



**YOUTH 4 COP**

VOICES TO IGNITE CLIMATE ACTION

## Session 5

# Reference Materials

“Young people are the climate fighters our world needs.

We need their **voice**.

We need their **action**.

We need their **ideas**”

**-ANTÓNIO GUTERRES**

# Climate Action

## *Youth and Gendered Participation, Nature-based Solutions and Reporting At COP*

This session aims to provide youth participating in the capacity-building cohort of Youth for CoP with a comprehensive understanding of various aspects of climate action and media reporting at COP. It will cover the key themes of Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE), capacity-building, technology, gender and youth engagement, and nature-based solutions. It will also provide a better understanding of effective communication strategies, and the role of media in reporting on COP activities.

## Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)

Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) is a term adopted by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change to denote work under Article 6 of the Convention and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement. Its goal is to empower all members of society to engage in climate action, through the six ACE elements - climate change education and public awareness, training, public participation, public access to information, and international cooperation on these issues.

### *Why ACE matters?*

Implementation of all six ACE elements is crucial to the global response to climate change. Everyone, including and perhaps especially the young, must understand and participate in the transition to a low-emission, climate-resilient world.

Sustainable lifestyles, sustainable patterns of consumption and production, are fundamental to reducing greenhouse emissions and enhancing resilience to the inevitable effects of climate change. Success will require broad collaboration between all levels of government and all sectors of society.

# Key Components of ACE



## Education

Integrating climate change into formal and non-formal education systems to enhance knowledge and skills



## Training

Providing training programs for different sectors to develop competencies needed for climate action.



## Awareness

Raising awareness about climate change impacts and solutions through various media and communication.



## Participation

Encouraging community involvement in climate-related decision-making processes.



## Information

Ensuring that climate-related information is readily accessible to the public.



## Cooperation

Fostering collaboration among nations to address global climate challenges effectively.



## ACE Hub

The ACE Hub is a platform dedicated to increasing youth involvement in climate action through various activities, including **facilitating conversations** between young people and policymakers to ensure youth voices are heard in climate decision-making, **offering training and capacity-building** sessions to equip youth with the necessary skills and knowledge for effective climate action and **organizing events and campaigns** to raise awareness and mobilize youth participation in climate initiatives.

### *Notable events organized by ACE Hub:*

1. **Webinars and Workshops:** These include capacity-building sessions such as the "UNESCO-UNFCCC Webinar Series" for high school teachers on climate education .
2. **Youth Events:** The ACE Hub Youth Event focuses on skill-building for youth to lead climate action, incorporating interactive training and hackathons.
3. **Regional Workshops:** These workshops aim to enhance the skills of national ACE focal points through the exchange of good practices.
4. **ACE Gallery:** This event showcases activities that support the Glasgow work program, encouraging peer exchange within the ACE community.
5. **Circular Economy Events:** Webinars on topics like industry transformations in Europe and behavior change in the circular economy.

These events, such as the "ACE Hub Wales Partnership Engagement Event" and the "Trauma Summit 2024," focus on building community and professional networks around ACE themes..



# Glasgow Work Programme on ACE

The Glasgow Work Programme on ACE, adopted at COP26, outlines the global strategies and goals for implementing ACE activities. This program aims to enhance the effectiveness of ACE by focusing on the following:

1. **Implementation Strategies:** Develop comprehensive plans to integrate ACE into national policies and action plans.
2. **Capacity Building:** Strengthening the capacities of stakeholders, including governments, organizations, and individuals, to effectively implement ACE activities.
3. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Establishing robust mechanisms to track progress and assess the impact of ACE initiatives.
4. **Resource Mobilization:** Securing financial and technical resources to support the implementation of ACE-related projects.
5. **Global Collaboration:** Promoting international partnerships and networks to share best practices and foster collective action.

## *Goals of the Glasgow Work Programme:*

- Enhance global awareness and understanding of climate change and its impacts.
- Foster inclusive participation of all stakeholders, particularly youth, in climate action.
- Strengthen the institutional capacities of countries to implement ACE effectively.
- Promote the exchange of knowledge and experiences among nations.



