

## **G20 Fossil Fuel Subsidies Sign-On Statement**

### **Implementation of G20 Commitment to Phase-Out Fossil Fuel Subsidies**

We – representing over 200 civil society organizations – urge G20 governments to establish a deadline for the phase out of fossil fuel subsidies and public finance for fossil fuels at the 2016 G20 Summit.

We were pleased to see the G20 Finance Ministerial in Shanghai on February 28, 2016, reaffirmed the long-standing G20 commitment to phase out fossil fuel subsidies, a promise which has been made at G20 leaders' summits every year since 2009. However, given the urgency of the climate change crisis, underscored by the Paris Agreement reached in December of 2015, the next steps on this commitment are long overdue.

To catalyze real progress on phasing out fossil fuel subsidies, the 2016 G20 communique should include clear language that:

- Sets a clear timeline for the full and equitable phase-out by all G20 members of all fossil fuel subsidies by 2020, starting with the elimination of all subsidies for fossil fuel exploration and coal production.
- Sets a clear timeline for the phase out of domestic and international public finance for oil, gas and coal production by 2020, except in extreme cases where there is clearly no other viable option for increasing energy access to the poor.
- Commits all G20 members to be fully transparent from 2017 onwards about all fossil fuel subsidies in a consistent format that is publicly available on an annual basis. The OECD inventory should be strengthened and expanded to include all G20 countries (based on the current OECD model for tracking agricultural subsidies). The G20 should simultaneously increase transparency of reporting on investment in and finance for fossil fuel production by G20 majority publicly-owned financial institutions and state-owned enterprises.

To signal a commitment to these objectives, G20 members could enshrine the following text in the 2016 G20 communique:

- We reinforce our commitment to phase out and rationalize fossil fuel subsidies by 2020, recognizing the need to support the poor, and supported by transparent and publicly available annual reporting. Fossil fuel subsidies encourage wasteful consumption, reduce our energy security, impede investment in clean energy sources and undermine efforts to deal with the threat of climate change.

- We commit to strengthening green and low-carbon policies and regulations with a view to ending public investment in oil, gas and coal projects both domestically and internationally by 2020, starting with the elimination of public finance for fossil fuel exploration and coal, supported by transparent and publicly available annual reporting.

These proposals (a) are in line with the objective of the recent Paris climate agreement to make “finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate resilient development.”, (b) fulfill the U.S. and China’s commitment to working closely with other G20 members to phase out fossil fuel subsidies by a “date certain” and the commitment in the China-US Joint Presidential Statement to “align finance flows with low-emission, climate-resilient development and to strictly control public investment flowing into projects with high pollution and carbon emissions,” (c) support the G20’s 2015 statements that “actions on energy, including improving energy efficiency, increasing investments in clean energy technologies and supporting related research and development activities will be important in tackling climate change and its effects”, and (d) on “the importance of diversification of energy sources and continued investments for increased energy security.” These proposals will also build on (e) the recent G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, in which G7 leaders reaffirm their commitment to “the elimination of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies and encourage all countries to do so by 2025.”

A recent assessment found that G20 governments are spending \$444 billion every year on support to fossil fuel production - via national subsidies (\$70 billion), investments by state-owned enterprises (\$286 billion) and public finance (\$88 billion). [1] The report shows that subsidies are locking in long-lived, high-emitting infrastructure and unlocking new fossil fuel reserves. This is at the very time that we need to be investing public resources into alternatives to fossil fuels, and in spite of the recognition that we will need to keep 80% or more of existing fossil fuel reserves in the ground if we hope to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Public finance continues to drive the climate crisis, while, by contrast, the cost of renewables is falling, and the investment returns on public support are better.

We urge G20 members to take the decisive steps toward ending fossil fuel subsidies outlined in this statement, with the key action being the establishment of an ambitious 2020 deadline for the phase out of subsidies, in order to drive sustained and scaled-up action in the coming years.

[1] <https://www.odi.org/publications/10058-empty-promises-g20-subsidies-oil-gas-and-coal-production>

*[Argentina]*

Center for Human Rights and Environment  
CIMA  
Foro del Buen Ayre

*[Australia]*

Australian Youth Climate Coalition  
Bayside Climate Change Action Group  
Centre for Climate Safety  
Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia  
Climate Action Hobart  
Climate Action Monaro  
Climate Justice Programme  
Darebin Climate Action Now  
Environment Victoria  
Market Forces  
Wodonga & Albury Towards Climate Health  
350 Australia

*[Brazil]*

Engajamundo

*[Canada]*

Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice  
Canadian Youth Climate Coalition  
Canadian Youth Delegation  
Environmental Defence Canada  
Friends of the Earth Canada  
Sierra Club Canada Foundation  
Stand  
Windfall Ecology Centre

*[China]*

Innovative Green Development Program

*[European Union]*

ACT Alliance  
BankTrack  
CAN-Europe  
Carbon Market Watch  
Change Partnership  
CIDSE  
Climate Express  
CNCD-11.11.11  
Concerned Citizens against Climate Change  
Diakonia  
E3G  
Entraide et Fraternité  
European Environmental Bureau  
Finnish Association for Nature Conservation  
Focus Association for Sustainable Development  
Fundacja Rozwój TAK Odkrywki NIE  
Green Budget Europe  
Health and Environment Alliance  
Health Care Without Harm  
Hivos  
Koalicja Klimatyczna  
Mouvement Ecologique  
Quercus - National Association for Nature Conservation  
SOS Faim  
Transport & Environment  
Women in Europe for a Common Future  
ZERO - Associação Sistema Terrestre Sustentável  
11.11.11

