

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Propositions

The two-day Inaugural meeting of the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GABC or the Alliance), hosted by the Government of France, was attended by 75 participants, members of the Alliance plus 8 observers. Confirming the importance of working further together, participants shared a common statement on the magnitude of stakes and opportunities for the building sector for climate. Sharing their experiences, they showcased first ideas and means – each was bringing to the table, and identified gaps and needs that have to be filled through cooperation under the GABC. The meeting concluded on next operational steps to develop the Alliance and to deliver concrete actions.

I. Overview

The meeting allowed to share a common vision, emphasising the significance of the buildings sector to the <2°C pathway and to implement the Paris Climate Agreement.

- The building sector's CO₂ emissions can be cut by nearly 85% by 2050; 2/3 of this potential are untapped between now and 2035.
- Mitigation actions come with multiple benefits and need to be brought out more clearly to become additional drivers of action.
- The INDCs and LPAA are consistent starting points for taking into account these opportunities and urgently and dramatically scale up action at all levels.

The group confirmed the main objectives of the Alliance to help countries deliver against their engagements, aligning and upscaling its partners' action, avoiding overlapping and focusing on raising awareness on the potential of the building sector, increasing demand for energy efficient buildings and relevant policies, matchmaking between needs and offer and filling the most important identified gaps.

The meeting gave an overall view of the existing needs and of the numerous existing initiatives led by partners, notably revealing a need of visibility to make them fully appropriable by potential beneficiaries. It reconfirmed the Alliance's role to bring about the necessary scale up of the members' climate action and, when missing, to develop new actions, to materialise the sector's mitigation potential, by focusing on Communication, Collaboration and Solutions in priority areas.

II. First Challenges and priorities

From these exchanges, first challenges have been identified as priorities for the Alliance.

- **Road Map and Global Status Report**

A Global Status Report will be produced on an annual basis. It will show achievements and trends in the sector globally. It will precise objectives to be met, both in terms of targets and milestones and defining buildings categories as well as climatic regions to tailor work of the Alliance. Based on current data production, it will also highlight solutions and engagements, as well as map initiatives and results.

- **Working groups**

Five initial working groups were defined to address the main challenges identified. Number of partners already signed up to them (see **Annex 1**) and many others declared they will soon confirm their intention to join. The table also highlights elements that were subsumed under the respective working groups, but received much support or attention during the discussions. They may serve as inspiration for the development of workplans under each of the working groups.

- **Regional dialogues and Local Alliances for Buildings and Construction**

Taking into account the regional specificities and the need to develop a decentralized approach, some partners mentioned the importance of organizing regional dialogues and local needed to set up the Alliance.

First, partners agreed on the need of a global **roadmap for the Alliance**. Define precise objectives, in terms of outreaching, actions to implement, and alliances. This point will be further discussed within the Alliance's roadmap.

Flagship/actions Four calls have been opened for collaboration on concrete actions that would cut across Working Groups were presented, and:

- Flagship on buildings in hot climates, spearheaded by ADEME
- Solar Water Heaters, spearheaded by Tunisia
- Eco building facility, spearheaded by AFD
- Energy management (ISO50001), spearheaded by CEM

III. Setting up the Alliance

Being recognized its huge potential added value, but also the important necessary work to be done, a discussion has been held on the means indicators.

While the overall **Governance** of the GABC was left for a subsequent discussion, the GABC Secretariat will be hosted by UNEP. It will have a very light structure to fulfil its facilitation role. The coordinator of the Alliance (full time) will be seconded by the French Government to UNEP. Needs for a minimum operating budget of the Secretariat were pointed out, with a ballpark figure of 500,000 USD annually to organise GABC meetings and cover travel of developing country participants, produce communication materials and produce the Global Status Report. As a first common tool, a **website** has been considered as a priority.

IV. **The way forward**

Next steps have been identified to be promptly implemented:

- The GABC governance structure will be defined at a subsequent meeting. In the interim, the Working Groups will decide upon their modus operandi.
- The GABC Secretariat will set up dedicated phone calls for each working group during which co-leads (if not yet done) will be selected who will lead the development of respective work plans.
- The GABC Secretariat will establish an internet website, in order to allow dissemination and mobilisation, and connect to partner websites.
- The GABC Secretariat will set up a mechanism through which partners can exchange and facilitate the work under the different working groups.
- Several events were identified for outreach and raise visibility on the GABC:
 - Bonn Climate Talks on May 19th 2016,
 - GABC side-event at the UN Environment Assembly in May 26th 2016 in Nairobi/Kenya,
 - Business Climate Summit in London, in June 2016
 - Habitat III Prep Comm meeting in July 2016
 - Habitat III Meeting in October 2016,
 - Buildings Day during COP22 in Marrakech in November 2016.
- The GABC Secretariat will seek for hosts for and help organise regional roundtables, ideally back to back with other events (see **Annex 2**).

