



COP27
SHARM EL-SHEIKH
EGYPT 2022

Brief on COP27 Outcomes and Roadmap to COP28



COP28
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UNDP assistance to Uzbekistan is aimed at achieving common interrelated goals: supporting the Government in accelerating reforms in the field of sustainable economic development, good governance, climate change adaptation and environmental protection.

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ABBREVIATIONS

- AC** Adaptation Communication
- A6.4ER** Emission reduction unit under Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement
- CA** Central Asia
- CMA** Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
- CMP** Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
- COP** Conference of the Parties to the Convention
- GCA** Global Climate Action
- GCP** Glasgow Climate Pact
- GGA** Global Goal on Adaptation
- GlaSS** Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on global goal on adaptation
- GST** Global Stocktake
- IPCC** Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- KJWA** Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture
- KP** Kyoto Protocol
- LT-LEDS** Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategy
- MWP** Mitigation Work Programme
- NDC** Nationally Determined Contribution
- NID** National Inventory Document
- OIMP** Other International Mitigation Purposes
- PA** Paris Agreement
- OMGE** Overall Mitigation in Global Emissions
- SBI** Subsidiary Body for Implementation
- SDM** Sustainable Development Mechanism
- SBSTA** Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
- SG** Secretary General

FORWARD

This summary provides a short overview of the outcomes of the climate change conference (COP27), which took place in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt in 2022. It covers only the main aspects of interest for Uzbekistan and targets policy makers. It also provides some recommendations for regional cooperation of the Central Asian countries at the international negotiations and recommendations for readiness activities to participate in the Paris Agreement market-based mechanisms. The roadmap to COP28 presents the key preparatory events and a tentative Thematic Program for COP28.

OVERVIEW OF THE COP27

Under the slogan ***Together for implementation***, the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27), was held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 18 November 2022 (extended by 36 hours, until the morning of 20th). The COP27 was under the Egyptian Presidency on behalf of the African region.

It brought together almost 35,000 representatives of 198 governments with the aim of accelerating climate action to fulfil the goals of the Paris Agreement. After intense negotiations, the Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan¹ was adopted, as well as a number of other important decisions to further operationalise the Paris Agreement.

The COP27 was convened near the end of a year that has seen devastating floods and unprecedented heat waves, severe droughts and formidable storms, all unequivocal signs of the unfolding climate emergency. At the same time, millions of people throughout the world are confronting the impacts of simultaneous crises in energy, food, water, and cost of living, aggravated by severe geopolitical conflicts and tensions.

Whilst the COP26 in Glasgow was all about target setting but COP27 in Egypt was all about implementation. COP27 is also taking place against the backdrop of inadequate ambition to curb greenhouse gas emissions. According to the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), CO₂ emissions need to be cut **45% by 2030, compared to 2010 levels** to meet the central Paris Agreement goal of limiting temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius by the end of this century. This is crucial to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, including more frequent and severe droughts, heat waves and rainfall. A report published by UNFCCC ahead of COP27 shows that whilst countries are bending the curve of global greenhouse gas emissions downward, efforts remain insufficient to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius by the end of the century.

Back in 2009 richer nations promised developing countries they would provide USD100 bln a year by 2020 to help with climate change, that goal was missed and expected to be achieved in 2023.

Ahead of the conference, 200 countries were asked to submit new plans to cut emissions by 2030, to prevent temperatures rising by more than 1.5 °C. With these new plans, global temperatures are still expected to rise to 2.4 °C. Thus, the Egyptian COP27 President, Sameh Shoukry, wanted to focus on turning some of the more ambitious targets and pledges into tangible action. However, since COP26 in Glasgow until COP27, only 29 countries came forward with updated more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

The Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Change Conference opened with strong appeals to step up climate action and support and move from pledges to implementation.

Uzbekistan: Under the Paris Agreement, through its revised NDC, the country **reaffirms its commitment** to reduce greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP by 35% below 2010 levels by 2030. This is a significant increase compared to the initial NDC which included a target of 10%. The revised NDC² also strengthens adaptation measures, particularly in agriculture. To achieve these goals, large-scale programmes for the introduction of renewable energy sources have been launched. The country is also working to align its NDC with its Strategy for Transition to Green Economy by 2030. Additionally, at the end of 2022 an ordinance was issued by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to increase reforms aimed at the transition of the Republic of Uzbekistan to a "green" economy until 2030", which contains **a detailed plan for achieving the mitigation target of the NDC²**.

¹ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma4_auv_2_cover_decision.pdf

HIGH-LEVEL EVENTS AT COP27

COP27 SUMMIT OF WORLD LEADERS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

To boost the ambitiousness of the COP27, the Egyptian Prime Minister invited Heads of State and Government to participate in the Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Implementation Summit, which took place on 7 and 8 November 2022.

112 world leaders gathered in Sharm El-Sheikh under the heading “***Together for Implementation***” to discuss and deliberate how to further deliver on the global climate agenda and translate climate commitments into implementation.

At the opening of the Summit, UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, warned that the planet is heading toward irreversible “climate chaos” and urged global leaders to put the world back on track to cut emissions, keep promises on climate financing and help developing countries speed their transition to renewable energy. He said that “humanity has a choice: cooperate or perish”. The Secretary-General called for a historic **Climate Solidarity Pact**² between developed and developing economies to reduce carbon emissions and speed up the renewable energy transition. “COP27 must be the place to close the ambition gap, the credibility gap and the solidarity gap. It must put us back on track to cutting emissions, boosting climate resilience and adaptation, keeping the promise on climate finance and address loss and damage from climate change”.

The Summit adopted the **Sharm el-Sheikh climate implementation summit Declaration COP27**.³ The declaration acknowledges the scientific reports on current and future impacts of climate change and recognized the seriousness of the climate emergency facing the planet. While recognizing every country’s responsibility to act and rise to the occasion to deliver on previous commitments from the Convention to the Paris Agreement, leaders reiterated that it was time to move from pledges to rapid, robust, and impactful implementation.

