CW4 PEER EXCHANGE WORKSHOP ON NDC IMPLEMENTATION:

From Preparation to Coordinated Action

Date and Time: *10 - 11 September 2026*
Venue: *Baku Convention Center, Baku, Azerbaijan - MR3*

Organizers: The UNFCCC Secretariat and its Regional Collaboration Centres (RCC), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), NDC Partnership and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

Background

Following the submission of the latest round of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), attention must swiftly shift to translating updated NDCs into action. This transition to implementation places the focus on delivering climate action aligned with national development objectives, in a context of increasingly constrained resources.

The UNFCCC Annual Global Stocktake Dialogue Reports[1] illustrate the breadth of issues shaping NDC preparation and implementation, with finance featuring prominently as an integral part of the implementation stage. While insufficient financing is often highlighted in discussions on NDC implementation, countries also face challenges in unpacking NDCs and translating them into prioritized, structured, finance- and implementation-ready actions.

As countries move forward with this process, they engage with an increasingly diverse landscape of domestic and international, public and private finance sources with different requirements, timelines, and risk–return expectations. This complexity can make it harder to connect actions with appropriate sources of finance, highlighting the importance of effective domestic coordination across institutions and the need to prioritize, sequence, and organize implementation actions.

Building on the success of the NDC Regional Forums in 2024 and the NDC Clinics in 2025 and responding to requests from Parties in the Mutirão Decision[2] to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and good practices related to NDCs through peer exchange workshops, the UNFCCC secretariat and its RCCs, UNDP, UNEP, NDC Partnership and GIZ are co-organizing a peer exchange workshop for NDC implementation during Climate Week 4 in Baku, Azerbaijan. This peer exchange aims to support countries in translating NDCs into coordinated implementation pathways for both emissions reductions and climate resilience.

This workshop will provide a dynamic platform to reflect among peers on coordination and collaboration to enable NDC implementation. It will draw on practical experiences, country-led perspectives and the contribution of regional and international implementing organizations and other stakeholders.

Targeted audience

This peer-to-peer workshop will bring together government representatives from relevant ministries involved in NDC implementation, with a view to including participation from finance, economy, and planning ministries alongside environment ministries. To enrich the dialogue and foster coordination, select representatives from civil society, including youth and Indigenous Peoples, development partner institutions, multilateral and national development banks, climate funds, national and regional institutions and private sector representatives will also be invited to share their perspectives and experiences.

Objectives

Country participants will exchange experiences and lessons learned on the transition from NDC formulation to implementation across the four implementation levers of policy, finance, solutions and engagement. The discussion will focus on how countries unpack NDCs into actionable priorities, make strategic choices on prioritization and sequencing, and organize implementation to align and mobilize finance in support of their broader NDC priorities, particularly mitigation and adaptation actions.

With this aim, the expected outcomes of the workshop are:

1. Strengthened understanding of country approaches to translating NDCs into actionable and finance-ready country-owned implementation pathways and, ultimately, implemented through pipelines and projects delivering adaptation and mitigation benefits on the ground.
2. Enhanced capacity to identify options for prioritizing, sequencing, and matching NDC actions with appropriate sources of finance, recognizing the different financing characteristics of mitigation and adaptation actions.
3. Improved preparedness to structure NDC implementation actions, including through programmatic approaches, to facilitate financing and coordinated implementation at scale across sectors and levels of government.

Proposed Approach

The workshop will adopt a highly interactive format, prioritizing dialogue and deep-dive peer exchange over presentations. To support this, a mix of methodologies will be used, including concise keynote interventions, participatory discussions and working group sessions. The workshop will comprise three subtopic segments as outlined below.

- Segment 1: Unpacking NDCs to strengthen country ownership in financing implementation. This segment explores which implementation pathways result from the most recent NDC submission, i.e. which actions need to be newly implemented, scaled up, or adjusted. Grounded in countries' individual stages in the NDC process, participants will examine how climate finance strategies and domestic institutional arrangements can be aligned with updated priorities to direct finance toward NDC implementation across national efforts. It will also consider how countries coordinate across institutions to advance actions that require multi-sector collaboration and subnational delivery.
- Segment 2: Prioritization and sequencing of NDC actions. This segment examines countries' efforts to unpack their NDC into implementation and investment needs, and to prioritize and sequence actions across a range of finance sources, public and private, international and domestic. Different actions require different types of finance, each with distinct conditions, timelines, and risk–return expectations. Countries therefore face strategic choices about

which implementation actions to advance first, which to prepare for longer-term transformation, and which require innovative financing approaches. The discussion will also consider public goods and risk reduction benefits and therefore may require different prioritization and sequencing strategies.

- Segment 3: Structuring NDC implementation actions to channel finance. This segment explores solutions to facilitate financing and implementation of NDC actions through bundling and matching them with appropriate instruments and finance sources, including public and private, international, and domestic. Aggregating similar actions, for instance into country platforms, sectoral programmes, packages, territorial initiatives, or other programmatic approaches, can help channel finance, organise implementation efforts, and reduce transaction costs over time. Such programmatic approaches can also support country-led coordination of actions across sectors and levels of government.

