Towards the Ambitious Implementation of the Paris Agreement

A Toolkit for National Level Advocacy





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A Toolkit for National Level Advocacy

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List of Abbreviations

ADB Asian Development Bank AF UN Adaptation Fund

AfDB African Development Bank

AIIB Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

ARC African Risk Capacity
CAN Climate Action Network
CAT Climate Action Tracker

CCPI Climate Change Performance Index

CCKP World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal CDKN Climate & Development Knowledge Portal

CIF Climate Investment Fund

CRI Climate Risk Index
DRR Disaster Risk Reduction
EIB European Investment Bank
FAO Food & Agriculture Organization

FBO Faith Based Organization
GCF Green Climate Fund
GDP Gross Domestic Product
GEI Gender Equity Index
GII Gender Inequality Index

GIZ German Corporation for Development Cooperation
GFDRR Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

HDI Human Development Index

HLPF High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

IADB Inter-American Development Bank

IEA International Energy Agency

IISD Institute for Sustainable Development
IOM International Organization for Migration
IPCC Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IRENA International Renewable Energy Agency
ITUC International Trade Union Confederation

LDC Least Developed Countries

LDCF Least Developed Countries Fund

LEG Least Developed Countries Expert Group

LTS Long-Term Strategy (to achieve mid-century greenhouse gas neutrality)

LULUCF Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry

MDB Multilateral Development Banks MDG Millennium Development Goals

NAP National Adaptation Plan NAP-GSP NAP Global Support Program NDC Nationally Determined Contribution

PA Paris Agreement

SCCF Special Climate Change Fund SDG Sustainable Development Goals

SFDRR Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

SIDS Small Island Developing States

UNDP United Nations Development Program UNEP United Nations Environment Program

UNFCCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNISDR United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

WIM Warsaw International Mechanism

Glossary

Climate justice: Climate justice is a term used for framing climate change as an ethical and political issue. It links climate policies to human rights and sustainable development, safeguarding the rights of the most vulnerable people and sharing the burdens and benefits of climate change and climate policies equally and fairly. In the context of this Toolkit, climate justice also refers to intergenerational equity and the full, equal and meaningful participation of youth in all climate related processes, platforms and actions. It refers to striving for environmental justice, justice to nature, gender equality and the protection and promotion of human rights for all. It is also encompassing of the voices of indigenous peoples, access to sustainable energy for all, and a just transition for those whose jobs or livelihoods are threatened by ambitious climate policies.

Climate resilience: Climate resilience, according to Folke (2007) and Nelson (2007) is defined as the capacity of a socio-ecological system (1) to absorb stresses and maintain function in the face of external stresses imposed upon by climate change, and (2) to adapt, re-organize, and evolve into more desirable configurations that improve the sustainability of the system, leaving it better prepared for future climate change impacts.

Gender justice: ACT Alliance recognizes that women are disproportionately affected by long-term climate change, particularly in contexts where gender inequality is more pronounced. The specific competences and vulnerable conditions of women are often overlooked and women still have much less economic, political and legal power. Gender justice in the context of climate change is an approach to address and close these gaps by ensuring that gender equality and the full, equal and meaningful participation of women is at the heart of all climate discussions and actions, at all levels of decision making.

Human rights: Human rights-based approaches address adverse impacts of climate change that threaten the human rights of climate vulnerable people. They call on duty bearers such as states to ensure the fulfillment of their obligations with regard to the respect for and protection of human rights standards and human rights principles.

INDC/NDC: State Parties to the UNFCCC were called to make provisional pledges of climate action ahead of the Paris Climate Summit in 2015 (COP21). These so called Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) turn into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) once a Party has formally submitted its climate action plan for the time period 2020-2025 (2030) to the interim NDC registry, which was established by the UNFCCC Secretariat in the beginning of 2016. By the end of January 2018, 167 Parties had submitted their first NDC.

Intergenerational Equity: Intergenerational equity refers to the full, equal and meaningful participation of youth in all activities, processes and platforms for climate action. Intergenerational equity is an integrated approach, concerning the well being and equity of current and future generations, who most likely will face difficult living conditions in a changing climate, but who are not responsible for causing them.

Preface

The inaugural assembly of ACT Alliance in Arusha, Tanzania in 2010 resolved that climate change was a threat to lives, livelihoods and the whole of creation, and as a result it was identified as a priority for the Alliance's advocacy work at all levels. Since then, ACT Alliance has engaged in many climate justice initiatives, including advocacy and campaigns in the context of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as well as at the national and community levels. ACT Alliance members and forums across the world continue to advocate for climate justice, particularly in support for community resilience in developing countries, reduced greenhouse gas development, increased accessibility of new and additional climate finance and climate action that is guided by including principles of human rights, equity, intergenerational equity, the full and meaningful participation of youth and gender justice.

Until 2015, ACT Alliance's advocacy and capacity building efforts on climate change was primarily geared towards enabling member organizations, forums and partners to implement effective advocacy and campaigns towards the UNFCCC negotiations, particularly in the lead up to the Paris Agreement. Since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, the Alliance's advocacy focuses on enabling national level implementation of the Agreement.

As an alliance, we believe that the Paris Agreement provides a significant policy framework that has the potential to guide ambitious action to address climate change and its impacts. The goal of keeping global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius (°C) or well below 2°C will require the mobilization of climate action and its means of implementation at national levels. Simultaneously, significant efforts will need to be made to build global resilience to the impacts of climate change by shifting economies and societies towards a low greenhouse gas emissions development pathway. Therefore, the implementation of the Paris Agreement must be linked to the transformation of all economic sectors and should be done in conjunction with the implementation of other key policy frameworks. particularly the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

This Toolkit is designed to support the advocacy actions of ACT Alliance members, forums and partners at the national level. It focuses on the three instruments mandated by the Paris Agreement, namely; the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and the mid-century long-term low greenhouse gas emissions development strategies or Long-term Strategies (LTS). ACT Alliance defines advocacy as 'a strategic set of activities designed to influence decision-makers, laws and regulations, structures and practices to address the root causes of injustice.' Advocacy may be conducted publicly or privately, and can include policy research, campaigning and public events, lobbying and policy dialogue, media work and the production of materials to support advocacy in its various forms. ACT Alliance encourages all climate advocacy work to be guided by the principles of climate justice.

We encourage all of our members and forums to make use of this Toolkit, not only for advocacy purposes but also for capacity building and to facilitate internal discussions and reflections to ensure that specific national contexts are integrated into our global climate justice work.

Introduction

Climate change threatens sustainable development and puts poor people at high risks

The years 2015-2017 were another period of accelerated climate change, where the adverse climate impacts led to unprecedented economic and non-economic loss and damage. 1°C of global warming has been surpassed, and hundreds of millions of people, especially the poor and vulnerable in the Global South, are confronted with the consequences. The World Bank has calculated that climate-related extreme weather events are pushing more than twenty million people back into poverty every year. Furthermore, extreme weather events such as hurricanes, floods and droughts are causing annual economic losses of more than USD 300 billion, not counting the indirect losses like drops in consumption, which have been estimated to another USD 220 billion (World Bank 2017).

Bringing climate change to a halt has become a prerequisite to protect poor people, future generations, and creation itself from tremendous suffering. It has also become a prerequisite to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Apart from mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening climate resilience through effective disaster risk reduction and adaptation to the changing climate are essential for success.

The Paris Agreement (PA), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), all agreed to in 2015, mutually underline the necessity of a transition toward a sustainable, zero-carbon climate resilient future for all. Now it is on all states, all businesses, and all people to take climate action that is fast and ambitious.

For faith-based organizations (FBOs) it is a fundamental matter of belief and responsibility to serve as the moral compass for shaping the necessary transition for just and ambitious climate action.

More ambitious climate action is a matter of urgency, according to climate science

Without immediate and deep emission reductions, the aspirational 1.5°C temperature goal will soon be out of reach, and the 2°C limit would likely be surpassed soon after. It is a great political success that the Paris Agreement has established these goals and has developed a global framework for the long-term global response to climate change. Now the time has come for its fast, ambitious and effective implementation at the national level in all countries.

While the world can't be healed within the next few years, it may be fatally wounded by negligence until 2020 (...). Action to mitigate emissions by 2020 is necessary, but clearly not sufficient – it needs to set the course of halving CO2 emissions every other decade.

Hans-Joachim, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research ¹

Science stresses the fact that breaching the 1.5°C/2°C-threshold would be dangerous because it could trigger several earth-system tipping points such as the permanent melting of big ice sheets, which would lead to unmanageable consequences for humankind. Therefore. scientists call for more ambitious national climate action as a great matter of urgency. If temperature increase is to be kept at 1.5°C, the appropriate policy course must be firmly embedded within the next five to ten years. The challenges that this poses for politics, the economy and society are tremendous - but inevitable. The Climate Action Tracker, a climate think tank platform, has identified the most important steps to limit global warming to 1.5°C (see page 8).

In order to implement these measures, industrialised countries must radically overhaul their development models, while developing countries must end poverty and create prosperity without worsening global warming. While the first group has to drastically reduce its carbon or environmental footprint, the latter may still increase emissions, but within given boundaries



Check list of climate action needed to keep global warming below 1.5° Celsius:

- Cease the construction of new coal-fired power plants immediately
- Reduce emissions from coal power by at least 30% by 2025
- Sustain the high global growth rate of renewable energies until 2025
- Make all new buildings fossil-free and near zero energy by 2020
- Increase the building energy renovation rate to 5% by 2020
- End the sale of gasoline and diesel cars no later than 2035

as well. Decoupling wealth and well-being from emissions and raw material consumption is already a challenge everywhere. However, the decarbonisation and transformation that the Paris Agreement calls for so urgently will only

Question: It is sometimes argued that emission reduction is first and foremost a responsibility for industrialized countries and that developed countries should first meet their development needs before reducing emissions. Why should poor countries already start with emission reductions?

It is true that industrialized countries should cut their emissions at a faster and more ambitious rate, due to their higher historical responsibilities and their advanced economic capabilities.

But it is also true, that greenhouse gas emissions grow very fast in most developing countries, and that emerging economies in particular will overtake industrialised countries in terms of their cumulated emissions in the 2030s, if they do not decarbonize, too.

The 1.5°C/2°C –threshold can only be met if all countries take more ambitious action now.

The future belongs to renewable energies. All countries must decarbonize their economies. First movers will benefit in terms of development. It is a matter of solidarity and justice, of course, that rich countries support poor countries in their transformation.

secure broad-based public support if it goes hand in hand with a reduction of socioeconomic inequalities, which have widened dramatically. The good news is that while emission trajectories that are consistent with the 1.5°C temperature threshold are challenging, they are still possible, (see figure 1).

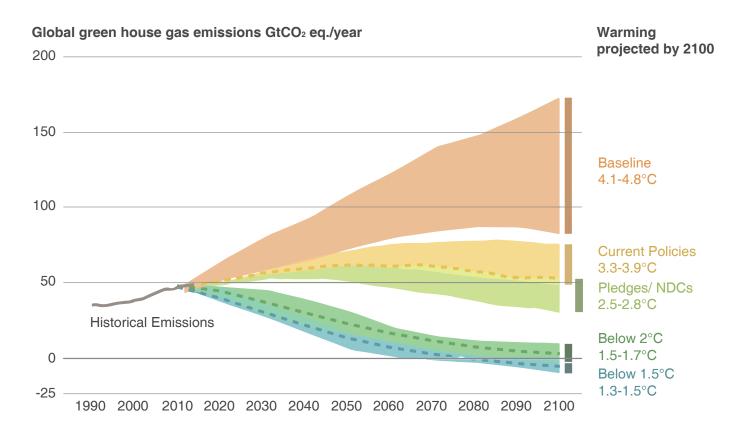
To stay well below the 2°C or 1.5°C as was agreed to by all governments, and knowing about the huge challenges ahead of us, no country can lag behind, or claim free-rider status. Industrialised countries must take the lead and developing nations, in particular emerging economies with high per capita emissions, should follow immediately (see figure 2).



What is the difference between a 1.5°C and a 2°C threshold for global warming?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), as the most authoritative scientific institution working on climate change, is mandated to present a special report providing more scientific clarity on this question in 2018. The 1°C global average temperature increase that we are already facing has led to massive negative impacts on ecosystems and socio-economic systems, too. Loss and damage caused by global warming will further accelerate in a 1.5°C world, and may lead to massive and irreversible changes of huge earth systems, like the Greenland ice sheets, the Amazon, or the monsoon, even before reaching 2°C. Impacts on biodiversity and humankind could be tremendous, in particular for the most climate vulnerable countries and populations. Therefore, the Paris Agreement includes the aspirational goal to strive to limit global warming to 1.5°C, while the fine line between climate change and "dangerous climate change" is being set at "well below 2°C".

The IPCC special report will also discuss implications for certain emission reduction targets. Recent scientific analyses have suggested the remaining global carbon emission budget as follows. To stay at 1.5°C emissions must range between 200 and 600 Gt, while the limit for 2°C is 800 Gt. In view of current annual emissions of 41Gt, there is a limited time to stay within these temperature thresholds making the achievement of the 1.5°C temperature goal extremely challenging.



Emission trajectories including options to stay below 1.5°C / 2°C

Cumulative green house gas emissions

Source: Climate Analytics 2016

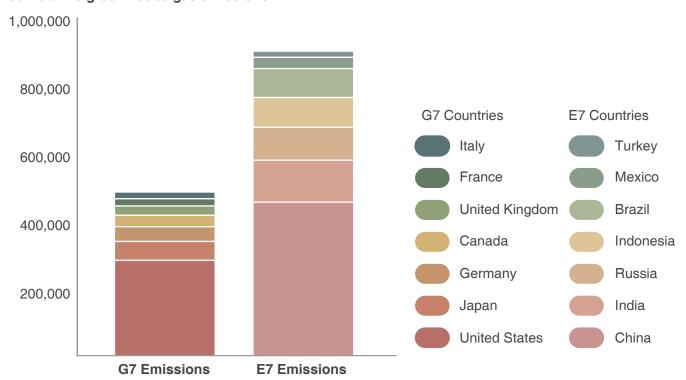




Figure 2 Comparing modelled cumulated emissions (1990-2030) of industrialized countries and emerging economies

Author: Thomas Hirsch. Data source: http://gdrights.org, calculator version 3.0, data version 29 July 2014

NDCs. LTS and NAP are the main instruments to implement the Paris Agreement

The single most important instrument for the implementation of the Paris Agreement (PA) is the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) as the national climate action plan. All countries are obliged to register their NDC with the United Nations - and already 168 states have submitted their first NDC for the period 2020-2025.²

The basic concept of the PA is that all signatories implement their NDC and raise the ambition of their NDC over time, to achieve the global goals. What matters now is transforming the commitments on paper into national legislation and action on the ground – and to raise the level of ambition for a chance to stay at 1.5°C or below.

66 We will move to a low-carbon world because nature will force us, or because policy will guide us. If we wait until nature forces us, the cost will be astronomical. "

Christiana Figures Former Secretary General of the UNFCCC Secretariat³

The NDCs are committed to as national climate action plans for the short and mid-term, and are to be updated every five years. Ambitious NDC implementation is essential to ensure that global emission levels peak in the near future and that climate risks are reduced so that development co-benefits can be simultaneously achieved.

Apart from short-term action, a long-term orientation on climate and energy policy is necessary as society, the economy and investors need some form of planning security. This is the role of the second instrument provided by the PA, the so-called Mid-Century Long-Term Low Greenhouse Gas Emission Development Strategy, also known as Long-Term Strategy (LTS). Countries are asked to present their LTS no later than 2020.

