

The Road to Paris 2015

Bottom-up Business Initiative starts at the *World Climate Summit 2013* and the UNFCCC COP19

No more talk, we need action: leaders decided during the World Climate Summit 2013 to create a bottom-up business initiative to provide practical and impactful solutions to help solve climate change.

To prepare this initiative, a group of top leaders from business and government met in the run up to, and during the *UNFCCC COP19*, on the 17th of November at the World Climate Summit.

Participants in the preparation of this initiative called for:

- **Creating a “G2015”**—A shared bottom-up platform on ‘The Road to Paris 2015’, to develop and communicate priorities for getting a global deal in 2015.
- **A clear roadmap with milestones:** Clarify the building blocks of a new agreement, and clear milestones for the work plan between now and 2015, which should be agreed prior to The UN Secretary General’s New York Summit in 2014 with Heads of State.
- **Realistic and comprehensive targets:** More clarity by governments and negotiators on how agreed emissions targets need to be implemented and achieved by businesses, regions, and cities and how business can and will contribute.
- **Bottom-up initiatives and commitments:** Bottom-up initiatives that can deliver real results based on cross-sectional dynamics across the world.
- **Mainstreaming ready-to-use technology:** From showcase to business case – mainstreaming ready-to-use technology in sectors such as buildings, one of the largest sources of global emissions.
- **New, innovative and business-oriented climate financing:** New and innovative approaches to financing these bottom-up initiatives.
- **Communicating the business approach to climate change:** Common message and direction, on the need for action on climate change, and how this could be achieved in the context of economic growth.
- **Showcasing of best practices, and scalable solutions** of public and private partnerships.

Participating organisations in *The Road to Paris* calls and meetings:

Carbon Trust, Bank of America, Regions for Climate Action (R20), Mary Robinson Foundation, GDF Suez, Veolia, The White House, OECD, Alstom, Danfoss, European Investment Bank, European Climate Foundation, Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development, France (COP21 Secretariat), Philips, Microsoft, Prince of Wales’ Corporate Leaders Group, Green Climate Fund, EDF, Siemens, CDP, ICLEI, VELUX, Global Buildings Performance Network, Astana Expo 2017, World Energy Council.

Quotes from participants:

Nicolette Bartlett, Programme Manager, The Prince of Wales' Corporate Leaders Group on Climate Change

"We need to see governments agree specific milestones that take us to a robust global deal in 2015. Collaborative partnerships with ambitious goals between the public and private sectors can help build momentum and increase our chances of success."

Paul Simpson, Chief Executive Officer, Carbon Disclosure Project

"Despite increasing momentum, the pace and scale of climate action remains insufficient. To accelerate action we need a unified voice from business, as it is the union that makes the force. We all need to push in the same direction on the Road to Paris. We only have two years to prepare a global deal, and so the sooner we are working together, the stronger that deal will be."

Peter Graham, Executive Director, Global Buildings Performance Network

"The Road to Paris' might provide the right format for mainstreaming. We need to clarify and build confidence through this process. This includes developing a clear action plan with specific milestones for governments and business to work together to tackle climate change. With the right collaboration of government and business, results already being achieved in certain industries, such as the building industry, could be scaled up with global impact."

Ingrid Reumert, VP, Public Affairs & Sustainability, The VELUX Group

"We need a global agreement in Paris 2015 which is ambitious and is linked to national targets. As a company within the building sector which stands for 40% of our total energy, we are here put action behind our commitment to engage with key stakeholders - and to show that we deliver some of the products and solutions that are needed to make a change within the built environment."

Abyd Karmali, Global Head of Carbon Markets, Bank of America Merrill Lynch

"Financial sector need clarity on the legal form of the UNFCCC agreement to move forward with coherence on low carbon investments. We also need a road map with clear milestones between Warsaw and Paris in 2015. This includes having a heads-of-terms type agreement drafted by Lima allowing 12 months to finalise the deal."

Giles Dickson, Vice President, Environmental Policies, Alstom

"We need a dynamic bottom-up process working alongside the formal negotiations. With vanguard groups of businesses and governments committing to action now, creating critical mass and driving a race to the top."

Yunus Arikan, Manager, Climate Change Center, ICLEI

"A key weakness of the UNFCCC is that it does not foresee any role for local and subnational governments. Global climate community should seize the potential of local climate action in order to raise ambitions globally, in order to scale up emission reductions and ensure a rapid transformation to low carbon development."