



# **INDC Preparation and UNDP's Support to Countries**

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**AP Seminar**

**29-30 June 2015**

# Outline



- Progress on INDCs Worldwide
- Introduction to Intended Nationally-Determined Contributions (INDCs)
- UNDP's work on supporting countries on INDCs

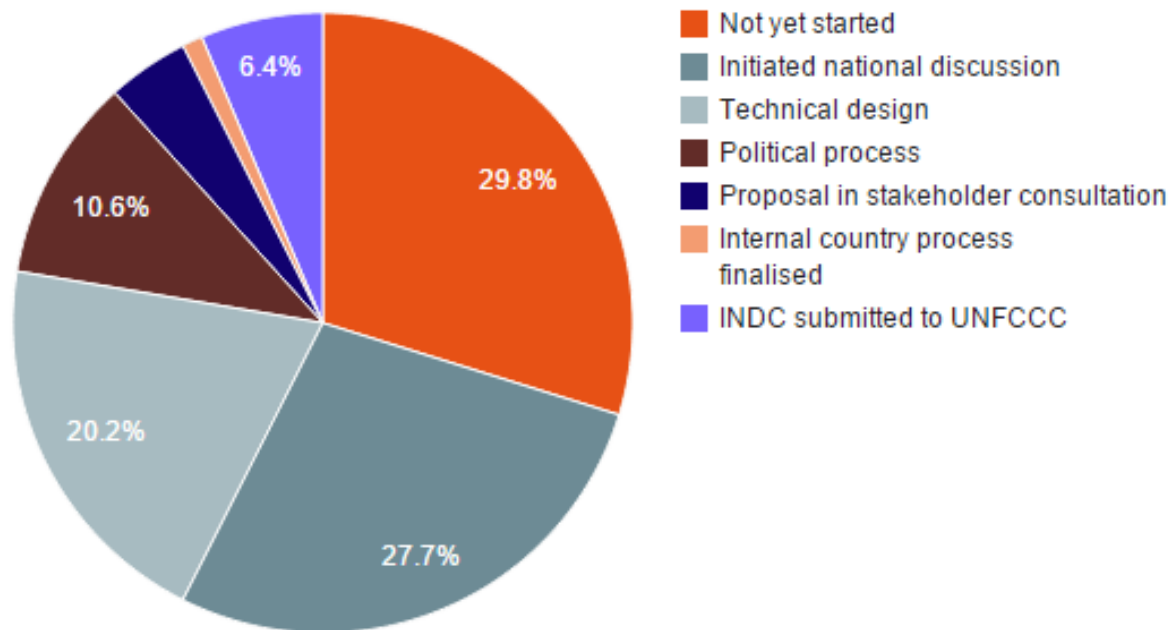
# PROGRESS ON INDCs WORLDWIDE



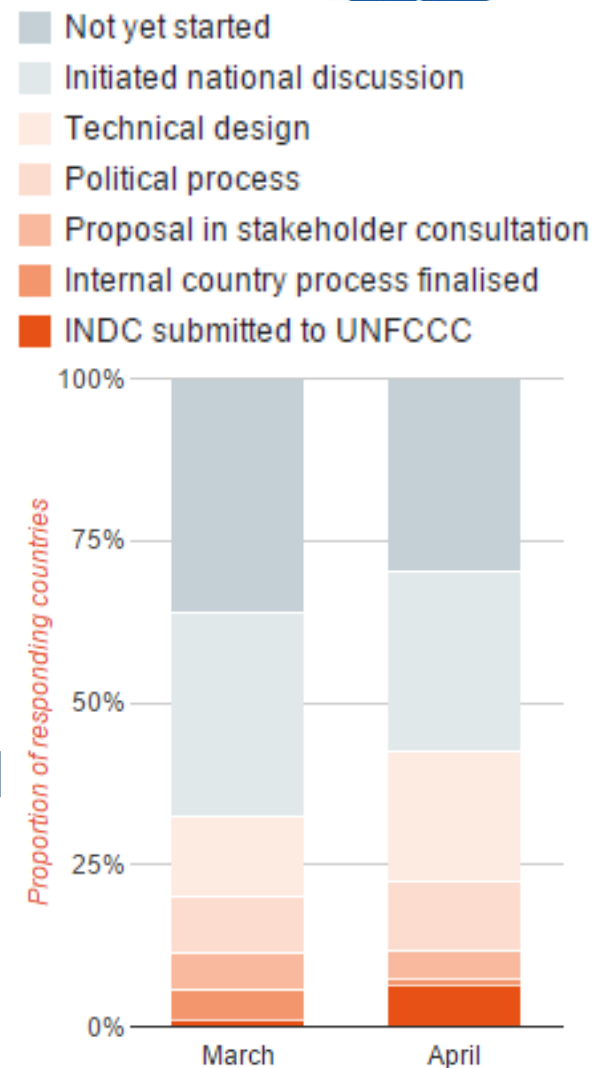
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Source: [commerce.gov](http://commerce.gov)

