Submission by Ireland and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its Member States

Dublin, 09/07/2026

Subject: Submission by Ireland and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its Member States to the Belém Mission to 1.5 °C

Summary/Key messages:

- The Belém Mission to 1.5°C (BM1.5) should help us collectively to go further and faster, including in pursuing efforts to collectively keep 1.5°C within reach, to avoid higher mitigation and adaptation costs and to keep the maximum range of adaptation options open.
- The BM1.5 should ensure there is an adequate space to discuss mitigation efforts, address the collective level of ambition and implementation, how to strengthen NDCs in order to close the ambition and the implementation gap, including solutions in place, their alignment with 1.5°C and their implementation. Mitigation is the first line of defence, keeping 1.5°C within reach is also the best basis for successful climate adaptation.
- National adaptation plans and strategies are the primary vehicle for planning and implementing adaptation action, translating national and international policy into concrete sectoral and local measures. For this reason, the EU strongly supports the objective that all Parties have a national adaptation plan or strategy in place, aligned with the targets of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience. We underline the importance of mainstreaming adaptation into all development strategies and plans at all scales and in all sectors.
- Making the link between NDCs and the collective global action required to keep 1.5°C within reach is essential. For this reason, the process under the BM1.5 should consider and draw recommendations on at least the following elements:
  - uptake of relevant outcomes from the GST-1 in NDCs,
  - implementation of NDCs and linkages to the GST-2,
  - global collective actions and solutions for further reflection towards and beyond GST-2, with a strong focus on the necessary steps to accelerate the energy transition.
- It is crucial to ensure a sound follow-up of this year's BM1.5 report. It should be a source of input for the MWP, and other workstreams, and be considered by the CMA.
- Furthermore, the EU supports the COP31, COP30, and COP29 Presidencies in facilitating the continuity of BM1.5 over the following years as an important input to GST-2 and the preparation of the next round of NDCs.

Introduction

The European Union and its 27 Member States (EU) welcome the opportunity to submit its views on the Belém Mission to 1.5°C (BM1.5). This possibility for all Parties and non-Party stakeholders to express their views is an important step to ensuring a broadly owned outcome aimed at enabling ambition and implementation of NDCs and NAPs.

This submission is structured as follows:

1. Context and importance of the Belem Mission to 1.5°C,
2. Enabling ambition and implementation through the UNFCCC process,
3. Action areas and solutions with the highest impact potential to support the submission, ambition and implementation of NDCs and NAPs,
4. Strengthening international cooperation to enhance ambition and enable the effective implementation of NDCs and NAPs.

1. Context and importance of the Belém Mission to 1.5°C

We collectively acknowledged in the Global Mutirão decision, 1/CMA.7 §8, that, while significant collective progress has been made under the Paris Agreement, full implementation of the latest NDCs remains insufficient to achieve the temperature goal of 1.5 °C. In addition, while countries have made significant progress in formulating NAPs, it is critical to now move from planning to implementation.

The update of the UNFCCC NDC Synthesis Report of November 2025 shows that there still is a significant gap in ambition. It estimates that total global GHG emissions in 2035, based on 86 NDCs submitted by 113 Parties, are expected to decrease by 12% compared to 2019 - far from the 60% reduction by 2035 recognised in the GST-1 outcome as needed for limiting global warming to 1.5°C according to the Sixth Assessment Report of IPCC (AR6). In addition, the UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2025 identifies a persistent implementation gap, with the world collectively not on track to achieve NDC targets for 2030.

Further, the latest UNFCCC NAP Synthesis report shows a marked shift in the global adaptation landscape. It clearly indicates that the NAP process is moving from conceptualization and planning to consolidation of adaptation responses and implementation. There has globally been clear and measurable progress in the formulation of NAPs and subsequent implementation of projects, programmes and policies contained therein. At the same time, implementation is not progressing at the necessary pace to keep up with the changing climate.

The ICJ's Advisory Opinion on the obligations of States in respect of climate change, as affirmed by the UNGA, establishes clear obligations of States with respect to their commitments under the Paris Agreement, including limiting global warming to 1.5°C as primary temperature goal. It is hence absolutely critical that Parties come together to address the persisting ambition and implementation gaps in view of the global GHG emission reductions and the implementation of NAPs required to achieve the temperature and adaptation goals of the Paris Agreement.

We call on all Parties to come together under the guidance of the COP31, COP30 and COP29 Presidencies to provide an adequate response to the ambition and implementation gaps through the BM1.5.

