



REGIONAL
PACIFIC
NDC HUB



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



IRENA
International Renewable Energy Agency

SIDS
LIGHTHOUSES

Pacific NDC Dialogue

Enhancing and Implementing the Pacific SIDS Commitments to the Paris Agreement through Energy Transformation

Tuesday, 23 February 2021, 07:00-09:00 AM Gulf Standard Time (GST)

Background

The adoption of the landmark Paris Agreement in 2015 and its rapid entry into force, coupled with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, represent an historic achievement for the global efforts in combating and mitigating the adverse impacts of climate change. Countries communicated proposed climate actions ahead of the Paris Agreement's finalization through their intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), which were translated to Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs) after formally joining the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement provides countries the flexibility to define its NDC for the three common long-term goals for mitigation, adaptation and finance based on the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances. It also requires countries to provide a long-term vision of their resilient national economy towards sustainable development with low greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Countries are given the opportunity to submit their enhanced NDCs by revising and enhancing mitigation and adaptation targets, finance goals, and developing concrete action plans for implementation and the formulation and communication of the long-term strategies for the development of emission reduction strategies in 2020.

The NDC outlines country strategies and economy wide targets encompassing mitigation as well as adaptation planning, they also represent an opportunity to establish coherence between the convention and the Paris Agreement's provisions, such as the mitigation and adaptation action, climate finance, capacity building, technology transfer and the transparency framework. However, analysis of NDCs indicates that higher ambition mitigation targets are required to achieve the goal of limiting global temperature to 1.5 C° as recommended by the IPCC special report to strengthen global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty. Through one of the Climate Summit initiatives: Ambitious SIDS Climate Action Summit Package, which is being operationalized through the SIDS Lighthouses Initiative, SIDS and development partners are collaboratively working together to accelerate energy transformation in SIDS to achieve enhanced and ambitious NDC targets by 2030, amplifying ambitious political action to support, as much as, 100% renewable energy and energy efficiency targets in particular in the power sector by 2030, enhanced and targeted financing, accelerated delivery of technical assistance and capacity building and strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships to contribute to the development of public-private mechanisms.



The SIDS played a pivotal and cohesive role in the process leading to the adoption of the Paris Agreement and were amongst the first to ratify the agreement and submit their NDCs. Although, climate change poses an existential threat to the SIDS, making adaptation, resilience, and disaster risk reduction a priority, all countries submitted ambitious mitigation measures mainly by increasing renewable energy generation capacity, energy efficiency, and the electrification of the transport sector. In the first NDC submissions, IRENA analysis showed that all 14 Pacific SIDS mentioned renewables whilst 13 of the Pacific SIDS had quantified renewable energy targets in their NDCs that equated to 1.979 GW. A total of USD5.2 billion will be needed by 2030 to implement these NDC RE targets, of which 93 percent will be conditional that would need external investment.

It was also noted that five Pacific SIDS have already set 100% NDC RE targets that includes Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tuvalu and Vanuatu and it would be interesting to gauge the enhanced NDCs that is currently being updated by the Parties. Except for the Republic of the Marshall Islands, who submitted a more ambitious NDC update, in November 2018, committing to higher mitigation targets and reaffirming its aspiration to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, all Pacific SIDS are currently engaged in their NDCs enhancement.

IRENA, in partnership with UK COP26 Presidency and the Regional NDC Pacific Hub, will be hosting the virtual COP26 Climate Dialogue in the Pacific that will include PSIDS and the development partners. The dialogue will act as a forum for cross-regional discussion on driving and building momentum on climate action in the lead up to COP26, through enhanced NDCs, understanding of the domestic energy sector transformations and through long-term Low Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS), and exploring the vital role these play in the Pacific SIDS in greening the recovery from COVID-19.

Objectives

The dialogue aims:

- To encourage more ambitious climate action by all governments in Pacific SIDS, including the submission of updated and enhanced NDCs and long-term climate/energy strategies in support of the goals set out in the Paris Agreement.
- To share regional experience on the domestic energy systems transformation required to achieve the GHG reduction targets set by PSIDS in their NDCs.
- To deepen the understanding of PSIDS on the opportunities offered by the energy sector in the decarbonization efforts.
- To broaden the knowledge and understanding of the role of NDCs and LT-LEDS in achieving the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.
- To demonstrate practical approaches to green recovery and the possibilities for PSIDS to build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic.



Partners

- UK COP26 Presidency
- Pacific NDC Hub
 - Pacific Community (SPC)
 - Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP),
 - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
 - Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- NDC Partnership

Audience

The target audience for this event is Permanent Secretary/Director level in charge of climate change and energy policies, enhancing the NDCs and long-term low-emission development strategies in Pacific SIDS.

Date and Timing

The one-day dialogue will take place virtually at 0700-0900 (Gulf Standard Time), **Tuesday, 23 February 2021**.

Meeting format

This event will be hosted **virtually**. The event is designed as an **invitation only event for Ministries in the Pacific SIDS and development partners** that are leading and contributing to the formulation of the NDCs and LT-LEDS to build capacity and facilitate the facilitate between all the participants.



Agenda

Time	Sessions and Speakers
07:00 – 07:15	<p>Session 1: Welcome and Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Francesco La Camera, Director General, International Renewable Energy Agency • Mr Ken O’Flaherty, COP26 Ambassador for Asia and the Pacific • H.E Charles Obichang, Minister of Infrastructure, Palau
07:15 – 08:05	<p>Session 2: Achieving the NDC targets through energy sector transformation</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr Tutii Chilton, Executive Director, Palau Energy Administration</p> <p>Scene Setting Presentation: Mr Gurbuz Gonul, Director, Country Engagement and Partnerships, IRENA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Alfred Rungol, General Manager, Climate Change and Development Authority, Papua New Guinea • Ms Emma Sale, Programme Analyst, United Nations Development Programme • Mr Tevita Tukunga, Director of Energy, Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Environment, Information, Climate Change, Disaster Management, Environment and Communication, Tonga • Mr Deo Gabinete, Regional Manager, Easter Europe, Asia and the Pacific, NDC Partnership
08:05 – 08:50	<p>Session 3: Role of NDCs and Long-term Low Emissions Development Strategies in promoting Green Recovery in PSIDS</p> <p>Scene Setting & Facilitator: Mr Nilesh Prakash, Senior Advisor – Political and Private Sector Engagement, Regional Pacific NDC Hub, GIZ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Angeline Heine, Director of Energy, Republic of the Marshall Islands • Mr Daniel Munoz-Smith, Country Representative in Fiji, Kiribati, Tonga and Vanuatu, GGGI • Ms Jeanette Mani, Mitigation Specialist, Climate Change Division, Ministry of Economy, Fiji • Mr Akuila Tawake, Deputy Director, Georesources and Energy Programme, Pacific Community
08:50: 09:00	<p>Session 4: Way Forward and Concluding Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Christian Görg, Project Manager, Regional Pacific NDC Hub • Mr Gurbuz Gonul, Director, Country Engagement and Partnerships, IRENA