



# NDC CHECKLIST

## Tonga 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

		2015 NDC	2020 NDC	Analysis
<b>AMBITION</b>				
<b>MITIGATION</b>				
<b>1</b>	<b>Strengthened mitigation targets</b>	<p><b>Tonga's intended contributions are designed to be quantified at the national as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 50% of electricity generation from renewable sources by 2020. In 2015 renewable energy accounts for approximately 9% of total electricity generation, with confirmed and funded investments taking this to 13% in 2016.</li> <li>- 70% of electricity generation from renewable sources by 2030</li> <li>- Improve Energy efficiency through reduction of electricity line losses to 9% by 2020 (from a baseline of 18% in 2010)</li> <li>- Double the 2015 number of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2030</li> <li>- Sector Emission Reduction Targets: Transport, Agriculture, Environment Friendly Waste Management and Reforestation</li> <li>- Other Sectors Climate Resilience: Public Infrastructures, foreshore protection, buildings and houses.</li> </ul> <p>Emissions reduction benefits of these activities have not yet been estimated; however additional emissions reductions delivered through these activities may be substituted for electricity sector contributions.</p>	<p>The NDC includes an energy sector-specific target of reducing greenhouse gases (GHG) and non-emission targets for the sectors of Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) and Waste.</p> <p><b>Tonga's targets for mitigation are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Energy: 13% (16 Gg) reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 compared to 2006 through transitioning to 70% renewable electricity and energy efficiency measures. In addition, it is also mentioned the political target to achieve 100% of on renewables by 2035, conditional on funding for hardware.</li> <li>- AFOLU: establishment of a forest inventory as a prerequisite to identifying a GHG emission target for the 2025 NDC and planting one million trees by 2023 (2020 as the base year).</li> <li>- Waste: expansion of the formal waste collection system as prerequisite to identify a GHG emission target for the 2025 NDC.</li> </ul> <p>The NDC also pledges a conditional target of 100% renewable energy by 2035.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>The updated NDC identifies priority areas needing development to strengthen targets in future NDCs, including establishing a forest inventory and expansion of formal waste collection system. While the lack of data makes it hard to assess the element of ambition it has identified important elements which will facilitate higher ambition.</p>

2	<b>An economy-wide absolute 2030 target</b>	No economy-wide absolute 2030 target.	No economy-wide absolute 2030 target.	The updated NDC does not present an economy-wide target. It notes that that the forthcoming 2025 NDC should present one.
3	<b>A 2021-2030 carbon budget aligned to 1.5°C</b>	No carbon budget presented.	No carbon budget presented.	The updated NDC doesn't present a carbon budget.
4	<b>NDC targets aligned to a 2050 or earlier Net-Zero Long-term Strategy</b>	Not mentioned.	The NDC mentions that Tonga is currently developing a Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS), which will be submitted to the UNFCCC in 2021. It notes that this NDC is aligned with the upcoming LT-LEDS and stakeholder dialogue for the development of the LT-LEDS has fed into the development of the 2020 NDC. The Tongan Government also intends to develop a NDC Roadmap and Investment Plan in 2021.	The 2020 NDC mentions that a Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) will be submitted to the UNFCCC in 2021. An NDC Roadmap and Investment Plan should also be submitted by the same year. The NDC also pledges a conditional target of 100% renewable energy by 2035.

