

December 21, 2020

WWF Mexico and the Alliance for Climate Action in Mexico urge the national government for higher ambition and action to address the climate crisis.

Five years after the Paris Agreement, Mexico's commitments are insufficient

On December 12 2015, 195 nations signed the Paris Agreement, a historic agreement to tackle climate change while respecting human rights. As part of this agreement, the signatory countries presented their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to stabilize greenhouse gas emissions and limit average global temperature rise to well below 2° degrees Celsius.

However, the 2015 commitments made by most countries were not enough to meet this goal. With the NDCs initially presented by the signatory countries, Mexico included, the global temperature could increase between 3 and 4° C by the year 2100. According to the scientific community, this will have catastrophic consequences.

On the 5th anniversary of the Paris Agreement celebrated this year, countries were required to review their commitments under the principle of progression, which seeks increased target ambition to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. In recent days, the government of Mexico released its revised NDC but, unfortunately, does not follow this principle. Mexico only endorsed the same commitments made in 2015: a 22 percent decrease in its greenhouse gas emissions and 51 percent decrease in black carbon.

During the public consultation carried out by Mexico's government as part of the NDC revision process, we, members of the Alliance for Climate Action in Mexico (ACA-MX)—including civil society, academic, business and local government representatives—expressed our concerns on lack of ambition. We suggested improvements that would increase the ambition and scope of the NDC. We regret that our comments were not taken into account, as we are convinced that a higher level of ambition is not only urgent and necessary but also possible with our contributions as non-state organizations and institutions.

Today, as part of the post-COVID-19 economic recovery, we can do more, and we, the members of ACA-Mx, are already leading by example.

As one of the members of the ACA-MX, the Guadalajara Metropolitan Area recently introduced its Climate Action Plan. With this document, a maximum level of ambition is sought with objectives, goals, indicators and concrete actions that put the Guadalajara Metropolitan Area on a trajectory of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

For its part, the University Tecnológico de Monterrey (a member of the ACA-MX) is acting to solve the climate crisis after having assumed public commitments to achieve carbon neutrality by 2039, as well as promoting research and education on sustainability and climate change. **“It is time for us to assume the severity of the climate crisis and the commitment to sustainable development. For this reason, we are currently working not only in transforming our campuses into sustainable and resilient communities, but also promoting a cultural change that internalizes sustainability in our operational, managerial, academic and research processes. We must join forces, because only rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented actions will serve to guarantee a healthy environment and well-being for all,”** commented Inés Sáenz Negrete, Vice President of Inclusion, Social Impact and Sustainability at Tecnológico de Monterrey.

Although at the subnational level we are already acting and will continue to do so, we need proactive collaboration on climate matters with Mexico's Federal Government. For this reason, we call on the national authorities to initiate a dialogue with the real actors of Mexico's economy and members of the

ACA-MX who signed this statement in order to address the climate crisis and achieve decoupling our development from carbon emissions while respecting human rights for all Mexicans.

“We urge the Federal Government to face the climate emergency as it deserves, reconsidering the level of ambition of the Mexican NDC to align it with the goal of keeping the increase in global temperature below 1.5 °C and incorporating the contributions of, and interest in collaborating from the sub-national and non-state actors of our country,” stated Jorge Rickards, General Director of WWF Mexico.

About the Alliance for Climate Action Mexico:

Based in Mexico's three largest metropolitan areas—Mexico City, Guadalajara, and Monterrey—Alliance for Climate Action Mexico unites over 130 subnational governments, universities, companies, and civil society in advancing the country's climate goals. Members include the University of Guadalajara and the Tecnológico de Monterrey; subnational governments such as the State of Jalisco and the City of Monterrey; domestic energy and waste management companies, Fortius and Protrash. This alliance is supported by key national partner organizations including Instituto Metropolitano de Planeación (IMEPLAN), Secretaría de Medio Ambiente (SEDEMA), Iniciativa Climática de México (ICM), Government of Jalisco and WWF-Mexico. Together, the members account for 14 percent of the country's population and 30 percent of the country's GDP. Alliance members aim to demonstrate real commitment to climate action, beginning within their own institutions and working with all sectors of the economy to strengthen Mexico's contribution under the Paris Agreement. Learn more about ACA-MX at www.alliancesforclimateaction.org/mexico.html

About the Alliances for Climate Action:

ACA-MX is a part of the Alliances for Climate Action, a diverse network of national alliances dedicated to ambitious climate action, increasing public support for addressing the climate crisis, and engaging their respective national governments to decarbonize faster and ultimately achieve emissions reductions that align with the goals of the Paris Agreement to which each country has committed. Learn more about the Alliances for Climate Action at: <https://www.alliancesforclimateaction.org/>

Note:

The original statement is posted in Spanish [here](#), and is endorsed by the following members of ACA-Mexico:

National Members:

- Alianza para la Acción Climática del Área Metropolitana de Guadalajara (ACA-GDL)
- Alianza para la Acción Climática de la Zona Metropolitana de Monterrey (ACA-MTY)
- Alianza para la Acción Climática de la Ciudad de México (ACA-CDMX)
- Asociación Interamericana para la Defensa del Ambiente, (AIDA)
- Centro de Energía Renovable y Calidad Ambiental A.C., (CERCA)
- Frente de Organizaciones de Transporte Colectivo y Alternativo A.C., (FOTCA)
- Fundación para la Investigación de la Calidad del Aire A. C. (Redspira)
- Observatorio Latinoamericano para la Acción Climática (OLAC)
- WWF México

ACA – Monterrey Members:

- CEM Educación Socioambiental
- CSR Consulting - Asesoría de Sustentabilidad y Economía Circular
- Dirección de Conservación Parque Ecológico Chipinque
- Padres por el futuro MTY
- Parque Ecológico Chipinque, ABP
- Revolución Refill
- Sociedad de Alumnos de Ingeniería en Desarrollo Sustentable (ITESM MTY)
- Tec de Monterrey
- Vitro Vidrio Arquitectónico

ACA – Guadalajara Members:

- Agencia de Energía del Estado de Jalisco (AEEJ)
- Aipromades Lago de Chapala
- Aire, Clima y Sostenibilidad A.C.
- Bek' Consultoría Socioambiental
- Centro de Investigación y Proyectos en Ambiente y Desarrollo, (CIPAD)
- CÍVITA
- Fideicomiso del Fondo Estatal de Protección al Ambiente del Estado de Jalisco
- Menos Dos Grados Consultores, SC
- Organismo Público Descentralizado Bosque La Primavera
- Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Territorial de Jalisco
- SIPRA
- Student Energy at UdeG

ACA-Mexico City Members:

- Comunica la Ciudad
- El Poder del Consumidor
- Fundación Tláloc
- Grupo de Financiamiento Climático para Latinoamérica y el Caribe (GFLAC)
- Iniciativa Climática de México
- Transita Seguro
- Vansertec Green Energy
- WRI-México

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