



NDC CHECKLIST

Nicaragua Analysis

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

		2018 NDC	2020 NDC	Analysis
AMBITION				
MITIGATION				
1	Strengthened mitigation targets	<p>The NDC contemplates goals related to the Energy and AFOLU sectors, with conditional and unconditional targets.</p> <p>By 2030, 60% of the capacity installed from the electrical matrix must come from other types of renewable energy sources, having 2017 as the baseline year. In addition, considering reforestation of degraded areas, the NDC commits to the i) conservation in the absorption capacity of carbon sinks according to the 2030 Reference Scenario (unconditional contribution); and ii) increase the carbon absorption capacity by 20% according to the 2030 Reference Scenario (conditional to international financing), having 2010 as the baseline year.</p>	<p>The NDC contemplates goals related to the Energy and AFOLU sectors. By 2030, 65% of the installed capacity of the electricity matrix should come from renewable energy sources. On AFOLU, the NDC proposes an increase in carbon absorption capacity by 25%, regarding the 2030 Reference Scenario. Both targets are conditional to</p> <p>In addition, a reduction on the consumption of fluorinated gases considered in the Kigali amendment is mentioned (not quantified).</p>	<p>The NDC presents enhanced targets for the Energy and AFOLU sectors. However, those are not expressed in emissions reductions.</p>
2	An economy-wide absolute 2030 target	<p>No economy-wide target is presented. The NDC focuses on sectors of Energy; and AFOLU through measures to increase renewable energies, as well conservation and forest recovery.</p>	<p>No economy-wide target is presented. The NDC focuses on sectors of Energy, AFOLU and Industrial Processes.</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC focuses on the sector of Energy, AFOLU and Industrial Processes, which cover 98% of the country's emissions. No quantitative target is presented for Industrial Processes.</p>
3	A 2021-2030 carbon budget aligned to 1.5°C	<p>No carbon budget presented.</p>	<p>No carbon budget presented.</p>	<p>Both NDCs do not mention a carbon budget.</p>

4	NDC targets aligned to a 2050 or earlier Net-Zero Long-term Strategy	Not mentioned.	Not mentioned.	Both NDCs do not mention NDC targets aligned to a 2050 or earlier Net-Zero Long-term Strategy.
ADAPTATION				
5	Clear adaptation objectives	<p>The NDC establishes the following priority adaptation measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Modernization of hydrometeorological services of the country. ii) Construction of the Drainage Master Plan in the capital city and other Pacific cities of Nicaragua that are very vulnerable to flooding. iii) Develop a national program of water collection and promotion of irrigation systems in the Nicaraguan dry corridor. iv) Increase efficiency in the protection of biosphere reserves through a program of land management and promotion of reforestation v) Strengthen national capacity on climate finance to facilitate access to financial sources; vi) Infrastructure development of drinking water and sanitation and resilience programs for urban drinking water systems; vii) Access to resources and additional measures to implement adaptation measures in the road infrastructure network; viii) Capacity development, access to technology and financing in the agriculture sector; ix) Implement resilient ecosystem management programs prioritized with a landscape approach; x) Prepare and implement the National Adaptation Plan at the sector level; xi) Implement the National Water Resources Plan; xii) Promote adaptation measures focused on human settlements; xiii) Development of knowledge and response capacities on the impacts of climate change on human health. 	<p>The NDC update process used the multicriteria analysis methodology to insert adaptation actions, taking into account the following variables: i) Impact on poverty reduction and human well-being; ii) Increased resilience capacities in productive sectors important for food security; iii) Economic relationship; iv) List of national policies and strategies; v) Inclusion of indigenous peoples and vulnerable population; and vi) Contribution to adaptation based on mitigation.</p> <p>As part of the NDC update, the measures identified were grouped by sector of intervention according to the national priority and scope and objectives were defined, as well as their contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Adaptation measures were listed for the the sectors of biodiversity, water resources, forest resources, agriculture, human health, human settlements and infrastructure,</p>	Both NDCs present an adaptation component. The 2020 NDC progresses by listing specific adaptation measures and their respective contribution to the implementation of the SDGs. However, a National Adaptation Plan (NAP) has not been developed, even though it was established as a priority measure in the previous NDC.

