

# Developing capacities for climate action and transparency

© Nanang Sujana

## Support Project for the Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPA)

### What is our aim?

The Support Project for the Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPA) aims to enable partner countries to effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to enhance their NDC ambition, and to monitor and communicate these transparently. We synthesize and disseminate knowledge, and facilitate communication between important international actors to produce synergies for the efficient and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement.

### Why act now?

The acceleration of climate change and biodiversity loss poses an existential threat to nature and humanity. Against this backdrop, the Paris Agreement – agreed in 2015 by all UN member states – provides us with a global mechanism to limit harmful human activity and address the climate crisis with a common goal of limiting global warming to well below 2°C, preferably 1.5°C.

It is crucial to enable all countries to meet the pledges made in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and to enhance their mitigation, adaptation, transparency, and nature preservation ambitions. Only through the rapid implementation of the Paris Agreement will we be able to ensure a liveable future on this planet.

### How do we work?

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) and the German Federal Foreign Office (AA), SPA works as an overarching policy advisory programme at the interface between German international climate policy and international cooperation.

We identify, develop, and disseminate concepts, tools, good practices, and narratives for the development and implementation of NDCs, Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS) and the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF). SPA thus contributes to international learning and efficient, effective, and tailored implementation of climate policies along the NDC cycle.

We provide support in four main areas:

#### 1. Support for the BMWK and the AA

Upon request, SPA directly advises BMWK and AA on how to support the implementation of NDCs, LT-LEDS and the ETF in partner countries. Additionally, SPA consults on cross-cutting topics, such as energy transition, the private sector engagement, gender and youth. The SPA team provides technical expertise and country insights.

#### 2. Support for global climate initiatives

SPA acts as part of two international climate initiatives that foster capacity development and mutual learning on NDC implementation, LT-LEDS and Transparency in partner countries:

##### NDC Partnership

The NDC Partnership is a global coalition of governments and institutions that aims to move NDCs from commitment to active implementation while increasing ambition. SPA assists the BMWK in coordinating its support for NDC-related activities submitted by partner countries to the NDC Partnership.

→ [ndcpartnership.org](https://ndcpartnership.org)



#### Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA)

PATPA is an open alliance that engages countries in practical exchange and political dialogue on climate transparency as well as building up mutual trust. SPA hosts PATPA's secretariat. We strengthen our partner countries' ability to implement the ETF and facilitate exchange between climate negotiators, policymakers, donors, and practitioners for enhanced transparency. We also support partner countries at the global level, in five regional groups, and bilaterally through the Climate Helpdesk (see below).

→ [transparency-partnership.net](https://transparency-partnership.net)

#### 3. Knowledge management and dissemination

SPA shapes and advances discourses in international climate policy and development cooperation. We support mutual learning and the dissemination of knowledge on NDC implementation, ambition raising and transparency across the International Climate Initiative's (IKI) portfolio, GIZ projects and other stakeholders (e.g. via the Global NDC Conference). To this end, SPA collaborates closely with various climate-related institutions and initiatives.

#### 4. Bilateral support for partner countries

SPA offers direct support to partner countries in the areas of capacity development and technical assistance through:

##### Climate Helpdesk

With the Climate Helpdesk, SPA provides rapid and high-quality technical assistance to developing countries for establishing sustainable and robust transparency systems or more ambitious NDCs and LT-LEDS, including appropriate institutional arrangements, review of GHG inventories for specific sectors, and preparation for the submission of Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs).

→ [transparency-partnership.net/climate-helpdesk](https://transparency-partnership.net/climate-helpdesk)

#### Country Packages

From 2023 onwards, SPA will provide technical support to country requests through the NDC Partnership Thematic Call on LT-LEDS and NDC Alignment, Update and Enhancement. The call aims to support developing countries in enhancing the quality and ambition of their NDCs for the next NDC cycle, as well as in developing, updating and refining LT-LEDS. Through these two complementary tracks, member countries of the NDC Partnership can receive technical, financial, and capacity development support.

