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Implementing the Paris Agreement
THE COP IN ACTION

#COP21

NOVEMBER 2016
On 12 December 2015 at COP21, the Paris Agreement, the first global agreement on climate change, was adopted. It was an unprecedented success. For the first time in the history of international negotiations, 195 nations reached a consensus on mitigating climate change for the next decades. It would have been impossible to adopt the Paris Agreement without such strong commitment on the part of both Nations and civil society. People all over the world have grasped the scale of the threat to our existence. Above all, they were aware of the extraordinary chance afforded by the Paris conference. The solutions proposed by associations, businesses and regional authorities during COP21 demonstrate that the process of change within our societies is irreversible.

On 4 November another milestone will be reached, one year on from COP21: the double threshold needed for the entry into force of the agreement – 55 countries covering at least 55% of greenhouse gas emissions. This is a world first for an international treaty.

Just like France, the first major industrialized country to do so on 15 June, there are now almost 80 countries, including China, the United States, India and Canada, which have ratified this Agreement with their national bodies, paving the way for a new development model. Its implementation is based on 4 pillars, which for me represent action priorities.

The first pillar is the Agreement itself
Mobilization for ratification should continue, beyond all the Parties who have already ratified the Agreement, to rapidly achieve universal participation.

The second pillar is the national contributions to reducing world emissions of greenhouse gases
Signatory countries urgently need to transform their national contributions, announced in 2015, into acts: laws, public policy and investments. France will provide support to developing countries in terms of strengthening their capacity to implement their national contributions.

The third pillar is funding
Integral to the success of COP21, the issue of financing is central to balancing the Paris Agreement. I made it my priority. Many developed countries have announced increases in climate funding by 2010 to reach 100 billion dollars per year, a large part of which will go to the adaptation of vulnerable countries. This commitment will be achieved.
The fourth pillar is the action agenda
In order to contribute to the mobilization of all – citizens, territories, businesses, experts, France is committed to supporting continuing concrete actions:

- **African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI):** over 4.5 billion dollars worth of priority projects are currently being undertaken;
- **CREWS initiative** for early warning signs on small islands and the most vulnerable countries had gathered 30 million dollars to date for the first defined concrete projects;
- **International Solar Alliance (ISA):** the first two programs have started on solar decentralization and financial engineering;
- **Transport and electric mobility:** a call for governments to make their fleets more green was launched with the support of the International Energy Agency and the United States;
- **Global Geothermal Alliance:** we propose that a guarantee fund is set up to cover the crucial stage of the risks of drilling;
- **Mission Innovation** will facilitate public and private financing of low-carbon technologies, by linking international investors with innovative projects;
- **The Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition,** hosted by the World Bank, integrates a carbon price trajectory into the strategies of territories, businesses and governments;
- **The international Ocean and Climate Platform** will consolidate initiatives launched in this field;
- **The Paris Pact on Water** supports the implementation of structural reports and sets up a project preparation fund;
- **Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction** supports two preliminary operational programmes: buildings in hot climate zones and a coalition for the promotion of raw earth.

New sectors have undertaken commitments since the Paris Agreement

- The International Civil Aviation sector made a commitment last week on controlling greenhouse gas emissions;
- The same dynamic has been implemented in the marine transport sector;
- The 28th Meeting of the Parties (MOP 28) to the Montreal Protocol adopted an amendment aimed at reducing the production of HFC (hydrofluorocarbons) a gas with very high global warming potential.

The Paris Agreement has given great hope to the world: the hope of finally seeing development reconciled with the protection of humanity, through a global economy that is sparing on carbon and on resources. France has been at the origin of this historic success, our collective responsibility is to preserve this achievement and to make it prosper.
KEY DATES
Since COP21

12 December 2015 • Paris Agreement adopted

17 February • Ségolène Royal becomes President of the COP

23 - 27 February • COP President visits Africa: Africa Renewable Energy Initiative

9 March • Draft ratification bill presented to the Council of Ministers

13 - 15 March • COP President visits Africa

11 - 13 April • Plenary meeting of the IPCC in Nairobi

14 - 15 April • Spring Meetings of the IMF and World Bank (events related to climate change, forests, the blue economy, carbon pricing, African Business Plan) and Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition High-Level Assembly Meeting: carbon pricing and COP21 in Washington