# Progress on INDCs Worldwide

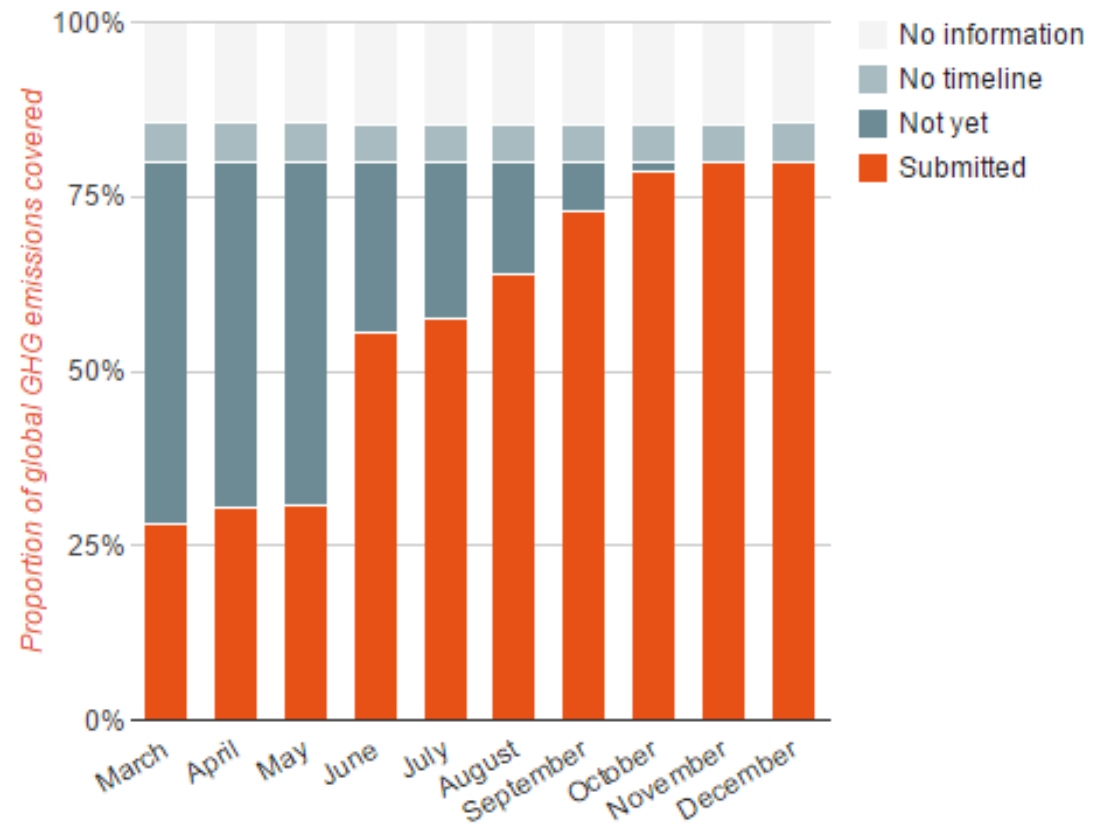


- 70% of countries consulted through UNDP-funded NewClimate Institute study have started their INDC processes



# Progress on INDCs Worldwide (cont'd)

- Submissions by the end of June will cover over half of global emissions
- Most countries plan to submit INDCs before 1 October



Further statistics and results on INDC preparations available at [newclimate.org](http://newclimate.org)

