

COP28 NEWSLETTER

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the COP28 UAE newsletter, providing information to assist you in preparing for your stay in the UAE and to help you understand what to expect during the two-week conference.

With just over a month until the world comes together at COP28 in the UAE, this newsletter will also provide updates on the COP28 Presidency's recent global engagements, announcements, and actions.

We look forward to welcoming visitors to the UAE who will be attending COP28 and those who will be participating virtually.

MAIN NEWS

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE TWO-WEEK CONFERENCE

COP28 will take place in the UAE from November 30 to December 12, 2023. The conference will feature a thematic program spanning two weeks, bringing together diverse stakeholders, including governments, youth, businesses, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, and more, to agree specific solutions aimed at achieving climate goals. The COP28 thematic program was formed following a six-week public consultation process.

November 30

Opening Ceremony

The 28th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP28), hosted by the UAE, opens at Expo.

December 1-2

World Climate Action Summit

These two days will see heads of state and world leaders come together to tackle the most pressing climate issues in dialogue with leaders from civil society, business, youth, Indigenous Peoples' organizations and others. Typically, the Summit helps to set the ambition for the remainder of the COP. For COP28, it will go further; the first-ever Global Stocktake (GST) response will be presented during the World Climate Action Summit, and the Presidency will seek commitments and accountability from the highest levels of global governance on a way forward.

An aerial photograph of a dense, lush green forest, likely a tropical rainforest, with a variety of tree canopies visible. The image is positioned on the left side of the page, partially overlapping the text area.

December 3

Health/Relief, Recovery, and Peace

Climate change is already impacting human health across the planet, from the quality of the air we breathe, to the water we drink, and the places that provide us with shelter. It is also a major cause for displacement of vulnerable communities, leading to increased fragility which can compromise peace. This day, a first for COP, will explore ways to provide relief to those affected, while strengthening resilience and recovery leading to increased stability.

December 4

Finance/Trade/Gender Equality/Accountability

Finance is a critical enabler of climate action. However, neither global financial systems nor international trade networks are working effectively and equitably. Reform is necessary to create fairer and more equal conditions for the world - and especially for the most climate vulnerable countries from the Global South - to meet collective climate targets. This day will focus on moving this work forward, while championing the importance of gender equality across the full spectrum of climate action.

December 5

Energy/Industry/Fair Transition/Indigenous Peoples

The world needs to decarbonize rapidly, while continuing to progress economically. It is critical that this development happens sustainably and inclusively to support lives and livelihoods, while protecting the planet. The day will look at the broad spectrum of solutions from deploying renewable energy at scale to decarbonizing the energy of today. It will also focus on solutions for heavy-emitting industry including steel, cement, and aluminum. Indigenous Peoples are stewards of 80% of our planet's biodiversity and Indigenous Peoples Day will recognize the importance of their intergenerational knowledge, practices, and leadership in climate action.

December 6

Multilevel Action/Urbanization/Built Environment/Transport

This day will provide a rare opportunity for mayors and governors, ministers and parliamentarians, and global business and civil society leaders to work together to accelerate climate action solutions across society in every form. This will include exploring issues such as greener urban mobility systems, low-carbon built environments and infrastructure, and waste reduction.



December 7

Day of Rest: A break for reflection and recharging.

December 8

Youth, Children, Education, and Skills:

Children and youth are facing disproportionate climate risks as the generation who will inherit the planet, despite not being responsible for contributing to climate change. This day seeks to empower children and youth to shape the outcomes of COP28 and beyond and provide them with clear, defined, and accessible opportunities to be a leading part of the solutions proposed at every level.

December 9

Nature, Land Use, and Oceans :

Our world's climate and its biodiversity are inextricably interconnected, one cannot exist without the other. Mitigating both crises must therefore be integrated. This day will focus on delivering climate and nature co-benefits. This includes co-designing approaches to land use and oceans conservation with local and Indigenous Peoples to protect and manage biodiversity hotspots and natural carbon sinks.

December 10

Food, Agriculture, and Water :

Climate change is creating severe pressure and risks for food, agricultural and water systems. At the same time, these systems are also contributors to climate change: one third of all human-made GHG emissions derive from agri-food systems, and 70% of fresh water consumed worldwide is used for agricultural production.

