

ABC OF COPS

All about the UN Climate Conference
and the importance of COP30 in the Amazon.



**MOBILIZAÇÃO DOS POVOS
PELA TERRA E PELO CLIMA**

ORGANIZATION

Pan-Amazonian Ecclesial Network – REPAM-Brazil
Brasília - DF, December 2024

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ABC OF COPS



1

INTRODUCTION TO THE CLIMATE CONFERENCE

UNDERSTANDING THE UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

COP (Conference of the Parties) is an international meeting of great importance in which leaders and representatives of several Nations meet to discuss actions and global commitments to tackle the climate crisis.

In November 2025, for the first time in history, this conference, COP30, will take place in Belém, Pará, in the heart of the Amazon. This event represents a unique opportunity for the voices of Amazonian communities – Indigenous, riverside, quilombola and extractivist – to be heard and included in crucial debates about the future of the planet.

The Mobilization of Peoples for Land and Climate, an articulation of the Pan-Amazonian Ecclesial Network (REPAM-Brazil), works to ensure that this participation is broad, inclusive, and capable of influencing decisions that directly impact the life of these communities, the biomes and ecosystems of which they depend on. With this in mind, we created this primer, which aims to democratize information about COP, making them accessible and understandable to everyone, leaving no one behind.

Traditional communities are often kept at bay from climate debates and international events without access to knowledge that can empower and prepare their leaders for more active participation.

We hear from many:

**“This information doesn’t reach us!”
And that is what we want to help change,
so that this sentence becomes part of
the past.**

This primer is a bridge. It is an invitation for knowledge to leave offices and conferences and arrive to the Indigenous and traditional territories and communities of the Amazon. Here, you will find simple explanations about the main topics discussed at COP30, presented in an accessible way. We have included a glossary at the end, a kind of dictionary of climate terms so you never feel left out again because you have not understood an expression or concept.

**Information is a powerful tool.
And at this critical moment for the planet,
having access to it means more chances
of protecting our lands, waters, forests
and future.**

May this primer serve as a step to strengthen the voices of those who have been caring for the Amazon for many generations. May it be a starting point to mobilize, inspire, and act collectively at COP30 in Belém and beyond.



REPAM AT COP30

Over the past few months, REPAM has been working to strengthen the influence of territorial and social movements in the climate debate leading up to COP30.

The Mobilization of People for Land and Climate project brings together peoples, traditional communities and social movements to respond to the climate crisis, strengthen territorial struggles and expand political advocacy before, during and after COP30, which will be held in Brazil in 2025. Partners include riverside communities, quilombolas, coconut harvesters, extractivists, Indigenous people, social movements, socio-environmental and religious organizations, in addition to public authorities.

In 2024, REPAM released a document with seven central axes, addressing issues such as violations of human rights in the Amazon, social justice, and environmental ethics. Available in four languages, it mobilizes efforts to protect the people of the region and the rights of nature, reinforcing commitments to mitigate climate change and preserve the Amazon ecosystem.

[Read the document here.](#)

REPAM is also part of the People's Summit, a coalition formed by more than 400 organizations, leading strategic actions for COP30, such as building a robust plan in defense of climate, forests, and human rights. Headquartered in Belém, the Mobilization operates throughout the Legal Amazon, covering nine states, promoting meetings, events, and logistical support for climate discussions.

This articulation work is essential to face climate challenges, protect territories and strengthen the active participation of Amazonian peoples in global solutions.



AFTER ALL, WHAT IS COP?

COP stands for Conference of the Parties.

Parties, in this acronym, refers to the countries that are part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which is usually referred to by its acronym in English: “**UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)**”.

The Framework Convention was opened for signatures in 1992, during the Rio-92 Conference but only came into force in 1994. Since 1995, the Parties meet annually to advance the implementation of the measures and commitments defined therein.

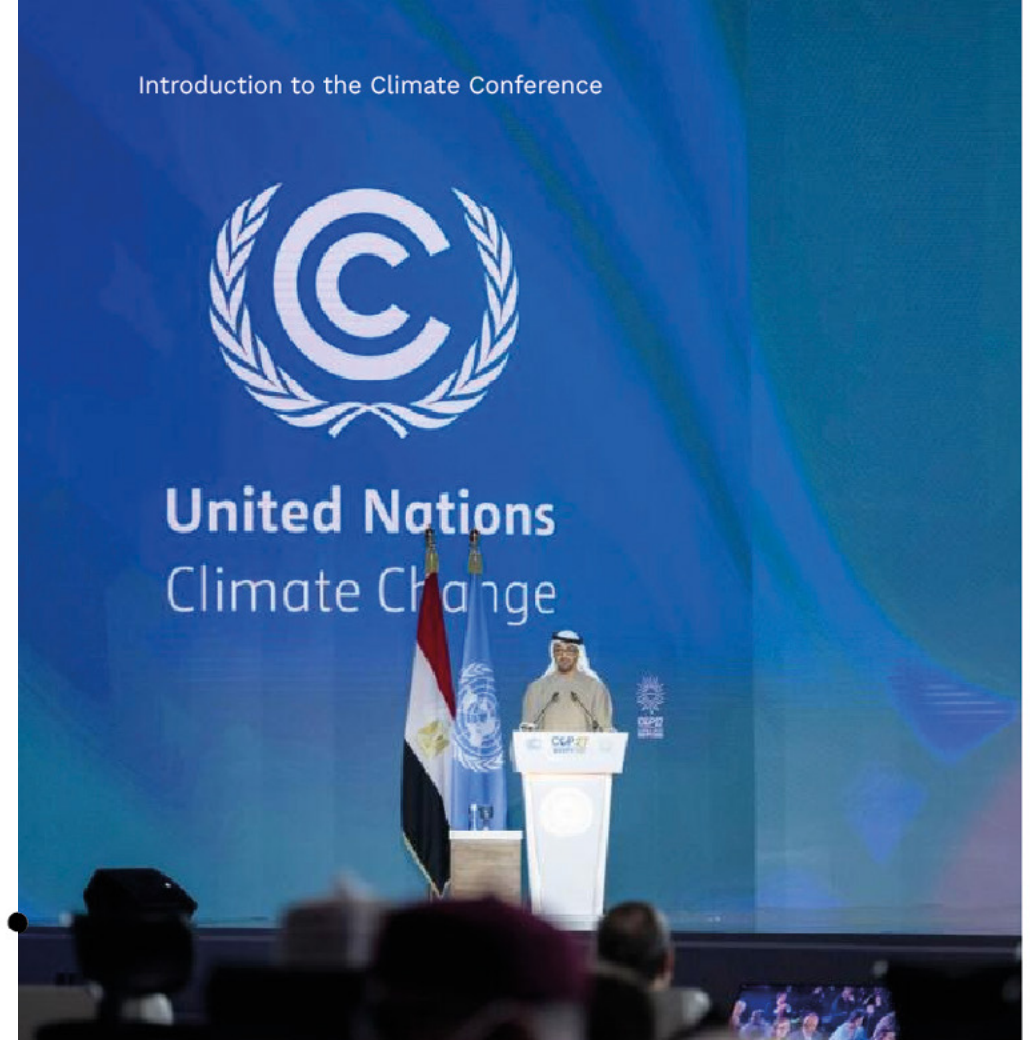
More than just a meeting of parties and an international climate change treaty, COP has become the leading global forum for environmental debates. The Conference brings together representatives from more than 196 countries to address environmental issues in general and climate change in particular.

