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SORTING OUT DIFFERENT TYPES OF INDC, THEIR ATTRIBUTES, AND UPFRONT INFORMATION

*Twenty-third Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change
Session III*

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Content

- Types of INDC and Attributes
- Upfront Information for INDC

INDC PREPARATION

- Underlying technical considerations for robust, realistic, and achievable mitigation contributions
 - Development objectives
 - National inventory
 - Mitigation assessments
 - BAU projections
 - MAC curves
 - Climate science
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Capacity (human, technical, institutional, financial)

POSSIBLE TYPES OF MITIGATION CONTRIBUTIONS

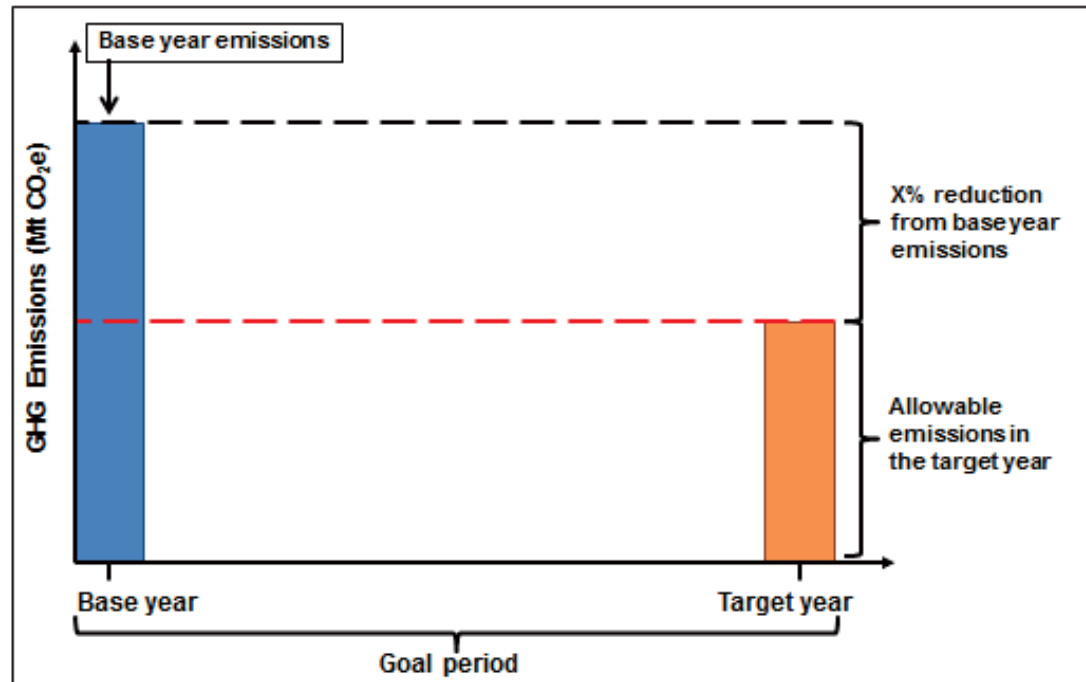
- Goals
- Policies
- Projects

POSSIBLE GOAL TYPES THAT MAY BE CONSIDERED

- Base year goal
- Fixed-level goal
- Intensity goal
- Baseline scenario goal

	Reductions in what?		
		Emissions	Emissions Intensity
Reductions relative to what?	Historical base year	Base year goal	Intensity goal
	Projected baseline scenario	Baseline scenario goal	
	No reference level	Fixed-level goal	