The third main instrument is the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) which is the main planning tool which aims to ensure that climate risks are precisely identified, and that adequate risk prevention, reduction and adaptation measures are elaborated on and implemented with a view to increase climate resilience, in particular of the most vulnerable people and sectors of society.

Aligning climate action with development planning is paramount for mutual success

NDC, LTS, and the NAP are the three main instruments for the implementation of the PA. They go hand in hand, and present a convincing vision and credible long-term roadmap necessary to achieve climate resilience and greenhouse gas emissions neutrality. At the same time, and equally important, they need to be aligned with national development planning and the implementation of both the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) at the country level. Alignment includes the institutional as well as the programmatic and narrative aspects. At best, the office of the head of government should take the lead at the political and national level. Sub-national institutions should also take part in the process.



Embedding climate goals in the muchbroadernationaldevelopment agenda and mobilizing multistakeholder support participation in the implementation of the NDC, LTS and NAP are key factors for success.

Figure 3 illustrates how the overarching goals of a sustainable zero carbon resilient development agenda can be achieved by using the NDC, SDGs and LTS as main instruments. The main drivers of change for this development are; vision, political commitment, the mobilization of climate and development co-benefits, the provision of financial support, knowledge sharing and broad participation across all sectors of society. The key challenges to be overcome are not only of economic, technical and political nature, but are also related to possible social conflicts and contradicting justice claims in the transition phase.

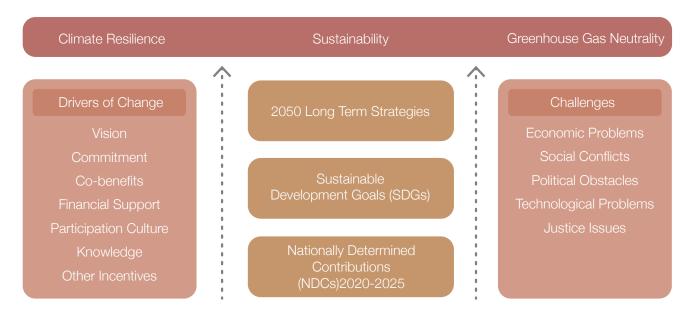




Figure 3 Climate resilient sustainable development: elements of transformational change Source: ACT Alliance, Bread for the World & Friedrich Ebert Foundation, 2017

FBOs have a role to shape climate justice in national implementation of the PA

For many years, Faith Based Organizations have played a significant role in climate change programs, advocacy, education and campaigning. Their role and voice has increased over the past few years and has gained an important role in negotiations under the UNFCCC. The nature of FBOs as global networks, with a rooted presence at the national and community level, gives FBOs a comparative advantage as innovators, influencers, connectors and implementers of climate policy and actions. FBOs can play an active role in ambitious climate action by serving as a moral compass for implementing the NDC, LTS and NAP at the national level. FBOs can raise the voice of climate vulnerable people and communities and ensure their full and meaningful participation. FBOs can credibly advocate for human rights, gender justice and equity, as well as intergenerational equity and justice to nature as guiding principles that align climate and development actions. FBOs can also facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogues and can become safeguards of accountability and transparency in the NDC, LTS and NAP processes, further taking up their role as stewards of God's creation in the climate crisis.

44 Human-induced climate change is a scientific reality, and its decisive mitigation is a moral and religious imperative for humanity. In this core moral space, the world's religions play a very vital role.

Pope Francis ⁴

How to use the ACT Climate Advocacy Toolkit

This Toolkit aims to support FBO engagement with governments and other stakeholders in the NDC, LTS and NAP processes. It provides basic information on content, institutional roles and modalities of work. It guides FBOs to develop successful approaches for meaningful climate advocacy to stay at 1.5°C. The Toolkit helps to operationalize our common vision of shaping our future in ways that take up the call for a strong moral and religious imperative in overcoming the climate crisis.

How to best use the Toolkit

The Toolkit is divided into three main modules. one for each of the instruments introduced above. Key messages, questions and answers, checklists and lessons learned, as well as diagrams and info-graphics are used as visual elements to ease the learning process. Examples are used to further illustrate the content. Technical terminology is explained in an easyto-understand way. ACT Alliance's positions and policy demands are used as the main reference points for assessing national policies and climate goals. For each of the instruments NDC, LTS and NAP, an assessment criteria, good practices (including on roadmaps and milestones), and options for advocacy interventions for FBOs are proposed. The Toolkit is designed so that FBOs can make their own choice on which of the instruments to focus, as all modules can be used independently. All three modules follow the same structure, allowing FBOs to prepare their advocacy engagements step-by-step, before getting involved in the in-country NDC, LTS and/ or NAP processes.

The Toolkit provides an initial orientation on the instruments and issues at stake, i.e. the first steps of practical advocacy action. For those who want to engage at a deeper level on more specific issues, the Toolkit serves as a navigation tool, providing useful information on where to retrieve additional resources and information.

The following infographics summarize the main

applications of the Toolkit and how to relate it to the in-country engagement process of FBOs.



Key Messages Short pitches with take home messages



Quotes

Statements from agreements, experts and decision-makers



Diagrams
Charts with key data in a visualized form



Infographics

Digital creations to visualize important information



Checklists
Guiding action step-by-step



Questions and Answers
Clarification of common
misconceptions



Maps
Providing geographical information



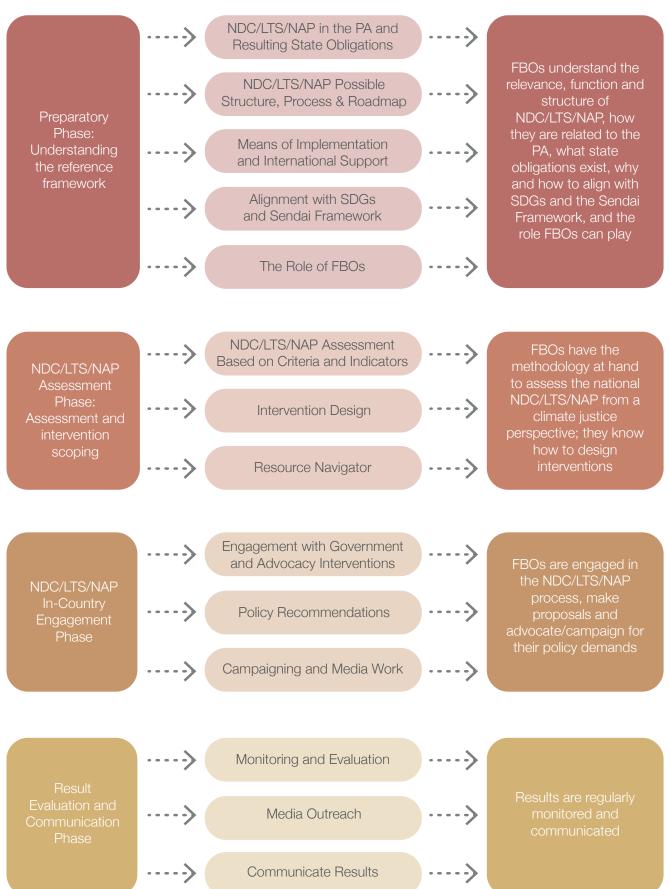
Examples
Illustrations of good practices



Recommended sources for further information



Figure 4 How to apply the Toolkit in different phases of national level advocacy work Author: Hirsch



Advocating for Justice and Ambition in the NDC

The role of the NDC in the Paris Agreement and corresponding state obligations

The Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are at the very center of the Paris Agreement (PA). They are the contributions of climate action that have been committed to by the member states (i.e. parties) of the UNFCCC to achieve the global climate goals.

All parties are obliged to submit their NDC to the United Nations. The level of ambition, i.e. the greenhouse gas emission reduction objectives, and, if included; adaptation objectives or measures to address loss and damage, or support provided to other countries, are set by the parties, hence being ("nationally determined"). However, all parties are called to provide the greatest possible contribution towards achieving the goals of the PA, as pointed out in the box below.



The NDC is the national contribution towards achieving the goals of the PA

- "Holding the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C (...) and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C..." [Article 2.1a]
- "Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience..." [Article 2.1b]
- · "Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low GHG emissions and climate-resilient development." [Article 2.1c]

Parties are obliged to increase the level of ambition every five years, starting from 2020, and the level of ambition should be informed by the periodical outcome of the global stocktake (officially starting in 2023). The global stocktake will assess the collective progress made towards achieving the global goals (see PA Article 14.1 – 14.2).

In regard to the coverage of the NDC, and corresponding state obligations, Article 3 of the PA includes references to other Articles of the agreement. Some of the arising obligations are of mandatory nature ("shall" provision) and others

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

Paris Agreement, Article 3

of discretionary nature ("should" provision). The flowing checklist summarizes the state obligations regarding their NDCs.



Checklist of state obligations regarding their NDC:

- To elaborate, communicate and implement the NDC (mandatory, Articles 3 & 4)
- To progressively ratchet up the targets every five years (mandatory, Articles 3 & 4)
- To include emission reduction targets (mandatory, Article 4), which are economywide, absolute emission reduction targets (mandatory for developed countries, discretionary for developing countries, but with a view to move into this direction over time, and considering the special circumstances of LDCs and SIDS, Article 4.4)
- To provide clarity and transparency, including on greenhouse gas accounting (mandatory, Article 4)
- To discretionary cover adaptation (Article 7), technology transfer (Article 10) and capacity-building (Article 11)
- Developed countries are obliged to provide support to developing countries' action, in accordance with Article 9-11 (Article 4.5)
- All Parties may strengthen their targets at any point in time



The Paris Agreement, its provisions related to NDCs, and the NDC portal

The Paris Agreement text: www.unfccc.int/files/essential-background/convention/application/pdf/english-paris-agreement.pdf

The NDC Registry with all NDCs submitted so far: http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/Pages/ Home.aspx

The NDC User Platform with further information: http://unfccc.int/focus/ndcregistry/items/9433.php

Nationally Determined Contribution – form and structure

The decision on form and structure of the NDC was decided at COP20 in Lima, Peru in 2014. Because the decision had been taken one year before the PA was agreed, reference was made at that time to the Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC). An INDC transitions into a NDC once a party has ratified the PA and registered its NDC in the Interim NDC registry, operated by the UNFCCC Secretariat.

According to decision 1/CP.20, the (I)NDC may include, inter alia, the following information, as shown in the following checklist.

The following example from Costa Rica shows how the elements presented in the checklist can be covered in a comprehensive way in the NDC structure.



Checklist with information to be provided by Parties in their NDC:

- Quantifiable information on the reference period, including a base year
- Time frames and/or periods for implementation
- Scope and coverage
- Planning processes
- Assumptions and methodological approaches, including those for estimating and accounting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and, as appropriate, removals
- How the Party considers its NDC to be fair and ambitious, in light of national circumstances
- How the NDC is considered to contribute to the global goals
- In a separate note, Parties are invited to include, apart from GHG mitigation action, which is mandatory, also an adaptation component in their NDC
- Furthermore, developing countries may specify in their NDC between unconditional commitments and commitments, which are dependent on support provided by industrialized countries
- Parties may also specify implementation costs
- The PA, as shown above, also invites
 Parties to include technology transfer
 and capacity building requirements in
 their NDC

The decision 1/CP.20 with further information: http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/lima_dec_2014/application/pdf/auv_cop20 lima_call for climate action.pdf



Good practice example: The structure of the NDC of Costa Rica7

"A Climate Action For Low Emission And Resilient Development"

- 1. Mitigation Contributions
 - A. Type
 - B. Scope
 - C. GHG included
 - D. Period
 - E. Absolute maximum limit
 - F. Transparency and accountability
 - G. Methodological approximations and assumptions
 - H. Using the international Market Mechanism
- 2. Contribution in Adaptation
- 3. National Setting
- 4. Planning Process
- 5. Means of Implementation
- 6. Equity and Ambition
- 7. Appendix 1: Mitigation Options
- 8. Appendix 2: Adaptation Options

NDC process and roadmap

For the most part, NDCs are political commitments on paper, most of them range from 6 to 20 pages. Many were produced in a relative hurry, often with limited in-country capacity and ownership with the support of external consultants. Most NDCs, in particular those of small and poorer countries, lack a solid data base, contain gaps and inconsistencies, have explored possible synergies if at all only superficially and thus are not very well aligned with other national policies, and hence, need to be revised.



To turn NDCs into action, parties need to undergo a thorough process of policy and strategy development, legislation, budgeting, investment, and finally monitoring and evaluation, to ensure that targets are achieved.

NDC Partnership Support Unit 2017, p.3

Most countries are yet to start this revision process, which must be finalized by 2020 at the latest, when the important milestone of the first commitment period of the NDC roadmap will enter into force. Parties are invited to also revisit and strengthen their targets, in light of the findings of the 2018 Talanoa facilitative dialogue under the then outgoing Fijian and incoming Polish COP24 Presidency.⁵ This facilitative dialogue can be considered as a sort of informal global stocktake, that aims "to take stock of the collective efforts of Parties in relation to progress towards the long-term goal".6 The NDC process can be summarized as shown in figure 5.



2018 is a crucial year for Parties to get their NDC reviewed and a NDC roadmap developed. This provides political momentum for FBOs

to partner with their governments and to advocate for just and ambitious NDCs.

Means of implementation and international support

Climate finance (PA, Article 9), technology transfer (PA, Article 10) and capacity building (PA, Article 11) are important means of NDC implementation. The provision of support to developing countries, in particular the poorer ones, is a key component, as stated in the PA.

"Developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation...

Paris Agreement, Article 9.1

Other Parties are encouraged to provide (...) such support voluntarily

Paris Agreement, Article 9.2

The mandatory obligation of developed countries to support the NDC implementation in developing countries is not quantified in the PA, but in the accompanying COP decision (1/CP.21, §54), setting a floor of USD 100bn per year from 2020 onwards, which shall be revised for the period beyond 2025.

Elaboration and Communication

- 1. NDC elaborated
- 2. NDC submitted to NDC Registry at UNFCCC

Review, Ratchet Up and Preparation for Implementation

- 1. Gap Analysis, SDG/Sendai Alignment, and NDC Roadmap development
- 2. Stakeholder Participation
- 3. Policy Analysis, Mainstreaming, LTS/NAP Alignment
- 4. Legal Framework, Coordination, and Governance
- 5. Budgeting and Acquisitions of Investments

Implementation

- 1. Program Implementation
- 2. Monitoring, including data collection, management and analysis

Evaluation and Elaboration of Next NDC

- Result Measurement and Reporting to UN
- 2. Assessment of Results
- 3. Elaboration of next NDCs with more ambitious targets



Figure 5 NDC Roadmap
Author: Thomas Hirsch, inspired by NDC Partnership Support Unit 2017, p.3

The provision of finance, technology and capacity building support, as foreseen by the PA, can be viewed as a solidarity pact, anchored in international law, and aimed at helping developing countries to ambitiously implement their NDCs. The provision of increased, permanent, needs-based, predictable and coordinated support is a collective mandatory obligation for developed countries. In the coming years, developing countries will put a lot of emphasis on holding developed countries to account in order to ensure the fulfillment of this crucial commitment in a transparent, measurable and verifiable way. Developed countries, in turn, will continue to raise their expectations that emerging economies and rich oil-exporting Arab countries will also financially contribute to the NDC implementation in poor countries. This demand, which is considered by developed countries as a question of fairness, is likely to get an additional push if the U.S. withdraws its financial commitments under the architecture of the PA.

The financial architecture of the PA is still in the

making. In terms of fund mobilization, projections suggest that roughly one third of the USD 100bn commitment would originate from the following three sources; bilateral public finance (i.e. donor countries), multilateral public finance (i.e. development banks), and private finance.⁸

The main bilateral donors of climate finance so far have been the United States, Japan, United Kingdom, Germany and France.

