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A new world order – searching for climate leadership

What climate leadership looks like

- Pushing boundaries
- Innovating ideas and solutions
- Sharing experience and know-how
- Enabling and encouraging action
- Building trust in cooperation
- Coming from all levels

Backdrop: A changing global landscape

- Increase in inward looking politics and brinksmanship in global affairs
- On the cusp of a bipolar world with distributed economic/political loci
- Relevance of non-state actors

Where to expect climate leadership

- US, European Union
- China, India, Brazil, South Africa
- Russia, Latin American states
- Climate vulnerable countries
- Subnational governments and cities
- Non-state actors (businesses and civil society)

US stepping back?

- **Intention** to withdraw from and desire to **cancel**/renegotiate Paris Agreement
- Protecting interests in ongoing rulebook negotiations
- Rolling back domestic climate policies
- US not only country in reverse gear
- Yet still action at sub-national level

US retraction – some practical implications

- How US will approach implementing its NDC (and/or possibly amending it)
- Direct impact on climate finance
- Potential to “renegotiate” Paris Agreement through MPGs
- Potential domino effect

China stepping forward

- Fighting climate change a “priority”
- Appears ready to shoulder its responsibility despite US turn-around
- Capabilities catching up to ambitions

China's potential impact on the ground

- Global leader in renewables tech
- Changing economic dynamics - more trade with region than with US/EU
- \$1 trillion “Belt and Road Initiative” – massive potential for regional climate-resilient and sustainable infrastructure

EU a stabilising force

- Consistent leader on climate action
- Progressive attitude to internationalism
- Generally on track to meet NDC target
- But emissions trading scheme still not very effective
- Open questions on how EU's climate policy will work after Brexit

Other major developing economies

- India going big on solar and committed to fighting climate change
- Brazil taking on absolute emission reduction targets with massive potential in forestry sector
- Like China, India and Brazil expected to easily meet or exceed NDC targets

Vulnerable countries showing leadership

- Leading by example with ambitious commitments
- Through effective climate diplomacy and giving a voice to the poorest
- E.g. Ethiopia has a comprehensive and ambitious national green growth strategy

Proliferation of non-State actor coalitions

- Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action
- Under 2 MOU
- Mission 2020
- Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy

Need more than incremental change

- Transform way we approach global economy, create jobs, reorganise societies and how communities interact, innovate financial tools catered to support ambitious action

Need collective effort

- Mass mobilisation across levels
- Empowering all of society, globally
- Openness and transparency of process as well as actions

Creative solutions: abstraction to reality

- Exercising the right to develop without conflating it with a right to emit
 - this is possible
- Recognise social, economic and environmental value of voluntary mitigation actions and their co-benefits

Learn from all sides

- How to value enabling environments
- How to capture progress
- E.g. some of the poorest communities have valuable first hand experience in planning and measuring adaptation action and benefits

Broader goals for climate ambition

- Trust in global institutions and governance
- Effectiveness of MPGs ongoing climate negotiations
- Scaling up climate finance
- Matching UN system with on-the-ground realities

Thank you!



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