

COP28 UAE

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BACKGROUND TO COP28 UAE

What are COPs and what is their purpose?

The Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is an international climate summit. Since 1995, it has been held annually unless Parties decide otherwise. At COPs, world leaders gather to work together on solutions to tackle climate change. There are now 199 Parties (198 States plus the EU) to the Convention, constituting near universal membership.

What is COP28 UAE?

COP28 UAE is a milestone opportunity for the world to come together, course correct, and drive progress. We need everyone to be more ambitious in the fight against climate change to meet the goals and ambition of the Paris Agreement. COP28 will emphasize a 'leave no one behind' approach to climate action. Underscoring all efforts are the principles of transformation, solidarity, pragmatism, and inclusivity. The world needs a COP of action and a COP for all.

COP28 UAE will take place from 30 November to 12 December 2023 at Expo City, Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

By hosting COP28, the UAE is focusing on bringing about practical and positive solutions that drive progress for the climate and the economy, as well as provide relief and support to vulnerable communities. The UAE intends to make COP28 highly inclusive, reflecting the views of all geographies, sectors, and constituencies.

As hosts, the UAE has undertaken a two-year leadership role anchored by the 2023 global climate summit in the middle. The UAE has the role of incoming presidency in the year leading up to the two-week conference and assumes the official presidency from the first day of the conference until passing the baton again one year later to the next hosts.

The event is split into two zones:

1. The Blue Zone is a UNFCCC-managed site, open to accredited parties (country negotiators) and observer delegates (NGOs, IGOs, UN agencies), media and world leaders. It hosts the formal negotiations across the two weeks of the conference, as well as hundreds of official side events including panel discussions, speaking events and cultural events.
2. The Green Zone is a space managed and delivered by the COP28 UAE Presidency. It offers a platform to non-accredited delegates, including youth groups, civil society, NGOs, the private sector, and indigenous groups to have their voices heard, promoting dialogue and awareness about climate action.

The COP28 UAE Presidency believes that governments and the private sector must work closely together in order to address climate change. Through the Green Zone, the COP28 UAE Presidency offers the private sector the opportunity to showcase their contributions and solutions to the global climate challenge. Their innovative approaches, climate action technologies and entrepreneurship will constitute an important part of COP28. The Green Zone will also host technical conferences, panels, and activations with a focus on existing and future solutions to climate change mitigation.

Around each COP, a large amount of 'fringe' events are organized and held by individuals, businesses and other organizations who have not been able to secure space to do so in the Blue or Green Zones, or who decide to host in their own spaces. Although these are not official events and are not directly aligned with the COP, delegates attending them may refer to them as part of COP.

Who can participate in COP28 UAE?

COP28 UAE will be one of the largest and most important international gatherings in 2023, followed closely by global media. As the world's highest decision-making process on climate issues, it is expected to host over 70,000 delegates including Heads of State and world leaders to build consensus and facilitate progress on climate action among 198 countries, the European Union and thousands of non-government organizations, companies, youth groups, and other stakeholders.

VISAS

How can I apply for a visa to the UAE?

The UAE Government has authorized an electronic, free of charge Special Entry Permit for all UNFCCC-registered COP28 UAE event attendees, also known as the COP28 UAE Visa. Once you have completed your UNFCCC registration you will receive a UNFCCC registration confirmation email which will include a link to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa. Through the link, please visit the visa portal, fill out the form, upload the required documents and submit it for approval. Once approved, you will receive the visa confirmation email with a link to download your COP28 UAE Visa. All foreign participants entering the United Arab Emirates (UAE) must have a passport which is valid for a minimum period of 6 months from your date of entry into the UAE.

What will I need to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa?

You will require:

- Your UNFCCC Registration Code
- Correctly filled visa application form on the visa portal
- Clear colored copy of passport with minimum 6 months validity from arrival into UAE (jpg/png/pdf; max 100kb)
- Clear colored copy of UN Passport (if applicable) (jpg/png/pdf; max 100kb)
- Clear recent passport-size applicant colored photo with white background

Am I required to submit flight details for the COP28 UAE Visa application?

You are not required to submit flight details. It is recommended that you book your flight only after you receive the COP28 UAE Visa.

Do I require travel medical insurance to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa?

You are not required to submit a travel medical insurance policy for the COP28 UAE Visa application. It is strongly recommended that you acquire travel medical insurance when travelling abroad.

How long will it take to receive the COP28 UAE Visa after applying?

It will take up to three business days to receive a status update.

What do I need to do once I have completed my visa application?

Once you have successfully applied for the COP28 UAE Visa with the required documents, you will receive an application submission email with your application number. If you do not receive this, please visit the visa portal link in your UNFCCC registration email to track the status of your visa.

What type of visa will I receive?

Upon visa approval, you will be granted a free-of-charge, electronic COP28 UAE Visa that entitles you to a single entry into the United Arab Emirates (UAE) valid for 30 days upon arrival.

How far in advance can I apply for the COP28 UAE Visa?

You are encouraged to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa as soon as you have received your UNFCCC registration confirmation email with the visa application link.

Can I arrive at any UAE international airport with my COP28 UAE Visa?