The main multilateral donors of climate finance outside of the UNFCCC are the World Bank (Including the Climate Investment Fund, CIF), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the European Investment Bank (EIB), and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB). In the future, South-South cooperation, including increasing the investments of the newly created China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) may gain relevance, along with engagements of national development banks of emerging economies, and regional risk finance entities (e.g. African Risk Capacity, (ARC)).

The financial institutions of the UNFCCC itself, shown in the list below, are usually much more in the center of attention.



The UNFCCC's Financial Institutions

- Green Climate Fund (GCF), established in 2010 to support mitigation and adaptation in developing countries
- UN Adaptation Fund (AF), was established in 1997 to support climate adaptation in developing countries
- Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), was established in 2001 to support LDCs
- Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), was established in 2001 to support adaptation, technology transfer and capacity building in developing countries

However, UN Agencies like the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) and the Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO), and specialized development and finance institutions like GIZ (German Corporation for International Cooperation) channel a substantial portion of funds to climate change. National or regional funds in developing countries could be both, providers or recipients of climate finance (e.g. Amazon Fund, Brazilian National Fund on Climate Change, South Africa Green Fund, Mali Climate Fund, Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund). A detailed overview is given by World Resources Institute, 2017.



It is expected that the landscape of climate finance in terms of sources, distribution channels and recipient institutions will develop

dynamically and further diversify in the next few years (see World Resources Institute 2017). Thus, it would be a mistake to focus on the GCF only.



ACT Alliance advocates for justice in climate finance. Key criteria are the following:

- Predictability, transparency and clarity on the additionality and source of funds
- Equal shares for mitigation and adaptation including funds for addressing loss and damage
- Magnetic Adaptation financing must be grant-based
- Country driven projects and direct access for applicants from developing countries (instead of channeling funds first and foremost through multilateral development banks and international organizations)
- Preferential access for poor countries with limited capacity

The provision of technical support and in-country capacity development is another key element of international cooperation in the NDC process. The UNFCCC set up a website in the early stage of INDC development⁹ which contains useful documents and links to expert organizations, platforms and networks that provide technical support, access to data, and other useful services for elaborating and implementing the NDCs. You will also find a selection of recommended providers of technical and in-country capacity development in the resources box on page 20. In 2016, another international partnership was launched, aiming at supporting developing countries in their NDC process, and is considered on the next page as a good practice example.

Good Practice Example: The NDC Partnership¹⁰

The NDC Partnership was launched at COP 22 in Marrakesh (2016) as an initiative of Morocco and Germany. It is a global partnership aimed at helping developing countries to achieve their national climate commitments with in-country technical assistance and cooperation, international workshops and dialogues and an internet-based knowledge portal including; access to databanks, and a climate finance navigator, which helps developing countries to identify possible sources of funding.

Membership is inclusive and open to all countries and international institutions that are committed to the ambitious implementation of the NDCs and SDG alignment. In January 2018, it counted 66 countries and 13 international institutions, including Multilateral Development Banks (MDB) and UN agencies as members. Other organizations can become associated members, with ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability as the first of its kind. The NDC Partnership Support Unit is hosted by World Resources Institute, with offices in Washington and Bonn. The Partnership is currently co-chaired by the governments of Morocco and Germany. The NDC Partnership Forum and its members meets twice a year on the margins of the World Bank Spring Meetings and during the annual sessions of the UNFCCC. Ten guiding principles serve as the framework for the Partnership:

- · Support country-driven processes
- · Promote long-term climate action
- · Enhance efficiency and responsiveness
- · Build in-country capacity
- · Improve coordination

- · Enhance integration into national planning
- · Advance adaptation and mitigation
- · Align development and climate change
- · Support multi-stakeholder engagement
- · Promote gender parity

The NDC Partnership offers a great opportunity for FBOs to engage at the national level if the country is a Partnership member as the Partnership promotes multi-stakeholder engagement.¹¹ If a country is not a member, FBOs may advocate their government to become a member. Furthermore, the knowledge portal includes many interesting tools that can be used by FBOs to advocate for ambitious and effective NDCs.¹²

ACT Alliance, together with Bread for the World and Friedrich Ebert Foundation published a discussion paper, "Ambition, Participation and Effectiveness" (2017) identifying 14 policy recommendations on how to utilize the NDC Partnership as a catalyst for just and ambitious NDC implementation (see Partnership as a catalyst for a just and ambitious NDC implementation. These recommendations may guide FBOs in their engagement with their countries and the NDC Partnership. The recommendations include, inter alia, the following:

- · Conduct a human rights impact assessment for NDCs, in order to embed the "Do No Harm" approach and achieve positive outcomes for human rights
- Develop comparable rules for country-level cooperation. The baseline studies to be produced as part of the support for partner countries should include a mapping of all governmental and non-governmental stakeholders who should be involved in national NDC implementation
- Undertake broad capacity building for ministry officials and staff from local and regional authorities, universities, specialized NGOs and the business sector in partner countries
- Establish national consultation processes on NDC implementation, involve all stakeholder groups, document their proposals, and establish a permanent dialogue forum and online platform to increase transparency
- · Promote participatory and inclusive dialogue with civil society in order to facilitate active participation in national implementation of the NDC Partnership
- · Provide funding to build developing countries' civil society capacities to participate in the NDC Partnership
- Make every effort to facilitate the direct participation of poor, vulnerable and marginalized communities in the NDC partnership process. Indigenous organizations and FBOs can often act as intermediaries in this context.



Support providers in the (I) NDC process:

Guide to INDCs and other useful material of the Climate & Development Knowledge Portal (CDKN)

https://cdkn.org/indc/

Process Guide for INDCs of the International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV

https://www.transparency-partnership.net/documents-tools/process-guidance-intended-nationally-determined-contributions-indcs

INDC Guide of UNDP/WRI (including a chapter on the inclusion of an adaptation component):

https://www.wri.org/sites/default/files/designing-preparing-indcs-report.pdf

UNDP NDC Support Program:

http://www.undp.org/content/ndc-support-programme/en/home/what-we-do/national-climate-plans.html

Website of the INDC Support Project of UNEP:

http://www.indcsupport.org

Website of the NDC Partnership:

http://ndcpartnership.org

UNFCCC's INDC support website:

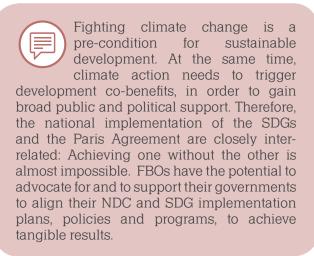
http://unfccc.int/focus/indc_portal/items/8766.php

Aligning the NDC with the SDGs and the Sendai DRR Framework

"Transforming our World" the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was unanimously agreed to as the new global framework for sustainable development in September 2015, building on the Rio+20 Summit Declaration and guiding national development plans and programs. The 169 targets associated with the 17 SDGs allow UN member states to develop nuanced implementation plans in view of their national circumstances within one common vision.

As compared to the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs), the SDG approach is more holistic, equally covering the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainability. There is a greater emphasis on human rights e.g. by striving to ending poverty of all people. Finally, it is more inclusive by being applicable to all countries.

Agenda 2030 is not legally binding, and thus, the follow-up process of implementation will be challenging. The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) is mandated to conduct regular reviews, but only based on voluntary country reports.



While many countries formally recognize the importance of aligning the two agendas, so far implementation processes have by and large operated in silos with limited, if any, communication between them, and have often been designated to different institutional responsibilities (UNDP 2017). The level of SDG and NDC alignment can be difficult to assess at the early stage of the SDG and NDC implementation process. Many (I)NDCs had been written before the SDGs were finalized and as a result, the alignment of the two will need to be developed over time. This is a key process in which FBOs can be instrumental in supporting.

For FBOs, it can be a good starting point to first analyze in how far the overall development planning and the NDC of a country are aligned. Do they refer to each other in a coherent way and do the political institutions, which are responsible for implementation, cooperate well?





Figure 6 The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Source: United Nations

A frequent concern is the level of political reliability. Do governments take their committed to plans seriously in order to turn plans into action? The level of success of governments in achieving the MDGs is a possible indicator for assessing how ambitiously the implementation of the development goals was pursued in the past.

Another important question to be addressed is the extent to which the NDC implementation might have a positive impact on SDG implementation, and if it follows the "Do No Harm" principle, such that harmful impacts of the SDG implementation are avoided.

SDG reference in NDC?

NDC-SDG policy coherence?

Cooperative institutional arrangements

Participation of FBOs in implementation process

- 1. Are the SDGs directly or indirectly addressed in the NDC?
- 2. Is the "Do No Harm" principle followed and are development co-benefits addressed?
- 3. How could the reference to the SDGs be strengthened in an updated version of the NDC, including the main SDG-related policy demands of ACT?
- 1. Do NDC and SDG implementation plans refer to each other?
- 2. Undertake a mapping of all relevant datasets used, policies, programs and the legal framework for development and climate action. Are they coherent and what are the gaps?
- 3. Are sub-national institutions adequately involved in the NDC and SDG implementation plan? Can they become allies for a co-ordinated and ambitious NDC-SDG implementation process?
- 4. From an FBO perspective, including a strong focus on vulnerability, inclusiveness, human rights, and gender. What are the main gaps of well aligned SDG-NDC implementation and how can they be bridged?

- 1. Are the implementation processes co-ordinated? Do coordinating mechanisms (e.g. working groups, information sharing systems, consultations)
- 2. Are the roles and responsibilities of all involved institutions clearly defined?
- 3. Are the processes of development and climate action planning steered and mainstreamed by a high level ministry (e.g. finance), the head of government's office or, at best, a sustainability cabinet?
- 4. What are the key policy demands to improve effective coordination?

- 1. Are FBOs adequately involved in the SDG-NDC implementation process?
- 2. What is their precise role in this process according to the government?
- 3. What role should FBOs take in the process, according to your opinion? Watchdog? Provision of expertise to help the government? Implementer? Bridge builder?
- 4. What are good arguments which you can use to extend your role?
- 5. What is the minimum you want to achieve by being part of the process? Is your contribution relevant to better align NDC and SDG implementation?



Figure 7 Instructions on how to analyze the NDC-SDG alignment process step-by-step Author: Hirsch, inspired by UNDP 2017

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

https://sustainabledevelopment. un.org/post2015/transformingourworld

A systematic overview on SDG-NDC linkages and an interactive map by Climate Watch:

https://www.climatewatchdata.org/ndcs-sdg?goal

Aligning NDCs and SDGs Lessons Learned and Practical Guidance by UNDP:

http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/climate-and-disasterresilience-/ndcs-and-sdgs.html

The ACT Alliance strategy on SDGs:

http://actalliance.org/documents/actstrategy-on-sdgs/

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) is an international treaty that has identified four specific priorities for DRR action and seven associated targets, to be achieved by 2030 in order to minimize disaster risks. While losses of lives and livelihoods caused by non-climate natural disasters have remained stable, those caused by meteorological disasters have dramatically increased over the past three decades, as an effect of climate change. Therefore, the estimated global risk protection gap, due to extreme weather events, amounts to USD 1.7 trillion, according to experts¹⁴, making disaster risk reduction a top priority in the fight against climate change.



The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction with its four priorities and seven goals sets the global framework for disaster risk

reduction. Its national implementation should be an integral part of the NDC implementation. FBOs have to ensure that risk reduction of the most vulnerable people and communities is taken as a national priority.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, as agreed to in March 2015 in Sendai/ Japan, is the successor of the Hyogo Framework for Action. The Sendai Framework for DRR has prioritized the need to (i) better understand disaster risks, (ii) to strengthen disaster risk governance and management, (iii) to invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience, and (iv) to enhance disaster preparedness, including to "build back better".

- The following targets of the Sendai Framework have been agreed, and should serve as a checklist to FBOs to assess in how far NDCs are aligned with the Sendai Framework. This requires, of course, the need to translate these global targets into national ones, where appropriate:
- Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower the average per 100,000 global mortality rates between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015 rates
- Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figures per 100,000 between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015
- Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product
- Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, including through developing their resilience by 2030
- Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020
- Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the framework by 2030
- Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments by 2030

To systematically assess and improve the NDC alignment with the Sendai Framework, FBOs should use a similar step-by-step approach as described above for the NDC-SDG alignment. In addition, ACT policy demands an effective DRR response (see resources on the next page), including a substantive FBO engagement that guides advocacy work on the NDC-SFDRR alignment.



The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction:

http://www.unisdr.org/we/ coordinate/sendai-framework

A UNISDR Issue Brief on alignment of SFDRR and SDGs:

http://www.unisdr.org/conferences/2017/ globalplatform/en/programme/plenaries/ view/582

The ACT Alliance statement for the Global Platform for DRR:

http://actalliance.org/documents/actstatement-for-the-global-platform-for-drr/

The unique role of faith-based organizations (FBOs)

FBOs have a unique role to play in shaping NDCs. In a "Call to Action on Global Resilience, Sustainability & Solidarity with Vulnerable People", launched at COP23, ACT Alliance stresses the moral and ethical imperative to address climate change¹⁵.

44 As people of faith, we are called to care for creation and share the resources of the earth in a sustainable and equitable way. (...) We call for a change from the current model of development and economics to one that is sustainable, equitable and prioritizes intergenerational equity and the rights of the most vulnerable, including indigenous people. "

ACT Call for Action 2017

The unique contribution of FBOs to ambitiously implement the PA, the SDGs, and the SFDRR is deeply rooted in their role to care for God's creation, in solidarity with the poorest and most vulnerable people. This implies constant advocacy initiatives to keep global temperature increase at 1.5°C, by transforming the economy to zero GHG emission development pathways, and for building a resilient global society as a fundamental matter of climate justice.

The uniqueness of FBOs, however, goes beyond the moral voice on climate change. FBOs can mobilize important resources, which originate



FBOs' understanding of climate justice prioritizes human dignity and the care for creation. Therefore, human rights, equity, gender and intergenerational equity, meaningful youth participation, as well as deep respect for identity (e.g. of local communities and indigenous people) are central elements. This requires devotion and lived solidarity, with and among people, as well as between countries within the global community. As climate justice advocates, FBOs speak out against oppression, injustice and idolatry. They convene multi-stakeholder engagements and stress the call for cooperative rather than

from faith and spirituality, and that can empower the transformation to a resilient and sustainable lifestyle.

competitive interaction.

What does this mean? "Empowerment" has turned into a key concept in ecumenical diakonia¹⁶ and builds a solid basis of ecumenical advocacy for climate justice, too. Empowerment puts the focus on ordinary local people, their identity and engagement in collective processes, seeking to overcome situations of poverty, injustice and suffering, at the center. Empowerment acknowledges the human reality as a multi-dimensional one, and subsequently takes a holistic and interdisciplinary approach when dealing with human life in defense of dignity and justice in the context of faith and hope.17

From this perspective, FBO advocacy for climate justice can be put into the rich tradition of diaconal theory and practice, as promoted by many faith leaders, particularly from the Global South, who are committed to affirming the rights and dignity of the poor in a climate constrained world.



chosen.

FBOs are mandated to speak out with a prophetic voice against climate injustices. At the same time, they should announce, with the powerful voice of hope and faith, what is possible if a transformative cycle of empowerment is

The prophetic, transformative and justiceseeking climate advocacy work of FBOs finds spiritual inspiration in the Bible, affirming the vision of a better world, or "the future we want", as it was stated at the Rio+20 Global Earth Summit.

