Global Climate negotiations and results so far, what to expect at COP29 and beyond?

Gunnar Boye Olesen, INFORSE-Europe, European Sustainable Energy Seminar, Talsi, Latvia, September 25-27, 2024









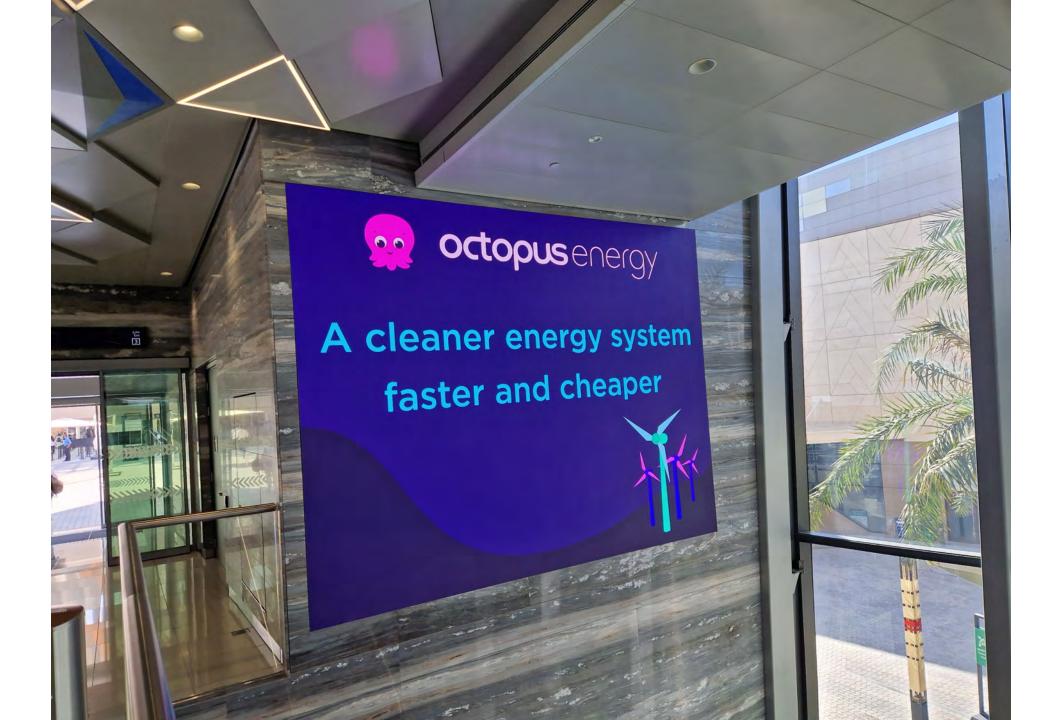


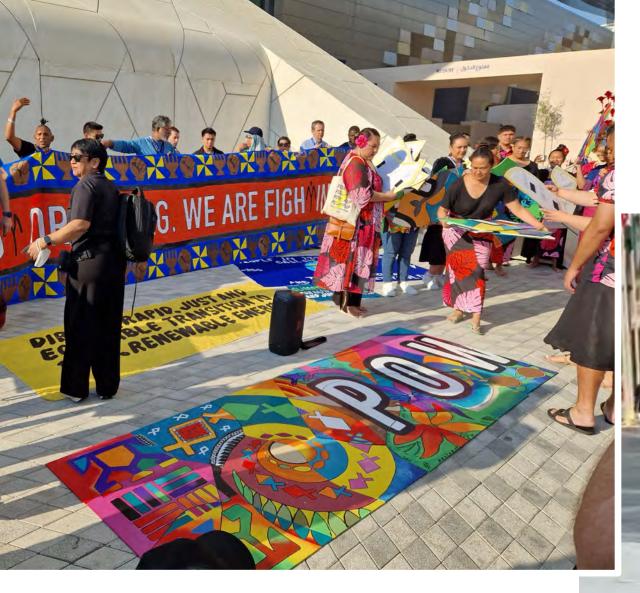












INFORSE at COP28 - DUBAI 2023





COP 28, main outcome: On the positive side, the countries:

