

The Global Stocktake at COP28



The 28th Conference of the Parties (COP) taking place in Dubai from 30 November to 12 December 2023 will focus heavily on the first of the Global Stocktakes that were agreed upon in the Paris Agreement. In this infographic, we explain what the Global Stocktake is, how it works and the different interests and sticking points that are expected to shape the debate at COP28.

What is the Global Stocktake (GST)?

The Global Stocktake (GST) is a 5-yearly checkpoint that was agreed upon in the 2015 Paris Agreement. Its aim is to help governments to track and evaluate their progress on climate action and boost climate ambition over time.

The GST focuses on three aspects: mitigation, adaptation and finance.

The GST does not assess progress in individual countries, but the aggregate effect of action so far, motivating individual states to 'ratchet up' their own national targets, called nationally determined contributions or NDCs.

EVERY
5 years

Once the GST is complete, countries will have two years to submit their updated NDCs to the UNFCCC outlining how they intend to take stronger action.

Mitigation

Adaptation

Finance

What are sticking points?

Fossil fuels

Many campaigners want the GST to support fossil fuel phase out.

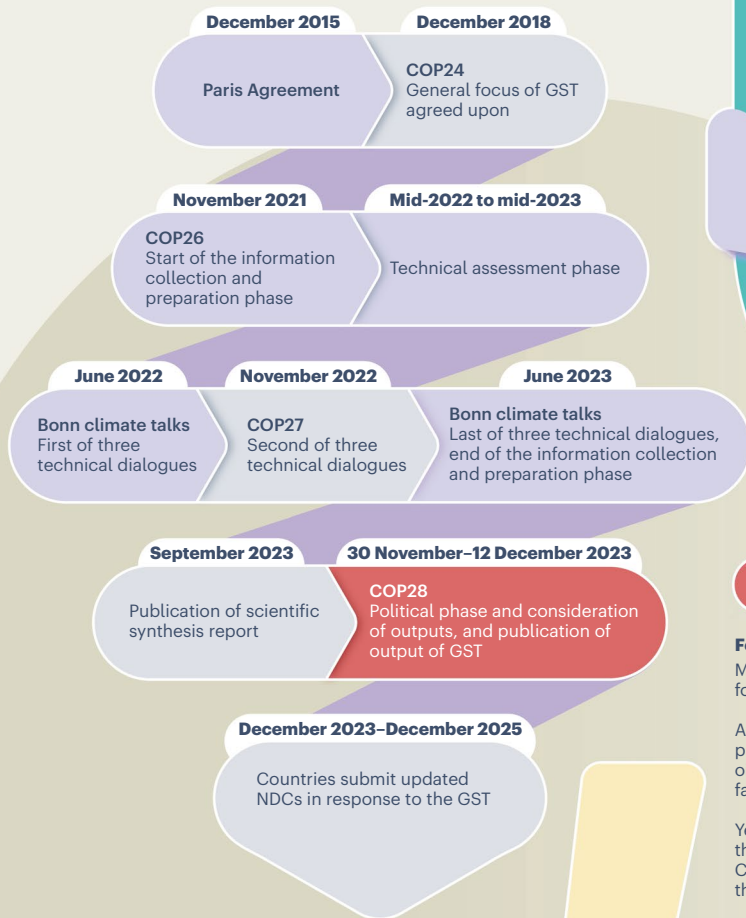
At COP27, a proposal by India to expand the previously agreed phase down of coal to include oil and gas was supported by 80 countries, but failed to make the final agreement.

Yet, at the UNFCCC talks in Bonn in June 2023, the United Arab Emirates climate envoy and COP28 president Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber said that fossil fuel phase down is "inevitable".

