

Survey on NDCs

Eastern and Southern Africa

Summary Report

December 2020



Regional Collaboration Centre – Kampala
Promoting Action Against Climate Change



NDC
PARTNERSHIP

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FOREWORD

2020 is a critical year for countries to fulfill their commitments under the Paris Agreement, including the submission of enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs). This summary report on the status of NDCs in Eastern and Southern Africa emphasizes the efforts made by the participating countries on their progress of improving the national climate action plans, providing a regional outlook on the status of integrating NDCs which are essential to meet the temperature targets agreed under the Paris Agreement.

Although most of the NDCs are still in the process of revision or production, this information is critical to plan the best way in which our Regional Collaboration Center for Eastern and Southern Africa (RCC Kampala) and its partners can effectively and in a tailored manner facilitate their support to countries in the region. The report also displays the immense opportunity of mainstreaming the NDCs to broaden the mitigation actions with integration of vital crosscutting issues and paves the way for learning what is necessary to consider for a long-term approach of ensuring a climate-resilient development in Eastern and Southern Africa.



JAMES GRABERT

**Director of the Mitigation Division
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We in the UNFCCC are very grateful for the support, transparency and openness with which the countries of the region have voluntarily participated and shared noncommittal information for the preparation of this report that we hope is useful to all.

We look forward to following the developments of engaged national climate action in Eastern and Southern Africa and continue to provide support through our RCC Kampala on integrating NDCs.

The NDC Partnership launched the Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP) in 2019 to support countries to review and update their NDCs, with a view on increasing ambition. The initiative aims to match country requests with technical and financial support from across our members, ensuring countries have the support to ensure their climate ambitions are actionable, and also responding to the call of the Conference of the Parties of UNFCCC for developed countries and international organizations to support countries in this endeavor.

Through a combination of implementing partners' own resources and a dedicated Technical Assistance Fund, fast and targeted NDC enhancement support is being delivered to 65 countries, by 46 implementing and development partners. More than USD 45.9 million has been mobilized through CAEP, with over USD 18.2 million of this being directed to 25 beneficiary countries in the African region

This report illustrates much of the work being supported through CAEP and provides valuable insights on how



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**Global Director
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countries in the region are approaching their revised NDCs. We are thrilled to attest that the Eastern and Southern African region is committed to increased ambition and has strengthened its response to climate change. The NDC Partnership remains equally committed to support countries in implementing the bold targets the region is aspiring to achieve in the next years and decades.

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INTRODUCTION

Background

The Paris Agreement recognizes that the long-term goal of limiting the global average temperature increase to less than 2 or 1.5 degrees C above pre-industrial levels will be achieved through time and, therefore, builds on ratcheting up aggregate and individual ambition over time.

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are at the heart of the Paris Agreement and the achievement of these long-term goals. NDCs embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Paris Agreement requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive NDCs that it intends to achieve.

In order to enhance the ambition over time, the Paris Agreement provides that successive NDCs will represent a progression compared to the previous NDC and reflect its highest possible ambition, reflecting its common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances. NDCs are submitted every five years and recorded in an interim registry maintained by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat.

Parties are requested to submit their new or updated NDCs by 2020¹ and to provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding as applicable to their NDCs.

This makes 2020 a critical year and presents a window of opportunity to help re-energize countries' efforts, raise ambition and enhance climate action. This report on the status of the development of NDCs in Eastern and Southern Africa compiles the progress made by participating countries in updating their NDCs and provides a regional outlook on the status of their efforts while highlighting the challenges and opportunities in this process.

The NDC Survey

In order to contribute to an enhanced understanding on the development of NDCs in Eastern and Southern Africa a survey was developed and shared with countries in these regions to seek feedback on the progress and features of their NDCs. The survey was comprised of 14 questions focused on the priorities and plans for NDCs as well as the challenges associated with their development.

¹ To streamline the language, reference to 'updated NDCs' is understood to encompass both 'new and updated NDCs'.

Partners

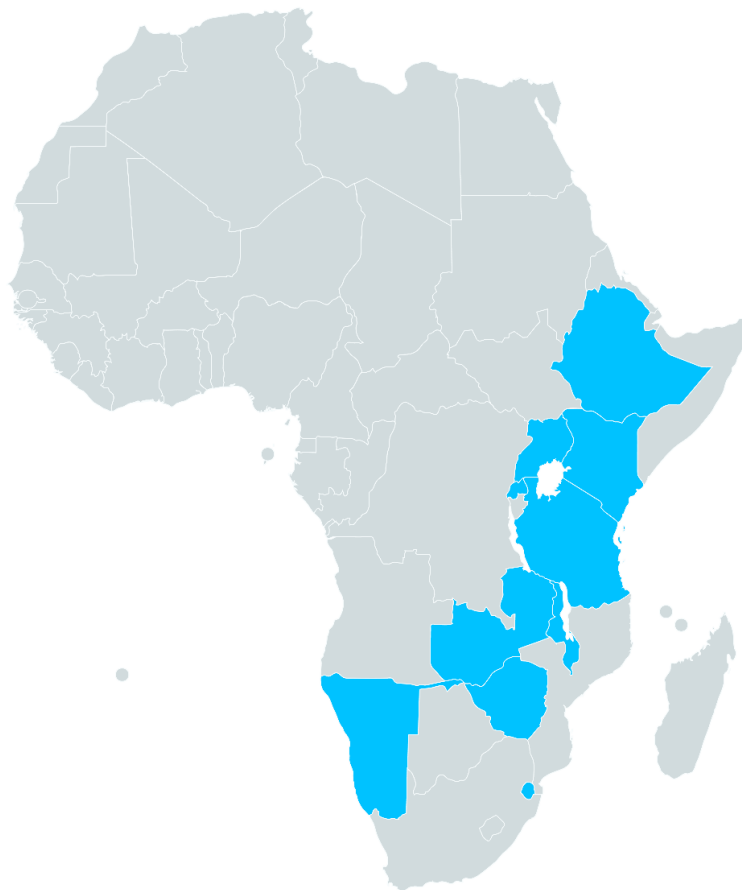
The Regional Collaboration Centre for Eastern and Southern Africa (RCC Kampala) hosted by the East Africa Development Bank (EADB) launched this survey in partnership with the NDC Partnership.



