

Submission for the First Global Stocktake

Submitted by: Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) Working Group, YOUNGO

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Executive Summary

The science is clear. The impacts of the climate crisis are already severe and will continue to grow if ambitious and concerted actions are not taken now. The difference between the 1.5 and 2-degree Celsius is a difference between life and death for people living at the forefront of the climate emergency, especially in the least developed countries, small island developing countries, and African states. The latest report of the IPCC on Impacts, Adaptation & Vulnerability has pronounced it even louder. Even if countries meet both conditional and unconditional targets of their nationally determined contribution (NDCs) of 2030, the projected warning is 2.4 degrees Celsius and warming may rise to 1.8 degrees Celsius by 2100 even if countries meet their long-term net-zero promises. This clearly shows we are not on the track of achieving the long terms of the Paris Agreement.

The IPCC [special report on 1.5C](#) and the International Energy Agency's [net-zero emissions pathway](#) both suggest [more rapid cuts](#) in coal use are needed to stay below 1.5C, relative to what is required of oil and gas – but the use of all three [will need to be cut](#). Fossil fuel use must be phased out immediately and prioritize on renewable and clean energy sources.

Rich nations pledged in 2009 to give developing countries \$100 billion a year (which is only a drop of what is required and does not match the true need of the global south countries) to help deal with the climate crisis, but the target date was pushed back to 2023 at the beginning of the COP26 summit. This has only limited the climate progress and breakdown of the trust between the parties.

[UNEP adaptation gap report](#) suggested adaptation costs “in developing countries alone” could reach \$140-300bn in 2030, which echoes language in the Paris Agreement [urging](#) a “balance between adaptation and mitigation” finance. Extreme weather events and unimaginable destructions throughout the world are clear proof there is more we should do other than mitigation and adaptation i.e., recognize and compensate for loss and damage. There have been [estimations](#) that have placed the costs of loss and damage at \$300-700bn by 2030, rising to \$1.2tn per year by 2060. Huge climate finance is required to implement the scale of action demanded by the urgency of the climate crisis.

The global stocktake is a vital component of the Paris Agreement. It should identify and address the gaps that limit the achievement of the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement by keeping human rights, inclusion, and just transition at its heart.

Adaptation

Enabling Action

- Place adaptation on an equal footing to mitigation in terms of climate finance
- Enabling sustained engagement of multiple stakeholders across various levels
- Put local people's knowledge, culture, experiences and stories at the center of adaptation programs
- Support countries to implement the local and national adaptation plans and track the success
- Create a delivery plan to double the adaptation finance from 2019 levels by 2025 as promised at COP26
- Have a clear definition on climate finance including adaptation finance which should clearly note that it should not come as a form of the loan nor with any strings attached
- Facilitating community participation, especially of vulnerable groups, in natural resource management and adaptation programs

Capacity Building

Enabling Actions

- Vertical and horizontal local, regional, and sectoral collaboration should be enhanced to support capacity-building efforts.
- Capacity building on proposal writing and fundraising skills is required to implement climate action projects at the local and national levels
- Capacity building on accessing finance and building synergy with the private sectors
- Capacity building on designing projects and access funding which should be targeted at local governments, young green entrepreneurs and youth NGOs
- Developing youth, women and other important stakeholders sensitive NDCs and an M&E framework that ensures that the benefits of climate actions are equitably distributed

Barriers

- Time- for more experienced 'Global North' countries it would take far less time to submit the formal documentation for grants or funding than it would take 'Global South' countries that would probably need to hire foreign consultants to be able to simply fill in the technical documentation correctly. For example, a European country could get documentation prepared in two months while a Least Developed Country (LDC) might need two years.

- Reduced “Brain Drain” of skilled technical personnel from GS countries that migrate/ flee their homelands for better opportunities and quality of life or for safety/ security concerns.
- Most of the training and sharing platforms do not reach the sub-national levels. Attention should be given to capacity-building programs reached to the local governments, youths, gender, private sector, CSOs & NGOs

Climate Finance

Enabling Actions

- Set indicators for equitable access and distribution of climate finance and funding. The effort is to provide care and coverage to underrepresented, underserved, and under-resourced communities as well as to vulnerable populations
- Prioritize engaging the private sector on climate change response needs, costs, and finances required which can lead to greater investment in climate actions
- Estimate the cost of mitigation and adaptation actions enlisted in the NDCs and allocate the level of private climate finance needed
- Technical assistance is required in the early stages of project preparation in order to attract funding for implementation. Such skills development should be directed at local youth and can include learning to develop and manage GHG inventories, conducting a cost-benefit analysis or pre-feasibility study, developing a business case, etc.

Barriers

- More than half of the NDC targets of developing countries rely on finance from external sources. It must ensure developing country parties are able to access climate finance in the form of grants, not loans.

Equity

- Keep human rights at the heart of all the climate action works
- Meaningfully engaging young people throughout the process and other key stakeholders that result in buy-in and ownership of the plan
- GST process should be inclusive for all-women, young people, Indigenous Peoples, differently-abled people, and other stakeholders
- Develop accompanying equity assessments for NDC implementation plans

Loss and damage

- GST should emphasize on the systematic collecting and recording information on loss and damage along with the finance needs of the developing country parties
- Identify which countries are greatly in need of loss and damage finance
- Create a mechanism to clearly differentiate between loss and damage finance and

other development or humanitarian aid

- Complement other capacity-building platforms with the Santiago Network on Loss and Damage, to catalyze technical assistance for implementing loss and damage approaches.
- The existing climate finance does not have the right structure and expertise to deliver loss and damage finance. GST should work to bridge this gap.

Means of Implementation

Enabling Actions

- A clear framework on the interlinkages roles of Governments departments and parastatals whose thematics are in line with NDCs to reduce gaps, replication of efforts, and promote partnerships
- Effective mainstreaming of climate change into line ministries' policies, strategies, action plans, recovery plans and the creation of a Climate Change Working Group who will serve as the designated authority to lead and coordinate this work
- Increased political ownership
- Create, amend, and update regulatory frameworks, plans, and initiatives to work on climate action, streamline implementation, and effect interoperability and operations
- Policy development that incentivizes the private and development sectors to participate actively in climate change response activities.
- Declare a climate and ecological emergency, working with other institutions to communicate the urgency and the need to achieve the set climate targets
- Long-term, a bottom-up approach focused on strengthening the capacity of local government agencies to deliver on national policy priorities and commitments.
- Putting local and Indigenous peoples' knowledge at the heart of the implementation of every NDC target.
- Facilitating best-exchange practice
- Accessing technical, educational, and related helpful resources
- Strengthening the coordination with neighboring developing countries for the smooth implementation of NDC roadmaps (where relevant)

Barriers

- Language and technical terms barriers
- NDC implementation roadmaps are very technical. This should be translated into a simplified document so that everyone can identify how one can contribute
- Financial Capacity and technical capacity to implement certain projects
- Dedicated line ministry/body and lack of clear roles and responsibilities of line ministries
- Dire lack of support, trust, and platform for young people to contribute

- There is limited time and staff capacity to engage stakeholders meaningfully and develop NDCs, National Adaptations Plans, etc.
- The need for technical writers and social scientists to be fully present during the entire documentation process

Mitigation

- A framework is needed to record all the mitigation-related information and assess its possible strengths and gaps.
- Emissions of other greenhouse gases such as methane should be included in the GST.
- GST should pave a way forward for the phasedown of unabated coal and the phaseout of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies as promised by the parties at COP26