UNDP’s Engagements at COP26

Please see below the list of UNDP COP26 engagements at both UNDP and/or partner-led events. Note this list is not exhaustive and information is subject to change. Check @UNDPClimate on Twitter for the latest updates. We hope you will join us!

**Wednesday 3rd November**

**UNDP COP26 HIGH-LEVEL VIRTUAL EVENT**

‘Ambition from the Frontlines: Recognizing champions with the Climate Promise’.

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM GMT - Location: Virtual

The event will showcase over a year of support and recognition of countries that have developed ambitious, high-quality, and inclusive NDCs. In addition, the event will present the next chapter of the Climate Promise – from Pledge to Impact. Hear stories of ambition from the ground featuring high-level government representatives, key partners, young activists, artists, and more.

**Week 1**

**Monday 1st November**

**Water and Mitigation: From Science to Climate Action.**

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM - Location: Water Pavilion and Virtual

This event will highlight the importance of freshwater-related mitigation measures in water systems, energy systems and ecosystems (such as wetlands and other inland water ecosystems, forest, croplands, rangelands), as well as mitigation within the water-sanitation-hygiene sector, including links to energy and cities-infrastructure.

**Water action as answer to climate change – collaborative action for resilience.**

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM - Location: Water Pavilion and Virtual

This event will showcase how water and climate change adaptation can be integrated into national climate and other relevant policies and strategies such as NDCs as well as how to mobilize financing for climate-resilient water management. Ways to involve communities, vulnerable people, women, youth, and civil society to build resilience will be presented and discussed with the audience.
**Mitigation and Water Resources (tbc).**
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM - Location: Water Pavilion and Virtual

The event will highlight the role of water in mitigating climate change. Achieving the Paris Agreement mitigation targets through water will be discussed, and results from an analysis of water-related mitigation measures in the enhanced NDCs will be introduced. Furthermore, the session will explore opportunities for collaboration on water-related mitigation.

**Tuesday 2nd November**

**Adaptation Action Coalition (AAC) high-level event.**
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM - Location: Hybrid (in-person in Glasgow & virtual)

This is a high-level event organized by the Adaptation Action Coalition (AAC) co-hosted by the UK and Egypt, to which UNDP has been an active UN institutional partner and co-founding members. The Administrator is requested to participate in a panel session focused on taking a whole of society approach to resilience and adaptation action. The other panelists include Nigel Topping (UK High level Climate Champion), Dr. Hala El-Said (Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Government of Egypt), Kristalina Georgieva (Managing Director, International Monetary Fund), Dr. Maria Neira, Director Environment, Climate Change, Health, World Health Organization, and a youth Activist.

**Towards an International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa.**
11:35 AM – 12:35 PM - Location: Water Pavilion and Virtual

On 12 August 2021, the African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW), in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), African Development Bank (AfDB), Global Center on Adaptation (GCA), and Global Water Partnership (GWP) launched a partnership to convene an International High-Level Panel on Water Investment for Africa. This event will set the stage for the inauguration of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa in early 2022; and will communicate how the panel can accelerate the transformation required to scale up finance for water security in Africa as part of increased global finance for adaptation.

**Wednesday 3rd November**

**Transforming high-integrity, inclusive voluntary carbon markets which deliver for 1.5C.**
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM - Location: Nature Pavilion and Virtual

Global leaders from government, business, civil society and indigenous peoples’ groups have substantive discussion on, and mobilize behind, high-integrity voluntary carbon markets which accelerate action for the Paris temperature goals and promote inclusive, sustainable development.
Socially inclusive and gender-responsive budgeting and planning solutions for climate resilience.
3:30 PM – 4:30 PM - Location: NDC Partnership Pavilion and Virtual

The event aims to introduce and discuss a Framework for integrated policy and governance approaches that fully recognize the synergies between climate finance and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including gender equality, poverty and other development issues associated with essential human rights. The presentation of the Framework will provide a snapshot from countries in the Asia-Pacific region that have successfully introduced gender and climate expenditure planning and tracking reforms and their pathways for strengthening climate budget oversight, transparency, and accountability in socially inclusive and gender-responsive manner. The framework can provide useful insights for creating economic and social recovery measures and design of fiscal and monetary policies in harmony with NDCs that can support more inclusive, equal and resilient societies. The event will bring focus to the strong rationale for linking social empowerment with the transition to a green economy.