This day will focus on how to address this, from scaling up regenerative agriculture and water-food systems to integrating governance between states, corporations, farmers and producers.

December 11 - 12

Final Negotiations :

On the final two days of COP28, there will be no thematic days to avoid extensive programming while the negotiated text is being finalized.

PLANNING YOUR VISIT? KNOW YOUR ZONES

COP28 will take place at Expo City Dubai, featuring two main zones:
The Blue Zone and **The Green Zone**.



For more information on finding your way around, click [here](#).

Both the Blue and Green Zones will host pavilions and hubs to give a platform for various groups and initiatives to engage with visitors on collective action to confront the climate crisis.

The full list of pavilions and hubs will be available shortly.



The Blue Zone

The Blue Zone is located in Expo City, Dubai. The venue is connected to wider Dubai by the Dubai Metro. The Blue Zone is a UNFCCC managed site, open to UNFCCC accredited Parties and observer delegates. It hosts the formal negotiations across the two weeks of the conference, as well as the World Climate Action Summit, the country pavilions, presidency events, and hundreds of side events. Only UNFCCC-accredited participants, including Parties, world leaders, media, and observers, will have access to the Blue Zone.

The portal for accreditation for the Blue Zone can be found at the following [link](#).

Blue Zone delegates are also invited to visit and explore the Green Zone which will be easily accessible from the Blue Zone.

The Green Zone

The Green Zone is accessible to a wide range of attendees, including Blue Zone delegates and guests, the public and private sectors, NGOs, and members of the general public. This will be a place for everyone to come together to engage in constructive dialogue and build powerful, actionable solutions to address the climate crisis.

The Green Zone is located at Expo City, Dubai, adjacent to the Blue Zone. The Green Zone will be operational between Thursday 30 November and Tuesday 12 December, 2023.

Inside the Green Zone, there will be hubs and pavilions designed around the COP28 Presidential Action Agenda and thematic programming.

There will be specially curated content and programs, including technical conferences, panels, networking opportunities, roundtable discussions, exhibitions, and entertainment.

Further details of all pavilions, hubs, content and programming will be announced in due course.

Open from 10am - 10pm



Visas, Accommodation, Transportation

Visas: To facilitate your visit, the UAE Government is offering a free electronic Special Entry Permit known as the COP28 UAE Visa to all UNFCCC-registered COP28 UAE event attendees. The application portal for COP28 UAE Visa can be found at this [link](#).

If you are travelling to the UAE to attend the Green Zone or other COP28 UAE events and activities (and you are not a UNFCCC registered delegate), you can apply for a standard visit visa or receive a tourist visa on arrival if applicable. The application portal for standard visit visas can be found at this [link](#).

Accommodation: Dubai offers a diverse range of options to suit various budgets, with over 800 properties including hotels and serviced apartments. Additionally, Abu Dhabi, located about an hour away from the event venue, provides more than 230 accommodation choices, spanning from budget to luxury, encompassing hotels, resorts, and serviced apartments.

For booking details and additional information, please click [here](#).

For comprehensive guidance on visas, accommodation, transportation to the venue, and parking, click [here](#).

[Download the full FAQ list here.](#)

Culture and Tourism

The UAE has a world class tourism industry with many opportunities for cultural tours to discover more about Emirati norms and traditions. For more information about available activities outside of COP28 while in the UAE, click [here](#).

Belt and Road Forum

COP28 President Dr. Sultan Al Jaber addressed the High-level Forum on Green Development in Beijing where he praised China's climate leadership and action, while noting more is needed to meet the goals of the Paris agreement. "China has the potential to lead the world in turning the goals of Paris into a solid and durable reality," Dr Al Jaber said.

Click [here](#) for more.

MENA Climate Week

At the MENA Climate Week held in Riyadh, Dr. Sultan Al Jaber stressed the need for concrete actions to ensure the goals of the Paris Agreement can be achieved by focusing on both mitigation and adaptation. H.E. Razan Al Mubarak took part in a number of events which revolved around mobilizing private sector and philanthropic finance for nature and climate action. She also announced measures that will enhance women representation and participation at COP28.

