

# Alexandra Vo



# UN: Triple Planetary Threat



Photo: Jason Sheldrake

## 2022 Proposed Plastic Treaty

Meets yearly:  
Intergovernmental Negotiating  
Committee, (INC)

175 Nations

2024: INC-5 Busan, Korea

**Waste &  
Pollution**



Photograph: Paulo Oliveira/Alamy Stock Photo

**Loss of Biodiversity**



## 1992 UN Framework Convention on Biological Diversity (UNFCBD)

Meets every 2 years: Conference  
of Parties (COP)

196 Parties

2024: COP16 Cali, Colombia

# UN: Triple Planetary Threat

## Climate Change

1992 UN Framework Convention  
on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Meets yearly at Conference of  
Parties (COP)

197 Nations

2015: COP21 Paris Agreement

2024: COP29 Baku, Azerbaijan



# Women & Children Disproportionately Affected

[70% of the 1.3 billion people living in poverty are women](#), and women compose a large part of communities highly dependent on local natural resources for livelihood.

[Women bear the responsibility for securing food, water and fuel](#)

Agriculture is an important employer of women in low-middle income countries, with [women comprising 50-80% of the labor for the world's food production](#).

Women's livelihood: [droughts, floods or other natural disasters](#) put burden on women

- secure household needs
- less access to training, education
- less sources of income

[Gender-based violence](#): increased risk of sexual violence, exploitation and trafficking

## [Women's Health](#)

- Malnutrition: maternal depression, anemia, adverse pregnancies and neonatal outcomes
- US, some areas up to a 60% increase in fetal heart defects by 2035 due to heat exposure
- Maternal health: increased likelihood of hypertension and placental abruption
- Disease: Zika virus expected to flourish in North America and Europe; predicted to affect 1.3 billion people by 2050. Zika virus is notably associated with microcephaly and birth defects when women are exposed during pregnancy.

