

Climate Action Network Europe

Network priorities 2016 - 2020 results of the survey done at the General Assembly (October 2015)

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On October 28th 2015, during CAN Europe's General Assembly, a discussion was held on the priorities for both CAN Europe and CAN International for the period 2016 to 2020. At the end of the discussion a survey was distributed amongst the participants, to rank priorities according to their preliminary views. This survey does reflect the opinions of the CAN Europe members who were present at the GA at that moment but does not necessarily reflect the full view of all of our members.

Members were asked to indicate priorities on:

- the issues CAN Europe/International should work on;
- the multilateral fora we should focus on;
- and our methodological way of working.

Below we highlight the main outcome of the survey.

1. CAN Europe

1.1. Issues

1.	2030 GHG emission reduction targets	69
2.	ETS	58
3.	Coal phase out	56
4.	International climate negotiations	55
5.	Renewables	51
6.	Fossil fuel subsidies	50
7.	Energy efficiency/governance	42
8.	Energy Union	40
9.	Adaptation and loss and damage	26
10.	Long-term goal/decarbonisation plans	25
11.	Pre-2020	25
12.	Non-ETS	24
13.	Innovative sources of finance	22

The result of the top eight issues reaffirms the current CAN Europe's areas of work, these being the 2030 targets, the ETS, coal phase out, international climate negotiations, renewables, fossil fuels subsidies, energy efficiency and lastly, the Energy Union.

There is an important gap between the above-mentioned issues and the bottom five ones. As a matter of fact, the most voted topic was the 2030 GHG emission reduction targets, nine points above the second one (ETS). From the second to the sixth most chosen subjects there is quite little difference of punctuation, which is a positive remark, the reason being that members perceive CAN Europe's areas of work all similarly important. Hence, those surveyed support the on-going CAN Europe fields of work and want it to keep focusing on this topics for the 2016-2020 period.

1.2. Fora

1.	UNFCCC	29
2.	G7/G20	18
3.	Multi-lateral Development Banks	10

When it comes to the fora, there is an evident gap between the most preferred option and the other two. The UNFCCC was clearly chosen by the members as the best arena for CAN Europe to work on. Nine points below, the G7/G20 were voted as the second best alternative.

1.3. Ways of working

1.	Influence national/EU policy development - lobby	71
2.	Influence EU policy development – coordination	52
3.	Capacity-building members	24
4.	Overall campaigning (can be both focused on policy or businesses)	22
5.	Promote implementation of policies	21

Lastly, regarding the ways of working at the European level there is also a gap between the top two ways (within the first and the second options too) and the bottom three. Influencing national and EU policy development by lobbying was clearly indicated as the best way of working. 19 points below there is the option of influencing the EU's policy developments by coordination. Capacity-building members is on third position, although it has less than half of support than the second option.

2. CAN International

2.1. Issues

1.	International climate negotiations	88
2.	International climate finance in UNFCCC	68
3.	Fossil fuel subsidies	47
4.	Adaptation and loss and damage	45
5.	Long term goal/decarbonisation plans	39
6.	Coal phase out	31
7.	2030 GHG emission reduction targets	27
8.	Sustainable Development Goals	26
9.	Pre-2020 emission reductions	20
10.	Innovative sources of finance	19
11.	Renewables	19
12.	Forests and agriculture	17
13.	Investment/divestment	16

The results of the top issues for CAN International have a very uneven score. For instance, between the top two issues (international climate negotiations followed by international climate finance in UNFCCC) there is a 20 points gap. The third chosen topic (fossil fuel subsidies) is 21 points below from the second one but one two point above the fourth one (adaptation to loss and damage). Long term goal/decarbonisation plans is also in the top five issues, while the resting eight topics received much lesser support from those surveyed.

2.2. Fora

1.	UNFCCC	32
2.	G7/G20	24
3.	Multi-lateral Development Banks	29

Regarding the fora, the UNFCCC was the most voted as first choice. The second option (multi-lateral Development Banks) was closely selected, only three point below. The G7/G20, five points under was the least preferred fora according to the surveyed.

2.3. Ways of working

1.	Influence EU/UNFCCC policy development – coordination	59
2.	Influence national/EU/UNFCCC policy development - lobby	43
3.	Expose and confront (laggard) companies	16
4.	Capacity-building members	14
5.	Overall campaigning (can be both focused on policy or businesses)	13

When asked about the ways of working at the CAN International level, respondents chose influencing UNFCCC policy development – coordination the most, 16 points above the second option (influencing national and UNFCCC policy development – lobby). There is a huge gap between these and the bottom three options (expose and confront laggard companies, capacity-building members and lastly overall campaigning, both focused on policy or business). Amongst them, there is only two and one point of difference respectively.

3. Further process

The CAN International process is well under way. A draft strategic paper has been distributed on CAN Talk and is open for input till late January. A special meeting will be set up on December 2nd, from 12:00 till 15:00 in the CAN office outside of the UNFCCC, so open to participation from all CAN members. The final discussion on the 2016-2020 strategy for CAN International will take place at a strategic retreat on 11-12 February in Berlin.

For the CAN Europe priorities, the results will be discussed at the next Board meeting and the Board will develop a proposal on how to finalise the discussion at the April General Assembly. In the meantime, as the survey gives a strong indication that our membership broadly agrees with the current direction, there will not be any substantial changes to the 2016 work programme. However it will be crucial to get clarity on the longer term priorities at the April General Assembly in order to guide future fundraising by the CAN Europe secretariat.