



# Green Public Procurement Pledge Announcement



## GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PLEDGE ANNOUNCEMENT

We, the undersigned governments, are committed to helping drive the global decarbonisation of heavy industries by creating a market demand for low and near zero emission steel, cement, and concrete, through public procurement.

We recognise that public procurement represents a significant share of steel and concrete markets. These materials remain as two of the most carbon intensive commodities on the planet – collectively, accounting for over 10 per cent of global emissions<sup>i</sup> and just under 50 per cent of industrial emissions<sup>ii</sup> – and continue to face a unique set of challenges in reducing emissions. The presence of a significant demand for low carbon steel, cement and concrete, especially in the construction sector, is a positive enabler to decarbonisation.

We recognise that transparent and harmonised emissions accounting standards and definitions for low and near zero emission steel, cement and concrete are foundations that underlie green public procurement.

We recognise the need for inter- and intra- governmental collaboration and cross-sectoral dialogue to accelerate public procurement commitments and implementation.

### **Our commitments:**

We pledge to adopt timebound commitments for procurement of low emission steel, cement and concrete, and/or to set emissions reduction thresholds for whole project life cycle assessments, to achieve net zero emissions in public buildings and/or built infrastructure. We also commit to support innovation and the deployment of breakthrough technologies by stimulating demand and commercialization of near zero emission materials.

We commit to support the development and use of harmonised emissions accounting standards and definitions for low and near zero emission construction materials, starting with steel, cement and concrete. We will use robust Type III Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) or otherwise independently verified Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) as the basis for standardised reporting and defining GHG intensity levels in public procurement. We will also work together with stakeholders to improve harmonisation of EPD Product Category Rules (PCRs) for the target materials.

We will report transparently on progress towards the IDDI green public procurement commitments.



**Government of Canada**



**Federal Government of Germany**



**Government of the United Arab Emirates**



**Government of the United Kingdom**



**Government of the United States of America**

## Canada

We will report transparently on progress towards the IDDI green public procurement commitments. As the largest asset owner and public procurer in Canada, the Government of Canada owns over 34,000 buildings and 20,000 engineering assets and spends over \$30 billion a year through procurement. In 2020, the Government of Canada updated its Greening Government Strategy (GGS) which included strengthening its commitments to procure low carbon materials and designs in its major construction projects. These commitments were supported by stakeholder consultations with industry, experts across government, and civil society and consultations continue to support policy development and implementation.

*In line with the [IDDI GPP Pledge](#), the government of Canada is taking the following actions:*

### Pledge Level 1

In 2020, the Government of Canada signaled its intent to require embodied carbon disclosure. In 2022, it published the Standard on Embodied Carbon in Construction that established procurement requirements on design and construction services contracts for the disclosure and reduction in embodied carbon of ready-mixed concrete used in its major projects.<sup>1</sup> As a result, concrete and cement associations and suppliers across Canada have developed Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) and are able to disclose the amount of embodied carbon in their products. Other construction material sectors are following suit and creating Canadian EPDs. Practical guidance on the disclosure of embodied carbon for concrete has been developed and is now being used by project teams, designers, builders, and material suppliers across the country. In March of 2024 the Government of Canada published a request for information to provide advanced notice to suppliers on its intent to incorporate additional requirements to the standard to disclose and limit the embodied carbon of steel construction products in major projects.

### Pledge Level 2

The Government of Canada will begin conducting whole-building (or asset) life cycle assessments (LCAs) for major projects that it procures, starting with all major building construction projects by 2025. Several current projects are piloting the use of whole-building LCA in their design and additional upcoming projects are being identified. The GGS prioritizes the use of recycled and lower-carbon materials, material efficiency and performance-based design to achieve its embodied carbon targets for federal construction projects. Between 2022 and 2024, the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) created a set of guidance documents that provide a consistent LCA methodology for building projects which is now being shared across all levels of government, and beginning to be referenced in professional training and post-

secondary courses. Over time, methodologies will be developed for and applied to other types of infrastructure and engineering assets, strengthening quantification of carbon-related emissions and reductions in Canada. Government has also committed to being net-zero emissions by 2050 including government-owned and leased real property, and in the procurement of goods and services.<sup>2</sup>

