



# How to achieve Climate Action SDG 13

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Seminar Report| November 2016

PARIS - MARAKECH



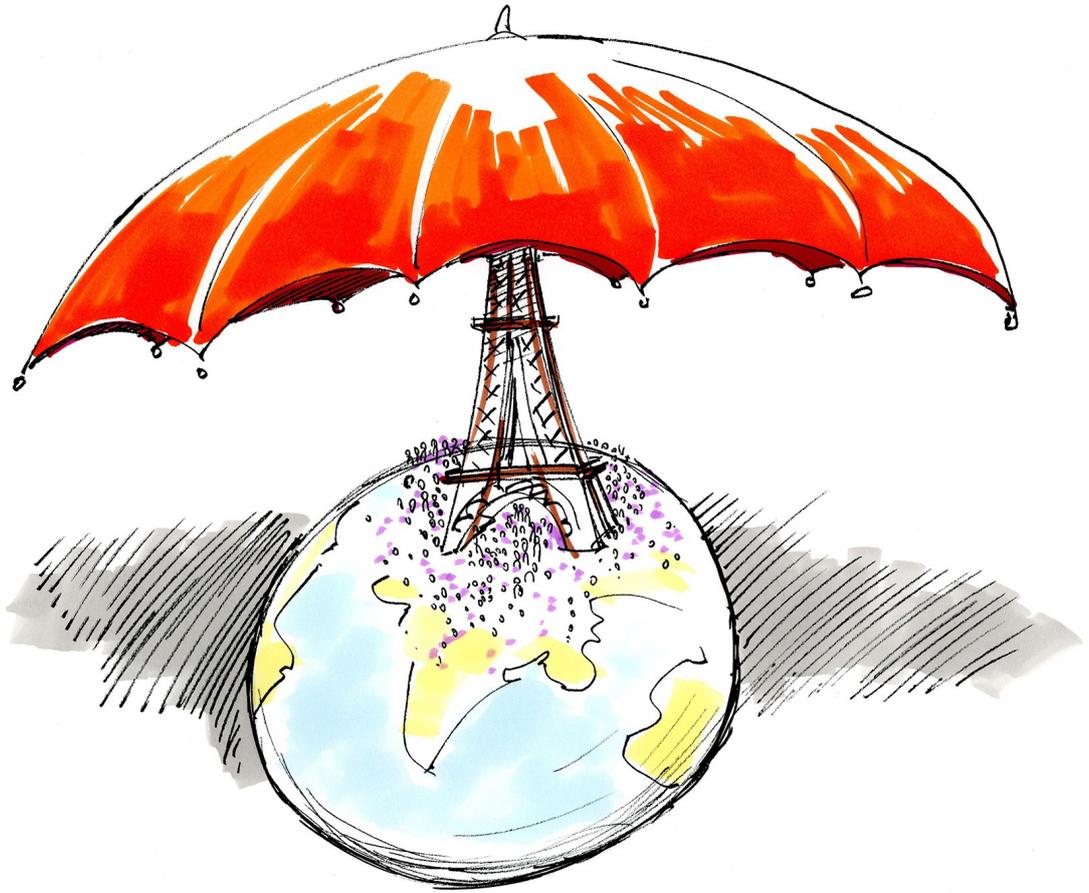
WHERE IS  
THE  
ACTION?!



# Introduction

What does the implementation of '*SDG 13 Climate Action*' mean in practice and what is needed to achieve this? Reaching this goal not only depends on science and technologies, but maybe more so on human behaviour and collaboration between stakeholders across different levels and scales.

This report summarises and visualises the main outcomes of an international seminar organised by Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation in November 2016. The seminar was structured around four core themes which are key to achieve *Climate Action*: Governance, national-local disconnect, incremental versus transformational change and climate finance.



The Paris agreement on climate change  
is an enormous success for the planet  
and its people

