



Composed by Edna Martinez, Jasdeep Randhawa, Susanne Salz and Sabrina Schulz

The session organised by members of the Global Diplomacy Lab (GDL), **Climate Change Multi-stakeholder Diplomacy, Strengthening Linkages and Accountability between Climate Negotiations, Actions and SDGs**, and held as a side event in the German Pavilion during COP23, was chaired by Sabrina Schulz and featured Susanne Salz, Jasdeep Randhawa and Edna Martinez as speakers.

Jasdeep Randhawa spoke about climate justice and made three main points. Firstly, globalisation has resulted in more losers than winners, thus enabling populist leaders to use an “anti-establishment” narrative to justify leaving the Paris Agreement; secondly, the need to focus more on bottom-up transnational legal processes is resulting in the public, civil society, media and scientists engaging with courts to direct their respective national governments to do more to reduce carbon emissions; and thirdly, global trends, including involving the power of networks and multi-stakeholder engagement at global level, play an important role.

Edna Martinez spoke about the importance of government planning and including the engagement of both civil society and the private sector in decision-making processes around a low-carbon economy and the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda. There is a perception that governments make decisions first and only involve the private sector and civil society later, thereby not making full use of their potential contribution to the decisive implementation of the agendas.

Susanne Salz urged participants to think about how we could jointly achieve the best possible outcomes, which we all know we need, at global forums such as COP23. She questioned whether the current global governance system, as evidenced by this COP, enabled stakeholders – or in this case the 20,000 dedicated, relevant and important participants – to jointly achieve the best possible outcomes. Innovative projects within the UN system such as My World 2030 – “the UN’s survey for a better world” – are nice. Yet the question remains whether an additional element of global governance, such as the start-up United Actors, may be needed to move ahead “further, faster, together” – to use the COP23 catchphrase.

The audience got involved in the discussion on opportunities for developing processes for advancing environmental and social causes concurrently and in addition to established forums and structures, such as the GDL, which brings together members from different countries and regions with diverse backgrounds and expertise to collectively identify solutions to transboundary challenges.