Submission by the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO)
Belém Mission to 1.5 – Call for Inputs
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The World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) welcomes the launch of the Belém Mission to 1.5 and commends COP29, COP30 and COP31 Presidencies for initiating an inclusive and action-oriented process to accelerate the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).

The WGEO believes that achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement and keeping 1.5°C within reach requires accelerating the transition towards inclusive green economies through strengthened international cooperation, innovative financing mechanisms, technology deployment, capacity building, and multi-stakeholder partnerships.

As an international organization dedicated to advancing the global green economy agenda, WGEO works closely with governments, cities, the private sector, financial institutions, youth and civil society to support climate action, sustainable development and resilience-building efforts, particularly across developing countries and vulnerable regions.

Through the Global Alliance on Green Economy (GAGE), an initiative comprising 96 Member Countries to date committed to advancing green economy transitions, WGEO supports governments in accelerating climate action, fostering south-south cooperation, strengthening institutional capacities and facilitating the exchange of knowledge, technologies and investment opportunities, GAGE serves as a practical implementation platform that can contribute significantly to the objectives of the Belém Mission to 1.5 by supporting countries in translating climate commitments into tangible actions.

Question 1: What action areas and solutions have the highest impact potential to support the submission, ambition and implementation of NDCs and NAPs?

The World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) believes that the next phase of climate action must focus on practical implementation. Many countries have already set climate priorities through their NDCs and NAPs. The main challenge now is to convert these priorities into funded, technically sound and locally deliverable action.

Based on WGEO's work with governments, cities, private sector entities, financial institutions, youth, academia and international partners, the following action areas can have the highest impact.

1. Convert NDCs and NAPs into bankable project pipelines

NDCs and NAPs must be translated into specific projects that can attract finance and be implemented on the ground. In many cases, climate plans identify broad priorities such as renewable energy, adaptation, waste management, water security, clean transport or resilience, but these are not yet developed into project concepts, feasibility studies, investment cases or implementation roadmaps.

The highest impact solution is to support countries, regions and cities in preparing bankable project pipelines. This should include project identification, technical assessment, cost estimation, financing structure, risk assessment, governance arrangements and expected climate and social benefits.

Priority areas may include renewable energy, energy efficiency, resilient water systems, circular economy, waste-to-resource projects, sustainable mobility, green buildings, nature-based solutions and climate-resilient infrastructure.

Green investment policies are also essential. Countries and cities need clear policy signals to attract long-term capital into low-carbon and climate-resilient projects. This includes green taxonomies, sustainable finance frameworks, public procurement policies, renewable energy regulations, energy efficiency standards, incentives for circular economy, carbon market readiness and rules that support private sector participation. Without clear green investment policies, many projects remain dependent on public funding or donor support. With the right policy framework, climate action can become a mainstream investment opportunity for banks, investors, businesses and project developers.

The key barrier is not only lack of finance. It is also the lack of project preparation capacity. Many climate priorities remain unfunded because they are not presented in a format that investors, development banks or climate funds can act on.

WGEO recommends establishing regional project preparation support mechanisms that help countries and cities move from climate ambition to project delivery.

2. Strengthen climate finance readiness

Climate finance is central to NDC and NAP implementation. However, access to finance remains difficult for many developing countries, cities and smaller institutions. The process is often complex, technical and time-consuming. Many stakeholders face challenges in preparing proposals, meeting eligibility requirements, developing MRV systems and demonstrating long-term viability.

The solution is to strengthen climate finance readiness at national, regional and local levels. This should include support for feasibility studies, financial modelling, blended finance structures, guarantees, concessional finance, carbon finance, green bonds and public-private partnership models.

Climate Finance readiness should include:

- Building the capacity of government entities and city authorities to engage with development banks, climate funds, private investors and technology providers.
- Stronger use of de-risking tools and climate insurance. Many climate projects, especially in developing countries and vulnerable regions, face high perceived risks linked to policy uncertainty, currency exposure, creditworthiness, technology performance, climate hazards and limited project track record. These risks often prevent projects from reaching financial close, even when the climate benefits are clear. de-risking instruments such as guarantees, first-loss facilities, concessional capital, insurance products, political risk cover and blended finance can help reduce the cost of capital and attract private investment.
- Climate insurance can also support resilience by protecting communities, infrastructure and businesses from climate-related losses, while improving investor confidence in adaptation and resilience projects.

