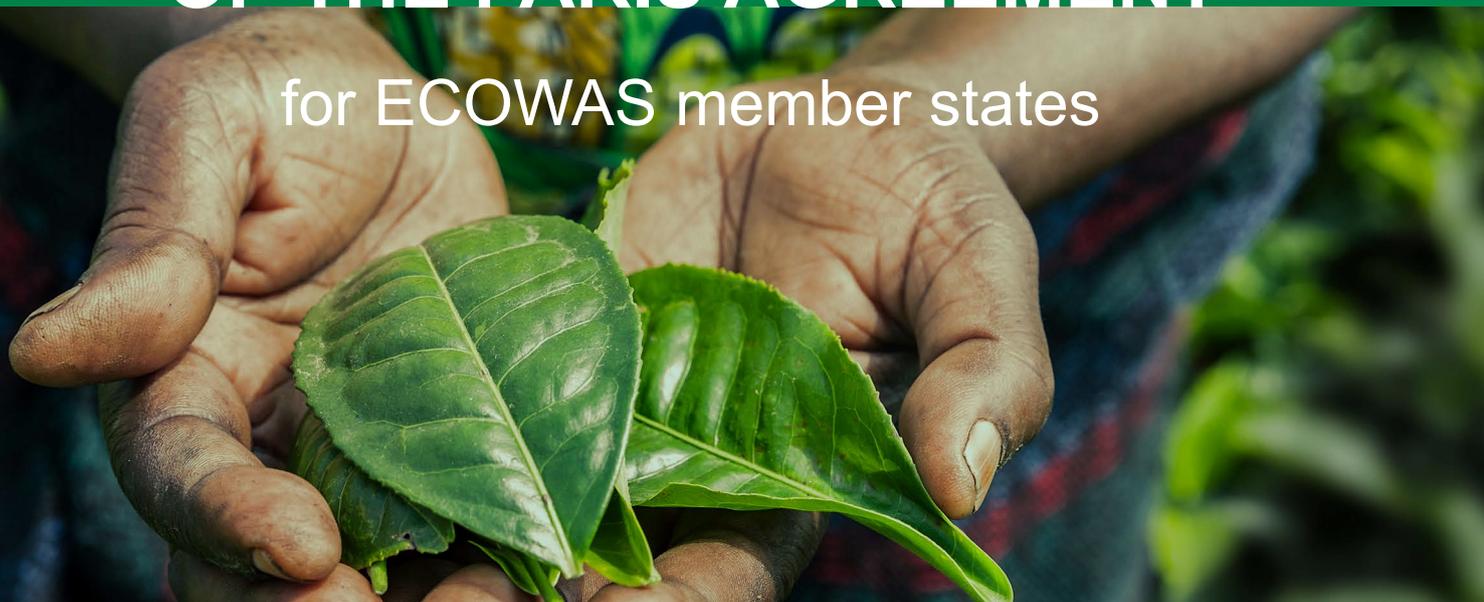




GUIDE

TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT

for ECOWAS member states



GUIDE

TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT

for ECOWAS member states



This guide is published by the ECOWAS Department of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources.



This publication has been produced with financial support from the European Union, under the Intra-ACP GCCA+ programme.



Expertise France supervised the technical preparation of this report, produced by the Projections consultancy for the benefit of ECOWAS and its member states.

CRÉDITS & CONTACTS



- ▷ **Matthieu Wemaere**,
Senior Lawyer specialized in environment and climate law and policy, international climate consultant, on behalf of Projections,
- ▷ **Vanessa Laubin**,
International climate consultant, Projections.

Following experts have also been involved in the preparation work for the report:

- ▷ **Alain Sy Traoré**, *Director, Agriculture & Rural Development, ECOWAS Commission,*
- ▷ **Johnson Boanuh**, *Director of Environment, ECOWAS Commission,*
- ▷ **Raoul Konan Kouamé**, *Climat Change Project Coordinator, Directorate of Environment, ECOWAS Commission,*
- ▷ **Pierre Haas**, *Technical Advisor, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources, ECOWAS Commission,*
- ▷ **Cécile Vivien**, *Climate Technical Assistant, GCCA+ West Africa Project, Expertise France,*
- ▷ **Déthié Ndiaye**, *Climate Finance Expert, GCCA+ West Africa Project, Expertise France,*
- ▷ **Fabris Compaoré**, *Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, GCCA+ West Africa Project Afrique, Expertise France.*

Contacts

Comments on this document may be sent to the **ECOWAS Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development**, by post or e-mail.

ECOWAS Commission

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources/Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development/Annexe River Plaza – 496 Abogo Largema Street – Central Business District, PMB 401 Abuja FCT – Federal Republic of Nigeria

agric_ruraldev@ecowas.int

Crédits

To cite this document:

ECOWAS Commission
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources
Guide to Implementation of the Paris Agreement for ECOWAS member states, 2020

Photo credit: Cover © istockphoto

Design graphique : Olivia Grenez et Clarisse de Martene

© ECOWAP - 2020

Copying, downloading or printing of the content of this document for personal use is authorized. Extracts from this document may be included in documents, presentations, blogs, websites and educational material, provided that source and copyright are acknowledged. Requests with a view to public or commercial use or concerning translation rights should be sent to the ECOWAS Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Financial partners



PROGRAMME INTRA-ACP DE L'AMCC+ Une initiative du Groupe des États ACP financée par le Fonds européen de développement de l'Union européenne

Technical partners



This guide is published under the sole responsibility of ECOWAS Department of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources and does not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union, ECOWAS or its member states.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

06 _____ TABLE OF CONTENTS

08 _____ TABLE OF ILLUSTRATIONS

10 _____ LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

11 _____ PREAMBLE

12 _____ USER INFORMATION

15 _____ EDITORIAL

16 _____ INTRODUCTION

- 17 The Paris Agreement: a sustainable co-operation framework
- 18 The objectives of the Paris Agreement
 - 18 *Mitigation*
 - 18 *Adaptation*
 - 18 *Transparency*
- 19 An enhanced co-operative framework
- 20 A dynamic co-operative framework
- 22 Milestones of the Paris Agreement for ECOWAS member states
- 24 Summary of developing countries' main obligations under the Paris Agreement

26 _____ CHAPTER 1: MITIGATION

- 27 **How does the Paris Agreement address mitigation?**
 - 27 A global mitigation target
 - 28 The current NDCs are based on the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).
 - 30 How does a country make its NDC mitigation pledges?
 - 33 What information must each country provide to make its NDC clear, transparent and understandable?
 - 33 How must each country account for its mitigation action under its NDC?
 - 34 Each country must record its NDC (mitigation component) in a public registry maintained by the Secretariat (Article 4.12).
- 35 **Summary of the obligations and their nature for ECOWAS member states – NDC framework and process**
- 36 **Summary of the obligations and their nature for ECOWAS member states – Mitigation component of the NDC**

42 _____ CHAPTER 2: ADAPTATION

- 43 **How does the Paris Agreement address adaptation?**
 - 43 A global goal (Article 7.1)
 - 44 A common framework for adaptation action based on guiding principles (Article 7.5)
 - 44 How should adaptation action under the Paris Agreement be implemented?
 - 46 The content of the Adaptation Communication (Rulebook, Annex to Decision 9/CMA.1)
 - 47 Timeframe (§4 - §8 of Decision 9/CMA.1)
 - 47 Reports on climate change impacts and results of adaptation actions (transparency framework, §§104 et seq. Part IV Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1)
- 48 **Summary of the obligations and their nature for ECOWAS member states – Adaptation component**

50 _____ CHAPTER 3: TECHNOLOGY

- 51 **How does the Paris Agreement address technology?**
 - 51 A long-term vision (Article 10.1)
 - 52 A technology framework (Article 10.4)
 - 53 The key themes chosen for the technology framework of the Paris Agreement
 - 53 In the name of transparency, an obligation to provide information on technology development and transfer

56 _____ CHAPTER 4: CAPACITY-BUILDING

- 58 **How does the Paris Agreement address capacity building?**
 - 58 Support to facilitate achievement of the goals of the Paris Agreement
 - 58 Guiding principles and key areas for capacity-building
 - 59 An institution devoted to capacity-building: the «Paris Committee»
 - 59 Communication of information on progress made on capacity-building
 - 60 In the name of transparency, provision by each developing country of information on capacity-building support needed and received

62 _____ CHAPTER 5 : TRANSPARENCY

- 63 **How does the Paris Agreement address transparency?**
 - 63 The Paris Agreement establishes an enhanced transparency framework for action and financial support (Article 13)
 - 64 Guiding principles of the enhanced transparency framework
 - 64 Flexibility for developing countries
 - 65 Presentation of transparency reports
 - 71 Technical expert review:
- 73 **Summary of the obligations and their nature for ECOWAS member states – Transparency**



TABLE OF ILLUSTRATIONS

17 **BOX 1:** Better focus on the interests of the West African region in international climate negotiations: setting up the CliNeRSuG

31 **BOX 2:** West African States engage in the process of updating their NDC in 2020

34 **BOX 3:** An enhanced framework for inter-ministerial dialogue in Guinea to facilitate implementation of the NDC

37 **BOX 4:** Nigeria: boosting compliance with the Paris Agreements by aligning climate objectives with development strategy

41 **BOX 5:** Gambia, in the front line of the Long-Term Strategies provided for in the Paris Agreement

45 **BOX 6:** Ivory Coast, an NDC revision process in 2020 involving the regions

52 **BOX 7:** Counting on the regional level for South-South technology transfer

60 **BOX 8:** Many different and often unco-ordinated capacity-building initiatives in West Africa

66 **BOX 9:** An MRV system to structure around the existing arrangement in Togo

69 **BOX 10:** WAICSA, future regional fund to support West African smallholder farmers

71 **BOX 11:** Ghana, new finance for the climate based on an optimized Monitoring, Reporting and Verification system.

18 **FIGURE 1:** trajectoires des émissions mondiales de CO₂

19 **FIGURE 2:** le cadre de coopération de l'Accord de Paris

20 **FIGURE 3:** Le cycle de l'ambition de l'Accord de Paris (CEDEAO)

29 **FIGURE 4:** Emissions Gap Report UNEP 2019



LISTE OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AMCC +	Alliance Mondiale contre le Changement Climatique Plus	GCCA +	Global Climate Change Alliance Plus
AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use	GEF	Global Environment Facility
ARAA	Agence Régionale pour l'Agriculture et l'Alimentation	GHG	Greenhouse Gas
CBIT	Capacity-building Initiative for transparency	IAR	International Assessment and Review
CC	Climate Change	ICA	International Consultations and Analysis
CILSS	Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel	MRV	Measuring, Reporting and Verification
CMA	Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement	NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
COP	Conference of the Parties	OVis	Objectively Verifiable Indicators
CRM	Climate Risk Management	PREGEC	Charter for Food Crisis Prevention and Management
CTCN	Climate Technology Centre and Network	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ECOWAP	ECOWAS Regional Agricultural Policy	SO	Specific Objective
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States	TAMD	Tracking Adaptation and Measuring Development
ECREE	ECOWAS Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	TEC	Technology Executive Committee
ER	Expected Result	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization	WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
FP	Focal Point		

PREAMBLE

The aim of this Guide is to help developing countries comply with the regulatory framework of the Paris Agreement, based on a sound understanding of the meaning and scope of its provisions as set out in the «Rulebook» adopted at UNFCCC COP 24 and CMA-1 of the Paris Agreement (2018).

This Guide focuses on the obligations, modalities or processes within the international framework which relate to implementation by countries. This Guide is not designed to explain the international climate co-operation framework in detail, nor the sectoral strategies or actions to be implemented in order to achieve the objectives set by the Paris Accord, but rather to clarify how each developing country should or could engage and comply with the framework in the light of the nature and scope of its obligations, particularly with regard to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities.

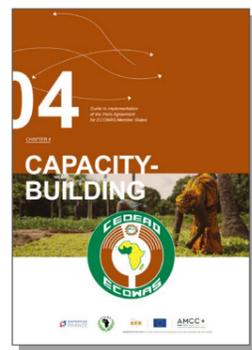
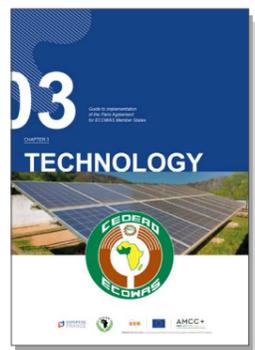
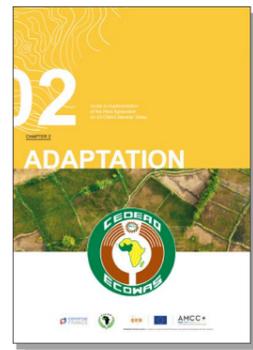
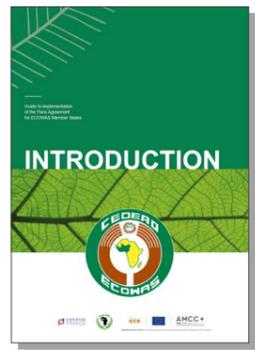
This Guide takes the perspective of the developing countries which have ratified or approved the Paris Agreement (referred to in the Guide as «developing countries», understood as meaning Contracting Parties). It therefore focuses, objectively and technically, on the obligations and modalities with which only developing countries have to comply, while indicating the degree of flexibility or room for manoeuvre provided under the international co-operation framework. Consequently, by way of example, this Guide covers neither the developed countries' obligations regarding financial support for developing countries, nor their transparency obligations regarding the support provided.

