



KOICA
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Cooperation Agency



Climate Action Tools

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Climate Action Tools

We acknowledge the support of the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts, and Culture, and the Ministry of Tourism and Environment for their coordination and guidance.

With contributions from:

Adolescents and young people, including students, youth leaders, environmental youth groups, girls and young women, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQI+ youth from Dili, Viqueque, and Lautém municipalities, who participated in the consultations and field testing and shared their experiences, perspectives, and insights during the development of this guide.

These include Amigo de Jesus, São Pedro, Sagrado Coração de Jesus, CAFÉ, An-Nur, Colegio São João Paulo II, KAY-RALA, Colegio Santo Inácio de Loyola, ESTV – ETI, UNTL, DIT, UCT, ESG CALIXA, Cristal, ICS, ESGP 4 de Setembro, ESG LERE, ESG KONIS, ESG CAFÉ, Vocational no.1, Laudato Si' Movement de Timor-Leste, Alumni LCOY Timor-Leste, APFTL, SOA-TL, RYLA-TL, KHS, AJAR, UC-TL, BERNABAD, SBHMDU.

Their meaningful contributions helped shape the content, language, and tools to ensure they are relevant, inclusive, culturally appropriate, and youth-friendly.

Disclaimer:

This guide is an educational resource intended to support learning and youth engagement in climate action. It simplifies climate change, advocacy, and policy concepts for educational purposes and does not replace official government policies or United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) documents.

The Development of Adolescent and Youth-Friendly Climate Change Module and Toolkit Series was funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

The **Youth-Friendly Climate Change Module and Toolkit Series** were developed to empower adolescents and young people in Timor-Leste, especially those aged 15 to 28, by providing climate change learning resources that support informed, inclusive, and locally driven climate action.

These resources are:



This **Climate Action Tool** is the third resource in the Youth-Friendly Climate Change Module and Toolkit Series. We recommend starting with the **Youth Climate Change Module**, followed by the **Youth Climate Action Guideline**, and then exploring this **Climate Action Tool**. This resource is available in two languages: **English and Tetun**. Both versions are intended to ensure broader accessibility and understanding.

Rather than creating new tools, this resource explains existing international and national climate action tools — what they are and how they support climate action, including climate finance and implementation mechanisms. It also guides adolescents and young people on how to engage with these processes, influence decision-making, and take action using the tools that already exist.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACE	Action for Climate Empowerment	MGYC	United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth
ADB	Asian Development Bank	NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement	MRV	Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification
COP	Conference of the Parties	NAP	National Adaptation Plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
FRLD	Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage	NCCP	National Climate Change Policy
GCF	Green Climate Fund	NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
GEF	Global Environment Facility	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
GHG	Greenhouse Gas	TNA	Technology Needs Assessment
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
LCOY	Local Conference of Youth	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
LCDS	Low Carbon Development Strategy	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund	YOUNGO	Youth NGO Official Children and Youth Constituency of the UNFCCC
LT-LEDS	Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy		

1. INTRODUCTION

The **Climate Action Tools** are important because they help countries and communities make progress toward the goals of the **Paris Agreement**. These goals focus on **three main themes**:

Mitigation: Reducing the causes of climate change.

1

Adaptation: Preparing for and adjusting to climate impacts.

2

Loss and Damage: Dealing with the harm caused by climate change.

3

These themes help create guidelines and strong policies that make it easier for communities, governments, and society to take climate action at both local and national levels.





We start by introducing the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** and the **Paris Agreement**.



Next, we explore other tools connected to the Paris Agreement that guide countries in planning and taking action to meet global climate goals and the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.



The **SDGs** are global goals for sustainable development. They help countries plan and take action to improve people's lives and protect the planet.



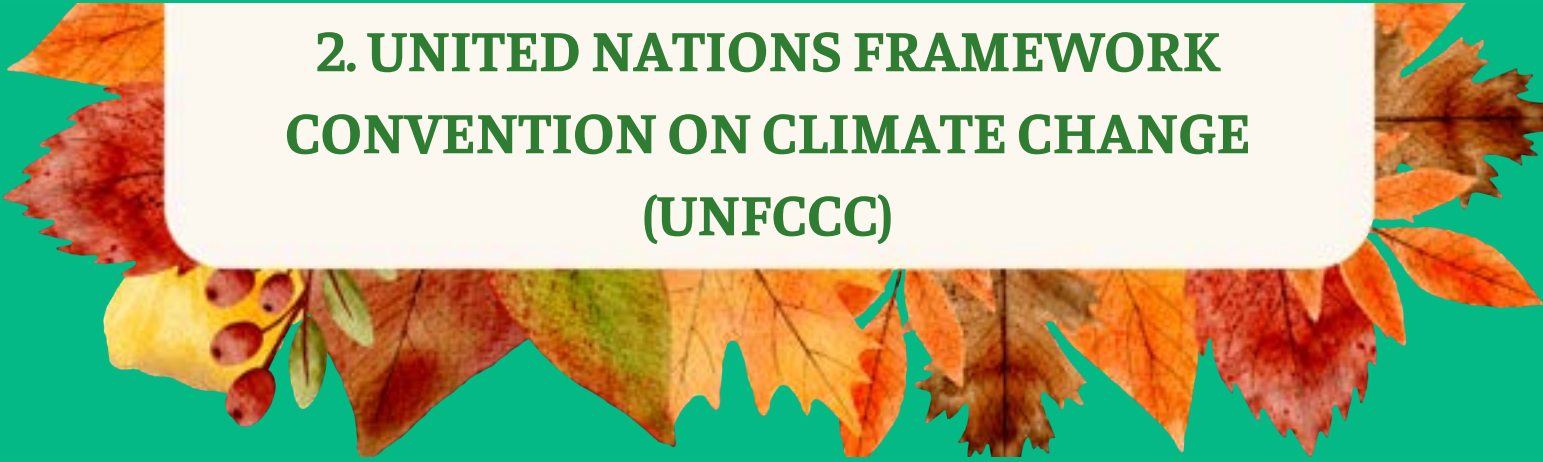
Then, it explores key climate action tools that help countries take action, such as NDCs, NAPs, long-term climate strategies, and sector plans (forestry, energy, agriculture), with examples linked to Timor-Leste.



It also highlights your right to participate in climate decision-making through **Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)** and introduces the **SAMOA Pathway**, a global framework that helps Small Island Developing States like Timor-Leste.



Finally, we suggest practical actions that young people and communities can take to use these tools and make a difference in Timor-Leste.

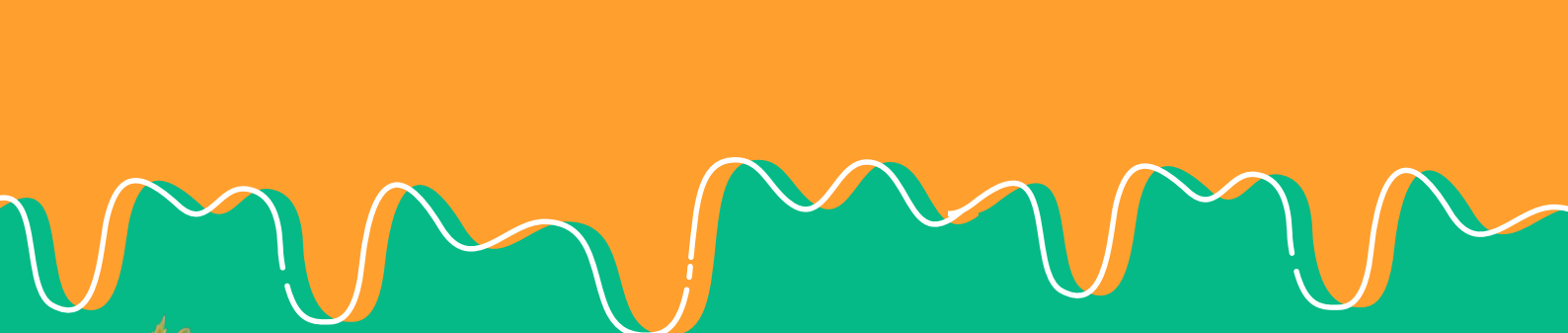


2. UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC)

The **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** is an international agreement signed by 197 Parties (197 States and 1 regional economic integration organisation). Its objective is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations at a level that would prevent dangerous human-induced interference with the climate system. This would allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change.