Did you know?

The first Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP1) took place from March 28 to April 7, 1995, in Berlin, Germany. The numbering of Conferences of the Parties is sequential and does not have any relation to the year.

Last COP?

COP29 was held in Baku, capital of Azerbaijan, between November 11 and 22 of 2024.



COP27 conference held in Egypt.
Foto: <https://www.khaleejtimes.com>



Although COP is an official meeting of the signatory countries of the treaty, it is today the largest forum for environmental debates in the world. During the Conference, world leaders, official negotiators from member countries, experts, scientists, activists, and representatives from various sectors meet to negotiate solutions and align commitments related to the environment, focusing mainly on the fight against global warming.

2

STRUCTURE AND DYNAMICS OF THE COP

Structure and Dynamics of the COP

WHO PARTICIPATES?

COP attracts delegations from **193 member countries** of the United Nations, between heads of state, diplomats, businessmen, investors, researchers, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), activists and society.



Countries tend to organize themselves into different groups and coalitions to align their positions on certain themes, gaining varying degrees of influence.

For example:

- G77 (coalition of developing countries);
- European Union; and
- Least developed countries (LDCs)

In Brazil

The event will bring together the eight countries of the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) whose territories are part of the Amazon region: Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.



COP27, held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, gathered about 50 thousand people.



COP28, in the United Arab Emirates United had a historic record, with 83 thousand participants.



COP29, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, registered **66,778 in-person participants** and **3,975 online**, making it the second-largest COP by attendance.

A STRENGTHENED CIVIL SOCIETY

The presence of organizations and civil society is vital for discussing and formulating policies on climate change mitigation, adaptation, and support for vulnerable communities. COP30 will provide an opportunity for these groups to collaborate and promote actions that strengthen global commitments to environmental protection.

COP29, held in Baku, was attended by 1,914 Brazilians. The Brazilian delegation was the second largest, surpassed only by the 2,229-member delegation of Azerbaijan, the host country.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

The COP (Conference of the Parties) is an annual global climate meeting that **lasts two weeks**.

Historically, in the first week, more technical meetings are held while, in the second, ministers, heads of state and government make important decisions. But this may change.

Each group brings a unique and vital perspective for the negotiations at COP.

The collaboration between countries, observers, civil society, experts, and the private sector is essential to face the global climate challenges and achieve a sustainable future. The diversity of voices and interests allow for a richer debate and more comprehensive and inclusive solutions for the climate crisis.

DURATION
2 WEEKS

MONTH
NOVEMBER

ORGANIZER
UNITED NATIONS



Each participating country has the right to one vote, and decisions are made by consensus, meaning that all parties must agree. **Achieving this agreement can be difficult**, often requiring concessions.

Although international environmental negotiations take place year-round, it is at the COP that the most important resolutions are made. The most well-known example of this is the Paris Agreement, adopted at COP21, which set targets to limit global warming.

WHO CAN APPLY TO PARTICIPATE IN COP?

- ▶ Official Delegations are registered by governments themselves.
- ▶ NGOs, the private sector, and civil society groups need to be accredited through the **UNFCCC**. A registration process is open for observers at each conference.
- ▶ Journalists need special accreditation for access to restricted areas and press conferences.

WHAT ARE THE ZONES AT COP, AND WHAT ACTIVITIES OCCUR IN EACH?

At COP30 in Belém, the event will be organized into **specific zones**, as is traditionally done at United Nations (UN) climate conferences.



The **Brazil Pavilion** will be located in the **Blue Zone**, alongside pavilions from other countries and organizations with similar objectives. Activities in the Blue Zone will run parallel to the diplomatic negotiations, which will take place in a separate area.



BLUE ZONE

This space is managed directly by the UN and is the main area for official negotiations among country representatives. Diplomatic meetings, plenary sessions and essential decisions about climate policies take place in the Blue Zone.

GREEN ZONE

This area is open to the public and features cultural activities, exhibitions, debates, and parallel events organized by NGOs, companies, and institutions. It serves as a space for greater interaction, with a focus on mobilization, collaboration, education, and environmental awareness.

WHAT ARE SIDE EVENTS?

The side events held in the Blue and Green Zones are an opportunity for NGOs, companies, research institutions, subnational governments, international organizations, and other groups to share their ideas and knowledge with participating countries.

