



YOUTH 4 COP

VOICES TO IGNITE CLIMATE ACTION

Session 4

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

Understanding Global Stocktake and Climate Politics

This session aims to equip youth with comprehensive knowledge about the UNFCCC processes, focusing on the Global Stocktake (GST) and climate politics, enabling them to actively participate in COP events and advocate for stronger climate action.

The Global Stocktake is a crucial mechanism under the Paris Agreement, designed to assess the collective progress of nations toward achieving the long-term climate goals set out in the agreement. This process occurs every five years and enhances transparency, accountability, and ambition among Parties. It has three key objectives:

Assess Collective Progress

The Global Stocktake aims to evaluate the overall effectiveness of current climate actions in meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement, including limiting global warming to well below 2°C and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C.

Inform Future Actions

It also aims to provide valuable insights and recommendations that guide countries in updating and enhancing their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and other climate policies.

Enhance Transparency and Accountability

The third objective of the Global Stocktake is to ensure that all Parties are held accountable for their commitments and that progress is transparently communicated to the global community.

Process of the Global Stocktake

The Global Stocktake's functioning can be broken down into four main parts:

- 1. Information Collection and Preparation:** The Stocktake gathers information from various sources, including national reports, scientific assessments, and contributions from non-state actors.
- 2. Technical Assessment:** Next, a thorough analysis of the collected data is conducted in order to evaluate progress and identify gaps and opportunities for improvement.
- 3. Consideration of Outputs:** Following the assessment, the findings are summarized and recommendations are provided for enhancing climate action and increasing ambition.
- 4. Reporting and Follow-Up:** Finally, the the outcomes of the stocktake are communicated to all Parties and stakeholders, ensuring that the findings inform future NDC updates and policy decisions.

Further Readings for Section 1



What is the Global Stocktake?

LSE and PS

Youth Involvement in the Global Stocktake

Youth have a vital role to play in the global stocktake process. Their involvement can bring fresh perspectives, innovative solutions, and a sense of urgency to climate action. There are several ways in which youth can engage in the global stocktake:

Advocacy

Raise Awareness: Use social media, campaigns, and public speaking to raise awareness about the importance of the global stocktake and its findings.

Lobby for Ambition: Advocate for stronger climate policies and more ambitious NDCs at national and international levels.

Data Collection

Citizen Science: Participate in or initiate citizen science projects that gather valuable climate data, contributing to the information base used in the stocktake.

Collaboration with NGOs: Work with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to collect and analyze climate data, ensuring that youth-led initiatives are represented in the stocktake.

Participation in Policy Discussions

Join Youth Networks: Become active members of the following youth climate networks and groups participating in UNFCCC processes, ensuring youth voices are heard in policy discussions -

- UN Youth Forum
- Youngo of UNFCCC
- Global Youth Climate Network (GYCN)
- Climate Reality Project's Youth Leadership Corps
- Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY) of UNEP
- Indian Youth Climate Network (IYCN)

Engage with Policymakers: Attend conferences, workshops, and meetings where climate policies are discussed, and contribute to dialogues with policymakers and other stakeholders.



Introduction to Climate Politics

Climate politics involves governments, international bodies, and stakeholders collaborating to tackle climate change through policies and agreements. It's about mitigating emissions, adapting to impacts, and fostering global cooperation. Despite differing benefits and vulnerabilities from fossil fuels, there's a shared understanding: a destabilized climate poses a threat to everyone, urging unified action. The Paris Agreement, while recognizing climate risks universally, highlights ongoing debates on responsibility and support, influencing global negotiations as we navigate the next phase of this crucial accord.

History of Climate Politics

Climate politics has transformed from early environmental awareness to a global mission. Starting with the mid-20th century awakening, pivotal moments like the 1992 Earth Summit birthed the UNFCCC, followed by the Kyoto Protocol's emission targets in 1997. The 21st century landmark, the Paris Agreement of 2015, emphasized global unity. Amid debates on fairness and urgency, climate impacts and geopolitical factors continue to shape policies. Globally, attitudes vary with political leanings, personal concerns, local impacts, and cultural and economic contexts influencing views on climate change and its solution.

Intersection of Climate Politics and Personal Concern

Research by Pew Research Center reveals that in the United States, attitudes toward climate change are significantly shaped by both political affiliation and personal concern. Individuals with higher personal concern about climate change, regardless of their political leanings, tend to see climate science as settled, acknowledge human-caused global warming, and trust climate scientists. While political divisions lead to contrasting views on scientific consensus and researcher trust, personal concern acts as a unifying factor, emphasizing the impact of individual perception and emotional connection on climate attitudes.

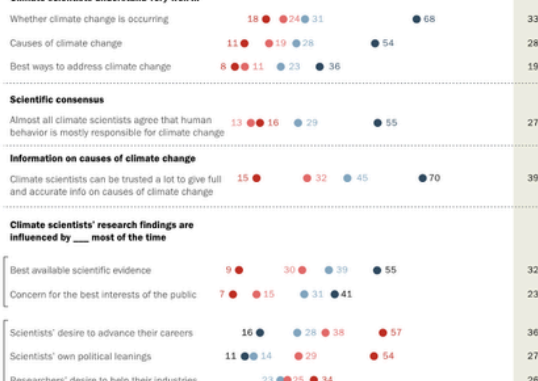
Further Readings for Section 3



Origins and Theory of Climate Change Politics

Oxford Research Encyclopedias

Climate scientists understand very well ...



The Politics of Climate Change in the US

PEW Research