

Nigerian Youth's Suggested Inputs for the 2021 Nationally Determined Contributions

Recalling the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) submitted by Nigeria in 2015 ahead of COP 21 in Paris and subsequently becoming a signatory to the Paris Agreement;

Noting that the INDC which became Nigeria's first Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) have lasted 5 years since the Paris Agreement;

Considering that Nigeria in fulfillment of Article 4, paragraph 10, of the Paris Agreement is currently in a process of NDC enhancement and expects to submit an updated version by first quarter of 2021;

Acknowledging that Nigeria signed the Intergovernmental Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action in demonstration of its commitment to "inclusive, child and youth-friendly climate policies and action";

Recalling that children and youth were not considered major stakeholders in the first NDC and were just acknowledged as vulnerable and change agents;

Acknowledging that the impact of climate change in Nigeria has been more damaging to children and youth consequently increasing the number of climate migrants in this demographic;

Acknowledging that a publicly consulted document on NDC is one of the most important ways to ensure collective design, ownership and implementation of commitments;


Understanding that this NDC enhancement window is an excellent opportunity to shape the future of children and youth in Nigeria in climate action for, at least, the next 5 years;

We, the youths of Nigeria, drawn from a widely-consulted individuals and organizations working actively on climate action across the 8 designated working groups request the Federal Ministry of Environment, as the coordinator of the NDC review process to:

1. Agriculture Working Group

- a. Adopt policies that incentivise traditional agroecological and climate-smart practices such as composting, mulching, crop rotations, inter-cropping, agroforestry, biological pest control measures, green manures, water harvesting, among others, as strategies for climate change mitigation, adaptation and building resilience in the agricultural sector. This could include, against a predefined standards, awarding the Best Climate Resilient Farmers with monetary rewards for Nigerian Farmers who have introduced climate-smart innovative practices.
- b. Introduce climate change education into the national education curriculum and promote citizen-science to enhance knowledge and awareness for both the informal and formal sector within the agriculture sector, especially in rural areas in Nigeria to enable them adapt efficiently.
- c. Work with the financial institutions to increase accessibility of funds to farmers and enable community-based financing, to enhance adoption of emerging technologies as well as the needed capacity development to develop new techniques. Existing models like NIRSAL should be sustained and replicated.
- d. Improve the National Seed Bank to preserve native crops that are resilient to adverse weather impacts and create regional storage facilities for seeds of crops that risk being endangered due to climate hazards.
- e. Develop a Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) weather-based risk insurance in the agricultural sector based on climate risk to mitigate the losses suffered by farmers due to climate shock. This includes increasing investments to establish a national mechanism for providing weather and climate information directly to the farmers by 2025.
- f. Develop a comprehensive and accessible database on Agriculture, Forestry, and other Land Use (AFOLU) activities to guide the periodic GHG accounting and carbon balance appraisal.
- g. Introduce practices and policies that reduce postharvest losses, food waste, and strengthen the resilience of food systems to enable sustainable production and consumption practices.

2. Energy Working Group

- a. Review existing tax on renewable energy components and introduce sufficient incentives for the use and development of renewable energy resources including subsidies and tax holidays to ensure affordable and efficient energy access.
 - b. Increase investment towards technologies that enhance the adoption of biomass to energy sources, particularly heating, to enhance CO₂ mitigation. Integrate the National Biofuel Policy and incentives into the NDC and work with financial institutions to provide
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access to favourable credit facilities to private proposals aimed at achieving Carbon Neutrality by 2050.

- c. Prioritize and fund research, especially by young people, targeted at developing affordable and efficient local renewable energy technologies and alternatives. This includes providing funds for feasibility studies on new technologies and including an accessible platform for researchers in accessing meteorological and climate data from NIMET to enable them carry out credible and bankable research on renewable energy resources.
- d. Established a dedicated funds for research on innovations, use and employment of various renewable energy sources with at least 35 percent of the fund supporting young people annually
- e. Proactively engage stakeholders from government, private sector and civil society organizations in decentralized renewable energy policy design and develop a renewable energy policy framework backed by an Act of Parliament that recognizes the state and non-state actors' roles and responsibilities in renewable energy development.

3. Oil & Gas Working Group

- a. Ensure coherence in the end date for gas flaring in Nigeria. The New NDC should have a realistic work plan on the strategic phasing out of Gas Flaring towards reaching its target in Nigeria by 2025.
- b. Gas utilization licence should be incorporated into Oil Mining and Oil Production Licenses (OML & OPL) to reduce gas flaring and where not possible, Gas Utilization Licence (GUL) should be readily given to organizations that have such facilities on ground or the capacity, intention and the resources to provide such facility within a given period of time.
- c. Work with all relevant sub- national MDAs to address bunkering and ensure compliance to safety guidelines.

4. Industry Working Group

- a. Adopt Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and ensure its effective enforcement across industries.
 - b. Complement existing industry funding mechanisms through the establishment of innovative financing schemes to fund innovative financing schemes to fund green and innovative start-ups enterprises. To enable this, incentivise and promote start-ups and companies that focus or dedicate part of their investment on circular economy.
 - c. Ensure industries provide comprehensive plans and their commitments for the implementation of Nigeria NDC's target for industries and develop a monitoring plan to ensure adherence.
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- d. Encourage companies to invest in re-cycling and/or use recycled materials in their production lines.