This Guide takes the perspective of the developing countries as a whole. It does not distinguish between the least developed countries, most vulnerable countries or small island States. Nevertheless, it has been put together with the primary aim of supporting the member states of ECOWAS and CILSS and strives to target their specific needs as far as possible. To this end, it offers several examples of actions, ongoing or completed, carried out by ECOWAS member states in order to comply with their obligations. It also puts into perspective examples of regional actions likely to strengthen the framework for the implementation of the Paris Agreement in the region.

USER INFORMATION:

After an introduction recalling the objectives, overall logic and principal implementation processes of the Paris Agreement and the milestones between now and 2030 for ECOWAS member states, the Guide is built around information, guidance and action factsheets on the following points of concern to all the Member States of CILSS and ECOWAS:

- ▷ Mitigation
- ▷ Adaptation
- ▷ Technology development and transfer
- ▷ Capacity-building
- ▷ Transparency of action and support needed and received.



Each factsheet is organized in a similar way:

- ▷ **A brief contextual note** (definition and issues)
- ▷ **Answers from the Paris Agreement** in response to the issue;
- ▷ **A summary of the obligations and their nature** (performance obligation, best efforts obligation, option), from the viewpoint of ECOWAS member states. Operational recommendations on implementation are also put forward to guide action by governments through their climate and NDC focal points; **these are only possible avenues for action, making no claim to be exhaustive or match the respective interests and capacities of each ECOWAS member state.**

the key information is highlighted by means of the pictogram

Information requiring discussion at national level with a view to decision is marked by the pictogram

THIS GUIDE IS:

- ▷ A targeted reading of the provisions of the Paris Agreement Rulebook, from the viewpoint of a developing country in the ECOWAS zone
- ▷ A reframing of some of the provisions of the Rulebook in more operational terms
- ▷ A perspective on the provisions of the Paris Agreement and Rulebook and action which can be taken at national level in the light of each country's interest and needs

THIS GUIDE IS NOT:

- ▷ A manual on the international climate co-operation framework
- ▷ A guide to all the provisions of the Paris Agreement applicable to all the Parties
- ▷ A roadmap applicable as it stands to implementation of the provisions of the Rulebook in each developing country

EDITORIAL



Sékou SANGARE
*Commissaire en charge
de l'Agriculture,
de l'Environnement
et des Ressources en Eau*

An unprecedented global health crisis is proving to be the hallmark of 2020, revealing the fragile balance and weak resilience of our lifestyles, highlighting the scale of the impacts suffered by our planet. Many of us have now realized the urgent need to rethink tomorrow's world, as we have become even more fully aware of the threats hanging over our humanity, at a time when climate change and its consequences for our societies are already occupying centre stage.

This new understanding should not only make each country party to the Paris Agreement more determined to implement its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), but also encourage each and every one to grasp the opportunity offered, in 2020, to raise their ambitions and make them more realistic and robust.

Although not a signatory to the Paris Agreement, the ECOWAS Commission nevertheless enjoys significant prerogatives in terms of regulation applicable to all its 15 member states, since the Community law takes precedence over national law. We shall endeavour to place this regulatory power at the service of climate action, encouraging and boosting implementation of the climate pledges, with the participation and inclusion of all stakeholders, **for the benefit of our populations and fragile ecosystems.**

In this regard, the ECOWAS Commission will continue to support the efforts of its member states to implement the Paris Agreement, by stepping up its initiatives to make its regional policies climate compatible, as well as by providing targeted support to the least well-equipped Member States, as it has already done, for example in Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone, in connection with the revision of their NDCs. This support is part of the regional contribution to achieving the global 2°C target set in the Agreement.

The rules laid down in the «Rulebook» adopted at the 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP24) in 2018 in Katowice must be followed if that goal is to be reached. This is why, beyond regulatory action, ECOWAS attaches enormous importance to capacity-building and making sure that all its member states understand these rules.

The guide we are publishing today is only the first step in this process, which aims to equip our member states with decision-making tools to help them develop their policies and establish the authorities and systems required under the Paris Agreement.



INTRODUCTION



The Paris Agreement: a sustainable co-operation framework

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), adopted in 1992, is an international treaty ratified by 197 States which established the goal of holding concentrations of greenhouse gas (GHG) in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. It does not, however, set any detailed mitigation targets.

Under the auspices of the UNFCCC, the Paris Agreement was adopted in Paris on 12 December 2015 at COP 21 with the aim of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change as of 2020. It follows on from the Kyoto Protocol which imposed quantified targets for reducing GHG emissions on the industrialized countries alone and not on developing countries, for the period 2008 – 2020.

The Paris Agreement came into force on 4 November 2016, thirty days after 55 States, accounting for at least 55% of global emissions, had ratified it (Article 21, Paris Agreement). To date, 183 States are Contracting Parties to that agreement.

As a treaty under international law, the Paris Agreement is legally binding and must be implemented in good faith by all the States ratifying it (Article 26 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties of 23 May 1969). Nevertheless, it is not restrictive insofar as its effectiveness relies more on country

accountability and a mechanism to facilitate implementation of and promote compliance with the provisions of the Agreement (Article 15 Paris Agreement), and provides for no penalties in the event of non-compliance.

Decision 1/CP.21 adopting the Paris Agreement provides that it should take effect in 2020. Although it came into force in November 2016, there were still a number of rules, modalities, procedures and guidelines to be worked out to facilitate operational use of the Paris Agreement.

The Parties which had already ratified the Paris Agreement gave UNFCCC, following COP 22, the task of putting together the series of implementing rules commonly known as the «Rulebook», which was formally adopted at COP24, held from 3 - 14 December 2018 in Katowice, Poland (with the exception of the implementing rules for Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on market and non-market co-operative approaches, on which the countries failed to reach consensus).

BETTER FOCUS ON THE INTERESTS OF THE WEST AFRICAN REGION IN INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS: SETTING UP THE CLINERSUG



If the common interests of ECOWAS and its member states in the continental block as well as international negotiations were better represented, it would be possible to take collective, concerted action in support of the African Group in many areas key to implementation of the Paris Agreement. Some of these directly concern the Member States and the scope of the mandate they have granted to ECOWAS, whether in terms of obligations to implement action or the transparency of action and support, as well as the need to facilitate access to climate finance in the sub-region. The opportunity exists to influence international decisions so that more account is taken of the African and West African position on topics which are still under discussion and important for the region, such as for example setting a new global target for finance by 2025 or the modalities and procedures for implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on «co-operative approaches», whether or not based on the carbon market.

In this regard, in 2020, as part of the implementation of its Environmental Policy and with support from the GCCA+ West Africa programme, ECOWAS is setting up a Climate Negotiation Regional Support Group (CINERSUG). Made up of negotiators from the member states, this group of West African experts has a twofold task. It seeks firstly to analyse, inform and build the capacity of climate negotiators and regional institutions in relation to the negotiations and, secondly, to support the consolidation of regional ECOWAS positions on topics coming under its remit and/or its mandate by virtue of the founding treaties, for validation by its Member States and transmission to the African Group.

INTRODUCTION

The objectives of the Paris Agreement

Mitigation

The main objective of the Paris Agreement is to strengthen the global response to climate change and its impacts, by holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C (Article 2 Paris Agreement).

b) Stylized net global CO₂ emission pathways
Billion tonnes CO₂ per year (GtCO₂/yr)

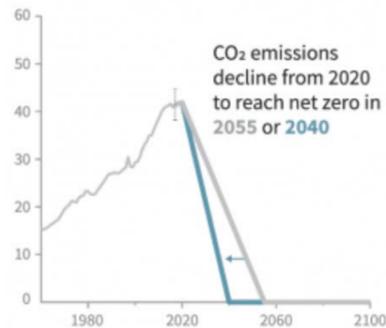


Figure 1: Global CO₂ emissions pathways

(Source: IPCC, 2018, IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty)

To achieve this goal, the Parties to the Agreement must reach global peaking of GHG emissions as soon as possible. Once this peak has been achieved, emissions must be reduced rapidly to achieve carbon neutrality in the second half of the century (Article 4.1 Paris Agreement).

Agreement). Carbon neutrality means a balance between anthropogenic emissions **by sources** and removals of greenhouse gases by carbon sinks (Article 4.1 Paris Agreement).

The Paris Agreement recognizes that peaking GHG emissions will take longer for developing countries.

L'adaptation

The Paris Agreement establishes the goal of enhancing **adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change** (Article 7 Paris Agreement). Recognizing that these represent an immediate threat to human societies, it is important to anticipate their consequences in order to mitigate or avoid their adverse impacts and take advantage of their positive effects.

Transparency

The Paris Agreement provides for the establishment of a transparency framework designed to provide a clear understanding of the action taken and progress made by the Parties (Article 13 Paris Agreement). Parties must prepare and submit biennial reports on transparency and inventories of GHG emissions. This transparency framework should contribute to global accountability.

The Paris Agreement places an obligation on all countries to account for their actions. A degree of flexibility is granted to developing countries in the light of their capacities, reflected in the guidance in the Rulebook on the transparency framework (Article 13.2 Paris Agreement).

The Paris Agreement recognizes the importance of taking into account the needs of developing countries, particularly those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, in defining action on adaptation (Article 7.6 Paris Agreement).

An enhanced co-operative framework



The Paris Agreement provides a co-operative framework which should enable the international community to achieve the collectively established mitigation and adaptation objectives. This framework rests in particular on the following three pillars of action:

Finance: Financial flows should aim to achieve a balance between mitigation and adaptation objectives. In addition, the developed countries must provide financial resources to assist developing countries with regard to both mitigation and adaptation (Article 9.1 Paris Agreement).

Technology transfer: co-operative action on technology development and transfer to support mitigation and adaptation actions should be strengthened (Article 10 Paris Agreement).

Capacity-building: co-operation to enhance the capacity **and ability** of developing countries to **take effective climate change action** and implement the Paris Agreement should be strengthened (Article 11 Paris Agreement).

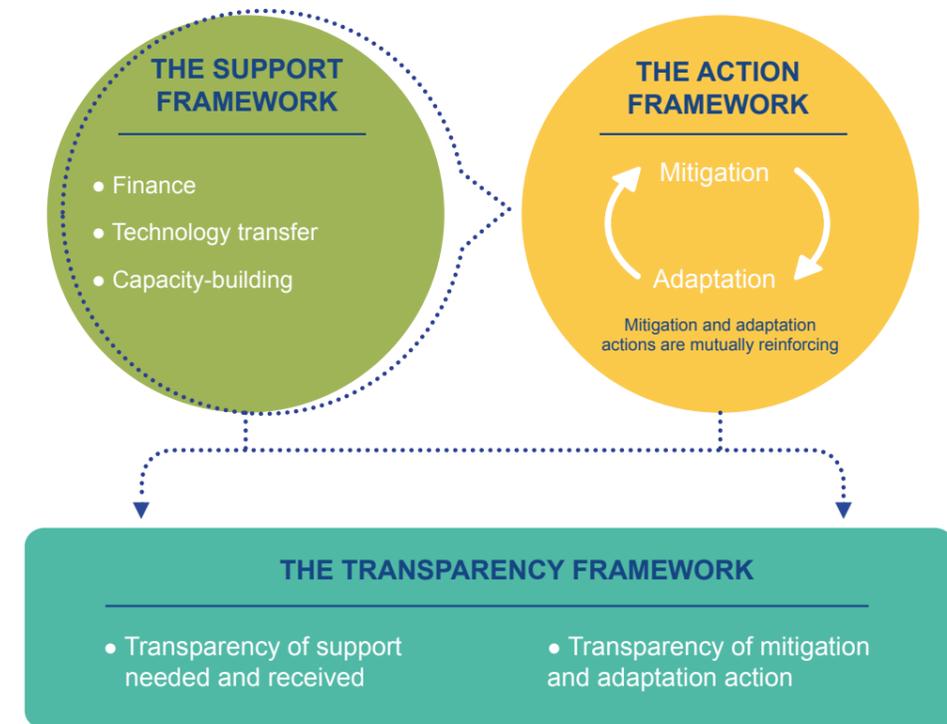


Figure 2: The co-operative framework of the Paris Agreement

INTRODUCTION

A dynamic co-operative framework

The Paris Agreement is a sustainable co-operative framework which is not time-limited.

It instigates a dynamic cycle of mutually reinforcing processes which should gradually increase the level of ambition of individual countries and the international community. The aim is therefore to establish a process of continuous improvement with a view to meeting the collectively determined mitigation and adaptation targets.

More specifically, this cycle rests on the following elements:

- ▶ Regular communication of «Nationally Determined Contributions» (NDCs) whereby countries undertake and communicate ambitious efforts to take part in the global response to climate change (Article 3 Paris Agreement). With regard to mitigation (Article 4 Paris Agreement), each NDC must:
 - be communicated and updated every five years;
 - represent a progression beyond the previous NDC; and
 - reflect the highest possible level of ambition.

- ▶ Communication of «biennial reports» under the transparency framework: these reports are produced by Parties every two years. In particular, they contain a national inventory report of GHG emissions, information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving the NDC, information related to climate change impacts and adaptation as well as financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support provided or received (Article 13 Paris Agreement). The reports are an opportunity to take stock regularly at national level to feed into thinking about the coming «global stocktake» and the ambitions of the following NDCs.

- ▶ Carrying out a «global stocktake»: Using the information communicated under these three processes, Parties can keep accurate track of developments in implementing the Paris Agreement and redirect their actions towards greater ambition in all fields: this is the «cycle of ambition» of the Paris Agreement.

Using the information communicated under these three processes, Parties can keep accurate track of developments in implementing the Paris Agreement and redirect their actions towards greater ambition in all fields: this is the «cycle of ambition» of the Paris Agreement.

