



**Submission by Iceland, 08. July 2026**

**on the Belém Mission to 1.5°C**

Iceland welcomes the launch of the Belém Mission to 1.5°C as an opportunity to accelerate the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the outcomes of the first Global Stocktake.

The Belém Mission should focus on enabling implementation of ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), strengthening international cooperation, and supporting practical solutions that deliver immediate emission reductions while enhancing resilience. Iceland considers implementation to be the central task for the coming years.

The Mission should be guided by the principles of the Paris Agreement equity and best available science with gender equality and equity at the forefront and mainstreamed throughout.

**1. Science must remain the foundation of climate action**

The latest scientific assessments continue to demonstrate that every fraction of a degree matters and that rapid, deep and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions are essential to keeping 1.5°C within reach.

The Belém Mission should:

- maintain a strong science-policy interface;
- draw upon the work of the IPCC, WMO and other scientific bodies;
- promote evidence-based policymaking;
- support improved climate observations, monitoring and early warning systems.
- continue to be informed by scientific knowledge in both mitigation and adaptation efforts.

**2. Accelerating implementation of NDCs**

The Mission should prioritize implementation of existing commitments through:

- strengthening national implementation capacity;
- facilitating exchange of best practices;
- supporting policy innovation;
- improving access to finance and technology;
- promoting transparency and accountability.



The focus should remain on practical measures capable of delivering measurable emission reductions this decade.

### **3. Iceland's contribution**

Iceland has communicated an enhanced NDC that reflects increased ambition while remaining consistent with a realistic implementation pathway.

Key elements include:

- reducing emissions in sectors covered by the EU's Effort Sharing Regulation by **50–55% below 2005 levels by 2035**;
- increasing removals in the land use sector through enhanced afforestation, ecosystem restoration and wetland restoration;
- promoting research, innovation of technologies and solutions to enable the transition to carbon neutrality in hard to abate sectors;
- implementing comprehensive national Climate Action Plans supported by regular monitoring and review.

Implementation is supported by cross-government coordination and cooperation with municipalities, businesses, academia and civil society.

### **4. Renewable energy and system transformation**

Iceland's experience demonstrates the value of long-term investment in renewable energy and electrification, and has inspired bilateral and multilateral partnerships around the world.

The Belém Mission should encourage:

- accelerated deployment of renewable energy;
- electrification of transport and industry where feasible;
- improved energy efficiency;
- innovation in hard-to-abate sectors.

Countries should be encouraged to share successful policy experiences that can be adapted to different national circumstances.

### **5. Carbon removals and resilient ecosystems**

Achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement requires both substantial emission reductions and enhanced removals.



Iceland supports:

- protection and restoration of natural ecosystems;
- sustainable land management;
- restoration of degraded lands;
- wetland restoration;
- increased forest carbon sinks consistent with environmental integrity and biodiversity objectives.

Nature-based solutions enhancing the resilience of ecosystems provide value beyond carbon removals, carbon removal actions should however complement, not replace ambitious emissions reductions.

## **6. Adaptation and resilience**

Mitigation and adaptation are mutually reinforcing.

The Belém Mission should promote:

- climate-resilient development;
- integration of adaptation into national planning;
- improved climate services;
- strengthened early warning systems;
- better management of climate-related risks and natural hazards.

Countries with extensive experience in hazard monitoring and early warning can make important contributions through international cooperation.

## **7. Innovation, research and international cooperation**

Innovation is essential for accelerating implementation.

The Mission should strengthen cooperation on:

- research and development;
- knowledge sharing and capacity building;
- technology deployment;
- public-private partnerships;



Particular attention should be given to emerging solutions in renewable energy, carbon management, sustainable fuels and climate services.

## **8. Transparency and implementation**

Robust implementation requires effective monitoring and learning.

The Mission should encourage:

- sharing of implementation experiences and lessons learned;
- enhanced transparency;
- identification of barriers and solutions;
- dissemination of successful policy approaches.

Transparency should support implementation rather than increase unnecessary reporting burdens.

## **Conclusion**

Iceland believes that the Belém Mission to 1.5 should become a practical platform for accelerating implementation of the Paris Agreement through science, cooperation and action.

Success will depend on the ability of Parties to implement increasingly ambitious NDCs, strengthen resilience, accelerate the clean energy transition and transition away from fossil fuels, protect and restore natural ecosystems, and share practical solutions that can be adapted across different national contexts.

Iceland stands ready to contribute and share its experience, for instance in the areas of renewable energy deployment, climate policy implementation, gender equality, carbon removals, natural hazard monitoring and scientific cooperation to support the collective effort to keep the goals of the Paris Agreement within reach.