



# CLIMATE NEUTRAL NOW

Regional Collaboration Centre – Dubai  
Promoting Climate Action in the  
Middle East, North Africa and South Asia



UNITED NATIONS  
**ESCAP**

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific



UNITED NATIONS  
التعاون  
الاسيوي  
ESCWA

Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



**IGES**

Regional Collaboration Centre – Bangkok  
Promoting Climate Action in Asia and the Pacific



1. **Lexicon/terminology around climate neutrality**
2. **Background of the Climate Neutral Now initiative**
3. **The enhanced version of Climate Neutral Now**



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# CLIMATE NEUTRAL NOW

Global Climate Action  
United Nations Climate Change

Brief note on  
terminology



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Climate neutrality

Carbon neutrality

Net zero

Climate positive

Carbon negative

Net negative

... ?





# Nomenclature and conceptual discussion

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Emerging consensus  
(not agreed yet)

- Carbon neutral      **measure + reduce/avoid + offset**  
with current project types (avoidance, reduction, temporary capture / sequestration)  
Only carbon or other GHGs too.
  
- Net zero      **measure + reduce/avoid + long-term capture**  
with technological solutions, still to be made broadly available or even developed (like-for-like compensation)



# What does carbon offsetting really represent?

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A **concept** that gives a stakeholder the rationale to invest in projects that reduce, avoid or capture GHGs beyond their direct area of influence.

And a **tool** to mobilize finance, especially from **private sector**, for **emission reduction**/avoidance/capture-sequestration projects, and to bring **sustainable development co-benefits** to communities.

1- The polluter pays principle

£¥€\$

2- Price on carbon

3- Taking responsibility for our pollution (GHG emissions) as we do for other forms of pollution.



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# CLIMATE NEUTRAL NOW

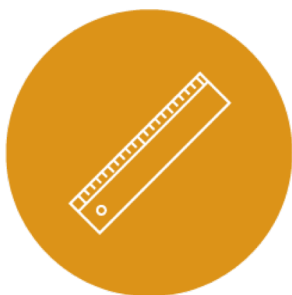
Global Climate Action  
United Nations Climate Change

## Background of the Climate Neutral Now initiative

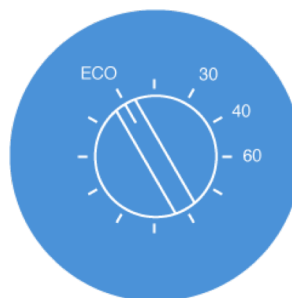


# Background

- **Origin:** mandate to promote voluntary use of CDM and CERs
- **Start date:** 15 September 2015
- Climate/carbon neutral/Net zero etc. **not widely known concept**
- **Categories:** organizations, companies, events, individuals, UN System
- **Global reach**



1. **MEASURE** your organization's or personal climate footprint



2. **REDUCE** emissions as much as possible



3. **OFFSET** what cannot be reduced, totally or partially, with UN-certified offsets.



- **500 participants** by April 2021
- **Wide outreach** efforts to over 1,500 organizations
- **UN System committed to climate neutrality** (97% by 2019)
- **Multiple collaborations across sectors:**
  - National governments (Germany, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru, Chile...)
  - Private sector (Doconomy, Qlik, Isokan...)
  - NGOs (W-Foundation, One World)
  - Associations (Events Industry Council, Airports Council International)
  - Others (Gulf Organization for Research and Development)
- Developed **tools** that have become widely used and recognized: UN Carbon Offset Platform, GHG footprint calculator for individuals
- Engagement in ISO 14068 **carbon neutrality standard**
- Engaged in **science-based target setting for the UN system**



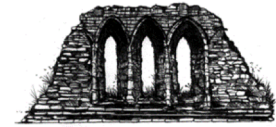


# Participants - examples



ARENDALE KOMMUNE

*Katamama*



YSGOL MAESGLAS  
*Our Pathway to Progress*

BENNETTS  
ASSOCIATES

MATOMA



United Nations Climate Change  
Global Climate Action



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# CLIMATE NEUTRAL NOW

Global Climate Action  
United Nations Climate Change

Enhanced version of  
Climate Neutral Now



# The process

Sign the  
Pledge  
(Once)