WGEO believes that climate finance should not remain limited to large national-level programs. Cities, SMEs, youth-led enterprises and local actors must also be supported to access appropriate finance, either directly or through aggregation models, including practical guidance on how countries and cities can structure de-risking instruments, climate insurance solutions and blended finance models around priority climate projects.

3. Accelerate city-level implementation

Cities are where many climate actions become real. Energy use, mobility, buildings, waste, water, land use, public health and adaptation all come together at city level. For this reason, city-level implementation should be treated as a major priority under the Belém Mission to 1.5.

Many cities are willing to act, but they need technical capacity, policy support, access to finance and practical tools. They also need stronger links with national NDCs and NAPs so that local action contributes directly to national climate targets.

WGEO's Carbon Neutral Cities Initiative demonstrates the importance of integrated urban planning, sustainable mobility, energy efficiency, waste management and nature-based solutions in supporting local climate targets while enhancing resilience and quality of life.

WGEO recommends creating regional platforms for carbon-neutral and climate-resilient cities. These platforms can help cities exchange experience, prepare projects, access finance, strengthen MRV systems and work with national governments and international partners.

The focus should be on practical urban solutions such as renewable energy, district energy, energy-efficient buildings, clean public transport, waste-to-energy, methane recovery, water reuse, smart water systems, urban greening, flood resilience and cooling solutions.

4. Build institutional capacity and green skills

NDC and NAP implementation depends on people and institutions. Strong climate plans cannot be implemented without trained officials, technical experts, project developers, financial specialists, private sector partners and young professionals.

Capacity building should move beyond general awareness. It should focus on practical skills needed for implementation. These include project preparation, climate finance, Article 6 readiness, carbon markets, adaptation planning, MRV, green procurement, ESG reporting, technology assessment, public-private partnerships and just transition planning.

Through GAGE, WGEO has established a global platform that enables member countries to access technical assistance, capacity building programs, peer-learning opportunities and policy dialogues aimed at strengthening national capacities for NDC and NAP implementation. Expanding such collaborative platforms can accelerate knowledge transfer and institutional strengthening across regions.

WGEO also believes that youth must be part of the implementation agenda. Young people should not be included only as participants in events. They should be trained, mentored and connected to real climate projects, innovation platforms and green economy opportunities.

A structured green skills pathway can support countries in building the next generation of climate professionals who can help implement NDCs and NAPs over the long term.

5. Strengthen MRV, transparency and progress tracking

Credible implementation requires credible tracking. Countries, cities and institutions need simple and practical monitoring, reporting and verification systems that can show progress, attract finance and improve accountability.

MRV systems should not be designed only for reporting to international processes. They should also help decision-makers understand what is working, where support is needed and which projects are ready for scale-up.

WGEO recommends developing simple, interoperable and user-friendly MRV tools for countries, cities and private sector actors. These tools should support emissions tracking, adaptation progress, finance flows, project outcomes and social co-benefits such as jobs, health, resilience and inclusion.

Strong MRV can also improve investor confidence, support carbon market participation and help countries demonstrate progress towards NDC and NAP implementation.

6. Promote practical technology transfer and innovation

Technology transfer should be linked to real implementation needs. It should not be limited to sharing information about technologies. Countries and cities need support to select, finance, operate and maintain technologies that fit their local conditions.

Priority technology areas include renewable energy, energy storage, clean mobility, smart grids, efficient cooling, water reuse, desalination powered by renewables, waste treatment, methane capture, digital MRV, climate risk tools and nature-based solutions.

Technology cooperation should also include local capacity building, maintenance training, business model development and support for local enterprises. Without these elements, technology transfer may not lead to long-term impact.

WGEO recommends connecting technology providers, cities, governments, investors and local institutions through structured matchmaking platforms linked to NDC and NAP priorities.

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

International cooperation must now move from general dialogue to structured delivery. Countries and stakeholders do not only need more conferences or declarations. They need practical partnerships that help them prepare projects, access finance, build capacity, transfer technology and track progress.

WGEO recommends the following areas to strengthen international cooperation.

1. Move from dialogue platforms to delivery partnerships

International cooperation should be organized around clear implementation outcomes. Each partnership should have a defined purpose, such as preparing a project pipeline, supporting a group of cities, developing finance-ready proposals, strengthening MRV, or building capacity in a specific sector.

This does not mean dialogue is unimportant. Dialogue is useful when it leads to action. The next generation of international cooperation should therefore connect policy discussions with practical follow-up, technical support and measurable outputs.

