Submission to the Call for Inputs for the Belém Mission to 1.5

22/06/2026

Context

ECODES welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the Belém Mission to 1.5. For more than 30 years, ECODES has worked to accelerate the transition towards a carbon-neutral, inclusive and responsible society. We recognise that fossil fuels are the principal driver of the climate crisis and that keeping the 1.5°C limit within reach requires rapid, deep and sustained emissions reductions during this decade.

First and foremost, ECODES wishes to stress that the Belém Mission to 1.5 cannot substitute for a strong and continued Mitigation Work Programme. A dedicated mitigation track within the formal UNFCCC agenda remains essential to ensure political accountability, continuity and ambition. Without such anchoring, the Mission risks becoming disconnected from the negotiations and losing the political relevance needed to support real implementation. In this context, ECODES considers that the Belém Mission to 1.5 should serve as a practical bridge between the political outcome of the first Global Stocktake and implementation on the ground. The Global Stocktake called on Parties to contribute to "transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner", while accelerating action in this critical decade and reflecting equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

1.What action areas and solutions have the highest impact potential to support the submission, ambition and implementation of NDCs and NAPs. This could include consideration of:
a.priority solutions and innovations across policies, technologies, practices and investments,

The highest-impact contribution of the Belém Mission to 1.5 would be to establish a clear hierarchy of implementation priorities grounded in the outcomes of the first Global Stocktake and capable of informing the next GST cycle. GST1 provides a strong starting point: it calls on Parties to triple renewable energy capacity, double the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030, and transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems in a just, orderly and equitable manner.

While respecting national sovereignty, the Mission should prioritise solutions that reduce emissions at source, can be deployed at scale before 2030, avoid new fossil fuel lock-in, and deliver social, health, economic and resilience benefits. Given the IPCC's finding that limiting warming to around 1.5°C requires global greenhouse gas emissions to peak before 2025 at the latest and fall by 43% by 2030, with methane reduced by about one third, the Mission should focus on mature, scalable and verifiable solutions rather than distant technological promises. Methane, already recognised as a key concern in the Mitigation Work Programme, also offers an opportunity to connect the Mission with the formal negotiating track.

This means placing energy efficiency, sufficiency, renewable energy deployment and direct electrification at the centre of NDC implementation, supported by grid modernisation, storage, demand-side flexibility, building renovation, clean heating, sustainable mobility, industrial efficiency, circularity, methane reduction, sustainable food systems and the protection and restoration of natural carbon sinks. These measures are the operational backbone of a credible 1.5°C pathway and should be reflected in sectoral policies, public investment plans, national development strategies and implementation pipelines.

The Mission should also help countries translate the GST energy package into investment-ready implementation plans. Tripling renewables and doubling energy efficiency by 2030 will require permitting reform, grid planning, storage and flexibility strategies, public procurement, industrial policy, skills development and measures to ensure that benefits are socially shared. The implementation gap is therefore not primarily one of technical feasibility, but of policy coherence, finance, infrastructure, institutional capacity and political will.

International cooperation mechanisms such as Just Energy Transition Partnerships and country platforms offer relevant lessons. They can help align national priorities, development planning, public finance, multilateral development banks and private investment around concrete transition pathways. However, they should be improved and scaled carefully to avoid increasing debt burdens, ensure national ownership, support economic diversification, deliver benefits for affected workers and communities, and remain aligned with long-term 1.5°C pathways.

A second high-impact area is the operationalisation of the transition away from fossil fuels. The Mission should help Parties move from political language to concrete national and sectoral roadmaps covering both demand and supply. These should include clear timelines, no new fossil fuel expansion incompatible with 1.5°C, fossil fuel subsidy reform, managed decline of fossil fuel infrastructure, transition plans for affected workers and regions, and safeguards to prevent new forms of extractivism linked to critical minerals.

This is essential because fossil fuel dependence is embedded not only in energy systems, but also in public revenues, trade balances, employment structures, infrastructure planning and geopolitical relationships. NDCs should therefore address both fossil fuel consumption and production, while NAPs should reflect the adaptation risks created by continued fossil fuel dependence, including heat, drought, air pollution, water stress, fiscal volatility and economic disruption.

