

## Transcript

### Climate change and the importance of COP26

*Animation to promote the hub*

**Voiceover:** Climate change has become one of the key global challenges of recent times.

We humans are driving climate change and contributing to catastrophic outcomes, such as biodiversity loss, extreme weather events and global pandemics.

These changes are impacting how we live and work, causing disruptions worldwide. If we want to protect lives and livelihoods, we need to change now.

Governments around the world have recognised these challenges, and for many years have been trying to draw up collective agreements on what needs to be done, but with varying degrees of success.

One of the ways in which they negotiate what needs to be done is called the Conference of the Parties, or 'COP' for short.

There have been 26 COPs to date and they take place annually. COP26 was hosted by the UK in partnership with Italy, and took place in Glasgow in November 2021.

It is essential that we all learn about the challenges involved from many different, informed perspectives and how each of us can act to secure a safer future.

That includes making sure those informed voices are heard by the governmental representatives at COP26, and that those representatives need to take meaningful systems level actions, given how climate change is affecting all of us on this earth that we share.

Universities and the people who study, work or partner with them, can help meet the challenges by creating and sharing knowledge skills and behaviours for a just transition to a low carbon economy.

The Open University is no different.

Our COP26 Hub provides free learning resources on climate change and actions you can take. These resources include short courses and a series of articles from people across the OU community that offer a variety of informed perspectives on this, our greatest challenge.

To visit our hub, go to [www.open.edu/openLearn/cop26](http://www.open.edu/openLearn/cop26)