

# UNDER2 COALITION HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY 2020



THE °CLIMATE GROUP



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# KICKING OFF THE CLIMATE DECADE



**The Under2 Coalition is today made up of more than 220 governments, representing 43% of the global economy and 1.3 billion people. Following another landmark year in 2019, the Coalition has once again been recognized as one of the international initiatives with the highest potential for emissions reduction.**

The collective ambition of the Under2 Coalition amounts to an emissions reduction potential of **4.6 to 5.0 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e/year by 2030** – more than the current annual emissions of the European Union.

As the climate challenge deepens, there is a growing need to increase ambition and accelerate action. Looking at the climatic impacts of the world's temperature trajectory, there is an urgent need to reduce global emissions and move our economies towards greater decarbonization.

The world must achieve **net-zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2050, and all greenhouse gas emissions must reach net-zero by 2070.**

States and regions have a key role to play in this transition and, by scaling innovative policy solutions, developing robust medium and long-term emissions reduction plans and mainstreaming transparency, they can solidify their place at the forefront of bold climate leadership.

The **Global States and Regions Annual Disclosure 2019** update saw 124 state and regional governments from 35 countries commit to transparency by disclosing their climate action and targets – the most comprehensive account of state and regional climate action released to date.

In 2019, we executed the first phase of three major new projects - the **Climate Pathway Project**, the **Climate Footprint Project** and the **Industry Transition Platform**. We also continued the work of the **ZEV Community** and launched the **India Climate Action Compass**, as well as beginning work in a further three areas: climate finance, climate diplomacy and methane emissions reduction. Altogether, 68 Under2 Coalition governments have participated in our projects and peer-learning forums in 2019.

2020 marks the start of the Climate Decade, a decade that will be pivotal for tackling the climate crisis. It is hugely encouraging to see that the targets of leading state and regional governments are increasingly in line with what is required to meet the 1.5°C goal and, as we enter the 2020s, we will be encouraging states and regions to focus their energy on uplifting collective ambition and taking action to drastically reduce emissions.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Ash Vie".

**Tim Ash Vie,**  
Director of the Under2 Coalition Secretariat,  
The Climate Group

# / 2019 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

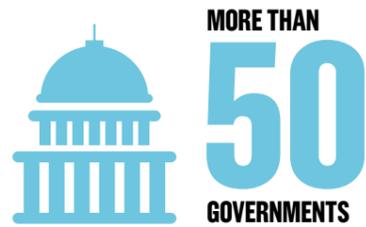
## MEMBER ENGAGEMENT



in Australia, Indonesia, India, Europe and the Americas to celebrate the work of the Coalition, showcase state and regional examples of climate leadership and identify opportunities to accelerate action while influencing global ambition.



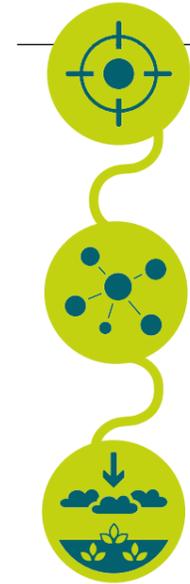
with net-zero emissions targets were included in the Chilean Government's **Climate Ambition Alliance**, a group that brings together countries, businesses, investors, cities and regions that are working towards achieving net-zero CO2 emissions by 2050.



attended the **Under2 Coalition General Assembly** held alongside COP25 in Madrid with 36 senior officials taking to the stage for dynamic and diverse discussions.



The Under2 Coalition **Future Fund** supported transformational projects in Chhattisgarh, Colima, Sonora and Tabasco, as well as 6 peer-learning secondments across the globe and travel for 15 subnational governments from developing and emerging economy regions to attend our General Assembly.



## 2050 PATHWAYS

### UNIVERSAL DEFINITION OF 'PATHWAY'

We engaged in a significant exercise to build a new universal definition of 'pathway' through expert interviews and consultations, as well as a thorough review of frequently used pathway development models.

### SUPPORTING 7 LATIN AMERICAN STATES

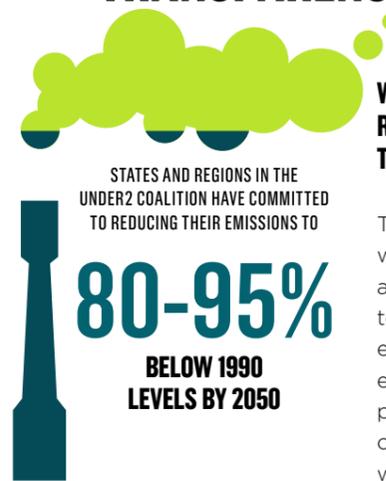
We kicked off the **Climate Pathway Project** and are supporting 7 Latin American states to develop a transformational process, or 'pathway', to reduce emissions from a range of sectors including Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU).