This agreement sets up the rules and organizations needed for countries to make decisions about climate change at the global level. **It is the main tool for guiding climate action.** The decisions made under the UNFCCC help shape climate actions around the world, in Timor-Leste, and in local communities.



Timor-Leste became a Party to the UNFCCC in 2006 (ratified in January 2007), making the country part of the global climate process and responsible for reporting on and acting on climate change.

!!! As a Party to the UNFCCC, **Timor-Leste can access international climate finance, technical assistance, and global cooperation mechanisms.** The Convention provides the foundation for Timor-Leste's participation in global climate negotiations, including the Conference of the Parties (COP), and supports the development of national climate policies and plans.



Youth can learn about Timor-Leste's role under the UNFCCC and engage in national and international climate processes.

This includes advocating for meaningful youth inclusion in COP delegations, contributing to climate consultations, and raising awareness about global climate commitments at the local level.

2.1. THE PARIS AGREEMENT

The **Paris Agreement** was adopted under the UNFCCC with the aim of strengthening efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit the planet's average temperature increase. It is an international agreement that commits countries to ambitious climate actions with respect to mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage.

The Paris Agreement (adopted in 2015 in Paris, France) changed the course of global climate action. It united nations behind the common cause of undertaking ambitious actions to tackle climate change, adapt to its various effects and ensure adequate support for developing countries.

The Agreement was adopted by 195 Parties at COP21 under the UNFCCC. As of 27 January 2026, 194 Parties are Parties to the Paris Agreement. **The COP is part of the UNFCCC.**

Countries that participate in the Paris Agreement or in the UNFCCC are called **Parties**.



Timor-Leste **signed the Paris Agreement on 22 April 2016** and **ratified it on 16 August 2017**, officially joining the global climate pact and committing to take action under its framework.



The Paris Agreement :



The Agreement is a key instrument for advancing Agenda 2030 and the SDGs given that climate change responses and measures are closely related to equitable access to sustainable development and poverty eradication.



It prioritizes safeguarding food security and ending hunger.



It also notes the importance of protecting all ecosystems (including oceans) and biodiversity, recognized by some cultures as 'Mother Earth'

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The Agreement calls for countries to take action to **reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)** and to help societies and ecosystems **adapt better to climate change**. Countries set their own climate commitments, but they are expected to report progress transparently and strengthen their efforts over time.

Civil society therefore plays a very important role in monitoring the implementation of the Agreement at the national and local levels.



There are two main bodies that ensure that the Agreement is applied and its terms are met :



The Conference of the Parties (COP) serving as the **Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA)**, which brings together the countries that signed the Agreement, acts as the supreme body overseeing the Agreement's implementation and takes the decisions necessary to promote its effective implementation.



The Secretariat, which is the Secretariat of the UNFCCC and organizes the sessions of the annual conferences, receives reports from the countries and provides them with assistance.

WHY IS THE PARIS AGREEMENT IMPORTANT ?

Because of its ambition and goals

- It sets ambitious targets for climate action in countries.
- It promotes commitments to limit this century's average global temperature increase to no more than 2°C, and pursues additional efforts to limit the increase to only 1.5°C.
- It seeks to increase countries' capacity for adaptation to climate change.
- It supports a shift toward low-emission and climate-resilient development
- It promotes balancing GHGs with nature-based solutions like forests and mangroves, which are important for Timor-Leste.

Attention! A **'balance'** between emissions and removals is only part of the long-term goal. Rapid and deep emission reductions are still essential.

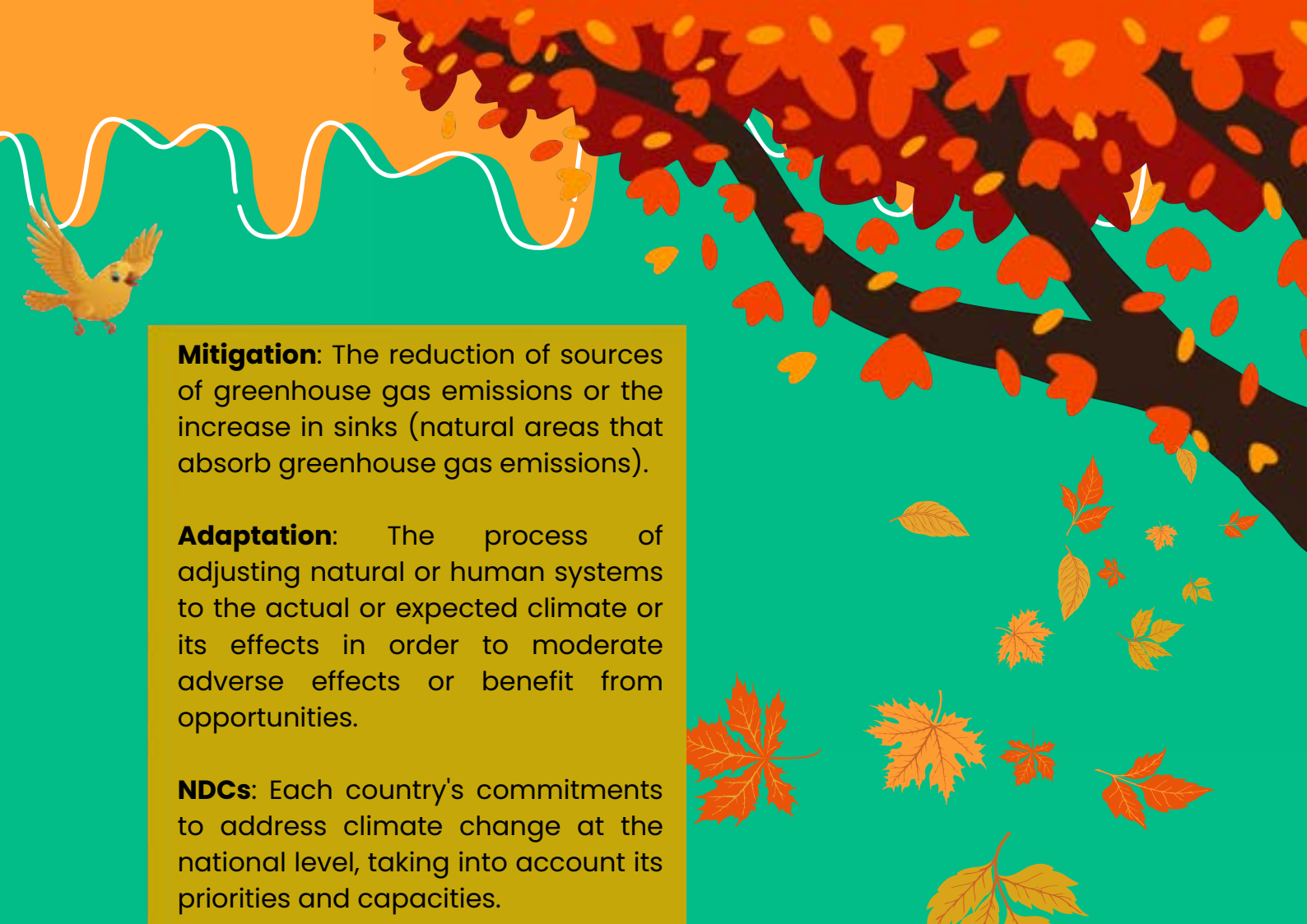
Because of its content

It promotes climate change **mitigation and adaptation measures**, which include strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerability, and increasing and conserving natural areas that have the capacity to absorb greenhouse gases, in order to protect ecosystems and people.

It promotes **innovation and technology transfer** to improve resilience and provide an effective response to the impacts of climate change in the medium and long term.

