

# United Nations Climate Action Summit 2019

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*Source: UN website*

The Summit brought together governments, the private sector, civil society, local authorities and other international organizations to develop ambitious **solutions in six areas**: a global transition to renewable energy; sustainable and resilient infrastructures and cities; sustainable agriculture and management of forests and oceans; resilience and adaptation to climate impacts; and alignment of public and private finance with a net-zero economy.

## **Action portfolios/Action Areas of the Summit**

In order to ensure that the transformative actions in the real economy are as impactful as possible, the Secretary-General has prioritized the following action portfolios, which are recognized as having high **potential to curb greenhouse gas emissions and increased global action on adaptation and resilience**.

- **Finance**: mobilizing public and private sources of finance to drive decarbonization of all priority sectors and advance resilience;
- **Energy Transition**: accelerating the shift away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy, as well as making significant gains in energy efficiency;
- **Industry Transition**: transforming industries such as Oil and Gas, Steel, Cement, Chemicals and Information Technology;
- **Nature-Based Solutions**: Reducing emissions, increasing sink capacity and enhancing resilience within and across forestry, agriculture, oceans and food systems, including through biodiversity conservation, leveraging

supply chains and technology;

- **Cities and Local Action:** Advancing mitigation and resilience at urban and local levels, with a focus on new commitments on low-emission buildings, mass transport and urban infrastructure; and resilience for the urban poor;
- **Resilience and Adaptation:** advancing global efforts to address and manage the impacts and risks of climate change, particularly in those communities and nations most vulnerable.

**In addition, there are three additional key areas:**

- **Mitigation Strategy:** to generate momentum for ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and long-term strategies to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- **Youth Engagement and Public Mobilization:** To mobilize people worldwide to take action on climate change and ensure that young people are integrated and represented across all aspects of the Summit, including the six transformational areas.
- **Social and Political Drivers:** to advance commitments in areas that affect people's well-being, such as reducing air pollution, generating decent jobs, and strengthening climate adaptation strategies and protect workers and vulnerable groups.

**The relation between this summit and other events such as COP25 & COP26**

- The Climate Action Summit is not part of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process designed to oversee implementation of the Paris Agreement, nor is it an alternative to the UNFCCC.
- Rather, the Summit is being convened to fully support that process by providing a much-needed shot in the arm to implementation efforts, an effort that was fully endorsed by countries at previous conferences since

COP21 in Paris, France, in 2015.

- By spurring increased levels of action and ambition, it is hoped that countries will submit far more ambitious national plans at COP25 in 2019 and COP26 in 2020 to ensure that climate change is limited to well under 2°C, or better, 1.5°C