



UNIVERSIDAD
POLITÉCNICA
DE MADRID



UPM Declaration on the Occasion of the 2019 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Madrid (COP25)

Preamble

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, defining 17 sustainable development goals, known as SDGs. SDG 13 focuses on Climate Action.

In 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) then published the *Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C (SR15)*, recommending the international community and the individual member nations to work towards limiting the global temperature increase with respect to preindustrial levels to 1.5°C and ensure that it does not exceed 2°C in 2050. This involves achieving zero net greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 worldwide, a target agreed at the 2015 Climate Change Conference in Paris (COP21).

The Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM) is very much aware of the dire evolution of the greenhouse effect gas concentration in the atmosphere and understands the risk that it poses to the planet's delicate bioclimatic and geophysical balance. If the Paris target is not met, humanity, and very especially the world's most vulnerable populations, are likely to suffer disastrous consequences.

As Spain's longest-standing university specializing in the disciplines of architecture, engineering, physical activity and sports science and fashion design, the UPM conscientiously assumes its responsibility as senior member of Spain's higher education community. Therefore, it understands that the best contribution that it can make to the battle unleashed against the climate clock is to educate and train people that know how to solve problems, and innovate and offer solutions to future challenges with a human and social face.

The UPM salutes the Madrid Climate Action Conference lemma # TimeForAction.

UPM's commitment to climate change action

Pursuant to the above, **the UPM endorses climate change action in line with the 17 SDGs on the 2030 Agenda, setting itself the interim goal of achieving zero net direct greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in order to achieve climate neutrality by 2040.**

In accordance with this declaration and these targets, the UPM will design and implement a strategic decarbonisation plan on its campuses, engaging students, administration and services staff and teaching and research staff, as well as all schools, research centres and institutes, departments and groups, in this effort.

Besides, it will ensure that all UPM students are fully aware of the implications of this declaration for their future professional career. UPM will also promote research and technology development to enable society to speed up emissions reduction and improve adaptation to climate change.

The UPM will make every effort to offer solutions capable of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions at a faster rate. It also prioritizes the human factor and human dignity, recognizing the suffering of the most vulnerable populations, in the search for strategies based on social innovation and technical development and technology to address this urgent process of change.

Universidad Politécnica de Madrid Governing Council, 28 November 2019