

Reference metadata template for data reported on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Goal: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*

* Acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.

Target: 13.b Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

Indicator: 13.b.1 Number of least developed countries and small island developing States with NDCs, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans, strategies as reported in adaptation communications and national communications¹

Institutional information

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UN Climate Change (UNFCCC Secretariat)

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Concepts and definitions

Definitions:

SIDS: <http://unohrlls.org/about-sids/>

LDCs: <http://unohrlls.org/about-ldcs/>

¹ Consistent with the slight modification for accuracy, to be consistent with indicator 13.2.1, suggest re-formulation of this indicator, as explained in my intervention at the last IAEG-SDGs meeting – ‘Number of least developed countries and small island developing states with nationally determined contributions (NDCs), national adaptation plans (NAPs), long-term strategies, and adaptation communications, as reported to the UNFCCC secretariat’.

NDCs

The Paris Agreement requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive *nationally determined contributions (NDCs)* including mitigation, adaptation and support measures. The [Paris Agreement](#) (Article 4, paragraph 2) requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) that it intends to achieve. Parties shall pursue domestic mitigation measures, with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions.

Starting in 2023 and then every five years, governments will take stock of the implementation of the Agreement to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and its long-term goals. The outcome of the global stocktake (GST) will inform the preparation of subsequent NDCs, in order to allow for increased ambition and climate action to achieve the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs>

NDC interim registry <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>

NAPs

The *national adaptation plan (NAP)* process was established under the [Cancun Adaptation Framework](#) (CAF). It enables Parties to formulate and implement *national adaptation plans (NAPs)* as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs. It is a continuous, progressive and iterative process which follows a country-driven, gender-sensitive, participatory and fully transparent approach supported by technical guidelines and up to USD 3 million per developing country through the Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, intended to support the formulation of NAPs. Technical guidelines for the NAP process are available at [<unfccc.int>](#); NAPs received by the UNFCCC secretariat are posted at [<unfccc.int>](#).

Long term strategies

Under the Paris Agreement, all Parties should further strive to formulate and *communicate long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies* to provide a context and integrated long-term view to their NDCs.

In accordance with Article 4, paragraph 19, of the Paris Agreement, all Parties should strive to formulate and communicate long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, mindful of Article 2 taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.

The COP, by its decision 1/CP 21, paragraph 35, invited Parties to communicate, by 2020, to the secretariat mid-century, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 19, of the Agreement. Further information is available at [<unfccc.int>](#)

Adaptation communications

Also, each Party should, as appropriate, submit and update periodically an adaptation communication, which may include its priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and

actions. The adaptation communications will be recorded in a public registry maintained by the secretariat, available at <unfccc.int>.

National communications

The Convention established several processes to foster transparency and accountability of countries' actions to address climate change. Under Article 12, all Parties are asked to submit national inventories and national communications (NCs) to report on the implementation of the Convention. This reporting is required at different levels of stringency and with varying frequency for different Parties. National Communications received by the UNFCCC secretariat are available at <unfccc.int>.

Rationale and concepts, comments and limitations:

Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), all Parties shall formulate, implement, publish and regularly update national/regional programmes containing measures to mitigate climate change and to facilitate adequate adaptation, while taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and their specific national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances. These policies and measures should be appropriate for the specific conditions of each Party and should be integrated with national development programmes.

The Convention established several processes to foster transparency and accountability of countries' actions to address climate change.

The Paris Agreement² builds upon the Convention and brings all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects, with enhanced support to assist developing countries to do so, charting a new course in the global climate effort. The Paris Agreement's central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Additionally, the agreement aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change.

Materials are received from Parties on an ongoing basis.

Methodology

Computation Method:

Count/status of plans annually in advance of preparation of SDG progress reports, based on most recent data for SIDS and LDCs.

Disaggregation:

n/a. Some analysis on linkages across other SDGs may be undertaken in collaboration with other UN organisations, as relevant, to show how countries are utilising these tools for implementation of climate action and SDGs more broadly.

² The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016. Further information about the Paris Agreement may be found at <http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php>

Treatment of missing values:

- At country level

n/a

- At regional and global levels

n/a

Regional aggregates:

n/a

Sources of discrepancies:

n/a

Methods and guidance available to countries for the compilation of the data at the national level:

- Data is compiled globally

Quality assurance

- Data reported is based on official information as documented and reported on at <unfccc.int>.

Data Sources

Description:

Official documents and registries, as reported by Parties to the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, and published on <unfccc.int>.

NDC interim registry available at <unfccc.int>

Long term strategies received by the UNFCCC secretariat are available at <unfccc.int>.

NAPs received by the UNFCCC secretariat are available at <unfccc.int>.

Adaptation communications will be recorded in a public registry maintained by the secretariat, available at <unfccc.int>.

Collection process:

Submission of documents to the UNFCCC Secretariat from Parties to the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement.