It addresses the **damages and losses** associated with the adverse effects of climate change, which occur when adaptation is no longer possible, and it recognizes the importance of supporting countries suffering from such effects.

It establishes mechanisms for **voluntary cooperation among countries** by facilitating the implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs).



Mitigation: The reduction of sources of greenhouse gas emissions or the increase in sinks (natural areas that absorb greenhouse gas emissions).

Adaptation: The process of adjusting natural or human systems to the actual or expected climate or its effects in order to moderate adverse effects or benefit from opportunities.

NDCs: Each country's commitments to address climate change at the national level, taking into account its priorities and capacities.

Because it calls for action, collaboration and accountability



Accountability:

It establishes a **transparency** framework that offers a clear vision of climate action in each country, the progress made and the support given or received by the different countries. This transparency framework has flexibility to take into account the capacities of developing nations.



Action: All measures adopted should be reflected in **NDCs**, which are the actions that each country decides to take to address climate change. The contributions should be highly ambitious, so that the objectives of the Agreement are met, and adapted to the reality of each country, taking into account its priorities and capacities.



Collaboration: The Agreement proposes that developed countries support developing countries with its implementation through measures such as capacity-building and funding for implementing actions.



The **Agreement** calls for countries to take ambitious and progressive action and enables a collaborative approach to climate action. In addition, it takes special account of the capacities of developing nations.



Because of its relationship to human rights



The Agreement recognizes the importance of protecting and respecting human rights in all climate actions. Those rights are, principally: the right to health, development, gender equality, the empowerment of women and intergenerational equity, as well as the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, people with disabilities, people in vulnerable situations and children.



Because of the importance of citizen participation



The Agreement sets ambitious goals, but actions by countries are voluntary. **It is extremely important that civil society, including young people and adolescents, exercises its right to participate and be involved in defining national plans and climate targets, and demands that those targets be met.**



It is important to create different mechanisms to integrate social actors. Among the most important are **YOUNGO**, the official children and youth constituency of the UNFCCC, and the **United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY)**. There are also many other youth-led organizations and networks that help young people participate in climate decision-making. We advise you to find out what organizations and networks exist in your country.

2.1.1. CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP)

The **Conference of the Parties (COP)** is the **highest decision-making body of the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)**. It meets annually to make global decisions on climate policies, agreements, and action plans. COP is not just for governments—youth and civil society play a vital role in amplifying local voices, sharing solutions, and holding leaders accountable.

Definition:



COP is the **global platform where countries negotiate climate agreements and track climate progress.**



It is the **highest decision-making body of the UNFCCC**, meaning it approves global climate decisions that affect all countries.

Why COP matters for Timor-Leste?



Opportunity to **show Timor-Leste's climate actions and needs.**



Platform for **youth and community voices** to be heard globally.



Helps Timor-Leste **connect with partners, funding sources, and knowledge networks.**

Youth Actions:

- Prepare **youth statements** (for example, through LCOY or youth networks) to highlight local challenges and solutions.
- Organize **side events or panels** showcasing local climate projects.
- **Share COP learnings** with schools, villages, and youth networks.
- Follow online COP streams and contribute to virtual consultations if you cannot attend in person.

Note: Refer to the **Youth Climate Action Guidelines** for tips on how to prepare for and participate effectively at COP.



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3. TOOLS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PARIS AGREEMENT

In order to meet global climate action goals, countries need to integrate them into national plans, policies, and implementation processes. One way to do this is through the formulation of guidelines or ambitious policies. There are other tools that countries use to align themselves with global goals.

These tools are:



Global & UNFCCC Tools



Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0)



National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)



Adaptation Communications



Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS)



Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs)



National Tools (Timor-Leste)



National Climate Change Policy



Technology Needs Assessment (TNA)

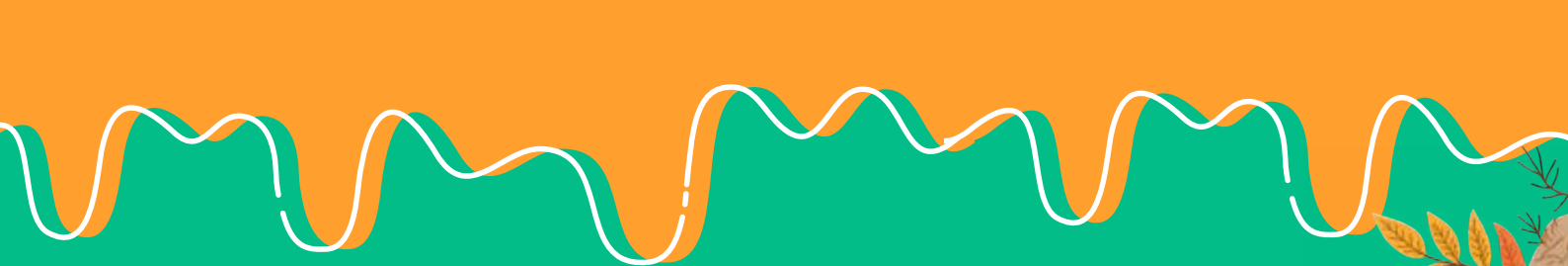


Sectoral plans (forestry, energy, agriculture)

There are a number of very important approaches to consider when planning, reporting on or updating any of the above-mentioned tools.



For you, as a young advocate, these approaches can serve as a guide for participating in the development of national plans or strategies; they can help you ensure that your proposals are taken into consideration during development or review processes, so you can secure the highest possible level of ambition.



Eight approaches the tools should use to raise ambition

These are **eight approaches that climate action tools should use to raise ambition**—meaning to make climate actions stronger, fairer, and more effective for everyone.

1

Human rights & children's rights : Climate actions must **protect human rights**, especially **children's rights**.

Children are more vulnerable to climate impacts (like disasters, food shortages, and health risks), and these impacts can affect them for life—especially children from poor or marginalized communities.

2

Climate justice: Climate action should be **fair and reduce inequality**.

Not everyone has contributed equally to climate change, and not everyone has the same ability to respond. Actions should not create discrimination or harm vulnerable people.

3

Intergenerational justice: Children and young people will **live longer with the consequences** of climate change. They must be **included in consultations and decision-making**, so today's decisions also protect future generations.

4

Gender equality: Women and girls are often **more affected by climate change** because of existing social and economic inequalities. Climate actions should ensure **equal participation and leadership of women and girls**.

5

Holistic & multisectoral approach: Climate change is not just an environmental issue. It affects **health, education, food, water, housing, and social protection**, so solutions must connect all these sectors.



6

Empowerment of children, adolescents & youth:

Young people should not only be beneficiaries—they should be **decision-makers and leaders**. They need access to information, skills, and opportunities to take action locally and globally.

7

Transparency & access to

information: Climate tools must be **open and transparent**.

People should be able to **access information**, track progress, and monitor whether commitments are being fulfilled.

8

Citizen participation:

Climate action should involve **all citizens**, including children and youth. Clear mechanisms must exist so communities can **participate, give feedback, and influence decisions**.



These Climate Action Tools are designed to be inclusive of **girls and young women, young people with disabilities, indigenous and customary communities, and youth from both rural and urban areas**.

Special attention should be given to removing barriers to participation, including language, accessibility, geography, gender norms, and access to information.



3.1. NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (NDC)

In 2013, countries agreed that each nation should **decide its own climate actions** to reduce pollution and protect people. These plans are called **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**.

NDCs later became the **foundation of the Paris Agreement**, helping countries turn global climate goals into **national action plans**.

Almost all countries, including **Timor-Leste**, submitted their NDCs. This showed strong global commitment. However, many NDCs were **not ambitious enough** to stop dangerous climate change.

