

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

# LETTER FROM CEO & CHAIR

**2022 WILL  
LONG BE  
REMEMBERED  
AS A  
MOMENTOUS  
YEAR.**

A series of interlinked crises converged which have fundamentally altered the world we now live in. Just as economies around the world were recovering from the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic, the brutal invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces created further turmoil.

The rush by European and other governments to end their dependency on Russian fossil fuels drove energy prices to record highs and stoked inflation around the world. Meanwhile climate-related disasters continued to escalate, with prolonged heatwaves and drought in Europe and China causing widespread suffering and disrupting global supply chains.

Whilst nobody predicted these circumstances, the events and trends of 2022 have vindicated those voices within the business community, aligned with We Mean Business Coalition, which have been calling for urgent climate action and a rapid shift away from fossil fuels.

Research by The [Economist](#) looking at fossil-fuel consumption, energy efficiency and renewables deployment found that the war in Ukraine 'may have fast-tracked the transition by an astonishing five to ten years.' The voices of American businesses were vital in securing the ambitious provisions, incentives and investments of the Inflation Reduction Act, introduced by US President Biden, this year.

Combined with the EU Green Deal, introduced in 2020, huge parts of the global economy are now operating in a regulatory framework that incentivises businesses to pursue rapid decarbonization, cut emissions in half by 2030 and embrace renewable energy. Business - policy [climate ambition loops](#) are delivering real world impact.

Such fundamental shifts in the operation of the global economy do not happen overnight or in a vacuum. The political decisions and mobilization of investment were only possible as a result of our many years of work to make corporate climate action mainstream. More than 11,000 companies have now committed to a science-based emissions reduction target, through SBTi and the SME climate hub. This is the crucial first step for companies - establishing the right level of ambition by making a science-based commitment to cut emissions, as detailed in our 4A's of Climate Leadership framework.

We Mean Business Coalition has already mobilized thousands of companies to take ambitious climate action and ultimately wants this to become millions. We are becoming the indispensable partner to businesses determined to be leaders in this space. We are supporting businesses in target setting and guidance on preparing Climate Transition Plans to turn their ambition into action. We are also helping companies understand and act on the challenge of full value chain decarbonization and investing in protecting and restoring nature.

We provide the North Star for companies aiming to lead and support them with best-in-class resources and guidance. This includes our support for smaller businesses, through the [SME Climate Hub](#); shaping the narrative on corporate investments in nature, and by mobilizing business behind global, collective efforts during the G7 and COP27 summits in support of 1.5°C as a limit not a target.

We're also supporting businesses through the subsequent stages of the 4A's of climate leadership, mobilizing companies to make the case for a supportive regulatory environment, through science-based and responsible advocacy. And finally, we guide companies to make transparent and consistent reporting on their progress towards the goals they set, to ensure accountability.

## PREPARED FOR MORE UNCERTAINTY AND OPPORTUNITY AHEAD

With no sign of greater global stability in 2023 and the opportunities presented by the net zero transition growing every day, We Mean Business Coalition remains well positioned to continue delivering impact.

We continue to strengthen our governance with three new independent Board members, while the number of partners we work with is growing with a deeper bench of organizations now delivering on our 2030 strategy. We Mean Business Coalition is increasingly positioned as the anchor organization within the climate ecosystem, co-ordinating more than forty implementation partners worldwide.

In 2023, We Mean Business Coalition will deliver solutions to some of the most intractable challenges facing corporate climate leaders. We will, amongst other priorities, work constructively to provide high integrity solutions to the challenge of scope 3 emissions, investment in voluntary carbon markets and principles for all companies to follow as they phase out fossil fuels. Our collective efforts to scale up climate action are more important than ever in helping to shape how future generations look back at this decisive decade.

# INTRO



Maria Mendiluce – CEO



Sir Ian Cheshire – Chair

A single north star drives everything we do.  
Climate action is needed now, at a scale and pace  
unlike anything seen before. *We are all in for 1.5°C.*

### OUR VISION

A world economy on track  
to limit global warming to  
1.5°C in ways that deliver  
sustainable economic growth  
and shared prosperity.

### OUR PURPOSE

To drive collaborative  
business leadership to  
solve the climate crisis.

### OUR GOAL

To halve emissions by  
2030 and transition to  
a net-zero economy  
by 2050.

1

**ALIGN THE CORPORATE CLIMATE LANDSCAPE:**

We create a shared vision and ambition to achieve a net zero global economy and harmonize different approaches to achieving that.

**WORK IN ACTION:**

- All In for 2030 narrative
- Hosting the Business Pavilion at COP
- Aligning Coalition behind systems approach
- Just transition resource hub

2

**GUIDE COMPANIES TO EFFECTIVE CLIMATE LEADERSHIP:**

We define what corporate climate leadership looks like, provide clarity on the most credible pathways, build belief and inspire confidence that the transition is possible.

**WORK IN ACTION:**

- 4A's of climate leadership
- Guidance on creating climate transition plans
- WMBC Nature Hub
- Mission Possible Partnership
- Support for credible voluntary carbon markets

3

**MOBILIZE COLLECTIVE ACTION:**

Through sectoral initiatives we accelerate results and create clear demand signals from business in support of the transition to a clean, green economy.

**WORK IN ACTION:**

- RE100
- EV100
- SteelZero
- ConcreteZero
- Sustainable Freight Buyers Alliance
- Mission Possible Partnership

4

**MOBILIZE BUSINESS TO ADVOCATE FOR CRITICAL POLICIES:**

We define the policies that business needs to unlock action and align around those for consistent and impactful advocacy

**WORK IN ACTION:**

- Build Back Better
- Enhanced ambition of US & EU NDCs
- Mobilising corporate support for the clean energy transition
- Aligning corporate voices in support of bold policies from G7, G20 and UNFCCC

5

**SCALE & INNOVATE NEW CLIMATE MOVEMENTS:**

Working with partners, we identify, help refine and scale the best new solutions. Where there are critical gaps or barriers, we incubate new ideas, share knowledge and disseminate learning across the wider ecosystem. Through our re-deployment of philanthropic capital, we connect funders to climate and business ecosystems for maximum impact.

