



**UNFCCC COP 26  
Glasgow, UK**

**Concept Note  
Energy Action Event**

***“Disrupting the Status Quo: Accelerating the Global  
Energy Transition for a 1.5°C future”***

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

Thursday, 4 November  
12:00-14:45 GMT

## Energy Action Event

<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p><i>Short description of the event itself, no longer than 100 words:</i></p> <p>Despite progress under way in the energy transition, including credible net-zero commitments in the Race to Zero, the world is not on track to limit global warming to 1.5°C. The urgency of achieving this goal, as stipulated in the Paris Agreement is underscored by the most recent IPCC report: time is not on our side. Rapidly accelerating the energy transition requires: decarbonized power systems; sectoral integration; and structural changes, all towards achieving the Race to Zero Breakthrough Outcomes. In other words, we need to disrupt the status quo with systemic change.</p> <p>Forerunners of the energy transition are already creating a more resilient energy system, while advancing economic growth and creating jobs, improving public health and well-being, and improving energy access. What they have learned is that many solutions already exist and are ripe for expansion and scaling.</p> <p>This event will showcase the Climate Action Pathway on Energy, and explore how the global energy transition can help deliver a climate-safe future.</p>
<p><b>Headline</b></p>	<p><i>Phrase in a way that could be picked up easily by the press:</i></p> <p>“Disrupting the Status Quo: Accelerating the Global Energy Transition for a 1.5°C future”</p>
<p><b>Outcomes aligned to narrative</b></p>	<p><i>Please list no more than three key outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Build support for programs, partnerships, and initiatives that enable accelerated, just and inclusive energy transitions, leading toward resilient energy systems aligned with the goal of net zero emissions by 2050. By 2030, this requires: 60% of electricity generation from renewables; increased average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements to 3%; and universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.</li> <li>● Create awareness of the latest project and technology developments and enabling measures to accelerate the decarbonization of end-uses, towards achieving green hydrogen deployment of 25 GW by 2025 and 800 GW by 2030.</li> <li>● With the aim of OECD countries phasing out coal by 2030 and non-OECD by 2040, showcase how structural changes in fossil fuel consumption and business models are possible, and under development, while securing a fair and just transition.</li> </ul>

**Objectives**

*Please share more information on how this event will drive action:*

- *How will this event secure support for the sector transformation pathway of decarbonisation and resilience and be a place to accelerate collective action to execute the pathways?*

The event will be aligned with the Climate Action Pathway for energy in an effort to bring the Pathway to life by showcasing real world examples and collective efforts to realize ambitious targets and measures. The event will explore the different sectors that are elaborated in the Pathway Action Table to showcase examples of how the Pathway can be used to accelerate energy transitions around the world.

- *How will this event be a platform for new commitments that demonstrate the growing ambition and progress of non-Party stakeholders and a willingness to support more ambitious NDCs and NAPs to deliver the Paris Agreement objectives as soon as possible?*

In an effort to promote the acceleration of energy transitions around the world, the event will demonstrate ambitious commitments, plans, and actions that have been made since the last COP. Particularly, the event will showcase energy compacts presented at the UN High-level Dialogue on Energy as well as the Race to Zero, Race to Resilience, and Race to Zero Breakthroughs and their delivery partners, and highlight how these commitments and collaborations can further accelerate energy transitions. Speakers will be encouraged to demonstrate how their ambitions will be translated into practical action.

- *How will the event achieve the HLC narrative?*

The event is envisaged to **endorse and drive action** aligned with the Climate Action Pathway for Energy by highlighting key actions and commitments under each sub-sector of the Pathway.

The event will **generate convergence** along pathways and among campaigns and initiatives by showcasing their key objectives and the impact these can have on energy transitions.

With a broad spectrum of speakers from different areas of the energy sector and from around the world, the event will **strengthen the quality and depth** of dialogues and collective action between non-Party stakeholders and government, demonstrating the need for further collaboration and **action**, and **evidence** of transformation across diverse areas.

Speakers in the event will discuss challenges and barriers they may have in their respective energy transitions, thereby **challenging those who have the power** to unblock conflict and drive momentum. The event will aim to connect these challenges and barriers to opportunities and solutions to accelerate energy transitions.



