

# COP21 - NEXT STEPS TO ACCELERATE ACTION

## Laurence Tubiana

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# Outline of the presentation

1. The defining features of the Paris Agreement
2. The challenges ahead
3. The year 2018
4. Three lessons from COP21

# 1. The defining features of the Paris Agreement

## a) Three long term goals :

- - attenuation: Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2° C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5° C above pre-industrial levels(2.1.a)
- adaptation: to increase the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience (art 2.1.b)
- finance: to reorient all investment flows – public and private, domestic and international – consistently with these climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives (art 2.1.c)

b) NDC: virtually all countries (163 so far) took on individual commitments in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

# 1. The defining features of the Paris Agreement

## c) No going back: a built-in plan to constantly raise ambition

- an internationally legally-binding Measurement Reporting and Verification (MRV) system (art 13) to track the implementation of countries' commitments - including the commitments by developed countries to provide financial, technological and capacity building support to developing countries;

- a 5-year assessment and review mechanism (art 14), to periodically increase the level of ambition of NDCs, and progressively close the gap with the well below 2C and 1.5C emission reduction pathways.

## d) Non-State Actors are part of the Agreement

A rather short but essential recognition of the role they have to play, not just as observers, but as key drivers of change and enablers of more ambitious actions by governments

## Conclusion on the defining features of the Paris Agreement

### On the importance of shaping expectations and building a credible narrative

- The objective of the communication and political strategy we put in place for COP21 was to shape expectations from all stakeholders – and not just countries.
- We, and many others (NGOS, parts of the press, business and local authorities networks, the UNFCCC executive secretary, etc..), repeated over and over that the Paris Agreement would make the transition to a zero-GHG, climate-resilient and sustainable development path irresistible, and irreversible.
- The Paris Agreement will hopefully be remembered as a turning point in this transition – more on that later

## 2. The challenges ahead

### a) The challenges of implementation : NDCs

- NDCs are expressed as stand-alone climate change mitigation or adaptation goals:

- climate change mitigation and adaptation policies will have to be embedded into a broader long-term socio-economic development strategy.
- This requires strong leadership, at the highest political level, and a close coordination process between the different ministries involved.

- NDC are still too generic : we need more granularity

- They will need to be backed up by detailed sectoral action plans which means passing new legislations, and implementing new policies and regulations;
- which means designing investment plans.

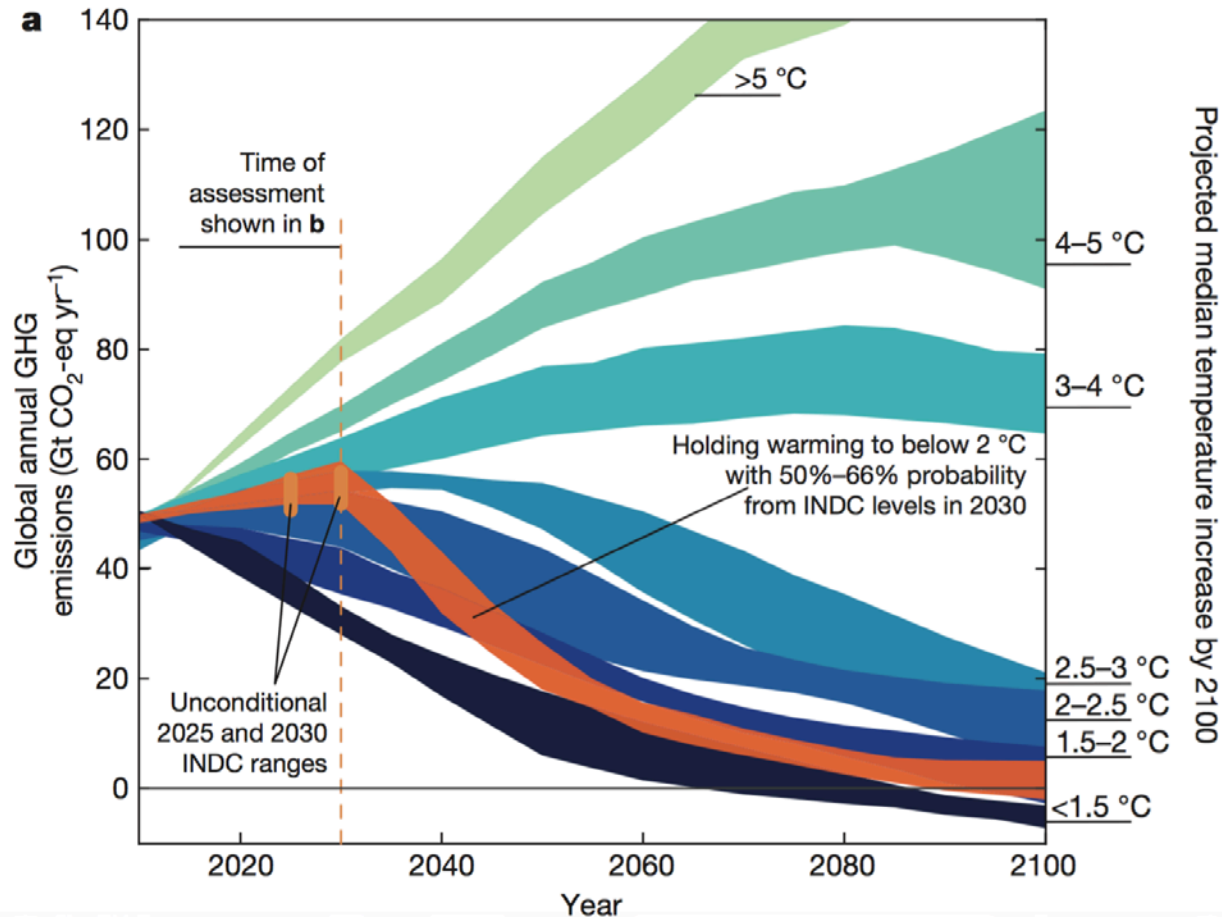
- Countries will need help : the NDC partnership