**WORK IN ACTION:**

- Launching the Science Based Targets Initiative
- Launching and hosting the SME Climate Hub
- Incubating the 100s and Zeros campaigns at Climate Group

Comprised of seven founding partner NGOs representing the global leaders of corporate climate action, the Coalition also works with more than 50 strategic, implementation and network partners.

# PARTNERS

## FOUNDING PARTNERS



BSR™ is an organization of sustainable business experts that works with its global network of the world's leading companies to build a just and sustainable world. With offices in Asia, Europe, and North America, BSR™ provides insight, advice, and collaborative initiatives to help business see a changing world more clearly, create long-term business value, and scale impact.



Ceres is a nonprofit organization working with the most influential capital market leaders to solve the world's greatest sustainability challenges. Through our powerful networks and global collaborations of investors, companies and nonprofits, we drive action and inspire equitable market-based and policy solutions throughout the economy to build a just and sustainable future.



CDP is a global non-profit that runs the world's environmental disclosure system for companies, cities, states and regions. Founded in 2000 and working with more than 740 financial institutions with over \$130 trillion in assets, CDP pioneered using capital markets and corporate procurement to motivate companies to disclose their environmental impacts, and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, safeguard water resources and protect forests.

Nearly 20,000 organizations around the world disclosed data through CDP in 2022, including more than 18,700 companies worth half of global market capitalization, and over 1,100 cities, states and regions. Fully TCFD aligned, CDP holds the largest environmental database in the world, and CDP scores are widely used to drive investment and procurement decisions towards a zero carbon, sustainable and resilient economy.



CLG Europe is an influential and diverse group of European businesses driving leadership on measures to deliver climate neutrality, members include Unilever, Microsoft, Coca-Cola European Partners, Ingka Group | IKEA, Salesforce, EDF, DSM, ACCIONA, Iberdrola, Ferrovial, Interface, ROCKWOOL, Signify, Sky, Stora Enso and affiliates include, Eneco, Lloyds Banking Group, Anglian Water, Heathrow, HYBRIT, Thames Water and Tesco. CLG Europe is a founding member of the We Mean Business Coalition.



Climate Group drives climate action. Fast. Our goal is a world of net zero carbon emissions by 2050, with greater prosperity for all. We focus on systems with the highest emissions and where our networks have the greatest opportunity to drive change. We do this by building large and influential networks and holding organisations accountable, turning their commitments into action. We share what we achieve together to show more organisations what they could do. We are an international non-profit organisation, founded in 2004, with offices in London, New Delhi and New York. We are proud to be part of the We Mean Business Coalition.



The B Team is a global collective of business and civil society leaders catalyzing a better way of doing business. Its agenda ladders up to one overarching goal: to build, by 2030, an inclusive economy that works for all people and communities while safeguarding our natural environment.



The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) is a global, CEO-led organization of over 200 leading businesses working together to accelerate the transition to a sustainable world. WBCSD works to make its member companies more successful and sustainable by focusing on the maximum positive impact for shareholders, the environment and societies.

# OUR WIDER ECOSYSTEM OF

# PARTNERS

## STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Our strategic partners are business groups that share strategic objectives and mission with the Coalition.

Strategic partners work closely with us to align the corporate climate ecosystem around these goals.

- B LAB (GLOBAL)
- SCIENCE BASED TARGETS INITIATIVE (SBTI)
- MISSION POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP
- VOLUNTARY CARBON MARKETS INTEGRITY INITIATIVE (VCMi)
- THE CLIMATE PLEDGE

## IMPLEMENTATION & NETWORK PARTNERS

Implementation partners are organizations which receive grant-funding from WMBC to implement a part of the Coalition strategy in key geographies and sectors. Network partners are organizations with which we collaborate and work on specific projects or topics in delivery of our overall strategy.

- ACCOUNTANCY EUROPE
- AMERICA IS ALL IN
- BREAKTHROUGH ENERGY
- BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL, HONG KONG
- BUSINESS FOR NATURE
- CALSTART, INC.
- CARBON PRICING LEADERSHIP COALITION
- C2ES
- CLEAN ENERGY BUYERS INSTITUTE (CEBI)
- CLIMATE ACTION 100+
- CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL
- COUNCIL FOR INCLUSIVE CAPITALISM COUNCIL ON ENERGY ENVIRONMENT AND WATER (CEEW)
- E3G
- ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND (EDF)
- EUROPEAN FINANCIAL REPORTING ADVISORY GROUP (EFRAG)
- ENERGY TRANSITIONS COMMISSION (ETC)
- EXPONENTIAL ROADMAP INITIATIVE
- GLASGOW FINANCIAL ALLIANCE FOR NET ZERO (GFANZ)
- GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION
- GLOBAL OPTIMISM
- RACE TO ZERO/ RACE TO RESILIENCE
- IDDRI
- INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES
- INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (ICC)
- INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE POLITICS HUB (ICP HUB; ECF)
- INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON CLEAN TRANSPORTATION
- INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY (IEA)
- INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS (IFAC)
- INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION (IFC)
- INFLUENCE MAP
- INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS BOARD (ISSB)
- NATIONAL BUSINESS INITIATIVE (NBI)
- NATURAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS ALLIANCE
- NATURE4CLIMATE
- NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL (NRDC)
- OXFORD UNIVERSITY
- POTSDAM INSTITUTE FOR CLIMATE IMPACT RESEARCH (PIK)
- RESPONSIBLE STEEL
- ROCKY MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE (RMI)
- SMART FREIGHT CENTRE
- STIFTUNG KLIMAWIRTSCHAFT
- TERI (THE ENERGY AND RESOURCES INSTITUTE)
- UN GLOBAL COMPACT
- WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM (WEF)
- WORLD BENCHMARKING ALLIANCE
- WORLD GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL
- WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE (WRI)
- WWF

# MILESTONES

## 2015



**Science-Based Targets initiative** launched - H&M, Nestle and BT commit.

The Coalition **aligns on eight policy asks for COP21** that business will advocate for. These Coalition policy 'asks' are cited in the final text of the Paris Agreement.

