



FEEDBACK RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO THE LETTER FROM THE HIGH-LEVEL CHAMPIONS

SYNTHESIS REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT

20 Sept 2024

I. BACKGROUND

1. Over the past nine years, the High-Level Champions (HLCs) have worked to strengthen collaboration between Parties and key non-Party stakeholders (NPS), raise awareness about the vital role of NPS, and drive climate action among Parties and NPS. To support these efforts, and under their leadership, the [Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action](#), launched at COP 22¹ and improved and welcomed by Parties at COP 26², has been focused on fostering cooperation between Parties and NPS and supporting the HLCs to deliver a number of tools and activities.
2. Through the UAE Consensus agreed at COP 28, Parties and non-Party stakeholders are urged to join efforts to accelerate delivery through inclusive, multilevel, gender-responsive and cooperative action. Parties encouraged the High-Level Champions, the Marrakech Partnership, and NPS to consider the outcomes of the first Global Stocktake (GST1) in their work on scaling up and introducing new or strengthened voluntary efforts, initiatives and coalitions.³ The HLCs have expressed how they remain fully committed to deliver and take forward these outcomes.
3. The [Global Climate Action platform](#) was launched a decade ago. It is essential to recognize the substantial increase, growing from 600 actors with registered commitments in 2015 to nearly 40,000 by the end of 2023. This growth underscores the importance of collective efforts and the need to continue enhancing ambition and implementation of climate action involving all stakeholders.
4. For this year, the HLCs have launched the [2024 High-Level Champions and Marrakech Partnership Work Programme](#) and an [achievements document](#) has been released with the activities delivered from January until May 2024. In this context, the High-Level Champions sent a [letter](#) to Parties and non-Party stakeholders on 4 June 2024 requesting feedback on how to accelerate climate action and drive implementation. 27 inputs were received, including five from Parties and groups of Parties (representing 38 Parties), and the remainder from non-Party stakeholders.⁴
5. This document summarizes the key themes and areas across all inputs received for the consideration by Parties, the High-Level Champions and non-Party stakeholders. Efforts have been made to cluster the feedback based on the structure and questions outlined by the High-Level Champions in their [letter](#). All inputs are publicly available on the [UNFCCC submission portal](#) and on this [page](#) of the UNFCCC website to facilitate access.

¹ [Decision 1/CP.22, paragraph 19](#)

² [Decision 1/CP.26, paragraph 56](#)

³ [Decision 1/CMA.5, paragraph 185](#)

⁴ See <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/marrakech-partnership/feedback-to-the-high-level-champions-and-the-marrakech-partnership-on-how-to-accelerate-climate> to view the letter and inputs received.



II. ADDING VALUE AND COMPLEMENTING EXISTING EFFORTS

Q1. How can the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership add the most value and complement existing efforts to accelerate climate action and drive implementation?

Overarching themes

- ❖ Act as a unifying space that encourages diverse approaches and enables the sharing of best practices, success stories and proven solutions to inspire further action, inform the UNFCCC process and support implementation
- ❖ Strengthen collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders and facilitate alignment and integration with national strategies and plans by convening focused dialogues, identifying synergies and catalyzing partnerships and the co-creation of solutions
- ❖ Further support stakeholders in developing countries by strengthening capacity-building efforts and explore innovative ways to unlock finance and investment
- ❖ Enhance communication, simplify messages and use story-telling to raise awareness, reach new stakeholders and make climate more accessible and relatable

6. Almost all Parties emphasized the crucial role of the HLCs and the Marrakech Partnership (MP) in **sharing best practices and lessons learned** from NPS climate action and initiatives. These insights, shared through platforms, dialogues, and events like the Action Agenda at COP or new and innovative approaches, can inform the formal process, aid in developing and implementing nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and national adaptation plans (NAPs), support the UAE Consensus, and enhance climate action and resilience. Similarly, some Parties encouraged the HLCs and the MP to leverage their networks and unique position to promote collaboration and knowledge sharing, particularly to drive climate finance and investment. They highlighted the importance of advancing scalable, innovative solutions and financial instruments to attract investment.
7. The HLCs and MP could play a key role in **aligning NPS voluntary initiatives and climate action with national strategies** and goals, such as NDCs, long-term low-emission development strategies (LT-LEDS), and the sustainable development goals (SDGs) as suggested by some Parties. This could be achieved by developing guidelines and frameworks to facilitate better integration of these efforts.
8. Some Parties proposed creating thematic forums and working groups with diverse stakeholders, both within and outside the UNFCCC, to develop **sector-specific solutions** that integrate adaptation, mitigation, just transition, and climate finance, guided by the gaps and opportunities in the technical dialogue synthesis report of GST1. They also suggested that the HLCs and MP can enhance their impact by advocating for ambitious commitments through their political influence, including in the Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme.
9. In addition, some Parties emphasized that the HLCs and MP should host various events, engaging Parties and a broad range of NPS, including multilateral organizations to strengthen discussions on climate finance, address systemic issues, and propose solutions. The events could take the form of summits, high-level meetings, regional gatherings, roundtables, workshops, or dialogues, covering topics like reforming international financial structures, scaling up quality climate finance and improving risk assessment methodologies.