ADAPTATION				
5	Clear adaptation objectives	<p><b>The 2015 NDC includes five action areas for resilience:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mainstreaming for a Resilient Tonga – To fully mainstream the goal of a Resilient Tonga into government legislation, policies, and planning at all levels;</li> <li>2. Research, Monitoring, Management of Data, and Information – To implement a coordinated approach to the collection, monitoring, management and use of all relevant data and information; and to develop a coordinated, multi-sectoral approach to research for building a Resilient Tonga;</li> <li>3. Resilience Building Response Capability – To develop the capability for resilience building responses throughout government, the private sector, and civil society;</li> <li>4. Resilience Building Actions – To implement actions that are designed towards the building of a Resilient Tonga by 2035 at national, island, and community level;</li> <li>5. Finance – To implement actions that are designed towards the building of a Resilient Tonga by 2035 at national, island, and community level.</li> </ol> <p><b>The NDC also mentions that key resilience building statements cover:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Halting deforestation and degradation of indigenous forests;</li> <li>2. Maintaining national parks, reserves and protected areas;</li> <li>3. Establishing and managing forest reserves;</li> <li>4. Promoting reforestation and rehabilitation of cleared and degraded forests with climate change resilient, and ecologically and socially appropriate tree species;</li> <li>5. Promoting integrated agroforestry in areas earmarked for agriculture;</li> <li>6. Discouraging tree removal on tax allotments;</li> <li>7. Encouraging tax allotment holders to plant and manage trees on their properties.</li> </ol> <p>In addition, the importance of trees for protection of coastal areas is identified. All of the above are important adaptation measures which are recognised to provide significant mitigation co-benefits.</p>	<p>In the context of adaptation, the Government of Tonga has set three targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 30% of land in Tonga utilized for agro-forestry or forestry by 2025,</li> <li>- Prevent any permanent loss of land to rising sea levels on Tonga’s four main islands (i.e. Tongatapu, Ha’apai, Vava’u, and ‘Eua),</li> <li>- Maintenance of the existing stocks of fish and other marine species through a commitment to expand the area covered by Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Special Management Areas (SMAs) to 30% of the Tonga’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). In order to be effective, the expansion of MPAs will require a clear definition of MPAs — including if and how they differ from SMAs — as well as strengthened enforcement.</li> </ul> <p>The targets were derived from the 20 targets identified in the Joint National Action Plan 2 on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management 2018-2028 (JNAP2).</p>	<p>The updated NDC advances by establishing adaptation objectives, including quantifiable ones, from targets set out in The JNAP2. Knowledge gaps are also highlighted, notably, the lacking definition of MPAs and SMAs.</p>

FINANCE				
6	<b>Finance Commitments</b>	<p>In the six years prior to COP21, Tonga's recorded over 30% of development assistance was committed to support their climate change agenda. In addition to Government's ex-ante funding, Tonga does not have any dominant funding source for climate change but instead relies on the range of international and bilateral sources.</p> <p><b>The INDC can serve as a key component in Tonga's climate action plans, financing and resource mobilization by adopting the following short to medium initiatives recommended by the 2015 Climate Financing and Risk Governance Assessment:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Open to access climate financing through multiple channels;</li> <li>2. Explore multi-pronged approach to accessing climate funds but not limited to the Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund, Climate Technology Centre and Network Global Environment Facility;</li> <li>3. Open Processes for Climate Financing Options</li> <li>4. Commit appropriate recurrent budget to maintain stable, permanent, well trained cadre of climate financing staff to monitor and evaluate climate financing opportunities;</li> </ol>	<p>The Tongan Government intends to develop a NDC Investment Plan in 2021.</p> <p>Tonga intends to achieve the mitigation objectives under its 2020 NDC exclusively through domestic efforts and does not envision any internationally transferred mitigation outcomes. The country will continue to invest large portions of its public finance and service capacity on climate mitigation and resilience objectives. However, to achieve its targets, tonga will require considerable support for financing, capacity and technology investment from external sources.</p>	<p>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.</p>
7	<b>Clear conditional targets</b>	<p>The NDC provides in Annex 2 a table with specific strategies, policies, plans and actions, including timing and support needs. The table provides a summary of current priority items that Tonga wishes to highlight as needing support or that are significant initiatives that the government will take from their own budget resources. For each one of these activities, it is mentioned if they are (or not) conditional on additional support.</p>	<p>The NDC mentions that achieving the targets set out in Tonga's 2020 NDC will require considerable support for financing, capacity and technology investment from external sources. It is also mentioned that the political target to achieve 100% of on renewables by 2035 is conditional to donors providing funding for hardware.</p>	<p>The 2015 NDC established a list of conditional targets. The updated NDC lacks similar clarity but consistently highlights the importance of conditional support throughout, including in meeting the energy target.</p>
8	<b>Moving from conditional to unconditional targets</b>	<p>The NDC provides a list of initiatives that are (or not) conditional on additional support.</p>	<p>Tonga will continue to invest large portions of its public finance and service capacity in the ambitious quest to achieve the climate mitigation and resilience objectives. However, to achieve the targets set out in Tonga's 2020 NDC will require considerable support for financing, capacity and technology investment from external sources.</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC lacks the transparency of the previous NDC on conditionality. The narrative throughout the updated NDC implies that, unlike the previous NDC, all targets are conditional on additional support.</p>

