Events Guide

U.S. Climate Action Center at COP26

November 2, 6, 8 and 9

Image Credit: www.ukcop26.org
Event Descriptions

Tuesday, November 2nd

**Culture Over Carbon: The US Cultural Sector Advancing Climate Action**
Hosted by Environment & Culture Partners

Cultural institutions reach every aspect of civil society as they advance climate action: youth, researchers, businesses, and the public. They often, local, state and federal government for mutually beneficial projects. Representatives from The Wild Center, Science Museum of Minnesota and Phipps Conservatory present sophisticated and successful climate action in energy research, youth engagement, and public calls to action.

Sarah Sutton  
CEO, Environment & Culture Partners

Pat Hamilton  
Director, Climate Change, Energy & the Environment, Science Museum of Minnesota

Jen Kretser  
Director of Climate Initiatives, The Wild Center

Richard Piacentini  
President and CEO of Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens

**U.S. Climate Action Opening Program**
Hosted by America Is All In

Opening event for U.S. Climate Action Center’s presence to celebrate the role of non-federal actors as a critical driving force of transition to a net-zero resilient society in the United States.

**Meet the Moment! Join the U.S. Action for Climate Empowerment Coalition**
Hosted by US Action for Climate Empowerment

Increasingly severe and inequitable impacts of climate change require that all of society be rapidly mobilized to accelerate just climate solutions. In the United States, coordinated, collaborative and justice-centered efforts around Action for Climate Empowerment work are addressing this issue.

Isatis Cintron Rodriguez  
LatAm Regional Coordinator, Citizens Climate International

Kristen Poppleton  
Senior Director of Programs, Climate Generation

Dr. Deb L. Morrison  
Learning Scientist, University of Washington & CLEAR Environmental

Haley Crim  
Coordinating Team Member, U.S. ACE Coalition

Sherri Mitchell  
Executive Director, Land Peace Foundation
Event Descriptions

**Felicia Davis**  
Director, HBCU Green Fund and North American Focal Point, Gender-CC Women

**Frank Niepold**  
U.S. ACE Focal Point, NOAA

**Financing Ambition for Climate and Nature**  
Hosted by WWF

**U.S. Climate Alliance Press Briefer**  
Hosted by U.S. Climate Alliance

With a new administration and renewed commitment from states across the country, the U.S. is forging a bold, new path forward on climate. Join governors from the U.S. Climate Alliance and White House National Climate Advisor Gina McCarthy for a conversation on how – together – the administration and governors across the U.S. will make the build back better agenda a reality, deliver a better future for the American people, and meet our state and national climate targets.

**Governor John Bel Edwards**  
State of Louisiana

**Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
State of New Mexico

**Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis**  
State of California

**Administrator Gina McCarthy**  
White House National Climate Advisor

**Saturday, November 6th**

**Food - The Forgotten Climate Driver: How can we help transform the food sector?**  
Hosted by Oatly

The global food system is responsible for about 1/3 of global greenhouse gas emissions. And yet, it gets far too little focus in the international and national policy arenas. Oatly is hosting a panel with other food companies that are taking climate action and focused on raising the profile of global food systems at COP 26. Our goal is to highlight food systems as a major climate driver and the critical need for companies to step up action, and policymakers to consider the cultivation, production, and consumption of food as they develop their national climate plans.

**Ashley Allen**  
Chief Sustainability Officer, Oatly

**Pat Brown**  
Chief Executive Officer, Impossible Foods
Event Descriptions

Kevin Rabinovitch  Global Sustainability VP, Mars
Jebi Rahman  Head of Transparency and Pathways, The Climate Group

A Conversation with U.S. Senator Cardin on Coastal Climate Resilience
Hosted by Office of Senator Ben Cardin

Over the last hundred years, the global average sea level has risen 8-9 inches due to melting glacier ice and the expansion of water in the ocean as it takes up heat. Scientists believe that even with a low greenhouse gas pathway, the global sea level will continue to rise by at least 12 inches, above 2000 levels, by 2100. In the United States, almost 40 percent of the population lives in relatively high-density coastal areas. As sea levels continue to rise, we expect to see an increase in erosion, flooding, and extreme storms in and around these vulnerable coastal communities which will affect property, tourism, and livelihoods, leading to displacement. This event brings together three experts to discuss this ongoing threat through different perspectives.