44 All may have life in all its fullness

(Jn 10:10)

"

66 Each shall sit under their vine and fig trees and live in peace and unafraid 77

(Mic. 4:4)

From the LWF report "Prophetic Diakonia: For the Healing of the World", 2002

To conclude, FBOs have a strong value basis and an empowering methodology in engaging with the poor and vulnerable, but also with the rich and powerful, that may provide self-consciousness, moral credibility, and convincing narratives of hope. Systematically employing these values and methodologies provides strength and uniqueness to FBOs' climate advocacy work. This potential should be systematically explored and merged with climate science based on facts and knowledge of climate policy processes and arrangements. Such an interdisciplinary advocacy approach will capacitate and empower FBOs, and climate vulnerable people.

ACT Alliance Advocacy Policies and Procedures:

http://actalliance.org/documents/ act-alliance-advocacy-policy-andprocedures/

ACT Alliance Climate Change Advocacy Position:

http://actalliance.org/wp-content/ uploads/2017/08/AA Climate-Change-en-FINAL.pdf

ACT Alliance/LWF "Call to Action on Global Resilience, Sustainability & Solidarity with Climate Vulnerable People":

http://actalliance.org/publications/our-call-to-action-on-global-resilience-sustainability-solidarity-with-climate-vulnerable-people/

NDC assessment criteria and instructions on strengthening climate justice and ambition

National circumstances and priorities for climate action may differ from country to country. From a climate justice perspective, a series of guiding principles and related indicators could be used by FBOs to assess NDCs, and to provide policy recommendations on how to enhance the level of ambition and alignment with the SDG and SFDRR implementation. This section will first describe this reference framework and will then give concrete instructions on how to apply it to the NDC and its implementation process, based on country examples. This includes suggestions on how FBOs can engage and influence the NDC process.

It is important not to limit the assessment simply to the NDC and its implementation, but to also include the wider context of climate action and sustainable development in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and possible risks to justice in the implementation process with specific mention to the climate, socio-economic and political dimension. Embedding the NDC analysis in a broader country assessment not only helps to identify potential structural problems, but also sheds light to specific opportunities to mobilize the co-benefits of sustainable development and disaster risk reduction.

Eight climate justice principles, which can be applied to the NDC process, shall represent the three aforementioned dimensions in a balanced way. They all have a universal claim for validity, being in line with FBO understandings of climate justice, as pointed out before. Indicators, in contrast, cannot claim universal validity. Due to limitations of the available data and in part non-comparable parameters, indicators need to be applied with caution, and revised where necessary. Flexibility is also needed when setting up country-specific targets, in order to measure possible achievements which are hoped to take place due to FBO climate advocacy engagement in the NDC process.

The reference framework introduced hereafter has been developed on behalf of Bread for the World and Friedrich Ebert Foundation, and was tested for a number of countries. 18



There are eight climate justice principles to consider at the national level. These include: climate ambition, alignment of

climate action, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development, the provision of decent work and the reduction of vulnerability, improved equity, gender equality, respect for human rights, due participation and good governance and accountability.

The provision of maximum necessary finance, technology and capacity building support adds to these principles as an international obligation from resource-rich and carbonintensive nations.



Sources for additional data

Climate Action Tracker (CAT): http:// climateactiontracker.org/countries.

<u>html</u>

Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI): https://germanwatch.org/en/ccpi

Climate Risk Index (CRI): https://germanwatch. org/en/cri

Gender Equity Index (GEI): http://www. socialwatch.org/node/13440

Gender Inequality Index (GII): http://hdr.undp. org/en/countries

Human Development Index: http://hdr.undp. org/en/content/human-development-indexhdi

Human Rights Risk Index: https://reliefweb. int/report/world/human-rights-risk-index-2016-q4

International Energy Agency key energy data: https://www.iea.org/statistics/

ITUC Global Rights Index: https://www.ituccsi.org/ituc-global-rights-index-2017

Transparency International Corruptions Perception Index (CPI): https://www. transparency.org/research/cpi/overview



Applying these criteria to assess the NDC seems to be rather complicated. Is this really necessary? Couldn't we just take the ACT policy demands to lobby our government?

A solid baseline analysis provides you with an in-depth understanding of your country's stance on climate and sustainable development action. It allows you to reflect national circumstances and to engage in advocacy, based on solid facts. It also provides a baseline from where you will be able to measure success. This is empowerment!

Applying the assessment principles helps you to systematically analyze your NDC and identify how it is aligned with national development planning and disaster risk reduction. Using the suggested data sources will also allow you to put your country's NDC into a broader perspective, and to make it more comparable with the NDCs of other countries, be it neighboring countries or countries from the same grouping (for instance Least Developed Countries, (LDCs)). Once you have done this stocktake you can compare the results with your expectations or the expectations of ACT Alliance, and then identify the priorities for action, and the necessary policy demands.



Always define vour policy demands:

- · Based on solid facts provided by climate science (see introduction)
- · With reference to obligations arising from the PA, Agenda 2030 or SFDRR
- · With a strong recognition of human rights, equity, including intergenerational equity and gender justice
- · Reflecting specific national circumstances, including national policies and laws
- · With nuanced targets, including short-term and long-term targets
- · With an empowering faith-based narrative, providing the moral compass and promoting the necessary transformation as the way forward



Figure 8 NDC assessment principles Author: Hirsch, building on Bread for the World/FES 2017

- General status of gender equality, according to HDI's Gender Inequality Index and Gender Equity Index
- Possible impact of NDC on gender equality
- · Requirement to undertake a gender equality impact assessment in NDC implementation process

• Planned stakeholder participation in the NDC process (if, how, who, when, for what purpose)

Due participation

- · Assessment of the alignment of NDC with the SDG and the SFDRR implementation plans
- Actual level of SDG implementation

Alignment of climate

action, DRR and SDGs

Ranking and profile under the **Human Development Index**

- Rating of level of ambition according to Climate Action Tracker and/or Climate Change Performance Index
- Impact of NDC/LTS on the country's GHG emission trend
- The country's share of global and per capita GHG emissions
- Availability, quality and level of ambition of a renewable energy roadmap

- · General situation in the country regarding good governance and corruption according to Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index
- Analysis of transparency and accountability measures as mentioned in the NDC, including cost-benefit analyses

· General human right situation, according to rating by the Human Rights Risk Index

8

Respect for

human rights

- · Anchoring of and references to human rights in the NDC
- · Requirement to undertake a human rights impact assessment as part of the NDC
- "Do no harm" principle is respected in the NDC process

6

6

Equity

NDC

Principles

- · Status of family income distribution according to GINI Index
- · Possible impact of NDC implementation on social equity

- Climate risk ranking according to Climate Risk Index
- Climate risk focus in NDC
- Access to energy according to IEA's World Energy Outlook
- · Status of labor rights according to ITUC's Global Rights
- · Job gains and losses relating to energy transition according to IEA and/or IRENA
- · Availability and quality of programs for re-skilling energy workers who lost jobs
- Measures taken to manage the transition and their implications on workers and communities



In the following section we will provide a step-bystep summary on how to collect this information, undertake your assessment, and elaborate on your policy recommendations.



Checklist for the NDC assessment and elaboration of policy recommendations

- Mapping of relevant actors and climate and development policies, laws and programs
- Sustainable development stocktake: HDI, GDP, MDG achievements, SDG targets and how they are reflected in development plans, human rights, gender justice, governance & democracy, labor market & rights, minorities, resulting gap analysis
- Climate and energy policy stock-take: Key data provided by IEA, IRENA, UNFCCC on energy & emission trends; key data on climate risks, vulnerabilities and losses provided by World Bank and others (see resource box opposite), gap analysis
- Download NDC or INDC, summarize main targets, consult experts if needed, and assess it against the principles above; finally score the performance, using the categories very good, very good/good, good, good/medium, medium, medium/poor, poor, very poor
- Summarize the lessons learned from the NDC assessment
- Elaborate policy recommendations to the government on how to address the shortcomings identified, and how to ratchet up climate ambition and justice in the NDC and its implementation between process; distinguish procedural recommendations (e.g. improving stakeholder participation), concerning recommendations the institutional arrangements and those regarding the level of ambition.



Data sources for climate risk assessment

Climate Risk Index – CRI: https://germanwatch.org/en/cri

World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal: http://sdwebx.worldbank.org/climateportal/

UNEP/UNISDR Global Risk Data Platform: http://preview.grid.unep.ch/index.php?preview=home&lang=eng

Munich Re Natural Catastrophe Service: https://www.munichre.com/en/reinsurance/business/non-life/natcatservice/index.html

Climate Central's Sea Level Rise simulation:

https://choices.climatecentral.org/#11/54.88 33/8.3496?compare=scenarios&carbon-end-yr=2050&scenario-a=unchecked&scenario-b=extreme-cuts

Example: Comprehensive NDC assessment of Fiji

Fiji is a climate-vulnerable small developing island state with an ambitious climate policy. It has made a commitment, as enshrined in its NDC, to achieve 100% renewable energy sources in the electricity sector by 2030. The NDC also places a strong emphasis on resilience building and it is well aligned with the domestic green growth framework.

Energy and climate policy

While Fiji's total share of global emissions (excluding LULUCF) is only a marginal 0.04% (rank 164 out of 196 countries), its average per capita GHG emissions, according to World Bank data, was 2.9 tons in 2010 and is forecasted to increase by a further 21% to 3.5 tons by 2030.¹⁹

In terms of climate and energy policy development, Fiji ratified the UNFCCC in 1993. Its first National Climate Change Policy was developed in 2008 and was adopted in 2012. Since then, the country has conducted a number of assessments, including vulnerability assessments of its rural communities. It is currently undergoing a phase of sectoral and institutional climate and energy policy reviews and reforms, including the draft Energy Policy (2013), the draft Energy Strategic Action Plan

(2013) and the Clean Development Mechanism Guideline (2010). Guided by the above mentioned Green Growth Framework, Fiji is attempting to ensure a low carbon climate resilient sustainable and socially inclusive development pathway.

Fiji's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)

Fiji submitted its intended nationally determined contribution (INDC) on November 5, 2016. With the ratification of the Paris Agreement on April 22, 2016, the INDC became its NDC and is available on the UNFCCC website.²⁰ The main commitments to be achieved by 2030, include:

- A 10% unconditional emission reduction target, and a further 20% conditional emission reduction target (conditional on external financing of up to USD 500 million), as compared to business as usual, not taking the agricultural and forest sectors into account
- The sector-specific emission reduction target is expected to be achieved by (i) scaling up the current 60% renewable energy share in electricity generation to 100% by 2030, and by (ii) reducing CO2 emissions by 10% through energy efficiency gains
- Reducing vulnerability and enhancing the climate resilience of communities to the impacts of climate change and disasters, including through improved early warning systems, building cyclone-resistant homes, protecting coastlines and relocating communities living in high risk zones.

Fiji's NDC builds on a set of either already elaborated on or drafted domestic policies and measures relating to both mitigation (including the Green Growth Framework), and adaptation (including country-wide Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessments). It identifies key challenges in a systematic manner, and includes a tentative work plan with milestones and timelines for meeting the mitigation and adaptation commitments. The alignment of the NDC with national development plans and achieving the main goals from the global

Sendai Framework for Action on Disaster Risk Reduction is a further strength of Fiji's NDC. A structural weakness is the exclusion of land use related emissions and the relative superficial cost-analysis. The lack of detailed data makes it relatively difficult to make a robust assessment of the level of fairness of the NDC.

NDC and climate policy assessment

Climate ambition: Good

Fiji aspires to be a climate leader, championing energy transition and resilience building. The 100% renewable energy target for 2030 and the successful candidacy for the COP presidency in 2017 underscores Fiji's high climate ambition. As a next step, the country must demonstrate effective implementation and should extend its high level of ambition beyond the electricity sector. Given its great potential, Fiji could become one of the global leaders on a pathway to a zero carbon climate resilient sustainable development.

Alignment of climate action, DRR and sustainable development: Good

The NDC is well aligned with the domestic Green Growth Framework, the SE4All initiative, and the Sendai Framework for Action on Disaster Risk Reduction. In terms of SDG alignment, particular emphasis is placed on SDG 14 (oceans), SDG 13 (climate change), SDG 12 (sustainable production and consumption), SDG 2 (food security), SDG 3 (health), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) and SDG 16 (governance and rule of law). Here again, the country needs to demonstrate the effectiveness of its implementation process.

Resilience: Poor

Fiji ranks 27th in the global Germanwatch Climate Risk Index, with an average annual reduction in GDP of approximately 1% due to extreme events.²¹ The immense destruction caused by the category five tropical cyclone Winston in 2016 serves as a tragic reminder of the country's vulnerability to natural disasters and environmental shocks. The country's vulnerability to environmental crisis and extreme weather events will interfere with its long-term development efforts.

Equity: Medium

Tourism plays a preeminent role in income generation, but most Fijians work in agriculture. Since poverty is predominantly rural, agricultural policy has had a major impact on social equity. This is especially true for women who constitute the overwhelming majority of rural subsistence laborers. The GINI Index of 42.8 for 2016 puts Fiji on a similar level to Kenya (42.5) and Iran (43). However, public investment in education and health has paid off, since the average years of schooling of the young and life expectancy have improved steadily since independence.²² The bottleneck preventing greater social equity is a lack of quality employment. Demographic pressure, the sinking profitability of sugar cane exports, with virtually no employment perspectives, combined with the recurrent devastation of livelihoods by cyclones force many young people to emigrate.

Gender equality: Poor - medium

Fiji has made a number of commitments to gender equality, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the revised Pacific Platform for Action, and a national Gender Policy. Despite these commitments, gender bias remains a challenge and gender-based violence is prevalent. Gender inequality is rooted in traditional norms. customs and models of decision making that gives men more power than women. Inequality is perpetuated by discriminatory practices, legislative and policy biases and unequal access to resources.²³ A Gender Development Index is not available, but the female labor participation rate reflects sizeable gender inequalities in the labor market. There is evidence that the gender gap has been worsening with women being more likely to enter informal work and subsistence activities.²⁴ The gender inequality index of 0.358 confirms that Fijian women are more vulnerable to poverty than men.

Due participation: Very good

Multi-stakeholder approaches and civil society participation in climate policy development,

for instance in the formulation of the NDC and the design and implementation of the national vulnerability assessment process, have been conducive to Fiji's fight against climate change. With regard to the latter, the Climate Change Division of the national government, the provincial environmental office, NGOs, churches and local communities with their own traditional structures and bodies have closely cooperated.²⁵ At the international level the Fijian COP presidency made due participation at COP 23 one of its priorities.

Good governance: Medium

The NDC process has been quite transparent and the document itself provides certain baselines, information on the main challenges and a tentative roadmap for implementation including timelines and milestones. Even preliminary information on the costs and benefits of implementing the national commitments is part of the NDC. However, the more general framework conditions concerning good governance are less favorable. After eight years of military rule, the 2014 general elections opened up a path back to democracy, but incidents like the 2016 suspension of the opposition of the National Federation Party (NFP) indicates that democracy has not yet been restored.

Human rights: Poor - medium

Neither Fiji's NDC nor the Green Growth Framework makes any specific reference to human rights. Despite improvements of the general human rights situation in Fiji after the 2014 elections, according to Amnesty International the human rights situation remains a source of concern, in particular with regard to civil and political human rights.²⁶

Policy recommendations resulting from the just transition assessment

Overall, Fiji has demonstrated a high level of climate ambition and a strong commitment to align climate and development action towards low carbon climate resilient pathways. This ambition was also reflected in Fiji's expectations regarding its COP presidency. Leading by example, Fiji has the potential to become a sustainable energy leader with extensive appeal, especially among island states. In terms of justice in the transition, however, there are mixed signals. On the one hand, the country has a strong resilience agenda and has already demonstrated its intention to address the needs of vulnerable communities as a matter of priority. Participation is a further strength, but its human rights track record is not up to the mark; workers' rights have been violated frequently in previous years. Issues of equity as well as gender equality and governance all have room for improvement. Therefore, in order to bring more justice to the transition process and to implement it smoothly, we recommend:

- 1. Setting up a permanent steering group to guide the implementation process of the NDC, aligned with the SDGs and the Green Growth Framework, with the full participation of all relevant national ministries, provincial governments, and other stakeholders from the energy sector, business and civil society.
- 2. Developing an NDC implementation plan with annual progress reports. The implementation plan should provide a cost-benefit analysis, all necessary legal, budgetary and technical details. The relevant document could also serve a good basis for attracting investment to the energy transition. The implementation plan should build explicitly on a human rights approach, i.e. include both a human rights and gender impact assessment.
- 3. Developing an outreach strategy with regular stakeholder consultation to foster stakeholder participation and broad public ownership of the energy transition process, seeking citizen involvement and keeping the public well informed.

