

MONITORING ESG

COP26

2021/02



It is essential that we draw upon the weight of science, popular support and the intense public scrutiny that the next two weeks will bring, to take bold steps forward for global climate action. Only by working together can we protect the future of humanity on this planet. In recent weeks I have been working with partners from every continent to pave the way for the talks ahead. We must all act now to finalise the Paris Agreement Rulebook, accelerate our emissions reductions, and deliver the climate finance that the world needs. «

Frans Timmermans

Executive Vice President of the European Commission for the
European Green Deal and European Commissioner for
Climate Action

28 October 2021,

[Link](#)

COP26 – UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2021

COP26 EXPLAINED

“The OECD estimates that \$78.9bn of climate finance was mobilised in 2018. Multilateral development banks estimated that \$41.5 billion was provided to developing countries in 2019. The Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero represents over \$70 trillion of assets committed to net zero by 2050. Over 2000 organisations around the world support the Taskforce for Climate- Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD). 17 central banks have committed to stress testing their financial system against climate risks.goals.”

31 October 2021 – ukcop26.org
[Link](#)

The UK COP26 Presidency Glasgow Imperative: Closing the Adaptation Gap and Responding to Climate Impacts Authority

“Finance needs to be made more accessible and climate finance providers need to increase the quantum, quality and improve the allocation of adaptation financing. Through our consultations we have heard from countries and communities that are vulnerable to climate change about the urgent need for access to public and private sector finance to adapt. Greater action on adaptation needs sufficient finance to underpin it and more innovative forms of adaptation financing are required to leverage further private sector mobilisation.”

31 October 2021 – ukcop26.org
[Link](#)

COP26: how green politics went mainstream

“The trend is partly driven by rising demand for traditional parties to address the ever more visible impacts of climate change. In some countries, however, it is also being spurred by a new set of green politicians who have ridden a wave of recent voter support to take seats in government, at times with unlikely partners.”

31 October 2021 – FINANCIAL TIMES
[Link](#)

Can COP26 really save the planet?

“Many of the nations that are rich in oil or coal have been downright hostile to the whole climate agenda and have tried everything to slow it down. Others that are poor and vulnerable see rising temperatures threatening their very existence and are desperate for help.” “I presume they’ll manage to pull a rabbit out of the hat in the end but you journalists must check the details of what’s announced - is it really what they say it is? Ultimately, the conferences provide a focus for climate action but they can never lead to a transformation overnight.”

31 October 2021 – BBC NEWS
[Link](#)

Ahead of G20 Summit and COP26, President von der Leyen sets out EU priorities

“She emphasised in particular the need to close the gap in climate financing. The European Union and its Member States are already the largest contributor to climate finance with more than USD 25 billion per year. She pledged an additional USD 5 billion until 2027, calling on others to increase their ambition. At COP26, the UN Climate Change conference starting on 1 November in Glasgow, the discussions will aside financing also revolve around ambition to cut more emissions, and the progress on the rulebook on international carbon markets.”

29 October 2021 – European Commission
[Link](#)

Reality check for asset managers’ ESG ambitions

“Despite an apparent ESG boom in asset management, just 0.5% of total global fund assets are aligned with the Paris climate agreement’s temperature target of ‘well-below 2°C.’ Analysis by non-profit CDP of 16,500 funds with total assets of \$27 trillion found that just 158 individual funds were assessed at “well-below 2°C,” while more than 8,000 (62% of assets) were temperature scored at above 2.7°C.pocketed so far this year from issuing debt for fossil-fuel companies.”

29 October 2021 – THETRADE
[Link](#)

COP26: EU encourages partners to turn ambition into action and deliver on the Paris Agreement

President Ursula von der Leyen said, “The world’s race for net zero by mid-century is on. By working together, we can all be winners. At COP26, we have the duty of protecting our planet for future generations. In Europe, we have everything in place to reach climate neutrality by 2050 and cut our emissions by at least 55% by 2030. In Glasgow I will be urging other world leaders to do the same; to innovate and to invest in a new more sustainable growth strategy. In short, to prosper and build healthier societies while ensuring a better future for our planet.”

28 October 2021 – European Commission
[Link](#)

7 surprising facts to know about the circular economy for COP26

“Research shows the transition to renewable energy can only address 55% of emissions; the remaining 45% comes from producing cars, clothes, food and everyday products. Circular economy models offer a clear pathway to achieving our collective climate goals, tackling emissions tied to extraction, processing, manufacturing and landfilling of goods.”

