



## THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION (GLOBAL ABC)

### FAQ & HOW TO JOIN?

#### 1. What is the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction?

The Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (Global ABC), is envisioned to be a worldwide alliance among key stakeholders in the building sector. Governments, major building and construction networks stakeholders, potential funders, and existing support initiatives, are collectively committing to help the buildings and construction sector contribute to a “below 2 ° C path.” The Alliance will facilitate mobilisation of ambitious levels of international resources for efficient local operational solutions, align existing initiatives, commitments and programmes to achieve greater scale, and catalyse a greater pace and impact of climate action in the buildings and construction sector. The first ‘Buildings Day,’ to be held at COP21 on 3rd December 2015 provides an opportunity to launch this unprecedented alliance.

The Global ABC is envisioned to be inclusive, allowing interested governments and organizations to participate as ‘Partners’ and ‘Members’ of the alliance. Partners and Members will share the common objective to enhance communication and collaboration, and to facilitate greater actions to reduce the climate impact of the building sector.

Partners: #100

All countries are eligible, as are donors, and intergovernmental institutions, large professional networks (global or regional), and international associations which are willing to contribute to scale up collaboration, communication and resources to, and implementation of, partners’ actions towards the “below 2°C” pathway for the buildings sector. Those governments and organizations are the future partners of the Alliance planned to be launched at the COP21. Many partners already carry cooperative initiatives which they seek to further develop or upscale through the Alliance.

Until the Alliance is launched, “initiating partners” will work for the success of the Buildings Day at COP21 (03 December) and will help to further formulate the vision, goals and common objectives of the Alliance. They commit voluntarily (through effective participation and dedicated means) according to the role they are willing to assume within the Alliance.

Members: #1000

Companies, national associations, and small or local professional networks are encouraged to participate and support efforts as 'initiating members' of the Alliance. To join, they would endorse the common declaration indicating their commitment to the Alliance objectives. Before and after the COP21, initiating members will continue to promote the interest in and need for the Global ABC. Collectively, partners will contribute to provide legitimacy and build momentum for the Alliance.

All can sponsor special activities of the Alliance (global conferences, reports, meetings/workshops, etc.).  
All can join and co-lead activities of the Alliance (work clusters, flagship programmes, etc.).

#### An Alliance under development to be launched at the COP21

Initiating partners (as defined above) are proposed to serve as the initial advisory body of the Alliance. Until its official launch, the Alliance will be guided under the supervision of UNEP and France. The Alliance could be structured with three bodies (the General Assembly, an Advisory Board and a small Secretariat). The governance options will be clarified before the COP21 with the initiating partners and members through consensus.

The Global ABC Secretariat is expected to be hosted by UNEP, with support from, and in collaboration with Alliance partners and members. Partners joining at this early stage will contribute to a robust design of the Alliance, working in collaboration with UNEP and other partners.

Alliance activities for the first two years will be initially supported through a consortium of donor countries and donor agencies. The Alliance will establish a resource mobilization plan to align with its programme of work. Sponsors will be able to support specific activities, such as meetings, reports, etc.

UNEP and France are organizing regular coordination meetings (conference calls and face-to-face in Paris for those in Europe). Meetings will be held every two weeks until the COP21. A working programme is developed to share tasks and organization, and to organize an agenda for the Buildings Day event. Partners are communicating on regularly to develop information and working papers between meetings.

## 2. What will be the Role of Partners and Members?

Partners and Members are expected to:

- Define and endorse the Global ABC vision and goals;
- Contribute to the work programme of the Alliance, and participate in "Global ABC" activities, share their good practices;
- Access and contribute to worldwide expertise and knowledge resources, and strengthening of existing platforms (e.g. 10YFP, Building Efficiency Accelerator, etc.);
- Demonstrate their voluntary based engagement by developing and implementing "below 2°C" pathway goals or plans for the buildings and construction sector;
- Promote, disseminate and share experiences and best solutions inside and outside the Alliance.

Before and at the COP21, both are expected to:

- Facilitate collection of existing engagements of professionals from developed, developing and emerging countries;
- Assist in formulating the vision and goals of the Alliance;
- Commit on voluntary basis to the Alliance (through effective participation and dedicated means) according to the role they are willing to assume within the alliance;
- Participate in Buildings Day at COP21.

#### **-> Partners**

They are encouraged to take part actively to the governance of the Alliance, and to designate a focal point representing their building and construction sector at the policy/regulation level. They are invited to identify relevant actions or programmes to be shared and promoted within the Alliance.

A meeting will be planned in advance of COP21 for country partners (tentatively in Paris on October 26, after the Bonn's Ad Hoc Durban Platform Climate Discussion, 19-23 October 2015).

## Beyond the COP21:

Partners will be able to prioritize and contribute to key annual outputs, including through the work clusters established by the Alliance. Potential examples include:

**1 – An annual global forum** of the Alliance membership and invited global stakeholders in the construction sector and real estate to discuss climate issues. At this forum commitments, progress and opportunities can be presented, barriers and solutions discussed, new commitments and successes announced, priorities set and collaborative actions and flagship initiatives developed with potential donors; **Organisation of Buildings Days** at subsequent COPs (COP22 – 24) to present outcomes and progress and representation at ADP and other key UNFCCC, and other International meetings.

