

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

Context

1. This **work programme outlines the objectives and strategic approach of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action for 2023**. At its twenty-sixth session, the Conference of the Parties (COP) acknowledged the important role of non-Party stakeholders (NPS) and welcomed the Improved Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action for Enhancing Ambition¹ as part of the Glasgow Climate Pact.² Under the leadership of the **High-Level Champions from COP 27 Presidency (Egypt)** and from **COP 28 Presidency (United Arab Emirates)**, 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.
2. The work under this five-year plan focuses on aligning the efforts of NPS with the aim of implementing ambitious, just, equitable and inclusive transitions to get on track for a 1.5°C resilient world in 2050 in line with the principles and objectives of the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.
3. Throughout 2022, in line with the 2022 Work Programme,³ the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership placed priority on addressing the adaptation gap and strengthening resilience, increasing just finance for climate action, mobilizing mitigation ambition and action, and building credibility and trust.
4. At COP 27, Parties encouraged the active engagement of both Parties and NPS in the Marrakech Partnership and welcomed the leadership of the High-Level Champions, in particular in the context of the Sharm el Sheikh Adaptation Agenda (SAA) and the Breakthrough Agenda, and the convenings for the five regional forums on initiatives for financing climate action and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).⁴
5. The first Global Stocktake (GST), which started at COP 26 and is to be concluded at COP 28, invites NPS participation and encourages High-Level Champions' support for the active participation of NPS.⁵ The Mitigation Work Programme (MWP), established at COP 27, also invites NPS engagement and encourages High-Level Champions' support.⁶ Under the decision on the joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security, the High-Level

¹ See <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Improved%20Marrakech%20Partnership%202021-2025.pdf>.

² Decision 1/CP.26, paragraph 56.

³ See https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/MP_Work%20Programme_2022_final_0.pdf.

⁴ Decision 1/CP.27, paragraphs 58, 59 and 62.

⁵ Decisions 19/CMA.1, paragraph 10; and 1/CMA.3, paragraph 77.

⁶ Decision 4/CMA.4.



Champions were also encouraged to use the recommendations identified on the different workshop reports under the Koronivia joint work on agriculture.⁷

6. The Marrakech Partnership provides a unique platform to enable efficient and impactful collaboration and drive greater ambition, action and alignment among NPS in this critical decade.
7. By setting shared, near-term, actionable goals, the Marrakech Partnership is to focus on implementation and supporting Parties in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. The five-year plan has been designed to promote an all-of-society and systems transformation approach across every sector, guided by a spirit of radical collaboration, and strengthened support to Parties in implementing and enhancing national plans through a positively reinforcing “ambition loop”.
8. To implement their vision, the five-year plan establishes that the work of the High-Level Champions and Marrakech Partnership is to be organized around six key functions:
 - a. Mobilizing and aligning NPS towards credible, transparent, science-based goals that maximize ambition;
 - b. Supporting NPS to drive systems transformation around sector pathways with actionable short-, medium- and long-term milestones that facilitate all stakeholders working collaboratively across sectors and value-chains toward a shared vision;
 - c. Strengthening collaboration between national governments and NPS by identifying opportunities where climate action from NPS encourages and/or helps to create the conditions for national governments to enhance ambition and accelerate implementation, facilitating the “ambition loop”;
 - d. Broadening and deepening engagement globally, with a particular focus on developing country stakeholders to encourage action, highlight opportunities and identify the solutions most appropriate for their context;
 - e. Tracking progress and enhancing the transparency and credibility of NPS action to build confidence and a shared understanding of the overall state of systems transformation and game-changing solutions to inform and accelerate action;
 - f. Building a shared narrative for the decisive decade of climate action to understand the overall direction of travel and inspire further action.
9. This 2023 work programme 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 27.⁸ 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.

⁷ Decision 3/CP.27, paragraph 13.

⁸ See

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



10. This **2023 work programme** will build on the efforts of the past to ensure continuity while addressing existing challenges and gaps within NPS community in delivering climate action. In particular, build on the years of work of the Marrakech Partnership stakeholders, nurtured and stewarded by previous Champions under the guidance of their Presidencies. This 2023 work programme will be supported by the continuity of the existing campaigns, initiatives and tools and build on them. These include:
- a. Race to Zero and Race to Resilience campaigns: which bring together best-in-class partner initiatives through which NPS make high ambition, transparent, public and trackable climate action commitments;
 - b. Support of systemic transformation: organized around actionable high priority solutions and goals. The 2030 Breakthroughs (mitigation) and SAA (resilience and adaptation) each define critical solutions needed across sectors and natural systems to get on track for a 1.5°C resilient world in 2050 emission and climate resilient development. The Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ) provides a pan sector collaboration forum for mobilizing private finance.

