



Coalition Members in Action

The Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate (“the Coalition”) was launched in January 2023. Co-led by Trade Ministers of Ecuador, the European Union, Kenya, and New Zealand, the Coalition aims to foster inclusive cooperation and collective action at the nexus of trade, climate, and sustainable development. Since its launch, the Coalition’s membership has grown from 51 to 63 Ministers, representing countries from different regions at varying levels of development, climate vulnerabilities, and trade circumstances.

Acknowledging the positive contribution that international trade can and must make towards climate-resilient sustainable development, the Coalition members emphasize in their [Launch Statement](#) the principles of cooperation, inclusivity, transparency, and leadership. The Launch Statement outlines five priorities:

- fostering international cooperation;
- identifying ways to ensure the multilateral trading system contributes to the global climate agenda;
- promoting trade and investment in support of climate-friendly goods, services, and technologies;
- identifying trade-related strategies that support the needs of vulnerable and least-developed countries; and
- building partnerships with climate and finance communities.

At the 2nd Ministerial meeting of the Coalition in February 2024, Ministers released a [Menu of Voluntary Actions](#). This Brochure illustrates a number of actions taken by Coalition Members to advance cooperation at the nexus of trade, climate, and sustainable development. It aims to offer inspiration for potential cooperation by highlighting a sample of initiatives through which Coalition members are advancing action on the eight areas identified in the Menu.

COALITION CO-LEADS

Ecuador	European Union	Kenya	New Zealand
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COALITION MEMBERS

Angola	Cameroon	Fiji	Italy	Kingdom of Morocco	Poland	Slovenia
Antigua and Barbuda	Canada	Finland	Japan	Mozambique	Portugal	Spain
Australia	Colombia	France	Republic of Korea	Netherlands	Romania	Sweden
Austria	Costa Rica	The Gambia	Latvia	Norway	Rwanda	Switzerland
Belgium	Croatia	Germany	Lithuania	Papua New Guinea	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Ukraine
Barbados	Cyprus	Greece	Luxemburg	Paraguay	Singapore	United Kingdom
Bulgaria	Czechia	Hungary	Malta	Philippines	Slovakia	Uruguay
Cabo Verde	Denmark	Iceland	Maldives			Vanuatu
	Estonia	Ireland				Zambia

* Membership as of October 2025.

1. BREAK SILOS BY FOSTERING JOINT AND INCLUSIVE MINISTERIAL-LEVEL DIALOGUE

One of the Coalition's priorities is to foster high-level political engagement between Coalition Ministers and fellow Ministers working on climate, environment, and finance.

The Coalition's work to break down silos has been pursued through various actions, including joint Ministerial-level dialogue between trade, climate, and finance Ministers in Davos alongside the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in early 2024. This engagement also included dialogue with key leaders and stakeholders from the international trade and climate communities, with Ecuador leading an exchange with private sector climate champions in Davos.

Further, to coincide with this engagement at Davos, 10 Coalition Ministers co-signed a joint Op-ed on breaking the silos between trade, climate, and finance. It highlighted the need to:

- reflect on how trade and trade cooperation can serve as catalysts for finance and investment in climate change mitigation and adaptation, and climate-resilient development;
- explore how to use trade and trade policies to advance the development, diffusion, accessibility, and uptake of goods, services, and technologies that contribute to climate action; and
- boost cooperation on the nexus of climate, trade, and fiscal policies, as well as trade finance in support of climate goals, and to examine the role of public funding, including subsidies that potentially harm climate and development goals.

Since its inception, the Coalition has also prioritized engagement at UN Climate Change Conferences.

