

## **“The 1 Giga ton Coalition” launched at the UN Climate Summit.**

22 September 2014

The government of Norway, supported by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), announced today, at the Climate Summit hosted by the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon in New York, its' intention to launch a new initiative called “The 1 Giga Ton Coalition”. Its aim is to support developing countries to measure and report reductions of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from their national actions on renewable energy and energy efficiency. The international energy and climate initiative Energy+ invites partners to join the Coalition and to support developing countries in their efforts to measure and report greenhouse gas emissions savings from the energy sector.

According to Ecofys a small number of initiatives and programs promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency in developing countries are currently measuring and reporting the reduced greenhouse gas emissions from implementing renewable energy and energy efficiency programs and projects. By joining the 1 Giga Ton Coalition, developing countries would be able to increase the visibility of their mitigation efforts in the energy sector and strengthen their technical capacity to better report their achievements to the UNFCCC

At the climate summit in Warsaw in 2013 (COP 19) it was stated: “ Intensifying, as from 2014, the technical examination of opportunities for actions with high mitigation potential, including those with adaptation and sustainable development co-benefits, with a focus on the implementation of policies, practices and technologies that are substantial, scalable and replicable, with a view to promoting voluntary cooperation on concrete actions in relation to identified mitigation opportunities in accordance with nationally defined development priorities.”

According to UNEP’s Emissions Gap report, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions required in 2020 in addition to the present pledges made by countries, is about 8 - 12 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e/year on a global scale to stay on track to comply with the 2 degrees goal. 3 – 4.5 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e of emissions can be avoided by realizing the full potential for renewable energy and energy efficiency globally. The 1 Giga ton Coalition will help to mobilize action to reduce the emission gap.

The 1 Giga ton Coalition is a voluntary international framework, and participation is open to both developed and developing countries as well as to intergovernmental organizations, representatives of the private sector and civil society. UNEP will coordinate the collection of data and the production of annual reports by working with the relevant existing initiatives and organization to ensure effective collaboration and to avoid any unnecessary duplication.

1 Giga Ton Coalition will be formally launched at COP20 in Lima in December 2014 by the Government of Norway in collaboration with UNEP and other partners.