

Session SB63 (2025)

Session starts: 10-08-2025 00:00:00 [GMT+1]

Session ends: 10-10-2025 23:30:00 [GMT+1]



Facilitative, Multilateral Consideration of Progress

A compilation of questions to - and answers by - [South Africa](#) exported on
16-10-2025 by the UNFCCC secretariat

Question by United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Question to South Africa on monitoring and reporting

Thank you, **South Africa**, for the opportunity to comment on your 1st Biennial Transparency Report. During your review, you noted that for your first BTR you were unable to provide the costs and non-GHG mitigation benefits for your policies and measures due to data availability and capacity constraints. However, you've successfully put in place the necessary institutional arrangements to be able to report on these in your second BTR. Can you share how you were able to develop the right arrangements to ensure you could secure relevant data and have the capacity to report on this?

Answer by South Africa

South Africa has created the institutional and technical tools necessary to collect relevant data and build the capacity required to report on the costs and non-GHG benefits of its policies and measures (PAMs) in its second BTR. This is now formalised by the Climate Change Act, which provides a legal basis for data collection, sharing, and reporting across all sectors. Dedicated coordination structures are established within the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) to oversee NDC implementation processes and integration across sectors.

Furthermore, South Africa has refined its analytical and modelling capabilities through the development of the Integrated Emissions Modelling tool that supports the estimation of costs, co-benefits, and interactions among key mitigation policies.

South Africa has put in place functional domestic institutional arrangements to address climate change response actions and has mapped governance structures for climate action monitoring and evaluation. The country is developing several tools and has conducted specific studies to support the assessment and tracking of mitigation actions. The National Climate Change Policy 2011 provides a blueprint for the establishment and operationalisation of institutional arrangements for South Africa's climate transparency. Specifically, Section 1.2.1.3 of the policy mandates the establishment a monitoring system for gathering information (with bottom-up inputs where possible). Section 1.2.1.4 of the policy calls for the identification of the key role-players involved in monitoring and measuring of indicators for climate action and for the formulation of how these role-players will share and report data. Pursuant to this policy mandate, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)

commissioned a dedicated study on the institutional setup for tracking South Africa's transition to a lower carbon economy and climate resilient society. The study formulated South Africa's domestic measures the identification of the institutional arrangements and bodies responsible for facilitating and implementing the effective tracking of South Africa's transition to a low carbon economy and society. The study mapped frameworks and Institutional structures for information and data flows for enhanced climate action transparency outlining governance, mandates and responsibilities of role players and defined data flows frameworks. The study also outlined the key climate policies, per sector, and the related institutions responsible for implementation and monitoring of the climate policies. South Africa will leverage on these efforts to enhance data collection and analysis of co-benefits of actions in its second BTR through the improved governance of data collection mechanisms. Furthermore, South Africa is currently redeveloping its National Climate Change Information System to support monitoring and evaluation of mitigation measures.

Question by European Union at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Experiences with implementation of Forest and Woodland Restoration and Rehabilitation

In the BTR (page 104), woodland restoration and rehabilitation initiatives under the Working for Land and Working for Ecosystems programmes are described as having cumulatively reduced emissions by nearly 51 Mt CO₂-eq between 2010 and 2022—a significant achievement. Could you share the key positive experiences and lessons that have emerged from these efforts, particularly in terms of how they have not only enhanced carbon sequestration but also supported biodiversity, landscape rehabilitation, and community resilience?

Answer by South Africa

The Working for Land and Working for Ecosystems constitute part of South Africa's LULUCF sector mitigation actions. South Africa has leveraged on these actions to address the triple environmental challenges land degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change. Implementation of these programmes offer GHG effects on sequestration of CO₂ through sustainable land practices whilst offering several co-benefits including sustainable, performing ecosystems and increased land

productivity which support increased biodiversity and soil quality as well as improved subsistence farming and improved community resilience and support resilience to negative climate impacts. Since their inception these programmes have had several benefits to the country in terms of supporting the achievement of myriad sustainable development goals and climate change. The programmes offer broadly environmental, economic and social gains and support the achievement of the National Development Plan vision to transition South Africa to lower carbon economy and climate resilience society. Their positive benefits include;

- Ecosystem health and improved supply of ecosystem services.
- Facilitation of a low carbon economy.
- Increased land productivity and economic gains from agriculture.
- Social cohesion through job creation.
- Community ownership of sustainable land-based projects.
- Improvement of food security and water security.
- Improve grazing conditions and increase livestock productivity as well as sustainable livelihoods.