The Coalition at UN Climate Change Conferences	
COP28 (2023)	Coalition Ministers participated in a joint public event with the heads of climate and trade agencies, emphasizing the importance of Ministerial leadership in fostering trade cooperation for the global climate agenda and reaffirming their commitment to action.
COP29 (2024)	The Coalition convened a high-level panel at COP29. Participating Coalition Members highlighted the Coalition's priorities and Menu of Voluntary Actions. Leaders from the climate and trade community shared their perspectives on concrete trade-related actions and collaborations that can advance climate goals and support inclusive cooperation on trade, climate, and sustainable development.
COP30 (2025)	At COP30, the Coalition held a public event on trade's contribution to advancing the global climate agenda. Reflecting the Coalition's objective of building alliances and partnerships with relevant stakeholders, the event brought together a diverse group of trade and climate experts with Coalition representatives to share experiences and perspectives on where trade-related collaborative actions and cooperation can accelerate climate change mitigation, adaptation and climate-resilient development.

2. CALLS FOR ACTION ON THE NEXUS OF TRADE, CLIMATE, AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Coalition has harnessed the high-profile opportunities provided by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conferences and the UN Climate Change Conferences to call for action on the nexus of trade, climate, and sustainable development.

In February 2024, at their 2nd Ministerial meeting held alongside the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference in Abu Dhabi, Coalition Ministers issued a Ministerial Communiqué that included a clear message on the importance of pursuing ambitious, concrete, and forward-looking commitments at the WTO in support of the global response to the climate crisis. A key outcome of the meeting was the endorsement by Ministers of the Coalition's Menu of Voluntary Trade-related Actions to address the climate crisis.



“As Ministers, we know the positive contribution that trade can and must make to the global climate agenda—driving down greenhouse gas emissions, enabling a just transition to climate-neutral, resilient, and sustainable economies. Trade Ministers are in a unique position to drive this contribution and the international cooperation vital to realize that potential.”

H.E. Luis Alberto Jaramillo G, Minister of Production, Trade, Investment and Fisheries, Ecuador

3. ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN THE WTO ON THE NEXUS OF TRADE, CLIMATE, AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Coalition members have been actively engaged in the WTO on a range of topics at the nexus of trade, climate, and sustainable development, including through engagement at the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE), as well as through member-led initiatives such as: the Dialogue on Plastics Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (DPP) coordinated by Australia, Barbados, China, Ecuador, Fiji, Morocco; the Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD) coordinated by Canada and Costa Rica; and the initiative on Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform (FFSR) coordinated by New Zealand.

Coalition members have been active at the WTO in encouraging international cooperation on each of the areas noted in the Menu of Voluntary Actions. This includes discussing trade-related climate measures, incentivizing sustainable production practices through non-distortionary trade policies, sharing practices on dissemination of climate technologies, subsidies, and sharing their experiences on how trade agreements can contribute to the global response to the climate crisis.

The Coalition at the WTO	
Committee on Trade and Environment	A wide range of Coalition members actively participate in revitalizing discussions at the WTO and reaffirming its critical role in tackling climate change. Coalition members, along with other WTO members, have actively contributed to maintaining momentum within the CTE to identify and enhance cooperation on key issues such as trade-related climate measures and have supported constructive discussions in dedicated thematic sessions covering critical topics such as energy transition, trade-related climate measures, technology transfer, and sustainable agriculture.
Member-led initiatives	53 Coalition members co-sponsor the DPP, 49 Coalition members co-sponsor the TESSD, and 39 Coalition members co-sponsor the FFSR initiative.

4. SUPPORT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE MOST VULNERABLE, INCLUDING LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES, AND LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

A further Coalition priority is to support developing countries in addressing issues at the nexus of trade, climate, and sustainable development. Many Coalition members are partnering on initiatives and projects that seek to support developing countries to design their trade and climate strategies and policies, and to engage in international settings, in ways that support climate adaptation and ensure fair, just transitions towards climate-resilient development.

The work underway includes bilateral partnerships and activities facilitated through various international partners to bolster capacity in least developed countries, small island developing states, and landlocked developing countries as well as small and vulnerable economies. It includes projects that support decarbonization, energy transition, and compliance with climate-related requirements in export markets,



as well climate adaptation strategies. In the Gambia, for instance, the government has pursued an Aid for Trade partnership to support access to trade-related climate finance, and to bring together its trade and climate ministries to form a 2024-2030 trade policy update with a sustainability focus. A further example that involves a number of Coalition members is the Pacific Aid-for-Trade Strategy 2020-2025, coordinated by the Pacific Islands Forum, which identifies key areas for regional collaboration on trade that are priorities for advancing sustainable development. Alongside, Australia, through its Pacific Regional Development Program, is supporting work in the Pacific to deepen analysis on trade and climate adaptation priorities.