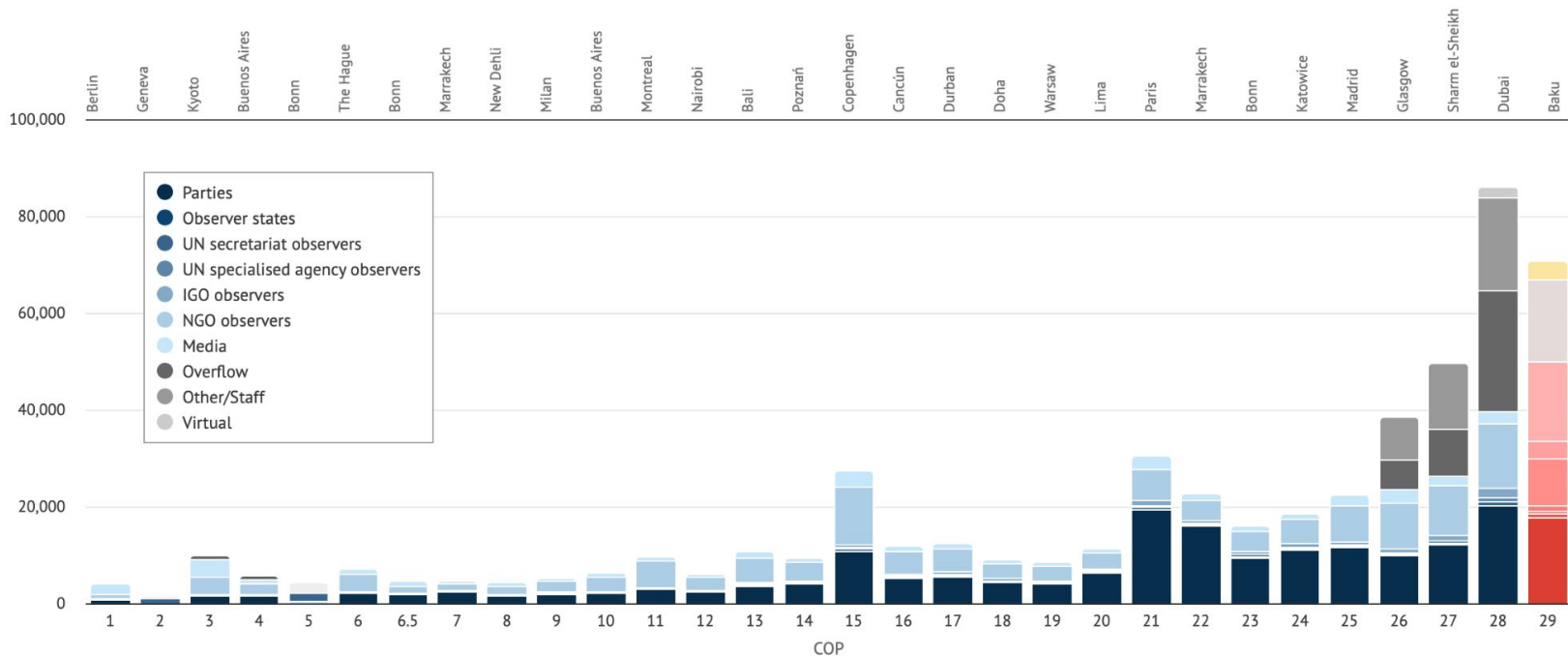
# Fast Facts COP29 Baku

1. **UNFCCC**: UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
2. **COP**: Conference of Parties, 197 parties
3. 2 Weeks, Thematic Days
4. 56,000+ Attended
  - 54,000+ In Person
  - 2,411 Online
  - Second largest COP
  - Dubai COP28 - 83,000+ In Person
5. **“Finance COP”**
6. **“Peace COP”** - truce between Armenia & Azerbaijan
7. **Women**: 8 out of 78 World Leaders



Mud volcano from pressurized gas

## Total attendance at COPs through the years



Source: UNFCCC and Carbon Brief analysis.

