WINNERS OF THE 2020 UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION AWARDS

On 27 October 2020, the <u>13</u> winners of the 2020 United Nations Global Climate Action Awards were announced, shining a light on some of the best examples of what people across the globe are doing to combat climate change.



The UN Global Climate Action

Awards are spearheaded by the Momentum for Change initiative at UN Climate Change. The projects are recognized as innovative solutions that not only address climate change, but also help drive forward progress on many other sustainable development goals, for example, innovation, gender equality and economic opportunity.

The Momentum for Change website presents the 13 innovative solutions winners of the 2020 Awards within three focus areas Climate Neutral Now, Financing for Climate Friendly Investment, and Women for Results:

Climate Neutral Now:

- <u>Interface</u>. Global: A pioneering flooring-manufacturer that is transforming its business to have zero negative impact on the planet.
- <u>Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort</u>. Aruba: The Caribbean's first and only hotel to achieve carbon neutral certification, and now working to go carbon negative.
- <u>Signify</u>. Global: A major multi-national lighting company that has reduced its carbon footprint by more than 70% and has transformed all of its global markets to carbon neutrality.
- <u>Dallas Fort Worth International Airport</u>. United States of America: The first carbon neutral airport in North America, now implementing a Renewable Natural Gas Initiative.

Financing for Climate Friendly Investment:

- <u>Payments for Environmental Services Program</u>. Costa Rica: A financial mechanism that promotes forest ecosystem conservation the first of its type in the country and the region.
- <u>The Luxembourg Green Exchange</u>. Luxembourg: The world's first platform fully dedicated to green bonds, now expanded to include social and sustainability bonds as well as SRI funds.
- Global Himalayan Expedition. India: One of the world's first organizations using the force of tourism coupled with technology to bring solar energy to remote communities.
- <u>C40 Cities Finance Facility</u>. Global: A facility that enables cities in developing and emerging economies to develop financeready projects that address climate change.

Women for Results:

 <u>Elemental Excelerator</u>. Global: The first organization to apply a technology accelerator model to addressing climate change, investing in startups with the potential to decarbonize economies.



- Nature-Based Solutions to Increase Urban Adaptability.
 Thailand: A landscape architect who is building innovative landscape solutions, making Bangkok more resilient to climate change.
- Health In Harmony. Indonesia, Madagascar, Brazil: An organization that reverses deforestation by meeting the health & economic needs of local communities through women-led innovation.
- <u>Bioplanet Programme</u>. Brazil: A Brazilian company that has found a technological way to reuse residual kitchen fats to produce biodiesel.
- RISE2030. Lebanon: A community-led initiative that launched the first all-women solar team in Lebanon to challenge the gender stereotypes in the male-dominated construction sector.

The Momentum for Change Initiative provides a public platform to highlight broad-ranging climate change actions that are already achieving real results on the ground. By shining light on these activities, known as *Lighthouse Activities*, the initiative aims to strengthen motivation, spur innovation and catalyze further change towards a low-emission, high-resilient future. The *Lighthouse Activities* are showcased at the annual United Nations climate change conferences.

The Momentum for Change website also presents the solutions winners of the previous editions of the awards for each of the four focus areas: Planetary Health; Climate Neutral Now; Women for Results; Financing for Climate Friendly Investment. More information on the previous editions and the winning experiences is available in the Interactive Annual Reports.

These transformative solutions are dealing with innovative approaches, methodologies and technologies that could be of interest for other territories and local development actors.

To know more

Innovative solutions winners of the 2020 Awards

Momentum for Change Lighthouse Activities

2019 interactive annual report

United Nations Climate Change website

UN Climate Change in Facebook