### Pledge Level 3

Through the GGS, the Government of Canada has committed to reducing the embodied carbon of major federal construction projects by 30% starting in 2025. Its Standard on Embodied Carbon in Construction established requirements to reduce embodied carbon of ready-mixed concrete since 2022, and the government has recently consulted industry on proposed requirements for construction steel. Canada's NRC is working with industry to acquire life cycle emissions data to establish a foundation for assessing the GHG performance of construction materials and built assets. Public Services and Procurement Canada has integrated requirements for low-carbon concrete into its project management practices, recently applying it to projects that include a new Taxation Centre in Quebec, and the Burlington Lift Bridge Deck on the western shore of Lake Ontario. They are also piloting the use of whole building LCA to reduce embodied carbon through design optimization, and innovative approaches such as the re-use of structural steel in the heritage restoration of our Parliament Building Centre Block.

### Pledge Level 4

Canada's Innovation, Science and Economic Development department offers an Innovative Solutions Canada (ISC)<sup>3</sup> program designed to help startups and SMEs overcome development hurdles so they can produce globally demanded products while also meeting government operational needs. An ISC challenge for Low Carbon Materials closed in October 2023 which aims to address market gaps that could be a barrier to delivery of federal government commitments such as those in the Greening Government Strategy. The Government of Canada also invests to secure long-term supply of lower and near zero emission materials through programs such as the Net Zero Accelerator<sup>4</sup>, the Energy Innovation Program<sup>5</sup>, and the investment tax credits announced in Budget 2023.<sup>6</sup> Recent investments include over a billion dollars in announcements supporting more than \$4 billion in decarbonization activities for steel and cement. Based on current levels of investment, Canada's cement and steel sectors will reduce nearly eight megatonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions by 2030, with more announcements pending as projects are approved.

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<sup>2</sup> [Greening Government Strategy: A Government of Canada Directive - Canada.ca](#)

<sup>3</sup> <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/innovative-solutions-canada/en>

<sup>4</sup> <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/innovative-solutions-canada/en>

<sup>5</sup> <https://natural-resources.canada.ca/science-and-data/funding-partnerships/opportunities/grants-incentives/energy-innovation-program/18876>

<sup>6</sup> [Clean economy investment tax credits \(ITCs\) - Canada.ca](#)

## Germany

The **Federal Government of Germany** has placed an efficient instrument mix for the decarbonization of the steel, cement, and concrete industries. The continuously rising price of carbon dioxide emissions, as well as a set of funding programs supporting investments in low emission production, address both investment and operating costs, making green construction materials more competitive over time. The publication of Germany's concept on [Green lead markets](#) in 2024 was an additional step to create green markets, scale demand for low emission and net zero steel, cement, and concrete, and provide the necessary information and market conditions for decarbonized construction materials to thrive. Therefore, green construction materials will be available as an economical option to the public sector.

Five elements form the foundation for Germany's Industrial Deep Decarbonization Initiative (IDDI) Green Public Procurement (GPP) Pledge commitments: the adoption of the Federal Climate Change Act (2021), the introduction of the BNB system for federal buildings (2013), the update to the Programme of Measures Promoting Sustainable Administrative Action (2021), and the BMWK concept on Green lead markets for climate-friendly basic materials (2024). Germany continues to grow its ambitions on sustainable materials and construction to align with national and EU climate targets, increasingly implementing all four levels of the IDDI GPP Pledge:

*In line with the [IDDI GPP Pledge](#), the Federal Government of Germany is taking the following actions:*

### Pledge Level 1

Since 2013, all new federal construction projects and complete refurbishments of buildings over €2 million by the Federal Government of Germany must meet the Silver Standard of the Assessment System for Sustainable Building (Bewertungssystem Nachhaltiges Bauen, BNB). The Silver Standard of BNB influences the planning of the building and affects the procurement and grant promotion processes. A mandatory part of the BNB is a whole project life cycle assessment, which includes the disclosure of emissions from the used materials, such as cement, steel, and concrete.

### Pledge Level 2

Lifecycle assessments (LCAs) for federal construction projects for buildings have been required for more than 10 years. They are also a mandatory part of the BNB framework, to evaluate the environmental impact of buildings over their entire life cycle and ensure sustainability targets in the building and public sectors are reached. Data is collected in the form of EN 15804 compliant Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) or Life Cycle Inventory datasets in the publicly available, free of charge platform "[Ökobaudat](#)", the mandatory standardized database for the BNB standard's Assessment System for Sustainable Buildings.

