

SURVEY ON NDCs

LATIN AMERICA · 2020

UNFCCC | RCC Panama in collaboration with UN Environment and the NDC-P



FOREWORD


2020 is a critical year for countries to fulfill their commitments under the Paris Agreement, including the submission of enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs). This report on the status of NDCs in the Latin America region emphasizes the efforts made by the participating countries on their progress of improving the national climate action plans, providing a regional outlook on the status of integrating NDCs which are essential to meet the temperature targets agreed under the Paris Agreement. Although most of the NDCs are still in the process of revision or production, subject to change over the next few months, this preliminary information is critical to plan the best way in which our Regional Collaboration Center for Latin America (RCC Panama) and its partners can effectively and in a tailored manner facilitate their support to countries in the region. The report also displays the immense opportunity of mainstreaming the NDCs to broaden the mitigation actions with integration of vital crosscutting issues and paves the way for learning what is necessary to consider for a long-term approach of ensuring a climate-resilient development in Latin America. We in the UNFCCC are very grateful for the support, transparency and openness with which the countries of the region have voluntarily participated and shared non-committal information for the preparation of this report that we hope is useful to all.

We look forward to following the developments of engaged national climate action in Latin America and continue to provide support through our RCC Panama on integrating NDCs.



JAMES GRABERT

**Director of the Mitigation Division
United Nations Climate Change Secretariat**

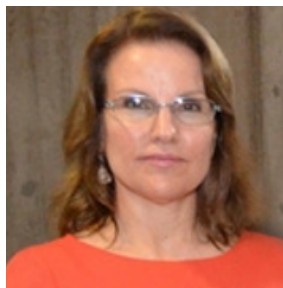


Panama reiterates its commitment to the Paris Agreement to achieve in the most ambitious way possible its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), in accordance with its circumstances, national capacities and with the participation of all sectors of the country through a wide spectrum of initiatives and introducing new programs.

The work of revising our NDC also reflects the efforts of our country for an integrated approach to adaptation and mitigation for the ten (10) prioritized areas within the updated NDC of Panama. Among the priority areas, I would like to highlight the energy sector and the national objective of achieving the transition of this sector towards decarbonization. Recognizing the challenges, we face from COVID-19, Panama has presented a recovery plan to ensure a green and sustainable economy consistent with the implementation of the goals included in this updated NDC and with the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

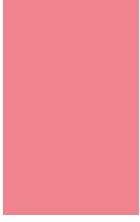
In this effort in MiAMBIENTE, we recognize the importance of collaboration with partners and countries in the region and, therefore, we appreciate the efforts of the Regional Collaboration Center for Latin America (RCC Panama) and its partners (UNEP and NDC-P), in producing this report on NDC, which provides a useful reference on trends in these developments in such a way that they allow us a deeper understanding of our regional needs, challenges and opportunities.

We are committed to continuing to work together with our regional partners to combat climate change to accelerate the momentum towards inclusive, low-GHG and resilient sustainable development for future generations!



LIGIA CASTRO DE DOENS

Director for Climate Change
Ministry of Environment of Panama



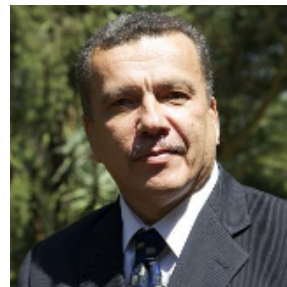
The set of upheavals of COVID-19's pandemic in year 2020 will go down in history as one of the greatest health, social, and economic crises humanity has ever faced. 2020 also marks the beginning of a decisive decade for the future of our society in the face of the effects of climate change and the challenge of reducing GHG emissions enough to keep the increase in global average temperature below 1.5 °C by 2030. The convergence of these two events demands from humanity a coordinated, effective, and transparent action given the magnitude of the consequences we are facing and the little time that remains to ensure that the impacts and costs are as low as possible.

The immediate impacts of COVID-19 have made us act in the first instance towards the protection of human life and health as the highest. We have also understood in much greater detail the value of the conservation and stability of ecosystems and the species that inhabit them, making us reflect that nature is our greatest ally in the prevention of future events similar to COVID-19. Nature is also a strategic resource to increase our capacity to adapt to extreme climatic events and to capture the carbon dioxide present in the atmosphere. Finally, our economies have shown their deepest weaknesses and have revealed the fragility of various sectors and populations in the face of critical events, forcing us to rethink our decisions and economic models within a framework of timely care, prevention, and reaction.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, post-COVID-19 recovery plans and NDCs take the highest relevance as instruments of action in the face of health, economic, and climatic emergencies. The governments of the region, multilateral organizations, the private sector, academia, civil society, and all the stakeholders involved in the context of the emergency must act in a coordinated, effective, and transparent way, seeking to resolve in the first instance the main inequalities and negative externalities of our economies by favoring human life and that

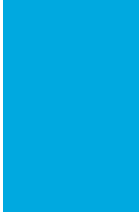
of the species with which we share strategic ecosystems for the benefit of the entire world. In this complex scenario, the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda take a fundamental role in establishing the guidelines for economic recovery and climate action aimed at guiding humanity on a path of peace, equity, justice, and sustainability during the next decade and beyond.

