Delivering climate justice: Our priorities ahead of COP26

The Scottish Government must implement the transformational policy and spending actions needed to deliver Scotland’s legal greenhouse gas emission targets, without international offsets, and ensure a just transition. It should use its relatively strong record, and Glasgow’s status as COP26 host city, to push other historical polluters towards actions consistent with limiting global temperature rises to 1.5°C, including using its prominent role within the Under2 Coalition to show international leadership.

The UK Government must significantly raise ambition for COP26 by putting in place the range of policies and investments needed to meet its Paris Agreement obligations and limit global temperature rises to 1.5°C as fast as possible, without the use of international offsets and with an emphasis on emission reduction at source. It must also use every diplomatic tool, including its joint Presidency of COP26, to close the global gap between countries’ existing NDCs and long-term strategies (LTSSs), and what is needed to limit the global temperature rise to 1.5°C, with every country taking on their fair share.

Before and at COP26, all rich polluting nations must commit to deeper and faster emission reductions within their NDCs and LTSSs while ensuring they are fully consistent with limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C, and informed by a Fair Shares analysis, including a swift and just phase-out of fossil fuels.
**Increased support for communities impacted by the climate crisis**

The Scottish Government must significantly increase the Climate Justice Fund by raising new and additional funding through taxing high emitters, and align it to best practice in adaptation globally. It should then call for other rich countries to increase their climate finance informed by a Fair Shares analysis, and champion for this to be additional to Overseas Development Assistance (ODA). It should strongly promote the issue of finance for climate-induced loss and damage while maximising the influence of Global South communities, including by strongly capitalising upon planned ‘Glasgow Climate Dialogues’ pre-COP26 and via funding and support during the talks. It should prevent big polluting companies, such as oil and gas majors, from influencing COP26.

The UK Government must show global leadership for an urgent and significant scale up of grant-based finance to support poor and vulnerable countries and communities to adapt, informed by a Fair Shares analysis. The Government must honour its legally binding commitment to 0.7% of Gross Domestic Income for Overseas Development Assistance (ODA), ensure that international climate finance is additional to non-climate ODA, and maintain its commitment to 50% of UK climate finance for adaptation. It must ensure robust implementation of the policy to end UK public support for fossil fuels overseas. It must then champion a new post-2025 global adaptation finance goal which is responsive to the needs and rights of women, indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups. The UK must also facilitate concrete advances on loss and damage finance at COP26. It should prevent big polluting companies, such as oil and gas majors, from influencing the talks.

Before and at COP26 in Glasgow, all rich polluting countries must fulfil their $100 billion per year climate finance promise to the world’s poorest countries through non-repayable grants and agree a strengthened post-2025 commitment informed by a Fair Shares analysis. They must identify new and innovative ways to mobilise funds to support communities facing climate-induced loss and damage and proactively prevent big polluting companies, such as oil and gas majors, from influencing the talks.