They are essential because many of these organizations cannot speak in the formal meetings, so they use this space to showcase their work, exchange experiences and discuss practical solutions to face climate change.

Exhibitions allow people to learn about various climate-related topics and interact more openly and dynamically. They last from one to one and a half hours. Hundreds of side events and activities in Pavilions occur during the two weeks of the conference.

The programming classifies them by colors according to their themes to facilitate identification.

WHAT ARE THE COP PAVILIONS?

The COP Pavilions are themed spaces located in the Blue Zone (official Conference area) in which countries, international organizations, NGOs, companies, and groups of civil society set up stands and promote activities related to the climate crisis. Each group presents projects, solutions, technologies, and policies focused on mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

The Blue Zone is under the UN's authority. The host country operates the pavilion space on a commercial basis to provide the Parties and observers a dedicated space to carry out their own private meetings and office arrangements.

Such space is not intended to be part of a formal intergovernmental process, and the events held therein are not part of the official program.

THEMATIC PAVILIONS AT THE COP

In addition to the spaces promoted by the governments of each country, the COP has a diversity of thematic Pavilions that enrich the dialogue and participation of different voices. They offer activities, panels, workshops and exhibitions that highlight climate issues from different perspectives.

Meet some of them:

- UN Climate Change Pavilion;
- UN Global Innovation on Climate Change;
- Pavilion for Children and Youth;
- Civil Society Pavilion;
- Indigenous Peoples Pavilion;
- Women and Gender Pavilion;
- Young Climate Champion (YCC) Pavilion; and
- Pavilion of Faith.



To think about:
 In which of the thematic axes do you believe that you can contribute? Mobilize your community or organization and join forces with other movements for political advocacy organized and led by civil society.

FROM RIO-92 TO COP30



1992
(RIO-92)

Also called the Earth Summit, gathered world leaders in Rio de Janeiro and resulted in documents such as Agenda 21 and Conventions on biodiversity (CBD), climate change (COP) and desertification (UNCCD). It was the first time that the civil society had expressive participation, signaling the need of involvement beyond governments.



1997
(Kyoto Protocol)

Derived from Rio-92, The Climate Change Convention set mandatory greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for developed countries.



2012
(RIO+20)

Twenty years after Rio-92, the commitment to sustainable development was reaffirmed. The conference faced challenges in setting concrete goals but laid the foundation for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which were formalized in 2015.



2015
(COP21, The Paris Agreement)

At the 21st edition of the Conference of the Parties (COP21), 195 countries adopted a new climate pact to limit global warming to well below 2°C, with efforts to keep the increase at 1.5°C. It was also established that each nation would present its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).



2021
(COP26, Glasgow Pact)

Held in Glasgow, Scotland, COP26 reviewed progress since the Paris Agreement. Article 6 on the global carbon market was regulated, including historic commitments such as the gradual reduction of coal use and fossil fuel subsidies. There was also a pledge to review and strengthen NDCs by 2030.



2025
(COP30)

The main indicator of success for COP30 is whether member countries submit sufficiently ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by February 2025, aligned with the goal of keeping global temperature rise below 1.5°C. Unlike previous conferences, where success or failure was measured during the event itself, COP30's success must be achieved before, during, and after the conference. For this reason, much like the Paris COP, COP30 is seen as the 'COP of COPs.'

What are NDCs?

NDCs, short for Nationally Determined Contributions, are the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets that each country commits to when signing the Paris Agreement. These targets are defined based on the specific realities and circumstances of each nation.

3



TOPICS IN DEBATE

WHAT IS NEGOTIATED AT THE COP?

At COP, countries reaffirm their commitment to global climate stability and environmental protection by setting objectives and defining the necessary means for implementation.

Unfortunately, the financial commitments made by developed countries to support developing nations, as established in the Paris Agreement, have yet to be adequately fulfilled.

The third round of NDCs will take place during COP30. Countries will present their updated targets to keep global warming below 2°C and limit the increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. However, given the urgency of the climate crisis, current commitments remain insufficient.

Do you know any of the key agreements and initiatives that have emerged from past COPs?

- **Kyoto Protocol (COP3)**
Set targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **The Marrakech Accords (COP7)**
Established adaptation plans for least developed countries (NAPA) and created the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) to support them.
- **Green Climate Fund (COP16)**
Designed to finance climate adaptation projects, particularly in more vulnerable countries.
- **Lima Call for Climate Action (COP20)**
Encouraged the adoption of the Paris Agreement, which set the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and laid the groundwork for a global carbon market formalized at COP26.

Other key topics discussed at COPs include the transition to a low-carbon economy, carbon market regulations, sustainable agriculture, phasing out fossil fuels, doubling energy efficiency, tripling renewable energy capacity, and reducing deforestation.



US\$ 1.3 TRILLION BY 2035

In the 2015 Paris Agreement, developed countries committed to mobilizing **\$100 billion annually** to finance climate action in developing nations. However, this goal was never fully met, drawing criticism over the insufficiency of resources in addressing the severity of the climate crisis.

At COP29, known as the "COP of Climate Finance," a new global agreement was introduced, proposing that wealthy nations allocate \$250 billion per year to support vulnerable countries in adapting to climate change and transitioning to renewable energy.

The preliminary target sets a total of at least \$1.3 trillion by 2035. However, the agreement does not clarify whether the funds will come from donations, loans, or private sector investments, raising concerns about the feasibility of mobilizing these resources.

Experts also highlight the uncertainty surrounding the timeline for implementation, given the complexity of negotiations and growing global tensions over climate finance.

The main agendas always involve the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and climate finance to support these actions.

