

Race to Zero: Partner Application Form

Please complete in full and send to racetozero@climatechampions.team with racetozero@unfccc.int and saurabhjain@climatechampions.team in cc.

Last update of this form: 23 November 2023

Expert Peer Review Group x Application Process for Prospective Partners

Step No.	Process Step	Key Actions/Details
1	Receipt of Expression of Interest	The prospective partner sends an expression of interest to the Race to Zero team.
2	Initial Review	Expert Peer Review Group (EPRG) Manager reviews interest, sends the Race to Zero partner criteria form to the prospective partner.
3	Partner Application Submission	The prospective partner fills out and submits the form as per the Race to Zero criteria.
4	Assignment of Reviewers	The EPRG manager assigns two reviewers from the EPRG roster, reviewers have a 30-day deadline.
5	Preliminary Assessment	Reviewers conduct an assessment of the application, may ask for clarifications or additional information.
6	Discussion with Prospective Partner	Reviewers discuss their assessment and any needed clarifications with the prospective partner.
7	Application Assessment Outcome	Application is either passed, passed with recommendations, or the partner is asked to reapply after addressing the identified gaps.
8	Follow-up and Integration	If passed or passed with recommendations, the EPRG manager works with the new partner to ensure they are well-integrated and guide them on improving if necessary.
Note:	EPRG-approved or disapproved application is transferred to the office of High-Level Champions (HLC) for final clearance into the Race to Zero. Partner is communicated about the final decision only after the HLC decision since the EPRG by design can only recommend acceptance or rejection to R2Z. Final decision rests with the HLC office.	

9	Reapplication Process	If asked to reapply, the prospective partner addresses the identified gaps and reapplies, and the process starts again from step 4
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Contact information

Initiative / network name	
URL	
Primary contacts (name, email, phone)	

Initiative description & ambition

Short description of the network/initiative	
How many actors have aligned with Race to Zero criteria under your network/initiative?	
How many actors do you aim to have making net zero commitments in the 12 months, 2-3 years and by 2030?	

Starting Line Criteria

Please explain how commitments under your network/initiative meet the following starting line criteria. Members must meet all of these criteria.

PLEDGE	<i>Does the network / initiative clearly require actors to have a NZ target by 2050, and an</i>
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	<p><i>interim target for members to contribute their fair share of halving emissions by 2030?</i></p> <p><i>Note any exceptions or deviations. Are targets required to be firmly embedded at the head of organisation level?</i></p> <p><i>Can you provide evidence that organizations actually have such targets?</i></p> <p><i>To the extent some emissions are NOT included (across scopes 1, 2 and 3), what justifications, if any, are given (e.g. trivial amount, data are impossible to find, actors lack power to control, etc.)?</i></p> <p><i>Do your members count any offsetting projects as part of their emissions reduction targets? Are these similar to peer networks / initiatives?</i></p> <p><i>How does your network/ initiative support actors to make pledges?</i></p>
PLAN	<p><i>Are Transition (City/ Region) Plans required?</i></p> <p><i>Are they published within 12 months of joining, on a public platform? Can you find evidence of these plans existing?</i></p> <p><i>What level of ambition is required of actions within the next 12 months, within 2-3 years and by 2030s, if any?</i></p> <p><i>How does the network/initiative require/support actors to make plans?</i></p>
PROCEED	<p><i>Does the network / initiative clearly urge and require immediate action?</i></p> <p><i>What near-term measures does it require of actors, and in what timeframe does it require those measures?</i></p> <p><i>Do actors in the network/initiative show evidence of actually taking steps in line with their transition plans?</i></p> <p><i>What sectors do you intersect with and how do members contribute to breakthroughs?</i></p> <p><i>How does the network/ initiative support actors to proceed?</i></p>
PUBLISH	<p><i>Does the network/initiative require at least annual reporting? What form does it require reports to take (preferably feeding into the UNFCCC Global Climate Action Portal)? Can you provide evidence that progress has been reported?</i></p>
POLICY	<p><i>Does the network/initiative require its members to align their policy and engagement activities with net zero goals?</i></p> <p><i>Does the network/initiative provide support and guidance to its entities for doing so?</i></p>

Leadership practices

Please explain how the members in your network/initiative plan to meet the following [leadership practices](#). Please mention any barriers or reasons why leadership practices might not be adopted.

PLEDGE	<p><i>Explain whether you have emissions reductions targets relate to real-world emissions, absolute emissions or intensity emissions</i></p> <p><i>Do your targets include cumulative emissions and if not, why not?</i></p> <p><i>Do you have twin targets for reductions and removals?</i></p> <p><i>Do you have specific short-term targets for reduction of methane and other GHGs? If not, why not?</i></p> <p><i>How does your network/ initiative protect nature (halting deforestation, protecting biodiversity and making activities consistent with climate resilient development and providing nature finance?)</i></p> <p><i>Do you have sectoral targets in line with the 2030 breakthroughs (or more ambitious)? If not, why not?</i></p>
PLAN	<p><i>Do you encourage Transition (City/ Region) Plans that support a just transition?</i></p> <p><i>How do Plans integrate nature?</i></p> <p><i>How do Plans empower other stakeholders in the community/ embrace radical communication, including the Sustainable Development Goals?</i></p> <p><i>How do Plans encourage developing countries to achieve a just transition?</i></p>
PROCEED	<p><i>How do you encourage contributing beyond members' own territories/ value chains?</i></p> <p><i>How do you prioritise emissions-intensive sectors?</i></p> <p><i>How do you scale up climate solutions, such as new technologies/ business models/ policy approaches/ community practices?</i></p> <p><i>How do you empower your ecosystem to implement Transition Plans?</i></p>
PUBLISH	<p><i>How do you encourage reporting on progress beyond members' own territories/ value chains?</i></p>
POLICY	<p><i>How is your initiative/ network and/ or your members activating the ambition loop?</i></p> <p><i>How are you advocating for appropriate regulation and facilitating measures to ensure a 1.5C transition?</i></p>

Questionnaire on criteria for net zero targets for networks or initiatives joining the Race to Zero campaign

End state and transition. How do you define the end state you are seeking to achieve? For example, are you seeking net zero, absolute zero, or 'climate positive,' or some other goal? How is the pathway to that end state defined? Please refer to the [Race to Zero Lexicon](#).

Future uncertainties

Which solutions (including key technologies or behaviors) do you anticipate will be necessary to achieve the net-zero targets, but which do not yet exist, or which are not yet feasible to implement? How much uncertainty surrounds the future development of these solutions, and how do your plans address uncertainty in these factors and in other trends?

Dependence on other actors

To what extent do your plans depend on other actors doing something? E.g. for a company, are you assuming suppliers will decarbonize? Or for a city, are you assuming a national power provider will go 100% renewable?

Governance arrangements

How are targets embedded in long-term decision-making (e.g. for governments, are they in law, or simply political declarations?). Who is responsible for delivery? How does your network or initiative ensure that participants meet their commitments? What processes and procedures does your network use to make decisions?

Fair share, equity & justice

How will you empower your stakeholders and entities across your community to themselves contribute their fair share of halving emissions by 2030?

Resilience & adaptation

How do you envisage also encouraging your members to join the Race to Resilience campaign, in order to strengthen adaptation efforts?

2030 Breakthroughs

In which sectors of the global economy do most of your operations lie? How will you contribute towards those sectors' 2030 Breakthroughs?