

The Hub Live – Executive Series

September 20-21, 2022 8am – 5pm

Honest discussions that ‘Get It Done’

Building on our successful digital roundtable series in 2021, the Executive Series is hosted in-person at The Hub Live at Climate Week NYC.

We’re bringing together global business leaders to find shared solutions to common challenges

In partnership with PwC, this year’s series invites senior business and policy executives to connect and collaborate to get it done. Our climate is changing fast and we’re all facing the same challenges. Let’s find solutions together. Fast.

A series of closed-door, invite only strategic roundtables hosted under the Chatham House rule for senior executives to be frank and honest about the challenges they face, to pull together for bolder climate leadership, and to find shared solutions to common challenges.

Tuesday, 20 September, 2022

8am – 9:30am

G20 global action on renewables

G20 countries consume over 80% of the world's energy. Clearly, they have a responsibility to lead the charge on renewables. And they know it: the final communique from the 2021 Rome summit said that to keep 1.5 degrees within reach requires meaningful action to reach net zero by 2050. However, RE100 members still struggle to procure renewables in many of these countries.

This roundtable will launch RE100's findings from a new briefing on the status of the renewable energy transition in G20 countries. We will highlight the progress of the climate leaders while pushing the laggards to adopt ambitious renewables targets.

Key aims and objectives:

- Leverage global business voice in favor of higher RE targets and policies addressing sourcing barriers in G20 countries
- Position RE100 at the forefront of policy and build the economic case for the adoption of renewables and country targets
- Present the briefing (research and messaging) to the government officials

8am – 9:30am

Carbon's seat at your leadership table

Two clear messages emerged from the recent Net Zero Corporate Readiness Survey which engaged over 500 leading executives: corporations believe they can decarbonize but the operational fundamentals to enable Net Zero transformations aren't yet in place.

As leadership, you've likely endorsed – and are excited by – the decarbonization roadmap that's been developed. You've approved budget to action on the first levers and are anxiously waiting for the appropriate teams to deliver. Then the implementation delays begin. In this session we'll collectively discuss the readiness gaps between leadership and operational levels, the various hurdles that exist to implementing far-reaching strategies and how to measure carbon the same way as other strategic assets.

Key aims and objectives:

- Identify the key characteristics of investment-ready roadmaps
- Overcome the barriers that stall execution within technology readiness, talent availability and capability, and financing sourcing and management
- Discuss the leadership-scaled process that ensures accountability and execution – truly giving carbon “a seat at your leadership table”

1pm – 2:30pm

Coming together: ESG and the future of the finance function

In March 2022 the US Securities and Exchange Commission released its climate change disclosure rule proposal. For companies committed to their green agendas, the proposal has sparked critical questions about their approach to compliance and its impact on their business. Chief among them: Who is going to lead the way? How do the finance and sustainability functions need to work together and adapt? And how can we tech-enable our processes? For many, the answer is creating a new position: an ESG controller.

In this session we'll discuss what we're seeing in the market and allow participants to learn from one another about how finance and sustainability functions are engaging, what ESG controllers do, why it matters, what's next, and what role technology will play in this shift.

Key aims and objectives:

- Connect business leaders facing the same ESG challenges
- Collaborate on identifying solutions that work for everyone
- Contribute to the discussion in a frank and open way

1pm – 2:30pm

Getting going: breaking down the barriers to corporate climate action

Oliver Wyman and Climate Group recently interviewed corporate sustainability practitioners across the world and across sectors, supplemented by a quantitative survey, on their experiences with turning their climate commitments into action, as part of an upcoming report that will be launched at Climate Week NYC. This session will draw on key insights from this research to explore some of the main barriers and enablers for corporate climate action. Participants will share their own pain points and approaches that they have successfully used to drive the climate transition within their own companies.

Key aims and objectives:

- Connect climate, sustainability, and business leaders across a broad range of industries
- Share experiences of what works to drive the climate transition in a commercial context
- Explore and develop principles for success, building on real-world experience

3pm – 4.30pm

The scope 3 challenge

The number of net zero commitments has grown dramatically in recent years. The challenge now facing business is to build on this momentum and turn ambitious commitments into meaningful action. One of the keys to success is understanding Scope 3 and having a clear view of emissions across your entire value chain. Understanding Scope 3 emission presents new but necessary challenges.

