Oxford Net Zero is an interdisciplinary climate impact research programme bringing together principles and policies, practical tools and progress tracking to inform effective climate action in the pathway to net zero.

In our first 6 months we have...

### Principles & Policies
Engaged hundreds of stakeholders over 12 sessions to develop criteria for net zero committers in the UNFCCC Race to Zero campaign.

Published new principles for net zero aligned offsetting.

Convened two All Parliamentary Party Groups on net zero pathways for the UK.

### Practical Tools
Built an interactive tool library with 400 practical tools for businesses and policymakers setting net zero targets, with 3,149 users in 73 countries.

Helped to start a climate business network with 767 new net zero commitments from SMEs.

### Progress Tracking
Developed the first ever global systematic stocktake of countries, regions, cities, states and major companies, tracking progress globally towards net zero.

Reported that one fifth of major global business and 56% of the global population is covered by a net zero target, noting variation in standards.

### Education & Engagement
Oxford Net Zero co-hosted a seminar series with the Oxford Martin School called The Road to Net Zero: Climate in the Balance, comprising 10 seminars with our Co-Investigators and partnering researchers. The total audience for this series was 2,770 attendees. Additionally, our strategic engagement fellow spoke on net zero principles, tools and progress at dozens of policy and business forums across the world to thousands of additional practitioners.

We have hosted two successful micro-internship programmes through the Oxford Careers Service working with sixteen Oxford students over the course of four weeks. These interns worked with us to translate net zero research into accessible language for our website and to review the best available resources for businesses and policymakers seeking to achieve the target. We were delighted to have multiple returning interns to our second internship cohort.

Business engagement
ONZ helped to develop an SME Climate pledge which has collected 767 net zero business commitments from 58 countries since November 2020.

Investment
The University of Oxford Strategic Research Fund has invested £2.2 million in the research programme bolstering additional departmental support and external funding.

Public seminars
ONZ co-hosted a seminar series with the Oxford Martin School with a total audience of 2,770 attendees. An earlier webinar series with the Race to Zero gathered over 600 attendees.

Practical tools
Our net zero tool library, launched just two months ago has been used widely.

- 3.1K Users
- 767 Business Pledges
- 73 Countries
- 6 Months in Numbers
- £2M Invested
- 434 Cities
- 3.3K Attendees
Leveling up net zero climate leadership in the United States: An analysis of subnational net zero targets & recommendations for the Federal Government

Oxford Net Zero demonstrates that for the first time, a majority of Americans live in a jurisdiction with a net zero emissions target. Furthermore, US companies accounting for at least $5.2 trillion in yearly sales have committed to net zero. This report identifies how policymakers can leverage the base of support to further accelerate the net zero transition in the US. By centring climate discourse on net zero emissions and targeting recovery spending to accelerate the transition, the Biden-Harris administration can begin the decisive decade with evidence-based policy that catalyses the nation’s commitment to averting climate catastrophe.

March 2021

Taking Stock: A global assessment of net zero targets

How aligned are we on the global path to net zero? Teaming up with ECIU, Oxford Net Zero surveyed more than 4,000 significant entities; all nations, all states and regions in the 25 highest-emitting countries; all cities with a population above 500,000; and all companies in the Forbes Global 2000 list. Together countries with net zero targets now represent 61% of global emissions, 68% of global Gross Domestic Product (in PPP terms) and 52% of the global population. The report is the first systematic analysis of net zero commitments across countries, sub-national governments and major companies.

March 2021

The Oxford Principles for Net Zero Aligned Carbon Offsetting

Carbon offsetting, if done properly, can contribute to net zero strategies, especially in hard-to-decarbonise sectors such as aviation and agriculture. However, offsetting, if not done well, can result in greenwashing and create negative unintended impacts for people and the environment. The multidisciplinary team from the University of Oxford sets out four key elements to credible net zero aligned offsetting and highlights the need for a credible approach to nature-based carbon offsets, such as forest restoration.

September 2020

IN THE MEDIA...

The Times
Companies drag heels on road to reaching net zero

Business Green
Oxford Net Zero: University unveils climate policy research initiative

Forbes
A Fifth Of World’s Largest Companies Committed To Net Zero Target

Independent
Is it too soon for America to adopt a comprehensive net-zero strategy?

Reuters
Net-zero emissions targets adopted by one-fifth of world's largest companies