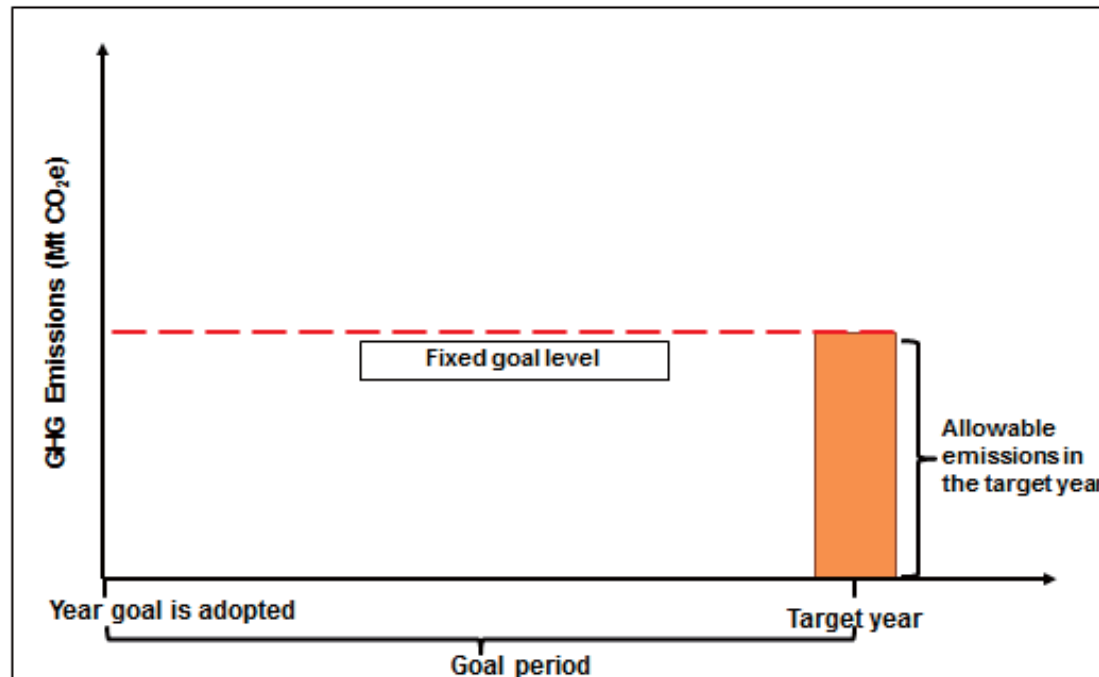
BASE YEAR GOAL



Considerations:

- Can be framed as a reduction or a controlled increase of emissions
- Tracking and reporting progress (MRV) is relatively simple
 - Primary data source is national inventory
 - No emissions projections/modeling
 - Fewer data and reporting requirements
- Allowable emissions can be easily calculated
- Fewer ex-ante information needs

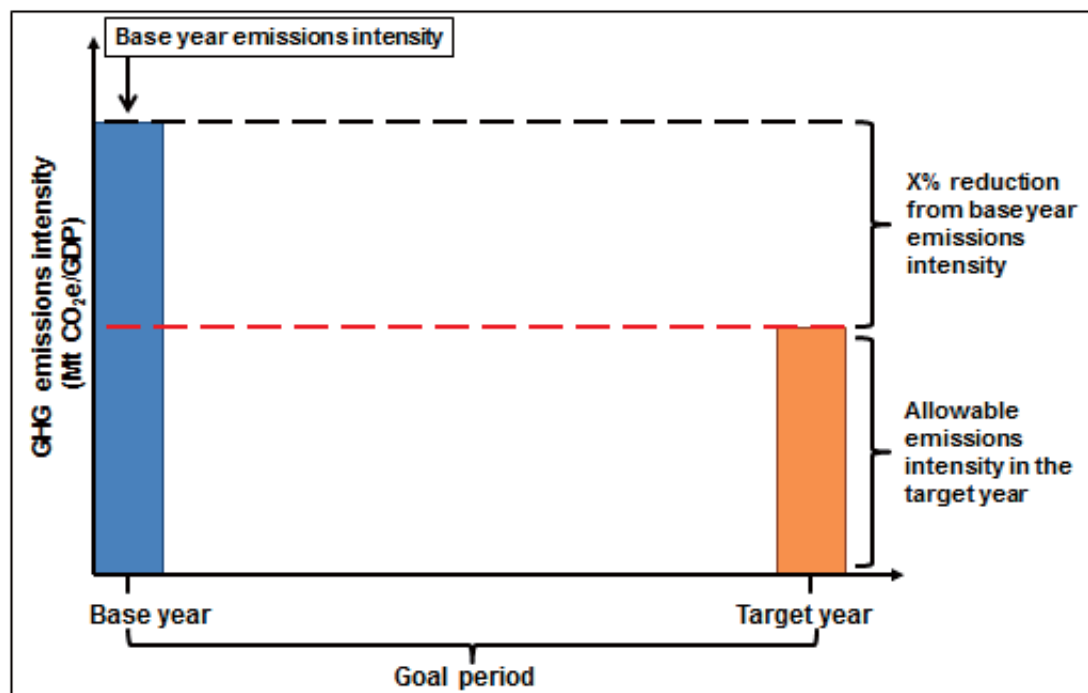
FIXED-LEVEL GOAL



Considerations:

