



Innovation | Collaboration | Engagement

Baku, Azerbaijan

29 September – 3 October, 2025

Provisional Programme



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OVERVIEW

Following the success of the inaugural Baku Climate Action Week (BCAW) in 2024, Azerbaijan will host the second edition of #BCAW2025 from September 29 to October 3, 2025. Building on the strong foundations laid last year, BCAW2025 will continue to serve as a high-impact platform for international collaboration, innovation, knowledge exchange, and practical climate solutions.

The emergence of Climate Action Weeks around the world has galvanized the international climate diplomacy process and brought a needed local and regional focus on implementation. The Climate Action Weeks complement the UNFCCC's Regional Climate Weeks which have taken place in Asia, Latin America, Africa and MENA regions, as part of the UNFCCC's diplomatic engagement on the official agenda to raise ambition and accelerate climate action ahead of the annual UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP).

About Climate Action Weeks

The Climate Action Week model was initiated in London in 2019, ahead of COP26 hosted by the United Kingdom, to provide a whole of society mobilization platform at a key point in the international calendar, after the UNFCCC Bonn meetings. The London model has successfully positioned this annual event as the key moment bringing together the COP Presidency, private sector, finance institutions, cities and regions, professional bodies, think tanks, civil society and other stakeholders together in a unified display of commitment to delivery of the Paris Agreement. In 2024, the COP29 Presidency successfully delivered the first Baku Climate Action Week in partnership with London as a similar moment of whole of society mobilization ahead of COP29 in November 2024. The Climate Action Weeks are a complement to the regional climate weeks, organized under the guidance of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), in partnership with regional institutions and host governments. The growing movement of Climate Action Weeks now encompasses Auckland, Bangkok, Central & Eastern Europe, Dublin, Rio de Janeiro and Sydney.

The goal of Climate Action Weeks is to:

- Localize and accelerate the global climate agenda through practical place-based action;
- Showcase regional innovation and leadership on the green transition, including financial institutions;
- Foster collaboration between public and private sectors, local and sub-national actors, academia, professions, youth, civil society and others;

- Provide a multisectoral platform for the above to advance sectoral transitions that advance growth, prosperity and climate resilience.

Climate Action Weeks serve as bridge moments between annual COP negotiations, allowing countries to share experiences, align efforts, and strengthen climate diplomacy. By hosting BCAW for the second year, Azerbaijan continues to contribute to this evolving global movement by offering a regional platform with international relevance, ahead of COP30 and beyond.

Reflecting on BCAW2024

Held under the auspices of the COP29 Presidency and the UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP29, the inaugural BCAW (September 30 – October 4, 2024) brought together a broad coalition of stakeholders, including government officials, private sector leaders, academia, civil society, and international organizations. As a key milestone ahead of COP29 in Baku, it underscored the importance of whole-of-state and whole-of-society engagement in the climate agenda. It catalyzed action, showcased innovation, and fostered new networks of collaboration across sectors.

BCAW2024 successfully:

- Secured commitments from the private sector and financial institutions to scale up investments in sustainable practices.
- Highlighted the critical role of SMEs in the green economy, reinforcing their contribution to innovation and supply chain sustainability.
- Advanced policy and technical discussions on energy transition and methane reduction, resulting in clear commitments from both public and private sectors.
- Launched strategic initiatives, including the Harmoniya Pledge and the Azerbaijan Universities Network on Climate Change (AUNCC).
- Positioned youth and education at the heart of climate action, fostering solutions through the Youth Ideathon and new educational partnerships.
- Strengthened scientific collaborations, particularly in the use of AI and digital technologies for emissions monitoring and data analysis.
- Facilitated multi-stakeholder dialogue on sustainable infrastructure, smart cities, and shipping decarbonization, leading to impactful pledges and agreements.

