

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CHAMPIONS AND THE MARRAKECH PARTNERSHIP FOR GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION

*Progress of the work of the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership from **January 2023 to May 2023** regarding the Marrakech Partnership Work Programme for 2023**



Marrakech
Partnership



** Unedited version*

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

Launched by the High-Level Champions at the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 22), the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action (MP) provides a framework that aims to enhance and accelerate global climate action among Parties and non-Party stakeholders (NPS). Its mission, which is to strengthen collaboration between governments and key stakeholders (international and regional initiatives and coalitions of cities, regions, businesses, investors, and civil society), focuses on immediate climate action that supports the implementation of the Paris Agreement and helps Parties to achieve and surpass their nationally determined contributions (NDCs), national adaptation plans and long-term low emission development strategies. These actions are to be guided by the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement and undertaken in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Improved Marrakech Partnership 2021-2025

At COP 26, Parties acknowledged the important role of NPS and welcomed the [improved Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action for enhancing ambition](#) as part of the Glasgow Climate Pact.¹ The five-year plan of the improved Marrakech Partnership for enhancing ambition outlines the vision, mandate, core functions and tools, and updated structures intended to increase the scale and impact of the Marrakech Partnership work through 2025.

Marrakech Partnership Work Programme for 2023

The [Work Programme for 2023](#) was developed on the basis of the above five-year plan, and is informed by past work of the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership, growing momentum in recent years, and the negotiated and climate action outcomes of COP 27.² It reflects the shared vision of the High-Level Champions, the emerging priorities of the COP 28 Presidency, and discussions and feedback from stakeholders held at the beginning of 2023.

The Work Programme states that its *“progress and achievements of this work programme will be reported twice throughout 2023. One will be published by SB 58 which will explain the mid-term progress, and the second version will be published by COP 28, which will present the achievements of the year.”*

¹ Decision [1/CP.26](#), paragraphs 55 and 56.

² See

https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GCA_COP27_Summary_of_Global_Climate_Action_at_COP_27_1711.pdf.

PROGRESS OF THE 2023 WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL CHAMPIONS AND THE MARRAKECH PARTNERSHIP FOR GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION

Responding to paragraph 15 of the Work Programme, this section explains the mid-term progress of the 2023 Work Programme from January 2023 to May 2023 which have been delivered under the strategic approach of the 2023 Work Programme with the focus of five substantial priorities (nature, just energy transition, just finance, adaptation and resilience, and loss and damage), and with respect to the principles of inclusivity, just transition, and regional and local engagement.

A Mobilise NPS to maximise ambition

1. The High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership have been **rallying NPS climate action through the operation of their global campaigns** – Race to Zero and Race to Resilience.
2. [Race to Zero](#) rallies NPS to take rigorous and immediate action to halve global emissions by 2030. There are **over 11,000 members** in the Race to Zero made up of companies, financial institutions, cities, states, regions and others. Additionally, in April 2023, Race to Zero welcomed a new partner - [Venture Climate Alliance](#) - which has been created by leading global venture capital firms to define, facilitate and realise net zero-aligned pathways for early-stage investments with a goal to build a robust movement within the venture industry to combat climate change.
3. The campaign has been **supporting partners to accelerate delivery**, particularly:
 - a. In March 2023, Race to Zero launched its [Data Explorer](#), which was developed by Climate Arc and supported by CDP data. The Explorer shows the progress against four of the “5 Ps” of the campaign (pledge, plan, proceed, publish) for the largest 500 Race to Zero companies by revenue.
 - b. Race to Zero convenes monthly meetings with its 25 [Partners](#), who are leading net zero initiatives. Convenings have covered best practice on net zero pledges (with guidance from Science Based Targets initiative) and developing transition plans (with guidance from key leaders and experts, such as the UN Secretary General’s Climate Action Team).
 - c. Race to Zero’s Expert Peer Review Group has completed the 2022 reviews of Race to Zero Partners, identifying areas of best practice and improvement for partners with respect to the campaigns meta criteria.
 - d. To support activation of members around the newly added criteria on “persuade,” Race to Zero has created a workstream for its Net Zero Policy and Regulation community of more than 50 stakeholders, to encourage the transition from net zero voluntary action to net zero standards, policy and regulation.
 - e. Race to Zero continues to work with 25 [Accelerators](#) on accelerating recruitment into the Race, and increasing global uptake on net zero. Between January and May 2023, Race to Zero has

formally welcomed [B-Lab](#), the [Climate Pledge](#) (previously a Partner), [Digizen](#) (accelerator) and [Giki](#) (employee net zero engagement) as accelerators.

