

STORIES BY PANELISTS

(2 May 2018)

1 – IPCC

IPCC TALANOA PANEL ADDRESS

Addresses Talanoa Question 1 – “where are we”

Where we are: emissions/mitigation

Emissions levelled off for a couple of years after decades of growth but picked up again in 2017

Atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ continue to rise, now above 400 ppm

Mean global temperature approaching 1 degrees above pre-industrial

NDCs have “bent the trend” but, as Talanoa submissions suggest, are not yet compatible with where we need to be by 2030 to meet Paris ambition

Paris Agreement appears to have re-defined Business-as-usual, but also reduced the room for manoeuvre in terms of emissions if ambitions are to be met

Good news and bad news in terms of responses

- Bad news: slower progress than projected in terms of key technologies such as carbon capture and storage (but new incentives in the US, mentioned in several NDCs)
- Good news: progress in wind, solar, electric vehicles – faster than the models suggested. Action at the sub-national level (cities) as will be reported at the Research Dialogue. Some countries have announced net zero targets – though not how they’ll get there.

Where we are (IPCC)

- Most ambitious cycle ever: three Special Reports (1.5, land, oceans and cryosphere) + three usual reports and a Synthesis report due in 2022 in time for the global stocktake

- Unprecedented degree of interdisciplinarity and collaboration across WGs – all three SRs x-WG, interdisciplinarity and collaboration down to the chapter level

Required by the SRs but also unprecedented willingness from the co-chairs.

Linking adaptation and mitigation

- Focus on “solutions” promoted by the Chair

Where we are (WG III)

AR6 report scoped out

- Linking long term temperature goal with practical actions in the short-medium term
- Recognition of the wider challenges for the human race – “in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication” – co-benefits and (frankly) risks of mitigation actions.
- First time - perspectives on both technology and social aspects of mitigation. Plus a further chapter on finance. Cannot be avoided given ambition. Culture, consumption, behaviour. Challenge to address in non-prescriptive, scientific way

[Lessons learned and the Future

- Greater linkage between adaptation and mitigation learning from FAR and SAR which covered only “responses”
- Avoiding disciplinary silos learning from SAR which separated
- Bridging the immediate and bottom-up with the top-down and long-term learning from the 3rd and 4th reports (more bottom up) and the 5th (top down).]

AR6 has an implicit narrative that will address the Talanoa questions: where are we; where we do we want to go; how do we get there. With continued and enhanced support from governments we can address them successfully. Biting my policy relevant but not policy-prescriptive tongue – but must leave to colleagues.

2 - UNEP

Emissions Gap Report story for the Talanoa dialogue Plenary Meeting on 2 May 2018

Q2: Where do we want to go?

Draft version 1 May 2018

We know where we want to go. The urgent issue is to ensure that going there remains a real possibility. With the Paris Agreement, we have established a clear collective, global mitigation goal for where we want to go: we want to hold average global warming to well below 2°C compared to pre-industrial levels and we want to pursue efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C. To keep this temperature goal feasible, the time of postponing deep mitigation action must end - not in 10 years or 20 years, but now. The Talanoa Dialogue and the revised Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by 2020 are critical milestones in keeping the Paris Agreement temperature goal alive.

To expand on this, let us consider three questions:

- First of all: Where are we headed in terms of global greenhouse gas emissions?
- Secondly: How does this compare to where science tells us we need to be to keep the temperature goal achievable?
- And finally, what are the opportunities to bridge any gaps between where we are headed and where we need to be at different points in time?

These questions are at the centre of the UN Environment Emissions Gap Reports, and form the basis for the story I am here to share with you.

The Emissions Gap Reports are produced annually in collaboration with leading experts around the world. While they look at both where we are headed in terms of global total GHG emissions and where we need to be at different points in time to have a likely chance of achieving the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement, their key focus is on 2030, reflecting the timing of the NDCs. For 2030, the reports assess the “gap” between the level of global emissions that is consistent with the temperature goal, according to scientific studies, and the estimated level of global emissions if the NDCs are fully implemented.