<p><b>Participants</b></p>	<p><i>Which diverse stakeholder groups do you need to take part in the event to achieve the outcomes?</i></p> <p>Policy-makers at local, national, and regional levels; innovators; investors and financial institutions; business and service providers; and civil society. Gender and geographic balance will play a large part in the selection of speakers.</p>
<p><b>Key messages</b></p>	<p><i>Please summarize in no more than 150 words the most important messages that should come out of the event. Not more than three key messages.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The energy transition can no longer be limited to linear and incremental steps. It must become a transformational effort, requiring a total system overhaul, centred on the accelerated upscaling and implementation of all available technologies and with a premium on innovating for the future. The emerging energy system by definition will promote resilient economies and societies that are more inclusive and just. To achieve SDG7 and a decarbonised energy system by 2050, energy systems must become more renewable and efficient by virtue of increased investment, repurposed infrastructure, holistic policies, and focused international collaboration.</li> <li>● For sectoral integration across energy, industry, built environment, and transport, a low-cost, reliable, resilient, and zero carbon energy system is possible and necessary. This is possible with a combination of renewable energy through direct supply, electrification, energy efficiency, and green hydrogen solutions.</li> <li>● Structural change is needed in relation to fossil fuel production and consumption. To achieve global climate and development targets, coal power must be phased out as a matter of urgency and oil and gas sectors must be reshaped in line with net-zero objectives. In addition, renewable energy must be scaled up to meet increased demand and allow for a smooth transition.</li> </ul>

## Draft Programme

<p><b><i>Disrupting the Status Quo: Accelerating the Global Energy Transition for a 1.5°C future</i></b>                      Date: Thursday, 4 November                      Time: 12:00-14:45 GMT</p>	
12:00 - 12:05	<p>MCs for the event: Ms. <b>Elizabeth Press/Claire Kiss</b>, IRENA and Mr. <b>Sam Kimmins</b>, RE100  <b>Opening welcome (2 mins)</b></p>
12:05 - 12:10	<p><b>Opening remarks</b>  <b>Mr. Nigel Topping</b>, UK High-Level Champion for COP26 (5 mins)</p> <p>The Champion will touch upon the importance of the Marrakech Partnership and Climate Action Pathways for limiting temperature rise to 1.5° C, as well as position a rapidly accelerated energy transition as key to achieving this, in the context of the Race to Zero and the Race to Resilience.</p>
12:10 - 12:15	<p><b>Voice from the frontline (5 min)</b></p> <p>This segment will set the scene for the event, with a call to action from the frontline, someone who is directly experiencing the impacts of climate change while working towards a just energy transition. The address will stress the urgency of accelerated energy transitions around the world and the system change needed to support them. It will bring to life the need for tangible near term action on climate and enable participants to see the rest of the sessions from a new perspective.</p> <p><b>Speaker</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Passy Amayo</b>, Program Officer Sustainable Energy Futures, Society for International Development, and Africa regional SDG 7 Youth focal point</li> </ul>
12:17 - 12:58	<p><b>Decarbonised Power: Achieving a Renewable and Efficient Power System</b></p> <p>This segment will showcase ambitious actions and initiatives that are happening around the world that are accelerating a decarbonised power system, en route to a 2030 breakthrough. Speakers in this session will stress the work they are doing to ramp up ambition, the challenges they face in doing so, and potential solutions to these challenges. Where relevant, they will emphasize lessons learned that could be applicable elsewhere.</p> <p><b>Format:</b> Moderated Panel</p> <p><b>Set the scene (5 min):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>H.E. Mariam Almheiri</b>, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, United Arab Emirates</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Ms. Rana Adib</b>, Executive Director, REN21</p>