# 1. Climate Change Governance: From International Agreements to Action

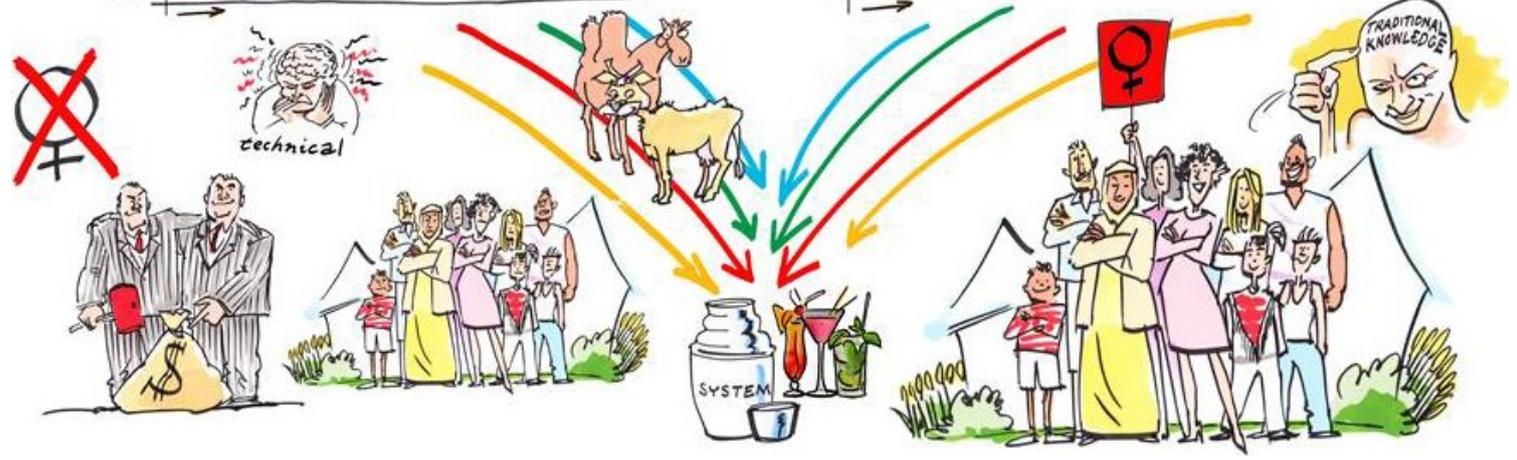
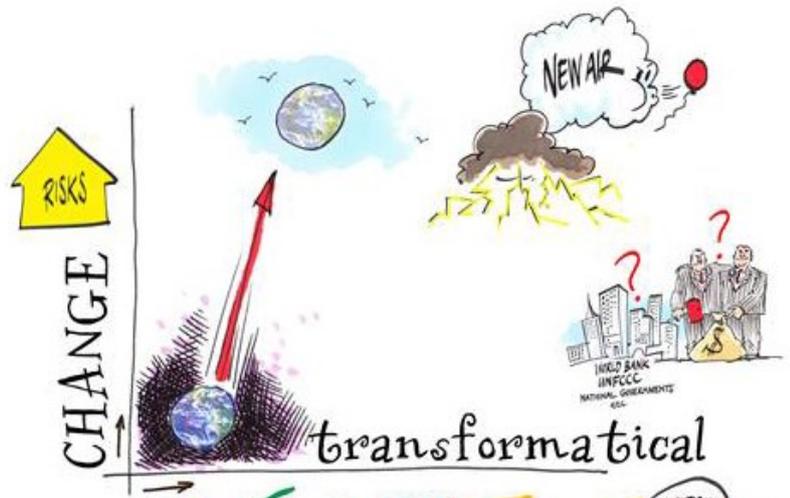
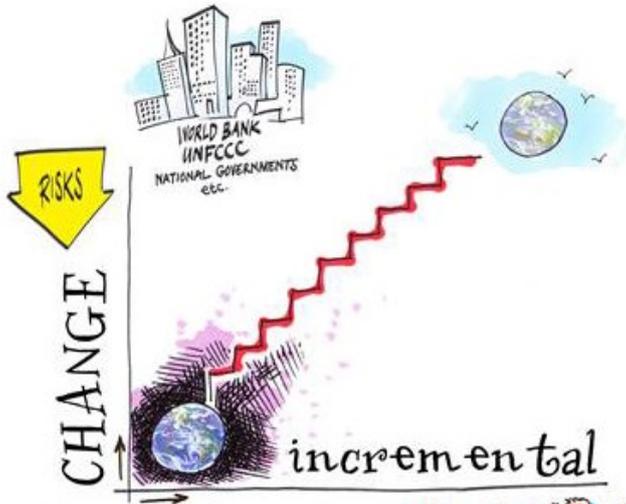
- What:** There is a global momentum for achieving climate action. International climate frameworks such as the Paris Agreement and SDG 13 – Climate action, are in place and now call for action on the ground. But are these international agreements sufficient to result into climate action?
- Why:** As these frameworks are not legally binding, there is no guarantee that governments and other stakeholders take the necessary responsibility to translate these agreements into concrete policies and actions.
- Now what?** Governments should take the lead in this process, however it is crucial to actively involve diverse actors at the local level. The next steps would be to communicate and engage actors from different levels in the national climate policies.