15 - 16 April • Informal negotiations in Paris

22 April • Official Paris Agreement signing ceremony at the United Nations Headquarters in New York

2 May • UNFCCC publishes a new report on national contributions (INDCs)

5 - 6 May • UN Climate Action Summit 2016 in Washington

16 - 26 May • Negotiations and first meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) in Bonn

10 June • Carbon pricing leadership coalition et Business Dialogue in Paris

15 June • France signs the law authorising ratification of the Paris Agreement

20 June • EU Environment Council meeting: debates on ratification and implementation of the Paris Agreement in Brussels

23 - 24 June • First Alliances and Coalitions Global Forum in the presence of the climate champions in Rabat

28 June • Business Climate Week in Londres

3 - 5 July • 7th Petersberg Climate in Berlin

1 - 10 August • COP President visits Africa

4 - 5 September • G20 Summit in Hangzhou

9 September • Travel to Bratislava ahead of EU Summit

14 - 15 September • «Our Ocean» conference in Washington

20 - 21 September • United Nations General Assembly and high-level meeting on ratification of the Paris Agreements

26 - 27 September • Climate Chance - Climate Actors World Summit in Nantes

27 September - 7 October • CAO Assembly in Montreal

29 September 2016 • EU ambassadors’ week in Paris

30 September • EU Extraordinary Environmental Council, Brussels
The Paris Conference ended on 12 December 2015 with the adoption of the first ever global agreement on climate change. Following two weeks of negotiations, the 195 nations attending the conference agreed on a text which is:
• ambitious: to reduce global warming to well below 2°C, aiming for 1.5°C;
• fair: to support developing countries in adapting to the impact of climate change and help them develop without causing further warming;
• united: 100 billion dollars provided by developed countries every year as from 2020;
• dynamic: every five years, the commitments made by each country to reduce greenhouse gas emissions will be revised upwards.

The Paris Agreement was officially opened for signature on 22 April 2016. That same day, 175 countries signed the Agreement at the UN Headquarters. This is the first time ever that such a large number of countries have signed an international agreement on the same day.

Different procedures for different nations
Signing the Agreement reflects the country’s intention to be bound by the Agreement. It is a step prior to ratification and demonstrates political commitment. Most countries need to consult their Parliament in order to ratify the Paris Agreement. Others may not need parliamentary agreement. This is the case in the USA, where the Obama administration proposes introducing an administrative act, which does not require approval by the Senate. Each nation must then submit its ratification instruments to the United Nations Secretariat.

The ratification process
The double threshold for ratification is achieved. As of 7 November, 100 Parties have ratified the agreement.
The Paris Agreement Enters into Force

A historic achievement

Over 60 countries

On 22 April 2016, many Small Island developing States opened the way for ratification by depositing their instruments during the opening ceremony for the signing of the agreement at the United Nations.

On 15 June 2016, France became the first developed country to begin the procedure to ratify the Paris Agreement. Ségolène Royal, President of the COP, urged her European counterparts to begin the ratification process in their respective countries as soon as possible.

Soon after, on 3 September 2016, it was the turn of the two major powers and largest emitters of greenhouse gases, the United States and China (38% of world emissions) to jointly announce their ratification of the Paris Agreement on the eve of the G20 summit.

On 21 September 2016, at the event organised by the Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, on the eve of the 71st session of the United Nations General Assembly, 31 further countries, including Brazil, also deposited their ratification instruments for
The Paris Agreement enters into force less than a year after its adoption. This allows the Conference of the Parties (CMA) to meet during COP22 in Marrakech and realize the objective set by Ségolène Royal of implementing the treaty in 2016.

The “2 x 55” threshold exceeded

With India’s ratification of the Agreement (4.1% of world greenhouse gas emissions) on 2 October, followed by the European Union on 5 October, the announcement of ratification by New Zealand on the same day, and even that of Canada, the first universal climate agreement has now fulfilled the two conditions necessary to enter effect: ratification by at least 55 countries generating 55% of world greenhouse gas emissions.

