# Actions and support before 2020: where are we?

Paving the way for progress under the Paris Agreement



**United Nations** Climate Change Secretaria

### Key messages



Developed countries are progressing towards their 2020 targets but gaps remain



Increasing levels of financial support provided by developed countries to developing countries could provide an incentive for a shift towards a lowemission and climateresilient development pathway



The portfolio of climate actions continues to expand following strong political commitment



Technology transfer and capacity-building support is beginning to lay the foundation for developing countries' climate action beyond 2020



Transformational change towards low- and zerocarbon economies is on its way but the pace is slow



Transparency of action and support has enhanced the quality of reporting

As part of the International Assessment and Review process under the Convention, developed countries prepare reports every two years. These reports highlight the assessment by developed countries on the progress made in meeting their 2020 targets, including the innovative climate actions and institutional frameworks that are constructing a launch pad for success under the Paris Agreement in the period after 2020. The reports also feature the financial, technology and capacity-building support provided to developing country Parties.

#### Developed countries are progressing towards their 2020 targets but gaps remain



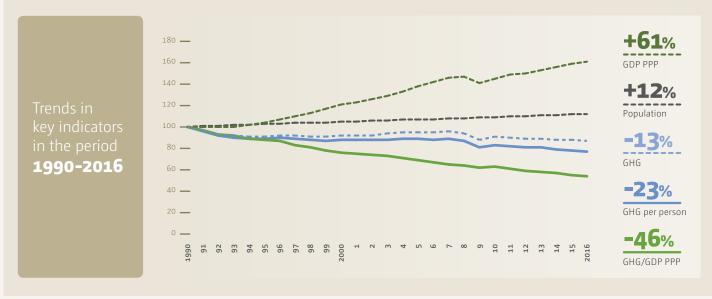
- Between 1990 and 2016, greenhouse gas emissions of developed countries decreased by 13 per cent.
- Since 2010, emissions dropped 4.4 per cent, likely due in part to climate actions that more than offset the impact of economic and population growth.
- Most individual developed countries have met and exceeded their 2020 targets, while a few are behind and must make more effort or use market mechanisms.
- The full implementation of appropriate emission reduction actions and policies will be an important step towards further progress by 2020 and beyond.
- For this, solid legal, institutional and policy frameworks are needed, and many developed countries have already started strengthening them.
- Developed countries' greenhouse gas emissions are projected to level out between 2016 and 2020, suggesting a need for stronger policies and actions that would set economies on a clear declining emissions pathway.

**4.4%** Decrease in emissions from developed countries between 2010 and 2016

**11%** Projected decrease in emissions from developed countries between 1990 and 2020 if all planned climate actions are implemented

**4.6%** Fall in greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP purchasing power parity in developed countries between 1990 and 2016

**23%** Drop in greenhouse gas emissions per person in developed countries between 1990 and 2016



All numbers presented here excludes the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry sector.

#### The portfolio of climate actions continues to expand following strong political commitment



- The diverse climate actions are progressively being shaped by the increased ambition of the midterm (2025/2030) targets communicated under the Paris Agreement.
- Climate actions and policies are expanding and improving as countries integrate lessons learned from previous policy cycles.
- Policies that deliver sizeable emission reductions include tendering for renewable energy projects, emissions trading, energy efficiency, carbon and energy taxes and the electrification of heating of buildings and transport.
- This is a positive signal for ambition not only in the period before 2020, but also for the implementation of more ambitious national climate contributions under the Paris Agreement.



#### Denmark

adopted a plan for 50 per cent of its electricity consumption to be met with wind energy by 2020; this includes a competitive tendering approach.



#### Canada

prepared a Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change plan to reduce emissions, stimulate clean economic growth and build resilience to the impacts of climate change.



#### Australia

allocated 2.5 billion Australian dollars to purchase carbon credits through its Emissions Reduction Fund using a competitive process of reverse auctions.



#### Transformational change towards low- and zero-carbon economies is on its way but the pace is slow



- Emission reduction targets for 2020 are increasingly seen as a starting point for ambition under the Paris Agreement where more effort, policies and actions need to be stepped up.
- Some countries are reporting actions and policies aimed at meeting 2030 targets and beyond, focusing on low- or zero-emission strategies by mid-century.





#### Sweden

legislated its climate targets of net zero emissions by 2045 and negative emissions thereafter as part of its 2017 Climate Act. The Act imposes responsibility on the current and future governments to meet these goals.

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#### **The United Kingdom**

released a Clean Growth Strategy in 2017 that sets out climate actions for future carbon budgets and pathways in order to meet its goal of reducing emissions 80% by 2050.



#### Norway

has a goal of becoming a low-emission society by 2050 with the aim of promoting its long-term transformation in a climate-friendly direction. Norway's target is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80–95% by 2050.



#### Czechia

developed a Climate Protection Policy in 2017 that sets climate goals for 2030 with an eye towards achieving an 80–95% emissions reduction by 2050.

