



Climate Change
Conference of People
In the context of COP-28, Dubai
30th November – 12th December, 2023

Synthesis Day 2

In general, it is surprising that there is no common ground on how to count and consider climate finance in terms of definitions, methodologies, and negotiation processes. Various negotiation rooms related with finance and implementation are wrapping their heads around definitions.

On the other hand, yesterday, business lobby groups and their associated civil society organisations have been active in meetings, workshops and networking. Many partnerships seem to have been formed. Primarily, most of these seem to be lobbying efforts at pushing technologies, products and services, into climate action. A kind of green washing. Lot of verbose has been used to camouflage these intentions. Two Declarations were made yesterday, on transforming food systems. In these Declarations, done outside COP28 negotiating tracks, do not contain legally binding commitments. Language remains very vague, refer to non-specific actions and measurable targets are missing. Significantly, there is zero reference to industrial farming contribution to carbon emissions

Some Events

1. The Call to Action¹ unites many diverse actors working in food and agriculture around a shared vision and priority actions for transforming food systems. It calls for a set of time-bound, aligned, holistic, and global targets by COP29 at the latest, and actionable, evidence-based, locally appropriate food systems transition pathways to drive further action and accountability from governments, business and finance actors. **Over 155² Non-State Actors sign Call to Action calling for transformation of food systems for people, nature and climate**
2. Launched at COP28 in Dubai, [the Emirates Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems and Climate Action](#) reaffirms existing international commitments to halt climate change and nature loss while building in more resilience. It outlines how bringing these agendas together will be crucial to ensuring food security in the decades to come.
3. [COP28 Local Climate Action Summit](#), the first Summit hosted by the COP Presidency in recognition of the critical role local leaders play in reducing emissions, addressing climate risk and supercharging national efforts to move further and faster on climate progress. Hosted by the COP28 Presidency and Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Summit aims to bring together national and subnational climate leaders to transform climate finance, enhance global action, fast-track the energy transition, and strengthen resilience and adaptation at the local level.

¹ <https://climatechampions.unfccc.int/over-150-nsas-sign-cta-calling-for-transformation-of-food-systems-for-people-nature-and-climate/>

² <https://climatechampions.unfccc.int/list-of-signatories-of-the-food-systems-to-call-to-action/>



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Vignettes from various participants

- ▶ "The 1.5-degree limit is only possible if we ultimately stop burning all fossil fuels. Not reduce. Not abate. Phaseout." UN Secretary General
- ▶ Addressing climate change requires a united effort, and the Global Stocktake ensures we stay on course." - Angela Merkel
- ▶ **Dr Aditi Mukherji, director, CGIAR's climate change adaptation and mitigation action platform:** Science and evidence-based innovations can be the fuel that drives forward the transformation needed across food systems but this needs adequate funding and integration into policymaking to achieve impact at scale.
- ▶ **Professor Appolinaire Djikeng, director-general, International Livestock Research Institute:** "Empowering developing countries to sustainably increase the productivity of livestock offers the opportunity to achieve climate goals while also improving food, nutrition and income security."
- ▶ **Diego Martinez Schuett, food systems advisor, CAFOD³:** This Emirates Declaration will only work if it encourages governments to focus on strengthening local food systems through solutions that have already proven effective, such as agroecology."

New areas of concern

- ▶ Industrial farming which contributes to 15 percent of fossil fuel burning
- ▶ Lack of reference to the industry fossil fuel dependence is glaring⁴
- ▶ UNFCCC-constituted [Standing Committee on Finance](#), states that developing countries need \$5.8 trillion–\$5.9 trillion up to 2030 to finance less than half of the climate action listed in their national commitments (articulated in formal submissions made by governments to the UNFCCC) to keep global warming in check.

New studies and Reports

The total climate finance provided and mobilised by developed countries for developing countries in 2021 was \$89.6 billion, according to a [new report](#) released by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) November 16, 2023.

According to the recent [Production Gap report](#) by the UN, plans to increase the production of fossil fuels by a number of nations, including the US, UAE, and Saudi Arabia, would "throw humanity's future into question" and shatter climate targets. These plans would result in 460% more coal production,

³ <https://www.edie.net/emirates-declaration-landmark-new-sustainable-food-systems-pledge-backed-by-130-governments/>

⁴ <https://www.feednavigator.com/Article/2023/12/01/COP28-Declaration-Food-is-finally-at-the-top-table>



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83% more gas, and 29% more oil produced in 2030 than could be burnt to maintain the 1.5C scenario. Additionally, the plans will generate 69% more fossil fuels than what is necessary to meet the riskier 2C objective. The nations planning to produce the most fossil fuels are Saudi Arabia (oil), Russia (gas and coal), and India (coal). The United Arab Emirates, the United States, and Canada also intend to be significant oil producers.

Tomorrow

World Leaders Summit would continue

For clarifications

Dr. Narasimha Reddy Donthi, Ph. 90102-05742, Public Policy Campaigner

This the 2nd update of COP28 happenings, and will be continued every day, until 13th December, 2023. It is not a mere reporting, but will increasingly include an effort to dissect, synthesis and link the COP28 happenings with our environment and India.

Council for Earth Leadership and Sustainability (CELS), an offshoot of Council for Green Revolution, in collaboration with a host of organisations, is organising an everyday synthesis, both in text and video. You can join the review at: <https://bit.ly/3U9KXn7>