

Key Considerations in Developing Intended Nationally Determined Contributions

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Preparation process

At a high level, preparations of intended nationally determined contributions typically include at least three categories of work:

1. Identifying and prioritizing mitigation opportunities, actions, and goals
2. Packaging the selected mitigation actions into a nationally determined contribution, with necessary informational elements
3. Seeking stakeholder engagement and buy-in

Identifying and Prioritizing Mitigation Opportunities and Actions

- 1. Assess the current policy landscape and sources of emissions**
 - Assess current country plans, policies, practices, and capacities related to climate change
 - Conduct and/or review national greenhouse gas inventory and other economic and resource data
- 2. Project the future**
 - Develop business as usual (BAU) economic and emissions scenario, or scenarios that would occur in absence of mitigation strategies
 - Assess mitigation opportunities and costs across the entire economy and/or for each priority sector, and develop alternative scenarios that represent likely emissions trajectories if these mitigation strategies were implemented.
 - Identify the portfolio of actions and policies that will achieve the mitigation goals
- 3. Prioritize and plan mitigation actions**
 - Develop a prioritized list of mitigation actions and/or goals
 - Review and refine the list of proposed mitigation actions and/or goals
 - Assess which actions/goals are feasible and implementable within the NDC period (e.g. 2025, 2030)
 - Develop implementation plans; including financing and institutional arrangements, and relevant policies, programs and regulations

Some Lessons in Identifying and Prioritizing Mitigation Opportunities and Actions

- 1. Ensure GHG inventory and reporting system are robust**
 - Identify gaps and weaknesses using IPCC and other guidance
 - Work to gradually improve GHG data collection, monitoring, reporting
- 2. Identify areas of uncertainty**
 - Survey participating ministries for areas of uncertainty
 - Identify key assumptions and develop multiple scenarios
- 3. Consider multiple planning types**
 - Consider mitigation opportunities from multiple perspectives, including sectoral opportunities, international policy menus, policies and projects under consideration by ministries
 - Bottom-up approach: consider how policies and projects under consideration could be aggregated into a national mitigation goal
 - Top-down approach: consider how given overall mitigation goals would drive development of a portfolio of mitigation actions and policies

Informational elements

Elements that will enable people to understand the level of ambition in a commitment, including:

- the relevant time period
- the base year/period
- the gases/sectors covered
- the percentage of national emissions covered and the overall emissions reductions anticipated
- if the land sector is included, a specification of how all significant lands, activities, pools, and gases will be accounted for
- if a Party intends to use market mechanisms, a description of the intended use (including source/type) and how it intends to avoid double-counting
- a description of any relevant methodology and assumptions



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