

NDCS @ COP26

EESI Briefing Series

What's on the Table at COP26

October 22, 2021

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NDCs @ COP26:

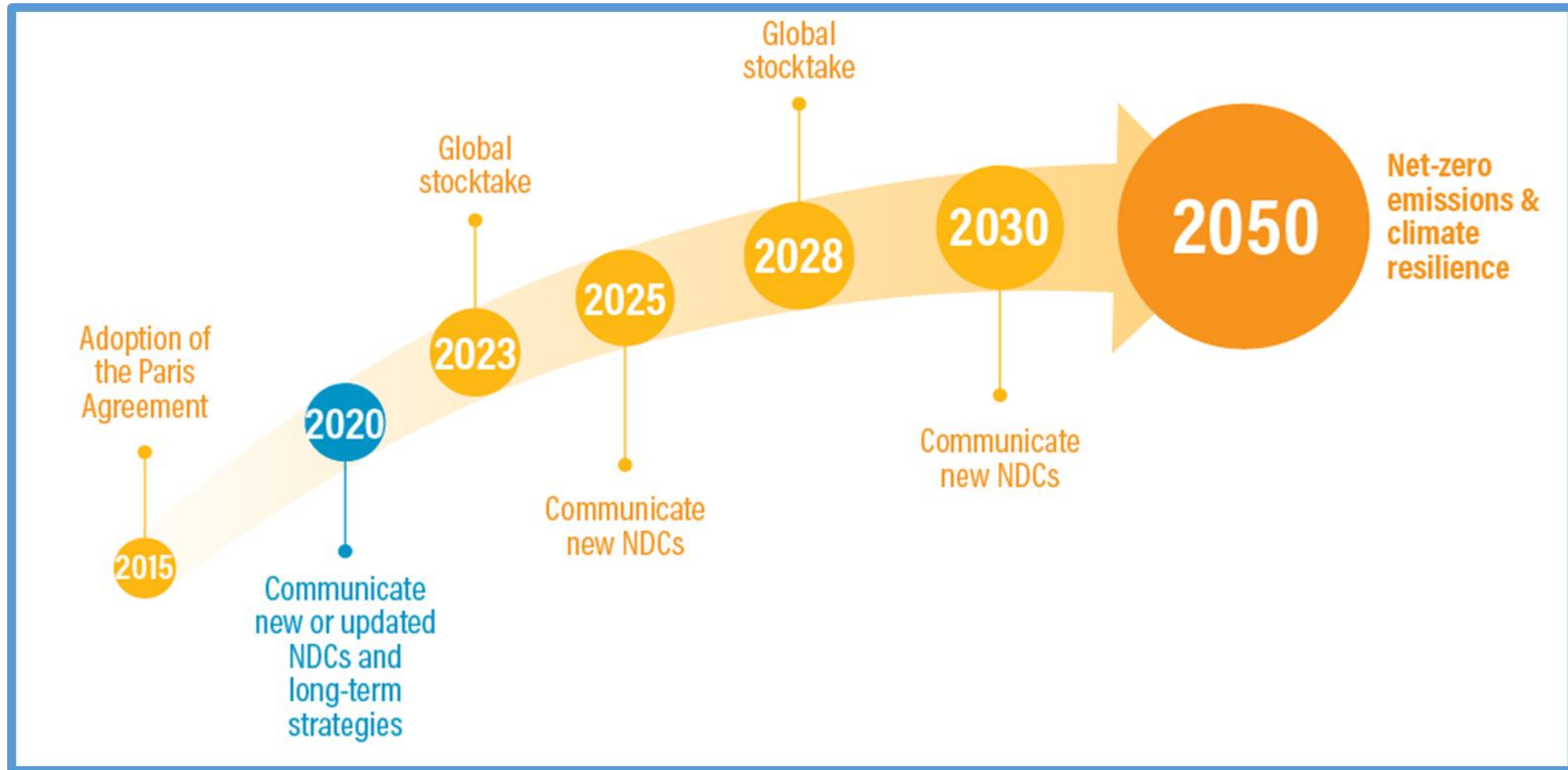
A short explainer of NDCs

- Built on UNFCCC Articles 4 & 12 commitments and Kyoto Protocol's mitigation targets ("quantified emission limitation and reduction commitments")
- Defined in Paris Agreement Article 3 =====>
- Perceived as "bottom up:" embody self-differentiation per CBDRRC
- Paired with reporting / "enhanced transparency" requirements under Article 13
- Assessed collectively under Article 14's "global stocktake," which fuels the ambition cycle or "ratchet"

