

Concept Note

The Role of Non-Party Stakeholders in Shaping the NDCs 3.0 in the Caribbean

UN Climate Change Regional Collaboration Centre for the Caribbean (RCC Caribbean)

7th March 2025

10:00 to 11:30 AST | 8:00-9:30 CST | 15:00- 16:30 CET

Background

Effective responses to combat climate change require the mobilization of innovation and action at all levels of government, enterprise and civil society, with participation of non-Party stakeholders (NPS) in the work of the UNFCCC affirmed in the decision adopting the Paris Agreement¹. Non-party stakeholders, including civil society organizations, the private sector, financial institutions, subnational governments, local communities and Indigenous peoples, have a specific role in sharing experiences, cooperating in the implementation of national climate efforts and catalyzing actions to strengthen adaptation and mitigation initiatives.

The Paris Agreement's recognition of the importance of engagement of all levels of government, and subsequent decisions on multilevel engagement, including the establishment of the High Level Champions at COP21 and the establishment of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action at COP22, the introduction of the Talanoa Dialogue process at COP23, and the COP26 Glasgow Climate Pact, all evidence the need for engagement and action by all levels of society, public and private, to combat climate change. COP27 dedicated a section of its cover decision to the role of NPS in enhancing implementation². In the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan, Parties recognized the need to further strengthen accountability of voluntary initiatives³, including through the Global Climate Action portal (also known as the Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action (NAZCA) platform)⁴. Parties also welcomed the recommendations on credible net-zero pledges by the UN High-Level Expert Group on NetZero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities (HLEG)⁵. In the outcome of the first global stocktake, Parties and NPS were urged to join efforts to accelerate delivery⁶, and Parties at COP29 welcomed the Marrakech Partnership and extended the term of the High-Level Champions until 2030.⁷

¹ UNFCCC, Adoption of the Paris Agreement, 12 December 2015, Dec CP.21, 21st Sess, UN Doc FCCC/CP/2015/L.9 at paras 109, 117–18, 133–36.

² Section XVI of Decision 1/CMA.4 Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan https://unfccc.int/event/cma4#decisions_reports

³ Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan, para. 93: "Invites the secretariat to ensure greater accountability of voluntary initiatives through the Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action platform"

⁴ The GCAP or NAZCA is a UNFCCC platform listing commitments by NPS and Parties, channeled through a set of data providers.

⁵ <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/high-level-expert-group>

⁶ Decision 1/CMA.5, para. 161: "Urges Parties and non-Party stakeholders to join efforts to accelerate delivery through inclusive, multilevel, gender-responsive and cooperative action"

⁷ See Decision -/CP.29: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/COP29_auv_2%28f%29_high_level_champions.pdf

As countries are now preparing their next Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for submission in 2025, the inclusion of NPS is critical to ensure that there is accurate assessment of progress and identification of gaps, as well as acceleration of implementation and raising ambition. Moreover, as countries move ahead with developing the NDCs 3.0, it is important to simultaneously focus on the implementation of NDCs. With the large climate finance gap, it is important for countries to explore the “investability” of NDCs and strive to scale up implementation, including supporting project preparation, pipeline development, aggregation of projects, new financial instruments or policy reform.

Objectives

1. This webinar will focus on the “investability” and “implementability” of NDCs using global tools and principles. It aims to provide a platform that fosters a constructive dialogue on the engagement of NPS in the development and implementation of NDCs while showcasing innovative climate solutions.
2. To discuss potential mechanisms that can improve NPS engagement in the NDCs, including inter alia, through the Climate High Level Champions [2030 Climate Solutions](#), [NDC compendium](#) and the [Global Climate Action Portal](#) and identify key challenges limiting the effectiveness of stakeholder participation.
3. To explore the elements of enabling environments that take into account regional, national and local circumstances and increase the role of NPS in shaping and contributing to climate action, working not only with countries, but the entire climate action ecosystem.

Target Audience

The webinar is specifically designed to provide information to government officials and non-Party Stakeholders who are actively involved in leading and/or contributing to the development and implementation of the NDCs. The primary target audience for this webinar includes officials working within various governmental departments, ministries, and national agencies responsible for energy, environment, and sustainable development policies as well as representatives from non-Party Stakeholder organizations that contribute to NDC preparation and implementation.

Proposed Agenda

90 mins

Time	Session	Moderator/Speaker
5'	Welcome & Housekeeping	<i>Jason Williams, NDC & LT-LEDS Regional Specialist, UNFCCC RCC Caribbean</i>
10'	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urgency of 2025 NDCs • Regional Overview: State and importance of Non-Party Stakeholders (NPS) involvement in Caribbean countries' NDC preparation and implementation 	<i>Vintura Silva, Team Lead, NDC Technical Support Unit, UNFCCC secretariat</i> <i>Gianluca Merlo, Regional Technical Advisor, LAC Environment and Energy Climate Strategy and Policy</i>

		<i>Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP</i>
5'	Context Setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of NPS in the NDCs design and implementation 	<i>Danielle Magalhaes, Team Lead, Communications and Engagement Division, UNFCCC secretariat</i>
30'	Panel Discussion: Engaging NPSs in the NDC design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified organizations and countries will share their experiences on good practices and key lessons learned in the context of key avenues for engagement of NPSs in the NDCs and identification of the main challenges limiting the effectiveness of stakeholder participation. 	<i>Moderator: Hannah Girardeau, Gender and Youth Associate, NDC Partnership</i> Panelist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr Jan Sindt, Head of Implementation Strategies Team, Climate Analytics Tracy Smith, NDC Regional Coordinator, Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre Jurmen Adang, Suriname
35'	Panel Discussion: Engaging NPSs in NDC implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The panel will bring together different NPSs who will showcase climate solutions, successful collaborations and ongoing initiatives that scale delivery and implementation 	<i>Moderator: Maximilian Czekalla, Associate Programme Officer, Communications and Engagement Division, UNFCCC secretariat</i> Panelist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Racquel Moses, UNFCCC Global Ambassador, CEO, Caribbean Climate-Smart Accelerator Dr. Donneil Cain, Climate Change Coordinator, Caribbean Development Bank Taneque Heslop, NDC In-country Facilitator, Jamaica
5'	Way Forward and Closing Remarks	<i>Andrea Camponogara, RCC Global Lead, Mitigation, UNFCCC Secretariat</i>