

Memorandum

How Can Funders Accelerate Climate Action to 2018-2020?

Building A Catalytic “Ecosystem” for Subnational and Non-State Actors

March 1, 2017

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This memo has been prepared by Galvanizing the Groundswell of Climate Actions (www.climategroundswell.org), an open series of dialogues through which a range of organizations collaborate to bring sub- and non-state climate action to a higher level of scale and ambition. As an open-source network, Galvanizing the Groundswell of Climate Actions does not itself seek or receive funding, though its constituent organizations support the network’s activities by providing staff time and co-sponsoring network events for activities such as the ones described below.

1. Summary

Climate action from cities, businesses, states/provinces/regions, investors, and other sub- and non-state actors provides a critical lever to tip the world’s emissions towards a pathway consistent with the Paris Agreement’s goals¹ by: a) directly reducing emissions at scale in the critical pre-2020 period and beyond; b) catalysing and reinforcing national policies and ambition, as well as the UNFCCC process; and c) transforming socioeconomic systems through adoption and integration of climate-friendly technology. With climate politics entering a critical period in many countries, the question before the international community is: How can this potential be maximized?

This memo takes stock of the current state of climate action by sub/non-state actors, focusing in particular on efforts to orchestrate this “groundswell” of action via the UNFCCC process. It aims to give public and private funders an overview of the landscape of actors and institutions around these efforts in order to inform funding strategies in the 2017-2020 timeframe to expand sub/non-state climate action, and also to strengthen its catalytic effect on national policies, the UNFCCC process, and the real economy.

¹ “The Paris Agreement’s central mitigation aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius” (http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php).

The memo identifies a number of critical resources gaps that threaten to hamstring this vital, but nascent, element of the global response to climate change. While funders have invested significantly in sub/non-state climate action, on the whole they have not yet provided adequate resources to support the “ecosystem” that empowers and magnifies such action. This ecosystem includes the newly launched Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action and interrelated networks and initiatives. Together, the institutions and processes in this ecosystem provide three critical functions: **a) coordination, b) galvanizing, and c) tracking and analysis**. Funders can partner with the key entities performing each of these functions to transform this emerging ecosystem into a major driver for reaching the goals of the Paris Agreement.

2. Context

The “groundswell” of climate action from cities, states and provinces, businesses, civil society groups, and other sub/non-state actors has grown into a significant component of the international climate regime. [As analysis from Yale shows](#), the UNFCCC’s [NAZCA platform](#) that monitors sub/non-state climate action, now includes:

- 2,508 cities from 118 countries, or 10.2% of the global population
- 211 regions from 31 countries, or 12.3% of the global population
- 2,138 companies from 145 countries, with over US\$36.6 trillion in revenue, equivalent to the combined GDPs of the US, China, Japan, Germany, and the UK
- 16 of the 20 largest banks representing US\$1.7 trillion USD by market capitalization

These actions add up to significant emissions reductions. While more data collection and analysis are needed (see below), [some studies show](#) that the commitments made by sub-national governments and private companies have the potential to avoid as much carbon pollution as all the pledges nation states made in the lead up to the Paris Agreement. Those commitments could potentially close as much as two thirds of the remaining “emissions gap” we face to get the world onto a trajectory to limit global warming to 2°C or lower this century, though analysts are only now beginning to develop accurate measures of the degree of overlap between national and sub/non-state actions. Equally critical, many sub/non-state actions are delivering emissions reductions *now*, and thus helping to keep open the possibility of global peaking of emissions before 2020, almost certainly required for reaching the 1.5°C target.