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AGENDA

Day 1 | September 10 Baku Convention Center – MR 3	
8:00 – 9:00 hrs.	**Registration / Welcoming participants**
	Opening Session
9:00 – 9:30 hrs.	**Welcome Address** - UNFCCC secretariat - Host Government - COP30 Presidency, Brazil
9:30 – 9:35 hrs.	**Overview of the Peer Exchange Workshop on NDC Implementation**
9:35 – 9:40 hrs.	**Introduction to the Process**
9:40 – 9:50 hrs.	**Family Photo**
	Segment 1 – Unpacking NDCs to strengthen country ownership in financing implementation
9:50 – 10:25 hrs.	**Peer Dialogue Setting the Scene** *Interactive country discussions with three country representatives. Peers sharing country-experiences in moderated conversation*
10:25 – 10:45 hrs.	**Coffee Break**
10:45 – 12:15 hrs.	**Group discussions on unpacking NDCs - Round tables (8–10 per table)** *The purpose of this session is to reflect on countries' experiences across NDC cycles in unpacking NDC commitments and translating them into implementation, and how previous experiences inform current approaches.* ***Guiding questions*** – *"In your country:* • *After submission of the NDC, how is your country translating national targets into sectoral, institutional and subnational responsibilities? How are NDC priorities being integrated into long-term strategies, national development plans, sector strategies, public investment programmes and budgets?* • *Which coordination arrangements established during NDC preparation have continued into implementation? Which have weakened or required adjustment, and why?* • *What mechanisms allow civil society, youth, women, local governments, vulnerable communities and the private sector to contribute during implementation, rather than only during consultation?*
12:15 – 12:35 hrs.	**Harvesting Insights** *Plenary exchange on takeaways from the group discussions.*
12:35 – 12:50 hrs.	**Key Messages** *Commentators offer a brief responsive reflection following the plenary exchange and synthetizing key messages.*
13:00 – 14:00 hrs.	**Lunch Break**
14:00 – 14:15 hrs.	**Interactive Energizer**
	Segment 2 – Prioritization and sequencing of NDC actions

14:15 – 14:50 hrs.	**Peer Dialogue Setting the Scene** *Interactive country discussions with three country representatives. Peers sharing country-experiences in moderated conversation*
14:50 – 16:20 hrs.	**Group discussions** *The aim of this session is to reflect on how countries are prioritizing and sequencing NDC actions as they move from unpacking commitments toward implementation, and how these priorities inform investment planning, financing strategies, and engagement with different sources of finance.* ***Guiding questions:*** *– "In your country:* • *How are priority NDC actions for implementation determined and sequenced, and whose responsibility is it to lead or coordinate this process? Are priorities defined through an NDC implementation plan, sectoral plans, investment plans, government programmes or another process? What works well and what insights can you share with others?* • *Which criteria determine what is implemented first: climate impact, development benefits, readiness, cost, available finance, urgency, vulnerability or political feasibility? How national circumstances and changing regional or global developments influence priorities and sequencing? [Examples of circumstances: conflicts and geopolitical tensions, energy and food security concerns, economic shocks, climate-related disasters, EU accession or alignment processes, and new international commitments or regulations]* • *How are priorities integrated into public investment systems, budgeting processes, and fiscal decision-making? Which tools or approaches are used for prioritization, including those that support integrated planning or policy coherence? [Examples for tools and approaches: such as cost-benefit analysis, marginal abatement-cost analysis, investment plans, vulnerability assessments, budget tagging or multicriteria assessment]*
16:20 – 16:40 hrs.	**Coffee Break**
16:40 – 17:00 hrs.	**Harvesting Insights** *Plenary exchange on takeaways from group discussions.*
17:00 – 17:15 hrs.	**Key Messages** *Commentators offer a brief responsive reflection following the plenary exchange and synthetizing key messages.*
17:15 – 17:55 hrs.	**Take stock of the day** *Participants provide feedback of day one and recommendations for the following day.*
17:55 -18:00 hrs.	**End of Day 1 / Announcements**

Day 2 | September 11 Baku Convention Center – MR 3	
	Segment 3 - Part I: Dialogue with Finance Providers and Implementers
9:00 – 09:15 hrs.	**Recap Day 1**
9:15 - 10:00 hrs.	**Panel discussion: "Managing Risk and Structural Constraints to Unlock Opportunity**
10:00 – 10:30 hrs.	**Q&A session**
10:30 – 10:50 hrs.	**Coffee Break**
	Segment 3 – Part II: Structuring NDC implementation actions to channel finance
10:50 – 10:55 hrs.	**Outlook of Day 2**
10:55 – 11:30 hrs.	**Peer Dialogue Setting the Scene** *Interactive country discussions with three country representatives. Peers sharing country-experiences in moderated conversation*
11:30 – 13:00 hrs.	**Group discussions** *The purpose of this segment is to reflect on how countries are structuring NDC implementation actions into project pipelines, portfolios, or programmatic initiatives that facilitate engagement with financing partners and channel finance toward implementation.* ***Guiding questions:*** *– "In your country:* • *What has helped move NDC investment priorities toward financing and implementation? Are adaptation, mitigation, and economic diversification initiatives with mitigation co-benefits approached differently? What works well and what insights can you share with others?* • *What experiences do countries have in bundling NDC actions into programmes or portfolios to attract finance, and what has worked well?* • *How are countries linking NDC actions or programmes to funding sources, instruments/mechanisms, and what has helped unlock that finance?*
13:00 – 14:00 hrs.	**Lunch Break**
14:00 – 14:15 hrs.	**Interactive Energizer**
14:15 – 14:35 hrs.	**Harvesting Insights** *Plenary exchange on takeaways from group discussions.*
14:35– 14:50 hrs.	**Key Messages** *Commentators offer a brief responsive reflection following the plenary exchange and synthetizing key messages.*
14:50 – 15:10 hrs.	**Coffee Break**
15:10 – 15:55 hrs.	**Knowledge Market** Small-group conversations, designed for deeper discussion and direct Q&A
Closing Segment	
15:55 – 16:10 hrs.	**Workshop Evaluation**
16:10 –16:30 hrs.	**Closing Remarks** - COP31 Presidency, Türkiye - COP31 Presidency, Australia - Core partner organization