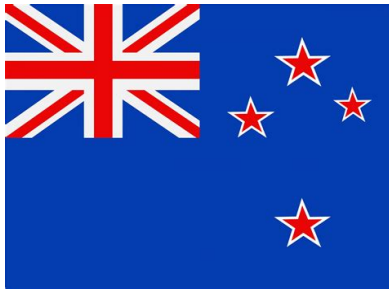


NEW ZEALAND



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General Information & Overview

NDC UNFCCC Submission: [New Zealand's second Nationally Determined Contribution/ Tā Aotearoa Whai Wāhitanga Whakatau ā-Motu tuarua](#)

Date of NDC submission/update: 31st January 2025

Summary of quantified targets:

- Headline target (if present): Reduce net emissions to 50% below gross 2005 levels by 2030, using a combination of domestic reductions, removals, and international cooperation ([p.1](#), [p.3](#)).
- Long-Term Goals (if present): Net zero long-lived gases by 2050 under national legislation ([p.2](#)).
- Quantified target(s) concerning NbS: While not expressed as standalone targets, land-use, forestry, and removals (mainly afforestation) are central to meeting targets ([p.5-6](#)).

NDC Scope:

- Sectors: All IPCC sectors including energy, industrial processes, agriculture, LULUCF, and waste
- Thematic areas: Mitigation, adaptation, international cooperation
- NbS Ecosystems included: Forests (notably afforestation), grasslands, and agricultural lands; wetlands and coastal ecosystems
- Indication to use Article 6: Yes, there are plans to use cooperative approaches under Article 6 to meet a portion of the target.

Key updates from previous NDC

- Strengthened 2030 mitigation target (previous: 30% reduction; current: 50%)
- Clearer alignment with the Climate Change Response Act and emissions budgets ([p.2](#))
- More reliance on international cooperation under Article 6
- Increased role of forestry in meeting targets
- References to Māori participation and just transition ([p.4](#))

Key conclusions

- **New Zealand's updated NDC significantly strengthens its ambition and reiterates the central role of land-sector removals.** The NDC increases ambition and includes international cooperation. Forestry is central to the emissions strategy.
- **Lacks clear standalone targets or detailed implementation strategies for nature-based solutions (NbS).** Broader NbS, ecosystem-based adaptation, or coastal/wetland restoration are not emphasized ([p.5-6](#)).

Detailed Assessment

Topic	Assessment
Does the NDC indicate that a whole-of-government approach was utilized?	Yes
Details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NDC aligns with New Zealand's Climate Change Response Act and emissions reduction plan, reflecting cross-government coordination. • The NDC outlines coordination across various government sectors, emphasizing the integration of climate policies throughout governmental planning. • Institutional responsibilities are delineated, with the Ministry for the Environment playing a central role in implementation. • Mechanisms for multi-level government engagement are established to ensure cohesive action. (p.2) 	
Does the NDC indicate that a whole-of-society approach was utilized?	Partial
Details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NDC mentions public consultations and acknowledges the importance of engaging various stakeholders. • Specific references to Māori engagement are present, but details on structured inclusive participation with broader civil society are limited. • Consideration of gender equality and social inclusion is not explicitly detailed (p.4). 	
Do the NDC targets include nature/ecosystems?	Yes (Forests Only)
Details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forests are highlighted as a primary means for carbon sequestration through afforestation and reforestation. Other ecosystems such as wetlands, peatlands, and coastal areas are not explicitly mentioned. (p.5-6) 	
Does the NDC include information about the methods and data used to develop nature-related targets?	No
Details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emissions modeling is mentioned and the NDC references using IPCC guidelines and Kyoto Protocol for LULUCF and forestry accounting, but methodologies for forestry removals or NbS are not clearly described. (p.3) • The NDC outlines a target to reduce net emissions by 51-55% below gross 2005 levels by 2035, which is time-bound but does not specify measurable nature-related targets or area-based targets 	