# INDC Submissions



- 12 Parties have submitted their INDCs as of 23 June:

Switzerland	Russia
European Union	Liechtenstein
Norway	Andorra
Mexico	Canada
United States	Morocco
Gabon	Ethiopia

UNFCCC INDC portal is open to submissions by Parties

Support for the preparation of INDCs

- Sources of Support for INDCs (1144 kB)
- Draft: Designing and Preparing INDCs (1104 kB)
- Process guidance for INDCs

Workshop - Bonn, Germany  
11 March 2014

Related COP Decisions

- Decision 1/CP.20
- Decision 1/CP.19

Latest UNFCCC News

Tweets from <https://twitter.com/NAMAPartners> list

INDC Portal online:

<http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/INDC/Submission%20Pages/submissions.aspx>

# Challenges Being Faced in the INDC Process



## Responses to UNDP-funded NewClimate Institute study:

- Short timeframe for undertaking processes (88%)
- Lack of certainty on what to be included in INDCs (71%)
- Limited expertise for assessing mitigation options (71%)
- Securing high-level political support (61%)
- Lack of understanding in other ministries/sectors (59%)

# INTRODUCTION TO INDCs



Source: [newclimate.org](http://newclimate.org)



# INDCs: The Heart of the 2015 Deal



- **Intended Nationally-Determined Contributions (INDCs)** are the domestic actions that both **developed and developing** countries will take to address climate change
- INDCs will form the core of the 2015 agreement. Without a robust outcome on INDCs, Paris will not achieve its objectives
- UNFCCC negotiations have debated the definition, scope, submission, and measurement of INDCs
  - *The role of adaptation continues to be a key issue*



LIMA COP20/CMP10  
19th CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2014

# Lima Call for Climate Action

*(Dec 2014)*



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- Parties reiterated their invitation for all countries to submit INDCs in 2015
- Parties requested the UNFCCC to prepare a synthesis report by 1 November 2015 on the aggregate effect of INDCs
  - Will indicate how total impact of INDCs submitted by 1 October relates to global 2°C goal
  - This report, scheduled to be released just before Paris, will likely garner headlines around the world

# Why Put Forward an INDC?



- Contribution to global 2°C goal
- Demonstration of political commitment
- Integration of well-designed climate policies
  - Achievement of development, poverty reduction benefits
  - Signals to private sector, investors
- Engagement of stakeholders
- Strengthening/coordination of institutional processes

# General Stages of the Preparation and Design Process



# Elements that Can Enhance Effectiveness



<b>National Leadership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High-level political commitment helps provide legitimacy, increase ministerial cooperation, ensure robust results, etc.</li> <li>• Approaching INDCs in context of development priorities may make it easier to sustain high-level leadership</li> </ul>
<b>Stakeholder Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early and on-going stakeholder engagement (beyond simply “rubber stamp”) can lay groundwork for successful INDC</li> <li>• Can build support for decisions, feed technical process</li> </ul>
<b>Coordination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of relevant agencies/ministries is needed</li> <li>• Identify a lead institution (may require changes in institutional arrangements or integration into existing arrangements)</li> </ul>
<b>Clear Roles &amp; Responsibilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearly defined roles and responsibilities among coordinating agency, line ministries, finance/planning, etc. will ensure efficiency</li> </ul>
<b>Capacity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human resources (capacity, skills); institutions (effective leadership, institutional mandates); information &amp; technology (data collection, institutional memory); financial resources</li> </ul>

# Data & Analysis



- Serve as foundation of INDCs
- Will inform INDC design and can help ensure INDC is realistic/achievable, ambitious, aligned with the objective of the Convention, and aligned with national priorities
- Suggestions:
  - Start with data that already exists in countries
  - Collecting significant amounts of new data or conducting new analysis may not be necessary
  - If there are data gaps, countries should use info that does exist, and use proxy data to fill gaps where necessary