Strategic approach for 2023

11. Building on the above six-functions of the five-year plan, the strategic approach of the High-level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership for 2023 is structured around the following elements, under the overarching principles of: inclusivity, just transition that employs a holistic approach to implementing SDGs, regionalization and localization:
- a. **Mobilize NPS to maximize ambition:** mobilize NPS towards credible, transparent, science-based goals that maximize ambition and action;
 - b. **Drive systems transformation:** facilitate and enhance collaboration of stakeholders within and across sectors and regions with shared milestones and vision, with focus on mobilizing action among NPS on enablers for climate action, including finance, technology and capacity building;
 - c. **Engage NPS in the UNFCCC processes:** facilitate input of information and expertise of NPS into the UNFCCC processes (in particular, GST) and enhance engagement of NPS with Parties to create the condition of ratcheting-up global ambition;
 - d. **Enhance accountability:** improve tools and processes for tracking progress in implementing climate pledges and commitments of NPS to achieve better transparency, and support the UNFCCC secretariat in ensuring greater accountability of voluntary initiatives through the Global Climate Action portal (GCAP, a.k.a. NAZCA) as invited at COP 27.⁹ While NPS must assume the highest possible level of ambition, they must as well assume a strong sense of transparency.
12. While the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership will act in all areas of action identified in the five-year plan and the Climate Action Pathways, they define the following five substantial priorities for the year, under the same principles:
- a. **Nature:** bring nature and climate action agendas together;

⁹ Decision 1/CP.27, para 61.

- b. **Just Energy transition:** accelerate the just transition to clean energy, which includes climate action, energy accessibility, energy security and economic growth;
- c. **Just Finance:** increase just finance for climate action and mobilize regional finance, with focus on developing countries;
- d. **Adaptation and resilience:** support the delivery of SAA launched at COP 27;
- e. **Loss and Damage:** mobilize action among NPS in addressing loss and damage, complementing the outcomes of COP 27.

Action points for 2023

13. With a focus on the priorities listed above, the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership will implement the following actions throughout the year.

a. Mobilize NPS to maximize ambition

- Operate the global campaigns:
 - Race to Zero:
 - Accelerating delivery by supporting partners;
 - Increasing regional diversity of membership;
 - Increasing synergies with nature and the campaign;
 - Enabling tracking of progress in line with the UNFCCC's response 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).
 - Race to Resilience:
 - Mobilizing action with an emphasis on increasing uptake of clear metrics by partners and reporting on progress using a shared methodology;
 - Mobilizing partners to support the uptake of resilience in local, global and sectoral policy agendas;
 - Learnings from Race to Resilience metrics framework will also be shared to inform the Global Goal on Adaptation being defined this year;
 - Increasing the number of members and the proportion from underrepresented regions such as Africa, Asia Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean;
 - Mobilizing the campaign partners to increase action in nature-related areas.
- Ensure mobilization of NPS beyond the current campaigns with a view to support them in increasing ambition for a net zero and resilient world, especially in the priority areas for 2023.

b. Drive systems transformation

- Enhance collaboration among stakeholders within and across the thematic and cross-cutting areas to deliver the milestones, goals and solutions of the Climate Action Pathways, 2030 Breakthroughs, the Breakthrough Agenda and SAA.
- Facilitate continuous discussion and collaboration among stakeholders to ensure alignment and identify the need for potential updates on the above milestones in line with the latest science and information.
- Continue to work together around clear, near-term, shared decarbonization objectives as outlined in the 2030 Breakthroughs and the Breakthrough Agenda, to deliver and share a

groundswell of action and investment in the technologies, capacity building, solutions and systemic shifts needed. Plans include:

- Highlight the evidence of action and change in the real economy, such as procurement trends, investments, production increases, cost reductions and new policies that should lead to exponential growth, and inspire further change;
 - Support major businesses, financial institutions, cities and states to develop appropriate transition plans that drive progress toward the needed systems transformation;
 - Mobilize coalitions to create momentum and support delivery by COP 28 of priority actions set out in the Breakthrough Agenda and build on the success of Implementation Labs at COP 27.
- Resilience and adaptation will continue to be a priority for the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership in 2023, with focus on mobilizing action to implement SAA through accelerating transformative actions to adapt to the acute climate hazards facing vulnerable communities. The Marrakech Partnership, the High-Level Champions and a number of specialized United Nations agencies will work together as partners to follow up on the implementation of SAA. The COP 27 Presidency will receive before COP 28 from these partners a report on the progress achieved in implementing SAA. Overall progress on implementation will be reported back to COP 28. The first Progress Report of the SAA is to be presented by COP 28.
 - Work together with stakeholders to mobilize resilience and adaptation actions and strengthen collaboration to accelerate synergized action on adaptation, resilience and loss and damage, with a focus on areas strongly affected by climate change.
 - Focus on nature:
 - Highlight synergies between UNFCCC and the Convention on Biological Diversity action agendas, promote discussion of climate and nature-related targets and disclosure standards;
 - Elaborate, deliver and share nature-based solutions that will increase resilience, contribute to recovering from loss and damage, and support energy transition;
 - Collaborate with regional networks, indigenous peoples, local communities, women's organizations and youth groups to develop a shared nature positive, net-zero definition and high integrity nature-based solutions.
 - Shift investments from harming nature to natural climate solutions:
 - Mobilize financial institutions to sign up to tackling deforestation, e.g. Finance Sector Deforestation Action (FSDA);
 - Help to mobilize financing for flagship nature related projects, i.e.: AFR100; Mangrove Breakthrough; and Great Blue Wall; and financial mechanism for supporting nature and climate solutions.
 - Mobilize NPS on enablers for climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building. A pragmatic, realistic and just solutions-oriented approach is needed that delivers transformative progress for climate, with a focus on the following:
 - Rally NPS to inform and support the reform of the global financial system called for in COP 27, including reform of multilateral development banks and International Financial Institutions;