## TRANSPARENCY



In the **Global States and Regions Annual Disclosure 2019** were reported by Under2 Coalition members.



STATES AND REGIONS IN THE UNDER2 COALITION HAVE COMMITTED TO REDUCING THEIR EMISSIONS TO

### WORKING WITH STATES AND REGIONS TO IMPROVE THEIR GHG EMISSIONS TRACKING

The **Climate Footprint Project** is working with 7 states and regions across India, Africa and Latin America to improve their greenhouse gas emissions tracking and reduction efforts. Pernambuco, one of the project states, has successfully created its **first GHG inventory** with the support of the project.



### DEVELOPING STRATEGIES TO CUT INDUSTRY EMISSIONS

We launched the **Industry Transition Platform**, a joint project with the government of North Rhine-Westphalia, funded by Stiftung Mercator. The project works with governments from highly-industrialized regions to develop strategies to cut industry emissions while supporting growth, job creation and prosperity. In 2019, the project held two capacity-building workshops in Milan and Lille.

## RAISING OUR GLOBAL VOICE

Over the past year, the Under2 Coalition has worked to increase member engagement and showcase successes through attending and organizing events across the globe.



Asia-Pacific Climate Leadership Forum, Brisbane



International Conference on Climate Action, Heidelberg



Climate Summit of the Americas, Santa Fe



Climate Week NYC, Under2 Coalition Members' Forum, New York



Under2 Coalition Europe Members' Meeting, Brussels



Under2 Coalition General Assembly, Madrid



Under2 Coalition General Assembly, Madrid

# ADVANCING STATE AND REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

**As the Under2 Coalition enters its fifth year, states and regions are increasingly being recognized for the role they play in proving to national governments that they can - and should - step up their climate commitments.**

Now, in the run-up to COP26, which marks the deadline for national governments to revise their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), we are continuing to support our members to set long-term goals and deliver on ambitious action.

**In 2020, the Under2 Coalition Secretariat at The Climate Group will focus on delivering impact, through:**

- Implementing projects that support our members to build knowledge and technical capacity, share challenges and solutions, and develop tools to accelerate their climate action.
- Developing the Under2 Coalition's first ever e-learning course focused on measuring GHG emissions.
- Exploring opportunities to develop peer-learning initiatives on a wider range of topics and targeting areas of most benefit to governments.
- Developing our work on climate finance and climate diplomacy to strengthen the capacity of our states and regions to deliver on their climate goals and participate in the international climate discourse.
- Successfully recruiting global ambassadors to act as the voice and face of the Under2 Coalition.
- Supporting the success of COP26 and enhanced NDCs through greater action and ambition.
- Enabling a greater number of governments to participate in international forums and to have access to leadership and learning opportunities through the Future Fund.
- Sharing more stories about the impact of states and regions to highlight the importance of subnational climate action.

**The achievements of 2019 are a result of the ongoing leadership of all Under2 Coalition members. We look forward to working with you in 2020, to accelerate the pace of climate action and to achieve a world of no more than 1.5°C of global warming and greater prosperity for all.**



# THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 SUPPORTERS



Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF)

Climate-KIC

ClimateWorks Foundation

Energy & Climate Change Directorate  
of the Scottish Government

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Ministry of Environment & Energy of  
the Government of Sweden

Norway's International Climate and  
Forest Initiative (NICFI)

Pisces Foundation

Province of Québec-Bureau des  
Changements Climatiques

Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Stiftung Mercator

The Dutch Postcode Lottery

The European Climate Foundation

The Government of Baden-Württemberg

The Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT)

The International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the  
German Federal Ministry for the Environment,  
Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

The Welsh Government

UK's Department for Business, Energy  
and Industrial Strategy



## About the Under2 Coalition

The Under2 Coalition is a global community of state and regional governments committed to ambitious climate action in line with the Paris Agreement.

The coalition brings together more than 220 governments who represent over 1.3 billion people and 43% of the global economy. These governments include signatories to the Under2 Memorandum of Understanding as well as national endorsers and other supporters. There are 118 individual states and regions who have signed the Under2 MOU and are currently active members of the Under2 Coalition.

Signatories commit to keeping global temperature rises to well below 2°C with efforts to reach 1.5°C. Nine states and regions in the coalition have committed to reaching net-zero emissions by 2050 or earlier.

In their position between national and local governments, states and regions are uniquely placed to take innovative climate action and to influence others to do the same.

The Climate Group is the Secretariat to the Under2 Coalition and works with governments across three key workstreams. The Climate Group also works directly with state and regional governments on capacity-building projects to support the implementation of climate policy.

**[Under2Coalition.org](https://www.under2coalition.org)**

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