At the opening of the high-level segment of COP27, Tanzila Narbaeva, Chairperson of the Upper House of Parliament, made a statement,⁴ which she informed about the work undertaken in Uzbekistan to prevent the consequences of climate change, which are severe in Central Asia. “The main goal of Uzbekistan is to achieve economic progress by integrating the principles of a green economy into ongoing structural reforms. The priority in this direction is low-carbon development and resource saving in all sectors of the economy, the introduction of efficient and environmentally friendly technologies,” Tanzila Narbayeva said.

Uzbekistan plans to increase the share of “green” energy to 8,000 MW by 2026, which will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 5 million tonnes. By 2030, the energy efficiency of the economy is planned to be doubled, and the share of renewable energy to be at least 25%. A nationwide project, the “Yashil Makon” (“Green Space”), which involves the planting of 200 million trees and shrubs annually is ongoing. It is expected that as a result of the implementation of the project, in 5 years, the area of green spaces in cities will increase from the current 8 to 30%. By a special resolution of the UN General Assembly, the Aral Sea region was declared a zone of environmental innovations and technologies. To solve the problems associated with the Aral Sea crisis, over the past 5 years, more than 1.7 million hectares of forest plantations have been planted on the dried bottom of the Aral Sea. By 2026, this figure will reach up to 2.5

² A solidarity pact would involve countries pushing to slash greenhouse gas emissions in such a way to meet the Paris Agreement’s 1.5-degree target, and wealthier nations providing financial and technical help to developing countries for them to transition to cleaner energy sources

³ <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/COP27%20SUMMIT%20OUTCOMES.pdf>

⁴ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/UZBEKISTAN_cop27cmp17cma4_HLS_RU.pdf?download

million hectares or almost 80% of the territory. At the high-level segment of COP27 Uzbekistan proposes to create a **regional Climate Council to adapt to climate change**.⁵

HIGH-LEVEL EVENTS AT COP27

- **UN Secretary General Early Warning Systems Plan:** During a meeting of governments and UN leaders, financing agencies, 'Big Tech' companies and the private sector, UN SG Guterres announced a 3.1 billion early warning systems plan. He said "People in Africa, South Asia, South and Central America, and the inhabitants of small island states are 15 times more likely to die from climate disasters. These disasters displace three times more people than war. And the situation is getting worse." A joint statement was supported and signed by 50 countries. The UN, governments and partners will work together to achieve the early warning goal within the next five years. The plan summarizes the necessary initial actions and sets out the pathway to implementation. To ensure effective implementation, the UN Secretary-General is establishing an Advisory Board which will be co-chaired by the heads of WMO and the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- **High-level Ministerial Roundtable on Pre-2030 Ambition:** With a collective call to urgently ramp up climate action and support, the roundtable, a new annual event to set the global direction on mitigation ambition and implementation that should be taken before 2030, opened with a report from UN on Climate Change, according to which the world is way off track to stay below the Paris Agreement's temperature goals. Most ministers agreed the 1.5 °C temperature limit is a "red line" that cannot be crossed.
- **5th High-Level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance:** Discussed the Long-Term Climate Finance and the progress and fulfilment of the goal of mobilizing jointly USD100 billion per year by 2020, in the context of meaningful mitigation action and transparency on implementation. It was recognized that the goal has yet to be fulfilled and it was discussed how can the goal be best delivered at the latest in 2023 despite the current challenges the developed countries are facing. Ministers emphasised that the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG), must respond to the needs of the most vulnerable developing countries, in terms of scale and volume, including by not increasing indebtedness. With regard to instruments was highlighted: need for new, additional and predictable grant and concessional finance, de-risking instruments such as guarantees or blended finance, and innovative financing instruments, while bearing in mind the capacity of developing countries, as well as the need for public and grant-based financing for adaptation in particular. Ministers urged for the adoption of a transformational and operational definition of climate finance to include the principles or characteristics of the NCQG, covering both quantitative and qualitative elements, including effectiveness and sources of financing.

High-Level Champions and Marrakech Partnership programme unites government and non-Party stakeholders, fostering collaboration among them to deliver greenhouse gas emission reductions and help ensure a just transition to a net-zero economy which alleviates poverty and helps secure a sustainable future. The Marrakech Partnership engages in a variety of activities, including Regional Climate Weeks, the organization of meetings at Conferences of the Parties, the Global Climate Action Summit, the technical examination process on mitigation, etc.

- **Global Climate Action (GCA):** COP27 Presidency hosted a series of events in thematic days which highlighted practical solutions to the challenge of climate change and explore approaches to immediately scale up the implementation of these solutions in key sectors with all stakeholders. Different stakeholders shared experiences in the areas of mobilizing public and private climate finance, science, adaptation, youth and future generations,

⁵ <https://kun.uz/en/news/2022/11/16/uzbekistan-proposes-to-create-a-regional-climate-council-to-adapt-to-climate-change>

agriculture and food systems, gender, energy, water, biodiversity and other issues. These events focused on the overarching theme of turning climate pledges into climate action in pursuit of net-zero emissions, enhanced resilience for the most vulnerable, and aligning financial flows with these goals. To take stock of progress towards this, the Champions released their ‘Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2022’.⁶ The Yearbook reports annually on the progress of non-State entities towards their climate goals and is proof that – while obstacles remain – businesses, investors, cities, states, and regions are building resilience and powering rapid changes in the real economy.