4. Taking measures to ensure climate resilience, decent work and new jobs in the transition process

(Source: Guiding Principles & Lessons Learnt for a Just Energy Transition, case example of Fiji, 2017, Hirsch et al)

NDC baseline analysis and key deliverables for FBO engagement in the NDC process

As you prepare to conduct your analysis, we recommend you to undergo a simple baseline analysis of the NDC to get the assessment process started. This baseline analysis consists of an NDC screening, searching for key words and then briefly describing the key elements. The info-graphic on page 9 provides a baseline analysis for 14 selected countries. The baseline analysis gives a preliminary impression of the NDC. This should be followed by an in-depth criteria based assessment.

We hope that these instructions, tools and illustrating examples help you to conduct your own NDC assessment and to conclude with policy recommendations for the NDC implementation process. We hope that your assessment will be used in your advocacy work for climate justice.



Figure 9 Baseline analysis of selected NDCs Author: Hirsch, partly building on Hirsch et al 2017

Country	Climate ambition	NDC alignment with SDG / SFDRR	Focus on resilience & decent work	Equity focus	Focus on gender justice	Focus on human rights	Stakeholder participation	Governance and transparency
India	Medium Not yet consistent with 2°C pathway	Medium SDGs aligned on paper, but institutional cooperation weak	Poor Adaptation part in NDC weak; respect for labor rights weak	Poor/medium High level of social inequity, but NDC reflects attempt to reverse trend	Poor High level of gender inequality, but NDC reflects commitment to reverse trend	Poor NDC is justice centered on paper, but poor human rights track record	Poor CSO play limited role in policy-making and NDC shows limited ambition to stakeholder participation	Poor/medium Good legal frameworks but huge implementation gaps
Philippines	Medium On paper consistent with 2°C pathway but high level of uncertainty regarding implementation	Medium Aligned on paper but high level of uncertainty regarding implementation	Medium Strong focus in resilience building; workers face violence	Poor Highest rate of social inequity in SEA; NDC reflects attempt to reverse trend	Good Best rating in terms of gender equality in Asia; NDC/SDG reflect sensitiveness	Very poor NDC takes human rights approach on paper but current human rights situation very poor	Medium CSO involvement in NDC & SDG process, but limited access for regional/ local CSOs	Poor High level of corruption undermines accountability and transparency of action
South Africa	Poor Not at all consistent with 2°C pathway, no renewable energy roadmap, high per capita emissions	Poor/medium NDC-SDG implicitly aligned, recognizing co-benefits, but implementation uncertain	Medium Adaptation addressed in detail in NDC, but no systematic risk focus; labor rights often denied	Poor High rate of social inequity; NDC addresses the problem on paper, but doesn't include action	Poor/medium Overall good political efforts to address gender inequality, but not reflected in NDC	Poor/medium Human rights protection system currently deteriorating, human rights reflected in NDC	Poor/medium CSO participation in NDC process is given, but with limited access and transparency	Poor High level of corruption is a huge problem; NDC does not address transparency well
Tanzania	Good Low GHG emissions, land rehabilitation/ afforestation and renewable energy roadmap included	Medium/good Strong alignment attempt, in particular re agriculture; still inconsistencies and planning weaknesses to be addressed	Medium Climate risks at the core of the NDC but remaining gaps (Incl. finance) resilience building; labor rights precarious	Poor/medium Middle position regarding social equity; high level of extreme poverty not well approached in NDC	Medium All relevant global & regional gender commitment policies adhered but weak implementation	Medium/good All important international treaties ratified, not listed in Human Rights Risk Index, but not approached in NDC	Medium Broad CSO participation in NDC process; but limited access for regional/local CSOs	Poor/medium Poor ranking in corruption index but plans to set up monitoring system for renewable energy program
Costa Rica	Very good/good Consistent with 2°C pathway	Good NDC-SDG strongly tied	Good Adaptation & DRR policies & programs to implement NDC under way	Good NDC affirms equity as a key goal, GINI coefficient medium to good	Good NDC highlights important role of women; GII has improved steadily	Very good/good NDC approaches human rights; good human rights situation	Good Intense CSO participation in NDC process, planned to be enhanced	Good Transparency as key element of NDC; good corruption index rating
Bangladesh	2°C incompatible	Partly aligned	Strong focus	Insufficient	Not included	Not included	Weak	MRV planned
Thailand	2°C incompatible	Partly aligned	Strong focus	Not included	Not included	Not included	Medium	Weak
Ethiopia	2°C compatible	Partly aligned	Strong focus	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Moderate
Kenya	Medium	Partly aligned	Strong focus	Weak	Not included	Not included	Medium	Medium
Malawi	Ambitious	Partly aligned	Strong focus	Medium	Strong focus	Partly included	Medium	Ambitious
Cuba	Ambitious	Partly aligned	Strong focus	Medium	Not included	Not included	Not included	Medium
El Salvador	Ambitious	Aligned	Strong focus	Medium	Not included	Partly included	Good	High
Guatemala	Medium	Aligned	Strong focus	Not included	Not included	Not included	Medium	Weak
Honduras	Moderate	Partly aligned	Strong focus	Mentioned	Strong focus	Mentioned	Medium	Weak



Do you think you are ready?

The following check list includes a list of the key deliverables, which we consider are crucial for FBOs to

engage in successful climate advocacy.

To further facilitate your work, we have listed policy recommendations, which were highly relevant in addressing the possible gaps in a large number of NDCs investigated.

Key deliverables of FBO engagement in the NDC process:

- 1. FBO has elaborated an NDC assessment report
- 2. FBO has submitted a policy paper with recommendations on how to strengthen the NDC. Possible policy demands could include the following issues:
- Undertake a human rights assessment of NDC
- Develop a gender action plan for NDC implementation
- Establish a NDC implementation roadmap with milestones and targets
- Identify specific SDG-related cobenefits of the NDC implementation
- Review the NDC in light of the outcome of the Talanoa process in 2018, and make it consistent with a 1.5°/2°C pathway
- Institutionalize multi-stakeholder engagement in NDC implementation
- Undertake a cost-benefit analysis of the NDC and undertake a NDC budgeting
- Set up enabling institutional arrangements and define responsibilities
- Develop the necessary legal framework for NDC implementation
- Set up climate action plans and programs for NDC implementation
- Set up a system for NDC -measurement, monitoring and reporting
- Align NDC with national development plans including SDG/SFDRR processes
- Become a member of the NDC partnership to support NDC implementation

Advocacy approaches and instruments to engage in the NDC process

As a first step, you should decide what type of advocacy approach is most fitting. As a FBO you may consider one of the following roles:

- As a watchdog and campaigning organization, you focus on critically observing your country's level of ambition and effectiveness in NDC implementation in comparison with your assessment criteria. You identify gaps and call on your government, either in direct engagement or in public campaigning, to close these policy gaps. This is in line with the prophetic role of churches and other FBOs.
- As a think tank organization, you focus on the provision of technical expertise to support your country in ambitiously implementing the NDC.
 This approach might be more technical and cooperative and less confrontational.
- As a bridge building organization, you focus on the facilitation of constructive dialogues and bringing together different stakeholders in order to achieve an ambitious, effective and inclusive NDC implementation. This approach is the most co-operative.

The approach to choose depends on your vision and mission, your particular strengths and weaknesses, and the specific national circumstances and political context. A SWOT analysis might be a good methodology to help you to select the most appropriate approach. You can of course also combine different roles. In the case of FBOs it is always recommended to connect the local with the national and finally international engagement level in an upstream flow (taking local experiences as an evidence base for advocacy demands) and a downstream flow (bringing positive change to the local level by establishing more enabling policy frameworks at the national or international level).

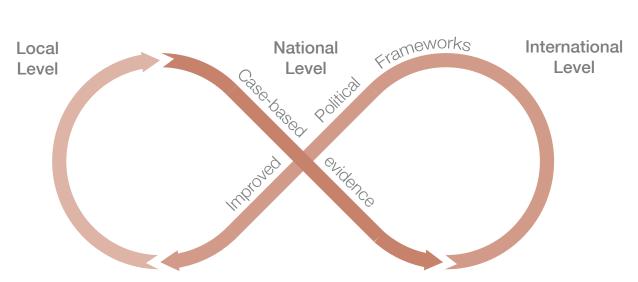




Figure 10 The "Loop of Eight": local to global advocacy work Author: Hirsch

What is a SWOT analysis and how to conduct it?

A SWOT analysis is a methodology used to analyze an organization's particular Strengths and Weaknesses as well as contextual Opportunities and Threats in the outside world with regard a particular issue.

Depending on the advocacy approach you choose, different advocacy skills will be relevant. The next page provides an overview. Please go through the list, identify your organizations profile and identify whether your skills are in line with the approach that you want to take. If needed, adapt your approach or build your skills through capacity-building.

To make your climate advocacy successful, it is helpful to develop a theory of change as a broader framework for your engagement. A theory of change should include an alternative vision for a better tomorrow (e.g. a climate resilient zero carbon sustainable development pathway), a convincing narrative (e.g. "Yes we can!"), and should be able to translate discourse into action and help you to mobilize the support of allies. The most important element of a theory of change is to develop and strategically use different layers of discourse for your advocacy work. You distinguish between the top layer, i.e. the political discourse layer, followed by the paradigm layer (i.e. underlying assumptions



members should seek coherence of their national climate advocacy strategy with the global ACT Alliance strategy 2015-2018, which has prioritized climate advocacy for justice and ambition under the pillar of Environmental Sustainability. This includes the following thematic priority areas:

- · Support climate resilience of the vulnerable, including Adaptation and Loss & Damage
- · Low Carbon Sustainable Development, as a matter of survival and a better future for all
- · Full and ambitious implementation of the Paris Agreement guided by the principles of equity including intergenerational equity, human rights, and gender justice
- · Financial and capacity building support for the vulnerable as a matter of justice and solidarity

and values, for instance solidarity with the poor, human rights, climate and gender justice), the narrative layer (i.e. the story you tell), and finally the metaphysic layer (i.e. fundamental beliefs, including religion). A good lobbyist would switch to a deeper discourse layer in cases of conflicting interests at an upper level, and seeks to bridge gaps and turn confrontation into convergence.²⁷

Once you have clarity with regard to your advocacy approach and the underlying theory of change, you can design your climate advocacy chain, as shown in the info-graphics that follow.

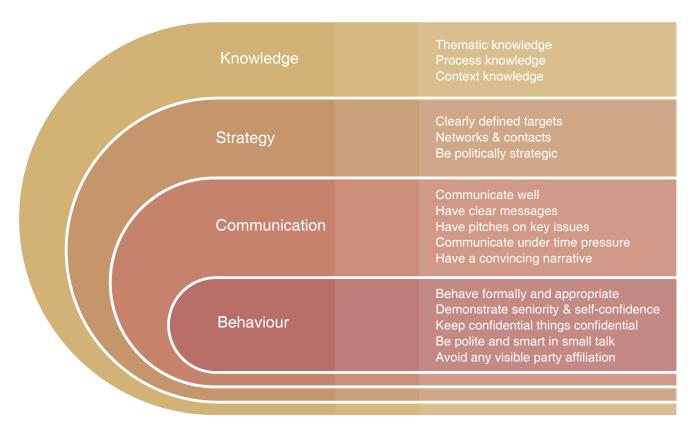




Figure 11 Climate advocacy skills Author: Hirsch





Figure 12 The climate advocacy chain Author: Hirsch

The most common advocacy instrument is a political meeting. Meetings need to be prepared well to be successful. Imagine that you usually talk to experienced policy-makers. The following steps will help you to ensure good preparation.



How to prepare for an advocacy meeting

- Define issues to be addressed
- Collect intelligence about the position of the people you meet
- Consider context factors of the meeting
- Agree on what you want to achieve in the meeting
- Magree on the narrative
- Define key messages and elaborate pitches
- Agree who will co-chair the meeting
- Agree on the sequence of issues and who is going to say what

Apart from meetings, a number of other instruments can be used for climate advocacy, as shown in the following list. The specific context should be considered when deciding which of these instruments is most appropriate.



Climate advocacy instruments

- Letters
- Open letters
- Articles
- Petitions, declarations, submissions
- ✓ Informal meetings
- Lunch or dinner events
- Mearings, public hearings, side events
- Studies, reports, policy briefs, research papers, position papers, non-papers
- Provision of legal text
- Provision of text for parliamentary resolutions, questions or speeches

Today we have an opportunity to have an impact on climate change.

Rev. John L. McCullough, Church World Service, United States

We conclude this chapter with a number of good practice examples for some of the aforementioned instruments, taken from the rich experience of ACT Alliance's climate advocacy work around the Paris Climate Summit in 2015 (COP21). We hope that they will further guide and inspire the work of FBOs.



Good practice example of a climate advocacy letter to Ministers for the Environment

Dear Honourable Minister.

ACT Alliance is a network of more than 140 churches and church-based organisations undertaking humanitarian assistance, advocacy and development work across the globe. I address you on behalf of ACT Alliance members, urging you to ensure that your government does its utmost to make the next Conference of the Parties (COP21) of the UNFCCC in Paris realize its responsibility towards people suffering the effects of climate change and a success for a post-2020 climate regime.

The effects of climate change are already present. Through our global network of members we work directly with those people affected. Throughout this year we provided assistance and support to communities deeply affected by climate change related disasters in various parts of the world, including the recent Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu and the Tropical Storm Erika in Dominican Republic. We are experiencing how people are forced to leave their homes behind, in a search for security and safety, and we are concerned

that climate change will continue to contribute to an increased number of refugees and migrants around the world in the coming decades.

During the past months countries have presented their intended nationally determined commitments (INDCs). We have followed these presentations with a growing concern. The aggregated level of ambition is not adequate to meet the critical goals recommended by science. Limiting global warming well below 2 degrees Celsius is not only a political and economic necessity but a development imperative, a question of humanity and human rights, and ultimately, a fundamental ethical and moral challenge for our generation which deserves to be duly taken up by all of us.

Taking the national pledges into consideration, the climate summit in Paris in December, must deliver success. It is our collective hope that a fair, ambitious and binding global agreement on climate change will be agreed and that it will address the needs of the world's poorest and most vulnerable who are disproportionately suffering from climate change impacts, though having not contributed to it. The post-2020 agreement must not lock in low ambition in terms of cutting emissions and providing finance for adaptation, and climate compatible development, as well as for climate-related losses and damages. To do so, the Paris agreement must be based on an initial 5-year commitment period in order to oblige all countries to act meaningfully review and to ratchet up their mitigation efforts in the coming years.