FINANCE				
6	Finance Commitments	<p>The country requires financial support to develop priority adaptation measures and establishes financial estimates for the implementation of some of these measures.</p> <p>It is also mentioned that Nicaragua participates in the International Carbon Market through the REDD+ initiative to implement a program for forests conservation and prevent forest degradation, which will be valid between 2019-2024.</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC mentions that government institutions and the private sector will work together to manage the financial resources that contribute to mitigating and adapting to climate change. Nicaragua has a financial strategy implemented through the National Authority designated with the support of institutions that also contributes to the search for funds to finance the climate agenda. Currently, there are 15 programs and projects that add up to more than US \$ 190 million and will develop activities that will contribute to the conservation and restoration of Forests, as well as the fight against Climate Change.</p> <p>In addition, by 2021, Nicaragua will implement with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) an Emission Reduction Program (REDD+ Program) on Costa Caribe that will contribute to reducing approximately 11 million tons of carbon dioxide through deforestation and forest degradation; as well as other programs and projects that guarantee the sustainable management of forests and the protection of ecosystems. The updated NDC presents an Annex with information related to Programs and Projects managed by the government, which total a mobilization of resources around US \$ 193,112,503.00.</p>	<p>Both NDCs mention Nicaragua's REDD+ program as a source of climate finance. The 2020 NDC progresses by presenting a list of Programs and Projects managed by the government with international funding.</p>
7	Clear conditional targets	<p>The NDC mentions that if the country receives international financing, an increase by 20% in carbon absorption capacity could be achieved with respect to the 2030 Reference Scenario.</p> <p>It is also mentioned that it will be possible to increase the ambition in AFOLU sector with international financial support to reduce the advance of the agricultural frontier.</p>	<p>The goals for strengthening ambition on the Energy and AFOLU targets are conditional on international support.</p> <p>In addition, financial support to develop priority adaptation measures are mentioned, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Measures for the development of infrastructure and drainage systems in the capital and other cities in Nicaragua in the Pacific that are highly vulnerable to flooding (investments of approximately \$ 450 million for the capital); ii) Develop a national program for water abstraction and promotion of irrigation systems in the dry corridor of Nicaragua (investment of approximately US \$ 800 million); iii) Increase efficiency in the protection of biosphere reserves through a land management and reforestation program (investment of approximately US \$ 400 million). 	<p>The updated NDC mentions conditional targets for Energy and AFOLU without presenting further details. Financial estimates are presented for conditional adaptation targets.</p>
8	Moving from conditional to unconditional targets	<p>The NDC presents conditional and unconditional targets.</p>	<p>Both the Energy and AFOLU targets are conditional. In addition, it is mentioned that considering the mitigation potential of the proposed interventions, Nicaragua will increase ambition in the forestry sector under the condition of receiving sources of international financing for the implementation of programs and projects that contribute to the fulfillment of the country's goal.</p>	<p>The 2015 NDC mentions unconditional targets, although it does not describe which interventions should be financed with domestic resources. The 2020 NDC regresses by not mentioning any unconditional targets or measures.</p>

FOSTERING SYSTEMIC CHANGE

9	Increased sectoral coverage	The NDC focuses on the Sectors of Energy and AFOLU.	The NDC focuses on the Sectors of Energy, AFOLU and Industrial Processes.	The NDC focuses on the Sectors of Energy, AFOLU and Industrial Processes.
10	Quantitative Sectoral targets	<p>By 2030, 60% of the capacity installed from the electrical matrix must come from other types of renewable energy sources.</p> <p>In the transportation sector, the project "Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transportation in Metropolitan Managua" aims at obtaining a direct reduction of 892,000 tons of CO2 emissions over the next 20 years.</p> <p>In the forestry sector, Nicaragua received the approval from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), through the ENDE-REDD+ program of MARENA, with the assistance of the World Bank, through which rural communities and indigenous peoples living in the forests of Costa Caribe, Bosawás and Indio Maíz will reduce deforestation and forest degradation, reducing emissions of approximately 11 million tons of Dioxide Carbon and positive incentives of 55 million dollars will be received in five years.</p>	<p>The NDC presents quantitative targets in the Energy and AFOLU sectors.</p> <p>Energy: by 2030, 65% of the installed capacity of the electrical matrix must come from renewable sources of energy;</p> <p>AFOLU: Increased carbon absorption capacity by 25% compared to the Reference Scenario by 2030.</p>	Both NDCs present quantitative sectoral targets for Energy and AFOLU.
		The National Human Development Plan 2018-2021 guides its medium-term actions aimed at continuing to implement the environmental education policy. The National Strategy for the Environment and Climate Change (2010) has "Environmental Education for Life" one of its five strategic guidelines. In addition, the development of knowledge and response capacities on the impacts of climate change on human health is seen as an adaptation priority.	The NDC mentions the development of knowledge and response capacities on the impacts of climate change on health as one of the adaptation priorities of the country. The specific goals are to reduce vulnerability and increase the resilience of the population; and improve the response capacity of the health system to cope with to the main threats of climate change, mainly in the most vulnerable sectors.	Both NDCs establish adaptation priorities for the sector of health.

11	Key structural sectors included	<p>The NDC mentions that growing economic challenges and poverty reduction remain large; and that the National Human Development Plan (PNHD) will be updated by 2018 with the general objective to reduce inequality by increasing the fight against poverty,</p> <p>It is also mentioned that the Government bases its policy to promote economic and social development protecting the most vulnerable population sectors, through a model of direct work with families and communities, creating capacities, knowledge and behaviors that allow the population to face and recover from disaster risks, as well as a work model in alliances with the productive sector, in permanent dialogue to face the challenges of economic development, the generation of employment and poverty reduction.</p>	<p>The NDC mentions that the multicriteria analysis methodology used to define adaptation priority measures takes in consideration the impact on poverty reduction and human well-being. It is also mentioned that the NDC is guided by the general principles of sustainable development, gender equality, citizen participation, and the recognition of native peoples and indigenous communities.</p>	<p>Both NDCs generically address social-related issues, but do not present specific just transition policies.</p>
12	Just transition policies	<p>Poverty reduction can be seen as a cross-sectoral approach throughout the NDC. Nicaragua, bases its priorities on facilitating and promoting accelerated economic growth as a premise for reduce poverty and the current high vulnerability to climate variability and the impacts of climate change.</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC has the following general principles: i) selecting measures that combine adequate mitigation and adaptation benefits and which guarantee sustainable economic growth in the face of climate change impacts, with greater potential in reducing GHG emissions and meeting the SDGs; ii) prioritize measures that are complementary with disaster risk management; iii) innovation and efficient use of resources; iv) ecosystem approach; v) gender equality; vi) citizen participation; vii) Feasibility of the measures; viii) Climate finance; and ix) recognition of native peoples and indigenous communities. For future updates Nicaragua will consider developing a circular economy and planning instruments for land use and territorial ordering.</p>	<p>Both NDCs have the co-benefits between adaptation and mitigation measures as a cross-cutting issue. The 2020 NDC advances by adding cross-sectoral approaches related to SDGs, ecosystem approach, gender and social participation. It also foresees a circular economy, land use and territorial ordering to be considered in future updates.</p>
13	Cross-sectoral approaches	<p>The NDC mentions that one of the approaches proposed within its 2011 Technological Needs Assessment (TNA) with impacts both in mitigation and adaptation was the Sustainable Agricultural Production.</p>	<p>Some cross-sectoral approaches mentioned in the NDC are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By 2030, the Payment for Environmental Services Program and other carbon pricing instruments, as well as fiscal and tax instruments, will have developed new financial mechanisms for adaptation and mitigation in consonance with the REDD+ strategy; -By 2022, guidelines and will be established and the Inclusive Fund for Sustainable Development will start operating; - By 2021, the implementation of the National Bioeconomy Strategy 2020-2030 will have started; - By 2024 the Costa Rica Compensation Mechanism will be launched to replace the Domestic Carbon Market. 	<p>The 2020 NDC includes cross-sectoral approaches such as carbon pricing instruments, a Fund for Sustainable Development and a National Bioeconomy Strategy.</p>