Responding Countries

The survey was sent to the 19 UNFCCC National Focal Points from countries in Eastern and Southern Africa under the purview of RCC Kampala. The survey was open for responses from 21 October to November 2020. The following 10 countries responded to the survey:²

1. Eswatini
2. Ethiopia
3. Kenya
4. Malawi
5. Namibia
6. Rwanda
7. Tanzania
8. Uganda
9. Zambia
10. Zimbabwe



² The information contained within this report is a compilation of and therefore only based upon the responses received from the countries listed here. Consequently, the outcomes of this survey contained within this report should not be considered as representative of the regions.

NDC ENHANCEMENT

Q1. Is your country submitting a new or updated NDC in 2020?

Yes (when)/No (when), 10 responses

All 10 respondents to the survey responded to this question. At the time of the survey, six countries indicated that they are submitting updated NDCs in 2020. Of these, one country had already submitted its 2020 updated NDC by the time of this survey.

Four countries responded “No” to the question and indicated that they are planning to submit their updated NDC in the first half of 2021.

Five countries are still planning to submit their updated NDC in 2020, of which most indicated to submit in December or generally before 31 December 2020.



Q2. Is your country developing or planning to develop LTS, NAPs, TNAs/TAPs, national policy and budgetary frameworks, or the promotion of whole of society approaches to address climate change in conjunction with your NDC enhancement process?

Yes (specify)/No, 10 responses

This question was to understand in how far the NDCs are being updated in isolation or as part of wider planning processes in the country. From the bar graph below, it is clear to see that NDCs are being formulated within the context of wider planning processes. Either within the context of UNFCCC processes such as long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, as referred to in Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, or country specific planning and development processes.

Examples of associated processes included: National Adaptation Plans, Technical Needs Assessments, Technology Action Plans, NDC Implementation Plans, Green Growth Strategies and Climate Change Policies.