On 4 November 2016, the Paris Agreement enters into force less than a year after its adoption. This allows the Conference of the Parties (CMA) to meet during COP22 in Marrakech and realize the objective set by Ségolène Royal of implementing the treaty in 2016.

Record-breaking agreement

- 12 December 2015: a unanimous decision in Paris to adopt a universal agreement
- 22 April 2016: a record number of signatures submitted on the first day at the seat of the United Nations
- 5 October 2016: the fastest ever entry into force of an international treaty
Twenty Conferences of the Parties were held without ever discussing the role of the oceans in climate change nor the effects of climate change on the oceans. Yet they play a vital role in regulating the climate, hence Ségolène Royal’s determination, backed by other countries including the Principality of Monaco, Chile and Peru, and the Ocean and Climate Platform, to make the oceans a key issue at COP21. Included in the Action Agenda, the oceans are included in the content of the Paris Agreement. On April 13, the IPCC also adopted the principle of a Special Report on Oceans. On 15 April, at the World Bank’s Spring Meetings, an event was held on the Blue Economy and Sustainable Development Goals.

During the high-level event in New York on 21 April, Ségolène Royal announced the plan to hold a UN high-level conference on implementation of Goal 14 of the Sustainable Development Goals in Fiji, in June 2017.

The President of the COP also proposed:

- a partnership between the World Bank, France and West Africa to promote integrated coastal management to strengthen resilience to climate change. This collaboration with France would support the African Union’s strategy for blue growth, a project that encompasses several aspects: managing the risks to coastlines, maritime safety and security, fishing, the blue economy, and strategy dialogue with small islands in the Indian Ocean. This partnership was signed on 21 April;
- an initiative focused on the future of the small islands, following a proposal by Mauritius, to develop a Paris-Mauritius-Marrakesh Action Agenda on Oceans;
- a special event relative to oceans at COP22, in agreement with the government of Morocco, with a plan to reclaim the Mediterranean Sea launched at the national conference;
- development of large-scale protected marine areas. There are specific plans to protect mangroves, the Mediterranean seagrass meadows and coral reefs;
- a strong international movement for the development of efficient water treatment plants and to clean up plastic waste in the sea, with the coalition of countries and cities that ban single-use plastic bags, such as France, to take action against the serious pollution threatening coastal ecosystems,
- initiatives to reduce the impact of activities related to maritime transport, which is increasing, in direct relation with the IMO;
- projects to develop off-shore renewable energy;
- the tireless pursuit of the international community’s efforts to develop knowledge on the relation between the oceans and the climate, and to promote international policy regarding scientific and technological research.

A special IPCC report on Ocean and Climate requested by France, China, Monaco and Spain

Ségolène Royal is committed to the IPCC devoting a special report Ocean and Climate. This initiative supported by France, China, Monaco and Spain was adopted at the 43rd plenary session of the IPCC in Nairobi from 11 to 13 April 2016 with the goal of approving and publishing it in 2019. Its theme was extended to glaciers, to go into more depth on the issue of rising sea levels, which produced the IPCC Special Report on “Climate change and the oceans and cryosphere”.

This special report will summarise all the current scientific knowledge on most aspects of interactions between climate and the ocean. In particular the focus will be on rising sea levels and acidification with their possible impacts on marine ecosystems and marine food resources.
France launches a coalition against plastic bags

80% of waste in the sea is terrestrial waste that has made its way to the sea or was thrown into it. Plastics, and more specifically, plastic packaging such as single-use carrier bags, are by far the most widespread in the marine environment (around 75%).

It is estimated that around 5,000 million plastic particles are also floating on the surface of the ocean. At least 267 marine species are impacted. In 2014, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) estimated a cost of 13 million dollars per year for the marine pollution linked to plastic waste in the ocean. This pollution impacts the ocean’s capacity to play its key role in regulating the climate. Ségolène Royal, President of the COP, is launching a new voluntary international initiative: a coalition to reduce plastic bag pollution. Its aim is to reinforce actions already being taken on a national level but also in terms of international agreements or treaties relating to reducing plastic waste in the ocean. The coalition will also contribute to implementing the sustainable development goals (SDG 2030) adopted in September 2015 by the United Nations Assembly, particularly goals 12 (Sustainable consumption and production) and 14 (Aquatic life).