Senator Ben Cardin  United States Senator, Maryland
Dr. Leon Clarke  Research Professor and Acting Director of Center for Global Sustainability at the University of Maryland
Mayor Belina Constant  Mayor Gretna, Louisiana
Marcene Mitchell  Senior Vice President of Climate Change at World Wildlife Fund

Driving Progress: Advancing Sustainable Transportation
Hosted by The Edison Electric Institute

This event will highlight new and on-going efforts to promote the use of electric vehicles, which can take advantage of low- and no-carbon electricity to reduce transportation emissions and help the nation reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

Pedro Pizarro  President and CEO, Edison International
Arshad Mansoor  President and CEO, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
Brian Wolff  Executive Vice President, Edison Electric Institute (EEI)
Event Descriptions

**LEED for Cities: A Catalyst for Change in this Decade of Action**
Hosted by U.S. Green Building Council

In this session, we will address how local leaders are scaling up the impact of individual green buildings and spaces to the city and community level. We will share examples of certified projects leading the way on carbon neutrality and the just transition to a greener, cleaner economy. We'll highlight places that are tackling urban heat and public health with trees. We'll share how projects are using results to prioritize investment and transform their cities and communities.

**Hilari Varnadore**  VP for Cities, USGBC
**Francis X. Suarez**  Mayor, City of Miami, FL
**Laura Patino**  Deputy Chief Resilience and Sustainability Officer, City of Houston, TX

**Global Issues, Subnational Solutions: How US States Are Leading on Climate Action**
Hosted by National Caucus of Environmental Legislators

Join the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators for a panel on how U.S. states are taking bold actions to meet Paris Agreement goals. As a federal system, U.S. states have significant power to direct their own climate action at the subnational level. State legislators from the U.S. states of Colorado, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Washington will discuss how subnationals can reduce greenhouse gas emissions across their economies, while empowering communities and addressing systemic inequities.

**Senator Reuven Carlyle**  State Senator, Washington State
**Senator Dawn Euer**  State Senator, Rhode Island
**Representative Dominique Jackson**  State Representative, Colorado
**Senator Chris Lee**  State Senator, Hawaii
Event Descriptions

Change is Here: Youth Leading Climate Action in the U.S.
Hosted by Climate Literacy and Energy Awareness Network (CLEAN)

Youth-led climate action is critical to building a just and livable future. Hear from youth leaders how Action for Climate Empowerment fosters successful intergenerational work and their visions of the future. They will share ways to get involved in accelerating a just climate transition.

Julieta Rodrigo  
CLEO Institute, Climate Generation

Gina Fiorile  
CLEAN

Aryaana Khan  
Action for the Climate Emergency

Kevin Patel  
Founder and Executive Director, One Up Action

Jerome Foster II  
Executive Director and Founder, OneMillionOfUs

Maryama Warsame  
Youth Environmental Activists/Climate Generation

Isatis Cintron Rodriguez  
Citizens Climate International

Monday, November 8th
The Vital Importance of Rapid Decarbonization in the American Midwest
Hosted by Science Museum of MN and Fresh Energy

If it were an independent country, the American Midwest with its heavy reliance on fossil fuels would be the 6th largest GHG emitter in the world and so the Midwest is critical to U.S. ambitions to reduce GHG emissions 50-52% by 2030. Session speakers will highlight very encouraging trends and steps that are and should be taken to accelerate them.

J. Drake Hamilton  
Senior Director, Science Policy, Fresh Energy

JB Pritzker  
Governor, State of Illinois

Tim Sexton  
Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Commerce

Greg Downing  
Director of Sustainability, Cargill

Patrick Hamilton  
Director, Climate Change, Energy, and the Environment, Science Museum of Minnesota
Event Descriptions

**Accelerating Cross-Sector Climate Action through the Assets of Higher Education**
Hosted by Second Nature

Successful cross-sector climate action is driven by understanding the complementarity between the participating sectors. Local government strengths for accelerating action are different from business strengths, which are different from health care, or cultural institutions. This session will examine the complementarity that Higher Education Institutions can bring to create climate solutions by exploring what some of these higher education’s strengths are, and what projects could happen if they are matched with those from other sectors. Leaders from both higher education and other sectors will discuss the opportunities and constraints of this complementary approach.

**Timothy Carter**  
President, Second Nature

**Mak Porotesano**  
Multicultural Center Coordinator, Portland Community College

**Peter Rothstein**  
President, NECEC

**Suzanne Huminski**  
Sustainability Coordinator, Southern Connecticut State University

**Esther Oboyno**  
Associate Professor / Director, Global Building Network, Penn State University

**Lynda Hopkins**  
Chairwoman, Board of Supervisors, Sonoma County CA

**Models for Implementing 50% by 2030 - Partnerships to Reduce Wasted Food on the North American West Coast**
Hosted by Pacific Coast Collaborative

Through policy action and public-private partnerships to reduce wasted food, U.S. states are demonstrating the kinds of actions, policy integration and regional cooperation that are needed to mobilize ambitious and urgent actions for reducing GHG emissions. Through this partnership, we are measuring wasted food and emissions, targeting problems, and testing solutions. Hear from West Coast Governors and NGO Leaders on progress and lessons learned from this effort.