The role of cities, business, regions, and other actors has also been increasingly recognized and institutionalized within the UNFCCC process. Figure one traces this growing embrace from the September 2014 UN Climate Summit to the most recent declaration of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action (GCA) at COP22.²

² For more detail, see: <https://blogs.bsg.ox.ac.uk/2016/11/22/after-trump-the-groundswell-of-global-climate-action-is-ever-more-central-to-the-climate-regime/>

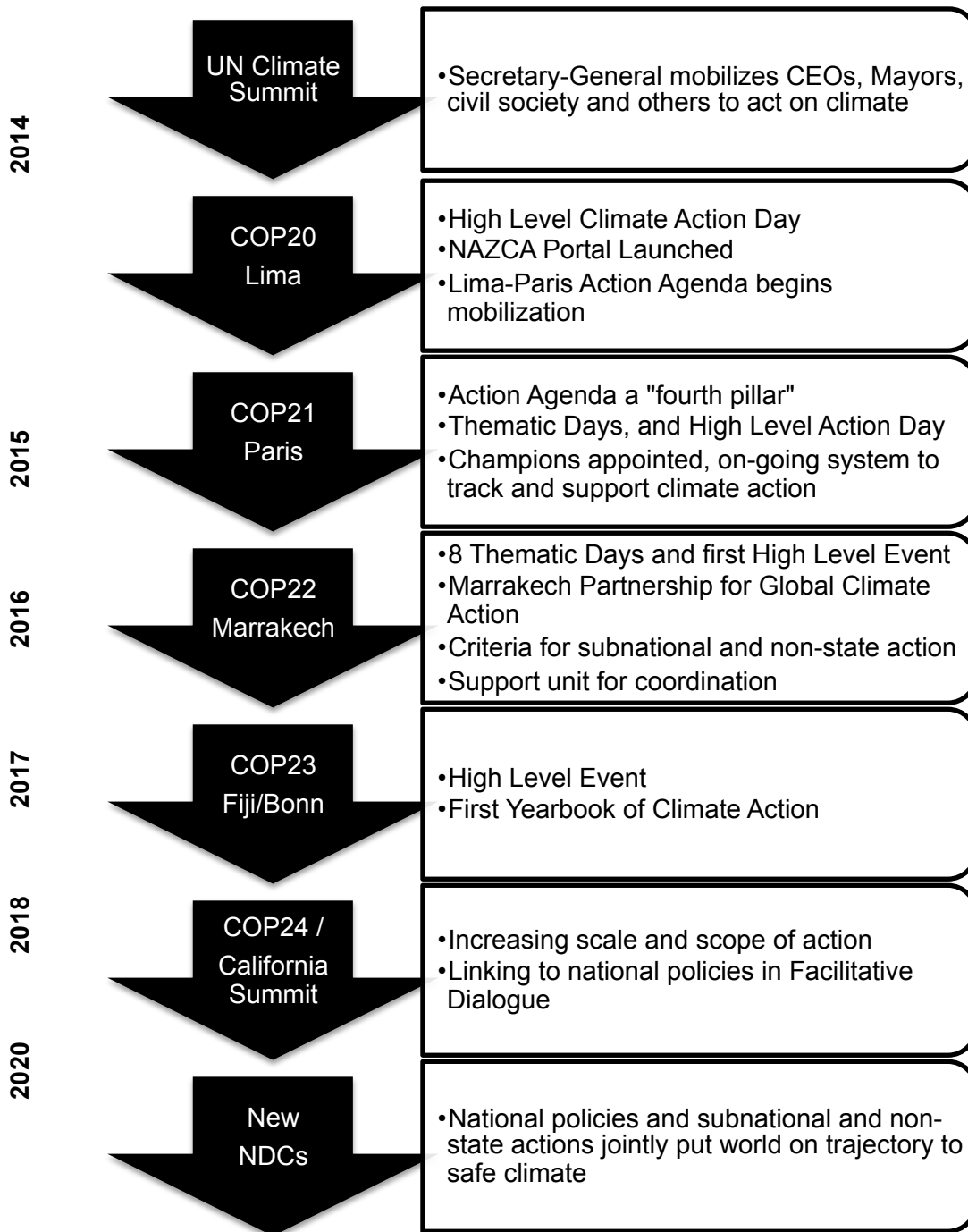


Figure 1 – The growing role of subnational and non-state climate action in the climate regime

