

Plan to Accelerate Near-Zero Emission and Resilient Buildings (NZERBs)

Axis: 4. Building Resilience for Cities, Infrastructure and Water ▾

Key objective: 12. Sustainable and resilient constructions and buildings ▾

Solution: **Make Near-Zero** (low green house gas emission) **and Resilient Buildings the new normal by 2030, through coordinated international actions and collaboration**

Host initiative: Buildings Breakthrough, coordinated by UNEP Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC), operating under the Breakthrough Agenda.

Participating partners (*not exhaustive*): WorldGBC, ICC, RICS, Partnership for Energy Efficiency in Buildings, UNEP One Planet Network, Solar Impulse Foundation, International Code Council (ICC), WBCSD, GlobalABC Adaptation Hub, Materials Hub, Subnational Hub, Market Transformation Hub, C40, Cement Breakthrough, UNOPS, Climate Heritage Network, Green Finance Institute (GFI).

Scope:

- **2030 goal:** Near-Zero Emission and Resilient Building (NZERB) are the new normal by 2030
- **Geographic:** Regional/Global (at both national and subnational levels); the plan will strengthen international cooperation to scale solutions that contribute to low emission and resilient buildings, with a particular emphasis on supporting Emerging Markets and Developing Economies (EMDEs)
- **Sectoral:** The scope covers mitigation and resilience/adaptation in new constructions and deep renovation projects across the whole life cycle of buildings. It applied to formally constructed, professionally engineered buildings (buildings designed and built through regulated, professional processes -not informal or self-built, or vernacular structures).
- **Other aspects:** The plan focuses on five concurrent priority areas, guided by the theory of change to drive market transformation. It calls for coordinated action among policymakers, industry and financial institutions to unlock the sector's potential. Actions include developing and adopting NZERB-aligned guidelines, codes and standards; creating demand through public procurement; mobilising and derisking finance; enabling impactful demonstration projects; and strengthening knowledge-sharing to accelerate global replication. Each cluster integrated Building Breakthrough deliverables, GlobalABC flagships, and initiatives from the Climate Action Agenda Activation Group #12 on *Sustainable and Resilient Buildings*.

Levers assessment (*organised by assessed level of importance to the sector*):

- **Partnerships and collaboration** (*overarching*): **High maturity** ▾
 - **Rationale:** *The buildings sector benefits from established platforms (GlobalABC, Intergovernmental Council for Buildings and Climate, Buildings Breakthrough, regional alliances/networks) that **coordinate action, exchange best practices, and align standards.***
 - **Progress to date:**
 - *Strong collaboration through GlobalABC community (397 members incl. 71 countries), Buildings & Climate Global Forum (first edition in 2024, 1200 participants, to take place every 3 years), ICBC (49 members, 17 observer countries), Buildings Breakthrough (29 countries, supported by EU & 30+ partners/initiatives).*

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- *Market Transformation Action Agenda (2024) provides a platform to amplify, connect and coordinate industry leaders tackling some of the most critical barriers to decarbonise the sector.*
- *Roadblocks:*
 - *Coordination challenges across sectors (energy, materials, finance);*
 - *Limited engagement from local authorities and the private sector in many markets.*
- **Inclusive decision-making governance & design** (*encompassing -ensures coordination and coherent implementation across ministries and levels of governments*): **Medium maturity** ▾
 - *Rationale: Coordination across ministries and levels of government is essential for coherent implementation and social equity;*
 - *Progress to date: [examples of whole of government approaches, inclusive planning frameworks*
 - *Roadblocks: Limited coordination mechanisms, workforce and capacity in many countries.*
- **Policy & regulatory** (*foundational, sets direction, enables other levers*): **Medium maturity** ▾
 - *Rationale: Effective **policies and regulations** are essential to scale NZERBs by turning climate goals into **enforceable measures**.*
 - *Progress to date:*
 - *>80 countries have energy codes, yet few address whole-life carbon or resilience. Emerging harmonisation initiatives and NZER definitions mark progress, but major gaps persist, especially across emerging markets. (Breakthrough Agenda Report 2024);*
 - *14 countries/subnational governments update building codes since 2023, though few fully aligned with net-zero goals ([Buildings-GSR, 2024-2025](#));*
 - *[EPBD](#) introduces life cycle GWP calculation and disclosure;*
 - *>70% of [C40's Net Zero Carbon Accelerator](#) members of C40 signatory cities (17 cities) have implemented policies or roadmaps to ensure all new buildings will be net zero carbon before 2030.*
 - *Roadblocks:*
 - *Weak integration and enforcement of mandatory WLC, embodied and adaptation standards and requirements in most markets;*
 - *Misaligned policies across jurisdictions.*
- **Standards & Taxonomies** (*enables clear baselines and comparability*): **Medium maturity** ▾
 - *Rationale: **Aligned standards, building codes, products standards, green taxonomies** build comparability and market confidence for NZERB. **Whole life carbon standards** are essential for enabling cross-boarder trade, investment, skills and knowledge sharing.*
 - *Progress to date:*
 - *Common shared definitions and principles of near-zero and resilient buildings have been launched in 2025 ([WorldGBC, 2025](#)) These provide a foundation from which to strengthen international coordination.*

