

The 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP24) will take place in Katowice, Poland between 2-14 December 2018, under the Presidency of the Polish government.

The intergovernmental negotiations are taking place against the backdrop of several important events which have taken place in 2018 that have showcased the importance of non-State actors (business, NGOs, civil society) towards achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement (e.g. the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco); a spate of recent climate-related natural disasters; and the urgency of reaching agreement on the Paris rulebook, review of progress against the Paris Agreement objectives, and the update of national climate commitments.

This year's COP also comes just a few weeks after the publication of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) landmark Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C. The report illustrates that the impacts of allowing 2°C global warming are far greater and more catastrophic than 1.5°C – which we're set to surpass as early as 2040. It finds that, while a 1.5°C world is still possible, it will require radical and urgent transformation of *all* systems at an unprecedented scale. Read WBCSD's [Business Briefing](#) on the report.

The main official events program at COP24 will be made up of the [Marrakech Partnership Global Climate Action agenda](#), taking place between 4 and 12 December. Hundreds of other formal side events are planned providing ample opportunity for stakeholder dialogue, policy influence, exchange of best practice and showcasing of successful climate strategies.

At COP24, WBCSD is:

- Leading the organization of the Industry theme under the Marrakech Partnership, with the Industry Action Event scheduled for Friday, 7 December, and an Industry Action Hub on 10 December;
- Planning 2 events under the Low-Emission Solutions Conference (LESC):
 - A series of sessions in the GEIDCO/UNDESA pavilion on 10 December;
 - A dinner which is set for the evening of 11 December.
- Advocating for a range of enabling policies to catalyze business leadership on climate change with a set of policy asks, as well as part of the We Mean Business coalition.

The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive briefing to prepare delegates participate in and have impact at COP24.

The first section titled **Setting the Scene | The United Nations Framework Convention and the Paris Agreement**, provides a succinct background on the UNFCCC process and the Paris Agreement,

The second section titled **The Talanoa Dialogue Spirit | The 24th Conference of the Parties (COP24)** outlines the priorities, policies and politics shaping COP24. It further provides an overview of the rhythm of COP24 to give delegates a sense of the expected flow and guidance on how to plan your time.

The third section titled **Conference Essentials | Understanding the venue** provides you with details on the conference, including information on the venue and logistics.

The fourth section titled **Making the most of your participation at COP24** offers suggestions on how to maximize your impact at COP24 with information on events, circulars, bilaterals and the media.

Finally, **WBCSD at COP24** provides information on what to expect from WBCSD's engagement during the two-week session, along with contacts of members of the WBCSD delegation.

Setting the Scene | The United Nations Framework Convention and the Paris Agreement

The [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#) (UNFCCC) was adopted on 9 May 1992, opened for signature at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, and entered into force on 21 March 1994. Article 2 of the Convention defines the ultimate objective as “stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system”. For the past quarter century, and 24 so-called “Conference of the Parties (COPs)”, the 197 Parties to the Convention sought to achieve this objective.

With each successive COP, Parties to the Convention (national governments) seek to avoid dangerous climate change through mitigation - agreeing on the level of collective greenhouse gas emission reductions, and allocating the burden of those reductions across countries. They further seek to manage unavoidable climate change through adaptation - by identifying and supporting greater understanding of climate risk and enabling strategies for climate resilience. To advance these goals they mobilize the technological and financial resources necessary to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient global economy.

COPs are usually either political or technical in nature, and can very often be both. The highly political COPs are major milestones, typically with the aim of achieving a global agreement, usually requiring a buildup of several years of painstaking diplomacy, and when successful, resulting in commitments from governments with implications for the real economy. Notable examples are the [Kyoto Protocol](#) from 1997 and the [Paris Agreement](#) from 2015. Technical COPs are the staging posts that build towards or drive the implementation of the major political agreements.

The Paris Agreement resulted from negotiations conducted under the so-called “[Durban Platform](#)”. This was a mandate to negotiate a long-term agreement adopted at COP17 in Durban, South Africa in 2011. The Durban Platform was a seminal document that picked up the pieces after the failed negotiations in Copenhagen in 2009, and provided the political building blocks of the Paris Agreement.

This [interactive Timeline](#) shows the evolution of international climate policy, starting from the establishment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) back in 1988, all the way up to the present day.

The Paris Agreement

The United Nations Climate Conference in Paris in December 2015 represented an unprecedented structural shift in efforts to tackle global climate change. The conference concluded with two major pillars / outcomes:

- The Paris Agreement commits 196 sovereign nations to holding global mean temperature rises to less than 2°C above pre-industrial levels and contains 188 national climate action plans to bring this vision to life.
- The Action Agenda includes commitments to GHG reductions from more than 4,000 companies, cities, regions and investors.

The Paris Agreement seeks to accelerate and intensify the actions and investment needed for a sustainable low carbon future. Its central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue

efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5°C. The Paris Agreement also aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change.

The Paris Agreement is Unprecedented, Defining, and Immediate. It combines universal participation, ambition, leadership by the largest economies and emitters, and a commitment to implement. It establishes a framework for decades to come where all countries will continually strengthen their climate targets. The implications for business and society are enormous. Investments resulting from the Paris Agreement will reshape value chains and emissions trajectories for companies across the globe, and accelerate the uptake of low-carbon technologies.

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

All major economies are committing to restructuring their energy systems, changing transport patterns, and transforming infrastructure, buildings and land use.

The Paris Agreement requires each country to outline and communicate their post-2020 climate actions, known as their NDCs. It also requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) that it intends to achieve. Parties shall pursue domestic mitigation measures, with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions.

NDCs are therefore at the heart of the Paris Agreement and the achievement of these long-term goals. NDCs embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. Together, these climate actions determine whether the world achieves the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement and to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as soon as possible.

To date 180 countries have submitted a national climate action plan or NDC to the United Nations as part of the Paris Agreement, which promises to strengthen domestic climate policy. One country has already submitted its second NDC.

Starting in 2023, and then every five years, governments will take stock of the implementation of the Agreement to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and its long-term goals. The outcome of the global stocktake will inform the preparation of subsequent NDCs, in order to allow for increased ambition and climate action to achieve the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals.

