



THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Many countries have passed laws and policies on how to live up to the Paris Agreement to stay well below 2°C temperature increase in relation to the pre-industrial levels.

As of 13 July 2018: 195 Parties (countries) signed the Agreement, 179 Parties ratified, which means they are approved by their government.

Almost all countries have submitted to the UN, their INDC, the **Intended Nationally Determined Contributions**, which is the reduction in CO₂ emissions that that country intend to do.

Once the INDC is approved by the government of the country and officially submitted to the UN, the word “intended” is taken away, so it becomes the **NDC**. Countries will be expected to submit an updated NDC every five years, which will represent a progression beyond the country’s then current NDC, to reflect its highest possible ambition.

Some countries have passed national laws specifying:

- when they will peak, (that is, when they will start to reduce their emissions),
- when they should be carbon neutral and
- targets in % reduction in the years in between; long, medium and short term targets.

For the implementation of the NDC, the countries need a **legal and political framework** that defines the government structure, laws and policies at national, regional and local levels. These laws and policies should cover regulations to reduce the CO₂ emissions (mitigation) and regulations to prepare the country and communities to adapt to the effects of climate changing and to build resilience.

Financing, monitoring and reporting as well as transparency and stakeholder participation; private sector, civil society and citizens in general, must be defined.

An active broad participation is a requirement for the success of the transition to 0 carbon emissions!