Through this review of the NDCs in the Latin American region, we have been able to identify important results and challenges faced by governments in the framework of the implementation of the Paris Agreement. I highlight the ambition, transparency, and forcefulness with which the majority of the governments of Latin America are acting in the face of the emergency, while adapting to the effects of the changing climate and guiding their development decisions towards a path of neutrality in their GHG emissions. Decisions regarding energy, infrastructure, the creation of new jobs, and the conservation of ecosystems must be motivated by the decarbonization of economies, the neutrality of emissions, the increase in adaptive capacity, and the absolute halt of the loss of biodiversity. When incorporated transparently into the NDCs and Post-COVID recovery plans, these priorities will ensure a decade of change and transformation of our region towards a resilient future, neutral in emissions, and prepared for future crises.



LEO HEILEMAN

Regional Representative and Director for Latin America and the Caribbean. UN Environment UNEP



The NDC Partnership launched the Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP) in 2019 to support countries to review and update their NDCs, with a view on increasing ambition. The initiative aims to match country requests with technical and financial support from across our members, ensuring countries have the support to ensure their climate ambitions are actionable, and also responding to the call of the Conference of the Parties of UNFCCC for developed countries and international organizations to support countries in this endeavor.

Through a combination of implementing partners' own resources and a dedicated Technical Assistance Fund, fast and targeted NDC enhancement support is being delivered to 63 countries, by 46 implementing and development partners. More than USD45.6 million has been mobilized through CAEP, with over USD 16.5 million of this being directed to 19 beneficiary countries in the LAC region.

This report illustrates much of the work being supported through CAEP and provides valuable insights on how countries in the region are approaching their revised NDCs. We are thrilled to attest that the LAC region is committed to increased ambition and has strengthened its response to climate change. The NDC Partnership remains equally committed to support countries in implementing the bold targets the region is aspiring to achieve in the next years and decades.



PABLO VIEIRA

Global Director
NDC Partnership Support Unit

1. INTRODUCTION

2015 was a historic year in which 196 Parties came together under the Paris Agreement to transform their development trajectories so that they set the world on a course towards sustainable development, aiming to limit global warming to 1.5 or less than 2 °C above pre-industrial levels. Through the Paris Agreement, Parties also agreed to a long-term goal for adaptation – to increase the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production. Additionally, they agreed to work towards making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.

Nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are at the heart of the Paris Agreement and the achievement of these long-term goals. NDCs embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Paris Agreement (Article 4, paragraph 2) requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive NDCs that it intends to achieve. Parties shall pursue domestic mitigation measures with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions.

The Paris Agreement requests each country to outline and communicate their post-2020 climate actions, known as their NDCs.

Together, these climate actions determine whether the world achieves the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement, reach the global peak of greenhouse gas emissions and undertake effective mitigation actions in accordance with best available science to achieve a balance between anthropogenic GHG emissions and removals in the second half of this century. It is understood that the peaking of emissions will take longer for developing country

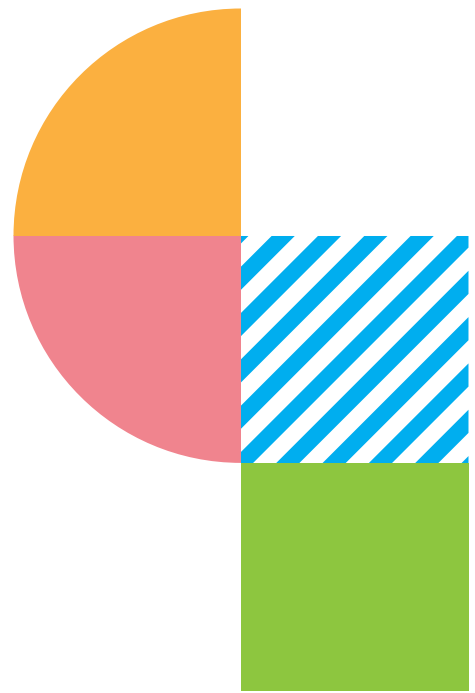
Parties, and that mitigation actions are undertaken based on equity, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, which are critical development priorities for many developing countries.

2019-2020 is a critical period and presents a window of opportunity that cannot be missed. Several significant events will take place during this period, which all aim to help re-energize countries' efforts, raise ambition and make concrete commitments for climate action.

The purpose of this survey on NDCs in Latin America is to examine the progress and features of the NDCs in Latin America.

It is expected that the consolidated report will help identify key aspects of the specific political and technical challenges that countries face in implementing NDCs.