From commitments to robust implementation

The Paris Agreement provides the architecture for a low-carbon, climate-resilient global economy. It is now time to put the essential engineering in place.

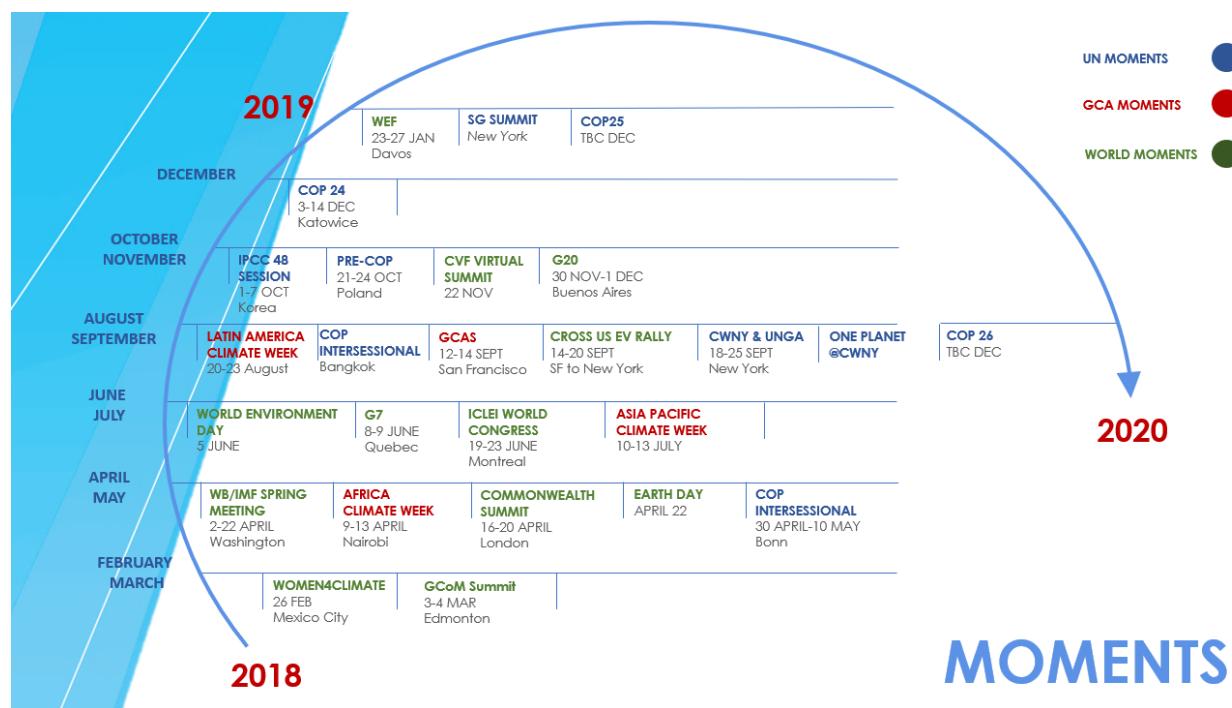
According to the Paris Agreement, by 2018, governments need to finalize a Rulebook that will encompass the guidelines and rules for implementing the Paris Agreement.

This will strengthen the integrity of the Paris Agreement including a transparency framework, which promotes confidence in NDC implementation; accounting rules and information for NDCs which make their impact clear and understandable; global rules which align national and regional carbon pricing mechanisms; accounting rules to prevent double counting of emissions reductions and ensure the environmental integrity

of NDCs; and a process to deliver more ambitious NDCs, bringing us ever closer to the Paris Agreement's long-term goals.

This is why COP24 is so crucial.

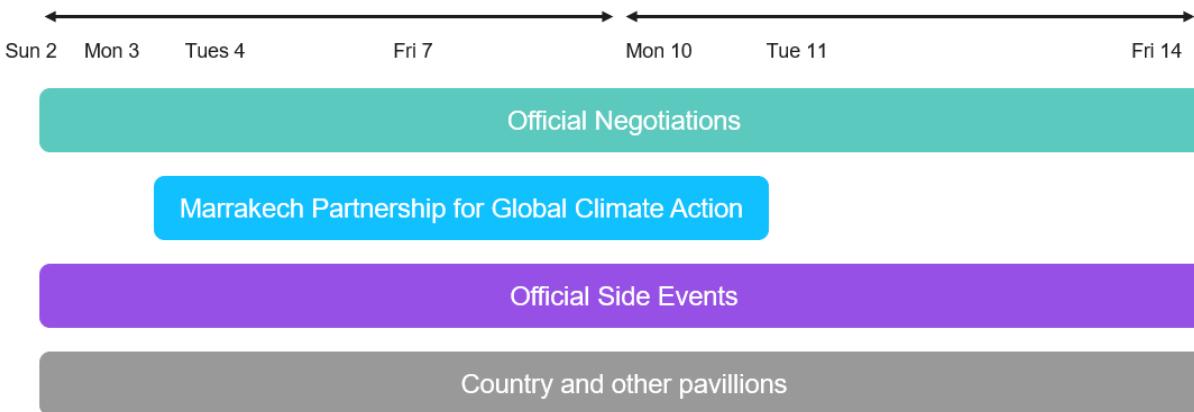
The intergovernmental negotiations are taking place against the backdrop of several important events which have taken place in 2018 that have showcased the importance of non-State actors (business, NGOs, civil society) towards achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement (e.g. the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco); a spate of recent climate-related natural disasters; and the urgency of reaching agreement on the Paris rulebook, review of progress against the Paris Agreement objectives, and the update of national climate commitments.



The Talanoa Spirit | The 24th Conference of the Parties (COP24)

COP24 – what to expect

A COP under the UNFCCC is part intergovernmental negotiations on climate change, and part trade-fair. The two-week session will feature [negotiations](#) on key aspects of the Paris Agreement (see below); thematic discussions organized under the so-called [Marrakech Partnership for Global Action](#); hundreds of official [side-events](#); pavilions sponsored by governments and other stakeholders to showcase their climate action; as well as external events to capitalize on the large audience that will descend upon Katowice.



