Our approach

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), SPA works at the interface between German international climate policy and development cooperation. As an overarching advisory project, we aim to link needs to solutions.

We strengthen global initiatives and networks that support partner countries in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing their adaptive capacities as well as monitoring, learning and communicating this transparently.

Through the initiatives and networks, we support capacity development through platforms for political dialogue and mutual learning between countries.

We develop and disseminate concepts, tools, good practices and narratives for the implementation of NDCs and transparency systems. We thus contribute to international learning and links between the agendas for climate action, biodiversity preservation, disaster risk reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We advise the BMU on its support to the implementation of NDCs and the transparency framework in partner countries.
Support Project for the Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPA)

The challenge

The adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015 opened a new chapter in international climate cooperation: For the first time, nearly all UN member states pledged contributions to address climate change, with the common goal of limiting global warming to 2°C and, if possible, 1.5°C.

To achieve this, countries committed to developing national climate targets within their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), to submitting reports on their emissions under an Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), and to raising the ambition of their NDCs over time.

For global warming to be significantly curbed, the goals of the Paris Agreement need to be implemented quickly and effectively. This is a major challenge, which can only be met if countries cooperate with each other. The international community therefore supports developing countries in meeting their pledges - through facilitating peer-to-peer exchange and building up knowledge, capacities and access to financial support.

This is where SPA comes in: Our aim is to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement with regard to mitigation, adaptation and transparency. We do this by strengthening global initiatives and partner countries in implementing their NDCs and establishing the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF).

How we work

SPA focuses on supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement in two major areas: NDC SUPPORT and TRANSPARENCY.

NDC SUPPORT – Our aim is to enable partner countries to implement and enhance their NDCs, Long-Term Low Greenhouse Gas Development Strategies (LTS) and NAP processes. We act through three initiatives: The NDC Partnership, the Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS GP) and the NDC Support Cluster. We also collaborate closely with the NAP Global Network.

Through the NDC Partnership, we support BMU in coordinating its NDC related efforts and activities with government and institutional partners worldwide. We also support joined events and develop or improve knowledge management and communication to enable countries to implement and update their NDCs.

For the LEDS GP, we serve as the global secretariat, coordinating the implementation of peer-to-peer exchanges, technical assistance to early mover countries and regional communities of practice. We respond to the needs set by the countries in topics such as clean mobility, clean energy, mobilisation of private investment, and sustainable rural development.

Through the NDC Support Cluster, for which we also hold the secretariat, we collaborate with all implementing partners on thought leadership and technical resources and enable learning across countries and international institutions. We come together to identify, share and proliferate what works and what is needed for credible, ambitious and long-term oriented NDC implementation.

TRANSPARENCY - Our aim is to strengthen partner countries abilities to implement the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement. We act mainly through the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA), for which we host the secretariat.

In the framework of the Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement, we facilitate the exchange of good practice, joint learning and policy dialogue between climate negotiators, policymakers and practitioners. Through online formats, global, regional and national events and support activities, the Partnership encourages countries to step up for enhanced transparency in order to strengthen mutual trust and understanding, and thus achieve the global temperature goals.