For Timor-Leste, this means:



We must **strengthen our NDCs** to better protect our people, land, ocean, and food security



Youth voices matter to push for stronger, fairer climate actions

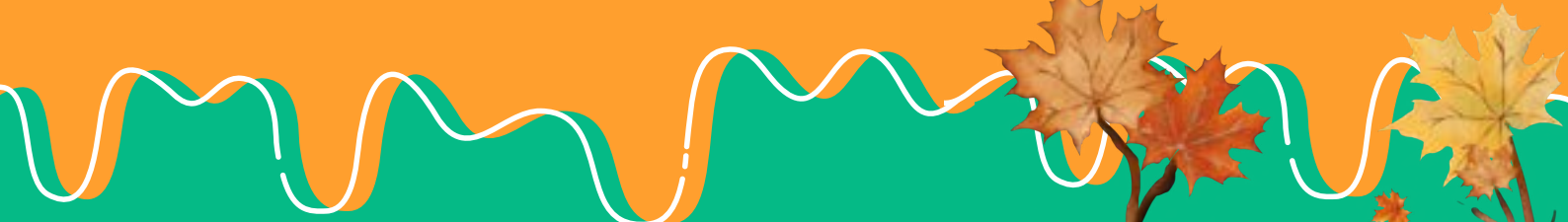


A stronger NDC helps Timor-Leste access **climate finance, technology, and support**



Youth have a key role in shaping NDC so our future is safer and more resilient.





What are NDCs?

NDCs are the commitments made by the countries that ratified the Paris Agreement to achieve global climate goals. Each country sets the level of ambition of its contribution, meaning the country decides the climate mitigation actions it will implement in order to:

- ▶ limit the global temperature increase to 1.5°C.
- ▶ support long-term pathways toward a balance between emissions and removals, in line with the Paris Agreement.

Some important points:

Each country determines its own contributions. The Paris Agreement calls for contributions to be ambitious and progressive (countries should submit new contributions every five years).

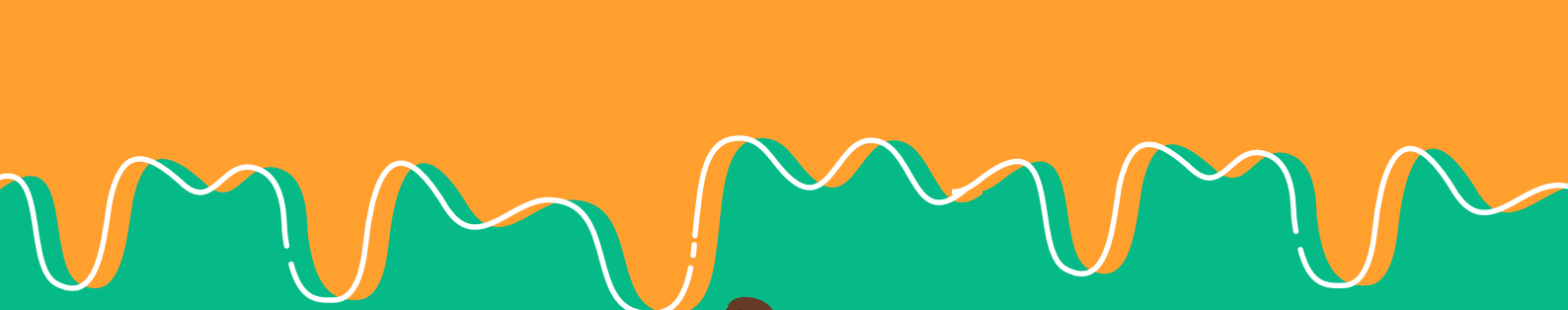
From 2023 onward, a Global Stocktake will be conducted every five years to review progress and generate recommendations.

What do NDCs include?

NDCs are a country's climate action plan. They explain what a country will do to fight climate change and protect its people.

NDCs include:

- ▶ **Climate actions** the country commits to take.
- ▶ **Mitigation actions** – reducing pollution or protecting forests, mangroves, and oceans that absorb carbon.
- ▶ **Implementation measures** – how the plan will be carried out (policies, funding, partnerships).
- ▶ **Transparency actions** – tracking progress through measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV).



Countries can also include:



Adaptation actions – protecting communities from floods, droughts, heat, and sea-level rise.



Loss and damage – addressing impacts that cannot be avoided, such as disasters and coastal erosion.



Technology and capacity-building – skills, tools, and knowledge needed for climate action.



Contributions timeline

2020

Second round of updated NDCs submitted

2023

First global review of NDCs

2025

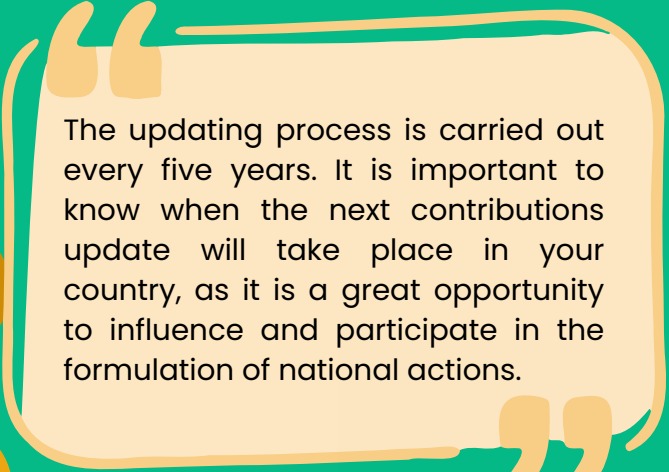
Third round of updated NDCs submitted

2028

Second global review of NDCs

2030

Fourth round of updated NDCs submitted



The updating process is carried out every five years. It is important to know when the next contributions update will take place in your country, as it is a great opportunity to influence and participate in the formulation of national actions.



How are NDCs updated?

Each country updates its NDC in its own way, but the process usually includes these steps:



Review the old NDC

Check what worked, what didn't, and what progress was made.



Set stronger goals

Create new targets that are **more ambitious**, longer-term, or improve existing ones.



Study climate action options

Look at different actions (like renewable energy, forests, or climate-smart agriculture), their impacts, and costs.



Strengthen or add new actions

Work with teams from **different sectors** (environment, energy, agriculture, education, health, etc.), including sectors not included before.



Improve transparency systems

Strengthen how actions are **measured, reported, and tracked**.



What happens after the NDC is ready?

- ▶ The country submits its NDC to the UNFCCC public registry.
 - ▶ The NDC is published in a **public registry** so everyone can see it.
 - ▶ NDCs are updated **every five years**.
 - ▶ Each new NDC must be **stronger than the last one**.
- 



How are NDCs implemented?

For an NDC to work, a country needs more than a plan—it needs **action and coordination**.

This means:

- **Clear processes and institutions:** Government agencies and partners must know who does what to lead and coordinate climate action.
- **Strong coordination:** Different sectors (environment, agriculture, energy, education, health) must work together, not separately.
- **Monitoring progress:** Track what actions are being implemented, what works, and what doesn't.
- **Learning and improving:** Use lessons learned to improve future actions and make the next NDC stronger.

3.2. NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN (NAP)

National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) play an important role in global climate action and were key to the inclusion of **adaptation** in the Paris Agreement, where a global adaptation goal was established. The Paris Agreement encourages countries to **adopt, formulate, and implement NAPs** to strengthen resilience to climate change.



What are NAPs?

NAPs are national planning tools designed to:

- ▶ Reduce vulnerability to the negative impacts of climate change by strengthening adaptive capacity and resilience;
- ▶ Integrate climate change adaptation into national policies, programmes, and development planning.

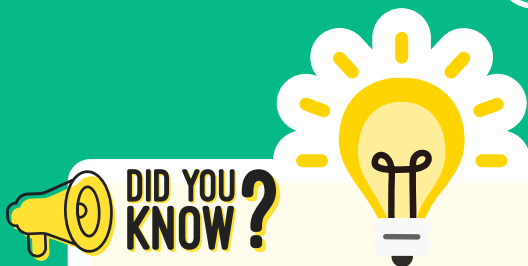
An NAP should be **transparent, participatory, and gender-sensitive**, and based on **human rights, scientific evidence, local knowledge, and ecosystem approaches**. It should give special attention to **groups and communities most vulnerable** to climate change impacts.