This survey was prepared by the UNFCCC Secretariat through its Regional Collaboration Centre for Latin America (RCC Panama) in close collaboration with UN Environment and the NDC-Partnership.



2. COUNTRIES THAT PARTICIPATED IN THIS SURVEY

1. Argentina
2. Bolivia
3. Chile
4. Colombia
5. Costa Rica
6. Ecuador
7. Guatemala
8. Honduras
9. Mexico
10. Nicaragua
11. Panama
12. Paraguay
13. Peru
14. Dominican Republic
15. Uruguay



An electronic survey was conducted from April 14 to May 25 of 2020 with 19 countries in Latin America including the Dominican Republic and Cuba. 15 countries responded to this survey through their UNFCCC National Focal Points. (Missing: Brazil, Cuba, El Salvador, Venezuela).

The data were submitted by each stakeholder and therefore constitute a self-declaration. These data were then compiled by the secretariat in order to produce the following synthesized data.

Note: responses from Chile are based on their NDC delivered in April 2020.

3. IS YOUR COUNTRY SUBMITTING A NEW OR UPDATED NDC IN 2020?

Of the 15 Latin American countries that deliver inputs to the survey, 13 indicated that they have or will deliver their NDC in 2020. In the case of Uruguay, the country submitted its first NDCs during 2017 after a review process that involved an increase in ambition regarding the INDC (presented in 2015). The NDC advances and improves general goals expanding the number of actions proposed and specifying measurable and transparent goals for the main actions. The next NDC will be presented in 2022. In the case of Ecuador, the country does not consider submitting a revised NDC, and will follow the guidelines of the Paris Agreement and its Program of work continuing the established global efforts. Ecuador is currently making additional efforts to generate a Plan of Robust implementation for components of adaptation and mitigation of the NDC. On 9 April 2020, Chile published its enhanced NDC, becoming the first country in the region to do so.¹



1. <https://unfccc.int/news/chile-presents-its-enhanced-nationally-determined-contribution-ndc>

4. HOW IS YOUR COUNTRY ENHANCING THE QUALITY AND/OR INCREASING THE AMBITION OF ITS NDC?

In addition to the information provided in the diagram at the right side, the countries indicated that the incorporation of new sectors and /or new gases will be analyzed. Some countries indicated that they are currently undergoing a technical evaluation process with the sectors in order to define the level of ambition in mitigation, adaptation and economic analysis, under the principle of non-regression and use of the best information available. Likewise, they are evaluating establishing goals, indicators, and sustainability in greater detail through processes of participation, facing the construction of the NDC implementation plan, an enabling part of the NDC as state public policy.

In terms of adaptation, a country indicated that it is important to identify additional actions that allow compliance with the lines of action in this matter, including a more detailed description of the scope of the compliance, identification of priority regions for implementation considering capacities at the territorial level and inclusion of new themes reflected in the lines of action.

Cross-cutting activities were also mentioned several times by countries. Some stressed they efforts to align its NDC with nationals' instruments to strengthening topics such as:

- Oceans;
- Gender (strengthen the inclusion of cross-cutting approaches to gender);
- Private sector; and,
- Indigenous peoples (intercultural and intergenerational).

Number of countries per mention

Inclusion of new mitigation targets

8

Inclusion of new adaptation targets

9

Inclusion of new sectors

4

Inclusion of new gases

3

Costing or other economic analysis

10

Developing or strengthening MRV systems and data

11

Creating, revising or implementing legal frameworks, policies, or laws to enable NDC enhancement

10

Aligning the NDC with SDGs or mid/long-term strategies

12

Other

12

5. PLEASE SUMMARIZE HOW YOUR COUNTRY INTENDS TO ENHANCE ITS NDC

water sources, responsible water consumption, **inventory of wetlands, zero illegal deforestation, analysis of new gases,** inclusion of the transport sector, **climate financing strategy, oceans, the circular economy, peatlands and ecosystems,** alignment with the Decarbonization Plan, **alignment with the National Adaptation Policy,** migration and human mobility, **indigenous people and gender focus, just transition, human rights, alignment between the conventions,** non-regression, **nature-based solutions, forest and reforested area,** use of best available information, **quality of the information,** goals indicators, costs, **economic analysis, sustainability strategies and measurements,** reporting and verification mechanisms, **strengthen the metric for the generation of reports and evaluation,** public-private coordination, **financing, capacity building and technology, gender equality, climate justice and human rights, electromobility, energy efficiency, Emissions Trading System,** more detailed description of actions, **synergies of mitigation and adaptation actions,** synergies with other international agendas, **biodiversity, desertifications disaster risk reduction, energy sector, improve the projection of emissions by 2030,** sectoral mitigation plans, **expansion of private sector participation, information on trends, impacts and vulnerabilities, private investments, community-based, short medium and long-term development goals, SDGs indicators**

