

 **CLIMATE GROUP**

EP100 and the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment

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In partnership with





Introduction

EP100 is a global initiative led by the international non-profit Climate Group, bringing together over 120 energy-smart businesses committed to optimising and reporting on energy efficiency improvements.

Many leading corporates are already pursuing net zero, carbon neutral or other climate goals and targets, and are assessing their energy sources, transportation, and other aspects of their operations for emission reductions. Any credible corporate decarbonisation strategy needs to incorporate an energy efficiency commitment as its key pillar.

A company's options to realise carbon emission reductions and financial savings via investments in energy efficiency depends on their sector and operations. For many, these opportunities are found in improving the energy efficiency of their building stock. For such companies, EP100 works in partnership with the World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) to deliver the

energy efficiency aspect of the Net Zero Carbon Buildings (NZCB) Commitment. Companies become both an EP100 member and a WorldGBC signatory respectively when they make this commitment with Climate Group.

We work in partnership because the WorldGBC is a global leader in decarbonising the built environment with a vast network of more than 70 GBCs around the world representing more than 36,000 members.

The NZCB Commitment calls for bolder and faster ambitions to be reached as early as 2030. Furthermore, it specifically calls for a "reduction-first" approach to emissions mitigation that prioritises energy efficiency. This is aligned with the mission of EP100.



What is the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment?

Under the NZCB Commitment, companies commit that by 2030:

- Existing buildings to reduce their energy consumption and eliminate (or, where necessary, compensate for) emissions from energy and refrigerants to net zero operating emissions, removing fossil fuel use as fast as practicable (where applicable).
- New developments and major renovations to be highly efficient, powered by renewables, and with a maximum reduction in embodied carbon and compensation of all residual upfront embodied emissions.

Why is the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment part of EP100?

Operational carbon emissions from buildings (i.e. the energy used to heat, cool and light buildings) were responsible for 28% of all carbon emissions in the world in 2019¹. To achieve net zero by 2050, these emissions need to be reduced by 95%², the equivalent of taking 626 million passenger vehicles off the roads. Energy efficiency measures will be one of the primary ways to get there.

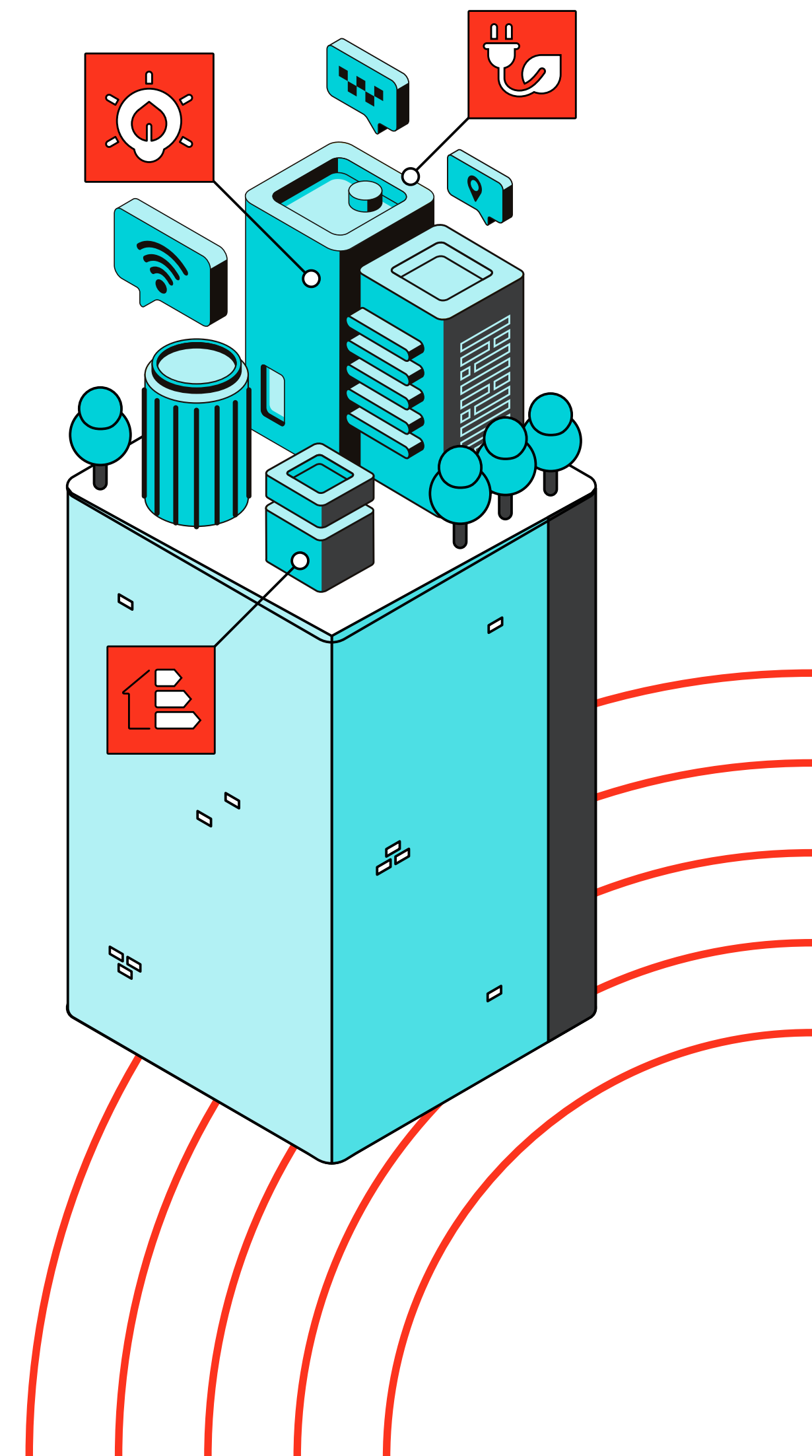
Worryingly, however, investment in energy efficiency in buildings (as elsewhere in the economy) lags significantly behind what is required to remain on course for no greater than 1.5°C of warming³.