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- Subnational and national methodologies for Whole Life Carbon (WLC) assessment are emerging. Whilst this reflects progress, it also introduces inevitable fragmentation, with differing national practices complicating comparability. (WBCSD 'Driving the ambition loop', 2025)
- Some countries update appliance standards and set embodied or whole life carbon guidelines;
- 14 sustainable finance taxonomies include real estate activities ([Financing Transformation, 2024](#)).
- **Roadblocks:**
 - Fragmented governance, inconsistent/limited data and standards for embodied emission and resilience metrics, and limited technical capacity -especially in emerging markets, where most new buildings will be constructed. (Breakthrough Agenda Report 2024)
 - Misaligned major international certifications and 1.5C trajectory ([SystemIQ, 2024](#)) - particularly the consideration of in-use energy performance monitoring and whole-life carbon, and standards across jurisdictions;
 - Fragmented taxonomy definitions hinder cross-boarder investment.
- **Public/private finance:** Low maturity ▾
 - **Rationale:** Global investment in energy-efficient buildings reached USD 270 billion -only half the required annual level (UNEP, 2025) and we have persistent overall **adaptation finance gap** (UNEP, 2023). Scaling NZERBs requires access to **concessional, private, and public finance** tailored to buildings, addressing both **mitigation and adaptation**, including **innovative instruments** (green bonds, subsidies, blended finance, risk mitigation) supported by robust policy frameworks that create market demand and reduce investment risk. **Regulatory mandates** such as updated building codes, energy performance standards and embodied carbon regulations, are critical to unlock investment and enable effective deployment of these tools ([Buildings-GSR, 2024-2025](#)).
 - **Progress to date:**
 - Growing commitments to green bonds, blended finance pilots, and climate funds for efficiency retrofits;
 - Growing policies that allocate finance to green building upgrades, energy efficiency, circularity, resilient construction (e.g., [EU Cohesion Policy Support for Energy Efficiency and Building Renovation](#)).
 - **Roadblocks:**
 - Limited adaptation finance;
 - High risk perception and lack of de-risking instruments in emerging markets;
 - Financial barriers and high upfront costs - particularly in emerging markets where cost of capital is higher ([Buildings-GSR, 2024-2025](#)).
- **Demand** (enables market transformation, scales supply side, investment and innovation): Low maturity ▾
 - **Rationale:** Clear and predictable **demand signals (procurement policies, mandatory criteria, consumer incentives)** drives investment in NZERB, as well as production.
 - **Progress to date** (in some cities and governments):
 - Multiple intergovernmental commitments, if implemented, are set to expand demand for low-carbon buildings, sustainable wood, and energy-efficient cooling technologies. These include the Declaration de Chaillot, the Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership, and the Global Cooling Pledge (2024 Breakthrough Agenda Report), and the Global Framework for Action;

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- 4 governments have signed the IDDI's Green Procurement Pledge (July 2024), to reduce emissions from public construction projects by creating market demand for low- and near-zero emission steel, cement and concrete through public procurement; 3 countries have committed to the Statement of Intent;
- 160 corporates, cities and regions commit to minimise embodied and operational carbon of the buildings they own and occupy ([WorldGBC Commitment](#));
- C40's Clean Construction Accelerator members increased to eight cities, up from seven in 2023, with two cities now requiring embodied carbon data reporting;
- Over 74% of C40's Net Zero Carbon Accelerator members of C40 signatory cities (17 cities) have implemented policies or roadmaps to ensure all new buildings will be net zero carbon before 2030, while approx. 78% of signatory cities (18 cities) are implementing retrofit programmes for existing, privately-owned buildings, progressing the city towards the target for net zero carbon by 2050;
- Policy shifts are normalising whole-life carbon reporting and disclosure of new buildings at local and national levels. When complemented by limits, such disclosures indirectly raise demand for low-carbon buildings and their materials and technologies;
- Adoption of green/sustainable/circular public procurement criteria (e.g., 9 US states adopt [buy-clean policies](#) requiring lower embodied carbon products for public buildings and infrastructure).
- **Roadblocks:**
 - Weak policy signals; lack of mandatory green/sustainable/circular procurement standards; fragmented policy frameworks and lack of coordination across countries are slowing the diffusion of clean and efficient heating and cooling technologies, increasing investment risk and uncertainty around required skills and supply chains (2024 Breakthrough Agenda Report);
 - Inconsistent efficiency standards and uncoordinated implementation of MEPS are hindering large-scale deployment of high-efficiency air conditioning systems despite Global Cooling Pledge commitments. (2024 Breakthrough Agenda Report);
 - Divergent national targets and regulatory timelines are impeding the rollout of clean heating solutions such as heat pumps, limiting policy learning and market confidence. (2024 Breakthrough Agenda Report);
 - Limited consumer awareness.
- **Knowledge & Capacity building** (enables implementation, MRV and workforce transition): Low maturity ▾
 - **Rationale:** Global building floor area to grow by 75% by 2050, with 80% of the increase in **emerging markets and developing economies** (IEA, 2022). **Skilled professionals and capable institutions** are essential for designing, building, and regulating NZERBs, including increasing the **stringency of building energy codes** (Breakthrough Agenda, 2024).
 - **Progress to date:**
 - Buildings & Climate Global Forum (first edition 2024) fostered international exchange of knowledge and best practices;
 - National GBCs training 90,000 professionals and trades (760,000 hours, 2024);
 - C40 [Clean Construction e-learning course](#) - training for public officials on the climate impacts of construction, as well as outlining the key steps which cities and professionals can take to reduce them (open EDx - by invitation). Hundreds of officials trained already.
 - **Roadblocks:**

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- *Insufficient investment in professional and long-term institutional training, and knowledge sharing;*
- *Poor understanding of institutional capacity needs for regulation update and implementation (Breakthrough Agenda Report, 2024);*
- *Valuable local and indigenous knowledge are often not integrated into formal capacity-building mechanisms.*