Announcements from the President of the COP21 – OUR OCEAN conference 15 September 2016

1. **France is launching a coalition of countries** committing to banning single-use carrier bags.

2. **France is joining the coalition** against the acidification of the ocean.

3. **France is mobilising its scientific community** to contribute to the creation of the special IPCC report on the Ocean and Climate. As a matter of urgency, Ségolène Royal requested intermediary reports from the IPCC.

4. **Ségolène Royal called on all members** of the International Maritime Organization, the United States in particular, to support France and its partners in their initiative to commit to the essential goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from international maritime traffic.

5. **Cooperation on the Arctic**, where “the snow is changing colour”, the place of “the climate machine”, namely, the heat exchange between the warmth of the Earth and the cold of the poles: Ségolène Royal called for the rapid implementation of a regulatory framework for ships operating in the Arctic, the “polar code” adopted by the International Maritime Organization.

6. **The Polar Pod** project by Jean-Louis Etienne in the Antarctic, a floating observatory.

7. **The creation of a strategy** for the Mediterranean: a sea in good health with a sustainable economy.

8. **The programme to fight** against coastal erosion in West Africa with the integrated management plan supported by the World Bank.

9. **The CREWS Initiative** to provide an early warning system for all territories threatened by the rise in water levels.

10. **The international initiative** for sustainable small islands, a major climate issue, as in these cases it is a question of survival.

11. **The ocean** should be recognised as a common property of all humankind.
Ségolène Royal, President of COP21, has visited around fifteen African nations since the beginning of 2016, thus highlighting her commitment to Africa, one of the continents worst hit by climate change. She has met with the highest authorities to work on implementation of COP21 commitments and on the initiatives for Africa contained in the Lima-Paris Action Agenda.

During these visits, the COP21 President:

• praised her hosts for their role in shaping COP21. Africa has played a crucial role in the success of the negotiations, as part of the African Group of Negotiators and as a member of the G77;
• paved the way for faster roll-out of the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative which aims to increase the African continent’s installed capacity by 10 GW by 2020 and 300 GW by 2030; 10 financial institutions have committed to raising $10 billion by 2020 in order to achieve these targets (including $2 billion from France); she has sent a report to all African Heads of States and the financial institutions in order to drive the initiative forward;
• recalled, as President of the COP, that Africa must remain at the heart of adaptation initiatives;
• recalled that many funding agencies have undertaken to increase funding for climate change action: each African nation should have access to these funds for implementing its development projects;
• mobilised the highest authorities to sign and ratify the Paris Agreement.

At the meeting of the African heads of state for the African initiative for renewable energies, in the presence of François Hollande, President of France, and several African leaders, notably Al-Sissi, President of Egypt, Alpha Condé, President of Guinea, Macky Sall, President of Senegal, Hailemariam Desalegn, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, and Salahedine Mezouar, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco and future president of COP22, Ségolène Royal presented her report on the Initiative and the list of concrete renewable energy projects in Africa as a decision-making tool to contribute to accelerating the Initiative.

The President of COP21 also presented the details of financing for projects decided since the Paris climate change conference. In several months, donors have mobilised 4.5 billion euros which will contribute to the installation of 5.7 GW of renewable energy. Several African heads of state called for this momentum to be sustained, including Alpha Condé, President of the Republic of Guinea: “If we can solve the energy problem in Africa, other issues can also be solved. We hope that, thanks to Ségolène Royal, we will obtain the funds needed to achieve this”. The day following the presentation of the report, the President of COP21 attended a meeting of the African states to advance the implementation of the 240 projects of the initiative.
The Action Agenda: the Lima-Paris Action Agenda

How did the Lima-Paris Action Agenda come into being?
It is an initiative developed by the governments of France and Peru, the UN Secretary-General and the Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Launched at the New York Climate Summit in September 2014, it took concrete shape at COP20 in Lima and continued to develop throughout the months leading up to the Paris Climate Change conference. The aim is to bring together all the civil-sector stakeholders to commit to climate action and immediately start deploying operational initiatives.

Who is involved in this initiative?
The Action Agenda involves both state and non-state players – cities, regions, international organisations, partners from civil society, indigenous populations.

