



## **COP26**

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**“This is the year we can get it right...the year that we achieve a pivotal, transformational change in global climate policy and action”.**

*\* Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary, UNFCCC*

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## **YOUTH PERSPECTIVES ON COP26**

Date: Thursday, May 20, 2021

Time: 9:00am to 12:30PM (EDT)

Location: Virtually Around the World.

Registration: [www.gem-ngo.org](http://www.gem-ngo.org)

[gem.globaleducationmotivators@gmail.com](mailto:gem.globaleducationmotivators@gmail.com)

**\* Central Focus: The Four Keys to the Success of COP26**

### **The Binding Agreement of COP:26 ...**

- 1. Promises made to developing countries are kept, especially the pledge by developed nations to mobilize \$100 billion in climate finance annually by 2020.**
- 2. Governments wrap up outstanding items and negotiations to fully implement the Paris Agreement.**
- 3. Countries lower emissions and raise climate ambition, not only with regard to emission reductions, but also increasing ambition in adapting and building resilience to the impacts of climate change.**
- 4. No voice or solution is left behind, through re-engaging with observers and Non-Party Stakeholders in a unity of purpose.**

- Via a GEM Zoom Room experience, join with schools and individual youth participants from around the world.
- Meet & engage with youth, educators, and UN representatives.
- Register for an open time slot to present a youth perspective on COP26
- You have 3 1/2 hours to have a voice, broaden your perspective and be a part of history as your empowerment in this world reaches another level.

Join us as a group or an individual. Make a difference.

Make use of UN updated climate change resources.

Participate in additional youth discussion on climate change.

Help represent your country and join with DRC (Congo), Republic of Georgia, India, Mexico, Philippines, Saudi Arabia and the United States.

Add your country to this list by May 14.

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**Sponsored by:**

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**Partnered with:**

- **Kuvuna Foundation**

- **I Am Sam Foundation**

- **Multinational Georgia SDV**

- **Student Global Ambassadors Program**

SCoPA: COP26 has its focus in 2021 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, and*
- *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 2021**

The 2021 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. SCoPA: COP 26 is a process to move youth from the world of their community to the global realities of climate change. An early 2020 SCoPA youth conference will be held at UNHQ/NYC with youth participation from around the world. In a live interactive webcast, youth will present their perspectives for consideration in the COP 26 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 help youth ages 14-19 have 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 and secured materials, students will understand the reality of climate change in their world and what needs to be done to mitigate it.

**(Step One)** Use UN based documents to determine what their country has previously made as voluntary pledges under the 2015 Paris Accord.

**(Step Two)** Using 10 SCoPA developed standardized questions, students assess what is happening in their school, community state/province and nation. \*\*

**(Step Three)** Young people in participating schools and communities are matched with other young people in cross-cultural learning experiences to share their perspective, awareness, and experiences with climate change to enhance their global perspective.” Through Chorus Call Inc technology, the GEM Videoconferencing Room is where all participants will share their findings and reflections. It is centered on 10 guided questions. Additionally, social media applications will supplement the experience and increase interconnectedness of global climate change action.

**(Step Four)** In late winter of 2020, GEM will host a one-day SCoPA: COP26 Conference at The United Nations. Selected youth from around the world will be invited to be onsite at the UN or in the Chorus Call GEM VC Room to interact with their concerns on what needs to be done now to mitigate climate change. GEM has invited the UN Envoy on Youth to join the conference to receive their perspective\*\*\*.

**(Step Five)** Following the outcomes of COP26, in February 2021, youth participants and GEM support team, will meet in Chorus Call GEM VC Room to plan the necessary next steps to promote youth awareness and action. Youth will carry out this plan of action, with regular check-ins and amendments, through December 31, 2030.

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\* SCoPA:COP26 is a real world experience 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  
(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?

### **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 is happening soon.