

A DECADE FROM PARIS

Country Notes Collection from Climate Transparency Partners



WELCOME MESSAGE



I still remember the day the Paris Agreement was approved. It was cold and windy, but full of expectation and hope. Everyone in the venue—governments, civil society, scientists, Indigenous communities, youth, and activists—truly believed we were standing at a turning point. And we were. As a Mexican, my excitement was doubled: that same week, our Congress approved the Energy Transition Law. It was one of the biggest victories driven by civil society in my country at that time, and it helped reshape Mexico's power matrix by opening space for renewable energy and moving us toward a decarbonized economy. For many of us, it was the first clear sign that global commitments could trigger local transformation.

Ten years later, the world feels very different. Wars, political tensions, economic pressures, and a crisis of multilateralism have slowly replaced the optimism we had in 2015. Every conversation on climate focuses on the emissions gap, the finance gap, the adaptation gap. Facing the climate crisis every day, it is easy to fall into hopelessness and anger, believing we have not done enough. But that is only partially true. We sometimes forget a basic, essential fact: the world is better with the Paris Agreement than without it.

The data shows it. According to NewClimate Institute, global greenhouse gas emissions in 2030 are projected to be around 9–12% lower than they would have been under a business-as-usual scenario—millions of tons of CO₂ that will never reach the atmosphere. The growth of renewable energy has outperformed every prediction of 2015: solar and wind now make up more than 80% of new power capacity added globally each year, and clean technologies are the cheapest source of electricity in most markets. Nearly every major economy has adopted a long-term net-zero target or a national climate law.

Civil society also played a central role in shaping this progress. When we launched the Brown to Green Report back in 2016—which later evolved into the Climate Transparency Report—our intention was simple: provide comparable, independent data on the climate performance of G20 countries. For years, it remained the only cross-country assessment at this scale. Today, the Global Stocktake (GST) has become a foundational mechanism of the Paris Agreement. It does what the international system had never done before: it collects, organizes, and evaluates global progress in mitigation, adaptation, and finance. The GST turns transparency into political pressure; it translates data into direction. Its conclusions show clearly where the world is falling short and—equally important—where solutions are working. In that sense, the GST closes the loop between ambition, accountability, and implementation. It is now the compass for the next generation of NDCs.

WELCOME MESSAGE

Another important shift is social. The global climate movement is stronger, broader, and more diverse than ever. Youth, Indigenous peoples, local governments, and communities have expanded the definition of climate action: it is not only about carbon; adaptation has finally reached the center of the discussion, and inequality, poverty, health, justice, and dignity are now core elements of climate action in almost every country. That change will define the next decade as much as finance.

This document takes the tenth anniversary of the Paris Agreement as a moment to look back—briefly and honestly—at how climate performance has evolved in four G20 countries. We compare what they promised in 2015 with what they have delivered, where they have accelerated, and where they are stuck. Some stories are encouraging; others are cautionary. All of them are real.

Multilateralism is under pressure, but the core idea of Paris remains intact: no country can solve this alone. Despite polarization and frustration, nearly every nation is still inside the Agreement. That persistence—quiet, imperfect, but constant—is one of the greatest achievements of international cooperation in modern history.

Looking ahead, the Climate Transparency Initiative will continue doing what the Paris Agreement needs most: independent, collaborative, rigorous, and open data, and clear accountability—so that ambition is not only promised but delivered. Our work complements the GST and supports national efforts with strong, evidence-based inputs for implementation.

As we enter the next decade, the task is not only to close gaps. It is to remember why we are doing this: to leave a fairer, safer world. The Paris Agreement did not fix the problem, but it built the path. Now it is our responsibility to walk it faster.

Jorge Villarreal Padilla
Climate Transparency Director
Climate Policy Director, Iniciativa Climática de México (ICM)

INTRODUCTION

Ten years have passed since the adoption of the Paris Agreement — the most consequential accord in human history, uniting nearly every nation around a shared purpose: to confront the existential threat of climate change and to chart a collective path toward a safer, sustainable future.

Humans have existed for at least 200,000 years. Human civilization based on agriculture around 9,000. The modern nation-state system, for a few centuries. The industrial revolution — which set humanity on its current carbon-intensive path — is just over 250 years old. The United Nations has been with us for nearly 80. And yet, the Paris Agreement, only ten years young, already stands as a historic milestone in our collective evolution — a blueprint for planetary cooperation in the face of our greatest shared challenge.

Economic, political, and geopolitical realities have shifted. Technology has accelerated. The global energy map has been redrawn. Yet through all this transformation, one constant endures: countries remain committed to the Paris Agreement and to the vision it represents.

The journey has not been without setbacks. The United States, one of the architects of the Agreement, has departed from it twice within this decade, and in several corners of the world, climate ambition has faltered and doubt expanded. Still, the global community moves forward — adapting, innovating, and working to reduce emissions, enable a just energy transition, and strengthen resilience to climate impacts that are already shaping lives and economies.