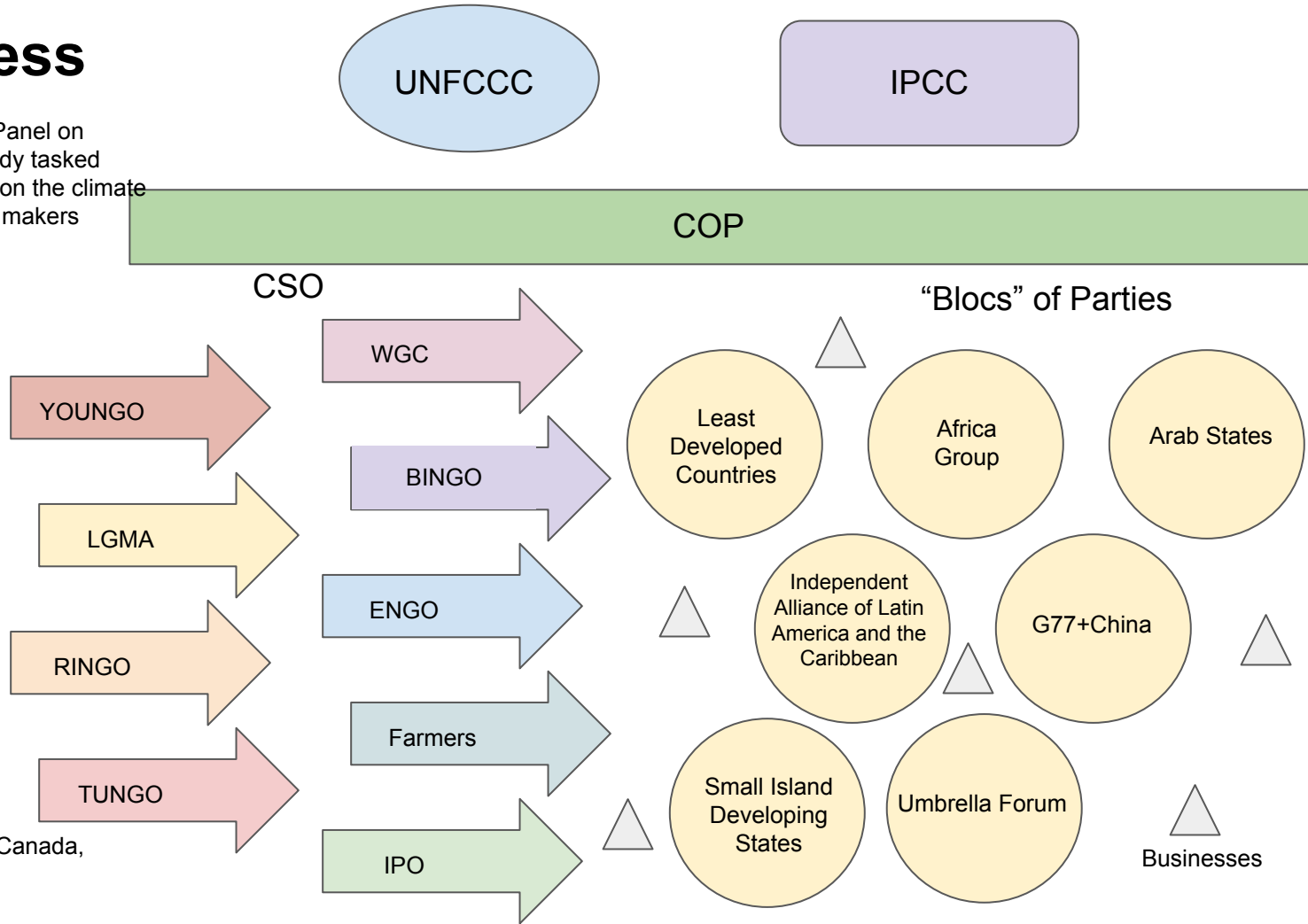
**CarbonBrief**  
CLEAR ON CLIMATE

Source: [Carbonbrief.org](https://www.carbonbrief.org)



# COP Process

IPCC = Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the UN body tasked with studying and reporting on the climate crisis in order to help policy makers determine their response



Umbrella Forum = Australia, Canada, Japan, the US and Ukraine

# 9 COP Constituencies

Constituencies in the UNFCCC are loose groups of NGOs with diverse but broadly clustered interests or perspectives

**BINGO =**

Business and industry NGOs

**ENGO =**

Environmental NGOs

**Farmers =**

Farmers and agricultural NGOs

**IPO =**

Indigenous peoples organizations

**LGMA =**

Local government and municipal authorities

**RINGO =**

Research and independent NGOs

**TUNGO =**

Trade union NGOs

**WGC =**

Women and gender constituency

**YOUNGO =**

Children and youth NGOs



## Number of Fossil Fuel Lobbyists at U.N. Climate Negotiations

This year's COP28 conference in Dubai has nearly four times as many fossil fuel lobbyists as last year.

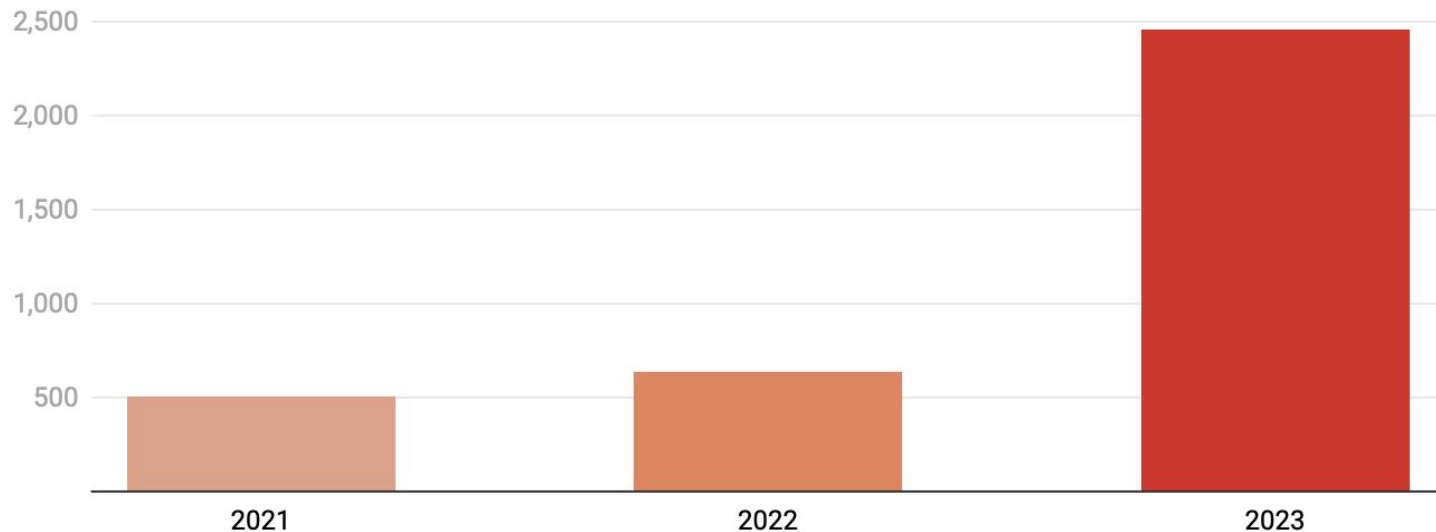


Chart: Kyla Mandel • Source: [Kick Big Polluters Out coalition](#)

