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UNDP Climate Promise Progress Report

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Climate Promise at a Glance

UNDP's Climate Promise is the **world's largest offer of support to countries on NDC enhancement**, currently assisting 118 countries in collaboration with 35 partners.

Climate Promise countries represent:

- 65% of the developing countries that submitted their NDCs by 31 March 2021.
- 80% of developing countries announcing enhanced commitments at **Climate Ambition Summit 2020** on the 5th Anniversary of the Paris Agreement.
- 70% of developing countries participating in the **Leaders Summit on Climate Change 2021**.

Impact to Date

50+ have undertaken **policy and institutional reforms** to support NDC revision and set the foundation for implementation.

70+ countries have made substantial progress to enable mobilization and allocation of **public and private finance**.

80+ countries have **engaged non-state actors and marginalized groups** in NDC enhancement.

70+ countries are supporting **whole-of-government approaches**, through capacity building to strengthen coordination and engagement at national and subnational levels.

65+ countries reported progress on **climate data and transparency**, ensuring NDCs are effectively implemented, tracked and progress is analyzed to inform future NDC revisions.

60+ countries have successfully incorporated **gender** into their NDC enhancement, with many more in progress.

90+ countries reported progress on **data, evidence and analysis**, including assessments, baseline analyses and scenarios, target reviews and updates in priority sectors, including agriculture, energy, forestry, water, circular economy, health and other.

The Climate Promise leverages the NDC Partnership's coordination to strengthen the implementation of climate action. One example is with the NDC Partnership's Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP), where the Climate Promise provides complimentary support on enhancement in almost all of its 65 countries, strengthening integrated support.

Looking ahead

- A majority of Climate Promise countries are expected to submit their NDC by June 2021, with the remaining ahead of COP26.
- 73% of countries intend to have more ambitious mitigation targets.
- 96% of countries plan to enhance adaptation ambition.
- Over 80 Climate Promise countries are linking NDCs and green recovery processes, with a focus on green jobs and social safety-nets.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

UNDP's Climate Promise currently supports 118 countries to enhance their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), in collaboration with over 35 partners. The countries that joined the Climate Promise most recently are **Cameroon, Chad, and Mauritania**. With the addition of Chad and Mauritania, the Climate Promise is now operating in all G5 Sahel countries.

To date, 28 Climate Promise countries have submitted their new or updated NDCs to the UNFCCC. A majority have increased mitigation ambition and almost all have enhanced adaptation ambition. For an analysis of submissions to date and the impact of UNDP's Climate Promise support, see Section I.

Despite continued delays due to COVID-19 impacts, nearly all Climate Promise countries intend to submit their NDC ahead of COP26, with most indicating that they will submit by June 2021. Many countries are in the advanced stage of the revision process, with several final drafts under consultation.

The recent UNFCCC NDC Synthesis Report was a stark reminder of the level of ambition – especially from major emitters – that is needed to fulfill the goals of the Paris Agreement. While many revised NDCs are more inclusive, more robust, and more implementable than those submitted previously, it will be critical that all countries are willing to step up ambition ahead of COP26.

Results are already being seen in many Climate Promise countries that demonstrate substantive progress and impact across the portfolio. Several key lessons learned have emerged from countries including the need for high level political engagement and to connect the narrative on ambition to development and economic challenges. For a detailed analysis of the latest highlights, trends, and country examples across the five service lines of the Climate Promise, see Section II.

A majority of the population (64%) across 50 countries recognize climate change is a global emergency, according to [UNDP's People's Climate Vote](#), the largest survey of public opinion on climate change. Undertaken in an effort to bring people's voices to the NDC process, the survey also provided insight into how people want their country to solve the climate crisis. These results are now being delivered to policymakers to inform NDCs. For a detailed summary of results, see Section III.

Over 80 Climate Promise countries are leveraging NDC enhancement processes to guide government's efforts on COVID-19 recovery, with a strong focus on green jobs and social safety nets. For an analysis and examples of six key approaches countries are taking to link NDCs and Green Recovery, see Section IV.

Over 100 countries are engaging the private sector in the NDC enhancement process, through both soft engagement, i.e. consultation and inclusion in plans, and harder engagement, i.e. stimulating investment through carbon pricing and other mechanisms. See detailed analysis in Section V.

A flagship report [20 Insights on NDCs in 2020](#) was launched in December 2020, highlighting key trends, insights and lessons being learned. Additional publications, stories, blogs and campaigns have also disseminated Climate Promise experiences. For a list of communications products, see Section VII.

UNDP is working closely with our partners to ensure an inclusive and successful COP26, focused on demonstrating inclusive and ambitious action on the ground. See Section VII for further discussion.

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I. Impact to date of UNDP's Climate Promise

UNDP is now supporting 118¹ countries on NDC enhancement under the Climate Promise, including 38 LDCs, 28 SIDS, 14 higher-emitters², and 45 countries in fragile settings.³ This represents about 28% of global emissions⁴. Through this effort, UNDP and our partners provide targeted support to developing countries to enhance and implement their NDCs, leveraging NDC processes to advance sustainable development priorities, from gender equality to green job creation and recovery.

A majority of Climate Promise countries are raising ambition. Over 70% have already or still intend to raise mitigation ambition and over 95% raise adaptation ambition.

Submitted Enhanced NDCs

As of 31 March 2021, 28 Climate Promise countries have communicated their revised NDCs to the UNFCCC, out of a total of 79 Parties. Three countries (Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Zambia) submitted an interim or provisional NDC, with an indication for a full submission during the first half of 2021. Both Ecuador and Uruguay submitted their first NDCs (in 2019 and 2017 respectively), which are considered by the UNFCCC as their updated NDCs. *For a full list of all 28 countries, their submission dates and assessment of mitigation and adaptation ambition, please see the Annex.*

Several notable findings emerged out of the 28 NDCs submitted from Climate Promise countries, which reflect the trends articulated in the latest UNFCCC Synthesis report.⁵

- **There is an increasing level of country ownership, inclusiveness and public awareness in the enhanced NDCs across all 28 countries.** Most countries launched the NDC revision process in a participatory and transparent manner. For example, Panama and Colombia conducted public consultations of their NDCs, and Nepal held dedicated consultations at the sub-national level. There is also stronger leadership and ownership by government institutions engaged in the NDC revision process, and coordinated engagement to identify gaps and priorities, compared to previous NDCs.
- **Climate Promise countries had a stronger focus on adaptation ambition compared to all countries which submitted.** A total of 27 out of 28 Climate Promise countries (96%) raised adaptation ambition, compared to 90% of all countries which submitted. Eight countries (Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Kenya, Lebanon, Panama and Uruguay) included clear Adaptation Communications⁶, while

¹ This excludes Kosovo, which is also receiving support under the Climate Promise despite being a non-UNFCCC party.

² Countries with % share of global GHG emissions more than 0.5%.

³ Based on OECD States of Fragility 2020 which categorizes 57 countries as fragile based on 5 dimensions (Economic, Environmental, Political, Security and Societal). Among which, 13 are considered extremely fragile, 9 of which are Climate Promise countries.

⁴ CAIT 2016

⁵ The UNFCCC's initial [NDC synthesis report was](#) released on 28 Feb 2021, and analyzed 75 NDC submissions received by 31 December 2020.

⁶ According to UNFCCC's [Adaptation Communications](#) public registry.

others such as **Bangladesh, Chile, Thailand, Rwanda** and **Suriname**, have better aligned the NDC with the NAP processes.

- **A majority of Climate Promise countries (82%) raised mitigation ambition.** Overall, the 28 countries represent around 8% of the global total GHG emissions. This includes four higher-emitter countries (covering around 4% of the global total⁷) which had little increase in ambition: **Mexico** and **Thailand** did not increase mitigation ambition; while **Argentina** seems to have slightly increased its targets, with their conditional target notably stronger than the unconditional one; and **Vietnam**'s targets may not necessarily represent a significant increase in mitigation ambition but it has expanded sectoral scope and measures.
- **Most countries have improved the quality and robustness of their NDCs compared to the previous NDC, making it more likely the NDC will be fully implemented.** This finding aligns with the positive findings from the UNFCCC synthesis report. Specifically, improved quality can be seen across three areas:
 - 1) Enhanced quality of information presented in the NDC, including the data underpinning Parties' NDC commitments. In addition, these new generations of NDCs are clearer and more comprehensive, also in terms of including and presenting update/new information on adaptation and support needed.
 - 2) Stronger focus on planning and implementation process, including the engagement of various stakeholder groups in the process, which will be critical contributors to implementation, e.g. non-state actors, especially youth, women groups and private sector, and other civil society organisations.
 - 3) Increasing reference to national, sectoral, and long-term strategies and goals. The NDCs are increasingly linked with national legislative, regulatory and planning processes, and with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as other relevant international conventions and agreements including the UN Convention to combat desertification, UN Convention on Biodiversity and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Some countries also making explicit references in their enhanced NDC to their longer-term goals or aspirations for achieving carbon neutrality by mid-century, and indicate processes being initiated to develop a long-term strategy and plan in order to achieve this vision.

UNDP's contributions and support for submitted NDCs and beyond

Through the Climate Promise, UNDP has demonstrated direct impact on submitted NDCs, particularly evident across four key areas:

UNDP's Climate Promise ensures that country ownership and inclusiveness are at the heart of the NDC revision process. In many countries, UNDP helped the government to facilitate consultations with various groups, building on its strong presence on the ground and convening role. This is particularly true on gender equality, with 24 out of the 26 countries having included varying degrees of gender considerations in their updated NDCs. Youth were also targeted for engagement and empowerment, leveraging UNDP's

⁷ CAIT 2016

youth networks and support through Mission 1.5. For example, UNDP supported the Government of **Bangladesh** to ensure that their updated NDC adopted a whole-of-society engagement approach, focusing on engaging youth, engaging organizations and institutions that promote gender equality and women's empowerment, and involving key private sector actors.

The Climate Promise demonstrated impact on enhancing adaptation components of the NDCs, particularly in linking with the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes. This leveraged UNDP's historic support to countries on adaptation, in collaboration with key partners. For example, in **Argentina**, UNDP's support on NAPs provided key contributions to its Adaptation Communications of the updated NDC. In **Suriname, Thailand, and Bangladesh**, findings and recommendations from the NAP processes supported by UNDP and key partners contributed to refining the adaptation component of their updated NDCs.

In many countries, UNDP's role was key in supporting collection and updating GHG emissions data to inform target setting. GHG emissions data are key to understand countries' emission profiles and projections and ultimately help determine new or enhanced mitigation targets, policies and measures. Support under the Climate Promise also supports countries to put in place Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) or Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) systems that keep track of progress and support transparency efforts in line with Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.

UNDP continues to be a key partner supporting the government to turn their new and enhanced commitments into actions. As part of the Climate Promise, UNDP is already supporting countries to set up and/or strengthen policy and institutional enabling actions and systems for NDC coordination and implementation. This links directly to the country's long-term sustainable development goals/vision. In some cases, UNDP supports countries mobilizing international and private finance to further support implementation and scale up actions.

In some countries, other development partners led support on the NDC revision process, while UNDP strengthened collaboration and supported key studies and assessments that inform the prioritization of the revised NDC in key sectors. For example, in **Suriname**, while the NDC revision process was mainly supported by IADB, UNDP's support work on REDD+ and NAP helped define the targets and measures in the forests sector and adaptation component respectively. In **Uruguay**, UNDP's support on NAMA, GHG inventory and Adaptation contributed to help define a more robust and clear measures and targets in both the mitigation and adaptation in their updated NDC.

II. Latest Trends on Submission Dates and Ambition Intentions

Submission Dates and Timelines

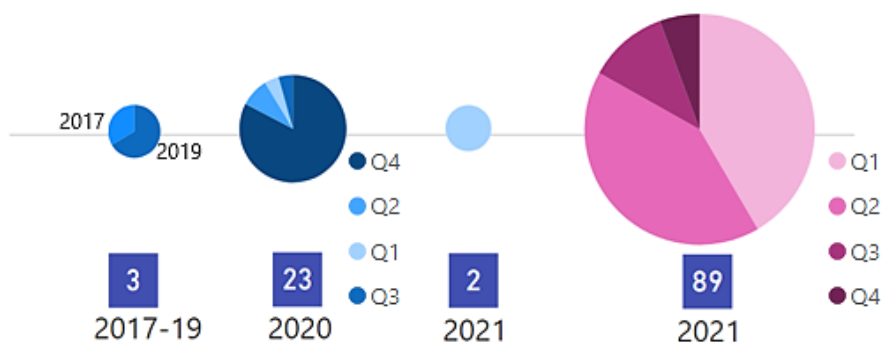
All Climate Promise countries, aside from Turkey⁸, are on track to submit their NDC ahead of COP26, with a majority expected to submit by June 2021. As of 31 March 2021, a total of 95 Parties plan to submit their NDC ahead of COP26, 89 of which are Climate Promise countries. These 89 Climate Promise countries represent nearly 20% of global total GHG emissions. 74 of these submissions are expected to come by the first half of 2021. Among these, many countries are already in the advanced stage of the

⁸ Turkey is not planning to submit an NDC to UNFCCC given it is not yet a Party to the Paris Agreement

revision processes, with 23 countries already having drafted revised NDC documents circulating for stakeholders' inputs and/or pending final validation or endorsement processes.

Countries continue to see delays in submission timelines, primarily due to cascading COVID-19 impacts and endorsement processes. Out of the 50 Climate Promise countries that were expected to submit their NDC in 2020, only 28 countries have submitted to date. The delays were mainly due to slower quality review and final validation processes hindered by increasing restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as delays in internal government endorsement processes. Furthermore, several countries which initially planned to submit in early 2021 are now pushing the submission further into the later part of 2021. Many of these delays are due to inability to find the right experts, COVID-19 impacts, and political changes. Some countries are also taking time to consolidate various studies and assessments (themselves delayed) that inform the revision process.

Figure 2. Countries' submission timelines



Ambition Intentions

As indicated in the latest [UNFCCC NDC Synthesis Report](#), **countries' collective pledges consolidated from the recently submitted NDCs are far from putting the world on course to meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement.** Looking forward, 2021 will be a critical year signaling whether countries are willing to step up ambition ahead of COP26. This is particularly relevant for higher-emitting G20 countries, which must demonstrate greater commitment to increased mitigation targets in order to reach the Paris Agreement goals.

At the same time, **a majority of Climate Promise countries are raising mitigation and adaptation ambition.** Overall, including the 28 countries that have already submitted their NDC, a majority of Climate Promise countries have already or intend to raise ambition (73% for mitigation and 96% for adaptation – see figure 3.). This continues despite COVID-19 impacts, and in fact, as illustrated by the trend charts below (figure 4), many countries have clarified their visions on ambitions throughout 2020, particularly the decision to raise mitigation ambition.

The 89 Climate Promise countries that are due to submit their NDC this year represent over 19% of total global emissions. Sixty-three of these countries intend to raise mitigation ambition, with an additional 18 countries still unclear. This of course can help push the momentum for global efforts to achieve the Paris Agreement goals. The priority for UNDP and our partners will be to support these countries to ensure a robust and comprehensive NDC process and advocate for increased mitigation ambition, particularly for those currently classified as unclear on their intentions.

Figure 3. Ambition of Climate Promise countries (as of 31 March 2021), including both submitted NDCs and intentions for planned submissions

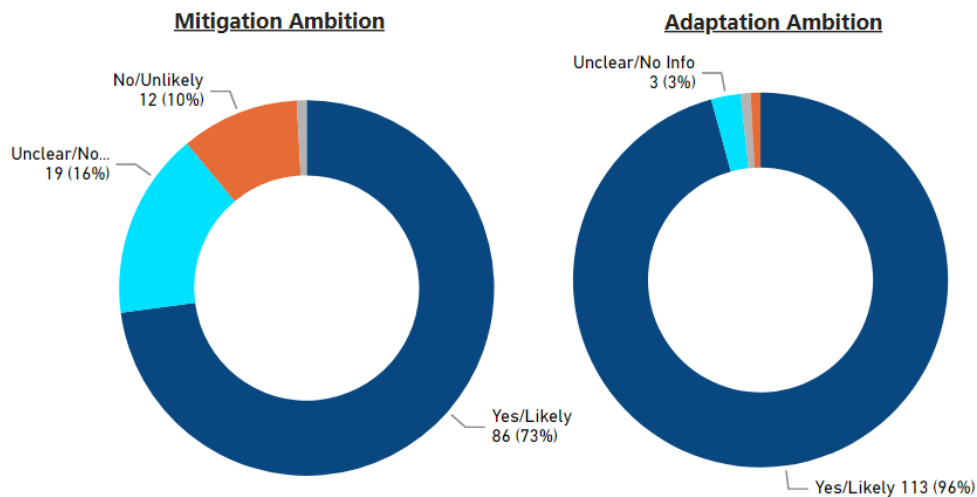
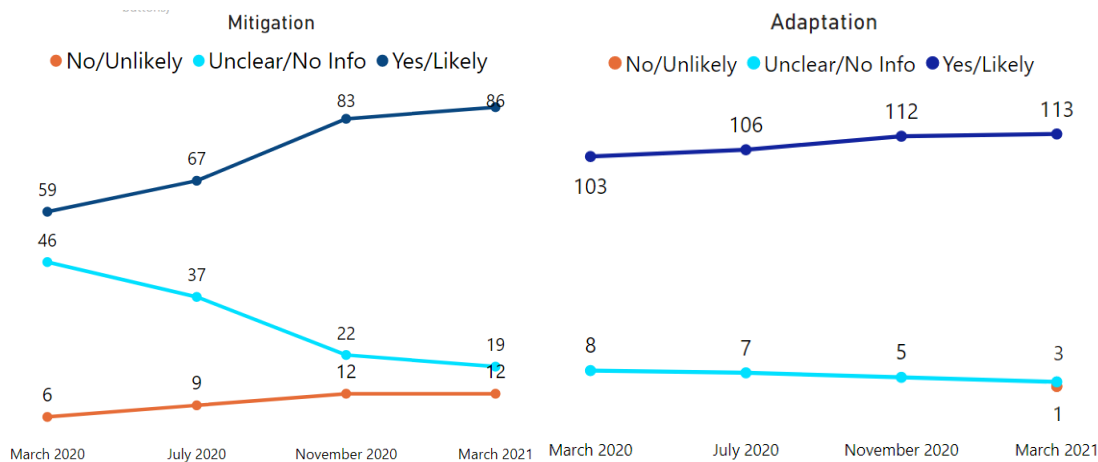


Figure 4. Trends on ambition of Climate Promise countries over time (as of 31 March 2021), including both submitted NDCs and intentions for planned submissions



Most recent NDC submissions – COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS

COLOMBIA



Colombia submitted its revised NDC in December 2020, which represents a significantly enhanced mitigation target to reduce emissions by 51% from a revised 2030 reference scenario. Colombia also increased ambition in the adaptation component with priority sectors (transport, energy, agriculture, housing, health, commerce, tourism and industry) and 30 multisectoral goals. The NDC commits to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050, reducing black carbon by 40% in 2030 (comparing to 2014 levels), reducing deforestation to 50,000 ha/year by 2030, and generating carbon budgets in 2023. The NDC also includes 32 sectoral measures led by 7 ministries, 89 territorial measures, and 24 private-sector measures. A comprehensive analysis has been conducted considering

additional aspects such as gender equality, circular economy, alignment with SDG goals, and the COVID-19 situation. The update of the NDC was carried out in compliance with the guiding principles of the Paris Agreement, including using the best available information, progressing and not regressing, and ensuring leadership in transparency and consistency.

UNDP was a key partner in the NDC revision process, contributing to the definition of measures, stakeholder engagement processes (e.g., with territories, youth, etc.), the reference scenario update, and the incorporation of gender and just transition considerations. Construction of the mitigation component of the enhanced NDC built on technical support to six key sectors through the NDC Support Programme. UNDP also contributed to an expert review of the draft NDC and organized a south-south exchange between Colombia and Guatemala, which helped Guatemala to learn from Colombia's experience in updating its NDC. Going forward, UNDP will continue to support the engagement of stakeholders in climate action – in particular, youth, women, and sub-national actors.

ARGENTINA

Argentina officially submitted its second NDC in December 2020, in which the country committed to an absolute, economy-wide, and unconditional mitigation goal to not exceed 359 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e) in net emissions in 2030. This is equivalent to a total decrease in emissions of 19% by 2030, compared to the historical peak reached in 2007. The adaptation component is further enhanced with qualitative targets and elaborated implementation plans, including 35 adaptation measures in 7 sectors. The Second Adaptation Communication is submitted within the NDC, which aims to build up the adaptation capacity, which will strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability in the different social, economic, and environmental sectors. In situations of vulnerability, communities and social groups will be prioritized with a gender and intergenerational equity approach.

UNDP played a key role in supporting the adaptation component of Argentina's second NDC, through its support in the development of and the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan. It also helped to strengthen institutions and stakeholder participation in the revision process. This include strengthening the role of the National Climate Change Cabinet, supporting technical and financial assistance to sub-national governments, fostering synergies with data-generation projects, and facilitating stakeholder participation including youth groups, indigenous communities, civil society and academia. Going forward, UNDP will continue to support the engagement of stakeholders in the climate process; support sub-national governments on GHG inventories and adaptation planning; assist in mainstreaming gender and adaptation; and contribute to work on finance, investment, and private-sector capacities.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Papua New Guinea's revised NDC was submitted in December 2020. The ambition is increased through more specific targets within existing sectors (Energy) and new targets for Land Use, Land Use Change and Forests (LULUCF) and adaptation. Commitments have been made to achieve carbon neutrality within the energy industries sub-sector by 2030 and to reduce the annual emission of 10,000 GgCO₂eq (compared to 2015 level) from deforestation and forest



degradation due to agriculture expansion and commercial logging. As for adaptation, PNG will focus on four development sectors central to PNG's ability to adapt to climate change, namely: agriculture, health, infrastructure, and transport. An implementation plan has been presented in the NDC. All commitments are conditional in recognition of PNG's position as a developing nation with limited resources and capacity.

UNDP's role in revising PNG's NDC was significant. Through the Climate Promise, UNDP led coordination amongst development partners supporting the Government and other stakeholders (line government agencies, civil society, and private sector). UNDP facilitated technical discussions through Inter-Agency Technical Working Committees on Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU), Adaptation, and Energy. UNDP has also been leading the development of the NDC Implementation Plan, which will be finalized in the first quarter of 2021. The LULUCF targets in this plan build on the qualitative and quantitative policies and measures identified through the National REDD+ Strategy (2017 – 2027) and the corresponding REDD+ Financial and Investment Plan. UNDP will also support the government to implement mitigation and adaptation measures, supported by GEF and the EU, that will contribute to the achievement of the enhanced NDCs. Apart from the revised NDC, UNDP has also been leading the development of the NDC Implementation Plan and will ensure that all UNDP projects supporting climate actions contribute to the achievement of the enhanced NDC targets.



CAMBODIA

The revised NDC of Cambodia was officially submitted in December 2020. The country has transitioned from sectoral targets to an economy-wide target aiming to raise its mitigation ambition to a 42% reduction in 2030 compared to Business as Usual (BAU). In addition, it also sets a target of halving the deforestation rate by 2030 in the AFOLU sector, which covers the biggest flow of emissions. It is noted that given the nature of targets and the change of the BAU trajectory, it is more complicated to define the level of increased ambition; yet the revised NDC is clearly more robust and comprehensive. Sectoral coverage has been expanded to set mitigation targets in the agricultural and waste sectors, and more detailed actions in key sub-sectors, such as energy efficiency, have been included. The NDC also commits to improved adaptation ambition with 86 adaptation actions distributed over 9 sectors, and multiple enabling actions divided into 6 categories such as education, gender, and governance. The NDC includes cross-cutting issues such as private sector engagement and pays particular attention to gender and vulnerable groups, to ensure that adaptation and mitigation actions contribute to a more inclusive society. It also outlines finance needs and barriers as well as capacity needs. The revised NDC also includes analysis of the contribution of proposed mitigation actions attributed to environmental, social and adaptation co-benefits as well as to achieving the SDG targets.

UNDP has provided core support to the National Council for Sustainable Development for the entire NDC update, with co-financing from the World Bank. This support included: coordination between all ministries; information and engagement of all key actors; funding for the core team of consultants; and policy advice throughout the process. UNDP has provided policy support for the key sectors of Energy Efficiency, Transportation, Forestry and land-use, Waste and Disaster risk reduction. UNDP will continue to support the implementation of the NDC and the development of the Long-Term Strategy to design a roadmap for the government to achieve its commitment made in 2021 to reach carbon neutrality.

REGIONAL SNAPSHOT: Latin America and the Caribbean



In the Latin America and Caribbean region (LAC), UNDP's Climate Promise is supporting the NDC enhancement process in 25 countries.⁹ As of 31 Dec 2020, 16 countries have already submitted their enhanced NDCs, by far the most of any other region, and 12 of those countries have received direct support from UNDP's Climate Promise. Overall, almost all 12 Climate Promise countries in the region have demonstrated increased ambition and commitment to the goals of the Paris Agreement, including net-zero pathways. In addition to Costa Rica and Chile, six countries announced new net-zero or carbon neutrality targets: Argentina, Ecuador, Jamaica, Panama, Peru and Uruguay. Additionally, Barbados has announced a conditional carbon neutrality target by 2030 dependent on appropriate support. Colombia increased its mitigation ambition with an unconditional target to reduce emissions 51% from a revised 2030 reference scenario, equating to approximately a 35% improvement over its previous NDC. Peru increased its ambition from 30% to 40% emission reduction by 2030.

UNDP's Climate Promise support in the region is focusing on various components of the NDC enhancement activities, mobilizing regional and global expertise from across UNDP. The main thematic areas of support are Gender, Youth, Climate Finance, Adaptation, Energy and Forests. One example of this mobilization can be seen in Grenada where the UNDP Montreal Protocol, the Climate Investment Platform (CIP) and UNDP's Climate Promise teams are all working to articulate integrated support to the country

⁹ Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay

towards the common objective to become one of the first countries in the world to be free of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), a powerful greenhouse gas, and introduce low-carbon solutions.

The Climate Promise has also strengthened its support in the region by working with strategic partners such as UNFCCC, IRENA, UNEP, ILO and others, both at the regional and country level. For example, IRENA is supporting the implementation of energy policies, renewable energy and energy efficiency activities in Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Dominica, and Grenada. UNDP and ILO are exploring joint activities in Antigua and Barbuda, ranging from upskilling and reskilling the work force to a socio-economic impact assessment of the transition on both men and women currently employed in the fossil fuel industry.

A series of regional webinars entitled “Climate action in times of crisis” were organized in the region supported by UNDP’s Climate Promise. They ran online from September to December 2020 in coordination with IDB, EUROCLIMA+, GIZ, ECLAC and LEDS LAC. This series consisted of 34 webinars in total, attracted over 16,000 participants and engaged 60+ speakers. The events provided opportunities to share experiences and best practices across the region on the implementation and update of NDCs and its role in contributing to the post-COVID-19 recovery.

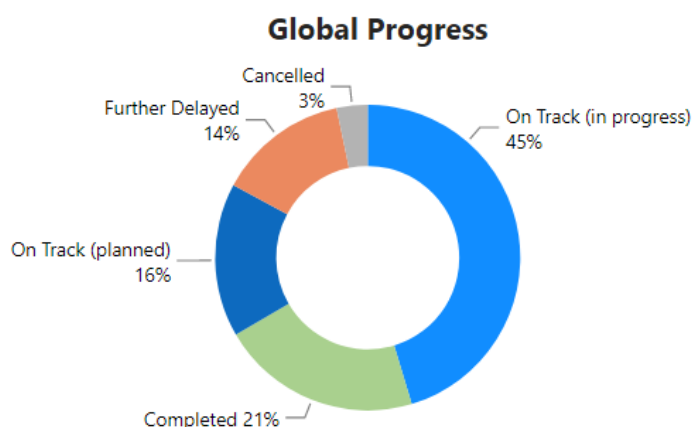
Capacity building has also been at the core of the Climate Promise implementation in the region, holding several work clinics and trainings. These included a focus on key issues of interest to countries. One training was on the design and implementation of gender responsive actions in NDCs. Another focused on an assessment methodology for investment and finance flows in the energy sector for Ministries of environment, energy, economy, and finance from Chile and Ecuador.

III. Climate Promise Implementation Progress

The following analysis draws on the quarterly reports submitted at the end of 2020, with information from 108 countries across the Climate Promise portfolio¹⁰.

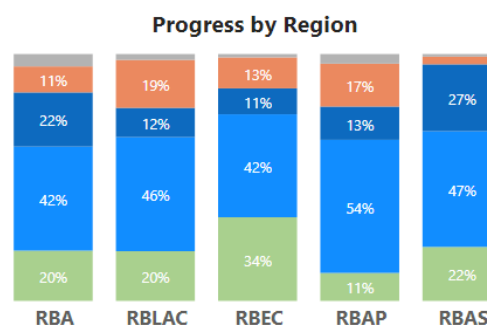
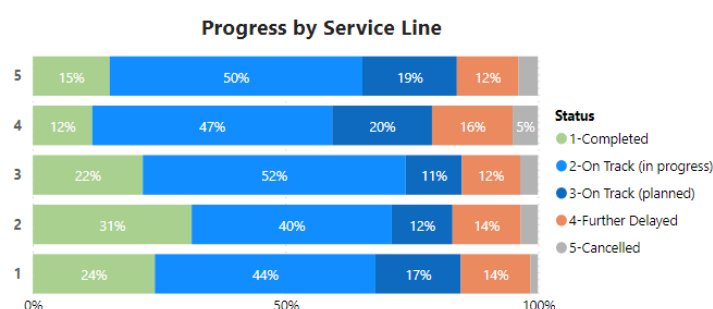
Progress in Numbers

Overall, the implementation of UNDP's Climate Promise is progressing well, with 21% of activities already completed and 61% more on track. Progress is more advanced in the European and Central Asia region, with 34% completed activities and fewer delayed activities compared to other regions. The Arab States region is also on track, while more activities in the Latin American and the Caribbean and Asia and the Pacific regions expecting further delays (see detailed breakdown below). This could be primarily attributed to changes in political contexts and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Progress also spread quite equally across different service lines, representing the five areas of support that were identified based on extensive consultations on what countries need to enhance NDCs and advance ambition. The most activities completed are under service line 2 (Review and updating existing policies and targets) followed by Service 1 (Building political will and society ownership) and Service 3 (Incorporating new sectors/GHGs). This is as expected given that many activities under these service lines are meant to be implemented during the early stage of the revision process, such as taking stock of progress, identifying gaps, reviewing/updating existing targets or policies, consultations and sensitizations with key stakeholders, and political outreach and engagement.

Good progress is also made in activities under Service Line 4 (Assessing costs and investment opportunities) and 5 (Monitor progress and strengthen transparency), as countries are putting in place necessary strategies and systems to enable implementation of the NDCs after submission.



¹⁰ The following countries did not submit their Q4 progress reports: El Salvador (only draft), Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Vanuatu (only draft) and Vietnam. Three new countries, Cameroon, Chad and Mauritania did not complete a report, as activities have not started yet.

Progress – Key Trends and Deliverables

Diving deeper into countries' reports, many critical deliverables have been achieved demonstrating substantive progress and impact across the portfolio. These can be analyzed across key areas of support.

Policy and institutional reform

Around half of all Climate Promise countries have undertaken policy and institutional reforms that build a solid foundation for NDC implementation and for more ambitious climate action. These reforms include strengthening institutions and policies, developing policies and legislation for climate action and long-term sustainable development, such as National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Long-term Strategies (LTS), as well as development of NDC implementation roadmaps. This includes putting in place policies and regulations for implementing carbon pricing and green fiscal policy, which is further elaborated in the [Financing and Investment](#) section below.

- More than 15 countries have been developing or have developed new policies and legislation on climate change. For example, **Belize** has endorsed a National Mitigation strategy, which outlines actions to mitigate emissions within Belize's development framework. The government is also updating the National Climate Change Policy, Strategy and Action Plan to include details from the mitigation strategy. Others have explored fiscal reform, with further examples described in the finance and investment section below.
- A priority for many countries has been on supporting NAPs and linking them to NDCs. In around 20 countries, support under the Climate Promise is helping to design strategies addressing the most important adaptation sectors. For instance, **Botswana** has finalized the draft of the NAP Framework and is in the process of finalizing the NAP, which includes key adaptation sectors such as LULUCF and Biodiversity. **Suriname's** NAP prioritized economic sectors relevant to the NDC, including Water Resources, Sustainable Forestry, Energy and Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.
- Approximately 10 countries have explicitly leveraged the NDC revision process to align short and medium-term climate goals with long-term net-zero development plans, strategies or goals. In **Colombia**, an analysis of 96 planning documents has been finalized to align activities and NDC targets/priorities with long-term strategies. With support from UNDP, the government is preparing the LTS to be submitted in early 2021. **Nepal, Cambodia** and **Thailand** are currently initiating the development of their LTS following the submission of their NDCs. Looking ahead, **Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia** plan to develop LTS with a mid-century vision in 2021 under [the EU4Climate project](#), while **Moldova** is working on updating the Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS) by 2030 to align it with the targets set in the NDC that was submitted last year.
- More than 20 countries are advancing the formulations of their NDC implementation roadmaps and strategies to ensure climate efforts are effective, coordinated and suitable for their national circumstances. In **Belarus**, the proposed national roadmap for NDC implementation includes measures and activities for a five-year period to achieve targets set in the updated NDC, taking into consideration the global trends and national characteristics. As part of the NDC package for **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the Roadmap and the Action plan for NDC implementation have been developed for the period 2020-2030. Countries like **Bhutan** and **Namibia** are also developing sectoral and cross-sectoral implementation plans.

Alignment with Development policies and SDGs

Progress has been made in over one third of Climate Promise countries to strengthen alignment between NDC measures and development policies and SDGs.

- NDC targets and policies have been successfully integrated into national, subnational or sectoral development plans in around 20 countries. For example, **Cote d'Ivoire** has integrated the NDC in the sectoral planning of the energy and waste sectors. The country is also building the capacity of local governments on integrating climate change in local planning, which includes information, sensibilization and building ownership for the new NDC.
- Alignment between NDCs and SDGs has showed the most significant progress over the last two quarters, with 28 countries making efforts to build a strong link between NDCs and SDGs. For example, alignment of NDC mitigation and adaptation measures with the SDGs has been proposed in the draft NDC for **Guinea** and for stakeholder consultations in **Sri Lanka**, building on the work undertaken using the [SDG Climate Action Nexus Tool](#) (SCAN tool). The adaptation and mitigation policies that shape **Lebanon's** NDC have been analyzed for SDG linkages and documented in sectoral integration sheets, which will ensure the efficient and systematic manner of NDC and SDG targets implementation. In **Uganda**, a virtual integrated MRV tool has been completed which allows for SDG progress tracking of NDC actions. In North Macedonia, a methodology called the Q-SCAN tool has been developed to [quantify the identified positive or negative impacts](#) between their enhanced NDC and SDGs, at the SDG target level.

Whole of Government and Whole of Society Engagement

UNDP has provided capacity-building trainings and consultations to more than 70 governments as part of the NDC enhancement process, resulting in better coordination and engagement at the national and subnational levels. For example, in **Panama**, UNDP has raised awareness and built capacity within NDC coordinating institutions, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Water National Commission, and Climate Change National Committee. This has ensured stronger links between climate change and food/agriculture and enables the Ministries to further explore opportunities for mitigation and adaptation, and for strengthening the role of effective value chain and global market engagement in the process. In **Namibia**, UNDP has strengthened the Parliamentary Committee's role on natural resource management oversight and supported the engagement of senior policy makers and practitioners to develop a whole of government consensus between all Offices, Ministries and Agencies (OMAs) of Government-vertical and horizontal. Similarly, **Ghana** invited 70 participants across sectors for the launch of the NDC revision process to ensure inclusive consultations and high-level buy-in. **Mali** organized consultation workshops for regional actors on the revision of the NDC, which brought together around 400 participants from regional technical services, local elected officials, local authorities, civil society organizations, the private sector and representatives of women's and youth organizations.

Increasing attention has been paid to the whole of society approach, with concrete support in over 80 countries. In addition to the engagement of private sector and women, the role of non-state actors - including civil society organizations, youth groups, academic institutions, media and indigenous communities - has been emphasized in the revision process. Countries like **Maldives** and **Bhutan** are developing participatory dialogue and engagement mechanisms of local government, private sector,

technology providers, academia, NGOs and CSOs on climate adaptation and mitigation. In **Zimbabwe**, a Knowledge, Attitudes and Perceptions (KAP) Survey was conducted as a tool to engage broader stakeholders at both national and local level. In **North Macedonia**, recommended actions emerging from a comprehensive survey on engaging youth in NDCs have been incorporated into the revised NDC. In addition, the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the Association of Citizens KOLEKTIV ZET (Young Friends of the Earth Macedonia) Skopje have signed an MOU to strengthen cooperation in order to create green policies that take into account the voice and visions of the citizens. In **Georgia** the first-ever [research study on climate change perceptions, knowledge and behaviour](#) was published in February 2021, covering all social groups across the country.

Gender

Impressive progress has been made in incorporating gender into NDC enhancement processes in over 60 countries. Many results are already being seen. For example, 14 countries have completed gender analyses while a further 13 countries have gender analyses in progress. In **Burkina Faso**, as part of their gender analysis, the country developed a toolbox for integrating gender into development planning and monitoring tools and a national action plan was developed to guide the country's compliance with the UNFCCC Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender. In **Cambodia**, following consultations with stakeholders from the energy, environment, public works and transport, rural development, and education sectors, the country's revised NDC includes a specific target for women's participation across various sectors, ranging from 15% to 70%, signaling sectoral ministries' acknowledgment of the importance of addressing gender aspects through climate action. In **Panama**, the submitted enhanced NDC acknowledges the transformational role that women play in climate action and the importance of promoting gender equality, highlighting advancement of the National Gender Action Plan that will facilitate a rights-based and equity approach in climate change mitigation and adaptation actions. Currently, UNDP is supporting the Ministry of Environment of Panama to develop this plan that includes each of the prioritized sectors in the NDC and is aligned with the NDC's national emissions and resilience goals.

Generating data, evidence and analysis

More than 90 countries reported progress on assessments and analyses of baselines and scenarios, target reviews and updates in priority sectors, including 40 which have completed these analyses to date. This work directly informs the revision of NDC targets and proposed measures across a range of sectors. The following highlight some examples of completed activities in a few key NDC sectors:

- To date, 21 countries completed new updates in the **agriculture** sector. For example, this includes the **Philippines**, which has conducted a study on integrating adaptation and disaster risk reduction in the updating of the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Plan (AFMP) 2018-2023. **Serbia** has completed recommendations for short-, mid- and long-term improvements of the GHG inventory estimations in the Agriculture and LULUCF sectors. In **Sri Lanka**, adaptation targets for the Agriculture sector have been reviewed and updated.
- Over 20 countries have reviewed and updated targets and measures related to the **energy** sector. For example, **Cambodia** has conducted a situation analysis and target-setting for the energy efficiency sub-sector, with a focus on end-users (households) and buildings. In **Tunisia**, a new

model for GHG emissions simulation has been developed and applied in the energy sector, both for BAU and low carbon scenarios to inform the updated NDC target for 2030 and to prepare the low carbon development strategy target for 2050.

- Land use change and forestry has been a focus in more than 15 countries, both related to mitigation and adaptation. In **Nigeria**, for example, a review of new data from the forestry sector helped enhance the forestry section of the NDC, particularly building on the recent submission of the Forest Reference Emission Level and current REDD+ projects. **Cambodia** completed a modeling effort which led to the inclusion of an ambitious quantitative Forestry and Land Use sector target in its submitted NDC - to halve the deforestation rate by 2030, in line with the national REDD+ strategy. In **Honduras**, the technical content for mitigation in the forest sector has been completed for inclusion in the enhanced NDC, with improved clarity on the role of the national REDD+ strategy as well as inclusion of a quantitative forest restoration goal.
- To date, 12 countries have completed activities in the **water** sector. In **North Macedonia**, for example, a comprehensive vulnerability assessment of priority sectors included water management, which identified key climate risks and quantified socioeconomic impact of climate change at national and sub-national levels. **Nigeria** has completed an assessment of the impact of climate change and NDC mitigation and adaptation interventions on water resources. The findings will feed into the enhanced NDC.
- The **transport** sector has been the priority for around 10 countries. **Tajikistan**, for instance, completed an assessment of climate impacts on the transport sector, and identified specific mitigation and adaptation actions for inclusion in the NDC.
- In 10 countries, activities in the **waste** sector have been completed. In **Ecuador**, modelling of waste-related scenarios using the *Spanish M3e model* will be used to further detail out a plan for actions in the waste sector of the NDC roadmap.
- Around 10 countries have completed **industry** sector assessments and updates. For example, **Montenegro** has reviewed and updated existing targets and measures in the industry sector using the latest data on GHG emissions and projections.
- Around 7 countries completed activities related to **nature-based solutions (NBS)**. For example, in **Mexico**, UNDP supported the exchange of information and provided guidance on the methodology to mainstream Natural Based Solutions into their NDC. A workshop was held with national authorities to present the methodology alongside a report developed as part of the Six National Report on Convention on Biological Diversity. NBS have been highlighted as a line of action in the adaptation component of the Updated NDC Report. In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, NBS has been identified and incorporated into the NDC Road Map, Adaptation and Low Emission Strategy as well as in the initial draft of the NAP document. In **Burkina Faso**, an assessment of NBS potentials for raising ambition has been conducted. Key findings and recommendations have been presented to the government for consideration in their revised NDC.
- **Circular economy** is also an area of increasing interest for countries, with five countries completing activities as part of NDC revision. For example, the recently completed circular economy assessment reports in **Vanuatu** and **the Gambia** are key inputs to shape the mitigation actions of the countries' revised NDCs, with a focus on high socio-economic impacts and green job creation potential.

UNDP's Climate Promise has also supported: around seven countries undertake activities to incorporate health into their NDCs, including Central African Republic, Panama, and Sri Lanka; Seven countries including **Cabo Verde** and **Uzbekistan** to conduct socio-economic impact assessments of NDC targets and measures to inform the new NDC; and completed stocktaking of NDC implementation progress in 8 countries, including **Somalia**, where a stocktaking exercise has been conducted to establish the baseline of actions that directly respond to climate change or have indirect influence to reduce vulnerabilities and contribute towards carbon neutral development.

Financing and investment

More than 70 Climate Promise countries have made substantial progress to enable mobilization and allocation of financial resources from both public and private sectors.

Specifically, 35 countries are advancing the development of a comprehensive financing strategy to support NDC implementation. For example, **Belize** has prepared initial inputs on costing of the climate actions listed in the NDC and the identification of funding gaps that require international grant support and private sector investments. Gender financing is also to be considered. **Bosnia and Herzegovina** has analyzed current expenditures and both current and future financial needs for adaptation, as well as the estimated cost of priority actions. This has been incorporated in strategic national documents and plans, including the NDC, Road Map Implementation Plan, Adaptation and Low Emission Strategy and NAP. This will further inform the development of a financial strategy. In both **Ecuador** and **Chile**, an Investment and Financial Flows assessment is being carried out to assess financial requirements and policies to implement the long-term mitigation strategies within the Energy sector, as a direct contribution to the long-term strategy in the country. In Chile, this represents the financial assessment of 50% of their 2050 neutrality strategy, with the other 50% focusing in the forest and land management sector.

Furthermore, many countries are exploring opportunities beyond public resources to access private investment opportunities as well innovative finance mechanisms. For instance, **Mauritius** has identified investment opportunities and innovative finance mechanisms for NDC measures through vulnerability and progress assessments, alongside dialogues with potential investors. In **Indonesia**, the Government conducted capacity building for the newly established Public Service Agency on Environmental Fund Management to adapt mechanisms on attracting capital investment and private sector involvement for NDC implementation. UNDP has also supported Indonesia to finalize carbon pricing regulations and **Tunisia** to develop carbon pricing instruments. In the **North Macedonia**, the Climate Promise supported a modeling analysis and development of the road map for implementing a carbon tax, which has been presented and widely discussed with the government stakeholders. **Uzbekistan** is in the process of developing financial mechanisms such as green mortgages and bond/sukuk to boost investments (public and private) in low-carbon housing and infrastructure/technologies. *A further analysis and deep-dive into how the Climate Promise portfolio is supporting greater engagement with the private sector is provided in [Section V](#) below.*

Transparency and MRV

Over 65 countries reported progress on climate data and transparency, a result of continuous efforts to establish systems to track, monitor and report on climate action. Strengthening these transparency

systems is of critical importance to ensuring enhanced NDCs are effectively implemented, tracked and progress is analyzed to further inform future revisions.

- Many countries are building and improving GHG Inventory Systems. For example, **Trinidad and Tobago** has developed a Certification program for GHG inventorying and Quality Assurance/Quality Control together with an assessment of the program, which provides a template to use as national capacities develop in the future. In **Serbia**, UNDP has made recommendations for the short-, mid-and long-term improvement of GHG Inventory system on the estimations in the Agriculture and LULUCF sectors, including detailed recommendations to soil organic carbon.
- Around 45 countries are building MRV systems as part of the Climate Promise. This takes a comprehensive approach that considers policy alignment, gender and sectoral mitigation and adaptation priorities. For instance, **Ecuador** has built their MRV system in all six of the prioritized adaptation sectors. In **North Macedonia**, the national MRV platform is currently under development, drawing on the work completed to strengthen data for tracking NDC progress and align with SDGs. In **Bosnia Herzegovina**, as part of a new MRV system under development with support from CBIT, indicators for monitoring climate change adaptation were developed in collaboration with national counterparts. A similar process is under development for designing indicators for mitigation. Further, in **Albania**, Congress approved in December 2020 a climate change bill which envisages integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation issues into legislation, strategies, and programs. This includes the shortly expected adoption of a Governmental Decree on the establishment of a national MRV system, which received UNDP's support.
- 5 countries are developing budget tagging systems to better track and manage financial flows toward implementation. For example, **Indonesia** has conducted the climate budget tagging (CBT) system at national and sub-national levels which aims to track and record public finance sources allocated to climate change activities. The piloting of CBT has been conducted in three target sub-national areas and a report documenting lessons learned from this pilot has been completed for informing policy decisions and scale up. **Armenia**, with the support from UNDP's EU4Climate [project](#), has also completed their CBT pilot. The results have been shared with the ministries of finance and environment. Together with the outputs of the climate public expenditure and institutional review completed in 2020, the CBT work will contribute to enhanced management of public climate finance in the country.

Challenges

Country reports reflected several common trends on the challenges to the delivery of the Climate Promise. Unsurprisingly, the most significant impact, by far, remains the **COVID-19 pandemic**. About 60 countries reported on the impact of the pandemic and in many countries the spread of the second and third waves are more severe. This continues to impact the activities required to advance enhancement, as well as political prioritization of the NDC enhancement process. Given that government operations are impacted by the COVID-19 crisis, further coordination within governments is also slowing down the process in some countries, including review and validation of draft documents. In some countries, pushing for political buy-in and leadership remains a key challenge and efforts are being pursued to ensure consistent engagement and advocacy at the highest level.

The challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic also **decrease the level of inclusive participation** in the NDC revision process in some countries, particularly with regards to engaging with local communities where online consultations were not possible.

Similarly, given the political nature of the NDC and its enhancement process, nearly 40 countries pointed to **government changes, leadership and capacity** as the critical challenge. Delayed activities due to change in government leadership, including national elections, was reported in several countries, and government institutional restructuring was reported in others. Overall limited government capacity was also cited as a challenge, along with bureaucratic bottlenecks with the government systems.

In addition, countries increasingly reported the **lack of availability and quality data**, with 15 countries citing this as a major challenge. This is particularly difficult for countries that rely on international expertise to support data analysis and assessments where, due to the prolonged COVID-19 restrictions, missions to verify and collect data on the ground was not able to take place.

A few countries are still citing on-going **social unrest and conflicts** as directly impacting NDC enhancement progress, which may be further exacerbated in some countries due to COVID-19.

In terms of implementation approaches and delivery processes, some countries highlighted challenges in **partner coordination**, citing specifically the extra effort required given that existing coordination mechanisms have not been utilized or strengthened, while some parallel processes have been introduced. Furthermore, while countries report greatly benefiting from coordination among partners, sequencing of support has been challenging since a delay by one partner can slow down another, and thus impact delivery under the Climate Promise.

Lessons Learned

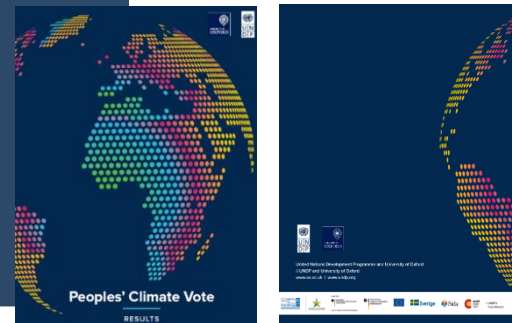
With more than 12 months of implementation, several key lessons learned have emerged from countries.

- In order to maintain political engagement and interest, several countries stressed the need to **anchor the NDC's ambition narrative in solutions to development and economic challenges (i.e. health, jobs, indebtedness and productivity) that takes considerations of the country's needs and contexts**. For example, in **Uzbekistan**, transitioning to green development requires that introducing green technologies is paired with strengthening capacity of the domestic market and competitiveness of the manufacturing industries, while linking with increased employment and

poverty reduction. In addition, **continuing to ensure the highest-level of political engagement** is also critical, including identification of champions in government. Similarly, some countries highlighted the need to make communication and advocacy materials available to help inform the political engagement process, while several others are leveraging the recovery efforts as opportunities to promote green recovery and long-term green economy development.

- In some countries, **UNDP's longstanding support to the government through enabling policy work has helped gather greater awareness and enabled smoother cooperation from the government and key stakeholders to involve and support the NDC revision process.** For instance, in **Guatemala**, it is noted that participation of government, private, and academic stakeholders in the development and review processes of the National Communications and GHG Inventories has increased their understanding of climate change, MRV, national commitments and GHG emissions, and has promoted recognition and awareness on the importance of setting NDC mitigation and adaptation goals.
- Several countries highlighted the need to **ensure government is in the driver's seat of NDC processes**, including coordination among stakeholders. Early engagement and consultations with government, as well as continued frequent communication throughout implementation is essential to ensure national buy-in and ownership, especially during the COVID-19 crisis. Engagement with regional and sub-national stakeholders are key, especially in the case of **Guinea** and **Nepal** where there has been greater ownership by the government officials during regional and sub-national level consultations.
- Many countries stressed the importance of **effective engagement and coordination among key partners and stakeholders, including planning and finance ministries, as well as private sector and financing institutions**, – especially in preparation for future NDC implementation. For example, in the **Philippines**, UNDP is supporting the Climate Change Commission to develop a strategy to effectively communicate and advocate for the NDC internally within government institutions, including those that drive national planning and budgeting, while also rallying the public to push for an ambitious target. In **Papua New Guinea**, the government set out a clear structure for stakeholder engagement in the NDC revision process. This comprised of sub-technical working committees of key government, private sector and civil society representatives which fed into a broader, comprehensive stakeholder consultation process.
- **Leveraging the extensive UNDP Climate Promise network, peer learning among UNDP Country Offices** is also a good practice, especially between groups of countries with similar contexts i.e. Francophone Africa, SIDS, LDCs. Exchanges among these offices help share solutions and best practices that can support specific government needs, not only to address operational challenges but also technical needs– including support for peer review of NDCs. Bilateral experience exchanges between several offices within one region is another form of a profound peer learning that builds stronger connections across different countries and raises awareness on progress within the region. **North Macedonia** participated in several events sharing their experience on climate communication, MRV, and gender aspects with Albania, Kyrgyz Republic, and Uzbekistan.
- A few countries mentioned the **importance of specific data and locally available national experts** that can be deployed quickly to support government. In the **Philippines**, the 2010 emission data and its methodologies, already developed with support from UNDP and adopted by the government, helped informed government decisions in revising their NDCs.

IV. FOCUS: Peoples' Climate Vote and Mission 1.5



The [global report](#) of the Peoples' Climate Vote was published on 27 January. Summary page can be found [here](#).

The People's Climate Vote (PCV) is the largest survey of public opinion on climate change, with polling in 50 countries in 17 languages, covering over half of the world's population over the age of 14. It was offered as a part of UNDP's Climate Promise after nearly every country requested support for building political will and societal ownership for NDCs. Votes were collected through the "[Mission 1.5](#)" game and campaign that launched in February 2020.

This initiative was developed and delivered in close partnership with a number of actors, including the University of Oxford, Browning Environmental, gaming industry, and NGOs, as well as many UN entities such as UNICEF, UNESCO, Office of SG's Envoy on Youth, UNEP, UNITAR, UN Global Compact, FAO, UNV, ILO and UNFPA. The report was extremely popular, with the page on UNDP website visited by 25,000 unique visitors and downloaded nearly 7,000 times.

Findings from the survey

1. Recognition of the Climate Emergency

Even though the survey was conducted during the COVID-19 crisis, there was still widespread recognition of climate change as a global emergency in every country surveyed. **Over all 50 countries, 64% of people said that climate change was an emergency** – presenting a clear and convincing call for decision-makers to step up on ambition.

- The highest level of support was in **SIDS (74%)**, followed by high-income countries (72%), middle-income countries (62%), then LDCs (58%).
- Regionally, the proportion of people who said climate change is a global emergency had a high level of support everywhere - in **Western Europe and North America (72%)**, Eastern Europe and Central Asia (65%), Arab States (64%), Latin America and Caribbean (63%), Asia and Pacific (63%), and Sub-Saharan Africa (61%).

- Of the people that said climate change is a global emergency, 59% said that the world should do everything necessary and urgently in response. Meanwhile 20% said we should act slowly, while only **10% percent of people thought the world is already doing enough.**

Figure 4: Public Belief in the Climate Emergency, by Country Groups

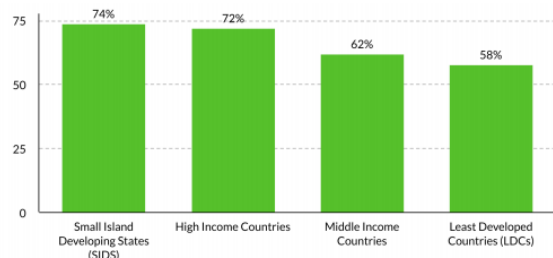
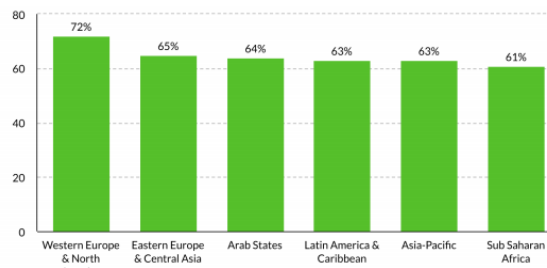


Figure 5: Public Belief in the Climate by Region



2. Public Support for Climate Action

Respondents were asked which policies – out of a total of 18 that covered energy, economy, transportation, food and farms, nature, and protecting people from climate impacts – governments should enact to address the climate emergency. Four climate policies emerged as the most popular globally:

- (1) Conservation of forests and land (54% public support);**
- (2) Solar, wind and renewable power (53%);**
- (3) Climate-friendly farming techniques (52%); and**
- (4) Investing more in green businesses and jobs (50%)**

The survey also shows that people often want broad climate policies beyond the current state of play:

- There was a clear call for more renewable energy in higher-emitting countries.
- In countries with high emissions from deforestation and land-use change, there was strong backing for conserving forests and land.
- Nine out of ten of the countries with the most urbanized populations backed more use of electric cars and buses, or bicycles.
- In seven high-income countries there was large support for requiring companies to pay for pollution.

3. Gender, Education, Age and the Climate Emergency

Results were analyzed according to socio-demographic information provided by respondents, including gender, age, and level of education. Analysis of these indicate that:

- **The most profound socio-demographic driver of belief in the climate emergency and climate action is a person's educational background.** There is a high level of consistency in recognition of the climate emergency among the most educated people whether they are from high-income countries (e.g., Italy, France, Germany), LDCs (e.g., Bhutan, Democratic Republic of the Congo), or SIDS (e.g., Trinidad and Tobago).

- **The gender gap was found to be small overall, but more pronounced in some specific countries.** Overall, men and boys were only slightly more likely to see climate change as an emergency than women and girls (a difference of percentage points). In about half of the countries, the gap was a bit larger, with more than 5 percentage points.
- **Young people (under 18) are more likely to believe climate change is a global emergency than other age groups,** but a substantial majority of older people still agreed with them.

Visibility and impact



The People's Climate Vote (PCV) has been one of the largest media impact campaigns in the history of UNDP, with over 1,400 articles across 94 countries in 37 languages. The total size of the potential audience from all outlets is estimated at 2.4 billion impressions. The outreach hit significant media targets such as [The Guardian](#), [CNN](#), [BBC](#), [Al-Jazeera](#), [Associated Press](#), [Reuters](#), [El Pais](#), [AFP](#), [New York Times](#), and [Die Zeit](#). A variety of headlines were captured, as well as extensive and detailed coverage not only in the English-language media (e.g. [MSNBC](#), [Sky News](#), [AP](#), [The Telegraph](#), [Reuters](#), [NBC](#), [The Independent](#), [Times Radio](#), [Bloomberg](#), [The Scientist](#), [Forbes](#), [MarketWatch](#), [Vox](#) (US), [Toronto Star](#), [Radio Canada](#), [7News Australia](#), [Irish Times](#)), but also by French (e.g. [Ouest France](#), [Le Figaro](#), [France 24](#), [RFI](#), [Euronews](#), [RTL](#), [La Libre](#), [La Croix](#)) and Spanish (e.g. [El Pais](#), [Agencia EFE](#), [El Mundo](#), [La Vanguardia](#), [Europapress](#)), followed by German (e.g. [Deutsche Welle](#), [Bild](#), [DPA](#)), Japanese (e.g. [Asahi Shimbun](#), [Japan Times](#), [Newsweek](#)), Swedish & the Nordic (e.g. [SR Vetenskapsradion](#), [Dagens Nyheter](#), [Expressen](#), [NRK News](#), [Politiken](#), [Berlingske](#)), and Italian (e.g. [La Repubblica](#)) media. There was also substantial regional coverage in [The National](#) of UAE/Abu Dhabi and [CNBC Africa](#), as well as in India (e.g. [Times of India](#), [Hindustan Times](#), [Economic Times](#)), Pakistan (e.g. [AP Pakistan](#)), Turkey (e.g. [Cumhuriyet](#)), Argentina (e.g. [Clarín](#)), and Mexico (e.g. [El Universal](#)).

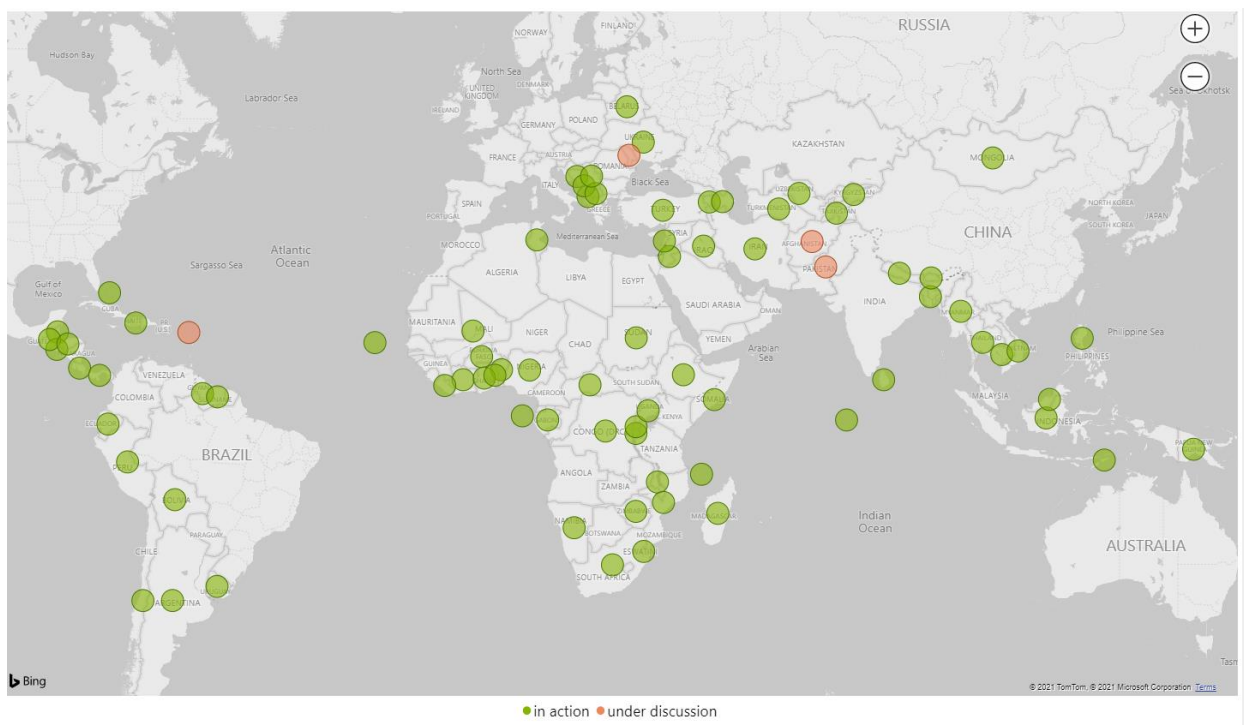
Next steps (Country level dialogues)

Country specific data and analysis will be sent to the Climate Promise countries through the country teams to advance the dialogues and to inform their NDC enhancement and implementation. Some teams are prepared to roll out country level campaigns to further strengthen the impact of the survey on awareness raising, engagement and impact for decision-making.

V. Leveraging the Climate Promise and NDC enhancement to advance Green Recovery

As countries continue efforts to revise their NDCs in the context of the continued COVID-19 pandemic, UNDP is providing support through its Climate Promise to help countries identify and realize strategic co-benefits of NDC implementation. Specifically, these include job creation, women's empowerment/leadership, and strengthened health and education systems, which all contribute to a strong COVID-recovery and sustainable long-term development. **More than 80 countries are leveraging Climate Promise support and the NDC enhancement process and architecture to guide government's efforts to build forward better** (Figure X). Among these Climate Promise countries, more than two-thirds have come up with green recovery measures in line with [UN Secretary-General's Recover Better principles](#).

Figure 6: Climate Promise countries leveraging NDC enhancement process and architectures to guide government's green recovery efforts.

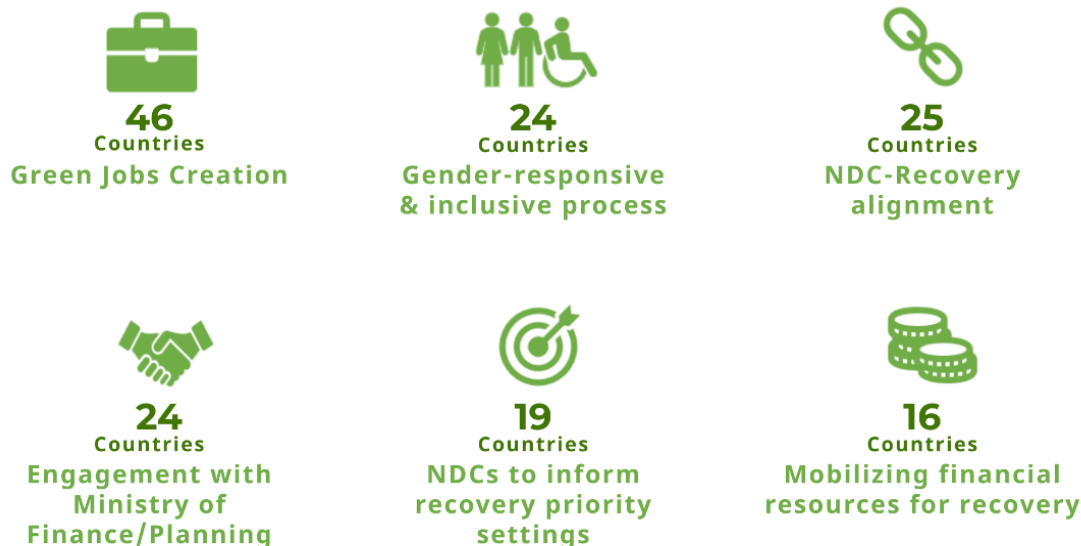


A further analysis of the approaches taken by countries to strengthen links between NDCs and COVID-19 recovery has identified six key categories:

- **46 countries are identifying NDC measures and other climate actions that could contribute to green jobs creation.** In the Philippines, the CO will conduct an analysis of measures that provide linkages between COVID-19 and climate change and develop policy briefs that demonstrate how the NDC can contribute to COVID-19 recovery, primarily focusing on green jobs and investment opportunities. In **Nigeria** and **Zimbabwe**, UNDP is collaborating with ILO to measure green jobs creation potentials of proposed NDC/LTS measures using a macroeconomic model.
- **24 countries are enhancing gender-responsive and inclusive process across NDCs and COVID-19 recovery.** For example, **Gabon** is preparing a proposal on the promotion of inclusive and green

value chains for a post-COVID-19 recovery, which would support food security and the employment of women and youth. In **Uruguay**, the gender-responsive NAP Cities project has identified the integration of urban agriculture solutions into social housing programmes as one of the measures to build urban resilience and adapt to climate change. An alliance is being established with local stakeholders and the Faculty of Agronomy to design a line of actions related to urban agriculture as an adaptation strategy. This links to NDC enhancement as it incorporates urban agriculture into adaptation strategy.

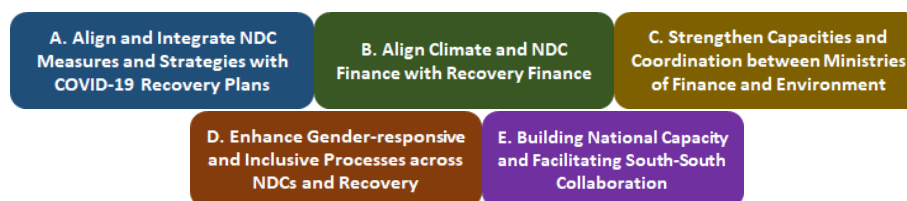
- **25 countries are integrating NDC measures and strategies into the national recovery plans and projects.** For example, in Rwanda, UNDP has submitted a proposal to contribute to the government's National Recovery Plan (NRP) through the implementation of NDC adaptation measures to tackle water shortage issues. **Benin** is designing a recovery project to promote incubators for renewable energy production by biomass gasification, which can directly contribute to the achievement of NDC targets. In **Zimbabwe**, UNDP is preparing a proposal in which strategies and SOPs developed as part of the NDC enhancement (renewable energy, waste management, and gender mainstreaming) will be further expanded to health care providers, green market development, and green technology trainings to support COVID-19 recovery.
- **24 countries are working to strengthen engagement and coordination with Finance and Planning Ministries leading recovery planning.** In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, COVID-19 impacts are being considered in the development of a Climate Finance Strategy and UNDP is working with Finance Ministries to strengthen their capacities in climate change related issues with sustainable development opportunities. In **Cambodia**, a project is being developed to support the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy, to enable an environmentally sustainable COVID-19 recovery, including through energy access. One of the key components of the project is to strengthen the capacity and coordination between the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the Ministry of Energy.
- **19 countries are utilizing NDC and COVID-19 impact assessments to identify priorities for green recovery measures.** For example, **Jordan**, in collaboration with the NDC Partnership, is currently analyzing the impact of COVID-19 on macroeconomic planning and climate change targets to identify appropriate green recovery measures. **Peru** also analyzed existing adaptation and mitigation measures that can be prioritized given their contribution to economic recovery and job creation, including sustainable transportation, telecommuting renewable energy, waste management, agriculture and forestry.
- **16 countries are leveraging NDC finance planning tools, instruments, and strategies to mobilize resources for COVID-19 recovery.** For example, **Kyrgyzstan** is conducting a feasibility study on the implementation of new climate and nature finance instruments together with the Ministry of Economy, including a green bond. In addition, with support from UNDP's Finance Sector Hub, they are designing a debt for nature swap instrument. In **Mongolia**, through the [Partnership for Action on Green Economy](#), UNDP is supporting an initiative to strengthen green economic recovery through energy tariffs. The project focuses on assessing and supporting the greening of economic stimulus packages, but most importantly it will engage private sector entities and local communities.



BOX1. Building the Economy of Tomorrow: Pilot initiative using NDCs to inform Green Recovery

UNDP is initiating a new component of the Climate Promise which aims to scale-up its support to countries to leverage NDC processes for stronger COVID-19 recovery and sustainable development. Building on the activities already ongoing, targeted support will be provided to five countries which are already making strong efforts to link NDC enhancement and implementation with green recovery efforts, to further boost and leverage ongoing progress and processes. In addition, a global toolbox of approaches, strategies and methodologies for linking NDCs and green recovery will be created, through necessary adjustments and strengthening of existing tools developed by UNDP as well as other partners. These tools will then be applied in the pilot countries to support planned activities, which will further inform the finalization of the toolbox. The countries involved in this pilot initiative include Benin, Albania, Jordan, Viet Nam, and Ecuador. Results from these countries will be documented and shared, to ensure valuable South-South exchange and replication of good practice. The project will provide support in close collaboration with the Ministries of Planning and Finance which are driving recovery efforts in countries and will run through 2023.

Activities supported under this pilot initiative are organized around five areas, identified based on the needs and approach emerging from UNDP's experience supporting countries on green recovery and links to climate action. After an initial scoping phase, each country will define activities tailored to their specific needs in one or more of these areas.

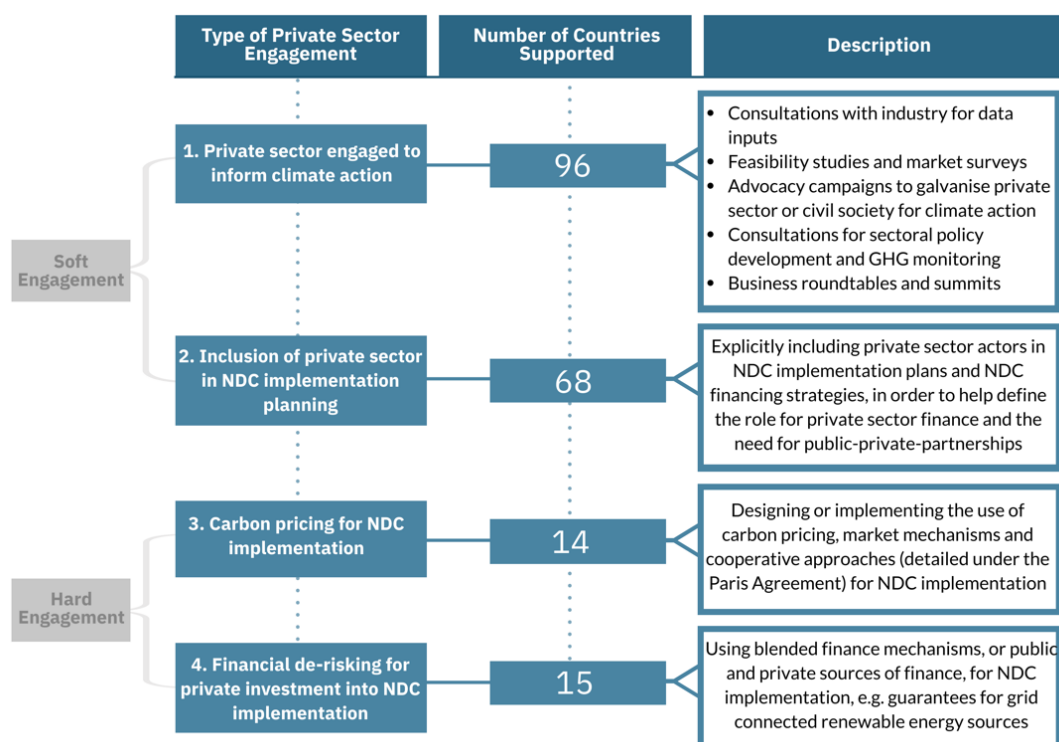


VI. Engaging the Private Sector in NDC enhancement and implementation

The need for private sector engagement to advance ambitious climate action

Achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement requires mobilizing substantial amounts of public and private capital swiftly and at scale. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) research indicates that investments between \$1.6 trillion to \$3.8 trillion are needed every year from now until 2050 for supply-side energy alone (IPCC 2018) while a handful of NDCs with financial needs assessments anticipate annual investment requirements between \$3.5 trillion and \$4.4 trillion in order to meet their emissions reduction targets. In 2017-2018, public climate finance averaged \$253 billion annually, a small fraction of what is required to meet global climate finance goals. **This is a multi-trillion-dollar investment gap that needs to be addressed.**

UNDP's Climate Promise is actively engaged in helping countries close this gap by engaging with the private sector to support climate action and the enhancement and implementation in almost all countries. Based on an analysis of work on private sector engagement activities under UNDP's Climate Promise, four categories of activities emerge as core areas currently being supported. The following figure provides a snapshot of these four categories and the scope of work under UNDP's Climate Promise.



Strengthening private sector engagement under UNDP's Climate Promise

The type of activities taking place are quite diverse. For example, in **Uganda**, 130 private sector participants discussed the role they could play in financing and implementing mitigation actions across energy, forestry, agriculture, transport, manufacturing and waste sectors. A survey was conducted to understand the optimal regulatory environment that would support these activities to further inform NDC implementation planning and financing. In **Panama**, an initiative led by the Ministry of Environment is starting work with the top 50 companies or civil society organisations pledging carbon neutral goals by 2050. In **Chile**, building on the experience with HuellaChile – a program to measure the carbon footprint of private sector actors that now engages more than 1200 private companies, a system is being designed to certify levels of water consumption management. This aims to monitor co-benefits of measuring the carbon footprint and enhance water management measures from the NDC. In **Vietnam**, a business forum is being planned with the Ministry of Environment and Chamber of Commerce and Industry to take stock of the recent challenges and opportunities of the private sector in undertaking NDC actions. In **Lebanon**, the Lebanon Green Investment Facility has been set up to accelerate private sector climate finance and implementation.

In addition, **68 countries are explicitly referencing roles for private sector actors and private capital in the NDC implementation planning** (i.e. both NDC investment plans and broader NDC financing strategies), with many more countries developing strategies that likely anticipate a role for private finance and actors, though not currently explicit. For example, in **Papua New Guinea**, UNDP has finalised the REDD+ Finance and Investment Plan (RFIP) which is in line with the enhanced NDC. The plan is intended to help guide domestic decision-making as well as support engagement with international investors and other partners. While it is not intended as an action plan, it provides the information that can inform further action and highlights the potential scale of opportunities that effective investment in action on REDD+ can deliver. In **Honduras**, an institutional dialogue and financing liaison is taking place to map best practices for designing investment plans and financing strategies for NDCs, citing experiences of Chile, Costa Rica, Kenya and Peru. The private sector is also actively participating in the development of emissions reduction scenarios for NDCs by providing information on emissions and emissions reductions strategies. **Kenya's** NDC financing strategy has been informed by private sector engagement in the waste sector. The business case for investing in waste management projects, that use carbon finance as a de-risking instrument, was presented to waste sector actors, paving the way for private financing of NDC activities.

The other categories of engagement can be classified as *harder* private sector engagement where UNDP is supporting countries to develop and/or implement financial de-risking instruments to stimulate investments from private sector towards NDC implementation. In some cases, the activities have already led to commitments of private and public capital to be deployed through blended finance instruments for project implementation. In other cases, UNDP is supporting countries to take concrete steps to explore the use of market mechanisms, such as carbon taxes, cooperative approaches under the Paris Agreement, or carbon finance for forest conservation, amongst others.

To date, **14 countries are establishing or using carbon pricing for NDC implementation through UNDP support**. There are additional countries also exploring carbon finance approaches with support from other implementing partners. For example, in **Peru**, the World Bank is providing support through the

Partnership for Market Implementation programme, with UNDP providing direct implementation support.

Another example is **Ghana**, where UNDP's Climate Promise helped facilitate the signing of a bilateral agreement with Switzerland, the second such agreement of its kind globally. This agreement sets the path for flows of carbon finance to mobilise private investment in Ghana's national clean energy programme, based on the cooperative approaches detailed in Article 6.2 of Paris Agreement. In **Indonesia**, activities are being planned as part of the GCF REDD+ results-based payments proposal, to investigate the linkage between forests and market mechanisms, which will pave the way for implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. In the **Philippines**, UNDP has supported the creation of a project that addresses food security as well as methane emissions. By working with the Philippine's Rice Research Institute and farmers to adopt new, more efficient techniques that eliminate emissions, the emission reductions can be sold on the voluntary carbon market to finance the project. In **North Macedonia**, UNDP supported the development of modeling-based assessment and roadmap for the introduction of a national carbon tax. In **Central Asia**, UNDP engaged with the UNFCCC initiative "Collaborative Instruments for Ambitious Climate Action" and their partners (ADB, UNEP, UNESCAP) to co-organize a Regional Dialogue on Carbon Pricing. This resulted in a shared roadmap on advancing carbon pricing instruments in the sub-region. The partners agreed to further support Central Asian countries with capacity building, knowledge exchange and advice on carbon pricing and cooperative approaches.

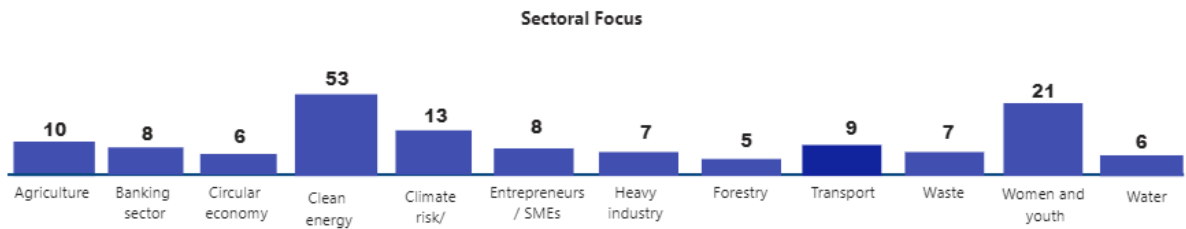
Under the final category of private sector engagement, **15 countries to date have committed or earmarked investments from private actors for project implementation that fall outside of the definition of carbon finance**. For example, in **The Gambia** a call for proposals has been opened to invite independent power producers to invest in grid-connected solar power. The addition of solar power in the energy mix will directly contribute to the achievement of the renewable energy target under the NDC. The project is being financed through a partnership between UNDP and UNCDF, using grant finance provided by the NAMA Facility to de-risk the investment in the solar installations by the private sector power producers. In **Vanuatu**, private capital has been mobilised, and local, private energy companies were engaged to install a Solar Flex Grid to electrify the whole of Lelepa Island, a process which is now complete. Expansion of solar electrification preparation is taking place to mobilise more private finance for the provision of clean and resilient energy, in many cases providing communities access to energy for the first time. In **Bhutan**, a partnership has been created with the Loden Foundation to mobilise capital for climate-friendly business proposals submitted by youth and women entrepreneurs.

Private sector engagement across sectors

Most engagement with private sector actors under UNDP's Climate Promise is broad-based, with consultations, analyses and engagement across all NDC priority sectors. However, energy is the sector that has the most countries explicitly referencing it in their work, particularly related to hard private sector engagement. This includes an energy focus for 12 out of 14 countries supporting carbon pricing and 11 out of 15 countries with project implementation beyond carbon finance. Overall, the clean energy sector market is far more mature when it comes to investment than low carbon segments of other sectors, such as agriculture, heavy industry, transport and waste.

There is also a strong focus on women and youth, demonstrating the power of climate action and NDC-related sectors to advance women's entrepreneurship through private finance and private actor

engagement. Several countries are also exploring engagement of private sector in climate risk, primarily looking at insurance schemes and opportunities for costing climate impacts.



VII. Strategic Partners Highlights

UNDP continues to work closely with over 35 partners to deliver the Climate Promise and support countries on NDC enhancement. Many key strategic partners are helping to jointly deliver specific activities at country level. In fact, 15 partners have concrete joint activities to support two or more countries, and around 10 more parties have concrete joint activities to support a specific country. In addition, several key strategic partners are supporting global analysis, advocacy and promotion of NDC enhancement and support at regional and global levels.

IRENA and UNEP are the two partners providing joint support with UNDP under the Climate Promise to the most countries, followed by FAO and GIZ. It is interesting to note that partnership with the UK COP26 president, through their country-based Embassies and councils, has been growing over the past years, with many countries reporting on implementation of concrete actions and support for advocacy and ambition raising efforts in the lead up to COP26.

Figure 7: Number of countries being supported jointly with partners, by stage of partnership

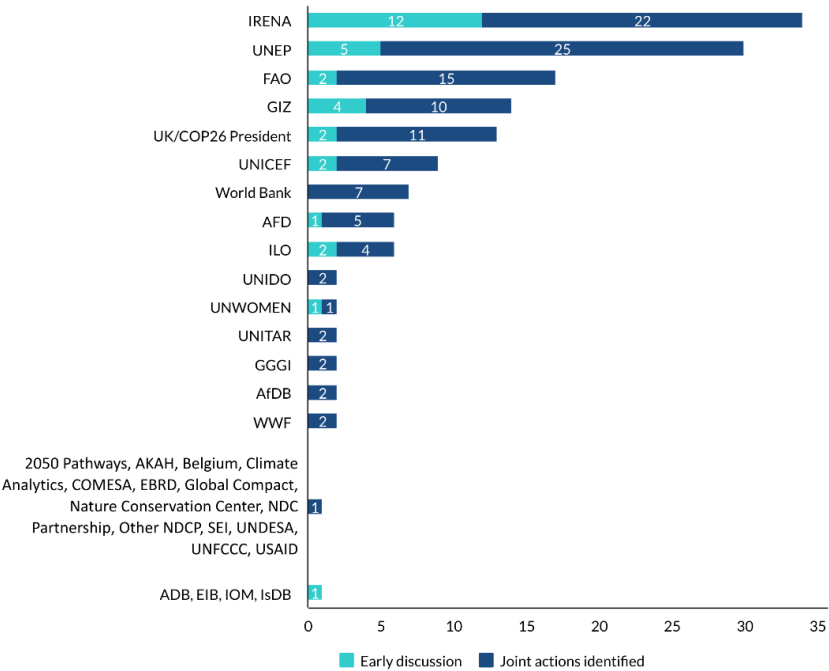
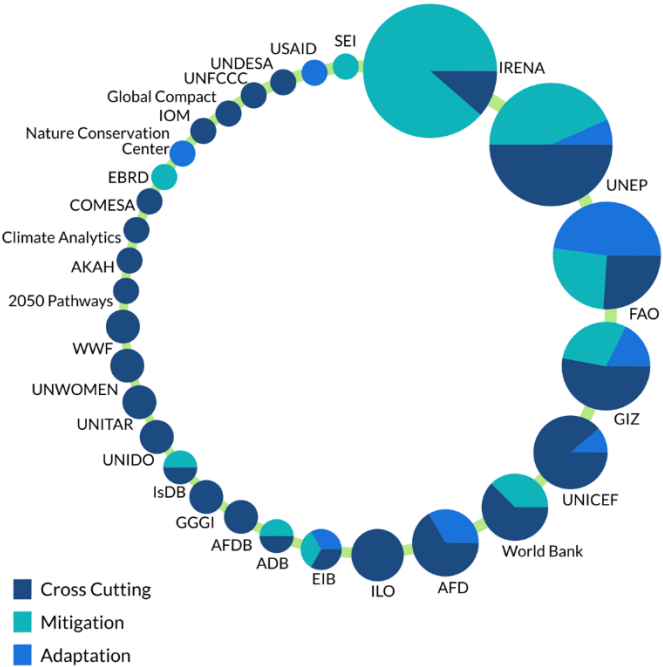


Figure 8: Focus Area of Partnership, by number of countries supported



IRENA

Collaboration between UNDP and IRENA in the context of the Climate Promise continues to deepen. To date, IRENA is jointly delivering activities in over 20 countries, with early discussion for additional support ongoing in over 10 more countries. Further, UNDP and IRENA are also coordinating closely under the NDC Partnership CAEP initiative, where respective activities complement each other, and both contribute to NDC enhancement processes. For example, in **Ecuador**, UNDP and IRENA are working together to support development of the automatic MRV system, including improving methodologies, identifying bioenergy strategies and automatizing electrical emission calculation factor. In **Uzbekistan**, IRENA is working with UNDP's Climate Promise to support the country to update energy targets in their revised NDC. Based on consultations, technical activities are being planned such as support in renewable energy statistics, capacity building on renewable energy policy and innovation.

UNEP

Under the Climate Promise, there is strong collaboration between UNDP and UNEP at the global level to align strategy for support to countries on NDCs, including delivery of webinars to share information on various initiatives, as well as the regional level (particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia and the Pacific). National-level collaboration has also been successfully delivered, based on the specific demand of countries through their workplans. To date, over 20 countries have defined some level of coordination or joint support between the partner organizations being delivered on NDC enhancement under the umbrella of the Climate Promise. In some cases, this leverages the NDCP CAEP mechanisms, while in others it builds on existing portfolio of projects (e.g. National Communications / Biennial Update Reports, Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency, or National Adaptation Plans).

FAO

Partnership between UNDP and FAO advances in many countries, building on existing initiatives that provide the foundation for joint support. The collaborative Global Support Programme on integrating Agriculture into National Adaptation Plans, supported by BMU, contributed to UNDP's Climate Promise in many countries, leveraging the ongoing collaboration between UNDP and FAO. For example, in **Uruguay**, both organizations are working together to elaborate the agriculture sector in the NAP, which helps define the adaptation component of the NDC. The follow up initiative, the Global Support Programme on Scaling Up Climate Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture through NDCs and NAPs (SCALA) also supported by BMU, is identifying opportunities to support both the enhancement and the implementation of NDCs on mitigation and adaptation. In all of its 12 countries, SCALA is supporting the setting up or strengthening of MRV and/or M&E systems in AFOLU. In addition, building on the relationships established through the NAP support, FAO will be providing technical review of deliverables under UNDP's Climate Promise, especially related to the components related to AFOLU sector in the revised NDC in **Niger**, for example.

