

Climate and Clean Air Coalition - Submission to the Belém Mission to 1.5

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), a partnership of more than 200 governments, NGOs, and international organizations, welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the Belém Mission to 1.5. The Mission rightly recognizes that keeping 1.5°C within reach now depends on accelerating implementation, strengthening international cooperation, and mobilizing investment behind the highest-impact solutions.

Super Pollutants: A High-Impact Opportunity for 1.5°C

Super pollutants, including methane, black carbon, tropospheric ozone, hydrofluorocarbons and nitrous oxide, should be central to this effort. Together, they are responsible for roughly half of current warming that we are experiencing today yet continue to receive only a fraction of global climate finance and political attention. Rapid reductions in super pollutant emissions represent one of the few opportunities deployable immediately to slow the rate of warming within this decade, reducing both the magnitude and duration of temperature overshoot while complementing long-term CO₂ reductions. Reducing super pollutants is not an alternative to decarbonization - it is an essential complement that delivers immediate economic, climate and health benefits while countries continue the longer-term transition.

The Economic Case for Action

The economic case is equally compelling, and super pollutant mitigation represents one of the highest-return investments available in climate policy. This September, the CCAC will release the Global Economic Assessment of Climate and Clean Air, providing the most comprehensive analysis to date of the economic costs of inaction and the substantial returns from reducing super pollutants. The assessment will demonstrate that investing in methane mitigation delivers benefits across climate, public health, agricultural productivity and energy security, while generating economic returns that far outweigh the costs. Yet current investment remains only a fraction of what is required. Across all major methane-emitting sectors, proven, cost-effective solutions already exist. In the fossil fuel sector, more than 70 per cent of oil and gas methane emissions can be reduced using existing technologies at low cost, with around 30 per cent of measures available at net negative cost through the recovery of lost gas. In agriculture, around 70 per cent of methane mitigation measures are available at low cost, while in the waste sector approximately 90 per cent of methane mitigation measures can be implemented at low cost. Methane mitigation is therefore not only one of the fastest opportunities to slow warming, but also one of the highest-return investments available.

From Recognition to Implementation

The UNFCCC process has established a strong foundation for action on super pollutants, but implementation now needs to catch up with political recognition. More than 90 per cent of nationally determined contributions now make some form of reference to methane or other super pollutants, reflecting growing awareness of their importance to achieving the Paris Agreement goals. The Global Stocktake further reinforced this momentum by recognizing the critical role of reducing non-CO₂ emissions in limiting warming. More recently, the UK-led Statement on Drastically Reducing Methane Emissions in the Global Fossil Fuel Sector has demonstrated growing international convergence around practical implementation measures, including stronger methane regulation, monitoring and reporting, the elimination of routine venting and flaring, and support for near-zero methane intensity. The next

phase should build on this progress through stronger integration of super pollutants in future NDCs and an even greater reflection of their contribution in future Global Stocktakes.

Delivering Implementation at Scale

The challenge is increasingly one of implementation. To help countries move from commitment to delivery, the CCAC and its partners have developed an implementation architecture that supports action across the full implementation pathway. The CCAC Super Pollutant Country Action Accelerator strengthens institutional capacity, cross-government coordination and national implementation planning. The CCAC Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (CCAC-TEAP) supports technology deployment through technical assistance, technology de-risking and stronger engagement with the private sector. Both are reflected as Plans to Accelerate Solutions (PAS) under Axis 6 of the Global Action Agenda. This is complemented by the World Bank's Global Methane Reduction Platform for Development (CH4D) which helps countries develop investment-ready projects and mobilize finance. Collectively, these are intended to address three implementation gaps: Institutional capacity, de-risking technologies and finance. The Belém Mission provides an important opportunity to recognize and elevate these complementary mechanisms as core means of implementation within the broader Global Implementation Agenda and the Global Implementation Accelerator.

Recommendations to the COP Presidencies

Continued leadership from the COP Presidencies will be essential to champion, strengthen and scale the Super Pollutant Country Action Accelerator, CCAC-TEAP and CH4D, enabling more countries to access integrated packages of institutional strengthening, technology assistance and finance. Scaling these mechanisms will accelerate implementation where mitigation potential is greatest and help countries translate ambitious NDCs and National Adaptation Plans into measurable outcomes.

Looking ahead, implementation efforts should become more strategic. The CCAC's forthcoming 2030 Prioritization Strategy will help identify the highest-impact opportunities across sectors and countries, enabling governments, multilateral development banks, philanthropies and the private sector to align around a shared set of implementation priorities. This reflects the objective of the Belém Mission itself: focusing collective effort where it can deliver the greatest contribution toward ambitious NDC implementation, strengthened resilience and keeping 1.5°C within reach.

To maximize the impact of the Belém Mission, the CCAC encourages the COP Presidencies to:

- Recognize methane and other super pollutants as one of the highest-impact opportunities for limiting the extent and duration of temperature overshoot.
- Champion and scale the CCAC Super Pollutant Country Action Accelerator, CCAC-TEAP and the World Bank's CH4D platform as complementary core means of implementation that help countries access institutional strengthening, technology deployment and finance.
- Promote greater international alignment around a shared set of implementation priorities through 2030 via the CCAC 2030 Prioritization Strategy.

The Belém Mission represents an important opportunity to move from recognition to implementation. By placing super pollutants at the centre of the implementation agenda, strengthening support for countries, and scaling proven implementation mechanisms, the COP Presidencies can help accelerate

delivery of ambitious NDCs while making a significant contribution to limiting the extent and duration of temperature overshoot.