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NO

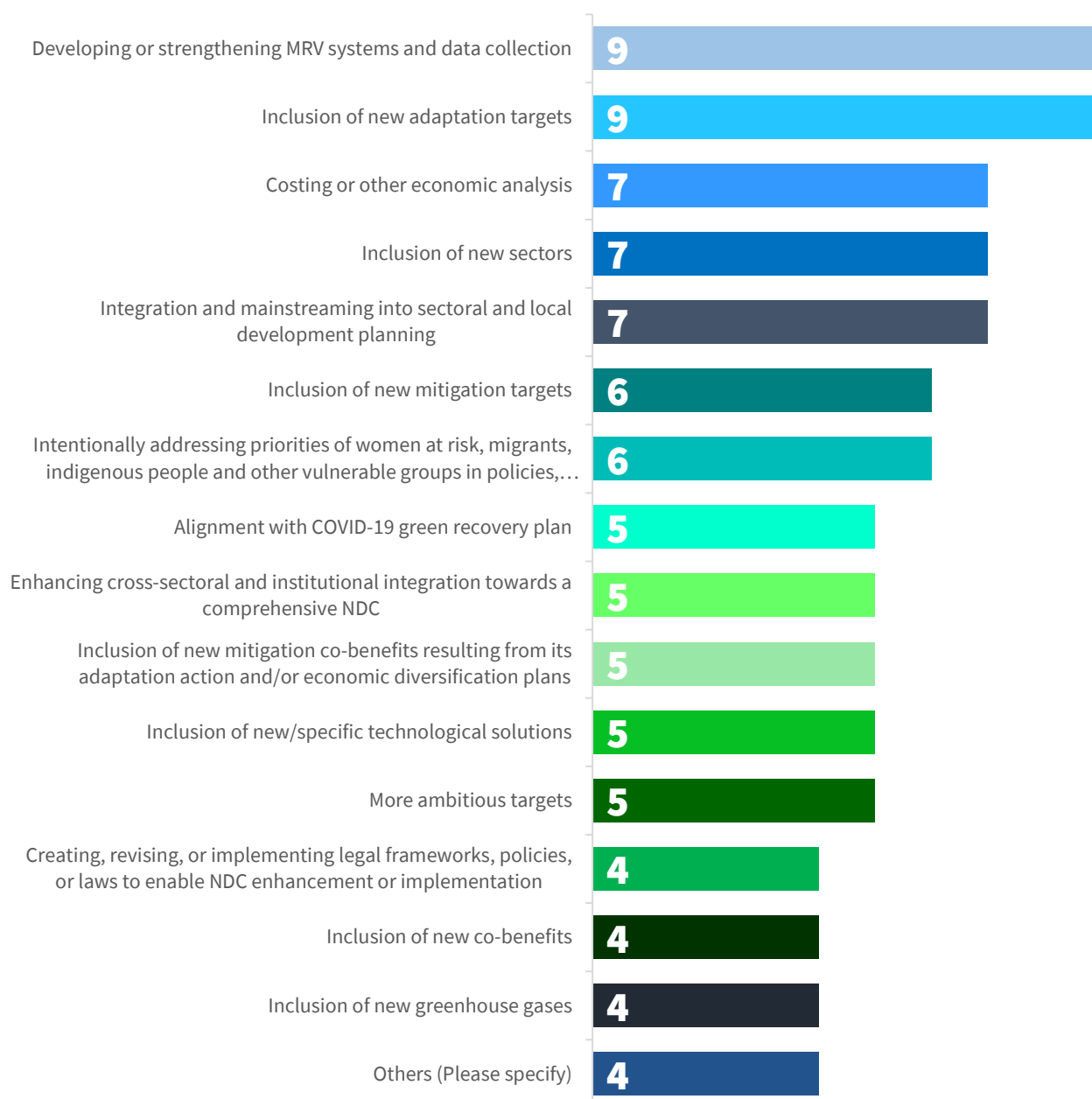
10

YES

Q3. How is your country enhancing the quality and/or increasing the ambition of its NDC?

Multiple choice, 10 responses

This question seeks to understand how countries are enhancing their updated NDCs, for example by developing or strengthening MRV systems and data collection or inclusion of new adaptation targets. The chart below provides a broad overview of the responses in a structured, standardized format. Meanwhile, Q8 gives respondents an opportunity to address this question in an open-ended descriptive manner. While all 10 countries responded to this question, one country selected 'Other' indicating that it is too early for them to specify an answer to this question.



Q4. Which of the following actions/areas are or will be explicitly included or expanded in the enhanced version of your country's NDC?

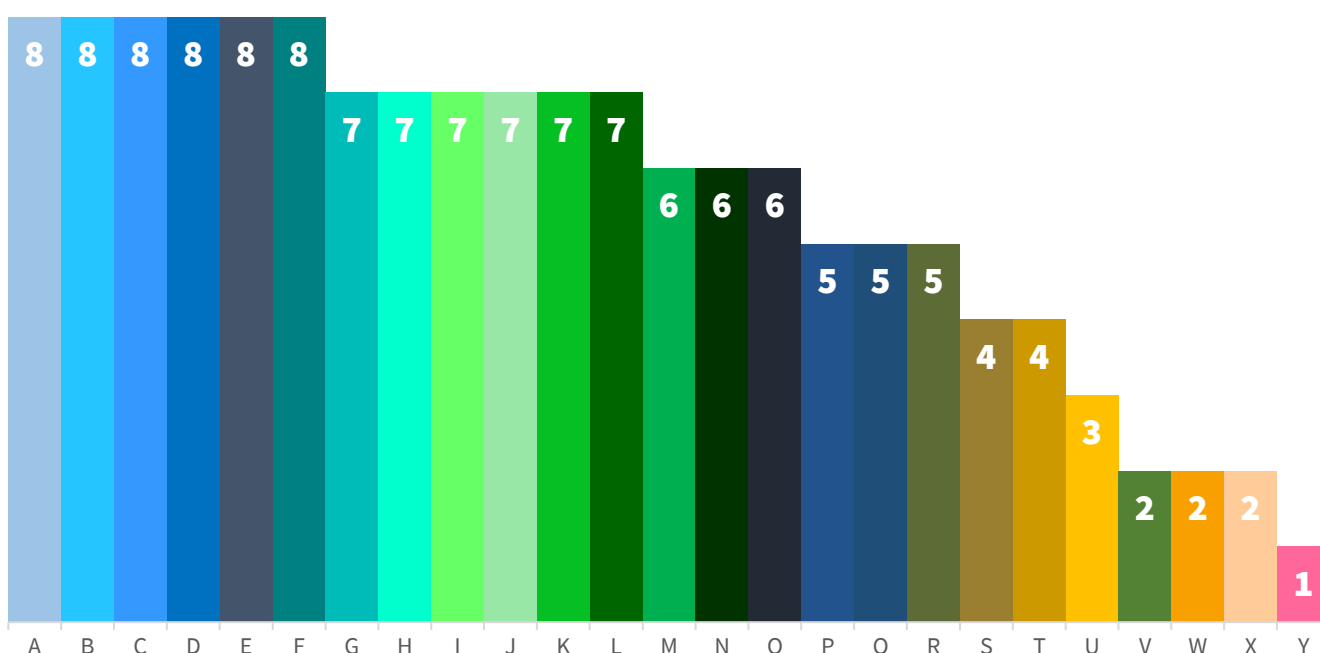
Multiple Choice, 10 responses

While Q3 explored the overall changes planned by countries in their updated NDCs, this question asks for details on the actions and areas that have been included or expanded on. All 10 countries responded, however, two countries responded under the 'Other' category indicating that it is too early for them to specify an answer to this question.

The following categories were actions/areas picked up by the most respondents (8): Accelerate technology development and transfer; Accessing and scaling up climate finance; Climate smart agriculture; Food security and livelihood; Livestock; Transportation and energy. Other majority categories with seven responses were: "Capacity development/enhancement; Energy/Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency; Gender; Land degradation and or agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU); Use of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Many of the responding countries are landlocked, therefore it is perhaps unsurprising that 'Oceans and coastal zones (Blue economy)' (2) and 'Mangroves' (1) barely featured in the responses.

