



Nordic Council  
of Ministers

# Nordic opportunities to provide leadership in the Global Climate Action Agenda

International cooperative climate  
initiatives with major upscaling and  
impact potentials

## **Nordic opportunities to provide leadership in the Global Climate Action Agenda**

International cooperative climate initiatives with major upscaling and impact potentials:

*Anna Laine, Mikko Halonen, Jenni Mikkola (Gaia Consulting), Katharina Lütkehermöller, Niklas Höhne, Maria Jose de Villafranca Casas (NewClimate Institute)*

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# Executive summary

The Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA) covers a wealth of cooperative action between governments, cities, business, investors, non-governmental organisations and citizens to achieve rapid and effective climate change mitigation and adaptation. Non-state climate initiatives under the GCAA are a key means to bridge the considerable emissions gap. Under current fully implemented unconditional Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) the gap is estimated at approximately 32 Gigatons by 2030, assuming the Paris Agreement's aim to limit the temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels.

This report identifies in total some 300 international cooperative initiatives (ICIs) worldwide. Nordic public and private organisations are among the most active participants in these initiatives, especially compared to their size and population –62% (186 initiatives) have participation from at least one Nordic country. This confirms a strong and steadily increasing commitment to ICIs by Nordics, in light of a previous study from 2017. While the diversity among the cooperative initiatives remains wide – related to type, sector, scale and relevance – and challenges concerning transparency and overall MRV persist for many of the initiatives, jointly they represent major potential for accelerated climate action. The future potential impacts and results so far of the ICIs is assessed in this report in a quantitative and qualitative manner, in terms of mitigation, adaptation and Means of Implementation (MoI) impacts.

Impacts of the ICIs range from reducing up to gigatons of greenhouse gas emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>e) to enhancing resiliency to climate change, and providing technical, financial and capacity building support to developing countries. Naturally, these initiatives often link with and/or contribute to many other of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in addition to the SDG 13 on climate action.

The analysis of Nordic value added done in the study helped filter out seven initiatives with particular interest from a Nordic perspective, covering both adaptation, mitigation as well as MoI initiatives, with major upscaling potentials. These initiatives are recommended for further Nordic support and include:

- Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP)
- InsuResilience Global Partnership
- Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN)
- Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi)
- Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI)
- The New York Declaration on Forests
- Under2 Coalition

Overall Nordic partners are well respected and appreciated members in the ICI initiatives. While stronger and well targeted Nordic involvement could help improve the effectiveness and impacts of selected ICIs, it can also provide insights and boost more ambitious climate action within Nordic countries and through major Nordic businesses. In light of the global connectedness, also enshrined in the SDGs, accelerated climate action must harness any and all synergies between climate and SDG action, as well as optimally tackle all value chains and markets.

# Sammanfattning

Agendan för global klimataktion (The Global Climate Action Agenda, GCAA) omfattar en stor mängd samarbetsinitiativ mellan regeringar, städer, företag, investerare, NGOer och medborgare. De icke-statliga initiativen har som avsikt att tillsammans påskynda klimatåtgärder och minska klyftan mellan målen och åtgärderna. Enligt den mellanstatliga panelen för klimatförändringar IPCC medför redan en uppvärmning på 1,5 grader betydande risker för ekosystemen och samhällena och riskerna närapå fördubblas om temperaturen stiger ytterligare en halv grad.

Rapporten identifierar totalt cirka 300 internationella samarbetsinitiativ (ICIs). Nordiska aktörer från offentlig och privat sektor har aktivt deltagit i initiativen och över 60 % av initiativen inkluderar nordiska partner. Initiativen är spridda både gällande typ av initiativ, sektor, storlek och relevans och många utmaningar existerar fortfarande i förhållande till transparens och rapportering av resultat. Tillsammans utgör de ändå en ytterst viktig potential att accelerera klimatspecifika åtgärder internationellt. Rapporten analyserar resultaten från aktiva initiativ och bedömer deras potential i form av minskning av utsläpp, förstärkt klimatresiliens och kapacitet.

Initiativen har potential att minska utsläppen med flera gigaton (CO<sub>2</sub>e), förstärka motståndskraften och anpassningsförmågan till klimatförändringens effekter samt bidra till förbättrad kapacitet och ökad klimatfinansiering för utvecklingsländerna.

Analysen av det potentiella mervärde som nordiska aktörer kan bidra med lyfter fram sju initiativ av särskilt nordiskt intresse. Initiativen som rekommenderas för ytterligare nordiska satsningar inkluderar:

- Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP)
- InsuResilience Global Partnership
- Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN)
- Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi)
- Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI)
- The New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF)
- Under2 Coalition

I helhet är de nordiska aktörerna respekterade och uppskattade partner i internationella samarbetsinitiativ. Medan ökat nordiskt deltagande kan förstärka initiativens effekt globalt, kan det samtidigt bidra till accelererade klimatåtgärder samt mer klimatenliga investeringar även i de nordiska länderna. Med tanke på en framgångsrik implementering av klimatavtalet från Paris och Agenda 2030 är det ytterst viktigt att förstå hur målsättningarna förhåller sig till varandra samt kunna utnyttja alla relevanta synergier mellan målen.

# 1. Background

Reaching the Paris Agreement targets – limiting the global temperature rise and strengthening the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change – requires global action by all parts of society, not only governments. The Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA) was launched at the Marrakech climate conference (COP 22) in 2016 to further boost cooperative action between governments, cities, business, investors, non-governmental organisations and citizens to achieve rapid and effective mitigation and adaptation action. The GCAA builds on the 2014 Lima-Paris Action Agenda, which brought together a large number of non-state actors in support of the Paris Agreement, and demonstrated that the world is already taking climate action, well before 2020 and on many levels of society.

The Emission Gap Report 2018 describes how climate initiatives and actions from non-state actors have proliferated greatly over the last couple of decades, and are showing no signs of decreasing in importance – on the contrary. Non-state climate initiatives are a key means to bridge the emissions gap, which under current fully-implemented unconditional Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) is approximately 32 Gigatons by 2030, assuming we aim to limit the temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels<sup>1</sup>.

Voluntary climate initiatives that have more than one participant from more than one country, are called international cooperative initiatives (ICIs). They are multi-stakeholder and also often multi-sectoral partnerships for addressing climate change. The number of cooperative initiatives has increased quickly, amounting in 2019 to approximately 300 initiatives globally<sup>2</sup>. In addition to the ICIs there is a wealth of individual actions by cities, businesses and non-governmental organisations. However, this report concentrates on the ICIs, noting that cooperative action engaging multiple participants, often on a global scale, generally represent higher mitigation and/or adaptation impact potentials.

Impacts of the ICIs range from reducing up to gigatons of greenhouse gas emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>e) to enhancing resiliency to climate change, and providing technical, financial and capacity building support to developing countries. Naturally, these initiatives often link with and/or contribute to many other of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in addition to the SDG 13 on climate action.



Now that the GCAA has been active for several years, the analysis of impacts and progress towards the goals of the cooperative initiatives is getting more traction as an emerging topic. This is also taken on by the most significant initiative portals; the Climate Initiatives Platform (CIP)<sup>3</sup> hosted by UN Environment and initiated by the Nordic Council of Ministers, and the NAZCA portal<sup>4</sup> hosted by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Both of the portals have during 2018 added information sections on the initiatives' quantitative and qualitative impacts. However, this data is not yet available or filled for most of the initiatives. For example, the CIP portal has created an Impact-Monitoring Framework for the ICIs, and has collected impact and progress data through surveys. In the 2018 survey, answers were received from 58 initiatives, which means that almost 200 initiatives did not report their impact and progress data through the survey<sup>5</sup>. In order to provide and collect further information in this emerging field, this report gathers data from multiple sources, including interviews, to better understand the impacts of these initiatives.

### **1.1 The Nordic countries and the Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA)**

Nordic countries are key actors in the Global Climate Action Agenda, and have a significantly larger global role than their size and population (27 million in total). A previous Nordic study<sup>6</sup>, which assessed Nordic participation in the GCAA initiatives, found out that in 2017 already 61.4% of the initiatives globally had some participation<sup>7</sup> from the Nordic countries. Also, the Nordic participation has been well balanced across sectors and themes.

In January 2019, the Nordic countries agreed on a joint Declaration on Nordic Carbon Neutrality, which encourages Nordic companies, investors, local governments, cities, organisations and consumers to step up their efforts towards carbon neutrality. Specific fields of Nordic cooperation mentioned in the declaration include e.g. promoting transformations towards renewable energy, promoting carbon pricing and the fossil fuel subsidy reform, decarbonizing the transport sector, and enabling green financing from various sources. In addition, the Nordic countries agreed on promoting the use of sustainably produced wood, contributing to further development and deployment of carbon capture and storage and utilization, maintaining or enhancing biological carbon sinks, and providing incentives to maintain and increase global carbon sinks<sup>8</sup>. The GCAA initiatives globally provide significant opportunities to promote and implement these Nordic priority themes.

## 1.2 Objective and approach of the study

It is clear that the GCAA provides an important opportunity for accelerating climate action and help reaching the goals of the Paris Agreement. Hence, it is timely to deepen and update the previous Nordic analysis, in order to support strategic Nordic thinking and decision making about which initiatives to support, and how to ensure that the initiatives deliver on their promises.

For the purposes of this study, an extensive database of 300 cooperative initiatives was created. The main information sources for the database are the CIP and the NAZCA portals, but also other dozens of cooperative initiatives not included in these portals have been included. The database contains information on the initiatives' participants, sectors, goals, activities, results and impacts, where information is available from public sources.

Our analysis shows that 133 of the ICIs have a unique focus on climate change mitigation, 6 on adaptation and 8 on Means of Implementation (finance, technology transfer, capacity building; Mol). Many ICIs have more than one focus, combining for example mitigation and Mol goals. 34 ICIs (~11%) focus on all three categories: mitigation, adaptation and Mol. Chapter 2 provides a concise overview of the total portfolio of initiatives reviewed.

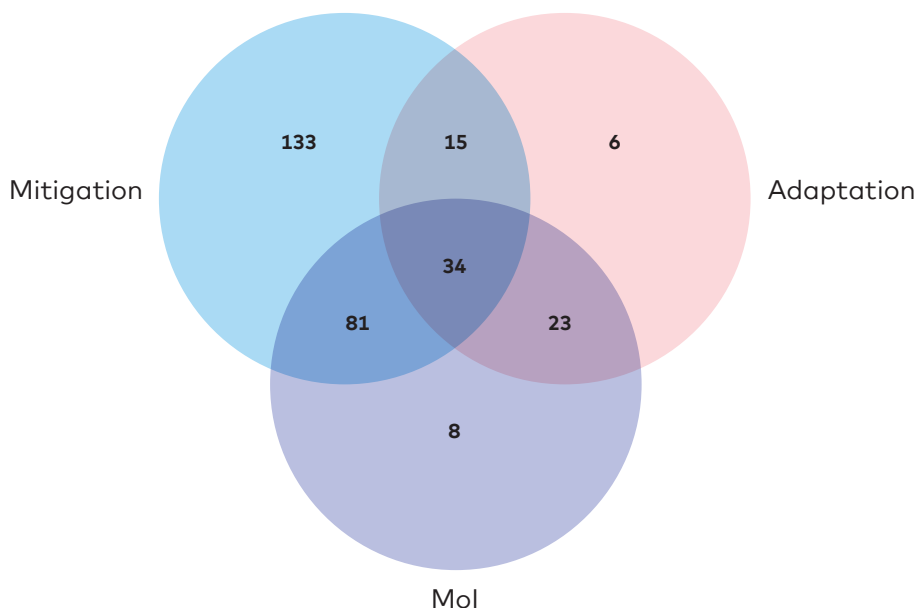


Figure 1. Overlap of International Cooperative Initiatives by category (Mitigation, Adaptation and Means of Implementation, Mol).