With financial support from the EU, the International Trade Centre is implementing a “Climate Competitiveness” project. This initiative aims to promote work on trade and climate in six countries including three Coalition members—Philippines, Ecuador, and Kenya—by training policymakers on connections between trade and climate policies, supporting their participation on the trade and climate agenda in the WTO, and fostering the development of trade and climate strategies. Alongside, the Philippines is pursuing the development of a national Trade-Related Climate Strategy for Climate-Resilient Development, starting with a series of multi-sector stakeholder roundtables to formulate actionable policy options for the government, including priorities for trade diplomacy and cooperation. This work is being advanced through a partnership with a range of actors, including the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the World Trade Organization, the University of the Philippines Law Center – Institute of International Legal Studies (IILS), and the Forum on Trade, Environment, & the SDGs (TESS), with support from the Australian government.

Other types of partnerships that Coalition members are pursuing to support developing countries on the nexus of trade, climate, and sustainable development include those focused on trade finance, carbon markets, and key trade sectors impacted by the climate crisis. The United Kingdom’s export credit agency, for instance, is the first to offer “natural disaster clauses” in its direct and restructured lending arrangements, which enable borrowing countries to suspend debt repayments on a cost-neutral basis with the aim of providing them additional space to respond to environmental crises and natural disasters while lowering risks of default.

Germany has funded a five-year programme called “Supporting Preparedness for Article 6 Cooperation”, which supports four developing countries including two Coalition members—Colombia and Zambia—to engage in the international carbon market under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. The project aims to support governments with policy and regulatory frameworks and will engage a broad range stakeholders of the government and the private sector to build the environment for carbon trading under Article 6.

Finally, Vanuatu is working with support from New Zealand to advance its Sustainable Tourism Strategy (2021-2025), which seeks to transform its tourism sector by supporting businesses to become more adaptable and economically sustainable in the face of climate change and external threats.

5. ENCOURAGE COOPERATION ON TRADE-RELATED CLIMATE ACTION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL INITIATIVES AND MEETINGS

The Coalition’s Menu of Voluntary Actions refers to a range of themes and sectors on which members could pursue voluntary action. This includes renewable energy access and transitions, green hydrogen, bio-trade/bioeconomy, sustainable fisheries, sustainable agriculture and sustainable food systems, natural disasters, climate change resilience, nature conservation, and interlinkages with other environmental challenges, such as pollution and biodiversity loss. Coalition members are engaged in a range of efforts to encourage trade-related action and cooperation in these areas, including through various coalitions, partnerships, intergovernmental initiatives, pledges, and agreements. Following are some examples of collaborations on some of these themes.

At COP28, 133 countries, including 58 Coalition members, pledged to work together to triple the world’s installed renewable energy generation capacity by 2030. On a related note, 29 Coalition members are part of the International Solar Alliance to promote solar energy deployment, which includes a focus on building resilient supply chains for cost-effective solar solutions to drive energy access, security, and low-carbon growth, particularly in least developed countries and small island developing states.



Nine Coalition members are “Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform”, an initiative which calls for fossil fuel subsidy reform across international climate and trade fora, including in the UNFCCC process and at the WTO. Four Coalition members—Antigua and Barbuda, Colombia, Fiji, and Vanuatu—support the call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. Also endorsed by range of civil society organizations and research institutions, this effort aims to foster international cooperation to accelerate a transition to renewable energy, end the expansion of coal, oil, and gas, and equitably phase out existing production.

