

Feedback to the High-Level Champions on advancing Marrakech Partnership on Climate Action (MPGCA)

Disclaimer

In response to the formal [invitation](#) to Provide Feedback to The High-Level Champions on How to Improve the Marrakech Partnership for Enhancing Ambition, a set of recommendations has been compiled by experts from a range of different organizations that are participating in the Climate Resilience Network. Names of organisations are listed below. This feedback represents a collective view, not an official statement, and does not convey the view of any one particular organisation.

Organisations: Global Resilience Partnership (GRP), Mercy Corps, CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), FAO/A2R Climate Resilience Initiative, Global Adaptation & Resilience Investment (GARI) Working Group, Global Network of Civil Society Organisation for Disaster Reduction (GNDR), International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), ICF, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, International Energy Agency (IEA), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC), International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), InsuResilience Secretariat, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Lightsmith Group, Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), PIANC/Navigating a Changing Climate, Practical Action, Regions4, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), World Food Programme (WFP), World Resources Institute (WRI), Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit comments to the High Level Champions on the future of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action. The MPGCA has great potential to advance climate action that can improve the global community ability to address the challenges of the climate emergency. This requires dedicated action and moving beyond words to galvanizing even broader and more ambitious action and a route to real, on-the-ground transformational change.

We are happy to provide further clarification of our comments please address any questions to abrainich@globalresiliencepartnership.org

We want an ambitious Marrakech Partnership. This requires:

1. **A legacy that ensures Adaptation and Resilience (AR) are an integral part of ambitious actions, on par with and often together with mitigation efforts.** A key measure of the success of the MPGCA will be if adaptation and resilience become truly cross-cutting and are fully integrated into **each of the sectoral themes**, resulting in improved consistency and reduced duplication of efforts. This would include creating coherence and enhanced cooperation between national governments and non-party stakeholders to promote AR across all levels of government and sectors.
 - Ensure sustainable long-term arrangements to provide an adequate and robust AR technical team within the High Level Champion (HLC) office. AR staff should be embedded across all MP theme/sector efforts and in the Champions Team.
 - AR staff in each theme/sector should highlight the synergies between adaptation and mitigation in their respective sectors, and advocate for the dual benefits of mitigation and AR in these sectors.
 - Each MP thematic/sector track should adopt a common narrative around its set of core climate risk management measures for AR by the end of 2020. The climate resilience network is developing a common narrative as part of the revision of the MPGCA pathways.
 - Work plans should be developed in each sector that outline in detail how to achieve AR Pathways targets by 2025.
 - Ensure that the AR pathway is also part of the work of members, such as the [GlobalABC](#) regional roadmaps, a process that invites parties and non-party stakeholders in regional cooperation.
2. **Increase Private Sector Engagement in Adaptation and Resilience.** Investing and action in adaptation and resilience is largely ignored by the private sector, especially compared to investments in mitigation whereby over 2100 non-party stakeholders have made commitments and joined the Race to Zero. There is a clear opportunity to bring the business community into AR like never before given the strong ties of both High Level Champions to the private sector. This is unprecedented and should be fully capitalized upon to ensure the private sector becomes an ambitious actor in AR across MP themes and sectors.
 - Collaborate with existing partnerships like the [InsuResilience Global Partnership](#) (IGP) to increase the number of private sector actors committed to investing in adaptation and resilience. The HLC can make a strong case for companies to make resilience and adaptation commitments based on a clearly stated business rationale for investing in climate risk management across and within sectors. Most companies have failed to analyze the full impact of climate risk on business risk factors including strategic, financial, operational, human resources, social and environmental compliance and legal risks. As a result, they do not fully understand the business rationale and opportunities for action on adaptation and resilience. This can build on the work of [TFCD](#),
 - Build political will, including at High Level events, for private sector actors to make concrete commitments in AR resilience building opportunities for their business and communities.
 - In line with an expanded communication strategy, develop awards and tracking of private sector investments in adaptation and resilience measures that can be presented at MPGCA events.
3. **Prioritize Inclusivity and Relevance and Recognize the Relative Disadvantage of the Poor and the Marginalized.** Success of the MP depends on building a greater space for non-party

stakeholders. This includes dramatically increasing representation of Southern partners in the MPGCA to ensure the broadest range of voices are heard within the UNFCCC processes and other relevant policy fora. Core to the success of expanding diversity is for the MPGCA to define a clear “offer and ask” that outlines the value-add for partners to join MPGCA.