In order to be able to study the impacts of the ICIs in more detail, the 300 initiatives were filtered twice to find out the most relevant initiatives for Nordic support, and how the Nordic countries should support these initiatives. The stepwise filtering made use of criteria linked to relevance, scale, transparency (first filtering), and subsequently scrutinized the initiatives linked to Nordic value-added (second filtering), allowing a more detailed analysis of 36 initiatives. These selected 36 initiatives are listed in Chapter 3, with a summary of their key impacts, and progress towards the goals, to the extent information is available. Finally, 7 initiatives were selected for case studies, which are presented in Chapter 4. For the case studies, the lead organizations of the initiatives were interviewed to obtain more in-depth data, in particular related to ownership, vision and the Nordic value-added perspective.

The Nordic focus areas covered by the analysis (e.g. in Chapter 2.1) include sustainable cities, developing countries, bio-economy, agriculture, finance, transparency, circular economy and gender. The Nordic focus areas and priority sectors are explained in the previous Nordic GCAA publication from 2017<sup>9</sup>, and the same focus areas and sectors are used in this study for comparability purposes. In Chapter 3.4, an analysis of the potential links of the ICIs with the SDGs is presented.

#### **First filtering: Relevance, scale and transparency**

From the 300 initiatives, the first filtering was done according to the relevance, scale and transparency of the ICIs. We first applied the transparency filter, which consisted in checking whether the initiative is active and provided updates and/or tracks their activities, and progress towards goals. We excluded initiatives when no information was available, except for initiatives that have only been initiated recently, and are thus not yet in a position to give updates. In a second step, we applied a relevance filter, i.e. we checked if the initiative has high relevance for the implementation of NDCs and/or the Paris Agreement, and if it is of relevance to the Nordic countries (e.g. if it applies to Nordic focus areas). We also checked whether initiatives (or their goals) are already included in other, bigger initiatives or have been superseded, in which case we also excluded them. The last filter we applied was scale, which consisted in checking whether the initiative has a potentially significant impact on emissions and/or upscaling potential (e.g. significantly increasing their membership or expanding to other regions). The initiatives that did not fulfil these criteria were excluded. The first filtering resulted in a list of 62 initiatives, for which a more in-depth checking of their results and impacts was done.

#### **Second filtering: Nordic value added and impacts**

From the 62 ICIs with most relevance, scale and transparency, we filtered the initiatives down to 36 ICIs with most Nordic value added and most impacts towards climate change mitigation, adaptation or MoI. The second filtering considered e.g. the goals and results of the initiatives, concrete measures for reaching the goals, and if there is clear ownership and capacity in the lead organisation of the initiative.

## 2. The evolution and status of Nordic participation

### 2.1 Key trends 2017–2019

Most ICIs are related to climate change mitigation, which is the key area for meeting the Paris Agreement emission reduction and temperature goals. Compared to the previous Nordic GCAA study<sup>10</sup>, mitigation related initiatives have become more numerous, from 144 initiatives in 2017 to 263 in early 2019<sup>11</sup>. In particular the number of adaptation related initiatives has increased considerably, growing from 26 in 2017 to 78 in 2019, an increase of factor 3. The number of Mol related initiatives has grown from 50 to 146 over the same time.

Nordic countries are well represented across all ICIs and their participation continues to be similar across all categories (63% for mitigation, 59% for adaptation and 61% for Mol) (Figure 2). Many of the initiatives have been classified in more than one category (not shown in Figure 2). The overlaps between categories of initiatives that have Nordic participation are shown separately in Figure 3.

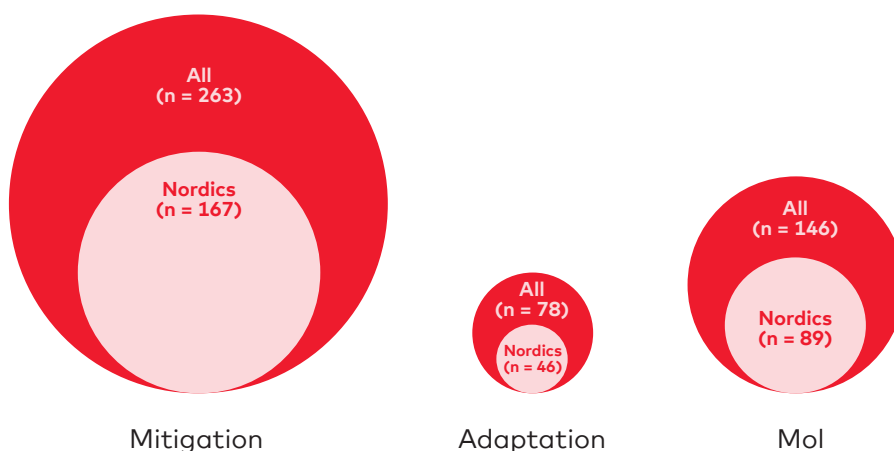


Figure 2. Cooperative initiatives by category, and the share of initiatives with Nordic participation in each category (initiatives for more than one theme are counted more than once).

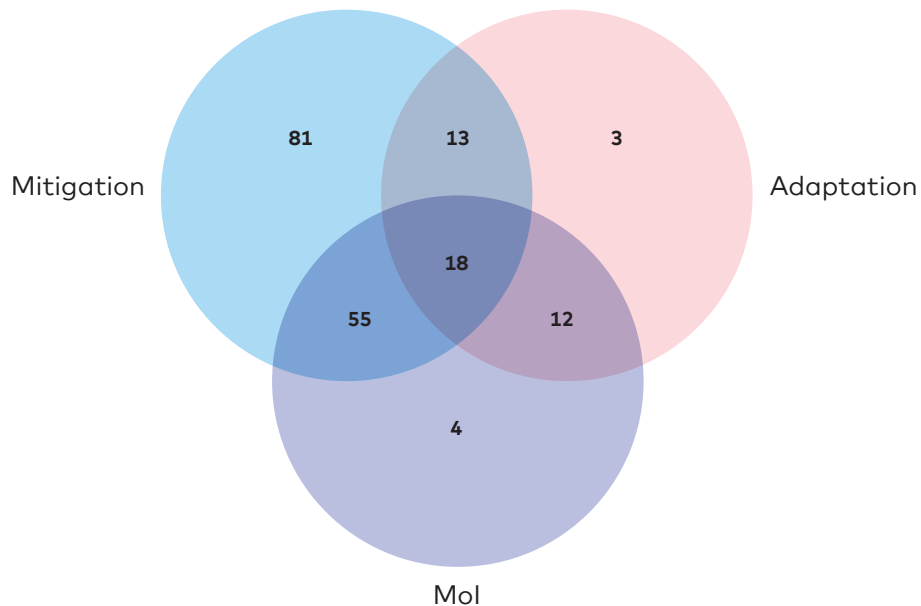


Figure 3. Overlaps between the three categories for initiatives with Nordic participation.

## 2.2 Key features of Nordic participation in 2019

Initiatives are spread across all sectors. The emphasis continues to be on the energy and transport sectors, which are key sectors to meeting the Paris Agreement goals. However, energy efficiency and urban/buildings related initiatives have become more numerous, both counting more than 80 initiatives each<sup>12</sup>. Overall, all sectors now count more initiatives, although there are still very few water and waste related initiatives compared to the other sectors.

Figure 4 shows that Nordic countries participate in a majority of initiatives across all sectors (no change from the last study). Thematically, Nordic countries participate in more than half of all initiatives relating to their priority themes (as listed in the Nordic GCAA study<sup>13</sup>). Participation continues to be especially high in initiatives focusing on gender and circular economy (Figure 5). At the same time, there are still very few initiatives that focus on those two topics.

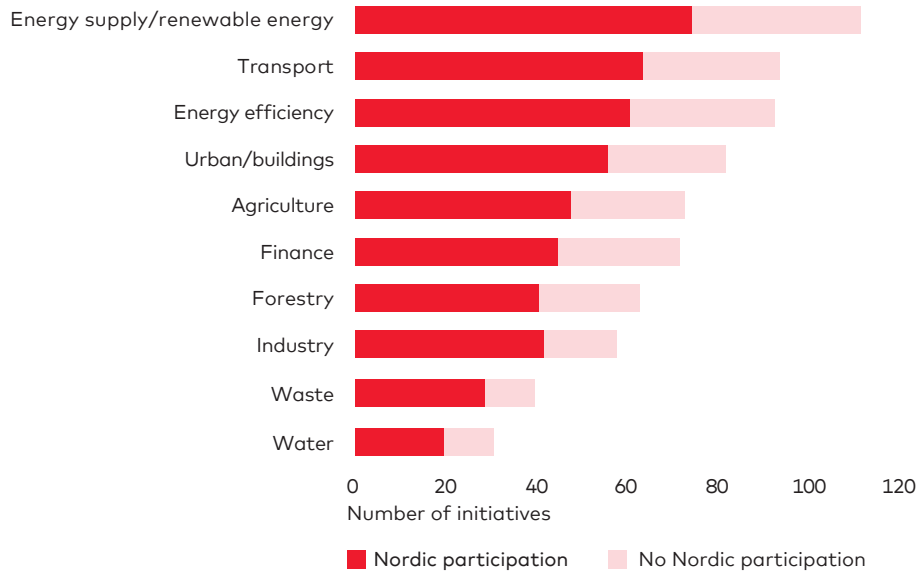


Figure 4. Cooperative initiatives by sector (All / with Nordic participation).  
 Note: some initiatives have been classified into more than one sector.

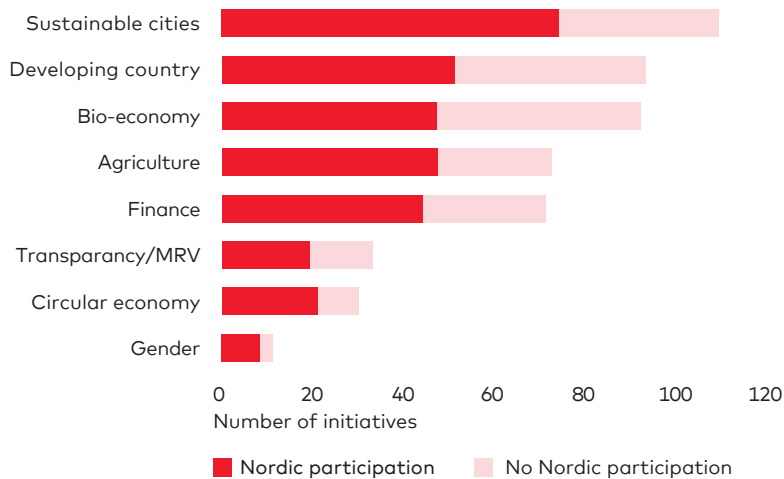


Figure 5. Cooperative initiatives by Nordic focus theme (All / with Nordic participation).  
 Note: some initiatives have more than one Nordic focus theme.

The Nordic countries continue to be very active participants in the cooperative initiatives globally – noting that 62% (186 initiatives) have participation from at least one Nordic country (compared to 61.4% in 2017). Comparing e.g. the total global population to the Nordic population, it is clear that Nordic countries continue to have a very strong representation and role in the global climate action agenda.

Nordic countries and Nordic non-state and subnational actors are active participants in many initiatives, yet only very few initiatives are also led by Nordic countries. Considering only initiatives that are directly led by Nordic countries, Denmark is the most active Nordic country in leading ICIs (also hosting a number of UN agencies), followed by Sweden.

Nordic participation in the 300 initiatives is mapped below in Figure 6, which shows participating entity types (national governments, cities, businesses, etc.) from each Nordic country, with the most participations marked in the darkest shade. Participation by type is mapped only once – for example, if one of more companies from the same Nordic country participate in a given initiative, this is counted as one participation.