In this peer-to-peer, closed-door roundtable discussion we will explore how to navigate these challenges when emissions data are often inaccurate, incomplete and inconsistent. We will also be asking is it really possible to measure with certainty? What are the trade-offs? Where does your value chain end? And how do we avoid double counting?

Key aims and objectives:

- Facilitate an open and honest discussion about the complexities of measuring scope 3 emissions
- Underline the importance of collaboration across different business spheres
- Provide participants with valuable takeaways and actionable directives

3pm – 4.30pm

Leading with purpose: driving meaningful corporate engagement on global climate justice

Delivering economically just, and globally inclusive solutions to the challenges posed by the climate crisis sits at the heart of the climate justice debate.

This session will delve into this topic, exploring the intersection of people and planet. Participants will be joined by leaders from the climate and environmental justice movement to analyse the current state of the movement in North America and the Global South. We will seek to highlight the bright spots and identify opportunities for corporate actors to ramp up engagement that positively impact the movement.

Key aims and objectives:

- Define the current state of the climate and environmental justice movement – both in North America and in the Global South ahead of COP27?
- Identify where corporate actors can meaningfully and authentically engage
- Create connection between movement leaders and corporate/brand sustainability leaders

Wednesday, 21 September,

8.30am – 10am

The winning formula: creating an American green hydrogen economy

Green hydrogen will play a crucial role in the decarbonization strategies of governments and businesses. The resource presents a viable solution for both stationary applications and for fuel heavy transport, including aviation and shipping.

In this closed-door roundtable we will discuss the opportunity green hydrogen offers to decarbonize hard-to-abate sectors and how increased collaboration between states, federal government, and the private sector can accelerate the delivery of this new green resource. Facilitated by an academic partner, the roundtable will convene key state, federal and industry players with bold clean energy ambitions and a vision for green hydrogen.

Key aims and objectives:

- Facilitate a discussion on how federal and state governments can collaborate with private sector companies to develop and scale renewable hydrogen solutions
- Include the diverse stakeholder landscape relating to the hydrogen economy, including the many potential off taking industries and sectors
- Increase focus on the potential societal benefits for states and regions in becoming first moving hydrogen 'hubs'

8.30am – 10am

Actions after impacts – how can businesses address climate losses and damages

Millions of people are suffering from climate change impacts. Science is unequivocal that these will increase in magnitude and frequency. No sector, no business, no community will escape from having to recover from climate losses and damages. Action is needed now. The great double injustice is that those who have done the least to cause climate change are among those paying the highest price.

This workshop, convened with the UN High Level Climate Champions, will focus on the actions businesses are already taking, and how these can be rapidly taken to scale to benefit businesses and people most at risk from climate losses and damages.

Key aims and objectives:

- To share what actions NSAs are taking now to address climate losses and damages including the outcome of the High-Level Champions workshops, results of a survey and mapping with different NSAs.
- To help identify the actions businesses, private investors and philanthropy need to take, and the roles they can play to advance action at scale to address climate losses and damages

11.30am –
1:00pm

Unlocking collaboration across the Americas

States, regions, and businesses across the Americas face common challenges when addressing and implementing climate policy. Shared borders, geography, and trade agreements mean that successful climate policies are dependent on collaboration.

This session aims to address these common challenges and highlight potential shared solutions by breaking down silos between government, business, and other key stakeholders. In this way we can enable meaningful collaboration and identify key target areas for long-lasting and sustainable public-private partnership.

Key aims and objectives:

- Promote collaboration in the region
- Identify potential public-private partnerships

1pm – 2.30pm

Building city resilience

Cities are leading the charge to get it done in the fight against climate change. But they are also under enormous pressures when it comes to delivering public services, upgrading their energy infrastructures and dealing with the consequences of extreme weather events. Investing in energy efficiency provides cities with many co-benefits, helping to achieve their climate goals, as well as presenting wider socio-economic opportunities.

In this closed-door session, we will be discussing these issues, showcasing the innovative solutions being rolled out worldwide and looking at opportunities for collaboration between business and sub-national governments.

Key aims and objectives:

- Showcase bold climate leadership and innovative solutions
- Demonstrate the opportunities and challenges related to justice and equity principles
- Foster collaboration between federal bodies, states, cities and utilities