Lessons from the GIZ NDC Partnership Project

PREPARING FOR ROBUST CLIMATE ACTION

Stocktake and Roadmap development for NDCs

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Executive Summary

This document aims to provide clear and practical guidance for policy makers and practitioners preparing to review Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), drawing on experiences and lessons learnt from the country engagement of the GIZ's NDC Partnership Readiness Project (NRP). Under the project, countries receive tailored support to plan, implement, and enhance their national climate action processes in order to comply with their commitments under the Paris Agreement.

NDC revision and update can be a challenging process, with many countries struggling to know where to start. For each country the process may be different, reflecting the vastly different national contexts and priorities different countries need to reflect. NDC Stocktakes support an understanding of progress to date, challenges to address, and priorities to reflect, and can then feed into NDC 3.0 Roadmaps that detail a recommended process for updating the NDC in a way that is aligned to national circumstances (including necessary activities, timelines, and roles/responsibilities). NDC Stocktakes and Roadmaps have proven to be effective tools to enhance national understanding and ownership of the NDC process, and can also be used to identify and leverage opportunities to align short and/or medium targets with long-term climate strategies.
Ultimately, the NDC Stocktake and Roadmap process helps policymakers assess where they stand on climate action, decide priorities for the next NDC, and outline a process and responsibilities for updating the NDC. This ensures a clear path to the NDC 3.0 that speaks to national circumstances and priorities and addresses current gaps and challenges.

The NDC Stocktake and Roadmap process followed by NRP is as follows:

The GIZ NDC Partnership Readiness Project (NRP)

NRP supports country governments in their immediate planning needs for effective climate action. In line with the GIZ's principle of "leaving no one behind", the project aims **to support NDC Partnership member countries with low institutional and technical capacities** through capacity building and an exchange of international climate support knowledge among relevant stakeholders. The objective is to empower countries in their policy development process and improve access climate finance and technical assistance, with the goal of fostering ambitious climate action for the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

1. NDC Stocktake

- Desk Review: Looking at current circumstances (e.g. current emissions, NDC 2.0 plans, policies, activities, roles and responsibilities, institutional arrangements etc) and forward looking aspects (e.g. new/future priorities, expected future trends, etc).

- NDC Rapid Assessment under ICTU framework: Providing a clear assessment under the ICTU framework, which evaluates the completeness of available data needed to inform the next NDC targets.

- Documentation of findings: Clearly documenting desk review findings for discussion and validation.

- Stakeholder Engagement & Validation: Validating findings so far with identified stakeholders and understanding any further key gaps, challenges, or priorities that should be addressed in the NDC 3.0.

2. NDC Update Roadmap

- NDC Stocktake Reflection: Reviewing the NDC Stocktake to identify thematic and sectoral NDC priorities, assess progress against the NDC 2.0, and identify gaps, challenges, and opportunities for the NDC 3.0.

- Identification of technical and engagement activities: Identifying technical and engagement activities required for the NDC update, ensuring the document is technically sound and reflects whole of society and whole of government approaches, including in its implementation and monitoring.

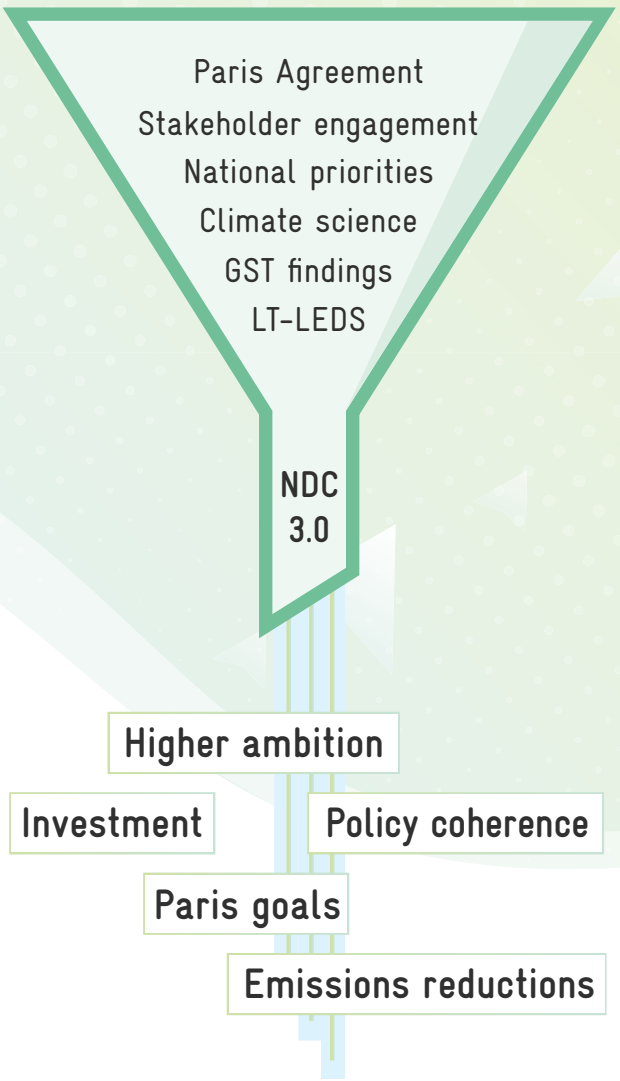
- Identification of coordination structures: Identifying coordination structures and mechanisms required to fulfil technical and engagement requirements.

- Stakeholder Consultation & Validation: Validating the NDC priorities, technical and engagement requirements, and coordination structures with key stakeholders to integrate diverse perspectives and priorities into the Roadmap.

- Documentation: Clearly documenting a set of well-defined activities, timelines, and actors responsible for the development of the NDC 3.0.

This step-by-step guidance is based on the NRP's country engagement in Bhutan, Moldova, Mauritius Seychelles, and Dominica where governmental Focal Points were supported to navigate each phase of the NDC update process.

01 Context



The global climate policy landscape is grounded in the 2015 Paris Agreement, which established a collective commitment to holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

Under this framework, Parties are required to submit Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) every five years, which each successive round expected to build upon the last and reflect highest possible ambition. The next round of NDC submissions, commonly referred to as "NDCs 3.0", is due in 2025 and will serve as a critical milestone for aligning global climate action with the 1.5°C trajectory.

The importance of preparatory work ahead of the 2025 NDC submissions cannot be overstated. It is during this preparatory phase that governments assess their current progress, review existing supporting policies, reflect on key gaps and challenges, and decide on the priorities and subsequent development process for the NDC 3.0. This preparatory work supports a clear understanding of the activities that need to be undertaken to support the NDC development process (e.g. updating emissions data and projections, governmental and non-governmental stakeholder engagement, etc.) as well as the roles/responsibilities and timelines for such activities. This preparatory period is also vital for identify opportunities to align short-term targets in NDCs with longer-term strategies such as Long-term Low-Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS) and other national/sectoral development plans, ensuring policy coherence and complementarity across sectors and levels of government.