- NAP Central and Adaptation Registries under the UNFCCC:
<https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/napc/Pages/Home.aspx>; <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/adaptation-registry>
- Least Developed Countries Expert Group yearly reports
<https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/least-developed-countries-expert-group-leg>;

Data Availability

Description:

Number of SIDS and LDCs; Number of Parties to the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement

Currently, there are 197 Parties (**196 States and 1 regional economic integration organization**) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-convention/status-of-ratification/status-of-ratification-of-the-convention>

To this date, 187 Parties have ratified the Paris Agreement, of 197 Parties to the Convention.

<https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/status-of-ratification>

Time series:

Ongoing as Parties submit reports. Will be compiled annually in advance of preparation of annual SDG progress reports; NDCs are submitted in advance of the global stocktake,(starting in 2023) every five years, with the next round of NDCs (new or updated) being submitted by 2020.

<https://unfccc.int/topics/science/workstreams/global-stocktake-referred-to-in-article-14-of-the-paris-agreement>

Calendar

Data collection:

Ongoing as Parties submit reports. Will be compiled annually in advance of preparation of annual SDG progress reports; in advance of the global stocktake.

Data release:

Ongoing as Parties submit reports. Will be compiled annually in advance of preparation of annual SDG progress reports; in advance of the global stocktake.

Data providers

Parties to the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement, aggregate, UN Climate Change (UNFCCC Secretariat); Further analysis on linkages across other SDGs may be undertaken in collaboration with other UN organisations, as relevant, to show how countries are utilising these tools for implementation of climate action and SDGs more broadly.

Data compilers

UN Climate Change (UNFCCC Secretariat).

References

As included in links above;

NDC interim registry available at <unfccc.int>

Long term strategies received by the UNFCCC secretariat are available at <unfccc.int>.

NAPs received by the UNFCCC secretariat are posted at <unfccc.int>.

Adaptation communications will be recorded in a public registry maintained by the secretariat, available at <unfccc.int>.

See attached table;

SIDS: <http://unohrlls.org/about-sids/>

LDCs: <http://unohrlls.org/about-ldcs/>

Related indicators

Adaptation Instrument	Guidance contained in	Purpose	Timeframes	Process	Types of adaptation information identified in guidance
National communications of Annex I Parties	FCCC/CP/1999/7, section II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance transparency, consistency and comparability - Enable review and assessment of implementation - Monitor progress on FCCC goals 	Every 4 y (1 Jan 2018, 2022, 2026, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secretariat posts NCs on UNFCCC website - Compilation and synthesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expected impacts - Research on impacts, vulnerabilities and adaptation - Adaptation technologies - Plans for coastal zones, water and agriculture - Outline of implementation of adaptation action
NCs of non-Annex I Parties	Annex to decision 17/CP.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage consistency, transparency and comparability - Policy guidance to operating entities of financial mechanism - Ensure COP has sufficient information for assessing implementation 	Determined by COP (generally every 4 y)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secretariat posts NCs on UNFCCC website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National circumstances relevant to adaptation - Vulnerability to climate impacts, including critical areas - Approach to vulnerability analysis - Measures taken, programmes with adaptation measures, policy frameworks, and opportunities to implement adaptation - Steps to integrate climate change into policies and actions - Capacity-building efforts to integrate adaptation into planning - How support meets adaptation needs - Barriers to adaptation
Adaptation communications	Paris Agreement Articles 7.10 and 7.11 Decision 9/CMA.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visibility and profile of adaptation, balance with mitigation - Strengthen adaptation action/support - Input to GST - Learning and understanding of adaptation needs and actions - Contribute to reviewing progress towards global goal on adaptation 	Parties invited to submit in time to inform each GST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submitted together with other documents (e.g. NC, NDC, NAP documents, or BTRs) - Recorded in an online registry - Synthesized for GST - Take stock of guidance in 2025 and revise if needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National circumstances, institutions, laws - Impacts, risks and vulnerabilities - Adaptation priorities, strategies, policies, plans, goals, actions - Implementation and support needs and provision of support - Implementation of adaptation (e.g. progress and results, cooperation, barriers and challenges, good practices, lessons and information sharing, monitoring and evaluation) - Adaptation/economic diversification with mitigation benefits - How adaptation contributes to other international processes - Consideration of gender, traditional knowledge, and indigenous/local knowledge - Any other information
Biennial transparency reports	Paris Agreement Article 13.8 Decision 18/CMA.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand climate change action, including adaptation, good practices, priorities, needs and gaps, to inform the GST - Could facilitate recognition of adaptation efforts of developing countries 	Every 2 y, starting 31 Dec 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secretariat posts BTRs on UNFCCC website and synthesizes them - SBSTA to develop outlines of BTRs by COP 25 - Synthesized for GST 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National circumstances, institutions, laws - Impacts, risks and vulnerabilities - Priorities and barriers - Strategies, policies, plans, and goals; as well as actions to integrate adaptation - Progress in implementation of adaptation - Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation - Information related to loss and damage from climate impacts - Cooperation, good practices, experience, lessons learned - Any other information