ABC of COPs

Foto: Unepccc.org

Topics in Debate

THE CLIMATE CRISIS AND THE PATH TO 1.5°C

In recent years, the world has faced record temperatures and a worrying increase in greenhouse gas emissions. These factors contribute to extreme weather events such as storm surges, heat, droughts, hurricanes, and floods, impacting and destroying lives and communities across the planet. To address this crisis, governments need to act urgently and achieve ambitious climate targets by 2035, including reducing CO₂ emissions.

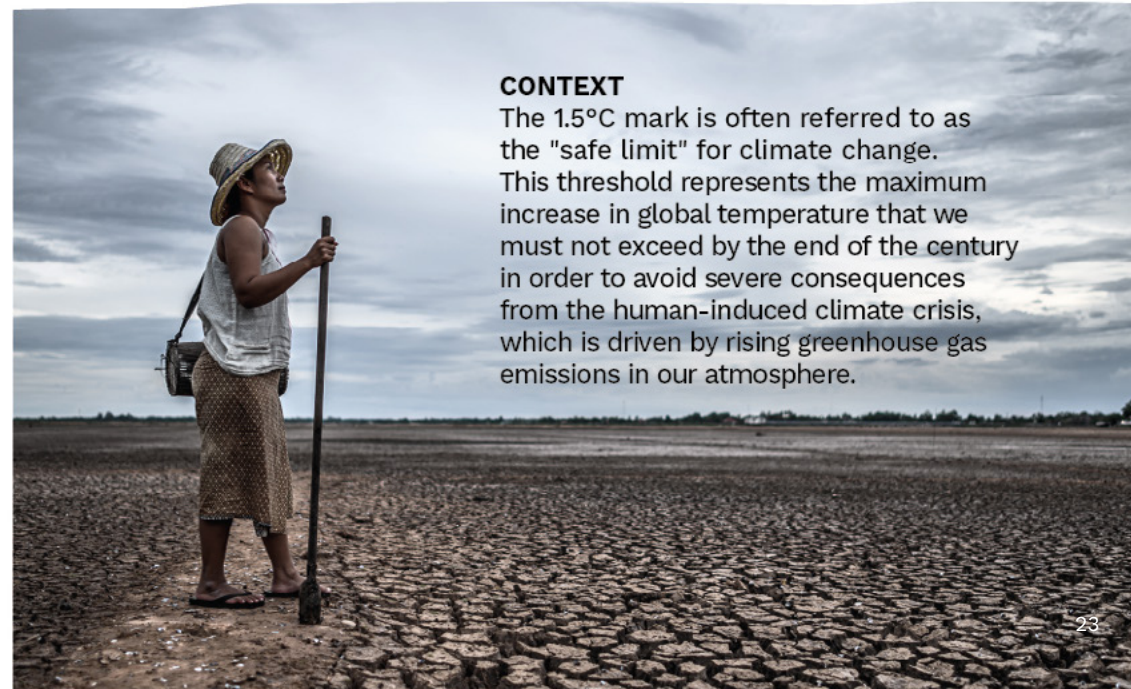
2024: the hottest year in history

Data from the European Copernicus Observatory (C3S) indicate that, in 2024, the global average temperature is expected to **exceed 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, indicating a historic milestone in global warming.**

According to the institution, 2023 recorded an average of 1.48°C above the pre-industrial level (1850-1900), and it is practically certain that the increase of the annual temperature in 2024 exceeds 1.5°C, with a probability of exceeding 1.55°C.

CONTEXT

The 1.5°C mark is often referred to as the "safe limit" for climate change. This threshold represents the maximum increase in global temperature that we must not exceed by the end of the century in order to avoid severe consequences from the human-induced climate crisis, which is driven by rising greenhouse gas emissions in our atmosphere.



THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE TARGETS

The current targets for 2030 are inadequate to limit global warming to 1.5°C, as outlined in the Paris Agreement.

To address this shortfall, it is crucial to:

- Define more ambitious targets aimed at significantly reducing CO₂ emissions by 2030.
- Ensure that governments align their policies to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, thereby establishing a solid foundation for 2035 objectives.

The **Climate Action Tracker** emphasizes that NDCs for 2035 must be ambitious, fair, credible, transparent, and incorporate climate finance aspects, along with a commitment to a just transition.



Why does this matter?

Without the adoption and implementation of more ambitious and well-planned actions, limiting global warming to 1.5°C may become impossible, leading to a sharp and prolonged increase in global average temperatures, hence serious consequences for the environment and society.

4 PILLARS OF THE NEXT CLIMATE GOALS (NDCS)

Main points

1. Ambition:

- Governments need to adopt an emergency plan and review both the 2030 targets and current policies, including substantial cuts in emissions. NDC targets for 2035 should be proposed by 2025, aligned with the net zero emissions pathway.
- NDCs need to be built on sectoral targets informed by compatibility parameters at 1.5°C.

2. Justice and Financing:

- Developed countries must significantly increase international climate financing and other means of support.
- NDCs should communicate aligned domestic mitigation targets with 1.5°C and detail the financial support to be provided to developing countries.
- Developing countries must clearly communicate their climate finance needs to set and achieve ambitious targets aligned with 1.5°C.

3. Credibility:

- NDCs should be based on robust national planning processes, translating the emissions reduction target into sectoral actions.
- It is necessary to intensify the implementation of existing goals and develop policies that close the emissions gap.
- Contradictory policies, such as fuel production and fossil fuel subsidies, must be reversed.

4. Transparency:

- Targets must be absolute, covering the entire economy and clearly specifying annual levels of greenhouse gas emissions.
- NDCs should prioritize the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through internal actions and structural transformation instead of over-reliance on forest sinks or CO₂ removal strategies.
- Additional elements to the domestic goals must be clearly communicated, such as the contribution of forests, land use, and CO₂ removal.

4

COP30 IN BRAZIL



WHY IS COP30 IMPORTANT?

COP30, scheduled to take place in 2025 in the city of Belém, in the state of Pará, has strategic relevance on the global stage due to the urgent climate challenges humanity faces. The entire world has high expectations for it because of the Amazon, which plays an essential role in regulating the global climate.

