#### MOBILISING MILLIONS OF SMALL AND MEDIUM BUSINESSES TO ACHIEVE NET ZERO

## SME CLIMATE HUB

March | 2021





## The SME Climate Hub seeks to mobilise and support millions of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to take climate action, build business resilience and gain a competitive advantage.



SMEs make up 90% of businesses worldwide and employ over two billion people – the backbone of our communities and our economy.

SMEs are essential for the provision of goods and services around the world as well as for the innovation and scaling of next generation green solutions required for global decarbonisation.

One of the most pressing existential threats to SMEs is climate change - and with 40% to 60% of small businesses never reopening after a disaster, building business resilience has never been so important.

## Building climate resilience is critical for SMEs to remain viable but they often lack resources, know-how and incentives to become resilient.

### 1. Limited Resources

Small businesses often have many competing interests and limited time, money and staff to dedicate to addressing climate resilience.

## 2. Lack of Knowhow

Even if a small business is committed to building resilience, it is often difficult to know where to start or where to find practical and credible tools – in one place – to support them.

### 3. Misaligned Incentives

Small businesses want to survive and thrive, but the commercial value of building resilience is not always evident. The SME Climate Hub is a one-of-a-kind international platform that provides a one-stop-shop for small and medium-sized businesses to:

- make an internationally recognised climate commitment
- access best-in-class tools and resources
- benefit from incentives and opportunities with commercial value

## Free + Easy + High Value

KS COMMITMENT

SMES 1.5°C SUPPLY CHAIN LEADERS



S

Climate







# Future-proof your business today

TOOLS

Where small and medium-sized businesses come to curb emissions and gain a competitive edge.

**GET STARTED** 

## What's in it for my business?



#### GAIN A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE Supply chain leaders, investors,

shareholders, consumers and employees are increasingly looking to business to adopt ambitious climaterelated targets, with some supply chain leaders now formalising climate action in their procurement policies. Stay ahead of the curve.



#### MANAGE BUSINESS RISK

Left unchecked, climate change represents material risk to business cash flow and economic growth, by increasing operating costs, limiting resource availability, causing shifts in demand, disrupting supply chains and forcing business closures. Prepare for tomorrow, today.



#### IMPROVE EFFICIENCY, REDUCE COSTS

Businesses that look to use and manage resources more efficiently can tangibly reduce their operating costs and increase profitability, while improving business preparedness. Begin to take steps today that are good for your business and the

climate.



#### ENHANCE ACCESS TO CAPITAL AND AFFORDABLE INSURANCE

Investors and insurers are increasingly linking business exposure from natural disasters with climate change. Take steps to keep your insurance fees affordable and secure your loan, grant and investment worthiness.



#### GROW YOUR BUSINESS AND YOUR BRAND The SME Climate Hub represents a global network of like-minded businesses seeking to improve themselves, their community and the planet. Being part of this network offers far reaching collaborative and commercial opportunities to grow your business and be a leading brand, as market trends shift to a low-carbon economy.

## How it works – overview

#### How it works



#### COMMIT

You are ready to signal your commitment to and take your first steps towards halving your emissions before 2030 and striving to achieve net zero emissions before 2050.

#### Make the commitment >>



#### **TAKE ACTION**

Once you have signed the SME Climate Commitment, start browsing tools and resources that have been tailored to support your efforts.

