

Foreword

Climate change is a global challenge unlike any humanity has ever faced. Overcoming this challenge will require action by governments and a broad array of actors and organization across all sectors of our society and economy.

In 2015, governments of the world adopted the Paris Agreement. It entered into force in record time, and is being carried forward by a surge of action by so many.

This is our moment to transform development. To get on a cleaner, more sustainable path, we need everyone to be involved. The world is changing and so must all of us.

The UN Climate Change Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) initiative equips people for life in a changing world. ACE enables people to be part of the solutions. The program covers education, training, and public awareness and participation. ACE is looking to innovate and scale up successful initiatives that raise climate change awareness and prepare people for the road ahead. This how ACE helps build a low-carbon future that is resilient in the face of impacts.

One look at the projects in this book shows the diverse ways people can bring climate action into their daily lives.

In India, the Jal Jivan Hai education and communication campaign by NABARD reached out to over 100,000 villages to help with water conservation and water efficient technologies. These communities can now better manage their water resources, which helps local farmers.

In Japan, an ongoing education campaign encourages changes in behaviour to reduce emissions. In summer months, the Cool Biz campaign encourages a relaxed dress code and a 28-degree thermostat setting. It successfully shows that small shifts in behaviour by large numbers of people can produce real results.

This publication holds these examples and fifteen more. They are compelling success stories that show what is possible. This compilation of case studies gives valuable insights to the ACE National Focal Points and other policy-makers. Education, awareness raising and public participation hold enormous potential for accelerating climate action. We must tap this potential by empowering all people.

The world must move on climate further, faster, together. This is how we rise to the challenge we face and deliver a better future to every person and the planet we all share.

Patricia Espinosa

Executive Secretary, UNFCCC