10. The HLCs and MP should play a pivotal role in **enhancing communication** by informing the public about climate actions that can inspire greater ambition. They are crucial in amplifying and enhancing the credibility of UNFCCC outcomes and should lead global campaigns to raise awareness and engage citizens in climate action efforts as recommended by some Parties.
11. Many NPS highlighted the **importance of collaboration**. The HLCs and MP should create and support platforms for diverse stakeholders, including Parties and NPS to collaborate, share knowledge, and develop joint initiatives. These platforms should serve as hubs for innovation, best practices, and synergies. The HLCs and MP should facilitate dialogue and partnerships across sectors and regions to align efforts, avoid duplication and optimize resources. They should showcase successful projects to inspire others and foster public-private partnerships that drive sustainable innovation. Multi-stakeholder collaboration should be promoted through joint proposals, resource mobilization, and project implementation. Stronger connections between NPS leaders and the Party-driven process should be cultivated to ensure that NPS can support Parties more effectively. Finally, increasing dialogue between public decision-makers and private sector innovators would further accelerate climate action and innovation.
12. Many NPS emphasized the role of **effective communication**. The HLCs and MP should improve communication to ensure NPS fully understand their work and goals. This includes highlighting the broader ecosystem of climate action and simplifying messaging to explain the roles and relationships between the HLCs, MP, and their initiatives. They should also expand their reach beyond their usual networks to inspire Parties and negotiated outcomes. Developing strong and comprehensive narratives across tools (including focusing the [Yearbook for Global Climate Action](#) on specific themes), identifying proponents within partner organizations and creating awareness campaigns with high-quality educational materials would support such advocacy efforts. In addition, focusing on accessible storytelling, such as video capsules, and engaging cultural actors and the public would make climate communication more relatable and effective.
13. Some NPS underscored the importance of accelerating **climate finance**, particularly for adaptation in developing countries, through targeted advocacy and pragmatic strategies. Key actions include enhancing collaboration with financial institutions and donors to unlock and direct funds toward high-impact climate projects. The HLCs and MP should use their influence to scale up finance and investment events, such as further improving pitch hubs of the Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme, and create frequent opportunities for NPS to connect with potential sources of finance. Additionally, there is a need to improve access to and the volume of climate finance by advocating for stronger regulatory frameworks.
14. **Building capacity** to enable effective climate action was also emphasized by some NPS. The HLCs and MP should expand capacity-building programs to enhance the effective use of climate tools, focusing on technical assistance, educational outreach, and stakeholder engagement. They should support regional training programs, particularly in developing countries, and establish mentoring programs for transition plans with an emphasis on replicable practices and pilot projects. Strengthening local capacities through partnerships and context-specific tools, such as during Regional Climate Weeks, would be key. Efforts should also include building technical linkages between NPS and Parties on NDCs and LT-LEDS, supporting project preparation, and creating knowledge exchange platforms with innovative financial tools.
15. NPS also suggested the creation of a **unifying space** for the climate community and celebrating diverse approaches toward shared high-ambition goal, emphasizing leadership, a “can-do” mindset and scaling up proven solutions. To unify, the HLCs and MP should focus on inclusive climate action by addressing the unintended impacts on developing countries and communities, advocating for stronger climate



policies, and ensuring that NPS have a voice in policy discussions. Key actions could include exploring how to institutionalize subnational roles in the UNFCCC process and engaging the higher education sector for expertise, establishing a repository of multilingual tools and knowledge for policy implementation. Leveraging the HLCs' unique experiences, such as with the private sector and nature, can enhance engagement and drive effective climate action and elevate impactful cross-cutting areas such as circular economy practices, biodiversity conservation and resilience efforts and strengthen collaboration across the Rio Conventions.

III. ENHANCING COLLABORATION TO ADVANCE OUTCOMES OF THE GLOBAL STOCKTAKE

Q2. How can the High-Level Champions enhance collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders to advance the outcomes of the first global stocktake?

