

Explanation of Categories & Line Items

1. Cut Emissions- Reduce the total output of carbon emissions into the earth's atmosphere
 - a. Fossil Fuel Divestment- A denomination meets this requirement if they have never invested in fossil fuels at the national level; already divested from fossil fuels at the national level; OR if they have implemented a process of divestment at the national level that will be completed by 2050.
 - b. Green Infrastructure- A denomination meets this requirement if they have committed to the construction/renovation/retrofitting of denominational buildings to be environmentally responsible and resource-efficient AND have allocated resources to encourage local church buildings to do likewise.
 - c. Travel Alternatives- A denomination meets this requirement if they have implemented workplace policies that reduce the need for carbon-heavy work travel, including but not limited to: video conferencing, virtual offices, fuel-efficient vehicles, air travel offset programs, etc.
 - d. Advocacy & Lobbying: National- A denomination meets this requirement if they have an official committee of staff AND/OR volunteers working with local, state, AND national governments to pass legislation that reduces carbon consumption.
 - e. Advocacy & Lobbying: International- A denomination meets this requirement if they have an official committee of staff and/or volunteers working with multiple governments, global corporations, AND/OR international agencies to pass agreements that reduce carbon consumption.
2. Remove CO₂- Increase the planet's ability to remove carbon dioxide and offset its effects
 - a. Afforestation/Reforestation- A denomination meets this requirement if they can demonstrate evidence of engagement in afforestation/reforestation programs on the local or global level.
 - b. Return Stolen Land- A denomination meets this requirement if they have a working relationship with the leadership of one or more indigenous nations to protect colonized land from exploitation from corporate and government interests.
 - c. Responsible Consumption- A denomination meets this requirement if they have organizational policies that encourage low carbon alternatives for necessary equipment and supplies. This may include, but is not limited to: hybrid cars, vegetarian entrees at conferences, recycling and compost facilities in the workplace, elimination/reduction of plastic and single use products.

- d. Advocacy & Lobbying: National- A denomination meets this requirement if they have an official committee of staff AND/OR volunteers working with local, state, AND national governments to pass legislation that promotes strategies & technologies that offset the effects of carbon dioxide.
 - e. Advocacy & Lobbying: International- A denomination meets this requirement if they have an official committee of staff AND/OR volunteers working with multiple governments, global corporations, AND/OR international agencies to pass agreements that promote strategies & technologies that offset the effects of carbon dioxide.
3. Fight Disinformation- Strengthen public knowledge and trust in climate data
- a. Bible Study- A denomination meets this requirement if they have educational materials available to the public that includes ethical biblical study and examines the role of responsible discipleship in the climate crisis.
 - b. Media Campaign- A denomination meets this requirement if they have a targeted campaign for climate justice on social media, public television/radio, podcasts, blogs, magazines, newspapers, or any other mass media format.
 - c. Congregational Groups- A denomination meets this requirement if they have accessible tools to support the formation, training, and mobilization of climate groups at the congregational level.
 - d. Public Resolutions & Commitments- A denomination meets this requirement if they have released public resolutions, social commitments, OR ethical principles for intersectional and comprehensive climate justice.
 - e. Leadership Education & Training- A denomination meets this requirement if they have funding AND resources for clergy/lay leaders to deepen their understanding of climate justice. This may include: sermon series templates, conferences, continuing education courses, tuition reimbursement/scholarships for climate events, printed and online materials, etc.
4. Prepare & Adapt- Increase the capacity to survive extreme weather
- a. Welcoming Immigration Policies for Climate Refugees- A denomination meets this requirement if they have public social principles/resolutions affirming and promoting the inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers into their community AND/OR have done advocacy work in defense of refugees and asylum seekers in the US legal system.
 - b. Protections for Low-Income Families- A denomination meets this requirement if they produce, fund, AND/OR programmatically support ministries specializing in preparing low-income families to manage extreme weather. This may include, but

is not limited to: training and equipment to protect a home, job training for relocation, community disaster response planning, funding for utility bills, etc.

- c. Increase Disaster Funding- A denomination meets this requirement if they have a financial reserve or program specifically to respond to climate-related disasters AND if that reserve or program has increased its budget by at least 10% in the last five years.
- d. Invest in Water Access/Water Rights for All- A denomination meets this requirement if they produce, fund, AND/OR programmatically support ministries specializing in safe, affordable access to clean water either in the US or abroad.
- e. Education for Women & Girls- A denomination meets this requirement if they produce, fund, AND/OR programmatically support ministries specializing in the education, health, AND/OR economic advancement of women and girls, who are disproportionately affected by climate change and make up 80% of climate refugees.