



Cuba: Some Way to Go

Cuba has submitted their updated NDC to the UNFCCC on September 17, 2020.

The country has advanced in its mitigation goals for the sectors of energy, transport and AFOLU. The NDC also counts with an adaptation component with sectoral policies. However, it lacks an overall mitigation target and information about planning processes and governance structures for its implementation and a national and transparent system to track progress.

According to the Checklist for the #NDCsWeWant and taking into account its low emissions profile, our analysis concludes that the Cuban NDC **has some way to go** to become the NDC We Want.

Advances

In its 2020 NDC, Cuba commits to increasing electricity generation based on Renewable Energy Sources (RES) to 24% in the electricity matrix by 2030 and increasing the country's forest coverage to 33% by 2030. The sectoral coverage is increased, as in addition to energy and agriculture, covered in the first NDC, it also includes Energy; Transport and Forestry and other Land Uses (AFOLU).

Cuba has also advanced in establishing conditional and unconditional targets, specifying which actions will count with national resources and how much is expected of international support to achieve the targets.

The adaptation component of the NDC defines priority measures for adaptation focused on coastal zones; water-related systems and infrastructure; and sectoral policies related to food security, land and urban planning, fishing, agriculture, health, tourism, construction, transportation, industry and forest management.

Nature-based solutions with a focus on ecosystems are mentioned in the context of adaptation, such as mangrove restoration and rehabilitation and protection of coral reefs. For mitigation, one of the key measures is increasing in the country's forest cover up to 33% in the year 2030, removing 169,9 million tons of atmospheric CO₂ for the 2019-2030 period.

Gaps

The 2020 NDC lacks an economy-wide absolute 2030 target for reducing emissions. No information regarding a participatory and inclusive process and climate governance structures for implementation of the NDC are provided. Another gap is the alignment of targets to a 2050 or earlier Net-Zero Long-term Strategy.

There is no national and transparent system in place to report on progress in the implementation of the NDC, although its need is acknowledged in the NDC. Cuba mentions its commitment to Education and Health in both NDCs as a cross-sectoral approach, but no specific goals are defined.

WWF's NDC rating grades

 NDC We Want

 Short Way to Go

 Some Way to Go

 NDC We Don't Want

WWF checklist for Cuba's 2020 NDC assessment

 Mitigation

 Adaptation

 Finance

 Fostering system change

 Inclusiveness and Participation

 Contribution to Sustainable Development

 Tracking progress

Cuba's rating grade after assessment:

 Some Way to Go

For more information

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