There was a variety of the level of responses for how countries in Latin America will enhance their NDCs, depending on the state of the previous reported version. One country that has advanced their NDC described how the work will be used to further advance an integrated and synergistic vision in the design and implementation of the climate action in the country. For those countries with their NDCs currently under development, the responses concentrated on their efforts for improved indicators and quality of the reported NDCs, as well as technical evaluations to define their level of ambition and for their priority areas for both mitigation and adaptation plans. A clearly identified trend in the region of the enhanced NDCs was to widen their scope to include adaptation measures which is an anticipated step forward to for the development of the NDC in Latin America. For countries where already sector specific focus areas on adaptation are in place, two of the respondents expressed them intend to enhance its inventories and M&E effort on the topics of water; responsible water consumption, wetlands and oceans.

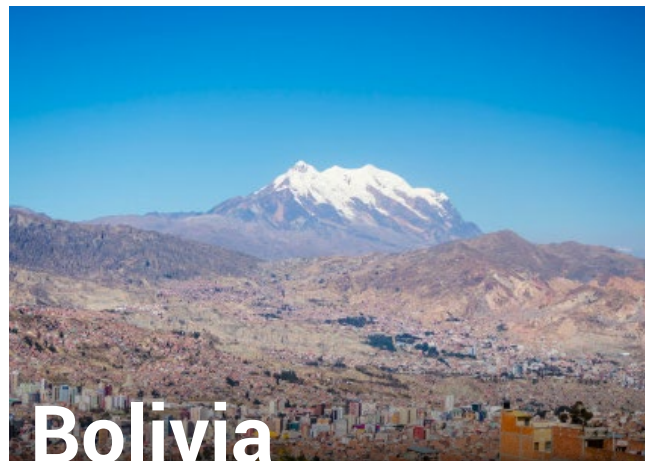
Additionally, enhancing aspects of mitigation was also referenced by most participating countries. Improvement of mitigation indicators, improved data on goals within LULUCF and NBS, development of sectorial mitigation plans and identification of adequate distribution of GHG emission reduction targets were listed.

The mainstreaming of crosscutting topics to ensure comprehensive sustainable development was stressed by several countries. The focus was primarily on common principles related to gender, human rights, just transition and climate justice. Other sectors commonly listed were energy and transport, energy efficiency, electromobility and one example of inclusion of transport sector was found amongst others.

An overarching trend noticed was the establishment of monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) mechanisms in the mitigation and adaptation measures. Also, how the GHG inventories data will contribute to enhance the design of a more robust and integrated MRV system was brought up by one country, including information of emissions, mitigation actions and support.



The country is proposing inclusion of new adaptation objectives. It is considering creating, reviewing and/or implement legal frameworks, policies or laws to allow improvement or implementation of its NDC.



Regarding mitigation, the country will seek to improve the quality of mitigation indicators, regarding the precision of forest and reforested area related to its opportunity cost and financial viability, zero illegal deforestation.

In adaptation, the country will conduct inventories of underground and underground water sources, responsible water consumption and wetlands.

Furthermore, an analysis of new gases and of the inclusion of the transport sector is to be executed. Cost of the new budget necessary to implement the new NDC. Design of norms for the elaboration of a Climate Financing Strategy.



This update of the NDC incorporates a new integration component that contemplates the role of our oceans, the circular economy, forests, peatlands and ecosystems, as elements that affect the integral way to face both causes such as the effects and impacts of climate change. This is an effort to advance an integrated and synergistic vision in the design and implementation of climate action in Chile.



Alignment of the NDC's ambition with the Decarbonization Plan was presented as part of the enhancement. Also, the alignment of the adaptation component with the National Adaptation Policy was mentioned.

Lastly, specific aspects on financing, migration and human mobility, human law, indigenous populations and gender focus, just transition, NBS and alignment between the conventions are to be included.



The country is in a technical evaluation process with various sectors in order to define the level of ambition in mitigation and adaptation under the principle of non-regression and use of the best available information.



The country is making efforts to improve the quality of the information found in its NDC. Simultaneously, goals, indicators, costs, economic analysis, sustainability strategies, and measurement, reporting and verification mechanisms have been established for all mitigation actions and adaptation measures contemplated in the NDC. All this information will be part of the NDC Implementation Plan as enabling information for the implementation of this country's public policy.



In accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, the country will strengthen the metric for the generation of reports and evaluation; Nicaragua will set up monitoring, reporting and verification tables for each national inventory sector included in the NDCs; Public-private coordination with the different sectors at the national level will be strengthened linking national objectives contemplated in the National Policy on Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change.

