

Race to Zero for Universities & Colleges



Dear Education Leaders

Invitation to Join the Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges

We invite you to join the Race to Zero by signing up [here](#).

Led by the High-Level Climate Champions for Climate Action – Nigel Topping and Gonzalo Muñoz – the Race To Zero mobilizes actors outside of national governments to join the Climate Ambition Alliance, which was launched at the UNSG's Climate Action Summit in 2019 by the President of Chile, Sebastián Piñera.

The objective is to build momentum around the shift to a decarbonized economy ahead of COP26, where governments must strengthen their contributions to the Paris Agreement. This will send governments a resounding signal that businesses, cities, regions, investors and universities and colleges are united in meeting the Paris goals and creating a more inclusive and resilient economy.

By joining the Race to Zero, you will help demonstrate both the education sector's commitment to the net zero agenda as well as your institution's leadership on a global level at COP26 in November 2021.

You can share your institution's existing net zero target now or you can make a new commitment on your institution's behalf to setting a target. If you are still working on your climate action plan you can share these at a later date.

By [joining the Race to Zero](#) you are committing to the following Race to Zero criteria:

- **Pledge:** Pledge at the head-of-organization level to reach (net) zero GHGs as soon as possible, and by mid-century at the latest, in line with global efforts to limit warming to 1.5C. Set an interim target to achieve in the next decade, which reflects maximum effort toward or beyond a fair share of the 50% global reduction in CO2 by 2030 identified in the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5C
- **Plan:** Within 12 months of joining, explain what actions will be taken toward achieving both interim and longer-term pledges, especially in the short- to medium-term.
- **Proceed:** Take immediate action toward achieving (net) zero, consistent with delivering interim targets specified.
- **Publish:** Commit to report publicly both progress against interim and long-term targets, as well as the actions being taken, at least annually.

Thank you again for your leadership and commitment.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SB', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sam Barratt
Chief
Youth, Education and Advocacy Unit, UNEP

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Iain A Patton'.

Iain Patton
CEO
EAUC