Figure 6 shows that businesses is the largest participating type in Finland, Sweden and Denmark, confirming the results from 2017. Similarly, in Norway, the government continues to be the most active participator and in Iceland, ICI participants continue to be mostly cities. Participation from all actors has increased considerably, reflecting the overall growth of initiatives. The participation from Nordic financial institutions has been mapped for the first time this year and is still very low, despite several Nordic stakeholders showing leadership in greening the financial system.

n =	Finland	Sweden	Norway	Denmark	Iceland
<b>Governments</b>	31	45	54	36	7
<b>Gov. bodies</b>	11	16	15	9	2
<b>Financial institutions</b>	7	9	8	6	0
<b>Cities</b>	20	28	23	33	7
<b>Regions</b>	8	9	10	10	0
<b>International organisations</b>	2	3	1	4	1
<b>Non-profit</b>	9	11	12	8	1
<b>Business</b>	43	57	47	47	4
<b>Research and education</b>	11	14	16	14	0

Figure 6: Heatmap of Nordic participant types in International Cooperative Initiatives.

## 3. Impacts of selected initiatives

The ICIs covered by this analysis differ greatly regarding the information they publish on their goals and results, and how they assess and disclose their climate impacts. For some of the initiatives, very specific quantitative and qualitative information can be found on their impacts (including credible theories of change). However, in many cases the only quantification in publicly available information is the number of participants in the cooperative initiative. To create significant impacts, the initiatives need to entail concrete measures and actions. The leading organisation of the ICI also needs to be actively involved in its implementation, have strong ownership and capacity to coordinate the action.

Several of the 300 initiatives covered by this report remain at the levels of a mere declaration or statement, with no concrete measures. These were not selected for further analysis. Below the impacts on the ICIs that passed the 2nd filtering, are described regarding their impacts on mitigation, adaptation and Means of Implementation.

### 3.1 Mitigation

Many of the initiatives (30 out of 36) that passed the second filtering, and which have a specific mitigation focus, allow us to either calculate or report their estimated emission reduction potential. Out of those initiatives that provide quantitative information about their potential impact themselves (13), very few are transparent on how they calculate such impact. In addition to emissions reduction impacts, some sector specific initiatives (e.g. renewable energy or forestry related initiatives), provide also impacts on sector-specific indicators, for example added renewable energy capacity or hectares of forest land restored.

Overall, there is still little information available regarding actual progress towards the stated goals. Many initiatives only provide a regular update of their membership, but do not track or disclose information regarding the progress in reaching their emission reduction potential.



Table 1: Mitigation impact potential of selected ICIs by 2030 and the progress so far towards their goals.

Name of the initiative	Mitigation Impact by 2030 <sup>14</sup> (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>15</sup>
Africa Renewable Energy Initiative	0.4 - 0.8 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr	55 members in 2018
African Clean Energy Corridor	0.31 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr <sup>16</sup>	81 members in 2018
African Forest Landscape Restoration (AFR100)	100 Mha of forest restored <sup>17</sup>	28 committed countries with 113Mha pledged <sup>18</sup>
BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL)	0.25 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr <sup>19</sup>	9 members in 2018
C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40)	0.8 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr	92 megacities in 2018
Carbon Neutrality Coalition	No quantification possible	19 countries & 32 cities in March 2019 <sup>20</sup>
CCAC: Climate and Clean Air Coalition (Main)	3.8 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr	145 members in 2018
CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS)	0.16 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr by 2022 <sup>21</sup>	700 members in 2018
Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform	Reduce global emissions by 1-11% by 2020-2030 <sup>22</sup> (several GtCO <sub>2</sub> e potential)	Between 2015-2017 over 40 countries have implemented some sort of FFSR <sup>23</sup>
Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM)	1.3 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr	Of ~9100 committed cities, ~6000 have established a strategic climate action plan. Collectively, data shows that 1,818 cities have reduced emissions by 20% (or 0.43 Gt) from their highest points of reported emissions <sup>24</sup>
Implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate related Financial Disclosures	No quantification possible	580 supporters in February 2019 <sup>25</sup>
International Zero-Emission Vehicle Alliance (ZEV Alliance)	0.125 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr <sup>26</sup>	14 members in 2018
Lean and Green	0.05 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr <sup>27</sup>	400 members in 2018

Name of the initiative	Mitigation Impact by 2030 <sup>14</sup> (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>15</sup>
Municipal Solid Waste Initiative (CCAC MSWI)	No quantification possible	37 members in 2018
New Vision for Agriculture	No quantification possible	35 members in 2018
Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCat)	2.5 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr (by 2050) <sup>28</sup>	Over 90 members in 2018, several project activities ongoing
Powering past coal alliance	0.5 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr <sup>29</sup>	80 members, including 30 national governments, 22 subnational governments and 28 businesses <sup>30</sup>
Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN)	Projects in the PFAN pipeline represent a 40 Mt CO <sub>2</sub> e/year emission reduction potential <sup>31</sup>	Over 110 projects have reached financial closure and over US\$ 1.4 billion of investment raised. Annual emission reduction potential over 3 million tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e and generation capacity of over 900 MW <sup>32</sup>
RE100	1.7 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr	166 RE100 companies have made a commitment to go '100% renewable' <sup>33</sup>
Responsible Care	2.5 – 3 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr <sup>34</sup>	3 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr, 34% reduction in GHG emissions since 2006 <sup>35</sup>
Save Food Initiative (Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction)	Up to 4.4 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr <sup>36</sup>	Ongoing implementation support. FAO's Ex-Ante Carbon-balance Tool (EX-ACT) has been implemented
Science Based Targets initiative	2 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr	534 companies taking science-based climate action and 186 companies with approved science-based targets <sup>37</sup>
Sustainable Mobility for All (SUM4ALL)	3-6 Gt CO <sub>2</sub> e by 2050 <sup>38</sup>	55 endorsers since start of the initiative in 2017 <sup>39</sup>
The 30X30 Forests, Food and Land Challenge	1 Gt CO <sub>2</sub> e/yr <sup>40</sup>	Initiative only initiated in 2018, therefore no progress report yet

Name of the initiative	Mitigation Impact by 2030 <sup>14</sup> (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>15</sup>
The New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF)	Restoration goal: 1.6 – 3.4 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr  Deforestation goal: 2.2 – 4.1 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e	Good progress on restoration goals (12.9 Mha in new pledges added, total area: 168.9 Mha), a sample shows that ~40% of pledged area is actively under restoration;  Little progress on deforestation goal (except for Indonesia) <sup>41</sup>
Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI)	0.4 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr by modal shift <sup>42</sup>  Longer-term goal of reaching 1 Gt <sup>43</sup>	10 pilot projects so far: 4 Mt CO <sub>2</sub> e/yr emission reduction, moving 2500 people with more sustainable modalities <sup>44</sup>
Under2 Coalition (Under2 MOU)	4.9-5.2 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr	120 signatory governments disclosing information on emissions reductions and targets (Average signatories' target decarbonisation rate: 6.2%/yr compared to a required 6.4% needed to stay within the 2C carbon budget) <sup>45</sup>
UNEP Finance Initiative	No quantification possible	Since 2005, trained 5,500 professionals in sustainable finance <sup>46</sup>
United for Efficiency	1.3 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr	66 Partner Countries, 40 in-country strategic lighting and appliance projects, \$ 27.5 Billion in annual economic savings and 0.14 GtCO <sub>2</sub> e CO <sub>2</sub> savings secured
We Mean Business	No quantification possible (umbrella initiative)	The number of participating companies has risen to ~900 with over 1,400 commitments made since 2015 <sup>47</sup>

### 3.2 Adaptation

Sixteen initiatives that passed the second filtering express either qualitative or quantitative goals in terms of climate change adaptation. The variety of adaptation measures of the initiatives is wide. Most of the initiatives target directly or indirectly the strengthening of resilience and reducing climate risks of communities, cities and rural livelihoods. Several of the initiatives aim at creating more resilient infrastructures, employing early warning systems and response mechanisms together with insurance schemes and cost-effective disaster recovery. There are also initiatives with goals regarding protection and restoration of forests, creating sustainable mobility, improving food systems (reducing food loss and waste) and food and nutrition security. While all of these adaptation relevant initiatives recognize multiple linkages with other SDGs, few disclose explicit in-depth analysis of these (synergies and/or trade-offs).

As for mitigation initiatives, the reporting practices vary greatly in terms of scope, depth and detail. A little over half of these initiatives report numeric progress towards achieving their goals. Only few quantify the number of beneficiaries (people or communities) reached, or finance raised and disbursed for adaptation purposes. Depending on the goals, the progress might also be reported in the number of participants (organizations, countries, communities) committing to the initiative. Each filtered initiative, however, reports in some terms its main achievements or deliverables.

Table 2: Adaptation impact potential of selected ICIs by 2030 and the progress so far towards their goals<sup>48</sup>.

Name of the initiative	Adaptation Impact by 2030 (goal)	Progress towards the goals
Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme	10 million of poor smallholder household members supported in coping with the effects of climate change <sup>49</sup>	2 million people's climate resilience increased, 130.000 hectares of land under climate resilient practices, over 5,500 community groups engaged, over US\$300 million in climate finance directed to smallholder farmers <sup>50</sup>
African Forest landscape Restoration (AFR100)	100 million hectares of deforested and degraded lands in Africa restored by 2030.	28 committed countries with 113 million hectares pledged for restoration
BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL)	Livelihood opportunities for communities	Over 1600 people trained on sustainable land use. 120 million hectares land area covered
C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40)	Reduced risks associated with climate change for 90+ megacities with 650+ million people	Not specified regarding adaptation

Name of the initiative	Adaptation Impact by 2030 (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>45</sup>
Carbon Neutrality Coalition	Agreed to develop long-term, low-emissions, climate-resilient development strategies by 2020	No concrete impacts, as plans not developed yet
CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS)	9 million people assisted to exit poverty, of which 50% women; 1 million more people with improved food and nutrition security for health	Improved variety and resilience of rural livelihoods, increased incomes and employment together with enhanced smallholder market access
Food Security Climate Resilience Facility	Triggers action based on climate forecasts, to reinforce community resilience before shocks occur; complements early response mechanisms. Goals not quantified	Currently piloting in 2 (Zimbabwe and Guatemala) out of the planned 5 countries
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery	Strengthening hydromet services and early warning systems; Promoting resilient infrastructure; Scaling up the resilience of cities; Building resilience at community level	In 2018 an active portfolio of 252 million USD, 50% of grants support resilient infrastructure (schools, transport, water, energy). 50% of grant activities have communities as beneficiaries. In FY18, grants supported 112 countries in the improvement of early warning and monitoring systems. 28% of FY18 funding supported urban resilience activities in 156 cities in 76 countries. 72% of newly-approved grants are gender informed
Global Resilience Partnership	Strive to improve resilience at multiple scales: from families to communities, countries to regions	Held a competition called Global Resilience Challenge, and gave 10 M\$ to 10 winners (1 M\$ each) in the Sahel, the Horn of Africa and South East Asia. Upcoming challenges are Water window challenge and Innovation challenge
InsuResilience Global Partnership	Strengthen the resilience of developing countries and to protect the lives and livelihoods of poor and vulnerable people from the impacts of disasters. Immediate target of insuring 400 million people by 2020 through direct or indirect insurance <sup>51</sup>	By 2018 the partnership had reached 33.2 million beneficiaries with substantial payouts being paid out to member countries hit by natural disasters <sup>52</sup>