<p>for biodiversity conservation. There is no mention of alternate/non-IPCC methods for NbS targets or specific area-based targets that conserve biodiversity values and ecosystem services. (p.19) 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The document does not provide information on the use of GIS or spatial planning tools in the development of nature-related targets. 	
Are NbS included in the economy-wide target?	Yes
<p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest carbon sinks are explicitly included as part of New Zealand's mitigation pathway and are integrated into the overall emissions reduction target. Other NbS are not explicitly included in the economy-wide target (p.5). 	
Are mitigation targets defined for the AFOLU sector, including in wetlands and coastal areas?	Partial
<p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no specific or quantified mitigation targets for nature defined despite the LULUCF sector being part of their economy-wide target (p.3). 	
Do adaptation measures include NbS and/or EbA approaches?	No
<p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptation is addressed, but there is no explicit mention of NbS or EbA (p.4). The adaptation section focuses on vulnerability assessments and government-led planning but does not detail ecosystems, populations, or sectors targeted through NbS. No alignment with Adaptation Cycle, NAPs, or GGA frameworks. Nature-based actions are not defined as measurable adaptation targets. 	
Does the NDC integrate NbS into mitigation and adaptation targets for non-AFOLU sectors?	No
<p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NbS is limited to forestry; no integration into other sectors is mentioned (p.5). 	
Is nature integrated as an essential component in addressing loss and damage?	No
<p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The document acknowledges that climate change impacts Māori disproportionately, particularly in climate-sensitive industries such as forestry, agriculture, fisheries, and tourism, indicating an awareness of the vulnerability of natural systems (p.15). The NDC does not explicitly mention the integration of ecosystems into national loss and damage policies. The NDC does not provide specific references to loss and damage policies targeting 	

wetlands, peatlands, coastal ecosystems, or forests.	
Does the NDC align with other national and international agendas?	Yes
<p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligns with the Paris Agreement and references the role of international cooperation via Article 6. The NDC explicitly aligns with New Zealand's Climate Change Response Act and the national net-zero 2050 target (p.2). However, no explicit references are made to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, Ramsar, UNCCD, or SDGs. No clear outline of biodiversity or ecosystem co-benefits, though forestry removals are presented as multi-benefit solutions. No trade-off assessment is included. 	
Are adaptation and mitigation targets consistent with each other?	No
<p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptation is underdeveloped compared to mitigation, making integration unclear. (p.4) The NDC does not mention NbS that serve both mitigation (e.g., carbon sequestration) and adaptation (e.g., flood control) goals. Targets are largely siloed: mitigation is forestry-focused; adaptation is sector-general. No discussion of trade-offs or cross-sectoral synergies. 	
Are climate justice and equitable approaches applied across NDC targets?	Partial
<p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> References to just transition and Māori participation are present but not well elaborated (p.4). No detailed articulation of climate justice principles or benefit-sharing mechanisms. Limited mention of gender equality, youth, or marginalized populations. The principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is not discussed. No indicators of inclusion or monitoring of equitable outcomes. 	
Are means of implementation (MOI) needs for NbS implementation clearly communicated?	No
<p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No clear articulation of financial, technical, or capacity-building needs for implementing NbS. No mention of domestic or international funding streams directed toward NbS or related nature targets. Use of Article 6 is mentioned, but without a breakdown of how it supports NbS. 	



<ul style="list-style-type: none">● No identification of private sector roles or mechanisms for blended finance (p.7).	
Are there defined roadmaps and accountability structures for NbS implementation?	No
<p>Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● No specific roadmap, milestones, or accountability mechanisms for implementing or monitoring NbS actions are provided. No MRV (Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification) system is outlined for tracking NbS outcomes.● Implementation is generally referenced at a high level, with responsibilities assigned to core ministries, but not at the ecosystem or landscape scale.● No mention of institutional capacity building specific to NbS (p.2-3).	