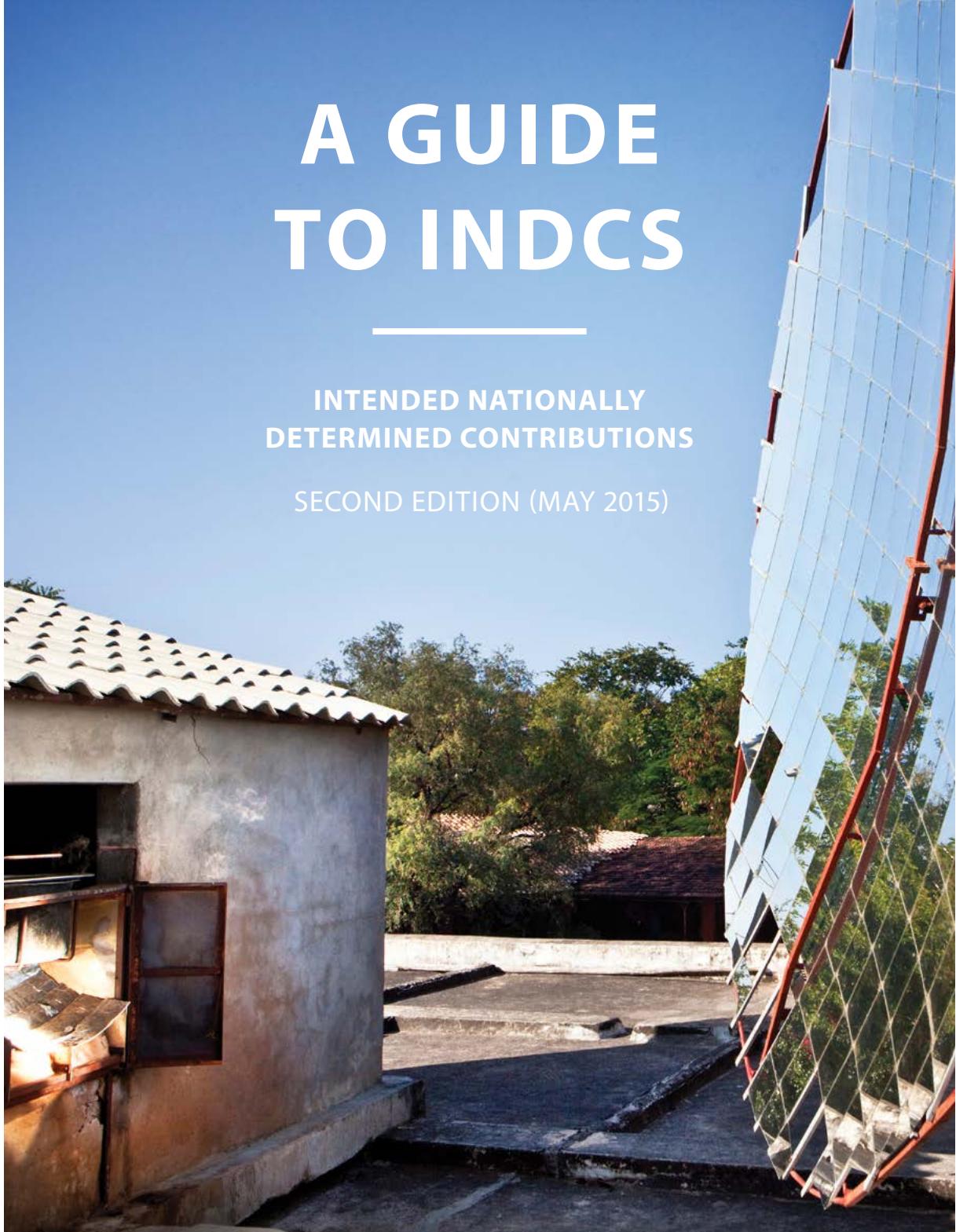


A GUIDE TO INDCS

INTENDED NATIONALLY
DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS

SECOND EDITION (MAY 2015)



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Climate & Development
Knowledge Network

Second edition (May 2015)

This second edition incorporates feedback received on the first edition, as well as new information relevant to Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

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INTRODUCTION

This guide aims to support the preparation of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) by Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It was initiated at the request of several LDCs and SIDS who expressed a need for practical guidance, tailored to their needs.

The guide was developed in consultation with a range of stakeholders, including authors of existing INDC guidance, LDC and SIDS representatives and organisations working with CDKN to support domestic INDC preparations. It seeks to address the broad spectrum of approaches being considered by LDCs and SIDS in preparing their INDCs, reflecting their different national circumstances and levels of capacity, preparedness and ambition. Many of the elements outlined here may also be applicable to other developing and to developed countries.

This guide is not an official UNFCCC publication nor is it endorsed by the UNFCCC. The views expressed here are those of CDKN and Ricardo-AEA, based on their practical experience of supporting INDC development, and not of any particular Party or Government. This template is not mandatory and Parties should adapt this information as needed in light of their national circumstances.

The Lima Call for Climate Action (Decision 1/CP.20)¹ reiterated the invitation to all Parties to develop and communicate INDCs as their ‘contributions’ toward achieving the ultimate objective of Article 2 of the UNFCCC: “*to achieve... stabilisation of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.*” Recognising concerns about the legal nature of INDCs, the decision also noted that arrangements for INDC preparation and submission were “*without prejudice to the legal nature and content of the intended nationally determined contributions of Parties or to the content of the protocol, another legal instrument or agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties*”².

Further, the Lima Conference of the Parties (COP) agreed that special provisions would apply to LDCs and SIDS, i.e. that their INDCs “*may communicate information on strategies, plans and actions for low greenhouse gas emission development reflecting their special circumstances*”³ (although the precise implications of this wording are unclear). This means that while the INDCs of developed countries are expected to include absolute or economy-wide emission reduction commitments, LDCs can draw on specific strategies, plans or projects to formulate their contributions, and specify the component of the contribution that would be conditional upon receiving international finance or other support.

1 The Lima Call to Action was agreed at the UNFCCC’s 20th Conference of the Parties (COP20) in December 2014; see www.unfccc.int/files/meetings/lima_dec_2014/application/pdf/auv_cop20_lima_call_for_climate_action.pdf

2 Op. cit.

3 Op. cit.

This guide serves as a practical tool for LDCs and SIDS to support their INDC preparations. In doing so, it addresses a number of common challenges that LDCs and SIDS face:

- their emissions are low in global perspective, but they may wish to take actions to embrace low-carbon development and climate-proof their national policies and infrastructure investments;
- they have a prevailing need for economic development and poverty reduction, including improving energy access;
- they have limited capacity to undertake the analysis needed to develop the evidence base for their INDC;
- they are likely to face constraints in implementing the actions envisaged in their INDCs and certain actions/levels of ambition are likely to be dependent or conditional on the provision of funding from developed countries;
- they are among the most climate-vulnerable countries and therefore adaptation is likely to be a major focus of their national climate change plans.