**42** number of developed countries with 2020 targets, **43** number of developed countries with 2025/2030 targets and **36** number of developed countries with 2050 long-term goals.

Increasing levels of financial support provided by developed countries to developing countries could provide an incentive for a shift towards a lowemission and climate-resilient development pathway



 To boost developing countries' actions, developed countries provide financial, technology and capacity-building support.

- Financial support by developed countries reached 49.4 billion US dollars in 2016.
- This financial support increased by 13 per cent between the 2013/2014 and the 2015/2016 reporting periods.

**49.4** billions of US dollars of financial investment to deliver lowor zero-emission infrastructure and adaptation investments in 2016

#### **The Netherlands**

provided public climate finance of 512 million US dollars. It prepares country-specific climate profiles to address the specific needs of developing countries it supports.

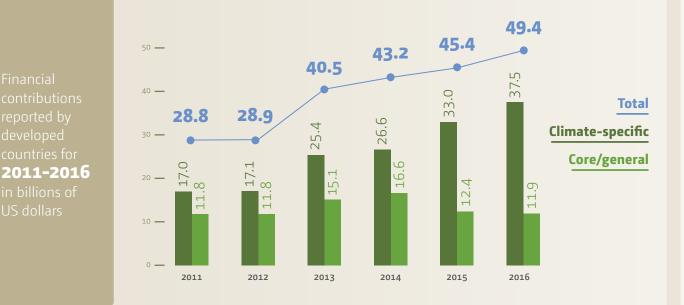
#### Switzerland

contributed 26 million US dollars to the Scaling Up Renewable Energy in Low Income Countries Programme with the aim of increasing energy access and economic opportunities in 27 pilot countries.



#### Lithuania

provided financial support to Georgia for installing 141kW of solar power at six schools and kindergartens in remote areas.



Technology transfer and capacity-building support is beginning to lay the foundation for developing countries' climate action beyond 2020.



- Most of the technology transfer is aimed at climate mitigation, while adaptation activities are the main focus of capacity-building support in developing countries.
- The Paris Agreement has led to a stronger international focus on technology transfer and capacity-building for climate action.
- This includes providing the institutional and system-wide support required for developing countries to establish the frameworks and policies for the implementation of their climate actions in the period after 2020 as well as develop a transparency system for assessing the effectiveness of those actions.



#### **New Zealand**

provided financial support in Kiribati to support the Water and Sanitation 2015–2020 project to improve resilience against drought events resulting from climate change.

#### Poland

provided capacity-building support in Armenia for search and rescue groups focused on disaster prevention and preparedness.



#### Iceland

assisted 13 East African countries in conducting geothermal exploration and building capacity to utilize geothermal energy.

#### The Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Partnership

is a coalition of 83 countries and 26 institutions, including the UNFCCC. Launched at COP 22 in Marrakech, the NDC Partnership is currently supporting 36 countries to access technical knowledge and financial support through specific action and partnership plans, the knowledge portal, peerto-peer learning and the sharing of key lessons. The NDC Partnership builds in-country capacity so that climate actions have meaningful and enduring impacts and drive global ambition over time.



Photo credit: Nic Bothma, Kuyasa urban housing energy upgrade project CDM, Cape Town, South Africa.

The **Capacitybuilding Initiative for Transparency** (CBIT) was established under the Paris Agreement. As at June 14, 2018, 41 projects, amounting to USD 53.2 million, were approved under the CBIT Trust Fund, including 39 national projects in Africa, Asia, Eastern and Central Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean, and 2 global projects. The national projects respond to priority needs of countries related to enhanced transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement.

## Transparency of action and support has enhanced the quality of reporting



- Climate actions are reported under a wellfunctioning system of measuring, reporting and verification (MRV).
- The system is supported by established institutions and international technical reviews under the UNFCCC.
- This MRV system has contributed to improving the quality of reporting.
- Developed countries have reflected in their biennial reports a deeper understanding of how their climate policies are performing over time and how they affect emission levels.
- Countries are continuously enhancing the transparency of the information they share at the international level on their climate actions and support for developing countries.
- Many countries with economies in transition have gone beyond the requirements of the Convention and started to report on a voluntary basis the financial, technological and capacitybuilding support they provide to developing countries.



#### **The European Union**

assesses progress towards its emission targets through its monitoring mechanism regulation. Member States report their greenhouse gas emissions, climate actions, national adaptation actions, financial and technology support and use of revenue from the auctioning of allowances in the EU Emissions Trading System.



#### Japan

has established a Global Warming Prevention Headquarters that assesses progress towards greenhouse gas emission targets and the progress of individual actions and measures every year on the basis of stringent rules and regular evaluations.



Photo credit: ENB, Multilateral Assessment session at COP20 Lima, 2014.



**United Nations** Climate Change Secretaria This information is from the report on the compilation and synthesis of third biennial reports of developed countries for the 2015–2016 period.

The full report is available at https://unfccc.int/documents/184521