Overarching themes

- ❖ Convene and formalize regular and structured dialogues that enable meaningful collaboration between Parties and NPS aligned with the outcomes of the GST and NDC development and implementation
- ❖ Ensure an inclusive approach with a focus on under-represented groups when supporting the follow-up to the GST, including at the regional and national level
- ❖ Provide tailored training and capacity-building opportunities for NPS on how they can best contribute and support Parties on implementation and in the follow-up to the GST
- ❖ Develop clear narratives and communication strategies on how to collectively achieve the GST outcomes, amplifying the successful collaborations between Parties and NPS, highlight investment opportunities and enhancing the understanding and opportunities for NPS contributions

16. Most Parties highlighted the **important role of the HLCs and NPS in the** GST process, urging their active involvement in supporting the implementation of the GST outcomes to accelerate climate action. The [2030 Climate Solutions](#) were mentioned as a guide for NPS to support GST outcomes and was encouraging that Marrakech Partnership members already actively doing so. Parties emphasized that **NPS initiatives should focus on implementing GST decisions**, particularly immediate energy-related outcomes and NDC preparation, while also mobilizing NPS around emerging priorities like sustainable agriculture and human health.
17. **Inclusivity** was emphasized by almost all Parties in the GST context. The HLCs were encouraged to maintain an inclusive and balanced approach in supporting the follow up on GST outcomes, implementation of the UAE Consensus and preparation of the next round of NDCs, while being guided by the principles of the Convention. This involves including underrepresented groups, such as women, Indigenous Peoples, and youth, in dialogues and working groups to foster a whole-of-society approach. The HLCs were also encouraged to continue highlighting successful collaborations between national governments and NPS to enhance inclusive climate policies and actions.
18. Some Parties stressed the importance of **regular, structured dialogues** between Parties and NPS on specific GST themes to advance GST goals. They recommended showcasing successful climate actions and innovations to facilitate knowledge exchange, fostering cross-sector collaborations to pilot new technologies, and connecting project developers in emerging markets with investors. Implementing a feedback loop between NPS and climate policies would ensure continuous assessment and improvement of GST-related actions.



19. Most NPS stressed the importance of **collaboration** between Parties and NPS in the context of the GST. The HLCs and MP should facilitate greater collaboration by organizing informal meetings, regular consultations, and targeted discussions that focus on enabling conditions and aligning NPS actions with the development and implementation of NDCs. The HLCs should evolve from bridging to actively enabling actionable interactions between Parties and NPS, fostering sector-specific collaborations, for instance in areas like transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, sustainable transport and biodiversity conservation. Formalization of recurring and continuous discussions between Parties and NPS within and outside of the UNFCCC process to support implementation of international initiatives (such as establishing urban climate action dialogues to support the Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships for Climate Action) would be beneficial. Leveraging the expertise of partners, the HLCs should promote knowledge transfer, policy co-creation, and capacity building through workshops, policy dialogues, and sectoral roundtables. They should also support the matchmaking of expertise between Parties and NPS, ensuring that collaborations are grounded in best practices and solutions. By engaging NPS in meaningful ways and providing platforms for showcasing knowledge, the HLCs could enhance ambition and accelerate the just transition.
20. Some NPS emphasized the need for greater **regionalization and inclusivity** in the context of the GST. The HLCs and MP should enhance local leadership and regional initiatives to support the implementation of the GST outcomes, including just energy transitions. They should advocate for platforms where NPS can share activities and resources with Parties and improve regional mobilization, especially in developing countries, for instance through Regional Climate Weeks and regional MP focal points. Simultaneously, the HLCs and MP should increase the involvement of women, youth, and Indigenous communities in COP negotiations and just transitions. They should also ensure NPS participation in national action and the UNFCCC process and amplify their voices, promoting inclusive climate action.
21. The importance of **capacity-building** was highlighted by some NPS in the context of the GST. The HLCs and MP should provide training and resources to help NPS understand the GST process and outcomes and their role in it. They should support new and existing capacity-building programs for civil society organizations and local authorities and organize workshops tailored to diverse stakeholders. Approaching the next round of NDCs, the HLCs and MP should create opportunities for meaningful collaboration between NPS and Parties through NDC planning workshops and virtual thematic trainings led by MP focal points.
22. Some NPS emphasized how the HLCs and MP should **communicate and raise awareness** of the GST outcomes to drive urgent climate action and craft a clear narrative on transitioning away from fossil fuels and offering plans with options on how to do so. Effective communication strategies would be key to showcase collaborative successes between Parties and NPS. By amplifying the on-the-ground efforts of NPS, the HLCs and MP could enhance Parties' understanding of NPS contributions to the GST outcomes, fostering stronger collaboration and effective climate action. Promoting key enabling policies and the 2030 Climate Solutions would also be important in this regard.
23. Some NPS highlighted how the HLCs and MP should **facilitate funding** for projects related to GST outcomes and build trust to boost climate investments by sharing success stories and promoting public-private partnerships. They should also mobilize finance by highlighting investment opportunities in specific sectors and engaging NPS in investment-focused events.



