

WHAT IS COP26 AND WHY DOES IT MATTER FOR SA?

COP26 IS THE 26TH UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE TAKING PLACE FROM 31 OCTOBER TO 12 NOVEMBER 2021 IN GLASGOW, SCOTLAND.

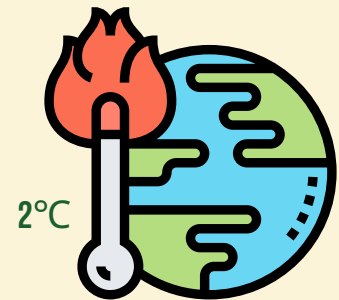


'COP' STANDS FOR 'CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES'

and refers to the countries in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which is a treaty that was agreed to in 1994 to combat climate change.

THERE HAVE BEEN HISTORIC COMMITMENTS MADE AT PREVIOUS CONFERENCES, SUCH AS THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

The Paris Agreement was adopted at COP21 in Paris in 2015, with the goal of keeping the rise in mean global temperatures to well below 2°C to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.



AT COP26, COUNTRIES INCLUDED IN THE PARIS AGREEMENT (INCLUDING SOUTH AFRICA) WILL PROVIDE UPDATES ON THEIR EFFORTS TO SLOW DOWN CLIMATE CHANGE, SUCH AS INITIATIVES TO SWITCH FROM FOSSIL FUEL BASED POWER TO RENEWABLES AND ALTERNATIVES.



This is important, because South Africa is the 12th biggest greenhouse gas emitter in the world. Most of its electricity is generated by burning coal. South Africa is also a climate change hotspot with people already suffering the consequences of climate change. We must act and adapt now!

COP26 IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO SECURE THE FUNDS NEEDED TO MOVE AWAY FROM FOSSIL FUELS WITHOUT LEAVING ANYONE BEHIND IN THIS TRANSITION.