



COP31 Simulation Online Capacity Building Agenda



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Preamble

The COP Simulation Programme is an annual initiative organised by The British University in Egypt and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP Egypt). It equips young leaders with the knowledge, research capability, and diplomatic skills needed to engage meaningfully in international climate action.

Through an immersive simulation of the UNFCCC and COP process, participants explore the scientific, political, financial, and institutional dimensions of climate negotiations. The COP31 Simulation Programme follows the road to Antalya, with a particular focus on implementation: translating climate commitments into practical policy, finance, innovation, and action.

The Programme is delivered through a two-week online Capacity-Building Programme, followed by the COP31 Simulation Conference in Cairo, where participants negotiate and contribute to the COP Simulation Youth Declaration. The Declaration will subsequently be presented during COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye.

The Capacity-Building Programme combines four areas of learning: the foundations of the UNFCCC and climate science; the core COP themes of mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, climate finance, just transition, and youth engagement; AI and climate innovation; and the practice of diplomacy, coalition-building, drafting, and negotiation.

By the end of the Programme, participants will be able to understand the UNFCCC process, analyse key climate-policy debates, use evidence to develop policy positions, and engage more effectively in negotiation and multilateral dialogue.

A research assignment forms a central part of the Programme. Participants will follow either a Policy and Diplomacy Track, focused on country positions, policy analysis, and negotiation statements, or an Applied Climate Solutions Track, focused on practical climate solutions supported by innovation, data, or AI. Both tracks converge during the simulation, connecting policy ambition with implementable solutions and contributing to the Youth Declaration.

Best wishes to all youth participants! May this Programme strengthen your confidence, sharpen your ideas, and inspire you to contribute to a more ambitious, inclusive, and action-oriented global climate agenda.

Dr. Sarah Elkhishin

Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor for Strategy and Data
Director, COP Simulation Programme

COP31 Simulation Online Capacity Building Agenda

18:00-18:30 CLT (+3GMT)

18:30-19:15 CLT (+3GMT)

19:30 -21:00 (+3GMT)

Module 1: Foundations

Day 1 - Sat. 4/7: Opening

Opening and Welcome Remarks

Dr. Sarah Elkhishin

Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor for Strategy and Data and Director of the COP Simulation Programme,
The British University in Egypt

Dr. Abeer Shakweer

Assistant Resident Representative, Inclusive Growth and Digital Transformation Lead,
UNDP Egypt

Dr. Nusret Demir

Associate Professor of Space Sciences and Technologies, Founder at ETEN R&D Ltd., Dr.sc.ETH, Geomatics & Industrial Engineer,
Akdeniz University

Partnerships for Building Climate Resilience in the Arab Region

Ambassador Nada El Agizy

Director, Sustainable Development and International Cooperation,
League of Arab States

History of COP, UNFCCC Structure, and Climate Action

Dr. Emadeldin Adly

General Coordinator,
Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)

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18:45-19:30 CLT (+3GMT)

19:30-20:30 (+3GMT)

20:30-21:30 CLT (+3GMT)

Module 2: Deep Dive into the Thematic Pillars: Mitigation, Adaptation Loss and Damage, Climate Finance, The Just Transition, Youth & ACE

Day 2 - Mon. 6/7

Mitigation & The Energy Transition: Clean Energy Transition And Renewable Energy

Dr. Amr Abdelaziz

General Manager of Mitigation and Carbon Mechanisms, ETF
National Focal Point,
Egyptian Ministry of Environment

Mitigation: NDC 3.0 And The Implementation Gap; The Contested Fossil Fuel Transition Roadmap; The Mitigation Work Programme; Article 6; JETP's

Ms. Ghada Ahmedein

National Coordinator, (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP),
UNDP Global Environment Facility

Operationalising the Global Goal on Adaptation: Indicators, Planning and Finance

Ms. Mariam Allam

Adaptation and Resilience Innovation Lead,
Africa Adaptation Initiative

Loss & Damage: The Fund For Responding To Loss And Damage; The Santiago Network; Attribution, Displacement, And Historical Responsibility

Dr. Alaa El Din Owais

Director of the Vulnerability Department, National Focal Point of the Adaptation Fund,
Egyptian Ministry of Environment

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Module 2: Deep Dive into the Thematic Pillars: Mitigation, Adaptation Loss and Damage, Climate Finance, The Just Transition, Youth & ACE

Day 3 - Wed. 8/7

**Climate Finance in a Changing
Multilateral Order: The Gap
Between Pledges and Delivery**

Dr. Sarah Elkhishin

Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor for
Strategy and Data and Director of
the COP Simulation Programme,
The British University in Egypt

**From Just Transition to Just
Governance: Rights, Due
Diligence and Integrity on the
Road to COP31**

Prof. Lela Melon

Director of the LL.M. in European
and Global Law,
Professor of Sustainability in
Corporate Law,
Pompeu Fabra University

**Youth & ACE: Role of Civil
Society, Youth, Capacity
Building and Multilateral
Environmental Agreements**

Mohamed Kamal

Director,
Greenish

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Module 3: AI and Climate Innovation

Day 4 - Sat. 11/7

The Interplay of Data Science, AI and Earth Observations in Addressing Climate Change Related Challenges

Prof. Hisham El Askary

Professor of Remote Sensing and Earth System Science,
Director Computational & Data Sciences Graduate Programs,
Director Earth Systems Science and Data Solutions Lab (EssDs)
Schmid College of Science and Technology,
Chapman University

