

# Colombia

Emissions	Climate Commitment Status
<p><b>0.6%</b> of global emissions<sup>1</sup></p>	<p><b>2020 update submitted<sup>2</sup></b> ✓</p> <p><b>LTS not yet submitted</b> ✗</p> <p>An initial roadmap was released for the Colombian Long-Term Strategy (LTS) to reach “carbon neutrality”. The updated NDC was developed in parallel with the development of Colombia’s 2050 strategy for carbon neutrality.<sup>3</sup></p> <p><b>CAT rating<sup>4</sup></b> <b>HIGHLY INSUFFICIENT</b></p> <p><b>Net zero commitment:</b> The NDC aims to initiate a decrease in emissions between 2027 and 2030 towards carbon-neutrality by mid-century (2020 NDC). The government launched a strategy to reach climate neutrality by 2050 (Colombia Carbono Neutral Strategy).</p> <p><b>Net zero details:</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> 2050</p> <p><b>Legal status:</b> In policy document</p> <p><b>Gases covered:</b> Uncertain</p> <p><b>Credits allowed:</b> Uncertain</p>

## How action-oriented are the NDCs in the food and land sector?

Criteria	NDC Assessment
<p><b>Specific policy priorities or actions for agriculture and food:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions in the agricultural sector are detailed extensively throughout Colombia’s NDC, including specific targets and measures; mitigation measures detailed for agriculture and rural development, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing GHG emissions from livestock production and increasing carbon removals from farming agri-ecosystems through regional guidelines to intensify productivity and maximise efficiency</li> <li>• Strategies of emission reduction in the life cycle of cacao production</li> <li>• Strategies for mitigation for the production, harvest, and post-harvest of coffee, including the implementation of agroforestry systems in coffee farms</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Food security is a cross-cutting issue in the NDC</li> <li>• Support needed for the development and transfer of technology, which includes improved methods for estimating and measuring water demand in the agricultural sector</li> <li>• Mass adoption of technology for rice production</li> <li>• Mainstreaming climate change has been a priority reflected in the incorporation of climate change in the formal instruments for sectoral and territorial planning, through the formulation of Comprehensive Plans for Climate Change Management at the sectoral (PIGCCS) and territorial (PIGCCT) levels Sectoral plans are developed for six priority sectors, including agriculture; these plans will contain climate change considerations in their planning processes and adaptation actions</li> <li>• The NDC includes a mitigation measure to promote plantations of permanent crops, with high amount of biomass (primarily rubber, cocoa and commercial forestry)</li> <li>• 30 adaptation targets are included, 10 of which relate to AFOLU and 3 specifically to agriculture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to include climate change considerations in agricultural planning instruments and implementation of adaptation activities</li> <li>• to improve the capacities of ten agricultural subsectors (rice, corn, potatoes, beef cattle, dairy cattle, sugar cane, cocoa, bananas, coffee and sugar cane) to adapt to climate change.</li> <li>• The three natural regions with the greatest agricultural potential will receive agroclimatic information to support agricultural decision making</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>▲▲▲</p> <p><b>Very high:</b> NDC provides <b>specific orientations</b> pursued by the Party in different agricultural and food sub-sectors, including specific targets <b>and means of implementation (such as policies or funding associated to them)</b></p>
<p><b>Specific policy priorities or actions for LULUCF:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NDC addresses the forestry sector various times and includes a specific deforestation goal</li> <li>• The NDC pays special attention to protected areas, conservation and restoration of strategic ecosystems, such as moorland (paramos), mangroves, wetlands, coral reefs, glaciers, oceans and tropical forests</li> <li>• Concrete actions include: the creation of the National Council to Combat Deforestation and other Associated Environmental Crimes in 2019, the signing of the Joint Intent Declaration on Deforestation Reduction and Sustainable Development in 2015 (endorsed in 2019)</li> <li>• Increasing the area for cocoa cultivation under agroforestry systems to 150.000 ha, as well as rehabilitating another 80.000 ha to improve their carbon stocks</li> <li>• Strategies for mitigation for the production, harvest, and post-harvest of coffee. This includes implementing agroforestry systems in coffee farms (specific targets in hectares are mentioned)</li> <li>• Acceleration of restoration of degraded or destroyed areas from the forest ecosystem</li> </ul>	<p>▲▲▲</p> <p><b>Very high:</b> NDC provides <b>specific orientations</b> pursued by the Party in different LULUCF sub-sectors, including specific targets <b>and means of implementation (such as policies or funding associated to them)</b></p>