Through this first release of the Collection, we gather country notes to take the tenth anniversary as a moment for reflection. It revisits what nations said in 2015 — their promises, aspirations, and targets — and compares them with what they are saying today. It opens the floor to reflect how far countries have come in mobilizing finance, developing low-carbon technologies, and ensuring that the transition is just and inclusive. We expect to follow up with a second release, with an ambition to cover the world's top 20 economies.

This builds on Climate Transparency's focus on the G20 countries, which together account for around 75% of global emissions and the vast majority of global energy use and economic output. According to IRENA, G20 countries on average increased their renewable power generation by 69% from 2014 to 2023, from 212,300 GWh to 359,245 GWh. This example reminds us what is possible.

Above all, this Collection invites the beginning of common reflection not only on how far we have traveled, but on where we must go next. Multilateral international climate governance is still in its very early infancy and under unparalleled pressure to deliver. Despite the challenges to global multilateral governance, the spirit of the Paris Agreement and the United Nations' climate framework endures — reminding us that, even in a fragmented world, collective action remains our greatest strength and hope.



BRAZIL: FROM TURBULENCE TO NET ZERO

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2015 Wind and solar together accounted for approximately 5% of Brazil's electricity generation.

2025 Wind and solar are expected to supply around 25% of Brazil's power generation.

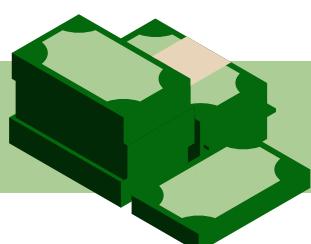


2015 Deforestation in the Brazilian Legal Amazon totaled 6 207 km².

2024 Forest loss fell to 6 518 km² in 2024—a reduction of over 50% vs 2021. This is the lowest figure since 2017. If these measures continue, annual loss may drop to around 5 800 km² by 2025, moving Brazil closer to its zero-deforestation by 2030 goal.

GENERAL PROGRESS: PARIS GOALS

FINANCE MOBILIZATION



Brazil has strengthened its climate-finance ecosystem through the Plano Clima, Fundo Clima, and BNDES Green Banking Strategy. Instruments such as the National Sustainable Taxonomy, green bonds, and FIP Transição Energética e Descarbonização are scaling private participation. Yet, aligning fiscal incentives and expanding concessional funding remain crucial to closing investment gaps for a just transition.

LOW-CARBON TECH



Brazil has advanced renewables, bioenergy, and emerging low-carbon industries. The Fuels of the Future Law expanded biofuel mandates, and the Hydrogen Law established a framework for low-carbon hydrogen. With 87% renewable electricity, Brazil now pursues green steel, sustainable aviation fuels, and CCUS under the Nova Indústria Brasil and Plano Clima, though industrial decarbonization remains difficult.

JUST TRANSITION



Brazil is embedding just transition principles in federal and state policies. The Plano Clima includes a transversal Just Transition component, complemented by the Nova Indústria Brasil and Plano de Transição Ecológica. The Centro Brasil no Clima develops the Just Transition Plan for Plano Clima Mitigação. Still, operational mechanisms and financing pathways for coal and oil regions remain limited.

WHAT THEY SAID THEN: 2015

"The principle of common but differentiated responsibility is the cornerstone of the agreement. [...] All developing countries must be enabled to walk the path of a low-carbon economy while overcoming extreme poverty and reducing inequalities."

UNFCCC, 2015



Dilma Rousseff

(President of Brazil from 2011 to 2016)

COP21

November 2015

WHAT THEY SAY NOW: 2025

"The denialism we face is not only due to climate, it is due to multilateralism. [...] Nature does not bow to bombs or warships. [...] By hosting COP in the Amazon, Brazil wants to show that it is impossible to preserve nature without caring for people."

DGC, 2025

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (President of Brazil from 2003 to 2011, and from 2023 to the present)



Climate Summit
September 2025

GENERAL OVERVIEW BY



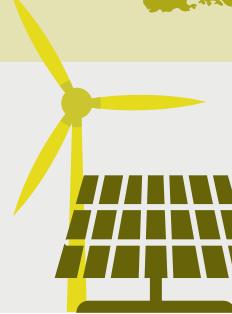
CENTRO
BRASIL
NO CLIMA

Brazil's climate narrative has grown increasingly ambitious, centered on net-zero by 2050, reindustrialization, and social inclusion. Yet, technical implementation still lags behind rhetoric, and sustaining the recent deforestation reductions toward a zero-deforestation goal remains one of the country's most pressing challenges.

