



Global Partnership for the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

Background

In 2015, the international community reached agreement on a new and ambitious agenda for sustainable development – the 2030 Agenda – and on the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). All countries are contributing to implementing the Paris climate agreement through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). To implement these NDCs in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as defined in the 2030 Agenda, new approaches are needed.

Despite their limited financial resources and technical and institutional capacities, developing and emerging countries have set themselves ambitious targets in their NDCs. Colombia, for instance, has committed itself to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 30 per cent over business-as-usual levels by 2030. And Viet Nam has set itself the target of protecting 17 million people in the Mekong Delta, the region’s “rice granary”, from the risk of rising sea levels.

Delivering on these and other NDC commitments is generally a great challenge for developing countries. It requires breaking down the Nationally Determined Contributions into commitments for individual sectors (e.g. energy, forests, agriculture, urban development), including them in long-term development and budgetary plans and translating them into

concrete investment programmes. It will also be necessary to create new monitoring mechanisms for the climate targets.

To prevent a situation where climate change can no longer be controlled by humanity, countries need to define even more ambitious climate targets in the future. Taking determined action for climate change mitigation is urgent. The later the mitigation measures are implemented, the more expensive and difficult it will be to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius (or even to 1.5 degrees Celsius if possible) as agreed in Paris. International development partners can provide valuable support to developing countries in that endeavour.

In view of this, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), together with the Moroccan government and the World Resources Institute (WRI), have proposed a global partnership for the implementation of NDCs, or NDC Partnership for short. It was launched in November 2016 at the 22nd UNFCCC Conference of the Parties in Marrakesh in the presence of the Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, Barbara Hendricks, and the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Gerd Müller. The NDC Partnership now has more than 70 members.

Objective

As a global coalition of governments and multilateral institutions, the NDC Partnership assists developing and emerging economies in bringing their NDCs together with their national development goals and implementing them effectively. Moreover, national targets are to become more ambitious over time. The objective is to foster low-emissions and climate-resilient development trajectories.

Initiative	NDC Partnership
Participants	Industrialised, emerging and developing countries, multilateral organisations and development banks, non-governmental partners, e.g. NGOs
Objective	To assist partners from developing countries in successfully implementing their NDCs in the context of the 2030 Agenda
Contribution of the German government	Aligning climate projects and climate financing with the NDCs of partner countries and providing supplementary financial contributions for short-term support

Implementation

The NDC Partnership focuses on three levels and is aimed at giving partner countries better access to

1. technical support
2. financial support and
3. practical knowledge

for the implementation of their Nationally Determined Contributions.

The NDC Partnership mobilises development partners – bilateral donors but also international organisations and non-governmental players – for NDC implementation and strengthens their activities in the 46 developing countries that are members of the Partnership. In more than 15 partner countries, the process of drafting implementation plans with the support of the development partners under the NDC Partnership has already started; other countries are additionally receiving targeted support in implementing their NDCs and developing them further.

The NDC Partnership is governed by a steering group co-chaired by Thomas Silberhorn, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, and Nezha El Ouafi, Moroccan State Secretary for Sustainable Development.

German activities

The BMUB and the BMZ intend to use large parts of their climate funding to support NDC implementation in developing countries.



Germany aims to increase its climate finance to 4 billion euros per year by 2020. With climate finance of 3.4 billion euros in 2016, the goal is now within reach.

In addition to providing budget funds, the German government is also contributing to international climate finance by mobilising private capital. In 2016, Germany's official climate finance totalled 8.5 billion euros. In addition, private funding is being mobilised.

Concrete funding for the implementation of NDCs

- Under its International Climate Initiative, the BMUB is providing 56 million euros to support NDC implementation. The support is provided via a consortium of ten implementing organisations active in 27 developing countries and three particularly vulnerable regions.
- For short-term support under the NDC Partnership, the BMZ is making available an additional 38 million euros through the World Bank, UNDP, UNFCCC, GIZ and Euroclima+. Moreover, it is ensuring that its climate-relevant development programmes are consistently aligned with NDC implementation.

Real-life examples

- As one of the least developed countries, Mali is supported by German development cooperation under the NDC Partnership in drafting an NDC investment plan, which is aimed, in particular, at ensuring Mali's adaptation to climate change.
- German climate experts advise the government of Costa Rica on developing a strategy on the combined implementation of their NDCs and the SDGs, which is to become part of a national development plan. The aim is for different ministries to join forces in working towards the sector-specific goals of the NDCs.
- In the Pacific, German development cooperation will support the creation of an NDC platform (known as "NDC hub") under the NDC Partnership to promote regional exchange of knowledge and technical support for NDC implementation in the island states.

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