

NDC Support Programme – Progress Update 2020



Project Information

Country	El Salvador
National Project Title	Agenda de cumplimiento de las Contribuciones Nacionalmente Determinadas
Project Timeline	Jan 2021 - Dec 2022
Implementing Partner(s)	Ministry of Environment - Ministry of Finance
Link to Donor Portal	HERE

Progress Update

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

2020

El Salvador is planning to present its updated NDC between October or November 2021. The project "Agenda for the fulfillment of Nationally Determined Contributions", started in November 2020 within not only a complex political context (new opposition government) but also in the midst of the global COVID-19 pandemic, challenges that slowed the start of the project. The project is currently in the process of hiring a Project Manager which will help accelerate project implementation in 2021.

The project will concentrate its efforts on seven prioritized sectors, which are linked to the areas established in the first NDC: urban infrastructure, water resources, agriculture and livestock, energy, health, solid waste and transportation. The project will lead the establishment of spaces for high-level dialogue and the preparation of specialized studies in each of the prioritized sectors in order to reinforce the specification of clear quantifiable NDC goals as priority (as a major improvement from the first NDC) and generate adequate implementation roadmaps. In 2020, work has been carried out mainly to reengage with new authorities (concept note and objectives defined with previous government).

As a second priority, the project will aim to strengthen analysis instruments and management of public and private finances, which are necessary for the implementation of measures for adaptation and mitigation of climate change (after the establishment of clear sectorial roadmaps). Along with the Ministry of Finance, a joint steering committee for NDC revision and implementation will be established as well as a detailed roadmap. This will include the definition of personnel as well as roles and responsibilities for 2021.

The program will support the establishment of solid national agreements for the review of the first NDC and the establishment of clear quantified goals and common agreed implementation strategies. Reinforcing NDC priorities at the high political level will be prioritized, as well as strengthening mechanisms for sectoral coordination. The project will cover efforts in all seven prioritized sectors, first prioritizing the establishment of spaces for dialogue and the preparation of sectoral forecasting studies (mitigation /adaptation scenarios).

NDC Support Programme – Progress Update 2020



Challenges encountered and lessons learned

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?

2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are gaps in capacities to incorporate quantifiable climate targets in national development plans and government strategies. It is important to mention that the new government of El Salvador assumed its functions on June 1, 2019 and that some authorities are still preparing their institutional plans. As of April 2020, there was no development plan or strategy with objectives and targets for the 2019-2024 five-year period, thus affecting the planning of the NDC review itself. • Gaps in capacities and institutional arrangements for estimating, recording and monitoring the impacts of climate actions on adaptation and mitigation at the technical/operational levels. • Limitations to elaborate and interpret climate scenarios for the analysis, design and updating of public policies to incorporate climate change and promote sustainable development. • Weak identification of the relationship between the impacts of climate-related events and the increased vulnerability of the country, people and livelihoods. As these elements should be considered for high-level decisions on economic policy and planning, particularly in relation to fiscal policy associated with the public agenda. One of the main challenges of the project will be the establishment of a high political level intersectoral committee with the participation of both private and public sector; and this must occur in a context of high political and economic tension (the latter making the original situation worse due to the COVID-19 crisis). • Insufficient coordination between ministries/sectors and their policies in relation to climate change strategies.
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Partner and stakeholder engagement

How did the project engage and/or collaborate with strategic partners (e.g., NDC Partnership members, UN agencies, regional organisations, CSO/NGOs, private sector)? Which project beneficiaries were targeted/engaged during the quarter and for what purpose (e.g., awareness raising, strengthening institutional capacities)? Were there any notable impacts from the partner and/or stakeholder engagement (e.g., strengthened capacities, new modes of collaboration)?

2020	<p>The project has yet to formally start implementation. As mentioned, this reporting period served as re-engagement with government authorities in a complex political-economic situation. Activities will be executed under the joint leadership of the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Finance, in coordination with various public institutions related to each one of the NDC prioritized sectors: urban infrastructure & solid waste (Ministry of Public Works and Municipalities), water resources (Administración Nacional de Acueductos y Alcantarillados - ANDA), agriculture and livestock (Ministry of Agriculture), energy (Ministry of Energy), health (Ministry of Health), and transportation (Ministry of Transport). The project is also expected to work closely with the private national banking sector.</p>
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NDC Support Programme – Progress Update 2020



Communication and Visibility

What communications and visibility did the project achieve during the reporting period? Were any knowledge products produced?

2020	No communications and visibility products were developed during the reporting period due to project implementation starting in 2021.
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Looking ahead

Any notable plans for the forthcoming year?

2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Contract the project team with the specifications (organization chart and functions) agreed in 2020 with the government;* Creation and implementation of an intersectoral committee of high political level, with the participation of both private and public sectors;* Review of the NDC goals, including the establishment of respective sector agreements, definition of quantifiable NDC goals, and development of long-term low-emission development strategies. Particular attention will be paid to those that link climate change with agriculture, food security and livelihoods and to create opportunities for both rural young people and rural women;* Active integration of UN sister agencies in the process of updating the NDC and establishing links with the new United Nations Cooperation Framework for Sustainable Development;* Implementation of awareness campaigns to encourage the participation of civil society and citizens in general in the process of updating the second NDC. Special emphasis will be placed on the participation of women and youth; and* Development of seven sector plans for the implementation of the NDC, including the development of emission scenarios and projection models.
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