ACT Alliance calls for a post-2020 Paris Agreement, applicable to all parties, ambitious, based on rules, building on science, and addressing both decarbonisation and resilience by containing the following elements:

- 1. Long-term goals on decarbonisation to operationalize a target to keep global temperature rise well below 2 degrees Celsius and on climate resilience to ensure international support to people vulnerable to climate change, by addressing both adaptation and loss and damage.
- 2. Robust rules ensuring transparency and accountability of action, facilitating measurement, reporting, and verification, and demonstrating fairness of climate actions.
- 3. Review and ratcheting up mechanisms, covering mitigation, resilience and means of implementation, prohibiting back-sliding and providing a durable agreement leading to increased climate ambition and help countries to manage climate impacts overtime.
- 4. A climate finance architecture that respects human rights, gender equality, social cohesion and environment, with, enhanced capacity building and technology transfer.

Members of ACT Alliance, including those in your country, are active in communities throughout the world. Our work is being profoundly affected by climate change, and we know the urgency to act. We want COP21 to be a success not only for the individual countries taking part in the talks, but for the whole world. Your government's positive and constructive negotiation will be an important contribution to this success. We trust in your leadership, and encourage you to give guidance to your delegation, to take an active part in COP21 with the aim of increasing ambitions and to create an equitable new international climate regime for all.

Yours Sincerely

John Nduna PhD.

ACT Alliance, General Secretary





Good practice example of Talking Points

Talking points are prepared before a lobby activity. In the form of short pitches, they cover the main topics of your intervention and include your key messages. See the example below from

the ACT Dialogue on Equity & Transformational Change (Informal dinner dialogue under Chatham House Rules)

Turning Paris into Action: capacity enhancement in developing countries to ambitiously implement the PA

- Raising climate ambition and successfully transforming socio-economic systems towards a climate resilient low carbon pathway depends on political will and the capacity to do so. Lacking capacity is a major hurdle for climate action.
- Massive investment in enhancing capacity is an essential step to ambitiously implement the Paris Agreement. This is in particular true for the vast majority of developing countries.
- Building-up different types of capacities is crucial, including:

<u>Technical capacity</u> to elaborate NDCs, Low Carbon Development Strategies, and NAPs as well as respective policies, laws and programs and to integrate climate policies, development policies and disaster risk reduction policies

<u>Institutional capacity</u> to fulfill the new requirements to measure, account for and report on greenhouse gas emissions and climate action taken and to <u>receive climate finance and making it accessible</u> including for civil society

<u>Facilitative capacity</u> to engage in multi-stakeholder dialogues with national stakeholders and <u>think tank capacity</u> of civil society and academic institutions

<u>Analytical, strategic and negotiation capacity</u> to take an active part in international climate diplomacy in the UNFCCC-process 2016 -2020 aiming at elaborating the technical details and procedures for the post 2020 regime, the 2018 stock-take facilitative dialogue and ways to raise pre-2020 ambition.

- To enhance capacity development, developing countries need <u>support, involving a wide variety of national stakeholders</u>, including state authorities (federal, regional, communal), the business sector, academia and civil society in order <u>to stimulate transformational dialogues and actions.</u>
- Poor and <u>vulnerable people and communities</u> are particularly affected by climate change. They are in need of capacity building, too, and respective initiatives should be launched to cover their needs, concerns and interests.
- Gender and human rights are crosscutting issues to be addressed in any capacity-building initiative.
- International cooperation shall support capacity development through transformational partnerships.
- <u>Pioneering NGOs can play a particular and decisive role to unlock transformational processes.</u> They bear the potential to serve as important transmission belts and communicative bridge builders between the international and the national discourse, as well as within countries between the government, the media and the broader society including large groups of disadvantaged poor people.
- It would be strategic to further build up and strengthen the ability of an autochthonous and pluralistic civil society and think tanks in developing and transition countries.



Good practice example of a press release

Paris sends a signal for a climate friendly, resilient and more equitable future

Paris, France - The ACT Alliance, a coalition of 137 churches and affiliated organizations working together in over 140 countries, welcomes a final global agreement, after years of negotiations, where all countries have taken part.

"Paris has delivered the universal Paris Accord and a bold support package. Hundreds of cities, regions, companies and churches have proven their strong commitment to phase out fossil energies by midcentury. This is a milestone in the human story to tackle climate change and gives us hope for a climate friendly, resilient and more equitable future", said the ACT Alliance global ambassador Archbishop Thabo Makgabo, from South Africa.

The universal Paris agreement includes for the first time the commitment of all states to keep global warming well below 2 degrees. With the long term mitigation goal, a mechanism to dynamically scale up each country's action over time, common transparency rules and a support package for the vulnerable, all necessary instruments are on board to move forward.

"Now we call on all national governments to close the remaining loopholes, which were included in the agreement due to countries not willing to take on their responsibility," said Mattias Söderberg, head of the ACT alliance delegation.

Mattias Söderberg continues: "More and faster climate action is needed to adequately address the core concerns of poor and vulnerable people. The implementation of the Paris Accord must be accelerated by national action and deepened international cooperation."

Archbishop Thabo Makgabo says, "We are all part of Creation, and while we are thankful for this, we also need to acknowledge our responsibility to take care of the earth. This responsibility was given to us by God, and thus we, as faith groups around the world need to lead the way"

The joint faith delegations of ACT Alliance, Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches, included more than 100 people during the two week long climate summit.

ENDS

For further questions please contact:



Good practice examples of FBO declarations on climate change

ACT Alliance & LWF Call to Action on Global Resilience, Sustainability and Solidarity (2017):

 $\underline{http://actalliance.org/publications/our-call-to-action-on-global-resilience-sustainability-solidarity-with-climate-vulnerable-people/}$

Statement of Faith and Spiritual leaders on COP21 in Paris (2015):

www.actalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/COP21 Statement englisch2.pdf

Interfaith Declaration on Climate Change (2009):

http://interfaithdeclaration.org/index.html



How to develop and implement an ambitious National Adaptation Plan (NAP)

The role of NAP and respective state obligations

Originally meant to be a special instrument for LDCs, the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) was established at COP16 in Cancun, Mexico in 2010, as a main element of the Cancun Adaptation Framework.²⁸ Since then it has been increasingly promoted to all countries, as a solid basis for systematic national adaptation planning, aimed at;

- Reducing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, by enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience;
- Facilitating the integration of climate change adaptation into relevant policies, programs and activities.

All governments are called to formulate and implement a NAP as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs. The NAP process should be guided by UNFCCC principles, i.e. it should be transparent, country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory, science-based, building on indigenous and community knowledge, and ecosystem-based.

The PA was a watershed moment for the adaptation debate. It reaffirmed the importance of resilience building by agreeing on a global adaptation goal.²⁹ Article 7 of the PA details this goal to some extent, and specifies respective state obligations.

Parties hereby establish the global goal on adaptation of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability

Paris Agreement, Article 7.1

G Parties acknowledge that adaptation action should follow a country-driven, genderresponsive, participatory and fully transparent approach, taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, and should be based on and guided by the best availablescienceand, as appropriate, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems, with a view to integrating adaptation into relevant socioeconomic and environmental policies and actions, where appropriate "

Paris Agreement, Article 7.5

- **66** Each Party shall, as appropriate, engage in adaptation planning processes and the implementation of actions, including the development or enhancement of relevant plans, policies and/or contributions, which may include:
- (a) The implementation of adaptation actions, undertakings and/or efforts;
- (b) The process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans;
- (c) The assessment of climate change impacts and vulnerability, with a view to formulating nationally determined prioritized actions, taking into account vulnerable people, places and ecosystems;
- (d) Monitoring and evaluating and learning from adaptation plans, policies, programs (...);
- (e) Building the resilience of socioeconomic and ecological systems, including through economic diversification and sustainable management of natural resources

Paris Agreement, Article 7.9

Each Party should (...) submit and update periodically an adaptation communication, which may include its priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions (...)

Paris Agreement, Article 7.10

The NAP Process

The Least Developed Country Expert Group, on behalf of the UNFCCC, developed Technical Guidelines for the National Adaptation Plan Process. According to these guidelines, the NAP process should follow a standardized sequencing, starting with a national stock-take (e.g. baseline analysis, mapping of actors and climate risk assessment), followed by a planning phase including stakeholder consultations, the implementation phase, and finally, a monitoring and evaluation phase. Respective institutional arrangements, information sharing and capacity development are considered as important enabling factors (see info graph).

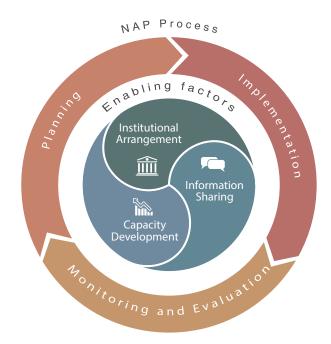




Figure 13 Practical guidelines on the NAP process.

Source: NAP Global Network

These guidelines should be used as a basis to elaborate and implement the NAP in a transparent and participatory manner to the benefit of vulnerable people and communities. This, however, requires further capacity development and a massive upscaling of support, including financial support, and the establishment of bottom-up, people-centered and vulnerability-focused climate risk assessments in most countries. In order to do so, human rights risk assessments, as well as gender-responsive

impact assessments, should be an integral part of these climate risk assessments. While the aforementioned Technical Guidelines at least make reference to gender, human rights are not covered at all. Addressing and closing this gap should be an integral part of a FBO's advocacy work on NAPs.

Africa is hit hardest by climate change, and we are the least prepared. That makes us vulnerable and turns risks into disasters.

Rev. Dr. Thabo Makgoba, Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa

Means of implementation and international support

By the beginning of 2018, only seven developing countries and territories had registered their NAPs in the "NAP Central", the registry of the UNFCCC. These countries include; Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Kenya, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine and Sudan.³¹ It is estimated that about 80 other developing countries have started the process and have at least defined a NAP roadmap.

At the same time, 31 developed countries and economies in transition have deposited their NAP.³² So far, 34 developed countries have provided technical and financial support, according to the NAP support tracker run by NAP Central.³³ Still, however, adaptation continues to be under-resourced, with only one fifth of climate finance being mobilized for adaptation purposes. Rebalancing and scaling up adaptation finance, in response to increasing support needs, remains a necessity to be addressed by FBOs. too.³⁴

Continuous and enhanced international support shall be provided to developing country Parties.

Paris Agreement, Article 7.13

In terms of technical support provided, the NAP Central homepage, that has been developed under the guidance of the LDC Expert Group (LEG), with inputs from the UNFCCC Adaptation Committee, serves as a very transparent key knowledge platform. We recommend that you visit this website to get a first hand overview on the submitted NAPs, contributions provided, and technical guidelines on how to elaborate a NAP.

To systematically assess the climate risks that your country is exposed to, and to also factor in future trends, we recommend to you, and to governments, to make use of the easy-to-access knowledge portals that we have already referred to in the chapter on NDC assessment (see resource box "Data sources for climate risk assessment"):

The UNFCCC Nairobi Work Program is a very useful knowledge sharing platform, continuously collecting and providing good practice examples on adaptation and resilience-building. FBOs have started to become partners, as for example ACT Alliance member Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB).

The World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal provides an online tool to access comprehensive global, regional and country data on climate trends, climate change predictions for the future, and current and possible future risks for human security and development. The portal provides this data access free of charge and is designed for policy makers and practitioners. The portal does not require much meteorological expertise to manage, process and assess the information provided. The web-based tool contains a spatial visualization (googlemap based) of observed and projected climate data, and other socio-economic, disaster risk and environmental data. It builds on climate science - including IPCC reviewed climate data, scenarios and models - as well as on expertise provided by UNEP and World Bank - including from the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).

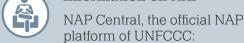
Climate Central's sea level rise simulation called, Surging Seas is another useful tool and can complement the CCKP tool when it comes to sea level rise. Climate Central is an independent not-for profit U.S. based expert organization of climate scientists and journalists. Amongst other services, the organization provides maps for all coastal regions of the world, showing the results of sea level rise modelled under different scenarios for the years 2050 and 2100.

Remote sensing, i.e. using satellite and aircraft or drone images and radar data, has significantly contributed in recent years to improving the data resolution, in particular for areas with limited or no meteorological stations (which is the case for large territories in most developing countries). High temporal (daily), spatial and spectral resolution (electromagnetic wavelengths captured) of satellite data are key criteria to efficiently use the data for natural hazard and climate analysis. The Munich Re hazard assessment tool NATHAN (Natural Hazards Assessment Network) uses such data and combines it with measured losses and damages caused by extreme events to map geographical areas with a high risk exposure to climate, meteorological or hydrological hazards.

To deepen your understanding on climate risks and vulnerabilities, and to plan your NAP engagement accordingly, we recommend that you have a look at ACT Alliance's understanding of disaster risk reduction and people-centered risk assessments "An ounce of prevention" (ACT Alliance 2013).

Another helpful toolkit for vulnerability assessments is provided by GIZ, called The Vulnerability Sourcebook (2014). The sourcebook includes concepts and guidelines for standardized vulnerability assessments in eight steps. The methodology could be applied very well in the context of NAP preparations. It still lacks, however, a distinct human rights-based approach.

Information on NAP



http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/About. aspx

UNFCCC Nairobi Work Program: http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workstreams/ nairobi work programme/items/9201.php

World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal: http://sdwebx.worldbank.org/climateportal/

Central's Climate Surging Seas: https://choices.climatecentral.org/#11/54.88 35/8.3496?compare=scenarios&carbon-endyr=2050&scenario-a=unchecked&scenariob=extreme-cuts

NATHAN. provided by Munich Re: https://www.munichre.com/us/propertycasualty/business-solutions/reinsurance/ services/nathan/index.html

ACT Alliance on Disaster Risk Reduction: https://www.diakonie-katastrophenhilfe. de/fileadmin/mediapool/1_Ueber-uns/ ACTAlliance An ounce of Prevention.pdf

Vulnerability sourcebook, provided by GIZ: http://www.adaptationcommunity.net/?wpfb dl = 203



Climate risks are resulting from a combination of exposure to natural hazards and socio-economic vulnerability. To carefully assess the latter, and to precisely identify vulnerable sectors, regions and particularly vulnerable people, a meaningful climate risk assessment must be conducted. This must identify the needs and human rights concerns of vulnerable peoples. Vulnerability assessments are a prerequisite for applying a human rightsbased approach to adaptation planning.

These assessments must be designed in a people-centered way, in order to identify vulnerable groups (not only climate vulnerable economic sectors or regions), to then prioritize the respect for, protection and fulfillment of their human rights in the NAP. A human rightsbased approach is not only an international obligation arising from international human rights treaties, which have been ratified by the overwhelming majority of states. It is a means to ensure human dignity and to secure justice. The perception of people as rights-holders rather than as victims is also a prerequisite for self-determination and empowerment, which is at the very heart of the approch of FBOs.

Good practice example: The NAP Global Network

The NAP Global Network is a discussion and knowledge sharing platform for individuals and institutions working to enhance national adaptation planning and action in developing countries. The three main pillars are (i) peer learning and exchange, (ii) the support of national NAP development and implementation (including, inter alia, a country support hub, which provides free expert advice to NAP Network members from developing countries, including FBOs), and (iii) the enhancement of bilateral support through donor coordination.

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) functions as the secretariat of the network. Funding is provided by Germany and the United States.

The website can be found here: http://napglobalnetwork.org

Even if not consistently applying a human rightsbased approach, the NAP Global Network is recommended to you as a source of information, which can help you to further build your capacity on NAP.

While the main focus of the NAP Global Network is on the provision of technical advice, knowledge management and exchange, the NAP Global Support Program has a stronger focus on financial support and exclusively targets LDCs. In this regard it is a complementary good practice example.



Good practice example: The NAP Global Support Program

The NAP Global Support Program (NAP-GSP) is assisting LDCs to advance their NAP processes. It provides support to sensitize national stakeholders, to undertake stock-takes, and to facilitate NAP roadmaps. It also provides regional NAP trainings and builds in-country capacity in the form of tools, methods and guidelines. It facilitates access to funding and seeks to enhance cooperation.