Name of the initiative	Adaptation Impact by 2030 (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>15</sup>
R4 Rural Resilience Initiative	Help communities be more resilient to climate variability and to strengthen farmers' food and income security. Goal is to attain 500,000 insured farmers by 2020 by giving poor farmers and rural households the option to pay for insurance by contributing their time and labour to local climate adaptation measures	In 2018 the initiative is implemented in Ethiopia, Senegal, Malawi, Zambia, Kenya and Zimbabwe reaching over 60,000 farmers, of which, 52 percent are women (benefitting around 300,000 people)
Save Food initiative	Reduce global food loss and waste towards ensuring more productive, resilient and low-emission food systems. Through the SAVE FOOD Initiative FAO supports its member countries towards delivering on SDG 12.3 and efforts to achieve regional objectives	Value Chain tool and the G20 Technical Platform on the measurement and reduction of food loss and waste has been launched (FAO in collaboration with IFPRI)
Sustainable Mobility for All (SUM4ALL)	Ensuring the access to good-quality mobility for all, allowing people and goods to move from A to quickly and seamlessly, halving the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents and lowering the environmental footprint of the sector to combat climate change and pollution	Measuring countries' performance against sustainable mobility targets and tracking global progress towards sustainable mobility through the Global Tracking Framework platform providing indicators and data
Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI)	Supporting its partner cities in building resilient services and infrastructures	Produces knowledge documents to enhance adaptation and resilience in urban mobility in developing and emerging countries
UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP-FI)	New risks – transition-, physical, and liability-risks – need to be understood, identified, assessed, managed, and eventually disclosed on, by institutions across financial industries	Has produced several knowledge documents for the financial industry, e.g. on "Assessing credit risk and opportunity in a changing climate" and "Demystifying adaptation finance for the private sector"

### 3.3 Means of implementation

Twenty-three initiatives that passed the second filtering express either qualitative or quantitative goals in terms of means of implementation of climate change action. All the key elements of means of implementation – finance, technology development and transfer and capacity building are present in the initiatives selected. The initiatives cover many sectors such as agriculture, forestry, mobility, logistics and food waste to name a few. Many of them strive to strengthen the resilience of communities, infrastructure and rural livelihoods together with disaster reduction and recovery. Some of them have a more technical approach focusing for example on the phasing out fossil fuel subsidies, building up carbon accounting, reporting of climate-related financial information, promoting economically viable and environmentally beneficial projects and private sector action as well as extending insurance protection for natural disasters to poor.

Twelve of the initiatives report on progress of reaching financial goals in terms of money raised, allocated and/or disbursed. Some initiatives report on the number of people, cities, countries or regions adhering or benefitting from the initiative, for example in terms of people trained or accessing tools and services of the initiative and countries with improved capacity. A few initiatives also report on the strengthened resilience of infrastructure or savings gained through the initiative. Two of these initiatives do not yet report on progress nor achievements, while presenting major potential but being too recent to report progress.

Table 3: Mol impact potential of selected ICIs and the progress so far towards their goals<sup>53</sup>.

Name of the initiative	Mol Impact by 2030 (goal)	Progress towards the goals
Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme	Targets to leverage US\$100 million from private sector entities to support climate change adaptation and mitigation actions, with a 1:4 leverage ratio of ASAP grants versus non-ASAP financing	In 2018 80 million USD disbursed and 292.6 million USD channeled to at least eight million smallholder farmers. 42 ASAP grants for 41 countries totaled 292.6 million USD in May 2018. ASAP has also enabled numerous local and country dialogues on climate resilient agriculture, improving climate change mainstreaming in policies

Name of the initiative	MoI Impact by 2030 (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>15</sup>
African Forest landscape Restoration (AFR100)	AFR100 partners have set forth an ambition of over one billion dollars of grants and loan financing. In addition to new financing a coalition of partners provides technical assistance on a wide range of activities, including the mapping of restoration opportunities, securing further financing, and providing catalytic support for the implementation of restoration efforts on the ground	1 billion \$ in development finance (World Bank's institutional investment in 14 African countries by 2030) and 481 million \$ in private sector commitment has been earmarked
BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL)	World Bank Group's pioneer in carbon and land use funds targets to set a comprehensive landscape carbon accounting approach as the basis for purchasing emission reductions	Biocarbon Fund's fund capital totals 350 million USD. 56 million USD worth of grants have been committed and 87 million USD has been leveraged from the public sector to finance ISFL programs together with 4.6 million USD leveraged through partnerships with the private sector
CCAC: Climate and Clean Air Coalition (Main)	514.4 mln USD potential savings from specific opportunities for recovering high value liquids in the oil and gas sector	In 2016-2017 CCAG totaled 6.5 million USD of co-funding and 700k of catalyzed funding
Food Security Climate Resilience Facility	To provide multi-year financing to deliver high-quality resilience-building activities are undertaken during post-disaster recovery operations	No information on financing. Partners include: 50 countries, 16 International Organizations and International Finance Institutions, 45 NGOs (and many additional private sector entities and cities)
Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform	Rationalize and phase out over the medium-term inefficient fossil fuel subsidies moving from policy dialogue into concrete roadmaps and guidance/support for action	In 2015-2017 at least 40 countries implemented some sort of FFSR. India and Indonesia each saved 15 bn USD in 2014-15 with the help of FFSR



Name of the initiative	Mol Impact by 2030 (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>15</sup>
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery	To advance and scale up coordinated financial and technical assistance to disaster prone countries	<p>In 2018 the facility has an active portfolio of 252 million USD, supporting 394 activities and 136 countries, and it has leveraged 4,3 billion USD of additional finance. In FY18 139 new grants and commitments totaling \$53 million were approved</p> <p>Reporting 118 countries with improved government institutional capacity in disaster and climate risk-informed policy design and analysis</p> <p>40,000 users accessed the ThinkHazard tool in 2018</p>
Global Resilience Partnership	To improve resilience at multiple levels by identifying gaps, catalyzing alliances, enabling learning, advance datadriven analytics and measurements and designing flexible financial mechanisms, such as micro-finance and risk insurance	In 2017 raised 150 million USD and disbursed 100 million USD
Implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate related Financial Disclosures	Implementing the recommendations of the TCFD for reporting climate-related financial information in mainstream reports (annual financial filings) as fully as practicable over the next three years	No information yet available
InsuResilience Global Partnership	To increase the number of poor and vulnerable people in developing countries benefiting from direct or indirect insurance by up to 400 million by 2020	In 2018 the partnership has 60 members and it is supporting 25 programs that will be active in 78 countries by 2020. Through three regional risk pools in the Caribbean and Central America, Africa, and the Pacific it has provided substantial payouts in some of their member countries hit by natural disasters in the past year

Name of the initiative	Mol Impact by 2030 (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>15</sup>
International Zero-Emission Vehicle Alliance (ZEV Alliance)	To accelerate the adoption of zero-emission vehicles (electric, plug-in hybrid, and fuel cell vehicles)	The ZEV Alliance's 14 governments have sustained and expanded many dozens of ZEV support policies throughout 2016, including new and continued ZEV consumer incentives, continued regulatory support for ZEV deployment, increased ZEV electric charging and hydrogen refueling infrastructure deployment, increased activities to promote electric power utility support for ZEVs, and increased public ZEV public education and awareness
Lean and Green	Aiming to have Lean and Green made into the standard in logistics chains and mobility in countries where frontrunners are active	Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany started their own Lean and Green programmes, in cooperation with Connekt  Awards for businesses that have validated plan of action for reaching the first reduction target: a minimum of 20% CO <sub>2</sub> -reduction within 5 years
Municipal Solid Waste Initiative (CCAC MSWI)	Help 1,000 cities develop robust waste management systems by 2020	\$6.34 million allocated by August 2018.  Since COP21 the initiative has provided technical assistance to Nairobi, Kenya, on their upcoming solid waste source-segregation program  Held a regional workshop for 15 Latin American cities offering them training to use the multiple tools it has created to enable cities to assess current practices and identify suitable solutions

Name of the initiative	Mol Impact by 2030 (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>45</sup>
New Vision for Agriculture	To support countries in realizing their agriculture-sector goals by aligning investments, programmes and innovations around shared priorities for agricultural growth	<p>Mobilized over 10.5 billion USD in investment commitments, of which 2.5 billion USD has been implemented, reaching over 10 million smallholder farmers to date</p> <p>In 2017, the NVA is committed to supporting and deepening multi-stakeholder action in India and in Latin America</p>
Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN)	Projects in the PFAN pipeline represent a 40 Mt CO <sub>2</sub> e/year emission reduction potential, with an estimated potential to leverage US\$7 bn <sup>54</sup>	Almost 650 clean energy and climate adaptation projects have been inducted into the PFAN pipeline, over 110 projects having achieved financial closure with over US\$ 1.4 billion of investment raised, with an increasing focus on adaptation <sup>55</sup>
R4 Rural Resilience Initiative	Goal is to attain 500,000 insured farmers by 2020	<p>2.4 million USD distributed in payouts since 2011 as compensation for weather-related losses.</p> <p>6.6 million USD provided in micro-insurance protection to R4 participants in 2017</p>
Save Food initiative	Supporting project formulation to implement national and regional programmes on food loss and waste reduction; providing technical support to develop national and regional post-harvest policies and subsector strategies; aiming to ensure alignment with national climate change action plans such as the NDCs	Supported regional commitments for reducing food waste, e.g. African Union Malabo Declaration to halve post-harvest losses in Africa by the year 2025 and PLAN SAN CELAC (CELAC- The Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) to halve the amount of per capita food and loss waste by 2030

Name of the initiative	Mol Impact by 2030 (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>45</sup>
Sustainable Mobility for All (SUM4ALL)	One of the main objectives is to add coherence to national, and local transport policy and investment to attracting investment facilitating change. Supporting governments on their paths toward sustainable mobility. Leverage the financing required to implement sustainable mobility policies and investment around the globe	the current state of mobility in the Global Mobility Report 2017 and charting a Global Roadmap of Action toward Sustainable Mobility (GRA), specifying the role of key actors
The 30X30 Forests, Food and Land Challenge	To enable better consumption and production of food and fiber through finance, transparency, public-private collaboration and protecting local rights	The initiative started in 2018, thus no progress reports available
Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI)	Finance: Offers technical and financial support for innovative ideas. Continuing on a 1 billion EUR/year trajectory, but possibility to grow beyond this in the future, if new members (e.g. financial institutions) join.  Capacity building: enable 2000+ leaders in developing countries and emerging economies to create sustainable urban mobility	Support transition towards sustainable urban mobility by mobilizing 1 billion EUR for building and modernizing sustainable urban mobility infrastructure and services, enabling 1500+ urban change makers through capacity building and supporting innovative and transformative sustainable mobility approaches on the ground
UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP-FI)	Targets to green finance world wide through partnership between UNEP and over 200 financial institutions to promote principles of sustainable development at all levels of operations (through capacity building, research, setting global standards, engaging and networking)	Since 2005 trained 5,500 professionals and regular (regional and global) roundtables organized

Name of the initiative	Mol Impact by 2030 (goal)	Progress towards the goals <sup>45</sup>
United for Efficiency	To support 75 developing countries and emerging economies to switch their markets to energy-efficient products accelerating adoption of energy-efficient lighting, appliances and equipment through informing policy makers, identifying and promoting global best practices and offering tailored assistance to governments to develop and implement national and regional strategies and projects	The initiative now accounts 66 partner countries and 40 in-country strategic lighting and appliance projects. Completed 50 country assessments. Showing significant results in lowering emissions and generating economic savings worth 27.5 billion USD annually
We Mean Business	An umbrella initiative coordinating numerous actions targeting an enabling policy environment to support bold private sector actions to cut emissions	The Largest business initiative for reaching Paris Agreement goals with 1200 company members committed

### 3.4 Linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals

Policy coherence and efficiency are critical components in achieving the goals set out in the Paris Agreement – and more broadly the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) globally committed to. The synergies and tradeoffs between preventing climate change and SDGs is highlighted in the 2018 IPCC report’s<sup>56</sup> analysis of climate-resilient development pathways. For that reason, the core analysis presented in previous chapters, is complemented by an initial review of potential linkages between the 36 initiatives selected after the second filtering and the United Nation’s 17 SDGs (Figure 7).

The analysis is based on the SDG Climate Action Nexus Tool (SCAN-tool)<sup>57</sup> that has been designed to provide high-level guidance on how climate actions can impact achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It identifies linkages between sector-specific climate actions and the SDG targets (167 targets under 17 goal dimensions), and the sector and category classification of each of the ICIs used in this analysis<sup>58</sup>.