The negotiations begin immediately during the first week in a variety of forums:

The Plenary meetings of the COP are the formal forums for discussion and decision-making by Parties to the Convention. Plenary meetings are open to participation by all Parties and observers and typically feature a succession of statements by individual countries and / or leads of the various negotiation groups (i.e. the chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) representing 42 island nations). These statements become part of the official record.

Contact groups are convened to conduct negotiations on specific agenda items, with the aim of achieving an agreed outcome.

Informal consultations happen throughout COP under each [agenda item](#), and the sight of negotiators huddled in corners, pouring over text, and trying to resolve disputes through creative wordsmithing is common.

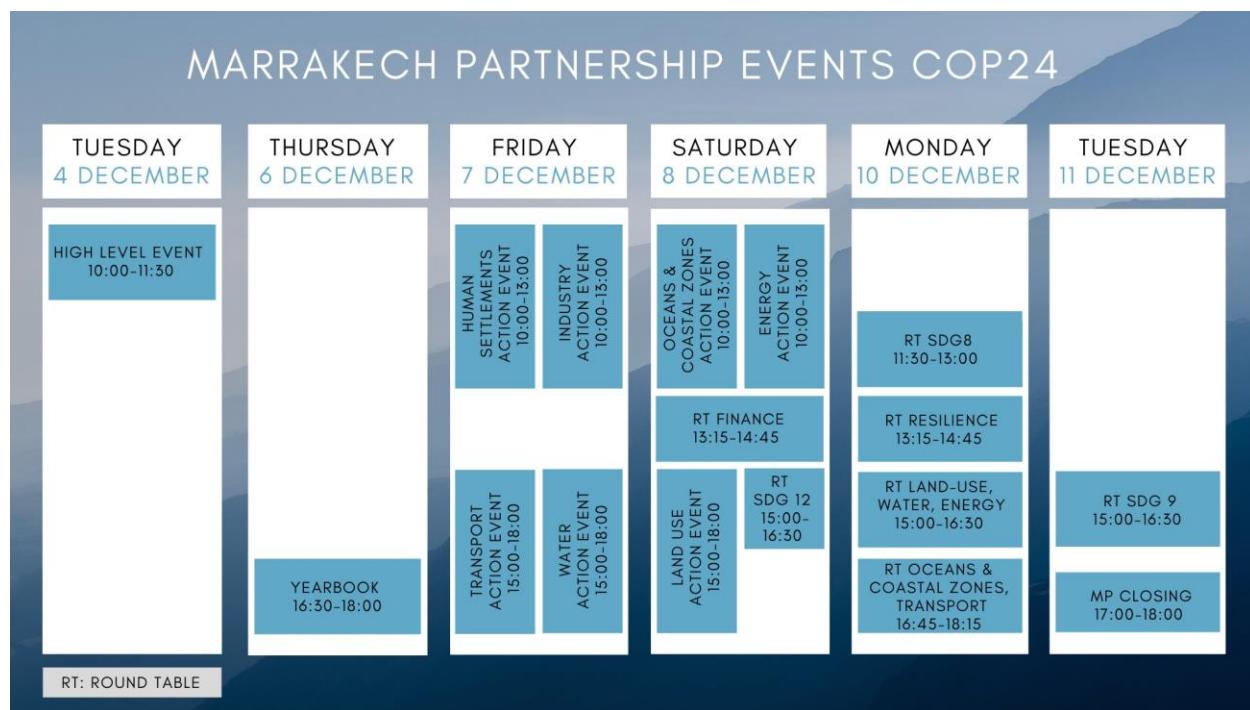
Drafting groups or spin-off groups meet to draft a specific section of text or resolve a specific problem before being sent back for negotiations.

Non-State participants such as companies have a surprisingly significant role. They often serve as “policy entrepreneurs”, helping to shape government positions; conducting research and analysis on issues high on the agenda; helping to resolve disputes between countries; and advocating for their preferred approaches amongst an array of possible policy outcomes.

From the middle of the first week, until the beginning of the second week, we will see increased focus on non-State actors, with thematic events organized under the [Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action](#).

The objective of these activities is to provide a space for impact-driven focused dialogues and interactions between non-Party stakeholders and Party representatives. The Marrakech Partnership events at COP 24 aim to strengthen the collaboration for greater pre-2020 mitigation and adaptation actions and to identify specific and concrete policy options and solutions that assist Parties to enhance and implement their national determined contributions (NDCs).

The events aim to highlight milestones and achievements for scaling up climate action up to 2020 and beyond, and towards the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.



The Marrakech Partnership activities will kick off with a [A High-Level Event on Global Climate Action](#) that will be convened on Tuesday, 4 December. The objective of this event is to strengthen high-level engagement on the implementation of policy options and actions; provide an opportunity for announcing new or strengthened voluntary efforts, initiatives and coalitions; take stock of related progress and recognize new or strengthened voluntary efforts, initiatives and coalitions and provide opportunities for the effective high-level engagement of dignitaries of Parties, international organizations, international cooperative initiatives and non-Party stakeholders.

This year will also see the organization of [Global Climate Action “Action Hubs”](#), that will provide a space to showcase and appraise climate action initiatives. In the spirit of the Talanoa Dialogue, the Action Hub will provide a central scene that is inclusive, participatory and transparent, which COP24 will revolve around.

