Elevating subnational climate action

Under2 Coalition
Membership Offer
Be the change we need to see

It’s clear that subnational governments have a significant role to play in tackling the climate crisis and building a better future that meets the needs of people and planet.

Not only can they develop laws and policies to cut emissions in their jurisdictions, but they can carry out practical projects to adapt to changing weather patterns.

But no one state or region can achieve this alone. The power of the Under2 Coalition comes from its ability to convene governments from across the world and to bring them together with businesses, foundations and activists to make a difference. At COP28, for the first time, our leaders took to a COP stage and showed they want to face the climate challenge head on – with the support of national governments and the international community.

Being a member of the Under2 Coalition is a statement of intent. It is a commitment to the future of our planet and an acknowledgement of that we need change, fast.

I hope that our work inspires you to get more involved and to support our mission. We know that this network has the power to shift the status quo and that our members can lead the way on climate action. So let’s commit to going further and faster – together.

Champa Patel, Executive Director of Governments and Policy
As the world’s leading and largest network of states and regions committed to climate action, we’ve always had a huge challenge on our hands – and the scale of that challenge is only growing as the impacts of climate change become more apparent.

The Under2 Coalition has committed to become a net zero coalition by 2050 at the latest. We feel this is an important step in driving change. It’s also an aim that we want to use to inspire action at every level: from national governments to businesses and individuals. If we don’t drastically cut our emissions, then we will not achieve a world of no more than 1.5 degrees of warming. And the consequences of that are truly terrifying.

Keeping the Under2 Coalition at the cutting edge of climate action is a significant task. Through our secretariat, Climate Group, we’re able to access international fora, influential leaders and a wide range of business and government networks – all of which are supporting us in achieving our vital goals. However, we need to maintain a core level of funding to make the most of these opportunities and others that will emerge.

Our funded projects will always form a core part of our mission but we also need a dedicated team to maintain the Coalition’s presence, increase its impact and communicate its work to others – including through the Climate Group. That is why we’ve launched a membership offer that lays out our strengths and gives you, our members, a clear understanding of how and where our funds are spent. This booklet explains the work of the Under2 Coalition, the benefits of membership and the steps we’re taking to make ourselves fit for future challenges. We look forward to working with you to maximise impact and drive climate action, fast.

Nehmat Kaur, Head of Subnational Governments and Under2 Coalition
History of the Under2 Coalition

The Under2 Coalition is founded
The idea for a global climate collaboration at the subnational level is born at a meeting in San Francisco between Baden-Württemberg Minister Franz Untersteller and California Governor Jerry Brown.

The first signatories
Minister President Winfried Kretschmann, former Governor Jerry Brown and ten other government leaders, commit to the Under2 Memorandum of Understanding – creating the Under2 Coalition.

December 2015
Climate Group
With experience coordinating the States and Regions Alliance, Climate Group becomes secretariat of the Under2 Coalition.

COP22 in Marrakech
29 states and regions join the Under2 Coalition at COP22 in Marrakech. Now the Coalition totals 165 jurisdictions.

A new steering group
The Under2 Coalition General Assembly is held in the margins of COP23. A steering group for the Coalition is established, to help guide its strategic direction, and 16 new states and regions join – taking membership to more than 200 governments.

September 2016
Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco (GCAS)
The Under2 Coalition General Assembly is held alongside GCAS, increasing its visibility and impact. 18 new members join.

September 2018

2014
July 2014

2015
May 2015

2016

2017

2018

Celebrating five years of the Under2 Coalition

A virtual celebration is held to mark the Coalition’s achievements and fifth anniversary.

November 2021

COP26 in Glasgow

The Under2 Coalition General Assembly is held in the margins of COP26. 68 states and regions join the Further, Faster, Together campaign, committing to a range of ambitious 2030 actions.

January 2022

Five years of the Future Fund

A unique Under2 Coalition project delivered by governments, for governments celebrates its fifth anniversary. Since 2017, it has raised $1,000,000, supporting subnational governments in developing and emerging economy regions to take climate action where it matters.

December 2023

Uniting Leaders, Driving Change

At COP28, we joined our government members with global business representatives for the first time at the Under2 Coalition General Assembly. Breakout sessions were facilitated to enable greater cooperation and to accelerate change across sectors.

And the work doesn’t stop there. Visit our website to learn about what we’re doing, where we’re going and how you can support.
Why join the Under2 Coalition?

Together we can reach net zero emissions by 2050, or earlier

- We’re the largest global network of states and regions committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050 at the latest.
- Today, the Coalition represents 178 individual states, regions, provinces and subnational governments along with several other national and subnational entities: a total of more than 270 actors, totalling more than 50% of global GDP.

Why we work with states and regions

Strategic competencies
States and regions can increase the capacity of national governments to act and deliver against global targets and goals.

Close to people
They understand social demands, have capacity to engage stakeholders and are in a strategic position to trigger behavioural change.

Connect the local and national levels
Multilevel coordination is key to integrating policies and getting them delivered.

