



**CLIMATE
ACTION
SUMMIT 2019**



A RACE WE CAN WIN

Zero Carbon Buildings for All

Buildings operations account for 28% of energy-related CO₂ emissions globally, making them among the largest contributors to climate change. The good news is that improving buildings also offers the biggest, most cost-effective climate mitigation solution available. But the global buildings sector is showing insufficient progress toward keeping the world under 1.5°C warming.

To meet any reasonable carbon reduction or resilience goals, **we need to decarbonize the world's building stock**. Doing so on an acceptable timeline will require dramatically enhanced ambition and execution.

Zero Carbon Buildings for All helps realize this ambition by leveraging the leadership of government, industry and civil society to tap low-cost efficiency opportunities in buildings and help drive a renewable energy future by

- (1) **Securing national commitments to decarbonize new buildings by 2030 and existing buildings by 2050**, through reflection in 2020 NDCs and other climate-related policies, and
- (2) **Mobilizing US \$1 TRILLION in Paris-compliant buildings investment** in developing countries by 2030.

Zero carbon buildings are technically achievable and recent *research* shows that there are multiple policy pathways available to governments in both emerging economies and industrialized countries alike. What has been missing is appropriate ambition by world leaders, and, as a result, the policy frameworks that unlock market development and investment.

EXPECTED IMPACTS

It's clear that all buildings must be net zero carbon by 2050 to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement, but fewer than 1% of buildings are today. Zero Carbon Buildings for All endeavors to combine policy with public and private financing, at national and local levels, to bridge this gap.

An analysis from early 2019 found that if Zero Carbon Buildings for All were to succeed in just ten economically and politically diverse countries, avoided emissions by 2030 would be **432 million tons CO₂e annually – equivalent to 5% of today's global energy-related emissions**. Additional reductions would be achieved with increased national commitment and participation.

ENGAGED INSTITUTIONS

Zero Carbon Buildings for All was announced at the United Nations' 2019 Climate Action Summit. The initial cohort of committing nations includes **Kenya, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom**. Implementation is being scoped in consultation with committed nations and partners, and discussions with other national governments are underway.

Many **private sector leaders** and **financial institutions** have committed to providing expertise and assistance to governments pioneering net zero carbon building policy and market development.

DEEP TECHNICAL & ADVISORY SUPPORT FOR COMMITTING NATIONS

Each committing country will establish its own policy roadmaps and action plans to realize a decarbonized building sector, supported by a network of local and international experts, and (as resources permit) on-the-ground expert staff.

International technical, policy and financial leaders stand ready to advise upon and support ambitious national action. Well-established, effective networks and platforms like the Building Efficiency Accelerator (BEA), the World Green Building Council (and its network of national Green Building Councils), the International Finance Corporation's EDGE Program, the Global Alliance for Buildings

and Construction (GABC), the Programme for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (PEEB), and others are expected to lead in providing support and technical assistance to building sector stakeholders, at the city and national level, around the world. Zero Carbon Buildings for All will leverage the credibility, know-how and capacity of these entities and others.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has indicated initial financial support for Zero Carbon Buildings for All's implementation, and additional funds are being secured.

COMMIT TO ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS FOR ALL

Zero Carbon Buildings for All represents a step change in the ambition of policymakers, financiers, and the private sector related to buildings-related climate mitigation and resilience.

National Governments, Investment and Financial Institutions can commit to Zero Carbon Buildings for All by drafting and signing a *statement of intent* and publicly declaring their support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO GET INVOLVED

Contact Buildings@wri.org.

SUPPORTING INSTITUTIONS (SELECTED)



WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE



WORLD
GREEN
BUILDING
COUNCIL



Global Alliance
for Buildings and
Construction



PEEB
PROGRAMME FOR
ENERGY EFFICIENCY
IN BUILDINGS



European
Investment
Bank



INVESTMENT FUND FOR
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

