



IMAGE: <https://germanwatch.org/en/cop26>

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTION BY THE PRINCIPAL EXPEDITION TEAM

THE ANTARCTIC CLIMATE EXPEDITION 2023 (ACE 2023)

Aims to bring about public and government awareness of the importance and the splendor of the Antarctic and to address the warming climate and loss of ice in the southern polar region as a direct threat to the future of human life on this planet.

The purpose of this Expedition is to confront the consequences and develop creative strategies for everyone to radically reduce carbon emissions, with the goal that each one of us will take more active ownership of our carbon footprint, then find ways to reduce and offset their emissions.

Hence the primary mission is for the ACE 2023 Team to propose and champion 25 Resolutions to reduce and offset emissions within our lives, communities, and countries to pace up in reaching Net Zero.

The principal expedition team for this important climate summit will comprise conservationists, celebrities, and ocean luminaries. 100 people will be selected to be part of ACE 2023. You can be one of them. Find out more [here](#).

#ACE2023, #AntarcticClimateEpic, #AntarcticClimate, #OceanGeographic, #ACETEAM

A SUMMARY OF COP 26

WRITTEN BY ALEX ROSE

The highly anticipated 26th U.N. Climate Change Conference concluded on November 12 after two weeks of deliberations between political and corporate leaders from around the globe on how best to combat climate change. So what was the outcome?

The UN climate summit delivered on its primary goal of keeping alive the Paris Agreement’s aim to limit global warming to 1.5°C (2.7°F) above preindustrial levels. Nations agreed on the Glasgow Climate Pact, which states that carbon emissions will have to fall by 45 percent by 2030 to keep alive the 1.5°C goal. But the ultimate success of COP26 depends on the details. The fact that success relies on pledges for future action poses risk of failure. And beyond the concern that pledges might not translate into action, agreements in crucial areas fell short.

There were certainly some notable provisions that countries agreed to in the Glasgow Climate Pact. For the first time in a UN climate agreement, language was used supporting a “phase-down of unabated coal power,” which is the single biggest source of global temperature rise. New rules were established for trading carbon credits across borders, an issue that had evaded resolution since 2015. There was also a call for nations to return in 2022 with new, more ambitious targets to curb emissions, and a request for a yearly report summarizing nations’ annual commitments to reduce emissions.

The 4 Goals To Be Discussed At COP 26

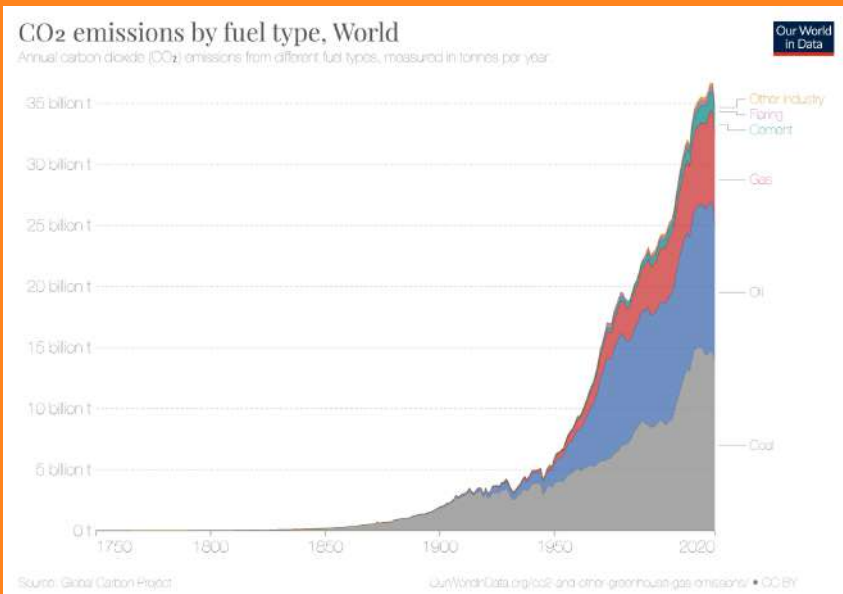
Net zero and 1.5 degrees
Countries are called on to reach **net-zero carbon emissions by 2050** and to keep global temperatures **below 1.5C**