Why would an LDC or SIDS adopt an ambitious approach towards its INDC? While it is true that future global emissions of greenhouse gases will largely be determined by the actions of the major economies, the approach taken by progressive LDCs and SIDS will be key to building political momentum in the run up to the Paris COP in December 2015, and to putting pressure on those governments to take ambitious action. Adopting a proactive position on INDC development could bring a range of benefits to LDCs and SIDS, including:

- demonstrating that plans for economic growth are compatible with low-carbon development pathways and avoiding lock-in to carbon-intensive infrastructure;
- highlighting the adaptation-related co-benefits of mitigation actions, and other co-benefits such as poverty alleviation, improved air quality and health, energy access and security;
- capturing the mitigation-related co-benefits of planned and potential adaptation activities;
- encouraging other countries to take equivalent action, thereby increasing global ambition and reducing climate impacts;
- attracting international support to implement action such as finance, technology transfer and capacity-building.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

In the absence of an official INDC template from the UNFCCC, the following guide offers a practical example of how an INDC from an LDC or SIDS could be structured and its key elements. Each section cross-references the relevant text from the UNFCCC's Lima Call to Climate Action, outlines the aims of the section and suggests data sources for completing the template.

Examples illustrate the type of content and narrative that LDCs and SIDS may include in their INDCs. Note that these are only examples and INDCs should be tailored to reflect the country's national circumstances. Much of the information needed for completing the template may already be available in existing documents (e.g. National Communications, national and subnational climate change strategies and plans, sectoral strategies, etc.). As such, INDCs can be relatively succinct and refer to other publicly-available sources of detailed data and analysis as needed, including the results of any new analysis undertaken during the INDC process.

At the time of going to print, several major economies and a number of developing countries have submitted their INDCs to the UNFCCC (see hyperlink to UNFCCC pages, below). While none of the INDCs are identical, they do have common elements and formats. If desired, instead of creating an INDC anew using this template, LDCs and SIDS can adopt any of the formats that have already been used and tailor them with information provided here.

This guide does not provide information on how and when to engage stakeholders in the development of an INDC or on other national processes, which are critical for securing political buy-in and approval. These aspects are addressed in detail in other guidance documents, and in forthcoming CDKN publications on the lessons learned from supporting INDC preparation in developing countries.

Various international bodies and organisations have published guidance to support INDC preparations. Some of the key sources have been listed below, and are cited further throughout this guide.

- **UNFCCC:** the INDC portal is a continuously updated repository of all INDCs submitted to the UNFCCC. This portal contains links to the Lima Call for Climate Action (decision 1/CP.20) guidance on the preparation of and sources of support for INDCs.
www.unfccc.int/focus/indc_portal/items/8766.php
- **International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV (Monitoring Reporting and Verification):** as well as providing an overview of the INDC preparation process, the Partnership website provides links to guidance produced by other organisations including GIZ, MAPS, OECD, UNDP, UNEP, WRI, among others.
www.mitigationpartnership.net/indcs-related-documents
- **World Resources Institute (WRI):** WRI produces resources, tools and research to support decision-makers, media and other

stakeholders in order to better understand the INDCs and the 2015 climate agreement. In particular, WRI has produced, in partnership with UNDP, a guidance document that supports the detailed design and preparation of INDCs. This document addresses mitigation and adaptation components and transparent communication of INDCs, including explanations of fairness and ambition.
www.wri.org/our-work/topics/indcs

There are also a range of institutions tracking, analysing and aggregating the impact of INDCs as they are submitted, and transparent communication of INDCs, including:

- **Climate Action Tracker:** an independent science-based assessment, which tracks the emission commitments and actions of countries. The website provides an up-to-date assessment of individual national pledges, targets and INDCs and currently implemented policy to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.
www.climateactiontracker.org
- **New Climate Institute:** funded by UNFCCC and UNDP to track the progress of the preparation of countries' INDCs worldwide, and to synthesise the experiences and lessons learned in INDC preparation.
www.newclimate.org/portfolio/experiences-and-lessons-learned-in-the-preparation-of-indcs

INDC TEMPLATE AT A GLANCE

National Context

This section provides the overall national context for the INDC, including how the actions set out in the INDC fit with national sustainable development priorities and existing plans and strategies. It can also contain a headline summary of the INDC as a whole.

Mitigation

Contribution

This section contains a summary of the mitigation contribution, including type of contribution, level of ambition and any conditionality that may be relevant for the contribution. It should be noted that countries may wish to specify a long-term outcome (e.g. up to 2050) as well as short-term outcome for the period to 2025 or 2030.

Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding

This section includes detailed information to improve understanding of the contribution and allow comparability with other contributions.

Fair and ambitious

This section sets out how the contribution is considered to be fair and ambitious in light of the country's national circumstances and the objective of the UNFCCC set out in Article 2.

Adaptation

This section provides an opportunity for countries to highlight current and future adaptation action including adaptation-mitigation synergies, as well as the support that may be required for implementation of adaptation plans, developing capacity or scaling up interventions.

Planning Process

This section provides an overview of existing or planned domestic processes for monitoring and supporting the implementation of the INDC.

Means of Implementation

This section describes the financial, capacity-building, technology transfer or other types of international support related to the INDC; this information may help international partners to better understand and target their support.



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Glossary

BAU	Business As Usual
BUR	Biennial Update Report
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
LEDS	Low Emission Development Strategies
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WRI	World Resources Institute

1. National context

Aim: This section provides the overall national context for the INDC, including how the actions set out in the INDC fit with national sustainable development priorities and existing plans and strategies. Some countries have included a high level summary of the INDC within this section.

Key data sources: National climate change strategies and/or action plans; national development plans; national adaptation plans; national vulnerability assessments; National Communications; Biennial Update Reports; greenhouse gas inventory; new analysis undertaken for INDC preparation.

Relevant UNFCCC reference: N/A

1 Template for national context

National Context

Country X's national context is characterised by [include any or all of the following information]:

- national development objectives, including how climate change and related concepts (green growth, increased access to sustainable energy, etc.) have been reflected in development plans and other relevant documents;
- national, subnational and sectoral climate change priorities on both mitigation and adaptation, national and subnational strategies/plans, national legislation;
- climate change impacts – temperature distribution, annual temperature variations, precipitation distribution, climate variability (trends, averages, extremes), extreme events;
- budgetary allocations towards climate change activities;
- previous or existing climate change pledges or commitments (voluntary or legislated) or actions to date.

Existing documents (such as those listed above) are likely to contain detailed information on a country's national context. Hence, it may be possible to summarise key points from these existing documents and refer back to them for further detail.

