

CEMENT AND CONCRETE BREAKTHROUGH: PRIORITY INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS FOR 2024-2025

1. This document outlines the Priority International Actions for 2024/2025 under the Cement and Concrete Breakthrough, in response to the recommendations in the [Breakthrough Agenda Report 2023](#) from the International Energy Agency (IEA), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the UN High Level Action Champions (UN HLAC). These priority actions have been developed collaboratively by countries participating in the Cement and Concrete Breakthrough and leading initiatives. They seek to build on the range of important wider work underway and planned across the international landscape, including as part of the international response to the Global Stocktake and in support of the migration work programme, by strengthening international collaboration in specific areas where in doing so we can accelerate progress towards our shared Cement and Concrete Breakthrough Goal to make:

‘Near-zero emission cement the preferred choice in global markets, with efficient use and near-zero emission cement production established and growing in every region of the world by 2030.’

2. Noting that each country will have its own national pathway to decarbonise key sectors and approach to competing for future clean technology market opportunities, and with full recognition of the many excellent wider international activities and partnerships already underway, we intend to prioritise our international efforts to advance specific priority international actions and projects as listed below.
3. Progress on these actions in 2024/2025 will be tracked through the next Breakthrough Agenda report, discussed through the Cement and Concrete Breakthrough dialogues co- led by Canada and the United Arab Emirates, reviewed at the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) and Mission Innovation Ministerial (MI) in the context of the CEM-MI-Breakthrough Agenda Partnership Agreement and partly reported with intermediate objectives at COP29 alongside an updated set of Priority International Actions for the Cement and Concrete sector in 2025.
4. In order to implement the Breakthrough Agenda launched by 45 world leaders at COP26 and now backed by a total of 57 governments, set out below are the Priority International Actions being taken forward by individual countries and governments as appropriate to their national priorities:

Priority International Action	How this will be taken forward	Coordinating initiative(s)	Collaborating governments
<p><i>Breakthrough Agenda Report Recommendation: Countries and companies should work through existing collaborative forums to agree on definitions for low and near-zero emissions cement and concrete by the mid-2020s, as well as guidelines for the efficient use and reuse of building material.</i></p>			
<p>C1. Definitions, standards and certification: Accelerate the development of standards for low-emission and near-zero emission cement and concrete by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - expediting the development of draft common definitions and working towards interoperability and net-zero compatibility of emissions measurement standards, and consulting on these over the course of 2024/2025, in order to announce, at COP30, a common timeframe for the formal adoption of common and interoperable standards for the cement and concrete industry. - sharing knowledge to accelerate the adoption of emissions reporting by the mid-2020s - developing a definition of ‘alternative fuel’ to enable the use of waste replacing coal in the context of cement production by COP30. 	<p>By inviting CEM IDDI and the IEA WPID, in collaboration with other expert organisations, to jointly produce a high-level mapping document that clarifies and coordinates the ongoing work that initiatives will undertake to finalise the interoperability of existing emissions measurement methodologies and definitions.</p> <p>By participating in the work of CEM IDDI, and the IEA WPID to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develop and decide upon guidelines for the harmonisation of Product Category Rules (PCRs); - progress alignment and adoption of emissions data collection, and measurement methodologies; and - develop common definitions of low and near-zero emissions cement and concrete. <p>By drawing on, where relevant, work done by and participating in discussions led by the GCCA, ConcreteZero, ASTM, CEN and ISO.</p>	<p>Clean Energy Ministerial Industrial Deep Decarbonisation Initiative (CEM IDDI)</p> <p>IEA Working Party on Industrial Decarbonisation (IEA WPID)</p> <p>With partners: ConcreteZero</p> <p>GCCA</p>	<p>Canada</p> <p>United Arab Emirates</p> <p>United Kingdom</p> <p>Congo</p> <p>Ireland</p> <p>Türkiye</p> <p>Egypt</p> <p>Austria</p> <p>Australia</p>

Breakthrough Agenda Report Recommendation: Countries and companies should work through existing collaborative forums to co-ordinate and scale up early efforts to create a market for near-zero emissions cement/concrete, including via high-quality, multi-year purchase commitments and/or policy support.

<p>C2. Demand creation: Rapidly grow demand offtake for low and near-zero emission cement and concrete by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - encouraging all signatory countries to join/sign intent towards joining the CEM IDDI Green Public Procurement Pledge by COP29. - working together to develop packages of coordinated high-quality public and private procurement and purchase agreements for these products by COP30. 	<p>By joining and implementing the CEM IDDI Green Public Procurement Pledge, with the intention to drive a shared public procurement offtake for low carbon good.</p> <p>As businesses, by participating in, and committing to, the First Movers Coalition and ConcreteZero to drive private procurement for low-and near zero emission cement and concrete.</p>	<p>Clean Energy Ministerial Industrial Deep Decarbonisation Initiative (CEM IDDI)</p> <p>First Movers Coalition (FMC)</p> <p>ConcreteZero</p>	<p>Canada</p> <p>United Arab Emirates</p> <p>United Kingdom</p> <p>Congo</p> <p>Ireland</p> <p>Türkiye</p> <p>Austria</p> <p>Australia</p>
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Breakthrough Agenda Report Recommendation: Countries should work together with effective private sector collaborative forums to accelerate the pace of learning between a wider set of countries, with a particular focus on developing countries. These partnerships should support the delivery of pilot and demonstration scale projects in all major emerging and developing countries (EMDEs) well in advance of 2030.