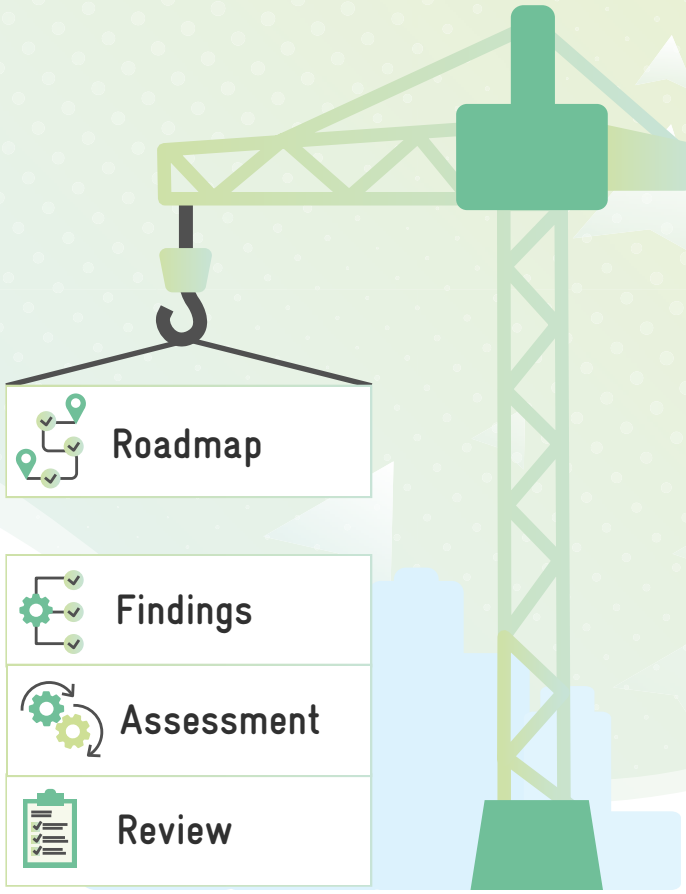
The urgency of this cycle of NDCs is underscored by the findings of the First Global Stocktake



(GST), concluded in 2023, which revealed that current global climate efforts are insufficient in moving towards a 1.5°C future and emphasized the gap between existing national commitments and the emissions reductions needed to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement. The expectation is therefore that countries will significantly scale up ambition in their 2025 NDCs. However, many governments, especially those of developing country Parties, face significant challenges including economic and capacity constraints, political resistance, implementation gaps, and limited access to climate finance. Many countries also face challenges in balancing climate ambition with other pressing national objectives such as energy security, poverty alleviation, job creation, and social equity. Understanding such challenges and priorities, and ensuring the NDC development process considers them, is therefore crucial to supporting highest possible ambition. Despite these challenges, the 2025 NDC cycle also represents a valuable opportunity to make significant progress in achieving these multifaceted aims. Countries have the chance to not only increase climate ambition but also to develop more integrated, inclusive, and implementable climate strategies. Doing so will require stronger domestic coordination, enhanced support for capacity building, greater access to climate finance, and sustained international cooperation.

The success of the 2025 NDC cycle will prove to be a decisive factor in determining whether the world can still achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement.

02 NDC Stocktakes



An NDC Stocktake assesses the progress, gaps, and challenges in implementing a country's NDC and helps confirm priorities for the next NDC update. In doing so, it provides a foundation for updating climate targets and developing a comprehensive NDC Update Roadmap.

Supported under the NRP, this collaborative process ensures broad stakeholder engagement to identify needs, challenges, and priorities and translate them into actionable, sequenced measures for NDC revision. The Stocktake helps identify areas where ambition can be raised as well as further opportunities to align national climate policy with international goals, while promoting evidence-based and collaborative planning. Moreover, NDC Stocktakes can help mobilize international support by informing specific support needs for the NDC.

In the context of the NRP, stocktakes have helped inform formal Requests for Support to the NDC Partnership, thus ensuring the countries receive the targeted support that they need most to enhance and deliver on their climate ambition.

Aims and activities

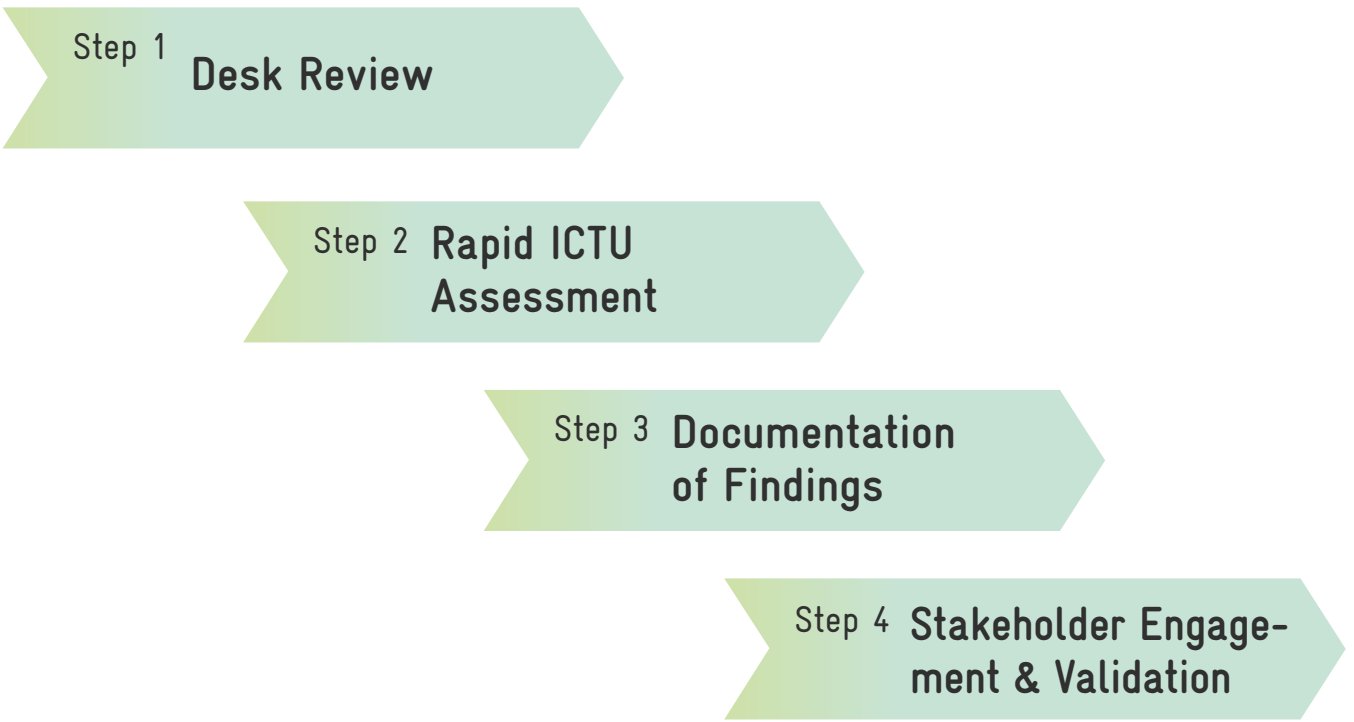
The aim of the NDC Stocktake is to allow government officials and practioners to reflect on NDC progress and priorities, and identify gaps, challenges, and opportunities in developing and implementing their previous NDC. By assessing current circumstances and progress to date, countries can highlight lessons learned and areas in need of improvement. By looking forward, countries can also identify future priorities and expected trends to reflect in the revision/update of their NDC. To this end, the NDC Stocktake enables countries to course correct based on past experiences and to draw evidence-based conclusions on the suitability of targets and measures, key challenges, and future priorities. Ultimately, the findings of the NDC Stocktake help inform the NDC Update Roadmap and guide the direction and design of countries' NDC 3.0.

Under the NRP, NDC Stocktakes have been supported by desk reviews of available information on NDC progress (e.g. indicators and reports from relevant entities), stakeholder consultations, and ICTU assessments – evaluations of the information reported in the existing NDC against the information that countries shall report as per Decision 4/CMA.1. These activities are described in further detail below.

Process

A Stocktake is conducted through a systematic review of various climate and sectoral policy documents and consultations with key stakeholders. The framework for the stocktake assessment follows a four-step approach developed by GIZ (2023), which provides a clear structure with multiple elements to be evaluated. Please see figure below.

NDC Stocktake Process



How does a Desk Review supports the development of NDC 3.0?

Step 1 focuses on a desk-based review of existing national and sectoral policies, laws, strategies, programmes, and regulations related to climate and the environment. It also examines institutional arrangements for climate action, including the structures and coordination mechanisms in place, as well as relevant strategic planning processes. This step is divided into two parts: assessing the current circumstances and progress to date, and identifying forward-looking elements to inform future NDC development.

A desk review serves as a critical first step in developing an NDC stocktake, as it establishes a clear understanding of the existing landscape for climate action, as well as progress made against existing targets and measures. By systematically assessing current circumstances, including national and sectoral strategies, institutional arrangements, and progress towards achieving NDC 2.0 goals, a desk review identifies successes, gaps, and lessons learned. This ensures that the NDC 3.0 builds on what already exists, avoiding duplication, enhancing cross-sectoral coherence, and fostering alignment with broader development priorities. As such, the desk review stage of the stocktaking process provides the evidence base needed for informed decision-making, ensuring that the NDC 3.0 is grounded in realistic, data-driven, and nationally relevant information.