UNDP COP26 HIGH-LEVEL VIRTUAL EVENT
‘Ambition from the Frontlines: Recognizing champions with the Climate Promise’.
11:30 AM – 12:45 PM GMT - Location: Virtual

The event will showcase over a year of support and recognition of countries that have developed ambitious, high-quality, and inclusive NDCs. In addition, the event will present the next chapter of the Climate Promise – from Pledge to Impact. Hear stories of ambition from the ground featuring high-level government representatives, key partners, young activists, artists, and more.

In 2019, UNDP launched the Climate Promise, a commitment to support at least 100 countries in enhancing their national climate pledges toward the Paris Agreement. Today, UNDP, in close collaboration with 35 partners, supports 120 countries to submit enhanced pledges by COP26, each with demonstrated increase in quality and ambition in both mitigation and adaptation, and in line with national development and green recovery plans.

Through the Climate Promise, we have seen immense ambition from the ground. Some of the most vulnerable countries are delivering some of the most ambitious commitments, despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The majority of countries are leveraging NDC enhancement processes to guide government’s efforts on COVID-19 recovery, with a strong focus on green jobs and social safety nets. Notably, the majority of enhanced NDCs now have strong social inclusion aspects with the majority being gender-responsive and including youth considerations.
Systematic Observations Finance Facility (the SOFF) launch.
6:15 PM – 7:00 PM - Location: COP26 and Virtual

As the impacts of climate change are intensifying, it is crucial that we accelerate our understanding of the climate. The SOFF will fill the gaps in basic weather and climate data which undermine the development of effective strategies to foster resilient development across the globe. During this event hosted by the WMO, UNDP and UNEP, the SOFF will be announced and legally established. The event, which will be attended by international partners, representatives of the beneficiary countries and of contributing partners at the highest political levels, represents a significant milestone, setting the scene for the successful establishment of the SOFF, and propelling it into its first phase of operation.

Thursday 4th November

Accelerating the energy transition in developing economies.
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM - Location: Nordics Pavilion and Hybrid

This event will be a hybrid-breakfast hosted by AFRY and ABB in the Nordic Pavilion to discuss how to accelerate the energy transition in developing economies with a specific focus on multilateral cooperation, prerequisites for scalable projects in developing economies and the role of climate and trade. Speakers include Ulrika Modée, UN Assistant Secretary General, UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy; Jonas Gustavsson, AFRY President & CEO; Theodor Swedjemark, ABB Chief Communications and Sustainability Officer; as well as representatives from other energy companies.

Financing forest action: Investing in forests to address the climate crisis.
2:45 PM – 4:00 PM - Location: Benelux/EIB Pavilion & Virtual

Despite the tremendous mitigation potential offered by tropical forests, this solution to the climate crisis remains underfunded. In the context of increasing public-private efforts to mobilize transformative finance to protect forests, this UN-REDD organized event brings together high-level decision makers from forest countries to discuss catalytic opportunities to scale up finance for forest action necessary to keep global warming below 1.5C. The event will send an unmistakable signal of enhanced ambition that can be a powerful lever to help change the economics and politics of deforestation and restoration in many parts of the world.

Managing Ship's Biofouling – A win-win solution to help curb climate change and preserve ocean biodiversity.
3:00PM – 4:15PM - Location: Blue Zone, Forth Room, incl. some virtually

Biofouling on ships' hulls leads to higher fuel consumption and more greenhouse gases emitted. The side event will explore the best management practices and innovative technological solutions which are readily available to support, in part, the GHG reduction targets that have been set out for the shipping industry to achieve by 2050.
Economic recovery through green project/program towards NDC target.
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM - Location: Indonesia Pavilion

In this event, Indonesia will share information and experiences on green recovery in the pandemic situation and identify the potential program of green recovery. UNDP will join the event to present on the GCF REDD+ results-based payments project in this context.

Beyond the connection: linking community engagement on energy to cross-cutting SDG and NDC implementation.
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM - Location: SDG Pavilion

This COP26 event will bring together experts and energy practitioners to explore practical approaches to designing and developing energy delivery models that meet the diverse needs of poor and marginal groups living in very different contexts, exploring how national and global policies and commitments can be anchored in the local context.

Friday 5th November

Fourth Virtual Climate Business Roundtable - Opening Event.
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM - Location: Virtual

The Fourth Climate Business Roundtable is planned to be held between November 5 and 10 of this year, within the framework of Ecuador’s participation in the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP 26), organized by the presidency of the United Kingdom. The objective of the Fourth Climate Business Roundtable is to promote public and private investment projects with climate change mitigation and/or adaptation actions that contribute to the implementation of Ecuador’s NDC and to a low-carbon model that is resilient to the effects of climate change.