As more companies understand and pursue the benefits of building efficiency, costs come down, learnings are shared, and the world is better able to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

Companies interested in the NZCB Commitment can therefore choose to join EP100 as well, to help catalyse greater ambition and investment as well as supportive policy frameworks for energy efficiency in the built environment. EP100 supports members in doing this by providing a number of benefits which are outlined below.

Climate Group has proof, through its multiple private sector initiatives, that the first step to unlocking corporate action on climate is to make a forward-looking public commitment. This gives an organisation a 'North Star' to plan and invest for achieving its goals.

Companies are also required to provide WorldGBC with a decarbonisation roadmap for how they will achieve the NZCB Commitment. The roadmap must prioritise energy efficiency measures as part of a reduction-first approach.



Why should companies interested in the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment join EP100?

Profiling and celebrating leadership

Credibility is critically important to corporate climate commitments. Joining EP100 via the NZCB Commitment aligns companies with the Climate Group and EP100 brands. Members are therefore able to legitimately position and showcase themselves specifically as leaders in the implementation of energy efficiency improvements as part of their wider efforts to decarbonise their built assets. Climate group also hosts members only high level leadership events such as [Climate Week NYC](#).

Policy engagement

EP100's NZCB members represent some of the world's most advanced companies when it comes to implementing energy efficiency measures as part of built asset decarbonisation. The EP100 network is therefore building an influential demand signal, and Climate Group aims to leverage this such that energy efficiency-related policy barriers can be overcome, and new policies reflect the goals of leading companies on climate action.

Member exclusive peer-to-peer learning and networking opportunities

EP100's NZCB members benefit from closed-door networking and learning opportunities with other member companies, both with other companies who have signed the NZCB Commitment, as well as those who have either committed to double their energy productivity or implement energy management systems globally across their operations.

All EP100 members are therefore attempting to achieve world-leading corporate energy efficiency performance. Joining via the NZCB Commitment allows companies to share knowledge and build capacity from other EP100 members on how to maximise energy efficiency gains.

Please refer to Climate Group's Member Overview document for more information on the above.





What about non-energy efficiency related decarbonisation measures?

EP100 focuses on advancing corporate action on energy efficiency. This means that we do not engage with NZCB members on decarbonisation of energy sources or embodied carbon. WorldGBC engages on these issues.

What are the obligations of an EP100 Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment member?

All companies who have signed up to the NZCB Commitment are required to adhere to WorldGBC's reporting requirements. There are some additional requirements for EP100 NZCB members.

After a two-year grace period, all companies must report annually and disclose their annual asset and portfolio energy demand, as well as operational and embodied carbon emissions data. EP100 NZCB members must answer an additional set

of questions about progress towards their energy efficiency goals. For further information on these reporting requirements, please see [here](#).

EP100's annual reporting mechanism is in place to verify each member's progress towards their energy efficiency goals and ensure that any resultant claims of efficiency-related climate leadership are credible. EP100 member reporting is also crucial in enabling Climate Group to raise further awareness on the need for corporate energy efficiency goal setting, showcase members' leadership, as well as send demand signals for policy change and improve peer-to-peer learning between members. We provide credibility, validation, and transparency to corporate efforts on energy efficiency progress.

ANNEX: Membership fees

Membership fees sustain the everyday running of the initiatives and are the best way for our members to continue supporting the wider mission. They directly enable the longevity of our work as an NGO committed to accelerating climate action and ensure the campaign's continued operation.

EP100 membership fees for the NZCB Commitment pathway are US\$3000 per annum and we ask for annual payment for a 12 month period from the 1st of the month that you join EP100. We reserve the right to review membership fees every Autumn based on inflation. We will let members know of any changes at least four months in advance.

As part of the joining process, the EP100 team will send the prospective member a Membership Agreement to sign, as well as collect relevant details including billing information. Once complete, we will send the member's first annual invoice directly to your delegated Finance contact.

For more information, please [visit our Membership page](#) and [read our FAQs](#).

¹ United Nations Environment Programme (2020). 2020 Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction: Towards a Zero-emission, Efficient and Resilient Buildings and Construction Sector. Available at: https://globalabc.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/2020%20Buildings%20GSR_FULL%20REPORT.pdf

² International Energy Agency (IEA) (2021). Net Zero by 2050. Available at: <https://www.iea.org/reports/net-zero-by-2050>

³ IEA (2020). Energy Efficiency 2020. Available at: <https://www.iea.org/reports/energy-efficiency-2020>

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