1a) Current Circumstances and Progress to Date

This stage of the desk review involves an analysis of policy documents highlighting countries' current circumstances in relation to their climate action and commitments and progress to date. This covers several elements including an overview of previous NDC targets, goals, and priorities, GHG inventory, decarbonisation pathways and measures, institutional arrangements, and sector-specific climate priorities and commitments.

NDC 2.0 targets, goals & priorities

The review of NDC 2.0 targets, goals, and priorities begins with an assessment of the previous NDC. This includes examining the targets, goals, and measures outlined for each sector, providing a foundation for evaluating progress and identifying gaps. A key focus of this review is the mitigation targets and goals presented in the current NDC and associated sectoral documents. The process involves identifying overarching national climate targets and analysing how these are broken down into specific goals for sectors such as energy, transport, industrial processes and product use (IPPU), and waste management. The objective is to develop a comprehensive understanding of the country's climate ambitions and how they are distributed across sectors, which will inform future planning and updates to the NDC.

GHG inventory

The review of the GHG inventory focuses on understanding the existing institutional and regulatory arrangements that support the



monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals. This includes an examination of relevant legal frameworks and regulations that govern GHG monitoring, as well as the structure and operation of national GHG inventory systems and registries. The review also considers the specified reporting requirements and identifies the entities responsible for GHG accounting, along with their roles and responsibilities. In addition to assessing the institutional setup, this step involves analysing the GHG inventories submitted to the UNFCCC, where available, to evaluate the completeness and consistency of reporting. Trends in GHG emissions are also examined to provide insight into the country's emissions trajectory and to inform future mitigation planning. This review gives insights into gives insight to a) the establishment of national GHG emission reduction targets, b) references to NDC targets for planning, c) references to climate neutrality aspirations, d) roles and responsibilities on the definition and updating of GHG emission reduction targets, e) institutional, legal, procedural, regulatory frameworks, and systems that support the development of forecasts of GHG emissions and removals f) roles and responsibilities on scenario development and progress tracking g) strategic and planning documents to be elaborated on GHG emission reductions target and their corresponding monitoring reports. This review aims to understand how a country plans for long-term emissions reductions and climate neutrality, by examining the systems and responsibilities in place. In doing so, it helps establish the foundation for robust GHG accounting and supports the effective implementation of climate commitments under the NDC.

Decarbonisation pathways and measures

The review of decarbonisation pathways and measures focuses on identifying potential mitigation actions and evaluating their impacts and associated costs. This involves a detailed examination of relevant documents to understand the institutional and procedural arrangements that guide the development, planning, and implementation of climate mitigation efforts. Key aspects include clarifying the roles and responsibilities of entities involved in mitigation planning and reporting, and assessing the availability of methodological guidance that supports these processes. The review also considers principles governing access to data and information related to mitigation, and evaluates how mitigation actions are integrated into national and sectoral socio-economic development policies. Financial allocations for

climate actions and mechanisms for assessing their implementation are also analysed. Additionally, the review includes an assessment of the impacts of implemented actions, drawing on available strategies, programmes, and reports. Where possible, it incorporates findings from existing Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) systems or legally mandated reporting frameworks. This comprehensive approach helps to map out viable decarbonisation pathways and supports informed decision-making for future climate action planning.

Sector-specific climate priorities and commitments

This step involved a review of documents including laws, strategies, programmes, and regulations that This step involves a comprehensive review of sector-specific documents, including laws, strategies, programmes, and regulations that are relevant to climate action. The analysis is framed within the broader national context, incorporating insights from GHG inventories, emission reduction targets, scenario development, and mitigation assessments. The review aims to understand how each sector contributes to national climate objectives and how climate considerations are embedded in sectoral planning and operations.

Key elements assessed include GHG emissions and targets at the sectoral level, the inclusion of climate actions within sectoral strategies, and the prioritisation of these actions. The review also identifies the specific roles and responsibilities assigned to institutions for the development, implementation, and monitoring of climate actions within each sector. Additionally, it examines available information on current challenges faced by sectors and integrates learnings gathered during missions or consultations. A detailed analysis of sectoral priorities is conducted to understand the current status of climate action. This includes evaluating sectoral targets and planning frameworks, reviewing reports on implemented actions, assessing progress through indicators, and identifying persistent challenges. The objective is to build a clear picture of how sectors are responding to climate change and to highlight areas where further support or refinement may be needed to align with national climate goals.

National and sectoral progress in NDC implementation

A key part of the desk review focuses on evaluating the progress made in implementing climate policies at both the national and sectoral levels. It involves a review of overarching national policies and sectoral strategies to determine the extent to which planned climate actions are being carried out. The analysis aims to assess the existence and effectiveness of these policies in achieving the country's climate change objectives. Where possible, the review also includes an examination of measurable progress toward NDC targets, using available data and indicators. By identifying areas of successful implementation as well as those requiring further attention or improvement, this step provides valuable insight into the current status of NDC implementation and helps inform the starting point of the NDC 3.0. Information on progress to date often needs to be supplemented with stakeholder engagement (see Step 4).

1b) Forward Looking

The forward-looking component of the desk review aims to assess the future context within which the NDC 3.0 will be implemented. It involves a review of key elements listed below:

GHG projections

This involves a review of GHG trends in the longer term. It includes an analysis of national and sectoral GHG emissions trends under existing policies and scenarios and helps identify emissions trajectories relative to na-

tional targets and global temperature goals. This will help inform mitigation priorities in the NDC 3.0, and existing projections can also provide a useful starting point for any updated modelling for the NDC 3.0. Many countries will already have developed GHG projections, and those countries that have not developed GHG projections may wish to include this key activity in their NDC Roadmap.

Climate hazard projections

While the reflection of adaptation in NDCs is optional and at the discretion of countries, this step is therefore applicable to those countries who wish to reflect adaptation in their NDC. Examination of projections of nationally-relevant climate hazards (e.g. temperature, precipitation, sea-level rise, extreme events) facilitates an understanding of potential vulnerabilities and risks in the future. It requires a consideration of sector-specific and regional exposure to projected climate hazards and impacts. Information related to climate projections that can be reviewed includes national, sub-national, and sectoral adaptation planning documents (e.g. NAP), climate vulnerability and risk assessments, and climate data portals.

Future socio-economic trends

This entails a review of expected future demographic, economic, and technological trends likely to shape future climate action. Such information can be obtained from national, sub-national, and sector-specific policy and planning documents such as development plans and sectoral climate strategies. These help assess future implications for key sectors such as energy, transport, industry and agriculture.

Long-term national and global objectives

This reviews a country's long-term development policies, including LT-LEDS and other long-term development strategies and sectoral plans. This helps build an understanding of the broader future context within which climate action will take place. Equally important is a review of global long-term development frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). Assessing these global agendas helps contextualise the international goals and benchmarks that the NDC 3.0 must work towards. Benchmarking against global and sectoral mitigation pathways and long-term temperature goals also facilitates the identification of gaps and opportunities to enhance NDC ambition, by determining where national efforts may be scaled up in accordance with emerging technologies, international best practices, and evolving international expectations. In doing so, it helps ensure coherence between NDC 3.0 commitments and national and global long-term visions for sustainable, resilient, and low-carbon development.

Potential opportunities for raising ambition

The above review of GHG, climate hazard, and socio-economic projections, as well as long term national, sectoral, and global frameworks, facilitates the identification of opportunities for increased ambition in the NDC 3.0. It helps to pinpoint areas, such as mitigation/adaptation ambition, technology, finance, and governance, which can be strengthened to deliver an NDC 3.0 which is both context-specific but also geared to deliver on forward-looking ambitions.

What gaps and next steps must be identified to meet ICTU requirements in the next NDC?