Yes, the issued visa is valid for arrival at any international airport in the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

What assistance will be provided at the first port of entry on arrival to the UAE?

We are in the process of designing airport journeys and will provide further details when finalized. The COP28 UAE team will have a support team on call for any assistance required at UAE airports.

I am a UNFCCC-registered delegate but already have a valid non-resident visa that allows me to travel to the UAE. Do I still need to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa?

Yes, you are required to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa, any visa duplications will be addressed at our end from a system point of view.

I am attending the Green Zone at COP28 UAE and I am not a UNFCCC-registered delegate. Which visa do I require?

If you are coming to the UAE to attend the Green Zone or other COP28 UAE fringe activity events and you are not a UNFCCC-registered delegate, you should apply for a standard visitor visa. More information and advice can be found at: [Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs & Port Security](#).

Are visas granted on arrival to the UAE?

Depending on your nationality, tourist visas are available upon arrival as per UAE regulations. However, all UNFCCC delegates are requested to apply for the COP28 UAE Visa to ensure they benefit from privileges granted to UNFCCC-registered delegates attending COP28 UAE. Please follow the COP28 UAE Visa application process as outlined above and apply well in advance of your visit to the UAE.

Can I apply for my spouse's visa permit along with my visa application? My spouse is not a registered attendee but I am.

COP28 UAE Visa applications are open to only UNFCCC-registered delegates. Please refer to the "I am attending the Green Zone" question above regarding visa processes.

I am a UNFCCC registered delegate who will require entry into the UAE more than once during the period of COP28 UAE. The COP28 UAE Visa grants me a single entry into the UAE. How can I enter the UAE more than once?

The COP28 UAE Visa allows the holder a single entry into the UAE. Should you wish to leave the UAE and return during COP28 UAE, you must re-apply for the COP28 UAE Visa following the same process as you have previously, using your UNFCCC registration number. Please note, you can apply only after you have exited the UAE.

ACCOMMODATION

What accommodation options are available?

COP28 UAE will take place in Dubai, offering a wide selection of accommodation options to suit every budget. Currently, there are over 800 properties operating in Dubai, ranging from 1-star to 5-star hotels and serviced apartments.

Additionally, the UAE's capital Abu Dhabi, located one hour away from the event venue, features a wide range of accommodation options, with over 230 hotels and resorts plus serviced apartments available, ranging from 1-star to 5-star.

How can I book my accommodation for COP28 UAE?

The official COP28 UAE booking portal for accommodation arrangements permits all registered delegates to directly book their accommodation for the event. The booking portal along with additional information for delegates is available at <http://www.cop28.bnetwork.com>

Larger delegations requiring group bookings should contact accommodation service providers directly as early as possible to secure preferred accommodations.

Alternatively, bnetwork, the appointed travel agency for COP28 UAE, can assist with accommodation and related travel services in UAE. Please contact bnetwork via email at cop28@bnetwork.com or by telephone at +33 1 58 16 20 10 (standard operator charges apply). The agency's operational timings are Monday to Friday from 09:00 to 18:00 (CET). Please expect responses within 48 hours on working days.

Which travel agency is running the accommodation booking portal?

The organizers of COP28 UAE officially appointed bnetwork (bnetwork.com) as the travel agency responsible for handling accommodation requests for the event, acting as a liaison point with hotels to ensure available rooms are provided to COP28 UAE participants. They have also enlisted a company called 'Arabian Adventures, Meetings, Incentives and Events' to facilitate other services.

COP28 UAE will facilitate a booking portal for accommodation arrangements that will enable all registered delegates to book their accommodation for the event. The booking portal along with additional information for delegates is available at <http://www.cop28.bnetwork.com>

Can accommodation be visited by delegates in advance of COP28 UAE?

For advance accommodation visits, please contact the provider directly.

TRAVEL TO UAE

Where is the United Arab Emirates (UAE) located?

Strategically located at the crossroads of Asia, Africa and Europe, seven emirates make up the United Arab Emirates (UAE): Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Fujairah, Ras Al Khaimah, Umm Al Quwain and Ajman. Together, the Emirates have been a meeting place of diverse cultures for thousands of years.

How can I book my flight to the UAE?

The UAE is connected by direct flights to over 300 destinations worldwide. Below are UAE airlines with an extensive network of regional and international flights. Additionally, most of the major global airlines fly to and from the UAE.

- Abu Dhabi
 - Etihad Airways: <https://www.etihad.com/en-us/>
 - Wizz Air: <https://wizzair.com/en-gb/>
 - Air Arabia Abu Dhabi: <https://www.airarabia.com/en/book-flight>
- Dubai
 - Emirates: <https://www.emirates.com/ae/english/>
 - FlyDubai: <https://www.flydubai.com/en/>
- Sharjah
 - Air Arabia: <https://www.airarabia.com/en/book-flight>

Are there any COVID-19 restrictions for arrivals to the UAE?

All passengers traveling to the UAE are no longer required to present a COVID-19 vaccination certificate or to undergo PCR tests. However, please check your country's travel advisory for latest guidance on outbound trips, as well as the requirements of the airline.

Is there internet access at the airports upon arrival to the UAE?

