

Contribution of the LEDS Global Partnership to the UNFCCC Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) regarding the focus area for 2021

v.30.03.2021

Organization or entity name:

Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS GP)

Type of organization:

Please choose as appropriate:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intergovernmental organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Development bank / financial institution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UN and affiliated organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-governmental organization |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International network, coalition, or initiative | <input type="checkbox"/> Research organization |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional network, coalition, or initiative | <input type="checkbox"/> University/education/training organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public sector entity | <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector entity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Philanthropic organization |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) |

Organization Location

The LEDS GP Global Secretariat operates through a co-management model. Its host organizations are based in Germany and the United States. However, LEDS Regional Platforms and Working Groups operate in the African, Asian and Latin America and the Caribbean regions.

Scale of operation:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local | <input type="checkbox"/> Subregional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Transboundary |

City(ies)/Country(ies) of operation (if appropriate):

LEDS GP implementers operate in (including but not limited to):

- Berlin, Germany
- Cape Town, South Africa
- Golden, Colorado
- Lima, Peru
- New Delhi, India

Members of the LEDS GP are present in (including but not limited to):

Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, Côte D'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Asia: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos PDR, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, Mongolia.

Latin America and the Caribbean: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela.

1. Glossary

| | |
|-------------|---|
| AFOLU | Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use |
| Africa LEDS | LEDS Regional Platform in Africa |
| Asia LEDS | LEDS Regional Platform in Asia |
| CoP | Community of practice |
| LEDS | Low emission development strategies |
| LEDS GP | Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership |
| LEDS LAC | LEDS Regional Platform in Latin America and the Caribbean |
| LTS | Long-term strategy |
| NDC | Nationally determined contribution |

2. The LEDS Global Partnership

The [Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership \(LEDS GP\)](#)¹ is an accelerator of knowledge and solutions for implementing and upscaling climate-resilient low-emission development in all relevant sectors. It is a platform driven by climate leaders that enables collaborative and ambitious climate action, peer-to-peer learning, and innovation across practitioners to scale up action and investments on NDCs and LTS measures. Principles that guide our partnership since its launch in 2011 include placing development priorities first, ensuring that LEDS support is demand-driven and country-led, building lasting capacity in partner institutions, as well as encouraging broad stakeholder engagement.

In the last decade, LEDS GP has engaged over 4,700 members across all regions. We operate through our regional platforms [Africa LEDS Partnership](#), [Asia LEDS Partnership](#), and [LEDS LAC](#). Thirteen topical Communities of Practice (CoPs) across our regions—focusing on key sectors as energy, transport, AFOLU, finance or resource efficiency—serve as a primary mechanism for initiating and driving cooperative action among our members and partners, enabling learning across countries.

In March 2021, a round of interactive consultations allowed LEDS GP implementers to reflect upon the framework conditions for ***building capacity in order to facilitate coherent implementation of NDCs, in the context of national development plans***. The following document summarizes the findings, as a technical contribution to the Paris Committee on Capacity-building workplan activities in 2021. This submission is a collaborative effort, presenting a series of concise messages, learnings and views, coming from our regional platform and working group implementers.²

¹ The **LEDS Global Partnership** is coordinated by a Global Secretariat, co-hosted by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). The LEDS GP operates with funding and in-kind support from a variety of donors and partners, including the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) via the International Climate Initiative IKI, the US State Department, among other institutions.

² The information expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect the official position of the LEDS GP implementing organizations, members, core donors and partner institutions mentioned. It is rather a collaborative effort showcasing key technical messages coming from a vibrant network of climate practitioners and experts.

3. Contribution

In implementing NDCs and national development plans in a coherent manner, in your experience, what are:

the key interventions?

- Integration of climate and sectoral commitments with implementation plans.
- Mainstreaming climate into sectoral agencies, programs and projects—while understanding sectoral and cross-sectoral opportunities, as well as the limits of climate action (both for mitigation and adaptation).
- An essential and clear mandate or framework for encouraging sectors to work closely together.
- Getting a consensus between different ministries and departments for joint and holistic mid- to long-term planning and budgeting.
- Leaving behind “dichotomous thinking” (i.e., long-term vs. short-term; public sector vs. private sector; mitigation vs. adaptation), but rather understanding the correlations and co-benefits and acting upon them.
- Creating conditions for enabling public-private partnerships and encouraging the private sector to co-lead action. In the end, the private sector plays a key role for mobilizing financial resources, investing in competitive sectors that are strategic for climate action, and providing resources for research and development.

the enabling conditions?

