

Why Beckn Node Zero

Encouraging but Not Enough Progress

4.5 trillion US dollars. That's the annual global funding needed by the early 2030s, as highlighted in the IEA's latest report¹, to stay on track with climate goals. While the world is witnessing a surge of innovations such as electric vehicles, carbon capture, and affordable solar power that offer significant potential to tackle the multi-faceted challenges of climate change, scientists warn that we are still on a perilous path toward over 2 degrees Celsius of warming, threatening millions with heat waves, water shortages, and flooding.

We, among many others, feel compelled to ask: why is this, and is there no way out?

Complex Climate Ecosystem

The crux of the issue lies in the intricate climate ecosystem, where disparate solutions don't always add up and, in the worst case scenario, cancel each other out.

Diverse but interdependent stakeholders: Environment-related problems are multi-dimensional, and scalable solutions require the involvement of various types of stakeholders, each influencing and depending on the others.

Disaggregated and fragmented resources: Crucial and in-demand resources, such as energy storage capacity, are fragmented and dispersed across the economy. Efficiently coordinating these assets for discovery, trust, and transactions remains prohibitively expensive.

Need for Global-scale cooperation: Mitigating the climate crisis needs universal participation, and while climate costs are local, benefits are global. Leaving stakeholders behind can jeopardize global net-zero goals.

Synergies over Silos: Coordination Dividends

These three factors mean that individual efforts in the climate ecosystem may be insufficient or too slow to achieve meaningful progress, highlighting the urgent need for coordinated action across diverse stakeholders. Enabling coordination across sectors, industries and stakeholders can make the whole climate ecosystem greater than the sum of its individual climate solutions; effective coordination can exponentially expand the impact of localized solutions. To achieve coordination, we need a foundational infrastructure that reduces information asymmetry, ensures transparency and trust while reducing transaction frictions.

¹ IEA (2023), Net Zero Roadmap: A Global Pathway to Keep the 1.5 °C Goal in Reach, IEA, Paris

Open Networks Do it Better

Open networks provide the digital infrastructure essential for seamless collaboration, enabling various interdependent parts of the climate ecosystem to talk to each other. More importantly, open networks address the three wicked challenges highlighted above. Firstly, they enable orchestration across diverse stakeholders by reducing coordination costs and fostering trust through transparency. Secondly, they enable discoverability and fulfillment of disaggregated sources at low transaction costs. Thirdly, the principles of decentralization and interoperability enable open networks to catalyze innovation and implementation of climate solutions at global scale.

The revolutionary success of open networks like the Internet, along with India's recent progress in sectors such as payments (UPI), retail (ONDC) & mobility (Namma Yatri) demonstrates the ability of open networks to solve coordination costs at scale.

We need collective imagination and action to achieve similar breakthroughs in climate. While climate solutions must be tailored to specific contexts, many underlying frictions are common across them. Open Networks can expand the capacity to address these shared horizontal challenges through context-agnostic, decentralized, interoperable digital infrastructure. Frameworks such as interoperable EV charging and decentralized peer-to-peer energy trading networks are already making strides in this space (e.g., Unified Energy Interface and Pulse Energy), with limitless additional possibilities for implementing open networks to accelerate the shift toward a sustainable future. However, this is just the start

Beckn Node Zero

Building on the success of Beckn Protocol, an open digital network that facilitates transactions, Beckn Node Zero is our bold step towards uniting diverse actors to recognise their role in, and actively contribute towards, solving climate challenges through open network thinking. It encourages all participants to engage as 'nodes' with other 'nodes' in the climate network on equal footing, rather than as passive listeners. Through Beckn Node Zero, we invite participants to ask: what are the key coordination challenges in your domain – from sustainable water use, the electrification of transport and climate finance, to waste management, green energy production and more? How do these challenges intersect with other sectors? And, how can open networks help address them?

During the event, we will showcase use cases, entry points, and the value of open-network thinking and frameworks like Beckn Protocol. We welcome you to contribute your domain-specific expertise, and use this opportunity to work alongside others to develop innovative strategies. Our hope is that this collaboration will lead to a systemic shift, providing a diverse group of stakeholders a deep understanding of how open networks can accelerate their impact, and the tools and partnerships to co-create profitable, scalable and impactful climate solutions that move the world swiftly closer to a net zero future.