Recent political processes show that there is growing space for progress. Discussions around the transition away from fossil fuels, including the momentum generated by the Santa Marta conference, suggest that coalitions of willing countries and institutions can help develop methodologies, policy options and cooperation packages that may later inform the formal UNFCCC process. In this regard, the Mission could consider the Science Panel for the Global Energy Transition, launched at Santa Marta, as a scientific advisory body. It should also map initiatives such as COFFIS, the Global Methane Pledge and the Global Solidarity Levies Task Force, assess their relevance for NDC and NAP implementation, and identify how they can reinforce rather than fragment the multilateral process.

b.finance, technology, capacity building, and institutional opportunities, and

Finance, technology, capacity building and institutional reform are the enabling conditions for all these action areas. The Mission should therefore identify how public finance, concessional resources, grants, guarantees, debt relief and reform of the international financial architecture can unlock implementation of NDCs and NAPs. Finance should be predictable, accessible, transparent and of high quality. Excessive reliance on loans risks deepening debt vulnerabilities and undermining climate action in countries with limited fiscal space. Article 9 of the Paris Agreement establishes that developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation. In that sense, the Climate Finance Work Programme is an opportunity to deepen the conversations and progress on article 9,1 and rebuild the trust among Parties. Nevertheless, the Mission should go further by taking into account article 9 in its totality.

Technology cooperation should prioritise mature, affordable and scalable solutions: renewable electricity systems, grid flexibility, storage, efficiency, clean heating, sustainable mobility, circular economy, resilient agriculture, climate data and early warning systems. Capacity building should move beyond training sessions and support the institutional capabilities required for implementation: project preparation, regulatory design, public procurement, access to climate funds, social dialogue, data systems, transparency reporting and local-level delivery.

Institutionally, the Mission should help connect existing UNFCCC workstreams rather than create another isolated process. It should link the GST follow-up, Mitigation Work Programme, Just Transition Work Programme, Global Goal on Adaptation, finance discussions, transparency framework and NDC/NAP cycles.

c.the most significant barriers.

The main barriers to NDC and NAP implementation are structural rather than merely technical.

The first barrier is the continued expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure and subsidies. Climate plans cannot be credible if they coexist with new coal, oil and gas expansion incompatible with 1.5°C.

Public support for fossil fuels distorts markets, delays clean alternatives and weakens trust in the climate regime.

The second barrier is inadequate and low-quality finance. Many developing countries face high costs of capital, limited fiscal space and complex access procedures for climate funds. In these conditions, even economically attractive renewable energy, adaptation or resilience projects may fail to move forward.

The third barrier is institutional capacity. Many countries need support not only to design NDCs and NAPs, but to translate them into investment plans, sectoral regulations, procurement systems, implementation pipelines and monitoring frameworks.

The fourth barrier is the lack of a clear hierarchy of solutions. When all technologies are treated as equivalent under a broad interpretation of "technology neutrality", resources can be diverted towards costly, uncertain or delayed options rather than solutions that can reduce emissions now. This creates a real risk of mitigation delay.

The fifth barrier is weak accountability. The Paris Agreement has strong procedural obligations, but implementation often remains difficult to track in a comparable and transparent way. The Belém Mission should help strengthen links between NDCs, NAPs, BTRs, the Global Stocktake and finance reporting.

A final barrier is insufficient participation. Climate plans are more likely to be implemented when they are socially legitimate. Workers, local communities, cities, Indigenous Peoples, youth, civil society, small businesses and vulnerable groups should be meaningfully involved in the design, implementation and review of NDCs and NAPs.

2.What is required to further strengthen international cooperation to enhance ambition and enable the effective implementation of NDCs and NAPs?

International cooperation should move from general declarations to structured implementation partnerships. These partnerships should be country-owned, aligned with national priorities and designed to support implementation rather than impose external agendas.

The Belém Mission should also reinforce the role of the wider multilateral system. The UNFCCC remains the legitimate global framework for climate cooperation, but it cannot deliver the whole transition alone. Implementation of NDCs and NAPs depends on decisions taken in finance, trade, debt, industrial policy, health, food systems, biodiversity and labour governance. The Mission can

help identify where complementary cooperation is required while preserving the central role of the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

As said before, this requires predictable finance packages, technology cooperation, capacity building, institutional support and transparent accountability. Insisting that JETP and country platforms can be useful tools, but only if they avoid increasing debt burdens, support domestic economic diversification, and ensure benefits for affected communities.