**2 – Regional ‘deal-flow’ dialogues** in multiple regions at which potential donors, project proponents and implementation platforms can meet to present proposals and develop flagship project & programme opportunities;

**3 – Annual Global Status Report** tracking progress on the contribution of the buildings & construction sector to the below 2 degree C pathway. This report will include regional analysis and priority action areas in policy, value chain transformation and financing. It will be used to identify challenges and opportunities for further action;

**4 – Coordinated communications** and awareness-raising of the efforts of alliance members and clusters in tackling climate change;

### **-> Members**

Being actively engaged in specific initiatives or activities, members of the Alliance constitute a network of active stakeholders with experience and expertise on the buildings and construction sector. They are determined to developing and implementing "below 2°C" pathway goals or plans for the sector.

They are invited to register their own commitments to address climate change on the NAZCA platform (<http://climateaction.unfccc.int/>).

As Alliance members, they will also be registered on the NAZCA platform.

## Beyond the COP21:

Under the annual work programme, Members can contribute by, for example:

**1- Actively participating in initiatives:** Members are expected to engage in a specific Alliance initiative or activities by contributing expertise and experience to their development and implementation, helping define strategic directions for these, and supporting collaboration and coordination with other existing efforts, including through participation in relevant initiative meetings and the drafting and review of relevant documents;

**2- Providing expert advice:** actors can be asked to provide advice on specific issues related to their particular expertise, and to attend specific Alliance meetings;

**3- Engaging key stakeholders in developing and implementing "below 2°C" pathway goals or plans:** Members are to be kept informed of the Alliance's activities. Members are encouraged to raise awareness of buildings and construction sector issues related to their particular expertise and promote the Alliance activities at relevant events, meetings and through the media.

## **3. How to become a Partner?**

Entities interested in becoming a Partner in the global ABC should send a letter:

- to the Director of the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics of the United Nations Environment Programme
- with a copy to the Director for European and International Affairs at the French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable development and Energy at the addresses listed below.

In addition to any other information the applicant wishes to provide, the letter should briefly:

- state that the country endorses the Global ABC statement and the initiating partner engagement;
- identify key actions taken or planned to address climate change in buildings and construction sector;

- state meaningful actions taken or planned in the sector that could be raised at a global stage in the framework of the Alliance;
- identify a primary point of contact with name, title and email address for communications with the Alliance.

In addition, for those countries in a position to do so, the letter could indicate if the applicant intends to make any contributions of financial or other resources to support the Alliance's activities.

Letters should be sent to:

**Ms. Ligia Noronha**

Director- Division of Technology, Industry and Economics  
United Nations Environment Programme  
15, rue de Milan  
75441 Paris Cedex 09, France

With a copy via email to:

**Mr. Curt Garrigan**

Coordinator, UNEP-SBCI  
United Nations Environment Programme  
Sustainable Buildings and Climate Initiative (UNEP-SBCI)  
15, rue de Milan  
75441 Paris Cedex 09, France  
Email: [Curt.Garrigan@unep.org](mailto:Curt.Garrigan@unep.org)

**Ms. Sylvie Lemmet**

Director for European and International Affairs  
General Secretariat  
Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable development and Energy  
Ministry of Housing, Territorial Equality and Rurality  
Tour Pascal A  
92055 La Défense Cedex, France  
Email: [sylvie.lemmet@developpement-durable.gouv.fr](mailto:sylvie.lemmet@developpement-durable.gouv.fr)

**Mr. Yves-Laurent Sapoval**

General Directorate for Development, Housing and Nature  
Directorate for Housing, Urban Development and Landscapes  
Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable development and Energy  
Ministry of Housing, Territorial Equality and Rurality  
Tour Sequoia  
1 Place Carpeaux  
92055 La Défense Cedex, France  
Email: [yves-laurent.sapoval@developpement-durable.gouv.fr](mailto:yves-laurent.sapoval@developpement-durable.gouv.fr)

and a copy via email to: [globalabc@cop21.gouv.fr](mailto:globalabc@cop21.gouv.fr)

#### 4. How to become a Member?

Entities interested in becoming a Member in the global ABC should contact Curt Garrigan, coordinator of the UNEP Sustainable Buildings and Climate Initiative (Curt.Garrigan@unep.org), Yves-Laurent Sapoval, Régis Meyer and Benoît Bergegère ([globalabc@cop21.gouv.fr](mailto:globalabc@cop21.gouv.fr)), members of the COP21 Negotiation Team"

In addition to any other information the applicants wish to provide, the letter should include:

- a commitment in which they endorse the Global ABC common statement;
- the motivation of why they want to become a Member;
- details of their field of expertise;
- which specific initiative or activity stream they would like to get involved in;
- a primary contact person.