ICTU, or Information to facilitate Clarity Transparency and Understanding, constitutes the required contents of an NDC. Many countries will choose to present ICTU in a tabular format, while others may integrate ICTU throughout the NDC text. As the core required information in an NDC, it is important that the NDC stocktake includes an assessment of the status of each information item required, and that the NDC roadmap provides a recommended route to fulfilling these requirements. This NDC Rapid Assessment under ICTU framework therefore requires a review of the status and completeness of data analyses and assessments underpinning ICTU, to determine the work required to develop the next iteration of NDC targets. The progress of activities related to data collection, technical analyses and reporting should be assessed to ensure that the necessary information to support the formulation of updated targets is understood and is reflected in the NDC Roadmap. Annex 1 provides an ICTU assessment templat that can be used to complete this analysis. It provides a means of documenting, for each ICTU item:

- Relevant information included in the last NDC
- Necessary next steps for updating for the NDC 3.0 (e.g. updating to new time-frames)
- The NDC development stage any additional work should fall under
- Responsible entities
- Timelines

What should the NDC stocktake report include?

The findings of the elements reviewed under Step 1 – Step 2 above should be documented in a comprehensive report format. This report should be structured to provide insights into:

- Overview of overarching national and sectoral climate-relevant strategies/programmes/laws/regulations.
- Overview of progress made in the implementation of the previous NDC, including significant gaps, challenges, and opportunities.
- Key priorities to reflect in the NDC 3.0.

- ICTU assessment and findings.
- Overview of existing institutional arrangements that support the development, planning, implementation, and monitoring of GHG emission reduction targets; the development of forecasts of GHG emissions and removals; and an overview of targets and scenarios at the national and sectoral levels.
- Overview of challenges and learnings at the national and sectoral level.

This step involves a stakeholder mapping to identify the relevant institutions and stakeholders involved in supporting the development, update, and implementation of a country's NDC. This involves identifying key actors, and their distinct roles and responsibilities in the process of updating and implementing climate strategies. The aim of this step is to provide an overview of the institutional framework and cooperation required for effective climate governance.

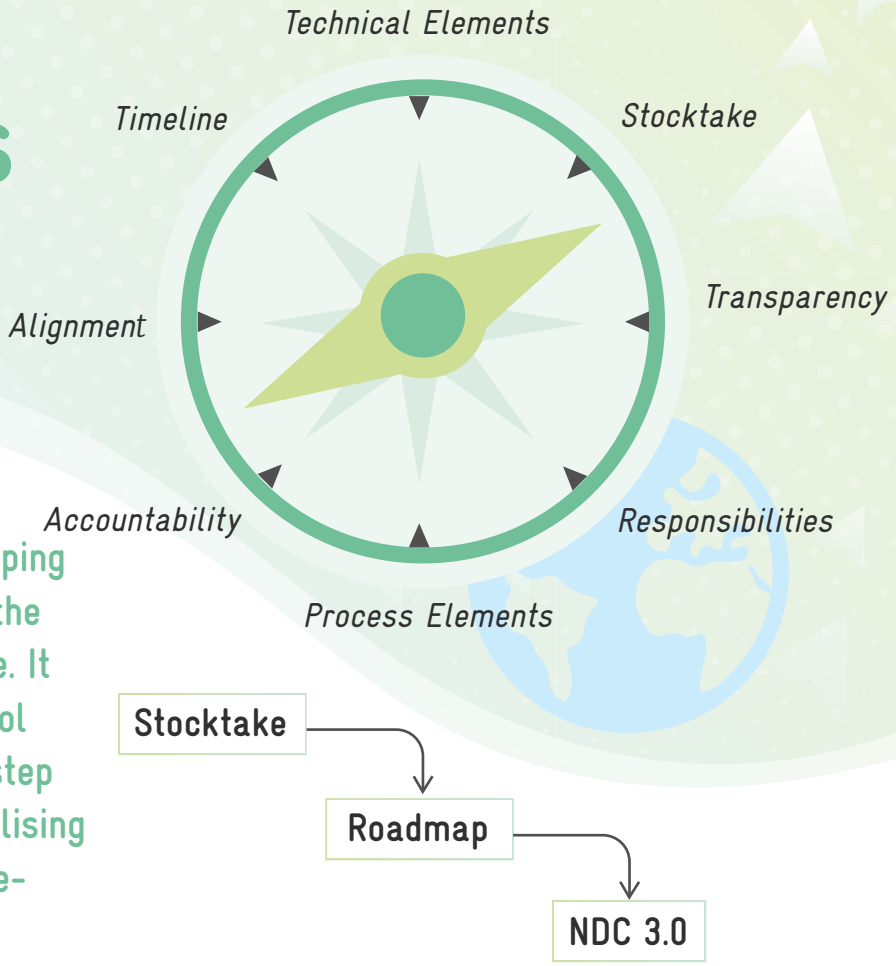
The documented findings from the review under Step 1 should be reviewed by key stakeholders, and where, capacity permits, feedback should be provided to ensure its accuracy and completeness. This feedback should be integrated into the report to develop a consolidated version of the NDC Stocktake which should then be presented back to stakeholders during a final validation workshop.

Who are the key stakeholders and institutions involved in the NDC process?

This step involves a stakeholder mapping to identify the relevant institutions and stakeholders involved in supporting the development, update, and implementation of a country's NDC. This involves identifying key actors, and their distinct roles and responsibilities in the process of updating and implementing climate strategies. The aim of this step is to provide an overview of the institutional framework and cooperation required for effective climate governance.

The documented findings from the review under Step 1 should be reviewed by key stakeholders, and where, capacity permits, feedback should be provided to ensure its accuracy and completeness. This feedback should be integrated into the report to develop a consolidated version of the NDC Stocktake which should then be presented back to stakeholders during a final validation workshop.

03
NDC Updates Roadmaps



The NDC Update Roadmap presents guidance towards developing a country's NDC 3.0, based on the outcomes of the NDC Stocktake. It acts as a strategic planning tool that outlines a clear, step-by-step process for enhancing and finalising the NDC in line with the requirements of the Paris Agreement.

The process begins with a reflection on the NDC Stocktake previously undertaken, including assessments of a country's current NDC, NDC processes, implementation, and progress, particularly through the lens of the information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) framework. Through this, the Roadmap identifies existing gaps, challenges, and needs as well as key technical and engagement activities required for NDC 3.0 development, and translates these key elements into concrete actions and timelines. It serves not only to guide the technical preparation of the updated NDC but also to strengthen transparency, accountability, and alignment with global climate goals by reflecting the principles of international reporting standards and best practices.

Aims and activities

The primary goal of the NDC Update Roadmap is to outline the concrete steps required to update a country's NDC, ensuring that the process is systematic, transparent, and anchored in evidence. The development of the Roadmap begins with a review of existing NDC processes and related documentation, undertaken within the framework of the ICTU, as referred to in Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 28, and Decision 4/CMA.1 under the Paris Agreement. Broadly, the NDC Roadmap development process can be disaggregated into two key components, the first of which identifies and elaborates on the key technical elements required for the development of a robust NDC 3.0; the second identified and elaborates on the critical process elements which support NDC development.

Building on the NDC Stocktake provides several key benefits. It supports the tracking and reporting of NDC implementation and achievement in line with the Modalities, Procedures, and Guidelines (MPGs) of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF); it facilitates assessments of NDC ambition and enhances understanding of NDC goals within the context of broader international climate goals; it fallows for the aggregation of individual efforts, strengthening assessments of collective progress; and strengthens overall transparency, accountability, and coherence between national and global climate objectives. As a result, reflections on the NDC Stocktake and the ICTU assessment within it help to pinpoint the most critical gaps, challenges, and needs to provide the basis for the development of the Roadmap.

Process

The development of an NDC Update Roadmap follows a structured 5-step process. The process combines analytical desk research with stakeholder consultations to validate findings and ensure alignment with national priorities. This dual approach is designed to identify the technical elements and engagement activities required for the development of the NDC, helping to shape a clear and actionable set of priorities that reflect both evidence-based analysis and stakeholder input.

Development of an NDC Update Roadmap

Step 1

Reflect on NDC Stocktake

- Identify thematic and sectoral NDC priorities and how these were reflected in the NDC 2.0.
- Assess progress against NDC 2.0
- Identify gaps, challenges, and opportunities.