**Christiana Figueres** cites the Coalition and the presence of the business voice as a key determinant in securing a successful Agreement.

## 2016



**150 companies are committed to SBTi**

**1,000 registered commitments** from major companies to bold climate action through SBTi and other We Mean Business Coalition initiatives

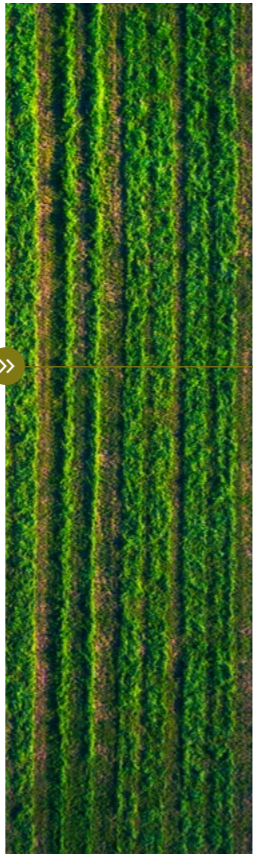
'**We Are Still In**' pledge is signed by hundreds of US companies days after Trump elected.

## 2017



**EV100 launched** – ten leading companies commit including DHL, HP, Unilever, and Vattenfall.

## 2018



**We Mean Business Coalition realigns around 1.5°C** – in response to IPCC report.

**We Mean Business Coalition supports the EU to commit to net-zero emissions** as early as possible and by 2050 at the latest

We Mean Business Coalition reorganizes around **systems** approach – **economies, power, transport, built environment.**

**39% year-on-year increase in SBTi commitments** from business – now representing 17% of Fortune Global 500.

## 2019

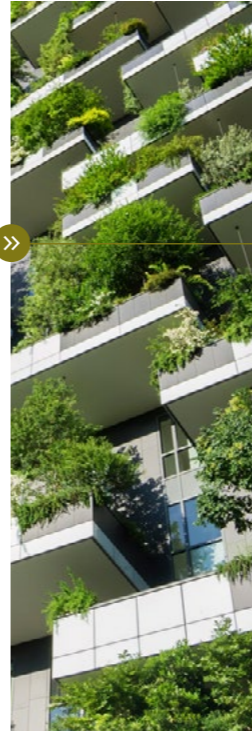


**RE100 surpasses 200** members, driving 220 TWh of renewable electricity demand.

We Mean Business Coalition's 5th anniversary with **1,000 companies committed** to action (25% global GDP).

**We Mean Business Coalition**, alongside UN Global Compact and the Science-based Targets Initiative launch the Business Ambition for 1.5°C initiative aimed at ramping up corporate action and calling on governments worldwide to set more ambitious climate policies.

## 2020



As the COVID-19 pandemic takes hold, We Mean Business Coalition mobilizes 1,200 businesses globally to advocate for governments to '**Build Back Better**' from COVID-19 with a green recovery.

Business across the EU calls for leaders to **raise Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) ambition** – Ursula von der Leyen references We Mean Business Coalition letter in her State of Union speech.

## 2021



**Over 400 US businesses sign We Mean Business Coalition organized letter calling for an ambitious US NDC**, which the US government adopts.

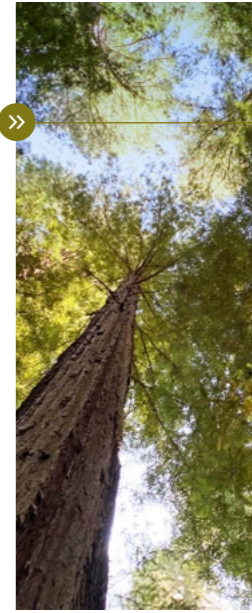
600 companies commit to setting emissions reduction targets in line with 1.5°C.

The We Mean Business Coalition becomes a founding member of **Mission Possible Partnership** and launches the **SME Climate Hub.**

**778 businesses with US\$2.7 trillion in annual revenue and 10 million employees** sign a letter to G20 leaders calling on them to limit average global temperature rise to 1.5°C.

**100 sessions developed with more than 18 sponsors and 70+ partners** are held in the Business Pavilion across the COP27.

## 2022



**10,000 companies are committed to bold climate action** through We Mean Business Coalition initiatives

At COP27, over 250 businesses and civil society leaders join our call to **stick to the 1.5°C temperature limit.**

**3,000+ companies actively advocating for climate policy** through We Mean Business Coalition.

**Signed MOUs with B-Lab & VCMI**, creating strategic partnerships with key pillars of the climate community.

# When the Coalition works together, our theory of change delivers.



## AMBITION

MAKING COMMITMENTS AND SETTING TARGETS

**9,979**

distinct companies have made a climate commitment to a WMBC supported initiative

**82%**

increase in companies making ambitious climate commitments through SBTi, SME Climate Hub, The Climate Pledge and others annually

**2,113**

new SMEs joined the SME Climate Hub in 2022

**5,000**

companies across 112 countries are now members of the SME Climate Hub



## ACTION

TO CUT EMISSIONS IN HALF BY 2030 AND REACH NET-ZERO BY 2050

**5.75 MILLION**

light-duty vehicles (LDVs) are committed to transition to Zero Emissions Vehicles (ZEV) by 2030 through EV100.

- This is more than the total number of EVs sold in China and Europe in 2021.
- LDVs committed to transition has tripled since 2018

**400,000+**

EVs are now on the road worldwide thanks to EV100 members, a 93% increase on 2021's figure

### 5 FOUNDING MEMBERS

of a newly formed initiative (EV100+) are committing to phase out 90,000 ICE medium – heavy duty vehicles

### 8 GLOBAL STEEL

producing companies are taking action to increase supply of low-emission steel by joining Responsible Steel. 19.3% or 220.26 MT of global steel production is now covered by the Responsible Steel standard

### THE EQUIVALENT OF 1.5%

of total global clean energy consumption was demanded by RE100 member companies

**20%**

increase in demand for clean energy by RE100 member companies



## ADVOCACY

TO SECURE WIDER SOCIETAL AND SYSTEMS CHANGE

**1,428**

companies were mobilized by WMBC to educate policymakers on science-led climate action

**100+**

businesses joined Ceres' annual Congressional advocacy event – LEAD – on Capitol Hill. There, companies met more than 70 blue and red Congressional offices to make the business case for climate action.

