



What we've achieved together in 2021

We have campaigned tirelessly this year for an ambitious agreement at COP26 to tackle the climate crisis. The outcome reminds us of the urgent need to continue campaigning in 2022. As the year draws to a close, let's reflect and plan our next steps.

In spite of the challenges brought about by the pandemic, as a faith community we prayed, marched, signed petitions, talked to our MPs and raised funds to tackle the climate crisis, all to urge our government to provide genuine leadership as the host of COP26.

But although there has been some movement in the right direction – such as initiatives on phasing out fossil fuels - COP26 has fallen a long way short of what's urgently needed to keep the global temperature limit to 1.5 degrees and to ensure that vulnerable communities get the support they need to cope with the deadly effects of climate change. Our campaigning is far from over. But let's take a moment to celebrate the ways in which we made our voices heard this year, because we can build on this in the future.

CAFOD parish groups met 1 in 5 MPs in England & Wales!

We put pressure on our politicians all year by meeting our MPs to talk about the urgent need to take climate action, especially as the host nation of COP.

Between March and November, when COP started, **CAFOD supporters held meetings with 113 MPs** as part of our Parliament in your Parish initiative. This is almost 20%, or one in five, of all MPs in England and Wales which is extraordinary.

In addition, 10,000 people signed our climate petition, 2,000 wrote to Rishi Sunak asking him to show leadership and 50,000 young people reminded the Prime Minister that the 'Eyes of the World' were on him.



With Wayne David MP, Caerphilly



During COP26 itself, along with millions of others around the world, we came out in force in London, Glasgow and in towns and cities in England and Wales to call for urgent action.

Throughout the conference, many parishes prayed for the success of the negotiations, with special bidding prayers and the COP26 prayer from the Bishops' Conference. Thank you if you helped make this happen in your parish.

COP26 might be over but we know that the work to care for our common home goes on. There's still so much to do.

Next year we will be looking together at the links between climate change and food production, asking why millions of people around the world are unable to grow enough food to feed themselves and their families adequately. But for now, **thank you for being part of CAFOD this year, and** encouraging others in your parish to work for climate justice. We go on!



CAFOD Campaigns Update – November 2021

You are signed up to receive this update as a CAFOD Campaigns volunteer. For queries or to order resources, contact CAFOD Campaigns hotline: 020 7095 5692 or campaigns@cafod.org.uk

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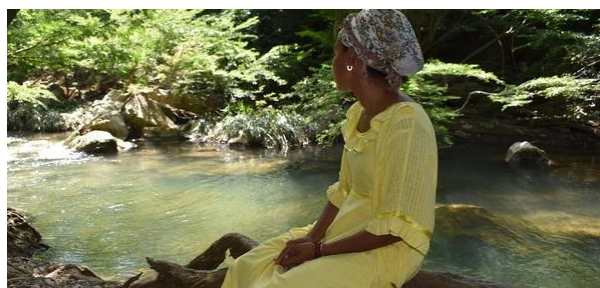
Our Head of Advocacy on the outcome of COP26

As Neil Thorns, our Head of Advocacy, says, "COP26 is a major disappointment to CAFOD's partners working with poor communities. It simply hasn't delivered the urgent action or justice required. Instead, it has been pushed until 2022 to limit temperature increases to 1.5C and deliver the climate finance so desperately needed. For some this will be too late, which is simply not acceptable.

We need to see concrete policies that match the promises made here to make real progress on reducing emissions by 2030. Countries must come back next year with greater ambition.

Politicians have not had the honesty and courage to take responsibility for their actions. But the tide is turning. Countries at the frontline of the climate crisis are taking heart from the voices of young people and those on the streets and are pushing back on the vested interests who've dominated these talks for too long."

Read more about the policy outcomes at cafod.org.uk/COP26



CAFOD 2021 Human Rights Day: Friday 10 December 6.30-8.30pm

Human rights defenders help to keep governments and businesses in check, put people ahead of profits and protect our planet. Yet, in return for their work, they face criminalisation, harassment and violence.

At this online event we will hear directly from people working tirelessly to protect their communities and their land despite increasing threats and intimidation.

Speakers include Ivett Ariana Kana Magaña, an environmental defender from the Huisa community in Espinar, Peru; Maurício Ye'kuana, a Brazilian indigenous leader and activist; and Robinson Mejía Alonso, defender of human rights and territory and Forestry Engineer from Colombia. Together, we will learn what concrete actions we can take from here in the UK to stand in solidarity with them.

Register now at cafod.org.uk/HRD2021



Meet Charlotte

Charlotte Bray is one of CAFOD's trustees. Fresh from protesting on the streets of Glasgow (below, in the mask!), she explains what drives her.

"I've always admired the work of CAFOD and I'm passionate about CAFOD's vision, mission, and values, so it's an honour to be able to help out as a trustee and it's good to represent young adults.

In 2017 I travelled to Cambodia with CAFOD and met the communities there who are on the frontline of this crisis. I went to Glasgow for COP26 because I wanted to raise my voice alongside theirs to call for climate justice! As the young adult trustee, I also wanted to meet CAFOD's young adult campaigners who were travelling to Glasgow.

I believe that campaigning is one of the most important things we can do in the global north to demonstrate our solidarity with those around the world who face injustice and who are forced into poverty. By raising awareness of their struggles for justice and adding our voices to their calls, together we can become a powerful force for positive change."



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