The framework of the Marrakech Partnership helps channel the groundswell of climate actions from all sectors into a powerful tool for driving ambition in the UNFCCC process. It shows governments how sub/non-state action can play a critical role in helping countries meet their current nationally determined contributions (NDCs), while also creating the conditions for countries to raise their ambition going forward. This makes implementation of the Marrakech Partnership and the expansion of Global Climate Action a critical priority as countries conduct the facilitative dialogue in 2018 and begin the process of revising their NDCs by 2020. It will be essential for the 2018 facilitative dialogue to take stock of the extraordinary ambition and implementation taking place at every level, but putting this enabling message before countries requires a strong ecosystem around sub/non-state action.

Beyond the UNFCCC process, it should also be noted that many sub/non-state climate actions are explicitly linked to other Sustainable Development Goals. Such actions therefore provide a pragmatic bridge between the climate regime and other global development priorities.

3. Theory of change

Climate action by cities, regions, businesses, and other sub/non-state actors drives the transition to a safe climate, operating through three main causal mechanisms.

1) Sub/non-state climate actions contribute directly to climate mitigation and adaptation, and mobilize resources for both. Many sub/non-state actors have direct control over activities relevant for both mitigation and adaptation (e.g. transport structures in cities, electricity purchases by firms), as well as decision-making structures that can make them both more ambitious and more nimble than many nation states. The potential emissions reductions of sub/non-state climate actions are therefore vast. Several studies, looking at just a handful of the largest international initiatives, estimate that sub/non-state action could eliminate as much carbon from the atmosphere as the national pledges presented at Paris.³ While further work is needed to determine to what extent the policies of nation states and the action of sub/non-state actors overlap, recent estimates range from 30-60 percent (UNEP 2016). To the extent such actions overlap, they help countries implement and deliver their NDCs; to the extent they do not, they close the emission gap even further. Equally important, many sub/non-state actors are reducing emissions *now*, helping the world peak total emissions before 2020. Less quantifiable but critically important, many sub/non-state climate actions also focus on increasing resilience and adapting to the effects of climate change. Finally, many transnational initiatives exist chiefly to mobilize resources—technical knowledge, capacity building, or finances—for sub/non-state climate actions.

2) Sub/non-state climate action boosts the confidence, resources, and political will of governments to raise their own ambition, strengthening the Paris process. Alongside its direct impacts on mitigation, resilience, and resource mobilization, the groundswell of climate action has a catalytic effect on national policies. First, to the extent sub/non-state climate actions fit within current NDCs, they help governments deliver or over-achieve on their pledges. This kind of accelerated implementation creates the conditions for more ambitious actions in the future. Second, because sub/non-state action tends to be more ambitious than national policies, it has a powerful demonstration effect, showing governments that it is possible to set ambitious targets

³ See UNEP Gap Report 2016, Chapter four, for an overview of recent studies
<http://web.unep.org/emissionsgap/>

without impairing the economy. Third, such actions allow for policy innovations through experimentation on a local scale that can then be scaled to the national level and diffused internationally. Fourth, bottom up actions, particularly in the private sector, provide “political cover” for decision-makers who want to be more ambitious but are vulnerable to criticism from incumbent groups. Fifth, such actions build new political and economic constituencies, like renewable energy providers or electric car drivers, that favor and advocate for more ambitious national policies. By building and strengthening pro-climate groups at the domestic level, international networks can positively influence the political climate in key countries. Finally, sub/non-state action builds political resilience in the face of national backsliding. For example, even as the Trump administration seeks to undo federal climate measures, leading states, cities, and the private sector are only accelerating their efforts, which can help to keep the United States on track to deliver its Paris commitment.

Strengthening national policies of course supports the implementation of the Paris Agreement, but sub/non-state action also reinforces the UNFCCC process more broadly. By providing positive examples of concrete action, it helps build a narrative of inevitable transition to a low carbon economy. More concretely, sub/non-state action provides crucial inputs to the Technical Examination Process, features in the “Action Days” now regularly held at COPs, and could provide a critical input to the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue (perhaps through the Yearbook of Climate Action, see below) and the future Global Stocktake.