The gap assessment points to a sizeable emissions gap in 2030. It is important to note that implementation of the current NDCs will have a real impact in terms of reducing emissions, but they are far from the ambition level that is needed to get the world on track towards achieving the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement. Full implementation of the current NDCs is estimated to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by 4 to 6 GtCO_{2e} annually in 2030, compared to the emissions associated with a continuation of current policies. However, to be on track we need to reduce global emissions in 2030 by another

11 to 13.5 GtCO_{2e} to be consistent with the 2°C limit and even more to stay within the 1.5°C limit.

Is this possible? Can we bridge the emissions gap in 2030? The short answer is yes, if we act now and at scale. The 2017 Emissions Gap Report assesses that sectoral emission reduction potentials - considering only proven technologies and a cost level of less than 100 USD/tCO_{2e} - are around twice the size of the gap in 2030.

In fact, mitigation measures in just six documented areas could bring us on track to bridge the 2030 emissions gap. These areas are solar and wind energy, efficient appliances, efficient passenger cars, afforestation and avoiding deforestation. These areas, as well as other areas such as buildings and agriculture, provide rich opportunities for enhancing the ambition of the NDCs - nationally and collectively - and for grounding enhanced ambition on existing, extensive knowledge about cost-effective policies and measures that have a range of environmental, human and societal benefits in addition to their mitigation effects.

What are the implications if the ambition of the NDCs remains unchanged? Even if current NDCs are fully implemented we are looking at a global warming in the order of 3 to 3.2 degree by the end of this century. All available evidence tells us that this is not the world and the challenges we want to leave to our children and grandchildren to deal with.

Bending the emissions curve is not an easy task and it takes time, so enhanced action needs to start now and more ambitious NDCs are needed by 2020, if we want to bridge the emissions gap in 2030.

There is a significant delay between the time at which decisions are made, policies and actions are put in place, and the reaping of emission reductions. This means that we cannot wait until the global stocktake in 2023 and the 2025 revisions of NDCs to take action. Every delay in stepping up mitigation action comes at a cost in terms of missed opportunities, lock-in of unsustainable technologies and further accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

The question of where we want to go is timely and urgent. The outcomes of the Talanoa Dialogue and of the revised Nationally Determined Contributions by 2020 are critical in determining where our actions will take us.

Do we really want to follow a pathway that is likely to lead us to a global temperature increase of 3 degrees Celsius or more compared to pre-industrial levels, with all the adverse effects this will be associated with not only on global temperature, but also on increased short term variability that is already being felt and likely more extreme events?

Or do we want to ensure that the long term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement remains credible and achievable?

The choice is still ours, but time is running out.

3 – Mahindra Group

Mahindra at the Plenary

We are delighted to be a part of the Talanoa Dialog to increase climate ambition. The Mahindra Group is completely aligned to the Paris Agreement and is committed to make a strong contribution towards achieving the Paris Agreement long term goals.

Mahindra's sustainability journey started around 2007 when we were asked by a journalist if we were reporting on the triple bottom line. For a business which, at that time, already included the largest tractor company in the world, the largest utility vehicle, rural finance and timeshare businesses in India, apart from one of the world's largest IT services companies, this was a new direction.

We started our Sustainability journey by setting a three-year goal to reduce emissions by 3% not knowing if it was within the realm of possibility. We discovered that we could not only achieve those goals but could do more. This initiated a trajectory where ambition increased as milestones were met. In the period 2016-2019, the flagship company of the Group promised to reduce its emissions intensity by 25%. 11 months are still to go and the goal is well within reach. This has increased our confidence and new commitments will be announced during the press briefing later in the day.

Along the way Mahindra has become the first company in the world to commit to double energy productivity, the first Indian company to implement internal carbon pricing, the first company in the world to have 5 factories certified as zero waste to landfill and perhaps one of very few companies to have a factory that is water secure for more than 200 days in a year, the first steel company in the world to have a science-based target and the first (and only) electric vehicles company in India.

