



Climate Action Network G20 Summit Recommendations

November 2015

Climate Action Network (CAN) is the world's largest network of civil society organizations working together to promote government action to address the climate crisis, with more than 950 members in over 110 countries. www.climatenetwork.org

Background:

Held only two weeks before the UNFCCC COP21, the G20 Summit presents a unique opportunity to strengthen international confidence and momentum towards an ambitious climate agreement in Paris and to show commitment to low-emission and climate-resilient development by the biggest economies in the world.

Climate Action Network identified three key issues G20 countries need to assume a leadership role to send strong signals to Paris:

- **Climate Finance**
- **Adaptation and Loss & Damage**
- **Emission reduction and economic transformation**

Climate Finance:

To avoid catastrophic impacts of climate change G20 leaders must establish and set down long-term climate legislation and robust policy frameworks that **direct investments, both public and private, away from carbon intensive sectors** and towards activities that are in line with **just transitioning to renewable low-carbon climate-resilient economies**.

Furthermore, developed countries need to support developing countries in their just transition towards the same aim. Therefore, before Paris, those **developed countries within G20 that have not done so yet, should make a quantified pledge to increase annual finance from public budgets between now and 2020 to meet the existing \$100bn commitment to support climate action in developing countries by 2020**. All countries in a position to do so should signal their willingness to contribute to new scaled-up collective financing for both adaptation and mitigation in the post-2020 agreement. **Additional finance for adaptation should be prioritized so that adaptation receives half of overall finance flows. New, innovative sources need to be promoted by G20 to help the transition.**

An **immediate end to government support for fossil fuel exploration**, adoption of a strict timeline for the **phase-out of remaining fossil fuel subsidies for production and an equitable phase-out of consumption** (including bilateral and multilateral finance), with country-specific measurable outcomes, and a commitment to greater transparency in reporting on fossil fuel subsidy expenditure is a long-standing G20 pledge and finally must be implemented. The removal of subsidies must be accompanied by complementary measures to ensure that lower income and other vulnerable groups do not suffer any negative effects from subsidy removal.

Adaptation and Loss & Damage:

G20 countries should explicitly **recognize the calls from more than 100 developing countries for a 1.5 degrees C** temperature limit as part of the Paris Agreement, reaffirmed by the Manila Communiqué of the Climate Vulnerable Forum.

Furthermore, in line with the G20 Presidency's intent to pay special attention to the needs of poorer developing countries, G20 should also **highlight the need of continued financial contributions to funds like the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Adaptation Fund and recognize this need through the provision of immediate additional support.**

As the most powerful group of countries the G20 should recognise the adverse impacts climate change already has on the development prospects of the poor, and **commit to building climate resilience through adaptation, and to addressing loss and damage, in their cooperation with and investments in poorer developing countries**, in particular to address the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable people. This must also be a substantial part of the Paris Agreement.

Emission reduction and economic transformation:

There is no alternative but to transition to a world free from fossil fuel emissions and **G20 countries need to commit to national development planning in line with these full decarbonization requirements.** Defining common strategies to attain an emission reduction long-term goal of 1.5° degree C, identifying strategic areas of cooperation for technology innovation and deployment, and application of decarbonization policies, should be the focus of the Group's engagement.

Beyond that, the wealthy industrialized countries within the G20 in particular, should demonstrate leadership by immediately embarking on a **fossil fuel phase-out and shifting to 100% renewable energies.** A substantial move away from coal power generation is a key stepping stone in that direction.

A just transition away from fossil fuel emissions must and can be achieved by 2050. **G20 leaders have to acknowledge this fact by agreeing on a common long-term emissions reduction goal in Paris, with** a) a 2050 timeframe, b) a quantitative reference to full decarbonization/phasing out fossil fuel emissions and phasing in renewable energy and c) the recognition that developed countries will lead such a transition.

Conclusions:

CAN recommendations to the G20 presented in this briefing are vital but not exhaustive steps towards tackling climate change. We are keen to continue the dialogue with G20 leaders in order to find comprehensive, equitable and fair solutions for the global climate crisis.

Appendix:

CAN Europe (2015): Reverse the flows: briefing on fossil fuel subsidies and climate finance

<http://www.caneurope.org/docman/position-papers-and-research/climate-finance-and-development/2682-reverse-the-flows-briefing-climate-finance/file>

CAN Europe (2015): Letter send to G20 Finance Ministers <http://www.caneurope.org/docman/position-papers-and-research/climate-finance-and-development/2518-letter-to-turkish-g20-president-on-fossil-fuel-subsidies/file>

C20 Turkey Policy Papers Sustainability (2015):

http://c20turkey.org/uploads/C20SustainabilityWorkingGroupPolicyPaper_v4.pdf

C20 Communiqué: http://c20turkey.org/uploads/C20SustainabilityWorkingGroupPolicyPaper_v4.pdf