- In the context of capacity building, we tend to look only at institutions but overlook the economy. Therefore, whole-of-society and whole-of-economy approaches should be the best way forward, as an overall green economy policy that drives all sectors to act towards the same goals.
- Strong information and regulatory frameworks.
- Appropriate fiscal incentives, financial regulations and instruments or mechanisms necessary to encourage climate investments.
- Long-term investment thinking instead of an emergency spending mindset.
- Supporting local climate action and allowing national policies to trickle down into the subnational sphere.

the key institutional barriers?

- Vertical and horizontal coordination and communication between national and regional levels.
- Complicated overlapping responsibilities between institutions.
- Lack of coordination systems that bring together the support of stakeholders and sectors.
- Limited focus on the financing instruments that need to be deployed to enable climate action.
- Lack of engagement and government leadership at the higher levels.
- Limited number of government personnel tasked with implementing NDCs and national/regional development plans.
- High turnover of personnel in public institutions, resulting in institutional memory being constantly lost during a handover of tasks.

the capacity gaps and capacity-building needs?

- Capacity building for project development, as well as for access and structuring of viable financial instruments and/or transactions.

- Improving environmental, social and corporate governance of business, including voluntary and mandatory sustainability financial disclosures (i.e., the key factors for the private sector to measure their sustainability impact).
- There is a need for generating reliable information, designing methodologies that would allow compatibility and comparability of information. This information would then feed into the regulatory frameworks and help create policies based on evidence.

the knowledge and skills priorities?

- Understanding short-term and long-term needs and creating strategies to address them.
- Economic analyses to understand the impacts of long-term transformation and innovation pathways.
- Knowing, understanding, and effectively using the tools and methodologies that allow for the integration of climate and development plans.
- Monitoring and evaluating frameworks that allow tracking progress and adjusting strategies.
- Better vertical alignment so that work on the ground can support national and international targets.
- Knowledge of the appropriate financing structures and financial mechanisms for project implementation.
- Building capacities in the public sector to understand the financial incentives and regulatory environment that would leverage private investment. Therefore, making progress for a mutual understanding between the public and private sectors (i.e., learning how to “talk business”).

To enhance coherent implementation of NDCs in the context of national development plans, who should be the target recipients of capacity-building (e.g. national government officers, local government officers, environmental agencies, civil society)?

- The entire “supply chain” of the workforce, mainly for national and local decision-makers and leaders, technical and academic institutions. This approach should balance support to government institutions, private sector, and civil society.
- Direct engagement with the private sector, so it can plan implementation to complement the work that governments are doing around the world.
- Sectoral ministries (especially transport, energy, health, water, and finance) so they can lead climate action from their sectors—considering that the environment ministries and agencies are not the only ones responsible for implementing NDCs.
- Ministries of finance, financial market regulators, as well as the departments in government that are responsible for negotiating public-private partnerships.

To support NDC implementation and planning in developing countries, what are your suggestions on how to improve capacity-building efforts?

At the national level:

- Work with in-country teams across agencies and levels of government.
- Collaborate with key technical institutions and private sector leaders in order to develop and implement coordinated capacity building programs with special attention to building enduring workforce development programs.
- Enhancing monitoring and evaluation of key technical institutions (i.e., stakeholders responsible for GHG inventories, statistics bureaus, as well as those institutions collecting data on the impacts of national programs).

At the regional level:

- Support regional peer-based networks for sharing knowledge and leading examples, as well as accessing regionally tailored tools and technical resources.
- National, regional and local capacity building efforts need to be “connected” and create synergies for promoting future leaders. This includes coordination between different actors developing capacity.