- Agreed to establish a fund for loss & damage,
- Called on each other to transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems in a just, orderly, and equitable manner, accelerating action in this decade to achieve net zero by 2050.
- Called on each other to triple renewable energy capacity and doubling the implementation of energy efficiency until 2030.
- Called on each other to accelerate the reduction of emissions from road transport.
- *Encouraged* efforts to transition to **sustainable lifestyles** and sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
- Decided to establish a technology implementation programme (details to be developed later)
- Agreed a programme for just and equitable transitions, including energy, socioeconomic, workforce and other dimensions, also including emphasis on opportunities, challenges and barriers relating to sustainable development and poverty eradication as part of the transitions.
- Recognised the urgency of climate change and agreed other issues, including on the way forward



COP 28, main outcome: On the negative side, the countries:

Called on each other to accelerate, inter alia, renewables, nuclear, abatement and removal technologies such as carbon capture and utilization and storage (CCUS), and low-carbon hydrogen production. — (opening the gate widely for these solutions as climate solutions and maybe for climate financing).

- Called on each other to accelerate efforts globally towards net zero emission energy systems
 with zero- and low-carbon fuels well before or by around mid-century.
 With this, countries are inviting each other to use fossil gas, unsustainable biomass, a.o.
- Did not provide larger financial climate support, with support for the new loss & damage fund (US\$ 792 million) and the Adaptation Fund (US\$ 188 million) well below expectations and NO promises of substantial increase in financial climate support.
- Did **not agree** a call to move the **investments from black to green** (incl. in Paris Agreement objective, art. 2.1c).
- Made a **weak agreement** on the **Global Goal of Adaptation** that was promised in 2015, Paris Agreement.
- Weak mitigation work program agreed a with only a framework for dialogues in 2024.
- Emphasized a need for **voluntary cooperation**, where one country is **paying to another country instead of reducing emissions**. This will compromise climate action.



COP28 and Local Solutions for Energy Access

- The **Just Transition Work Programme** shall include a just transition pathways to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, including energy, socioeconomic, workforce and other dimensions, opportunities, challenges and barriers relating to sustainable development and poverty eradication as part of the transitions. Inputs by February 15.
- The **Global Stocktake (GST) decision** gave a framework for new NDCs, calling for renewable energy, energy efficiency, broad public and stakeholder participation in the NDCs and in the implementation of solutions, respect of human rights, poverty reduction, support for developing countries; but does not specifically mention energy access or local solutions
- The Mitigation Work Programme is open for inputs on topics, February 1.



COP28 and Sustainable Lifestyle

The GST Decision has in its mitigation section a paragraph on sustainable lifestyles:

• 36. Notes the importance of transitioning to sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production in efforts to address climate change, including through circular economy approaches, and encourages efforts in this regard;

2024 Negotiations: UNFCCC SB60, Bonn, June

- New climate finance target from 2025(NCQG), India and others propose 10-doubling from 100 to 1000 billion \$/year, industrialised countries propose to expand donors to richer developing countries, no progress
- Follow-up of GST decisions on tripling renewables etc.: proposal to incliude it in mitigation work program or others blocked by "like-minded developing countries" supported by Africa
- New climate plans (NDCs) shall be submitted in February 2025 with updates for 2030 and new plans and targets for 2035.

COP29, preparations event, follow-up

- Climate will be high on the agenda of UN General Assembly that is happening right now. UN and progressive countries will try to move the agenda forward in advance of COP29
- COP29 is meant to have focus on the new climate finance target, but might end without results. Need agreements of who finance, where finance is coming from (could add shipping, aviation, EU CBAM etc.)
- The Loss and Damage Fund is expected to become operational with decisions at COP29
- COP30 in Brazil is expected to be an important milestone with review of the second national climate plans (NDCs)





Time for Questions, discussion

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