Global Tourism Resilience & Crisis Management Centre (GTRCMC) Eastern Africa

Ministry of Tourism & Wildlife

COP 26: The Negotiations explained

Tourism perspective

Venue

- COP26 took place in Glasgow from 31 October-13 November 2021
- UK was President
- Duration: fourteen days of talks..

Participants

- World leaders, alongside tens of thousands of negotiators, government representatives, businesses and civil society groups.

Support to COP21 – Paris Agreement

COP26 builds on Paris Agreement which states:

- Every country agreed to work together to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees and aim for 1.5 degrees
- to adapt to the impacts of a changing climate
- and to make money available to deliver on these aims.

'Two degrees is a death sentence'.

Paris Agreement – Climate Action

- By 2020, countries needed to submit or update their plans for reducing emissions, known as nationally determined contributions (NDCs).

Adaptation

Adaptation

- Developing countries have become frustrated that adaptation has not been progressed.

COP26 Action

- In recognition of the need to strengthen action on adaptation, parties have agreed to launch the 2 year **Glasgow-Sharm el Sheikh Work Programme on the Global Goal on Adaptation (The GlaSS).**

The GlaSS - Aim

- To reduce vulnerability,
- Strengthen resilience and
- Increase the capacity of people and the planet to adapt.

Adaptation finance

- A goal was set in 2015 to mobilise **$100bn** of climate finance a year by 2020 for developing countries from a range of sources.
- Adaptation finance was 25% of total climate finance in 2019.

COP26 outcome

- Developed country Parties to at least double their collective provision of climate finance for adaptation to developing country Parties from 2019 levels by 2025.”

COP26 Achievement

- COP26 saw a record finance raising effort for the Adaptation Fund of over $350m, around three times the previous highest level.
- Contributions to the Least Developed Country Fund reached $600m.

Mitigation

Mitigation

The mitigation outcome sets out the steps and commitments that Parties will take to accelerate efforts to reduce emissions ‘to keep 1.5 degrees in reach’.

COP26 – Outcome – Mitigation

- Limit global temperature rises to 1.5 degrees
- 'Phase-down of unabated coal power' and 'inefficient fossil fuel subsidies', as well as 'mid-century net zero'
- The important role of **nature** in achieving the goals

Finance, technology transfer and capacity-building for mitigation and adaptation

Finance

- $100bn goal
- Needs of developing countries
- Aligning financial flows

Building the capacity

- Developing countries for practical action and policy making.

Technology transfer and technical assistance

- Extend MoU between Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as its host agency.

COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action

Action Groups on key areas requiring capacity-building

- Adaptation Action,
- Access to Finance,
- Carbon Markets Participation,
- Transparency and Reporting.

COP26

Catalyst for Climate Action's Recommendations and Call to Action

- National leadership to set the agenda for climate action
- Invest more in South-South and South-North knowledge sharing.

Loss and Damage

- Are impacts of climate change which occur beyond the limits of societies' and ecosystems' ability to adapt.

Loss of lives, livelihoods and ecosystems.

International assistance under adaptation

Support and action to avert, minimize and address loss and damage through:

- Disaster prevention,
- Disaster preparedness
- Disaster response and
- Rehabilitation budgets.

COP26 – Outcomes – Loss & Damage

- Santiago Network - minimise and address loss and damage
- Glasgow Dialogue - Access, Participation and Voice, Adaptation and Resilience, Loss and Damage, Just Transition

10 year Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)

- Climate education,
- Training,
- Public awareness,
- Public participation,
- Public access to information and
- International cooperation.

Nature

- Importance of nature and ecosystems
- Climate and biodiversity connection
- Protecting, conserving and restoring nature and ecosystems for climate change adaptation and mitigation, including forests and biodiversity.

Paris Rulebook

- Purchasing international 'carbon credits' or 'offsets'.

Conclusion

There is no viable route to limiting global warming to 1.5C without nature.

Conclusion

- There is need to consider the rights of developing countries to economic growth while committing to Net Zero GHG emissions or ‘carbon neutrality.
- The **Net Zero** emissions refer to a situation where a country is able to remove at least as much carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as it is emitting.

Achieving Net Zero Emissions

Increasing forest cover or through technologies such as carbon capture.

Conclusion

- Maybe developing countries could commit to bringing down per capita emissions to Global average by 2030.



THANK YOU

Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management Centre - Eastern Africa (GTRCMC-EA), Kenyatta University

Email: gtrcmc-ea@ku.ac.ke