

Press release

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Infrastructure is key to climate action, says UNOPS chief ahead of COP26


UNOPS chief calls for radical changes to infrastructure

As the 26th UN Climate Change Conference meets to discuss the climate emergency, UNOPS- the UN's infrastructure specialists - calls for radical changes to how infrastructure is planned, delivered and managed.

"Infrastructure is key to efforts to tackle the climate emergency. As the 26th UN Climate Change Conference brings the world together to discuss this defining issue of our time, UNOPS calls for radical changes to how we approach infrastructure, if we are to stop the worst effects of climate change. The infrastructure decisions made today will determine the quality of our common future. To ensure peace and prosperity for people and the planet, it is crucial that we make the right infrastructure choices now," **said UN Under-Secretary-General and UNOPS Executive Director, Grete Faremo.**

The call follows a [recent report](#) - published by UNOPS, together with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the University of Oxford - that shows infrastructure is responsible for 79 per cent of all greenhouse gas emissions and 88 per cent of all adaptation costs.

ENDS

A blue graphic element consisting of a series of overlapping triangles pointing to the right, resembling a stylized arrow or a folded piece of paper.

Notes to the editor:

To arrange interviews on the key role of infrastructure in climate action, please contact Tom Collins (tomco@unops.org / +45 4533 7708) or Taraneh Dadar (taranehd@unops.org).

About UNOPS

UNOPS mission is to help people build better lives and countries achieve peace and sustainable development. We help the United Nations, governments and other partners to manage projects, and deliver sustainable infrastructure and procurement in an efficient way. With decades of practical infrastructure experience, UNOPS is committed to supporting climate action and tackling the climate emergency.

Read more: www.unops.org