A stronger model would be to create delivery partnerships around specific themes such as carbon-neutral cities, renewable energy, water resilience, circular economy, clean mobility, climate finance readiness, youth skills or Article 6 readiness.

2. Establish regional NDC and NAP Centre of Excellence (COE)

Many countries and cities need hands-on support to move from plans to implementation. Regional COE can help address this gap and accelerate the implementation.

These centres can bring together governments, cities, development banks, technical experts, investors, private sector actors and civil society. Their role would be to review NDC and NAP priorities and help convert them into practical delivery plans.

Each centre should aim to produce tangible outputs, such as project concepts, financing pathways, implementation roadmaps, capacity-building needs, MRV requirements and potential delivery partners.

This approach would make international cooperation more practical and responsive to regional realities.

3. Improve matchmaking between needs, finance and technology

A major challenge is the mismatch between countries that need support and institutions that can provide finance, technology or expertise. Many climate projects do not progress because the right partners are not connected at the right time.

International cooperation should create structured matchmaking systems that connect countries and cities with investors, development banks, technology providers, project developers, universities, civil society and implementation partners.

This matchmaking should be based on clearly identified NDC and NAP priorities. It should not be a general networking exercise. It should focus on real projects, real barriers and real support requirements.

4. Strengthen South-South and city-to-city cooperation

Many practical climate solutions are already being developed across the Global South. Countries and cities can learn from each other's experience in renewable energy, clean transport, waste management, water reuse, climate resilience, public-private partnerships and community engagement.

South-South cooperation can help adapt solutions to similar economic, social and environmental conditions. City-to-city cooperation can also help local governments exchange practical knowledge, avoid mistakes and replicate successful models. It should also support countries in designing green investment policies and de-risking mechanisms. This includes support for green taxonomies, sustainable finance frameworks, project preparation facilities, guarantee structures, climate insurance, blended finance platforms and policy tools that improve investor confidence.

The aim should be to make climate projects more investable, especially in developing countries, small states, cities and regions where the need is high but access to affordable finance remains limited.

WGEO recommends strengthening regional learning networks, peer review mechanisms, exchange programs between NGOs, Organizations, Cities, Countries, etc. and knowledge platforms that allow cities and countries to share what is working in practice.

5. Simplify access to climate finance

International cooperation must help reduce the complexity of climate finance. Many countries, cities and local institutions find the process difficult because requirements are technical, lengthy and resource intensive.

International partners should provide more support for project preparation, proposal writing, financial structuring, safeguards, MRV and reporting. Aggregation models should also be used to combine smaller projects into larger investment opportunities.

Guarantees, blended finance, concessional loans, green bonds, carbon finance and risk-sharing instruments should be made more accessible to developing countries and city-level actors.

The aim should be to reduce the gap between climate priorities and financeable projects.

6. Build long-term institutional capacity

Capacity building should be treated as a long-term investment, not a one-time activity. Countries and cities need continuous support to build institutions that can plan, finance, implement and monitor climate action.

This includes capacity in ministries, municipalities, utilities, regulators, financial institutions, private sector entities and civil society organizations. It also includes young professionals who will carry the implementation agenda forward over the coming decades.

International cooperation should support training, mentoring, technical assistance, peer learning, fellowships and practical project-based learning.

7. Create simple follow-up and accountability mechanisms

Many international initiatives lose momentum because there is no clear follow-up. To avoid this, international cooperation should include simple accountability mechanisms.

Each partnership or platform should define the next steps, responsible parties, expected outputs, timelines and progress tracking arrangements. This can include project pipeline updates, commitment registers, progress dashboards, technical working groups, annual reviews or knowledge briefs.

Following up should be light but credible. The purpose should be to maintain momentum and help partners move from discussion to delivery.

Conclusion:

The WGEO believes that the Belém Mission to 1.5 can play an important role in shifting the global climate agenda from ambition to implementation. The most urgent need is to help countries, cities and stakeholders convert climate plans into practical, finance-ready, risk-managed, and measurable action.

To keep 1.5°C within reach and strengthen resilience, the global community must focus on implementation capacity, finance readiness, green investment policies, de-risking instruments, climate insurance, project pipelines, technology partnerships, city-level delivery, youth skills and practical international cooperation.

The WGEO stands ready to contribute to this process through its platforms, partnerships and experience in advancing the green economy agenda with governments, cities, businesses, financial institutions, youth and international partners.