Table of responses:

A	Accelerate technology development and transfer	8	N	Health	6
B	Accessing and scaling up climate finance	8	O	Sustainable recovery plans for COVID-19	6
C	Climate smart agriculture	8		Climate-related Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR),	
D	Food security and livelihood	8	P	Eco-based DRR and Nature-based solutions	5
E	Livestock	8	Q	Combatting desertification	5
F	Transportation and energy	8	R	Sustainable buildings	5
G	Capacity development/enhancement	7	S	Education, youth and children	4
H	Energy/Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency	7	T	Local communities and indigenous peoples	4
I	Gender	7	U	Circular economy	3
J	Land degradation and or agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU)	7	V	Migration	2
K	Use of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement	7	W	Oceans and coastal zones (Blue economy)	2
L	Water and irrigation	7	X	Other actions/areas (Please specify)	2
M	Economic diversification	6	Y	Mangroves	1

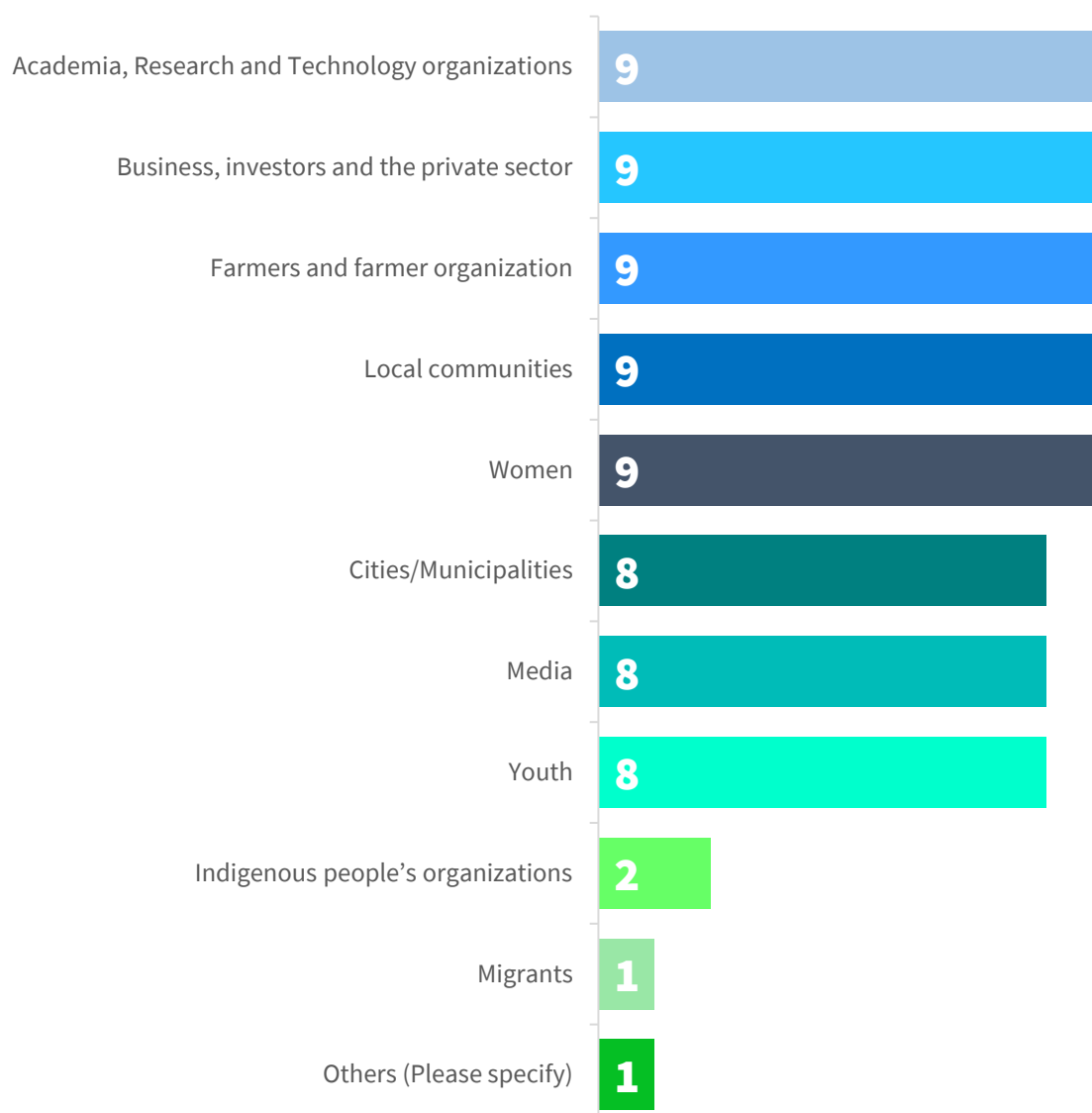


Q5. Which of the following target groups are explicitly included in the enhanced version of your country's NDC?

Multiple choice, 10 responses

While all 10 countries responded to this question, one country, responded under the 'Other' category indicating that it is too early to specify an answer to this question.

The target groups most often explicitly planned for inclusion in the enhanced NDC, mentioned nine times each, were: Academia, Research and Technology organizations; Business, investors and the private sector; Farmers and farmer organizations; Local communities; Women. Only two countries plan to explicitly target Indigenous people's organizations and only one country mentioned Migrants.



Q6. What measures to engage non-Party actors have been stipulated in your enhanced NDC process?

Free text, 10 responses

All 10 countries responded to this open-ended question. Of these, one country indicated that it was too early to give a full answer. As there were only nine substantive responses, they are reproduced here in an edited form.³

What countries said:

“The country is developing a communication strategy that will guide the country in the development of the revised NDC and its subsequent implementation. Non-state actors have also been involved in the consultation process and development of the Gender Action Plan and Analysis report for the country.”

“Awareness raising and advocacy campaigns. Also, through targeted meetings with non-state actors.”

“There is an ongoing assessment being finalized on the role of non-state actors in NDC implementation and the outcome of the assessment will inform on how to incorporate their role in the implementation of our NDC.”