Question by European Union at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Tax incentives

South Africa reported about the 12L Tax Incentive Program which aims to incentivise companies to implement energy saving measures and technologies, thereby contributing to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly economy, which in 2022 lead to a CO₂ reduction of a total of 26.4 Mt CO₂-eq). Could South Africa explain whether these policies delivered on its expectations and whether there are counter effects of such policies?

Answer by South Africa

The Section 12L Energy Efficiency Tax Incentive programme has delivered great results by promoting the implementation of energy efficiency measures across multiple

sectors. This contributed to significant reductions in national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Since its inception, the 12L Tax Incentive has stimulated private-sector investment in energy-efficient technologies, operational improvements, and process optimisation. These interventions resulted in a verified reduction of approximately 26.4 Mt CO₂-eq by 2022, as reported in the first BTR. Independent measurement and verification (M&V) processes, overseen by the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) and the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) together with the South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI) ensured the transparency of the reported savings.

Moreover, this incentive programme has also unlocked many secondary benefits such as energy-cost savings and the growth of the local M&V and energy-auditing sectors. However, this programme is driven by national fiscal and as with most fiscal incentives, there are counter-effects. This includes the risk of free-rider participation. Entities that would have implemented energy efficiency measures regardless of the incentive still benefit. Nonetheless, the overall benefits of the programme significantly outweigh these counter-effects, and the lessons learned from its implementation have supported its potential extension for a further five years.

Question by European Union at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Strengthening Institutional Frameworks for NDC Implementation

South Africa's Climate Change Act 22 of 2024 and the establishment of the Presidential Climate Commission are highlighted as key developments in strengthening institutional arrangements for climate action. Could you share the most impactful lessons learned from implementing these frameworks, particularly in terms of enhancing coordination across government levels and ensuring alignment with just transition principles?

Answer by South Africa

The Climate Change Act 22 of 2024 is an overarching national framework for the implementation of the National Climate Change Policy 2011. The enactment of the Act will support South Africa to implement its NDC commitment on mitigation and adaptation. As part of institutional arrangements the PCC is mandated to advise on the Republic's climate change response to ensure realisation of the vision for effective

climate change response and the long-term just transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient-economy and society; advise government on the mitigation of climate change impacts, including through the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases, and adapting to the effects of climate change; and advise government on any socio-economic matter related to the just transition.

Currently South Africa is promulgating Regulations on the administration and operation of the PCC. The regulations will support the in the coordination and integration of just transition targets and outcomes into strategic and annual performance plans of key government departments in order to ensure that the transition is being implemented to meet South Africa's domestic and international commitments and agreements. Furthermore, the regulations will provide for South Africa's oversight on the country's climate change response and pathways towards a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy and society and to ensure a facilitated dialogue between social partners towards a long-term just transition through an inclusive, transparent, action-oriented process informed by the best available science.

The Framework outlines a set of recommendations on "A Just Transition Framework for South Africa," that are aimed at bringing coherence to just transition planning in the country, with shared vision for the just transition, principles to guide the transition, and policies and governance arrangements to give effect to the transition.

The PCC further recommends that "A Just Transition Framework for South Africa" is located within the central planning system of government, specifically in the national development plan, the medium-term strategic framework, annual performance plans, and annual budgeting processes, with each government department required to define their roles in relation to these objectives and the implementation of the framework.

The most impactful benefit of the Act is that South Africa's fair share of its mitigation commitment in its NDC is a regulated commitment nationally, which will enhance governance framework for the achievement of the NDC commitment.

Question by European Union at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Liming emissions estimation

In its first BTR South Africa reported that agriculture emissions in 2022 accounted for 12% (incl. LULUCF) of total emissions for South Africa of which 18% from agricultural soils.

Could South Africa elaborate on the arrangements for estimating liming, limestone and dolomite and what are the challenges they are facing with the methodologies?

