

ECODES experience in collaborating with the High-Level Champions and the Marrakesh Partnership and the Global Agenda of Climate Action -

As an accredited Observer organisation, the Fundación Ecología y Desarrollo (ECODES) has been coming to Climate Conferences of Parties (COP) since COP19 in Warsaw. Since then, ECODES has been finding its way, despite the language barrier (as English is still the first and sometimes only language in these process), within the complexity of the UNFCCC framework and organisation. In the COP20 in Peru, we worked with the Peruvian Ministry to launch a pilot project on inclusivity called “Pon de tu parte” that was a sort of premise of the launch of the Global Agenda of Climate Action. On the following year, we accompanied COP21 trajectory in its work to include civil society by launching an initiative called “One million commitments” that got implement as Comunidad #PorElClima in Spain, an alliance dedicated to the implementation of the Paris Agreement with ambition in Spain within key sectors of the society: businesses, health sector, bars and restaurants, and municipalities. In Glasgow we took one step further by launching another initiative called AmbiciónCOP to focus on transparency, monitoring of the information and advocacy in Spanish for the Global Agenda of Climate Action. Our last commitment in line with the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership was to join the Race to Zero as the first Spanish Accelerator in 2023.

It is on behalf of all that accumulated experience and on the basis of the last published version of the Work Programme for The High-Level Champions and The Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action for 2024 that we redacted that submission to share our views regarding the following questions:

1. How can the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership add the most value and complement existing efforts to accelerate climate action and drive implementation?
2. How can the High-Level Champions enhance collaboration between Parties and NPS to advance the outcomes of the first GST?
3. How can the Marrakech Partnership be enhanced to support Parties in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, including through new and existing tools?

How can the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership add the most value and complement existing efforts to accelerate climate action and drive implementation?

From our point of view even if efforts have been made, we are still seeing a gap between non-Party stakeholders (NPS) and international bodies such as the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership that prejudices the implementation work.

Even if efforts are made to include ESG and sustainability, most NPS are already very much preoccupied on their business as usual model to take the time to understand all the processes coming from the UNFCCC. It means that concepts such as the High-Level Champions, the Marrakech Partnership (and the list could go on) are not easy to understand and should be translated into their reality. Even for professional and people involved in negotiations and in the global agenda of climate action all the acronyms, the news bodies, organisms and alliances are not easy to follow and differentiate. If we want to reach out to more NPS than the already convinced ones and the front runners, we need a lot more work on how do we present ourselves and how do we communicate what we do and what we want. Even if it's a global reflexion on the topic, we are convinced that it also stands for

both the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership. Some ideas of how to communicate differently could be the following:

- Explain better the role, differences and relationships between the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership, the Breakthrough 2030 and the 2030 Climate Solutions.
- Do a lot more of simplified communication to get sectors and actors that don't know the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership to understand and take interest in it.
- Do not only focus the communication around what do the Champions but also showcase what do the whole ecosystem around it.
- Present the opportunities for NPS to take interest into what the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership and what actions can they do, following a "marketing" strategy.
- Differentiate sectors, levels and locality of NPS while communicating to really be more aligned with the reality of these actors when asking them to take action.

Furthermore, to dig deeper in how can the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership add the most value and complement existing efforts to accelerate climate action and drive implementation, we consider that the primary aim should be to build bridges when the official negotiations are not working. Hence, as we are seeing right now that the Mitigation Work Program is highly debated in its core, the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership should work to drive the implementation of mitigation actions even faster, especially on alternative process models, technology transfers and additional finance. The ambition is still too low and proofs show that majors emitters are not transitioning fast enough. The new tool called [TransitionArc](#) shows that no company from the major polluting sectors (cement, steel, airlines, automobiles, shipping, oil and gas) is aligned to the 1,5°C limit. This preoccupying news should be a major axe of efforts for the Work Programme for The High-Level Champions and The Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action for 2024.