## Measure

- Quantify emissions
- Spot main sources

## Reduce

- Identify potential reductions
- Plan and implement actions

## Contribute

- Choose a project
- Contribute through offsets

## Report

- Assess results and revise
- Communicate

# Enhanced Measure + Reduce + Contribute approach



**Bronze**



**Silver**



**Gold**

	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Measure	Self-declared GHG inventory	Third-party verified GHG inventory, with incomplete scope 3	Third-party verified GHG inventory, including full scope 3
Reduce	Target established, with incomplete or no reduction plan	Net Zero by 2050 or earlier & reduction plan with intermediate targets	As Silver, with at least 5% reduction year-on-year
Contribute	Partial contribution	Full contribution with partial scope 3	Full scope 3, full contribution

Please note that a participant can achieve different levels in each step

Organizations that reach gold level for all steps 1 and 3, and silver level for scope 2, can be recognized as climate neutral. Others can be considered as contributing and being on the road to climate neutrality.



Organizations that reach Measure-Silver and Reduction-Silver align with Race to Zero.



# Enhanced Measure + Reduce + Contribute approach

## Step 1 Measure

<b>Measure Bronze</b>	Self-declared GHG inventory
<b>Measure Silver</b>	Third-party verified GHG inventory, with incomplete scope 3
<b>Measure Gold</b>	Third-party verified GHG inventory, including full scope 3

## Step 2 Reduce

<b>Reduce Bronze</b>	Target established, with incomplete or no reduction plan
<b>Reduce Silver</b>	Net Zero by 2050 or earlier target & reduction plan with intermediate targets
<b>Reduce Gold</b>	As Silver, with at least 5% reduction year-on-year

## Step 3 Contribute

<b>Contribute Bronze</b>	Partial contribution
<b>Contribute Silver</b>	Full contribution with partial scope 3
<b>Contribute Gold</b>	Full scope 3, full contribution

Organizations that reach gold level for all steps 1 and 3, and silver level for scope 2, can be recognized as climate neutral. Others can be considered as contributing and being on the road to climate neutrality.



Organizations that reach Measure-Silver and Reduction-Silver align with Race to Zero.












# Recognition – New logo and badge

CLIMATE  
NEUTRAL **NOW**



## Benefits of becoming a participant

 <b>UNDERSTAND</b> your GHG footprint	 <b>RECEIVE SUPPORT</b> to start the process to calculate that footprint	 <b>RECEIVE ADVICE</b> on how to reduce the footprint	 <b>REDUCE COSTS</b> increased resource & energy efficiency	 Be able to compete for <b>ADDITIONAL RECOGNITION</b> through the Global Climate Action Awards	 <b>IDENTIFY RISKS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b> arising from GHG emissions and related activities	 <b>IMPROVE BRAND RECOGNITION</b> (organizations)	 Strengthen employee <b>COMMITMENT AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY</b> efforts (organizations)
 <b>DEMONSTRATE LEADERSHIP</b>	 <b>BE RECOGNIZED</b> through a United Nations-led initiative	 <b>USE THE LOGO</b> of the initiative and be listed publicly as a participant	 Potential to be highlighted to the <b>CLIMATE NEUTRAL NOW COMMUNITY</b> through its newsletter & events	 For organizations that reach the required levels (see below) <b>ALIGNMENT WITH RACE TO ZERO CRITERIA</b>	 Preparation for <b>VOLUNTARY OR COMPULSORY GHG EMISSIONS PROGRAMS / INITIATIVES</b> led by national & local governments	 Preparation for <b>ALIGNMENT WITH EXISTING CARBON NEUTRALITY STANDARDS,</b> such as <b>PAS 2060</b>	 For governments that have no voluntary GHG initiative yet <b>A WAY TO PROVIDE RECOGNITION</b> to organizations

In addition:

- The Climate Neutral Now initiative has **no participation fee**.
- A participant can stop participating **at any point in time**.

Join us in the next webinar!

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# Measure: the basics

26 May 2021

9:30 am CEST / 11:30 am Dubai / 14:30 Bangkok

<https://unfccc.int/climate-action/climate-neutral-now/climate-neutral-now-events-2021>



United Nations Climate Change  
Global Climate Action



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# Thank you

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NOW**



**United Nations** Climate Change  
Global Climate Action

<https://unfccc.int/climate-action/climate-neutral-now>