- Accelerate finance and other investment to address the adaptation gap, strengthen resilience, support a just energy transition and address loss and damage;
 - Promote the use of innovative climate financing tools, instruments and solutions and improve access to climate finance;
 - Build on the outcomes of last year's Regional Finance Forums for advancing as many of the projects identified last year as possible;
 - Support the regional GFANZ networks in Africa and Asia, and promote best practice leadership related to net zero targets, transition plans, transparency and accountability in line with the Race to Zero criteria and the HLEG recommendations;
 - Raise awareness on issues related to climate and health and just transition;
 - Promote climate education;
 - Improve access to climate-related information.
- c. **Support Engagement of NPS in the UNFCCC processes**
- Continue to fully respond to the mandate given to the High-Level Champions at COP 26 regarding GST:
 - Promote the engagement of NPS throughout all three components of the GST to ensure inclusivity. Inputs from NPS into the formal process and their contributions to the wider political and economic discourse across the real economy must help ensure that updated national targets, policies and plans are informed by the latest innovations, solutions and information on opportunities and needs;
 - Support the GST with clear and actionable information from globally diverse relevant NPS across mitigation, adaptation and resilience, means of implementation and support (finance, technology transfer and capacity building), loss and damage, and nature.
 - Fully respond to the mandate given to the High-Level Champions at COP 27 regarding MWP:
 - Support the engagement of NPS in the dialogues;
 - Ensure that tools and activities of the Marrakech Partnership that are supportive of the MWP is informed to the process.
 - Convene a series of Marrakech Partnership activities throughout the year and inform their outcomes into the UNFCCC processes, in particular on GST, MWP and Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA).
 - Provide the UNFCCC processes, in particular, GST, with a comprehensive overview of global climate action, key challenges and outcomes of the work of the High-Level Champions and Marrakech Partnership with a focus on nature, finance, energy transition, adaptation and resilience, and loss and damage through the publication of the Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2023, the Breakthrough Agenda report, the first SAA progress report, among others.
 - Support the recommendations of the Koronivia joint workshop through its activities as requested by COP 27.
 - Promote the inclusion of systems-based approaches into the UNFCCC process.
- d. **Enhancing accountability**
- In addition to supporting the secretariat on enhancing the accountability of voluntary initiatives through strengthening transparency and reporting to GCAP, the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership will also:
 - Mobilize NPS to take into account the recommendations of HLEG;



- Increase the percent of partners and their members reporting to the campaigns, and making that data and information more easily accessible, including through the publication of progress report of the global campaigns;
- Support the publication of a Breakthrough Agenda Report with the International Energy Agency and the International Renewable Energy Agency and support the State of Climate Action report and dashboard to track actions, progress and opportunities across the 2030 Breakthroughs;
- Develop a tracking system and reporting partnerships for the outcomes of SAA and issuing a report on the progress achieved in implementing SAA;
- Publish a special edition of the Yearbook for Global Climate Action to inform the GST.

Principles

14. As stated above, the strategic approach and priorities for 2023 shall be anchored in these following principles:
- a. **Inclusivity:** in order to advance dialogue and consultation with under-represented groups; youth, civil society, indigenous communities, and women, especially from developing countries;
 - b. **Just transition:** the transition to a climate resilient and low-carbon economy must be just and equitable. Non-State actors' strategies to tackle the growing threat of climate change need to incorporate the full range of environmental, social, economic and governance dimensions and to address transitional challenges encountered by vulnerable communities. The High-Level Champions will encourage NPS to connect their action on climate change with inclusive development pathways through ensuring linkages with and contribution of climate action of NPS to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - c. **Regional and local engagement** as important tool to increase climate action:
 - Hold the second edition of the regional forums on initiatives for financing climate action and the Sustainable Development Goals in partnership with the COP 27 and COP 28 Presidencies as well as the UN Regional Commissions;
 - Convene events at Regional Climate Weeks:
 - Hold Regionalization Workshops during the Regional Climate Weeks to identify and engage with key stakeholders and to promote dialogues on regional and local opportunities and challenges;
 - Hold Implementation Labs with a focus on regional and local challenges and substantial priorities of the year.

Work Programme Progress reporting

15. The 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.



Annex: Snapshot of the High-Level Champions' and the Marrakech Partnership's priorities for 2023

