NDC 3.0 submissions demonstrate commitment to renewable energy

Briefing · March 2025

MARCH 2025

Key points

- As of March 10th 2025, 19 countries have put forward revised NDCs – known as NDC 3.0s – in line with the requirement to set out their contributions through to 2035.
- At COP28, Parties agreed to triple renewable energy capacity by 2030. 16 of the 19 countries that submitted NDC 3.0s have pledged support for the goal. Seven countries specifically acknowledged this goal in their NDC 3.0s.[1]
- Seven countries included a higher or new renewable energy target in their NDC 3.0 compared to their previous NDC submission.
- Of the countries that did not include a higher or new target in their NDC, eight already have ambitious targets of 90% or higher renewable energy share, or already have high renewable energy use (over 75% in 2023). Some countries, including Brazil, have already surpassed their 2030 targets.
- 15 of these countries have included a quantitative target for renewable energy, or have outlined approaches or ambition to expand renewable energy generation, in their NDC 3.0.

[1] Canada, Japan, Marshall Islands, Saint Lucia, Singapore, the UAE and the UK.

One month past the 10th February deadline, 19 countries have put forward revised NDCs – known as NDC 3.0 – setting out their new contributions through to 2035.[2]

This brief provides some initial insights from this first set of revised NDCs, focusing on targets on renewable energy. A country-by-country breakdown of mentions of renewables in NDC 3.0s and in national policy of submitter countries is available in an Annex.

Countries are increasing their ambition on renewable energy

Renewable energy features in the majority of submitted NDC 3.0s. 15 of the 19 countries that have submitted so far have included a quantitative target or have outlined approaches or ambition to expand renewable energy generation in their NDC 3.0.[3]

Nine countries included quantitative targets on renewable or clean energy. Some ambitious examples include:

- The UK has pledged to have onshore wind, solar power, offshore wind and nuclear energy account for at least 95% of Great Britain's generation by 2030
- The Marshall Islands is projected to reach two-thirds renewable energy share by 2030, in line with its long term strategy that aims to achieve net zero energy systems by 2050
- Saint Lucia aims to achieve a 40% renewable energy share by 2030 and at least 46% by 2035
- The UAE has set a target of increasing renewable energy capacity to 19.8 GW by 2030, from a current level of 3.7 GW - an increase of more than 500%
- Singapore aims to increase imported energy from renewable energy sources by a third, from 4 GW to 6 GW by 2035.

[2] Andorra, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Ecuador, Japan, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Montenegro, New Zealand, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Switzerland, the UAE, the UK, the USA, Zambia, Zimbabwe have submitted revised NDCs as of 10th March 2025.
[3] Andorra, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Ecuador, Maldives, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Saint Lucia, Singapore, the UAE, the UK, the USA, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.

New and improved targets

Seven countries included a new renewable energy target in their NDC 3.0, or raised targets compared to their previous NDC submission.[4] Four countries included a new renewable energy target for 2030 and three raised their existing targets, and the UK has indicated a new target for all 'clean energy':

- The Maldives has set a target to meet 33% of electricity needs from renewable energy sources in 2035, more than double the share in its 2030 target, submitted in 2020, of 15% electricity generation from renewable sources by 2030.
- Cuba set renewable energy share targets in 2035 approximately two percentage points higher than their 2030 targets.
- Andorra requires national electricity production to come from at least 80% renewable sources by 2030, up ten percentage points from the previous target.

Building on existing ambition

Of the countries that didn't include a higher or new target in their NDC 3.0, many already have ambitious renewable energy targets in place or high renewable energy use.

Four have already pledged for renewables and other 'clean' sources to comprise over 90% of electricity generation by 2030 or 2035 in previous NDCs or other national policies:

- Canada aims to achieve 90% non-emitting electricity generation by 2030
- New Zealand has set a goal of 100% electricity generation by 2030
- The US aims to achieve 100% 'clean' electricity by 2035, including renewables and nuclear. Although the US will withdraw from the Paris Agreement under Trump, a study found that non-federal actors can help achieve 54-62% of the emissions reductions in the absence or rollback of federal climate policies.

[4] Andorra, Cuba, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Saint Lucia, Singapore and the UAE.

- Zambia aims to add 2,105 MW of new grid-connected renewable generation capacity by 2030, an 85% increase on its 2019 installed renewable capacity.[5]

Five of the countries already generate over 75% of their energy from renewable sources:

- In New Zealand, around 88% of the grid is powered by renewable energy
- In Uruguay, 91% of electricity generation comes from renewable sources
- Ecuador produced over 76% of its electricity from renewable sources in 2022
- Brazil had a renewable energy share of 89% in 2023, already surpassing its 2030 target
- 89% of electricity was generated from renewable energy sources in Zambia in 2022.

The tripling renewable targets

At COP28, Parties agreed to triple renewable energy capacity by 2030. 16 of the 19 countries that submitted NDC 3.0s have pledged support for the goal. Seven countries specifically acknowledged this goal in their NDC 3.0s.[6]

National policies are working towards tripling up

At the national level, policies and laws are making headway on implementing the tripling renewables by 2030 goal. All 19 countries that have submitted an NDC 3.0 have national policies that set targets to increase renewable energy capacity or the share of renewables in their energy mix, or already get almost all of their energy from renewable sources. Of these:

- Nine countries have national policies or targets that are aligned with achieving over 75% of renewable energy generation by 2030 or 2035[7]
- An additional three countries – Maldives, Marshall Islands and Montenegro – have national policies or targets aligned with achieving over 50% renewable energy generation by 2028 or 2030.

