



Towards a Global Alliance  
for Buildings and Construction

## **BUILDINGS DAY**

At COP 21

3 December 2015

## **THE BUILDINGS SECTOR IS ACTING NOW IT IS TIME TO SCALE UP**

The first 'Buildings Day', to be held at COP21 on 3 December 2015, provides an opportunity to launch an unprecedented alliance of organizations collectively committed to:

- ✓ Helping to put the buildings and construction sector on the "below 2 °C path"
- ✓ Aligning existing initiatives, partnerships, commitments and programmes to achieve greater scale and increase the pace of efficiency actions
- ✓ Catalysing stronger collaboration and targeting sectoral and cross sectoral climate action and solutions for all



More than 30 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions are buildings-related, and emissions could double by 2050 if we carry on business as usual. Inaction increases risks and vulnerability of countries, regions and local communities from climate change. Rapid urbanization could accelerate impacts. Yet:

- The buildings sector offers one of the most cost-effective and economically beneficial paths for reducing energy demand and associated emissions while at the same time supporting adaptation and resilience to climate change.
- Many low-energy, renewable and deep-renovation solutions are available. Proven policy, finance and technology actions exist.
- The economic, health, and social benefits of sustainable buildings are significant. Buildings provide shelter, places to live, work, learn and socialize, directly affecting our daily lives. Providing more than 50 per cent of global wealth, and one of the largest employers at local level, the sector also offers a path to poverty alleviation.
- Buildings are long-term ventures. Today's new buildings are tomorrow's existing stock. Failure to act now would lock in growth in GHG emissions for decades.



## BUILDINGS DAY ALLIANCE PROPOSITION

Before COP21, every country will have determined its national contribution to limit global warming to below 2 °C. The world must come together immediately to support them to meet – and where possible, exceed – their targets. By publicly committing to support countries to implement ambitious actions in the buildings sector, including to meet their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), we propose an alliance to leverage our capabilities to facilitate:

- **Communication** – Raising awareness and engagements, making visible the magnitude of the opportunities and impacts in the buildings sector, defining sectoral goals and promoting transparency and information exchange.
- **Collaboration** – Taking action to further enable public policies and market transformations towards climate neutrality, implementing partnerships, sharing technology and know-how, and improving deal-flow and access to efficient financing and funding.
- **Implementation** – Offering programs for further ambition and locally adapted solutions that firmly put the buildings sector on a below 2 °C path: increasing efficiency of buildings systems and envelope, mainstreaming low GHG materials, low-emission new buildings and scaling up deep renovation.

## NEXT STEPS: AN INVITATION TO SUPPORT GREATER ACTIONS

All major stakeholders, including governments, companies, financial institutions, organizations, academia, associations, professionals and user networks are invited to:

### ✓ **Demonstrate and reinforce impact of stakeholder's mobilization to achieve a below 2 °C pathway by:**

- A global forum on buildings and climate – Regularly gather key stakeholders in the sector and representatives of existing delivery platforms from around the world to share common visions, make visible climate actions and report on progress.
- Engagements – Stakeholders engage through the alliance to develop common and appropriate goals, disclose their targets and actions, and promote transparent measurement and MRV protocols.

### ✓ **Collaborate within the Alliance's first priorities to collectively address major challenges in three clusters:**

- **Public Strategies and Policies** – To support member cities, states, regions and countries in developing, building capacity for, and implementing, comprehensive building efficiency strategies and policies. National and local governments can work with alliance members to share technology solutions, scale finance and procurement approaches, and align national and local policies to speed actions. (Initially including France MEDDE-MLETR, United Nations Environment Programme, 10-Year Framework of Programmes, Sustainable Energy for All Initiative, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, EnergyCities,

International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation, Global Buildings Performance Network, World Resources Institute)

- **Value Chain Transformation** – To work together to develop comprehensive action plans across the entire buildings value chain, workforce development, skills and training, support for technology transfer, and capacity building. (Initially including World Green Building Council, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, RICS, The Prince of Wales's Corporate Leaders Group and Architecture 2030)
- **Finance** – To work to increase financing options adapted to accelerate investment and funding for building mitigation projects and programmes. (Initially including the UNEP Finance Initiative and Agence Française de Développement with the inputs of the G20 Energy Efficiency Finance Task Group)
- ✓ **Lead or contribute to addressing key opportunities through ambitious flagship initiatives such as:**  
Net Zero Buildings, Green Schools, Affordable & Sustainable Housing, Tropical Architecture Solutions, Iconic buildings, City Climate Actions, Retrofits, and Low-Emission Technology which further the Alliance's goals.



## JOIN NOW AND CATALYSE AMBITIOUS ACTIONS

For more information on COP21, the Global ABC  
and the Buildings Action Day, please visit our website:

[www.unep.org/climatechange/buildingsday](http://www.unep.org/climatechange/buildingsday)

Or contact us at: [info@globalabc.org](mailto:info@globalabc.org)



## INITIATING ORGANIZATIONS (TO DATE)

United Nations Environment Programme, France (MEDDE-  
MLETR, ADEME, AFD), Architecture 2030, Climate  
Technology Centre and Network, Energy-cities, Global  
Buildings Performance Network, Global Environment Facility,  
ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, Institut de la  
Francophonie pour le Développement Durable, International  
Energy Agency, International Partnership for Energy Efficiency  
Cooperation, International Union of Architects, The Prince  
of Wales's Corporate Leaders Group, Royal Institution of  
Chartered Surveyors, Sustainable Energy for All Initiative,  
10-Year Framework of Programmes Sustainable Buildings and  
Construction Programme, The Energy and Resources Institute,  
UNEP Global District Energy in Cities Initiative, UNEP-  
Finance Initiative, UNEP-Sustainable Buildings and Climate  
Initiative, UN-HABITAT, World Business Council for Sustainable  
Development, World Green Building Council, World Resources  
Institute.



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