

COP21, Buildings Day and the Global Alliance on Buildings and Construction;



January 2016

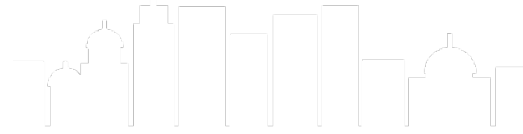


Towards a Global Alliance
for Buildings and Construction
BUILDINGS DAY
At COP 21
3 December 2015

 L'État républicain RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
MINISTÈRE DU LOGEMENT, DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE ET DE L'ÉNERGIE
MINISTÈRE DU LOGEMENT, DE L'ÉGALITÉ DES TERRITOIRES ET DE LA RURALITÉ

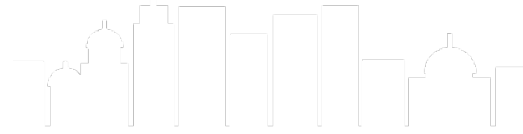


The Challenge



- Climate change is coming down the road, slowly but irrevocably;
- In 2010, buildings accounted for 32% of global energy use and 19% of all Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions;
- GHG emissions could double or triple by 2050;
- And the atmospheric climate change impacts of GHGs last at least 100 years.

The Challenge



- Considering the longevity of buildings and of GHG effects in the atmosphere, the building sector must therefore be viewed as a priority for action;
- But there is also good news, since resolute action now will bring a number of substantial benefits:

Benefits

- Climate Change mitigation through reduced greenhouse gas emissions;
- Reduced consumption of non-renewable resources;
- Reduced local and global ecological impacts;
- Reduced energy poverty and lower energy costs for all;



Benefits

- For occupants, improved health, well-being and productivity;
- For governments, green GDP growth, employment and reputational benefits;
- For companies, reduced long-term life-cycle costs for facilities;
- For those in the job market, increased demand for specialized skills



The relevance of COP21



- The 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) took place in Paris in December 2015;
- COP21 provided an opportunity for government and IGO/NGO delegates to review the current status of climate change and to decide on measures.
- Countries submitted their ‘Intended Nationally Determined Contributions’ (INDCs), more than 90 countries identified building-related actions.

COP21 Buildings Day



- Buildings Day took place on 03 December 2015, and was the first time that a day devoted to building issues had been featured as part of COP;
- The day brought together a large number of key government, NGO and private sector decision-makers;
- The event provided a launch for the *Global Alliance for Building and Construction (Global ABC)*, an alliance of organizations and governments intended to carry forward the objectives of Buildings Day;
- Key themes were *Communication. Collaboration and Implementation*

Global Alliance on Buildings and Construction



Global ABC is an alliance of organizations and governments collectively committed to actions that:

- ✓ **Help to** put the buildings and construction sector on the “below 2 degrees path”
- ✓ **Align existing initiatives**, commitments and programmes to achieve greater scale and increase the pace of GHG mitigation
- ✓ **Catalyse stronger collaboration** and targets **climate action and solutions** in the sector for everyone

Global Alliance on Buildings and Construction



Contributing to the '2 degree path:'

- ✓ For the building sector this means avoiding at least 50% of projected growth in energy consumption
- ✓ **Mainstreaming** highly energy-efficient, near or net-zero energy or energy-plus new buildings, and a deep renovation of the existing stock of buildings by 2030.
- ✓ **Investment** needed of additional US\$220 billion by 2020 - an almost 50% increase on 2014 investment in energy-efficient buildings (Reallocation of 3% of existing annual construction investment)
- ✓ **Adopting ambitious policies** and applying existing technologies could reduce building energy demand to almost 50% of 2005 levels, avoiding 3.2 GtCO₂ by 2050

Goals of the Global Alliance

- A. Communication:** Raising awareness & make visible the magnitude of the opportunities and impacts in the buildings sector, define sectoral goals and promote transparency and information exchange.
- B. Collaboration:** Enable public policies and market transformations, foster partnerships, sharing technology and know-how and improving access to efficient financing and funding.
- C. Implementation:** Offering programs and solutions that put the building sector on a below 2°C path:

Strategies



- A. Public Strategies and Policies** > will support member cities/towns, states, regions and countries in developing, building capacity for, and implementing, comprehensive building sector climate strategies and policies;
- B. Value Chain Transformation** > develop action plans to transform the entire buildings value chain, including workforce development, skills and training, synchronizing planning, support technology transfer and capacity building;
- C. Finance** > Accelerate investment and funding for energy efficient buildings projects; develop specific investment criteria for low-carbon building development



Flagship Projects and Programs

Flagship programs or projects will add to the Alliance's goal of contributing to a $< 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ goal. To become Alliance flagships, projects or programs must:

- ✓ Have clear specific ambitious goals
- ✓ Have a specific scope and duration
- ✓ Be scalable, adaptable to varied contexts and replicable
- ✓ Be cost-effective and implementable i.e. represent 'achievable tons' of GHG mitigation relative to project scope and time-frame.

Examples of possible projects: Net Zero Buildings, Global District Energy in Cities Initiative, Green Schools, Affordable & Sustainable Housing, Tropical Architecture Solutions, Iconic buildings, City Climate Actions, Retrofits, and Low-Emission Technology that further the Alliance's goals.

Relevant Context



- The high rate of urbanisation in Asia and Africa and trend towards western consumption levels creates a major barrier to GHG reductions;
- The current plentiful supply and low prices for oil and construction materials leads to excessive consumption of non-renewable resources;
- On the other hand, urban populations in the West are relatively stable, with some European cities even facing declining populations;

Opportunities



- And we have well-proven technologies and policies that can reduce building energy demand to almost 50% of 2005 levels;
- In almost all cases this can be done with few long-term financial or other burdens, a “no-regrets” approach;
- But failure to act now will lock in poor performance for many decades;
- We must therefore move ahead at full speed.

Actions for 2016/17



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- Discussions between participating organizations to maximize cooperation and coordination of related activities;
 - Promotion of validated building performance metrics to the industry;
 - Examination and discussion of performance metrics proposed at a small urban scale;
 - Examination of performance gains that may be possible through inter-building synergies;
 - Examination of the differentials between potential and actual building performance.

Actions for 2016/17



- A bottom-up survey of individual international experts on most effective mitigation and adaptation actions;
- Participation in the 2016/17 series of international conferences on Sustainable Built Environment (SBE);
- Presentations and workshops at Habitat III in Quito;
- Presentations and workshops at COP22 in Morocco;
- Discussions on progress to date at the World SBE conference in Hong Kong in June 2017

Alliance membership



The Alliance is open to all major stakeholders, including corporations, NGOs, IGOs, countries, cities, states and regions, academia, professional associations, financial institutions, and networks - committing to:

- A. Promoting their own targets and actions**, and report on micro and macro progress on carbon reductions using MRV protocols;
- B. Collaborate within the Alliance's priorities** to collectively address major challenges in three clusters;
- C. Lead or contribute to addressing key opportunities** through flagship initiatives.

Initiating Organizations

- ✓ France: Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development &
- ✓ COP21 organizing team
- ✓ UNEP: Coordinating and hosting Buildings Day



Contact us

Join Now and Catalyse Ambitious Actions!

For more information on COP21, the Global ABC and the Buildings Action Day, please visit our website:

www.unep.org/climatechange/buildingsday

Or contact us at:

info@globalabc.org