Decisions and outcomes from the UNFCCC process are also taken up within the EU. At the EU level, climate and energy policy has been guiding the reduction of domestic fossil fuel consumption, and the EU Global and Climate Energy Vision confirms that the EU is staying the course on its climate and environmental goals. This is reflected in the legally binding EU targets of reaching climate neutrality by 2050 and a net GHG reduction in 2030 by at least 55% and in 2040 by 90% compared to 1990 levels, with an adequate contribution towards this 2040 target of high-quality international credits of up to 5%. The updated EU Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) is based on these targets.

The current European regulatory framework for energy was initially based on the 'Fit for 55' package, which was then updated by the REPowerEU plan, while speeding up the green transition and promoting massive investment in renewable energy. The European Union has further set in place key legislation addressing the domestic transition away from fossil fuels, including the European Emission Trading System, aimed at bringing emissions in covered sectors down by 62% by 2030, compared to 2005 levels.[1]

2. Enabling ambition and implementation through the UNFCCC process

The EU is of the view that the UNFCCC process needs to ensure there is an adequate space to discuss mitigation efforts, address the collective level of ambition and implementation, how to strengthen NDCs, their alignment with 1.5°C and their implementation including through transparency and review processes.

To this end, we stand ready to actively explore proposals that aim at strengthening mitigation ambition and implementation within the UNFCCC process, including by enhancing and better linking existing arrangements and agenda items, including the Mitigation Work Programme, and avoiding duplication of mandates. We are also open to considering the establishment of a mitigation space, such as, but not limited to, an Advisory Committee or a Facilitative Mitigation Action Mechanism.

The UNFCCC process should therefore make use of all available information on ambition and implementation of mitigation action inside and outside UNFCCC. This should include:

- The IPCC AR6 and forthcoming AR7;
- the state of NDC ambition and action based on the NDC and BTR Synthesis Reports;

[1] A more comprehensive list of EU climate and energy policies can be found in the EU submission in response to the invitation of the Brazilian COP Presidency for contributions to the COP 30 Presidency Roadmap on the Transition Away from Fossil Fuels in a Just, Orderly and Equitable Manner

- the Action Agenda including its Yearbook where solutions are being noted, as well as the Presidencies' initiatives under the Action Agenda, to form a stronger link between the two processes (delivering on ambition through collective action);
- reports from the Presidency led processes, notably the GIA and the BM1.5 and the COP30 Presidency's Roadmaps to TAFF and HRDFD, and the COP30 Presidency led follow-up work on the B2B Roadmap. We further consider the TAFF conference hosted by Colombia and the Netherlands an important event that can usefully inform the TAFF process under the authority of the COP 30 Presidency.
- the state of implementation of the outcomes from GST-1, based on e.g. the relevant IEA report on implementing paragraph 28 of the GST1, outcomes from other relevant agenda items, plurilateral initiatives and the GCAA;
- other relevant reports and outcomes from relevant sources outside UNFCCC such as IEA, IRENA, OECD etc.;
- the work of existing support structures including NDC-Partnerships, 2050 pathways, etc.

The EU recalls that mitigation and adaptation are closely linked, and that synergies between mitigation and adaptation action should be sought. Limiting climate change to 1.5°C is essential to avoid higher mitigation and adaptation costs and to keep the maximum range of adaptation options open, including for adaptation plans and strategies including NAPs. Every increment of warming increases the risk of irreversible impacts linked to sea-level rise, loss of ice sheets, damage to marine and terrestrial ecosystem and biodiversity loss, reaching adaptation limits and further losses and damages. With increasing warming and impacts, several options for adaptation will be compromised, and the emission reduction potential of certain mitigation options may be affected. Adaptation will be key to reducing these effects.

We welcome the establishment of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience as a key outcome of CMA.5 and GST-1, stress the importance of taking action at all scales to achieve its targets and recommend the use of the targets of the framework as a way to structure the assessment of progress on adaptation during GST-2. Mainstreaming adaptation into all development strategies and plans, including NAPs, at all scales and in all sectors is key to accelerating progress, including in particular for the private sector and financial institutions.

Currently, there is no formal space in the process to address the NDCs, and the BM1.5 is a good opportunity to focus on enabling NDC ambition and implementation. Therefore, we need to foster the BM1.5 so it can deliver on its objective. It needs to provide a continuous and inclusive process taking into account views from Parties and non-Party stakeholders. The call for written inputs as well as the event at SB64 are good first steps.

