

## CDP submission to the High-Level Champions' call for inputs on how to improve the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

CDP thanks the High-Level Champions for their [call for inputs](#) on how to improve the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action. Please find below our response to the four guiding questions.

### Q1. How would you define success of the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership in terms of enhancing ambition in the next 5 years and beyond?

The Marrakech Partnership work programme lays out that the High-Level Champions and Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action (MPGCA) should focus on environmental, economic and social system transformation and should promote higher ambition of all stakeholders to collectively strive for the 1.5 °C temperature goal and a climate-neutral and resilient world.

CDP agrees with this focus and would like to emphasise the importance of focusing on all stakeholders, as strengthening interaction between Parties and non-Parties to enable higher ambition and increased action and implementation of the Paris Agreement goals would be a key definition of success for the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership in the next five years.

The architecture and many of the tools to enable enhanced ambition already exist within the Marrakech Partnership and success will be defined by their improvement and valued use by Parties and non-Party stakeholders alike. For example, over the next five years this could look like:

- ▼ The Global Climate Action Portal is commonly understood to be the go-to, high-level window into Global Climate Action. It is intuitive, well-designed and provides useful, impactful information. It has provided Parties with concrete details about the action that is already underway and enabled them to enhance ambition. Parties understand the Global Climate Action Portal to be both a window into non-Party stakeholder climate action data, and a gateway to the tools and actors that could help them implement and realise Paris Agreement goals.
- ▼ The Climate Action Pathways are firmly embedded as a key tool for Parties and non-party stakeholders to understand what the longer-term sectoral visions for a 1.5 °C, climate-resilient world are, and what the forward-looking actions needed to achieve that future might be. Parties, including line ministries from around the world, see them as both a useful synthesis and a guide to which actors and initiatives can provide more detailed information on a topic.
- ▼ The MPGCA has made a decisive contribution to the first Global Stocktake. There is a clear and well-understood pathway of information from the Global Climate Action Portal to the Global Stocktake, and the MPGCA has actively participated in dialogues related to the Global Stocktake.

To achieve this, there are three underlying elements that will be critical:

- ▼ Communication of the identity and action of the MPGCA should be strengthened and simplified.

- ▼ The MPGCA, including the High-Level Champions team and the Secretariat, should be sufficiently well resourced to ensure stability, continuity, and that the membership of the MPGCA is inclusive and diverse.
- ▼ The MPGCA retains a strong spirit of partnership and an identity as a community working towards ambitious goals.

## **Q2. How can the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership add the most value and complement existing efforts to drive ambition and transformation in the next 5 years and beyond?**

The key area where the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership can add the most value to complement existing efforts to drive ambition and transformation lies in the *action* they undertake, and communicating this action effectively to Party and other non-Party stakeholders to encourage a continuous [ambition loop](#).

The following concrete areas are where CDP believes the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership can best add value to existing efforts:

- 1) **Platforms and tools to encourage ambition loops:** The Race to Zero and 1.5C Pathways are excellent examples. By launching campaigns such as the Race To Zero, the High-Level Champions can really accelerate action by non-Party stakeholders, including by scaling up participation in MPGCA initiatives. As founding partners of the Science-Based Targets initiative's [Business Ambition for 1.5 °C](#) campaign and [Science-Based Targets for Cities](#), both of which are official initiatives of the Race to Zero campaign, CDP is pleased to support these efforts. However, it is crucial that the High-Level Champions and MPGCA campaigns and platforms amplify existing efforts where possible, rather than duplicating them, and that this amplification function is communicated clearly. With that in mind, it is therefore important that the High-Level Champions and MPGCA platforms, tools, and initiatives themselves are science-driven and of the highest possible ambition, robustness, and transparency.
- 2) **Non-Party Stakeholder data and evidence:** The Global Climate Action Portal already provides a window into global climate action data, and work is also now underway by [CDP](#) and other members of the [Camda](#) community to develop criteria and indicators for tracking progress of global climate action. Ensuring that the data and evidence that the Global Climate Action Portal provides also serves Party needs and Paris Agreement processes, such as NDCs and the Global Stocktake, is an important way the High-Level Champions and MPGCA can add value to existing efforts.

## **Q3. How can the High-Level Champions enhance collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders to further catalyze global climate action?**

Strengthening and enhancing collaboration between Parties and non-Parties will be vital in 2020 and beyond and CDP welcomes the High-Level Champions focus on this area. CDP's response to the specific questions related to this topic are below.