YOUR PROJECT  
IS NOT LINKED  
TO OUR DEVELOPMENT  
PRIORITIES

## 2. National-Local Disconnect

- What:** In order to achieve action on the ground, the international frameworks need to be translated to national policies. These policies need to reflect and integrate the local realities. Currently there is a disconnect between the local and national planning.
- Why:** This disconnect results into policies which are not properly aligned to local climate challenges and adaptation planning processes will most likely fail.
- Now what?** Mainstreaming climate change is necessary for national policies, however the key is to start from development priorities and processes. This should result into a combination of bottom up and top down approaches and smart and innovative connections across levels and sectors.

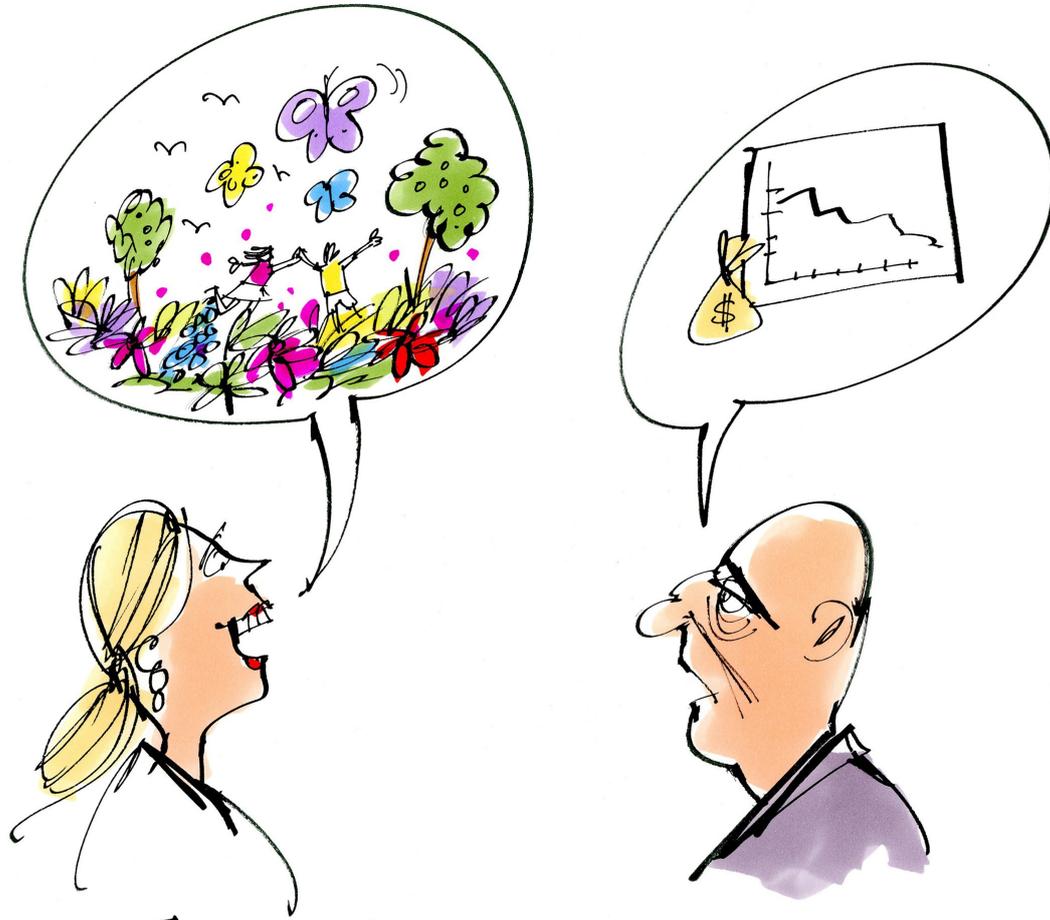


# 3. Incremental Change vs Transformational Change

**What:** What kind of interventions are necessary to tackle climate change? Incremental change efforts implies a step-by-step approach; “let’s go for what we know works”. But is this sufficient? According to the transformational way of thinking we need a more radical systems change in order to adapt to climate change.

**Why:** Decisions in these ways of thinking about change are relevant as these influence the designed climate policies and interventions.

**Now what?** A combination of both approaches would be the most realistic and favourable. For the moment we can still afford incremental change interventions, but there is a need to move towards transformational ways of thinking. Otherwise the speed of climate change might be catching up with us. However this implies an unknown terrain, risks and uncertainties.