**Gregor Robertson**  
Pacific Coast Collaborative Ambassador

**Governor Jay Inslee**  
Governor of Washington State

**Governor Kate Brown**  
Governor of Oregon

**Secretary Jared Blumenfeld**  
California Secretary for Environmental Protection

**Marcene Mitchell**  
Senior Vice President for Climate Change, WWF-US
Event Descriptions

All In for Net Zero: How A Whole-of-Society Approach Can Accelerate the Race to Zero
Hosted by Alliance for Climate Action

Introduces a new member of the Alliances for Climate Action (ACA) network in Chile and recognizes alliances launched this year in Brazil and Australia- coalitions bringing together subnational governments, private sector, academic institutions, civil society and more- to accelerate the net-zero transition. Showcases subnational and non-state institutions setting ambitious targets in line with the Race to Zero Campaign and how ACA supports them as an accelerator partner of the Campaign.

Thomas Hale
Gonzalo Munoz High Level Climate Champion, UNFCCC
Claudio Castro, Mayor of Renca Mayor of Renca, Chile
Ricardo Bosshard CEO, WWF-Chile
Virginia Marshall UN/representing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Inés Sáenz Negrete VP, Inclusion, Social Impact and Sustainability, Tec De Monterrey (RTZ Member)
Luis Donaldo Colosio Riojas Mayor of Monterrey (RTZ member)
Tomoaki Fujii Co-Chief Investment Officer, Head of ESG, Nissay Asset Management Corporation (RTZ)

Superheroes & Blue Carbon Habitats of the Southern Ocean
Hosted by WWF International

The Southern Ocean is one of the planet’s largest carbon sinks. Krill are the ‘centre of life’ above the ocean floor but also play a critical role drawing down and storing vast quantities of carbon. Changes in krill distribution and a growing interest in marine protein necessitates rapid action towards an MPA network incorporating key blue carbon habitats to support marine biodiversity and climate stability.

Rod Downie Chief Polar Adviser, WWF-UK
Prof. Dame Jane Francis DCMG FRS Director, British Antarctic Survey
Dr David Barnes Marine Ecologist, British Antarctic Survey
Dr Angus Atkinson Marine Ecologist, Plymouth Marine Laboratory
Jane Rumble OBE Head, Polar Regions Dept, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
Event Descriptions

**A nature positive planet – our common objective**
Hosted by Velux and WWF International

The objective is to inspire others in how industries can take actions and how actions can be established in a NGO/Private partnership to reach the climate change challenges and at the same time protect nature and support communities.

**David W Briggs**
CEO VELUX A/S

**Marco Lambertini**
CEO WWF International

**“All In” This Together: A Clean Energy Transition Through Municipal, State and Federal Partnerships**
Hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy and America Is All In

This event will showcase climate and clean energy commitments and programs from the U.S. Department of Energy aimed at meeting the U.S. NDC through support for on the ground projects in states and localities around the country. DOE leadership will recognize the critical role these subnational leaders have played over the last several years and offer announcements on how DOE will continue to support them. Governors and mayors from America Is All In will join this conversation to highlight how DOE programs help their communities, what else is needed to reach local targets and how they can best partner with DOE and the federal government to collectively address the climate crisis with a whole-of-society approach

**Deputy Secretary David Turk**
U.S. Department of Energy

**Governor Jay Inslee**
State of Washington

**Governor David Ige**
State of Hawaii

**Governor Kate Brown**
State of Oregon

**Mayor Errick Simmons**
City of Greenville, MS

**Mayor Belinda Constant**
City of Gretna, LA
Event Descriptions

Integrated Policies for Ocean Climate Action: Building Coastal Resiliency in the U.S.
Hosted by Int’l Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification

U.S. federal and state governments recognize the intrinsic relationship between climate and ocean, and the changes that are occurring. Ambitious GHG reduction targets set forth in the U.S. Nationally Determined Contribution are critically important to avert the worst impacts of climate ocean change. Additionally, we know the ocean and ocean-based sectors can play a role.

In concert with federal partners, U.S. states are demonstrating the kinds of local actions and regional cooperation that are needed to mobilize ambitious and urgent actions for reducing GHG emissions and help communities and industries build resilience to climate-ocean change. As drivers of local and regional strategies, U.S. states are helping to integrate and operationalize the climate-ocean nexus across policy and management landscapes.