# Data & Analysis (cont'd)



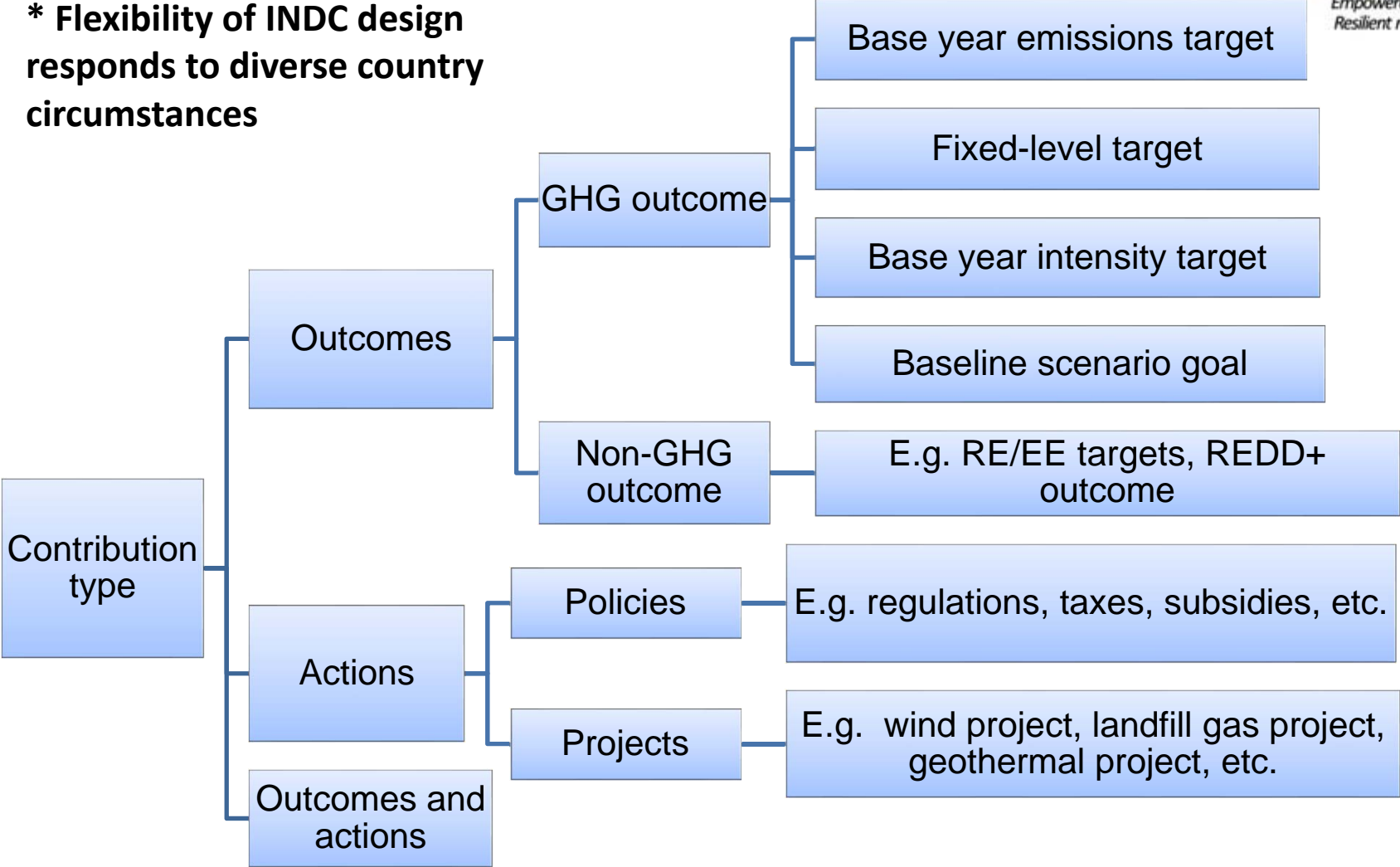
Types of Useful Data & Analysis	Purpose
<b>Internationally communicated 2020 GHG targets or plans</b>	Provide starting point for post-2020 contribution
<b>National objectives and priorities</b>	Ground the INDC in the national context and ensure it is “nationally determined”
<b>Current GHG emissions profile</b>	Identify which sectors and gases contribute most to national emissions
<b>Current mitigation activities</b>	Identify current efforts to serve as base and be built upon
<b>Projected future emissions</b>	Understand expected emissions growth in future (by sector)
<b>Assessment of mitigation potential</b>	Identify additional mitigation efforts that are technically and economically feasible, as well as barriers
<b>Assessment of resource mobilization</b>	Understand resources required to implement mitigation efforts (from domestic budgets, private investment, international sources)

