

Key messages on Governance

- Implementing the Paris Agreement has to be a top political priority. It has to engage heads-of state, as well as all line ministries, including Ministries of Environment, Development, Planning and Finance. There is an urgent need for a **whole-of-government approach** across sectors and at all levels as well as a **whole-of-society approach** through participatory and inclusive processes to ensure all voices are heard, particularly those most affected by the climate crisis, including women and girls.
- **Sub-national actors are key** to help bridging the gap between ambitious national climate targets and the concrete actions required on the ground. Therefore, climate action can no longer be considered as a top-down approach but a merge of both top-down and bottom-up approaches. Furthermore, clearly defined roles and responsibilities will help facilitate effective collaboration among stakeholders to accelerate NDC implementation.
- Through this inclusive participatory process, involving diverse actors from civil society, a common language can be created and trust and local ownership can be built, facilitating the **co-creation of innovative solutions** to contribute to **NDC revisions** and **increasing ambition**.
- Although the line between mitigation and adaptation was helpful for countries to develop their INDC, it is clear that this line is becoming increasingly blurred as we better understand the synergies and potential co-benefits of adaptation and mitigation actions. It is therefore critical to **align NDC, NAP and SDG processes** to foster low-carbon, climate resilient development. We need to reframe and communicate mitigation and adaptation measures as interlinked and mutually reinforcing.
- **Nature-based solutions** offer significant progress against multiple SDGs including biodiversity conservation, as well as action toward achieving the Paris goals.
- The co-benefits of aligning the climate and development agendas as well as **integrating gender and youth considerations** need to be better communicated to stakeholders – it is not just a climate issue, but also a socio-economic one. Communicating on raising ambition for sustainable development may be more effective in galvanising action than communicating on global temperature reduction.
- **Policy coherence and budget alignment** at all levels of government will help avoid the duplication of efforts and ensure scarce resources are optimally utilised. Sub-national actors in particular will benefit from clear coordination at the national level.
- Strong political will and holistic approaches to **leadership** and systems transformation will be needed to send a clear signal to all stakeholders involved in all processes at all levels. Leadership shown by youth today needs to be matched with government willingness to ensure youths and other underrepresented groups are included in the NDC process. Youth are looking beyond government solutions. The digital transformation and new ways of learning and communicating are playing a key role.

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- Marginalised communities are recognised as powerful agents of change and make significant contributions to **sustainable development**. However, persisting structural and socio-cultural barriers to gender and social equality need to be addressed in all climate action to maximise their contributions in the NDC process. In addition, NDC planning and implementation needs to consider individuals whose livelihoods are tied to high-emitting sectors and ensure that the **transition is just**.
- **Private sector actors** play a key role in NDC implementation at the national and sub-national level - both as financiers and implementers of initiatives with climate change-related benefits. Their engagement is not only critical to bridging the finance gap but also to harnessing expertise, entrepreneurship, innovation and leadership. However, concise political decisions need to be taken by governments to send a clear signal on how to implement Art. 6/PA.
- Countries should be guided by **integrated, resilient long-term visions** as well as sectoral planning processes as they seek to achieve **mid-term targets**. Each NDC revision should be considered as a stepping-stone to achieving the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

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