# Further Readings for Section 1



Action for Climate Empowerment  
UNFCCC



Action for Climate Empowerment Hub  
UNFCCC



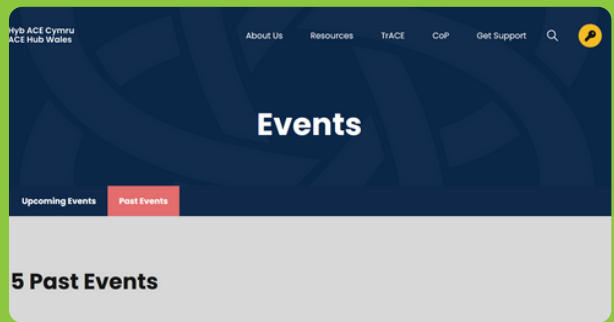
2024 ACE Gallery  
UNFCCC



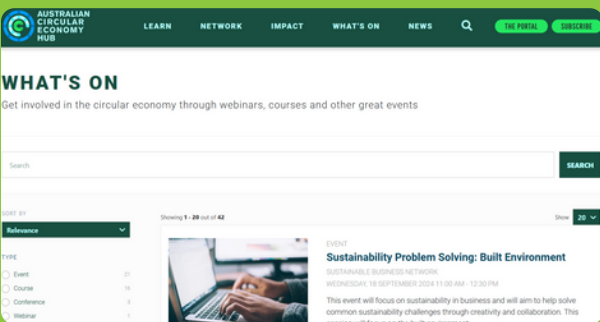
Action for Climate Empowerment Hub Youth Event  
UNFCCC



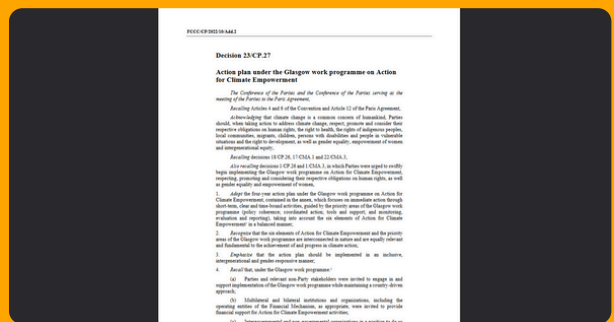
ACE Hub Events  
ACE HUB Australia



Events - ACE Hub Wales  
ACE Hub Wales



Whats On - ACE Hub Events  
ACE Hub Australia



Decision 23/CP.27 - Report of COP at Sharm el-Sheikh '22  
UNFCCC

# Capacity-Building

Capacity-building is defined as the process of developing and strengthening the skills, instincts, abilities, processes and resources that organizations and communities need to survive, adapt, and thrive in a fast-changing world.

## *Why Capacity Building matters?*

Capacity-building is fundamental to achieving the objectives of the Convention, the Paris Agreement and the Kyoto Protocol. It enables individuals, organizations and societies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Capacity-building is provided through bilateral and multilateral efforts within and outside the Convention.

### *Key Aspects of Capacity-Building:*

- 1. Local Level:** Empowering communities with the skills and knowledge to undertake local climate actions, including resilience-building and adaptation strategies.
- 2. National Level:** Strengthening national institutions to develop and implement effective climate policies and integrate climate considerations into broader development plans.
- 3. Global Level:** Enhancing international cooperation and knowledge exchange to address global climate challenges.

## *Successful Capacity-Building Initiatives:*

**The UNFCCC Capacity-Building Framework** aids developing countries by providing training, technical assistance, and financial support to enhance their capacities. It emphasizes climate policy development, greenhouse gas inventory management, and climate finance.

**The Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)** assists developing countries in fulfilling the Paris Agreement's transparency requirements by supporting institutional arrangements, data collection, and reporting systems.

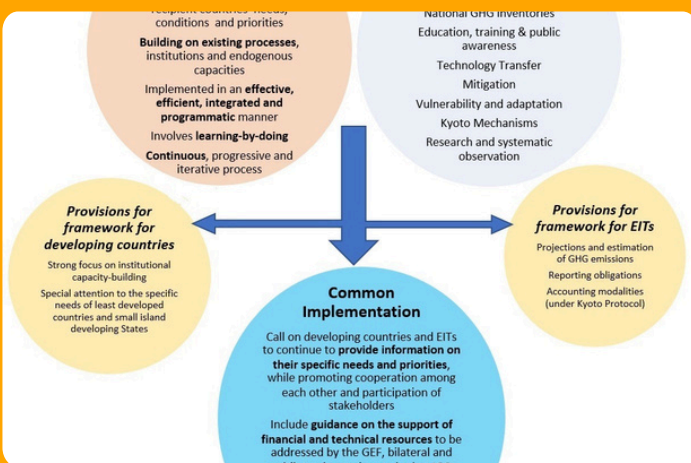
# Further Readings for Section 2



## Capacity-building in the UNFCCC process

Capacity-building is defined as the process of developing and strengthening the skills, instincts, abilities, processes and resources that organizations and communities need to survive, adapt, and thrive in a fast-changing world.