27 October 2021 – weforum.org
[Link](#)

COP26 – UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2021

Hedge funds split over ESG ahead of COP26 climate summit

"The 77 per cent of funds interviewed said they consider climate change in their investment processes, while 23 per cent did not. As impact investing and sustainability themes have come into sharp focus over the past decade, ESG investment factors have gained greater prominence within the global asset management industry, with allocators placing ever-greater scrutiny on how their portfolios and investments meet the climate challenge."

27 October 2021 – [hedgeweek.com](#)
[Link](#)

Why the COP26 climate summit won't save the planet

"There's almost no chance that the almost-200 countries gathering in Scotland will agree to bear the economic and political pain to make the kind of radical emissions cuts needed to hit that goal. "...It's currently not plausible that this will happen," said Oliver Geden, an expert in the political economy of climate change at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs. "Because you don't even have the early signs that the big players want to do that."

27 October 2021 – [POLITICO](#)
[Link](#)

57 organizations release open letter for EU to act on ESG

"To achieve a similar outcome on the ESG front – and to do so fast – the world should follow the same template and establish an independent body that can ensure objectivity and due process. We therefore strongly support the initiative of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Foundation to create an International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) to develop globally accepted standards for sustainability reporting that can be adopted worldwide. "...High-quality standards should be based on principles of legitimacy, independence, transparency, public accountability, and thorough due process. Stakeholder engagement and due process must be inclusive and allow for high-quality input from the business community. We therefore call on the European Commission to set up a robust and inclusive due process for developing its own sustainability standards, as outlined in its proposed directive."

13 October 2021 – [The New York Times](#)
[Link](#)

The Biden administration proposes reversing Trump-era rules on socially conscious investing

"The proposed change indicates that plan managers are allowed to consider E.S.G. factors in their initial analysis of investments instead of only at the very end – a change that Labor Department officials argued still maintains that principle, because managers still are not permitted to sacrifice returns for those kinds of ancillary benefits. For example, the proposed rule said that accounting for climate change, "such as by assessing the financial risks of investments for which government climate policies will affect performance," can benefit retirement portfolios by mitigating longer-term risks."

13 October 2021 – [The New York Times](#)
[Link](#)

It's time to set a global ESG standard for investors

"As current and former executives of the world's largest insurer and the world's largest asset owner, respectively, we have grappled with the challenges of integrating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) measures into portfolios. For investors to get behind businesses that are serious about reducing their carbon footprint, slowing biodiversity loss, and advancing a regenerative economy, they need reliable data and tools to differentiate between virtue signaling and real impact. A key obstacle facing these investors is the lack of meaningful and comparable data, based on a global standard for corporate ESG reporting. "...The ISSB could be a game changer for sustainable investment, providing capital markets with reliable and consistent ESG data to enable cross-company comparisons. We hope the new board will act ambitiously and embrace the concept of "dynamic materiality," which recognizes that what is material to investors will change over time."

06 October 2021 – [FORTUNE](#)
[Link](#)

KPMG launches \$1.5 billion sustainability drive in run-up to COP26 climate talks

"KPMG today made a \$1.5 billion play for the white-hot market in ESG investing with a commitment to hold itself to "at least" the same environmental and social standards that it intends to instill across its global client portfolio. The Big Four auditor will pour investment into training its 227,000 employees to set and assess sustainability targets, buying specialist firms, and opening regional hubs around the world to help companies clean up their carbon footprint, supply chains and labour practices."

05 October 2021 – [yahoo!news](#)
[Link](#)

BECEPTUM's TOP 4 at COP26



- 1. Secure global net zero emissions by mid-century and keep 1.5 degrees celsius within reach**—Action plans, entrepreneurial incentives and attractive private funding schemes will need to go much further and faster towards decarbonisation if we are to keep global average temperature rises low.
- 2. Adapt to protect communities and natural habitats** – Delivering change here relies on protecting and restoring ecosystems, plus investment in systems, infrastructure and agriculture to avoid loss of homes and livelihoods.
- 3. Green finance** – Developed countries need to make good on their promise to mobilise at least \$100 billion in climate finance money per year to raise the necessary funds required.
- 4. Work together to deliver** – Collaboration between economy, society, science and capital markets will be key to accelerating action on climate change.

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