

E3G Media Briefing – July 2021



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2020**

About E3G



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Challenge for COP26 – ‘Keep 1.5C Alive’



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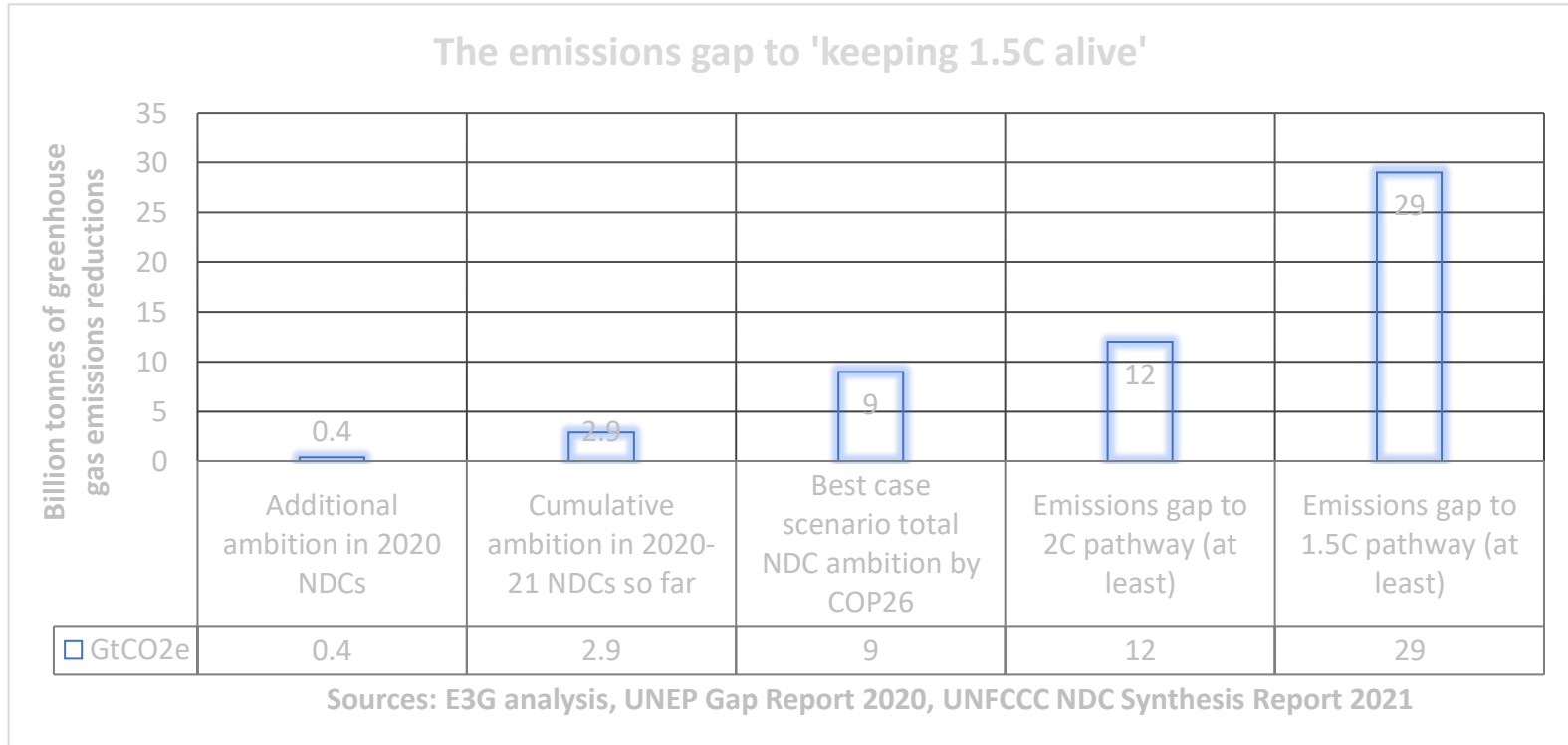
1. Public expectations for climate action at COP26 will be high driven by climate impacts and new IPCC AR6 science.
2. Unlike in Paris, far-off future targets (2050/60), sector and non-state action (cities, companies, investors etc.) won't be spinnable as COP26 success.
3. Emissions ambition is not the only benchmark.
4. COP26 can't close all the gaps to the 1.5C so it will need to show the path to close them which also addresses adaptation and finance.