Formulate bankable projects

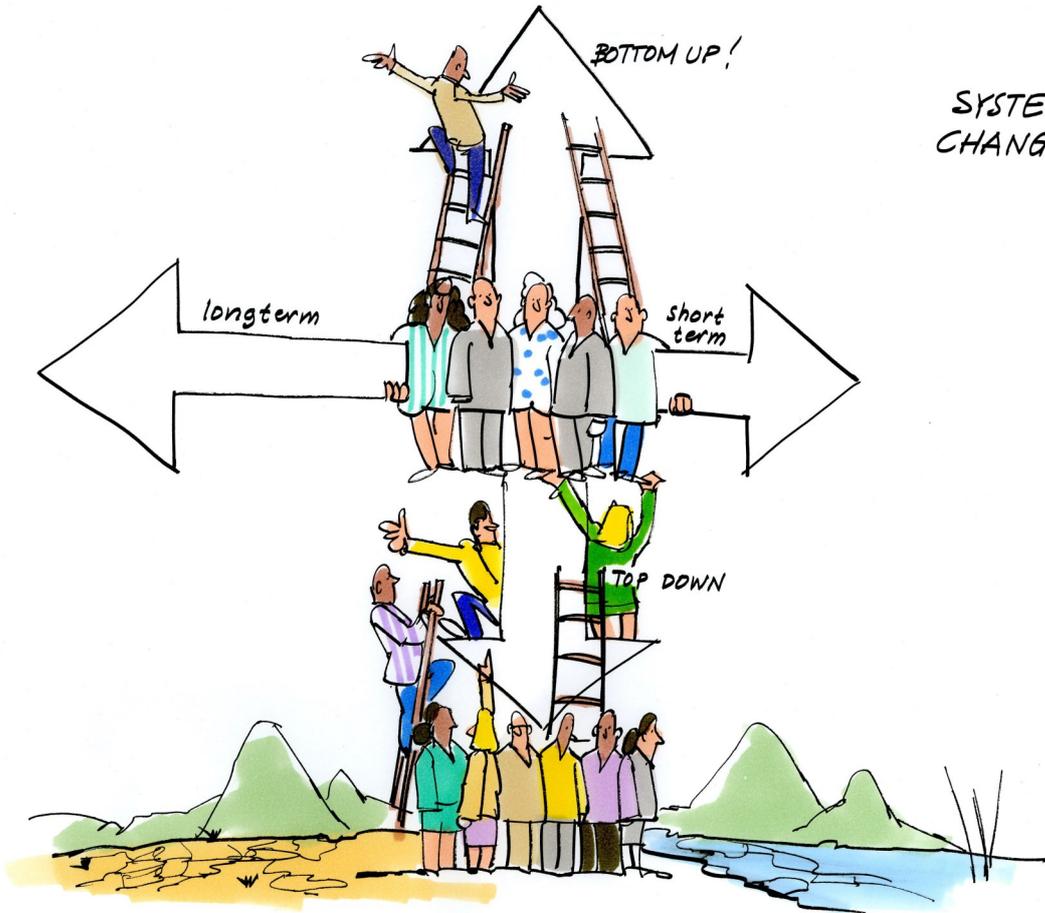
## 4. How to Access Climate Finance?

**What:** Climate Finance includes all finance that specifically targets low-carbon or climate resilient development. USD 100 billion a year is made available, but there is currently unclarity on how stakeholders can access these sources of finance.

**Why:** There is funding available, but stakeholders are not sufficiently informed which institutions provide what kind of funding. Moreover, to access this money a more business oriented approach is required as most funding are loans.

**Now what?** Governments and other actors need to be better informed and supported on how to get access to climate finance. On the other hand, countries must also themselves create better opportunities based on the following conditions:

- \* Bankable projects: the right balance between risk and return.
- \* Good legal conditions
- \* Pro-active government and civil society and business community



SYSTEM  
CHANGE

# Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation continues to invest in Climate Action

**What:** Wageningen University & Research has embraced the SDGs and the Paris Agreement and is committed to using a transdisciplinary approach to develop tailor-made innovative climate smart solutions along the agro-food value chain, from production to consumer.

Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation (CDI) shares the sense of urgency to invest in Climate Action. We believe that a learning approach and new or adjusted institutional arrangements are paramount in this.

**How:** Building resilience requires institutions that are stable, yet adaptable. To strengthen adaptive capacity of stakeholders and institutions in landscapes, Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation offers advisory, evaluation, training and project implementation services.