Answer by South Africa

An alternative data source for lime application was needed. In the first BTR, emissions from lime application were estimated by crop type using crop area data and application rates, based on estimates from Tongwane et al. (2016). The total amount of lime applied (in tonnes) was calculated using the application rate per crop and the corresponding crop area. Since the proportion of dolomite versus limestone lime was unknown, a 50:50 split was assumed. Accordingly, the total lime applied was divided equally between dolomite and limestone.

Question by European Union at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Quality control and quality assurance

In its BTR1 South Africa reported that there is work on going to improve livestock population data. Could South Africa explain the steps taken to strengthen their institutional arrangements for collecting livestock activity data and particularly how the QA/QC process could improve the quality activity data?

Answer by South Africa

Livestock population data is derived from formal statistics, published annually by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) in the Agricultural Abstracts. The establishment of a Livestock Estimates Committee is being considered as a means to enhance the accuracy and reliability of this data. Ongoing engagements are taking place between the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) and DALRRD to further improve livestock data. These efforts are supported by the recently enacted Climate Change Act, which provides a strong legal foundation for coordinated climate action across all sectors, including agriculture. This initiative forms part of a broader strategy aimed at strengthening institutional arrangements and data management systems within the agricultural sector.

Question by Republic of Korea at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: NDC tracking – natural disturbances, p. 69

South Africa explained that it is difficult to track emissions associated with natural disturbances, such as wildfires, when selecting its indicators for tracking progress towards the NDC. What efforts are currently underway to improve the reporting of emissions from natural disturbances and tracking NDC progress?

Answer by South Africa

Fires contribute significantly to natural disturbances and in terms of reporting South Africa has challenges separating wildfires and controlled fires. There are plans to improve institutional arrangements to collect supporting data to further enable the separation. In addition, the Inventory team is currently designing a Land Mapping System that will allow South Africa to track land parcels and therefore also track burnt areas more closely. These include, monitoring and reporting of emissions from natural disturbances through improved remote sensing systems, methodological updates aligned with IPCC guidance, and integration of these efforts into NDC tracking frameworks.

Question by Republic of Korea at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Flexibility – inventory and projections, p. 235

South Africa reported the application of flexibility in its inventory and emission projections, noting challenges such as data collection difficulties leading to omissions in some sectors and the absence of detailed methodological and modeling results. The Party also indicated that improvements are planned by the time of its third BTR submission in 2028. Could South Africa share the main challenges it faces in preparing concrete improvement plans for each reporting item?

Answer by South Africa

South Africa acknowledges the importance of establishing clear and detailed improvement plans for each reporting item to enhance transparency under the Paris Agreement. Significant progress has been made in strengthening the institutional and technical capacity. However, the country acknowledges that there are several challenges that affect the pace and completeness of improvement planning. These relate to data limitations, institutional coordination gaps, technical and methodological constraints, and resource availability. Ongoing improvements under the Climate Change Act, supported by targeted capacity-building and the establishment of an integrated national reporting systems, are expected to address these challenges and enable detailed reporting by the third BTR in 2028.

From the GHG inventory perspective, there are several challenges that affect the pace and completeness of improvement planning for the GHG inventory. These relate to data limitations and resource availability, however ongoing enhancements through the South African Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting System (SAGERS) and the implementation of the Inventory Improvement Programme are key to addressing data and methodological gaps. The 2016 National Greenhouse Gas Emission Reporting Regulations have also improved data collection and consistency by mandating facility-level reporting across key sectors. These efforts, combined with continued capacity-building and system integration under the Climate Change Act, are expected to strengthen the national inventory system and enable more detailed and transparent reporting by the third BTR in 2028.

Question by Japan at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Emission reductions by Eskom Integrated Demand Management Programme

What is the main reason for the decreasing trend of emission reductions by the Eskom Integrated Demand Management Programme? How did you estimate the emission reductions?

Related pages : p86

<https://unfccc.int/documents/645057>

Answer by South Africa

Eskom's Integrated Demand Management (IDM) Programme rollout was put on hold at the end of 2018. The decline in emission reductions from the IDM Programme is primarily attributed to the strategic reorientation of the programme around 2019. During this period, Eskom shifted the IDM's focus away from broad-based energy-efficiency initiatives toward more targeted demand-response interventions for large industrial and commercial customers. The newly redesigned programme, Eskom's Distribution Demand Side Management Programme (DDMP), currently excludes the residential sector.