Making use of new technologies and under the current context, the event will be carried out through a Virtual Platform that will showcase the portfolio of projects to be financed, which can be accessed in the spaces in which the Government of Ecuador will participate during the events at COP26, as well as virtually from any computer globally.

The NYDF: A Renewed Call to Action.
4:00 PM – 5:30:00 PM - Location: GLF Climate conference

COP26 marks a pivotal moment for countries to set ambitious trajectories to build a sustainable world. Forests are the natural climate solution with the largest mitigation potential. The New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF) remains one of the most comprehensive frameworks for forest action. We will hear from governments, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLC), youth, and the private sector to demonstrate how bold and collective action can halt deforestation by 2030. We will also present the findings of the new NYDF Assessment Report and recommendations on how governments can advance forest-based mitigation and ensure robust inclusion of IPLCs.
Restoring Balance with Nature: Dialogue on youth contributions to the implementation of the three Rio Conventions.
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM - Location: GEF Pavilion

The event will open with videos of the finalists of the Earthbeat video challenge organized by Youth4Planet, demonstrating youth perspectives on climate, biodiversity and land challenges. The video presentation will be followed by a discussion among participants on what it would take to return within planetary boundaries. The event aims to highlight the importance of youth action in the implementation of the Rio Conventions, increased synergies among them, interconnected challenges and common solutions. Representatives of youth constituencies working under the Rio Conventions, and collaborating partners, will discuss these issues in an interactive manner and invite audience to share their experiences. The event will be live streamed with a possibility of online audience participation and comments.

Saturday 6th November

Adaptation: Building adaptive capacity through climate resilient water, sanitation and hygiene solutions.
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM - Location: Water Pavilion and Virtual

This event will highlight the importance of building resilient water and sanitation services, with a particular emphasis on the most vulnerable and marginalized communities. Resilient WASH services can help people build resilience to climate change impacts and reduce their overall vulnerability.

Urban Content in 2nd Round of NDCs – Initial Findings.
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM - Location: Multilevel Action Pavilion, Blue Zone

To support discussions regarding contributions by the urban sector in updated NDCs, UN-Habitat with University of South Denmark is conducting a side event to present their analysis of new, updated NDCs. The goals of presenting this data are to understand trends in NDC climate action in urban areas, and to consider in-depth review for select climate policies in select countries. Following the side event, coordinators will process the feedback received during COP to conduct a more complete NDC analysis for urban content.

Strengthening NDC ambition through circular economy: the path for 1.5 degrees.
1:30 PM – 2:45 PM - Location: Action Room 2, Glasgow

The purpose of this event is to highlight the why and how for integrating circular economy measures into NDCs and LT-LEDS and share the experiences of countries that have been exploring how circular economy policies and actions can enhance GHG emission reductions and increase climate resilience. It will also serve as a very soft launch of a UNDP, UNEP and UNFCCC circular economy toolbox that is currently being developed and will be piloted in a number of countries under the second phase of the Climate Promise.
Emerging policy approaches for intact forest conservation.
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM - Location: Nature Zone Pavilion

This event will review progress on a set of proposed finance mechanisms and policy approaches intended to lead to substantial, predictable support for conservation of the world’s remaining intact forests, as an indispensable natural climate solution.

Breaking water sector silos through climate action (part of the bigger WASH Adaptation Event).
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM - Location: Water Pavilion and Virtual

The event will highlight the importance of building resilient water and sanitation services, with a particular emphasis on the most vulnerable and marginalized communities. Resilient WASH services can help people build resilience to climate change impacts and reduce their overall vulnerability. The event will: (a) present a global strategic framework for WASH, (b) explore the key role for utilities in managing wastewater and sanitation to improve water quality, and (c) discuss how the fragmentation of water sector actors (i.e. Water Resources Management (WRM) actors and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services actors) can be overcome through climate action.

UNDP's session description in more detail: Despite uncertainty surrounding climate change impacts on the water sector, overcoming water sector fragmentation between Water Resources Management (WRM) actors and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services actors is a “no regrets” climate change adaptation measure. Climate change intensifies the need for water sector cooperation and can act as a catalyst for accelerated change, with external support from climate actors needed to help bridge the two areas.