3) Sub/non-state climate action drives change in technological and economic systems.

Finally, sub/non-state climate action is now reaching sufficient scale to shift technological and economic systems. For example, the pledges of major companies to go 100% renewable is helping kick-start the technological innovations required to completely decarbonize energy production. The deployment of electric vehicles at scale in some cities can fundamentally alter the personal transportation market. And groups like the Breakthrough Energy Coalition are channelling new resources to R&D. Such actions by the most ambitious actors lower the costs and increase benefits of climate action for less ambitious actors, creating a chain reaction of exponential, self-perpetuating growth in low carbon policies and results. These changes in the real economy recalibrate the constellation of political power and interests around climate change.

4. The current landscape of global climate action

Global climate action consists of both “unilateral” actions by sub/non-state actors (e.g. a city setting an emissions reduction target) and cooperative initiatives that bring sub- and non-state actors together with their peers and other actors, often national governments or international organizations, to achieve common goals. In practice, these two categories of action often overlap.

While the total extent of both unilateral and collaborative climate action is unknown, significant strides have been made over the past years to track both. The focal database for non-state climate action is the UNFCCC’s NAZCA platform (<http://climateaction.unfccc.int/>), which includes actions by individual actors, as well as cooperative initiatives recognized by the Marrakech Partnership. UNEP’s Climate Initiative Platform, on the other hand, solely tracks joint initiatives (<http://climateinitiativesplatform.org>). A subset of the initiatives listed on the Climate Initiatives Platform (about 50/200+) are fed into NAZCA.

Cluster	Key Actors, Networks, Initiatives	Cluster Organization
Cities	C40, ICLEI, UCLG, Covenant of Mayors, CDP	Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (new umbrella initiative that subsumes all key networks)
Multinational business	WBCSD, CDP, Cambridge Institute of Sustainability Leadership (CISL), BSR, UN Global Compact	We Mean Business (umbrella coalition of major groups with 7 common commitments, e.g. Science-based Targets, RE100, etc.)
States, Provinces, Regions	Compact of States and Regions, Under 2 MOU, Regions 20 (R20)	The Climate Group acts as secretariat for the Under 2 Coalition and CDP as the disclosure platform
Investors	Ceres/Investor Network on Climate Risk, Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change, Investor Group on Climate Change, Asia Investor Group on Climate Change, CDP, UN PRI	Global Investor Coalition on Climate Change
Civil society	NRDC, WRI, WWF	Friends of FD2018
Forests	Tropical Forest Alliance, Consumer Goods Forum, CDP	New York Declaration on Forests
Transport	SLoCaT (Partnership on Low Carbon Transport, a multistakeholder network focused on developing countries)	Paris Process on Mobility and Climate
Energy	RE100, IRENA	SE4ALL
Data collectors and analysts	CDP, Ecofys, New Climate Institute, Yale University German Development Institute/Institut für Deutsches Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), PBL (Netherlands), Oxford University, WRI, New Climate Economy	NAZCA platform for data aggregation Yearbook of Climate Action (2017 onwards)
Cross-cutting groups that work on various areas of climate action	World Economic Forum (information exchange and coordination, involvement in some initiatives) Mission 2020 (galvanizing leadership in critical areas) 2050 Platform (mobilizing long-term commitments) Galvanizing the Groundswell of Climate Actions (coordination mechanism for groups in this space)	

Table 1: Selected list of key clusters in the groundswell of climate actions

Climate actions are extraordinarily diverse and are grouped through a wide range of overlapping networks. They embody varying levels of ambition, though many “front runner” groups stand out (like the C40 cities that are moving to 1.5C-compatible targets, the RE100 campaign of businesses that going 100% renewable, etc.). Within this diverse landscape, several key clusters have become increasingly coherent and self-organized, some grouped around the type of actor (e.g. cities), others grouped around a substantive area (e.g. forests). Other areas of climate action have not yet coalesced into well-defined clusters. A representative but non-exhaustive list is given in table 1. Note that the Marrakech Partnership is organized around seven thematic areas (human settlements, land use, transport, water, oceans, energy, industry). Within each area, a diverse range of actors (including nation states and international organizations) work to drive action.