Finance

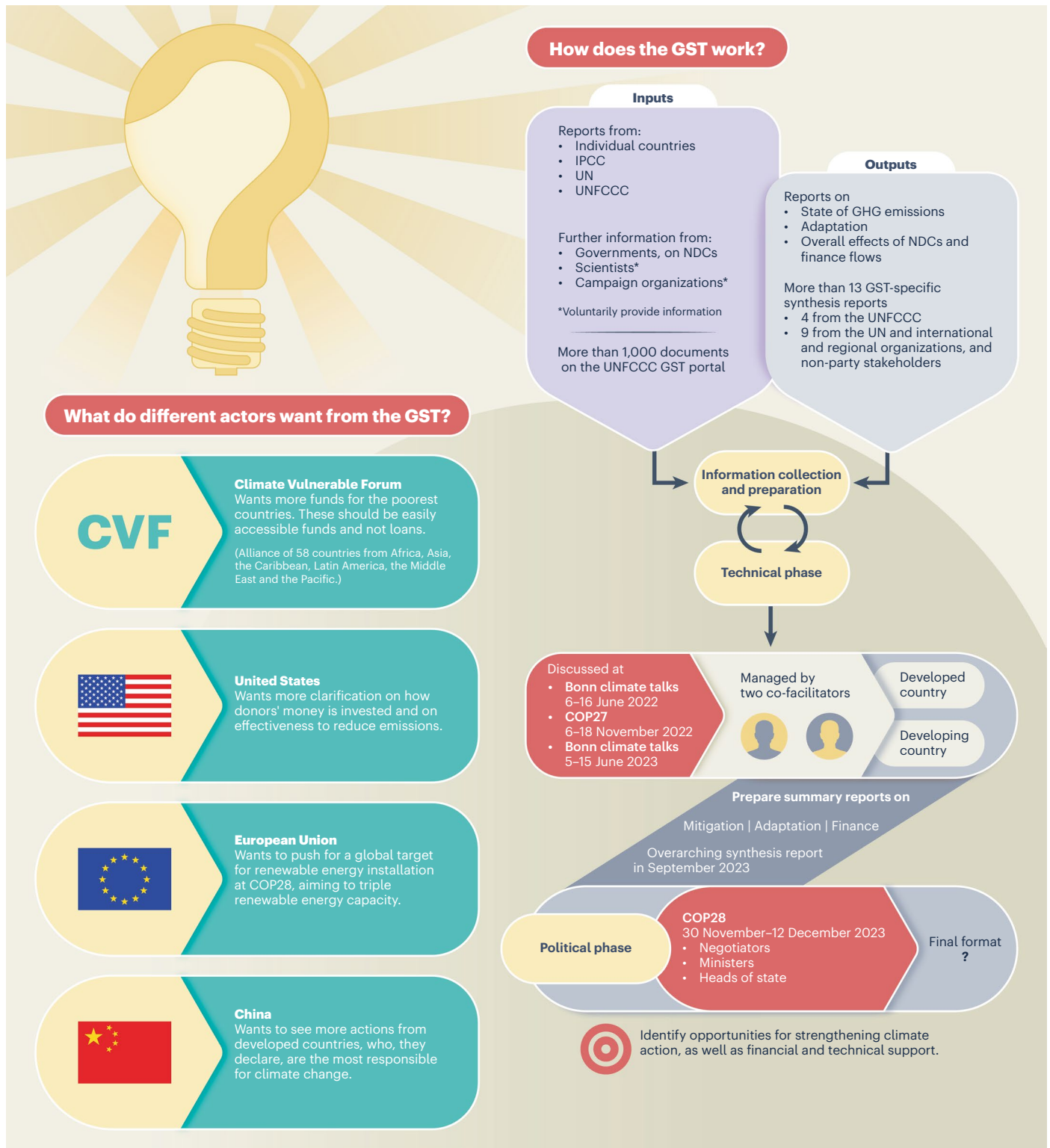
One question is how climate finance should be included in the GST as there are conflicting beliefs about how much historical responsibility for climate change should influence current action.

For example, developed countries have failed to deliver the US\$100 billion promised in 2009 to support climate change mitigation and adaptation in poorer nations, which has become an issue in all climate negotiations.



Acronyms

COP	Conference of the Parties
GHG	Greenhouse gas
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
NDCs	Nationally determined contributions
UN	United Nations
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



Design and artwork: Valentina Monaco;
background research: Catherine Early.

Published online: 13 October 2023