Monday 8th November

Engaging the private sector to implement agriculture and land use priorities of NDCs and NAPs.
4:45 PM – 5:45 PM - Location: Multilateral Development Banks Joint Pavilion and Virtual

This side event aims to discuss the role of private sector engagement in accelerating climate action in the land use and agriculture sectors, including barriers and opportunities to scale up innovative finance. It will also be used to launch the technical assistance facility of the FAO-UNDP SCALA programme, providing an overview of services offered, eligibility criteria and application process.
Tuesday 9th November

**Stronger together: How gender equality improves science, tech and innovation for climate action.**
**12:15 PM – 1:45 PM - Location: Hybrid**

This event will spotlight how increased diversity across the globe benefits climate action and highlight the important role gender responsive solutions play in improving Science, Innovation and Tech. The event will also celebrate the involvement of women in climate Science and Innovation as leaders. It will involve a panel discussion lead by leading women scientists, business leader in technology sector, leading entrepreneur in the green economy and a leading entrepreneur in the sustainable fashion industry.

**Cities at the crossroads – The UN System helping cities to accelerate climate action.**
**1:15 PM – 2:30 PM - Location: Forth Room**

The world stands at a crossroads in its efforts to halt global warming. Current and emerging local needs must be anchored in NDCs and related policies and plans. This One UN event showcases solutions for vertical integration of climate action with emphasis on national policy, local capacity and finance. This event showcases “One UN” action in 3 focus areas: (i) Mainstreaming local climate action into national policies.; (ii) Building local capacities for informed, evidence-based climate action.; and (iii) Unlocking climate finance to localize the NDCs.

**The Health Argument for Climate Action: The COP26 Health Programme.**
**6:30 PM – 7:45 PM - Location: Clyde Auditorium and Virtual**

Health has been chosen as a COP26 science priority area. The objective of this side-event is to raise awareness and support for the COP26 Health Programme that can increase ambition to climate action. The key health priorities for COP26 include: 1) Building climate resilient health systems; 2) Developing low carbon sustainable health systems; 3) Adaptation Research for Health; 4) The inclusion of health priorities in Nationally Determined Contributions, and 5) raising the voice of health professionals as advocates for stronger ambition on climate change.

**Animated PowerPoint Presentation/video on the COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker expanded with a green lens entitled ‘Tracking a gender-sensitive and green COVID-19 Recovery’.**
**Location: at the Virtual Gender Market Place organized by UNFCCC on Gender Day at COP26**

Note: All COP26 participants have access to the Virtual Gender Market Place. The instructions to register for participants who are not registered for COP26 are at the bottom of this page: https://indico.un.org/event/1000297/ From this page, any participant may create an Indico account and register: https://indico.un.org/event/1000297/registrations/6624/

The virtual gender marketplace is an event organized by UNFCCC on Gender Day at COP26. It will offer to participants the opportunity to explore the virtual conference and networking space. UNDP, OECD and UN Women are participating as contributors through the presentation of an animated PowerPoint/video that will provide additional information on the COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker developed by UNDP and UN Women, expanded with a green lens. The aim is to include an integrated Gender-
Environment dimension to the tracker. This will allow to start building on the existing global database of policy measures, identifying available information that could help frame the post-COVID recovery in a more resilient, inclusive and green way.

**COP26 Gender Day: UK high-level event and Call to Action: ‘Stepping Up Gender Equality in Climate Action’.

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM - Location: COP26 Plenary Room (seats 792)**

On Gender Day at COP26, the UK will host a high-level event that will invite climate leaders to highlight their recent commitments to addressing gender equality within climate action. This event aims to progress the goals of the Generation Equality Forum’s global Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice, co-led by UNDP and other organizations. The UK recently joined this Action Coalition as a Commitment Maker, and, as COP26 Presidency, calls on governments, businesses, civil society and other organizations to strengthen their commitments and actions to place gender equality centrally within climate action, in the run-up to and at COP26 itself. Commitments under the Feminist Action for Climate Justice are particularly encouraged, and UNDP supported the UK COP26 Presidency on the coordination with countries willing to make a commitment and Ecuador has an allocated speaking slot to announce its commitment.

**Launch event for the virtual gender marketplace.

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM - Location: Virtual**

During the event recent analyses and findings on if and how countries are integrating gender into their national climate plans will be presented. Where available, findings and reflections on challenges, lessons learned and opportunities will be discussed. A comprehensive update on the state of gender integration into national climate plans will be presented.

**Building the climate resilience of population of the Aral Sea region, through promoting Systems Innovation approach and enhanced partnership.