To calculate emission savings, the energy savings data (primary dataset provided by Eskom's IDM Department) were multiplied by the relevant grid emission factors for the years 2010 to 2018. From 2019 onwards, assumptions were made that the implemented measures would remain in use; therefore, the energy savings achieved in 2018 were assumed to remain constant, reflecting the continued operation of the installed efficiency measures. The emission reductions were calculated as follows:

Emission Reduction (tCO₂-eq) = Energy Savings (MWh) × Grid Emission Factor (tCO₂/MWh)

All reported savings were subject to independent Measurement and Verification (M&V) by accredited bodies under the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) for data reliability and transparency. The emission factors used were based on Eskom's annual generation profile, incorporating coal, renewables, and other sources, as documented in the National Grid Emission Factor report.

Question by Japan at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: South African Climate Change Information System (NCCIS)

On page 63 of the BTR1, South Africa reports a web-based platform, the South African Climate Change Information System (NCCIS). What information does the Tracking and Evaluation (T&E) Portal of NCCIS collect and archive? Could you share any good practices or lessons learnt for the efficient data collection for tracking the progress of PaMs using this platform?

Related pages : p63

<https://unfccc.int/documents/645057>

Answer by South Africa

The National Climate Change Information System (NCCIS) serves as the central web-based platform for managing and archiving national climate-related data in support of transparency and tracking progress toward the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). The Portal is designed to collect, store, and analyse data on the implementation of climate actions across the country by national departments, state entities, provinces, and municipalities. The NCCIS allows each responsible department or entity to upload and update information directly, while DFFE oversees quality assurance and methodological consistency. The built-in validation rules and approval workflows enhance data quality and reduce duplication. Training for national and sub-national officials has been critical to maintaining data completeness. While the NCCIS has strengthened South Africa's transparency system, ongoing improvements include expanding the portal's coverage and accessibility. The key lessons learned from the NCCIS include the standardisation of reporting templates, decentralised data entry with central oversight by the department, and sustained capacity-building.

The NCCIS is a system of systems and offers a series of decision support tools to inform policy and decision-making, as well showcases information for South Africa's domestic and international reporting and informs national decision making including Parliament and Cabinet as well South Africa's position in various negotiating platforms to the Conference of the Parties (COPs).

The NCCIS is supported by national, provincial, and local scale systems of data-collection to provide detailed, complete, accurate and up to date data on indicators relating to:

- Greenhouse gas emission reductions achieved through projects, policies and other related instruments/measures.
- Observed and projected climate change.

- Current and future risks, impacts and vulnerabilities.
- Climate resilience response measures.
- Analysis of impact of adaptation and mitigation measures.
- Information on climate change financial flows.
- Tracking of technology transfer activities related to climate change initiatives.
- Climate changes related tracking indicators

However, South Africa is currently redeveloping the system to cater for new emerging frameworks such as Article 6, Just Transition and the need for the monitoring and evaluation of legislated mitigation policy instruments; the Carbon Budget and Mitigation Plans defined under the Climate Change Act 22 of 2024. In the second BTR South Africa will provide an update on the progress achieved in the institutionalisation of the redeveloped NCCIS system.

Question by Japan at Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Climate Change Act 22 of 2024

According to the BTR1 (p.78), the Climate Change Act 22 of 2024 sets the emission targets for sectors and sub-sectors and allocates carbon budgets to companies. Could you please elaborate on what information is used to set these emission reduction targets and carbon budgets? What process is used to set them? How are they monitored and verified?

Related pages : p.78

<https://unfccc.int/documents/645057>

Answer by South Africa

South Africa's emission targets and carbon budgets are determined using a data-driven, consultative process grounded in historical emissions, sectoral modelling, and socio-economic analysis. These instruments form the core of the country's climate

change mitigation systems and ensure that national greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction objectives are translated into measurable outcomes across all sectors of the economy.

Sectoral Emissions Targets (SETs)

The Climate Change Act defines SETs as the greenhouse gas emission reduction goals, either qualitative or quantitative, applicable to sectors or sub-sectors over a period of time. SETs are the mechanism to achieve the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), and they will be routinely revised every 5 years in line with future NDC updates. ‘Sector’ within the context of SETs is defined by a national department(s) whom has political responsibilities to provide service delivery within a specific jurisdiction. The ‘Sector’ is governed by a policy framework (PAMs) to ensure non-market goods and services for individual and public consumption are provided for. A minister(s) is ultimately responsible for this policy framework per sector, and it is this minister that will be responsible for implementing SETs.