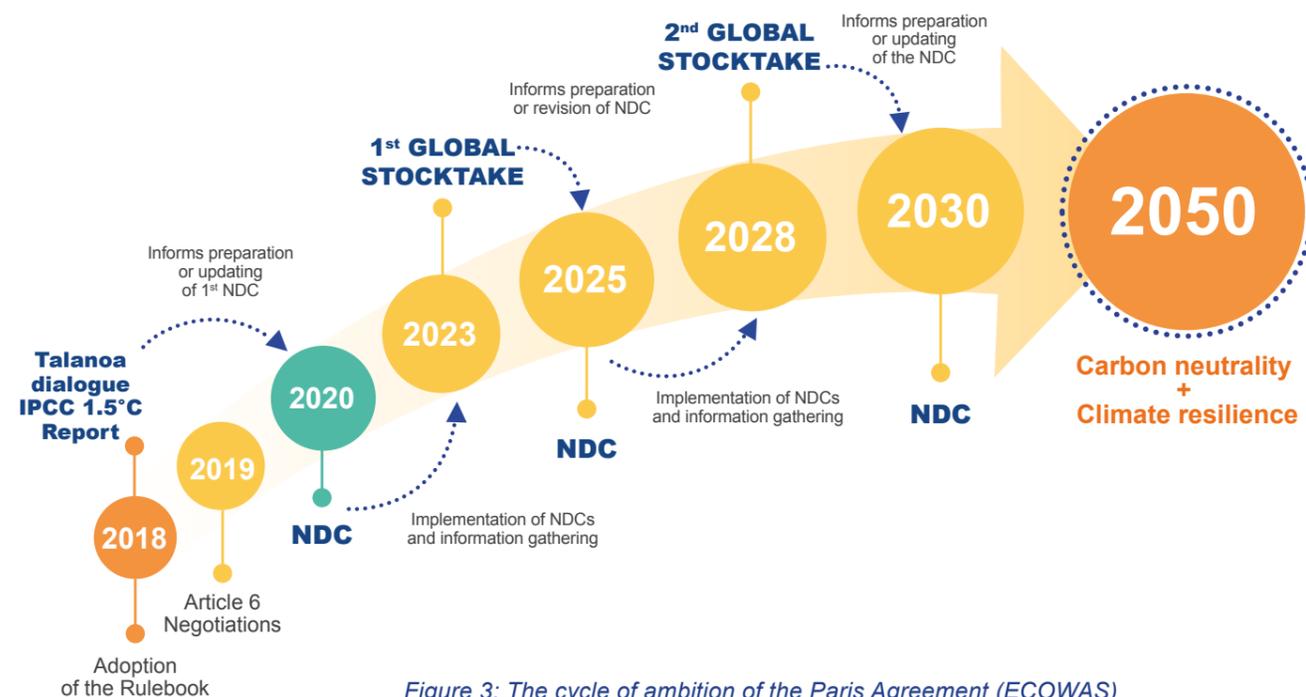
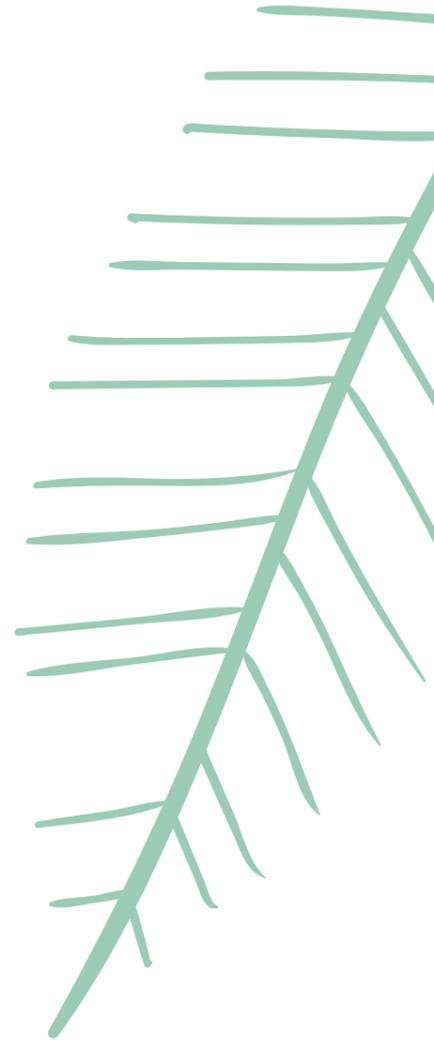


Figure 3: The cycle of ambition of the Paris Agreement (ECOWAS)





INTRODUCTION

Milestones of the Paris Agreement for ECOWAS member states

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Mitigation	Communication 1 st NDC				Application of Rulebook: NDC information emissions accounting methods in NDC	Communication 2 nd NDC or revised NDC
Adaptation	Adaptation Communication					
Transparency					<i>Application of Rulebook 1st report under Paris Agreement transparency framework (31.12.24)</i>	
Global stocktake		Information collection phase	<i>Technical expert review phase</i>	<i>1st Global Stocktake Policy Phase</i>		
Finance	First biennial reports from developed countries on support to be mobilized	High-level ministerial dialogue	<i>2nd biennial reports from developed countries on support to be mobilized</i>	<i>High-level ministerial dialogue</i>	<i>3rd biennial reports from developed countries on support to be mobilized</i>	<i>High-level ministerial dialogue</i>

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Mitigation					Communication 3 rd NDC or 2 nd NDC
Adaptation					
Transparency	2 nd report under Paris Agreement transparency framework (31.12.26)		3 rd report under Paris Agreement transparency framework (31.12.26)		4 th report under Paris Agreement transparency framework (31.12.26)
Global stocktake	<i>Information collection phase</i>	<i>Technical expert review phase</i>	<i>2nd Global Stocktake Policy Phase</i>		
Finance	4 th biennial reports from developed countries on support to be mobilized	High-level ministerial dialogue	5 th biennial reports from developed countries on support to be mobilized	High-level ministerial dialogue	5 th biennial reports from developed countries on support to be mobilized



INTRODUCTION

Summary of developing countries' main obligations under the Paris Agreement

	ATTÉNUATION	ADAPTATION	TRANSPARENCE
Information to be gathered and provided	<p>Establishment of a «nationally determined contribution» (NDC).</p> <p><i>See Chapter 1 of the Guide</i></p>	<p>Establishment of an «adaptation planning process» and, optionally, an «adaptation communication».</p> <p>Communication possible via the NDC, National Adaptation Plan or National Communication.</p> <p><i>See Chapter 2 of the Guide</i></p>	<p>Establishment of «biennial reports»</p> <p><i>See Chapter 5 of the Guide</i></p>
Content of the information to be provided	<p>The content of the NDC is defined in the Rulebook (Annex to Decision 4/CMA.1).</p> <p><i>See Chapter 1 of the Guide</i></p>	<p>The content of the Adaptation Communication is defined in the Rulebook (Annex to Decision 9/CMA.1).</p> <p><i>See Chapter 2 of the Guide</i></p>	<p>The biennial reports contain the following information in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National inventory report on GHG emissions; 2. Information on the clarity, credibility and transparency of the NDC 3. Information on tracking of progress towards achievement of the NDC; 4. Information on climate change impacts and adaptation (optional); 5. Information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support needed and received. <p>More details in the Rulebook (Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1).</p> <p><i>See Chapter 5 of the Guide</i></p>
Communication timeframe	<p>New NDC communication every five years; First due date: 2020.</p> <p>To be recorded in the NDC registry (mitigation component) maintained by the UNFCCC Secretariat</p> <p><i>See Chapter 1 of the Guide</i></p>	<p>Communication and updating at the same intervals as the document chosen for submission of the adaptation communication.</p> <p>First due date: 2020 if submitted as a component of or in conjunction with the NDC, by 2022 at the latest in the case of another document, so that it can be taken into account at the first global stocktake (2023)</p> <p>To be recorded in the registry of Adaptation Communications maintained by the UNFCCC Secretariat</p> <p><i>See Chapter 2 of the Guide</i></p>	<p>Communication every two years.</p> <p>First due date: 31 December 2024</p> <p><i>See Chapter 5 of the Guide</i></p>

01

Guide to implementation of the Paris Agreement for ECOWAS member states

CHAPTER 1

MITIGATION



▷ Definition

According to the IPCC (5th evaluation report, 2014), mitigation should be understood as «**a human intervention to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases (GHG)**».

▷ Issues

Mitigation relates to all reduction and sequestration efforts required to hold the increase in the global average temperature to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C, to prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system (see Article 2 of the Paris Agreement and Article 2 of the UNFCCC).



According to the latest UNEP Emissions Gap Report for 2019

- Total global GHG emissions have risen at a rate of 1.5% per year over the last decade (stabilizing only briefly between 2014 and 2016), reaching a record high of 55.3 Gt CO₂ equivalent in 2018 (taking account of Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry -LULUCF).
- Compared with the baseline scenario (64 Gt CO_{2e} in 2030), projected pathways based on **current policies** should bring global GHG emissions down by around 4 Gt CO₂ equivalent in 2030 to reach 60 Gt CO₂ equivalent.
- For the «< 2°C» target, the level not to be exceeded by 2030 to place emissions on a pathway compatible with this temperature limitation target is now estimated at 41 Gt CO₂ equivalent, i.e. a gap of 19 Gt CO₂ equivalent; for the 1.5°C target, the level not to be exceeded in 2030 would be 25 Gt CO₂ equivalent, i.e. a gap of 35 Gt CO₂ equivalent.

How does the Paris Agreement address mitigation?

A global mitigation target

- The Paris Agreement is the first international treaty to establish a collective objective for limiting the increase in temperature to «**well below 2°C**» (Article 2).
- It also sets a carbon neutrality target (Article 4.1), which consists of achieving a balance between **anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks during the second half of the 21st century** (post 2050), after reaching global peaking of GHG emissions as soon as possible and rapidly bringing about drastic reductions to achieve that balance.

01 MITIGATION

- All countries must make mitigation efforts to contribute to the achievement of the global mitigation objective.

- The instrument countries should use to undertake and communicate ambitious efforts to take part in the global response to climate change is the «Nationally Determined Contribution» (NDC), which covers mitigation efforts but may also cover adaptation, means of implementation (finance, capacity-building, technology development and transfer) and the transparency of both action and support (provided or received) (see Article 3).

The NDC is the driver of the Paris Agreement, being the instrument whereby each country determines its contribution to the international community's efforts according to its means and capacities and what it considers fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances.

The current NDCs are based on the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)

- Before COP21, countries were invited to submit INDCs; for developing countries, the INDCs comprise proposed unconditional (without financial support) and conditional (with financial support) mitigation and adaptation commitments.

- Where a country has submitted an INDC prior to joining the Paris Agreement, or if it has attached its INDC to its instrument of ratification of the Paris Agreement, it will be considered as having communicated its first NDC. If its INDC converted into an NDC has a timeframe for implementation by 2030, it must update the contribution in March 2020. If the country decides otherwise, it must communicate its first NDC in March 2020 at the latest (§§ 22 and 24 of Decision 1/CP.21).



According to the IPCC, current NDCs are not sufficiently ambitious with regard to the level of collective reduction needed for a pathway compatible with the 2°C objective, let alone the 1.5°C limit.

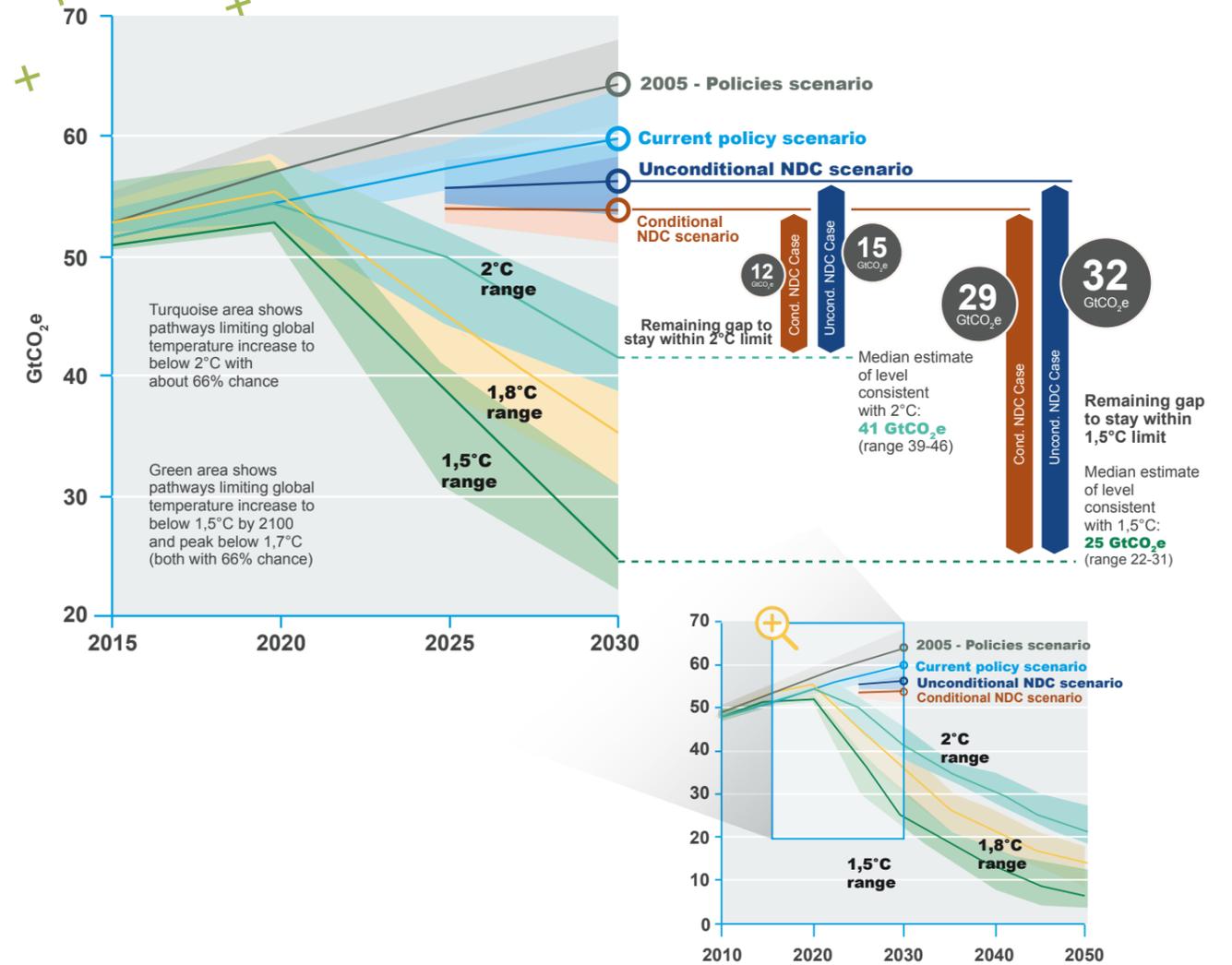


Figure 3: Emissions Gap Report UNEP 2019

^{1/} See IPCC summary for policymakers, published on 8 October 2018, on the +1.5°C target: with the current NDCs, the IPCC forecasts a global GHG emissions level of between 54 Gt CO₂ equivalent (with full implementation of the unconditional and conditional NDCs) and 56 Gt CO₂ equivalent (with implementation of only the unconditional NDCs), i.e. a reduction of between 4 and 6 Gt CO₂e in relation to the scenario without NDCs in 2030.