In addition, within the UNFCCC process there are now a number of formal institutional elements focused on showcasing, tracking, and mobilizing sub/non-state climate action. Links between climate actions and the implementation and ratcheting up of NDCs, however, are more tentative (see table 2).

Table 2: Sub/non-state climate action in the UNFCCC process

Entity or Element	Function	Description
Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action	Overarching framework for action initiatives in UNFCCC, replaces ‘Action Agenda’	See footnote 4 for inclusion criteria
High-Level Champions (Ms. Hakima El Haité, Morocco; & Mr. Inia Seruiratu, Fiji)	Galvanize further actions / initiatives	Appointed by COP presidencies for staggered, two-year terms
Support Unit	Team in UNFCCC charged with implementing Marrakech Partnership	
NAZCA (Non-state Actor Zone for Climate Action)	Online portal that tracks non-state actor commitments	Administered by UNFCCC, NAZCA aggregates data from several providers
Friends of Climate Action	Advocate for sub/non-state action among parties	Group of UNFCCC parties that support sub/non-state climate action
Technical Examination Process	Explore policy options governments can adopt in specific areas to enhance climate action	Regular meetings at UNFCCC conferences organized by the Secretariat; forum for states and non-states to engage
High Level Event and	Showcase successful and	-Annual sequence of events

Thematic Days at COPs	inspiring climate actions by non-state actors -Encourage dialogue between state and non-state actions	at COPs
ICAT	Develop guidance for integrating non-state and subnational action into national emissions projections and target setting	

While the groundswell of climate action is phenomenally broad and diverse, it suffers from critical gaps as well. First, while cities, businesses, and others actors from the global South participate in many climate initiatives, they are underrepresented compared to their Northern counterparts. This is especially worrying as most future emissions are projected to come from the developing countries, while these countries are also more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The geographic gap is most stark in the initiation and leadership of climate initiatives. With just a handful of exceptions, climate initiatives tend to be initiated and headquartered in the global North. Second, international climate initiatives tend to involve larger, more internationalized sub/non-state actors. Small and medium enterprises and smaller, rural sub-national governments are harder to reach.

5. Key functions and resource gaps

To fulfil its potential, the “ecosystem” around the Marrakech Partnership needs to function well. This requires three different functions—coordination, galvanizing, and tracking and analysis—to be provided by a mix of different actors working in synergy. However, at present, critical niches in the ecosystem are not being filled. These resource gaps create an opportunity for funders to advance climate action through targeted philanthropy that supports the actors and processes that provide these functions, including, but not limited to, the UNFCCC Support Unit, the Champions and their teams, the NAZCA platform and its associated data providers, analysts of sub/non-state action, the groups that help seed and nurture initiatives in key thematic areas, coordinating bodies, and, of course, individual initiatives themselves.

COORDINATION

Coordination among the community of sub/non-state actors and their partners is essential for Global Climate Action to deliver on its potential. Alignment around basic but essential activities—the rhythm of events, communications and narratives, outreach work, etc.—enhances each initiative’s work, facilitates learning, and helps reduce duplication of effort. Particularly as the scale and scope of the groundswell increases—as it must—effective coordination at scale will become increasingly important.

Coordination occurs at multiple levels. As noted above, within key clusters of actors (e.g. cities, business) and within different thematic areas (e.g. forests, transport), organic forms of coordination have arisen. The depth and effectiveness of coordination varies across clusters, however.

