

## Dhaka releases first ever climate action plans to improve lives, reduce pollution and increase resilience to increasing climate impacts

*Dhaka North and South City Corporation release Dhaka's first-ever Climate Action Plan for a safer, healthier & inclusive city for its residents*

**Dhaka, May 12, 2024:** Today, Dhaka North and South City Corporation (DNCC and DSCC) unveiled Dhaka's first-ever Paris-aligned climate action plans. The plans will serve as a roadmap for Dhaka North and Dhaka South to become carbon-neutral by 2050, aligning to Bangladesh's National Commitment of conditional emissions reduction target of 89.47 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030.

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warns of severe damages from potential climate hazards such as natural disasters, heat stress, river and rain induced urban flooding and cyclones for cities like Dhaka. Dhaka North and Dhaka South's climate action plans reflect a commitment by political leaders in both the cities to address the growing climate crisis through science-based, locally led actions.

**Mayor Atiqul Islam, Mayor of Dhaka North City Corporation:** "Dhaka North City has been increasingly experiencing the brunt of climate change in recent years. Heavy and sudden rainfall leading to flooding, water logging and drainage congestion, extreme heat events and increased risk of the spread of vector borne diseases such as dengue have demonstrated the importance of implementing localised mitigation and resilience techniques. Dhaka North has always led the path of climate action in the region. Dhaka's climate action plan which includes robust targets to improve city-wide heat resilience, healthcare, water supply and waste water treatment is a reflection of the city's ambition and dedication towards a low-carbon future and improving the quality of life of its citizens."

**Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, Mayor of Dhaka South City Corporation:** In spite of having lower per-capita emissions, Dhaka South City Corporation is experiencing the adverse effects of climate change driven by global warming. Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) is relentlessly working to reduce city-wide emissions and aims that by 2050, the city will be more livable, climate resilient and environment friendly. DSCC is making a commendable effort to reduce its carbon footprint and promote sustainability. DSCC addresses climate change as a major humanitarian crisis and we have taken strategic measures on priority to protect the environment

The city has set targets based on thorough analysis and pathway modelling using C40 tools, which will help achieve these goals. The development of the climate action plan is an important step towards beginning its resilience-building journey while assessing the existing and potential climate risks to the city, its populations and its systems. The climate action plans aim to promote strategies to move towards a net zero development pathway, reducing emissions on one hand and adapting and building resilience to climate impacts on the other. The identified climate actions can also help deliver several wider co-benefits such as better air quality, public health, increased access to and availability of sustainable energy, water and mobility, improved sanitation and waste management, and enhanced economic opportunities, among others. All indicated strategies in this Climate Action Plan

have been defined to align with the existing National Adaptation Plan (2023-2050) to achieve SDG goals.

**Mark Watts, Executive Director, C40 Cities:** “I congratulate Dhaka North and Dhaka South on their commitment to respond to the climate crisis by addressing their biggest sources of emissions and their climate risks, through the launch of the climate action plans, in line with the science and keeping temperatures below 1.5°C”

**Shruti Narayan, Managing Director, Regions, C40 Cities:** “Dhaka North and Dhaka South are leading the way in showcasing how political commitment and leadership can result in ambitious and implementable climate action plans — which is particularly of importance to the global south, home to cities with the highest climate risk in the world.”

**Emani Kumar, Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI and Executive Director, ICLEI South Asia:** “Bangladesh is actively engaging in significant policy, governance, and systemic transformations to enhance the resilience of its communities and pursue a sustainable, net-zero emissions pathway. The Dhaka North and South City Corporations’ CAPs not only align with national and international climate commitments but also set a proactive example in the global fight against climate change. This plan outlines concrete measures for sustainable urban development, enhancing energy efficiency, and promoting low-carbon transport, aiming for a climate-resilient future by 2050.”

To effectively implement this ambitious climate action plan and achieve the outlined goals and targets across various sectors, it is crucial to prioritise key strategies. These strategies encompass rapid transitions to renewable energy sources in different sectors, widespread adoption of electric and non-motorized vehicles, increasing urban green cover, and the endorsement of climate-compatible sustainable practices. This comprehensive approach, which includes raising awareness among stakeholders at different levels, is essential for successfully reducing GHG emissions and enhancing adaptability to current climate impacts. The success of these efforts relies on a coordinated and comprehensive approach across multiple sectors as indicated in this CAP.

#### About C40 Cities:

C40 is a network of nearly 100 mayors of the world's leading cities working to deliver the urgent action needed right now to confront the climate crisis and create a future where everyone, everywhere, can thrive. Mayors of C40 cities are committed to using a **science-based and people-focused approach** to help the world limit global heating to 1.5°C and build healthy, equitable and resilient communities. We work alongside a broad coalition of representatives from labour, business, the youth climate movement and civil society to support mayors to halve emissions by 2030 and help phase out fossil use while increasing urban climate resilience and equity.

The current co-chairs of C40 are Mayor Sadiq Khan of London, United Kingdom, and Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyer of Freetown, Sierra Leone; three-term Mayor of New York City Michael R. Bloomberg serves as President of the Board. C40's work is made possible by our three strategic funders: Bloomberg Philanthropies, Children's Investment Fund Foundation and Realdania.

To learn more about the work of C40 and our cities, please visit [our website](#) or follow us on [X](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

### About ICLEI South Asia:

[ICLEI South Asia](#) is the South Asian arm of ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, a global network of more than 2500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 100+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low-emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient, and circular development. ICLEI South Asia works to support cities on multiple aspects of sustainable development, in order to achieve tangible improvements in regional and global sustainability through local initiatives.

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