[5] Zambia had 2488.19 GW of generation capacity in large and small hydropower and grid-connected solar PV plants in 2019.
[6] Canada, Japan, Marshall Islands, Saint Lucia, Singapore, the UAE and the UK.
[7] Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, New Zealand, Switzerland, the UK, the USA, Uruguay and Zambia.

Some countries are already surpassing their renewable energy ambitions:

- Brazil has already surpassed its renewable energy target of 84% renewable electricity by 2030, having generated 89% of its power from renewables in 2023.
- Three of the countries that have submitted an NDC 3.0 – Brazil, the UAE and Japan – are already deploying renewables faster than needed to meet their 2030 target, according to a report from Ember. The report finds that 12 countries are achieving this globally.
- Four countries that have submitted an NDC 3.0 – Brazil, the UK, Japan and Switzerland – already have more prospective utility-scale solar and wind projects than is needed to meet their renewable energy targets, according to the same Ember report. In total, 22 countries are achieving this worldwide.

Annex. Renewable energy pledges and targets from countries that have submitted NDC 3.0s

Country and link to NDC 3.0	RE/clean energy targets in NDC 3.0	New or improved target in NDC 3.0?	Pledged support for tripling RE goal?	Tripling RE goal mentioned in NDC 3.0?	RE/clean energy targets in policy[8]	Current share of RE in electricity generation
Andorra	80% RE share in national generation by 2030[9]	New 2030 target is 10 percentage points higher than its previous 2030 target for national generation[10]	Y	N	80% RE share in national generation by 2030 (National Climate Change Emergency Declaration 2020)	94% in 2022
Brazil	No numerical target, outlines ambition to expand RE		Y	N	84% renewable electricity by 2030 (The Ten-Year Energy Expansion Plan, PDE 2031)	89% in 2023
Canada	No numerical target, outlines approaches to expand RE		Y	Y	90% non-emitting electricity generation by 2030 (2030 Emissions Reduction Plan, Annex Clean electricity)[11]	67% in 2023
Cuba	49.3% RE share by 2035 (26% unconditional)	2035 target is 2% above the 24% 2030 target	Y	N	49.3% by 2035 (National Energy Transition Strategy)	5% in 2022

[8] This refers to the percentage of electricity generated from renewable energy sources, unless stated otherwise.
[9] National electricity production in Andorra is expected to cover at least 33% of demand by 2030 and it is legally mandated that this production must be based on a minimum of 75% renewable energy,
[10] Andorra's second NDC expected national energy production to cover at least 33% of demand in 2030, 70% of which from renewable energy sources.
[11] This includes renewable and nuclear energy.

Ecuador	No numerical target, outlines approaches to expand RE		N	N	Adding 6,304 MW of power by 2032, of which 90.7% will be from RE (Electricity Master Plan 2023-2032)	76% in 2022
Japan	No RE target		Y	Y	36~38% of energy mix by (fiscal year) 2030 (Green Transformation (GX) Basic Policy)	24% in 2023
Maldives	33% RE share by 2028	New target is 18 percentage points higher than the previous 2030 target of 15%	Y	N	33% by 2028 (Road Map for the Energy Sector 2024-2033)	5% in 2022
Marshall Islands	Projected 66% RE share by 2030		N	Y	100% by 2050, projected 66% by 2030 (Electricity Roadmap 2018)	3% in 2022
Montenegro	No RE target		Y	N	73% of generation capacity by 2030 (Ember)	60% in 2023
New Zealand	No numerical target, outlines ambition to expand RE		Y	N	100% electricity generation by 2030 (IEA)	88% in 2023
Saint Lucia	40% RE share by 2030, at least 46% by 2035	New target	N	Y	National energy policy aims to have of to have 50% of electricity produced to be from renewable energy by 2030 (Saint Lucia	2% in 2022

					National Energy Policy. From 2023 to 2030)	
Singapore	Increase imported energy from RE sources from 4 GW to 6 GW by 2035	New target	Y	Y	Achieve 2 gigawatt-peak (GWp) of solar by 2030, import up to 6 GW of low-carbon electricity by 2035 (Singapore Green Plan 2030)	4% in 2023
Switzerland	No RE target		Y	N	Significantly increase the share of renewables in Switzerland's energy mix (Federal Act on a Secure Electricity Supply with Renewable Energies 2024)	63% in 2023
The United Arab Emirates	Increase RE capacity to 19.8 GW by 2030, from current level of 3.7 GW	New target for 2030	Y	Y	Triple share of renewables by 2030 (UAE Energy Strategy 2050)	8% in 2023
United Kingdom	Onshore wind and solar power, and offshore wind, together with nuclear power, to generate at least 95% of electricity by 2030	New target for 2030	Y	Y	95% low-carbon grid by 2030 and 100% decarbonised electricity by 2050 (British Energy Security Strategy 2022)	48% in 2023
United States	100% clean electricity by 2035, including nuclear		Y	N	100% clean electricity by 2035, including nuclear (The Inflation Reduction	22% in 2023

					Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)	
Uruguay	No numerical target, outlines ambition to expand RE		Y	N	Consistent investment and policies for renewable energy expansion, but no specific target for future renewable energy generation (Climatescope by Bloomberg NEF)	91% in 2022
Zimbabwe	No numerical target, outlines ambition to expand RE		Y	N	26.5% RE capacity or installed capacity of 2,100 MW by 2030 (National Renewable Energy Policy 2020-2030)	50% in 2022
Zambia	No RE target		Y	N	2,015 MW of new grid-connected RE generation by 2030, compared to 2488.18 MW capacity in 2019 (Renewable Energy Strategy and Action Plan)	89% in 2022