What does an NAP usually include?

NAPs commonly include:

- 1 Guidelines to improve knowledge and inform national adaptation decision-making.
- 2 Capacity-building actions to support the implementation of adaptation measures.
- 3 Adaptation plans or programmes for specific sectors, such as **agriculture, biodiversity, fisheries, water, and coastal areas**.
- 4 The structure and format of NAPs vary by country and may result in national adaptation plans, policies, or sectoral programmes.



DID YOU KNOW?

As a country highly vulnerable to climate change, **Timor-Leste's National Adaptation Plan (NAP)** is a key tool to help us **prepare for climate impacts, adapt to changes, and become more resilient**—so our communities can stay strong despite climate challenges.

NAPs help reduce risks, but they also highlight the need to address **loss and damage** where adaptation is no longer sufficient.



Timor-Leste developed its first National Adaptation Plan (NAP) in 2021 to help communities prepare for climate impacts like floods, droughts, and coastal damage. However, there is limited funding, weak coordination, little youth involvement, and no clear system to track which actions have been implemented. Young people can help by speaking up, supporting community projects, and asking for more transparency and inclusion.



Inclusive Participation

Throughout the formulation and implementation of NAPs, **vulnerable groups and communities should be involved**, both directly and indirectly. This ensures that adaptation measures respond to real needs and strengthen the resilience of those most affected by climate change.



NAPs and Loss and Damage

Even when adaptation measures are well designed and implemented, **not all climate impacts can be avoided**. There is always a residual risk, meaning some impacts may lead to **loss and damage**, such as:

- Loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Loss of income and livelihoods
- Damage to infrastructure and community assets



3.3. ADAPTATION COMMUNICATIONS

It is important to monitor the various areas that the Paris Agreement covers in order to achieve successful implementation. To achieve the Global Goal of Adaptation (GGA), each country should establish adaptation communications and register these with the Convention Secretariat. Such communications also serve to encourage good practices in national adaptation and planning.



What Should Adaptation Communications Include?

Adaptation communications explain how a country is responding to climate change. Although the Paris Agreement does not set a fixed format, they usually include:

- Information that helps track progress at the global level, including contributions to global climate assessments.

Key Message for Youth

Timor-Leste has not yet developed a standalone Adaptation Communication, but adaptation information is included in the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This means youth can help by understanding national adaptation priorities, identifying gaps in funding and monitoring, sharing community experiences, and advocating for stronger transparency and youth inclusion in future adaptation planning and reporting.



- How adaptation actions help local communities and ecosystems become more resilient.
- How different stakeholders, including communities, youth, and civil society, are involved in planning and implementation
- Clear information on funding for adaptation, including available resources, how funds are used, and remaining needs at national and local levels
- Information on national and local policies that support climate adaptation and resilience
- Updates on new or revised climate actions, linked to the country's NDC cycle

3.4. LONG-TERM LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (LT-LEDS)

The **Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS)** is a planning tool under the Paris Agreement that helps countries map out **long-term pathways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions** while promoting sustainable development.

LT-LEDS covers key **sectors such as energy, transport, agriculture, forestry, and waste**, and identifies strategic options to transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy. It is designed for a long-term horizon (10–30 years) and considers both mitigation and adaptation co-benefits.

SUCCESS STORY

Countries that have implemented LT-LEDS, such as **Bhutan and the Maldives**, have successfully aligned renewable energy investments, forest protection, and sustainable transport policies with long-term climate goals, showing how LT-LEDS can guide low-carbon growth and resilience.

Timor-Leste Commitment:

Timor-Leste is committed to developing a national low-carbon development strategy to support long-term planning in line with the Paris Agreement. However, this strategy has not yet been formally finalized.

Young people can engage by learning about low-carbon pathways, advocating for green policies, supporting community-based renewable energy or sustainable agriculture projects, and raising awareness about the importance of long-term climate planning in Timor-Leste.

3.5. NATIONALLY APPROPRIATE MITIGATION ACTIONS (NAMAS)



What are NAMAs



NAMAs are **voluntary actions that help countries reduce greenhouse gas emissions**. They are **locally designed initiatives** that can support transformational change in key sectors, such as **agriculture, forestry, energy, or transport**. Although **NAMAs are not explicitly required under the Paris Agreement**, they are useful tools for countries to plan and showcase mitigation efforts, especially when seeking international support.

Timor-Leste is **not required to develop NAMAs** under the Paris Agreement, but voluntary actions can still help the country achieve its current and future **NDC targets**, attract **international support**, and demonstrate progress in **renewable energy, sustainable forestry, and low-carbon development**.

How NAMAs work



NAMAs usually include two main elements:

1. **General activities** – Specific actions to reduce emissions, often supported with funding, technology, and capacity-building.
2. **MRV (Monitoring, Reporting, Verification) framework** – Activities to track and report on the effectiveness of the actions.

Types of NAMAs:

- **Supported NAMAs:** Receive international support from governments, development banks, or the private sector.
- **Unilateral NAMAs:** Rely only on domestic resources and funding.

Young people can get involved by **identifying local projects that reduce emissions**, supporting **community renewable energy, waste reduction, or sustainable agriculture initiatives**, and sharing success stories to inspire more action at the national and local levels.



3.6. NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY



WHAT IS IT?

The **National Climate Change Policy (NCCP)** is Timor-Leste's official policy framework that **guides the country's response to climate change**. It outlines the government's priorities for **mitigation, adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable development**. The policy ensures that climate action is **integrated into national and sectoral plans**, including forestry, energy, agriculture, water, and coastal management.

The NCCP provides a **national roadmap** for responding to climate change and achieving Timor-Leste's **NDC targets**. It guides investments, policy decisions, and international climate engagement, helping the country **access technical support, finance, and climate partnerships**.



OBJECTIVES:

The policy aims to:

- Strengthen Timor-Leste's **resilience to climate impacts** such as floods, droughts, and coastal erosion;
- Promote **low-carbon development and renewable energy**;
- Protect **ecosystems and biodiversity** while supporting sustainable livelihoods;
- Encourage **coordination among government, communities, NGOs, and development partners**;
- Support **youth engagement, education, and capacity-building** in climate action.

Young people can play an important role by:

- **Learning and sharing** about national climate priorities.
- Participating in **community climate projects** aligned with NCCP goals.
- Advocating for **youth inclusion in decision-making**.
- Supporting **local adaptation and mitigation initiatives**, such as renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and coastal protection.



3.7. TECHNOLOGY NEEDS ASSESSMENT (TNA)

A **Technology Needs Assessment (TNA)** is a participatory, country-driven process under the UNFCCC that helps a country identify which technologies are most needed to tackle climate change – both for reducing greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) and increasing resilience to climate impacts (adaptation).



What the TNA does?

A TNA typically:

-  **Identifies priority technologies** that fit national climate priorities and sustainable development goals.
-  Analyses **barriers and challenges** (e.g., funding, capacity, policy gaps) that prevent technology use.
-  Proposes a **Technology Action Plan** with steps to adopt, transfer, and scale key technologies.
-  Supports alignment of technology needs with national targets like the **NDCs** and long-term strategies.

Timor-Leste's TNA

Timor-Leste completed its [TNA process in 2023–2024](#), using a participatory approach with government agencies, civil society, youth groups, and other stakeholders to identify priority technologies for both **adaptation and mitigation**. Priorities include:

 **Adaptation:** Sustainable Land Management in Agriculture, and Infrastructure and Nature-based Methods to Prevent Erosion.

 **Mitigation:** Transportation Sector and Agriculture, Land Use and Forestry Sector.



Why TNAs Matter for Timor-Leste?

Technology is essential for Timor-Leste to:

- 🍁 Strengthen climate resilience in food systems, land use, and infrastructure.
- 🍁 Improve access to clean energy and reduce dependency on fossil fuels.
- 🍁 Link national climate strategies (like the NDC and NAP) with practical technology adoption.
- 🍁 Attract climate finance and technical partnerships by showing **clear technology priorities**.