## Links to Sustainable Development Goals

- Only positive links
- Positive and potentially negative links
- No links



Initiative	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Africa Renewable Energy Initiative	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
African Clean Energy Corridor	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
African Forest landscape Restoration (AFR100)	●	●	●	●	○	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL)	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Carbon Neutrality Coalition	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CCAC: Climate and Clean Air Coalition (Main)	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●
CGIAR Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security*	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Food Security Climate Resilience Facility	●	●	●	○	○	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●
Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery	●	○	●	○	○	○	○	●	○	●	●	○	●	○	○	●	●
Global Resilience Partnership	●	●	●	●	○	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Implementing Recommendations: Task Force on Climate Financial Disclosures*	●	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	●	○	●	●	●	○	○	●	●
InsuResilience Partnership*	●	●	●	●	○	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●
International Zero-Emission Vehicle Alliance (ZEV Alliance)	○	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●
Lean and Green	○	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●
Municipal Solid Waste Initiative (CCAC MSWI)	●	○	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●
New Vision for Agriculture	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCat)	○	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●
Powering past coal alliance	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
R4 Rural Resilience Initiative	●	●	●	●	○	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●
RE100	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Responsible Care	○	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	●
Save Food initiative	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Science Based Targets initiative	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sustainable Mobility for All (SUM4ALL)	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●
The 30X30 Forests, Food and Land Challenge	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
The New York Declaration on Forests	●	●	●	●	○	●	○	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Under 2 MOU = Under 2 Coalition	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP-FI)	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	○	○	●	●	○	○	○	●
United for Efficiency	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
We Mean Business	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Figure 7. Potential links of the 36 International Cooperative Initiatives selected for the second filtering to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals based on the SCAN-tool (Gonzales-Zuñiga et al. 2018) and the initiative's sector and category classification. Note: some initiatives have been classified into more than one sector and category.

\* The initiative's name has been shortened

The analysis shows the *potential* positive and negative linkages. Whether these actually occur, depends on the exact implementation of the initiative's actions. In an ideal case the initiatives' own analysis of their impact on SDSs would have been used, but such information was not available for most of the initiatives.

This review indicates that many potential linkages between international cooperative climate initiatives and SDGs exist, suggesting a high potential for alignment of the global climate action agenda and the SDGs. Synergies outweigh trade-offs for most of the SDGs. In fact, close to half of all interactions identified (46%) by the tool are only positive. This also highlights the opportunity and need to approach implementation of both agendas in an integrated manner. For some SDGs, the linkages are more pronounced. For example, by definition, only positive links exist between SDG13 (climate action) and 17 (partnerships) and each of the initiatives. SDGs 4 (education), 5 (gender equality) and 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) show only few or no linkages to the ICIs which is due to the transversal nature of these SDGs (and which can be difficult to attribute to specific sectors) but are relevant to consider across all sectors when designing or implementing mitigation, adaptation and MoI initiatives.

Lastly, both positive and negative linkages may exist for a number of SDGs, in particular SDGs 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 3 (health), and 7 (affordable and clean energy). SCAN-tool findings<sup>59</sup> show that the introduction of new technologies – such as renewables, nuclear and CCS – aimed at reducing emissions may also have a range of potentially negative impacts on the environment, human health, and job losses in displaced sectors (incl. conventional energy). Other technologies, such as biofuels, may be potentially in conflict with food production. Additional to potential negative linkages stemming from the introduction of new technologies, the way mitigation actions are put in place for consumers and the private sector can also have an impact on the SDGs. *“For example, pricing interventions, if not carefully designed and implemented, carry a high risk of negative impacts relating in particular to affordability.”*<sup>60</sup> Therefore, it may be helpful to take into consideration potential trade-offs between initiatives' goals and the SDGs already at the design and implementation stage so that negative interactions might be avoided at the outset.

Many, if not all of the linkages are ultimately context specific and depend on how exactly the initiatives are implemented. The linkages should eventually be reviewed and amended by the respective initiatives, as part of their project initiation, screening and development processes. However, this initial analysis (based on a sector and category classification of each of the ICIs) serves to highlight the need to recognize these linkages early-on, in order to ensure policy coherence in planning and implementation of climate and SDG compatible interventions.

## 4. Opportunities for Nordic leadership

The Nordic countries and/or Nordic stakeholders are participating in numerous ICIs, among other by showing political leadership, by providing finance, contributing to capacity building and sharing of best practices, and by providing technical support. The analysis confirms that the Nordics are increasingly active in numerous ICIs. The analysis does not provide a basis to suggest that the Nordics should for any particular reason pull out from currently active initiatives.

However, the analysis does identify a number of initiatives with considerable Nordic potential for further value-added. In this chapter, 7 such high-priority initiatives are presented in more detail for further consideration. Some of the initiatives already have some Nordic participants but would benefit from broader and stronger Nordic support. Some of the highlighted initiatives are new, and don't yet have any Nordic participation, but focus on themes, regions and/or stakeholders where Nordics possess particular leadership and/or other capacities that can help mobilize required finance and expertise to reach targeted climate results.

For obtaining more in-depth information on these selected 7 initiatives, initiative specific interviews were conducted in order to further scrutinize the respective initiatives' goals, progress so far, and in particular analyse the potential for Nordic value-added. Also, the synergies and possible overlaps of the selected initiatives with other similar initiatives were analysed.



## 4.1 Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme

**Short description:** The Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP) is IFAD's flag-ship programme for channeling climate and environmental finance to smallholder farmers. ASAP promotes adaptation into IFADs operations by focusing on three guiding principles: Promoting innovations; Scaling up proven adaptive technologies and processes and; Raising climate change awareness taking into account future climate trends. ASAP is a multi-donor trust fund supporting a portfolio of over 40 projects, in Africa, Middle East, Latin America, central and southern Asia that enhance the climate resilience of smallholder farmers.

**Participants:** ASAP is financed by IFAD, the governments of The United Kingdom, Belgium, Canada, Finland, the Rep. of Korea, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the Region of Flanders.

**Lead organisation, years active:** ASAP was launched by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in 2012.

**Relevance, scale and transparency:** Climate change is posing serious additional challenges for the world's over 500 million smallholder farms that provide up to 80 per cent of food in developing countries, manage vast areas of land (farming some 80 per cent of farmland in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia) and make up the largest share of the developing world's undernourished. Strengthening the resilience of smallholder farmers, is in many cases a pathway to particularly strengthen the livelihoods and rights of women, youth and marginalized rural people. ASAP reporting provides regular updates of results, noting also lessons learned and upscaling processes. By 2019 ASAP has reached over 2 million smallholder farmers and directed over US\$300 million in climate finance to the smallholder farmers, with the aim to reach at least another 4 million farmers by 2023.

**Goals and progress towards the goals:** In addition to having reached over 2 million smallholder farmers to help them cope with the effects of climate change, by early 2019 ASAP has helped to bring over 130,000 hectares of land under climate resilient practices, including agroforestry, land restoration and pasture management. In total, over 5,500 community groups have been engaged in natural resource and climate risk management. ASAP has also enabled numerous local and country dialogues on climate resilient agriculture, improving climate change mainstreaming in policies. ASAP has served as the vehicle to bring renewable energy solutions to IFAD projects, helping to disseminate e.g. solar powered irrigation schemes, flexi-biogas units, and solar powered storage and drying facilities. In addition, ASAP has supported the development of early warning systems on climate shocks and contributed to improve the resilience of rural infrastructures against extreme climate events. A recent analysis of 13 ASAP-supported projects estimate the greenhouse gas emission reduction that will be provided through these projects to over 30 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

**Nordic value added:** how are Nordic countries contributing, or should contribute? The objectives ASAP is targeting are fully aligned with Nordic SDG priorities. It focuses on solutions where Nordic expertise can serve to further strengthen the effectiveness and impacts of ASAP, e.g. related to the nexus of climate change and women empowerment, health, nutrition and livelihoods development. Nordic public and private sector actors, together with NGOs can contribute to improve the delivery of innovative, mobile and more user-friendly climate services for smallholder farmers and improving access to distributed renewable energy solutions linking farmers also to more climate smart value chains. Nordic expertise in finance solutions, improving access to credit and insurance as well as engaging private finance for resilience investments can serve as valuable assets to ASAP when upscaling its activities. Also Nordic expertise and experiences in assessing and monitoring adaptation out-comes and impacts, can serve ASAP when assessing its effectiveness and continuously drawing lessons learned.

## 4.2 InsuResilience Global Partnership

**Short description:** The InsuResilience Global Partnership aims to strengthen the resilience of developing countries and to protect the lives and livelihoods of poor and vulnerable people from the impacts of disasters by enabling faster, more reliable and cost-effective responses to disasters. To reach these goals, the Partnership i) seeks to amplify the impact of ongoing initiatives, ii) develop new climate and disaster risk finance and insurance solutions to help meet growing needs in developing countries, and iii) ensure risk financing is well integrated within a broader framework on disaster risk management and humanitarian financing – including in-country macrofiscal systems and national adaptation plans.

**Participants:** The partnership has over 60 members, consisting of governments, international organizations, and partners from the private sector, the world of academia, and civil society. In early 2019 the partnership itself had one Nordic member, Finance Norway (Finans Norge).

**Lead organisation, years active:** The initiative was officially launched at the UN Climate Conference COP23 in 2017 as a collaboration between the G20 and the V20 group of highly vulnerable countries. It builds on the G7 InsuResilience initiative from 2017, that set the target to insure an additional 400 million of vulnerable people against the impacts of climate change and disasters by 2020. The InsuResilience Secretariat (hosted by GIZ) serves as a support unit for the partnership.

**Relevance, scale and transparency:** The partnership is addressing a major need in the current resilience architecture, as it aims to strengthen financial security of poor and vulnerable people, that are disproportionately affected by the harmful impacts of climate change and increasingly frequent natural disasters. Current emission pathways indicate an even greater need for resilience measures noting the latest IPCC Report, stressing that even if global warming were limited to 1.5 °C, the world would still experience substantially greater risks than we are currently prepared to cope with. Despite positive overall global economic growth in past years, the global protection gap remains extremely high (estimated at USD 160+ billion). This corresponds with a situation in which the insurance penetration rate remains less than 1% in some of the most populous nations in the world (e.g. Bangladesh, India, Vietnam, the Philippines, Indonesia, Egypt, and Nigeria), all of which are among the countries most exposed to climate risks. It has been estimated that a 1% increase in insurance penetration reduces the disaster recovery burden on taxpayers by 22%.

**Goals and progress towards the goals:** The commitments under the partnership currently support and enhance 25 programs that will be active in 78 countries by 2020. By 2018 the partnership had reached 33.2 million beneficiaries through nine programs that are already operational, with substantial payouts being paid out after some of their member countries were hit by natural disasters.

**Nordic value added: how are Nordic countries contributing, or should contribute?** The initiative aims particularly to strengthen the resilience of poor and vulnerable people, which is fully in line with Nordic development cooperation priorities and climate commitments. Broader Nordic participation on the partnership level, could strengthen overall Nordic knowhow and input to resilience building internationally. For Nordic governments, civil society organisations, academic institutions as well as Nordic IFIs and DFIs, the partnership could help accelerate mainstreaming of climate risk into all Nordic development initiatives, in particular at the nexus of poverty reduction, financial security and climate compatible development. Simultaneously the partnership could benefit from stronger Nordic finance sector participation noting pioneering Nordic work on greening the financial system, sustainable finance, de-risking, microfinance and insurance.