Countries may consider closing this section with a short bullet summary outlining the overall structure and content for the INDC. For example, this bulletpoint summary could include:

- mitigation contribution: summary of long-term goal, headline contributions, sectoral focus, etc;
- adaptation component;
- implementation plans;
 - planning process (e.g. implementation of national plans, Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)⁴ system);
 - means of implementation including international support needed to implement the INDC (e.g. finance, technology transfer, capacity building). An illustrative example of a completed national context section of the template is provided below.

⁴ Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) refers to a process that may support greater transparency in the climate change regime. Monitoring refers to monitoring of emissions and other indicators to track climate action. Reporting refers to presentation and communication of data and findings to relevant stakeholders. Verification refers to external quality check of the findings. For further information see www.unfccc.int/focus/mitigation/items/7173.php

An example of a completed section 1 is provided below.

ILLUSTRATIVE
EXAMPLE
LDCs

1 National Context

Without ambitious action, adaptation costs will be much higher in the future. Country X therefore intends to undertake measures across a number of sectors of its economy to reduce its emissions. These mitigation actions are guided by the long term development aspiration [insert appropriate principle/goal/aspiration].

Climate change is already affecting the livelihoods of much of our population. As a climate-vulnerable country whose emissions are less than X% of global emissions, the principal focus of these activities will be on increasing our resilience to the impacts of climate change. [Insert evidence of impacts e.g. costs of future impacts as a percentage of future GDP].

Thus, Country X's INDC is guided by its commitment to follow a low-carbon, climate-resilient development pathway to achieving middle income status. This INDC is based on Country X's existing strategies and plans, in particular the [insert reference to national climate change/green growth plan/strategy]. In addition, it incorporates the outcome of further analysis and consultation to enhance Country X's existing plans, in particular [insert focus of INDC preparatory work].

ILLUSTRATIVE
EXAMPLE
SIDS

Climate change poses an existential threat to SIDS. We have been showing the world that we are not merely the victims of climate change, but that we are leading by example and pledging bold climate action as encapsulated in the X declaration/initiative.

As a small island developing state, Country X faces very high energy prices, due to our dependence on imported fossil fuels and limited ability to reap the benefits of economies of scale. Our vision to secure a sustainable energy future, and hence reduce our reliance on costly fossil fuel imports, is guiding our INDC contribution. We hope to realise this vision mainly through sensible exploitation of renewable energy sources, combined with implementation of energy efficiency measures.

2. Mitigation

2.1 CONTRIBUTION

Aim: This section contains a summary of the country's mitigation contribution, including type of contribution, level of ambition and any conditionality that may be relevant for the contribution. It should be noted that countries may wish to specify a long-term outcome as well as short-term mitigation contribution for the period to 2025 or 2030.

Key data sources: National climate change strategies, policies and action plans; previous submissions to the UNFCCC; statements at the UN Climate Summit 2014; Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs); National Communications; new analysis carried out for the purpose of the INDC.

Relevant UNFCCC reference: "...each Party's intended nationally determined contribution towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2 will represent a progression beyond the current undertaking of that Party..." (Lima Call for Climate Action, Decision 1/CP.20, Paragraph 10).

"...the least developed countries and small island developing States may communicate information on strategies, plans and actions for low greenhouse gas emission development reflecting their special circumstances in the context of intended nationally determined contributions..." (Lima Call for Climate Action, Decision 1/CP.20, Paragraph 11).

A key decision in the formulation of an INDC is the form and coverage of the contribution.⁵ For example, a contribution could:

- refer to either greenhouse gas mitigation **actions** (e.g. NAMAs, sectoral strategies, policies and projects) or greenhouse gas mitigation **outcomes** (e.g. emission reductions relative to a historical base year or projected future emissions, or emission intensity reductions) – or a **combination** of both;⁶
- cover the **entire economy** or **specific sector(s)**.

5 Section 2 of the International Partnership on Mitigation and Monitoring Reporting and Verification's 'Process Guidance for INDCs' commissioned by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH: provides examples of possible forms and types of contributions: www.mitigationpartnership.net/sites/default/files/ipmm_2014_process_guidance_for_intended_nationally_determined_contributions_indc.pdf

6 Chapter 4 of WRI's and UNDP's Designing and Preparing Intended Nationally Determined Contributions guidance provides further detail regarding action versus outcome-based contributions: www.wri.org/publication/designing-and-preparing-INDCs

The sections below provide templates for and illustrative examples of both action-based and outcome-based contributions. Note that it also possible for a country to propose a contribution that is a combination of both an action-based and an outcome-based contribution, i.e. providing both sectoral or economy-wide emission reduction outcomes, as well as the actions that will be implemented to achieve these reductions. In addition, some components of the contribution may be conditional on receiving international support.

Factors that will influence the form of the contribution will include:

- **Any existing (national or subnational) greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments, goals or activities.** Ensuring that the form of the INDC contribution is consistent with existing types of greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments/goals/activities could help streamline national MRV processes, as well as reduce the time needed to obtain country-level sign-off for the INDC.
- **The country's vision and aspirations for addressing climate change.** Given that INDCs are intended to go beyond existing commitments and actions, a country may wish to change the form as well as the level of ambition of its previous climate actions.
- **Existing climate change mitigation data that is available (e.g. historical, current and projected future emissions, mitigation potential of existing policies or projects).** The form of data on mitigation potential that is available may shape the form selected for the INDC contribution, e.g. if quantitative data is limited, the country may prefer an outcome-based contribution over a outcome-based contribution.
- **Levels of stakeholder support and engagement.** This will be particularly important to key sectors relevant to the INDC (e.g. with the greatest emissions reduction potential).

Countries may wish to include the mitigation co-benefits of their climate change adaptation programmes as part of their mitigation contribution. If a country wishes to include these in its outcome-based contribution, important steps in this process may include screening adaptation actions to identify those with mitigation co-benefits (e.g. afforestation, reforestation, agroforestry, off-grid renewables, climate smart agriculture) and defining an emission accounting methodology that avoids double-counting of emissions from different mitigation activities.

2.1.1 Template for an action-based contribution

Action-based contribution			
Country X intends to reduce its CO ₂ eq emissions by implementing the following activities:			
Name of activity	Description of the activity	Objectives of the activity	Anticipated emission reductions
Brief title for the activity	<p>Summary description of the activity, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">the type of activity (e.g. laws, economic instruments or financing mechanisms, regulations or standards, other policy instruments, projects, NAMAs, etc.);an overview of the specific actions the activity will involve; suggest referring to other documents for details;whether the activity is being or will be implemented unilaterally – or will be conditional on international support.	<p>Objectives can be quantitative (e.g. Mt CO₂eq reductions, MW of a renewable technology installed, etc.) and/or qualitative (e.g. removal of financial barriers, increase renewable energy, etc.). Whether qualitative or quantitative, objectives should be formulated to be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-based).</p>	<p>State the anticipated impact that the activity will have on emissions reductions over the time period for implementation of the INDC (e.g. XX Mt CO₂eq by XX year).</p>

Countries may wish to state the estimated aggregate total avoided emissions or emissions reductions that will result from the above activities in a given year (e.g. 2030). This will support the aggregation of country level emission reductions internationally towards global efforts to limit climate change.