PA, Article 3: *As nationally determined contributions to the global response to climate change, **all Parties** are to undertake and communicate ambitious efforts as defined in Articles 4, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 13 with the view to achieving the purpose of this Agreement as set out in Article 2. The **efforts of all Parties will represent a progression over time**, while recognizing the need to support developing country Parties for the effective implementation of this Agreement.*



NDCs @ COP26: The ambition cycle



Source: World Resources Institute

NDCs @ COP26:

The political context of increasing ambition

Status of 2030 Paris Agreement targets for G20 countries

April 2021

» SUBMITTED A STRONGER TARGET	ARGENTINA UNITED KINGDOM	EU-27 (FRANCE, ITALY, GERMANY) UNITED STATES
» PROPOSED A STRONGER TARGET	CANADA CHINA	JAPAN SOUTH AFRICA
» NEW 2030 TARGETS PROMISED IN 2021	SOUTH KOREA	
« SUBMITTED IDENTICAL OR WEAKER TARGET	AUSTRALIA BRAZIL	MEXICO RUSSIAN FED.
« WILL NOT PROPOSE A MORE AMBITIOUS TARGET	INDONESIA	
HAVE NOT MADE AN ANNOUNCEMENT	INDIA SAUDI ARABIA	TURKEY

USA				Climate Action Tracker
Comparison of NDC targets				
	2016 NDC	2021 NDC	Change	
2030 unconditional target(s)				
Country's formulation of the target	26-28% below 2005 by 2025 (incl. LULUCF)	50-52% below 2005 by 2030 (incl. LULUCF)	+	
Absolute emissions level [excl. LULUCF]	5,269 – 5,744 MtCO ₂ e in 2025	3,675 – 4,178 MtCO ₂ e in 2030		
Emissions compared to 1990 and 2010 [excl. LULUCF]	11-18% below 1990 levels by 2025 18-25% below 2010 levels by 2025	35-43% below 1990 levels by 2030 40-47% below 2010 levels by 2030	+	
CAT rating	Critically insufficient	TBD	+	
Net zero-emissions target	No	The US announced in January 2021 its aim towards net-zero emissions by 2050, no official target has been submitted to the UNFCCC	+	
Alignment of NDC to net zero-emissions target		Unclear		
Sector coverage	Economy-wide	Economy-wide		
Separate target for LULUCF	No	No		
Gas coverage	All greenhouse (GHG) gases	All greenhouse (GHG) gases		
Target type	Absolute emissions reduction below a base year	Absolute emissions reduction below a base year		
Clarity of implementation plan	On 4 November 2019, the Trump Administration formally notified the United Nations that the US would withdraw from the Paris Agreement, nullifying the target.	TBD		
Explanation why the target is a fair contribution towards the global goal	Yes. The US references policy action taken to reduce its emissions to achieve the 2020 target of reducing emissions in the range of 17% below 2005 levels. The NDC highlights the higher ambition needed to achieve the 2025 target beyond the 2020 target.	TBD		
Followed guidance on information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of NDCs in Decision 4/CMA.1	N/A	TBD		