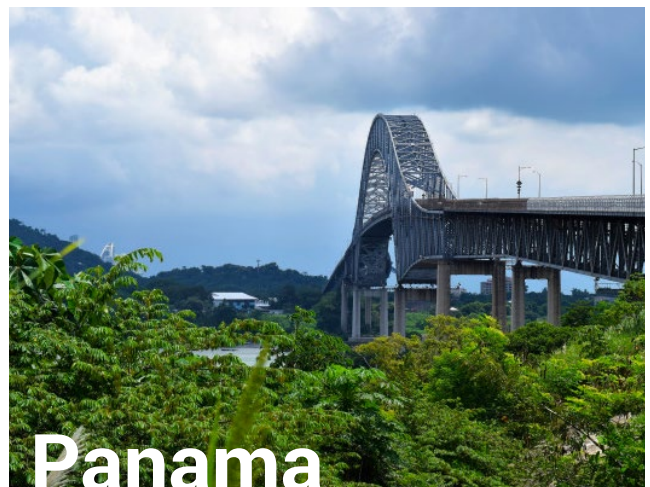


The country's NDC has two components: mitigation (covering greenhouse gases and compounds) and adaptation. The adaptation component is expected to integrate as part of the engagement issues that were not identified in the 2015 version of the NDC. Additionally, a restructuring of the component is envisaged, identifying linkages, lines of action, sub-actions and means of implementation: financing, capacity building and technology transfer that are considered cross-sectionally. In parallel, the country's NDC will be guided by common principles between the mitigation and adaptation components, among which gender equality, climate justice and human rights stand out.

The mitigation component plans to increase its ambition by integrating measures not considered in the 2015 version of the NDC in terms of electromobility, energy efficiency, the Emissions Trading System, HF's National Mitigation Strategy.

In addition, necessary enabling actions have been reviewed and identified for the fulfillment of the sectoral goals in which action will be taken to promote the policies and promote the coordination of the Secretariats and dependencies involved in their implementation. Likewise, the NDC update has a focus on implementation in the territory and capacity building. In the case of the Adaptation NDC:

- Addition of new topics not considered in the current NDC (oceans, cultural heritage);
- More detailed description of actions;
- Link with planning instruments on climate change;
- Strengthening of the gender and human rights approach;
- Synergies of mitigation and adaptation actions;
- Synergies with other international agendas (biodiversity, desertification, disaster risk reduction);



The country did not present adaptation components in its first NDC, therefore it is proposed to add priority areas and approaches, improved data on mitigation goals in the UT-CUTS sector, and the inclusion of new activities in the energy sector (transport and energy efficiency).



Paraguay will seek to improve the projection of emissions by 2030; Develop sectoral mitigation plans; Define adaptation indicators; Sectoral inclusion of gender issues; Expansion of private sector participation.



The country's 2020 NDC ambition enhancement seeks to provide a clearer picture of the country strategic thinking and planning towards the NDC implementation. Since the first NDC (2015), the country has moved forward in preparation for NDC implementation, nevertheless, there are still significant challenges. In this sense, it is necessary for an NDC update including specific mitigation and adaptation quantitative targets, and a systematic tool to evaluate other pathways that are more ambitious in the long-term. In terms of mitigation, an adequate distribution of GHG emission reduction targets and comprehensive revision of correspondent strategies, policies and actions is necessary. In addition, the GHG inventories data will contribute to enhance the design of a more robust and integrated MRV

system, including information of emissions, mitigation actions and support. For adaptation, the adoption of short-term plans is necessary, as well as, action for adaptation based on updated information on trends, impacts and vulnerabilities.

Furthermore considering, the development and implementation of a robust M&E and KM system is of importance. A sub-national focus will be included in the NDC revision/update, in order to provide information on local climate actions currently being implemented by local governments, NGOs, international and bilateral agencies, academia and private sector, as well as the potential for the GHG emission national target for further implementation. The contribution of the private sector will also be included. This is highly relevant since it will highlight earlier private investments, mitigation and adaptation actions and community-based strategies that were not previously reported nor communicated.

In terms of implementation, addition of finance/support needs will be reached through a short-term assessment of national budget expenditures on climate change (including mitigation and adaptation projects, sustainable and more-resilient infrastructure, and disaster risk management) and private investments. This will identify the current country financial gap for a successful NDC implementation. Relevant to this process, it is necessary to include updated and new information on capacity building gaps and technological needs for public and private sector, academia and civil society.

Furthermore, it expected a stronger and clearer understanding of how NDC implementation has a strong correlation with short, medium and long-term development goals. This will provide clarity on the linkages between the SDGs indicators and the expected results of NDC implementation.

Note: The above text was prepared and interpreted according to the information received. Further, it is important to take into account that most of the participating countries continue in the process of public consultation of their revised NDCs. Hence, this information is not committal and should be use with caution.

6. INDICATE WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS OF WORK ARE OR WILL BE EXPLICITLY INCLUDED IN YOUR UPDATED OR NEW NDC.