Right now we feel like the Work Programme for The High-Level Champions and The Marrakech Partnership focuses on doing events like High level dialogues and reports, a winning strategy until now. Nevertheless, to really comply with the 1,5°C limit, we need more mentoring to actually forge transition plans and implement these actions. To formulate it simpler, we need more replicable practices with concrete steps to break the implementation gap. In this regard, we think that the new Work Programme launch pilot projects on implementing a transition plan towards net zero with capacity building actions and funding. For instance, it could consist of 2 parts: generating a transition plan for a specific sector thanks to existing tools and a mentoring process towards its implementation. Doing it as a pilot with a reduced group of stakeholders is a good opportunity to develop a methodology that can be reproduced and replicated towards larger groups and other sectors.

How can the High-Level Champions enhance collaboration between Parties and NPS to advance the outcomes of the first GST?

To implement the outcomes of the first GST we need to focus on how to triple renewable energy and doubling energy efficiency by 2030 by ensuring technology, funding and capacities to install it. From ECODES, we consider that the High-Level Champions should have an even higher ambition by focusing on how to “transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner, accelerating action in this critical decade, so as to achieve net zero by 2050 in keeping with the science” and how to “phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that do not address energy poverty or just transitions, as soon as possible”. These two goals are key for the 1,5°C even if fossil fuels lobbies are strongly advocating against it.

In this context, we need even stronger advocates and lobbies, like the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership, to ensure the transition away and the phasing out of fossil fuels by working with Parties and NPS in enabling conditions to do so. Given the lack of progress in negotiations on this subject and the lack of clarity from the Troika of Presidencies, the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership should have a clear narrative on fossil fuel phase out and be able to propose alternatives and solutions in the form of a transition plan towards the elimination of fossil fuel production, consumption and subsidies. This means transforming the economy to reduce the dependence to fossil fuels, which should include many activities and sectors from the technology of renewables to the end of direct and indirect subsidies for fossil fuels, including also communicating against “false solutions”. The High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership should use their recognition to lead the way towards real net zero, in a coherent path with the IPCC works, meaning:

- To do not let the idea of State sovereignty delay climate implementation by not acting or opposing to real actions.
- To do not give the same importance to all technologies and innovations on behalf of the principle of neutrality, when the IPCC is already clear about the role and the impact of these technologies.
- To do not depend entirely on technologies such as Carbon Capture, Use and Storage (CCUS) technologies.
- To do not recognise the sustainability behind the use of natural gas as a “clean” transition fuel. incineration and nuclear energy as sources of electricity.
- To condemn the use of concepts without scientific evidence to back it up, such as “net zero emissions”, “net positive”, “carbon neutral”, “renewable gas”, or “recarbonation”.
- To oppose to the development of new fossil fuel projects and finance through direct and indirect subsidies.

How can the Marrakech Partnership be enhanced to support Parties in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, including through new and existing tools?

Many tools exist nowadays. Even if the majority is only available in English and many are based on a specific territory, we are seeing a real progress in terms of the use of technology for the goals of the Paris Agreement. Yet, we are facing some challenges that should be addressed:

- The information on these tools is dispersed and can be difficult to be find. Even if some entities like the UNFCCC or the WRI are working on identifying tools and

doing compilations, we would need an up to date database with the existing and recognised tools and classification per language, topic, sector and goal. As NPS we could then focus our efforts first in completing and enhancing these tools, before creating new ones.

- The accessibility and technicity of these tools should also be taken into consideration by ensuring that they are free and that there is always some form of guide and contact focal point on how to use the tools.
- Also, for Parties to implement the Paris Agreement, they need tailored tools adequate to their context and legislation. Just to share one example on it with the carbon footprint calculation, it needs to come up with actual emission factors of the country.
- Even if tools are key for capacities and implementation, they must always be accompanied by the ambition of Parties, accessible finance and a revision of infrastructure and legislative capacities. In that sense, it is key to put forward tools that actually have systems for monitoring and reporting progress in implementation. Communication efforts should focus on initiatives that propose an effective implementation, and the monitoring of their compliance, of reduction measures aligned with the objectives of the Paris Agreement.