In-country technical assistance partners contributing to the implementation of the *NDC Action Project* in Colombia (The National Technical Institution: NTI)

1. **Background**

Colombia has officially confirmed and updated its commitment towards the Paris Agreement through the submission of its updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in December 2020. Colombia’s updated NDC contains more ambitious goals and commitments to address climate change at the national and local level. These goals are to:

* Reduce Colombia's Green House Gas Emissions by 51% compared to the business as usual scenario by 2030 (baseline year: 2010), aligned with Colombia’s Long-Term Strategy to be net-zero by 2050.
* Adapt to climate change effects increasing resilience and reducing risk exposure and vulnerabilities.
* Reduce black carbon emissions by 40% and establish a carbon budget by 2030.
* Achieve net zero deforestation by 2030.

These commitments are reflected in 196 climate mitigation and adaptation goals and measurements distributed across sectors and territories. The Government through the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development is currently structuring the NDC Implementation Strategy— A road map that will guide relevant actors across ministries, institutions, and territories towards the achievement of climate goals. In the framework of the NDC Implementation Strategy, the government has identified several short-term needs and enabling conditions to translate Colombia’s NDC goals into actions at the national and subnational level. Some of these requirements are being incurred by the government but others need financial support from external sources such as private and international funds.

In the light of supporting Colombia and other nine partner countries to translate their NDCs into concrete actions, the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) in partnership with the Denmark Technical University (UNEP DTU Partnership -UDP) joined efforts into a project called NDC Action. The *NDC Action project aims at facilitating implementation of climate-resilient and low-carbon development aligned with national and global goals*. It builds on three core principles: country ownership, balanced focus between adaptation and mitigation, and integration with national development and climate change priorities. Aligning with partner countries' own NDC priorities, the NDC Action project will secure a multi-stakeholder and high-level engagement; provide the technical support to strengthen the capacity of institutions responsible for NDC implementation; support the development of a portfolio of sectoral policies and programmes for two priority sectors selected in each country; support development of investment plans in these sectors, and facilitate experience-sharing, both among the partner countries and with others.

The Project is coordinated by UNEP’s Economy Division, UNEP Regional Office of Latin America and The Caribbean and implemented with UDP providing technical and expert support. UDP will directly work with National Technical Institutions in guiding their work on the identified priority sectors and activities and will provide technical assistance on policies and programme development. Technical assistance delivered jointly with national technical partners will i) strengthen the institutions responsible for implementing NDCs, ii) help engage the private sector and local financial institutions, iii) translate NDCs into a portfolio of policies and programmes for two priority sectors selected by each country, iv) develop investment plans in these sectors, and v) share lessons learned so NDC priorities are considered in complementarity across sectors to maximize climate and socioeconomic benefits.

The project will identify and contract National Technical Institution(s) as in-country Technical Assistance partners to work on delivering the country level outputs in the identified priority sectors in close coordination with government bodies responsible for implementation of NDC actions in those sectors. Tailored local expertise brought to the project by the National Technical Institutions will strengthen the overall technical work at country level engaging the different stakeholders in charge of contributing to implementing the country NDC and other climate policies and instruments.

In Colombia, the NTI will contribute to the project through the implementation of an annual work plan to conduct a robust financial roadmap that connects public and private resources with the NDC goals and initiatives. The NTI will also contribute to the development of financial instruments in two priority sectors, which will be selected in consultation with DCCGR in the first half of 2021. During the first year of assistance, the NTI will contribute to the achievement of output 3 of the NDC Action project: *Financial institutions at the national, regional, and global levels are engaged in the development of climate-friendly investment plans led by governments and show commitment to make climate investments that support NDC implementation.*

1. **Objective**

Support the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development to articulate public and private climate-finance strategies to accelerate the implementation of Colombia’s updated NDC.

# Supervision

UNEP-DTU will be in charge of providing technical feedback to the products, supervising and approving the work of the NTI, in consultation with the Country Focal point (the Climate Change and Risk Management Direction at the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development: DCCGR), UNEP-ROLAC and UNEP-Paris representatives.

