

The Climate Action Accelerator joins the race to a net-zero world

The Climate Action Accelerator is proud to become an official Partner of Race to Zero, the UN-backed global campaign rallying non-state actors to take rigorous and immediate action to halve global emissions by 2030 and deliver a healthier, fairer zero carbon world in time.

By becoming a Partner in the Race to Zero, the Climate Action Accelerator will enable the international aid sector to join forces with the UNFCCC's cross-sector collaborative effort to reach the Paris Agreement goals. It will strengthen its own work of empowering emblematic organisations to act. transforming them into champions of change and building a community of practice around them.

To date, 14 key aid actors have joined the Climate Action Accelerator initiative and committed to take action in line with science-based targets, including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA), Médecins Sans Frontières and the Terre des Hommes network. Taking stock of the scientific consensus, the Climate Action Accelerator acts on a daily basis to further mobilise a critical mass of aid organisations, help them to halve their emissions by 2030 along a net-zero target trajectory and trigger a domino effect in the sector.

Last year, humanitarians committed to play a key role in addressing the climate crisis by assisting impacted populations and helping them to adapt, but also by transforming their practices and reducing their environmental footprint radically. The Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations – led by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) – now counts over 200 signatories within less than a year since its launch in May 2021.





"Because of their values, global presence, network of partners as well as the trust they inspire, the example of aid actors and national community organisations is critical in addressing the greatest challenge of our times. If they can do it while saving lives and alleviating suffering, it will inspire many others to follow the same trajectory",

says Bruno Jochum, Director of the Climate Action Accelerator.

With the Race to Zero, the Climate Action Accelerator joins a movement of 27 leading climate actors across regions and sectors. It will benefit from their accumulated experience, wider reach, technical support in mobilisation, target-setting and implementation, and a regular review of efforts and achievements by an independent expert panel from Oxford University installed by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Through this collaboration, the Climate Action Accelerator's partner organisations will gain access to the latest climate science and best practices for mitigating climate change and building resilience within the communities they serve.

Nigel Topping, UN High-Level Climate Champion for COP26, further emphasises:

"Our campaign Partners are critical to winning the Race to Zero, and so we are delighted to welcome the Climate Action Accelerator to the Race to Zero and amplify their ongoing efforts to mobilise and support the international aid sector towards a radical transformation of humanitarian and development practices across the globe. As key players on the frontline of human impacts of climate change, aid actors and community organisations have an important role to play in championing this transition to a zerocarbon world. COP26 marked the starting line; now, the race is on to rapidly reduce emissions and reach a resilient net-zero world in time."

About the Climate Action Accelerator:

The Climate Action Accelerator is a non-profit Genevabased initiative launched in December 2020 that aims to keep global warming below 2°C and avoid the risk of runaway climate change. Its aim is to help move the aid, health and higher education sectors towards a radical transformation of their practices, through an exponential increase in the number of organisations pursuing emissions reduction targets. By showing that direct action is possible, accessible and mutually beneficial, these organisations can influence their ecosystems and accelerate the implementation of sustainable climate solutions.

About Race to Zero:

Race to Zero is the UN-backed global campaign rallying non-state actors – including companies, cities, regions, financial and educational institutions – to take rigorous and immediate action to halve global emissions by 2030 and deliver a healthier, fairer zero carbon world in time. All members are committed to the same overarching goal: reducing emissions across all scopes swiftly and fairly in line with the Paris Agreement, with transparent action plans and robust near-term targets. The campaign – under the UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change – is led by the UN High-Level Climate Champions.