



## **UNFCCC COP 25**

# **Outcome Document Climate Action and SDG7 Roundtable**

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

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16:30 – 18:00

Organised by IRENA, SEforAll, and UNFCCC  
Supported by IEA and REN21

# MPGCA Climate Action and SDG7 Roundtable

## Section 1

### Key Messages:

SDG 7 is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – the achievement of the other SDGs depends on our successful implementation of SDG7.

There are three pillars to SDG7: energy access, energy efficiency and renewable energy. In rapidly accelerating progress in all three of these areas, we can simultaneously move the world towards the 1.5°C pathway at the centre of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s recommendation in the *Special Report*, and ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services for those who do not currently enjoy them.

Although the energy transition has accelerated in all three areas, at the current rate of ambition the world will fall short of meeting SDG 7 targets and ultimately global climate objectives for 2030 and 2050.

Achieving SDG7 in the context of the Paris Agreement requires a rethink about how we produce, distribute and consume energy.

### Outcomes

#### *Pre-2020 action:*

- *What are the current challenges, opportunities and metrics (such as data and analysis) for pre-2020 actions to realize the transition using technology, innovation and finance for this thematic area?*
- *What are the pre-2020 actions that have been implemented that accelerates systemic transformation, including changing behavioural patterns and leapfrogging conventional development paths? What needs to be improved or enhanced?*

Significant progress has been made to accelerate the energy transition, but at the current pace of the transition, there will still be 430 million people without access to electricity and 2.7 billion people without clean cooking facilities in 2030. **There is widespread agreement that the energy transformation is possible, but to get there, we must break down silos, accelerate action and overcome obstacles and barriers that stand in our way.** This event showcased actions that are already underway which promote the transition to a climate-proof future, while achieving SDGs, NDCs, and related climate goals. For example:

- Denmark recently passed a climate law mandating 70% emissions reduction by 2030 below the country’s 1990 levels.



- Colombia has set a target that mandates that all power companies operating in the wholesale energy market ensure at least 10% of the power they distribute has come from renewables by 2022.
- In Rwanda, climate concerns have been incorporated into national planning and development in all sectors and the government is investing in energy infrastructure, with a goal of 52% on grid and 45% off-grid by 2024.
- The World Bank is mobilizing financial support through the Energy Storage Initiative, which has mobilized \$300 million to date and has 3GW/h in the pipeline, an increase of 50% over currently installed capacity in developing countries. It is also collaborating in the Solar Risk Mitigation Initiative.
- The EU has announced its plans to implement a Green New Deal with a goal to become the first climate-friendly continent in the world.
- Morocco highlighted their goal for 42% of their power to come from renewable energy by 2020. With ramped-up energy efficiency, this will provide a 20% savings in energy prices.
- The Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol has opened a major opportunity to eliminate climate destructive refrigerants.

Discussants emphasized that the **keys to success are target setting by governments, combined with the establishment of effective regulatory and other enabling frameworks which are simple, fair, inclusive, and that ensure nobody is left behind.** The strong view was expressed by many that a holistic approach is required; there is a need for systemic change rather than drop-in solutions. It was suggested that subsidies for fossil fuels must be redistributed for the purposes of promoting a more equitable, clean energy future. Finally, discussants stressed the importance of involving all actors and supporting experimental projects and business models to help achieve SDG7.

### ***References to or evidence of in the Climate Action Pathway/Yearbook of Global Climate Action/Global Climate Action portal (NAZCA)***

- *How does the future need to look like in 2050 in order to reach the 1.5-degree, net-zero, resilient goal and how we are moving towards this future?*
- *What are the systemic transformational actions and solutions to transition to this future, providing evidence that is science-based?*

By 2050, a new energy system can and must be in place and the 1.5°C temperature rise limit must be in sight. This requires that diverse solutions will be available to accommodate a wide range of differing national and local circumstances - solutions that work for people. **Rapid development of renewable energy technologies, underpinned by efficiency and digital solutions, will lead to a steady decrease in our dependence on fossil fuels.** The transition is well underway for the electricity sector but progress for transport, heating and cooling must be accelerated as a matter of urgency.

The discussants emphasized the importance of focusing on solutions and how to move towards those goals, including through innovation, technology in markets, cooperation among actors, increased investment in renewable energy, efficiency, and related infrastructure, ambitious targets, consistent

political commitment, long-term planning, and holistic policies that ensure gender equality and a just and fair transition. Accelerating action through these renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions will help the world get on a 1.5°C pathway to 2050 and provide universal **access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services**.

### **2019 United Nations Climate Action Summit**

- *How can the transformational outcomes of the UN SG Summit be taken forward and scaled up to accelerate the transition?*

In response to the climate crisis, a significant number of initiatives have been formed and launched, particularly at the UN Secretary General's Climate Action Summit in 2019. These initiatives proved that the momentum and collective action in some areas has shifted the needle. It was noted that these initiatives, while important in and of themselves, are also aimed at catalysing further action by others. **Energy needs to be transformed, but this transformation cannot take place solely amongst the usual suspects; we must bring new people in from governments, companies, and civil society.**

Specific initiatives discussed included:

- The **Three Percent Club for Energy Efficiency**, consisting of 15 countries working to put the world on a path of 3% annual energy efficiency improvement.
- The **Cool Coalition** gathers and communicates on all initiatives related to cooling. As the energy demand increases for cooling, we must shift to renewable energy to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.
- **Getting to Zero Coalition on decarbonizing shipping**, in which members across the maritime value chain are aiming to have commercially viable zero emission vessels operating along deep-sea trade routes by 2030.
- **Cluster Solaire** connects renewable energy actors to institutions and the private sector who are driving Moroccan targets on sustainable energy, and can be replicated in the global South.
- The **Mama Light Initiative for Sustainable Energy** is a worldwide program that provides access to affordable and sustainable energy for women, small business and children. It empowers the informal sector, it drives the generation of new jobs and it creates a sound basis for gender equality and women empowerment.