BM1.5 can further consider the relevant elements from the COP30 Presidency roadmaps on "transitioning away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly, and equitable manner" and on "halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030", alongside other inputs submitted by Parties and stakeholders. We further consider the TAFF conference hosted by

Colombia and the Netherlands an important event that can usefully inform the TAFF process under the authority of the COP 30 Presidency.

In this context, the EU supports the COP31, COP30, and COP29 Presidencies and invites future COP Presidencies to facilitate the continuity of BM1.5 over the following years, as an important input to GST-2 and the preparation of the next round of NDCs. It is crucial to ensure a sound follow-up of this year's report. It should be a source of input for the MWP and other workstreams and be considered by the CMA.

3. Action areas and solutions with the highest impact potential to support the submission, ambition and implementation of NDCs and NAPs

Science underpins the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, as reflected in the last Global Mutirao decision, where Parties recognized the centrality of the best available science for effective climate action and policymaking, as provided by the IPCC. Hence, Parties should base their consideration of how to enable the ambition and implementation required to achieve the temperature and adaptation goals of the Paris Agreement on the best available science grounded in observational evidence.

IPCC AR6 clearly states that rapid, deep and immediate reductions in GHG emissions in all sectors are needed to limit global warming to 1.5°C, and, combined with accelerated adaptation actions, would reduce projected impacts of climate change while delivering many additional co-benefits, including for air quality, human health, biodiversity and ecosystems. Many reports, including recent OECD and UNDP studies, find that accelerated climate action can deliver strong economic and development benefits.

This consideration shall include the need for a major transition of the energy system. Increased deployment of renewable electricity generation, primarily wind and solar, can save more than 6 GtCO2eq/y already by 2030 for net-lifetime costs of less than USD 20 per tCO2eq. In most economies, renewables are the most competitive choice for new capacity. The IPCC indicates that the shift towards a climate neutral economy in line with keeping the 1.5°C goal within reach will require the global phase out of unabated fossil fuels and a peak and decline in their consumption already in this decade.

Furthermore, the IPCC states that AFOLU mitigation options, when sustainably implemented, can deliver large scale GHG emission reductions and enhanced CO2 removals. Mitigation measures with the largest economic mitigation potential in the AFOLU sector between 2020 and 2050 include measures in forest and other ecosystems with reduced deforestation having the highest total mitigation potential, followed by agriculture and demand-side measures, including substitution of high emission embodied materials and fossil fuels with lower emission alternatives.

Regarding adaptation, the findings of IPCC AR6 are clear. It demonstrates that risks in the context of climate change result from the dynamic interaction between climate-related hazards, exposure and vulnerability. Approximately 3.3 to 3.6 billion people live in contexts that are highly vulnerable to climate change. Climate change reaching 1.5°C in the near-term would cause unavoidable increases in various climate risks and result in multiple threats to humans and ecosystems. Above 1.5°C, some ecosystem-based adaptation measures will lose effectiveness and, by 2°C, soft limits are projected to be reached for multiple staple crops in many growing areas. Transformative adaptation can help overcome soft adaptation limits and avoid these becoming hard limits and can help to avoid maladaptive practices. Adaptation is local and context dependent. Therefore, improving the quality of, as well as access to, the best available science and climate information tied to local contexts, including traditional knowledge, Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and local knowledge systems, is key for effective climate risk management and adaptation planning.

Ambition and implementation of NDCs

Science is abundantly clear regarding the pathways and required actions to collectively keep 1.5°C within reach. NDCs are not only the main instrument under the Paris Agreement ambition cycle to enable the highest ambition of Parties but should also create a central link between the global pathways and domestic mitigation action. Further, the implementation of NDCs through domestic strategies, policies and actions, including sectoral policy frameworks, support, investment plans and country platforms that provide a basis for incentivising investment, unlocking finance and business opportunities, is essential.

In this context, the EU is concerned that a substantial number of Parties to the Paris Agreement have not submitted a new NDC yet, and we encourage all Parties that have not yet submitted a new NDC to submit a 1.5°C aligned NDC as a matter of urgency, bearing in mind the cutoff date in August 2026 to consider it under the next NDC Synthesis report.

