



United Nations
Climate Change



UN
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RCC Latin America
Collaboration for Climate Action



NET ZERO
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INDUSTRIAL
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Fast-tracking decarbonisation in heavy industry and transport in Latin America through NDC and LT-LEDs enhancement

12 March 2025 | 9:00 CST/12:00 BRT/16:00 CET

Background

Limiting global warming to no more than 1.5°C – as called for in the Paris Agreement – requires global emissions to reach net-zero by 2050. This will require all sectors of the economy to decarbonise. Heavy industry and transport sectors (*i.e.* aluminium, cement, chemicals, steel, aviation and shipping) account for nearly 30% of global energy and process emissions. Beyond that, these emissions are expected to grow, as demand for these services and products increases.

Investment decisions on a fleet of deep decarbonisation projects will need to be taken within the next two years in order to stay on track for a 1.5°C net zero aligned scenario. Because the investments necessary are capital intensive and require long payback times, developing long-term policy frameworks is key to providing investment certainty.

By incorporating specific targets for industrial decarbonisation within their NDCs and LT-LEDs, governments provide clear policy signals that drive innovation and investment in clean technologies in these sectors. This not only accelerates the transition towards a low-carbon economy but can also foster the development of green industries, creating new jobs and economic opportunities.

Ambitious industrial decarbonisation targets within NDCs are essential for aligning short-term climate action with the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement, ensuring that national efforts contribute effectively to the global pursuit of net-zero emissions. Yet, less than 40% of Parties have incorporated industry-specific references and targets in their NDCs, with the majority of these references focusing on energy efficiency improvements which are not enough to achieve net-zero.

Latin America's abundant renewable resources, such as solar, wind, and hydropower, provide a competitive advantage for green industrial development. Industrial decarbonisation not only mitigates climate risks but also unlocks substantial economic opportunities, including job creation, technological innovation, and increased competitiveness in emerging green markets. By embracing industrial decarbonisation, Latin America can position itself as a leader in sustainable development, driving economic growth while protecting its environment and communities.

Objectives

This event intends 1) to raise awareness on the importance of industrial decarbonisation for achieving the Paris agreement's goals and its overall feasibility, and 2) to demonstrate the value of integrating industrial decarbonisation into NDCs and LT-LEDs, and 3) to facilitate collaboration between governments and relevant regional stakeholders to expedite the inclusion of industrial decarbonisation in NDCs and LT-LEDs.

Target audience

National NDC experts and other relevant government officials from Ministries of environment, climate change, energy and industry.



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Agenda

Agenda	Speaker
Introduction and housekeeping	Carlos Ruiz Sánchez Programme Officer - UNFCCC
Opening Remarks	Fabiana Rodrigues Regional Lead - RCC Latin America
Challenges and opportunities of decarbonising heavy industry - an overview of net zero pathways and the pipeline of deep decarbonisation projects	Marc Farre Moutinho Country Lead - Industrial Transition Accelerator
Integrating industrial targets in NDCs	Hugo Salamanca Industry Decarbonization expert - UNIDO
Government perspectives: approaches and benefits from reflecting heavy industry in NDCs	Gustavo Fontenele (TBC) General-Coordinator of Decarbonization - Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade and Services, Brazil Juan Pedro Searle (TBC) Chief - Climate Change Unit Ministry of Energy Chile
Corporate perspective	TBC
Financier perspective	Raúl Delgado (TBC) Lead Specialist in Climate Change Inter-American Development Bank
Supporting countries: Global Matchmaking Platform	Adriana Fernández Villalobos Project Associate - UNIDO
Supporting countries: UNDP Climate Promise 2025 and NDC 3.0 regional agenda	Gianluca Merlo Regional Technical Advisor - LAC Environment and Energy / Climate Strategy and Policy Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP
Q&A / Interventions / Discussion	
Closing	

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