

Event flow for COP22
1 Aug 16

Context

After Paris, we have both a need and a mandate to create an effective and coherent flow of events around non-state action and public-private interaction at COP22 and beyond. The High-Level Event (HLE) mandated in the Paris decision text, but yet to be defined, creates an opportunity to build this new set of interactions. COP22 will set an important precedent for the critical years to follow.

Nature and purposes of the High Level Event

The HLE could be conceptualized not as a single event, but rather as a coordinated series of interactions, under the umbrella of the High Level Event, that link with other elements of the COP to achieve three purposes:

1. *Tracking/showcasing* progress and delivery of non-state action
2. *Substantive exchanges and match-making* between experts, decision-makers, and operational entities to deepen and scale up action
3. *Project public narrative* of delivery of commitments and acceleration of action to the media and a wider audience

Goal 1: Tracking/showcasing progress and delivery from Paris

The Paris decision text mandates that the HLE:

- “Provides an opportunity for announcing new or strengthened voluntary efforts, initiatives and coalitions, including the implementation of policies, practices and actions”
- “Takes stock of related progress and recognizes new or strengthened voluntary efforts, initiatives and coalitions”

In this context, many of the initiatives and coalitions that have been part of the LPAA desire, and would benefit from, a “formal” platform in addition to the numerous side events (official and unofficial) that will surround the COP (e.g. Caring for Climate, various thematic events).

Format:

- LPAA-style thematic panels over 1-2 days, perhaps 1.5hrs for each panel.
- Target audience are the communities around each thematic area and policymakers
- Target participants are high-level operational individuals. Principals may participate if they desire but the expectation (at least for COP22) will not be deliver many prominent principals
- Public events in the Blue Zone
- Organized in thematic areas (e.g. forests, etc.) as decided by Champions
- Individual panels self-organized by the sectors with guidance from Champions
- Clear and transparent selection process, with perhaps a separate category for “Presidency initiatives” to give sufficient recognition to the new initiatives the Moroccan government is organizing

Responsibility for delivery: Champions provide overall agenda, but delivery is the responsibility of specific thematic areas/coalitions and nascent support unit.

Goal 2: Substantive exchange and match-making

COP22 could provide two innovations to enhance substantive exchange at COPs: the *Low Emissions Solutions Conference* (emphasizing expert-to-expert exchange) and a new type of match-making “marketplace”, perhaps called the *Marrakesh Souk* that brings together a carefully curated group of public and private actors to take decisive steps forward on a key thematic area.

It is still being decided whether TEMs will convene at COP22. If they are, they should be connected to these two events. If they are not, these two events should be seen as innovations that can pilot formats and processes that can enhance subsequent TEMs.

Low Emissions Solutions Conference

Content

The Low Emissions Solutions Conference (LESC) will take place in the Blue Zone 14-16 November.

By bringing together academics, business professionals, cities and regions practitioners, and policy developers, the conference will foster a problem solving approach and co-create technical solutions for a low emissions future. Ultimately, it aims at strengthening technical capacities to design and implement nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and Low Emissions Development Strategies (LEDS) and chart key technology pathways for global, public-private partnerships.

Format

The program will be finalized in the coming months and will include sessions on:

- Designing NDCs and LEDS
- Information and communication technology
- Cities and energy efficiency
- Low carbon transport
- Power systems technology
- Industry
- Climate Smart Agriculture
- Low carbon policies

The discussion should facilitate a shared understanding on what are the technical, regulatory and financial enablers that should be strengthened to scale up mitigation and adaptation actions.

Responsibility for delivery

The LESG is co-organized by the Government of Morocco, ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability), the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), and WBCSD. The Champions are co-chairs of the LESG.