PROGRAMME

BCAW2025 will build on the momentum from COP29, London and Rio Climate Action Weeks, and the global Mutirao advocated by the COP30 Presidency, to deepen international cooperation and advance practical action and implementation in the region and internationally through new partnerships. The programme will feature:

- High-level policy dialogues on energy, finance, climate adaptation, SMEs and just transition.
- Sectoral roundtables with industry, innovation leaders, and green entrepreneurs.
- Youth-led sessions that bring fresh perspectives into climate governance and action
- New partnerships to support delivery of global and regional climate commitments, including on SMEs and Sustainable Fashion

With Azerbaijan continuing its role as a convener of inclusive climate dialogue, BCAW2025 will focus on accelerating climate action, advancing solution-driven cooperation between governments, businesses, academia, professions and communities.

VENUES

Venues will be selected across the city, befitting the nature of the event.

AUDIENCE

BCAW2025 will bring together a diverse and inclusive audience from Azerbaijan, the region and the world, including:

- Policymakers and government officials;
- Industry leaders, green technology developers, and financial institutions;
- Researchers, climate scientists, and academic institutions;
- Civil society, NGOs, community groups, and youth organizations;
- Urban planners, architects, and representatives from infrastructure sectors;
- Arts, culture and sports communities working on climate engagement.

Day 1 – Monday, 29 September 2025	
Venue: <i>Baku Marriott Hotel Boulevard</i>	
Day 1 Theme: Laying the Foundation for 2030/ Transition to Green Economy, Green Skills & SMEs	
8:30-9:30	Registration
9:30-10:15	WELCOME & MINISTERIAL OPENING CEREMONY
10:15-11:30	<p>Session 1: Results of COP29, and the Road to COP30 Azerbaijan's Climate Leadership: From COP29 to BCAW2025</p> <p>This session will reflect on the key outcomes and breakthroughs from COP29. It will examine Azerbaijan's climate leadership during the Presidency, assess implementation progress, and explore how momentum can be sustained and deepened ahead of COP30.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azerbaijan's post-COP29 commitments and their role in global climate goals. • Assessing the impact of COP29 outcomes • Translating pledges into national and regional policy frameworks • Opportunities for regional leadership and cooperation post-COP • Institutional coordination for effective implementation • Enhancing stakeholder participation for COP30 success • Panel Discussion: Bridging Policy and Action – Moving from Pledges to Implementation
11:30-11:45	Coffee Break
11:45-13:00	<p>Session 2: Meeting the Green Transition Challenge – National Climate Plans (NDCs & NAPs), Investment Platforms & Transition Plans</p> <p>This session will focus on building a resilient and inclusive green economy, as required under the NDCs 3.0 whole of economy approach, balancing economic transformation with social equity. It will highlight tools, incentives, and policy models to ensure that vulnerable communities\sectors are supported during the transition. Speakers will further discuss strategies to scale up existing climate policies and introduce innovative approaches in their NDCs 3.0, NAPs, Investment Platforms & Transition Plans to meet the Paris Agreement targets.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National strategies to scale up green economic sectors • Public-private partnerships in climate-aligned growth • Ensuring social inclusion and protection during transition • Nature-based solutions and their economic potential • Role of sub-nationals and local authorities in advancing just transition
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break
14:00-14:15	Global Thought Leader Keynote