### 4.3 Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN)

**Short description:** The Private Financing Advisory Network – PFAN is a global network of expert consultants that provides free business coaching and investment facilitation to entrepreneurs developing climate change adaptation and clean energy projects in low- and middle-income countries. PFAN addresses the challenge of projects and investments having difficulty finding each other, with some entrepreneurs simply lacking the connections to find investment or being unsure of what investors look for in a business plan, and/or some investors finding it difficult to assess investment opportunities in markets they are not familiar with. PFAN bridges this gap by helping entrepreneurs build their businesses and present them using language that investors understand and are interested in. PFAN organises investment forums across Asia, Africa, and Caribbean & Central America to showcase selected investment-ready projects and provides one-on-one investment facilitation services.

**Participants:** PFAN offers the services of some 100 expert consultant Network Members in 40 countries. Over 40 commercial banks, development banks and investment banks, government agencies, clean energy sector associations and private sector partners, serve as Network Partners for PFAN.

**Lead organisation, years active:** PFAN was launched in 2006 as an initiative of the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI) in co-operation with the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Since 2016 it has been hosted by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in collaboration with the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP). PFAN is currently funded by the Governments of Australia, Austria, Japan, Norway, Sweden and the United States.

**Relevance, scale and transparency:** PFAN's services are highly relevant, considering the urgency of accelerating climate action in line with the Paris Agreement and SDGs, and mobilising finance – particularly private finance for climate action in developing countries. The initiative is addressing one of the key barriers to climate action, i.e. lack of access to financing, and has considerable potential to contribute to the Paris Agreement commitment to provide US\$100 bn of annual climate finance, noting that projects in the PFAN 2019 pipeline represent a potential of mobilizing some US\$7 bn. Annual progress reporting and outreach provide informative data on results, planned activities and oversight.

**Goals and progress towards the goals:** By 2019 almost 650 clean energy and climate adaptation projects have been inducted into the PFAN pipeline. The projects employ technologies including bio-gas, biomass, waste to energy, clean transport, wind, solar, small hydro and energy efficiency solutions. Over 110 projects have achieved financial closure with over US\$ 1.4 billion of investment raised. Combined, these projects have the potential to mitigate over 3 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions per year and provide over 900 MW of clean generation capacity. In total, projects in the PFAN pipeline represent a 40 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>e/year emission reduction potential, with an estimated potential to leverage US\$7 bn.

**Nordic value added - how are Nordic countries contributing, or should contribute?** The PFAN is addressing a climate finance gap, highlighted by Nordic governments in several studies and on multiple fora, including the Green Climate Fund. The PFAN is overall well aligned with Nordic development cooperation initiatives and, in line with its scale-up vision 2022, aims to increasingly mobilise finance also to adaptation action, which is a particular Nordic priority. Pioneering Nordic work in mobilizing private finance for resilience building e.g. by NDF, represents also opportunities to provide Nordic value-added to PFAN. The PFAN represents also opportunities to harness synergies and share lessons learned with joint Nordic finance institutions (NIB, NEFCO, NDF), as well as Nordic Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) with solid expertise in clean energy technologies supported by PFAN, and strong commitments to increase mobilization of climate and SDG aligned private finance.

## 4.4 Science-Based Targets initiative

**Short description:** The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) provides companies with tools to set science-based emissions reduction targets (SBTs) and profiles companies that have publicly committed to do so as well as the ones that have had their targets approved by the SBTi. Targets adopted by companies to reduce GHG emissions are considered "science-based" if they are in line with the level of decarbonisation required to keep global temperature increase below 2 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial temperatures. The initiative is part of the larger We Mean Business Take Action platform aiming at catalysing bold business climate action to drive policy ambition.

**Participants:** 534 companies who have committed to setting an SBT and 186 companies with approved SBTs. Nordic participants (only companies with approved SBTs) include:

- Denmark: Carlsberg Group, Lundbeck A/S, Ørsted
- Finland: Alma Media Corporation, Alma Media, Elisa Corporation, Kesko Corporation, Nokia Oyj, Outokumpu Oyj, Outotec Oyj, Stora Enso, UPM-Kymmene
- Norway: EVRY ASA, Orkla ASA
- Sweden: BillerudKorsnäs, Castellum AB, Diab International AB, Electrolux, Ericsson Group, Essity AB, Husqvarna AB, ICA Gruppen, IKEA, PostNord AB, Swedish Match, TETRA PAK

**Lead organisation, years active:** SBTi is a collaboration between CDP, WRI, WWF and the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC). It has been created in 2014.

**Relevance, scale and transparency:** The SBTi's potential for climate change mitigation has been estimated at 2 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e/yr in 2030 (Data Driven Yale, NewClimate Institute, PBL 2018). Companies are expected as part of the SBTi criteria to disclose progress on their targets on an annual basis. Additionally, CDP is collecting information on companies' progress annually, incentivising and rewarding companies with approved SBTs in their leadership ranking.

**Goals and progress towards the goals:** The initiative's overall aim is that by 2020, science-based target setting will become standard business practice and corporations will play a major role in driving down global GHG emissions. Concretely, the short/medium term objectives include:

- By end of 2020, 300 high impact companies have adopted an SBT and 100 companies have adopted an SBT aligned with a global pathway towards 1,5°
- More uptake by companies from high impact sectors (e.g. built environment, power generation, chemicals)
- Driving SBTs uptake in emerging/ developing countries
- (Further) development of sector specific methodologies (e.g. for oil & gas, financial sector) and additional technical guidance
- Amplification of SBTs through supply chains, investment portfolios etc

**Nordic value added: how are Nordic countries contributing, or should contribute?** Nordic companies are well represented in the initiative. To further support the initiative, Nordic countries could encourage existing members to act as champions, and to share good practice experience (e.g. on scope 3 target setting). Noting the latest IPCC special report, Nordics could globally encourage members to increasingly move to a 1.5 °C compatible target and actively encourage other Nordic companies to join, especially from high impact sectors. Nordic investors that have shown leadership in greening the financial sector overall, can play a significant role in further driving SBTs uptake, and provide funding/ financial support to existing and future projects (e.g. development of sector specific methodologies that support companies with SBT setting). Also a range of synergies exist with other We Mean Business initiatives, including for example RE100, the Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition or the Implementation of the Recommendations of the TCFD.

## 4.5 Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative

**Short description:** The Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) is the leading global implementation initiative on sustainable mobility in cities, with a focus on developing and emerging economies. The initiative works with roughly 50 countries. The initiative targets mitigation and adaptation, and consists of three inter-connected pillars:

- Innovation: piloting new innovative mobility projects, through an annual global competition. 10 pilot projects are implemented, e.g. bike-sharing system in Addis Abeba, mobility start-up initiative in Nairobi, Shared electric transport in El Kelaa des Sraghna (Morocco)
- Knowledge: coaching and capacity building for urban leaders and city planners about modern mobility concepts
- Investment: financing of more than 1 billion EUR annually to build and modernize sustainable urban mobility infrastructure. Able to leverage other finance with 1:9 ratio

**Participants:** 11 partners, including e.g. German government, C40 Cities, ICLEI, Asian Development Bank, Development Bank of Latin America, UN Habitat, WRI. No Nordic participants.

**Lead organisation, years active:** Led by GIZ (Germany). The initiative started in 2017, as a joint vision by the German government and GIZ to tackle the global urban mobility opportunity.

**Relevance, scale and transparency:** Sustainable transport remains a highly relevant mitigation priority for Nordic countries, as well as globally. The scale of the initiative, especially from the finance perspective, is large enough for a substantial impact. The initiative reports progress and shares knowledge material on their website.

**Goals and progress towards the goals:** TUMI's goal is to support its partner cities in building resilient mobility services and infrastructures and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from urban transport. It supports concrete pilot projects (10 so far, 10 more expected during next year), which have concrete impacts on mitigation, adaptation and public safety. Mitigation impact is calculated at 4 million t CO<sub>2</sub>/year so far, with a long-term goal of 1 Gt of savings enabled. Regarding adaptation, TUMI creates knowledge products such as the upcoming "Best practice guidebook on adaptation in transport projects". Finance goal is a 1 billion EUR/year trajectory, but the initiative expects to grow beyond this in the future. To be able to grow, the initiative needs additional members and finance.

**Nordic value added: how are Nordic countries contributing, or should contribute?** Nordic countries do not currently contribute to the initiative. The most crucial challenge for TUMI is to find bankable mobility projects, and for this technical support and capacity building would be welcome, as well as additional finance. There is also a lack of capacity in developing country cities (transport operators, city employees, etc), where additional capacity building efforts and resources would be needed to be able to do more in the area of sustainable mobility. E.g. Nordic DFIs as well as joint Nordic finance institutions possess relevant expertise in project development and finance mobilization also linked to urban sustainability solutions. The TUMI initiative has synergies with several other initiatives, and has regular exchange with GCAA transport initiatives, such as the SUM4All initiative by the World Bank. However the transport initiatives are very complementary and not overlapping. TUMI is more implementation-oriented than many of the other initiatives. The recent joint Declaration on Nordic Carbon Neutrality by Nordic prime ministers could also serve to boost this initiative, noting among other its focus on decarbonizing the transport sector, including through an inter-modal shift, efficiency, electrification, and use of sustainable renewable fuels – also synergetic with TUMI.

## 4.6 The New York Declaration on Forests

**Short description:** The New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF) is a partnership of governments, multinational companies, civil society and indigenous peoples organised around 10 global goals to protect the world's forests. These goals notably include a commitment to halve deforestation by 2020 and to end it by 2030, and to restore 200 million hectares by 2030.

**Participants:** Endorsed by 200 entities, including 60+ national and subnational governments, 60+ major companies, 80+ civil society and indigenous peoples' organisations.

Nordic participants include:

- Governments: Denmark, Sweden, Norway
- Companies: Denofa AS, Essity Aktiebolag (publ), Felleskjøpet Agri, Felleskjøpet Rogaland Agder, Fiskaa Mølle AS, Nordic Choice Hotels, Norgesfôr AS, NorgesGruppen ASA, Orkla ASA, Reitangruppen, Simosol Oy, Skretting Group, Svenska Cellulosa Aktiebolaget SCA

**Lead organisation, years active:** The Declaration was launched at the UN Climate Summit in 2014 and in 2017 the NYDF Global Platform was launched to support and accelerate achievement of the global goals expressed in the NYDF. UNDP hosts the NYDF Secretariat for the Global Platform in partnership with the Meridian Institute and Climate Advisors.

**Relevance, scale and transparency:** Recent estimates place the the overarching NYDF goals, at between 2.2–4.1 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e/yr in 2030 for its deforestation and at between 1.6–3.4 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e/yr in 2030 for its forest restoration goal (Data Driven Yale, NewClimate Institute, PBL 2018). The NYDF estimates the potential to reduce annual emissions by 4.5–8.8 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e/yr in 2030 across all goals. Regarding transparency, progress towards the NYDF goals is monitored by the NYDF Assessment Partners, coordinated by Climate Focus.

**Goals and progress towards the goals:** The 2018 NYDF Progress Assessment found that ambition around the initiative's restoration goals has increased (12.9 Mha in new pledges added to the Bonn Challenge, total area: 168.9 Mha), but progress around implementation remains uncertain. A sample shows that ~40% of pledged area is actively under restoration. However, deforestation rates continue to increase with no signs of slowing.

To increase impact, the NYDF Platform plans to focus upcoming strategic priorities on four main areas: 1) shifting grey to green financing through engaging investors and financial institutions on material financial risk related to deforestation, 2) increasing transparency and accountability through the identification and employment of tools and frameworks, 3) feature indigenous knowledge and economic models for forest protection and restoration, and 4) explore incentives to achieve verified emission reductions to integrate nature-based solutions in countries' NDC targets.

**Nordic value added: how are Nordic countries contributing, or should contribute?** Nordic entities can further NYDF objectives through raising commitment levels, increasing funding for protecting forests and local livelihoods, supporting greater transparency, and championing the cause through showcasing the benefits of and best practices for addressing deforestation. Nordic countries can also help incite further global action by integrating and scaling up nature-based solutions, such as forest restoration and avoided forest conversion, in their official national climate mitigation goals.