This is undoubtedly one of the most anticipated and revealing questions in the survey. First, all the countries in the survey provided comprehensive responses that resulted in a more extensive and ambitious list than in the submission of NDCs in previous years. This extensive list shows great progress in the region mainly in the areas of adaptation and cross-cutting areas related to the 2030 agenda. As shown in the diagram above, the new most common areas involve the inclusion of the gender equity agenda, health, nature-based solutions, smart agriculture, circular economy, oceans and combating desertification.

Number of countries per area of work

Circular economy



Health



Water and irrigation



Gender



Local Communities and Indigenous People



Oceans



Mangroves



Combat desertification



Nature-based solutions



Smart Agriculture



Migration



Blue economy



Education, youth and children



Other (Cities, private sector, Land use, transport)



7. WILL YOU APPLY THE KATOWICE RULEBOOK ADOPTED IN 2018 ABOUT INFORMATION TO FACILITATE CLARITY, TRANSPARENCY AND UNDERSTANDING (ICTU) OF THE NDC MITIGATION COMPONENT?

This question is intended to help you understand which countries would be considering applying the additional guidance to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) in their revised/updated 2020 NDCs.

According to the results, two countries are currently considering the ICTU guidance and 13 countries have expressed their interest of knowing more about how to apply it. The development of capacities for its application is a barrier that these countries have identified.

Yes



Yes, and wish to receive support for application of the UNFCCC ICTU and accounting



No



No, but wish to receive support for application of the UNFCCC ICTU



Not in current NDC, but probably in further NDC



8. WHEN (MONTH) DOES YOUR COUNTRY PLAN TO SUBMIT ITS UPDATED NDC TO THE UNFCCC?

From the countries consulted, it can be observed that a total of seven countries are waiting to deliver their NDC in December 2020, four more countries would deliver their NDC between April and November 2020, considering that before the survey, 3 countries had already delivered their NDCs. It can be expected that there will be 12 countries that would have their NDC updated / revised for the period 2020-2025 (five countries did not answer this question).

April

1

September

1

October

1

November

1

December

7

Did not specify

4

9. WHAT ARE THE MAJOR CHALLENGES FOR YOUR NDC UPDATING?

For the year 2020 a new challenge namely COVID-19 has been added, the countries are currently taking virtual consultation tables and other actions to be able to advance in the revision and updating of the NDCs. Two complementary challenges are modeling the projections and accessing data to establish the baseline, both of which are important in estimating both conditional and non-conditional GHG emission reductions.

Number of countries mentions per challenges

Access to data for establishing baseline

9

Modelling for projections

11

Coordination complications due to COVID-19 related issues

14

Coordination and approval complications due to political or other situations

6

Other technical complications

4

Other socio-political complications

3

Other options

9

10. IS YOUR COUNTRY INCLUDING ACTIONS OR TARGETS RELATED TO LAND DEGRADATION, AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND/OR OTHER LAND USE, (AFOLU)?

According to the IPCC Special Report (2019), 23% of the total net anthropogenic GHG emissions (2007-2016) come from agriculture, forestry and other land uses (AFOLU). Expanding “Nature-Based Solutions” on the protection, restoration and sustainable use of forests, grasslands and wetlands within the LULUCF sector may represent a (cost-effective) opportunity for countries to increase the ambition of their NDC. In the survey, 13 countries have expressed their interest in including this type of actions.



11. WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES FOR IMPLEMENTING ACTIONS IN THE AFOLU SECTOR?

The Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector faces various challenges ranging from institutional, technological and political actors, in addition to restrictions on land availability, competitive land uses for food production and conservation. Regarding emissions reduction, some of the biggest challenges for the implementation of specific actions include: i) uncertainty associated with the estimation of GHG emission reductions by sources and removals by sinks and ii) it is a highly dynamic sector, influenced by climate change, for example, countries could be in a position where they could not achieve their goals, even if they implemented all the measures of the AFOLU sector included in their NDC.

Some Andean countries have indicated that the main challenge is to initiate the design and implementation of technical guidelines to operationalize the AFOLU methodology differentiated by macro regions and ecosystems of the ecoregions, especially in the Andean countries and parts of the Amazon.

Other Central American countries have recognized that they have a robust legal framework and net reforestation has been achieved on a national scale, but there is still localized deforestation, including in protected areas. In these cases, the countries are working to improve and strengthen legal compliance and improve and strengthen payment schemes for environmental services and other value capture mechanisms to increase incentives for reforestation and strengthen conservation. Improve the integration of agricultural and forestry activities. They are also working to improve access to better information and timely data capture, as well as harmonization between the priorities of the sectors and access to financing resources and demonstration projects for the implementation of actions in the territory.

Number of countries that identified each challenge

Availability of technologies for monitoring, evaluation and control

8

Identification of contribution in risk reduction and adaptation

6

Integration of sustainable forest and agricultural management

4

Designing of valuation mechanisms, incentives and financial instruments

4

Reduction of Deforestation and Degradation

4

Mitigation Contribution quantification

4

Development of tools for governance and participation

3

Enhancing of forest conservation

2

Sustainable forest planning and management

1

Inter-institutional coordination has also been listed as part of the challenges since the priority sectors of Agriculture and LULUCF require the incorporation of several State Portfolios that have competence in these actions.