## 2. The challenges ahead

### b) The challenges of implementation: the toolkit

- Pricing Carbon : a necessary, but not sufficient, condition for success:
  
- Investing in zero-carbon and climate-resilient infrastructure
  - According to the New Climate Economy 2016 report (“the sustainable infrastructure imperative”) the world will have to invest around USD 90 trillions in infrastructure over the next 15 years;
  - Financing and investment have to be mobilized and better deployed from a multitude of different domestic and external sources:
  - MDBs have a role to play in building a system of risk sharing that will allow the international cost of capital to go down, especially for sustainable infrastructure investments.

## 2. The challenges ahead





## 2. The challenges ahead

### c) The challenges of raising ambition:

According to most studies, the level of ambition of the current set of NDCs needs to be doubled to have a likely chance of limiting the temperature increase below 2C.

#### Ambition as a policy question

The challenge is not just to implement the current set of NDCs, it is to implement climate actions that are even more ambitious than the current set of NDCs and to start doing this now.

#### Ambition as a political question

- The climate agenda will not be implemented without the buy-in of individuals and societies at large.
- If what has been happening in western societies in the past years is any warning, change is now perceived as a disruption and, at worst, as a threat. But hopefully as
- Wanted: political leadership!!

### 3. 2018: a stepping stone for ratcheting up climate ambition

#### a) Why 2018?

- it is the year for the facilitative dialogue under the COP
- the rule-book of the Paris Agreement will be finalized (including the rules for the MRV system),
- the roadmap for the mobilization of the USD 100 billions of climate finance by developed countries will also need to be completed.

### 3. 2018: a stepping stone for ratcheting up climate ambition

#### b) 2018: the year of looking forward

- By 2018, we should arrive at the facilitative dialogue with a more optimistic view of the possibility for further increasing the ambition of climate actions;
- Optimism will come from the reassurance:
  - that countries (as well as local governments and businesses) are delivering on their commitments.
  - that the investment and R&D dynamics induced by the implementation of these commitments (and new commitments to be made) is opening up an opportunity

### 3. 2018: a stepping stone for ratcheting up climate ambition

#### c) The role of 2050 deep decarbonization development pathways

- The Paris Agreement includes an invitation for countries to prepare and present long-term low-emission development strategies
- Almost no country has a plan to reduce emissions to 2050 that is consistent with the objective of limiting the temperature increase below 2C, let alone to 1.5C
- These strategies will need to be prepared by 2018 and become the basis for revising existing NDCs and setting the future NDCs
- It is the objective of the 2050 pathways platform that will be launched in Marrakech, to which many cities, regions, states and businesses will also participate.

## 4. The 3 main lessons from success at COP21 for the next steps of climate action

### a) The international climate regime as a regime complex

- Key to the success of our strategy was the idea that the international climate regime should be considered as a regime complex;
- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at the center;
- And many other international institutions or processes were directly or indirectly relevant from a climate perspective:
  - G7, G20;
  - MDB meetings; FSB
  - Montreal Protocol and ICAO

## 4. The 3 main lessons from success at COP21 for the next steps of climate action

### b) Leveraging Non-State Actors

- Was necessary to leverage their economic, political and communication powers to create an incentive for, and build pressure on, governments;
- A fairly complex and very effective infrastructure was put in place:
  - Cities: the Compact of Mayors, the Covenant of Mayors and C40;
  - Regions: R20 and the Under2 MOU;
  - Business : We Mean Business Coalition (BSR, CDP, CERES, the B Team, the Climate Group, the Prince of Wales Corporate Leaders Group and WBCSD);
  - Action agenda/LPAA.

## 4. The 3 main lessons from success at COP21 for the next steps of climate action

### c) Leveraging national-international dynamics

- Strong leadership by a large number of countries was a recipe for success;
- Most obvious/famous : G2; U.S.-China Joint Announcement on Climate Change, November 2014.
- Less famous but very important: V20
- Key during COP21: HAC : Pacific Island leadership, EU, US and the late addition of Brazil;
- India, Saudi Arabia;
- In the end: fading of North/South divide