#### Go to tools >>

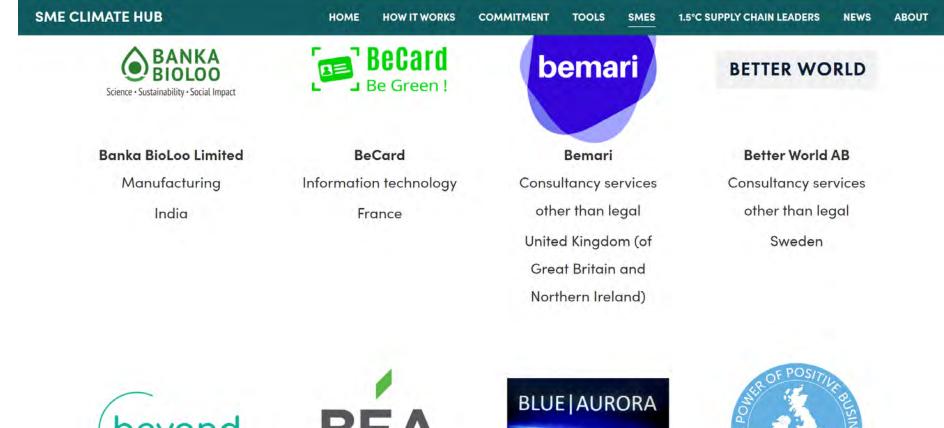


#### **ACCESS INCENTIVES**

By making the SME Climate Commitment, your business will be recognized by the United Nations Race to Zero campaign, giving your business visibility in the community and with your clients. Financial and policy incentives *coming soon*!

#### <u>Get recognised today >></u>

## ~750 SMEs from 55 countries and growing





**Beyond energy** Energy



**Bioconstruccion y Energia Alternativa** 



**Blue Aurora Media** Other



**Blue Patch** 

Other





"The 21st century will be the century of the environment, or it will be no more."

Maria Fernanda Garza, CEO, Orestia



"All companies have a responsibility to take action, and I believe most of us want to. However, it is not always easy to figure out how to do so – therefore we are very grateful and happy to participate in SME Climate Hub and look forward to follow the path to become a climate resilient business."

Asbjørn Dencker, Founder and Business Developer, Eace Gum



"Yoghurt Barn is one of the first companies to become climate positive and we want to inspire our guests and other companies to follow. The time for climate action is now and the SME Climate Hub is a useful resource to help companies take action!"

Wouter Staal, CEO, Yoghurt Barn



"Innovative and sustainable solutions are essential to addressing the climate crisis. BeCard tries to play its part by providing a digital, eco-friendly business card. I hope that many more green solution providers will share their innovations with the world and join us on the SME Climate Hub."

Bogdan Popescu, Founder, BeCard



"Electron joined the SME CLimate Hub becau we cannot afford not to invest in a net zero emissions future."

Joanna Hubbard, CEO & Co-founder, Electron

## About the United Nations Race to Zero

The <u>United Nations Race to Zero</u> is an international campaign that brings together an unprecedented coalition of real economy actors and governments committed to achieve net-zero emissions by no later than 2050.

The SME Climate Hub is an exercise in radical collaboration that opens the gates for SMEs to join the United Nations Race to Zero campaign.

#### 1.5°C Supply Chain Leaders support the SME Climate Hub

"We will support SMEs globally through the SME Climate Hub with tools, knowledge and best practice for implementing a robust climate strategy, to support broad action. We plan to make climate related targets and performance a key supplier purchasing criteria within one year. We aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through action and collaboration, while looking to inspire others to do the same."

1.5°C Supply Chain Leaders >>









## Supporting projects

#### Incentivizing SMEs to net zero action through improved working capital

Unprecedented collaboration to match buyer and bank offerings to scale up economic support to SMEs to make the SME Climate Commitment. Will include guidelines to support banks and MNCs to structure interactions, data gathering and to channel appropriate financial incentives for SMEs' decarbonization.

#### **SME Climate Action Tracking, Accountability and Acceleration**

Improved SME reporting capability with a simple, modular and open framework and scoping of recommendations for future SME reporting. Empowering SMEs to report progress against commitments.

#### **1.5°C Supply Chain Acceleration**

Expand the number of 1.5°C-aligned global climate leaders – through the 1.5°C Supply Chain Leaders group – that take action to encourage SMEs in their supply chain to make the SME Climate Commitment and provide incentives for SME decarbonization.

#### **SME Education**

Support SMEs to better understand why and how they can decarbonize through an online learning programme in a way that breaks down known barriers for SMEs to take climate action in the current global context.



#### Thank You

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We Mean Business coalition

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#### ABOUT SME Climate Hub

The SME Climate Hub is an initiative of the <u>International Chamber of</u> <u>Commerce</u>, the <u>Exponential Roadmap Initiative</u>, the <u>We Mean Business</u> <u>coalition</u> and the <u>United Nations Race to Zero campaign</u>.

The SME Climate Hub has also joined forces with Oxford University's <u>Net Zero</u> <u>Climate</u> Research and Engagement team to provide small and medium-sized businesses with a database of practical tools and resources to curb emissions and build business resilience.

It is our belief that climate action is everyone's business.