01 MITIGATION

How does a country make its NDC mitigation pledges?

- Each country must establish, communicate and update its NDC and pursue domestic mitigation measures with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions (Article 4.2).



Although an NDC has no legally binding force at international level, it must translate into domestic legislative or regulatory measures which must be binding on the parties concerned and enforceable by the national authorities.

- Each developed country's NDC should be economy-wide; a developing country should continue enhancing its mitigation efforts (Article 4.4).



Developing countries are encouraged to move gradually towards emission reduction targets in the light of their economies (NB: No deadline has been set).

- Each country must communicate an NDC every five years (Article 4.9), which must reflect the highest possible level of ambition for the country, taking account of what it considers fair and equitable in the light of its national circumstances (Article 4.3).



The five-year cycle of NDCs should not be confused with the NDC implementation period for which a common timeframe has not been adopted to date, despite the provisions of Article 4.10 of the Paris Agreement (the Rulebook simply states that it will apply as of 2031). NB: Some NDCs target 2025, others 2030 as implementation periods.

- Each new NDC must represent a progression beyond the NDC for the previous period and, consequently, reflect a higher level of ambition (Article 4.3).



This principle of progression applies upon communication of each NDC, every five years, irrespective of the length of the implementation period (timeframe) chosen by the country (five or 10 years or more). This may then mean a new NDC or an updated or revised NDC which will reflect the increase in the level of ambition compared with the previous NDC.



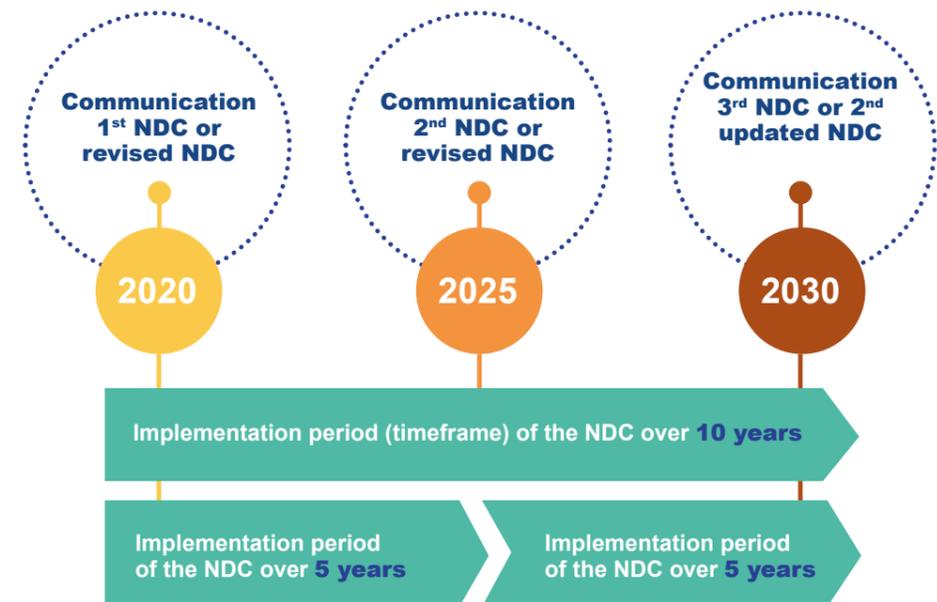
WEST AFRICAN STATES ENGAGE IN THE PROCESS OF UPDATING THEIR NDC IN 2020

West Africa's GHG emissions account for barely 1.8% of the global total, although the region is home to 5% of the global population. The carbon footprint of an individual West African is therefore still way below the global average (0.7 teqCO₂/per capita in 2017, as against 4.8). All the ECOWAS member states have nevertheless declared their intention to increase the level of ambition of their NDCs in 2020 , joining the Climate Ambition Alliance at the Climate Action Summit held in

September 2019 in New York. Some have already started the process, such as Ghana, Mali, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and Senegal, all of them with the support of one or more international donors involved in the process (UN agencies, ADB, AFD, GIZ). Other countries, including Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Togo, Sierra Leone and Liberia, plan to launch the process shortly. The Covid-19 situation has, however, delayed the process in

most countries, particularly in view of the restrictions on gatherings, which limit the opportunity to hold a national dialogue with stakeholders. In most cases, it is a matter of both updating (more recent reference data, more robust assumptions and updating of the baseline scenario) and increasing the level of ambition (through new objectives, the inclusion of new emitting sectors or boosting adaptation action).

¹ <https://www.climatewatchdata.org/2020-ndc-tracker>



01 MITIGATION

In detail!

«**Updating**» the NDC => updating the data and assumptions used to define mitigation efforts. At any time as decided by the country, or on instruction from the CMA (e.g. in 2020).

«**Revising**» the NDC => reviewing mitigation efforts in line with CMA guidance (e.g. the Rulebook) and the outcomes of the global stocktake pursuant to Article 14 of the Paris Agreement.

If the chosen timeframe is five years (e.g. up to 2025), a further NDC – new or revised on expiry – will be communicated every five years.

If the chosen timeframe is 10 years (e.g. up to 2030), a further NDC will be communicated, which will be an NDC revised in mid-term (5 years, e.g. 2025), and a new NDC on expiry (2030) to indicate efforts and pledges up to 2040.

- Each country may also, at any time, amend its NDC to enhance its level of ambition (Article 4.11).



Whether at the country's initiative or every five years, the country may adjust its NDC to enhance its level of ambition, by either strengthening targets for emission reduction or roll-out of non-carbon technologies, or extending the scope of its NDC (new sectors and gases).

- Enhanced support must be provided to developing countries in communicating their NDCs to allow for higher ambition in their actions (Article 4.5).



This enhanced support must be provided by the developed countries to developing countries through capacity-building, technology development and transfer and finance.

What information must each country provide to make its NDC clear, transparent and understandable?

- This means the information each country uses to prepare its NDC and establish its objectives and/or pledges, together with explanations as to why it considers its contribution fair and ambitious and how it contributes towards achieving the 2°C objective. Each country must provide this information (Article 4.8).



The Rulebook has spelled out the nature and content of this information in Decision 4/CMA.1 (see its Annex I) and stated that it will be applicable for communication of the second NDC (in 2025) and subsequently. All countries are «encouraged» to apply the Rulebook as of 2020 when they communicate their first NDC or submit their updated NDC (§7 of Decision 4/CMA.1).



Countries which do not wish to/cannot apply the Rulebook as of 2020 must provide information in support of their updated NDC or NDC communicated for the first time in 2020 (§27 of Decision 1/CP.21). This may include quantifiable information on the reference point of the target or targets, including, as appropriate, a base year, the timeframes and/or periods for implementation, scope and coverage, planning processes, assumptions and methodological approaches, including those for estimating and accounting for GHG emissions, how the country considers that its NDC is fair and ambitious and how it contributes towards achieving the 2°C objective.

How must each country account for its mitigation action under its NDC?

- Each country must account for the mitigation efforts covered by its current NDC and progress made towards achieving its pledges and targets in implementing its NDC in its biennial transparency reports, including through a structured summary, as per the Rulebook on the transparency framework (§7, b) of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, see transparency factsheet).
- In accounting for emissions and removals corresponding to its NDC (Article 4.13), in order to track the progress made towards achieving its NDC in respect of mitigation, each country must apply the guidance provided in Annex II to Decision 4/CMA.1.



The Rulebook has given guidance on accounting for GHG emissions corresponding to the NDC in Annex II to Decision 4/CMA.1 and indicated that this will apply for communication of the second NDC (in 2025) and subsequently. The country may elect to apply the guidance as of 2020 (see §32 of Decision 1/CP.21, and §13 of Decision 4/CMA.1).

01 MITIGATION

Each country must record its NDC (mitigation component) in a public registry maintained by the Secretariat (Article 4.12).

- The public registry of NDCs (mitigation component) is an easy-to-use, intuitive web platform, maintained by the secretariat in the six official languages of the UN, to present the recorded NDCs in the form of a table comprising a row for each NDC and columns displaying, as appropriate, the name of the Party, the title of the document, document file type, the version number, status, language and date of submission (NB: The registry is built on the basis of the temporary registry established by the Secretariat in 2019 <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>)



The Rulebook explains the modalities and procedures for the operation and use of the public registry as regards the mitigation component of NDCs in Decision 5/CMA.1.

Each country must appoint a «competent national authority» to take responsibility for submitting each NDC (new, updated or revised) by uploading to the public registry, using its unique user account supplied by the Secretariat as custodian of the registry.



AN ENHANCED FRAMEWORK FOR INTER-MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE IN GUINEA TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NDC

In Guinea, implementation of the NDC actions is still very limited as a result of various constraints, including: (i) a lack of ownership, outside the Ministry of the Environment, Water and Forestry – which co-ordinates implementation of the NDC pledges – of the theme of climate change, despite the notable progress achieved as a result of the dynamics generated by the INDC in 2015; and (ii) compartmentalization of strategies by sector. The 2015 INDC had already planned for various activities designed to get around these

obstacles, including the appointment of climate focal points within each ministry, receiving regular training on mainstreaming climate issues in order to develop a cross-cutting approach to the strategic mitigation and adaptation objectives. This framework for improving climate governance was not applied at the time, but it was reactivated and enhanced between November 2019 and June 2020 with support from the de Adapt'Action Facility (AFD/ Expertise France) through:

- co-building of «job descriptions»

for each «climate change» focal point in the sectoral ministries, based on an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each sector in mitigation and adaptation, as well as the current level of engagement of the Ministries in the implementation of Guinea's NDC;

- capacity-building sessions for the aforesaid focal points;
- organization of a meeting of the group of focal points and strengthening of the role of the Ministry of Environment, Water and

Summary of the obligations and their nature for ECOWAS Member States – NDC framework and process

ARTICLES OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT	OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT	NATURE OF THE OBLIGATION			TYPE OF ACTIONS		RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
		PERFORMANCE OBLIGATION	BEST EFFORTS OBLIGATION	OPTION	FORMULATION OF POLICIES	COMPILATION OF INFORMATION	
3	<p>All the Parties shall undertake and communicate ambitious efforts in respect of mitigation (Article 4), adaptation (Article 7), finance (Article 9), technology transfer (Article 10), capacity-building (Article 11) and transparency (Article 13) with a view to achieving the goal of this Agreement as set out in Article 2 (objective < 2°C => 1.5°C + global goal on adaptation).</p> <p>Efforts must represent a progression, while recognizing the need to help developing country Parties implement the Agreement effectively.</p>	X			X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integration of mitigation, adaptation and capacity-building efforts and means of implementation (low-carbon, resilient technologies) in all public policies covered by each NDC. - Formulation, adoption, updating and revision of NDCs (which may include the adaptation communication, as well as information on the financial support needed, see Article 7). - Attribution of responsibility for the adoption of each NDC and its updating/revision. - Integration of the principle of progression

Forestry in co-ordinating «climate» actions at national level (including institutionalization of the group of focal points and establishing the frequency of its meetings).

This climate governance exercise is a precondition for the integration of the NDC commitments in national public policies and, consequently, the setting of realistic, robust objectives during the ongoing process of revising the NDC in 2020.

01 MITIGATION

Summary of the obligations and their nature for ECOWAS member states – Mitigation component of the NDC

ARTICLES OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT	OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT	NATURE OF THE OBLIGATION			TYPE OF ACTIONS		RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
		PERFORMANCE OBLIGATION	BEST EFFORTS OBLIGATION	OPTION	FORMULATION OF POLICIES	COMPILATION OF INFORMATION	
4.2	Each Party shall prepare, communicate and maintain the successive NDCs it intends to achieve.	X			X	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integration in all public emission-reduction policies - Formulation of mitigation policies and measures in the areas covered by the NDC
	Parties shall pursue domestic mitigation measures with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions.	X			X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adoption of laws and regulations in the sectors and areas covered by the NDC to make the mitigation policies and measures applicable (and binding) and effective - Enhancement of enabling environments, policy frameworks, institutions and national public financial management systems with a view to improving access to international public support (Decision 11/CMA.1, §22)

NIGERIA: BOOSTING COMPLIANCE WITH THE PARIS AGREEMENTS BY ALIGNING CLIMATE OBJECTIVES WITH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.