Brazil's next steps must focus on turning ambitious policies into verifiable results. The implementation of the regulated carbon market and the Plano Clima's MRV framework can anchor a consistent decarbonization pathway. Consolidating the recent deforestation decline into a zero-deforestation trajectory, expanding green industrial investment through the BNDES, and delivering the Just Transition Plan are decisive for achieving a fair and credible transition.

GERMANY: LEADING A TOUGH TRANSITION

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2015

Share of Renewables in gross electricity consumption was 31.6%.

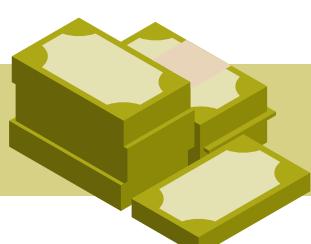
2024

Share of Renewables in gross electricity consumption was 54.4%.

Source: Umweltbundesamt, 2025.

GENERAL PROGRESS: PARIS GOALS

FINANCE MOBILIZATION



Germany pledged €6 billion annually for climate finance by 2025, exceeding this in 2022 and 2024. However, declining budget allocations threaten future commitments, with a €1 billion shortfall expected in 2025. Germany contributes to the Loss & Damage Fund and Adaptation Fund, and mobilizes private investment, but adaptation finance still lags behind mitigation, risking imbalance and unmet needs.

LOW-CARBON TECH



Renewables now dominate Germany's power mix, with wind at 33% and solar at 14% in 2024, enabling coal phaseout. Battery storage grows, though grid limits persist. Newly installed heat pumps surpassed gas boilers in 2025, while industry decarbonization lags. Green tech employs 3.4 million workers, surpassing autos, but transport emissions remain high as EVs represent only 3.3% of the fleet.

JUST TRANSITION



Germany plans a full coal phaseout by 2038, likely earlier, requiring equitable transitions for regions like Lusatia and the Rhineland. Policies emphasize reskilling, diversification, and mobility support. The EU's Just Transition Fund supplements these measures, yet stronger focus is needed to ensure affected workers and communities share the benefits of decarbonization while maintaining regional economic resilience.

WHAT THEY SAID THEN: 2015

"Industrialised countries have to play a leading role as regards the development of decarbonisation technologies. It was us who caused the emissions of the past. Now we have to develop the technology needed to reduce emissions in the future."

The Federal Chancellor, 2015



Angela Merkel

(Chancellor of Germany from 2005 to 2021)

COP21

November 2015

WHAT THEY SAY NOW: 2025

"Even though total NDCs still do not meet the Paris Agreement's ambition, [...] the global energy transition is well underway. Technological and economic conditions for further progress have never been better, and many countries are working successfully on solutions."

BMUKN, 2025

Jochen Flasbarth (State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany)

Climate Week NYC
September 2025



GENERAL OVERVIEW BY



Germany targets a 65% emissions reduction by 2030 and climate neutrality by 2045. Renewable expansion has improved projections, yet slow heat pump adoption, lagging vehicle electrification, and fossil fuel dependence pose obstacles. Corrective policies are needed to ensure intermediate and long-term targets are met, prioritizing rapid emission cuts, subsidy reform, and structural transformation.

Achieving climate targets requires accelerating sectoral transformation, especially in transport, buildings, and industry. Energy efficiency, low-carbon technologies, hydrogen, circular economy approaches, and industrial electrification are essential. Aligning climate and social policies ensures an equitable transition, preventing disadvantaged parts of the population from being left behind while enabling Germany to meet its national and international commitments.

JAPAN: INNOVATION AND TECH LEAD

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2015

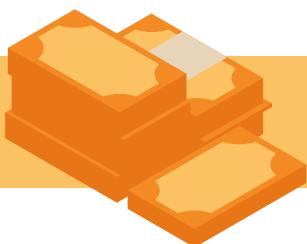
Percentage of electricity generated from clean renewable energy: 9.6%

2023

Percentage of electricity generated from clean renewable energy: 17.3%

GENERAL PROGRESS: PARIS GOALS

FINANCE MOBILIZATION



Japan's 2023 Basic Policy for Green Transformation targets JPY 150 trillion (USD 1 trillion) in public and private investment over the next decade. The government issued JPY 20 trillion in transition bonds to fund subsidies. Internationally, Japan pledged to mobilize JPY 6.5 trillion in climate finance from 2021 to 2025, reinforcing its G7 commitment to global decarbonization.

LOW-CARBON TECH



Renewable energy has grown rapidly since 2011, yet current expansion remains insufficient to meet 2030 and 2035 solar and wind targets. Japan must strengthen economic incentives for renewables while enhancing social acceptance through local stakeholder engagement. Accelerated innovation, grid reform, and clearer market mechanisms are crucial for achieving national deployment goals and advancing a low-carbon energy mix.