Young People can:

- 1 Learn about **priority climate technologies** and why they matter for local challenges.
- 2 Take part in **public consultations and stakeholder dialogues** during updates to technology planning.
- 3 Advocate for **funding, capacity building, and inclusive** access to climate technologies in rural and youth communities.
- 4 Support **technology innovation projects**, such as solar energy systems, climate-smart agriculture methods, or erosion control solutions, within their municipalities.

3.8. SECTORAL PLANS (FORESTRY, ENERGY, AGRICULTURE)

Sectoral plans are climate-related strategies, policies, or action plans developed for specific sectors of the economy – such as **forestry, energy, and agriculture**. These plans help translate national climate goals (like those in the NDC, NAP, and National Climate Change Policy) into **practical actions and projects** at the sector level.

Some Key Sectoral Laws & Policies in Timor-Leste:

-  **Law No. 14/2017** – Forestry protection and management
-  **Decree-Law No. 26/2012** – Environmental protection basics
-  **Decree-Law No. 5/2016** – Protected areas and biodiversity
-  **Agriculture Policy (2017)** – Climate-smart, nutrition-focused farming
-  **Public Transport Master Plan (2024)** – Sustainable, climate-friendly transport

Each sectoral plan:

-  Defines priorities, targets, and actions
-  Identifies needed resources (funding, technology, capacity)
-  Sets performance indicators and timelines
-  Encourages coordination between government, communities, and partners.



Why Sectoral Plans Matter for Timor-Leste?

Sectoral plans:



Break down national climate goals into specific actions that communities can relate to.



Help allocate resources strategically (e.g., renewable energy projects, agroforestry programs, forest restoration).



Support implementation of national policies (e.g., NDCs, NAP).



Improve coordination between ministries, municipalities, and local actors.

Sectoral plans help turn national climate goals into real actions in sectors like forests, clean energy, and farming. Young people can help by learning about climate challenges, joining local initiatives, and advocating for community-based solutions that build resilience and support sustainable livelihoods.



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4. PARTICIPATION, RIGHTS, AND GOVERNANCE TOOLS

4.1. ACTION FOR CLIMATE EMPOWERMENT (ACE)

What is ACE?

Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) is a cross-cutting approach under Article 6 of the UNFCCC and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement. It supports climate education, training, public awareness, public participation, access to information, and international cooperation.

See details in:

<https://www.unicef.org/lac/en/reports/paris-agreement-young-people>



What are the components of ACE?



Education: through education an understanding can be gained on the causes of and possible approaches to climate change. In addition, adolescents and young people develop capacities that allow them to respond and make decisions when faced with the negative impacts of climate change.



Training: it is necessary to build capacity to mobilize actions that support the transformation towards new economic models and towards societies that are sustainable and resilient in the face of the adverse effects of climate change.



3 Public awareness: the climate struggle should be common to all individuals and groups as this would allow for better climate policies and actions. Public awareness is therefore necessary. This, in turn, can lead to the social transformations that should support climate action.

4 Public participation: the right to public participation should be guaranteed so that people, including children and adolescents, can have a voice in the decisions that affect them. In addition, the right to participation allows young people, adolescents and children to demand action in response to the negative impacts of climate change.

5 Public access to information: the right to access information should also be guaranteed so that people, including children and adolescents, can be aware of the impacts they may experience and the possible effects that some climate change actions may have.

6 International cooperation: all countries can benefit from the exchange of experiences, knowledge and successful actions, as well as from the strengthening of institutional capacities and access to financing, which make climate action more powerful.



4.2. SAMOA PATHWAY



What is the SAMOA Pathway?

The **SAMOA Pathway** is an international framework adopted in 2014 at the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in Samoa. It provides guidance and commitments to support sustainable development, climate resilience, and disaster risk reduction in SIDS and vulnerable countries, including Timor-Leste.

The pathway emphasizes inclusive, participatory approaches to development, recognizing that climate action must integrate youth, women, indigenous peoples, and marginalized communities. It highlights the importance of linking climate change, sustainable development, and human rights in national policies and strategies.



Key Principles of the SAMOA Pathway

1

Participation: Everyone, including youth and vulnerable groups, has the right to **engage in decision-making** on climate and development issues.

2

Integration: Climate change, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable development must be **addressed together**.

3

Capacity and cooperation: Encourages **sharing knowledge, technologies, and resources** among countries to strengthen climate action.

4

Transparency and accountability: Promotes open reporting and access to information to track progress on national and regional priorities.

5

Civil society inclusion: Youth, communities, and NGOs play a **central role** in advocating for and implementing SAMOA Pathway commitments.



Young people in Timor-Leste can:



Learn about SAMOA Pathway priorities and **link them to local climate actions**



Climate actions should respect and build on **local cultural values, customary practices, and traditional knowledge**, especially in rural and coastal communities



Participate in **consultations, workshops, and climate campaigns**

Advocate for **inclusive decision-making** in climate and development planning



Lead **community projects** that address climate vulnerabilities, such as coastal protection, sustainable farming, or renewable energy initiatives



Key Message for Youth

The SAMOA Pathway is a global tool that helps Timor-Leste **build resilience to climate change, achieve sustainable development, and ensure everyone—including youth—is included in decisions.** Young people can take action by **learning, participating, and leading community-based climate projects.**

5. CLIMATE FINANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

Climate finance is money that helps communities **fight climate change, protect nature, and adapt to its impacts**. It can come from:

-  **Public finance** – government budgets or international aid
-  **Private finance** – banks, investors, or companies funding green projects
-  **Bilateral finance** – one country supporting another
-  **Multilateral finance** – collective funding through international agreements like **UNFCCC**

The main **UNFCCC-related climate finance funds** relevant for Timor-Leste are: **GCF, GEF, Adaptation Fund, LDC Fund, and FRLD (Fund for Responding to Loss & Damage)**.

5.1. GREEN CLIMATE FUND (GCF)



What is it?

The [Green Climate Fund \(GCF\)](#) is the largest global climate fund under the UNFCCC, created to help developing countries **fight climate change and build** resilience.



Why it matters for Timor-Leste?

- 🌰 Coastal protection (mangroves, reefs)
- 🌰 Climate-smart agriculture (drought-resistant crops)
- 🌰 Disaster risk reduction (flood management)

GCF Funding for Timor-Leste



Did you know? Timor-Leste has accessed Green Climate Fund support for resilient rural infrastructure, early warning systems, and community-based landscape management.

Some cool projects include:

- **Safeguarding Rural Communities & Infrastructure** – protect villages and strengthen rural infrastructure.
- **Enhancing Early Warning Systems** – help communities anticipate floods, droughts, and storms.
- **Community-Based Landscape Management** – climate-smart forestry and mitigation projects.

Youth can get involved!

- 🍂 Map local climate risks and challenges
- 🍂 Collect stories, photos, and evidence of climate impacts
- 🍂 Support drafting ideas for community projects



Even if you can't apply for GCF funds directly, your observations and ideas are **key inputs** for these projects. Your voice helps make sure climate solutions match local needs!

5.2. GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)



What is it?

The [Global Environment Facility \(GEF\)](#) is a multilateral fund that provides money for **projects to protect biodiversity, restore ecosystems, reduce pollution, and fight climate change.**

Why it matters for Timor-Leste:

-  Forest and biodiversity protection
-  Coral reef and marine conservation
-  Restoration and anti-soil erosion measures



Fun Fact: GEF in Timor-Leste

Timor-Leste has received **over USD 67 million from the Global Environment Facility (GEF)** to protect forests, restore land, conserve coral reefs, and build climate resilience. Even small actions by youth—like documenting environmental issues or reporting pollution—can help guide these big projects and make a real difference!

5.3. ADAPTATION FUND

What is it?

The **Adaptation Fund** finances projects that help communities **adapt to climate change impacts**, especially in developing countries.

Why it matters for Timor-Leste?