Unique regional knowledge
They’re witness to regional climate impacts and so are in the strongest position to tackle them.
Membership benefits

Setting global ambition
Offering opportunities for global leadership

- Member profile on Climate Group website with logo and climate action showcase, based on data from the Under2 Ambition Tracker
- Social media amplification from Climate Group social media accounts – X, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Flickr – to elevate announcements and member events, when shared
- Global updates of members’ climate leadership announcements in the quarterly newsletter and promotion of member news and events on website and online Members hub, when shared
- Positioning and promotion of state and regional climate leadership in global forums (COPs, Climate Action Summits), including invitations to sign supportive statements and calls for action

Building state and regional leadership
Offering opportunities to build members’ voice and visibility

- Invitations and unlimited virtual invites where possible, to the Under2 Coalition’s annual General Assembly and regional meetings
- Exclusive invitations to attend closed-door meetings and roundtables organised by Climate Group, such as Climate Week NYC and events hosted at COP
- Access to quarterly calendar of key international climate events
- Access to Under2 Coalition COP briefings, calendars of events and member delegation lists to support planning and identification of partners and opportunities
- Exclusive access to biweekly briefings around key moments and events, such as Climate Week NYC and COPs
- Access to monthly advocacy webinars and briefings

Driving action
Offering opportunities for knowledge sharing and peer-to-peer learning

- Access to Under2 Members hub: an exclusive member-only space, featuring news, tailored content and brand assets as well as key information from peer exchange projects
- Access to peer-to-peer learning webinars, peer learning projects and in-person meetings to share best practice with other state and regional governments around the world
- Facilitated connection to fellow members to exchange knowledge and expertise on regional climate policies and measures
- Support for cross-region missions abroad to other member regions (introductions to key local contacts and suggestions on agendas)
- Opportunities for bilateral introductions and connections to other member governments and corporates
- Access to policy reports and insight briefings

Holding states and regions to account
Offering robust operational support to sustain leadership

- Access to and participation in the Under2 Benchmarking Tool, an interactive tool which allows you to compare and review your government’s net zero target against other governments across 12 net zero assessment criteria
- Global member management support to address key enquiries
- Organisation of quarterly steering group meetings and support to co-chairs to drive strategy and ensure that the Under2 Coalition is member-led and has a strong governance structure
- Engagement with funders and development of funded programs and delivery oversight
- Production and delivery of the Under2 Coalition annual General Assembly, followed by release of the Annual Impact Report
States, regions and devolved governments like our own have a huge role to play in tackling climate change and an example of that is the Under2 Coalition.

This is a great group of non-party states coming together because our role is to make sure we’re being ambitious, we’re pushing state actors to go further, we’re saying the action you’re taking doesn’t go far enough but we can also show global leadership.

Through our work with the Under2 Coalition, Chungnam has taken significant steps forward in its climate action through international collaboration. From ambitious emissions reduction plans to pushing forward with our efforts to decarbonize our industry, we are able to work together with peer states and regions to make a positive difference. Being part of the Coalition means that we can share our ideas while learning from others, and the Climate Group plays a critical role in connecting us globally, to deliver the necessary impact of collaborative action that is crucial for tackling climate change.

Dealing with the climate crisis means taking action at a regional level, whether that is by reducing emissions or adapting to calamitous weather events in line with the most recent scientific data. States and regions are at the frontline of climate calamities and need urgent support for adaptation while intensifying efforts on emission reduction. The Under2 Coalition enables states, regions and provinces to work together, amplifies our voices and puts much-needed global spotlight on state and regional issues to drive climate action. This is what will assist to support local government better.

We know what needs to be done and there are tangible examples of where we are already leading in climate change mitigation. It is only through collaboration and our ongoing work with the Secretariat - Climate Group, that we can drive the urgent action needed to deal with the challenges we all face in order to effectively tackle climate change - before time runs out.
Under2 Coalition member
contribution structure

Fair contribution for all

- Based on direction from the co-chairs and steering group, the secretariat has developed a contribution structure based on principles of transparency, equity and inclusiveness.
- Membership contribution levels are closely calibrated to members’ varying means. The structure reduces financial barriers to participation and provides opportunity for all states to access the full benefits of Under2 Coalition membership on a fair basis.
- The contribution structure helps to maximize member ownership and impact and provide resources to enhance member experience.
- A fair contribution structure is central to our ability to work together as a global movement to achieve the Under2 Coalition’s vision of halving carbon emissions by 2030 and achieving net zero by 2050.

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<th>GDP per Capita</th>
<th>Contribution (USD)</th>
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<tr>
<td>$50,000 - $200,000</td>
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<td>$3,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under $5,000</td>
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- The contribution structure includes a discounted offering for associations and/or subnational groups joining the Under2 Coalition. This structure allows a number of regions to participate while paying a single yearly contribution. This is intended to bring greater efficiency to the joining process and eliminate the need for individual regions to contribute separately.

Associations of regions fee structure:

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<th>GDP per Capita</th>
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<tr>
<td>&gt; $20,000</td>
<td>$40,000/year</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt; $20,000</td>
<td>$10,000/year</td>
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Our ambition doesn’t stop here...

There are further opportunities for Under2 Coalition members to contribute to the mission and impact of the Under2 Coalition.

Future Fund

Annually, the Future Fund offers strategic financial support to emerging and developing states and regions of the Under2 Coalition for capacity building and to enable access to the global climate discourse.

We rely on contributions from Under2 Coalition governments and other funding institutions. Every contribution is directly used to support Future Fund beneficiaries, where small voluntary contributions go a long way in creating big impact.

We invite all members to consider making a contribution to the Future Fund.

Your support helps promote equality, diversity and inclusion in terms of participation in the work of the Under2 Coalition, and helps level the playing field for a just and equitable net zero transition.

Learn more about the Future Fund and how you can get involved.

Special projects

As the world’s largest coalition of states and regions, we lead transformative projects on climate mitigation, adaptation, finance and working towards a just transition at the subnational level. Learn more about our current projects.

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