- **Technology shifts** (electrification, material efficiency, heat pumps, etc.): **Medium maturity** ▾
 - *Rationale: Scaling mature **efficiency and renewable technologies** (e.g., high-performance envelopes, heat pumps, photovoltaics, etc.) offers **significant impact**. Innovation is needed for **low-carbon construction materials** (cement, steel, timber, recycled products) **and systems** to advance **circularity** and address **embodied emissions**.*
 - *Progress to date (in some countries/regions):*
 - *Cost reductions and deployment of **heat pumps** and renewables;*
 - *Pilots on low-carbon materials and circular construction (initiatives leading the way: [BuiltbyNature Prize](#); [Circular Buildings Coalition](#); [Drastic Project](#), [C40 Clean Construction Accelerator](#));*
 - *Demonstrations of blended old and new technologies, such as adaptive reuse and vernacular bio-based materials for low whole-life carbon construction (<https://www.davosalliance.org/toolsresources>).*
 - *Roadblocks:*
 - *Insufficient demonstration infrastructure and coordination (including tools and business models for sharing learning);*
 - *Gaps in financial instruments and institutional capacity (Breakthrough Agenda Report, 2024);*
- **Supply** (reduces embodied carbon, strengthens local resilience and enables circularity): **Medium maturity** ▾
 - *Rationale: Scaling NZERB requires robust supply chains for **high-performing envelopes** (good insulation), **efficient technologies** (heat pumps), **low carbon materials** (green concrete, timber, recycled steel, etc.) and **circular economy approaches and systems**.*
 - *Progress to date (in some regions) :*
 - *Increased manufacturing capacity for heat pumps, insulation, and renewables;*
 - *Efforts made and being developed to reduce running costs (Germany, Denmark, Netherlands, UK, certain Chinese provinces), to influence supply;*
 - *Expansion of low-carbon materials, including growth in green cement and clinker-substitution (e.g., Europe, India), scaling of engineered timber and prefabricated bio-based components (Nordic countries, Austria, France, Japan), increased recycling capacity for steel and aluminum, and use of secondary aggregates in concrete.*
 - *Roadblocks:*
 - *Materials supply chain disruptions, with limited regional manufacturing capacity;*
 - *Immature local markets and insufficient demand signals to justify scaling production;*
 - *High upfront costs for manufacturer (industrial upgrades, certification), and end users;*
 - *Lack of aligned standards, labeling and certification scheme to enable mass production and cross-border trade.*

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- **Risk-informed decision-making** (to integrate climate and financial risk into planning, design and valuation): **Low maturity** ▾
 - *Rationale: Buildings increasingly exposed to rising heat stress, flooding, and extreme events, yet risk considerations are rarely integrated into assessments, building codes, procurement, or finance decisions. Also, the transition to a low-emission economy introduces transition risks, such as financial or operational impacts from new regulations, technology shifts, and market changes. **Integrating both physical and transition risk into planning, valuation and investment decisions ensures that buildings remain safe, resilient, and economically viable over time.** Without this, assets risk becoming stranded or unsafe.*
 - *Progress to date (in some countries/jurisdictions):*
 - *Integration of resilience/adaptation into building policies (Canada, New Zealand, France with forward-looking climate/hazard mapping);*
 - *Climate risk assessment required for major projects;*
 - *Growing recognition of transition risks among business leaders (C-Change report, ULI 2024);*
 - *Emerging tools such as [CRREM](#) and the [ULI Preserve Tool](#) support consistent assessment of carbon transition risk (mainly in Europe);*
 - *Property valuation standards are evolving to embed environmental criteria into asset pricing.*
 - *Roadblocks:*
 - *Limited availability of local risk data and climate projections, and exposure models;*
 - *Weak integration of both physical and transition risks into building codes, procurement processes and finance decisions;*
 - *Significant gap in adaptation and transition finance for buildings;*
 - *Need to normalise asset-level climate risk disclosure in property valuation standards.*
- **Digital public information & digital technologies** (supports data, transparency, MRV, assess tracking, circular economy): **Medium maturity** ▾
 - *Rationale: Digital tools enable whole life carbon accounting, resilience planning, and performance monitoring.*
 - *Progress to date:*
 - *Increased uptake of BIM and LCA tools in high-income markets (supporting [WBCSD guide](#) to align embodied carbon assessments through BIM).;*
 - *Growing open-data and accounting initiatives, e.g., [Global Building Data Initiative \(GBDI\)](#), [EC3 tool embodied accounting tool](#)*
 - *Use of geospatial modeling and digital twins by municipalities to monitor and address climate change (e.g., [Climate Ready Boston Map](#)).*
 - *Roadblocks:*
 - *Limited access and uptake in medium/low-income markets;*
 - *Lack of interoperability and data standards;*
 - *Limited uptake of whole life carbon accounting tools/insufficient data and measurement systems.*
- **Public opinion** (informed public support drives policy ambition and consumer demand): **Low maturity** ▾

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- *Rationale: Raising awareness about the benefits of NZERBs help drive demand among consumers and developers. Public awareness campaigns can drive behavioural change and collective action, e.g., the EU's 2022 energy crisis campaign demonstrated how low-cost measures can inform and inspire future policies (IEA, 2023);*
- *Progress to date:*
 - *Small-scale campaigns and media coverage have raised awareness of NZERBs in select high-income markets;*
 - *Early adoption of energy-efficient buildings and green certifications shows some consumer interest (e.g., uptake of EU energy labels, pilot NZEB projects).*
- *Roadblocks:*
 - *Low public understanding of NZERBs and long-term benefits;*
 - *Fragmented and limited awareness campaigns; insufficient government-led communication;*
 - *High upfront costs and cultural habits slow adoption.*

Expected impact of this plan on the 2030 targets (if any): High -

This plan aims to catalyse rapid, measurable progress toward the Near Zero Emission and Resilient Buildings (NZERB) 2030 ambition by removing key systemic barriers (finance, demand signals, skills, deployment, and policy alignment). By 2028 the plan will deliver a combination of policy, market and capacity outcomes that materially shorten the gap to 2030 targets for the buildings sector and create durable pipelines for the remainder of the decade. By 2028, this plan aims to unlock measurable progress through several main impact pathways/agreed Priority International Actions (2024-2026):

1. Agreeing and gathering support on **NZERB definition, principles, indicators, metrics and policy guidelines**, leveraging existing standards, certifications, frameworks and initiatives.
2. **Driving demand** through initiatives that align public procurement commitments and policies to create strong market signals for NZERB
3. **Promoting finance** mechanisms and scaling finance solutions
4. **Accelerating project deployment** at national and regional levels by identifying and implementing finance-ready projects, especially in developing regions.
5. **Capacity and skills buildings** through strengthened institutional, educational, and enforcement systems.
6. **Landscape ecosystem mapping** to provide a comprehensive view of stakeholders, initiatives and sector dynamics (encompassing).