**176%**

more businesses participated in WMBC advocacy activities compared to 2021.

**3,000+**

businesses took an advocacy action in 2022 in support of WMBC policy asks

**250+**

companies and civil society organizations signed a statement in support of the 1.5°C limit remaining in the cover text of COP27.

**10**

transport-specific policies were influenced by WMBC in the US, UK and EU



## ACCOUNTABILITY

TO ENSURE COMPANIES' COMMITMENT, ACTION, AND TRANSPARENCY AS THEY REMAIN ON TRACK

**6000+**

- views on our Climate Transition Action Plan materials since October 2022.
- over 1 million impressions
  - over 1 million impressions via paid ads
  - 741 downloads of guidance since launch

### REPORTING STANDARDS:

- WMBC supplied feedback on three major pieces of financial/corporate reporting legislation and standards (ISSB, US SEC, EFRAG)
- We joined 11 global and regional technical working groups to influence aligned and high-quality reporting standards

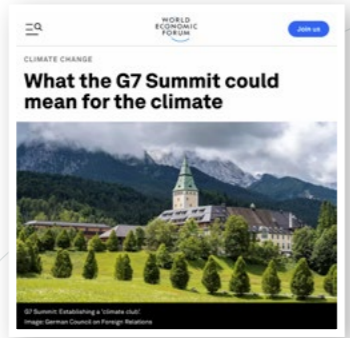
COALITION  
NUMBERS



EXAMPLES OF MEDIA POSTS



Small firms have a big role fighting climate change: [BBC News](#)



What the G7 Summit could mean for the climate: [World Economic Forum](#)



Climat : [des entreprises veulent Le Figaro](#) faire pression sur les gouvernements – [Le Figaro](#)



Harvard Business Review: [A Guide to Achieving Net Zero Emissions](#)



'It is now or never': [CEOs on gas, renewables and the energy crisis – CNBC](#)



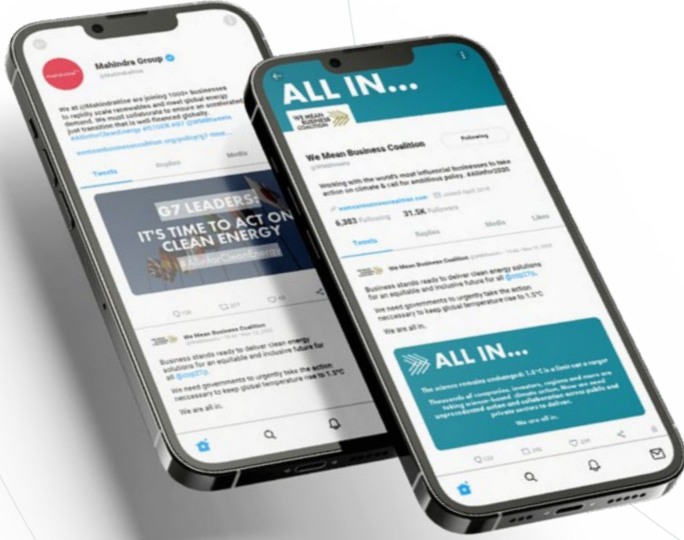
Without a Climate Plan, Small Businesses Will Not Survive: [Time](#)



City veteran moves to drive cut in companies' carbon emissions: [Financial Times](#)

**Our social media activities in 2022 reached more than 30 million people, through highly engaging content**

EXAMPLES OF SOCIAL POSTS



# 1. AMBITION



A sustainable future requires a clear direction and a pre-defined destination. We help businesses set credible science-based targets consistent with halving emissions by 2030 and reaching net-zero by 2050.

We continue to see momentum in companies joining net zero initiatives like the [Science Based Targets Initiative \(SBTi\)](#), [The Climate Pledge \(TCP\)](#) and the [SME Climate Hub \(SMECH\)](#) and making other climate commitments through Climate Group's [EV100](#), [RE100](#) and [EP100](#). Over the course of 2022, there has been a more than 80% (4,481) increase in companies making ambitious climate commitments.

Close to 10,000 distinct companies have made 10,666 commitments. In 2022, these included: 2,391 SBTi commitments, 137 signatories to TCP, and 2,113 small- and medium-sized businesses committed to the SME Climate Hub.

SBTi commitments have nearly doubled from 2021 to 2022. WMBC and other founding partners are working together to formalize and strengthen SBTi's governance and organizational structures as part of our long-standing partnership. Interest and adoption of SBTi is gaining pace across sectors.

So much so that in November 2022, the US Federal government - the world's largest purchaser of goods and services - has proposed a new rule that federal contractors must have science-based emissions reduction targets in line with the SBTi and must disclose environmental impacts through CDP. The rule is currently under review, but if adopted, would represent a seismic breakthrough.

WMBC also became an official endorser of the new SBTi Corporate [Net Zero Standard](#).

WMBC was a key player in setting up, shaping and funding the Science-Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) and we remain deeply committed to and invested in its success. Our mobilization of companies to set ambitious emission reduction targets have driven much of the growth in those working with SBTi.

As the initiative has matured and prepares for ever increasing demands on its resources, WMBC has provided invaluable support in 2022 across governance, company engagement and brokering partnerships.

## IN 2023

**Through several one-on-one interviews with companies, we've confirmed that many businesses working to address climate change are still struggling with their approach on scope 3 (value chain) emissions.**

As a result, we're working to develop a framework for scope 3 emissions called

### "Supplier Cascade"

Using this framework and guidance, companies would ask their Tier-1 suppliers to join the Race to Zero (with emphasis on TCP, SBTi and SMECH), report annual progress, and ask their own Tier-1 suppliers to do the same.