# Design Options for Mitigation INDCs



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**\* Flexibility of INDC design responds to diverse country circumstances**





# Design Options for INDCs (cont'd)



Actions	Outcomes
<p><i>An intent to implement specific means of achieving GHG reductions (e.g., policies, mitigation actions)</i></p>	<p><i>An intent to achieve a specific result (e.g., reduce GHG emissions to specific level, achieve % renewable energy)</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide more clarity on specific means, more certainty that contribution will be achieved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide Parties with flexibility in how to achieve outcomes (not committing to specific actions/policies)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimating expected results of actions may be more resource-intensive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May not offer clarity on specific means</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May be harder to track progress (if detailed sectoral data required, vs. national GHG inventory)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depending on target type, easier to track progress (by tracking key indicators)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harder to aggregate GHG reductions across Parties (since not stated in terms of GHG reductions)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable aggregation (especially if stated in terms of GHG reductions vs. non-GHG outcomes)</li> </ul>

*\*Ideally, countries will communicate both actions AND expected GHG/non-GHG outcomes*

# Other Key Options/Decisions



- Choose **sectors** (e.g., energy, industry, waste, etc.) and **gases** (e.g., CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, etc.)
- Choose **timeframe** (e.g., base/target years or dates of adoption/into effect)
- Choose **level of reductions** (consider what is achievable, ambitious, aligned with 2°C goal)

# Information to be Included in INDCs



- Important to facilitate clarity, transparency, and understanding of INDCs
  - Enable assessment of collective progress toward 2°C goal
  - Enable comparison across diverse INDC types and promote understanding of what is feasible/ambitious in national contexts
- Information outlined in Lima decision:
  - 1) **Quantifiable information on reference point**
    - E.g., base year emissions or intensity, etc. (as relevant)
  - 2) **Timeframes/periods for implementation**
    - E.g., target year or period, etc. (as relevant)
  - 3) **Scope/coverage**
    - E.g., sectors, GHGs, % of national emissions covered

# Information to be Included in INDCs (cont'd)



## 4) Planning processes

- E.g., existing or planned domestic policies, actions, or targets that will support implementation of the INDC

## 5) Assumptions/methodologies

- E.g., inventory methodologies, information related to specific target types, etc.

## 6) Fairness/ambition/contribution to objective of convention

- E.g., information about relative costs, historical emissions, mitigation potential, etc.

## 7) Other

\* **For LDCs**: Better to submit by 1 October and be included in synthesis report even if information is incomplete (more detailed information can be submitted after Paris)

# Adaptation in INDCs



- Up to countries to decide whether to include
  - Lima decision: “consider communicating their undertakings in adaptation planning or consider including an adaptation component”
- Uncertainties exist:
  - Not specified how or in what form (Parties now considering elements that would constitute adaptation component and how to communicate; likely very different from mitigation component)
  - Not clear how international community will use adaptation components once communicated
- Parties have requested guidance, but ultimately up to Parties to submit information as they see fit

# Including Adaptation in INDCs



- **Lima decision** invites Parties to “consider communicating their undertakings in adaptation planning or consider including an adaptation component in their INDCs” (para. 12)
- Parties have **considerable flexibility** regarding whether, how, and why to communicate their adaptation planning to the global community

# Adaptation in INDCs (cont'd)



- Chapter on adaptation included in UNDP/WRI Guidance on INDCs
  - Takes an options approach to assist Parties in crafting an adaptation component appropriate for their national circumstances and priorities (incorporating ideas expressed in Regional Technical Dialogues)
  - Presents options for Parties to consider, including rationale, approach, and possible information to include
  - Addresses how INDCs differ from, but can relate to, the content of National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes underway in many countries
- Parties need a high degree of flexibility for developing adaptation components of INDCs

# Draft Chapter on Adaptation in INDC Guidance



- Guidance in this draft chapter provides a set of **options for Parties to consider** as they decide whether and how to include an adaptation component in their INDCs
  - Designed to be logical and user-friendly
- Chapter attempts to incorporate and respond to ideas that Parties have expressed through the UNDP/UNFCCC **Regional Technical Dialogues on INDCs**