Drawing the link between NDCs and the collective global action required to keep 1.5°C within reach is essential to ensure that NDCs are reflecting the highest possible ambition of Parties. For this reason, the process under the BM1.5 should consider and draw recommendations on at least the following elements:

a) Uptake of relevant outcomes from GST-1 in NDCs,
b) Implementation of NDCs and linkages to GST-2,
d) Global collective actions and solutions for further reflection towards and beyond GST-2.

a) Uptake of relevant outcomes from the GST-1 in NDCs

The EU maintains that it is crucial for Parties to establish in an ambitious NDC a steep and credible pathway towards their own long-term target, with a view, especially for major economies, to reach net-zero GHG emissions as soon as possible and by 2050 at the latest.

The highest possible ambition is needed in contributing to the global efforts in the GST-1 decision, specifically on the global targets for the energy sector, notably accelerating the transitioning away from fossil fuels while tripling renewable energy capacity and doubling annual energy efficiency gains by 2030, as well as halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030, moving towards sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production, including through circular economy approaches, and accelerating the reduction of non-CO2 emissions, in particular methane emissions by 2030.

The world expects real progress, and BM1.5 is well placed to provide Parties and non-Party stakeholders with an updated view on the progress outlined in NDCs. The EU reiterates that the outcome of the GST is one package, with different timelines and national and regional feasibilities and requirements, and not a pick-and-choose menu. All elements need to be implemented on a global scale to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, and all Parties should explain how they are taking forward the full set of global efforts agreed in the outcome of the GST-1.

b) Implementation of NDCs and linkages to the GST-2

High ambition needs to be matched with effective implementation of climate action. At the same time, sound implementation and planning often results in higher ambition potential at lower costs than previously assessed. The EU's experience involves moving from analysis through an impact assessment to a legal framework and an NDC, followed by an implementation plan as the basis to create investment opportunities, design sustainable development opportunities and avoid stranded assets and costly lock-ins, while increasing ambition.

A key barrier to NDC implementation is insufficient mainstreaming in domestic government policies and plans. Experiences with current NDCs have shown that for NDCs to be achieved, they need a whole-of-government, whole-of-society and whole-of-economy approach during both NDC preparation and implementation. When elaborating and implementing climate policy, plans, strategies and action, Parties should respect, protect and fulfil human rights, including the rights of Indigenous Peoples as set out in the UNDRIP and international human rights law, and local communities, and strive for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in all their diversity through a gender-responsive, inclusive and human-rights-based approach as well as enhance Action for Climate Empowerment to empower all members of society to engage in climate action, as these considerations are crucial to reach climate neutrality without delay, leaving no one behind.

The BM1.5 should hence also shed light on Parties' progress in implementing NDCs, utilising all available sources within the process such as the BTR and NDC Synthesis Reports as well as additional expert input from the NDC-Partnership and other leading institutions on NDC implementation. It should further analyse and provide input to the GST-2 process on the implementation of GST-1 §39, as this is a critical element to increase the robustness, quality, and ambition of NDCs.

c) *Global collective actions and solutions for further reflection towards and beyond GST-2*

The EU is of the view that the BM1.5 needs to strongly emphasise the continuously evolving solutions-spaces to efficiently and effectively cut GHG emissions, going hand-in-hand with implementing economic and social development priorities as well as ensuring energy security and independence. BM1.5 provides a unique opportunity to present a positive, ambition-driven narrative of climate action, including a focus on key solutions that can both provide guidance and direction to global collective efforts as well as provide certainty and a call for action to all stakeholders involved in the implementation of climate action.

To provide this guidance, BM1.5 should actively involve and use information provided by expert organizations such as the IEA, IRENA, UNEP, UNIDO, FAO, OECD, IMF, etc. BM1.5 should review and synthesise the available information into an actionable resource for Parties and non-Party stakeholders. It should also actively involve non-party stakeholders who can help identify barriers to implementation and showcase sector-specific solutions which have the potential to align with different countries' transition plans.