	<p><b>Speakers (in alphabetical order)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Ms. Yvonne Denise Aki-Sawyerr</b>, Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone</li> <li>● <b>Mr. José Donoso</b>, Chairman, Global Solar Council</li> <li>● <b>Ms. Elbia Gannoum</b>, CEO, Abeolica</li> </ul>
<p>13:00 - 13:10</p>	<p><b>Zoom in: What does system change look like?</b></p> <p>Linear and incremental changes in the power sector will not achieve the speed and scale of systems transformation needed to limit temperature rise to 1.5° C. This TED Talk style intervention will describe what a resilient and adaptable power system would look like, and what integrated financial, regulatory, and social interventions would take to get us there. This speaker will focus on what the energy system would look like, the changes required, and how they can deliver a just transition. Everyone talks about the need for system change, this talk would spell out what that looks like in practice.</p> <p><b>Format:</b> TED-Talk (<i>5 minutes each</i>)</p> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Mr. Francesco La Camera</b>, Director General, International Renewable Energy Agency</li> <li>● <b>Ms. Melanie Nakagawa</b>, Special Assistant to the President and National Security Council Senior Director for Climate and Energy, United States of America (<i>invited</i>)</li> </ul>
<p>13:12 - 14:03</p>	<p><b>Sectoral Integration and the advent of Green Hydrogen</b></p> <p>This segment will highlight examples of bold, creative, real-world plans for sectoral integration (i.e. through green hydrogen) to decarbonize multiple end-uses at a meaningful scale to accelerate breakthrough progress toward deep decarbonization.</p> <p><b>Format:</b> mini TED talks and Moderated Panel</p> <p><b>Set the scene: policy reflections (<i>5 mins each</i>)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>H.E. Jeppe Kofod</b>, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Denmark</li> <li>● <b>Ms. Kadri Simson</b>, Commissioner for Energy, European Commission</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <b>Mr. Jules Kortenhorst</b>, CEO, Rocky Mountain Institute</p> <p><b>Speakers (in alphabetical order)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Ms. Judith Hartmann</b>, CFO, Engie (<i>invited</i>)</li> <li>● <b>Ms. Julie Shuttleworth</b> CEO, Fortescue Future Industries</li> <li>● <b>H.E. Mohamed Abdel Vetah</b>, Minister of Petroleum, Energy and Mines, Mauritania</li> </ul>
<p>14:05 - 14:23</p>	<p><b>Structural Change: Reshaping the fossil-fuel powered economies</b></p> <p>Avoiding dangerous levels of climate change and delivering on the Paris Agreement require a dramatic shift in the way that we provide and use energy. Enabling the transition away from an unsustainable supply of oil and gas is a critical part of that</p>

	<p>challenge. This segment will focus on the need for a phase out of fossil fuels, while ensuring a just transition where no one is left behind. The fireside chat will feature a discussion around different pathways to a net zero energy future.</p> <p><b>Format:</b> Fireside chat</p> <p><b>Interviewer:</b> Ms. Tasneem Essop, Executive Director, CAN international</p> <p><b>Interviewees (in alphabetical order):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● H.E. Andrea Meza Murillo, Minister of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica</li> <li>● Mr. François Legault, Premier of Québec, Canada</li> </ul>
<p>14:25 - 14:43</p>	<p><b>How can Renewable Energy accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Agenda, Just Transition and Inclusion?</b></p> <p>Systemic change is not solely a technical matter, it is also about looking after people. There are those who have much to gain, and others who potentially have much to lose during the energy transition. This discussion will look at energy from the perspective of just transition and inclusion.</p> <p><b>Format:</b> Fireside chat</p> <p><b>Interviewer:</b> Ms. Tzeporah Berman, International Program Director, Stand Earth and Adjunct Professor, York University</p> <p><b>Interviewees (in alphabetical order):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mr. Ben Backwell, General Secretary, Global Wind Energy Council</li> <li>● Ms. Irene Karani, Africa Director, Children Investment Fund Foundation</li> <li>● H.E. Anne Beathe Kristiansen Tvinnereim, Minister of International Development, Norway</li> </ul>
<p>14:43 - 14:45</p>	<p><b>Closing Wrap-up</b></p>
<p>Contact person (only one person to be published on the UNFCCC online system):</p> <p>Name: Claire Kiss          Organization: IRENA          Email address: <a href="mailto:CKiss@irena.org">CKiss@irena.org</a>          Telephone number: +491621325751</p>	