## SME CLIMATE HUB

**THE SME CLIMATE HUB HAS REACHED A MILESTONE OF OVER 5,000 SIGNATORIES ACROSS 112 COUNTRIES, OF WHICH OVER 2,000 ARE NEW SMES THAT JOINED THE INITIATIVE IN 2022, AND OVER 17,000 TOOL USERS.**

A number of activities contributed to the continued success of the SMECH in 2022. The digital platform was fully redesigned to cater to the specific needs of the SME community and several key tools and resources were added over the course of the year.

This includes a pioneering Business Carbon Calculator powered by Normative and developed with support from google.org, as well as a Financial Support Guide developed in partnership BSR and the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership - the first of the Hub's resources to improve access to financial support for SMEs working to reduce their carbon emissions.

The team also launched a badge for committed SMEs, to help them promote their efforts, and the first survey of its SME community to inform future platform messaging and tools development.

The SME Climate Hub continued to expand its geographical footprint. A launch event took place at NYC Climate Week in September for the Hub's US recruitment campaign and was moderated by TIME Magazine, with speakers from Walmart, Mastercard, Adore Me, and local and federal government representatives.

Two soft launch events also took place in India - at the Centre for Responsible Business' annual conference and the ANDE (Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs) South Asia convening, alongside a joint

op-ed with ANDE India in The Economic Times. In Latin America, the Hub initiated a collaboration with IDB Invest from the Inter-American Development Bank Group and consultants at Peru Sostenible to engage local SMEs to use the tools and resources on the platform.

Over the course of the year, the SME Climate Hub also leveraged several new and existing global partnerships to continue building a conducive ecosystem for SME climate action. For example, the Hub was selected as a Knowledge Partner of the OECD Platform on Financing SMEs for Sustainability, which provides a forum to advance knowledge sharing, data and analytical work, and policy dialogue on sustainable finance for SMEs.

In the business sector, other partnership examples include the team collaborating with B Lab on a joint campaign to convert B-Corp companies to SME Climate Hub committed SMEs, and with Facebook to promote the Hub as part as their Green Boost program.

The programmatic work of the SME Climate Hub was underpinned by a series of dedicated communication campaigns around tool launches, Earth Day and Small Business Saturday, to highlight committed SMEs and encourage small business climate action, as well as an outreach campaign focused on the retail sector - the first in a series of trade-focused campaigns to drive action in the highest emitting and engaged industries.

Finally, COP27 in November was a crucial platform for highlighting the importance of SMEs as part of the global effort to reduce emissions. Across the summit, the SME Climate Hub played a central role facilitating discussions on the role of SMEs by contributing to 5+ events in partnership with key climate stakeholders including UNFCCC, ICC and Race to Resilience, and social media campaigns with Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership, UN Live and America Is All In, among other initiatives.

# 2. ACTION

Our priority in the years ahead is helping businesses move from ambition to action. This means guiding businesses on how to transform value chains over the next decade.



COALITION | AT WORK

## ENERGY

Global corporate demand for renewable electricity continues to rise.

**RE100 has grown to 393 members in 189 markets who collectively consume 435 TWh of energy, equivalent to 1.5% of global consumption, of which 49% is sourced from renewables (up from 45% reported in 2021). The campaign has seen a surge of recruitment in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and other Asian countries.**

145 RE100 member companies also contributed to the purchasing of 31.3 GW of clean energy through Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), which is up 24% from the previous year's record of 25.1 GW.

**These include:** Indian Ministry of Power producing several guidelines to support companies achieve their RE100 targets and make procurement easier. The 'green open access' transaction size has been reduced from 1MW to 100kW which is key for RE100 member companies who have smaller facilities and thus consumption.

The Japanese government cited RE100 in their new measures in support of solar PPAs, which provide subsidies in the construction of power plants for PPAs.

Amendments to the Electric Utility Act in South Korea came into force allowing renewable energy producers to sell directly to end-users without having to go through the Korean Power Exchange. This means that PPAs are now possible in South Korea.

## TRANSPORT

Progress continues in the transition to electric light, medium and heavy-duty vehicles.

**5.75 million light-duty vehicles used by the 127 companies committed to EV100, will transition to fully electric by 2030. The six companies that joined EV100 in 2022 contributed to demand for over 930,000 zero-emissions vehicles. These new EV100 members have mega-fleets, which include a substantial number of light-duty vehicles from Brazil, South Korea and India.**

Ten transport policies have been influenced with WMBC partner and business support, these include, key components of the Inflation Reduction Act passed by the US Federal government; State level regulations in California, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, Vermont and Washington state; and new mandates set in the UK and European Union.

These included providing key recommendations which resulted in four tax credits being created / altered by the Inflation Reduction Act; business sign on letters to support Advanced Clean Cars II in various US states including New York and California and convening business support for the UK's ZEV mandate, among others.

## BUILT ENVIRONMENT

WMBC's work this year has catalyzed greater attention and solutions towards whole life carbon (WLC) accounting, reporting and analysis.

**Partner initiatives EP100 and the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment, previously included targets for operational emissions. They now include embodied emissions in their commitments while actively informing companies and pushing for even more ambitious targets.**

Through the Net Zero Carbon Buildings commitment, over 120 companies, cities, states and regions have now committed to reduce whole life carbon emissions across the buildings they own and operate by 2030. Major architecture and engineering services companies such as Arup have partnered with initiatives supported by WMBC to address their WLC and scope 3 challenges. The guidance and support provided to Arup eventually led the company to make a public commitment to conduct lifecycle assessments across all their building

projects, making Arup the first major company in this sector to do so. Energy efficiency is a crucial part of decarbonizing the broader economy and in particular the built environment system. EP100 has made quantifiable progress to maximize energy efficiency potential across the 125 companies that have made a commitment. This has helped reduce a cumulative 380 MmT of CO2 emissions across its membership.

# 2. ACTION

Our priority in the years ahead is helping businesses move from ambition to action. This means guiding businesses on how to transform value chains over the next decade.