# FOSTERING SYSTEMIC CHANGE

9	<p><b>Increased sectoral coverage</b></p>	<p>The sectoral coverage is Energy (Electricity, corresponding to 23% of 2006 emissions); Transport; Agriculture and Waste.</p>	<p>The sectoral coverage is Energy, Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU), Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU) and Waste. The NDC mentions that Tonga aimed to include all categories of anthropogenic emissions or removals in its NDC. However, targets for GHG emission reductions could only be developed for the energy sector, due to paucity of reliable data in the sectors of AFOLU, Industrial processes and product use (IPPU) and Waste.</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC advances by considering the IPPU sector, separate from Energy, AFOLU and Waste. However, Both NDCs have only energy-focused mitigation targets.</p>
10	<p><b>Quantitative Sectoral targets</b></p>	<p><b>The quantitative targets are mainly related to the energy sector:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 50% of electricity generation from renewable sources by 2020.</li> <li>- 70% of electricity generation from renewable sources by 2030</li> <li>- Improve Energy efficiency through reduction of electricity line losses to 9% by 2020 (from a baseline of 18% in 2010).</li> </ul> <p>In addition, the NDC mentions a quantitative target related to double the 2015 number of Marine Protected Areas by 2030.</p>	<p><b>Tonga's targets for mitigation are as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Energy: 13% (16 Gg) reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 compared to 2006 through a transition to 70% renewable electricity as well as energy efficiency measures. This target is to be achieved by implementing the following measures:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) 70% of electricity generated from renewable sources,</li> <li>ii) 2% efficiency gain per year for newly purchased light duty vehicles;</li> <li>iii) Limit growth in grid-connected residential electricity end-use to 1% per year on average for the period 2021-2030 by adopting minimum energy performance standards for appliances, lighting, and electrical equipment.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- AFOLU: establishment of a forest inventory as prerequisite to identify a GHG emission target for the 2025 NDC and planting one million trees by 2023.</li> </ul> <p><b>In addition, in the context of adaptation, the Government of Tonga commits to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 30% of land in Tonga utilized for agro-forestry or forestry by 2025,</li> <li>- Maintenance of the existing stocks of fish and other marine species through a commitment to expand the area covered by MPAs and SMAs to 30% of the Tonga's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).</li> </ul>	<p>The 2020 NDC establishes quantitative sectoral targets for the energy sector and also related to MPAs. Measures in the 'energy sector' provide some detail across the power, transport and energy efficiency sectors. The 2020 NDC advances by adding quantitative targets in the AFOLU sector.</p>

