



# CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT 2019



## **Political and financial support for new efforts to scale up use of nature-based solutions to be announced at Climate Action Summit**

**New York, 23 September** – New initiatives aimed at increasing the use of nature-based solutions are to be announced today at the United Nations Secretary-General’s Climate Action Summit in New York.

The initiatives, developed by the Nature-Based Solutions Coalition, co-led by China and New Zealand, include efforts to conserve and restore marine and terrestrial ecosystems, promote regenerative agriculture and the greening of supply chains, and advance innovative financing mechanisms to scale-up nature-based solutions.

The co-leads and more than 40 countries, 50 international organizations and institutions, 100 civil society organizations, 50 private sector organizations and companies, and 12 foundations prepared a Nature-Based Solutions call for action, highlighting the importance of valuing nature in governance, decision-making and finance.

The Summit is expected to demonstrate a growing movement for people, nature and climate that echoed the voices heard in the climate strike and the weekend events preceding the Summit.

China is to announce the enhancement of the Ecological Zoning (“Red Lines”) Initiative: a practice developed to protect biodiversity and advance climate action through the development of green corridors. It is also committing to deepening international and regional cooperation, participating in the establishment of a group of “Friends for Nature-Based Solutions,” and promoting the incorporation of nature-based solutions into the “Global Biodiversity Framework 2020”.

New Zealand is expected to announce new investments to support the ability of countries to monitor and manage agricultural greenhouse gases via the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases.

Norway, on behalf of the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy, is to announce new ocean actions for renewable energy, decarbonization of ocean industries, sustainable food and carbon capture and storage. The group of 14 countries represents approximately 30 percent of global coastlines and exclusive economic zones, along with 20 percent of global ocean catch and 20 percent of the global shipping fleet.

The Democratic Republic of Congo is expected to highlight regional commitments in Central Africa. The Central African Forest Initiative commits to increasing climate ambition by maintaining forest cover in the region, continuing to stock approximately 70 gigatons of carbon and providing livelihoods for 60 million people by conserving the second largest tropical forest basin in the world.

Pakistan is committing to land degradation neutrality by 2030 by restoring at least 30 percent of degraded forests, five percent of degraded croplands, six percent of degraded grasslands and 10 percent



# CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT 2019



of degraded wetlands, while continuing to deliver their Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Initiative as part of their commitments to the Bonn Challenge.

Guatemala and Costa Rica is to present regional commitments, including the Global Campaign for Nature, a global and multi-stakeholder effort to protect, conserve and manage 30 percent of the Earth's ocean and lands by 2030.

One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B) is a unique international cross-sectorial, action-oriented business coalition on biodiversity with a specific focus on agriculture, launched within French President Macron's One Planet Lab framework. The coalition is determined to drive transformational systemic change and catalyze action to protect and restore cultivated and natural biodiversity within the value chains, engage institutional and financial decision makers, and develop and promote policy recommendations in the CBD COP 15 framework to be held in 2020.

Actions are focused around three pillars: scaling up regenerative agricultural practices; boosting cultivated biodiversity and diets through product portfolios; and eliminating deforestation / enhancing the management, restoration and protection high value natural ecosystems.

Led by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and Emmanuel Faber, Chairman and CEO of Danone and Co-Chair of the Consumer Goods Forum, the coalition currently consists of nineteen companies: Balbo Group, Barry Callebaut, Danone, DSM, Firmenich, Google, JACOBS DOUWE EGBERTS, Kellogg Company, Kering, Livelihoods Funds, L'Oréal, Loblaw Companies Limited, Mars, McCain Foods, Migros Ticaret, Nestlé, Symrise, Unilever and Yara.

Member states made more [commitments](#) in the lead-up to the Summit, including the announcement made by El Salvador on behalf of the Integration System of Central America, to protect 10 million hectares of forest and shift food production systems to low-carbon agriculture, committing to a 40 percent emissions reduction target by the sector by 2030.

Finally, the Chairman of AXA launched ORRAA, a multi-stakeholder collaboration platform to develop innovative finance products like blue carbon resilience credits and coral reef insurance that invests in coastal natural capital to build resilience to change. Also, Norway committed to follow on their Paris commitments by doubling contributions to the Green Climate Fund.

## About the Climate Action Summit

The United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres is hosting the Climate Action Summit in New York ahead of the UN General Assembly. The Secretary-General called on all leaders – governments, the private sector, civil society, local authorities and other international organizations – to come with concrete, realistic plans that will boost ambition and rapidly accelerate action to implement the Paris Agreement.



# CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT 2019



For media inquiries and interview requests regarding these announcements, please contact:  
Dan Shepard, UN Department of Global Communications: [shepard@un.org](mailto:shepard@un.org) tel 1212-963-9495