Breaking down international climate objectives into national measures is vital for compliance with the provisions of the Paris Agreement (Article 4.2). It is therefore essential to make sure that the pledges made in NDCs are in line with existing national policies, especially as regards development strategies. It was precisely to avoid conflicts between different public policies that Nigeria adopted an approach designed to align its economic development strategy with its climate objectives.

With a view to reducing its GHG emissions by 20% by 2030 (or even 45% if there is enough external support) in relation to a «Business as usual» scenario (calculated over the period 2010-2014), Nigeria broke its 2015 CPDN down into a Plan of Sectoral Actions in five priority sectors (electricity, oil and gas, transport, industry, AFOLU

[Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use]). At the same time, the country committed to an Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP) for 2017-2020. In 2020, the end of the ERGP therefore coincides with the invitation to update or perhaps revise Nigeria's NDC in line with the decisions of the COP to the UNFCCC. With support from the UNDP Climate Promise programme, Nigeria decided to develop a toolkit to integrate the requirement for fulfilment of the NDC commitments into its future national economic development strategy (ERGP) for 2021-2024 and, in the longer term, the country's Vision 2040.

As noted at an initial workshop organized in March 2020, the toolkit will include a series of procedures, methodologies and indicators designed to build stakeholders' capacity to mainstream the NDC within all national policies. The

synergies obtained in this way will help to increase effectiveness in the various sectors concerned by encouraging sharing of experience and knowledge while avoiding duplication and conflicts between different public policies. This initiative, which should help to move away from vertical management in silos, therefore involves the Ministry of Finance just as much as the ministry in charge of the environment and intends to give the private sector a significant role. It is built around a finance strategy, an enhanced national database on the causes and consequences of climate change and the search for points of convergence with the 2030 Agenda for Development (and achievement of the SDGs), as well as the Sendai framework for disaster risk reduction and, more generally, improvement of the population's living environment and conditions.

³ <https://www.von.gov.ng/nigeria-develops-toolkit-to-integrate-ndcs-into-the-national-plan/>



01 MITIGATION

ARTICLES OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT	OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT	NATURE OF THE OBLIGATION			TYPE OF ACTIONS		RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
		PERFORMANCE OBLIGATION	BEST EFFORTS OBLIGATION	OPTION	FORMULATION OF POLICIES	COMPILATION OF INFORMATION	
4.3	Each Party's successive NDC will represent a progression beyond the previous NDC and reflect its highest possible ambition.	X			X		Establishment of processes to assess and put forward additional mitigation efforts in the next NDC
4.4	The NDC will over time become economy-wide.		X		X	X	Evaluation of mitigation opportunities in sectors or for gases not covered by the NDC
4.7	Mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties' adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans can contribute to the implementation of an NDC.			X	X		Consideration and, where appropriate, integration of economic diversification plans (designed to reduce fossil fuel use) in mitigation efforts



ARTICLES OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT	OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT	NATURE OF THE OBLIGATION			TYPE OF ACTIONS		RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
		PERFORMANCE OBLIGATION	BEST EFFORTS OBLIGATION	OPTION	FORMULATION OF POLICIES	COMPILATION OF INFORMATION	
4.8	Parties shall provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding of the NDC.		X			X	<p>Collection, processing and compilation of the information to be provided in support of all policies and measures in the NDC.</p> <p>The Rulebook is only applicable from 2024 for communication of the 2nd NDC but, for the 1st NDC which is in effect from 2020, countries may communicate the following information (§27 Decision 1/CP.21):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantifiable information on the reference point, including, as appropriate, a base year; - Timeframes and/or periods for implementation; - Scope and coverage; - Planning processes - Assumptions and methodological approaches, including those used to estimate and account for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and, as appropriate, anthropogenic removals; - Information explaining how the country's NDC is fair and ambitious in the light of the country's national circumstances and how it contributes towards achieving the final objective of the Convention (Article 2 UNFCCC)
4.9	Each Party shall communicate an NDC every five years.		X			X	Establishment of processes with a view to putting forward and adopting successive NDCs + Designation of the authority competent to communicate NDCs
	Parties must be informed by the outcome of the global stocktake.		X		X		Establishment of consultation, evaluation and proposal processes to take account of the outcome of the global stocktake with a view to preparing the next NDC.

01 MITIGATION

ARTICLES OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT	OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT	NATURE OF THE OBLIGATION			TYPE OF ACTIONS		RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
		PERFORMANCE OBLIGATION	BEST EFFORTS OBLIGATION	OPTION	FORMULATION OF POLICIES	COMPILATION OF INFORMATION	
4.11	A Party may at any time adjust its NDC with a view to enhancing its level of ambition.			X	X		Evaluation of opportunities for enhancing the level of ambition
4.12	NDCs shall be recorded in a public registry.	X				X	Communication of the NDC to the UNFCCC/PA Secretariat and request for recording in the NDC mitigation registry
4.13	Parties shall account for their NDCs.	X				X	Communication of progress made in implementing the NDC, in accordance with the Rulebook
	Parties shall promote environmental integrity, transparency, accuracy, completeness, comparability and consistency and ensure the avoidance of double counting		X		X	X	Establishment of processes and procedures to ensure the accuracy of information and comply with the requirements of the Rulebook (see §§11 and 12 Decision 4/CMA.1)
4.14	Parties should take into account existing methods and guidance under the Convention.	X		X		X	Alignment/upgrading of the methods used to prepare the biennial reports and national communications
4.15	Parties shall take into consideration the concerns of Parties with economies most affected by the impacts of response measures, particularly developing country Parties.		X		X	X	Monitoring of decisions taken at international level
4.19	Parties should strive to formulate and communicate long-term low greenhouse gas development strategies.	X			X		Establishment of a process designed to develop a long-term strategy

GAMBIA, IN THE FRONT LINE OF THE LONG-TERM STRATEGIES PROVIDED FOR IN THE PARIS AGREEMENT

The mechanics of the Paris Agreement essentially rest on the cycle of NDCs, updated or revised every five years, enabling States to progress, reflecting an ever higher level of ambition for the climate, in a way they consider fair and equitable. To guide this progression while giving visibility to the stakeholders, the Paris Agreement provides for the adoption of long-term strategies (LTSS - Article 4.19), with all countries invited to submit one as of 2020. Not only has Gambia submitted an ambitious NDC, it is also a pioneer of this approach, on which it has been

working with IIED to anticipate the constraints and the efforts needed to cope with climate change by 2050, while laying the basis for virtuous economic development.

An LTS needs to be well-defined if its long-term mitigation and adaptation objectives are to guide successive NDCs. It can help steer efforts to transform the economy and investments by public and private players beyond the five-year terms of the NDCs. The two processes are therefore complementary and should be based on the same data, similar

modelling and consultations tackling both topics. This is how Gambia plans to enhance coherence between all its policies, gain in effectiveness and align its short, medium and long-term objectives. To this end, work on the NDC and LTS is undertaken by the Ministry of the Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources in liaison with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs. An approach paving the way for a low-carbon transition and resilient development by 2050, all broken down into specific and sectoral objectives according to the NDC.

⁴ <https://www.wri.org/news/climate-action-today-and-tomorrow-relationship-between-ndcs-and-ltss>

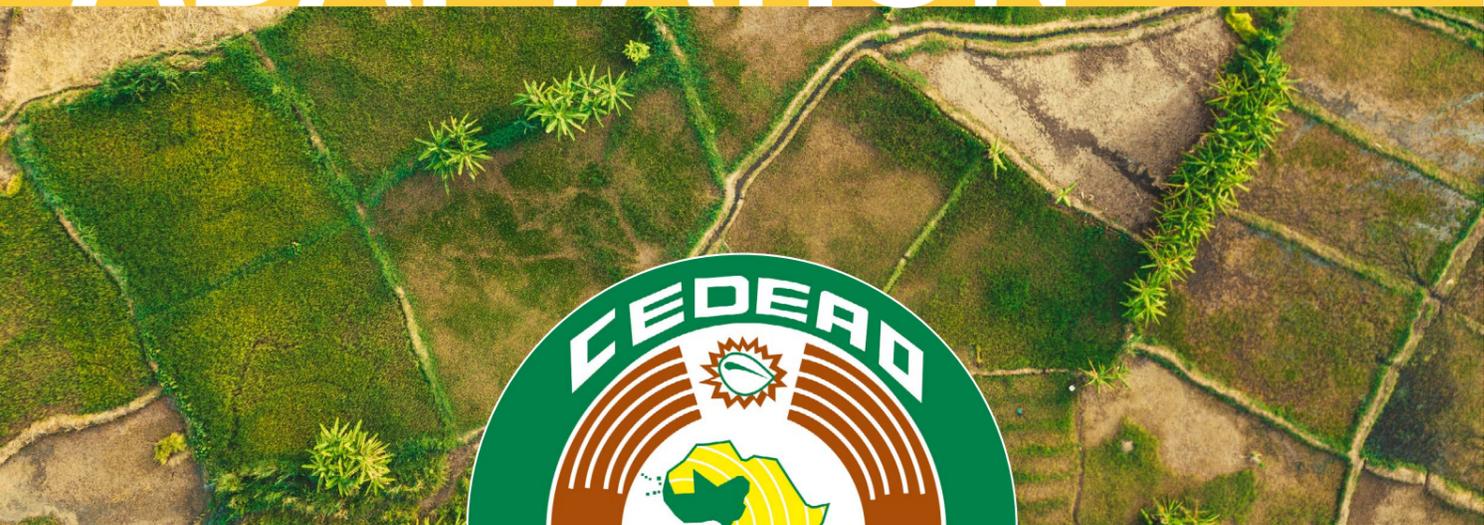


02

Guide to implementation of the Paris Agreement for ECOWAS member states

CHAPTER 2

ADAPTATION



▷ Definition

Adaptation is a process of **«adjustment of natural and human systems to actual or expected climate and its effects, in order to moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities»** (IPCC).

▷ Issues

Climate change will have different kinds of impacts in the short, medium and long term on natural and human ecosystems. Dynamically exacerbating each other, **these impacts require not only immediate but also continuous adaptation responses to significant modifications of meteorological and environmental conditions.**



Climate change adaptation is a key issue for economic and human development, which must become resilient. Bearing in mind the accelerated vulnerability of certain natural ecosystems, as well as the time needed for certain investments, particularly in infrastructure, urban development and the built environment, it is essential to take the future impacts of climate change into account right away in present decisions, mainstreaming adaptation in all public policies.

How does the Paris Agreement address adaptation?

A global goal (Article 7.1)

- The Paris Agreement sets, for the first time, a global goal on adaptation aimed at *«enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change»*.



Adaptation is a global challenge faced by all, with local, subnational, national, regional and international dimensions; it is a key component of the long-term global response to climate change.

02 ADAPTATION

A common framework for adaptation action based on guiding principles (Article 7.5)

- Adaptation action should follow a country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approach, taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems.



It should be based on and guided by the best available science and, as appropriate, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous people and local knowledge systems, with a view to integrating adaptation into relevant socio-economic and environmental policies and actions, where appropriate.

How should adaptation action under the Paris Agreement be implemented?

- Each country shall, as appropriate, engage in adaptation planning processes (Article 7.9), complying with the guiding principles of the common framework mentioned above). Each country may voluntarily make known its past (outcomes, feedback) and future (strategies, plans of action, needs assessment) adaptation actions. To this end, it may periodically submit and update an adaptation communication, which may include its priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions (Article 7.10).



The Adaptation communication is voluntary. It allows for a degree of flexibility, including in the choice of document for its submission: National Adaptation Plan (NAP), Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) or National Communication (Article 7.11). The adaptation communication is recorded in a public registry (Article 7.12 and Decision 10/CMA.1). It is taken into account in the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement (Article 7.14).

Another possibility: The Adaptation Communication may be submitted and updated as a component of or in conjunction with the reports on climate change impacts and adaptation under the transparency framework (Article 13.8 of the Paris Agreement and §4 of Decision 9/CMA.1, see also below on reporting as well as the transparency section of this Guide).



The country should clearly indicate the document it has chosen for its Adaptation Communication (NDC, NAP, National Communication, transparency reports) and record it in the public registry dedicated to the adaptation communication (NB: To this end, each country receives a unique user account to manage its content).



IVORY COAST, AN NDC REVISION PROCESS IN 2020 INVOLVING THE REGIONS

Launched at the end of 2019, with support from the Adapt'Action Facility (AFD/Expertise France), the process of revising the adaptation component of the NDC of the Republic of Ivory Coast aims to apply the lessons learned from the first exercise to draw up the INDC in 2015, particularly in terms of stakeholder consultation and involvement. The Ivorian territorial authorities took the view that the 2015 INDC did not draw sufficiently on their knowledge of the regions to make the NDC a multilevel tool for steering climate action rather than simply an international policy tool. This desire for involvement on the part of Ivorian territories had already been stated in the Yamoussoukro Declaration of 25 June 2015. As a result, with a view to revision of the adaptation component, four workshops were organized in the regions (Grand-Lahou, Yamoussoukro, Soubré, Korhogo), bringing together elected officials, representatives of NGOs, farmer organizations and local

State services. Each workshop was organized into four phases:

1. feedback concerning the 2015 NDC and taking stock of territorial climate planning;
2. diagnostics of the impacts of climate change on individuals' lives and the sectoral priorities chosen by individuals; it is interesting in this respect to note that the health sector, ignored by the 2015 INDC, came out of these discussions as a key priority for local communities.
3. an inventory of adaptation projects in progress or forthcoming in the regions;
4. consolidation of the priority measures as expressed by stakeholders.