Yes, like most major global airports, UAE airports are equipped with state-of-art internet connectivity to which passengers can connect to. In addition, local sim cards can be bought at the airport from either Etisalat, Du, or Virgin Mobile.

What transport options do I have after arriving to Abu Dhabi, Dubai or Sharjah airport?

Information on onward transportation options can be found on the websites of each airport:

- Abu Dhabi Airport: <https://www.abudhabiairport.ae/en/transport/to-and-from-the-airport>
- Dubai Airport: <https://www.dubaiairports.ae/before-you-fly/to-from-the-airport/>
- Sharjah Airport: <https://www.sharjahairport.ae/en/traveller/to-and-from-the-airport/transportation/>

What is the best way to get around in Abu Dhabi and Dubai?

Journey planners are a great way to assess transportation options before traveling to the UAE

- Abu Dhabi Journey Planner: [DARBI AUH](#)
- Dubai Journey Planner: [RTA DXB](#)

What is the national language and currency conversion of the UAE?

The official language is Arabic. English is commonly spoken along with many international languages as a result of the large number of expats living and working in the UAE. The local currency is the UAE dirham (AED or Dhs) which is divided into 100 fils and is pegged against the US \$ (US\$ 1: AED 3.6725).

Can I exchange cash at the airport?

Foreign exchange counters are readily available with international currencies at both arrivals and departures, across UAE airports. Hotels also provide foreign exchange services, and there are many foreign exchange bureaus across the country.

Can I use my locally issued credit/debit card?

Most shops, hotels and restaurants in the UAE accept major credit and debit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, etc.). It is prudent to confirm with your local bank whether your debit and credit card is valid for international transactions before you travel.

When is the weekend in the UAE?

In most of the UAE, the weekend consists of Saturday and Sunday, except in Sharjah, where the weekend consists of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for federal employees.

Can I use my driver's license in the UAE?

Visitors are required to have a valid International Driver's Permit to drive in the UAE. However, the UAE accepts driver's licenses issued by many countries. Please check your eligibility here: [How to get to the UAE? - The Official Portal of the UAE Government](#).

What is the local time and weather like in the UAE?

The United Arab Emirates observes Gulf Standard Time (GMT+4) throughout the year and does not observe Daylight Saving Time.

The UAE has a sub-tropical and arid climate, characterized by sunny blue skies and high temperatures most of the year. Rainfall is sporadic, primarily occurring in winter (November to March) and averaging 12cm per year in most of the country. Temperatures range from a low of around 13°C (50°F) on a winter's night, to highs of around 42°C (118°F) on a summer's day. The cooler months, November to April, are the most pleasant time to visit, with daytime temperatures of around 24°C (75°F) and night-time temperatures of around 13°C (56°F).

What type of electrical plug is used in the UAE?

Across the UAE, the standard electrical plug is Type G (commonly used in the UK as well as across some countries in the Caribbean, Africa and Asia) operating between a 220V-240V supply voltage and 50Hz.

Within the Blue Zone, the electrical plug used will be the CEE 7/3 standard plug (commonly used on the European continent).

What are the emergency numbers?

- 999 for Police
- 998 for Ambulance
- 997 for the Fire Department (Civil Defense)
- 996 for Coastguard

What is standard tipping etiquette in the UAE?

- Tipping is not expected but is commonly practiced in the UAE. Gratuities to staff at hotels and restaurants are at your discretion.

What are popular things to do in Abu Dhabi?

- Please visit Abu Dhabi's Department of Culture and Tourism website for more information: [Experience Abu Dhabi | Travel and Tourism | Visit Abu Dhabi](#)

What are popular things to do in Dubai?

- Please visit Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism website for more information: [Visit Dubai - Official Tourism Board in Dubai](#)

TRAVEL TO VENUE

How do I reach the COP28 UAE venue at Expo City Dubai?

The COP28 UAE venue is easily reached through a range of different transport methods:

Dubai Metro

Delegates are strongly encouraged to use Dubai Metro. The Expo 2020 station on the metro's Red Line connects the COP28 UAE venue, DXB Airport and the main hotels and tourist attractions in Dubai.

Plan your journey at <https://www.rta.ae/wps/portal/rta/ae/public-transport/timetable#DubaiMetro>

Taxis

Taxi ranks and taxi pick-ups/drop-offs (booked via apps) ranks will be available at Expo City Dubai. The simplest way to use these services is:

- Dubai Taxi Corporation (DTC): Download app or visit <https://www.rta.ae/wps/portal/rta/ae/public-transport/taxi/Dubaitaxi>
- Careem: Download the app or visit <https://www.careem.com/>
- Uber: Download the app or visit <https://www.uber.com/ae/en/ride/>

Private Vehicles

Parking spaces for private vehicles including buses and coaches will be available at Expo City Dubai.

You can use the RTA journey planner throughout your time in Dubai:

Download the S'hail app or visit [Roads & Transport Authority - Journey Planner](#).

Is public transport free of charge for COP28 UAE delegates?

COP28 UAE will provide free of charge public transport throughout COP28 UAE for UNFCCC-registered delegates. COP28 UAE will be publishing more information on this in due course.

How can delegates move around the COP28 UAE venue during the event?

The Blue Zone and Green Zone are located directly beside each other and are within walking distance. COP28 UAE is reviewing transport planning onsite and will be publishing further details in due course.

