

Keeping 1.5°C within reach beyond COP31: defining implementation pathways under the Belém Mission to 1.5

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Transforma, Argentina 1.5, Instituto Talanoa and CANLA welcome the call for inputs for the Belém Mission to 1.5 and the opportunity to contribute to a process aimed at enabling ambition and implementation of NDCs and NAPs. Latin American civil society has been working on climate diplomacy, climate finance and just energy transitions, and contributed to several discussions including the [UNFCCC governance reform](#) and the Roadmap processes led by the COP30 Presidency, for which we worked with over 50 civil society organizations from Latin America to present our own regional proposals for [transitioning away from fossil fuels](#) and [halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation](#), among others. This work has reinforced our view that the climate regime must adapt its institutional arrangements to the implementation era, building on existing tools and initiatives while improving its capacity to deliver, coordinate support, mobilize finance and generate accountability.

The Belém Mission to 1.5 is one of the key opportunities to advance this shift and provide strategic guidance to ensure that efforts to accelerating NDC and NAP implementation are in line with scaling high-impact solutions, closing adaptation gaps, and limiting the magnitude and duration of any 1.5°C overshoot. The UN climate regime already has a rich set of mechanisms, bodies and initiatives set out around the rulebook of the Paris Agreement, yet their contribution to delivery, finance, accountability and evidence of impact remains uneven.

In response to this and in bringing forward the framing of the COP30 Presidency two tier approach, from our perspective, the Belém Mission to 1.5 main role must be to provide political leverage to keep 1.5°C within reach, thus supporting the formal Paris Agreement cycle around ambition, finance and accountability, while actively integrating non-negotiated initiatives in connection with the outcomes of the first and future Global Stocktakes.

A significant barrier to implementation is the growing mismatch between the climate regime's institutional design and the political task of keeping global warming below 1.5. Over the past three decades, the UNFCCC process has been essential to build trust, define rules, create reporting systems and complete the Paris Agreement rulebook. However, a structure that was largely built to sustain negotiation and demonstrate procedural progress is not yet fully prepared to deliver implementation at the pace and scale required. This risks deepening mistrust in the multilateral process, especially when political attention shifts across COP cycles and existing processes are not clearly connected to delivery and impact. In the implementation era, trust will increasingly depend on the regime's ability to show that its decisions and mechanisms can produce real-world results.

This is particularly important for the Paris Agreement's ambition cycle. The 1.5°C goal has proven effective as a political, scientific and economic benchmark: since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, projected warming under current policies has declined from just below 4°C to just below 3°C, projections based on NDCs have also fallen, net-zero

commitments now cover around 70 per cent of global emissions, and renewable energy technologies have advanced faster than expected ([UNEP, 2025](#)). Similarly, important progress has been made in advancing adaptation planning, with an increasing number of Parties having prepared and submitted National Adaptation Plans -77 as of June 16 ([NAP Central, 2026](#)). Yet, as with mitigation, the central challenge has shifted from planning to implementation: translating NAPs into financed, coordinated and measurable action that strengthens resilience and contributes to achieving the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). These gains show that multilateral signals can -and must continue to- shape real world transformations. However, current action remains insufficient, and the ambition cycle remains vulnerable to political backsliding, short-term national priorities and the influence of actors seeking to lower ambition. Recent COPs have also shown the scale of fossil fuel industry presence in climate negotiations, reinforcing the need for stronger integrity, accountability and implementation standards.

Thus, the Belém Mission to 1.5, by being faithful to its name, should provide political clout to keep 1.5°C within reach. We acknowledge that the Mission will produce a report ahead of COP31, according to its original mandate. However, keeping 1.5°C within reach will require continuity beyond a one-year process, so the Mission must have a longer term perspective, becoming a clear and straight responsibility to any future COP Presidency -besides the COP31 duo- and turning into the basis for sustained political guidance and accountability throughout COP31, COP32, the GST2 as well as towards 2030 and 2035, both critical milestones for progress over the 1.5°C temperature increase and its potential overshoot. This Mission must then be an annual vehicle to:

- a. exhibit how the ratchet-up ambition mechanism of the Paris Agreement is working towards the implementation of its long-term goals,
- b. generate a clear understanding of how NDCs and NAPs are implemented and in direct relation to the Paris Agreement long-term goals, as well as to the more specific sectoral guidelines of the GST1 and the GGA,
- c. support the institutional shifts needed to turn the UN climate regime into a stronger framework that evolves from rule-setting and political signalling towards improved delivery, finance, transparency and accountability, using the Paris Agreement cycle as its basis, including NDCs, AdComs, NAPs, BTRs, delivery of the NCQG in support to climate action for mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage response in developing countries, GSTs and facilitation and compliance mechanisms, and
- d. connect the two-tiers of negotiated (i.e. GST2, NCQG, ETF and GGA implementation) and non-negotiated (i.e. GIA, Action Agenda, regional climate weeks and other voluntary coalitions) outcomes so that there is a coherent space to seizing global impact and pursuing greater ambition.

Finance is a central test of the Paris Agreement implementation. The NCQG and related climate finance negotiations and delivery, including the performance of the multilateral climate funds, should be connected to implementation arrangements capable of identifying priority needs, directing resources to high-impact solutions, reducing transaction costs and reporting evidence of results. Non-negotiated initiatives, including the Action Agenda, the Global Implementation Accelerator, regional climate weeks and

roadmaps and coalitions, can help connect finance with implementation pipelines, provided they are aligned with NDCs, AdComs, NAPs and GST outcomes.

The Belém Mission to 1.5 can then help turn the climate regime's institutional density into implementation capacity. Its added value should be to establish a common logic that future Presidencies can safeguard: every existing or future mechanism, process or initiative should be able to show how it helps close the 1.5°C gap, how it accelerates NDC and NAP implementation, what barriers it addresses, what support it mobilizes and what evidence of impact it can report back to the multilateral process in future COPs and GSTs.

The Belém Mission to 1.5 should use its first report to set a clear political horizon for implementation. Keeping 1.5°C within reach requires institutional proposals commensurate with the scale of the challenge: preserving 1.5°C as the central benchmark for action, strengthening coordination between the negotiated and non-negotiated tiers, and advancing implementation vehicles that help countries organize and sustain climate action over time. This will require a process that allows future COP Presidencies to maintain follow-up beyond a single mandate. The implementation agenda will demand continuous work in future years. The Mission can help initiate that continuity by proposing a framework through which Presidencies, Parties and non-Party stakeholders can track progress, address barriers, mobilize support and align emerging initiatives with the transformations required by our collective objective.