In parallel, three working sessions were held with institutions representing the territorial authorities (Assembly of the Regions and Districts of Ivory Coast – ARDCI, Union of Cities and Municipalities of Ivory

Coast – UVICOCI) to consolidate the «cross-cutting aspects» of NDC implementation in which the authorities would like to play a greater role. These include the issues of training (bringing expertise down to regional level), planning capacity, consistency between the various plans (Agenda 21/Local Development Plans) and geographical levels (municipalities/regions) and dissemination of information to citizens (early warning, seasonal climate information, etc.).

These consultation phases fed into the draft NDC adaptation component for 2020-2030, which should be endorsed at a planned workshop to validate the revised NDC in September 2020.

⁵ <https://www.cites-unies-france.org/IMG/pdf/yakro-declaration-final25juin2015.pdf?5723/95ed811dbcd4342d18566f97b762e8c341d996ec>

02 ADAPTATION

The content of the Adaptation Communication (Rulebook, Annex to Decision 9/CMA.1)

An Adaptation Communication may contain information on the following elements:

- a/ National circumstances, institutional arrangements and legal frameworks;
- b/ Impacts, risks and vulnerabilities;
- c/ National adaptation priorities, strategies, policies, plans, goals and actions;
- d/ Implementation and support needs of developing country Parties;
- e/ Implementation of adaptation actions and plans, including:
 1. Progress and results achieved;
 2. Adaptation efforts of developing countries for recognition;
 3. Co-operation on enhancing adaptation at national, regional and international level, as appropriate;
 4. Barriers, challenges and gaps related to the implementation of adaptation;
 5. Good practice, lessons learned from experience and information-sharing;
 6. Monitoring and evaluation;
- f/ Adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans, including those that result in mitigation co-benefits;
- g/ How adaptation actions contribute to other international frameworks and/or conventions;
- h/ Gender-responsive adaptation actions and traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems related to adaptation, where appropriate;
- i/ Any other information related to adaptation.



Where the Adaptation Communication is submitted as a component of the NDC (cf. Article 4.7), the country must provide information on the element referred to in point f) above; where the Adaptation Communication is submitted in a National Communication or National Adaptation Plan, the country may communicate the information with reference to the guidance set out in the document FCCC/CP/1999/7 and Decisions 17/CP.8 and 5/CP.17.



Each country is invited first to provide information on the elements referred to in points a) - d) above, in the light of its national circumstances and capacities and, as appropriate, the elements referred to in points e) - i) above; each country may adapt the information provided, having regard to the specific communications or documents used.

Timeframe (§4 - §8 of Decision 9/CMA.1)

The Adaptation Communication is submitted at the same time and updated at the same intervals as the document chosen for its submission (NDC every five years, NAP according to the period covered by the plan, National Communication every four years).



Countries choosing to submit an Adaptation Communication are invited to do so in time to inform each global stocktake.



Submission/updating at the latest in 2022 and 2027 (which coincides with the technical review phase of the global stocktake).

Reports on climate change impacts and results of adaptation actions

(transparency framework, §§104 et seq. Part IV Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1)

Each country may provide information to facilitate, inter alia, recognition of its adaptation efforts, including in respect of:

- a/ National circumstances, institutional arrangements and legal frameworks
- b/ Impacts, risks and vulnerabilities
- c/ Adaptation priorities and barriers
- d/ Adaptation strategies, policies, plans, goals and actions to integrate adaptation in national policies and strategies
- e/ Progress on implementation of adaptation
- f/ Its domestic monitoring and evaluation system
- g/ Information related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts
- h/ Information on co-operation, good practice, experience and lessons to be learned.



When communicating information on climate change impacts and adaptation in the biennial report, the country may refer to previously communicated information (e.g. in the NDC) while highlighting any new elements.



When submitting its biennial report (the first in 2024), each developing country must provide information on the financial support needed and received under Article 9 of the Paris Agreement to support its adaptation action, including by means of common reporting tables, indicating the type of support and whether the activity is anchored in a specific strategy (e.g. the NAP) or the NDC (Part VI, section C and D of the Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1). See the transparency factsheet of this Guide for more information .



NOTA BENE : The common reporting tables are only intended to provide information on the mitigation component and financial support needed and received (including to finance adaptation), but not to provide information on climate change impacts and adaptation; the common reporting tables are to be adopted at COP26 (see §12 Decision 18/CMA.1).



02 ADAPTATION

Summary of the obligations and their nature for ECOWAS member states – Adaptation component

NB : Depending on the institutional framework and progress of thinking on adaptation and vulnerability studies, choose the document which appears most relevant to provide information on adaptation and the resources needed for implementation, bearing in mind the frequency of submission of the chosen document and the requirements in terms of transparency of the action and support needed and received.

ARTICLES OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT	OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT	NATURE OF THE OBLIGATION			TYPE OF ACTIONS		RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
		PERFORMANCE OBLIGATION	BEST EFFORTS OBLIGATION	OPTION	FORMULATION OF POLICIES	COMPILATION OF INFORMATION	
7.5	Adaptation should follow a country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approach (...) and should be based on and guided by the best available science and traditional knowledge (...)			X	X	X	Integration of adaptation in all public policies Establishment of processes to consult interested parties and assess vulnerability - Identify the knowledge of indigenous peoples and traditional knowledge Collection and processing of information relevant to adaptation
7.7	Parties should strengthen their co-operation with a view to improving adaptation action.	X			X	X	Monitoring of decisions taken at international level.
7.9	Each Party shall engage in adaptation planning processes and the development of relevant plans, policies and/or contributions.		X		X		Establishment of planning processes Adoption of (sectoral and/or cross-cutting) adaptation plans.
7.10	Each Party submits and periodically updates an adaptation communication.			X	X		Establishment of consultation, evaluation and proposal processes to take account of the outcome of the global stocktake with a view to preparing the next adaptation communication.

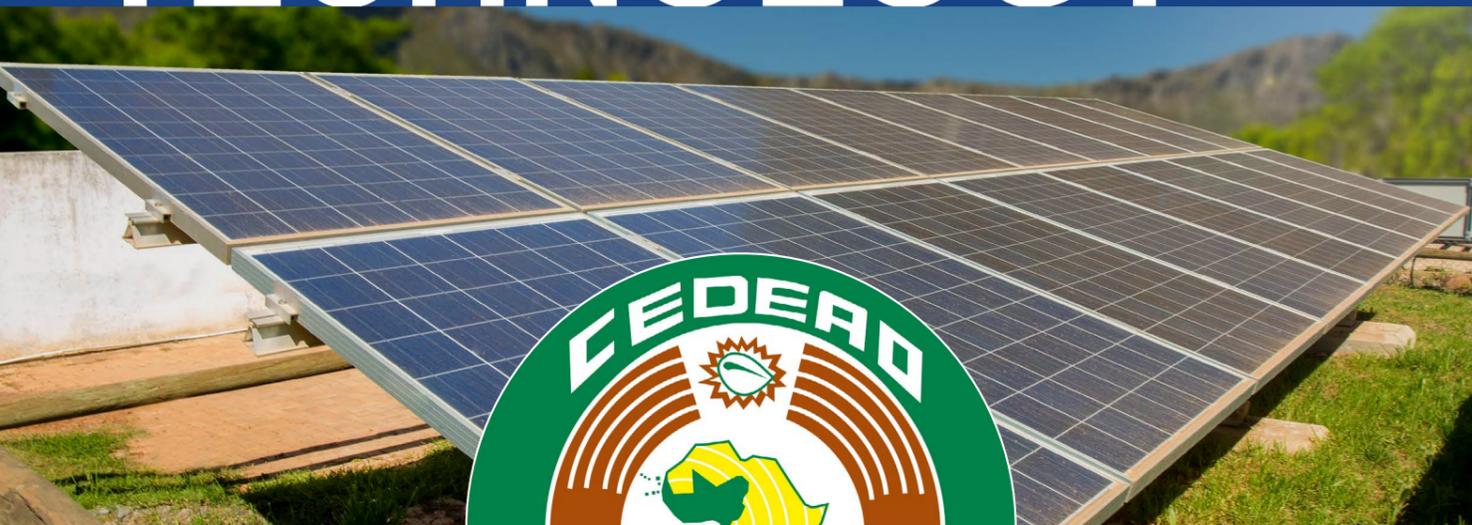
ARTICLES OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT	OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT	NATURE OF THE OBLIGATION			TYPE OF ACTIONS		RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
		PERFORMANCE OBLIGATION	BEST EFFORTS OBLIGATION	OPTION	FORMULATION OF POLICIES	COMPILATION OF INFORMATION	
7.11	The adaptation communication shall be submitted as a component of or in conjunction with other communications or documents, including a national adaptation plan			X	X		Decision to be taken concerning the choice of vehicle to communicate adaptation plans, policies and actions: - Adaptation Communication - NDC - National Communication - National Adaptation Plan
7.12	The adaptation communication shall be recorded in a public registry	X				X	Communication of the document incorporating the Adaptation Communication to the UNFCCC/Paris Agreement Secretariat and request for recording in the adaptation registry. NB: It is important clearly to indicate which part of the chosen communication document makes up the country's adaptation communication and to number the adaptation communications according to their order of submission .

03

Guide to implementation
of the Paris Agreement
for ECOWAS member states

CHAPTER 3

TECHNOLOGY



▷ Définition

“Broad set of processes covering the flows of know-how, experience and equipment for mitigating and adapting to climate change amongst different stakeholders ...” (IPCC).

▷ Issues

Promoting the development and transfer of ecologically rational (low/no carbon and/or supporting resilience) technologies to enable developing countries **to contribute to the global climate change response.**



If warming is to be limited to below 2°C and move towards 1.5°C, a paradigm shift is imperative, urgent and sudden, at a rate of transformation never before seen on a large scale, which requires deployment of a wide range of large-scale innovative solutions in all countries. **Presently, innovation is seen as a solution to the problems it has created, in a rapidly changing multi-polar world, making the «global green transformation» the prerequisite for «green sustainable development», which must be fair and therefore shared with and between developing countries.**

How does the Paris Agreement address technology?

A long-term vision (Article 10.1)

- With the Paris Agreement, all countries share a long-term vision of the importance of fully realizing technology development and transfer to improve resilience to climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



The Paris Agreement is designed to strengthen co-operative action on technology development and transfer. The global stocktake referred to in Article 14 takes into account available information on efforts related to support on technology development and transfer for developing countries (Article 10.6).

03 TECHNOLOGY

A technology framework (Article 10.4)

The Paris Agreement establishes a technology framework to provide overarching guidance to the work of the Technology Mechanism in promoting and facilitating enhanced action on technology development and transfer. The framework has been formally adopted via the Rulebook (Decision 15/CMA.1); it must comply with certain guiding principles (coherence, inclusiveness, results-oriented approach, transformational approach and transparency).

The Technology Mechanism adopted in Cancun under the aegis of the UNFCCC should serve implementation of the Paris Agreement (Articles 10.3 and 10.5). It has two components:

- The Technology Executive Committee (TEC) supports the research, development and deployment of low-carbon technology responsive to adaptation needs. Responsible for making recommendations to the Parties, it is the «policy wing» of the Technology Mechanism.

- The Consultative Committee of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) facilitates the establishment and co-ordination of networks, initiatives and organizations; it is the «operational wing» of the Technology Mechanism which deploys technical assistance in developing countries.



COUNTING ON THE REGIONAL LEVEL FOR SOUTH-SOUTH TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

ECOWAS and its agencies can contribute to the development and transfer of resilient, low or no-carbon technologies in different ways:

- Firstly by pooling efforts to create economies of scale, for example in matters relating to the acquisition, processing and analysis of climate data, as well as with a view to handling «niche» issues that cannot be dealt with individually by each State (research, training and innovation). The existence of a Science and Technology Division within the Commission, mandated to «promote regional and multilateral co-operation between research institutes, universities and the industry sector», offers a way to

stimulate regional innovation and intraregional technology transfer.

- Secondly by using the Community regulatory system to suggest (guidance) or impose (regulations) orientations supporting resilient, low-carbon development pathways.

- Finally, by setting up regional platforms to exchange information, experience and good practice on climate-compatible solutions. These include the regional forums on renewable energy organized by the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) and the West African Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance (WACSAA) in 2015. The latter seeks to structure

the scaling up of CSA practices, already promoted by several national-level platforms (Burkina Faso, Senegal, Ghana), and is mandated to boost the co-ordination and convergence at regional level of technical, scientific, institutional, political and financial CSA initiatives. As a result, some member states (Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Mali) have adopted Climate Smart Agriculture Investment Plans (CSAIPs).

¹ <http://www.esc.comm.ecowas.int/a-propos-de-la-cedeao/division-of-science-2/?lang=fr>

² <https://www.dakarmidi.net/actualite/energie-durable-de-la-cedeao-dakar-accueille-le-deuxieme-forum-du-13-a-15-novembre-2018/>

The key themes chosen for the technology framework of the Paris Agreement

Focused areas of action:

- Innovation;
- Implementation;
- Enabling environment and capacity-building;
- Collaboration and stakeholder engagement;
- Support.



The actions and activities planned in each of these five areas are specified in Part III of Decision 15/CMA.1. Modalities for periodic evaluation of the work of the TEC and CTCN are defined in the Rulebook.

In the name of transparency, an obligation to provide information on technology development and transfer

In the biennial transparency report to be submitted by 31 December 2024 at the latest, developing countries must provide information on the technology transfer support needed and received under Article 10 of the Paris Agreement (Decision 18/CMA.1, §10 of the Annex and Chapter VI, sections E and F).



INFORMATION ON THE SUPPORT NEEDED:

- Information in textual format, including information on:
 - Plans, needs and priorities related to technology development and transfer, including those identified in technology needs assessments;
 - Technology development and transfer-related needs for the enhancement of endogenous capacities and technologies.