4. Reflecting the high priority of the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership for 2023 to increase synergies with nature, Race to Zero has been collecting case studies to showcase **NPS leadership in nature-based solutions**, and working on supporting the [nature breakthroughs](#) through Race to Zero partners where possible.
5. Race to Zero is also committed to deepen the understanding of equity and justice and to operationalise this across the real world action of its partners and members. Race to Zero, with its Partners, and Expert Review Group will convene a process welcoming in and better supporting NPS in developing economies to contribute their fair share to halving emissions and accelerating clean sustainable development.
6. The High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership are working closely with the UNFCCC secretariat to support its work on responding to the recommendations of the United Nations Secretary General's High-Level Expert Group on the Net Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities (HLEG) driven by a commitment to enhance transparency of progress toward the delivery of climate commitments from NPS.
7. [Race to Resilience](#) is designed to increase the resilience of four billion people living in vulnerable communities, through catalysing a step-change in global action on adaptation and resilience. The Race to Resilience campaign [metrics framework](#) is allowing partners for the first time to **report action and quantify their impact under a common framework**. Work is underway to align the first of its kind Race to Resilience metrics framework with the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda (SAA) impact systems, supporting the delivery of the second Race to Resilience report, showcasing partners' collective efforts. The Race to Resilience Technical Secretariat will be conducting a series of workshops and surveys to assist partners in identifying the direct and indirect beneficiaries of their initiatives and measuring their impact. These activities seek to strengthen the understanding of how a partner's action is improving diverse resilience attributes. In the first workshop and survey held in April, over 20 [partners](#) actively participated and contributed to the exercises. Simultaneously, the Technical Secretariat is collaborating with the Expert Review Group to evaluate the Race to Resilience Expression of Interest for potential new partners. This evaluation involves a thorough review of the current criteria for joining the campaign.
8. The campaign has been increasing the number of members and supporting partners to accelerate delivery and the uptake of resilience, particularly:
 - a. In April, Race to Resilience onboarded 2 new partners: [Sanitation and Water for All](#) and [Global Fund for Coral Reefs](#).
 - b. The Insurance Adaptation Acceleration Initiative, a flagship initiative of the Race to Resilience, is making significant progress in developing the roadmap of action for COP 28 and organising regional roundtable sessions to mobilise the finance and insurance industry to join the