The EU is currently in the process of preparing its post-2030 policy framework for the implementation of its 2040 climate target and the EU NDC. The EU is still in a process of analyzing numbers brought forward on global efforts presented by expert organisations below and the EU therefore does not have a formal position on the numbers yet. However, the EU notes them and their role in shaping global conversations on the matter, highlighting the following areas of tranformative solutions with high mitigation potential:

- **Clean Electrification** is driving a structural shift in energy demand across transport, buildings, and industry. According to IRENA, today electricity accounts for only 21% of global final energy use, but needs to reach at least 35% by 2035 to meet 1.5-aligned scenarios, supported by renewable power deployment, grid enhancement and energy efficiency improvement. This is feasible, as 75% of global energy demand can already be electrified using existing clean technologies, technologies that are often cheaper than their fossil-based counterparts and on average three times as energy efficient. Clean electrification is also a core strategy to enhance energy security, support sustainable development, strengthen resilience, and reduce energy costs. Three-quarters of the world's population live in fossil fuel importing countries, leaving populations exposed to volatility and external shocks, and net importers spending USD 1.7 trillion per year on fossil fuel imports. By rapidly accelerating clean electrification through targeted policy measures that remove barriers, multilateral and regional cooperation, and a mass mobilisation of investment and financing partnerships, we can ensure rapid mitigation action and sustainable development. Primary prerequisites to enable clean electrification include grid expansion, expanded storage, international interconnections, and system flexibility.
- **Installed renewable capacity** by 2035 should be close to 20TW according to the IEA (19.6TW) and IRENA, and close to 38.2TW in 2050, in line with the GST-1 commitment to triple installed global renewable energy capacity by 2030.

- **Installed storage capacity** by 2035 should be above 2.5TW in 2035 and close to 7TW in 2050 according to IRENA.
- **The share of fossil fuels across sectors** should fall by 2035 to around 50% and by 2050 to 20% or less- according to IRENA.
- **Energy Efficiency** improvements should amount to 3% per year until 2035 and 2.5% thereafter, according to IRENA. As the First Fuel of the energy transition, the deployment of energy efficiency measures across buildings, industry and transport must be accelerated, in line with the GST-1 commitment to double annual improvements in energy efficiency by 2030. Far from constraining energy supply or limiting access to affordable energy services, energy efficiency improvements reduce the overall scale of investment required in new generation, grid infrastructure, and storage, thereby supporting a cost-effective, secure, and abundant clean energy transition.
- **In industry and advanced manufacturing,** resource-efficient and circular manufacturing, industrial processes and breakthrough solutions for decarbonising heavy industries, such as fossil-fuel-free steel production, waste heat recovery and industrial heat pumps, play an important role, as well as circular economy practices.
- Effectively and rapidly decarbonise the **transport sector** as soon as possible, through technologies such as battery-electric, zero and low carbon and renewable fuel vehicles and related infrastructure, integrated urban mobility plans and decarbonisation of shipping and aviation.
- **Fossil fuel subsidies** that do not address energy poverty or just transition should be phased out as soon as possible. The IMF states that in 2024, explicit subsidies were $0.73 trillion, or 0.6 percent of global GDP, with consumer and producer subsidies accounting for 85% and 15% of the total, respectively, while implicit subsidies were $6.7 trillion, or 5.8% of global GDP. It further analyses that raising fuel prices to their fully efficient levels reduces projected global fossil fuel CO2 emissions 46% below baseline levels in 2035.
- **Transition away from fossil fuels:** proactively restructuring fossil fuel supply chains into clean energy flows offers one of the most powerful multipliers to demand-side action, enabling oil and gas producers to redeploy their existing capital, infrastructure, and workforces towards clean energy sources and other mitigation actions. Cost-effective zero emissions measures are already widely available in the energy sector, allowing to aim to achieve a fully or predominantly decarbonised global power system in the 2030s, leaving no room for new coal power. Diversification away from economic fossil fuel dependence, a stated goal of most major global suppliers, also reduces exposure to stranded asset risk and avoids the economic trauma of an abrupt, externally imposed shift. This can transform the self-reinforcing cycle of fossil fuel investment locking in high-emissions infrastructure into another catalyst of the clean energy transition. Packages to accelerate the energy transition and clean electrification, along with the support to mobilize existing finance, for the SIDS and LDCs should be a priority, as they are particularly vulnerable to energy crises.
- **Halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030:** Forests and natural carbon sinks are essential for the success of the Paris Agreement (article 5). Greater efforts are needed to close the ambition gap between the outcomes of GST-1 §33, and the current level of ambition reflected in NDCs for the forest sector. It is

essential to address the direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and strengthen the integration of forests into national climate planning and implementation, while ensuring coherence with biodiversity and desertification and land degradation planning and policies.