Each output includes a 2030 success statement and quantitative indicators to define impactful delivery and track measurable progress. This structure ensures implementation is outcome-driven, enables consistent monitoring, and aligns the efforts of across stakeholders and sectors toward system-wide impact. The detailed plan will include 2028 milestones to drive tangible progress by the 2nd GST.

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PAS Outcome	Agreed International Priority International Action 2024-2026	2030 Impact Success Statement	Quantitative Indicator(s)
Standards & Certification	Agreeing and gathering support on NZERB definition, principles, indicators, metrics and policy guidelines , leveraging existing standards, certifications, frameworks and initiatives.	<i>Countries have adopted and implemented building codes, standards and other policies that are aligned with internationally endorsed definitions and principles of Near-Zero Emission and Resilient Buildings.</i>	1) Number of countries supporting internationally endorsed definitions and principles of NZERBs. 2) Number of countries with building codes and other policies aligned with the definition and principles of NZERBs. 3) Percentage share of projected new floor space to 2050 covered by building codes and standards aligned with the definition and principles of NZERBs.
Demand Creation	Driving demand through initiatives that align public procurement commitments and policies to create strong market signals for NZERB	<i>Governments at all levels, acting both as investors and occupants, are procuring and operating publicly owned buildings, including materials and technologies, in alignment with the definition and principles of near-zero emission and resilience buildings, and are actively sharing their experiences and learnings with other governments.</i>	Number of countries implementing performance-based public procurement for buildings aligned with the definition and principles of NZERBs.
Finance & investment	Promoting finance mechanisms and scaling finance solutions	<i>Global annual investment in near-zero emission and resilient buildings grows significantly, relative to today</i>	Annual investment in energy efficiency, electrification and renewables in the buildings sector (USD 380 billion in 2024).
Deployment	Accelerating project deployment at national and regional levels by identifying and implementing finance-ready projects, especially in developing regions.	<i>Countries take forward efforts to increase annual retrofit rates, especially in advanced economies.</i>	Annual retrofit rates in advanced economies and share of deep retrofits.
Capacity and Skills	Capacity and skills buildings through strengthened institutional, educational, and enforcement systems		

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Expected contributions to global processes:

Impact Area	Impact Potential	Description
NDCs/ NAPS	Me... ▾	Whilst 80% of countries reference buildings in their NDCs, only 18% include quantifiable targets. Major emitters must include building code reform plans in NDC 3.0 submissions, with binding commitments for zero-carbon building codes by 2028 and mandatory adoption pathways by 2035 for others (UNEP, 2025). COP30 presents a critical moment to strengthen buildings integration within nationally determined contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).
Global Stocktake (GST)	High ▾	<p>The Buildings Breakthrough strengthens and enables international cooperation across the building sector to help implement key outcomes of the Global Stocktake. By mobilizing governments, industry, and finance institutions around shared priorities, it supports the global transition toward a resilient, efficient, and low-carbon built environment. In particular, it contributes towards the GST outcomes of:</p> <p>“Increasing the resilience of infrastructure and human settlements to climate change impacts to ensure basic and continuous essential services for all” (para. 63(e)): A resilient built environment is foundational for safe, thriving communities—ensuring that everyone, everywhere, can access shelter and essential services even as climate impacts intensify.</p> <p>“Doubling the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030” (para. 28a): Buildings are the single largest source of potential energy efficiency gains globally - offering <u>40% of the gains</u> according to the IEA.</p> <p>“Tripling renewable energy capacity globally by 2030” (para. 28a): Buildings are crucial enablers for expanding renewable energy—acting as sites for generation, integration, and demand flexibility.</p> <p>“Transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner... to achieve net zero by 2050” (para. 28(d)): By rapidly electrifying building heating and cooking—with tailored solutions for local needs—the sector can lead a just and equitable transition away from fossil fuels.</p>
2030 Climate Solutions targets	High ▾	This PAS directly supports the Built Environment Targets under the 2030 Climate Solutions - directly representing the delivery of target “Near-zero emission and resilient buildings are the new normal by 2030.”
Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)	High ▾	Contributes directly to SDG7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG13 (Climate Action); strong co-benefits in regards to SDG3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG8 (Decent Work & Economic Growth), SDG9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), SDG12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG17 (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development).

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Outcomes, Outputs and Actions (marked in green are 'country/subnational' action scope)

Outcome	Action Output; Action Area ¹	Action ² description [Geographical Scope -Global, Regional, Subnational]	Type of action Label ³	Implementatio n Lever	Responsible/c oordinated by	Time horizon	Stakeholder engagement ⁴	Committed Stakeholders
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¹ WLC, overall high-energy performance, embodied, operational, circularity, adaptation/resilience, deep renovations, new builds

² Criteria for which actions/initiatives can be listed: 1. they should contribute to the overall outcome of the respective priority area (e.g., on S&C, demand creation, finance and investment, etc.) as shown in the first column; 2. The initiative/action should be regional or global in scope; 3. the action/initiative should be sufficiently tangible or concrete, etc.; 4. The action/initiative should be active and ongoing; for a report, it should be a product that has been recently published, is about to be published, or qualifies as 'new action'.

³ Label as '[BBT]' if relevant, type of initiative, and add current challenges (resources, data gaps, capacity limitations, etc.).

