



International PwC with CDKN (Climate & Development Knowledge Network)

Developing countries are on the frontline of climate change, but for many years they have been conspicuously absent from the climate negotiations to deliver low carbon growth and development for all.

In September 2011, the UK government set up a fund to strengthen the influence of the poorest and most climate-vulnerable countries in international climate talks. PwC played a key role helping these countries influence the talks, through identifying and procuring the best negotiations support services to deliver training, and technical and strategic advice. The top table of diplomatic forums, such as the Major Economies Forum and the Petersberg Climate Dialogue, now have a seat for these developing countries – but that's only part of the story.

Governments had struggled for over 20 years to agree a deal that was ambitious enough to protect the poorest nations and nuanced enough to bring the major polluters to the table. But in December 2015, 195 governments signed the Paris Climate Agreement, the landmark global climate change deal requiring countries to transition away from fossil fuels to a low carbon economy by mid-century.

Crucial to this was the work of the now infamous High Ambition Coalition. This political grouping received support from the fund to facilitate its work. Its founder, Tony de Brum (former Foreign Affairs Minister for the Republic of the Marshall Islands), has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his tireless efforts to save his islands and our planet.

It is rare for a programme of work to deliver a radical change in the way international negotiations work, or to have a lasting impact on the future of our planet. When a programme delivers both, it is truly exceptional.