- campaign and identify region-specific best practices, ready-to-implement demonstration projects, and enablers. This initiative was presented in May at the International Insurance Industry Conference in Latin America. As part of its efforts to engage the sector in different regions, the first roundtable was held in Dubai also in May and involved the participation of the UAE and Middle East, North Africa and South Asia insurance sector, real estate developers, local government representatives, and other relevant stakeholders. The second roundtable session is planned to take place during the Latin America and Caribbean Climate Week.
- c. In addition, the campaign partners have been supporting the uptake of resilience in local, global and sectoral policy agendas through their engagement in developing a community of practice, knowledge exchange events with leading experts and practitioners, and by providing direct contributions to the refinement and progress of the Sharm El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda and UNFCCC processes, including the Global Stocktake (GST).
9. Reflecting the high priority of the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership for 2023 to **increase synergies with nature**, the Race to Resilience campaign is further advancing **partnerships with initiatives that foster nature-based solutions for adaptation**.
- a. An example is the inclusion of the Global Fund for Coral Reefs, through which nature-based solutions for coastal protection and water systems are accelerated to respond to the most vulnerable and frontline populations.
 - b. Scale for Resilience, Race to Resilience partner, convened a [two-day workshop](#) for Latin America and the Caribbean with the purpose of discussing finance access for climate solutions and creating favourable conditions along the financial value chain, with a focus on nature-based solutions for climate-smart agriculture, building the business case for adaptation.
 - c. In addition, Race to Resilience, the Champions and the Marrakech Partnership have mobilised NPS through participation in three events at the [National Adaptation Plans \(NAP\) Expo](#) in Santiago de Chile in March, by bringing together the experience of NPS in the planning, implementation and progress tracking of adaptation solutions that build the resilience of people and nature.
 - d. In April, [Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance \(ORRAA\)](#), a partner of Race to Resilience, launched a call for pioneering innovation initiatives focused on scalable finance and insurance products that regenerate valuable coastal and ocean natural assets and build coastal resilience, reducing ocean risk. Together with the UK Blue Fund, ORRAA will support with up to USD 500,000 the selected projects, directly contributing to the advancement of all Sharm El Sheikh Adaptation Agenda impact systems and delivery of the adaptation outcome targets.
 - e. In May, Race to Resilience partner, [BFA Global](#) and its member initiative Climate Innovation for Adaptation and Resilience (CIFAR) Alliance, launched the "[Blockchain for Resilience Landscape Report](#)", analysing the use of blockchain technology to accelerate climate action and benefit emerging markets.

B Drive systems transformations

10. In order to **drive the systems transformation needed to stay within the 1.5 degree limit, i.e. transition to a net zero, climate resilient, nature positive and just economy**, in the first half of 2023, the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership enhanced collaboration among stakeholders to deliver the milestones, goals and solutions of the [Climate Action Pathways](#), the [2030 Breakthroughs](#), the [Breakthrough Agenda](#) and the [Sharm el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda \(SAA\)](#). This includes convening experts, partners and stakeholders to identify opportunities to update and refine the above milestones in line with the conclusions on IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6), and to continue building momentum and action toward achieving them. These tools have been highlighted in the High-Level Champions' submissions to the technical assessment phase of the GST as a **coherent package of pathways of system transformation and solutions** across all sectors and where all stakeholders and levels of government can identify appropriately according to their needs and context. The Champions and the Marrakech Partnership are also working to **track and highlight evidence of action and change in the real economy**, including a project with research institutions and sector organisations³ focused on *forward-looking indicators*, like procurement policies, investments, production increases, cost reductions and new policies that are early indicators of growing action, and are the leading indicators of future exponential growth of solutions that ultimately reduce emissions and enhance resilience. Focusing on these earliest indicators of action and change and how to successfully implement these according to regional context can inform and inspire further action more effectively than only looking at other indicators, such as emissions reductions, which often come a year or two after investments and actions are taken.
11. Encouraging progress has been made in many sectors, for example:
- a. The clean **energy** sector is almost halfway (46%) towards the overall renewables electricity 2030 breakthrough goal, one quarter (26%) towards the wind and solar PV goal, with more efforts planned to achieve the breakthrough on time. The Champions and Marrakech Partnership partners are also supporting the [Africa Green Hydrogen Alliance \(AGHA\)](#), for example by supporting AGHA and the Government of Mauritania in organising the [Africa Green Hydrogen Finance Accelerator Forum](#) in April, focusing on solutions to finance large-scale renewable energy and green hydrogen projects in developing countries and emerging economies. Partners are also set to initiate a dialogue on the **role of NPS in the Just Energy Transition**.
 - b. The Champions are convening discussions on "Avoid and Shift" to design a new breakthrough on urban mobility, whilst bolstering the deployment of electric vehicles for passengers and

³ Including Systems Change Lab, WRI, RMI, Systemiq, ETC, Bain, WMB and other key Marrakech Partnership stakeholders.

