

# NDC Support Programme

## Country Quarterly Progress Update 2021



### Project Information

**Country:** El Salvador  
**National Project Title:** Agenda de cumplimiento de las Contribuciones Nacionalmente Determinadas  
**Total Project Funding:** USD 631,800  
**Project Timeline:** May 2020 – December 2021  
**NDC SP Donor Portal SharePoint:** [Country folder](#)  
**NDC SP Website:** Country webpage (available soon)

Progress Update	Quarter 1 (January-March)
<p>What key results and achievements occurred during the reporting period? What were the deliverables produced? How did these contribute to higher-level project results?</p>	<p>The start of the project in El Salvador encountered delays due to 2 main challenges: 1) the restrictions due to the pandemic during 2020 greatly affected and 2) the elections for Deputies of the Legislative Assembly and Municipal Councils on February 28, which kept the interest in working on Climate Change on hold. Despite these challenges, during the first quarter of 2021, the First Project Board was held and the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, MARN in its Spanish acronym) appointed referents to start the work.</p>
Challenges Encountered, Lessons Learned	
<p>What challenges were encountered (e.g., changes in political environment/ministries, delays in adoption of key legislation) and how were they resolved? What lessons were learned? Are there any conditions/issues emerging that might impact or delay delivery?</p>	<p>In addition to the challenges mentioned here above, the project encountered the following difficulties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The number of ideal candidates for the position of Project Coordinator - with experience in Climate Change Governance and the management of NDCs - is very limited. The position couldn't be filled despite the fact that 2 public recruitment processes were launched. In order to overcome this difficulty, it is expected to seek a strategy to streamline the process in conjunction with MARN.</li> <li>- Another challenge is the limited knowledge of the new government officials as well as in civil society on the Paris Agreement, the NDCs and the basic aspects of climate change. This will require a capacity development process that allows to introduce the basis of general knowledge in this area.</li> </ul>
Partner & Stakeholder Engagement	

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How did the project engage and/or collaborate with strategic partners (e.g., NDC Partnership members, UN agencies, regional organisations, CSO/NGOs, private sector) and the donor delegations in country?

### Communication & Visibility

What communications and visibility did the project achieve during the quarter? Were any Communication & Visibility products or other knowledge products published?

### Looking Ahead

Any notable plans for the forthcoming quarter?

During this introduction phase, the two key ministries - of Finance and of Environment and Natural Resources - have appointed the technical referents to lead the NDC compliance Agenda. The project will engage with other stakeholders during the next phase of implementation.

UNDP El Salvador is preparing to disseminate educational information on the importance of the Paris Agreement and the NDCs that El Salvador has presented and is going to review, as well as on the basic aspects of Climate Change for El Salvador. To date, no completed activities are to be reported.

It is expected to prepare didactic material that will allow the target audience (Decision makers, cooperation agencies, technical staff from government and society in general) to be introduced to the Paris Agreement, the commitments of the NDCs of El Salvador and how Climate Change affects the country. During the next quarter, it is also expected to have the Project Coordinator and most of the project team on board, have the annual workplan developed and be able to start the procurement processes accordingly.

### Progress Update

What key results and achievements occurred during the reporting period? What were the deliverables produced? How did these contribute to higher-level project results?

### Quarter 2 (April-June)

Following the 2nd Project Board meeting held on 22 March where additional resources from a UK contribution (USD 15.000) were approved to be included into the overall budget, the Project Coordinator was hired and started to work in May. With the project coordinator on board, the 2021 workplan was developed and approved in an extraordinary meeting of the Project board on 3rd June.