11	<b>Key structural sectors included</b>	The 2015 NDC mentions a series of national policies related to strengthening public health to increase the country's resilience (Public Health Act 2008, Health Services Act 1991 and Health Promotion Act 2007). In addition, it is mentioned that a national education policy will be revised (the Education Act 2014).	The sectors of health and infrastructure are generically mentioned in the NDC. Tonga also mentions food security and social inclusion as aspirations and priorities acknowledged when joining the Paris Agreement.	Although the 2020 NDC mentions some structural sectors, specific mitigation or adaptation measures related to them have not been addressed.
12	<b>Just transition policies</b>	The Tongan Strategic Development Framework 2015-2025 (TSDF 2015-2025) presents the country's new development framework. The TSDF's commits to 'a more inclusive, sustainable and effective land administration, environment management, and resilience to climate and risk' and identifies the high level societal results required to improve the quality of life of Tongan citizens, that include: -a more inclusive, sustainable and balanced urban and rural development across island groups -a more inclusive, sustainable and empowering human development with gender equality -a more inclusive, sustainable and responsive good-governance with law and order	The NDC mentions that Tonga puts a strong emphasis on ensuring the consideration of aspects such as gender, income, age, etc. when developing its NDCs.	The 2020 climate plan also references the TSCF and includes considerations on aspects such as gender, income, age, etc. when developing the NDC. No specific just transition policy is presented.
13	<b>Cross-sectoral approaches</b>	The NDC mentions that its primary focus is poverty alleviation and climate resilient development and that there are many co-benefits in the area of mitigation. In addition, it is mentioned that the National Forest Policy (2010) is of particular importance in terms of adaptation and mitigation co-benefits.	The NDC mentions that Tonga accounts for any mitigation co-benefits from adaptation actions and/or economic diversification as mitigation actions.	The NDC mentions that Tonga accounts for any mitigation co-benefits from adaptation actions and/or economic diversification as mitigation actions.

# INCLUSIVENESS AND PARTICIPATION

<p>14</p>	<p><b>Inclusive process to invite inputs from institutions and citizens in the NDC design</b></p>	<p>This INDC was prepared primarily using pre-existing national policy documents, and sector policies and plans to ensure accurate reflection of national development priorities, with pre-existing stakeholder support. The INDC was reviewed by Tonga’s Climate Change Technical Group, including representation of all key relevant agencies/Government Ministries, before formal Cabinet endorsement.</p> <p>In preparation for COP21, Tonga has agreed to table its INDC under the TSDF framework where key stakeholder engagements at local, regional and national level, to the climate change are facilitated by the TSDF institutional arrangements for monitoring and evaluation on an annual basis. In light of this IDNC, in partnership with economy-wide counterparts, MEIDECC will host a broader set of stakeholder consultations post COP 21 after December 2015. The consultations will provide an opportunity to discuss Tonga’s position, fill gaps and build a common understanding and approach towards the agreed Paris COP21 and Tonga’s INDC. These stakeholder engagements will provide an opportunity to raise awareness, mobilize, inform and engage with key stakeholder groups and the general public around climate change issues, and climate change approach and response efforts at all levels.</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC describes a consultation process led by the Department of Climate Change , that had coordinating role in gathering input from stakeholders, both for evaluating progress on the 2015 INDC and designing the 2020 NDC.</p> <p>The review of progress and the development of recommendations were informed by data sets, academic studies, policies, strategies, roadmaps and other reports and structured interviews with stakeholders in Tonga, including government and non-government organizations.</p> <p>The review and recommendations were discussed, comments were received and integrated, and the findings were validated by the Tonga JNAP technical team and relevant stakeholders through national workshops. These meetings were attended by stakeholders from government, private sector and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) with approximately 25 women and 20 men taking part in the workshops.</p> <p>The 2020 NDC was then prepared building on the recommendations which had been developed and went through a final validation process with the JNAP technical team and national stakeholders. Once the 2020 NDC contents had been agreed across ministries and departments, the NDC was submitted to and approved by Cabinet.</p> <p>It is also mentioned that notable contributions were also made by the members of the Joint National Action Plan on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (JNAP) Technical Team and by a broad group of stakeholders who attended the national NDC workshops and consultations. Contributions were also made by ClimateWorks Australia (CWA) and Relative Creative (Australia).</p>	<p>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 in the NDC design and review.</p>
<p>15</p>	<p><b>Disclosure of information</b></p>	<p>Not mentioned.</p>	<p>Not mentioned.</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC does not provide details on how information was disclosed beforehand to allow for meaningful stakeholders input into the design process.</p>