- freight. Together with partners⁴, the Champions are accelerating implementation and ensuring inclusive, just and resilient several green shipping corridors projects.
- c. Several hard-to-abate **industrial** sectors are progressing towards the achievement of their 2030 breakthroughs, especially Cement and Steel, leveraging the international dynamics around the Breakthrough Agenda (see below).
 - d. The **built environment** sector is also preparing for the launch of the Buildings Breakthrough later this year, while intensely engaging around near zero buildings with MENA stakeholders⁵.
12. At COP 27, through the **Breakthrough Agenda**, a coalition of 45 world leaders whose countries collectively represent over 70% of global GDP committed to a package of 28 priority actions to decarbonise power, road transport, steel, hydrogen and agriculture. Progress on actions is currently being tracked through the Breakthrough Agenda report from the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the High-Level Champions. Examples of progress include:
- a. Collaborating internationally on research and development and capacity building, including a Power Systems Transformation Playbook.
 - b. Convergence on common definitions for low emission and near-zero emission steel, and a common timeframe for the adoption of standards
 - c. Increasing country endorsements to launch Buildings and Cement Breakthroughs as part of the Breakthrough Agenda.
13. At COP 27, the **SAA** was launched by the High-Level Champions and the COP 27 Presidency and welcomed by Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan as a global agenda of 30 solutions for accelerating climate adaptation this decade across five impact systems; food, water, oceans, human settlements, and infrastructure, and through two enablers; planning and finance. At SB 58, the COP 27 Presidency, the High-Level Champions and Marrakech Partnership are establishing six Task Forces to convene relevant UN agencies and other global and local stakeholders. The Task Forces will focus on the five above impact systems in addition to finance. Their mandate is to rally NPS and governments to implement SAA; identify partnerships needed to deliver on each target; facilitate discussions to inform the baseline and progress tracking for each of the targets; contribute to channel inputs from partners to inform the first SAA Implementation Report; and contribute to shape a common narrative for adaptation system transformation.
14. Partners of Race to Resilience are also organising themselves in working groups according to the SAA Task Forces, which helps them contribute with the solutions agenda of the SAA. Partners are starting to connect their adaptation action with the 30 adaptation solution targets by including them in their work plans, strategy documents and progress reports. A recent [progress report on resilient](#)

⁴ Partners contributing include the LR Maritime Decarbonisation Hub, RMI, ABS, C40, GMF, and Maersk Mckinney Moller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping.

⁵ MENA stakeholders include EmiratesGBC, EgyptGBC, other regional GBCs, MOCCA, COP28 Presidency, and private sector.

[infrastructure](#) by International Coalition for Sustainable Infrastructure (ICSI) during the mid-term review of the Sendai Framework highlights the relevance to the SAA.

15. Additionally, the High-Level Champions have supported **dialogue with key private and finance sectors** to identify opportunities to **mobilise finance for adaptation and resilience** as per the SAA finance outcomes. A renewed partnership with the Atlantic Council Arsht-Rockefeller Resilience Centre was established to convene key global finance players. Two major dialogues were delivered: the [convening](#) from the insurance companies that take part of the Insurance Adaptation Acceleration Initiative from the Race to Resilience, to identify investment commitment opportunities towards COP 28; and the convening of the finance sector to identify private sector inputs into the global finance policy processes (Bridgetown Initiative, Loss and Damage, Global Shield, V20) to help unlock the barriers that exist for private sector to mobilise finance for adaptation and resilience.
16. As the **synergies between biodiversity and climate change** have become ever-more crucial, the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership have placed **nature as a priority**. As such, there is a focus on collaborating with regional networks, indigenous peoples, local communities, women's organisations and youth groups to promote nature-integrated action as well as progressing key elements of the SAA and the 2030 Breakthroughs, including:
 - a. **Land use actions:** advance efforts of conservation, reversal of forest loss and land degradation, while delivering sustainable development and promoting an inclusive rural transformation with partners in key countries. This is in addition to supporting delivery of funding committed to drive restoration of degraded land in Africa via the [African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative \(AFR100\)](#) and through [Terrafund](#) and on-the-ground partners such as [Evergreening Alliance](#).
 - b. **Ocean-climate actions:** the Champions are working to develop and refine an Ocean Breakthrough with the Marrakech Partnership to align actions and accelerate ocean based nature and climate solutions. Progress is also being made to develop and implement the Coral Reef & Mangrove Breakthroughs and explore ways to accelerate the implementation of Sustainable Ocean Plans.
 - c. **Nature Positive for Climate Action:** the Champions are encouraging NPS to accelerate climate action by including nature in their transition plans, setting science-based targets using [SBTi's Forest, Land and Agriculture \(FLAG\)](#) and [Science Based Targets Network \(SBTN\)](#), assessing and disclosing nature related risks, impacts and dependencies using the [Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures Framework \(TNFD\)](#).
 - d. They are also encouraging NPS to take actions to **accelerate systemic transformation of food systems** supporting progress of the 2030 Breakthroughs and SAA. With the Marrakech Partnership and other key partners, efforts have been made to ensure steady progress in the work with farmers, businesses, and consumer commitments to contribute to the transformation. Both private and public players (e.g. input suppliers, farmers, producers, traders, retailers, cities, procurement agencies, etc.) will contribute to specific targets and tangible action in their own contexts including particular focus on food security.