- Information to be provided in common tabular format on:
 - Title (of the activity, programme or project);
 - Programme/project description;
 - Type of support (e.g. adaptation, mitigation or cross-cutting);
 - Type of technology;
 - Expected timeframe;
 - Sector;
 - Use, impact and expected results.

03 TECHNOLOGIES



INFORMATION ON SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM:

► Information in textual format on case studies, contribution of the support to technology development and transfer, endogenous capacities and know-how and the stage of the technology cycle supported (research and development, demonstration, deployment, dissemination and transfer of technology, etc.).

► Information to be provided in common tabular format on:

- Title (of the activity, programme or project);
- Programme/project description;
- Type of technology;
- Timeframe;
- Recipient entity;
- Implementing entity;
- Type of support (e.g. adaptation, mitigation or cross-cutting);
- Sector;
- Status of the activity (planned, ongoing or completed);
- Use, impact and estimated results.



NOTA BENE

The common reporting tables are to be adopted at COP26 (see §12 a) of Decision 18/CMA.1)

04

Guide to implementation
of the Paris Agreement
for ECOWAS member states

CHAPTER 4

CAPACITY- BUILDING



▷ Définition

Capacity-building may be defined as the series of measures needed to put individuals, institutions and systems in a better position to make and implement decisions and perform their functions effectively, rationally and sustainably. Capacity-building includes education, training and public awareness, but goes further with the aim of triggering action and decision-making. Different levels may be distinguished:

- ▶ At individual level, capacity-building consists of changing attitudes and behaviours, endeavouring to impart knowledge and develop skills while maximizing the benefits of participation, knowledge exchange and ownership.
- ▶ At institutional level, capacity-building seeks above all to improve organizational performance and capabilities, as well as organizations' ability to adapt to change.
- ▶ At systemic level, capacity-building addresses the overall framework within which institutions and individuals operate and interact.

▷ Issues

Supporting the global response through engagement and action by all, in the light of their respective capabilities.

Capacity-building may include, but is not limited to, the following actions:

- ▶ Information, public awareness, education and training actions to increase understanding of the climate change issue, offer adaptation and mitigation responses or obtain means of implementation (climate finance, clean and/or adaptive technologies, etc.);
- ▶ Analyses or studies to determine potential for action and implementation needs to develop mitigation and/or adaptation actions;
- ▶ Support for the preparation and submission of documents required under the international framework, including with regard to transparency (GHG inventories, National Communications, biennial reports, evaluation of technology needs with the CTCN), as well as action (NDC, long-term low-carbon strategy, National Adaptation Plans, etc.);
- ▶ Support for the preparation of public mitigation and adaptation policies and drafting of laws or regulations relating to domestic implementation measures;
- ▶ Support for participation in international climate negotiations.

04 CAPACITY-BUILDING

How does the Paris Agreement address capacity building?

Support to facilitate achievement of the goals of the Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement stresses that «capacity-building should enhance the capacity and ability of developing country Parties, in particular countries with the least capacity (least developed and most vulnerable countries),

to take effective climate change action, including to implement adaptation and mitigation actions, and should facilitate technology development, dissemination and deployment, access to climate finance, relevant aspects of

education, training and public awareness, and the transparent, timely and accurate communication of information» (Article 11.1).

Guiding principles and key areas for capacity-building

The Paris Agreement restates the broad thrust of the «Marrakech Framework» (adopted at COP7 in 2001) and its guidance on capacity-building activities, stressing the need to respect the following principles (Article 11.2), i.e. that they should:

- Be country-driven;
- Be based on and responsive to national needs;
- Foster country ownership, including at national, subnational and local level;
- Be guided by lessons learned, under and outside the UNFCCC;
- Be an effective, iterative, participatory, cross-cutting and gender-responsive process.

The Paris Agreement targets five key areas of capacity-building for developing countries with a view to supporting its implementation:

- Implement mitigation and adaptation actions;
- Facilitate technology development, dissemination and deployment;
- Facilitate access to climate finance;
- Facilitate education, training and public information/awareness;
- Facilitate the transparent, accurate and timely communication of information;

An institution devoted to capacity-building: the «Paris Committee»

The Paris Agreement established a dedicated institution, the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building, to:

- ▶ Address current and emerging gaps and needs in implementing capacity-building activities in developing countries;
- ▶ Further enhance capacity-building efforts, including enhancement of the coherence and co-ordination of capacity-building activities under the UNFCCC.

The Committee should focus annually on an area or theme related to enhanced technical exchange on capacity-building. Annual meetings of the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building are organized by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) in conjunction with its own sessions.

Communication of information on progress made on capacity-building

Developing country Parties should regularly communicate progress made on implementing capacity-building plans, policies, actions or measures to implement the Paris Agreement (Article 11.4).



04 CAPACITY-BUILDING

In the name of transparency, provision by each developing country of information on capacity-building support needed and received

In the biennial transparency report to be submitted by 31 December 2024 at the latest, developing countries must provide information on capacity building support needed and received un-

der Article 10 of the Paris Agreement (Decision 18/CMA.1, §10 of the Annex and Chapter VI, sections G and H).



MANY DIFFERENT AND OFTEN UNCO-ORDINATED CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVES IN WEST AFRICA

The initial assessment of the GCCA+ West Africa programme highlighted the existence of around one hundred capacity-building initiatives relating to the implementation of NDCs in the West African region. These initiatives may be driven by West African, African or international operators and have very varied objectives, but all work with public bodies or institutions (governments, technical agencies, research institutes, territorial authorities). Their very great number and the lack of co-ordination between ministries at

national level, coupled with the specific visibility strategies of each donor, limit the synergies and linkages between those initiatives. In 2020 in particular, the challenge of revising the NDCs and effectively fulfilling the climate commitments has resulted in a proliferation of technical support mostly concentrated in certain ECOWAS member states, which do not always have the capacity to co-ordinate all these activities. The obligation to provide information on support received under the Paris Agreement may help to improve this

linkage. Regional institutions could also play the role of observers of existing systems so that the support received is better balanced, according to the principle of regional solidarity.



INFORMATION ON SUPPORT NEEDED:

- ▶ Information in textual format on:
 - The approach the Party seeks to take to enhance capacity-building support;
 - Country-specific capacity-building needs, constraints and gaps in communicating those needs, and an explanation of how the capacity-building support needed would improve the provision of such information;
 - Processes for enhancing public awareness, public participation and access to information in relation to capacity-building.
- ▶ Information to be provided in common tabular format on:
 - Title (of the activity, programme or project);
 - Programme/project description;
 - Expected timeframe;
 - Type of support (e.g. adaptation, mitigation or cross-cutting);
 - Use, impact and expected results



NOTA BENE

The common reporting tables are to be adopted at COP26 (see §12 a) of Decision 18/CMA.1)



INFORMATION ON SUPPORT RECEIVED:

- ▶ Information in textual format on case studies, how the support received has enhanced capacity, capacity-building support received at the national and, where appropriate, regional level, including priorities, participation and the involvement of stakeholders.
- ▶ Information to be provided in common tabular format on:
 - Title (of the activity, programme or project);
 - Programme/project description;
 - Recipient entity;
 - Type of support (e.g. adaptation, mitigation or cross-cutting) ;
 - Timeframe;
 - Status of the activity (planned, ongoing or completed);
 - Use, impact and estimated results.

05

Guide to implementation
of the Paris Agreement
for ECOWAS member states

CHAPTER 5

TRANSPARENCY



► Définition

Transparency is a working framework based on various tools for monitoring, evaluating and accounting for the results of actions, as well as communicating information. In particular, it includes measuring, reporting and verification (MRV) of implementation. MRV may be applied to emissions, adaptation and mitigation actions and also to the implementation support provided (finance, technology transfer and capacity-building).

► Issus

- To find out where, how and when to take action to combat climate change, it is essential **to have accurate knowledge of the sources or sinks and evolution of GHG emissions and the level and evolution of vulnerability of natural and human ecosystems.**
- To decide on the most appropriate course of action, the ability to rely on **accurate, consistent, comparable data in all sectors of activity is crucial.**
- **Transparency is a token of trust**, bringing recognition and awareness of the efforts made by each country and its needs in the fight against climate change, in the light of its capabilities. In this regard, transparency is an accountability tool encouraging all to make and fulfil their pledges.

How does the Paris Agreement address transparency?

The Paris Agreement establishes an enhanced transparency framework for action and financial support

This enhanced framework is designed to provide a clear understanding of action taken by countries in the light of the objective set out in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C (and pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C).

It should allow a «global stocktake» (Article 14) to be undertaken every five years on an informed basis.

The framework provides for the preparation and communication of a biennial report (every two years), including a national inventory report on GHG emissions (sources and sinks), information on monitoring of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), climate change impacts and adaptation and financial support provided and received.



The first biennial report and national inventory report must be submitted by 31 December 2024 at the latest. Each country has the option to present the national inventory report in conjunction with or as a component of the biennial report.



The transparency framework must be implemented in a facilitative, non-intrusive, non-punitive manner, respectful of national sovereignty, and avoid placing undue burden on developing countries (Article 13.3).

05 TRANSPARENCY

Guiding principles of the enhanced transparency framework

The framework relies heavily on the transparency arrangements already provided under the UNFCCC (national inventories, biennial reports and National Communications), but enhances them to take account of the particular features of the NDCs and Adaptation Communications and improvement in the transparency of the financial support needed and provided. It also includes a technical review of the transparency framework reports, carried out by teams of international experts (see explanations about the technical expert

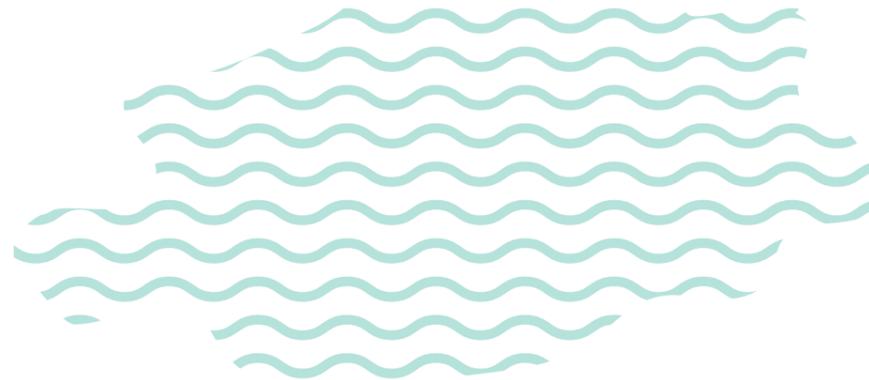


Given that all countries participate in efforts to reduce emissions and all have the opportunity to use co-operative approaches, some of which are market-based and involve transfers of mitigation outcomes, the framework stresses the accuracy, completeness, consistency and comparability of the data and actions to preserve the environmental integrity of the Agreement, including the avoidance of double counting.

Flexibility for developing countries

The transparency framework is the same for all, but builds in flexibility for developing countries in the light of their implementation capacities (Article 13.2).

The modalities, procedures and guidelines referred to in Article 13 (Decision 18/CMA.1) indicate how such flexibility can be applied for each provision.



The application of flexibility is to be self-determined: a country applying flexibility must clearly indicate this in the transparency reports, clarifying the capacity constraints and providing a self-determined estimated timeframe for improvements (Part I, Section C of the Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1).

Presentation of transparency reports

NOTA BENE

Transparency reports are brought together in the biennial report with the national GHG emissions inventory (a) (which may be submitted as a stand-alone report); information on tracking of the Nationally

Determined Contribution (NDC)(b); climate change impacts and adaptation (c); and financial support provided and received (d).



a) National inventory report: content and requirements

- Définitions: 2006 IPCC Guidelines
 - Indicators of global warming potential: metrics from the 5th IPCC evaluation report 2014
 - Description of the legal framework and institutional arrangements for drawing up the national inventory: responsible entity, process of establishment, archiving of data, review and official approval of the inventory
 - Methods: application of the IPCC Guidelines (+ 2013 supplement on wetlands), analysis of the key categories (including or excluding the LULUCF sector) for the first and last year considered, applying the same methods each year and carrying out a quantitative and qualitative review of the uncertainty of the emission and removal estimates, explaining which sources or sinks are not taken into account.
 - Establishment of a quality assurance/quality control plan for the inventory.
- ▶ Possibility of flexibility concerning the content of the plan and quality control procedure.
 - ▶ Possibility of presenting and submitting the national inventory report separately from the biennial report.
- ▶ Possibility of using appropriate methods at national level, to be justified.
 - ▶ Possibility of applying tier 1 of the methods (default methodologies and emission factors) in case of lack of resources.



NOTA BENE

The common reporting tables are to be adopted at COP26 (see §12 a) of Decision 18/CMA.1)



Each country must produce its national inventory report according to the modalities set out above, presenting it with the national inventory document and common reporting tables. Specific guidance on production of inventory reports is given in Section E of Part II of the Annex to Decision 18/CMA-1.

05 TRANSPARENCY

b) NDC description and tracking report (mitigation component, see Part III of the Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1)

- Description of national circumstances and institutional arrangements, as well as procedural arrangements for implementation, tracking progress made, reporting and archiving of the national results and the modalities of stakeholder engagement related to the implementation and achievement of the NDC.
- Description of the NDC: targets, target year or period, reference points, years or levels, timeframe for implementation, scope (sectors and gases covered and activities involved), intention to use the co-operative approaches under Article 6 and updates or clarification of previously reported information.
- Tracking of progress made in implementing the NDC: choice of qualitative or quantitative indicators to track progress made in implementing the NDC, indicating the reference points/levels/years, providing the most recent information for each selected indicator and updating the information in accordance with any recalculation of the GHG emissions inventory.



