

ACT Initiative Successful pilot phase, launch of the second phase

Given that CO₂ emissions have soared nearly ten-fold during the 20th century and the Paris Agreement called for immediate and radical cuts, during COP 21 ADEME together with international NGO CDP, launched the ACT (*Assessing low-Carbon Transition*) initiative to assess how far companies are prepared for a low-carbon economy. The initiative aims to develop an international set of methods, sector by sector, that is firmly future oriented. Following success of the first phase, ADEME and CDP will launch the ACT initiative's second phase during COP22.

The initial ACT methodologies have been developed and roadtested with twenty multinational companies over the last year. While focusing on three sectors, specifically electricity generation, automotive and retail, ADEME and CDP analysed quantitative and qualitative data relating to how the companies **included climate change** in their strategies, the **steps they have taken to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions** and **how they monitor or manage their emissions**. This gave the pilot companies a bespoke assessment of their strategies **regarding the forthcoming transition to a low-carbon economy**. The ACT initiative meets a **genuine need** given that it provides an accurate assessment of the companies' climate performance that answers the interests of the assessed companies themselves, investors seeking low-CO₂-emitting investments and climate program operators or policy makers.

For example, Scotland-based energy utility SSE is a partner in the initiative's initial phase. SSE commented: *"Our investors called on us to provide further details about our low-carbon transition plans. Being an ACT pilot company was the best way to satisfy their request as it provided for the relevant information to be collected and gave us a clear low-carbon strategy"*.

Renault agreed: *"The ACT trial produced really interesting results that turned out to be very useful for our low carbon strategy. Above all, the quantitative assessment of emission reduction targets helped us considerably in drawing up a new low-carbon strategy and in our administrative procedures"*.

The trial phase has paid off and now the initiative needs to be developed further.

The second phase will be launched during COP22 aiming to provide assessment methodologies tailored to various sectors by 2020. To do so, ACT has established the following goals:

- Prepare methodologies for other sectors,
- Produce specific methodologies for SMEs,
- Develop computer systems to automate data collection,
- Sign up and assess additional companies,
- Add to the ACT network and expand the user community.

CDP, ADEME and several other organisations interested in the ACT initiative will sign the ACT Declaration on Private Sector Climate Action and Leadership during COP22.

- www.actproject.net
- <https://collaborase.com/ACT-consultation>
- [CDP website](#)
- [ADEME COP22 programme](#)

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ABOUT ADEME

The French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME) is a public agency under the joint authority of the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, and the Ministry for Higher Education and Research. The agency is active in the implementation of public policy in the areas of the environment, energy and sustainable development. ADEME provides expertise and advisory services to businesses, local authorities and communities, government bodies and the public at large, to enable them to establish and consolidate their environmental action. As part of this work the agency helps finance projects, from research to implementation, in the areas of waste management, soil conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy, air quality and noise abatement.

ABOUT CDP

CDP, formerly Carbon Disclosure Project, is an international, not-for-profit organization providing the global system for companies, cities, states and regions to measure, disclose, manage and share vital environmental information. CDP, voted number one climate research provider by investors, works with 827 institutional investors with assets of US\$100 trillion, to motivate companies to disclose their impacts on the environment and natural resources and take action to reduce them. More than 5,600 companies disclosed environmental information through CDP in 2015. CDP now holds the most comprehensive collection globally of primary corporate environmental data and puts these insights at the heart of strategic business, investment and policy decisions. Please visit www.cdp.net/ or follow us @CDP to find out more