16	<b>Reporting back on process</b>	Not mentioned.	<p>The review and recommendations for the new NDC were discussed, comments were received and integrated, and the findings were validated by the Tonga JNAP technical team and relevant stakeholders through national workshops. These meetings were attended by stakeholders from government, private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with approximately 25 women and 20 men taking part in the workshops.</p> <p>The 2020 NDC was then prepared building on the recommendations which had been developed and went through a final validation process with the JNAP technical team and national stakeholders. Once the 2020 NDC contents had been agreed across ministries and departments, the NDC was submitted to and approved by Cabinet. It is also mentioned that notable contributions were also made by the members of the Joint National Action Plan on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (JNAP) Technical Team and by a broad group of stakeholders who attended the national NDC workshops and consultations. Contributions were also made by ClimateWorks Australia (CWA) and Relative Creative (Australia).</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC provides information regarding reporting back on the process of designing the NDC. It is mentioned that it was prepared building on the recommendations which had been developed and went through a final validation process - the outcomes of the review process are annexed to the NDC allowing comparison.</p>
17	<b>Participatory Climate governance structures</b>	<p>The NDC mentions that the government has raised climate change to Ministerial level and that a Legislative Assembly Standing Committee for Climate Change was established. It is also mentioned that the INDC was reviewed by Tonga's Climate Change Technical Group, including representation of all key relevant agencies/Government Ministries, before formal Cabinet endorsement.</p>	<p>The Department of Climate Change has led the development of Tonga's second NDC and the revision of the progress made to date towards achieving the targets identified in the 2015 INDC. As part of this process, it took a coordinating role in gathering input from stakeholders.</p>	<p>The 2020 NDC informs that the review of progress and the development of recommendations for the 2020 NDC were informed by interviews with stakeholders, including non-government organizations, conducted by the Department of Climate Change . However, it's not clear whether there is a permanent participatory governance structure for the NDC implementation and review.</p>

## CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

18	<b>Linkages with SDGs</b>	Not mentioned.	Not mentioned.	Neither NDCs mention SDGs, though reference is made to energy access and food security.
19	<b>Measurable Nature-based Solutions</b>	The NDC commits to double the 2015 number of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2030.	The NDC commits to i) planting one million trees by 2023; ii) 30% of land in Tonga utilized for agro-forestry or forestry by 2025; iii) maintenance of the existing stocks of fish and other marine species through a commitment to expand the area covered by MPA and SPAz to 30% of the Tonga's EEZ.	Both NDCs mention measurable activities which would qualify as Nature-based Solutions (Nbs) related to Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), though the term 'NbS' is not used in either document. The 2020 NDC advances by including AFOLU NbS, though greater clarity on scope of implementation is needed to determine the extent some activities would qualify as NbS..

## TRACKING PROGRESS

20	<b>A transparent national system to track implementation</b>	The NDC mentions that Tonga's Strategic Development Framework (2015-2025) presents a series of goals, including: i) informing all national stakeholders and development partners of the broad Organizational Results that are needed to support the country's National Results and Impact; and ii) providing indicators, with targets, to facilitate the monitoring and measurement of our high-level progress.	The annexed Recommendations for the NDC mentions that objectives from the JNAP2 related to data gathering and monitoring are regarded as the most relevant to be reflected in the 2020 NDC. Cross-referencing the JNAP2 results framework would allow to develop specific targets, increase transparency, and improve communication in later iterations of the Nationally Determined Contributions (post-2020). The NDC itself does not address this point. It does, however, recognise the need to strengthen data collection in order to comply with the 2006 IPCC guidelines, and includes targets which aim to strengthen data paucity - such as establishing a forestry inventory. It's important to highlight that the Government conducted an evaluation of the 2015 NDC and incorporated recommendations in the updated one. A report of this process is incorporated in the NDC document.	The NDC does not mention transparent national system to track implementation of the targets and actions committed. The JNAP2 includes a detailed results framework which would strengthen this aspect, but formal connection to the framework was not recognised in the NDC narrative. However, the NDC document incorporates a detailed report and recommendations on the evaluation of progress of the 2015 INDC.
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## 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:  Short Way to Go

## For more information

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