⁴ The type of actors expected to be mobilized by the participating initiatives to deliver the actions mapped, such as national governments, local and regional governments, regulators & public agencies, utilities & system providers, large companies, small and medium enterprises, investors and private finance institutions, MDBs, academic and technical institutions, youth, indigenous peoples and women-led groups, multi-stakeholders platform (non-exhaustive)

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<p>Standards & Certification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Countries adopt shared NZERB definition & principles - Countries advance national WLC regulations - Harmonised data protocols operationalised - Countries adopt guidelines and recommendations to develop adapted codes, standards, public disclosure certificates 	<p>Countries endorse NZERB report for adoption and implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WLC; Resilience, high energy performance, EE, embodied, operation, deep renovations, new builds 	<p>Develop NZERB report, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a qualitative definition and principles for NZERB (interim report published), and, - related indicators, metrics, related standards and certification & guidelines, for transparency, comparability and accountability. <p>[Global]</p>	<p>New ... ▾ [Report] [BBT]</p>	<p>Standard... ▾ Policy & r... ▾</p>	<p>WorldGBC, with BBT/B1 supporting partners/initiatives</p>	<p>Nov... ▾ June... ▾</p>	<p>National... ▾</p>	<p>B1 member countries (TBC)</p>
	<p>National WLC regulation guidelines and benchmarks produced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WLC 	<p>INDICATE seeks to address data gaps by providing valuable insights and developing methodologies that can support the creation of national WLC regulations. The project brings together industry, academia, and policy experts to develop national WLC benchmarks supporting decarbonisation pathways for new construction and renovations. The project aims to align the construction sector with the EU's target of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.</p> <p>[Regional]</p>	<p>Exist... ▾ [Initiative]</p>	<p>Standard... ▾ Knowled... ▾</p>	<p>WorldGBC, KU Leuven, RISE, Smith, BPIE</p>	<p>Nov... ▾ Ahead of the 2028 GWP measurement deadline</p>	<p>National... ▾</p>	<p>Europe (8 countries): Czechia, Ireland, Spain, Austria, Croatia, Italy, Luxembourg, Hungary</p>
	<p>Common WLC data protocols designed and piloted; open building datasets compiled and provided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WLC 	<p>GBDI and its Open Building Data Platform advance the development of common, open WLC data protocols to enable benchmarking & informed decision making. This open-source platform enables building life cycle data sharing across geographies by providing a simple and scalable system for WLC building data management and analysis.</p> <p>[Global]</p>	<p>Exist... ▾ [Tool]</p>	<p>Knowled... ▾ Technolo... ▾</p>	<p>Global Building Data Initiative (GBDI), GLOBE</p>	<p>Nov... ▾</p>	<p>National... ▾ Local a... ▾ Regulat... ▾ Large c... ▾ Small a... ▾ (policy makers & industry leaders)</p>	<p>Partners in Europe North America (USA, Canada), South America (Brazil, Chile), Exploring Asia (China, India, Pakistan), Africa (Kenya, South Africa, Nigeria)</p>

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	National Circularity Assessment Framework - Circularity	Build national governments' capacities to measure, advocate for, and integrate circularity objectives and practices within their building and construction sectors through the assessment and development of National Circularity Roadmaps for their Buildings Sector. The assessment guidance includes a comprehensive toolkit to support assessing circularity within their building sectors and the development of roadmaps in line with the GlobalABC Climate Action Roadmap Guidance . The toolkit provides both quantitative and qualitative assessments through a set of indicators and a structured questionnaire, helping to identify gaps and priority actions for improving circular material and waste flows, reducing environmental impacts, and enhancing economic and social benefits. [Global]	Exist... [Initiative]	Policy & r...	UNOPS, UNEP, UN-Habitat and GlobalABC Materials Hub's Circular Built Environment working group	Nove...	National...	Pilot completed: Bangladesh & Senegal Planned: Ghana & Kenya
	Global Passive Cooling Guidelines for Tropical Climates published, to incorporate in building codes/regulatory frameworks - High-energy performance, embodied, operational, adaptation/resilience	Develop a Global Passive Cooling Guidelines for Tropical Climate, to support development of national guidelines, building codes	New ... [Report]	Knowled...	GlobalABC Passive Cooling Action Group	Nove...	National... Local a...	

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	Pathways and roadmap, to support incorporating adaptation and resilience policies/measures in regulatory frameworks - Adaptation/resilience	Develop a Multi-stakeholder pathways to advance adaptation in the building sector, including guidelines, a roadmap for governments that outlines short-, medium-, and long-term actionable recommendations, to accelerate the sector's adaptation and resilience. [Global]	New ... [Report]	Inclusive ... Policy & r...	GlobalABC Adaptation Hub	Nove...	National... Local a... Regulat...	
	Policy WLC Circularity	Implementation toolkit for the 10 Whole Life Cycle Recommendations for the Buildings Breakthrough and an interactive Circularity and Whole Life Cycle case study platform on circularity and whole life cycle best practices.	Exist... [Report]	Policy & r... Knowled...	GlobalABC Materials Hub Circular Built Environment, & Whole Life Cycle Policy Coalition	Nove...	Partner... WBCSD, GLOBE	UK Finland New Zealand Canada
	Low-carbon and near-zero definitions/ratings for cement and concrete (by strength categories)	Support implementation of low-carbon and near-zero definitions/ratings for cement and concrete (by strength categories) that are interoperable, accounting for different EPD practices. [Global]	Exist...	Policy & r... Standard...	Cement & Concrete Breakthrough Initiative, with IDDI, GCCA, IEA, ConcreteZero, Climate Club	Nove... Nove... annual updates roll out	Multi-st... Country policy & regulation, companies, public procurement (all layers of government)	Germany Australia

