Tonga: Short Way to Go

On December 09, 2020, Tonga submitted its updated NDC.

The 2020 NDC advances in defining an absolute energy emissions reduction target (13% of emissions by 2030 compared to 2006). It also presents quantifiable adaptation objectives and describes an inclusive and participatory process for the NDC design.

According to the Checklist for the NDCs We Want and taking into account that Tonga is a vulnerable upper-middle income country with a negligible contribution to global emissions and low per capita emissions, we consider that the 2020 NDC has a Short Way to Go to become the NDC We Want

**Highlights**

**Mitigation:** Both NDCs establish the same energy sector-specific target of transitioning to 70% of electricity generation from renewable sources by 2030. The 2020 NDC also establishes non-emission targets for AFOLU and Waste and advances methodologically by including an absolute energy emissions reduction target of 16Gg or 13% of emissions by 2030 compared to 2006. The updated NDC identifies priority areas needing development to strengthen targets in future NDCs.

**Adaptation:** The updated NDC advances by establishing adaptation objectives, including quantifiable ones. Knowledge gaps are also highlighted.

**Inclusiveness and participation:** The 2020 NDC describes an inclusive process led by the Government to evaluate the progress of the 2015 NDC and to invite inputs from institutions and citizens for the update. The final document also went through a final validation process.

**Finance:** The 2020 NDC does not establish financial commitments or support needs in detail, meaning it provides less detail than the previous version. An NDC Roadmap Investment Plan is to be launched in 2021 which may address this gap.

**Tracking Progress:** Although the NDC does not mention a system to track progress, the NDC document incorporates a detailed report and recommendations on the evaluation of progress of the 2015 INDC.
WWF’s NDC rating grades

- NDC We Want
- Short Way to Go
- Some Way to Go
- Long Way to Go
- NDC We Don’t Want

WWF checklist for the Tongas’ 2020 NDC assessment

- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- Finance
- Fostering system change
- Inclusiveness and Participation
- Contribution to Sustainable Development
- Tracking progress

Tongas’ rating grade after assessment: 70 percent

For more information

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