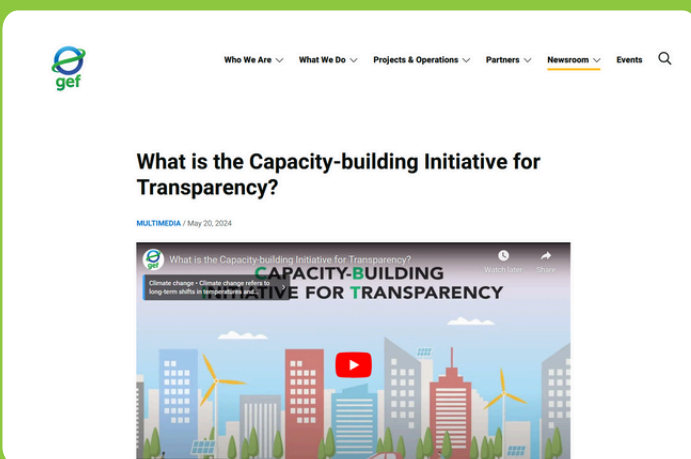
[UNFCCC](#)



## Capacity-building Frameworks

In 2001, COP 7 launched two frameworks guiding capacity-building (2/CP.7 and 3/CP.7), one dedicated to developing countries and the other dedicated to countries with economies in transition (EITs). The frameworks aim to enable these countries to implement...

[UNFCCC](#)



## What is the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency?

The Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency, or CBIT, is part of the GEF's response to the Paris Agreement. It strengthens countries' national institutional capacities...

[UNFCCC](#)



# Gender and Youth for Climate Action

**Gender inequality, aggravated by the climate crisis,** poses significant global challenges, affecting women's and girls' livelihoods, health, safety, and security. Women, who often depend more on natural resources, face greater obstacles in accessing them and bear disproportionate responsibilities for securing food, water, and fuel. During drought and erratic rainfall, women work harder in agriculture and as primary providers, impacting their income and sometimes girls' education.

**Climate change intensifies social, political, and economic tensions,** particularly in fragile and conflict-affected areas. Women and girls face heightened vulnerabilities to gender-based violence, including conflict-related sexual violence, human trafficking, and child marriage. Applying a gender lens to climate issues reveals these increased risks and underscores the need for targeted interventions to protect vulnerable populations.

Integrating gender considerations into climate policies and actions is crucial for effective global climate action. Empowering women helps address gender disparities, enhances resilience, reduces vulnerabilities, and promotes social justice. Women's valuable knowledge of local ecosystems and adaptation strategies can contribute to more sustainable solutions, advancing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, including gender equality.