14:15-15:30	<p>Session 3: Supporting Green Skills Ecosystem – Focus on SMEs</p> <p>This session will explore how SMEs, education institutions, government agencies, and businesses can jointly develop the green skillsets required for a net-zero economy. It will focus on scalable models and financing mechanisms to build climate-ready workforces with experiences from Azerbaijan, Brazil, China, European Union, Turkey and UK.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public-Private Partnerships for Green Growth • Accelerating the Climate-Proofing SMEs Campaign of the UNFCCC High Level Champion • Showcasing successful green finance models • Defining priority green competencies for each economy • Integrating sustainability into education and vocational systems • Industry-academia collaboration in green workforce training • Certification and standards for green professions • International experiences and partnerships on workforce transition
15:30-15:45	Coffee Break
15:45-17:00	<p>Session 4: Green Finance & Sustainable Investments: Unlocking Climate Solutions</p> <p>Focus: Mobilizing financial resources for climate action in Azerbaijan.</p> <p>This session will highlight mechanisms to mobilize investments for sustainable business models, particularly among SMEs, and present practical tools to expand green financing in Azerbaijan.</p> <p>Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOCAR's green bonds and innovative finance mechanisms • Sustainable banking and ESG investment trends • Unlocking ESG-aligned capital for SMEs and startups • Incentives for commercial banks to finance low-carbon projects • Role of international financial institutions in climate projects • Encouraging private sector engagement in green investments • Startups pitching their climate-tech solutions to impact investors. • Public and multilateral funding for green entrepreneurship • Role of accelerators, incubators, and climate-tech hubs • Private sector engagement in green investments
17:00-17:15	Global Thought Leader Keynote
17:15	Thanks & Close
19:30-21:00	Gala Dinner

Day 2 – Tuesday, 30 September 2025	
Venue: <i>Baku Marriott Hotel Boulevard</i>	
Day 2 Theme: International Cooperation & Accelerating a Resilient, Clean Energy and Just Transition	
8:30-9:30	Registration
9:30-10:00	WELCOME & MINISTERIAL OPENING ADDRESS
10:00-11:15	<p>Session 1: Exploring Azerbaijan’s Potential in Solar, Offshore Wind, Blue & Green Hydrogen , Geothermal energy</p> <p>This session will present Azerbaijan’s strategic vision and investment roadmap for renewable energy. It will explore the country’s potential in solar, onshore and offshore wind, green hydrogen and geo-thermal energy sources.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azerbaijan’s roadmap for renewables, offshore wind, and hydrogen. • Policy frameworks and incentives for clean energy investment • Opportunities for offshore wind deployment in the Caspian • Grid modernization and integration of renewable sources • Public-private partnerships for a sustainable energy future • Regional leadership in renewable energy partnerships and trade
11:15-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	<p>Session 2: Advancing Climate Resilience through International Collaboration</p> <p>This session will explore how international cooperation can accelerate decarbonization, adaptation and resilience across the sectors. It will also provide a platform for key national actors to present updates on their climate commitments, partnerships, and investment programmes since COP28.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Necessity of wholistic approach to real economy transition challenges: decarbonization, adaptation & resilience • Case study: SOCAR’s decarbonization roadmap and international collaborations • Role of technology partnerships in accelerating emissions reductions • Impact of international partnerships and regional collaboration mechanisms • Regulatory instruments and fiscal incentives for energy performance upgrades
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break
14:00-14:15	Ministerial Address
14:15-14:30	Global Thought Leader Keynote