Chapter is in review until **24 April**; comments to strengthen the content are most welcome



# Why Consider Including Adaptation in INDCs?



- ❖ Gain **international recognition** for national actions and investments on adaptation
- ❖ **Raise the profile of adaptation** planning, action, and needs at the national level
- ❖ Articulate a **long-term vision** of nationally appropriate, climate-resilient development
  - ✧ Outline a **national plan** and timeline to achieve that vision
  - ✧ Outline a **process and timeline** for developing a long-term vision
- ❖ Describe **support needs** for completion and implementation of the national adaptation plan and/or activities
- ❖ **Contribute to a platform** for sharing lessons learned and for addressing shared challenges between countries

# Adaptation Component Will Differ from Mitigation Component



- There are differences in the **rationale and purpose** for including mitigation and adaptation in INDCs
- There are **technical differences** between mitigation and adaptation
  - **Mitigation issues** often do not translate easily to adaptation
  - E.g., reference point, the type and setting of targets, methods of calculating emissions reductions

# Categories of Adaptation Information that Could Be Communicated in an INDC



1. Climate change trends, impacts, and vulnerabilities
2. Long-term goals or vision
3. Current and near-term planning and action
4. Gaps, barriers, and needs
5. Summary of support
6. Description of monitoring plans

# 1. Climate Change Trends, Impacts, and Vulnerabilities



- The INDC can provide a brief summary of current and projected **climate change threats and impacts** and their effects on vulnerable groups and sectors within the country

## 2. Long-Term Goals or Vision



- Can include an outline and justification of national **goals/vision to reduce identified threats and impacts**
  - I.e., description of nationally determined needs, options, and priorities for increasing resilience of vulnerable communities, regions, or sectors
- In cases where countries have not yet established specific adaptation goals, a clear vision statement or broad **description of priorities** can help to guide further adaptation planning and action

### 3. Current and Near-Term Planning and Action



- Can include a description of recently completed, ongoing, and planned **domestic adaptation efforts** and national investments, as well as other contributions to their implementation
- May also include:
  - Changes in institutions to address adaptation issues
  - Modified policies and measures
  - Major projects/programs
  - Planning processes related to adaptation
  - Financial investments (using international or domestic resources)

## 4. Gaps, Barriers, and Needs



- Can include a **description** of:
  - Gaps in information or access to technology
  - Barriers to adaptation action
  - Needs for capacity support required to execute near-term action or planning (including support needed to expedite the preparation of a NAP or equivalent)
- Can also extend to what is needed to carry out **long-term action or planning**
  - E.g., assessment of the needs to carry out planned actions to achieve the integration of adaptation in development planning

## 5. Summary of Support



- **A summary of recent support**
  - Received from adaptation funds, other Parties, multilateral agencies and NGOs, private investors
  - Amount and type (e.g., knowledge sharing, capacity building, grants, loans, guarantees)
  - Also, what domestic resources have been spent
- For **donor countries**, a brief description of the amount and goals of their international assistance for adaptation and resilience efforts could be included



## 6. Description of Monitoring Plans



- Adaptation planning is an **iterative process**, gradually growing in scope and learning from the monitoring and review of ongoing adaptation actions
  - Description of how adaptation progress will be nationally monitored, reviewed, updated, and reported can be an important element

# Not All Countries Will Include All of These Categories



- High degree of **flexibility** in designing adaptation component
- Not all categories are equally relevant to all **national circumstances**
- Parties encouraged to use information that best **fits their rationale** for including adaptation in their INDC
- Decisions about what to include will vary depending upon the nature and **extent of adaptation planning underway** in the country at the time of INDC submission

# For Countries That Have Begun a NAP Process or Equivalent Planning Process



- Much of the information for the INDC can **be drawn from those efforts**
  - NAP (or equivalent process) typically synthesizes a broad body of existing analysis and ongoing activity as part of the initial phase of planning
- NAP also considers the interests, needs, and priorities of a range of **stakeholders** both inside and outside of government
  - Important aspect of information included in INDC