“Our NDC MRV system envisages that all the reports will be approved by sector working groups. These groups will be composed of all the key players (including civil society and private sector) in the sector of environment and climate change. The sector working groups will meet and plan together, implement together, monitor together and evaluate the achievements together.”

“The country has made sure that all stakeholders are included in the development of our enhanced NDC. Consultants representing non-governmental organizations and institution have been assigned various roles to support the development of the NDC. Furthermore, the National Designated Authority has nominated several non-party actors to become GCF accredited Direct Access Entities in order to access funding to assist in funding and implementing some of the NDC initiatives in the country.”

“Consultation is key for any policy document that requires approval and participation of non-Party actors and is well taken care of here.”

“We have a stakeholder engagement plan which includes engagement plans with non-Party actors.”

“We are implementing the NDCs in a transparent and participatory manner in accordance with the provisions of the Paris Agreement.”

³ Edits were to remove reference to country names and correct spelling errors.

Q7. Will you be applying the further guidance for information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) of NDCs?

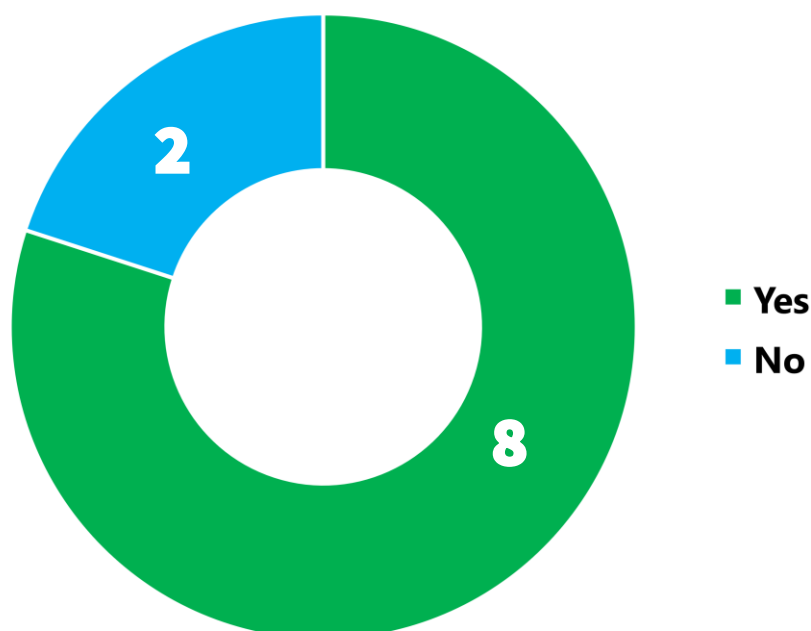
Yes/No (specify), 10 responses

Article 4.8 of the Paris Agreement states that “all Parties shall provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency, and understanding” (ICTU) in their NDCs. This question is about applying the decision from December 2018 on further guidance to facilitate ICTU of NDCs as adopted by the CMA in Katowice (Annex I, 4/CMA.1).

Although this guidance relates mainly to the mitigation component of NDCs, the Katowice decision clearly states that it is “without prejudice to the inclusion of components other than mitigation” in an NDC (paragraph 8). It further states that Parties may provide other information in NDCs. In particular, an adaptation communication may be submitted as a component of, or in conjunction with, an NDC.

While Parties are only required to use the ICTU guidelines starting with their second NDC, they are strongly encouraged to provide this information as soon as possible, including when communicating or updating NDCs by 2020.

A large majority of respondents, eight countries, specifically indicated that they intend to use the further guidance for information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) of NDCs. Countries that do not plan to apply the ICTU guidance (2) indicated that it is not applicable to them or that further capacity building is required to better understand the ICTU guidance.



Q8. Please summarize how your country intends to enhance its NDC (i.e. specify which sectors, greenhouse gases, targets, etc. you will add or strengthen)

Free text, 10 responses

To round out the many quantitative questions on how Parties intend to enhance their NDCs, they were asked one final open-ended question on what they are doing to enhance their NDCs.

All countries responded, with one country responding that it was too early in the process to provide a substantive response.

Approximately one-third of countries mentioned that they would be broadening the sectors and gases covered by their NDC, thereby enhancing ambition.

Two countries also spoke of addressing new target groups in their NDCs, such as integrating gender for the first time.

Two countries addressed the importance of improving their projections and mitigation assessments in order to have a good basis for enhancing ambition.

To achieve their enhanced targets, one country raised the importance of identifying the costs of implementation actions.

What countries said:

“The difference between our updated NDC and the one submitted previously is mainly on the quantification of emissions targets and the costing of proposed implementation actions (mitigation and adaptation)”

“Short Lived Climate Pollutants will be included”

“New Sectors to be included in the revised NDC are Waste, IPPU and AFOLU”

“We will update our greenhouse gas business as usual scenario, from which to measure the 2030 target”

“We will strengthen the necessary requirements for better engagement in the global carbon market”

Q9. Are there areas additional to those indicated in Questions 3–8, above, which your country would like to have included in its NDC but may only be included in subsequent rounds of enhancing your country's NDC?

Yes (specify)/No, 10 responses

Among the 10 responses, seven countries answered “no”, indicating that there were no additional areas they would have liked to include in this round of NDC updates.

Three countries indicated “yes”. Among the countries that answered “yes”, additional areas were ‘Trading of carbon credits’ and ‘inclusion of adaptation indicators to track progress on building resilience’. One country mentioned they would only be able to identify further areas once they had progressed further with the updating of their NDC.



CHALLENGES AND SUPPORT

Q10. Based on what you intend to include in your enhanced NDC, what are major challenges for the NDC revision process?

