

# CLIMATE CRISIS AND THE BIG MEETING in GLASGOW, this NOVEMBER



## What is the Climate Crisis?

**The Earth is warming up**, causing more extreme weather events – record temperatures in the US and Canada, severe flooding in many parts of the UK and Europe, devastating wildfires in Australia and the most powerful typhoons ever recorded in the Pacific. Impacts are often most damaging in less developed countries, in Africa and South America, where poor communities can do little to protect themselves.

**Global heating will continue**, with even more dramatic impacts on our lives and our homes. More people will be forced from coastal settlements as sea levels rise, and from areas suffering prolonged drought and excess heat. This will add to the flow of people seeking refuge in more temperate areas such as the countries of northern Europe.

**Our natural world is suffering**, disrupting the seasonal patterns which plants and animals are adapted to, endangering the lives of bees that pollinate our crops, and making emergence of new diseases of humans more likely. Twin crises of global heating and biodiversity loss need to be tackled together.

## What is CoP26 and why is it so important?

CoP26 is the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of all the world's national governments to make commitments to tackle the climate emergency. Britain is the host later this year, **Glasgow, 1-12 November**. World leaders now must show how they have met commitments made at CoP21 in Paris, 2015, then set stricter targets to keep rise in global temperature to **+1.5<sup>o</sup> C**. Already it is **over +1<sup>o</sup> C**.

**Global heating is caused by us**, industry as well as individuals, as we burn coal, oil and gas to heat our homes, to cook, to drive, to construct buildings and make machines. The carbon dioxide from this burning traps heat in the atmosphere and this has been known and understood for many decades. And yet only now are we acting on this stark fact and its consequences.

Progress can be made - Scotland now generates electricity using many renewable sources. But so far these CoPs have failed to reduce global temperature enough. We cannot rely on the politicians or business to make the changes. We, the people, need to make our voices heard. **CoP26 Coalition**, with its 45 affiliated organisation throughout Britain, coordinates campaigns.

## **Climate Justice and a Just Transition**

The impacts of climate change are already hitting hardest in countries and communities least able to cope, from tropical islands sinking beneath rising seas, to poor settlements unable to grow crops in dried up fields. And closer to home, in housing estates where residents struggle to keep warm in poorly-insulated homes. As we move away from using fossil fuels workers faced with job losses will need to gain new skills in clean industries. This is why policies and funding for a **Just Transition** are required.

**Edinburgh COP26 Coalition** brings together community groups, individuals and initiatives as part of a UK-wide Coalition. If you want to get involved as an individual or as part of a community group we would like to hear from you.

### **Contacts for information and collaboration:**

<https://cop26coalition.org> \* [www.foeedinburgh.scot](http://www.foeedinburgh.scot) \* <https://ukcop26.org>  
[www.facebook.com/edinburghcopcoalition](https://www.facebook.com/edinburghcopcoalition) \* [www.theccc.org.uk](http://www.theccc.org.uk) \*  
<https://klington1963.wixsite.com/mysite>

### **ACTION:**

Join all the protests demanding ***Climate Justice Now.***

Main protest: **Saturday 6 November, Glasgow.**

Keep in contact with CoP26 Coalition for details of where and how in Glasgow.