How action-oriented are the NDCs in the food and land sector?		
Criteria		NDC Assessment
<p><b>Specific policy priorities or actions for LULUCF (cont'd):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction of deforestation, across all sectors with a goal to reduce the rate of deforestation to 50,000 ha / year by 2030. This trajectory envisages an expected deforestation trend of 155,000 ha/year in 2022 and 100,000 ha/year in 2025</li> <li>Includes a mitigation measure to promote plantations of permanent crops, with high amount of biomass (primarily rubber, cocoa and commercial forestry)</li> <li>Deforestation is monitored through the System of Monitoring of Forests and Carbon</li> <li>The NDC details various existing and new land use plans for adaptation to climate change and disaster risk management</li> <li>There are 30 adaptation targets, out of which 10 are related to the AFOLU sector. Five of these relate specifically to land use targets, including through developing management plans and tools, defining recovery measures to improve the integrity of protected areas, defining restoration strategies and managing risk from forest fires</li> </ul>		<p>▲▲▲</p> <p><b>Very high:</b> NDC provides <b>specific orientations</b> pursued by the Party in different LULUCF sub-sectors, <b>including specific targets and means of implementation (such as policies or funding associated to them)</b></p>
<p><b>Key policies in the NDC supporting priorities:</b></p> <p><b>Agriculture and food:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sectoral plans mentioned (PIGCCS), including one for agriculture</li> <li>Different subnational territorial plans (PIGCCT) are mentioned in Annex M1 related to agriculture and food measures.</li> </ul> <p><b>LULUCF:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive Strategy for Deforestation Control and Forest Management</li> <li>Different subnational territorial plans (PIGCCT) are mentioned in Annex M1 related to LULUCF</li> </ul>		<p>▲▲▲</p> <p><b>Very high:</b> NDC lists <b>policies</b> related to <b>both</b> agriculture and food and LULUCF which are <b>directly linked to actions/orientations</b></p>
<p><b>Dedicated financial resources associated with policies or action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annex A3 provides details on the needs for external financial support for specific actions, but no information is available on existing or planned public financing of these projects</li> <li>For every action, Annex A3 provides details on the amount of finance needed, the type of financial instruments, the use of finance and the responsible institution; this includes USD 85 million for the development of a project on low-emission and climate resilient agriculture, financing for agroclimatic technical roundtables at the subnational level, USD 20 million for a project on the sustainable management of mangroves, and financing for different strategies and actions to prevent forest fires</li> </ul>		<p>○</p> <p><b>Low:</b> NDC <b>does not provide any detail</b> on public funding to mitigation actions in the agriculture, food and land sectors</p>
<p><b>Spatial information for mitigation provided in the NDC:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No spatial information related to mitigation</li> <li>On adaptation, the NDC states that Colombia has strengthened their understanding of the country's vulnerability and risks to climate change through initiatives such as the vulnerability and risk analysis to climate change of the floodplains of the Magdalena-Cauca macro-basin; this allowed the country to develop high quality hazard, vulnerability, and risk maps</li> <li>The NDC includes 3 maps of climate vulnerability and risks due to climate change, with three more present in the annex</li> <li>The NDC often references to the "Planes de Ordenamiento Territorial - POT" (Territorial Planning Plans) and their importance in climate adaptation</li> </ul>		<p>▲▲</p> <p><b>High:</b> NDC <b>includes a map</b> that has the potential to guide land-use planning, if combined with other data layers or if <b>underpinned by a policy commitment</b>. E.g. Map of biological corridors</p>
<p><b>Technology details provided in the NDC:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support needs: Innovation for the structuring of a technological package focused on the reconversion and restoration of agricultural activities in the páramos region</li> <li>Technology Package containing designs and strategies for ecological restoration with a view to replacing activities</li> <li>Mass adoption of technology for rice production</li> <li>Adoption of new technology to reduce the impact of the production of coffee and "panela"</li> <li>Implementation of technologies to abate N2O emissions from the production of fertilisers</li> </ul>		<p>▲▲</p> <p><b>High:</b> NDC provides <b>detail focus areas of technological development needs or plans</b> related to agriculture, food or LULUCF</p>
What specific policy measures are included in the NDCs regarding critical food and land transitions?		
Critical transition	Details	NDC Assessment
Healthy diets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dedicated section on nutrition, including prevalence of deficiency in energy intake in the population, coexistence of poverty and malnutrition, and a Food and Nutritional Security Observatory of Colombia for cassava, rice, banana, sugar cane, potato, corn, beans, coffee, as well as associated risks. Policy: National Food and Nutrition Security Plan 2012-2019</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>