Countries may also wish to explain how the above activities have been selected for inclusion in the INDC. For example, they may list the key factors used to prioritise the activities included in the INDC, such as:

- alignment with national development priorities;
- level of emission reductions anticipated from the activity;
- synergies between adaptation and mitigation, in particular by including adaptation activities with significant mitigation co-benefits.

An illustrative example of an action-based contribution is provided below, covering multiple sectors (e.g. energy, forestry, agriculture). Key factors in identifying the sector(s) for the INDC could include:

- share of sector in national greenhouse gas emissions and current mitigation action;
- ease of implementing greenhouse gas reduction measures, cost-effectiveness of the abatement opportunities; identification of 'quick wins';
- data availability;

- co-benefits of mitigation actions in the sector, including adaptation, poverty alleviation, improved air quality and health, energy access and security.

While there is no obligation to include information on the rationale for the choice of sectors or actions in the INDC, this information may be helpful to build domestic support for the proposed mitigation contribution.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE

2.1.1 Action-based contribution

Country X intends to reduce its CO₂eq emissions by implementing the following activities. The aggregated impact of these activities is anticipated to be XX MtCO₂eq reduced or avoided by 2025 and XX MtCO₂eq by 2030.

Name of activity	Description of the activity	Objectives of the activity	Estimated greenhouse gas emission reductions
Renewable Energy Master Plan	Existing power generation through coal and diesel to be replaced by hydropower, photovoltaic and wind-power-facilities.	80% renewable energy by 2025.	XX MtCO ₂ eq
Geothermal NAMA	Feasibility study for geothermal site ABC has been completed. Finance has been identified and agreements with donors are in place. Further detail: [link to online information].	100MW geothermal project to be operational by 2020.	XX MtCO ₂ eq
Improving Rural Livelihoods Program (IRLP)	This climate resilience program includes increasing small hydropower plants to provide electricity to rural communities and businesses, replacing diesel-fuelled off-grid generation. 20% of financing for this programme will come from domestic resources. Further detail: [link to online information].	Key objectives relate to improving rural livelihoods, however, there will be mitigation co-benefits of around XX Mt CO ₂ eq by 2030 due to the implementation of around 5MW of hydropower plants.	XX MtCO ₂ eq
Green Economy Strategy	Actions in the green economy strategy including renewables, restoration of forest on degraded lands and low carbon fuel standards. International support will be needed to further develop and implement these actions. Further detail: [link to online information].	Delivery of the green economy strategy putting ensuring Country X undertakes a model, climate compatible transition to middle income status by 2030.	XX MtCO ₂ eq

Waste Management Strategy	<i>Waste management strategy, to be formulated by end of 2015, will be focussed on reductions in methane emissions due to improvement of waste management at landfill sites.</i>	<i>Training of staff for all landfill sites on waste management strategy by the end of 2016.</i> <i>Improved waste management processes in line with waste management strategy implemented at all landfill sites by the end of 2017.</i> <i>Regular bi-annual audits and reporting on waste management processes from 2017 onwards.</i>	<i>XX MtCO₂ eq</i>
National REDD+ Strategy	<i>Reduction in forest cover clearance for commercial purposes and increased community based forest management and enhancement of non-carbon forest benefits such as forest based livelihoods.</i>	<i>Reduced forest cover clearance, increased local resilience, incentives for forest conservation through enhanced local livelihoods and alternative economic activities.</i>	<i>XX MtCO₂ eq</i>

2.1.2 Template for an outcome-based contribution

Outcome-based contribution	
Country X intends to reduce its CO ₂ eq emissions by implementing the following activities:	
Unconditional contribution – contribution assuming unilateral action only (no additional international support)	Briefly summarise your greenhouse gas emission reduction outcome and the year in which it is intended to be achieved (select between a base year emissions, fixed level, base year intensity or baseline scenario outcome). The outcome can apply across the whole of the economy or only apply to specific sectors. In addition, the goal can be presented in ranges to take into account uncertainty in calculations.
Conditional contribution – contribution assuming both unilateral action and international support	Briefly summarise your greenhouse gas emission reduction outcome and the year in which it is intended to be achieved (select between a base year emissions, fixed level, base year intensity or baseline scenario outcome). The outcome can apply across the whole of the economy or only apply to specific sectors. In addition, the goal can be presented in ranges to take into account uncertainty in calculations.
Countries may wish to specify a long-term outcome (e.g. to 2050) as well as short-term outcome (e.g. for the period to 2025 or 2030).	

Several forms of outcome-based contributions can be considered,⁷ including:

- base year greenhouse gas emissions outcome – a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions relative to a historical base year (e.g. EU: 40%+ greenhouse reduction by 2030 compared to 1990 levels);
- fixed level outcome – a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions to a fixed, absolute level (e.g. Costa Rica: carbon neutrality by 2021);
- base year greenhouse gas intensity outcome – a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions intensity relative to a historical base year (e.g. China: 40–45% greenhouse gas reduction in carbon intensity per unit of Gross Domestic Product by 2020 compared to 2005 levels);
- baseline scenario outcome – a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions relative to projected future emissions (e.g. South Africa: 34% greenhouse gas reduction below business-as-usual (BAU) by 2020).

An illustrative example of an outcome-based contribution is provided below.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE

2.1.2 Outcome-based contribution

Country X intends to reduce its CO₂eq emissions as per the below:

Unconditional contribution

XX% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below business-as-usual by 2030.

Conditional contribution

XX+YY% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below business-as-usual by 2030.

7 The differences between these types of contributions and their suitability for different situations is described at length in WRI's and UNDP's Designing and Preparing Intended Nationally Determined Contributions guidance: www.wri.org/publication/designing-and-preparing-INDCs

2.2 INFORMATION TO FACILITATE CLARITY, TRANSPARENCY AND UNDERSTANDING

Aim: This section includes detailed information required to allow full understanding of the contribution at the international level and comparability with other contributions.

Key data sources could include: Biennial Update Reports; National Communications; national greenhouse gas inventory; national mitigation assessment studies; Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) project documents; NAMAs; national or sectoral climate change strategies or action plans; new analysis undertaken during the INDC process.

Relevant UNFCCC reference: “*...the information to be provided by Parties communicating their intended nationally determined contributions, in order to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding, may include, as appropriate, inter alia, quantifiable information on the reference point (including, as appropriate, a base year), time frames and/or periods for implementation, scope and coverage...assumptions and methodological approaches including those for estimating and accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and, as appropriate, removals*” (Lima Call for Climate Action, Decision 1/CP.20, Paragraph 14).

