



# RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

It is now widely agreed that more ambitious action on climate change is vital to human progress in the twenty-first century. At the same time, many other political, economic, social and environmental issues also demand immediate attention. And most people quite naturally find that the responsibilities and demands of daily life tend to absorb most of their energies. Nevertheless, climate change is the great leveller that encompasses and exacerbates nearly every other problem; taking early action and adopting solutions to climate change will contribute to solutions for many other challenges as well.

International concern about climate change has clearly reached a turning point. A massive effort by scientists over the past 20 years has made it possible to paint a clear picture of the possible pathways that the world can take to address the challenge of climate change. As a result, political momentum is building towards greater national and international action. National and local governments, businesses and civil society have all studied their options and taken actions to reduce GHG emissions and increase climate resilience.

The stage is set. The time for greater action is now. The entire UN system is fully engaged and prepared to help take the international response to climate change to a new level.