- e. In April, one of the Champions attended the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues where they co-hosted an [Indigenous Youth Dialogue](#) to better understand how to meaningfully engage on global health, food and water security, as well as nature and biodiversity, and also co-moderated a panel discussion with indigenous groups' representatives with an emphasis on the importance of including and respecting indigenous values and knowledge systems for planetary health and climate change.
17. In addition, the Champions and the Marrakech Partnership have been working on **shifting finance from harming nature to natural climate solutions** through key nature finance enablers, including:
- a. **Addressing low-hanging fruit of commodity-driven deforestation risk:** Signatories of the [Finance Sector Deforestation Action initiative](#), representing over 35 financial institutions, are making credible progress to deliver on their commitment to eliminate commodity-driven deforestation from their portfolios by 2025, and increase investments towards nature-based solutions. They are pushing shared investor expectations and engaging with policymakers and data providers to call for issuer-level data on deforestation risk exposure and management.
 - b. **Encouraging emergence of enablers to finance nature for climate action:** This includes encouraging financial institutions to embed nature in climate transition plans and disclose on nature-related risks, impacts and dependencies, including publishing a paper on strengthening opportunity case for scaling nature-based solutions, delivering technical guidance on scaling sustainability-linked sovereign debt instruments, and advancing delivery of finance for nature-based solutions initiatives.
18. In order to drive systems transformation, it is of great importance to accelerate support for means of implementation: finance, technology and capacity building.
19. The **Regional Finance Forums** which were organised in 2022 by the COP 27 Presidency, the UN Regional Commissions and the High-Level Champions (in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Western Asia regions) on "Climate Initiatives to Finance Climate Action and the SDGs" will have their second edition taking place in 2023 in the run up to COP 28. The COP 28 Presidency joined this partnership in its second edition which aims to advance projects to financial close, i.e. secure requisite financing for as many of the 128 financing opportunities [collated](#) as part of the first edition of the forums across climate and development (the SDGs), mitigation, adaptation and nature.
- a. Activities of this year include greater focus on supporting project owners early on, including suitable information packs and preparation for financier meetings, as well as more significant and targeted outreach to financiers to best understand which projects are most suitable for them. Financiers targeted include the full range; MDBs and DFIs, regional development banks, commercial banks and philanthropists. So far, actions are underway, including filtering projects, creating information packs on projects, supporting project owners in preparation and refinement of their "pitch," outreach to financiers, connecting financiers to relevant project owners, and dedicated matchmaking sessions. In addition, the Champions and the UN Regional

Economic Commissions are convening a second series of roundtables on thematic topics, such as how to scale-up project pipelines.

- b. On 17 May, the first [Forum took place in Bangkok](#), hosted by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in collaboration with COP 27 and COP 28 Presidencies and the High-Level Champions. The next Africa Forum will be held in two parts - on [5 June in Abidjan](#) on the margins of the Africa CEO Forum and alongside the Africa Climate Action Summit and the [Africa Climate Week](#) in Nairobi in September. The European Forum will take place on 4 July in Frankfurt. The dates of the remaining regional forums will be announced shortly.