Deduce technical activities

Step 2

- Assess existing landscape of technical work, projects, and data, to identify analyses that can be leveraged for NDC 3.0.
- Identify technical activities.
- Identify roles & responsibilities and necessary timelines.

Step 3

Deduce engagement activities

- Identify coordination structures and instiutional coordination mechanisms required to fulfill technical and engagement requirements.

Identify coordination structures

Step 4

- Identify engagement activties required to fulfil technical requirements and ensure whole of government and whole of society approaches.
- Identify roles & responsibilities and necessary timelines.

Step 5

Find stakeholder consultation

- Document findings, integrating stakeholder priorities, to create a Roadmap with clearly defined actions, timelines, milestones, and responsibilities for NDC 3.0 development.

Documentation & finalisation

Step 6

- Validate NDC 3.0 priorities and processes with key stakeholders.
- Confirm the vision of the NDC 3.0

Step 1

Reflect on NDC Stocktake

Purpose

To ensure that the NDC Update Roadmap is evidence-based and builds upon the findings of the NDC Stocktake. This ensures continuity of policy development, strengthens policy coherence, and enables countries to identify priority areas, technical needs, and opportunities for raising ambition based on a robust understanding of current progress, gaps, and challenges.

Description

This step builds upon the results of the NDC Stocktake, which includes an assessment of existing NDC processes and implementation progress in line with the ICTU framework. This reflection process transforms the Stocktake's analytical findings into clear technical and engagement priorities for the NDC update.

Key Activities

1. NDC 3.0 Priorities & Information Needs

1.1 Review ICTU assessment to understand core information gaps and update needs

1.2 Review results from the Stocktake to highlight sectoral and thematic priorities based on national circumstances.

1.2.1 Sectoral priorities

- What are the key priorities within each sector?
- In which sectors can NDC targets be realistically enhanced?
- What are the main challenges to NDC implementation in this sector?
- What are the most critical gaps in this sector?

1.2.2 Thematic priorities

In considering thematic priorities for the NDC 3.0, it is also useful to consider specific needs and priorities within each theme, to help inform the identification of technical and engagement activities.

Reflecting the highest possible mitigation ambition in line with the Paris Agreement Temperature Goal

- Will the 2030 target be strengthened / a 2035 target set in the NDC 3.0?
- Should targets be disaggregated across sectors and/or government levels?
- Was the mitigation ambition of the last NDC assessed for alignment with a 1.5oC compatible emissions trajectory?


Further resources

Alignment with the Global Goal on Adaptation

Is adaptation a priority? If yes,

- Has a VRA previously been developed to identify key climate vulnerabilities and impacts?
- Has a NAP previously been developed to identify key adaptation measures across sectors?
- Have adaptation considerations been mainstreamed across broader national and sectoral policies/strategies?


Further resources

Delivering a Just and Equitable Transition

Is Just Transition a priority? If yes,

- Did the last NDC consider a Just Transition?
- Have previous assessments of the socio-economic impacts of energy transition policies been conducted?


Further resources

Technology and Capacity-Building Needs and Enablers

Is technology and capacity building a priority? If yes,

- Has a technology needs assessment (TNA) been undertaken for the NDC 3.0?


Further resources

Unlocking Finance

Is unlocking finance for NDC implementation a priority? If yes,

- Did the previous NDC help unlock finance?
- Are key financial stakeholders engaged in the development of climate activities?


Further resources

2. Gaps & Challenges to Address

- What have been the main challenges in the implementation of the previous NDC?
- What have been the key enablers of the implementation of the previous NDC?
- What gaps have been identified in data, institutional coordination, or financing that need to be addressed in the next NDC cycle?
- To what extent was NDC 2.0 aligned with national development strategies, sectoral plans, and adaptation frameworks, and where can coherence be strengthened?
- What lessons learned from NDC 2.0 implementation can inform the design and delivery of NDC 3.0?

Step 2

Identify recommended technical and engagement activities

Purpose

To identify what technical work and engagement activities that will be needed for the NDC update process. These technical and engagement needs will underpin the NDC update process, ensuring that it is methodologically robust, evidence-based, and inclusive. By defining both technical analyses and engagement needs early in the roadmap process, countries can determine a realistic timeline and sequence of activities, assign institutional responsibilities, and better anticipate resource and capacity needs.

Description

This step involves determining what technical and engagement activities will be needed to efficiently conduct the NDC update process. It not only identifies the key technical and engagement process required, but also who will lead and support them, and how they will be undertaken. Identifying technical and analysis needs includes assessing data availability and quality, defining modelling and scenario development requirements, and selecting appropriate tools and methodologies. By contrast, engagement activities involve identifying which stakeholders need to be consulted, at what stage, and for what purpose. Engagement activities at this stage should be considered closely linked to the broader coordination mechanisms outlines under Step 3. While Step 3 focusses on establishing high-level institutional structures, Step 2 identifies the specific interactions and activities that will take place within those structures. To this end, the identification of technical and engagement activities guides the development of the institutional structures that will underpin them.

Key Activities

Technical Requirements

Technical activity requirements should be deduced from the ICTU assessment (i.e., ensuring activities will produce the outputs needed to fulfil key reporting requirements) and from the broader assessment of priorities, needs, gaps and priorities (ensuring the process speaks to national circumstances and that the NDC is grounded in reality).

Before defining specific technical activities and analyses required for the NDC update, it is important to first review opportunities to use existing analytical/technical work – either entirely, if conducted recently and still relevant, or as a foundation to build upon. By identifying recent or ongoing analyses that can be leveraged – either entirely or partially – countries can avoid duplication

of effort and ensure methodological consistency across national processes. For instance, countries may be able to draw on existing modelling projections developed under the Biennial Transparency Report (BTR), vulnerability and risk assessments (VRA) from National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), or data collected for sectoral or investment plans. This approach helps to maximise efficiency, strengthen alignment between NDCs and other national frameworks, and ensure that the NDC update process is grounded in the most up-to-date and relevant evidence available.

2.1 Define required technical activities and analyses

- Does data collection need to be strengthened?
- Does modelling and scenario development need to be carried out?
- Do modelling tools have to be selected?
- Do climate projections need to be developed?
- Are any other technical analyses of interest/importance (e.g. related to just transitions)?
- When does it need to happen (timelines); Who needs to be involved (roles and responsibilities); Who needs to be engaged and when (to inform engagement requirements, see below).

Engagement Requirements

2.2 Define and plan required engagement activities based on national circumstances, priorities, and engagement needs from the technical activities, e.g.:

- Organise sectoral consultations and workshops to support target setting, modelling, and scenario development, ensuring representation from key line ministries, technical agencies, and subnational governments.
- Hold technical sessions with modelling and data teams to validate assumptions, approaches, and results used for NDC target formulation and scenario analysis.
- Facilitate sector-specific stakeholder dialogues to identify and prioritize policies and measures for mitigation and adaptation across key sectors (e.g. energy, transport, agriculture, land use).
- Engage civil society organisations, youth groups, women's organisations, and indigenous peoples' representatives through dedicated consultation sessions to ensure inclusivity and reflect diverse perspectives and local knowledge.
- Conduct targeted meetings with financial institutions, donors, and development partners to discuss costing of NDC measures, potential financing mechanisms, and investment opportunities.
- Engage private sector stakeholders – including industry associations, investors, and SMEs – through roundtables or partnership dialogues focused on implementation, innovation, and resource mobilisation.
- Collaborate with academia and research institutions to provide technical support for modelling, data analysis, monitoring, and evaluation.
- Design validation and review meetings (e.g. with established working groups or steering committees) to confirm consensus on targets, scenarios, and policy measures before finalization.
- Plan periodic stakeholder feedback sessions across the NDC cycle (development, implementation, and monitoring) to ensure ongoing ownership, learning, and continuous improvement.

For all: Plan a logical and realistic timeline based on timelines for technical activities, and provide recommendations for the stakeholders that should be included at each stage of engagement.