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Demand Creation Countries/cities adopt public procurement & policy commitments, coordinate targets and regulatory trajectories, and drive uptake for NZERBs, including on: - Whole building performance - Low-emission materials and appliances. - MEPS, to improve efficiency of air conditioners - Clean and efficient heating technologies like heat pumps.	Global framework for NZERB public procurement and policy commitment created. - WLC, high-energy performance, embodied, operational, deep renovations, new builds	Create public procurement and policy commitments for NZERBs, and join relevant initiatives to aggregate these commitments, as well as favour alignment of procurement policies on NZERBs related standards for clean and efficient heating and cooling technologies, through: - Global Framework for Action: Harnessing Circular and Sustainable Public Procurement to Drive Demand for a Near-Zero Emission and Resilient Built Environment - Online Capacity building modules and in-person training activities. - Pilots [Global]	New ... [Report & Initiative] [BBT]	Demand Policy & r... Knowled... Technolo...	UNEP One Planet Network (OPN)	Nove...	National... Local a... Regulat... Procurement officials	Finland Ghana Kenya <u>Goal:</u> 20 countries
	Clean Heat Policy Tracker designed - Operational, deep renovations, new builds	Develop the “Clean Heat Policy Tracker”, featuring several countries' factsheets and a policy-based analysis of clean heating policies for selected countries. [Global]	Exist... [Report]	Demand Knowled... Policy & r...	Clean Heat Forum	Nove... with periodic updates	National...	
	Principles for Responsible Timber Construction - WLC, embodied deep renovations, new builds	Develop the “Principles for Responsible Timber construction” [Global]	New ... [Initiative]	Demand Policy & r... Knowled...	Built by Nature Bauhaus Earth FCLP	Nove...	National... Multi-st... Investor...	+240 companies endorse the Principles
	IDDI's Green Public Procurement (GPP) for low- and near-zero emission cement, concrete, and steel	Implementation of the IDDI GPP Pledge with increased participation to promote demand for low- and near-zero emission materials in public procurement, to accelerate decarbonization of heavy industry.	Exist...	Demand	Cement & Concrete Breakthrough Initiative	Nove...	Regulat... Multi-st... CEM IDDI/UNIDO	

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	Cities adopt codes, policies and roadmaps for all new buildings to be net zero by 2030, and cities use their procurement powers to lead by example	Cities through municipal procurement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Require life cycle assessments (LCAs) and the diversion of construction and demolition waste from disposal for all municipal projects. – Use municipal purchasing power to procure or demand zero emission construction machinery in municipal projects from 2030, where available. – Reward resource-efficient and circular design, use of low carbon materials, and low to zero waste construction sites for all new projects and major retrofit. [Global/Subnational level]	Exist... ▾	Demand ▾	C40	[] ▾	Local a... ▾	23 cities for NZCB 8 Cities for CC
	Principles for Decarbonizing the Built Environment through Heritage	Cities and major building owners adopt principles to accelerate decarbonization by leveraging the whole life decarbonization, capacity-building, and culture shift potential of existing and historic buildings.	Exist... ▾	Demand ▾ Knowled... ▾ Policy & r... ▾	Climate Heritage Network, ICOMOS, Architecture 2030	Nove... ▾	Local a... ▾	

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Finance & Investment EMDEs attract and deploy finance for NZERB-aligned projects through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expanded and improved International financial & technical assistance (esp. in EMDEs), incl. blended finance instruments - Identified and adoption of policies & regulations that reduce private investment risk - Strengthened local banks and lenders capacity - Project pipeline - Robust and reliable data (data gaps addressed) 	Global mapping of NZERB finance instruments and facilities completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WLC, high-energy performance, EE, embodied, operational, resilience, deep renovations, new builds 	Develop a landscape mapping of NZERB finance facilities, technical assistance (TA) & financing solutions to mobilise private investments [Global]	New ... [Report] [BBT]	Public/pri... Knowled...	GlobalABC/Finance Hub	Nov...	Investor... MDBs	
	Study on climate-related risks (physical and transition) in real estate completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resilience/adaptation 	Develop a report on " Future-Proofing Real Estate Investment: Place-Based Risks " which aims to help policymakers understand how climate-related risks affect real estate and to identify policy and financial policy pathways for shaping a more resilient and sustainable real estate sector. [Global]	New ... [Report] [BBT]	Public/pri... Knowled...	OECD, France	Nov...	Investor...	
	Toolbox and initiative to strengthen banks' institutional and financing capacity for NZERBs developed, and initiative under development.	Global Initiative, based on a toolbox to strengthen banks' institutional and financing capacity for resilient and EE buildings in social infrastructure & initiative launch, including formation of a network of banks, standard training material development, training, capacity building and peer-to-peer learning, and mobilization of finance.	New ... [Report & Initiative] [BBT]	Public/pri... Knowled...	Partnership for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (PEEB)	Nov... June...	MDBs Investor... National...	

