



3rd Capacity-building Hub Capacity-building Day

UN CC:Learn The Climate Classroom @ COP26: Thinking, Talking, Acting Climate Concept Note

Background:

UNITAR/UN CC:Learn

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research ([UNITAR](#)) provides innovative learning solutions to individuals, organizations and institutions to enhance global decision-making and support country-level action for shaping a better future. With a strategy fully focused on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), UNITAR supports Governments to implement the 2030 Agenda across four thematic pillars: Peace, People, Planet and Prosperity. It provides training and capacity development activities to assist mainly developing countries, with special attention to Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and other groups and communities who are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

UNITAR also hosts the Secretariat of the One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership ([UN CC:Learn](#)) – a collaborative initiative of 36 multilateral organizations working together to help countries build the climate literacy, knowledge and skills they need to take action on climate change. To this end, it provides guidance and quality learning resources to support people, governments and businesses to understand, adapt, and build resilience to climate change. UN CC:Learn is supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and UN Partners.

The Climate Classroom @ COP

Among its multiple activities, UN CC:Learn has been organizing the [Climate Classroom @ COP](#) initiative since COP22, in 2016. This stems from the recognition that while keeping abreast of the latest climate developments is essential to making timely, effective, and sustainable climate decisions, busy delegates and professionals often experience a lack of time and space for learning. The Climate Classroom aims to address this challenge, with each class offering a short, interactive learning experience that is designed to help those attending get quickly up-to-speed on a range of climate change topics.

As part of the PCCB Capacity Building Hub’s Capacity-Building Day, UN CC:Learn will deliver a [Climate Classroom to COP26 participants on “Thinking, Talking, Acting Climate.”](#) Education is vital for raising the ambition needed to address climate change, and for building the knowledge and understanding that later transforms into new climate attitudes, behaviours and actions. To this end, the Climate Classroom will showcase some of the steps UN CC:Learn, its partners and its alumni have taken to think, talk, act climate.





The Online Series

In addition to the in-person class at the PCCB Capacity Building Hub, the Climate Classroom series includes 12 other classes delivered in a completely online format, with both those at COP in-person and those following the event from home given the opportunity to engage with experts through online communications platforms. These will cover a range of different topics, with four classes in particular focusing on three of the Capacity Building Hub's cross-cutting issues: Climate Change and Gender (two classes), Climate Change and Human Rights, and Climate Change Communications and Youth.

Objectives:

The Climate Classroom @ COP26 series aims to:

- Build the climate literacy, knowledge and skills of those attending – allowing delegates, professionals, and other interested participants to follow and contribute to climate discussions.

In addition, the Climate Classroom on “Thinking, Talking, Acting Climate” will also:

- Provide evidence of the transformational role that can be played by climate change education and training.

Format:

Venue: 3rd Capacity-building Hub within COP26 (Blue zone)

Location: Glasgow, UK

Date: November 3rd, 2021, Wednesday

Length: 60 minutes

Language: English

The 45-minute Climate Classroom will be delivered by 1-2 experts, following a 3-stage interactive lesson plan: 1) 15 minutes of substance; 2) 15 minutes of illustration; and 3) 15 minutes of reflection and Q&A, allowing learners to interact and engage with the expert(s). References to complimentary learning resources will also be provided to those wishing to engage with the topic after the class.





General Structure:

1) Introduction (3 minutes)

Welcome those attending, introduce The Climate Classroom @ COP26, explain the class rules, run through the agenda, and arrange a quick kick-off icebreaker.

2) Topic Delivery (39 minutes)

a) Substance (15 minutes)

- What is climate change education and why is it important?
- What is UN CC:Learn and the UN CC:e-Learn platform?
- What impact has it had?

b) Illustration (12 minutes)

- Present UN CC:Learn’s “100k Stories for Climate Action” campaign.
- Recall some of the stories received from UN CC:Learn’s alumni.

c) Q&A (12 minutes)

- An open Q&A session for those attending.
- Invite attendees to present their own “Story for Climate Action”, to add to the campaign.

3) Summary and Conclusion (3 minutes)

Summary of 3-5 key messages for participants to take away, indicate where UN CC:e-Learn’s suite of e-learning courses can be taken, and invite attendees to continue to share their own stories following the class.

Speakers		
Name	Role	Affiliation/Organization
Angus Mackay	Director, Division for Planet	United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
Colm Hastings	Consultant, Green Development and Climate Change	United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)





Outcomes:

Previous Climate Classroom editions have so far delivered 50 classes to hundreds of participants. The aggregate feedback provided by participants through anonymous questionnaires indicates that the Climate Classroom initiative is considered highly relevant and useful. The Climate Classroom @ COP26 will deliver a full programme of diverse classes throughout the course of the two weeks, and in doing so building the individual climate literacy, knowledge and skills of around 300 participants on key climate change topics. Of these participants, it is expected that over 90% will find the classrooms useful and relevant.

Relevant Links:

www.unitar.org

www.uncclearn.org

www.uncclearn.org/global-projects/climate-classroom-4/

