

The UK's Approach to Net Zero

Ken O'Flaherty, COP26 Regional Ambassador to Asia-Pacific and South Asia

20 July, 2021



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

Agenda

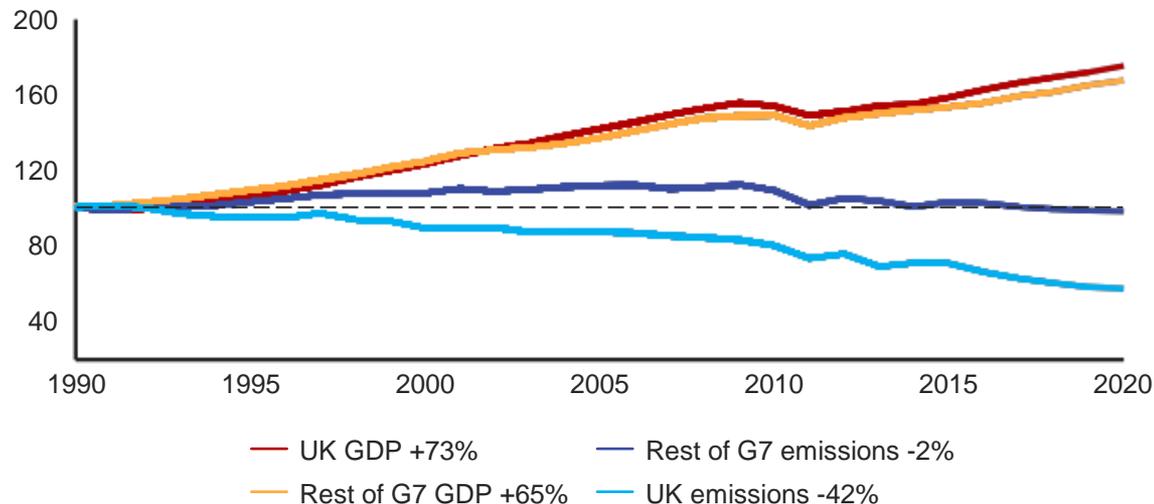


1. The UK's Approach to Net Zero – how will we reach net zero by 2050?
2. UK Policies to Drive Climate Action
3. Towards COP26 – what are our goals?

The UK has performed strongly to date in cutting emissions while growing the economy

UK vs Rest of G7 GDP and Emissions

Index (1990=100)



- Decarbonised our economy fastest in the G20 since 2000.
- Emissions have fallen 43% since 1990
- ... and emissions **per capita** have **halved** (from 14tCO₂e to 7tCO₂e respectively)



How the UK will reach net-zero by 2050

- The UK government will set the world's most ambitious climate change target into law to reduce emissions by **78% by 2035 compared to 1990 levels.**
- **Ambitious strategies across all sectors including energy, transport and buildings** to decarbonise in the run up to COP26.
- For the first time, the UK's Carbon Budget (CB6) will incorporate the UK's share of **international aviation and shipping emissions** – an important part of decarbonisation efforts that will allow for these emissions to be accounted for consistently.
- **Prime Minister personally chairs** the Climate Action Strategy Committee, this oversees action across government to reduce emissions and deliver net zero.
- The UK will be home to pioneering businesses, new technologies and green innovation as we make progress to net zero emissions, **tackling climate change while laying the foundations for decades of economic growth in a way that creates thousands of jobs.**
- **Already in 2020 announced £bns for low carbon economy**, including £3bn to decarbonize buildings, £800m fund for CCS & £1bn for ultra-low emission vehicles infrastructure.



UK Policies to Drive Climate Action

The UK's NDC

- The Prime Minister announced on 4 December 2020 an ambitious new Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by **at least 68%** by 2030 compared to 1990 levels. This target commits the UK to the fastest rate of emissions reductions of any major economy.
- The UK's NDC meets the recommendation of experts at the UK's independent Climate Change Committee as we accelerate towards net zero by 2050. It is built on robust analysis and shows the importance we attach to short term action to limit temperature rise in line with Paris Agreement.

The Prime Minister's Ten Point Plan

- The Prime Minister has set out his ambitions ten-point plan for a green industrial revolution – an innovative and ambitious programme of job creation that will mobilise £12 billion of government investment to support up to 250,000 highly-skilled green jobs in the UK, and spur up to three times as much private sector investment.
- Covering clean energy, transport, nature and innovative technologies this plan will enable the UK to forge ahead of delivering its target of net zero – ending its contribution to climate change by 2050 – and building back better.

The UK's Adaptation Communication

- At the Climate Ambition Summit, the UK became one of the first countries in the world to fulfil a key commitment of the Paris Agreement by publishing our Adaptation Communication, setting out how we are enhancing our resilience to the changing climate. We encourage all countries to come forward with adaptation communications and plans.



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

UK Policies to Drive Climate Action

International Climate Finance

- The UK will provide support through our international climate finance, which we have committed to double to £11.6bn over the period 2021 to 2025

End of Support for Fossil Fuels Overseas

- The British government will no longer provide any new direct financial or promotional support for the fossil fuel energy sector overseas. This extends to any new official development assistance, investment, export credit and trade promotion activity. There will be a few - tightly bound - exemptions allowed for activities that support health and safety improvements, form part of wider clean energy transitions, support decommissioning, or are associated with a humanitarian response.

Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy and Energy White Paper

- Building on the Prime Minister's [10 Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution](#) published last year, the Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy sets out the UK's vision for building a competitive, greener future for the manufacturing and construction sector. Part of the government's path to net zero by 2050, today's measures will create and support 80,000 UK jobs over the next 30 years whilst cutting emissions by two-thirds in just 15 years.
- The Energy White Paper sets out specific steps the government will take over the next decade to cut emissions from industry, transport, and buildings by 230 million metric tonnes – equivalent to taking 7.5 million petrol cars off the road permanently – while supporting hundreds of thousands of new green jobs.



Towards COP26 in November



“We owe it to future generations to build back better and base our recovery on solid foundations, including a fairer, greener and more resilient global economy... The UK will take this forward by hosting the UN climate change conference in Glasgow next year.”

*Prime Minister Boris Johnson,
UN Financing for Development Meeting,
28 May 2020*



The Four Goals of COP26

1. MITIGATION – SECURE GLOBAL NET ZERO AND KEEP 1.5 DEGREES WITHIN REACH

Encouraging net-zero commitments by mid-century (delivered through LTSs), and enhanced 2030 NDCs.

Accelerating the phase-out of coal, encourage investment in renewables, halt fossil fuel subsidies and pick up the pace on electric vehicle roll out.

2. ADAPTATION – URGENTLY ADAPT TO PROTECT COMMUNITIES AND NATURAL HABITATS

Enabling and encouraging countries affected by climate change to build defences, warning systems and resilient infrastructure to avoid loss of homes and livelihoods.

COP26

3. MOBILISING FINANCE

Making good on the \$100bn annual climate finance goal affirmed through the Paris Agreement. We need to be in a position to unleash the trillions in private and public finance to meet global net zero.

4. COLLABORATION – WORK TOGETHER TO ACCELERATE ACTION

Close off the outstanding elements of the Paris Rulebook, and accelerate delivery of the Paris Goals through collaboration between Governments, Businesses and Civil Society.



“The way we rebuild our economies post COVID-19 will have a profound impact on our planet. We have the opportunity to build back better by investing in a clean, resilient recovery that delivers for people and the planet.”

Alok Sharma, COP26 President Designate



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY