



# Viet Nam: **Some Way to Go**

On September 11, 2020, Viet Nam submitted their updated NDC to the UNFCCC. Targets had a small increase and the adaptation component is improved. The NDC is the first in this round to address loss and damage, a key issue for the country. Other advances also worth mentioning are increased sectoral coverage and developments on systems for tracking progress.

An analysis by the Climate Action Tracker (CAT) finds that the 2020 NDC has not yet represented a true progression in scaling up climate action, as it does not require additional efforts compared to current policies. Therefore, Viet Nam would be on track to overachieve its current targets. The NDC is still 67% higher than the emissions level in 2030.

According to the Checklist for the #NDCsWeWant and taking into account that Vietnam is a middle-income country with a relatively low emissions profile, our analysis concludes that the Vietnamese NDC **has some way to go** to become the NDC We Want.

## Advances

The 2020 NDC presents strengthened conditional and unconditional targets and quantitative sectoral targets for 2030. The adaptation component has improved and includes the consideration of losses and damages, bringing information about the main impacts on people, sectors, regions and the environment with non-economic and economic estimates.

The establishment of systems and criteria for tracking progress of implementation, with more comprehensive indicators for periodic M&E, is another advance. The NDC also includes the sector of Industrial Processes, responsible for total emissions of 38.6 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e and 12% of the country's total emissions in 2014.

Regarding finance commitments, the need for enhanced international support to achieve the country's targets is highlighted as well as efforts to align current financial mechanisms with green development and green finance. The update brings specific information about resources allocated in the State budget and received through international support.

Some new features of the NDC are the inclusion of an impact assessment of the implementation of mitigation measures on socio-economic development and an analysis of co-benefits of adaptation, mitigation, and sustainable development.

Measurable Nature-based Solutions, including the National REDD+ Program and the protection of coastal areas and ecosystems, are presented. The synergy between sustainable development goals and mitigation and adaptation goals is addressed.

The NDC also describes an inclusive process to invite inputs from institutions and citizens in its design that suggests advances in stakeholder participation. It is listed on the Draft Environmental Law expected to be approved in National Assembly Meeting, which is a clear signal of the commitment of the Vietnamese government to its implementation.

## Gaps

While strengthened mitigation targets are presented, the increase is small and can be achieved with current policies. Viet Nam's fossil fuel-related policies, critical to foster systemic change, are not addressed. Although the updated NDC was largely consulted with experts and partners, no details on how information was disclosed and inputs were considered are provided.

### For more information

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