In addition, there has been increasing effort to support coordination across themes at the global level, with three entities playing a critical role:

1. *UNFCCC Support Unit*: coordination of UNFCCC global climate action events, Yearbook of Climate Action, and interface with Parties; mandated by COP22 to provide technical support to the Marrakech Partnership;
2. *World Economic Forum*: monthly “Friends of Climate Action” conference call for information exchange, maintenance of joint events calendar;
3. *Galvanizing the Groundswell of Climate Actions*: the network has addressed critical questions related to the direction, coherence, function and tracking of the action agenda through the provision of technical inputs and strategic convening of the Global Climate Action community at critical junctures.

Within this framework, many of the networks and coalitions do not have resources to invest in coordination with either the UNFCCC process or their peer networks. Few of the existing grants that support these organizations address or support coordination efforts because they understandably focus on project-specific outcomes and deliverables. Likewise, the UNFCCC Support Unit continues to lack sufficient resources to perform its coordinating role effectively. Provision of support by the WEF and the institutions that are part of Groundswell has been on a volunteer, as-needed basis.

However, enabling coordination across the community of Global Climate Action is critical for overall success, and multiplies the value of project-specific investments. Enabling coalitions and initiatives to second staff (perhaps just part time) to the UNFCCC support unit could help increase the linkages across the Marrakesh Partnership.

Strategic goals for coordination

1. *Identify common goals/priorities --within individual thematic areas and across them -- to show where efforts can be further concentrated and where gaps remain;*
2. *Increase scope and efficiency of interaction between sub/non-state actor networks and initiatives to allow for collaboration, learning, and effective division of labour;*
3. *Promote common narrative(s) across the landscape of sub/non-state actors;*
4. *Increase efficiency of resources currently going into key events, including coordination for 2018 non-state actor summit.*

Recommendations for funders

1. *Increase the UNFCCC Support Unit’s capacity to initiate and lead coordination efforts in partnership with WEF, GGCA, and other groups. 2-3 full time staff dedicated to this task would be ideal;*
2. *Support the ability of umbrella coalitions to coordinate within their clusters and with the larger groundswell of climate actions, including by providing resource for initiatives to second staff to the UNFCCC Support Unit on a part-time basis.*
3. *Linking outside activity to the UNFCCC process to make sure that all events in 2018 build up the “ambition springboard” and support the FD2018 process.*

GALVANIZING

Because the world must peak emissions urgently, perhaps the most critical function within the Global Climate Action ecosystem is to increase the scale and scope of existing initiatives while seeding new initiatives in areas that are currently unaddressed. Responsibility for galvanizing Global Climate Action in this way is distributed across the community, and rests primarily with the various initiatives, coalitions, and organizations that design, advocate for, and implement sub/non-state climate action. Funders should continue and indeed expand their support to these groups.

At the same time, over the past two years there have been important efforts by governments and intergovernmental organizations to nurture such actions, champion the narrative and “orchestrate” the showcase of such efforts for maximum political impact. For example, the UN Secretary General’s team sought to strengthen and seed a number of initiatives in the lead up to the September 2014 Climate Summit. In the lead up to COP21, this role was shared by the UN Secretary General, the UNFCCC, and the governments of France and Peru via the “Lima Paris Action Agenda.” Since COP21, however, this critical function has seen a sharp decline in resources, with the Moroccan presidency of COP22 bringing forward just a few new initiatives that have yet to gain substantial traction. At present, there are virtually no resources going into nurturing and galvanizing functions from the COP presidencies or the UNFCCC. The Moroccan and Fijian Champions both have bold intentions, but minimal budget or staff to implement their mandates. The only significant “galvanizer” at present is Mission 2020, which relies on a network of key individuals to advance common priorities. While this is a critical role, it would be substantially enhanced by increasing the nurturing and galvanizing capacity of successive COP presidencies and Champions, the UNFCCC, and potentially the new Secretary General’s team. If we seek to deliver strengthened and new initiatives for the 2018 moment, it is critical to begin nurturing new efforts and orchestrating their launch now.