- **Methane emissions:** According to IEA, methane emissions from fossil fuel operations need to be cut by at least 75% globally by 2030 compared to 2020 levels, with short-term opportunities in the energy sector to address methane leaks, venting and flaring. Methane emissions are responsible for one-third of global warming to date, and as a short-lived climate pollutant 86 times more potent than CO2 over 20 years with an average lifespan of 12 years. Methane emissions abatement has the potential to buy time for broader economic transformation. Better yet, methane emissions abatement in agriculture, waste, and energy is incredibly cost effective. In the energy sector in particular, 70% of methane emissions are technically abatable with current technology, and very often cost-negative. Through concerted action on methane emissions, including the implementation of best available techniques in agriculture, better landfill management practices and a reduction in waste going to landfill, and most of all in energy measurement-based monitoring, reporting, and elimination of emissions, we can buy the time needed to keep 1.5 degrees within reach per the Global Methane Pledge. This will require investment and funding, sharing of technical expertise, and in the energy sector producer-consumer dialogue and major importers setting expectations for upstream emissions, as the EU is doing with the Methane Regulation. Most of all, we need international cooperation: exemplified by the recent "Call to Action on Methane" by the UN Secretary General, by the work of UNEP and in particular the IMEO OGMP 2.0 and MARS, and the work on near-zero methane emissions fossil fuel markets.
- **Carbon pricing systems** are the most efficient and cost-effective way to reduce emissions and stimulate green investments and innovation. Efficient carbon pricing systems shift consumption and investment patterns toward clean tech and lower-emissions growth, according to the IPCC. The BM1.5 should encourage and support Parties to introduce or improve their carbon pricing mechanisms, amongst others, by aligning them with the Call to Action for Paris Aligned Carbon Markets.

Ambition and implementation of NAPs

National adaptation plans and strategies are the primary vehicle for planning and implementing adaptation action, translating national and international policy into concrete sectoral and local measures. For this reason, the EU strongly supports the objective that all Parties have a national adaptation plan or strategy in place. This objective is firmly anchored in the multilateral process. GST-1 calls on all Parties to have in place and progressed in the implementation of their national adaptation plans, policy instruments, and planning processes by 2030 — a milestone also reflected in the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience.

Looking ahead, the EU emphasises that NAPs should be aligned with the UAE Framework, including its thematic and dimensional targets, so they can serve as a robust evidence base for GST-2 and the continued strengthening of adaptation action.

The EU values NAPs that are ambitious and of high quality, mainstreamed into development priorities, and grounded in the best available science to better understand and address climate risks. The IPCC suggests that adaptation is most effective when it avoids being fragmented, small in scale, incremental, or narrowly focused on single sectors or near-term risks alone. Coordinated, iterative, inclusive and flexible approaches have proven to be a strong foundation for effective and efficient adaptation, including by integrating adaptation across all public policies and at all levels of government, society and the economy. The EU sees particular value in NAPs that embrace a transformational approach, which can help overcome soft adaptation limits.

The EU recalls the success in agreeing global targets for 2030 under the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, including on water, agriculture and food security, health, ecosystems and biodiversity, as well as on the steps of the iterative adaptation policy cycle; it calls for the implementation of sectoral and systemic approaches in these key areas.

Climate impacts are felt at community level, so effective adaptation must be designed and delivered there. Meaningful inclusion of the local level, allowing for bringing in local knowledge, therefore builds results. For us, this means the social inclusion of all groups and their human rights, as well as gender responsive planning and financing (such as alignment with the Belém Gender Action Plan, GAP) are fundamental parts towards sustainable NAP implementation.

The EU also encourages making NAPs investable — enhancing the mobilisation of and access to financial resources and fostering participation from the private and financial sectors. Mainstreaming adaptation into institutional budget and policy planning cycles can further strengthen this.

Finally, the EU recognizes the importance of robust monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) systems that track the effectiveness and progress of adaptation, capture lessons on what works, and signal when and where additional action may be needed — supporting a dynamic approach with flexible pathways. Such systems tend to be most effective when underpinned by adequate capacities and effective use of resources as well as embedded in enabling governance arrangements.

4. Strengthening international cooperation to enhance ambition and enable the effective implementation of NDCs and NAPs

International cooperation regarding NDCs

Progressing and accelerating NDC ambition and implementation needs to be based on efficient international cooperation and be guided by the best available science. The IPCC AR6 clearly points to some least cost and high mitigation potential solutions for the energy sector: renewable solar and wind, energy efficiency, and reduction of methane emissions. At the same time, it points to some important challenges, in particular mobilising the significant upfront investment needed. It also states that there is sufficient global capital to close the global investment gap, but there are barriers to redirect capital to climate action.

