

# **GEF's Support for Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)**

Countries across the world agreed to reach a universal post-2020 climate agreement by 2015, at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 17<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP 17) in Durban in 2011 to hold the increase in global average temperature below 2°C compared to pre-industrial temperatures.

## **What are INDCs?**

In order for countries to prepare for the new international agreement, the concept of “Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)” was proposed at COP 19 in Warsaw in 2013. The INDC refers to the contribution to climate actions by countries considering their national circumstance to achieve the 2°C goal. At COP 20 in Lima 2014, countries were invited to communicate their INDCs by October 2015 so that the UN Climate Change Secretariat can prepare a synthesis report on aggregate effects of INDCs in advance of COP 21 in Paris in 2015.

## **Why are INDCs important?**

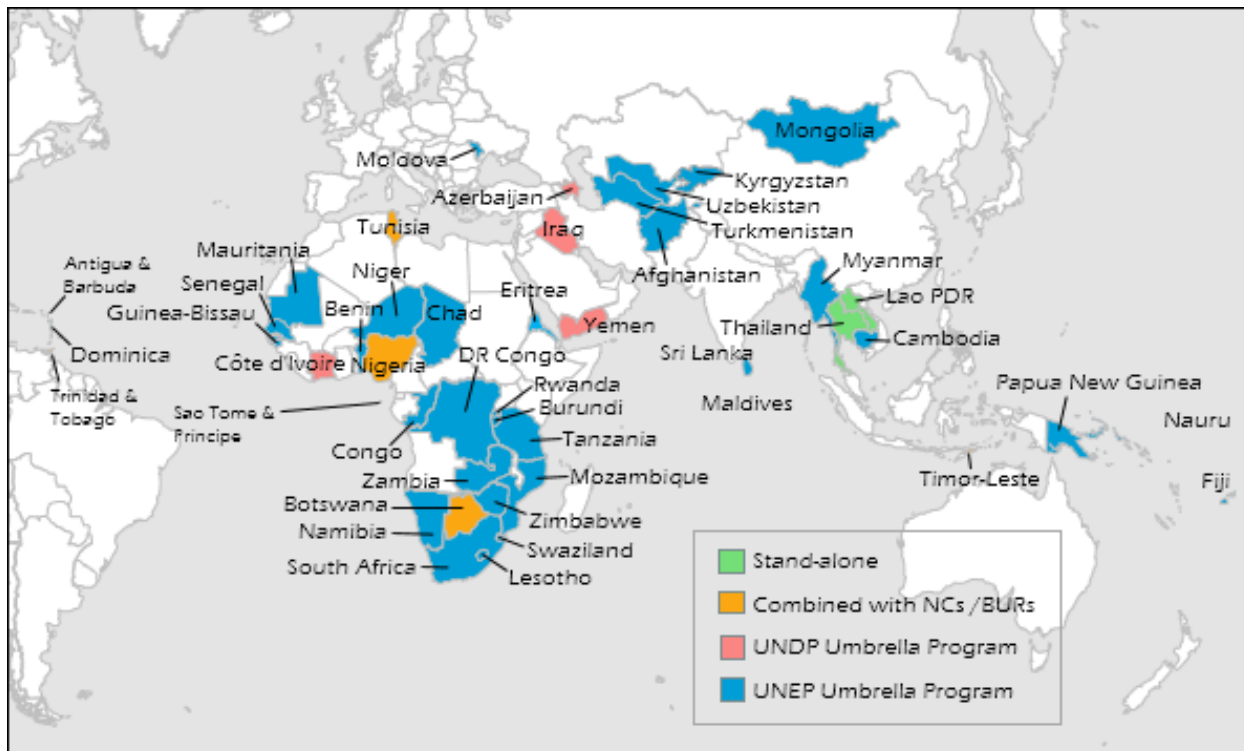
INDCs are an important foundation for the climate negotiations that will take place in Paris this December 2015 during COP 21. As a national exercise, preparing their INDCs helps countries to assess and propose emission reductions for the future, as well as mitigation actions to accomplish them. Comprehending the aggregate effect of INDCs will help determine how close the parties are in achieving the 2°C goal. While INDC preparation will mainly consider national priorities, their implementation will lead to domestic benefits as well as global benefits by taking climate action as an opportunity to improve the national socio-economic system towards sustainable development.

## **What is the GEF doing to support this work?**

At COP 19 in 2013, Parties requested developed countries, the operating entities of the financial mechanism and any other organizations in a position to do so to provide support to activities in relation to the domestic preparations for INDCs. In response, the GEF has been helping countries initiate or intensify domestic preparations for their INDCs through:

### **1. Support for individual INDC preparations**

The GEF is providing INDC support to 46 countries as of October 1, 2015 through stand-alone projects, umbrella projects and combined with enabling activities. Individual country support is financed from national STAR allocations from the GEF. The total amount of GEF resources programmed for INDC preparation as of October 1, 2015 is approximately \$11.1 million.



GEF Support for INDC Preparation		
Support Option	Country	Agency
Umbrella Program	DR Congo, Dominica, Eritrea, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zimbabwe	1st
	Antigua and Barbuda, Fiji, Lesotho, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Turkmenistan, Zambia	2nd
	Afghanistan, Burundi, Chad, Congo, Maldives, Nauru, Niger, Senegal, Sri Lanka	3rd
	Benin, Cambodia, Guinea Bissau, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Tanzania, Uzbekistan	4th
	Azerbaijan, Côte d'Ivoire, Iraq, Yemen	
Combined with National Communications / Biennial Update Reports	Botswana, Nigeria, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia	UNDP
Stand-alone	Lao PDR, Thailand	

## 2. Global Support Program

As preparatory support for countries, an INDC support element was added to Global Support Program for National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Update Reports (BURs). This program, implemented by UNEP and UNDP, provides capacity building support, including information sharing and knowledge management. In addition to this, technical backstopping to national teams for INDC preparations, including guidance materials, methodologies, and tools, is provided to improve the quality of INDCs (Click [here](#) to see more information).

## 3. Participation in Regional Technical Dialogues on INDCs

In 2014 and 2015, UNDP and UNFCCC, in partnership with the World Resource Institute (WRI), held a series of regional technical dialogues on INDCs to support countries in the process of preparing and putting forward their contributions. The GEF was requested to participate in order to provide information on the availability of GEF support for INDC preparation. The GEF attended the first and second Regional Technical Dialogues for Latin American and Caribbean, as well as the second Regional Technical Dialogue for Africa. Through these dialogues, the GEF briefed the participating countries and institutions about the support that GEF can provide for INDC preparation, introduced the Global Support Program, and discussed ways in which countries can program GEF STAR resources for their own INDC development (Click [here](#) to see more information about the Regional Technical Dialogues).

## Status of INDC Communication to the UNFCCC

As of November 27, 2015, 44 countries of the 46 supported by the GEF to prepare their INDCs, or 96 percent, have submitted their INDCs to the UNFCCC ahead of the COP 21 in Paris. This figure represents 29 percent of the 153 INDCs that have been submitted by this date. The UNFCCC compiled a synthesis report on the aggregate effect of the INDCs submitted by October 1, 2015, which was released on November 1, 2015. Nonetheless, Parties can continue to communicate their INDCs. (Visit [UNFCCC INDC Portal](#) to access submitted INDCs).