Compassionate Sustainability: Applying Machine Learning Software for the Generative Design and Operation of Resilient and Regenerative Housing Developments in Diverse Climate Zones Around the World

Prof. James Ehrlich

Director,
Compassionate Sustainability,
Stanford University

Food Security As a Top Priority

Dr. Conrad Rein

Secretary General,
Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security

Climate Change and Sustainable Food Systems

Dr. Sahar Azarkaman

Senior Researcher and University Lecturer, **UNESCO**
Chair in Life Cycle and Climate Change,
ESCI-UPF

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Module 3: AI and Climate Innovation

Day 5 - Mon. 13/7

Climate Change Challenge Training

Prof. Rachel Dunk

Professor of Climate and Carbon Management Education and Carbon Literacy Consultant

Mr. Liam Bluer

Carbon Literacy Research Associate and Trainer

Dr. Cormac Lawler

Carbon Literacy Research Associate and Trainer

Ms. Roberta Oxley

Carbon Literacy Senior Research Assistant and Trainer

Carbon Literacy Trainers

Amy Berry, Dr. Matt Carney, Dr. Olga Khrushcheva, and Ms. Debbie French.

Student Trainers

Virtue Alagha, Charlotte Isaac, Bilkisu Kuchazi, Viktorija Lachajute, Melissa Lakica, Jocelyn Mister, Finley Moore, Abhipsa Panda and Raghad Sandid

Manchester Metropolitan University

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Module 3: AI and Climate Innovation

Day 6 - Tue. 14/7

Climate Change Challenge Training

Prof. Rachel Dunk

Professor of Climate and Carbon Management Education and Carbon Literacy Consultant

Mr. Liam Bluer

Carbon Literacy Research Associate and Trainer

Dr. Cormac Lawler

Carbon Literacy Research Associate and Trainer

Ms. Roberta Oxley

Carbon Literacy Senior Research Assistant and Trainer

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Manchester Metropolitan University

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Module 3: AI and Climate Innovation

Module 4: Diplomacy and Negotiations

Day 7 - Thurs. 16/7

The Interplay Between Climate and the Oceans and Seas

Prof. Michael Scoulllos, DSc., Ph.D,

Chairman, **MIO-ECSDE**
Prof. Em. Environmental & Marine Chemistry; **UNESCO** Chair,
University of Athens
TL, WES-BCA

Satellite Technologies: Empowering Disaster and Climate Change Monitoring, Response, and Resilience

Dr. Nusret Demir

Associate Professor of Space Sciences and Technologies, Founder at ETEN R&D Ltd., Dr.sc.ETH, Geomatics & Industrial Engineer,
Akdeniz University

Black and Green Swans in the Age of Climate Crisis: Corporate Transformation and the Rise of Green Talent

Dr. Murat Erdogan

Assoc. Prof.
Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences,
Akdeniz University

Multilateralism and Geopolitics and Navigating the Negotiating Blocs

H.E. Ambassador Hesham Badr

Assistant Minister for Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives,
Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, The Arab Republic of Egypt,
and National Coordinator of the National Initiative for Smart Green Projects (NISGP)

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Module 4: Diplomacy and Negotiations

Day 8 - Fri. 17/7

The Art of Negotiations: The Pre-Negotiation Phase, Preparation, Diplomatic Tools, and Consensus Building

H.E. Ambassador Dr. Mahmoud Karem

Special Advisor for the University for Foreign Relations and Director of the Center for Egypt and Middle East Studies (CEMES), The **British University in Egypt** and
Former President,
The National Council for Human Rights, The Arab Republic of Egypt

Human Rights Dimensions of Environmental Destruction in Conflict Settings

Mr. Baskut Tuncak

Former UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Toxics (2014-2020) and Founder and Chief Impact Advisor,
Common Rights

From Belém to Antalya: The Belém Package: the Global Mutirão, the Global Implementation Accelerator, the Belém Mission to 1.5, the SB64 groundwork for COP31 and Antalya Action Agenda

Prof. Lela Melon

Director of the LL.M. in European and Global Law, Professor of Sustainability in Corporate Law,
Pompeu Fabra University

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Module 4: Diplomacy and Negotiations

Day 9 - Sat. 18/7: Closing Day

Research Tracks and Assignments, Next Activities and Closing Remarks

Dr. Maha Ghalwash

Associate Professor of Political Science, Faculty of Business, Economics and Political Science,
The British University in Egypt

Mr. Karim Ehab

COP Simulation Consultant,
Managing Director for Renewable Energy and Entrepreneurship
Madkour Group

Mr. Ahmed Soliman

Senior Officer for Student Engagement and Mobility, Strategy Development and Data Department,
Assistant Lecturer for International Business and Entrepreneurship, Faculty of Business, Economics and Political Science
The British University in Egypt

COP Simulation Ambassadors

Anne W. Ngarachu, **Kenya – Bournemouth University, UK**
Bassem Elgohary, **Egypt – Cairo University, Egypt**
Chelsea Golding, **Australia – University of Queensland, Australia**
Elena Sales, **Canada – McGill University, Canada**
Iten Gabr, **Egypt – The British University in Egypt**

Special Thanks to our Technical Partners



جهاز شؤون البيئة



الشبكة العربية للبيئة والتنمية "رائد"
Arab Network for Environment and Development "RAED"



برنامج المنح الصغيرة في مصر