<https://time.com/6342799/fossil-fuel-lobbyists-cop28/>

TIME

# COP29 Class Photo



# Why Baku?

## 5 UN Regions Rotate to Host

**COP26** Scotland, WEOG (Western European and Other Groups)  
26 countries

**COP27** Egypt, AFRICA  
27 countries

**COP28** UAE, ASIA-Pacific  
28 countries

**COP29** Azerbaijan, Eastern Europe  
29 countries

**COP30** Brazil, GRULAC (Latin American and Caribbean Group)  
30 countries



\*The United States of America is not a member of any regional group, but attends meetings of the Group of Western European and other States as an observer and is considered to be a member of that group for electoral purposes.

# Why Baku?

## Russia's Role

### The 3rd Petro State to host COP

The UAE is not the first big [fossil-fuel state to host a COP](#). Natural gas-rich [Qatar hosted COP18](#) in 2012, while the summit has taken place three times in coal-reliant Poland.

Ilham Aliyev, President of Azerbaijan, calls oil and gas “gift from God” at Opening Ceremony of COP29; calls out hypocrisy of Europe demanding more export from Azerbaijan after cutting ties with Russia



The world's first industrially drilled oil well, 1846



# Controversy over sponsors

Coca-cola a major sponsor of COP27 - [named the world's leading polluter of plastics](#) in 2021, has increased its use of new plastics since 2019 by 3 percent to 3.2 million tons.



# COP29 Post-US Presidential Election

“Durable,” too late to turn around

US State Dept Briefing: only ONE

US Center Pavilion

- 60 Sessions: [YouTube](#)
- 8 Presidential Declarations

Triple Nuclear Energy

Reduce other Super Pollutants - methane

[2022 Inflation Reduction Act](#) :

\$369 billion in energy security and climate change investment



WA Governor Jay Inslee



Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm

# 2022 – COP27 / Implementation

Moving from negotiations to implementation for all the promises and pledges made.

For the first time, “funding arrangements” for **loss and damage** are included on the formal agenda, overcoming long standing objections from the United States and the European Union.



US State Department Briefing, Ali Zaidi, White House National Climate Advisor



  
**GREAT**  
BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

  
**GREAT**  
BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

**nationalgrid**

TELEPHONE

TELEPHONE

K&N  
Coffee

UK Pavilion



# COP29 Baku, Azerbaijan





# COP29 Baku, Azerbaijan



# Women and Gender Constituency (WGC)

The Women and Gender Constituency (WGC) is one of the nine stakeholder groups of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Established in 2009, the WGC now consists of 33 women's and environmental civil society organizations, who are working **to ensure that women's voices and their rights are embedded in all processes and results of the UNFCCC framework**, for a sustainable and just future, so that gender equality and women's human rights are central to the ongoing discussions.





# COP27 Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt





# COP29 Baku, Azerbaijan





## COP29 Baku, Azerbaijan





# COP29 Outcomes

1. **New Collective Quantitative Goal (NCQG):**  
\$300bn by 2035; \$1.3trillion needed
2. **Carbon market rules are set!** The Paris Agreement survives
3. **Gender:** Lima Gender Work Program extended 10 years; new Gender Action Plan due by COP30 Belem, Brazil
4. **Complete failure to strengthen language on the phase out of fossil fuels**



# The Huddle in the Final Finance Negotiation



# COP29 Closing Plenary



**INDIA AND NIGERIA BLAST COP29  
DEAL AS EU VOICES SUPPORT**

# Final Thoughts

**Gone:** US data on gender, environmental justices, health effects on women, minorities

**Inflation Reduction Act:** funding still there for green jobs in red states

**The World & Paris Agreement:** been there, done that; no “shock and awe”; leave the sooner, the better; a climate change denier at climate change conferences will only obstruct the process; COP process can continue to move on without the US

**Money:** market is ready for green industry; potentially \$8 trillion by 2032

# Thank You



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