What is so unique about this approach?
For the first time in the history of international conferences on climate change, the Action Agenda gave visibility to the commitments and action undertaken in civil society and brought them to the international negotiating table.
Solar Alliance is an initiative which aims to bring together the 121 countries lying fully or partially between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn, where high percentages of possible sunshine mean that, in theory, they could generate solar power at the lowest price. The ISA is a platform for cooperation between developed countries with available solar power technology and developing countries which want to develop their potential in this sector. It intends to bring together all the solar power stakeholders, who are organizing to play their part in achieving the objectives set. To give fresh impetus to this initiative, Ségolène Royal, the COP President, and Piyush Goyal, India’s Minister of State for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy, met with a group of countries that are members of the International Solar Alliance, on the sidelines of the Paris Agreement signature ceremony at UN Headquarters in New York on 22 April.

Following this high-level meeting, the first two initiatives have been decided and their French representatives assigned:

- the Affordable finance at scale programme, which aims to mobilise over US $1 trillion of investments in solar energy projects by 2030, based on good practices in each country;
- the Scaling solar applications for agricultural use programme, which aims for affordable reliable solar power applications adapted to farmers’ needs (irrigation pumps, milk cooling plants, etc.).

Three operational projects have been identified: Street Lighting and Solar Pumps as part of the decentralised solar applications programme and a project ‘Call for expressions of interest for solar projects in non-interconnected areas’, particularly on small islands.

The Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI)

The Africa Renewable Energy Initiative, supported by nations across the African continent, revealed its ambitious plans to deploy renewables in Africa, including the development of at least 10 GW new and additional production capacity by 2020 and at least 300 GW by 2030. Various financial institutions have committed to providing $10 billion in support by 2020, in order to develop innovative public-private partnerships, including $2 billion from France over the 2016-2020 period. Current total electricity production in Africa is around 150 GW; this initiative will significantly boost efforts in the region to mitigate climate change.
In April 2016, the High Level Assembly of the Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition (CPLC) and the declaration of the Heads of State panel marked a turning point for the CPLC: objectives fixed by the panel (doubling the proportion – currently around 13% – of world emissions covered by carbon pricing between now and 2020, and doubling it again by 2030) are clear and chart the way forward.

French diplomatic efforts aimed at rallying key stakeholders in the coalition have borne fruit: the CPLC has already grown with several new countries (Finland, United Kingdom, Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire and Japan) and a Chinese representative participated as an observer at the High Level Assembly in Washington. The priority target countries are: United States, China, Brazil, South Africa. New organisations (MIT) and new companies, particularly Canadian, have also joined the CPLC.

On 10 June, the High Level Forum organised in Paris by the French government and the CPLC provided an opportunity to think of ways to widen, deepen and link multiple existing initiatives on carbon pricing on different scales and exchange ideas on the use of the revenues from carbon pricing. It also enabled constructive exchanges on different methods to reform the European carbon market.

During the Business and Climate Summit of 28 and 29 June 2016, the CPLC organised a discussion around a panel composed of representatives from governments, companies and members of civil society on how to achieve a climate goal using carbon pricing. On this occasion, the CPLC published its first summary for decision makers on the theme of carbon pricing and competitiveness.

At Climate Week NYC in September 2016, the CPLC assembled a panel composed of representatives of states and the private sector who discussed the use of revenues from carbon pricing, based on the decision makers summary that was provided for the occasion.

The Canfin-Mestrallet-Grandjean report and follow-ups following its “carbon pricing proposals in line with the Paris Agreement”. The president of COP21 charged Metrallet, Canfin and Grandjean with this project at the beginning of April with a view to implementing an effective and predictable carbon price, coordinated within the framework of the application of the Paris Climate Agreement. The report makes 10 operational proposals, in particular on implementing a price corridor in the European market to orient investment toward low carbon solutions. France supports this idea. Furthermore, several European parliaments have tabled an amendment to this effect in the context of the ongoing revision of the directive for the European carbon market.