This region, vital for global climate balance, often receives attention only for its natural wealth, while the challenges faced by its communities are relegated to the background.

Indigenous people, riverside communities, quilombolas, extractivists and millions of people living in urban areas of the Amazon deal with daily problems, including a lack of basic sanitation, inadequate waste management and environmental pressures.

With extreme weather events becoming more frequent and intense, such as droughts, floods, wildfires and heat waves, among other serious issues, this edition will be crucial for strengthening countries' commitments in the fight against global warming.

COP30 CHALLENGES

Among the central difficulties of COP30 are the harmonization of commitments between developed and developing countries regarding climate finance, ensuring that emission reduction targets are compatible with scientific evidence, and managing the socioeconomic impacts of climate change on the most vulnerable populations.

Current climate challenges show that the time to act is running out. The Paris Agreement (2015) set the goal of curbing global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, but recent reports indicate that the world is on track to surpass this limit in the coming decades. If we continue at this rate, we could reach the point of no return.

The study published in the magazine “**Nature**” in February 2024, led by Brazilian scientists, warns that the Amazon could reach the point of no return by 2050. Recent research indicates that parts of the Amazon Rainforest already are close or even surpassed that mark.

The study warns that, in the 25 following years, 10% to 47% of the Amazon will be so impacted that the Forest can lose its ability to regenerate, transforming into a kind of savannah.

The concept of “point of no return”, also known as “Tipping Point”, in English, describes a state of inflection from which certain changes caused by global warming and climate change become irreversible, even if future interventions are successful in reducing the global average temperatures.

The IPCC report highlights that with global warming surpassing the 1.5°C mark compared to the beginning of the industrial era, the probability of reaching the point of no return increases dramatically.

COP30 WILL BE CRUCIAL TO ENSURE THAT COUNTRIES:

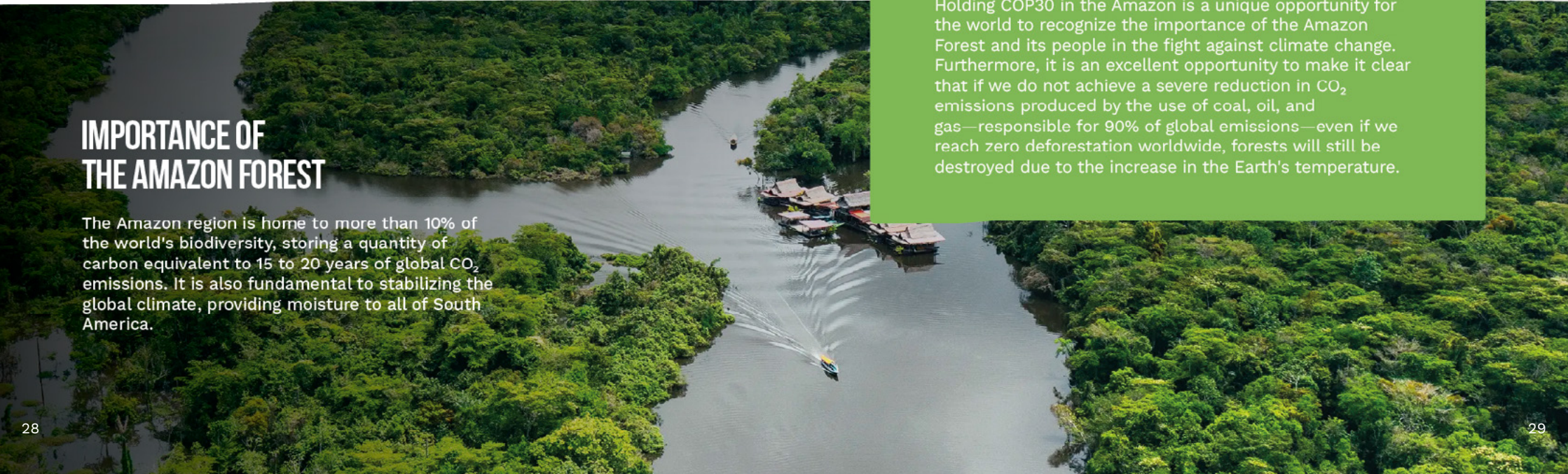
1. Accelerate the transition to renewable energy and abandon the use of fossil fuels;

2. Strengthen adaptation and mitigation policies to protect vulnerable populations and

3. Establish concrete financial mechanisms to support countries suffering from loss and damage.

Opportunity

Holding COP30 in the Amazon is a unique opportunity for the world to recognize the importance of the Amazon Forest and its people in the fight against climate change. Furthermore, it is an excellent opportunity to make it clear that if we do not achieve a severe reduction in CO₂ emissions produced by the use of coal, oil, and gas—responsible for 90% of global emissions—even if we reach zero deforestation worldwide, forests will still be destroyed due to the increase in the Earth's temperature.



IMPORTANCE OF THE AMAZON FOREST

The Amazon region is home to more than 10% of the world's biodiversity, storing a quantity of carbon equivalent to 15 to 20 years of global CO₂ emissions. It is also fundamental to stabilizing the global climate, providing moisture to all of South America.

COP30: A CALL TO ACTION!

It is essential to remember that protecting the Amazon and promoting a sustainable future requires global collaboration and adequate financing. The region cannot bear the responsibility of being the remedy for climate challenges alone. **COP30 is, therefore, a call to action for countries to come together to support the Amazon, investing in solutions that benefit both local communities and the global environment.** The event will allow us to reflect on the importance of preserving the Amazon, not just as a natural asset but as home to millions of people and unique cultures that play an essential role in the protection and sustainable use of its resources. COP30 is more than a Conference, it is a milestone to recognize and strengthen the connection between the Amazon, its people and the world.