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	NZERB Finance Roadmap template - WLC, high-energy performance, EE, embodied, operational, resilience deep renovations, new builds	Develop a NZERB finance roadmap template and a pilot NZERB finance roadmap for Jordan, incl. best practices and action opportunities, roles and responsibilities of supporting organisations, to embed in a national roadmap (developed by DENA)	New ... [Tool & Report] [BBT]	Public/pri... Partners...	GlobalABC	Nove...	National... Local a... Regulat... Investor... MDBs	
	Article 6 Implementation Handbook for Buildings developed, to mobilise EMDEs finance for EE in buildings	Develop a handbook w/ step-by-step guidance for governments to put Art.6 (on carbon markets) of the Paris Agreements into practice; for policymakers and project developers, outlining the types of building projects suitable for Article 6, w/ best-practice examples, minimum criteria for additionality and integrity, methodologies to be used per project type, and recommendations for further development. [Global]	New ... [Report] [BBT]	Knowled... Public/pri...	Partnership for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (PEEB)	Nove...	National...	
	Global Property Linked Finance (PLF) principles and pathways, to expand and improve International financial & technical assistance for NZERBs, through Expand Property Linked Finance (PFL) solutions - WLC, overall high-energy performance, embodied, operational, Adaptation/Resilience, deep renovations, new builds	- The Global Property Linked Finance Initiative (GPLFI) brings together a top-down strategy – with clear objectives, unifying principles, and a country coalition – and a bottom-up engine – with local accelerators and capital market vehicles to support early adopters. - Develop the PLF Principles, PLF Pathways, PLF Accelerators and PLF Capital Markets Vehicles to facilitate the development of PLF markets globally, accelerate the route-to-market for new PLF solutions, and overcome the risks of a fragmented global market. The first output – the PLF Principles - seeks to support integrity in the development of PLF markets, while being sufficiently flexible to adapt to local market conditions. [Global]	New ... [Initiative]	Knowled... Public/pri... Inclusive ... Partners...	Global Property Linked Finance Initiative (GPLFI) / Green Finance Institute (GFI)	Nove... Nove...	Investor... MDBs	USA Australia UK Spain Canada Exploring PEEB aligned countries (11) in EMDEs.

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	Global database on certified green building floor area produced, to strengthen investor confidence and mobilise finance, through robust transparent indicators to track green buildings market penetration; - EE, embodied, operational, deep renovation, new builds	Develop and publish a comprehensive global database tracking certified green building floor area (across all certification systems) relative to total building floor area (residential and non-residential) by country. Generate 2 annual indicators: - % of new floor area certified each year - % of total certified green buildings relative to building stock [Global]	New ... [Tool]	Public/pri... Knowled...	International Finance Cooperation (IFC), World Bank	Nov... First dataset publication. Annual updates thereafter	National... Investor... Academ...	
Research Shared research priorities identified and advanced	Global research network established & research priorities & knowledge gaps identified - WLC, overall high-energy performance, embodied, operational, adaptation/resilience, deep renovation/new builds	- Establish a coordinated NZERB Research Network to map and leverage ongoing research initiatives, identify key gaps, and align national and regional research agendas with NZERB outcomes. - Publish a “ Global Research Agenda for NZERBs ” identifying 10 key research domains [Global]	Exist... [Report & Initiative] [BBT]	Partners... Knowled...	UNU-FLORES	June...	National... Academ...	
	R&D Programme] - Overall high-energy performance, operational,	The International Energy Agency's (IEA) Energy in Buildings and Communities (EBC) Programme supports R&D for near-zero energy and emissions in buildings and communities. It develops tools and technologies for healthy, efficient environments across building types, focusing on energy systems, indoor quality, and renewable integration. [Global]	Exist... [Initiative]	Partners... Knowled... Policy & r...	IEA	Nov...	Academ...	26 countries

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	Advance Research Priorities	Network convening leading associations, institutions, and experts to define and take on research priorities, and alignment of sustainability goals for the sector across regions.	Exist... ▾	Knowled... ▾ Partners... ▾	Rilem, Globe Consensus on Sustainability in the Built Environment (GLOBE), CIB	[] ▾	Academ... ▾	
	IEA EBC Research	<p><i>Ways to implement net-zero whole life carbon buildings</i></p> <p><i>Guidelines to improve the resilience of buildings and building communities located in cold and very cold climates</i></p> <p><i>New test methods, field monitoring methods and energy calculation methods, together with practitioner-oriented design guidelines for heat pump systems in buildings</i></p> <p><i>Providing a framework of concepts, tools and evidence that can enable trustworthy, automated, cost-effective trading of flexibility resources from buildings at scale</i></p> <p><i>Determining the role that occupants and building stakeholders must play to facilitate the energy transition while adapting to our changing climate (IEA EBC Annex 95)</i></p> <p><i>Developing energy-efficient heating, cooling and air purification strategies by using novel smart materials, especially advanced sorbents, like Metal-Organic Frameworks (MOFs) (IEA Annex 92)</i></p>	New ... ▾		<p>IEA EBC Annex 89</p> <p>IEA EBC Annex 93</p> <p>IEA EBC Annex 88</p> <p>IEA EBC Annex 96</p> <p>IEA EBC Annex 95</p> <p>IEA EBC Annex 92</p>	Nove... ▾		<p>https://annex89.iea-ebc.org/participants</p> <p>https://annex93.iea-ebc.org/participants</p> <p>https://annex88.iea-ebc.org/participants</p> <p>https://annex96.iea-ebc.org/participants</p> <p>https://annex95.iea-ebc.org/participants</p> <p>https://annex92.iea-ebc.org/participants</p>

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	Business Breakthrough Barometer	Captures the voice of business on the net zero transition, including identifying gaps, risks, opportunities and policy recommendations. The report includes policy recommendations for the Breakthrough Agenda sectors, including Buildings.	New ... [Report]	Knowled...	WBCSD, w/Breakthrough Agenda, Climate High-Level Champions and Marrakech Partnership Industry Group	June...	Large c...	
Deployment - Shared challenges identified - Replicable NZERB models & solutions disseminated globally - Scalable demonstration solutions deployed across geographies	Global Catalogue of NZERB Solutions developed and published, to scale impactful solutions across geographies. - WLC. overall high-energy performance, operational, embodied, deep renovation, new builds	Curate the Catalogue of Solutions for Buildings and Construction , highlighting scalable and replicable technologies for deployment, accompanied by contextualised case studies and best practices (see blueprint here) [Global]	New ... [Report] [BBT]	Technolo... Knowled... Policy & r...	Solar impulse Foundation (SIF)	Nov...	National... Local a...	
	UNFCCC Technology Executive Committee (TEC) Policy Brief on Climate Technologies and Solutions for Buildings published - operational, embodied, deep renovation, new builds	Launch of the UNFCCC Technology Executive Committee (TEC) Policy Brief on Deploying Established Climate Technologies and Solutions for Buildings [Global]	New ... [Report]	Knowled... Policy & r... Technolo...	GlobalABC (with MIT)	Nov...	National... Academ...	