How will transport support those with accessibility needs?

Dubai Metro is the most accessible transportation option to reach COP28 UAE. Dubai Metro stations are equipped with elevators for step free access, while train carriages have dedicated, supported areas for people of determination. Accessible taxis can be booked through the Dubai Taxi Corporation (DTC) taxi application.

BLUE ZONE

What is the Blue Zone?

The Blue Zone is a UNFCCC-managed site, open to accredited party and observer delegates. It hosts the formal negotiations, as well as panel discussions, speaking events, and cultural events across the two weeks of the conference.

Who can attend the Blue Zone?

Only UNFCCC-accredited participants (Parties; IGOs, NGOs, observers; media; UN officials) will have access to the Blue Zone. The UNFCCC's online registration portal opens in June 2023.

Where is the Blue Zone located?

The COP28 UAE Blue Zone is located in Expo City Dubai.

What are the operating hours of the Blue Zone?

COP28 UAE is working with the UNFCCC to determine the operating hours of the Blue Zone, and this will be communicated in due course.

What facilities will be available in the Blue Zone?

COP28 UAE will supplement the existing facilities available at Expo City Dubai. A range of food & beverage outlets, toilets, multi-faith/meditation rooms and other areas, as per the UNFCCC's requirements, will be provided.

How can we participate and have a presence in the Blue Zone?

The Blue Zone is only for UNFCCC-accredited participants (Parties; IGOs, NGOs, observers; media; UN officials). COP28 UAE announced the Expression of Interest process for Blue Zone pavilions and office spaces on May 10 2023 for these participants, which closes on 15 June 2023, to enable effective space allocation management. All parties are encouraged to be aware of their relevant national focal points and ensure that one main point of contact is established who will function as their liaison with COP28 UAE. This will prevent the submission of duplicate requests.

I am attending COP28 UAE but do not have an official acknowledgement from the UNFCCC. What do I need to do?

If you have not received your UNFCCC registration confirmation letter, you can visit the UNFCCC registration page and use your tracking number to verify the status of your registration. COP28 UAE is not responsible for registration, and all registration questions should be directed to the UNFCCC.

BLUE ZONE PAVILIONS AND OFFICE SPACES

What are Blue Zone pavilions and office spaces?

Blue Zone pavilions at COP28 will be unique as they will be located within Expo City Dubai's existing buildings and split across multiple floors. All floors, including split level pavilions, will be universally accessible.

An Event Management Company (EMC) has been exclusively appointed to provide the pavilion & office fit-outs with standardized tiered packages. Typically, exhibit spaces will be located on the ground floor and shared between 2-5 organizations to encourage collaboration and engagement.

Offices and dedicated presentation and hospitality spaces will be allocated on pavilions' upper floors. There will also be an option to book shared presentation spaces in centralized areas for larger audiences.

As part of this year's innovation process regarding pavilion spaces, we would like to learn more about how each pavilion's strategy and content is aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

How can parties apply to host a pavilion or secure office space in the Blue Zone at COP28 UAE?

Requests for pavilion and office spaces can be made by submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI) through the official www.cop28.com website by 15 June 2023.

How much will a pavilion cost?

Multiple tiered packages are available and detailed costing is available with the EOI brochure.

What are the pavilion size options?

Pavilion size options will vary and is dependent on the total number of requests received. After the close of the Expression of Interest, COP28 will assess the overall requests and provide a proposal.

What about office spaces?

Office spaces will have similar options to pavilions as outlined above; however, these will be allocated on higher floors typically above pavilion spaces. Office spaces on higher floors will be accessible by elevator.

Where is the location for each party's pavilion?

Space allocations for pavilions will be allocated after the Expression of Interest closes.

Can a party use their own stand builder to construct their stand?

COP28 has appointed an exclusive Event Management Company (EMC) with multiple tiered packages to manage the fit-outs of pavilions and office spaces. To streamline the process, all fit-outs must be carried out through the exclusive appointed EMC; details will be provided to Parties.

How can parties obtain further costings and details for other technical requirements?

A comprehensive manual with details will be provided at a later stage through the appointed EMC to guide parties with the onboarding process for the management and fit-outs of pavilion and office spaces.

When can I access my pavilion?

Access to the pavilions will be restricted during the build phase and there will be a handover date communicated by the EMC when a limited number of pavilion staff can access the site and their pavilion. During this time specific badges will be issued and all people entering the site must wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

When can I access my office space?

Access to office spaces will, like the pavilions, be restricted during the build phase and there will be a limited number of staff who can access these during the handover date which will also be communicated by the EMC. During this time, specific badges will be issued and if construction is still ongoing then the required PPE must be worn.

How do I ship items to my pavilion?

An official freight forwarder will be appointed, and these details will be communicated to everyone who has a pavilion and/or office space.

SERVICES

What services do you have available?

