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COP27 media monitor

26th October - 1st November

In the lead up to COP27, this weekly monitor summarises key stories from the past seven days covering key items in negotiation, including loss and damage, adaptation and mitigation, and climate finance. It is compiled from major international English-language news sources, with a feature on coverage in Africa. We will run a daily monitor from the 7th-21st November.

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In today's monitor:

- A number of climate reports have been released: The UN finds that countries have “no credible pathway” in place to reach 1.5°C, the WMO announced that greenhouse gas emissions reached new highs in 2022, and The Lancet outlined the broad impacts climate change is having on health
- Announcements have been made on who will and who won't be attending COP27. The UK's new PM Rishi Sunak will not attend, a decision much criticised in the UK press and on social media. Greta Thunberg will also skip the conference, although for very different reasons, dubbing it “greenwashing”
- Russia has suspended the deal that allowed Ukrainian grain to be exported through the Black Sea, provoking fears that the global food crisis will get worse
- Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva has been elected President of Brazil, promising to protect the Amazon rainforest and sending a wave of relief through the climate movement.

Announcements

[Rishi Sunak will not go to COP27 climate summit next month](#) (BBC)

“No 10 denied this showed a lack of commitment to tackling climate change, but Labour accused the PM of a ‘massive failure of climate leadership’.”

[Lula victory boosts climate effort hopes](#) (Politico)

"The incoming president, widely known as Lula, used his victory speech to lay down a marker, promising an attempt to end deforestation in the Amazon rainforest, a crucial resource for regulating global CO2 levels."

[Climate fund approves plan to speed up coal retirement in Indonesia](#) (Climate Home News)

"The funding package is expected to form part of the CIF's contribution to an energy transition partnership being negotiated between the Indonesian government and wealthy nations on a similar model to what was agreed in South Africa."

[Done deal: Europe scraps the car engine](#) (Politico)

"The agreement... sends a strong signal to industry and consumers: Europe is embracing the shift to zero-emission mobility," said EU Green Deal chief Frans Timmermans."

[Ireland, UK to launch joint €74 million initiative on climate research](#) (Euractiv)

[Greta Thunberg to skip 'greenwashing' Cop27 climate summit in Egypt](#) (The Guardian)

[Biden to travel to Egypt for COP27 climate conference](#) (Politico)

[Italy's Meloni to Visit Brussels, Attend Climate Summit in Egypt](#) (Bloomberg)

What's at stake

[Climate crisis: UN finds 'no credible pathway to 1.5C in place'](#) (The Guardian)

"Current pledges for action by 2030, if delivered in full, would mean a rise in global heating of about 2.5°C and catastrophic extreme weather around the world."

[Climate change has broad effects on health-care systems, medical journal says](#) (CBC News)

"The Lancet concludes that, worldwide, extreme heat is already emphasizing the effects of heart and lung diseases, worsening pregnancy outcomes, disrupting sleep, increasing injury-related death and limiting people's capacity to work and exercise."

[Greenhouse gases reach a new record as nations fall behind on climate pledges](#) (NPR)

"The continuing rise in concentrations of the main heat-trapping gases, including the record acceleration in methane levels, shows that we are heading in the wrong direction," said WMO Secretary-General Petteri Taalas."

[COP27 climate summit to test resolve of world battling war, inflation](#) (Reuters)

[COP27 host warns rich countries against 'backsliding' on climate pledges](#) (Euractiv)

[Climate activists march on COP26 anniversary to mark event's 'failure'](#) (The Independent)

[At UN climate summit, India to flex its negotiating muscles](#) (AP News)

[Greenpeace accused of greenwashing Egypt's image ahead of COP27](#) (The Guardian)

[The world's biggest source of clean energy is evaporating fast](#) (Bloomberg)

Loss & damage

[Pakistan needs at least \\$16.3bn for post-flood rehab: report](#) (Dawn)

"Based on these estimates, Pakistan called for relaxing the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) conditions and demanded 'climate justice' to invest in rehabilitation and climate adaptation efforts."

[‘It’s the fault of climate change’: Pakistan seeks ‘justice’ after floods](#) (Financial Times)

[‘Loss and Damages’ Will Be a Huge Focus of COP27. Here’s What That Means](#) (Time)

Adaptation & mitigation

[African nations urged to prioritize adaptation and mitigation to address climate change](#) (Namibia Economist)

“Africa, owing to its special needs and circumstances, shall demand its fair share on climate finance, including technology transfer and capacity building, to pursue efforts toward decarbonization and build resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change.”

Finance

[Global transformation to a low-carbon economy requires at least \\$4-6 trillion a year: UNEP](#) (Economic Times)

“A day after the UN climate change body flagged inadequacy of combined existing pledges of countries to achieve desired goal of limiting global warming, [UNEP] endorsed the concerns... and said a global transformation to a low-carbon economy is expected to require investments of at least \$4-6 trillion a year.”

