

Caring for Our Common Home: Jesuit Collective at COP26



At a time when the world is looking to recover from the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the lives, livelihoods and economies, heads of governments and policymakers explored the chance to build back better with a focus on low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development. Hosted by the UK in partnership with Italy, the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow brought together state parties to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). COP 26 was held from 31 October to 12 November 2021.

The Paris Agreement (2015) was a historic moment when the world was brought face to face with the growing climate crisis. It paved way for discussions and deliberations on reducing carbon emissions, limiting global warming and creating a sustainable future for all life on the planet. The COP26 saw dynamic representation from nearly 200 countries at Glasgow. Multiple deliberations and negotiations among Parties resulted in some key agreements too.

Leading the world towards tackling and adapting to climate change, the Jesuit Collective swung into action. The Jesuit Conference of India/South Asia (JCI/JCSA) joined the Ecojesuit network, which hosted multiple events with the support of its partners at COP26. While change affects everyone, it is the poorest and the marginalised who end up bearing the most. Guided by the Ignatian spirituality, call of the Pope Francis's encyclicals *Fratelli Tutti* and *Laudato Si* for solidarity and integral ecology, and the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs), JCI/JCSA and its network of collaborators got actively engaged in this process that sought to heal our common home. JCI-CDO was represented by Dr. Siji Chacko, Director - CDO.