Key Activities to Consider

Development of sectoral development pathways

Goal: Develop a vision and reach a consensus on sectoral pathways towards realistic and achievable targets

Initiate stakeholder consultations

Convene

Relevant stakeholders to prepare a foundation for the modelling exercises, by presenting an overview of the situation of the current NDC implementation and by discussing and identifying:

- Additional mitigation potential opportunities, co-benefits, and corresponding needed policies and measures
- Priority areas for action and resources needed for implementation
- Available resources and options to access funding

Modelling of pathways

Goal: Quantify potential emission reduction from policies and measures identified by stakeholders to inform the establishment of NDC targets

Select modelling tool

Review

Previous and ongoing modelling and exercises to (in case of need) select the use of an appropriate tool for modelling mitigation pathways that provides transparency and allows stakeholders to understand the underlying assumptions. Guidance titled Methodological Approach Towards the Assessment of Simulation Models Suited for the Economic Evaluation of Mitigation Measures to Facilitate NDC Implementation (GIZ and Ricardo, 2017) provides a methodology for selecting a suitable projections modelling tool.

Identification of key data and information

Identify

The required data and information according to the selected tool. The relevant data may include the latest GHG emissions inventory (BTR), GHG emission drivers, 2030/2035 BAU, and socio-economic indicators. Projections of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Removals: An Introductory Guide for Practitioners (GIZ and Ricardo, 2021) provides guidance on collecting and/or generating required data.

Assess

The alignment of the data and information with the methodological approaches dictated by the UNFCC decisions.

Consider and plan

MRV-related actions in the longer term that support future NDC Update Processes and NDC implementation:

→ **Improving MRV systems:** In their Reference Manual for Planning for NDC Implementation, CDKN and Ricardo (2016) provide an overview of the steps contemplated when setting-up a national MRV system:

- Review of current MRV activities
- Establishment of institutional arrangements for the oversight and coordination of MRV activities
- Assessment of data gaps and needs
- Design of MRV system for mitigation, adaptation, and finance
- Establishment of the data management processes
- Improvement of the MRV system over time (CDKN, Ricardo, 2016)

→ **Generation of robust NDC indicators:** Assessing the feasibility of developing further NDC indicators that can support progress tracking of NDC implementation. The Resources Section provides an overview by GIZ (2023) on the generation of effective NDC indicators.

GIZ (2023) offers guidance for the establishment of NDC indicators in their NDC Progress Indicators: A set of guidance for practitioners which is based on a five-stepped approach consisting of:

1. Identification and assessment of NDC targets
2. Turning targets into SMART targets
3. Identification of suitable types of indicators to track targets
4. Identification of data and methodologies required
5. Compilation, reporting, documentation, and archiving (GIZ, 2023).

Definition of NDC targets

Goal: Select policies and measures to achieve NDC targets

Compare different modelled scenarios

Assess

Feasible and ambitious levels of emission reductions that the country can commit to, based on the modelling and data assessments. Consider the reductions needed at the global level and their downscaling at the national level. Key aspects that should be considered include:

Global reductions needed

The Global Stocktake (GST1) decision reiterates global GHG emission reductions needed to keep global warming to 1.5°C highlighting of 43% by 2030 and 60% by 2035, based on 2019, needed to reach net-zero CO2 emissions by 2050 (OECD, IEA, 2024). See Table 1 for an overview of global economy-wide reductions consistent with the Paris Agreement and the GST1 outcomes by aggregate GHG emissions and by CO2. In addition, the NewClimate Institute and Climate Analytics highlight in their Guide to a good 2035 climate target the need for emissions to peak before 2025, be halved by 2030 compared to 2019, and reach net-zero CO2 by around 2050 on a global scale (New Climate Institute, Climate Analytics, 2024). Similarly, UNEP (2024), in its latest Emissions Gap Report, 2024, points to the need to globally reduce emissions by 42% by 2030, compared to 2019 emissions levels, to limit warming to 1.5°C. This implies that if action were started in 2024, it would translate into annual reductions of 7.5% by 2035. If action is delayed until 2030, annual reductions would need to rise to 15% to achieve the 1.5°C goal (UNEP, 2024).

Table 1. Global economy-wide emission reductions consistent with the Paris Agreement and the GST1out-

	2030	2035	2040	2050
Aggregate GHG	**43%** 35-60%	**59%** 50-80%	**69%** 60-92%	**86%** 74-100%
CO_2	**45%** 37-70%	**64%** 49-96%	**80%** 60-114%	**100%** 76-120%

When assessing the establishment of sectoral targets, the outcomes of the GST1 should also be considered as there are a series of global mitigation efforts aligned to 1.5°C pathway that are called upon Parties including:

- Tripling renewable energy capacity globally and doubling the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030
- Accelerating efforts towards the phase-down of unabated coal power
- Accelerating efforts globally towards net-zero emission energy systems well before or by around mid-century
- Transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner, accelerating action in this critical decade, so as to achieve net zero by 2050 in keeping with the science
- Accelerating zero- and low-emission technologies
- Accelerating the substantial reduction of non-carbon-dioxide emissions globally, in particular methane emissions by 2030
- Accelerating the reduction of emissions from road transport
- Phasing out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that do not address energy poverty or just transitions,as soon as possible

Conserving, protecting and restoring nature and ecosystems to meet the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement, including:

- Enhanced efforts towards halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030
- Through other terrestrial and marine ecosystems acting as sinks and reservoirs of GHGs
- By conserving biodiversity in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (OECD, IEA, 2024).

OECD and IEA (2024) provide a consolidation of global sectoral benchmarks consistent with the Paris Agreement and the mitigation calls in the GST1 in their working paper "Insights for designing mitigation elements in the next round of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)" on page 26 and 27 and in its Annex C.

Downscaling goals to the national level

Even though global benchmarks can help inform NDC ambition, coverage and direction, they cannot be used directly to inform emissions levels at the national level because emissions pathways informed by global/sectoral benchmarks rely on models which have a number of limitations and cannot be used directly to inform emissions levels at the national level (OECD, IEA, 2024). Therefore, a critical question for countries preparing their NDCs is how global emissions reduction needs and sectoral global benchmarks can be translated into targets at the national level. There is no simple or single answer, some approaches consider top-down modelling of emissions consistent with scenarios that limit global warming to 1.5°C (or 2°C); however, national targets need to consider their own national circumstances. For this, countries can assess, based on bottom-up national scenarios that include national development priorities and mitigation actions that would be feasible at the national level. These assessments do not always ensure alignment with 1.5°C or 2°C scenarios but offer perspectives on the country's specific context, capabilities, and dynamics at the national level, providing granular insights on implementation and pathways to achieve targets. Global benchmarks can be adapted to consider equity and fairness considerations at the national level. Comparing national assessments to top-down approaches can help gain an understanding of the feasibility of different ambition ranges and their compatibility with the global pathways (UNEP, 2024; OECD, IEA, 2024).

Typical challenges

While global benchmarks can help guide the ambition, scope, and direction of NDCs, they are not directly usable for setting national emissions targets. As a result, a key challenge for countries is figuring out how to translate global emissions reduction needs and benchmarks into realistic, country-specific targets.

- In terms of top-down approaches, UNEP presents an approach to translating global emissions reduction milestones into milestones for countries or groups of countries. The results provide indicative ambition ranges for the G20 group. Under this assessment, for 2030 the expected reductions from 2019 levels are between 35% and 69%, excluding LULUCF and including equity considerations, while the average for the world is between 31% and 46%. For 2035, based on 2019 levels, the G20 group reductions are between 49% and 81%, while for the world average, the ambition ranges are between 45% and 58%.

- (Wolfsteiner & Wittmann, 2024) propose an approach to estimating Paris-compatible national CO2 budgets and emission targets based on IPCC global CO2 budgets, population, and potential for net negative emissions. Under this approach and for a 1.5°C pathway, Mongolia would need to reduce their CO2 emissions by 81% in 2030, from their 2019 levels without net negative emissions. This approach can provide some context about Paris-aligned target levels and be used as a starting point to support the definition of a target for Mongolia once other considerations and respective national circumstances are integrated into the assessment.

Select pathways for sectoral development

Reach

Consensus on the selected mitigation pathways, considering the outcomes of the global stocktake (an overview is provided under global reductions needed), and on ambitiousness and fairness:

Ambitiousness

Following the first Global Stocktake at COP28 (GST1), countries are urged to align their coming NDCs with limiting global warming to 1.5°C (UNEP, 2024). Specifically, paragraph 4 of the GST1 decision encourages all countries, without differentiating between developed and developing, to adopt ambitious, economy-wide emission reduction targets, covering all GHGs, sectors and categories, aligned with limiting global warming to 1.5°C. Further, paragraph 37 of the GST1 decision requests Parties to revisit and strengthen their 2030 targets as necessary to align with the Paris Agreement's temperature goal by the end of 2024, taking into account different national circumstances. Lastly, the GST1 decision encourages Parties to align their NDCs with the long-term low GHG emission development strategies (OECD, IEA, 2024). Similarly, in their Guide to a good 2035 climate target, the NewClimate Institute and Climate Analytics (2024) highlight the need for the next NDC rounds to be truly ambitious and 1.5°C-compatible. Ambitious NDC targets should be built on sectoral targets and plans informed by 1.5°C compatible benchmarks, and contribute to the global targets of the Global Stocktake. Their Climate Action Tracker (CAT) recommends that developing countries set conditional targets that could be aligned to 1.5°C and detail the climate finance needed to achieve them, as most developing countries will need financial support (New Climate Institute, Climate Analytics, 2024).

In its Climate Action and Transparency under the Paris Agreement, GIZ (2023) lists several elements that would represent an enhancement in target ambition, including extending the timeframe of the target (which is mandated already as part of Decision 6/CMA.3), raising the ambition level of an existing target (i.e. the one for 2030), changing the type of target to an absolute one, and extending the scope of the target to cover more sectors or gases (in the case of Mongolia, changing a conditional target to an unconditional one). Beyond the NDC, the following changes can be implemented:

- New or enhanced policies and measures
- Committing more climate finance
- Developing more robust transparency systems
- Establishing improved governance structures (GIZ, 2023).

Fairness

There are no agreed guidelines on what constitutes a fair level of contribution at the global level, beyond the understanding of the "common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances" (Paris Agreement, Article 4.3), however there is a wide range of literature on perspectives towards what constitutes a fair contribution to GHG emission reduction or effort-sharing. As part of their NDC rating methodology, the CAT assesses fairness by integrating a range of fair-share principles. Some of these principles include:

- **Responsibility:** Level of a country's historical emissions.
- **Capability/Need:** A country's level of economic capability, often measured by GDP/capita or the Human Development Index.
- **Equality:** Emissions per capita converge to, or immediately reach, the same level for all countries
- **Equal cumulative per capita emissions:** Emissions need to be reduced so that cumulative emissions per capita reach the same level.
- **Responsibility/capability/need:** Responsibility, capability and the right to development
- **Capability/cost:** A combination of mitigation potential and capability
- **Staged:** Differentiated commitments in various stages. Categorisation to a staged group and the respective commitments using many equity principles (New Climate Institute, Climate Analytics, 2021)

The Climate Equity Reference Calculator developed by the Stockholm Environment Institute and EcoEquity assesses national "fair share" emission pathways in line with limiting global warming to 1.5°C, allowing users to select a set of equity approaches.

The Carbon Budget Explorer calculates national emission pathways in line with different global emissions pathways based on a range of equity-sharing principles. The tool can be used to navigate the implications of different views on fairness for countries' mitigation targets (OECD, IEA, 2024).

Similarly, UNEP (2024), in its assessment of pathways for the G20, considers equity principles of responsibility, capability, responsibility-capability-need, equality, staged approaches, and equal cumulative per capita (UNEP, 2024). Considerations that account for these, or some of these principles as relevant, can be used to build an effort-sharing approach at the national level that justifies a country's level of effort.

Define NDC targets as per the ICTU

Referred to in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 28 as per Decision 4/CMA.1.

Step 3

Identify recommended coordination structures

Purpose

To ensure effective coordination, accountability, and ownership for the NDC update, including implementation and monitoring, by defining clear institutional roles, responsibilities, and decision-making processes. Ensuring consistent coordination structures at every stage of the NDC cycle fosters ownership and understanding and facilitates efficiency and continuous improvement.

Description

Institutional arrangements and consistent coordination mechanisms are critical for the effective development of the NDC, but also for maintaining consistency and momentum throughout the implementation and monitoring stages of the NDC cycle, and through to the next update. Cross-ministerial institutional arrangements also support the mainstreaming of the NDC into wider domestic policies and strategies, ensuring whole-of-government ownership with clear roles and responsibilities. This step involves mapping the key stakeholders to include, reviewing existing coordination mechanisms and considering any gaps/challenges identified, and establishing or strengthening coordination mechanisms for NDC 3.0 development, implementation, and monitoring.

Key Activities

1. Conduct stakeholder mapping

- Identify/confirm lead and coordination institutions responsible for the NDC Update process.
- Identify other institutions that should be represented.

2. Review/assess existing coordination mechanisms and any challenges identified through the stocktake

- What coordination mechanisms/institutional arrangements are already in place, e.g. from the last NDC?
- What gaps and challenges with relation to interministerial coordination were identified through the stocktake?

3. Establish/strengthen coordination mechanisms

- Establish or strengthen multi-sectoral coordination mechanisms such as steering committees and technical working groups, ensuring clear recommendations/interventions for addressing gaps/challenges.
- Clearly define roles, responsibilities, and communication pathways for all key stakeholders involved in the NDC update.
- Ensure these mechanisms are maintained and adapted across all stages of the NDC cycle (development, implementation, monitoring, and review).

Further resources ↗

Step 4

Stakeholder consultations & validation

Purpose

To ensure that NDC update priorities and processes reflect broader national development objectives, institutional capacities, and the needs of diverse stakeholders. This step builds transparency, fosters national ownership, and secures collective buy-in by validating the identified priorities, activities, and institutional arrangements with key stakeholder groups.

Description

This step ensures that the NDC Update Roadmap reflects diverse perspectives and that the update process is inclusive, equitable, and transparency. Through structured dialogues and consultations, stakeholders can assess and refine the priorities identified in earlier steps, confirm feasibility, and strengthen coherence with national development strategies, just transition principles, and sectoral plans. Consultations also help identify new opportunities for enhanced ambition, cross-sectoral synergies, and innovative financing or implementation approaches.

Key Activities

1. Develop a draft plan for the NDC 3.0

Including a draft table of contents for the document, and details on activities, timelines, and role/responsibilities. This plan should build on all the outputs from previous stocktaking and roadmap development steps, and will be validated by stakeholders.

2. Hold stakeholder consultations

- Guided by the stakeholder mapping under step 3.1, engage a broad range of stakeholders including national and subnational government entities, private sector actors, development partners, academia, civil society organizations (CSOs), youth groups, Indigenous Peoples, and gender-focused organizations to ensure inclusive participation.
- Conduct multi-level consultations and workshops to validate NDC priorities emerging from Step 1.
- Document stakeholder inputs systematically to ensure traceability, accountability, and transparency in how feedback informs revisions.
- Refine priorities, targets, and timelines based on stakeholder feedback to strengthen alignment with national development frameworks, institutional capacity, and climate ambition.

Further resources ↗

Step 5

Finalise NDC Update Roadmap

Purpose

To consolidate insights, roles, and timelines, into a coherent, structured, and time-bound roadmap which guides the overall NDC update process.

Description

This step synthesizes outcomes from the stocktake reflection, institutional coordination, and consultations into a practical roadmap document. The roadmap outlines the sequence of activities, milestones, and responsibilities, serving as both a planning and monitoring tool for the NDC update process.

Key Activities

1. Finalise the NDC Update Roadmap

Consolidate findings into a comprehensive NDC Update Roadmap which includes:

- An introduction to the Roadmap, including the process undertaken in its development.
- A summary of the national context.
- Reflections on the NDC Stocktake including NDC priroities, progress against NDC 2.0, gaps, challenges, and opportunities.
- ICTU assessment summary.
- Recommended NDC 3.0 development activities (technical and engagement), including timelines and roles & responsibilities.
- Recommended instutional arrangements / coordination mechanisms including clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and lines of comunication.
- ICTU assessment in the Annex.
- Timeline of the NDC Update process in the Annex.
- Draft table of contents for NDC 3.0 in the Annex.
- Questions on the NDC Update process in the Annex.

References

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Wolfsteiner, A., & Wittmann, G. (2024). Calculation of Paris-Compatible National CO2 Budgets.

Annexes

Annex 1: ICTU assessment Template

The goal of the ICTU assessment is to provide a list with concrete next steps for the NDC update considering the information needed for NDC as per Decision 4/CMA.1 ↗. For this, all collected information is summarized in relation to the ICTU points, to list current challenges/needs and corresponding concrete next steps composing the Roadmap.

ICTU referred to in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 28	Findings NDC 2.0	Next step /Timeframe	Step	Responsible	Timeline
1. Quantifiable information on the reference point including, as appropriate, a base year					
a) Reference year	*Provide the relevant information here from the previous NDC here. If the information is not complete, indicate what is missing.*	The reference year which because of the target type corresponds to the target year **needs to be redefined** according to new timeframe as per Decision 6/CMA.3 ↗ (or added if establishing two *Define the next steps for gathering the information required. Indicate the timeframe of the action. **Short-term** for actions could we finalised in this round of NDC update, **mid- and long-term** actions for after the finalisation of this NDC update process, e.g.;* *Short-term* *→ **Conduct**: all data modelling, including the **definition of the reference year**, according to the new timeframe of 2035 as per **Decision 6/CMA.3** ↗.*	*e.g. Data Assessments*	*e.g. Ministry of Environment and Climate Change*	*e.g. end of March 2025*
b) Quantifiable information on the reference indicators		In case the target is based on the BAU scenario, baseline emissions **need to be reassessed** considering the new timeframe of 2035.			
d) Target relative to the reference indicator (percentage of reduction)		The percentage reduction of the target **needs to be reassessed** in alignment with the new timeframe, latest science findings, global stocktake outcomes, and national circumstances.			

ICTU referred to in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 28	Findings NDC 2.0	Next step /Timeframe	Step	Responsible	Timeline
e) Information on sources of data used in quantifying the reference point		GHG emissions **should be updated** according to the latest BTR. In the case of a BAU scenario, information on the updated BAU value(s) based on the latest calculations should be included.			
f) Information on the circumstances under which the Party may update the values of the reference indicators		The information on the circumstances under which the Party may update the value of the reference indicators (1.b.) **needs to be included or updated** in the NDC 3.0.			
2. Time frames and/or periods for implementation					
a) Time frame and/or period for implementation		The time frame **needs** to be updated according to Decision 6/CMA.3 ↗, which encourages Parties to communicate in 2025 a nationally determined contribution **with an end date of 2035.** The start and end date period of the implementation needs to be explicitly stated.			
b) Whether it is a single-year or multi-year target		The decision on establishing a single- or multi-year target should be based on the data assessments and other contextual issues, and this **needs** to be explicitly stated in the NDC.			
3. Scope and coverage					
a) General description of the target		The description of the target **needs to be updated** according to the new target set.			
b) Sectors, gases, categories, and pools covered					

ICTU referred to in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 28	Findings NDC 2.0	Next step /Timeframe	Step	Responsible	Timeline
c) How the Party has taken into consideration paragraph 31(c) and (d) of decision 1/CP.21;					
d) Mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties 'adaptation actions and/ or economic diversification plans, including description of specific projects, measures					
4. Planning processes					
a) Planning processes that the Party undertook to prepare its NDC, implementation plans *i) Domestic institutional arrangements, public participation and engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples, in a gender-responsive manner*		The information on domestic institutional arrangements and public participation for NDC preparation and implementation **needs to be included**.			
ii) Contextual matters, including: *a) National circumstances*		The information on contextual matters **needs to be included** according to the latest socio-economic indicators.			

ICTU referred to in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 28	Findings NDC 2.0	Next step /Timeframe	Step	Responsible	Timeline
*b) **Best practices and experience** related to the preparation of the nationally determined contribution*		The information on best practices and experience related to the preparation of the NDC **needs to be included** according to the latest NDC Update process.			
*c) **Other contextual aspirations** and priorities acknowledged when joining the Paris Agreement*		If applicable, this information **needs to be included.**			
c) How the Party's preparation of its NDC has been informed by the outcomes of the global stocktake		nformation on how the country considered the outcomes of the global stocktake in their NDC update **needs to be included.**			
5. Assumptions and methodological approaches					
a) Assumptions and methodological approaches used for accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and removals **corresponding to the Party's NDC** consistent with **decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 31, and accounting guidance** adopted by the CMA.		The description of the assumptions and methodological approaches **needs to be updated** according to the latest BTR and NDC target, and in alignment with the IPCC guidelines.			

ICTU referred to in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 28	Findings NDC 2.0	Next step /Timeframe	Step	Responsible	Timeline
b) Assumptions and methodological approaches used for accounting for the implementation of **policies and measures** or strategies in the nationally determined contribution		The description of assumptions and methodological approaches used for accounting for the implementation of PaMs or strategies **needs to be updated**.			
c) Information on how the Party will take into account existing methods and guidance under the Convention to account for anthropogenic emissions and removals, in accordance with **Article 4, paragraph 14,** of the Paris Agreement, as appropriate.		The information on how the country considers IPCC methodologies and guidance, in the context of recognising and implementing mitigation actions with respect to GHG emissions and removals **should be updated or included**.			
d) IPCC methodologies and metrics used for **estimating anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and removals**		The description of the assumptions and methodological approaches **needs to be updated** according to the latest BTR.			
e) Sector-, category- or activity-specific assumptions, methodologies and approaches consistent with IPCC guidance: *i) Approach to addressing emissions and subsequent removals **from natural disturbances on managed lands***		Information about the approach for addressing emissions and subsequent removals from natural disturbances on managed lands **should be included or updated**.			

ICTU referred to in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 28	Findings NDC 2.0	Next step /Timeframe	Step	Responsible	Timeline
*ii) Approach used to account for emissions and removals from **harvested wood products***		The approach used for the estimation of carbon stored in harvested wood products should be **included or updated** in the NDC.			
*iii) Approach used to address the **effects of age-class** structure in forests*		If the effects of age-class structure in forests are addressed within the GHG inventory calculations, the information about the approach **should be included or updated.**			
g) The intention to use voluntary cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, if applicable		The information about the intention to use voluntary cooperation under Article 6 **needs to be included or updated** according to the latest status, stating if the country would like to engage in Article 6 mechanisms by either using ITMOs or by participating as a host country.			
6. How the Party considers that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances					
a) How the Party considers that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstan-		The information on ambitiousness of the NDC **needs to be included** according how the country integrates the latest science findings and factors relevant to their national circumstances in their modelling for 2035 (and for 2030 if applicable).			
b) Fairness considerations, including reflecting on equity		Information on fairness considerations needs to be included in the NDC.			
c) How the Party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 3.		The information on how the country considers that the NDC 3.0 represents a progression in comparison to the current NDC and it reflects its highest possible ambitions, in light of national circumstances, **needs to be provided.**			

ICTU referred to in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 28	Findings NDC 2.0	Next step /Timeframe	Step	Responsible	Timeline
d) How the Party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 4		The information on how the country continues to enhance their mitigation efforts to move over time towards economy-wide emissions targets **needs to be included or updated.**			
7. How the nationally determined contribution contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2					
a) How the nationally determined contribution contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2		Information on how the target contributes to achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2 **needs to be included or updated.**			
b) How the nationally determined contributi-on contributes towards Article 2, paragraph 1(a), and Article 4, paragraph 1, of the Paris Agreement.		The information on the compatibility of the NDC with the Paris Agreement temperature goals **needs to be included or updated.** The information on how the country contributes to achieving the long-term temperature goal of the Paris agreement **needs to be included or updated.**			

Annex 2: Template for timeline of activities

Mark the respective timeline for the actions of the NDC update process.

Actions	Timeline (2025)										
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Reflections on NDC Stocktake											
Identification of recommended technical activities											
Identification of recommended engagement activities											
Identification of coordination structures											
Stakeholder consultations											
Documentation & finalisation											

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