- Hold more than 50% of MPGCA meetings in the Global South - and concurrently consider virtual and semi-virtual options, including how to support access to virtual platforms and internet access to avoid digital exclusion.
- Develop and publicize MPGCA principles of work, including elevating diversity and inclusion of the Global South as a core component, and prioritization of elevating the voices of people most at risk and those most vulnerable.
- Develop MP rules/principles with UNFCCC to ensure panels at UNFCCC events are more diverse and have a minimum number of non-party speakers to have the floor and share their findings with climate action examples from the field, with champions and national leads.
- Improve the accessibility both in person and virtually of MP events, Regional Climate Weeks and COP side events by providing interpretation services and closed captioning to ensure all can engage equitably.
- Establish processes where data from most at-risk communities can be compiled and integrated into MPGCA deliverables.
- Integrate most at-risk communities’ and gender-based views as the basis of any national policy and establish this process by 2021.
- Offer opportunities to non-stakeholders to contribute to the Global Stocktake on both mitigation and AR (i.e. gather information about non-party stakeholders’ global commitments and activities, which might be difficult to be captured by parties, and provide input for the GST).

4. Increase Adaptation and Resilience Finance, including through Covid Response and Recovery Programmes and Investments. Prioritize closing the adaptation financing gap and ensure COVID recoveries are transformative and include low carbon, resilient, nature-friendly, inclusive policies and meet adaptation and financing needs.

- Climate Champions and the MP support campaigns to advocate that countries meet their financial commitments, including reaching \$100 billion in climate finance and closing adaptation financing gaps identified in future years.
- Help bring in new partners (outside of the traditional UNFCCC stakeholders) to increase ODA and private finance for AR within critical sectors. Commit in every year of the HLCC work plan to develop or dramatically expand at least one private sector initiative to increase adaptation investment and one public sector initiative to increase public financing/ODA with Ministers of Finance or other relevant government officials.
- Climate Champions and the MP help promote a systematic climate risk screening or risk driven investments of public-private finance across sectors, through the adoption of a set of core climate resilience measures or actions (based on the HLC/MP climate resilience narrative).
- In 2020, lead an open letter and public-facing campaign to multilaterals, donors and governments advocating for specific adaptation targets and green recovery that goes beyond just mitigating climate change, but ensures that recovery and COVID stimulus packages are climate risk driven and support adaptation and resilience across sectors.