When planning, selecting, and implementing investments and purchasing, the Federal Government of Germany assesses how these investments can contribute to achieving the national climate action goals, particularly the goal of climate neutrality by 2045 (Federal Climate Change Act §13).

These measures are set out in different German programs and laws, in particular in the Program of measures promoting sustainable administrative action, as well as in individual specific sources such as the Energy Efficiency Act and the Energy Efficiency Specifications for Federal Buildings. The "[Roadmap for a climate and greenhouse gas neutral federal administration](#)" offers a broad overview of the different measures that have been adopted.

### Pledge Level 3

With the current programme of measures adopted in 2021, the German government has decided to further develop the standard silver of the BNB to support the goal of a climate-neutral federal administration. This will result in increased demand for low emission cement/concrete and steel due to enhanced thresholds for whole life carbon emissions (WLC) in BNB. The further development of the BNB will be completed in 2025.

Currently, the government is working on a reform of the public procurement law, which aims to make the use of sustainability criteria in procurement procedures more binding at the national level. This could positively impact the demand for "green" basic materials such as steel, as purchaser would be encouraged to apply environmental criteria like the CO2 footprint.

### Pledge Level 4

With the current programme of measures adopted in 2021, the German government has decided to integrate requirements into the BNB that will lead to an increased demand for low emission and net zero construction materials, including steel and cement. For this purpose, the responsible ministries, agencies, and institutes on the federal level develop concrete minimum requirements for building materials, starting in 2024. Specifically, from the Programme of measures adopted in 2021, Section II. Construction, renovation and managing of federal properties:

"3 (f) minimum requirements for building materials and products with the aim of identifying construction products and services that are particularly relevant in terms of sustainability, and to develop specified requirements such as carbon dioxide emission from production for "green" steel or cement to be met and where necessary (...)."

This development is currently in progress.

## United Arab Emirates

The Industrial Decarbonization Roadmap launched by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in 2023, outlines a path towards achieving the nation's ambitious climate objectives for the industrial sector. The roadmap recognizes the pivotal role of green procurement in enabling decarbonization in industry. Notably, efforts to integrate sustainability into federal government construction projects have been ongoing since 2019, marked by the publication of sustainability guidelines for buildings, new roads, and corporate projects. In 2021, sustainability guidelines for operations and maintenance (O&M) and housing were introduced, followed by the implementation of a national green building code regulation in 2022.

### Pledge Level 1

According to the Sustainability Guideline for Buildings it is mandatory to assess the carbon associated with each material used in the federal project and create awareness of the carbon emissions associated with the production and transportation of materials. Using the provided carbon table, calculate the embodied carbon of all the materials used in the project. The project team can use environmental product declaration (EPD) which conforms to ISO 14025, EN 15840 or ISO 21930 and should ensure that there is at least a 5% reduction in the project's embodied carbon compared to business-as-usual practices. Moreover, the national green building regulation is designed to fulfill the mandatory, minimum energy and water standards for the new buildings in the UAE. The purpose of the NGBR is to ensure, but not to limit, the implementation of the minimum sustainability measures in the new buildings across UAE.

Additionally, in 2023, the UAE introduced the Scheme for Construction Steel Products, which outlines the minimum quality and operational requirements for construction steel production. This scheme aims to enhance product safety and quality, ensure full traceability, digitize the supply chain, and promote sustainable production and emission reduction. Developed by a dedicated working group comprising various public and private sector stakeholders, the regulation underwent multiple rounds of consultations with a broader group of stakeholders. It includes sustainability requirements such as compliance with Environmental Management Systems (EMS), ISO 14001, and obtaining an EPD. Manufacturers were given a 365-day grace period for implementation. Future projects include plans to extend EPD disclosure requirements to other construction product categories.

### Pledge Level 2

The Sustainability Guideline for Buildings aims to create awareness of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with federal construction projects and promote the adoption of less emission-intensive construction practices and materials. Using the provided carbon table, an inventory of carbon emissions associated with construction activities and materials must be

developed. The guideline encourages sustainable construction practices by promoting emission-reducing strategies throughout the project lifecycle. Detailed records, including carbon emission calculations, material receipts, and transportation details, must be meticulously maintained at different project stages (planning, design, construction).