Multiple choice, 10 responses

Among the 10 responses, the coordination complications thrown up by COVID-19 related issues were considered to be the most important challenge to the NDC revision process. Related to this, four countries mentioned difficulties in convening stakeholders.

Data availability was also a challenge. Eight countries selected both 'Access to data for establishing baselines' and 'availability of disaggregated data for vulnerable population groups' as a challenge. In a similar vein, six countries selected both 'insufficient data to inform the prioritization of additional NDC inputs' and 'modelling for projections' as challenges relate to data.

However, only two countries mentioned governance issues as a challenge to the NDC update process. Related to this, only two countries mentioned national climate change policy as a challenge.

Challenges under the 'Other' category included delayed funding by donors and difficulty in finding suitable consultants.



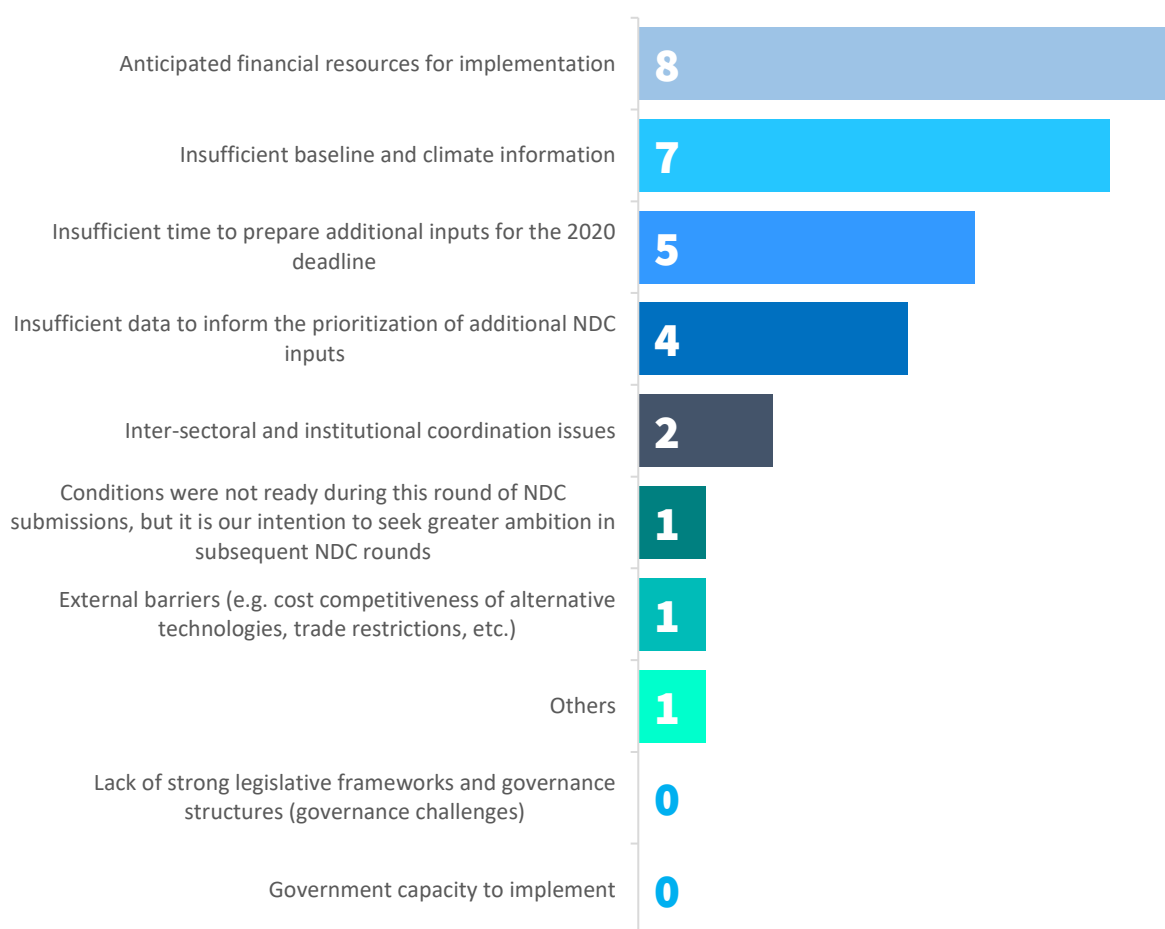
Q11. What have been the major challenges faced by your country to further enhance the ambition of its NDC?

Multiple choice, 10 responses

The previous question asked about the challenges to the NDC revision **process**. This question asks what the challenges were to further **enhance ambition**. Some categories can be both a challenge to the process and to enhancing ambition, and this is borne out by the responses related to the availability of data: Insufficient baseline and climate information (7); Insufficient data to inform the prioritization of additional NDC inputs (4).

Most respondents (8) indicated that ‘anticipated financial resources for implementation’ was a brake on ambition. This suggests that countries do not want to commit to contributions that are not funded and therefore may not have a chance of being implemented.

Five countries also cited insufficient time to prepare additional inputs for the 2020 deadline. Under the ‘Other’ category, the country highlighted that it is too early to respond to this question as the NDC enhancement process is still at an early stage.