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	Pilot and demonstration projects for NZERB deployment identified and supported <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WLC. overall high-energy performance, operational, embodied, deep renovation, new builds 	Identify and support pilot projects, replicate models, disseminate lessons [Global]	New ... [Initiative] [BBT] - lacks resourcin g	Technolo... Supply Demand	Solar Impulse Foundation (SIF)	Nove...	National... Local a...	B4 member countries (TBC)
Capacity & Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Global training priorities identified - Capacity-building gaps addressed and resources gathered - NZERB principles embedded in curricula, training programs, competency assessments, and accreditation frameworks. - Establishment and stronger enforcement capacity for building and energy codes. 	Global NZERB training and capacity-building priorities mapped and resources consolidated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WLC, embodied, operational, overall high-energy performance, deep renovations, new builds, Resilience/adaptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and share training and institutional capacity-building priorities, resources and tools across all regions, focusing on NZERB code enforcement, regulatory compliance, and professional upskilling. - Scale resources through GlobalABC knowledge platform and other relevant platform [Global]	New ... [Report & Tool] [BBT]	Knowled... Policy & r... Partners...	International Code Council (ICC)	Nove... Ongoing	National... Local a... Large c... Small a... Academ...	
	Global professional training programs scaled and open-access tools updated and disseminated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - [Add area] 	Green Building Council training programmes reach almost 100,000 professionals and tradespeople every year, delivering in excess of ¾ million training hours. WorldGBC will continue to support this by providing platforms for exchange on priorities, needs and best practices. The Zero Carbon and Climate Resilience Readiness Framework is a tool GBCs are using to identify market needs and open access resources such as the TopCLever project or the Minoro Platform will make information and training available to more people. [Global]	Exist...	Knowled...	World Green Building Council (WorldGBC)	Nove... Ongoing	Large c... Small a...	

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	academic and professional curricula - WLC, embodied, operational, overall high-energy performance, deep renovations, new builds, Resilience/adaptation	Launch an online CAS (Certificate of Advanced Studies) Extension School in Sustainability in the Built Environment (with recognised ECTS credits), focusing on low-carbon and climate-resilient buildings and infrastructure, targeting EMDEs (learners funded). [Global]	New ... [Initiative]	Knowled... Policy & r...	EPFL, ENPC (via GlobalABC HEI Action Group)	Nove...	National... Local a... Regulat... Large c... Small a... Academ... Professionals working in Construction and Policy	
	Trainings delivered to enforce building energy code and strengthen compliance frameworks - Embodied, operational, overall high-energy performance, deep renovations, new builds	Working Group on Building Energy Codes [Global]	Exist...	Knowled... Policy & r... Partners...	International Energy Agency (IEA)	[]	National...	
	Building regulatory toolkit safety	Launch an online building safety regulatory toolkit to aid jurisdictions globally to improve the areas of their regulatory environment to achieve more resilient and sustainable buildings.	Exist...	Knowled... Standard... Policy & r...	International Code Council (ICC)	[]	National...	

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	Share findings on Codes with the global coalition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance understanding of impactful options and practices regarding building energy codes across different countries. - Provide methods for cross-national comparison that lead to meaningful information sharing. - Foster collaboration on building energy code issues that leads to enhanced building energy code programs by incorporating new issues and practices. 	Exist...		IEA Building Energy Codes Working Group	Nov...	National...	
	Training delivered to public officials for basic principles of sustainable construction	<p>Global Officials request access to training and they do the course</p> <p>https://lms.c40.org/courses/course-v1:C40+Course1+2023/about</p>	Exist...	Knowled...	C40	[]	National...	
Landscape coordination Strengthened understanding and visibility of the global buildings and construction initiatives ecosystem	Global landscape mapping of buildings and construction initiatives completed and published, to enable improved coordination, identify gaps and overlaps, and prioritise actions by stakeholders - All areas - Global	Develop a sectoral landscape mapping tool published on the GlobalABC website, collecting structured information on initiatives' scope, stakeholders, enabling conditions, building area, and 2026–2027 deliverables	New ... [Tool]	Partners...	BBT, GlobalABC	June...	Multi-st...	All initiatives, all stakeholder, and all countries
	Market Transformation Action Agenda progress report offers a snapshot mapping of activity across the 3 levels of transformation.	Publish stocktake on the Market Transformation Action Agenda showcasing activity across the 3 levels.	New ... [Tool]	Partners...	WBCSD	Nov...	Multi-st...	

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Other	Decarbonization and Resilient Roadmaps	Climate Action Roadmaps for buildings and construction are featured under Buildings Breakthrough priority actions as a tool to trigger action at the country level	New	Policy & r... ▾	GlobalABC and WorldGBC	Nove... ▾	National... ▾	32 countries
	Relevant Plans to Accelerate Solutions (PAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advancing Wood-Based Construction for Climate (AG12) - Resilient Buildings (AG12) - Capacity Development Initiative for Public Development Banks of Energy Efficiency in Buildings and Social Infrastructure (AG12) - Global Property Linked Finance Initiative (- Efficient and Electric Buildings (AG1) - Heritage Informed Decarbonization (AG19) - Harmonisation of carbon markets (AG13) - Decarbonisation and Resilience Roadmaps for Buildings and Construction (AG12) 						

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Global Alliance
for Buildings and
Construction

UN CLIMATE CHANGE
HIGH-LEVEL CHAMPIONS



SOLARIMPULSE
FOUNDATION



[Participating partners - not exhaustive]