Strategic goals for nurturing and galvanizing

1. *Enhance ability of sub/non-state networks and initiatives to expand, deepen, and implement climate actions;*
2. *Bring new actors, communities, industries, and others into existing initiatives, showing a decisive increase and building linkages to national governments to drive ambition for the 2018 moment and ratcheting of NDCs;*
3. *Expand the number of inspiring interlocutors who are championing the global agenda for climate action;*
4. *Foment initiatives in areas where gaps remain and support enhanced involvement and representation from developing countries before 2018;*

Recommendations for funders

1. *Provide seed funding to nurture new initiatives in topics that are not currently well resourced, or to expand current initiatives into geographic areas, industries, or communities that are not yet included.*
2. *Provide the High-Level Champions and COP presidencies resources to increase their nurturing functions, including staff capacity (full time or seconded);*
3. *Provide support to the UNFCCC Secretariat so that it, in turn, can provide resources for inspiring interlocutors to champion the global climate action agenda across relevant fora (climate and sector-specific) and across geographies. This group could include the “Friends of Champions” informal grouping and other influential advocates for climate action.*
4. *Fund the UNFCCC Support Unit to retain talented staff to support the Champions’ galvanizing efforts, providing overall consistency from year to year;*
5. *Fund coalitions and initiatives to contribute to the orchestration work of the Champions by partnering directly with them, or potentially seconding staff to the work with them in specific areas.*

TRACKING AND ANALYSIS

To make Global Climate Action effective, it is essential to track implementation of existing pledges and commitments. Demonstrating progress is critical for bringing new actors to the table, raising the ambition of those already involved, and catalysing further actions from national governments. Linking the tracking to specific criteria⁴ can also demonstrate the robustness of the climate actions

⁴ The Marrakech Partnership criteria are:

- Relevance: advance the goals of the Paris Agreement;
- Scale: should be or projected to be of sufficient size to have an impact on mitigation and/or adaptation;
- Specific: have clear, quantifiable outcomes with defined targets and milestones that allow one to assess progress over time;
- Transparency in progress: report progress and results on a periodic basis (e.g. annually);
- Impact/results-oriented: need to be focused on concrete, real-world action delivering mitigation outcomes, increased resilience, reduced vulnerability and/or mobilizing finance. Initiatives solely

being taken. In addition, strategic analysis is needed to identify gaps in the existing landscape of global climate action and corresponding priorities for further orchestration and expansion. Analysis is also needed to show national governments how sub/non-state action is already helping them to reduce emissions, what further potential such actions have, and how such actions can enable them to raise current and future NDCs.

Substantial progress has been made in tracking sub/non-state climate actions. The UNFCCC's NAZCA platform aggregates data from various organizations that showcase city, company, and other actors' climate commitments (e.g. CDP, ICLEI, etc.), but it does not yet track implementation of these actions over time. One of these critical providers is UNEP's Climate Initiatives Platform, which tracks cooperative initiatives, rather than individual actions. In addition, many networks and initiatives produce annual reports that document their progress.

Despite this progress, the tracking system around Global Climate Action remains excessively ad hoc and incomplete, creating uncertainty and raising transaction costs. NAZCA is updated manually and irregularly. Data providers have contributed to NAZCA on a voluntary basis, but, because data collection is a cost-intensive process, these organizations lack the resources to systematize their engagement with NAZCA. This ad hoc system creates real barriers to progress. For example, analysts seeking to use NAZCA data must "scrape" it from the website, since the UNFCCC has not yet been able to negotiate mutually satisfactory data sharing agreements with the various providers. Data are also subject to time lags and self-selection from data providers, meaning what is represented on NAZCA is often incomplete and out of date. Moreover, the website's appearance and usability would benefit from substantial upgrades.

More substantively, NAZCA could be made more meaningful if it were able not just to showcase commitments but also to track both the implementation of specific commitments over time and the overall progress towards decarbonisation that is being made by each of the sub/non-state actors which have made one or more commitments, assessing their low-carbon transitions.