Global Climate Action												
Action Hub Schedule												
3 Dec	4 Dec	5 Dec	6 Dec	7 Dec	8 Dec	9 Dec	10 Dec	11 Dec	12 Dec	13 Dec	14 Dec	
09:00	Talanoa Talk: Dr. Mae Jemison.		Launch: Nature commentary	The +1s, the essence of being a transformational agent			Climate Action and Resilience	COP23 presidency: Premiere of “Talanoa Talks”	The SDG Global Action Hour: climate edition	Clean and Climate Smart Growth with OECD/NCE		
	Socio-economic Benefits of the Energy Transition	Energy Harvesting	Opening Young and Future Generations Day	Counties, Cities and Companies working together to decarbonise transport	Human Settlements: The regional approach on climate adaptation		MY World: Climate insights	COP24 Presidency slot	Momentum for Change: Climate Neutral Now	Momentum for Change: Financing for Climate Friendly Investment		
	The future of our food in the face of climate change	Debunking the myths of the energy transition	The way to clean and safe energy	Transport: How to include transport in NDCs	Climate Change Adaptation in poor coastal communities in West Africa		Building Climate Change resilience in informal settlements	Putting the World on Track: Visualising a Roadmap to a Safer Climate		Climate Action starts at school		
	How machine learning can help phase out fossil fuels				Sustainable Mobility for all		Industry: Business Innovation Accelerating Climate Action	Momentum for Change: Women for Results	Crowdsourcing SDG & Climate Action Stories: The new generation of media creators			
	Heads of State Day			Village of Hope	Shared Mobility: The Power to Slash CO2	How to build a sustainable city	The Future of Business		Climathon by Climate-KIC	COP23 presidency: Your Climate Story Film Screening		
	Global coal phase-out and the just transition			Solar Impulse Solutions	Climate Show	Water: Ecosystem-based adaptation: coming together for water!	Climate-smart accommodation: climate action in the hospitality sector	Gender Events	Resilience: Climate Resilience	Energy: Driving the Energy Transition through Innovation		
		Solar Impulse Solutions	Guinness World Record: 100'000 Climate Change Cards			The Future of the Global Climate Action Portal (NAZCA)	Momentum for Change Planetary Health		The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World			
	COP24 Presidency slot	COP24 Presidency slot	COP24 Presidency slot	COP24 Presidency slot	COP24 Presidency slot		COP24 Presidency slot		COP24 Presidency slot	COP24 Presidency slot		
	Far West Film: Solar Impulse	Protecting the Arctic: The Marine Arctic Peace Sanctuary	Talanoa Talk: Jennifer Wilcox	Talanoa Talk: Richard van der Laken	Watershocks: the role of wetlands in climate resilience and human security		The Future of Wine: Bordeaux 2050	“Rise” by Kathy Jetñil-Kijiner and Aka Niviâna	On thin ice: the Last Game at the North Pole	Empowering youth to take climate action		
			Award Ceremony of the Global Youth Video Competition				Climate Technology Centre & Network, Five Year Commemoration Event	GCA Awards Ceremony and Reception				

Legend: Presidency events Thematic COP24 HL Events Other Events GCA Event

During the second week, the Polish Presidency will identify how to make best use of Ministers as they arrive for the high-level segment, particularly to address remaining obstacles in the negotiations towards the achievement of the Paris Rulebook.

Several High-Level events are scheduled for early in the second week including:

- High-Level Talanoa Dialogue
- High-Level event on Finance
- High-Level event on pre-2020 Ambition

Polish Presidency priorities

The ambition of the Polish Presidency of COP24 is to adopt rules and tools that will create a systemic solution for the whole world, replacing the point-based discussion on fragmented objectives, which doesn't allow for a comprehensive approach to all important areas of emissions (such as transport, energy, buildings, agriculture), removals balancing emissions (forests, soils), implementation measures (including financing) and measures to adapt economies to expected changes in the future (the so-called adaptation measures). The success of Katowice will be to make progress in the mechanisms without which the Paris Agreement will not be able to function in real terms.

Each COP Presidency gets to elevate their own priorities to the top of the agenda.

COP24 President and Polish deputy energy minister Michał Kurtyka, has stated earlier in the year that the Polish government was drafting political statements on **electro-mobility, carbon forestry projects and the 'just transition'** – a policy to ensure that the shift to green energy does not hurt workers and communities.

Political statements are a common device in the UN process. They can propose solutions to specific problems, form new commissions or simply commit governments to put new attention on an issue. They sit alongside the formal negotiations, which will be geared towards drawing up the rules for the Paris climate deal and scaling up national commitments to fight climate change.

- *"Electromobility is the technology of tomorrow. And we have ambitions for Poland to contribute to the global climate policy. We want to create global trends by proposing a Partnership and an annual Forum in this area"* – Kurtyka said, as he presented a new [global project for the development of electromobility](#).

The choice of Katowice as host for this year's COP is also significant. It has been chosen for a reason – to reflect Poland's dynamically changing landscape. Only 30 years ago, the city's main landmark was the plethora of factory chimneys that dotted its skyline. Today, Katowice represents a model of the effectiveness of Poland's economic and social transformation strategy and its positive impact on the environment. The capital of Silesia is one of Poland's greenest cities, with forests covering over 40% of its land



The policies at COP24

COP24 is will be a highly technical but also very politically charged COP. The most important tasks facing governments gathering in Katowice will be the adoption of the Paris Rulebook under the Paris Agreement Work Programme (PAWP), the set of technical rules to guide the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

These negotiations comprise a set of issues that, together, create shared guidance and framework for parties to implement the Paris Agreement. The PAWP includes many issues related to mitigation, adaptation, and support to developing countries. Some of the key issues that will need to be resolved in Katowice are the guidance for:

- the mitigation section of nationally-determined contributions (NDCs);
- the transparency framework of action and support;
- the global stocktake;
- information on future finance provided by developed countries (Article 9.5 of the Agreement);
- cooperative approaches, including a new market mechanism (Article 6); and
- common timeframes for countries to submit and/or update their NDCs.

Despite these being very technical negotiations, the complexity of agreeing rules under such a broad array of elements, which will need to be agreed by all countries under the Convention, means that these will be extremely difficult political negotiations.

"We have several goals to achieve, but one stands above all others: finalizing the Paris Agreement Work Program. Success at COP24 means finalizing the Paris Agreement Work Program - period. We no longer have the luxury of time, nor do we have the luxury of endless negotiations." Patricia Espinosa – Executive Secretary, UNFCCC.