- Advocate for increased support for action research, a useful tool to promote technology and innovation as well as research to quantify the “cost of inaction” and benefits of effective investments in adaptation and resilience.
 - Advocate for greater investment in locally-led climate action and in local institutions, who are on the frontlines of responding to both the Covid and the climate crisis. Ensure that vulnerable populations have a voice and role in shaping the recovery in every key sector and system. This includes building on the work of the locally-led action track of the Global Commission on Adaptation (GCA).
5. **Improve Communication: Effective communication with impact is needed to show the right alternatives, just transition plans, and a real focus on the costs and consequences of inaction.** AR must no longer be seen just as an issue of poverty and disaster risk reduction for extreme events, but a priority for all climate risk in the immediate and longer term (and for extreme and slow onset events) for the private sector, public sectors, regions and cities of all sizes, on par with mitigation.
- Take forward the common narrative being developed by the MPGCA climate resilience network on climate action for mitigation, adaptation and resilience across and within key sectors to foster better understanding and collaboration between sectors on which development and well-being depend. This would help support all eight tracks/themes of the MPGCA and provide an overview of progress, identify overlaps and synergies, and support and disseminate concrete actions by members along the MP pathways.
 - MP stakeholders must commit to both mitigation and AR targets and commit to sharing and promoting them at country, city, regional and local levels. The MPGCA should develop an open access directory of different stakeholders providing general information of the work and resources different stakeholders can offer to the Parties to support their efforts in enhancing climate actions across levels and sectors.
 - Establish an effective communications channel to promote awareness of the output/achievements of the MP and non-party stakeholders using the pathways in terms of vision and priority action and targets.
 - Continue to highlight and connect global, regional and national initiatives and targets already announced in each sector (e.g. adaptation financing) and encourage other stakeholders to join these initiatives, especially from the South, potentially through a Race for Resilience as a sister to the Race to Zero.
 - Reference other tracking tools such as the Global Status Report of the GlobalABC and the Regional Roadmaps. The GlobalABC will be releasing an adaptation report before the end of the year and the MPGCA should amplify these findings.
 - MP should serve as an open forum for “stories from the field” that highlight effective AR actions, especially of non-traditional groups and vulnerable populations.
 - Clearly and intentionally connect with researchers (international and local) to help provide rigorous supporting evidence. This could include developing a series of MOUs with academic institutions around identifying gaps in AR in priority sectors and in line with MP pathways.
6. **Accountability and Transparency.** Ensuring commitments are followed through and there is genuine partnership between parties and non-party stakeholders is at the heart of an effective MPGCA. This must include monitoring pledges, progress, tracking and communicating actions on AR and identifying ‘hard targets’ of AR needs across and within sectors.

- Track progress of transformation in each sector with specific attention to how AR objectives are being reached. Linking AR targets to the IPCC's work on Representative Concentration Pathways could help identify important tipping points at which action becomes necessary because business as usual is no longer sustainable.
- Make the MPGCA governance structure, and how it operates, transparent and available online for greater synergy and to build a larger umbrella campaign inclusive for all public-private and community actors from the South.
- Develop a permanent structure (membership based and with the UNFCCC) for the MPGCA so it is not dependent on the priorities and resources of each COP presidency. Instead, create a legacy that focuses on accountability to commitments and the action tracks. This could also build on the current Champions Team.
- Make the MPGCA website stand-alone or easier to find on the UNFCCC portal. As it is currently hosted, only those who know about it can find it.
- Provide one entry point through the website to all documents and portals including the NAZCA, Pathways, and Yearbook. Clarify what information is available, who is it relevant to and why is it being shared.
- Analyze the usefulness of the Yearbook and provide statistics of downloads of previous Yearbooks to determine if it is an effective tool.
- The Secretariat should compile MP stakeholder commitments as part of the pathways and share them with respective countries, cities, regions, locals, companies and other stakeholders.
- Track commitments made by partnerships and coalitions under the broader adaptation and resilience frameworks, e.g. InsuResilience Global Partnership and the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP), among others. The reporting under these frameworks should feed into the accounting under the MPGCA to bring coherence.

7. Advocate for climate resilience knowledge and Best Practices.

- Advocate for NDCs to include great attention to AR across sectors, including prioritizing the importance of AR with existing networks like the NDC Partnership.
- Partner with existing networks like the [Nairobi Work Programme, Resilience Frontiers](#), and plans for a Resilience Knowledge Coalition and an Adaptation Research Alliance, to support knowledge management: all actors are responsible for documenting good practices and evidence and returns on risk-driven investment on climate action. Donors could play a key role in the promotion of knowledge management for resilience building across and within sectors, as they could make this exercise a request when funding climate resilience programs.
- Elevate examples of climate actions that work in practice (including innovative approaches and those based on indigenous knowledge), not just theoretical examples. Share information on concrete actions that have measurable impact on communities and are scalable. This should include good practices of countries or regions' climate action efforts based on rigorous scientific evidence and the adaptation and resilience knowledge of indigenous communities.
- Highlight realistic and concrete approaches and support their scaling up, especially for successful locally-led approaches on climate risk management and promote environmentally friendly tools.

In order to achieve the above goals, the Climate Action Pathways should be enhanced and guide the MP 2020-2025 work, with focus on implementation of set targets for each sector Impact Area (IA).