One way to address this is that credible and ambitious climate plans, including NDCs and NAPs, should be linked to domestic investment plans and country platforms, with a view to their effective implementation in conjunction with the creation of the right enabling environment — clear policies, incentives, market signals, and regulations. Domestic resource mobilisation, as well as strengthening institutional capacity, for climate action and private sector engagement, remains key to all countries for the implementation of their climate plans. Therefore, we need to strengthen enabling environments and direct and redirect investments and other climate flows to mobilise climate finance from all sources and unlock its full potential for efficient and impactful implementation. This redirection could mobilise finance for the transition towards low GHG emissions and climate-resilient development, and generate positive cascading effects, helping countries meet their NDCs and broader Sustainable Development Goals.

Institutionally, improving the international financial architecture for climate could concretely have an impact by making access to climate finance faster and easier as well as in enhancing its quality. Greater coherence across climate finance institutions and strengthened national capacities for project preparation and implementation will help in making resources reach the most climate-vulnerable countries and communities in a more efficient way.
It is also important for the UNFCCC process and the Action Agenda to complement and mutually reinforce one another, also as a step towards reforming the UNFCCC process to make it more fit for purpose in enabling ambition and implementation.

The EU and individual Member States, according to their respective priorities, are actively promoting cooperation in bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral settings, including through initiatives such as:

- The EU is actively leading the global momentum on reducing methane emissions as Co-Convener of the Global Methane Pledge together with Canada. Its 159 participating countries and the EU agree to take voluntary actions to contribute to a collective effort to reduce global methane emissions by at least 30% from 2020 levels by 2030. The UNEP International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) are instrumental in reaching these goals. In the context of the Global

Methane Pledge, these two organisations coordinate government and private sector efforts and through frameworks such as the Methane Alert and Response System (MARS) and Oil and Gas Methane Partnership 2.0 (OGMP 2.0), are driving mitigation action globally. The EU and several of its Member States finance and support this work.

- Global Energy Transitions Forum - launched by President von der Leyen in 2025 to follow up on the tripling of renewables and doubling of energy efficiency. This year the focus of the Forum is on clean electrification, with the launch of the global initiative Electrify Now.
- Global Gateway is the EU's key vehicle to support the clean and resilient transition in emerging and developing economies. Under the Team Europe approach, it combines resources from the EU and its Member States, development agencies, banks and businesses to mobilise over EUR 400 billion of leveraged investment until 2027, with half of the flagship projects targeting climate and energy. For example, cooperation on a sustainable energy transition that is fair, just and equitable in Africa has advanced considerably through the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on the Africa-EU Green Energy Initiative (AEGEI), part of the Global Gateway Africa Europe Investment Package. The AEGEI is Africa wide: it includes actions at continental, regional and national level, and accompanies the development, by the AU, of the Continental Power Systems Master Plan at the core of Africa's Green Vision and ambition of creating one grid for one continent. By 2030, AEGEI's expected main result is to support the deployment of at least 50 GW of additional renewable energy generation capacity, providing at least 100 million people with access to clean electricity. To reach these objectives, AEGEI supports investment in renewable energy, energy efficiency and access to energy. Over EUR 20 billion for the 2021-2027 period has been pledged so far by Team Europe of which EUR 3.4 billion by the EU.
- The Global Gateway Green Shipping Corridors (GGGSC) flagship project aims to connect European ports with ports all around the world that have a strategic value to ensure the availability of sustainable and renewable maritime fuels. The GGGSC follows a Team Europe approach and aims to support partner countries on ensuring the availability of sustainable renewable and low carbon fuels.
- The EU has adopted a comprehensive approach to address the drivers behind deforestation, forest degradation, and unsustainable use of land. This encompasses legislative measures, international cooperation, and support for sustainable practices across the supply chain as well as conservation and restoration of forest ecosystems. The EU will continue to engage internationally through Forest Partnerships and Team Europe Initiatives, such as the Team Europe Initiative on Deforestation-free Value Chains, aimed at enhancing dialogue and cooperation to address the underlying drivers of deforestation and forest degradation globally. The EU continues to support the implementation of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and is a reliable supporter through its contributions to the GCF and GEF.
- At COP28, the COFFIS coalition was established by the Netherlands to close the gap between implementation and international commitments on phasing out fossil fuel subsidies translate into real reforms. COFFIS is an active coalition that builds a community among policymakers, fostering exchange of best practices and approaches.

