



NDC CHECKLIST

Russia Analysis

WWF'S NDC RATING GRADES

- ✔ NDC We Want
- ⓘ Short Way to Go
- ✍ Some Way to Go
- ✘ NDC We Don't Want

		2015 NDC*	2020 NDC	Analysis
AMBITION				
MITIGATION				
1	Strengthened mitigation targets	Limiting anthropogenic greenhouse gases in Russia to 70-75% of 1990 levels by the year 2030 might be a long-term indicator, subject to the maximum possible account of absorbing capacity of forests. So, Russia's target is a reduction of emissions of 25-30% from 1990 levels.	Russia is committed to limiting GHG emissions by up to 70% by 2030 relative to the 1990 level, which means a maximum 30% reduction.	Russia did not strengthen its mitigation ambition. According to CAT (2020), the country's 2030 target is higher than Russia's own 2030 emission projections under current policies. The new NDC is also weaker than the one proposed in the Draft 2050 strategy (as in its March 2020 version made available for consultation). A justification for the new target brought by the 2020 NDC is that it was determined based on the need to ensure the economic development of the Russian Federation on a sustainable basis, as well as to protect and improve the quality of sinks and storage facilities for greenhouse gases. In fact, Russia's projected GHG emissions for 2030 are unrealistic, considering they consist in overestimated GDP growth based on increased coal and oil extraction and do not take into account the recent spike in forest cuts and fires in the country.

2	<p>An economy-wide absolute 2030 target</p>	<p>Economy-wide absolute to limit GHG emissions to 70-75% by 2030, considering 1990 levels.</p>	<p>Economy-wide absolute target to reduce emissions equivalent to 70% by 2030 relative to the 1990 level.</p>	<p>Russia's NDC mentions an economy-wide absolute 2030 target. Since emissions plummeted in 1990 with the collapse of the Russian economy, this target means that the country's emissions can actually continue to increase modestly for the next ten years and still remain about 30% lower than it was 40 years earlier.</p> <p>The target consists in a reduction of net-emissions taking into account economy-wide emissions minus net-absorption by forests and other ecosystems. However, the country currently has emissions equivalent to about 50% considering 1990 emission levels (economy-wide emissions are responsible for 70% of emissions, considering 1990 levels, and net-absorption reduces this number by 20%), which means that in real terms the NDC allows an increase by 20% of emissions considering 1990 levels, or increase by 40% of emissions considering 2019 level by 2030.</p>
3	<p>A 2021-2030 carbon budget aligned to 1.5°C</p>	<p>No carbon budget is presented. However, the NDC mentions that reducing GHG emissions by 25-30% from 1990 levels by 2030 will allow the Russian Federation to step on the path of low-carbon development compatible with the long-term objective of the increase in global</p>	<p>The NDC mentions an indicator value of 3.1 billion tons of CO₂-eq. by 2030.</p>	<p>Russia's NDC mentions a carbon budget. However, the emissions projected for 2030 are overestimated. According to CAT (2021), the NDC update should be much more ambitious to be aligned to 1.5°C.</p>
4	<p>NDC targets aligned to a 2050 or earlier Net-Zero Long-term Strategy</p>	<p>Not mentioned.</p>	<p>The NDC mentions that the preparation of a decision on the approval of the target to limit greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 was provided for by the order of the Government of the Russian Federation dated 03.11.2016 No. 2344-r and was linked to the development of a national strategy for long-term development with low greenhouse gas emissions for the period until 2050.</p>	<p>Russia's Presidential Decree from 2019, upon which the 2020 NDC is based, instructed the government to adopt the country's 2050 strategy. According to the Ministry of Economic Development, the strategy, along with the draft federal legislation would be ready by 2020. According the Climate Action Tracker, the Draft 2050 Strategy (version as of March 2020) is broadly aligned with the 2030 target, but is severely lacking in ambition. One of the scenarios included in the Draft 2050 Strategy mentions that Russia would achieve carbon neutrality close to the end of the second half of the 21st century. The updated NDC does not mention when the country's 2050 strategy would be finalized.</p>

ADAPTATION				
5	Clear adaptation objectives	Not mentioned.	<p>The NDC mentions that a national system of adaptation to climate change is being formed in the Russian Federation. The National Action Plan for the first stage of adaptation to climate change for the period of up to 2022 was approved in 2019 and provides for the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) formation of the necessary methodological and statistical base; ii) determination of priority measures to adapt economic sectors and spheres of government to climate change (transport, fuel and energy complex, construction, housing and communal services, agro-industrial complex, fishing, nature management, healthcare, industrial complex, technical regulation, foreign and domestic trade, ensuring the sanitary and epidemiological well-being of the population, civil defense, protecting the population and territories from natural and man-made emergencies, activities in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation); iii) determination of priority measures to adapt regions to climate change; iv) preparation of a national action plan for the second stage of adaptation (for the period until 2025). 	<p>The NDC highlights the country's three-year National Action Plan for adaptation for the period of 2019-2022, which aims to determine priority measures for adaptation in several sectors, such as energy, LULUCF, healthcare, civil defense, industry, etc, and specific regions, such as the Arctic zone.</p>