Bringing stakeholders together

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Hennemann, I. & G.J.M. Gevers, 2017. How to Achieve Climate Action SDG 13: Seminar Report, November 2016. Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen University & Research. Report CDI-17-015. Wageningen.

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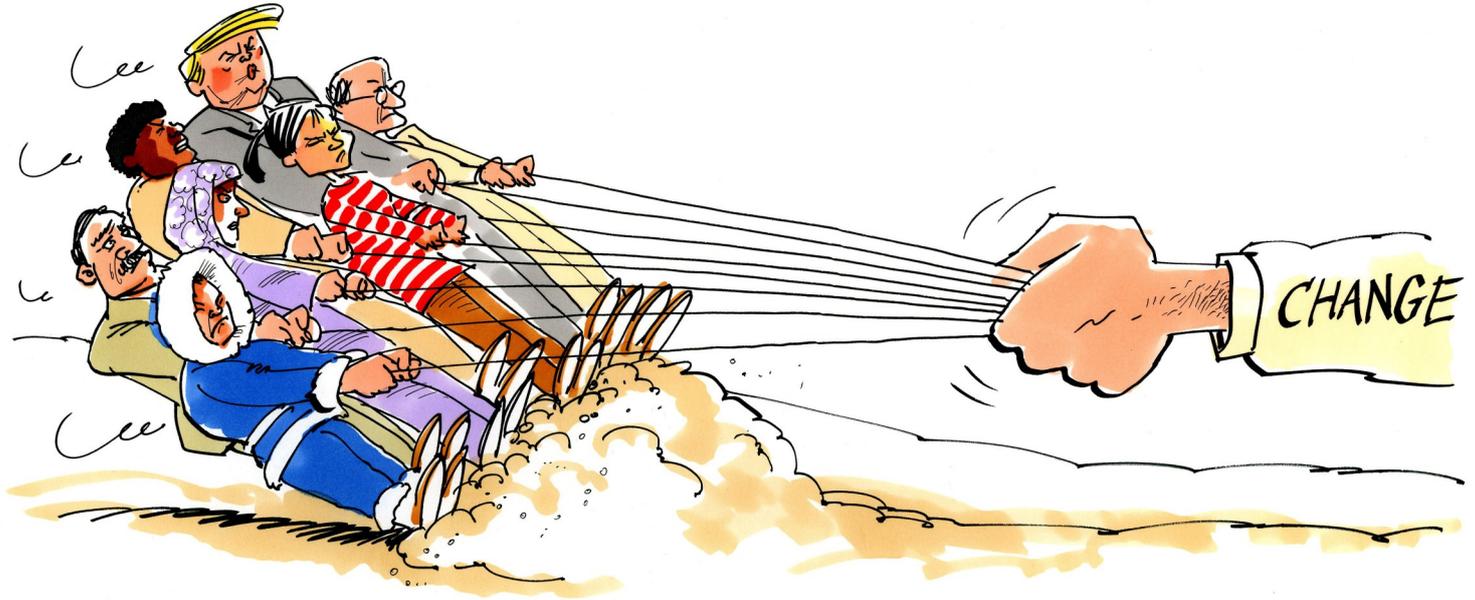
Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation (CDI) strengthens capacities for sustainable development in support of inclusive and sustainable food systems. We do so through our unique approaches in fostering lifelong learning, guiding sector transformation, managing for impact, facilitating stakeholder collaboration and strengthening strategic leadership. A close connection between project implementation and capacity development characterises our work. We work on four focus areas: Agriculture & Markets, Climate & Environment, Food & Nutrition, and Governance & Partnership. In our work with clients from governments, businesses, civil society, NGOs and the academic world, our group of 50 staff connects Wageningen University & Research's knowledge and expertise with the challenges to support inclusive and sustainable food systems in low and middle income countries.

The mission of Wageningen University and Research is "To explore the potential of nature to improve the quality of life". Under the banner Wageningen University & Research, Wageningen University and the specialised research institutes of the Wageningen Research Foundation have joined forces in contributing to finding solutions to important questions in the domain of healthy food and living environment. With its roughly 30 branches, 5,000 employees and 10,000 students, Wageningen University & Research is one of the leading organisations in its domain. The unique Wageningen approach lies in its integrated approach to issues and the collaboration between different disciplines.

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The logo features two overlapping circles, one light blue and one light green. The text "To explore the potential of nature to improve the quality of life" is written in a sans-serif font, with "To explore the potential of nature to" in blue and "improve the quality of life" in green.

To explore  
the potential  
of nature to  
improve the  
quality of life



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