Launched during COP21 in the presence of François Hollande, Barack Obama and Bill Gates, “Mission Innovation” aims to double investment in clean technology R&D by 2020. It involves twenty countries which account for 75% of investment in low-carbon R&D. It comes hand in hand with a private sector initiative called the «Breakthrough Energy Coalition», led by Bill Gates and uniting 28 investors from 10 countries. This coalition plans to invest private capital in clean energy and, to that end, to set up a special fund which will gradually attract several billion dollars. A Coalition progress meeting was held in San Francisco during the Clean Energy Ministerial.
Three water conservation initiatives

COP21 has marked a decisive step. For the first time, the problem of water was discussed in its own right at the Action Agenda Water and Resilience forum. Three iconic initiatives were begun in Paris in 2015: the Paris Pact on water and adaptation to climate change in river basins, lakes and aquifers, the Business Alliance for Water and Climate, and the Megacities Alliance for Water under Climate Change.

This momentum was sustained in 2016 with the Water and Security conference in April in New York, and World Water Week in Stockholm at the end of August. At the Rabat conference on 11 July, a call to action for Africa was made, to which Ségolène Royal responded by mobilising French river basin agencies to support cooperation in the water field.

Three initiatives made notable progress:

- **Paris Pact on water** now counts more than 350 signatures from 94 countries, and ten projects have been launched to strengthen the capacity to adaptation river basin management to climate change;

- **Business Alliance for Water** brings together over 30 companies and includes the “We Mean Business” coalition to raise awareness in companies of the need to reduce their water use;

- **Megacities Alliance** brings together 17 megacities and launched a platform for the sharing of good practices for water management in urban environments.

During the Climate Chance summit in Nantes on 27 September 2016, these different stakeholders highlighted two priorities: the development of inter-sectoral projects (agriculture or health) and stepping up their action to increase the visibility of water issues in international political agendas.

Coalition for clean transport

- **Mobilise Your City initiative** now includes 22 towns and 16 countries since its launch during COP21 and has succeeded in mobilising over 33 million euros of financing in 2016. A global road map for decarbonising transport for horizon 2060 was implemented.

- 2 new initiatives on electrical mobility will be launched: the EV100 initiative by The Climate Group and the Declaration on government fleets by the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) Electric Vehicles Initiative (EVI), with the respective aims of updating company and government fleets with electrical and low-emission vehicles.

Paris Declaration on Electro-mobility and Climate Change

Launched by France during COP21 with the support of the International Energy Agency and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, for the first time this declaration provides the means for the transformation to be implemented to be compatible with the 2°C scenario: achieving the goal of at least 20% electrically-driven road vehicles by 2030.

The Declaration includes four initiatives

- 14 partners of the International Zero Emission Vehicles Alliance, launched by California, have committed to achieving 100% zero-emission vehicle sales in their territories by 2050.

- 23 taxi companies in 11 different countries mobilised through the Taxis4SmartCities initiative are going to update their fleets with at least one third low-emission and very low-emission vehicles from 2020.

- Through the C40 Clean Bus Declaration, 26 megacities have committed to update at least 25% of their bus fleets with low-emission technologies by 2020.

- The declaration was also endorsed by the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) Electric Vehicles Initiative (EVI), which includes fifteen countries, including the United States and China.
CREWS initiative - early warning systems for natural disasters

Launched by France in Paris, at COP21, in partnership with the World Meteorological Organization, the UN Office for Disaster Reduction and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR-World Bank) this initiative aims to increase the capacity of multi-risk integrated warning systems in response to dangerous climatic events. Its purpose is to protect lives, livelihoods and property in the least developed countries and Small Island Developing States. The initiative was set up throughout 2016. Besides the three leading risk prevention institutions, it has seven partner countries and is open to all countries and organizations that wish to support its objectives. The initiative has been able to raise $30 million of direct contributions towards a target of $100 million, and will enable many projects to be aligned with its objectives. The steering committee approved an amount of USD 16.46 million for the initial investment plan 2016-2020 into the initiative, benefiting four countries in Africa and seven in Asia. The next steering committee meeting will be held in the margins of COP 22 and will give the green light for the first country projects.

Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction

Initiated by France and the United Nations environment programme, its goal is to increase quickly the share of low carbon and resilient buildings in the global building stock. The initiative includes 25 countries and about 60 organisations in the area of building and construction.