Delegates attending the Blue Zone will have full use of facilities and services spread across the site. These will include:

- Catering facilities
- Toilets
- Meditation and multi-faith prayer rooms
- ATMs
- Convenience stores

As with previous COPs, there will also be a Service Hub within the Blue Zone where you can access the following services:

- Information Desk
- Transport, Accommodation and Catering Information Desk
- Accessibility Help Desk
- Commercial Freight and Consignment Booking Desk
- Commercial Interpretation Booking Desk (Official service provider and booking process to be communicated in due course)
- Lost and Found
- Cloakroom

CATERING

What approach is being taken to catering at COP28 UAE?

COP28 UAE is working with the UNFCCC to develop a catering strategy for COP28 UAE. More information will be published in due course.

Are there going to be any food hygiene considerations?

Food providers will be responsible for meeting Dubai Municipality food health and safety guidelines and maintaining hygiene within all catering areas, including all food preparation, storage, transportation, and public areas. Daily food safety inspections will take place across the venue to ensure that the highest standards of food hygiene and safety are achieved at all times.

What are the food and beverage outlets' opening hours?

Although the opening hours are not yet finalized, COP28 UAE will provide catering services on site throughout the day. There will also be convenience stores located across the venue.

Will water be provided on site?

There will be 39 water fountains across the Expo City site, and we encourage the use of reusable water bottles.

ACCESSIBILITY

Will COP28 UAE provide any accessibility services at the venue?

Yes, there will be two accessibility information help desks located within the venue. One will be at the registration area and the other within the Service Hub.

SECURITY

What are the contact numbers for the emergency services in the UAE?

In the UAE you can call:

- 999 for Police
- 998 for Ambulance
- 997 for the Fire Department (Civil Defense)
- 996 for Coastguard

How do I get into the COP28 venue?

There are six pedestrian entrances into the COP28 venue, five in the Green Zone, and one in the Blue Zone.

Are there any security requirements to enter the COP28 venue?

Yes, everyone will be required to pass through security screening on the entrances to the venue.

Are there any restrictions on taking certain items into the venue?

COP28 UAE are working with the UNFCCC and the United Nations Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS) to determine security procedures throughout the Blue Zone and this will be communicated in due course.

WCAS

What is the World Climate Action Summit?

The World Climate Action Summit welcomes world leaders to present their progress and ambitions across all pillars of the Paris Agreement, providing momentum and guidance for the remainder of the COP.

How long is the World Climate Action Summit?

The World Climate Action Summit will be held from Friday 1 – Saturday 2 December 2023.

Who can attend the World Climate Action Summit?

The World Climate Action Summit is by invitation only.

PROGRAMMING, EVENTS, AND SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES

What will be featured on the official COP28 schedule?

The official opening of the negotiations will take place on Thursday 30th November. Across the two weeks of COP28, the Presidency Program of thematic days and cross-cutting themes will reflect our priority areas. The final iteration of this two-week program will be released by the end of June 2023.

Programming elements will sit across both the Green Zone and Blue Zone from Friday 1st December – Sunday 10 th December and will correlate with the two-week thematic days. COP28 programming will be representative, inclusive, and diverse, with the intent of being solutions oriented.

The World Climate Action Summit will take place on Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd of December in the Blue Zone.

How can entities partner with COP28 UAE?

Entities interested in partnering with COP28 UAE are requested to direct an initial query to the COP28 UAE team with relevant information and proposal details via the COP28 website.

All proposals will be reviewed and COP28 UAE will be in contact directly, should the proposal be advanced to the next stage.

How can I register my interest in programming, hosting an event or a speaking opportunity at COP28 UAE?

Entities interested in contributing to programming, hosting events and speaker opportunities at COP28 UAE are requested to complete the [Programming Request Form](#).

All proposals will be reviewed by the COP28 UAE Programming Committee and entities will be advised of the outcome. Programming requests must be submitted by Friday 28 July 2023.

GREEN ZONE

What is the Green Zone?

The Green Zone is a space managed and delivered by the COP28 UAE Presidency. It offers a platform to non-accredited delegates, including youth groups, civil society, NGOs, the private sector, and Indigenous Peoples to have their voices heard, promoting dialogue and awareness about climate action.

The COP28 UAE Presidency believes that governments and the private sector must work closely together in order to address climate change. Through the Green Zone, the COP28 UAE Presidency offers the private sector the opportunity to showcase their contributions and solutions to the global climate challenge. Their innovative approaches, climate action technologies and entrepreneurship will constitute an important part of COP28. The Green Zone will also host technical conferences, panels, and activations with a focus on existing and future solutions to climate change mitigation.

Who can attend the Green Zone?

The Green Zone is open to delegates and guests of the Blue Zone, Public and Private Sector, NGOs and the General Public.

Do we need to register to visit the Green Zone?

Visitors will be required to register to access the Green Zone. Details will be available on the website in due course.

When can we visit the Green Zone?

The Green Zone will be operational between Thursday 30 November - Tuesday 12 December 2023.

From Thursday 30 November - Saturday 2 December, the Green Zone will be open to sponsor and showcase entities, business visitors and accredited Blue Zone delegates only.

From Sunday 3 December - Tuesday 12 December, the Green Zone will open for entities to host their events and activations.

Public programming will also commence from Sunday 3 December, with a public program to be announced.

The official opening hours of the Green Zone are 10:00 - 18:00 with some events taking place in the evenings between 18:00 - 22:00.

Where is the Green Zone located?