ILO

UNDP and ILO have signed a Framework for Action for 2020 and beyond, reflecting the two institutions' willingness to collaborate on key areas of support to countries related to the dual crises of climate and COVID-19. Within the context of this Framework, UNDP has been working closely with ILO under the Climate Promise to support NDC enhancement, especially in the areas of green jobs, green recovery, and

just transition. In **Zimbabwe** and **Nigeria**, UNDP and ILO supported NDC processes through evidence based green jobs assessments that measure the impact of priority NDC measures on Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employment, skills, income distribution, and gender inequality, and helping lay the groundwork for a just transition. With technical support from UNDP and ILO, both countries have built nationally owned macroeconomic models (Green Jobs Assessment Models (GJAM) and analyzed 12 NDC policy scenarios against its economic multiplier and job creation potentials. Building on these successful experiences and the increasing demand from countries, UNDP and ILO developed a working document which outlines an approach to promote further collaboration between the two organisations in the framework UNDP's Climate Promise and ILO's [Climate Action for Green Jobs](#) initiative. This will further guide Climate Promise countries to implement green jobs, green recovery and just transition related activities with technical support from ILO.

NDC Partnership:

UNDP continues to actively engage with the NDC Partnership (NDCP) as a committed member of the NDCP Steering Committee and an active implementing partner in-country. The Climate Promise leverages the NDCP, in particular its Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP) mechanism, to strengthen coordination with other implementing partners in-country, while also establishing a strong working relationship and collaboration at the global level with the NDCP Support Unit.

Out of the 65 countries that are recipients of support through the NDCP's CAEP, 62 countries are part of the Climate Promise. UNDP is directly responding to requests under the CAEP in 24 countries and is supporting complementary NDC enhancement activities in the remaining 38 countries.

Several CAEP requests supported by UNDP are already being successfully implemented. For example, in **Liberia**, a private sector dialogue has been undertaken to engage micro, small and medium enterprises in the NDC process. This includes raising awareness on NDCs and climate-related initiatives, identifying potential roles for the private sector in NDC implementation, and providing opportunities for private sector actors to review proposed NDC sectoral targets. These dialogues have been held with participation of both Conservation International and the EU, also providing support through the framework of the NDCP, to enable discussions on how to further engage private sector in their respective contributions to the NDC revision process.

At the same time, UNDP is coordinating closely with implementing partners in-country that are responding to CAEP requests. For example, in **Papua New Guinea**, support is being provided by GIZ on the development of an NDC implementation plan, through the NDC Partnership CAEP mechanism. While UNDP is not responding directly to CAEP requests in Papua New Guinea, a Climate Promise activity focuses on developing an implementation plan for the energy-related sector targets. Hence, UNDP is working closely with GIZ and other implementing partners to ensure that the energy sector is fully integrated in the overall NDC implementation plan. In **Somalia**, where UNDP is also not responding directly to CAEP requests, the Climate Promise is supporting the overall prioritization of climate actions, the identification of gaps and barriers for implementation, and the technical review and validation of the revised NDC. UNDP is also working closely with a team of consultants hired by NDCP to develop a costing/financing strategy, which aligns directly with the ongoing work under the Climate Promise.

The collective push for enhanced and ambitious NDCs ahead of COP26 and the partnership approach enabled by the CAEP, has encouraged collaboration and further enabled a culture where implementing partners can and do collaborate and build on the work of the other to achieve stronger results. The Climate Promise has played a key role in demonstrating the strength and possibilities of this approach at a larger scale.

Partnership with the COP26 Presidency

UNDP has been working with the UK government to provide targeted support in countries to advance ambitious climate pledges and action in the lead up to COP26. This leverages the UK's country-based embassies and councils. For instance, a cross-regional joint project "Policy Action for Climate Security in Central Asia" between UNDP and the UK Conflict Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) was launched in October 2020 and is being implemented in three Central Asian countries - **Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan**. This is made possible with the support of the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, and in collaboration with the British Embassies in those countries. The project aims to rapidly accelerate efforts in the run-up to COP26 and lay the foundation for further regional cooperation in support of the Paris Agreement implementation. At the national level, the project focusses primarily on supporting the Governments in providing the economic and climate risk sensitivity analysis for national climate change decision-makers, strengthening capacity building on climate change and climate diplomacy, and raising public awareness and advocacy for local climate change actions through climate youth debates.

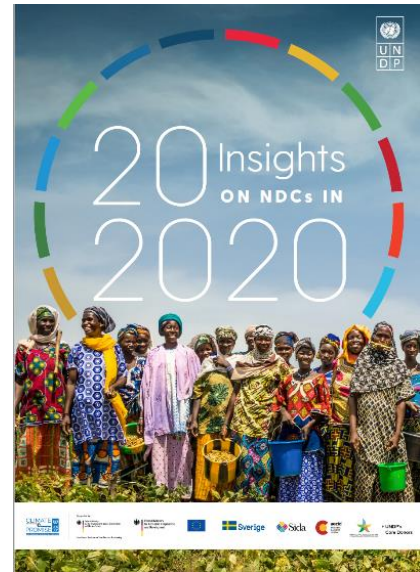
Another example of where the Climate Promise is enhancing collaboration with the UK Government is in **Turkey**, through an awareness raising campaign in municipalities on local mitigation opportunities. This also includes online trainings for municipal staff with presentation of best practices from the UK. In **Nepal** and **Cambodia**, UNDP is collaborating with FCDO/UK Embassy in the development of their Long-Term Strategies (LTS). In **Uruguay**, UNDP is coordinating with the British Embassy and with the UNDP office in Argentina and Paraguay on a series of regional workshops to exchange experiences on NDC and LTS. In **Mauritius**, UNDP partnered with the British High Commission and Government of Mauritius to moderate a working session on climate ambition in view of COP 26.

VIII. Knowledge sharing and resources

Key publications and reports

A number of key resources have been developed and disseminated reflecting good practice, global trends and guidance for support. The flagship report [20 Insights on NDCs in 2020](#) was launched in December 2020, which drew on the data and analysis done over the course of 2020 to highlight key trends, insights and lessons being learned from the extensive Climate Promise portfolio.

More recently, the Peoples' Climate Vote [global report](#) was launched in January 2021 (with detailed findings highlighted in Focus Section II above). In addition, after requests from educators and parents who were teaching children at home during the COVID-19 pandemic, UNDP and partners developed a Mission 1.5 [learning tool](#) which to-date has been used in 66 Climate Promise countries to help young people learn about climate solutions.



Additional resources were also developed through the NDC Support Programme to further guide and capture ongoing support to countries. This includes a **series of gender analysis** summaries that capture various aspects of the governance, policy and planning processes related to climate change and gender equality as they relate to the NDC process. A specific focus was on examining data collection, existing technical capacities, institutional mechanisms, and gender mainstreaming opportunities. These analysis summaries were done in [Bhutan](#), [Kenya](#), [Lebanon](#), [Trinidad and Tobago](#), and [Uganda](#).



In addition, another analytic document was developed in Vanuatu to support the assessment of NDC opportunities using circular economy approaches: [Metabolic Analysis of Circular Economy Opportunities in Vanuatu](#). The analysis seeks to identify circular opportunities to help reduce the waste flow of imported materials, while also examining how to improve the resource efficiency of all material use, including domestically sourced materials. **Vanuatu** published the enhancing and fast-tracking the implementation of Vanuatu's [NDC report](#) which reflects the country's revised NDC for the period 2020-2030 and also includes the components of a metabolic analysis.

A series of publications were also developed and disseminated which focused on engagement with the private sector. This included country assessments of private sector investment potential in key NDC sectors such as energy in [Kenya](#) and agriculture in [Paraguay](#) and [Philippines](#). A manual on the [Climate Business Index](#), a national disclosure and assessment system for the business community in Viet Nam, was also published to foster private sector engagement in climate action. Several reports are also emerging out of activities supported under the Climate Promise.

In **Guatemala**, a report on [designing the monitoring, evaluation and reporting system of marine and coastal zones in Guatemala](#) reflects the results of an impressive system that captures and measures data across 38 indicators to help inform government decisions and policies related to climate action, as well as the country's reporting processes. It will also be used as a model by other sectors.

Photo essays and blogs

Beyond the in-depth analysis of key issues in country, a number of essays have also been developed to describe and illustrate the impact being seen on the ground. Leveraging the Exposure platform, photo stories were told on climate ambitions of [Moldova and Armenia](#); [conflict-affected Somalia](#) and [small island twin states of Antigua and Barbuda](#).

In addition to capturing country-specific stories, five blogs and three photo essays captured trends and insights from the portfolio, and how they reflect and can inform the current global political discourse. For example, two blogs were produced around the five-year anniversary of the Paris Agreement: [five reasons to be optimistic about climate action](#) which discusses the current outlook on climate change, and [Five years on; what are the NDCs and why are they important?](#) which provides an explanation of the importance of NDCs as drivers of climate action. A photo essay was also produced which focuses on the adaptation component of the NDC support, entitled: [Seven things we have learned about adapting to climate change and how they inform our Climate Promise](#). Finally, a blog reflecting the results of the People's Climate Vote links the findings with the Climate Promise support, in [what surveying 50 countries taught us about climate action](#). Most recently, a new blog was published reflecting on the lessons and experiences around gender-responsive approaches to NDC support, drawing on the Climate Promise experience: [Climate change isn't gender neutral. Climate action shouldn't be either](#).

Events

A number of events also took place to showcase lessons and experience from the Climate Promise countries and help foster knowledge-sharing and learning among stakeholders involved in climate action. In the run up to the World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF) + Climate events taking place in April 2021, UNDP was pleased to participate in the pre-event "[the benefits of a circular economy for achieving climate objectives and recovering better](#)" to highlight the work on circular economy under the Climate Promise. UNDP also participated in the high-level opening and closing of the Regional Roundtables that took place from 3-4 March to launch the [2021 Regional Climate Weeks](#). UNDP also served as a key expert on gender in the webinar on "[climate action and gender equality: can we close the gap on one without the other?](#)". Internal UNDP webinars were also organized to share insights on global climate policy updates on the road to COP26 with teams directly supporting countries under the Climate Promise. These events also provided an opportunity for colleagues to share information on related initiatives and ideas, regional priorities and anticipated engagement in COP26 planning.

IX. Looking Forward: The Road to COP26

As efforts accelerate in the lead up to COP26 in November, increasing attention is being placed on countries' plans for their NDCs and levels of ambition. Drawing on the scope and scale of the Climate Promise, emerging trends, lessons and expectations from countries around NDC enhancement have provided insights into ongoing discussions.

UNDP is already working closely with the incoming UK COP Presidency and partners to ensure an inclusive and successful COP26 that delivers on the COP Presidency's goals of ambition on mitigation, adaptation, and finance. UNDP is focused on bringing voices and success stories from the ground to the COP, with a particular focus on reflecting experiences under UNDP's Climate Promise and how countries are advancing their NDC processes. This also leverages the partnership between UNDP and the UK at the national level, through country-based Embassies and councils, which aim to further advance ambition on the ground.

Leveraging our extensive climate portfolio to support countries' efforts to help meet both NDC and SDG targets, UNDP is building the capacity of vulnerable countries to participate in and contribute directly to the UNFCCC negotiations and other related processes. For example, the Progressive Platforms project works directly with the LDC Chair and AOSIS Chair, as well as other partners including GGGI, IIED, to provide support to negotiating groups. Given the uncertainty of the format of the COP this year due to pandemic constraints, UNDP is preparing to support Parties under any and all circumstances.

Annex I: List of Climate Promise Countries which have submitted revised NDCs as of 31 March 2021

Country	Type of submitted NDC	Submission date	Mitigation ambition increased	Adaptation component enhanced
Uruguay	First NDC	Nov. 2017	unclear	likely
Ecuador	First NDC	Mar. 2019	Yes (sector specific)	Yes
Suriname	Second NDC	Dec. 2019	Yes (sector specific)	Yes
Moldova	Updated First NDC	Mar. 2020	Yes	Yes
Chile	Updated First NDC	Apr. 2020	Yes	Yes
Rwanda	Updated First NDC	May 2020	Yes	Yes
Vietnam	Updated First NDC	Sep. 2020	No	Yes
Mongolia	Update First NDC	Oct. 2020	Yes	Yes
Thailand	Update First NDC	Oct. 2020	No	Yes
Grenada	Second NDC	Nov. 2020	Yes	Yes
Argentina	Second NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes
Cambodia	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes
Colombia	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes
Costa Rica	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes
Dominican Republic	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes
Ethiopia	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	Unclear	Yes
Kenya	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes
Maldives	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes
Mexico	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	No	Yes
Nepal	Second NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes
Panama	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	Unclear	Yes
Papua New Guinea	Second NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes

Peru	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes
Tonga	Second NDC	Dec. 2020	Yes	Yes
Zambia	Update First NDC	Dec. 2020	Unlikely	Likely
Bangladesh	Updated 1st NDC (interim)	Dec. 2020	Likely	Likely
Lebanon	Updated 1 st NDC	Mar. 2021	Yes	Yes
Vanuatu	Updated 1 st NDC	Mar. 2021	Yes	Yes