Some key issues to watch out for are:

1. **The Paris Rulebook:** The main objective of the formal COP24 negotiations is the achievement of the Paris Rulebook under the PAWP. The success or failure of the Conference will largely depend on whether the COP will manage to reach a deal on this crucial element.
2. **The Talanoa Dialogue:** The High-Level Ministerial Talanoa Dialogue on 11 December will be the culmination of a process intended to kickoff consideration of the 2020 update to Parties' NDCs. What will be the political outcome of this process? Will Parties agree to continue this process in 2019 and beyond?
3. **The Marrakech Partnership (Global Climate Action Agenda):** The events for this year's MPGCA calendar have targeted to focus discussions on real actions and solutions. Will they be conducive to genuine policy dialogue, that can help catalyze private sector ambition?
4. **Climate Resilience:** There are growing efforts to ensure parity between mitigation and adaptation. Advancing the discussion and showcasing private sector action on resilience will be critical to the credibility of the UNFCCC and of those engaging with it.

5. **Discussion on 1.5°C:** The publication of the IPCC landmark Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C in October 2018, will emphasize the inadequacy of current commitments, by governments but also by non-State actors including the private sector. We can expect the most vulnerable countries to push even harder for further commitment aligned to 1.5°C.
6. **The Global Stocktake:** Article 14 of the Paris Agreement establishes a method to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement. How comprehensive and inclusive will this be? What will it cover? Who will be involved?

At COP24, delegates will also discuss other issues relevant to the long-term vision and operation of global climate governance.

The [Talanoa Dialogue](#) is scheduled to continue, and conclude, in Katowice. The Dialogue has fulfilled the call for a “facilitative dialogue” in 2018 that will assess collective progress towards the achievement of the Paris Agreement. Throughout 2018, the Dialogue brought together stakeholders in a “preparatory phase” to discuss three questions: Where are we? Where do we want to go? How do we get there?

WBCSD welcomed the Talanoa Dialogue as an opportunity to help non-Party stakeholders such as business to better understand where Parties are seeking support for implementation and to identify new opportunities for strengthened collaboration between stakeholders

WBCSD called for the Talanoa Dialogue should take stock of the collective efforts of Parties in relation to progress towards the long-term and to inform the preparation of the next round of NDCs. This must be the ultimate focus of the Talanoa Dialogue: **to enhance ambition with a view to bringing the NDCs in line with the long-term objectives of the Paris Agreement.**

We have encouraged all Parties to use the Talanoa Dialogue to affirm their commitment to enhance NDCs in 2020, and strongly supported the continuation of such a Dialogue after 2018 as a key tool for Parties and non-Parties to support each other in enhancing ambition.

Read WBCSD's submissions made to the Talanoa Dialogue this year:

- [WBCSD submission to the Talanoa Dialogue April 2018](#)
- [WBCSD submission to the Talanoa Dialogue October 2018](#)

For business, the key questions are: Has this Dialogue helped lead to stronger collective ambition and not just a review of progress? Will the outcome of the 2018 Talanoa Dialogue be considered significant to warrant its continuation in 2019? How can the private sector continue to contribute as a key partner to national governments as they seek to raise ambition in their NDCS?

The [Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action](#) (MPGCA) provides a platform for showcasing successful approaches to reducing greenhouse gases and enhancing climate resilience. The MPGCA aims to spur higher ambition from all actors – across sectors and geographies – to meet the aims of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals.

To connect the work of governments with the many voluntary and collaborative actions taken by cities, regions, businesses and investors, nations decided to appoint [two high-level champions](#), who engage with interested Parties and non-Party stakeholders with a view to connecting initiatives and coalitions.

The politics of COP24

The atmospherics, optics, and geopolitical trends that influence negotiating positions and determine the tone of the discussions and the elasticity of ambition at COP.

These are the five trends to watch out for at COP24:

1. **US climate policy:** In the first major climate moment since the beginning of the Trump administration, what impact will US policy have on negotiations? How will others respond?
2. **The EU-China partnership:** With US climate leadership expected to be totally absent at COP24, could this lead to a new partnership for ambition led by the EU and China? Will this come to fruition?
3. **The High Ambition Coalition:** The HAC was pivotal in Paris and has proven since that it can be a force to be reckoned with in reaching ambitious deals. Can it find new purpose?
4. **The 1.5°C Report:** What effect will the IPCC report on global warming of 1.5°C have on national governments positions, particularly from political groups such as AOSIS and the LDCs?
5. **The GCAS effect:** The Global Climate Action Summit in California showcased strong commitment and action from non-State actors, including the private sector. Can this serve as a trigger to the UNFCCC to invite non-state actors into the process as genuine partners in the spirit of distributed leadership?

Conference Essentials | Understanding the Venue

COP24 will be held in the city of Katowice at the following conference facilities:

- **The International Conference Centre (MCK)** will accommodate plenary halls, conference rooms, a press conference and media rooms as well as COP24 Presidency and secretariat offices.
- **The 'Spodek' Arena** will accommodate the media area, catering facilities as well as exhibits and media area.

The venue will follow a "single zone" principle, meaning that unlike last year's COP, there will not be a separation of zones within the COP premises.

For more detailed information on the COP24 Venue Maps, please click [here](#).



Transportation

For the duration of COP24, free transportation service will be provided within the entire Upper Silesian Metropolitan Area* (PL: GOP) and following cities: Bielsko-Biała, Częstochowa, Gliwice, Kraków, Oświęcim, Rybnik, Zawiercie on the basis of the regular public transportation network (including regional railway "Koleje Śląskie) upon presentation of a conference badge.

In addition a dedicated free transportation shuttle service will be provided to and from Spodek (Conference venue) to following cities: Kraków, Zawiercie, Oświęcim.

Transportation in KATOWICE

During COP24, additional tram and bus connections will be provided between Katowice Central Station and COP24 conference venue MCK/Spodek (10-18 minutes by foot): 1 tram line and 2 bus lines (every 10 min) – journey duration ca. 5 minutes

Polish national and regional train timetable <https://rozklad-pkp.pl/en>

Regular regional (Upper Silesian Metropolitan Area) timetable <https://rj.kzkgop.com.pl/rozklady/?lang=en>

Transportation in KRAKÓW

Hub Location: 3 Maja Street/ WISLA municipal stadium near BLONIA PARK (reached by tram every 7,5 min. from the city centre);

Travel duration to Katowice (directly to MCK/Spodek) by dedicated COP24 shuttle buses ca. 1h 10 min.