The inaugural meeting of the alliance in April 2016 has led to the constitution of 5 working groups in charge of the following topics: public policies, finance, market transformation, measurement, awareness and education.

In 2016, the alliance has elaborated a «global roadmap for the transition towards a low carbon building sector», as well as a global building and construction outlook report, which will both be presented at COP 22. An electronic plateform gathering the various commitments from professionals as well as local actors and which will include exemplary initiatives will also be launched at COP 22. Last, France will announce a support programme for low emissions buildings in hot and tropical areas and together with Germany will issue a call for co-financing a worldwide financial facility that would mix technical assistance and investment to support energy efficient building programs.
Global Geothermal Alliance

The goal of the Global Geothermal Alliance is to accelerate the development of geothermal energy by aiming to increase the world production of electricity from this energy source by five times the amount in 2014, and to double the production of heat or cooling by horizon 2030. Launched during COP21 by 28 member countries and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), now counting 40 member countries and 23 partner institutions, including the largest electricity, heat and cooling producers from geothermal sources (United States, Iceland, Indonesia, Philippines and multilateral donors with the greatest support in investment for geothermal projects: the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and the African Development Bank (AfDB)).

France is particularly active in the Alliance. A founding member alongside Iceland, in 2016 it has made major contributions to the precise action programme for the next 2 to 3 years. Notably, it has submitted 2 concrete projects through ADEME during the call for projects launched this year to gather joint action proposals. The first, on the establishment of a centre of excellence in the Caribbean, would enable this region, which is rich in geothermal resources, to make full use of its potential.

The second, fundamental for setting up projects, proposes the founding of a drill bore mutual risk fund, a costly and risky step for this type of project, and an indispensable tool to enable the required change in scale and speed.

The French and European geothermal days in Strasbourg [20 to 26 September 2016 at Strasbourg] recently enabled the promotion of this key energy source for the transition to low carbon, and the organization of a new working meeting for the Alliance around it. French and world economic actors mobilized in response to this call from the Global Alliance. To sustain this dynamic, France plans to provide financial support to the secretariat of the Alliance, which will enable it to develop the tools necessary for its successful implementation, such as the world geothermal resources map or the “sustainable energy marketplace” for support for projects.

Global Clean Water Desalination Alliance

The Global Clean Water Desalination Alliance (H2O minus CO2) has seen its members double since COP21, increasing from 68 to 134. Twelve notable new countries have joined the Alliance. The first domestic roadmaps (Water, California) were initiated.
Mobilization of local authorities

In May, the French presidency of COP21 coordinated the first assessment of initiatives backed by the territories. The Compact of Mayors with over 500 signatories, and the Covenant of Mayors with over 7,000 signatories, merged in June this year. The merging of the two initiatives will be effective as of January 2017 with the creation of a world secretariat in Brussels. In September, France joined the Under 2 MOU Climate agreement as a partner state.

Central African Forest Initiative

The Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) has initiated the implementation of partnerships with 4 countries in the financing of the fight against deforestation, notably by mobilizing 200 million dollars for the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

4 per 1000 Initiative

The 4 per 1000 initiative now includes over 170 partner organizations. In 2016, the initiative is structured around the execution of works on:
- mapping the carbon storage potential of soils;
- indicators enabling the needs to be met for:
  - Countries for the implementation of their NDCs
  - Financial backers to evaluate projects from a food security and soil carbon perspective.

With 135 regions, cities and states now committed to this ambitious agreement, the number of members has tripled since COP21. Launched at COP21, RegionsAdapt now includes 50 regions committed to implementing the adaption plans. The Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance will publish its second report on the state of current climate financing for cities during COP22.
Acknowledging the role of women, the Paris Agreement mentions, in its preamble, and for the first time, the need to address gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The report on Women and Climate Change, prepared by Ségolène Royal, is one of three contributions which the COP21 President has wished to make to discussions on implementation of the Paris Agreement, together with the reports on Renewable Energy in Africa and Security and Climate Change.