JUST TRANSITION



Japan's Global Warming Countermeasures Plan highlights the importance of a just transition in industrial decarbonization but lacks concrete policy integration. The Strategic Energy Plan, guiding long-term energy priorities, omits the concept entirely. Implementing just transition measures will require clearer strategies for workforce reskilling, regional revitalization, and stakeholder inclusion to ensure equity in Japan's green transformation.

WHAT THEY SAID THEN: 2015

"The key to acting against climate change without sacrificing economic growth is the development of innovative technologies. [...] Japan will [...] promote diffusion of advanced low carbon technologies particularly through implementation of the Joint Crediting Mechanism."

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, 2015



Shinzo Abe
(Prime Minister of Japan from 2012 to 2020)

COP21
November 2015

WHAT THEY SAY NOW: 2025

"Japan's new Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) [...] includes blue carbon sequestration. Japan will establish methods for calculating GHG sequestration by blue carbon ecosystems and take the lead in developing international standards."

UN SDGS, 2025

Matsumoto Hisashi
(Member of the House of Representatives)

UN SDG 14 Conference
2025



GENERAL OVERVIEW BY

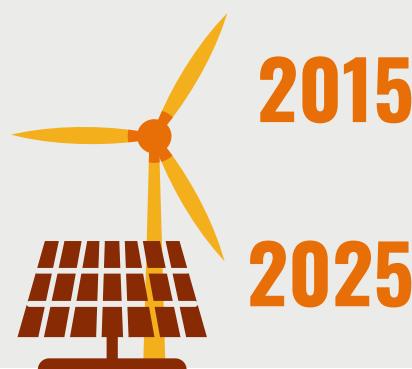
IGES
Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies

Japan has continuously reduced emissions since 2013. Energy intensity has improved at a nearly constant rate for over 20 years since 1999, contributing significantly to emission reductions. While emission intensity has also improved since 2013, achieving NDC 2.0, NDC 3.0, and the 2050 net-zero target requires further improvement—specifically, accelerating the transition from fossil fuels to non-fossil fuels.



MEXICO: RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

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2015 Percentage of electricity generated in the 1st semester from clean renewable energy: **15,86%**



2025 Percentage of electricity generated in the 1st semester from clean renewable energy: **26,5%**

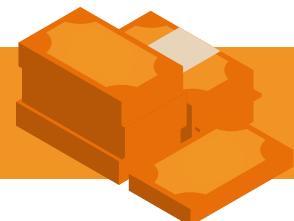


2015 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP: 280 Kilo Joules per weight of GDP produced

2025 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP: 254,6 Kilo Joules per weight of GDP produced

GENERAL PROGRESS: PARIS GOALS

FINANCE MOBILIZATION



Mexico, Latin America's second-largest climate finance recipient, leads in green sovereign bonds. Through its Sustainable Finance Mobilization Strategy and Green Taxonomy, it promotes private sector participation. However, broader investment remains constrained by weak policy alignment and limited public-private coordination. Strengthening fiscal incentives and institutional capacity is essential to scale financing for an equitable and effective climate transition.

LOW-CARBON TECH



Renewable energy's share in Mexico's mix has grown, but expansion has slowed sharply over the past seven years amid policy shifts favoring fossil fuels and declining private investment. Political uncertainty hampers progress in transport, industry, and efficiency. Restoring investor confidence and regulatory consistency will be key to resuming low-carbon technology deployment and advancing national decarbonization goals.

JUST TRANSITION



Mexico has embedded energy justice, gender equality, and community well-being into its legal and policy frameworks. However, the absence of a fossil fuel phaseout plan and limited regulatory capacity hinder implementation. Strengthening institutional coordination, defining measurable targets, and ensuring equitable energy access are critical next steps to operationalize just transition principles across Mexico's climate and energy agenda.

WHAT THEY SAID THEN: 2015

"Mexico was the first developing country to present its NDC to the UN, convinced that it is possible to establish a new climate regime without hindering economic and social development. It is indeed possible to grow economically and generate social well-being while protecting the environment."



Gobierno de México, 2015

Enrique Peña Nieto
(President of Mexico from 2012 to 2018)

COP21
November 2015

WHAT THEY SAY NOW: 2025

"We do not have a Plan B, nor do we have a Planet B. Every second counts in this historic fight for climate justice. We need a paradigm shift that goes beyond the model on the overexploitation of our natural resources."

Gobierno de México, 2025

Alicia Bárcena (Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico)



Climate Week NYC 2025
September 2025

GENERAL OVERVIEW BY



As one of the first Latin American countries to ever submit an NDC, Mexico developed sectoral instruments over the past decade that enabled renewable energy deployment and supported national energy goals. Yet these efforts faced setbacks, partly due to the absence of a just transition lens. By placing stronger emphasis on poverty reduction, social equity, and climate justice criteria in its energy and development policies, Mexico could reaffirm its role as a climate leader through an ambitious NDC 3.0.

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Collaborating Climate Transparency Partners



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