### **Pledge Level 3**

Recognizing the importance of stimulating green demand for decarbonization, the Federal Government of the UAE announced the Green ICV in 2023 to encourage sustainability practices across various supply chains. Companies implementing sustainability-related standards and policies gain a competitive edge in the procurement processes of participating entities. Companies and manufacturers are evaluated based on their sustainability practices, water management, material circularity, and emissions reduction, among other criteria.

Federal construction projects also promote the procurement of sustainable materials by mandating specific requirements. For example, at least 15% of aggregates used on-site (by volume) must be recycled aggregates, and at least 50% of all reinforcing or stressing steel (by weight) should have a minimum of 90% recycled content. Moreover, use of regional materials to support the local economy and reduce the harmful environmental impacts of transporting materials over long distances.

Additionally, the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah launched Green Public Procurement (GPP) Guidelines in 2020 (updated in 2022), setting the framework for the voluntary implementation of GPP in the government of Ras Al Khaimah. The GPP Guidelines focus on reducing the direct energy and water consumption of products, services, and works purchased by government entities, and aim to stimulate the local market to produce and offer green products and services.

### **Pledge Level 4**

The UAE is co-chair to the Cement and Concrete Breakthrough Initiative launched at COP28, with the goal of convening initiatives and countries to strengthen international collaboration and accelerate progress towards making near-zero emission cement the preferred choice in global markets, with efficient use and near-zero emission cement production established and growing in every region of the world by 2030. Furthermore, the UAE and Bloomberg Philanthropies are funding the Industrial Transition Accelerator (ITA) initiative also launched at COP28. Co-chaired by H.E Dr Sultan Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and COP28 President, alongside Simon Stiell, UN Climate Change Executive Secretary, Michael R. Bloomberg, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Climate Ambition and Solutions, and Mark Carney, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Climate Action and Finance.



Through dialogue with industry and finance, the ITA has identified three critical requirements to accelerate demand effective policies, clear product standards and mechanisms to facilitate product offtake. In response, the ITA is launching a green demand stimulation policy playbook during COP29. This playbook identifies government policies that could be implemented to drive demand for low and near-zero carbon solutions in heavy transport (aviation, maritime) and heavy industry sectors, such as aluminium, cement & concrete, chemicals, and iron & steel. The playbook has been prepared by the Industrial Transition Accelerator (ITA) secretariat in consultation with over 100 organisations.

## United Kingdom

The **Government of the United Kingdom** identified green public procurement as a goal in The National Procurement Policy Statement. Over the course of 2023/24 the UK has continued to gather stakeholder input through an exploratory consultation and technical workshops on the definitions, measurements methods and demand signals for green steel and cement, which included engagement with industry, science and civil society.

*In line with the [IDDI GPP Pledge](#), the government of the United Kingdom is taking the following actions:*

### Pledge Level 1

In line with the UK government's Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy and Net Zero Strategy, the UK Government will use public procurement to drive change and reduce emissions in public construction projects. UK businesses already meet a range of emission reporting requirements, including those of the UK Emissions Trading Scheme. In 2023 the UK Government consulted on embodied emission requirements for the purpose of demand side and carbon leakage policies.

The requirement and standardisation of Whole Life Cycle Carbon Assessments and reporting has been established across major construction procuring government departments since 2022, with progress indicating adoption not only within new projects in the Government Major Projects Portfolio but also extending to other major projects across the public sector.

We intend to consult on the development of an embodied emissions reporting framework, which will seek to introduce a standardised methodology for monitoring and reporting of the embodied emissions of products, such as steel and cement/concrete. This will allow the UK Government to collect and publicise robust, consistent data – supporting effective green procurement decisions and improved targeting of government policy.

### Pledge Level 2

The UK Government is bound by the Climate Change Act 2008, which commits to a 100% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 compared to 1990 levels. By the Level 2 pledge implementation date of 2030, Whole Life Cycle Assessments in the UK should be well established with data and insights informing interventions to optimise decarbonisation. The UK's Construction Playbook sets out key policies for public projects and states that all Contracting Authorities should have strategies in place to achieve net zero carbon across their portfolio of estates and infrastructure assets by 2050.