The Green Zone is adjacent to the Blue Zone in Expo City Dubai.

What sort of activities will be happening in the Green Zone?

The COP28 UAE Presidency acknowledges the importance of the private sector, civil society, youth groups, academia, and their crucial role to play in combating climate change. Building on the legacy of COP Green Zones, COP28 UAE will enhance the experience by bringing the Green Zone closer to the Blue Zone to offer an impactful and engaging platform for entities to present innovative solutions, technologies and products designed to contribute to achieving a more sustainable future. COP28 UAE are also curating experiences where businesses can connect with each other, governments, and other stakeholders to share knowledge, expertise, and resources, with the aim of scaling up efforts to combat climate change.

Plans for the Green Zone include:

- **Technology and Innovation Hub:** The Technology and Innovation Hub represents the convergence of cutting-edge technologies and progressive thinking to deliver innovative solutions and tackling climate change. This Hub acts as a catalyst for enabling government, businesses, and civil society to collaborate and leverage technologies to address the most pressing sustainability challenges of our time.
- **Decarbonization Hub:** The Decarbonization Hub represents an exclusive space where COP28 UAE's top-tier sponsors who are leaders in green transformation can connect, collaborate, and share insights, strategies, and solutions to combat climate change. This opportunity allows leaders and innovators to showcase their blueprints for sustainable development and forge strategic partnerships that accelerate progress towards net-zero emissions.
- **Knowledge Hub:** This Hub will feature thematic experiences tackling urgent climate challenges and potential solutions.

How can we participate and have a presence in the Green Zone?

Please visit the website to register your interest: <https://www.cop28.com/en/get-involved>

How can entities register to showcase a sustainable and innovative initiative or project space in the Green Zone?

To express an interest to showcase within the Green Zone, entities can send a showcase proposal and any relevant information about the entity to sponsorship@cop28.com.

Showcase proposals will be reviewed regularly by COP28 UAE and entities will be contacted directly should the proposal be of interest.

How much will a showcase space cost and what are the size options?

COP28 UAE are currently finalizing cost and size options for showcase spaces in the Green Zone and will share details once finalized with entities directly who have expressed interest. There will be options to utilize spaces within purposely developed showcase areas and the locations, options and size will vary from 13sqm to 350sqm.

Can an entity use their suppliers to construct their space?

COP28 UAE will provide each entity with the shell and core of the showcase space, however, the entity will need to finance and manage the fit-out of the space. COP28 UAE has engaged an official Event Management Company (EMC) for organizers to work with for the fit-out of their spaces, and for event and activation support services.

The EMC can provide design, creative, build and fit-out services. Organizers wishing to engage their own supplier will need to ensure they follow Expo City Dubai's Health and Safety, Worker Welfare and Sustainability guidelines and work with both Expo City Dubai and the COP28 UAE EMC on arrangements. Details will be provided to entities directly should the showcase proposal received be of interest.

How can entities obtain further costings and details for other technical requirements?

Comprehensive details will be provided at a later stage to guide entities through the onboarding process for the management and fit-out of showcase spaces.

EVENT GUIDELINES

Fringe Events

Fringe events are events not organized by COP28 UAE and are held outside the COP28 UAE event-site. Please see below for guidance on fringe events:

- Branding and marketing:

Fringe event organizers should avoid using branding or marketing materials that could be confused with the official COP28 UAE event.

Organizers should ensure that their branding is clearly distinct from that of COP28 UAE and must not use any official COP28 UAE logos or taglines.

- Timing and scheduling:

COP28 UAE encourage the fringe event organizers to consider COP Presidency event timings when scheduling their events.

- Content, themes, and messaging:

COP28 UAE encourage fringe event organizers to use tCOP28 UAE messages and align their themes with those of the COP28 Presidency and its thematic days.

- Funding and sponsorship:

Fringe event organizers are strongly encouraged to follow the COP28 Presidency minimum entry criteria (member of the UNFCCC race-to-zero Campaign or equivalent commitments) for their sponsors.

COP28 UAE side events and activations

COP28 UAE events and activations are held within the COP28 UAE event site at Expo City Dubai. These events and activations are delivered by COP28 UAE Presidency approved stakeholders or curated and hosted by the COP28 UAE Presidency and contribute to the official COP28 UAE programming.

- Branding and marketing:
- Entities must avoid using branding or marketing materials that could be confused with the official COP28 UAE event and official sponsors.
- Entities must not use COP28 UAE branding or marketing materials unless approved by the COP28 UAE marketing team.
- Entities must ensure that their branding is clearly distinct from that of COP28 UAE and should not use any official COP28 UAE logos or taglines.
- Entities must not use the COP28 UAE brand in commercial activities, such as advertising and promotion unless approved by the COP28 UAE marketing team.
- Any branding should focus on the specific themes and messaging of the event, rather than attempting to influence COP28 UAE negotiations, outcomes, or make associations.

- Timing and scheduling:
- Entities should ensure COP28 UAE is aware of and engaged in all programming and content inclusions for the event via the appropriate COP28 UAE official channels.
- Entities must work with the COP28 UAE Event Management Company (EMC) on any potential traffic or logistical issues and should coordinate with the EMC as necessary to minimize disruption.
- Any events that could potentially draw large crowds should be ticketed for capacity and aligned with the EMC team on access and safety risks.