MAIN THEMES OF COP30:

1. Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;
2. Strategies for adapting to climate change;
3. Fair transition;
4. Shifting away from fossil fuels and deforestation;
5. Climate finance to support developing countries;
6. Renewable energy technologies and low-carbon solutions;
7. Preservation of forests and protection of biodiversity; and
8. Climate justice and the social impacts of climate change.

KEEP AN EYE OUT:

COP30 also opens its doors to discuss crucial issues, such as the creation of a carbon market and the development of a sustainable bioeconomy that values forests' resources through innovation and technology.

These actions can bring economic benefits to the region, helping to create jobs and encourage a development model that respects the environment and indigenous and traditional populations.

At the time of creating this primer, only Brazil, the United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom have submitted their NDCs.

Brazil's NDC determines the commitment to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by **59% to 67% by 2035**, compared to 2005 levels—equivalent to reaching between 850 million and 1.05 billion tons of CO₂ equivalent.

[Click here to read the Brazilian NDC.](#)

Following the rules of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), all 198 member countries of the Paris Agreement have until **February 2025** to present their new NDCs.

WHAT DO SCIENTISTS AND SOCIAL ACTIVISTS EXPECT FROM COP30 IN BRAZIL?

“COP30 will be the most challenging in history. The COPs in Paris or Glasgow were great, but now, since the climate emergency is exploding, COP30 has to reach zero emissions well before 2050.”



Carlos Nobre

Climatologist in an interview with Valor Econômico

“It is important that other countries [at COP30] know the consultation protocols of indigenous peoples and traditional communities, to move forward with the discussion. There are many international companies that want to buy carbon credits and have to know how our rights work”.



Ewesh Yawalpti Waurá

Indigenous lawyer and director of the Xingu Indigenous Land Association (Atix) for ISA

“We cannot go through this COP as supporting actors; we need to be protagonists. Discuss COP30 from our territories, affirming and reaffirming our fight for equality against all forms of violence against all peoples.”



Rosa Negra

National Coordinator of the Unified Black Movement speaking at the People's Summit.

“The planet needs to find ways to adapt to increasing extreme weather events. The climate emergency is rapidly intensifying, and COP30 will be critical to press for greater ambitions for reductions by all countries and to end the exploration and use of fossil fuels such as oil. The Amazon and the protection of traditional peoples certainly are part of the agenda, but the climate issue and the end to fossil fuels are the central agenda.”



Paulo Artaxo

USP professor and climate change specialist in an interview for Estadão

“We, the Indigenous peoples of the Brazilian Amazon, are committed in demanding from all countries, a leap of ambition in their new Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), as they are called the targets for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. At the Belém conference, governments from all over the world will have to announce, for the first time, revised versions of these goals, to collectively achieve a significant decrease in emissions that is sufficient to stop the Earth's temperature from rising by 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.”



Toya Manchineri

General Coordinator of the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (Coiab) for ((o))eco

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN COP30?

Bélem is expected to **welcome 60,000 participants.**

Parque da Cidade, an area undergoing revitalization in the region of the old airport “Brigadeiro Protásio”, will be the main location on the official agenda.

It will be integrated into the “Hangar Convention Center,” expanding its capacity to host several simultaneous events and activities.

DID YOU KNOW?

In addition to the official COP spaces, such as the Blue and Green Zones, the city also hosts several parallel activities in areas outside the official perimeter, promoting an inclusive environment where civil society organizations—whether they are negotiators, distributors, or without access to formal spaces—can meet, reflect on their agendas, and carry out mass mobilizations. This is especially relevant for COP30 since Brazil is a democratic country with a broadly organized civil society, providing a unique setting for amplifying voices often left out of official processes.

COP30, hosted in Belém, enhances this dynamic by highlighting the importance of the Amazon for the global climate and offers a platform for leaders and defenders of territories to share their experiences and challenges. These parallel meetings strengthen networks of articulation and defense of the Forest and the rights of their peoples, expanding the political influence of civil society in discussions that will shape the future of the planet.

1. Delegate Registration

Representatives of governments, NGOs, companies, and academic institutions can register as delegates. Registration opens a few months before the event; it is therefore important to follow the deadlines and requirements established by UNFCCC.

2. Civil society participation

Civil society has a vital role to play at COP30. NGOs, community groups, and activists can register for parallel sessions, official events and exhibitions. This ensures that a wide range of voices are heard in the discussions.

3. Companies and exhibitions

Companies interested in presenting their sustainable solutions can sign up to showcase their products and services. This is an excellent opportunity to network and demonstrate commitment to sustainability.

4. Volunteering

Volunteers help with organizing the event, receiving delegates and logistical support. In addition to contributing to the success of the event, they gain a valuable experience and the opportunity to engage directly with the climate discussions.

5. Online participation

COP30 will also offer online connection options, allowing more people from all over the world to contribute to the debates and watch the lectures in real-time.



5

PARALLEL COPs AND MOVEMENTS

Parallel COPs and movements

CHECK OUT THE MAIN PARALLEL COPs ORGANIZED SO FAR:



COP of Balxada

Composed of 15 civil society organizations, the peripheral communities claim that they are the most impacted by climate change, but frequently removed from global discussions.

More information: <https://copdasbalxadas.org/>



People's COP

Organized by the Zé Claudio and Maria Institute, and supported by NGO Global Witness, the event brings together dozens of social organizations to develop strategies to amplify the voices of traditional communities and marginalized leaders in climate negotiations. This event laid the foundation for their participation in COP30, ensuring that these perspectives are included in climate advocacy. The COP of the People aims to fight for active participation and plurality of peoples in climate negotiations.

More information:

<https://www.instagram.com/Institutozeclaudioemaria/>



DISCOVER SOME MOBILIZATIONS AND POPULAR MOVEMENTS ORGANIZED SO FAR:

Mobilization of Peoples for Land and Climate

The project, organized by REPAM-Brazil aims to bring together people and territorial social movements, expanding their mobilization and advocacy actions before, during and after COP30. It aims to strengthen the fight of indigenous peoples, traditional communities and Amazonian populations in their territories, increasing their capacity for political influence and defense of the Amazon and its biodiversity.