# COALITION | AT WORK

## INDUSTRY

**ConcreteZero has demonstrated significant momentum since launching in July 2022.**

**The initial group of 17 members, has grown to 25 and has received high profile recognition from the Biden Administration. The White House's Buy Clean Initiative highlighted ConcreteZero as the leading example of a private sector demand initiative driving the decarbonization of the concrete industry.**

Three large cement companies (Cemex, Holcim and Titan) were the first in the world to set 1.5°C aligned SBTi targets at COP27, now joined by Heidelberg Materials. SteelZero launched its first SteelZero Summit in May 2022 and has recruited a total of 31 members as of December 2022. Members commit to procure, use or specify 50% net zero steel by 2030 and 100% net zero steel by 2050, sending powerful demand signals to the market. We are also seeing positive signs on the supply-side of the steel industry.

Eight of the top 50 global steel producing companies have joined Responsible Steel, thus taking action to increase the supply of low-emission steel. These eight companies represent a total of 19.3% or 220.26 MT of steel produced by the top 50 companies, of which 15.5% or 176.97 MT is produced at sites certified by Responsible Steel. The Responsible Steel standard sets out 13 principles that members must agree to and is helping to drive down emissions in steel production.

## LAND AND NATURE

**A survey conducted by our partners at Browning Environmental Communications reveals the vast majority of companies (89%) believe carbon markets are an important tool for supporting climate action.**

**Yet, just 38% of surveyed companies are actively investing due to concerns around greenwashing and identifying high quality credits. The WMBC Secretariat and Coalition partners continue to play a leading role in shaping voluntary carbon market governance and advancing guidance for appropriate and credible use of carbon credits.**

In December we launched new Guiding Principles for Corporate Climate Leadership: The Role of Nature-based Solutions, together with the Exponential Roadmap Initiative, Potsdam Institute for Climate Science, and a number of leading global conservation organizations.

We also formally launched a new partnership with the Voluntary Carbon Markets Initiative (VCMI) at COP27 to bring greater credibility to corporate climate claims by deepening engagement and feedback from companies in the VCMI process.

We will support companies to follow VCMI's Claims Code, helping to ensure carbon market investments strengthen – rather than undermine – global action towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. The partnership will also help to overcome technical barriers, for example by convening partners to establish methodologies and metrics for assessing whether companies are on track to their meet their targets.

## IN 2023

**In the run up to COP28, WMBC has partnered with SBTi and partners across its network to establish principles for companies on phasing down and out fossil fuels.**

**These principles will help guide the actions and decisions of both producer and consumers of fossil fuels, as well as investors and governments.**

As coordinated action yields more impactful results, WMBC has convened leading expert organizations working on fossil fuels in the net zero economy, to form a taskforce to help guide this work. Mobilising business to speak out and advocate for the phase out of fossil fuels, whilst also acting to accelerate the end date for their own fossil fuel consumption, will

be a key component of WMBC's campaigning and narrative building efforts in 2023. COP28 in Dubai will also see the conclusion of the first Global Stocktake - a fundamental component of the ambition raising mechanism under the Paris Agreement. It is used to monitor implementation and evaluate the collective progress made in achieving the goals set by the Paris Agreement. To complement this effort, WMBC will co-ordinate a Corporate Climate Stocktake, to assess the progress of corporate climate action since 2015, identify the barriers

holding companies back and the policy changes that offer the greatest potential impact to unlock action. Focusing on many of the highest emitting sectors, our research will include data rich insights, in-depth interviews with business leaders, quantitative polling of companies and case studies showcasing corporate climate action. This work will inform the Coalition's advocacy and communications through New York Climate Week and into COP28.

# 3. ADVOCACY



Our ability to voice the needs of businesses, and to push policy that drives climate ambition remains a key strength of the We Mean Business Coalition. We continue to provide a platform for businesses to advocate for bold climate policy at all levels of government.

## BUSINESS PAVILION AT COP27

COP27 marked the second year of the WMBC hosting a Business Pavilion at COP, in partnership with WBCSD, and was a successful demonstration of how business and government and other stakeholders can work together. Over 100 sessions developed with more than 18 sponsors and 70+ partners were held in the Business Pavilion across the two weeks, with several high-profile guests, including Jennifer Granholm (US Energy Secretary), a delegation of three US Senators, Grant Shapps (UK Business Secretary) and a delegation of Spanish Ministers, and Former Irish President Mary Robinson. Sessions were organized in collaboration with the Marrakesh Partnership and many WMBC partners. These events covered topics from Scope 3 emissions and voluntary carbon markets to sustainable finance systems.

After two years of implementing the Business Pavilion, we have received positive feedback from partners, businesses and other stakeholders who see the Business Pavilion as the de facto homebase for progressive businesses at COP. Through the Pavilion, we have leveraged increased visibility for WMBC and highlighted our messaging. The Pavilion also serves as a partnership tool for WMBC. Not only has the number of partners engaged through the Pavilion almost doubled since 2021, but partners are also more involved through the delivery of sessions. The strength of the Business Pavilion is its inclusiveness as well as its facilitation for closed-door meetings in which the gap between business and policy makers can be bridged. Planning for COP28 and the next iteration of the Business Pavilion has already begun and will build on past success.

## 2022 HIGHLIGHT: COMPANY VOICES BOLSTER NASCENT US INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

The final passage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) in August 2022 represents the largest investment in climate in US history with \$370 billion funding clean power, energy and transmission lines, EV supply chains, innovative home appliances, new industrial processes and more. Significant work in-front of and behind-the-scenes was executed by WMBC partner, Ceres. Despite numerous barriers along the way, the Secretariat, Ceres and others mobilized enough of the US private sector (both multinationals and SMEs) at key moments through direct company outreach, media pushes and sign-on campaigns to enable ambitious outcomes in Congress and with the Administration. The significantly increased number of companies participating in policy advocacy in 2022 was largely driven by this work.