- Content, themes, and messaging:
- Entities should ensure that their messaging and communication are consistent with the themes and goals of COP28 UAE.
- Entities should be responsive to media inquiries and should be prepared to communicate effectively with attendees, stakeholders, and the wider public and collaborate with the COP28 UAE communications team as required.
- Entities should be mindful of any potential sensitivities or controversial issues that could detract from the overall COP28 UAE messaging or goals and to seek the advice and guidance of the COP28 UAE communications team where needed.

- Funding and sponsorship:
 - Entities are strongly encouraged to follow the COP28 Presidency minimum entry criteria (members of the UNFCCC race-to-zero Campaign or equivalent commitments) for their sponsors.

- Staff and support teams:
 - Entities should ensure their staff and support teams are well-trained and experienced in event management and logistics.
 - Any staff or volunteers should be carefully vetted to ensure they are appropriate and suitable for the role.
 - Entities should be prepared to provide appropriate support and resources to their staff and volunteers, including training, supervision, appropriate equipment and supplies.
 - All event staff and support teams will be required to apply for the appropriate access permissions to the COP28 site.

SUSTAINABILITY

What is COP28's approach to sustainability?

The approach to event delivery and operation at COP28 will reflect the UAE's commitment to sustainability. The event will be delivered in compliance with the International Standard for sustainable event delivery (ISO20121) and follow the reduce, reuse, recycle approach to delivery. Residual carbon generated by the event will be offset following best practices.

How, as a delegate, can I ensure my attendance is as sustainable as possible?

As a conference delegate, there are several ways to minimize your environmental footprint. Here are some tips:

- Bring a reusable water bottle: Instead of using single-use plastic bottles, bring a reusable water bottle with you to the conference and use the water fountains. This will help reduce the amount of plastic waste generated during the event.
- Bring a reusable coffee cup: If you're a coffee or tea drinker, bring a reusable coffee cup or travel mug with you to the conference.
- Use public transportation or carpool: If possible, use public transportation to get to the conference venue, which is easily accessible by the Dubai Metro. Alternatively, consider carpooling with other attendees to reduce the number of cars on the road and minimize carbon emissions. The largest share of the event's carbon footprint is likely to be travel to the event, so consider travelling in the most sustainable way.
- Avoid paper handouts: Instead of collecting paper handouts and brochures, ask if electronic versions are available. If you must collect paper materials, try to recycle, or reuse them after the conference.
- Stay in a green hotel: Choose a hotel that has environmentally friendly practices, such as recycling, energy-efficient lighting, and low-flow showerheads.
- Conserve energy: Turn off lights, electronics, and air conditioning when you're not in your hotel room or the conference room.
- Reduce food waste: Only take the food you need and avoid wasting food. If there are leftover items, ask if they can be donated to a local food bank or shelter.

By following these tips, you can help reduce your environmental footprint and help to promote sustainability at COP28 UAE.

What advice do you have around hotels in regard to sustainability?

When booking your stay, be mindful to select accommodation close to metro stations to minimize your carbon footprint, as well as manage a smooth commute to and from the COP28 venue which is in Expo City Dubai.

We have provisioned accommodation options with suppliers that are sustainability-driven.

Will the event be carbon neutral?

Yes, the event follows an avoid, reduce, reuse strategy and aims to minimize residual emissions. Where emissions cannot be avoided, they will be offset following best practices.

Is the event environmentally friendly?

The event will follow sustainability best practices in line with the ISO20121 standard (for Sustainable Event Management) to minimize its impact on the environment. Some of the measures that will be taken include utilizing renewable energy where possible, reducing waste and recycling, and minimizing carbon emissions through a range of measures. Residual emissions will be offset to ensure the event is carbon neutral, in line with international best practice. Vendors and sponsors will be worked with to ensure that sustainability best practices are practiced throughout the supply chain. By taking these steps, the event will not only be environmentally responsible, but also set an example for others in the industry to follow.

SPONSORSHIP

Why would you sponsor COP28?

COPs are key platforms for both government and non-government entities to facilitate deals, develop policies and build their networks within the climate space.

Organizations should consider sponsoring COP28 UAE to:

- Contribute to the climate action agenda and reaffirm your position as leaders on climate change
- Strategically align your brand and message with COP28 UAE and promote your own climate ambitions and projects within the COP28 venue and through the COP28 communications channels
- Benefit from access and unrivalled networking opportunities with governments and global business leaders in the Green and Blue Zones (depending on sponsorship package)
- Inspire other businesses to take meaningful action on climate and set ambitious targets via our partnerships program.
- Become integral to the delivery of the event and the overall experience at COP28 UAE.

For other ways to be involved in COP28 UAE, please see questions further below and visit <https://cop28.com/en>.

Who can register interest to sponsor COP28 UAE?

COP28 UAE sponsorship provides an opportunity to engage, promote and showcase entities who have committed to the Race to Zero objectives and have taken tangible steps in addressing climate change.

COP28 UAE sponsors will represent the best of business within climate change and the environment. These organizations, selected from around the world, will be leaders in their industry, driving positive change and innovation towards a Race to Zero world.