- 🍄 Flood and drought management
- 🍄 Climate-resilient farming
- 🍄 Early warning systems for extreme weather

Youth Actions:

- 🍄 Collect local climate data (rainfall, floods, erosion)
- 🍄 Share community stories in workshops
- 🍄 Suggest low-cost adaptation solutions



Adaptation Fund & Timor-Leste

The **Adaptation Fund** helps vulnerable countries like Timor-Leste build climate resilience — from managing floods and droughts to improving climate-smart farming and early warning systems — and even **supports Timor-Leste's National Adaptation Plan process** that guides how the country adapts to climate impacts.



5.4. LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND (LDCF)

What is it?

The **LDCF**, operating under the GEF, provides support for adaptation projects in **Least Developed Countries (LDCs)** to strengthen resilience and help vulnerable communities cope with the impacts of climate change.



LDCF & Timor-Leste

Timor-Leste has **applied for and received support from the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)** to help communities adapt to climate change. Projects funded by **LDCF include climate-resilient roads, bridges, irrigation, and flood protection** in rural areas.



Why it matters for Timor-Leste?

- ❁ Water security in drought-prone areas
- ❁ Coastal protection for vulnerable communities
- ❁ Disaster preparedness in remote villages

Youth Actions:

- 🍄 Identify vulnerable areas in your community
- 🍄 Help organize community consultations
- 🍄 Propose innovative, local adaptation solutions



5.5. FUND FOR RESPONDING TO LOSS AND DAMAGE (FRLD)

What is it?

The **FRLD** (Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage) is a UNFCCC-related mechanism that supports countries **recovering from irreversible climate impacts** like extreme storms, floods, droughts, or sea-level rise. The Fund launched its first call for funding requests at COP30 in November 2025. The first submission window runs from 15 December 2025 to 15 June 2026.

Youth Actions:

- Document community climate losses and damages
- Collect local stories and photos to show impact
- Help design small-scale recovery or resilience solutions

Why it matters for Timor-Leste?

- Responds to climate-related losses (homes, crops, livelihoods)
- Supports rebuilding communities after disasters
- Addresses slow-onset impacts like coastal erosion or saltwater intrusion



TIP :

Even if youth cannot directly apply for **FRLD, your documentation and ideas can guide funding priorities** and help communities recover faster.

Notes: Who Can Apply for Climate Funds

Accredited entities—such as government agencies, NGOs, and international organisations—can directly access funding from major climate funds like the GCF, Adaptation Fund, and GEF. Organisations without accreditation can still participate by working through or partnering with accredited entities. This ensures projects meet fund standards while allowing multiple access pathways.

Accredited entities that have supported Timor-Leste climate projects include:

 **UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)** — accredited to the GCF and has led Timor-Leste's large climate adaptation project, building resilient rural infrastructure.

 **UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)** — served as accredited entity for GCF early warning system projects.

 **JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)** — accredited to the GCF and has proposed climate resilience and watershed projects in Timor-Leste.

 **ADB (Asian Development Bank)** — accredited entity for GCF/GEF-linked resilience and urban climate projects.

 **FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization)** — implementing agency for the GEF-funded IKAN Adapt project.

Fun Note for Youth:

Even though youth can't apply directly to big climate funds like GCF, GEF, or the **Adaptation Fund**, you **can still get involved!** Youth can:

- Receive **small grants or support** to implement activities under larger projects;
- **Collaborate with accredited entities** (like UNDP, JICA, FAO) to carry out community-based climate actions;
- **Monitor how projects are implemented** to make sure they meet local needs;
- Share **ideas, local data, and stories** to help shape better climate solutions.

Your participation **makes sure big projects actually help communities** and empowers youth voices in climate action!



Quick Notes for Youth Using Climate Finance Tools

- 1 **Observe & document:** Record climate risks, disasters, and environmental problems in your community.
- 2 **Share local knowledge:** Community stories, photos, and videos are essential for project design.
- 3 **Participate & learn:** Join workshops, consultations, or NGO projects—experience counts.
- 4 **Think solutions:** Small local solutions can grow into fully funded projects.
- 5 **Connect with partners:** NGOs, schools, and local authorities are your allies.
- 6 **Check the project boards:** Many implementing partners like **UNDP, CI, FAO, and others** display the logos of the funds they use on their project boards. If you see a GCF, GEF, or Adaptation Fund logo, it means **that project is financed through multilateral climate finance.**

- 7 **Shape project implementation:** Youth can also influence **how projects are implemented by:**

- ✿ Joining consultations when proposals are prepared;
- ✿ Observing the project on the ground;
- ✿ Talking to local leaders or project teams if the implementation **doesn't match what was planned in the project document.**

- 8 **Remember:** Even if you cannot apply directly, your **data, ideas, and actions help accredited entities succeed!**



Youth power matters! Climate finance is not just for organizations—your **observations, ideas, consultation, and field engagement** can shape real change in Timor-Leste.

5.6. MONITORING, REPORTING, AND VERIFICATION (MRV)

MRV (Measurement, Reporting, and Verification) is a system used to **track progress, report results, and verify the impact of climate actions.**

It plays a crucial role in climate projects and carbon markets by ensuring that **greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and reductions are accurately measured, documented, and independently checked.** MRV helps make climate actions, policies, and funding **effective, transparent, and accountable.**

Why it matters for Timor-Leste?

- Helps governments and communities see what works and what doesn't.
- Ensures climate funds (like GCF, GEF, Adaptation Fund) are used properly.
- Supports Timor-Leste in meeting its **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)** and global climate commitments.



MRV Key Steps :

1 **Monitoring** (M) – Keep track of what is happening on the ground.

- ▶ Example: Count how many trees were planted, measure water saved by a project, or monitor coral restoration progress.
- ▶ Youth Role: Help collect data, take photos/videos, and report changes in your community.

2 **Reporting** (R) – Share information about progress and results.

- ▶ Example: Local authorities or NGOs submit reports to the government or funders showing achievements and challenges.
- ▶ Youth Role: Contribute observations, stories, and evidence from the field to make reports more accurate and relatable.

3 **Verification** (V) – Confirm that the reported results are correct.

- ▶ Example: An independent expert or agency checks if trees are really planted, or if a project achieved its goals.
- ▶ Youth Role: Participate in community verification events, show documented evidence, and share feedback on whether actions are effective.



Why MRV is Important for Youth?



Be a climate detective: Your observations help track real impact.



Shape project improvement: Feedback from youth can help make projects better.



Learn skills: Data collection, reporting, and verification are valuable skills for careers in climate, environment, or development.



Transparency: MRV makes sure that funding and efforts reach communities and create real results.



6. ACT! CONCRETE ACTIONS TO PROMOTE THE USE OF CLIMATE ACTION TOOLS IN TIMOR-LESTE

Adolescents and young people are not only beneficiaries of climate action – **they are agents of change.**

You can influence how climate tools are **designed, implemented, monitored, and improved** at local, national, and global levels.

You can act through:

- Existing consultation and participation mechanisms;
- Youth networks, civil society organizations, and community groups;
- Advocacy, monitoring, awareness-raising, and community-based action.

If inclusive mechanisms **do not exist**, this is the moment to **advocate for their creation.**



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CONCRETE ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE, DEPENDING ON THE CLIMATE TOOL



UNFCCC & Paris Agreement



-  **Learn** how Timor-Leste participates in the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement and share this knowledge with your community and youth networks.
-  **Advocate** for meaningful youth inclusion in national climate delegations, consultations, and reporting processes.
-  **Participate** in climate consultations to contribute your lived experience, local knowledge, and youth perspectives.
-  **Join or collaborate** with youth and civil society networks engaging in UNFCCC processes (such as youth networks, environmental organizations, or women's groups).
-  **Monitor** national commitments under the Paris Agreement and identify gaps where youth and communities can support implementation.
-  **Share** simplified explanations of the Paris Agreement through schools, social media, and community discussions.
-  **Prepare** youth statements or community messages to influence national and international climate discussions, including COP processes.



Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)



-  **Advocate** for the creation or strengthening of mechanisms that involve youth in formulating, implementing, and updating NDCs.
-  **Participate** in NDC consultations and sectoral discussions (forestry, energy, agriculture, education, health).
-  **Organize** youth consultations to collect ideas, concerns, and recommendations for stronger and fairer climate actions.
-  **Monitor** NDC implementation to identify which actions are progressing and which are delayed or underfunded.
-  **Document** local climate impacts, community solutions, and youth-led initiatives that can strengthen future NDC updates.
-  **Raise awareness** that stronger NDCs help Timor-Leste access climate finance and technical support.



National Adaptation Plan (NAP)

 **Advocate** for youth to be recognized as a vulnerable group and active contributors within the NAP.

 **Support** the integration of youth-led adaptation actions into national and local adaptation planning.

 **Disseminate** simplified information on the NAP so more young people understand adaptation priorities.

 **Monitor** whether adaptation actions are reaching communities most affected by climate change.

 **Collect** community feedback on adaptation projects and share lessons learned with decision-makers.

 **Raise awareness** that adaptation is essential for protecting lives, livelihoods, and ecosystems in Timor-Leste.



Adaptation Communications

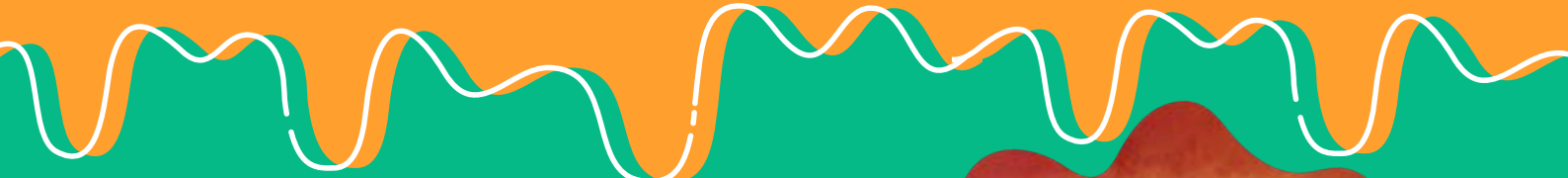
 **Monitor** adaptation information shared by the government through NDCs, NAPs, or national reports.

 **Identify** gaps in transparency, funding information, or youth participation.

 **Use** adaptation data to support advocacy for stronger and more inclusive adaptation measures.

 **Share** local experiences, community data, and youth perspectives that can inform future adaptation communications.

 **Encourage** authorities to clearly communicate adaptation progress and remaining needs.



Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDs)

- 
- Advocate** for the integration of youth perspectives in long-term climate and development planning.
- 
- Participate** in discussions on low-carbon pathways for energy, transport, agriculture, and forestry.
- 
- Promote** nature-based solutions, renewable energy, and sustainable livelihoods.
- 
- Support** awareness-raising on why long-term planning is critical for future generations.
- 
- Train** and **mentor** younger youth and children on climate leadership and long-term thinking.
- 



Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs)

- 
- Advocate** for youth participation in the design, implementation, and monitoring of mitigation actions.
- 
- Identify** local mitigation opportunities (renewable energy, waste reduction, sustainable farming).
- 
- Support** community-based projects that reduce emissions and protect ecosystems.
- 
- Share** simplified information about mitigation actions to increase public awareness and accountability.
- 
- Document** success stories to inspire replication and attract support.

National Climate Change Policy & Sectoral Plans

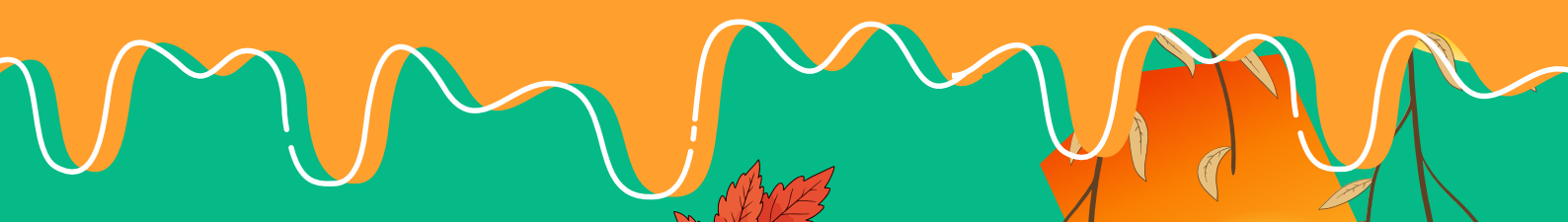
-  **Learn** about national climate priorities and how sectoral plans support them.
-  **Advocate** for youth inclusion in policy reviews and sectoral planning processes.
-  **Participate** in local projects aligned with national climate priorities.
-  **Monitor** how policies are implemented at the community level.
-  **Support** coordination between youth, communities, local authorities, and NGOs.

Technology Needs Assessment (TNA)

-  **Learn** about priority climate technologies identified for Timor-Leste.
-  **Participate** in consultations and dialogues on technology planning and access.
-  **Advocate** for inclusive access to climate technologies, especially in rural and youth communities.
-  **Support** pilot projects that test climate-smart technologies.
-  **Promote** innovation and local solutions.

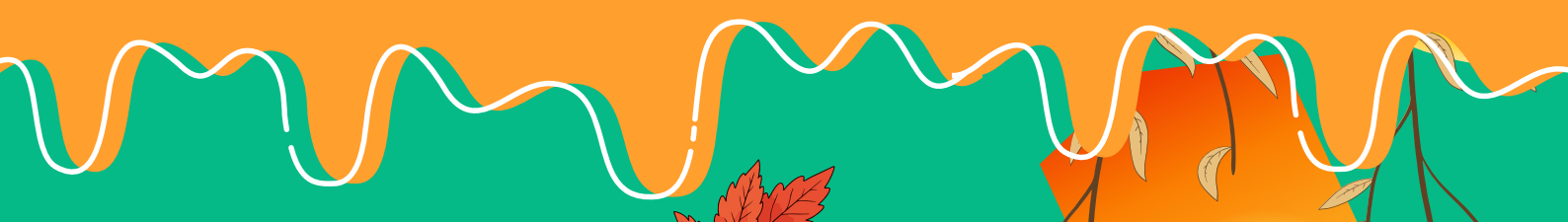
Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)

-  **Urge** Timor-Leste to adopt a national ACE strategy.
-  **Identify** the ACE focal point and engage through meetings, talks, or events.
-  **Advocate** for updated and accessible ACE information on official platforms.
-  **Organize or join** awareness-raising campaigns on climate change and youth action.
-  **Create** training and education spaces so youth can act in an informed and empowered way.
-  **Demand** access to climate information through public databases and communication campaigns.
-  **Participate** in ACE dialogues during COPs and share youth perspectives and feedback.



SAMOA Pathway

-  **Learn** how SAMOA Pathway priorities connect climate action, development, and human rights.
-  **Advocate** for inclusive and participatory climate governance.
-  **Support** community-based projects addressing climate vulnerability.
-  **Promote** youth leadership in resilience, ocean protection, and sustainable livelihoods.
-  **Monitor** progress and demand accountability for commitments made under the SAMOA Pathway.



Climate Finance & MRV

-  **Document** climate risks, losses, and damages in your community.
-  **Collect** data, photos, and stories that support project design and funding proposals.
-  **Participate** in consultations during project preparation and implementation.
-  **Monitor** whether funded projects deliver real benefits on the ground.
-  **Engage** in Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) by providing community feedback.
-  **Share** information transparently to strengthen accountability and impact.



Young people have the
power to **inform, influence,
monitor, and transform
climate action.**

By understanding and using
these tools, you help build a
**fairer, more resilient, and
sustainable future for
Timor-Leste.**

**Your voice matters. Your actions matter.
Your future depends on it.**

Published by UNICEF Timor-Leste
In partnership with the Government of Timor-Leste
Dili

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www.unicef.org/timorleste/

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