



zero emissions

cities

Urban areas consume over 70% of the world's energy and contribute 70-80% of energy-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

In 2050, two thirds of the global population will live in cities, this will further increase GHG emissions of cities. On a positive note, many cities around the world are making ambitious commitments to reduce their GHG emissions in the coming decades, even seeking to achieve 'climate neutrality' or 'Zero Emissions Cities'.

Such significant reductions in a relatively short time frame can't be achieved by just incremental improvement.

Transformation challenges

Building a scalable plan to facilitate the transformation towards zero emissions is a complex process for city governments.

It requires a common understanding of a wide array of inter-connected technology and implementation possibilities as well as evolving market dynamics and local stakeholder engagement.

This will require fundamental transformations in the supply, distribution and management of energy systems, combined with major behavioral shifts in how citizens, businesses and governments use energy.

Collaboration between citizens, local stakeholders, governments, business and solution providers is crucial in successfully realizing Zero Emissions Cities.

There is an important opportunity for collaborative engagement with the private sector.

Leading businesses that are committed to sustainability and are experienced in delivering effective and innovative solutions can help cities navigate these complex challenges and turn an ambitious emissions reductions goal into a practical path forward; potentially playing a leading role in driving investment and implementation.



Value to Solution Providers

- Access to key decision makers in cities
- Close collaboration with cities
- Develop strategy based on actual city needs

Value to Cities

- Open discussions with key solution providers
- Exchange of best practices between cities
- Cost-effective pathways to zero emissions

WBCSD Business Solution: Zero Emissions Cities (ZEC)

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) is a CEO-led organization of forward-thinking companies that galvanizes the global business community to create a sustainable future for business, society and the environment. By working closely with city governments and key solution providers across sectors, the WBCSD develops roadmaps to effectively transform city energy systems towards zero emissions and identifies catalytic opportunities to drive implementation.

WBCSD's Zero Emissions Cities project creates value for cities and solution providers by stimulating global collaborative action to successfully create zero emissions cities. In this project a consortium of solution providers collaborates with city officials and local stakeholders to reach zero emissions in cities focusing on smart mobility/logistics, buildings, waste and energy infrastructures.

Build on experience

The Zero Emissions Cities project builds on the success of the WBCSD's Urban Infrastructure Initiative and experiences of both the project partners and participating cities in other innovative projects, offering a unique and effective way of collaboration.

The Urban Infrastructure Initiative included 14 member companies working collaboratively with 10 cities around the world to find practical solutions to each city's most important sustainability challenges.

Cities taking the lead

Cities already participating in the Zero Emissions Cities project are Amsterdam (Netherlands), Birmingham (UK) and Navi Mumbai (India).



AMSTERDAM

The ZEC project will focus on two specific initiatives in the Amsterdam Zuidooost district, i.e. transport of persons and light freight without emissions and net-zero energy for a group of buildings connected to district heating and district cooling. Besides, a new way of working with stakeholders will be developed to create a zero emission district using the TRANSFORM Decision Support Environment.



BIRMINGHAM

Working with Birmingham City Council to deliver an exemplar zero emission development for the Smithfield District of the City. The ZEC approach will deliver a commercial outcome focusing on buildings, mobility and energy solutions, underpinned by a commitment to recognizing natural capital impacts enhancing Birmingham's position as a leading biophilic city.



NAVI MUMBAI

The Navi Mumbai ZEC project will work with the City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) of Maharashtra State. The goal is to develop a zero-emissions district near the new airport area, in a ca. 250 ha development to be realized in the next few years.

The Zero Emissions Cities project started working with these three pioneering cities from mid 2015 and is looking for more cities and companies to expand. [Interested?](#)

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