



THE BUSINESS END OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Business Summary





Commit to controlling climate change.

The world's governments have taken a big step towards getting climate change under control. By signing the Paris Agreement, they've set targets to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Businesses have committed too. But the planet needs more action from more businesses. Like yours.

Paris is crucial. But it's just a start.

The Paris Agreement aims to keep the global temperature change 'well below 2°C' in 2030. To hit that target, global emissions will have to be down to 42bn tonnes. But if current trends and policies stay as they are, emissions will be nearer 61bn tonnes. We estimate governments' Paris commitments will wipe 6bn tonnes off that total. That still leaves a big gap. But businesses are starting narrow it.

Businesses could cut 4.2bn tonnes of emissions. Or up to 10bn tonnes... if everyone commits.

Companies have already committed to cut emissions by signing up to climate change initiatives. In our report, we've studied five of them to see what impact they could have. If they reach their targets for signing up members, we estimate they'll cut emissions by up to 4.2bn tonnes.

But they could do more. Much more.

If all relevant companies join the initiatives we've studied, they'll cut up to 10bn tonnes of emissions by 2030. That would get the global total down to 45bn tonnes – well on the way to keeping the temperature rise under 2°C.



Businesses that commit get rewards. Governments that back them with policy create even more benefits. It's a virtuous circle.

Companies are already taking action to control climate change. So let's keep going — let's take more action, faster. It's not always straightforward, but the rewards are great.

You'll get return on your investment. You'll cut costs. You'll become more competitive. You'll see your reputation flourish.

Even so, starting out on this road can be challenging. So we're calling on governments to keep pushing on from Paris with their most ambitious policies to make it easier for businesses to act.

With businesses and governments raising each other's ambitions, who knows what's possible?

What's next?

Read our report at www.BusinessEndofClimate.org. It's the first of what will be annual updates on how the initiatives are progressing.

THE ONES WE'VE STUDIED ARE:



SCIENCE BASED TARGETS

Companies set emission reduction targets based on keeping temperature change below 2°C.



EP100

Companies commit, over 25 years, to doubling their economic output from each unit of energy (energy productivity).



RE100

Companies commit to using 100% renewable electricity.



ZERO DEFORESTATION

Companies commit, by 2020, to using no commodities that cause deforestation.



LOW CARBON TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (LCTPi)

Companies work to develop and use more low-carbon technology in their industry.

Do you know other initiatives we should be covering?
Do you want to help in other ways? Let us know at:

info@BusinessEndofClimate.org