- **Five-Year Work Programme on Promoting Climate Technology Solutions in developing countries:** Senior officials from several governments, the UNEP and the UNFCCC launched a new five-year work programme to promote climate technology solutions in developing countries. The new joint work programme of the Technology Mechanism covers work from 2023-2027. It foresees specific activities, including technology roadmaps, work on gender and technology, technology and NDCs and digitalization, and common areas of work for the two bodies, including national systems of innovation, industry, and the water-energy-food nexus.
- **Forest and Climate Leaders’ Partnership** – The Partnership aims to boost action to implement a commitment by over 140 countries at COP26 in Glasgow last year to halt forest loss and land degradation by 2030 and to convert ambition into results on the ground. A key report published this year by the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) – the State of the World’s Forests Report 2022⁷ – highlights the need to step up action to unlock the potential of forests in tackling climate change and biodiversity loss. Twenty-seven countries, representing over 60% of global GDP and 33% of the world’s forests, have already joined the new partnership. USD12 billion were committed to protect and restore forests by 2025.

UNDP’s Flagship Event

UNDP in partnership with UNFCCC and ILO side event was focused on “Advancing Nationally Determined Contributions: Signs of Progress” through implementation of, and investments in, the NDCs. The event was an opportunity for developing countries to highlight their progress on the Paris Agreement with a focus on three catalytic themes: just transition; adaptation; and forests, land, and nature. Despite the current political and economic challenges, countries continue to enhance the second generation of NDCs and take bold steps towards achieving these targets.

REGIONAL COOPERATION ON CLIMATE ACTION TRANSPARENCY IN CENTRAL ASIAN REGION

The COP27 side event was co-hosted by Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) and the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Programme. The Regional Climate Action Transparency Hub is an ICAT project that supports countries in developing their capacity to build and manage a robust, transparent framework that enables them to effectively implement the Paris Agreement. The Regional Climate Action Transparency Hub for Central Asia will adopt and implement a collaborative approach that will bring together the five Central Asian states (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and **Uzbekistan**) and support technical experts and expert institutions in the region to build sustainable and integrated transparency systems – **Measurement, Reporting, Verification (MRV)**.

Side events with participation of Uzbekistan

⁶ <https://unfccc.int/documents/614385>

⁷ <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb9360en>

Countries and organisations presented their national actions and success stories at numerous **side events** and in their own pavilions.

Series of regional side events organised by CAREC, with participation of high-level representatives of the five Central Asian countries, UNFCCC, and international organisations:

- The eighth meeting of Representatives of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Parliamentarians of the Countries of Central Asia “***Towards Regional Coherence and Cooperation of the Central Asian Countries on Climate Policy, Finance, and NDC implementation***”. The side -event took place in two parts. At the event a Declaration signed by all CA countries was read out. The CA countries declared that they are strongly committed to strengthening international cooperation on climate change, to achieving the SDGs, and to “green” development. They called on the UN and other financial institutions to support their endeavours in this regard.
- “***Young leaders of Central Asia on the way to carbon neutrality – implementing decisions of COP26***”. The event promoted the initiatives of youth on climate change and water related issues. A joint regional statement of Central Asia Youth Leaders on climate change was announced.
- “***Regional Climate Action transparency cooperation***”. The side event focus was the existing capacity building gaps and needs for implementing the Paris Agreement Enhanced Transparency Framework, and ways and tools for regional cooperation in the area were presented.
- “***Central Asian experience: Resources Efficiency in Agri-Food Production and Processing (REAP)***”. The side event brought together key actors from Tajikistan and **Uzbekistan** from Agri-Food Production and Processing sectors to exchange experience in the area.
- “***Catalysing youth action for climate and water***”. The event showcased the youth action – moving from talks to concrete actions and empowering young professionals – on climate and water. Discussions took place on how different initiatives can continue after COP27.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UZBEKISTAN FOR STRENGTHENING REGIONAL COOPERATION OF CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES AT CLIMATE CHANGE NEGOTIATIONS AT COP28

- **Preparation for the sessions:** The UNFCCC sessions are twice a year and last two weeks. The first sessional period, when the Subsidiary Bodies (SB) meet to lay the groundwork for the COP decisions, is usually in May/June and the second sessional period, when the decisions are taken is usually at the end of the year in November or December. Given the complexity of the negotiations and importance of the decisions taken (they may affect the whole economy of a country or require building certain architecture for their implementation), it is very important that **Uzbekistan has and maintains a team of experts** on various agenda items of the sessions. On one hand to negotiate decisions desirable for the country, and on the other hand more importantly to be able to implement these decisions at national level, either to be in compliance with the international climate treaties or to benefit from the funds or mechanisms. Given the very complex, complicated, highly political and at the same time very technical issues, under numerous agenda items at the sessions, there is a need first to build constantly the capacity of the national experts and to start with the preparations for the sessions at least two-three months in advance.

As the countries in Central Asia are in an analogous position under the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, in terms of lack of the required capacity to fully meet their requirements and at the same time experience with similar problems of climate change, regional cooperation is deemed very useful. A good example is the UNDP/FCDO climate action diplomacy project for Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, when countries jointly participated in trainings, workshops and dialogues. The project also enabled a rapid acceleration of efforts in the run-up to COP26 and laid the foundation for further national actions and regional cooperation as required for the Paris Agreement implementation. These types of projects proved to be successful and could be continued and extended to cover all Central Asian countries.

In terms of a good preparation for participating in the climate sessions it is essential to **decide on the members of the national delegation well in advance**, so that they will have sufficient time to prepare themselves, but as well to prepare the national positions for topics of interest for the country, and if necessary to coordinate regionally and prepare joint positions or statements.

