



**UNFCCC COP 24
Katowice, Poland**

**Outcome Document
Action Event: Industry**

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

Friday, 7 December 2018
10:00 – 13:00

Organised by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)
and the
Marrakech Partnership Industry Thematic Group

Section 1 – Outcomes of the Action Event at COP 24

Key Messages

The IPCC's [special report](#) on Global Warming of 1.5°C has sent clear signal: The impacts of allowing 2°C global warming are far greater and more catastrophic than 1.5°C – which we're set to surpass as early as 2040. While a 1.5°C world is still possible, it will require radical and urgent transformation of all systems at an unprecedented scale.

With industry being responsible for a large percentage of global greenhouse gas emissions, the challenge to decarbonise high-emitting sectors is ever more urgent.

And industry is responding. Key sectors are taking on the climate challenge and demonstrating leadership by investing in innovation and research to provide smarter and more effective solutions for mitigation and to build resilience.

Digitalization and other technological advancements are revolutionising processes across entire industries, having significant impacts across sectors and geographies. Increasingly these industries are taking the steps to recognise what these impacts may be on their workforce, and work with their unions and workers to ensure their industry makes a just transition.

Impacts and progress showcased

The MP-GCA Industry Action event at COP24, organised by the [World Business Council for Sustainable Development \(WBCSD\)](#) and the Industry thematic group under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, has shown how the private sector is taking leadership in addressing the challenge towards creating a low-carbon economy.

This session saw representatives from leading businesses across major industrial sectors such as cement, steel, construction and chemical, engage in dynamic discussions that highlighted specific action and implementation to implement the Paris Agreement. They demonstrated how transformative action in such sectors can have huge impacts towards scaling up innovative low carbon solutions and creating a new circular economy for industry.

“The only way you move faster on climate action is to find what resonates with other stakeholders and how you can help them, building a collaborative solution.” James Goudreau, Head of Climate at Novartis, who explained the process behind the company's decision to put climate action at the heart of its new internal strategy: “We're a science company so whatever we do should make sense from a science perspective. With the Paris Agreement and a changing expectation from society, we knew we



needed to be more ambitious,” he added. “So, we brought in finance, procurement, corporate affairs and others who didn’t think we’d be sustainable *and* make money - but after two days - we started with a clear vision of where we wanted to go.”

The event emphasised the need for

- (i) greater ambition for industry players;
- (ii) regulatory and policy frameworks that enable companies to accelerate the transition towards climate-friendly business practices, processes and products; and
- (iii) developing partnerships of shared ambition between business and government.

Samantha Smith, Director at the Just Transition Centre (ITUC), said that dialogue between business, unions and governments will be critical for “managing major shifts” in the global economy and the workplace as countries move to address the climate challenge. “People need job security, and they need to be good jobs. The same process applies to workers and communities in sunset industries,” she said. In other words, business and industry should be poised and ready to reskill individuals and reshape communities who may be affected by the low-carbon transition.

In a session discussion dedicated to the Built environment, the event also explored how leading players in the buildings and construction industry are collaborating and bringing a value chain approach to their climate action and implementation across the built environment.

Finally, the event also highlighted what industry needs from governments to work together towards raised climate action, particularly in enhancing NDCs and the adoption of long-term climate strategies.

It featured a dedicated session on Creating Ambition Loops, a concept developed through [The Ambition Loop report](#) launched in the lead up to COP24 by We Mean Business, WRI and the UN Global Compact. This session highlighted that an increasing number of businesses are seeing opportunity in the zero-carbon economy, and taking action on climate change, for example through bold commitments to zero carbon electric power, zero carbon vehicle fleets, and zero deforestation. Increased business investments in climate solutions. Each of these commitments sends a strong signal from business to government in support of ambitious climate policy.

“The purpose for being here is to inspire our peers to take action, and to inspire the negotiating countries]. The process shows how ambition in the private sector creates the space for more ambitious action across non-State actors,” said Jennifer Austin, Policy Director at the We Mean Business coalition.

Business is calling for Governments to use this as a strong vote of confidence, and to advance ambitious policies that provide companies with the clarity and confidence they need to unlock further investments in climate solutions.

This is the “ambition loop”—a positive feedback loop in which bold government policies and private sector leadership reinforce each other, and together take climate action to the next level.

1. *Impacts or high-impact levers that the Action Event addressed;*
 - a) *Private sector partnership in climate action and NDC implementation*
 - b) *The role of non-Party engagement in Talanoa Dialogue in 2018 and beyond*
 - c) *The role of action by non-State actors to raise ambition (e.g. RE100, Science-Based Targets, LCTPi),*
 - d) *The increased importance of events where non-State actors to showcase their action and learn from each other e.g. Global Climate Action Summit in 2018.*
 - e) *Business has a crucial role to play in ensuring a Just Transition and help build trust between workers, governments and employers*

2. *The short-term (by 2020), mid-term (2030) and/or long-term (2050) goals that were highlighted;*
 - a) *Improving Party and non-State actor action by identifying collaborative opportunities in the lead up to COP26 in 2020.*
 - b) *MPGCA identified as an important platform for bringing dialogue between governments, the private sector, and civil society.*
 - c) *Enhancing non-Party direct engagement with governments in developing updated NDCs, including sectoral elements of NDCs.*
 - d) *Focus on policy dialogue specific to implementing solutions to raise ambition in country NDCs.*
 - e) *The UNSG Summit in 2019 is a key opportunity to raise the profile of the climate challenge, and build political momentum towards 2020 by:*
 - *Convening technical expertise from both Parties and non-State actors to create shared ambition for decarbonising key sectors, supply-chains and energy end-uses.*

3. *The initiatives that achieved those goals above, including new initiatives launched or commitments announced;*
 - a) *The [Low Carbon Technology Partnerships initiative](#) (LCTPi)– which aims to enhance dialogue and collaboration among companies and other partners to accelerate the development of low-carbon technology solutions – has grown to include more than 235 global businesses and over 70 other partners since it was launched at COP21.*
 - b) *Since COP21, over 800 companies with USD \$16.9 trillion in market capital have made over 1,300 commitments to address the climate challenge through the We Mean Business Take Action platform.*
 - c) *RE100 supports companies to set a goal to source 100% of their electricity from renewable sources, and subsequently track and disclose their progress toward achieving that goal – now has 156 companies as partners. <http://there100.org/>*
 - d) *EV100 brings together forward-looking companies committed to accelerating the transition to electric vehicles (EVs) and making electric transport the new normal by 2030. <https://www.theclimategroup.org/project/ev100>*
 - e) *In 2018 alone, over 130 new businesses joined the [Science Based Targets initiative](#), making up a total of 498 companies. [Read more here.](#)*
 - f) *The Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition with 150 private sector partners, and 30 other strategic partners – is advocating for effective carbon pricing policies that will lead to new and climate-friendly ways of doing business. The Coalition aims to double the percentage of*



global emissions covered by explicit carbon process to 25% by 2020, and to double it again to 50% within a decade.

- g) Factor10 brings companies together to reinvent how business finds, uses and disposes of the materials that make up global trade. It's a platform that will help to identify and remove the barriers that exist and create scalable solutions that businesses all around the world can use.*
- h) [Nature4Climate](#) coalition between NGOs, governments, business and other organizations aimed at driving Natural Climate Solutions.*