SETs are anchored in sector PAMs that govern the programmes and activities that currently, or have the potential, to make significant impact on greenhouse gas reductions when adequately implemented. Such programmes and activities are linked to specific technological and/or behavioural changes that when implemented result in direct GHG emissions reductions. These implementable actions are termed ‘GHG mitigation levers’. Each national government department will be tasked with developing and implementing PAMs to ensure emissions from within respective sectors or sub-sectors remain within SET allocation. To achieve the desired outcomes, these sector departments would need to align, adjust, upscale and/or develop policies and measures to achieve allocated SETs. The PAMs can be categorized as regulatory measures, economic measures, support measures, direct government actions and information programmes.

The allocation of SETs is informed by a technical modelling approach that integrates economic, energy, and emissions data to establish fair and achievable targets. This process uses the DFFE Integrated Climate Change Mitigation Model, which combines tools such as the Mitigation Potential Analysis (MPA) and the Socio-Economic Analysis. Together, these models project sectoral emissions up to 2030, drawing on historical data, economic trends, sectoral activity, and mitigation measures to guide equitable and effective SET allocation.

Carbon Budgets

The current Draft Carbon Budget & Mitigation Plans regulations outline a list of emitting activities and the prescribed threshold that enables emitting companies conducting listed activities that are within or above the reporting threshold to submit a carbon budget. Furthermore, the carbon budget must adhere to the referenced methodology as prescribed in the regulations, must provide detailed data on the historical & projected

data in relation to production processes, stationary fuel combustions. Once the carbon budget is allocated by the Minister, the company will be required to submit a GHG Mitigation plans that will demonstrate how the mitigation measures proposed, will assist the company to meet its allocated carbon budget.

To monitor the progress of the carbon budget allocated, annually, the company is required to submit its Mitigation plans annual progress report to minister by the 31st of March annually for the 5 year period. the annual progress report will demonstrate efforts / progress made in the implementation of the mitigation measures and to track progress on whether the company is meeting the allocated carbon budget.

The other instrument that regulates the allocated carbon budget, is the carbon tax act, which also allows all companies that participate through the carbon budget program to be awarded 5% carbon tax free allowances, annually the DFFE authority (GHG Reporting Regulations) will issue a letter to this companies that will verify the actual GHG emitted for the reporting cycle.

[Question by](#) New Zealand at Tuesday, 09 September 2025

[Category:](#) All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 10 September

[Title:](#) South Africa's LULUCF sector

South Africa's BTR indicates that the LULUCF sector was a net sink in 2022. New Zealand would be interested if South Africa could share any details on whether any long-term strategies are in place to maintain or enhance this sink?

[Answer by](#) South Africa

South Africa recognizes the importance of the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector in contributing to national emission reduction goals and in maintaining the sector as a net carbon sink. There are long-term strategies and policy measures in place to sustain and enhance this sink which align with the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and National Climate Change Response Policy (NCCRP). South Africa has also integrated the LULUCF in the Climate Change act to ensure a long-term planning and reporting consistency to sustain the sink capacity.

South Africa has adopted numerous response measures (project, programme, policies, strategies, plans, etc) undertaken in the LULUCF sector, designed to meet several other

imperatives including food security, ecosystem structure and function, water security, etc., in addition to climate change response. South Africa invests substantial domestic resources on the implementation of Expanded Public Works Programme which include programmes in the LULUCF with a clear focus on natural resource management and alleviating poverty in rural communities through job creation whilst deriving climate change and co-benefits impacts. These programmes promote afforestation, reforestation, and the rehabilitation of degraded forest and thicket ecosystems. The aim is to enhance carbon sequestration while improving biodiversity and ecosystem resilience.