# Further Readings for Section 3



Five examples of gender-sensitive solutions to disp...  
IDMC



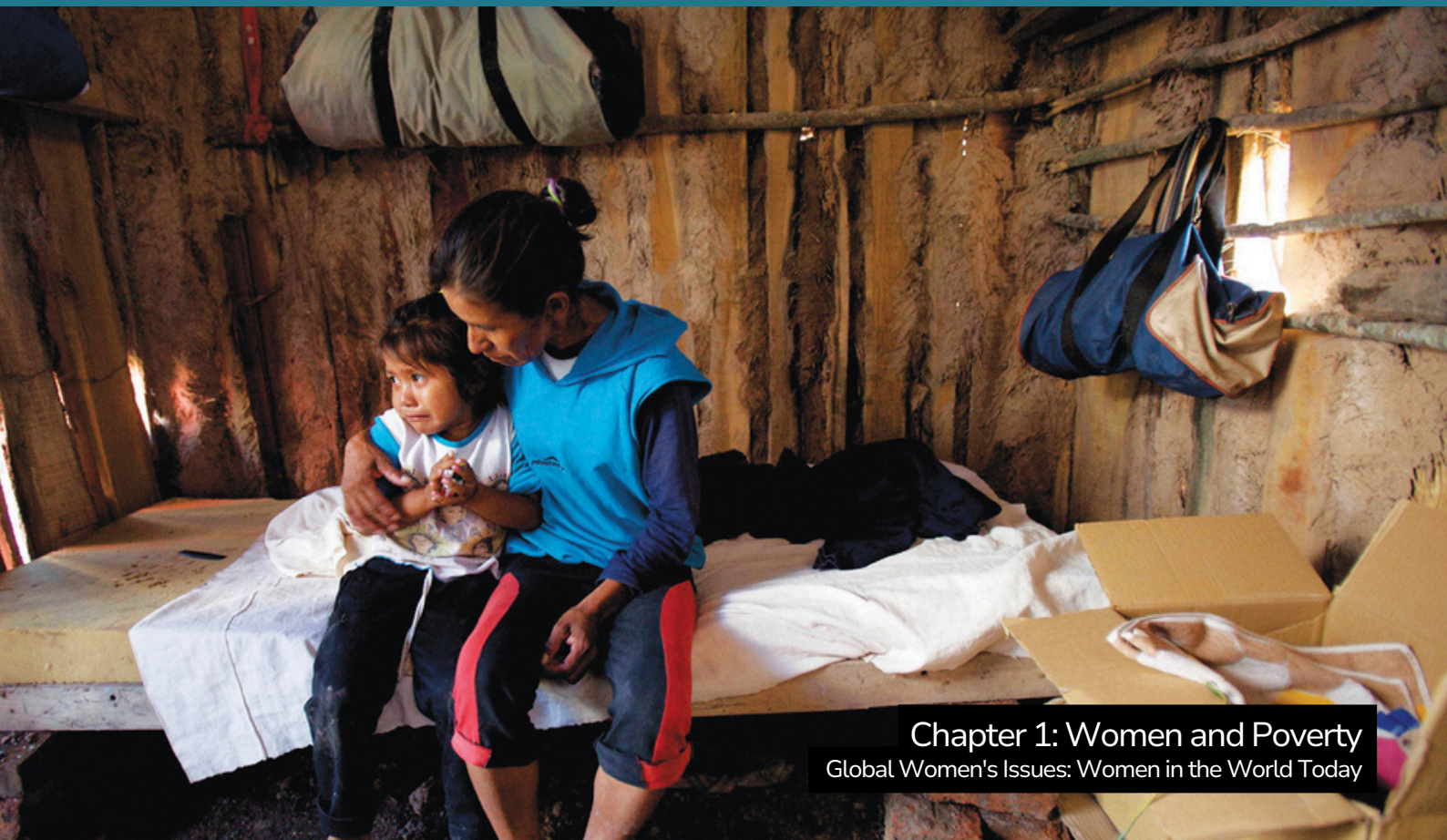
Gender, climate and security: Sustaining inclusi...  
UN Women



UN Women - Who We Are | Explainer  
UN Women



Mainstreaming Gender into Climate Services  
Medium



# Youth Leadership

Young leaders are crucial in driving gender-responsive climate action with their passion, innovation, and commitment to shaping a more sustainable future. Some examples are given below.

**The Rising Voices Program** empowers young women leaders through training, mentorship, and social impact funding. This program amplifies youth voices, advocates for gender-responsive policies, and drives climate action.

Joaniita Babirye, co-founder of **Girls for Climate Action** and a youth leader with Feminist Action for Climate Justice, exemplifies impactful leadership. Her work underscores the urgency of gender-responsive approaches to tackling climate challenges.

**Global Girls Creating Change (G2C2)**, launched during COP28, elevates girls' climate leadership and professional opportunities in the sustainable economy. This program highlights the significant role of young women in shaping a sustainable future.

## Further Readings for Section 4



# Introduction to Nature-Based Solutions

The IUCN defines nature-based Solutions (NbS) as **actions addressing societal challenges by protecting, sustainably managing, and restoring ecosystems, benefiting biodiversity and human well-being**. NbS use the power of nature and functioning ecosystems as infrastructure to provide essential services and address global issues such as climate change, economic and social development, human health, food and water security, disaster risk reduction, ecosystem degradation, and biodiversity loss.

## *Key Benefits and Characteristics of NbS*

NbS offer a range of **long-term environmental, societal, and economic benefits**. These include adaptation to climate change, creating green jobs, enhanced community resilience, improved health, accessible healthy food, clean air and water, disaster risk reduction, maintained ecosystem integrity, and achieving biodiversity net gain. NbS are **locally appropriate**, adaptive **actions that protect, sustainably manage, or restore** natural or modified **ecosystems**. They address societal challenges such as climate change mitigation while enhancing human well-being and benefiting biodiversity. Key characteristics of NbS include alignment with natural ecosystem processes, biodiversity benefits, and being locally appropriate, adaptive, and multifunctional.