IV. ENHANCING SUPPORT TO PARTIES

Q3. How can the Marrakech Partnership be enhanced to support Parties in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, including through new and existing tools?

Overarching themes

- ❖ Build on existing initiatives, avoid duplication of efforts and focus on creating synergies and delivery
- ❖ Strengthen accountability and transparency of non-Party stakeholder action and initiatives to build trust by encouraging clear indicators and regular reporting and leveraging the Global Climate Action Portal
- ❖ Enhance the governance and structure of the Marrakech Partnership to ensure consistent, effective and inclusive collaboration throughout the year, broaden its geographic reach and understanding of regional and local contexts, facilitate access to finance and enable continuous improvement, experimentation and innovation

24. Almost all Parties emphasized the need to **avoid duplicating efforts by building on existing initiatives and tools** to maximize impact and optimize resources. The 2030 Climate Solutions were cited as an effective example of consolidating existing work under the [Climate Action Pathways](#), [2030 Breakthroughs](#), [Breakthrough Agenda](#), [Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda](#) and [Race to Resilience](#) and [Race to Zero](#). Some Parties suggested strengthening and integrating these tools into MP activities to align with national and regional climate goals. Most Parties stressed the importance of **creating synergies**, with the HLCs encouraged to promote connections with other UNFCCC workstreams, climate initiatives, and relevant UN entities and bodies. It was also highlighted how HLCs are also well-positioned to link climate ambition with global nature and land use goals where some Parties recommended the HLCs to promote research and development of nature-based solutions.
25. Almost all Parties highlighted the importance of **accountability** in NPS climate actions, referencing the Global Climate Action Portal (GCAP) as a key tool. Some suggested using GCAP to track NPS progress towards GST commitments, while others proposed that GCAP data inform annual reports. Parties pointed to the role that the HLCs can play in helping implement the recommendations from the independent co-chairs of the Recognition and Accountability Framework Consultation while campaigns like Race to Zero and Race to Resilience were cited as effective tools for NPS accountability. Parties emphasized that accountability should be a core component of any new initiative, though new initiatives should generally be avoided.
26. Some Parties underscored the need to create **inclusive platforms** and enhance engagement for diverse stakeholders, including marginalized communities, women, youth and representatives from developing countries. Supporting and finding synergies with the work of the Presidency Youth Climate Champion would be helpful in this regard. A continued focus on **regionalization** is encouraged, leveraging progress made by the HLCs. This can be achieved through outreach and collaboration during the Regional Climate Weeks, supported by regional chapters and targeted capacity-building. Additionally, establishing a hub within the Marrakech Partnership to collaborate on specific projects, share best practices and co-develop solutions tailored to local contexts would be beneficial.
27. Some Parties recommended that **creating new roles and groups within the MP** to include Parties and NPS to strengthen integration and coordination of core areas such as finance and adaptation, including an innovation incubator to support the development and scaling of innovative technologies and practices and an enhanced finance group to help build the capacity of developing countries through workshops and trainings to access and effectively utilize climate finance.