5. Transport Working Group

- a. Launch at least 100 solar-powered public buses to run in major cities such as Lagos and Abuja by 2022 and scale up to cover other cities by 2025.
- b. Incentivise local production of vehicles that run on electric and renewable energy sources.
- c. Introduce fines and penalties for smoke-polluting cars on the road to be enforced efficiently by the Vehicle Inspectorate Officers who must be trained for this purpose.
- d. Ensure yearly vehicle emission testing and certification to make sure emissions controls work properly.
- e. The Nigerian Customs Services must ensure that cars imported into Nigeria must be certified for road-worthiness by relevant agencies.
- f. Remodel existing city road networks to introduce safe pedestrian and bicycle lanes and ensure new road approvals must include these components.
- g. Prioritize development of public transport infrastructures such as water transport (ferry, boats), intra-city bus, trains, metro and tramways to reduce the numbers of cars emitting carbon to the atmosphere in the cities.
- h. Encourage use of public transportation and car-sharing alternatives as a sign of responsible and eco-friendly citizenship through appropriate incentives.

6. Water Working Group


- a. Promote ecotourism through the reservation of at least 15% water areas ensuring that freshwater and marine protected areas in Nigeria constitute a major climate action strategy.
- b. Integrate the National Framework for Protection of our Ocean and Freshwater into the NDC.
- c. Revise the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) taking into consideration stakeholder participation, gender and ecosystem management.
- d. Encourage revitalization of the Water Boards across all States in Nigeria to strongly regulate and control the proliferation of boreholes which are dangerous to our environment.
- e. Prioritizing water use during drought periods as an adaptive measure to climate change and other forms such as soil and water conservation and water harvesting technologies.
- f. Acknowledge that water is a human right and ensure access to clean water by all citizens.

- g. Invest in nature-based solutions to water resources management such as construction of wetlands to reduce water pollution from agricultural and industrial wastes.
- h. Develop flood and drought early warning system (EWS) and Disaster Preparedness indices to aid in flood defence and recovery efforts.
- i. Department of pollution control under the ministry of environment in collaboration with WHO should carry out an annual analysis of air quality index for proper monitoring and evaluation.

7. Waste Management Group

- a. Ensure effective implementation of the adopted Nigerian Plastic and Waste Management Policies.
- b. Encourage circular economy through efficient waste management systems and foster proper implementation of Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR).
- c. Enact a law for all real estate facilities to incorporate waste sorting facilities in their housing plans.
- d. Introduce the deposit return scheme for plastics, E-waste and other petrochemicals products.
- e. Increase investment and regulations on waste segregation infrastructure and education. Waste management should be state-led with private-public partnerships that funds and scale local solutions.
- f. Promote recycling of waste water for secondary use as well as, recycling organic waste through composting and biofuel generation.
- g. Government to ensure the ban and/or restrictive policies on single use plastics especially in supermarkets and grocery chain stores in favour of reusable cloth or paper bags.

8. Cross-Cutting Issues Working Group (Finance & Investment, Gender and Youth)

- a. To ensure coherence and efficient use of limited resources towards locally-led action, integrate the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) into the revised NDC and align their outcomes for easy accountability. Other national policies such as the Agriculture Promotion Policy must be revised to align with the NDCs and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development.
 - b. Acknowledge children, youth and women in the NDC not just as vulnerable groups, but as crucial stakeholders, change agents and implementers of climate action.
 - c. Ensure equity and fairness in resource sharing and management.
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- d. Ensure that climate-related vulnerability assessments and actions take into account sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence risks and protective measures and are informed by disaggregated population data.
- e. Commit to expanding research and the evidence based on the contributions of investments in sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and empowerment to climate adaptation and resilience.
- f. Ensure that midwifery curricula and other relevant training materials, especially focused on emergencies, including the Minimum Initial Service Package, will incorporate climate risks and impacts with specific focus on new severity and extremes.
- g. Build awareness, knowledge, and capacity on the links between climate-related hazards and sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence, child marriage and other harmful practices.
- h. There should be compensations either to communities or individuals affected by environmental and climate related disasters.
- i. Dedicated financing windows and mechanisms for community-based, youth-led climate actions should be promoted as well as specific instruments for ensuring climate finance flows mostly and directly to local communities and most vulnerable populations.
- j. Carbon credit should be implemented on the more you flare the more you pay basis and develop a domestic carbon market for the oil and gas sector.
- k. Develop and Implement a carbon pricing model where companies pay a certain amount of money based on their amount of carbon emissions.

Others

- a. Establish a working group on Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) to directly engage on issues around climate education, training, public awareness and public access to information.
- b. Increase girl child education especially in climate vulnerable areas by at least 50 percent by 2025 as a component of adaptation.
- c. Increase funding support for CSO/ CBOs especially youth organizations active on climate action and strengthen their capacity.
- d. Revise the National Health Policy to reflect the NDCs
- e. Ensure public awareness of new and changing climate-related crises where they may not have occurred, and expand readiness where there may not be prior experience to build on.
- f. Ministry of Environment should develop free online courses (eg. uncelearn.org) that centers on climate change.

Thank you to these amazing Nigerian youths that contributed to this document containing crucial inputs and recommendation for Nigeria's updated/ revised NDCs.

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