

Agenda item 4.d.ii- Buildings and infrastructure

## Defining the focus and organization of the TEC work on buildings and infrastructure

Technology Executive Committee, 28<sup>th</sup> meeting and TEC-CTCN Joint session  
16-18 and 19 April 2024, Copenhagen, Denmark



**Sousan Torabi Parizi**  
Programme Officer, Technology subdivision

### Background

As per Activity C.2.1 of the TEC rolling workplan on ‘buildings and infrastructure’, the TEC is to explore the use of low carbon materials in buildings, green building codes and green zoning systems that promote energy efficiency and resilience, with a view to support countries in the implementation of their NDCs.

The implementation of this activity, based on deliberations in 2022 during the formulation of the workplan, is envisaged for 2024-2025, consisting of an event/dialogue (in 2024) and an associated knowledge product (in 2025).

Since the launch of the TEC rolling workplan at COP 27:

- Significant **developments have taken place in the policy landscape of the buildings and construction sector**, namely the launch of the Buildings Breakthrough (COP28) and the first event Buildings and Climate Global Forum (March 2024).
- The TEC chairs or the secretariat under their guidance, have **explored potential collaborative partnerships in the implementation of this activity** in engagement with a diverse array of actors, some of which have resulted in concrete opportunities for collaboration.

## Agenda item 4.d.ii- Buildings and infrastructure

### Background & key developments on the topic relevant to the TEC's work

- 2020 UNFCCC Regional Technical Expert Meetings on Mitigation, organized by TEC and CTCN with support from the GlobalABC (> [see technical paper](#))
- 2021 UNFCCC Compendium on greenhouse gas baselines and monitoring: Building and construction sector (> [see compendium](#))
- 2022 IPCC chapter on buildings (> [see chapter 9, WG III](#))
- 2023 Launch of work under the TEC rolling workplan 2023-2027, i.e. on transformative industry with relevance to the 'buildings and infrastructure' (> [see more](#))
- 2023 Buildings Breakthrough launched at COP 28 as part of the Breakthrough Agenda, to be coordinated under the umbrella of the GlobalABC
- 2024 First Buildings and Climate Global Forum hosted by the Government of France and UNEP, with support from the ABC (> [see Déclaration de Chaillot](#))
- 2024 [forthcoming] Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme in 2024: "Cities: buildings and urban systems" (> [see more info](#))
- 2024 [Forthcoming] IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities

There is a diverse array of topics – related to decarbonization pathways, climate resilience and enabling environments in the buildings and infrastructure sectors– emerging from scoping efforts to date, that may be further discussed by the TEC/Activity Group to define the focus of TEC's policy work, taking into account the interest of potential partners.



## Agenda item 4.d.ii- Buildings and infrastructure

---

### At a glance: Concrete proposals and options for collaborative partnerships on buildings and infrastructure, emerging from the scoping efforts

#### **GlobalABC**

#### **MIT Policy Lab**

Contributing to the work of the TEC by leveraging MIT's relevant expertise and active research on low carbon building materials, urban planning, and infrastructure design

#### **UN Climate Change High-level Climate Champions and the Marrakech Partnership**

Supporting engagement with and outreach to non-state climate actors, including through global events (e.g. Action Hub at COP) and initiatives (e.g. Buildings Breakthrough and #BuildingToCOP)

#### **UN Climate Change Global Innovation Hub**

Providing expert inputs to knowledge products and facilitating the exchange of knowledge and information in events (e.g. at COP) and systemic innovation workshops

#### **Mitigation work programme**

#### **Cities Alliance**

Providing policy-relevant insights on sustainable construction practices and strategies, that are environmentally, economically, and socially sound, and ensure that the urban poor are not left behind

#### **UNIDO**

Providing financial and technical support, including in relation with the work on transformative industry on decarbonization pathways

#### **+ more**

A number of other engagements have been initiated, and may be pursued per the guidance of the TEC, on a range of topics, e.g. buildings in NDCs, energy efficiency and energy storage in buildings, sustainable public procurement, circular economy, and financing



### In a nutshell

In a fast-evolving policy landscape towards decarbonization and climate resilience in the buildings and infrastructure sectors, the TEC may benefit from further specifying the focus of its policy work, including through engagement and collaboration with relevant players and processes, to maximize synergies and its added-value, and avoid duplication of efforts.

### Proposed next steps

1. Collaborate with the GlobalABC as a leading global platform for galvanizing efforts towards a zero-emission, efficient and resilient buildings and construction sector in informing and implementing this activity.
2. In place of organizing a stand-alone event in 2024, engage in dialogues convened under the mitigation work programme and/or other global processes and initiatives, with a view to identify areas of focus where TEC's policy work can add value.
3. Identify and discuss potential topics of focus at TEC 29 with a view to initiate work on the knowledge product in 2025, taking into account linkages with the ongoing work of the TEC (e.g. on transformative industry and energy storage) and interest of partners (i.e. MIT Policy Lab and Cities Alliance).



*Thank you!*