The information to be provided in this section of the guide will vary depending on the type and form of the contribution included in the INDC. The first table details the information that should be provided for *all* types of contributions where possible, noting the information specified in the Lima Call for Climate Action: timeframes/periods for implementation, scope and coverage, assumptions and methodological approaches. The Lima Call for Climate Action also specifies that quantifiable information on the reference point for the contribution (including, as appropriate, a base year) should be provided – the second and third tables focus on this aspect, with the second table applicable to action-based contributions and the third table applicable to outcome-based contributions.

Countries can also consider including additional information regarding their contribution, i.e. that goes beyond the information required by the Lima Call for Climate Action, for example:

- scope and coverage: % national emissions covered by the contribution;
- expected total emissions in the target year;
- expected year for and level at which emissions are anticipated to peak;
- historical trends for greenhouse gas emissions and removals;
- uncertainty or sensitivity analyses in relation to the contribution.

2.2.1 Template for information for all contributions

The below table details the information that should be provided for all contributions.⁸ Note that for action-based contributions, where the contribution includes more than one action, the table will need to be completed for each of the key actions. An illustrative example of how this could be done in practice for an action-based contribution is provided further below.

Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (applicable to all contributions)	
Time frames and/or periods for implementation	
Assumptions and methodological approaches	
Timeframe for implementation	Specify the year that the contribution will start and when it will end.
Scope and coverage	
Scope of gases included in the contribution	Carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorinated compounds (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride, (SF_6), nitrogen trifluoride (NF_3) [delete any that do not apply].
Sectors/sources covered by the contribution	List the sector/sources from the IPCC Guidelines for greenhouse gas inventories ⁹ that apply; and any sectors/sources that have been excluded from the contribution.
Geographies covered by the contribution	If all national territories are included, this be stated; otherwise the geographies that have been included or excluded should be stated.
Methodology for emissions accounting	Refer to methodologies which are used for emissions accounting, e.g. 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories.
Global warming potentials	Refer to the document which specifies the global warming potentials, or else refer directly to the global warming potential which has been used, e.g. 100 year timescale in accordance with IPCC's <i>Fourth Assessment Report</i> .
Approach for land use, land-use change and forestry emissions	State whether emissions (or net emissions) ¹⁰ associated with land use, land-use change and forestry are included in the contribution. If so, state the categories and activities included, as well as the methodological approach used for emissions estimation. ¹¹ In case the approach for including land use, land-use change and forestry emissions has yet to be determined, this should be clearly stated, ideally with a timeframe for when this will be addressed.
Net contribution of International Market Based Mechanism	State whether international market-based mechanisms will be used to fulfil the contribution. If they will be used, information regarding the below should be provided, if known:

8 The table in this section is informed by a number of sources including the Lima Call to Action and INDCs submitted by the date of publication of this guide, as well as work by the International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV, www.mitigationpartnership.net/indcs-related-documents and WRI, www.wri.org/our-work/topics/indcs

9 See www.ipcc-nccc.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/index.html

10 Unlike other sectors in a greenhouse gas inventory, land use can act as a sink of CO_2 or a source of greenhouse gases – the sum of these removals and emissions is called a net emission. For more information, see Section 1.2 of Volume 4 of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: www.ipcc-nccc.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/vol4.html

11 Where available, information should be provided regarding a) which activities and land use categories have been included; b) the separation of net emissions into emissions of CO_2 and other greenhouse gases, and, removals of CO_2 ; c) which methodological approaches for greenhouse gas estimation have been used (e.g. IPCC 2006 Guidelines).

- what proportion of the emission reductions to be achieved by the contribution will be fulfilled by market-based mechanisms (e.g. % or Mt CO₂eq contribution);
- what type of mechanisms are anticipated to be used (e.g. CDM units, units from other mechanisms such as Joint Crediting Mechanism, emissions trading schemes, REDD+ etc.);
- what vintages of units will be used (e.g. only those relating to the timeframe for implementation of the contribution);
- how double-counting of those mechanisms will be avoided (e.g. being used by two countries or two institutions).

2.2.2 Template for information on the reference point for action-based contributions

The below table details the information that should be provided for action-based contributions regarding the reference point. Where the contribution includes more than one action, the table will need to be completed for each of the key actions. An illustrative example of how this could be done in practice for an action-based contribution is provided further below.

Quantifiable information on the reference point (applicable to action-based contributions)	
Reference point for action-based contributions	
Base year	State the base year for the activity
Methodology for assessing base year and anticipated future emissions	Refer to documents which provide the methodology for calculating base year emissions, and projecting or evaluating future emissions.
Anticipated emission reductions	State the anticipated impact that the activity will have on emissions reductions over the time period for implementation of the INDC (e.g. XX Mt CO ₂ eq).

2.2.3 Template for information on the reference point for outcome-based contributions

The below table details the information that should be provided for outcome-based contributions regarding the reference point for the contribution. Note that not every section of the table needs to be completed – only the section of the table that relates to the type of outcome-based contribution included in the INDC needs to be completed.

Quantifiable information on the reference point (applicable to outcome-based contributions)	
Reference point for base year emissions outcome-based contributions [delete if not applicable]	
Base year	State the base year for the contribution.
Base year emissions	State base year emissions (e.g. XX Mt CO ₂ eq).

Methodology for assessing base year emissions	Refer to documents which provide the methodology for calculating base year emissions.
Reference point for fixed level outcome-based contributions [delete if not applicable]	
Base year	State that, by definition, a fixed level goal does not have a base year, but consider providing further detail regarding the definition of the fixed level goal.
Reference point for baseline scenario outcome-based contributions [delete if not applicable]	
BAU emissions in the target year	State the BAU target year emissions (i.e. XX Mt CO ₂ eq).
Baseline projection methodology	State whether the baseline scenario is fixed or dynamic, and refer to documents which provide further details regarding the baseline projection methodology.
Projection methodology for low carbon scenarios	Refer to documents which provide the methodology for the low carbon scenarios.
Reference point for base year intensity outcome-based contributions [delete if not applicable]	
Base year	State the base year for the contribution and the base year emissions (e.g. XX Mt CO eq).
Base year emissions intensity	State the base year emissions intensity for the contribution (XX MtCO ₂ eq/GDP, XX MtCO ₂ eq/capita).
Methodology for assessing base year emissions intensity	Refer to documents which provide the methodology for base year emissions.
Baseline and projection methodology for emission intensity factors	Refer to documents which provide the methodology for both the base year for the emission intensity factors (e.g. GDP, population) and as well as how these factors are expected to grow over time, including historical trends. Note that explanation only needs to be provided for the emission intensity factors that are explicitly included in the contribution.

An illustrative example of a completed section 2.2 for an action-based contribution is provided below. INDCs submitted to UNFCCC to date may provide useful additional examples of how this section of the template could be completed: see www.unfccc.int/focus/indc_portal/items/8766.php

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE

2.2 Action-based contribution

In order to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding, detailed information regarding the Renewable Energy Master Plan is provided below.