What specific policy measures are included in the NDCs regarding critical food and land transitions?		
Critical transition	Details	NDC Assessment
<b>Productive and regenerative agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various strategies and plans for agriculture included throughout NDC</li> <li>• Climate-smart agriculture: Climate-smart coffee growing pilot programme in the Serranía del Perijá and the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta.</li> <li>• Strategies to reduce GHG emissions in the life cycle of cocoa production: increase in the area dedicated to cocoa cultivation under agroforestry systems, as well as its renewal and rehabilitation, to increase the carbon stock, implement agroforestry systems on the farms where coffee is grown</li> <li>• Quantification of ecosystem services for the energy mining sector</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>
<b>Protecting and restoring nature</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dedicated section on water, ecosystems, and biodiversity, local biodiversity of the country, measures for the conservation of biodiversity through the protection of ecosystems and their ecosystem services. Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) measures are prioritised in climate change adaptation inventories</li> <li>• 5 livestock production systems improved in 11,666 hectares of pasture with conversion to AgroSilvoPastoriles System (SASP)</li> <li>• Environmental conversion of traditional livestock systems to sustainable livestock</li> <li>• Implement at least six pilot projects for conservation, protection or management in the watersheds and / or supply sources of municipalities most susceptible to water shortages and carry out their monitoring in order to evaluate their effectiveness and replicability</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>
<b>A healthy and productive ocean</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NDC's adaptation and mitigation measures, special attention is paid to protected areas, as well as to the conservation and restoration of strategic ecosystems such as paramos, mangroves, wetlands, coral reefs, glaciers, oceans and tropical forests, in recognition of their intrinsic value and the environmental services they provide for Colombia and the world; marine ecosystems are a priority in the NDC particularly in the management of mangroves</li> <li>• 27. 50% update and implementation of the National programme for sustainable use, management and conservation of mangrove ecosystems by 2030: Reduce the vulnerability of blue carbon ecosystems, with an emphasis on mangroves, through preservation, sustainable use and restoration strategies, as well as the formulation and implementation of management instruments, as measures that contribute to adaptation to the climate change</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>
<b>Diversifying protein supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No information in NDC</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC does not mention any detail on the critical transition</p>
<b>Reducing food loss and waste</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recovery of waste in the agricultural subsector, use of 84,019 tons of organic waste generated in poultry processes: Implementation of recovery techniques for the decomposition of organic material, such as composting, expanding the coverage of good practices and proper management techniques</li> <li>• Measures framed in the comprehensive management of municipal solid waste that are related to complementary activities to final disposal, within the framework of the PIGCCS (includes organic waste)</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>
<b>Local loops and linkages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colombia published in 2019 its National Circular Economy Strategy, to address the negative impact on health and ecosystems of the linear management of extraction, transformation, consumption and disposal resources, as well as its contribution to climate change.</li> <li>• Dedicated circular economy section but no explicit mention of the food and land sector</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>
<b>Digital revolution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2030 the country will have an Integrating Information System on Vulnerability, Risk and Adaptation to climate change (SIIVRA), which will allow monitoring and evaluating adaptation to climate change in Colombia articulated with the National Climate Change Information System (SNICC)</li> <li>• Given its particular conditions, the goal of reducing emissions from deforestation part of the NDC is calculated independently and in a unified manner at the national level in line with the projections of the NREF until 2030 and will be monitored from the Forest and Carbon Monitoring System (SMByC)</li> <li>• Geographic Information System (GIS) that is integrated into the PIGCCS monitoring, reporting and verification system - MRV</li> <li>• Support needs: Innovation for the structuring of a technological package focused on the reconversion and restoration of agricultural activities in the páramos region. Technology Package containing designs and strategies for ecological restoration with a view to replacing activities</li> <li>• Implement at least six (6) pilot projects for conservation, protection or management in the watersheds and / or supply sources of municipalities most susceptible to water shortages and carry out their monitoring in order to evaluate their effectiveness and replicability</li> <li>• MRV systems are incorporated throughout the NDC</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>