COP28 UAE is seeking organizations who can offer funding support as well as value-in-kind services or goods such as, but not limited to, flights, accommodation, on-ground transport, catering apparel, connectivity, consultancy, logistics, technology, and media coverage to deliver a successful event.

A successful sponsorship proposal submission will both show that the organization is committed to positive action in the climate space, and pitch a compelling contribution, financial or value-in-kind.

What will the selection process be?

For international and domestic organizations interested in sponsoring COP28 UAE, the hosts welcome sponsorship proposals from organizations that at least meet the minimum, bar-to-entry criteria – either as a member of the Race to Zero UNFCCC Framework or through the ability to demonstrate equivalent commitments by sharing their organization's sustainability and ESG strategy and framework, including net-zero plans, targets, and reporting. Certifications and accreditations will also be regarded as part of equivalent commitments.

This will also apply to National Future Champions, and COP28 UAE have developed a five year levelling program that will support UAE organizations to achieve this membership in line with the Race to Zero UNFCCC Framework.

An accredited third-party ESG assurance partner has been appointed to review the bar-to-entry criteria for all sponsorship proposals submitted. The COP28 UAE Sponsorship Committee will incorporate this feedback as part of a full review to reach collective consensus on whether the organization is eligible to become an official COP28 UAE sponsor. If the organization meets the bar-to-entry criteria the COP28 UAE team will be in contact to discuss next steps.

When can organizations formally register their interest to sponsor?

The formal sponsorship proposal submission process commenced in May 2023. Organizations interested in sponsoring COP28 UAE are requested to direct an initial query to the COP28 UAE Sponsorship team at sponsorship@cop28.com. The team will respond directly to advise next steps and share the formal sponsorship proposal submission form.

When will COP28 UAE inform organizations of the outcome of a sponsorship proposal?

COP28 UAE will endeavor to inform all organizations of the outcome approximately 15-20 working days from submitting an official sponsorship proposal submission.

FREIGHT & LOGISTICS

What is LSP? What services are provided by LSP?

LSP stands for Logistics Service Provider. LSP is an official COP28 UAE certified end-to-end logistics service provider for both inbound and outbound logistics. In other words, it serves as the COP28 UAE conference's official logistics partner.

Can I use a third-party freight forwarder?

COP28 UAE recommends using LSP's formally approved services for all freight forwarding inquiries. However, a participant can approach a provider of its choice for international freight and custom clearance only.

What are the exclusive customs arrangements for COP28 shipments?

All COP28 shipments will be treated with high priority by customs authorities. Nevertheless, import and export customs clearance is required for any goods entering UAE.

What type of taxes are applicable in UAE?

Currently only Value Added Tax (VAT) is applicable for all import shipments.

What are the duties and taxes rates applicable in UAE?

In general, the customs duty rate is 5% out of the CIF value of the commercial invoice.

How long does it require to clear import shipments in UAE?

If the shipment and its documents conform with Customs rules, the customs clearance process is typically completed quickly using Dubai Customs' online portal.

What are the best practices for conferences and events imports?

Securing temporary admittance and/or an ATA carnet (a special temporary import term) are optimum best practices because importation during events and exhibitions is transitory or temporary. These documents will allow you to import your own exhibition materials and only pay taxes and duties on resources utilized and consumed during the event.

What are the documents required for import shipments in UAE?

For both air and sea shipments, a commercial invoice, packing list, sea waybill or air waybill (whichever may be applicable) are mandatory.

Who is the Consignee/Receiver for shipments to UAE?

A Consignee/Receiver of your choice, or LSP can act as Consignee/Receiver for conference related shipments if you opt to use their service.

HEALTH

Is there a COVID-19 policy for COP28 UAE?

All passengers traveling to the UAE are no longer required to present a COVID-19 vaccination certificate or to undergo PCR tests. However, please check your country's travel advisory for latest guidance on outbound trips, as well as the requirements of the airline.

For information on UAE COVID-19 regulations, please visit:

[Travelling to the UAE - The Official Portal of the UAE Government](#)

Will COP28 UAE be providing COVID-19 PCR and lateral flow tests?

Currently, there are no testing requirements to enter the UAE. If this changes, updates will be communicated accordingly. If you require a PCR test, please visit a medical clinic.

Are any other vaccinations required for coming to the UAE?

Currently, there are no vaccination requirements to enter the UAE. If this changes, updates will be communicated accordingly.

RECRUITMENT AND VOLUNTEERS

What is the registration process to be a volunteer at COP28?

COP28 UAE will require volunteers to assist in delivering a successful event. Details on how to volunteer and be involved will be available in June 2023 on the COP28 UAE website at <https://www.cop28.com/>

What is the process to apply for a job with COP28 UAE?

Please send your CV to careers@cop28.com. The recruitment team will review CVs and be in contact should a suitable position be available.

Is there or will there be an opportunity to get involved with COP28 UAE as a staff member or as a volunteer?

Thank you for your interest in participating in COP28 UAE! Please keep a close eye on our website and official channels for upcoming roles, including volunteer opportunities.

Any specific volunteer queries can be directed to COP28volunteers@cop28.com

COP28UAE

THANK YOU