<p>C3. Collaboration, education, innovation and scale-up of existing technologies: Support more robust knowledge-sharing and enhanced international assistance for deep decarbonisation of the cement and concrete sector (including for enabling technologies and infrastructure) by COP30, with a goal of accelerating the delivery of a growing number of globally significant priority demonstration projects for near-zero emission cement technologies.</p>	<p>By working through Mission Innovation’s Net Zero Industries Mission (NIM), to share technology learning, business case development and policy support, and mobilise public and private international assistance where needed to accelerate project delivery; measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Knowledge Exchange Community of Practice, • Global Workshop & Webinar Programme <p>By engaging with the efforts of Mission</p>	<p>Mission Innovation Net Zero Industries Mission</p> <p>Mission Possible Partnership</p> <p>Industry Transition Accelerator (ITA)</p> <p>ConcreteZero</p> <p>GCCA</p>	<p>Canada</p> <p>United Arab Emirates</p> <p>United Kingdom</p> <p>Congo</p> <p>Ireland</p> <p>Türkiye</p> <p>Egypt</p>
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	<p>Possible Partnership to create the enabling conditions to demonstrate near-zero emissions cement and concrete value chains at commercial scale in regions around the world.</p> <p>By following the “Chain Reaction” concept developed by UNIDO, engage with the relevant coordinating initiatives on creating the favourable conditions for Net Zero Technologies to emerge in their respective jurisdictions.</p> <p>By supporting the work of ConcreteZero to scale up and deploy market-ready solutions, and provide technically validating data from pilot projects.</p> <p>By exploring the various decarbonisation pathways that could be applicable to diverse geographies and climate through the work of the GCCA, in particular their Innovandi initiatives.</p>		<p>Kenya</p> <p>Austria</p> <p>Australia</p>
<p>Breakthrough Agenda Report Recommendation: Countries should establish a matchmaking function focused on industry decarbonisation and cement that can better respond to developing country requests for financial and technical assistance. In addition to participating countries, this should include IFIs, national development banks, philanthropic organisations, private financial institutions, industry coalitions and companies, with regular meeting of ministers.</p>			
<p>C4: Finance and investment and relevant ecosystem: Strengthen the international financial and technical assistance offer through matchmaking for industrial decarbonisation of the cement and concrete sector by COP30, with a particular focus on ensuring that developing countries have better access to assistance (including from multilateral</p>	<p>By participating in work, led by LEADIT, in collaboration with countries and partners, to support emerging and developing countries that wish to transition by establishing in-country dialogues to focus coordination, mobilisation and access to finance and international assistance.</p>	<p>LeadIT</p> <p>Industry Transition Accelerator (ITA)</p> <p>Climate Club</p> <p>With partners:</p>	<p>Canada</p> <p>United Arab Emirates</p> <p>United Kingdom</p> <p>Congo</p>

<p>development banks), and supporting a more thorough understanding of the regulatory roadblocks that prevent projects from reaching investor support, with the goal of mobilising private investment at scale in emerging and developing economies.</p>	<p>By participating in work led under pillar I and pillar III of the Climate Club to support emerging and developing countries that wish to transition by establishing new, appropriate mechanism(s) to support the matchmaking of international assistance and finance.</p> <p>By joining and participating in leading climate finance programmes, including the CIFs Industry Decarbonisation Programme and other relevant industry funds and technical assistance programmes (e.g. UNIDO TA Facility, IFC, OECD Framework for Industry’s Net-Zero Transition).</p>	<p>UNIDO</p> <p>CIF Industrial Decarbonisation Programme</p>	<p>Ireland</p> <p>Türkiye</p> <p>Egypt</p> <p>Austria</p>
<p>C5: Landscape Coordination: Enhance the coordination and transparency of international collaboration on low and near-zero emission cement and concrete.</p>	<p>By utilising the Breakthrough Agenda annual cycle to embed a process for regularly reviewing and updating a detailed map of the landscape of international collaboration, using key cement and concrete fora to identify gaps and overlaps and explore solutions and to inform recommendations on new priority actions for strengthened collaboration.</p>	<p>Breakthrough Agenda Secretariat in close partnership with leading international initiatives.</p>	<p>Canada</p> <p>United Arab Emirates</p> <p>United Kingdom</p> <p>Congo</p> <p>Türkiye</p> <p>Egypt</p> <p>Austria</p> <p>Australia</p>