Among the most recurrent regional action recommendations are:

- **Climate finance:** Facilitate access to financial mechanisms necessary to be able to comply with the NDCs; Increase in the availability of financial resources for both the public and private sectors;

- **Promoting sustainable forest management activities** allows reducing the area affected by these catastrophic events, but it must also prevent the development of conditions that enhance the vulnerability of an ecosystem; Promote sustainability in projects especially in less favored communities; Generate an agenda for the management of forest fires, pests and natural disasters. Minimize the conditions for the occurrence and spread of fires; Prioritize sustainable forest management by promoting the multiple roles that forests play in reducing natural disasters, but also provide a service of great importance in the preservation of biodiversity, which is highly threatened by the effects of climate change, which confirms that respect and care for the ecological development of these ecosystems is a transcendental pillar to meet the goals of SDG 13 and 15.

- **Develop Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs)** specific to the forestry, livestock and agricultural sectors;

- **Develop technologies and models of innovative agricultural production** that result in zero deforestation;

- **Capacity building** of government officials for greater application of the current legal framework; Capacity building for the adoption and adaptation of technology to reduce emissions; Improve the competences on the subject of the different levels of government, as well as the budget restrictions that these programs and entities in charge have faced for their implementation and monitoring;

Achieve the link between the implementing institutions; Improve the strengthening of efficient technologies for agricultural production research;

- **Improve enabling conditions** (such as governance and institutional strengthening) **and overcome barriers** such as illicit activities, poverty and lack of state presence; Achieve the integration of the forestry and agricultural sectors and identify their synergistic actions.

- **Sensitize the private sector** to better comply with the current legal framework;

- **Improve the quality of data** and use of definitions in a coherent, consistent and comparable way; develop MRV systems and guides for this sector; telemetry; prepare the baseline, since information is scarce; The information baseline and information gathering;



12. WHAT LINKAGES DO YOU IDENTIFY BETWEEN YOUR NDC AND LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY MEASURES?

The countries of the region have different degrees of implementation regarding the incorporation of indicators of the land degradation neutrality. At least 6 countries reported contemplating activities related to these indicators. Some countries reported that these indicators will be applied as part of the implementation of the NDC. On the other hand, some others indicated that these considerations are still in the process of national consultation.

Likewise, some countries have highlighted the alignment of these land degradation neutrality measures with objectives related to increasing forest cover, conserving ecosystems, natural regeneration and reforestation, synergistic actions of livestock, agriculture and farming processes, agroforestry, management of protected areas and restoration of degraded areas.

One of the interesting particulars of the reports received is the potential to align this activity in the NDCs on land degradation neutrality to different lines of work such as mitigation (carbon sinks) as well as other aspects of adaptation and resilience also aligned with the sustainable development agenda 2030. This, recognizing that forests management are closely linked to crosscutting issues particularly on a number of SDGs, co-benefits and other contributions in terms of adaptation such as: i) Water security; ii) Disaster risk reduction; iii) Inclusion of vulnerable groups, with a special focus on gender; and iv) Nature-based solutions. Adaptive management of vegetation resources is incorporated to climate change, desertification, land degradation and drought.

Finally, it should be noted that one of the countries made specific reference to the Payments for Results that have been achieved with the Green Climate Fund for the reduction of emissions in the LULUCF sector, which will improve the efficiency in the use of land resources in production processes, based on the National Land Degradation Neutrality Strategy.

Number of countries mentions per linkages

Neutrality in land degradation goals

5

Forest conservation, restoration, regeneration and reforestation

3

Sustainable agricultural, livestock and forestry management

4

Reduction of Deforestation and Degradation

2

13. ARE THERE ADDITIONAL AREAS IN WHICH YOUR COUNTRY WOULD HAVE LIKED TO ENHANCE ITS NDC?

While half of the countries expressed satisfaction with the scope of the enhancement in their updated NDCs, another six countries in Latin America (Bolivia, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama) identified further possibilities of enhancement in specific areas. These areas are additional to the ones discussed in questions 5 and 6, and include water management, agriculture and fisheries, resilient cities, private sector engagement, aligning CO2 emission targets with LT-LEDS, black carbon, and HCFs.

As explained under question 4, many countries are significantly refining the adaptation component of their revised NDC. Even so, several respondents highlight that adaptation is a dimension that could have been further strengthened and where more work will be undertaken in the future. This is the case of Guatemala and Honduras. Guatemala is intending to include specific adaptation sectors and new targets, however, expressed an interest to have further developed the adaptation dimension in the NDC. Similarly, Honduras intends to broaden sectoral scope around adaptation and include specific targets; however, signals that the NDCs adaptation component needs to be more defined.

