



# News from COP22

12 November 2016

## Overview: end of week 1

The first week of the 22nd International Conference on Climate Change has ended and so far we can notice mixed progress.

On one hand there is willingness from countries to operationalise the Paris Agreement by finalising a first set of decisions by the end of this week. On the other hand they have come to Marrakesh unprepared while knowing that the Paris Agreement would rapidly enter into force, thus making possible outcomes in Marrakesh not ambitious enough.

The results of the USA elections with a climate-sceptic becoming the 45th President has triggered fear among all negotiators concerning the future of the Paris Agreement and all efforts which have been achieved so far. We expect that countries delegations will be very cautious next week when ministers arrive. Nevertheless, as many stressed, the revolutionary energy transition is irreversible and the international climate movement is bigger than 1 man and 1 country. It is our responsibility to challenge this retrograde populism and to show that climate action is benefiting us all.

While negotiations on finance are still very contentious, we have seen progress on balancing the attention for adaptation with mitigation in other areas. Progress has been made on Loss & Damage, the third pillar of the Paris Agreement, with a possible review of its mechanism to start soon in order to strengthen its capacities to deliver solutions for many who are already being strongly impacted by climate change, and to make it Paris compatible to finalise the Paris Agreement rulebook by 2018.

Despite negotiators being in their comfort zone leading to the usual discussions and tensions, the Moroccan COP presidency is strategically imposing strict deadlines to ensure Marrakesh is a COP of Actions. As a result countries will probably agree to take no more than two years to finalise the Paris Agreement rulebook which will allow the 2018 facilitative dialogue, when countries will

take stock of their efforts, to be a real moment for all to increase commitments. We hope that the second week will be even more constructive and forward looking with the Ministers arriving to Marrakesh.

## ACT Alliance members hold side events on key elements for delivering Paris Agreement



ACT Action – future generations wrestled with a banker to get finance out of fossil fuels

ACT Alliance member Lutheran World Federation held a side event this week looking at how education is a key component in delivering the Paris Agreement.

Similarly, Christian Aid held a side event focussed on the transition to zero carbon development, and the importance people in off-grid communities to demand clean energy access.

As part of the ecumenical presence at the COP22, faith leaders met at a historical event: Building the Divest Invest Movement with Faiths, Foundations and Finance. At the event, a COP22 Interfaith Climate Statement was delivered.

All ACT campaigns materials can be found at [www.actalliance.org/cop22](http://www.actalliance.org/cop22)

## Urgent need for adaptation and action against loss and damage in Asia



A sign states that residents are not without hope in Tanauan, a city in the Philippines province of Leyte that was hit hard by Typhoon Haiyan in November 2013. Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Asia remains to be the most disaster-prone region in the world according to UNESCAP. At the current 1 degree temperature increase, as accounted by the World Meteorological Organization, Asia has seen violent climate-related events that have claimed so many lives, destroyed ecosystems and wasted assets. Any further temperature increase will spell more losses and damages in this region already battered by multiple hazards. For this reason, Asia and the world cannot allow any irresponsible increase in greenhouse gas emissions in its development pathways. Asia's development continues to be fuelled by fossil fuels. The residual emissions alone from the past decades have created powerful hazards in Asia, the Pacific and now threaten to exacerbate the vulnerabilities of conflict-torn countries in the Middle East.

There is an urgency for adaptation and action against loss and damage in Asia because the future climate change that others can only imagine is now the present in the region. People in Asia, the Pacific and the Middle East now witness sea levels rising, extreme weather events like increasingly heavy precipitation, deadly heat waves, devastating drying patterns, powerful cyclones, and loss of entire ecosystems, changes in crops among others. Any delay in action on adaptation and in interventions to avert loss and damage threatens millions of lives. In a world that has been bruised by scepticism and overwhelmed by the changes in global governance, COP22 is an opportunity for ACT Alliance to assert the value of life over death. To keep the fire of hope lit in this negotiations process translates to a witness to the transformation that can happen – if we dare to live the hope in each of us.

### ACT NOW – Join our Social Media Campaign for Climate ACTION!

Share our social media content, to help raise the voices of our partners who are working with some of the world's people whose very lives and livelihoods are at risk from climate change.

**Spread the word on twitter using #COP22 #ACT4Climate and follow @ACTClimate**

## ACT Climate Working Groups

At COP22 we have kick started our working groups for all ACT Alliance Members and Forums, World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation. The groups have been meeting to identify key meetings to attend, to analyse outcomes and suggest key lobbying points. To join, please contact [fwitt@christian-aid.org](mailto:fwitt@christian-aid.org)

ACT Climate Working Groups are: Campaigns and Mobilisation (Fran); Resilience: Adaptation + Loss & Damage (Sabine/Thomas); Low Carbon Development & Renewable (Bruno); Finance (Benson/Martin), Gender (Sagra/Alison/Joycia).

The groups are organising and supporting COP ACT delegates to follow key themes and participate in campaign actions, assign roles to individuals to ensure everyone is contributing to their best ability and liaise with other key working groups working on similar issues. They provide up-dates at our daily evening meetings.

Do please get in touch – it's a great way to contribute to our lobbying and campaigning at COP.

### What's On Week Two

**Daily 09.00-09.45** Daily Morning Brief Rm 20, Zone H, COP Venue

**Daily 18.00-19.00** ACT Daily Debrief Rm ARCTIC, COP Venue

**13 Nov 10.30-12.00** Capacity Building Session with Thomas Hirsch Hotel Almas

**13 Nov 12.00-17.00** ACT Strategy Meeting – ALL ACT, LWF and WCC Members welcome Hotel Almas

**13 Nov 14.00** Civil Society March, leaving from the El Harti Stadium

**15 Nov 17.00-18.30** Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung (with participation of Bread for the World) Loss and Damage and the Warsaw International Mechanism - How to Ensure Climate Justice? Green Zone, Salle 2

**15 Nov 18.00-21.00** 100% RE Event by CAN The Arctic Room

**16 Nov 15.30-18.00** How do we achieve a Renewable Energy Future for All? organised by Christian Aid, CAN, Hivos, WFC Caribbean Rm

**16 Nov TBC** Africa Day at COP – Campaign Action, celebrating RE with PACJA and friends

**17 Nov TBC** Interfaith FAST for the Climate and Break FAST

**17 Nov TBC** Campaign Action Human Face of Climate Change/1.5C Hand Held Exhibition with Islamic Relief and friends

**18 Nov 11.30 -13.00** WCC Side Event: "Trust and peacebuilding approaches for ambitious climate action"

**18 Nov 11:30-13:00** ACT Alliance Side Event: Addressing Loss and Damage in Developing Countries: Need for Global Agricultural Insurance Mechanism Observer room 8