Emissions gap to keeping 1.5C alive

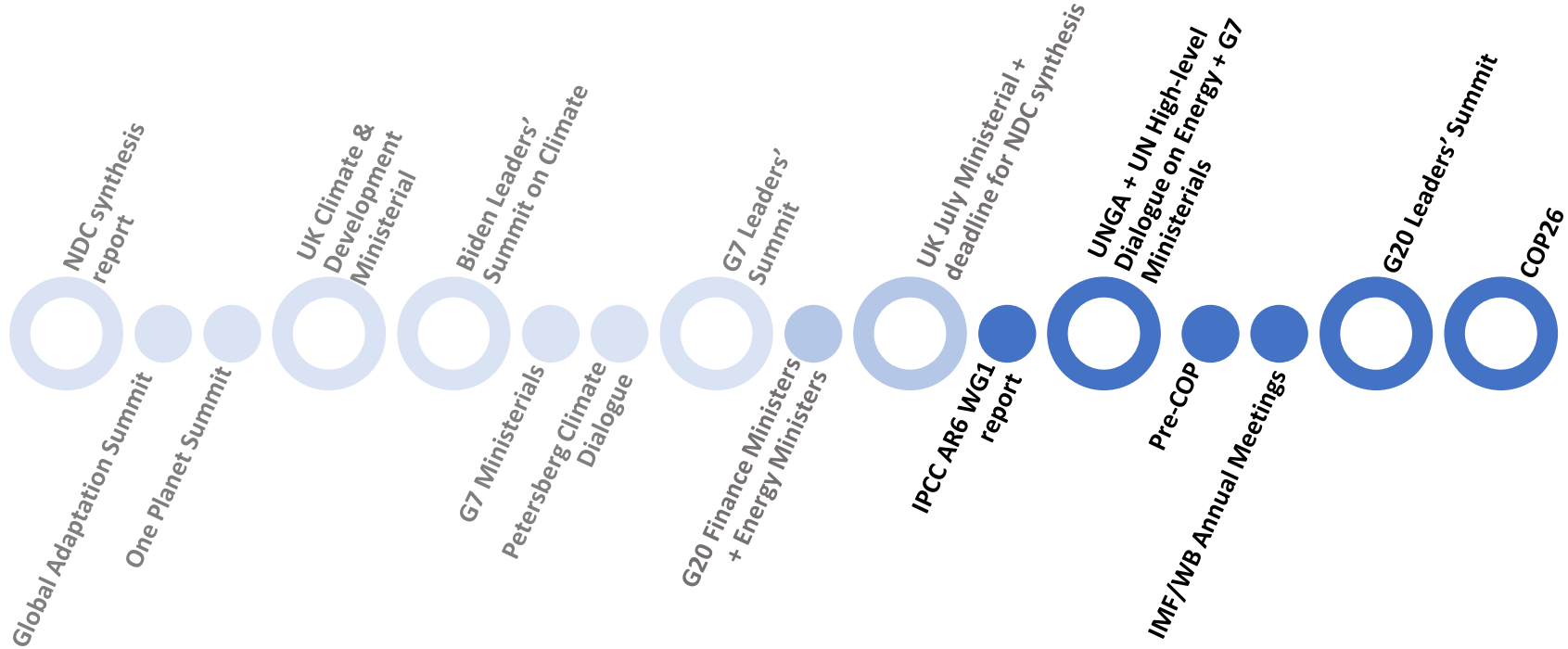


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Prospects: Majority of remaining emissions reductions lie in China (~3.5Gt), India (~1Gt), Brazil (~0.5Gt)



Where are we now



How can COP26 keep 1.5C alive?



**Glasgow Package
to close the gaps for
1.5°C**



**New climate policies &
targets before COP26**



**Deals agreed at COP26
to accelerate action on
Paris commitments**

The overall package needs to address the four ambition gaps:

1. Emissions pathway to 1.5°C (with robust rules)
2. Meeting & exceeding \$100bn commitment
3. Adaptation and Loss & Damage – political attention and support
4. Real economy transformation with robust and independent accountability for true zero

New actions before Glasgow:

1. Missing NDCs 1.5°C aligned + with 90% of global emissions under net zero, narrow the gap to 1.5°C (70% of way to “well below 2C”)
2. \$100bn unlocked with new pledges & a delivery plan >\$100bn by 2025 (+ wider G20 financial firepower)
3. \$50b finance ringfenced for adaptation & political space for loss & damage
4. Sector transition priorities:
 - OECD countries out of coal by early 2030s
 - “No new coal” pledges from major non-OECD
 - End public finance for fossil infrastructure
 - ICE phase out by 2035 in 80% of global markets

Political agreements at Glasgow:

1. 1.CP/26 text agrees to revisit 2030 NDCs by 2023 global stocktake, extends LTS mandate (plus integrity in rulebook decisions)
2. Forward process for post-2025 finance goal
3. Process for operationalizing the global adaptation goal and clarity on space to address loss & damage
4. Political deals on “quick win” pivot into clean industries out of coal, deforestation, methane etc

Four Political Foundations for COP 26



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Delivering a COP26 success scenario requires building multiple political coalitions to close the gap to “safe” levels of warming:

1. **Geopolitical foundations:** COP26 requires climate change to act as a “golden thread” for multilateral cooperation between US-China-EU; supported by strong action on vaccine deployment and recovery finance/debt restructuring.
2. **Solidarity Foundations:** high ambition COP26 requires strong support from the most vulnerable countries, this depends on delivery of \$100bn and improved quantity & quality of support for adaptation.
3. **Financial Foundations:** financially stressed Middle-Income Countries will only commit to strong green transitions if affordable & at scale infrastructure financing is available; B3W and MDB capitalisation key.
4. **Public Credibility Foundations:** even most successful COP26 outcome & “Glasgow Package” will fail to win public support if there are doubts over the **integrity of commitments** from countries and companies

Transformational action is possible but with 100 days to go this complex agenda can only be delivered by intense political leadership starting at UNGA and replacing Zoom diplomacy with face-to face talks.



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Three Steps to a Successful COP 26

1.

Increased commitments to ensure 1.5C is credibly within reach

2.

Agreement to global finance package to support 1.5C

3.

A global deal that “makes coal history”

Contact



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Additional Slides

Context: state of play – July 2021



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Headwinds

- ← **Low North-South trust** thanks to uneven economic recovery + real & perceived lack of solidarity on vaccines, finance
- ← **Climate progressives are fragmented**, lockdowns stall face-to-face diplomacy
- ← **G7 climate ambition is not translating** into pressure on G20; BASICS not feeling pressure & using the shield of 100bn/vaccine solidarity
- ← **Expectations mismatch on adaptation/loss & damage**
- ← **Scepticism of COP26 taking place** is undermining pressure
- ← **Civil society system scepticism increasing** + lockdowns lessen their narrative power

Wildcards:

- ↔ **IPCC AR6 report** response dominated by narrative of urgency OR despair + interaction with 2021 climate impacts
- ↔ **Which China shows up** as CBAM & other tensions raise risks of COP26 'blame game'
- ↔ **How climate laggards** (i.e. Brazil, Saudi, Australia) **show up** – unlikely to see countries publicly pushing for COP26 failure, but delay and frustrating the process could be prioritized, particularly if stakes are raised around 1.5C

Tailwinds

- **Climate has geopolitical power** & is seen as potential golden thread for cooperation
- **Strong public support** for climate action remains
- **Net zero & ending coal close to tipping points** with full G7, 70% global economy & IEA backing net zero pathway/s
- **Market shifts** continue to back climate shifts

Unless these dynamics change **the likeliest scenario is a COP26 where the majority of the G20 have failed to increase ambition along clear pathways, while the IPCC AR6 highlights the growing challenge of keeping 1.5 in reach.**

What does COP26 look like and what can we expect?



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WEEK ONE						
SUNDAY OCTOBER 31ST	MONDAY NOVEMBER 1ST	TUESDAY NOVEMBER 2ND	WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 3RD	THURSDAY NOVEMBER 4TH	FRIDAY NOVEMBER 5TH	SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6TH
PROCEDURAL OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS	WORLD LEADERS SUMMIT Welcoming world leaders to COP to put forward high level ambition and action towards securing global net zero and keeping 1.5 degrees in reach; adapting to protect communities and natural habitats; and mobilising finance.		FINANCE Mobilising public and private finance flows at scale for mitigation and adaptation.	ENERGY Accelerating the global transition to clean energy.	YOUTH AND PUBLIC EMPOWERMENT Elevating the voice of young people and demonstrating the critical role of public empowerment and education in climate action.	NATURE Ensuring the importance of nature and sustainable land use are part of global action on climate change and a clean, green recovery.
WEEK TWO						
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 7TH	MONDAY NOVEMBER 8TH	TUESDAY NOVEMBER 9TH	WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 10TH	THURSDAY NOVEMBER 11TH	FRIDAY NOVEMBER 12TH	SATURDAY NOVEMBER 13TH
REST DAY AHEAD OF THE SECOND WEEK OF NEGOTIATIONS	ADAPTATION, LOSS AND DAMAGE Delivering the practical solutions needed to adapt to climate impacts and address loss and damage.	GENDER Progressing gender equality and the full and meaningful participation of women and girls in climate action. SCIENCE AND INNOVATION Demonstrating that science and innovation can deliver climate solutions to meet, and accelerate, increased ambition.	TRANSPORT Driving the global transition to zero emission transport.	CITIES, REGIONS & BUILT ENVIRONMENT Advancing action in the places we live, from communities, through to cities and regions.	CLOSURE OF NEGOTIATIONS	

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About E3G

E3G is an independent climate change think tank accelerating the transition to a climate safe world.

E3G builds cross-sectoral coalitions to achieve carefully defined outcomes, chosen for their capacity to leverage change. E3G works closely with like-minded partners in government, politics, business, civil society, science, the media, public interest foundations and elsewhere. In 2018, for the third year running, E3G was ranked the fifth most globally influential environmental think tank.

More information is available at www.e3g.org