In addition, the Net Zero Estate Playbook captures guidelines outlining the Government's expectations of how property estates teams should implement improvements and interventions to buildings and estates to improve energy efficiency and contribute to the achievement of

the Net Zero 2050 commitment. This requires organisations within government to develop decarbonisation plans for construction and operational emissions, as part of a Strategic Asset Management Plan for the organisation. Contracting Authorities are already encouraged to embed a whole life approach to sustainability, including carbon management and wider environmental benefits during the development of the business case, then into the project design phase.

### **Pledge Level 3**

Already in the UK, all government departments and their related organisations must ensure that they meet the minimum mandatory Government Buying Standards for construction and major refurbishment projects. These require the application of the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) standards, or equivalent, which recognise the use of low carbon steel and concrete, and embodied carbon measurement as ways of minimising a project's life cycle impact. The wider UK public sector is also encouraged to specify the minimum mandatory standards in tenders.

The UK Government is developing a technical consultation, which will support the development of voluntary product standards for low-carbon steel and cement/concrete and establish an approach towards an embodied emissions reporting framework. The consultation will also provide a foundation for future procurement policies, options for which are currently being explored.

### **Pledge Level 4**

To support future production of near-zero emission steel and cement, and procurement of these products for signature projects, the UK Government is supporting the decarbonisation of the steel and cement sectors through various policies. The £1 Billion Net Zero Innovation Portfolio (NZIP) provides support to companies, including those in the UK steel and cement sectors, to decarbonise. NZIP has funded studies on the use of both hydrogen production in Iron and green hydrogen in steel. The UK steel and cement sectors can also bid into the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund, which is providing £500 million in funding to support industrial sites with high energy use transition to a low carbon future. Moreover, to reduce the carbon emissions from industries such as steel and cement, the UK Government initiated the £210 million Industrial Decarbonisation Challenge. This initiative supports the development of low-carbon technologies and infrastructure.

The UK Government has committed to investing up to £20 billion in the early development of Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage. The UK Government is committed to deploying at least two CCUS clusters by the mid-2020s and four by 2030, with the world's first net zero industrial cluster by 2040.



## United States of America

### Pledge Level 1

There has been significant progress across the U.S. Government to advance the disclosure of embodied carbon in construction materials. Progress largely falls into two categories – (i) new grant funding to improve the quality and quantity of data on embodied carbon in construction materials and (ii) new or updated policies that address embodied carbon in federal procurement.

**Grant funding:** In the summer of 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced more than \$160 million in grants to improve the measurement of embodied carbon in construction materials. EPA selected 38 recipients around the country, whose work will make it easier to collect, calculate, and report the emissions associated with construction materials. Ranging from \$250,000 to \$10 million, the grants will help construction material manufacturers develop robust, high-quality environmental product declarations (EPDs), which analyze a product's environmental impacts across its lifecycle. EPDs allow buyers to compare products' embodied emissions, catalyzing more sustainable purchasing decisions. The grant selections support a diverse range of projects to help measure and ultimately reduce greenhouse gases, including a project in Georgia to assess the emissions savings that result from switching from higher-carbon components in cement and concrete to recycled and innovative materials. EPA has also announced new updates to its Label Program for Low Embodied Carbon Construction Materials that will define, identify, and label the cleanest materials in the market.

**New or updated policies:** The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has advanced at least 50 of their 150 projects that will utilize \$2.15 billion in Inflation Reduction Action (IRA) funding to purchase low-embodied carbon construction materials during the first year of GSA's IRA Buy Clean program, suppliers published over 17,000 new EPDs to meet GSA's demand for cleaner products.

As part of the same program, in May 2023 the agency established new IRA LEC Requirements, which define which clean materials qualify for GSA's IRA projects. The Requirements include numerical thresholds for the Global Warming Potential (GWP) of concrete, asphalt, steel, and flat glass.

Additionally, in May 2024, GSA released its 2024 P100 Facilities Standards for concrete and asphalt. These standards require EPDs for concrete and asphalt, and reductions in whole-building embodied carbon by 20% for all projects using at least 10 cubic yards of concrete.

Many other federal agencies, states, cities, and private-sector entities have strengthened their requirements for the use of EPDs to disclose emissions over the last year. All of this work has improved emissions disclosures and data quality on concrete and steel in the United States.