Conference A-Z

The Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change has prepared a useful “[Conference A-Z](#)” with exhaustive details on administrative and logistical aspects of COP25. Please refer to this resource for more information.

Registration

Upon arrival at the venue, you will be requested to proceed to the registration desk to collect your badge for access to the conference premises.

Registration times:

Friday, 30 November, until Saturday, 8 December 2018, from 08:00 to 19:00.

Registration for NGOs and IGOs will be closed on Monday, 3 December 2018.

The conference venue, including registration, will be closed on Sunday, 9 December 2018.

Monday, 10 December, until Friday, 14 December 2018, from 08:00 to 19:00.

Early registration before Sunday, 2 December 2018 is highly recommended to avoid delays on the first day of the conference.

Making the most of your participation at COP24

Many companies go to COP24 just to participate. They attend events parallel to the negotiations and spend the bulk of their time in a private-sector bubble far removed from other stakeholders. This is a missed opportunity for impact and reputational value. It is important to use a variety of means to get your message across and shape the contours of climate action.

Events

Official [side events](#) provide an excellent opportunity for broadcast communications dealing with specific issues, sectors and / or geographies. Hundreds of side-events take place during the two-week session with mixed results. Some attract large numbers of participants, provide rich conversations, enhance a community of practice, and are influential with negotiators. Others are not so successful.

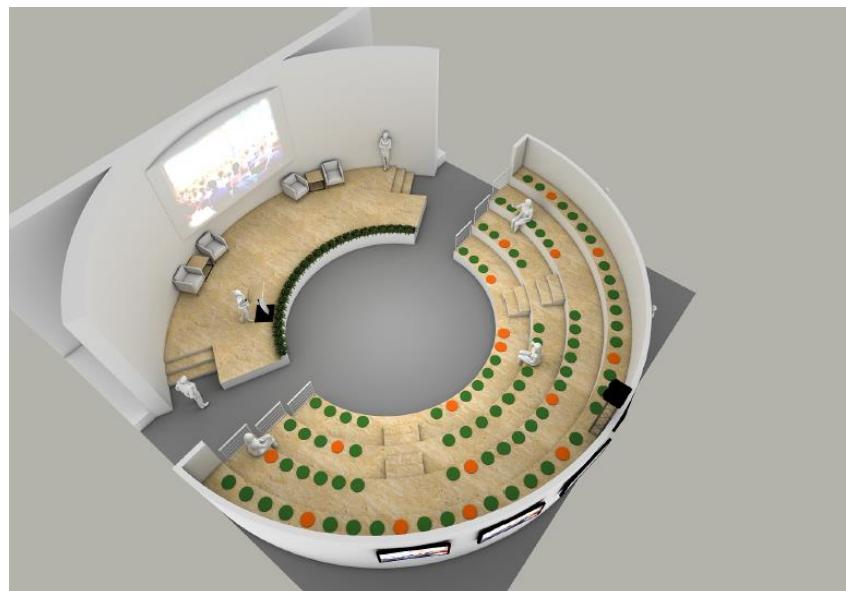
The [Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action will host several events](#) having a thematic focus days at COP24. These are the official convenings of non-Parties with Parties to showcase climate leadership and action, as well as engage in a policy dialogue. A key feature of these events is the fact that the outcomes and highlights are reported back to the Parties at COP and included in the final documents issued by the COP. Each theme is led by a coalition of organizations and facilitated by the UNFCCC and the High-Level Champions (Fiji and Poland).

WBCSD is leading the organization of the Industry thematic area at this year's COP, thus providing an important platform for members to participate in the COP. The most up to date programs for each theme can be found [here](#).

Action Hubs

The COP24 Presidency has built an Amphitheatre within the main COP venue that will be situated in a prime location between the entrance/registration area and the formal plenary rooms. This area will be utilized as a dynamic events-space – suitable for staging digital events, talk-shows, launch and announcement events, film screenings, competition winners, on-the-sofa style discussions.

The purpose of the Action Hub is to provide a space to showcase and appraise climate action initiatives. In the spirit of the Talanoa Dialogue, the Hub will provide a central scene that is inclusive, participatory and transparent, which COP24 will revolve around.



Meetings

COP provides an unrivaled opportunity for stakeholder engagement on climate change. A large diversity of influential actors gather for two weeks of relentless work. Amongst those participating are:

- **Governments:** Each Party (national government) to the Convention is represented at COP by a national delegation consisting of officials from a broad range of government departments and agencies. The larger countries will come with officials from ministries of Environment, Energy, Foreign Affairs, Finance, Transport, Agriculture, Industry, and International Development.
- **Intergovernmental Organizations:** Intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) participate as observers. Among these are the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); the International Energy Agency (IEA), the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and all the major development banks. The World Bank and the Green Climate Fund are especially important players on climate finance related issues including carbon pricing. For a full list of admitted IGOs click [here](#).
- **UN & Specialized Agencies:** United Nations bodies and agencies with prominent roles at COP include, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- **Non-Governmental Organizations:** Civil society contributes through non-governmental observer organizations (NGOs) with nine constituencies: Business and industry NGOs (BINGOs), Environmental NGOs (ENGOS), Indigenous organizations (IPO), Local government and municipal authorities (LGMA), Research and independent NGOs (RINGOs), Trade union NGOs (TUNGOs), Farmers NGOs (Farmers), Women and gender NGOs (Women and Gender), and youth NGOs (YOUNGOs). These organizations have a surprisingly large and important role as their advocacy and analysis often shapes government positions.
- **Press and Media:** Local, regional and international media ensure a wide range of media coverage through news stories, press conferences, exclusive interviews and media tours.

Meeting with this diversity of stakeholders is critical to getting your message out at COP24 and to influencing the emerging policy enabling environment.

Circulars

A number of well-established publications have become must-reads at COP. They are both informative as they provide concise and daily updates on the state of the negotiations; and influential as virtually everyone at COP reads them.

