

A Small Islands perspective on research needs in the context of the development of new NDCs

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NDC Reporting for St. Kitts and Nevis

- **St. Kitts and Nevis submitted its first NDC in 2016** with 22% of the absolute GHG from the Business as Usual (BAU) in 2025. 35% of the absolute GHG from the BAU in 2030.
- **Revised NDC submitted in 2021** pledges a significantly more ambitious mitigation target of reducing economy-wide CO₂ emissions by 61% by 2030, compared to the base year 2010.





New scenarios to inform 1.5°C aligned NDCs

- In this critical decade, need **latest understanding of the Paris Agreement scenario space to course correct to a globally 1.5°C-aligned trajectory for 2030, 2035 etc.**
- **Latest observed trends across sectors and emissions**, e.g., potential peaking of global emissions and rapidly growing solar, wind, etc. deployment, must find their way into new scenario generation, to be assessed in IPCC AR7
- **More regional granularity** needed to better understand, e.g., local-level renewable energy and efficiency options as well as challenges, and sustainable development synergies and opportunities
- More **national-level scenario analysis and bottom-up modelling** to support countries to identify 1.5°C-aligned **highest possible ambition** at national level



Adaptation-related research needs

- Need for **regional climate impact data and modelling** (which has serious limitations for small islands) as well as data collection and model development infrastructure
- Improved understanding needed of the **attribution** of observed impacts to climate change
- Research needs on the **adaptation potentials** and **limits to adaptation**, especially for our vulnerable regions – e.g., how limited water resources may pose hard limits to adaptation for small islands above 1.5°C, and links to agriculture and food security



Improved information on loss and damage

- Assess **links between adaptation limits and loss and damage** more systematically, including in risk management frameworks and damage recovery
- How to assess **economics and costs** of loss and damage as well as **non-economic aspects** including sense of place, health and community cohesion
- Specific data on **experienced loss and damage** across socioeconomic groups and demographics, including loss of and/or damage to terrestrial and marine ecosystems such as coral reefs
- Mechanisms to **develop robust policies**, in particular in contexts of vulnerable countries and regions
- Better monitoring and tracking of **slow-onset events** like sea level rise



Just transition and synergies with sustainable development

- Research needs on **synergies and tradeoffs of climate action and sustainable development**, especially regionally and through **building local expertise**
- Implementing just transition requires **understanding of unique climate impacts**, and policies to **minimise risks associated with loss of livelihoods**
- Further research on **socio-economic/distributional impacts and benefits of the transition to a 1.5°C-aligned future**, including renewable energy and electric vehicles, removal of fossil fuel subsidies, on vulnerable groups and the workforce, **opportunities to reduce social inequality**, as well as government revenue streams
- Need for **innovative approaches to leverage private finance for the transition to renewable energy and electric vehicles as well as in other sectors**



Quantification of regional finance needs

- The IPCC Sixth Assessment Report has highlighted the **essential role that finance plays for successful climate action**
- Future research needed to **quantify finance needs for 1.5°C-aligned mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage**, especially at the regional level, to inform NDC processes
- Research needs on how to overcome **constraints imposed by high national debt-to-GDP ratios**, manage debt and still invest in renewable energy, and on additional innovative sources of finance such as debt-for-climate swaps



Summary: research needs to inform NDC development and revision

- **Mitigation:** New 1.5°C scenarios to map latest scientific understanding on mitigation requirements and options
- **Adaptation**-related research needs for more quantified information on regional adaptation options and limits to adaptation
- Improved quantified information on observed and projected **loss and damage**
- Research on just transition and synergies with **sustainable development**
- Regional **implementation and support** needs, including **finance**

Thank You!

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