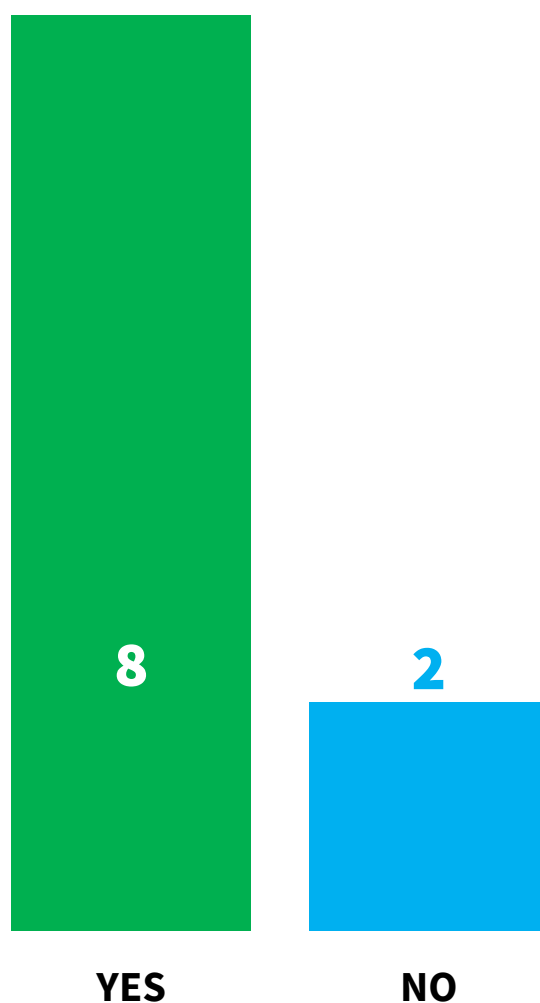
Q12. Has the COVID-19 crisis impacted the enhancement of your NDC?

Yes (specify)/No, 10 responses

The overwhelming response to this question was that COVID-19 negatively impacted the enhancement of NDCs. Eight respondents indicated a negative impact and gave various descriptions of the impact.

The main negative impact was the difficulty to do stakeholder consultation and coordinate between government agencies. Several respondents also explained that it was more difficult to collect and validate data with the relevant stakeholders.

Two respondents cited the impact COVID-19 has had on the economy and prioritization of funding away from climate related action.

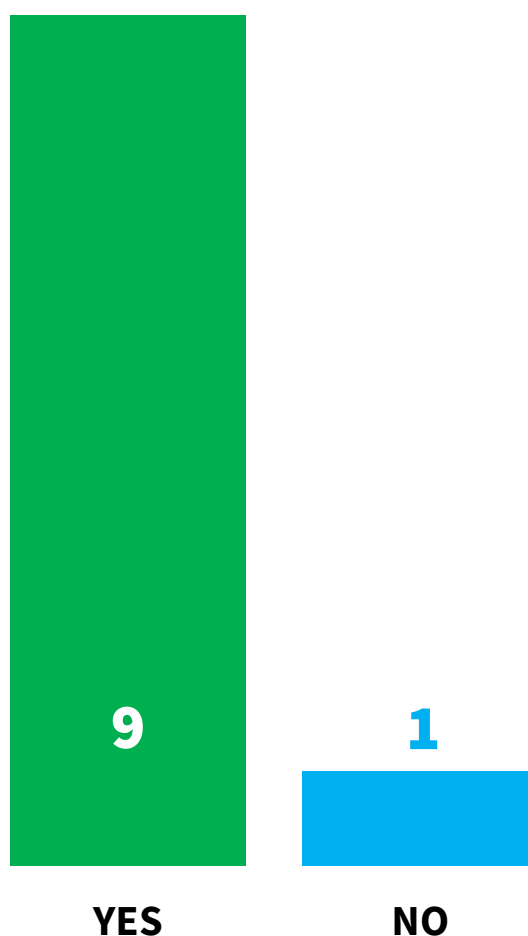


Q13. Do you foresee that the COVID-19 pandemic could have an impact on securing the funds for the implementation of your NDC (from both domestic and international sources)?

Yes (specify)/No, 10 responses

Nine respondents foresee that the pandemic will lead to a re-programming of climate related funding away from climate action.

However, two respondents pointed out that re-programming toward COVID-19 recovery efforts is in turn linked back to aims of a green recovery. This may present an unforeseen opportunity, where NDC implementation can be linked to green recovery aims.



Q14. Is your country a member of the NDC-Partnership? If yes, then what kind of support would you need from the NDC-Partnership?

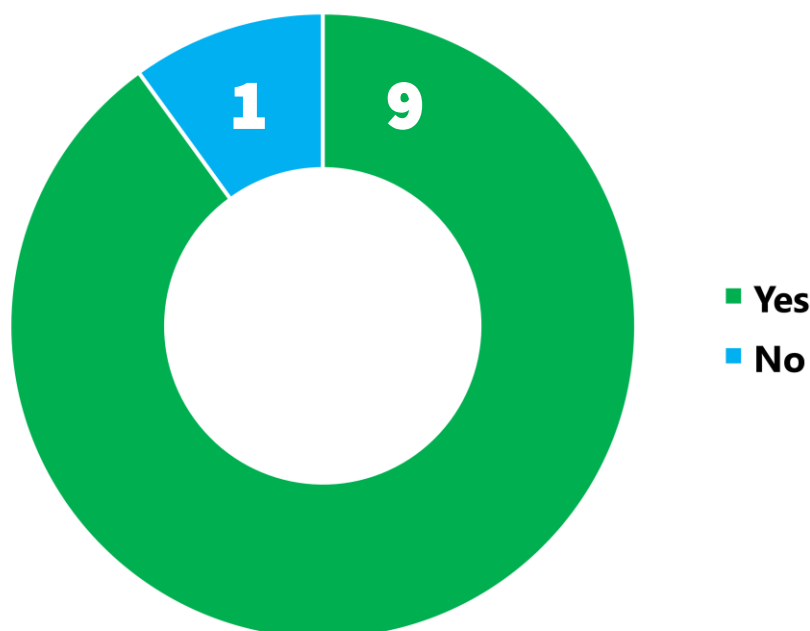
Yes (specify)/No, 10 responses

Many of the countries thanked the NDC-P for their engagement and support thus far.