Critical transition	Details	NDC Assessment
<b>Stronger rural livelihoods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed gender and institutional capacity gap analyses were conducted to inform NDC updating process</li> <li>Across all sectors, a gender-responsive approach will be adopted and vulnerable groups and communities will be considered to ensure equity in sharing benefits that arise</li> <li>Policy interventions to assess the proportion of women shared development and management role in irrigation systems</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>
<b>Gender and demography</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In recognition of the differentiated impact that climate change has on women and men, and the central role played by women in aspects such as agricultural production, food security and resilience in communities, Colombia has committed to orient the mainstreaming of the approach gender in the country's public policy; includes the National Public Policy on Gender Equality, which will be deepened in the next five years to explicitly include climate change considerations, under the objectives and priority areas of the Improved Version of the Lima Work Programme and its Action Plan for Gender</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>

## What specific institutional arrangements for climate have countries put in place?

### Dedicated body in place:

- Intersectoral Commission on Climate Change (Comisión Intersectoral de Cambio Climático, CICC)
- Colombia's national system of climate change (SISCLIMA) (298 decree of 2016), which includes 9 regional nodes of climate change, in charge of coordinating the implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures. Alongside the regional nodes, SISCLIMA also created the intersectoral commission of climate change

### Consultation processes:

- Technical roundtables and workshops were carried out with the relevant ministries and entities from the public and private sectors, academia and civil society, giving priority to the sectors that will be responsible for the implementation of the measures and those that will be affected by it
- At the local level, workshops were organised by the Regional Nodes on Climate Change. Wider public participation mechanisms included a public consultation and public surveys for specialised public. These fed into the revision round of the updated NDC
- Ten dialogues were carried out with marginalised groups of afrodescendants, farmers, indigenous peoples, youth and women

## SUMMARY

### Summary of the NDC analysis:

- Overall, the NDC rates high across many categories, meaning that it provides specific indications of actions to reduce emissions in the AFOLU sector, as well as information on policies, spatial information and technology development and needs to make progress against these actions and implement the NDC. Detailed strategies, actions and specific targets are provided both for agriculture and LULUCF, at the national and territorial (subnational) levels, leading to a "very high" rating for these categories. This includes providing information on baselines and targets, relevant strategies and/or plans to implement the envisioned actions, and the relevant institutions in charge of the implementation. For example, climate change plans at the sectorial (PIGCCS) and territorial (PIGCCT) level are mentioned throughout the document, often related to actions in the AFOLU sector.
- While the NDC provides detailed information on external financing needs for different actions and orientations in the AFOLU sector (Annex A3), it provides little or no detail on public financing of mitigation actions nor on national budgetary plans to meet the NDC objectives in the sector. It is unclear which of the actions described are conditional on external support.
- The use of and need for spatial planning in climate adaptation is mentioned in the NDC, and potentially actionable maps on climate risk and vulnerability at the subnational level are provided in Annex A2. The need for new technologies both in agriculture and LULUCF is mentioned throughout the NDC, albeit not systematically.
- The NDC covers all the critical transitions analysed except for diversification of proteins, and it references specific policies, targets, associated funding for nearly all transitions.
- The critical transition on "a healthy and productive ocean" is covered well in the NDC, with actions including implementing at least six pilot projects for conservation, protection or management in the watersheds and/or supply sources of municipalities most susceptible to water shortages. This includes monitoring and evaluation of such projects. The "digital revolution" transition is also tackled well in terms of a Forest and Carbon Monitoring System which is used to track emissions reductions from deforestation.

## REFERENCES

- Source: ClimateWatch, accessed 30 August 2021. <https://www.climatewatchdata.org/compare-all-targets?>
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