



## Why COP31 matters

COP31 will be a global COP for a global challenge. At a time of global uncertainty, COP31 provides an opportunity to strengthen cooperation and reinforce the multilateral system.

Climate change affects every country, and no nation can tackle it alone. As a global community, it is our responsibility to act in this critical decade, to accelerate practical climate action that addresses the impacts of climate change and delivers real benefits for people, communities and economies.

## Australia–Türkiye shared responsibilities

At COP30, Australia and Türkiye reached an agreement on arrangements for COP31. Under this agreement:

- Australia will be COP31 President of Negotiations in 2026. In this role, Australia will preside over the negotiations process and hold exclusive authority to drive global climate negotiations.
- The Pacific will host the ‘Pre-COP’ meeting, giving the world an opportunity to see Pacific climate impacts and solutions firsthand. This will also bring world leaders and others to make commitments to the Pacific Resilience Facility – a Pacific-led fund to support Pacific climate responses.
- Türkiye and Australia, in collaboration with the Pacific, will deliver an ambitious Action Agenda that can help accelerate the global transition to a clean energy economy and highlight Pacific priorities.
- Türkiye will physically host the COP31 conference and World Leaders Summit in Antalya – a moment to demonstrate true, practical global cooperation.

## Australia’s approach to COP31: priorities, partnership and opportunity

This partnership reflects our shared commitment to strong global climate outcomes and multilateralism. It demonstrates our commitment to practical global cooperation and our sense of shared responsibility, at a time when collective leadership is essential.

As President of Negotiations, we will be a responsible steward of UNFCCC processes, supporting cooperation and helping turn global commitments into real-world outcomes.

## Pacific leadership and priorities

We remain committed to our Partnership with the Pacific. Leading COP31 negotiations is an opportunity to showcase the region’s climate leadership and expertise.

We are focused on delivering for the Pacific on the issue of greatest significance to the Pacific, including through holding the pre-COP in a Pacific country and mobilising finance for the Pacific Resilience Facility in close concert with our partners.

Working in partnership with the Pacific, the Pre-COP (hosted by the Pacific) will bring unprecedented attention to the Pacific, placing the region at the centre of global discussions and showcasing Pacific climate impacts and solutions firsthand.

Our partnership will uphold the promise of the Paris Agreement, build on the leadership shown at COP30, and help deliver outcomes that cut emissions, build resilience and unlock economic opportunities from the transition.



## Australia's approach to COP31: priorities, partnership and opportunity

### COP31 agenda and opportunity

Australia is uniquely placed to make a net positive impact through pragmatic, global, unifying climate leadership at a critical point in the global energy and (inherently tied) economic transition.

Our preparations for COP31 have begun and will develop as we continue to engage with Türkiye, and with our Pacific partners. There are clear opportunities for us to build upon the successes of COP30 and secure outcomes that support ambitious global climate action as President of COP31 Negotiations.

Some early priorities include:

- Reinforcing the centrality of multilateralism in climate action – achieved through bringing parties together and delivering a successful COP31, in partnership with Türkiye.
- Using our global position to support implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and accelerated national energy transitions in those countries in our near region.
- Strengthening existing and building new clean energy initiatives and partnerships.

We are working through how to best collaborate with the global community, including Parties and relevant non-state actors, over the year, to support the successful delivery of COP31. Business, finance, philanthropy, academia, faith groups and civil society bring valuable perspectives which can be usefully leveraged to drive success at COP. Collective action and ongoing collaboration will be vital, as we shape this new opportunity together.



### Further information

See links below to learn more about topics in this paper.

PMC media release following COP31 hosting announcement:

<https://www.pm.gov.au/media/cop-be-hosted-turkiye-australia-leading-negotiations>

Türkiye-Australia Partnership Modalities:

[https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/20251121\\_COP31\\_Presidency\\_Modalities-CLEAN-AGREED.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/20251121_COP31_Presidency_Modalities-CLEAN-AGREED.pdf)