The actual “climate outcome” of the Paris Agreement, concluded in December 2015 at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) in Paris, will mainly depend on implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), that all states must submit to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Further, countries are obligated to revise their NDCs every five years to submit more ambitious, verifiable targets. This mechanism should ensure that efforts and achievements in international climate protection rise continuously.

At COP19 in Warsaw, it was decided that every country should specify their “Intended Nationally Determined Contribution” (INDC) to climate action under a post-2020 climate regime. Germany took a leading role in supporting this process by means of bi- and multilateral cooperation. In addition to the support provided through ongoing advisory projects on climate policy, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) provided an overall funding of approx. €5 million through the International Climate Initiative (IKI). Overall, the IKI has supported more than 30 partner countries in developing their INDCs.

During the development of their INDCs, many countries have set national climate targets for the first time. Many countries need to further strengthen their institutional frameworks, develop finance instruments and improve their transparency and monitoring systems to track and evaluate progress. To this end, a number of initiatives have been launched to assist the NDC refinement and implementation processes while also taking into account the process of the Sustainable Development Goals. For both donor governments as well as recipient country governments, it will be of utmost importance to keep a good overview of the initiatives and to coordinate well between all actors involved.

In order to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement, BMUB and the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in cooperation with the World Resources Institute (WRI) have initiated a new global NDC Partnership. The Partnership will be
launched during COP22 in Marrakesh in November and will then be open to all countries which support the Partnership's guiding principles.

The NDC Partnership is also based on the premise that Sustainable Development and actions against climate change are mutually reinforcing and cannot be viewed separately. Hence it brings together governments, institutions and research organizations to coordinate actions and build capacity in order to address existing climate and development goals in an integrated manner.

Cluster approach instead of single projects
In 2015, BMUB established the “NDC Support Cluster” in the framework of the IKI to support developing countries in a timely and comprehensive manner with the implementation of their (i)NDCs. The programme is an important part of BMUB’s contribution to the global NDC Partnership. Currently eight organizations support 27 partner countries in four thematic working areas:

(i) Political and institutional frameworks,
(ii) sector approaches,
(iii) financing
(iv) data and transparency.

The cluster will successively be developed further thematically and geographically.

At the core of the cluster lies close cooperation and regular interaction between the projects and implementing organizations, as well as with the partners so as to ensure coherence and efficiency in the support provided.

Support areas and activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Political and institutional frameworks</th>
<th>Sector approaches</th>
<th>Financing</th>
<th>Data and transparency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Strengthening capacity in partner governments</td>
<td>• Identification of priority sectors and of best practice</td>
<td>• Strengthening and development of domestic financial infrastructures</td>
<td>• Development of systems for tracking and monitoring of NDCs</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Building climate expertise in sector/line ministries</td>
<td>• Demonstration of „action on the ground“</td>
<td>• Identification of national and international, public and private funding sources</td>
<td>• Strengthening and building MRV and GHG accounting systems</td>
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<td>• Reinforcing government ownership and buy-in</td>
<td>• Approaches to linking projects and programs (e.g. NAMAs) with the NDC implementation</td>
<td>• Development of investment strategies and measures to support NDC implementation</td>
<td>• Strengthening collecting and processing of data and methods</td>
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<td>• Fostering engagement by stakeholders (especially private sector and civil society)</td>
<td>• Assessment and promotion of co-benefits</td>
<td>• Strengthened finance instruments for scaling up private investment</td>
<td>• Advancement of emission projections and scenarios development</td>
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<td>• Ensuring linkages of NDCs with long-term strategies (LEDS)</td>
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<td>• Supporting the revision and increased ambition of INDCs</td>
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Cross-cutting: Capacity building and knowledge management
- Joint international conferences on NDC implementation
- Organization of tools for NDC implementation in a centralized shared „toolbox“
- Joint helpdesk for flexible and in-depth responses to support requests
- Global Good Practice Database for global learning and exchange

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