

UNITED STATES CLIMATE ALLIANCE

The [United States Climate Alliance](#) is a bipartisan coalition of 17 governors committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement. The Alliance is led by state governments, and is focused on state-to-state cooperation to accelerate the deployment of climate solutions needed to help each achieve their climate goals.

The Alliance represents 40% of the U.S. population and a \$9 trillion economy – an economy larger than all countries but the United States and China. The climate and clean energy policies in Alliance states have attracted billions of dollars of new investment and helped create more than 1.3 million clean energy jobs, nearly half the U.S. total. Independent analysis highlighted in the Alliance’s [2017 Annual Report](#) shows that Alliance States are not only outpacing non-Alliance states in reducing their emissions, they are also growing their economies at a faster pace. Between 2005 and 2015, Alliance States reduced their emissions by 15% compared to 10% for the rest of the country. In that same time period, per capita economic output in Alliance States expanded twice as fast as in the rest of the country. The Alliance is demonstrating that climate leadership and economic growth go hand-in-hand.



Our Principles

States are continuing to lead on climate change: Alliance states recognize that climate change presents a serious threat to the environment and our residents, communities, and economy.

State-level climate action is benefitting our economies and strengthening our communities: Alliance members are growing our clean energy economies and creating new jobs, while reducing air pollution, improving public health, and building more resilient communities.

States are showing the nation and the world that ambitious climate action is achievable: Despite the U.S. federal government’s decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, Alliance members are committed to supporting the international agreement, and are pursuing aggressive climate action to make progress toward its goals.

Our Commitments

Alliance States commit to:

- Implement policies that advance the goals of the Paris Agreement, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emission by at least 26-28 percent below 2005 levels by 2025
- Track and report progress to the global community in appropriate settings, including when the world convenes to take stock of the Paris Agreement, and
- Accelerate new and existing policies to reduce carbon pollution and promote clean energy deployment at the state and federal level.

Our Priority Sectors:

○ CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Alliance states know too well the devastating effects of climate change and extreme weather. We are working together to enhance the resilience of our infrastructure to extreme weather events through improved procurement practices, and analyzing the physical and economic impacts of climate change on our communities. We are also coordinating on the development and implementation of technical tools to support community resilience, including mapping to identify the risk posed by combined sea level rise, storm surge and extreme precipitation.

○ CLEAN ENERGY FINANCE

In the coming decades, Alliance states will invest trillions in clean energy, critical infrastructure and climate change mitigation. To minimize climate risk and maximize economic growth, Alliance States are collaborating on clean energy investment, focusing on new insurance and risk mitigation approaches, building upon the success of established finance tools and Green Banks, and working together across the board on finance-related opportunities.

○ POWER SECTOR MODERNIZATION

Alliance states are leading the way in rethinking traditional electric utility regulation to accommodate rapidly changing technology, meet renewable energy and emission reduction goals, and build clean, resilient and affordable electricity markets for the future. Working together, Alliance states can develop new regulatory tools and resources that benefit the country as a whole, share best practices, and expand and strengthen carbon markets.

○ BUILDING TRANSFORMATION

Alliance States have been at the cutting edge of energy efficiency policy nationally. Coordinated policy action among Alliance states can drive the development and design of new building engineering and construction models that could be replicated across the country, and can transform national markets for energy-consuming equipment and appliances.

○ ADVANCED TRANSPORTATION

Alliance States represent nearly a third of total light duty vehicle sales and nearly two thirds of electric vehicle sales nationally. Coordinated action to drive zero emission vehicle deployment and clean fuel development can transform the national vehicle market. Alliance States are cooperating on comprehensive approaches to clean up America's transportation system and protect the health of their citizens from vehicle pollution.

○ NATURAL RESOURCES

Alliance States have established the most ambitious and innovative approaches to protecting our precious natural resources. Together, we are enhancing state-level stewardship of natural resources, including approaches to reduce and phase out short-lived, high-intensity pollutants that impact the health of our citizens and damage our environments.

Our Priority Cross-Cutting Initiatives:

○ GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORIES & PROJECTIONS

Alliance states are cooperating to improve their greenhouse gas inventories and projections in order to strengthen policy-making and track and report progress towards our ambitious climate targets.

○ CLIMATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Responding to climate change requires data-driven coordination. To coordinate and integrate state-led climate efforts, the U.S. Climate Alliance is building a Climate Clearinghouse — an online platform that aggregates state-specific climate tools, maps, data, and information for use by policymakers and the public.

○ INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

The Alliance is engaging internationally to inspire others to make progress towards the goals of the Paris Agreement. Alliance States are working across borders to share best practices and further drive down emissions, including through regional initiatives such as the North America Climate Leadership Dialogue.