- **Regional/bilateral meetings at high level for uniting positions at COPs:** COPs have high level events, at the level of heads of states and ministerial level. Additionally, each group of countries or individual country delivers a statement. Regionally coordinated political positions would have stronger influence. For example, at COP27 the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan confirmed Kazakhstan's commitment to act as the **Regional Climate Hub of Central Asia for sustainable development**. This will allow uniting the efforts of the countries of the region in ensuring green economic growth through technology transfer, attracting green finance, sharing knowledge and innovations. At the high-level segment of COP27 Uzbekistan proposed to create a **regional Climate Council to adapt to climate change**.
- **Creating a joint platform for sharing training materials and other information** in relation to climate change negotiations. At present, there are a **lot of training materials available**, including videos, for the individual countries or for some of them. It will be a good idea to have all the training materials in one place, so the experts could find them easily. However, as the climate negotiations are evolving rapidly, there will be a need to update on a regular basis. As well it may have a **platform** where discussions could take place.
- **Cooperating during negotiations:** As set out above, the climate change negotiations are very complicated and are under numerous interlinked topics, to **strengthen national experts' capacities and to make their position stronger**, many countries group together. Besides the official UN groupings, the countries may group by their common interests, and they can even be a member of more than one group. For example, Kazakhstan is in the Umbrella Group in a coalition with Australia, Canada, Iceland, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Ukraine and the United States. Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, together with Armenia and Afghanistan, are forming the Mountainous Landlocked Developing Countries (MLDC) Group. CACAM is another grouping which the Central Asian countries formed with the Caucasus, Albania, and Moldova; however, it keeps a low profile, and it is not active.

As the Central Asian countries share common background, similar capacity building needs, alike vulnerabilities to climate change, and similar challenges in the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the **creation of a Central Asian Group under the climate change negotiations** will strengthen the negotiating capacity and the voice of the region to be better heard and reflected in the decisions. Such a group will also support coordination of the positions of the countries.

- **Joint Pavilion during COPs:** In recent years countries and organisations built their pavilions at the venue of the COPs, where they can present their national best climate practices and achievements and can meet with donors and other countries' representatives and organisations.

At COP26 the five Central Asia countries, supported by CAREC, had a joint pavilion, and throughout the whole conference presented their national circumstances in relation to climate change and their achievements in adaptation and mitigation. Unfortunately, this successful experience was not repeated at COP27. Among all Central Asian countries, only Tajikistan was present with a small pavilion, where some of the regional side events took place.

- **Joint side events at COPs:** Side events and exhibits are a **platform** for admitted observer organizations, which have limited speaking opportunities in the formal negotiations, to engage with Parties and other participants for knowledge sharing, capacity building, networking, and exploring actionable options for meeting the climate challenge. It is a good tradition of the Central Asian countries to organise and conduct regional side events. An excellent example for regional side events at COP27 was the series of regional side-events, organised by CAREC, on various topics of regional interest. Preparation for such events should start well in advance of the COP, with coordination on topics, participants and very importantly finding donors for financial support.
 - **Youth participation in COPs:** The participation of the young generation at COPs is vital, as they will be the ones suffering the most from the climate changes, and they will be the ones implementing the climate change policies. Also, by understanding well the climate change negotiations, it will provide them with tools to put pressure on the national governments for action. Lately the youth organisations in the region became very active and the **Youth of Central Asia made their voices heard ahead at COP27** at a conference organized by OSCE and the German Agency for International Cooperation. Additionally, a series of **RCOY**⁸ conferences took place in Central Asia focusing on educating the youth of the region about climate change – science, impacts, and solutions, motivating them to climate action, and empowering them to initiate actions in their lives and communities. Two regional side-events at COP 27 were organized by CAREC targeting youth. UN and other international organisations should encourage and support such events.
 - **Participation of non-governmental actors in the COPs:** The need for engagement and action by **all levels of society, public and private**, is well recognized in the UNFCCC process. It is especially important when it comes to the implementation of the Paris Agreement, to mobilize robust global action towards low carbon and resilient societies. Since adoption of the Paris Agreement, global climate action has been encouraged and facilitated under the banner of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, which was agreed in Morocco at COP22 and acknowledged at subsequent Conferences of the Parties. The Partnership brings together stakeholders working in key sectors and themes to spur enhanced climate ambition and action, and then recognizes that action, to inspire greater effort.
- Uzbekistan** may consider sending relevant experts, in accordance with the events topics in the announced programme, to build the national capacity.
- **Joint follow up on the decisions taken at the COPs:** After the negotiations are over, there is a lot of a homework to be done. As in many cases the decisions are taken over the last night, and they are very complex, there is a need to study and analyse them, and what actions they entail at national level. This exercise could be done at regional level. Afterwards each country may wish to **prepare its own to-do list and undertake actions suitable for the national circumstances** or to consider **bilateral or regional implementation** of the decisions' requirements.

⁸ RCOYs are regional conferences of youth endorsed by the Youth Constituency of UNFCCC (YOUNGO) and aimed at collecting ideas and voices of youth from regions across the world to be further carried forward to UNFCCC COP.

BRIEF ANALYSIS OF KEY COP27 OUTCOMES

Global Stocktake of Paris Agreement

A new UN Climate Change report⁹ shows that while countries are bending the curve of global greenhouse gas emissions downward, these efforts remain insufficient to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 °C by the end of the century. The combined climate pledges of 193 Parties under the Paris Agreement could put the world on track for around 2.5 °C of warming by the end of the century. The report's findings underscore the need for urgent implementation and much more ambitious climate action.

The **global stocktake of the Paris Agreement (GST)** is a process for taking stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement aimed to assess the world's collective progress towards achieving its long-term goals. The GST facilitates the assessment of global collective progress on mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation. The first GST runs from 2021 to 2023 and will be repeated every 5 years. Its outcomes will inform countries on updating and enhancing their NDCs, their climate actions and support. This process is critical for accelerating climate action. There are three components to the global stocktake process: 1) Information collection and preparation; 2) Technical assessment; and 3) Consideration of outputs. The last phase of the GST, consideration of outputs, will take place at COP28 in 2023. At these sessions this item related to the ongoing technical phase of the first GST and its political outcome, expected at COP 28.