The Climate Action Network (CAN), a network of 950 NGOs, runs a daily newspaper called *ECO* which offers the environmental NGO perspective. The writing style is offbeat and irreverent, but the content is very well constructed, based on sound analysis, crafted by experts with decades of experience at COPs and other climate meetings, and extremely influential with negotiators. It is available online at <http://www.climate-network.org/eco-newsletters>.

The International Institute for Sustainable Development's *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* will provide a near-verbatim play by play of each open session at the negotiations, which will be available through its website at <http://www.iisd.ca/>. This provides a time-saving alternative to sitting through long and tedious negotiating sessions to hear country representatives deliver their statements. Reading ENB over breakfast will give you all the detail you need to understand the progress (or lack of) from the previous days' round of negotiations.

Placing content in these circulars can be a significant win. As a result it is useful to try to meet with those organizations that produce circulars at COP and work to include your content in their publications. This grows your audience considerably. Participation in media calls and press conferences has the same effect.

Policy Influence

It is important to remember that COP is ultimately a formal negotiation designed to create global frameworks and architecture for domestic policy enabling environments on climate change. Therefore, participating at COP with an understanding of how the policy process works and how to influence this policy is extremely important.

WBCSD has produced a set of shared policy asks for COP24, informed by the key issues that will be discussed, written in the language of negotiators, and capturing the voice of the WBCSD membership.

They will be launched on 3 December. We count on your support to bring these messages to the widest possible audience.

These are provided in the Annex below.

WBCSD at COP24

The WBCSD strategy for COP24 has been to bring our members into the official elements of the negotiations via the Marrakech Partnership. Hence, we have not organized an extensive (but separate) Low Emissions Solutions Conference, instead successfully negotiating with UNFCCC to take the lead on Industry and Innovation themes under the Marrakech Partnership.

Events

This year, WBCSD is leading the planning of the Industry Action event, the Industry action Hub, and 2 events under the Low Emissions Solutions Conference.

Industry Action event – Friday 7 December

As part of the Marrakech Partnership calendar of events, the **Industry Action event at COP24** will show how the private sector is taking leadership in addressing the challenge towards creating a low-carbon economy.

The Paris Agreement provides the critical architecture needed for the effective and ambitious response required to address the climate challenge.

With industry being responsible for a large percentage of global greenhouse gas emissions, the challenge to decarbonize high-emitting sectors becomes ever more urgent.

And industry is responding ... Key sectors are taking on the climate challenge and demonstrating leadership by investing in innovation and research to provide smarter and more effective solutions for mitigation and to build resilience. Digitalization and other technological advancements are revolutionizing processes across entire industries, having significant impacts across sectors and geographies. Increasingly these industries are taking the steps to recognize what these impacts may be on their workforce, and work with their unions and workers to ensure their industry makes a just transition.

This session will see business leaders highlight what industry is already doing to implement the Paris Agreement. Focusing on major industrial sectors (e.g. construction, steel and chemicals), the event will demonstrate how transformative action in such sectors can have huge impacts towards scaling up innovative low carbon solutions and creating a new circular economy for industry.

The event will also highlight what industry needs from governments to work together towards raised climate action, particularly in enhancing NDCs and the adoption of long-term climate strategies.

For information about the event and other MPGCA events at COP24, please click [here](#).

WBCSD-led events at COP24:

- **7 Dec 10:00 to 13:00 – Industry Action event** – COP24 venue (Marrakech Partnership event).
- **10 Dec 12:00 to 13:00 – Industry Action Hub** Action Hub amphitheater, at COP24 venue.
- **10 Dec 15:30 to 18:30 – LESC discussion sessions** – GEIDCO/UNDESA pavilion at COP24 venue.
- **11 Dec 18:00 onwards – Low Emissions Solutions Conference** Dinner – Hotel Monopol, ul. Dworcowa 5, 40-012 Katowice.

Low Emissions Solutions Conference events¹

In September 2018, LESC held a major conference as an official side event to the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco. The event brought together over 200 business representatives, academics and policy makers at the University of San Francisco to discuss implementing solutions to speed the transition to the low-carbon economy.

The event focused on the relationship between land management and energy in addressing climate change – with a clear emphasis on untapped solutions for reducing emissions and drawing carbon out of the atmosphere. Presenters dove head-first into the data, helping highlight the granular details associated with climate solutions for businesses and academics alike.

LESC now returns to COP24, allowing for in-depth dialogue with policymakers with 2 events. We recognize the scale of the challenge in implementing ambitious NDCs, but also the need to take action at the city, local, and project level. As such, the theme of this LESC is **“Accelerating Action to a Low-Carbon Future”**. We will bring together global leaders who are taking bold action. Spotlight presentations will facilitate rich dialogue on what is still needed and how public-private partnerships can support the common objectives between nations, cities, business, and academia. The outcomes of this event will be submitted to the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action to support further work in 2019 and beyond.

LESC discussion sessions - Decarbonised electricity to decarbonise transport and buildings

10 December, 15:30 – 18:30 (GEIDCO/UNDESA Pavilion at COP24 Venue)

The IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C highlights that limiting warming to 1.5°C remains possible, but only if we urgently and rapidly transform all systems at an unprecedented scale. Net CO₂ emissions need to be zero in 2050. In pursuit of this target, the energy system must transition away from fossil fuels – currently responsible for over 80% of primary energy demand – toward increasing shares of zero-carbon energy sources in all sectors.

Given the scale of the challenge, all low-carbon solutions will be needed in this transformation. This session will present the decarbonisation efforts already taking place in the power sector, and showcase how this can decarbonise the transport and buildings sector through electrification.

LESC Dinner - Land Use & Natural Climate Solutions

11 December, 18:00 onwards (Hotel Monopol, Katowice)

The event aims to promote dialogue between business, government and academia on the role of land-use and natural climate solutions (NCS) as an essential component of climate action

The event will highlight the collective signal of urgency for post-2020 action to deliver the objectives of the Paris Agreement. It will highlight the role of land-use and natural climate solutions (NCS) as an essential component of climate action and the role of public and private sector collaboration in unlocking this opportunity.

¹ Organizers: ICLEI, UNSDSN & WBCSD.