## Pledge Level 2

The U.S. Government is working to further reduce the emissions from Federal or Federally-funded infrastructure projects, including through additional efforts by leading agencies to advance their Buy Clean programs. In 2024, EPA issued its Label Program Approach for Identifying Low Embodied Carbon Construction Materials, which contemplates future exploration of whole lifecycle methods of quantifying emissions. Additionally, GSA anticipates that, if it is able to source low-embodied carbon materials meeting GSA's most stringent limits for all of its IRA-funded projects, the use of those materials alone will avoid the equivalent of over 40,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions. This reduction estimate is in addition to the 2.3 million tons of operational greenhouse gas emissions — equivalent to taking a half-million gas-powered cars off the road for a year — that GSA anticipates avoiding thanks to IRA funding for building electrification and efficiency.

## Pledge Level 3

In 2024, the U.S. Government continued to advance programs to procure low-embodied carbon construction materials in federally-funded infrastructure.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has released two funding opportunities to provide \$2 billion in IRA funding to states and other local governments to procure cleaner construction materials in infrastructure from state highways to city bridges. First, in March, U.S. DOT's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) made \$1.2 billion available to states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico through a Request for Applications (RFA) to fund activities and projects that reduce pollution, including carbon emissions, through the use of low-embodied carbon materials and products. Then, in August, FHWA made \$800 million of IRA funding available to non-state applicants, including cities, Tribes, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and other agencies through a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). DOT has engaged dozens of states and other local governments on these funding opportunities.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will work with its applicants to integrate cleaner materials into projects around the country that build back after natural disasters. In the fall of 2024, FEMA announced its first pilot projects to implement Buy Clean principles into its \$12 billion of annual construction spending, including on a water treatment plant in California that will use low carbon steel and a Utah-based infrastructure rebuilding project using low carbon concrete.

Finally, public and private sector actors – including Michigan, New York State, Washington State, the City of New York, the City of Los Angeles, and others – are committing to support low-embodied carbon concrete through procurement programs and projects that embody the principles of Buy Clean.

#### Pledge Level 4

The Federal Buy Clean Initiative provides demand-side support for cleaner construction materials. Alongside this work, the U.S. Government is also advancing numerous grant and incentives programs to support commercial applications of new technologies to reduce the embodied emissions of construction materials.

For example, in March 2024, DOE announced over 30 awards in its Industrial Demonstrations Program, to support work on projects that range from new ways to manufacture cement to the development of hydrogen-fueled zero-emissions steel. The program is providing \$6.3 billion funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and IRA to advance transformational technologies necessary to decarbonize the U.S. industrial sector. Programs such as this one highlight how the U.S. Government is working to provide cleaner alternatives to some of the most carbon-intensive materials in the world.

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## THE GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT STATEMENT OF INTENT

We, the undersigned<sup>7</sup> governments<sup>8</sup>, are committed to helping drive the global decarbonisation of heavy industries by creating a market demand for low and near zero emission steel, cement, and concrete, through public procurement.

Recognising that,

- » Public procurement represents a significant share of steel and concrete markets. These materials remain as two of the most emission intensive commodities on the planet – accounting for ~16% of global GHG emissions – and continue to face a unique set of challenges in reducing emissions. The presence of a significant demand for low and near zero emission steel, cement and concrete, especially in the construction sector, is a positive enabler to decarbonisation.
- » Transparent and harmonised emissions accounting standards and definitions for low and near zero emission steel, cement and concrete are foundations that underlie green public procurement.
- » Inter- and intra- governmental collaboration and cross-sectoral dialogue are needed to accelerate public procurement commitments and implementation.

We state our intention to,

- » Develop a timebound plan for procurement of low and near zero emission steel, cement and concrete, requiring disclosure of embodied emissions in these materials, and use of whole project life cycle assessments, to achieve net zero emissions in all public construction projects.
- » Report transparently on the implementation of the plan with a view to advance towards the Industrial Deep Decarbonisation Initiative Green Public Procurement Pledge.
- » Collaborate on the development and use of harmonised emissions accounting standards and definitions for low and near zero emission construction materials, starting with steel, cement and concrete.
- » Share best practices and experiences to advance green public procurement of low and near zero emission steel, cement and concrete.