An Atlas was also developed to create a better understanding of the country's mitigation opportunities in the land component of the AFOLU sector. Furthermore, the country has adopted the Carbon Tax off-set policy under the Carbon Tax Act and the Carbon Offset Regulations to incentivize investment in carbon sinks programmes as part of national strategies to maintain and enhance sinks. As part of South Africa's broader strategy to maintain and enhance the carbon sink function of the LULUCF sector, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) is currently implementing the One Million Trees Programme, which forms part of the National Greening Programme and the Ten Million Trees Project. The One Million Trees Campaign serves as a key milestone within this broader target. The programme's goal is to plant ten million trees in South Africa by 2026. South Africa is continuously improving its MRV system using satellite-based land cover mapping and national forest monitoring systems to track land-use dynamics and carbon stock changes more accurately.

South Africa also conducted a wall-to-wall National terrestrial carbon sinks assessment to (1) quantify our national carbon sink, (2) identify principal mitigation options (8 principal mitigation options were identified), and (3) assess policies relevant to carbon sinks (assessed 101 "policies documents"). The data from the NTCSA was used to develop a web-based Carbon Sinks Atlas, which has been updated 4 times. The Sinks Atlas is accessible online.

In addition, South Africa also developed a land-based mitigation strategy, considering the further development of the 8 principal mitigation options at a programmatic level. Within the process of further development and implementation of the 8 principal mitigation options. REDD+ is the one that South Africa currently working on. South Africa has done a number of initiatives, including the construction of a FREL and a National REDD+ Strategic Framework. Currently South Africa is in the process of developing a fully-fledged National REDD+ Strategy, as well as to conduct a full assessment of the scope of implementation of REDD+ at a national level, in order to roll-out the programme at a sub-national and then upscale to a national level over time. Unfortunately, South Africa does not have funds to further develop and roll out the National Land-based Mitigation programme. Therefore, it is on hold for now.

Furthermore, South Africa has also done a national blue carbon sinks assessment, where South Africa considered mangroves, seagrasses and salt marshes. Through the assessment, South Africa identified the opportunities as well as the carbon and non-carbon benefits and potential priority sites for restoration. The study is also available. Unfortunately, even for this work there are constraints in terms of financial support.

In conclusion, South Africa needs grant based financial support to implement the various strategies and initiatives as mentioned, in order to enhance the sink potential of the LULUCF sector.

[Question by Canada](#) at Thursday, 04 September 2025

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Conflicting net emissions numbers between BTR CTF and NIR

The BTR CTF (published Dec. 2024) and NIR (published Apr. 2025) report conflicting figures for 2022 total net emissions. Per reported progress on the NDC target in CTF, in 2022 net emissions were 394.3 MtCO₂e. However, in the National Inventory Report, they were 432.5 MtCO₂e. Can you please explain this difference?

[Answer by South Africa](#)

The net GHG emissions in the NIR include natural disturbances while the indicator value for tracking NDC is calculated as **net GHG emissions excluding emissions from natural disturbance** (as relevant to the updated NDC target). For reference see table 2.5 (structured summary) page 73 of South Africa's BTR1, for the differences between the net GHG emissions and the indicator value. During the TERT review some improvement recommendations were made regarding the reporting of natural disturbance gains and losses, and these are being considered for the next inventory.

[Question by Canada](#) at Thursday, 04 September 2025

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Approaches used and key underlying assumptions taken into account for the projections

The methodology used to develop the projections is reported in less details as stated on P112. For BTR3 in 2028, could South Africa consider adding information related to assumptions about PAMs and policy revisions (if applicable)?

Answer by South Africa

The information related to assumptions as well as the methodology used can be found in section 2.6.1, of South Africa's BTR1. South Africa used the flexibility provision on paragraph 102 of the MPGs, to report projections using less detailed methodology or coverage, including on assumptions.

Question by Canada at Wednesday, 03 September 2025

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: New technologies in GHG Inventory development

How have you been able to leverage new technologies such as artificial intelligence to improve GHG inventory development?

Answer by South Africa

No, but we are interested in knowing if Canada has leveraged new technologies and what lessons have been learned.

Question by Canada at Wednesday, 03 September 2025

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: GHG Inventory methodologies and mitigation measures

What processes do you have in place to ensure inventory methodologies effectively reflect changes in activities/practices resulting from mitigation measures?