People's Summit

This independent initiative brings together Brazilian social organizations and movements in preparation for COP30, seeking to promote an inclusive and environmentally fair agenda focusing on indigenous peoples' and traditional communities' rights. The mobilization includes working groups to coordinate political actions and articulations until the date of the conference.

[Read the letter](#) calling for mobilization and society's participation in the Summit of the Peoples.

COP30 Committee

This coalition of Brazilian civil society seeks to strengthen the participation of Latin American organizations in COP30, promoting a socio-environmental approach. Its goals include increasing the capacity of political influence, articulating regional networks for climate negotiations and collaborating with the Brazilian government on more ambitious climate actions. It also ensures that the infrastructure of COP30 in Belém considers local needs. Therefore, one of the first deliveries of this campaign was to present a document of recommendations for the Brazilian NDC to the federal government.

[Read the document.](#)

Parallel COPs and movements

Church Towards COP30

An initiative organized by the Catholic Church in Brazil aims to contribute to the debate and mobilization around environmental and climate justice issues at COP30, which will be held in Belém, Pará, in 2025. It brings together various Commissions of the National Conference of Bishops of Brazil (CNBB), including those focused on the Amazon, Socio-Transformative Action, Integral Ecology, and Mining, in addition to organizations such as REPAM Brazil, the Conference of Religious of Brazil (CRB), the Laudato Si' Movement, and Caritas Brazil. Together, these institutions seek to promote the active participation of the Church, emphasizing care for the "Common Home" and defending integral ecology with concrete actions that encourage the protection of natural resources, the defense of the rights of traditional peoples, and awareness about climate change.

Ecumenical and Interfaith Tapiri

This is a collaborative project of several faith organizations that work to defend the rights of the peoples of the Amazon and promote interfaith dialogue in the region. Inspired by the indigenous term Tapiri, which means "hut where hikers take shelter," the space symbolizes a shelter for exchange and cooperation between different religious traditions for a common goal: social and environmental justice in the Legal Amazon and Pan-Amazon. Collectively built by entities such as the Ecumenical Service Coordination (CESE), ACT-Brazil Ecumenical Forum (FEACT), Denominational Support Program (PAD), Churches and Mining Network, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Belém, REPAM, Rede Amazonizar, Council for Mission among Indigenous Peoples (COMIN), Indigenous Council Missionary (CIMI), Amazon Council of Christian Churches (CAIC), Pastoral Land Commission (CPT), and the Dorothy and Koinonia Committee, Tapiri seeks to strengthen the union between these organizations to face challenges such as the advancement of religious and political fundamentalisms. Furthermore, it serves as a platform to strengthen the struggles of the Amazonian peoples, promoting the protection of their rights and the preservation of their territories.

Laudate Deum Route

This is an achievement of the Catholic Church that brings together ecclesiastical organizations and networks in territorial areas of Latin America and the Caribbean to promote advocacy and generate international agreements for the care of the "Common Home," especially in social forums and UN world meetings. It is an articulation of the Latin American and Caribbean Episcopal Conference (CELAM), through the Commission for Integral Ecology of Latin America and the Caribbean (CEILAC). With the Laudate Deum Route, the Church proposes specific actions on four main fronts: civics and citizen participation; education and pedagogical initiatives; strengthening networks and alliances; and advocacy and protection actions.



GLOSSARY

If while reading this guide, you came across a word or a complicated term, it's all good, no need to worry! We have prepared a glossary full of simple and direct explanations to simplify everything. It is an easy way to understand climate concepts and leave here with a sharp vocabulary, ready for any conversation about the planet's future. Let's learn together?

Glossary

15°C: one of the main goals of COP26 President Alok Sharma, a British MP, is to “keep the 1.5 alive,” referring to the target of preserving the increase in global average temperature to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Countries that signed the Paris Agreement in 2015 agreed to limit the rise in global temperatures to values well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, but preferably at 1.5°C.

Paris Agreement: an international treaty on climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It was adopted at COP21 in Paris in 2015 and entered into force on November 4, 2016. Currently, 187 Parties have formally acceded to it. The rules for its implementation were a key topic of discussion at COP25.

Agenda 21: an action plan resulting from Rio-92, guiding sustainable development practices for governments, businesses, and society on a global scale.

Climate change: the long-term variation of climate patterns in a given region, including warming or cooling trends. Human activities, notably air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, are significantly altering global climates and contributing to global warming.

Anthropocene: the most recent geological epoch, characterized by human dominance over the planet's climate and ecosystems. The intensification of human-induced (anthropogenic) environmental impacts has led to a break from the relatively stable conditions of the Holocene epoch.

Global warming: the rise in Earth's average temperature due to the accumulation of greenhouse gases such as CO₂ and methane in the atmosphere. This phenomenon is a major driver of climate change.

Article 6: a section of the Paris Agreement allowing countries to use carbon markets to meet their emissions reduction targets. Under this system, states or project developers can sell emission reductions to others who need them to fulfill their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The rules governing Article 6—a major focus of COP25—are crucial to ensuring that carbon markets genuinely reduce emissions rather than undermine climate goals and the Paris Agreement.

Biodiversity: refers to all living beings on the planet, on land and at sea.

Bioeconomy: a sustainable development model that leverages biodiversity and natural resources through biotechnology and innovative technologies to create high-value products, processes, and services. Emerging in the early 21st century, the bioeconomy plays a central role in climate change

mitigation and transitioning to a low-carbon economy. It extends beyond biofuels to include solutions for the pharmaceutical, cosmetics, food, and energy industries. In the Amazon, the bioeconomy presents a unique opportunity to preserve standing forests while fostering economic growth through the sustainable use of biodiversity, positioning the region as a reference in innovation and sustainability.

