

Global Methane Initiative and Climate and Clean Air Coalition

Joint Statement

Washington, DC

29 September 2022

This week, the Global Methane Initiative (GMI) and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) convened participants from more than 90 countries and more than 100 organizations to discuss approaches to fast climate action, focused on mitigating methane and other short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs).

Taking action on reducing SLCPs – such as methane, black carbon, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and tropospheric ozone – is one of the most effective pathways to reduce near-term global warming. It is complementary to action on carbon dioxide, which must continue in parallel in order to achieve long-term climate goals. Taking significant action on SLCPs will also deliver a host of other benefits related to energy, safety, food security, health, poverty alleviation, and local air and water quality. For instance, methane is a potent greenhouse gas that, tonne-for-tonne, is about 80 times more potent than carbon dioxide at warming the atmosphere on a 20-year time horizon.

As shown in the [2021 United Nations Environment Programme-CCAC Global Methane Assessment](#), methane emissions from human activity can be reduced significantly this decade. The Assessment concluded that achieving these reductions this decade would keep the Paris Agreement's temperature goals within reach.

We invite all countries to take ambitious steps to reduce methane emissions and other SLCPs. In particular, we urge countries to consider the following measures:

- Enhanced national policies and regulations to reduce methane and SLCPs
- Mobilization of dedicated finance and accelerated development of projects to reduce methane and SLCP emissions
- Sustained efforts for methane and SLCP mitigation in the global climate agenda
- Strong proposals for transformative sectoral projects, including those that connect GMI and CCAC efforts, and especially in response to the [CCAC's open call for proposals](#) (deadline 26 October 2022)
- New efforts to mobilize and engage young people, the next generation in this critical endeavor
- New efforts to mobilize and engage new partner organizations as well as subnational governments, educators and communities.

The Global Methane, Climate and Clean Air Forum brought together global thought leaders from governments, multilateral development banks, finance institutions and philanthropies, environmental groups, and the private sector. Collectively, Forum participants highlighted innovative and creative solutions to address methane mitigation, including approaches to scaling up through policies, finance, and cooperation. We heard a compelling scientific case for further action on SLCPs in Africa, with a strong emphasis on food security and health as the entry point. We discussed new ways to monitor and track our progress in reducing global emissions, including the use of satellite data for real time emissions observations. This event was an important milestone leading up to COP27, reminding us that fast action to reduce SLCPs, especially methane, is critical in the fight to address climate change and that significant reductions are feasible, and a reasonable fraction of these can be achieved at no or low cost.

We are encouraged by the progress GMI and CCAC member countries are making to address methane emissions. For example, we are pleased to note that three-quarters of GMI and CCAC partner countries have committed to work to reduce global methane emissions through the Global Methane Pledge. Other

partner countries have committed to reduce methane emissions through their national commitments for Net Zero Emissions. A number of our partners have already made ambitious commitments through their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) or through national level action plans. Yet there is more work to be done.

Building on a decade of collaboration, GMI and CCAC will continue collaboration to achieve ambitious global methane emissions reductions. GMI's sector-specific expertise complements CCAC's expertise in science policy and institutional strengthening to support countries. We invite countries not yet partnered with us to consider joining us on this important mission. In the coming years, GMI and CCAC intend to work with national and subnational partners to assist with planning and implementation of methane and SLCP mitigation policies, overcoming barriers to finance for methane mitigation projects, and providing resources and technical assistance on best practices and technologies. The CCAC will build on its track record of success, supporting developing countries with integrated climate and clean air plans and policies, helping to raise climate ambition by putting the focus on quick wins for public health and food security. GMI will continue to lead development of technical and policy resources and best practices, as well as providing technical assistance to enable partners and stakeholders (such as the Global Methane Hub, International Energy Agency, World Bank, etc.) to mitigate methane emissions in the near term.

GMI and CCAC will continue to work together in substantive ways to design and implement SLCPs and more specifically, methane mitigation actions.

We look forward to meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, for the 2023 Forum hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe to showcase our ongoing progress.