

# Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction

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**Buildings Breakthrough: Near zero-emission and resilient buildings are the new normal by 2030**

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September 2023

# Overview

- 1 Why buildings?
- 2 Advocating for Climate action since COP21
- 3 The Buildings Breakthrough and Buildings and Climate Global Forum
- 4 How can you support?



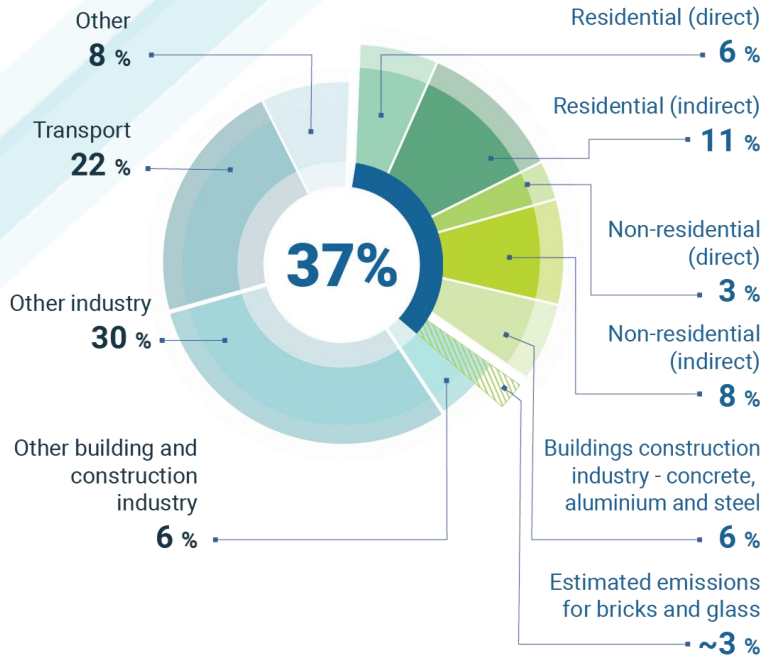
# 1. Why buildings?

- The equivalent of Paris is added in floor space every 5 days
- Half of the buildings standing in 2060 have not yet been built. 70 percent of the African building stock expected for 2040 has yet to be built.
- Building sector mitigation policies can reduce GHG emissions by up to 90% in developed countries and up to 80% in developing countries
- The most cost-effective mitigation potential of any industrial sector.



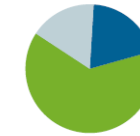
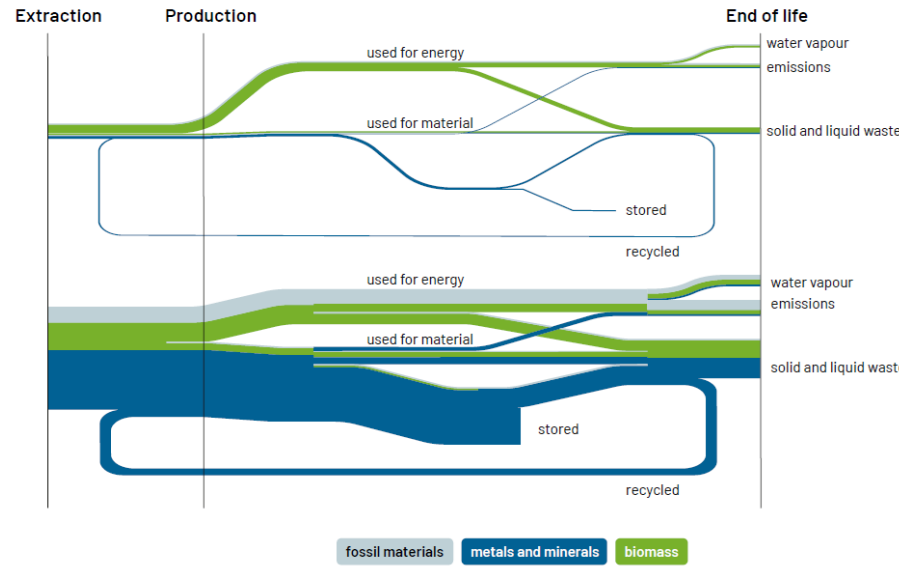
# A heavyweight for climate action, nature and pollution

## Mitigation



Operational energy-related CO2 emissions from buildings grew by around 5% in 2021 exceeding the previous 2019 by 2%.