# For Countries That Do Not Have a NAP or Equivalent Process Underway



- Adaptation component of an INDC represents an opportunity to **lay the groundwork** for such a process
- Could mean:
  - Outlining a planning process
  - Choosing a planning timeline
  - Synthesizing existing climate vulnerability and risk analysis
  - Reviewing adaptation activities underway in the country
  - Otherwise taking early steps toward planning

## A Final Word: Flexibility is Key Feature



- Options offered here are **not the only options** for including adaptation in INDCs
- Annexes of the INDC guidance outline **other structures** Parties could potentially use to categorize information in their INDCs
- Given the flexibility available to them, it is likely Parties will take a **variety of creative approaches** to communicating their adaptation actions, plans, and needs in INDCs

# UNDP's WORK ON INDCs



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# INDC Regional Technical Dialogues: Overview



- Initiative carried out by UNDP, in collaboration with UNFCCC and WRI (second series), to support countries in the process of **preparing INDCs**
- Funding from Australia, Austria, Belgium, European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, UK, and US
- **6 dialogues** (500+ participants, 110+ developing countries, others)
- **Objectives:**
  - 1) Discuss **technical elements, institutional context, and consultation processes** for the preparation of INDCs
  - 2) Exchange **experiences** in areas relevant to INDCs (learn from progress to date), and identify potential challenges and solutions
  - 3) Carry out **practical exercises** to identify key issues related to decision-making in INDC preparation

# INDC Regional Technical Dialogues: Key Takeaways



- INDCs will reflect diversity of **national circumstances**
- INDCs should link to **development plans** and build on existing/planned **climate change initiatives**
- **National priorities/capacities** will determine contribution types and scope
- INDCs should take advantage of existing **data/information** as much as possible
- INDC preparation should include **public sector** (relevant sectors and key ministries like planning and finance) and **civil society and academia**
  - **Private sector** may also play a role
- Countries will need to determine what can be **funded domestically** and what can be undertaken with **additional support**



# Building on Existing Work



- INDCs can build on **relevant existing and past work**
  - NCs, NAMAs, CDM, mitigation measures, NAPAs, NAPs....
  - Assess climate change initiatives that have already been adopted or planned and scale up
  - Previously communicated targets/plans provide good starting point for INDCs (energy targets, carbon neutrality goals, NAPs, etc.)
- Countries are making the best possible use of **existing information, data, and analysis**
  - Map out available information, start with available data, e.g. National GHG inventories, mitigation analysis, baseline scenarios and projections
  - Collecting new data or carrying out new studies from scratch may not be necessary, but based on Identification of data gaps

# INDC Guidance Document

Developed by UNDP and the World Resources Institute, and responds to requests from participants in technical dialogues



- **Key technical/process elements** to be considered when preparing INDCs
- **No perfect formula** for preparing an INDC (depends on national priorities, data availability, etc.), but **key steps and good practices** can help
- **Not prescriptive** (up to countries to decide whether to use it)
- **Not meant to prejudge negotiations**
- Considers **key outcomes of COP-20**

\* Has gone through extensive review and was launched at June negotiations in Bonn



# UNDP Support for INDC Preparation



- A GEF-funded Global Support Programme to provide **technical assistance** to countries for NCs, BURs, and INDCs
  - Implemented jointly by **UNDP and UNEP**, linked with national communications preparation to ensure synergies
- **Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme** to provide technical support through LECB activities
  - Direct support to six countries
  - Indirect support through activities being carried out under the programme such as LEDS, NAMAs, and institutional development
- **Funding through GEF** provides direct financial support for countries that wish to use their GEF STAR allocation for INDC

## UNDP Support for INDC Preparation (cont'd)



- New **INDC Support Programme** with funding from the European Commission will provide financial support and technical assistance to countries for INDCs
  - INDC preparation (e.g., analysis, prioritization of actions, stakeholder engagement, estimating costs, etc.)
  - Also INDC-related activities post-Paris (e.g., assessing INDCs based on Paris outcomes, developing implementation plans, strengthening institutional frameworks, etc.)
  - Linked to LECB activities and/or other existing climate change efforts in countries

Contact point for UNDP support programmes:  
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**Thank you**

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