



Climate Data Steering Committee Delegates Meeting Summary

March 1, 2023 and March 22, 2023

The Climate Data Steering Committee (CDSC or Committee) brings together a global and diverse group of leaders responsible for policy initiatives and creating frameworks for the provision of net-zero transition data. The CDSC was established by French President Emmanuel Macron and UN Special Envoy for Climate Ambition and Solutions Michael R. Bloomberg in June 2022 in response to global climate data challenges.

In November 2022, the CDSC released a white paper describing its vision for a global climate data repository that will be accessible to everyone free of charge – the Net-Zero Data Public Utility (NZDPU or Utility). The NZDPU will bring increased transparency to financial markets and consumers, help to accelerate efforts to direct capital to low- or zero-carbon investments, and provide the ability to monitor progress against emissions reductions targets. The CDSC will leverage input from global actors including climate data providers and civil society members to help oversee the delivery of the NZDPU and provide a forward-looking strategic vision for more accessible climate data.

MARCH 1 DELEGATES MEETING SUMMARY

The Committee held a meeting of delegates appointed by each CDSC Member on March 1, 2023. The meeting included opening remarks, a discussion on the development of the NZDPU, CDSC governance, administrative items, and CDSC areas of focus.

OPENING REMARKS

Opening remarks by CDSC Members emphasized the immense opportunity for the CDSC to collectively drive progress. The Members also highlighted the dedication that will be needed to achieve the goal of delivering a centralized and accessible climate data platform, which will ultimately be integrated with other data in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)'s Global Climate Action Portal. The opening remarks highlighted the imperative to ensure that the proper tools are available to key stakeholder groups to set concrete plans to accelerate the net-zero transition. The remarks also highlighted the critical importance of delivering a pilot version of the NZDPU in line with the CDSC's white paper by COP28. Delegates then shared perspectives on their engagement on the work of the CDSC.

NET-ZERO DATA PUBLIC UTILITY

The discussion focused on NZDPU development progress and its roadmap for making core climate data widely available. A pilot version of the NZDPU will be released by COP28. The pilot will include data on Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3 GHG emissions, and information on carbon credits and GHG emissions reductions targets in accordance with the CDSC's recommendations. Additional releases will expand the Utility's coverage and functionality.

The discussion included an overview of the planned NZDPU development, including the vision for the Utility, development roadmap, scope of the release ahead of COP28, and a view of specific goals within the product strategy.

The session also included discussion of key opportunities and challenges to consider when developing the NZDPU. This included discussion on interoperability between global climate-related disclosure standards and requirements, comparability between voluntary and mandatory climate disclosure data included on the platform, and handling of verification of data uploaded to the platform. Several CDSC delegates expressed concern around how differences in emissions reporting standards could lead to challenges for users of the Utility. Transparency, integrity, accountability, credibility, security, and ease of use were important considerations for the NZDPU's development.

Delegates also discussed opportunities for partnership and collaboration with a range of organizations within the climate data ecosystem towards common goals such as comprehensive, global data coverage. The NZDPU team will actively collaborate with companies, financial institutions, existing solutions providers, and other global actors to build upon existing climate data efforts. The NZDPU will also provide opportunities for companies to directly upload their data to the Utility, or upload through accredited service providers as appropriate. Several CDSC delegates voiced the importance of building awareness of the Utility and user capacity to enable companies to easily disclose data into the Utility and key user groups to effectively leverage its functionality.

GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

A brief discussion occurred on CDSC governance and administrative considerations, including meeting cadence, information sharing processes, and next steps.

AREAS OF FOCUS

A discussion was held on potential areas of focus for the CDSC, including early adoption, partnerships, and coordination with other relevant efforts, awareness and capacity building, data collection, globalization, interoperability, assurance and verification, and Scope 3 GHG emissions.

MARCH 22 DELEGATES MEETING SUMMARY

On March 22, the Committee held a special delegates session on the NZDPU request for proposal (RFP). During the session, the NZDPU team provided an update on the RFP process and described key objectives in selecting a contractor. The contractor will operate in accordance with the NZDPU's roadmap and technical direction to deliver the initial engineering build of the Utility in line with the CDSC white paper. The contractor will not make strategic decisions about the technical or subject matter direction of the NZDPU.

In the discussion, CDSC delegates shared their views on key considerations for the selection process, including the importance of assessing bidders' abilities to provide global capacity, transparency, efficiency, and credibility, to ensure data security and accessibility, and to incorporate user experience functionality that serves the needs of critical Utility user types.