*[France]*

Alofa Tuvalu  
Réseau Action Climat  
Climates

*[Germany]*

BUND Sachsen e.V.  
Germanwatch

Green Budget Germany  
Jugendbündnis Zukunftsenergie  
Klima-Allianz Deutschland  
Urgewald

*[India]*

Beyond Copenhagen Collective  
JusTeach Foundation

*[Indonesia]*

The Habibie Center  
Indonesian Consumers Organisation  
Institute for Essential Services Reform  
People's Coalition for the Right to Water (KRuHA)  
350 Indonesia

*[Italy]*

Legambiente Onlus

*[Japan]*

Friends of the Earth Japan  
Kiko Network  
350 Japan

*[Korea]*

Korean Federation of Environmental Movements (Friends of the Earth Korea)

*[Mexico]*

Asociación de Usuarios del Agua de Saltillo  
Bicitekas AC  
CartoCrítica

Colectivo Ts'unel Bej  
Instituto de Políticas para el Transporte y el Desarrollo  
Latin American and the Caribbean Climate Finance Group

*[Russia]*

Friends of the Siberian Forests

*[South Africa]*

Economic Justice Network of Fellowship of Christian Councils in Southern Africa

*[Turkey]*

Çevre ve Tüketici Koruma Derneği  
Ecology Collective Association  
Emekli Öğretim Üyesi  
Foça Çevre ve Kültür Platformu  
Osmaniye Kastabala Çevre Platformu  
Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, For Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats  
WWF-Turkey  
Yeşil Düşünce Derneği  
Yuva Association

*[United Kingdom]*

Ashden Trust  
Carbon Tracker Initiative  
Environmental Funders Network  
Frederick Mulder Foundation  
JJ Charitable Trust  
Mark Leonard Trust  
New Economics Foundation  
Overseas Development Institute  
The Orp Foundation  
ShareAction  
Tax Justice Network  
This Changes Everything UK

UK Youth Climate Coalition

*[United States]*

Amazon Watch  
Ban the Bottle  
Bold Nebraska  
Center for Biological Diversity  
People for Renewable Energy Now  
Clean Water Action  
Climate Action New England  
Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy  
Climate Justice Project  
Climate Law & Policy Project  
Corporate Accountability International  
DC Divest  
Divest Dartmouth  
Earth Day Network  
Earth in Brackets  
Earthlust  
Elders Climate Action  
Energy Action Coalition  
Environment America  
Environmental Action Club  
Environmental Action Coalition  
Environmental Solutions Club  
Friends of the Earth U.S.  
Green Amherst Project  
iMatter  
Institute for Policy Studies Climate Policy Program  
Kentucky Student Environmental Coalition  
Labor/Community Strategy Center  
Montana Environmental Information Center  
Other 98%  
People for Sustainable Solutions  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Seacaucus Environmental Department  
Sierra Club  
Southern Oregon Climate Action Now  
Students for a Just and Stable Future  
SustainUS: U.S. Youth for Justice and Sustainability  
Union of Concerned Scientists

Utah State University Student Organization for Society and Natural Resources  
Virginia Student Environmental Coalition  
Youth for a Sustainable Future  
350 DC  
350 Louisiana  
350 New Hampshire  
350 Silicon Valley

*[International]*

Bicycle Solutions International  
CARE International - Poverty, Environment and Climate Change Network  
Clean Up the World  
The Climate Reality Project  
EKOenergy  
Fast for the Climate  
Forum for the Future  
Global Catholic Climate Movement  
Global Witness  
Greenpeace International  
International Institute for Sustainable Development - Global Subsidies Initiative  
International Union of Socialist Youth  
Leave It in the Ground Initiative  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Oil Change International  
Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport  
We Are The Solution  
World Renew  
WWF International  
Your Trash, Our Treasure  
350.org



Africa Youth Coalition Against Hunger (Africa)  
Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (Bangladesh)  
Asociación Ambiente y Sociedad (Colombia)  
Carfree (Nepal)  
Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change Research (Nigeria)  
Centro de Estudios de Movilidad en Bicicleta (Venezuela)  
Climate Change Network Nigeria (Nigeria)  
Climate Watch Thailand (Thailand)  
Cycle City Network Nepal (Nepal)  
Derecho, Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (Peru)  
Espacio (Colombia)  
Digo Bikas Institute (Nepal)  
East Africa Climate Change Network (East Africa)  
EKDJ (Latin America)  
From Words to Action (Nepal)  
Global South Initiative (Nepal)  
Greater Active Reconstruction and Justice Action Network-Nepal (Nepal)  
Iniciativa Construyendo Puentes (Latin America & Caribbean)  
Jóvenes por las Soluciones (Latin America)  
Kuku Ranch for Sustainability (East Africa)  
La Ciudad Verde (Colombia)  
Mom Loves Association (Taipei)  
Movimiento Ciudadano frente al Cambio Climático (Peru)  
New Zealand Climate Action Network (New Zealand)  
Our Niger Delta Environment (Nigeria)  
P3 Foundation (New Zealand)  
Reacción Climática (Bolivia)  
Sano Sansar Initiative (Nepal)  
Sociedad Amigos del Viento (Uruguay)  
Spaces for Change (Nigeria)  
TierrActiva Perú (Peru)  
We Need the Environment (Nepal)  
Young Sustainable Development Solutions (Benin)