Global Goal on Adaptation

COP 26 established a comprehensive two-year (2022-2023) Glasgow-Sharm El-Sheikh work programme (GlaSS) on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). This item focused on the GGA work programme, specifically to capture progress made throughout 2022 and provide guidance and concrete ways forward for 2023.

Setup of Loss and Damage Fund

A most significant achievement at COP27 is considered the setup of a **“loss and damage” fund (LDF)** to help vulnerable countries pay their rising costs of climate damage from wilder weather and rising seas. Climate “loss and damage” includes not just harm to people, their homes and infrastructure from disasters such as floods, droughts and storms but also forced displacement from slower impacts such as sea level rise, as well as losses of cultural heritage and community livelihoods.

The agreed loss and damage deal at COP27 is a positive step, but there was a lot of criticism about countries not moving faster to decrease greenhouse gas emissions and limiting warming to below 1.5 °C. The leaders had missed the chance to speed up the rapid and deep emissions cuts essential to limit climate damage. However, given the nature of the negotiations, it had not been possible to take decisive steps forward to reduce emissions and move away from polluting oil and gas.

Uzbekistan: is not an eligible beneficiary under the newly established UNFCCC “loss and damage” fund (as it was created to support predominantly Small Island States and Least Developed Countries). However, the country may consider establishing its **own national “loss and damage” fund** to alleviate severe shocks from climate change, given the high

⁹ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2022_04.pdf

vulnerability of the country and especially the water issues. It could be a window under an existing climate relating fund, and it could blend national and international resources.

Safeguarding Food Security and Ending Hunger

The COP27 cover decision also says that “safeguarding food security and ending hunger” is a **fundamental priority**, and that communities can better protect themselves from climate effects if water systems are protected and conserved. The text also mentioned food for the first time and recognised how **food shortages could continue to be driven by climate change**. This is progress as the Glasgow Climate Pact (2021) made no mention of agriculture, food or water. However, the decision doesn't have new dedicated funding for food systems from governments. Absent from the text is any reference to the IPCC's estimate that food systems are responsible for between 21% and 37% of global emissions. New research¹⁰ estimated that 42% of recent food price inflation has been due to climate change. In its report the World Bank warns of ‘human catastrophe’ food crisis.¹¹ In Egypt countries committed to a four-year programme to discuss solutions to ongoing food issues.

The overarching cover decisions Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan¹² capture the progress made in the negotiations and various events held in conjunction with the negotiations, such as the Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action. They address science, ambition and implementation, energy, mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, early warning systems, just transition, finance, technology, capacity building, transparency, taking stock, Article 6, Ocean, Forest, and action by non-Party Stakeholders.

Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture

The Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) addresses issues related to agriculture, including through workshops and expert meetings, with consideration of vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change, as well as approaches to addressing food security. Under this item negotiations focused on considering the next phase of KJWA, including an enhanced joint work programme. The COP27 Decision urges parties and others to **increase their efforts to promote sustainable agriculture**, with a view to eradicating hunger and poverty while ensuring food security.

Boosting Low Emission Energy

Matters Relating to the Work Programme for Urgently Scaling up Mitigation Ambition and Implementation (Mitigation Work Programme – MWP) were mandated by the Glasgow Climate Pact and aims to explore ways to raise mitigation ambition before 2030. During the negotiations the main disagreements were about identifying new categories of countries, such as “major emitters” or “vulnerable developing countries”, and timeframe of the Mitigation Work Programme (MWP), especially the end date (to conclude in 2023 or 2030) and actions. On temperature goals, there were calls to refer to the need to stay below 1.5 °C, while other countries wanted to refer to the full text of the temperature goals in the Paris Agreement to stay well below 2 °C while pursuing efforts to limit long-term temperature rise to 1.5 °C. The final decision emphasized the urgent need for increasing efforts to reduce collectively emissions through accelerated action and implementation of domestic mitigation measures to achieve the Paris Agreement goal, and Parties *were requested to revisit and strengthen the 2030 targets in their NDCs, aligning them with their long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies*.

¹⁰ From the universities of Bournemouth, Exeter and Sheffield, published in October 2022

¹¹ <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-61171529>

¹² https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cop27_auv_2_cover%20decision.pdf

The **Sharm el-Sheikh implementation plan** includes references to boosting “**low-emission**” energy, as well as **renewables**. The text also supports the plans of many fossil-fuel-producing countries to use fledging carbon capture technology to curb emissions rather than scaling back production. Also, for the first time the final text encourages reform of big lenders such as the IFIs and multilateral development banks (MDBs). For example, the IMF has USD1 trillion available to lend to countries in financial distress, but only a small fraction of this is climate finance. The COP’s endorsement of reform is significant because it comes from countries who are also shareholders in these institutions and can make change happen.

Phase Down Coal Use

Developed countries had pressed, for an agreement to reach peak global emissions before 2025, to **decide a clear path to phase down coal use** (a goal set in Glasgow), and to phase down all fossil fuels, not just coal. All of those things were not included in the final cover decision – the Sharm el-Sheikh implementation plan but included that limiting global warming to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels requires “rapid, deep and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions” by 2030. The section on energy had also been weakened at the last minute – calls to **phase out fossil fuels were blocked by oil-producing states**. It is recognized that the only way to safely limit warming to 1.5 °C is to equitably **phase out oil, gas, and coal**, instead, this decision creates a risk of a major increase of new **oil and gas production**.

