

REPOA Brief



Tanzania's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) - An Overview of Progress, Opportunities and Prospects

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Key Message

The Government of Tanzania recently submitted its revised Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) outlining emission reduction targets, marking an important step in the national climate change response policy.

Emphasis is placed on renewable energy, blue economy, gender equality, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and institutional and governance aspects of NDC, which are key for a participatory, inclusive, and ambitious NDC.

Achieving the emission reduction targets requires commitment and transformation that will bring about significant and progressive changes towards the specified targets.

Strengthening the climate change institutional architecture is seen as pertinent for improved accountability, transparency and governance of climate change actions and finance.

Introduction

The Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was adopted in 1997 and entered into force in 2005. It was the first attempt to commit industrialized countries (known as Annex 1 signatories) to limit and reduce greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions, while other signatories (non-Annex 1) consisting mostly of developing countries that were not required to restrict their emissions. Tanzania signed the protocol in 2002.

GHG includes Carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (NO₂), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃).

The Kyoto Protocol was later replaced by the Paris Agreement in 2015 and brought forward a global but non-binding agreement to limit the world's average temperature increase to not more than 2°C above preindustrial levels, while striving to keep it to 1.5°C above preindustrial levels. This was a landmark achievement in the international response to climate change by both Annex 1 and non-Annex 1 countries.

The Paris Agreement commits all Parties to prepare, communicate and maintain Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) that they intend to achieve. Under the UNFCCC, the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) represent the

main national policy frameworks through which Parties communicate their climate commitments to the international community, report on the progress made and support needed toward achieving the set-out emission targets. Tanzania submitted her INDC in 2015 and the NDC in July 2021, before the Conference of Parties (CoP) 26 scheduled for November 2021 in Glasgow, UK.

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) or Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) are country's specific and non-binding national plans highlighting climate actions, including climate related targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions, policies and measures governments aim to implement in response to climate change, and as a contribution to achieve the global targets set out in the Paris Agreement. Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 22 of the Paris Agreement commented that to attain the agreement's objectives there is a need to restrict the global temperature increase to below 2°C above the pre-industrial level, while strengthening the common purpose to limit the rise to 1.5°C. The emission targets pledged in the NDC aims to contribute to the global efforts of reducing GHG emissions through joined mitigation and adaptation actions.

The ongoing efforts on NDC development in Tanzania thus validate the government's direction in the execution of science-based actions towards the required transformation.

The ongoing efforts also provide room for organizing policy, technical and financial resources needed to boost long-term resilience, as well as promoting low carbon pathway as stipulated in the Paris Agreement and the United Nations (UN) 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development. This policy brief targets policymakers, development partners, and stakeholders who wish to better understand the preparation, progress, challenges and opportunities available for the development and implementation of inclusive, participatory and ambitious NDCs in Tanzania. Based on the in-depth review of literature and interactions with key stakeholders in the country, it outlines progress made on the development of the NDCs, challenges encountered and concludes with policy recommendations on various opportunities that can be employed to enhance inclusion for the ambitious NDCs as submitted to the UNFCCC - and how it can be implemented on the ground.

GHG emission reduction targets

The government in collaboration with other stakeholders submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) in 2015, marking an important step on climate change policy in the country. Following the resolutions of the Paris Agreement to ratchet up individual countries' targets so as to meet the total aggregate value that will meet the upper target range of 20C, the government upscaled the ambition target from 10-20% to 30-35% by 2030, which is within the range pledged by neighboring countries such as Kenya (32%) and Rwanda (38%). Emphasis is placed on renewable energy, blue economy, gender equality and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), institutional and governance of NDC aspects, which are key for a participatory, inclusive, and ambitious NDC.

The revised NDC is accompanied by its costed implementation plan.

Proposed adaptation and mitigation measures

Like many other Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Tanzania has a low GHG emission status but is highly vulnerable to extreme weather conditions hence the major focus will be on enhancing climate resilience with adaptation co-benefits.

The impacts of climate change and variability affect various sectors that are essential for Tanzania's economic growth and livelihoods, food security, human health, energy generation, ecosystem, and biodiversity conservation. There are also important landscapes that are at risk as identified during the vulnerability assessments, and these include coastal zones, key river basins, and arid and semi-arid dry lands. The key sectors focusing on adaptation are Agriculture and food security (including livestock), water (including sanitation and hygiene), energy, forestry, health, wildlife, tourism, industry, coastal marine environment and fisheries, land use, and human settlement development, wetlands and infrastructure. Cross-cutting issues include disaster risk reduction, gender mainstreaming, capacity building, research and systematic observation and technology development. The adaptation targets were prepared after a careful valuation of the emission trends, present and future vulnerabilities of individual sectors, compounded by the COVID 19 factor to vulnerable communities. To achieve the set out targets, the government will consider the impacts of climate change in development planning at all levels and will pursue adaptation measures as outlined in the NDC.