Protect ecosystems and habitats
States are encouraged to **protect and restore ecosystems** and build resilient infrastructures to withstand climate change

Mobilise finance
Developed nations are asked to mobilise **\$100bn in climate finance** per year for poorer nations to tackle climate change

Collaboration
Parties at COP26 will need to **collaborate** to finalise the **Paris Rulebook**, which sets out the rules of the Paris Agreement

Source: SAC COP26 | Updated November 3, 2021



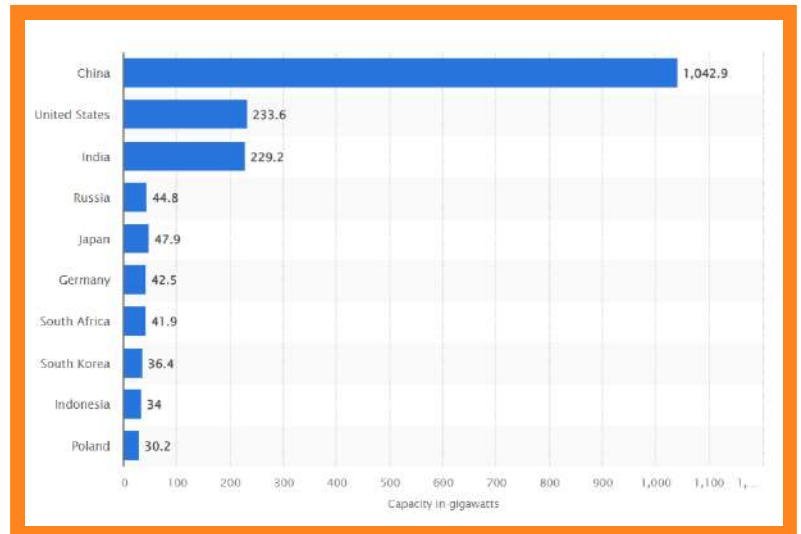
Additionally, nations made some important pledges during COP26. Over 450 financial institutions overseeing \$130 trillion in assets promised to align their portfolios with the goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. More than 130 nations, together possessing 90 percent of the world's forests, agreed to halt and then reverse deforestation by 2030. Over one hundred nations pledged to cut 30 percent of their emissions of methane—a greenhouse gas that dissipates more quickly than carbon but fuels up to eighty times more heating over a twenty-year period—by 2030. And surprisingly, the United States and China, the two largest emitters, agreed to work together on climate despite recent rifts in diplomatic relations.

This is all encouraging news, but there were also plenty of disappointing outcomes. President of COP26, Alok Sharma, had urged negotiators to “consign coal power to history,” but that didn’t happen. Despite the historic call in the Glasgow Climate Pact for a “phase-down” in coal power, some coal-reliant countries have indicated that they will not completely stop using coal until the 2040s or later. Countries also failed to make significant progress on climate finance.

The UN Environment Program estimates that developing countries need \$70 billion per year for adaptation, and this figure is expected to double by 2030. Going into COP26, poorer nations renewed their calls for financial help from richer nations to adapt to the effects of climate change. They also sought to establish a loss-and-damage fund for developed countries to compensate developing countries for areas irreparably harmed by climate impacts, but the Glasgow Climate Pact did not resolve the funding challenge.