20. Regionalization:

a. **Africa:**

- i. **UN Water Conference and [African Cities Water Adaptation Fund \(ACWA\)](#):** During the UN Water conference in March 2023 in New York, a high-level side event was held in partnership with the African Union, the Continental African Water Investment Program, and ACWA Platform partners around continuing to accelerate fundraising for urban water resilience for African cities.
- ii. **African Development Bank (AfDB) and FSDA Partnership Strategy and ACRF Ideation Workshop:** A Trust Fund was established in March 2023 in Abidjan during a workshop with participants that spanned Global Climate Fund, United Nations Environment Programme, African Risk Capacity, and the African Development Bank. The workshop discussion touched on the scope and structure of the Nairobi declaration on Sustainable Insurance and the Fund. The Fund will focus on vulnerable populations and de-risking climate investments.
- iii. **Africa Green Hydrogen Finance Accelerator Forum:** The [conference](#) held in April 2023 in Mauritania brought together governments, private sector, development partners, and civil society to catalyse funding towards Green Hydrogen projects in Africa.
- iv. **Africa Carbon Market Initiative (ACMI) and country activation:** A standard framework for [carbon market country activations](#) has been designed, with a focus on creating an enabling environment for private sector participation and market growth. Activation plan in Kenya is almost complete. Malawi, DRC and Nigeria are underway.

b. **Latin America and the Caribbean:**

- i. **Water Business Coalition:** This multi sector initiative was launched in Chile with the goal to facilitate a water transition, and achieve water positive in Chile.
- ii. **Business engagement meeting on Race to Zero:** Held in April 2023 in São Paulo, Brazil alongside the United Nations Environment Programme, the event aimed to promote exchange of experiences and lessons learned from implementing climate mitigation, financial health and inclusion targets.

c. **MENA:**

- i. **Road to COP 28 at Dubai Chambers:** Held in May 2023 in Dubai, the [event](#) sought to mobilise efforts and raise climate ambition in the region in the leadup to COP 28. It allowed local stakeholders and NPS an opportunity to learn more about the work of the High-Level Champions and COP 28 Presidency across Mitigation, Adaptation, Resilience and Finance, including Race to Zero and Race to Resilience campaigns.

C Support engagement of NPS in the UNFCCC process

21. The High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership have been supporting the engagement of NPS and promoting the inclusion of systems-based approaches into the UNFCCC process, more specifically through the first GST and the Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme (the Mitigation Work Programme).
22. The GST is scheduled to conclude with an outcome at COP 28. Being recognized as the key moment to assess the progress of the collective implementation of the Paris Agreement and with the mandate given to the High-Level Champions from Parties at COP 26,⁶ the Champions, working with the Marrakech Partnership, have continuously supported the active and effective engagement of NPS in the GST.
 - a. In March, the Champions made their [submission](#) to the third technical dialogue of the first GST (TD1.3), providing key messages that have emerged from NPS in the run up to and throughout COP 27, and their expectation for the GST to be a springboard of action for NPS, highlighting the urgency that the science demands, honest assessments of progress, clear signals of the systems transformations underway and what is needed to accelerate action across all areas of the economy, promote inclusive climate action, and support a just transition that employs a holistic approach to implementing Sustainable Development Goals.
 - b. As part of the final stage of the technical assessment of the GST, the UN Climate Change secretariat launched an [Expression of Interest](#) process on behalf of the High-Level Champions to assist co-facilitators in identifying and inviting 24 other NPS participants to TD1.3.
 - c. As the GST transitions from the technical assessment phase, the Champions and the Marrakech Partnership held **a dialogue with NPS** in April to exchange views on how NPS could meaningfully contribute and respond to the GST towards COP 28 and beyond from a climate action perspective. With more than 70 participants, the discussion highlighted the importance of, including but not limited to: a clear roadmap/pathway towards 2030; a connection between NPS commitments and national plans; an open, frequent, evidence-based, purpose-driven, and inclusive dialogue; and a focus on systems transformation. These perspectives from NPS have laid the foundation for the Champions to shape the key messages and overall approach to the GST from a climate action perspective, including key collaboration areas and products. More

⁶ Decision 1/CMA.3, paragraph 77.

dialogues are also planned throughout the year towards COP 28 as an opportunity to dive deeper into specific topics and feed into the process as the opportunities emerge.