[China urges progress as COP27 nears](#) (Bangkok Post)

[Extreme heat saps trillions of dollars from developing economies](#) (Bloomberg)

[Climate crisis funds not reaching countries in need, senior UN official says](#) (The Guardian)

[EU support for climate compensation lacks concrete commitments](#) (Euractiv)

[Tariffs threaten to undermine global shift to clean energy](#) (Bloomberg)

Energy & transport

[Energy security, not climate change, is driving clean energy investment, IEA chief says](#) (CNBC)

“According to Fatih Birol, the IEA’s executive director, the changes taking place appear to be seismic ones. ‘Energy markets and policies have changed as a result of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, not just for the time being, but for decades to come,’ he says.”

[Lights out: Small SA businesses at risk of collapse under rising bills](#) (Herald Sun)

[Indonesia To Put 2 Million Electric Motorbikes On Road By 2025](#) (Clean Technica)

[‘Monstrous’ east African oil project will emit vast amounts of carbon, data shows](#) (The Guardian)

[Libyan energy pact ramps up risks of Turkey-Greece conflict](#) (Politico)

Food & land

[Amazon Rainforest: Lula's victory in Brazil sparks optimism on climate change](#) (CNBC)

"Lula used his victory address to pledge to combat climate change and deforestation — issues observers say have not just been sidelined but severely worsened under Bolsonaro's tenure."

[Ukraine war: Russia halts grain deal after 'massive' Black Sea Fleet attack](#) (BBC News)

"A statement by the foreign ministry in Moscow said: "The Russian side cannot guarantee the safety of civilian dry cargo ships participating in the 'Black Sea Initiative', and suspends its implementation from today for an indefinite period."

[Wheat prices jump by nearly 6% after Russia withdraws from vital Ukrainian export deal](#) (CNBC)

[Extreme heat making global food insecurity worse as costs continue to soar: report](#) (Global News)

[Egypt Get \\$2 Billion IFAD Climate Funds to Boost Food Security](#) (Bloomberg)

[Drought threatens a key planting season in Argentina again](#) (The Rio Times)

Commentary

[Analysis: Africa's unreported extreme weather in 2022 and climate change](#) (Daisy Dunne | Carbon Brief)

[COP27 should address the crucial failings of COP26](#) (Jayashree Nandi | Hindustan Times)

[Climate crisis funds 'not delivered' to countries in grave need](#) (Mattha Busby | The Guardian)

[Guest post: What gets prioritised and ignored at UN climate negotiations?](#) (Jennifer Allen and Rishikesh Ram Bhandary | Carbon Brief)

[The world is failing to meet its climate targets. Here is cause for hope](#) (Nick O'Malley | The Age)

[Why are we indifferent to the suffering of millions? There's a term for that](#) (Nicole Mortillaro | CNBC)

Social media highlights

- [Ursula von der Leyden](#) on Twitter: "Congratulations, @LulaOficial, on your election as President of Brazil. I look forward to working with you to address pressing global challenges, from food security to trade and climate change."
- [Vox](#) on Instagram: "If you haven't heard about the ozone hole in years, that's because scientists did a pretty good job saving us from ourselves. In fact, today the ozone layer is on the path to recovery, if not fully restored."
- [Agathe de Canson](#) on Twitter: "My day so far: 8am: It's going to be 21C today. 9am: I cycle past a heavily policed Just Stop Oil protest. 10am: Shell confirms it paid no tax on North Sea oil this quarter. 12pm: UN predicts 2.5C global heating & catastrophic extreme weather. 4pm: Rishi Sunak will not attend COP27"

Africa insight

The African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change are meeting in Egypt to consolidate Africa's

position on key issues ahead of COP27. A key agenda item on the table is the need to deliver special financial needs for Africa, which has contributed less than 4% of global greenhouse gas emissions but is the most adversely-impacted region. Across Africa, extreme weather caused by climate change is affecting people's livelihoods - Nigeria is facing the most disastrous flooding in a decade while Kenya and the Horn of Africa at large is facing its worst drought in more than four decades.

Without clear targets on loss and damage finance, there will be no progress at COP27. In an interview with a Kenyan media newspaper, climate justice activist Elizabeth Wathuti asked developed countries to ensure that loss and damage is a key issue at COP27, which comes against the backdrop of unprecedented climate impacts.

Meanwhile the drum beat for Africa's gas continues to get louder as we head to COP, with African Energy Ministers calling for Africa to be allowed to drill its gas reserves at the Africa Energy Week.

[African climate lead coordinators meet to strategise ahead of COP27](#) (Enviro News Nigeria)

[Excerpts from the International Climate Summit in Djibouti](#) (Africa News)

[Egypt's NGOs and activists are not welcome at COP27](#) (Equal Times)

[COP27 presents chance to save millions from climate-fueled hunger in Africa](#) (The Standard)

[Climate change, road transport top agenda as African journalists, others meet in Egypt](#) (Daily Post Nigeria)

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