- a) **How can Parties benefit from the action resulting from the Global Climate Action movement and how can this action best be reflected in the work of the High-Level Champions?**

Parties can benefit from the action resulting from the Global Climate Action movement in several ways.

- ▼ Non-Party stakeholders are already implementing Paris Agreement goals globally and Parties can use the MPGCA tools and platforms, such as the Global Climate Action Portal, to understand where and how.
- ▼ Parties can identify existing initiatives that could be scalable and replicable in other regions.
- ▼ Parties can identify gaps and barriers to implementation of Paris Agreement goals, whilst also understanding how non-Party stakeholder action could help overcome barriers.

To facilitate this benefit to Parties, the High-level Champions could:

- ▼ Ensure physical or virtual space exists for meaningful dialogue between Party and non-Party stakeholders and make connections in an inclusive and transparent manner.
- ▼ Communicate the key successes and challenges from the MPGCA community to Party stakeholders.
- ▼ Ensure the highest possible levels of rigour, robustness and integrity in all Marrakech Partnership tools and platforms to ensure trust in non-Party stakeholder climate action.

**b) How can the COP and the UNFCCC process be more effective in the collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders to further catalyze global climate action?**

The COP and UNFCCC processes can improve collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders by ensuring there is space for meaningful dialogue. Some of the initiatives that have recently been introduced, such as the Ministerial roundtables at COP25 and Regional Climate Weeks offer real potential for this. For example, hosting small dialogues between Party and non-Party stakeholders at Regional Climate Weeks on relevant topics for those regions could unlock opportunities for enhanced ambition. These would be particularly valuable as they offer opportunities to make progress in advance of the COPs. This type of format could also be valuable in preparation for the Global Stocktake.

**c) How could the High-Level Champions through their work in accelerating action and ambition of non-Party stakeholders most effectively contribute to the global stocktake of the Paris Agreement?**

The High-Level Champions role in relation to the Global Stocktake could be threefold:

1. Ensure the high-trust framework to gather the high-quality evidence needed to inform the global stocktake is in place and well communicated. The architecture for this framework is already in place with the Global Climate Action Portal.
2. Scale up participation in MPGCA high-ambition initiatives, through campaigns like the Race To Zero.
3. Build trust and understanding of the work of the MPGCA through sustained engagement with Parties, at a national and sectoral level.

**Q4. On the basis of experience so far, how can the Marrakech Partnership be improved for enhancing ambition, including through new and existing tools?**

As a committed member of the Marrakech Partnership and core data partner to the Global Climate Action Portal, CDP believes that the MPGCA has built strong foundations for enhancing

ambition now and in the future. In addition to the suggestions outlined above, we offer some final additional thoughts below.

The MPGCA operates and is understood and communicated in many ways. There are different thematic areas and cross-cutting areas and there are Portals, platforms, Yearbooks and Pathways. Whilst the work is complex, and it is necessary to have many of these different tools, the complexity can lead to confusion, and the different thematic and cross-cutting areas means MPGCA activities sometimes operate in silos. Simplifying and streamlining communication of the Marrakech Partnership whilst ramping up cross-fertilisation between thematic and cross-cutting areas could really enhance the ability of the Marrakech Partnership and the High-Level Champions to effect systemic change.

CDP would also like to highlight a suggestion made by Galvanising the Groundswell of Global Climate Action (GGCA) in their response to this letter, to introduce a new tool: Climate Action Implementation Labs. As stated by [GGCA](#), these “could provide a new format for strengthening action through exchange and capacity building. These would be demand-driven meetings between Party and non-Party actors. Parties could request targeted support from the GCA community on particular topics of interest to them, drawing on existing needs statements. The GCA would then reach across the global climate action community to provide countries with a curated series of engagements from most relevant non-Party actors and initiatives. Party participants would be drawn from implementation agencies, line ministries, etc. Such labs could also be linked to existing lines of support (e.g. via the NDC Partnership)”.

Lastly, tracking progress against Paris goals is critical to understand the speed and scale with which we must enhance ambition and accelerate action. As a core data partner to the Global Climate Action Portal, CDP will ensure the data disclosed through the CDP platform supports these vital efforts and we look forward to working with the High-Level Champions and the MPGCA to continue work on ‘pressing record’ on Global Climate Action in 2020.

**For more information please contact:**

Jennie Gleed  
Senior Policy Manager, CDP  
[jennie.gleed@cdp.net](mailto:jennie.gleed@cdp.net)