INCLUSIVENESS AND PARTICIPATION

14	Inclusive process to invite inputs from institutions and citizens in the NDC design	The Climate Change National Policy is under consultation. Nicaragua has defined actions to start the implementation of the National policy for the year 2018, which includes important actions for reducing emissions by 2020. During 2018, consultations with different sectors and the establishment of sectoral commitments have been planned.	<p>The 2020 NDC mentions that climate change adaptation and mitigation measures will incorporate the participation of the general population, especially the most vulnerable. To update the NDC, working groups were created, consisting of representatives of institutions of each one of the sectors to review and validate the activity data, variables, emission factors and results of estimates for each sector.</p> <p>In addition, as part of the actions developed in the process of updating the NDC, the communication with vulnerable sectors has been strengthened, expanding the dialogue with indigenous peoples, groups of women and youth at the national level. The communication process was developed with a multisectoral and multicultural approach, which involved all interested parties: indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, agricultural producers, universities, institutions of regional and national governments, the media, social organizations and the general public.</p>	Both NDCs mention inclusive processes to invite inputs from institutions and citizens in the NDC design. The 2020 NDC describes an NDC Communication Policy, in which communication with vulnerable sectors has been strengthened and involving indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants, agricultural producers, universities, national and subnational governments, the media, social organizations and the general public.
15	Disclosure of information	Not mentioned.	Not mentioned.	Both NDCs do not provide details on the disclosure of information related to NDC design and review process.
16	Reporting back on process	Not mentioned.	Not mentioned.	Both NDCs do not report back on the consultation processes conducted for NDC design and review.

17	Participatory Climate governance structures	Not mentioned.	<p>The NDC presents the organizational structure for the construction of the GHG National Inventory (pg. 46). The Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) coordinates the National System of Response to Climate Change and Working Groups within technical Ministries have responsibilities related to the sectors of Energy, Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU), AFOLU and Waste.</p> <p>In addition, it is mentioned that the NDC has a Communication Policy based on three fundamental principles: i) the social right to information and free expression, ii) the unrestricted adherence to the Constitution; iii) and the citizen's right to participate in public decisions.</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC presents an organizational structure for climate governance. However, although it mentions an NDC Communication Policy that focuses on public engagement, it is not clear how the climate governance structures and the participatory mechanisms relate to each other.</p>
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CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