14:30-15:15	<p>Session 3: From Pledges to Action: Advancing COP29 Legacy Through Corporate Sustainability</p> <p>The session will highlight how corporate actions are helping drive the sustainability agenda in line with the pledges made during COP29 and before.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legacy of COP29: How has COP29 influenced Azerbaijan’s corporate agenda? • Post-COP29 Implementation: Practical steps taken by the private sector to operationalize sustainability commitments. • Embedding climate responsibility into governance, operations, and long-term strategies. • New technologies, renewable energy solutions, and sustainable finance emerging post-COP29. • Ensuring transparency, measuring progress, and aligning with international standards. • Case studies from energy, agriculture, and diversified industries demonstrating real impact. • How Azerbaijani companies can leverage COP29’s legacy to remain global sustainability leaders.
15:15-15:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Coffee Break</p>
15:30-16:30	<p>Session 4: From Collaboration to Implementation: Driving Progress in Methane Management</p> <p>The session will showcase the joint experience of SOCAR, bp, OGCI, and GHGSat in deploying satellite-based technologies across SOCAR’s assets. Participants will explore how these advanced tools are enhancing the accuracy of methane emissions detection, enabling rapid response, and supporting more effective emissions management. The session will provide an overview of the current capabilities and practical applications of satellite monitoring, highlighting how space-based data is reshaping industry practices.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are new technologies helping to reshape practices in the oil sector? • What practical experiences on methane abatement can be considered best practices for upscaling? • Is there an intersection between new technologies and tools, and the global drive for emissions reduction?
16:30-17:30	<p>Session 5: Achieving a Just Transition: Best practice and lessons learnt for policymakers</p> <p>A just transition ensures that the shift to a green economy is fair, inclusive, and socially responsible. This session will examine labor protections, stakeholder engagement, and policies to support workers and communities in transitioning industries.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principles of a just transition in fossil-fuel dependent sectors; • Social protection programs for vulnerable and displaced workers • Protection of workers' rights during the ecological transformation of the economy; • The impact of digital technologies on climate change. • National strategies for retraining and job replacement • Engaging trade unions and employers in climate-labor dialogue • Digitalization and the future of green jobs • International labor standards in the context of ecological transition

17:30

Thanks & Close

Fashion Show and Roundtable on Sustainable Fashion and COP30 Breakthrough Agenda

18:00-20:00, Baku Boulevard

A unique fashion show featuring garments made entirely from re-used and upcycled materials. Each piece presented will be accompanied by a narrator relating the story and sustainability concept behind each material used.

A panel discussion will take place after the fashion show exploring some of the key themes and the potential of fashion as a new breakthrough agenda at COP30 and beyond.

Day 3 – Wednesday, 1 October 2025	
Venue: <i>Baku Marriott Hotel Boulevard</i>	
Day 3 Theme: Advancing Sectoral Climate Resilience – Agriculture, Water, Transport, Smart Cities; Women’s Leadership in Climate Action	
8:30-9:30	Registration
9:30-10:00	WELCOME & MINISTERIAL OPENING ADDRESS
10:00-11:15	<p>Session 1: Smart Agriculture and Food Security in a Changing Climate / Climate Tech</p> <p>Focus: Ensuring food resilience while reducing the environmental footprint of agriculture</p> <p>This session will explore how technology, policy, and grassroots solutions can strengthen climate resilience in agriculture. With increasing climate variability, the focus will be on enhancing food security through innovation, sustainable solutions, and local food systems. Case studies will be presented from Azerbaijan, Brazil, USA and other parts of the world.</p> <p>Key Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate-smart agricultural practices • Smart irrigation, water-efficient farming and soil conservation • Reducing food waste and promoting local food systems • Digital tools (AI, sensors, drones) for real-time farm and yield monitoring • Strengthening local supply chains and community-based agriculture • Role of policy and finance in supporting sustainable rural transformation • Role of technology in sustainable farming
11:15-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	<p>Session 2: Regional Sustainable Water Management</p> <p>This session will explore innovative approaches to water conservation, irrigation efficiency, and climate-adaptive water management strategies in the agricultural sector.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water scarcity and its impact on global agriculture • Efficient irrigation technologies (smart irrigation, solar pumps) • Managing water use in drought-prone and semi-arid zones • Enhancing soil moisture retention and rainwater harvesting • Role of data and satellite mapping in water allocation • Institutional reforms and governance for basin-level water management • Case studies from Azerbaijan: rehabilitation, reuse, and innovation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Azerbaijan's solutions for water scarcity and sustainable irrigation
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break
14:00-14:15	Ministerial Address
14:15-15:15	<p>Session 3: Transport and Digitalization – Focus on the Caspian and Central Asia</p> <p>Transport and digital innovation are critical to reducing emissions and improving efficiency in climate action. This session will address sustainable mobility solutions, electrification of transport, and digital technologies for emissions tracking. Experts from around the world will explore how AI, big data, and blockchain can support climate monitoring and policy implementation.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electrification of transport: infrastructure, incentives, and adoption Role of digitalization in route optimization and fuel efficiency Intelligent transport systems (ITS) for climate-smart mobility Low-emission zones and smart urban traffic management Blockchain and big data in emissions tracking and logistics monitoring Integration of transport and energy systems Future of autonomous vehicles in green mobility
15:15-15:30	Coffee Break
15:30-16:30	<p>Session 4: Urban Resilience & Smart Cities Forum: Smart Cities & Sustainable Urban Development in Azerbaijan</p> <p>Focus: Building environmentally friendly, efficient, and resilient cities.</p> <p>This session will examine how urban planning and smart city innovations can enhance resilience to climate risks, reduce emissions, and promote sustainable lifestyles. Case studies and tools for implementing scalable smart infrastructure in Azerbaijani cities will be shared.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable transportation and mobility solutions Green architecture and energy-efficient buildings Digitalization and AI in climate-smart urban planning Circular economic strategies for waste reduction Green public transport, walkable cities, and micro-mobility Energy-efficient buildings and nature-based urban solutions Urban digital twins and AI for environmental monitoring Climate adaptation planning at the municipal level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governance, financing, and citizen engagement in smart cities
16:30-17:30	<p>Session 5: Women Leading Climate Action: Bridging the Gender Gap in Sustainability</p> <p>Focus: Empowering women to take leadership roles in climate policy and action.</p>