All partners are invited to:

- **React to this summary and propose modification if needed;**
- **Confirm (if not appearing in the joint table – Annex 1) their participation to the working group;**
- **Indicate their will to get involved actions by completing the attached table.**
- **Indicate their participation to events by completing the attached table**
- **Indicate by which concrete means they intend to contribute.**

Annex 1: The five initial working groups

Focus area	Co-lead	Members
WG1: AWARENESS AND EDUCATION	Construction 21, Cooperative Research Council for Low Carbon Living (CRCLCL), Senegal and 10YFP	International Initiative for Sustainable Built Environment (IISBE); Investors Confidence Project (ICP), World Green Building Council, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Réseau Habitat et Francophonie, Global Buildings Performance Network (GBPN).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of common narratives and key messages, including but not limited to: Importance of targets – need to raise the level of ambition; How to make the case for Finance/ Politics; Bringing out multiple benefits, with climate as the entry point How to increase demand for energy efficient buildings? • Labelling schemes • Training of building professionals 		
WG2: PUBLIC POLICIES	Mexico, France, Saint-Gobain and IEA	Morocco, Thermaflex, IFLD, Tunisia, Singapore, CRCLCL, Veolia, Lafarge-Holcim, Architecture 2030, The Prince of Wales’s Corporate Leaders Group, Cameroun.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platform for countries to showcase their policies and peer-to-peer learning • Capacity support through matchmaking of ongoing partner activities / development of new activities where priorities of partners align • Cities and subnational policies as complementary 		
WG3: MARKET TRANSFORMATION	Tunisia, Lafarge-Holcim, and WBCSD	Véolia, Climate-KIC, Morocco, Saint-Gobain, RICS, Ukraine, Senegal, IFTD, INTA.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Necessity of multiple partnerships and of a shared culture between private and public sectors, to facilitate market transformation. Voluntary arrangements to prepare regulation. How to spur innovation? 		
WG4: FINANCE	UNEP FI and IPEEC. Singapore, Ukraine, Architecture 2030, INTA, Investor Confidence Project, Climate-KIC, UNEP, RICS, AFD.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of reliable information for investors to reduce risk and create value of more efficient buildings • Need to reinforce access to funding and innovative finance tools, as well as access to Climate Finance. • Need to fund the policies conception and engineering to conceive and implement 		
WG5: MEASUREMENTS, INDICATORS AND ACCOUNTABILITY	IEA and RICS	Members: Mexico, Ukraine, CSTB, CRCLCL, UNEP FI, ICP, WGBC, C2E2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for clarity of metrics 		

Animated discussions highlighted various questions that will need to be addressed by the Alliance overall and could be embedded into the activities of each working group, as for example: Consider an approach by buildings groups to look at districts or small urban spaces (the neighbourhood), beyond the single building. How to integrate lifecycle thinking? How design of buildings and traditional solutions are to be integrated?

Partners emphasised the need for **tailored solutions and common narratives** on issues of critical importance, such as deep refurbishment of existing buildings and excellence of new buildings (mainstreaming Net-0). In addition to r split up into residential, public and commercial buildings and different climatic zones.

Annex 2: Interest in following subjects and willing to participate

In addition, several subjects remain open to participation:

Subjects	Interest in participating
Road Map for low GHG real estate transition (in relation with WG2)	
Work programme for the Alliance	
Global Status Report(in relation with WG1)	
Regional Dialogues	
Flagships on buildings in hot climates, spearheaded by ADEME	
Solar Water Heaters, spearheaded by Tunisia (in relation with WG3)	
Website (in relation with WG1)	
Governance	
Energy management (ISO 50001)	

Annex 3: Participation to upcoming events

Date	Venue	Event
16-26 May	Bonn	Climate Change Conference
23-27 May	Nairobi	United Nations Environment Assembly
1-2 June	San Francisco	Clean Energy Ministerial
1-2 June	Berlin	Habitat Forum
28-29 June	London	Business and Climate Summit
4-5 July	Paris	7 th forum of international action of local authorities
26-28 September	Nantes	Climate Chance
15 September	TBA	European Ministry of Construction Meeting
17-20 October	Quito	Building action day, Habitat III
7-18 November	Marrakech	Buildings day, COP22