FINANCE				
6	Finance Commitments	The NDC indicator is to be achieved with no use of international market mechanisms.	<p>The NDC mentions that Russia plans to continue assisting developing countries in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement; including financing the activities under the United Nations Development Program, the Green Climate Fund and other institutions for sustainable development; and that joint projects are developed more actively in the scope of cooperation with the CIS, BRICS and ASEAN countries.</p> <p>In addition, it is mentioned that Russia recognizes the importance of voluntary cooperation in nationally determined contributions to potentially increase the ambition of mitigation and adaptation actions and the possibility of using it in the future.</p>	Russia does not present finance commitments to achieve the implementation of its NDC. Although the country's international contributions to developing countries through the UNFCCC financial mechanism and others are mentioned, no quantitative commitments are provided.
7	Clear conditional targets	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	Moving from conditional to unconditional targets	N/A	N/A	N/A
FOSTERING SYSTEMIC CHANGE				
9	Increased sectoral coverage	Economy-wide, including energy; industrial processes; agriculture; land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF); and waste.	Economy-wide sectoral coverage, including energy; industrial processes and product use; agriculture; waste; and land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF).	Russia's NDC is committed to economy-wide sectoral coverage.

10	Quantitative Sectoral targets	Not mentioned.	The NDC mentions that the country is concentrating its efforts on reducing GHG emissions and increasing their absorption, including the implementation of the following measures: increasing energy efficiency in all sectors of the economy, developing the use of non-fuel and renewable energy sources, protecting and improving the quality of natural sinks and storage of greenhouse gases, financial and tax stimulating the reduction of GHG emissions.	Russia's NDC mentions general sectoral priorities and measures, but does not present quantitative sectoral targets.
11	Key structural sectors included	Not mentioned.	The NDC mentions that the National Action Plan for adaptation includes determination of priority measures focused on the healthcare sector.	The NDC mentions that the National Action Plan for adaptation establishes priority adaptation measures for the healthcare sector.
12	Just transition policies	Not mentioned.	Not mentioned.	Russia's NDC does not provide information related to social and just transition policies.
13	Cross-sectoral approaches	Not mentioned.	The NDC refers that the country is concentrating its efforts on financial and tax stimulating to the reduction of GHG emissions.	Russia's NDC does not present cross-sectoral approaches. Financial and tax stimulating to the reduction of GHG emissions is mentioned without further details.

INCLUSIVENESS AND PARTICIPATION

14	Inclusive process to invite inputs from institutions and citizens in the NDC design	Not mentioned.	Not mentioned.	Although the NDC does not present information related to inclusiveness and participation, on March 23, the Russian Ministry of Economic Development released a draft of its 2050 Long-term Development Strategy for public consultation.
15	Disclosure of information	Not mentioned.	Not mentioned.	Although the NDC does not provide details about disclosure of information, on March 23, the Russian Ministry of Economic Development released a draft of its 2050 Long-term Development Strategy for public consultation. Comments on the Strategy could be submitted until 10 April 2020. The documents were available for consultation in the Ministry's website.

16	Reporting back on process	Not mentioned.	Not mentioned.	Russia's NDC does not provide information related to reporting back on process.
17	Participatory Climate governance structures	Not mentioned.	Not mentioned.	Russia's NDC does not present a participatory climate governance structures.

CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

18	Linkages with SDGs	Not mentioned.	Not mentioned.	The NDC mentions the country's economic development will have a sustainable basis, but no specific reference is made about the SDGs.
19	Measurable Nature-based Solutions	The NDC mentions, among others, the general objective of maintaining land-use and sustainable forest management policies and acknowledges that Russian boreal forests have global significance for mitigating climate change, protecting water resources, preventing soil erosion and conserving biodiversity on the planet. It highlights that rational use, protection, maintenance and afforestation, i.e. forest management, is one of the most important elements of the Russian policy to reduce GHG emissions. No measurable indicators are presented.	Russia considers that the maximum possible absorption capacity of forests and other ecosystems is linked to the sustainable and balanced socio-economic development of the Russian Federation. The NDC mentions the need to guarantee the economic development of the Russian Federation on a sustainable basis, as well as to protect and improve the quality of sinks and greenhouse gas storage facilities.	Although the NDC mentions maintaining and improving the quality of sinks, it does not present any measurable indicator related to that.

TRACKING PROGRESS

20	A transparent national system to track implementation	Not mentioned.	Planning, organization and implementation of measures to adapt to climate change are carried out within the framework of the state policy in the field of climate, taking into account the sectoral, regional and local characteristics.	Russia's NDC claims that the planning, organization and implementation of measures to adapt to climate change are carried out within the framework of the state policy in the field of climate change, but does not elaborate on a monitoring and evaluation system or mechanisms related to the NDC implementation.
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*Russia's Intended National Determined Contribution (iNDC) was submitted to the UNFCCC in December 2015. The Paris Agreement entered into force for Russia on 6 November 2019. As Russia did not communicate a new NDC at that time, its intended NDC became its NDC. Russia submitted to the Convention in November 2020 its updated NDC under the Paris Agreement. As of January 2021, Russia's iNDC was not available in UNFCCC's website as an "archived" version, which it is the case for other Parties. Because of that, we assessed an informal translation of the iNDC for the comparative analysis.

WWF checklist for Russia's 2020 NDC assessment

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

Russia's rating grade after assessment:

For more information

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