



## Guidelines for Agencies Revising Nationally Determined Contributions by 2020

Nations revising their NDCs might consider the following:

- Align the content of the NDCs with NAPs/NAPAs and other national climate and development policy processes.
- Make the adaptation component more structured to enable comparison among NDCs and to facilitate ambition tracking by including specific sections to:
  - Identify key natural hazards
  - Identify vulnerable sectors and groups (incl. gender perspectives)
  - Identify ecosystem dependencies
  - Explain why adaptation is critical in these sectors and ecosystems – linking to long term national and regional development strategies and goals
  - Describe adaptation actions that address declared/stated vulnerabilities
  - Contain a clear tabulated action plan, with, where possible any dates, costs and quantitative (or qualitative) targets, based on scientific evidence and or local knowledge / best practice.
  - Provide total estimated needs or projected cost of adaptation actions.
  - Provide a breakdown of where greatest needs lie.

With regards to nature-based solutions, we specifically recommend:

- Aligning commitments to NbS in the mitigation component of the NDC with those in the adaptation component (i.e. clarify synergies and co-benefits in both sections).
- Include NbS in *all* key natural ecosystems, including grasslands, peatlands, coastal ecosystems, montane habitats and forests.

- Ensure NbS targets are measurable, time-bound, strategic and based on science and/or local knowledge
- Ensure NbS targets draw on sound biodiversity science, and in particular take the impacts of climate change on the natural environment into account by promoting ecosystem diversity and connectedness.
- Explicitly link actions and targets to other international policy goals: i.e. clarify how mitigation and adaptation actions are contributing to achieving the SDGs and biodiversity (Aichi) targets.

These draft guidelines arise from the analysis of Seddon et al. (2020). The list is not exhaustive; we hope it will evolve and be refined with feedback from you. So please do in touch: [nathalie.seddon@zoo.ox.ac.uk](mailto:nathalie.seddon@zoo.ox.ac.uk).

To facilitate the process by which nature-based solutions are included in revising NDCs, we have created the Nature-based Solutions Policy Platform: [www.nbspolicyplatform.org](http://www.nbspolicyplatform.org)

#### Reference

Nathalie Seddon, Elizabeth Daniels, Rowan Davis, Rian Harris, Xiaoting Hou-Jones, Saleem Huq, Valerie Kapos, Georgina M. Mace, Ali Raza Rizvi, Hannah Reid, Dilys Roe and Sylvia Wicander (2020) **Global recognition of the importance of nature-based solutions to climate change impacts.** *Global Sustainability*. In revision.