- Can be framed as a reduction or a controlled increase of emissions
- Tracking and reporting progress (MRV) is relatively simple
 - Primary data source is national inventory
 - No emissions projections/modeling
 - Fewer data and reporting requirements
- Allowable emissions can be easily calculated
- Fewer ex-ante information needs

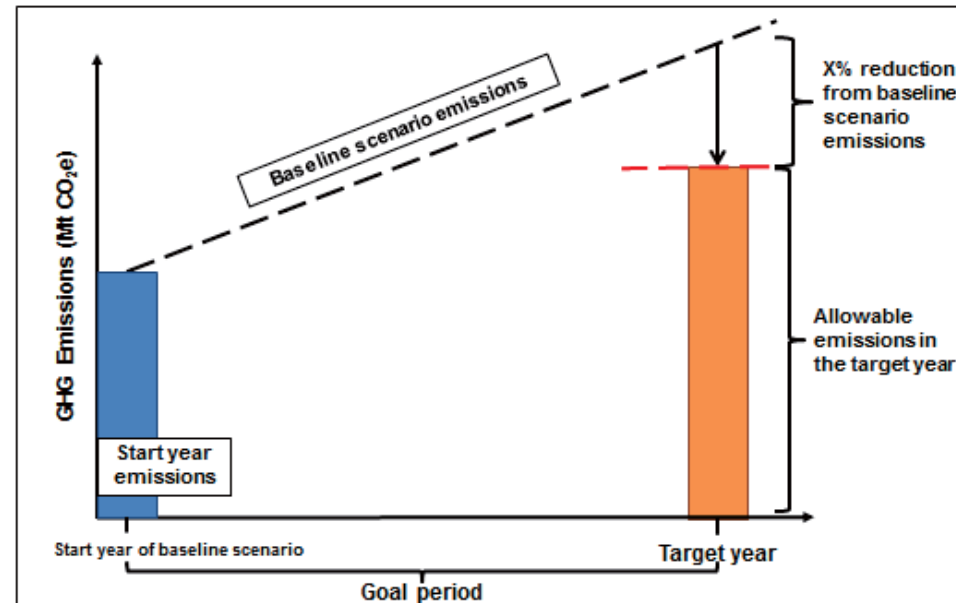
INTENSITY GOAL



Considerations:

- Tracking and reporting progress (MRV) is relatively more complex
 - Requires GHG and GDP data
- Uncertainty regarding allowable emissions (requires GDP projections)
- Additional ex-ante information needs

BASELINE SCENARIO GOAL



Considerations:

- Goal design is complex
 - Requires modeling of emissions projections
 - Require projections for a range of drivers, based on assumptions
 - Requires assessments of future effects of implemented, adopted, and/or planned policies
- Uncertainty regarding allowable emissions, esp. if baseline is dynamic
- Additional ex-ante information needs
- Most complex to track and report progress (MRV)
 - Requires broad range of socioeconomic data, in addition to GHG data
 - May require baseline recalculations

ADDITIONAL GOAL DESIGN FEATURES

- Goal timeframe
 - Single-year
 - Multi-year
 - Peak-and-decline
- Use of transferable emissions units (offsets and allowances)
- Treatment of emissions and removals from land-use sector

POSSIBLE POLICY TYPES THAT MAY BE CONSIDERED (IN ANY SECTOR)

- Regulations and standards
- Taxes and charges
- Subsidies and incentives
- Tradable permits
- Voluntary agreements or measures
- Information instruments
- Research, development, and deployment policies
- Public procurement policies
- Infrastructure programs
- Implementation of new technologies, processes, or practices
- Financing and investment