Answer by South Africa

The national pollution prevention plan regulations, which is one of the instruments used to regulate industry GHG emissions, make references to the methodology prescribed in the Greenhouse reporting regulations for all the mitigation measures put forward by emitting companies as measures for reducing emissions GHG emissions (for example Eskom pollution prevent plan submission will have mitigation measures with anticipated emissions reductions, the methodology that Eskom will use to calculate the anticipated emissions reductions from the proposed mitigation measures must be aligned with the methodology as prescribed in the National GHG Reporting Regulations.

South Africa has established several institutional and technical processes to ensure that inventory methodologies effectively reflect changes in activities and practices resulting from mitigation measures associated with its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. Greenhouse gas reporting in South Africa is conducted in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Regulations, which require specified emitters to submit annual emissions and activity data to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment. These facility-level reports ensure that any changes resulting from mitigation measures—such as fuel switching, process optimization, or adoption of cleaner technologies—are reflected in their emissions reporting.

To ensure transparency and accuracy, robust quality assurance, and quality control (QA/QC) procedures, along with time-series consistency checks, are applied to verify that observed emission trends and reductions reflect genuine changes in activities or technologies rather than methodological inconsistencies. Cross-checking against national energy balances, production statistics, and other relevant datasets further enhances the reliability and credibility of the inventory in reflecting mitigation impacts across all sectors.

In addition, the implementation of Pollution Prevention Plans (PPPs) under the 2017 Regulations complements the reporting process by requiring major emitters to develop, implement, and report on measures to prevent or reduce GHG emissions. Data from PPPs—covering emission reduction activities, progress tracking, and technology changes—are cross-checked with facility-level GHG reports and integrated into the National Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, ensuring that inventory methodologies and emission estimates accurately reflect the impact of mitigation actions across sectors.

Question by Canada at Wednesday, 03 September 2025

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Archiving system of GHG Inventory

Could you please give a brief overview of key processes part of your national GHG inventory archiving system that support its efficient maintenance?

Answer by South Africa

Our national GHG inventory archiving system is built on key processes that ensure both efficiency and long-term maintenance. The core processes are:

Centralised Digital Repository: All inventory components from raw data to final calculation files to correspondence and review reports and review reports are systematically saved in a centralised, secure digital platform. This help us eliminate data loss from individual storage and ensure everything is findable.

Version Control with clear Naming Conventions: We enforce strict version control and file-naming protocols. This allows us to track the evolution of estimates, understand why changes were made between draft, and easily revert to previous versions if needed. It is crucial for transparency and reproducibility.

Regular Integrity Checks and Backups: The system administrator conducts regular checks to ensure data integrity and backups to prevent catastrophic data loss. This proactive maintenance guarantees the archive remains reliable and accessible for the long term.

Question by Canada at Wednesday, 03 September 2025

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Quality management system of GHG Inventory

Could you please share some examples of good practices used to ensure that QA/QC

checks are done thoroughly for all sectors as well as for cross-cutting areas of the GHG inventory?

Answer by South Africa

The QA/QC process for South Africa's national inventory is conducted through a structured multi-step approach to ensure accuracy, transparency, and credibility. The steps are as follows:

1. Internal Review: Sector compilers conduct an internal review of the inventory, which has been compiled by a different expert. This step involves providing detailed comments and feedback to improve the quality of the data and methodologies used.
2. Inventory Coordinator Review: The inventory coordinator performs a comprehensive review of the inventory compiled by the experts and sector compilers. This step ensures consistency and alignment with national standards and reporting requirements.
3. External Expert Review: An independent external consultant is engaged to review the inventory. This provides an additional layer of scrutiny and enhances the objectivity of the QA/QC process.
4. Public Commenting Period: The draft inventory is published for public consultation. During this phase, stakeholders and members of the public are invited to provide input before the inventory is officially finalised and published.
5. Voluntary UNFCCC Expert Review: Occasionally, South Africa invites experts from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to conduct a voluntary review of the inventory prior to its submission. This step is undertaken to further strengthen the robustness and international credibility of the inventory.

Question by Canada at Wednesday, 03 September 2025

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 10 September

Title: Update on JETP activities

Would there be updates available for BTR tables 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 on pg 191-193? I.e more information available on the JET Implementation Plan 2023-2027 and three priority sectors and two cross-cutting areas.