Examples of NbS applications include the **protection or restoration of coastal ecosystems**, which enhances community resilience and fosters economic development. Protection, restoration, and sustainable use of **forest landscapes** contribute to water supply security, erosion control, and risk reduction. **Managing wetlands** offers water storage, flood protection, and food production benefits. Providing space for rivers to flow naturally reduces flood risks and supports water security. **Urban green and blue spaces** improve climate regulation, support human health, and generate green jobs. Lastly, the sustainable management of **agroforestry systems** offers food security, water regulation and economic and social development.

## *The Role of Key Ecosystems*

Key ecosystems play vital roles in maintaining environmental balance. Forests contribute to carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation, and regulation of local climates. Oceans are crucial for carbon storage, coastal protection, and supporting fisheries. Mountains regulate water, serve as biodiversity hotspots, and act as climate buffers. These ecosystems are integral to the success of NbS, providing essential services that sustain both human and ecological communities.

## Case Study Summaries: Successful NbS Projects

- **Great Green Wall Initiative:** This African-led project aims to restore degraded land through tree planting, soil conservation, and sustainable land management. Spanning multiple countries, it positively impacts ecosystems, livelihoods, and climate resilience.
- **Mangrove Reforestation in Indonesia:** Mangroves sequester carbon, protect coastlines, and support biodiversity. Successful reforestation efforts in Indonesia demonstrate the benefits of restoring mangrove ecosystems.
- **Urban Green Spaces:** Creating green spaces in cities, such as parks, green roofs, and urban forests, enhances air quality, reduces heat islands, and provides recreational areas. Case studies from cities like Singapore and New York showcase these advantages.
- **Agroforestry in Costa Rica:** Combining trees with agriculture improves soil health, increases crop yields, and sequesters carbon. Costa Rica's experiences with agroforestry offer valuable lessons for sustainable land management.

## Online Platforms with Interactive Maps of NbS Projects Worldwide

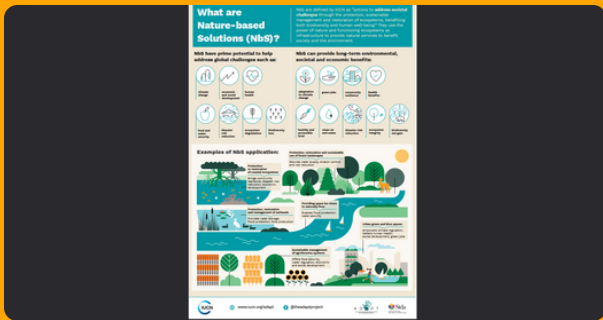
- **Global Forest Watch:** This platform provides interactive maps showing forest cover, deforestation rates, and restoration efforts worldwide. You can explore NbS projects related to reforestation, afforestation, and conservation.
- **UNEP's Restoration Opportunities Atlas:** It offers maps highlighting areas suitable for restoration, including degraded land, wetlands, and forests. You can filter by region and restoration type.

## Virtual Tours of Nature Reserves or Restored Ecosystems

- **Google Earth:** Use Google Earth to explore nature reserves, national parks, and restored ecosystems virtually. You can "visit" iconic sites like the Amazon rainforest, Serengeti, or Great Barrier Reef.
- **Nature Conservancy Virtual Tours:** The Nature Conservancy occasionally hosts virtual tours, allowing you to learn about their conservation efforts and explore restored habitats.



# Further Readings for Section 5



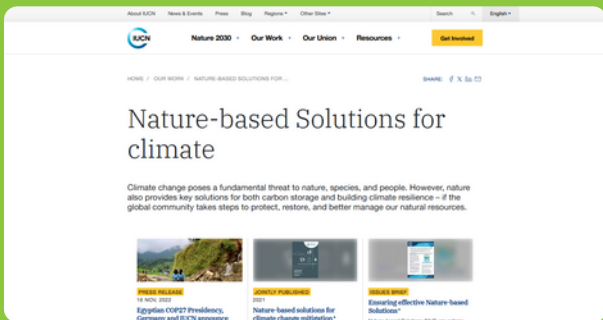
**What are Nature-Based Solutions**  
IUCN

## Forest Monitoring Designed for Action

Global Forest Watch offers the latest data, technology and tools that empower people everywhere to better protect forests.

