

Consultation Response: 2025 Work Programme for the Climate High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership

Submitted on behalf of the Under2 Coalition

1. What should success look like for the GCAA in the next five years, and how can it be measured effectively?

We welcome this strong and ambitious effort to sustain and strengthen non-Party stakeholder (NPS) engagement in the UNFCCC process. The continued role of the Climate High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership is vital to ensuring that the Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA) remains a living space for implementation, collaboration, and delivery.

As such the work programme lays out a strong foundation for the critical 5 years remaining in the climate decade. Further, success of this work programme should mean that the Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA) becomes a recognised driver of GST, NDC, and NAP delivery, with clear links between voluntary initiatives and national implementation. While this is an ambitious step, it can be achieved through:

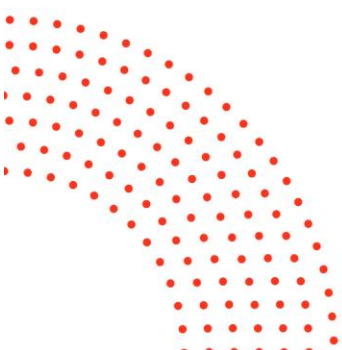
- A measurable increase in implementation-ready projects emerging from Activation Groups, with progress tracked on finance mobilised, emissions reduced, resilience built, and communities reached.
- A structured feedback loop enabling NPS' technical and practical insights to inform the international process, with outputs accessible to Parties and relevant UNFCCC workstreams to strengthen national policy and investment frameworks.
- Dedicated and adequately resourced teams within participating organisations, empowered to champion GCAA priorities and ensure sustained engagement in Activation Groups.
- We also recommend establishing a dedicated "implementation space" at each COP, hosted by the Presidency, building on the lessons from COP30 Local Leaders Forum and 2025 Regional Climate Weeks. This space would bring together NPS, financiers, national governments, and private sector actors to catalyse delivery of already-negotiated agreements. Prioritising delivery over dialogue, this space could:
 - Be co-designed with representative coalitions, financiers, and key Party champions.
 - Showcase Activation Group outcomes, with project pitches linked directly to potential funders.
 - Offer hybrid participation options and translation to ensure equitable access.
 - Be scheduled strategically to maximise interaction between NPS and key Party negotiators and ministers.

2. How can the GCAA facilitate direct and impactful engagement between Parties and NPS?

- Use Activation Groups as policy–implementation bridges, identifying regional solutions that can be scaled nationally. They should also synthesise tangible “offerings” from non-Party stakeholders — for example, showcasing where subnational governments have contributed to global climate funds or mobilised other forms of finance — to demonstrate readiness for partnership with Parties.
- Request Parties to nominate representatives on each Activation Group, creating direct Party–NPS collaboration channels (for example, at least one Party on each group).
- On an annual basis: (i) coordinate mapping of finance needs and barriers to implementation faced by NPS, (ii) provide a matchmaking (with national govt/private sector) space for unlocking action, and (iii) track action and initiatives transparently.
- Establish catalytic funding windows and in-kind technical support for NPS, especially subnational governments, to scale solutions in partnership with Parties — effectively replicating the NDC Partnership model, but for non-Party stakeholders.
- Explore ways to engage Parties in Activation Group discussions well ahead of COPs to align expectations and identify opportunities for joint action.

3. How can the GCAA promote inclusive and equitable engagement, in particular from underrepresented groups and regions?

- Provide capacity-building grants, technical assistance, and participation support for coalitions or organisations representing subnational governments, Indigenous Peoples, women’s groups, youth, SMEs, and under-resourced regions.
- Leverage participating coalitions as equity multipliers to ensure consistent inclusion of voices from LDCs, SIDS, and other underrepresented regions in decision-making.
- Track and publish inclusion metrics annually to drive accountability.
- Ensure key international moments (COPs, Regional Climate Weeks, implementation spaces) offer strong virtual participation options, recognising many subnational governments can travel only once annually.
- Provide simultaneous translation (at least Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic and French) at all key events and/or support GCAA/MP members to provide translation for key online and in-person meetings.



4. What improvements can be made to ensure better transparency, reporting, and follow-up of the GCAA, including in NAZCA and the Yearbook?

- Transform NAZCA into a pipeline of solutions by adding investment readiness ratings, linking entries to finance matchmaking platforms, and curating a set of high-potential projects annually.
- Enable data aggregation to improve quality and reduce duplication.
- Integrate impact-based metrics into NAZCA and align Yearbook outputs with GST outcomes through annual “State of Implementation” dashboards.
- Ensure quantitative figures/metrics are published as part of the YearBook.
- User guidance on how to populate NAZCA is clearly communicated

We commend the Climate High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership for setting out a strong vision to maintain and deepen non-Party stakeholder engagement within the UNFCCC process.

Delivering on this vision will require three critical enablers: recognising and embedding the role of representative coalitions as trusted partners; creating mechanisms to resource their sustained participation through dedicated teams; and evolving NAZCA into a finance-ready pipeline of solutions.

With these in place, the GCAA can maximise its value as a bridge between global ambition and tangible, on- ground implementation. The Under2 Coalition stands ready to work with the Champions, the incoming COP Presidencies, and fellow partners to help make this ambition a reality.