During the period, the following results were achieved:

- 1) The project workplan has been designed and agreed with government counterparts.
- 2) A draft Climate Change Capacity Building Plan that targets public and private sector as well as the general public is being validated by the environmental authority.
- 3) An initial proposal for a citizen awareness campaign was developed and is currently under validation process. This campaign is looking to further engage citizens into climate action.
- 4) On 29 June, the [first inception workshop](#) on the global climate agenda and the NDC was held. The activity was directed to government entities, in coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

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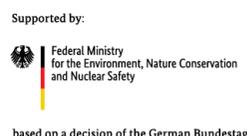
	<p>(MARN) and the Ministry of Finance and is a part of the work strategy for the evaluation, review and update of the NDC of El Salvador.</p> <p><i>For more information on the deliverables produced during the quarter, please consult the list of products available on the NDC SP Donor Portal.</i></p>
<p><b>Challenges Encountered, Lessons Learned</b></p>	
<p>What challenges were encountered (e.g., changes in political environment/ministries, delays in adoption of key legislation) and how were they resolved? What lessons were learned? Are there any conditions/issues emerging that might impact or delay delivery?</p>	<p>During these months, MARN has shown willingness and interest in moving forward with project activities and ratified its commitment to present an updated NDC at COP26. MARN does not wish to assume visible public leadership of the climate change process and agenda in general, mainly due to political concerns which delayed the official launch of the project. An agreement has been reached to promote the process with government institutions and subsequently to incorporate representatives of the productive sector and civil society organizations in the NDC implementation planning process. Finally, in the first Induction Meeting, the need to improve the general knowledge of public officials on the subjects related to climate change, NDC and climate financing through the implementation of awareness-raising and training activities - has been evidenced.</p> <p>UNDP Country Office will keep implementing the project in close coordination with the government and will promote government's empowerment in the NDC implementation process. It is expected that several high-level meetings will be conducted in the future to achieve this goal.</p>
<p><b>Partner &amp; Stakeholder Engagement</b></p>	
<p>How did the project engage and/or collaborate with strategic partners (e.g., NDC Partnership members, UN agencies, regional organisations, CSO/NGOs, private sector) and the donor delegations in country?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MARN has appointed the Direction of cooperation and international agreements as the new institutional and technical counterpart, while the appointment of the officials of the Ministry of Finance is maintained. An effective communication with both counterparts has been established.</li> <li>- UK cooperation has joined the project and their representatives participate in the activities carried out so far.</li> <li>- It is planned to hold a workshop on the project with the United Nations agencies with the objective of strengthening technical cooperation in support of the sectoral plans for the implementation of the NDC.</li> <li>- There is also an ongoing conversation with the NDC Partnership to identify means of working together.</li> </ul> <p><i>For more information on the engagements undertaken during the quarter, please consult the list of engagements available on the NDC SP Donor Portal.</i></p>
<p><b>Communication &amp; Visibility</b></p>	
<p>What communications and visibility did the project achieve during the quarter? Were any Communication &amp; Visibility products published?</p>	<p><a href="#">Project visibility material</a> has been designed and reproduced. This material was distributed among the participants in the first induction workshop held on 29 June. Complementary infographic material (<a href="#">1</a> / <a href="#">2</a>) is being prepared. An <a href="#">identity manual</a> has also been developed.</p> <p>A <a href="#">press release</a> and messages for social networks were prepared and disseminated informing about the first induction workshop held at the end of June.</p>

<b>Looking Ahead</b>
Any notable plans for the forthcoming quarter?

As the project just started, there are no hard knowledge products yet developed. <i>For more information on the C&amp;V material produced during the quarter, please consult the list of products available on the NDC SP Donor Portal.</i>
<b>Looking Ahead</b>
For the next period, the following is planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Develop the 2nd Induction Workshop on Climate Change, Climate Financing and NDC;</li> <li>(ii) Establish the sectoral technical groups and develop the process of evaluation, review and update of the NDC;</li> <li>(iii) Hire the project team with specialists in Climate Change, Climate Financing; Technical assistant for MARN; Facilitator of multi-stakeholder processes and Communications;</li> <li>(iv) Coordinate the project's communications strategy with MARN and launch the first awareness campaign;</li> <li>(v) Implement actions within the framework of the Climate Change Capacity Building Plan with public institutions on climate change and climate finance.</li> </ul>

<b>Progress Update</b>
What key results and achievements occurred during the reporting period? What were the deliverables produced? How did these contribute to higher-level project results?
<b>Challenges Encountered, Lessons Learned</b>
What challenges were encountered (e.g., changes in political environment/ministries, delays in adoption of key legislation) and how