	<p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's leadership in climate governance and diplomacy • Promoting gender-responsive climate policy frameworks • Women-led green and sustainable entrepreneurship • Overcoming barriers to women's participation in climate finance • Gender equality in climate research and innovation ecosystems • Creating supportive platforms and networks for women in climate sectors
17:30	Thanks & Close

Day 4 – Thursday, 2 October 2025	
Venue: Heydar Aliyev Centre	
Day 4 Theme: Arts, Culture and Youth-led Innovation	
TBD	Registration
TBD	<p>“Voices of the Future” – Youth-Led Climate Talks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>TEDx-style talks featuring young Azerbaijani activists, scientists, and green entrepreneurs sharing ideas for Baku’s sustainable future.</i> • <i>Case studies from successful Azerbaijani youth-led projects, such as urban farming, water conservation, and waste reduction.</i> • <i>Interactive discussion with city officials on how young people can shape sustainability policies.</i>
TBD	<p>Art for the Planet – Youth Art Exhibition</p> <p>The session will feature a curated display of 30 powerful visual artworks created by youth. Selected works will cover themes such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change and Hope • My Future Earth / My Future Baku / My Future Azerbaijan • The Planet has a Heartbeat • Letters from the Future
TBD	<p>Innovation for the Planet – Youth Start-Up Exhibition</p> <p>This will be a showcase of 15-20 start-ups or projects led by youths offering practical solutions to climate and sustainability challenges.</p> <p>These include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green tech or renewable energy innovations • Climate-smart agriculture ideas • Eco-products or services • Waste-to-resource innovations • Digital tools or apps for climate education or action <p>Each start-up will be provided with a spot for presentation, product demos, or interaction. Five top projects will be selected by the jury for awards and mentorship opportunities.</p>

Day 4 – Thursday, 2 October 2025

Venue: Baku State University

Day 4 Theme: Climate Science, Education, and Innovation

TBD	<p>Climate Education and Scientific Innovation</p> <p>Equipping future generations with the knowledge and skills to address climate challenges is crucial. This session will focus on integrating climate education into curricula, supporting academic research, and fostering international collaboration in climate science. Discussions will highlight advancements in climate modeling, AI applications, and data-driven climate solutions.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating climate change education into curricula • Advancing climate science through collaborative research • Role of AI and data analytics in climate research • Fostering international educational collaboration in climate innovation

Day 5 – Friday, October 3, 2025

Venue: Multiple venues

Day 5 Theme: COMMUNITY IMPACT DAY – “ACT FOR THE FUTURE”

The final day of BCAW2025 will focus on practical action in Baku, engaging residents, businesses, and policymakers to leave a lasting sustainability impact. Instead of just discussions, this day will feature tree planting, urban clean-up, climate education, and a vibrant cultural closing event, ensuring that Baku takes a real step forward in climate action.