- d. The Champions and the Marrakech Partnership have been placing **regionalisation** at the heart of the collective approach for the GST to ensure regional context and perspectives are reflected. In this regard, in April, they worked with CDP and Climate and Society Institute (ICS) in organising the [first workshop](#) for NPS in Brazil. The event aimed to promote capacity building around the GST and engage relevant stakeholders in the discussions.

23. At COP 27, Parties encouraged the High-Level Champions to support the effective engagement of NPS in the Mitigation Work Programme dialogues and the investment-focused events organised by the secretariat under the guidance of the co-chairs.⁷

- a. Responding to the mandate, in February, they made a [submission](#) providing an overview of the relevant work of the Marrakech Partnership and highlighting some key areas emerging from this work. Ahead of the first global dialogue, the High-Level Champions are also providing a submission that highlights the opportunities, best practices, actionable solutions, challenges and barriers relevant to the topic for 2023 of accelerating the just energy transition. The key messages include how there are strong signals of change towards cleaner energy systems; the importance of connecting climate action with energy accessibility, energy security and inclusive development pathways; and how the work and initiatives of the Marrakech Partnership and NPS are a source of scalable, replicable, actionable solutions and emerging practices. In addition to highlighting the importance of increasing resilience and improving access to clean and reliable energy; the need for increased public and private finance, especially for developing countries and emerging economies; and how the deployment of a whole of societal approach and being gender-responsive are also key for the transition.
- b. In addition, the Champions are supporting the co-chairs of the work programme and UNFCCC secretariat by standing ready to provide recommendations on partners, speakers and participants and on how to best deploy creative and innovative modalities to find the most effective ways in bringing in the high-impact experiences of NPS in a manner that result in successful action-oriented outcomes.

D Enhance accountability

24. Responding to the [recommendations](#) of the High-Level Expert Group on the Net-Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities, the UN Secretary General emphasised that the UNFCCC secretariat should play a decisive role in ensuring the accountability and verification mechanisms associated with net-zero pledges from NPS, initiatives and campaigns. At COP 27, Parties also invited the secretariat to “ensure greater accountability of voluntary initiatives through the Non-State Actor

⁷ Decision 4/CMA.4, paragraphs 10 and 11.

Zone for Climate Action platform.”⁸ In response to these requests, the secretariat has prepared Recognition and Accountability Framework for Voluntary Commitments of NSA and Implementation Plan with respect to Net-Zero Pledges of NSA and Integrity Matters, building on the work done by Race to Zero’s Partner Initiatives and Expert Peer Review Group. The High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership will mobilise NPS to support the implementation of the Framework and Implementation plan with the aim of enhancing transparency of progress toward the delivery of climate commitments from NSA and recognizing the leadership of those delivering robust and credible contributions to limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

25. The Champions and the Marrakech Partnership are working closely with the IEA and IRENA on drafting the 2023 Breakthrough Agenda Report that will assess progress on the priority actions agreed by countries at COP 27 regarding the Breakthrough Agenda sectors which will be published in Q3 of 2023.
26. As briefly mentioned above, the SAA launched at COP 27 requests to report on its progress at COP 28. As such, they have been mobilising the Marrakech Partnership members, the Race to Resilience partners and the adaptation-focused initiatives launched at COP 27 to support the delivery and acceleration of implementation of adaptation solutions. Task Forces for each impact system are being created to drive convergence around the 30 adaptation outcomes and define the forward looking indicators that will allow the SAA to track progress and deliver the first implementation report at COP 28.

⁸ Decision 1/CP.27, paragraph 61.