<b>Quarter 3 (July- September)</b>
The quarter began with the completion of the 2nd. Induction workshop on climate change and climate finance with broad participation of institutions. In this quarter, the technical team of consultants for the project was hired, pending the communications assistant. During the period, the process of review / evaluation and updating of the Nationally Determined Contribution (CND, in its Spanish acronym) was developed. This process was carried out through the constitution of a group of sectorial experts, both technicians and officials which were appointed by the sectoral authorities. A constant process of consultation, feedback and input was implemented. Additionally, 8 sectoral technical groups were set up with which workshops were developed by technical groups to socialize progress, receive feedback and have an updated technical base and NDC proposal. All of this was coordinated by the MARN and the Ministry of Finance. In coordination with MARN, a first awareness campaign has been designed to launch in the next quarter. During this period, the process of contracting professional services began to implement the training plan for the development of capacities that is expected to be launched as of November.
Up to date, government institutions have assumed a high commitment and active participation in the process of review/evaluation and updating of the NDC, however, all at a technical level. The main challenge is to promote a more inclusive process and facilitate the participation of other stakeholders and key development actors and the buy in at



were they resolved? What lessons were learned? Are there any conditions/issues emerging that might impact or delay delivery?

### Partner & Stakeholder Engagement

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### Communication & Visibility

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political level. Another important challenge is to make the ongoing process visible and communicate to the Salvadoran society that knows very little about this process. To date, the government has not shown a willingness to disseminate information on the activities carried out and prefers to maintain low levels of socialization and dissemination of the process that has been started. In order to address this challenge, the project is proposing a methodology for a participatory process during the development of the NDC sectoral plans; a south-to-south exchange between Costa Rica and Peru is being proposed so those countries can share their experiences regarding participatory processes. In spite of everything, in a short time, the progress from the technical level has been substantial and the quarter is closed with [a final draft of the NDC](#).

An important lesson learned is that this type of process requires a multi-level dialogue effort; keep communication channels open and fluent with decision makers and design a methodological proposal that facilitates the participation and contribution of the technical level and thereby guarantee their ownership and commitment to the outcome.

During the period, the Project presented its work strategy before the Committee of Representatives of the United Nations agencies in the country. In addition, it organized an informative session with the climate change focal points of the UN system: UNIDO, UNICEF, UN Women, FAO, WFP, among others, establishing an agreement to facilitate the participation of these agencies in the thematic areas of interest during the formulation stage of the implementation plans.

Additionally, the project has maintained contacts with the UNEP regional project that supports 5 countries in the region in their implementation of the NDC. In coordination with MARN, it has been agreed to establish coordination and synergies with said project in the formulation stage of the NDC implementation plans. The project has maintained a dialogue and collaboration with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) in particular in reviewing the progress and projections of the energy sector in support of the National Energy Council of El Salvador.

Finally, an open dialogue is maintained with the office of the EU delegation in the country that has shown interest in supporting the process and with the British Embassy in El Salvador, which has expressed its interest in continuing to support the project with financial resources. for workshops and promotional materials

In this period the work focused on liaising with sectoral experts and inter-institutional groups, analyzing the response measures in adaptation and mitigation, the means of implementation and the normative and institutional frameworks of the prioritized sectors. Communicational products such as infographics, notebooks, [videos and dissemination material](#) were generated that were used for technical workshops but have not been disclosed or used on social networks.

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**Looking Ahead**

Any notable plans for the forthcoming quarter?

1. Final elaboration of updated NDC document
2. High-level policy and technical validation of the updated NDC
3. Design and start-up of the formulation process of the NDC implementation plans at the sector level
4. Launch a first awareness campaign on Climate Action in coordination with MARN
5. Implementation of the Capacity Development Plan on climate change

**Progress Update**

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**Quarter 4 (October-December)**

**Challenges Encountered, Lessons Learned**

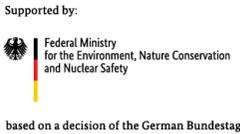
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Looking Ahead

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