9:15-10:30

WALK THE TALK FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Public engagement activity led by United Nations in Baku on the Baku promenade

TBD

The Role of the Sports Sector in Climate Action (Baku Sports Academy)

This session will explore how the sports sector is integrating sustainability into events, facilities, and athlete engagement, using its platform to drive climate and sustainability awareness and action. Lessons from leadership initiatives, including at Rio Climate Action Week, UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action, British Association for Sustainability in Sports (BASIS), Sport Positive, etc. will be shared.

Discussion points:

- Using sports as a platform for climate education
- Sustainability in major sports events
- Green stadiums and eco-friendly sports facilities
- Athletes as climate advocates

APPENDIX

PROVISIONAL ROUNDTABLES PLANNED FOR BCAW 2025

Proposed Roundtables during BCAW 2025

Roundtable 1: Sustainable Materials and Circular Construction

A deep dive into the role of sustainable materials, recycling, and circular economy principles in construction. This session will explore how circular economy principles and material innovations can reduce the carbon footprint of infrastructure while supporting long-term sustainability.

Discussion point:

- Use of low-carbon building materials
- Modular design, prefabrication, and life-cycle optimization
- Procurement standards and green certification systems
- Scaling circular economy models in the construction supply chain
- Technological innovations in sustainable construction
- Private sector and government collaboration in pilot projects

Roundtable 2: Article 6 and Carbon Markets

This session will explore opportunities for Azerbaijan to participate in global carbon markets under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. It will cover institutional readiness, private sector engagement, and regional cooperation prospects.

Discussion points:

- Fundamentals of Article 6 and emerging global practices
- Steps for developing domestic carbon market infrastructure
- Ensuring transparency through digital tools
- Carbon pricing as a driver of private investment
- Public-private collaboration in emissions trading systems
- Regional and bilateral carbon market pilots

	<p>Roundtable 3: Advancing Net-Zero Building Standards</p> <p>This session will explore emerging policies, building codes, and innovative technologies to reduce construction carbon emissions. Experts will discuss strategies for implementing net-zero standards and ensuring energy efficiency in new and existing buildings.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net-zero and near-zero energy building codes and international best practices • Passive design, solar integration, and smart energy systems • Challenges in achieving net-zero in existing buildings • Financial tools to support green construction at scale • Workforce training and professional certification for net-zero standards • Cities' role in promoting and enforcing sustainable building regulations
	<p>Roundtable 4: Green Logistics and Supply Chain Optimization</p> <p>The logistics sector is a major contributor to emissions. This session will explore how supply chains can be decarbonized through innovation, infrastructure modernization, and new data-driven models for tracking environmental performance.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green corridors and intermodal freight strategies • Electrification and low-carbon fuels in transport fleets • Emissions tracking through IoT, AI, and supply chain platforms • Vendor compliance and green procurement practices • Opportunities for startups and logistics tech innovation
	<p>Roundtable 5: Strengthening Legal & Regulatory Frameworks for Climate Resilience and a Net Zero Transition</p> <p>This session will examine the role of legal and regulatory frameworks, carbon pricing mechanisms, and policy incentives in driving the real economy transition. Experts will discuss the best practices drawing on framework climate laws and policies from around the world to ensure a resilient and just transition to net zero by 2050.</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practices in climate legislation and policy innovation • Design of carbon pricing and emissions trading schemes • Reforming subsidies and aligning fiscal policy with climate goals • Creating enabling environments for private sector investment • Balancing regulatory ambition with business viability and social fairness • Implementing net-zero policies at the national and sub-national levels