#### What have we achieved?

Since its launch in 2016, SPA has been working successfully in the dynamic area of climate action, is actively involved in coordinating several global climate initiatives, and is recognised internationally for its efforts. It currently works with the NDC Partnership and PATPA.

Fostering the goals of the NDC Partnership: SPA has helped to successfully mobilise support through the IKI in response to support needs requested in more than 40 NDC Partnership country processes. SPA has also contributed by organizing joint events and creating knowledge products, and continues to accompany the NDC Partnership's strategic development, including the design of thematic support, for example on NDC updating and LT-LEDS.

With the support of SPA, PATPA has organized over ten Annual Partnership Retreats reaching more than 500 participants from around the globe and thus contributing to a successful outcome of the negotiations on the ETF. Furthermore, it has brought together a wide range of technical experts in regional workshops. The expert networks that have evolved out of PATPA activities enhance South-South-North exchange and increase national and regional expertise, thus reducing dependency on international consultants.

Since mid-2019, SPA has published more than 30 knowledge products on enhancing climate action as part of its knowledge management and dissemination efforts. Additionally, it has organized more than 25 knowledge exchange events, attended by more than 1,500 participants.

In 2017, 2019 and 2023, SPA played a key role in conceptualizing and organizing the Global NDC Conference for the BMWK. In 2023, the Global NDC Conference attracted more than 350 participants from over 50

countries. The conference aimed to inspire practitioners and policy makers actively contribute and take the lead to processes and coordination that enable just, feasible and financeable NDCs and their implementation, based on lessons learned from implementation and previous updates. The conference's discussions and key messages inform governments, international agencies, development banks, researchers, and non-governmental and private actors in their efforts to ramp up climate action and ambition.

→ [globalndcconference.org](https://globalndcconference.org)

## Example from Uganda: Successful NDC and LT-LEDS Alignment

Through its country engagement, SPA has successfully contributed to an alignment of two key climate policy documents in Uganda. Via SPA funding in close collaboration with UNDP's NDC Support Programme and the GIZ Global Carbon Markets Program has supported the development of Uganda's LT-LEDS 2050. The support included stakeholder consultations at local, regional, sectoral, and national levels bringing together different stakeholders from the public sector, private sector, civil society, academia, community members, women, indigenous people, and youth. These activities facilitated a robust LT-LEDS development process that addressed the growing importance of mitigation in Uganda. Additionally, the inclusion of more sectors such as tourism, waste, industrial processes, and product use aimed to leverage the co-benefits of adaptation and mitigation.

To date, SPA's bilateral support for partner countries has reached over 60 countries via the Climate Helpdesk. Moreover, SPA has also supported the development of Uganda's LT-LEDS and contributed to NDC updates, monitoring and reporting, or implementation processes in Namibia, Tajikistan, Costa Rica, Pakistan, Gabon and Georgia.

Finally, SPA's efforts extend to monitoring the advancements within the Paris Agreement by conducting analyses of new developments in global climate policies. This facilitates the tracking of progress in climate action, reinforcing SPA's commitment to drive positive change on a global scale.

Published by:  
Deutsche Gesellschaft für  
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)  
GmbH

Registered offices  
Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 36 + 40  
53113 Bonn, Deutschland  
T +49 228 44 60-0  
F +49 228 44 60-17 66  
E [info@giz.de](mailto:info@giz.de)  
I [www.giz.de/en](http://www.giz.de/en)

Eschborn, September 2023

## FURTHER INFORMATION

**PATPA homepage:** [transparency-partnership.net](https://transparency-partnership.net)  
**Climate Helpdesk:** [transparency-partnership.net/climate-helpdesk](https://transparency-partnership.net/climate-helpdesk)  
**NDC Partnership:** [ndcpartnership.org](https://ndcpartnership.org)  
**IKI website:** [international-climate-initiative.com](https://international-climate-initiative.com)  
**GIZ website:** [giz.de/en/worldwide/118893.html](https://giz.de/en/worldwide/118893.html)  
**Global NDC Conference:** [globalndcconference.org](https://globalndcconference.org)