AN MRV SYSTEM TO STRUCTURE AROUND THE EXISTING ARRANGEMENT IN TOGO

Like the other West African Member States, Togo enjoys support from the “West Africa-MRV” programme funded by the Canadian co-operation agency. In this regard, the programme has carried out diagnostics of the position of the Togolese climate MRV system and helps the Ministry of the Environment, Sustainable Development and Nature Protection (MEDDPN) with stakeholder consultation, seeking to improve the system and make it effective and compliant with the provisions of the Paris Agreement.

Since February 2017, Togo has designed a national climate change measuring, reporting and verification system which incorporates three MRV

blocks: (i) MRV emissions, already in existence through the greenhouse gas inventories (GHGI), (ii) MRV measurements, already operational via the national communications, updated annual reports and national forest surveillance system (SNSF) under REDD+, not harmonized with the 2006 IPCC guidelines; and (iii) MRV support, still under construction with several ongoing initiatives. Implementation of this harmonized system and a centralized storage and firing system has, however, not yet got under way.

Apart from the very practical aspects relating to the compatibility of IT solutions amongst the various institutions, as well as the confidentiality

of certain so-called «sensitive» data, one question still outstanding is the geographical level of granularity of monitoring (regional, municipal) and the type of institutions and players who should report their climate actions. Furthermore, the stakeholders have also pointed out the persistent difficulty relating to each player’s understanding of their roles and responsibilities in the climate MRV system, not to mention different interpretations of the system itself and the type of information which should transit through that system.

Examples of tracking indicators: net GHG emissions and removals, percentage reduction in GHG intensity, relevant quantitative indicators for a given policy or action, mitigation co-benefits of adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans, or other measurements such as hectares of reforestation, percentage of renewable energy use or production, carbon neutrality, share of non-fossil fuel consumption in primary energy consumption and non-GHG related indicators.



Each country shall provide information to track progress made in implementing and achieving its NDC, in the form of a structured summary in a common tabular format to be decided at COP 26 (2020) (see §77 and 79, Part III, Section C of the Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1).



For its 1st NDC (2020-2025 or 2020-2030 depending on the chosen timeframe), the country must state whether it has achieved its targets and report on its accounting methods, giving details of compliance with Decision 4/CMA.1. For subsequent NDCs, each country must account for its emissions using the method provided for in Decision 4/CMA.1.

Each country must also provide information on actions, policies and measures supporting implementation of the NDC, including where mitigation co-benefits result from adaptation actions or economic diversification plans.

If the country does not submit a national inventory as a component of the biennial report, it must include in the latter a summary of GHG emissions and removals according to the most recent inventory.

Finally, in the biennial report, the country must report projections of its GHG emissions and removals «with measures» (NB: it may, but is not obliged to, report projections «with additional measures» or «without measures»). Guidance and modalities for reporting these projections are given in §§95 and 96, Section F of Part III of the Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1)

05 TRANSPARENCY

c) Reporting information on financial support provided and mobilized (Article 7)

Each developing country may provide information on climate change impacts and adaptation, but this communication is not mandatory.



NOTA BENE

The common reporting tables are only intended to provide information on the mitigation component and financial support needed and received (including to finance adaptation), but not to provide information on climate change impacts and adaptation; the common reporting tables are to be adopted at COP26 (see §12 Decision 18/CMA.1)



See Adaptation Chapter of this Guide to know more about modalities for providing this information on financial support to adaptation.

d) Reporting information on financial support provided and mobilized (Part VI, Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1)

Each developing country must provide information on the financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support needed and received under Articles 9 - 11 of the Paris Agreement.

Each developing country must describe national circumstances and the institutional arrangements relevant to reporting on support needed and received, including the systems and processes used to identify, track and report support needed and received, as well as the respective challenges and limitations; and the country priorities and strategies and any aspect of the NDC for which the Party needs support.

In providing information on support needed and received, each developing country must describe the assumptions, definitions and methodologies used to provide information, including, as applicable, those used to:

- Convert domestic currency into United States dollars;
- Estimate the amount of support needed;
- Determine the reporting year or time-frame;
- Identify support as coming from specific sources;
- Determine support as committed, received or needed;
- Identify and report the status of the

supported activity (planned, ongoing or completed);

- Identify and report the channel (bilateral, regional or multilateral);
- Identify and report the type of support (e.g. adaptation, mitigation or cross-cutting);
- Identify and report the financial instrument (grant, concessional loan, non-concessional loan, equity, guarantee or other);
- Identify and report sectors and sub-sectors;
- Report on the use, impact and estimated results of the support needed and received;

- Identify and report support as contributing to technology development and transfer and capacity-building;
- Avoid double counting in reporting information on support needed and received for the implementation of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement and its transparency-related activities (e.g. via the CBIT managed by the GEF).

WAICSA, FUTURE REGIONAL FUND TO SUPPORT WEST AFRICAN SMALLHOLDER FARMERS

As part of its efforts to raise additional resources to finance ECOWAP, through the Regional Agriculture and Food Development Fund (ECOWADF) managed by the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID), the ECOWAS Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development is currently developing a West African Initiative for Climate Smart Agriculture (WAICSA). This initiative aims to set up a blended finance fund to support the adoption of climate smart agriculture by providing technical assistance and concessional

loans, along with guarantees, for smallholder farmers. Over the period 2020-2027, WAICSA will have a target envelope of US\$80 million, of which 80% for the investment financing facility and 20% for a technical assistance facility. Apart from the commitments of the ECOWAS Commission, the Fund also seeks to raise public money from other concessional institutions and investors as well as capital from private investors.

As happens with all other multilateral finance mechanisms, each

country must comply with the transparency requirements relating to financial support received and report that support, accounting only for the portion it has received in the case of multi-country finance in the region (i.e. the loans, guarantees, grants and investments which will benefit its own nationals).

¹⁰ https://climatepolicyinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/WAICSA-v16_18092019-_Final.pdf

05 TRANSPARENCY



Special instructions are given in the Rulebook (Section I of Part VI of the Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1) concerning information on support received for transparency-related activities (Article 13), including for preparing the transparency reports and addressing the areas for improvement identified by the technical expert review teams, including for transparency-related capacity-building (see explanations about the technical expert review process below).



NOTA BENE

The common reporting tables are to be adopted at COP26 (see §12 a) of Decision 18/CMA.1)



SUPPORT NEEDED:

- ▶ Information in textual format, on the following elements:
 - Sectors for which the Party wishes to attract international finance, including existing barriers to attracting international finance;
 - Description of how the support will contribute to the Party's NDC and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

- ▶ Information in common tabular format, on the following elements:
 - Title (of the activity, programme or project);
 - Programme/project description;
 - Estimated amount (in domestic currency and US dollars);
 - Expected timeframe;
 - Expected financial instrument (grant, concessional loan, non-concessional loan, equity, guarantee or other);
 - Type of support (e.g. adaptation, mitigation, cross-cutting);
 - Sector/subsector;
 - Whether the activity will contribute to technology development and transfer and/or capacity-building;
 - Whether the activity is anchored in a national strategy and/or an NDC;
 - Use, impact and expected results.

SUPPORT RECEIVED:

- ▶ Information in common tabular format, on the following elements:
 - Title (of the activity, programme or project);
 - Programme/project description;
 - Channel;
 - Recipient entity;
 - Implementing entity;
 - Amount received (in domestic currency and US dollars);
 - Timeframe;
 - Financial instrument (grant, concessional loan, non-concessional loan, equity, guarantee or other);
 - Status (committed or received);
 - Sector/subsector;
 - Type of support (e.g. adaptation, mitigation, cross-cutting);
 - Whether the activity has contributed to technology development and transfer and/or capacity-building;
 - Status of the activity (planned, ongoing or completed);
 - Use, impact and estimated results.

Technical expert review:

The information provided by each country is subject to an international technical expert review implemented in a facilitative manner. The review process should assist developing countries in identifying their capacity-building needs.

The review may be conducted as a centralized review, in-country review, desk review or simplified review (after the Secretariat has carried out an initial assessment).

In addition, each Party participates in a facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress made with regard to the provision of financial resources (Article 9) and the implementation and achievement of its NDC.

The technical expert review consists of the following elements:

- ▶ Review of the consistency with the Rulebook of the transparency information submitted;

- ▶ Consideration of the Party's implementation and achievement of its NDC (mitigation);
- ▶ Consideration of the support provided by the country, as relevant;
- ▶ Identification of areas of improvement related to application of the transparency framework;
- ▶ Assistance in identifying capacity-building needs for developing countries needing such assistance in the light of their capacities.

GHANA, NEW FINANCE FOR THE CLIMATE BASED ON AN OPTIMIZED MONITORING, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION SYSTEM

The enhanced co-operation framework under the Paris Agreement allows States to use certain market or non-market approaches, on a voluntary basis, to assist in the fulfilment of their commitments under their NDCs. Ghana stands as a pioneer in this respect following the partnership concluded in 2020 with Switzerland to engage on a pilot basis in the co-operative approach referred to in Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement. This arrangement means that mitigation outcomes can be transferred while respecting the environmental integrity of the Paris Agreement and increasing climate ambition.

In this case, the understanding between the two countries is developed on the basis of the National Clean Energy Programme (NCEP), which aims to improve energy access in Ghana while reducing GHG emissions thanks to solar power and improved stoves for cooking. The emissions actually reduced by the NCEP may be transferred to Switzerland and generate finance. Monitoring, accounting for and evaluating the mitigation benefits of this programme is therefore crucial. In Ghana, use of the co-operative approaches under Article 6 is rightly facilitated by the role played by the Ministry of Finance

in the climate Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system. An «Environment and Climate Change Unit» has been set up to liaise with the teams from the Ministry of the Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) and facilitate fulfilment of the country's commitment to GHG emission reduction.

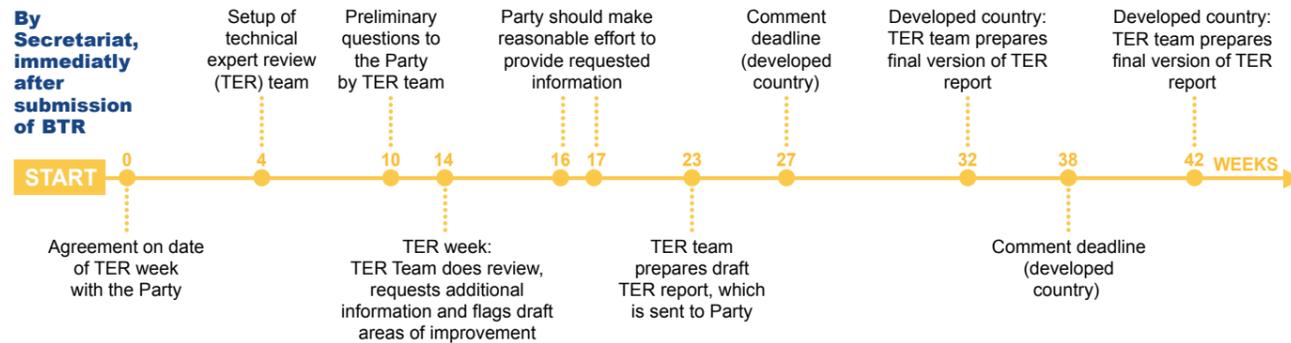
¹ <https://www.africa.undp.org/content/rba/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/switzerland-and-ghana-sign-mou-to-take-action-on-climate-commitment.html>

05 TRANSPARENCY



The country should submit its transparency reports for technical review at the request of the Secretariat (which will give 14 weeks' notice). It has one month from receipt of the draft technical review report to make comments. The various stages and deadlines in the technical review procedure are as follows:

Transparency arrangements under the Paris Agreement rulebook



The country may nominate experts, who must have competence in the areas to be reviewed, to take part in the technical review teams. They must complete a training programme (see Section I, Part VII of the Annex to Decision 18/CMA.1).

The technical review under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement does not replace the review and consultation process established by the Cancun Agreements, i.e. a) the «IAR» process for reviewing the National Communica-

tions and biennial reports, including national inventories, of the UNFCCC Annex I developed country Parties and b) the «ICA» process for international consultation and analysis of the results of measuring, reporting and verifying the nationally appropriate mitigation actions of the developing countries, including their biennial reports.

► The document arising from the ICA process must be included as an annex to the biennial report to be submitted by developing countries under the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement (see §14 Decision 18/CMA.1 and §§45 and 46 of Decision 1/CP.24)

Summary of the obligations and their nature for ECOWAS Member States – Transparency

ARTICLES OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT	OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT	NATURE OF THE OBLIGATION			TYPE OF ACTIONS		RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
		PERFORMANCE OBLIGATION	BEST EFFORTS OBLIGATION	OPTION	FORMULATION OF POLICIES	COMPILATION OF INFORMATION	
13.7	Each Party regularly provides: - a national inventory report on anthropogenic emissions and - the information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving its NDC	X				X	- Establishment of the biennial report and national GHG emissions inventory - Formulation of indicators and collection of information needed for the description of the NDC. - Tracking of progress made in implementing the NDC
13.8	Each Party should also provide information related to climate change impacts and adaptation.			X		X	Collection and processing of information on adaptation.
13.10	Developing countries should provide information on support needed and received.	X				X	Collection and processing of the information provided by the different sectors on support obtained in accordance with the Paris Agreement Rulebook.
13.11	The information submitted undergoes a technical expert review, to assist Parties in identifying their capacity-building needs.			X		X	Compliance with the technical review procedures under the international co-operative framework.
	Each Party participates in a multilateral consideration of progress made in relation to efforts undertaken, as well as implementation and achievement of its NDC.		X			X	Compliance with the multilateral review procedures under the international co-operative framework.