Answer by South Africa

Quarterly reports are provided by the JET Project Management Unit (JET PMU) which provide updates on the JET implementation progress. The reports focus on progress in achieving the short- and medium-term outcomes specified in the JET IP, and the milestones for 2025. The milestones and indicators for impacts from 2025–2027 will be reported annually at the end of each financial year. These reports can be used to provide updates on progress against the JET implementation plan 2023-2027 in subsequent BTRs for the country.

Eg:

<https://justenergytransition.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/JetQuarterly31March2025.pdf>

South Africa's Just Energy Transition Investment Plan (JET IP) is part of South Africa's Climate Change Mitigation System which aims to "establish an ambitious long-term partnership to support South Africa's pathway to low emissions and climate resilient development, to accelerate the just transition and the decarbonisation of the electricity system, and to develop new economic opportunities such as green hydrogen and electric vehicles amongst other interventions to support South Africa's shift towards a low carbon future.

Specifically, the JET IP seeks to support South Africa to achieve its goal of establishing a low carbon and climate resilient society. The strategy also supports South Africa to decarbonise the economy and to reduce emissions to within the NDC target range of 350-420 Mt CO₂ eq by 2030 in a just manner. Thus, the JET IP supports South Africa to meet its international commitment under the Paris Agreement. The strategy focuses on the foregoing priority sectors;

- Electricity: Primarily focused on Eskom decommissioning, expanding and strengthening transmission grid and distribution, new renewable energy and Just Transition needs
- Electric Vehicles: Investment focused on decarbonising the automotive sector and supporting supply chain transition towards green sustainable manufacturing
- Green Hydrogen: Investment focus on incubating local ecosystems, essential planning, and feasibility studies thus developing South Africa Green Hydrogen industry.

JET IP Financing

South Africa provides approximately R277.5 billion of domestic climate finance inflows to support the country's transition to lower carbon economy and climate resilience society. The JET IP total investment requirement is ZAR1.5 trillion over the 5 years (2023-2027). The JET IP is coordinated and overseen by a dedicated agency, the Project Management Unit under the Presidency which works closely with key national stakeholders. To give effect to the JET IP, a Presidential Climate Finance Task Team (PCFTT) and an independent JET IP Secretariat was constituted which supported development of the strategy and the investment framework taking into account national decarbonisation priorities.

JET IP Developmental Impacts

The JET IP aligns with National Sustainable Development Goals, specifically aligning national decarbonation priorities with National Development Plan (Vision 2030) to transition the country to lower carbon economy and climate resilient society; to address inequality, job creation and poverty eradication. The strategy is strongly rooted on building social, infrastructure and economic in a manner that ensures;

- Security of electricity supply,
- Creation of employment in new energy and industrial sectors
- Provision of essential support and safety nets for affected communities
- Build resilience to physical and transition risks, and social effect

The JEP IP contribution towards the attainment of SDGs include;

- Inclusive growth and job creation – SDG 8
- Improved air quality and positive health and well-being impacts – SDG 3
- A Just energy transition – SDG 10
- Green economy and reduced greenhouse gas emissions – SDG 13
- Increased employment opportunities – SDG 8
- Re-industrialisation, localisation and beneficiation – SDG 9, SDG 7
- Reduce poverty and tackle the high cost of living – SDG 1
- Skills for the economy – SDG 4
- Improved education outcomes and skills SDG 4
- Social cohesion and nation-building SDG 16

- Build a capable, ethical & developmental state SDG 16
- Improved governance and performance of public entities SDG 16

Replicability & Lessons from JET IP

The investment plan presents South Africa's unique decarbonisation strategy that can be replicated in other countries, founded on the country's transition needs and fiscal challenges and which incorporate appropriate and equitable risk-sharing arrangements.

Lessons learnt from implementation of JET IP

- Any debt-related terms should be more attractive than the country could secure in the capital markets without unduly onerous reporting requirements
- The level of concessionality of any debt-related instruments must reflect both the obligation of developed countries to finance mitigation and adaptation measures, and the significant cost of these measures
- Finance flows need to be predictable and certain, to enable and support a sustained momentum of the broader investment plan
- Finance flows should be made available in a well-timed harmonious manner
- The private sector is an important partner to foster appropriate risk sharing arrangement
- The JETIP needs to be supported mostly through non-debt instruments and grants from developed countries, in order to make its implementation successful and just, in line with equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.