1.2 Global material flows, by type, 1945 versus 2015



1945



2015

The majority of building materials come from extractive, toxic, non-renewable processes. Just three materials – concrete, steel and aluminium – are responsible for 23% of overall global emissions today.

## Adaptation

The buildings and construction sector is suffering the full force of physical climate risks:

- Floods, coastal floodings, submersion,
- Heat stress & heatwaves,
- Heavy rains & storms,
- Etc.

But it is also one of the sectors that has the most leeway to adapt and protect users.



# Socio-economic opportunities

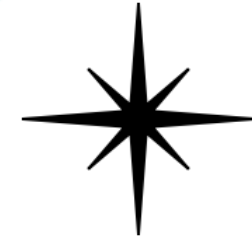


## Decarbonising the buildings and construction sector means:

- **Job creation and economic prosperity**
  - One of the biggest investment opportunities, worth an estimated \$24.7 trillion by 2030 in emerging market cities
  - The sector is responsible for 7% of global employment and 11-13% of global GDP
  - Between 9-30 jobs created for every \$1 million invested in renovation and new construction
- **Improved wellbeing and health:**
  - Green buildings deliver better air circulation, reduced pollution, more comfort for homes and businesses, and greater access to electricity.
  - Building sector mitigation policies can lift up to 2.8 billion people in developing countries out of energy poverty
- **Opportunities for innovation**



## 2. Advocating for climate action since COP21



**1 Global and 3 Regional Roadmaps for B&C**  
30+ roadmaps under development (India, Senegal, Ghana, Bangladesh, Türkiye...)

**7 Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction**

**Flagship products**

- Materials
- Adaptation
- NDCs
- Building Passport
- Market transformation
- ... and many more

**International advocacy**

- 7 UNFCCC COPs, including 2 Buildings Pavilion
- 2 G20 events
- 3 CEM events
- Regional Climate Weeks Action Track Events
- ... and many more

**The North Star of the Buildings and Construction Community**  
Co-lead of the MPGCA Human Settlements Area  
“By 2030, the built environment should halve its emissions, whereby 100 per cent of new buildings must be net-zero carbon in operation.  
By 2050, all buildings must be decarbonized along the lifecycle.”

# 3. The Buildings Breakthrough



## GLASGOW BREAKTHROUGHS

### Sector

### Breakthrough

#### Power

*Clean power is the most affordable and reliable option for all countries to meet their power needs efficiently by 2030*

#### Road transport

*Zero emission vehicles are the new normal and accessible, affordable, and sustainable in all regions by 2030*

#### Steel

*Near-zero emission steel is the preferred choice in global markets, with efficient use & near-zero emission steel production established and growing in every region by 2030*

#### Hydrogen

*Affordable renewable and low carbon hydrogen is globally available by 2030*

#### Agriculture

*Climate-resilient, sustainable agriculture is the most attractive and widely adopted option for farmers everywhere by 2030*



# The statement



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**Near zero-emission and resilient  
buildings are the new normal by  
2030**

”



*Visit the [Buildings Breakthrough webpage](#)*



# Participating countries

*In alphabetical order*



Armenia - Urban Development Committee



Finland - Ministry of the Environment



Kenya - Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development



Senegal - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development



Austria - Ministry of Climate Action and Energy



France - Ministry of Ecological Transition



Liberia - Ministry of Mines and Energy



Sudan - Ministry of Urban Development and Roads and Bridges



Canada - Natural Resources Canada, Environment & Climate Change Canada



Germany - Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action



Mauritania - Ministry of Environment & Sustainable Development



Sweden - Ministry of Environment, Climate Department



Côte d'Ivoire - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development



Guinea-Bissau - Ministry of Public Works, Housing and Urban Development



Mongolia - Ministry of Environment & Tourism



Tunisia - Ministry of Equipment and Housing



Egypt - Ministry of Housing, Utilities, and Urban Communities



Japan - Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism



Morocco - Ministry for National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy



Türkiye - Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change



Ethiopia - Ministry of Urban Development & Infrastructure



Jordan - Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources



The Netherlands - Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations; Construction and Energy Department



UK - Department for Energy Security and Net-Zero

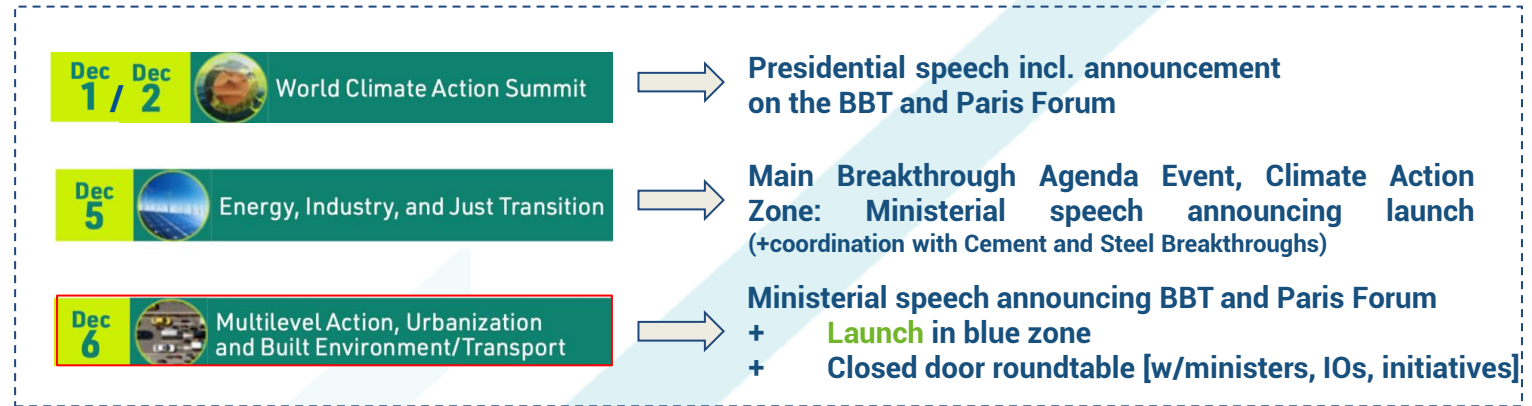


Norway - Ministry of Climate & Environment



Zambia - Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development

# Next steps



# Global Forum on Buildings and Climate



Global Alliance  
for Buildings and  
Construction



PARIS



7-8 March 2024

## THE FIRST BUILDINGS AND CLIMATE GLOBAL FORUM

- **First international ministerial meeting (8 March) focused on buildings and climate change issues and solutions**
- **2 days (7-8 March): Plenary sessions, Workshops and High level close round tables gather for the first time governments, IO, private sector (companies, organisation) and collectives initiatives engaged for the decarbonisation and climate resilience of buildings.**
- **Pre-forum (5-6 March): organisations and initiatives organise internal meetings of their network dedicated to climate**
- **Outcomes: common declaration & engagements/action plans for 2030 (including the Buildings Breakthrough priority action)**

# 4. How can you support?



**By mobilizing your country**

**To join the Buildings Breakthrough**

**To engage and participate in the  
Buildings and Climate Global Forum in  
March 2024**

# Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction

**Find out more:**

[www.globalabc.org](http://www.globalabc.org) / <https://globalabc.org/our-work/fostering-collaboration>  
[global.abc@un.org](mailto:global.abc@un.org)