Good case studies, best practices, tools and methodologies, lessons learned, or examples of support:

Please describe any that build capacity to align NDC implementation with national development plans and/or to mainstream NDCs into national development plans

- **The Climate Helpdesk** is a global advisory network providing rapid, high-quality, short-term technical assistance for developing countries. It is a joint service offered by two global initiatives: the LEDS GP and the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA). This quick response service takes on requests from country government agencies, NGOs or technical/academic institutes assisting these government agencies. The Climate Helpdesk service offers advice and assistance on methods and tools for assessment of LEDS options, help with revision of greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories for specific sectors as well as strategies and measures for mobilizing private and public investment in NDC and LEDS priorities, among others.
- **The Communities of Practice (CoPs)**. The LEDS GP has thirteen Communities of Practice, which are diverse and inclusive groups of practitioners (normally comprised of governments, private sector, civil society, academia, youth, and other groups). They come together regularly to learn from one another on a specific topic of common interest, through facilitated online and in-person discussions. Through these CoPs, practitioners gain various benefits: they receive targeted advisory support to advance their work, participate in moderated discussions to learn from peers and share their experiences, contribute to joint projects and development of resources (such as case studies and compilation of good practices), serve as peer advisors to others, and are connected to potential sources of financing and support. CoPs within the LEDS GP network are, in some cases, financed and jointly implemented with a diversity of leading organizations and initiatives present in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean.
- **The Good Practice Database** (GPD) contributes to supporting practitioners (e.g., policymakers, decision-makers, project managers) as they carry out the steps to formulate and implement NDCs. It presents various examples of good practices worldwide, which demonstrate how climate policies and actions are being effectively designed and implemented across a range of national contexts. Good practices in the GPD refer to focus areas such as: planning and implementing NDCs, low emission development strategies (LEDS), national adaptation plans (NAPs) and long-term strategies (LTSs); analysis and data collection; governance and stakeholder engagement; subnational integration; and linkage with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), amongst others. The database is a joint effort established by PATPA, the IKI NDC Support Cluster, the UNDP NDC Support Programme, LEDS GP, and the NDC Partnership Support Unit.

Useful sources:

Please give examples of useful sources relevant to this topic (e.g. webpages and portals, publications, fora, organizations working on this issue)

Useful sources showcasing the activity of the LEDS global and regional platforms and working groups, in collaboration with key partners in the regions

Websites, multimedia, tools and fora

- [Asia LEDS resources](#) and [online seminars](#)
- [Beijing's Pilot Emission Trading System](#)
- [Case study: Integration of Renewable Based Generation into Sri Lankan Grid](#)
- [Evento Conjunto 2020: Acción climática en tiempos de crisis. Potenciando la recuperación sostenible post COVID-19 en Latinoamérica y el Caribe](#)
- [Formulating long-term, climate-resilient development strategies for agriculture in Africa](#)
- [LEDS GP at the Green Policy Platform](#)
- [LEDS LAC's Youth Climate Hackathon 2019](#)
- [Nigeria's roadmap to accelerated mini-grid deployment](#)
- [The Good Practice Database](#)
- [The NDC LAC online tool](#)
- [Virtual preparatory training for Tier 2 livestock GHG quantification in Zimbabwe](#)
- [Workshop Series: Strengthening the case for Mini-grids in Africa](#)

Publications

- [Guía de Buenas Prácticas. Involucrando al sector privado en los procesos de formulación e implementación de las NDC](#)
- [LEDSenLAC report 2019](#)

Further identified sources and websites

Websites, multimedia, tools and fora

- [Climate Promise](#)
- [EUROCLIMA+](#) resources
- [Greening the Grid](#)
- [The Green Growth Knowledge Partnership \(GGKP\)](#)

Publications

- [Crunching numbers: Quantifying the sustainable development co-benefits of Mexico's climate commitments](#)
- [Panorama de las Contribuciones Determinadas a nivel nacional en América Latina y el Caribe 2019: Avances para el cumplimiento del Acuerdo de París](#)
- [Progress on Climate Action in Latin America: Nationally Determined Contributions as of 2019](#)

4. Contact



Advancing climate-resilient low emission development around the world

LEDS GP Global Secretariat: secretariat@ledsgp.org

To learn more about the LEDS Global Partnership, please visit <https://ledsgp.org/>