

Canada's submission on reflections on the progress made by the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

July 2024

Canada welcomes the opportunity to respond to the invitation from the High-Level Champions to submit reflections on the progress made by the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action on the following issues:

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?

In response to this call for input, our submission covers the following elements:

- I. Adding value and complementing existing efforts;
- II. Enhancing collaboration to advance GST outcomes; and,
- III. Enhancing the Marrakech Partnership.

Adding value and complementing existing efforts

Canada recognizes the important role of the High-Level Champions and their progress in creating connections between non-Party actors and UNFCCC Parties. We believe that the High-Level Champions have made tremendous strides since the launch of the improved Marrakech Partnership five-year plan at COP26, in Glasgow, through engagement with non-Party actors and providing support to the Secretariat and Parties.

As Parties work towards developing their next Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) due in the first quarter of 2025, Canada sees the High-Level Champions playing a valuable role in encouraging and recognizing ambitious and constructive voluntary efforts, initiatives, and coalitions undertaken by non-Party actors and making the connection between these efforts and Parties' efforts to design and implement their NDCs. Governments cannot fully implement NDCs alone; inclusive and meaningful engagement and a whole-of-society approach in the planning and implementation of climate action helps us to understand what is both ambitious and achievable within our national contexts. As such, Canada encourages the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership to continue to use the means at their disposal, including existing initiatives and platforms, to facilitate dialogues and collaboration between Parties and non-Parties, including other levels of government, the private sector, Indigenous Peoples, civil society, women, and youth, to share experiences, lessons learned, best practices and success stories that can help promote further mitigation ambition and inform the development and implementation of NDCs.

Canada also encourages the High-Level Champions to continue their efforts to bring together diverse actors, including national governments and other levels of governments, the private sector, Indigenous Peoples, civil society, women and youth to share their experiences and lessons learned regarding actions that enhance climate resilience, particularly of those facing disproportionate impact of climate change. Recognizing that there is no universal solution, learning from each other can still help increase our understanding of success factors and thus contribute to more inclusive and effective adaptation solutions that address local vulnerabilities and help avoid maladaptation.

We also encourage the High-Level Champions to use their networks and convening power to promote opportunities for collaboration that advance innovative solutions that are both replicable and scalable across countries with a view to attracting public and private investments towards climate resilience and low-carbon solutions that are inclusive and consider the realities of those on the frontline of climate change.

Enhancing collaboration to advance GST outcomes

Through their engagement at various events and with non-Party actors, Canada encourages the High-Level Champions to continue to promote efforts to advance the international climate commitments made by Parties under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, with a focus on the outcomes of the first global stocktake. This will help accelerate implementation from a wide range of actors and enhance momentum towards sustained and ambitious climate actions on a global scale.

Canada also encourages the High-Level Champions to continue to highlight successful collaborations and innovative approaches between governments and implementing partners, including the private sector, Indigenous Peoples, civil society, women and youth, with a view to enhancing inclusive climate policies and actions across the globe. By facilitating these exchanges, the High-Level Champions can enable Parties to learn from the experiences and innovations of non-Party actors, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of their own climate strategies and fostering a more integrated and comprehensive approach to tackling climate change.

Enhancing the Marrakech Partnership

To enhance the Marrakech Partnership in supporting Parties to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, Canada believes the focus should be on optimizing existing resources within the Marrakech Partnership's current suite of initiatives and tools. By refining and better utilizing these tools, we can streamline efforts, avoid duplicating work and ensure that the resources and initiatives already in place are as effective as possible.

In view of this, Canada welcomes the High-Level Champions initiative *Climate Solutions 2030: An Implementation Roadmap*, launched at COP28, aimed at consolidating their existing initiatives and tools (e.g. *Climate Action Pathways*, *2030 Breakthroughs*, *Breakthrough Agenda*, *Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda* and *Race to Resilience* and *Race to Zero* campaigns). As Parties have committed to accelerate their efforts towards net-zero, it is becoming increasingly important to strengthen the connection between the work of Parties and non-Party actors, fostering collaboration without adding extra burdens on existing structures or processes. To this end, we believe that the High-Level Champions, through their vast networks across non-Party groups, can play a critical role in enabling this collaborative environment while maintaining alignment with the mandate of the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership as defined by the Parties.

Additionally, we encourage the High-Level Champions to explore and promote synergies with other complementary climate initiatives such as the Powering Past Coal Alliance and the Global Methane Pledge. By bringing attention and awareness to these initiatives, Canada believes the High-Level Champions can help promote best practices and encourage the expansion of these successful efforts. This will further support Parties in their collective efforts to achieve the ambitious goals of the Paris Agreement.