As for mitigation, the country's great potential lies in the mitigation through Carbon sequestration by afforestation and enhancement of carbon sinks. The main focus of emission is Carbon dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), and Nitrous Oxide (N₂O). The country's ambition is to reduce greenhouse gas emission economy-wide between 30-35% by 2030 relative to the Business-As-Usual (BAU) scenario, equivalent to 138-153 million tons of CO₂ gross emissions, consistent with its sustainable development agenda. Priority mitigation sectors are energy, transport, forestry and waste management.

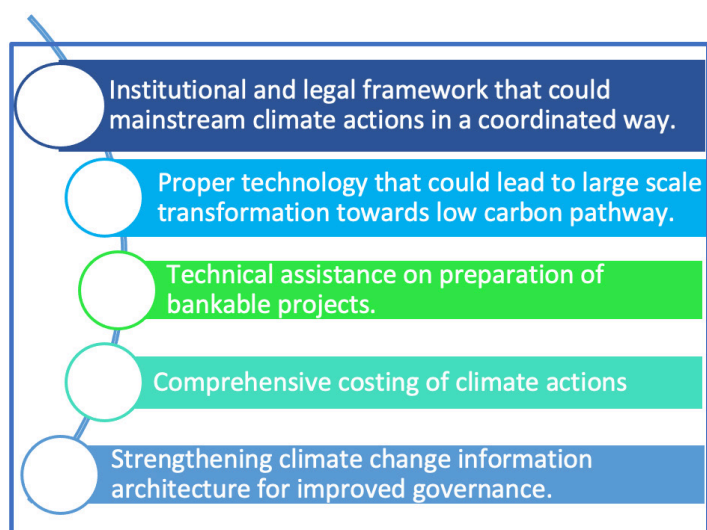
NDC implementation readiness

Stakeholder consultations were initiated at different stages of development of the NDC design and implementation processes. The National Climate Change Communication Strategy (NCCCS) of 2012, the National Climate Change Strategy (NCCR, 2012), the National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS, 2021), the Zanzibar Climate Change Strategy (ZCCR, 2014) and the implementation plans, were developed to facilitate the implementation of various climate actions.

The NCCCS aims to increase awareness and perception of climate change issues amongst stakeholders, within the framework of the national reporting channels and procedures.

Implementation of the NDC's commitments will require some US\$ 14.3 billion by 2025— US\$ 9.2 billion for adaptation and the US\$ 5.1 billion for mitigation. Implementation of climate actions that will lead to low carbon pathway requires financing from UNFCCC financial mechanism, bilateral funding and from the private sector. To be able to manage such funds in a transparent manner, Tanzania requires formulation of an appropriate financial mechanism that will pave way for accessing funds for climate action. This will be known as the National Climate Change Financing Mechanism (NCCFM) and will establish its own fund known as the Climate Change Fund. This financial mechanism will be integrated into the FYDP III Financial Strategy (2021/22-2025/26) and put in place strategic measures of promoting Tanzania's position towards climate finance, identify areas for financial support to implement the NDC and establish institutional collaboration mechanism between the government and the private sector. It will also provide a way forward towards acquiring more finance to address mitigation and adaptation measures.

Other support needs for implementation of NDCs include:



Opportunities for enhancing NDC implementation in Tanzania

These relate to the incorporation of climate change issues into various government plans and strategies to meet the Paris Agreement targets, Sustainable Development Goals and the green growth agenda.

These include:

- Improvement of Monitoring, Recording and Verification (MRV) of GHGs for a more accurate estimate and more realistic ambitions.
- Promotion of low-emission transport systems such as deployment of mass rapid transport, investments in electric-operated Standard Gauge Railway, maritime and road infrastructures.
- Promote the use of low-carbon options such as the use of geothermal power, solar powered lights, wind power and waste to energy management approaches.
- Use of market and non-market based mechanisms that contribute to significant reduction of GHGs.
- Promotion of nature-based solutions that can have adaptation co-benefits, gender responsive with climate resilient approaches.
- Promote blue economy.
- Localize NDC and join active platforms/networks.
- Tracking Climate Change and NDCs.

Policy recommendations

- Achieving the emission reduction targets requires commitment and transformation that will bring about significant change to progress towards the specified target.
- A National Climate Change Financing Mechanism that will provide a strategic direction on climate actions. This will facilitate resource mobilization from different sources and promote private sector investments.
- Initiate a Climate Change Fund that will integrate all incoming funds from different sources that aim for climate change actions, enhance transparency and promote investments that will significantly contribute to emission reduction targets.
- Instigate actions that will foster blue carbon stock as contributing components to the mitigation of climate change impacts in the NDC.
- Strengthen the climate change institutional architecture for improved accountability, transparency and governance of activities and finance.

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