasgow:

- Join the COP26 **Local Champions Network**
- Take part in **the Moment**
- Submit a **youth statement** to COY16
- Attend the **Scottish Youth Climate Summit**
- Use the **Climate Emergency Toolkit**
- Use the **COP26 Youth Work Resource Hub**
- Host a **Mini-COP**
- Use the **COP26 Communications Pack**