# Roles and responsibilities

1. **The National Technical Institution:**

The NTI will contribute to the NDC Action project:

* General
  + Providing necessary technical supports requested by UDP’s Regional Coordinator.
  + Responding to UDP as well as country demands in a timely manner as appropriate.
  + Deriving from the *NDC Action project* general work packages (as approved by the donor), developing in collaboration with the UDP’s Regional Coordinator and under the guidance of DCCGR’s *NDC Action project* Operation Focal Points an annual work plan tailored to the needs of Colombia for promoting the project and implementing the updated NDC.
  + Preparing and distributing a progress report every six months to UDP’s Regional Coordinator, the NDC Action National Project Coordinator and other relevant counterparts of the project as appropriate.
  + Providing administrative and logistic support for organizing national events and meetings, liaising with the UDP’s Regional Coordinator, the NDC Action National Project Coordinator, and other relevant counterparts of the project as appropriate.
  + Assisting the project team of UDP/UNEP in preparing and arranging meetings and working sessions with government institutions and local stakeholders.
  + Preparing and submitting a final annual synthesis report of the technical assistance delivered as part of the *NDC Action project*.
* Implementation support:
  + Identifying, in consultation with the National Project Coordinator, key stakeholders for NDC implementation, and proposing when needed an engagement strategy.
  + Participating, when needed, in project meetings called by DCCGR’s NDC Action project Operation Focal Points or the NDC Action National Project Coordinator.
  + Contributing to the development of training materials and other relevant knowledge products for the implementation of the project.
  + Contributing to the strengthening of NDC multi-stakeholder consultation and coordination mechanisms in Colombia, through the background papers of:
    - Review of national experiences on climate finance and NDC,
    - Stocktaking of NDC-related activities and the main actors involved, both national and international (development partners).
    - Analysis of institutional arrangements and regulatory frameworks for NDC financing including financial sector
    - Identifying challenges in NDC financing and implementation and ways to overcome
  + Assessing the institutional and human capacity of potential stakeholders for steering NDC implementation in the selected priority sectors.
  + Supporting the organization of multi-stakeholder consultation meetings on current NDC implementation and options for more ambitious action in future NDCs.
  + Supporting, as deemed necessary, awareness raising activities on the urgency of climate change and the need for more ambitious action.
  + Preparing analytical reports on policies and programmes that will drive NDC implementation in the agreed priority sectors, including prerequisites, potential barriers, and means of overcoming barriers.
  + Assessing the engagement level of private sector for the implementation of the NDC.
  + Raising awareness among private sector actors about the opportunities they could seize by getting involved in / developing climate projects contributing to NDC implementation.
  + Reaching out to, and engaging in consultation with the UDP’s Regional Coordinator, DCCGR’s NDC Action project Operation Focal Points, the NDC Action National Project Coordinator, and/or UNEP-UDP NDC Action Project team members as relevant international and national financial institutions, including commercial banks, community level cooperatives and microfinance institutions, to design innovative climate finance mechanisms, market climate finance products, and commit climate investments at national and community levels.
  + Support the design of climate-friendly investment plans and development of draft proposals for climate finance and organize workshops at country level in this regard
  + Sharing lessons of project outputs and outcomes with other institutions of the NTI’s network across the American continent.
  + Engage ground actors to ensure mobilization of empirical data for feedback to inform practical NDCs implementation investment policies and trajectories.
  + Supporting DCCGR to distil relevant knowledge and lessons learned from the project and feed it into the global stocktaking process with the aim of encouraging the global community to enhance ambition in future NDCs.
  + Responding to any other request from the UDP’s Regional Coordinator deemed relevant to the project implementation.

1. The Project Lead:

The NTI appoints within its organisation, a Project Lead who will be the key communication point for UDP and will:

1. Work under the direct supervision of UDP’s Regional Coordinator in providing all the outputs related to the project.
2. Work in close coordination with the NDC Action National Project Focal Point and the National Project Coordinator both located within the CCD, and update them regularly on progress made, lessons learned, and challenges met.
3. Organize regular phone calls with UDP’s Regional Coordinator, the NDC Action National Project Coordinator, and other relevant counterparts of the project as appropriate to ensure sharing all necessary information. A summary of the call with main results and action points will be prepared and distributed to the UDP’s Regional Coordinator and other relevant counterparts by the project lead within three business days of each call.
4. Project Lead's background:

Advanced University Degree (Master’s degree or equivalent) in Economics, Public Financial Management, Environmental Science, Law, or related fields of study. Background in other areas may be considered based on experience and performance in previous positions. A minimum of 10 years of progressively responsible relevant experience in economic development and sustainable development with focus on public and/or climate finance, climate change institutional and policy issues; Demonstrate at least 7 years of experience on public and/or climate finance and policy design issues with national governments and international organizations on international and national development in the context of climate change and sustainable development.

