



What Is The Paris Agreement?

COP21



 The 21st yearly Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Largest ever COP 50,000 participants

Largest ever gathering of heads of state (150) under one roof



Reaching the Paris Agreement



- Learning from Kyoto: Top-Down to Bottom-Up
- Learning from Copenhagen:

Why did Copenhagen fail?

- The world was not ready
- Many countries were not willing to commit
- Countries not willing to commit managed to divide the developed and the developing worlds and create two opposite blocks.

Since 2009...

- Many have realised that climate change knows no borders.
- Many have realised that you cannot fix the climate without the bigger emitters on board.



Why was Paris different?

- Negotiating process more inclusive
- Role of Heads of State
- 5 years more experience
 - Climate impacts
 - National climate policies

The Paris Agreement – Articles 1 - 13



- Article 1: Definition of Key Terms
- Article 2: Broad Objectives
- Article 3: Communication of Progress
- Article 4: Mitigation
- Article 5: Carbon Sinks and Forestry
- Article 6: Carbon Trading and Country Cooperation
- Article 7: Adaptation
- Article 8: Loss & Damage
- Article 9: Finance
- Article 10: Technology Transfer
- Article 11: Capacity Building
- Article 12: Education
- Article 13: Transparency

Referencing: The Agreement is an actually a 12 page annex divided into Articles (Art). This is preceded by a 20 page Decision text - divided into Paragraphs (P)



The Paris Agreement - Articles 14 - 29



- Article 14: Global Stocktake
- Article 15: Enforcement Mechanism
- Article 16: COP
- Article 17: Secretariat of the Agreement
- Article 18: Science and Technological Advice
- Article 19: Subsidiary Bodies
- Article 20: Ratification
- Article 21: Entering into Force
- Article 22-24: Provision of Articles
- Article 25: Voting
- Article 26: UN Secretary General
- (No 27) Article 28: Withdrawal
- Article 29: Deposition of Agreement



Mitigation

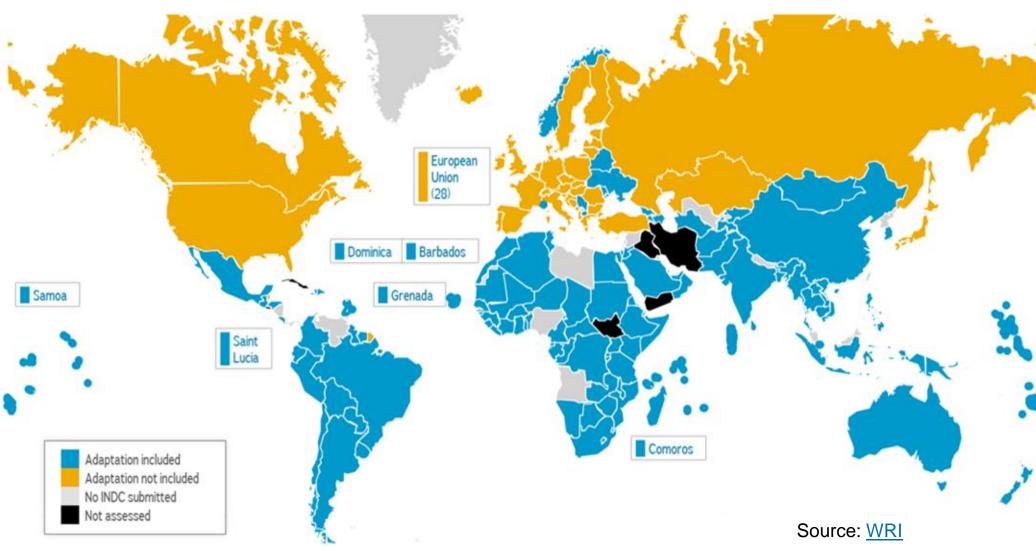


- Keeping warming well below 2°C (Art 2)
- Continue efforts to limit rise to 1.5° C (Art 2) with global peaking as soon as possible (Art 4.1)
- Achieve a balance of emissions and sinks by second half of the century (Art 4.1)
- Global stocktake on progress every 5 years from 2023 (Art 2, 14.1)
- NDCs ratcheted upwards every 5 years (Art 4.3, 4.9)
- Mitigation by everyone but developed countries lead (Art 4.3, 4.4)
- Co-benefits between mitigation and adaptation (Art 4.7)
- Single Registry for NDCs (Art 4.12)
- Long term low emission development strategies (Art 4.19) link to net zero/ deep carbonisation pathways
- > Ambition Vs Reality: Huge gap between current INDCs and 2°C
- Aviation and shipping excluded



Adaptation in INDCs





Adaptation



- Global goal for adaptation, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change but detail is very vague (Art. 7.1)
- Adaptation faced by all, recognition that some particularly vulnerable (Art 7.2)
- Greater levels of mitigation can reduce the need for adaptation efforts & costs (Art 7.3)
- Cooperation should be strengthened between parties and sharing of information, good practice and lessons learned (Art. 7.7)
- Parties shall, as appropriate, engage in adaptation planning (Art 7.9)
- Plans should be communicated periodically and stored in public registry (Art. 7.10-12)
- Loss & Damage (Art.8) acknowledgement of inevitable loss/damage but no reference to liability

UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

- Questions surrounding how future NDCs will link to National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)
- Strong links to Disaster Risk Reduction and Sendai Framework (2015-2030)

Finance



- Developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country in relation to mitigation and adaptation (Art 9.1)
- Collective quantified goal from floor of USD 100 billion/year (P.54) through to 2025
 - Developing countries can contribute on a voluntary basis (Art 9.2)
 - Developed countries should continue to take the lead (Art 9.3)
- The Green Climate Fund (GCF) established as the major donor for channelling climate finance
- GCF co-exists with other donor and bilateral funding
- Development funding and climate funding remain blurred

COP SURPRISE!

Carbon Trading appeared in final draft with no objections (Art 6.1, 6.2) Parties may choose cooperation in implementation of Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMO) (Art. 6.1)



- Must ensure sustainable development, environmental integrity, transparency (no double counting) is adhered to (Art 6.2)
- > Rules how to operate will have to be agreed from scratch over coming COPs

MRV & Transparency



- Single enhanced transparency framework "which takes into account Parties' different capacities and builds upon collective experience" (Art. 13.1)
- Flexibility for developing countries (Art 13.2) and support (Art 13.14)
- Mitigation (Art 13.5)
 - Builds on existing arrangements (NC, BUR, etc.) (Art 13.4)
 - Tracks both NDCs and adaptation actions and support and climate change impacts (Art 13.5, 13.6, 13.8)
 - National GHG inventories (Art 13.7) based upon IPCC methods
 - Informs the Global Stocktake (Art 14)
 - Review of current INDCs in 2018 to coincide with IPCC 1.5°C Report (P.21)
- Finance (Art 13.6)
 - Finance, technology transfer and capacity building (Art 13.10)
- Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency established to build institutional and technical capacity to support developing countries meet enhanced transparency (P.85)
- NDCs will follow stricter format from second submission

Governance



- Open for signature from 22nd April 2016 (Earth Day) to 21st April 2017 (Art 20.1)
- As of 29 June 2016, there are 178 signatories
- 19 States have also deposited their **instruments of ratification**, acceptance or approval (0.18 % of the total global GHG emissions)
- INDCs > NDCs
- National five year review of progress against INDC (P.24)
- New NDCs shall be submitted 9-12 months in advance of **COP26** (P.25)
- **Committee on Capacity Building (P.72)**
- COP22 in Marrakech





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