

2021 is the moment for methane. The CCAC-UNEP *Global Methane Assessment* set out an opportunity to change the climate trajectory within the next 20 years—a critical timeframe for slowing warming and self-reinforcing feedbacks enough to avoid passing dangerous tipping points. The 6<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report of the IPCC concluded that methane mitigation is a standout option for achieving near- and long-climate and air quality benefits.

- To capture this moment, U.S. and EU are leading a global effort for countries to commit to a Global Methane Pledge. The Pledge commits countries to collectively reduce emissions of methane from all sectors by at least 30% below 2020 levels by 2030 and to take comprehensive domestic action to achieve this target.
- The Global Methane Pledge is a strong first step as the first-ever Heads-of State global commitment to cut methane emissions at a level consistent with a 1.5°C pathway. The 30% goal serves as an ambitious floor to start from. As countries get better at reducing methane and technologies improve and human behavior changes, ambition will rise.
- The 2021 [Global Methane Assessment](#) reported that, by 2030, global human-driven methane emissions are expected to reach around 410 Mt per year and should be reduced by between 130 and 230 Mt per year, with an average of about 180 Mt, to be consistent with a 1.5°C pathway.
- The Global Methane Pledge could achieve approximately 145 Mt in annual reductions in 2030, equivalent to a 35% reduction compared to expected 2030 emissions levels, which is consistent with a 1.5°C level of mitigation.
- If all countries commit to and take the necessary actions to achieve this goal:
  - **0.22°C** warming would be avoided by 2050;
  - **205,000 premature deaths** would be **avoided** annually due to respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses by 2030;
  - **624,000 asthma-related emergency room visits** and respiratory-related hospital admissions per year **would be avoided by 2030**;
  - **Crop yields would increase annually by 8,000,000 tonne** in global wheat; **4,500,000 tonne** in global soy; **6,000,000 tonne** in global maize; and, **2,500,000 tonne** in global rice by 2030;
  - **60 billion work hours lost** would be **avoided annually** due to heat exposure beginning in the 2040s;
- Achieving the Global Methane Pledge will require substantial mitigation in all three main human-driven sectors for methane emissions: fossil fuels, waste, and agriculture. Targeted measures could avoid as much as 127 Mt (Fossil Fuels 64 Mt; Waste 31 Mt; Agriculture 32 Mt) of methane emissions globally by 2030, nearly all of the necessary 145 Mt reductions to meet the Global Methane Pledge.
- Existing pledges and strategies focused on actions pursued to achieve net-zero CO<sub>2</sub> and other sustainable development objectives, such as the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy and reducing methane from agricultural activities by, for example, reducing food waste and loss are expected to achieve additional mitigation consistent with the Global Methane Pledge.

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) is a recognized global leader in methane action and science, providing in depth analyses such as the *Global Methane Assessment*, and deploying its high-level convening power, exemplified by its support to the process that led to the [Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol](#). The CCAC is providing direct support to countries to implement methane reduction activities in all emitting sectors. The Coalition works closely with partners such as the UNEP-IMEO and Global Methane Initiative and together are well positioned to track and monitor progress on behalf of the GMP signatories. The Global Methane Pledge will be on the agenda for the upcoming CCAC Ministerial, on the margins of COP26.