ENERGY POLICIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE DIVISION

IBERDROLA'S FEEDBACK ON HOW TO IMPROVE THE MARRAKECH PARTNERSHIP FOR ENHANCING AMBITION





1 How would you define success of the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership in terms of enhancing ambition in the next 5 years and beyond?......4

3 How can the High-Level Champions enhance collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders to further catalyze global climate action?......5

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Iberdrola thanks the Marrakech Partnership, the Global Climate Action Team and the High – Level Champions the opportunity to provide feedback to improve their framework and enhance climate ambition.

Based on the experience since the launching of the above-mentioned framework, Iberdrola has a positive assessment on the role of the High-Level Champions and the activities of the Marrakech Partnership. They have contributed to strengthen the engagement of non-Party Stakeholders with the global climate agenda (campaigns such as "Race to Zero", GCA events at COPs...) and have paved the ground to create "Ambition loops" to reinforce climate policy frameworks across the globe.

Currently, the coexistence of both the climate and the COVID-19 pandemic crisis makes it more important than ever the role of collaborative spaces for governments and stakeholders, such as companies, who will have to work together to implement recovery plans that should be consistent with climate and sustainability goals if they want to succeed in building sustainable, resilient and healthy economies. In this context, the engagement of private sector in the main milestones of the global climate agenda will be crucial.

Based on this introductory approach, we include below some feedback on the main topics raised at the questionnaire.

1 How would you define success of the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership in terms of enhancing ambition in the next 5 years and beyond?

From a general perspective, a successful outcome from the Marrakech Partnership and the High-Level Champions would involve:

- The creation of a strong collaborative platform amongst national governments and non-Party stakeholders, with structural resources to scale up dialogues and campaigns aimed at advocating for greater ambition in face of NDCs ratcheting up processes within Paris Agreement framework.
- A broadened participation of governments and Non-Party stakeholders in the main milestones of the climate agenda and alliances (e.g. Climate Ambition Alliance or Race to Zero campaign).
- A reinforced framework to ensure non-Party stakeholders participation in the global climate agenda (UNFCCC sessions, multilateral events...).
- A robust set of tools and governance to track progress,¹ impacts and results in terms of climate action. This set would be useful to showcase on a transparent manner those experiences / actions (e.g. business strategies) fully aligned with climate goals.

¹ Current tools such as NAZCA and Yearbook are useful and have already introduced important improvements on this field but there is some scope for a better performance.



• A reduction in the gap between current emission pathways and those aligned with Paris Agreement targets. A ratchet mechanism for non-state level could be explored to accelerate change.

An interesting advanced indicator of the abovementioned success would be the outcomes of the global stock take that will take place in 2023, when the size of the gaps between emissions trends based on current policies and civil society actions and those emissions pathways aligned with Paris Agreement Goals will arise.

From Iberdrola's perspective, it is important that the Marrakesh Partnership successes in promoting "Ambition loops" between non-Parties and governments, contributing to the much needed climate policy frameworks: emission reduction goal aligned with net zero emissions by 2050, robust carbon pricing signal at global level, taxation based on the "polluter pays principle", stabled regulatory frameworks that provide visibility and minimize administrative barriers to clean investments...

2 How can the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership add the most value and complement existing efforts to drive ambition and transformation in the next 5 years and beyond?

Building upon current goals and tools, some elements of the framework could be strengthened by:

- Underpinning the resources on a structural basis of both figures. It could be helpful to hold a constant dialogue and collaboration with the wide range of stakeholders that should be engaged.
- Deepening collaboration with global alliances/organizations that have demonstrated a strong commitment and support with the Global Climate Agenda for years. Some remarkable examples from a business perspective are: We Mean Business, Corporate Leaders Group Europe, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, UN Global Compact...
- 3 How can the High-Level Champions enhance collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders to further catalyze global climate action?
- 3.1 How can Parties benefit from the action resulting from the Global Climate Action movement and how can this action best be reflected in the work of the High-Level Champions?