1. **Activities and deliverables**

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| **TASK 1:** Work Plan | |
| Deliverable 1:Develop an integrated work plan for the team of consultants to deliver the project outputs/activities | |
| **TASK 2:** Develop a comprehensive and contextualized climate-finance framework that connects climate finance sources to NDC’s goals and actions. | |
| **Activities** | **Deliverables** |
| 1. Analyze previous climate financing studies or projects led by the National Planning Department, SISCLIMA's Financial Management Committee, and other NDC stakeholders, to avoid duplication and evaluate starting points and synergies. Extract previously identified public and private climate finance sources at the domestic and international levels. This exercise should be furthermore complemented through consultations with the project's focal points. 2. With support from the Ministry of Environment and the NDC Action consultants, access and revise the most recent findings on financial needs and enabling conditions for implementing each NDC goal. 3. Assess the process of determining and allocating the budget of responsible Ministries to priority NDC goals. Identify entry points and challenges for climate budgeting in national processes. | * 1. Methodology for stakeholder consultation, data collection, and analysis.   2. Report contextualizing processes that would allow the development of climate national budgets, including a preliminary strategy that connects NDCs goals with domestic finance sources. |
| 1. Create synergies with other NDC financing projects to extract inputs on NDC cost estimates and alternative climate finance sources at subnational and local levels. 2. In consultation with responsible Ministries and based on the desegregation of the NDC actions and goals (reference to activity ii above), identify specific finance sources and instruments with barriers and gaps for their implementation. Based on these analyses, propose mechanisms to finance each of the NDC's actions and their goals. 3. Establish a roadmap or strategy to connect the needs and enabling conditions for each NDC goal with the climate finance sources identified in the previous steps (reference to activities i-v above). Furthermore, advise the national government on roadmap implementation and financial arrangements or instruments to canalize these funds for specific climate change actions. | * 1. Document containing a roadmap/strategy to connect each NDC actions and goals with previously identified public and private climate finance sources at national and international levels. Include for each action and goal barriers, opportunities, and recommendations to access finance sources.   2. Summary report of the roadmap for financing the NDC (reference to deliverable 2.3 above.) |
| 1. Produce guidance on climate finance processes and NDC priorities during work sessions with key stakeholders. Support the Ministry on Environment, the National Planning Department, and the Financial Management Committee during work sessions with responsible ministries, territories, and other relevant stakeholders. | * 1. Summary reports on work sessions with relevant stakeholders |
| **TASK 3:** Execute work sessions with financial sector actors focused on the development of financial instruments and strengthening capacities in climate-related issues. | |
| **Activities** | **Deliverables** |
| 1. In consultation with financial sector stakeholders, assess capacity gaps and needs for advancing climate finance mechanisms within the financial sector with a special focus on microfinance institutions. | 3.1. Summary report on gaps and needs with recommendations |
| 1. Design and execute capacity-building workshops for focus groups at the national and/or sub-national level based on previous findings (reference to deliverable 3.1 above). | 3.2. Summary reports on trainings sessions with relevant stakeholders. |
| 1. In consultation with the Ministry of Environment and the National Planning Department, conduct work sessions with selected first and second-tier banks and/or insurers to support the development of financial mechanisms for 2 priority sectors. 2. Produce guidance/training material on climate finance products. Support the Ministry on Environment and the National Planning Department during work sessions with banks and insurers. | 3.3. Summary reports on opportunities for the development of financial mechanisms.  3.4. Two documents containing technical aspects of the development of financial mechanisms to support NDC initiatives in 2 priority sectors. |
| **TASK 4:** Organization of high-level event of the NDC Action project in Colombia (expected in the first semester of 2022) | |
| Deliverable 4: Document summarizing main results and conclusions drawn from the event | |

1. **Work schedule**

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| **Deliverable** | **2021** | | | | | | | | | **2022** | | |
| **Apr** | **May** | **Jun** | **Jul** | **Aug** | **Sep** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** |
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| **3.4** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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