

# COMMON AGENDA FOR CLIMATE ACTION

In 2015, 195 countries signed up to the UNFCCC Paris Agreement, a ground-breaking international agreement to maintain temperature levels at 2 degrees above pre-industrial levels. Countries have set their own targets and these targets will be monitored and reviewed every five years, from 2020 onwards.

Travel & Tourism represents 10% of the world's GDP and indirectly supports 1 in 10 of the world's jobs. The linkages between T&T and climate change are threefold:

1. Some of the most tourism dependent countries and destinations are at high risk from climate change, be it sea level rise, extreme weather patterns or destruction of biodiversity.
2. In many of the most high risk areas, tourism can provide opportunities for communities to build resilience to climate change impact.
3. As a growing sector, Travel & Tourism's contribution to climate change is also increasing.

Given the importance of Travel & Tourism to the world economy and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the growing imperative to address climate change in a meaningful way, WTTC and UNFCCC are delighted to work together towards a carbon neutral world with the aim of:

1. Communicating the nature and importance of the interlinkages between T&T and climate change
2. Raising awareness of the positive contribution T&T can make to building climate resilience
3. Reducing the contribution of T&T to climate change

## THIS WILL INVOLVE

1. WTTC engagement in the UNFCCC Global Climate Action work to be showcased in a Travel & Tourism event, such as a CEO roundtable, at COP24 and other related events and UNFCCC communication channels
2. WTTC and UNFCCC to promote best practice in tourism and climate action
  - a. Tourism for Tomorrow Climate Action Award (from 2019)
  - b. Active encouragement of T&T applications to Momentum for Change Awards
  - c. UNFCCC recognition of WTTC Member Companies who have accomplished carbon neutrality
3. WTTC and UNFCCC to initiate a sector-wide dialogue on Climate Action in the T&T sector, bringing together industry leaders, climate experts and others to 'look over the horizon' to identify how the sector can contribute to the implementation of the Paris Agreement, and to develop cooperation models under UNFCCC to facilitate such action
4. WTTC and UNFCCC to build a common agenda around material issues (to be determined, such as renewable energy, water and waste management, carbon reduction) and report annually on progress, and encourage T&T companies to use science based targets
5. WTTC to report on companies which have achieved carbon neutrality
6. WTTC to coordinate with academia and experts to document best practice case studies in sustainable Travel & Tourism and climate change
7. WTTC to join UNFCCC's Climate Neutral Now initiative