18	Linkages with SDGs	Not mentioned.	<p>The NDC mentions that climate change must influence decisions and the set of actions that generate development, selecting adequate measures that combine mitigation and adaptation, which guarantee sustainable economic growth in the face of climate change impacts, and with greater potential in reducing GHG and achieving the SDGs. In addition, all adaptation measures are directly related to their contribution in the achievement of the SDGs.</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC mentions that its implementation has the SDGs as a general principle and presents adaptation measures specifically linked to their contribution to the achievement of the SDGs.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">19</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Measurable Nature-based Solutions</p>	<p>The NDC mentions that a REDD+ framework, approved in 2013, will come into effect between 2019-2024 and consists of reducing emissions by 11 million tons of Co2eq in the Protected Areas of the Autonomous Region of Costa Caribe.</p> <p>In addition, strategic priorities to face climate change include the diversification of the energy matrix; the management and restoration of watersheds, emphasizing the restoration of soils, water sources and forests; the protection and conservation of biodiversity; the protection and recovery of forests in water recharge zones and bodies of water; increase and/or maintain biodiversity in protected areas and biological corridors, which include conservation activities and natural regeneration of protected areas, conservation and enrichment of forests in protected areas, forest plantations and implementation of agroforestry and silvopastoral systems. It is also mentioned that the National Human Development Plan (2018-2021) guides its medium-term actions aimed at promoting the sustainable use and management of the Protected Areas; and promoting the conservation and recovery of soil, water and forests resources. The use and conservation of ecosystemic services to achieve low-carbon and climate-friendly development; and the conservation, restoration and rational use of forests, as well as promoting forest plantations in areas of forestry vocation are two of the seven guidelines of the National Climate Change Policy, under consultation.</p>	<p>Overall, the NDC mentions the ecosystem approach as one of its guiding principles. It is also mentioned that to ensure the achievement of the proposed targets in the Forest sector, Nicaragua has managed a portfolio of projects focused on the restoration, protection and conservation of forests, such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Emissions Reduction Program (PRE) to start in 2021: The expectation is to generate a positive environmental and economic impact on rural communities and indigenous peoples living in the forests of the Caribbean Coast, BOSAWAS Reserves and Indio Maíz. It will contribute to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, mitigating approximately 11 million tons of Carbon dioxide. 2) Strengthening the Resilience of Multiple Use Conservation Units for the Generation of Various Global Environmental Benefits (GEF5): It will have an impact on 13 protected areas, covering the biological corridors of dry, humid and semi-tropical forests humid and cloudy. It will contribute to mitigate - 137,127 tCO2eq. Resilient landscape management (GEF6). The total area of incidence of this project is 141,355 ha. It will contribute to mitigate 860,000 tCO2eq. 3) Resilient Landscape Management (GEF6). It has an impact on the biological corridor of 9 protected areas. Of which, 7 are within the country's Drylands Corridor, in the ecosystem of the pine and oak ecoregion and 2 in the Caribbean pine forest ecosystem of the tropical humid forest in the Autonomous Region of the North Caribbean Coast (RACCN). The total area of incidence of this project is 141,355 ha. It will contribute to mitigate 860,000 tCO2eq. 4) Sustainable biodiversity management program in the Indio Maíz Biological Reserve, Indio-Maíz Biological Reserve (Central Area of the San Juan River Biosphere Reserve) and its buffer zone (GEF7): The geographical area of influence of the project is 808,631 ha. It will contribute to mitigate 3,300,000 tCO2eq for 5 years. 5) Transforming food systems and reducing deforestation in the landscape related to protected areas and biological corridors in the Autonomous Region of the Southern Caribbean Coast and Río San Juan (FOLUR). It will contribute to mitigate 4.89 MtCO2eq for 5 years. 6) Integrated climate action to reduce deforestation and strengthen resilience in the Biosphere Reserves of BOSAWÁS and Río San Juan (BIO-Climate). With financing from the Green Climate Fund, Nicaragua will execute an important component of capacity development for the productive landscape restoration and forest conservation. It will contribute to mitigate 18 MtCO2eq for 7 years. 	<p>While the 2015 NDC briefly mentions Nicaragua's REDD+ Program, the updated NDC progresses by presenting a number of NBS focused on the land sector.</p>
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TRACKING PROGRESS

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A transparent national system to track implementation

The NDC mentions that the Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) mechanisms will be carried out by the Government body defined by the Presidency of the Republic.

As part of the commitments made by Nicaragua before the UNFCCC, actions aimed at strengthening the metric for monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) of emissions have been developed. A continuous improvement roadmap has been proposed, in which the country prepares before the arrival of the enhanced transparency framework, based on the 5 fundamental pillars established by the Convention: Transparency, Accuracy, Completeness, Consistency and Comparability.

From 2021 Nicaragua will establish a National GHG Inventory System, which will serve as a platform that concentrates sectoral statistical information and estimates activity data and calculates its emissions. As part of the implementation of the Decree for the Establishment of the National Policy for Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change and the Creation of the National System for Response to Climate Change (SNRCC), the first steps were taken to formalize the participation of national institutions in the preparation of the National GHG Inventories in a periodic and validated basis.

The updated climate plan presents plans for a system to track NDC implementation and states that a National GHG Inventory System will be established by 2021.

WWF checklist for Nicaragua's 2020 NDC assessment

Mitigation

Adaptation

Finance

Fostering system change

Inclusiveness and Participation

Contribution to Sustainable Development

Tracking progress

Nicaragua's rating grade after assessment: Some Way to Go

For more information

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