



## **\*SCoPA: COP26**



SCoPA: COP26 has its focus in 2019-2020 in support of:

- *UN Sustainable Development Goal 13 on Climate Action and other related SDGs.*
- *The Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings and related actions with member states to help mitigate climate change.*
- *Providing educational support related to the work of various UN, and non-UN based mechanisms. This includes the important work of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). \*\**
- *International distant learning applications bringing youth together in real time.*
- *Bringing to the United Nations a youth voice, ages 14-19, on mitigating climate change.*

In these pursuits, SCoPA supports the Preamble to the Paris Agreement which includes an acknowledgement "that climate change is a common concern of humankind" and that "Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights". SCoPA is dedicated to this principle and understands its importance in climate change action.

## **SCOPA Country Based Climate Change Model**

### **2019-2020**

The 2019-2020 time period is one for youth to become active participants in mitigating climate change. They start in the world they live in: their community, school, state, and nation. They become aware of what their country is or is not doing to help mitigate climate change. They do this by using UN, NGO and scientific based materials, students work towards an early spring, 2020 international youth conference. SCoPA: COP 26 is a process to move youth from the world of their community to the global realities of climate change by the UN conference in 2020. It will be held at UNHQ/NYC with selected regional sites around the world. In a live interactive webcast, youth will present their perspectives for possible inclusion in the COP 26 nation states binding deliberations to mitigate climate change.

In the COP26 binding agreement youth must be able to see that they can move forward with a belief that the needed steps are there to help save their planet from irreversible climate change. Their work will help prepare them for continued work leading to the realities of 2030.

### **Five Stepping Stones to COP26**

This country-based awareness on climate change is a step-by-step model for participating *schools* in the 2020 global UN Conference to provide youth ages 14-19 a voice in the binding deliberations of COP26. The SCoPA social media component allows *individual youth* ages 14-19, from anywhere in the world, to register and participate in various ways, including the actual UN conference.

Using UN resources and SCoPA developed materials students will understand the reality of climate change in their world and what needs to be done to mitigate it.

- A. (Step One) Use UN based documents to determine what their country has previously made voluntary pledges under the 2015 Paris Accord.
- B. (Step Two) Using 10 SCoPA developed standardized questions, students assess What is happening in their school, community state/province and nation. \*\*\*
- C. (Step Three) Students in participating schools are matched with students in schools in another country to share their awareness across cultures to help broaden their global perspectives on climate change. Through web based videoconferencing, and related social media applications, their global climate change perspectives will increase.
- D. (Step Four) In late winter, 2020, a one day SCoPA: COP26 conference will be held at United Nations Headquarters to present their final youth report on problems and solutions to mitigate Climate Change. The UN Envoy on Youth will be invited to accept their proposal. \*\*\*
- E. (Step Five) Through the results of COP26, youth participants will meet with SCoPA team in February, 2021 to plan the necessary youth awareness and action steps needed through December 31, 2030.

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\*The SCoPA: COP26 focus is an integral part of SCoPA’s mission to empower youth to help mitigate climate change.

\*\*With the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol in 1997 and the Paris Agreement in 2015, parties to these agreements have progressively reaffirmed the role of the UNFCCC as the UN entity tasked with supporting the global response to the threat of climate change.

**\*\*\* Country Guideline Questions for Cross Cultural Assessment**

SCoPA 2019-2020

(Use Country Guide Questions for use in Step 2 and Step 3)

Purpose: Become more aware of climate change issues in your country and begin to think of solutions to these problems. This is partial preparation for Step 3.

1. During the Paris Accord, countries voluntarily pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. What did your country pledge to do?

2. Is your country on track to meet its pledge made during the Paris Accord? What is your personal assessment on what they are doing or not doing?

3. What are the biggest climate change problems facing your country? What is being predicted to happen in your country by 2030 if climate change is not mitigated?

4. Are there initiatives on the state/province and local levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions? If yes, what are they? If not, why not?

5. Are there initiatives in your country’s industry and agriculture to reduce greenhouse gas emissions? If no, why or why not?

6. What is being done to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from various modes of transportation, for example, cars?

7. What efforts are being made to switch to energy sources that do not emit greenhouse gases?

8. What is being done to educate the public on climate change? What examples can you find of climate change being taught in schools?

9. What are the tangible and/or intangible consequences of climate change in your country/city? How is your country/city preparing for these consequences?

10. Do your country’s actions to fight climate change respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights?

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Opening reflection question to share with your peers across cultures in Step 3:

How does climate change affect you, your community and your country?

\*\*\*\* A goal of the 2020 youth conference at the United Nations is to offer a serious youth perspective on solutions for those between ages 14-19, on mitigating climate change. The intent is for possible inclusion in the November, 2020 COP26 meeting when climate change decisions become binding on the member states. It is their world tomorrow. They need a voice in mitigating climate change today.

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**2021-2030**

The 2021-2030 time period will have program and methodology adjustments with new local and regional work. Future UN conferences will include innovative ways to envision real climate change through art, film robotics and more.

A mechanism will also be put in place by youth to keep youth leaders connected to this project after high school. Their "alumni" support and inside understanding will be very important to help ensure the future of the conference and the inclusion of youth in the movement to mitigate climate change. SCoPA is making climate change education real to help save the planet.

The time for SCoPA is now. COP26 has arrived.

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