Long-Term Climate Finance

This process aims to advance **mobilization of climate finance resources** from multiple sources, including public, private, bilateral, multilateral, and others. In 2010 COP16 in Cancun, developed countries committed to a goal of USD100 billion annually by 2020 for developing countries. A key issue at this COP was how to reflect on the fact that this goal had not been met and how to address the gap and encourage actions to support developing countries’ needs. *The lack of a common definition and accounting methodology with respect to assessing progress towards the goal was recognized.*

New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance

The Paris Agreement states that a **new collective quantified goal on climate finance (NCQG)** shall be set prior to the 2025 CMA, from a floor of USD 100 billion per year. Subsequently, in Glasgow Parties decided that their work will be organized in an ad hoc work programme (including **technical expert dialogues (TED)**), submissions, ministerial dialogues, and stocktakes and guidance. The work will continue consideration of this matter at the next conference. At the negotiations there were discussion on the level of the new goal, with developing countries *seeking to reference the need for trillions rather than billions of dollars*, while developed countries considers that it was premature to consider a “quantum”, or numerical financial goal. Also, there were significant debates on the sources of support. Disagreements were also around the role for the private sector and an expanded group of donor countries.

Action for Climate Empowerment

Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) is a term adopted by the UNFCCC to denote work under Article 6 of the Convention and Article 12 of the PA (education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information, international cooperation). The overarching goal of ACE is to empower all members of society to engage in climate action. The COP26 and the CMA3 adopted the 10-year Glasgow work programme on ACE. **COP27 adopted the four-year action plan under the Glasgow work programme on ACE**, which

focuses on immediate action through short-term, clear and time-bound activities, guided by the priority areas of the Glasgow work programme (policy coherence; coordinated action; tools and support; and monitoring, evaluation and reporting).

Gender and Climate Change

An intermediate review of the gender action plan's implementation was considered. Language on support for gender-related activities appears in the overarching COP27 cover decision and the decision on guidance to the GEF. Parties are urged to accelerate their efforts to advance implementation of the enhanced *Lima Work Programme on Gender and its gender action plan (GAP)*:

- encourages parties and relevant organizations to strengthen the use of sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis in implementing climate policies, plans, strategies and action;
- invites the ILO to consider organizing a workshop or dialogue;
- underscores the need to promote efforts towards gender balance and improve inclusivity in the UNFCCC process by inviting future COP Presidencies to nominate women as high-level climate champions, parties to promote greater gender balance in national delegations, and event organizers to promote gender-balanced events;
- encourages parties and relevant public and private entities to strengthen the gender responsiveness of climate finance.

ARTICLE 6 OF PARIS AGREEMENT

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement was one of the **most technical parts** of the COP27 process. It is about cooperative approaches to **cutting emissions, market and non-market based**. While the Article 6 “rulebook” was completed at COP26 in Glasgow, COP27 faced decisions on the definitions and procedures that are still needed before any trading can begin. Several contentious issues were deferred, including how to treat emissions from “removals”, whether to allow credits for “emissions avoidance” and when carbon credits could be “revoked”. COP27 managed to deliver a significant amount of additional guidance that will help to operationalize Article 6. However, **trading under Article 6 is unlikely to start before 2024** at the earliest, while the **voluntary carbon markets may take off earlier**. However, countries that are planning to take part in the Paris Agreement market mechanisms should already build the **required national structures**.

One generic issue of all the climate change treaties is the fact that currently countries calculate their total emissions and set targets based on what they produce within their borders such as from producing electricity or burning fuels. This means that they **don't count the emissions from the goods and services produced by another country for them**. This is even though the developed nations import large amounts of manufactured products from developing countries. For example, if these “consumption-based” emissions were counted then the UK's carbon footprint would more than double. In the cover decision for the first-time countries recognised **“the importance of transition[ing] to sustainable patterns of consumption”**. However, it is not clear yet how governments will translate this into national actions.

Recommendations to Uzbekistan for Participation in Article 6.2 and Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement

The benefits from participating in the carbon markets for the host countries are proven, as they stimulate sustainable development co-benefits. As many developing countries do not have the resources necessary to make economy-wide transition towards a low emissions future, through the participation in the mechanisms they can receive certain financial resources, clean technologies, and new green jobs. However, there is needs for a lot of efforts from the host country governments to prepare, operationalize, run, monitor, and report the process of participation in the mechanisms. These efforts could be supported by international organisations, but the host country government needs to be proactive. There is a **need for a clear national position** on how and how much will be transferred and a mechanism for timely adjustments depending on the NDC implementation status.

A national Article 6 strategy and a policy framework will help the country to participate efficiently in and benefit from the Paris Agreement market-based mechanisms, while forming an integral component of the country's Long Term Low Emissions Development Strategy and Sustainable Development.

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement establishes two market-based approaches for Parties to cooperate voluntarily in achieving their NDCs under the Paris Agreement:

- **Article 6.2** sets out guidelines covering the **internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs) between two governments that are Parties to the Paris Agreement**.
- **Article 6.4** establishes a new project-based multilateral mechanism (**Sustainable Development Mechanism – SDM**) *“to contribute to the mitigation of greenhouse gas*

emissions and support sustainable development". This Mechanism replaces the former **Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)** and will be governed by a Supervisory Board that would approve all **Article 6.4 projects**.

As **Uzbekistan** participated in the market-based mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol through its Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), and the **expertise and experience generated from CDM** could be widely used when preparing to participate in the **new-market based mechanisms (SDM)** under the Article 6.4. It was decided that the CDM, will continue to operate for a transitional period under Article 6, with an option for CDM project transition. CDM projects can transit to the Article 6.4 mechanism, if it is approved by the host country, and if the project meets the Paris Agreement new rules.

ITMOs are the emission reductions under **Article 6.2** that can already be traded between countries. Countries such as Japan and Switzerland already have concrete plans to buy a variety of credits and count them towards their NDCs. However, it is typically a lengthy process for countries to conclude Article 6.2 bilateral agreements/Memoranda of Understanding (MoU), so it may still be some time until ITMOs are widely traded. As for the emission reductions created under Article 6.4 (A6.4ERs), it will likely take two to three years more or longer before they can be issued and traded. The Article 6.4 system is overseen by the UNFCCC Supervisory Body.