<sup>7</sup> Signatories, represented by an authorised official, will inform the IDDI Secretariat in a letter signed by the authorised official of their commitment to the Statement.

<sup>8</sup> Government entities at national or, if in accordance with domestic/internal constitutional arrangements, subnational level may be signatories to the Statement.

## Austria

The Federal Government of Austria is pleased to announce its significant progress towards the procurement of low and near zero emission steel, cement, and concrete.

*In line with the [IDDI GPP Statement of Intent](#), the Federal Government of Austria is taking the following actions:*

The Austrian Action Plan for Sustainable Public Procurement (the “naBe action plan”) was created as a binding procurement policy for federal Ministries and purchasing bodies. The action plan offers criteria for public procurement to harmonize criteria with sustainable procurement plans and to secure a pioneering role in EU green public procurement. Additionally, a competence center for sustainable public procurement has been implemented (the “naBe platform”). The platform serves as point of contact for the action plan, supports procurement officials and additional stakeholders in the implementation of sustainable criteria within tenders and in dealing with their implications impacting procurement practices, and coordinates working groups that regularly update the materials’ criteria.

Overall, the Federal Government of Austria has advanced discussions around green public procurement and the development of requirements for public projects. In 2021, the naBe platform published revised criteria for civil and structural engineering with requirements for selected construction materials. Regarding building quality, the naBe requires at least Austria’s ‘klimaaktiv-Silber standard’ while defining various criteria for construction materials. Specified requirements for concrete and cement in the federal building criteria are planned to be implemented in the upcoming revision.

To share best practices and experience in the field of green public procurement, the Federal Government of Austria is a member of the “Net-Zero Government Initiative” and participates actively in the working groups of Cement and Steel Breakthrough, and the Climate Club. The Federal Government of Austria has proactively established an exchange format on the standards and labels activities for low and near zero construction materials, to involve and inform relevant stakeholders in Austria and connect them with international actors and discussions. Experts from the companies in the steel and cement committees have also been involved in the discussions surrounding emissions accounting methodologies and definitions by the International Energy Agency’s Working Party on Industrial Decarbonization (IEA WPID).

The Federal Government of Austria has published its annual progress report for the IDDI to showcase its efforts to transparently report on the implementation of its plans and commitments. Moreover, after publishing [Austria’s Roadmap to Greening Government Operations](#), the Federal Ministry for Climate Action and the Federal Ministry of Finance

announced they will jointly develop a strategy and action plan for a net zero public administration, in line with the government's existing green budgeting method.

## Japan

Subsequent to its commitment to the Statement of Intent and internal consultation across ministries, the Government of Japan is pleased to report on progress towards the procurement of low and near zero emission construction projects and materials.

With a view to its use as an indicator in future public procurement and other areas, the Government of Japan, recognizing the challenges of achieving immediate decarbonization, is advancing discussions to develop an indicator to evaluate the reduced emissions of products particularly associated with hard to abate sectors. Furthermore, in collaboration with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the government of Japan promotes the concept of avoided emissions, which evaluates how the introduction of solutions such as products or technologies has contributed to society-wide emission reductions.

The Government of Japan is collaborating with IDDI member governments on the development and use of harmonised emissions accounting standards and definitions, including facilitating the Japanese Iron and Steel Federation to present to IDDI members on GHG chain of custody approaches.

The Government of Japan is actively sharing best practices for industrial decarbonization: In addition to collaborating with the IDDI, it is a member of the Climate Club, an intergovernmental forum for exchange on industry decarbonization, and the Steel Breakthrough, which aims to strengthen international collaboration to make clean technologies and sustainable solutions the most affordable, accessible and attractive option in key sectors and in all regions by 2030. Japan is also a Government Partner of the First Movers Coalition, a global coalition of companies leveraging their purchasing power to decarbonize the world's heavy-emitting sectors including cement and steel.

- i. Industry Chapter [combined figures from sections 11.4.1.1 and 11.4.1.2] (2022). In IPCC, 2022: Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. doi: [10.1017/9781009157926.013](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009157926.013).
- ii. IPCC (2022), Summary for Policymakers. In: Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. doi: [10.1017/9781009157926.001](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009157926.001).





UNITED NATIONS  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

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Progress by innovation