This shows that while reducing vulnerability and advancing on adaptation is a priority for the Latin American region, incorporating it more broadly, thoroughly, or meaningfully it remains a challenge for some of the countries.

No

6

Yes

6

No response

3

14. WHICH NDC AMBITION CONSTRAINTS HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED?

Countries reflected upon the challenges that hinder their efforts towards further raising ambition in their revised NDC. The two most mentioned barriers preventing them from committing to greater NDC ambition are anticipated financial resources for implementation and insufficient time to prepare additional inputs for the 2020 deadline.

Respondents also highlighted other types of hurdles that did not fall under the categories shown above., which are normally reflective of the circumstances surrounding the specific countries. For example, Bolivia mentioned the political context as an important barrier, explained by the fact that the government currently in power is a transitional government and elections are to be held soon. Also, COVID-19 was highlighted by some countries along with the important financial and capacity burdens that the pandemic brings about.

Number of countries per constraint

Insufficient time to prepare additional inputs for the 2020 deadline

8

Insufficient data to inform the prioritization of additional NDC inputs

5

Anticipated financial resources for implementation

9

Government capacity to implement

4

External barriers (e.g. cost competitiveness of alternative technologies, trade restrictions, etc.)

5

Conditions were not ready for this NDC round, but it is our intention to include

4

Other (please describe)

6

15. WILL YOU EXPLICITLY INCLUDE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING POLICIES IN THE UPDATED NDC?

Regardless of the type of NDC submitted, most countries will provide information about existing/new policies and, in cases, the targets within their revised NDC. Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Peru are planning to include renewable energy targets in their NDCs and most of them intend to include a quantitative target. Colombia highlights how the policies that will be mentioned are included in the National Development Plan (2018-2022) and this shows the level of integration of the climate change issues and the NDC targets into the country's development agenda.

Additionally, six of the countries mentioned above, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru, plan to include carbon pricing in their NDCs.

Other than renewable energy and carbon pricing, Mexico points out their intention to include other policies in their NDCs such as blue carbon, electromobility, and clean energy.

Only Renewable Energy target



Carbon pricing (as domestic carbon market or as tax) and renewable energy target



No answer



16. HOW IS CAEP SUPPORTING YOUR COUNTRY?

The Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP) launched by the NDC Partnership in 2019 provides countries targeted and fast-tracked support for NDC Enhancement. 20 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean are benefitting from this initiative.

Based on the survey responses, the main value CAEP brings is providing financial resources to countries to fill financing gaps and so be able to conduct a broader set of activities around the NDC. In fact, through CAEP the NDC Partnership has mobilized over US\$15m in Latin America and the Caribbean. Countries also highlighted that these resources were mobilized faster than they would have been through other sources.

A large part of respondents also highlighted that CAEP serves as a useful coordination platform, bringing together countries and development partners around NDC enhancement as well as providing access to new development partners. Particularly, in Latin America, there are over 20 implementing partners working with countries around the CAEP initiative.

Another benefit perceived by various respondents include the access to specific technical assistance opportunities to support a wider range of issues, including data collection and, evaluation and analyses of methodologies and indicators.

Number of countries per mention

Coordinating support among existing development partners

6

Connecting with new development partners

7

Providing financial resources to fill financing gaps

8

Fast-tracking NDC enhancement and implementation, which would have otherwise taken longer

7

Other

7

17. HOW NDC SUPPORT COULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN THE FUTURE?

Countries mentioned how the CAEP initiative could be strengthened in the future. Most of the suggestions were related to the CAEP proposal process and the way the initiative is delivered. Respondents would find it useful for the process to start with more anticipation to assure that deadlines are not too tight. Additionally, there was a proposal to expand the timeframe for implementation.

The process would benefit from more detailed guidance. At times there was no clarity on how to address some issues. For example, available resources should be shared and clear before determining whether a request has been responded to or not. Similarly, some of the implementing partners need to have closer technical discussions with governments before submitting a proposal as support needs to be specialized and personalized.

It was also mentioned that the emphasis on capacity development should be stronger and implementing partners should be encouraged to detail specific institutional strengthening plans.

CLIMATE ACTION ENHANCEMENT PACKAGE (CAEP)

Through the Climate Action Enhancement Package (abbreviated CAEP, pronounced “cap”) the NDC Partnership is delivering targeted, fast-track support to countries to enhance the quality, increase the ambition, and implement nationally determined contributions (or NDCs), as part of the 2020 update process.

Under the Paris Agreement, countries revise their NDCs every five years to cut greenhouse gas emissions to limit Earth’s temperature rise and implement solutions to adapt to the effects of climate change. The updating of NDCs presents countries with significant opportunities to align their climate and development agendas to promote sustainable growth, but also presents challenges in reinventing policies and operations and mobilizing enough investment.