Because of the stronger bottom-up architecture of the Paris Agreement market-based mechanisms compared to the flexible mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol, they require higher levels of engagement and oversight from the host country institutions. Thus, more efforts are needed in **capacity building and preparations**, including fulfilling **certain eligibility criteria**¹³.

There is a need to establish a **national institutional framework** to effectively **govern, track and report on Article 6 activities and transactions**. As a first step, the government should appoint a national focal point for Article 6. A requirement for Article 6.4 is the establishment of a **Designated National Authority (DNA)**. A DNA is a national organization granted responsibility by the government to authorise and approve participation in SDM projects. The main task of the DNA is to **assess potential SDM projects**, to determine whether they will assist the host country in achieving its sustainable development goals, and to provide a letter of no objections to project participants in SDM projects.

Country needs to have a very good expertise and sound understand of adopted decisions on implementation of the mechanisms. Additionally, there is a need **to build expertise** of the government and other relevant stakeholders (including private sector) through trainings, workshops, etc. provided by UNFCCC or other international organisations, and **establish dedicated units** to deal with emissions trading.

Uzbekistan should consider **development of a detailed Article 6 strategy** that will guides its actions. A clear strategy is essential for the country's efficient participation in the Article 6 mechanisms. It could include, but not limited to, and not necessarily in this order:

¹³ According to the international requirements the government of Uzbekistan shall, prior to participating in the mechanisms, ensure that: For Article 6.2: It is a Party to the Paris Agreement; It has prepared, communicated and is maintaining an NDC; It has arrangements in place for authorizing the use of ITMOs towards achievement of NDCs; It has arrangements in place for tracking ITMOs; It has provided the most recent national inventory report; Its participation contributes to the implementation of its NDC and LT-LEDS, and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. Each host Party of Article 6.4 shall ensure that: It is a Party to the Paris Agreement; It has prepared, has communicated and is maintaining a NDC; It has designated a national authority; It has indicated publicly to the Supervisory Body how its participation in the mechanism contributes to Sustainable Development; It has indicated publicly to the Supervisory Body the types of Article 6.4 activity and how such types of activity and any associated emission reductions would contribute to the achievement of its NDC, to its long-term low GHG emissions development strategy, and to the long term goals of the Paris Agreement.

- necessary legislation for the activities; identifying the mix of mitigation interventions; sectors from which the country intends to generate ITMOs for transfer;
- identifying possible CDM projects from which CERs could be used for the first NDC;
- identify possible projects to be part of the Sustainable Development Mechanism (SDM) under Article 6.4;
- possible technologies;
- the price at which the country wishes to sell the ITMOs;
- administration of the process and creation of respective bodies; monitoring, tracking and reporting and if needed adjustment policies;
- measures to enable private companies to participate in the mechanisms;
- distribution of the financial revenue or eventual taxation; awareness and training; and others.

Uzbekistan should engage with organizations that can help prepare the **groundwork for Article 6 readiness and implementation**. MDBs, UN agencies and other bilateral agencies already provide support for building capacity of developing countries to benefit from the new Article 6.2 and 6.4 mechanisms. It includes helping countries to assess their own potential carbon market opportunities, including their **carbon sequestration options**, along with helping build their capacities for **measurement, accounting, and verification**.

At COP27, the **Article 6 Implementation Partnership** was launched by the **Ministry of the Environment of Japan**. This new initiative will also serve as an information platform for Article 6 implementation and provide the support required to pilot Article 6 initiatives. Over 60 countries signed up to Japan's Article 6 partnership. Also, Japan has already signed memorandums of understanding with Azerbaijan and Moldova. Also, the World Bank¹⁴ created several support programmes for Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

¹⁴ Some other WB initiatives that help countries participate in carbon markets include: [Climate Warehouse Program](#); Invest4Climate; Climate Market Club; Partnership for Market Implementation; State and Trends of Carbon Pricing report; Carbon Initiative for Development ; Forest Carbon Partnership Facility; BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Landscapes; Transformative Carbon Asset Facility

ROADMAP TO COP28

COP28 will be a significant moment because it marks the first “**global stocktake**”, a comprehensive assessment of progress against the goals of the Paris Agreement – mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation. COP28 should also finalise crucial work on several long-awaited deliverables, including deciding on a **global goal on adaptation**, the details of the **loss and damage finance facility**, a **global goal on finance**, closing the **massive emissions gap** and **accelerating both clean energy and a just transition**, as well as work in many other areas. The current geopolitical situation makes the prospects for meaningful outcome of COP28 uncertain.

The Government of the **United Arab Emirates will host COP 28** (covering COP28/CMP18/CMA5; 59th sessions SBI and SBSTA), from **30 November to 12 December 2023**, on behalf of the Asia-Pacific region. Dr Sultan Al Jaber, the Minister for United Arab Emirates who will preside over this year’s crucial UN climate talks, but at the same time will retain his roles as head of the country’s oil company and sustainable energy businesses. In keeping with the principle of rotation among UN regional groups, the host of COP 29 is to come from the Eastern European States (11 to 22 November 2024) and the host of COP 30 from the Latin American and Caribbean States.

UN Secretary General leader’s summit in September 2023

In December 2022, the U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged world leaders to take “credible” new action to curb climate change, warning that efforts so far fall short of what’s needed to avert catastrophe. He said that the Paris Agreement goal of keeping global warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius¹⁵ is “gasping for breath” as the gap between actual greenhouse gas emissions and the amount allowing the target to be met keeps growing, thus he planned to convene a gathering of leaders in September 2023 to discuss tackling climate crisis. He blamed governments as “*national climate plans are falling woefully short*,” though he acknowledged some steps have been taken to shift the global economy away from fossil fuel use. He wants “all countries to make an extra effort to reduce emissions this decade in line with the 1.5-degree goal and ensure support for those who need it.

