

## **What Really Happened at COP-28 in Dubai**

The twenty-eighth Conference of the Parties (COP-28) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) took place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in December 2023. It was hailed by the press as a great success or a distinct failure. It was neither, as most COPs are neither, largely because they have much in common with the annual World Economic Forum meetings in Davos, Switzerland. The most important COP-28 development took place 8,000 miles away in California two weeks earlier when the presidents of China and the United States signed their “Sunnylands Statement,” signaling renewed cooperation on climate change, and possibly a renewal of their co-leadership which had been so important in the leadup to the Paris Agreement in 2015. There were also disappointments at COP-28, including with regard to adaptation finance and lack of progress on Article 6 of the Agreement.