The program has been jointly run since 2013 by UNEP and UNDP, financed by the LDCF, in collaboration with other agencies and organizations, including, inter alia, UNISDR.

The website can be found here: http://www.undp-alm.org/projects/naps-ldcs

The NAP interface with disaster risk management and loss and damage

Even if adaptation measures are properly implemented, there is still a risk of residual economic loss and damage.³⁵ Under the PA, the frameworks for adaptation and loss and damage are kept relatively separated from each other, with each of them covered by a stand-alone article.³⁶ The Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM), which comes under the UNFCCC, is mandated to develop a better understanding of climaterelated loss and damage and to take measures to reduce them and to support people affected by loss and damage. The WIM builds on increased cooperation, and aims to identify financial needs as well as ways to mobilize financial resources.

The rolling work plan of the WIM includes a number of topics to be addressed with priority, including, inter alia, the establishment of a clearing house for risk-transfer and the creation of a new task force on climate-related displacement. Both were launched in 2017. The WIM also succeeded, despite ongoing severe financial constraints, in cooperating more closely with other expert institutions and UN agencies, as UNISDR, the Platform for Disaster Displacement and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Ties with InsuResilience, the G7 Climate Risk Insurance Initiative could also be strengthened. Still, however, a lot more needs to be done to turn into action the commitments made to address loss and damage and the increasing risks of climate-induced disasters. This is essential to better protect vulnerable people, whose risk protection gap is rather wide.



development plans.

We strongly recommend to FBOs to advocate for better integration and coherence of climate adaptation and climate risk management plans, policies and programs. In many countries disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation policies and programs remain only loosely coordinated, and institutional responsibilities are kept in silos. The NAP process should therefore be taken as an opportunity to foster a stronger cooperation and integration of

The particular role that FBOs can play in the NAP process

adaptation and disaster risk management under a common effort of resilience building,

while taking into account sustainable

Building on what was already said on the role of FBOs with regard to NDCs in terms of moral weight, human rights, climate and gender justice, the full and meaningful participation of youth, intergenerational equity and empowerment of the vulnerable, we want to emphasize one more aspect, which seems to be of particular relevance for the NAP process. It is characteristic of many FBOs to have a unique access to poor and vulnerable people through their development, humanitarian, diaconal and spiritual action. FBOs are present in remote areas, where sometimes no other institution works. This, in combination with their vast experience in development and humanitarian work, provides FBOs with a unique understanding of the needs and capacities of poor people, which in turn is an asset for adaptation planning with a strong focus on reducing the risk and protection gaps of the most vulnerable.



FBOs are in a unique position to work, as a trust-broker, towards a people-centered, human rights-based (and hence gender responsive) NAP, and

thus, respond effectively to the call of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) from 2009 on states to protect people against foreseeable climate threats that are associated with violations to the right to food, water or health, and to ensure their broadest possible participation (OHCHR 2009, p.18ff).

Following the recommendations made by ACT Alliance in another study,³⁷ we recommend to FBOs to take a strong stance on systematically employing a human rights-based approach in the NAP development and implementation. This is an important means to provide justice to the vulnerable, support their participation, empowerment and resilience-building, and to also address particular gender justice, and youth participation concerns. In the following chapter, we will give further guidance, on how a human rights-based approach can be operationalized in the NAP process.

NAP assessment criteria and how to operationalize a human rights-based approach

The NAP process is still in an initial phase in many countries. This gives FBOs an opportunity to influence the outcome and to focus on the climate vulnerable, participation, justice and human rights. A study that was conducted on behalf of ACT Alliance in 2016, stressed how important this is. From the 59 NAPs analyzed, only 20 allowed for civil society participation, only 19 foresaw the identification of most vulnerable groups, and not more than 16 combined the two elements.³⁸

The list of vulnerable groups, as identified in this study, is led by urban populations (7 mentions), fishermen (6), ethnic minorities (5), women (3), rural populations (2) and youth (1). Though this ranking is not representative, it stresses the relevance of ensuring a thorough identification of vulnerable groups as an integral part of a NAP. The countries' sectoral adaptation priorities that

were identified are led by agriculture, followed by health, forest/land use, disaster risk reduction, water, marine/coastal protection, infrastructure, energy and tourism.



A human rights-based approach does not play a role in the vast majority of NAP processes. Gender as an assessment category plays a

role in some NAPs. Disaster risk reduction and the alignment with the SDGs are of relevance in many more but not all NAP processes. In acknowledging these gaps, we emphasize again how important it is for FBOs to advocate for a human rights-based inclusive, and gender responsive approach in the formulation and implementation of the NAPs.



What does it mean to employ a human rights-based approach to the NAP?

First, it must be understood which human rights are being threatened by climate change in the country and who is affected. Second, it needs to be assessed, which state obligations arise from this threat, i.e. what can be expected from state authorities to protect the affected people. Finally, the aforementioned assessment steps should be taken up in the NAP assessment, and then translated into targeted adaptation measures aimed at minimizing threats to human rights caused by climate change.

Human rights comprise of human rights standards and human rights principles. Taking a human rights-based approach in the NAP process must cover both of these. A good example of how to operationalize human rights principles (i.e. participation, empowerment, non-discrimination, transparency and accountability) is evident in the National Adaptation Policy Assessment Tool of Southern Voices on Adaptation. Without explicitly referring to human rights, the human rights principles are being translated into adaptation principles and related criteria. This is summarized in figure 14. The way in which human rights standards can be threatened by climate change and what the

corresponding state obligations are shown in figure 15. You are recommended to use these two

overviews as a blueprint for your own countryspecific assessment.

Human rights principles

Adaptation principles (building on Southern Voices on Adaptation)

Participation

Active, free, meaningful, effective and informed participation by multiple stakeholders in all phases

Empowerment

Adequate resources are made available for raising awareness, developing human capacities, natural capital and infrastructure, and protection of those most at risk

Non-discrimination

No discrimination, e.g. due to race, skin color, sex, language, political opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status

Transparency

Plans, policies and budgets, including roles, responsibilities and procedures are communicated adequately

Accountability

All relevant governmental authorities and other actors involved have defined responsibilities; transparent budgets are allocated; policies have clearly defined objectives; timelines are set and outcome indicators specifically refer to vulnerable groups



Figure 14 Operationalizing human rights principles for adaptation planning Author: Hirsch

Areas of climate risks & vulnerabilities

Human rights threatened by climate change (see OHCHR 2014a)

States corresponding human rights obligations (see ibid)

Human security

The human right to life - Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), Article 3

To take appropriate steps to safeguard the lives of people within the jurisdiction of the state

Food security

The human right to adequate food - UDHR, Article 25

access to adequate food and use of resources and means of ensuring livelihoods, including food security

Freshwater resources

The human right to water - Resolution 64/292, UN General Assembly, 2010

To ensure that everyone has access to a sufficient amount of water for personal and household consumption and hygiene, i.e. safe drinking, cooking, washing water

Human health

The human right to health - International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Human Rights, Article 12

To ensure access to (i) health facilities, goods and services on a non-discriminatory basis, especially for vulnerable or marginalised groups; (ii) the provision of essential drugs; equitable distribution of all health facilities, goods and services

Low lying & coastal

UDHR, Article 25(1) The human right to self-determination International Covenant on Civil and Political

to fulfil the right to adequate housing. Each state should guarantee at least minimum essential levels of this right. For instance, they should ensure that significant numbers of people are not deprived of basic shelter and housing. To take positive action to facilitate the realisation of and respect for the right of peoples to self-determination within the jurisdiction of the state and beyond

Livelihoods & poverty

Particular protection of vulnerable groups Conventions (i) on the right of the child, (ii) on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, (iii) others To pay specific attention to the impact on vulnerable groups $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right)$



Figure 15 Human rights standards for adaptation planning Source: ACT Alliance / Bread for the World / Germanwatch, 2016, p.9

Phase	Human rights instrument
Initiate risk management/adaptation process	Human rights due diligence checklist
Climate risk and vulnerability assessment	Human rights risk assessment and identification of most vulnerable groups
Integrate/align risk management/adaptation into/with planning	Mainstreaming human rights into climate risk and adaptation planning
Implementation	Prioritise protection of most vulnerable groups and take concrete steps to fulfil their rights
Reporting/monitoring/review	Human rights impact assessment and specific reference to prove that particular attention has been paid to vulnerable groups



Figure 16 Human rights instruments for different phases of adaptation planning Source: ACT Alliance / Bread for the World / Germanwatch, 2016, p.9

The previous deliberations have shown how a human rights-based approach can be operationalized in the NAP process. Given the high level of reluctance that many governments show when it comes to human rights, advocacy work may become cumbersome, and only a few elements may become a reality. Thus, it is important to identify the elements which are to be prioritized in climate advocacy. A lot depends on the national circumstances, and FBOs know their country and region best. However, it may help in decision-making to consider that each phase of the NAP process (see figure 13) has its own requirements and that situation-specific human rights instruments should be prioritized. Figure 16 provides an overview on human rights instruments to be considered at various phases of adaptation planning.

We hope that this guidance helps you to engage in the NAP process with a clear advocacy agenda for human rights, youth participation, climate and gender justice, and a distinct focus on the most vulnerable. To further facilitate your work, we have listed 4 policy recommendations to address the gaps identified in this chapter.⁴⁰



Policy recommendations

- The NAP process should include a human rights risk and impact assessment with a view to ensure human rights compliance in adaptation planning and implementation
- Climate risk and impact assessments should include the identification of the most climate vulnerable populations, and the NAP should include particular measures to foster the resilience of these people
- Vulnerable groups should participate directly or indirectly in the NAP process. Participation must not be restricted to the final phase of NAP implementation, but needs to take place during all stages of the NAP process
- The NAP should be developed and implemented in a gender responsive way, improving gender equality and particularly addressing women's rights and needs, including through a gender action plan.



Baseline Analysis of Kenya's NAP

The vision of the Kenyan NAP is enhanced climate resilience towards the attainment of Kenya's 2030 development vision. "Enhanced climate resilience includes strong economic growth, resilient ecosystems, and sustainable livelihoods for Kenyans. It will also result in reduced climate-induced loss and damage, mainstreamed disaster risk reduction approaches in various sectors, reduced costs of humanitarian aid, and improved knowledge and learning for adaptation and the future protection of the country."

The objectives of the NAP

Baseline assessment results

- "Highlight the importance of adaptation and resilience building actions in development:
- Integrate climate change adaptation into national and country level development planning and budgeting processes;
- Enhance the resilience of public and private sector investment in the national transformation, and the resilience of the economic and social pillars of Vision 2030 to climate shocks;
- Enhance synergies between adaptation and mitigation actions in order to attain a low carbon climate resilient economy; and
- Enhance resilience of vulnerable populations to climate shocks through adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies."

(Republic of Kenya (2016: Kenya National Adaptation Plan 2015-2030)

- Aligned with development planning, climate change strategy and DRR strategy;
- Institutional arrangements included and roles and responsibilities clearly identified;
- Risk and vulnerability analysis made
- Sector-specific implementation plans and budgets for national & sub-national level;
- Civil society/FBO participation in NAP process:
- Monitoring and evaluation system established;
- Gender-specific implementation plan but no systematic gender mainstreaming;
- Vulnerable groups covered by a specific implementation plan but no systematic identification of the most climate vulnerable people across the country;
- No human rights-based approach taken.



Figure 17 Baseline analysis of Kenya's NAP Author: Hirsch

As previously mentioned, Kenya was among the first countries to submit their NAP. In Kenya, FBOs are actively engaged in climate policies. For this reason, we have briefly screened the Kenyan NAP using our assessment criteria. Apart from Kenya, ACT has identified more countries as focal countries for national level

climate advocacy work, and this list of countries may increase in the future. Figure 18 provides an overview on the status of the NAP process in the selected focal countries. We wish you very successful climate advocacy work!

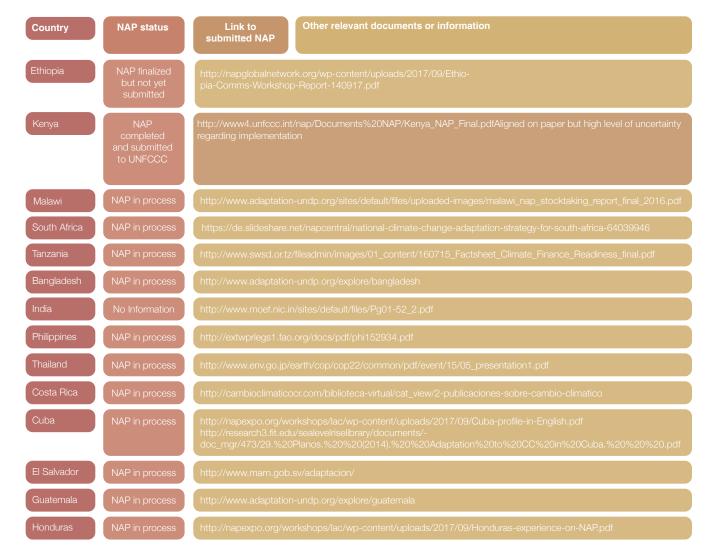




Figure 18 Status of the NAP process in selected countries (as of December 2017) Author: Hirsch

Advocacy approaches and instruments to engage in the NAP process

Apart from the human-rights specific assessment tools explained and the specific role that FBOs can play in this regard, there are no NAP specific climate advocacy approaches and instruments that go beyond the approaches, skills and instruments that have already been described in the chapter. "Advocacy approaches and instruments to get engaged in the NDC process". You may refer to the information, instructions, as well as good practice examples from the chapter mentioned, to prepare your climate advocacy interventions for the NAP process.



Climate Advocacy for a Long-Term Strategy (LTS)

The role of LTS in the Paris Agreement and related state obligations

Apart from the NDC and the NAP, the midcentury, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies (Long-term Strategies) are the third main policy planning tool to implement the PA at the national level.

States are discretionarily obliged 66 ... to communicate, by 2020, to the secretariat mid-century, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies.

(1/CP.21, § 35)

"Discretionary obligation" means that states should (not shall, as it is the case for mandatory obligations) fulfil this obligation. Other than the mandatory obligations regarding the NDCs, the LTS-related obligations and timeline are not part of the PA, but are of the accompanying COP Decision 1/CP.21.



Why is the elaboration of a LTS important and how is it related to the NDC?

LTS, which are also called Low Carbon Development Pathways 2050, complementary to the NDC: While the NDC is a short or mid-term commitment for climate action (2020-2025/2030), a LTS should provide a long-term national vision for low (and finally zero) carbon climate resilient and sustainable development pathway by 2050, and a roadmap on how to achieve this vision. A LTS provides planning security and predictability of how a country aims to implement the PA in the long run. A LTS, other than a mid-term action plan, guides decisions for long-term investments, as for instance a power plant or other infrastructure developments, even if the LTS is a living document and thus, subject to modification. Those, who decide upon infrastructure investments, need the LTS to guide them.

The relevance of the LTS cannot be overestimated. Long-term planning is a prerequisite for a successful and well-designed transformation, because it directs investments and provides favorable public policy frameworks. An NDC is of equal relevance, but different in character. NDCs should lead to measurable short-term emission reduction. NDCs and LTS should go hand in hand. To achieve this coherence, which should also include the NAP, and the national SDG and DRR framework, is a first priority for FBO climate advocacy work on LTS. A good practice example for such a coherent approach is the Vision of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), which was launched during COP22 (2016) in Marrakech, stating that "the response to climate change is climate justice and social justice in action".



