

# COP26 THIS REALLY MATTERS

“The World’s last best hope to limit global warming.”

## What is COP26?

COP stands for Conference of the Parties. **197 countries** (or parties to a climate change treaty) meet annually to negotiate a global response to climate change. **This is the 26th meeting.**

## What about the 2015 Paris Agreement?

**197 countries** agreed to the following goals:

- To limit global heating to **1.5°C**
- To achieve **net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050**
- Each country would set its own emission reduction targets, to be **reviewed every 5 years**
- To spend **\$100 billion a year** in climate finance to help poorer countries **by 2020**

## Why does COP26 matter?

The world needs to halve emissions over the **next decade** to reach net zero carbon emissions by **2050**, if we are to limit global heating **1.5°C**.



# 1.5°C

### WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

Limiting the temperature rise to **1.5°C** could:

- Reduce the number of people exposed to climate-related risks
- Reduce pressure on food security and human health
- Better **protect** small island states from **sea level rise**
- Cut extinction rates and preserve some coral reefs
- Reduce the risk of irreversible polar ice sheet melt

## Who are the big hitters?



**USA** - the world’s biggest economy and second biggest emitter



**China** - the world’s biggest emitter



**EU** - sees itself as the global leader on climate action

## What is COP26 hoping to achieve?

- Secure global net zero emissions by **2050**
- Keep **1.5°C** warming within reach
- Raise ambitions over the short and long term
- Protect communities and restore ecosystems
- Make good on the financial promise to pay **\$100 billion per year** to developing countries
- Accelerate action to tackle climate crisis

“Real success can only come if there is a change in our societies and in our economics and in our politics. If we don’t act now, it will be too late. We have to do it now.” - **David Attenborough**

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