In regard to the challenges of fostering economic and environmental resilience in the context of climate change, 15 Coalition members are part of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), a global partnership of over 70 countries representing 1.4 billion people vulnerable to climate change. In 2024, CVF and the Vulnerable Twenty (V20) Finance Ministers entered into a partnership agreement with the Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative to promote access to carbon market opportunities relating to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

Sixteen Coalition members are part of the Food, Agriculture, and Commodity Trade (FACT) Dialogue, which brings together 28 countries, including the largest producers and consumers of globally traded agricultural goods. A number of Coalition members are also actively promoting bio-trade, including through collaboration with UN Trade and Development’s BioTrade project, by fostering positive incentives for the sustainable use of biological resources, value-added biodiversity products, and trade that supports nature and climate goals. Coalition members have also been cooperating on a shift to more sustainable transportation as a key piece of the trade and climate agenda. For example, Singapore and Australia concluded a Green Economy Agreement, aiming to establish a green and digital shipping corridor by the end of 2025 to decarbonize shipping routes.

6. ENGAGE ON GOOD REGULATORY PRACTICES AND INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS SETTING

Coalition members have been pursuing cooperation on good regulatory practices and standards setting to advance decarbonization efforts, including on methods to measure embodied carbon content in internationally traded goods and for specific sectors or goods and services. In their [Op-ed](#) published in early January 2024, 10 Coalition Ministers highlighted the importance of boosted cooperation on the nexus of climate, trade, and fiscal policies, including on carbon measurement and pricing mechanisms that maximize climate benefits while minimizing trade distortions and addressing fairness concerns.

Such efforts are being explored and advanced through a range of international processes and organizations, from the WTO and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) to the OECD and regional economic arrangements, such as the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA). At the WTO within the CTE, the membership along with several Coalition members have been actively encouraging discussions and sharing proposals to support enhanced transparency, coherence, equity, and interoperability of trade-related climate measures, with an initial focus on methodologies for the measurement of embedded emissions and carbon accounting. Forty-seven Coalition members are Parties to the OECD’s Inclusive Forum on Carbon Mitigation Approaches where governments are assessing carbon mitigation approaches, mapping mitigation policies, estimating emissions impacts, and exploring methods to calculate carbon intensities.



7. ADVANCE ENGAGEMENT WITH PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERS ON CLIMATE ACTION

Coalition members have also been fostering engagement with private sector leaders, including with micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), with the aim of supporting decarbonization initiatives, developing sustainable, transparent, and resilient supply chains for climate adaptation and mitigation, and promoting women's empowerment. At Davos in 2024, for instance, the Coalition met with the Alliance of CEO Climate Leaders, which brings together business champions from large international companies and MSMEs, and discussed how to leverage synergies to accelerate climate action and drive development gains.

A range of Coalition members are also involved in collective efforts to work with the private sector to contribute to the global climate agenda, many of which have an important trade dimension. For example, 13 Coalition members are involved in the Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT), which fosters collaboration between governments and industry to transition energy-intensive industries to low-carbon pathways. In pursuit of net-zero emissions by 2050, LeadIT has a focus on co-development of climate technologies and how trade cooperation could support this.

Five Coalition members—Canada, Germany, Japan, Sweden, and the United Kingdom—support the Clean Energy Ministerial Industrial Deep Decarbonization Initiative (IDDI), a global coalition of governments and private sector working to help decarbonize heavy industry by stimulating demand for low-carbon industrial materials. Through IDDI, countries are working to standardize carbon assessments, establish ambitious public and private sector procurement targets, incentivize investment into low-carbon product development, and design industry guidelines.

Alongside, 35 Coalition members are part of the Climate Club—an intergovernmental forum for exchange on industry decarbonization that seeks to serve as an enabling framework for increased collective action across diverse geographies, bringing together relevant stakeholders, including from the private sector. A further example of work that some Coalition members are pursuing is the Export Finance for Future initiative, where 10 Coalition members are supporting work to shift investments towards climate-neutral export projects and improve transparency.