Today utility vehicles are made with 87% higher energy productivity compared to 8 years ago. Energy productivity of tractors is up by 43%. Water productivity is up 36%. 400 key suppliers are co-travellers on this journey. 274 of them have taken on the goal of being 100% LED-lit companies like their OEM.

Every dollar invested in energy efficiency returns around 24%. It makes business sense and that is crucial for Mahindra and indeed for the whole private sector.

A key partner in this journey has been Energy Efficiency Services Ltd., a Government of India company that is setting a scorching pace in making LEDs and energy efficient appliances mainstream. Their 10,000 electric car purchase process must be the largest such process in the world.

The Sustainable Housing Leadership Consortium is a partnership between International Finance Corporation and leading real estate companies in India including Mahindra Lifespaces in the Eco-cities program. The program is identifying ways to ensure that everything built in India will be green. With 70% buildings required by India by 2050 yet to be built, the power of this partnership is immense. This partnership will actually leverage another great partnership – the Cement Sustainability Initiative – in which major cement companies in India have reduced their emissions intensity by 29% when the like-to-like world average is 18%.

As we go about making our businesses climate friendly it is even more important to enable other companies and people at large to become climate friendly too. We are happy to be in solar power, electric vehicle, shared mobility, green building, cloud computing, micro-irrigation, automotive recycling and waste to energy businesses to make that happen. So as we tackle climate change, we are also generating jobs and growth. This nascent portfolio of

climate-friendly businesses generates more than US\$400 million in revenue each year.

Businesses will do what they will do. But the climate change battle will be won only when each of us engage and contribute. Mahindra's Making Sustainability Program enables its employees adopt LED lights, energy efficient fans and air-conditioners and give up plastic in their lives. More than 20,000 employees have participated in the program within a year.

The pace has picked up as we have gone along. The chair of Mahindra has challenged all companies to set science-based targets and to see this as an opportunity, not a burden – and as the best way for business to align with the Paris Agreement goals.

The emergence of new technologies and some strong policies have helped us become more ambitious. Nations are experiencing this path of learning too. A lot of water has flown in the Seine and the Rhine since Paris and we look forward to a COP where parties will leverage this learning and create a policy environment that reflects increased ambition.

For more details of Mahindra's further enhanced ambition – join us at the press conference at 1.15pm in the Nairobi Room.

While one corporation can make some difference, together we can truly change the world.

4 – Civil Society

Talanoa dialogue opening panel

By Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim

In my community the peul M'bororo, we are used to follow the rain, to follow the water, to find pasture for our cows. We know precisely where we are going because we are following the rhythm of nature.

And in this climate community, which is my second family, with this Talanoa dialogue, for civil society the answer to the “where do we go?” is simple : we need to follow the rhythm of science and the alarm of people.

The upcoming report of the IPCC on the 1.5 degree will give us a new sense of urgency. It will confirm that we need to reach net zero emissions as soon as possible to fulfil our objective agreed in Paris.

It will confirm that to the question “how do we get there” the answer is simple : we need more action, we need more ambition, right now! If not, my people, as well as all impacted and vulnerable communities will disappear. It is as simple as that.

So what does ambition means ? It means that we need all parties and non-state actors to present as soon as possible net zero emissions strategies, that will ban the use of fossil fuel, that can promote the clean energy for sustainable development.

It also means that we need a collective wake up to protect our ecosystems and put an end to biodiversity losses and desertification. In my country, Chad, you can see with your own eyes the lake shrinking. My community can also describe precisely the violence and the conflict that come with natural resources scarcity.

So we hope that from this Talanoa dialogue can emerge a global agenda for people, nature and the ecosystems, in synergy with the CBS and the desertification convention. If we want to have a small chance to maintain climate change below 1.5 degrees we need to preserve and protect the capacity of our ecosystems to stock and sequester carbon.

It's what indigenous peoples have been doing for centuries. And it's what we are ready to do as a contribution to this Talanoa dialogue as a contribution to enhance ambition. With the indigenous peoples platform on traditional knowledge, gender action plan, just transition etc. we want to work with all parties to develop concrete solutions for sustainable natural resources and ecosystems management at the local level. As gardener of the nature, we can help, but we cannot do this alone!