At present, tracking is being done by some individual initiatives and organizations (e.g., We Mean Business reports on the common initiatives it manages; C40, ICLEI, and the Compact of States and Regions report on their cities' progress). But this group-by-group reporting does not capture the full range of the commitments on NAZCA, and is often difficult to compare. Comparability between commitment impact figures – and transparency about the method of calculation - is important because any overall analysis of the overall impact of commitments on NAZCA needs to avoid double-counting by taking into account the impact overlaps between multiple commitments made by the same individual actors. The ability to calculate this overlap ultimately depends on having robust and comparable data from each actor about their activities and emissions over time.

Developing robust methods to disentangle sub/non-state actions from national policies will also be critical to effective tracking and analysis. The Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) project is developing guidelines for countries to use to account for sub/non-state actions in their NDCs, but we also need a reliable way to measure the overall level of overlap between sub/non-

focused on calls to action, information sharing would not meet the criteria to be included in the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action;

- Ownership/capacity: the action/initiative is controlled/driven by entity/entities with the overall responsibility to deliver results, including mobilizing the necessary capacity and resources.

state action and current national policies in order to understand exactly how much of the emissions gap remains. A working group of researchers and analysts to generally harmonize data collection techniques and analytic methods, the Global Climate Action Analysis Working Group, was launched in Marrakech during COP-22 but is still seeking resources.

Finally, the Marrakech Partnership calls for the production of an annual Yearbook of Climate Action. Such a document should draw from existing reports to summarize how far the groundswell of climate action has progressed in a given year. This information is important for building a larger narrative of inevitable transformation, and provides a critical input for national government planning and for the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue.

Strategic goals for tracking and analysis

1. *Provide an accurate picture of how sub/non-state action is contributing to a 2C and 1.5C pathway, especially in advance of 2018, linked to the 2018 Non-state actor summit, the IPCC and UNEP gap reports and other scientific efforts;*
2. *Show countries exactly how sub/non-state action is helping them deliver their NDCs and give them the confidence to go further than they otherwise thought possible in revising their NDCs;*
3. *Show how sub/non-state actors are progressing on implementation, and enhancing learning and accountability.*

Recommendations for funders

1. *Provide resources to the UNFCCC to put NAZCA on a firm, long-term, regularized, largely automated footing. At the same time, provide funding to NAZCA data providers to underwrite and regularize the tracking work that feeds into NAZCA. Fund NAZCA to increase the usability and attractiveness of its website;*
2. *Provide funding to the analytical community to:*
 - a. *Contextualize and identify gaps in the current landscape of climate action;*
 - b. *Analyse how sub/non-state action is helping countries deliver NDCs and how it could help them raise ambition, including by developing appropriate methods for analysing overlap;*
 - c. *Work together to progressively harmonize data collection methods to allow aggregation of climate data;*
3. *Provide resources to the UNFCCC and other groups in order to contract experts to develop and execute a robust communication strategy around the Yearbook of Climate Actions.*
4. *Tracking of IPCC outputs. This will be critical to do in 2018 to balance the “bleak” assessment that is likely to emerge with a positive message to convey the “can do” and “opportunities still within reach.”*

Who we are: Galvanizing the Groundswell of Climate Actions

Galvanizing the Groundswell of Climate Actions is a series of dialogues that brings together organizations supporting climate action at all levels. Its objectives include:

1. Bringing the groundswell of climate actions from cities, regions, companies, and other groups to a higher level of scale and ambition;
2. Increasing efficient coordination among cooperative initiatives and sub- and non-state networks;
3. Improving analysis and understanding of “bottom up” climate actions;
4. Building a positive narrative of pragmatic, concrete action on climate change; and
5. Identifying opportunities for the groundswell of climate actions and the multilateral process to support and catalyze each other.

Over the past year, Galvanizing the Groundswell of Climate Actions has brought together city and regional networks, company networks, cooperative initiatives, governments, international organizations, and researchers to discuss and advance these objectives. By convening the community of actors that make up and support the groundswell of climate actions, we seek to realize the full potential of this extraordinary innovation in global governance.

www.climategroundswell.org

The following organizations contributed to this report:

