



Climate Action Network

G20 Issue Brief

Long-term Strategies

Suggested language for the G20 Leaders' Summit Communiqué:

We commit to developing ambitious, economy-wide, mid-century, long-term low- [and zero-] GHG development strategies by 2019 that are informed by the 1.5°C IPCC report, and that are in line with the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement to stay well below 2°C global warming and pursuing efforts to not exceed 1.5°C, to be used as an effective tool to enhance our economies, guide sensible investment decisions and to transform our energy systems away from fossil fuel dependence; in a manner that is just, fosters resilience and enables inclusive, sustainable development that benefits citizens and nature. In this respect, we [recognize][commend] the stewardship already displayed by some G20 countries to develop national long-term strategies towards [greenhouse gas neutrality] [decarbonization], and commit to engage in further learning and sharing of best practices between countries on inclusively developed and implemented country-driven strategies.

The Paris Agreement invites countries to develop and submit long-term low-greenhouse gas emission development strategies, in line with pursuing efforts to limiting global average temperature increase to 1.5°C¹. Ambitious and robust LTS should help to support **implementation and provide policy stability and predictability**, by providing a **long-term framework within which to consider sustainable emissions reductions and development pathways, in a manner that plots a mutually reinforcing path for sustainable development, building resilience and climate action to limit warming to 1.5°C**. Such strategies allow countries to consider and plan how to reduce emissions and address climate impacts, pursue sustainable development, and outline adaptation, mitigation and means of implementation needs. As such, strategies should be **economy-wide** and outline plans for reducing aviation, shipping, emissions and deforestation, include **clear timelines for phasing-out fossil fuels and their associated subsidies, outline the bodies responsible for implementation and should be regularly reviewed**, ideally by an independent body. Shorter-term measures, including NDCs, **should be informed by the long-term strategy, and enhanced if they are not consistent with a pathway to achieving net-zero global GHG emissions by 2050**.

An economy-wide, transformative LTS, should also illustrate **the socio-economic benefits and opportunities of a just transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient economies** (e.g. enhanced job security and energy access, and better health, air and water quality and the protection of vulnerable ecosystems) via participative processes with a range of stakeholders. These processes can uncover the sectoral implications of any proposed government measures, and would help to create a sense of shared ownership for the strategy's implementation. **Countries should also try to conduct and include the results of modeling and scenario exercises, which should help to provide a solid evidence base** for the socio-economic benefits and costs of implementing a strategy.

CAN calls on all G20 countries to:

- **Develop and communicate comprehensive, mid-century, long-term strategies by 2019** that are informed by the 1.5°C IPCC report², in order to feed into the discussions on global climate ambition and implementation at the UNSG Climate Summit³ in 2019. Each strategy should provide long-term clarity on the direction a country is moving in to decarbonise their economies and societies, and should be improved upon over time through different iterations. LTS should be explicitly linked to NDC ambition, which should be revised upwards to ensure alignment with long-term goals.
- **Engage in fully participatory process in the development of long-term strategies, including through inclusive dialogues at the national level, which include civil society, the private sector, industry and academia; and at the international level in multilateral spaces such as the 2050 Pathways Platform, to share learning experiences and best practices⁴**. This process will help to increase transparency, create a broader evidence base, allow for innovative solutions to be explored, encourage collaboration and knowledge sharing and enable effective implementation. A stakeholder analysis should be conducted to ensure that all relevant stakeholders are invited to take part.

¹ UNFCCC (2015). Paris Agreement. Article 4. 19. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php

² IPCC (2018). Special Report Global Warming of 1.5 °C. <http://www.ipcc.ch/index.htm>

³ UNSG - UN Secretary General's Climate Summit in 2019. <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2017/09/with-world-leaders-in-support-the-un-secretary-general-maps-out-plans-for-accelerating-climate-action-by-2019-climate-summit/>

⁴ Climate Action Network (2017). Briefing on Civil Society Engagement in Developing Long-Term Strategies.

<http://www.climateactionnetwork.org/publication/can-briefing-civil-society-engagement-developing-long-term-strategies-october-2017>