

Climate Change and Air Quality



ENGAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS ON NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES 01 JUNE 2020



**environment, forestry
& fisheries**

Department:
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



SA's commitment to the Paris Agreement remains on track

- In order to remain committed to PA we need to:
 - Update and communicate to the UNFCCC secretariat before COP 26 the National Determined Contribution.
 - Implement the domestic Mitigation System.
 - Table the Climate Change Bill in parliament.
 - Communicate to the UNFCCC by 2020 the mid-century long-term **low greenhouse gas emission strategies** (LEDS).
 - Implement the Adaptation Strategy.
 - Implement the Just Transition.

Nationally Determined Contribution

- According to Article 4, paragraph 11 of the Paris Agreement: “A Party may at any time adjust its existing nationally determined contribution with a view to enhancing its level of ambition”.
- Decision 1/cp 21 para 23 request those Parties whose INDCs with time frame up to 2025 to communicate by 2020 a new NDC.
- Paragraph 24 request those Parties whose INDCs with a time frame up to 2030 to communicate or update by 2020 its contribution.
- Moreover, in enhancing their NDCs in 2020, Parties are strongly encouraged to provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding in accordance with decision 4/CMA.1 (in Katowice).

Nationally Determined Contribution

- SA is committed to updating its NDC.
 - The NDC Update Process has 5 parts:
 1. Technical analysis
 - Projections are being studied that include current policies and measures to assess the options for mitigation for 2025 and 2030.
 - Updated and comprehensive assessment of climate change vulnerabilities will comprise the adaptation communication
 - **The technical work is taking place between April and July 2020**
 2. Consultation with Government
 - Intergovernmental Committee on Climate Change will take place between August and September 2020
 3. Consultation with broader stakeholders
 - National Committee on Climate Change will take place sometime between October 2020 and March 2021
 4. Provincial workshops will take place between February and April 2021
 5. Government Clusters and Cabinet
- Submission to the UNFCCC before COP 26 in November of 2021

SA Mitigation System

The Mitigation System is in progress of being developed. The significant components of the mitigation system include:

- Sectoral Emissions Targets
 - The department is developing a methodology for assignment of Sectoral Emissions Targets to line departments.
 - This approach will take into account existing policies and measures that are relevant to reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. It will also outline the process of performance review, the institutional arrangements needed to oversee the allocation and review of performance.
- Carbon budgets
 - Methodologies for assignment of carbon budgets for the mandatory phase (Phase 2) are being developed.
 - Carbon Budgets and Carbon Tax Alignment: Currently the best alignment approaches are being consulted on with National Treasury
 - Consultation will take place with stakeholders on the proposed methodologies for carbon budgets and the alignment with Carbon Tax
 - Guidance will be provided by the Minister on how carbon budgets and Pollution Prevention Plans will be implemented before the mandatory Phase 2 carbon budget period

SA Mitigation System

- Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of Greenhouse Gases
 - South African Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting System (SAGERS)
 - The purpose is to allow online reporting of greenhouse gas emissions by industry
 - This is online and industry are uploading greenhouse gas emissions data
 - Methodological Guidelines for Quantification of Greenhouse Gas Emissions
 - The purpose is to provide scientific guidance for estimating greenhouse gas emissions
 - Public comments will be requested for changes made to the guidelines. The Minister will publish a note (shortly).
 - Guidelines for validation and verification of greenhouse gas emissions
 - Developed with South African National Accreditation System (SANAS), these will stipulate when verification is required and requirements for verification of independent verifiers
 - These will be published.

Climate Bill

- The Draft Climate Change Bill is paused in the NEDLAC to allow government a chance to effective some alignment.
- Alignment of the carbon budget and carbon tax,
 - The Carbon Budgets are necessary regulatory instruments to achieve the PA commitments under the mitigation system.
 - The Carbon Budget as a command and control instrument is meant to introduce emissions reduction certainty hence its linkage to the Pollution Prevention Planning process in Phase 2,
 - Carbon tax is meant to put a price on carbon emissions,
 - The alignment between the two instruments is to ensure that the tax enforces the budget.
- The Draft Bill will be reconsidered by NEDLAC in the 4th Week of June.
- It is envisaged that the NEDLAC process will be concluded within 2 months pending agreement on the time frame with the NEDLAC Task Team.

SA LEDS 2050

The Paris Agreement decision 1/CP.21 para 35 invites Parties to communicate to the UNFCCC by 2020 the mid-century long-term **low greenhouse gas emission strategies** (LEDS).

- The SA LEDS 2050 has been developed in consultation with a broad range of stakeholders.
 - It is based on the research and analysis of policies and measures that will help reduce emissions and that will catalyze a socio-economic shift towards a low carbon society and economy
- Some of the key actions of the SA LEDS 2050 are being implemented including:
 - Sector Jobs Resilience Plans
 - Development of Approaches to define Sectoral Emissions Targets
- The Final SA LEDS 2050 will be adopted by cabinet in 2020.

Adaptation

- The Draft National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy has been presented through the cluster system- cabinet next.
- Provide ongoing support to provinces as they revise their Adaptation Strategies;
- Support the districts with capacity building on:
 - areas project development;
 - capacity building for extension officers to support climate smart agriculture implementation.
- Mobilized international support for projects implementation - **the Government of Flanders**
 - 7 projects are currently under implementation with particular focus on:
 - climate smart inclusive green economy;
 - resilient of coastal communities;
 - community based adaptation;
 - micro aquaponics;
 - reducing vulnerabilities of smallholder farmers.
- Provide additional international support through the **Adaptation Fund**:
 - Two Adaptation projects under implementation focusing on climate smart agriculture;
 - multiple hazards early warning system;
 - ecosystem based adaptation and climate proofing.
 - The projects are implemented in the areas of uMgungundlovu District Municipality (Kwazulu Natal); Namakwa district (Northern Cape) and Mopani District in (Limpopo).

Just Transition

- During the Presidential Job Summit held in October 2018, the social partners agreed that a statutory body should be established under the Presidency in the form of a Presidential Climate Change Coordinating Commission (PCCCC) to coordinate and oversee the just transition.
 - This will cover elements on how to maximize the opportunities for creating new and quality jobs in the context of a just transition to a low carbon economy and climate resilient society
- The Commission's overarching strategic objectives is to provide independent, evidence-based advice to the Government.
- The terms of reference and necessary submissions for the establishment of the Presidential coordinating commission on climate change have been developed and will be processed, having been delayed due to the covid-19 outbreak.

A photograph of a wooden signpost with a rectangular sign that says "Thank You". The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The sign is mounted on a wooden post and is set against a background of a blue sky with white clouds. The sign has rounded corners and is held in place by four screws. The text "Thank You" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font.

Thank You