Action	<i>Renewable Energy Master Plan – 80% of existing power generation to be replaced by hydropower, photovoltaic and wind power facilities by 2025.</i>
Time frames and/or periods for implementation	
Timeframe for implementation	<i>2012–2025.</i>

Scope and coverage	
Scope of gases included in the contribution	<i>Carbon dioxide (CO₂).</i>
Sectors/sources covered by the contribution	<i>Energy industries (source code: 1A1); Manufacturing Industries and Construction (source code: 1A2); Other Sectors (1A4). All source codes are from 2006 IPCC Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Inventories.</i>
Geographies covered by the contribution	<i>All national territories.</i>
Assumptions and methodological approaches	
Methodology for emissions accounting	<i>The methodology for emissions accounting is provided in Annex B to the Renewable Energy Master Plan [link to online reference]; the methodology is consistent with WRI's Policy Action Standard.¹²</i>
Global warming potentials (GWP)	<i>Not applicable since Master Plan only focuses on CO₂ (GWP of 1).</i>
Approach for land use, land-use change and forestry emissions	<i>Not applicable since the Master Plan does not include biomass or biofuels, i.e. land use, land-use and forestry emissions are not included in the Renewable Energy Master Plan.</i>
Net contribution of international market-based mechanism	<i>International market-based mechanisms will not be used to fulfil the contribution.</i>
Reference point	
Base year	<i>2012.</i>
Methodology for assessing base year and anticipated future emissions	<i>The methodology for assessing base year emissions and anticipated future emissions are provided in Annex B to the Renewable Energy Master Plan [link to online reference]; this includes the current emissions intensity of the electricity grid, business-as-usual future emissions intensity of the electricity grid (i.e. in the absence of the Master Plan), as well as core assumptions such as anticipated increases in power use over 2012–25 and the penetration of renewables year-on-year over the period 2012–25.</i>
Anticipated emission reductions	<i>Cumulative emissions reductions of XX Mt CO₂ eq are anticipated over the period 2012–2025.</i>

12 WRI's Greenhouse Gas Protocol and Action Standard www.wri.org/publication/policy-and-action-standard

2.3 FAIR AND AMBITIOUS

Aim: This section sets out how the contribution is considered to be fair and ambitious in light of the country's national circumstances and the Convention's objective as set out in its Article 2: "*... stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.*"

Key data sources could include: Information related to national circumstances, metrics related to fairness and effort sharing, any studies undertaken on fairness and related metrics.

Relevant UNFCCC reference: "*...the information to be provided by Parties "... may include how the Party considers that its intended nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious, in light of its national circumstances, and how it contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2"* (Lima Call for Climate Action, Decision 1/CP.20, paragraph 14).

Please note that official definitions and metrics for fairness and ambition have yet to be agreed. In general, fairness requires a comparison of the emissions and contributions with other countries; ambition refers to the relationship between what a country could do and what it proposes to do.

2.3 Template for fairness and ambition

Fairness and ambition

In describing how a contribution is fair and ambitious, countries can consider the following:

Fairness – the following metrics can be considered to explain 'fairness' in sharing the effort of combating climate change:

- Historical responsibility;
- Mitigation potential;
- Per capita emissions;
- capability (e.g. GDP/capita), etc.

Ambition – the following considerations may be useful when discussing the level of ambition of a contribution:

- Relevant national circumstances – emission trends, economic trends (e.g. GDP), population trends, existing mitigation policies and climate related support, etc;
- Mitigation potential¹³ (and its related costs) at the national level and the extent to which this potential is captured by the contribution¹⁴ as well as mitigation activities already implemented/planned;
- Capability – capability can include both constraints and opportunities in relation to development, economic, social and environmental capabilities.

¹³ Both mitigation potential and costs need to be related to a point in time, e.g. 2030, since both will vary over time, as potential is taken up and costs change.

¹⁴ Depending on the form of the contribution, further considerations include a comparison to the Business As Usual (BAU) scenario or decarbonisation indicators, like the carbon intensity of power generation ($t\text{CO}_2\text{eq} / \text{MWh generated}$), of transport ($t\text{CO}_2\text{eq}/\text{km travelled or tkm}$) or of production ($t\text{CO}_2\text{eq} / \text{t steel produced or t cement produced}$).

Existing documents (such as those listed above) may already provide the data and assumptions for the metrics above. Hence, it may be possible to summarise key points from these existing documents and refer back to them for further detail.

An example of a completed section 2.3 is provided below.

2.3 Fair and ambitious

ILLUSTRATIVE
EXAMPLE
LDCs

Country X is a Least Developed Country whose emissions are less than XX% of global emissions and net per capital emissions are XX t CO₂eq (compared to the global average of XX t CO₂eq). However, Country X recognises that in order to meet the 2 degree objective all countries will need to undertake mitigation. Country X's approach is driven by the long term goal that by 2050 all countries should converge our emissions at the level of 2t CO₂eq/capita. Subsequently, Country X's approach focuses on avoiding an increase of emissions per capita beyond this level, while pursuing our development goals.

As an LDC and given we account for a small share of past and current global greenhouse gases, Country X is therefore putting forward actions that align with a low carbon development pathway, which to be fully implemented would require additional international support in the form of finance, technology transfer and capacity building. Country X will also provide a relevant contribution with regards to national financial resources, staff time and strong integration of development and mitigation activities.

In selecting the actions set out above, Country X has prioritised those which fit with the growth priorities set out in our national development plans. In addition, Country X has captured the synergies between mitigation and adaptation, not only by prioritising those adaptation activities with a significant mitigation co-benefits but also by seeking to minimise the carbon footprint of its adaptation portfolio as a whole.

ILLUSTRATIVE
EXAMPLE
SIDS

As a small island developing state, our size and stage of economic development, determines our mitigation potential and hence our contribution. However our aspirations to transform our carbon-intensive sectors, namely energy and transport, have guided the level of our ambition. Despite representing X% of global emissions, we are committing to a target of X% reduction by 20XX, against [insert year] levels.

3. Adaptation

Aim: This section provides an opportunity for countries to outline current and future adaptation action. For many countries, climate change adaptation, incorporated as climate resilient development, is intrinsic to their overall economic development. The INDC provides an opportunity for countries to highlight current adaptation activity including potentially transferable tools and practices, and the support that may be required for implementation of adaptation plans, developing capacity or scaling up interventions. It also provides a way for countries to demonstrate progress in these plans through monitoring activities in future.

Key data sources could include: National Adaptation Plan (NAP); National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs); National Communications; National Planning documents; disaster risk reduction plans.

Relevant UNFCCC reference: *"Invites all Parties to consider communicating their undertakings in adaptation planning or consider including an adaptation component in their intended nationally determined contributions"* (Lima Call for Climate Action, Decision 1/CP.20, paragraph 12).