28. A few Parties and a few NPS supported the renewal of the mandate of the High-Level Champions (HLCs) and the continuation of the Marrakech Partnership beyond 2025 to sustain momentum and accelerate progress in this important decade and translating scientific consensus into actionable climate adaptation and mitigation efforts, including maintaining the practice of the 5-year plan to provide clarity to Parties and non-Party stakeholders, further pursuing the six key MP functions and strengthening the initiatives, coalitions and tools within.
29. Many NPS also encouraged the HLCs and the MP to focus on targeted influence by consolidating and strengthening delivery of **existing voluntary efforts and initiatives** rather than introducing new calls and initiatives. Emphasizing practical implementation and raising awareness for key ecosystems, such as mangroves, can attract further support. The HLCs should align global initiatives to reduce redundancy, prioritize clear goals for COP 29 and COP 30, and enhance coordination between commitments. It was mentioned that strengthening synergies across existing initiatives and providing continued support to NPS would be essential to ensure long-term impact and effectiveness, rather than pursuing new announcements. The HLCs and MP were also encouraged to boost and expand Race to Zero and Race to Resilience.
30. Many NPS made recommendations regarding the **governance of the Marrakech Partnership**. The HLCs and MP should establish a clear structure to ensure consistent and effective collaboration. They could consider reassessing the MP's mandate, structure, and geographical reach to optimize its function. This includes gathering feedback from Parties on MP's support capabilities and expanding input mechanisms beyond UNFCCC submissions. It was highlighted how developing detailed Terms of Reference could better integrate diverse stakeholders, while clarifying the role of MP focal points and updating the roadmap for the MP based on the Improved Marrakech Partnership (2021-2025) five-year plan would enhance the MP's effectiveness. Moreover, aligning MP activities with initiatives and UNFCCC workstreams and bodies could enhance coordination and effectiveness.
31. The need for **timely feedback mechanisms, better coordination** between the HLCs and the MP during COP planning, and **simplifying communication** were also stressed to increase the MP's impact. Finally, elevating the HLCs' role in events and publications of partners would further raise the MP's profile. Looking ahead, the MP should define clear objectives for the coming years, focusing on addressing transition barriers, filling gaps identified by the GST, and promoting best practices. The MP could also be strengthened by reviewing and expanding MP membership, aligning with similar multistakeholder groups to avoid overlap and competition. Enhancing information exchange and developing feedback mechanisms would allow for continuous improvement and adaptation of strategies.
32. Some NPS underlined the role of **transparency and accountability**. The HLCs and MP should support the upgrade of the Global Climate Action Portal (GCAP) by collecting and highlighting best practices for accountability and advocating for the recognition of robust voluntary initiatives to enhance NDC implementation. They should focus on closing ambition gaps through quarterly reviews to assess progress and should strengthen monitoring frameworks and digital platforms inspired by user-friendly systems. In the context of the next round of NDCs, the HLCs and MP should enhance transparency by accelerating the implementation of Measurement, Reporting, and Verification systems in countries and support them in establishing climate data systems with clear indicators for tracking progress. Moreover, tools and digital platforms for real-time data sharing, monitoring, and transparent reporting were seen as essential for effective climate governance. Developing straightforward accounting systems would support effective climate action implementation and maintain public trust.
33. Fostering **innovation** was emphasized by some NPS as a central strategy for advancing climate action, especially for **climate finance**. The HLCs and MP should focus on expanding sustainable climate finance by addressing fiscal constraints and should support private institutions in funding the 2030 Climate



Solutions and promote integrated financing strategies across sectors, including for nature-based solutions. Supporting of the introduction and collaboration of new instruments and tools and promoting ones known to work would boost finance efforts. Additionally, supporting research, enhancing stakeholder collaboration (including insurers) and innovative projects, particularly in developing countries, would be essential for addressing regional challenges with tailored, creative approaches and experimentation.

34. Some NPS stressed the importance of **regionalization and inclusivity** across the work of the HLCs and MP. This could be achieved by enhancing regional programs and coordination, with a particular focus on developing countries. This includes promoting learning, scaling, and replication of successful models across regions. This approach should involve a broad array of stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, youth and local governments. Customized assistance tailored to the unique needs and contexts of different regions and sectors was also highlighted as well as the creation and support of existing regional platforms, leveraging the Regional Climate Weeks. Such platforms could serve as hubs for local climate projects, offering technical assistance to ensure effective implementation.
35. Another recommendation was the creation of **regional MP focal points** to improve inclusivity and representation. Similarly, HLCs could consider establishing national proponents to enhance the policy coherence across different sectors, such as food and agriculture. It was further recommended to elevate developing country voices and solutions within UNFCCC processes and to tailor efforts to regional circumstances by engaging with stakeholders who are advancing specific sectoral targets. Representation of developing country expertise in multi-stakeholder dialogues and decision-making processes was seen as vital, ensuring that solutions relevant to these stakeholders, in particular, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, are deeply understood and integrated. In this context, collaboration with actors on the ground would maximize the effectiveness of existing efforts and avoid redundancy.
36. A common thread highlighted from NPS was the importance of enhancing **dialogue and collaboration between Parties and NPS**. Key strategies in this context include raising awareness among Parties about the MP's activities, with regional dialogues and meetings ahead of COP serving as opportunities for collaboration on targeted initiatives and continuing the practice of MP Action Events and Implementation Labs at COPs to showcase successful case studies and co-create tailored, scalable solutions. It was also stressed the need for the consistent inclusion of NPS across the UNFCCC process, using interactive formats such as World Cafe sessions. Furthermore, a robust feedback mechanism was proposed to document and disseminate lessons learned and success stories, creating a dynamic learning environment that allows Parties and NPS to evolve their strategies based on practical experiences.