Export Credit Agencies and Export-Import Banks provide export credits, export credit insurance, and loans on behalf of their governments, assuming risks going beyond commercial appetites, including support for technology transfer and innovations. Seven Coalition members are involved in the Net-Zero Export Credit Agencies Alliance, which works towards transitioning their respective business activities to align with pathways to net zero by mid-century, or sooner. The Alliance encourages dialogue and the development of practical tools to support the decarbonization of trade and facilitate joint action from public and private finance.



8. EXPLORE HOW TRADE CAN FURTHER HELP CLIMATE ACTION BY IDENTIFYING SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE WORK OF MULTILATERAL, PLURILATERAL, REGIONAL, AND BILATERAL TRADE INITIATIVES ON GOODS, SERVICES, AND TECHNOLOGIES THAT SUPPORT CLIMATE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

Coalition members are involved in a range of efforts to identify and develop synergies between the work of various initiatives at multilateral, plurilateral, regional, and bilateral level that aim to facilitate the development, dissemination, accessibility and uptake of goods, services, and technologies that support climate mitigation and adaptation.

Forty-nine Coalition members participate in the WTO's TESSD initiative, which includes a working group on environmental goods and services that focuses on both horizontal and sector-specific barriers and opportunities related to the promotion and facilitation of trade in environmental goods and services. In 2025, discussions have included a focus on goods and services related to climate adaptation, with an emphasis on water and sustainable agriculture.

Amidst growing interest on the African continent in green hydrogen production for domestic use and export, 3 Coalition members—Angola, Kenya, and Morocco—support the Africa Green Hydrogen Alliance, which focuses on public and regulatory policy, capacity building, financing, and certification needs. Morocco has also signed a Green Partnership Agreement with the EU to accelerate convergence on environmental, climate, and sustainable development issues, building on Morocco's National Sustainable Development Strategy, adopted in June 2017, and the European Green Deal roadmap launched in December 2019.

Seven Coalition members—Australia, Fiji, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Philippines, and Singapore—participate in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity Clean Economy Agreement, which aims to boost the clean energy transition and advance climate action, with a focus on achieving net-zero emissions while promoting sustainable growth. Key topics of focus for cooperation include trade, supply chains, clean energy, decarbonization, and infrastructure.

In the Americas, 6 Coalition Ministers—Barbados, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Uruguay—are part of the Americas Partnership of Economic Prosperity, which released a joint statement in 2024 establishing a new regional committee on trade and environment. At the inaugural meeting of this new committee, countries reaffirmed their commitment to promote regional trade that contributes to environmental sustainability and supports their common goal of combating climate change. A recurring theme in a range of bilateral, regional, and plurilateral discussions of climate and trade has been the link with sustainable investment as vital for enabling and mobilizing climate action. In October 2025, Ecuador and the EU announced that they will begin negotiations for a Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreement (SIFA), which aims to promote responsible investments. The Agreement has the potential to attract climate-related investments, with trade facilitation playing a crucial role in its success.

In early 2025, 4 Coalition members—Costa Rica, Iceland, New Zealand, and Switzerland—concluded the Agreement on Climate Change, Trade and Sustainability (ACCTS), which aims to serve as a pathfinding trade agreement focused on the climate change, trade, and sustainability agendas, establishing legally binding trade disciplines to achieve environmental objectives. The Agreement covers the following four areas: (i) environmental goods, (ii) environmental services, (iii) fossil fuel subsidies, and (iv) eco-labelling.

Recognizing the role of trade cooperation in boosting the development, affordability, accessibility, and uptake of climate-related technologies and services, a number of Coalition members have been seeking to advance concrete collaborations in this regard, ranging from cooperation on standards for climate technologies to regulatory cooperation and work on identifying goods and services for liberalization. For instance, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), which includes eight Coalition members—Australia, Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, and Singapore—is developing a Framework of Discussions in support of a new, voluntary, non-binding APEC Reference List of Environmental Goods. Similarly, recent free trade agreements between the United Kingdom and New Zealand as well as the EU and New Zealand include lists of environmental goods and services for trade liberalization that are relevant to climate change.



View the Menu of
Voluntary Actions



Visit the Coalition
Website



MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the Coalition
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