Given the wide-ranging and cross-cutting nature of adaptation plans and activities, countries may well choose to add an adaptation section to their INDCs. This would ensure that the adaptation efforts included have been fully considered in the context of country-driven assessments of needs, priorities, capabilities and benefits. This section of the INDC provides an opportunity to bring together strategies and processes and to capture nationally-determined priorities and plans for adaptation, ideally in a concise, coherent and coordinated form. As highlighted in (draft) WRI guidance, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) has provided both an overview and guidance to the preparation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), showing a strong overlap between the processes of preparing a NAP and the elements needed for the adaptation component of an INDC.

There are also multiple opportunities to link climate action more widely with the overall development objectives of the country – including through the mutual co-benefits between adaptation and mitigation,¹⁵ and their positive potential, when deployed together, to further enhance country capacity. In this vein, INDCs may also usefully highlight greater ambition for the future, especially in respect of capacity development, finance and technology support needed to scale up current plans to underpin wider low carbon resilience within development.

¹⁵ The basis for the treatment of mitigation adaptation synergies can be seen in Garibaldi, J.A., Arias, G. 2014. "Enhancing Bold Collective Action: A Variable Geometry and Incentives Regime." Energeia, London. www.act2015.org/ACT%202015_Variable_Geometry_and_Incentives.pdf

There are a number of ways in which adaptation activities could fit well with the mitigation elements of the INDCs:

- Some adaptation activities will provide mitigation co-benefits, i.e. lead to reductions in greenhouse gas emissions or increase greenhouse gas sinks. Where this is the case, the mitigation benefits from these activities should be included within the mitigation section of the INDC (and not here), alongside other greenhouse gas impacts, to avoid any potential for double-counting. For example, adaptation-mitigation inter-linkages in small islands could include energy supply and use, tourism infrastructure and activities, and functions and services associated with coastal wetlands.
- Some activities undertaken primarily for mitigation purposes may also offer adaptation co-benefits. For example, forestry activities undertaken to deliver greenhouse gas impacts may also provide a range of ecosystem-based adaptation benefits and services (such as protection of water resources). In this case, it will be helpful to indicate these adaptation co-benefits within this adaptation section of the INDC.

There are other activities that are purely adaptive, but which are crucial for the country's own development; and/or which enable other aspects of climate action.

The national or international technology, finance and capacity support needed to deliver the adaptation activities outlined here could be highlighted within the INDC implementation plan, alongside the similar needs in relation to mitigation. There are likely to be benefits in terms of efficiency, effectiveness and reporting in having one integrated implementation plan.

3 Template for adaptation

Adaptation

This section may include an overview of or all of the below, where relevant and where country-level information is available

- The role of adaptation in national sustainable development planning including statement of the long-term goals and vision. This may cover outline justification for national adaptation ambitions in relation to needs and benefits, and should link to any country level analysis of climate impacts, risks and vulnerabilities. Goals may be expressed in relation to key sectors or cross-cutting themes, and in terms of quantitative output targets or process-oriented goals, as appropriate to the country and their existing plans.
- Existing national adaptation plans and strategies, such as National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs), including any respective implementation plans updates and future intentions regarding new strategies and processes. There are a number of other national level documents which may form the most appropriate starting point, or countries may have summaries within their National Communications to the UNFCCC. Countries may choose to present plans according to sectors or themes or lead ministries, according to their contexts and priorities.

- Qualitative assessment of adaptation co-benefits from mitigation activities (see further above for examples).
- Current financial support for adaptation and identification of key gaps, barriers and needs for support (including technical, financial capacity building) needed to deliver national adaptation actions as outlined in the national strategies.
- Plans for monitoring and reporting on adaptation activities, ideally including metrics that can be used to track progress. This may cover outline justification for national adaptation ambitions in relation to needs and benefits, and should link to any country level analysis of climate impacts, risks and vulnerabilities. robust system of monitoring and review. This may include any existing measures to capture the impacts of adaptation projects and activities or plans to integrate adaptation into wider national planning and measurement systems.'

For some countries it will be appropriate to include an overview of relevant subnational or sector adaptation plans in the INDC, either in addition to the national level information or in its place if there is no established national adaptation plan or programme of activities.

Existing documents (such as the data sources listed above) can be referred to for further detail.

An illustrative example of a completed section 3 is provided below.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE

3 Adaptation

Climate change adaptation is a key priority for Country X and we have already undertaken initiatives to mainstream adaptation into national development such as in the water, health, forestry and agriculture sectors. This is because Country X is particularly vulnerable to weather extremes such as cyclones and heatwaves and science predicts that these and other climate change impacts will become more severe and frequent in the future. Some specific regions (e.g. Y and J) are already experiencing a regular worsening of droughts, and regional-level adaptation action plans are in place to address those sectors that have been particularly affected. Other regions (e.g. M and P) have suffered the worst floods of the last 50 years during the past five years. It was also estimated [insert literature reference here] that a global warming of 2°C would imply severe economic losses for Country X's coffee sector, a sector that contributes to over 40% of Country X's exports.

Country X's long-term vision is to ensure that the livelihoods of our population will thrive in spite of the expected changes in climatic conditions, such as droughts and heatwaves, to achieve a middle-income status by [insert year]. To ensure that climate change adaptation is mainstreamed into all key policies and sectors in Country X has set up a National Climate Change Committee to coordinate the effort. In addition Country X is committed to protecting the most vulnerable groups and will ensure that all policies and actions are guided by equity and equal rights and opportunities for women and men. Further information regarding the key vulnerabilities of Country X including the regional variation and country's long term vision are presented in the [National Development Plan] and the key [adaptation strategy].

The adaptation priorities and plans are presented in the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) completed in 2010. In addition, Country X has already started the process of developing the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), expected to be completed in 2016. Along with the NAP, many municipalities have started to develop adaptation strategies that will draw from the national strategy. Many key programmes identified in the NAPA are either completed or under implementation such as the national early warning system for natural disasters and climate change vulnerability assessment of key sectors. For a more complete list of current and planned projects and initiatives please the NAPA of Country X [link to online reference].

Country X acknowledges that climate change action requires a holistic approach and further acknowledges that many activities will deliver both adaptation and mitigation benefits. For example, Country X's national afforestation programme [link to strategy for details] aims at increasing the national forest cover by 2% a year for the next 15 years; in doing so, Country X will both protect the livelihoods and water resources of our population and also increase our national greenhouse gas sinks.