[SUBSCRIBE TO THE GFW NEWSLETTER](#)

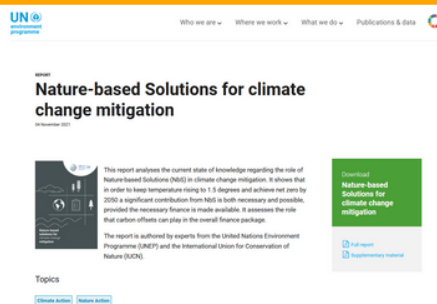
**Global Forest Watch | Home**  
Global Forest Watch



**Nature-based Solutions for climate**  
IUCN



**How Can Technology Help Combat Climate Change**  
World Economic Forum



**Nature-based Solutions for climate change mitigation**  
UN Environment Programme

# Media and Reporting at COP

Effective communication strategies involve engaging with the media and the public through clear, concise, and compelling messages to inform and engage them about climate negotiations and outcomes. Advocacy and lobbying should include building alliances, framing messages strategically, and leveraging media to amplify voices. Utilizing digital and social media platforms is crucial for sharing updates, mobilizing support, and engaging with a broader audience on climate issues.

## *Topics of Discussion: Reporting Mechanisms*

**Nairobi Work Programme (NWP):** Established by the Conference of Parties (COP) in 2005, the Nairobi Work Programme (NWP) assists all Parties, particularly developing countries, including the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), in (i) improving their understanding and assessment of climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation; and (ii) making informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socioeconomic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability.

**Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI):** The Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI) is a joint action pledge under the Nairobi work programme between the UNFCCC Secretariat and the UN Environment through its Global Adaptation Network (GAN). Priority-setting workshops are convened with multi-stakeholder expert groups to identify, categorize, and prioritize climate change adaptation knowledge gaps for specific subregions and sectors/themes.

The LAKI then works with global and subregional partners to catalyze activities to bridge these knowledge gaps. In 2018, Parties to the UNFCCC welcomed the next phase of the LAKI (FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4) which aims to narrow the 85 knowledge gaps identified and scale up the LAKI to new subregions. Initial activities are underway, and the LAKI is currently seeking partners to support the further implementation of the initiative.

**Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM):** The COP established the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (Loss and Damage Mechanism), to address loss and damage associated with impacts of climate change, including extreme events and slow onset events, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change at COP19 (November 2013) in Warsaw, Poland.

# Role of Media in Climate Negotiations

The media plays a crucial role in reporting on the proceedings of COPs, disseminating information to the public, and holding negotiators accountable. Accredited journalists gain access to the Blue Zone, ensuring they can provide comprehensive coverage.

**Reporting Before COP:** Media coverage includes reporting on expectations, key issues to be discussed, and the positions of various countries and stakeholders.

**Reporting During COP:** Journalists provide live updates, interviews, and analysis of ongoing negotiations, focusing on significant developments such as major agreements or contentious points.

**Reporting After COP:** Media summaries highlight outcomes, assess achievements and shortcomings, and analyze implications for future climate action. Follow-up stories track the implementation of decisions made at COP.

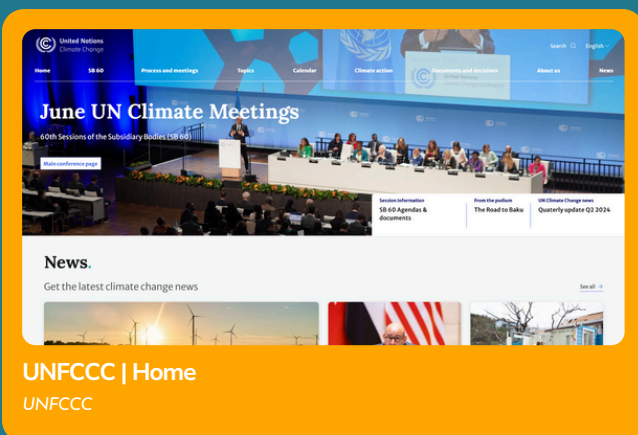
## Online Platforms

**Social Media:** Follow COP proceedings on Twitter (X), Facebook, and Instagram. Webinars and Online Courses:

## Networking Opportunities

**COP Side Events:** Participate in events and exhibits to network with stakeholders. Youth Climate Networks: Join networks like YOUNGO (Youth NGO constituency to the UNFCCC) for collaboration and support, IYCN/ Climate reality events

# Documents, Guides and Networks



## Socials for COP29