Influencing the negotiations

WBCSD will use different influence methods at COP24:

Tailored messaging

The WBCSD **COP24 Policy Asks** document has been developed in consultation with WBCSD members and is aimed at facilitating WBCSD members better engagement with policymakers in open dialogue and concerted climate action.

WBCSD-hosted events

Each event hosted by WBCSD or a WBCSD partner provides an opportunity to generate additional commitments to ambition, to demonstrate action and to advocate for specific policies. In the aggregate, they are a powerful platform and can reinforce the virtuous circle by including policymakers and company decisionmakers.

Bilateral meetings with governments and member companies

WBCSD also aims to arrange bilateral meetings between groups of member companies and some key government negotiators during COP. Details of these bilateral meetings will follow.

Broadcast communications

WBCSD will use COP24 as an anchor to launch key climate and energy announcements for this year, namely the LCTPi Progress Report for 2018, our New Energy Solutions project, as well as our below50 policy tool. We will also launch reports on Soil Health and another on Scaling the Circular Built Environment.

WBCSD and member company briefings

- **6 Dec** from 16:00 to 17:00 – First week debriefing meeting with WBCSD member companies – COP24 Venue, Room TBC
- **11 Dec** from 15:00 to 16:00 – Second week debriefing meeting with WBCSD member companies – COP24 Venue Room TBC.

Through a combination of editorial, social media and media outreach, WBCSD will use COP24 as an opportunity to profile our work – while demonstrating to members, prospects and UNFCCC officials that WBCSD represents the credible voice of business on climate action.

In the run up to COP24, we launched a new [Talanoa blog series](#). The series is a strong complement to our policy strategy and is designed to give policymakers the confidence they need to ramp up climate commitments (NDCs). If you're interested in contributing, please reach out to taylor@wbcisd.org

Stay tuned to [@wbcisd](#) for information coming from WBCSD about the COP.

WBCSD launches at COP24

Item	Project
3 December	Release of WBCSD's COP24 policy asks
4 December	Launch of WBCSD's <i>Scaling the circular built environment</i> report
5 December	Launch of WBCSD's <i>The business case for investing in soil health</i> report
7 December	Launch of WBCSD's <i>Low Carbon Technology Partnerships initiative (LCTPi) 2018 progress report</i>
10 December	New Energy Solutions project launch on social media – including public launch of the project white paper
11 December	Natural Climate Solutions Twitter chat (at LESC dinner)
17 December	Insider Perspective on COP24 – a summary of key outcomes from the COP and WBCSD member involvement

If you would like more information on communications around these materials, and if you would like to receive social media kits for any and all of them, please contact taylor@wbcisd.org

A media pack with social media resources will be shared with interested parties. If you're interested in receiving this, please reach out to taylor@wbcisd.org

Delegation

Various teams at WBCSD, including Climate & Energy, Climate Smart Agriculture, Cities and Mobility, Water, will attend COP24 and actively engage with civil society as well as the public and private sectors.

WBCSD optimized its efforts in providing maximal exposure for member companies to attend COP24. Combining the limited quota allocated by the UNFCCC Secretariat and leveraging its leadership role in the organization of the Marrakech Partnership events and the High-Level Engagement events, WBCSD was able to provide accreditation to over 100 participants across diverse industrial sectors in more than 40 companies.

The WBCSD delegation contains a representative group of participants, including company CEOs, heads of sustainability, subject matter experts and emerging leaders in sustainability. With many opportunities to

engage, learn and network with business, government and civil society, WBCSD wishes all participants another fruitful COP!

Your key WBCSD Contact at COP24

Karl Vella – Climate Policy Manager

vella@wbcisd.org

+41 798 39 2116

Annex - COP24 Policy Asks *Under Embargo until 3 December*

Business message for COP24: It's time to go further, faster



If we want to avoid the most harmful impacts of climate change, we have no choice: we must limit global warming to well-below 2°C, with 1.5°C as the new North Star.

The science is clear: If we don't act now, the world will surpass 3°C as early as 2100, with serious consequences.

Proven technologies and business models exist that will help us meet the Paris Agreement, but deployment is still too slow.

We must accelerate implementation now.

The question is no longer "can we change?" the question is "how fast do we want to?" It's time to reinforce the political will and the business drive to accelerate greenhouse gas emissions reductions.

COP24 is a critical moment for governments to set the frameworks that can help accelerate. Business is taking action and is ready to do more.

Here's how policymakers at COP24 can help us get there:

RAISED AMBITION

- We need countries to raise ambition in their nationally determined contributions (NDCs).
- Policymakers must agree to ramp up NDCs by 2020 and commit to doing so by the end of this year. This will help us reach net-zero emissions as early as possible.
- Policymakers should recognize the role of public-private partnerships in setting aggressive climate strategies in line with the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals.
- We need continued collaborative input from business, academia and civil society to enhance ambition and implementation, including by extending the Talanoa Dialogue beyond 2018.

CLEAR RULES

- We need comprehensive rules and guidelines for implementing and strengthening the integrity of the Paris Agreement.
- This should include a global stocktake for measuring collective progress and a mechanism with a clear process to deliver more ambitious NDCs every five years.
- We need clarity on the ambition and impacts of climate commitments to provide certainty and confidence to investors. This will help businesses better plan their actions across the spectrum of national commitments and strategies.

STRONG ENABLERS

- We need effective carbon pricing policies that maintain competitiveness, create jobs, encourage innovation, deliver meaningful emissions reductions, enable investment, create value, ensure environmental integrity and minimize social costs.
- We need ambitious adaptation and resilience efforts that are transparent, easily accessible and comparable.
- We need to ensure a just transition so that no one is left behind, to create jobs that are green and decent and to ensure that communities are thriving and resilient.

HERE'S WHAT BUSINESS BRINGS TO THE TABLE:

Since COP21, over 800 companies with USD \$16.9 trillion in market capital have made over 1,300 commitments to bold [climate action](#).

Companies are delivering on these commitments and are ready to do more. Through our Low Carbon Technology Partnerships initiative (LCTPi), hundreds of businesses are implementing their climate commitments on the ground. Track their progress [here](#).