Following the answer in Q1, a successful outcome of this collaborative platform could support and encourage Parties to tackle climate action with ambitious policy frameworks. One of the most interesting global pledge aimed at promoting "Ambition Loops" between Parties and Non – Party stakeholders is the Declaration "<u>Business Ambition 1,5</u>", launched in the margins of the UN Climate Action Summit 2019, to support the net zero emission goal by 2050. Additionally, collaboration could be improved if there was greater dependency between parties – this means looking at how non-party stakeholders contribute to NDC of each party and aligning the two so there is a common goal and clearer lines of accountability.



The support of civil society in general and, of the business community in particular, is especially important nowadays when the climate crisis coexist with the economic and health crisis arisen from COVID 19 pandemic. Most countries are developing and implementing stimulus packages with policies and economic resources that should be fully aligned with climate action to achieve a resilient, healthy and sustainable future.

Some interesting examples on how civil society is supporting green approaches to build back better are included below:

- <u>Green recovery call</u>. Alliance signed by a wide range of European actors (signed by Ministers, MPs from all parties, CEOs, NGOs, academics...), promoted by Pascal Canfin (European Parliament).
- <u>Uniting Business and Government to recover better</u>. Declaration promoted by UN Global Compact to which CEOs adhere. Launch in the second half of May.
- <u>Build back better (COVID-19 Policy Response).</u> Global campaign in support of green recovery promoted by the global coalition We Mean Business.
- 3.2 How can the COP and the UNFCCC process be more effective in the collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders to further catalyze global climate action?

A reinforced framework on a structural basis could help to:

- Keep formal and informal channels of collaboration.
- Provide stable and predictable tools (e.g. frequent webinars, campaigns...)
- Set virtual platforms to share information, knowledge and experiences.

In the context of the business community, it is important to strengthen the engagement with those companies that have firmly supported the UNFCCC process either individually - with business strategies fully aligned with climate action - or indirectly through global business alliances that as collective platforms advocate for climate ambition and participate as observers in the process.





Source: self-created version

Regarding COP context, the Marrakech Partnership activities could have more visibility and widen the number of participants (business experiences, cooperative initiatives, awareness initiatives...).

3.3 How could the High-Level Champions through their work in accelerating action and ambition of non-Party stakeholders most effectively contribute to the global stock take of the Paris Agreement?

It could be useful to build or reinforce collaborative platforms that create an environment to share experiences, prospective assessments, technical expertise and collaborate and advocate for climate ambition in a transparent and rigorous manner. Under this framework, it could also be useful to engage policymakers to directly connect global stock take with NDC review process.

Some existing tools within Marrakesh Partnership could be useful to structure debates and streamline technical assessments. On this regard, it could be interesting to:

- Increase the participation of business community in the elaboration of Climate Action Pathways (it would be really useful to provide sectoral facts, figures, prospective assessment from a business and technological side...).
- Implement the project "Communities of practice", as an informal and wide community to set dialogues on thematic and cross-cutting areas.
- Reinforce technical examination process and the technical expert meetings.
- Widen the collaboration Forum and engage key stakeholders at sectorial level.



4 On the basis of experience so far, how can the Marrakech Partnership be improved for enhancing ambition, including through new and existing tools?

Iberdrola has a positive assessment on the Marrakech Partnership activities and the High-level champions engagement with the process, based on its experiences since its creation at COP 22 (Marrakech). Iberdrola has engaged in a wide range activities and campaigns (high level and technical events at COPs, Climate Summits, Talanoa Dialogue...), being especially remarkable our collaboration in the cycling expedition <u>Moving for Climate Now</u>, a collaborative initiative to create awareness at international level on the importance of acting now against climate change and the need to support climate targets aligned with 1,5 C scenario.²



Source: self-created version

On the basis of this positive experience, Marrakech Partnership could improve its effectiveness in enhancing ambition, using existing tools (mentioned in the previous answers) and strengthening collaboration with global alliances (e.g. We Mean Business, UN Global Compact, WBCSD...).

² See <u>The Moving for Climate NOW Manifesto</u>.