At the African Union’s high-level dialogue held in New York on 21 April, prior to the Paris Agreement signature ceremony, Ségolène Royal, President of the COP, announced six initiatives to acknowledge the role of women in managing climate change:

- include women in 100% of national contributions: currently only 36% of the contributions submitted by the Parties integrate this dimension; all programmes must do so from now on;

- devote 50% of any resources for decentralised energy generation to projects developed by groups of women focused on short distribution channels, within the framework of the 10 billion dollars pledged during COP21;

- set up agricultural colleges for women, with courses integrating renewable energy sources;

- support a vast programme for biogas cooking appliances, solar-powered ovens and slow-burning stoves;

- plan joint financing in early warning systems, with the CREWS programme: half of all initiatives will be financed for women;

- recognise the part women play with a Women in Africa and Climate Change award, named for Wangari Maathai. To borrow the term used by Oxfam to recognise “Food Heroines”, this award will encourage and recognise the achievements of “Climate Change Heroines”.

Women have long been ignored in international negotiations on climate change, even though they are the most vulnerable to the risks entailed by climate change. They also, and above all, have a central part to play in finding solutions to mitigate global warming. Climate change is an issue of concern to all humanity, and even more particularly to women. This is because global warming primarily impacts the lives of the poorest among us, implying women, since they make up 70% of the 1.3 billion people living in extreme poverty.

Leading solutions

Yet women are more than just passive victims, they are the ones leading change to mitigate and adapt to climate change. In many parts of the world, it is women who play a predominant role in managing natural resources and who are the most aware of the damage to the environment. They are leading many initiatives, particularly in the sectors of water energy, waste and reforestation. In Pondicherry (India), groups of women are independently managing a composting plant, in Cotonou (Benin), the «Gohotos» collect objects that can be recycled, while the women who live in Pintada (Brazil) are learning to adapt their farming systems to drought: these are just a few examples of how women are taking charge in the fight against global warming.
The French presidency has made financial issues a priority

An integral part of the success of COP21, the question of financing plays a central role in the Paris Agreement.

100 million dollars per year for the climate
At the request of France and Peru, an OECD report, published in October 2016, shows that the climate finance commitments made will enable the target of 100 million dollars by 2020 to be met, paying particular attention to adaptation projects. In October 2015, many developing countries announced an increase in their climate financing by 2020 during the ministerial finance meeting organized by France and Peru, and then also at COP21. France has announced that it would increase its climate financing from the current 3 billion euros to 5 billion euros per year by 2020 (mainly through the French Development Agency - AFD) and that the portion for adaptation would triple to 1 billion euros in 2020.

Setting up the Green Climate Fund
The activity of the Fund has increased: after an initial batch of projects approved just before COP21 to the tune of 168 million dollars, the most recent council in June approved financing for projects in the amount of 257 million dollars. France has committed to contributing up to a billion dollars to the Green Climate Fund over four years.

Active support for developing countries to increase their capacities and the implementation of their national contributions:
- the Green Climate Fund supports the financing for developing countries through its “readiness” programme
- France is participating in the NDC Partnership, initiated by Germany, with the support of the World Resources Institute (WRI).
- The French Development Agency is developing an Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) support project of 30 million euros over 2016/17 to support the most vulnerable countries.

An action plan for financing
The World Bank Group adopted a climate action plan in April 2016: in April, the Inter-American Development Bank voted to double the amount of climate finance (to reach 30% of commitments in 2020). In May, a joint letter from the French finance minister and the President of the COP21 was sent to development banks, reminding them of their commitments and encouraging them to implement them as soon as possible.

Increase mobilisation of the private financial sector, based on initiatives launched at COP21 by insurers, banks, institutional investors and think tanks. The green bond market reached an emissions volume of 46 billion dollars in August, an increase on 2015 (41 billion dollars).

Various financial stakeholder coalitions
The Montreal Pledge or Portfolio Decarbonization Coalition is mobilising funds. Launched in December 2015 to contribute to improving practices for the disclosure of information on climate issues by companies, the Financial Stability Board (FSB) published an intermediary report in April 2016.

The G20 study group for green finance suggested avenues to improve the financing of environment and climate projects, avenues that will be advanced as part of the German presidency of the G20. Initiated as part of a working group co-chaired by France and Mexico, initiatives for financing energy efficiency, launched at COP21, now include 118 banks from over 40 countries and 40 investors managing over 4 trillion dollars of assets.