Good Practice Example: The Marrakech Vision of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF)

The CVF is currently composed of 43 climate vulnerable member states, aiming to limit global warming to 1.5°C and to foster resilience. Leading by example, their vision and mission statement include the following self-commitments:

- · Achieving net carbon neutrality by the 2050s in realization of the PA.
- · Update their own NDC before 2020.
- · Prepare LTS that connects short, medium, and long-term development pathways geared to limiting global warming to 1.5°C and to aim to realize 100% domestic renewable energy production as soon as possible, while working to end energy poverty and to protect water and food security.
- Implement all SDGs and the SFDRR no later than 2030.
- Ensure inclusiveness, due stakeholder participation and transparency.

Available at: https://thecvf.org/marrakech-vision/

The LTS process

By the end of 2017, only six countries had deposited their LTS at the UNFCCC: Benin, Canada, France, Germany, Mexico and the United States. Another relatively small group of countries, including Costa Rica, China, Ethiopia, the Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Spain and Sweden, are advancing in the LTS process. They are expected to deposit their LTS in 2018.

On the one hand, the resonance to the call made in Paris, to present a projection on how countries envisage to meet the ultimate goals of the PA, is rather limited so far, and the LTS process is still in an early phase. On the other hand, this provides manifold opportunities for FBOs to get engaged and to help shape the LTS in a meaningful way.

Other than in the cases of the NDC and the NAP, there is very little clear guidance provided by the UNFCCC, or expert entities on how to organize the LTS process and how to structure the strategy. The best guidance so far available is provided by the 2050 Pathways Handbook (Pathways Platform, 2017). It recommends a common set of criteria, principles and building blocks for the LTS process and design, building on the experience from cases where the process already took place.



Criteria, Principles and Building Blocks for 2050 Pathways

Criteria

- Clarity, regarding the objectives of the LTS process, guiding questions, methods, and presentation of results
- Relevance, i.e. pathways must be transformational in terms of their impact on emissions, how they address concerns about societal impacts, and in terms of communication
- Practicality, meaning that the scope of the LTS is feasible, that results are described in concrete physical terms, and that the analysis provides useful guidance for implementation
- Credibility, i.e. the LTS must build on a robust analysis, that methods used are adequate, and that analytical tools and data are transparent and open to scientific scrutiny

Principles

- Socio-economic (e.g. growth, equality, inclusiveness) and emissions objectives are incorporated side by side as an integral part of the LTS
- Back-casting involves starting with the desired end state and working backwards to the present, in order to identify necessary conditions for ambitious scenarios
- Analysis focuses on the physical transformations required to meet long-term emissions and socio-economic goals, taking into account evolutions in technologies and business models
- LTS development is embedded in a process of intense stakeholder engagement in the analysis and promoted communications about the findings and related governance, planning and implementation processes
- The scope of the pathways analysis should be done in combination with the identification of the analytical toolkit

Building blocks of LTS design process

- Creation of narratives, describing possible futures
- Analysis and modelling of scenarios based on these narratives
- Use of dashboards for communicating assumptions and results in tangible terms for different stakeholders

Comparing the LTS already deposited at the UNFCCC, 41 it becomes clear that they do not follow a strictly common framework. While developed countries put the climate action focus almost exclusively on emissions reduction, developing countries put more emphasis on resilience building.



Especially important is that the LTS rigorously employs the principles of back-casting such that they integrate; socio-economic development and climate action; they use robust data modelling and projections in a transparent way: that assumptions and results are intensively discussed with multiple stakeholders, and that

Means of implementation and international support

the LTS communication is opportunity-driven.

It is expected that the largely unnoticed LTS process so far will gain a lot of political momentum in the years 2018 - 2020. The 2018 Talanoa dialogue was agreed to at COP23 as the format for the first informal global stock-take on global emission trajectories. The efforts taken by countries to switch to low carbon, climate resilient, sustainable development pathways since the adoption of the PA, in combination with the launch of the IPCC special report on 1.5°C, will shed light to the large emission and climate protection gaps – and to the urgency of massive transformational shifts. The emerging need of long-term projections and roadmaps, which are capable to model the socio-economic impacts of emissions reductions and resilience building, and vice versa, will lead to an increased demand and support for LTS.

The self-commitment of the CVF members to prepare LTS, the G20 Climate and Energy Action Plan (2017) including the appraisal of long-term low GHG development strategies as unique opportunities for delivering inclusive growth and incentivizing investments in infrastructure, together with the accelerating pressure from regions, industries, and the investment sector to develop LTS as a guide for future investments, will further encourage countries to take the 2020 timeline for the presentation of LTS seriously.

So far, the main international structure of support for LTS is the 2050 Pathways Platform.



Good practice example: The 2050 Pathway Platform

The 2050 Pathways Platform was launched at COP22 in Marrakech (2016) by the official Climate Champions inaugurated in Paris, by Laurence Tubiana (France) and Hakima El Haite (Morocco), as a multi-stakeholder initiative to support countries in the LTS development.

By the end of 2017, the platform counted 26 countries, 15 cities, 17 regions and 192 companies as members, including, inter alia, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Fiji and Mexico. The platform is funded by France, Sweden, the European Climate Foundation and the Children Investment Fund.

Amongst others, the platform serves as a knowledge sharing and mutual learning platform, and provides technical and financial support for the development of LTS, as for example to Marshall Islands.

The main sourcebook is the aforementioned 2050 Pathways Handbook, published in July 2015.

More information on the 2050 Pathways Platform can be found at https:// www.2050pathways.org

The provision of international support to developing countries for building in-country capacity to develop LTS in a country-driven process is vital for success. It is recommended to call on governments to seek international cooperation, including South-South cooperation, for the LTS development. At the same time, donor countries should be called on to provide respective technical and financial support to developing countries. FBOs may also consider to become a member or observer of the 2050 Pathways Platform.

The role of FBOs

LTS are complementary to NDCs and NAPs and provide a long-term vision, with clear objectives, and a roadmap on how to achieve the long-term goal of zero-carbon, climate resilient sustainable development. Without a LTS for all states that are compatible with 1.5°C/2°C emissions trajectories, these important temperature thresholds to global warming cannot be achieved. FBOs support these temperature goals in order to bring climate justice to the earth, to all the creatures living on it, and to protect the people on the frontlines of climate change. Thus, it is of fundamental importance that FBOs advocate for justice and ambition in LTS.

and sustainably in a world of finite resources, and I urge you to join us in this journey to tackle climate change.

Bishop Nick Holtham, ACT Climate Ambassador, England

There is arguably no other platform (in terms of climate policies) that is more important for FBOs to take a clear stance on than LTS. Why? To develop convincing and long-term visions that inspire and guide people, and provides hope and orientation to them, falls first and foremost in the area of responsibility of FBOs.

What is needed for a massive transformational shift leading to alternative development patterns, is a narrative of hope and a vision of a better world, as provided by faith. It is the role of FBOs to speak out with a prophetic voice and to announce what is not only necessary but also possible, if a transformative, empowering LTS pathway is chosen. The provision of such a moral compass cannot be expected from economics, politics or science – but it can be a unique contribution from spiritual leaders and philosophers of high credibility.

LTS assessment criteria and instructions on how to strengthen justice and ambition

The aforementioned criteria, principles, and building blocks provide a good starting point to assess LTS. The countries that already submitted their LTS need to be praised for being pioneers in this regard. These LTS, however, still have a lot of room for improvement.

Taking Germany's Climate Action Plan 2050 as an example,⁴² the 2050 national emissions target of 80 – 95% is not consistent with the 1.5°C global temperature threshold, and the sector-specific reduction measures described in the LTS lack a robust analysis, and underlying scenario modelling. Altogether, the Climate Action Plan by 2050 seems to reflect too much a result of political compromise, rather than of sound scientific analysis and back-casting from the goals of the PA. Updating the Climate Action Plan thus seems to be important.

The NDC assessment principles used in this Toolkit complement the principles of the 2050 Pathways Handbook, and partly overlap. Climate ambition, and NDC-SDG alignment, focuses on resilience and decent work, social equity, gender equality, due participation, good governance, and respect for human rights. This set of principles should be included in the LTS assessment and the climate advocacy approach of FBOs.

Mexico's Climate Change Mid-Century Strategy, that was launched in November 2016, 43 builds on the 2013 National Climate Change Strategy and the legal framework established by the General Law of Climate Change. It is guided by a number of principles, including, inter alia, sustainability, participation and transparency.

These principles partly match the aforementioned assessment principles on paper, but implementation remains a tremendous challenge in Mexico.⁴⁴

This reality again emphasizes that the real litmus test is the extent of implementation, and that political will is a prerequisite for winning the fight against climate change. FBOs should therefore always speak out with a prophetic voice against injustice and inaction, and call upon their governments to act in a way that is accountable, responsible and transparent.



Good practice example: CAN Recommendations for civil society engagement in the LTS process

Climate Action Network (CAN) International, based on intense consultations within its network, has published a "Briefing on Civil Society Engagement in Developing Longterm Strategies" on October 2017. This very helpful briefing provides strong arguments on why civil society engagement in the LTS process is of great advantage. It also provides a practical criteria for effective civil society engagement and argues, with reference to UNFCCC COP decisions, that the LTS process should be gender responsive, participatory and based on human rights. The briefing paper is another good starting point to guide FBOs on how to engage in the LTS process, and how to convince their government to take a participatory approach toward multi-stakeholder engagement.

The briefing can be accessed here: http://www.climatenetwork.org/publication/can-briefing-civil-society-engagement-developing-long-term-strategies-october-2017

We hope that these instructions help you to engage in the LTS process. To conclude, we have listed 5 policy recommendations that address some of the key challenges discussed in this chapter.



Policy Recommendations

- The LTS process should be countrydriven, and blended with innovative ideas arising from international exchanges and good practice examples
- Align the LTS with the NDC, the NAP, and the national development plan in view of SDGs and the SFDRRF, and back-cast from the goals set in the PA
- Build the LTS process with good coordination and cooperation within the government, regions and municipalities, with CSOs, the private sector, and international development partners
- Identify and address the needs of the most vulnerable in the LTS process
- The LTS should be developed and implemented in a gender responsive way, improving gender equality and particularly addressing women's rights and needs, including through a gender action plan
- Systematically build up in-country capacity in the LTS process, and seek international cooperation and support, where needed (e.g. for data modelling of alternative scenarios)

Advocacy approaches and instruments to get engaged in the LTS process

Apart from the potential moral and motivational leadership role of FBOs in the development of LTS, as explained above, there are no LTS-specific climate advocacy approaches and instruments that go beyond the approaches, skills and instruments that have been described in the chapter "Advocacy approaches and instruments to get engaged in the NDC process". Refer back to this chapter for the respective information, instructions, as well as good practice examples to prepare your climate advocacy interventions for the LTS process.

Endnotes

- See at https://www.pik-potsdam.de/news/press-releases/turning-the-climate-tide-by-2020?set language=en (last accessed: December 12th, 2017)
- The full list can be found at http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/Pages/Home.aspx
- 3 See at http://www.azguotes.com/quote/1198138 (Last accessed on March 5th, 2018)
- 4 See at http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2015/04/29/vatican-summit-there-is-a-moral-im-perative-to-act-on-climate-change/ (last accessed on December 13th, 2017)
- The Talanoa dialogue is a process in different phases, starting with expert consultations and ending with a high-level political dialogue at COP24 in Poland, aiming at taking stock on climate action with a view to assess and close, as much as possible, the climate emission and climate risk gaps by increasing ambition. The dialogue will take place the South-Pacific "Talanoa" way, i.e. listening to each other, in a non-offensive way.
- 6 See UNFCCC (2017): COP decision 1/CP.23, annex II, p.7.
- 7 The Costa Rica NDC: http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/PublishedDocuments/Costa%20 Rica%20First/INDC%20Costa%20Rica%20Version%202%200%20final%20ENG.pdf
- 8 See at OECD 2016, available at www.oecd.org/env/cc/oecd-climate-finance-projection.htm (last accessed on January 26th, 2018)
- 9 The UNFCCC's INDC support website is available at: http://unfccc.int/focus/indc portal/items/8766.php
- 10 NDC Partnership can be accessed at: http://ndcpartnership.org
- NDC Partnership Partners webpage can be accessed at: http://ndcpartnership.org/partners
- NDC Partnership knowledge portal can be accessed at: http://ndcpartnership.org/knowl-edge-portal
- ACT Alliance's discussion paper on utilizing NDC Partnership can be accessed at: http://actalliance.org/publications/ambition-participation-and-effectiveness/
- 14 See Business Green, 23rd November 2017, at https://www.businessgreen.com/bg/news/3021707/climate-disasters-set-to-make-2017-most-expensive-on-record-insurers-warn (last accessed on 26th January, 2017)
- 15 See at http://actalliance.org/publications/our-call-to-action-on-global-resilience-sustainabili-ty-solidarity-with-climate-vulnerable-people/ (last accessed on January 26th, 2018)
- 16 See Nordstokke 2012.
- 17 Ibid.
- See at https://info.brot-fuer-die-welt.de/blog/new-study-just-energy-transition-global-south (last accessed on January 26th, 2018)
- See at http://climatecollege.unimelb.edu.au/indc-factsheets/fiji (last accessed on January 26th, 2018). According to Fiji's NDC, per capita emissions in 2013 have only been 1.5 tons CO2e.
- See at: http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/Pages/All.aspx (last accessed on January 26th, 2018)
- 21 Global Climate Risk Index 2017, Germanwatch
- See at https://htt
- 23 Country Gender Assessment 2015, Asian Development Bank
- 24 ILO Fiji Labor Market Update, April 2016.
- See at https://www.brot-fuer-die-welt.de/fileadmin/mediapool/2 Downloads/Fachinformationen/Profil/Profil19 E LossAndDamage.pdf, pp. 23ff. (last accessed on January 26th, 2018).
- See at https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa18/1257/2015/en/ (last accessed: 3.10.2017).
- For further information, see Saxer 2017 at http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/indien/13477.pdf

(last accessed on January 26th, 2018)

- See at http://unfccc.int/adaptation/items/5852.php (last accessed on January 2nd, 2018)
- See at ACT Alliance / Bread for the World / Germanwatch, 2016, p.18f.
- 30 See at ACT Alliance / Bread for the World / Germanwatch, 2016, p.19
- 31 See at: http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/About.aspx (last accessed on January 26th, 2018).
- 32 See at: http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/adaptation-plans-and-strategies.aspx (last accessed on January 26th, 2018)
- 33 See at: http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/support_tracker.aspx (last accessed on January 26th, 2018)
- 34 See at: See at ACT Alliance / Bread for the World / Germanwatch, 2016
- 35 See at ACT Alliance / Bread for the World / Germanwatch, 2016
- Adaptation is covered by Article 7, and loss and damage by Article 8, see at: http://unfccc.int/files/essential-background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf
- 37 See at ACT Alliance / Bread for the World / Germanwatch, 2016, p.10ff
- This and the following data have been taken from See at ACT Alliance / Bread for the World / Germanwatch, 2016, p.26f
- 39 See Southern Voices 2015 and also ACT Alliance / Bread for the World / Germanwatch, 2016, p.10ff.
- 40 Mostly taken from at ACT Alliance / Bread for the World / Germanwatch, 2016, p. 10
- See at http://unfccc.int/focus/long-term strategies/items/9971.php (last accessed on January 6th, 2018)
- See at http://unfccc.int/files/focus/application/pdf/161114 climate action plan 2050.pdf (last accessed on January 6th, 2018)
- See at https://unfccc.int/files/focus/long-term_strategies/application/pdf/mexico_mcs_final_co-p22nov16_red.pdf (last accessed on January 26th, 2018)
- 44 See at Hirsch et al 2017, p. 100ff.

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