

## Race to Zero: Terms of Reference - Expert Peer Review Group (EPRG)

### EPRG Roles and Responsibilities:

- Credibility of the Race to Zero Campaign: It is imperative for the Race to Zero campaign's success. All commitments should reflect sincere efforts to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement.
- Advisory to Champions: The EPRG guides the High-level Climate Champions (“Champions”) on the inclusion or exclusion of networks and initiatives in the Race to Zero (RtZ).
- Nature of EPRG: The EPRG functions as an advisory body and does not possess decision-making authority. The Champions have the final say on which networks and initiatives are included in the RtZ.

Role	Description	Responsibilities
Initiative Review	Maintaining EPRG's Role in the Application Process	New Initiatives Evaluation: Sustain the advisory role for Champions, assessing new initiatives to ensure alignment with the Race to Zero campaign's criteria and ensuring rigour and quality.
Thought Leadership & Advancing Best Practices	Shaping the Pathway to Net-Zero	Address pressing issues about net-zero implementation. Promote solutions across the Race to Zero community via research, pilot projects, and other interventions. For 2023-24: Emphasize fair share, equity, justice, and service providers' role. Optionally guide the Champions on net-zero integrity, e.g., guiding the 2023 Race to Zero Progress Report's format.
Supporting Initiatives & Accelerators' Leadership & Implementation	Nurturing Leaders, Resolving Challenges	Concentrate on fostering leadership among partners and backing Accelerators in fortifying Race to Zero's commitments. This involves identifying, reviewing, and promoting best practices, potentially through voluntary 'check-ins'.
Supporting the UNFCCC Recognition and Accountability Framework	Boosting the new framework's effectiveness with EPRG's expertise	Actively participate in consultations and stakeholder engagements initiated by the UNFCCC.

### Composition:

- Size: The EPRG consists of approximately 15-20 individual experts and practitioners.
- Source of Members: Members are selected from:
  - Networks and initiatives in the RtZ.
  - Scientific or technical experts.

- Inclusivity: The EPRG will be inclusive in terms of:
- Gender.
- Geography (both developed and developing countries).
- Types of actors (sub-national governments, businesses, civil society, etc.).
- Domains of expertise.
- Leadership: One member will serve as the Chairperson.
- Terms: Members have an 18-month tenure, which is renewable.

#### **Expectations for EPRG Members:**

- Engage as individuals, not organizational representatives.
- Provide evidence-based advice to the Champions in good faith.
- There is no compensation for their service.
- Dedicate 5-10 hours monthly to EPRG tasks.
- Declare any interests related to specific networks/initiatives and avoid conflicts of interest.

#### **Nomination Process:**

- Champions determine EPRG membership.
- Self-nomination is allowed through the submission of a cover letter and CV.
- Champions can appoint additional EPRG members as required.
- Current EPRG members may advise on new nominations at the Champions' request.

#### **Operation of EPRG:**

- Reviews applications on a rolling basis.
- Predominantly operates via email.
- Monthly virtual meetings are scheduled to deliberate on applications if needed.
- Ad hoc meetings can be arranged upon request.

#### **Governance:**

- Champions can modify these Terms of Reference, post consultation with the EPRG.
- EPRG discussions about specific networks/initiatives remain confidential unless made public by the network/initiative.
- EPRG members can discuss EPRG's general functions publicly.
- EPRG member names will appear on the Race to Zero website.

**Illustration of the EPRG's functions**