## COP27

The policy outcomes from COP27 were notably mixed. We were relieved to see that there was no backsliding on 1.5°C as the global limit referenced in the COP outcome, which had emerged as a threat as talks unfolded. WMBC applied pressure through a statement signed by 250+ companies and civil society organizations in support of the 1.5°C limit in 48 hours. This was well received and shared with policymakers and the UNFCCC Executive Secretary and was covered in the NYT, Le Figaro, BBC and more top-tier outlets, and was amplified through social media. While it is positive that ambition remains high, this is the very least we should expect from our leaders, and there remains the paramount need for countries to focus on closing the gap. Momentum was seen in recognition of the need for urgency and investments in the transition to renewable energy, however it was disappointing that India's proposal to expand the call to phase down coal to all fossil fuels didn't appear in the final text, despite support from many countries. WMBC published a [statement](#) on the outcomes of COP27 and anticipates the discussion on fossil fuel phaseout to continue to be the high-profile issue in the build-up to and at COP28.

## ENERGY CRISIS AND G7

The Russian invasion of Ukraine spurred numerous interlinked political and economic challenges, resulting in the development of a global energy crisis. WMBC's policy advocacy pivoted quickly and effectively to counter the narrative that climate action should be put aside in order to deal with the crisis and that increased fossil fuel use was essential to energy security.

The 'All in for Clean Energy' campaign was created and deployed across the Coalition and directed at G7 Ministers and representatives, as well as more broadly to galvanize corporate support of phasing out fossil fuels and increasing renewables. In a coordinated day of action, a 'Twitter storm' on the eve of the G7 Summit, mobilized participation from major companies including National Grid, Unilever, Levi Strauss & Co, Heidelberg, Ørsted, Volvo, Mahindra, Coca-Cola Europacific Partners, as well as Coalition and extended partners.

In addition, in the lead up to the G7, WMBC commissioned a socio-economic modelling study, [Cutting Bills and Creating Jobs: the economic opportunities of a clean energy transition](#), that demonstrated the benefits of an accelerated clean energy transition on jobs, GDP, emissions and household energy costs in G7 + India, Indonesia and South Africa.

The key findings and insights were integrated into WMBC communications and advocacy toolkits which were used by engaged companies, and the analysis was shared with G7 government officials.

Although the outcomes from the G7 Summit were mixed, we did see a shift at a country level towards the end of 2022, through the combined efforts of the Coalition, partners and corporate advocacy efforts. The G7 committed to achieve fully or predominantly decarbonized power systems by 2035, and by the year end nearly all target country governments, as well as the G7 and G20 groupings, had reframed their response to the energy crisis as a reason to accelerate the clean energy transition.

An example of this was REPowerEU where the EU outlined a number of measures to phase out Russian oil and gas and accelerate climate action, including proposing to raise the 2030 Renewable Energy Directive target from 40 to 45%. CLG Europe mobilized companies to support the acceleration of the clean energy transition in the EU with REPowerEU [business letter](#) which was signed by more than 150 business leaders.

## IN 2023

**WMBC will convene a new Coalition-wide taskforce on Just Transition with the goal of scaling up our leadership in this area. A Just Transition guidance document will be published, with a focus on how to mainstream Just Transition into the 4 A's of Climate Leadership and align existing guidance and the wider ecosystem.**

To address concerns around inconsistent corporate climate advocacy, we have created the Responsible Policy Engagement (RPE) workstream to align corporate policy advocacy tools and standards. An RPE taskforce, comprised of coalition partners and external experts, will create a framework that functions as a one-stop-shop of corporate advocacy tools and actions. It will be tested with companies through early 2023 and launched in the summer. The intent is to provide clear guidance to business on what is expected from them in terms of advocacy.

# 4. ACCOUNTABILITY



Building trust and demonstrating progress to key stakeholders will require companies to consistently report and disclose climate-related information.

WMBC Accountability workstreams were comprised of two major threads in 2022: aligning financial stakeholders for improved disclosure and corporate reporting and developing tools to help companies be accountable to their climate commitments. We have established a baseline of 1,153 WMBC network companies with a science-based target filing annual disclosures across all geographies in 2021.

## SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

Our work on sustainable finance expanded in 2022, helping to increase the accountability of corporate climate action through standardized sustainability reporting.

To further influence aligned reporting standards, WMBC has secured seats in ISSB's Technical Reference Group; Accountancy Europe's Environmental and Social expert groups; UNFCCC Race to Zero Finance; EFRAG's User Test Group and GFANZ-related Net Zero Data Public Utility Climate Data Steering Committee. The ISSB has also requested WMBC to be a founding partner of the Framework for Capacity Building in Developing and Emerging Economies working group, which will be formed to ensure scalability and proportionality in the Global South.

EFRAG has also requested WMBC to be a member of a newly formed working group focused on SME reporting legislation. We are already members of SBTi Finance Reference Group, Nasdaq Sustainable Financing - Nordic Advisory Board, FSR Danish Auditors Sustainability Experts Group, and Boards Impact Forum's Expert Group.

WMBC supplied feedback on the US SEC climate law and ISSB and EFRAG's ESRS consultancies. The feedback comprised of appreciation of the TCFD base, a strong urge for convergence, and a range of practical/technical suggestions that will make reporting useful and of better quality. To capture feedback directly from business, we consulted with WBCSD's CFO network.

## SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS: PACT

Companies face many challenges in understanding their supply-chain emissions – from lack of clear and accurate data to inconsistent calculation methodologies to an increasing number of siloed tech solutions – and in particular when considering individual product footprints. The Partnership for Carbon Transparency (PACT) project aims to solve this issue by increasing the data availability of product level GHG footprints. This work, led by WBCSD, is setting the foundations for a functional network of interoperable solutions, enabling standardized emissions data exchange.

## CTAPS

WMBC also developed the Climate Transition Action Plan (CTAP) report to support companies on their journey from making a commitment to actually achieving emissions reductions. The CTAP provides companies with a roadmap to help them outline how they will reach their targets.

Our landscape assessment and interviews with companies and other stakeholders made it clear that while many understand the need to develop a transition plan, they are confused about what that means in practice and how to go about doing it well. Our resulting report, which includes a checklist and templates, is a first step towards providing companies with more clarity and will increase the number of companies developing transition plans. The guide will help companies develop climate transition action plans that are focused on the immediate next steps necessary to reduce emissions, improve governance and business integration, support policies aligned with a 1.5°C strategy, and ensure a just transition.

