

COP31 PRESIDENCY EVENT | Green Industrialization

CONCEPT NOTE

Thursday, 23 April 2026 | 14:00 – 16:00 (KST) | Room: Conference Hall (Hybrid, in-person capacity: ~200 p.)

Background and Scope

Green industrialization sits at the intersection of climate mitigation, sustainable development, and economic competitiveness. Industry accounts for roughly one-third of global greenhouse gas emissions, with sectors such as steel, cement, and chemicals responsible for nearly 70% of these emissions. At the same time, industrialization remains vital for economic growth, particularly in emerging and developing economies, where it drives job creation, productivity, and structural transformation. As a result, aligning industrial growth with decarbonization has become a central global priority.

Transforming carbon-intensive industries is essential not only for meeting climate targets but also for strengthening resilience, fostering innovation, and ensuring long-term prosperity. International cooperation is gaining momentum in this area. International cooperation platforms continue to support dialogue and coordination on industrial decarbonization, while outcomes from COP30 have reinforced political commitment and encouraged efforts to accelerate green industrialization.

Looking ahead, green industrialization is expected to play a key role in the COP31 Action Agenda. Collaborative efforts among governments, international organizations, and the private sector will be crucial to translating commitments into concrete action.

Objectives

This session aims to:

- Explore pathways to advance green industrialization under the COP31 Action Agenda,
- Assess the role of international organizations and cooperation platforms, as well as recent global initiatives, in fostering collaboration and advancing collective efforts on green industrialization
- Identify key economic, financial, and policy enablers for scaling up industrial decarbonization,
- Bridge perspectives between governments, international organizations, and the private sector,
- Generate actionable insights on how to operationalize global commitments into concrete implementation by COP31, while aligning with ongoing negotiations.

While the session includes a panel discussion, it is designed as a multi-stakeholder exchange platform that brings together government representatives, business leaders, and international initiatives to foster targeted dialogue and collaboration on advancing the Green Industrialization agenda.

Agenda

14:00 – 14:10 **1. Opening Remarks**
(10 min)

Opening remarks by the moderator, introduction of the green industrialization theme and the participants.

14:10 – 15:00 **2. Panel Discussion**
(50 min)

The panelists discuss key topics based on guiding questions, reflecting insight from different perspectives.

15:00 – 15:30 **3. Q/A Session**
(30 min)

Panel members are expected to respond to additional questions

15:30 – 16:00 **4. Wrap-up and closing**
(30 min)

Summary of the session and closing, followed by interactions among participants.

Moderator

Michael Apicelli – Head of Secretariat of the Climate Club

Panelists

- **Dr. Tuğba Dinçbaşı** – Deputy Director of Climate Change of Türkiye, COP 31 Presidency
- **Sarp Kalkan** – Deputy Secretary General of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Türkiye, TOBB
- **Rana Ghoneim** – Director of the Division for Energy and Climate Action, UNIDO (TBC)
- **Jinyoung Yoon** – Director for the Climate-Trade Policy Division at the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources, Republic of Korea
- **Gaia Puleston** – Head of Branch, Strategic Partnerships, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australia

Expected Outcomes

The session is expected to provide:

- A clearer understanding of priority actions and cooperation areas to advance green industrialization in the run-up to COP31,
- Identification of concrete steps to strengthen coordination among existing initiatives and enhance their effectiveness in supporting industrial decarbonization.
- Enhanced alignment between public policy objectives and private sector needs, particularly on finance, competitiveness, and investment conditions,
- Practical insights on enabling conditions for scaling up low-carbon technologies and industrial transformation,
- Strengthened dialogue and potential collaboration opportunities among key stakeholders, including governments, industry, and international organizations.

Note: Event will be livestreamed via web (video stream link to be shared in the coming days); please check the conference website: <https://unfccc.int/climate-week-yeosu> for updates.