Nine of the respondents are members of the NDC-Partnership. Members of the partnership were also asked to specify the kind of support they would need from the NCD-Partnership.

Needs expressed in the survey include support for:

- Embedded economic advisors, finance advisors and/or in-country facilitators;
- Accessing/mobilizing climate finance;
- Implementation, monitoring and reporting;
- Data collection.



Annex 1. Questionnaire

1. Is your country submitting a new or updated NDC in 2020?

- Yes. By when does your country plan to have its new or updated NDC ready to submit to the UNFCCC?
- No. By when does your country plan to have its new or updated NDC ready to submit to the UNFCCC?

2. Is your country developing or planning to develop LTS, NAPs, TNAs/TAPs, national policy and budgetary frameworks, or the promotion of whole of society approaches to address climate change in conjunction with your NDC enhancement process?

- If no, how come?
- If yes, please specify

3. How is your country enhancing the quality and/or increasing the ambition of its NDC? (Select all that apply)

- Alignment with COVID-19 green recovery plan
- Costing or other economic analysis
- Creating, revising, or implementing legal frameworks, policies, or laws to enable NDC enhancement or implementation
- Developing or strengthening MRV systems and data collection
- Enhancing cross-sectoral and institutional integration towards a comprehensive NDC
- Inclusion of new adaptation targets
- Inclusion of new co-benefits
- Inclusion of new greenhouse gases
- Inclusion of new mitigation co-benefits resulting from its adaptation action and/or economic diversification plans
- Inclusion of new mitigation targets
- Inclusion of new sectors
- Inclusion of new/specific technological solutions
- Integration and mainstreaming into sectoral and local development planning
- Intentionally addressing priorities of women at risk, migrants, indigenous people and other vulnerable groups in policies, laws, plans and budgets
- More ambitious targets
- Others (Please specify)

4. Which of the following actions/areas are or will be explicitly included or expanded in the enhanced version of your country's NDC? (Please select all that apply)

- Accelerate technology development and transfer
- Accessing and scaling up climate finance
- Capacity development/enhancement
- Circular economy
- Climate smart agriculture
- Climate-related Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Eco-based DRR and Nature-based solutions
- Combatting desertification
- Economic diversification
- Education, youth and children
- Energy/Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency
- Food security and livelihood
- Gender
- Health
- Land degradation and or agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU)
- Livestock
- Local communities and indigenous peoples
- Mangroves
- Migration
- Oceans and coastal zones (Blue economy)
- Sustainable buildings
- Sustainable recovery plans for COVID-19
- Transportation and energy
- Use of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement
- Water and irrigation
- Other actions/areas (Please specify)

5. Which of the following target groups are explicitly included in the enhanced version of your country's NDC? (Please select all that apply)

- Academia, Research and Technology organizations
- Business, investors and the private sector
- Cities/Municipalities
- Farmers and farmer organization
- Indigenous people's organizations
- Local communities
- Media
- Migrants
- Women
- Youth
- Others (Please specify)

6. What measures to engage non-Party actors have been stipulated in your enhanced NDC process? (Open-Ended Response)

7. The CMA in Katowice (2018, Annex I, 4/CMA.1) adopted a decision on information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) of NDCs. Did/are/will you apply this decision to your enhanced NDC?

- Yes
- No, why not?

8. Please summarize how your country intends to enhance its NDC (i.e. specify which sectors, green house gases, targets, etc. you will add or strengthen)?

(Open-Ended Response)

9. Are there areas additional to those indicated in Questions 3–8, above, which your country would like to have included in its NDC but may only be included in subsequent rounds of enhancing your country's NDC?

- No
- Yes. If so, please specify areas

10. Based on what you intend to include in your enhanced NDC, what are major challenges for the NDC revision process? (Please select all that apply)

- Access to data for establishing baselines
- Access to funding
- Availability of disaggregated data for vulnerable population groups
- Clear national climate change policy
- Coordination and approval complications due to political or other situations in country
- Coordination complications due to COVID-19 related issues
- Difficulties in convening stakeholders, including civil society stakeholders for consultation
- Insufficient data to inform the prioritization of additional NDC inputs
- Insufficient time to prepare additional inputs for the 2020 deadline
- Lack of strong legislative frameworks and governance structures (governance challenges)
- Modelling for projections
- Skills and capacity issues
- Please specify any other challenges, including technical and/ or socio-economic and political challenges

11. What have been the major challenges faced by your country to further enhance the ambition of its NDC? (Please select all that apply)

- Anticipated financial resources for implementation
- Conditions were not ready during this round of NDC submissions, but it is our intention to seek greater ambition in subsequent NDC rounds
- External barriers (e.g. cost competitiveness of alternative technologies, trade restrictions, etc.)
- Government capacity to implement
- Insufficient baseline and climate information
- Insufficient data to inform the prioritization of additional NDC inputs
- Insufficient time to prepare additional inputs for the 2020 deadline
- Inter-sectoral and institutional coordination issues
- Lack of strong legislative frameworks and governance structures (governance challenges)
- If applicable, please specify any other challenges or provide a description of the above selected challenges

12. Has the COVID-19 crisis impacted the enhancement of your NDC?

- No
- Yes, please describe how

13. Do you foresee that the COVID-19 pandemic could have an impact on securing the funds for the implementation of your NDC (from both domestic and international sources)?

- No
- Yes, please describe how

14. Is your country a member of the NDC-Partnership?

- No
- Yes, then what kind of support would you need from the NDC-Partnership?



Regional Collaboration Centre – Kampala
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