## IN 2023

**WMBC will finalize the Impact Database we began building in 2022, tracking the climate commitments made by companies alongside their financial and non-financial data. This database will become our focal point for measuring and evaluating impact and accountability based on the reported data from companies.**

To ensure future legislation and standards are of high quality and useful for companies and capital providers, we will continue to work in the Technical Working Groups we are part of and join more if needed.

ISSB, European Commission, GHG Protocol, and Taskforce of Nature-related Financial Disclosure (TNFD) will each launch consultancies in 2023, which we will gather and provide technical feedback to.

To counter the backlash seen against ESG investments in certain jurisdictions and misconceptions from companies, who may have never done GHG reporting and consider it difficult, time consuming and expensive, we will provide more guidance.

This includes on how to collaborate across teams and re-use or extend existing systems and processes.

As a result, GHG reporting can be done in simpler and cheaper ways, whilst remaining good quality and in a form that is auditable. In partnership with IFAC we will issue a practical GHG Accounting Guideline to CFOs and other financial professionals, supported by WBCSD, Global Accountants Alliance (GAA), and Accounting for Sustainability (A4S).

Next year we will follow up on our existing analysis of the EU Taxonomy Regulation to track for potential improvements and further legislation and practice adjustments.

We will analyze the 100 largest listed companies in the EU and how they report against the Taxonomy and launch this in a white paper.

COALITION | AT WORK

# WMBC GRANT-FUNDED IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

WMBC works with our partners around the world to accelerate the **All in for 1.5 strategy** in key geographies and sectors.

These partners, many of them based in markets where WMBC lacks a presence, are often best placed to implement projects that mobilize corporate climate action based on their depth of knowledge and experience in the context in which they operate.

Since 2017 WMBC has deployed over **200 grants** and USD **\$55 million** in grant funding. Partner projects go through a rigorous application and vetting process to ensure alignment to strategy is strong and that a focus on impact is central. This is executed through a two-tiered governance process starting with the Grants Advisory Committee and the Board of Directors Re-grants Committee.

More than ever before, there is an **emphasis on accelerating action**, gathering evidence, and holding stakeholders accountable to deliver a reduction in emissions. Our grant portfolio reflects this emphasis and we are excited about the potential of these projects, some of which are highlighted on the following page.



**G20 & CROSS-GEOGRAPHY FOCUS\***

**B Team:**  
Advocacy for bold change and frontier policy issues

**WBCSD:**  
Driving leadership in international climate policy

**Natural Climate Solutions Alliance**

**Climate Group:**  
Driving corporate demand across global systems

**Ceres:**  
Business engagement in international policy

Accelerating company action on methane emissions from livestock

**Responsible Steel:**  
Shaping the future of Responsible Steel

**B Team and BSR:**  
Business leadership for just and inclusive transition

**Exponential Roadmap Initiative:**  
SME Climate Hub

**BSR, CDP and Ceres:**  
+One for Climate

**UK & EU**

**CLG:**  
EU industry transformation

**SFB:**  
Smart Freight Centre:  
Uniting global freight industry to increase climate action

**CALSTART:**  
Drive to Zero

**BY GEOGRAPHIC IMPLEMENTATION 2022 – 2024**

**USA**

**CEBA:**  
Credit support to scale clean energy

**Ceres:**  
Accelerating transportation electrification and corporate action

**LATIN AMERICA**

**ICCT:**  
Accelerating zero-emission freight

**World GBC:**  
All in for net-zero built environment

**SOUTH AFRICA**

**NBI:**  
Net Zero Just Transition in South Africa

**INDIA**

**RMI:**  
Developing a green public procurement roadmap

**World GBC:**  
All in for net-zero built environment

**Center for Responsible Business:**  
Increasing awareness and acceptance of SME CH in India

**Climate Group:**  
Leveraging the Indian G20 Presidency for global action

**JAPAN**

**IGES:**  
Strengthening responsible policy engagement in Japan

**CHINA & HK**

**CEBA:**  
Project Lightning

**BEC:**  
Net Zero Charter

**GRANTS | SUPPORTED BY WMBC**

**GRANT PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW**



More than ever before, there is an emphasis on accelerating action and holding stakeholders accountable to deliver a reduction in emissions. Building on WMBC's extensive 40+ funded project portfolio in 2022, we are excited about the potential of our future grant portfolio in 2023 and beyond which reflects this emphasis on action and impact. Our partners are implementing projects across major and emerging economies to spur corporate climate action across sectors and supply chains, and leveraging key advocacy moments to push for international and national policies that support change.

**KEY**

- = Grant implementation\*
- = G20 Country

\*All G20 countries represented due to WMBC advocacy-focused work with the G20. N.B this does not represent direct country-level engagement. In addition, some projects, like Climate Group demand initiatives, are across multiple, priority geographies.



# ACCOUNTS OVERVIEW

2022 figures will be added once audited and signed off by WMBC Board.



<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>18,235</b>
<b>PROGRAM WORK (90%)</b>	
GRANTS AND PARTNER WORK	10,900
SECRETARIAT IMPLEMENTED WORK	4,283
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>	<b>15,183</b>
<b>OPERATIONS (10%)</b>	
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	1,555
FUNDRAISING & MEL	128
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,682</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,865</b>
NET ASSETS / RESERVE	\$1,370

## MANAGEMENT & GENERAL

\$1,555 / 9%

## FUNDRAISING

\$128 / 1%



## PROGRAM

\$15,183 / 90%



---

#### **ABOUT WMBC**

We Mean Business Coalition works with the world's most influential businesses to take action on climate change.

The Coalition is a group of seven non-profit organizations: BSR, CDP, Ceres, Climate Group, CLG Europe, The B Team and WBCSD.

Together, we catalyze business and policy action to halve emissions by 2030 and accelerate an inclusive transition to a net-zero economy.

---

#### **FIND OUT MORE**

[wemeanbusinesscoalition.org](http://wemeanbusinesscoalition.org)

---

We Mean Business Coalition Inc. is a US tax exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organisation that operates globally.

---

#### **HEADQUARTERS**

1178 Broadway  
3rd Floor  
#325  
New York  
NY 10001