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM - Location: Hybrid**

The drying up of the Aral Sea is among the greatest human-made global environmental disasters and is affecting the livelihoods of millions of people across the region. The Government of Uzbekistan’s systematic efforts in tackling the consequences of the crisis has improved the socio-economic and environmental conditions and the adoption of a UN special resolution, initiated by President Mirziyoyev, on declaring the Aral Sea region a zone of environmental innovations and technologies is an acknowledgment by the global community of the comprehensive measures taken by the Government of Uzbekistan.

The side event will include presentations, panel review and open discussions, the key outcome of which will be the issuance of a Joint Communique reflecting the vision for collaborative action by stakeholders to materialize the UN General Assembly Resolution for Aral Sea based on the systems innovation approach.
**Wednesday 10th November**

**Fiji’s First Sovereign Blue Bond Preview Event.**  
*10:00 AM – 11:00 AM - Location: AOSIS Pavilion*

The Government of Fiji plans to issue its first sovereign Blue Bond in the summer of 2022. The Government of Fiji has identified green shipping, marine protected areas and aquaculture as key priority investment areas that will put Fiji's blue economy on a carbon neutral path. The Ministry of Economy and key line Ministries are currently designing bankable projects. The project prospectuses are planned for release in March 2022.

The purpose of this high-level gathering is to provide COP 26 participants a sneak peek into invest-able opportunities identified so far that may be funded by the bond proceeds.

**Reimagining Energy Leadership: Achieving our SDGs through a human-centric energy transition.**  
*5:00 PM – 6:15 PM - Location: SDG Pavilion and Hybrid*

This side event will bring together panelists that are reimagining energy leadership capacity development, to share insights and experiences underscoring what is needed to elevate community-led energy leadership in the Global South.

Speakers include Jason Meyer, Principal RMI’s Energy Transition Academy; Camila Gonzalez, Global Energy Advisor, UNDP; and representatives from the International Renewable Energy Agency (TBC); Community Appropriate Sustainable Energy Security (CASES) Partnership (TBC); Environmental Defense Fund (TBC); and Kaitlyn Bunker, Principal at RMI (TBC).

**Thursday 11th November**

**Challenges and opportunities to mobilize the innovative financing needed for the implementation of updated NDCs in developing countries.**  
*9:30 AM – 10:30 AM - Location: NDC Partnership’s COP26 Pavilion*

Discuss the conditions necessary to mobilize innovative financing for different types of investors, to catalyze public and private investments, and to attract and combine the necessary financing, including innovative financing, for the transition to a non-carbon and resilient economy.

**The Climate Crisis: A Child Rights Crisis: ‘Ensuring children take their rightful place at the heart of climate change decisions and ambition’.**  
*1:15 PM – 14:30 PM - Location: Clyde Auditorium*

This event will provide an opportunity to amplify the voices of youth activists at COP26 and to assess progress made, while calling for further commitments from decision-makers to children’s rights in climate action, with a particular focus on their right to meaningful participation at COP and beyond.
Reimagining Energy Leadership: Achieving Our Climate Goals through Peer Community Faster, Together.

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM - AOSIS Pavilion and Hybrid

Panelists will discuss approaches for capacity building that can scale energy transition efforts, such as building communities of practices and peer-to-peer networks. The session will highlight the experiences of energy leaders from the Global South in achieving climate goals and will offer a preview of RMI’s Energy Transition Academy (ETA) and Africa Minigrids Program.

Speakers include: Jason Meyer, Principal, RMI; Dr. James Fletcher - Managing Director Solaricon Ltd and Former Minster of the Public Service, Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology – Government of St.Lucia; Collin Cover - General Manager Grenada Electricity Services Ltd. & GRENLEC representative; Cherri-Ann Farquharson, Knowledge Management and Capacity Development (KM&CD) Expert at the Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE) – TBC; Camila Gonzalez, Global Energy Advisor, UNDP Representative for Africa Minigrids Program (AMP); Oliver Waissbein, Energy Principal Technical Advisor (TBC).

Friday 12th November

The Road Beyond COP26: A Conversation with African Gender Networks Leading Climate Action.

2:00 AM – 3:00 AM - Location: Hybrid

Panel discussion focusing on the main outstanding matters surrounding climate action after COP26, with a forward focus on the UK’s COP Presidency in the year ahead, and to the next incoming COP Presidency in Africa and beyond. The event will also provide a platform for a diverse set of speakers who will share first-hand experience from the frontlines of climate change in Africa of projects and technologies – both to mitigate and adapt to climate change – in Africa, and what the UK Government is doing to support these efforts, including mobilizing finance to strengthen sustainable agricultural value chains where women are most active and can advance financial inclusion for women.