EXAMPLES OF POSSIBLE PROJECT TYPES THAT MAY BE CONSIDERED

- Wind power
- Light rail transit
- Reforestation
- Fuel switching
- Solid waste management

CONSIDERATIONS FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF INDC

	Goal	Policy	Project
Scope	Can be broad or narrow in scope (economy-wide or sectoral)	Can be broad or narrow in scope (economy-wide or sectoral)	Tend to have narrow scope
No. of emissions sources targeted	Can be large number	Can be large or small number	Tend to be small number
Transformational change?	Can be	Can be	Reduced ability
Accounting and Reporting	Can be simple or complex, depending on goal type	Generally complex	Generally complex
Flexibility	Different goal types	Different policy types	Different project types
Development Objectives	Designed to meet sustainable development objectives and reduce emissions		

BENEFITS OF UPFRONT INFORMATION

- Enhance transparency
- Build credibility and trust amongst Parties
- Foster dialogue on ambition and equity
- Enable accurate tracking of global ambition and emissions reductions
- Enhance domestic GHG management

UPFRONT INFORMATION FOR GOALS

- Goal type and level
- Coverage
 - Sectors, gases, and geographic area
 - Percentage of emissions covered by goal
- Timeframe
 - Base year/period and base year/period emissions or emissions intensity
 - Single-year or multi-year goal
 - Target year/period
- Expected emissions in the target year/period

UPFRONT INFORMATION FOR GOALS

- If baseline scenario goal is selected:
 - Static or dynamic baseline scenario
 - Projection method, key drivers and assumptions, cut off year for inclusion of policies
- If land sector is included:
 - Land-based or activity based accounting approach
 - Land sector accounting methods, covered activities/categories, treatment of age-class legacy and harvested wood products
- If transferable emissions units are used:
 - Maximum amount that can be used to meet goal, types and vintages that can be used, quality principles
 - Mechanisms for preventing double counting

UPFRONT INFORMATION FOR POLICIES AND PROJECTS

- Title, type, and status of policy or project
 - Coverage
 - Sectors, gases, and geographic area
- Implementation timeframe
- Estimated GHG effects (ex-ante) and methods used

UPFRONT INFORMATION FOR EQUITY AND AMBITION (FOR ALL CONTRIBUTION TYPES)

- Indicators relating to equity and ambition and their application
- A description of how the contribution relates to the objective of the Convention, including how it responds to the need for equity and ambition

GENERATING UPFRONT INFORMATION

- Have clear idea of ex-ante information needs before/while designing contributions
- In most cases, upfront information will be generated as part of contribution design:
 - National inventory (base year emissions)
 - Mitigation assessments (projection methods and baseline scenarios, if relevant)
 - Document political/technical decisions (type of goal, policy, or project; economy-wide or sectoral; target year/period; coverage)
- MRV procedures/system can be designed alongside contribution to generate upfront information before implementation and used carry out MRV during implementation

TWO NEW GHG PROTOCOL STANDARDS

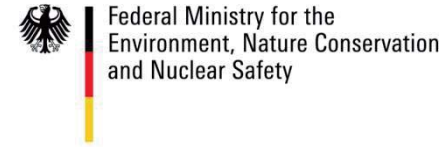
	Description
Mitigation Goals Standard	How to design national, subnational, or sectoral GHG reduction goals and assess and report progress
Policy and Action Standard	How to estimate the change in GHG emissions and removals resulting from specific policies and actions (or packages of policies and actions) relative to a baseline scenario

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR INDCS

Open Book

- New WRI project to support group of countries to put forward transparent iNDC
- Countries:
 - Provide input to develop iNDC template and guidance handbook
 - Attend regional workshop to discuss iNDC design with other countries
 - Receive technical support on contribution design and reporting
 - Use template as basis for reporting their iNDC to UNFCCC
 - Gain international recognition for transparent iNDC

Supported by:



based on a decision of the Parliament
of the Federal Republic of Germany

THANK YOU

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Draft standards are available at:
<http://www.ghgprotocol.org/mitigation-accounting>

Working paper on ex-ante clarification available at:
<http://www.wri.org/sites/default/files/WRI-WP-national%20contributions-v5.pdf>