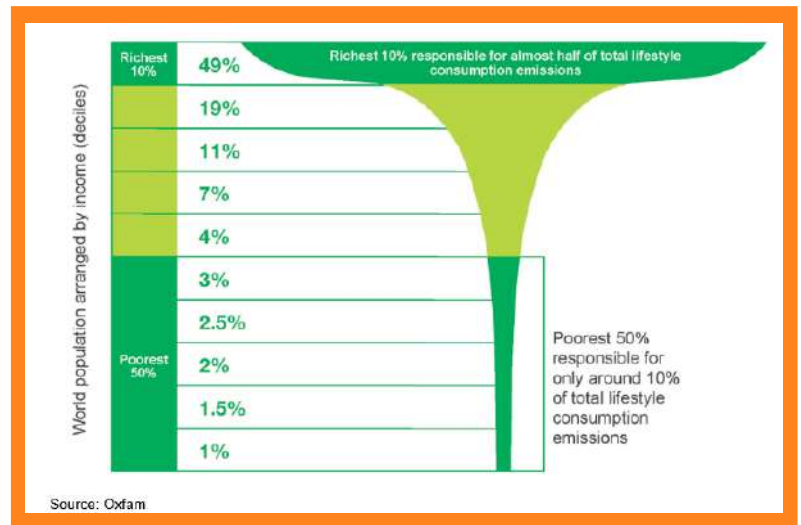
Although the Adaptation Fund, which was established in 2001 to finance adaptation efforts in developing countries, received \$356 million in new support at COP26, funding levels remain woefully inadequate. And though the pact presses rich nations to at least double finance for adaptation by 2025, this remains billions of dollars below the projected costs. Wealthier nations also blocked the move to create the loss-and-damage fund. Instead, the pact includes a promise for future dialogue about increased financial support and technical assistance to mitigate climate-related damage.

Countries With The Largest Installed Capacity Of Coal Power Plants Worldwide As Of January 2021 (In Gigawatts)



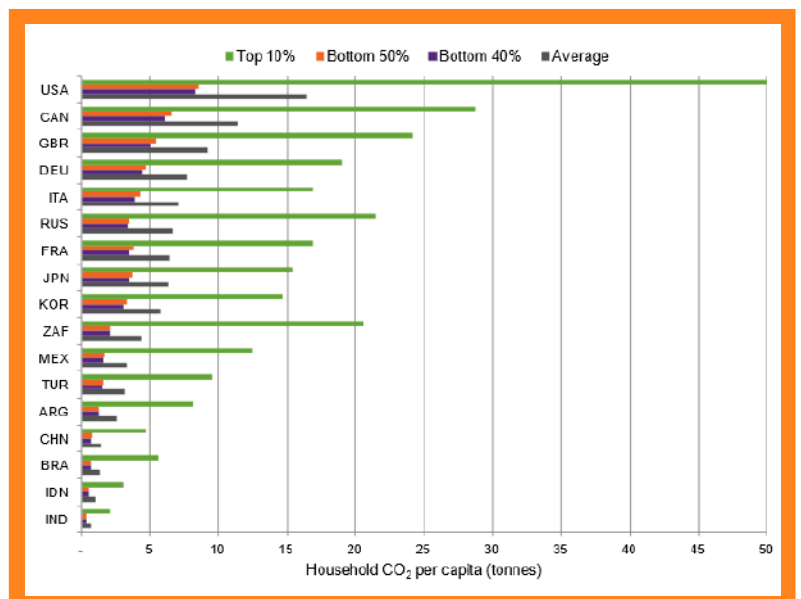
Source: Statista 2021 | <https://www.statista.com/statistics/530569/installed-capacity-of-coal-power-plants-in-selected-countries/>

Percentage of CO2 Emissions by World Population



Source: World Economic Forum | <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2015/12/richest-10-percent-causing-climate-change/>

Per Capita Lifestyle Consumption Emissions in G20 Countries For Which Data Is Available



Source: World Economic Forum | <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2015/12/richest-10-percent-causing-climate-change/>

In the next issue, we will address the significance of our world Ocean and its health in fighting the Climate Crisis.

Despite the shortfalls, progress was made, but ensuring that it is sufficient remains a challenge. There are no global courts or mechanisms empowered to enforce these pledges. Progress rests on the weak pillars of goodwill, though peer pressure among world leaders could help. In closing remarks at the summit, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres recognized what he called the “climate action army.” Guterres acknowledged the power of activists to propel governments and companies beyond words and into action.

He urged them: **“Never give up. Never retreat. Keep pushing forward.”**