## 4.7 Under2 Coalition

**Short description:** Signatories to the “Under2 Memorandum of Understanding” – a non-binding climate agreement for subnational governments (regions & states) – form the Under2 Coalition. These governments are committed to keeping global temperature rise to well below 2 °C by reducing their green-house gas (GHG) emissions by 80 to 95%, or limit per capita emissions to 2 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent, by 2050.

**Participants:** 220 states and regions representing over 1.3 billion people.

Nordic participants include:

- Signatories: Jämtland Härjedalen (Sweden), and Akershus County (Norway)
- Endorsers: Governments of Sweden, Norway and Denmark

**Lead organisation, years active:** The Climate Group (UK), initiative was created in 2015

**Relevance, scale and transparency:** The Under2 Coalition’s potential for climate change mitigation has been estimated at between 4.9–5.2 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e/yr in 2030 (Data Driven Yale, NewClimate Institute, PBL 2018). The initiative publishes an annual disclosure report, and which tracks their members’ progress (in partnership with CDP).

**Goals and progress towards the goals:** The Under2 Coalition strategic priorities are continuously evolving to assure that signatories are on track to achieve their 2050 commitment. The initiative analyses disclosed information from signatories accordingly to identify specific workstream areas that members should focus on. For 2020, the initiative has identified the need to continue supporting regions & states in three focus areas: transparency, development of long-term pathways, and policy action.

1. The transparency workstream focuses on supporting signatories to strengthen their GHG accounting capacity, increase transparent disclosure of their climate change mitigation progress, and tackle sectoral challenges. This is done through capacity building for improvement and expansion of Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) systems.
2. The development of long-term pathways workstream focuses on supporting signatories develop and adopt 2050 pathways that are compatible with the Paris Agreement.
3. The policy action workstream is focused on sharing best practice climate policies at region & state level. For this, the Under2 Coalition has created an online multifaceted platform, where signatories share their experience.

**Nordic value added: how are Nordic countries contributing, or should contribute?** Norway is currently very involved and funds some projects including a long-term pathway development project for forest regions. Additionally, Nordic countries could encourage their regions to join the Under2Coalition initiative as well as to encourage their already participating regions to disclose their emissions on an annual basis. Existing Nordic collaboration platforms (among other by the Nordic Council of Ministers) could serve to facilitate sharing of best-practice experience, and also help mobilize additional funding to existing and future projects. Some of the Nordic priority areas tackled by the Under2 Coalition include electric vehicles (e.g. the Under2 zero emission vehicle project), MRV development and capacity building under the transparency workstream, and projects for energy and industry transition under the policy action workstream.

**Similar initiatives:** Carbon Neutrality Coalition.

## 5. Concluding remarks and ways forward

The analysis identifies in total some 300 international cooperative initiatives. While the diversity among these initiatives remains wide – related to type, scale and relevance – and challenges concerning transparency and overall MRV persist for many of the initiatives, jointly they represent a major potential for accelerated climate action. Noting the massive amount of initiatives, complementing action already on-going within the UNFCCC framework, it is not surprising that the analysis does not reveal any major “climate action gaps”, not covered by these 300 initiatives.

### **Nordics actively engaged with strong input in multiple ICIs**

Nordic governments and public and private stakeholders continue to be very active participants in the cooperative initiatives globally – noting that 62% (186 initiatives) have participation from at least one Nordic country (compared to 61.4% in 2017). The analysis provides several arguments for continued Nordic support in a number of initiatives, which are fully aligned with Nordic priorities, provide important potential to create required climate impacts (scale and relevance), and show increasing capacity to measure and disclose their climate action impacts in a credible and transparent manner.

Such initiatives covered by this analysis, provide e.g. support to the removal of harmful subsidies through the Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform, support renewable energy generation through the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative, moving away from coal use through the Powering past coal alliance, supporting low-carbon transport in the International Zero-Emission Vehicle Alliance, supporting the development of low-emission trajectories through the 2050 Pathways Platform, among many other key initiatives. Recently started initiatives in Nordic priority sectors include also e.g. the 30X30 Forests, Food and Land Challenge, which started in 2018 and has only the Norwegian government as Nordic participant. Also, other Nordic countries could consider participating in this recent initiative.

All these initiatives continue to be well aligned with the NDCs of developing countries as well as the national climate priorities of Nordic countries. They are also compatible with the 2019 joint Declaration on Nordic Carbon Neutrality by the Nordic prime ministers, highlighting the interconnectedness of action in the Nordic countries and globally. While the Nordic countries are generally well respected and appreciated members in the respective initiatives, increasingly the initiatives can also provide insights and boost more ambitious climate action within Nordic countries and within Nordic – in many cases internationally operating – companies. In light of the global connectedness, also enshrined in the



SDGs, accelerated climate action must harness any and all synergies between climate and SDG action, as well as optimally tackle all value chains and markets.

### **Opportunities for Nordic value-add, accelerated upscaling and jointly learning**

The analysis of Nordic value added, helped filter out seven (7) initiatives with particular interest from a Nordic perspective, covering both adaptation, mitigation as well as means of implementation initiatives. These initiatives are fully aligned with the 2019 Nordic declaration on carbon neutrality highlighting the joint commitment to intensify efforts to i) catalyse the scaling up of Nordic sustainable solutions, reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, maintain or enhance carbon sinks and remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, ii) encourage climate-conscious consumer choices, and iii) encourage Nordic companies, investors, local governments, cities, organizations and consumers to step up their efforts towards carbon neutrality.

Each of these seven initiatives represents opportunities for Nordic value-added, for accelerated climate action – also within the Nordic countries, i.e. “putting our own houses into climate order”. These initiatives are shortly described below, highlighting the Nordic value-added perspective for upscaling and joint learning.

- **Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP).** Nordic expertise can serve to further strengthen the effectiveness and impacts of ASAP in the nexus of climate change and women empowerment, health, nutrition and livelihoods development. Nordic public and private sector actors, together with NGOs can contribute to improve the delivery of innovative, mobile and more user-friendly climate services for smallholder farmers, as well as improved access to distributed renewable energy solutions that help link farmers also to more climate smart value chains. Nordic expertise in finance solutions, improving access to credit and insurance as well as engaging private finance for resilience investments can serve as valuable assets to ASAP when upscaling its activities.
- **InsuResilience Global Partnership.** The initiative aims particularly to strengthen the resilience of poor and vulnerable people, fully in line with Nordic development cooperation priorities and climate commitments. For Nordic governments, civil society organisations, academic institutions as well as Nordic IFIs and DFIs, the partnership could help accelerate mainstreaming of climate risk into all Nordic development initiatives. Simultaneously the partnership could benefit from stronger Nordic finance sector participation noting pioneering Nordic work on greening the financial system, sustainable finance, de-risking, microfinance and insurance.
- **Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN).** The PFAN is addressing a climate finance gap, highlighted by Nordic governments in several studies and on multiple fora, including the Green Climate Fund. The PFAN is overall well aligned with Nordic development cooperation initiatives and, in line with its scale-up vision 2022, aims to increasingly mobilise finance also to adaptation action, which is a particular Nordic priority. Pioneering Nordic work in mobilizing private finance for resilience building e.g. by NDF, represents also opportunities to provide Nordic value-added to PFAN. The PFAN represents also opportunities to harness synergies and share lessons learned with joint Nordic finance institutions (NIB, NEF-CO, NDF), as well as Nordic DFIs (Finnfund, Norfund, Swedfund and IFU).

- **Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi).** To further support the initiative, Nordic countries could encourage existing members to act as champions, and to share good practice experience (e.g. on scope 3 target setting). Noting the latest IPCC special report, Nordics could globally encourage members to increasingly move to a 1.5 °C compatible target and actively encourage other Nordic companies to join, especially from high impact sectors. Nordic investors that have shown leadership in greening the financial sector overall, can play a significant role in further driving SBTs uptake. Also a range of synergies exist with other We Mean Business initiatives, for example RE100, the Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition or the Implementation of the Recommendations of the TCFD.
  
- **Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI).** While Nordic countries do not currently contribute to the initiative e.g. Nordic DFIs as well as joint Nordic finance institutions possess relevant expertise in project development and finance mobilization, also linked to urban mobility. This expertise is highly relevant noting that one of the most crucial challenges for TUMI is to find bankable mobility projects. Also, there is a lack of capacity in developing country cities (transport operators, city employees, etc.) to advance low-carbon urban mobility that Nordics could help address. The Nordic declaration on carbon neutrality highlights the need to decarbonize the transport sector, among other through inter-modal shift, efficiency improvements, electrification and the use of sustainable renewable fuels – all synergetic with TUMI.
  
- **The New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF).** Nordic partners can help reach the ambitious NYDF objectives (of halving deforestation by 2020, ending it by 2030, and restoring 200 million hectares by 2030), through raising commitment levels nationally, increasing funding for protecting forests and local livelihoods, supporting greater transparency, and by championing the cause through showcasing the benefits of and best practices for addressing deforestation. Nordic countries can also help incite further global action by integrating and scaling up nature-based solutions, such as forest restoration and avoided forest conversion, in their official national climate mitigation goals.
  
- **Under2 Coalition.** The signatory governments are committed to keeping global temperature rise to well below 2 °C by reducing their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 80 to 95%, or limit percapita emissions to 2 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent, by 2050. Nordic countries could encourage also their regions to join the Under2Coalition initiative as well as to encourage their already participating regions to disclose their emissions on an annual basis. Existing Nordic collaboration platforms – among other by the Nordic Council of Ministers – could serve to facilitate sharing of best-practice experience, while also helping to mobilize additional funding to existing and future projects.

### Taking the next steps

The type and scope of enhanced Nordic support and engagement should be jointly discussed between relevant Nordic stakeholders as well as the respective initiatives. The Nordic Council of Ministers could be one of the facilitators for these discussions, noting also the mandate given to the Council by the joint Nordic declaration. The seven initiatives presented above and summarised in more detail in Chapter 4 (including an initial analysis for upscaling potential and Nordic value-add) provide a useful basis for such follow-up discussions.

# Annex: Experts interviewed for the case studies

**Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme:**

Sebastien Subsol, IFAD senior climate change specialist

**InsuResilience Global Partnership:**

Daniel Stadtmüller, Advisor, InsuResilience Secretariat, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

**Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN):**

Eva Kelly Oberender, REEP Senior Strategic Advisor

**Science-Based Targets initiative:**

Leak Fink, Elena Stecca, Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)

**Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI):**

Daniel Moser, TUMI Secretariat, GIZ

**The New York Declaration on Forests:**

Nicole DeSantis, UNDP

**Under2 Coalition:**

Jean-Charles Seghers, Head of Transparency & Pathways, The Climate Group

# Notes:

- 1 United Nations Environment Programme (2018). Emissions Gap Report 2018.
- 2 The amount of international cooperative initiatives assessed in this project, including the initiatives in the Climate Initiatives Platform, the UNFCCC NAZCA portal and other relevant sources.
- 3 <http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Welcome>, covers 254 ICIs in March 2019.
- 4 <http://climateaction.unfccc.int/views/cooperative-initiatives.html>, covers 83 ICIs in March 2019.
- 5 Fenhann, J., Konrad, S. et al (2018). The Climate Initiatives Platform – Towards Greater Transparency in International Cooperative Climate Initiatives (ICIs). Nordic Council of Ministers, TemaNord 2018:552
- 6 Laine, A., Magnusson, R., et al (2017). Nordic participation in global and regional climate initiatives – How active are Nordic countries in the Global Climate Action Agenda? Nordic Council of Ministers, Copenhagen
- 7 Nordic governments, businesses, cities, regions, non-governmental organisations or financial organisations
- 8 Nordic Declaration on carbon neutrality: [https://vnk.fi/en/article/-/asset\\_publisher/pohjoismaatsopivat-yhteistyon-tiivistamisesta-ilmastokriisin-ratkaisemiseksi](https://vnk.fi/en/article/-/asset_publisher/pohjoismaatsopivat-yhteistyon-tiivistamisesta-ilmastokriisin-ratkaisemiseksi)
- 9 Laine, A., Magnusson, R., et al (2017). Nordic participation in global and regional climate initiatives - How active are Nordic countries in the Global Climate Action Agenda? Nordic Council of Ministers, Copenhagen
- 10 Laine, A., Magnusson, R., et al (2017). Nordic participation in global and regional climate initiatives - How active are Nordic countries in the Global Climate Action Agenda? Nordic Council of Ministers
- 11 January 2019 serving as cut-off date for this quantitative analysis in the report.
- 12 In the previous Nordic study on this topic energy efficiency was not included as a separate sector.
- 13 Laine, A., Magnusson, R., et al (2017). Nordic participation in global and regional climate initiatives - How active are Nordic countries in the Global Climate Action Agenda? Nordic Council of Ministers
- 14 If not stated otherwise, the potential emission reductions impact by 2030 is taken from [https://datadrivenlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/YALE-NCI-PBL\\_Global\\_climate\\_action.pdf](https://datadrivenlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/YALE-NCI-PBL_Global_climate_action.pdf)
- 15 If not stated otherwise, progress towards the initiative's goal is taken from the Climate Initiatives Platform, <http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Welcome>
- 16 <https://www.res4africa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Africa-clean-energy-corridor.pdf>
- 17 AFR100, <https://afr100.org/> (Accessed 12 March 2019)
- 18 Ibid
- 19 Estimated impact from current ISFL programmes in Colombia, Ethiopia, Mexico, Indonesia, and Zambia, ISFL Annual Report 2018, [https://www.biocarbonfund-isfl.org/sites/bioconf/files/BioCarbon%20ISFL%20AR%20FY18\\_FINAL\\_Web1.pdf](https://www.biocarbonfund-isfl.org/sites/bioconf/files/BioCarbon%20ISFL%20AR%20FY18_FINAL_Web1.pdf)
- 20 Carbon Neutrality Coalition, <https://www.carbon-neutrality.global/members>
- 21 CGIAR 2019, <https://www.cgiar.org/research/program-platform/climate-change-agriculture-andfood-security/>
- 22 UNEP Emissions Gap report, 2018
- 23 Global Subsidies Initiative (GSI) research, World Energy Outlook 2016, IEA and GIZ data.

- 24 GCoM 2018 Global Aggregation Report, [https://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/2018\\_GCOM\\_report\\_web.pdf](https://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/2018_GCOM_report_web.pdf)
- 25 TCFD 2019, <https://www.fsb-tcfd.org/tcfd-supporters/> (Accessed 12 March 2019)
- 26 International ZEV Alliance, [http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/International\\_Zero-Emission\\_Vehicle\\_Alliance\\_\(ZEV\\_Alliance\)](http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/International_Zero-Emission_Vehicle_Alliance_(ZEV_Alliance))
- 27 Assuming that rail and road freight emissions in the EU in 2030 are 20% lower than projected under BAU from Transport & Environment study [https://www.transportenvironment.org/sites/te/files/publications/Full\\_%20Roadmap%20freight%20buses%20Europe\\_2050\\_FINAL%20VERSION\\_corrected%20%282%29.pdf](https://www.transportenvironment.org/sites/te/files/publications/Full_%20Roadmap%20freight%20buses%20Europe_2050_FINAL%20VERSION_corrected%20%282%29.pdf). This is a middle of the road estimate, as it assumes that all rail and road transport achieve the envisaged target (ambitious) but water transport and aviation to not reduce (conservative).
- 28 Transport has the potential to decrease to 2.5 Gt by 2050 under an optimistic low carbon scenario (Gota et al. 2018, [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nikola\\_Medimorec/publication/325021150\\_Decarbonising\\_transport\\_to\\_achieve\\_Paris\\_Agreement\\_targets/links/5b1f77a00f7e9b0e373e313f/Decarbonising-transport-to-achieve-Paris-Agreement-targets.pdf](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nikola_Medimorec/publication/325021150_Decarbonising_transport_to_achieve_Paris_Agreement_targets/links/5b1f77a00f7e9b0e373e313f/Decarbonising-transport-to-achieve-Paris-Agreement-targets.pdf)) Submission made by the Partnership on Sustainable Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT) on behalf of the Paris Process on Mobility and Climate (PPMC) and the SLoCaT membership. [http://www.slocat.net/sites/default/files/u13/slocat-ppmc\\_-\\_talanoa\\_dialogue\\_submission2\\_0.pdf](http://www.slocat.net/sites/default/files/u13/slocat-ppmc_-_talanoa_dialogue_submission2_0.pdf)
- 29 New members of this initiative may be able to reduce the committed global 500 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e GHG emissions from existing, constructed and currently planned coal-fired power plants. All global coal-fired power plants including those under construction would emit around 10 GtCO<sub>2</sub> in 2030 (Edenhofer et al, 2018, <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/aaa3a2/meta>.
- 30 <https://poweringpastcoal.org/news/PPCA-news/six-new-powering-past-coal-alliance-membersannounced-at-cop24>
- 31 PFAN progress report 2019
- 32 Ibid
- 33 <http://there100.org/companies>
- 34 Lower end of the range is based on a 2017 study on the emissions reduction potential by 2030 of implementing six product groups (i.e. wind and solar power, efficient building envelopes, efficient lightning, electric cars, fuel efficient tire and lightweight materials) in the chemical industry [https://www.icca-chem.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/ICCA-2017\\_Adressing\\_guidelines\\_WEB.pdf](https://www.icca-chem.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/ICCA-2017_Adressing_guidelines_WEB.pdf). Upper end of the range is based on current emissions savings from Responsible care companies. <https://www.icca-chem.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/The-SAICM-Journey-20-Milestones-to-2020.pdf>
- 35 Responsible Care Status Report 2018, <https://www.icca-chem.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Responsible-Care-Status-Report-2018.pdf>
- 36 Assumed here the full potential of global food loss and waste: currently accounts for about 8 percent of total global GHG emissions (3.6 Gt of CO<sub>2</sub>eq/yr plus 0.8 Gt of CO<sub>2</sub>eq/yr from land use change), NAZCA 2019, <http://climateaction.unfccc.int/views/cooperative-initiative-details.html?id=36>. Initiative itself reports 3.3 Gt of CO<sub>2</sub>eq/yr, <https://unfccc.int/news/press-release-lpaa-focus-agriculture-at-cop21>, [http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Save\\_Food\\_initiative](http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Save_Food_initiative)
- 37 Science-based targets, <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/companies-taking-action/> (Accessed 12 March 2019)
- 38 ICAO Global Mobility Report 2017, <https://www.icao.int/Meetings/iwaf2018/Documents/Global%20Mobility%20Report2017.pdf>
- 39 Sum4All Progress Report 2017-18, <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/276911552323454082/4462a3588631713031236485469.pdf>
- 40 IISD 2018, <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/wwf-partners-challenge-stakeholders-to-take-action-for-2030-on-forests-food-and-land/>
- 41 NYDF Progress Assessment 2018, <https://forestdeclaration.org/>
- 42 PPMC 2nd Progress Report 2017, [http://www.ppmc-transport.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2017-MPGCA-Transport-Initiatives-Report\\_Final.pdf](http://www.ppmc-transport.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2017-MPGCA-Transport-Initiatives-Report_Final.pdf)

43 The utilisation of the SCAN-tool for this analysis required some additional assessment steps, as the tool was developed to map specific mitigation actions against SDGs rather than international cooperative initiatives. The additional assessment steps are further described below: As a first step, we homogenised the sector and category classification in the SCAN-tool to the sector classification used in this project. For example, the sector "electricity & heat" from the SCAN-tool corresponds to the sector "Energy supply" within this project's classification, except for instances categorised under "Increased energy efficiency" (also part of the "electricity & heat sector in SCAN-tool), which corresponds to "Energy efficiency" under this project's classification. Once the sector categories were homogenised, we could identify positive and negative linkages to all initiatives based on their sector classification and their category (i.e. mitigation, adaptation and Mol). Some initiatives have been classified into more than one sector and category. Initiatives classified under "mitigation" were linked to the mitigation SCAN-tool, whereas initiatives classified under "adaptation" were linked to the adaptation SCAN-tool. Initiatives classified under more than once category, and initiatives classified under Mol were linked to both SCAN-tools. As a second step, we combined links identified to both SCAN-tools into one overall table (see Figure 7). It is important to mention that the SCAN-tool does not provide links to SDG13 (climate action) and SDG17 (partnership for the SDGs). Since these links are implicitly represented in all climate initiatives, we have added those links as well. Additionally, we have identified links to the "InsuResilience Partnership" during the case study, that we have added manually to Figure 7.

44 CIP 2019, [http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Transformative\\_Urban\\_Mobility\\_Initiative\\_\(TUMI\)](http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Transformative_Urban_Mobility_Initiative_(TUMI))

45 The Climate Group, 20-18 Annual Disclosure Report, [https://www.theclimategroup.org/sites/default/files/global\\_states\\_and\\_regions\\_annual\\_disclosure\\_report\\_final\\_web.pdf](https://www.theclimategroup.org/sites/default/files/global_states_and_regions_annual_disclosure_report_final_web.pdf)

46 UNEP FI Annual Overview January 2017 – June 2018, <https://www.unepfi.org/publications/general-publications/unep-fi-overview-january-2017-june-2018/>

47 We Mean Business Coalition, <https://www.wemeanbusinesscoalition.org/> (accessed 12 March 2019)

48 If not stated otherwise, the sources of the information are the websites of the initiatives, as well as the CIP and NAZCA portal.

49 Adaptation for smallholder agriculture programme– Phase 2 ('ASAP2'), IFAD 2018

50 ASAP progress reporting, IFAD 2019 (forthcoming).

51 The InsuResilience Global Partnership Annual Report 2018

52 The InsuResilience Global Partnership Annual Report 2018

53 If not stated otherwise, the sources of information include the websites of the initiatives as well as the CIP and NAZCA portals

54 PFAN progress report 2019

55 Ibid

56 IPCC Special Report, 2018: Global Warming of 1.5 °C

57 Gonzales-Zuñiga, Roeser, Rawlins, Luijten, and Granadillos 2018. SDG Climate Action Nexus Tool. Ambition to Action. Available at: [http://ambitiontoaction.net/scan\\_tool/](http://ambitiontoaction.net/scan_tool/)

58 See Annex of the report

59 Gonzales-Zuñiga, Roeser, Rawlins, Luijten, and Granadillos 2018. SCAN (SDG & Climate Action Nexus) tool: Linking Climate Action and the Sustainable Development Goals. Key findings note. Available at [http://ambitiontoaction.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Key\\_findings\\_final.pdf](http://ambitiontoaction.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Key_findings_final.pdf)

60 Gonzales-Zuñiga, Roeser, Rawlins, Luijten, and Granadillos 2018. SCAN (SDG & Climate Action Nexus) tool: Linking Climate Action and the Sustainable Development Goals. Methodology paper. Page 9. Available at [http://ambitiontoaction.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Methods\\_note\\_final.pdf](http://ambitiontoaction.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Methods_note_final.pdf)



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The Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA) covers a wealth of cooperative action between governments, cities, businesses, non-governmental organisations and citizens. Non-state climate initiatives under the GCAA represent a key means to rapidly bridge the gaps in current climate action. This report identifies some 300 international cooperative initiatives worldwide, noting Nordic stakeholders among the most active participants within these initiatives. The analysis recommends continued Nordic support for initiatives with strong commitments to effective and transparent action. It also filters out 7 mitigation, adaptation and/or finance related initiatives of particular interest for Nordics. They are well aligned with the 2019 Declaration on Nordic Carbon Neutrality by the Nordic prime ministers and represent major opportunities for accelerated climate action – also within Nordic countries.