Carbon capture and storage: a technology that removes and stores carbon dioxide (CO₂) to reduce atmospheric emissions. Typically, carbon is captured at its source (e.g., from coal, oil, or gas combustion), but emerging technologies aim to extract CO₂ directly from the air. The captured carbon is then stored in underground reservoirs or beneath the seabed in artificial carbon sinks.

Climate: the average weather patterns of a specific region, typically measured throughout at least 20 to 30 years.

CMA: acronym to describe the official meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement. The official governing body of the Paris Agreement is responsible for decision-making on its implementation, rules, and processes.

CO₂: a gas composed of one carbon atom and two oxygen atoms (CO₂). It is also known as carbonic gas or carbonic anhydride.

Double counting: a key issue that Article 6 of the Paris Agreement seeks to prevent in carbon market regulations. It occurs when two countries claim credit for the same emissions reduction, creating a misleading impression of more significant progress than actually achieved. For instance, one country may sell emissions reduction credits to another while still counting them toward its own (NDC).

COP: the annual meeting of the 197 countries that have joined the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), an environmental international treaty adopted in 1992 to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions.

Decarbonization: the process of reducing carbon emissions to achieve a neutral or negative carbon balance.

Sustainable development: development that meets present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own.

Ecosystem: a unit consisting of living organisms, non-living components, and the interactions between them, such as a forest.

Net zero emissions: a state in which a country either emits no greenhouse gases or removes enough carbon from the atmosphere to fully offset its emissions. Most scientific studies indicate that achieving global net-zero emissions by mid-century is necessary to meet the Paris Agreement's temperature targets.

Negative emissions: occurs when the amount of greenhouse gases removed from the atmosphere exceeds the emissions produced by human activities within a given period.

Fossil energy: energy derived from fossilized organic matter formed over millions of years. These energy sources are finite, non-renewable, and high in carbon, contributing potentially to environmental damage.

Intergenerational equity: the principle that past and present emissions, vulnerabilities, and policies impose costs and benefits on future generations.

Financing for mitigation and adaptation: the mobilization of financial resources to support actions that reduce the impacts of climate change and help communities adapt. This includes sustainable infrastructure projects and community development initiatives.

Loss and Damage Fund: a proposed financial mechanism to assist countries and communities facing severe climate-related losses that cannot be avoided or mitigated.

Green Climate Fund (GCF): A financial instrument designed to support climate mitigation and adaptation in developing countries. In 2014, governments pledged \$10.3 billion in initial funding.

Greenhouse gases: atmospheric gases that trap heat from solar energy, contributing to global warming. Key examples include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), and ozone (O₃).

Bioeconomy Working Group: a body that will present policy recommendations to the G20, advocating for the integration of bioeconomy principles into global policies to drive economic sustainability.

Climate impact: the consequences of climate change on social and economic systems, ecosystems, and species.

Environmental justice: the fair treatment and meaningful participation of all people in developing, implementing, and enforcing environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Paris Rulebook: a 300-page document developed at COP24 in Poland that provides guidelines for implementing the Paris Agreement.

Carbon market: a system that allows the buying and selling of permits for greenhouse gas emissions. Companies that reduce emissions below set limits can trade their excess allowances with others.

Mitigation: strategies and actions implemented to reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions, aiming to minimize climate change impacts.

Climate change: significant shifts in global weather patterns, primarily driven by human activities.

NDC (Nationally Determined Contribution): a country's climate action plan under the Paris Agreement, outlining its commitments to reducing emissions.

Enhanced NDC: an updated and more ambitious version of a country's NDC, submitted every five years as required by the Paris Agreement.

Carbon neutrality: achieving a balance between carbon emissions released and removed from the atmosphere, ensuring no net increase in CO₂ levels.

Pre-industrial levels: the average atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration before the Industrial Revolution.

Glasgow Pact: a COP26 agreement aimed at limiting global warming to 1.5°C, strengthening adaptation, mitigation, financing, and cooperation efforts. It calls for a 45% reduction in global carbon emissions by 2030 (compared to 2010) and net-zero emissions by mid-century. Notably, it was the first COP agreement to propose phasing out fossil fuels, starting with coal.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC): a UN body that gathers scientists worldwide to assess climate change research and inform policy decisions.

Party: a country or bloc (such as the European Union) that has formally joined an international treaty.

Loss and damage: climate change impacts that exceed the limits of adaptation

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): the leading global environmental authority. Its mission is to inspire, inform and empower

nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. For over 50 years, it has been working with governments, civil society, the private sector and UN entities to address humanity's most pressing environmental challenges – from restoring the ozone layer to protecting the seas and promoting a green and inclusive economy.

Standard deadline: a proposed mechanism to ensure that all countries' NDCs cover the same time frame, improving transparency and comparability.

Kyoto Protocol: an international treaty aimed at reducing global greenhouse gas emissions.

1.5°C Target: the global warming limit set by the Paris Agreement to prevent catastrophic climate impacts.

Rio+20: a 2012 UN conference that reaffirmed commitments from the 1992 Earth Summit (Rio-92) and laid the groundwork for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Signatories: nations that have signed an international treaty or agreement, acknowledging their intention to fulfill it.

Carbon sink: reservoirs that absorb and retain carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Energy transition: changes to reduce the environmental impact of energy production, distribution, and consumption.

Just transition: an approach ensuring that the transition to a low-carbon economy does not exacerbate inequalities.

US\$100 billion Climate Finance Commitment: pledged at COP15 in 2009, this funding was intended to support developing nations in adapting to climate change and mitigating emissions. However, the commitment was not fully met by the 2020 deadline.

Want to learn more?

Check out a complete dictionary created by [Clima Info](#)

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**MOBILIZAÇÃO DOS POVOS
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