Members are delivering on their promise through concrete outputs such as national subsidy inventories and national phase-out strategies. The initiative counts Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, and Spain as current EU members.

- The Directorate General for Climate Action of the European Commission set up a Task Force on International carbon pricing and markets diplomacy. The unit leads the work on enhancing the geographic scope and effectiveness of carbon pricing as part of an international decarbonisation strategy. The unit engages with interested third countries and assists them as they move towards the development of robust carbon pricing instruments and robust approaches to international carbon markets. It helps develop and set up an international capacity building facility or network for carbon pricing as part of a structured cooperation with EU Member States and international partners with selected countries.
- The Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA) and the Coal Transition Accelerator (CTA): these organisations have demonstrated the real value of bringing together countries and relevant stakeholders to overcome the challenges of the coal-to-clean transition, by sharing learnings, supporting each other and building the right international environment. The PPCA, launched at COP23, has more than 180 members, including 19 EU Member States. The CTA, chaired by France and Indonesia, is a technical body whose mission consists of identifying the barriers (political, legal, financial, social) that make coal transitions more difficult and the actions required to overcome them. CTA published its key recommendations in a report at COP29, which formed the basis for the Plan to Accelerate Solutions on Coal Transitions, launched at COP30.
- The Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance (BOGA), an international coalition which was launched at COP26 and focuses its action on the managed phaseout of oil and gas production, in line with the Paris Agreement. It has created a facility, the BOGA Fund ($20M), to mobilize grants and technical assistance on transition modelling, as well as a collaboration with the NDC-Partnership to offer support for NDC ambition. The first two beneficiary countries under the fund were Kenya and Colombia; programmes have also been launched with Nigeria, Barbados and Brazil. BOGA currently includes 9 EU Member States.
- Several EU Member States are also supporting the Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETP), which together have brought more than €45 billion in pledges to accelerate the energy transition in South Africa, Senegal, Indonesia, and Vietnam.
- At COP26, many EU Member States joined 34 countries in the Clean Energy Transition Partnership (CETP), thereby committing to cease by the end of 2022 all international public financing for activities related to the exploration, production, storage, transport and refining of oil and gas, as well as for thermal power plant projects that are not equipped with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation measures.
- Several EU member states are supporting the Leadership group for industry transition (LeadIT). LeadIT was established to build momentum in industries considered “impossible to abate”, and brings together countries, companies and industry experts to achieve net-zero emissions from heavy industries by 2050. LeadIT provides a platform

for public-private collaboration, helping industries align with the Paris Agreement and accelerate a just and equitable transition.

- Climate club was launched at COP 28 in 2023 and currently has over 30 government members, with many EU member states involved and actively supporting, including the European commission. The climate club provides for a high-level forum for cooperation on accelerating climate action and increasing ambition, particularly in the field of industry decarbonisation – with the aim of achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement, while fostering cooperation to improve the enabling environment for industrial decarbonisation in emerging markets and developing economies.
- Several EU Member States including the European Commission are partners to the Global Carbon Pricing Challenge (GCPC), an international initiative announced by Canada at COP26 in pursuit of the goal that 60% of global greenhouse gas emissions are covered by an explicit carbon price by 2030.

International cooperation regarding NAPs

Each Party defines its adaptation priorities, needs and pathways in line with its national circumstances. This principle is fundamental, and the EU fully respects it. At the same time, climate change does not stop at national borders. Its effects - from shared river basins and transboundary ecosystems to disruptions in global supply chains and the cascading risks they carry - are often also transboundary in nature. Therefore, addressing them effectively requires sustained knowledge sharing, joint risk assessment and international cooperation, complementing rather than displacing nationally-led action.

The EU and its Member States play a significant role in advancing global adaptation planning and implementation. Collectively we provide financial, technical and capacity building support to countries developing and implementing national adaptation plans and strategies. Through initiatives such as the NAP Global Network, the SCALA Programme and a wide range of bilateral cooperation programmes, the EU and its Member States help strengthen institutional capacities, improve the quality and inclusiveness of adaptation planning processes, and mobilise both public and private investment for climate resilience. This engagement spans the full adaptation policy cycle - from assessing vulnerability and integrating adaptation into national budgets and sectoral strategies, to monitoring progress and translating plans into implementation on the ground.

Taken together, this support reflects the EU's broader and enduring commitment to enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerability, and supporting developing countries - in particular the most vulnerable - in delivering effective and sustained adaptation action.