The invitation would be open to governments, businesses and civil society. “It will be a no-nonsense summit,” Guterres said, adding: “There will be no room for back-sliders, greenwashers, blame-shifters or repackaging of announcements of previous years.”

Thematic Program for COP28¹⁶

From November 30 to December 12, 2023, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will host the 28th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Dubai.

COP28 will be a milestone moment for global climate action. The COP28 Presidency’s two-week thematic program is geared towards responding to the Global Stocktake and closing the gaps to 2030.

¹⁵ <https://apnews.com/article/climate-science-business-scotland-europe-7b282af7df95b55dff2630e158631a73>

¹⁶ <https://cop28.com/en/thematic-program>

TWO WEEK SCHEDULE

November 30	Opening Day
December 1-2	World Climate Action Summit
December 3	Health/Relief, Recovery and Peace
December 4	Finance/Trade/Gender Equality/Accountability
December 5	Energy and Industry/Just Transition/Indigenous Peoples
December 6	Multilevel Action, Urbanization and Built Environment/Transport
December 8	Youth, Children, Education and Skills
December 9	Nature, Land Use, and Oceans
December 10	Food, Agriculture and Water
December 11-12	Final Negotiations
Cross-Cutting Themes include Technology and innovation, Inclusion, Frontline Communities, Finance	

World Climate Action Summit

The World Climate Action Summit convenes heads of state and government, alongside leaders from civil society, business, youth, Indigenous Peoples' organizations, frontline communities, science, and other sectors to discuss concrete actions and plans aimed at scaling climate action. The summit serves as an important platform for major announcements and is intended to provide momentum and guidance to the remainder of the COP.P.

Health/Relief, Recovery and Peace

To boost policies and investments that protect lives and livelihoods and support community resilience and stability, COP28 will host the first Health Day and climate-health ministerial that aim to build consensus on priority actions for the health system's response to climate change, paired with financing commitments for implementation.

Relief, Recovery, and Peace Day will focus on accelerating adaptation, preventing and addressing loss and damage, including in fragile and conflict-affected contexts, which face severe barriers to accessing climate finance and strengthening climate action.

Finance/Trade/Gender Equality/Accountability

Finance and trade systems require transformational change if the world is to meet its climate goals. This day will focus on scale, access, and affordability through reform of the international financial architecture, sustainable finance market development, and strengthening voluntary carbon markets with an over-arching goal to leverage private sector finance and improve equity.

COP28 will also introduce the role of trade to COPs for climate-smart, equitable growth, including supply chain decarbonization, transition, and resilience.

Gender Equality Day will focus on gender-responsive policy-making and better access to finance to achieve for the Just Transition that advances gender equality and allows for the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women and girls in climate action.

In light of the global focus on private sector engagement, commitments, and finance, the program will additionally examine accountability mechanisms that help to turn promises and pledges into tangible results while boosting transparency.

Energy and Industry/Just Transition/Indigenous Peoples

This day will focus on levers and pathways for rapid decarbonization, job growth, and economic opportunity across the full energy and industrial value chains, while taking a

holistic view of the just transition and the socio-economic considerations across all sectors, including energy.

Key topics in the energy and industry track will include massive deployment of renewable energy, greater energy efficiency, innovation and action for heavy-emitting sectors (including steel, cement, and aluminum), unlocking the potential of hydrogen, and decarbonization of oil and gas supplies, including through methane abatement and carbon management technologies.

The day will also address universal energy access and the needs of workers across the energy sector transition and will have an additional special focus on cooling as a critical mitigation and adaptation factor.

Indigenous Peoples Day will recognize the importance of Indigenous Peoples' intergenerational knowledge, practices, and leadership in climate action and in stewarding planetary health, as well as mechanisms to improve their direct access to finance. The day will notably strengthen the role of Indigenous Peoples-and reinforce the urgency of a fully inclusive, all-of-society approach-in the just transition.

Multilevel Action, Urbanization and Built Environment/Transport

COP28 will feature a historic presence of local leaders, including mayors, governors, parliamentarians, business, and civil society leaders, united to accelerate climate action across all levels of government and society.

The day will also highlight solutions to transition to low-carbon and resilient built environments and infrastructure, sustainable and circular waste systems, and sustainable mobility and freight. The day will particularly look at action in urban areas, where population growth, economic activity and greenhouse gas emissions converge.

Youth, Children, Education and Skills

This day seeks to empower young people to shape the outcomes of COP28 and beyond, particularly considering the disproportionate risks and impacts from climate change for children and youth.

The day will look at equitable representation, stronger engagement mechanisms, and resource allocation across the COP themes and policy tracks. Focuses will include investment in youth-led innovation and entrepreneurship, inclusion in policymaking processes capacity-building, and transforming education to close the skills gap for green jobs aligned with climate action.

Nature, Land Use, and Oceans

The sustainability of nature, land use, and oceans are integral to achieving all the Paris Agreement's goals. The recent adoption of the 30x30 biodiversity goal creates an imperative for integrated policy and investment for climate and nature.

COP28 will focus on delivering climate and nature co-benefits through a range of financing mechanisms and packages, co-designed with local and Indigenous Peoples, to sustainably manage and conserve natural carbon sinks and biodiversity hotspots.

The day will also seek to accelerate private sector commitments to nature-positive accountability frameworks.

Food, Agriculture and Water

Climate change is creating severe pressure and risks for the agri-food and water systems that underpin human wellbeing. At the same time, these systems are also key contributors

to climate change: one third of all human-made GHG emissions derive from agri-food systems, and 70% of fresh water consumed worldwide is used for agricultural production.

Specific food and agriculture focuses include innovation investment, regenerative agriculture, and national transformation pathways, underpinned by financing mechanisms and project preparation. Water programming will also look at freshwater restoration and conservation, infrastructure for urban water resilience, and integrated governance and management of water-food systems.

