

THE VANCOUVER DECLARATION

On Global Cooperation to Remove Carbon Dioxide

Our world is heating rapidly, and the stable climate that has long supported human civilization is beginning to erode in ways that may soon become irreversible. Confronting this crisis responsibly requires not only deep reductions in carbon dioxide emissions, but also the urgent development of our carbon dioxide removal (CDR) capabilities.

The science is clear:

- Over the past decade, the average near-surface temperature of our planet has risen faster and to higher levels than at any other period in recorded human history.
- Greenhouse gases—above all, carbon dioxide—are the primary drivers of this rise. Excess carbon dioxide has accumulated in our planet’s atmosphere, and this legacy pollution will continue trapping heat for generations.
- The impacts of increasing temperatures are already significant and will only intensify over the coming decades. Adapting to these changes will not be possible in many parts of the world.
- Simply reducing carbon dioxide emissions will not keep temperatures from reaching catastrophic levels by the end of this century. Climate experts recognize that removing carbon dioxide is also essential.

Developing our CDR capabilities is therefore among the most consequential challenges humanity has ever faced. Yet these capabilities are still emerging, and refining and responsibly scaling them to climate-relevant levels will require significant international engagement and cooperation. It will also require decisive government engagement, given the unique abilities and historic roles of governments in rapidly scaling infrastructure systems that serve the public good.

Recognizing the urgent need for collective action, through this Declaration, we come together in common cause across borders and governments to begin addressing this challenge in earnest. Building upon and working alongside existing climate agreements and programs, we will develop and mobilize new pathways and partnerships to support the research, finance, policy, governance, infrastructure development, and other elements that responsible CDR scaling requires, and devote to this challenge the priority, resources, and focus necessary for rapid and sustainable progress.

We stand at a pivotal moment in human history—one that requires trust in science, shared responsibility, and bold, united action. Through this Declaration, we act together today so we may better protect our present, and preserve a livable future for generations yet to come.