Source: Climate Action Tracker

NDCs @ COP26: The political context of increasing ambition



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

ADVANCE VERSION

FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/8

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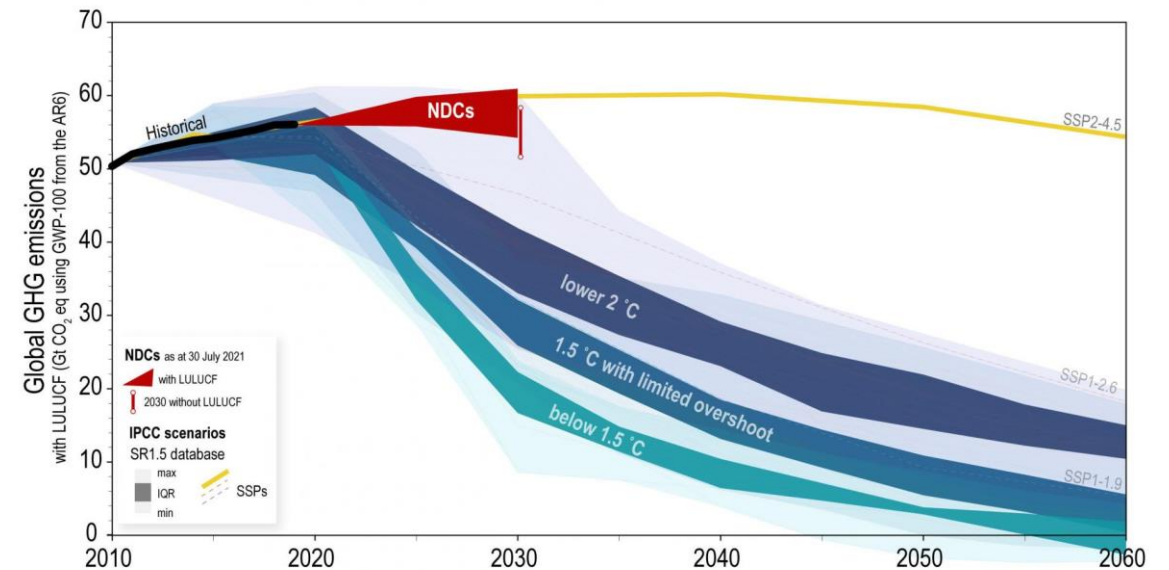
Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting
of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
Third session
Glasgow, 31 October to 12 November 2021

**Nationally determined contributions under the Paris
Agreement**

Synthesis report by the secretariat*

Summary

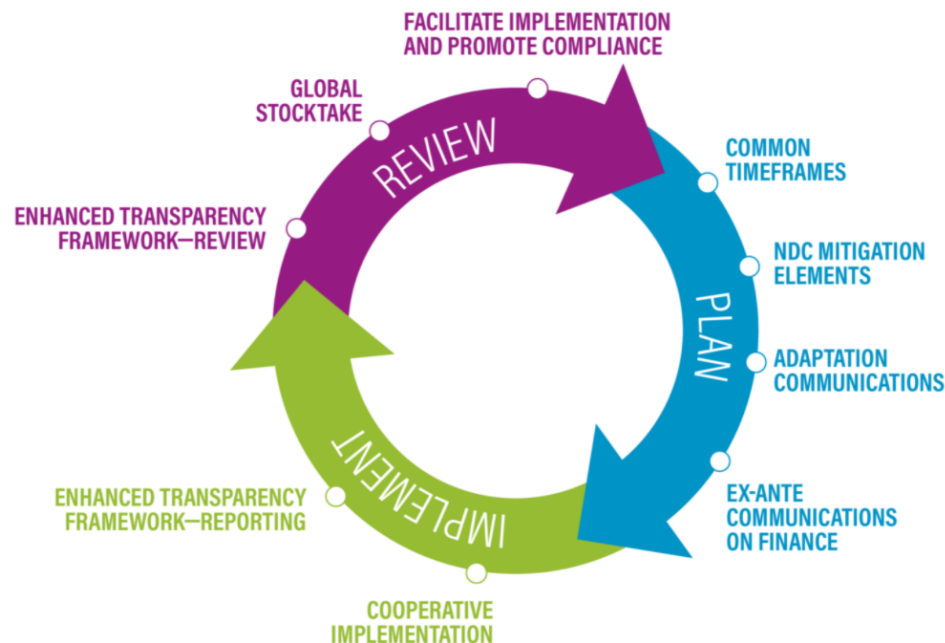
This version of the synthesis report on nationally determined contributions synthesizes information from the 164 latest available nationally determined contributions communicated by the 191 Parties to the Paris Agreement and recorded in the interim registry of nationally determined contributions as at 30 July 2021.



Source: UNFCCC Secretariat

NDCs @ COP26:

The treaty context of finishing the Paris Rulebook



Source: World Resources Institute

- **Common time frames**
 - Should all NDCs cover the same time frame? (yes, beginning in 2031)
 - if so, starting when?
 - If so, what is the length of the common time frame?
- **Impacts on other parts of the Paris Rulebook**
 - CTU on mitigation elements
 - Article 6
 - Article 13 ETF's biennial transparency reports
 - Global stocktake