



AN IETA TALANOVA: LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES THE FUTURE OF MARKETS & CLIMATE AMBITION

25 SEPTEMBER 2018

HGU Hotel, 34 E 32nd Street, New York City

Welcome to IETA's Talanoa Leadership Dialogues!

First, a little context... because this room may look a bit different than your normal conference podium!

Throughout this year, communities have gathered all around the world to discuss climate ambition under the banner of "Talanoa." This Fijian term connotes a different kind of problem-solving through story-telling. The stories build better shared understanding – and help workable solutions to emerge.

In the case of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Talanoa concept is focused on the problem of how to deliver greater climate ambition. This process was originally dubbed a "Facilitative Dialogue" in the Paris Agreement. Unless you're a policy wonk that likes words like "facilitative," I think you'll agree that Fiji's "Talanoa" rebrand is a marked improvement!

This year in Katowice, Poland, the UNFCCC Parties will review a Special Report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on the challenge of limiting global warming to 1.5°C degrees. Science will speak, and policymakers are expected to respond. They will explore the potential for greater ambition and work hard to complete the Paris Rulebook, so that nations can move forward with implementing their pledged contributions. If they want to use international markets, then the parts of the rulebook on Article 6 are essential. And if they hope to increase ambition, they'll need confidence that these market approaches can work efficiently.

That's why the Talanoa Dialogues serve an important purpose. They aim to help nations appreciate where we are, where we need to go – and how we can get there. The dialogues are open for any group to sponsor, because they aim to be inclusive of many perspectives – civil society, academia, business, finance and policymakers. The outputs from dialogues can be shared through a UN portal.

In many of the early dialogues, there was focus on assessing how much Nationally Determined Contributions would achieve – which we all know is not enough. Now they are focused more on the harder questions about holding warming to well below 2°C degrees – and getting to net-zero emissions by mid-century. For IETA, effective markets are key to these big questions.

Which brings us to today ...

We decided that, after so many workshops and forums in GCAS in San Francisco and during Climate Week here in New York City, you might be might have had your fill of keynotes, panels and Powerpoints. So we wanted to offer something different: a space for real dialogue, like you normally have over a drink with colleagues at the end of the day. We'll begin with discussions about New York, RGGI and the US challenges – and we'll evolve into an international discussion about how to get success in Katowice.

In a real Talanoa, the community gathers around a beach blanket or picnic rug to sip kava and talk through a problem to find a solution. But in the HGU Hotel in Manhattan, we've had to make some adjustments! We have set up a creative space for conversation, with refreshments on the side. We'll ascend to the roof-deck for lunch and a cocktail reception, where we hope your informal dialogues continue.

So make yourself comfortable – and get ready for some “real talk” about the future of markets in helping address the climate challenge.

Thanks for joining us!



Dirk

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