

# BARBADOS

## and the Paris Agreement



### Sectors

Energy (including domestic transport); Industrial process and product use; Waste; Agriculture; Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF)



### National Implementing Agency

Ministry of Environment and National Beautification



### Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) submitted

September 30, 2015

### Paris Agreement signed

April 22, 2016

### Paris Agreement ratified

April 22, 2016

## Background

As a small island developing state (SIDS), Barbados is extremely vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change such as extreme weather events, as well as subtle changes to temperature and precipitation patterns. Even though Barbados has a small population, limited land and natural resource base, and a small open economy, the impacts of climate change will likely undermine the hard-won sustainable development gains that have been achieved. Regardless of its limited financial resources and negligible contribution to global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, Barbados is taking a proactive and ambitious approach to reducing its own emissions by introducing concrete mitigation actions that will see the decarbonisation of its electricity grid, initiatives to improve energy efficiency, and reduced emissions from its other sectors. The country's Green Economy Scoping Study, National Sustainable Energy Framework (SEF) and Energy Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA), form the backbone of Barbados' INDC.



### About the INDC Project

The UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme was launched in January 2011 as part of a joint collaboration between the European Union, the Governments of Germany and Australia and UNDP. In the run up to the historic Paris Agreement, the European Commission and others provided financial and technical support specifically to advance the preparation of countries' INDCs. This support, in the context of the larger global LECB Programme called the INDC Project, continued post-Paris and has enabled advances in implementation and country-driven action.



# ACTIONS & IMPACTS

## Consultation around the validation and approval of the NDC implementation work plan

Barbados successfully formulated and submitted its INDC but—as in many countries—it was prepared and submitted in short order and thus needed to be embedded and socialized throughout the country. After formal submission of the INDC, the government of Barbados began a series of multi-stakeholder dialogues amongst the private sector, civil society, and regional and international organizations to help build support and elicit buy in for the proposals. Discussions centred around the INDC in the context of national development goals, relevant initiatives that could support the implementation, and the integration of mitigation and adaptation responses into sectoral policies and plans.

Stakeholders agreed on the need to clearly identify activities, roles, and timeframes, and to develop a national monitoring system to track progress an INDC booklet was also prepared for widespread dissemination. These actions set the scene for future NDC implementation, through achieving greater national awareness of, and stakeholder support for, the need for climate action.

## Formulation of MRV system to monitor and report NDC implementation

In order to track progress toward the NDC targets, Barbados designed a monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system to capture GHG emission levels, the impact of mitigation and adaptation actions, and climate finance flows and to enable the routine compilation of data and information on progress towards the realization of NDC targets. The MRV system also indexes Barbados' green economy and sustainable development goals.



## Decisive policy assessment to update the NDC

The government's objective to be carbon neutral by 2030, mainly through measures in the energy sector, has fostered further consultations within the climate action arena. Government, with support from the INDC project, has been enabled to oversee the energy generation licensing regime and developed a new license for utilities and independent producers, aligned with the work done in the Energy NAMA. This work will directly influence the update of the NDC by 2020, raising ambition in the energy sector on the reduction of GHG emissions.



## Institutional arrangements for climate action

The INDC formulation process helped to create an efficient coordination process in the government that in turn supported the NDC implementation planning process and related activities. Significantly, MRV discussions are now part of the coordination, contributing to institutionalization and ownership by government actors at multiple levels. The country is committed to measuring and monitoring progress on climate change actions, and to improved reporting processes.

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