Marrakesh Souk (see longer paper “Ideas on the High Level Event for COP22” for additional detail)

Content

COP21 and the Action Agenda took an important step forward by bringing non-state actors more centrally into the UNFCCC process, but now there is an important opportunity to *deepen* that interaction. The Souk would avoid the historic COP model where business organisations or other non-state actors are invited to simply present and discuss their various projects and initiatives in a manner often a step or two removed from substantive discussion with governments on delivery. Rather, the model of a public-private, action-oriented event focuses on sharing knowledge, catalysing focused policy debates around large scale low-carbon

solutions, and deepening cooperation to drive meaningful, substantive public-private collaboration between the Parties, their NDCs and the innovation and resources offered from the non-state actor community. This event will enable both governments and non-state actors to work closely together in the acceleration and delivery of climate action in time for 2018. It will also provide a trigger to ensure a rolling process of encouragement of governments to set more ambitious targets based on business and public private progress in implementing emission reduction approaches. COP22 would provide an opportunity to pilot these types of meetings, which could then help provide formats for revamping the TEMs

Format

- Substantive exchange between high-level but operational individuals in private sector, sub-national authorities, national governments, etc, for match-making and collaboration on specific baskets of issues that are ripe for acceleration. Throughout such a day of discussions at the High Level Event, matchmaking could occur. In the spirit of a marketplace, officials from various Parties could discuss with business leaders, city mayors, investors, issue experts and civil society groups the status of their NDCs and where design or delivery bottlenecks are occurring; and the non-state actors can help apply their initiatives, resources and innovation to help Parties overcome these bottlenecks, either through applying or adapting their existing projects and insight, or by triggering new public-private activity. A strong emphasis will be given to ensuring substantive public-private interaction takes place in each discussion, and a particular focus throughout will be on leveraging the non-state actor knowledge, expertise and resources available to help structure initiatives that can support officials in emerging economy and developing country to better deliver their NDCs.
- Possible themes for COP22
 - Agriculture in Africa
 - Energy transition in emerging economies
 - Carbon pricing and disclosure
- Closed door sessions
- 30-40 participants
- Day or half day
- Organized or “curated” by 1-3 lead organizations that can deliver intellectual leadership and logistical support, including preparing participants in advance

Responsibility for delivery: Champions work with Friends of Champions to select topics and organizers. Organizers in charge of preparation of the event, delivery, and achieving results. WEF to advise organizers on how to structure and deliver high-impact events.

Goal 3: Project public narrative

Just as the Action Agenda and related activities played an important part in projecting a positive narrative at Paris, it is necessary for COP22 to maintain the sense of momentum by communicating the progression, delivery, and acceleration of climate action since Paris. This goal will be served in part by the thematic panels described under goal 1. However, it will also be important to have principals from various thematic areas and different actors (e.g. CEOs, mayors, heads of organizations, other top leaders) gather to project the public narrative beyond the COP and especially to drive media attention.

Moreover, such an event could be used to announce ambitious targets for 2018.

This high-level segment of the HLE can be the capstone that unites the other events described above.

Format

- Day or half day
- Targets larger public
- Content
 - Showcase the most inspiring and high-impact achievements and new commitments
 - Announce ambitious 2018 targets for non-state actors
- Participants
 - Heads of state/government (5)
 - CEOs (5)
 - Mayors/governors (5)
 - Other heads of organizations (5)

Flow of events

It may make sense to arrange the events in the following order: tracking/showcasing panels, high-level segment, substantive exchanges. This creates the logical flow of a) taking stock of what each sector/theme/initiative has achieved; b) setting ambitious targets for 2018; c) engaging in substantive exchanges and match-making to find ways to achieve the targets that have been announced.

	Monday	Tuesday	Weds	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 1	7	8	9	10	11 Action Agenda Thematic Panels	12 Action Agenda Thematic Panels	13 High Level Segment
Week 2	14 Low Emissions Solutions Conference Marrakesh Souk	15 Low Emissions Solutions Conference Marrakesh Souk	16 Low Emissions Solutions Conference Marrakesh Souk	17	18	X	X

Comment [TH1]: This obviously also takes into account several constraints: the higher probability of getting principals on the Sunday (Thomas suggested that Paul Poulman will only be in town Sunday and Monday); the desire of the Champions to focus on the negotiations in the second week; the fact that the LESC is already scheduled for those dates.