Click [here](#) for more.

ADIPEC

Speaking in Abu Dhabi, the COP28 President, Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, called on the oil and gas industry to "step up, align around net zero by or before 2050, zero-out methane emissions, and eliminate routine flaring by 2030." He welcomed action from over twenty oil and gas companies, including IOCs and NOCs, which have "positively answered" the call for ambitious climate action.

Click [here](#) for more.





Changemakers Majlis

The Presidency convened a pioneering CEO-level gathering with representatives from the energy, cement, heavy transportation, steel, aluminum, and technology sectors to develop and drive actionable solutions to the energy transition.

New York Climate Week and United Nations General Assembly

During New York Climate Week and at the United Nations General Assembly, the entire COP28 Presidency – the President-Designate, the UN Climate Change High-level Champion, and the Youth Climate Champion – engaged with global stakeholders to build momentum across the entire COP28 Presidential Action Agenda.

The President-Designate, Dr. Al Jaber co-hosted a Loss and Damage Ministerial and urged ministers to align and make the Loss and Damage Fund – agreed to at Sharm El Sheikh – a reality in Dubai at COP28.

During UNGA week, Youth Climate Champion, Shamma Al Mazrui, hosted a Youth Ambition Majlis on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly. The Youth Ambition Majlis was a dedicated event for youth that aimed to engage and empower youth participation and provide young people with a platform to share their ideas, ambitions, and aspirations ahead of COP28.

UN Climate Change High-Level Champion Razan Al Mubarak also announced a series of measures aimed at enhancing the participation of Indigenous Peoples at COP28 and showcasing Indigenous Peoples-led solutions. These include financial assistance for Indigenous elders to attend COP28, subsidized accommodations for delegates from Indigenous organizations, translation services, and funding of a report on the opportunities of investing in Indigenous Peoples' funds and organizations for climate action.

Dr. Al Jaber addressed world leaders at the UN Climate Ambition Summit, hosted by the UN Secretary General, where he called on all parties to tackle the 22 gigatons of greenhouse gas emissions that the Global Stocktake said must be eliminated to keep 1.5C within reach.

Read the full speech [here](#).



Africa Climate Summit

At the Africa Climate Summit, COP28 President-Designate recognized the African continent's performance and potential as a leading force in the energy transition and the need for increased finance.

He repeated the COP28 Presidency's call to the international community to unite on international climate finance and held bilateral meetings with African leaders to discuss the COP28 climate finance and energy transition agenda, calling on all to share their priority outcomes and key contributions for COP28.

Eleven delegates from the COP28 International Youth Climate Delegate Program were invited to participate in negotiations at the Africa Climate Summit.

KEY FOCUS AREAS OF COP28 PRESIDENCY

The COP28 Presidency has developed its Action Agenda. This Agenda is guided by a single North Star; keeping 1.5C within reach. The Agenda has four key pillars:

- **Fast-tracking a just and orderly energy transition**
- **Fixing climate finance.**
- **Focusing on people, lives and livelihoods.**
- **Underpinning everything at COP with full inclusivity.**

The Global Stocktake (GST)

In September the UNFCCC published the synthesis report of the technical dialogue of the first Global Stocktake (GST).

The Global Stocktake was designed under the Paris Agreement to assess the global response to the climate crisis and chart a better way forward. The Global Stocktake is a two-year process which takes place every five years, it is intended to inform the next round of Nationally Determined Contributions to be put forward by 2025.

The report lays a strong scientific and technical base for the conclusion of the first Global Stocktake in COP28 in the UAE.

This report showed that we need to reduce 22 gigatons of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 to keep 1.5C within reach.

More information on the GST can be found [here](#).

Upcoming moments

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| • G77 and the Climate and Development Ministerial: | October 23 |
| • Pre-COP: | October 29 |
| • Interfaith High-Level Dialogue: | October 30-31 |
| • Asia Pacific Climate Week: | November 6-7
November 13-17 |

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-  <https://www.instagram.com/cop28uaeofficial/>
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