Although Country X has already implemented several key adaptation initiatives but it still remains vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. In order to increase the resilience to climate change in Country X, it is estimated that the near-term financial needs are US\$ X until 2020 and US\$ Y by 2030 [cite source]. However, these estimates are based on the assumption that global warming will be limited to 2°C and therefore the expected costs will be higher if collective action fails to keep the warming under that threshold. Some of the key programmes that have been highlighted as national adaptation priorities include 'Mainstreaming Climate Change in Agriculture', 'Climate Smart Water Use and Planning', 'National Reforestation Programme' and 'Sustainable Livelihoods' that are long-term programmes that build the capacity of local communities to adapt to climate change. For further details of these programmes, including expected impacts and costs and of other programmes please see [link to online reference]. In addition, further resources are needed to increase the understanding of long-term impacts of climate change (such as on precipitation and temperature) and the respective socioeconomic implication across different sectors in Country X. Country X has also identified institutional capacity-building at the national and local level, around adaptation planning and coordination, as a priority.

Finally, Country X acknowledges that monitoring and evaluation of adaptation policies and programmes is crucial to ensure that resources are targeted to actions that provide the best opportunities to increase the resilience of our people. Development of key adaptation indicators is already explored in the Programme 'Climate Smart Water Use and Planning' and the main lessons learned will be shared across programmes. The objective is to mainstream adaptation and vulnerability indicators in the National Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system currently under development.

4. Planning process

Aim: This section provides an overview of existing or planned domestic processes for monitoring and supporting the implementation of the INDC.

Key data sources could include: National and subnational formal and informal development planning processes; climate change legislation, policies or action plans; green growth strategies; information on institutional structures and processes related to climate change policy planning; MRV from Biennial Update Reports or National Communications.

Relevant UNFCCC reference: "...the information to be provided by Parties communicating their intended nationally determined contributions, in order to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding, may include, as appropriate, *inter alia*,...planning processes..."(Lima Call for Climate Action Decision 1/CP.20, paragraph 14).

4 Template for planning process

Planning process

This section may include overview information on any (or all) of the below, where relevant:

- existing or proposed national and subnational planning or other processes for implementing and tracking climate change activities and finance;
- national climate policy monitoring and evaluation processes;
- national MRV processes for greenhouse gas emissions;
- existing national climate change legislation, policies or actions plans, on which the contribution will build;
- key sectoral plans e.g. energy, water, agriculture;
- awareness raising and capacity building.

Existing documents (such as those listed above) are likely to already outline planning processes relevant for implementing and tracking the implementation of the contribution. Hence, it may be possible to summarise key points from these documents and refer back to them referring back to them for further detail.

An example of a completed section 4 is provided below.

ILLUSTRATIVE
EXAMPLE

4 Planning process

Country X intends to support the delivery of its INDC through the implementation of the comprehensive climate change policy set out in its National Climate Change Action Plan. The plan incorporates the following elements:

- *sectoral action plans covering all of the activities summarised above, led by the respective line ministries;*
- *synergies with the National Development Plan;*
- *building on the Low Emission Development Strategy;*
- *a National Climate Change Committee, led by the Deputy Prime Minister, supported by a Climate Change Secretariat within the Ministry of Environment & Forests;*
- *a proposed National Climate MRV System (to be developed and implemented), encompassing greenhouse gas inventory, NAMA MRV framework, adaptation M&E framework and climate finance tracking system;*
- *supporting initiatives on stakeholder engagement and capacity building;*
- *a Climate Change Law to be tabled in draft in 2015.*

5. Means of implementation

Aim: This section provides the financial, capacity-building, technology transfer or other types of international support related to the INDC; the information provided may help international partners to better understand and target their support. This section can cover both mitigation and adaptation.

Key data sources could include: Technology needs assessments; national and subnational climate change strategies or action plans; green growth strategies; capacity needs assessments; bilateral and multilateral support to the country to date; investment needs assessments; NAMAs; NAPAs; CPEIR (Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review).

Relevant UNFCCC reference: N/A

5 Template for means of implementation

Means of Implementation

This section can include overview information on any or all of the below:

- financial support – the anticipated domestic financial contribution, as well as current domestic spending on climate change action; and the scale and type of international finance needs related to the INDC;
- capacity-building support – this can include any support required to monitor and implement the INDC's contribution, including the underlying policies, sector strategies and projects that will help;
- technology transfer – the scale and types of environmentally sustainable technologies related to the INDC contribution.

An overview of the country's requirements can be provided, or a more detailed break-down provided by action/sector. Where possible, further details should be provided including: when the support is required, how much international finance may be needed; separately specifying any domestic financial contribution that may be relevant.

Existing documents (such as the data sources listed above) can be referred to for further detail.

An example of a completed section 5 is provided below.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE

5 Means of implementation

Country X's INDC includes both an unconditional and conditional contribution; the unconditional contribution assumes unilateral action only (no additional international support), while the conditional contribution assumes that international support will be needed. The table further below summarises the international support that would be required to implement the conditional contribution,

with specific support required across three areas: finance, technology transfer and capacity-building.

Furthermore, international support is needed to support the implementation of Country X's National Adaptation Plan. Country X estimates that the cost of adapting to climate change has cost approximately US\$ XX million over 2004–2014, with the majority funded from international sources. Initial estimates indicate that at least this level of finance will be needed again over the coming decade and thereafter, due to the increasing impacts of climate change.

Name of activity	Description	Support required	Type of support needed (financial, technology transfer, capacity building)	When is support required?	National budget available (US\$)	Financial support required (US\$)	Where financial support is required, please indicate
Renewable Energy Master Plan	80% of existing power generation through coal and diesel to be replaced by hydropower, biogas and wind-power-facilities.	To achieve this ambitious program, renewable technologies will be needed, as well as financial support to undertake feasibility studies and obtain attractive finance.	Financial support, technology transfer.	2015–2030.	XX	XX	
Update of greenhouse gas inventory needed	Limited understanding of 2006 IPCC Guidelines and lack of resources for data collection means that the greenhouse gas inventory has not been updated since 1996.	Capacity-building, financial support for TA to update the greenhouse gas inventory.	Capacity-building, financial support.	As soon as possible.	XX	XX	
Improving Rural Livelihoods Programme	This climate resilience program includes increasing small hydropower plants to provide electricity to rural communities and businesses, replacing diesel-fuelled off-grid generation. 20% of financing for this programme will come from domestic resources.	Grants are needed to improve the affordability of the hydropower technology.	Financial.	2015–2020.	XX	XX	

<i>Name of activity</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Support required</i>	<i>Type of support needed (financial, technology transfer, capacity building)</i>	<i>When is support required?</i>	<i>National budget available (US\$)</i>	<i>Financial support required (US\$)</i>	<i>Where financial support is required, please indicate</i>
National Adaptation Plan	The NAP details an action plan for improving Country X's climate resilience [link to online reference].	See Annex 1 of the NAP [link to online reference].	Financial, capacity-building, technology-transfer.	2015–2030.	XX	XX	

This document is an output from a project commissioned through the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN). CDKN is a programme funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and the Netherlands Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS) for the benefit of developing countries. The views expressed and information contained in it are not necessarily those of or endorsed by DFID, DGIS or the entities managing the delivery of the CDKN, which can accept no responsibility or liability for such views, completeness or accuracy of the information or for any reliance placed on them.

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