Jessie Turner Director, OA Alliance
Jennifer Hennessey Policy Advisor, Governor Jay Inslee
Annie McColaugh Policy Advisor, Governor Kate Brown
Amanda Hansen Deputy Director, Cal Natural Resources Agency
Ruchi Sadhir Policy Advisor, Governor Kate Brown

Tuesday, November 9th
The Power of This Moment: Recommendations From the BIPOC Climate Justice Dialogue on Collaboration Efficiency for Justice40
Hosted by U.S. ACE Delegation

Climate crisis requires a new kind of governance. At this side event, scholars and experts from Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities will share their insights on climate justice based solutions, Justice40 and building capacity.

Felicia Davis Director, HBCU Green Fund and North American Focal Point, Gender-CC Women
Beverly Wright (Tentative) Executive Director, Deep South Centre for Environmental Justice
Isatis Clintron Rodriguez LatAm Regional Coordinator, Citizens Climate International
Ramon Cruz President, Sierra Club Board of Directors
Dr. Deb L. Morrison Learning Scientist, University of Washington & CLEAR Environmental
Event Descriptions

Indigenous Led Resistance on Minnesota's Line 3 Pipeline
Minnesotans Against Line 3

This panel discussion will feature individuals and organizations that have been involved in attempts to stop the Line 3 Tar Sands Pipeline in Minnesota. Panelists will share their experience from front line, social media, legal, academic, and Indigenous perspectives.

**Ashley Fairbanks**  White Earth Nation, Honor the Earth

**Representative Frank Hornstein**  Minnesota House of Representatives

**Ellen Anderson**  Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy

**Julia Nerbonne**  Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light

**Roopali Phadke**  Macalester College

**Ron Turney**  White Earth Nation, Independent Media

**Frank Bibeau**  Attorney, Honor the Earth

**Sha Merirei Ongelungel**  Media Coordinator, Indigenous Environmental Network

Together in the Decade of Delivery: How Collaboration Can Take Us From Commitment to Implementation

Hosted by Alliances for Climate Action

Explores how subnational and non-state actors can work together with national governments to accelerate domestic transitions to net-zero resilient societies. National representatives from Alliances for Climate Action will reflect on how subnational and non-state actors can align efforts to reduce emissions in key economic sectors, and how their engagement in the policy process is informing the development of national climate targets and better enabling policies to accelerate decarbonization.

**Michael Matheson**  Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport, Government of Scotland

**Mario Silva**  Director General, IMEPLAN, Guadalajara, Mexico

**Patricia Martinez**  General Strategic Coordination of Territory Management

**Martín Dapelo**  Owner & Partner, ON Networking, CADER member

**Bill Peduto**  Mayor of Pittsburgh

**Huynh Thi Lan Huong**  Deputy Director General, Viet Nam Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Climate Change
Event Descriptions

Meeting the 1.5C Challenge – What delivery means for people in Scotland and the world
Hosted by WWF Scotland

This event will hear from actors at the forefront of global ambition, to explore successes and how to navigate the challenges ahead. The event will explore what a rapid pace of change means for people, and the lessons that can be learned from successful climate action that has enabled greater ambition. Looking at the key foundations such as legislation, policy and public engagement, the event will explore how these can provide a springboard for the next leap for policy makers – making ambition a reality.

Michael Matheson  Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy & Transport
Krista Mikkonen  Finnish Minister for Environment & Climate Change
Helmut Hojesky  Austrian Head of Delegation
Tinna Hallgrimsdottir  Chair, The Icelandic Youth Environmental Association
Lang Banks  Director, WWF Scotland

More Bang for the Buck – Investing in Mitigation & Resilience Together
Hosted by Business Council for Sustainable Energy

Many existing clean energy and energy efficiency solutions can deliver both mitigation and enhanced resilience against the impacts of climate change. Now is the time to re-invest strategically in technology solutions and systems that achieve both goals, as the impacts of a lack of climate action are already being felt with increasing incidences of wildfires, droughts, hurricanes and floods. Investing in communities and climate-smart infrastructure before a disaster delivers a significant return on investment. These types of solutions include on-site clean energy generation, microgrids, weatherization and other building efficiency measures and more. This panel will make the case to invest in clean energy and energy efficiency and sustainability solutions that both enhance resilience and advance the transition towards the creation of net-zero economies.

Kathleen McGinty  Vice President and Chief Sustainability, Government & Regulatory Affairs Officer, Johnson Controls
Tanya Peacock  Senior Director, Government Affairs and Policy, Bloom Energy
Scott Tew  Vice President, Sustainability & Managing Director, Center for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability, Trane Technologies
Event Descriptions

U.S. Climate Action Center Closing Ceremony
Hosted by America Is All In

More information to come!