



COP26 ECUMENICAL DELEGATION

News from the UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021

NOVEMBER 2021 | DAY 6

The COP26 Ecumenical Delegation, led by For the Love of Creation and the United Church of Canada, will be bringing you highlights, impressions, stories, and hopes each day of the UN Climate Change Conference.

Day 6 Highlights

Notable quotes

"A PARIS (ARTICLE) 6 THAT DOES NOT HAVE RIGHTS **CLEARLY EXEMPLIFIED AND EXPLAINED WILL NOT PROTECT** THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, WILL NOT BE WHAT **INDIGENOUS PEOPLE ARE** LOOKING FOR... WE REALLY LOOK FORWARD TO A **CONSULTATIVE FRAMEWORK** TO ESTABLISH A TRULY **RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE OPPORTUNITY FOR** INDIGENOUS PEOPLE." KIMAREN OLE RIAMIT, INDIGENOUS LIVELIHOOD ENHANCEMENT PARTNERS

The focus of COP26 Day 6 is youth and public empowerment, and it's clear from the massive rallies in Glasgow and globally today and set for tomorrow that youth and people on the ground want less empty talk and more urgent action.

One of the clear messages from delegates in the side events is that young people and people most impacted by the climate crisis are not waiting for political and finance leaders to provide direction. They are living out the system change that they want to see. In the session "What does meaningful youth leadership look like?" youth from "Mock COP" shared the treaty that was developed by 330 delegates representing 140 countries who formed their own online mock COP in 2020. The treaty outlines 18 policy demands for world leaders including action on climate justice, climate education, and more ambitious nationally determined contributions (NDCs).



Notable quotes

"THE LEADERS ARE NOT DOING NOTHING, THEY ARE ACTIVELY CREATING LOOPHOLES AND SHAPING FRAMEWORKS TO BENEFIT THEMSELVES AND TO CONTINUE PROFITING FROM THIS DESTRUCTIVE SYSTEM."

Greta Thunberg, Youth climate activist

Please take time to read,
reflect, and pray on the For
the Love of Creation blog
posts by delegation members
Sabrina Chiefari and Karri
Munn-Venn:
https://fortheloveofcreation.
ca/blog/

Day 6 Highlights

Youth are raising the concern that decisions about their future are being made without them by world leaders. This concern is also being raised by Indigenous communities globally. While talks are taking place on implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which involves international emissions trading and carbon credits, Indigenous groups are warning against the use of carbon credits as part of NDCs, if they do not include strong and enforceable environmental and social protections. This concern was well outlined at the session "Making the Paris Agreement work: Addressing Indigenous Peoples' Rights in Art 6 and Climate Finance."

At the event, "Faith in action: Community-led & gender inclusive adaptation for climate justice" led by the Church of Sweden, panelists shared ways that faith communities can support local and gender inclusive climate adaptation actions. Women and girls in the global south are carrying the burden of climate impacts now and are 14 times more at risk of dying during natural disasters.

Starting Sunday, the People's Summit for Climate Justice will further highlight the voices of those most impacted by the climate crisis.

Stories, Impressions, Reflections

Our delegation took time to reflect today on our first week together at COP26. With today's focus on youth, we wondered how to support young people as they grapple with the reality of the climate crisis. In some ways, they are taking on this crisis with creativity and energy and are showing such leadership. However, for many it's a heavy burden to carry, and it's leading to real anxiety and fear.

For everyone, it's important to find a way to ground ourselves. Today, we turned to the beautiful Wendell Berry poem, "The Peace of Wild Things." We shared stories of family, faith, and openness of heart and spirit. We celebrated a birthday and shared our appreciation for those praying with us through this process.

We are all lifted knowing that we are part of this spirit and justice-filled moment together.

To follow COP26 online go to the COP26 Youtube channel: https://www.youtube.com/c/UNClimateChange